#### The BABAR experiment, CP violation, and the search for new physics



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## What is matter?

- Solids collections of atoms
- Atoms electrons surrounding a nucleus
- Nuclei collection of protons and neutrons
- Protons and neutrons different combinations of up and down quarks.

*Everything is made of electrons and quarks. These are fundamental particles.* 



Images taken from http://particleadventure.org

## What is antimatter?

- Almost exactly the same as matter *except* particles and antiparticles have *opposite charge*.
  - Same mass
  - Same lifetime
- It's theoretically possible to have anti-nuclei, anti-atoms, and even anti-solids *antimatter!* 
  - Ok then, *where is it* ??? More on this point in a minute...

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- What is Quantum Mechanics?
  - The laws of physics *change* as we go from large systems (baseballs flying through the air) to very small systems (electrons orbiting a nucleus).
    - Classical physics  $\rightarrow$  Quantum physics.
  - Light behaves like a particle (the photon) which is a *quantum* of energy.
  - Relevant for all of atomic physics and high-energy particle interactions.

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- What does "relativistic" mean?
  - Special relativity: A. Einstein, 1905.
    - Nothing can travel faster than light.
    - The speed of light is the same for everyone everywhere.
  - The world's most famous equation:

$$E = m c^2$$

mass

Energy

The speed of light (squared)



Photos of Nobel laureates from http://nobelprize.org

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  - Dirac boldly interpreted these as solutions for antiparticles !
  - The only problem was that an antiparticle had never been seen! Initially treated with skepticism.





## **Creation and destruction**

- Einstein told us that energy and mass (or matter) are equivalent with his equation.  $E = m c^2$
- It is never more apparent than the creation and annihilation of particle antiparticle pairs.



**Annihilation** 



## Antimatter is real!



The discovery of positrons in the laboratory in 1932 removed all doubt about the reality of antimatter.

**Figure 1.2** Conversion of a photon to an electron-positron pair in a bubble chamber. An incoming negative pion undergoes charge-exchange at point  $A: \pi^- + p \rightarrow n + \pi^\circ$ , followed by decay of the neutral pion,  $\pi^\circ \rightarrow 2\gamma$ . Since the  $\pi^\circ$  lifetime is only  $10^{-16}$  s, the pair appears to point straight to the interaction vertex.

Uniform magnetic field going into plane of slide.

C. Anderson





Figure from *"Introduction to High Energy Physics"*, D. Perkins, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

## Aside: using antimatter as a tool

- Antimatter is pretty exotic stuff, but it's used routinely in hospitals – PET scans!
  - Positron Emission Tomography







Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, September 8, 2003, "Low Monoamine Oxidase B in Peripheral Organs in Smokers."

- At the beginning, the universe was a very *hot*, *dense* place.
  - Heavy exotic particles and high energy photons all over the place interacting with one another.
  - Equal amounts of matter and antimatter.



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  - 1. All matter annihilates with antimatter. Empty universe full of photons (light).
  - 2. Matter and antimatter separate (somehow). Universe is  $\frac{1}{2}$  matter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  antimatter.





Matter galaxies and Antimatter galaxies



What really happened?



In the early universe, for every billion ordinary particles annihilating with antimatter, one was left standing...

- What really happened?
  - Most of the matter and antimatter *did* annihilate each other, but we wound up with some matter left over at the end and *no antimatter*.
- How could this happen?
  - The laws of physics are not exactly the same for matter and antimatter.
  - The asymmetry is due to a strange phenomenon called CP violation.



## **CP** Violation



 If the laws of physics were the same after CP transformation, matter and antimatter would behave *exactly* the same. But we know CP symmetry is violated...





С

# The discovery of CP violation

 In 1964 Cronin and Fitch experimentally observed the CP forbidden decay J. Cronin





V. Fitch



1980

- Total surprise (at the time).
- Plausible explanation came years later (1972).
- Explanation only recently (2002) tested.



## Quantum interference

• Quantum mechanics tells us that if there's more than one path, you must consider them *all simultaneously*.



Which path did it take?

Classical physics: either *A* or *B*. Quantum physics: both *A* and *B* !

## **CP** violation experiments

- Ordinary matter (electrons, protons, neutrons) in normal conditions does not violate CP.
- Some Heavy particles (quarks) do violate CP as they quickly decay to more ordinary particles.
- We can study CP violation by making heavy quark-antiquark pairs in the laboratory using accelerators.

## A bottom quark factory











## The BABAR Experiment



## The BABAR Experiment



## Reconstructed Event End View



• Uniform magnetic field going into screen.

$$F = m rac{v^2}{r} = qvB$$

$$p = mv = qBr$$

- Charged particles coming out leave "tracks".
- Energy measured in outer detector.

#### Measuring (time dependent) CP asymmetries

- $B^0\overline{B}^0$  system from Y(4s) evolves as coherent system
  - Need to explicitly measure time dependence
  - B<sup>0</sup> mesons guaranteed to have opposite flavor at time of 1<sup>st</sup> decay and we can use 'other B<sup>0</sup>' to tag flavor of B<sup>0</sup><sub>CP</sub> at t=0



## **A CP Violation Measurement**



Measures interference of this path...





## The matter-dominated universe

- We now have a working, tested model for CP violation. Does it explain our universe?
- **No!** The CP violation that we understand from experiments gets it totally wrong.
  - Would allow for much more annihilation to occur.
  - No galaxies. Just a few protons rattling around...
- We need new sources of CP violation to explain how the universe evolved to its present state from the big bang.

# Backup material

## Quantum amplitudes

- Probabilities for paths are expressed as *amplitudes*.
  - Amplitude is described by a magnitude (length) and a phase (angle)



## Interfering quantum amplitudes

• Quantum mechanics says that we must consider all paths (or amplitudes) for a process.



 The magnitude of the total amplitude (length of the black arrow) determines the probability that the process will happen.

## **CP** Violation from interfering amplitudes



- Only the relative phase (or angle) between *A* and *B* is different, but that is enough to generate CP violation.
- In this example, the antimatter process will be *less likely* because the total amplitude is smaller!

#### Features of CKM quark mixing matrix

• Off-diagonal elements are small. Couplings that cross generations are *suppressed*.



#### Features of CKM quark mixing matrix

- Off-diagonal elements are small. Couplings that cross generations are *suppressed*.
- The CP-violating phases occur in the smallest elements. CP violation is rare. You need to look for it in specific places...
- Mesons (quark-antiquark bound states) that contain a *bottom quark* (or antiquark) exhibit a variety of *CP* violating effects.



## The PEP-II B factory – specifications

- Produces B<sup>0</sup>B<sup>0</sup> and B<sup>+</sup>B<sup>-</sup> pairs
  Y(4s) resonance (10.58 GeV)
- Asymmetric beam energies
  - Low energy beam 3.1 GeV
  - High energy beam 9.0 GeV
- Boost separates B and B and allows measurement of B<sup>0</sup> life times
- Clean environment
  - ~28% of all hadronic interactions is



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 The BABAR experiment at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) is producing and analyzing hundreds of millions of B meson decays.

#### B-factory 'flagship' measurement: sin2 $\beta$ from J/ $\psi$ K<sub>S</sub>

• Interference between **mixing** and **single real decay** 





- *Extraordinarily clean* theory prediction (~1% level)
  - Single real decay amplitude  $\rightarrow$  all hadronic uncertainty cancel

 $-A_{CP}(t) = sin(2\beta) sin(\Delta m_d t)$ 

- Experimentally easy
  - 'Large' branching fraction  $O(10^{-4})$
  - Clear signature (J/ $\psi \rightarrow l^+l^-$  and K<sub>S</sub>  $\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ )

## Interesting discrepancy...



*Blue points* should agree with the *red point* at the top.

Could be a sign of something new!