

Conservation Laws

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1. The following table is a list of some baryons, and leptons.

particle	Q/e	B	L_e	L_μ	S
p	+1	1	0	0	0
n	0	1	0	0	0
Λ	0	1	0	0	-1
Σ^0	0	1	0	0	-1
Σ^+	+1	1	0	0	-1
$\bar{\Sigma}^+$	-1	-1	0	0	1
π^+	+1	0	0	0	0
π^-	-1	0	0	0	0
π^0	0	0	0	0	0
K^+	+1	0	0	0	+1
K^-	-1	0	0	0	-1
K^0	0	0	0	0	+1
e^-	-1	0	1	0	0
e^+	+1	0	-1	0	0
μ^-	-1	0	0	1	0
μ^+	+1	0	0	-1	0
ν_e	0	0	1	0	0
ν_μ	0	0	0	1	0
$\bar{\nu}_e$	0	0	-1	0	0
$\bar{\nu}_\mu$	0	0	0	-1	0

Use the table, and the conservation laws for charge, lepton number, baryon number and strangeness to identify whether the following reactions can or cannot occur.

Note: if a strange particle decays, then strangeness is not conserved.

- (a) $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$
- (b) $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$
- (c) $\pi^0 \rightarrow e^- e^+ \gamma$
- (d) $\nu_e n \rightarrow e^- \Sigma^+$
- (e) $\pi^+ p \rightarrow \Sigma^+ K^+$
- (f) $\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-$
- (g) $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$
- (h) $\pi^0 \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ \nu_\mu$

2. Use the above table to identify particle X in the following reactions.

- (a) $K^- p \rightarrow K^+ K^0 + X$

(b) $\pi^+n \rightarrow \Lambda + X$

(c) $K^0p \rightarrow K^+ + X$

3. Give two reasons why a neutron cannot decay according to $n \rightarrow \pi^+e^-$.