

# Symmetric equations that reproduce the fine structure constant and the muon-, neutron-, and proton-electron mass ratios

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Symmetric equations are introduced that reproduce the fine structure constant inverse and the muon-, neutron-, and proton-electron mass ratios near their experimental limits.

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The fine structure constant (FSC) and the muon-, neutron-, and proton-electron mass ratios can be accurately and economically reproduced as follows. Assume  $M$  and  $N$  are positive integers. Then define

$$\begin{aligned} l_0 &= \frac{1}{M^2} \quad , & q_0 &= \frac{1}{M^3} \quad , \\ l_1 &= \frac{[M - l_0/3M^2]^2}{N^{-2}} \quad , & q_1 &= \frac{M^2 - q_0}{N^{-2}} \quad . \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, define

$$\begin{aligned} l_2 &= \frac{M^3 - l_0}{N} \quad , & q_2 &= \frac{M^3 - q_0}{N} \quad , \\ l_3 &= \frac{[M - l_0/3M^2]^3}{N} \quad , & q_3 &= \frac{[M - q_0/3M^2]^3}{N} \quad , \end{aligned}$$

which are symmetric under  $l \leftrightarrow q$ , so that for

$$M = 10 \quad \text{and} \quad N = 3$$

the FSC inverse can be approximated four ways

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{l_1 + l_2}{N^2} &= 137.036\ 000\ 001\ 111 \quad , & \frac{q_1 + q_2}{N^2} &= 137.036 \quad , \\ \frac{l_1 + l_3}{N^2} &= 137.036\ 000\ 002\ 346 \quad , & \frac{q_1 + q_3}{N^2} &= 137.036\ 000\ 000\ 012 \quad , \end{aligned}$$

which are also symmetric under  $l \leftrightarrow q$ . Also define

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{4.1^3}{l_0 q_0} \quad , & Q &= \frac{6}{l_0 q_0} \quad , \\ L' &= \frac{L}{1 - l_0} \quad , & Q' &= \frac{Q}{\frac{1}{1+l_0}} \quad , \\ L'' &= \frac{L'}{1 - l_0} \quad , & Q'' &= \frac{Q'}{1 - l_0} \quad , \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{l_0 L - 1}{l_2 - l_0} &= 206.768\ 270\ 731 \quad , & \frac{q_0 L + Q'}{q_2 - q_0} &= 1838.683\ 654\ 735 \quad , \\ \frac{l_0 L - 1}{l_3 - l_0} &= 206.768\ 270\ 724 \quad , & \frac{q_0 L + Q'}{q_3 - q_0} &= 1838.683\ 654\ 734 \quad , \end{aligned}$$

which are nearly symmetric under  $l \leftrightarrow q$ ; also note that

$$l_0 q_0 N \left[ \frac{Q''}{l_0} - q_0 L'' \right] = 1836.152\ 675\ 237 \quad .$$

These reproduce, respectively, the muon-, neutron-, and proton-electron mass ratios and follow [1]. With the exception of the less precisely measured muon-electron mass ratio, which above is reproduced at its experimental limit, all of these values, including the FSC inverse, are within just a few parts per billion of their 2006 CODATA values [1, 2].

Analysis of the above definitions gives

$$(q_1 + q_2) - (l_1 + l_2) = \frac{(M - N^3/3 - 1) - N^3/9M^5}{NM^3} . \quad (1)$$

It follows that if

$$M = N^3/3 + 1 \quad (2)$$

and

$$N^3/9M^5 \ll 1 \quad (3)$$

then  $q_1 + q_2$  will closely approximate  $l_1 + l_2$ , making two of the above FSC approximations nearly equal. Inspection reveals that the smallest positive integers fulfilling Eq. (2) are  $M = 10$  and  $N = 3$ . These, as already shown, actually bring all four FSC approximations into numerical alignment. Moreover, this alignment takes place at a value that (purely coincidentally?) is nearly an exact match for the experimental FSC. The economy with which the definitions of  $l_0$ ,  $q_0$ , etc. unambiguously single out the precisely known FSC (via Eq. (2)) provides good evidence for a *non-coincidental*—i.e., physical—origin for  $l_0$ ,  $q_0$ , etc. This evidence is stronger still when one also takes into account the efficiency with which these same definitions help to reproduce three precisely known mass ratios.

Further evidence for non-coincidence is supplied:

- by [3], which shows how a brute-force computer search for approximations of the FSC automatically finds  $(q_1 + q_2)/N^2$ .
- by [4], which accurately models the observed quark and lepton mixing angles with the aid of  $(l_1 + l_3)/N^2$  (the *mixing model nexus*), while requiring no help from free variables “adjusted to fit experiment.”
- by [5], which shows that the relation that  $(q_1 + q_2)/N^2$  has with  $(l_1 + l_3)/N^2$  derives from a general case involving the “broken symmetry” of simple algebraic identities.
- by [6], which exploits cuboctahedral symmetry, and 10, 3, and 4.1, to specify the quark and lepton masses, charges, and generations.

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