

4. Cross section and phase space

$$A + B \rightarrow C + D$$

$$W_{fi} = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{V^4} \delta^4(p_A + p_B - p_C - p_D) \cdot |M_{fi}|^2$$

$$\text{cross section} = \frac{W_{fi}}{(\text{initial flux})} (\text{number of final states})$$

Differential cross section:

$$d\sigma = \frac{W_{fi}}{F_i} dn_f$$

dn_f number of final states

F_i incident particle flux of A and B

4.1 Number of final states

Quantum mechanics restricts the number of final states dn_f of a single particle in a volume V with momentum $\in [\vec{p}, \vec{p} + d\vec{p}]$

$$dn_f = \frac{Vd^3p}{2E\hbar^3} = \frac{Vd^3p}{2E\hbar^3(2\pi)^3} = \frac{Vd^3p}{2E(2\pi)^3}$$

\downarrow
Factor 2E is result of
normalization of the wave
function: 2E particles / V

For particle C and D scattered into momentum elements d^3p_C and d^3p_D

$$dn_f(A + B \rightarrow C + D) = \frac{Vd^3p_C}{2E_C(2\pi)^3} \frac{Vd^3p_D}{2E_D(2\pi)^3}$$

4.2 Incident particle flux F_i

Choose system where particle B is at rest

$$F_i = (\text{flux density A}) \times (\text{density B})$$



$$F_i = |\vec{v}_A| \frac{2E_A}{V} \cdot \frac{2E_B}{V} \quad \text{with } \vec{v}_A = \frac{\vec{p}_A}{E_A}$$

Other cases:

$$A \xrightarrow{\vec{v}_A} B \xrightarrow{\vec{v}_B} \quad F = \frac{1}{V^2} |\vec{v}_A - \vec{v}_B| \cdot 2E_A \cdot 2E_B = \frac{4}{V^2} ((p_A p_B)^2 - m_A^2 m_B^2)^{1/2}$$

$$A \xrightarrow{\vec{p}_A} B \xleftarrow{\vec{p}_B} \quad \vec{p}_A = -\vec{p}_B = \vec{p}_i \quad F = \frac{4}{V^2} |\vec{p}_i| \cdot (E_A + E_B) = \frac{4}{V^2} |\vec{p}_i| \sqrt{s}$$

4.3 Lorentz invariant phase space factor

$$\text{Putting everything together} \quad d\sigma = \frac{W_{fi}}{F_i} dn_f$$

$$d\sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{V^4} \delta^4(p_A + p_B - p_C - p_D) \cdot |M_{fi}|^2 \frac{V^2}{|\vec{v}_A| 2E_A 2E_B} \cdot \frac{V d^3 p_c}{2E_c (2\pi)^3} \cdot \frac{V d^3 p_D}{2E_D (2\pi)^3}$$

$$= \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{|\vec{v}_A| 2E_A 2E_B} \cdot (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_A + p_B - p_C - p_D) \cdot \underbrace{\frac{d^3 p_c}{2E_c (2\pi)^3}}_{\text{Particle flux } F_i} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{d^3 p_D}{2E_D (2\pi)^3}}_{\text{Lorentz invariant phase space factor } d\Phi_n}$$

Remark: volume V drops out !

Phase space factor $d\Phi$ for two-particles final-state

CM System:

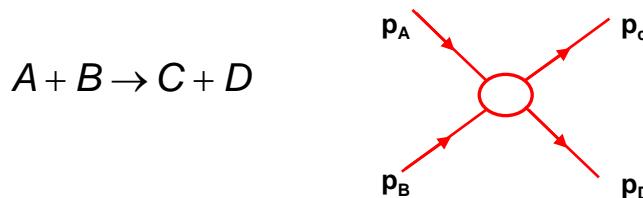
$$\vec{p}_A = -\vec{p}_B \quad \vec{p}_C = -\vec{p}_D$$

$$d\Phi \xrightarrow{\int} \int d\Phi = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \delta^3(\vec{p}_C + \vec{p}_D) \delta(E_A + E_B - E_C - E_D) \frac{d^3 p_C}{2E_C} \frac{d^3 p_D}{2E_D}$$

$$\int d\Phi = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \frac{|\vec{p}_f|}{4\sqrt{s}} d\Omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{p}_f &= \vec{p}_C = -\vec{p}_D \\ s &= (E_A + E_B)^2 \end{aligned}$$

4.4 Differential cross section ...putting everything together

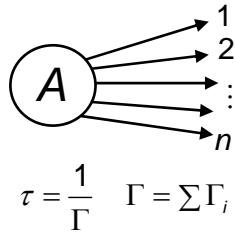


$$d\sigma = \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{F} d\Phi = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{|\vec{p}_f|}{|\vec{p}_i|} \cdot |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{|\vec{p}_f|}{|\vec{p}_i|} \cdot |M_{fi}|^2$$

5. Decay width, lifetime and Dalitz plots

5.1 Decay width



Diff. decay width:

$$d\Gamma_i(A \rightarrow 1+2+\dots+n) = \frac{W_{fi}}{n_A} dn_f$$

$$d\Gamma_i = \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{2E_A} \cdot (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_A - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_n) \cdot$$

$$\frac{d^3 p_1}{2E_1(2\pi)^3} \cdot \frac{d^3 p_2}{2E_2(2\pi)^3} \cdots \frac{d^3 p_n}{2E_n(2\pi)^3}$$

Two-body decay:

$$A \rightarrow 1+2$$

$$d\Gamma_i(A \rightarrow 1+2) = \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{2E_A} \cdot d\Phi = \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{2E_A} \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \frac{|\vec{p}_f|}{4\sqrt{s}} d\Omega$$

wie oben

$$\sqrt{s} = E_A = m_A$$

$$d\Gamma_i(A \rightarrow 1+2) = \frac{|\vec{p}_f|}{32\pi^2 m_A^2} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega$$

Three-body decay:

$$A \rightarrow 1+2+3$$

↑
scalar

$$\int d\Phi = \frac{1}{32\pi^3} \int dE_1 dE_2 \xleftarrow{\text{flat in } E_1 \text{ and } E_2}$$

$$d\Gamma_i(E_1, E_2) = \frac{1}{64\pi^3} \frac{1}{2m_A} |M_{fi}|^2 dE_1 dE_2$$

Remark: Instead of variables E_1 and E_2 one can use variables m_{12}^2 and m_{23}^2 = invariant mass of pairs (i,j) $m_{ij}^2 = (p_i + p_j)^2$

$$dE_1 dE_2 = C \cdot dm_{12}^2 dm_{23}^2$$

$$d\Gamma_i(m_{12}, m_{23}) = \frac{1}{256\pi^3} \frac{1}{m_A^3} |M_{fi}|^2 dm_{12} dm_{23}$$

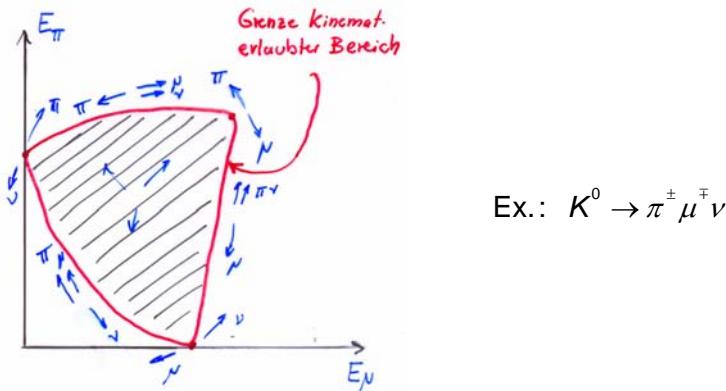
If phase space is flat in E_i then it is also flat in m_{ij}

Experimental method to explore behavior of M_{fi} : Dalitz Analysis

5.2 Dalitz Plots

Method:

Put every measured decay into a 2-dim., (E_1, E_2) distribution. A flat distribution over the allowed region corresponds to a “flat matrix element”. Structures in the distribution point to a varying matrix elem.



Dalitz Plot: $\pi^+ \bar{K}^0 p$ final state at 3 GeV

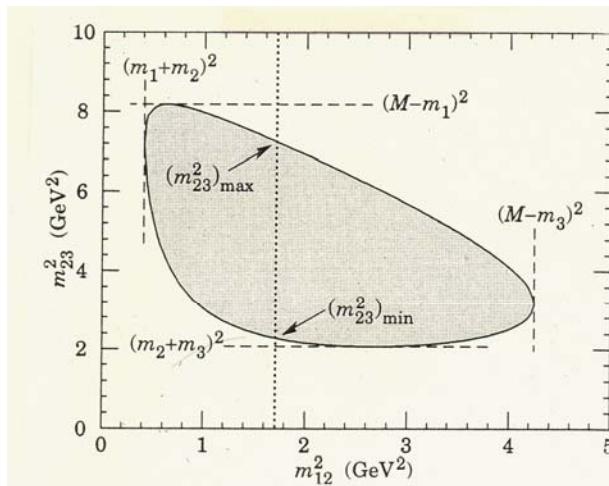
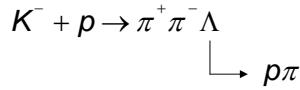


Figure 34.3: Dalitz plot for a three-body final state. In this example, the state is $\pi^+ \bar{K}^0 p$ at 3 GeV. Four-momentum conservation restricts events to the shaded region.

Dalitz Plot: Example

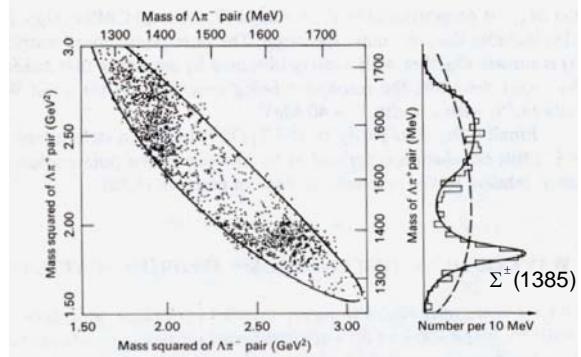


⇒ 2 bands at $\Lambda\pi^\pm$ inv. masses of ~1385 MeV

Explanation:

$\Lambda\pi^\pm$ form an intermediate resonance state:

$$\Sigma^\pm(1385) \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^\pm$$



4.8 Dalitz plot of the $\Lambda\pi^+\pi^-$ events from reaction (4.36), as measured by Shafer for 1.22-GeV/c incident momentum. The effective $\Lambda\pi^+$ mass spectrum is shown at the bottom. The dashed curve is that expected for a phase-space distribution (ordinate equal to the integral within the Dalitz-plot boundary), while the full curve corresponds to a Breit-Wigner expression fitted to the $\Lambda\pi^+$ and $\Lambda\pi^-$ systems.

Experiment: Kaon beam on a liquid H₂ bubble chamber