$\hbar = c = 1$

Lorentz invariance on trial in β decay

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With Jacob Noordmans, Keri Vos & Hans Wilschut





7th Solvay conference, Brussels, October 1933

✓ "Structure & properties of the atomic nucleus"

- ✓ 1930:
 - Neutrino
- ✓ 1932:
 - Neutron
 - Positron
- ✓ 1933/34
 - Fermi theory



✓ Beta decay finally starts to make sense...

Question of parity conservation in weak interactions

- ✓ Lessons from T.D. Lee & C.N. Yang, Phys. Rev. **104**, 254 (1956)
- \checkmark Symmetries are not sacrosanct \rightarrow experiment decides
 - "For the weak interactions parity conservation is so far only an extrapolated hypothesis unsupported by experimental evidence"
- ✓ Non-observable \rightarrow symmetry \rightarrow conservation law
 - "To decide unequivocally, one must perform an experiment to determine whether weak interactions differentiate the right from the left"
- ✓ Are other symmetries inviolate?
 - Baryon number OK
 - Electric charge OK
 - Energy & momentum OK
 - Angular momentum?
 - C, P & T?



Outline

- 1. Why test Lorentz & CPT invariance?
 - A window on the Planck scale
- 2. The need for effective field theory
 - Intermezzo: T violation in beta decay vs EDMs
- 3. Allowed beta decay
 - Theoretical formalism
 - Proof-of-principle experiment @ KVI
- 4. Revisiting forbidden beta decay
- 5. Conclusions
 - What is next?

1. Why bother?



Paintings by Menso & Harm Kamerlingh Onnes



- ✓ Special relativity = laws of physics are Lorentz (Poincaré) invariant
 - Space-time translations, rotations, boosts
- $\checkmark SR + QM \rightarrow QFT$
 - Particles transform as irreps $|m,s;p,\lambda\rangle$ (Wigner, 1939)
- ✓ SM + GR → quantum gravity
 - Unification at the Planck scale $M_{\text{Planck}} \approx 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$?
- ✓ Lorentz violation?
 - Viable mechanisms identified in string theories and other QG scenarios
 - Can be probed in ultraprecise low-energy experiments & astrophysics

The CPT theorem

✓ Interchange left-right & past-future & particles-antiparticles, then

$$\langle b_1, b_2, \dots | a_1, a_2, \dots \rangle = \langle \overline{a}_1, \overline{a}_2, \dots | \overline{b}_1, \overline{b}_2, \dots \rangle^*$$

- with all spins and momenta reversed (Pauli *et al.*, 1954/5)

 \checkmark Lorentz invariant QFT \rightarrow CPT invariance

- Follows from relativistic, local QFT & spin-statistics
- CPT violation \rightarrow Lorentz violation

✓ CPT theorem breaks down at Planck scale (T.D. Lee)

- Two points separated by $\Delta t < \Delta x < L_{planck} \approx 10^{-35} \text{ m}$
- Heisenberg: $\Delta E \approx 1/\Delta t > 1/L_{Planck}$
- ΔE creates a black hole of radius $R \approx G \Delta E > G/L_{\text{planck}}$
- Since $G \approx L_{\text{Planck}}^2$ this implies $R > \Delta x$!



The program: Lorentz violation in weak decays

- \checkmark Largely unexplored \rightarrow systematic search within theoretical context
- ✓ Neutron decay & allowed + forbidden nuclear beta decay
 - J. P. Noordmans, H. W. Wilschut, RGET, Phys. Rev. C 87, 055502 (2013)
 - J. P. Noordmans, H. W. Wilschut, RGET, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 171601 (2013)
- ✓ Kaon, pion & muon decay
 - K. K. Vos, J. P. Noordmans, H. W. Wilschut, RGET, Phys. Lett. B 729, 112 (2014)
 - J. P. Noordmans, K. K. Vos, Phys. Rev. D 89, 101702(R) (2014)
 - J. P. Noordmans, C. J. G. Onderwater, H. W. Wilschut, RGET, submitted
- ✓ Experiment @ KVI Groningen:
 - H. W. Wilschut *et al.*, Ann. Phys. **525**, 653 (2013)
 - S. E. Müller et al., Phys. Rev. D 88, 071901(R) (2013)
 - A. Sytema et al., in preparation
- ✓ Jacob Noordmans, PhD thesis University of Groningen, 2014



Effective field theory

$$\checkmark \text{ QED:} \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}}^{(4)} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \overline{\psi} (\gamma_{\mu} \partial^{\mu} + m) \psi + i e \overline{\psi} \gamma_{\mu} \psi A^{\mu}$$

- What about "non-renormalizable" terms (mass dimension > 4)?

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}}^{(5,6)} = -\mu \,\overline{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \psi F^{\mu\nu} - g \,\overline{\psi} \psi \,\overline{\psi} \psi$$

- Integrating out heavy particles \rightarrow local interactions at low energy
- Couplings suppressed by scale of new physics $\ \mu = {\cal O}(1/\Lambda) \ , \ g = {\cal O}(1/\Lambda^2)$
 - Electron magnetic moment $\rightarrow \Lambda > O(1)$ TeV
- ✓ Standard Model = low-energy EFT

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm EFT} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM}^{(4)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \mathcal{L}^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{L}^{(6)} + \dots$$

- Dim 5: neutrino masses; dim 6: lots of stuff (T viol, B viol, "non-V-A",...)
- Weak interactions (V-A) at low energy

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{SM}}^{(4)} \to \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{QCD}}^{(4)} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{QED}}^{(4)} + \frac{1}{M_W^2} \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{Fermi}}^{(6)}$$

EFT for Lorentz violation

- ✓ Effective field theory for Lorentz & CPT violation
 - Explicit Lorentz violation incompatible with GR
 - Spontaneous breaking → vacuum expectation value for tensor fields
- ✓ Standard Model Extension (Kostelecký *et al.*)
 - Most general gauge-invariant Lagrangian
 - Field operators contracted with tensors
 - Many operators, about half are CPT-odd
- ✓ "Minimal SME": dim-3 and -4, *e.g.*

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} = -a_{\mu} \,\overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} \psi - b_{\mu} \,\overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_5 \psi$$

- Scaling? $a_\mu, b_\mu \sim \Lambda_{
 m IR}^2/\Lambda_{
 m UV}$ or $\sim \Lambda_{
 m UV}$
- ✓ Extended SME: also dim-5 and higher
 - SUSY: no dim-3 & -4 operators



Intermezzo: Is beta decay "EDM-safe"?

✓ T-odd triple correlations in non-V-A searches

$$\mathrm{d}W = \mathrm{d}W^0 \left[1 + \ldots + D \left\langle \hat{I} \right\rangle \cdot \vec{\beta} \times \hat{q} + R \, \vec{\sigma}_e \cdot \left\langle \hat{I} \right\rangle \times \vec{\beta} \right]$$

- Interference of SM with new V+A (for D) or new S or T (for R) interactions
- Subtract T-violation FSI mimicry e.g. $D_{FSI} = O(10^{-5})$, $R_{FSI} = O(10^{-3})$ for neutron

✓ Competition

- P-even, T-odd D: n and atomic EDMs (¹⁹⁹Hg) due to P&T-odd NN forces
- P&T-odd R: atomic EDMs (²⁰⁵Tl, YbF, ThO) due to P&T-odd eN forces

✓ Updated limits:

- 90% C.L.

	β decay		EDMs	
$Im(a_{LR}/a_{LL})$	4×10 ⁻⁴	<i>n,</i> ¹⁹ Ne	3×10 ⁻⁶	<i>n,</i> ¹⁹⁹ Hg
$Im(a_{LS}/a_{LL})$	7×10 ⁻²	n	10 ⁻⁵	ThO
$Im(a_{LT}/a_{LL})$	2×10 ⁻³	⁸ Li	10 ⁻⁶	¹⁹⁹ Hg

A unique left-right four-quark operator

- ✓ Dim-6 quark-Higgs-Higgs interaction
 - Integrate out heavy new particles, break EW symmetry





- ✓ Indirect limits from EDMs on *D* are $O(10^2)$ × stronger than direct limit
 - Inescapable, beyond uncertainties & cancellations due to fine-tuning...
- ✓ Dim 8: Leptoquark models

$$\Xi_2 v^2 \overline{e}_L \gamma^\mu \nu_L \, \overline{u}_R \gamma_\mu d_R \ , \ \Xi_2 \sim \frac{1}{\Lambda^4}$$

- Similar story...

3. Beta decay redux

✓ Decay rate, differential in energy & angle, for polarized nuclei

- Frame dependence, with frame fixed at some cosmological scale
- Signals: rotational, sidereal, and annual variations
- ✓ Some generic approaches



 \checkmark Ad hoc... \rightarrow need a theoretical framework to guide & interpret expt's

Theoretical framework

- \checkmark Testing the weak interaction \rightarrow modified W-boson propagator
 - Broad class of Lorentz violation, also Lorentz-violating vertex



✓ Matching *e.g.* to the low-energy propagator in the minimal SME

$$\chi^{\mu\nu} = -k^{\mu\nu}_{\phi\phi} - \frac{i}{2g}k^{\mu\nu}_{\phi W} + \frac{2p_{\rho}p_{\sigma}}{M_{W}^{2}}k^{\rho\mu\sigma\nu}_{W}$$

- *i.e.* Lorentz violation in Higgs & *W*-boson sector; *g* = SU(2) coupling
- Neutrino sector in beta decay: J. S. Díaz et al., PRD 88, 071902 (2013)
- ✓ Dim-5 contribution to $\chi_{\mu\nu} e.g.$ $\mathcal{L}^{(5)} \supset C^{\mu\nu\rho} \operatorname{tr} W_{\mu\lambda} D_{\nu} \widetilde{W}_{\rho}^{\lambda}$
 - In general, $\chi^{\mu\nu}$ can be momentum dependent & CPT-even or -odd

Differential decay rate for allowed transitions

✓ Generalized "JTW" formula

- Standard QFT techniques to calculate observables (tricky...)
- Assuming *V*-*A* ; including Coulomb corrections

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{d}W &= \mathrm{d}W^{0} \left\{ \left(1 \mp \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\sigma}_{e}}{E_{e}} \right) \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(1 + B \frac{\vec{q} \cdot \hat{I}}{E_{\nu}} \right) + t + \frac{\vec{w}_{1} \cdot \vec{q}}{E_{\nu}} + \vec{w}_{2} \cdot \hat{I} \right. \\ &+ T_{1}^{km} \hat{I}^{k} \hat{I}^{m} + \frac{T_{2}^{kj} \hat{I}^{k} q^{j}}{E_{\nu}} + \frac{S_{1}^{kmj} \hat{I}^{k} \hat{I}^{m} q^{j}}{E_{\nu}} \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(1 \mp \frac{(E_{e} - \gamma m_{e})(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\sigma}_{e})}{E_{e}^{2} - m_{e}^{2}} \right) \frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} \mp \frac{\gamma m_{e}}{E_{e}} \vec{\sigma}_{e}^{l} \mp \frac{m_{e}}{E_{e}} \sqrt{1 - \gamma^{2}} (\vec{p} \times \vec{\sigma}_{e})^{l} \right] \\ &\times \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(A - 3 \frac{\vec{q} \cdot \hat{I}}{E_{\nu}} \right) \hat{I}^{l} + \frac{1}{2} (a + c) \frac{q^{l}}{E_{\nu}} + w_{3}^{l} + \frac{T_{3}^{lj} q^{j}}{E_{\nu}} \right. \\ &+ T_{4}^{lk} \hat{I}^{k} + S_{2}^{lmk} \hat{I}^{m} \hat{I}^{k} + \frac{S_{3}^{lmj} \hat{I}^{m} q^{j}}{E_{\nu}} + \frac{R^{lmkj} \hat{I}^{m} \hat{I}^{k} q^{j}}{E_{\nu}} \right] \right\} \end{split}$$

✓ Parameters $t, w_{1,2,3}, T_{1,2,3,4}, S_{1,2,3}, R$ all functions of $\chi^{\mu\nu}$

– Sidereal time dependence: $\chi^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow X^{\mu\nu}$ in Sun-centered inertial frame

Fermi & Gamow-Teller transitions

- ✓ Fermi transitions
 - Measure directional decay rate \rightarrow access to χ_r^{0}

$$dW_{\rm F} = dW^0 \left[1 + 2\chi_r^{00} + 2\chi_r^{0l} \frac{p^l}{E_e} \right]$$

$$\chi_r^{\mu\nu} = \operatorname{Re}(\chi^{\mu\nu})$$
$$\chi_i^{\mu\nu} = \operatorname{Im}(\chi^{\mu\nu})$$

✓ Gamow-Teller transitions

- Directional decay rate \rightarrow disentangle χ_{i}^{mk} $dW_{GT} = dW^{0} \left[1 - \frac{2}{3}\chi_{r}^{00} + \frac{2}{3}(\chi_{r}^{l0} + \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{l})\frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} \right]$

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\chi}^l &= \epsilon^{lmk} \chi^{mk} \\ (\chi^{\mu\nu})^* &= \chi^{\nu\mu} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \checkmark \quad \text{Polarized nuclei} \\ \mathrm{d}W_{\mathrm{GT}} &= \mathrm{d}W^{0} \left[1 - \frac{2}{3} \chi_{r}^{00} + \frac{2}{3} (\chi_{r}^{l0} + \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{l}) \frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} \right] \\ & \mp \Lambda^{(1)} \left[(1 - \chi_{r}^{00}) \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \hat{I}}{E_{e}} + \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{l} \hat{I}^{l} + \frac{\chi_{r}^{lk} p^{l} \hat{I}^{k}}{E_{e}} - \frac{\chi_{i}^{l0} (\vec{p} \times \hat{I})^{l}}{E_{e}} \right] \\ & + \Lambda^{(2)} \left[-\chi_{r}^{00} + (\chi_{r}^{l0} + \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{l}) \frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} + 3\chi_{r}^{kl} \hat{I}^{k} \hat{I}^{l} - 3\chi_{r}^{l0} \hat{I}^{l} \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \hat{I}}{E_{e}} - 3\chi_{i}^{ml} \hat{I}^{m} \frac{(\vec{p} \times \hat{I})^{l}}{E_{e}} \right] \end{array}$$

A pioneering experiment @ KVI

- ✓ 27 MeV/A beam of ²⁰Na from $p(^{20}Ne,^{20}Na)n$ stopped in Ne gas
 - Nuclear polarization via optical pumping



✓ Gamma rate asymmetry due to Lorentz violation

Setup





Lorentz invariance on trial in beta decay

Limits on Lorentz violation

- ✓ Effective nuclear polarization (A=1/3)
- ✓ Signal for Lorentz violation
 - Gamma asymmetry / analyzing power

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{2} &= \chi_{i}^{31} - \chi_{i}^{13} \\ &= \left[\frac{\tau_{\gamma}^{\leftarrow} - \tau_{\gamma}^{\rightarrow}}{\tau_{\gamma}^{\leftarrow} + \tau_{\gamma}^{\rightarrow}} \right] / \left[\frac{N_{\beta}^{\rightarrow} - N_{\beta}^{\leftarrow}}{N_{\beta}^{\rightarrow} + N_{\beta}^{\leftarrow}} \right] \end{split}$$

- ✓ Sidereal variation of gamma asymmetry - $|A_v| < 4 \times 10^{-4}$ (95% C.L.)
- ✓ Order of magnitude improvement due
 - Blind analysis



4. Eppur si muove

✓ R. Newman & S. Wiesner, PRD 14, 1 (1976)

- Unique 1st-forbidden transition ${}^{90}\mathrm{Sr}(0^+, 28.8\,a) \rightarrow {}^{90}\mathrm{Y}(2^-, 64.1\,h) \rightarrow {}^{90}\mathrm{Zr}(0^+)$ W
- 10-Ci ⁹⁰Sr source, rotating apparatus 0.75 Hz
- ✓ J. D. Ullman, PRD **17**, 1750 (1978)
 - Unique 1st-forbidden, 2nd-forbidden transition ${}^{137}\text{Cs}(\frac{7}{2}^+, 30.2\,a) \rightarrow {}^{137m}\text{Ba}(\frac{11}{2}^-) {}^{99}\text{Tc}(\frac{9}{2}^+, 2.1 \times 10^5\,a) \rightarrow {}^{99}\text{Ru}(\frac{5}{2}^+)$
- anode β source

Ν

S

- ✓ Motivation:
 - Angular momentum conservation poorly tested
 - Enhancement in forbidden transitions?
 - Preferred frame defined by CMB dipole?
 - Measured by Smoot et al. on U2 plane (1977)



Forbidden beta decay recycled

- ✓ 1970s experiments reinterpreted in our formalism
 - Extended to general forbidden beta decays
 - Violation $\Delta I \leq 1$, relative enhancement of Lorentz violation $\alpha Z/R \approx 10 \chi$
 - Reconstructed the data analyses (contacted both emeriti)
 - Best limits from unique 1st-forbidden ⁹⁰Sr decay $\rightarrow \chi^{\mu\nu} \leq O(10^{-6}-10^{-8})$
- ✓ Dipole & quadrupole current asymmetries: *N*−*S*, *E*−*W*, (*N*+*S*)−(*E*+*W*)
 - Fitted as function of sidereal time (various corrections)

$$\delta = a_0 + a_1 \sin(\omega t + \phi_1) + a_2 \sin(2\omega t + \phi_2)$$

✓ Differential decay rate for unique 1st-forbidden transition dW ~ $p^2 + q^2 + p^2 \frac{\alpha Z}{pR}$ × $\left[\frac{3}{10} \frac{p}{E} \left(\chi_r^{ij} \hat{p}^i \hat{p}^j - \frac{1}{3} \chi_r^{00}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\chi}_i^l \hat{p}^l + \chi_r^{l0} \hat{p}^l\right]$

5. What is next?

✓ Limits from forbidden beta decay, assuming minimal cancellation:

$$-{}^{10}\log\left(|X_{rs}^{\mu\nu}|\right) > \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 7 & 7 & 8 \\ 7 & 6 & 6 & 6 \\ 7 & 6 & 6 & 6 \\ 8 & 6 & 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix} , \quad -{}^{10}\log\left(|X_{ia}^{\mu\nu}|\right) > \begin{bmatrix} \times & - & - & - \\ - & \times & 8 & 7 \\ - & 8 & \times & 7 \\ - & 7 & 7 & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

- Tough to beat... requires high-intensity sources
- ✓ Including pion decay and assuming maximal cancellation (fine-tuning):

$$-{}^{10}\log\left(|X_{rs}^{\mu\nu}|\right) > \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & - & 6 & 6 \\ 4 & 6 & - & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} , \quad -{}^{10}\log\left(|X_{ia}^{\mu\nu}|\right) > \begin{bmatrix} \times & - & - & - \\ - & \times & 3 & 4 \\ - & 3 & \times & 4 \\ - & 4 & 4 & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

✓ Included in the 2014 SME Data Tables

Kaon decay explored

- ✓ KLOE collaboration, Eur. Phys. J. C **71**, 1604 (2011)
 - $K_{s}^{0} \rightarrow \pi^{+} + \pi^{-}$ directional-dependent lifetime asymmetry
 - Parallel and antiparallel to motion of Earth in CMB

$$\frac{d}{K^{0}} = \frac{d}{\bar{s}} = \frac{\bar{u}}{\bar{u}} \pi^{-}$$

$$\frac{\bar{u}}{W^{+}} = \frac{\bar{d}}{\bar{u}} \pi^{+}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\hat{n}} = \frac{\tau^{+} - \tau^{-}}{\tau^{+} - \tau^{-}} = \frac{\frac{4}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{m_{K}^{2}}}{1 - \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{m_{K}^{2}}} \gamma_{K}^{2} \left(\chi_{r}^{i0} + \chi_{r}^{0i}\right) \beta_{K}^{i} = 0.34 \chi_{S}^{i0} \hat{\beta}_{K}^{i}$$

2

- $\checkmark~$ Hard to compete with beta decay
 - Nonleptonic decay difficult
 - "Penguin diagram" insensitive to LV

	{ <i>l, b</i> }	$10^{3} \times A$
CMB	{264°, 48°}	-0.13±0.4
	{174°, 0°}	0.2±1.0
	{264°,-42°}	0.0±0.9

✓ However, asymmetry $A \approx \gamma^2 \rightarrow$ hadron factories?

Neutron beta decay

✓ Differential decay rate for polarized neutrons

$$dW = dW^{0} \left\{ 1 - 0.21\chi_{r}^{00} + (0.34\chi_{r}^{0l} + 0.55(\chi_{r}^{l0} + \tilde{\chi}_{i}^{l})) \frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} + \frac{\langle m \rangle}{j} \hat{I}^{k} \left[0.43(\chi_{r}^{k0} - \chi_{r}^{0k}) - 0.55\tilde{\chi}_{i}^{k} - (0.12 - 0.99\chi_{r}^{00}) \frac{p^{k}}{E_{e}} - 0.99(\chi_{r}^{lk} - \chi_{i}^{s0}\epsilon^{ksl}) \frac{p^{l}}{E_{e}} \right] \right\}$$



✓ Express in standard Sun-centered inertial frame $\chi^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \chi^{\mu\nu}$

$$dW = dW^{0} [1 - 0.12\mathcal{P}v\cos\theta - X_{r}^{TT}(0.21 - 0.99\mathcal{P}v\cos\theta) + Z_{1} + Z_{2}\cos(\Omega t) + Z_{3}\sin(\Omega t) + Z_{4}\cos(2\Omega t) + Z_{5}\sin(2\Omega t)]$$

- $Z_{1,2,3,4,5}$ depend on $X^{\mu\nu}$ and colatitude ζ of experimental site
- Oscillation frequencies $\Omega = 2\pi/(23h56m)$ and 2Ω
- ental site \hat{Z} T = 0 $\hat{J}\eta \simeq 23.5^{\circ}$ $\hat{J}\eta \simeq 23.5^{\circ}$ \hat{Y} \hat{X}

✓ Should be explored!

Face the music

- ✓ Lorentz violation in allowed & forbidden beta decay
 - New twist to a long successful history
- ✓ Effective field theory framework
 - D, R : EDMs O(100) × better model independently
 - Open issues in Standard Model Extension



Watercolor by Marijke Kamerlingh Onnes

- ✓ Intensity frontier: need much higher statistics
 - 1 Ci events in 1 month = $10^{16} \rightarrow$ accuracy of $10^{-8} \rightarrow$ count rate > 10^{10} /s
 - Long-running experiments with high-intensity sources
 - Segmented counters, integrating detectors
 - Neutron activation: ^{32,33}P, ³⁵S, ⁴⁵Ca, ⁶³Ni excellent options
- ✓ Decays at high velocity: boost gives enhanced sensitivity $\approx O(\gamma^2)$
 - High-velocity beta beams *e.g.* ⁶He 10¹⁸/y @ γ =150
 - Semi-leptonic decays of hadrons at high-energy facilities
 - Next-generation muon "g-2" experiment