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Strange-Particle Production in Antiproton Annihilation Events

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Authors

Goldhaber, Sulamith Fowler, William B Goldhaber, Gerson et al.

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Strange-Particle Production in Antiproton Annihilation Events. SULAMITH GOLDHABER, WILLIAM B. FOWLER, GERSON GOLDHABER, T. F. HOANG, WILSON M. POWELL, and REIN SILBERBERG, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and Department of Physics. University of California, Berkeley, California. -- Antiproton interactions and annihilations at a 🖻 momentum of 1.1 Bev/c have been studied in the L. R. L. 30-inch propane chamber; 22,000 pictures were taken in an enriched p beam. 1 About 2500 p annihilation events were observed in the central region of the chamber. In about 130 annihilation stars, strange particles were produced that were observed to decay in the chamber. The strange-particle production has been measured by analyzing the charged decay modes of θ , mesons emitted in the annihilation. We deduced from these events the total number of strange particles produced. Corrections for absorption of θ mesons in the carbon nucleus have been made. To date, about 45 events with one θ_1 meson have been observed and 6 events with two θ_1 mesons. Comparing this number with strange-particle production from annihilation events at rest and at relatively low p energies. 2 we find an appreciable increase in the strange-particle production. The implication of these results on proposed statistical models will be discussed.

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¹Alvares, Eberhard, Good, Graziano, Ticho, and Wojcicki, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2, 215 (1959).

²Chamberlain, Goldhaber, Jauneau, Kalogeropoulos, Segrè, and Silberberg, Phys. Rev. <u>113</u>, 1615 (1959); and L. Agnew (Lawrence Radiation Laboratory), private communication.