

1. Charge conjugation and seesaw mechanism

Proof the following relations:

- (a) $(\psi^c)^c = \psi$,
- (b) $\overline{\psi_1^c}\psi_2 = \overline{\psi_2}\psi_1$,
- (c) Show the following identify from the lecture:

$$-\frac{1}{2}\overline{n^c}Mn + h.c. = -m_D\overline{\nu_L}N_R - \frac{1}{2}m_M\overline{(N_R)^c}N_R + h.c.. \quad (1)$$

Here, $n = (\nu_L, (N_R)^c)^T$ and

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D & m_M \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

- (d) Compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of M approximately and use them to prove that, indeed, an effective mass term of the form $-\frac{1}{2}m_\nu\overline{(\nu'_L)^c}\nu'_L$, with $m_\nu = m_D^2/m_M$, is generated.

2. Majorana mass term

Why is a Majorana mass term for neutrinos, i.e. a term of the form

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2}m\overline{(\nu_L)^c}\nu_L + h.c., \quad (3)$$

forbidden in the Standard Model?

3. Neutrinoless double electron capture

Neutrinoless double electron capture has been proposed as an alternative to neutrinoless double beta decay for measuring (Majorana) neutrino mass. (Sujkowski Wycech, arXiv:hep-ph/0312040)

- (a) Draw the Feynman diagram corresponding to neutrinoless double electron capture.
- (b) What would be the experimental signature?
- (c) Discuss how a coincidence trigger can help to reduce backgrounds.

4. Neutrino Brain Teasers

- (a) Imagine a world in which neutrinos are massive, but charged leptons are massless. Will neutrinos oscillate in such a world?
- (b) Do neutrinos produced in the decay $Z^0 \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu$ oscillate? If so, describe a gedankenexperiment in which these oscillations could be observed.

