

- SiLab Lecture Series - **Physics is Tops**

Caleb Fangmeier

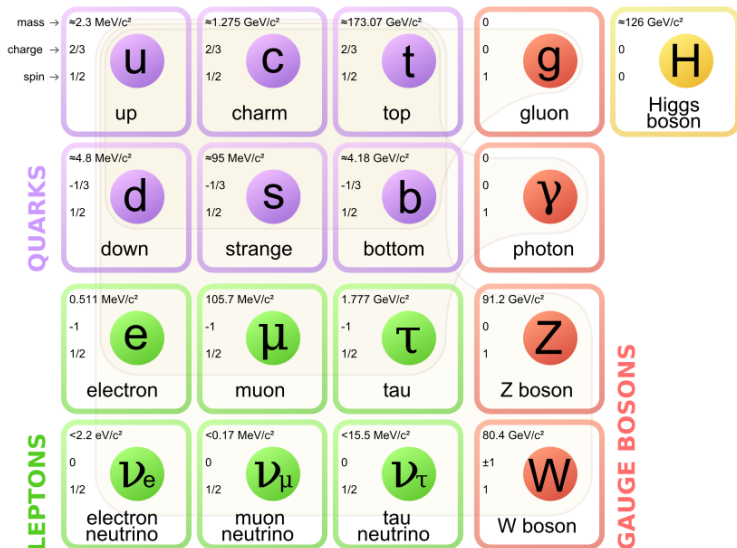
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

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The Standard Model Today

Physics is Tops

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- Only discovered quarks were up, down, and strange
- Parity and charge have been discovered to be independently violated in

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

- So CP was proposed as the “real” mirror symmetry
- CP violation led to the proposal of a third generation of quarks

The Standard Model Circa 1973

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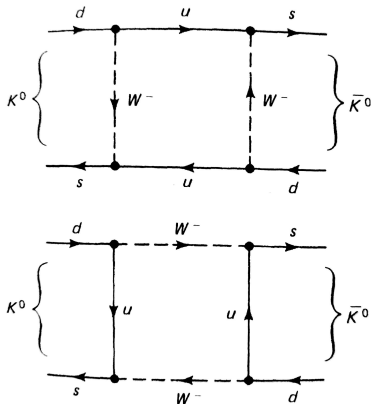
- K^0 are produced via strong interactions with definite quark flavour content.
- However, certain diagrams allow for $K^0 \rightleftharpoons \bar{K}^0$ mixing
- The result is that Kaons evolve into superpositions of K^0 and \bar{K}^0

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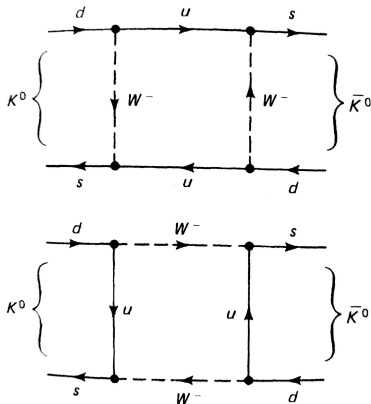


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The Neutral Kaon - CP Eigenstates

- If CP is a symmetry of nature, we can form eigenstates of CP in the $|K^0\rangle, |\bar{K}^0\rangle$ system.
- The action of C, P , and CP on these states is:

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$$\begin{aligned} C|K^0\rangle &= |\bar{K}^0\rangle & C|\bar{K}^0\rangle &= |K^0\rangle \\ P|K^0\rangle &= -|K^0\rangle & P|\bar{K}^0\rangle &= -|\bar{K}^0\rangle \\ CP|K^0\rangle &= -|\bar{K}^0\rangle & CP|\bar{K}^0\rangle &= -|K^0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Two eigenstates of CP can be formed.

$$|K_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|K^0\rangle - |\bar{K}^0\rangle), \quad |K_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|K^0\rangle + |\bar{K}^0\rangle)$$

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The Neutral Kaon - Allowed Decays

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- If the weak interaction conserves CP , then $|K_1\rangle$ can only decay into states with $CP = 1$ and $|K_2\rangle$ only to states with $CP = -1$.
- For example,

$$K_1 \rightarrow 2\pi \quad \text{Allowed}$$

$$K_2 \rightarrow 3\pi$$

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The Neutral Kaon - CP Violation

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- Furthermore, since the $K_1 \rightarrow 2\pi$ process happens much more quickly, the K_1 component of the superposition

$$|\Psi\rangle = \alpha |K_1\rangle + \beta |K_2\rangle$$

quickly disappears, leaving only

$$|\Psi\rangle = |K_2\rangle$$

- So a beam of neutral kaons consists of only a tiny fraction of K_1 after a few meters.
- If the “forbidden” process $K_2 \rightarrow 2\pi$ is observed down the beamline, it means that CP is not a true symmetry.

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- *CP* Violation posed a theoretical problem with only two quark generations.
- The weak eigenstates of the down type quarks are related to the flavor eigenstates via the Cabibbo angle θ_C .

$$\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_C & \sin \theta_C \\ -\sin \theta_C & \cos \theta_C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix}$$

- But because the matrix elements are strictly real, *CP* is still conserved.

- However, with three quark generations there is instead this relation

$$\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

- Notice that the presence of δ means that some elements are necessarily complex, allowing for *CP* violation.
- This motivated the prediction of a third quark generation. (Note that this was even before the discovery of the charm)

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