

³ For details, and earlier references, see for instance L. Michel, thesis, Memorial des Poudres, 35, annexe p. 77 (1953).

⁴ Calculations related to possible observation of the polarization of the electron in μ -meson decay and nuclear β radioactivity, and the direct measurement of the polarization of the μ meson are in progress.

⁵ Electromagnetic radiative corrections to this decay are not very small. In a recent paper on this subject, Behrends, Finkelstein, and Sirlin [Phys. Rev. 101, 866 (1956)] have shown that Eq. (1) is still valid but that the parameters are slowly varying functions of the energy.

⁶ For the sake of completeness we give here the explicit dependence of the parameters on the g_i and g_i' . For ease of calculation, we have taken the order $\epsilon\mu\nu\nu$ in the interaction Hamiltonian. When the two emitted neutrinos are distinguishable, we define $a_i^2 = g_i g_i + g_i' g_i'$, $a_{ij} = g_i g_j' + g_i' g_j$, $c_i^2 = a_1^2 + a_2^2$, $c_2^2 = a_2^2 + a_3^2$, $c_3^2 = a_3^2 + a_1^2$, $b_1 c_1^2 = a_{15} + a_{51}$, $b_2 c_2^2 = a_{24} + a_{42}$, and $b_3 c_3^2 = a_{33}$; we see that, for $k=1, 2$, and 3 , $c_k^2 \geq 0$, $-1 \leq b_k \leq 1$. Then $Q = c_1^2 + 4c_2^2 + 6c_3^2$, $\rho Q = 3(c_2^2 + 2c_3^2)$, $\eta Q = a_1^2 - 2a_2^2 + 2a_3^2 - a_5^2$, $\alpha Q = b_1 c_1^2 - 2b_2 c_2^2$, and $\beta Q = b_2 c_2^2 - 2b_3 c_3^2$. When the two emitted neutrinos are identical, one has moreover $g_3 = g_3' = g_4' = 0$; it follows that $c_3^2 = b_3 = 0$.

⁷ See for instance V. Bargmann and E. P. Wigner, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U. S. 34, 211 (1948).

⁸ L. Michel and A. S. Wightman, Phys. Rev. 98, 1190 (1955).

⁹ A. Salam, Nuovo cimento 5, 299 (1957); T. D. Lee and C. N. Yang, Phys. Rev. 105, 1671 (1957); L. D. Landau, Nuclear Phys. (to be published). We thank the authors for preprints of their work.

Proton Polarization in (d, p) Reactions

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THE proton polarization in (d, p) reactions was calculated by Cheston¹ under the assumption that the final-state proton scatters in a spin-orbit potential. The transition operator T for the (d, p) reaction was taken to be the neutron-proton central interaction potential $V_{np}(|\mathbf{r}_n - \mathbf{r}_p|)$ in the zero-range approximation.

Recently Hillman² compared his data for the $C^{12}(d, p)C^{13}$ reaction with Cheston's numerical results for that reaction. However, it appears that Cheston's paper is in error.

Cheston neglects the proton spin-flip terms. To establish his Eq. (5) he says that with the quantization axis chosen along the vector $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{k}$ a proton "produced in a definite state of spin orientation (μ_p) in the original stripping act will maintain this orientation after scattering in the spin-orbit potential." However, if initially the deuteron spin projection $\mu_d = 0$, there is no definite orientation of the proton spin along the axis of quantization.

First, his Eq. (5) should read

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi(J, L, M_J) \psi(l, m) \chi(\frac{1}{2}, \mu_n) | T | \phi(L_d, M_d) \\ & \times \chi(\frac{1}{2}, \mu_n') \chi(\frac{1}{2}, \mu_p') \rangle \\ & = \sum_{\mu_p''} C_{L, \frac{1}{2}}(J, M_J; M_J - \mu_p'', \mu_p'') \\ & \quad \times \langle \psi(J, L, M_J - \mu_p'') \chi(\frac{1}{2}, \mu_p'') \psi(l, m) \\ & \quad \times | T | \phi(L_d, M_d) \chi(\frac{1}{2}, \mu_p') \rangle \times \delta(\mu_n, \mu_n'). \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, Cheston's Eq. (6) should read

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathfrak{M}(\mu_d \rightarrow \mu_f, \mu_p) \\ & = \sum_{L_d, L, J, M_d, M_L} \sum_{\mu_p''} a(L, M_L) b^*(L_d, M_d) \\ & \quad \times C_{L, \frac{1}{2}}(J, M_L + \mu_p; M_L, \mu_p) \\ & \quad \times C_{L, \frac{1}{2}}(J, M_L + \mu_p; M_L + \mu_p - \mu_p'', \mu_p'') \\ & \quad \times C_{L, \frac{1}{2}}(j_f, \mu_f; \mu_f - \mu_d + \mu_p'', \mu_d - \mu_p'') \\ & \quad \times C_{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}}(1, \mu_d; \mu_d - \mu_p'', \mu_p'') \langle \psi(J, L, M_L + \mu_p - \mu_p'') \\ & \quad \times \psi(l, \mu_f - \mu_d + \mu_p'') | T | \phi(L_d, M_d) \rangle. \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

With Cheston's transition operator T , the selection rule $M_d = M_L + \mu_p + \mu_f - \mu_d$, being independent of μ_p'' , cannot reduce the sum over μ_p'' to only the term $\mu_p'' = \mu_p$ provided $\mu_d = 0$. Thus whatever the a 's and b 's, i.e., independently of the system of reference, both μ_p'' contribute provided $l > 0$. The only cases in which only $\mu_p'' = \mu_p$ contributes are (1) no spin-orbit coupling in the final-state proton potential, and (2) $l = 0$. Unfortunately, Cheston's numerical example involves $l = 1$.³

Further, Cheston writes for the distortion parameters $\beta(L, J) = \frac{1}{2} \eta(L, J)$. If, however, $\eta(L, J)$ are the usual average reflection coefficients, it should read $\beta(L, J) = \frac{1}{2} [1 - \eta(L, J)]$.

Finally, it should be noted, in connection with Cheston's paper, that in the first Letter by the author on the (n, p) polarization problem,⁴ Eqs. (4) and (6) held only for $l_f = 0$.

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¹ W. B. Cheston, Phys. Rev. 96, 1590 (1954).

² P. Hillman, Phys. Rev. 104, 176 (1956).

³ Nevertheless it is probable that the spin-flip contribution is rather small.

⁴ J. Sawicki, Nuovo cimento 2, 1322 (1955).

Singular State in Relativistic Cosmology

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AS is well known, the isotropic cosmological solutions of general relativity start from a singular state in the finite past. In a recent paper Komar¹ has investigated the question as to whether this singularity persists under more general circumstances and has found that such a singularity does occur unless one