

1 a) Use quark flow diagrams to describe the following weak decays:

i)  $D^+ \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 \pi^+$

ii)  $D^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 \pi^0$

iii)  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \bar{K}^0$  {4}

b) For an  $e^+e^-$  collider operating at a centre of mass energy of 30 GeV, what is the value of the ratio

$$R = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma \rightarrow q\bar{q})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)},$$

where  $q\bar{q}$  is the sum over all produced quark-antiquark pairs?

Justify your answer. {4}

c) By considering the form of plane wave solutions to the Klein Gordon relativistic wave equation,

$$-\hbar^2 \frac{\partial^2 \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t^2} = -\hbar^2 c^2 \nabla^2 \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t) + m^2 c^4 \Psi(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

show that both negative and positive energy solutions are possible. What conclusions can be reached from the negative energy states in the analogous case of electrons? {4}

- d) In a recent experiment (CPLEAR at CERN), the production and decay of  $K^0$  and  $\bar{K}^0$  mesons were studied. The rates at which  $K^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0$  i.e.  $\left[ R(K^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0) \right]$  and  $\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K^0$  i.e.  $\left[ R(\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K^0) \right]$ , were measured by identifying, for each event, the nature of the neutral  $K$  meson at production and decay. The following result was obtained:

$$\frac{R(\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K^0) - R(K^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0)}{R(\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K^0) + R(K^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0)} = (6.6 \pm 1.3_{\text{statistical}} \pm 1.0_{\text{systematic}}) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

Without giving any experimental details, discuss the significance of this result with respect to the laws of physics. Why is the above ratio measured and not, for example, the quantity

$$R(\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K^0) - R(K^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^0)? \quad \{4\}$$