

Neutrino physics

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Neutrino Physics

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Universal neutrino spectrum



Standard Model





Singlet states because there are no right handed weak charged currents

All particles are massless

Neutrino masses in SM

1952: Beta decay limit of m<250 eV → Assumption for SM: Massless



Langer, Moffat, Phys. Rev. 88, 689 (1952)

Why is the neutrino mass so small???

Fermion masses in SM

In general: Masses via spontaneous symmetry breaking – Higgs Mechanism

Doublet of complex scalar fields

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{\dagger} \\ \phi^{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

Vacuum expectation value (VEV)

$$v = (\sqrt{2}G_F)^{-1/2} \approx 246 \text{ GeV}$$

Particle masses via coupling to Higgs VEV (for fermions = Yukawa- couplings)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} = -c_e \bar{e}_R \phi^{\dagger} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{eL} \\ e_L \end{pmatrix} + h.c.$$
$$= -c_e \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{e}_e$$
$$\mathsf{m}_e$$

Neutrino masses in SM



Easiest way: Include right-handed neutrino singlets in SM

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d' \end{pmatrix}_{L} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ s' \end{pmatrix}_{L} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b' \end{pmatrix}_{L} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ \nu_{e} \end{pmatrix}_{L} \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \nu_{\mu} \end{pmatrix}_{L} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \nu_{\tau} \end{pmatrix}_{L} u_{R} & d_{R} & s_{R} & c_{R} & b_{R} & t_{R} & e_{R} & \mu_{R} & \tau_{R}. \\ V_{eR}; V_{\mu R}; V_{\tau R} & \text{More symmetric solution}$$

You have to explain why c_{ν} is so much smaller than the other couplings Neutrinos would be Dirac particles (4-state objects like the other fermions) Is there a chance to generate neutrino masses without adding neutrino states?











Senjanovic; Dorsner, Fileviez-Perez;....

slide by T. Hambye



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What if neutrinos have a non-vanishing rest mass ?

➔ Physics beyond the Standard Model

•Of course a lot of new things can be explored (absolute mass, magnetic moments, decays ...)

• Weak eigenstates could be different from mass eigenstates like in quark sector – neutrino mixing (PMNS matrix analog to CKM-matrix)

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\theta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{pmatrix}$$

The twofold way....

- Precision determination of mixing matrix elements (PMNS), CP violation in lepton sector
- ★ Absolute neutrino mass measurement



See also lecture 2

Neutrino mixing

Known in the quark - sector for more than 40 years



Neutrino mixing

E. Akhmedov, A. Smirnov, arXiv:1008.2077 E. Akhmedov, J. Kopp, arXiv:1001.4815 E. Akhmedov, A. Smirnov, arXiv:0905.1903

Production

Propagation

Detection

ktp



Neutrino Mixing





2 unknown Parameters: $\sin^2 2\theta$, Δm^2

No absolute neutrino mass measurement!

Oscillation search

Disappearance: Reduction of original flavour Appearance: New flavour not present at source





Atmosperic neutrinos



The target









Super-Kamiokande

iktp



50 kt water Cerenkov detector

Event classes





Zenith angle distribution



Super-K atmospheric





Neutrino beams



NBB: monochromatic neutrinos, small flux WB: energy spectrum of neutrinos, high flux



F. Eisele, Rep. Prog. Phys. 49, 233 (1986)

Example beam (MINOS)

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Major problem: Precise knowledge of neutrino energy spectrum at experiment







mean neutrino energy: 1.4 GeV

 ${\cal V}_{\mu}$ disappearance experiment Baseline: 235 km



K2K near neutrino detectors

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Neutrino-Nucleon QEL



- Form factors introduced since proton, neutron not elementary.
- Depend on vector and axial weak charges of the proton and neutron.
- Two hypotheses determine form factors: Conservation of Vector Current (CVC) and Partial Conservation of Axial Current (PCAC)

$$F_V(q^2) = \frac{F_V(0)}{\left(1 - q^2 / 0.71\right)^2}$$



$$F_{A}(q^{2}) = \frac{F_{A}(0)}{(1-q^{2}/1.065)^{2}}$$

$$F_{V}(0) = 1$$

$$F_{A}(0) = g_{A} = -1.2573 \pm 0.028$$

$$For low energy \lor (E_{V} < m_{N}):$$

$$\sigma(v_{e}n) = \sigma(\overline{v_{e}}p) = \frac{(G_{F}\cos\theta_{C})^{2}E_{V}^{-2}}{\pi} \left[F_{V}(0)^{2} + 3F_{A}(0)^{2}\right]$$

$$\approx 9.75 \times 10^{-42} \left(\frac{E_{V}}{10 \, MeV}\right)^{2} cm^{2}$$

QE scattering crucial for next generation of neutrino oscillation experiments!!

K2K results





MINOS





5.4 kt magnetized iron spectrometer

Disappearance experiment

Baseline: 732 km







LE option chosen Neutrino and antineutrino runs









MINOS + SuperK results

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CNGS



Same baseline as Fermilab – Soudan



Beam optimised for detection Appearance experiment





OPERA





Short decays

Lead-Emulsion Target







BRICK: 57 emulsion foils +56 interleaved Pb plates

Emulsion films (Fuji) production rate ~8,000m²/month (206,336 brick ⇔ ~150,000m²)

Lead plates (Pb + 2.5% Sb) requirements: low radioactivity level,emulsion compatibility, constant and uniform thickness

52 x 64 bricks

OPERA - Expectation

τ decay channels	Signal		
	∆m² = 2.5 x 10-³ eV²	∆m² = 3.0 x 10-³ eV²	Background
τ → μ	2,9	4,2	0,17
$\tau ightarrow \mathbf{e}$	3,5	5,0	0,17
τ → h	3,1	4,4	0,24
τ → 3h	0,9	1,3	0,17
ALL	10,4	14,9	0,75

There should be 1 event in the data by now...



OPERA- 1st event

First candidate event observed



Summary so far



- Neutrinos have a non-vanishing rest mass
- ★ Observed in atmospheric neutrinos, confirmed by accelerators
- ★ Best fit is maximal mixing and

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|\Delta m^2| = (2.32 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2
(90% C.L.)
\sin^2 2\theta = 1
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