

**SMR.1580 - 3**

**CONFERENCE ON FUNDAMENTAL SYMMETRIES  
AND FUNDAMENTAL CONSTANTS**

**15 - 18 September 2004**

**FUNDAMENTAL CONSTANTS AT HIGH ENERGY  
(Time Variation of QCD Scale)**

**Harald Fritzsch  
LMU, Munich**

# Fundamental Constants

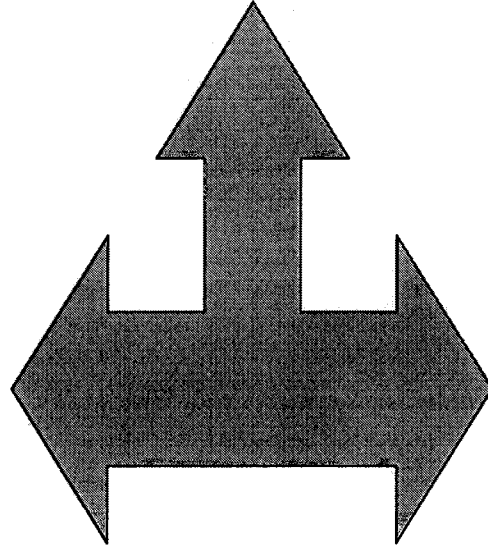
**at High Energy**

*(Time Variation of QCD scale)*

**Harald Fritzsch**  
**LMU Munich**

**Physics**  
*Physics*

**Boundary  
Conditions**



**Local Laws  
of Nature**

**Role of Fundamental Constants?**

# **What Are Fundamental Constants?**

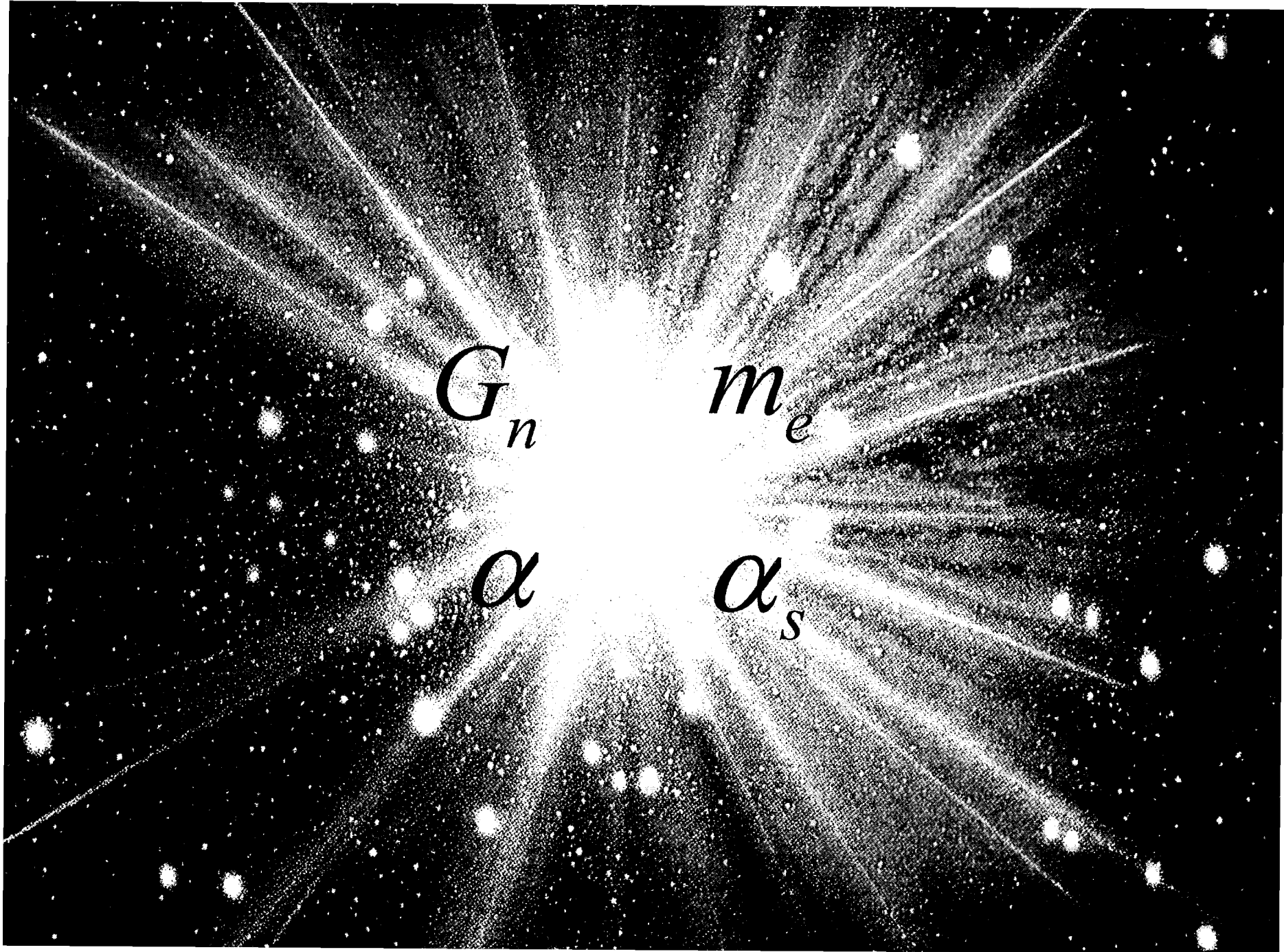
**Cosmic Accidents?**

**Determined by Dynamics?**

**Changing in Time?**

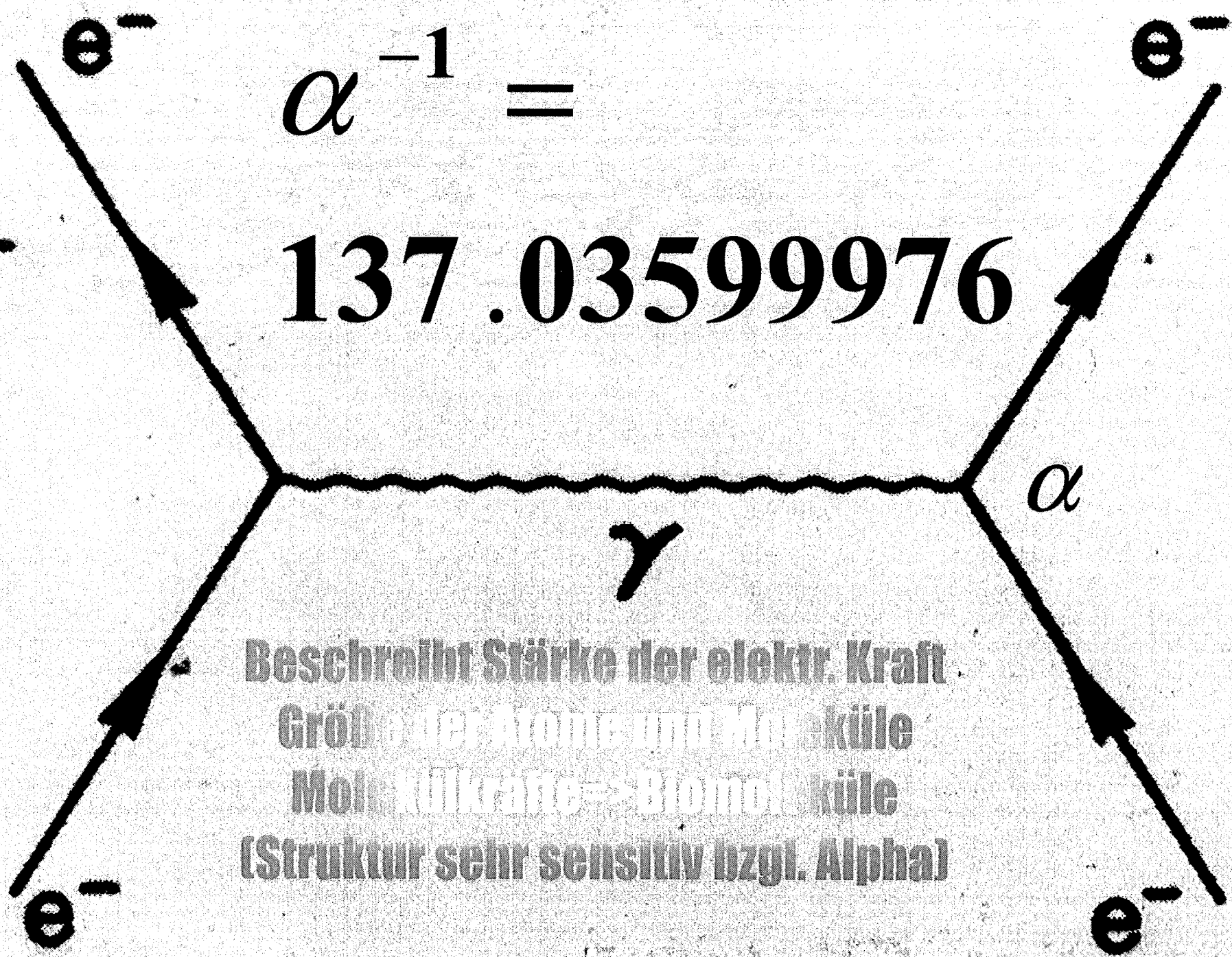
**Given by Self-Consistency?**

**Calculable?**



$$\alpha^{-1} =$$

137.03599976



Beschreibt Stärke der elektr. Kraft  
Größe der Atome und Moleküle  
Molekülkräfte  $\rightarrow$  Biomoleküle  
(Struktur sehr sensitiv bzgl. Alpha)

## Quantum Field Theory

$\alpha \implies$  function of scale (energy)

Quantum-fluctuations of fields  
( $e^+e^-$ -pairs)

$e^+e^-$ : dipoles with size  $m_e^{-1}$

$\rightarrow$  partial screening of bare charge  
of electron at distances  $> m_e^{-1}$ .

$$\alpha = (137, \dots)^{-1} \rightarrow \alpha_{\text{eff}}(m_e^2)$$

$$\alpha_{\text{eff}}(q^2) = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \ln\left(\frac{-q^2}{Am_e^2}\right)}$$

$$A = \exp\left(\frac{5}{3}\right) (-q^2 > 0).$$

Renormalization-Group:

$$\frac{d}{d \ln(q/M)} \bar{e}(q; e_r) = \beta(\bar{e})$$

$$\bar{e}(M; e_r) = e_r$$

$$\text{QED} : \beta(e) = \frac{e^3}{12\pi^2} + O(e^5)$$

High Energy:

$$\mu^+ \mu^-, \tau^+ \tau^-, \bar{q}q, W^+ W^-$$

$$\rightarrow \beta(e) = n_{\text{eff}} \cdot \frac{e^3}{12\pi^2} + \dots$$

LEP:

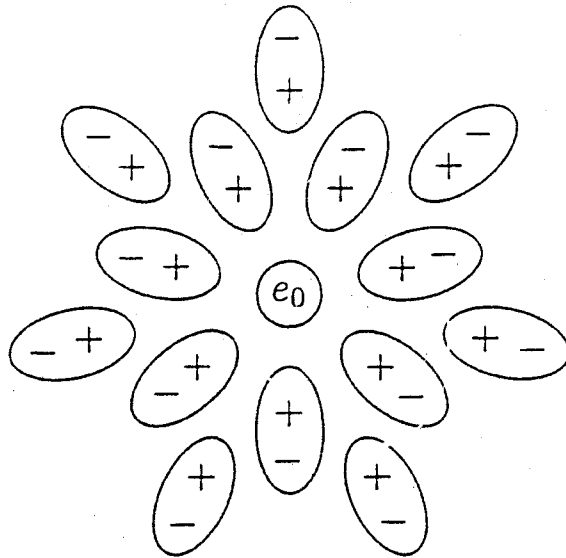
$$\alpha(200 \text{ GeV}) \cong (127)^{-1} (\sim 10\% \text{ larger}).$$

$$\alpha(M_z) \cong (127.8)^{-1}$$

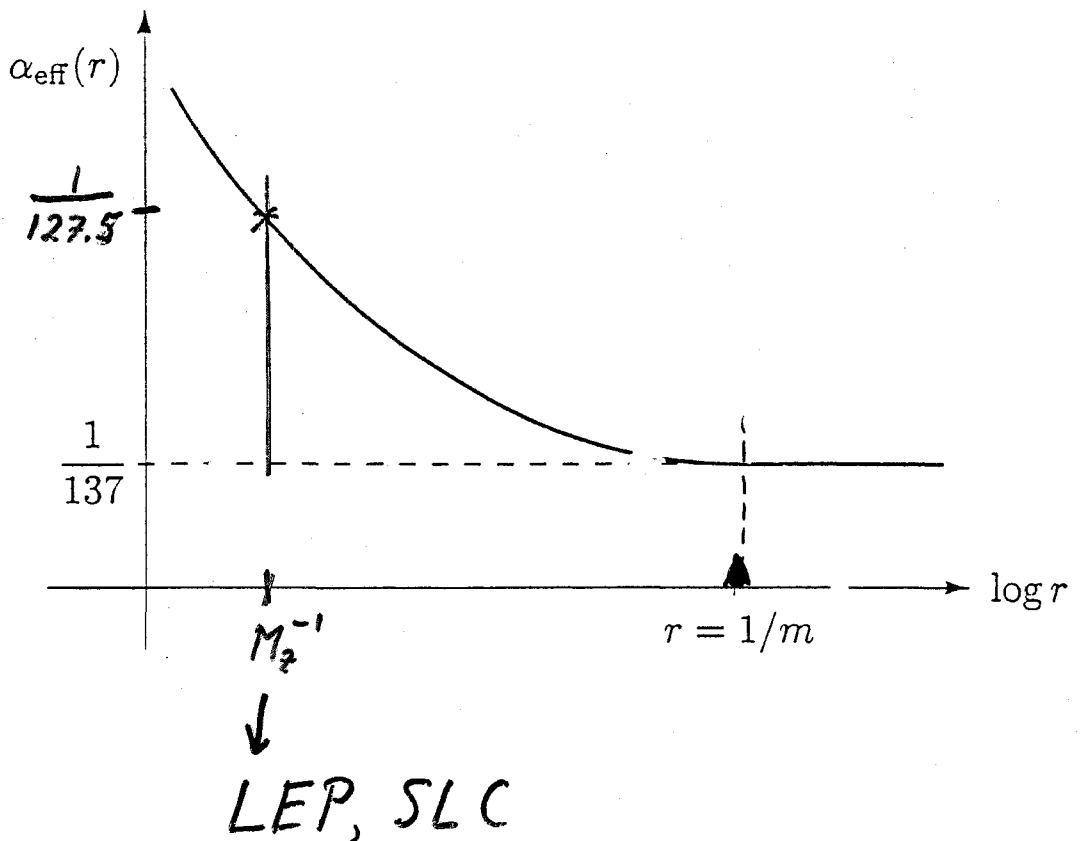


# QED

## B



Vacuum  
Polarization



**Example**  
~~Example~~

# **Finestructure Constant**

$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{\hbar c}$$

→ Sommerfeld 1916'

**Originally it was assumed:**

$$1/\alpha = 137$$

(integer!)

**Philosophy and numerology:**

**Eddington:  $137 > 136 = \text{Nr of}$**   
**charged objects**

$$\alpha^{-1} = \frac{16^2 - 16}{2} + 16 = 136$$

**Pauli (1958): Nr 137.....**

(A3)

Lederman: 137 Eola Road, JL

Feynman: 137

Heisenberg (~30...):

= 1/137.6...

$$\alpha = 2^{-4} 3^{-3} \pi$$

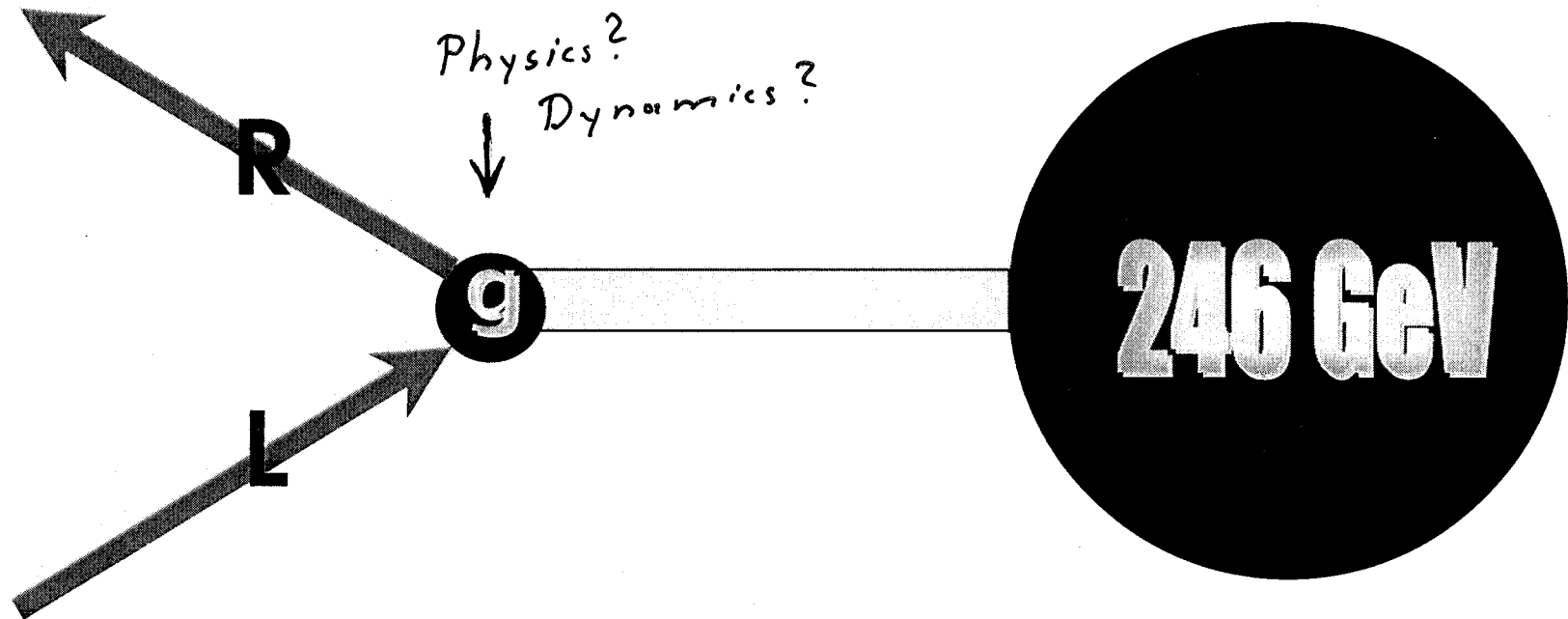
Wyler (1971)

1ppm

$$\alpha = \frac{9}{8\pi^4} \left( \frac{\pi^5}{2^4 5!} \right)^{1/4}$$

# The Dark Corner of HEP ~

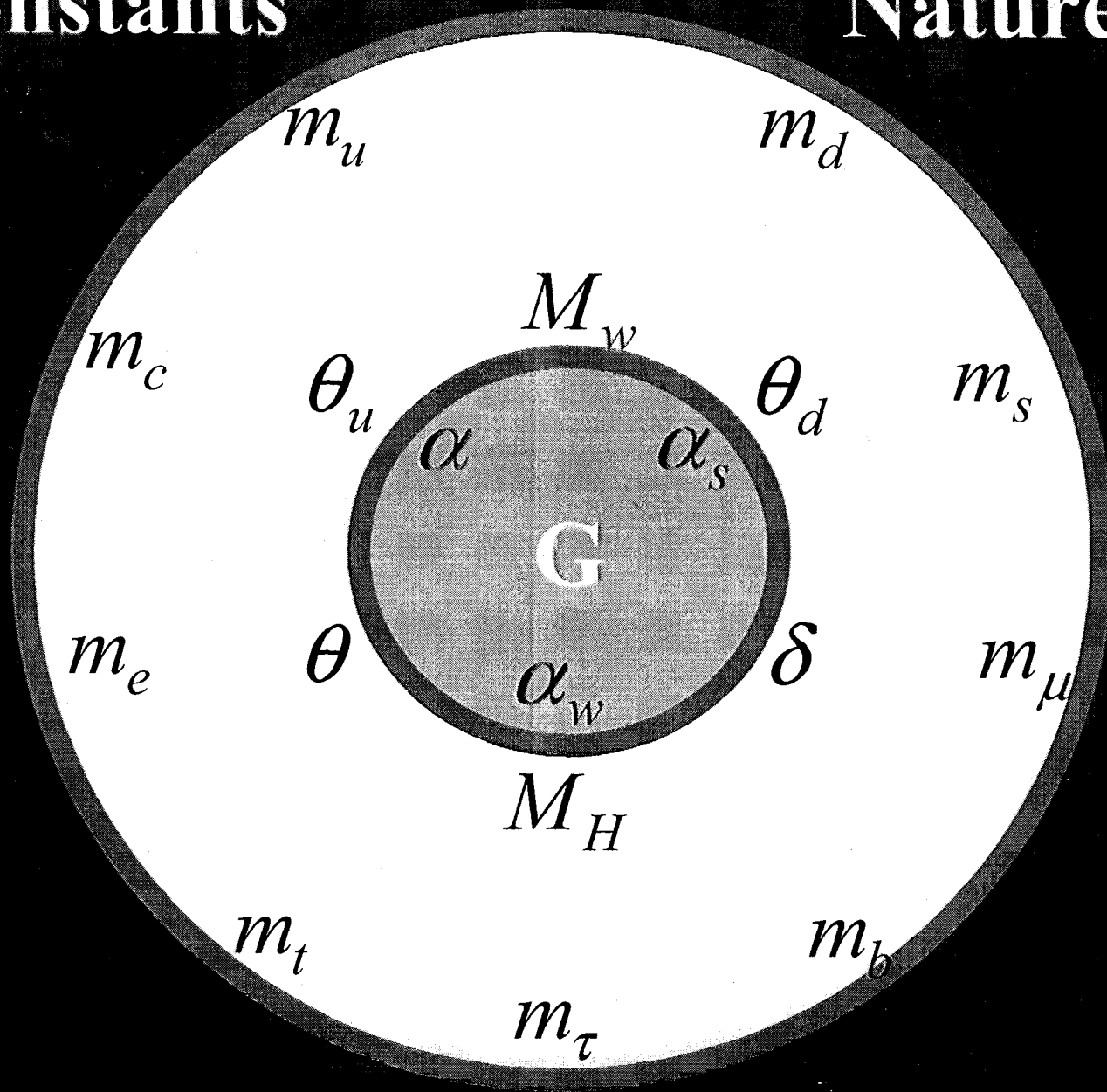
## Fermion Masses: Arbitrary



$$m_e = 0.511 \text{ MeV} = 0.0000021 \cdot 246 \text{ GeV} = 2.000 \cdot 10^{-30} \text{ lb}$$

$\frac{m_e}{m_p}$  : 0.20 ppb accuracy ( $\rightarrow$  quantum optics)

# Constants of Nature



Relations among constants?

e.g. flavor mixing

$$\theta_u \approx \sqrt{\frac{m_u}{m_c}}$$

$$\theta_d \approx \sqrt{\frac{m_d}{m_s}}$$

$$\delta \approx 90^\circ$$

$$\theta \approx \frac{m_s}{m_b} + \frac{m_c}{m_t}$$

18 Pm.



14 Pm.

# Cosmic time dependence of fundamental constants

H. Fritsch Munich

→ CERN-Courier March 03  
Eur. Journals, Phys. Today

Keck telescope (Australia, England, US)

"many multiplet method" (Webb, Wolfe...)

fine-structure of Fe, Ni, Mg, Sn, A

~150 quasars (→ 11 bn years in time)

(-0.54 ± 0.12)

$$\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha} = (-0.72 \pm 0.18) \cdot 10^{-5}$$

$$\alpha = 1 / 137.03699976 \quad (\text{today})$$

$$\text{early } \alpha = 1 / 137.037 \quad (\text{today: } 0.36)$$

$$\text{Linear app.: } \frac{d\alpha}{dt} \approx 1.2 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ per year}$$

Sample	Method	$N_{\text{abs}}$	Redshift	$\Delta\alpha/\alpha$
FeII/MgII	MM	28	$0.5 < z < 1.8$	$-0.70 \pm 0.23$
NiII/CrII/ZnII	MM	21	$1.8 < z < 3.5$	$-0.76 \pm 0.28$
SiIV	AD	21	$2.0 < z < 3.0$	$-0.5 \pm 1.3$
21cm/mm	radio	2	0.25, 0.68	$-0.10 \pm 0.17$

TABLE I: Summary of results for 4 independent samples. Values of  $\Delta\alpha/\alpha$  are weighted means in units of  $10^{-5}$ . MM and AD indicate “many-multiplet” and “alkali-doublet”.  $N_{\text{abs}}$  is the number of absorption systems in each sample.

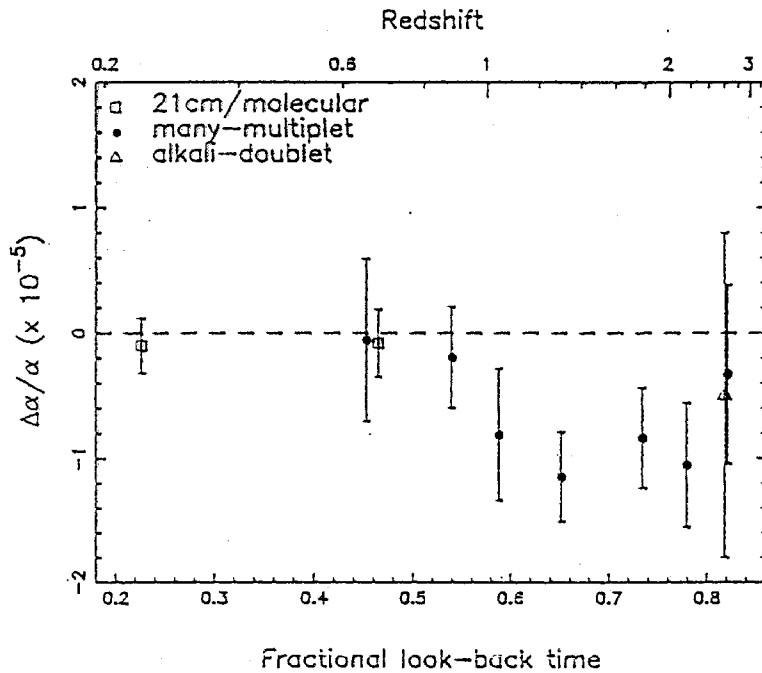
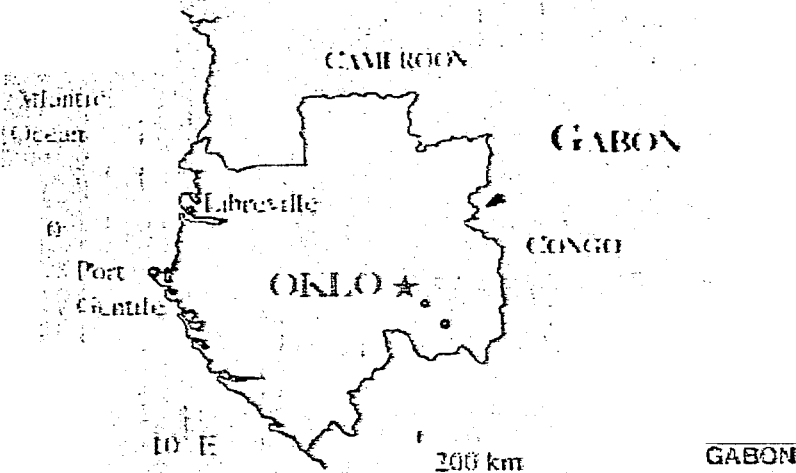


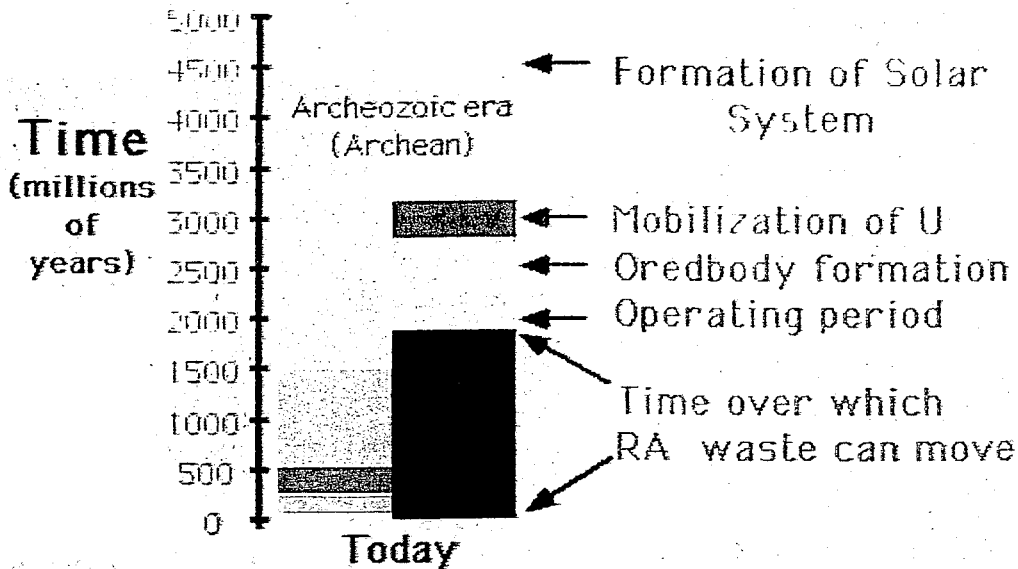
FIG. 1:  $\Delta\alpha/\alpha$  vs. fractional look-back time to the Big Bang. The conversion between redshift and look-back time assumes  $H_0 = 68$  km/s/Mpc,  $(\Omega_M, \Omega_\Lambda) = (0.3, 0.7)$ , so that the age of the universe is 13.9 Gyr. 72 quasar absorption systems contribute to this binned-data plot. The hollow squares correspond to two HI 21cm and molecular absorption systems [16]. Those points assume no change in  $g_p$ , so should be interpreted with caution. The 7 solid circles are binned results for 49 quasar absorption systems. The lower redshift points (below  $z \approx 1.6$ ) are based on (MgII/FeII) and the higher redshift points on (ZnII, CrII, NiII, AlIII, AlI, SiII) [13]. 28 of these 49 systems correspond to the sample used in [4]. The hollow triangle represents the average over 21 quasar SiIV absorption doublets using the alkali doublet method [14].



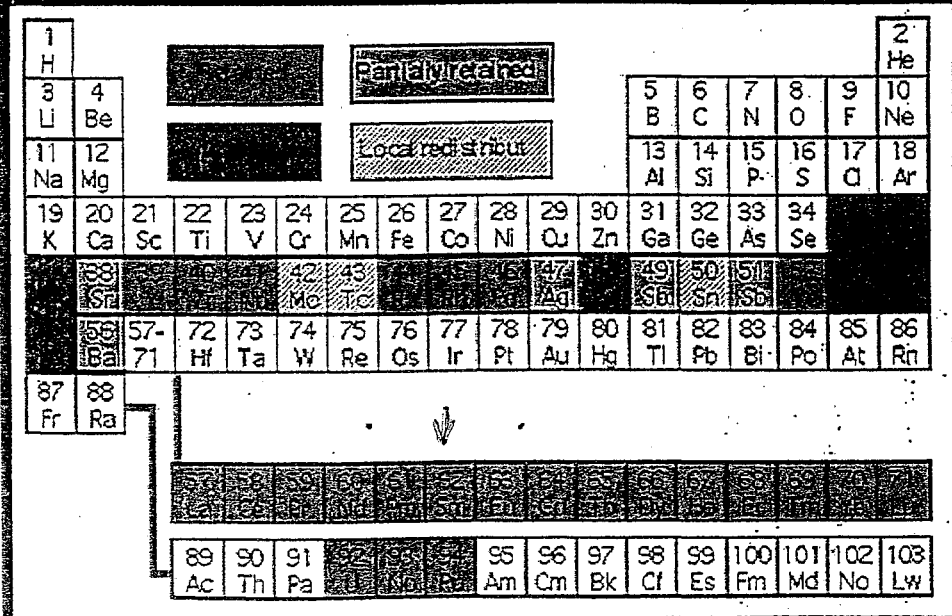
# Oklo: Location



# Oklo Time Scales



# Retention of Fission Products at OKLO



## The Oklo Phenomenon

**1.8 billion years back**

**River Oklo**

**Gabon, W-Africa**

### Natural reactor

High concentration of U

Natural enrichment of U235  
(3% about 2bn yrs. ago, 0.7% today)

Low concentration of n absorbers

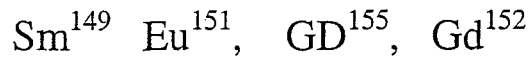
Critical size

Moderator (25% C, 75% Water)

Not commissioned by DOE ~ NRC

but operated for ~ 100 Mio years.

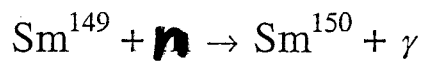
Strong n-absorbers found only in small quantities → reactor activity



Shlyakhter (Шляктер)

→ Damour, Dyson (96)

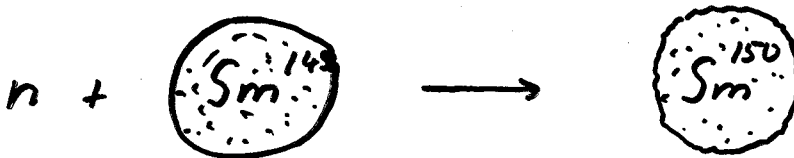
Neutron capture



thermal x-section

D.D.:  $57 \text{ kb} \leq \hat{\sigma}_{149} \leq 93 \text{ kb}$

Large x-section: resonance just above threshold



$$E = \underline{0.0973} \text{ eV}$$

Resonance position:

affects strongly x-section

time shift?

$$\Delta = E_r(\text{Oklo}) - E_r(\text{now})$$

$$-0.12 \text{ eV} < \Delta < 0.09 \text{ eV}$$

$$H = H^{\text{nucl}} + H^{\text{elm}}$$

↓

$$e^2 \sum_{a,b} r_{ab}^{-1} \quad (\text{Coulomb})$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha \cdot \frac{dE_r}{d\alpha} < -(1.09 \pm 0.09) \text{ MeV}$$

Bethe-Weizsäcker:            -1.14 MeV

$$-0.9 \cdot 10^{-7} < \frac{\alpha(\text{Oklo}) - \alpha(\text{now})}{\alpha} < 1.2 \cdot 10^{-7}$$

# Oklo

Natural reactor in Gabon (Africa)  
Investigated since ~1970 by

French physicists. (Active: ~260  
years ago)

Samarium: decay depends  
strongly on nuclear resonance

Resonance position cannot have  
changed much

Dyson-Demure:  $\frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} < 10^{-16}$  ( $10^{-13}$ )

(if no other phys. change)

→ Problem with astrophysics

Change of  $\Lambda$ : effects could  
cancel, if signs of  $\frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha}$ ,  $\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda}$  different.

→ Oklo constraint questionable

Change of  $\alpha$ :

$M_n - M_p$  affected

$$M_n - M_p = (m_d - m_u) \text{ const.} - \alpha \cdot \Lambda \cdot \text{const.}$$

( $\sim 2 \overset{\downarrow}{\text{MeV}}$ )

$M_n - M_p \rightarrow$  ( $\rightarrow$  nucleosynthesis)

$$e^2 = \frac{g g'}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}$$

$$U_1^2 \rightarrow \begin{matrix} SU(2) \times U(1) \\ g \quad g' \end{matrix}$$

Which  $g^{(1)}$  is affected? (Both?)

$G_F$  affected ( $\rightarrow$  nucleosynthesis)

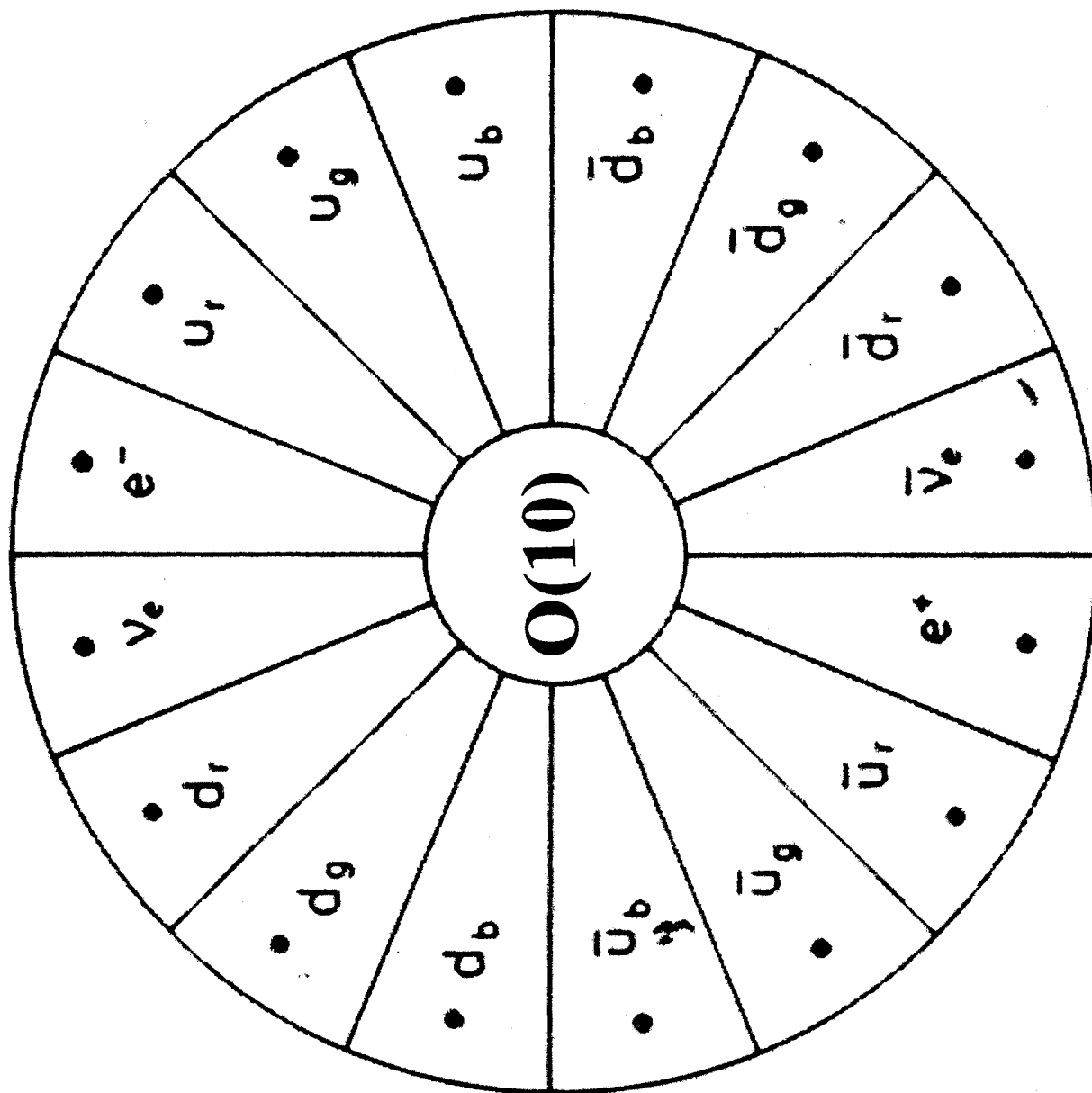
$$SU(3)^c \times SU(2) \times U(1) \subset \begin{matrix} SO(10) \\ \tilde{g} \end{matrix} \quad (2)$$

$\rightarrow \tilde{g}$  affected

$\rightarrow g_s$  affected ( $\Lambda_c$ )

$\rightarrow M_p \rightarrow$

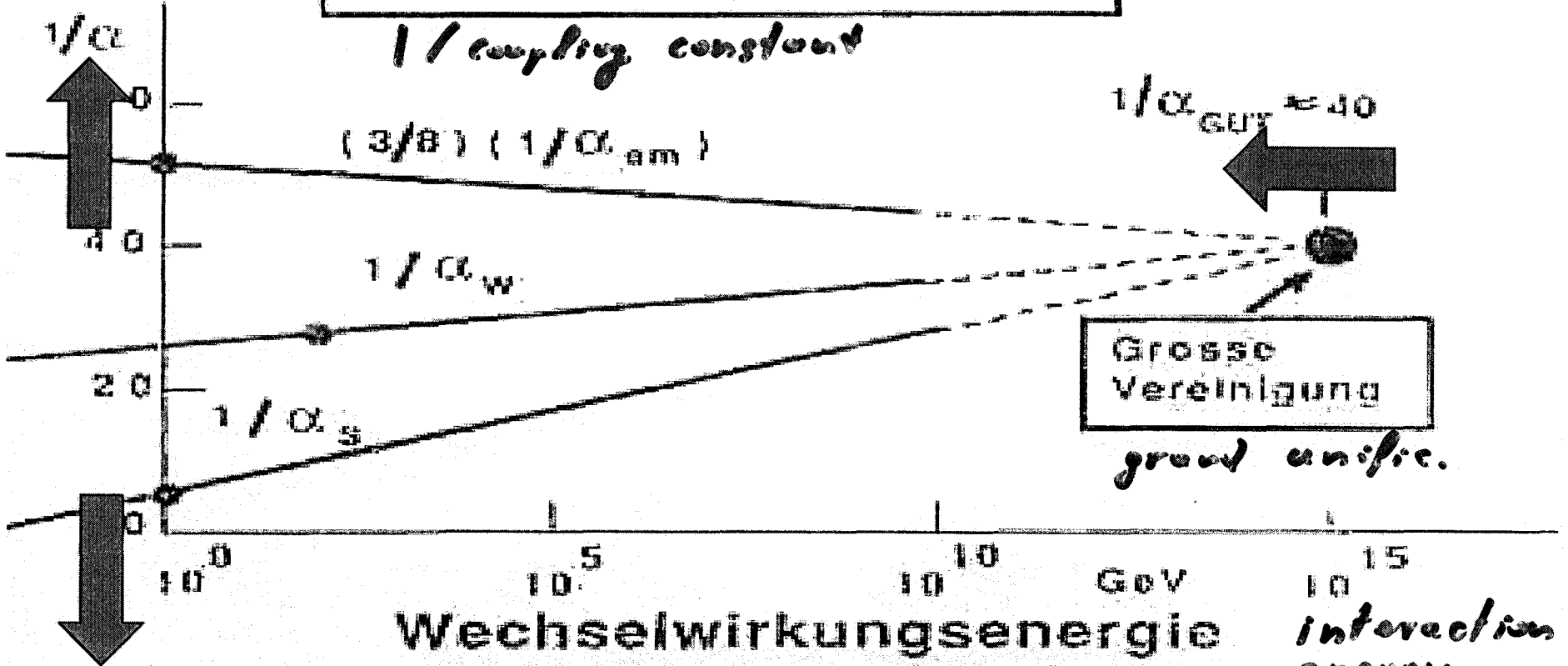
Systematic analysis needed!



**Vereinheitlichung  
aller Kräfte**

**1/Kopplungskonstante**

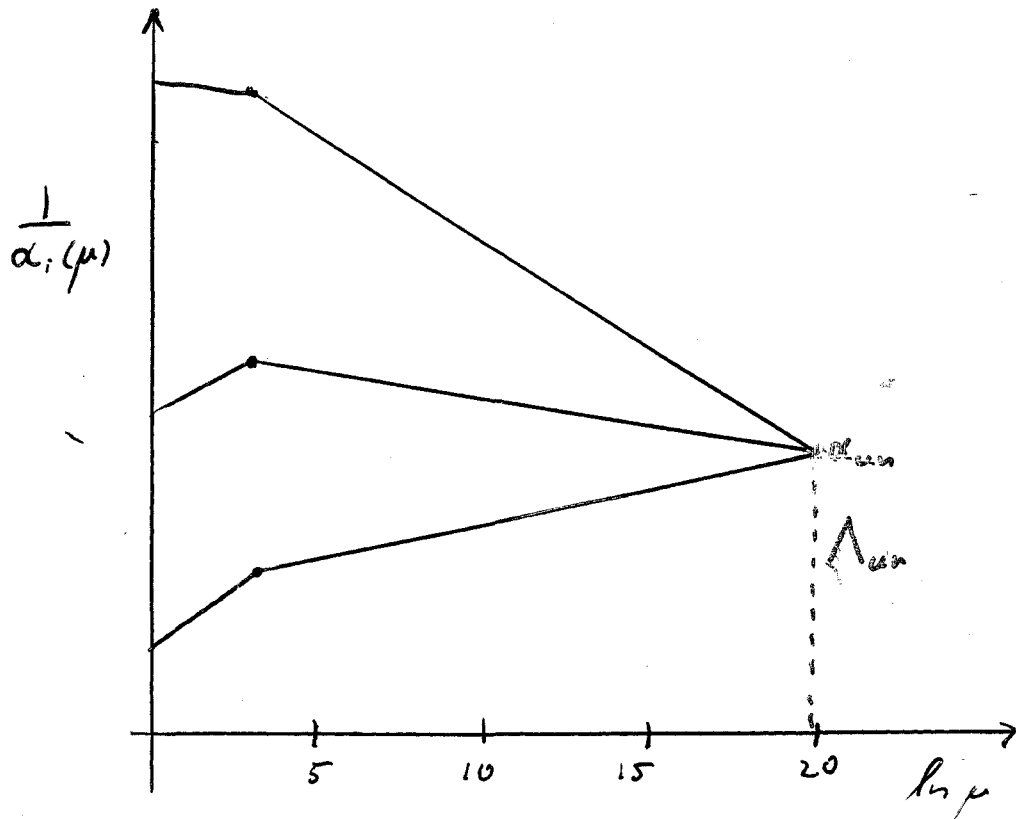
*1/coupling constant*



● Experimentelle Resultate *exp. results*

— Stellungen aus Renormierungstheorie  
*den. on ren. theory*





Example  $SU(5)$  with supersymmetry  
at  $\mu > 1 \text{ TeV}$

(different, but possible pattern for  $SU(10)$   
without supersymmetry)

Cosmic Time Dependence of  $\alpha$ :

a) Time dependence of  $\alpha_{un}$

b) Time dependence of  $N_{un}$

Colmetz F.

Langacker, Lepr., Strass!  
Nir...

In general:

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} = \frac{8}{3} \frac{1}{\alpha_s} \frac{\dot{\alpha}_s}{\alpha_s} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( b_2^s + \frac{5}{3} b_1^s - \frac{8}{3} b_3^s \right) \frac{\dot{\Lambda}_{GUT}}{\Lambda_{GUT}}$$

$$\dot{\Lambda}_{GUT} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} = \frac{8}{3} \frac{1}{\alpha_s} \frac{\dot{\alpha}_s}{\alpha_s}$$

$$\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \approx + 30,8 \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha}$$

→ Magnetic Moments of Nuclei:

$$\frac{\dot{\mu}_p}{\mu_p} = \frac{\dot{\mu}_N}{\mu_N} \approx -30,8 \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} \approx -3,9 \cdot 10^{-14} / \text{year}$$

$\alpha_{un}$  invariant, change of  $\Lambda_{un}$ :

$$\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \approx -31 \cdot \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha}$$

(sign change!)

# Mass from No-Mass

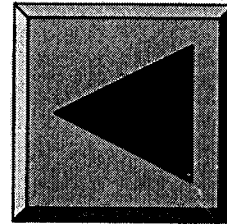


# Vergleich

*Comparison*



*Cs-clock*



*H*

**Unterschied ca. 3 Cäsiumschwingungen**

*3 Cs - oscillations / day*

**pro Tag**

**Experimente am MPQ Garching und IST**

**Boulder, USA**

*IST*

# Quantum Optics

(MPQ ~ Haensch, Walther)

4

Suppose:  $\dot{\alpha}/\alpha \approx -1.2 \cdot 10^{-15}$

$$\dot{\Lambda}/\Lambda \approx 2.4 \cdot 10^{-14} \quad (\text{ex.})$$

Cesium clock:  $1 \text{ s} = 6\,192\,631\,770$  cycles  
of microwave light ~ hf-transition of  
cesium -133

$$V_{hf} \approx \frac{mc}{\Lambda} \alpha^4$$

→ Cesium clock  $\neq$  H-clock (no dep. of  $\Lambda$ )  
( $\sim 3$  cesium cycles / day)

1. Step: Cesium  $\approx$  H

Effect  $\sim 3\sigma$ , if  $\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \approx 10^{-14} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

2. Step: Indium (trapped)  $\approx$  A.G (trapped)

→ sensitive to  $\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \approx 10^{-17} \text{ yr}^{-1}$   
( $\sim 3 \text{ yrs}$ )

e.g.:  $\dot{\Lambda}/\Lambda = (2.13 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-14}$

(43)

# Experiment at MPQ (Munich)

Measure absolute optical frequency  
relative to cesium atomic clock  
(→ F. ... Heens)

486 nm dye laser in the  
hydrogen spectrometer

Reference: cesium fountain clock  
(Pharao) LPTF Paris

1999: Hydrogen 1S-2S frequency  
accurate to  $1.4 \cdot 10^{-14}$

Since February 03:  
octave spanning comb synthesizer  
to measure 1S-2S transition  
relative to PHARAO (brought  
to Munich again;

1S-2S - transition:  
 $2\ 466\ 061\ 413\ 187\ 127\ (18)\ \text{Hz}$

( $\sim 10^{-14}$  acc. !)

24 (50) Hz drift in 43 months  
-0.9 (2.9)  
→ ~~2.8~~ (5.7) · 10<sup>-15</sup> per year  
(pred.)

(change of  $\alpha$ :  $\sim 10^{-15}/\text{yr}$ )  
→ expect:  $2 \cdot 10^{-14}$  for  
hyperfine transitions  
(unlikely)

Further tests are going on.  
(→ Boulder)

Partial cancellation of effect?  
(vary  $\alpha_{\text{un}} + \Lambda_{\text{un}}!$ )

At level  $\dots \times 10^{-15}$  effects should  
be seen!

Or: Astrophysics wrong?  
New exp.: no effect! (Boulder)

$$\frac{8}{3} \frac{1}{\alpha_s} \cdot \frac{\dot{\alpha}_s}{\alpha_s} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{2\pi} (\dots) \frac{\dot{\Lambda}_{\text{Gut}}}{\Lambda_{\text{Gut}}}$$



partial cancellations  
(s. s. th.)

$$\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \sim 5 \cdot \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha}$$

$$\rightarrow \sim 5 \cdot 10^{-15} / \text{yr}$$

in Hänsch exp. (?)

indications for  
effect at  $\sim 4 \cdot 10^{-15} / \text{yr}$



## Summary ~ Conclusions

≈ 18 constants in S.M.

Possible relations among them.

Some fund. constants rather

complicated (e.g. nucleon mass)

Grand unif.: relates  $\alpha, \alpha_w, \alpha_s$

Time dependence of  $\alpha$

→ " " of  $\alpha_s, \alpha_w$

OKlo constraint: questionable

$$\frac{\dot{\Lambda}}{\Lambda} \sim \pm 35 \cdot \frac{\dot{\alpha}}{\alpha}$$

→ change in cesium clocks

Exp.: frequency change

$$\lesssim 3 \cdot 10^{-15}$$

Expected:  $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{-14}$

(problem)

Cancellation? No change of  $\alpha$  today.