NOTIZEN

Parametrization of Backward π p Scattering

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Dedicated to Professor Dr. W. Gentner on the occasion of his 60th birthday

Consider the process in Fig. 1. If a particle E exists, such that the quantum numbers are conserved at the vertices, the cross-section is enhanced for small momentum transfers. To be more quantitative: the closer the square of the four-momentum transfer $u=(p_{\rm C}-p_{\rm A})^2$ approaches the pole at $u=-m_{\rm E}^2$, which lies in the non-physical region, the larger is the cross-section. Whether this description can be formulated in a satisfactory way so as to give detailed quantitative agreement with experiments has yet to be shown. More accurate experiments are certainly welcome.



Fig. 1.

I am going to discuss the situation when a meson A is incident on a proton B, and the meson D is scattered backwards while the recoil proton C goes forward. The exchanged particle E is then a baryon, which for $\pi^\pm p$ scattering can have isotopic spin 1/2 or 3/2. In the case of K^+p scattering a hyperon can be exchanged, while for K^-p there is no known particle E to be exchanged. There are unfortunately so far no conclusive experiments of Kp back scattering.

In an early experiment at the CERN Proton Synchrotron 1 we looked at the backward elastic and inelastic scattering of π^- on protons in the momentum region 1 to $2.5 \, \text{GeV/c}$. The experiment was aimed at

looking for meson resonances produced, as it were, at large momentum transfers. The forward recoiling proton was momentum analyzed, and detected with a differential Cerenkov counter. The backward elastic scattering was found to be 0.2 mb/ster at 1.5 GeV/c, in agreement with later data ². The two-body production of a^- was found to be $\leq 10 \text{ mb/ster}$

of ϱ^- was found to be $\leqq 10~\mu b/ster$. In a recent experiment 3 we used spark chambers to record the trajectories of the three particles involved in elastic scattering. The kinematic constraints are in this case much more severe, and we could therefore use a detection system with a large aperture. This experiment, and an experiment at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) 4 , give at the moment the most useful information on π p backward scattering.

There exists no information on polarization effects in backward scattering at high energies, so we will neglect spin dependence. The scattering amplitude is then a function of the Lorenz invariants s and u only, where

$$\begin{split} s &= (p_{\pi}{}^{\mathrm{i}} + p_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{\mathrm{i}})^{2} = (p_{\pi}{}^{\mathrm{f}} + p_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{\mathrm{f}})^{2} = (E_{\pi}{}^{*} + E_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{*})^{2}, \\ u &= (p_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{\mathrm{f}} - p_{\pi}{}^{\mathrm{i}})^{2} = (p_{\pi}{}^{\mathrm{f}} - p_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{\mathrm{i}})^{2} \\ &= (E_{\mathrm{p}}{}^{*} - E_{\pi}{}^{*})^{2} - 2\,k^{*2}(1 - \cos\,\Theta^{*})\,. \end{split}$$

p are the four-momenta of the particles involved, i indicating initial and f final particles, E^* and k^* are energy and momentum in the centre of mass. Θ^* is the angle between the primary pion and the recoil proton. Due to the mass difference between these particles the four-momentum transfer squared u is time-like for small Θ^* , goes through zero, and becomes space-like for larger Θ^* . At 3.5 GeV/c the change in sign occurs for $\cos\Theta^*=0.959$, and 8 GeV/c for $\cos\Theta^*=0.988$.

In Fig. 2, a, b have plotted the results of the experiments at BNL and CERN. Other experiments ^{5, 6, 7} support these data, but they are not extensive enough to draw any definite conclusions.

The influence of scattering through resonance states ⁸ is probably not important at 3.5 GeV/c, since total cross-sections and differential cross-sections at 180° vary rather smoothly in this neighbourhood ².

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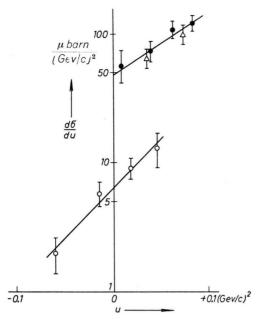


Fig. 2 a. Backward π⁺p elastic scattering. BNL-Cornell ⁴ Δ GeV/c; O 8 GeV/c; CERN-Saclay ³ • 3.5 GeV/c.

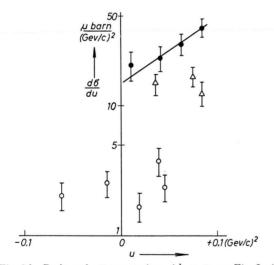


Fig. 2 b. Backward π -p scattering. (\triangle 0 • see Fig. 2 a.)

This point will be checked when the experiment at CERN³, which was done at several momenta in this region, has been completely analyzed.

We see from Fig. 2 that the π^{\pm} p scattering at 3.5 GeV/c can be fitted with an exponential function with a slope $A = \frac{d}{du} \left(\ln \frac{d\sigma}{du} \right)_{u=0} = 11 \pm 3 \, (\text{GeV/c})^{-2}$. At 8 GeV/c, $A = 17 \pm 3$ for π^{+} p scattering 4, while the data for π^{-} p are not accurate enough. All other ex-

periments indicate a fast rise also for $\pi^- p$ elastic scattering near 180 $^\circ$ 5, 7.

The apparent shrinkage of the backward peak, at least in the case of $\pi^+ p$ scattering, make it suitable to parametrize the data according to reggeized particles E. Assuming for the moment that we are dealing with the exchange of a single Regge trajectory $\alpha_{\rm E}(\sqrt{u})^{-9}$ in Fig. 1, we have

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}u} = s^{\left[\alpha_{\mathrm{E}}(\sqrt{u}) + \alpha_{\mathrm{E}}(-\sqrt{u}) - 2\right]} f(u).$$

In Fig. 3 we have plotted $\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}u}\right)_{u=0}$ as a function of s. Other data exist ^{2, 6} which in general agree with the figure when extrapolated to u=0 with a slope given above. We find

$$\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}u}\right)_{u=0} = \mathrm{const}\ x\ s^{-3}.$$

Thus

$$2[\alpha_E(0)-1]=-3$$
, $\alpha_E(0)=-0.50$.

The variation in the slope

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}(A)}{\mathrm{d}(\ln s)} = \alpha_{\mathrm{E}}^{\prime\prime}(0)$$

where the differentiation is with respect to \sqrt{u} . With the rate of decrease of A given above, we find

$$\alpha_{\rm E}''(0) = 1.1 \, ({\rm GeV/c})^{-2}$$
.

This value lies within the range obtained for other Regge trajectories 9.

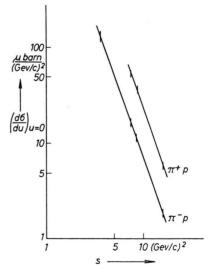


Fig. 3. Differential scattering cross-section at u=0 as a function of s.

If the description in terms of Regge trajectories bears any relationship to reality, one would expect several trajectories to contribute to π^+ p backward scattering, while probably only one to π^- p. We do not need this complication, at least not as yet.

⁹ G. F. Chew and J. D. Stack, UCRL-1 6293 [1965].