Applicability of the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva for the radiative corrections analysis in the NuTeV experiment

Arif Akhundov

Institute of Physics, Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences,
H. Cavid ave. 33, Baku 370143, Azerbaijan

ABSTRACT

We point out one of the possible sources of the "NuTeV anomaly": the effect of the non-adequate application of the one-loop electroweak radiative corrections including QED hard photon emission derived by Bardin and Dokuchaeva (1986) in the NuTeV radiative corrections data analysis of deep inelastic neutrino and anti-neutrino deep inelastic scattering.

The NuTeV collaboration\(^1\) has made a precise determination of the weak mixing angle by measuring charged and neutral current cross sections from neutrino and anti-neutrino deep inelastic scattering (DIS) on iron. Their value differs by 3 standard deviations from that obtained from measurements at the Z pole.

A precise determination of the on-shell weak mixing angle has been performed by the NuTeV collaboration for the first time through the measurements of the Pashos-Wolfenstein ratio\(^2\):

\[
R^- = \frac{\sigma(\nu_\mu N \to \nu_\mu X) - \sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu N \to \bar{\nu}_\mu X)}{\sigma(\nu_\mu N \to \mu^- X) - \sigma(\bar{\nu}_\mu N \to \mu^+ X)}. \tag{1}
\]

The NuTeV collaboration finds \(\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2277 \pm 0.0016\) which is 3.0 \(\sigma\) higher than that obtained from the Standard Model predictions.

From this experimental value one obtains the mass of \(M_W\) boson\(^1\)

\[
M_W = 80.14 \pm 0.08 \text{ GeV} \tag{2}
\]

which is smaller than other measurements of \(M_W\) at LEP/SLD and the Tevatron (Fig. 1).

The radiative corrections (RC) are important for the higher statistics experiments and dependent of the methods used to extract the wanted cross section from the data.\(^5,6\)
Fig. 1. The results of the direct measurements of $M_W$ at LEP2/Tevatron are compared with the indirect determinations at LEP1/SLD and in the NuTeV experiment.3,4,1

Here we point out one of the possible sources of the "NuTeV anomaly": the effect of the non-adequate application of the Fortran program NUDIS8 for the calculations of the electroweak RC to the inclusive cross section of deep inelastic $\nu_\mu (\bar{\nu}_\mu)N$-scattering in the data analysis of neutrino and anti-neutrino DIS in the NuTeV experiment.1

This effect we consider as the most promising effect9 that might reconcile the NuTeV measurement with the precise measurements near the $Z$ pole.

The RC produce a shift of the extracted on-shell weak mixing angle $\sin^2 \theta_W$7,8,10

$$\Delta \sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{1}{2} - \sin^2 \theta_W + \frac{20}{27} \sin^2 \frac{4}{9} \theta_W \left( \delta R_{NC}^\nu + \delta R_{CC}^\nu \right), \quad (3)$$

where $\delta R_{NC}^\nu + \delta R_{CC}^\nu$ is the total electroweak RC8 to $R^{\nu}$13

$$R^{\nu} = \frac{\sigma_{\nu NC}^{\nu}(\nu_\mu N \to \nu_\mu X)}{\sigma_{\nu CC}^{\nu}(\nu_\mu N \to \mu^- X)}, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\delta R_{NC}^\nu = \frac{\sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Corr}} - \sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Born}}}{\sigma_{\nu NC}^{\text{Born}}}, \quad \delta R_{CC}^\nu = -\frac{\sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Corr}} - \sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Born}}}{\sigma_{\nu CC}^{\text{Born}}} \quad (5)$$

are the corrections to the NC and CC cross sections.

The main contribution to the total RC arises from $\delta R_{CC}^\nu$,8,10–12 i.e. from the charged current events in the neutrino DIS:

$$\nu_\mu (k_1) + N(p_1) \to \mu^- (k_2) + X(p_2). \quad (6)$$
The electroweak RC to DIS have two different parts - weak RC and QED RC. The contribution of the weak RC does not depend from the event selection in the experiment, but the contribution of the QED RC depends significantly on the measured kinematical quantities. The contribution of the QED RC is a complicated function of kinematical variables used in the cross section measurement: the radiative corrections calculated in a different set of variables can have a completely different value and behavior\textsuperscript{17,18} because of the different bremsstrahlung contribution to (6) from the process:

\[
\nu_\mu(k_1) + N(p_1) \rightarrow \mu(k_2) + X(p_2) + \gamma(k). \tag{7}
\]

with non-observed photon(s).

If the initial energy of neutrino \(E_\nu\) in the lab. frame is known the fixed target experiments on the neutrino DIS could use only two additional experimentally measured quantities to determine the kinematics of the events.

By measuring the energy \(E_\mu\) and the angle \(\theta_\mu\) of the scattered charged lepton the analysis of deep inelastic events will then be based on the evaluation of, the so-called invariant leptonic variables:

\[
Q^2_l = -(k_1 - k_2)^2, \quad y_l = \frac{p_1(k_1 - k_2)}{p_1k_1}, \quad x_l = \frac{Q^2_l}{Sy_l} \tag{8}
\]

with

\[
S = (k_1 + p_1)^2 \approx 2ME_\nu, \tag{9}
\]

where \(M\) is the mass of nucleon.

In the same manner, by measuring the energy \(E_h\) and the angle \(\theta_h\) of the hadron jet the analysis of deep inelastic events could be based on the evaluation of, the so-called invariant hadronic variables\textsuperscript{17}:

\[
Q^2_h = -(p_2 - p_1)^2, \quad y_h = \frac{p_1(p_2 - p_1)}{p_1k_1}, \quad x_h = \frac{Q^2_h}{Sy_h} \tag{10}
\]

In the composition of both measurements there are many possible sets of variables. One set is, the so-called invariant mixed variables:

\[
Q^2_m = Q^2_l, \quad y_h = \frac{p_1Q_h}{p_1k_1}, \quad x_m = \frac{Q^2_m}{Sy_h}. \tag{11}
\]

The general formula\textsuperscript{17} for the radiatively corrected neutrino DIS cross section in terms of leptonic variables can be represented as the sum of the Born distribution with the contributions due to virtual loop diagrams and real hard photon emission:

\[
\frac{d^2\sigma^{RC}}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{d^2\sigma^{Born}}{dx dQ^2} (1 + \delta^V(x, Q^2)) + \int \int dx_h dQ^2_h H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q^2_h) \frac{d^2\sigma^{Born}}{dx_h dQ^2_h} \tag{12}
\]
The part of (12), proportional to $\delta V(x, Q^2)$, contains the contributions from the EW and QED loop corrections and from the soft part of the real photon radiation. The second part accounts for the bremsstrahlung contribution (7) where the function $H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q_{h}^2)$ is the hard photon radiator.

The explicit formulae for $\delta V(x, Q^2)$ and $H(x, Q^2, x_h, Q_{h}^2)$ are derived in the unpublished communication\(^8\) in the framework of the quark-parton model and in the approximation of the four-momentum contact interaction neglecting the terms of the order $\alpha Q^2/M_W^2$. Moreover, in\(^8\) for the density function of the initial quark in the nucleon $f_i(x, Q)$ the scaling approximation is used which simplifies the calculation of the twofold integral in (12).

It is worth to note, that the twofold integral in (12) depends on the structure functions of the nucleon, not only at a given $F(x, Q^2)$ point, but in the physical region of $(x_h, Q_{h}^2)$ defined by the kinematics of the process (7) in leptonic variables\(^17\) (Fig. 2.)\(^9\).

![Integration region of $(x_h, Q_{h}^2)$ for the DIS cross section in leptonic variables.](image)

The integration region of $(x_h, Q_{h}^2)$ accounts for the contribution of the radiative process (see Fig. 3) to the inclusive cross section of the CC and NC DIS and is described by the Bjorken variables:

$$x \leq x_h \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq y_h \leq 1, \quad M^2 \leq M_{h}^2 \leq W^2,$$

\((13)\)

\(^*\)The kinematical boundaries $Q_{h1,II}^2$ are defined by formula (B.17) of \(^17\)
where the invariant masses $M_h^2$ and $W^2$ of the hadronic final state are defined as

\begin{equation}
M_h^2 = M^2 + Q_h^2 \left( \frac{1 - x_h}{x_h} \right), \quad W^2 = M^2 + Q_l^2 \left( \frac{1 - x_l}{x_l} \right). \tag{14}
\end{equation}

Fig. 3. Virtual loop and bremsstrahlung diagrams contributing to deep inelastic $\nu \mu N$-scattering.

From the studies of the RC for DIS \(^{17}\) it is known that the large radiative corrections are due to the emission of hard photons (the twofold integral in (12)).
For the hard bremsstrahlung (7) the minimum of $Q_h^2$ is

$$(Q_h^2)_{\text{min}} \simeq x_l^2 M_h^2.$$  (15)

This formula shows that the calculation of the contribution from hard photon emission demands the knowledge of the nucleon structure functions in the region $Q^2 \to 0$.

The NuTeV experiment uses\textsuperscript{14} the computer program ZFITTER\textsuperscript{15} for the calculation of the electroweak corrections and the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva\textsuperscript{8} implemented in the Fortran program NUDIS\textsuperscript{8} which contains the virtual loop corrections and the bremsstrahlung contribution (Fig. 3) in leptonic variables without applying a cut on photon kinematics\textsuperscript{†}.

The semi-analytical program NUDIS calculates the RC factor of the order $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ to the inclusive differential cross section $d^2\sigma/dx dQ^2$ of neutrino and anti-neutrino CC and NC DIS at fixed energy of the neutrino beam.

In reality, the initial energy of neutrino $E_\nu$ is measured for each selected event. In the NuTeV\textsuperscript{16} the three experimentally measured quantities are: $E_\mu$ and $\theta_\mu$, the energy and the scattering angle of the outgoing muon, and $E_{HAD}$, the energy deposited in the target calorimeter which includes the energy of the hadronic final state $E_h$ and the energy of the emitted photon $E_\gamma$:

$$E_{HAD} = E_h + E_\gamma.$$  (16)

Then for this event the initial neutrino energy $E_\nu$ is calculated by:

$$E_\nu = E_\mu + E_{HAD}.$$  (17)

The measurement of $E_{HAD}$ for the event selection\textsuperscript{16} means the detection of real hard photons with the energy $E_\gamma > E_\gamma^\ast$, where $E_\gamma^\ast$ is the photonic calorimeter threshold.

Therefore, the contribution of such hard photons to the inclusive cross section of DIS should be subtracted from the bremsstrahlung integral in (12). This implies the integration in (12) over the physical region $(x_h, Q_h^2)$ restricted by the following condition:

$$Q_h^2/x_h \geq Q_l^2/x_l - 2M E_\gamma.$$  (18)

This is the main point of the non-adequate application of the formulae of Bardin and Dokuchaeva and the Fortran program NUDIS in the radiative corrections analysis of the NuTeV experiment.

We anticipate substantial change of the value of the radiative correction factor $\delta(x, Q^2)$:

$$\delta(x, Q^2) = \frac{d^2\sigma^{\text{RC}}/dx dQ^2}{d^2\sigma^{\text{Born}}/dx dQ^2} - 1$$  (19)

for the inclusive cross section of the CC and NC DIS and for the values of $\delta R_{CC}^\nu$ and $\delta R_{NC}^\nu$ by adequate calculation of the contribution of hard photon emission.

\textsuperscript{†}With the exception of a cut on the energy of final hadrons $E_h > 10$ GeV.
The recent re-calculation of the electroweak RC to neutrino DIS including higher order contributions and different scheme of the subtraction of the mass singularities is performed for the hadronic variables and is used in the experiment NOMAD. The size of the QED RC to the CC scattering in hadronic variables are much smaller than the corrections in leptonic variables.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the organizers of the NuFact08 Workshop for kind hospitality. I thank K. McFarland, Y. Hayato and A. Blondel for the discussions. I am grateful to P. Hernandez and N. Rius for support and to A. Shiekh for remarks.

References

1. NuTeV Collaboration, G.P. Zeller et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 091802 (2002) [Erratum-ibid. 90, 239902 (2003)].
K. S. McFarland et al., Int. J. Mod. Phys. A18, 3841 (2003).
2. E.A. Pashos and L. Wolfenstein, Phys. Rev. D7, 91 (1973).
3. The LEP Collaborations ALEPH, DELPHI, L3 and OPAL and the LEP Electroweak Working Group, arXiv:hep-ex/0612034; http://www.cern.ch/LEPEWWG/.
4. The ALEPH, DELPHI, L3, OPAL and SLD Collaborations, the LEP Electroweak Working Group and the SLD Electroweak and Heavy Flavour Groups, Phys. Rept. 427, 257 (2006).
5. A. Akhundov, Proc. of XXI International Meeting on Fundamental Physics - Physics at HERA, Miraflores de la Sierra, Madrid, Spain, 9-15 May 1993; World Sci. Publ. (Singapore), Eds.: F. Barreiro et al. (1994), p. 16; [arXiv: 0806.3985].
6. A. Akhundov, Proc. of the Workshop ”Radiative Corrections relevant for the HERMES Experiment”, Zeuthen, Germany, 21-23 June 1993; DESY-Zeuthen 94-02, Eds: H. Boettcher and W.-D. Nowak (1994), p. 57; [arXiv: 0806.4407].
7. W. J. Marciano and A. Sirlin, Phys. Rev. D22, 2695 (1980) [Erratum-ibid. 31, 213 (1985)].
A. Sirlin and W. J. Marciano, Nucl. Phys. B189, 442 (1981).
8. D. Yu. Bardin and V. A. Dokuchaeva, On The Radiative Corrections To The Neutrino Deep Inelastic Scattering, JINR-E2-86-260, Dubna (1986).
9. Arif Akhundov, Plenary talk at UAE-CERN Workshop on High Energy Physics and Applications, Al-Ain, UAE, 26-28 Nov. 2007; AIP Conf. Proc. 1006 43-48 (2008) [arXiv:hep-ph/0801.4651].
10. K. P.O. Diener, S. Dittmaier and W. Hollik, Phys. Rev. D69, 073005 (2004).
11. A. B. Arbuzov, D. Yu. Bardin and L. V. Kalinovskava, JETP 0506, 078 (2005).
12. K. P.O. Diener, S. Dittmaier and W. Hollik, Phys. Rev. D72, 093002 (2005).
13. C. H. Llewellyn Smith, Nucl. Phys. B228, 205 (1983).
14. Geralyn P. Zeller (Northwestern U.) A Precise measurement of the weak mixing angle in neutrino - nucleon scattering, FERMILAB-THESIS-2002-34, UMI-30-50615, Jun 2002. 295pp.
15. D.Yu. Bardin et al., Z. Phys. C44, 493 (1989); Comp. Phys. Comm. 59, 303 (1990); Nucl. Phys. B351, 1 (1991); Comp. Phys. Comm. 133, 229 (2001).
16. NuTeV Collaboration, M. Tzanov et al., Phys. Rev. D74, 012008 (2006).
17. Arif Akhundov et al., Fortsch. Phys. 44, 373 (1996).
18. A.A. Akhundov et al., Phys. Rev C70, 028202 (2004).
19. NOMAD Collaboration, P. Astier et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A515, 800 (2003).