CP, T and CPT violation in future long baseline experiments

Patrick Huber
Institut für theoretische Physik, Physik Department, Technische Universiät München, James-Franck-Strasse, D-85748 Garching
Max-Planck Institut für Physik, Postfach 401212, D-80805 München

Abstract. I give a short overview about the possibilities and problems related to the measurement of CP violation in long baseline experiments. Special attention is paid to the issue of degeneracies and a method for their resolution is quantitatively discussed. The CP violation reach for different experiments is compared in dependence of $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$ and $\Delta m^2_{21}$. Furthermore a short comment about the possible effects of matter induced $T$ violation is made. Finally the limits on CPT violation obtainable at a neutrino factory are shown.

1. CP violation

In contrast to the quark sector CP violation in the lepton sector can be potentially large. This has spurred great interest in the possible measurement of the leptonic Dirac-type CP-phase $\delta_{CP}$ especially in the context of a planned neutrino factory. The principal observable is the CP-odd probability difference $\Delta P^{CP}_{\alpha\beta} = P(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) - P(\bar{\alpha} \rightarrow \bar{\beta})$. Since the neutrinos travel a long distance through the Earth matter one has to include matter effects. The Earth is however CP-asymmetric by itself, thus it introduces a non-vanishing $\Delta P^{CP}_{\alpha\beta}$ even if $\delta_{CP} = 0$. This makes it difficult to use $\Delta P^{CP}_{\alpha\beta}$ as measure of $\delta_{CP}$. Furthermore there are, due to the form of the oscillation probabilities, strong correlations among several oscillation parameters. Besides that a long baseline experiment does not measure the probabilities themselves but event rates. There are many systematical uncertainties in translating a rate measurement into a measurement of the probability. In addition to those problems the oscillation probabilities allow for different sets of parameters which give approximately the same probabilities. This is known as the degeneracy problem. In observing only the transition between electron and muon neutrinos or anti-neutrinos there remain three possible degeneracies: the $(\delta_{CP}, \theta_{13})$ ambiguity, the $\text{sign}\Delta m^2_{31}$ degeneracy and the $(\theta_{23}, \pi/4 - \theta_{23})$ degeneracy. Those degeneracies can have a substantial impact on the ability of a given experiment to reach its physics goals. The results shown in the following are a small subset of the results obtained in [6].

The setups considered are listed in table 1. Further details can be found in [6]. Of all the systematical errors considered in [6] the most important for the JHF setups is the background normalization uncertainty, whereas the NuFact setups are in general little hindered by systematical errors.

In [6] a complete analysis of the multi parameter correlations was performed, taking into account external information on $\Delta m^2_{21}$ provided by KamLand and on the matter density provided by geophysics. For $\Delta m^2_{21}$ an error of 15% and for the matter density an error of 5% is assumed. The biggest source of correlation errors for all setups is the correlation between $\theta_{13}$ and $\delta_{CP}$. This is an intrinsic effect which is very
hard to fight. For the NuFact scenarios the matter density plays a crucial role and one should seek to improve the knowledge on this quantity.

The \((\theta_{23}, \pi/4 - \theta_{23})\) degeneracy has only little impact on the determination of \(\delta_{\text{CP}}\) in all cases. The influence of the \((\delta_{\text{CP}}, \theta_{13})\) ambiguity is strongest at a NuFact and its effects strongly depend on subtle details of the expected detector performance, a detailed discussion is given in appendix B of [6]. The sign\(\Delta m^2_{31}\) degeneracy however has a substantial effect on the ability to determine \(\delta_{\text{CP}}\), especially at a NuFact it may be rather cumbersome. In figure 1 the CP violation reach in the \(\sin^2 2\theta_{13} - \Delta m^2_{21}\) plane is shown for all four setups including degeneracies, correlations, systematics and backgrounds. The trench in the left hand panel for the NuFact-II case is due to the sign\(\Delta m^2_{31}\) degeneracy. One possibility among many others [7, 8] to resolve the correlation between \(\delta_{\text{CP}}\) and \(\theta_{13}\) and to break the \((\delta_{\text{CP}}, \theta_{13})\) ambiguity is to use the so called “magic baseline”. The condition for the magic baseline is given by 

\[
\sin(\Delta m^2_{31} L/(4E))^2 \approx V_L/\Delta m^2_{31} = n\pi
\]

this gives for Earth densities a baseline \(L \approx 8\,100\,\text{km}\). At this special distance all terms in the appearance probability proportional to \(\Delta m^2_{21}\) and \((\Delta m^2_{21})^2\) vanish identically for all energies and values of

| JHF-SK | JHF-HK | NuFact-I | NuFact-II |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------|
| 22.5 kt | 1000 kt | 10 kt | 50 kt |
| water Cherenkov | water Cherenkov | magnetized iron | magnetized iron |
| 0.75 MW | 4 MW | 0.75 MW | 4 MW |
| 5 years | 8 years | 5 years | 8 years |

Table 1. Definition of experimental setups.
\( \Delta m_{31}^2 \), i.e. the appearance probability reduces to the one in a two neutrino case. Thus all correlations and degeneracies connected to \( \delta_{CP} \) disappear. The drawback of this very long baseline is that the event rates decrease. But in figure 2 it is clearly visible that the gain in sensitivity by avoiding the effects of \( \delta_{CP} \) (rightmost edge) is much larger than the effects of the diminished statistics (leftmost edge), thus the sensitivity is increased by one order of magnitude.

2. T and CPT violation

In vacuum the CP-odd and T-odd probability differences are identical. This does not hold in matter. In principle it is therefore possible that matter profile asymmetries introduce a fake CP violation and increase the error in the measurement of \( \delta_{CP} \). However in [9] it is shown that, for in terrestrial experiments conceivable matter asymmetries, this effects turns out to be negligibly small.

CPT violation would manifest itself in a neutrino oscillation experiment by the presence of two different \( \Delta m^2 \) scales or mixing angles for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos. Thus in order to estimate the sensitivity of a neutrino factory to CPT violation one just needs to evaluate the level of accuracy which can be obtained in the measurement of \( \Delta m_{31}^2 \) and \( \theta_{23} \). At a standard NuFact relative asymmetries in the mass splittings of order \( < 10^{-1} \) and in the mixing angles in the order of \( < 10^{-2} \) could be detected, as it is shown in [10].