

# $\pi K$ dimesonic atom

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The properties of a  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom are discussed in connection with planned experiments at the Pozitronii installation (Institute of High-Energy Physics and Joint Institute for Nuclear Research). The basic characteristics of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom—its lifetime, its binding energy, Lamb shift, and the value of the wave function at the origin—are calculated on the basis of the virton-quark model.

Experiments are being planned<sup>1</sup> to observe relativistic  $\pi K$  dimesonic atoms and to measure their basic characteristics. Measurements of their lifetime  $\tau$ , the value of the wave function at the origin,  $\Psi_{1S}(0)$ , and the Lamb shift  $\Delta E_{2S-2P}$  are planned. The lifetime and the value of the wave function at the origin are related by<sup>2</sup>

$$1/\tau \sim |a_0^{1/2} - a_0^{3/2}|^2 |\Psi_{1S}(0)|^2,$$

where  $a_0^{1/2}$  and  $a_0^{3/2}$  are the corresponding  $S$ -wave lengths for  $\pi K$  scattering. The proposed experiments will thus provide a model-independent determination of the difference between the  $S$ -wave lengths,  $a_0^{1/2} - a_0^{3/2}$ . A point which should be emphasized is that the  $\pi K$  scattering lengths are presently determined by approximating the energy dependence of the scattering phase shifts in the reaction<sup>3</sup>  $KN \rightarrow K\pi + \dots$ . That procedure is afflicted by uncertainties of a model nature and results in large errors ( $\sim 25\%$ ).

From the theoretical standpoint, a knowledge of  $\pi K$  scattering lengths can serve as a test of the hypotheses of various models which have been offered as candidates for a description of low-energy physics. For example, the  $\pi K$  scattering lengths and, correspondingly, the lifetime of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom were calculated in a nonlinear chiral theory by Bel'kov *et al.*<sup>4</sup> and in a superconducting quark model by Volkov and Osipov.<sup>5</sup> It turned out that the difference  $a_0^{1/2} - a_0^{3/2}$  was independent of the mechanism responsible for the breaking of chiral symmetry. A measurement of the lifetime of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom thus serve as an independent test of the basic positions of chiral symmetry.

Information of a more profound nature on the structure of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atoms could be found by studying its energy levels and wave functions. These properties are determined by both strong and electromagnetic interactions.

The contribution of strong interactions can be taken into account by means of Deser's formula<sup>6</sup>:

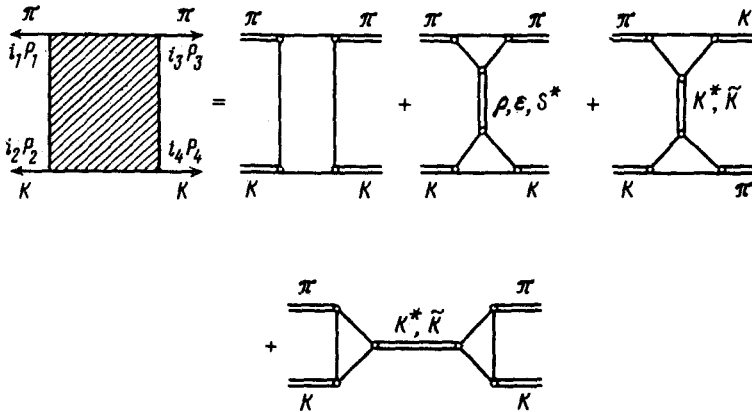
$$\Delta E_{nl}^S \sim (2a_0^{1/2} + a_0^{3/2}) |\Psi_{nl}^{cul}(0)|^2,$$

$$\Delta \Psi_{1S}^S(0) \sim (2a_0^{1/2} + a_0^{3/2}) \frac{|\Psi_{2S}^{cul}(0)|^2}{E_{1S}^{cul} - E_{2S}^{cul}} \Psi_{1S}^{cul}(0),$$

where  $E_{nl}^{cul}$  and  $\Psi_{nl}^{cul}$  are the Coulomb energy levels and wave function.<sup>7</sup>

Radiation and polarization contributions have been calculated by Karimkhodzaev and Faustov<sup>8</sup> with the help of a quasipotential equation.

In the present letter we use the virton-quark model<sup>9-11</sup> to calculate the basic characteristics of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom: its lifetime, the value of the wave function at the origin, and the shifts of the energy levels due to the strong and electromagnetic interactions.



The interaction Lagrangian of the virton-quark model, which we will need in order to describe  $\pi K$  scattering, is<sup>10</sup>

$$\mathcal{L}_I(x) = g_M \bar{q}_a(x) \varphi_M(x) \lambda_M \Gamma^M q_{\bar{a}}(x) ,$$

where

$$q_{\bar{a}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{u}_{\bar{a}} \\ \bar{d}_{\bar{a}} \\ \bar{s}_{\bar{a}} \end{bmatrix}$$

is the quark field ( $\bar{a}$  is the color index),  $\varphi_M$  is the meson field,  $g_M$  is the constant of the meson-quark interaction,  $\lambda_M$  is the Gell-Mann matrix, and  $\Gamma^M$  is the Dirac matrix. Figure 1 shows Feynman diagrams describing  $\pi K$  scattering. The corresponding invariant amplitude is written in the form<sup>4</sup>

$$T_{i_1 i_2, i_3 i_4}(P_1 \dots P_4) = \delta_{i_1 i_3} \delta_{i_2 i_4} T^+(Stu) - \omega_{i_1 i_3} \tau_{i_2 i_4} T^-(Stu) ,$$

$$T^+(Stu) = -C_{\square}(Stu) - C_{\square}(utS) + \frac{C_{\tilde{K}\pi K}^2(S)}{m_{\tilde{K}}^2 - S} + \frac{C_{\tilde{K}\pi K}^2(u)}{m_{\tilde{K}}^2 - u}$$

$$+ 2 \left[ \frac{C_{e\pi\pi}^2(t)}{m_e^2 - t} + \frac{C_{S^*\pi\pi}^2(t)}{m_{S^*}^2 - t} \right] + (t-u) \frac{G_{K^*\pi K}(S)}{m_{K^*}^2 - S} + (t-S) \frac{G_{K^*\pi K}(u)}{m_{K^*}^2 - u} ,$$

TABLE I.

	$a_0^{1/2}$	$a_0^{3/2}$	$\Delta a_0$	$\tau(10^{-15} \text{ s})$
Experimental <sup>3</sup>	$0,22 \pm 0,04$	$-0.06$	$0,28 \pm 0,04$	$3,76 \pm 1,05$
Experimental <sup>3</sup>	$0,24 \pm 0,02$	$-0,05 \pm 0,06$	$0,29 \pm 0,08$	$4,25 \pm 2,23$
Experimental <sup>3</sup>	$0,13$	$-0,13$	$0,26$	$4,09$
Nonlinear chiral model <sup>4</sup>			$0,21$	$6,40$
Superconducting model <sup>5</sup>			$0,20$	$6,60$
Virton-quark model	$0,15$	$-0,09$	$0,24$	$4,58$

$$T^-(Stu) = -G_{\square}(Stu) + G_{\square}(utS) + \frac{G_{K^*K}^2(S)}{m_{K^*}^2 - S} - \frac{G_{K^*\pi K}(u)}{m_{K^*}^2 - u} + 2(S-u) \frac{G_{\rho\pi\pi}^2(t)}{m_{\rho}^2 - t} + (t-u) \frac{G_{K^*\pi K}(S)}{m_{K^*}^2 - S} - (t-S) \frac{G_{K^*\pi K}(u)}{m_{K^*}^2 - u}$$

The calculation technique and explicit expressions for the structure integrals  $G_{\square}(Stu)$ ,  $G_{VPP}(S)$ , and  $G_{SPP}(S)$  are given in Ref. 11. We find the scattering length from

$$a_0^{1/2} = \alpha [T^+(S_0, 0, 0) + 2 T^-(S_0, 0, 0)],$$

$$a_0^{3/2} = \alpha [T^+(S_0, 0, 0) - T^-(S_0, 0, 0)],$$

where  $\alpha = (1/8\pi) [1/1 + (m_K/m_{\pi})]$ , and  $S_0 = (m_{\pi} + m_K)^2$ . It turns out that the difference  $a_0^{1/2}$  and  $a_0^{3/2}$ —as in a superconducting model<sup>5</sup>—does not depend on the contributions of the  $\epsilon$  and  $S^*$  mesons, so that it is possible in principle to determine the

TABLE II.

$\Delta E_{1S}^S$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-3} E_{1S}^{cul}$	$\Delta E_{1S} = 2,5 \cdot 10^{-3} E_{1S}^{cul}$
$\Delta E_{1S}^{em}$	$0,9 \cdot 10^{-3} E_{1S}^{cul}$	$E_{1S}^{cul} = -2,8981 \text{ keV}$ $E_{1S} = -2,9053 \text{ keV}$
$\Delta \Psi_{1S}^S(0)$	$2,7 \cdot 10^{-4} \Psi_{1S}^{cul}(0)$	$\Delta \Psi_{1S}(0) = 4,2 \cdot 10^{-4} \Psi_{1S}^{cul}(0)$
$\Delta \Psi_{1S}^{em}(0)$	$1,5 \cdot 10^{-4} \Psi_{1S}^{cul}(0)$	$\Psi_{1S}^{cul}(0) = 0,39035 \text{ MeV}$ $\Psi_{1S}(0) = 0,39952 \text{ MeV}$
$\Delta E_{2S}^S - 2P$	$-0,57562 \text{ эВ}$	$\Delta E_{2S} - 2P = -0,86524 \text{ eV}$
$\Delta E_{2S}^{em} - 2P$	$-0,28962 \text{ эВ}$	

lifetime of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom more accurately, and with fewer uncertainties of a model nature, than for the  $\pi\pi$  dimesonic atom.<sup>9</sup> We need to emphasize that we are treating the introduction of the  $\epsilon$  meson as a method for approximately describing the strong but nonresonant interaction of pions in the  $S$  wave. Since the  $\epsilon$  meson has no experimental status, its mass is used as a parameter of the model.<sup>11</sup> Table I gives the results of calculations of the  $\pi K$  scattering lengths and the lifetime of the  $\pi K$  dimesonic atom, in comparison with values found by other approaches. Table II shows the results of corrections to the binding energy,  $\Delta E_{1S}^S$ , the wave function of the ground state at the origin,  $\Delta\Psi_{1S}^S(0)$ , and the Lamb shift,  $\Delta E_{2S-2P}^S$ , due to strong interactions. We see that the strong and electromagnetic corrections [ $\Delta E_{1S}^{\text{em}}, \Delta\Psi_{1S}^{\text{em}}(0), \Delta E_{2S-2P}^{\text{em}}$ ] from Ref. 8 are quantities on the same order of magnitude.

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