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SU₆ AND NON LEPTONIC HYPERON DECAYS

G. ALTARELLI and F. BUCCELLA

Istituto di Fisica dell'Università, Florence

and

R. GATTO

*Istituto di Fisica dell'Università, Florence,
Laboratori Nazionali del CNEN, Frascati, Rome*

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In the present paper that, from the assumption that the s-wave hyperon decay amplitudes transform according to the regular representation of SU₆, one obtains, in addition to the relation following from $\Delta T = \frac{1}{2}$, two more relations among the observed amplitudes. One of the two relations has already been derived by Gell-Mann as a consequence of the hypothesis under SU₃ together with CP-invariance [1]. When we use CP-invariance in our assumption on the SU₆ behaviour of the amplitudes we obtain a further independent relation. The hyperon decay amplitudes are then

all expressed in terms of a single parameter. A comparison with the data shows a satisfactory agreement.

As well-known, the $\Delta T = \frac{1}{2}$ rule is followed in the following three relations among the amplitudes of the non leptonic hyperon decay amplitudes Λ^0 , Σ^+ , Σ^- , Σ^0 , Ξ^- , and Ξ^0 (which decay into $p + \pi^-$, etc.):

$$\Lambda^0 = -\sqrt{2} \Lambda^0$$

$$\sqrt{2} \Sigma^0 = -\Sigma^- + \Sigma^+$$

Table 1
Particular choices of the hyperon decay amplitudes among the possible fits to the data [2].

	Λ_-^0	Ξ_-^-	Σ_0^+ (i)	Σ_0^+ (ii)	Σ_+^+	Σ_-^-
$S \times 10^{-5} \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1} \pi$	0.31 ± 0.01	0.41 ± 0.02	-0.17 ± 0.02	-0.36 ± 0.035	-0.012 ± 0.03	0.39 ± 0.015
$P \times 10^{-5} \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1} \pi$	2.0 ± 0.25	-1.4 ± 0.12	3.6 ± 0.35	1.7 ± 0.2	4.09 ± 0.14	-0.39 ± 0.60

$$\Xi_-^- = \sqrt{2} \Xi_0^0 \quad (3)$$

The further assumption of octet behaviour of the non leptonic decay amplitudes does not produce additional relations. When however, the octet hypothesis is used in conjunction with CP -invariance the following new relation

$$2S(\Xi_-^-) - S(\Lambda_-^0) = -\sqrt{3} S(\Sigma_0^+) \quad (4)$$

is obtained for the s -wave decay amplitudes in the strict unitary limit. We make the more stringent assumption that the non leptonic s -wave amplitude transforms as a term of the regular representation of SU_6 (with behaviour (8, 1) under $SU_3 \otimes SU_2$). From such assumption we obtain:

- the Gell-Mann relation, eq. 4, without recourse to CP -invariance;
- the new relation

$$S(\Sigma_0^+) - \sqrt{2} S(\Sigma_+^+) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} S(\Lambda_-^0) \quad (5)$$

- also without invoking CP -invariance;
- the relation

$$S(\Sigma_+^+) = 0 \quad (6)$$

when CP -invariance is used.

To compare with the data we assume that CP -invariance is valid, at least approximately, in these decays and we write the hyperon decay matrix in the form

$$\bar{u}_f (S - P\gamma_5) u_i \varphi \quad (7)$$

where S and P are the s -wave (parity violating) and p -wave (parity conserving) amplitudes respectively, u_f and u_i are the initial and final spinors, and φ is the pion wave. Additional derivative terms can be reduced to the form (7), except that S and P would then depend on the baryon mass differences: we assume such possible dependence to be negligible. For each decay different (S, P) sets are determined from the measured lifetime and asymmetry parameter [2]. The choices reported in table 1 provide fair fits to our predictions. The three equations (4), (5) and (6) are equivalent to

$$S(\Xi_-^-) = S(\Lambda_-^0) \quad (8)$$

$$S(\Sigma_0^+) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} S(\Lambda_-^0) \quad (9)$$

$$S(\Sigma_+^+) = 0 \quad (10)$$

These equations, together with the $\Delta T = \frac{1}{2}$ predictions, eq. (1), (2) and (3), provide a complete determination of all the seven s -wave hyperon decay amplitudes in terms of $S(\Lambda_-^0)$. With the amplitudes of table 1, eq. (10) becomes $(-0.012 \pm 0.03) = 0$, eq. (9) becomes $(-0.18 \pm 0.1) = (-0.17 \pm 0.02)$ for the solution (i), and eq. (8) gives (0.31 ± 0.01) for $S(\Xi_-^-)$ instead of (0.41 ± 0.02) . We have also reported in table 1 the solution (ii) for Σ_0^+ which is usually preferred to (i) on the ground that it fits better the Gell-Mann relation, eq. (4).

Our results are derived for the assignment [3] of the stable baryons to the 56 and of the pseudoscalar mesons to the 35 . Multiplying $56 \otimes 56 = 1 + 35 + 405 + 2695$ by 35 one obtains the regular representation four times: once from $1 \otimes 35$, twice from $35 \otimes 35$, and once in $405 \otimes 35$. However, only the tensor from $405 \otimes 35$ and one of the two tensors from $35 \otimes 35$ contribute to the observed amplitudes. All the amplitudes can be expressed in terms of two constants. Their elimination gives rise to the relations (4) and (5) in addition to the $\Delta T = \frac{1}{2}$ relations (1), (2) and (3). The further assumption of CP -invariance excludes the tensor obtained from the product $405 \otimes 35$. One then obtains eq. (6) as an additional relation.

One can try the assumption that the p -waves transform according to the regular representation of SU_6 (with behaviour (8, 3) under $SU_3 \otimes SU_2$). The P -amplitudes can then be expressed all in terms of two independent parameters. We find relations that are inconsistent with the data of table 1. The addition of terms transforming like the representation 189 does not improve the situation: it only amounts to redefining the contribution from one of the tensors of the 35 (precisely the contributing tensor from $35 \otimes 35$).