

The decay is shifted forward in time for an  $\bar{B}^0$  and backward in time for an initial  $B^0$ . The asymmetry is predicted to have a time-dependence governed by  $\delta m$  with amplitude  $\sin 2\beta$ . For the process  $B^0/\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_L^0$ , the relative minus sign in the decay amplitudes from  $B^0$  and  $\bar{B}^0$  becomes a plus sign and so the asymmetry takes the minus sign. The angle  $\beta$  is the phase angle taken directly from CKM matrix, without corrections due to strong interaction.

The first thing to do in order to understand the time-dependent asymmetry is to find a way to produce a sufficient quantity of  $B^0$  and  $\bar{B}^0$  mesons. This can be done  $e^+e^-$  annihilation, which leads to a state with  $J = 1$ . This means that for the production of spin 0 mesons, the two mesons are in an  $L = 1$  wavefunction, antisymmetric in the other meson quantum numbers. In particular, the  $B$  mesons go outward from the production point and, after some time, one of the mesons decays. If it decays to an  $e^+$  or a  $\mu^+$ , this event tags this meson (at this time) as a  $B^0$ . The other meson must then be a  $\bar{B}^0$ . This state propagates for an additional time  $\Delta t$ , possibly mixing to  $B^0$  during that time, and then decays to the observed final state. Note that the relative time  $\Delta t$  might be negative if the leptonic decay takes place after the selected exclusive decay.

The lifetime of the  $B$  meson is about 1.5 ps, so it is difficult to measure the decay time directly. A possibility is to construct an asymmetric colliding beam accelerator, in which the  $e^+e^-$  center of mass frame is moving with respect to the lab. The boost of the center of mass is approximately  $v/c \sim 0.5$ . Therefore, two  $B$  decays would be separated by about 200  $\mu\text{m}$ , which is a resolvable distance for a silicon tracking detector which pinpoints the decay vertices.

In the late 1990's, two asymmetric  $e^+e^-$  colliders were constructed, one at SLAC (9.0 GeV  $e^- \times 3.1$  GeV  $e^+$ ), for the BaBar experiment, and one at KEK in Tsukuba, Japan (8.0 GeV  $e^- \times 3.5$  GeV  $e^+$ ), for BELLE experiment. In 2001, both experiments observed the  $CP$ -violating asymmetry in  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_S^0$ .

In Figure ?? it is presented the displacements of the decay distributions for  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^0$  and  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^0$  measured by the BaBar experiment. The distributions are labelled by the tagging  $B$  meson, so the points labeled " $B^0$  tags" indicate  $\bar{B}^0(\tau)$  decays, and vice versa. The distributions for  $B^0$  and  $\bar{B}^0$  are shifted substantially with respect to one another, in just the directions predicted below. The shifts are in the opposite directions for  $K_L^0$  instead of  $K_S^0$  in the final state. The current best value of  $\beta$  from this measurement is:

$$\sin 2\beta = 0.679 \pm 0.20 \quad (1)$$

that is,  $\beta = 21^\circ$ . This is indeed a large  $CP$ -violating effect.

**Lecture 21.**  
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