

Syracuse Summer Institute Finale on Weak Decays

Oh, so many decays, and so little time

- I've shown you one possible weak decay last time.
- A B^- meson has 100's of ways it can decay! Huh, why?
 - Because it can! (Remember, tenet of Quantum Physics)

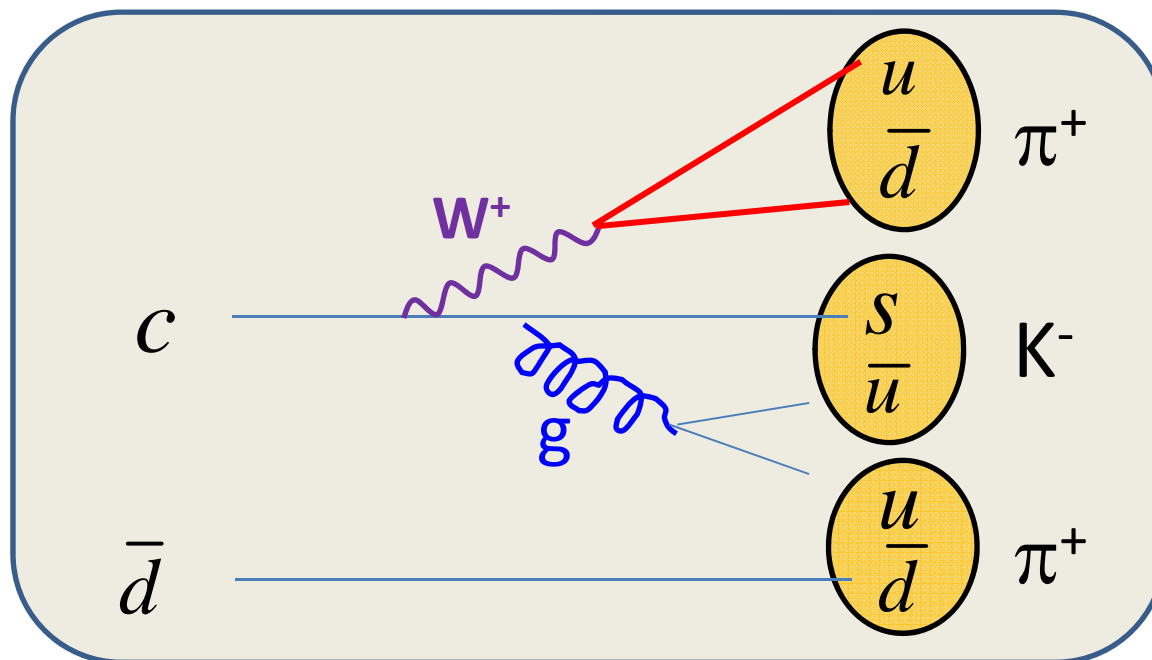
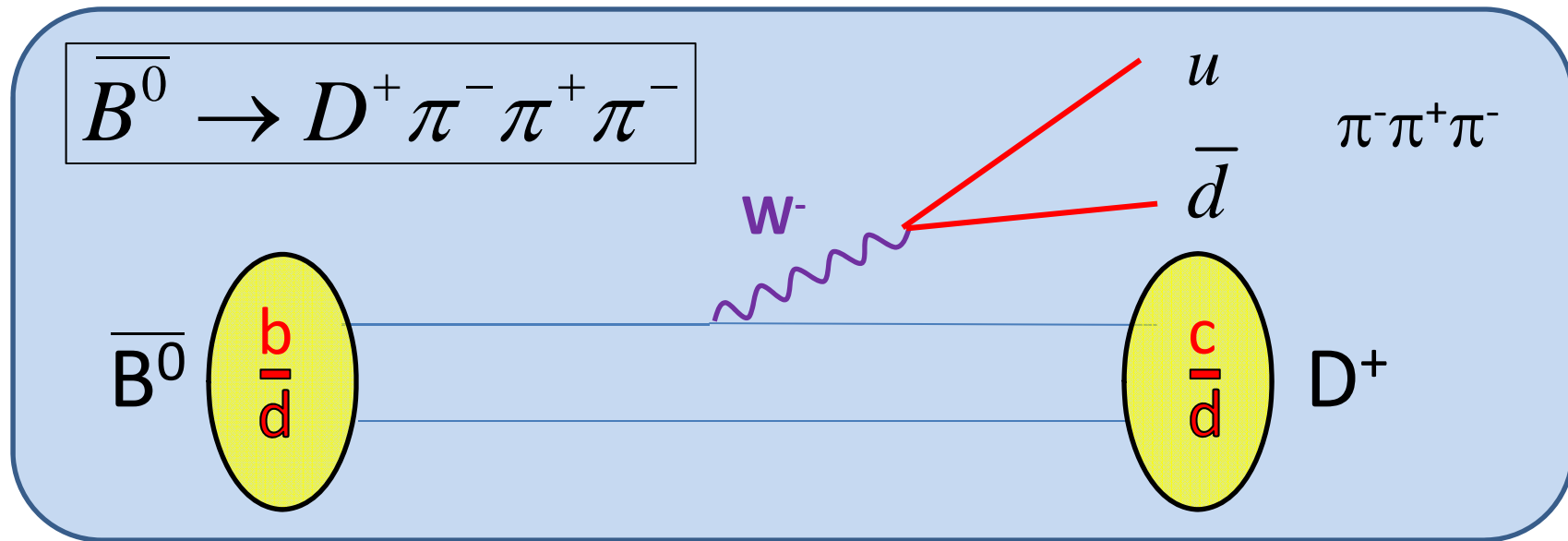
$D^- \pi^+$	$(2.68 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- \rho^+$	$(7.8 \pm 1.3) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- K^0 \pi^+$	$(4.9 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^- K^*(892)^+$	$(4.5 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^- \omega \pi^+$	$(2.8 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- K^+$	$(2.0 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^- K^+ \bar{K}^0$	$< 3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ CL=90%
$D^- K^+ \bar{K}^*(892)^0$	$(8.8 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{-4}$
$\bar{D}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$	$(8.4 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^*(2010)^- \pi^+$	$(2.76 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	$(8.0 \pm 2.5) \times 10^{-3}$
$(D^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)$ nonresonant	$(3.9 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- \pi^+ \rho^0$	$(1.1 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^- a_1(1260)^+$	$(6.0 \pm 3.3) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^*(2010)^- \pi^+ \pi^0$	$(1.5 \pm 0.5) \%$
$D^*(2010)^- \rho^+$	$(6.8 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^*(2010)^- K^+$	$(2.14 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^*(2010)^- K^0 \pi^+$	$(3.0 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^*(2010)^- K^*(892)^+$	$(3.3 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-4}$
$D^*(2010)^- K^+ \bar{K}^0$	$< 4.7 \times 10^{-4}$ CL=90%
$D^*(2010)^- K^+ \bar{K}^*(892)^0$	$(1.29 \pm 0.33) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^*(2010)^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	$(7.0 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-3}$ S=1.3
$(D^*(2010)^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)$ non-resonant	$(0.0 \pm 2.5) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^*(2010)^- \pi^+ \rho^0$	$(5.7 \pm 3.2) \times 10^{-3}$
$D^*(2010)^- a_1(1260)^+$	$(1.30 \pm 0.27) \%$
$D^*(2010)^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$	$(1.76 \pm 0.27) \%$
$D^{*-} 3\pi^+ 2\pi^-$	$(4.7 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$

This is a small fraction of the decays known for the B^0 meson ($\bar{b}d$)

The number on the right is the fraction of time the B^0 meson undergoes that decay.

For every one of these decays, one should be able to draw a Feynman diagram to represent it!

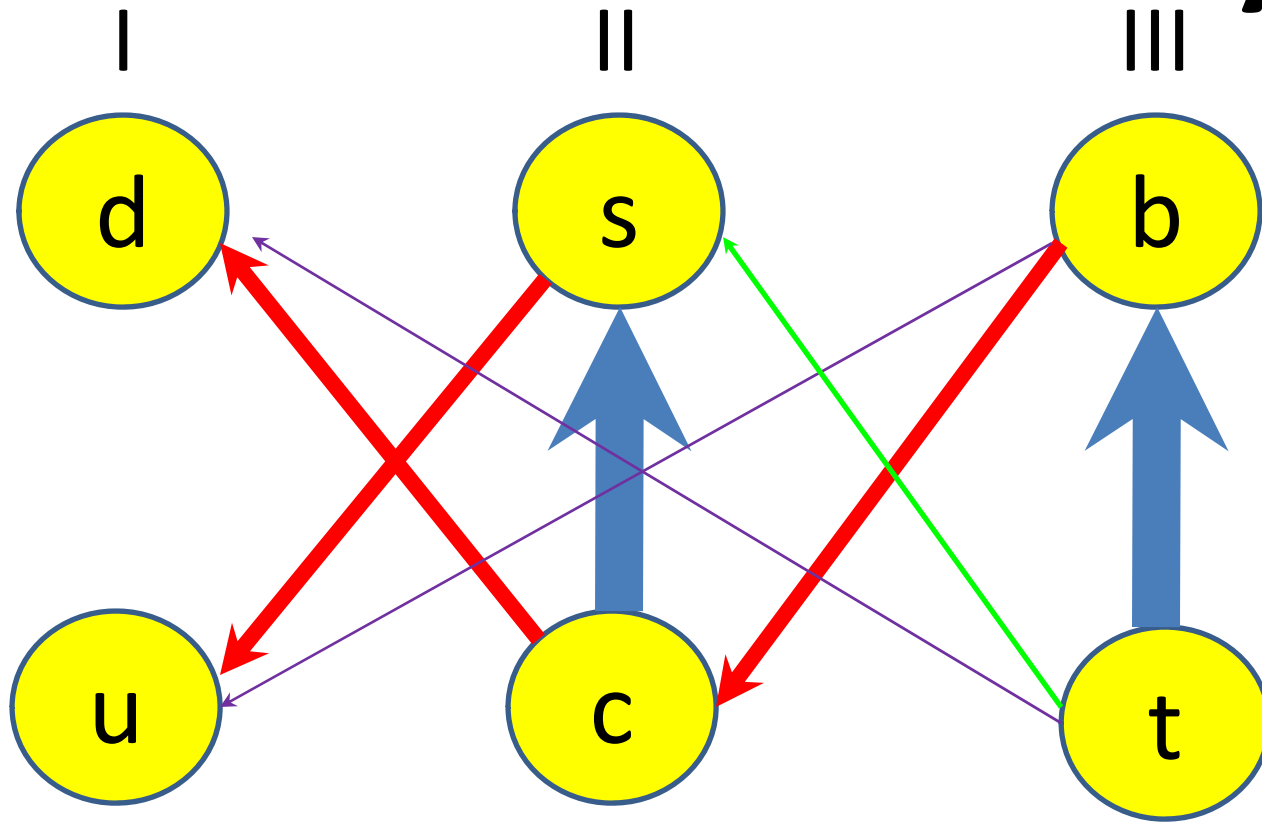
Another B meson decay



$$D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$$

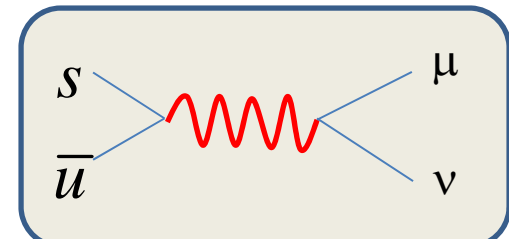
Happens ~9%
of the time

Weak Decays



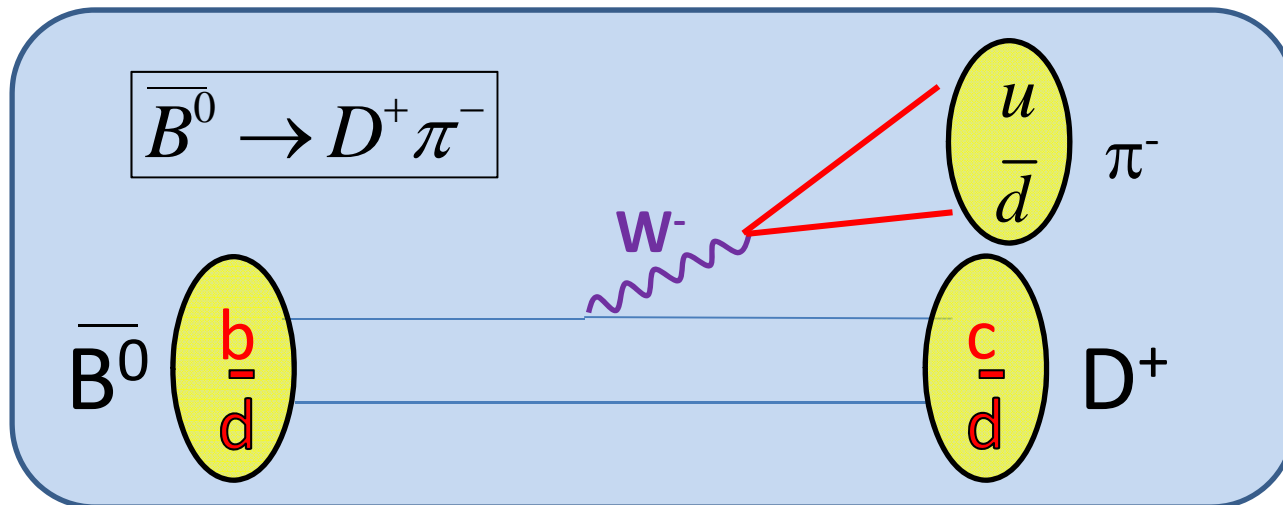
Width of arrows give a qualitative feel for the decay rate.

- ❑ Top: $t \rightarrow b \gg \gg t \rightarrow s$ or $t \rightarrow d$.
- ❑ Bottom: $b \rightarrow c \gg b \rightarrow u$.
- ❑ Charm: $(c \rightarrow s) \sim 25 \times (c \rightarrow d)$; smaller total decay rate.
- ❑ Strange: $s \rightarrow u$ dominates in many cases, but not all.. e.g. $K^+ \rightarrow \mu \nu$ dominant (no “u” quark in final state)

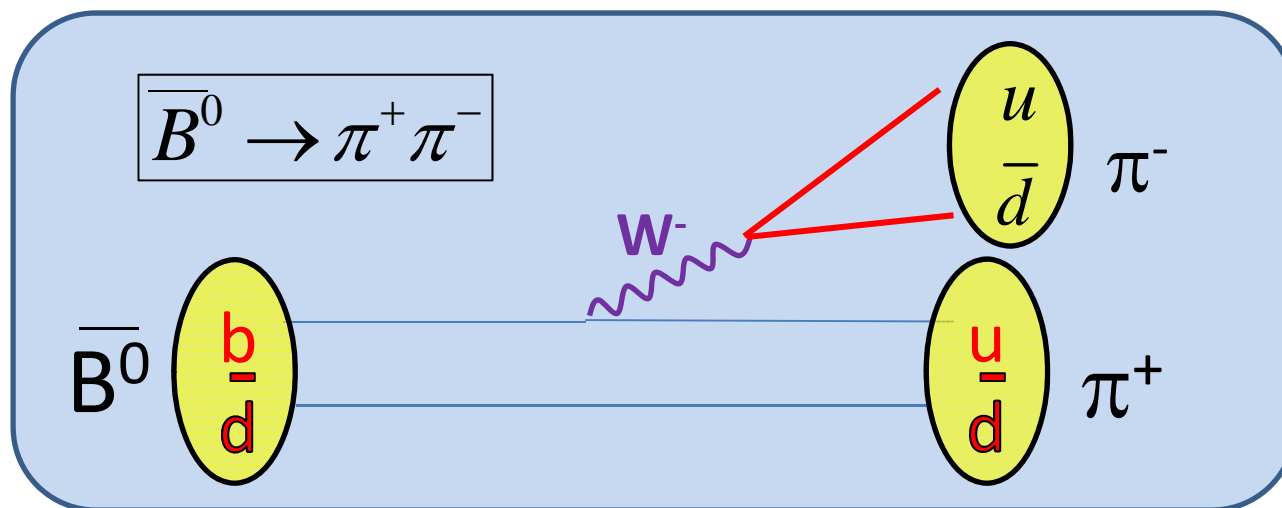


Comparison of “Branching Fractions”

“**Branching fraction**” is just a fancy name that tells how often a particle decays to some particular final state.



$$\text{BF} = 2.68 \times 10^{-3}$$



$$\text{BF} = 5.15 \times 10^{-6}$$

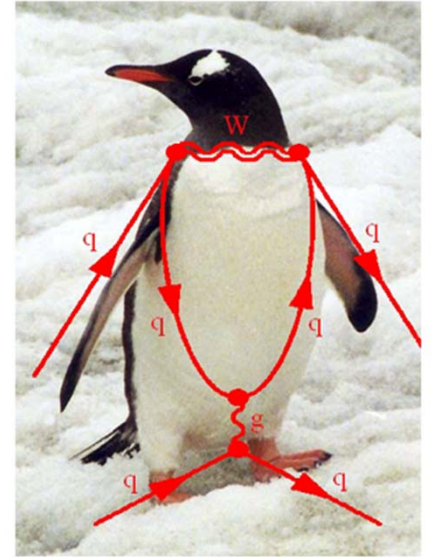
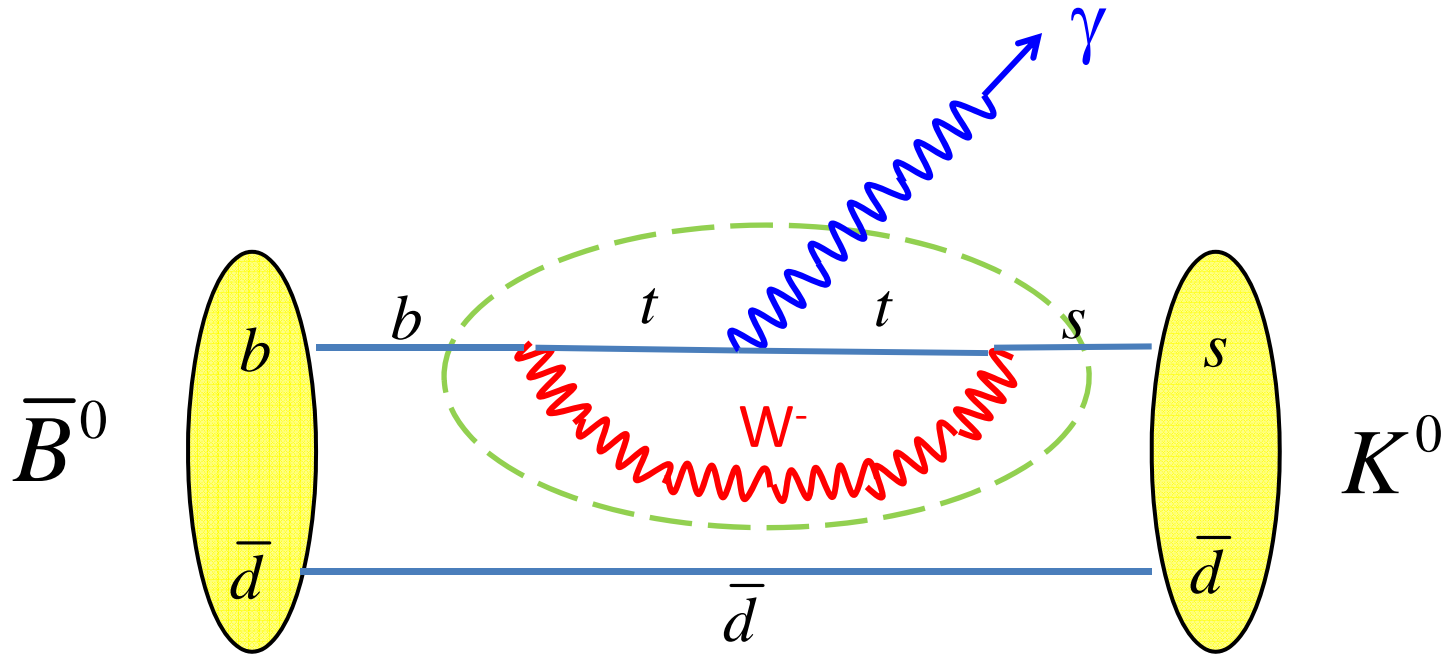
New Physics in B decays

- ✚ If in the decay of a particle, there is a virtual particle “loop”, there is the potential for a new particle to contribute to the decay.
 - ✚ Since it's emitted and re-absorbed, it needn't conserve energy, as long as $\Delta E \Delta t \sim \hbar$
 - ✚ Example coming on next slide.



- ✚ **Key point:** Even though you may not see it directly, it will leave its fingerprints.
 - ✚ Deviations from SM expected rates or other observable quantities.

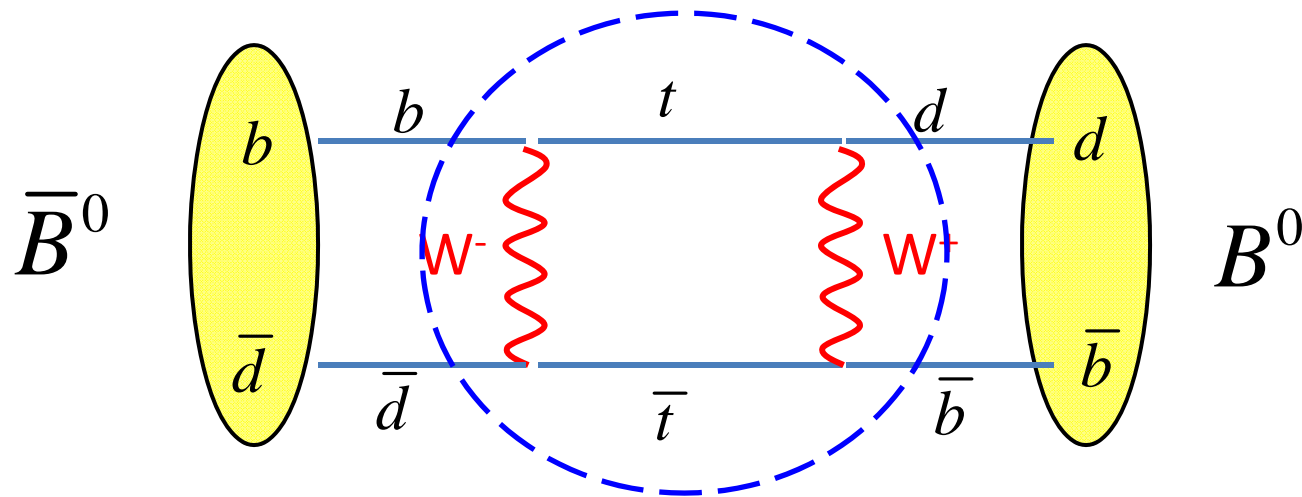
“Penguin” decays



- ✚ Involves a virtual W boson loop – suppressed in the SM.
- ✚ **Potential for new, high mass particles to contribute in these kinds of “loop diagrams”.**
- ✚ **Just replace W and top quark with some new physics particles!**

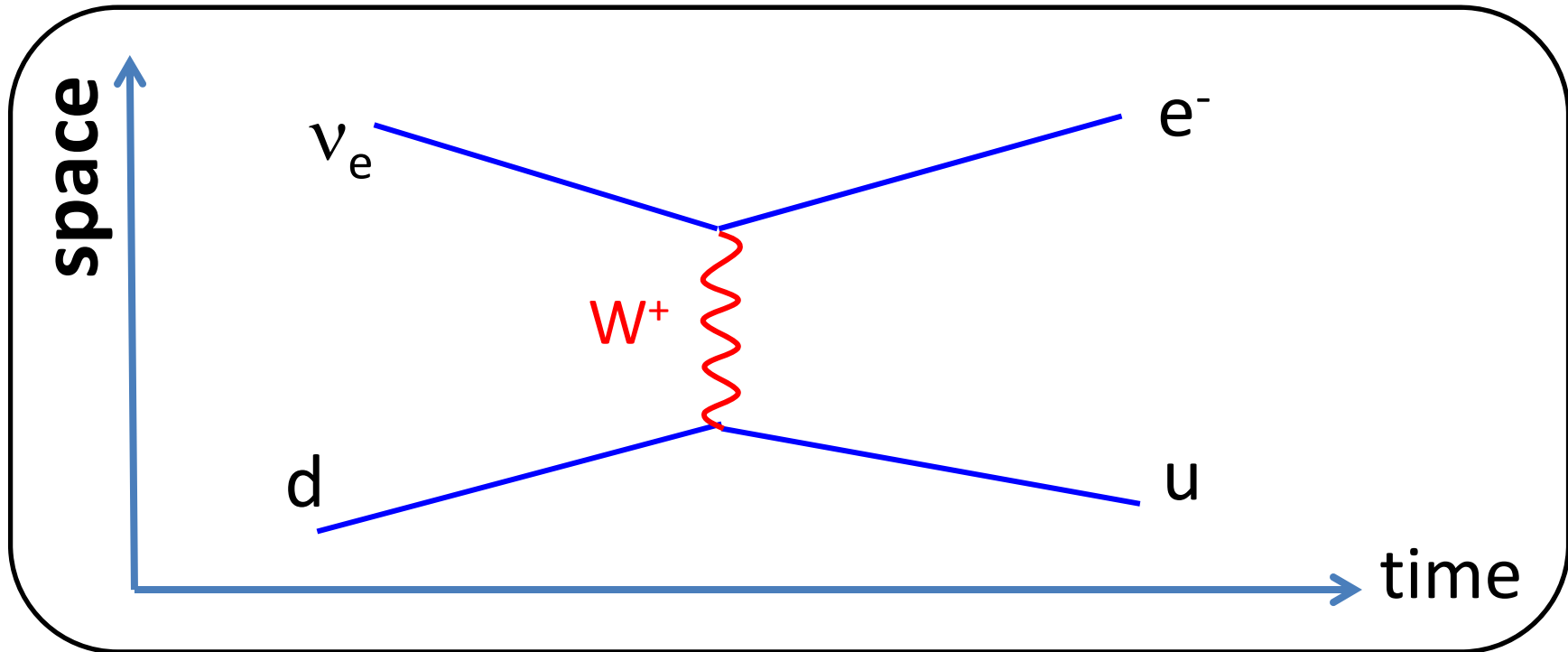
Particle-antiparticle mixing

- Oddly enough, the weak interaction allows certain particles to transform into their antiparticles.



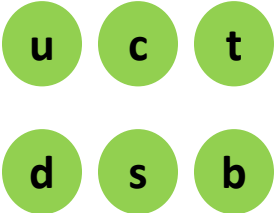
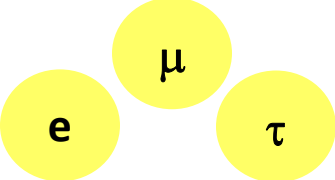
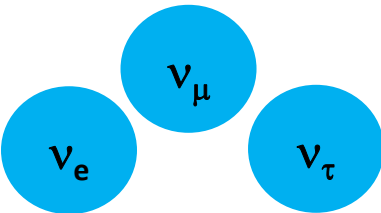
- ✚ The $B \leftrightarrow \bar{B}$ oscillation occurs ~ 200 billion times per second.
- ✚ Alternately said, the $B \leftrightarrow \bar{B}$ oscillate back & forth with a period of ~ 5 pico-seconds.
- ✚ Recall, that the decay time is ~ 1.5 ps.
- ✚ So, about 20% of produced B^0 mesons will decay as \bar{B}^0 !
- ✚ Involves 2 W bosons – suppressed in the SM.
- ✚ Involves a “loop” with 2 virtual top quarks and 2 W’s.
 - ✚ **Potential for new, high mass particles to contribute**

Neutrino Interactions



- ❑ Here, a neutrino interacts with a d-quark. The neutrino emits a W^+ and turns into an e^- .
- ❑ The d-quark absorbs the W^+ and turns into a u-quark.

The force carriers and what they couple to

Force	Carrier	Mass	Quarks	Charged Leptons	Neutral Leptons
					
EM	Photon	0	Yes	Yes	No
Strong	Gluon	0	Yes	No	No
Weak	W^\pm, Z^0	~100X proton mass	Yes	Yes	Yes