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Study of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_SK^0_L$ in the center-of-mass energy range 1004–1060 MeV with the CMD-3 detector at the VEPP-2000 $e^+e^-$ collider

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\textbf{A B S T R A C T}

The $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_SK^0_L$ cross section has been measured in the center-of-mass energy range 1004–1060 MeV at 25 energy points using $6.1 \times 10^6$ events with $K^0_S \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ decay. The analysis is based on 5.9 pb$^{-1}$ of an integrated luminosity collected with the CMD-3 detector at the VEPP-2000 $e^+e^-$ collider. To obtain $\phi$(1020) meson parameters the measured cross section is approximated according to the Vector Meson Dominance model as a sum of the $\rho, \omega, \phi$-like amplitudes and their excitations. This is the most precise measurement of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_SK^0_L$ cross section with a 1.8% systematic uncertainty.

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1. Introduction

Investigation of $e^+e^-$ annihilation into hadrons at low energy provides unique information about interactions of light quarks. High-precision studies of various hadronic cross sections are of great interest in connection with the problem of the muon anomalous magnetic moment [1] and constitute the main goal of experiments with the CMD-3 and SND detectors at the upgraded VEPP-2000 collider [2,3].

In particular, $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_SK^0_L$ is one of the processes with a rather large cross section in the center-of-mass energy range from 1 to 2 GeV. A precise measurement of this cross section, dominated by the contribution of the $\phi(1020)$ and $\phi(1680)$ resonances, is required to improve our knowledge of the hadronic contributions to $(g-2)_\mu$ and $\alpha(M_Z^2)$. Additional motivation for high-precision measurements of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_SK^0_L$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^0_K^0$ cross sections around the $\phi$ meson peak comes from a significant deviation of the ratio of the coupling constants $\frac{f_{\phi}M_\phi}{\pi} \cdot \frac{s_{\phi}}{g_{\phi}}$ from theoretical predictions [4].

The most precise previous studies of the process have been performed at the CMD-2 [5], SND [6] and BaBar [7] detectors.
In this paper we present results of the new measurement of the \( e^+e^- \rightarrow K_0^\pi^0 \) cross section based on a high-statistics data sample collected at 25 energy points in the center-of-mass energy (c.m.) \( E_{\text{c.m.}} \) range 1004–1060 MeV with the CMD-3 detector.

2. CMD-3 detector and data set

The Cryogenic Magnetic Detector (CMD-3) described elsewhere [8] is installed in one of the two interaction regions of the VEPP-2000 \( e^+e^- \) collider [9]. The detector tracking system consists of the cylindrical drift chamber (DC) and double-layer cylindrical multiwire proportional Z-chamber, both installed inside a thin (0.085 \( X_0 \)) superconducting solenoid with 1.3 T magnetic field. DC contains 1218 hexagonal cells and provides a measurement of charged particle momentum and of the polar (\( \theta \)) and azimuthal (\( \phi \)) angles. An amplitude information from the DC wires is used to measure the ionization losses \( dE/dx \) of charged particles with \( \sigma_{dE/dx} \approx 11–14\% \) accuracy for minimum ionization particles (m.i.p.). A barrel electromagnetic calorimeter placed outside the solenoid consists of two subsystems: an inner liquid xenon (LXe) calorimeter (5.4 \( X_0 \) thick) surrounded by a scintillation CsI crystal calorimeter (8.1 \( X_0 \) thick) [10]. BGO crystals with 13.4 \( X_0 \) are used as an endcap calorimeter. The detector has two triggers: neutral and charged. A signal for neutral one is generated by the information from calorimeters, while the charged trigger comes from the tracking system. The return yoke of the detector is surrounded by scintillation counters which veto cosmic events.

To obtain a detection efficiency, Monte Carlo (MC) simulation of the detector based on the GEANT4 [11] package has been developed. Simulated events are subject to the same reconstruction and selection procedures as the data. MC simulation includes photon jet radiation by initial electrons calculated according to Refs. [12, 13]. Background was estimated using a multihadronic Monte Carlo generator [14] based on experimental data for all measured processes in the energy range up to 2 GeV.

The analysis uses 5.9 pb\(^{-1}\) of an integrated luminosity collected in two scans of the \( \phi \) (1020) resonance region at 25 energy points in the \( E_{\text{c.m.}} \) range 1004–1060 MeV range. The beam energy \( E_{\text{beam}} \) has been monitored by using the Back-Scattering-Laser-Light system [15,16] which determines \( E_{\text{c.m.}} \) at each energy point with about 0.06 MeV accuracy.

3. Event selection

Signal identification is based on detection of two pions from the \( K_0^\pi \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- \) decay. For each pair of oppositely charged tracks a constrained fit to a common vertex is performed to determine track parameters. Assuming tracks to be pions, the pair with the best \( \chi^2 \) from the vertex fit and with the invariant mass in the range 420–580 MeV/\( c^2 \) is selected as a \( K_0^0 \) candidate. The following requirements are applied to events with a found \( K_0^0 \) candidate:

- The longitudinal distance and the transverse coordinate of the vertex should have \( |Z_{\text{vertex}}| < 10 \) cm and \( |\rho_{\text{vertex}}| < 6 \) cm, respectively;
- Pions from \( K_0^0 \) decay are required to have polar angles \( 0 < \theta_{\pi^\pm} < \pi - 1 \) radians;
- Each track has momentum 130 MeV/\( c \) < \( P_{\pi^\pm} < 320 \) MeV/\( c \) corresponding to the kinematically allowed region for pions from the \( K_0^0 \) decay and its ionization losses in DC are within three standard deviations from the average value, expected for pions. The last requirement rejects charged kaons and background protons, as shown in Fig. 1 for positive (a) and negative (b) tracks, respectively, at \( E_{\text{beam}} = 505 \) MeV;
- The momentum of the \( K_0^0 \) candidate, \( P_{\text{vertex}} = \sqrt{E_{\text{vertex}}^2 + \rho_{\text{vertex}}^2} \), is required to be not larger than five standard deviations from the nominal momentum \( \sqrt{E_{\text{vertex}}^2 + \rho_{\text{vertex}}^2} = \sqrt{E_{\text{vertex}}^2 + \rho_{\text{vertex}}^2} \) at each energy, as shown by the arrows in Fig. 2(a);
- The cosine of the angle \( \psi \) between the tracks should be smaller than the cosine of the minimal angle between two pions originating from the two-body decay of the \( K_0^0 \) meson, shifted by five standard deviations, as shown by the arrow in Fig. 2(b).
Fig. 3. Reconstructed polar angle of the \( K_L^0 \) meson (a) and the transverse distance of the \( K_L^0 \) decay vertex from the beam (b) at \( E_{\text{beam}} = 505 \text{ MeV} \) for data (points) and signal simulation (shaded histogram). The dark shaded histograms represent the estimated contribution from the background processes.

The reconstructed polar angle of the \( K_L^0 \) meson and the transverse distance of the \( K_L^0 \) decay vertex from the \( e^+e^- \) interaction point are shown in Fig. 3 after above selections for data (points) and MC-simulation (shaded histogram). The dark shaded histograms show a sum of the background contributions from the MC-simulated hadronic processes (predominantly \( e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\nu\bar{\nu} \)) and a contribution from cosmic muons estimated using events from the \( |Z_{K_L^0}| \) sideband (10 < \( |Z_{K_L^0}| \) < 15 cm).

We determine the number of signal events for data and simulation from a binned maximum likelihood fit of two-pion invariant mass shown in Fig. 4. The signal shape is described by a sum of four Gaussian functions with parameters fixed from the simulation and with additional Gaussian smearing to account for the difference in data-MC detector responses. The background in data, described by a second-order polynomial function, constitutes about 30% outside the \( \phi \) meson peak and 0.5% under it. By toy MC experiments with fixed signal and background profiles as well as by varying the background shape and approximation range used we estimate an uncertainty on the number of extracted signal events as less than 1.1%. The number of obtained signal events, \( N_{\text{exp}} \), for each energy is listed in Table 3.

4. Cross section of \( e^+e^- \rightarrow K_L^0 K_L^0 \)

The Born cross section of the process \( e^+e^- \rightarrow K_L^0 K_L^0 \) is calculated at each energy from the expression:

\[
\sigma^{\text{Born}} = \frac{N_{\text{exp}}}{\epsilon_{\text{reg}}\epsilon_{\text{trig}}L(1 + \delta^{\text{rad}})(1 + \delta^{\text{en.spr}})},
\]

where \( \epsilon_{\text{reg}} \) is a detection efficiency, \( \epsilon_{\text{trig}} \) is a trigger efficiency, \( L \) is an integrated luminosity, \( 1 + \delta^{\text{rad}} \) is a radiative correction, and \( 1 + \delta^{\text{en.spr}} \) represents a correction due to the spread of the collision energy.

The detection efficiency \( \epsilon_{\text{reg}} \) is obtained by dividing the number of MC simulated events and selection described above by the total number of generated \( K_L^0 K_L^0 \) pairs taking into account the branching fraction \( B_{K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-} = (69.20 \pm 0.05)\% \) [17]. Fig. 5 shows the obtained detection efficiency (triangles) vs c.m. energy in comparison with the expected geometrical efficiency (squares). The geometrical efficiency is calculated as the probability of pions to be in the polar angle range \( 1 < \theta_{\pi^+\pi^-} < \pi - 1 \) radians at the generator level.

The trigger efficiency is studied using responses of two independent triggers, charged and neutral, for selected signal events, and is found to be close to unity, \( \epsilon_{\text{trig}} = 0.998 \pm 0.001 \).

The integrated luminosity \( L \) is determined using events of the processes \( e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^- \) (Bhabha events) with about 1% [18] systematic accuracy.

The initial-state radiative correction \( 1 + \delta^{\text{rad}} \), shown by squares in Fig. 6, is calculated using the structure function method with an accuracy better than 0.1% [19].

The spread of collision energy is about 350 keV, that is significant in comparison with the \( \phi \) meson width, and we introduce the correction of the cross section, shown by points in Fig. 6, which has a maximum value of 1.028 \pm 0.004 at the peak of the \( \phi \) resonance.

The resulting cross section is listed in Table 3 for each energy and shown in Fig. 8. The presented errors are statistical only and include fluctuations of signal and Bhabha events as well as the error \( \delta E_{\text{c.m.}} \) due to the statistical uncertainty of the c.m. energy measurement. The last part was calculated as \( \frac{\delta E_{\text{c.m.}}}{E_{\text{c.m.}}} \times \delta E_{\text{c.m.}} \).
5. Systematic uncertainties

MC simulations may not exactly reproduce all detector responses, so an additional study was performed to obtain corrections for data-MC difference in the detection efficiency.

The data-MC difference in the charged pion detection by DC is studied using the process $e^+e^-\to \phi \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$. Three-pion events can be fully reconstructed from one detected charged track and two detected photons from the $\pi^0$ decay, and a probability to detect another charged track can be determined. For the polar angle requirement $1<\theta_{\pi^+}\pi^-<1$ radians, the average detection inefficiency is about 1% per track for high momentum, and decreases with pion momentum, as shown in Fig. 7. The rise of efficiency vs momentum is explained by the decreasing number of pions that decayed or interacted in DC. Good data-MC agreement is observed for charged pion detection, so no efficiency correction is introduced and the uncertainty in the detection is estimated as 0.5%.

DC calibration is checked using signals of the Bhabha events [18] in the DC and Z-chamber, and for pions from the $K_L^0$ decay the uncertainty due to the polar angle selection in the region of polar angles chosen is estimated as 0.4%.

By variation of corresponding selection criteria we estimate the uncertainty due to the data-MC difference in the angular and momentum resolutions as 0.5%, while other selection criteria contribute another 0.6%.

The total uncertainty of the detection efficiency is calculated as a quadratic sum of uncertainties from the different sources and is estimated to be 1.0%.

The systematic uncertainties of the $e^+e^-\to K_L^0K_L^0$ cross section discussed above are summarized in Table 1 giving 1.8% in total.

6. Fitting of the $e^+e^-\to K_L^0K_L^0$ cross section

To obtain $\phi(1020)$ parameters we approximate the energy dependence of the cross section according to the vector meson dominance (VMD) model as a sum of the $\rho, \omega, \phi$-like amplitudes [20]:

$$\sigma_{\rho,\omega,\phi}(s) = \frac{8\pi^2 M_V^2}{9s} \rho(s) + \frac{8\pi^2 M_V^2}{9s} \omega(s) + \frac{8\pi^2 M_V^2}{9s} \phi(s).$$

The coupling constants of the intermediate vector meson $V$ with initial and final states can be presented as:

$$|\langle \rho V \rangle| = \sqrt{\frac{3m_V^2\Gamma_{\rho V}}{4\pi \alpha}, \quad |\langle \omega V \rangle| = \sqrt{\frac{6m_V^2\Gamma_{\omega V}}{p_{K^0}\Gamma_{K^0}}},$$

where $\Gamma_{\rho V}$ and $\Gamma_{\omega V}$ are electronic width and branching fraction of the $\rho$ meson decay to a pair of kaons.

In our approximation we use the world-average values of mass, total width and electronic width of the $\rho(770)$ and $\omega(782)$: $\Gamma_{\rho\to ee} = 0.04 \pm 0.06$ keV, $\Gamma_{\omega\to ee} = 0.60 \pm 0.02$ keV [17]. The branching fractions of the $\rho(770)$ and $\omega(782)$ to a kaon pair are unknown, and we use the relation $\Gamma_{\rho KK} = -\frac{m_{K^0}^2}{2\gamma}$, where $\gamma$ is the decay rate of $\rho KK$.

The amplitude $A_{\rho,\omega,\phi}$ denotes a contribution of excited $\rho(1450)$, $\omega(1420)$ and $\phi(1680)$ vector meson states in the $\phi(1020)$ mass region. Using BaBar [7] data above 1.06 GeV for the process $e^+e^-\to K_L^0K_L^0$ we found a relatively small contribution of these states in the studied energy range in comparison with nonresonant $\rho$ and $\omega$ contributions.

We perform a fit to the $e^+e^-\to K_L^0K_L^0$ cross section with floating $m_\phi$, $\Gamma_\phi$, and $\Gamma_{\rho\to ee} = \Gamma_{\omega\to ee} = \Gamma_{\phi\to ee}$ parameters: the fit yields $\chi^2/ndf = 20/22$ $(P(\chi^2) = 58\%)$. The contributions of the $\rho$ and $\omega$ intermediate states are non-negligible and we perform a fit where we introduce an additional floating parameter $g_{\rho,\omega}$, which is a multiplicative factor for both $g_{\rho KK}^0$ and $g_{\omega KK}^0$ coupling constants in Eq. (2). The fit yields $\chi^2/ndf = 15/21$ $(P(\chi^2) = 82\%)$ with $g_{\rho,\omega} = 0.80 \pm 0.09$. This is the first quantitative estimate of the $\rho$ and $\omega$ amplitude contributions in the $\phi$ meson region. The obtained parameters of the $\phi$ meson in comparison with the values of other measurements are presented in Table 2 and the fit result is shown in Fig. 8(a).
Table 2
The results of the approximation procedure in comparison with previous experiments.

| Parameter | CMD-3 | Other measurements |
|-----------|-------|---------------------|
| $m_\rho$, MeV | 1019.457 ± 0.006 ± 0.060 ± 0.010 | 1019.461 ± 0.019 (PDG2014) |
| $\Gamma_\rho$, MeV | 4.240 ± 0.012 ± 0.005 ± 0.010 | 4.266 ± 0.031 (PDG2014) |
| $\Gamma_{\rho \rightarrow K_{S}^{0}K_{L}^{0}}$, keV | 0.428 ± 0.001 ± 0.008 ± 0.005 | 0.4200 ± 0.0127 (BaBar) |
| $B_{\rho \rightarrow K_{S}^{0}K_{L}^{0}}$, $10^{-5}$ | 10.078 ± 0.025 ± 0.188 ± 0.118 | 10.06 ± 0.16 (PDG2014) |

Table 3
The c.m. energy $E_{c.m.}$, number of selected signal events $N$, detection efficiency $\epsilon_{MC}$, radiative-correction factor $1 + \lambda_{rad}$, integrated luminosity $L$, and Born cross section $\sigma$ of the process $e^{+}e^{-} \rightarrow K_{S}^{0}K_{L}^{0}$. Statistical errors only are shown.

| $E_{c.m.}$, MeV | $N$ events | $\epsilon_{MC}$ | $1 + \lambda_{rad}$ | $1 + \lambda_{impr}$ | $L$, nb$^{-1}$ | $\sigma$, nb |
|----------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| 1              | 1004.066 ± 0.008 | 315 ± 19 | 0.321 | 0.72 | 0.994 | 195.35 ± 0.67 | 6.87 ± 0.42 |
| 2              | 1010.466 ± 0.010 | 9083 ± 100 | 0.312 | 0.73 | 0.992 | 936.05 ± 1.44 | 42.16 ± 0.47 |
| 3              | 1012.955 ± 0.007 | 10639 ± 108 | 0.308 | 0.72 | 0.988 | 485.35 ± 1.04 | 96.74 ± 1.00 |
| 4              | 1015.068 ± 0.012 | 2347 ± 50 | 0.307 | 0.71 | 0.987 | 47.91 ± 0.33 | 219.53 ± 5.02 |
| 5              | 1016.105 ± 0.010 | 15574 ± 130 | 0.304 | 0.71 | 0.978 | 192.11 ± 0.66 | 366.33 ± 3.33 |
| 6              | 1017.155 ± 0.012 | 65612 ± 264 | 0.303 | 0.70 | 0.983 | 478.99 ± 1.04 | 628.15 ± 2.95 |
| 7              | 1017.156 ± 0.013 | 5525 ± 77 | 0.302 | 0.70 | 0.985 | 40.76 ± 0.3 | 624.76 ± 9.89 |
| 8              | 1018.046 ± 0.021 | 102233 ± 334 | 0.301 | 0.70 | 0.992 | 478.34 ± 1.04 | 996.62 ± 4.28 |
| 9              | 1019.118 ± 0.016 | 98014 ± 326 | 0.3 | 0.72 | 1.028 | 328.62 ± 0.86 | 1413.65 ± 6.02 |
| 10             | 1019.214 ± 0.019 | 16059 ± 132 | 0.299 | 0.72 | 1.022 | 52.75 ± 0.34 | 1433.05 ± 15.03 |
| 11             | 1019.421 ± 0.028 | 11066 ± 110 | 0.299 | 0.73 | 1.024 | 36.04 ± 0.28 | 1434.84 ± 18.40 |
| 12             | 1019.902 ± 0.012 | 140758 ± 386 | 0.299 | 0.75 | 1.016 | 472.34 ± 1.04 | 1341.91 ± 4.74 |
| 13             | 1021.222 ± 0.021 | 47352 ± 225 | 0.299 | 0.83 | 0.994 | 228.34 ± 0.72 | 833.20 ± 4.89 |
| 14             | 1021.309 ± 0.009 | 9545 ± 102 | 0.299 | 0.83 | 0.994 | 46.85 ± 0.33 | 807.54 ± 10.36 |
| 15             | 1022.078 ± 0.021 | 31323 ± 183 | 0.297 | 0.88 | 0.989 | 201.61 ± 0.68 | 582.93 ± 4.03 |
| 16             | 1022.744 ± 0.019 | 14517 ± 126 | 0.297 | 0.93 | 0.989 | 116.71 ± 0.52 | 443.71 ± 4.38 |
| 17             | 1023.266 ± 0.025 | 6876 ± 854 | 0.297 | 0.96 | 0.992 | 62.91 ± 0.38 | 377.77 ± 5.31 |
| 18             | 1025.320 ± 0.031 | 2319 ± 51 | 0.294 | 1.08 | 0.996 | 36.32 ± 0.28 | 199.26 ± 4.97 |
| 19             | 1027.956 ± 0.015 | 8150 ± 94 | 0.294 | 1.21 | 0.997 | 195.83 ± 0.67 | 115.93 ± 1.70 |
| 20             | 1029.090 ± 0.014 | 1911 ± 45 | 0.293 | 1.26 | 0.998 | 52.94 ± 0.35 | 96.96 ± 3.00 |
| 21             | 1033.907 ± 0.011 | 3704 ± 64 | 0.292 | 1.43 | 0.999 | 175.55 ± 0.64 | 50.12 ± 1.26 |
| 22             | 1040.300 ± 0.003 | 2839 ± 56 | 0.289 | 1.6 | 1 | 195.91 ± 0.68 | 31.27 ± 1.01 |
| 23             | 1049.864 ± 0.011 | 4291 ± 70 | 0.284 | 1.78 | 1 | 499.59 ± 1.09 | 16.93 ± 0.50 |
| 24             | 1050.862 ± 0.031 | 1310 ± 39 | 0.285 | 1.79 | 1 | 146.31 ± 0.59 | 17.47 ± 0.94 |
| 25             | 1059.947 ± 0.015 | 1271 ± 38 | 0.276 | 1.91 | 1 | 198.86 ± 0.69 | 12.09 ± 0.71 |

Fig. 8. (a) Measured $e^{+}e^{-} \rightarrow K_{S}^{0}K_{L}^{0}$ cross section in comparison with previous experiments. The dots are experimental data, the curve is the fit described in the text. (b) Relative difference between the data and fit. Comparison with other experimental data is shown. Statistical uncertainties only are included for data. The width of the band shows the systematic uncertainties in our experiment.

and the fit curve. Only statistical uncertainties are shown. The width of the band shows the systematic uncertainty in our measurement. A slope of the CMD-2 points [5] can be explained by an about 80 keV difference between the used values of c.m. energy in the previous work and this experiment, that is within declared systematic uncertainties of the energy measurements.

The contributions of the $\rho$ and $\omega$ intermediate states are demonstrated in Fig. 9 by the dotted lines, while the long-dashed line shows a contribution from higher excitations. The first uncertainties presented in Table 2 are statistical, and the second are the...
systematic uncertainties. Two effects were taken into account in the estimation of the latter: the accuracy of the measurement of the c.m.s. energy $E_{c.m.}$ of 60 keV and the systematic uncertainty of the cross section measurement of 1.8% (Table 1). To study model dependence of the results, several additional fits are performed. Other fits use Eq. (2) without the $A_{\rho',\rho',\omega}$ amplitude and introduce an additional floating phase of the $\phi$ meson amplitude or the both $\rho$ and $\omega$ amplitudes. The variations in the $\phi$ meson parameters are used as an estimate of the model-dependent uncertainty presented as a third uncertainty in Table 2. The obtained values agree with results of other measurements and some are more precise.

Fig. 10 shows available experimental data up to $E_{c.m.} = 1250$ MeV and demonstrates that the obtained fit parameters do not contradict other measurements at higher $E_{c.m.}$ values. The dashed line shows the contribution of the $\phi$ meson only, when the amplitudes from the $\rho(770)$ and $\omega(782)$ are excluded demonstrating that the destructive interference with these states dominates in the shown energy region.

7. Conclusion

Using the $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ decay we observe $6.1 \times 10^5$ events of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K_S^0K_S^0$ in the 1004–1060 MeV c.m. energy range, and measure the cross section with a 1.8% systematic uncertainty. The following values of the $\phi$ meson parameters have been obtained:

$$m_\phi = 1019.457 \pm 0.061 \text{ MeV/c}^2$$
$$\Gamma_\phi = 4.240 \pm 0.017 \text{ MeV}$$
$$\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow e^+e^-}B_{\phi \rightarrow K_SK_S^0} = 0.428 \pm 0.009 \text{ keV}.$$

The obtained parameters are in good agreement with previous experiments. The values of $\Gamma_\phi$ and $\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow e^+e^-}B_{\phi \rightarrow K_SK_S^0}$ are the most precise among all existing measurements. High precision in the cross section measurement allows the first quantitative estimate of the contributions from $\rho$ and $\omega$ mesons to the studied c.m. region.

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