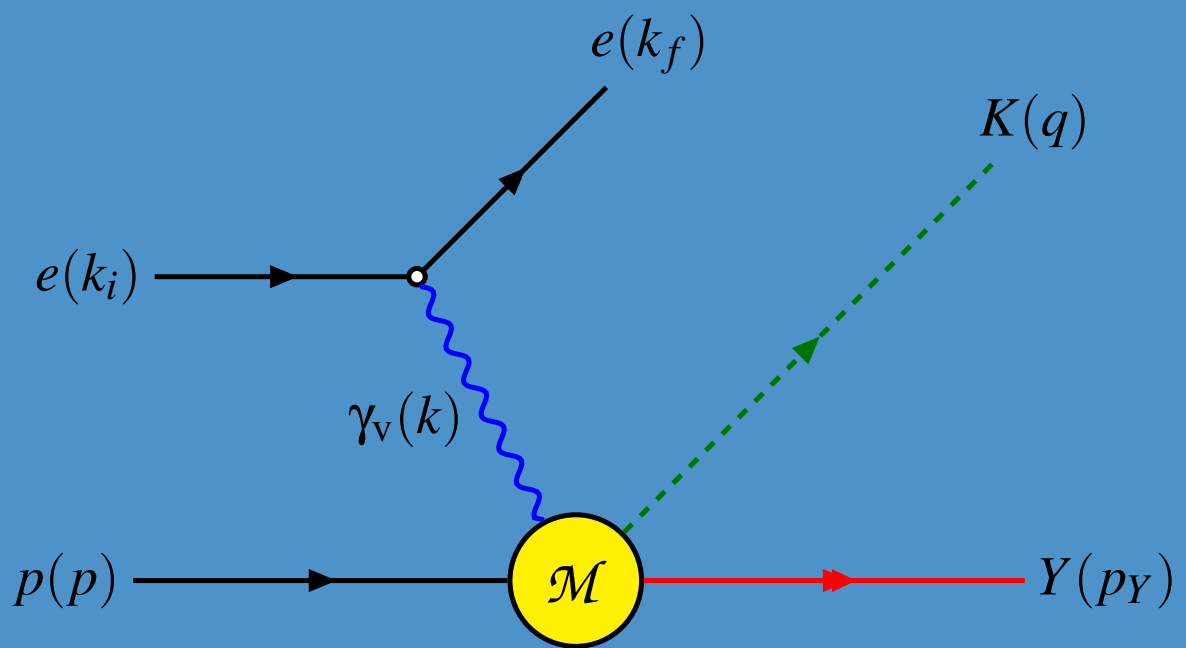


ELECTROMAGNETIC PRODUCTION OF KAONS ON NUCLEONS



JOVAN ALFIAN DJAJA

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PREFACE

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JOVAN ALFIAN DJAJA

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1 STRANGENESS

In the December of 1947, George Dixon Rochester and Sir Clifford Charles Butler observed a peculiarity in the photographs of their cloud chamber detector [1]. They observed evidence of an unknown neutral particle decaying into two charged particles, which is later identified as charged pions π^+ and π^- [5]. Due to how the charged particles formed an upside-down V, the neutral particle was then referred to as 'V-particle'. The V-particle was later called the **neutral kaon** K^0 .

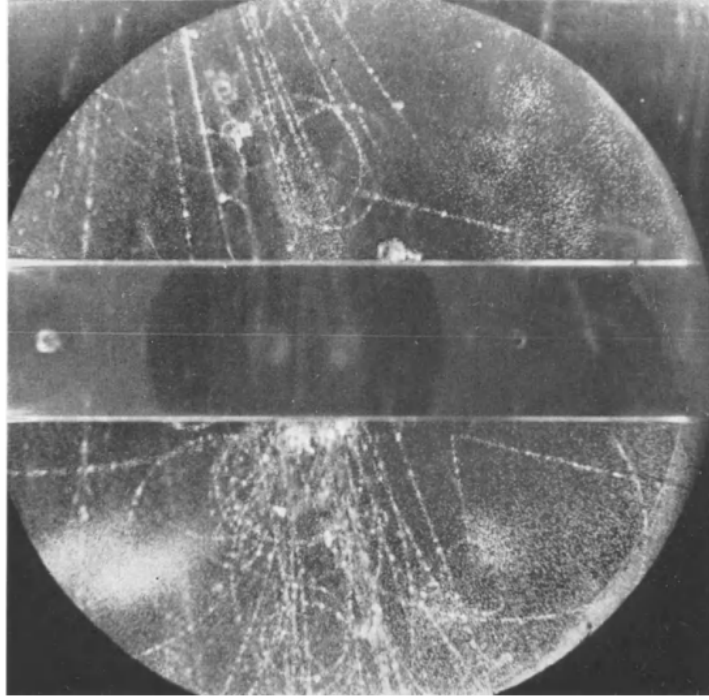


Figure 1: A photograph of V-particle decay [4]. Cosmic rays strike a lead plate, producing the V-particle. The V-particle then decays into two charged pions [1, 5].

Strangeness¹ was then introduced by Murray Gell-Mann, Abraham Pais, Tadao Nakano, and Kazuhiko Nishijima to describe this unique phenomenon. Hence, particles that exhibit those properties are referred to as *strange particles*. In modern particle physics, strange particles are said to be produced via the strong interaction, but decay due to the weak interaction [1]. Therefore, **strangeness is conserved in strong interactions, but not in weak interactions**. Mathematically, the strangeness of a particle is defined as the *difference between the number of strange antiquarks and strange quarks*:

$$s = N_{\bar{s}} - N_s. \quad (1)$$

¹Unlike the electric charge and a majority of quantum numbers, strangeness is a *multiplicative quantum number*.

2 KAONS

According to the quark model, K mesons, also known as **kaons**, are composed of a strange quark and an up or down quark. Kaons are the *lightest strange mesons* and there are two of them [3]:

$$K^+(493.677) = u\bar{s} \quad \& \quad K^0(497.611) = d\bar{s}.$$

2.1 Kaon Production

3 ISOBAR MODEL

3.1 Pseudoscalar Coupling

3.2 Born Terms in Pseudoscalar Theory

3.2.1 Nucleon Term

3.2.2 Kaon Term

3.2.3 Λ -Hyperon Term

3.2.4 Σ -Hyperon Term

3.3 Resonance Terms in Pseudoscalar Theory

3.3.1 Kaon Resonance Term: K^*

3.3.2 Kaon Resonance Term: K_1

3.3.3 Nucleon Resonance Term: Spin-1/2

3.4 Pseudovector Coupling: Contact Diagram

4 ADVANCES

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