

Source: [KBPhysicsMasterIndex](#)

1 | The Quantum World

- Atoms are small, and the quantum world concern itself with sub-atomic particles.
- In the 1920s, Protons and Electrons are known to be the two things that are subatomic
 - Protons are hitting earth frequently, creating the “primary cosmic radiation”
- Photons also exist, but it has no mass
 - Protons were not given article status until later, when electrons are recognized also as being able to be created, annihilated
- The 1920s brought a bunch of things
 - Matter, not just light, have wave-like properties
 - Fundamental laws of nature are on a probability curve
 - Electron spin was discovered
 - Antiparticle was discovered
- Importantly, the properties vs the action of the particles often get mixed up
- The known particles are mostly built from combination of smaller fundamental particles
- Standard model for Subatomic Particles
 - 24 subatomic particles

Femtometer (10^{-15} m) is the common unit of length. Speed of light, 3×10^8 m/s = c is the common unit for speed. e^- charge as the common unit as charge. eV, voltage of electron, is the common unit for energy.

A Tachyon *may* be able to travel faster than the speed of light. It is theoretical, may go faster than light, and could break causality in some reference frames. No one has found it.

- Gluon => Glue for particles within nucleus
- Pion => nuclear collisions driven particle

1.1 | Absolutes

- Shortest distance: 10^{-18} m
- Shortest time 10^{-26} s
- Longest time: 13.7 billion years

Mass: measure of how hard it is to set a stationary object into motion, deflect, or stop a moving object.

So, to measure a particle's mass, we boink it around in a magnetic field and measure its path.

#ask Kinetic energy + mass energy ($E=mc^2$) = energy?

“Mass energy is proportional to mass”. Mass represents a highly concentrated form of energy; a little mass yields lots of energy, meaning that a lot of energy is needed to make mass.

Humans have done this: if you take two protons and go kaboom by slamming them together, you put a lot of energy in, you make new mass!

Energy and mass are typically measured in the same unit => the Electron Volt. And... MeV, is “million electron volts.”

Like charges repel; but how does the nucleus stay together? Gluons — gluons serve as the glue to glue particles together. But, heavy elements have very high electrical force from charge that cause things to fly away, so gluons work... to a point. This is why uranium+ atoms don't exist in nature

Charge is measured in Coulomb => charge through a 100 watt light bulb in a second

Rotation around center: spin

Rotation around object: orbital motion

Both are measured by angular momentum => angular momentum is quantized by \hbar (Planck's constant/ 2π). Meaning particles could only have angular momentum 0, \hbar , $2\hbar$, $3\hbar$, etc.

In theory, you spinning is also quantized like this, but you don't notice it because... scales.

Natural constant: Planck's Constant (h) & the speed of light (c).