

FIG. 4. Dependence of the lifetime on the ratio, R , of yields in the two exposures. Curve a is computed with the use of a spectrum of K^0 's derived from an energy-dependent matrix element of the form γ^2-1 , Gaussian momentum distribution in the target nucleus, and isotropic angular distribution in the center-of-mass system. Curve b has isotropic and energy-independent matrix element, and Fermi momentum distribution. Curve c has energy-independent matrix element, Gaussian distribution, and $\cos^2\theta$ angular dependence in the center-of-mass system.

This ratio is given as a function of τ , the mean life of the K_2^0 , by

$$R = \frac{\int P(\beta\gamma) \exp[-t_L(\beta\gamma)/\tau] \{1 - \exp[\Delta t(\beta\gamma)/\tau]\} d(\beta\gamma)}{\int P(\beta\gamma) \exp[-t_S(\beta\gamma)/\tau] \{1 - \exp[\Delta t(\beta\gamma)/\tau]\} d(\beta\gamma)}, \quad (2)$$

where $t_L(\beta\gamma)$, $t_S(\beta\gamma)$ are the flight times for the long- and the short-distance runs respectively for K_2^0 mesons of momentum $m\beta\gamma c$ which have a spectral distribution $P(\beta\gamma)$ at 68° ; $\Delta t(\beta\gamma)$ is the time of traversal of the chamber. In Fig. 4, we have plotted the relation between R and τ as given by Eq. (2), using an intermediate and two extreme shapes for $P(\beta\gamma)$ as computed by Sternheimer⁶ for associated production of $Y-K$ pairs in a complex nucleus by incident 3-Bev protons. Applying Eq. (1) to Fig. 4, using curve b , we obtain:

$$\tau = (9.0_{-2.5}^{+3.5}) \times 10^{-8} \text{ second.}$$

An estimate of the K_2^0 lifetime can be obtained from the known K^+ branching ratios^{7,8} and lifetime⁹ by application of charge independence and the $\Delta T = \frac{1}{2}$ selection rule¹⁰ (T =total isotopic spin). The K_2^0 lifetime is the reciprocal of the sum of the partial rates for the decay modes $(\pi^\pm\mu^\mp\nu)$, $(\pi^\pm e^\mp\nu)$, $(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0)$, and $(\pi^0\pi^0\pi^0)$. The partial rates for the decays involving three π mesons are evaluated as in reference 10. For the decay modes involving leptons, we have assumed that the partial rates in the K_2^0 decay are equal to those in K^+ decay, and that there is no asymmetry in charge, as is to be expected¹¹ with the large K_2^0/K_1^0 lifetime ratio measured. This leads to an estimated K_2^0 lifetime of $\tau \sim 5 \times 10^{-8}$ second. A similar result has been obtained by Okun¹² using a specific model for the K -meson decay interaction.

No decays have been found which do not fit one of the modes $(\pi^\pm\mu^\mp\nu)$, $(\pi^\pm e^\mp\nu)$, $(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0)$. Limits of the

order $<1\%$ may be placed on the existence of the two-body modes $(\pi^+\pi^-)$, $(\mu^+\mu^-)$, (e^+e^-) , $(\mu^\pm e^\mp)$ for K_2^0 decay. The absence of the lepton modes is in agreement with current ideas on the universality of the weak interactions. The absence of 2-pion decay is to be expected on the basis of CP invariance.^{11,13,14} A discussion of the reverse argument—what do we learn about time reversal from the data contained herein—is given in the accompanying Letter by Weinberg.¹⁵ He concludes that the existence of the reaction¹⁶ $\theta^0 \rightarrow 2\pi^0$ implies a close identity of the $\pi^+\pi^-$ and $2\pi^0$ phases, a result which is difficult to understand on any other grounds than CP invariance or accident.

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Time-Reversal Invariance and θ_2^0 Decay*

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RECENT experiments¹ show that the θ_2^0 decays much more slowly than the θ_1^0 ($\tau_2/\tau_1 \sim 900$)² and that the mode $\theta_2^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ occurs infrequently ($\lesssim 0.6\%$) if at all. This is just what one would expect if CP (or C) were conserved in K^0 decay³; conversely, we may ask how much support is given to CP invariance by these experiments,⁴ and what additional support may be gained by similar experiments in the near future.

Since we do not assume CP invariance, we must define θ_1^0 and θ_2^0 as linear combinations of θ^0 and $\bar{\theta}^0$

for which the decay curve is a simple exponential. Now, if there were just one rapid K^0 decay mode (e.g., $K^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-$), and all others ($K^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + e^- + \nu$, $\gamma + \gamma$, etc.) were much slower for phase-space or other reasons, then we could understand the experimental situation without reference to CP conservation. (Proof: Define $\theta_3^0 = a\theta^0 + b\bar{\theta}^0$ as that linear combination which cannot decay into the rapid mode. If no other modes existed θ_3 would be stable, so θ_2 would be identical to θ_3 . Since the other modes do exist, but are very slow, $\theta_2 \simeq \theta_3$. Thus θ_2 decays into the rapid mode with small branching ratio, and has a long lifetime. It is implicit in this reasoning that mass splitting is negligible, since a transition $\theta^0 \rightarrow \bar{\theta}^0$ with matrix element M would lead to $\theta_3^0 \rightarrow bM^*\theta^0 + aM\bar{\theta}^0$, and this linear combination may decay into the rapid mode.)

However, there are *two* rapid K^0 modes, $K^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-$ and $K^0 \rightarrow 2\pi^0$, so the above argument fails unless there is a special phase relation between the two modes.⁵ This phase relation would follow from CP invariance, but is difficult to understand on any other basis.

To make this more quantitative, we use the Wigner-Weisskopf method, and obtain for the decay rate of θ_1^0 or θ_2^0 into mode j ,⁶

$$\Gamma_{1 \text{ or } 2, j} = \frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha)\Gamma_{\theta_j} + \frac{1}{2}(1-\alpha)\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j} \pm [(1-\alpha^2)\Gamma_{\theta_j}\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j}]^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos(\delta_j - \delta), \quad (1)$$

where $\delta \equiv \arg(pq^*)$. Let us suppose that an experimental upper limit $\epsilon_j < 1$ can be placed on Γ_{2j}/Γ_{1j} . Then from (1) we have

$$|\tan \frac{1}{2}(\delta_j - \delta)| \leq \epsilon_j. \quad (2)$$

Experimentally^{1,2} $\epsilon_{\pi^+\pi^-} \lesssim 8 \times 10^{-6}$, so $|\delta_{\pi^+\pi^-} - \delta| \lesssim 0.006$. The experimental situation for the $2\pi^0$ mode is more uncertain. No γ -ray search has been made in θ_2^0 decay, and the θ_2^0 flux is unknown, so no experimental upper limit has been set on the $\theta_2^0 \rightarrow 2\pi^0$ branching ratio. There are, however, two reasons for believing this ratio to be small.

(a) The sum of the decay rates for $K^0 \rightarrow \pi + \mu + \nu$, $\pi + e + \nu$, 3π can be calculated⁷ on the assumption of a single connection with K^+ decay, and comes out comparable to the experimental θ_2^0 decay rate. Thus a large branching ratio for $\theta_2^0 \rightarrow 2\pi$ would leave inadequate room for the 3-particle modes.

(b) It is easy to show that

$$\sum_j (\Gamma_{\theta_j}\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j})^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin(\delta_j - \delta) = \alpha\Delta / (1-\alpha^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (3)$$

$$(\Gamma_{\theta_j}\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j})^{\frac{1}{2}} |\sin(\delta_j - \delta)| = \{[\Gamma_{1j}\Gamma_{2j} - (\frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha)\Gamma_{\theta_j} - \frac{1}{2}(1-\alpha)\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j})^2] / (1-\alpha^2)\}^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (4)$$

If we ignore mass splitting (so $\alpha=0$) and final-state interactions in the $2\pi^0$ mode (so $\Gamma_{\theta, 2\pi^0} = \Gamma_{\bar{\theta}, 2\pi^0}$), we can use (3) and (4) to show that

$$(\Gamma_{1, 2\pi^0}\Gamma_{2, 2\pi^0})^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq (\Gamma_{1, \pi^+\pi^-}\Gamma_{2, \pi^+\pi^-})^{\frac{1}{2}} + (\Gamma_1\Gamma_2')^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (5)$$

where $\Gamma_{1, 2'}$ are total decay rates for $\theta_{1, 2'}$ into all except

the 2π modes. Now $\Gamma_1' \lesssim 0.02\tau_1^{-1}$,² and $\Gamma_2' \leq \tau_2^{-1} - \Gamma_{2, 2\pi^0}$, so we obtain

$$\Gamma_{2, 2\pi^0} \lesssim 0.26\tau_2^{-1}. \quad (6)$$

Accepting this upper limit, we have $\epsilon_{2\pi^0} \lesssim 0.002$ so that $|\delta_{2\pi^0} - \delta| \lesssim 0.09$. Now, combining our results for the two modes, we have finally

$$|\delta_{2\pi^0} - \delta_{\pi^+\pi^-}| \lesssim 6^\circ. \quad (7)$$

This phase relation can be put in an isotopic spin language; if the states $I=0$ and $I=2$ are created with amplitudes a_I and scatter with phase shifts η_I , then the quantity $a_2 e^{-i\eta_2} / (a_0 e^{-i\eta_0})$ is almost real. This would follow if T or C were conserved (since then numerator and denominator would be separately real), but it is difficult to understand otherwise. (Of course $a_2=0$ would make the ratio real, but this seems inconsistent with the θ_1 branching ratios.)

Thus we see that at least one prediction of time reversal invariance is very well fulfilled. It has been suggested that the absence of charge asymmetries in θ_2^0 decay may also serve as a test of T invariance. We wish to point out that because of the absence of $\theta_2^0 \rightarrow 2\pi$ decays, such charge asymmetries must be expected to be very small (typically $\lesssim 10\%$) *independently of whether T is conserved*.

Using CPT invariance and the unitarity of S_{strong} (and taking final-state interactions, which may be large,⁸ properly into account), we may prove that

$$\sum_{j \in G} \Gamma_{\theta_j} = \sum_{j \in G^*} \Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j}; \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{j \in G} (\Gamma_{\theta_j}\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j})^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\delta_j} = \sum_{j \in G^*} (\Gamma_{\theta_j}\Gamma_{\bar{\theta}_j})^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{i\delta_j}.$$

Here G is any set of final states with the property that j cannot scatter strongly into j' if j is in G and j' is not. The set G^* consists of final states charge conjugate to those in G . By using (8), it is possible to prove that

$$|\alpha| \leq \sum_{j \in G, G^*} \epsilon_j^{\frac{1}{2}} (\Gamma_{1j} + \Gamma_{2j}) / \sum_{j \in G, G^*} (\Gamma_{1j} + \Gamma_{2j}), \quad (9)$$

$$A_G \leq |\alpha| / \epsilon_G^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2} |\alpha|^2 (1 + 1/\epsilon_G), \quad (10)$$

where A_G is the charge asymmetry,

$$A_G \equiv |(\sum_{j \in G} \Gamma_{2j} - \sum_{j \in G^*} \Gamma_{2j}) / \sum_{j \in G, G^*} \Gamma_{2j}|, \quad (11)$$

and

$$\epsilon_G \equiv \sum_{j \in G, G^*} \Gamma_{2j} / \sum_{j \in G, G^*} \Gamma_{1j}.$$

If G consists of $\pi^+\pi^-$ and $\pi^0\pi^0$, then using our previous estimates of $\epsilon_{\pi^+\pi^-}$ and $\epsilon_{\pi^0\pi^0}$, we have from (9)

$$|\alpha| \lesssim 0.009 \quad (12)$$

[using the lifetime ratio alone, we would have⁶ $|\alpha| \leq 2/(900)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0.07$]. Now for example, suppose that G consists of $\pi^-e^+\nu$ alone, so that G^* consists of $\pi^+e^-\bar{\nu}$.

Experimentally^{1,2} $\epsilon G \gtrsim 0.012$ so, from (10) and (12),

$$A_{\pi^+e^+} \lesssim 8.5\%. \quad (13)$$

Probably it will be some time before experiments are performed which are capable of detecting such small charge asymmetries.

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Theoretical Angular Distribution of Nucleon-Antinucleon Scattering at 140 Mev*

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A POSSIBLE explanation of the "large" value of the nucleon-antinucleon ($N-\bar{N}$) cross section,¹ in the intermediate energy range, has been given by the work of Ball and Chew² on the basis of the Yukawa interaction with a "black central hole" to account for the annihilation. Using the Gartenhaus potential,³ with the spin-orbit term added by Signell and Marshak,⁴ in the WKB approximation, they obtained results in satisfactory agreement with the experimental data available at the time.

In recent months, experiments both with bubble chambers and with emulsions have been planned and are now being carried out in order to obtain a more complete knowledge of the $p-\bar{p}$ interaction. In connection with this program it has seemed worthwhile to perform the calculation of the angular distribution of antinucleon-nucleon scattering, using the transmis-

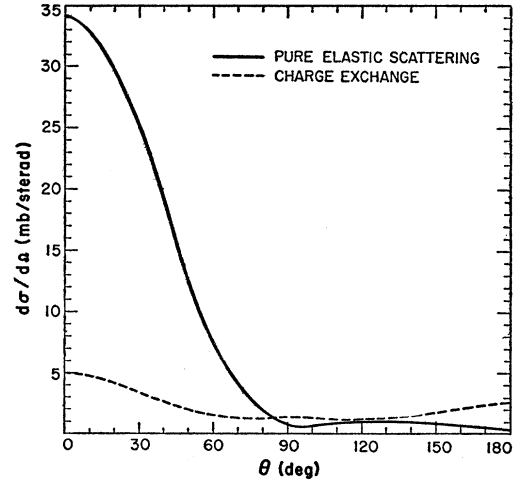


FIG. 1. Scattering cross section of $p-p$ (neglecting Coulomb scattering) and $n-n$, at $E_{lab} = 140$ Mev (in the c.m. system).

sion coefficients and the phase shifts given in reference 2. This is a report of the results of the calculation.

There are two important differences between the $N-N$ and $N-\bar{N}$ interactions. One is the annihilation process and the other the possibility of charge exchange: $p+\bar{p} \leftrightarrow n+\bar{n}$. The first is easily considered by using diagonal scattering matrix elements of the form $S_{\alpha} = R_{\alpha} e^{2i\delta_{\alpha}}$, where R_{α} are the reflection coefficients and δ_{α} the real scattering phase shifts for the α eigenstate. The second involves isotopic-spin considerations.⁵ If the amplitudes for scattering in isotopic-spin singlet and triplet states are represented by f^1 and f^3 , respectively, then the amplitudes for ordinary (o) and exchange (e) $p-\bar{p}$ and $n-\bar{n}$ scattering are given by

$$f^o = \frac{1}{2}(f^1 + f^3), \quad f^e = \frac{1}{2}(f^1 - f^3).$$

For the $p-\bar{n}$ and $n-\bar{p}$ systems, which are pure isotopic triplets, there is no exchange scattering and the ordinary scattering amplitude is simply f^3 . Once these complications are recognized, the formalism developed by Blatt and Biedenharn⁶ can be consistently used.

Since in the WKB approximation there is no way to calculate "mixture parameters," interchange between waves with the same total angular momentum and parity but with different orbital angular momentum has not been considered in reference 2. Therefore it must be assumed that the mixture parameters are small if this method is expected to give good accuracy. With mixing neglected, the scattering cross sections were calculated; the results are plotted in Figs. 1 and 2.

The forward peak in the ordinary scattering is largely a diffraction effect, since the S and P waves are mostly absorbed, leading to annihilation. The forward peak in the exchange scattering is much weaker.

Notwithstanding the very limited experimental data available up to now,⁷ a crude test of the theory can already be made by integrating the $p-\bar{p}$ elastic differential cross section of Fig. 1 over the forward