# CONSERVATION OF VECTOR CURRENT AND THE $\nu + N \rightarrow \mu + N + \pi$ PROCESS

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The relation between the  $\nu + N \rightarrow \mu + N + \pi$  process and the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons is established phenomenologically on the basis of the hypothesis of the conservation of vector current. Numerical values are obtained by employing the experimental data on the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons.

**O**NE of the interesting results of the experiment performed at CERN<sup>[1]</sup> on the interaction of high energy neutrinos with matter is the approximate equality of the cross sections for the "elastic" process

$$\nu + N \to \mu + N \tag{1}$$

and the ineleastic process for the production of a single  $\pi$  meson

$$\nu + N \to \mu + N + \pi. \tag{2}$$

Theoretical predictions <sup>[2]</sup> with respect to process (1) based on the hypothesis of conserved vector current<sup>[3]</sup> have been confirmed in this experiment. With respect to process (2) there exist estimates for cross sections in the domain of small transferred momenta <sup>[4]</sup> which indicate that this domain of transferred momenta gives no essential contribution to the observed cross section.

In the work of Bell and Berman<sup>[5]</sup> the total</sup> cross section for the process (2) was obtained on the basis of a static model with the  $(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$  resonance in the  $\pi N$  interaction. A more exact calculation taking into account the recoil of the nucleon and on the assumption that the process (2) proceeds through the intermediate  $(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$  isobar is contained in the paper by Berman and Veltman [6]. In this paper we obtain an estimate of the cross section of process (2) based on a phenomenological approach utilizing the hypothesis of conserved vector current and the experimental data on the electroproduction of  $\pi$ -mesons.

## 1. PHENOMENOLOGICAL DISCUSSION OF THE PROCESS OF ELECTROPRODUCTION OF $\pi$ MESONS

The matrix element for the process

$$e + N \to e + N + \pi \tag{3}$$

is represented in the form

$$M = ieJ_{\mu}A_{\mu}(2\pi)^{4}\delta^{4}(p_{1} + s_{1} - p_{2} - s_{2} - q), \qquad (4)$$

where

$$A_{\mu} = \frac{i e \overline{u} (s_2) \gamma_{\mu} u(s_1)}{(s_1 - s_2)^2}, \qquad J_{\mu} = i \langle p_2, q | I_{\mu} | p_1 \rangle. \tag{5}$$

Here u are spinors,  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are the fourmomenta of the electron before and after scattering and  $J_{\mu}$  is the current of strongly interacting particles.

The requirement of relativistic and gauge invariance leads to the following expression for the matrix element  $J_{\mu}^{[\tau]}$ :

$$J_{\mu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_q}} \bar{u} \left( p_2 \right) \left\{ \gamma_5 \alpha_{\mu} f_1 + \gamma_5 \beta_{\mu} f_2 + \hat{N} \alpha_{\mu} f_3 + \hat{N} \beta_{\mu} f_4 \right. \\ \left. + N_{\mu} f_5 + \gamma_5 \hat{N} N_{\mu} f_6 \right\} u \left( p_1 \right).$$
(6)

In this expression  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are the fourmomenta of the initial and final nucleons,  $E_{\alpha}$  is the energy of the  $\pi$  meson, while the vectors  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and N are defined in the following manner. We introduce the notation

$$k = s_1 - s_2, \quad \lambda^2 = -k^2,$$
  

$$\Delta_{\mu} = \frac{(p_1 - p_2)_{\mu}}{2}, \qquad P_{\mu} = \frac{(p_1 + p_2)_{\mu}}{2}$$
  

$$S_{\mu} = \frac{2(ks_2)}{\lambda^2} s_{1\mu} - \frac{2(ks_1)}{\lambda^2} s_{2\mu}.$$
  
Then the vectors

$$N_{\mu} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}P_{\nu}k_{\rho}\Delta_{\sigma}, \qquad \alpha_{\mu} = S_{\mu} - \frac{(NS')}{N^{2}}N_{\mu},$$
(7)  
$$\beta_{\mu} = -\frac{1}{\lambda^{2}}[\lambda^{2}(S\Delta) + (\Delta k)(Sk)]P_{\mu} + \frac{1}{\lambda^{2}}[(\alpha P)(k\Delta) - (kP)(\alpha\Delta)]k_{\mu} - (\alpha P)\Delta_{\mu}$$

and  $k_{\mu}$  constitute a complete orthogonal set.

The isotopic dependence of each of the coeffi-

| Table I | та | .bl | ١e | 1 |
|---------|----|-----|----|---|
|---------|----|-----|----|---|

| Operator  | 1) $p \rightarrow p + \pi^0$ | 2) $n \rightarrow n + \pi^0$ | 3) $p \rightarrow n + \pi^+$                             | 4) $n \rightarrow p + \pi^{-1}$                         |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| $\frac{1/2}{1/2} (\tau_3 \tau_{\alpha} + \tau_{\alpha} \tau_3)$ $\frac{1}{2} (\tau_3 \tau_{\alpha} - \tau_{\alpha} \tau_3)$ |                              |                              | $\begin{vmatrix} 0\\ -\sqrt{2}\\ \sqrt{2} \end{vmatrix}$ | $\begin{vmatrix} 0\\ \sqrt{2}\\ \sqrt{2} \end{vmatrix}$ |

cients can be represented in the form

$$f = \frac{1}{2} (\tau_3 \tau_\alpha + \tau_\alpha \tau_3) f^{(+)} + \frac{1}{2} (\tau_3 \tau_\alpha - \tau_\alpha \tau_3) f^{(-)} + \tau_\alpha f^{(0)}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\tau$  are the Pauli matrices operating in isotopic space, and  $f^{(+)}$ ,  $f^{(-)}$ , and  $\hat{f}^{(0)}$  are scalar functions of the invariants  $(p_1k)$ ,  $(p_1p_2)$  and  $\lambda^2$ . Relation (8) means that the total amplitude M can be represented in the form

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \{ \tau_3 \tau_\alpha \} M^{(+)} + \frac{1}{2} [\tau_3 \tau_\alpha] M^{(-)} + \tau_\alpha M^{(0)}.$$
 (8')

The matrix elements of the isotopic operators chosen above for the different charge states of the meson-nucleon system are shown in Table I.

The amplitudes  $M^{(+)}$ ,  $M^{(-)}$  and  $M^{(0)}$  can be expressed in terms of the amplitudes for the transition to the final state with total isotopic spin T equal to  $\frac{3}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Indeed, the amplitudes of the processes 1)-4) (Table I) can be expressed in terms of amplitudes with definite isotopic spin in the following manner <sup>[8]</sup>:

$$A_{1} = 2t_{3} + t_{1} + s, \quad A_{2} = 2t_{3} + t_{1} - s,$$
  
$$A_{3} = \sqrt{2}(-t_{3} + t_{1} + s), \quad A_{4} = \sqrt{2}(t_{3} - t_{1} + s), \quad (9)$$

where  $t_3$  and  $t_1$  are the amplitudes for the transition into states T respectively equal to  $\frac{3}{2}$ and  $\frac{1}{2}$  determined by the isotopically vector part of the current  $J_{\mu}$ ; s is the amplitude for the transition into the state  $T = \frac{1}{2}$  determined by the isotopically scalar part of the current  $J_{\mu}$ .

From a comparison of (9) with the representation (8') and taking Table I into account we obtain

$$M^{(+)} = 2t_3 + t_1, \ M^{(-)} = t_3 - t_1, \ M^{(0)} = s.$$
 (10)

### 2. PHENOMENOLOGICAL DISCUSSION OF PROCESS (2)

The matrix element of the process of production of the  $\pi$  meson in reaction (2) has the form

$$M_{\nu} = \frac{G}{\sqrt{2}} J_{\mu}^{w} j_{\mu} (2\pi)^{4} \, \delta^{4} (p_{1} + s_{1} - p_{2} - s_{2} - q), \quad (11)$$

where

$$j_{\mu} = \bar{u}(s_2)\gamma_{\mu}(1+\gamma_5)u(s_1), \quad J_{\mu}^w = i\langle p_2, q | I_{\mu}^w | p_1 \rangle.$$
 (12)

The current  $J_{\mu}^{W}$  can be represented [in analogy with (6)] in the form

$$\begin{split} V_{\mu}^{w} &= \frac{2}{V 2E_{q}} \, \bar{u} \, (p_{2}) \left\{ \gamma_{5} \alpha_{\mu} \left( f_{1}^{\,\prime} + \gamma_{5} g_{1} \right) + \gamma_{5} \beta_{\mu} \left( f_{2}^{\,\prime} + \gamma_{5} g_{2} \right) \right. \\ &+ \hat{N} \alpha_{\mu} \left( f_{3}^{\,\prime} + g_{3} \gamma_{5} \right) + \hat{N} \beta_{\mu} \left( f_{4}^{\,\prime} + g_{4} \gamma_{5} \right) + N_{\mu} \left( f_{5}^{\,\prime} + g_{5} \gamma_{5} \right) \\ &+ \gamma_{5} \hat{N} N_{\mu} \left( f_{6}^{\,\prime} + g_{6} \gamma_{5} \right) + \gamma_{5} k_{\mu} \left( f_{7}^{\,\prime} + g_{7} \gamma_{5} \right) \\ &+ \hat{N} k_{\mu} \left( f_{8}^{\,\prime} + g_{8} \gamma_{5} \right) \right\} u \, (p_{1}). \end{split}$$
(13)

The isotopic structure of the coefficient  $f'_1$  has the form

$$f' = \frac{1}{2} \left( \tau_{+} \tau_{\alpha} + \tau_{\alpha} \tau_{+} \right) f'^{(+)} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \tau_{+} \tau_{\alpha} - \tau_{\alpha} \tau_{+} \right) f'^{(-)}, \quad (14)$$

the structure of  $g_i$  is analogous. The coefficients  $f'^{(\pm)}$  and  $g^{(\pm)}$  are, as before, scalar functions of the invariants  $(p_1k)$ ,  $(p_1p_2)$ and  $\lambda^2$ , where f'<sup>(±)</sup> in accordance with the hypothesis of conserved vector current are simply related to the coefficients describing the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons. Specifically,

$$f_i^{\prime(\pm)} = f_i^{(\pm)} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, 6),$$
  
$$f_7^{\prime} = f_8^{\prime} = 0.$$
 (15)

The factor two in formula (13) is necessary for the following reasons. The Lagrangians of the electromagnetic and the weak interactions can be represented in the form

$$\mathscr{L}_{\mathrm{em}} = rac{e}{2} \,\overline{\psi} \,(1+\tau_3) \,\psi, \quad \mathscr{L}_{\mathrm{w}} = rac{G}{\sqrt{2}} \,\overline{\psi} \tau_+ \psi.$$

According to the hypothesis of conserved vector current the initial interactions  $\psi \tau_3 \psi$  and  $\psi \tau_+ \psi$ are renormalized in the same manner as a result of strong interaction. If in addition to that a  $\pi$  meson is emitted, then  $\overline{\psi} \tau_3 \psi$  goes over into

$$\psi(a\tau_3\tau_{\alpha}+b\tau_{\alpha}\tau_3)\psi\varphi_{\alpha},$$

while the interaction  $\overline{\psi}\tau_{+}\psi$  goes over into

### $\overline{\psi}(a\tau_+\tau_{\alpha}+b\tau_{\alpha}\tau_+)\psi\varphi_{\alpha}.$

Therefore, if the isotopic representation of the coefficient f' is chosen in the form (14), then the relation (15) corresponds to the replacement

$$e \rightarrow 2G / \sqrt{2}$$
.

The matrix elements of the operators  $\frac{1}{2} \{ \tau_+ \tau_{\alpha} \}$  and  $\frac{1}{2} [ \tau_+ \tau_{\alpha} ]$  are shown in Table II. The expressions for the amplitudes of processes I-III (Table II) in terms of the amplitudes of the states of the meson-nucleon system with total

| Operator  | $\left  I \right) \nu + n \rightarrow \mu^{-} + p + \pi^{0}$ | II) $v + n \rightarrow \mu^- + n + \pi^+$ | III) $\nu + p \rightarrow \mu^- + + p + \pi^+$ |
|---|--|---|--|
| ${}^{1/_{2}}(\tau_{+}\tau_{\alpha}+\tau_{\alpha}\tau_{+})$ ${}^{1/_{2}}(\tau_{+}\tau_{\alpha}-\tau_{\alpha}\tau_{+})$ | 0<br>—1  | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ | 1/V2<br>1/V2                                   |

isotopic spin T equal to  $\frac{3}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  is given by the formulas

$$A_{\rm I} = (t_3' - t_1'), \qquad A_{\rm II} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (t_3' + 2t_1'), \qquad A_{\rm III} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} t_3'.$$
(16)

In the case of the vector interaction, as shall be seen later, the amplitudes  $t'_3$  and  $t'_1$  are obtained from the amplitudes  $t_3$  and  $t_1$  by multiplying them by  $\sqrt{8}G/e^2$ . Relations (16) enable us to establish different relations between the cross sections of processes I-III if the amplitudes  $t_3$  and  $t_1$  are known.

Representation (13) enables us to carry out easily the summation over the spins in  $|M_{\nu}|^2$ and to obtain an expression for the total cross section of process (2). Specifically,

$$d\sigma_{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{G^2}{(2\pi)^4 \cdot 8M^2 E_{s_1}^2} d\lambda^2 dw^2 [V'(w^2, \lambda^2) + A(w^2, \lambda^2)], (17)$$

where

$$V'(w^{2}, \lambda^{2}) = \int \frac{d^{3}p_{2}}{E_{p_{2}}} \frac{d^{3}q}{E_{q}} \delta^{4}(p_{2} + q - p_{1} - k)$$

$$\times \{ (|f_{1}'|^{2} - N^{2}|f_{3}'|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} - M^{2}) \alpha^{2} (\alpha^{2} - s_{1}^{2} - s_{2}^{2} - \lambda^{2}) + (|f_{2}'|^{2} - N^{2}|f_{4}'|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} - M^{2}) \beta^{2} (-s_{1}^{2} - s_{2}^{2} - \lambda^{2}) + (|f_{5}'|^{2} - N^{2}|f_{6}'|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} + M^{2}) [(NS)^{2} - N^{2} (s_{1}^{2} + s_{2}^{2} + \lambda^{2})] \}, \qquad (18a)$$

$$A(w^{2}, \lambda^{2}) = \int \frac{d^{3}p_{2}}{E_{p_{2}}} \frac{d^{3}q}{E_{q}} \delta^{4}(p_{2} + q - p_{1} - k)$$

$$\times \{ (|g_{1}|^{2} - N^{2}|g_{3}|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} + M^{2}) \alpha^{2} (\alpha^{2} - s_{1}^{2} - s_{2}^{2} - \lambda^{2}) + (|g_{2}|^{2} - N^{2}|g_{4}|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} + M^{2}) \beta^{2} (-s_{1}^{2} - s_{2}^{2} - \lambda^{2}) + (|g_{5}|^{2} - N^{2}|g_{6}|^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} - M^{2}) [(NS)^{2} - N^{2} (s_{1}^{2} + s_{2}^{2} + \lambda^{2})] + (|g_{7}|^{2} - N^{2}|g_{8}|^{2}) \lambda^{2} \\ \times (s_{1}^{2} + s_{2}^{2} + \lambda^{2}) (p_{1}p_{2} + M^{2}) \}.$$
(18b)

We note that, generally speaking,  $|M_{\nu}|^2$  contains the cross products  $f_i^* f_k$  and  $f_i g_k^*$ , but as a result of integration over the variables  $p_2$  and q they drop out. This circumstance facilitates the comparison of process (2) with the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons. The cross section for the latter process is equal to

$$\sigma_{\rm ep} = \frac{e^4}{(2\pi)^4 \cdot 64M^2 E_{s_1}^2} \frac{d\lambda^2 dw^2}{\lambda^4} V(w^2, \lambda^2, s_2^2 = 0), \ (19)$$

where  $V(w^2, \lambda^2)$  is expressed by formula (18a) with  $f'_i$  replaced by  $f_i$ .

Experiments carried out by Hand <sup>[9]</sup> on the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons on protons enable us to compare  $\sigma_{\nu}$  and  $\sigma_{ep}$  in the energy range of the incident particle of the order of 1 GeV. Hand has studied the behavior of the ratio  $d\sigma_{ep}/d\Omega dE_{s_2}$  as a function of the variables  $\lambda^2$  and  $K = E_{s_1} - E_{s_2} - \lambda^2/2M$ . It can be easily seen that  $K = (w^2 - M^2)/2M$ . If we use the notation

$$X(K, \lambda^2) \equiv \frac{d\sigma_{ep}}{d\Omega \, dE_{s_2}} \frac{1}{E_{s_2}}, \qquad (20)$$

$$\varkappa(w^2, \lambda^2) \equiv \frac{V'(w^2, \lambda^2)}{V(w^2, \lambda^2)}, \qquad (21)$$

then the part of the cross section of process (2) due to the interaction of the vector current is expressed in the form

$$\sigma_{\mathbf{v}}^{V} = \frac{8G^{2} \langle \mathbf{x} \rangle}{e^{4}} \frac{\pi}{E_{s_{1}}} \int dK \, d\lambda^{2} X(K, \lambda^{2}) \lambda^{4}, \qquad (22)$$

where  $\langle \kappa \rangle$  is the average value of  $\kappa$  over the range of variation of the variables  $w^2$  and  $\lambda^2$ . The coefficient  $\kappa$  takes into account the fact that in the different charge modifications of processes (1) and (2) the matrix elements of the operators  $\frac{1}{2} \{ \tau_{+} \tau_{\alpha} \}$  and  $\frac{1}{2} [ \tau_{+} \tau_{\alpha} ]$  appearing in  $f_{i}$  and consequently in V' ( $w^2$ ,  $\lambda^2$ ), differ from the matrix elements of the operators  $\frac{1}{2} \{ \tau_{3} \tau_{\alpha} \}$  and  $\frac{1}{2} [ \tau_{3} \tau_{\alpha} ]$  contained in the  $f_{i}$  which determine V ( $w^2$ ,  $\lambda^2$ ).

In formula (22) the range of integration is determined by the relation

$$K_{max} = E_{s_1} \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda^2 + m_{\mu}^2} + \frac{m_{\mu}^2}{4M^2} - (\lambda^2 + m_{\mu}^2) \frac{M + 2E_{s_1}}{4ME_{s_1}}$$
$$K_{min} = m_{\pi} + \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{2M}.$$
 (23)

In order to obtain the value of the integral (22) for the energy of the incident neutrino E = 1 GeV, the data of Hand have to be extrapolated a bit into the domain of larger values of K, but the possible errors involved in this are not great since the dependence X(K) is fairly smooth for all values of  $\lambda^2$ . Below we give the values of the integrand in formula (22) for various values of  $\lambda^2$ :<sup>1)</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)</sup>The value of  $(XdK \text{ is given in units of } 10^{-32} \text{ cm}^2/\text{Gev.})$ 

| λ <sup>2</sup> , GeV <sup>2</sup> : | 0,0776 | 0,194 | 0,310 | 0,465 | 0.620 | 0.776 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $\int X dK$ :                       | 102    | 20,5  | 10    | 3,1   | 1,04  | 0.21  |
| $\lambda^4 \int X dK$ :             | 0.612  | 0,77  | 0,96  | 0,67  | 0.4   | 0.126 |

As a result of integrating (22) we find that the part of the cross section  $\sigma_{\nu}^V$  due to the vector current at an incident neutrino energy of 1 Gev amounts to

$$\sigma_{\mathbf{v}}^{V} = 1.96 \cdot 10^{-39} \langle \mathbf{x} \rangle \,\mathrm{cm}^{2} \tag{24}$$

The numerical value can be obtained if we determine the value of  $\langle \kappa \rangle$ .

#### 3. CONCLUSIONS

From relations (9) it follows that the cross section measured by Hand depends both on the isotopically vector and on the isotopically scalar current. Indeed, the cross section for a proton is the sum of cross sections of processes 1) and 3) (Table I):

$$|A_1|^2 + |A_3|^2 = 3(2|t_3|^2 + |t_1 + s|^2).$$
(25)

On the other hand, as follows from (16), the cross section for the production of  $\pi$  mesons by a neutrino on neutrons is

$$|A_{\rm I}|^2 + |A_{\rm II}|^2 \sim \frac{3}{2} (|t_3|^2 + 2|t_1|^2).$$
(26)

The total cross section for the production of  $\pi$  mesons as a result of the interaction of a neutrino with matter containing an equal number of neutrons and of protons is

$$\sigma_{\mathbf{v}^{(n+p)}} = |A_{\mathrm{I}}|^2 + |A_{\mathrm{II}}|^2 + |A_{\mathrm{III}}|^2 \sim 3(2|t_3|^2 + |t_1|^2).$$
(27)

The coefficient of proportionality in relations (26) and (27) is  $8G^2/e^4$ . We have already taken it into account in formula (22). Therefore, if we are interested in  $\sigma_{\nu}^{(n+p)}$ , then in accordance with (25) and (27) we obtain

$$\varkappa = \frac{2|t_3|^2 + |t_1|^2}{2|t_3|^2 + |t_1 + s|^2} \tag{28}$$

The experimental data on the photoproduction of  $\pi$  mesons <sup>[10,11]</sup> enable us (with an accuracy ~20%) to take the value of  $\langle \kappa \rangle$  equal to unity (cf. the Appendix). Then the cross section  $\sigma_{\nu}^{V(n+p)}$  of the neutrino process due to the vector interaction at an energy of 1 GeV turns out to be equal to  $1.26 \times 10^{-39}$  cm<sup>2</sup> or ~ $1 \times 10^{-39}$  per nucleon. The figures obtained above give a lower limit on the value of the cross section, since we do not know the contribution of the axial interaction. From the CERN experiment <sup>[1]</sup> it follows that the cross section per nucleon at an energy of 1 GeV apparently does not exceed  $3 \times 10^{-39}$  cm<sup>2</sup>. If we accept this figure, then the part of the cross section due to the axial interaction exceeds the vector part by a factor two.

Relations (16) provide an interrelation between the different charge modifications of process (2). For example, the ratio of the cross sections for the production of charged  $\pi$  mesons compared to neutral ones in matter with the same number of neutrons and protons is

$$\frac{\sigma(\pi^+)}{\sigma(\pi^0)} = \frac{\langle 5|t_3|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re}(t_3^*t_1) + 2|t_1|^2\rangle}{\langle |t_3|^2 - 2\operatorname{Re}(t_3^*t_1) + |t_1|^2\rangle}$$
(29)

In the Appendix it is shown that in the effective range of K,  $\lambda^2$  for the vector part of the interaction we have

$$\int dK (2|t_3|^2 + |T_1|^2) \approx 1.4 \int dK (|T_1|^2 - 4 \operatorname{Re}(t_3^*T_1)).$$

Assuming that the isoscalar part of the amplitude s, appearing in  $T_1 = t_1 + s$ , is not great compared to the isovector part  $t_1$ , and utilizing the preceding relationship at an energy of 1 GeV we obtain

$$\sigma(\pi^+) / \sigma(\pi^0) \approx 2.5.$$

The experimental value of this ratio including all cases of energy up to 9 GeV, is [1]

$$(\sigma_{\pi^+} / \sigma_{\pi^0})_{exp} = 1.9 \pm 0.4.$$

This could mean that at large energies the state with  $T = \frac{1}{2}$  plays a dominant role.

The approach developed in the present paper enables us to obtain values of  $\sigma_{\nu}^{\rm V}$  over the whole energy region for which there exist experimental data on the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons. In particular, for the cross section  $\sigma_{\nu}^{\rm V}$  at an energy  $\rm E_{S_1}$  equal to 0.5, 0.75, and 1.0 GeV, we obtain

$$\sigma_{v}{}^{v}(E = 0.75 \text{ GeV}) \approx 0.57 \sigma_{v}{}^{v}(E = 1 \text{ GeV}),$$
  
$$\sigma_{v}{}^{v}(E = 0.5 \text{ GeV}) \approx 0.16\sigma_{v}{}^{v}(E = 1 \text{ GeV}).$$



A further extension of the experimentally investigated energy range for the electroproduction of  $\pi$  mesons would give us the energy dependence of the cross section of process (2) in the domain of high energies, and this is very important for comparison with experimental data <sup>[1]</sup>.

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#### APPENDIX

In order to determine the value of the quantity  $\kappa$  one must know the contributions of the isotopically vector and isotopically scalar amplitudes to the electroproduction of a  $\pi$  meson. The data on the production of  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi^-$  mesons on deuterium <sup>[11]</sup> do not contradict the assumption that the isoscalar amplitude makes a contribution to the state of isotopic spin T =  $\frac{1}{2}$  smaller than the isovector one. However, it is not possible to carry out a rigorous analysis, and, therefore, we estimate the value of  $\kappa$  from other considerations.

We consider the data on the photoproduction of charged and neutral  $\pi$  mesons on protons<sup>[10]</sup>. The cross sections for processes 1) and 3) (Table I) is expressed in the form

$$\sigma_1 = 4|t_3|^2 + \varphi + |t_1 + s|^2, \ \sigma_3 = 2|t_3|^2 - \varphi + 2|t_1 + s|^2.$$

The quantity  $\varphi$  represents the interference of states with T equal to  $\frac{3}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$ . We shall show that in the energy range of interest to us  $\varphi$  is negative. We consider the difference

$$\frac{1}{3}(2\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) = 2|t_3|^2 + \varphi.$$

From the data on the total cross sections for the photoproduction of  $\pi^0$  and  $\pi^+$  mesons on protons <sup>[10]</sup> it follows that this difference is negative for K < 240 MeV and for K > 550 MeV (cf. the Figure). Consequently, in these regions  $\varphi$  is negative and in absolute value is greater than twice the value of the square of the modulus of the amplitude with T =  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

In the range  $240 \le K \le 450$  MeV it is sufficient to take into account only the S- and P-waves in the meson-nucleon system. Then we have

$$t_3 = t_3(3/2, 1)e^{i\delta_{33}} + t_3(1/2, 1)e^{i\delta_{31}} + t_3(1/2, 0)e^{i\delta_3},$$

where t(j, l) are real matrix elements for the transition with total angular momentum j and  $\pi$ -meson angular momentum l;  $\delta$  are the phases for the scattering of  $\pi$  mesons by a nucleon <sup>[12]</sup>. Similarly we have

$$t_1 + s \equiv T_1 = T_1(3/2, 1)e^{i\delta_{13}} + T_1(1/2, 1)e^{i\delta_{11}} + T_1(1/2, 0)e^{i\delta_{11}}$$

In the energy range under consideration the

phases  $\delta_{31}$ ,  $\delta_{13}$ , and  $\delta_{11}$  do not exceed  $5^{\circ [13]}$  and can be neglected. If we take into account the fact that the angular distributions in the process  $\langle p\gamma | \pi_p^0 \rangle$  in the energy range K < 650 MeV are well described by the term  $1 - (\sqrt[3]{5}) \cos^2 \theta$  <sup>[10]</sup>, it follows that in the given process the transitions  $M_1 P_{3/2}$  and  $E_1 D_{3/2}$  <sup>[14]</sup> are dominant. In the energy range K  $\leq$  450 MeV the second transition is small, and therefore from (9) we obtain

$$2t_3(1/2, 0) = -T_1(1/2, 0), \ 2t_3(1/2, 1) = -T_1(1/2, 1).$$

These relations immediately lead to the following expression for the contribution of  $\varphi$  to the total cross section:

$$\varphi = 4t_3(3/2, 1) T_1(3/2, 1) \cos \delta_{33} - 2[T_1^2(1/2, 1) + T_1^2(1/2, 0) \cos (\delta_3 - \delta_1)].$$

Near the resonance the phase  $\delta_{33}$  goes through  $\pi/2$  and

$$\varphi_{\rm res} = -2[T_1^2(1/2, 1) + T_1^2(1/2, 0)\cos(\delta_3 - \delta_1)],$$

i.e.,  $\varphi$  is negative. It is evident that  $\varphi$  is also negative in the energy range from resonance to K = 550 MeV, since otherwise the total cross sections would exhibit an irregularity in place of a continuous falling off in this region.

From the Figure it can be seen that

$$\int dK (2|t_3|^2 + |T_1|^2) \approx 1.4 \int dK (|T_1|^2 - \varphi),$$

and from this, if one sets  $\varphi$  equal to zero, it follows immediately that

$$2|t_3|^2/(2|t_3|^2+|T_1|^2) > 0.28.$$

If we take into account that  $\varphi$  is actually a negative quantity and assume that the contribution of the state  $T = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $j = \frac{3}{2}$  is small, we obtain

$$2|t_3|^2/(2|t_3|^2+|T_1|^2) > 0.6.$$

Since  $\kappa$  actually contains another additional positive term, one can assume (with an accuracy 20%) a value of  $\kappa$  equal to unity.

We have obtained the value of  $\kappa$  at  $\lambda^2 = 0$ . The data of Hand <sup>[9]</sup> indicate a certain diminution in the dominance of the  $\frac{3}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}$  resonance at  $\lambda^2$  different from zero. However, as  $\lambda^2$  increases the range over K decreases, and with a decrease in the range with respect to K the ratio  $2 |t_3|^2/(2|t_3|^2 + |T_1|^2)$  increases (cf. the Figure). Therefore, for the average value of  $\langle \kappa \rangle$  one can also take the value unity with good accuracy.

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