### Fundamental Neutron Physics III

symmetry breaking and the neutron electric dipole moment

Geoffrey Greene University of Tennessee / Oak Ridge National Laboratory

### Parity Violation and Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking

"It is generally assumed on the basis of some suggestive theoretical symmetry arguments that nuclei and elementary particle can have no electric dipole moments. It is the purpose of this note to point out that although these theoretical arguments are valid when applied to molecular and atomic moments whose electromagnetic origin is well understood, their extension to nuclei and elementary particles rests on assumptions not yet tested"

> E.M.Purcell and N.F.Ramsey, Physical Review 78, 807 (1950)



Edward Purcell



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### A Short History of Symmetry Violation

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1964 Christianson, et. al., demonstrate that CP is violated in K-decay

### **Brief Digression**

### **Spontaneous Symmetry breaking**

### In the Universe of Nuts and Bolts



### PARITY IS VIOLATED

If I randomly select a screw from the hardware bins At Home Depot...It will be RIGHT-HANDED

### In the Universe of Nuts and Bolts



### PARITY IS VIOLATED

This is an example of a "Broken Symmetry"

Broken Symmetry

A situation in which the ground state of a many-body system\* has a lower symmetry than the Hamiltonian which defines the system.

\*also may apply to the vacuum state of a relativistic quantum field theory

### Some Characteristics of "Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking"

- There is an underlying symmetry to the system.
- The physical state has lower symmetry than the underlying symmetry
- The symmetry breaking may not be complete.
- Incomplete symmetry breaking may be manifested by a residue of other symmetry states or domains in which the other symmetry is manifested

Incomplete Symmetry Violation is Often an Indication of Broken Symmetry

Threads on bicycle pedals come in symmetric pairs



Threads on turnbuckles come in symmetric pairs



Threads on compressed gas bottles may be Right <u>OR</u> Left Handed







### The Cosmic Baryon Asymmetry

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### **Observation:**

As best we can determine, the universe consists of Matter. There is essentially NO Antimatter.







Just after Inflation, there were equal amounts of Matter and Antimatter.

If nothing else happened, all matter and antimatter would annihilate leaving...

### **NOTHING!**

# Today, the Universe consists of matter and there is essentially NO anti-matter

### This is the

### "Baryon Asymmetry Problem"

Matter and Antimatter Just After Inflation

10,000,000,000

10,000,000,000

Matter

Anti- Matter

## Matter and Antimatter ~10<sup>-6</sup> s later

10,000,000,000

9,999,999,999

Matter

Anti- Matter

## Matter and Antimatter Now

Matter

1

Anti- Matter

## Matter and Antimatter Now

# That's us...and everything we can see

Matter

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### Generating a Matter-Antimatter Asymmetry

A. D. Sakharov, JETP Lett. 5, 24 (1967)

Sakharov Process Requires Three Things:

- 1. The process must violate Baryon Number Conservation
- 2. There must be a period of Non-Thermal Equilibrium

A. Sakharov

3. The process must violate Time Reversal Non-Invariance

Question:

Can the T violation needed to generate the matterantimatter asymmetry when the universe was 10<sup>-6</sup>s old be related to an observable quantity today?



# The Neutron Electric Dipole Moment An example of T violaton

#### Discrete Symmetries

Parity:		$\hat{P} \cdot \Psi(x, y, z) \Rightarrow \Psi(-x, -y, -z)$		
Time Reversal:		$\hat{T} \cdot \Psi(t) \Rightarrow \Psi(-t)$		
(	Charge Conjugation:	$\hat{C} \cdot \Psi_n \Longrightarrow \Psi_{\overline{n}}$		
	Wigner-Eckhart Theorem Implie	es $ec{\mu}=\murac{ec{J}}{J}$ and $ec{d}=drac{ec{J}}{J}$		

Non-Relativistic Hamiltonian

$$H = \underbrace{\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}}_{C\text{-even}} + \underbrace{\vec{d} \cdot \vec{E}}_{P\text{-even}}$$

#### Non-zero d violates P,T, and CP

	С	Ρ	Т
$\vec{\mu}$	1	+	1
$\vec{d}$	-	+	-
$\vec{E}$	-	_	+
$\vec{B}$	-	+	-
$\vec{J}$	+	+	-

Slide curtesy B. Filippone

Non-Elementary Particles can have EDM's <u>Without</u> Violating Parity and Time Reversal Symmetry



If the neutron was a composite object it could also have non-zero edm without P and T.

However, it would then have a degenerate ground state Which is incompatible with observed nuclear shell structure Non-Elementary Particles can have EDM's <u>Without</u> Violating Parity and Time Reversal Symmetry

### **Theorem:**

The observation of a non-zero, static, electric dipole moment for a non-degenerate elementary particle would be a direct violation of time reversal symmetry.

If the neutron was a composite object it could also have non-zero edm without P and T.

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If a neutron were blown up to the size of the earth, the current limit on its EDM would correspond to a displacement of + and - electron charge by ~1 μm





Look for a precession frequency  $\hbar\omega = 2\mu_n B \pm 2d_n E$ A moment of  $10^{-25}$  ecm in a 10 kV/cm electric field corresponds to a shift in frequency of 0.5 µHz!

### Ramsey's Method of Separated Oscillatory Fields\*



\*cited for Nobel Prize 1989

# EDM Statistical Sensitivity $\sigma_{edm} \propto \frac{1}{ET\sqrt{N_n}}$

 $E = Applied \ Electric \ Field$  $N_n = Number \ of \ neutrons \ observed$  $T = Observation \ Time$ 

We want:

1. Highest Possible Electric Field (Limited by breakdown)

2. More neutrons (limited by source strength)

3. Longest possible free precession time (ultimately limited by  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_n$ )

#### *ILL- Sussex Neutron Electric Diopole Moment Experiment\**



$$d = (-0.21 \pm 1.82) \times 10^{-26} ecm$$

#### J.M. Pendlebury et al., PR D92 09 (2003

T = 130 sE = 10 kV/cm



#### \*Experiment has been upgraded and installed at PSI. New result is pending.

### The nEDM experiment at the Spallation Neutron Source



Features of the new SNS nEDM experiment:

- Double cell (common B, opposite E)
- Ultra-cold neutrons produced in-situ
  in superfluid Helium below 0.7K to achieve long storage
  - in superfluid Helium below 0.7K to achieve long storage time (suppress phonon upscattering) as a UCN source
- Helium-3 as co-magnetometer
  precession monitored by SQUID
  - long relaxation time in superfluid Helium as a buffer gas

Neutron precession measured through the spin-dependent n+<sup>3</sup>He capture reaction
 as a particle detector

•Use liquid helium as scintillating medium

•Cell has to be optically transparent as a part of the light guide

•PMT operated at cryogenic temperatures (4K)

as a HV insulator

•High dielectric strength of superfluid helium (>50kV/cm)
### nEDM@SNS

#### Measurement Cycle

- 1. Load collection volume with polarized <sup>3</sup>He atoms -
- 2. Transfer polarized <sup>3</sup>He atoms into measurement cell ~
- 3. Illuminate measurement cell with polarized cold neutrons to produce polarized UCN
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#### Neutron EDM searches are in progress at many facilities world wide



#### The Neutron EDM search is complementary to other types of EDM measurements

#### **ACME** experiment



Slide curtesy, Chen-Yu Lu



A large quadrupole and octupole deformation results In an enhanced Schiff moment – Auerbach, Flambaum & Spevak (1996)

#### Enhancement Factor: EDM (<sup>225</sup>Ra) / EDM (<sup>199</sup>Hg)

Skyrme Model	Isoscalar	Isovector	Isotensor
SIII	300	4000	700
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4 mercury vapor Cells: 2 with opposite E fields 2 for B field normalization



$$\omega_c = \frac{\mu}{\hbar} \left( -\frac{8}{3} \frac{\partial^3 B}{\partial z^3} \Delta z^3 \right) + \frac{4dE}{\hbar}$$

Cancels up to 2<sup>nd</sup> order gradient noise Same EDM sensitivity as Middle Difference

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#### Why Do We Need So Many Experiments?



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