

Introducing Particle Physics

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Aim of this lecture:

Particles and Forces of the Standard Model The particle zoo Qualitative Feynman diagrams

The Standard Model: elementary particles and their interactions



 e^--e^- collision, transferring momentum q by exchange of photon, quanta of EM field













Photon propagator

• Can derive it from standard QM time-indep. perturbation theory:

$$T_{fi} = \left\langle f \left| V \right| i \right\rangle + \sum_{j \neq n} \frac{\left\langle f \left| V \right| j \right\rangle \left\langle j \left| V \right| i \right\rangle}{E_i - E_j} + \dots$$

(See e.g. Halzen & Martin for a more detailed discussion)

This is the term that concerns us: scattering via an intermediate state (the photon)

• Two possibilities (two different time orderings):



Photon propagator

• Can derive it from standard QM time-indep. perturbation theory:



Photon propagator

 Special relativity doesn't preserve simultaneity, have to sum over two time orderings:

$$T_{fi} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\left\langle f | V | j \right\rangle \left\langle j | V | i \right\rangle}{E_i - E_j} \propto \frac{1}{(E_a - E_c) - E_X} + \frac{-1}{(E_a - E_c) + E_X}$$

$$\propto \frac{1}{(E_a - E_c)^2 - E_X^2} = \frac{1}{(E_a - E_c)^2 - (\vec{p}_a - \vec{p}_c)^2 - m_X^2} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{(p_a - p_c)^2 - m_X^2} = \frac{1}{q^2 - m_X^2} \qquad \text{where } q = p_a - p_c \text{ is the transferred 4-momentum}}$$
and we've used $E_X^2 = \vec{p}_X^2 + m_X^2 = (\vec{p}_a^2 - \vec{p}_c^2) + m_X^2$

Photons are massless, $m_{\ X}^2 = 0$ and their propagator is $1/q^2$



 Antiparticle: same properties (mass, spin) as particle, but all "charges" reversed (electric, weak force, strong force)

positron = anti-electron = e⁺

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- Particle + antiparticle = radiation (E=mc²!)



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Antiparticles: the positron

- 1932, Anderson: picture of cloud chamber in magnetic field
- Track crosses lead plate, looses energy, going upwards
- Positive charge (curvature),
 mass < 20 m_e
 ... A POSITIVE ELECTRON!
- Actually predicted by Dirac's equation (Oppenheimer 1930)!
- Antiparticle has same mass, spin, etc but opposite charge



Cosmic rays

- Particles from outer space constantly in collision with upper atmosphere
- Source of exotic (unstable) particles from early times (pre WWII)
- Cloud chambers (or Wilson chambers): supersaturated vapor, passage of charged particles slightly ionizes medium, condensation occurs track
- Photographic emulsions also used





More cosmic rays: the muon

1936 Neddermeyer, Anderson:

- unit charge particle, spin 1/2
- heavier than electron, lighter than proton \rightarrow penetrating tracks
- like electrons, does not induce nuclear reactions
- unstable but long-lived (10⁻⁶ s)

Just like electron but heavy and unstable

"Who ordered that?" (I.I. Rabi)



Example of EM interaction: pair production

- The inverse of matter-antimatter annihilation: particle-antiparticle pair production
- For instance: $\mu^+ \mu^-$ production:



- Antiparticules pictured as arrows opposite to flow of time
- Emission of e⁻ = absorption of e⁺
- Possible only if invariant mass $m_{e+e-}^2 = q^2 > (2m_{\mu})^2$
- Internal particles are called "virtual particles". Note: m²_v = q² ≠ 0 !!!

Quantum ElectroDynamics (QED)

• Many higher order diagrams possible for $\mu^+ \mu^-$ production:



• Feyman diagrams part of a perturbation series in powers of coupling constant α

All this, and much more, described by Quantum ElectroDynamics (QED), a consistent Quantum Field Theory

(Tomonaga (1946), Schwinger (1948) and Feynman (1948) based on Dirac 1928)

The Standard Model: elementary particles and their interactions



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Protons are composite



Nucleons composed of 3 point-like particles: quarks

Quarks and the Strong Force

- Strong force like EM but with *three* different types of charge instead of just one
- Let's call them red, green, blue, just for fun...* "Positive" charge is then red whereas "negative" is anti-red (cyan, in this analogy).
- This kind of charge called "color"
 - ➔ theory called Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)
- Call "quark" a particle with color charge. Leptons don't have color.
 EM
 Strong Force



* Particles with color not responsible for colours of light!

Quantum ChromoDynamics (QCD)

- Charges repel(attract) if same(different), e.g. red and red repel, red and anti-red attract, red and blue attract.
- Force carriers are called gluons
- Gluons must carry color charge → far-reaching consequences, very different from QED!



- Consequences:
 - Very short range force
 - Force gets stronger when quarks pulled apart
 - Only see color-neutral free particles in Nature (quark confinement)

Quarks make up hadrons

- Can get color-neutrality (neither excess nor defect) with following combinations:
 - color+anti-color
 - red+green+blue since anti-red=cyan=green+blue
- So the quarks arrangements found in Nature are:
 - quark+antiquark' (meson)
 - quark+quark'+quark'' or 3 antiquarks (baryon)

Hadrons



QCD \rightarrow Strong nuclear force

• Protons and neutrons bound in nucleus by residual force between quarks, same as atoms in molecules



How many different quarks?

- Experimentally find 6 quarks (*flavours*), 3 up-type and 3 down-type quarks
- All equal for QCD, except different masses



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Symmetries

 Classification and description of hadrons thanks to symmetries (group theory)



Heavy flavours

- Heavy quarks unstable... How? Up to now, always creating/annihilating pairs of particle-antiparticle of same type
- Weak force:

induces decays of unstable elementary particles



The Standard Model: elementary particles and their interactions



Weak Force

• Neutron beta decay: $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \overline{v}_e$



- Weak force responsible for decays of unstable elementary particles
- Mediated by Z⁰ and W[±] bosons
- Contrary to photons and gluons, Z⁰ and W[±] have non-zero masses
- Propagators proportional to 1/M²_z, 1/M²_W

➔ Weak Force very weak!



Why are Z and W so heavy?

- Z and W are 100 and 85 times heavier than proton
- But photons and gluons massless!



• It's the Higgs boson's fault!

Weak Force

• Governs rate of energy production in the sun (inverse beta decay a step in fusion process)



Weak Force: other examples



Pion decay: important way of making neutrinos

Neutrinos?

- Nearly zero masses (but not quite!)
- No electric charge, no color charge, only interacts through Z et Ws
- So very hard to study...
- Electron also light and without color \rightarrow leptons
- Plenty of open questions...

Three families or generations

- 3 times the u, d quark couple, except heavier and less stable
- Same story about leptons:

muon is just an unstable, heavy electron

- Columns of table are called *generations*
- Why more than one? Why three?



The Standard Model

- Are they all elementary?
- Are there any more?
- Why 3 generations?
- Why this mass pattern?





Summary

- Much learnt; plenty of open questions!
- Electromagnetism, γ: all particles except v's
- Strong force, gluon: only quarks
- Weak force, W[±] et Z: all particles



Electro

Magnetic



Questions?

Applications



A VERY brief history of particles



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The nucleus: Rutherford scattering



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The nucleus: Rutherford scattering

- Notion of Cross Section $d\sigma/d\Omega$: particles crossing transverse area $d\sigma$ are scattered into a solid angle $d\Omega$ at an angle θ with the beam direction
- Can find out about force between target and bullet by looking at xsection,
 e.g. stronger forces → bigger xsections; range of force ↔ dependence on θ



• Ex, scattering of spinless charged particles off a spinless charged target (Rutherford):

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 E_{kin}} \frac{1}{\sin^4(\theta/2)}$$

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Back to history: protons are composite

- Post WWII: accelerator era
- 1968 SLAC: shoot e⁻ to proton target
- High energies: $\lambda_{electron} << R_{proton}$ pc=hc/ $\lambda_{electron} >> 1 \text{ GeV}$







Orders of magnitude, units



Masses in energy units (E=mc² !)

e.g. m(proton) = 938 MeV, m(electron) = 0,511 MeV

Applications

• Radiothérapie



Applications

- Le World Wide Web a été inventé au CERN ! (1990)
- La grille de calcul

