

Lecture 6: Symmetries and Invariance  
Principles - Part II

Overview:

1. Review: group theory: Example  $SU(2)$
2.  $SU(3)$
3. Discrete symmetries:  $P, C, G$
4. CP violation - K-system
5. CPT

# 1. Review : Group Theory : Example $SU(2)$

## Lie group:

The elements of the group are characterized by a finite number of real parameters  $a_\alpha$  with  $\alpha = 1, \dots, N$ .

$$U(a_1, \dots, a_N) = e^{i \sum_{\alpha=1}^N a_\alpha \cdot L_\alpha}$$

Parameters

Generators

define  $A = i \sum_{\alpha=1}^N a_\alpha \cdot L_\alpha = i a_\alpha \cdot L_\alpha$

(Einstein  
summation  
convention)

$$dA = i L_\alpha \delta a_\alpha$$

use :

$$dA = \frac{A}{N} = \frac{i a_\alpha \cdot L_\alpha}{N}$$

then :

$$U(a_1, \dots, a_N) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left[ 1 + \frac{A}{N} \right]^N = e^{i a_\alpha \cdot L_\alpha}$$

" Group is defined by product of infinitesimal transformations around 1 "

◦ Commutation relations:

$$\boxed{[L_\alpha, L_\beta] = i C_{\alpha\beta} L_\gamma}$$

THE generators and their commutation relations specify a Lie algebra where the  $C_{\alpha\beta}$  are the so-called structure constants.

The generators satisfy the so-called

Jacobi identity:

$$\boxed{[L_\alpha, [L_\beta, L_\gamma]] + [L_\beta, [L_\gamma, L_\alpha]] + [L_\gamma, [L_\alpha, L_\beta]] = 0}$$

◦ There are several spaces that are relevant here:

1. Space on which the generators act: dimension of the respective matrix representation:  $L_\alpha$
2. Space of the group generators: here:  $N$   
 $\alpha = 1, \dots, N$

Simplest possible non-Abelian Lie algebra:

$$C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$

3 generators

thus:

$$\boxed{[L_\alpha, L_\beta] = i \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} L_\gamma}$$

$$L_\alpha : \alpha = 1, 2, 3$$

• now:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [L_1, L_2] = i L_3 \\ [L_2, L_3] = i L_1 \\ [L_3, L_1] = i L_2 \end{array} \right.$$

Let's fill this with life and choose certain

representations:

a) simplest non-trivial representation:

2x2 matrices: Pauli matrices

$$\boxed{L_1 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}}$$

$$U = e^{i \alpha_x \cdot \sigma_x / 2}$$

group elements: special

Unitary 2x2 matrices

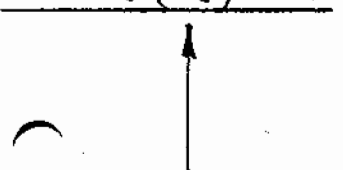
name of group SU(2)

Note:

$\mathbb{R}^3$ 's is the simplest possible representation called fundamental or defining representation.

However:

There will be many other representations, by matrices of various dimensions, different from  $2 \times 2$ .

<u>SU(2)</u>	<u>Has dimensions of:</u>	<u>e.g. Spin</u>
	- 1 (the trivial one)	: 0
	- 2 (the <u>fundamental</u> one)	: $\frac{1}{2}$
	- 3, 4, 5, ... (regular or adjoint repr.)	: $1, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots$

chosen depending on your QM-system you study!

$\mathfrak{su}(2)$  algebra

All representations fulfil all the commutation relations:

$$[L_\alpha, L_\beta] = i \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} L_\gamma$$

Special role of fundamental representations:

spin  $\frac{1}{2}$

→ Build all other representations out of fundamental representations:

$$2 \otimes 2 = 3 \oplus 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2} = 1 \oplus 0$$

3 dim.  
repr.

1 dim.  
repr.

SU(2)

ISO spin :

SU(2) GROUP

Examples :

use isospin to classify :

- 1. nucleons :  $n, p$   $I = 1/2$
- 2. Pions :  $\pi^+, \pi^0, \pi^-$   $I = 1$
- 3. Delta's :  $\Delta^{++}, \Delta^+, \Delta^0, \Delta^-$   $I = 3/2$

Increase multiplicity

$2I + 1$

How many different  $I_3$  eigenvalues?

Fundamental representation of SU(2)

for  $I = 1/2$  :  $2 \times 2$  Pauli matrices

states :

$| I \ I_3 \rangle$

$I_3 = -I, -I+1, \dots, I-1, I$

$I_3$  : 3rd component of isospin !

$p = | \frac{1}{2} \ \frac{1}{2} \rangle$

$n = | \frac{1}{2} \ -\frac{1}{2} \rangle$

$\pi^+ = | 1 \ 1 \rangle$

$\pi^0 = | 1 \ 0 \rangle$

$\pi^- = | 1 \ -1 \rangle$

$\Delta^{++} = | \frac{3}{2} \ \frac{3}{2} \rangle$

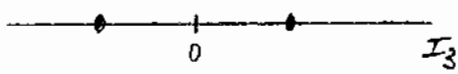
$\Delta^+ = | \frac{3}{2} \ \frac{1}{2} \rangle$

$\Delta^0 = | \frac{3}{2} \ -\frac{1}{2} \rangle$

$\Delta^- = | \frac{3}{2} \ -\frac{3}{2} \rangle$

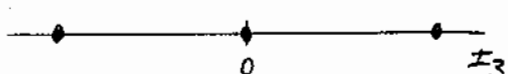
or :

nucleons :



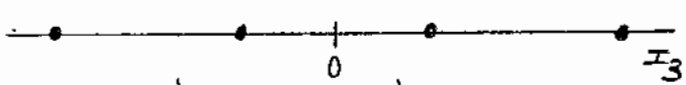
$I = 1/2$

pions :



$I = 1$

Delta's :



$I = 3/2$

Weight diagrams

2.  $SU(3)$ :

o Lie algebra with respect to  $SU(3)$ :

$$[\lambda_i, \lambda_j] = 2i f_{ijk} \lambda_k$$

$\lambda_i : i = 1, \dots, 8$

8 generators

o Fundamental representation of  $SU(3)$ :

-  $SU(2)$  is a sub-group of  $SU(3)$

choose  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$  to be the Pauli matrices generalized to three dimensions;

$$\lambda_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ -i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

o ~~other~~ 5 generators:  $\lambda_4, \dots, \lambda_8$

$$\lambda_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_8 = \frac{\sqrt{1/3}}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\lambda_i$  :  
Gell-Mann  
matrices



Relations among the Gel'fand-Mann matrices and structure constants:

$$\pi \lambda_i \lambda_j = 2 \delta_{ij}$$

$$[\lambda_i, \lambda_j] = 2i f_{ijk} \lambda_k$$

$$\{\lambda_i, \lambda_j\} = \lambda_i \lambda_j + \lambda_j \lambda_i = \frac{4}{3} \delta_{ij} + 2 d_{ijk} \lambda_k$$

ijk	f <sub>ijk</sub>
123	1
147	1/2
156	-1/2
246	1/2
257	1/2
345	1/2
367	-1/2
458	√3/2
678	√3/2

ijk	d <sub>ijk</sub>
118	-1/√3
146	1/2
157	1/2
228	1/√3
247	-1/2
256	1/2
338	1/√3
344	1/2
355	1/2
366	-1/2
377	-1/2
448	-2/√3
558	-1/2√3
668	1/2√3
778	1/2√3
888	-1/√3

Let us now find the representation for su(3) and determine the set of simultaneous diagonalization:

$F_i = \frac{1}{2i} \lambda_i$  then define:

$I_{\pm} = F_1 \pm i F_2$

$V_{\pm} = F_4 \pm i F_5$

$U_{\pm} = F_6 \pm i F_7$

$I_3 = F_3$

$Y = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} F_8$

Eigen values for simultaneous diagonalization:

$$I_3, Y \text{ and } U_3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( \frac{3}{2} Y - I_3 \right) \text{ and } V_3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( \frac{3}{2} Y + I_3 \right)$$

can be diagonalized simultaneously:

Eigen values:  $I_3, Y, U_3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( \frac{3}{2} Y - I_3 \right), V_3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left( \frac{3}{2} Y + I_3 \right)$

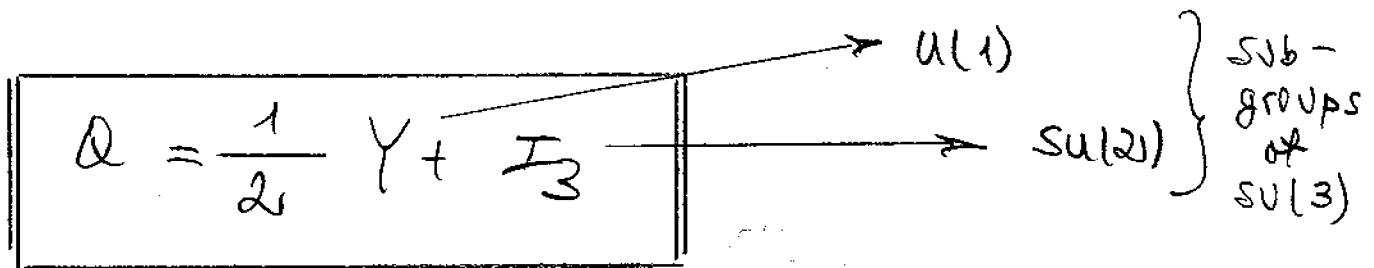
Represent states of  $su(3)$  by:  $| I_3, Y \rangle$

$I_3$ : 3rd component of Isospin

$Y$ : Hyper charge

This was introduced by Gell-Mann to classify the mesons and baryons!

Gell-Mann-Nishijima relation:

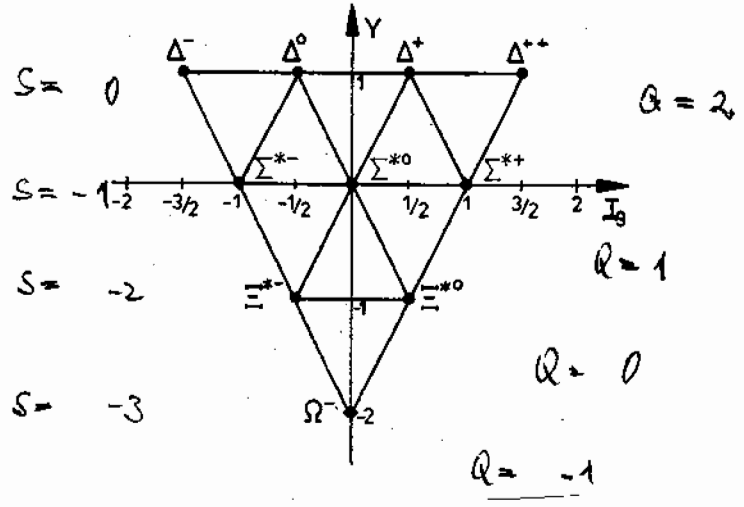
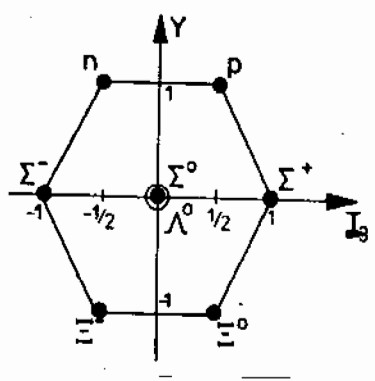


Strangeness:  $S = Y - B$  ( $B$ : Baryon number)

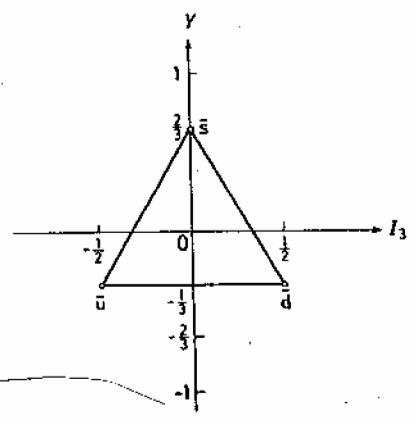
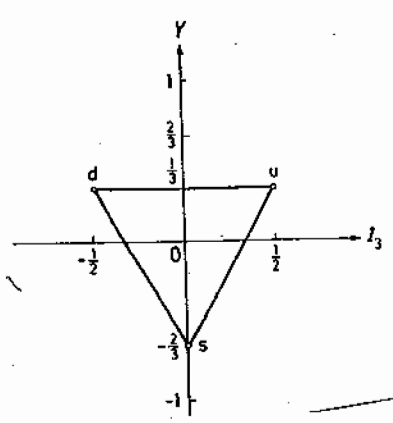
of examples: FLAVOR SU(3) :

→ ("Bad symmetry")

Decompose |  $I_3$   $Y$  > . . .



in terms of quark states:



	$I$	$I_3$	$Y$	$S$	$B$	$Q$
$u$	$1/2$	$+1/2$	$+1/3$	$0$	$1/3$	$2/3$
$d$	$1/2$	$-1/2$	$+1/3$	$0$	$1/3$	$-1/3$
$s$	$0$	$0$	$-2/3$	$-1$	$1/3$	$-1/3$

◦ Color SU(3) : Exact : Fundamental in gradient of QCD

◦ Three color states:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ red} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ green} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ blue}$$

→ More details will follow when we discuss QCD!

### 3. Discrete symmetries:

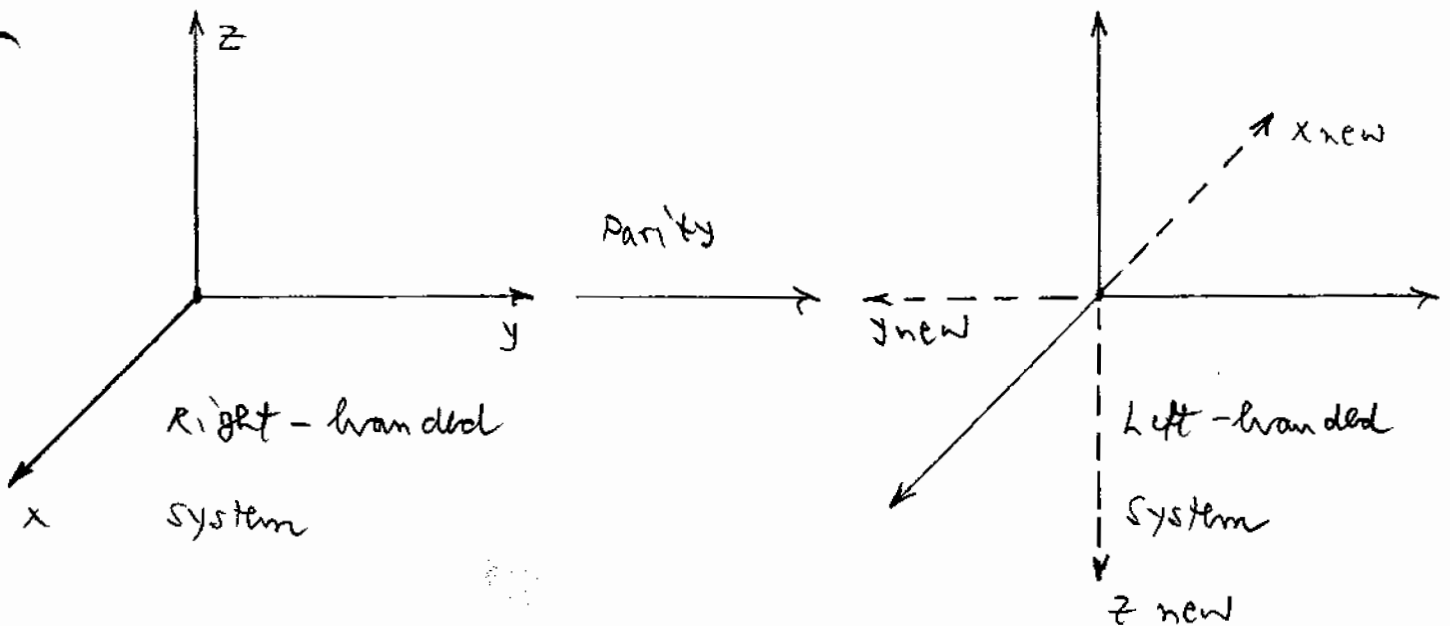
#### a) Parity:

Parity operation:  $\hat{P}$

→ This denotes an inversion, i.e.:

$$\begin{array}{l} x \rightarrow -x \\ y \rightarrow -y \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{r} \rightarrow -\vec{r} \\ z \rightarrow -z \end{array}$$

What does that mean?



Parity operator:  $\hat{P} \psi(\vec{r}) \rightarrow \psi(-\vec{r})$

Eigen values:  $\pm 1$

obvious:  $\hat{P}^2 = I$

NOTE:

A wavefunction may or may not have a well-defined parity, which can be even ( $P = +1$ ) or odd ( $P = -1$ )

Example:

$$\psi = \cos x \quad P\psi \rightarrow \cos(-x) = \cos x = \psi \quad \underline{\text{even}}$$

eigen value: +1

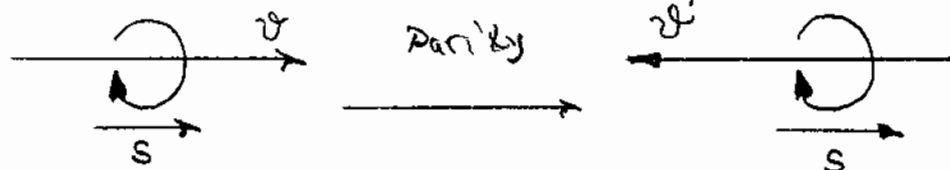
$$\psi = \sin x \quad P\psi \rightarrow \sin(-x) = -\sin x = -\psi \quad \underline{\text{odd}}$$

eigen value: -1

Answer:  $\psi = \cos x + \sin x$  : no definite parity  
eigen value

Consider a particle with a certain spin:

Parity reverses the travel direction without reversing the direction of rotation:



Right-handed particle

Left-handed particle

Let us now look at a spherically symmetric potential:

$$H(-\vec{r}) = H(\vec{r}) = H(r) \quad \text{so that } [A, H] = 0$$

The bound states of the system have definite parity,

e.g. Hydrogen atom:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(r, \theta, \phi) &= X(r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \\ &= X(r) \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l-m)!}{4\pi(l+m)!}} (-1)^m P_l^m(\cos\theta) e^{im\phi} \end{aligned}$$

Parity transformation:  $\vec{r} \rightarrow -\vec{r}$  is equivalent to:

$$\theta \rightarrow \pi - \theta \quad : \quad \cos\theta \rightarrow -\cos\theta$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + \pi \quad : \quad e^{im\phi} \rightarrow (-1)^m e^{im\phi}$$

$$r \rightarrow r$$

With this:

$$Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \longrightarrow (-1)^l \cdot Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

Spherical harmonic functions have parity  $(-1)^l$ !

More details: see Sakurai

### 0. Comments:

1. Parity is a multiplicative quantum number  
in contrast to charge or strangeness which  
are additive quantum numbers!

2. Behavior of scalars and vectors under parity  
transformation,  $P$ :

	Parity	
Scalar	$P(S) = S$	$S = \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2$
Pseudo scalar	$P(P) = -P$	$P = \vec{v}_1 \cdot (\vec{v}_2 \times \vec{v}_3)$
V Vector (polar vector)	$P(\vec{v}) = -\vec{v}$	
A Pseudo vector (axial vector)	$P(\vec{a}) = \vec{a}$	

3. Dynamical aspects:

Prior to 1956 it was believed that nature is  
invariant under parity transformations, i.e. left-handed  
particles and right-handed take equally part in  
the fundamental interactions.

Lee and Yang:

Experimental evidence for  
electromag. and strong. interactions!

1956

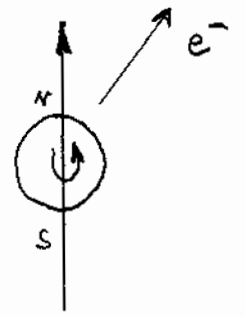


• However to their big surprise:

→ NO experimental confirmation in case of weak interactions!

Proposed a test for weak interactions:

→ Experiment by C. S. Wu:  $\beta$ -decay of  $^{60}\text{Co}$   
Align radioactive cobalt  $^{60}\text{Co}$  such that their spins pointed for example in the z-direction:



Wu recorded the direction of emitted electrons.

Result:

Most electrons came off in a specific direction, preferentially in the direction of N, i.e. in the direction of nuclear spin!

If parity is conserved,  $e^-$  should come out in equal proportions at N and S, but:

• Preferred direction: parity is violated!

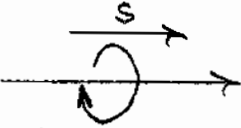
comments:

1. Parity is maximally violated
2. Fundamental signature of weak interactions

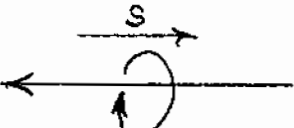
consequences for neutrinos:

1. helicity:

+1	-1	$h = \frac{\vec{s} \cdot \vec{p}}{ \vec{p} }$
----	----	---



right-handed



left-handed

2. For massive particles, i.e.  $e^-$ , helicity is not conserved in Lorentz-transformations: can always choose a system in which the relative alignment of spin and momentum looks different and thus different helicity.

However: neutrinos are massless

It is impossible to reverse the direction of motion of a neutrino by getting into a faster

moving reference system:

Thus: helicity of neutrino: Lorentz invariant

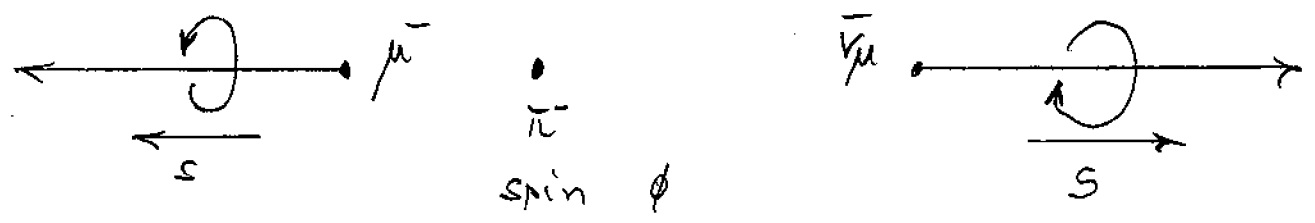
The profound consequence of parity violation now is:

All neutrinos are left-handed and all anti-neutrinos are right-handed!

Before 1956: All neutrinos would be both left-handed and both right-handed  
→ WRONG: Parity is violated!

This "explains" the preferred direction of the electron in Wu's experiment.

Indirect method to study the helicity of the neutrino:  $\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu$  at rest



If the anti-neutrino is right-handed, the muon is right-handed too. This is found experimentally!

• One more Parity remark:

• Tau-Theta puzzle:

Two mesons called  $\tau$  and  $\theta$  (now known as  $K^+$ ) appeared to be identical but have two decay modes at different parity:

$$\theta^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0 \quad \underline{P = +1}$$

$$\tau^+ \rightarrow \begin{matrix} \pi^+ + \pi^0 + \pi^0 \\ \pi^+ + \pi^+ + \pi^- \end{matrix} \quad \underline{P = -1}$$

} prompted study of parity properties in weak interactions!

"Same particle" with different parity for underlying

processes: Parity is not conserved in weak interactions!

• Fermions: opposite parity for fermions and anti-fermions

• Bosons: same parity for bosons and anti-bosons

Classification of Mesons according to their

parity structure:  $q\bar{q}$  (opposite parity)

$$P = (-1)(-1)^l = (-1)^{l+1}$$

different parity for  $q\bar{q}$   $\sim$  orbital angular momentum  $l$

we will use this next week when discussing the quark model!

b.) charge conjugation:

classical electrodynamics is invariant under a change of sign of all electric charges!

charge conjugation: "change sign of the charge"

$$C|p\rangle = |\bar{p}\rangle$$

obvious:  $C^2 = I$

Unlike  $P$ , most of the particles in nature are clearly not eigenstates of  $C$ !

Assume  $|p\rangle$  is an eigenstate of  $C$ :

$$C|p\rangle = \pm|p\rangle = |\bar{p}\rangle \quad \underline{\text{therefore:}} \quad |p\rangle \text{ and } |\bar{p}\rangle \text{ represent the same state!}$$

Only particles that are their own anti-particles can be eigenstates of  $C$ !

example:  $\pi^0, \eta$

It can be shown that a system consisting of a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  particle and its anti-particle in a configuration with orbital angular momentum  $l$  and total spin  $s$  constitute an eigenstate of  $C$  with the following eigen value:

$$(-1)^{l+s}$$

Important for Meson - classification:

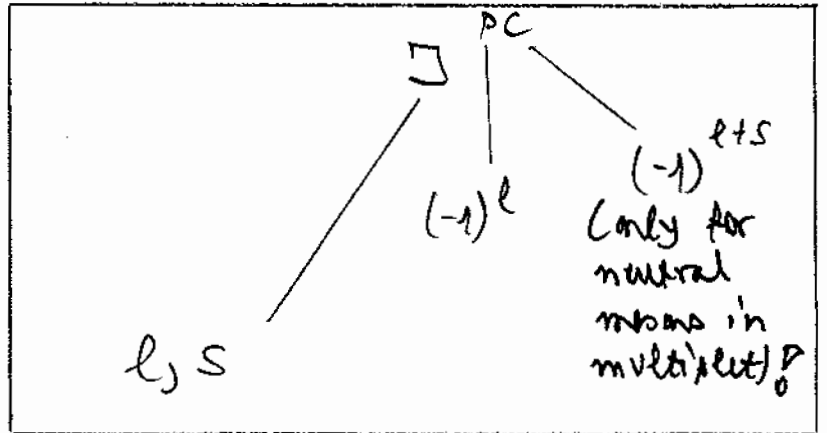
\* Example:

$C$  for  $\pi^0$ :  $C = 1$

$\pi^0 \rightarrow \bar{u} + u$

Therefore:

System with  $n$  pions:  $C = (-1)^n$



### C) G-parity:

Only a few particles are eigenstates of  $C$ . Introduce therefore:

$$\boxed{G\text{-parity } G = (-1)^I \cdot C}$$

eigenvalue for a multiplet of iso spin  $I$  and charge conjugation

### example:

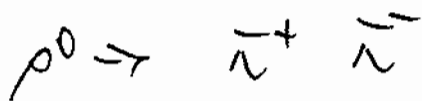
- Pion:  $I = 1$ ;  $C = +1$   $G = -1$

For  $n$  pions in a reaction  $G = (-1)^n$

"You can tell how many pions can be emitted in a particular decay"!

$\rho^0$  meson decay:  $J^{PC} = 1^{--}$   $G = 1$

$\rho^0$  decays to two pions, but not to three!

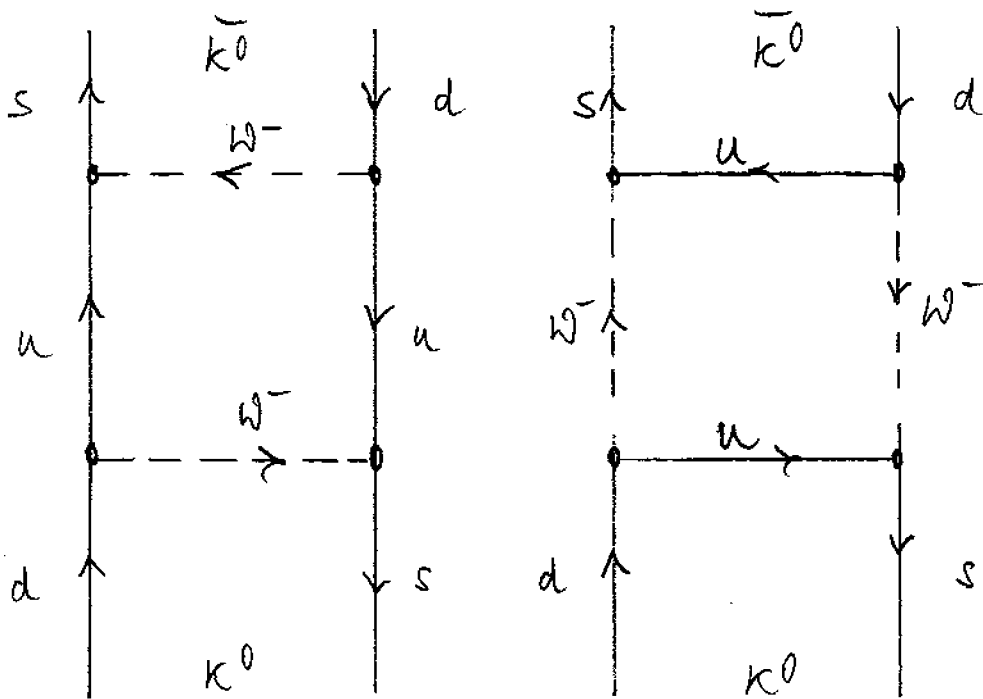


$\rho^0$ :  $I = 1$

SU summary:

- 1. Strong and electro mag. interactions are invariant under C and P
- 2. Weak interactions are not invariant under C and P!  
 However, the combination CP "seemed" to be conserved in weak interactions. How well?

CP invariance: Gell-Mann and Pais



$K^0 \rightleftharpoons \bar{K}^0$   
 mixing



study and now under C, P and CP operations:

$$P |K^0\rangle = -|K^0\rangle \quad ; \quad P |\bar{K}^0\rangle = -|\bar{K}^0\rangle$$

but:

$$C |K^0\rangle = |\bar{K}^0\rangle \quad ; \quad C |\bar{K}^0\rangle = |K^0\rangle$$

$$CP |K^0\rangle = -|\bar{K}^0\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad CP |\bar{K}^0\rangle = -|K^0\rangle$$

normalized eigenstates of CP:

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

with:

$$CP |K_1\rangle = |K_1\rangle$$

$$CP |K_2\rangle = -|K_2\rangle$$

If CP is conserved in weak interactions,  $K_1$  can only decay into a state with  $CP = +1$ , whereas  $K_2$  can only go to a state with  $CP = -1$ .

is this so in nature  $\frac{2}{0}$

$$m_{K1} - 2m_{\pi} = 220 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{K2} - 3m_{\pi} = 80 \text{ MeV}$$

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$K_1 \rightarrow 2\pi$ (faster decay)	$K_2 \rightarrow 3\pi$ (slower decay)
--	--

$$P = \beta \gamma c \tau$$

$$\tau_1 = 0.89 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ s}$$

$$c\tau = 2.7 \text{ cm}$$

$$\tau_2 = 5.2 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

$$c\tau = 15.6 \text{ cm}$$

$$P = (-1)^{L+1}$$

$$C = (-1)^{L+S}$$

Prepare a beam with  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ :

$$\pi: P = S = 0$$

$$CP: -1$$

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

Will decay away ...

Will be left with  $K_2$ 's down the beam line of the experiment

Short

Long

Define the long contribution:

$$|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{(1 + |\epsilon|^2)^{1/2}} (|K_2\rangle + \epsilon |K_1\rangle)$$

If CP is conserved,  $\epsilon = 0$ , should only see  $K_2$ 's and no  $K_1$ 's!

Fromin, Fitch (1964):

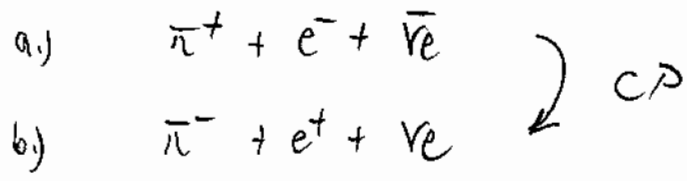
Found 45  $2\pi$  decays at the end of a beam 57 feet long out of 22,700 decays!

o CP is violated: Small effect!

not "easy" to theoretically really understand, compared to P violation!

Subsequent experiment:

- 34% of  $K_L^0$ 's decay through  $3\pi$  mode
- 39% go to:



If CP is conserved, (a) and (b) should occur in equal proportions, but:

$K_L^0$  decays more often into positrons than electrons!

CP violation:

Un equal treatment of particles and anti-particles suggests it may be responsible for the dominance of matter over antimatter in the universe!

## CPT theorem:

Important principle of quantum field theory. All interactions are invariant under the combined operation of C, P and T taken in any order.

## Implications:

1. Particles and anti-particles should have the same mass and life time
2. Particles and anti-particles have magn. moment equal in magnitude, but opposite in sign

Since CP is violated it is expected that there is also violation in T to preserve CPT.

→ important to look for T violation  
(no experimental evidence for T violation so far!)

Tests of CPT theorem

		Limit on fractional difference
Lifetime	$\tau_{\pi^+} - \tau_{\pi^-}$	$< 10^{-3}$
	$\tau_{K^+} - \tau_{K^-}$	$< 10^{-4}$
	$\tau_{K^0} - \tau_{\bar{K}^0}$	$< 10^{-3}$
Magnetic moment	$ \mu_p  -  \mu_n $	$< 10^{-8}$
	$ \mu_{p^+}  -  \mu_{p^-} $	$< 10^{-10}$
Mass	$M_{\pi^+} - M_{\pi^-}$	$< 10^{-3}$
	$M_{p^+} - M_{p^-}$	$< 10^{-4}$
	$M_{K^+} - M_{K^-}$	$< 10^{-4}$
	$M_{K^0} - M_{\bar{K}^0}$	$< 10^{-14}$