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LINE REVERSAL, SU(3), AND EXCHANGE DEGENERACY IN K^{\pm} N CHARGE EXCHANGE AT 4 GeV/c

F. Elvekjaer and R.C. Johnson *)
CERN - Geneva

ABSTRACT

New differential cross-section data for $K^+n \to K^0p$ and $K^-p \to \overline{K}^0n$ at 4 GeV/c are studied. The SU(3) octet sum rule is well satisfied and the ρ quantum number exchange is shown separately to obey SU(3) well. The observed breaking of line-reversal equality is shown to be too big to be accounted for by the s channel helicity non-flip amplitudes alone, and a possible mechanism of exchange-degeneracy breaking in the flip amplitude is pointed out.

^{*)} On leave from Durham University, England.

Counter measurements of differential cross-sections $\sigma(K^\pm)$ for the $K^\pm N$ charge-exchange ($K^\pm CEX$) reactions $K^+ n \to K^0 p$ and $K^- p \to \overline{K}^0 n$ at $p_L = 3,4,6$ GeV/c have become available recently 1). The $K^\pm CEX$ processes are connected by line-reversal and proceed by exchange of ρ and A_2 quantum numbers. The new data represent the first detailed study of both reactions in one experiment. Consequently they offer the possibility of a realistic analysis of exchange-degeneracy (EXD) breaking and related questions - an analysis less plagued than usual by doubts about relative normalizations.

The majority by a factor of more than two of the $K^{\pm}CEX$ events ¹⁾ is at 4 GeV/c, and so we concentrate at this energy. Figure 1 shows

$$\sigma_{\pm} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sigma(\kappa^{-}) \pm \sigma(\kappa^{+}) \right\} \tag{1}$$

as a function of t. Measurements at two of the t values are adjusted within their errors to make them more consistent with smooth extrapolations through neighbouring values; the results are not sensitive to this.

Also shown in Fig. 1 is the well-known combination 2)

$$\sigma_0 = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sigma(\pi) + 3\sigma(\eta) \right\}$$
 (2)

of differential cross-sections for $\pi^- p \to \pi^0 n$, ηn interpolated from data at 3.7 $^{3)}$, 4.0 $^{4)}$, 3.67, 3.8, and 4.83 $^{5)}$ GeV/c. The good agreement

$$\sigma_{+} = \sigma_{0}$$
 (3)

is evidence that at this energy, whatever combination of Regge poles and cuts constitute ρ and A_2 exchange, each obeys SU(3) octet symmetry in coupling to two pseudoscalar mesons 2).

In fact for $-0.05 \gtrsim t \gtrsim -0.4 \; (\text{GeV/c})^2$ satisfaction of Eq. (3) tests SU(3) for only the dominant flip amplitude. Figure 2(a) illustrates this point, showing the decomposition

$$\sigma(\pi) = \sigma_{N} + \sigma_{F} \tag{4}$$

of the $\pi^- p$ CEX cross-section into s channel helicity flip (σ_F) and non-flip (σ_N) components according to a typical analysis of $\pi^- p \to \pi^0 n$ with finite-energy sum rule (FESR) constraints $^6)$.

For the $\,\rho\,$ exchange a more detailed test of SU(3) is possible. The prediction for the amplitudes is that

$$\rho(KN) = -\rho(\pi N)/\sqrt{2} \qquad (5)$$

and on this basis Fig. 2(b) compares an effective pole parametrization of $\rho(\pi N)^{-6}$ with recent K N FESR integrals, evaluated at cut-off $p_L = 1.5 \text{ GeV/c}^{-7}$. The agreement is excellent in the region of interest, $-t < 1.1 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$.

A model of EXD ρ and A_2 Regge poles predicts line-reversal symmetry, $\sigma_{-}=0$. Let us now consider the origin of the breaking of the line-reversal equality (LRB) illustrated in Fig. 1, and seen similarly at $p_{\rm L}=3$ and 6 GeV/c at a comparable level - i.e., about 30%, measured by $\frac{1}{2}|\sigma_{-}|/\sigma_{+}$. Recall that LRB is observed also in hypercharge exchange (HCEX) reactions at these energies and apparently up to 14 GeV/c 8 , although bubble-chamber data for K CEX at 12 GeV/c are consistent with $\sigma_{-}=0$ 1. In each case, at any rate at smaller |t|, we have

$$\sigma(Real) > \sigma(Rotating)$$
 (6)

in the EXD Regge pole language, which here means $\sigma_{\underline{\ }}<0$.

A widely-advocated model of amplitude systematics generates LRB through effects in s channel helicity non-flip amplitudes. Single flip amplitudes are supposed to be correctly described by simple EXD Regge poles, or equivalent dual absorptive terms [for reviews and references, see, e.g., Ref. 10)]. The origin is the empirical features of πN scattering where the flips amplitude ρ_+ (πN) is accurately Regge pole-like at current energies ¹¹⁾. The success of SU(3) [Eqs. (3) and (5)] strongly suggests similar Regge behaviour for ρ_- (KN).

However, evidence for the state of the A_2 single flip is unclear. Model fits to older data on K CEX and to related processes [reviewed in, e.g., Refs. 10) and 12)] are consistent with Regge pole-like, EXD, SU(3) symmetric flip amplitudes. But the FESR for K N, while as we see [Fig. 2(b)] giving impressive confirmation for the ρ , predict an A_2 exchange which is completely different - at any rate near the upper end of the phase-shift region, $P_L \approx 1.5 \ \text{GeV/c}^{-7}$. For the SU(3) related K N, T exchanges the available FESR results are not completely consistent P_1 but (with some symmetry breaking) the LRB in the non-flip-dominated HCEX reactions is naturally accommodated within the scheme P_1

In resonance production reactions where single-flip dominance is indicated, Fox and Quigg 10) have emphasized the lack of evidence for smaller LRB in flip than in non-flip, but here relative normalization is a big difficulty.

A feature of the newer and more accurate $K^{\pm}CEX$ data in Fig. 1 is the large size of σ_{-} with its suggestion of a turnover near t=0. With over-all flip dominance expected, the immediate suspicion is that, contrary to the above popular model, LRB here is <u>not</u> confined solely to the non-flip amplitude. Confirmation of this suspicion is immediate, as follows.

Using the SU(3) relation Eq. (5) established by the K N FESR to calculate $\rho(\text{KN})$ (both flip and non-flip), the data σ_{\pm} determine the A2 non-flip amplitude T in modulus and phase, under the model assumption that the A2 flip amplitude is a simple Regge pole-like term, EXD with ρ_{+} .

If the common $\,\rho\!-\!A_2^{}\,$ EXD Regge pole trajectory is $\,\alpha(t)^{},\,$ we obtain the equations

$$\sigma_{+} = |T|^{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{N} + \sigma_{F}/(1-\cos\pi\alpha)$$
, (7)

$$\sigma_{-} = \sqrt{2\sigma_{N}} \cdot |T| \cdot \cos \theta , \qquad (8)$$

where σ_N and σ_F are $\pi^- p$ CEX non-flip and flip cross-sections as in Eq. (4). By hypothesis, ρ and A_2 are orthogonal in s channel helicity flip and so do not contribute to σ . Through Eq. (7), σ_+ determines |T|. Then from Eq. (8) the LRB σ_- gives the projection of T onto ρ_+ , measured by $\cos\theta$. There is a two-fold ambiguity in the solution since $\cos\theta = \cos(-\theta)$.

Figure 3(a) shows |T| as a function of t for two typical choices of $\alpha(t)^{(6)},11),14$. The solution is sensitive to $\alpha(t)$ which vanishes near $t=-0.55~(\text{GeV/c})^2$. This is the only place where possible ρ' terms are important in the flip amplitude. As a result, we find large uncertainties at $t=-0.45~(\text{GeV/c})^2$ and $-0.55~(\text{GeV/c})^2$, although the solution on each side interpolates smoothly. In Figure 3(a) [as in Fig. 2(a)] σ_N and σ_N are calculated from the fit of Ref. 6) but other comparable fits [e.g., 14)] to $\pi^- p$ CEX give almost identical results. The error bars correspond to those on the K $^\pm$ CEX data $^{(1)}$. The dip-bump structure near t=-0.1 to $-0.2~(\text{GeV/c})^2$ is caused by the rapid drop of σ_N and rapid rise of σ_F with increasing |t|.

In Fig. 3(b), where $\cos\theta$ is plotted, the failure of the model is evident - over a range of t, $|\cos\theta|$ is bigger than unity. The SU(3) assumption is tested, and credible minor adjustments to σ_N and σ_F , and indeed to $\alpha(t)$, do not save the situation . The LRB shown by the data is too big to be explained by the model, i.e., by non-flip amplitudes alone. Moreover, the discrepancy in Fig. 3(b) is largest where the flip amplitudes are largest [compare, e.g., Fig. 2(a)]. Therefore, it is reasonable to infer that in K CEX at 4 GeV/c, contrary to popular belief, there is a substantial breaking of EXD between the ρ and A_2 in the s channel helicity flip amplitude.

^{*)} E.g., at t = -0.25 $(\text{GeV/c})^2$, for $\alpha(t) = 0.55 + t$, to reduce $|\cos\theta|$ from 2.4 to 1.0 requires $|T|^2 > \sigma_+$; or else an increase of σ_N by a factor of about 6 to 8.

The present analysis offers no direct clues to the mechanism of flip EXD breaking. The size of flip correction necessary between $t \approx -0.1 \; (\text{GeV/c})^2$ and $t \approx -0.4 \; (\text{GeV/c})^2$ can be bounded by assuming it to be (anti) parallel to the EXD term, when an effect of order 15% in amplitude is estimated.

One notes that high-energy measurements of $\sigma(\pi)^{-15}$ and $\sigma(\pi)^{-16}$ show standard Regge pole energy-dependences for the dominant flip amplitudes in $0 > t \gtrsim -0.5 \; (\text{GeV/c})^2$, consistent with parallel ρ and A_2 trajectories in this region, where the A_2 is displaced downward by $\Delta\alpha \approx 0.1$ or so. Such an " α breaking" of pole EXD gives the obtuse angle between ρ and A_2 flip components necessary for $\sigma_- < 0$, and gives the order of magnitude about right $\frac{17}{2}$.

With this mechanism the flip part of the LRB σ_{-} then vanishes at t = 0 and t \approx -0.55 (GeV/c)². It is interesting to note here that, according to Fig. 1, $\sigma_{-}(t=0)$ is roughly the same size as $\sigma_{-}(t\approx -0.55 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2)$. The mechanism also predicts a persistent effect at high energies in K^{\pm} CEX, and, with a phase for T closer to EXD ($\theta > 0$) it contributes to polarizations small and negative in $K^{-}p \to \overline{K}^{0}n$, and larger and positive in $K^{+}n \to K^{0}p$. This agrees with available data ¹⁸⁾ and other indications ¹⁹⁾.

To summarize, some immediate features of accurate new K $^\pm$ CEX data at $p_{T_s}=4$ GeV/c are as follows.

- (i) They are consistent with SU(3) octet symmetry for helicity flip ρ and A_2 quantum number exchange. There is new separate evidence from FESR for SU(3) couplings of the ρ quantum number in both flip and non-flip.
- (ii) The sizeable breaking of line-reversal symmetry is not consistent with the standard model which blames the s channel helicity non-flip amplitude while supposing that the flip amplitude is EXD and Regge pole-like. A model of α broken EXD poles may work for the flip amplitude.

Data at 3 and 6 GeV/c from the same experiment $^{1)}$ have lower statistics and larger errors rendering conclusions correspondingly less certain. The satisfaction of the SU(3) sum rule Eq. (3) $^{2)}$ is good at 6 GeV/c but poorer at 3 GeV/c. The success of Eq. (5) points to the A_2

as the culprit, consistent with the anomalous A_2 FESR results 7). A detailed analysis of A_2 exchange will be presented elsewhere 20).

We conclude with the traditional plea for more accurate data. K^\pm CEX polarizations near 4 GeV/c to complement the cross-sections are obviously of prime interest.

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FIGURE CAPTIONS

- Fig. 1: Cross-section combinations σ_{\pm} defined in Eqs. (1) and (2) plotted on a linear scale against t. As described in the text the data are smoothed: at $t=-0.04~(\text{GeV/c})^2$ the value of $\sigma(\text{K}^-)$ is decreased to the limit of its quoted experimental error, and $\sigma(\text{K}^+)$ is similarly increased; at $t=-0.45~(\text{GeV/c})^2~\sigma(\text{K}^+)$ is increased to its upper error limit. Included are values of σ_0 defined in Eq. (2) to test the Barger-Cline sum rule, Eq. (3).
- Fig. 2: (a) Cross-section components σ_N and σ_F defined in Eq. (4), plotted on a linear scale. From Ref. 6).
 - (b) Comparison between FESR integrals (bands) for ρ quantum number exchange in K[±]N scattering [from Ref. 7)] and the high-energy contribution (dashed line) of Regge ρ amplitudes for πN scattering [from Ref. 6)] scaled by the SU(3) factor $-1/\sqrt{2}$ as in Eq. (5). Precisely, the amplitudes whose imaginary parts are integrated are (in the usual notation) $\rho_{++} \approx A + \nu B$, $\rho_{+-} \approx A$, and units are $\hbar = c = GeV = 1$. See Ref. 7) for full details.
- Fig. 3: (a) Values of |T| for two choices of $\alpha(t)$. The trajectory $\alpha(t)=0.5+0.9$ t reproduces well the phase of ρ_+ at $\rho_L=6$ GeV/c [see Fig. 4 of Michael's Oxford Conference talk, Ref. 10)], and $\alpha(t)=0.55+t$ is the ρ pole trajectory used in FESR fits, Refs. 6) and 14).
 - (b) Values of $\cos\theta$ for the same two choices of $\alpha(t)$.

In both cases, points are joined by hand-drawn curves.

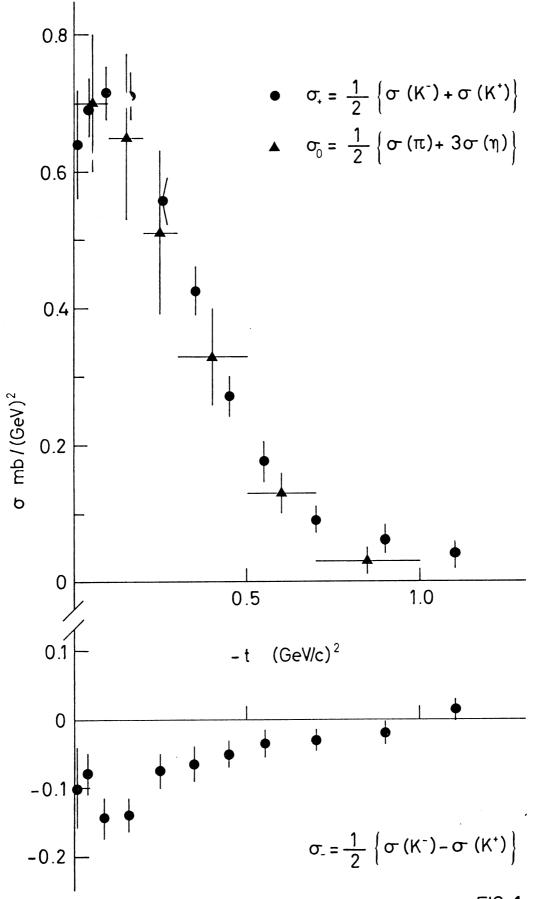
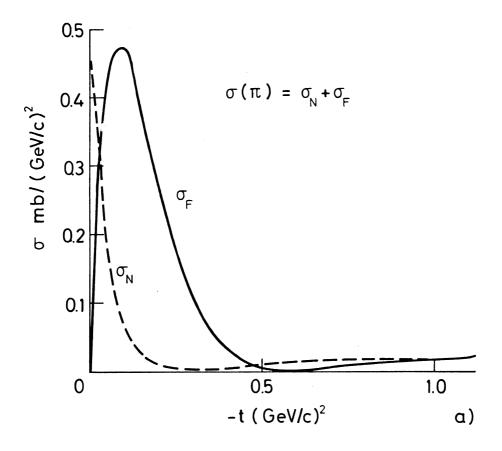
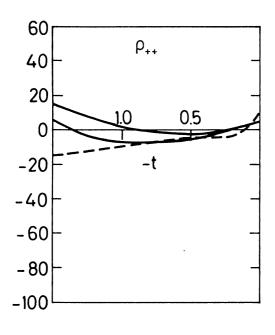


FIG. 1





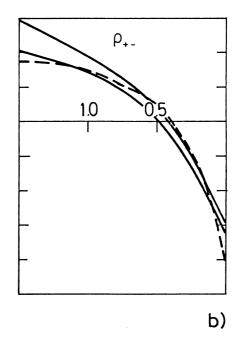


FIG. 2

