Chiral Perturbation Theory for Vector Mesons

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We derive a heavy vector-meson chiral Lagrangian in which the vector mesons are treated as heavy static matter fields. The unknown couplings of the chiral Lagrangian are further related using the $1/N_c$ expansion. Chiral perturbation theory is applied to the vector-meson mass matrix. At one loop there are large corrections to the individual vector-meson masses, but the singlet-octet mixing angle remains almost unchanged. The parity-violating s-wave $\phi \to \rho \pi$ weak decay amplitude is derived in the combined chiral and large N_c limits. Rare ϕ decays provide a sensitive test of nonleptonic neutral current structure.

PACS numbers: 12.39.Fe, 11.15.Pg, 13.25.Gv, 14.40.Cs

An important application of chiral perturbation theory is to describe the interactions of matter fields (such as nucleons [1] or hadrons containing a heavy quark [2]) with low-momentum pseudo Goldstone bosons the pions, kaons and, eta. In this paper we use chiral perturbation theory to describe the interactions of the ρ , K^* , ϕ , and ω vector mesons with low-momentum pseudo Goldstone bosons. The results of this work are relevant for experiments at the ϕ factory being built at Frascati [3]. We apply chiral perturbation theory to transitions of the form $V \to V'X$, where V and V' are vector mesons. The mass differences between the nine lowest-lying vector mesons are small compared with the chiral symmetry breaking scale of ~1 GeV, so chiral perturbation theory is applicable as a systematic expansion procedure for such decays. Chiral perturbation theory has previously been used to study processes such as $\rho \to \pi \pi$, which do not have a vector meson in the final state. Decays such as $\rho \to \pi\pi$ do not have soft pions in the final state, so the application of the chiral Lagrangian to such processes is not justified and should be considered as a phenomenological model.

The pseudo Goldstone boson fields can be written as a 3×3 special unitary matrix

$$\Sigma = \exp \frac{2i\Pi}{f} \,, \tag{1}$$

where

$$\mathbf{\Pi} = \begin{bmatrix} \pi^{0}/\sqrt{2} + \eta/\sqrt{6} & \pi^{+} & K^{+} \\ \pi^{-} & -\pi^{0}/\sqrt{2} + \eta/\sqrt{6} & K^{0} \\ K^{-} & \overline{K}^{0} & -2\eta/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}.$$
(2)

Under chiral $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$, $\Sigma \to L\Sigma R^{\dagger}$, where $L \in SU(3)_L$ and $R \in SU(3)_R$. At leading order in chiral perturbation theory, f can be identified with the pion or kaon decay constant ($f_{\pi} \approx 132 \text{ MeV}$, $f_K \approx 160 \text{ MeV}$). It is convenient when describing the interactions of the pseudo Goldstone bosons with other fields to introduce

$$\xi = \exp \frac{i\Pi}{f} = \sqrt{\Sigma}.$$
 (3)

Under chiral $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$,

$$\xi \to L\xi U^{\dagger} = U\xi R^{\dagger},\tag{4}$$

where, in general, U is a complicated function of L, R, and the meson fields Π . For transformations V = L = R in the unbroken $SU(3)_V$ subgroup, U = V.

The vector-meson fields are introduced as a 3 \times 3 octet matrix

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mu} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_{\mu}^{0} / \sqrt{2} + \phi_{\mu}^{(8)} / \sqrt{6} & \rho_{\mu}^{+} & K_{\mu}^{*+} \\ \rho_{\mu}^{-} & -\rho_{\mu}^{0} / \sqrt{2} + \phi_{\mu}^{(8)} / \sqrt{6} & K_{\mu}^{*0} \\ K_{\mu}^{*-} & \overline{K}_{\mu}^{*0} & -2\phi_{\mu}^{(8)} / \sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix},$$
 (5)

and as a singlet

$$S_{\mu} = \phi_{\mu}^{(0)}. \tag{6}$$

Under chiral $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$,

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mu} \to U \mathcal{O}_{\mu} U^{\dagger}, \quad S_{\mu} \to S_{\mu},$$
 (7)

and under charge conjugation,

$$C\mathcal{O}_{\mu}C^{-1} = -\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{T}, \quad CS_{\mu}C^{-1} = -S_{\mu},$$

 $C\xi C^{-1} = \xi^{T}.$ (8)

We construct a chiral Lagrangian for vector mesons by treating the vector mesons as heavy static fields

[4,5] with fixed four-velocity v^{μ} , $v^2 = 1$. The three polarization states of vector mesons with velocity v^{μ} satisfy $v \cdot S = v \cdot \mathcal{O} = 0$. The chiral Lagrange density which describes the interactions of the vector mesons with the low-momentum π , K, and η mesons has the general structure

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{kin} + \mathcal{L}_{int} + \mathcal{L}_{mass}. \tag{9}$$

Processes such as $\phi \to K^+K^-$ cause a net disappearance of vector mesons and can be taken into account by including anti-Hermitian terms in \mathcal{L} . The vector-meson widths are small compared with M_K and will be neglected in our analysis.

At leading order in the derivative and quark mass expansions

$$\mathcal{L}_{kin} = -i S_{\mu}^{\dagger} (v \cdot \partial) S^{\mu} - i \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger} (v \cdot \mathcal{D}) \mathcal{O}^{\mu} \quad (10)$$
 and

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = ig_1 S_{\mu}^{\dagger} \operatorname{Tr} (\mathcal{O}_{\nu} A_{\lambda}) v_{\sigma} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} + \text{H.c.}$$

+ $ig_2 \operatorname{Tr} (\{\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger}, \mathcal{O}_{\nu}\} A_{\lambda}) v_{\sigma} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma},$ (11)

where

$$\mathcal{D}^{\nu}\mathcal{O}^{\mu} = \partial^{\nu}\mathcal{O}^{\mu} + [V^{\nu}, \mathcal{O}^{\mu}] \tag{12}$$

and

$$V^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} (\xi \partial^{\mu} \xi^{\dagger} + \xi^{\dagger} \partial^{\mu} \xi),$$

$$A^{\mu} = \frac{i}{2} (\xi \partial^{\mu} \xi^{\dagger} - \xi^{\dagger} \partial^{\mu} \xi).$$
 (13)

The terms in \mathcal{L}_{kin} appear with minus signs because the polarization vector is spacelike. Charge conjugation invariance requires that the product of $\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger}$ and \mathcal{O}_{ν} in the second term of Eq. (11) be an anticommutator. (It is important to remember that in the matrix $\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger}$ the field $\rho_{\mu}^{-\dagger}$ is not equal to ρ_{μ}^{+} , etc. In heavy vector-meson chiral perturbation theory, ρ_{μ}^{+} destroys a ρ^{+} but it does not create the corresponding antiparticle. A separate field $\rho_{\mu}^{-\dagger}$ is introduced to create a ρ^{-} .) Finally, to linear order in the quark mass expansion,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = \mu_0 S_{\mu}^{\dagger} S^{\mu} + \mu_8 \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathcal{O}^{\mu} + \lambda_1 \Big[\operatorname{Tr} (\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathcal{M}_{\xi}) S^{\mu} + \operatorname{H.c.} \Big] + \lambda_2 \operatorname{Tr} (\{\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger}, \mathcal{O}^{\mu}\} \mathcal{M}_{\xi}) + \sigma_0 \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{M}_{\xi} S_{\mu}^{\dagger} S^{\mu} + \sigma_8 \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{M}_{\xi} \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger} \mathcal{O}^{\mu},$$
(14)

where \mathcal{M} is the quark mass $\mathcal{M} =$ $diag(m_u, m_d, m_s)$ and

$$\mathcal{M}_{\xi} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi \mathcal{M} \xi + \xi^{\dagger} \mathcal{M} \xi^{\dagger} \right). \tag{15}$$

Note that the fields S and O appearing in Eqs. (10)– (12) are understood to be velocity-dependent fields which are rescaled by a common phase factor (ei-

ther $e^{-i\mu_0v\cdot x}$ or $e^{-i\mu_8v\cdot x}$). (The velocity-dependent vector-meson fields are related to the vector-meson fields by $\phi_{\nu}^{\mu} = \sqrt{2m} e^{im\nu \cdot x} \phi^{\mu}$ and have dimension 3/2.) This rescaling removes either μ_0 or μ_8 from Eq. (14), so only the singlet-octet mass difference $\Delta \mu \equiv \mu_0 - \mu_8$ is relevant. Phenomenologically, the parameter $\Delta \mu < 200 \text{ MeV}$ is comparable to mass splittings of order m_s , so in our power counting we treat $\Delta \mu$ as a quantity of order m_q . $\Delta \mu$ is of order $1/N_c$, and so vanishes in the large N_c limit.

We begin by considering the spectrum of vector mesons produced at leading order in chiral perturbation theory. The analysis is identical to the well-known SU(3) analysis [6]. Neglecting isospin breaking due to the up and down quark mass difference, i.e., $m_u = m_d = \hat{m}$, we find that

$$m_{\rho} = \bar{\mu}_8 + 2\lambda_2 \hat{m}, \quad m_{K^*} = \bar{\mu}_8 + \lambda_2 (\hat{m} + m_s),$$
(16a)

and the $\phi^{(0)} - \phi^{(8)}$ mass matrix is

$$M^{(08)} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mu}_0 & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}\lambda_1 (m_s - \hat{m}) \\ -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}\lambda_1 (m_s - \hat{m}) & \bar{\mu}_8 + \frac{2}{3}\lambda_2 (\hat{m} + 2m_s) \end{bmatrix},$$
(16b)

where

$$\bar{\mu}_0 = \mu_0 + \sigma_0 \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{M}, \quad \bar{\mu}_8 = \mu_8 + \sigma_8 \operatorname{Tr} \mathcal{M}. \quad (17)$$

(Isospin breaking effects have been studied in Ref. [7].) Using Eqs. (16a) and (16b), it is possible to express the elements of $M^{(08)}$ in terms of the measured vector-meson masses (up to a sign ambiguity for $M_{12}^{(0)}$

$$M_{11}^{(08)} = m_{\omega} + m_{\phi} - \frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} + \frac{1}{3} m_{\rho},$$
 (18a)

$$M_{22}^{(08)} = \frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} - \frac{1}{3} m_{\rho} , \qquad (18b)$$

$$M_{12}^{(08)} = M_{21}^{(08)} = \pm \left[\left(\frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} - \frac{1}{3} m_{\rho} - m_{\omega} \right) \times \left(m_{\phi} - \frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} + \frac{1}{3} m_{\rho} \right) \right]^{1/2}.$$
 (18c)

The eigenstates of $M^{(08)}$ are parametrized by a mixing angle Θ_V

$$|\phi\rangle = \sin\Theta_V |\phi^{(0)}\rangle - \cos\Theta_V |\phi^{(8)}\rangle,$$
 (19a)

$$|\omega\rangle = \cos\Theta_V |\phi^{(0)}\rangle + \sin\Theta_V |\phi^{(8)}\rangle, \quad (19b)$$

where Eqs. (18) imply the usual $SU(3)_V$ prediction for the tangent of the mixing angle

$$\tan\Theta_V = \mp \sqrt{\frac{m_\phi - \frac{4}{3}m_{K^*} + \frac{1}{3}m_\rho}{\frac{4}{3}m_{K^*} - \frac{1}{3}m_\rho - m_\omega}} \simeq \mp 0.76. \quad (20)$$

In the large N_c limit [8,9], quark loops are suppressed so that the leading diagrams in the meson sector contain a single quark loop. As a result, the octet and singlet mesons can be combined into a single "nonet" matrix

$$N_{\mu} = \mathcal{O}_{\mu} + \frac{I}{\sqrt{3}} S_{\mu},$$
 (21)

which enters the chiral Lagrangian. The kinetic, interaction, and mass terms at leading order in $1/N_c$ are

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm kin} \to -i \operatorname{Tr} N_{\mu}^{\dagger} (v \cdot \mathcal{D}) N^{\mu},$$
 (22)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} \to ig_2 \operatorname{Tr} \left(\{ N_{\mu}^{\dagger}, N_{\nu} \} A_{\lambda} \right) v_{\sigma} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma},$$
 (23)

and

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} \to \mu \operatorname{Tr} N_{\mu}^{\dagger} N^{\mu} + \lambda_2 \operatorname{Tr} \left(\{ N_{\mu}^{\dagger}, N^{\mu} \} \mathcal{M}_{\xi} \right). \tag{24}$$

Comparing with Eqs. (10)-(14), one finds that, in the

$$\Delta\mu \to 0, \quad \sigma_0 \to \frac{2\lambda_2}{3}, \quad \sigma_8 \to 0,$$
 (25)

$$\Delta \mu \to 0, \quad \sigma_0 \to \frac{2\lambda_2}{3}, \quad \sigma_8 \to 0, \qquad (25)$$

$$g_1 \to \frac{2g_2}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \lambda_1 \to \frac{2\lambda_2}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \tan \Theta_V \to \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \qquad (26)$$

the $|\phi\rangle$ state becomes "pure" $|s\bar{s}\rangle$, and the nonet matrix is

$$N_{\mu} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_{\mu}^{0} / \sqrt{2} + \omega_{\mu} / \sqrt{2} & \rho_{\mu}^{+} & K_{\mu}^{*+} \\ \rho_{\mu}^{-} & -\rho_{\mu}^{0} / \sqrt{2} + \omega_{\mu} / \sqrt{2} & K_{\mu}^{*0} \\ K_{\mu}^{*-} & \overline{K}_{\mu}^{*0} & \phi_{\mu} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(27)$$

If the minus sign is chosen in Eq. (18c), the prediction for the mixing angle at leading order in chiral perturbation theory, Eq. (20), is close to its value for large N_c . At leading order in chiral perturbation theory, the partial width for the Zweig forbidden decay $\phi \rightarrow \rho \pi$ summed over all three modes is

$$\Gamma(\phi\to\rho\pi)=\frac{2h^2|\pmb{p}_\pi|^3}{\pi f^2}\,. \tag{28}$$
 The coupling, h , which vanishes as $N_c\to\infty$, is

$$h = \frac{g_1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin \Theta_V - \frac{g_2}{\sqrt{3}} \cos \Theta_V. \tag{29}$$

The measured branching ratio gives $h \approx 0.05$, which also suggests that the couplings are close to the $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ values.

In the nonrelativistic constituent quark model, assuming the $|\phi\rangle$ is pure $|s\bar{s}\rangle$, $g_1 = 2/\sqrt{3}$ and $g_2 = 1$. In the nonrelativistic chiral quark model [10], g₁ and g₂ are reduced by a factor of 0.75 from their values in the nonrelativistic constituent quark model.

In chiral perturbation theory the leading corrections to the expressions for the vector-meson masses in Eqs. (16) are of order $m_q^{3/2}$ (recall we are treating $\Delta \mu$ as of order m_q) and arise from one-loop self-energy diagrams giving

$$\begin{split} \delta m_{\rho} &= -\frac{1}{12\pi f^2} \left[g_2^2 \left(\frac{2}{3} \, m_{\pi}^3 + 2 m_K^3 + \frac{2}{3} \, m_{\eta}^3 \right) + g_1^2 m_{\pi}^3 \right], \\ \delta m_{K^*} &= -\frac{1}{12\pi f^2} \left[g_2^2 \left(\frac{3}{2} \, m_{\pi}^3 + \frac{5}{3} \, m_K^3 + \frac{1}{6} \, m_{\eta}^3 \right) + g_1^2 m_K^3 \right], \\ \delta M_{11}^{(08)} &= -\frac{1}{12\pi f^2} \, g_1^2 (3 m_{\pi}^3 + 4 m_K^3 + m_{\eta}^3), \\ \delta M_{22}^{(08)} &= -\frac{1}{12\pi f^2} \left[g_2^2 \left(2 m_{\pi}^3 + \frac{2}{3} \, m_K^3 + \frac{2}{3} \, m_{\eta}^3 \right) + g_1^2 m_{\eta}^3 \right], \\ \delta M_{12}^{(08)} &= \delta M_{21}^{(08)} = \frac{1}{12\pi f^2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \, g_1 g_2 \left(-3 m_{\pi}^3 + 2 m_K^3 + m_{\eta}^3 \right). \end{split}$$

The singlet-octet mixing angle Θ_V including these correc-

$$\tan\Theta_V = \mp \sqrt{\frac{m_\phi - \frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} + \frac{1}{3} m_\rho - \delta m}{\frac{4}{3} m_{K^*} - \frac{1}{3} m_\rho - m_\omega + \delta m}},$$
 (31)

where

$$\delta m = -\frac{4}{3} \, \delta m_{K^{*}} + \frac{1}{3} \, \delta m_{\rho} + \delta M_{22}^{(08)}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{12\pi f^{2}} \left(g_{1}^{2} + \frac{2}{3} g_{2}^{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{3} m_{\pi}^{3} - \frac{4}{3} m_{K}^{3} + m_{\eta}^{3} \right). \tag{32}$$

Using the relation between g_2 and g_1 in Eq. (26), we

$$\delta m \to -\frac{2g_2^2}{12\pi f^2} \left(\frac{1}{3} m_\pi^3 - \frac{4}{3} m_K^3 + m_\eta^3 \right).$$
 (33)

With $g_2 = 0.75$, Eq. (33) yields $\delta m \simeq -4$ MeV. The combination of mass shifts, δm , that affects the mixing angle Θ_V is very small even though the corrections to the individual masses are substantial (e.g., $\delta m_{\rho} \simeq -300$ MeV). δm , which is of order $1/N_c$, must transform like a 27 of flavor SU(3). The linear combination of the cubed pseudoscalar meson mass in Eq. (33) transforms like a 27, and is numerically small. This same linear combination occurs in the violation of the Gell-Mann-Okubo formula for baryon masses [11].

For N_c large, the $\phi \to \rho \pi$ decay amplitude is of order $N_c^{-3/2}$, since the leading order $1/\sqrt{N_c}$ amplitude is forbidden by Zweig's rule. At leading order in chiral perturbation theory it occurs at tree level because of order $1/N_c$ deviations from the relations $\tan \Theta_V = 1/\sqrt{2}$ and $g_1/g_2 = 2/\sqrt{3}$. At order $m_s \ln m_s$ in the chiral expansion the order $N_c^{-3/2}$ contribution arises from one-loop vertex and wave function corrections calculated with vertices from the nonet Lagrange density. The π and η loops do not contribute when one uses the nonet Lagrangian. The resulting decay amplitude for each of the three $\rho \pi$ modes

$$\mathcal{A}(\phi \to \rho \,\pi) = \frac{i}{f} \,\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \,\epsilon_{\mu}(\phi) \,\epsilon_{\nu}^{*}(\rho) p_{\pi\lambda} v_{\sigma}(2\sqrt{m_{\phi}m_{\rho}}) \\ \times \left[\sqrt{2} \,h - g_{2}^{3} \left(\frac{m_{K}^{2}}{8\pi^{2} f^{2}} \right) \ln \left(\frac{m_{K}^{2}}{\mu^{2}} \right) + \cdots \right],$$
(34)

where the ellipsis denotes terms of higher order in the chiral and $1/N_c$ expansions. The terms of order m_s have a dependence on the subtraction point μ which cancels that of the logarithm in Eq. (34). With $\mu = 1$ GeV, $g_2 = 0.75$, the magnitude of the term of order $m_s \ln m_s$ in Eq. (34) is about 1.5 times as large as the measured $\phi \to \rho \pi$ decay amplitude. This suggests either that g_2 is smaller than the chiral quark model value or that there

is a partial cancellation between order $m_s \ln m_s$ and order m_s contributions to the decay amplitude.

The Frascati ϕ factory is expected to produce of order 10^{10} ϕ 's, allowing even very rare ϕ decay processes to be experimentally accessible. The $\phi \to \rho \pi$ decay amplitude has a small parity-violating s-wave amplitude that is induced by the weak interactions. This amplitude can be predicted in the combined limits of chiral $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ symmetry and large N_c . In these limits the part of the weak Hamiltonian that dominates the s-wave $\phi \to \rho \pi$ amplitude is due to Z^0 exchange,

$$\mathcal{H}_{W} = \eta \frac{G_{F}}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{4}{3} \sin^{2} \theta_{W} \right) \\ \times (\bar{s}_{\alpha} \gamma_{\mu} s_{\alpha}) [\bar{u}_{\beta} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} u_{\beta} - \bar{d}_{\beta} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} d_{\beta}],$$
(35)

where $\eta \sim 1.56$ [12] arises from QCD scaling between the weak scale and low energies. In the large N_c limit, $\log \eta$ is of order $1/N_c$ times logarithms of the form $\log M_W/\Lambda$, and we have chosen to include corrections of this form [13]. The $\phi \to \rho \pi$ matrix element takes the form

$$\langle \rho \pi | \mathcal{H}_{W} | \phi \rangle = \eta \frac{G_{F}}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{4}{3} \sin^{2}\theta_{W} \right) f_{\phi} \epsilon_{\mu}(\phi)$$

$$\times \langle \rho \pi | \bar{u} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} u - \bar{d} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} d | 0 \rangle,$$
(36)

where the ϕ decay constant f_{ϕ} is defined by

$$\langle 0|\bar{s}\gamma_{\mu}s|\phi\rangle = f_{\phi}\epsilon_{\mu}(\phi). \tag{37}$$

The measured $\phi \to e^+e^-$ decay width implies that $f_{\phi} \simeq (492 \text{ MeV})^2$. The left-handed isovector current $\bar{u}\gamma^{\mu}P_Lu - \bar{d}\gamma^{\mu}P_Ld$ transforms as $(3_L,1_R)$ under chiral $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$. For matrix elements between the vacuum and a ρ plus soft pions, this current is represented by the operator

$$\bar{u}\gamma^{\mu}P_{L}u - \bar{d}\gamma^{\mu}P_{L}d = \frac{f_{\rho}}{2\sqrt{2m_{\rho}}}\operatorname{Tr}(\xi\mathcal{O}_{\mu}^{\dagger}\xi^{\dagger}\tau^{3}), \quad (38)$$

where f_{ρ} is defined analogous to f_{ϕ} and has the value $f_{\rho} \simeq (407 \text{ MeV})^2$ from the $\rho \to e^+e^-$ partial width. In Eq. (38), ξ and \mathcal{O}_{μ} are the 2 × 2 matrix analogs of the corresponding 3 × 3 matrices used in the case of chiral $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$. The right-handed isovector current is given by exchanging ξ and ξ^{\dagger} in Eq. (38). Using Eq. (38) to evaluate the matrix element in Eq. (36) we

find that in the combined chiral and large N_c limits

$$\langle \rho^{+} \pi^{-} | \mathcal{H}_{W} | \phi \rangle_{s\text{-wave}} = -\langle \rho^{-} \pi^{+} | \mathcal{H}_{W} | \phi \rangle_{s\text{-wave}}$$

$$= -i \eta \frac{G_{F}}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{4}{3} \sin^{2} \theta_{W} \right)$$

$$\times \left(\frac{f_{\phi} f_{\rho}}{f} \right) \epsilon^{*}(\rho) \cdot \epsilon(\phi)$$
(39)

and

$$\langle \rho^0 \pi^0 | \mathcal{H}_W | \phi \rangle_{\text{s-wave}} = 0. \tag{40}$$

Interference between the *s*-wave and *p*-wave amplitudes is possible for aligned ϕ 's, but it requires a final state interaction phase. The *s*-wave $\rho^+\pi^-$ branching ratio is 10^{-11} , which is too small to be measured at the Frascati ϕ factory. However, an enhancement of the parity-violating decay rate could make the signal observable. This provides a very interesting test of new physics, because it probes nonleptonic neutral currents involving strange quarks. We will consider the application of chiral perturbation theory to other processes such as $\phi \to \rho \gamma \gamma$ elsewhere.

This work was supported in part by the Department of Energy under Grant No. DOE-FG03-90ER40546 and No. DE-FG03-92-ER40701. E. J. was supported in part by the NYI program, through Grant No. PHY-9457911 from the National Science Foundation, and by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. A. M. was supported in part by the PYI program, through Grant No. PHY-8958081 from the National Science Foundation.

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