

spin - reps of $SU(2)$

5/12/03

Standard Model patterns:

strong force

weak isospin

hyper-charge

- ①
- 1) Gauge bosons live in adjoint rep of $G_1 = SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$.
 - 2) The Higgs is weird - it has everything to do w/ breaking the electroweak symmetry grp. (It hasn't been seen.)
 - 3) Fermions come in 3 generations w/ same 16-dim'l rep F of G_1 . (Nobody knows why!)
 - 4) Fermions consist of leptons (trivial rep of $SU(3)$) - don't feel strong force) • quarks (fund rep of $SU(3)$ on \mathbb{C}^3 - do feel strong force)
 - * quarks are held together in "bags" called protons, neutrons, etc. - red, green, blue - because acting on \mathbb{C}^3 .
 - leptons have integral hypercharge, quarks have $\mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{3}$ hypercharge
 - 5) Left-handed fermions transform in fund. rep of $SU(2)$ on \mathbb{C}^2 . But right-handed ones transform in trivial rep of $SU(2)$ - don't feel that part of the electroweak force (no weak isospin)
 - 6) Average of hypercharges of right-handed leptons is hypercharge of left-handed one. Same for quarks.

② $\dim F = 16$ Fermion rep in Standard Model

So, what sort of spinors give a 16-dim'l complex v. space?

Complex spinors: Want a complex Clifford algebra

$$\mathbb{C}_n^0 = \mathbb{C}[16] \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbb{C}_n^0 = \mathbb{C}[16] \oplus \mathbb{C}[16]$$

$$\mathbb{C}_1^0 \cong \mathbb{C}_0^0 = \mathbb{C}, \quad \mathbb{C}_2^0 \cong \mathbb{C}_1^0 = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}, \quad \mathbb{C}_3^0 \cong \mathbb{C}_2^0 = \mathbb{C}[2], \quad \mathbb{C}_4^0 \cong \mathbb{C}_3^0 = \mathbb{C}[2] \oplus \mathbb{C}[2]$$

$$\mathbb{C}_8^0 = \mathbb{C}[16], \quad \mathbb{C}_9^0 = \mathbb{C}[16] \oplus \mathbb{C}[16]$$

$$\mathbb{C}_9^0$$

$$\mathbb{C}_{10}^0$$

So we could have

$$F = S_9^{\mathbb{C}} \quad \text{or} \quad F = S_{10}^{\mathbb{C}^+} \quad \text{or} \quad S_{10}^{\mathbb{C}^-}$$

So we could try to treat F as the left-handed spinor rep of $so(10) \subseteq \mathbb{C}_{10}^{\circ}$.

Lie alg of $Spin(10)$

We're hoping to have F be a rep. of $Spin(10)$.

Can we extend F from being a rep of $su(3) \oplus su(2) \oplus u(1)$ to a rep. of $so(10)$?
Yes!

$$su(3) \oplus su(2) \oplus u(1) \cong \Lambda(u(3) \oplus u(2))$$

skew-adjoint

3x3 complex matrices

skew-adj.

2x2 \mathbb{C} matrices

We can think of $u(3) \oplus u(2)$ as a 5×5 matrix w/ a 3×3 & 2×2 block:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{---} & & 0 \\ \text{---} & & \\ 0 & \text{---} \end{pmatrix} \subseteq u(5)$$

so let $\Lambda(u(3) \oplus u(2))$ be the traceless 5×5 matrices of this form: i.e. lying in $u(3) \oplus u(2)$.

If you are in $su(3) \oplus su(2)$, you're in $\Lambda(u(3) \oplus u(2))$, but it's not all of $\Lambda(u(3) \oplus u(2))$.

$$\text{ie} \quad su(3) \oplus su(2) \subsetneq \Lambda(u(3) \oplus u(2)).$$

$$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2) \cong \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{tr} A = 0 \\ \text{tr} B = 0 \end{array} \right\} \subset \Delta(\mathfrak{u}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(2))$$

but $\Delta(\mathfrak{u}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(2))$ has dim. one more than $\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2)$ since we only need

$$\text{tr} A + \text{tr} B = 0$$

(so certainly, $\text{tr} A = \text{tr} B = 0$ works, but we could also have $\text{tr} A = -\text{tr} B$)

This gives a 1-dim'l Lie sub-algebra:

$$\left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} i/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & i/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & i/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -i/2 \end{pmatrix} : \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \cong \mathfrak{u}(1)$$

The bracket of 2 of these guys is zero, so an abel. Lie alg.

Everything in this Lie subalg. commutes w/ everything in $\Delta(\mathfrak{u}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(2))$, so this means we have a direct sum

$$\Delta(\mathfrak{u}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(2)) = \mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(1).$$

In fact —

$$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(1) \cong \Delta(\mathfrak{u}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{u}(2)) \subseteq \mathfrak{su}(5) \subseteq \mathfrak{su}(10)$$

(since traceless skew-adj. transformations of \mathbb{C}^5 are among those of \mathbb{R}^{10} .)

$S_{10}^{C^+}$ or $S_{10}^{C^-}$

Punchline: If we take the left-handed spinor repⁿ of $so(10)$ and restrict it ($S_{10}^{C^+}$ or $S_{10}^{C^-}$) from $so(10)$ to $su(3) \oplus su(2) \oplus u(1)$, we get F!

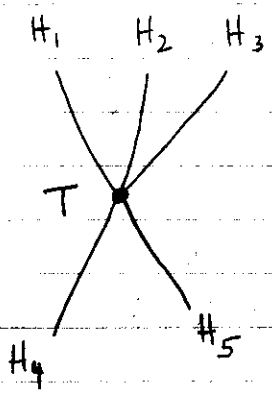
There's a "grand unified theory" where the "true" symmetry group is $Spin(10)$, not $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$.

Theories of Particle Physics:

General Setup:

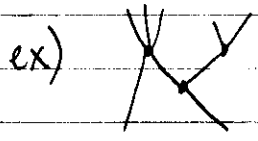
- 1) A group $ISpin(3,1) \times G$
- 2) a list of irreps of this group - "elementary particles"
- 3) a list of intertwining operators between tensor products of these irreps - "interactions"

$T: H_1 \otimes H_2 \otimes H_3 \longrightarrow H_4 \otimes H_5$ can be drawn as:



and it describes a process turning 3 particles into 2.

We know how to compose a tensor these to get Feynman diagrams (aka string diagrams).



Examples:

"free"
}

① Free electromagnetic field (no particles) - just electromagnetism, not interacting w/ anything!

1) Here our group is just $ISpin(3,1)$ i.e, G is trivial group.

2) our 1-irrep is: $\{\text{massless spin-1 rep}\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{space of solns of} \\ \text{vacuum Maxwell eqns} \end{array} \right\}$

This one irrep corresponds to a photon.


3) No interactions.

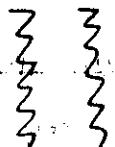
This describes the photon: a massless, zero charge spin-1 particle called γ .

A state of one photon is a vector in

$$H_\gamma = \{\text{massless spin-1 rep}\}$$

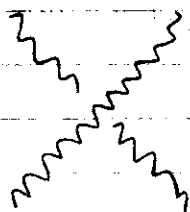
With this raw material, we can only draw Feynman diagrams like:

1: $H_\gamma \longrightarrow H_\gamma$ looks like:  "one photon"

1: $H_\gamma \otimes H_\gamma \longrightarrow H_\gamma \otimes H_\gamma$ looks like:  "two photons"

$$S: H_X \otimes H_X \longrightarrow H_X \otimes H_X$$

$$\psi \otimes \varphi \longmapsto \varphi \otimes \psi$$



Crossing doesn't matter since we have a symmetric monoidal category.

In fact, photons are "indistinguishable bosons" meaning we can't distinguish between



and



What people do is replace $H_X \otimes H_X$ by

$$S^2 H_X = H_X \otimes H_X / \langle \psi \otimes \varphi - \varphi \otimes \psi \rangle$$

← linear span of these vectors

so $\psi \otimes \varphi$ gets identified w/ $\varphi \otimes \psi$.

i.e. we identify $\psi \otimes \varphi$ and $\varphi \otimes \psi$, so photons have no "labels".

On $S^2 H_X$ we have



People go ahead and consider the "bosonic Fock space"

$$K_X = \mathbb{C} \oplus H_X \oplus S^2 H_X \oplus S^3 H_X \oplus \dots = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} S^n H_X$$

where $S^n H_x$ is a quotient space of $\overbrace{H_x \otimes \dots \otimes H_x}^{n \text{ times}}$ by the span of vectors

$$\psi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \psi_n - \psi_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \psi_{\sigma(n)} \quad \sigma \in S_n$$

Recall: $\begin{cases} \oplus & \text{corresponds to "or" in QM.} \\ \otimes & \text{corresponds to "and"} \end{cases}$

A state in Fock space describes no photons ($\mathbb{1}$) or one photon (H_x) or two photons ($S^2 H_x$) or...

Basis vector $\mathbb{1} \in \mathbb{1} \subseteq K_x$ is called the "vacuum" - no photons.

② Free Dirac field - describes electrons & positrons (their antiparticles... i.e. anti-electrons), but not interacting at all.

The electron has mass .511 MeV - "million electron volts" is the energy that an electron picks up through a potential of 10^6 volts, so we can get a mass by dividing by c^2 .

So - MeV/c^2 is a unit of mass which particle physicists simply call MeV.

A GeV is a thousand MeV.

$$\text{MeV} \sim 2 \text{ electron masses}$$

$$\text{GeV} \sim 1 \text{ proton mass}$$

The electron has charge $-1 e$, spin $-1/2$.

The positron is the same, but with charge $+1$.

We call the electron e and positron \bar{e} .

1, PT
m

has 2
components!

1) Group = $\text{ISpin}(3,1)$

2) $H_{e,\bar{e}} = \{ \text{massive spin-1/2 rep} \}$

$$= \{ \psi: \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^4 \mid (\not{x} + m)\psi = 0 \text{ where } m = .511 \text{ MeV} \}$$

\uparrow
 $\rho_{3,1}$

3) No interactions.

Note: \mathbb{C}^4 since electrons & positrons can spin right & left handed, so 4 ways.

\mathbb{C}^4 has basis:

$$e^L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \bar{e}^L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \bar{e}^R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In hmwk — we have $m=0$, so solns of $\not{x}\psi = 0$ give only 2 of these: e^L, \bar{e}^R

* PT to an electron gives a positron! So we can't write this rep as an electron part & positron part!

$H_{e,\bar{e}}$ is an irrep of $\text{ISpin}(3,1)$ but not of $\text{ISpin}_0(3,1)$ (identity component) which doesn't contain PT, as a rep of this smaller group

$$H_{e\bar{e}} = H_e \oplus H_{\bar{e}}$$

Recall - symmetric algs - polys of commuting variables $xy=yx$

Electron/positrons are indistinguishable fermions, so Hilbert space for 2 of them is not

$$H_{e\bar{e}} \otimes H_{e\bar{e}}$$

but

$$\Lambda^2 H_{e\bar{e}} = H_{e\bar{e}} \otimes H_{e\bar{e}} / \langle \psi \otimes \psi + \psi \otimes \psi \rangle$$

2nd exterior
power

since $\psi \otimes \psi$ is indistinguishable
from $-\psi \otimes \psi$.

Clifford algs - good for fermions

Weyl algs - good for bosons

We describe a system of arbitrarily many electron/positrons by the Fermionic Fock space

$$K_{e\bar{e}} = \mathbb{C} \oplus H_{e\bar{e}} \oplus \Lambda^2 H_{e\bar{e}} \oplus \dots = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \Lambda^n H_{e\bar{e}}$$

$$|| = -X$$

l_2 is like $\mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus \dots$

But an algebraist would mean only finitely many nonzero of \uparrow

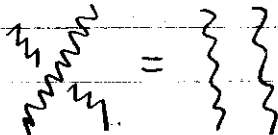
5/13/03 Particle Physics

Recall: Group = $\text{ISpin}(3,1) \times G$
 $\text{I, PT} \leftarrow$

① Free electromagnetic field

- $G = 1$ (trivial group)
- $H_\gamma = \{\text{massless spin-1 rep}\}$ (photon: γ)
- no interactions

The photon is a boson:

 this is defn. of boson

or

"bosonic Fock space"

$$K_\gamma = \overline{S H_\gamma} \quad \text{completion of symmetric space}$$
$$= \mathbb{C} \oplus H_\gamma \oplus S^2 H_\gamma \oplus \dots$$

(symmetric powers)

② Free Dirac field

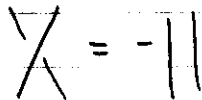
- $G = 1$
- $H_{e\bar{e}} = \{\text{massive spin-1/2 rep}\}$ $e = \text{electron}$
 $\bar{e} = \text{positron}$

mass of electron: $m_e = .511 \text{ MeV}$

$\text{MeV} \approx 1.78 \times 10^{-27} \text{ grams}$

- no interactions

The electron-positron is a fermion: (each is a fermion)



or

$$K_{e\bar{e}} = \overline{\Lambda H_{e\bar{e}}} = \mathbb{C} \oplus H_{e\bar{e}} \oplus \Lambda^2 H_{e\bar{e}} \oplus \dots$$

(exterior powers)

Recall - symmetric alg is alg of polys (which commute)

As a rep of $Spin_0(3,1)$, $H_{e\bar{e}}$ is reducible:

$$H_{e\bar{e}} = H_e \oplus H_{\bar{e}}$$

since 1) $\Lambda(V \oplus W) \cong \Lambda V \otimes \Lambda W$ fermionic / need to complete these
2) $S(V \oplus W) \cong SV \otimes SW$ bosonic / to get Hilbert spaces

$\Lambda(V \oplus W) \sim$ electrons or positrons

We have $K_{e\bar{e}} = K_e \otimes K_{\bar{e}}$ $K_e = \overline{\Lambda H_e}$, $K_{\bar{e}} = \overline{\Lambda H_{\bar{e}}}$

1) says "A bunch of (electron or positron)s is (a bunch of electrons) and (a bunch of positrons)"

Λ - "bunch"

\oplus - disjoint union ; \otimes - cartesian product

We draw

$$1: H_e \longrightarrow H_e \text{ as}$$

and

$$1: H_{\bar{e}} \longrightarrow H_{\bar{e}} \text{ as}$$

"a positron is an electron going backwards in time and mirror reversed"

Note: PT takes $H_{\bar{e}}$ to H_e , H_e to $H_{\bar{e}}$...

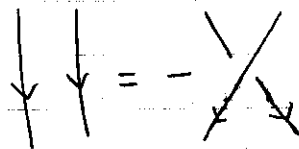
$$PT: H_e \longrightarrow H_{\bar{e}}, \quad PT: H_{\bar{e}} \longrightarrow H_e$$

$H_{e\bar{e}}$ is really a rep of $Spin(3,1)$.

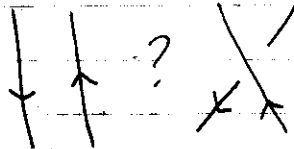
T by itself also switches these two.

Note: P acts nontrivially on H_e ... it maps it to itself, but isn't identity.

So we have:



We don't have an eqn bet. these two



because these operators have different source & target.

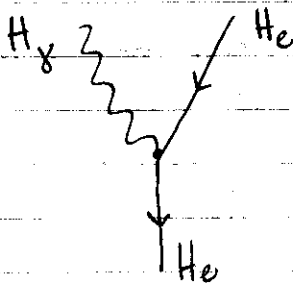
③ QED - quantum electrodynamics
"the theory of electrons & positrons interacting w/ photons"

1) $G = 1$ (trivial grp)

2) H_γ - photon, $H_{e\bar{e}}$ - electron/positron $H_{e\bar{e}} = H_e \otimes H_{\bar{e}}$

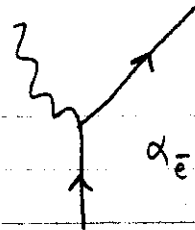
3) $\alpha: H_\gamma \otimes H_{e\bar{e}} \rightarrow H_{e\bar{e}}$

there's a particular formula for this involving the number $\alpha = \frac{1}{137}$



electron absorbs photon

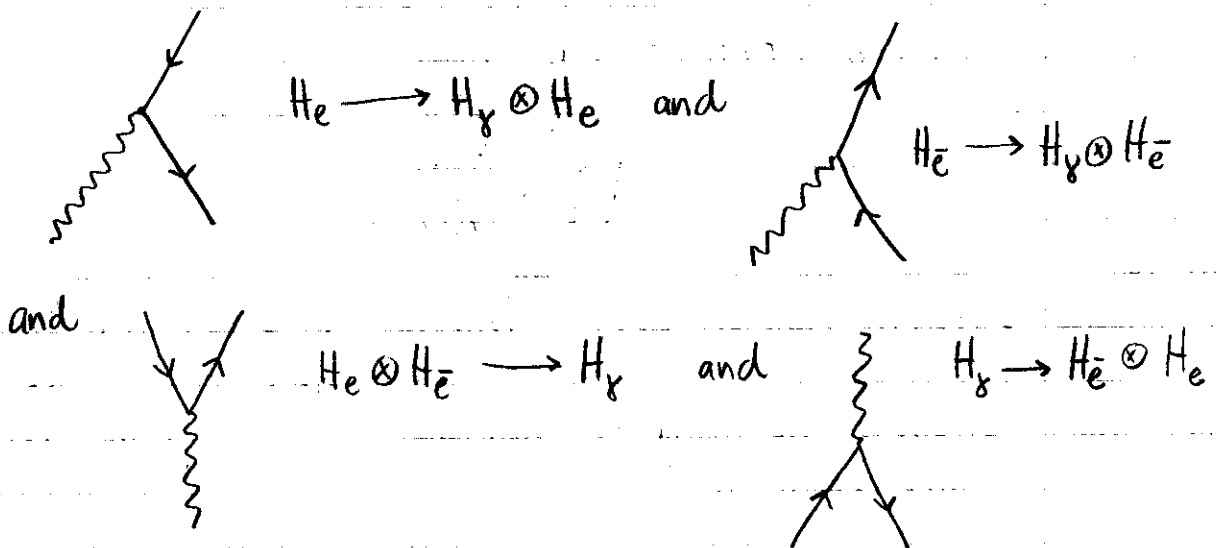
we also get:



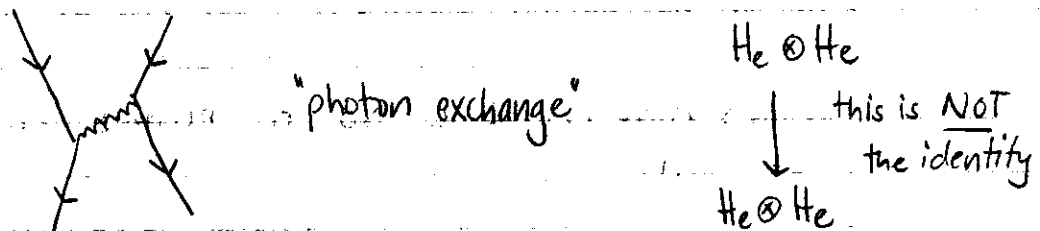
$\alpha_e: H_\gamma \otimes H_e \rightarrow H_e$

$\alpha_{\bar{e}}: H_\gamma \otimes H_{\bar{e}} \rightarrow H_{\bar{e}}$

Given this α , we automatically get other interactions:



In QED we can have complicated processes like



Actually, QED has $U(1)$ symmetry; i.e. we can make He_e, He_e into reps of $ISpin(3,1) \times U(1)$ and then

$\alpha: He_e \otimes He_e \rightarrow He_e$ (and all its spinoffs) turns out to

be an intertwining operator. Given $e^{i\theta} \in U(1)$ here's how it acts on He_e : given $\psi \in He_e$ we have

$$\psi: \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^4 \quad \psi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(x) \\ \psi_2(x) \\ \psi_3(x) \\ \psi_4(x) \end{pmatrix} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{electron} \\ \text{positron} \end{array} \right\}$$

and $\rho(e^{i\theta})\psi \in He_e$ is defined by

$$\rho(e^{i\theta}) \psi \in \text{Hee}^-$$

$$(\rho(e^{i\theta}) \psi)(x) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\theta} \psi_1(x) \\ e^{-i\theta} \psi_2(x) \\ e^{i\theta} \psi_3(x) \\ e^{+i\theta} \psi_4(x) \end{pmatrix} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$$

can't tell
the difference
bet. i & $-i$
(Galois theory!)

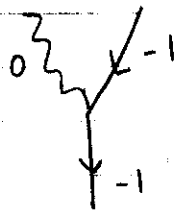
Different reps of $U(1)$ — integers = charge: $\rho_n(e^{i\theta}) x = e^{in\theta} x$
 $n \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow x \in \mathbb{C}$

Electrons have charge -1 , positrons
have charge $+1$.

is the charge $-n$ rep
of $U(1)$ on \mathbb{C} .

quarks — have charge $1/3$ of electron.
Found in protons & neutrons.
photon has electric charge 0 . so rep of $U(1)$ is trivial.

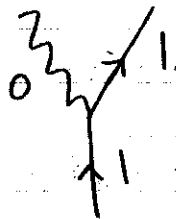
Photons have charge 0 so H_x becomes the trivial rep
of $U(1)$.



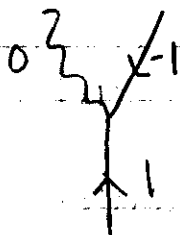
charge is conserved by
this process.

In Fall — we worked out that this operator is an
intertwining operator for $U(1) \Leftrightarrow$ charge is
conserved.

Same for

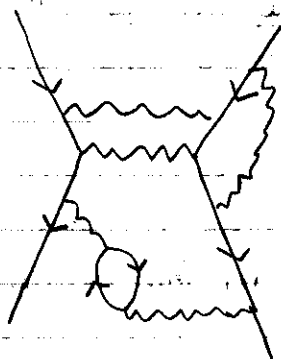


We can't have:



if we want our interactions to be intertwiners for $U(1)$.

We can get all sorts of fancy processes:



④ Heisenberg's Theory of Strong Interactions:

There are other particles in ordinary matter:

- Proton: p has charge $+1$, spin $1/2$, mass 938.3 MeV
- Neutron: n has charge 0 , spin $1/2$, mass 939.6 MeV

Heisenberg hypothesized that these were both states of one particle, the nucleon.

Problem: different masses, different charges

so can't be same irrep of $U(1)$.

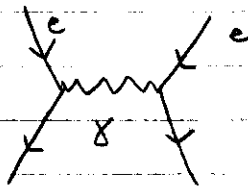
Fallback position: Try to understand the nucleon ignoring electromagnetism & hope that electromagnetic effects explain mass difference

protons & neutrons form nucleus:



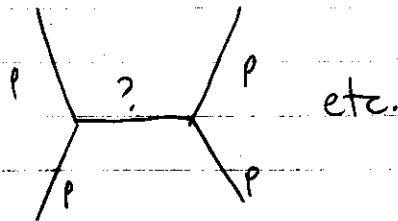
But electromagnetism is NOT what's holding these together! These have same charge (+ protons) so should repel. So it must be some stronger force.

This is not too weak of a position, since we know some force much stronger than electromagnetism must hold nucleons together in the nuclei.
The "strong interaction"



this gives repulsive electromagnetic force

Yukawa guessed that maybe the strong interaction is due to some particle:



Yukawa called this particle the meson, which must have a mass ~ 100 MeV, i.e. between electron mass & nucleon mass to explain observed range of strong force.

People found this:

Muon: μ charge -1 , spin $1/2$
mass: 105.6 MeV

Problem: Not blocked by lead.

Actually the muon is almost like an electron but ~ 200 times heavier.

* This was the 1st particle of the 2nd generation to be discovered.

"who ordered this?" I.I. Rabi

Then they found pions:

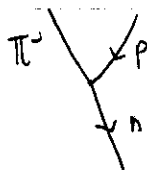
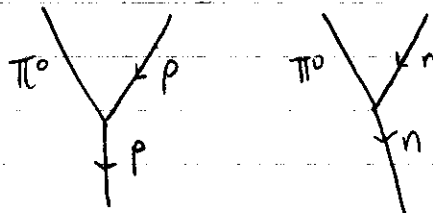
antiparticles \rightarrow

π^+	charge $+1$, spin 0 , mass 139.6 MeV
π^0	charge 0 , spin 0 , mass 135.0 MeV (own antiparticle)
π^-	charge -1 , spin 0 , mass 139.6 MeV

(Heisenberg guessed these were all states of same particle.)

These do interact strongly w/ nucleons.

We see:



Heisenberg's theory:

$$\text{nucleon } N = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2$$

$$\text{pion } \pi = \begin{pmatrix} \pi^+ \\ \pi^0 \\ \pi^- \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^3 \cong \mathfrak{su}(2) \otimes \mathbb{C} \cong \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$$

Make up a symmetry grp of which these are irreps.

$\mathfrak{su}(2)$ -
3 dim'l
 \mathbb{R} v. space

Heisenberg postulated $G = \text{SU}(2)$
as symmetries of the strong force, w/ nucleon
in spin-1/2 (fund.) rep and the pion in
spin-1 (adjoint) rep.

i.e. really we have basis vectors

$$p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2 \quad \text{"isospin-up"}$$

$$n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2 \quad \text{"isospin-down"}$$

$$\pi^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \pi^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \pi^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This works nicely:

$$\begin{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \pi^+ \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ n \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ p \end{matrix}$$

π^+ , π^- raise & lower charge of your particle,
 π^0 does nothing to charge!

$\pi^+ n = p$ & etc - giving observed interactions!

i.e. the intertwiner $sl(2, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$
 $T \otimes \psi \longmapsto T\psi$

describes how nucleons can absorb pions!

So:

1) $G = SU(2)$

2) $H_N = \underbrace{\{\text{massive spin-}1/2\}}_{\text{nucleon}} \otimes \underbrace{\mathbb{C}^2}_{\text{nucleon}}$

$H_\pi = \{\text{massive spin-}0\} \otimes \underbrace{su(2) \otimes \mathbb{C}}_{\cong \mathbb{C}^3 \cong sl(2, \mathbb{C})}$

3) Interaction

$$H_\pi \otimes H_N \longrightarrow H_N$$

\uparrow
 \mathbb{H}
 $\{\text{massive spin-}0\} \otimes sl(2, \mathbb{C})$
 $\otimes \{\text{massive spin-}1/2\} \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

where T is built from $sl(2, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$

$\{\text{massive spin-}0\} \otimes \{\text{massive spin-}1/2\} \longrightarrow \{\text{massive spin-}1/2\}$