

# *Chapter 1*

## *Particles...*

*How do we classify them?*

*How do they interact?*

*How do we detect them?*

<http://www.ipnl.in2p3.fr/cours/marteau/PP2012-2013/>

# Outline/Plan

## 1. Fundamental particles

1. Leptons
2. Quarks
3. Hadrons

## 2. Hadron spectroscopy

1. Isospin symmetry
2. Basics of group theory.  
The  $SU(N)$  group.
3. The quark model

## 3. Fundamental interactions

1. Range and propagators
2. Electro-weak interaction
3. Strong interaction

## 1. Particules fondamentales

1. Leptons
2. Quarks
3. Hadrons

## 2. Spectroscopie hadronique

1. La symétrie d'isospin
2. Rappel de théorie des groupes.  
Le groupe  $SU(N)$ .
3. Le modèle des quarks.

## 3. Interactions fondamentales

1. Portée d'une interaction et propagateurs.
2. Interaction électro-faible.
3. Interaction forte.

# 1- Fundamental particles

General features:

- Fundamental particles can not be separated into smaller components (elementary particles such as: electron, photon, quarks...)
- Some particles are composite ones (protons and neutrons are composed of 3 quarks, pions of 1 quark and 1 anti-quark...)
- There are 2 ways of classifying the particles:

1. Following the spin-statistics

Fermions (1/2 integer spin, Fermi-Dirac statistics)

Vs

Bosons (integer spin, Bose-Einstein statistics)

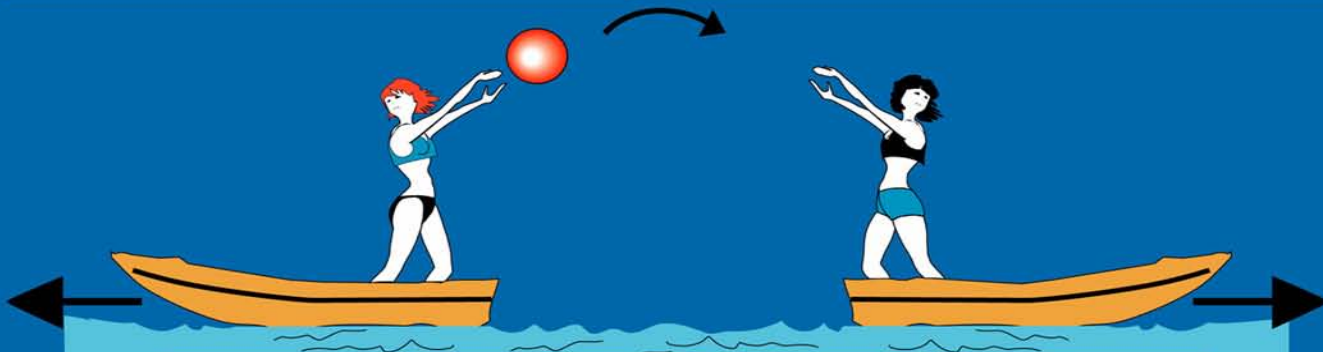
2. Following the interaction(s) they are sensitive to...

# 1- Fundamental particles

There are 4 fundamental interactions:

- **Strong** interaction (e.g. nuclei structure)
- **Electromagnetic** interaction (e.g. atomic physics, light,  $\mu$ -wave...)
- **Weak** interaction (e.g.  $\beta$  radioactivity phenomena)
- **Gravity** (neglected at energy scales well below  $10^{19}\text{GeV}$ )

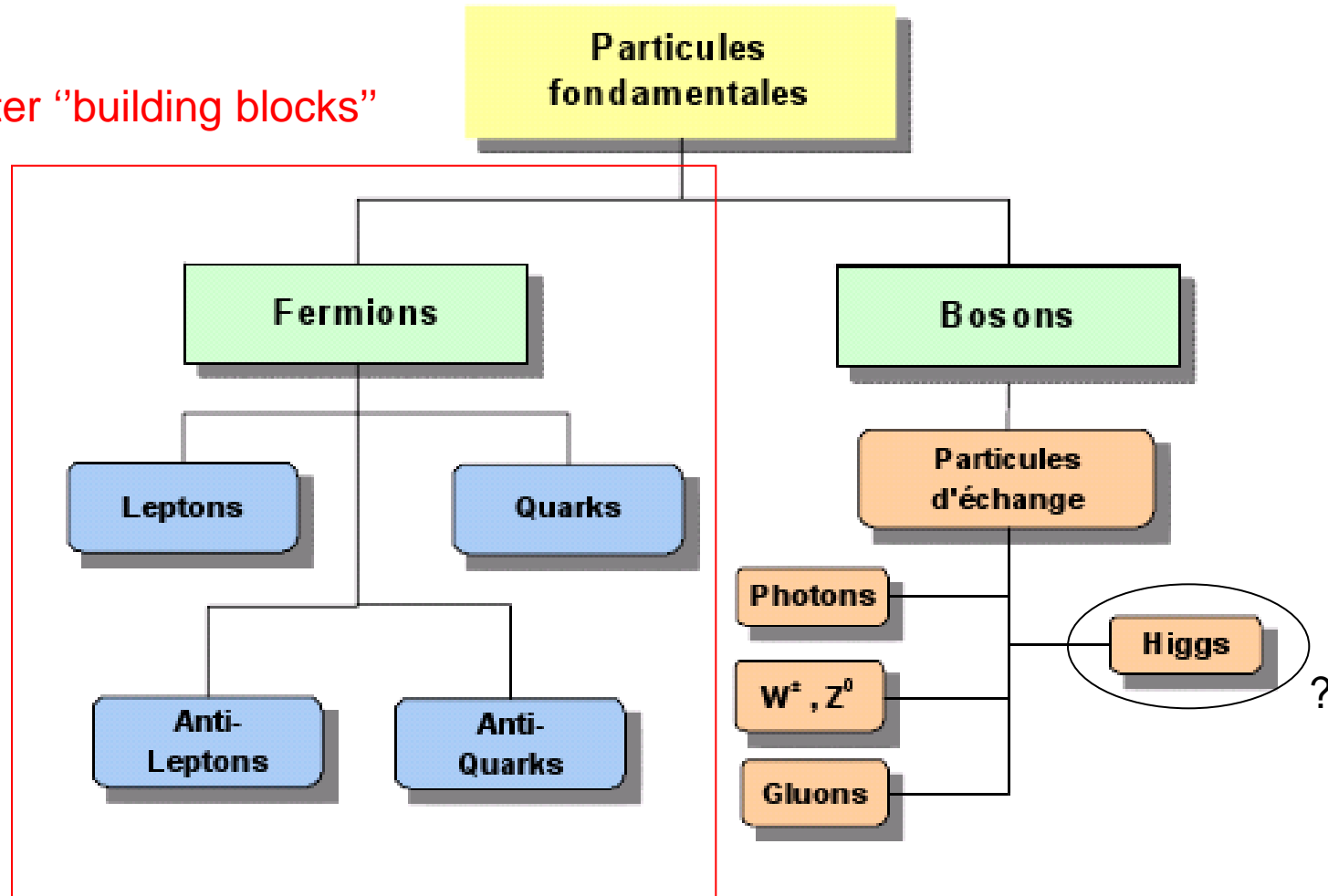
In quantum field theory any interaction is modeled by an intermediate particle exchange (**gauge bosons**).



# 1- Fundamental particles

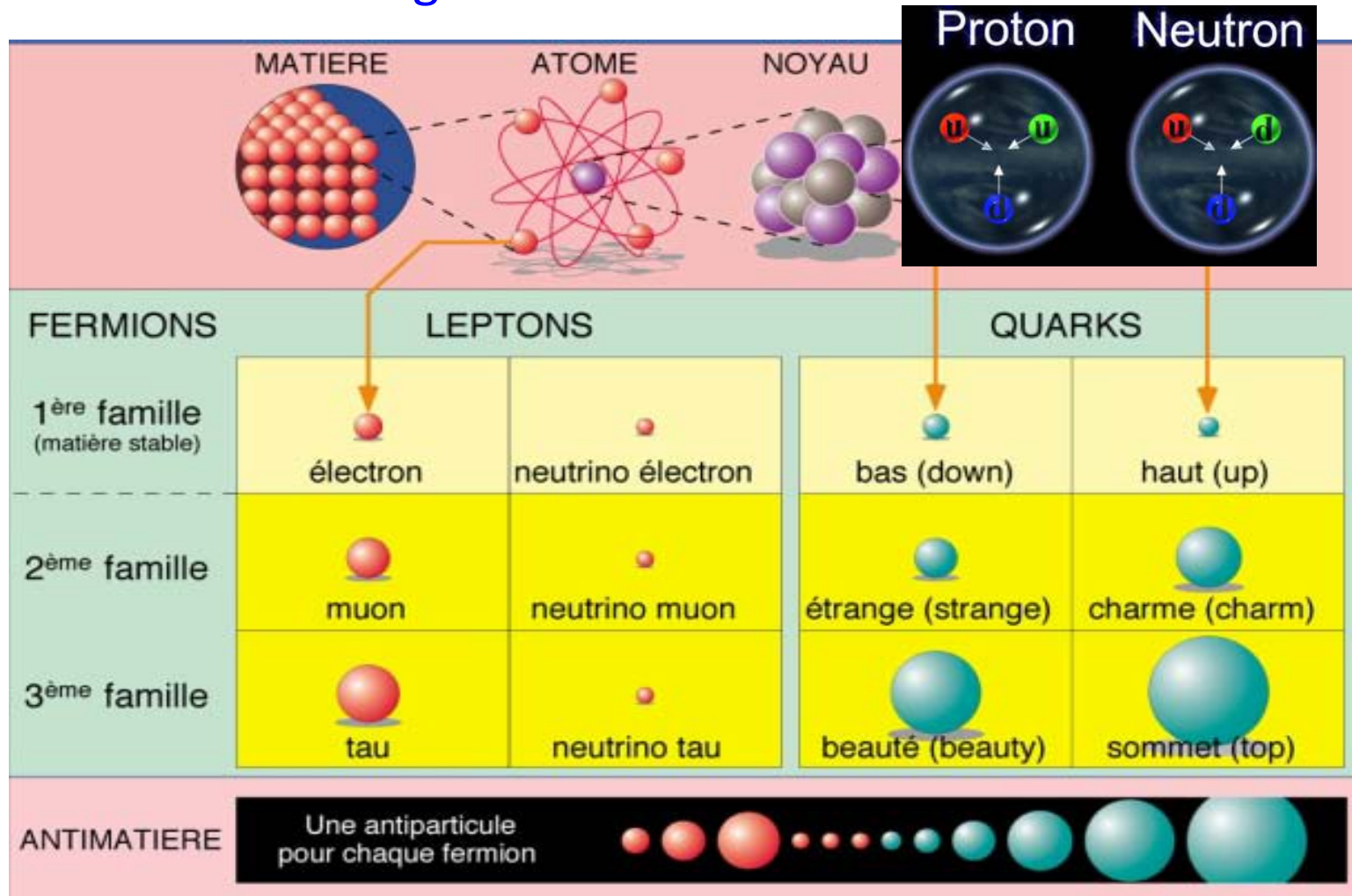
A simplified scheme

Matter "building blocks"



# 1- Fundamental particles

They are (up-to-now) the most elementary particles known and constitute the building blocks of atoms



# 1.1 Leptons

Leptons:

- Are insensitive to strong interaction
- Carry integer electric charges ( $n \times 1.610^{-19} \text{C}$  with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ )
- Carry a “weak” charge ie can be associated in weak interaction doublets
- Are organized into 3 families : electron, muon, tau

Leptons (spin $\frac{1}{2}$ )			
$Q = 0$	$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_\tau \\ \end{pmatrix}$
$Q = -1$	$\begin{pmatrix} e \\ \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \end{pmatrix}$

- Muons and taus are “heavy” and unstable copies of electrons

# 1.1 Leptons

**Leptonic number:** global symmetry associated to leptons implying that 3 numbers are conserved additively in the interactions:

- $L_e = +1$  ( $e^-$  and  $\nu_e$ ) /  $L_e = -1$  ( $e^+$  and  $\bar{\nu}_e$ ) /  $L_e = 0$  for others
- $L_\mu = +1$  ( $\mu^-$  and  $\nu_\mu$ ) /  $L_\mu = -1$  ( $\mu^+$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ ) /  $L_\mu = 0$  for others
- $L_\tau = +1$  ( $\tau^-$  and  $\nu_\tau$ ) /  $L_\tau = -1$  ( $\tau^+$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\tau$ ) /  $L_\tau = 0$  for others
- Reactions example:

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \quad (L_\mu: 0 = -1 + (+1))$$

$$\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu \quad (L_e: 0 = +1 + (-1) / L_\mu: +1 = +1)$$



# 1.1 Leptons

Neutrinos are only sensitive to weak interactions and have a fixed

helicity (operator :  $\lambda = \frac{\vec{S} \cdot \vec{p}}{p}$  )



# 1.1 Leptons

## Leptons summary

Leptons						
$S, C, \tilde{B}, T, I, I_3 = 0$						
	$M$ (MeV)	$\tau$	$Q$	$(L_e, L_\mu, L_\tau)$	$(I^W, I_3^W)_{R,L}$	$J^{PC}$
$e$	0.51099892(4)	$> 4.6 \times 10^{26}$ ans	-1	(1, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\nu_e$	$< 3 \times 10^{-6}$	$> 300 m_\nu$ s/eV	0	(1, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\mu$	105.658369(9)	$2.197030(4) \times 10^{-6}$ s	-1	(0, 1, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\nu_\mu$	$< 0.19$	$> 15.4 m_\nu$ s/eV	0	(0, 1, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\tau$	$1776.99^{(+29)}_{(-26)}$	$290.6(11) \times 10^{-15}$ s	-1	(0, 0, 1)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\nu_\tau$	$< 18.2$	—	0	(0, 0, 1)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$

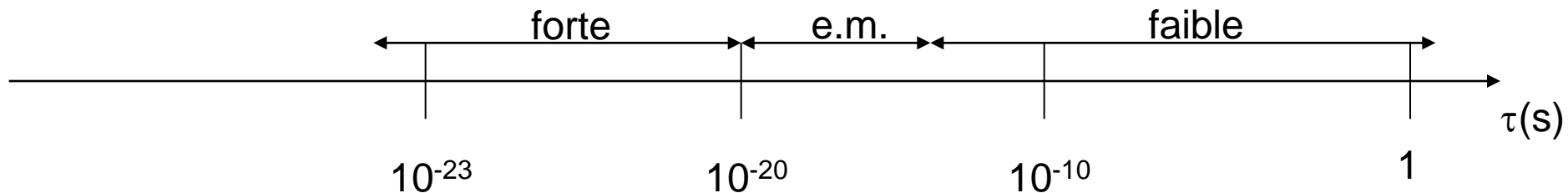
### Notations:

- $I^W$  and  $I_3^W$  are related to the weak isospin
- $J^{PC} = \text{Spin}^{\text{Parity C-Parity}}$

# 1.1 Leptons

What about **stability** and **lifetime**? Almost all particles (but e.g. electrons, protons) are unstable and decay with a time which depends on the **type of interaction** and the **available phase space**

Hierarchy:



Width (energy scale):

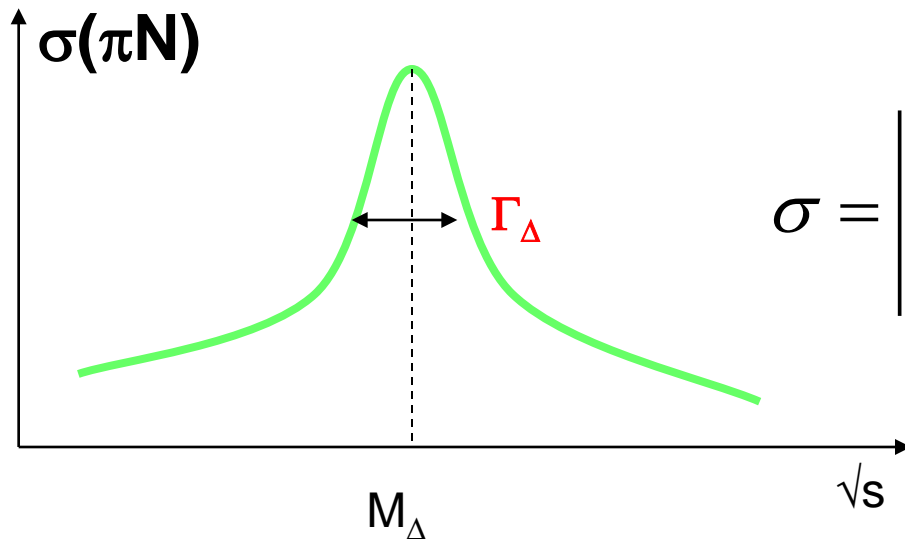
$$\Delta M = \Gamma = \frac{1}{\tau} \quad (\text{MeV})$$

# 1.1 Leptons

Strong decays and resonances :

$$\Delta \rightarrow \pi N \quad (\Gamma = 115 \text{ MeV})$$

$$\rho \rightarrow \pi\pi \quad (\Gamma = 150 \text{ MeV})$$



$$\sigma = \left| \frac{1}{(s^2 - M_\Delta s) + iM_\Delta \Gamma(s)} \right|^2$$

$$\tau \sim 1/100(\text{MeV}) * \left[ 200(\text{MeV} \cdot \text{fm}) / 3 \cdot 10^8 \cdot 10^{15}(\text{fm} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}) \right]$$

$$\tau \sim 10^{-23} \text{ s}$$

# 1.2 Quarks

Quarks:

- Are **sensitive to strong interaction** (they are the fundamental components of nuclear matter)
- Carry **fractional electric charges** (e.g.  $Q_u = \frac{2}{3} \times e$ )
- Carry a **“weak” charge** ie can be associated in weak interaction doublets
- Carry also a **“colored charge”** and are associated in triplets of the strong interaction
- Are organized into **3 families** (as the leptons are, probable link?) which are  $\sim$ identical but for the masses

Quarks			
$Q = \frac{2}{3}$	$\begin{pmatrix} u(\text{up}) \\ d(\text{down}) \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} c(\text{charm}) \\ s(\text{étrange}) \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} t(\text{top}) \\ b(\text{bottom}) \end{pmatrix}$
$Q = -\frac{1}{3}$			

# 1.2 Quarks

Quarks are **confined** : they can not be observed in a free state  
(extreme case: quark-gluon plasma)

Global quantum numbers are associated with the quark content of a compound : strangeness (s), charm (c), beauty (b), top (t)...

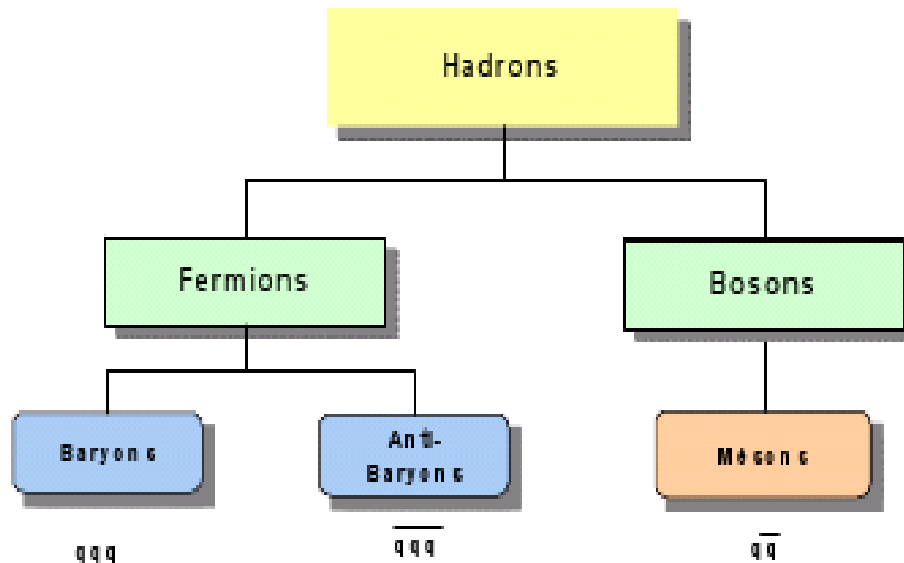
These numbers are conserved in **all but the weak** interactions

Quarks							
$L_e, L_\mu, L_\tau = 0, I_3 = Q - \frac{1}{2}(B + S + C + \tilde{B} + T)$							
	$M$ (MeV)	$Q$	$B$	$(S, C, \tilde{B}, T)$	$(I^W, I_3^W)_{R,L}$	$I^G$	$J^{PC}$
$u$	1.5 – 4	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(0, 0, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}^+$
$d$	4 – 8	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(0, 0, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}^+$
$s$	80 – 130	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(-1, 0, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	0	$\frac{1}{2}^+$
$c$	1150 – 1350	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(0, 1, 0, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	0	$\frac{1}{2}^+$
$b$	4100 – 4400 ( $\overline{MS}$ ) 4600 – 4900 (1S)	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(0, 0, -1, 0)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})_L$	0	$\frac{1}{2}^+$
$t$	174.3(51)	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	(0, 0, 0, 1)	$(0, 0)_R, (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})_L$	0	$\frac{1}{2}^+$

# 1.3 Hadrons

Hadrons are the compound particles sensitive to the strong interaction. They are divided into 2 categories:

- **Baryons** : made of 3 quarks ( $q_1q_2q_3$ )
- **Mesons** : made of 1 quark and 1 anti-quark ( $q_1\bar{q}_2$ )



# 1.3 Hadrons

Examples:

Hadrons		
$p$	proton	— $uud$
$n$	neutron	— $udd$
$\pi^+, \pi^0, \pi^-$	pions	— $u\bar{d}, u\bar{u}+d\bar{d}, \bar{u}d$
$\rho^+, \rho^0, \rho^-$	mésons $\rho$	—
$\Lambda$	lambda	— $udc$
$K^+, K^0, \bar{K}^0, K^-$	mésons $K$	— $u\bar{s}, d\bar{s}, s\bar{d}, \bar{u}s$



# 1.3 Hadrons

- Hadrons carry integer electric charge
- They interact weakly
- We associate a global quantum number (**baryonic number**), conserved additively in all reactions and defined as :  
 $B = 1$  for baryons /  $B = -1$  for anti-baryons /  $B = 0$  others

Why do we observe only the baryon/meson combinations only?

Why can we observe such particles as the  $\Delta^{++} = (u\uparrow u\uparrow u\uparrow)$  forbidden by the Fermi statistics?

➔ Because of the **colored charge** : the only allowed (physics) states correspond to **“white” combinations** of quarks and antiquarks.

# 1.3 Hadrons

3 basic colors: **R G B** for the quarks and their “anti”-colors for the anti-quarks :  **$\bar{R} \bar{G} \bar{B}$**

White combinations correspond to :

- **RGB** or  **$\bar{R}\bar{G}\bar{B}$**  in equal proportions
- **$R\bar{R} G\bar{G} B\bar{B}$**  in equal proportions  
(where “proportions” means the proper anti-symmetrization)

Example: “white proton” p (**u u d**)

## 2. Hadron spectroscopy

### Introduction:

- 1<sup>st</sup> observation : invariance of the strong interactions w.r.t. the electric charge ( $p$ - $p$ ,  $p$ - $n$ ,  $n$ - $n$  are equivalent for the strong interactions: underlying symmetry?)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> observation : masses identity

$$m_P = 938.3 \text{ (MeV)} \quad m_N = 939.1 \text{ (MeV)}$$

$$m_{\pi^\pm} = 139.6 \text{ (MeV)} \quad m_{\pi^0} = 135.0 \text{ (MeV)}$$

$$m_{K^\pm} = 493.7 \text{ (MeV)} \quad m_{K^0} = 497.7 \text{ (MeV)}$$

Those masses would have been probably degenerate in absence of e.m. interactions (symmetry violation analog to the Zeeman effect)

# 2.1 Isospin symmetry

Generalization to multiplets :

Multiplet $J^P = 0^-$			Multiplet $J^P = 1^-$		
Mésons	Mass(MeV)	Nom	Mésons	Mass(MeV)	Nom
$\pi^+, \pi^0, \pi^-$	139.6, 135.0, 139.6	pion	$\rho^+, \rho^0, \rho^-$	768.5	rho
$K^+, K^0$	493.7, 497.7	kaon	$\omega$	781.9	oméga
$\bar{K}^0, K^-$	497.7, 493.7	antikaon	$K^{*+}, K^{*0}$	891.6, 896.1	kaon étoile
$\eta$	547.5	eta	$\bar{K}^{*0}, K^{*-}$	896.1, 891.6	antikaon étoile
$\eta'$	957.8	eta prime	$\phi$	1019.4	phi

Multiplet $J^P = \frac{1}{2}^+$			Multiplet $J^P = \frac{3}{2}^+$		
Baryons	Mass(MeV)	Nom	Baryons	Mass(MeV)	Nom
$p, n$	938.3, 939.6	nucléon	$\Delta^{++}, \Delta^+, \Delta^0, \Delta^-$	$\approx 1232$	delta
$\Lambda$	1115.7	lambda	$\Sigma^{*+}, \Sigma^{*0}, \Sigma^{*-}$	1382.8, 1383.7, 1387.2	sigma étoile
$\Sigma^+, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^-$	1189.4, 1192.6, 1197.4	sigma	$\Xi^{*0}, \Xi^{*-}$	1530.8, 1535.0	xi étoile
$\Xi^0, \Xi^-$	1314.9, 1321.3	xi	$\Omega^-$	1672.5	oméga

## 2.1 Isospin symmetry

Conclusion: hadrons can be classified as multiplets of  $\sim$ equal masses particles differing by their electrical charge :

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{singlets :} \quad \eta, \eta', \omega, \phi, \Lambda, \Omega^- \\
 \text{doublets :} \quad \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} K^+ \\ K^0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \bar{K}^0 \\ K^- \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} K^{*+} \\ K^{*0} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \bar{K}^{*0} \\ K^{*-} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Xi^0 \\ \Xi^- \end{pmatrix} \\
 \text{triplets :} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \pi^+ \\ \pi^0 \\ \pi^- \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \rho^+ \\ \rho^0 \\ \rho^- \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma^+ \\ \Sigma^0 \\ \Sigma^- \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma^{*+} \\ \Sigma^{*0} \\ \Sigma^{*-} \end{pmatrix} \\
 \text{quadruplets :} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \Delta^{++} \\ \Delta^+ \\ \Delta^0 \\ \Delta^- \end{pmatrix}
 \end{array}$$

From the point of view of strong interactions, proton and neutron are almost the same particle. One creates an abstract space in which strong interactions are invariant under rotations...

## 2.1 Isospin symmetry

The conserved quantity (Noether's theorem) is called **isospin**.

Isospin treatment follows the kinetic moment one's and relies on the **group theory** (SU(2) representation) :

- In the isospin space one introduces an operator  $\vec{I} = (I_1, I_2, I_3)$  which commutation rules read  $[I_i, I_j] = \varepsilon_{ijk} I_k$
- The eigenstates  $|I, I_3\rangle$  of the observables  $I^2, I_3$  are such that :

$$I^2 |I, I_3\rangle = I(I+1) |I, I_3\rangle$$

$$I_3 |I, I_3\rangle = I_3 |I, I_3\rangle$$

- A multiplet has  $2I+1$  eigenstates  $I_3 = -I, \dots, +I$  (“ $2I+1$ ”-plet)

## 2.1 Isospin symmetry

Within such representations one has the following multiplets:

$$|p\rangle = \left| I = \frac{1}{2}, I_3 = \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle = \left| \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$|n\rangle = \left| \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right\rangle,$$

*Doublet*

$$|\Delta^{++}\rangle = \left| \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$|\Delta^+\rangle = \left| \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$|\Delta^0\rangle = \left| \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$|\Delta^-\rangle = \left| \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{3}{2} \right\rangle$$

*Quadruplet*

## 2.2 Basics of Lie groups

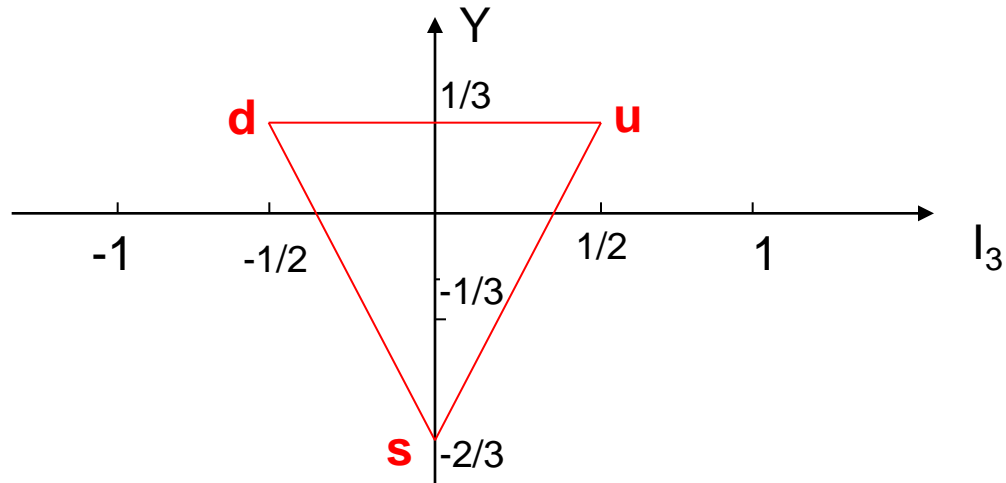
SU(N) groups :

- **Group generators** :  $I_k$  defined such as  $U(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3) = e^{-i\alpha_k I_k}$   
# of independent generators :  $m = n^2 - 1$
- **Properties** :  $I_k^\dagger = I_k$  and  $Tr(I_k) = 0$
- # of generators simultaneously diagonalizable (**rank**) :  $r = n - 1$
- # of **Casimir operators** (function of the generators commuting with all of them) :  $r = n - 1$   
ex. SU(2) :  $I^2 = I_1^2 + I_2^2 + I_3^2$
- The **fundamental representation** is of dimension N :  $\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_N \end{pmatrix}$
- **Structure constants** defined by:  $[I_i, I_j] = f_{ijk} I_k$

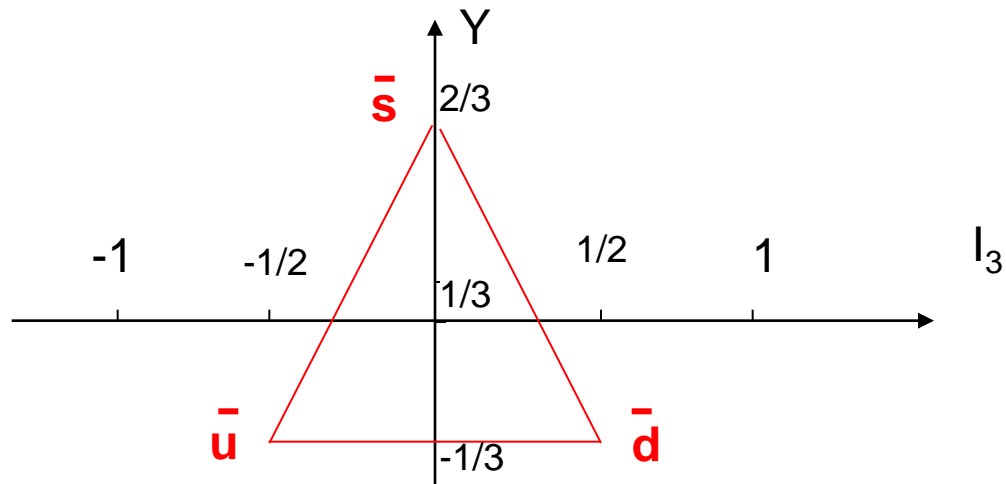


## 2.3 Quarks model

- Fundamental representation 3 :

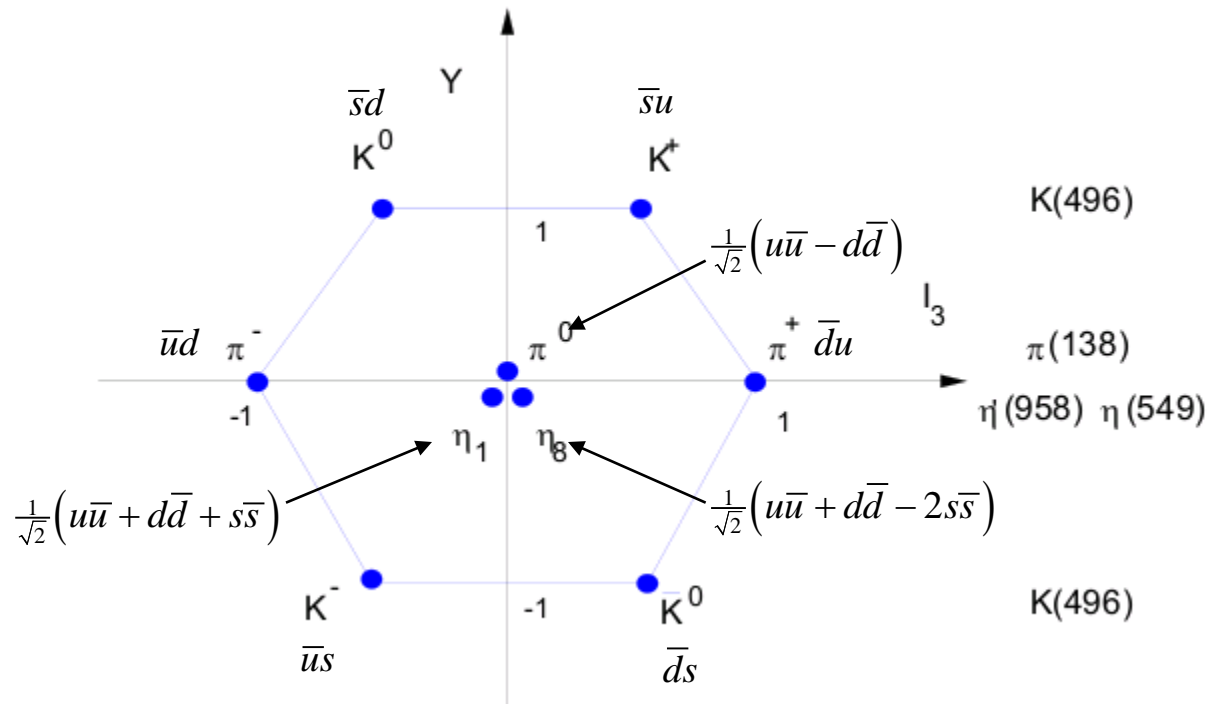


- Adjoint representation  $\bar{3}$  :



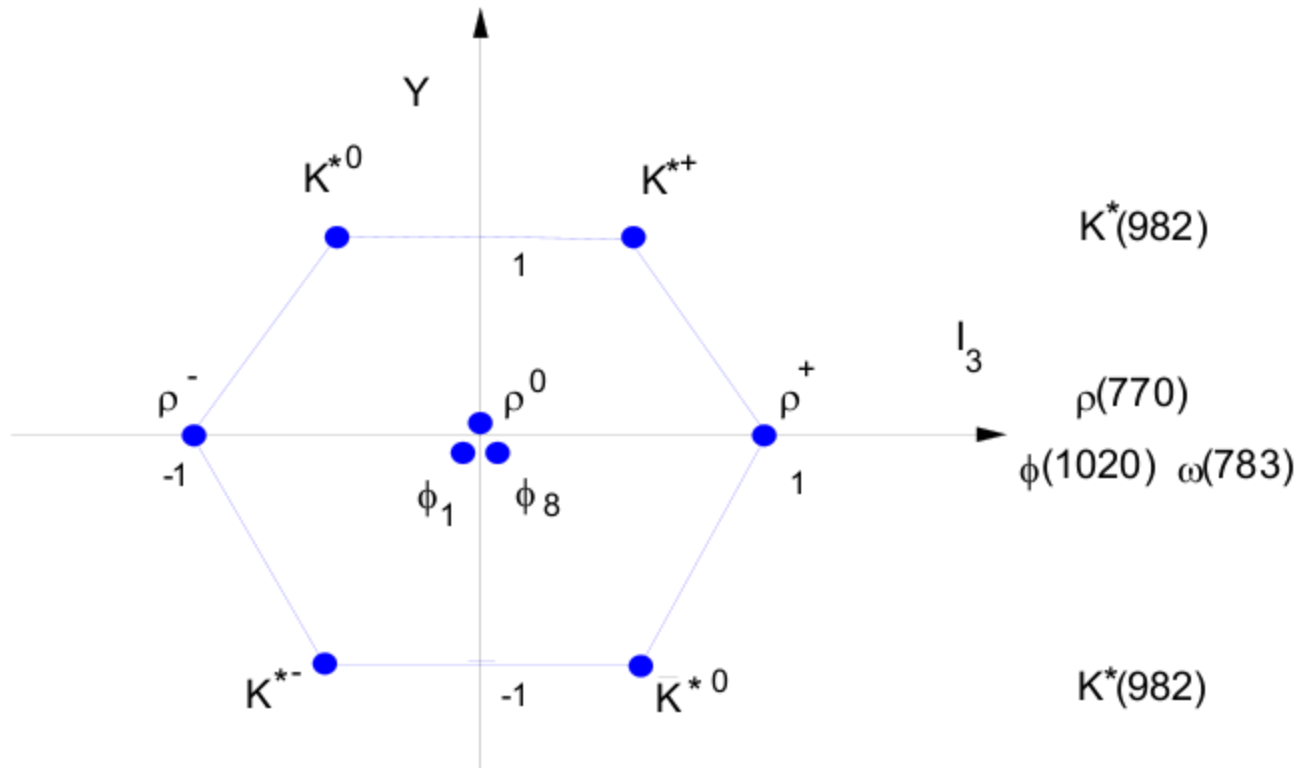
## 2.3 Quarks model

- Pseudo-scalar mesons diagram (octet + singlet):  $J^P = 0^-$



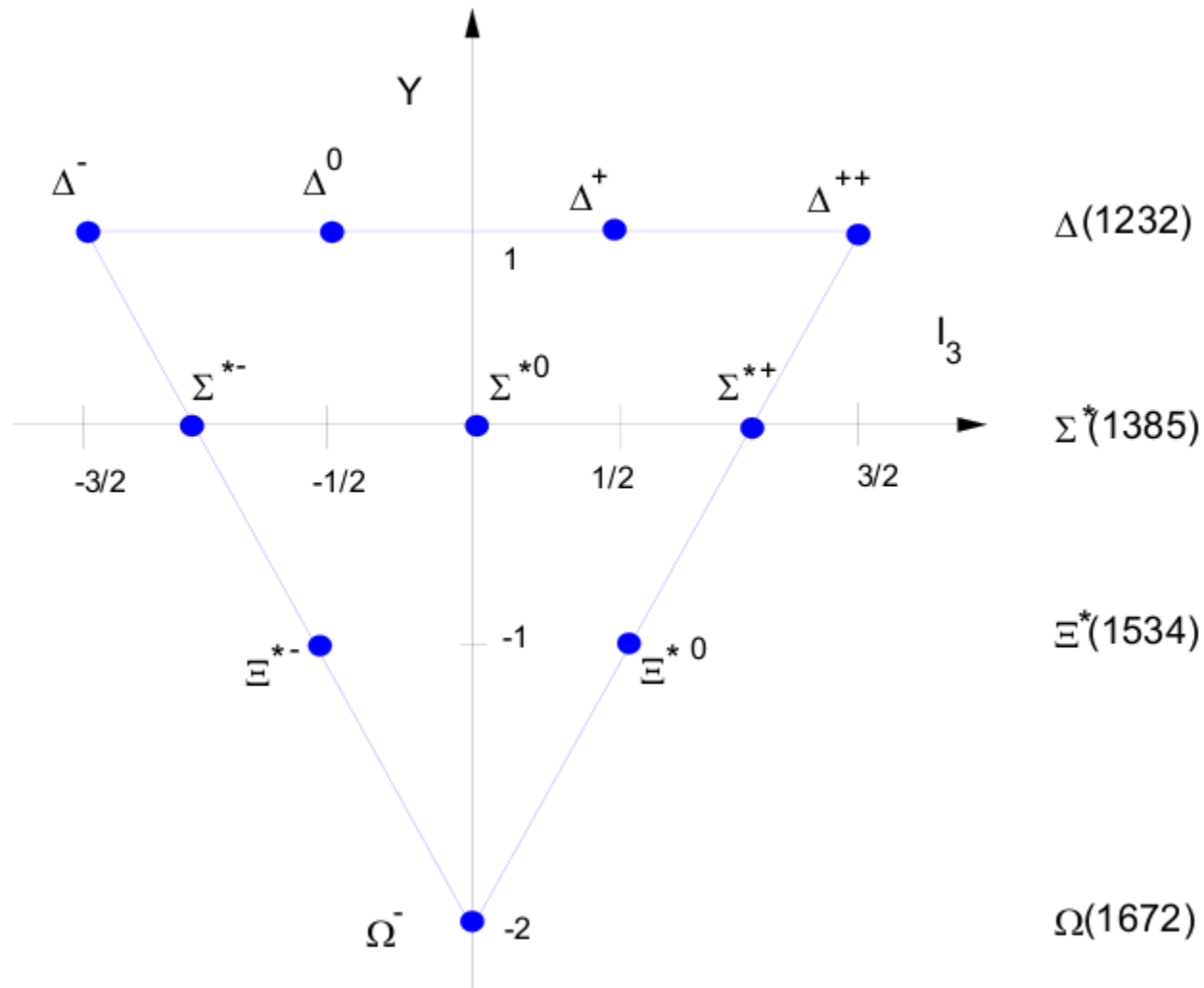
## 2.3 Quarks model

- Pseudo-vector mesons diagram (octet + singlet): same quarks content but // spin :  $J^P = 1^-$



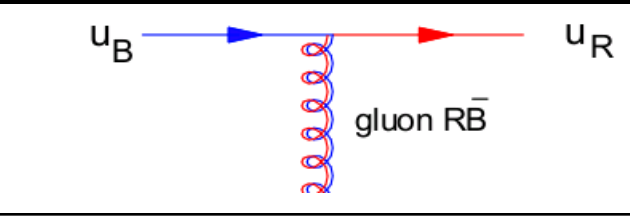
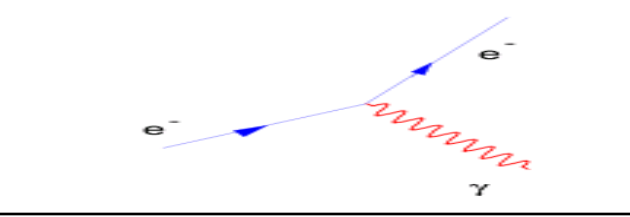
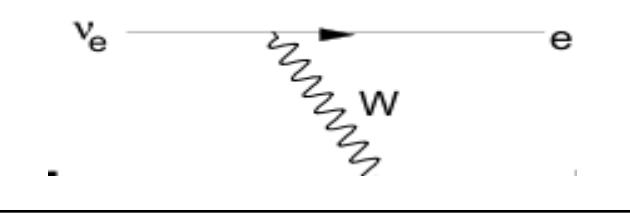
## 2.3 Quarks model

- Just for fun : baryons decuplet



# 3- Fundamental interactions

- Leptons and quarks interactions are mediated by specific gauge bosons :

<b>strong</b>	gluons	$g (8)$	$M=0$	
<b>e.m.</b>	photon	$\gamma (1)$	$M=0$	
<b>weak</b>		$Z^0$ $W^\pm$	$M=90 \text{ GeV}$ $M=81 \text{ GeV}$	
<b>gravitation</b>	graviton	$h^{\mu\nu}$	?	?

## 3.1- Range and propagators

- Yukawa approach: in 1935 it was proposed a link between the range of an interaction and the mass of the “carrier” quantum.
- Heisenberg inequality :

$$R = c\Delta t \approx \frac{1}{\Delta E} = \frac{1}{m}$$

- Formally (Klein-Gordon equation ie “massive” photon propagation equation):  $\square\psi + m^2\psi = 0$

For a static spherical potential :

$$\square\tilde{\psi}(r) + m^2\tilde{\psi}(r) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\tilde{\psi}(r)) \right) + m^2\tilde{\psi}(r) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\psi}(r) = \frac{g}{4\pi r} e^{-r/R} \quad \text{where} \quad R = \frac{1}{m}$$

## 3.1- Range and propagators

- Historically this approach led to the prediction of an intermediate quantum for the strong interaction of mass close to:

$$m = \frac{1}{R} \sim \frac{1}{\text{few fm}} \sim 100 - 200 \text{ MeV}$$

- The **pion** was then discovered (140 MeV) which can be seen as the carrier for the residual strong interaction between nucleons (not quarks) at the scale of the nucleus.
- Its small mass is the manifestation of another symmetry breaking, the **chiral symmetry**  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ .
- This simple model gives an idea of the **range** of an interaction and the link with the intermediate properties.

## 3.1- Range and propagators

- The Fourier transform of the Yukawa potential is given by :

$$\tilde{\psi}(r) \propto \frac{e^{-r/R}}{r} \quad \text{where} \quad R = \frac{1}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\psi}(q) \propto \frac{1}{\vec{q}^2 + m^2 - i\epsilon}$$

- The quantity obtained is called the **propagator**.
- Using the **Green function** formalism for the Klein-Gordon equation:  $(\square + m^2)\psi(x) = 0$  where  $x = x^\mu = (x^0, \vec{x})$

$$\Rightarrow (q^2 - m^2)\psi(q) = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad q = q^\mu = (q^0, \vec{q})$$

$$\Rightarrow (q^2 - m^2)G(q) = \delta^4(q)$$

$$\Rightarrow G(q) = \frac{\delta^4(q)}{q^2 - m^2} \Rightarrow \text{Propagator} = \frac{i}{q^2 - m^2}$$



# 3.1- Range and propagators

- What is the role of the integration constant  $g$ ?

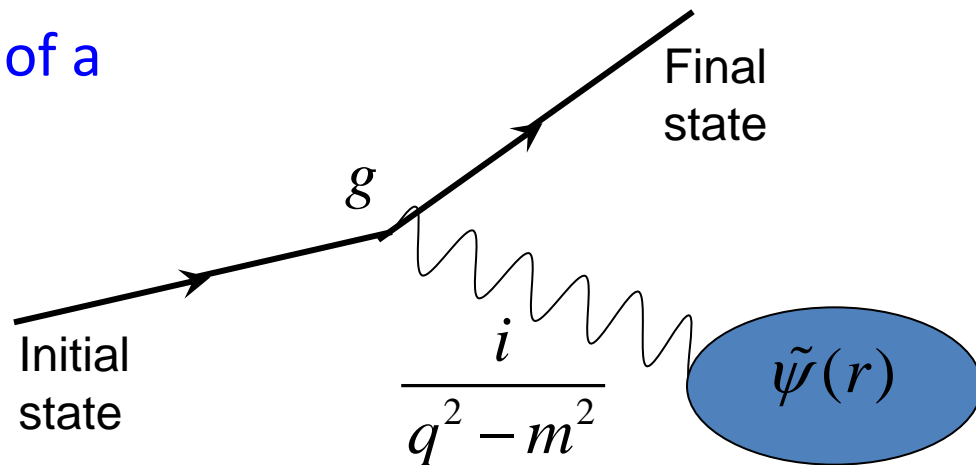
$$\tilde{\psi}(r) = \frac{g}{4\pi r} e^{-r/R}$$

- In Electromagnetism we have the standard Coulomb potential :

$$\tilde{\psi}(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi r}$$

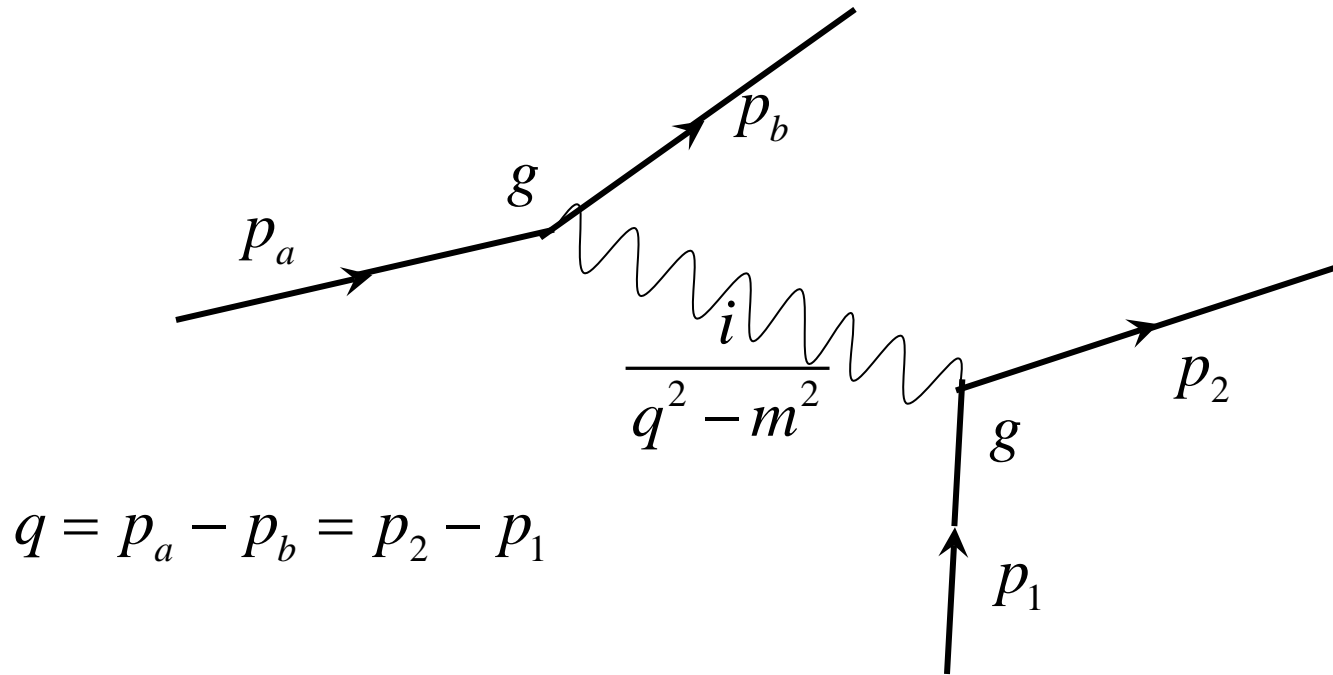
corresponding to a vanishing mass (for photon) or infinite range

- $Q$  and  $g$  play the role of a **coupling constant** for the interaction



# 3.1- Range and propagators

- Basic Feynman diagram :



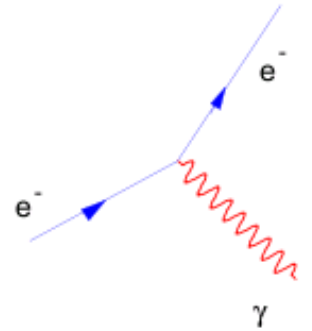
- The amplitude of the process writes:

$$g^2 A(p_a, p_b) \frac{1}{q^2 - m^2} A(p_1, p_2) \delta^4(p_a + p_1 - p_b - p_2)$$

## 3.2- Electroweak interactions

### ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERACTIONS

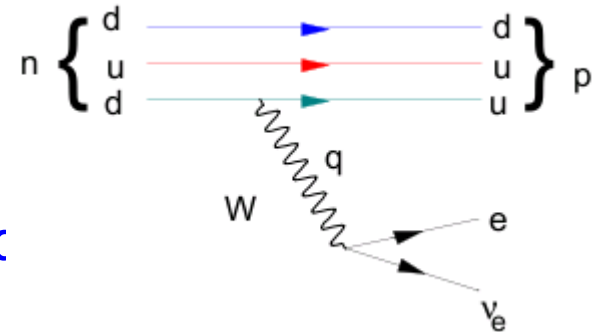
- Coupling constant :  $\alpha_{em} = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\hbar c} = \frac{1}{137}$
- Example : Rutherford cross-section  $\frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial q^2} \propto \frac{\alpha_{em}^2}{q^4}$
- Typical cross-section  $\sim 10^{-33} \text{ m}^2$
- Typical interaction times  $\sim 10^{-20} \text{ s}$
- Photon ( $\gamma$ ) exchange, infinite range



## 3.2- Electroweak interactions

### WEAK INTERACTIONS

- Coupling constant :  $\alpha_{Fermi} = \frac{G_F m_P^2}{4\pi} \approx 10^{-6}$
- Example : neutron  $\beta$ -decay
- Weak interactions do not conserve the c
- Typical cross-section  $\sim 10^{-44} \text{ m}^2$
- Typical interaction times  $\sim 10^{-10} \text{ s}$
- Weak bosons exchange, finite range



## 3.2. Electroweak interactions

### WEAK INTERACTIONS (cont'd)

- Typical range :  $M \sim 80 - 90 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow R \sim 10^{-18} \text{ m}$
- Due to the large mass of the exchanged bosons the weak interactions can often be considered point-like

$$g_W^2 \frac{1}{q^2 - M_W^2} \xrightarrow{q^2 \rightarrow 0} \frac{g_W^2}{M_W^2} \equiv G_F = 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

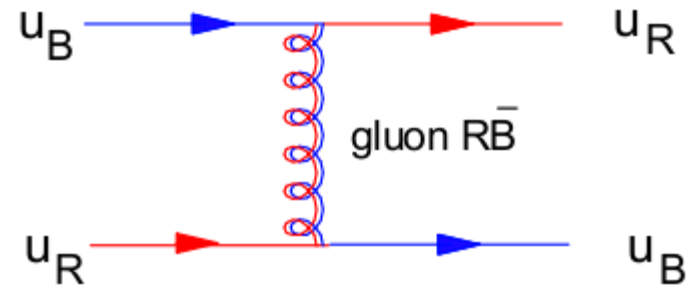
- Weinberg angle (electroweak theory) :

$$\alpha_W = \frac{g_W^2}{4\pi} = \frac{e^2}{4\pi \sin^2 \theta_W} = \frac{1}{29} \quad (\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.22)$$

## 3.3- Strong interactions

### Features

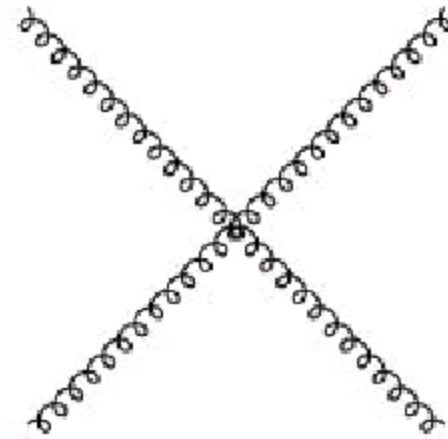
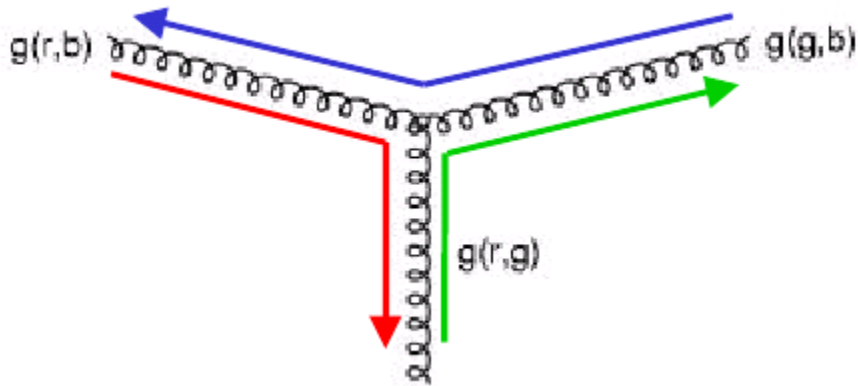
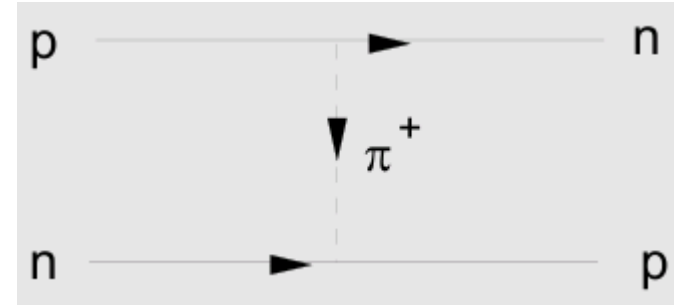
- Coupling constant :  $\alpha_s \sim 1$
- Carry a colored charge
- Typical cross-section  $\sim 10^{-30} \text{ m}^2$
- Typical interaction times  $\sim 10^{-23} \text{ s}$
- Gluons (g) exchange, effective finite range due to the confinement  $R \sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ . Asymptotic freedom.



# 3.3- Strong interactions

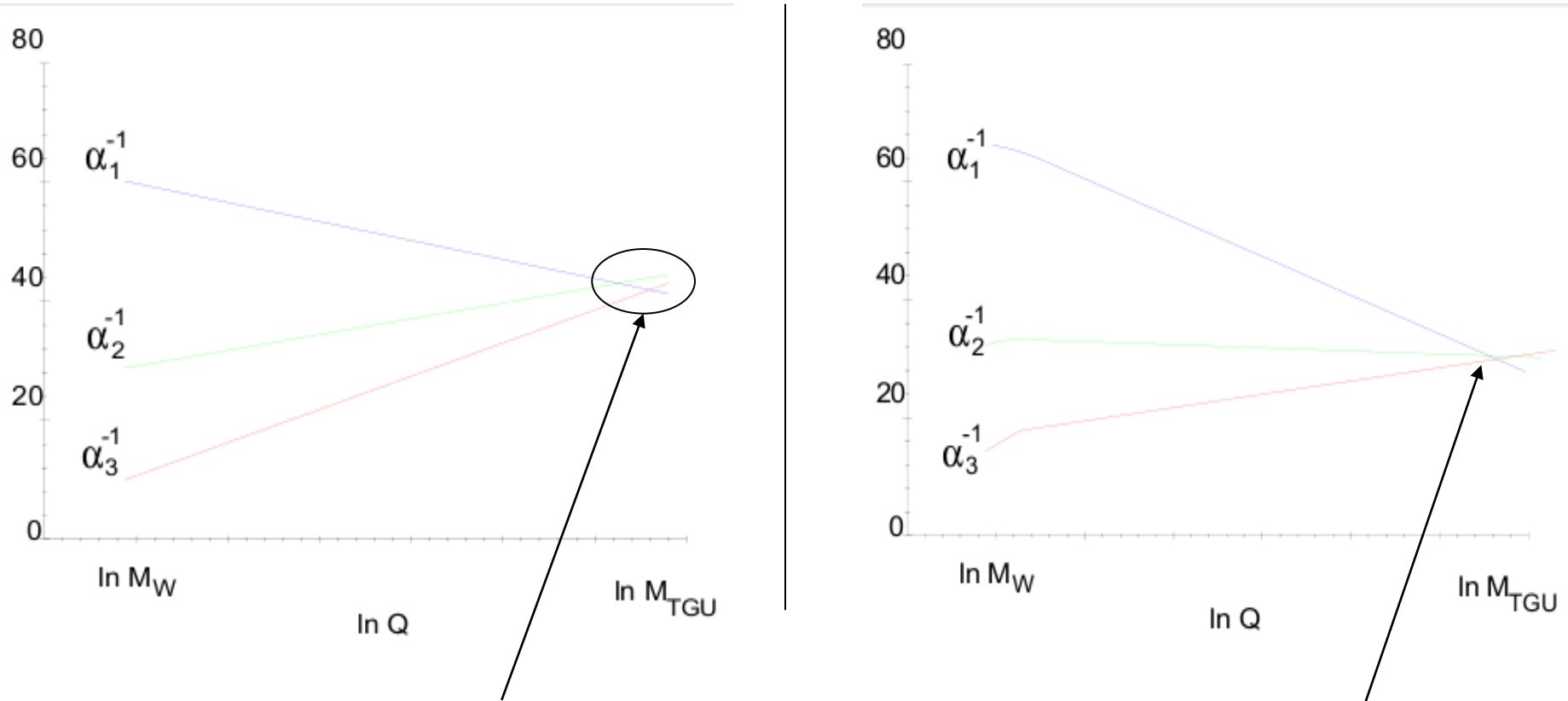
## Features (cont'd)

- Residual interaction (at the nuclei scale) :
- $\exists$  couplings between gluons :



# Towards unification ?

- Coupling constants vary with the energy



- At large scales all couplings become nearly equal.
- In some “beyond Standard Model” models (SUSY etc) this occurs!