

The projections of these events onto the electron and proton axes are shown in Figs. 2(b) and 2(c), respectively. In these histograms the curves shown are the distributions expected for the best-fit value of the axial-vector-to-vector ratio stated below. These distributions were obtained from a Monte Carlo calculation which included the characteristic generation of two solutions in the zero-constraint fit and which included the geometric acceptance criteria. In Fig. 2(d) the contours of relative probability density on the Dalitz plane show the characteristic peaking at the low and high baryon-energy limits for the pure axial-vector (A) and pure vector (V) baryon currents, respectively.

We used 148 events contributing 285 solutions to our likelihood function for the axial-vector-to-vector ratio in the baryon current. With proper consideration of the two-solution ambiguity we obtain the ratio

$$|g_1/f_1| = 0.72_{-0.14}^{+0.19}$$

at the 68% confidence level. With 95% confidence we obtain the limits $0.48 \leq |g_1/f_1| \leq 1.22$. If we neglect the effect of weak magnetism, our ratio becomes 0.69. Filthuth⁵ has recently reviewed the latest available data on the baryon leptonic decays in the context of the Cabibbo theory.⁶ The best fit for the single-angle Cabibbo theory⁵ predicts an axial-vector-to-vector ratio $g_1/f_1 = 0.74$ for the leptonic Λ decay, in good agreement with our experimental result.

We wish to thank the personnel for the alternat-

ing-gradient synchrotron beam and the 30-in. bubble chamber at Brookhaven National Laboratory. We express appreciation to the contributing staff of the High Energy Physics Group at the University of Maryland, particularly to the scanners for their efficiency and to Professor R. G. Glasser and Professor G. A. Snow for their helpful discussions.

*Work supported in part by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

¹D. Berley, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Alternating-Gradient Synchrotron Technical Note No. 25, 1965 (unpublished).

²C. Baglin et al., *Nuovo Cimento* **35**, 977 (1965); R. P. Ely et al., *Phys. Rev.* **131**, 868 (1963).

³R. P. Feynman and M. Gell-Mann, *Phys. Rev.* **109**, 193 (1958); E. C. G. Sudarshan and R. E. Marshak, in *Proceedings of the Padua-Venice Conference on Mesons and Recently Discovered Particles, September, 1957* (Societ  Italiana di Fisica, Padua, Italy, 1958); P. K. Kabir, *Development of Weak Interaction Theory* (Gordon and Breach Publishers, Inc., New York, 1963), p. 118.

⁴We have neglected the two time-reversal-noninvariant second-class components, scalar and axial magnetism. We have also ignored the first-class induced pseudoscalar component since its effect is small even relative to that of weak magnetism.

⁵H. Filthuth, in *Proceedings of the Topical Conference on Weak Interactions, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland, 14-17 January 1969* (CERN Scientific Information Service, Geneva, Switzerland, 1969), p. 131. The best fit of the single-angle Cabibbo theory to the data is given by the angle $\theta = 0.235$ and the axial-vector coupling coefficients $g_1^F = 0.49$ and $g_1^D = 0.74$.

⁶N. Cabibbo, *Phys. Rev. Letters* **10**, 531 (1963).

A MEASUREMENT OF THE BRANCHING RATIO $(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi\mu\nu)/(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi e\nu)$ *

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(Received 16 June 1969)

We present the results of a study of K_L^0 decays observed in the CERN 1.1-m³ heavy-liquid bubble chamber. About 75 000 frames were scanned, and yielded some 7500 examples of isolated K_L^0 decays to charged particles. Based on a sample of 4000 events in a restricted fiducial region, the following branching ratios were found:

$$N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm \mu^\mp \nu) / N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm e^\mp \nu) = 0.648 \pm 0.030,$$

$$N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0) / N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \text{all charged}) = 0.157 \pm 0.010.$$

The CERN 1.1-m³ heavy-liquid bubble chamber was exposed to a neutral beam taken at 30° from an internal beryllium target in the CERN proton

synchrotron. Approximately 2×10^{11} protons/pulse with a momentum of 19.2 GeV/c impinged on the target, giving rise to a flux at the bubble

chamber of 50 K_L^0 , 1.8×10^3 γ rays (with energy >1 GeV), and 9.0×10^3 neutrons (with kinetic energy >0.3 GeV) per pulse. The distance from the target to the center of the bubble chamber was 22.5 m, and the beam was collimated to a circular profile 2 cm in diameter at the chamber. In order to avoid all possible background and regeneration effects, the beam path was in vacuo (4×10^{-2} -mm pressure of air) both inside the chamber and for 13 m before it. The beam had a momentum spectrum ranging from 0.3 to 3.0 GeV/c, peaking at about 1.0 GeV/c.

Within the chamber, the vacuum pipe was of aluminum and had an internal diameter of 4 cm. The wall was 2.5 mm thick. A lead collar was fitted to the pipe just within the chamber, and greatly reduced the background of tracks from K_L^0 decays occurring before the chamber. Tracks that emerged from the pipe on the far side from the cameras were observed through a mirror placed some 35 cm behind the pipe. The chamber was filled with heavy Freon, CF_3Br , in which the radiation length was 11 cm and the collision length was 58 cm. The magnetic field in the chamber was 27.0 kG.

75 000 frames were scanned for those on which there was a single decay of the type $K_L^0 \rightarrow$ charged particles in a region defined by the first track exiting the pipe not less than 5 cm from the lead

collar and the second not more than 70 cm from the collar. The scan rules also rejected those frames on which there was evidence for any decays giving rise to tracks just outside this region. Events were accepted with one or two charged tracks, of either sign, together with up to three gamma rays that could be associated with a possible origin for the charged tracks. Two independent scans were made and all frames found by either scan were checked and classified by physicists. About 7500 events remained after physicist classification.

The criteria used in the identification of particles were that (i) an electron (positron) could be identified by shower effects, or by the curvature of the track; (ii) gamma rays could be recognized through electron pairs or Compton electrons; (iii) charged pions could be identified through the occurrence of an interaction, or of a single scatter with a momentum transfer greater than 0.1 GeV/c,¹ or of a $\pi-\mu-e$ decay chain; and (iv) the remaining nonelectronic tracks could not be distinguished between π or μ , but the decay of such a track to an electron was recorded.

After identification of the individual tracks, events were assigned to the categories shown in Table I. At this level, 6% of events were flagged as difficult to classify. These events were subsequently examined and classified by teams of two

Table I. Event classification.

Class	Class characteristics	No. in class
K_{e3}^0	One electron track, one non-electron track of opposite sign which may be identified as a pion. No γ rays other than those consistent with bremsstrahlung.	1897
$K_{\mu 3}^0$	Two non-electron tracks, one of which may be identified as a pion. No γ rays.	1309
$K^0 (\pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0)$	Two non-electron tracks and 1 or 2 γ rays associated with the likely decay point.	558
$\pi^+ \pi^-$	Two identified pion tracks and no γ rays.	8
$e^+ e^-$	Two identified electron tracks.	41
Single tracks	One track of any nature with or without associated γ rays.	167
$K_{e3}^0 + \gamma$	As K_{e3}^0 , but with one associated γ ray not consistent with bremsstrahlung. ^a	19
Others	Tracks with same charge or unassociated; events with tenuous γ association.	6
TOTAL		4005

^aRef. 2.

or more physicists, using as a basis the individual appearance of an event. 16 events remained which were ambiguous between $K_{\mu 3}$ and $K_{e 3}$ decays, and these were assigned following a final inspection of the individual events together with a consideration of the overall properties of this group. An evaluation of the possible systematic bias in this procedure has been made, and is included as part of the correction in item 2 of Table II.

The numbers in Table I represent those events placed in each category when the first track was required to emerge from the pipe within a fiducial region 35 cm long, beginning 20 cm from the lead collar. This fiducial region was chosen to ensure reliable particle identification and high gamma-detection efficiency. The final results were shown to be insensitive to the precise choice of fiducial region.

A number of systematic effects were considered, which can influence both the efficiency of detecting events and the efficiency for identifying those events found. These effects are summarized in Table II. The scanning efficiencies and

identification efficiencies have been obtained³ by careful rescanning of film by different combinations of scanners and physicists from the two establishments collaborating in this work. The corrections due to stopping of pions and muons, and to electron-loss processes, are given in items 4-7 of Table II. The effect of the fiducial volume geometry on preferential detection of the different decay modes is given in item 10. These corrections and the gamma-detection efficiency have been derived from a study of the data and a Monte Carlo simulation of the experiment. The flux of gammas randomly associated with events has been estimated from the number of events found of the type $\pi\pi 3\gamma$. The final totals after application of the corrections are given in line 11. From these we may immediately derive the two branching ratios:

$$R_1 = N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- \nu) / N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ e^- \nu) \\ = 0.648 \pm 0.030,$$

$$R_2 = N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0) / N(K_L^0 \rightarrow \text{all charged}) \\ = 0.157 \pm 0.010.$$

Table II. Corrections and assignment of events to the $K_{e 3}$, $K_{\mu 3}$, and $K(+0)$ class.

Original class	$K_{e 3}$	$K_{\mu 3}$	$K(+0)$
1. Identified events	1897	1309	558
2. Scanning and identification efficiency ^a	(95.8±2.1)%	100%	(93.9±3.7)%
3. γ detection efficiency and $\pi^+ \pi^-$ decay mode	-	(-0.7±0.1)%	(+1.3±0.3)%
4. Single track + 1 or 2 γ	(+0.6±0.2)%	-	(+2.0±0.6)%
5. Single tracks	(+1.9±0.5)%	(+0.4±0.1)%	-
6. Electrons on pipe ^b	-	-	(+5.0±3.0)%
7. Pion and muon decay	(-0.1±0.1)%	(+0.6±0.1)%	(+0.5±0.2)%
8. Randomly associated γ 's	-	-	(-0.5±0.5)%
9. Dalitz pairs	-	-	(+1.7±0.04)% ^c
10. Geometrical efficiency	(+0.0±1.0)%	(+0.0±1.0)%	(-4.2±1.0)%
11. Totals	2025±67	1313±39	621±39

^aNormalized to 100% for $K_{\mu 3}$ decays.

^bGamma rays from $\pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$ decays passing through the pipe wall can give rise to single electrons leaving the pipe, which would then lead to event rejection at the scanning stage; see Ref. 4.

^cRef. 5.

Previous measurements of R_1 are given in Table III, together with the best-fit value as given

Table III. Comparison of various values of R_1 .

$R_1(K_{\mu 3}/K_{e 3})$	ΔR_1	Method	Reference
0.81	0.19	Hydrogen bubble chamber	a
0.73	0.15	Hydrogen bubble chamber	b
0.82	0.10	Spark chamber	c
0.70	0.20	Hydrogen bubble chamber	d
0.81	0.08	Hydrogen bubble chamber	e
0.71	0.05	Heavy liquid bubble chamber	f
0.745	0.035	Fit	g
0.638	0.036	Spark chamber	h
0.648	0.030	Heavy liquid bubble chamber	This work

^aR. K. Adair *et al.*, Phys. Letters **12**, 67 (1964).

^bD. Luers *et al.*, Phys. Rev. **133**, 1276 (1964).

^cX. De Bouard *et al.*, Nuovo Cimento **52A**, 662 (1967).

^dC. J. B. Hawkins, Phys. Rev. **156**, 1444 (1967).

^eH. W. K. Hopkins *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Letters **19**, 185 (1967).

^fSee Ref. 4.

^gSee Ref. 6.

^hP. Basile *et al.*, to be published. See also Ref. 12.

in the particle data tables.⁶ We note that while R_2 is in good agreement with previous measurements,⁷ R_1 is somewhat lower. We believe this may be because of the ability of the technique to detect decays from all parts of the Dalitz plot with close to 100% efficiency, and to the insensitivity to any assumptions about the form of the interaction. The value of R_1 obtained in this work may be used to derive the parameter ξ_0 , the ratio of the form factors at zero four-momentum transfer, in the expression⁸

$$R_1(K_{\mu 3}/K_{e 3}) = 0.6487 + 0.1269 \operatorname{Re}(\xi_0) \\ + 0.0193 |\xi_0|^2 + 1.329 \lambda_+ + \dots,$$

where a pure vector coupling and μ - e universality are assumed. The energy dependence of the form factors has been parametrized in the normal manner⁹:

$$f_{\pm}(q^2) = f_{\pm}(0) [1 + \lambda_{\pm} q^2/m_{\pi}^2].$$

Assuming also time-reversal invariance then $\operatorname{Im}(\xi_0) = 0$, and setting $\lambda_- = 0$ we obtain $\xi_0 = -3.287 \pm 7.198(R_1 - 0.4403 - 1.329\lambda_+)^{1/2}$, whence, using $R_1 = 0.648 \pm 0.03$, and $\lambda_+ = 0.02 \pm 0.015$,¹⁰ $\xi_0 = -6.36 \pm 0.30$ or -0.22 ± 0.30 . Results from polarization studies¹¹ would predict $R_1 = 0.53 \pm 0.03$ using the same phenomenology. The agreement between these two sets of results is at the 5% level; it is possible, as discussed, for example, by Cronin,¹² that a strong contribution from the λ_- term may still be required to reconcile the data. A comparison of these data with the $K_{\mu 3}/K_{e 3}$ branching ratio from K^+ experiments allows a test of the $|\Delta I| = \frac{1}{2}$ (leptonic) rule. The mean value obtained from the measurements of Eichten *et al.* and Botterill *et al.*,¹³ $R_1(K^+) = 0.636 \pm 0.01$, yields $R_1(+)/R_1(0) = 0.98 \pm 0.05$, in excellent agreement with the prediction of unity.

We wish to thank the operating crews of the CERN proton synchrotron and the heavy-liquid bubble chamber for their assistance in obtaining the film for this experiment, and Dr. C. Ramm for his advice and support. We also wish to acknowledge the invaluable work of our scanning teams without whose assistance this work would not have been possible.

*A preliminary analysis of part of these data was submitted to the Fourteenth International Conference on High-Energy Physics, Vienna, Austria, September, 1968 (unpublished), Paper No. 242.

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¹J. Sawicki and H. Yoshiki, *Nuovo Cimento* **42A**, 410 (1966).

²The flux of gamma rays randomly associated with events was estimated from events of the type $\pi\pi 3\gamma$, and found to be $(0.23 \pm 0.3)\%$. There should then be 4.5 ± 5 events of the type $\pi e\gamma$ in the data, where γ arises from a spurious association. The excess of 14.5 events of the type $\pi e\gamma$ actually observed are tentatively assigned to the radiative decay mode $K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} e^{\mp} \nu \gamma$, corresponding to a branching ratio $\pi e \nu \gamma / \pi e \nu = (0.75 \pm 0.4)\%$. The error here is purely statistical and does not attempt to include systematic effects of the type likely to arise from incorrect gamma association, which may be considerable. This effect is being studied further.

³The absolute scanning efficiencies for the various modes were also obtained using a partial third and fourth scan, and deriving a "visibility function" for each mode (S. E. Derenzo and R. H. Hildebrand, to be published). These efficiencies were in agreement with those obtained in the manner outlined in the text, in which effects not only of scanning efficiency but also of physicist identification efficiency were included.

⁴I. A. Budagov *et al.*, *Nuovo Cimento* **57A**, 182 (1968).

⁵N. P. Samios, *Phys. Rev.* **121**, 275 (1961).

⁶N. Barash-Schmidt *et al.*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **41**, 109 (1969).

⁷P. Astbury *et al.*, *Phys. Letters* **18**, 175 (1968); P. Guidoni *et al.*, Argonne National Laboratory Report No. ANL 7130, 1965 (unpublished); C. J. B. Hawkins, *Phys. Letters* **21**, 238 (1966); H. W. K. Hopkins *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Letters* **19**, 185 (1967).

⁸A. Fujii and M. Kawaguchi, *Phys. Rev.* **113**, 1156 (1959); see also N. Cabibbo, in *Proceedings of the Thirteenth International Conference on High Energy Physics, Berkeley, California, 1966*, (University of California Press, Berkeley, Calif., 1967).

⁹See for example, J. D. Jackson, *Brandeis Summer Institute 1962 Lectures in Theoretical Physics*, edited by K. W. Ford (W. A. Benjamin, Inc., New York, 1963), Vol. 1., *Elementary Particle Physics and Field Theory*.

¹⁰S. H. Aronson and K. Wendell Chen, *Phys. Rev.* **175**, 1708 (1968). A complete list of references to previous measurements is given in this paper.

¹¹R. J. Abrams *et al.*, *Phys. Rev.* **176**, 1603 (1968); L. B. Auerbach *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Letters* **17**, 980 (1966); J. A. Helland *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Letters* **21**, 257 (1968).

¹²J. W. Cronin in *Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Conference on High-Energy Physics, Vienna, Austria, 1968* (CERN Scientific Information Service, Geneva, Switzerland, 1968), p. 281.

¹³T. Eichten *et al.*, *Phys. Letters* **27B**, 596 (1968); D. R. Botterill *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Letters* **21**, 766 (1968).