

Fundamental symmetry violation in the neutron nuclei interaction

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核物理的宇称破坏 The violation of Parity in nuclear

Theoretical Framework



We could understand the vectors characteristics under Parity and Time transformation with their classical expression.

Parity Transformation:

$$\vec{k} = m \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$$
 $\vec{k} = m \frac{d(-\vec{r})}{dt}$ $\vec{k} \to -\vec{k}$ P-odd

$$\vec{L} = m\left(\vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}\right) \quad \vec{L} = m\left((-\vec{r}) \times \frac{d(-\vec{r})}{dt}\right) \begin{bmatrix} \vec{L} \to +\vec{L} \end{bmatrix}$$
 P-even



探索宇称破坏的实验

$\vec{p} + p \to p + p$

通过纵向极化的质子与非极化的质 子靶散射测量的实验有四组,结果 如下:

$$\begin{split} A_L(\bar{p}p; 13.6 \ MeV) &= (-0.93 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-7} \\ A_L(\bar{p}p; 15 \ MeV) &= (-1.7 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-7} \\ A_L(\bar{p}p; 45 \ MeV) &= (-1.57 \pm 0.23) \times 10^{-7} \\ A_L(\bar{p}p; 221 \ MeV) &= (+0.84 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-7} \end{split}$$

Parity violation in proton proton scattering at 13.6-MeV. Phys Lett B. (1991) 256:11–4. Parity violation in the scattering of 15 MeV protons by hydrogen. AIP Conf Proc. (1979) 51:224–30. Precision measurement of parity violation in proton proton scattering at 45-MeV.Phys Rev Lett. (1987) 58:1616. Parity violation in proton proton scattering at 221-MeV. Phys Rev C. (2003) 68:034004.

Coulomb barrier





A typical cross section of the neutron induced reaction





第二十届全国中高能核物理大会



Neutron induced cross section

Typical Values of Microscopic Cross-sections

•Uranium 235 is a fissile isotope and its fission cross-section for thermal neutrons is about 585 barns (for 0.0253 eV neutron). For fast neutrons its fission cross-section is on the order of barns.

•Xenon-135 is a product of U-235 fission and has a very large neutron capture cross-section (about 2.6 x 10⁶ barns). •Boron is commonly used as a neutron absorber due to the high neutron cross-section of isotope ¹⁰B. Its (n,alpha) reaction cross-section for thermal neutrons is about 3840 barns (for 0.025 eV neutron).

•Gadolinium is commonly used as a neutron absorber due to very high neutron absorbtion cross-section of two isotopes ¹⁵⁵Gd and ¹⁵⁷Gd. ¹⁵⁵Gd has 61 000 barns for thermal neutrons (for 0.025 eV neutron) and ¹⁵⁷Gd has even 254 000 barns.



https://www.nuclear-power.com/neutron-cross-section/





We have a little bit of freedom when it comes to how we write f, our forward scattering amplitude. What are some easy to control/understand experimental observables when it comes to scattering neutrons off of (polarized) nuclei?



极化束流或极化的靶是在真实物理实验中构建赝标物理量的最好方式。





Polarize ³He By SEOP Method



Spin Filter

Including system:

Air heating Rb/K/³He filled filter High power pumping laser Magnetic field

••••

Advantages:

High Pressure ³He Beamline Accessible Spin Reversible Pre-pumping Polarization Stable





$\vec{n} + p \rightarrow d + \gamma$

NPD实验使用极化中子轰击质子, 寻找被质子俘获后γ出射角度与中子 极化方向不对称性关系。最终结果:

 $\alpha_{\gamma} = (-3.0 \pm 1.4 \pm 0.2) \cdot 10^{-8}$

Blyth D, Fry J, Fomin N, Alarcon R, Alonzi L, Askanazi E, et al. First observation of P-odd γ asymmetry in polarized neutron capture on hydrogen. Phys Rev Lett. (2018) 121:242002.

NPDGamma experiment



探索宇称破坏的实验

实验使用极化中子轰击³He,寻找出 \vec{n} + ³He → p + 3H 射质子与入射中子夹角不对称性关 系。最终结果:

$\alpha_z = (-1.55 \pm 0.97 \pm 0.24) \cdot 10^{-8}$

The n3He experiment: parity violation in polarized neutron capture on 3He. arXiv preprint arXiv:2004.10889 (2020). The Parity violating asymmetry in the 3He(n,p)3H reaction. Phys Rev C. (2010) 82:044001 First precision measurement of the parity violating asymmetry in cold neutron capture on 3He. arXiv preprint arXiv:2004.11535 (2020).



宇称破缺的放大 Parity Violation Amplification



Effects of weak interactions: parity nonconservation and time-invariance violation, can be enhanced up to 10⁶ times in compound nuclei. This factor is produced by (i) "simple" kinematical enhancement (ratio of the s-wave to the p-wave neutron capture amplitudes), and (ii) very large density of compound resonances (dynamical enhancement). The latter phenomenon should be generic to many complex many-body systems (rare-earth atoms, atomic clusters, quantum dots in solids, etc.), and is strongly related to the problem of quantum chaos. This review is devoted to the theoretical aspects of the problem. Statistical theory is used to calculate the r.m.s. value and the distribution of matrix elements of the weak perturbations between compound states. The behaviour of effects upon averaging over many compound resonances is studied. It is shown that the effects, though of random sign, are not suppressed by such averaging. Valence mechanism, rotational doublet states, doorway states are considered as possible sources of regular contributions to the effect. The renormalization of weak interaction by the strong interaction and its relation to the problem of π -mesons in nuclear matter is discussed.

Flambaum, V. V., & Gribakin, G. F. (1995). Enhancement of Parity and Time-Invariance Violating Effects in Compound Nuclei. *Physics Letters B*, 354(4), 423-503. 2025/4/26 第二十届全国中高能核物理大会

Brief history of the experiments(1)





FIG. 1. Schematic view of experimental apparatus. The neutron beam polarization is along \hat{Z} and momentum along \hat{X} .

in 1980 after the ILL measurements [64] on tin with polarized cold neutrons. In ¹¹⁷Sn PNC effects were observed: the spin rotation angle Φ =(3.7±0.3)×10⁻⁵rad/cm and the cross section longitudinal asymmetry **A**=(9.8±4.0)×10⁻⁶.

Phys. Rev. Lett., 45 (1980), p. 2088 Nucl. Phys. A, 398 (1983), p. 93 Phys. Lett., 12 (1964), p. 334



Fig. 1. Experimental arrangement: 1 - reactor, 2 - evacuated neutron guide tube, 3 - monitors, 4 - collimators, 5 - polarized proton target, 6 - electromagnets of the guide field, 7 - current sheet, 8 - solenoid, 9 - sample, 10 - neutron detector. Arrows along the neutron beam path show the direction of magnetic field.

Experiments at Dubna were performed using the IBR-30 pulsed reactor as a neutron source for timeof-flight measurements. The proton-filter transmission technique for polarizing resonance neutrons was first developed at the Joint Institute of Nuclear Research (JINR) by another team.

Brief history of the experiments(2)





s,p-wave mixing enhances P-odd effects



Weak NN interaction amplitude: $Gm_\pi^2 \sim 10^{-7}$

Observed $\sim 10^6$ enhancement of P-odd effects!





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另一个故事

$$W(\theta) = 1 + \alpha \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p} = 1 + \alpha \cos \theta$$

The asymmetry coefficient for the group of light fission fragments is

 $\alpha = (3.29 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-4}$

- 1. JETP Lett. 1979, 30, 470. 99.
- 2. JETP Lett. 1979, 30, 527. 100.
- 3. JETP Lett. 1980, 32, 41. 101.
- 4. Sov. Phys. Usp. 1980, 23, 3231.
- 5. Z. Physik A Hadrons and Nuclei 351, 281–288 (1995).





三分裂变





$$\frac{\alpha_{nf}^{ter}}{\alpha_{nf}^{bin}} = 1.12 \pm 0.08 \text{ in } {}^{239}Pu(n,f)$$

 $\alpha_{nf}^{exp} = \frac{(\vec{N} - \vec{N})}{\vec{N}} \approx 10^{-4}$

$$\frac{\alpha_{nf}^{ter}}{\alpha_{nf}^{bin}} = 1.05 \pm 0.1 \text{ in } {}^{233}U(n,f)$$

1. 宇称不守恒相关性:实验测得的三元裂变与二元裂变的宇称不守恒不对称性系数比值接近1, 表明两者在宇称不守恒方面没有显著差异。

2.三元裂变的发射时机:根据实验结果和理论模型,三元裂变中的轻粒子(如α粒子)在裂变 过程的最后阶段才被发射,即在通过双峰裂变势垒的外鞍点之后。

3.裂变路径的一致性:实验结果表明,无论是二元还是三元裂变,裂变核在变形空间中的路径 在通过第二鞍点之前是一致的。

4.理论模型的支持:实验结果与现有理论模型一致,支持了三元裂变是一个两步过程的观点,即在接近分裂点时,二元裂变后序贯发射第三个轻粒子。

Z Physik A 321, 271–274 (1985).

Nuclear Physics A Volume 567, Issue 2, 17 January 1994, Pages 303-316

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时间反演破缺 Time reversal violation



New Limit on Time-Reversal Violation in Beta Decay

极化中子衰变概率dW可以表示为



 $D = [-0.96 \pm 1.89(stat) \pm 1.01(sys)] \times 10^{-4}$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 102301

杜布纳团队的三体裂变测量尝试



实验观察到的 B 的期望值 为 -(2.35 ± 0.05) × 10⁻³, 这个值远大于预期

quite unlikely. Compared to the sizes of the wellestablished PNC effects in fission and the dynamical enhancements factors of 10^3 encountered there, for a violation of time reversal invariance to become visible at the level observed in the present experiment further enhancement factors in excess of 10^3 would be required. Such huge enhancement factors are not anticipated by theory [8].

$B = \hat{\sigma} \cdot [\widehat{p_{LF}} \times \widehat{p_{TP}}]$

have first of all to be extended to other nuclei with spins and polarizations after neutron capture differing from those of the 233 U(n,f) reaction at thermal energies analyzed here. Also the dependence of the effect on neutron energy should be of interest. Finally, in view of the surprisingly strong dependence of the triple correlation on the energy of the ternary particles it has to be asked whether this is true for all types of particles and/or whether the effect is possibly linked to only a few specific ternary particles.



AIP Conf. Proc. 447, 395–404 (1998) AIP Conf. Proc. 529, 577–585 (2000)

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 440 (2000) 618-625 2025/4/26 第二十届全国中高能核物理大会



中子与原子核相互作用





中国散裂中子源 China Spallation Neutron Source



Spallation Neutron Source Centers Around the World

ISIS



SNS

SNS

The location of the China Spallation Neutron Source



南方先进光源(预研) SAPS

中国散裂中子源 CSNS





THE REAL

Back-n





Shutter	Coll#1	Coll#2	ES#1 spot	ES#1 flux	ES#2 spot	ES#2 flux
(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	$(n/cm^2/s)$	(mm)	$(n/cm^2/s)$
Ф3	Φ15	Φ40	Ф15	1.27E5	Ф20	4.58E4
Ф12	Ф15	Ф40	Ф20	2.20E6	Ф30	7.81E5
Φ50	Φ50	Φ58	Φ50	4.33E7	Ф60	1.36E7
78×62	76×76	90×90	75×50	5.98E7	90×90	2.18E7

The back-streaming neutrons are leading to the Back-n tunnel, which has a long flight distance for the neutron time-of-flight method. Two end stations ES#1 and ES#2 are constructed for different nuclear data measurements. The ES#1 has a distance of about 55 m, and ES#2 is about 70 m from the target. Different sets of beam spots, collimator apertures and neutron fluxes at Back-n at 100 kW in proton beam power can be found in table.

1. 2017 JINST 12 P07022

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2. Eur. Phys. J. A (2019) 55: 115

Back-n neutron energy spectrum measurement



Energy range	flux (neutrons/cm ² /s)
0.1-1 eV	4.08×10^{3}
1-10 eV	1.79×10^{4}
10-100 eV	3.01×10^{4}
0.1-1 keV	5.01×10^{4}
1-10 keV	1.23×10^{5}
10-100 keV	4.30×10^{5}
0.1-1 MeV	2.98×10^{6}
1-10 MeV	2.77×10^{6}
10-200 MeV	6.21×10^{5}
Total	7.03×10^{6}

We used different reference cross-sections to measure the energy spectrum, including: (n, p), 6 Li(n, t), 235 U(n, f), 238 U(n, f)



Back-n的两大探测器系统(MTPC团队和原子能院)



多用途时间投影室

BaF₂探测器阵列

MTPC团队由高能所、原子能院、中科大、北大、中山大学、深圳大学等单位组成

PV & CPV





Made with ≽ Napkin

NOPTREX Collaboration List October 2022



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中国组成员:高能所、原子能院、理化所、山东 大学、大湾区大学

NÓPTREX

Neutron Optical Parity and Time-Reversal EXperiment



$$\boldsymbol{f} = \boldsymbol{f}_0 + \boldsymbol{f}_1 \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_n \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{I}} \, \right) + \boldsymbol{f}_2 \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_n \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{k}}_n \, \right) + \boldsymbol{f}_3 \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_n \cdot \left[\, \vec{\boldsymbol{k}}_n \times \vec{\boldsymbol{I}} \, \right] \, \right) + \boldsymbol{f}_4 \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_n \cdot \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{I}} \times \vec{\boldsymbol{k}}_n \, \right) \left(\, \vec{\boldsymbol{I}} \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{k}}_n \, \right) \right)$$

 f_0 =P-even, T-even Spin Independent f_1 =P-even, T-even Spin Independent (pseudomagnetic) f_2 =P-odd, T-even P-violation f_3 =P-odd, T-odd TP-violation f_4 =P-even, T-odd T-violation

 $\vec{k}_n: \text{ neutron momentum} \\ \vec{\sigma}_n: \text{ neutron spin} \\ \vec{I}: \text{ spin of the target} \\ I \\ \vec{n} \\ \vec{k} \\ \vec{k}$

Basic idea of NOPTREX





$f_{3}\left(\vec{\sigma}_{n} \cdot \left[\vec{k}_{n} \times \vec{I}\right]\right)$ P-odd, T-odd forward scattering term

By isometry, the product of two reflections is equivalent to a rotation. A rotation about \hat{z} is equivalent to reflections about \hat{x}, \hat{y} .

- \rightarrow The rotation inverts \vec{k}_n .
- ightarrow Reversing the $ec{B}$ field

polarizing the target reverses \vec{I} .

- ightarrow Flip the neutron spin to reverse $ec{\sigma}_n.$
- Take a look at the direction of our observables—all reversed!

NOPTREX



³He spin-exchange optical pumping



dynamic nuclear polarization



Side view of the detector design

Back-n polarized 3He transmission experiment





实验结果





First use of a polarized 3He neutron spin filter on the Back-n White Neutron Source of CSNS, NIMA, 1072, 2025, 170184





³He gas thickness > 3 atm. × 15 cm (up to 3 atm. × 20 cm) cell fiducial cross section \ge 5 cm × 5 cm



Courtesy of: Takuya(Nagoya Uni)

2025/4/26



Parity Violation in p-wave resonances of unmeasured nuclei



Beamtime: 240h

Time: Dec 31st, 2024 – Jan 11th, 2025

2025年1月的第一次尝试

















中子屏蔽的诸多问题

- 1. In-situ 3He neutron polarizer:
 - 1. 4 face B 3mm shielding
 - 2. 1 face Pb 1mm shielding
- 2. Copper solenoid in place
- 3. Sample in air
- 4. 6Li detector in place
- 5. 15mins data



极化中子装置设计









PV resonances found by TRIPLE

♯ PV resonances vs Mass



PV resonances occur If S1/S0 is between 1/3 and 10. The best TRIPLE resonances Have S1/S0 ~ 1

What about 140<A<210?

No data!

NOPTREX合作组下一步计划

Courtesy of: W. M. Snow(Indiana Uni)

2025/4/26

JPARC P Violation Scientific Work 2021-2025

(1) Search for P-odd asymmetries in unmeasured nuclei, for:

- (a) New nuclei for P-odd/T-odd NOPTREX time reversal experiment
- (b) Test of statistical theory of parity violation in heavy nuclei

(2) Search for new p-wave resonances in unmeasured nuclei





First NOPTREX experiment with China, Japan, US groups!





JINR-FLNP团队





Courtesy of: Gadir(JINR FLNP)









Incident neutron data / ENDF/B-VII.1 / U235 / MT=18 : (z,fission) / Cross section



2025/4/26

50

为什么是1.14eV?



选择在1.14 eV处测量PV效应,主要是因为这个能量点是²³⁵U核的一个纯共振态,主要由J = 4的自旋态 贡献。这使得实验结果更加清晰,能够直接反映单一自旋态对宇称破缺效应的贡献,从而验证理论模型 并深入理解裂变机制。此外,这个能量点的实验条件相对成熟,适合在现有的极化中子源上进行研究



When a ²³⁵U nucleus in its ground state (spin I = 7/2) captures an s wave neutron (with an orbital angular momentum of 0), a compound ²³⁶U nucleus is formed in states with spins J+ = 1 + 1/2 = 4 and J = 1 - 1/2 = 3.

Spin-separated Fission cross sections for ²³⁶U* depending on the energy of the incident neutron. Red line corresponds to J = 3 spin, blue line to J = 4 spin, black line to the sum of both, respectively. Calculated by SAMMY

Courtesy of: Daniyar(JINR FLNP)



 $B = \hat{\sigma} \cdot [\widehat{p_{LF}} \times \widehat{p_{TP}}]$



Time Project Chamber



Neutron Spin Filter





中子与原子核相互作用







ISINN31

- The ISINN conference is the International Seminar on Neutron and Nuclear Reactions organized by the FLNP of JINR and is held annually.
- In 2025, it will be hosted by CSNS from May 26 to 31.
- This conference is highly relevant to the NOPTREX experiment's theme, and I warmly welcome everyone to attend in Dongguan.

https://indico.ihep.ac.cn/event/23550/



感谢各位老师聆听!

SNS

中国散裂中子源 China Spallation Neutron Source

苔花如米小, 也学牡丹开