

Electro-magnetic force \rightarrow quantum electrodynamics (QED)

Charged particles — solid line with arrows

$\uparrow e$
(particle)

$\downarrow e^+$
(anti-particle)

Photons — wavy lines. When attached to a vertex they designate absorption or emission

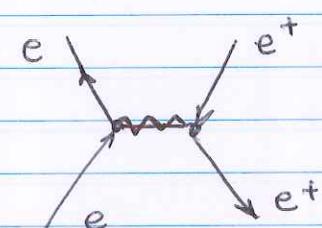
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Region below the vertex — initial state  
—, — above — u — — final state

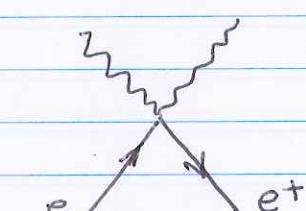
Any line b/w two vertices represent a virtual particle

Any process that follow these rules, and whose final state and initial state obey conservation laws is a possible physical process!

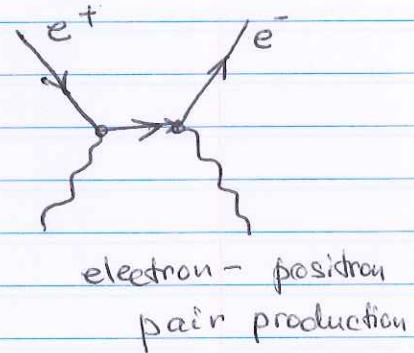
Possible electron - positron interaction



Coulomb interaction



electron-positron annihilation

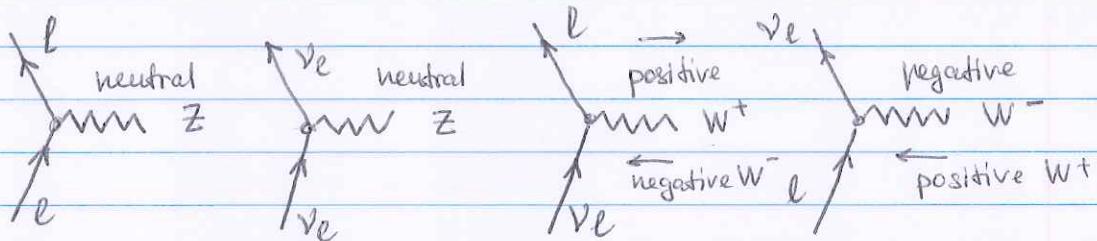


electron-positron pair production

Feynman diagrams are more than funny pictures, they are prescriptions for very precise calculations.

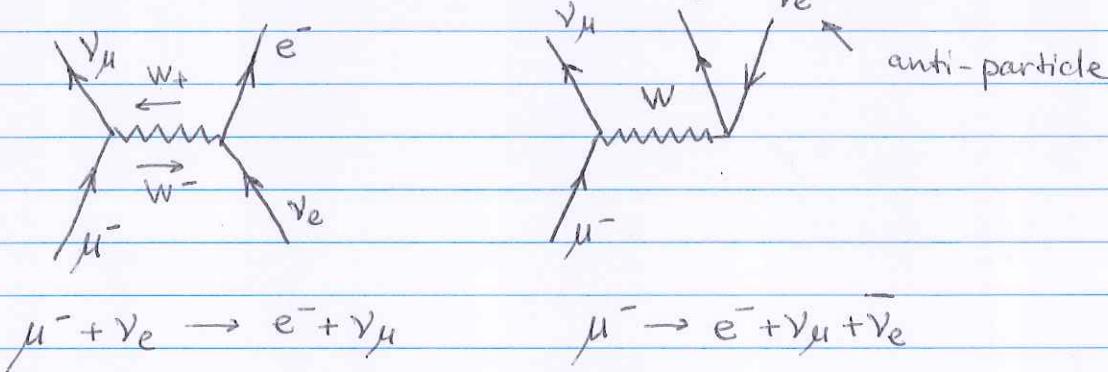
It turned out that weak interaction can be described in a similar fashion

Possible vertices



$$\text{where } \begin{pmatrix} \nu_l \\ l \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \mu \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\tau \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}$$

Possible processes



It is now established

It is now established that at very high energies electromagnetic and weak force become indistinguishable  $\rightarrow$  same electroweak interaction.

Why they look so different at "regular" energies?  
because W and Z bosons are massive

$$M_W c^2 = 80 \text{ GeV}, M_Z c^2 = 91 \text{ GeV}$$

energy is conserved  $\rightarrow$  QM allows energy-conservation breaking for a short period of time!

$$\Delta E \Delta t \sim \hbar$$

1) Exchange "duration"  $\Delta t \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E}$

since ~~elect~~ photons are massless, they can travel distance  $d \sim c\Delta t = \frac{c\hbar}{\Delta E} = \frac{200 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{nm}}{1 \text{ eV}} = \underline{\underline{200 \text{ nm}}}$   
huge distance!  
for nuclear standards

Contrary, for a massive particle, however  
 $\Delta E \sim M_w c^2$  (energy is required to create an interaction carrier particle)

$$d \sim c \cdot \Delta t = \frac{c\hbar}{\Delta E} = \frac{200 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{nm}}{80 \cdot 10^9 \text{ eV}} \approx 2.5 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ nm} = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ m}$$

Once released

# Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

How do quarks interact?

$\Delta^{++}$  particle  
spin 3/2

(uuu)

all three quarks have  
the same ~~cheer~~ spin!

(three particles in the same state?)

Thus, the quarks need to have some other way to distinguish themselves  $\rightarrow$  another charge

three quarks  $\rightarrow$  three color charges (red, green)  
(in baryons) blue

Turned out, any hadron have to be colorless

baryons: red + green + blue = white  $\rightarrow$  no color!  
meson: red + antired = black  $\rightarrow$  color!

Force carriers b/w quarks: gluons (8 overall)  
each gluon is "marked" with two colors

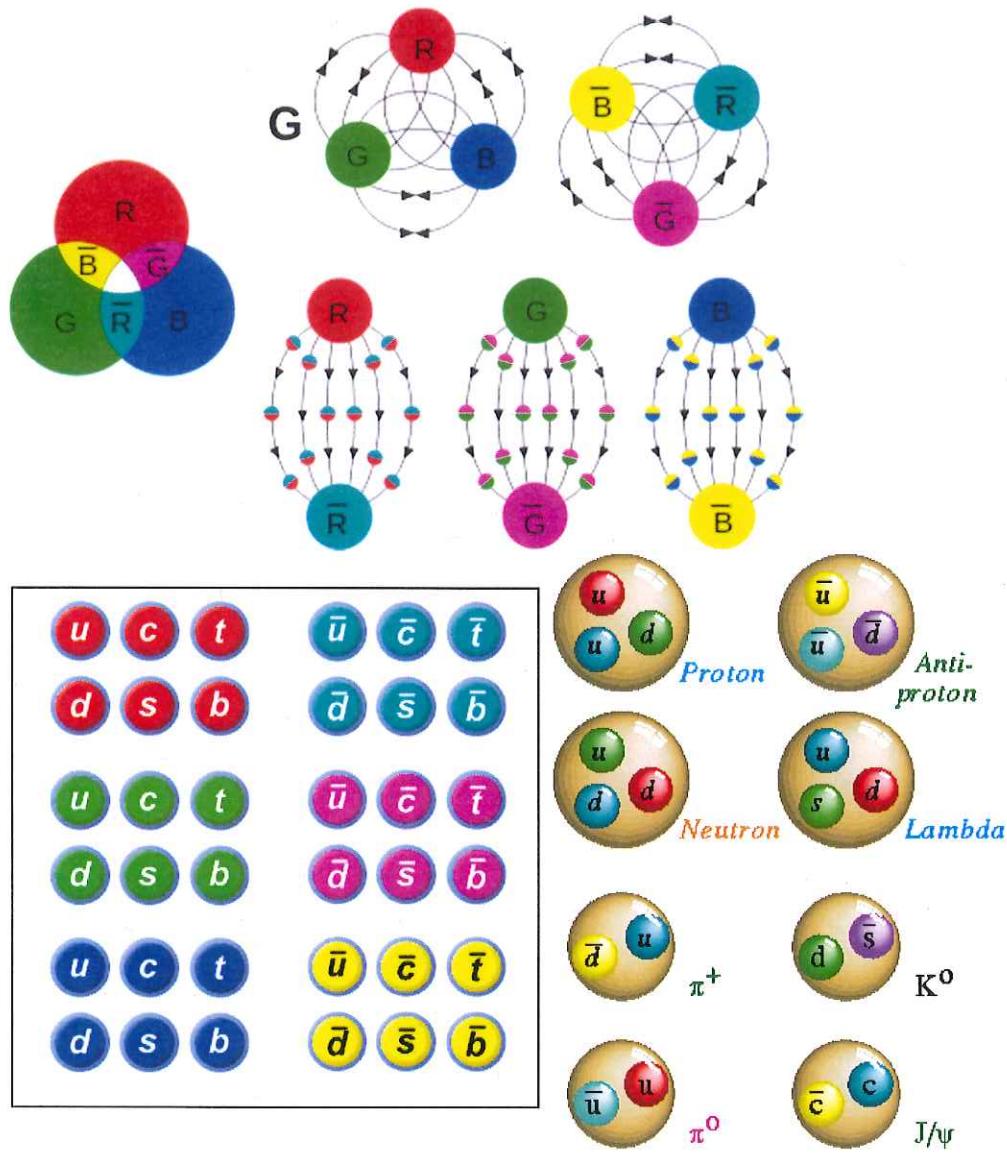
Characteristic of quark-gluon model: confinements

the interaction b/w quarks at a short distance is weak (asymptotic freedom). But it grows with distance  $\rightarrow$  until the bond "snaps" by producing a pair of a quark + antiquark

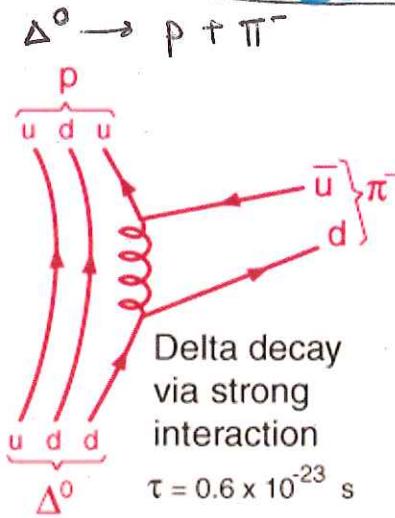
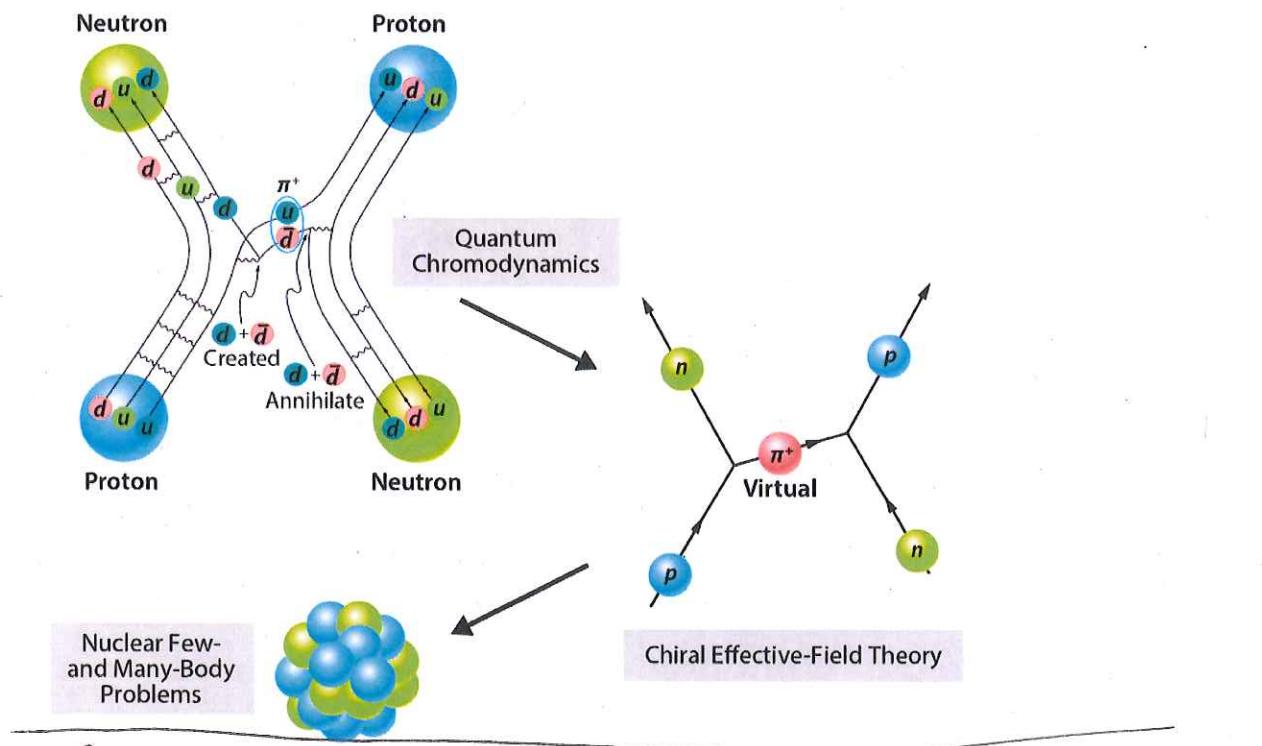
strong bond

$q_g q_b (q_r) \rightarrow q_g q_b \dots q_r \xrightarrow{\text{strong bond}} q_g q_b \leftarrow q_r \bar{q}_r \rightarrow q_r$   
 $\rightarrow q_g q_b q_r + \bar{q}_r q_r$

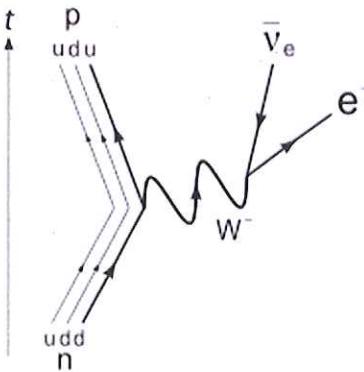
quarks are  
more or less free



Proton - neutron attraction via strong force



Neutron decay via weak force



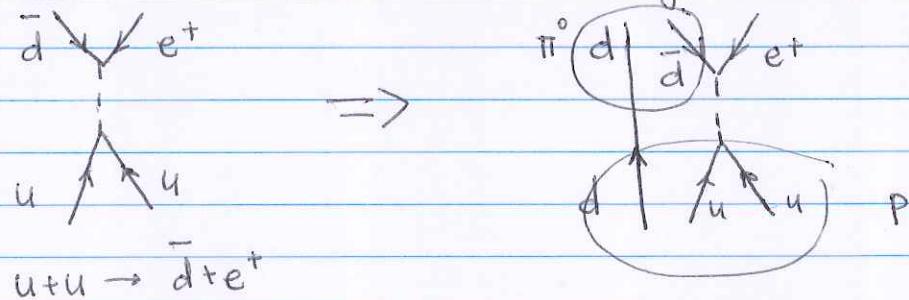
## Grand unification theory

EM + weak + strong interactions

|         |                    |                        |                          |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| quarks  | $(u)$<br>$d$       | $(s)$<br>$c$           | $(t)$<br>$b$             |
| leptons | $(e^-)$<br>$\nu_e$ | $(\mu^-)$<br>$\nu_\mu$ | $(\tau^-)$<br>$\nu_\tau$ |

Some calculations suggest that these particles can be represented as 5 fundamental particles + 24 interaction-carrying bosons!

an example Some interaction bosons are the same as 4 in electroweak interaction ( $\gamma, W^\pm, Z$ ) and 8 gluons  
Other 12 are called X (for electric charge  $\pm 4/3$ ) or Y (for electric charge  $\pm 1/3$ )



$$\text{Proton decay } p \rightarrow \pi^+ + e^+$$

GUT problem — proton is stable!

Conclusion: GUT seems an elegant idea, but it clearly has problems for now