

Introduction to Particle Physics

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- Introduction to Particle Physics
- The strong interaction
- The weak interaction
- The Standard Model and Higgs
- Few open questions

+ EXERCISES !

Chapter I

Introduction

to

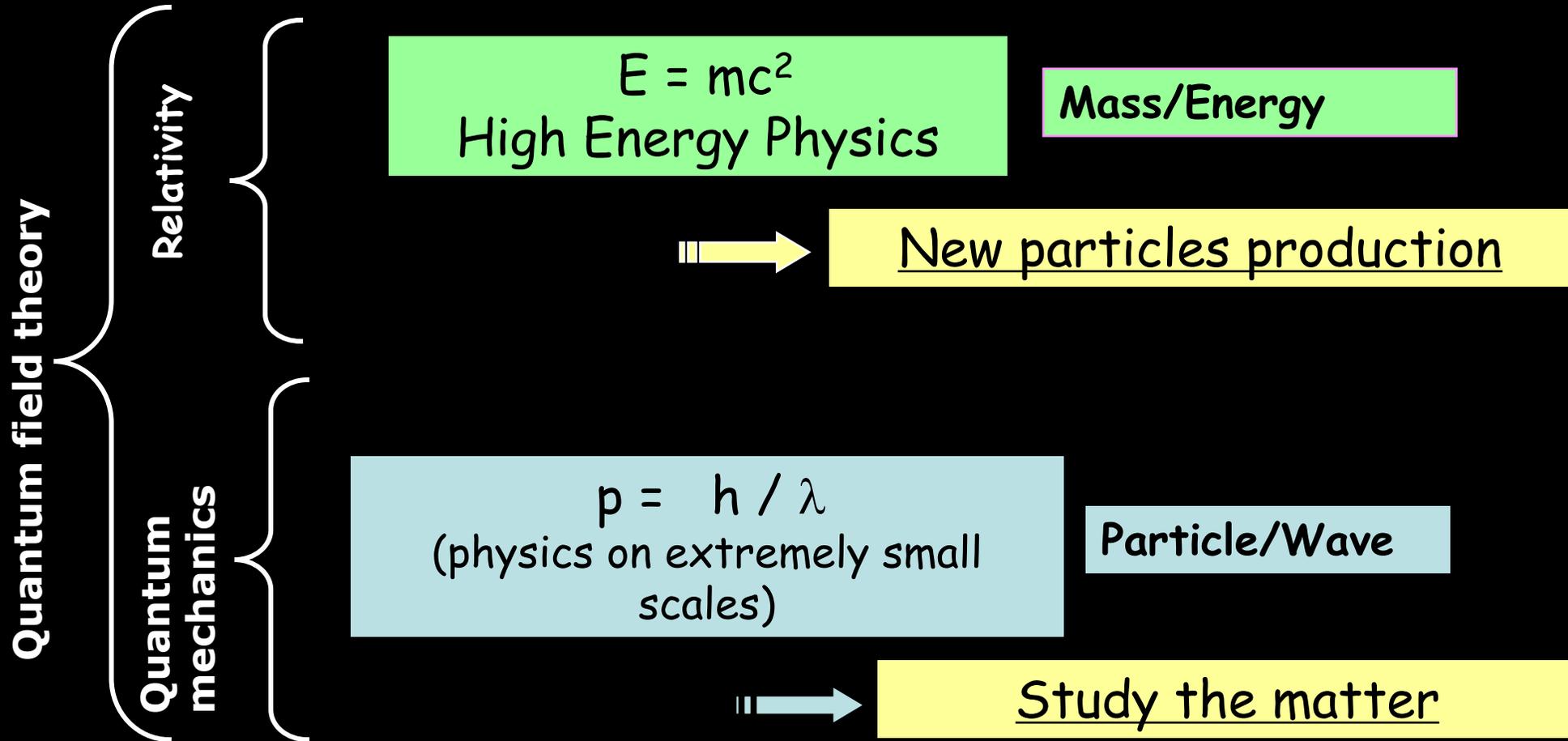
Particle Physics

What is
particle physics
about?

The particle world

$$e = 1.602176462(63) \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$
$$m = 9.10938188(72) \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

The laws of « this world » are not really intuitive..

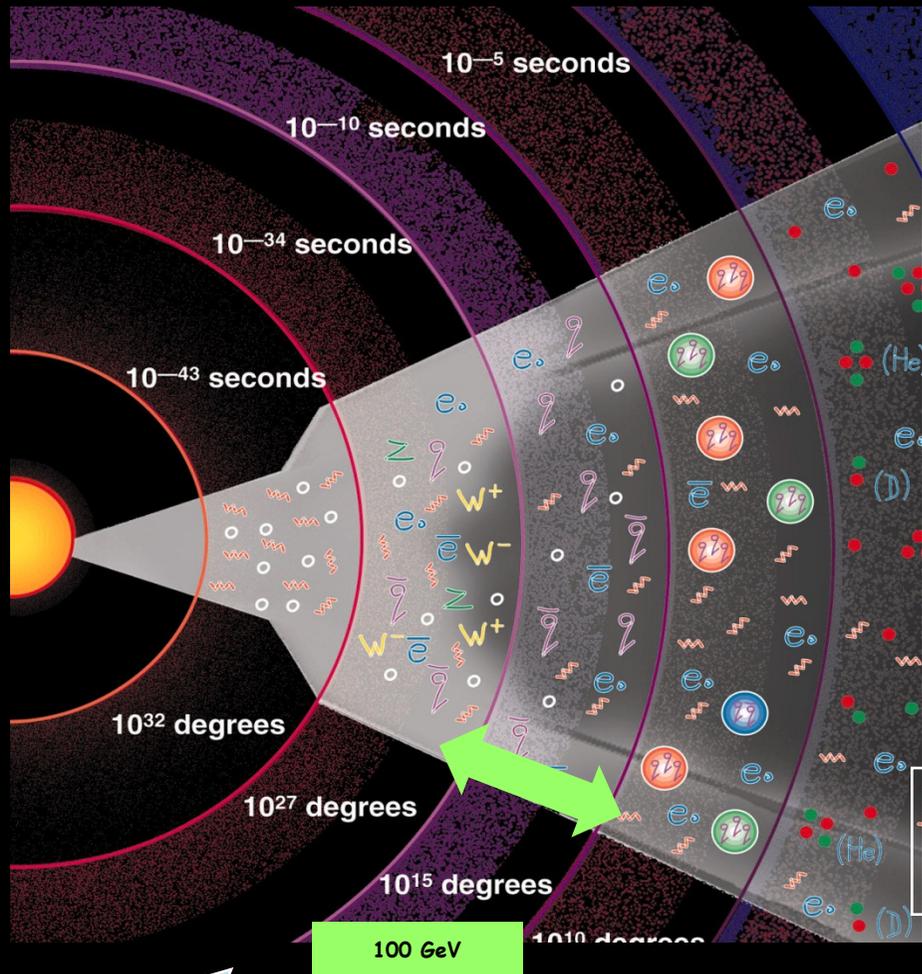


Particle world is described by quantum field theory

It is our main working tool for particles physics

It comes from the marriage between quantum mechanics and relativity

The particle world : Physics of the two-infinities



Produce particles
at 100GeV $\sim 10^{-8}$ Joule



Temperature $\sim 10^{15}$ degrees



Condition of the Universe
after $\sim 10^{-10}$ sec from Big Bang

Particles (which are very small « objects ») of high energy are instruments to go back in time (very large scales)

The mass

Defined by : $m^2 c^4 = E^2 - p^2 c^2$ ← Invariant length of the Energy-momentum 4-vector

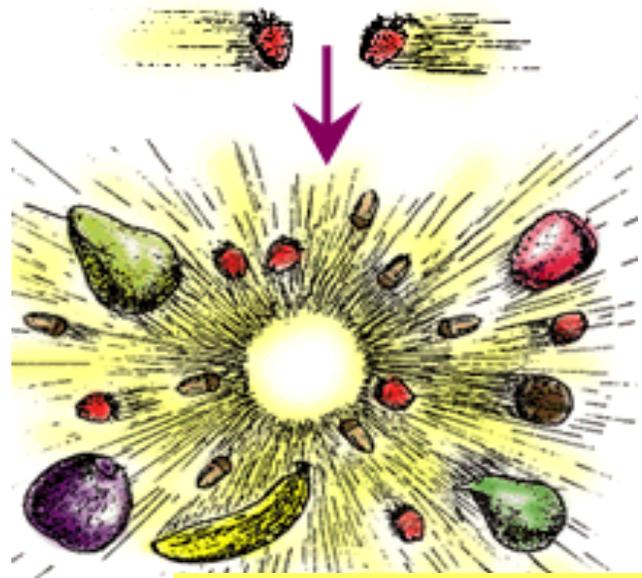
With $c=1$ E , p and m are expressed using the same unity (GeV/MeV ...)

- When $p=0 \Rightarrow E = mc^2$
- When v increases $\Rightarrow E^2$ et $p^2 c^2$ increase but their difference remains constant
- m is a Lorentz invariant

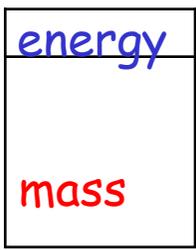
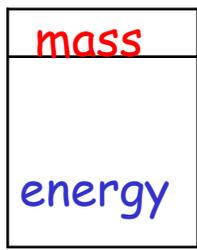
New particles production:

It is not "divisibility" !

Since c is large
small mass
=
Large energy



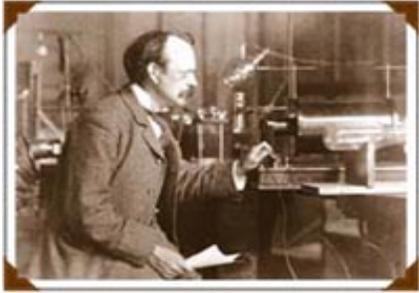
Mass/energy



A particle is a lump of energy

MICROSCOPIC WORLD

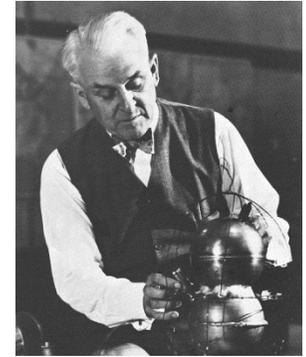
Thompson experiment



Determination of
 m/e for electrons

Determination of the quantum
nature and the value of the electric
charge for electrons

Millikan experiment



Today

- $e = 1.602176462(63) \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
- $m = 9.10938188(72) \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

$$1 \text{ Joule} = 1 \text{ Coulomb} \cdot 1 \text{ Volt}$$

1eV = Energy for an electron feeling a potential difference of 1 V

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ Joule}$$

$$mc^2 = 9.1 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \times (3 \cdot 10^8)^2 \text{ m}^2/\text{sec}^2 = 50 \cdot 10^4 \text{ eV}$$

$$1 \text{ eV}/c^2 = 1.78 \cdot 10^{-36} \text{ kg}$$

$$m_e = 0.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2 = 0.5 \text{ MeV} (c=1)$$

$$m_p = 938 \text{ MeV} \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$$

KeV (10^3 eV)

MeV (10^6 eV)

GeV (10^9 eV)

TeV (10^{12} eV)

Elementary particles

3 families of fermions : matter

+ anti-matter !

3 forces : electromagnetism, weak interaction, strong interaction

	I	II	III	
mass →	2.4 MeV	1.27 GeV	171.2 GeV	0
charge →	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0
spin →	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
name →	u up	c charm	t top	γ photon
	4.8 MeV	104 MeV	4.2 GeV	0
	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
Quarks	d down	s strange	b bottom	g gluon
	<2.2 eV	<0.17 MeV	<15.5 MeV	91.2 GeV
	0	0	0	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
	ν_e electron neutrino	ν_μ muon neutrino	ν_τ tau neutrino	Z⁰ Z boson
	0.511 MeV	105.7 MeV	1.777 GeV	80.4 GeV
	-1	-1	-1	± 1
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
Leptons	e electron	μ muon	τ tau	W[±] W boson
				Gauge Bosons

And the Higgs boson !

The particles are characterized by :

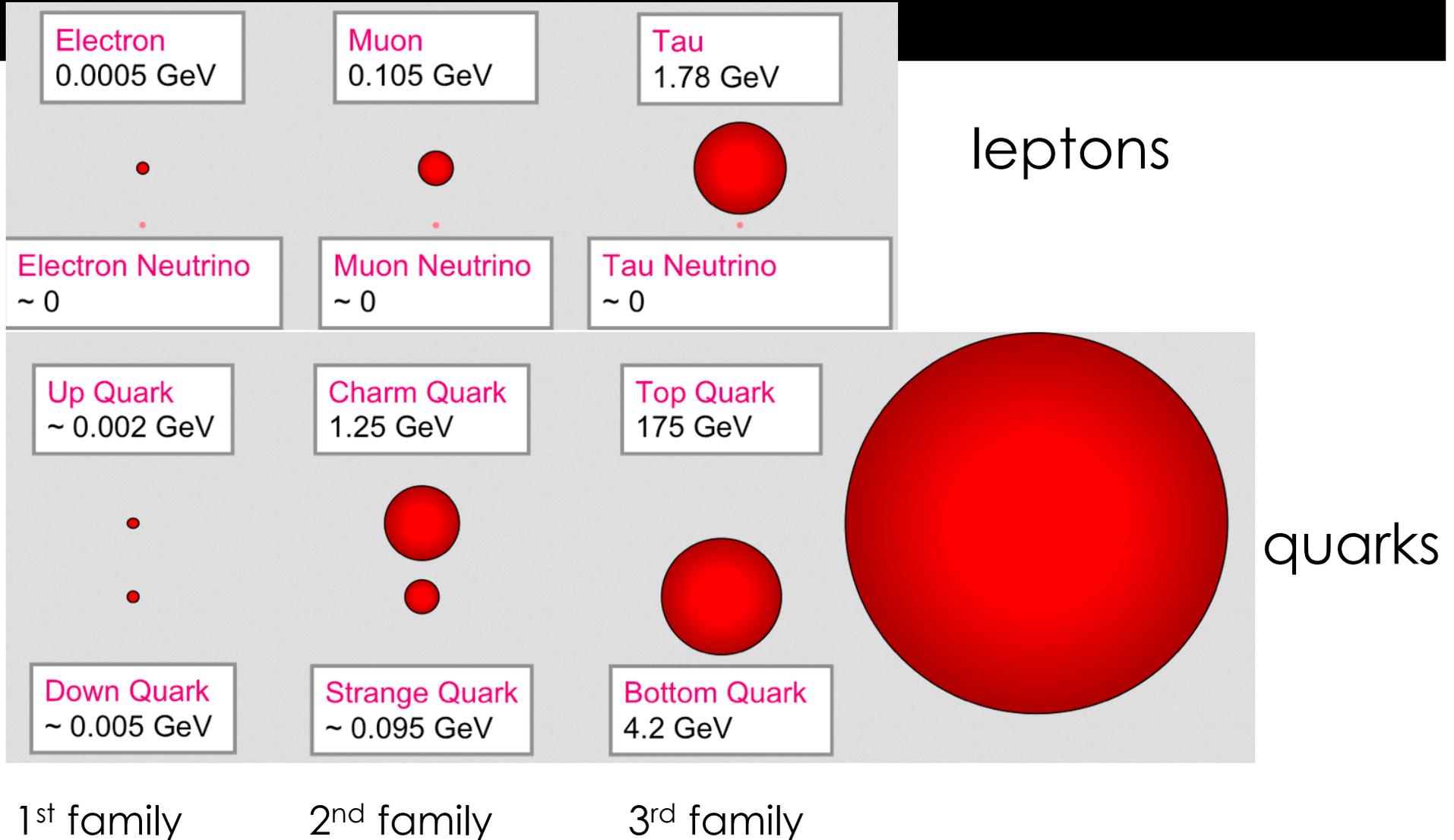
- their spin
- their mass
- the quantum numbers (charges) determining their interactions

All our knowledge is today « codified » in the

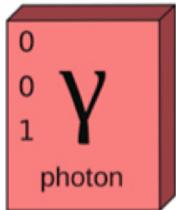
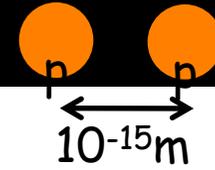
Standard Model :

Matter, Interaction, Unification Interaction, Unification

The fermions and their masses



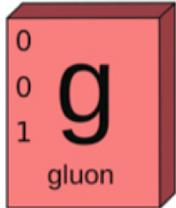
The interactions and their mediators



$m=0$

Electromagnetism

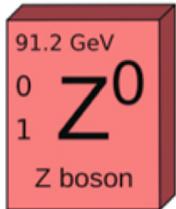
10^{-2}



$m=0$

Strong interaction

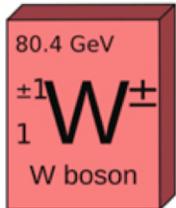
1



$m=91.2 \text{ GeV}$

Weak interaction

10^{-8}



Gauge Bosons

$M=80.4 \text{ GeV}$

Gravity :
negligible at the scale of elementary particles
We do not know today how to quantify it

Probe the underlying structure of matter

Production of new particles

$p = h/\lambda$
(towards the smallest scales)

$E = Mc^2$
(High energy physics)

Quantum
Mechanics

Electromagnetism
(Maxwell's Theory)

Special
Relativity

Gravity
(Newton's Theory)

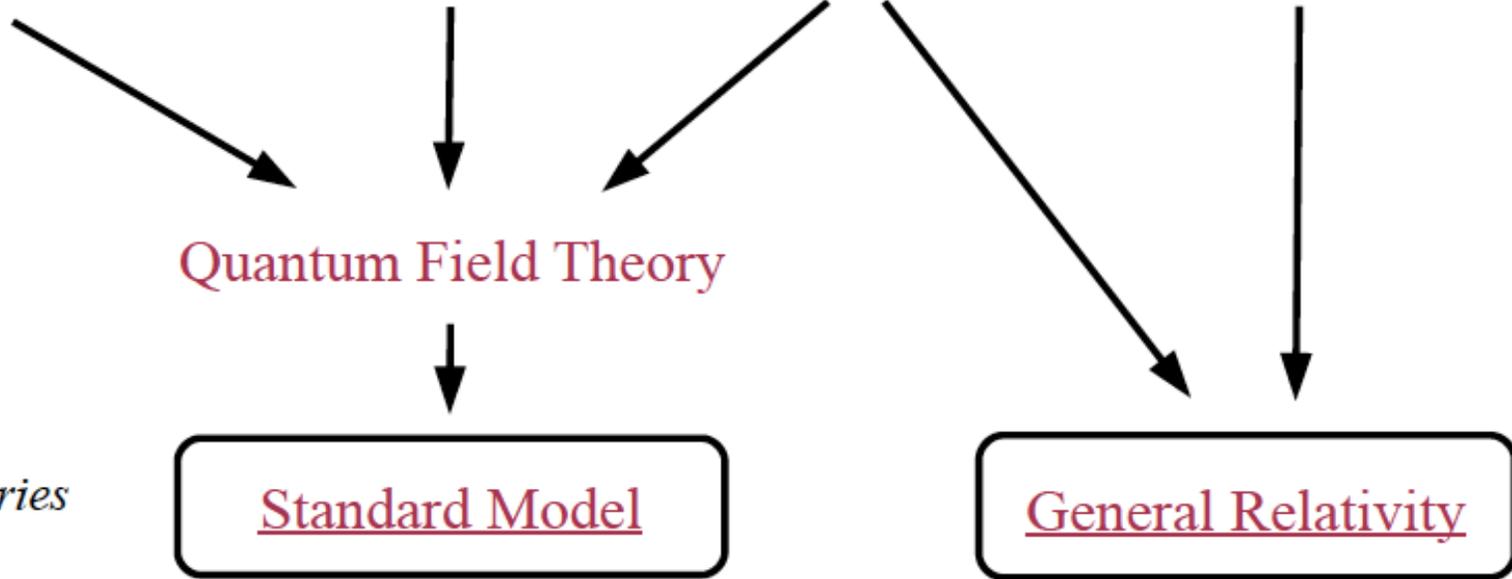
Nuclear
Physics

Quantum Field Theory

*Physical Theories
now:*

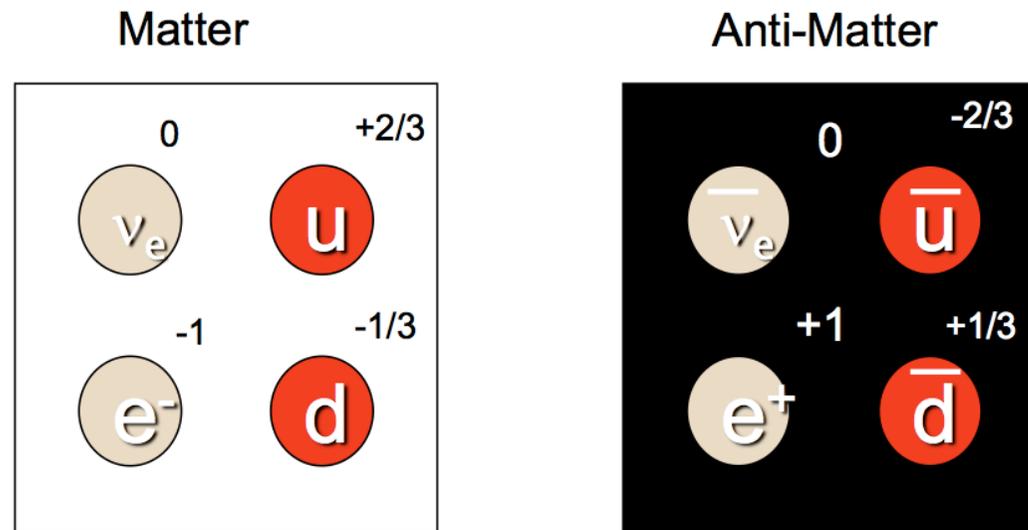
Standard Model

General Relativity



Anti-matter ?

To each particle one can associate an anti-particle : same mass but all quantum numbers opposite



In 1931 Dirac predicts the existence of a particle similar to the electron but of charge $+e$

Two important observables :

Lifetime/Width : τ / Γ

Cross Section : σ

Lifetime : τ

Lifetime : the exponential law

Instable particles and nuclei : number of decays per unit of time ($\Delta N/\Delta T$) proportional to the number of particles/nuclei (N)

$$\Delta N = \text{cte} \times N \times \Delta t \Rightarrow \text{exponential law}$$

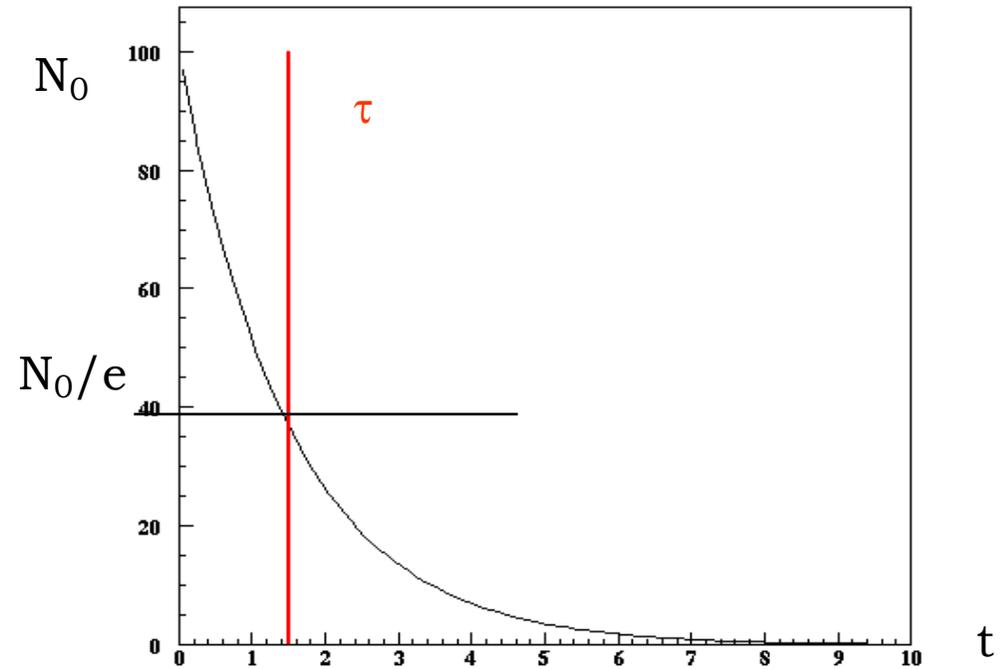
$$N(t) = N_0 e^{-t/\tau}$$

Mean lifetime (defined in the particle rest frame)

The majority of the particles are instable

τ from 10^{-23} sec (resonances)

to $\sim 10^3$ sec (neutron)



The probability for a radioactive nucleus to decay during a time interval t , does not depend on the fact that the nucleus has just been produced or exists since a time T :

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Survival probability} \\ \text{after the time } T + t \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Survival probability} \\ \text{after the time } T \end{array} \right] \times \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Survival probability} \\ \text{after the time } t \end{array} \right]$$

$$e^{a+b} = e^a \times e^b$$

Few important examples of different lifetimes

- **Stable particles** : γ, e, p, ν → the only ones !

proton stability $\tau(p) > \sim 10^{32}$ ans

- **particles with long lifetimes** :

$$n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \quad \tau = 6.13 \cdot 10^{+2} \text{ sec, } \beta \text{ decay}$$

$$\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu \quad \tau = 2.2 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ sec, cosmic rays}$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \text{ (mainly)} \quad \tau = 2.6 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ sec}$$

$$K^+ \quad \tau = 1.2 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ sec}$$

- **particle with short lifetimes** :

$$D^+ \quad \tau = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ sec}$$

$$B^+ \quad \tau = 1.6 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ sec}$$

$$\Delta^{++} \rightarrow N \pi \quad \tau \sim 10^{-23} \text{ sec}$$

particles which can be directly detected

- The lifetimes are given in the particle rest frame
- What we see is the lifetime in the laboratory rest frame
 - one should take into account the relativistic time dilation
 - In real life one measures lengths in the detector

$$L = \beta\gamma \times c\tau$$

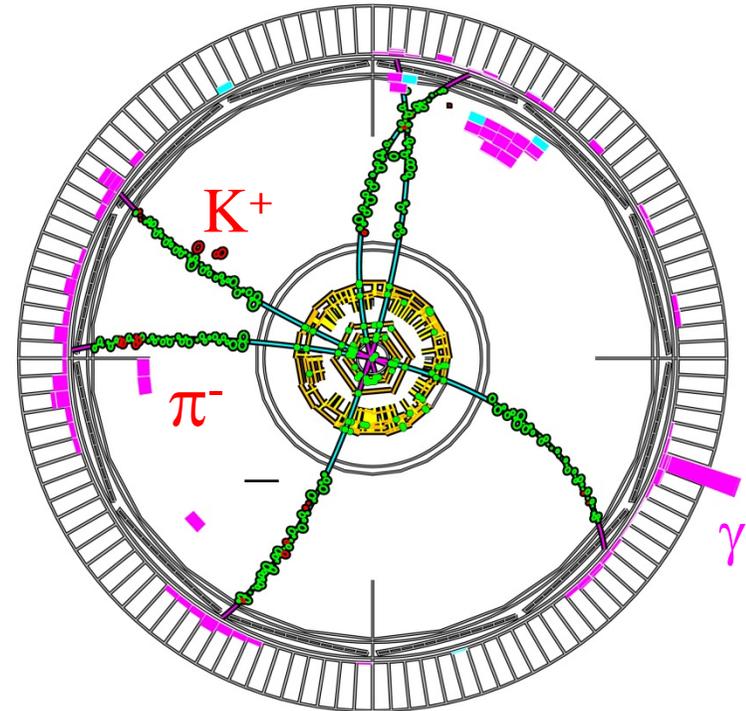
Boost × lifetime

- Some particles are seen as stable in the detectors.
- Example a pion ($c\tau = 7.8\text{m}$) :

if $E_\pi = 20 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow \gamma = 20/m_\pi = 142.9 ; \quad \beta = 0.999975$

→ $L = 1114.3\text{m}$

« Event display » of the BELLE experiment
 ($e^+e^- \rightarrow B\bar{B}$, $E_{\text{CM}}=10.58 \text{ GeV}$)



particles which can be directly detected in the detector : $n, \gamma, e, p, \mu, \pi^\pm, K^\pm$

Width : Γ

- The uncertainty principle from Heisenberg for an unstable particle is :

Heisenberg :

$$\Delta E \Delta t \sim \hbar$$

$$\Delta mc^2 = \Gamma c^2$$

τ

Uncertainty on the mass (width Γ)
due to τ

By definition :

$$\Gamma c^2 \equiv \frac{\hbar}{\tau}$$

The faster the decay, the larger the uncertainty on m
Stable particle \leftrightarrow well defined mass state

$$\hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV} \times 1\text{fm} \quad ; \quad \hbar = \frac{197 \times 10^{-15}}{3.10^8} = 6.582 \cdot 10^{-22} \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{s}$$

Measuring widths, one is able to have information on very small lifetimes. This is the way one can have information on a phenomenon extremely fast (the fastest in Nature?...): a particle with a lifetime of 10^{-23} sec)

Decay	mc^2	τ	Γc^2
$K^{*0} \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$	892 MeV	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-23}$ s	51 MeV
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	135 MeV	$8.4 \cdot 10^{-17}$ s	8 eV
$D_s \rightarrow \phi \pi^+$	1969 MeV	$0.5 \cdot 10^{-12}$ s	10^{-3} eV

Measurable width

Measurable lifetimes

Breit-Wigner

(approximate computations)

- Schrödinger equation (free particle with energy E_0):

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = H\psi = E_0\psi$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = a e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_0 t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = a e^{-i \frac{c^2}{\hbar} m_0 t} \quad (\text{particle rest frame } E_0 = m_0 c^2)$$

– stable particle : $|\psi(t)|^2 = |\psi(0)|^2 = |a_0|^2$

– unstable particle : $\Rightarrow \psi(t) = a_0 e^{-i \frac{c^2}{\hbar} \left(m_0 - i \frac{\Gamma}{2} \right) t}$

$\Gamma c^2 \equiv \frac{\hbar}{\tau}$

$\Rightarrow a = a_0 e^{-\frac{t}{2\tau}} \Rightarrow |\psi(t)|^2 = |\psi(0)|^2 e^{-t/\tau}$

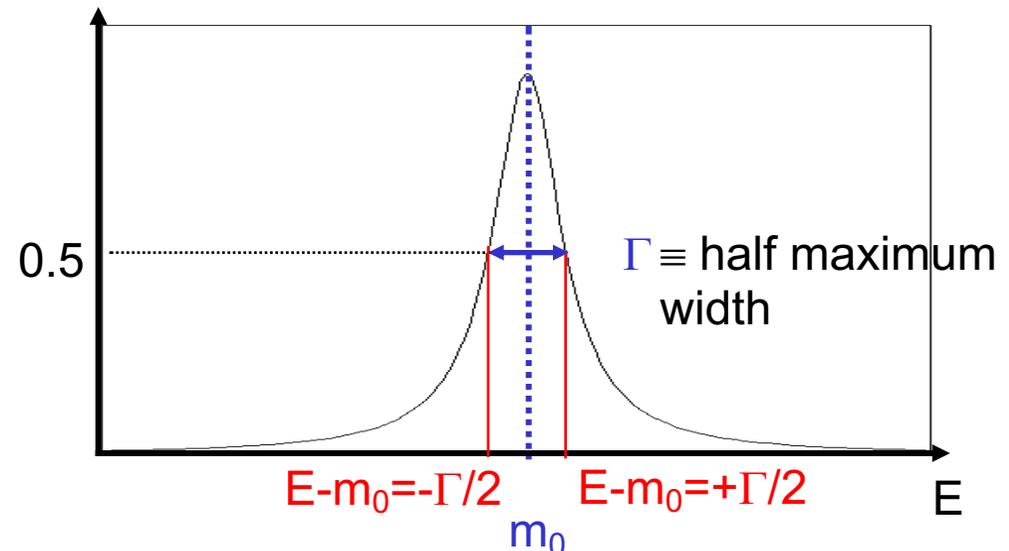
Message a particle with a given mass and width is a resonance with a Breit-Wigner

We want the probability to find a state of energy E

$$A(E) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{+\infty} \psi(t) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} Et} dt \propto \frac{1}{(E - m_0 c^2) + i \frac{\Gamma c^2}{2}}$$

Probability = $|A|^2$

$$\Rightarrow |A|^2 \propto \frac{1}{(E - m_0 c^2)^2 + \Gamma^2 c^4 / 4}$$



Several possible final states (decay modes/channels) :

⇒ branching ratios (BR_i) : probability to obtain a final state i ($\sum_i BR_i=1$)

partial width Γ_i (definition) : $BR_i=\Gamma_i/\Gamma$

Example:

$\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi$ in 64 % of the cases

$\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$ in 36 % of the cases

Relation between lifetime, partial widths and branching ratios :

$$\tau = \frac{\hbar}{c^2} \frac{1}{\Gamma} = \frac{\hbar}{c^2} \frac{BR_i}{\Gamma_i}$$

Example : Z^0 partial widths

$$J = 1$$

Charge = 0

Mass $m = 91.1882 \pm 0.0022$ GeV [d]

Full width $\Gamma = 2.4952 \pm 0.0026$ GeV

$\Gamma(\ell^+ \ell^-) = 84.057 \pm 0.099$ MeV [b]

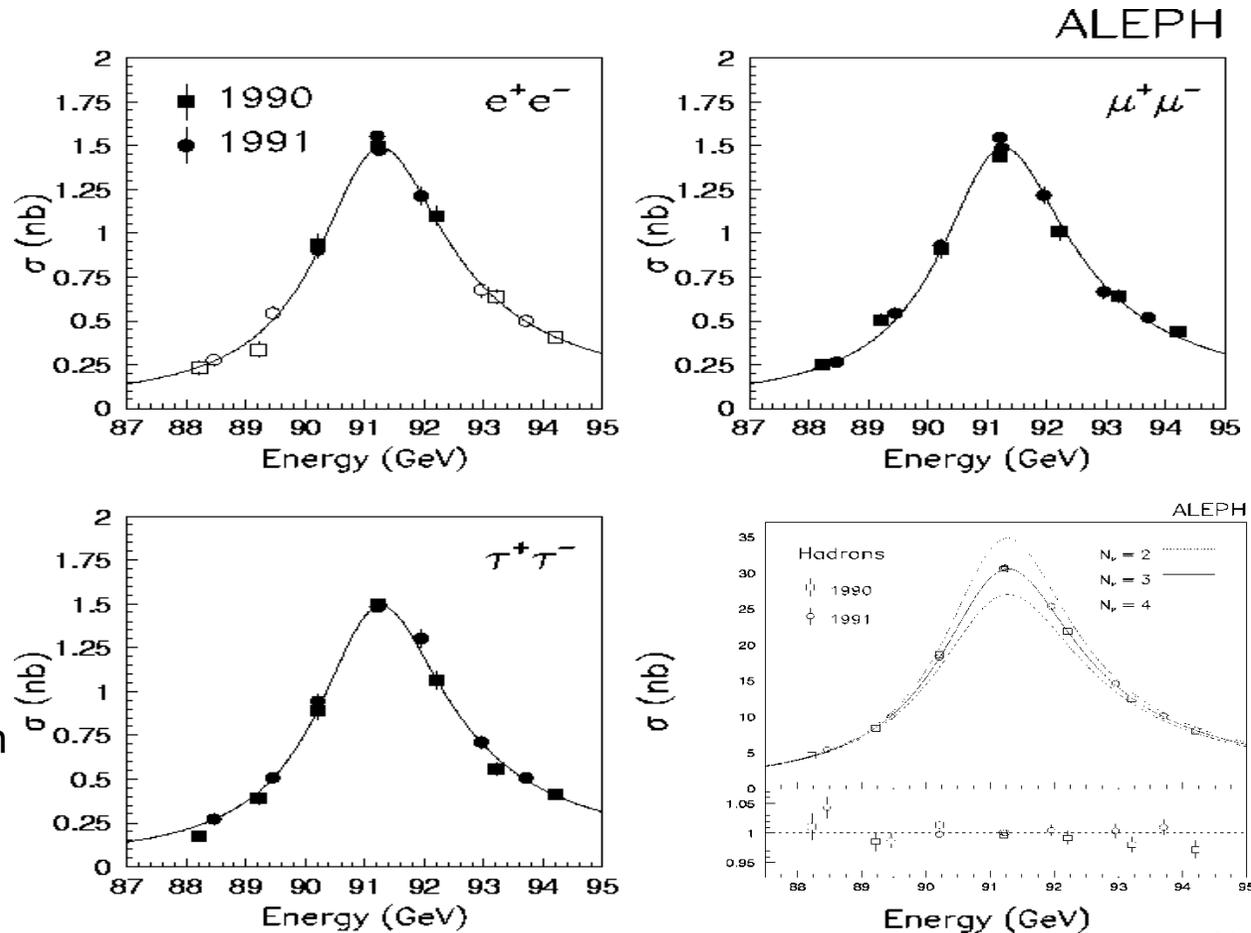
$\Gamma(\text{invisible}) = 499.4 \pm 1.7$ MeV [e]

$\Gamma(\text{hadrons}) = 1743.8 \pm 2.2$ MeV

$\Gamma(\mu^+ \mu^-)/\Gamma(e^+ e^-) = 0.9999 \pm 0.0032$

$\Gamma(\tau^+ \tau^-)/\Gamma(e^+ e^-) = 1.0012 \pm 0.0036$ [f]

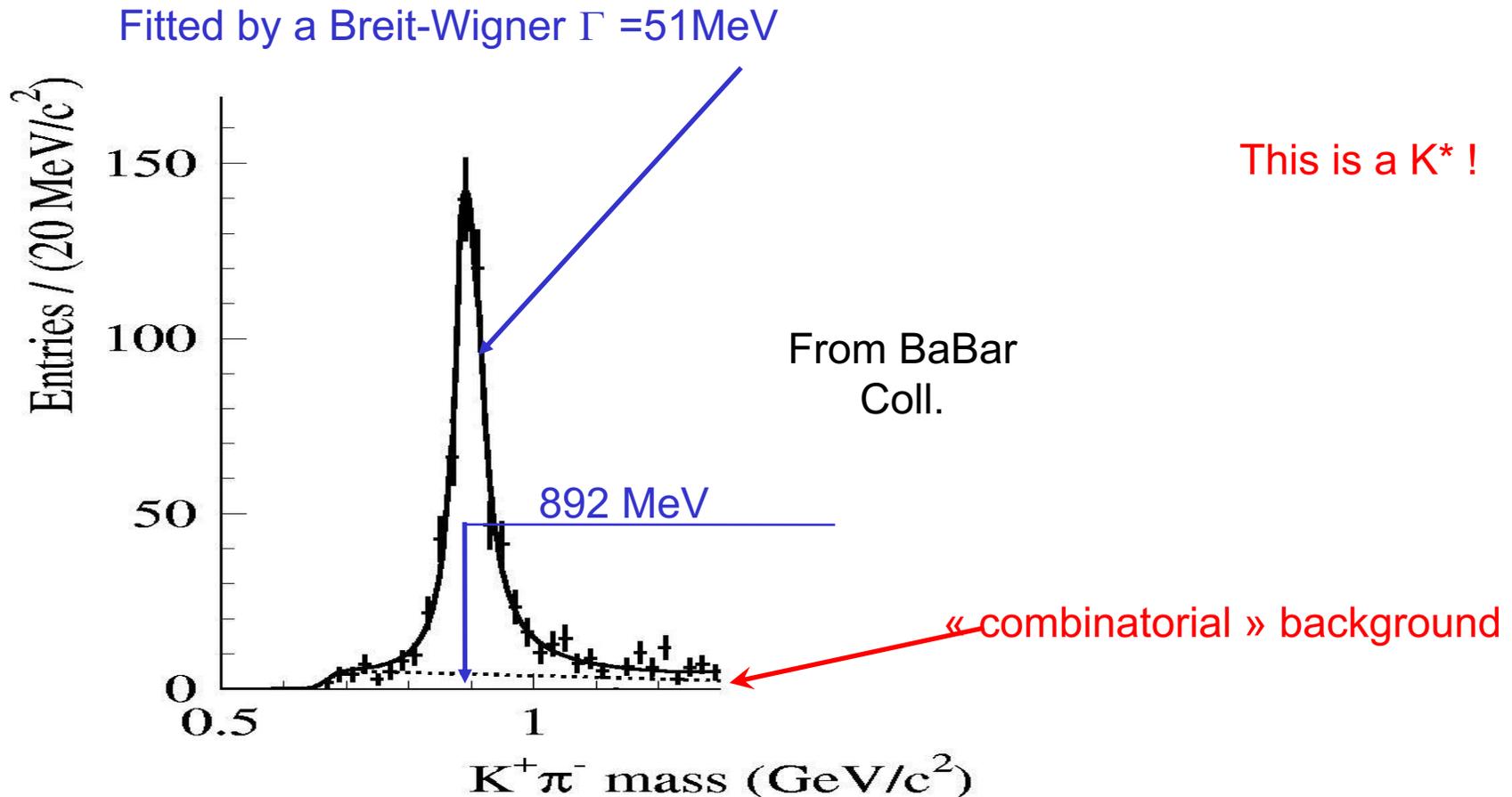
You can see that Z^0 in different decay modes has always the same width which is related to his lifetime



Experimental spectra

experimental spectrum $K^-\pi^+$:

- Search for a K^- and a π^+ in the detector and computation of the invariant mass



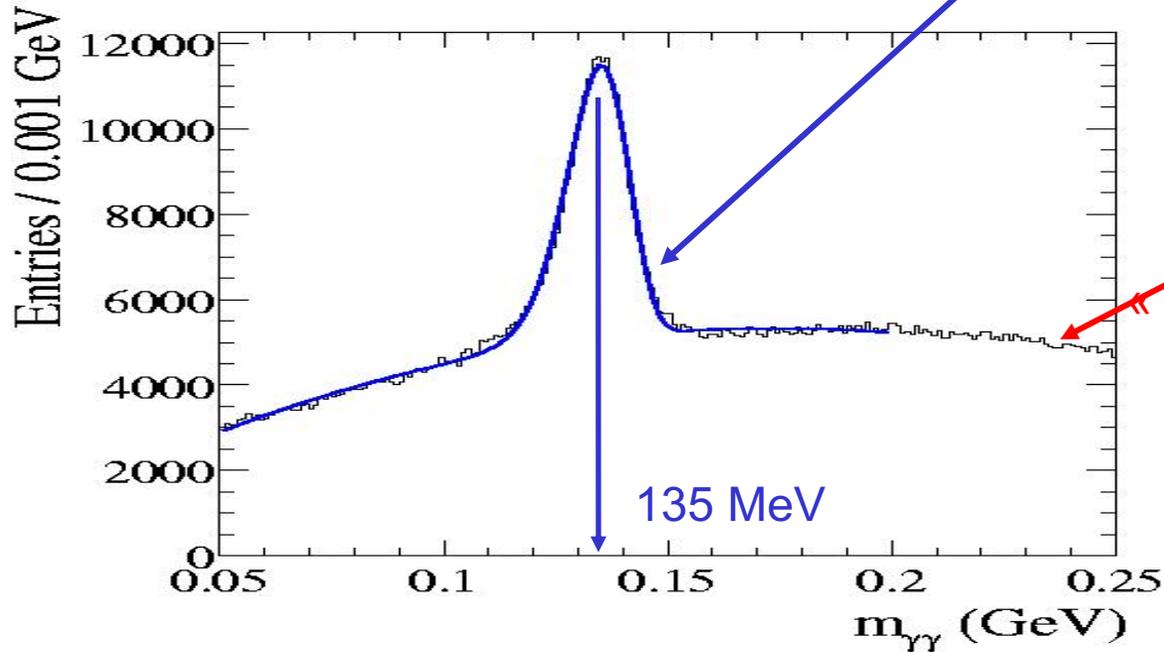
π^0 experimental spectrum :

2 γ reconstruction and computation of the invariant mass.

PDG \rightarrow $\tau = 8.4 \times 10^{-17}$ s \longleftrightarrow $\Gamma = 8$ eV

Fit by a gaussian

$\sigma \sim 7$ MeV



?

Detector resolution effect

« combinatorial » background

D_s experimental spectrum : ($D_s \rightarrow \phi\pi^+$ and $\phi \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$)

PDG $\rightarrow \tau = 500 \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}$

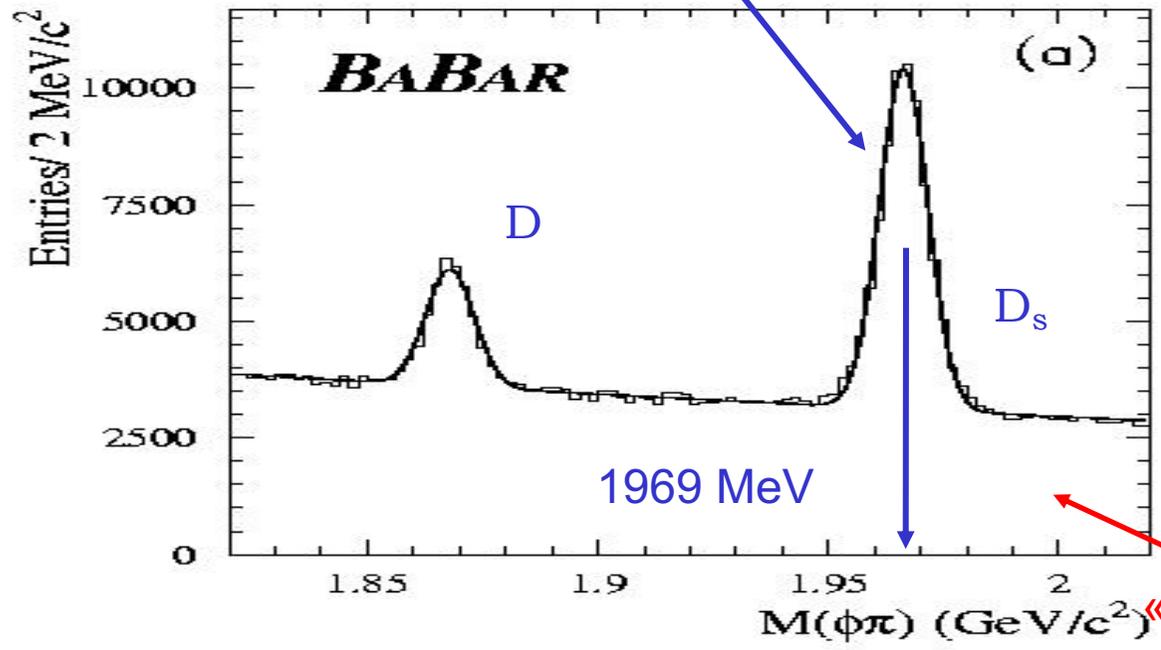


$\Gamma \sim 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$

But one sees $\gg 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$

Fit by a gaussian $\sigma \sim 10 \text{ MeV}$

Detector resolution effect



\Rightarrow One measures directly «long» lifetimes not through widths

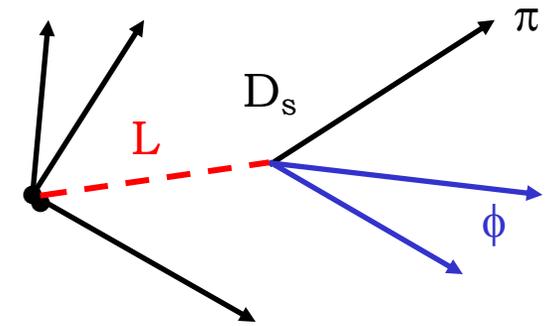
« combinatorial » background

$\tau(D_s)$:

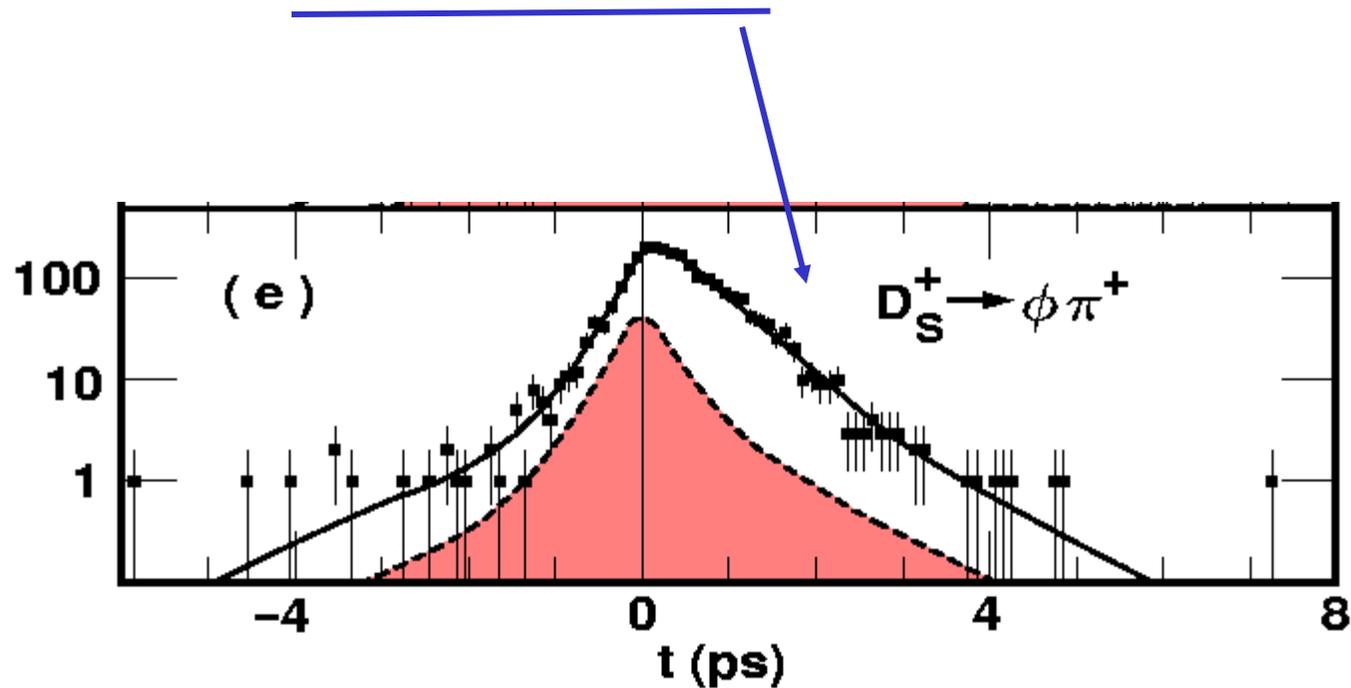
Measurement of the D_s lifetime

$$t = \frac{L \cdot m}{p}$$

t : proper time



Experiment CLEO : $\tau(D_s) = 486.3 \pm 15.0 \pm 5.0$ fs



Cross Section : σ

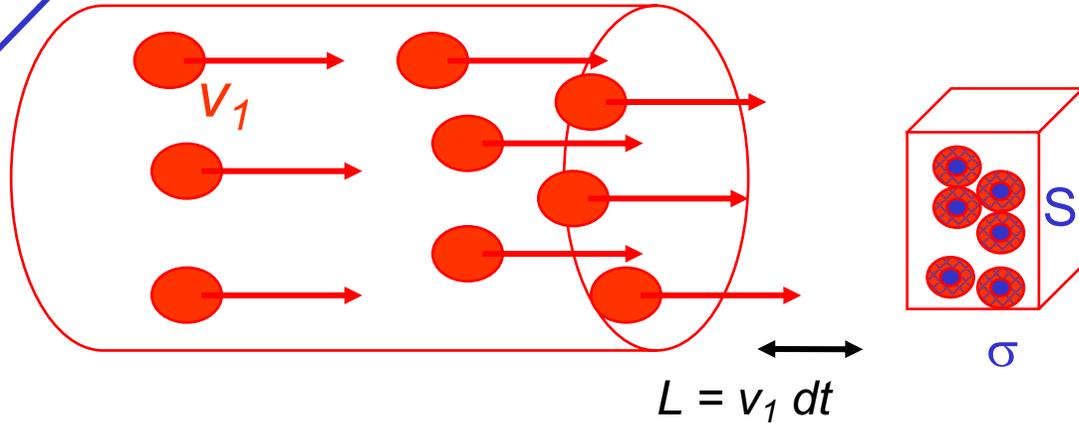
$$\frac{dN_{\text{int}}}{dt} =$$

$$F \sigma n_2 dV$$

Volume of target ($dV=Sdx$)

Flux F =number of particle crossing,
in dt , the unity surface \perp to v_1

$$F=n_1 (L/dt) = n_1 v_1$$



$$\frac{dN_{\text{int}}}{dt dV} = n_1 v_1 n_2 \sigma$$

The number of interactions per unit of volume and time is thus defined by

- **The physics processes σ** are « hidden » in this term
 - The number of particles per unit of volume in the beam (n_1)
 - The number of particles per unit of volume in the target (n_2)
- $\sigma : [L]^2$
 - $1 \text{ barn} = 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$

Parentheis : From cross section \rightarrow number of produced event : the luminosity

Instantaneous luminosity

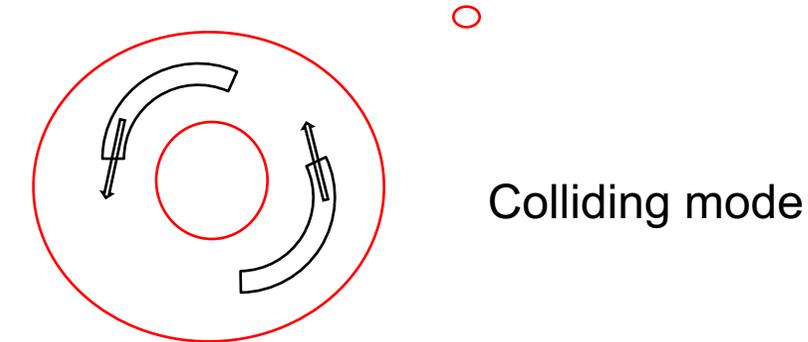
$$\frac{dN}{dt} = L \cdot \sigma$$

Number of interactions /s \leftarrow $\frac{dN}{dt}$

luminosity $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{sec}^{-1}$ \leftarrow L

Cross section \leftarrow σ

$$\frac{dN_{\text{int}}}{dt dV} = n_1 v_1 n_2 \sigma$$



$$\frac{dN}{dt dV} = \frac{n_1}{V} \frac{d}{c} \frac{n_2}{V} \sigma dV = \frac{n_1}{2\pi R s_x s_y} \frac{2\pi R}{c} n_2 \sigma = \frac{n_1}{s_x s_y} f n_2 \sigma$$

$$L = \frac{k f N_+ N_-}{s_x s_y}$$

- k bunches
- f ($=c/\text{circumference}$) frequency
- N_+ : number of electrons in a bunch
- N_- : number of positrons in a bunch

An example : PEP-2 (where BaBar detector was installed)

Circumference	2200 m
$I(e^-)$	0.75 A
$I(e^+)$	2.16 A
N_{paquets}	2 x 1658
$N(e^-)/\text{bunch}$	$2.1 \cdot 10^{10}$
$N(e^+)/\text{bunch}$	$6.0 \cdot 10^{10}$
Beams size	$s_x=150 \mu\text{m}, s_y=5 \mu\text{m}$

$$I(e) = \left[\frac{C}{s} \right]$$

charge
time

$$I(e) = N(e) \times q_e \times N_{\text{bunches}}^e \times \frac{c}{L_{\text{circ}}}$$

$$L = \frac{kfN_+N_-}{s_x s_y}$$

$$\Rightarrow L = 3 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Macroscopic quantity \rightarrow
relates the microscopic
world (σ) to a number of
events

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = L \cdot \sigma$$

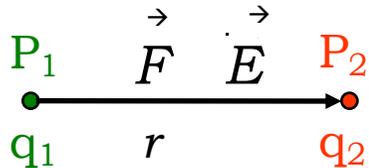
Introduction to
the interactions

Interactions : introduction

Classical physics :

The particle P_1 creates around it a force field. If one introduces the particle P_2 in this field it undergoes the force.

Electrostatic example :



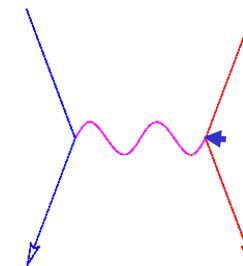
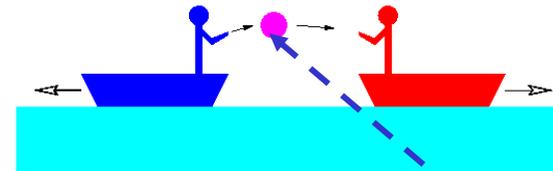
$$\vec{F} = q_2 \vec{E}(r) = q_2 \frac{kq_1}{r^2} \vec{u}_r$$

«modern» physics:

P_1 and P_2 exchange a field quantum; the interaction boson



The **heavier** the ball, the more difficult it will be to throw it **far away**



Interaction vector

Range of the interaction $\propto 1/\text{mass}$ of the vector

- Creation and exchange of an interaction particle
⇒ violation of the energy conservation principle during a limited time

$$\Delta t \approx \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E} = \frac{\hbar}{mc^2}$$

Heisenberg principle

- During Δt the particle can travel $R = c \Delta t$

$$R = \frac{\hbar c}{mc^2}$$

Range → « reduced » wave length (Compton)

with $\hbar c \cong 197.3 \text{ MeV fm}$

Example : an interaction particle with $m = 200 \text{ MeV} \Leftrightarrow R = 1 \text{ fm}$

Force	Relative intensity (order of magnitude)	Vector	Lifetime (order of magnitude)
Strong	1	Gluons	10^{-24} s
electromagnetic	10^{-2}	Photon	10^{-19} - 10^{-20} s
Weak	10^{-5}	W and Z^0	10^{-16} - 10^{+3} s
Gravitation	10^{-40}	Graviton	???

For the strong, electromagnetic and gravitational interactions these orders of magnitudes can be obtained comparing the binding energy of 2 protons separated by ~ 1 fm

The intensity of the interactions dictates the particles lifetimes and their interaction cross sections.

Shape of the interaction potential

Klein-Gordon equation for a spin 0 particle :

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4$$

$$E = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

$$(i\hbar)^2 \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = (i\hbar)^2 c^2 \nabla^2 \psi + m^2 c^4 \psi$$

operators

$$p = -i\hbar \nabla$$

$$-\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = -c^2 \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{m^2 c^4}{\hbar^2} \psi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \psi - \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \psi - \cancel{\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2}} = 0$$

(one only deals with stationary states)

$$\diamond \psi - \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \psi = 0$$

In spherical symmetry : $\psi = U(r)$ and $\Delta U(r) = \nabla^2 U(r) = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dU(r)}{dr} \right) - \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} U(r)$

if $m \neq 0$:

$$U(r) = -\frac{g^2}{r} e^{-r/R} \quad r > 0$$

Yukawa potential

$$R = \frac{\hbar}{mc}$$

g coupling constant

Range

if $m = 0$:

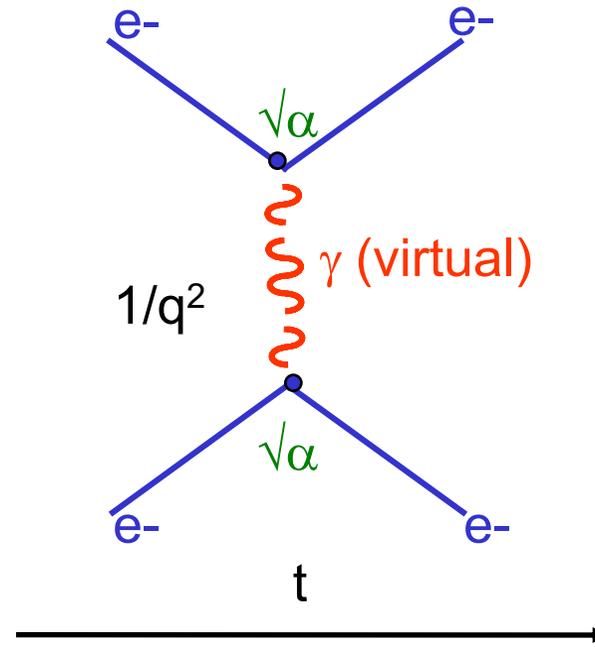
$r > 0$

$q_i = \text{charge}$

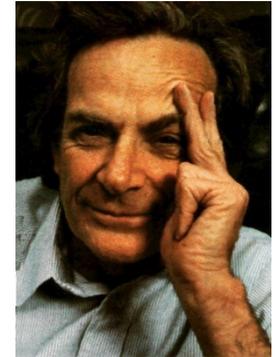
In this case the Yukawa potential is equivalent to the Coulomb one

Electromagnetism (QED)

- Between charged particles
- Vector of the interaction : the photon (γ)
- One Feynman graph for QED:



R. Feynman



electrons exchanging a photon

or

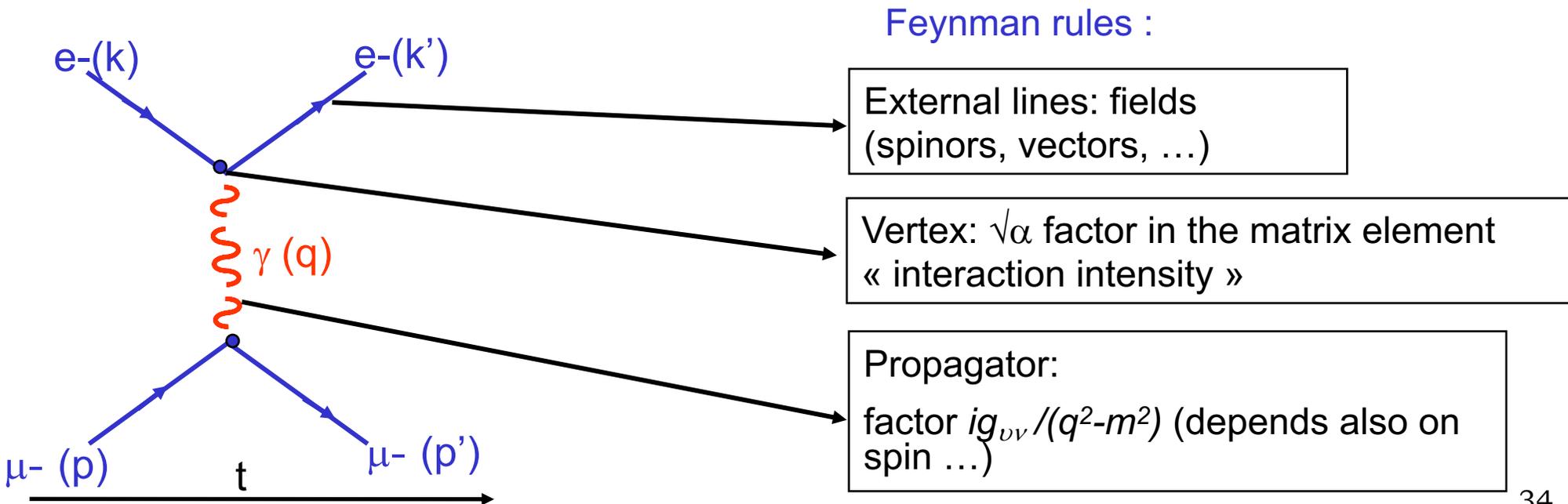
An e^- which emits a γ and moves back. The γ is absorbed by another e^- whose direction is modified

Feynman graph

- A powerful « graphical » method to display the interaction in perturbations theory (each diagram is a term in the perturbation series)
 - Each graph is equivalent to « a number »
- ∇ → computation of the matrix elements and of the transition probabilities



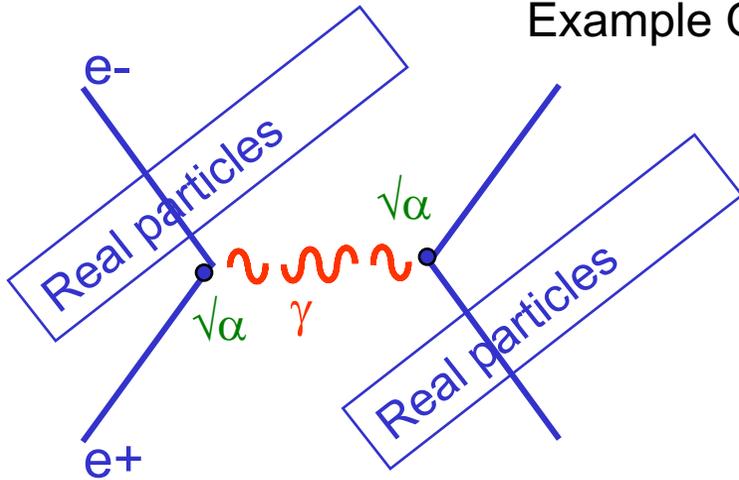
- Horizontal axis : the time
- Lines are particles which propagate in space-time
- The • represent the vertices «location» of the interaction (where there is quantum number conservation)



$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} = \frac{1}{137}$$

Virtual particles

Example QED : e⁺e⁻ symmetric collision in the rest frame



$$E_{e^+} + E_{e^-} = E_\gamma$$

$$\vec{p}_+ + \vec{p}_- = \vec{p}_\gamma$$

$$m_\gamma^2 = 2m_e^2 + 2E_{e^+}E_{e^-} - 2p_+p_- \cos\theta$$

In the rest frame : $\vec{p}_+ + \vec{p}_- = \vec{p}_\gamma = \vec{0}$

$$\theta = \pi \Rightarrow m_\gamma^2 = 2m_e^2 + 2E_{e^+}E_{e^-} + 2p_+p_-$$

incompatible with $m_\gamma = 0$

The γ is « off-shell »

It can be interpreted as :

Violation of the energy-momentum conservation law

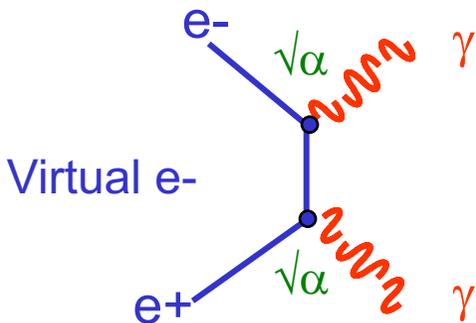
Or

Creation of a massive virtual photon during a « short » time

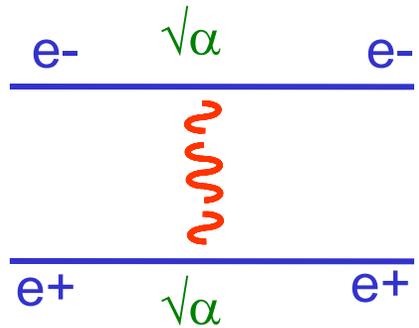
the γ can only exist virtually thanks to $\Delta E \cdot \Delta t \approx \hbar$

2 γ production going in opposite directions

→ energy-momentum conservation

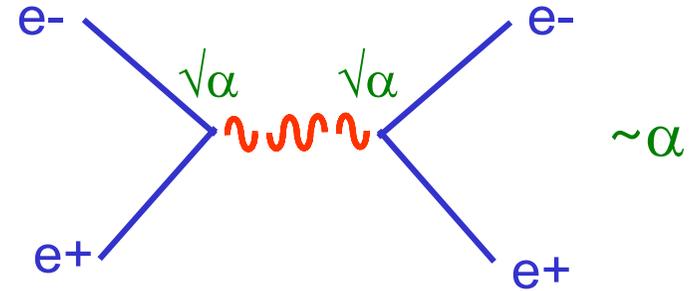


$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ interaction

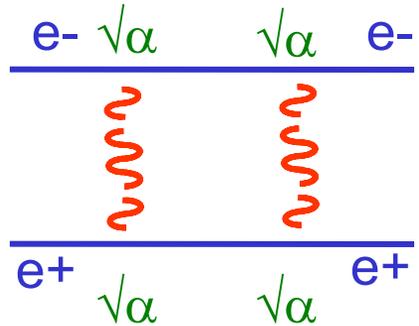


γ exchange between an e^+ and an e^-

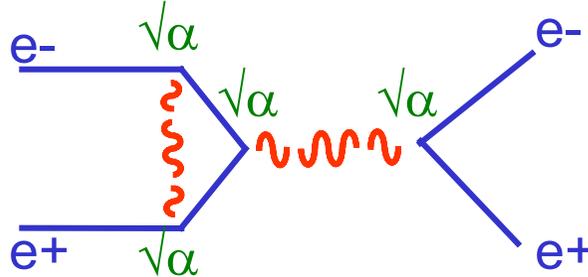
+



e^+e^- pair annihilation in γ and γ conversion in an e^+ and an e^-



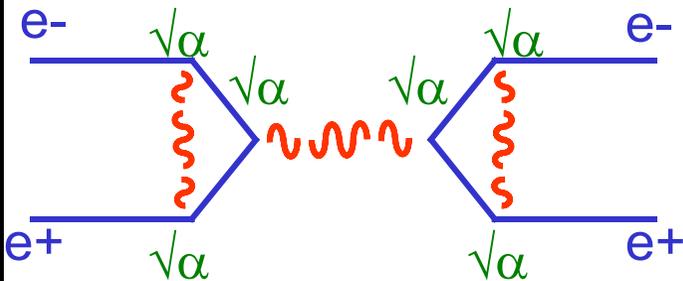
+



+ ...

$\sim \alpha^2$

exchange of 2 γ between an e^+ and an e^-



+ ...

$\sim \alpha^3$

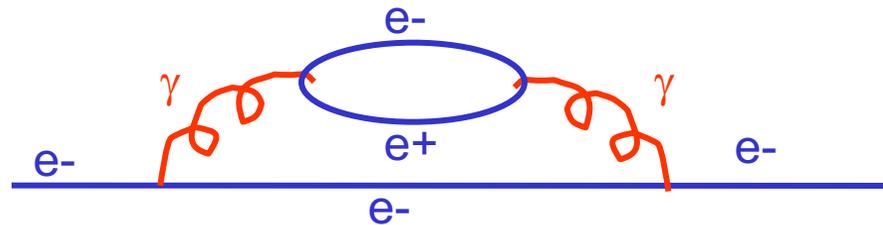
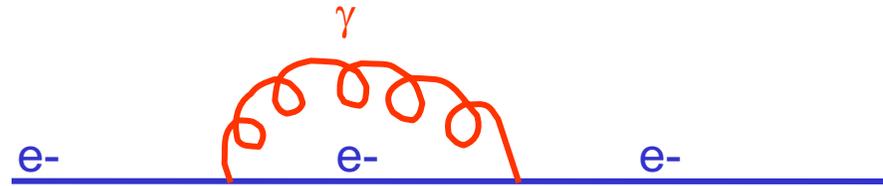
α small (1/137) : one can develop in perturbation series

The way we see the electron and the photon is modified

electron :



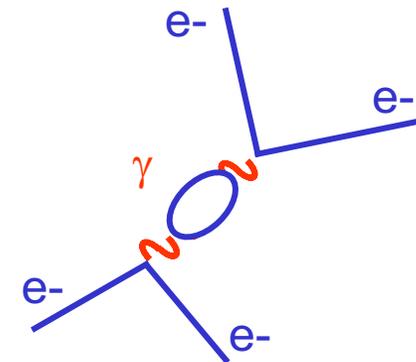
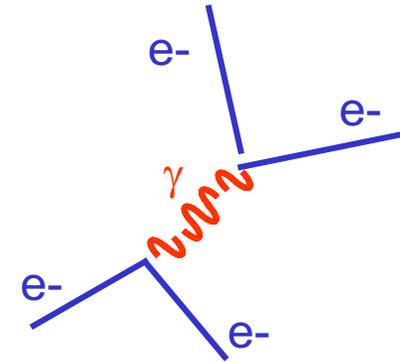
The electron emits and absorbs all the time virtual γ , it can be seen as :



...

=> Theoretical (α « running »), Vacuum polarization and experimental (g-2) consequences

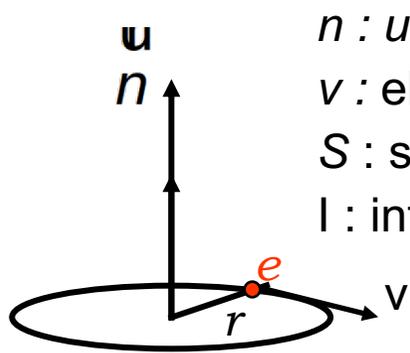
photon :



(g-2) : Experimental evidence of the vacuum polarisation

Gyro-magnetic ratio g

- The magnetic moment associated associated to the angular momentum of the electron



n : unity vector
 v : electron speed
 S : surface
 I : intensity = charge / time

$$\vec{\mu} = I S \vec{n} = \frac{e}{2\pi r} \pi r^2 \vec{n} = \frac{e}{2m} (mvr) \vec{n}$$

Angular momentum $\hbar l$

$\mu = \mu_B l$ with $\mu_B = \frac{e\hbar}{2m}$ Bohr magneton

$$\vec{\mu} = \mu_B \vec{L}$$

- Intrinsic magnetic momentum :

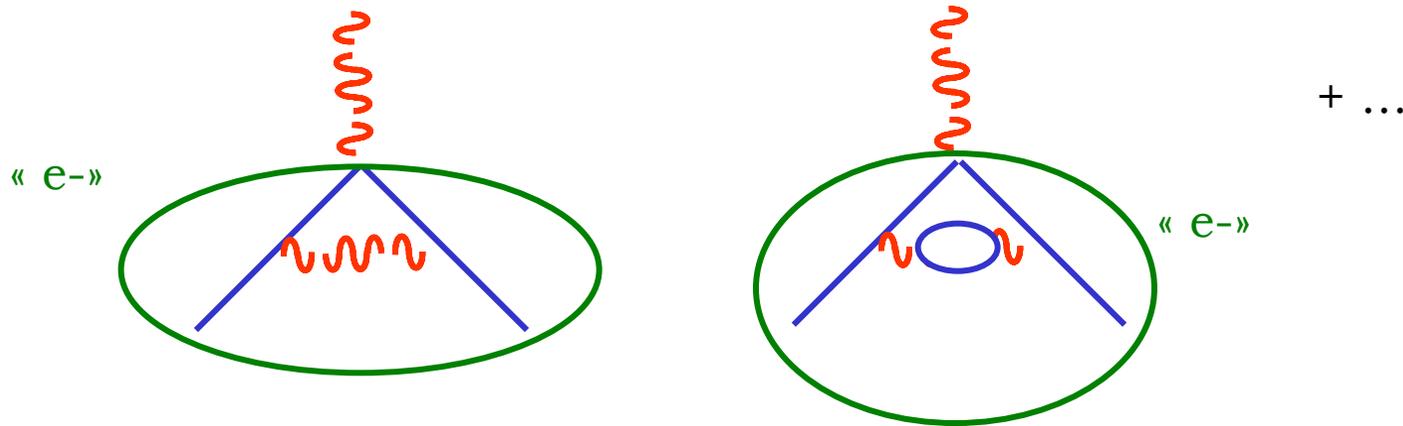
Dirac : for spin $\frac{1}{2}$ point-like particles : $g=2$

$$\vec{\mu} = g \mu_B \vec{S}$$

↑ spin
↑ spin

gyro-magnetic spin ratio

The value of g is modified by :



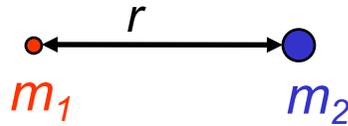
One defines
$$a = \frac{g-2}{2} = \frac{g}{2} - 1 = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} + \dots \approx \frac{1}{800}$$

$a = 0.00115965241 \pm 0.00000000020$ experiment (10^{-11} precision)

$a = 0.00115965238 \pm 0.00000000026$ theory (α^3)

Gravitational Force

$$F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$$



$$G = 6.67259(85)10^{-11} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{kg sec}^2}$$

Newton constant

To compare with the electromagnetic force for the hydrogen atom

$$\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} = \alpha \blacklozenge \frac{1}{137}$$

$$\frac{Gm_e m_p}{\hbar c} = \alpha_{grav} \approx 3.3 \times 10^{-42}$$

The effects of gravitation are very small
at the atom scale → neglected..

-
- Important effects if $\alpha_{grav} \sim 1$

$$\frac{Gm^2}{\hbar c} \sim 1 \Rightarrow mc^2 \sim 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

Masse de Planck

- For energies much lower than 10^{19} GeV we can neglect gravitational effects
- Actually there is not satisfactory theory for gravitation

More in details on cross section and width.

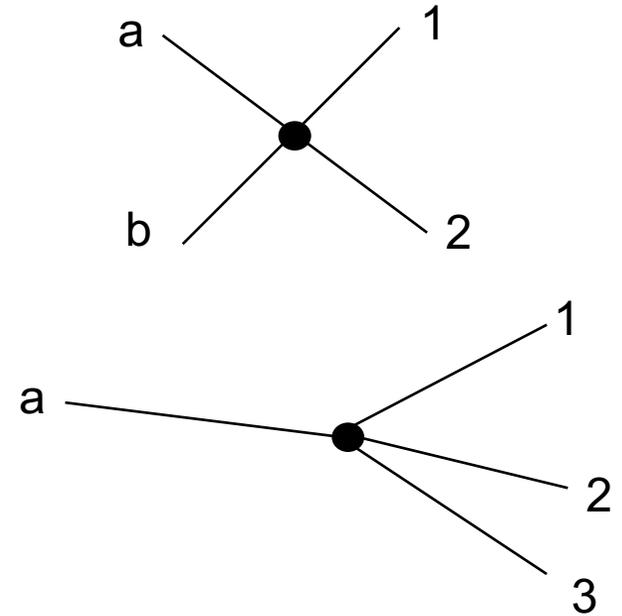
The total **cross section** σ for a collision is $a+b \rightarrow 1+2+\dots$

The **width for a decay** Γ is $a \rightarrow 1+2+\dots n$

Both are described by Feymann diagrams

All traduce the probability that a pheomena occurs.

$$\sigma, \Gamma \sim \text{Kinematics} \times \text{Physics}$$



Why « **Kinematics** » ? Because the probability that a phenomena occurs depends on the number of kinematical configurations « opened » for the process. More configurations opened \rightarrow larger cross section and larger width (or smaller lifetime).

What we have in « **Physics** » ? For instance we have couplings ! Stronger is the coupling \rightarrow larger cross section and larger width (or smaller lifetime).

Interactions : summary

- The interactions are mediated by **vector bosons**
interaction range $\propto 1/\text{mass}$
- **Feynman graph** = display of a matrix element of the transition in the perturbations series framework
- **Virtual particles** (off-shell particles during a short time)
- QED: electric charge, γ , vacuum polarisation, $\alpha \nearrow$ with energy

Strong interaction (discussed in devoted lectures)

Weak interaction (discussed in devoted lectures)

- QCD: colour, gluons (self-interaction), $\alpha_s \searrow$ with energy (asymptotic freedom)
- Weak: concerns all fermions, W^\pm, Z^0