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We have obtained the following property, asymptotic for real $s \rightarrow \infty$, of the phase of the scattering amplitude $A(t, s)$: for any single-valued, possibly discontinuous, definition of the argument $\phi(t, s) = \arg \{A(t, s)\}$ in the t -plane, and for real s , the maximum $\alpha(s) = \max \{\phi(t, s)\}$ is bounded from below when $|t| < s$ by

$$\alpha^2(s) \geq \frac{\pi\mu^2}{8} \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s)}{\sigma_{\text{el}}(s)}, \quad (1)$$

where $\sigma_{\text{tot}}(s)$ and $\sigma_{\text{el}}(s)$ are respectively the total elastic scattering cross sections of particles of mass μ . Since present notions concerning the behavior of the total and elastic cross sections, indicate that $\mu^2 \sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s) / \sigma_{\text{el}}(s) \rightarrow \infty$, this property means infinite oscillations of the amplitude asymptotically as $s \rightarrow \infty$. The following analytic properties are proposed for the amplitude $A(t, s)$: 1) $A(t, s)$ is analytic in t for all s outside the real cuts $(4\mu^2, +\infty)$ and $(-\infty, -s)$ in the t -plane; 2) the modulus $|A(t, s)|$ increases more slowly than any exponential in t ; 3) $\alpha(s) = o(s)$ as $s \rightarrow \infty$.

The inequality (1) will be derived in the following fashion. We represent the amplitude $A(t, s)$ in the form

$$A(t, s) = P_N(t, s) \frac{A(t, s)}{P_N(t, s)} = P_N(t, s) \exp \left\{ \ln \frac{A(t, s)}{P_N(t, s)} \right\},$$

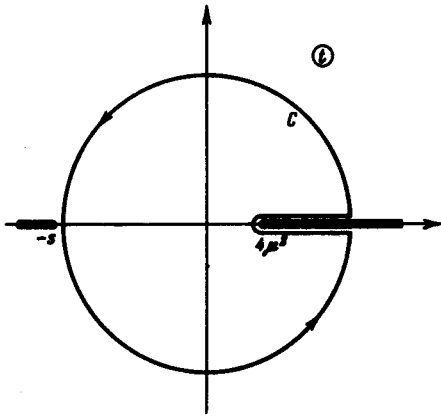
$P_N(t, s)$ is a polynomial in t with roots $t_k(s)$ coinciding with the zeros of $A(t, s)$ in the circle $|t| < s$, i.e.,

$$P_N(t, s) = \prod_{k=1}^N (1 - t/t_k(s)).$$

The function $\ln \{A(t, s)/P_N(t, s)\}$ is analytic in the circle $|t| < s$, with a cut, and a dispersion relation can be written for it. The integral over the circle then tends to zero as $s \rightarrow \infty$, and then modulus of the amplitude $|A(t, s)|$ is expressed, at physical values of t in the s -channel, in terms of the modulus of the polynomial $P_N(t, s)$ and the integral of the function $\phi(t, s) = \arg \{A(t, s)\}$ along the cuts. We then obtain from the fact that the phase is bounded ($\phi(t, s) < \alpha(s)$), the lower bound for $\sigma_{\text{el}}(s)$ for an arbitrary polynomial $P_N(t, s)$.

Let $t_k(s)$ be the zeros of $A(t, s)$, $N = N(s)$ the number of zeros in the circle $|t| < s$, and $P_N(t, s) = \prod_{k=1}^N (1 - t/t_k(s))$ a polynomial in t . We write down the Cauchy integral for the function $1/t \ln \{A(t, s)/P_N(t, s)\}$, which is analytic in the circle $|t| < s$ with a cut $(4\mu^2, s)$ (the integration contour C is shown in the figure)

$$\frac{1}{t} \ln \left\{ \frac{A(t, s)}{P_N(t, s)} \right\} = \frac{1}{t} \ln \left\{ \frac{A(0, s)}{P_N(0, s)} \right\} + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{\ln \{A(\zeta, s)/P_N(\zeta, s)\}}{\zeta(\zeta - t)} d\zeta$$



By virtue of assumptions 2) and 3), the integral over the circle $|\zeta| = s$ is $o(s)$ as $s \rightarrow \infty$, it is necessary to take into account here the fact that $\arg\{P_N(\zeta, s)\} \approx 2\alpha(s) = o(s)$, since the number of zeros of ten amplitude, and consequently of the polynomial, does not exceed $\alpha(s)/\pi$ in principle. Thus, recognizing that $P_N(\zeta, s)$ is analytic on the cut, we obtain

$$\ln \left\{ \frac{A(t, s)}{A(0, s) P_N(t, s)} \right\} \approx \frac{t}{2\pi i} \int_{4\mu^2}^s \frac{\ln |A(\xi + i\epsilon, s)/A(\xi - i\epsilon, s)| d\xi}{\xi(\xi - t)} +$$

$$+ \frac{t}{2\pi} \int_{4\mu^2}^s \frac{\arg\{A(\xi + i\epsilon, s)\} - \arg\{A(\xi - i\epsilon, s)\}}{\xi(\xi - t)} d\xi$$

(we used $P_N(0, s) = 1$).

For physical values of t ($\text{Im } t = 0, -s < \text{Re } t < 0$) we obtain a representation of the modulus of the amplitude $|A(t, s)|$ in terms of the integral of its argument

$$|A(t, s)| = |A(0, s)| |P_N(t, s)| \exp \left\{ \text{Re} \left[\ln \frac{A(t, s)}{A(0, s) P_N(t, s)} \right] \right\} =$$

$$= |A(0, s)| |P_N(t, s)| \exp \left\{ \frac{t}{2\pi} \int_{4\mu^2}^s \frac{\arg\{A(\xi + i\epsilon, s)\} - \arg\{A(\xi - i\epsilon, s)\}}{\xi(\xi - t)} d\xi + \right. \quad (2)$$

$$\left. + o(s) \right\}.$$

Let us write out an expression for the elastic and total cross sections in terms of the amplitude

$$\sigma_{el}(s) = \frac{1}{16\pi s(s - 4\mu^2)} \int_{-s-4\mu^2}^0 |A(t, s)|^2 dt, \quad (3)$$

$$\sigma_{tot}(s) = \frac{\text{Im}\{A(0, s)\}}{\sqrt{s(s - 4\mu^2)}} \approx \frac{\text{Im}\{A(0, s)\}}{s}, \quad (4)$$

$$\sigma_{el}(s) \geq \frac{1}{16\pi} \sigma_{tot}^2(s) \int_{-s-4\mu^2}^0 \left| \frac{A(t, s)}{A(0, s)} \right|^2 dt. \quad (5)$$

From (2), recognizing that $t < 0$, we obtain

$$\left| \frac{A(t, s)}{A(0, s)} \right|^2 \geq |P_N(t, s)|^2 \exp \left\{ \frac{2\alpha(s)t}{\pi} \int_{4\mu^2}^s \frac{d\xi}{\xi(\xi - t)} \right\} \approx$$

$$\approx |P_N(t, s)|^2 \exp \left\{ \frac{2\alpha(s)}{\pi} \ln \frac{4\mu^2}{4\mu^2 - t} \right\} \geq |P_N(t, s)|^2 \exp \left\{ \frac{2\alpha(s)t}{\pi} \frac{1}{4\mu^2} \right\}. \quad (6)$$

We put

$$t = -4\mu^2 x, \quad t_K(s) = -4\mu^2 x_K(s), \quad K = 2a(s)/\pi,$$

$$|P_N(x)|^2 = |P_N(-4\mu^2 x, s)|^2.$$

Then, substituting (6) in (5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\text{eff}}(s) &\geq \frac{\mu^2}{4\pi} \sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s) \int_0^{(s/4\mu^2)^{-1}} |P_N(x)|^2 e^{-Kx} dx \approx \frac{\mu^2}{4\pi} \sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s) \times \\ &\times \left[\int_0^{\infty} |P_N(x)|^2 e^{-Kx} dx + O(e^{-Ks/4\mu^2}) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The integral

$$I(s) = \int_0^{\infty} |P_N(x)|^2 e^{-Kx} dx$$

is bounded from below, since $|P_N(x)|^2$ is a positive-definite polynomial of degree $2N$, so that $P_N(0) = 1$. Let

$$|P_N(x)|^2 = \sum_{m,n=0}^N a_n a_m x^n x^m, \quad a_0 = 1.$$

To obtain $\min \{I(s)\}$ for arbitrary a_n we can assume that all the zeros of x_K are real and consequently the coefficients a_n are also real: $a_n^* = a_n$.

If we calculate the integral $I(s)$ in explicit form in terms of the coefficients a_n , then the condition on $\min I(s)$ constitute a system of N linear equations in a_n :

$$\frac{\partial I(s)}{\partial a_n} = 0, \quad n = 1, \dots, N.$$

Taking these equations into account in the expression for $I(s)$, we express

$$b = \min I(s)$$

linearly in terms of a_n . We thus obtain a system of $N + 1$ linear equation relative to the $N + 1$ unknowns a_n and b . Solving this system with respect to b , we get

$$b = \frac{1}{K(N+1)}$$

and consequently

$$I(s) \geq \frac{1}{K(N+1)} \approx \frac{\pi}{2a(s)} \frac{\pi}{(a(s) + \pi)},$$

since N , in accordance with the principle of the argument, does not exceed $a(s)/\pi$ (see above). Consequently

$$\sigma_{\text{eff}}(s) \geq \frac{\mu^2 \pi}{8} \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s)}{a(s) [a(s) + \pi]},$$

or

$$\alpha(s)[\alpha(s) + \pi] \geq \frac{\pi}{8} \mu^2 \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s)}{\sigma_{\text{el}}(s)}.$$

If we assume that

$$\frac{\mu^2 \sigma_{\text{tot}}^2(s)}{\sigma_{\text{el}}(s)} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \infty$$

then $\alpha(s) \rightarrow \infty$ and we obtain inequality (1) for the lower asymptotic bound of the maximum $\alpha(s)$ of the argument of the amplitude $A(t, s)$ in the t -plane.