# INCLUSIVE $\rho^{\circ}$ PRODUCTION IN $\gamma$ p INTERACTIONS 

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#### Abstract

Inclusive $\rho^{0}$ production in $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{0}+$ anything is studied at 2.8 ， 4.7 ，and 9.3 GeV ，using the SLAC linearly polarized backscattered laser photon beam and the $82^{\prime \prime}$ hydrogen bubble chamber．Over this energy range the inclusive inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ cross section rises from $6.0 \mu \mathrm{~b}$ to $20.5 \mu \mathrm{~b}$ ．The multiplicity，i． $\mathrm{e}_{\text {。 }}$ ，the average number of $\rho^{0}$ mesons per inelastic hadronic event，has an energy dependence consistent with $\ln \mathrm{s}$ ．

The inclusive cross section is studied as a function of Feynman $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{c} . \mathrm{m}$ 。rapidity，and $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ variables，and is also broken down into exclusive channels．At 9.3 GeV a forward inelastic peak is observed in the x distribution，containing mainly polarized $\rho^{\circ}$ mesons．The cross section for this inelastic diffractive component is $2.7 \pm 0.6 \mu \mathrm{~b}$ 。 The $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ distributions are exponential with a slope of $3-4(\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{-2}$ ， similar to that found in inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ production in pp and $\pi \mathrm{p}$ reactions．


## 1．Introduction

Quasi－elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ photoproduction in the exclusive reaction $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \mathrm{p} \rho^{\circ}$ plays the role of elastic scattering in hadronic interactions．Its study has been a powerful probe of the hadronic component of the photon．In contrast little in－ formation is available on inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ photoproduction．

Recently it has been shown［1－3］that inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ production in pp and $\pi p$ reactions is quite substantial and grows logarithmically with energy．It accounts for a considerable fraction of charged pion production and of lepton pairs．The question arises whether inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ production plays a similar role in $\gamma \mathrm{p}$ reac－ tions［4］。 The study of inclusive $\rho^{o}$ photoproduction has the added interest that leading particle effects $\left(\gamma \rightarrow \rho^{\circ}\right)$ can be studied。 In particular，with a polarized photon beam one can determine the cross section for diffraction dissociation $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{o}} \mathrm{X}\left(\mathrm{X}=\right.$ nucleon $\left.+\pi^{\prime} \mathrm{s}\right)$ via an s －channel helicity conserving（ SCHC ）natural－ parity exchange mechanism．

In this paper we present a measurement of inclusive inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ production by linearly polarized photons at energies $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8,4.7$ ，and 9.3 GeV ．The data were obtained from exposures of the $82^{\prime \prime}$ bubble chamber to the backscattered laser beam at SLAC．Our experimental setup and film analysis procedures have been reported in refs．$[5,6]$ ．The use of a bubble chamber allows an easy separation of quasi－elastic $\rho^{0}$ production via $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \mathrm{p} \rho^{\mathrm{O}}$ from inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ produc－ tion via $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{O}} \mathrm{X}$ 。 This is important because we wish to compare our results for the latter reaction with those from inclusive studies of $\pi \mathrm{p}$ or pp reactions， where the elastic scattering events are excluded．Our results on quasi－elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ production have already been reported［5］，as has our analysis of inclusive $\pi^{-}$production［7］。

## 2. Determination of Inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ Cross Sections

We include in our analysis all measured events without a visible strange particle decay, except those fitting the reactions $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \mathrm{p} \pi^{+} \pi^{-}, \mathrm{pK}^{+} \mathrm{K}^{-}$and $\mathrm{pp} \overline{\mathrm{p}}$ [5]. For particle momenta $<1.5 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}$ it was possible to distinguish pions from protons by ionization (below $0.8 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c} \mathrm{K}-\pi$ separation was also possible). In cases of ambiguity, charged tracks were taken to be pions.

Figures $1-3$ show the inclusive invariant mass distributions for all $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$ combinations at the three energies. We also show the mass distributions for four intervals of the $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pair Feynman $x$ variable $\left(x=p_{L}^{*} / p_{\max }^{*}-\right.$ the asterisk denotes the c.m. system)。

To determine cross sections and invariant structure functions $F(x)=$ $\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{E^{*}}{p_{\max }^{*}} \frac{\mathrm{~d} \sigma}{\mathrm{dx}}$, we divided the data into x -intervals and fitted the mass distributions to a relativistic p-wave Breit-Wigner $\dagger$ with a mass skewing factor $\left(M_{\rho} / M_{\pi \pi}\right)^{n}$ for the $\rho^{0}$, plus a second-order polynomial $\dagger \dagger$ in $M_{\pi^{+}} \pi^{-}$for the background. The mass skewing is discussed below. The fits were done in the mass range $0.52<\mathrm{M}_{+^{+}}<1.16 \mathrm{GeV}$, weighting each event by its detection efficiency [6]. For the $\rho^{\circ}$ we assumed a fixed mass of 0.765 GeV and a fixed width of 0.145 GeV . The resulting fits are indicated by full lines in figs. 1-3, while the background is indicated by dashed lines. Our procedure is the same as that used by refs. [1,2a,3b,3d] in hadron-initiated reactions.

Table I gives the resulting cross sections at the three energies for four x intervals, and the total inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ cross section obtained by fitting the

[^1]inclusive mass distribution for all $x$. The $\chi^{2}$ per degree of freedom for each fit is given in the last column of table I. The errors are statistical only; varying the $\rho^{\circ}$ width by $\pm 10 \mathrm{MeV}$ changes the quoted cross sections by $3-9 \%$, which is within one standard deviation.

Previous studies of quasi-elastic $\rho^{0}$ photoproduction have shown that the $\rho^{0}$ interferes with a p-wave $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$background [5]. This interference induces changes in the mass shape which can be well described phenomenologically by a mass skewing factor $\left(M_{\rho} / M_{\pi \pi}\right)^{n}$ [5]. We have included such a factor in our fits and investigated the dependence of $n$ on $x$. The values found for $n(x)$ in the four $x$ intervals are also listed in table $I$. At $9.3 \mathrm{GeV}, \mathrm{n}(\mathrm{x})$ increases as x approaches its upper limit, and in the forward direction is similar to the value found in quasi-elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ photoproduction [5]. At 4.7 and 2.8 GeV , no appreciable skewing nor systematic dependence of $n$ on $x$ were found, and average fixed values of +1 and 0 respectively were used throughout. All cross sections have been corrected by $5-7 \%$ to account for the $\rho^{\circ}$ tails outside the fitted mass range.

## 3. Results and Discussion

In fig. 4 we show $\mathrm{d} \sigma / \mathrm{dy}_{\mathrm{c} . \mathrm{m}}$. for inelastic $\rho^{0}$ production at the three energies obtained by similar fits. The $\rho^{\circ}$ is produced predominantly in the forward hemisphere $(63,68$, and $71 \%$ at $2.8,4.7$, and 9.3 GeV , respectively)。

The invariant structure function $F(x)$ for inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ production is shown in fig. 5 for the 2.8 and 4.7 GeV data and in fig. 6 for the 9.3 GeV data. The curve in fig。 6 describes the $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi^{-} X$ data from ref. [7] normalized by the
ratio of the $\rho^{0}$ to $\pi^{-}$multiplicities at this energy. The data in figs. 5-6 are presented in smaller $x$ bins than those given in table $I$, in order to emphasize the structure of the cross section. Fig。 6 indicates that the 9.3 GeV cross section is composed of two components: (a) a broad distribution similar to $F(x)$ for inclusive $\pi^{-}$photoproduction which peaks near $x=0$, and (b) a photon diffraction dissociation forward peak which rises rapidly from $x=0.75$ to the forward kinematical limit.

In fig. 7 we show evidence that the leading $\rho^{\mathrm{O}_{\mathbf{\prime}}} \mathrm{S}$ in the diffraction forward peak are polarized like the photon beam. We plot the distributions of $\cos \theta_{\mathrm{H}}$ and $\psi_{H}$, where $\theta_{H}$ is the polar angle of the decay $\pi^{+}$in the s-channel helicity system, and $\psi_{\mathrm{H}}$ is its azimuth with respect to the beam polarization plane (as defined in ref. [5]). We plot the angles for all $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pairs in the $\rho$ mass region and forward $x$ interval. In the helicity frame we observe the characteristic $\sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{H}}$ and $\cos ^{2} \psi_{\mathrm{H}}$ signals of an s-channel helicity conserving (SCHC) $\rho^{\circ}$ above the background. This feature is similar to quasi-elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ photoproduction [5]. It was observed first in the inelastic inclusive $\pi^{-}$azimuthal distribution at 9.3 GeV in ref. [7]. In the Gottfried-Jackson and Adair frames [5], the $\cos \theta$ distribution (also shown in the figure) is more isotropic, indicating the production mechanism is better described by SCHC than by t-channel helicity conserving or spin-independent models [5].

In ref. [5] we defined a cross section for SCHC and natural-parity exchange $\rho{ }^{0}$ production as

$$
\Pi=\frac{1}{\mathrm{P}_{\gamma}}\left(\frac{40 \pi}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum \operatorname{ReY}_{2}^{2}\left(\theta_{\mathrm{H}}, \psi_{\mathrm{H}}\right)=\frac{2.5}{\mathrm{P}_{\gamma}} \sum \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{H}} \cos 2 \psi_{\mathrm{H}}
$$

where $P_{\gamma}$ stands for the degree of linear polarization of the photon beam [5]. $\Pi$ is shown in fig. 8 as a function of $\mathrm{M}_{\pi^{+} \pi^{-}}$for the two forward $x$-intervals at
$\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=4.7,9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ ．No SCHC $\rho^{\circ}$ signal is observed in the other two intervals or at 2.8 GeV ．The resulting cross sections $\sigma_{\text {DIFF }}$ ，obtained by summing over the mass distributions in fig．8，are given in table I and plotted as a function of $x$ in fig．6．Quantitatively we find that $60 \%$ of the 9.3 GeV cross section for $x>0.8$ is due to SCHC $\rho^{\circ}$ events．Using the SCHC cross section at 9.3 GeV as an estimate of inelastic diffractive $\rho^{0}$ production，we obtain $2.7 \pm 0.6 \mu \mathrm{~b}$ ，in agreement with a theoretical estimate by Go Wolf［8］．Thus we conclude that， like elastic hadron scattering and quasi－elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ photoproduction［5］，the dif－ fraction dissociation of the photon into a rho seems to be a dominantly s－channel helicity conserving process．This supports the view that approximate SCHC is a universal property of Pomeron exchange，in both elastic and inelastic pro－ cesses［9］．

In fig。 9 we compare $F(x)$ at 9.3 GeV （normalized to $\sigma_{\text {inel }}(\gamma p)$ ）to a typical leading particle distribution in hadronic collisions，namely，$\pi^{+} \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \pi^{+} \mathrm{X}$ at 7 $\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}$［10］（normalized to $\sigma_{\text {inel }}(\pi \mathrm{p})$ ）．The two are roughly similar in shape。 We also plot the result for $\pi^{+} \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\circ} \mathrm{X}$ at $16 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}[2 \mathrm{~b}]$ 。 It agrees with the photoproduction data in magnitude and shape，except for the forward diffractive peak in the photoproduction data。

In table II we relate our inclusive results to $\rho^{0}$ cross sections in the exclu－ sive channels．＊We note that most of the diffractive SCHC cross section is due to 3－and 4－body events（counting the $\rho^{\circ}$ as one body），resembling the behavior of the diffractive component in hadronic reactions at very high energies［11］． We also note that a part of the 9.3 GeV SCHC $\rho^{0}$ signal in the $22 \pi^{+} 2 \pi^{-}$channel is

[^2]due to polarized $\rho^{\prime \prime}(1600)$ production [12]. At 4.7 GeV the SCHC signal comes entirely from the $n 2 \pi^{+} \pi^{-}$channel.

The inclusive inelastic $\rho^{0}$ cross sections at the three energies are summarized in table III. For completeness the quasi-elastic $\gamma p \rightarrow p \rho{ }^{\circ}$ cross sections [5], as computed by more elaborate maximum likelihood fits, are also given. Using the same mass fits as for the inelastic events, we obtain cross sections which agree within $6 \%$. The resulting multiplicities for both total and inelastic $\rho^{\circ}$ production are also listed in the table。

Comparing the $\pi^{-}$average multiplicities in this experiment [7], with the total $\rho^{\circ}$ multiplicities at the three energies, we observe that the $\rho^{\circ} / \pi^{-}$ratio is roughly constant at $22-25 \%$. This would give a contribution to direct lepton photoproduction of $\mathrm{e}^{-} / \pi^{-} \sim 10^{-5}$.

We note the interesting fact that, although the quasi-elastic cross section decreases with energy, the increasing inclusive inelastic cross section more than compensates for this decrease, and thus the total inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ cross section and multiplicity are rising. In fact, both the total and inelastic multiplicities can be well described by a logarithmic rise, and a fit yields:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle\rho^{0}\right\rangle^{I}=(-0.18 \pm 0.04)+(0.13 \pm 0.02) \ln \mathrm{s} \\
& \left\langle\rho^{\circ}\right\rangle^{T}=(0.09 \pm 0.05)+(0.07 \pm 0.02) \ln \mathrm{s}
\end{aligned}
$$

where I and $T$ denote the inelastic and total multiplicities, respectively. If the coefficient of $\ln \mathrm{s}$ in the first equation is an indication of the high energy behavior, the height of the (asymptotic) plateau in the rapidity distribution should be about $13 \mu \mathrm{~b}$, and this seems to be reached already at 9.3 GeV .

At $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ the $\rho^{\mathrm{O}} / \pi^{-}$ratio (with the quasi-elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ contribution taken out in both numerator and denominator) is $0.16 \pm 0.02$. This is to be compared with a constant $\rho^{0} / \pi^{-}$ratio of $0.19 \pm 0.02$ in $\pi^{+} p \rightarrow \rho^{0} \mathrm{X}$ at 8,16 , and $23 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}[2 \mathrm{~b}]$, and $0.20 \pm 0.02$ in $\pi^{-} \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\circ} \mathrm{X}$ at $16 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}$ (where the leading $\pi^{-}$is excluded [3e])。 In all three processes the $\rho^{\circ}$ is produced both by central resonance production and by beam fragmentation [2b, 3 e ].

Finally we present in fig。 $10 \mathrm{~d} \sigma / \mathrm{dp}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ at the three energies. These cross sections are fitted to a simple exponential of the form $A e^{B p_{T}^{2}}$, for $p_{T}^{2}<0.8$ $(\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{2}$. The resulting slopes B are given in table IV. They are typically 3-4 $(\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{-2}$ and similar to the slopes found for $\rho^{0}$ inclusive production in hadronic collisions [2b,3e], as compared to a slope of around $6(\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{-2}$ for pion photoproduction [7] and nonleading pion production in $\pi \mathrm{p}$ collisions [2b, 3e]. Thus the $\rho^{0} / \pi^{-}$ratio increases with $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ in the low $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ region accessible to this experiment.

Table IV also shows the average $\left\langle\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}\right\rangle$ for the four x -intervals. In the forward x -region $\left\langle\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}\right\rangle$ is smaller than the average (i. $\mathrm{e}_{0}$, the slope is higher)。 This is a kinematical effect due to phase space limitations. However, the surprising feature is that $\left\langle\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}\right\rangle$ continues to increase as x approaches 0 , as opposed to the dip at $\mathrm{x}-0$ (sea gull effect [13]) seen for pions [7]. This again is in agreement with the behavior observed for $\rho^{\circ}$ production in hadronic processes [2a,3].

In conclusion we observe that at energies of $3-10 \mathrm{GeV}$ the total $\rho^{\circ}$ inclusive cross section is substantial, and the $\rho^{\circ}$ multiplicity is consistent with a logarithmic increase with $s$. The inelastic $\rho^{0}$ 's are predominantly emitted in the forward hemisphere, with an exponential $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ distribution which is flatter than that for pions. At 9.3 GeV we observe for $0.8<\mathrm{x}<1.0 \mathrm{a} 2.7 \pm 0.6 \mu \mathrm{~b}$ signal of helicity conserving polarized inelastic $\rho^{0^{\prime}} s$, recoiling against a low mass baryon-pion system, the analog of inelastic diffraction in hadronic reactions. Acknowledgements

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TABLE I
Reaction $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \pi^{+} \pi^{-} \mathrm{X}\left(\mathrm{X}=\right.$ nucleon $+\mathrm{m} \pi^{\prime} \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{m} \geq 1$ )。 Inclusive $\rho^{0}$ cross sections, mass skewing parameter $n$ and $\chi^{2}$ per degree of freedom, as obtained from fits to the $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$ mass distributions for various intervals of Feynman X。 $\sigma_{\text {DIFF }}$ is the cross section for $\rho^{\circ}$ production via SCHC and natural-parity exchange.

| $\begin{gathered} { }^{5} y \\ (G e v) \end{gathered}$ | $x$ Interval | $\begin{gathered} \sigma\left(\rho^{0}\right) \\ (\mu \mathrm{b}) \end{gathered}$ | $\sigma_{(\mu \mathrm{b})}^{\operatorname{DIF}^{(\rho)}}$ | $n(x)$ | $\chi^{2 / R}$. F. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2.8 | (-1.0) - (-0.3) | $0.8 \pm 0.4$ | * | 0.0 | 18/12 |
|  | $(-0.3)-(0.3)$ | $2.8 \pm 0.9$ | * | 0.0 | 11/12 |
|  | (0.3) - (0.8) | $2.2 \pm 0.7$ | * | 0.0 | 12/12 |
|  | (0.8) - (0.92) | $0.19 \pm 0.17$ | * | 0.0 | 10/12 |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sum } \\ \text { Inclusive fit } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.0 \pm 1.2 \\ & 6.1 \pm 1.2 \end{aligned}$ | * | 0.0 | 10/12 |
| 4.7 | (-1.0) - (-0.3) | $1.8 \pm 0.4$ | * | 1.0 | 6/12 |
|  | $(-0.3)-(0.3)$ | $4.9 \pm 0.9$ | * | 1.0 | 17/12 |
|  | (0.3) - (0.8) | $5.3 \pm 0.7$ | $0.6 \pm 0.4$ | 1.0 | 28/12 |
|  | (0.8) - (0.96) | $1.1 \pm 0.2$ | $0.3 \pm 0.1$ | 1.0 | 19/12 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sum } \\ & \text { Inclusive fit } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13.1 \pm 1.2 \\ & 13.9 \pm 1.3 \end{aligned}$ | $0.9 \pm 0.4$ | 1.0 | 37/12 |
| 9.3 | (-1.0) - $(-0.3)$ | $1.6 \pm 0.3$ |  |  |  |
|  | $(-0.3)-(0.3)$ | $8.5 \pm 0.9$ | * | $2.2 \pm 1.1$ | 21/10 |
|  | (0.3) - (0.8) | $7.9 \pm 0.6$ | $1.2 \pm 0.5$ | $2.0 \pm 0.1$ | 14/11 |
|  | (0.8) - (1.0) | $2.5 \pm 0.2$ | $1.5 \pm 0.2$ | $4.1 \pm 0.6$ | $6 / 11$ |
|  | Sum Inclusive fit | $\begin{aligned} & 20.5 \pm 1.1 \\ & 19.9 \pm 1.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.7 \pm 0.6 \\ & 2.7 \pm 1.0 \end{aligned}$ | $1.7 \pm 0.8$ | 27/11 |

*These values are consistent with zero within one standard deviation and do not show any trend in the $\rho$ mass region, and thus were not included in the sums.

TABLE II
Total and diffractive (SCHC) $\rho^{\circ}$ cross sections in the various exclusive channels at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8,4.7$, and 9.3 GeV .

| Channel | 9.3 GeV |  | 4.7 GeV |  | 2.8 GeV |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\sigma\left(\rho^{\circ}\right)$ <br> ( $\mu \mathrm{b}$ ) | $\underset{(\mu \mathrm{b})}{\mathrm{DIFF}^{\left(\rho^{\circ}\right)}}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \sigma\left(\rho^{0}\right) \\ (\mu \mathrm{b}) \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \sigma_{\mathrm{DIFF}}\left(\rho^{0}\right) \\ (\mu \mathrm{b}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \sigma\left(\rho^{\circ}\right) \\ (\mu \mathrm{b}) \end{gathered}$ |
| $\mathrm{p} \pi^{+} \pi^{-} \pi^{0}$ | $0.8 \pm 0.2$ | $0.5 \pm 0.2$ | $1.2 \pm 0.4$ | ${ }^{*}$ | $1.8 \pm 0.6$ |
| n $2 \pi^{+} \pi^{-}$ | $1.9 \pm 0.2$ | $0.7 \pm 0.2$ | $4.1 \pm 0.5$ | $1.0 \pm 0.4$ | $3.8 \pm 0.7$ |
| Multineutral | $4.0 \pm 0.5$ | $0.8 \pm 0.4$ | $2.8 \pm 0.7$ | * | $0.0 \pm 0.5$ |
| Sum 3 prongs | $6.6 \pm 0.6$ | $2.0 \pm 0.5$ | $8.1 \pm 0.9$ | $1.0 \pm 0.4$ | $5.6 \pm 1.1$ |
| p $2 \pi^{+} 2 \pi^{-}$ | $3.5 \pm 0.3$ | $1.2 \pm 0.3$ | $3.4 \pm 0.5$ | * | $1.5 \pm 0.5$ |
| p $2 \pi^{+} 2 \pi^{-} \pi^{\text {o }}$ | $1.2 \pm 0.3$ |  | $1.1 \pm 0.4$ | * | - |
| ก $3 \pi^{+} 2 \pi^{-}$ | $2.1 \pm 0.4$ | * | $1.6 \pm 0.4$ | * | - |
| Multineutral | $4.3 \pm 0.7$ | * |  | - | - |
| $\mathrm{pK}^{+} \mathrm{K}^{-} \pi^{+} \pi^{-}$ | $0.1 \pm 0.06$ | * | $0.1 \pm 0.07$ | * | - |
| Sum 5 prongs | 11.2土0.9 | $1.2 \pm 0.3$ | $6.2 \pm 0.8$ | * | $1.5 \pm 0.5$ |
| p $3 \pi^{+} 3 \pi^{-}$ | $1.2 \pm 0.2$ | * | $0.2 \pm 0.1$ | * | - |
| p $3 \pi^{+} 3 \pi^{-} \pi^{\circ}$ | $1.0 \pm 0.2$ | * | - | - | - |
| n $4 \pi^{+} 3 \pi^{-}$ | $1.1 \pm 0.3$ | * | - | - | - |
| $\mathrm{pK}^{+} \mathrm{K}^{-} 2 \pi^{+} 2 \pi^{-}$ | $0.08 \pm 0.04$ | * | - | - | - |
| Sum 7 prongs | $3.4 \pm 0.6$ | * | $0.2 \pm 0.1$ | * | - |
| Sum | $21.2 \pm 1.3$ | $3.2 \pm 0.6$ | 14.51 .2 | $1.0 \pm 0.4$ | $7.1 \pm 1.2$ |

*These values are consistent with zero within one standard deviation and do not show any trend in the $\rho^{0}$ mass region, and thus were not included in the sums.

TABLE III
Inclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ cross sections and multiplicities.

| $\begin{gathered} \left.\mathrm{E}_{\gamma} \gamma^{\prime}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{s} \\ \left(\mathrm{CeV}^{2}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\sigma\left(\rho^{\circ}\right) \quad(\mu \mathrm{b})$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \sigma_{\text {inel }}(\gamma)^{*} \\ (\mu b) \\ (\text { Refs. } 5,6) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\left\langle\rho^{0}\right\rangle$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Inclusive Inelastic | Ouasielastic (Ref.5) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Inclusive } \\ \text { Total } \end{gathered}$ |  | Inelastic | Total ${ }^{\dagger}$ |
| 2.8 | 6.1 | $6.0 \pm 1.2$ | $21.0 \pm 1.0$ | $27.0 \pm 1.6$ | 102.9土3.2 | $0.06 \pm 0.01$ | $0.22 \pm 0.01$ |
| 4.7 | 9.7 | $13.1 \pm 1.2$ | $16.2 \pm 0.7$ | $29.3 \pm 1.4$ | 102.1*3.1 | $0.13 \pm 0.01$ | $0.25 \pm 0.01$ |
| 9.3 | 18.3 | $20.5 \pm 1.1$ | $13.3 \pm 0.5$ | $33.8 \pm 1.2$ | $100.9 \pm 2.6$ | $0.21 \pm 0.01$ | $0.30 \pm 0.01$ |

*Total $\gamma \mathrm{p}$ cross section excluding the quasi-elastic reaction $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \mathrm{p} \rho^{\circ}$ and events with visible strange particle decays.
$\dagger$ Including quasi-elastic $\rho^{\circ}$ production。

TABLE IV
Average transverse momentum squared in four intervals of Feynman $x$ and the slope $B$ of the $\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ distribution at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8,4.7$, and 9.3 GeV 。

| $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{E}_{\gamma} \\ (\mathrm{GeV}) \end{gathered}$ | $\left\langle\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}\right\rangle(\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{2}$ |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{B} \\ (\mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c})^{-2} \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $-1<x<-0.3$ | $-0.3<x<0.3$ | $0.3<x<0.8$ | $0.8<x<1 \mid$ | A11 $x$ |  |
| 2.8 | $0.23 \pm 0.08$ | $0.30 \pm 0.07$ | $0.20 \pm 0.07$ | $0.13 \pm 0.13$ | $0.25 \pm 0.04$ | $3.7 \pm 0.7$ |
| 4.7 | $0.26 \pm 0.05$ | $0.33 \pm 0.06$ | $0.28 \pm 0.04$ | $0.09 \pm 0.02$ | $0.28 \pm 0.03$ | $3.1 \pm 0.4$ |
| 9.3 | $0.37 \pm 0.08$ | $0.35 \pm 0.05$ | $0.30 \pm 0.03$ | $0.18 \pm 0.03$ | $0.31 \pm 0.02$ | $3.6 \pm 0.3$ |

## Figure Captions

1．Effective mass distributions of the $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pairs at $E_{\gamma}=9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ ，for various intervals of the Feynman $x$ variable，as well as the overall mass distribution．Curves are results of fits to $\rho^{\circ}$ and background（see text）。

2．Effective mass distributions of the $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pairs at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=4.7 \mathrm{GeV}$ ，for various intervals of the Feynman x variable，as well as the overall mass distribution．Curves are results of fits to $\rho^{\circ}$ and background（see text）。

3．Effective mass distributions of the $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pairs at $E_{\gamma}=2.8 \mathrm{GeV}$ ，for various intervals of the Feynman $x$ variable，as well as the overall mass distribution．Curves are results of fits to $\rho^{\circ}$ and background（see text）。

4．Distribution of $d \sigma / d_{c_{。}} \mathrm{~m}_{0}$ for the reaction $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{O}} \mathrm{X}$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8,4.7$ ，and 9． 3 GeV 。

5．Inelastic structure function $\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{x})$ for the reaction $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{O}} \mathrm{X}$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8$ and 4.7 GeV 。

6．Inelastic structure function $\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{x})$ for the reaction $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{o}} \mathrm{X}$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ （full circles），together with $F(x)$ for $\rho^{\circ}$ production via SCHC and natural－ parity exchange（Diffractive－open squares）．The curve shows $F(x)$ for $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \pi^{-} \mathrm{X}$ at the same energy［7］，multiplied by the ratio of $\rho^{\circ}$ to $\pi^{-}$mul－ tiplicities．

7．Decay angular distribution of $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$pairs in the $\rho$ mass band with $\mathrm{x}>0.8$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ ．The helicity（ H ），Gottfried－Jackson（GJ），and Adair（A） reference systems are used．For definition of the angles see text．
8．The $\pi^{+} \pi^{-}$mass distributions at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=4.7$ and 9.3 GeV in the two forward x intervals（histograms），with the moment II described in the text super－ imposed as full points．The curves are the results of the fits to the mass distributions．
9. Inelastic structure functions $F(x)$, normalized to the inelastic cross sections, for the reactions $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{o}} \mathrm{X}$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=9.3 \mathrm{GeV}$ (data points), $\pi^{+} \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \pi^{+} \mathrm{X}$ at $7 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}$ from ref. [10] (solid curve), and $\pi^{+} \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{o}} \mathrm{X}$ at $16 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{c}$ from ref. [2b] (dashed curve).
10. Distribution of $\mathrm{d} \sigma / \mathrm{dp}_{\mathrm{T}}^{2}$ for the reaction $\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{o}} \mathrm{X}$ at $\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=2.8,4.7$, and 9. 3 GeV 。


Fig. 1

$$
\begin{gathered}
\gamma \mathrm{p} \rightarrow \pi^{+} \pi^{-} \mathrm{X} \\
\mathrm{E}_{\gamma}=4.7 \mathrm{GeV}
\end{gathered}
$$



Fig. 2


Fig. 3


Fig. 4


Fig. 5


Fig. 6


Fig. 7


Fig. 8


Fig. 9


Fig. 10


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[^1]:    †As in Appendix A of ref. [5].
    $\dagger \dagger$ Generally a second-order polynomial led to statistically acceptable fits and described well the $\pi^{+} \pi^{+}$and $\pi^{-} \pi^{-}$mass distributions. Fitting with a thirdorder polynomial yielded usually results within one standard deviation, with the coefficient of the third power consistent with zero. When occasionally the fit improved by adding a third-order term, that fit was used.

[^2]:    ＊The sums of the exclusive $\rho^{\circ}$ cross sections in table II agree within errors with the total $\rho^{\circ}$ cross sections from table I and hence confirm the internal consistency of the fitting procedure．

