Experimental Signature of in-medium mass modification of vector mesons at normal nuclear density

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Abstract (KEK-PS E325)

We have measured e^+e^- and K^+K^- invariant mass spectra to investigate in-medium mass modification of vector mesons in 12GeV p+A \rightarrow ρ,ω,ϕ + X reactions.



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Preliminary Result of 2002 data analysis

Physics Motivation





Vector Meson

Mass of Vector Meson ρ , ω , ϕ = 2 x Mq + small interaction term

Hatsuda & Lee P.R.C 1992

ρ, ω
• large mass modification
150MeV at ρ = ρ₀
• large cross section
φ
• mass modification 20 ~ 40MeV
• small decay width (4.4MeV/c²) sensitive to mass modification



Expected Signal

In 12GeV p + A ρ, ω, φ **+ X Invariant Mass of e⁺e⁻, K⁺K⁻**

mass modified by the formula m*/m=1-0.16 ρ/ρ_0

Prog.Theor.Phys.95(1996)1009

Expected Invariant Mass distribution of and



Slowly moving ρ, ω, φ (p_{lab} ~ 2GeV/c) Large Acceptance Spectrometer

Experimental Setup

see <u>poster Instr.3</u> by F. Sakuma





Target

very thin target with clean and high intensity beam



Spectrometer Performance



Mass and Width are well reproduced by MC.

Invariant Mass Spectrum of e+e- (2002 data)



On the Fit

- Resonance
 - Breit-Wigner shape
 - experimental effect estimated by Geant4 simulation – energy loss, mass resolution, mass acceptance etc.
- Background
 - combinatorial background obtained by mixed events
- Relative abundances of mesons (ρ,ω,φ) and background are obtained by the fitting.

Invariant Mass Spectrum of e+e- (2002 data)



the excess over the known hadronic sources on the low mass side of ω peak has been observed.

Invariant Mass Spectrum of e+e-(after subtracting background)



The excess can be understood as modified ρ mesons.

Model Calculation With the formula : m*/m=1-0.16 ρ/ρ_0



generate on surface of forward hemisphere of the nucleus
spectral function : Breit-Wigner + mass modification.

Invariant Mass Spectrum of $\phi \rightarrow e^+e^-$



Summary

- KEK PS-E325 experiment measured e⁺e⁻ and K⁺K⁻ pairs to investigate invariant mass of vector mesons decaying in nuclear matter.
- In 2002 e⁺e⁻ data, we have observed the excess over the known hadronic sources below the ω peak. Obtained ρ / ω ratio indicates that this excess is mainly due to the modification of ρ mesons.
- Model calculation well reproduced the tendency of data.
- Analysis on phi meson is now in progress.