

1. Charge conjugation and seesaw mechanism

Proof the following relations:

- (a) $(\psi^c)^c = \psi$,
- (b) $\overline{\psi_1^c} \psi_2 = \overline{\psi_2^c} \psi_1$,
- (c) Show that

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

i.e. that eqs. (*) and (**) from the lecture are equivalent. 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 terms

- (a) 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?

- (b) Extensions of the Standard Model containing an $SU(2)_L$ triplet Higgs field Φ with hypercharge 2 can generate a mass term of the form (3). Explain how this works.

Hint: It is useful to write Φ in the form

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\phi^+}{\sqrt{2}} & \phi^{++} \\ \phi^0 & \frac{\phi^+}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} , \quad (4)$$

which transforms under an $SU(2)_L$ rotation U_L according to

$$\Phi \rightarrow U_L \Phi U_L^\dagger . \quad (5)$$

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.

