Hunting for Quarks

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"The Periodic Table"

What Do We Know?



What Else Do We Know?

 The Universe is made of quarks and leptons and the force carriers.



- The atomic nucleus is made of protons and neutrons bound by the strong force.
- The quarks are confined inside the protons and neutrons.
- Protons and neutrons are NOT confined.

FERMIONS			matter constituents spin = 1/2, 3/2, 5/2,		
Leptons spin = 1/2			Quarks spin = 1/2		
Flavor	Mass GeV/c ²	Electric charge	Flavor	Approx. Mass GeV/c ²	Electric charge
v_{e} electron neutrino	<1×10 ⁻⁸	0	U up	0.003	2/3
e electron	0.000511	-1	d down	0.006	-1/3
ν_{μ} muon neutrino	<0.0002	0	C charm	1.3	2/3
μ muon	0.106	-1	S strange	0.1	-1/3
v_{τ} tau neutrino	<0.02	0	t top	175	2/3
$oldsymbol{ au}$ tau	1.7771	-1	b bottom	4.3	-1/3



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How Well Do We Know It?

We have a working theory of strong interactions: quantum chromodynamics or QCD.
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- The coherent hadronic model (the standard model of nuclear physics) works too.
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effective area of the target

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4-momentum transfer squared

What Don't We Know?

- We can't get QCD and the hadronic model to line up.
 D. Abbott, *et al.*, Phys. Rev Lett. **84**, 5053 (2000).
- We have to find the hadronic model 'baseline' to see the transition to QCD.



Experiments at Jefferson Lab

- Jefferson Lab is a US Department of Energy national laboratory and the newest 'crown jewel' of the US.
- The centerpiece is a 7/8-mile-long, racetrack-shaped electron accelerator that produces unrivaled beams.
- The electrons do up to five laps around the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility (CEBAF) and are then extracted and sent to one of three experimental halls.
- All three halls can run simultaneously.





The CEBAF Large Acceptance Spectrometer (CLAS)

- CLAS is a 45-ton, \$50-million radiation detector.
- It covers almost all angles.
- It has about 40,000 detecting elements in about 40 layers.
- Drift chambers map the trajectory of the collision. A toroidal magnetic field bends the trajectory to measure momentum.
- Other layers measure energy, time-of-flight, and particle identification.
- Each collision is reconstructed and the intensity pattern reveals the forces and structure of the colliding particles.







Life on the Frontiers of Knowledge









Some Results and Conclusions

• Measuring the deuteron wave function.



- We are hunting for quarks (and gluons) hidden inside the nucleus.
- Strong physics motivation to test the nuclear 'coherent hadronic model' in a new energy range and push it past its limits and break it.