Electron-positron annihilation into four pions and the $a_1 \rho \pi$ Lagrangian

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Properties of $a_1(1260)$

- $I^G = 1^-$
- $J^P = 1^+$
- $m = 1230 \pm 40 \text{ MeV}$
- $\Gamma = 250$ to 600 MeV
- Decays ("seen", no info about branching fractions) $\rho\pi$ (S and D waves) $\rho(1450)\pi$ (S and D waves) $\sigma\pi$ $f_0(1370)\pi$ $f_2(1270)\pi$ $K\bar{K}^*$ + c.c. $\pi\gamma$

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$\mathbf{a_1}(\mathbf{1260})$ in low-energy processes

Hadronic processes

diffractive production $\pi^- p \to \pi^- \pi^- \pi^+ p$ charge-exchange reaction $\pi^- p \to \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0 n$ central production $pp \to p_f(\pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0) p_s$ decays, e.g. $\rho(1700) \to a_1 \pi$

Electromagnetic processes

 $e^+e^- \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^ e^+e^- \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$

Weak decays

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^- &\to \nu_\tau \pi^- \pi^- \pi^+ \\ \tau^- &\to \nu_\tau \pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0 \\ \tau^- &\to \nu_\tau \pi^- \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^0 \\ D^+ &\to K^0_S a^+_1, \text{ etc.} \end{aligned}$$

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Elmag. radiation from hadron gas

Photons

- $\pi + \rho \rightarrow \gamma + \pi$
- $\pi+\pi\to\gamma+\rho$
- $\rho \to \gamma + \pi + \pi$
- $a_1 \to \gamma + \pi$

Dileptons

As above with γ replaced by e^+e^- , and $\pi^{\pm} + a_1^{\mp} \rightarrow e^+e^$ $a_1^+ + a_1^- \rightarrow e^+e^ \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^- \rightarrow e^+e^ \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0 \rightarrow e^+e^-$

• Calculated rate strongly depends on the choice of the $a_1 \rho \pi$ Lagrangian!

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Phenomenological $a_1 \rho \pi$ Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{a}_{1}}\rho\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\mathcal{L}_{1}\cos\theta + \mathcal{L}_{2}\sin\theta \right)$$

 $\sin \theta$, $\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{a_1}\rho\pi}$ to be determined

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \mathbf{A}^{\mu} \cdot (\mathbf{V}_{\mu\nu} \times \partial^{\nu} \phi)$$

Xiong, Shuryak, Brown PRD 46, 3798 (1992)

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathbf{V}_{\mu\nu} \cdot (\partial^{\mu} \mathbf{A}^{\nu} \times \phi)$$

Janssen, Holinde, Speth PRC 49, 2763 (1994)

 $\mathbf{V}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}\mathbf{V}_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\mathbf{V}_{\mu}$

$$\Gamma(a_1 \to \rho \pi) = g_{a_1 \rho \pi}^2 f(\sin \theta)$$

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$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ below 1 GeV



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$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ below 1 GeV



 $\chi^2/NDF = 1.18$

 $\sin \theta = 0.5022(41)$

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$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ up to 4.5 GeV



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 $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$



Two Feynman diagrams of a pure a_1 model. $a_1\rho\pi$ Lagrangian parameters from the previous analysis.

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 $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$



Three Feynman diagrams describing the ω contribution. $\omega\rho\pi$ coupling fixed by analysis of the ω decays.

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 $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$



 $a_1 + \omega + h_1$ model versus CMD-2 and DM2 data. $a_1\rho\pi$ Lagrangian parameters same as in $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$

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Joint fit to $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ and $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$

 $\chi^2 / NDF = 0.99$ $\sin \theta = 0.4632(43)$

 $\sin \theta = 0.4603(28)$ from $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ above 1GeV $\sin \theta = 0.5132(55)$ from $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ below 1GeV

The results of this study have already been utilized in the evaluation of the dimuon production from the four-pion annihilation in In-In collisions at 158A GeV (comparison with the NA60 experiment): J. Ruppert, C. Gale, T. Renk, P. Lichard, and J. I. Kapusta, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 162301 (2008).

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