
Exercises on *Theoretical Elementary Particle Physics*

Prof. H. Dreiner

1. **Introduction to the homework: Meson decay – How to deal with the fact that the quarks are bound together?** Draw the Feynman diagram for “quark-antiquark scattering” giving a lepton ℓ and a massless antineutrino $\bar{\nu}_\ell$. What is the corresponding \mathcal{M} ? Draw a second diagram, wrapping our ignorance about QCD, and make yourself clear that in this case one has

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{g_W^2}{8 m_W^2} [\bar{u}_\ell \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma^5) v_{\nu_\ell}] f_{meson} p_{meson}^\mu. \quad (1)$$

2. **The GIM Mechanism** Using the technique of Feynman diagrams, explain why the decay of K^0 into $\mu^+ \mu^-$ is extremely slow.
3. **The KM-Matrix with N Generations** How does the KM matrix arise in the Lagrangian? How many phases can be absorbed by field-redefinitions? How many generations do we need to have at least one phase?

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1. **Meson Decay** Name all six mesons made of \bar{u}^i and d^j , i, j being generational indices (e.g. $\bar{u}^1 d^1$ gives a π^- , $\bar{u}^1 d^2 \equiv \bar{u}^1 s$ gives a K^-); why are there only six and not nine mesons? Look up the masses of the six mesons and thus verify that all but K^- and π^- can decay into a τ .

Consider $\pi^-_{1i} \equiv \pi_i$ ($i = 1, 2$) decaying into ℓ_l and $\bar{\nu}_{\ell_l}$ ($l = 1, 2$, also a generational index) and calculate the decay rate $\Gamma_{\pi_i \rightarrow \ell_l \bar{\nu}_l} = \frac{|\vec{p}_{\ell_l}|}{8\pi m_{\pi_i}^2} \langle |\mathcal{M}|^2 \rangle$. To do so, use the \mathcal{M} of the previous page and show that

$$\langle |\mathcal{M}|^2 \rangle = \left[\frac{f_{\pi_i}}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{g_W}{m_W} \right) \right]^2 \left[2(p_{\pi_i} p_{\bar{\nu}_l})(p_{\pi_i} p_{\ell_l}) - m_{\pi_i}^2 (p_{\ell_l} p_{\bar{\nu}_l}) \right]. \quad (2)$$

summing over the outgoing spins and using trace theorems. Rewrite the expression above: to do so, show that from $p_{\pi_i} = p_{\ell_l} + p_{\bar{\nu}_l}$ one has $p_{\pi_i} p_{\bar{\nu}_l} = p_{\ell_l} p_{\bar{\nu}_l}$, $p_{\pi_i} p_{\ell_l} = m_{\ell_l}^2 + p_{\ell_l} p_{\bar{\nu}_l}$, $p_{\ell_l} p_{\bar{\nu}_l} = \frac{1}{2}(m_{\pi_i}^2 - m_{\ell_l}^2)$; also employ the expression for the Fermi constant G_F . Now you can calculate $\Gamma_{\pi_i \rightarrow \ell_l \bar{\nu}_l}$. For this you first have to prove that $|\vec{p}_{\ell_l}| = \frac{m_{\pi_i}^2 - m_{\ell_l}^2}{2 m_{\pi_i}}$. In order to cancel the troublesome f_{π_i} one considers $\frac{\Gamma_{\pi_i \rightarrow e \bar{\nu}_e}}{\Gamma_{\pi_i \rightarrow \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu}}$. Calculate the numerical value of this expression. Why is it a small number? Intuitively one would guess it's a large number!!

2. **No leptonic KM-Matrix** Describe in your own words why (for massless neutrinos) there is no leptonis analogon of the KM-matrix.