Central Production of Light Scalar Mesons at COMPASS

Alexander Austregesilo for the **COMPASS** Collaboration

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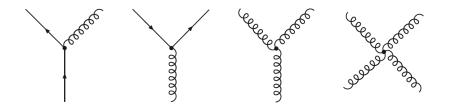






Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

- Degrees of freedom: quarks and gluons
- Confinement: only colour-neutral objects can be observed
- Baryons $(qqq, \bar{q}\bar{q}\bar{q}q)$ and Mesons $(q\bar{q})$ as the relevant degrees of freedom







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- Baryons $(qqq, \bar{q}\bar{q}\bar{q})$ and Mesons $(q\bar{q})$ as the relevant degrees of freedom
- Glueballs and other exotic hadrons predicted by many approximations



Tetraquark



QCD hybrid



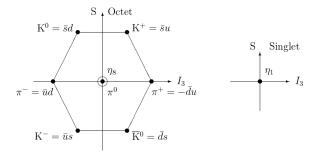
Where are they?

Prediction of the Standard Model that has not yet been confirmed experimentally!

Light-Quark Meson Spectroscopy



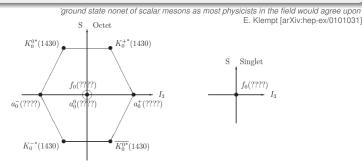
• Flavour SU(3): Mesons are grouped into $3 \otimes 3 = 8 \oplus 1$ nonets



Light-Quark Meson Spectroscopy



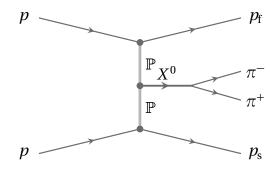
- Flavour SU(3): Mesons are grouped into 3 ⊗ 3 = 8 ⊕ 1 nonets
- Scalar isoscalar mesons (*I^G J^{PC}* = 0⁺ 0⁺⁺): f₀(500), f₀(980), f₀(1370), f₀(1500), f₀(1710), ...



● Super-numerous *f*₀ states not at all understood by quark models ⇒ Mixing with Glueballs?





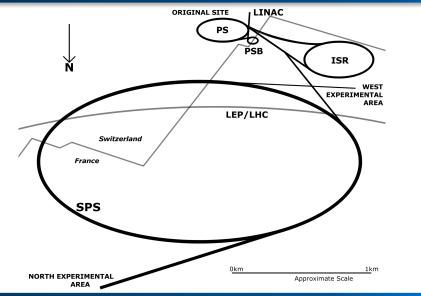


$p \, p ightarrow p_{\text{fast}} \, X \, p_{\text{slow}}$

- Proton beam impinging on proton target, both stay intact and are detected
- Double-Pomeron production of meson system (gluon-rich environment)
- Decay into two pseudoscalar mesons ($\pi^+\pi^-$, $\pi^0\pi^0$, K^+K^- , $\eta\eta$, ...)

Central Production at CERN

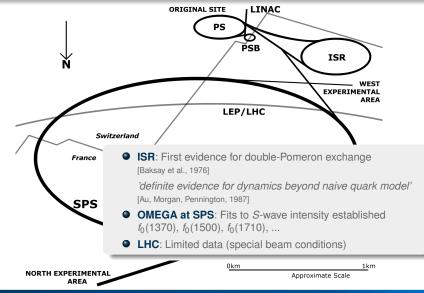




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Central Production at CERN





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COMPASS at CERN SPS

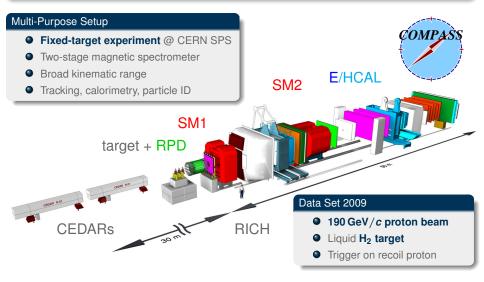






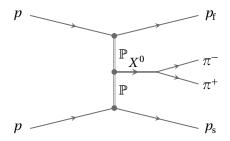
The COMPASS Experiment







Central Production of Two-Pseudoscalar Final States





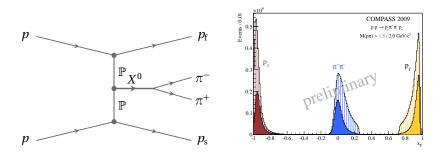
×10⁶ Events / SMeV/c2 0.12 0.12 COMPASS 2009 $\Delta^{0}(1232)$ $p p \rightarrow p_{-}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}p$ p (= 30% of 2009) X^+ 0.08 0.06 \mathbb{P} 0.04 0.02 $p_{\rm s}$ 1.4 1.6 1.8 2.2 2.4 2.6 2.8 Invariant Mass of p T System (GeV/c2)

Baryon resonances in p_Iπ[±] subsystems
 → Diffractive dissociation of the beam proton as dominant process

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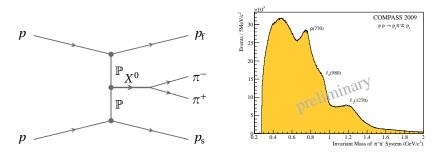
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- Baryon resonances in p_Iπ[±] subsystems
 → Diffractive dissociation of the beam proton as dominant process
- Kinematic separation between $p_{\rm f}$ and π^{\pm}
- Separation between $p_{\rm s}$ and π^{\pm} by trigger on recoil proton $p_{\rm s}$

Central Production of $\pi^+\pi^-$ System

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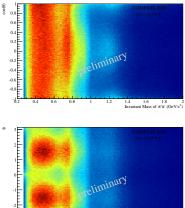
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- $\rho(770)$ production \rightarrow kinematic selection cannot isolate pure DPE sample

⇒ Two-Body Partial-Wave Analysis (PWA)



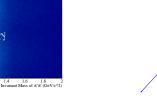
0.2

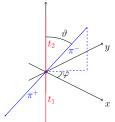
Partial-Wave Analysis



$X^0 o \pi^+ \pi^-$

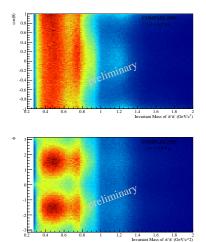
- Assumption: collision of two space-like exchange particles
- Decay of X⁰ fully described by M(π⁺π⁻), cos ϑ and φ





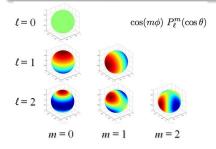


Partial-Wave Analysis



$X^0 ightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$

- Assumption: collision of two space-like exchange particles
- Decay of X^0 fully described by $M(\pi^+\pi^-)$, $\cos \vartheta$ and φ
- Decompose into complex-valued amplitudes (spherical harmonics) with definite spin and parity







Expand intensity $I(\vartheta, \varphi)$ into partial-wave amplitudes in narrow mass bins (10 MeV/ c^2):

$$I(\vartheta,\varphi) = \left|\sum_{LM} T_{LM} Y_M^L(\vartheta,\varphi)\right|^2$$

- Quantum-mechanical interference between amplitudes with same |i> and |f>
- Complex-valued transition amplitudes T_{LM}, no assumption on mass-dependence
- Significant contributions only from L = S, P, D and $M \le 1$

⇒ Maximum Likelihood Fit in Mass Bins





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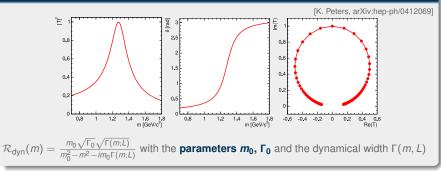
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⇒ Maximum Likelihood Fit in Mass Bins

• Physical observables: intensities $|T_{LM}|^2$ and relative phases (\rightarrow Model)



Resonance: Relativistic Breit-Wigner Function



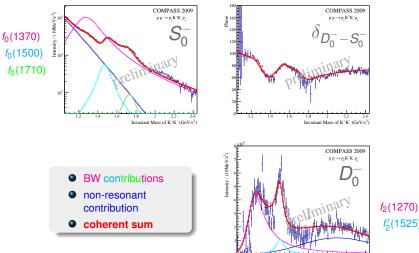
Non-Resonant Contribution: Phase Space with Exponential Damping

$$\mathcal{N}(m) = \left(\frac{q}{m}\right)^{L} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}} \cdot \exp(-\alpha q^2)$$
 with breakup momentum q and **parameter** α

Sum with complex-valued coefficient (strength + phase) for each component

Mass-Dependence of K^+K^-



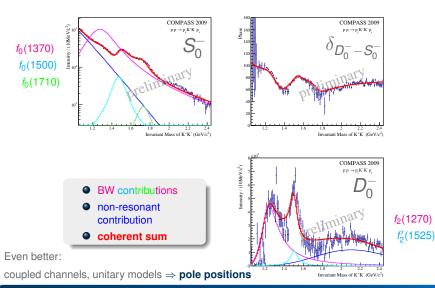


 $f_{2}^{\prime}(1525)$

Invariant Mass of K+K (GeV/c2)

Mass-Dependence of K^+K^-





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- Large samples and precision data outperform previous experiments
- Novel analysis schemes provide insight in hadron dynamics
- Consistent picture of scalar sector through combination of different approaches



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- Implications for BSM searches (e.g. CPV in heavy meson decays)



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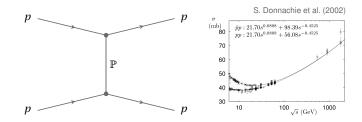
Thank you for your attention!



Backup Slides

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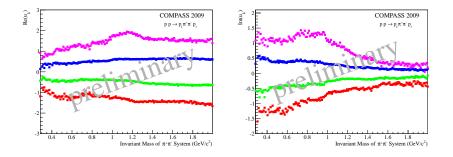
Phenomenological Theory of Hadron Scattering

- Postulation of Pomeron \mathbb{P} necessary for scattering above $\sqrt{s} \approx 10 \,\text{GeV}$
- Which observed particles, if any, correspond to the Pomeron?

How does Regge theory emerge from QCD at long distances?



- 8 mathematically ambiguous solutions result in the same angular distribution
- Analytical computation via method of Barrelet Zeros



- Real (left) and imaginary (right) part of polynomial roots
- Well separated, imaginary parts do not cross the real axis
- \Rightarrow Solutions can be uniquely identified and linked from mass bin to mass bin



Ambiguities in the $\pi\pi$ Systems



$\pi^+\pi^-$ System

- 8 different solutions can be calculated analytically
- Differentiation requires additional input (e.g. behaviour at threshold, physics content)

$\pi^0\pi^0$ System

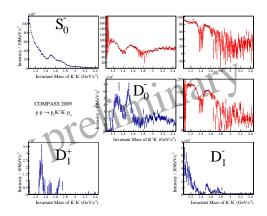
- Identical particles, only even waves allowed
- Reduces number of ambiguities to 2

Combination of $\pi\pi$ Systems

- Consistent picture of the reaction, measured with different parts of experimental setup
- Interpretation with mass dependent parametrisation under way!



Fit to the K^+K^- System



- Similar partial-wave analysis of K⁺K⁻-system
- Odd waves do not play a significant role above the $\phi(1020)$ -mass \Rightarrow Reduction of ambiguities