# In-medium properties of the $\omega$ -meson near the production threshold

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## properties of the $\omega$ meson

well known for  $\rho=0$ :



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what happens in a medium?



exp. approaches for studying in-medium effects

- \* measurement of the meson lineshape:  $H \rightarrow X_1 + X_2$ reconstruction of invariant mass from 4-momenta of decay products:  $\mu(\vec{p},\rho,T) = \sqrt{p_1 + p_2}$ 
  - ensure that decays occur in the medium:
    - select shortlived mesons:  $s = \beta \gamma \cdot c\tau \approx 1.3 \text{ fm}(\rho)$ ; 23 fm( $\omega$ ); 46 fm( $\phi$ )
    - $\bigstar$  cut on low meson momenta for  $\omega$  and  $\phi$  mesons

sensitive to nuclear density at decay point!

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measurement of the momentum distribution: in case of a dropping in-medium mass: when leaving the nucleus hadron has to become on-shell; mass generated at the expense of kinetic energy;

<u>sensitive to nuclear density at production point!</u> advantage: independent of meson lifetime!

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## $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma$ invariant mass spectrum

hadronic decay channel:  $\gamma A \rightarrow (A-1)\omega p \rightarrow (A-1)\pi^0 \gamma p \rightarrow (A-1)\gamma \gamma \gamma p$ 



background determination: 2 approaches



average deviation from 1.0 in the mass range 430 – 650 MeV: 1% background determination: 2 approaches



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background determination: 2 approaches



## comparison of $\omega$ signal lineshapes



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comparison of  $\omega$  signal for different nuclei

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

ω-meson lineshape in good
agreement for C und Nb target
slightly broader compared
to LH<sub>2</sub> signal

## comparison of $\omega$ signal for different nuclei

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

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is this consistent with an in-medium broadening (Γ<sub>med</sub> ≈ 150 MeV) determined from the Transparency ratio?

(M. Kotulla et al., PRL 100 (2008), 192302)

### comparison of $\omega$ signal for different nuclei

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

ω-meson lineshape in good agreement for C und Nb target slightly broader compared to LH<sub>2</sub> signal

is this consistent with an in-medium broadening ( $\Gamma_{med} \approx 150$  MeV) determined from the transparency ratio?

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![](_page_17_Figure_5.jpeg)

GiBUU simulations (J. Weil)

energy range: 900 - 1300 MeV (E<sub>thresh</sub> = 1108 MeV)

<u>4 scenarios:</u> The in-medium modification

- \* collisional broadening ( $\Gamma_{med} = 150 \text{MeV}$ ) \* coll. broadening plus mass shift  $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{m}_0 \left(1 + \alpha \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)$
- ✤ mass shift (-16%)

![](_page_18_Figure_6.jpeg)

comparison exp. data to GiBUU (J. Weil / U. Mosel)

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

<u>GiBUU (for Nb target):</u> • no in-medium modification

- ✤ collisional broadening (Γ<sub>med</sub> = 150 MeV)
- \* collisional broadening plus mass shift  $(\Gamma_{med} = 150 \text{ MeV}, \alpha = -0.16)$

\* mass shift only  $(\alpha = -0.16)$ 

data disfavour "mass shift only" scenario

limited sensitivity to in-medium signal

experimentally observed mass distribution = convolution of spectral function with branching ratio into channel being studied

 $\frac{d\sigma_{H\to X_1X_2}}{d\mu} \sim A(\mu) \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}}{\Gamma_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{\mu \cdot \Gamma_{\text{tot}}}{\left(\mu^2 - m_V^2\right)^2 + \mu^2 \Gamma_{\text{tot}}^2} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}}{\Gamma_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}}{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}} = \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}}{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}} = \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}}{\Gamma_{V\to \text{final state}}} = \frac{\Gamma_{V\to \text{f$ 

(F. Eichstaedt et al.,

3 effects limit sensitivity:

- $\omega$  yield reduced by increase of in-medium width ( $\Gamma_{med} \approx 16 \cdot \Gamma_{vac}$ )
- spread out in mass

(M. Kotulla et al., PRL 100 (2008), 192302)

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 $\Rightarrow$  only 20% of all  $\omega$  decays occur at  $\rho > 0.1 \rho_0$ 

![](_page_20_Figure_9.jpeg)

measurement of the momentum distribution

- ✤ carbon beamtime
- \* analysis with exactly  $3\gamma$  (+0,1,2,... charged) final state
- $\bigstar$  wyield in different momentum bins

![](_page_21_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### measurement of the momentum distribution

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

data disfavour "mass shift" and "coll. broad. + mass shift" scenario

## conclusion and outlook

#### \* $\omega$ -lineshape analysis

- ✤ sensitive to nuclear density at decay point
- signal sensitive to background determination
- reduced sensitivity
- \* favours scenarios without mass shift
- - sensitive to nuclear density at production point
  - favours scenarios without mass shift
  - model dependent!

## conclusion and outlook

#### \* $\omega$ -lineshape analysis

- ✤ sensitive to nuclear density at decay point
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#### outlook:

- ↔ lineshape analysis: energy range  $E_{\gamma} = 900 1100$  MeV
- $\bullet$  cut on ω momentum:  $p_{\omega} < 300$  MeV

backup slides

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### prompt time event selection

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

photon / particle separation possible using time-of-flight 1

## charged particle identification

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### pion sideband subtraction

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)