

On time-like electromagnetic pion form factors

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From first-principles QCD to Experiments,
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Analytic Structure of n -point Functions

- Strong Interactions in Theory: QCD
 - The model quantum gauge field theory:
Locality, Unitarity, Asymptotic Freedom
 - Non-perturbative phenomena:
Dimensional Transmutation, Chiral Anomaly, $D\chi$ SB, Confinement
- Strong Interactions in Experiment: Hadrons
 - Hadron spectroscopy:
many “unexpected” resonances, many “missing” resonances
 - Hadron structure: surprising results
- Quark-hadron duality:
 - Orthogonality of quark-gluon d.o.f. vs. hadronic states
 - Physical S -matrix elements:
Singularities (i.e., poles and cuts) **only** from intermediate physical (hadronic, leptonic, ...) states

Analytic Structure of n -point Functions

Lesson to be learned for any calculation in a gauge theory:

Singularities of gauge-dependent n -point functions

[need to, resp., should]

cancel in every $N(= N_i + N_f)$ -point function / amplitude of N physical (composite!) states describing the scattering of N_i to N_f particles.

(NB: cf. kinematical aspect of confinement!)



Analytic Structure of n -point Functions

Domain of holomorphy of n -point Functions:

(see, e.g., beginning of Chapter 2 of RA & L. von Smekal, Phys. Rept. 353 (2001) 281)

- construction based on axioms of local quantum field theory in Minkowski spacetime¹
- time-ordered n -point Green functions: boundary values of analytic functions
- several steps to arrive at the permuted extended tubes as envelope of holomorphy domain
- the latter contains non-coincident Euclidean region:
Justifies the incorporation of time-like vectors as complex four-vectors in an analytically continued Euclidean formulation!

¹for curved spacetimes see E. Witten, “Why Does Quantum Field Theory In Curved Spacetime Make Sense?”, arXiv:2112.11614, and references therein

Analytic Structure of n -point Functions

NB:

No room for essential singularities, complex conjugated poles, etc.!

Nevertheless successful phenomenology . . .

(see, however, S. Ahlig et al., PRD 64 (2001) 014004)

In practice:

First-principles investigations of the analytical structure, there are

- many for propagators / two-point functions (P. Maris 1991, . . .),
- a few for three-point functions,²
- none (?) for higher n -point functions.

²see, e.g., M. Q. Huber, W. J. Kern, R.A., “Analytic structure of three-point functions from contour deformations,” Phys. Rev. D **107** (2023) 074026

Effect of resonances on hadron structure

Only physical thresholds in S -matrix elements:

Hadron spectroscopy and hadron structure interrelated:

Microscopic understanding of effect of

resonances on form factors, structure functions, etc.?

Test case: **Pion form factor**³

Method: Functional method, in particular combination of

Dyson-Schwinger / Bethe-Salpeter eqs.

Important for the time-like pion form factor:

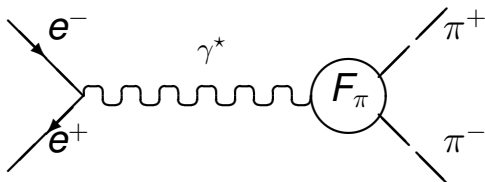
- (i) Pion as pseudo Goldstone Boson
- (ii) Mixing of ρ -meson with virtual photon
- (iii) ρ -meson decay

³A topic for me since the eighties [K. Langfeld *et al.*, *Z. Phys.* **C42 (1989)** 159]

Important for the time-like pion form factor:

- (i) Pion as $\bar{q}q$ bound state & as pseudo Goldstone Boson: composite, highly collective state in QCD, reflecting χ SB patterns
- (ii) Mixing of ρ -meson with virtual photon: ρ as $\bar{q}q$ bound state in quark-photon vertex (QCD & QED), theoretical explanation of Vector Meson Dominance
- (iii) ρ -meson decay $\rho \rightarrow \pi\pi$: two-pion cut and ρ -meson pole (on 2nd Riemann sheet) in quark-photon vertex and thus in e.m. timelike pion form factor.

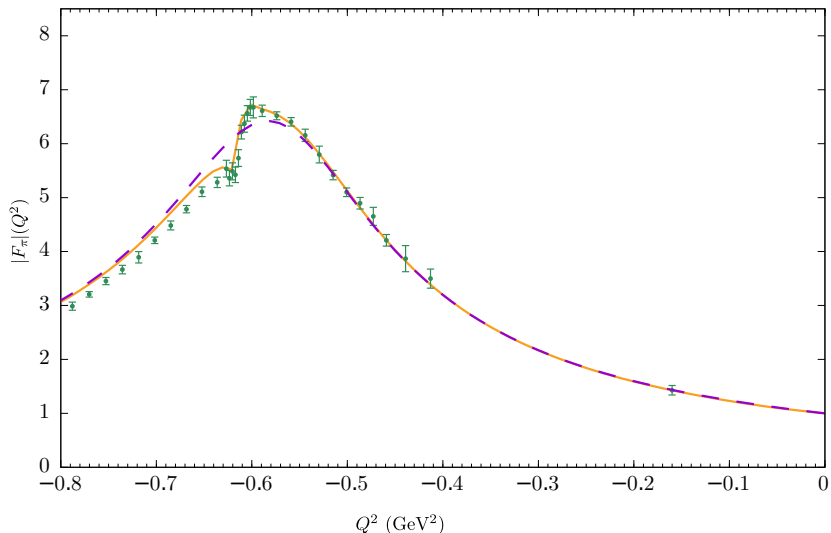
Time-like pion form factor & Vector Meson Dominance



Experimentally, e.g., from e^+e^- annihilation to $\pi\pi$

Convention: Negative Q^2 relates to timelike photon virtuality.

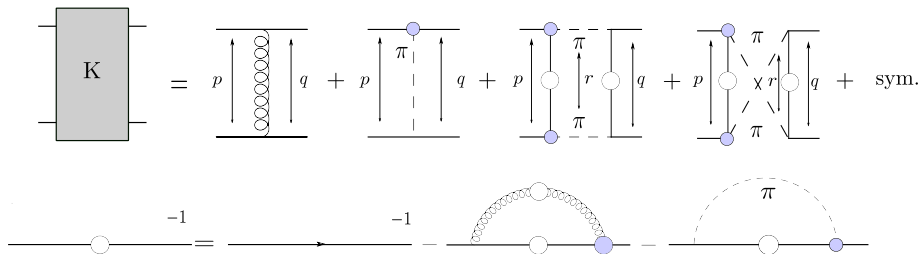
Time-like pion form factor & Vector Meson Dominance



Experimental data vs. VMD fit with / without ρ - ω mixing



Interactions in Dyson-Schwinger/Bethe-Salpeter eqs.



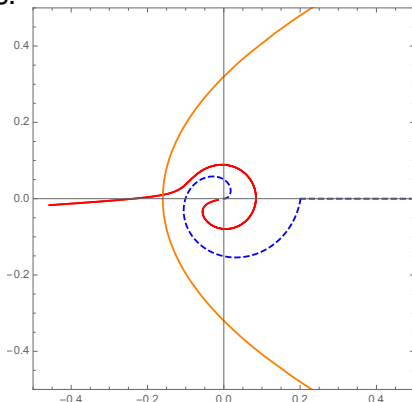
Interactions in this exploratory calculation:

- gluon exchange (Maris-Tandy model)
- pion exchange
- s - and u -channel pion decay contributions

Dyson-Schwinger/Bethe-Salpeter approach to time-like pion form factor

Disclaimer: To keep this calculation feasible a number of technically motivated approximations have been made, see arXiv:2102.12541 for details.

Major technical challenge:
Find integration contour in presence of cuts generated by quark propagator poles, pion propagator pole as well as 2-pion cuts and ρ pole in quark-photon vertex!

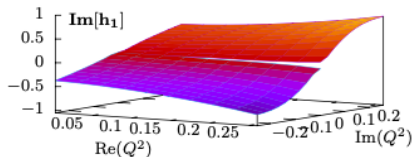
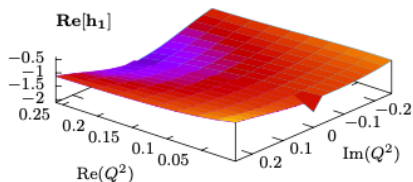


For two different parameters η of the Maris-Tandy model:

	m_π	f_π	m_ρ	m_ω	M_ρ	Γ_ρ
$\eta = 1.5$	0.139	0.138	0.768	0.778	0.750	0.100
$\eta = 1.6$	0.126	0.138	0.774	0.784	0.759	0.105

m_ρ and m_ω : Masses (in GeV) without two-pion decay kernel

M_ρ and Γ_ρ (in GeV) determined from ρ -meson pole position defined as $M_{pole}^2 = M_\rho^2 - iM_\rho\Gamma_\rho$ with two-pion decay kernel taken into account

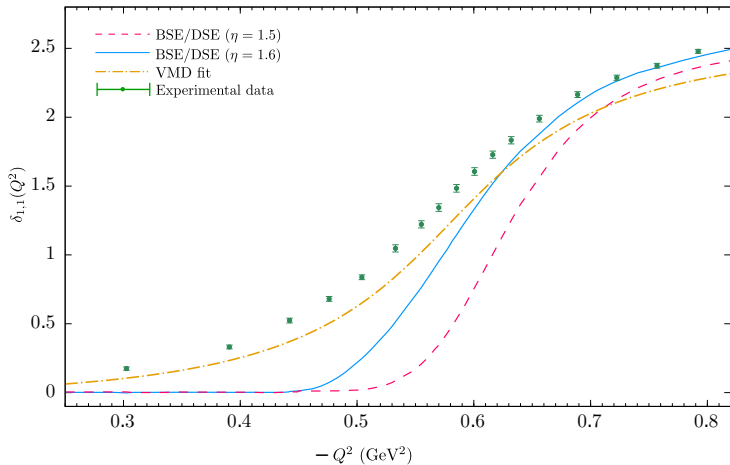


Real and imaginary part of the leading (transversely projected) amplitude of the quark-photon vertex for $p \cdot Q = 0$.

The two-pion branch cut starts at $Q^2 = -4m_\pi^2$.

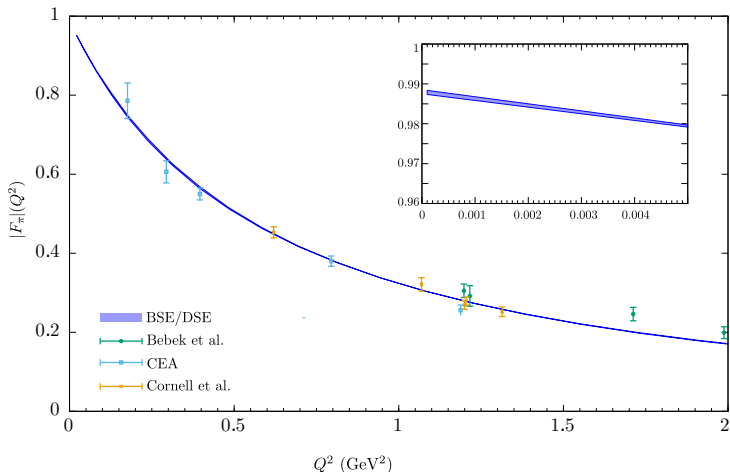
[A. S. Miramontes, H. Sanchis-Alepuz, EPJA **55** (2019) 170 [arXiv:1906.06227].]

Results



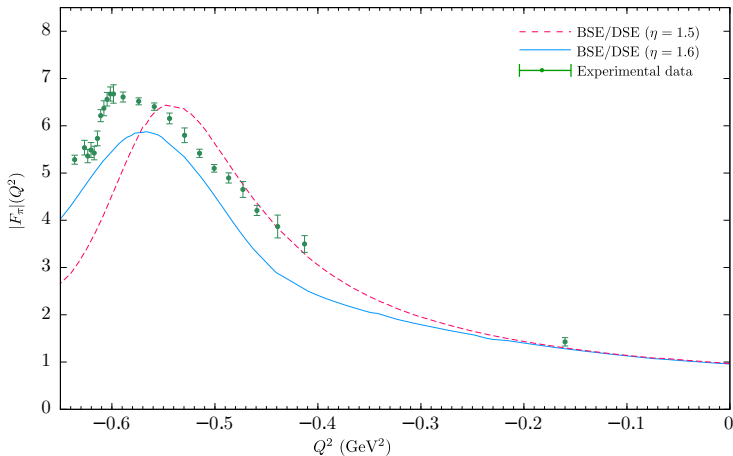
Phase of the pion form factor in the time-like $Q^2 < 0$ domain for the model parameters $\eta = 1.5$ and $\eta = 1.6$ compared to experimental data on pion-pion phase shift.

Results



Pion form factor in the space-like $Q^2 > 0$ domain for the model parameters $\eta = 1.5$ and $\eta = 1.6$ compared to experimental data. (The inset illustrates the impact of one of the technically motivated approximations.)

Results



Absolute value of the pion form factor in the time-like $Q^2 < 0$ domain for the model parameters $\eta = 1.5$ and $\eta = 1.6$.

Predicted by VMD
(without ρ - ω mixing):

$$\text{Re } F_\pi(Q^2) - 1 = \frac{a_1 Q^2 + a_2 (Q^2)^2}{b_0 + b_1 Q^2 + b_2 (Q^2)^2}$$

$$\text{Im } F_\pi(Q^2) = \frac{c_1 Q^2 + c_2 (Q^2)^2}{d_0 + d_1 Q^2 + d_2 (Q^2)^2}$$

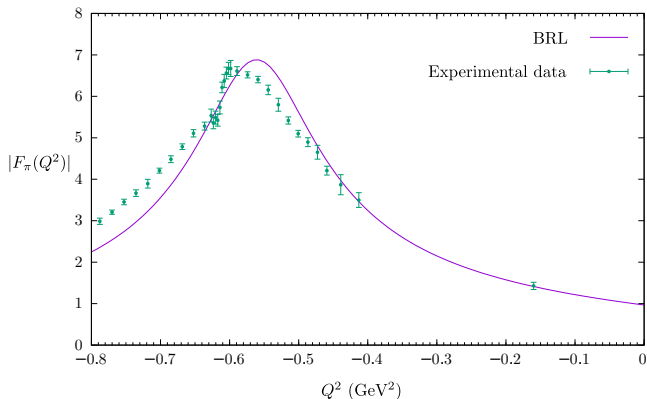
and verified by our
“microscopic model” calculation

	$\eta = 1.5$	$\eta = 1.6$	VMD
a_1	0.5587	0.4149	0.72
a_2	0.8828	0.6827	1.2
b_0	0.3600	0.3600	0.36
b_1	1.2307	1.2517	1.2
b_2	1.0722	1.1000	1.0037
c_1	0.0591	0.0997	0
c_2	0.1295	0.2383	0.2308
d_0	0.3600	0.3600	0.36
d_1	1.1924	1.2464	1.2
d_2	0.9973	1.0916	1.0037

- Other terms than VMD-predicted ones are tiny:
Elaborated **calculation yields** within error margin
the VMD predicted functional form.
- No significant impact from quark propagator poles!
(Wanted in view of confinement! But why in this model-based calculation?)
- **The resulting time-like pion form factor in the region $0 > Q^2 > 0.8\text{GeV}^2$ is determined by the ρ -meson pole and the two-pion cut!**

Pion time-like form factor: All BSE amplitudes

Absolute value of the pion form factor, $Q^2 < 0$, $\eta = 1.5$ with all BS amplitudes in $2\text{-}\pi$ -exchange kernels taken into account (requires $10 \times$ CPU time) [A. Miramontes, unpublished]

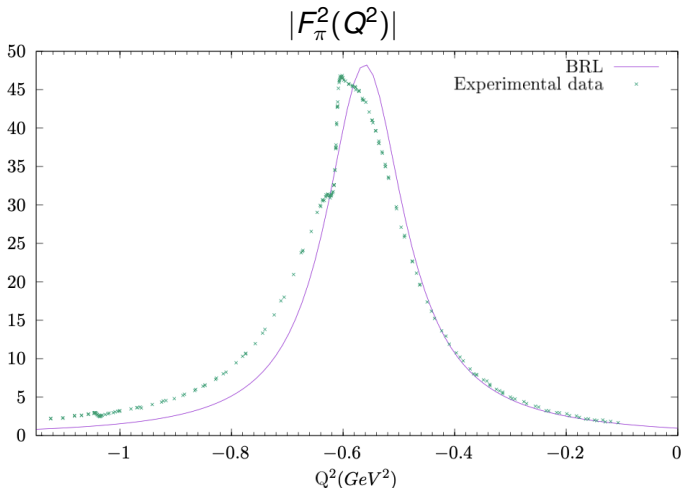


extracted pole position:

$M_\rho = 755 \text{ MeV}$, $\Gamma_\rho = 123 \text{ MeV}$ (before: 100 MeV , expt.: 149 MeV).

Pion time-like form factor: Large virtuality

New experimental results from 0.32 to 1.2 GeV
from CMD-3 at VEPP-2000 [arXiv:2302:08834]:



At appr. one GeV:

- “strong deviation from the theoretical prediction”
(citation from abstract)
Impact on determination of anomalous magnetic moment of muon!
- Some deviation from predictions based on dispersion relations
- Similar for Vector Meson Dominance
- Large discrepancy of our results to experimental data!!!

... further analysis on-going ...

- ☺ Exploratory DSE/BSE calculation of pion time-like form factor
(... we can do time-like ...)
- ☺ ρ -meson resonance & 2π cut determine time-like pion form factor:
Detailed verification of VMD from microscopic model!
- ☺ Despite modelling and technical limitations:
Remarkable agreement with experiment.

⇒ Isospin breaking:

- Effect of different quark masses vs. electric charges
cf. A.S. Miramontes et al., Phys. Lett. **B 833** (2022) 137291
- ρ - ω mixing, resp. ρ - ω - ϕ -mixing . . .

⇒ $\gamma \pi \pi \pi$ form factor:

(Experimental data from COMPASS currently analysed.)

- Anomaly determining soft-point value in symmetry-preserving truncation confirmed.
- Spacelike momenta: Results of S. Cotanch and P. Maris (Phys. Rev. **D68** (2003) 036006) verified.
- Effect of hadron resonances (ρ & ω) for timelike $s \dots$

⇒ Long-term wish list: Time-like form factors from first-principle “functional” calculations.

To appear soon:

[F. Llanes-Estrada, A. Salas-Bernadez, RA]

Verification of 3P_0 meson production mechanism from

- chromo-electric flux-tube,
- non-linear Breit-Wheeler process and
- χ SB tensor structures of the quark-gluon vertex!

