$I_0 \mathfrak{a}_{ij}$:

$$
I_{6}G_{nm}=2 \text{ Re}(ma^{*})+2|c|^{2}+2|h|^{2}-2|g|^{2},
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{nm}=2 \text{ Re}[a(g^{*}-h^{*})-m(g^{*}+h^{*})]+4 \text{ Im}[cC^{*}(22)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{n1}=2 \text{ Re}[a(g^{*}+h^{*})-m(g^{*}-h^{*})]-4 \text{ Im}[cC^{*}(22)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{n1}=2 \text{ Re}[a(g^{*}+h^{*})-m(g^{*}-h^{*})]-4 \text{ Im}[cC^{*}(22)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{n1}=2 \text{ Re}[a+h^{*}g)C^{*}(25)+cC^{*}(11)]-2 \text{ Im}[m-g-h)C^{*}(12)+cC^{*}(26)]
$$

\n
$$
+2 \text{ Re}[a+h-g)C^{*}(22)-cC^{*}(13)]+2 \text{ Im}[m+g+h)C^{*}(14)+cC^{*}(28)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{n}=-2 \text{ Re}[a-h+g)C^{*}(25)+cC^{*}(11)]-2 \text{ Im}[m-g-h)C^{*}(12)+cC^{*}(26)]
$$

\n
$$
-2 \text{ Re}[a+h-g)C^{*}(29)-cC^{*}(13)]-2 \text{ Im}[m+g+h)C^{*}(14)+cC^{*}(28)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{nn}=+4 \text{ Im}(ah^{*})+2 \text{ Re}[a+m)C^{*}(22)+(a-m)C^{*}(23)]+4 \text{ Im}[gC^{*}(16)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{nm}=+4 \text{ Im}(ah^{*})+2 \text{ Re}[a+m)C^{*}(22)+(a-m)C^{*}(23)]-4 \text{ Im}[gC^{*}(16)],
$$

\n
$$
I_{6}G_{nm}=2 \text{ Re}[a+g+h)C^{*}(26)+cC^{*}(12)]+2 \text{ Im}[m-g+h)C^{*}(11)+cC^{*}(25)]
$$

\n
$$
+2 \text{ Re}[a-g-h)C^{*}(23)+cC^{*}(14
$$

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Width of Three-Pion Resonances*

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A model of three-pion resonances is constructed taking into account only π -p intermediate states. The π -p interaction is replaced by a simple pole. The calculated ω -resonance width is approximately 10–20 MeV, depending on the range of the π - ρ interaction. These values of the width are consistent with present experimental data.

 \mathbf{W}^{E} have estimated the width of $I=0$ three-pion resonances on the basis of a disperion-theoretic calculation of the three-pion scattering amplitude, find-

ing for the ω meson a full width of 10–20 MeV. We have employed an angular-momentum expansion of the three-pion state in order to reduce the calculation to manageable dimensions. The picture of an $I=0$, threepion resonance as a quasi-bound state of a pion and a ρ meson then arises from the approximation of consider-

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ing only states of low angular momentum. Such a picture leads to a three-pion resonance whose width is much smaller than the p-meson width. However, our calculation gives an ω width of an order of magnitude broader than the estimation of Gell-Mann, Sharp, and Wagner,¹ and several orders of magnitude broader than that of Feinberg.²

Let us now consider our quasi-bound-state model in more detail. The angular momentum expansion for three relativistic particles has been worked out by Wick,³ who generalized the scheme introduced by Dalitz in the study of τ -meson decay.⁴ First, two of the three pions, having four-momenta q_1 and q_2 , are characterized by their angular momentum l , invariant mass-squared σ , and helicity λ ; then the two pions are combined with the third (four-momentum q_3) to form a state of total angular momentum. Cook and Lee' have shown that the generalized unitarity condition^{6,7} then simplifies to the form, for $(3m_{\pi})^2 \leq s \leq (5m_{\pi})^2$,

 $\mathrm{disc}\langle \lambda 'l'\sigma' \, \big| \, T^J(s) \, \big| \, \lambda l \sigma \rangle$

$$
= \frac{2i}{\pi} \sum_{l',\lambda''} \int_{4m_{\pi}^2}^{(s^{1/2}-m_{\pi})^2} d\sigma'' \frac{q(s,\sigma'')}{s^{1/2}} \left(\frac{\sigma''-4}{\sigma''}\right)^{1/2}
$$

$$
\times \langle \lambda'l'\sigma'|T^{J}(s_+)|\lambda''l'\sigma_{+}''\rangle
$$

$$
\times \langle \lambda''l''\sigma_{-}''|T^{J}(s_-)|\lambda l\sigma\rangle, (1)
$$

where s is the square of the invariant mass of the threepion system, and where $q(s, \sigma)$ is the momentum of the third pion in the over-all c.m. system. We use the subscripts \pm as an abbreviation of $\pm i\epsilon$, and use the symbol "disc" to indicate the discontinuity across the branch cut in s. Since an $I=0$ state of three pions is totally antisymmetric, only odd values of l occur. We consider only $l=1$, thus neglecting F and higher waves in the pion-pion system. The amplitude must, of course, be symmetrized, but let us defer this complication for a moment. Equation (1) can be simplified still further by considering states of given parity. Specifically, we consider the two quantum-number assignments which have been discussed in connection with three-pion resonances of negative G parity, namely, 1^- and 0^- . Since both these assignments have negative parity, both require $L=1$, where L is the angular momentum of the third pion in the over-all c.m. system. In both cases the scattering amplitude satisfies a unitarity relation of the form of Eq. (1), but as long as states with $l \geq 3$ are neglected, the sum over helicities is not present as long as one considers amplitudes corresponding to 1

and 0^- . This equation is very similar to the ordinary two-body unitarity condition, except for the additional dependence on σ .

To facilitate consideration of the dependence on σ and σ' , we factor out the initial and final-state interactions and define a new amplitude M as follows:

$$
T^{J}(s,\sigma',\sigma) = f(\sigma')M^{J}(s,\sigma',\sigma)f(\sigma),
$$
\n(2)

where $f(\sigma)$ is a function having the phase of pion-pion P-wave scattering and incorporating the threshold factors appropriate to the present problem. We use a Breit-Wigner type formula,

$$
f(\sigma) = \frac{\left[\gamma(\sigma-4)q^2(s,\sigma)\right]^{1/2}}{m_\rho^2 - \sigma - i\gamma\left[(\sigma-4)^3/\sigma\right]^{1/2}}.
$$
 (3)

From the dispersion-theoretic viewpoint the definition of the function $M(s, \sigma', \sigma)$ has been chosen such that the branch points at $\sigma=4m_\pi^2$ and $\sigma'=4m_\pi^2$ associated with pion-pion scattering have been removed. Therefore, we conjecture that $M(s, \sigma', \sigma)$ will not vary rapidly with σ' and σ . In particular, we use the sharply peaked nature of $f(\sigma)$ to simplify Eq. (1) to the form

$$
(1/2i) \operatorname{disc} M^{J}(s, \sigma', \sigma) \approx \kappa(s) M^{J}(s_{+}, \sigma', m_{\rho}^{2}) M^{J}(s_{-}, \sigma, m_{\rho}^{2}), \quad (4)
$$

where

$$
\kappa(s) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m_{\pi}^{2}}^{(s^{1/2} - m_{\pi})^{2}} d\sigma \frac{q^{3}(s, \sigma)}{s^{1/2}} \left[\frac{(\sigma - 4)^{3}}{\sigma} \right]^{1/2} \times \frac{\gamma}{(m_{\rho}^{2} - \sigma)^{2} + \gamma^{2} (\sigma - 4)^{3}/\sigma}.
$$
 (5)

Our procedure up to this point has been parallel to that used by Ball, Frazer, and Nauenberg in treating the state $\pi+\pi+N$.⁷ The approximation made in deriving Eq. (4) should be quite reasonable for values of s sufficiently large that the phase-space integration runs over the region of the p-meson peak. Then we need only assume that M does not vary significantly as a function of σ in the region of this peak. In using Eq. (4) for values of s less than $(m_{\rho}+m_{\pi})^2$, we are neglecting the σ dependence of M over a wider region.

Note that Eq. (4) is identical in form to the partialwave unitarity condition for two-body scattering. The properties of the unstable ρ meson are contained in the generalized phase-space factor $\kappa(s)$. In the limit $\gamma \rightarrow 0$, $\kappa(s)$ reduces to the two-body P-wave phase space $q^3 (s, m_o^2)/s^{1/2}.$

We shall show later that the effect of symmetrization is to modify the function $\kappa(s)$. Before taking up this question, let us show how the formalism we have developed can be used to estimate the width of threepion resonances. In order to do this, one must somehow evaluate the interaction between the pions, then solve the N/D equations. The resonance should appear as a

^{&#}x27;M. Gell-Mann, D. Sharp, and W. G. Wagner, Phys. Rev. Letters 8, 261 (1962).

² G. Feinberg, Phys. Rev. Letters 8, 151 (1962).
³ G. C. Wick, Ann. Phys. (New York) 18, 65 (1962).
⁴ R. H. Dalitz, Phys. Rev. 94, 1046 (1954).
⁵ L. F. Cook, Jr., and B. W. Lee, Phys. Rev. 127, 283 (1962).
⁶ R. B California, La Jolla, 1962 (to be published).

(6)

zero of the D function. As a first rough attempt in this direction we have represented the interaction by a pole (i.e., we have used an effective-range formula) whose residue is adjusted to fit the position of the resonance. We then find that

 $M(s) = \frac{1/\bar{\kappa}(s)}{s_r - s - i[\kappa(s)/\bar{\kappa}(s)]\theta(s - 9m_\pi^2)}$

where

$$
M(s) = \frac{1/\bar{\kappa}(s)}{s_r - s - i[\kappa(s)/\bar{\kappa}(s)]\theta(s - 9m_\pi^2)},
$$
(6)

$$
\bar{\kappa}(s) = \frac{s - s_0}{\pi} \vartheta \int_{(3m_\pi)^2}^{\infty} ds' \frac{\kappa(s')}{(s' - s)(s' - s_0)(s' - s_r)},
$$
(7)

where s_r is the position of the resonance and s_0 is the position of the interaction pole. For a narrow resonance we then have a width of $\Gamma \approx \kappa(s_r)/\bar{\kappa}(s_r)$. We shall see below that the width is not very sensitive to the position of s_0 . In fact, for large negative s_0 the dependence is only logarithmic.

Since the width Γ is proportional to $\kappa(s_r)$, we can see from Eq. (5) why a three-pion $I=0$ resonance with energy well below $m_{\rho} + m_{\pi}$ should be narrow. The mass squared of the two-pion system cannot be large enough to lie in the region of the ρ -meson peak, and the decay occurs via the tail of the ρ -meson distribution. The existence of a second, lower-lying pion-pion resonance in the $J=I=1$ state would, of course, invalidate the present treatment.⁸ It is interesting to note that $\kappa(s)$ is essentially equal to the decay probability corresponding to Fig. $1(a)$.

Finally, let us consider the effect of symmetrization on $\kappa(s)$. We used an expansion in states of the form $(12)3$, where pions 1 and 2 are combined to have angular momentum $l=1$. The following state will then have the proper symmetry: $(12)3\rangle + (23)1\rangle + (31)2\rangle$. The effect of introducing such a state is to change $\kappa(s)$ to be essentially equal to the decay matrix element calculated from the sum of the three diagrams of Fig. 1. This matrix element has been written down for both 0^- and 1^- by Shaw and Wong,⁹ who pointed out that the symmetrization produces a tremendous suppression in $\kappa(s)$

FIG. 1. Diagrams for the 3π decay of a quasi-bound-state.

for small s in the 0^- case and electromagnetic corrections must be included if the resonance is in the neighborhood of 550 MeV. The 1⁻ matrix element calculated from any one term in Fig. 1 is already totally antisymmetric except for the ρ -meson propagators [the denominators in Eq. (3)]. Nevertheless the symmetrization affects the calculation of F. For low values of s the three propagators are essentially constant and add coherently. For high values of s the result is approximately the sum of the squares, so that $\kappa(s)/\bar{\kappa}(s_r)$ is raised by a factor of about 3 for small s_r , as compared to the unsymmetrized calculation.

The results we find for the ω (1 assignment assumed) are summarized in the table below:

The disagreement between our result and that of Gell-Mann, Sharp, and Wagner' can probably be understood as a violation of unitary symmetry, which these authors assume in relating π^0 decay to the width of the ω . Current calculations of nucleon-nucleon scattering by Scotti and Wong¹⁰ indicate that the ω -nucleon coupling is stronger by a factor of about 3 than the ρ -nucleon coupling; hence, the ω -gamma coupling may be three times weaker than the ρ -gamma coupling if the electromagnetic form factors of the nucleon are dominated by the ω and ρ states. This result is consistent with the calculation of the π^0 lifetime using our values of the ω width.

¹⁰ A. Scotti and D. Y. Wong (to be published

^s M. Nauenberg and A. Pais, Phys. Rev. Letters 8, 82 (1962), pointed out that the Dalitz plot of the ω decay indicates that this decay does not proceed via a low-lying pion-pion resonance. ' G.L. Shaw and D. Y.Wong, Phys. Rev. Letters 8, 336 (1962).