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Publication Date

1959-02-04

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A PROPOSAL FOR DETERMINING
THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FORM FACTOR OF THE PION

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UCRL-8621

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Lawrence Radiation Laboratory
Berkeley, California

Contract No. W-7405-eng-48

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William Robert Frazer
(Thesis)

February 4, 1959

Printed for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

Printed in USA. Price \$1.75. Available from the
Office of Technical Services
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington 25, D. C.

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ABSTRACT

The possibility of measuring the electromagnetic form factor of the pion by extrapolation of the cross section for $e^- + p \rightarrow n + \pi^+ + e^-$ has been investigated. The method is based on the existence of a pole in the electropion-production scattering amplitude as a function of the invariant momentum-transfer of the nucleon. The residue of this pole is the pion form factor multiplied by a known coefficient. Since the pole lies slightly outside the physical region of the invariant momentum transfer, an extrapolation of the experimental data is required. An approximate calculation of the electropion-production cross section has been made in order to estimate the experimental accuracy necessary for a significant extrapolation. Accuracy is required which is an order of magnitude better than that achieved at present in similar experiments.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years much attention has been devoted to the problem of the electromagnetic structure of the nucleon. Considerable experimental information on this subject has been provided by the experiments carried out by Hofstadter and his collaborators on the scattering of electrons by protons and deuterons.¹ Additional information was derived from the measurement of the cross section for electropion production ($e^- + p \rightarrow e^- + n + \pi^+$) by Panofsky and Allton.²

Among the many theoretical attempts which have been made to treat the nucleon-structure problem, the most successful have been the two recent calculations based on the method of spectral representations (often called dispersion relations).^{3,4} In this method, however, one encounters the difficulty of requiring knowledge of the electromagnetic structure of the pion. It is qualitatively evident that the structure of the pion must contribute to the structure of the nucleon: If the spatial extension of the nucleon's charge and magnetic moment are visualized as due to the pion cloud of the nucleon, then the spatial extension of the pion will contribute to that of the nucleon.

Unfortunately, no experiments have been performed which probe the pion structure. The scattering of pions on electrons yields no information at available energies, because the relatively massive incident pion cannot transfer sufficient momentum to make anything but the outermost parts of the pion electromagnetic field effective. On the other hand, scattering of electrons on pions is not feasible because, of course, no way has been found for making targets from pions. The purpose of this thesis is to describe a method of using the pion cloud of the proton as a "pion target."

The procedure to be described is an application of a general method suggested recently by Chew and Low.⁵ In this case, their method enables one to measure the electromagnetic form factor of the pion by extrapolation of the cross section for $e^- + p \rightarrow n + \pi^+ + e^-$. The basic principle involved is the possibility of analytic continuation of the electroproduction scattering amplitude as a function of the square of the four-momentum transfer of the nucleon, Δ^2 . If the initial nucleon has four-momentum p , and the final nucleon, p' , then we have $\Delta^2 = -(p - p')^2$.^{*} It is conjectured that at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$, the scattering amplitude has an isolated pole whose residue is just the electromagnetic form factor of the pion multiplied by a known coefficient. It can easily be shown that negative values of Δ^2 are not physically attainable, so that an extrapolation of the measured cross section is necessary in order to reach the pole at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$. The distance of extrapolation is, however, small compared to the physical range of Δ^2 . The procedure for determining the electromagnetic form factor of the pion is, then, to extrapolate the cross section, with its singularities suitably removed, to the point $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$. This procedure will be described in detail in Section II.

Experimentally, it will be necessary to measure the electroproduction cross section as a function of at least two variables, Δ^2 and λ . If s is the incident electron four-momentum, and s' is the final, then we have $\lambda = -(s - s')^2$. One must know λ because the pion form factor is a function of this variable. In practice, one could determine these variables

^{*}

The metric tensor $g^{00} = 1$, $g^{ii} = -1$ for $i = 1, 2$, or 3 is used throughout. Units are used in which $\hbar = c = 1$, and usually $\mu = 1$, where μ is the mass of the pion.

by measuring the energy and direction of the final electron, plus the direction of the final meson. No such measurements have yet been made. In their recent experiment, Panofsky and Allton² measured the electron variables but did not detect the meson directly.

The analytic properties of the electroproduction scattering amplitude, which are the basis of the method outlined above, have not been proved rigorously. They are, however, a very reasonable extension of properties which have been proved for other scattering problems. A plausibility argument will be given in Section II A. Such analytic properties of scattering amplitudes have been the object of much study. Their application in the form of spectral representations has been successful in correlating many experimental data in pion physics. Applications very similar to that proposed in this thesis have already been made for the purpose of measuring the pion-nucleon coupling constant. Extrapolations of both the nucleon-nucleon^{6,7} and photopion-production⁸ cross sections as functions of invariant momentum transfer yielded values of the coupling constant in reasonable agreement with values obtained by other means.

In principle, then, the analytic properties of the electroproduction scattering amplitude described above tell us that one can determine the pion form factor by an extrapolation procedure. In order to assess the practical difficulty involved in performing an extrapolation of a given set of experimental data, one must estimate the behavior of the electroproduction cross section as a function of Δ^2 . If the electromagnetic interaction is treated in lowest order of perturbation theory, it is apparent that the electroproduction and photoproduction matrix elements are closely related. The dispersion theoretical analysis of photoproduction by Chew,

Goldberger, Low, and Nambu⁹ (hereafter called CGLN) has been extended to electroproduction by Fubini, Nambu, and Wataghin¹⁰ (hereafter FNW). The calculation in Section III is performed by the use of a modification of their theory: The Born terms in the matrix element are written in relativistic form and, correspondingly, certain recoil-correction terms are dropped.

In Section IV the results of this calculation are interpreted as implying that for a significant extrapolation experiments of great accuracy will be necessary, accuracy an order of magnitude better than that achieved in the electroproduction experiment of Panofsky and Allton.²

II. EXTRAPOLATION PROCEDURE

A. Location of Singularities of Scattering Amplitude.

Let us consider in detail the analytic properties of the electropion-production scattering amplitude on which the proposed extrapolation depends. As remarked in the introduction, no rigorous proof of these properties has been given. However, such properties have often been conjectured; for instance, in the two-dimensional spectral representation proposed by Mandelstam¹¹ and verified to sixth order in perturbation theory. Motivation for conjecturing them comes from two sources: analogy with proved properties of simpler scattering amplitudes and analysis of perturbation theory. Arguments of both types have been given by Chew⁶ for nucleon-nucleon scattering, and by Taylor, Moravcsik, and Uretsky⁸ (hereafter TMU) for photoproduction. The latter case can be extended very easily to electroproduction. Consider the electron interaction only in lowest order in the fine structure constant, i.e., consider only processes of the type shown in Fig. 1. To this order, electroproduction is just photoproduction by a virtual photon. The only differences are that the "photon" has a nonzero, imaginary mass ($k^2 = -\lambda$) in electroproduction, and that the matrix element contains longitudinal as well as transverse terms (i.e., $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\epsilon} \neq 0$). The existence of transverse terms will not affect the analytic properties, and the "photon" mass will only cause a shift in the position of the singularities.

The recipe used in the papers referred to above is the following: To get one part of the spectrum consider the intermediate states which could be reached if p and p' were incoming particles, with q and k outgoing (see Fig. 1; $k = s - s'$). The lowest of these is the

discrete single pion state, which gives a pole at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$ (on which the proposed extrapolation is based). The next state is that of two pions, which gives rise to a branch point at $\Delta^2 = -4\mu^2$.

The other half of the spectrum, the crossed spectrum, is found in a similar way by considering the states which can be reached if p and q are incident. This leads to a pole at $(p - q)^2 = M^2$, where M is the nucleon mass, and a branch point at $(p - q)^2 = (M + \mu)^2$. Now since $p + k = p' + q$, we find that

$$(p - q)^2 = \Delta^2 - E^2 + 2M^2 + \mu^2 - \lambda. \quad (2.1)$$

Here $E^2 = (p' + q)^2$; i.e., E is the total energy of the final nucleon and pion in their barycentric system (the system in which $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$). Using (2.1), one finds that the crossed spectrum gives rise to a pole at

$$\Delta^2 = E^2 - M^2 - \mu^2 + \lambda,$$

and a branch point at

$$\Delta^2 = E^2 - M^2 + 2M\mu + \lambda.$$

The spectrum of singularities in the Δ^2 plane can be re-expressed in terms of $\cos \theta$, where θ is the angle between $\vec{q}$ and $\vec{k}$ in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system. With all symbols referring to this system, we have

$$\Delta^2 = \lambda - \mu^2 + 2\omega_2 k_0 - 2 |\vec{q}| |\vec{k}| \cos \theta, \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\omega_2 \equiv \sqrt{|\vec{q}|^2 + \mu^2}.$$

Then in the $\cos \theta$ plane the analyticity region is the cut plane, with poles and branch points as shown in Fig. 2. The quantity E_2 is the energy of the final nucleon. In the limit $\lambda = 0$ the positions of the singularities reduce to those of photoproduction given by TMJ. Actually, the existence of such a large region of analyticity is not necessary for the proposed extrapolation. The method requires only that we have analyticity in some region containing the physical region $|\cos \theta| \leq 1$ and including the pole at $\cos \theta = (\lambda + 2\omega k_0)/2 \sqrt{|\vec{q}| |\vec{k}|}$ as an isolated singularity.

B. The Extrapolation Formula.

If one accepts the viewpoint that perturbation theory can yield information on analytic behavior, then the existence of the pole at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$ can be demonstrated and its residue computed. It is evident that the class of diagrams shown in Fig. 3 gives rise to the pole. It is easy to show that no other type of diagram can contain this pole. The contribution of this diagram^{*} to the cross section gives, in covariant form,

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dP} = \frac{4g^2 \alpha^2 \Delta^2 F_\pi^2(\lambda)}{\lambda^2 \pi^2 I (\Delta^2 + \mu^2)^2} [4(q \cdot s)(q \cdot s') - \mu^2 \lambda] + \text{other terms}, \quad (2.3)$$

* The notation used for the coupling constants (renormalized) is such that $g^2 = \frac{g_r}{4\pi}$, $f = \frac{\mu}{2M} g$, and $f^2 \approx 0.08$.

where $I \equiv \sqrt{(p \cdot s)^2 - M^2 m^2} = M s_L$, and where dP is the phase space factor:

$$dP \equiv \frac{d^3 p' d^3 s' d^3 q}{8 \omega_2 E_2 \epsilon_2} \delta^4(p + s - p' - s' - q) . \quad (2.4)$$

The symbols ϵ_1 , ϵ_2 are defined as the initial and final electron energies. One finds that

$$dP = \frac{\pi |\vec{q}|^2 d\lambda dE^2 d\Omega_q}{16 M s_L \omega_2 \left| \frac{d}{d|\vec{q}|} q \cdot (p + s - s') \right|} , \quad (2.5)$$

where $d\Omega_q$ refers to the outgoing meson. Since dP as defined by Eq. (2.4) is a Lorentz invariant, this expression must be valid in any coordinate system. In the lab system, we have

$$dP_L = \frac{\pi |\vec{q}|^2 d\lambda dE^2 d\Omega_q}{16 M s_L [|\vec{q}| (M + k_0) - \omega_2 |\vec{k}| \cos \theta]} . \quad (2.6)$$

In Eq. (2.3) two quantities in the numerator, g and $F_\pi(\lambda)$, are not the most general expressions corresponding to the diagram of Fig. 3. They have been given the value appropriate to $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$ in anticipation of the extrapolation to that point. The pion form factor, $F_\pi(\lambda)$, is defined by considering the pion-photon vertex, Fig. 4, with both pions on the mass shell. If we write the contribution of this vertex as $j_\mu(q_1, q_2)\epsilon^\mu$, the most general form of j consistent with Lorentz invariance is

$$j(q_1, q_2) = -e F_\pi(\lambda) q_1 - e G_\pi(\lambda) q_2 ,$$

where $\lambda = -(q_2 - q_1)^2$. The continuity equation imposes the further requirement $(q_2 - q_1) \cdot j = 0$, giving $F_\pi(\lambda) = G_\pi(\lambda)$, or

$$j(q_1, q_2) = -(q_1 + q_2) e F_\pi(\lambda) .$$

This definition of the pion form factor is normalized so that $F_\pi(0) = 1$.

Equation (2.3) reveals an additional singularity which must be removed before an extrapolation can be performed. The factor in brackets, which results from taking the trace of matrix factors, has the form, as a function of $\cos \theta$: $P_1(\cos \theta) + \sin \theta P_2(\cos \theta)$, where P_1 and P_2 are polynomials. Now since $\sin \theta = (1 - \cos^2 \theta)^{1/2}$, $\sin \theta$ has a branch point at $\cos \theta = 1$, preventing extrapolation. We cannot get rid of this singularity by division by the factor in brackets, since it can vanish in the region of extrapolation and does vanish in the case to be discussed in Section III. We can, however, eliminate this undesirable $\sin \theta$ by defining a "symmetrized" cross section. Define $\sigma(\theta) \equiv d\sigma/dP$. The quantity $\sigma(\theta)$ does, of course, depend upon variables other than θ . Then define the symmetrized quantity*

$$\langle \sigma(\cos \theta) \rangle_s \equiv \sigma(\theta) + \sigma(-\theta) . \quad (2.7)$$

The quantity $\langle \sigma(\cos \theta) \rangle_s$ will, of course, be free from the branch point

* See Eq. (3.48) for an equivalent definition of this symmetrization process.

at $\cos \theta = 1$, and we can at last write the extrapolation formula:

$$(\Delta^2 + \mu^2)^2 \langle \sigma \rangle_s \Big|_{\Delta^2 = -\mu^2} = - \frac{4g^2 \alpha^2 \mu^2 F_\pi^2(\lambda)}{\pi^2 M_{s_L} \lambda^2} \langle 4(q \cdot s)(q \cdot s') - \mu^2 \lambda \rangle_s \Big|_{\Delta^2 = -\mu^2} \quad (2.8)$$

The above discussion has shown that if one knew the value of the differential cross section $d\sigma/dP$ over some portion of the physical region, one could obtain the value of $F_\pi(\lambda)$ by analytic continuation of the function $(\Delta^2 + \mu^2)^2 \langle \sigma(\cos \theta) \rangle_s$. The relation between the value of this function at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$, and the pion form factor is given by Eq. (2.8). This is an idealization, of course, since in practice one can know the function only to within a certain error and at a finite number of points. One practical procedure that can be employed is to plot the experimental value of $(\Delta^2 + \mu^2)^2 \langle \sigma \rangle_s$ and fit a polynomial in $\cos \theta$ to these points by the method of least squares.^{7,12} The residue is then given by the value of this polynomial at the pole. Some consideration will be given in the next section to the error involved in this method of extrapolation.

C. Kinematical Considerations.

In order to perform the proposed extrapolation, it is necessary to know the cross section as a function of both the extrapolation variable Δ^2 and the variable λ on which the form factor $F_\pi(\lambda)$ depends. Since an N-particle (incoming plus outgoing) scattering problem is a function of $3N - 10$ variables (neglecting spins), electroproduction is a function of five variables. A convenient choice for the other three variables

is E , the total energy of the pion and nucleon in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system; T_L , the laboratory kinetic energy of the incident electron; and $\varnothing$, defined in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system by

$$\cos \varnothing = \frac{(\vec{k} \times \vec{s}) \cdot (\vec{k} \times \vec{q})}{|\vec{k} \times \vec{s}| |\vec{k} \times \vec{q}|} \quad (2.9)$$

In principle these three variables could be integrated out and the cross section measured as a function of Δ^2 and λ only. In practice, it may be most convenient to determine all five variables; for instance, by knowing the incident-electron energy and measuring the distribution of mesons as a function of direction, in coincidence with final electrons of given direction and energy. Then in performing the extrapolation all variables except Δ^2 must be held fixed. The question then arises: what values of E , T_L , and $\varnothing$ are most favorable to the extrapolation procedure?

To answer this question we must be able to estimate the error associated with extrapolation. Let us assume that the extrapolation will be done by fitting a polynomial in $\cos \theta$ to the function $(\Delta^2 + \mu^2)^2 \langle \sigma \rangle_s$ by the method of least squares. Then we can use a well-known formula¹² to calculate the error.

Let x_0 be the position of the pole as a function of $\cos \theta$. Then define

$$x \equiv x_0 - \cos \theta \quad .$$

In the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system, we find

$$\Delta^2 + \mu^2 = 2 |\vec{q}| |\vec{k}| x \quad .$$

We wish to extrapolate the function

$$f(x) \equiv (2 \mid \vec{q} \mid \mid \vec{k} \mid)^2 x^2 \langle \sigma \rangle_s \quad (2.10)$$

to the point $x = 0$, the position of the pole of $\langle \sigma \rangle_s$. The error in the least-squares polynomial at the point $x = 0$ is given by

$$\Delta a_0 = \rho \sqrt{(h^{-1})_{00}} \quad , \quad (2.11)$$

where

$$h_{mn} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{x_i^{m+n}}{\zeta_i^2} \quad , \quad (2.11')$$

and where ρ , which depends upon the goodness of fit, is ≈ 1 .¹² The summation in Eq. (2.11') extends over the points at which $f(x)$ is known, and ζ_i is the experimentally determined standard deviation of $f(x)$ at x_i . In order to use Eq. (2.11) to determine the dependence of Δa_0 on the experimental parameters, we must make some assumption about the behavior of the ζ_i 's. Let us assume that there is a constant standard deviation ξ in the cross section $\langle \sigma \rangle_s$ for all values of x . This seems to be the most reasonable assumption to make in the absence of detailed knowledge of the behavior of $\langle \sigma \rangle_s$. This assumption implies that the standard deviation ζ_i of $f(x)$ is

$$\zeta_i = (2 \mid \vec{q} \mid \mid \vec{k} \mid)^2 x_i^2 \xi \quad .$$

Then if $\rho = 1$, Eq. (2.11) becomes

$$\Delta a_0 = \xi (2 \mid \vec{q} \mid \mid \vec{k} \mid)^2 \sqrt{(H^{-1})_{00}} \quad , \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$H_{mn} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^{m+n-4} . \quad (2.12')$$

Notice that the error Δa_0 is proportional to the absolute error in the measured cross section, and to the factor $\sqrt{(H^{-1})_{00}}$ which depends only upon the distance of extrapolation and the distribution of points in the physical region.

It is qualitatively evident that the error will rise with the distance of extrapolation. Let us calculate the distance of extrapolation as a function of E and λ . Equation (2.2) shows that the pole occurs at

$$\cos \theta = (\lambda + 2 \omega_2 k_0) / 2 | \vec{q} | | \vec{k} | \equiv x_0 . \quad (2.13)$$

Holding λ fixed, one finds that all quantities on the right-hand side are known functions of E . One can easily show that in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system the following relations hold:

$$2 \omega_2 = E - (M^2 - \mu^2)/E$$

$$2 k_0 = E - (M^2 + \lambda)/E$$

$$E_2 = E - \omega_2 = \sqrt{| \vec{q} |^2 + M^2}$$

$$E_1 = E - k_0 = \sqrt{| \vec{k} |^2 + M^2} .$$

The distance of extrapolation as a function of E , for two values of λ is shown in Fig. 5.

In order to evaluate the dependence of Δa_0 on the distance of extrapolation, we must calculate $(H^{-1})_{00}$. If we assume that we can fit $f(x)$ with a polynomial of the fourth order (S- and P-waves only),

then H_{mn} is a five-by-five matrix. The inversion of this matrix was performed by a machine calculation for various distances of extrapolation for the arbitrary case of eleven points x_i spread evenly over the physical region. The results are summarized in Fig. 5a, where $\Delta a_0/\xi$ is shown as a function of E for $\lambda = 10$. If ξ does not vary much with E , higher values of E are clearly favored by this consideration.

A second consideration is the size of the residue at the pole. For a given Δa_0 , the size of the residue determines the per cent error. From Eq. (2.8) one sees that for a given value of λ and T_L the residue is proportional to

$$\langle 4(q \cdot s)(q \cdot s') - \mu^2 \lambda \rangle_s.$$

In Fig. 6 this factor is plotted against E for two extreme values of ϕ . If one chooses $\phi = 0$ or π , the size of the residue decreases with E . This decrease is, however, greatly outweighed by the more rapid decrease of $\Delta a_0/\xi$ with E shown in Fig. 5a. The conclusion indicated is that unless experimental conditions create very strong variations with E in the absolute accuracy attainable, high values of E are desirable.

On the other hand, if E is too high, one will be forced to use a polynomial of higher than fourth order to fit $f(x)$; i.e., D-waves will become important. The machine calculation of $(H^{-1})_{00}$ showed that the error increases markedly with the order of the polynomial. The error was calculated in the same manner as for Fig. 5a for the point $E = 9.66$ for fifth- and sixth-order polynomials. For the fourth-order polynomial, Fig. 5a shows $\Delta a_0/\xi = 134$. For the fifth-order, we found $\Delta a_0/\xi = 345$, and for the sixth-order, $\Delta a_0/\xi = 952$.

By machine calculation of the error for several specific distributions of points x_i , some qualitative conclusions were drawn concerning the most favorable distribution. First, it seems desirable to have measurements spread over as wide a region as possible, preferably the entire range of $\cos \theta$. Second, it seems desirable to concentrate most of the points close to $\cos \theta = 1$. For example, at $E = 9.66$ we saw that for eleven evenly spaced points $\Delta a_0/\xi = 134$. For nine points at $\cos \theta = 1, 0.98, 0.94, 0.87, 0.71, 0.26, 0, -0.71$, and -1 , we found $\Delta a_0/\xi = 95$. Third, it is of course desirable to have as many points as possible. For 6, 11, 14, and 21 evenly spaced points ($E = 9.66$, fourth-order polynomial); $\Delta a_0/\xi = 423, 134, 100$ and 75 , respectively.

It is beyond the scope of this work to provide a definitive answer to the experimental question of the optimum values of the parameters for the purpose of the extrapolation. An attempt has been made in this section to discuss the most important factors. In Section IIID a calculation will be made of the electroproduction cross section in order to translate Eq. (2.12) into an estimate of the maximum per cent error compatible with a significant extrapolation. It is desirable, of course, to carry out this calculation at the most favorable value of the parameters. In order to consider a more familiar parameter, let us introduce the equivalent photoproduction energy k_{ph} , defined by

$$k_{ph} = \frac{E^2 - M^2}{2M} \quad (2.14)$$

The quantity k_{ph} is the energy a photon must have in the laboratory in order to produce a pion-nucleon final state having total energy E in the barycentric system. On the basis of the considerations discussed

in this section, a reasonable guess for the most promising value of k_{ph} is ≈ 500 Mev. The corresponding value of $E = 9.66$ will be used in the calculation in Section IIID.

As a final kinematical consideration let us determine the possible range of λ for a given E and T_L . In order to derive this range, note the relationship of λ , E , and Δ^2 to laboratory quantities, denoted by the subscript L:

$$\lambda = 2 T_L \epsilon_{2L} (1 - \cos \psi) \quad (2.15)$$

$$E^2 = M^2 - \lambda + 2M(T_L - \epsilon_{2L}) \quad (2.16)$$

$$\Delta^2 = 2M(E_{2L} - M) \quad (2.17)$$

Here ψ is the laboratory angle between the initial and final electron directions. In Eq. (2.15) the mass of the electron has been neglected compared to its momentum. From Eqs (2.15) and (2.16) we find

$$E^2 = M^2 + 2 M T_L - \lambda \left[1 + \frac{M}{T_L(1 - \cos \psi)} \right] \quad (2.18)$$

For a given λ , the maximum value of E^2 is obtained for backward scattering, $\psi = \pi$. Conversely, $\psi = \pi$ also gives the maximum value of λ permitted for a given E and T_L (see Fig. 7). By increasing T_L one can obtain higher values of λ .

III. ESTIMATE OF ELECTROPRODUCTION CROSS SECTION

A. General.

In order to assess the difficulty of carrying out the proposed extrapolation, one must estimate the electroproduction cross section as a function of $\cos \theta$, with the parameters λ , E , T_L , and ϕ held fixed. A general treatment of the electroproduction problem has been given by Dalitz and Yennie¹³ (hereafter DY). The most recent calculation, based on the photoproduction theory of Chew, Goldberger, Low, and Nambu,⁹ was made by FNW. In this section a treatment will be given which relies heavily on the aforementioned papers, but which treats somewhat differently the corrections due to the finite mass of the nucleon.

Define the T matrix

$$S_{fi} = \delta_{fi} - i\delta^4(p' + q + s' - p - s) \left(\frac{m^2 M^2}{\omega_2 E_1 E_2 \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} \right)^{1/2} T_{fi} . \quad (3.1)$$

The T matrix element can be expressed in terms of the current j associated with the transition from nucleon to final pion-nucleon state:

$$T = \frac{e g_r}{(2\pi)^{7/2}} j \cdot \epsilon . \quad (3.2)$$

This form applies to both electroproduction and photoproduction. In the latter case, ϵ is proportional to the polarization vector; in the former, ϵ has to lowest order in e the value

$$\epsilon_\mu = \frac{e \bar{u}(s') \gamma_\mu u(s)}{\lambda} . \quad (3.3)$$

The conservation of charge, expressed as a continuity equation in momentum space, requires that

$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0 . \quad (3.4)$$

By means of these relations the time components of $\mathbf{j}$ and $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ can be expressed in terms of their space components. This will prove convenient in adapting photoproduction results to electroproduction. The relation between the two processes becomes clear if one separates the space part $\vec{\mathbf{j}}$ of the current into a longitudinal component

$$\vec{\mathbf{j}}_{\ell} \equiv \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{k} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{j}}) / |\mathbf{k}|^2 , \quad (3.5)$$

and a transverse component $\vec{\mathbf{j}}_t$ such that

$$\vec{\mathbf{j}} = \vec{\mathbf{j}}_{\ell} + \vec{\mathbf{j}}_t . \quad (3.6)$$

Then using (3.4) one can write

$$T \sim \mathbf{j} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \lambda k_0^{-2} \vec{\mathbf{j}}_{\ell} \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} - \vec{\mathbf{j}}_t \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} . \quad (3.7)$$

This result exhibits clearly the difference between the electropion- and photopion-production matrix elements: Whereas photoproduction depends only on the transverse current, having $\lambda = 0$; electroproduction depends also on the longitudinal current.

Following DY, (3.7) can be written in the compact form

$$\mathbf{j} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \vec{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \vec{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} , \quad (3.8)$$

where $\vec{\mathbf{m}}_t \equiv \vec{\mathbf{j}}_t$, and $\vec{\mathbf{m}}_{\ell} \equiv \lambda k_0^{-2} \vec{\mathbf{j}}_{\ell}$.

Remembering the definition of dP given by (2.4), one can write:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dP} = \frac{2(2\pi)^2 M m^2}{s_L} \sum_{N,e} |T|^2 , \quad (3.9)$$

where the sum is to be taken over initial and final spin states of the electron and nucleon. The sum over electron spins can be performed immediately, giving*

$$m^2 \sum_{N,e} |T|^2 = \frac{8 \alpha^2 g^2}{(2\pi)^4 \lambda^2} \sum_N j_\mu^\dagger j_\nu L^{\mu\nu}, \quad (3.10)$$

where the sum $\sum_N$ is to be taken over the initial and final nucleon states, and where

$$L^{\mu\nu} \equiv m^2 \sum_e \bar{u}(s) \gamma^\mu u(s') \bar{u}(s') \gamma^\nu u(s) \quad (3.11)$$

$$= 2 s^\mu s^\nu - s^\mu k^\nu - s^\nu k^\mu - \frac{1}{2} \lambda g^{\mu\nu}. \quad (3.12)$$

The cross section can then be written simply

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dP} = \frac{\alpha^2 g^2}{\pi^2 M s_L \lambda} \left(\frac{E}{M} \right)^2 \mathcal{I}, \quad (3.13)$$

where $\mathcal{I}$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{I} = \lambda^{-1} (2M)^2 (M/E)^2 \sum_N j_\mu^\dagger j_\nu L^{\mu\nu}. \quad (3.14)$$

If j is known, $\mathcal{I}$ can be evaluated by using (3.12). It is sometimes convenient, however, to use the form (3.8), which leads to the expression

* The summation convention is used throughout. Greek indices are summed from 0 to 3; Latin indices, from 1 to 3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda \mathcal{J} &= (2M^2/E)^2 \sum_N L_{ij} m_i^\dagger m_j \\
 &= (2M^2/E)^2 \sum_N \left\{ 2 |\vec{s} \cdot \vec{m}_t|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda |\vec{m}_t|^2 \right. \\
 &\quad + 2 \operatorname{Re} (\vec{s} \cdot \vec{m}_t^\dagger) (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{m}) \frac{|\vec{s}|^2 - |\vec{s}'|^2}{|\vec{k}|^2} \\
 &\quad \left. + |\vec{k} \cdot \vec{m}|^2 \frac{1}{2} \frac{k_0^2}{|\vec{k}|^2} \left[-1 + \frac{(|\vec{s}| + |\vec{s}'|)^2}{|\vec{k}|^2} \right] \right\}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

The foregoing formulation of electroproduction is completely general, except for the excellent approximation of neglecting contributions of higher order in α . In order to handle the remaining problem of obtaining an expression for the nucleon-meson current matrix element j , it will be necessary to invoke much poorer approximations.

B. Dispersion Theory of Photoproduction and Electroproduction.

The most successful calculation of photoproduction, given in CGLN, is based on the method of spectral representations. This calculation was extended to electroproduction by FNW. At the values of the experimental parameters suggested in Section II C, namely $T_L = 700$ Mev and $k_{ph} = 500$ Mev, the approximate solutions of the dispersion equations given in CGLN cannot be expected to be very accurate. The solutions are based on neglecting terms of higher than first order in μ/M , ω/M , and $|\vec{k}|/M$. When $k_{ph} = 500$ Mev and $\lambda = 10$, $|\vec{k}|/M = 0.56$. An indication of the accuracy of the CGLN formulas can be obtained by comparison with photoproduction data. Although photoproduction of neutral pions from protons

is in excellent agreement with the CGLN theory up to 450 Mev lab energy,¹⁴ Uretsky et al find a definite disagreement in positive pion production at 290 Mev.¹⁵ The disagreement becomes worse as the energy increases; at 400 Mev the measured value in the backward direction is only about half as large as the theoretical value. A summary of the comparison of theory and experiment in positive pion production is given by Fig. 8 of the paper by Lazarus, Panofsky, and Tangherlini.¹⁶ The lack of quantitative success of the photoproduction theory at high energies need not discourage us much here. The theory gives a semi-quantitative fit, which should be quite adequate for the purpose of estimating the difficulty of the proposed extrapolation.

Let us now consider those aspects of the dispersion theory of electroproduction which are most important for our calculation, referring the reader to FNW for a more detailed account of the mathematical procedure. The existence of a dispersion relation for the electroproduction scattering amplitude has been proved by Oehme and Taylor.¹⁷ The dispersion relation expresses the scattering amplitude as the sum of an integral over a spectrum of masses of possible intermediate states plus a term that is just the renormalized Born approximation with appropriate form factors. The Born term contribution to j is:^{*}

*

The notation is such that $(\gamma \cdot p - m)u(p) = 0$ and

$$\gamma^5 = i \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_3 \gamma_4 .$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sqrt{2} e j_B^\nu &= \bar{u}(p') \left\{ i \gamma_5 \frac{e F_\pi (2q - k)^\nu}{\Delta^2 + \mu^2} \frac{[\tau_\alpha, \tau_3]}{2} \right. \\
 &\quad - i \gamma_5 \frac{\gamma \cdot (p + k) + M}{(p + k)^2 - M^2} \tau_\alpha \left[\frac{e^s + \tau_3 e^v}{2} \gamma^\nu + \frac{\mu'^s + \tau_3 \mu'^v}{2} \sigma^{\nu\rho} k_\rho \right] \\
 &\quad \left. - \left[\frac{e^s + \tau_3 e^v}{2} \gamma^\nu + \frac{\mu'^s + \tau_3 \mu'^v}{2} \sigma^{\nu\rho} k_\rho \right] \tau_\alpha \frac{\gamma \cdot (p - q) + M}{(p - q)^2 - M^2} i \gamma_5 \right\} u(p),
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.16}$$

where

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 e^{v,s}(\lambda) &= e [F_1^p(\lambda) \pm F_1^n(\lambda)] \\
 \mu'^{v,s}(\lambda) &= \mu_p' F_2^p(\lambda) \pm \mu_n F_2^n(\lambda)
 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{- for } v \\ \text{+ for } s \end{array} \tag{3.16'}$$

The form factors $F_{1,2}$ are the customary nucleon form factors introduced in connection with electron-nucleon scattering,¹⁸ and $\mu_p' \approx 1.78 e/2M$ is the anomalous part of the proton magnetic moment. The first term in Eq. (3.16), arising from the diagram of Fig. 3, contains the pole on which the extrapolation is based. Note the presence of the pion form factor, which was set equal to unity in FNW. This first term is the meson current contribution, whereas the second and third terms, arising from the diagrams of Fig. 8, are the nucleon current contribution.

The Born terms j_B do not satisfy the continuity equation (3.4).

One finds

$$k \cdot j_B = (e \sqrt{2})^{-1} \bar{u}(p') i \gamma_5 \frac{1}{2} [\tau_\alpha, \tau_3] (e F_\pi - e^v) u(p). \tag{3.17}$$

As pointed out in FNW, this situation can be corrected by the formal addition to j_B^ν of the term

$$\frac{k^\nu}{\lambda} \frac{1}{e\sqrt{2}} \bar{u}(p') i \gamma_5 \frac{1}{2} [\tau_\alpha, \tau_\beta] (e F_\pi - e^V) u(p) . \quad (3.18)$$

Since $\lambda \equiv -k^2$, this term will cancel the nonzero contribution of Eq. (3.17). Moreover, because of Eq. (3.4), the contribution of Eq. (3.18) to electroproduction; i.e., to $j \cdot \epsilon$, is zero. This formal device, or an equivalent one, is nevertheless necessary if one wishes to make use of formulae such as Eqs. (3.7) and (3.15) which simplify the computation.

Specializing now to the production of positive pions from protons, we consider first the contribution to j_B of the terms proportional to e (rather than to μ). These are:

$$j_{B,e}^\nu = \bar{u}(p') \left\{ i \gamma_5 \frac{F_\pi(2q - k)^\nu}{\Delta^2 + \mu^2} - i \gamma_5 \frac{\gamma \cdot (p + k) + M}{E^2 - M^2} \gamma^\nu F_1^p \right. \\ \left. - \gamma^\nu F_1^n \frac{\gamma \cdot (p - q) + M}{(p - q)^2 - M^2} i \gamma_5 \right\} . \quad (3.19)$$

The form factor F_1^p is quite well known from the electron-proton scattering experiments by Hofstadter and collaborators. For F_1^n , the assumption $F_1^n = 0$ will be made. Present experimental results indicate that no large error is made by this assumption at the value $\lambda = 10 \mu^2 (= 5 \times 10^{26} \text{ cm}^{-2})$.¹⁹

Having set $F_1^n = 0$, let us express the remaining terms in Eq. (3.19) by means of Pauli spinors, using the representation

$$u^r(p) = V_p (1 + \gamma_5 \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{R}_p) |r\rangle, \quad (3.20)$$

where $|r\rangle$ is now a two-component Pauli spinor characteristic of spin state r , where $V_p \equiv [(M + E_p)/2M]^{1/2}$ and $\vec{R}_p \equiv \vec{p}/(M + E_p)$. With this substitution, the Born terms associated with e become, in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$ system,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{j}_{B,e} = i V_1 V_2 \langle f | & \left\{ \frac{F_1^p \vec{\sigma}}{E + M} - \frac{F_\pi (2\vec{q} - \vec{k}) \vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{R}_q - \vec{R}_k)}{\Delta^2 + \mu^2} \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{F_1^p (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{R}_q) \vec{\sigma} (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{R}_k)}{E - M} \right\} |i\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

In the dispersion-theory analysis of photoproduction in CGLN, an expansion in powers of μ/M is made, and only the zeroth- and first-order terms are kept. The zeroth-order term in Eq. (3.21) is

$$\vec{j}_{B,e}^0 = \frac{i}{2M} \langle f | \left\{ F_1^p \vec{\sigma} - F_\pi \frac{(2\vec{q} - \vec{k}) \vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{q} - \vec{k})}{(\vec{q} - \vec{k})^2 + \mu^2} \right\} |i\rangle. \quad (3.22)$$

This term is an important contribution to the expression (14) of FNW for electroproduction. Additional contributions come from the first-order terms in $1/M$ of Eq. (3.21), as well as terms arising from the nucleon magnetic moment part of j_B . The most important additional term is the magnetic-dipole amplitude leading to a resonant final P state with

total angular momentum $3/2$ and isotopic spin $3/2$.²⁰ The resonant amplitude arises primarily from the nucleon moments. The meson current also produces resonant terms, proportional to the factors F_M , F_Q , and F_L of Eq. (13) of FNW but these are much smaller for the case to be calculated here and will be neglected.* The resonant magnetic dipole part of $\vec{j}$ for positive pion production is then

$$\vec{j}_M = -\frac{E}{M} \frac{D}{2M} \langle f | [2\vec{q} \times \vec{k} - i(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})\vec{q} + i\vec{\sigma}(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k})] | i \rangle, \quad (3.23)$$

where

$$D \equiv \frac{\mu^v(\lambda)}{6 f^2 |\vec{q}|^3} e^{i\delta_{33}} \sin \delta_{33}. \quad (3.23')$$

The phase δ_{33} is the pion-nucleon scattering phase shift at the corresponding energy.

Several features of $\vec{j}_M$ deserve some comment. First, all momenta must be evaluated in the $\vec{p}' + \vec{q}' = 0$ system, which corresponds to the barycentric system in photoproduction. In a more general Lorentz frame, the multipole expansion²⁰ on which the relations in CGLN depend is not valid, because another vector in addition to $\vec{q}$, $\vec{k}$, $\vec{\sigma}$, and $\vec{\epsilon}$ (for instance, the total momentum of the system) would appear in the expansion. Second, the factor E/M in Eq. (3.23) is necessary because the CGLN formulae include a factor M/E (see CGLN, Formula 7.1) from the photoproduction phase space. Since the current j , as defined by

* Corrections to the Born approximation values of the S-wave and small P-wave amplitudes will also be neglected.

Eqs. (3.1) and (3.2), does not contain phase-space factors, the factor M/E is necessary. Third, the quantity μ^V in Eq. (3.23) is defined as $\mu^V(\lambda) = \mu'^V(\lambda) + e^V(\lambda)/2M$. The additional $e^V/2M$ arises from a group of the $1/M$ corrections to the zeroth approximation to the e Born terms, Eq. (3.22).

The two terms $\vec{j}_{Be}^0$ and $\vec{j}_M$ are the most important contributions to the electroproduction amplitude j . To estimate the cross section on the basis of these two terms alone would, however, involve the neglect of terms such as ω/M and $|\vec{k}|/M$ which are not negligible. The expressions of CGLN and FNW include correction terms which arise from evaluating Eq. (3.16) in first order in $1/M$. The result for positive-pion production (FNW Eq. (14)) is, after making the approximation discussed above of setting $F_Q = F_L = F_M = F_1^n = 0$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2M \vec{j} \cdot \vec{\epsilon} = & 2M(\vec{j}_{Be}^0 + \vec{j}_M) \cdot \vec{\epsilon} - i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon} \mu^S \frac{\vec{k}^2}{\omega^*} \\
 & - \frac{i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q} \times (\vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon})}{\omega^*} \mu^S - \frac{i e F_1^P (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\epsilon})}{2M \omega^*},
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.24}$$

plus a term coming from Eq. (3.18), which was inserted to satisfy the continuity equation. Here $\omega^* \equiv E - M$.

An alternative procedure, which will be employed here for including recoil corrections, is to replace the zeroth approximation $\vec{j}_{Be}^0$ by the complete covariant expression $\vec{j}_{Be}$ given by Eq. (3.19) or (3.21); i.e., set

$$\vec{j} = \vec{j}_{Be} + \vec{j}_M. \tag{3.25}$$

The first-order term in $1/M$ of $\vec{j}_{Be}$ includes the last term of Eq. (3.24), and includes that portion of the second and third terms which arises from the Dirac moment of the nucleon. If we assume, consistent with electro-nucleon scattering experiments,¹⁹ that $F_1^P = F_2^P = F_2^n \equiv F_N$, we find that

$$\mu^S = (1 + g_p' + g_n) F_N e/2M. \quad (3.26)$$

Since $g_p' + g_n = -0.13$ we see that a relatively small error will be made by neglecting the anomalous moment part.

Thus expression (3.25) includes, to a good approximation, the $1/M$ terms of (3.24). In addition, by avoiding the expansion of $\vec{j}_{Be}$ in powers of $1/M$, it includes some of the higher-order corrections which have been dropped in (3.24). One might hope that these corrections which have been included are the more important ones. The magnetic dipole amplitude $\vec{j}_M$ already includes recoil corrections to some extent when one uses experimental values from pion-nucleon scattering for the phase shift. In fact, the CGLN formula for photoproduction of neutral pions, which is dominated by $\vec{j}_M$, has been shown to agree well with the experimental data¹⁵ up to 450-Mev photon laboratory energy.

In order to gain further confidence in the use of the amplitude $\vec{j}_M$ at energies well above resonance and at values of λ up to the value $\lambda = 10$ to be used here, let us examine the portion of the CGLN theory that gives rise to the specific form of $\vec{j}_M$. First we must define the notation used for photoproduction by CGLN. Denoting the complete photoproduction amplitude by $\mathcal{F}_\gamma$, i.e.,

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sum \frac{|\vec{q}|}{|\vec{k}|} \left| \langle f | \mathcal{F}_r | i \rangle \right|^2, \quad (3.27)$$

one can write, neglecting D waves and higher,²⁰

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_r = & i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon} E_{S\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} [\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon} + i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q} \times (\vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon})] M_{P\frac{1}{2}} \\ & + \frac{1}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} [2\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon} - i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q} \times (\vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon})] M_{P\frac{3}{2}} \\ & + \frac{3i}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} [(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}) + (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon})(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k})] E_{P\frac{3}{2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.27')$$

The energy-dependent amplitudes M_{lj} and E_{lj} refer to production by magnetic and electric radiation, respectively, leading to final states of orbital angular momentum l and total angular momentum j . Each amplitude can be further decomposed into a sum of multiples of the three **independent** isotopic spin amplitudes, defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_\beta^{(+)} & \equiv \frac{1}{2} [\tau_\beta, \tau_3]_+ \\ \mathcal{I}_\beta^{(-)} & \equiv \frac{1}{2} [\tau_\beta, \tau_3] \\ \mathcal{I}_\beta^{(0)} & \equiv \tau_\beta, \end{aligned} \quad (3.28)$$

where β is the isotopic spin index of the pion. For positive pion production, the matrix elements of $\mathcal{I}^{(\pm,0)}$ are $\mathcal{I}^{(+)} = 0$, $\mathcal{I}^{(-)} = \mathcal{I}^{(0)} = \sqrt{2}$. Now each amplitude M_{lj} , E_{lj} , can be decomposed

into a sum of multiples of $\mathcal{J}_\beta^{(\pm,0)}$; for example,

$$M_{lj} = M_{lj}^{(+)} \mathcal{J}^{(+)} + M_{lj}^{(-)} \mathcal{J}^{(-)} + M_{lj}^{(0)} \mathcal{J}^{(0)}. \quad (3.29)$$

Comparison of Eqs. (3.23) and (3.27) shows that the photoproduction amplitude corresponding to $\vec{j}_M$ is $M_{P\frac{3}{2}}^{(\pm)}$. The important conclusion in CGLN concerning this amplitude is that the part of $M_{P\frac{3}{2}}^{(\pm)}$ which is induced by the nucleon magnetic moment (this is the dominant part) is proportional to the corresponding P-wave pion-nucleon scattering amplitude. To reproduce the precise statement of proportionality, let us note the definition of amplitudes for pion-nucleon scattering in the barycentric system:

$$\frac{d\sigma_\pi}{d\Omega} = \sum | \langle f | \mathcal{F}_\pi | i \rangle |^2,$$

where, neglecting D waves and higher,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_\pi = f_{S\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{f_{P\frac{1}{2}}}{|\vec{q}|^2} (\vec{q}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_1 + i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q}_2 \times \vec{q}_1) \\ + \frac{f_{P\frac{3}{2}}}{|\vec{q}|^2} (2 \vec{q}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_1 - i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q}_2 \times \vec{q}_1). \end{aligned} \quad (3.30)$$

The isotopic spin decomposition has the form

$$f_{lj} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} f_{lj}^{(+)} + \frac{1}{2} [\tau_\beta, \tau_\alpha] f_{lj}^{(-)},$$

where α and β are the isotopic spin indices of the initial and final mesons. Then in terms of these amplitudes the solution found to lowest

order in $1/M$ in CGLN (Equation 13.1) for the nucleon moment part of $M_{P_2}^{(\pm)}$ is

$$\frac{1}{qk} M_{P_2}^{(\pm)} = \frac{\mu_p - \mu_n}{2f |\vec{q}|^2} f_{P_2}^{(\pm)} . \quad (3.31)$$

The definition (3.30) of $f_{\ell j}$, together with the unitarity of the S matrix, implies that $f_{P_2}^{(-)}$ can be written (keeping only the $T = \frac{3}{2}$ state)

$$f_{P_2}^{(-)} = -\frac{1}{3} e^{i\delta_{33}} \sin \delta_{33} / |\vec{q}| . \quad (3.32)$$

The relations (3.31) and (3.32) show the origin of the expression (3.23) for $\vec{j}_M$, except for the form factors and normalization peculiar to the electroproduction case.

If we wish to use the form of $\vec{j}_M$ given in (3.23) at energies well above the (3.3) resonance energy, the important question is: How large a deviation can we expect from the simple proportionality (3.31) when higher-order terms in $1/M$ become appreciable? A partial answer to this question can be obtained by considering the deviation from Eq. (3.31) of the Born-term contributions to $M_{P_2}^{(\pm)}$ and $f_{P_2}^{(\pm)}$. By the straightforward but lengthy process of projecting out the $P_2^{(\pm)}$ part of the pion-nucleon-scattering Born approximation, one obtains, neglecting D waves and higher,

$$f_{P_2}^{(\pm),B} = \pm \frac{2M g^2 v_2^2 \omega^* |\vec{q}|^2}{3E(2E_2 \omega_2 - 1)^2} , \quad (3.33)$$

where $E_2 \equiv (|\vec{q}|^2 + M^2)^{1/2}$, $\omega_2 \equiv (|\vec{q}|^2 + 1)^{1/2}$, $E = \omega_2 + E_2$, $\omega^* = E - M$, and $v_{1,2} = [(M + E_{1,2})/2M]^{1/2}$. Expanding in powers

of $1/M$, one finds

$$f_{P_2}^{(\pm),B} = \pm \frac{2}{3} \frac{f^2 |\vec{q}|^2}{\omega^*} + o\left(\frac{1}{M^2}\right) . \quad (3.34)$$

The electroproduction and photoproduction Born terms are of two kinds: those proportional to the electric charge and those proportional to the anomalous magnetic moment. For electroproduction, which reduces easily to photoproduction by setting $\lambda = 0$, the contribution to $M_{P_2}^{(3)}$ of the nucleon current part of the electric Born terms is

$$\frac{M_{P_2}^{(3),B,e}}{qk} = \pm \frac{e^v f}{3} F_{P_2}^{(3)} \quad (3.35)$$

where

$$F_{P_2}^{(3)} \equiv \frac{M^2 V_2 V_1}{E} \left[\frac{\omega^*}{(2 E_2 \omega_2 - 1)^2} + \frac{1}{(E_1 + M)(2 E_1 \omega_2 - 1)} \right] . \quad (3.35')$$

An expansion in powers of $1/M$ gives

$$\frac{M_{P_2}^{(3),B,e}}{|\vec{q}| |\vec{k}|} = \pm \frac{e^v}{2M} \frac{f}{3\omega^*} \left(1 - \frac{\omega^*}{4M}\right) + o\left(\frac{1}{M^2}\right) . \quad (3.36)$$

The anomalous-moment Born-term contribution is, for electroproduction,

$$\frac{M_{P_2}^{(3),B,\mu}}{|\vec{q}| |\vec{k}|} = \pm \frac{\mu^v g M V_1 V_2}{3E(2E_1 \omega_2 - 1)} \left[1 + \frac{k_0}{2(E_1 + M)} + \frac{k_0 \omega_2}{2(2E_1 \omega_2 - 1)} \right] , \quad (3.37)$$

which becomes, in a $1/M$ expansion,

$$\frac{M_{P_2}^{3(\pm),B,\mu}}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} = \pm \frac{\mu'^V f}{3 \omega^*} + O\left(\frac{1}{M^2}\right) \quad (3.38)$$

Recalling that $\mu^V(\lambda) \equiv \mu'^V(\lambda) + e^V(\lambda)/2M$, we see that the simple proportionality,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} (M_{P_2}^{3(\pm),B,e} + M_{P_2}^{3(\pm),B,\mu}) &\equiv \frac{1}{|\vec{q}||\vec{k}|} M_{P_2}^{3(\pm),B} \\ &= r \frac{\mu^V(\lambda)}{2f|\vec{q}|^2} f_{P_2}^{3(\pm),B}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.39)$$

is exact to order $1/M$ with $r = 1$. Calculating the exact r from Eqs. (3.33), (3.35), (3.37), and (3.39), one finds for photoproduction at 260- and 400-Mev laboratory energies that $r = 0.990$ and 1.007 , respectively, whereas for electroproduction at $k_{ph} = 500$ Mev and $\lambda = 10$, $r = 0.932$. Thus in photoproduction the simple proportionality of the Born terms is retained well above the (3.3) resonance energy; even for electroproduction, up to at least the stated values of k_{ph} and λ , the value of r can be set equal to unity with sufficient accuracy for our purposes. The expression (3.23) for $\vec{j}_M$ will therefore be used as it stands.

One further comment should be made about the expression (3.25) which will be used for $\vec{j}$, namely, that the inclusion of both $\vec{j}_{Be}$ and $\vec{j}_M$ results in counting one term twice. We have seen above in Eq. (3.35)

that $\vec{j}_{Be}$ contributes to the amplitude $M_{P_2}^{(\pm),B,e}$. This contribution is included in $\vec{j}_M$ and should therefore be subtracted out of $\vec{j}_{Be}$. Equation (3.35) shows that the quantity that should be subtracted from $\vec{j}$ is

$$- \frac{e^v E}{6 M^2} F_{P_2} \langle f | [2\vec{q} \times \vec{k} - i(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})\vec{q} + i(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k})\vec{\sigma}] | i \rangle .$$

Numerically this term proves to be no more important in the case to be considered than many terms already neglected and will therefore be neglected also.

C. Calculation of the Photoproduction Cross Section.

The formula (3.25) for $\vec{j}$ developed in the previous section avoids expanding the electric Born terms in powers of $1/M$ and may therefore include nucleon-recoil effects more accurately than the CGLN formula. Since definite disagreement has been observed in positive-pion production between the CGLN formula and experiment,^{15,16} a calculation has been made at a laboratory energy of 400 Mev to see if Formula (3.25) leads to better agreement. Unfortunately this does not seem to be the case. The calculation, which will be described in this section, led to an angular distribution almost identical to that predicted by the CGLN formula.

Retaining essentially the CGLN notation, one finds from Eq. (3.25) that the amplitude for positive-pion production is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\mathcal{F}_r^{(-)} + \mathcal{F}_r^{(0)}}{e f} = & \frac{v_1 v_2}{1 + \frac{\omega^*}{M}} \left[\frac{i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}}{1 + \frac{\omega^*}{2M}} + \frac{i 2(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}) \vec{\sigma} \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{k}}{v_1^2} - \frac{\vec{q}}{v_2^2} \right)}{(\vec{q} - \vec{k})^2 + 1 - (E_2 - E_1)^2} \right. \\
 & \left. - \frac{i (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon})(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})}{2 M \omega^* v_2^2 v_1^2} \right] \\
 & + i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon} \left[i \left(\frac{2}{3} \delta_1 + \frac{1}{3} \delta_3 \right) F_S + \omega^{*2} N^{(-)} \right] \\
 & + i(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\epsilon})(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k}) \left[-\lambda h^{(--)} + \frac{1}{3} (F_{P_2^3} - F_{P_2^1}^{(-)}) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{3} i e^{i\delta_{33}} \sin \delta_{33} (F_Q - \frac{1}{3} F_M) \right] \\
 & + i(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k})(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}) \left[\lambda h^{(--)} - \frac{1}{3} (F_{P_2^3} - F_{P_2^1}^{(-)}) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{3} i e^{i\delta_{33}} \sin \delta_{33} (F_Q + \frac{1}{3} F_M) \right] \\
 & + \vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} \times \vec{\epsilon} \left[\lambda h^{(-+)} + \frac{1}{3} (2F_{P_2^3} + F_{P_2^1}^{(-)}) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - \frac{2}{9} i e^{i\delta_{33}} \sin \delta_{33} F_M \right] .
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.40}$$

The only quantity in this equation which has not been defined above or in CGLN is $F_{P\frac{1}{2}}^{1(-)}$, which is proportional to the contribution of the nucleon-current electric Born term to the $M_{P\frac{1}{2}}^{1(-)}$ amplitude. The value of $F_{P\frac{1}{2}}^{1(-)}$ can be found straightforwardly but turns out to be quite a long expression. Since $F_{P\frac{1}{2}}^{1(-)}$ is only a small correction, it will be sufficient to set $F_{P\frac{1}{2}}^{1(-)} = F_{P\frac{1}{2}}^3$, an equality which holds only to lowest order in $1/M$.

The differential cross section can be obtained from Eq. (3.40) via the relation

$$\frac{d\sigma_r}{d\Omega} = 2 \alpha f^2 \frac{|\vec{q}|}{|\vec{k}|} \sum \left| \frac{\mathcal{F}_r^{(0)} + \mathcal{F}_r^{(-)}}{ef} \right|^2,$$

where Σ refers to a sum over final nucleon spin states and an average over initial spin and polarization states. Comparison calculations of $d\sigma_r/d\Omega$ have been carried out at a photon lab energy of 400 Mev by the use of both Eq. (3.40) and the CGLN Formulae (22.6-7) with the value for δ_{33} given by the Chew-Low effective-range formula,⁹

$$\cot \delta_{33} = \frac{3 \omega^*}{4 f^2 |\vec{q}|^3} \left(1 - \frac{\omega^*}{\omega_r} \right). \quad (3.41)$$

The phase-shift analysis by Chiu and Lomon²¹ finds the Chew-Low formula accurate up to a scattering energy of 220 Mev (370 Mev in photoproduction) if $\omega_r \approx 2.1$ and $f^2 = 0.08$. The small P-wave phase shifts, which are not so well known, were set equal to zero in the calculation. The S-wave phase shifts²² $\delta_1 = 0.173q$ and $\delta_3 = -0.110q$ were used, and the unknown function $N^{(-)}$ was set equal to zero. The results and the experimental points of Walker et al.²³ are shown in Fig. 9. The use of Formula (3.40) results in no improvement over the CGLN formula for this case.

Nevertheless the formula developed in this paper may be significantly more accurate in the electroproduction case, where recoil corrections can be more important. The theoretical curves in Fig. 9 agree well with the corresponding curve of Lazarus et al.¹⁶ The slight difference which exists is probably due to the fact that Lazarus et al. made a different assumption about the small P-wave phase shifts.

D. Calculation of the Electroproduction Cross Section.

Having developed and investigated a formula for $\vec{j}$, we are ready to proceed to a calculation of the electroproduction cross section. This calculation is necessary in order to be able to estimate the experimental accuracy necessary to perform the proposed extrapolation.

Since the machinery for the calculation has been set up in Section III A, we need only insert Formula (3.25) for $\vec{j}$ into Eqs. (3.12) to (3.15). The results will be expressed in terms of the dimensionless quantity $\bar{\sigma}$, which is related to the cross section by Eq. (3.13). Separating $\bar{\sigma}$ into the part coming from j_{Be} , from j_M , and from the cross term, we write

$$\bar{\sigma} = \bar{\sigma}_B + \bar{\sigma}_M + \bar{\sigma}_C . \quad (3.42)$$

The magnetic dipole term $\bar{\sigma}_M$ can be evaluated easily by substituting Eq. (3.23) into Eq. (3.15), which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\sigma}_M = |D|^2 \{ & 5 |\vec{q}|^2 |\vec{k}|^2 - 3(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k})^2 \\ & + \frac{4}{\lambda} [3(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} \times \vec{s})^2 + |\vec{q}|^2 (\vec{s} \times \vec{k})^2] \} , \end{aligned} \quad (3.43)$$

where D is defined by Eq. (3.23').

The Born term part of $\tilde{\phi}$ can be evaluated covariantly by substituting Eq. (3.19) into Eq. (3.14), by the use of Eq. (3.12). The result is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{E}{M} \right)^2 \tilde{\phi}_B &= \frac{\Delta^2}{\lambda} \frac{F_\pi^2}{(\Delta^2 + 1)^2} [4(q \cdot s)(q \cdot s') - \lambda] \\
 &+ \frac{F_N^2}{(E^2 - M^2)^2} \left\{ -M^2(\lambda + \Delta^2) + (p \cdot k)(\Delta^2 + 2M^2) - 2M^2(p' \cdot k) \right. \\
 &\quad + 4 \frac{\Delta^2}{\lambda} (p \cdot s)(p \cdot s') + 2(p \cdot s)(p' \cdot s) + 2(p \cdot s')(p' \cdot s') \\
 &\quad + \frac{4}{\lambda} [2(p' \cdot k)(p \cdot s)(p \cdot s') - (p \cdot k)(p \cdot s)(p' \cdot s') \\
 &\quad \left. - (p \cdot k)(p \cdot s')(p' \cdot s)] \right\} \\
 &- \frac{2 F_N F_\pi}{\lambda(E^2 - M^2)(\Delta^2 + 1)} [(\Delta^2 + p' \cdot k)h(p) - (p \cdot k) h(p')] .
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.44}$$

In this formula the assumption has been made that $F_1^n(\lambda) = 0$, and $F_1^p(\lambda) = F_2^p(\lambda) = F_2^n(\lambda) \equiv F_N(\lambda)$, and the abbreviation

$$h(p) \equiv (2q - k)_\mu p_\nu L^{\mu\nu} \tag{3.44'}$$

has been introduced.

Finally, the cross term is

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{E \mathcal{L}_C}{2M V_1 V_2 \text{Re } D} = & - \frac{2 F_N}{1 + \frac{\omega^*}{2M}} (\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} + \frac{2}{\lambda} c_1 + \frac{2\vec{s} \cdot \vec{k} - \lambda}{\lambda k_0^2} c_2) \\
& + \frac{F_\pi}{V_1^2 (\Delta^2 + 1)} \left\{ 2 |\vec{q}|^2 |\vec{k}|^2 \sin^2 \theta \right. \\
& \left. + \frac{2C_2}{\lambda} \left[2(2\vec{q} - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{s} - \frac{(2\vec{s} \cdot \vec{k} - \lambda)(2\vec{q} - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{k}}{k_0^2} \right] \right\} \\
& - \frac{F_N}{2M \omega^* V_1^2 V_2^2} \left\{ |\vec{q}|^2 |\vec{k}|^2 (3 - \cos^2 \theta) \right. \\
& \left. + \frac{4}{\lambda} \left[2(\vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} \times \vec{s})^2 + c_1 \vec{q} \cdot \vec{k} + c_2 \vec{q} \cdot \vec{s} \right] \right\} \\
& - \frac{2(2\vec{s} \cdot \vec{k} - \lambda) |\vec{k}|^2}{\lambda k_0^2} (F_\pi - F_N) \frac{C_2}{V_1^2} .
\end{aligned} \tag{3.45}$$

The following symbols were introduced:

$$\begin{aligned}
c_1 & \equiv (\vec{s} \times \vec{q}) \cdot (\vec{s} \times \vec{k}) \\
c_2 & \equiv (\vec{k} \times \vec{q}) \cdot (\vec{k} \times \vec{s}) .
\end{aligned} \tag{3.45'}$$

The last term in Eq. (3.45) is the contribution of Eq. (3.18), the term that was added to j_B to restore gauge invariance. The same result can be obtained by modifying the analysis following Eq. (3.4) to take account of a nonzero $k \cdot j$.

A numerical calculation of these formulae as a function of θ has been made for the case discussed in Section II C, namely

$$k_{ph} = 500 \text{ Mev}, \quad \text{or} \quad E = 9.657$$

$$T_L = 5.039 \approx 700 \text{ Mev.}$$

Two values of the angle ϕ (defined in Eq. (2.9)) were used: $\phi = 0^\circ$ and $\phi = 180^\circ$. From electron-nucleon scattering experiments the value of F_N was chosen to be $F_N^1(10) = 0.62$.

To carry out the calculation it was necessary to estimate the value of the phase shift δ_{33} at $E = 9.66$, which corresponds to pion-nucleon scattering at 350 Mev. One cannot use the Chew-Low formula (3.41) at such a high energy. At 307 Mev, Chiu and Lomon²¹ find a significant deviation. This is illustrated in Fig. 10, which shows the points of Chiu and Lomon and one point by Willis²⁴ at 500 Mev ($\delta_{33} = 157.3^\circ$). In order to estimate the phase shift at 350 Mev, the points have been joined by a smooth curve and the value $\delta_{33} = 145^\circ$ read off at 350 Mev. This crude estimate should be quite adequate for our purposes.

To make the dependence on the unknown form factor F_π explicit, let us write

$$\bar{\phi} = A(\theta, \phi) F_\pi^2 + B(\theta, \phi) F_\pi F_N + C(\theta, \phi) F_N^2. \quad (3.46)$$

The calculated dependence of A, B, and C on θ is shown in Fig. 11 for $\phi = 180^\circ$ and in Fig. 12 for $\phi = 0^\circ$. The physical meaning of the two values of ϕ is illustrated in Fig. 13. Comparison of the two cases reveals the fact that A depends very strongly on ϕ . The origin of

this strong dependence is the term in brackets in the following expression for A:

$$A = 4 \left(\frac{M}{E} \right)^2 \frac{\Delta^2}{\lambda(\Delta^2 + 1)^2} [4(q \cdot s)(q \cdot s') - \lambda] . \quad (3.47)$$

The term A is of course the pole term which has been discussed, but the extreme $\varnothing$ dependence noted above will be smoothed by the extrapolation procedure suggested in Section II B. Recall that it is necessary to symmetrize the cross section as prescribed by Eq. (2.7) in order to eliminate a branch point. The symmetrized $\mathcal{J}$ can equivalently be defined as

$$\mathcal{J}_s(\theta, \varnothing) \equiv \mathcal{J}(\theta, \varnothing) + \mathcal{J}(\theta, \varnothing + \pi) . \quad (3.48)$$

This symmetrized $\mathcal{J}_s$ is then the average of the $\varnothing = \pi$ case of Fig. 11 and the $\varnothing = 0$ case of Fig. 12.

Before going on to the consideration of $\mathcal{J}_s$ and its extrapolation, let us note the dependence of the electroproduction cross section on the parameter $F_\pi(10)$, with $F_N(10) = 0.62$. Several cases are plotted in Fig. 14. One interesting feature of this graph is that for any curve $F_\pi(10) = \beta$, where $\beta \lesssim 0.85$, there is another very similar curve corresponding to a different value of $F_\pi(10)$. This is illustrated in Fig. 14 by the curves for $F_\pi(10) = F_N(10) = 0.62$ and for $F_\pi = 0.20$.

Finally, Fig. 15 shows the calculated behavior of the extrapolation function $(\Delta^2 + 1)^2 \mathcal{J}_s$ at the end of the physical region.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

We are now able to apply the error estimates developed in Section II C. For example, recall that for one case in which the cross section was measured at nine specific points, the error was found to be $\Delta a_0 \approx 100 \xi$. If Δa_0 is the error in $(\Delta^2 + 1)^2 \underline{\sigma}_s$ at the point $\Delta^2 = -1$, then ξ is the error (assumed constant) in $\underline{\sigma}_s$ at each measured point. From Fig. 15 we see that if $\Delta a_0 \gtrsim 2$ the extrapolation yields no useful information. This requires a constant absolute error in $\underline{\sigma}_s$ less than 0.02. Fig. 14 shows that if $F_\pi = 0.62$, this means a percent error ranging from 2% at $\theta = 0$ to 6% at $\theta = 90^\circ$ and 20% at $\theta = 180^\circ$. Even this estimated upper limit of accuracy is considerably better than that achieved by Panofsky and Allton² in an electroproduction experiment in which only E and λ (not Δ^2) were determined. Thus it appears that the proposed extrapolation, although possible in principle, will require experiments of great accuracy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The problem considered in this thesis was suggested by Professor Geoffrey F. Chew, whose valuable advice throughout the course of this work I greatly appreciate. The analysis of error in a least-squares extrapolation was done with the help of Dr. Michael J. Moravcsik. I also benefited greatly from very frequent discussions with James S. Ball and Peter Cziffra.

This work was performed under the auspices of the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

FIGURE LEGENDS

- Fig. 1. Electropion production, considered in lowest order in α .
Single lines are electrons; double lines, nucleons; wavy lines, photons; and broken lines, pions.
- Fig. 2. Poles and branch points in the $\cos \theta$ plane. The scale of the figure is appropriate to the values $E = 9.66$, $\lambda = 10$. The right-hand pole is the one at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$.
- Fig. 3. The class of diagrams giving rise to the pole at $\Delta^2 = -\mu^2$.
- Fig. 4. The pion-photon vertex.
- Fig. 5. The distance of extrapolation as a function of E for two values of λ . Also shown in k_{ph} , the equivalent laboratory energy in photoproduction ($E^2 = M^2 + 2Mk_{ph}$).
- Fig. 5a. The dependence of the extrapolation error $\Delta a_0/\xi$ on E .
- Fig. 6. The variation of the symmetrized residue at the pole as a function of E for various θ at $T_L = 700$ Mev and $\lambda = 10$.
- Fig. 7. E^2 vs. λ for $T_L = 700$ Mev for various values of the laboratory scattering angle ψ of the final electron. Points above the line $\psi = \pi$ are not kinematically possible.
- Fig. 8. The diagrams giving rise to the nucleon-current Born terms in the electroproduction dispersion relations.
- Fig. 9. Photoproduction at 400 Mev. Solid line: prediction of modified CGLN formula, Eq. (3.40). Dashed line: prediction of CGLN formula. Experimental points are those of Walker et al.²³

Fig. 10. The phase shift δ_{33} . Point at 500 Mev by Willis;²⁴ others by Chiu and Lomon.²¹ The dotted curve has been drawn to estimate δ_{33} at 350 Mev. The solid line is the continuation of the Chew-Low fit to the low-energy region, with $r^2 = 0.08$ and $\omega_r = 2.1$.

Fig. 11. The dimensionless functions $A(\theta)$, $B(\theta)$, and $C(\theta)$ defined by

$$\overline{\mathcal{Q}} = A F_{\pi}^2 + B F_{\pi} F_N + C F_N^2 ,$$

for $\vartheta = 180^\circ$.

Fig. 12. The functions $A(\theta)$, $B(\theta)$, and $C(\theta)$ for $\vartheta = 0^\circ$.

Fig. 13. Illustration of the two cases $\vartheta = 180^\circ$ and $\vartheta = 0^\circ$ in terms of momenta in the system in which $\vec{p}' + \vec{q} = 0$.

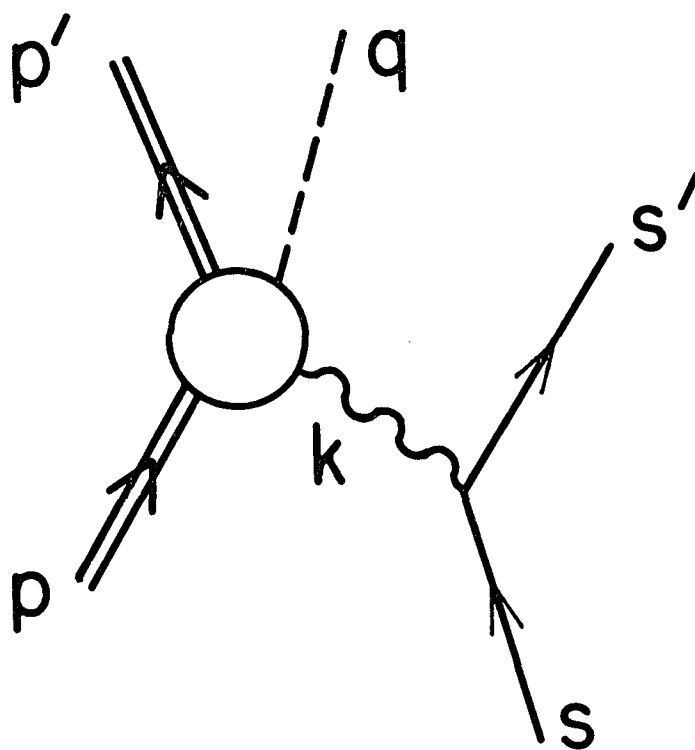
Fig. 14. A plot of the dimensionless function $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}$, proportional to the electroproduction cross section, for $E = 9.66$, $\lambda = 10$, $T_L = 700$ Mev, $\vartheta = \pi$, and various values of the pion form factor.

Fig. 15. The calculated behavior of the extrapolation function $(\Delta^2 + 1)^2 \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_s$ at the end of the physical region for the case discussed.

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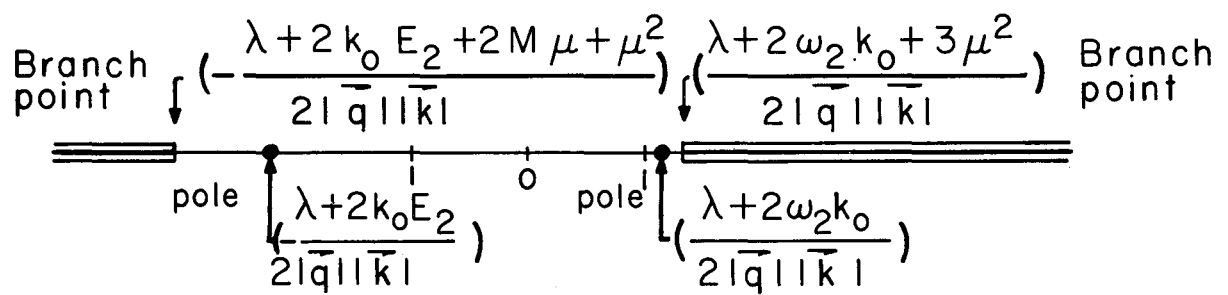
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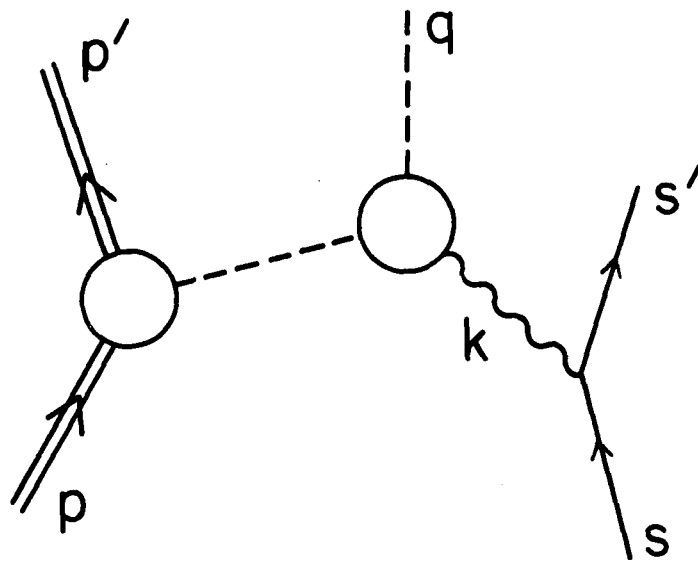
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Fig. 1.



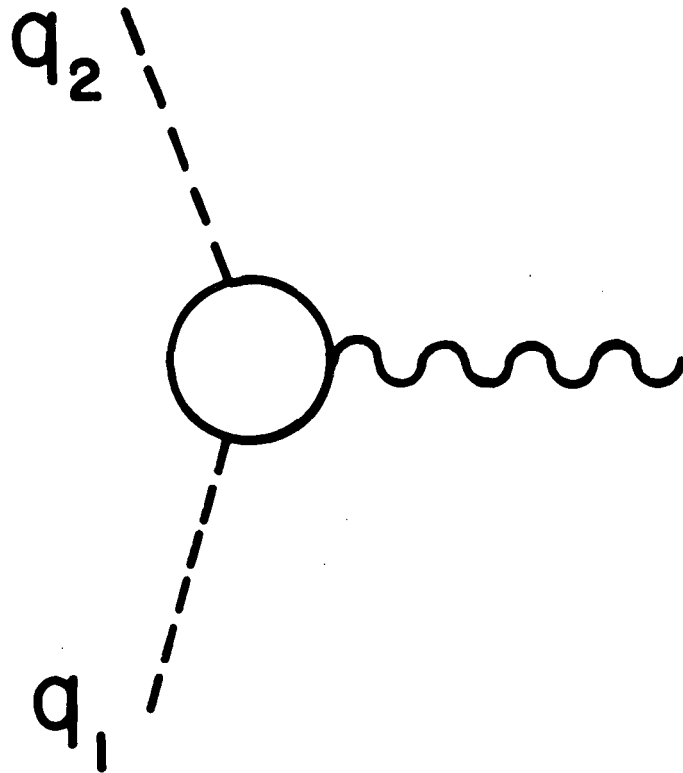
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Fig. 2.



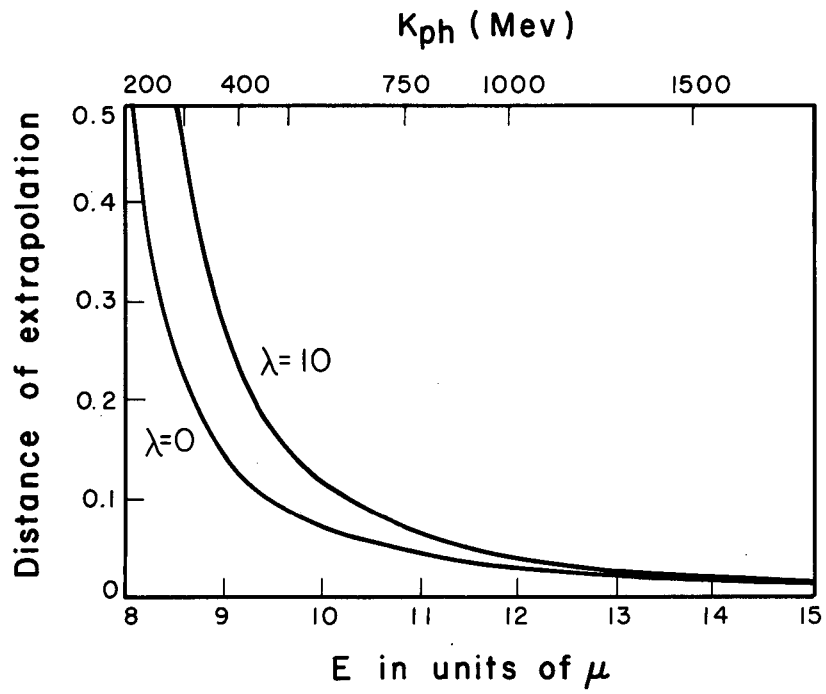
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Fig. 3.



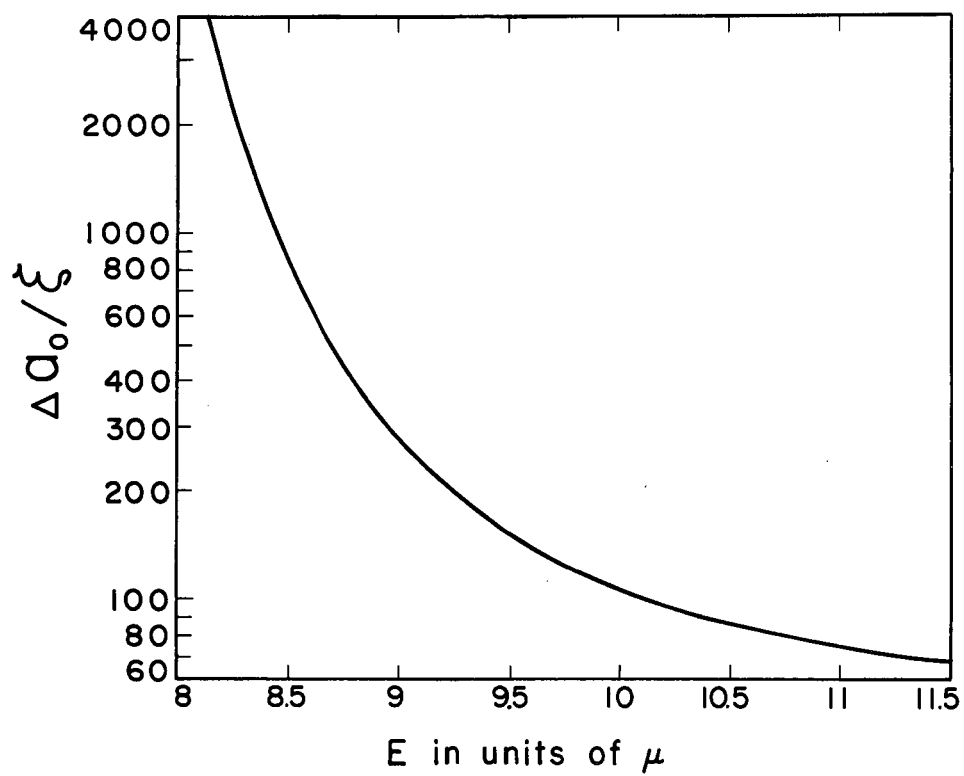
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Fig. 4.



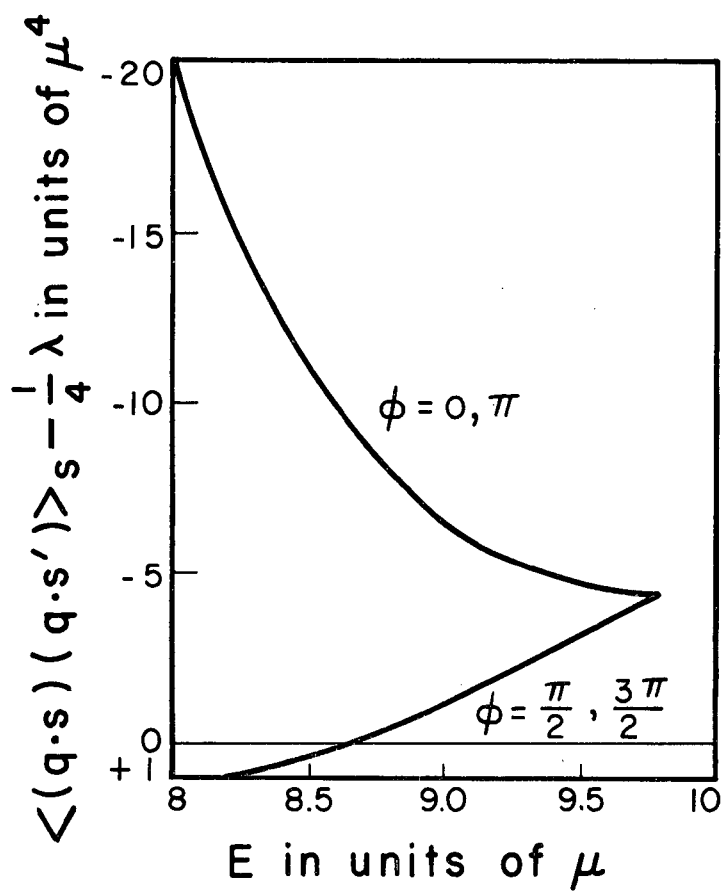
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Fig. 5



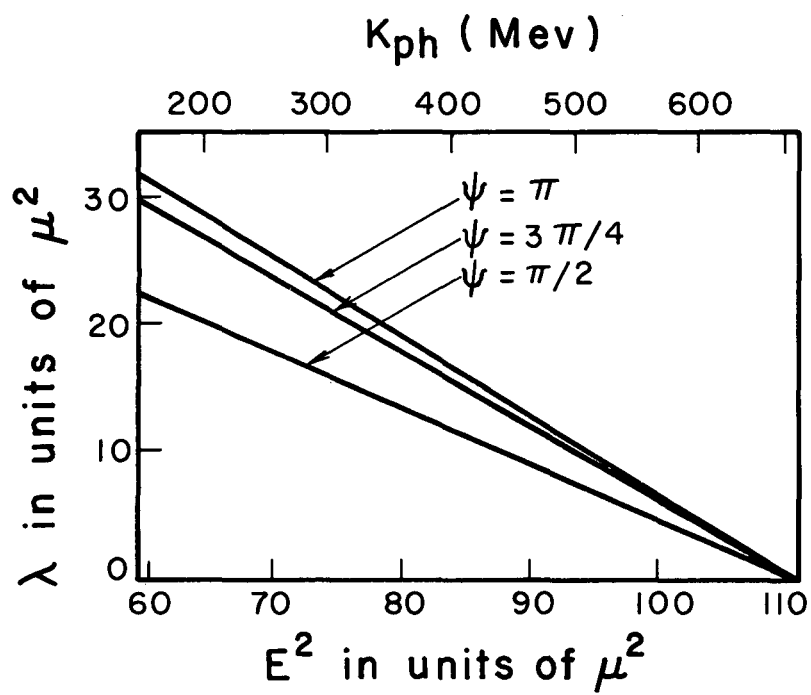
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Fig. 5a



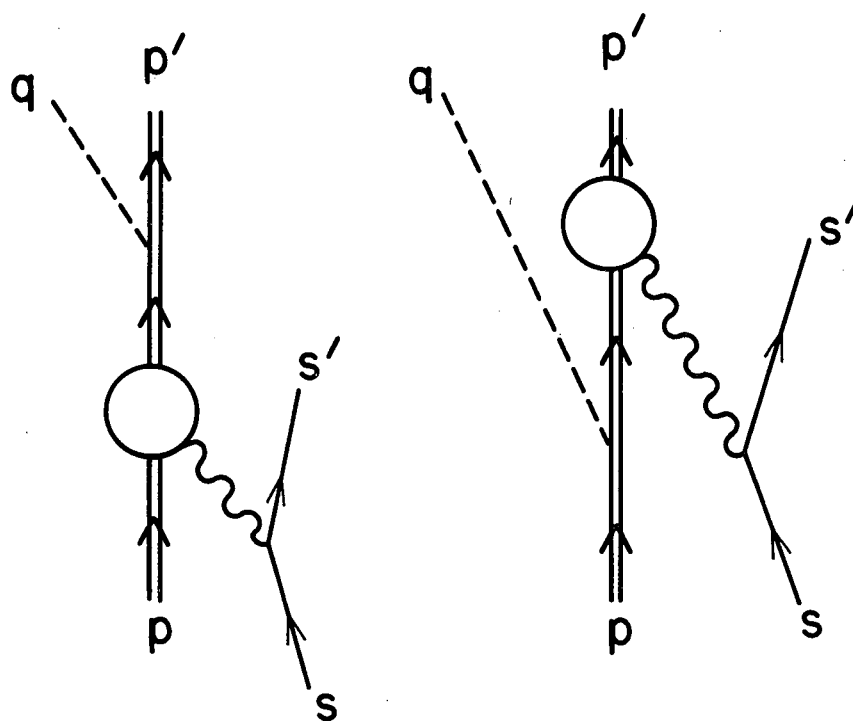
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Fig. 6.



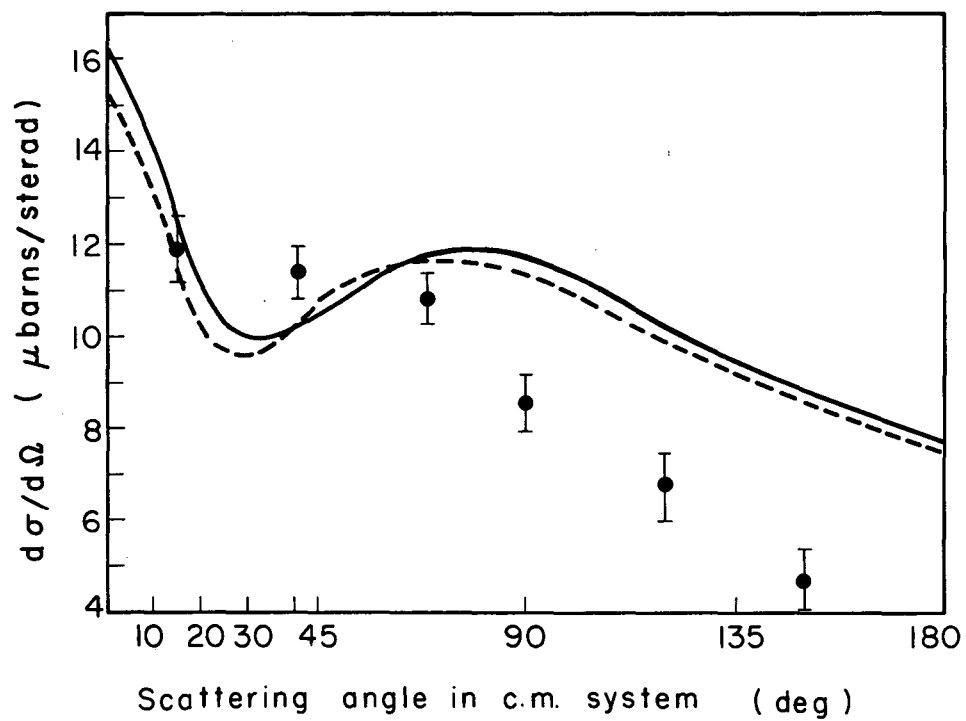
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Fig. 7.



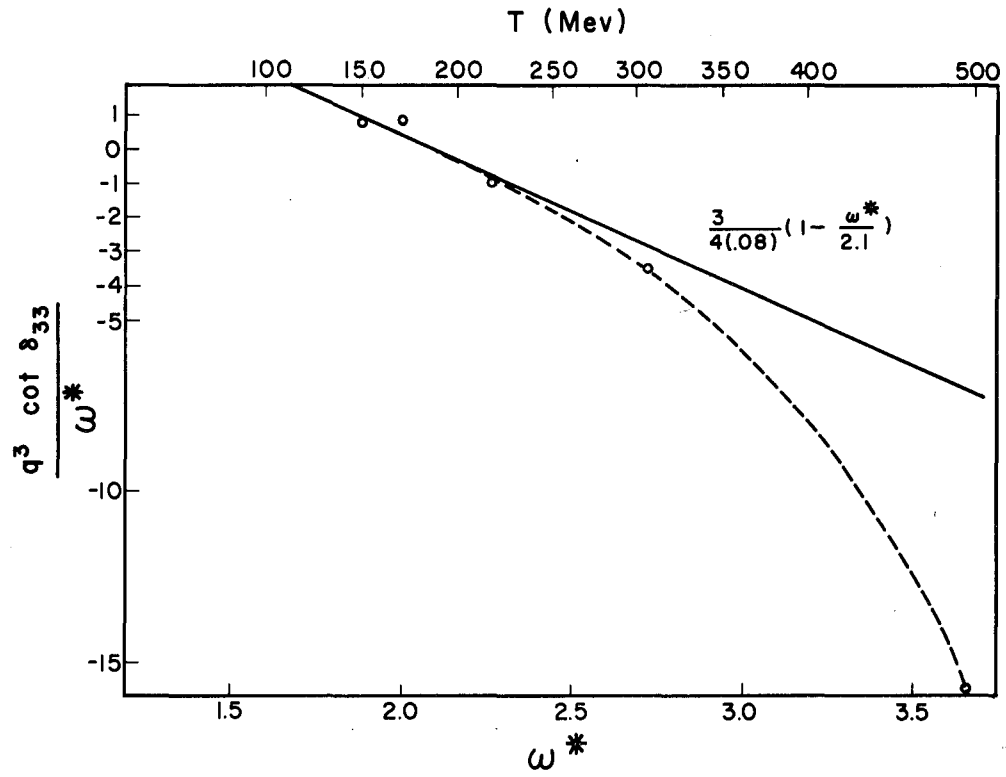
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Fig. 8.



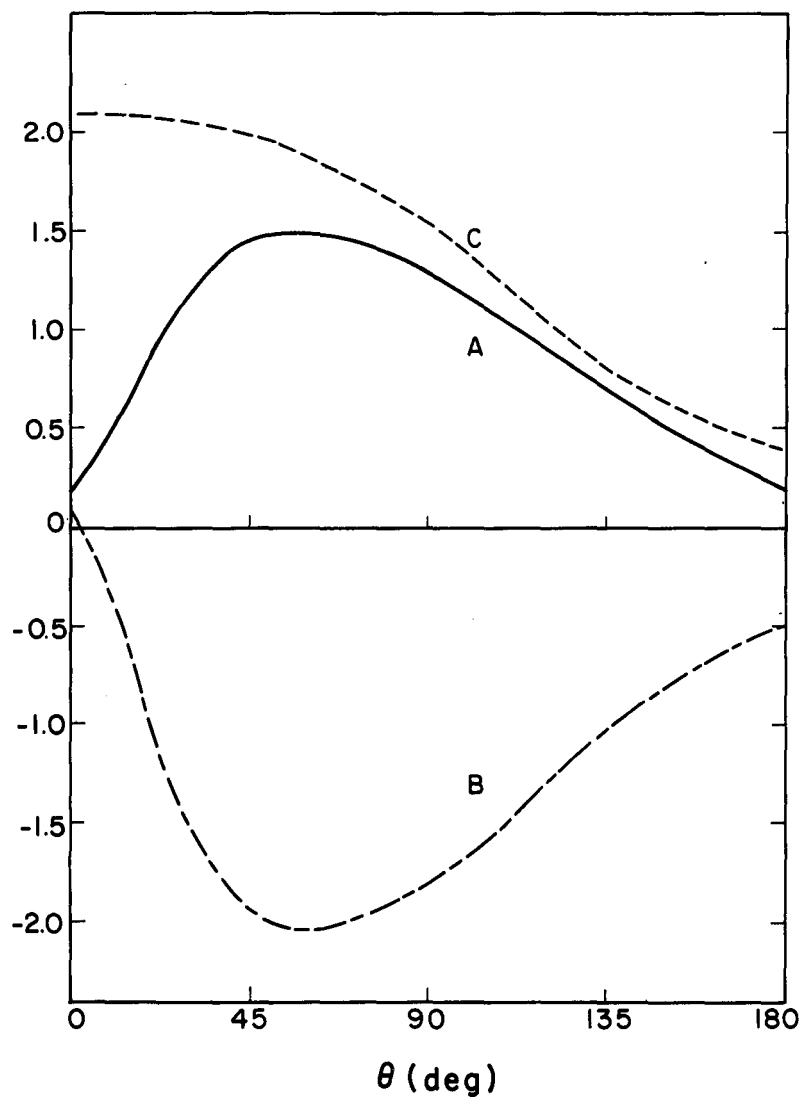
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Fig. 9.



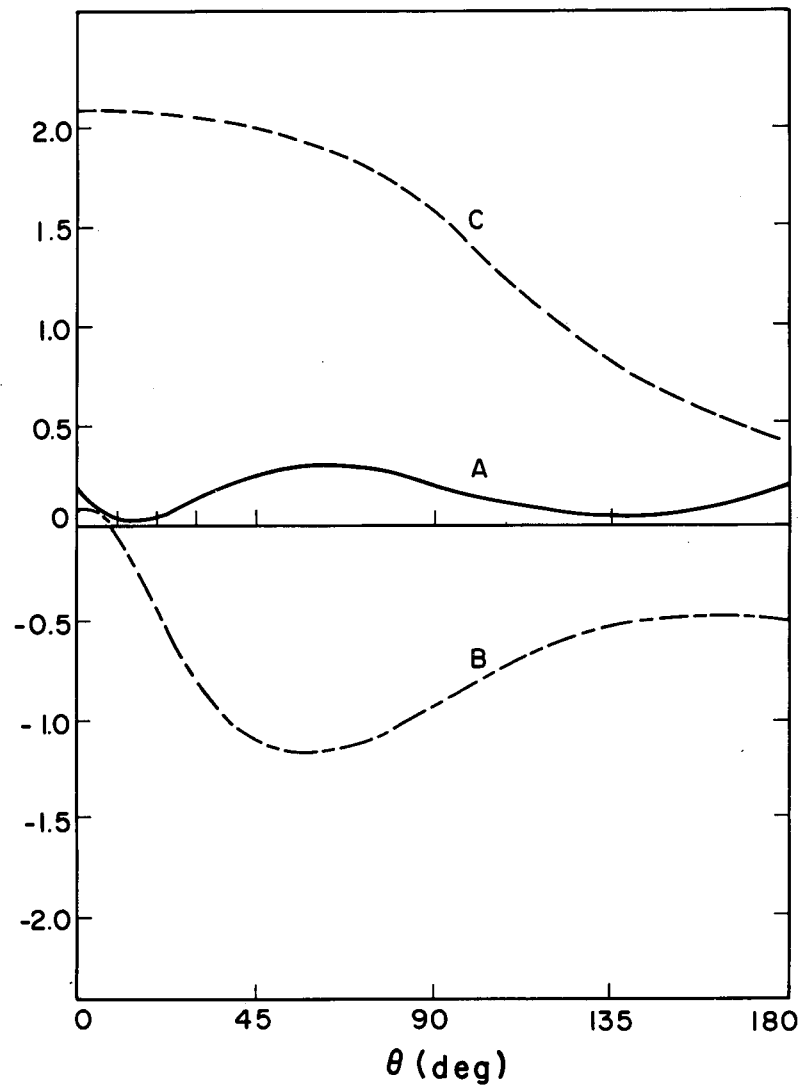
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Fig. 10.



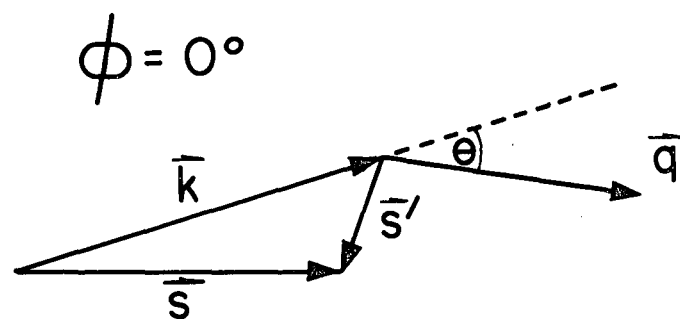
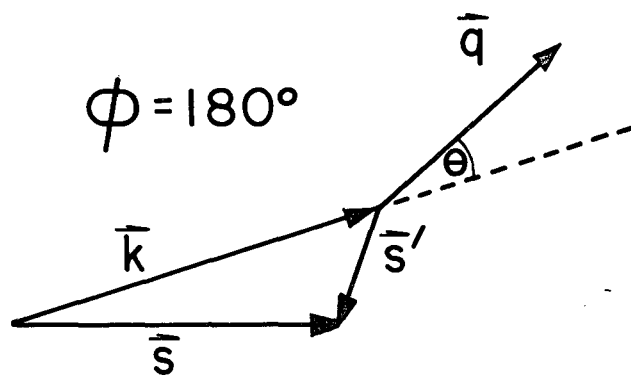
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Fig. 11.



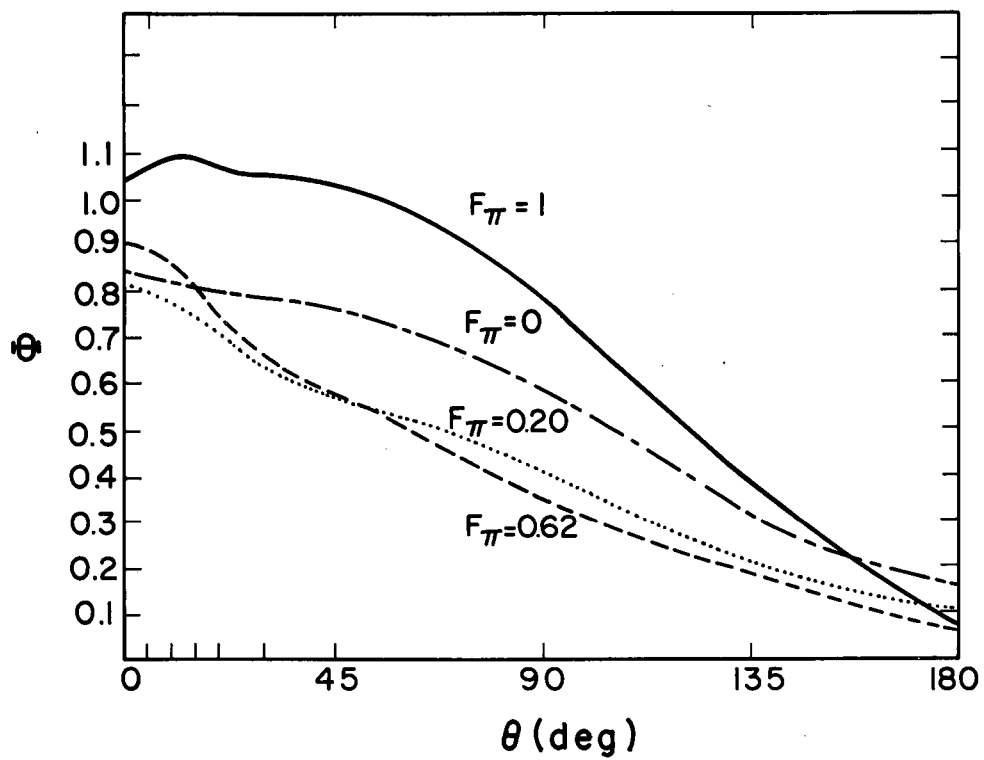
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Fig. 12



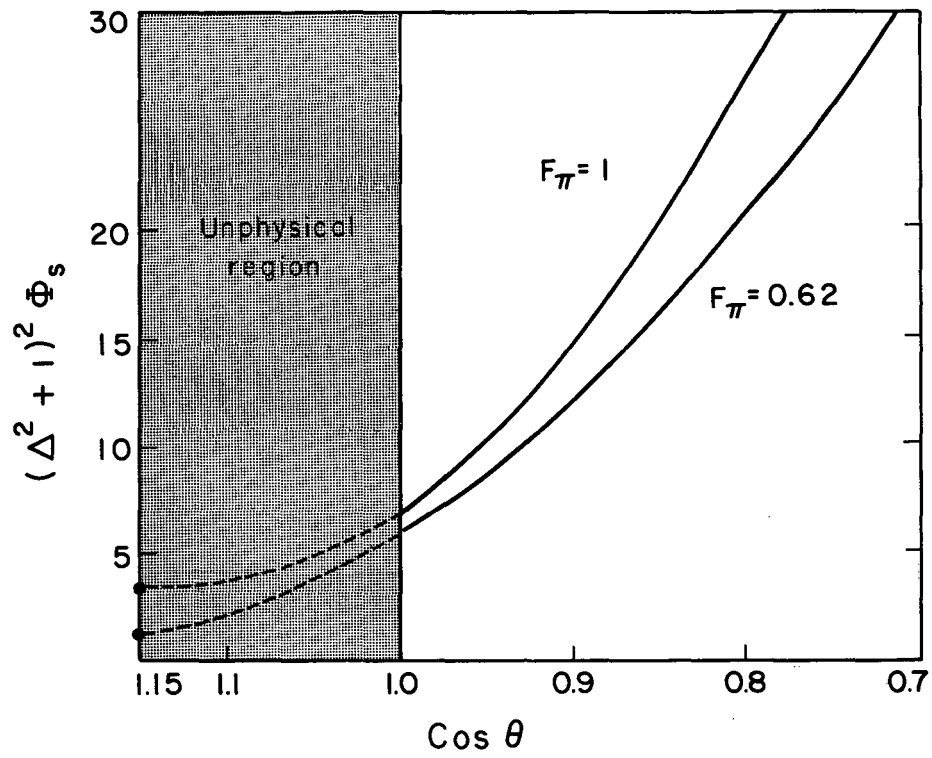
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Fig. 13



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Fig. 14



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Fig. 15.

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