

## Calculation of the elastic scattering of pions from light nuclei at 450 MeV

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A calculation is made of the elastic scattering of pions from  ${}^4\text{He}$  and  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  at an energy of 450 MeV. A single scattering optical potential is used with nuclear and nucleon form factors as determined elsewhere and the  $\pi N$  scattering amplitude expressed in terms of phase parameters. It is found that several of the  $N$  phase parameter sets can be readily distinguished by means of the  $\pi$ -nuclear scattering which they predict at this energy.

[NUCLEAR REACTIONS  $\pi^-$ - ${}^4\text{He}$ ,  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  elastic scattering, calculated  $\sigma(\theta)$ ,  
compared phase shift sets,  $E = 450$  MeV.]

Multiple scattering theory has been very successful in extracting nuclear structure information from pion-nuclear scattering. This is particularly true at energies below 400 MeV.<sup>1</sup> One reason for this success is the fact that the  $\pi N$  scattering amplitude is so well known in this energy range that recent representations<sup>2,3</sup> of the  $\pi N$  amplitude are very similar. There is, in fact, so much agreement among current  $\pi N$  amplitude representations that it now makes sense to construct an "average" set of phase parameters in this energy range.<sup>4</sup> The convergence of the  $\pi N$  amplitude representations has as one of its consequences, the fact that  $\pi$ -nuclear scattering calculated with  $\pi N$  input is unable to strongly distinguish among the several  $\pi N$  amplitude representations.<sup>5</sup> This is in contrast to the situation near 1 GeV, where there is much less agreement among the available  $\pi N$  amplitude representations,<sup>6</sup> and where these  $\pi N$  representations are more readily distinguished by means of the  $\pi$ -nuclear scattering which they predict.

The energy range between 400 MeV and 1 GeV is marked by little  $\pi$ -nuclear scattering data. It is the purpose of this work to suggest an energy, just outside the well-explored (3,3) energy range, at which  $\pi$ -nuclear data would be most helpful in resolving uncertainties in  $\pi$ -nucleon amplitude representations.

The energy which we have chosen to investigate is 450 MeV. This is an energy which lies well within the range covered by energy-dependent searches such as CERN TH,<sup>7</sup> and the search due to Davies.<sup>8</sup> There is also available a single-energy search by Bekrenev *et al.*<sup>9</sup> available at 450 MeV. Finally, there is also an energy-dependent phase shift analysis due to Rowe, Salomon, and Landau<sup>4</sup> which averages several phase parameter sets over the range 0–400 MeV. We take the liberty of extrapolating this representation to 450 MeV. This variety of approaches

in obtaining the  $\pi N$  phase parameter representation makes this a particularly interesting energy for investigation.

We compare these phase parameter representations by calculating the scattering due to single-scattering optical potential in momentum space,

$$V(q) = At(q)F(q).$$

The  $\pi N$  information is contained in the scattering amplitude  $t$ . The nuclear form factor is obtained from the nuclear charge form factor and the proton form factor by means of the relation

$$F(q) = F_{\text{ch}}(q)/F_p(q).$$

For the proton form factor, we use the form due to Littauer *et al.*<sup>10</sup> The nuclear charge form factors used are, for  ${}^4\text{He}$ , the modified Gaussian form due to Frosch *et al.*<sup>11</sup> and, for  ${}^{16}\text{O}$ , the parabolic Gaussian form due to Ehrenberg *et al.*<sup>12</sup> The potential is then used in the solution of the partial wave scattering equation in momentum space.<sup>13</sup>

The results for  $\pi^-$ - ${}^4\text{He}$  are shown in Fig. 1; CT is for the CERN TH set, RSL is from Ref. 4, D is from Ref. 8, and S III is from Ref. 9. Only the RSL set predicts a true diffraction minimum. The other sets, which are difficult to distinguish in this plot, predict only a point of inflection. For the  $\pi^-$ - ${}^4\text{He}$  calculation, the RSL plot can be distinguished, but CERN TH, Davies, and S III predict essentially identical  $\pi$ -He scattering and cannot be distinguished.

Figure 2 shows the results for  $\pi^-$ - ${}^{16}\text{O}$  scattering. While CERN TH and Davies are still difficult to separate, these sets lead to scattering which is quite different from that predicted by either RSL or S III. This indicates that  $\pi^-$ - ${}^{16}\text{O}$  data near 450 MeV could be very effective in helping to choose among  $\pi N$  amplitude representations at

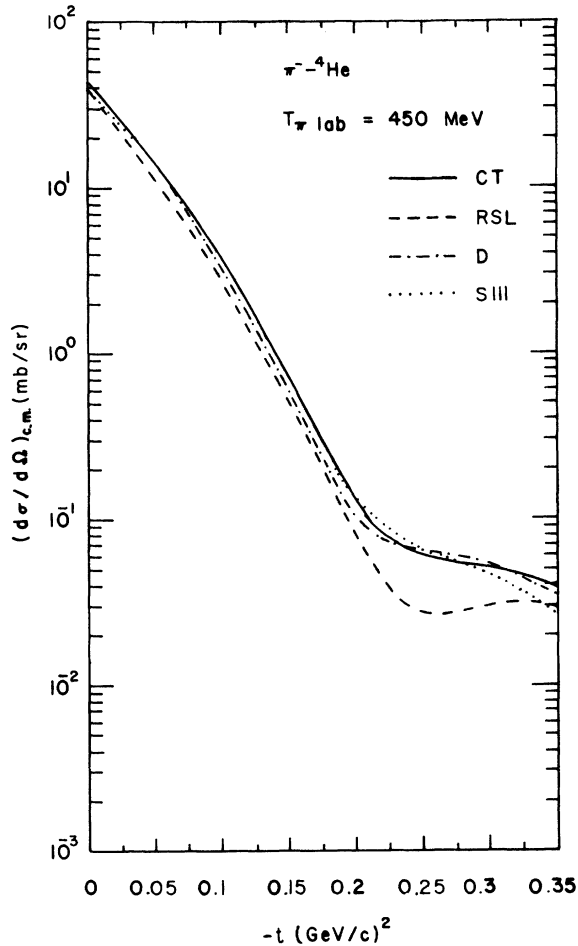


FIG. 1. Comparison of  $\pi^-$ - ${}^4\text{He}$  elastic scattering at 450 MeV as calculated with various scattering amplitude representations. Designations of representations given in text.

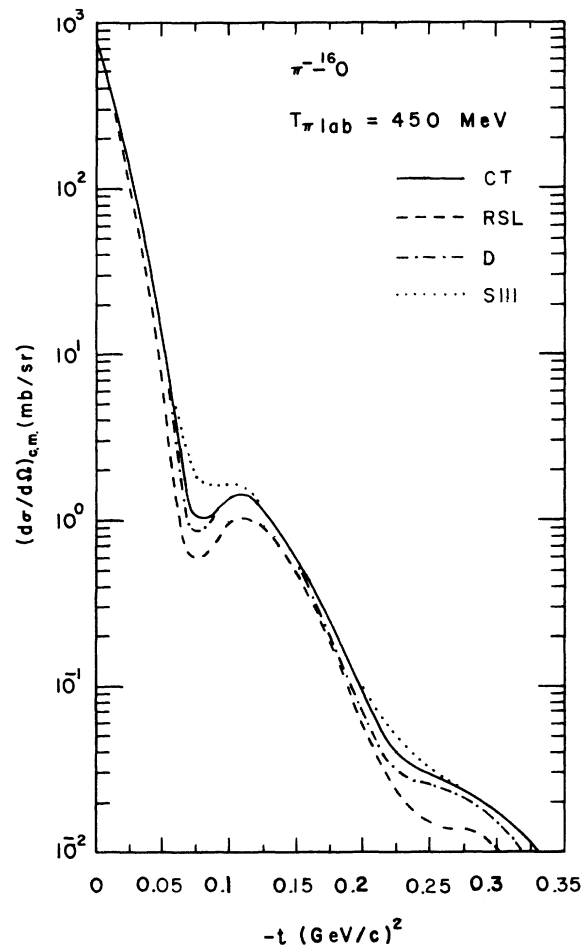


FIG. 2. Comparison of  $\pi^-$ - ${}^{16}\text{O}$  elastic scattering at 450 MeV as calculated with various scattering amplitude representations. Designations of representations given in text.

this energy.

As we have seen,  $\pi$ -nuclear scattering data at 450 MeV would be most useful at resolving disagreements among the various phase parameter representations. This is true for both  $\pi^-$ - ${}^4\text{He}$  and

$\pi^-$ - ${}^{16}\text{O}$  scattering but is especially true in the latter case. It is hoped that this calculation might provide some interest in the acquisition of  $\pi$ -nuclear data at this energy.

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