p-Meson Nucleon Scattering Length from CLAS Threshold **Photoproduction** Measurements

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- Puzzle for Vector Meson Thr Photoprod.
- A bit of History for ρ & ω.
- VMD Model.
- Vector Meson Nucleon SL Puzzle.
- Extraction of $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho p$ Xsec from CLAS data.
- ρ & ω SLs.
- Vector Meson Nucleon Puzzle.
- Summary.



IIS, V. Mokeev, E. Isupov, A. Schmidt, arXiv:2509.04672 [nucl-th]

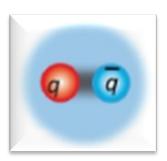
Puzzle for Vector Meson Threshold Photoproduction

with Phenomenology





Bit of Kistory for P & W



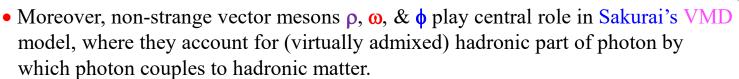


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Short Introduction

- p meson is one of earliest vector mesons to be discovered, & its history is tied to development of VMD idea & study of *strong interaction*.
- Occasionally, ρ-meson is considered as gauge boson of *broken hidden local chiral symmetry*, which, however, is distinct from broken global *Chiral Symmetry* of which pion is respective Goldstone-Nambu boson.





• There are no vector meson beams, so experiments using modern EM facilities attempt to access *vector meson* nucleon interactions via EM production reactions $e + p \rightarrow e' + V + p$ (V is vector meson).

65 yrs Discovery of w & p

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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EVIDENCE FOR A T = 0 THREE-PION RESONANCE*

B. C. Maglić, L. W. Alvarez, A. H. Rosenfeld, and M. L. Stevenson

Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California

(Received August 14, 1961)



Citation: S. Navas *et al.* (Particle Data Group), Phys. Rev. D 110, 03000; 2024 and 2025 update

 ω (782)

$$I^G(J^{PC}) = 0^-(1--)$$

ω (782) MASS

VALUE (MeV)	EVTS	DOCUMENT ID		TECN	COMMENT
782.66±0.13 OUR A	VERAGE	Error includes scale	factor	of 2.0.	See the ideogram below.
777.9 $\pm 2.2 ^{+4.3}_{-2.2}$	900k	ANDREEV	20	H1	$e \rho \rightarrow e \pi^+ \pi^- \rho$
$783.20 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.16$	18680	AKHMETSHIN	05	CMD2	$0.60-1.38 \ e^{+}e^{-} \rightarrow$
$782.68 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.04$	11200	¹ AKHME T SHIN	04	CMD2	$e^+e^-\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$
$782.79 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.09$	1.2M	² ACHASOV	03D	RVUE	$0.44-2.00 e^{+}_{\pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{0}} e^{-} \rightarrow$
$781.96 \pm 0.17 \pm 0.80$	11k				$0.0 \ \overline{p}p \rightarrow \omega \eta \pi^0$
$782.08 \pm 0.36 \pm 0.82$	3463	⁴ AMSLER	94C	CBAR	$0.0 \overline{p} p \rightarrow \omega \eta \pi^0$
$781.96 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.17$	15k	AMSLER	93B	CBAR	$0.0 \overline{\rho} \rho \rightarrow \omega \pi^0 \pi^0$
782.4 ±0.2	270k	WEIDENAUER	93	ASTE	$\bar{p}p \rightarrow 2\pi^{+}2\pi^{-}\pi^{0}$
7824 +05	7000	5 KEYNE	76	CNTR	$\pi^- n \rightarrow \omega n$

Citation: S. Navas et al. (Particle Data Group), Phys. Rev. D 110, 030002024 and 2025 update



$$I^{G}(J^{PC}) = 1^{+}(\underbrace{1^{--}})$$

$\rho(770)$ MASS

We no longer list S-wave Breit-Wigner fits, or data with high combinatorial background.

	NEUT	RAL ONLY,	e ⁺ e ⁻				
	VALUE (I	MeV)	EVTS	DOCUMENT ID		TECN	COMMENT
	775.26	±0.23 OUR A	/ERAGE				
	775.3 =	$\pm 0.5 \pm 0.6$			21	SND	$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$
	775.02	±0.35		² LEES	12G	BABR	$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\gamma$
	775.97 =	$\pm 0.46 \pm 0.70$	900k	³ AKHMETSHIN	07		$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$
	774.6 =	$\pm 0.4 \pm 0.5$	800k		06		$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$
	775.65	$\pm 0.64 \pm 0.50$	114k	6,7 AKHMETSHIN	04	CMD2	$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$
	775.9 =	±0.5 ±0.5	1.98M	⁸ ALOISIO	03	KLOE	$1.02 e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$
	775.8 =	$\pm 0.9 \pm 2.0$	500k	⁸ ACHASOV	02	SND	$1.02 e^{+}e^{-} \rightarrow \pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{0}$
٦	775.9 =	±1.1		9 BARKOV	85	OLYA	$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$







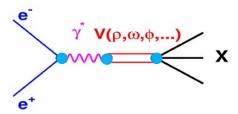
Ya. Azimov, J Phys G 37, 023001 (2010)



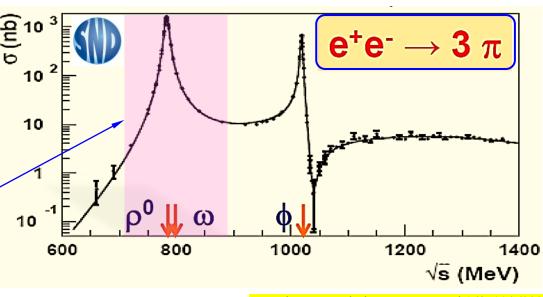
$\Gamma(\rho^{\theta}) = 149.4 \text{ MeV}; \Gamma(\omega) = 8.5 \text{ MeV}; \Gamma(\phi) = 4.3 \text{ MeV}$

 $\Gamma(\rho^0 \to 3\pi) = 0.015 \text{ MeV}$ Isospin violated $\Gamma(\omega \to 3\pi) = 7.58 \text{ MeV}$ $\Gamma(\phi \to 3\pi) = 0.65 \text{ MeV}$ Zweig rule violated

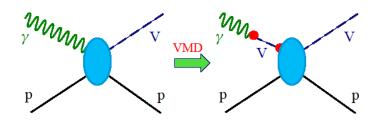




- Bkg near ϕ changes slowly
 - nearly standard interference curve, instead of ϕ —peak: both bump & dip,
 - each has form different from BW; max/min different from ϕ -mass ρ .
- ρ-contribution here deforms ω-tails.
- Curve is fit with ω , ϕ , ρ , ω' , & ω'' .



M. Achasov, Nucl Phys B Proc Suppl 162, 114 (2006)

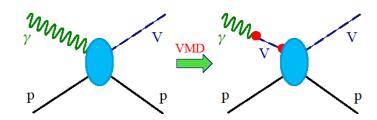


VMD Model

 Vector Meson Dominance model relying on transparent current-field identities N.M. Kroll, T.D. Lee, & B. Zumino, Phys. Rev. 157, 1376 (1

M. Gell-Mann & F. Zachariasen, Phys Rev 124, 953 (19

• In VMD, real photon can fluctuate into virtual vector meson, which subsequently scatters off target *proton*.



• VMD does not contain free parameters & can be used for variety of qualitative estimates of observables in *vector meson* photoproductions @ least as first step towards their more extended theoretical studies.

VMD for VN Interaction

• pp & ωp SL were determined from photoproduction reactions $\gamma p \to Vp$ with VDM. Non-perturbative QCD-related approach employing dressed quarks & gluons as ingredients for $\gamma p \rightarrow V p$ reaction model is under development in INP@Nanjing U.



• To estimate theoretical uncertainty related to VMD model, one refers to estimation of Xsec of J/ψ photoproduction in *peripheral model* & found strong energy dependence close to threshold because non-diagonal $p \rightarrow Vp$ & elastic $Vp \rightarrow Vp$ must have larger transfer momenta vs elastic scattering. This results in violation of VMD by factor of 5.



K.G. Boreskov & B.L. Ioffe, Sov J Nucl Phys 25, 331 (1

• Color factor for *charmonium* is 1/9, while for *open charm* is 8/9.



B.Z. Kopeliovich, I. Schmidt, & M. Siddikov, Phys Rev C 95, 065203 (2017)

• Strong suppression in \overline{VN} interaction close to threshold is observed because of $\overline{q}q$ pair in point-like configuration lacks sufficient time to form complete wave function of vector meson; that is, proton interacts with "young" (undressed quarks) vector meson whose size is smaller than that E.L. Feinberg, Sov Phys Usp, 23, 629 (1980) of "old" one participating in elastic $Vp \rightarrow Vp$ scattering.



Courtesy of Misha Ryskin, July 2020

• In recent study, effect of VMD assumption was studied in formalism of Dyson-Schwinger equations, which one can consider alternative interpretation of "young age" in connection to QCD.

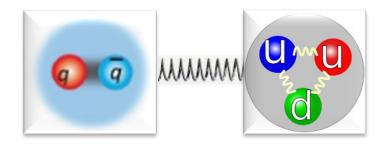


Y.Z. Xu, S. Chen, Z.Q. Yao, D. Binosi, Z.F. Cui, & C.D. Roberts, Eur Phys J C 81, 895 (202





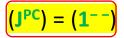
Vector Meson Mucleon Scattering Length Puzzle

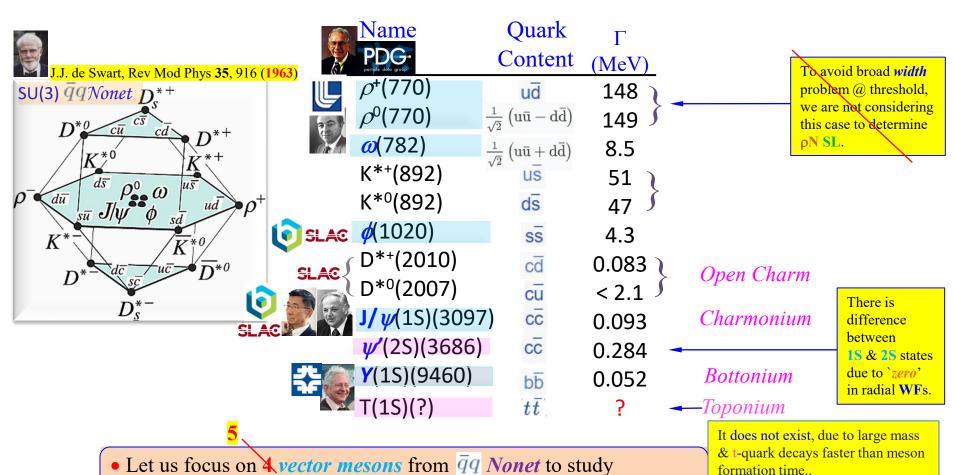




Vector Meson Zoo

- Some *vector mesons* can, compared to other mesons, be measured to very high precision.
- This stems from fact that *vector mesons* have *same* quantum numbers as *photon*.







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formation time...

meson photoproduction @ threshold & where data are available.

Vector Meson – Nucleon SL Determination

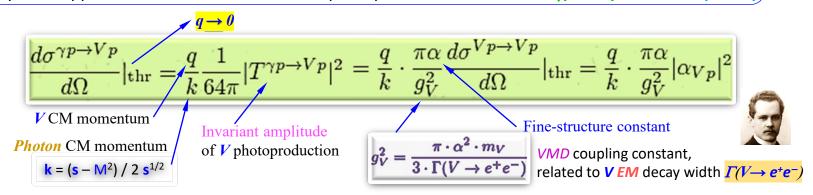
IIS, D. Epifanov, & L. Pentchev, Phys Rev C 101, 042201 (2 IIS, L. Pentchey, & A.I. Titov, Phys Rev C 101, 045201 (2020)

Small positive or negative VN SL may indicate weakly repulsive or attractive VN interaction if there is no VN bound state below experimental q_{min} .



• For evaluation of absolute value of VN SL,

we apply VMD approach that links near-threshold photoproduction Xsections of $\gamma p \rightarrow Vp$ & elastic $Vp \rightarrow Vp$



Absolute value SL is determined by interplay of strong (hadronic) & EM dynamics as:

$$|\alpha_{Vp}| = h_{Vp} B_V$$

where hadronic component is $|b_{Vp}| = \sqrt{a} |\& linear term a came from |\sigma_t = (a)q + b |q^3| + c |q^5|$

$$\sigma_t = aq + b q^3 + c q^5$$
 Expense

pure *EM VMD*-motivated kinematic factor $B_V^2 = \frac{\alpha m_V k}{12 \pi \Gamma(V \to e^+e^-)}$

$$B_V^2 = \frac{\alpha \ m_V \ k}{12 \ \pi \ \Gamma(V \to e^+e^-)}$$



- For VN system, to avoid theor uncertainties, we do not
 - Determine sign of SL,
 - Separate Re & Im parts of SL,
 - Extract total angular momentum 1/2 & 3/2 contributions



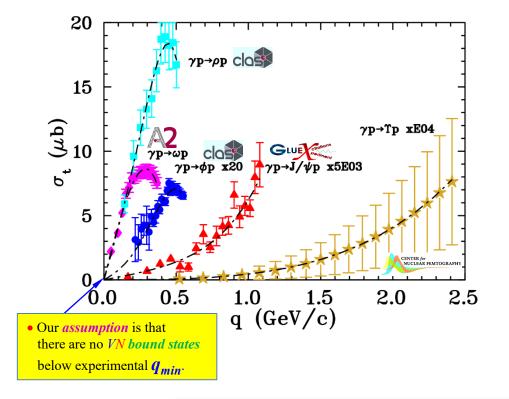
Total Cross Sections for Vector Meson Photoproduction off Proton

• Traditionally, σ_{c} behavior of near-threshold binary *inelastic* reaction

$$m_a + M_b < m_c + M_d$$

is described as series of *odd* powers in q (even powers in case of elastic).

$$\sigma_t = (a)q + b \ q^3 + c \ q^5$$



- *Linear* term is determined by two independent S-waves only with total spin 1/2 &/or 3/2.
- Contributions to *cubic* term come from both **P**-wave amplitudes & W dependence of S-wave amplitudes,
- *Fifth*-order term arises from *D*-waves & W dependencies of S- & P-waves.

$$\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{o}} = (4.42 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-2} \, \mu b/(\text{MeV/c})$$
IIS, S. Prakhov, Ya. Azimov et al, Phys Rev C 91, 045207 (2015)
$$\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{p}} = (3.99 \pm 0.52) \times 10^{-2} \, \text{mb/(MeV/c})$$
IIS, V. Mokeev, E. Isupov, A. Schmidt, arXiv:2509.04672 [nucl-th]
$$\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{\phi}} = (0.34 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-3} \, \mu b/(\text{MeV/c})$$
IIS, L. Pentchev, & A.I. Titov, Phys Rev C 101, 045201 (2020)
$$\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{J/\psi}} = (0.43 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-6} \, \mu b/(\text{MeV/c})$$
IIS, D. Epifanov, & L. Pentchev, Phys Rev C 101, 042201 (2020)
$$\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{Y}} = (0.37 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-9} \, \mu b/(\text{MeV/c})$$
IIS, W.J. Briscoe, L. Pentchev, & A. Schmidt, Phys Rev C 104, 074028 (2021)

• Dramatic differences in hadronic factors $h_{Vp} = \sqrt{a}$ as slopes (a) of $\overline{\sigma_t}$ (a) threshold as function of q varies significantly from ω to ϕ to J/ψ to Y.

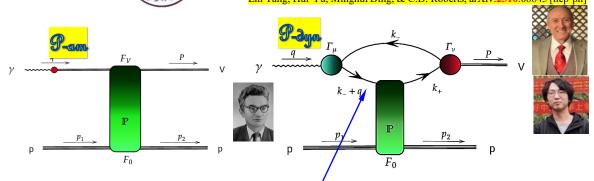




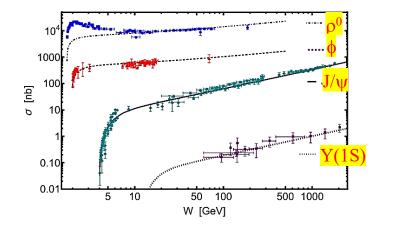
for VM Photoproduction

Lin Tang Hui-Yu Minghui Ding & C.D. Roberts arXiv:2510 08845 [hep-ph]

Abstract A reaction model for $\gamma + p \rightarrow V + p$, V = $\rho^0, \phi, J/\psi, \Upsilon$, which exposes the quark-antiquark content of the photon in making the transition $\gamma \to q\bar{q}$ + $\mathbb{P} \to V$, where q depends on V, and couples the intermediate $q\bar{q}$ system to the proton's valence quarks via Pomeron (P) exchange, is used to deliver a unified description of available data - both differential and total cross sections - from near threshold to very high energies, W, for all the V-mesons. For the Υ , this means $10 \lesssim W/\text{GeV} \lesssim 2000$. Also provided are predictions for the power-law exponents that are empirically used to characterise the large-W behaviour of the total cross sections and slope parameters characterising the nearthreshold differential cross sections. Appealing to notions of vector meson dominance, the latter have been interpreted as vector-meson-proton scattering lengths. The body of results indicate that it is premature to link any $\gamma + p \rightarrow V + p$ data with, for instance, in-proton gluon distributions, the quantum chromodynamics trace anomaly, or pentaguark production. Further developments in reaction theory and higher precision data are required before the validity of any such links can be assessed.



- Good description of data is mainly/provided by explicit implementation of *upper quark loop*.
- Of course, there is NO reason for *Pomeron* dominance near thr.
- There is no fit to diff. & total Xsec & predictions are really good.
- For ω in such model, we have to expect (up to normalization) same results as that for ρ .

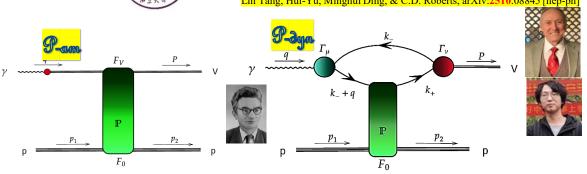


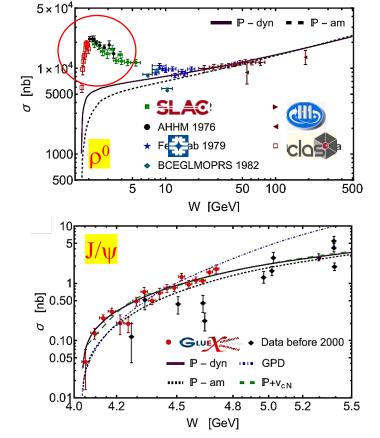
V	$ \alpha_{Vp}^{\mathrm{dyn}} /\mathrm{fm}$	$ \alpha_{Vp}^{ m am} /{ m fm}$	$ \alpha_{Vp}^{\mathrm{VMD}} /\mathrm{fm}$	
ρ^0	0.136	0.072	0.23 ± 0.03	clas
ϕ^0	0.087	0.048	0.063 ± 0.010	class
J/ψ	3.08×10^{-3}		$3.08(55) \times 10^{-3}$	GLUE CHONON
r	5.87×10^{-5}	1.86×10^{-5}	$0.51(3) \times 10^{-3}$	CENTER for NUCLEAR FEMTOGRAM

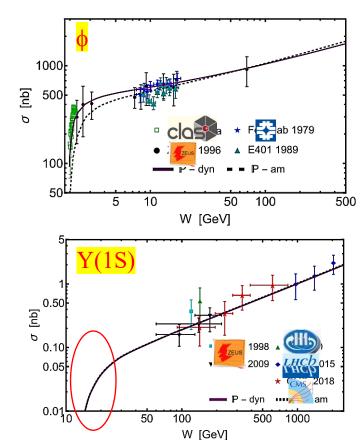




for VM Photoproduction











Extraction of Integraled $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho p$ Esec from CSPS Measurements



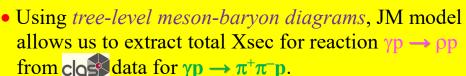


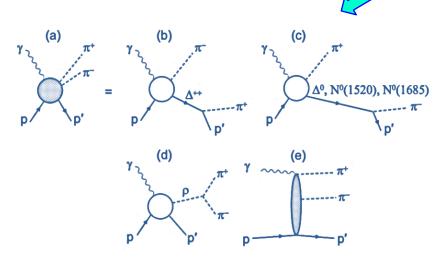
$\gamma p \rightarrow \rho p X sec from closs$

E. Golovatch et al Phys Let B 788, 371 (2019)



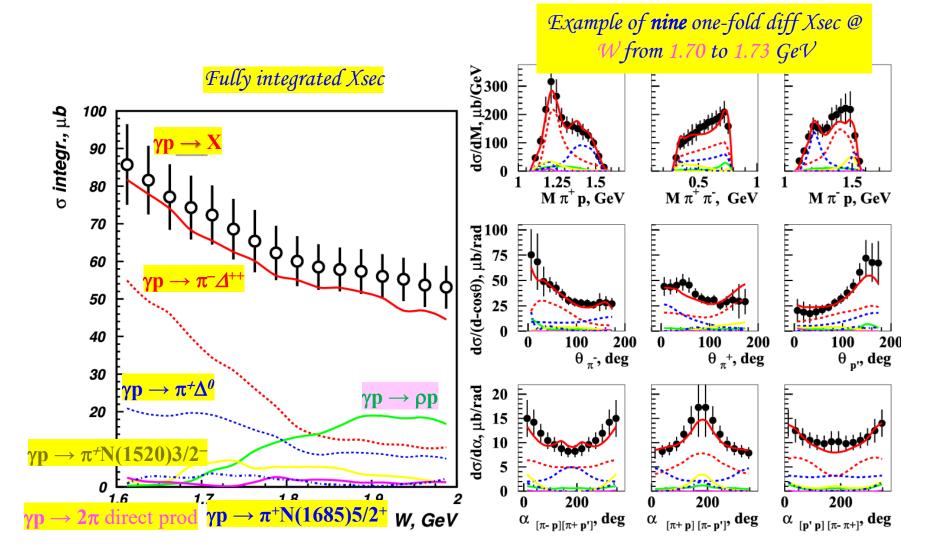
Jefferson Lab





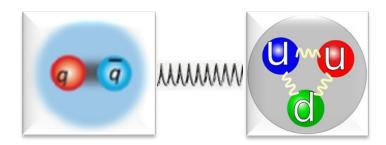
- Analysis was carried out in bins of invariant mass of three-body final hadronic system, using 25 MeV bin widths & covering W=1.6-2.0 GeV.
- Each of **nine** one-fold differential $\pi^+\pi^-p$ Xsec was evaluated as integral of common five-fold differential Xsec, which fully determined kinematics of final $\pi^+\pi^-p$ state, over different sets of **four** variables.
- Nucleon resonances contribute through $\pi^-\Delta^{++}$, ρp , & $\pi^+\Delta^0$ channels.
- For evaluation of $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho p$ Xsec, we use resonance parameters determined from fits to $\rho \pi^+\pi^- p$ photoproduction data.

E. Golovatch *et al* Phys Let B **788**, 371 (**2019**)



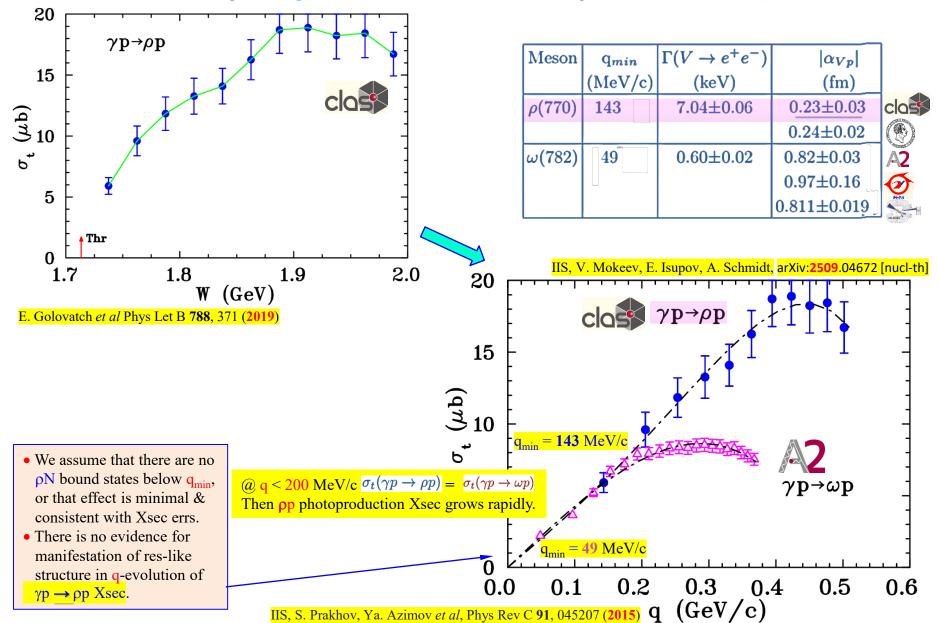
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SLs of Light Vector Mesons from Photoproduction







Intermediate Summary

• We found that ρ-nucleon SL result is by factor of 4 smaller than size of hadron & phenomenological determination of ω-nucleon SL using *threshold* photoproduction Xsec.

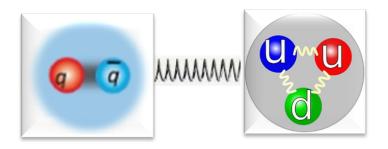
IIS, V. Mokeev, E. Isupov, A. Schmidt, arXiv:2509.04672 [nucl-th]

- Dynamical coupled-channel approach addresses analysis of $\pi^- p \rightarrow \omega n$ was performed to determine $\alpha_{\omega p}$.
- Channel space of πN , $\pi \Delta$, σN , ρN , ηN , $K\Lambda$, & $K\Sigma$ is extended by adding ωN final state.
- This approach is free from VMD model contribution.
- Authors reported two best-fit results: $\alpha_{\omega p} = -0.24 + i \ 0.05 \text{ fm} \& \alpha_{\omega p} = -0.21 + i \ 0.05 \text{ fm}.$
- Let us point out that we obtained ReSL > ImSL, which is natural for threshold dynamics.

Y.F. Wang, D. Roenchen, U.G. Meißner, Y. Lu, C. W. Shen, J.J. Wu, Phys Rev D 106, 094031 (2022)



Vector Meson Mucleon Scattering Puzzle







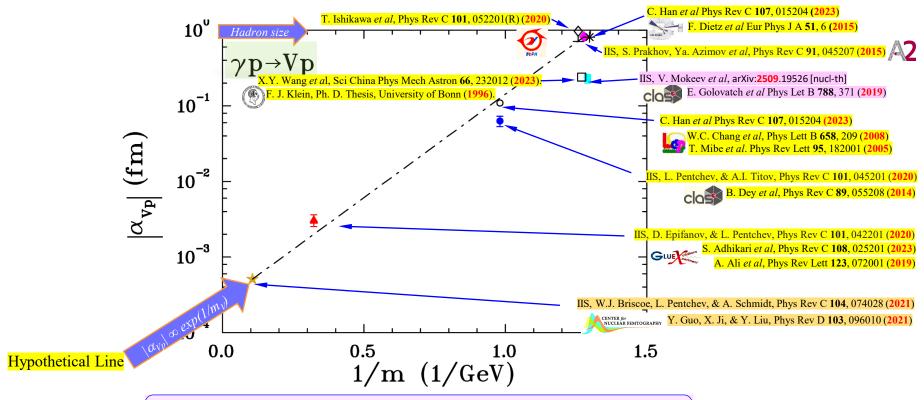
Can Young's Hypothesis Explain Vector Meson — Nucleon

- Due to small size of "young" V vs "old" V, measured & predicted SL is very small.
- V created by photon @ threshold, then most probably V is not formed completely & its radius is smaller than that for normal ("old") V.
- Therefore, one observes stronger suppression for *Vp* interaction.

 $|\alpha_{Yp}| \ll |\alpha_{J/\psi p}| \ll |\alpha_{\phi p}| \ll |\alpha_{\omega p}| \ll |\alpha_{\omega p}|$



E.L. Feinberg, Sov Phys Usp, 23, 629 (19 Courtesy of Misha Ryskin, July 2020





[•] This separation (in zero approximation) is proportional to $\frac{1}{m_{\nu}}$.



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Summary



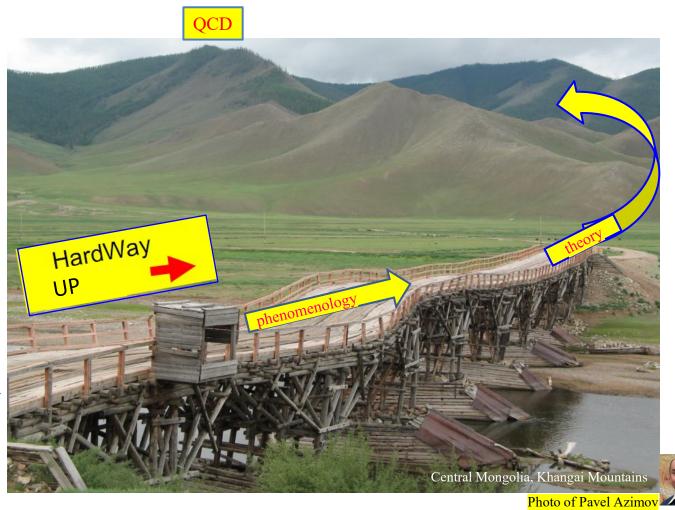




- "Young" V hypothesis may explain fact that obtained SL value for φ-meson nucleon, compared to typical hadron size of 1 fm, indicates that proton is more transparent for ϕ -meson compared to ω -meson & is much less transparent than J/ψ -meson. $|\alpha_{\gamma p}| \ll |\alpha_{J/\psi p}| \ll |\alpha_{\phi p}| \ll |\alpha_{\omega p}| \leq |\alpha_{\rho p}|$
- Our result for pN SL is factor of 4 smaller than phenomenological determination of ωN SL using threshold photoproduction Xsec.
- & R ability allows us to understand dynamics of ss & cc & bb production (a) threshold.
- Further studies on both *nucleons* & *nuclei* in *heavy* V photo- & electro-production will significantly extend our knowledge of gluonic structure of nuclear matter.
- Expanse able to measure $\pi^-p \to \phi n \& \pi^-p \to J/\psi n$ @ thresholds, which are free from VMD, that is important input to phenomenology (PWA).
- Polarized measurements are important contribution to model-independent PWA.









Do you have any questions to speaker?













11/21/2025

