Isospin violations in $\psi(2S) \to$ vector- plus pseudoscalar-meson decays

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-ABSTRACT-

I report studies of isospin violations in $\psi(2S) \to$ vector- plus pseudoscalar-meson decays. I observe a signal for the isospin-violating process $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ with a branching fraction

$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi^0) = 4.2 \pm 1.8 \pm 0.6 \times 10^{-5}$.

This is larger than the BES group's 90% confidence upper limit on the branching fraction of its isospin-conserving, $SU(3)$-allowed counterpart $\psi(2S) \to \rho\pi$. In addition, I see a large, isospin-violating difference between the branching fractions for the charged and neutral $\psi(2S) \to K^*\overline{K}$ decay modes:

$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0}\ +\ cc) = (13.0 \pm 5.0 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-5}$,

$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*+}K^-\ +\ cc) < 5.2 \times 10^{-5}$ (90% CL).

The $\omega\pi^0$ measurement confirm Ye's result; the $K^*\overline{K}$ result confirms an effect first reported by Chen and Yuan. Results of a preliminary measurement of $e^+e^- \to \omega\pi^0$ and $K^*\overline{K}$ at $E_{cm} = 4.03$ GeV, indicate that the observed isospin violations cannot be attributed to the single photon annihilation process.

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1 Introduction

The strong suppression of $\psi(2S) \to \rho\pi$ and $K^*\overline{K}$ decays is well known and has been a subject for considerable experimental [1, 2] and theoretical [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8] activity. No evidence is seen for $\psi(2S) \to \rho\pi$ decays in the BES group's 3.8M $\psi(2S)$ event sample [2], in striking contrast to the case for the J/ψ, where $J/\psi \to \rho\pi$ is a significant decay ($\sim$1%) [9]. This conundrum, sometimes referred to as the "$\rho\pi$ puzzle," remains one of the most intriguing mysteries in quarkonium physics.

It is expected that the dominant hadronic decay mechanism for the J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ is the annihilation of the constituent $c\bar{c}$ quarks into three gluons (ggg). In this case, the width for the process is proportional to $\alpha_s^3(M_\psi)|\Psi(0)|^2$, where $\alpha_s(M)$ is the value of the strong coupling strength at the mass of the meson state and $\Psi(0)$ is the value of the $c\bar{c}$ wave function at zero separation distance [10]. Since the width for purely leptonic decays (e.g. $\psi(nS) \to \mu^+\mu^-$) is also proportional to $|\Psi(0)|^2$, we have the relation

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \text{hadrons})}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to \text{hadrons})} = \frac{\alpha_s^3(M_{\psi_{2S}})}{\alpha_s^3(M_{J/\psi})} \frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \mu^+\mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to \mu^+\mu^-)} = 0.122 \pm 0.019, \tag{1}$$

where I have taken values for α_s and the lepton-pair branching fractions from the Particle Data Group (PDG) tables [9]. Although this relation is only valid for the total hadronic widths, it has been used as a standard of comparison for specific hadronic decay channels. The BES group's recently reported 90% confidence level (CL) upper limit of $\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \rho\pi) < 2.6 \times 10^5$ [2] implies

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \rho\pi)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to \rho\pi)} < 2.0 \times 10^{-3}, \tag{2}$$

which is a factor of $\sim$60 below the naive expectation of Eq. 1.

The BES group has reported two interesting new results that may provide important clues that ultimately lead to an explanation of the $\rho\pi$ puzzle: Ye Shuwei has reported no apparent suppression for the isospin-violating decay $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ [11], and Chen Yu and Yuan Changzheng have observed a large discrepancy between the $\psi(2S) \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0}$ and $K^{*+}K^-$ decay rates [12], which violates expectations from isospin conservation.

Isospin violations arise from quark-mass differences and electromagnetic (EM) processes. The lowest-order EM diagrams are the single-photon (γ^*) and the γgg . If γ^* processes dominates, similar isospin-violating effects should be visible in continuum e^+e^- annihilation. For example, in the case of the $\omega\pi$ reaction, the following relation should hold at lowest order:

$$\frac{\Gamma(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi)}{\Gamma(\psi_{2S} \to \mu^+\mu^-)} = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \to \omega\pi)}{\sigma(e^+e^- \to \mu^+\mu^-)}. \tag{3}$$

This relation implies

$$\frac{N_{evt}(e^+e^- \to \omega\pi 0)}{N_{evt}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi)} = \frac{N_{evt}(e^+e^- \to \mu^+\mu^-)}{N_{evt}(\psi_{2S} \to \mu^+\mu^-)}, \tag{4}$$

which, neglecting radiative corrections, implies for the BES data samples

$$\frac{N_{evt}(e^+e^- \to \omega\pi^0)}{N_{evt}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi)} = \frac{\sigma_{\mu^+\mu^-}(4.03) \ \times \ L(4.03 \text{ GeV})}{N_{\psi_{2S}} \ \times \ \mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \mu^+\mu^-)} \sim 4. \tag{5}$$

In the following, I describe independent attempts to reproduce the BES results on $\omega\pi^0$ and $K^*\overline{K}$, and report first measurements of $e^+e^- \to \omega\pi$ and $K^*\overline{K}$ using the 4.03 GeV data.

2 Event preselection

For the analyses reported here, I use the $\psi(2S)$ event samples on the two- and four-prong data summary tapes and all of the 4.03 GeV data. I only use charged tracks and gammas that are in the $|\cos\theta| < 0.8$ polar angle region. I veto events where the highest momentum positive *and* negative tracks are *both* identified either as muons or electrons. This eliminates most of the $\psi(2S) \to J/\psi$ cascade events where the J/ψ decays to lepton pairs. For each final state studied, events are required to have the appropriate number of tracks with zero net charge. Gammas are associated with neutral clusters in the BSC with energies greater than 50 MeV. In the event that the number of neutral clusters exceeds the minimum number needed for a given hypothesis, the best combination is selected by means of a four-constraint kinematic fit. In the following tables, these criteria are included in the category labeled "preselection."

For the number of $\psi(2S)$ events in the data sample, I use the number $N_{\psi_{2S}} = (3.44 \pm 0.31) \times 10^6$ that was determined from the number of $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$; $J/\psi \to \mu^+\mu^-$ events found on the four-prong data summary tapes [13]. This number is determined using similar charged-track requirements as is used in the analysis reported here, which will tend to cancel errors associated with extra "ghost" tracks, etc.

3 $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$

For $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$, the reaction of interest is $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0 \to \pi^+\pi^- 4\gamma$. I select events with two oppositely charged tracks and four or more candidate gammas. For events with more than four candidate gammas, I select the four gamma combination that produces the best χ^2 value from a 4-c kinematic fit to the hypothesis $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^- 4\gamma$. Since the charged $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair must come from the decay $\omega \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$, I require $M_{\pi^+\pi^-} < 0.62$ GeV. Cascade $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$ events are removed by eliminating events where the mass recoiling against the $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair is within 50 MeV of the J/ψ.

I used 1000 simulated $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ events generated by the HOWL Monte Carlo simulator to develop the final selection criteria: $|M_{\gamma_i\gamma_j} - M_{\pi^0}| < 0.035$ GeV. Distributions of the various cut variables are presented for the MC data in Figs. 1a through f. Figure 1f shows the $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0}$ distribution recoiling against a π^0. A total of 76 simulated events survive the selection procedure, indicating an acceptance of $\eta_{\omega\pi} = 0.08 \pm 0.01$.

Figures 2a through 2f show the results of the application of the selection criteria to the $\psi(2S)$ data. Figure 2e shows the invariant mass distribution for $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ combinations recoiling against a $\gamma\gamma$ pair with invariant mass within 35 MeV of M_{π^0}. A peak is evident at M_ω. A fit to this distribution using a Gaussian-smeared Breit-Wigner signal function with mass and width fixed at $M_\omega = 0.782$ GeV and $\Gamma_\omega = 0.008$ GeV, and smeared by the MC-determined mass resolution of $\sigma = 0.018$ GeV plus a smooth background yields the number of signal events $N^{evt}_{\omega\pi^0} = 9.8 \pm 4.3$. Figure 2d shows the $\gamma\gamma$ mass distribution recoiling against $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ combinations with invariant masses within 50 MeV of M_ω, where a π^0 peak is apparent. A fit to this distribution using a smooth background and a Gaussian with $\sigma = 18$ MeV yields 8.5 ± 4.0 π^0s, in reasonable agreement with the fit to the ω peak. A summary of the cuts and the number of events that survive them is presented in Table 1.

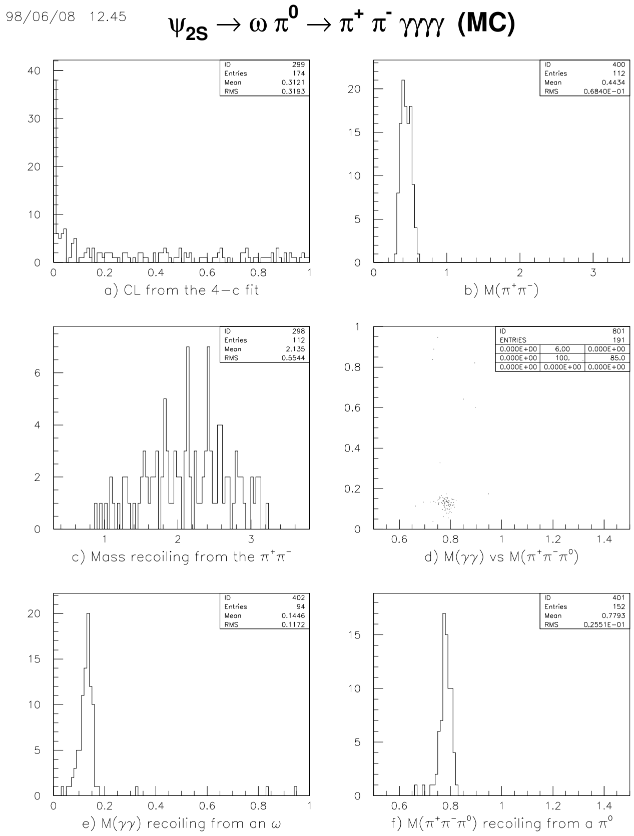

Figure 1: Distributions for MC simulated $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ events: **a)** the confidence level from the 4-c kinematic fit; **b)** $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$; **c)** the mass recoiling against the $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair; **d)** $M_{\gamma\gamma}$ (y) versus $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0}$ (x); **e)** $M_{\gamma\gamma}$ recoiling against a $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ combination with an invariant mass within 50 MeV of M_ω; **f)** $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0}$ recoiling against a π^0.

I determine the $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ branching fraction from the relation

$$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi^0) = \frac{N^{evt}_{\omega\pi^0}}{N_{\psi_{2S}}\mathcal{B}(\omega \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0)\mathcal{B}(\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma)^2\eta_{\omega\pi}} = (4.2 \pm 1.8 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-5}, \quad (6)$$

which is in good agreement with Ye's result of $(3.8 \pm 1.7 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-5}$ [11].

4 $\psi(2S) \to K^*\overline{K}$

For the $\psi(2S) \to K^*\overline{K}$ measurement I investigate the decay chains

$$\psi(2S) \to \overline{K^{*0}}\, K^0, \quad \overline{K^{*0}} \to K^-\pi^+, \quad K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$$

$$\psi(2S) \to K^{*+}\, K^-, \quad K^{*+} \to K^0\pi^+, \quad K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$$

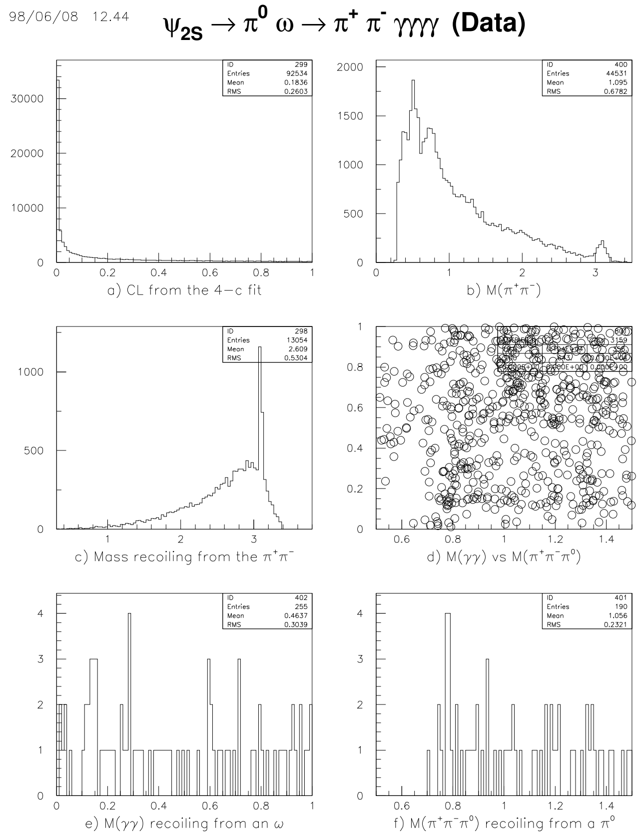

Figure 2: The distributions of Fig. 1 for $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^-4\gamma$ events.

and their charged conjugates. For these reactions, both channels have the same $K^\pm\pi^\mp K^0$; $K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$ final state and I use the same selection and event sample for the two channels.

I subjected events with four charged tracks and zero net charge to a 4-c fit to the to the hypothesis $\psi(2S) \to K^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ and a 5-c fit where the additional constraint is that one $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair is consistent with $K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$. I selected events that pass the 5-c fit with a CL greater than 5%. To eliminate the numerous $\psi(2S) \to \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$; $J/\psi \to \ell^+\ell^-$ cascade events, I reject events where the mass recoiling against any $\pi^+\pi^-$ pair is within 50 MeV of $M_{J/\psi}$.

Figure 3 shows a semilog plot of the $c\tau$ distribution for the candidate $K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$ pairs that survive the selections described above. Superimposed on the data is the results of a fit including a Gaussian to represent the prompt, non-K^0 background and an exponential with $c\tau = 0.0267$ m to represent a K^0 signal. The fit indicates that there is a K^0 signal corresponding to 81 $\pm$ 12 events. I eliminate the prompt, non-K^0 backgrounds by requiring that the $K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$ vertex is displaced from the interaction point by a proper length greater that $c\tau = 0.0126$ m. The number of events satisfying the various cuts are summarized below in Table 2. The effects of the cuts on 1000 simulated $\psi(2S) \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0} \to K^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ events are also indicated in the table.

Figures 4a and b show the $K^\pm\pi^\mp$ and $K^0\pi^\pm$ invariant mass distributions, respectively, for the events that satisfy the selection criteria. While there is a prominent peak in the $K^\pm\pi^\mp$ mass distribution at the position of $K^{*0}(895)$, there is no evidence for a corresponding signal in the $K^0\pi^\pm$ channel.

Table 1: A tabulation of the $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi^0$ selection cuts.

The number of events surviving each requirement

	data	Monte Carlo
Generated		1000
Preselection	215370	192
$CL_{4c} > 0.05$	44531	112
$M_{\pi^+\pi^-} < 0.62$ GeV	13054	112
$\lvert MM_{\pi^+\pi^-} - M_{J/\psi}\rvert > 0.05$ GeV	10831	108
$\lvert M_{\gamma_i\gamma_j} - M_{\pi^0}\rvert < 0.035$ GeV		
$\lvert M_{\gamma_k\gamma_l} - M_{\pi^0}\rvert < 0.035$ GeV	95	76
$M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0} = M_\omega$	9.8	76

Table 2: A tabulation of the $\psi(2S) \to K^*\overline{K}$ selection cuts.

The number of events surviving each requirement

	data	Monte Carlo
Generated		1000
Preselection ($N_{chg} = 4$; $\Sigma Q = 0$)	921027	661
$CL_{5c} > 0.02$	1354	349
$\lvert MM_{\pi^+\pi^-} - M_{J/\psi}\rvert > 0.05$ GeV	335	348
$c\tau > 0.0126$ m	50	192

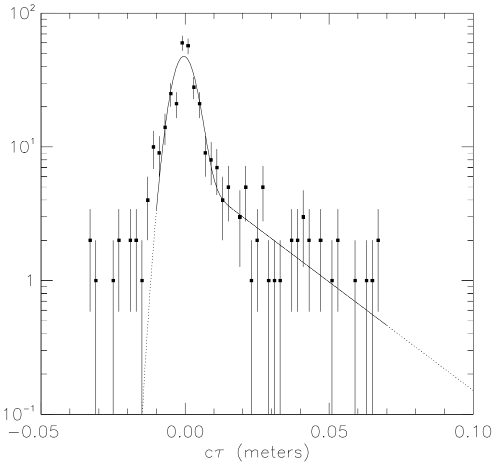

Figure 3: The $c\tau$ distribution for the candidate $K^0 \to \pi^+\pi^-$ pairs.

In Fig. 5, I show the $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ mass distribution together with the results of a fit using a P-wave Breit Wigner function convoluted with a Gaussian resolution function with $\sigma = 0.015$ GeV to represent the K^{*0}, and a smooth background function that is constrained to be zero for masses below the $K\pi$ threshold. The fit gives a total of 15.0 ± 6.3 K^{*0} events. The $K^0\pi^{\pm}$ mass distribution has only two events within $\pm\Gamma$ of M_{K^*}, which are consistent with the background level. Treating both events as real, I infer a 90% CL upper limit of 5.3 events.

I determine the $\psi(2S) \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0}$ branching fraction from the relation

$$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0}) = \frac{N^{evt}_{K^{*0}\overline{K^0}}}{N_{\psi_{2S}}\mathcal{B}(K^{*0} \to K^+\pi^-)(\mathcal{B}(\overline{K^0} \to \pi^+\pi^-)\eta_{K^*K}}, \tag{7}$$

where $\eta_{K^*K} = 0.146 \pm 0.012$ is the MC-determined acceptance. I use $\mathcal{B}(\overline{K^0} \to \pi^+\pi^-) = 0.343 \pm 0.001$, which includes a factor of 0.5 to account for the probability that the $\overline{K^0}$ becomes a K_s, and $\mathcal{B}(K^{*0} \to K^+\pi^-) = 2/3$ [14]. The result is

$$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0} \ + \ cc) = (13.0 \pm 5.0 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-5}, \tag{8}$$

which is higher than, but not inconsistent with, the IHEP result of $(8.1 \pm 2.4 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-5}$ [12].

For the $\psi(2S) \to K^{*+}K^-$ branching fraction, I use the 5.3 event upper limit the MC-determined acceptance for this channel of 0.130 ± 0.012 to etablish the limit

$$\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*+}K^- \ + \ cc) < 5.2 \times 10^{-5} \quad (90\% \text{ CL}). \tag{9}$$

The large discrepancy between the $K^{*0}\overline{K^0}$ and $K^{*+}K^-$ branching fractions is contrary to expectations from isospin invariance, which would have them equal.

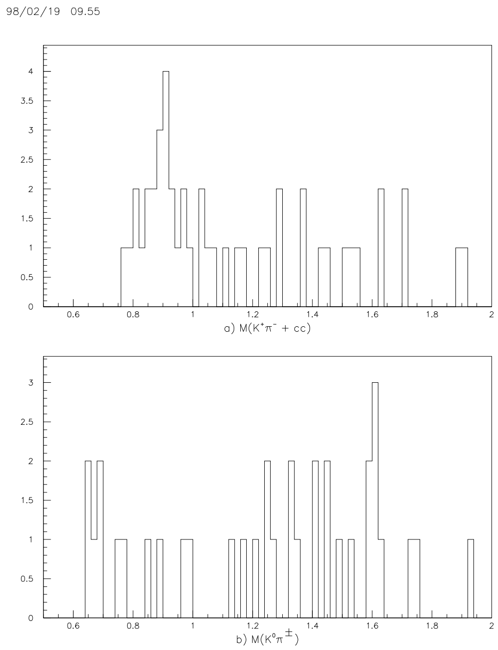

Figure 4: The invariant **a)** $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ and **b)** $K^0\pi^{\pm}$ mass distributions for the events that satisfy all of the selection criteria.

In the PDG listing for $J/\psi \to K^*\overline{K}$ decays, the $K^{*0}\overline{K^0}$ branching fraction is about 20% lower than that for $K^{*+}K^-$ [9]:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0})}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to K^{*+}K^-)} = \frac{(4.2 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3}}{(5.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3}} = 0.84 \pm 0.12, \tag{10}$$

an effect that has been attributed to u- and d-quark mass differences [15]. Our results for the $\psi(2S)$ are opposite; we find the $K^{*0}\overline{K^0}$ branching fraction to be larger [16]:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0})}{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*+}K^-)} > 1.5 \quad (90\%\ \mathrm{CL}). \tag{11}$$

5 Search for $e^+e^- \to \omega\pi$ and $K^*\overline{K}$ at

$\sqrt{S} = 4.03$ GeV

According to the arguments presented in the introduction, if the observed isospin violations are due to single-photon annihilation, there should be strong signals in the nearby e^+e^- continuum data. I applied the $\omega\pi$ and $K^*\overline{K}$ selection criteria described above to BES' 23.3 $pb{-}1$ data sample at $\sqrt{s} = 4.03$ GeV.

5.1 $e^+e^- \to \omega\pi^0$

Figure 6 shows the precut distributions for the same kinematic variables shown in Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 6d, which is a scatterplot of $M_{\gamma\gamma}$ (vertical) versus $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0}$ (horizontal) shows a small cluster

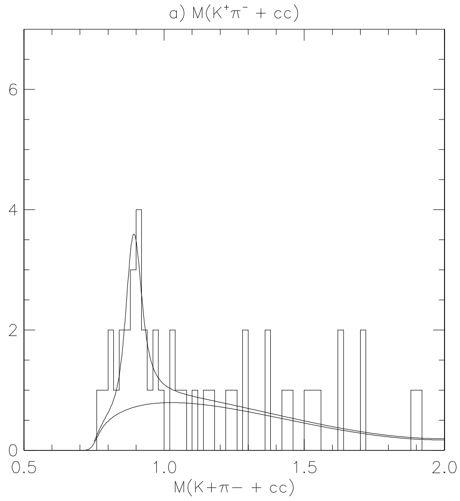

Figure 5: A fit to the $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ invariant mass distribution using a resolution-broadened Breit Wigner with the $K^{*0}(896)$ mass and width and a smooth background function.

of events corresponding to $\omega\pi^0$ production. Figure 6e shows the invariant mass distribution for $\gamma\gamma$ pairs recoiling against $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ combinations with invariant mass within $\pm$50 MeV of M_ω; Fig. 6f shows the invariant mass distribution for $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ combinations recoiling against $\gamma\gamma$ pairs that have a mass within $\pm$ 35 MeV of M_{π^0}. Fitting the $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ mass distribution of Fig. 6f with with a resolution-broadened Breit-Wigner function plus a smooth background gives 4.5 $\pm$ 3.0 ω events; fitting the $\gamma\gamma$ mass distribution of Fig. 6e with a Gaussian with a peak value at M_{π^0} and width fixed at the MC-determined mass resolution of $\sigma = 18$ MeV and a smooth background gives 5.3 $\pm$ 2.8 π^0 events. The ratio of the number of continuum to $\psi(2S)$ $\omega\pi^0$ events is

$$\frac{N_{evt}(e^+e^- \to \omega\pi^0)}{N_{evt}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi^0)} = 0.46 \pm 0.37. \qquad (12)$$

5.2 $e^+e^- \to K^*\overline{K}$

Figures 7a and b show the invariant $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ and $K^0\pi^{\pm}$ mass distributions, respectively, for events that satisfy all of the selection criteria for $e^+e^- \to K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}K^0$ at $\sqrt{s} = 4.03$ GeV. There are some $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ events with mass in the $K^*(890)$ region; the $K^0\pi^{\pm}$ distribution has none. A fit to the $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ mass distribution (Fig. 7a) yields 7.4 $\pm$ 3.6 K^{*0} events. The ratio of the number of continuum to $\psi(2S)$ $K^{*0}\overline{K}$ events is

$$\frac{N_{evt}(e^+e^- \to K^{*0}\overline{K})}{N_{evt}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K})} = 0.49 \pm 0.31. \qquad (13)$$

The ratio of the number of continuum $\omega\pi^0$ and $K^{*0}\overline{K}$ events to those seen in the $\psi(2S)$ sample are both considerably smaller than the factor of four expected for the case where the single-photon process is primarily responsible for the isospin violating $\psi(2S) \to VP$ decays.

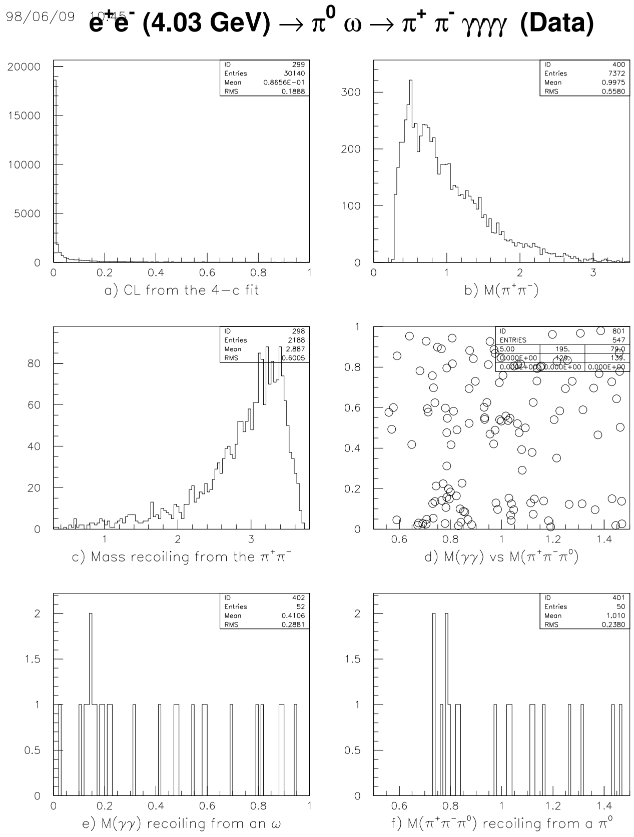

Figure 6: The distributions of Fig. 1 for $e^+e^- \to \pi^+\pi^- 4\gamma$ events at $\sqrt{s} = 4.03$ GeV.

6 Discussion

In contrast to $\psi(2S) \to \rho\pi$ decays, there does not appear to be any anomalous suppression for $\psi(2S) \to \omega\pi$ relative to J/ψ decays. The ratio

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to \omega\pi)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \to \omega\pi)} = 0.10 \pm 0.05 \qquad (14)$$

is in reasonable agreement with the expected ratio of the total hadronic decays given above in Eq. 1. This seems to rule out explanations for the $\rho\pi$ puzzle that depend on the spin-parity of the final-state particles [4] and those that invoke form-factors [5] or wave-function overlaps [6, 7]. A recent explanation that attributes the $\rho\pi$ puzzle to the influence of a $^3S_1$ color-octet $c\bar{c}$ state predicts no suppression for the $\omega\pi$ channel [8], which agrees with our measurement.

Seiden, Sadrozinski, and Haber provide a convenient parameterization of the amplitudes for $\psi(nS) \to VP$ decays [17]. The parameterizations relevant to the decays mentioned here are given in the column labeled M in Table 3. Included in the table are the measured values for the reduced branching fractions $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$, defined as $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \equiv \mathcal{B}/p^3$, where p is the momentum of the decay particles in the $\psi(2S)$ rest frame. In the notation of ref. [17], g is the SU(3)-conserving strong amplitude, s is a correction for SU(3) violating effects and is expected to be small ($s \sim 0.2g$), and e is the electromagnetic amplitude.

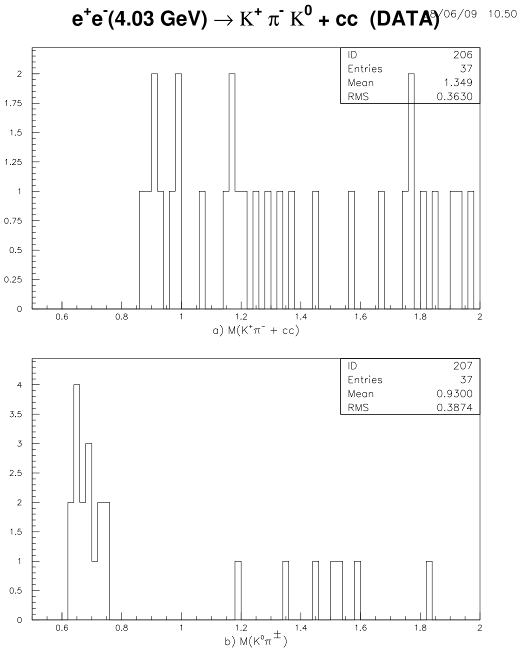

Figure 7: The invariant **a)** $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ and **b)** $K^0\pi^{\pm}$ mass distributions for the events that satisfy all of the selection criteria for $e^+e^- \to K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}K^0$ at $\sqrt{s} = 4.03$ GeV.

Table 3: Amplitudes and reduced branching fractions for the $\psi(2S) \to VP$ decays studied here.

Decay Mode	M	$\tilde{\mathcal{B}}(\times 10^5)$
$\rho\pi$	$\sqrt{3}(g+e)$	< 0.51
$K^{*+}K^- \ + \ cc$	$\sqrt{2}[g(1-s)+e]$	< 0.95
$K^{*0}\overline{K^0} \ + \ cc$	$\sqrt{2}[g(1-s)-2e]$	2.7 ± 1.1
$\omega\pi^0$	$3e$	0.77 ± 0.35

Using the normalization $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} = |M|^2$, we see that the $\omega\pi$ result establishes the level of the electromagnetic amplitude at $e^2 = 0.09 \pm 0.04 \times 10^{-5}$. The other results are consistent with this if $g \simeq -e$. In the ref. [17] analysis of $J/\psi \to VP$ decays, $g \simeq +10e$. For $\psi(2S)$ decays, the SU(3)-allowed strong amplitude is suppressed to the level of the electromagnetic term.

The continuum results indicate that single-photon annihilation is not the dominant mechanism for the observed isospin violating $\psi(2S) \to VP$ decays. This leaves the γgg process as the remaining lowest-order possibility. Since this diagram violates hadronic helicity conservation, this would indicate that this symmetry is not well respected in charmonium decays.

7 Conclusion

We have presented evidence that the suppression seen for hadronic $\psi(2S) \to VP$ decays does not apply for isospin-violating processes. In addition, the observed isospin violations can not be attributed to the effects of single photon annihilation.

8 Acknowledgements

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[14] Because some of the unseen K^*K modes have two neutral K mesons, it was not obvious that the use of $\mathcal{B}(K^{*0} \to K^+\pi^-) = 2/3$ was appropriate for this case. I thank Bill Dunwoodie for carefully verifying that, in fact, it is.

[15] D. Coffman *et al.* (Mark III Collaboration), Phys. Rev. **D38**, 2695 (1988).

[16] To derive a 90% CL limit on the ration $\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*0}\overline{K^0})/\mathcal{B}(\psi_{2S} \to K^{*+}K^-)$, I reduced the measured value for the numerator by one sigma and divided by the experimental upper limit on the denominator.

[17] A. Seiden, H.F-W. Sadrozinski, and H.E. Haber, Phys. Rev. **D38**, 824 (1988).