

$\Lambda(1405)$ and Σ^* production in $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \pi \pi \pi \Sigma$ decay

Thursday, 13 June 2019 15:30 (30 minutes)

A Σ^* resonance with spin-parity $JP=1/2^-$ and mass in the vicinity of the K^-N threshold has been predicted in the unitary chiral approach and inferred from the analysis of CLAS data on the $\gamma p \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0 \Sigma^0$ reaction. In this work, based on the dominant Cabibbo favored weak decay mechanism, we perform a study of $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \Sigma^*$ with the possible Σ^* state decaying into $\pi^- \Sigma^+$ through a triangle diagram. This process is initiated by $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \pi^+ K^{*-} N$, then the K^{*-} decays into $K^- \pi$ and $K^- N$ produce the Σ^* through a triangle loop containing $K^{*-} N K^-$ which develops a triangle singularity. We show that the $\pi^- \Sigma^+$ state is generated from final state interaction of $K^- N$ in S-wave and isospin $I=1$, and the $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^- \Sigma^+$ decay can be used to study the possible Σ^* state around the $K^- N$ threshold. The proposed decay mechanism can provide valuable information on the nature of the Σ^* resonance and can in principle be tested by facilities such as LHCb, BelleII and BESIII.

In addition, the decay of Λ_c into $\pi^+ \pi^0 \Lambda(1405)$ with the $\Lambda(1405)$ decay into $\pi^0 \Sigma^0$ through a triangle diagram is studied. This process is initiated by $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \pi^+ K^{*-} N$, then the K^{*-} decays into $K^- \pi$ and $K^- N$ produce the $\Lambda(1405)$ through a triangle loop containing $K^{*-} N K^-$ which develops a singularity around 1890 MeV. This process is prohibited by the isospin symmetry, but the decay into this channel is enhanced by the contribution of the triangle diagram, which is sensitive to the mass of the internal particles. We find a narrow peak in the $\pi^0 \Sigma^0$ invariant mass distribution, which originates from the $\Lambda(1405)$ amplitude, but is tied to the mass differences between the charged and neutral K^- or N states. The observation of the unavoidable peak of the triangle singularity in the isospin-violating $\Lambda(1405)$ production would provide further support for hadronic molecular picture of the $\Lambda(1405)$ and further information on the $K^- N$ interaction.

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Session Classification: Parallel Session A

Track Classification: Partial wave analyses and baryon resonance parameter extraction