

### 1. Charge conjugation and seesaw mechanism

Proof the following relations:

- (a)  $(\psi^c)^c = \psi$  ,
- (b)  $\overline{\psi_1^c} \psi_2 = \overline{\psi_2^c} \psi_1$  ,
- (c) Show that



$$-\frac{1}{2} \overline{n^c} M n + h.c. = -m_D \overline{\nu_L} N_R - \frac{1}{2} m_M \overline{(N_R)^c} N_R + h.c. , \quad (1)$$

i.e. that eqs. (\*) and (\*\*) from the lecture are equivalent. Here,  $n = (\nu_L, (N_R)^c)^T$  and

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D \\ m_D & m_M \end{pmatrix} . \quad (2)$$

- (d) Compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $M$  approximately and use them to prove that, indeed, an effective mass term of the form  $-\frac{1}{2} m_\nu \overline{(\nu'_L)^c} \nu'_L$ , with  $m_\nu = m_D^2/m_M$ , is generated.

### 2. Majorana mass terms

- (a) Why is a Majorana mass term for neutrinos, i.e. a term of the form

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m \overline{(\nu_L)^c} \nu_L + h.c. , \quad (3)$$

forbidden in the Standard Model?

- (b) Extensions of the Standard Model containing an  $SU(2)_L$  triplet Higgs field  $\Phi$  with hypercharge 2 can generate a mass term of the form (3). Explain how this works.

*Hint:* It is useful to write  $\Phi$  in the form

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\phi^+}{\sqrt{2}} & \phi^{++} \\ \phi^0 & \frac{\phi^+}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} , \quad (4)$$

which transforms under an  $SU(2)_L$  rotation  $U_L$  according to

$$\Phi \rightarrow U_L \Phi U_L^\dagger . \quad (5)$$

### 3. Neutrinoless double electron capture

Neutrinoless double electron capture has been proposed as an alternative to neutrinoless double beta decay for measuring (Majorana) neutrino mass. (Sujkowski Wycech, arXiv:hep-ph/0312040)

- (a) Draw the Feynman diagram corresponding to neutrinoless double electron capture.
- (b) What would be the experimental signature?
- (c) Discuss how a coincidence trigger can help to reduce backgrounds.