Physics 225a Problem Set 2

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due Monday, Oct. 13 in class

1. We've talked about the decay $\pi^- \to \mu^- \overline{\nu}_{\mu}$ in class. the K^- is a meson that consists of a strange quark and an anti-up quark. Neglecting phase space and related factors, estimate the ratio:

$$R = \frac{\Gamma(K^- \to \mu^- \overline{\nu}_\mu)}{\Gamma(\pi^- \to \mu^- \overline{\nu}_\mu)}$$

. Also, go to the PDG Website (or your RPP) and calculate this ratio from the data. As you'll see, the phase space factors have considerable influence.

- 2. Draw the Feynman diagrams for the semileptonic decays $D^0 \to K^- e^+ \nu_e$ and $D^0 \to \pi^- e^+ \nu_e$, where the D^0 is a meson consisting of a c-quark and an anti-up quark. Again neglecting phase, space, what do you estimate for the ratio of these partial widths?
- 3. A famous second-order weak transition is that from a K^0 (which consists of an anti-s quark and a d quark) to a \overline{K}^0 quark. Draw a Feynman diagram for this transition.