

Discrete08

# CPT and Lorentz violation as signatures for Planck-scale physics



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# Prologue: Connection between Lorentz and CPT symmetry

Local, point-particle quantum field theories:

**CPT theorem** (Pauli, Lüders, Bell, '54):  
*"Lorentz symmetry implies CPT invariance"*

**Lorentz transf.** {  
- rotations  
- boosts

**CPT transf.** {  
- charge conjugation C  
- parity inversion P  
- time reversal T

**Anti-CPT theorem** (Greenberg, PRL '02):  
*"CPT violation implies Lorentz breaking"*

- **CPT tests are also Lorentz tests**
- will discuss **CPT** and **Lorentz violation together**

can further relax assumptions (e.g., drop unitarity, see talk by N. Mavromatos)

## Outline:

A. Motivation

B. SME test framework

C. Phenomenology and tests

# A. Motivations for spacetime-symmetry tests

(i) philosophical necessity

spacetime symmetries are cornerstone of:

- present-day physics
- many candidate fundamental theories



→ spacetime symmetries must be tested

## (ii) possibility of testing Planck-scale physics

Nongravitational physics is well described by Standard Model (SM),

- but:**
- phenomenological (many parameters)
  - several distinct interactions
  - excludes gravity

**Solution:** look for more fundamental theory

**Candidates:** string (M) theory, loop gravity, supergravity, ...

**Problem:** Planck-scale measurements  
(attainable energies  $\ll$  Planck scale)

**common approach:** scan predictions of a given theory for sub-Planck effects accessible with near-future technology, e.g.,

- novel particles (SuSy)
- large extra dimensions & microscopic black holes
- gravitational-wave background ...

**Alternative approach:** What *can* be measured with Planck precision? *Is* there a corresponding quantum-gravity effect?

**Symmetries:**

- allow exact theoretical prediction
- are typically amenable to ultrahigh-precision (null) tests

**Tests of spacetime symmetries  
could probe Planck-scale physics**

**Quantum gravity:** likely to affect spacetime structure

- More than 4 dimensions?
- Non-commuting coordinates?
- Discreteness?
- “Foamy” structure? ...

## Sample mechanisms for Lorentz violation:

**String field theory** (Kostelecký *et al* '89; '90; '91; '95; '00)  
nontrivial vacuum through **spontaneous Lorentz breakdown**

**Spacetime foam** (Ellis *et al* '98)  
nontrivial vacuum through **virtual black holes**

**Nontrivial spacetime topology** (Klinkhamer '00)  
nontrivial vacuum through **compact conventional dim.**

**Loop quantum gravity** (Alfaro *et al* '00)  
nontrivial vacuum through choice of **spin-network state**

**Noncommutative geometry** (Carroll *et al* '01)  
nontrivial vacuum through fixed  $\theta^{\mu\nu} \sim [x^\mu, x^\nu]$

▪  
▪  
▪

## B. The SME test framework

### (1) new transformations

- vacuum remains "empty"
- no Minkowski structure
- deformed lightcone



- relativ. simple, kinematical, and phenomenological

E.g.: Robertson's framework, its Mansouri-Sexl extension, DSR, ...

### (2) "background" fields

- ext. "fields" in vacuum
- conv. Minkowski structure
- conv. lightcone



- microscopic, dynamical, can be motivated (Sec. A)

**SME**; contains some of the kinematical approaches; **will focus on this description**



## Construction of the SME

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SME}} = \underbrace{\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}}}_{\text{present physics}}$$

- $k^\mu, s^{\mu\nu}, \dots$  coefficients for Lorentz violation
- minimal SME  $\rightarrow$  fermion 44, photon 23, ...
- amenable to ultrahigh-precision tests (Sec C)
- generated by underlying physics (Sec A)



### Remark:

in gravitational context, various novel effects are possible (see R. Potting's talk)

## C. Phenomenology and tests

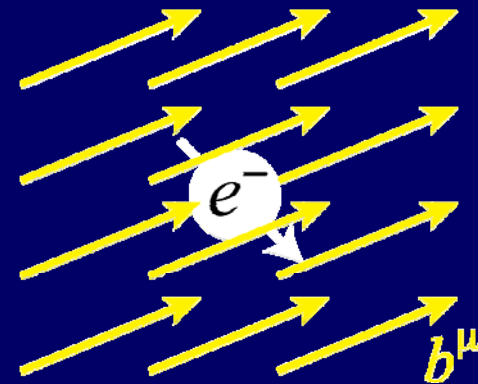
What needs to be measured?

Example:

- direction in vacuum
- assumed to be caused by underlying physics
- on observational grounds: extremely small
- want to bound it or measure its size and direction

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermion}} \supset \overline{\psi} \underset{\uparrow}{b^\mu} \gamma_5 \underset{\uparrow}{\gamma_\mu} \underset{\uparrow}{\psi}$$

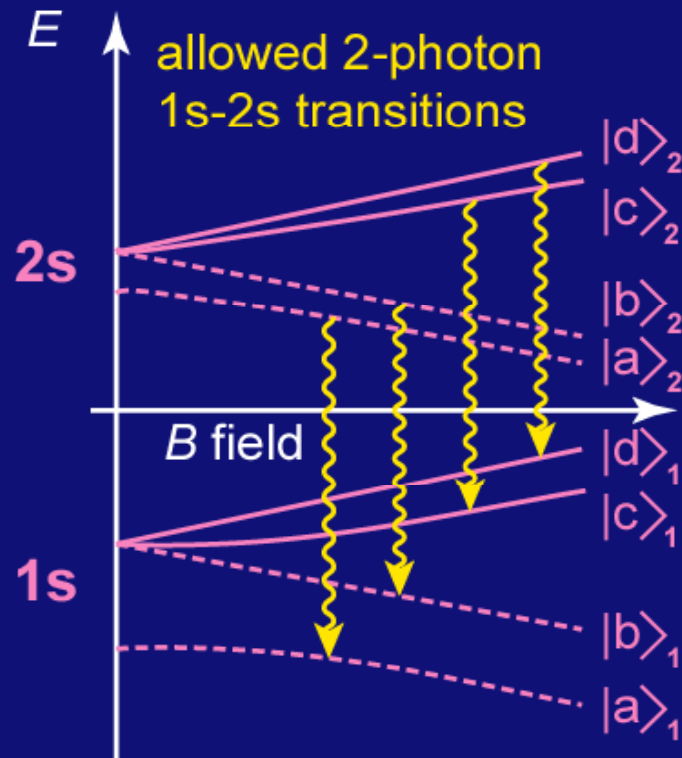
wave function of a fermion  
(e.g., electron) and usual Dirac  
gamma matrices (details of coupling)



# Experimental tests of CPT symmetry

## (i) Antihydrogen spectroscopy

### The 1s-2s transition



only the c, d states are trapped

$$|d\rangle_n = \left| \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle \quad \text{Note: no spin mixing}$$

$$|c\rangle_n = \sin \theta_n \left| -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle + \cos \theta_n \left| \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$\text{with } \tan 2\theta_n \approx \frac{51 \text{ mT}}{n^3 B}$$

**Note:**  $\theta_n$ , and thus spin mixing, depends on level  $n$  and field  $B$

How are  $d \rightarrow d$  and  $c \rightarrow c$  transitions affected by Lorentz/CPT violation?

## The $d_2 \rightarrow d_1$ transition with Lorentz/CPT violation

Leading-order energy shifts (Bluhm, Kostelecký, Russell, PRL '99)

Hydrogen (electron and proton angular momenta  $J$  and  $I$ ):

$$\Delta E_{LV} = \underset{\uparrow}{\Delta E_{e+p}} + \underset{\uparrow}{\Delta E_e} \frac{m_J}{|m_J|} + \underset{\uparrow}{\Delta E_p} \frac{m_I}{|m_I|}$$

level-independent combinations  
of Lorentz-/CPT-violating SME coefficients

**Note:** both  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  have  $m_J = 1/2$  and  $m_I = 1/2$   
→ shift is level independent

**Result:** no leading-order Lorentz/CPT violation in  $d_2 \rightarrow d_1$  transition

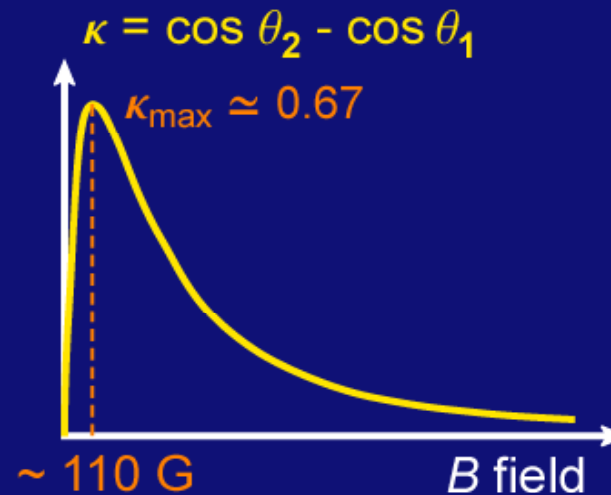
## The $c_2 \rightarrow c_1$ transition with Lorentz/CPT violation

Difference between H and  $\bar{H}$  transition frequencies  
(Bluhm, Kostelecký, Russell, PRL '99):

level-dependent spin mixing  
→ unsuppressed signal

$$\Delta E_H - \Delta E_{\bar{H}} \approx \kappa \Delta E_{e+p}$$

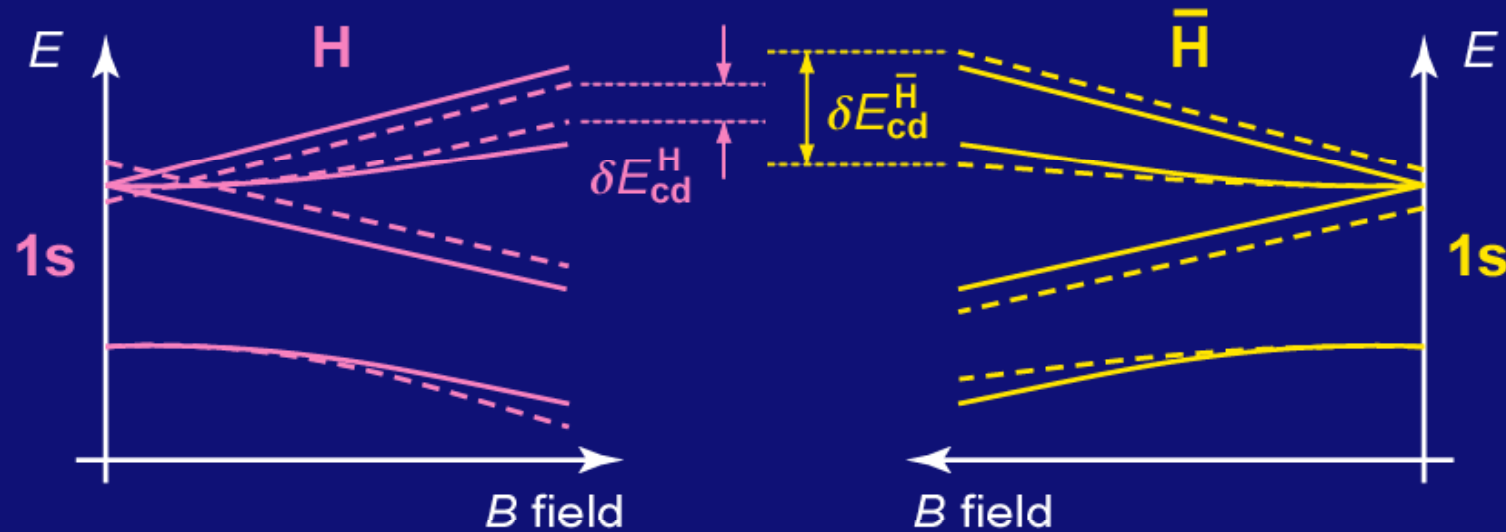
combination  
of Lorentz-/CPT-violating  
SME coefficients



**Result:** - leading-order Lorentz/CPT violation in  $c_2 \rightarrow c_1$  transition  
- experimental issue: effect is  $B$ -field dependent

## Hyperfine Zeeman transitions within the 1s state

Difference between H and  $\bar{H}$   $d1 \rightarrow c1$  transition frequencies  
(Bluhm, Kostelecký, Russell, PRL '99):



at field-independent transition point ( $B \approx 0.65\text{T}$ ):

$$\delta E_{cd}^H - \delta E_{cd}^{\bar{H}} \simeq (\text{CPT-/Lorentz-violating SME coefficient for } p)$$

instantaneous comparison assuming 1m Hz resolution:

$10^{-17}$  eV sensitivity to |CPT-/Lorentz-violating SME coefficient for p|

(see E. Widmann's and B. Juhász' talks)

## (ii) Neutral-meson oscillations

Effective description of neutral-meson system:

$$i\partial_t\psi = \Lambda\psi$$

two-component wave function  $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$  2x2 effective Hamiltonian

CPT violation iff difference of diagonal pieces of  $\Lambda$  nonzero

$$\Delta\Lambda \equiv \Lambda_{11} - \Lambda_{22} \neq 0$$

Nonzero prediction for  $\Delta\Lambda$  within the SME:

$$\Delta\Lambda \simeq \beta^\mu \Delta a_\mu$$

4-velocity of  
meson in lab



difference of SME quark  
coefficients

$$-a_\mu^q \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$$

→ requires time and direction binning

### Sample sensitivities to $\Delta a$ -type coefficients

K:  $10^{-17} \dots 10^{-22}$  GeV      KLOE (see A. Di Domenico's talk), KTeV

D:  $10^{-16}$  GeV      FOCUS

$B_d$ :  $10^{-15}$  GeV      BaBar



# Summary

- (1) At present, there are **no experimental indications** that CPT (or Special Relativity) is violated.
- (2) Many theoretical approaches to fundamental physics lead to **vacuum with a preferred direction** (background), and therefore to CPT/Relativity violations.
- (3) These effects are described (largely model independent) by a general test framework called the **SME**.
- (4) Testing these ideas requires **ultrahigh precision**. Experimental studies with **antimatter** are **excellent tools** for these purposes.