

Exercises to “Standard Model of Particle Physics II”

Winter 2018/19

Prof. Dr. Manfred Lindner and Dr. Werner Rodejohann

Sheet 9

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Problem 18: *Discrete symmetries* [5 Points]

A CP transformation takes a left-handed neutrino and transforms it into a right-handed anti-neutrino. Consider the probability $P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t)$ of a neutrino of flavor α to oscillate into a flavor β after time t of propagation.

- a) How do the discrete symmetries CP, T, and CPT change the initial and final states of the process given above? That is, give

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{CP})^{-1}P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t)(\text{CP}), \\ & (\text{T})^{-1}P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t)(\text{T}), \\ & (\text{CPT})^{-1}P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t)(\text{CPT}) \end{aligned}$$

in terms of other transition probabilities.

- b) The CPT theorem states that every QFT described by a Lorentz invariant, local Lagrangian is invariant under CPT transformations. How could the above result be used to test this theorem in Nature? (Hint: Consider the case $\alpha = \beta$, i.e. the survival probability of (anti-) neutrinos.)

Problem 19: *Neutrino Oscillations and CP violation* [15 Points]

Neutrinos are produced and detected in weak interactions, but the neutrino mass matrix is diagonal in a different basis. The unitary matrix U rotates the flavor basis into the mass eigenbasis. Consider a neutrino of flavor α produced at time $t = 0$,

$$|\nu(t=0)\rangle = |\nu_\alpha\rangle = U_{\alpha k}^* |\nu_k\rangle, \quad (1)$$

as a superposition of mass eigenstates $|\nu_j\rangle$.

- a) Using approximations i) and ii) below, and that the time evolution of $|\nu_k\rangle$ is governed by the Schrödinger equation to derive the general expression for neutrino oscillations in vacuum,

$$P_{\alpha\beta} \equiv P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t) = \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 4 \sum_{k>j} \text{Re}(\mathcal{I}_{\alpha\beta}^{kj}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta_{kj}}{2}\right) + 2 \sum_{k>j} \text{Im}(\mathcal{I}_{\alpha\beta}^{kj}) \sin(\Delta_{kj}), \quad (2)$$

where $\mathcal{I}_{\alpha\beta}^{kj} = U_{\alpha k}^* U_{\beta k} U_{\beta j}^* U_{\alpha j}$ and $\Delta_{kj} = \frac{m_k^2 - m_j^2}{2E} L$. To arrive at this expression, you have to make the following assumptions:

- i) Neutrinos are highly relativistic, such that the distance travelled is $L \simeq t$ ($c = 1$) and $E_i = \sqrt{p_i^2 + m_i^2} \simeq p_i \left(1 + \frac{m_i^2}{2p_i^2}\right)$.
- ii) The central momentum of the neutrino beam is given by $p_i \simeq p \approx E$ for all i .
- b) Derive the expression for the CP asymmetry $\mathcal{A}_{\alpha\beta} \equiv P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta, t) - P(\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta, t)$. (Hint: How does the state (1) change under a CP transformation? Use this fact and Eq. (2)!)

c) Consider now the special case of two neutrino flavors, say e and μ , hence

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & e^{-i\delta} \sin \theta \\ -e^{-i\delta} \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Calculate the CP asymmetry for $e - \mu$ oscillations. What are the conditions for CP violation to occur?

d) Consider now the special case of three neutrino flavors whose mixing in general can be parametrised as

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

where $c_{ab} \equiv \cos(\theta_{ab})$, $s_{ab} \equiv \sin(\theta_{ab})$, $0 \leq \theta_{ab} \leq \pi/2$, and $0 \leq \delta \leq 2\pi$. Calculate the CP asymmetry $\mathcal{A}_{e\mu}$ explicitly and show that it can only be non-vanishing if all of the following conditions are satisfied: 1. None of the mixing angles is 0 or $\pi/2$. 2. None of the mass-square differences (i.e. Δ_{ab}) are zero. 3. The phase δ is neither 0 nor π .

Tutor:

Ingolf Bischer

e-mail: bischer@mpi-hd.mpg.de

Lecture webpage: <https://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/manitop/StandardModel2/index.html>

Hand-in and discussion of sheet:

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