Test of Time-Reversal Symmetry in the Proton-Deuteron Scattering

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The integrated cross section $\tilde{\sigma}$ for a special type of double polarized proton-deuteron scattering constitutes a null test for time-invariance violating but P-parity conserving effects. Using Glauber theory for the pd elastic scattering and different types of phenomenological T-odd P-even NN-interactions we show that the contribution of the lowest mass meson exchange, i.e. the ρ -meson, to the null-test signal $\tilde{\sigma}$ vanishes. Variation of the cross section $\tilde{\sigma}$ due to strong hadronic and Coulomb interaction is studied and its energy dependence is calculated in the GeV region.

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1. Introduction

Time-invariance-violating (T-odd) P-parity conserving (P-even) (TVPC) interactions do not arise on the fundamental level within the standard model. This type of interaction can be generated by radiative corrections to the T-odd P-odd interaction discovered in physics of kaons and B-mesons. However in such a case its intensity is too small to be observed in experiments at present.¹ Thus, observation of TVPC effects would be considered as indication to physics beyond the standard model.

As was shown in Ref. 2, the total polarized cross section $\tilde{\sigma}$ of the proton-deuteron scattering with vector polarization of the proton p_y^p and tensor polarization of the deuteron P_{xz} constitutes a null-test of TVPC effects. The dedicated experiment is planned at COSY³ at proton beam energy 135 MeV which is motivated by theoretical estimations of the TVPC effects.⁴ Analysis of the TVPC null-test signal⁴ was

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done within the nonmesonic deuteron breakup channel $pd \rightarrow ppn$ estimated in the impulse (single scattering) approximation. Here we use the spin-dependent formalism⁵ of the Glauber theory to calculate the cross section $\tilde{\sigma}$. The formalism includes full spin dependence of elementary pN -amplitudes and S- and D-components of the deuteron wave function. This formalism was used⁶ to calculate non-polarized differential cross section and spin observables of the elastic pd scattering and total polarized pd cross sections at energy of the TRIC experiment 135 MeV. We further develop the formalism to account for the Coulomb and TVPC interactions.

2. Elements of formalism

The total cross section of the pd scattering has the form⁶

$$\sigma_{tot} = \sigma_0 + \sigma_1 \mathbf{p}^p \cdot \mathbf{p}^d + \sigma_2 (\mathbf{p}^p \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{p}^d \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}) + \sigma_3 P_{zz} + \tilde{\sigma} p_y^p P_{xz}^d, \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{p}^p$ ($\mathbf{p}^d$) is the vector polarization of the initial proton (deuteron) and P_{zz} and P_{xz} are the tensor polarizations of the deuteron. The OZ axis is directed along the proton beam momentum $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$, $OY \uparrow \uparrow \mathbf{p}^p$, $OX \uparrow \uparrow [\mathbf{p}^p \times \hat{\mathbf{k}}]$. In Eq. (1) the terms σ_i with $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ are non-zero only for T-even P-even interaction and the last term $\tilde{\sigma}$ constitutes a null-test signal of T-invariance violation with P-parity conservation. Hadronic amplitudes of pN scattering are taken as⁵

$$M_N(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}; \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_N) = A_N + C_N \boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{\mathbf{n}} + C'_N \boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \hat{\mathbf{n}} + B_N(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{\mathbf{k}})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \hat{\mathbf{k}}) + \quad (2) \\ + (G_N + H_N)(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{\mathbf{q}})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \hat{\mathbf{q}}) + (G_N - H_N)(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{\mathbf{n}})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \hat{\mathbf{n}}),$$

where orts $\hat{\mathbf{q}}$, $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ are defined as unit vectors along the vectors $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}'$, $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{p}'$ and $\mathbf{n} = [\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{q}]$, respectively; $\mathbf{p}$ ($\mathbf{p}'$) is the initial (final) proton momentum. We consider the following terms of the TVPC NN interaction which were under discussion in Ref. 4:

$$t_{pN} = h_N [(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \cdot \mathbf{q}) + (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{q}) - \frac{2}{3}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{q})]/m_p^2 + \quad (3) \\ + g_N [\boldsymbol{\sigma} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}_N] \cdot [\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}]/m_p^2 + g'_N (\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_N) \cdot i [\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}] [\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_N]_z / m_p^2.$$

Here $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ ($\boldsymbol{\sigma}_N$) is the Pauli matrix acting on the spin state of the proton (nucleon $N = p, n$), $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ ($\boldsymbol{\tau}_N$) is the corresponding matrix acting on the isospin state; m_p is the proton mass. In the framework of the phenomenological meson exchange interaction the term g' corresponds to ρ -meson exchange, and h -term provides the axial meson h_1 exchange with $h_N = -i2G_h \bar{G}_h F(q^2)(m_h^2 + \mathbf{q}^2)^{-1}$, where G_h ($\bar{G}_h$) is the ordinary (TVPC) hNN coupling constant, m_h is the h -meson mass and $F(q^2)$ is the hNN vertex form factor.⁴

Using the generalized optical theorem we find $\tilde{\sigma} = -4\sqrt{\pi}Im\frac{2}{3}\tilde{g}$. For single scattering mechanism the amplitude $\tilde{g}$ vanishes within the Glauber theory. For double scattering mechanism with pN -amplitudes (2) and (3) within the S-wave approxi-

mation for the deuteron wave function we find

$$\tilde{g} = \frac{i}{4\pi m_p} \int_0^\infty dq q^2 S_0^{(0)}(q) [C'_n(q)(g_p - h_p) + C'_p(q)(g_n - h_n)], \quad (4)$$

where $S_0^{(0)}$ is the S-wave elastic form factor of the deuteron in notations of Ref. 5.

3. Numerical results and discussion

The results of our calculations⁶ for non-polarized differential cross section, vector A_y and tensor A_{ij} analyzing powers, spin correlations parameters $C_{i,j}$, $C_{i,j,k}$ are in reasonable agreement with the available experimental data at 135 MeV and 250 MeV in forward hemisphere. We found also that account for Coulomb effects improves agreement with the data at these energies at small angles $\theta_{cm} \leq 20^\circ - 30^\circ$. The obtained results⁶ allow one to conclude that the Glauber theory is quite suitable for study of the null-test signal for TVPC effects in the pd -scattering because this signal is not imitated by the strong background caused by T-even P-even interactions. Our approach is more general than the approximation used in previous study.⁴

The g' -term gives zero contribution to $\tilde{g}$ in Eq. (4). Account for the D-wave does not change this result. Therefore, the ρ -meson exchange in general allowed as the lowest mass meson in the TVPC NN interaction⁷ and expected to dominate the TVPC NN interaction, does not contribute to the null-test signal $\tilde{\sigma}$. Contribution of other more heavy mesons is expected to be less important due to NN repulsive core at short distances between nucleons. A microscopic T-violating optical potential for nucleon-nucleus interaction was derived in Ref. 8 starting from the T-violating ρ -meson interaction between nucleons and the corresponding coupling constant of the ρ -meson to the nucleon $\bar{g}_\rho$ is widely used^{7,9} as a measure of intensity of the TVPC effects. One can see, however, for the pd scattering this parameter can not be applied directly as a scale of the TVPC interactions.

Now we consider a role of Coulomb effects in the cross section $\tilde{\sigma}$. The Coulomb pp scattering being T-even P-even interaction cannot generate the TVPC amplitude $\tilde{g}$ within the single scattering mechanism, therefore its contribution to $\tilde{g}$ is zero in this approximation. To account for the Coulomb interaction within the double scattering mechanism one should add the pp -scattering amplitude f_{pp}^C to the pure hadronic T-even P-even pp amplitude M_p in Eq.(2). The amplitude f_{pp}^C does not depend on spins and therefore is added only to the spin-independent term A_p . However, the A_p term is excluded from the TVPC amplitude (4) due to its specific spin structure. The C'_p is the only factor in Eq.(4) which contains Coulomb effects via the A_p because of the relation^{5,10} $C'_p = C_p + i(q/2m_p)A_p$. When substituting this amplitude into Eq. (4) and making integration over q , we find that the singularity of the Coulomb amplitude $f_{pp}^C(\theta_{pp})$ at $\theta_{pp} = 0$ does not lead to divergence of the null-test amplitude $\tilde{g}$. Energy dependence of $\tilde{\sigma}$ calculated for the h term with $G_h^2/4\pi = 1.56$, $m_h = 1.17$ GeV in units of the unknown hNN coupling constant $\phi_h = \bar{G}_h/G_h$ is shown in Fig.1. The C_p and A_p amplitudes are taken from Ref.11. The g -term leads to a

Fig. 1. The calculated energy dependence of the TVPC cross section $|\tilde{\sigma}|$ for the h -term in units of the constant $\phi_h = \tilde{G}_h/G_h$ with the Coulomb interaction included (dashed line) and excluded (full).

very similar energy dependence. One can see that energies ~ 100 MeV are more preferable than ~ 1 GeV to search for the TVPC effects.

4. Summary

The Glauber theory provides a theoretical basis for estimation of the TVPC effects in the double polarized pd scattering at the energy of the experiment³ planned at COSY. Using this theory we find that the ρ -meson exchange between nucleons is vanishing in the TVPC signal $\tilde{\sigma}$ in the pd scattering whereas the h and g terms give non-zero contributions. We show also that the Coulomb interaction makes a minor influence on this observable.

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