

Breit Wigner, relativistic and non-relativistic

The non-relativistic and relativistic Breit Wigner distributions are given by equations 1 and 2 respectively.

$$p(M)dM = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{(M - M_0)^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2}{4}} dM \quad (1)$$

$$p(M)dM = \frac{k}{(M^2 - M_0^2)^2 + M_0^2\Gamma^2} dM \quad (2)$$

with $k = 2\sqrt{2}M\Gamma\gamma/(\pi\sqrt{(M_0^2 + \gamma)})$ and $\gamma = M_0\sqrt{M_0^2 + \Gamma^2}$.

If $\Gamma \ll M_0$, then $\gamma \approx M_0^2$ and $k \approx \frac{2}{\pi}M_0^2\Gamma$. Also since $M + M_0 \approx 2M_0$, $(M^2 - M_0^2)^2 = (M + M_0)(M - M_0)(M + M_0)(M - M_0) \approx 4M_0^2(M - M_0)^2$. Putting all of these ingredients into equation 2, the relativistic Breit Wigner approximates as

$$p(M)dM \approx \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{M_0\Gamma}{4M_0^2(M - M_0)^2 + M_0^2\Gamma^2} dM$$

$$p(M)dM \approx \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma}{(M - M_0)^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2}{4}} dM$$

which is the same as the expression for the non relativistic case (equation 1).