



University of
Zurich^{UZH}

The Cusp and other lessons from NA48/2

Gino Isidori

[*University of Zürich*]

- ▶ How large can direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm$ be?
- ▶ The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp
- ▶ The most important lessons from NA48/2

► How large can direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm be$?

- After many years spent investigating CP violation in the neutral kaon sector, *Italo's dream* was finding an evidence of **matter-antimatter asymmetry** with charged kaons.
- On general grounds, if CP violation is mediated by $\Delta S=1$ interactions (as predicted in the SM), we should observe a difference in partial decay widths (or kinematical distributions) of K^+ and K^- decays.

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- After many years spent investigating CP violation in the neutral kaon sector, *Italo's dream* was finding a an evidence of **matter-antimatter asymmetry** with charged kaons.
- On general grounds, if CP violation is mediated by $\Delta S=1$ interactions (as predicted in the SM), we should observe a difference in partial decay widths (or kinematical distributions) of **K^+** and **K^-** decays.
- The most promising candidate are the slope asymmetries in $K \rightarrow 3\pi$:

$$|A(K \rightarrow 3\pi)| \propto 1 + gY + jX + hY^2 + kX^2 + \dots$$

$$Y = (s_3 - s_0)/M_\pi^2$$

$$X = (s_1 - s_2)/M_\pi^2$$

$$(\Delta g)_+ = \frac{g_{++-} - g_{--+}}{g_{++-} + g_{--+}} \neq 0 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad (\text{direct}) \text{ CPV}$$

- How large these asymmetries can be, both within & beyond the SM, is a problem that kept some of us busy for quite some time...

► How large can direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm be$?

**1989 Prediction of Direct {CP} Violation for
 $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ Decays in Chiral Perturbation Theory**

A.A. Belkov, A.V. Lanyov (Serpukhov, IHEP), G. Bohm (DESY, Zeuthen), D. Ebert (Dubna, JINR)

Published in **Phys.Lett. B232 (1989) 118-122**

→ claim $\Delta g \sim \text{few} \times 10^{-4}$ in the SM

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G. D'Ambrosio (INFN, Naples), G. Isidori (Rome U.), N. Paver (Trieste U. & INFN, Trieste). Oct 1991. 4 pp.

Published in **Phys.Lett. B273 (1991) 497-500**

CP violation in $K^\pm \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays and lattice QCD B factors

Gino Isidori, Luciano Maiani, Alessandra Pugliese (Rome U. & INFN, Rome). Dec 1991

Published in **Nucl.Phys. B381 (1992) 522-543**

My first two
publications... !

→ we proved Δg can be at most $\sim \text{few} \times 10^{-5}$ in the SM

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1999 Direct CP violation in $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays induced by SUSY chromomagnetic penguins

G. D'Ambrosio (INFN, Naples & Naples U.), G. Isidori (Frascati), G. Martinelli (Orsay, LAL). Nov 1999.

Published in **Phys.Lett. B480 (2000) 164-170**

→ $\Delta g \sim 10^{-4}$ possible beyond the SM (*with some fine-tuning in ε'*)

► How large can direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm be$?

EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

CERN/SPSC 2000-003
CERN/SPSC/P253 add.3
January 25, 2000

ADDENDUM III
(to Proposal P253/CERN/SPSC)
for a Precision Measurement of Charged Kaon Decay Parameters with an
Extended NA48 Setup

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Italo's dream was not too much
influenced by our theoretical work.

He was still convinced it was
important to look on real data
(ask Nature, not theoreticians...)
how much K^+ and K^- decay
distributions can differ.

He was indeed one of the main
proponents of a beautiful
experiment (NA48/2) addressing
this question...

► How large can direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm$ be?

... that despite didn't observed CPV violation in $K \rightarrow 3\pi$,
did produced very interesting results, among which the fascinating
(*and totally unexpected...*) discovery of the cusp effect:

1. **Observation of a cusp-like structure in the $\pi^0 \pi^0$ invariant mass distribution**
(165) **from $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$ decay and determination of the $\pi \pi$ scattering lengths**

NA48/2 Collaboration (J.R. Batley (Cambridge U.) *et al.*). Nov 2005. 16 pp.

Published in *Phys.Lett. B* **633** (2006) 173-182

DOI: [10.1016/j.physletb.2005.11.087](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2005.11.087)

e-Print: [hep-ex/0511056](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/0511056) | [PDF](#)

[References](#) | [BibTeX](#) | [LaTeX\(US\)](#) | [LaTeX\(EU\)](#) | [Harvmac](#) | [EndNote](#)

[CERN Document Server](#); [ADS Abstract Service](#)

[Detailed record](#) - [Cited by 165 records](#) 100+

2. **Search for direct CP violating charge asymmetries in $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$ decays**
(152) **$\rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$ decays**

NA48/2 Collaboration (J.R. Batley (Cambridge U.) *et al.*). Jun 2007. 28 pp.

Published in *Eur.Phys.J. C* **52** (2007) 875-891

CERN-PH-EP-2007-021

DOI: [10.1140/epjc/s10052-007-0456-7](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-007-0456-7)

e-Print: [arXiv:0707.0697](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/0707069) [hep-ex] | [PDF](#)

[References](#) | [BibTeX](#) | [LaTeX\(US\)](#) | [LaTeX\(EU\)](#) | [Harvmac](#) | [EndNote](#)

[CERN Document Server](#); [ADS Abstract Service](#)

[Detailed record](#) - [Cited by 152 records](#) 100+

3. **New high statistics measurement of $K(e4)$ decay form factors and $\pi \pi$ scattering phase shifts**
(134) **phase shifts**

NA48/2 Collaboration (J.R. Batley (Cambridge U.) *et al.*). Oct 2007. 24 pp.

Published in *Eur.Phys.J. C* **54** (2008) 411-423

CERN-PH-EP-2007-035

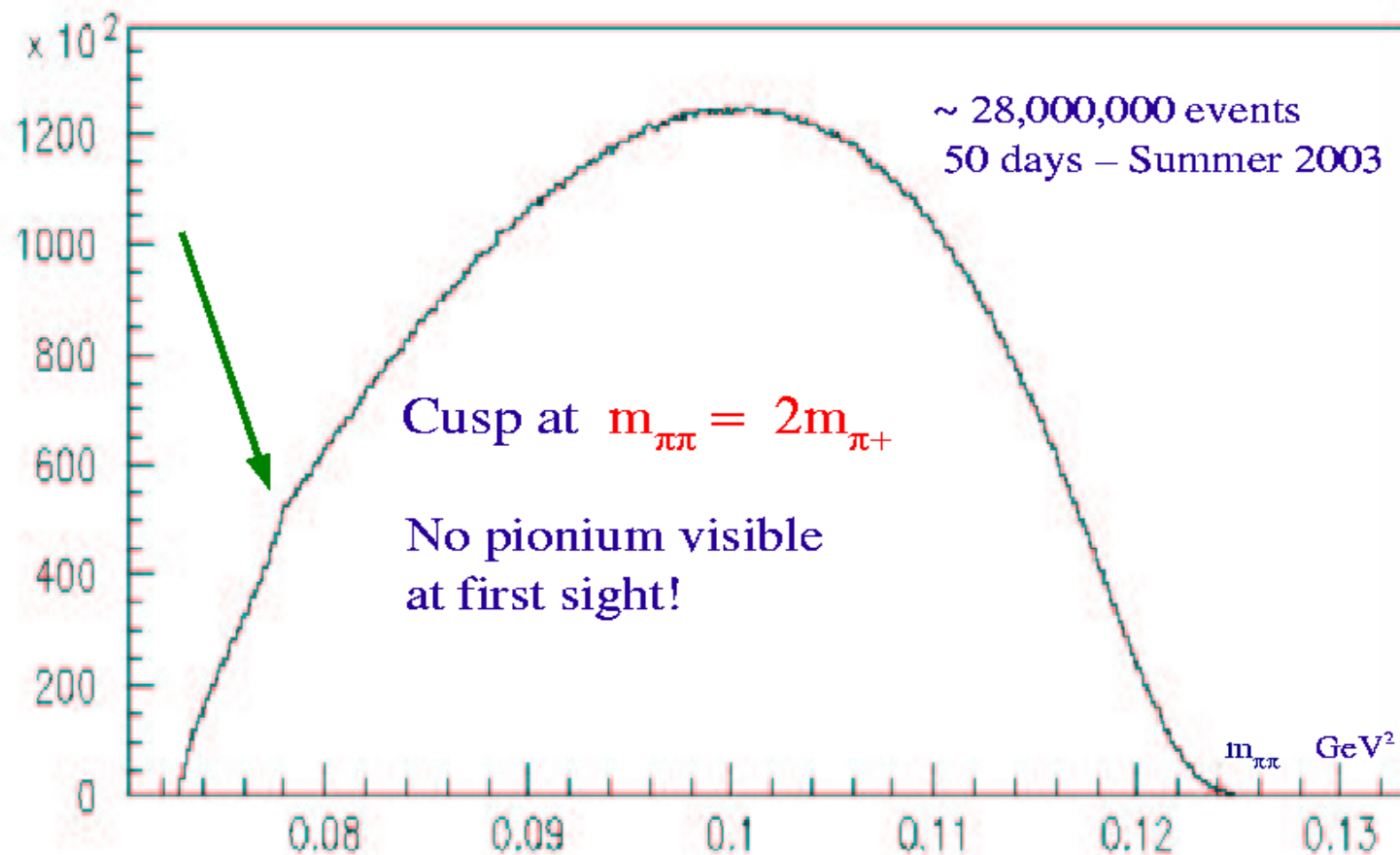
DOI: [10.1140/epjc/s10052-008-0547-0](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjc/s10052-008-0547-0)

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[CERN Document Server](#)

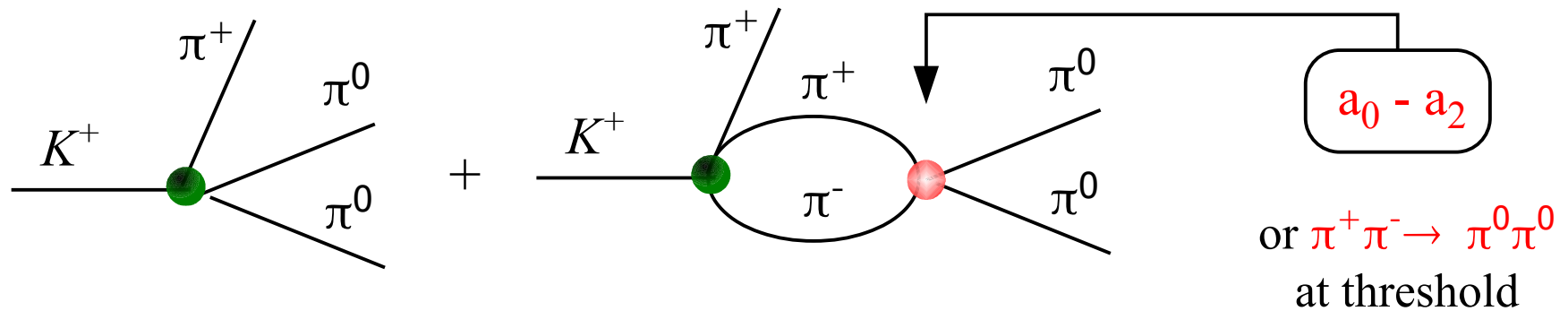
[Detailed record](#) - [Cited by 134 records](#) 100+

*Top-cited
papers by
NA48/2:*

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp**NA48/2 data $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$** 

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

The origin of this discontinuity is due to a re-scattering effect, as pointed out by Nicola Cabibbo [*a “young” member of NA48/2 at that time...*] as soon as he looked at the data:



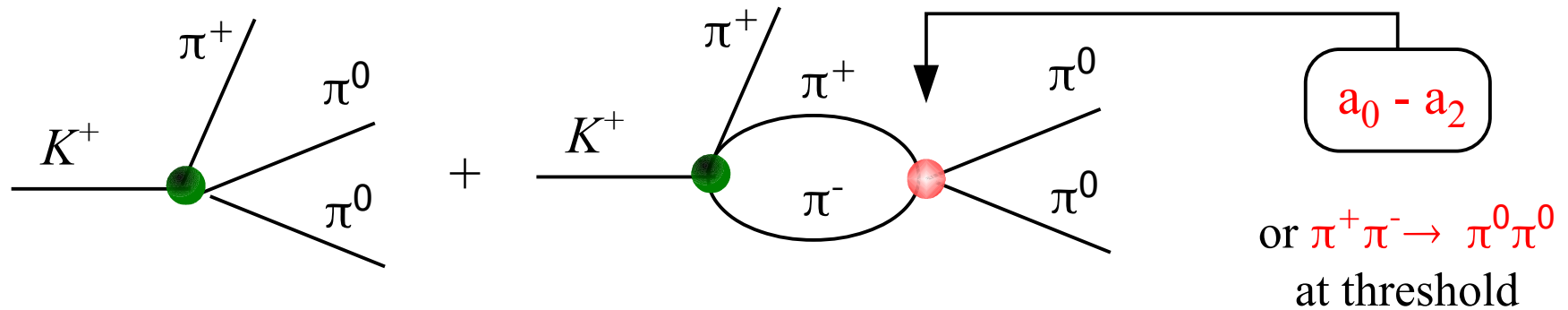
The decay amplitude is an analytic function of the (neutral) di-pion invariant mass $s = (M_{\pi^0 \pi^0})^2$, but the existence of a real intermediate state implies a discontinuity across the real axis for $s > s_0 = (2m_{\pi^+})^2$

$$T(s+i\epsilon) - T(s-i\epsilon) = i \rho_{\pi\pi}(s) T_{K \rightarrow 3\pi}(s) T_{\pi\pi \rightarrow \pi\pi}(s) \Theta(s-s_0)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \pi^+ \pi^- \text{ phase-space} \end{array} \quad v_{\pi^+ \pi^-}(s) \sim (s-s_0)^{1/2}$$

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

The origin of this discontinuity is due to a re-scattering effect, as pointed out by Nicola Cabibbo [*a “young” member of NA48/2 at that time...*] as soon as he looked at the data:



$$s > s_0 \quad T(s) = A(s) + B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}$$



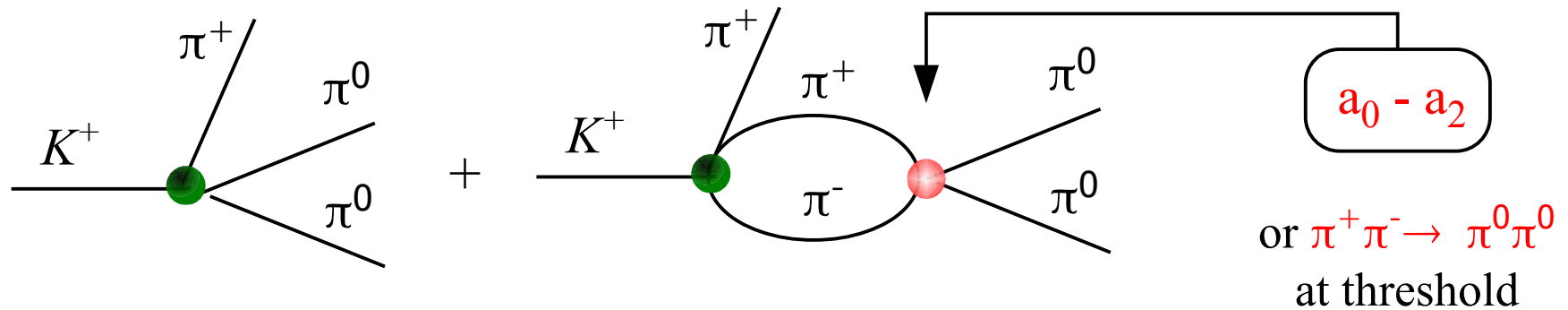
Analytic continuation below the threshold

$$s < s_0 \quad T(s) = A(s) + \mathbf{i} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}$$

$A(s)$ & $B(s)$ regular around s_0

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

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$$s > s_0 \quad T(s) = A(s) + B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}$$

$$|T(s)|^2 = [\operatorname{Re} A(s) + \operatorname{Re} B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}]^2 + [\operatorname{Im} A(s) + \operatorname{Im} B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}]^2$$

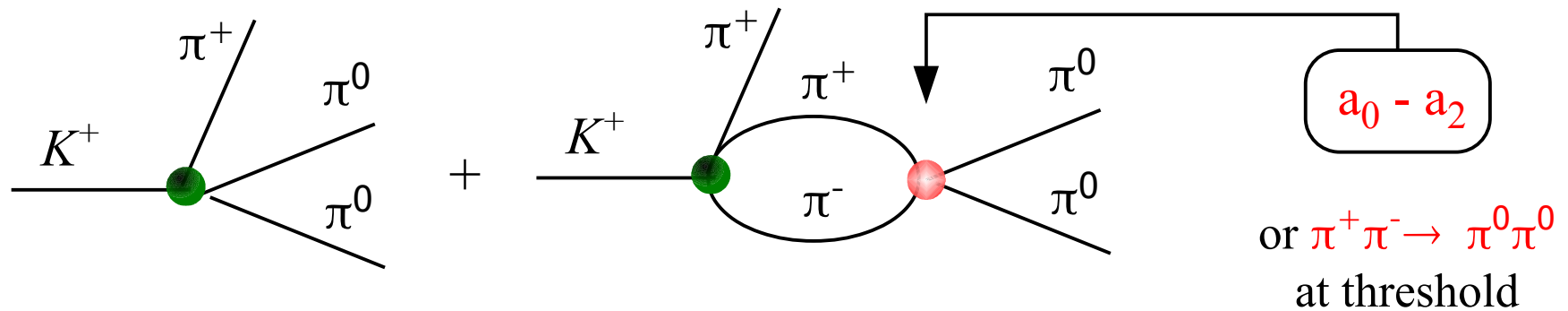
$$s < s_0 \quad T(s) = A(s) + \mathbf{i} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}$$

$$|T(s)|^2 = [\operatorname{Re} A(s) - \operatorname{Im} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}]^2 + [\operatorname{Im} A(s) + \operatorname{Re} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}]^2$$

$A(s)$ & $B(s)$ regular around s_0

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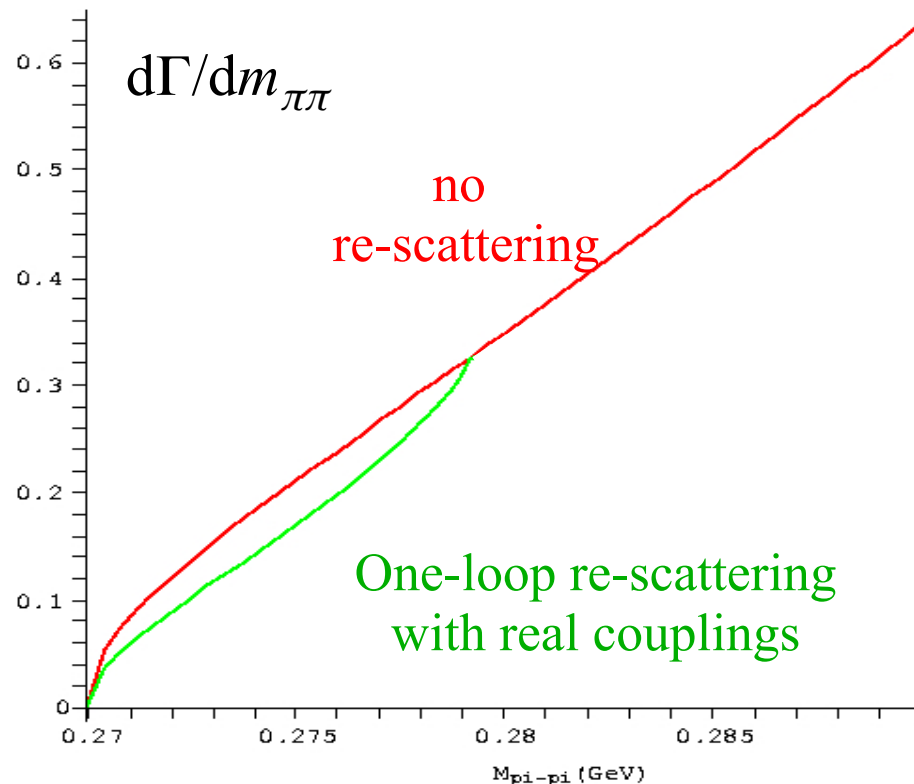
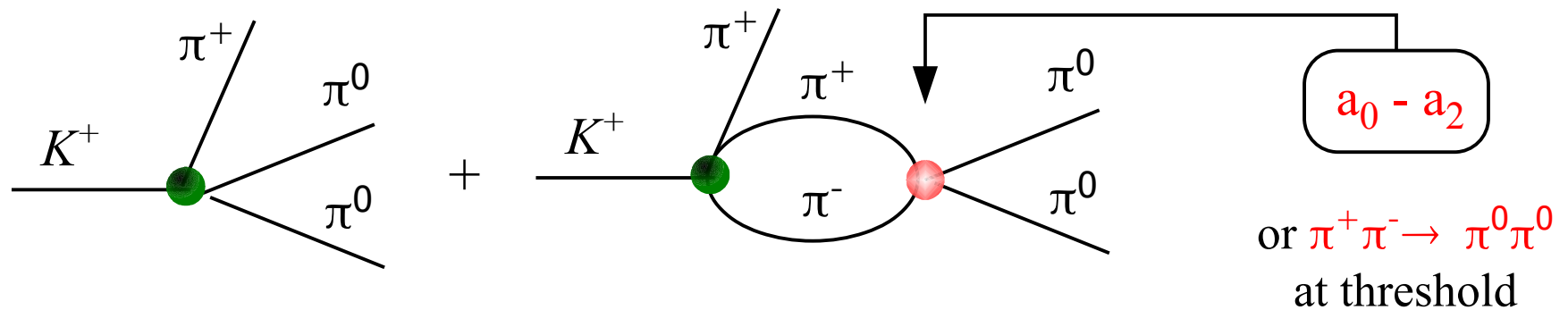
$$\longrightarrow |T(s)|^2 = [\text{Re}A(s) + \cancel{\text{Re} B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}}]^2 + [\cancel{\text{Im}A(s)} + \text{Im} B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}]^2$$

$$s < s_0 \quad T(s) = A(s) + \textcolor{red}{i} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}$$

$$\longrightarrow |T(s)|^2 = [\text{Re}A(s) - \text{Im} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}]^2 + [\cancel{\text{Im}A(s)} + \cancel{\text{Re} B(s) (s_0-s)^{1/2}}]^2$$

in the limit where $A(s)$ = real & $B(s)$ = imaginary (real one-loop couplings)
we have a square-root behavior below the threshold

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp



It then became clear this effect [*the Cabibbo-Mannelli effect*] could be a new way to measure $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths

Provided we were able to describe it in detail, also beyond the one-loop level

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

Why are $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths interesting?

- Very accurate (unique) prediction by means of Chiral Perturbation Theory:

$$a_0 m_\pi = 0.220 \pm 0.005 \quad a_2 m_\pi = -0.0445 \pm 0.0010$$

$$(a_0 - a_2) m_\pi = 0.265 \pm 0.004$$

1.5% relative error !

Weinberg '79

⋮

Colangelo *et al.* '00-'01

- Their smallness (and their accurate prediction) is a direct consequence of the **pseudo-Goldstone boson nature of the pions**
- The only way to modify these predictions is to modify the basic assumptions of CHPT → different values can be obtained assuming a more complicated structure for the QCD vacuum (in particular assuming m_π^2 is not linear in m_q)

$$m_\pi^2 = (m_u + m_d) \frac{\langle 0 | \bar{q}_L q_R | 0 \rangle}{F_\pi^2} + O(m_q^2)$$

The measure of the a_1 is a direct probe of the QCD vacuum !

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

Toward a precise prediction of the cusp effect (I):

A full calculation of $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ within CHPT is not very useful:

- slow convergence of the chiral expansion
- too many free parameters

...but we don't need to compute the full decay amplitude !

- possible to perform a **systematic expansion in powers of the a_I** of the amplitudes which determine the coefficient of the singularity

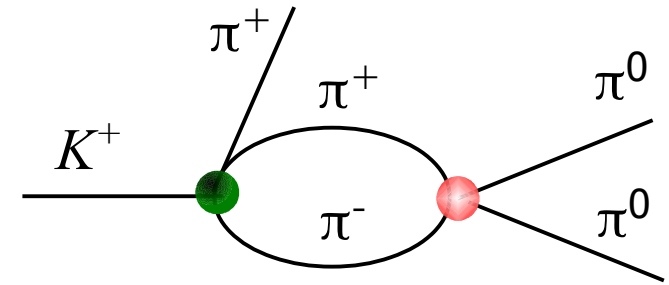
Ad hoc construction which maximize the available experimental info on $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ and use only:

- **Unitarity & analyticity**
- **Smallness of the a_I**
- **Smallness of $v_{\pi\pi} = (s-s_0)^{1/2}$**

Cabibbo & G.I., JHEP '05

$$T(s) = A(s) + B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}$$

$A(s)$ & $B(s)$ regular around s_0

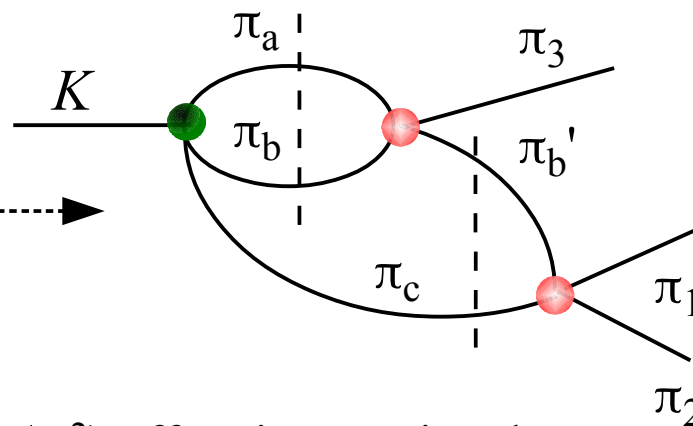


$$T(s) = A(s) + B(s) (s-s_0)^{1/2}$$

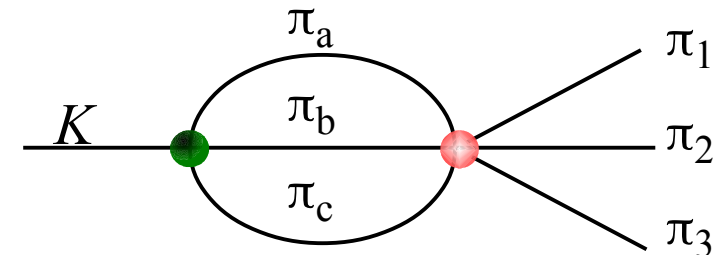
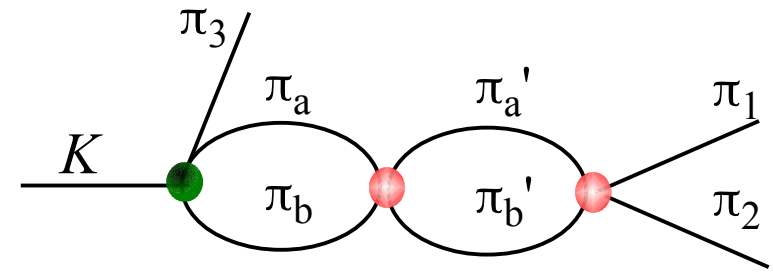
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Re}A(s) &= O(1) && \text{exp. data} \\ \text{Im}A(s) &= O(a_I) && \text{one-loop} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im}B(s) &= O(a_I) && \text{one-loop} \\ \text{Re}B(s) &= O(a_I^2) && \text{two-loop} \end{aligned}$$

relevant 2-loop
topologies:



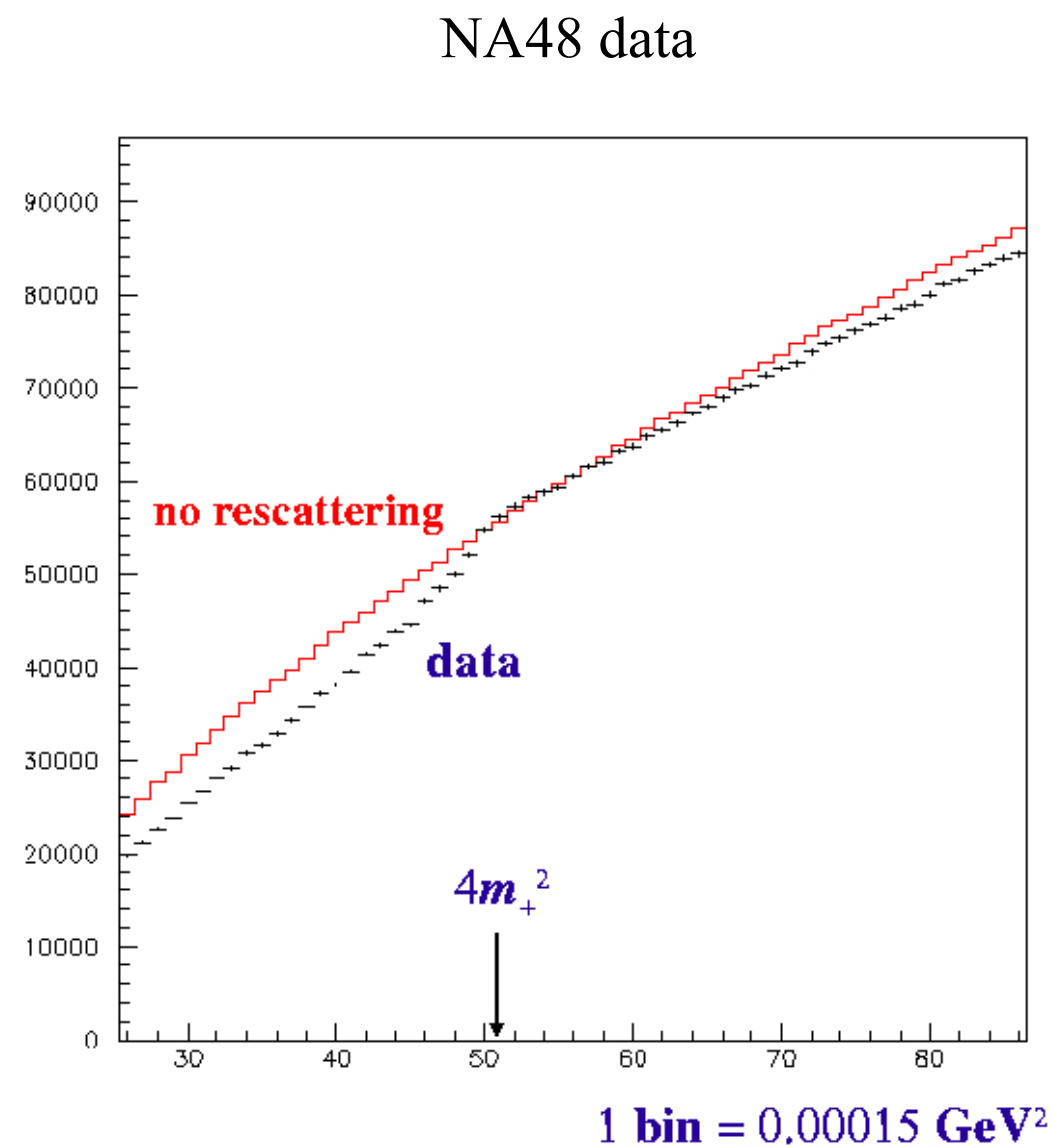
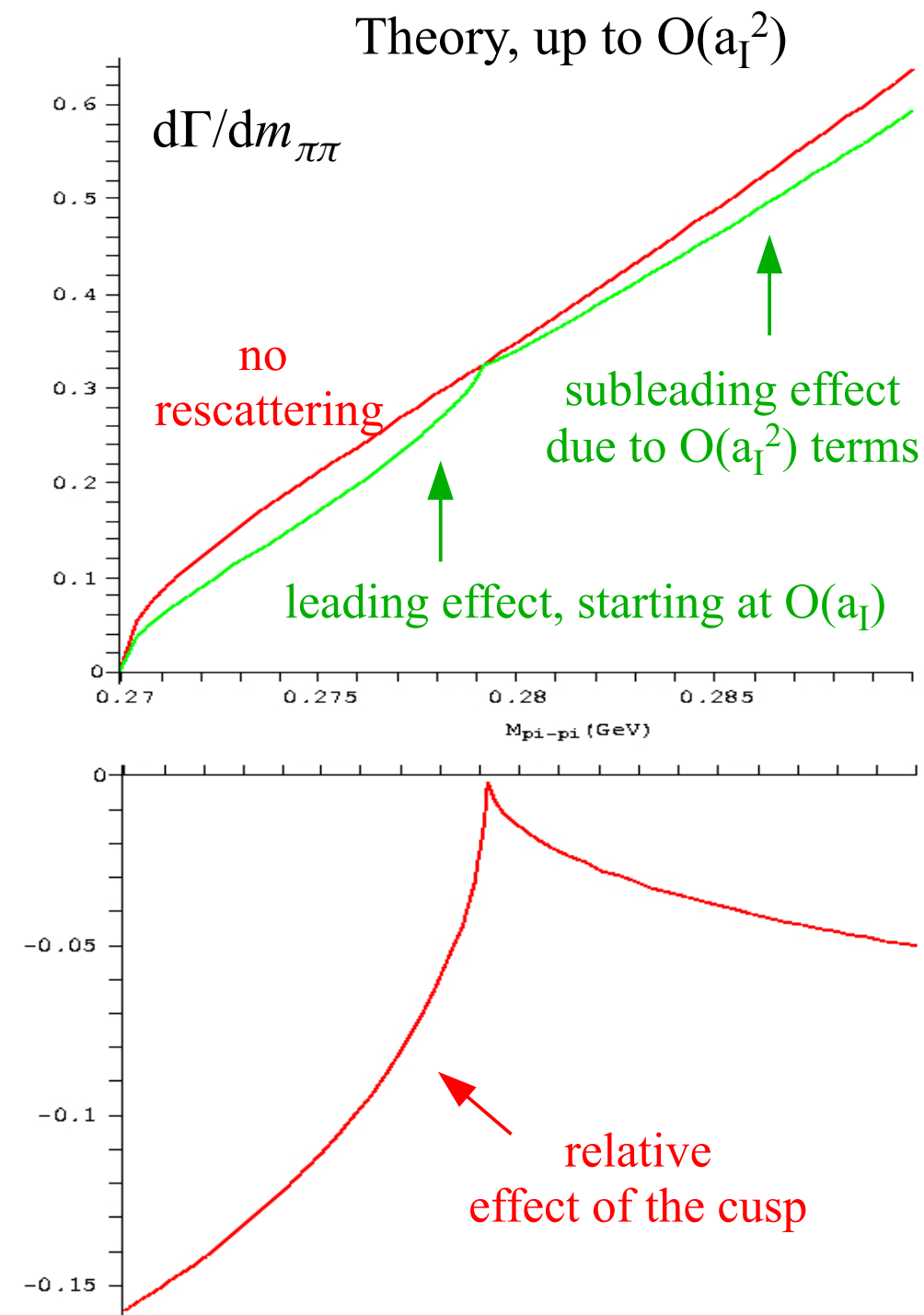
The largest $O(a_I^2)$ effect is associated to this double cut (new phase due to pions with “large” relative velocity)



N.B.: at $O(a_I^2)$ the parameterization depends in a different way from (a_0-a_2) & a_2 :



possible to determine
both combinations !



► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

Toward a precise prediction of the cusp effect (II):

- Our analysis of the cusp effect was done in an effective theory where $m_{\pi^+} - m_{\pi^0}$ (*and soft photons*) are the only source of isospin breaking \Rightarrow a more accurate treatment require the systematic inclusions of **e.m. corrections beyond bremsstrahlung**

Bissegger, Fuhrer, Gasser, Kubis, Rusetsky '09

- E.m. effects turns out to produce corrections which can effectively be re-absorbed into a shift of the a_1 except very close to the $\pi^+\pi^-$ threshold, where they are responsible for the **formation of** a bound state: **pionium** [*this is one of the reasons why a consistent inclusion of e.m. effect took quite some time...*]

Probability of pionium
formation:

$$\frac{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + A_{\pi\pi})}{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)} \approx 7.4 \times 10^{-6}$$

Silagadze '94

Life-time of the pionium:

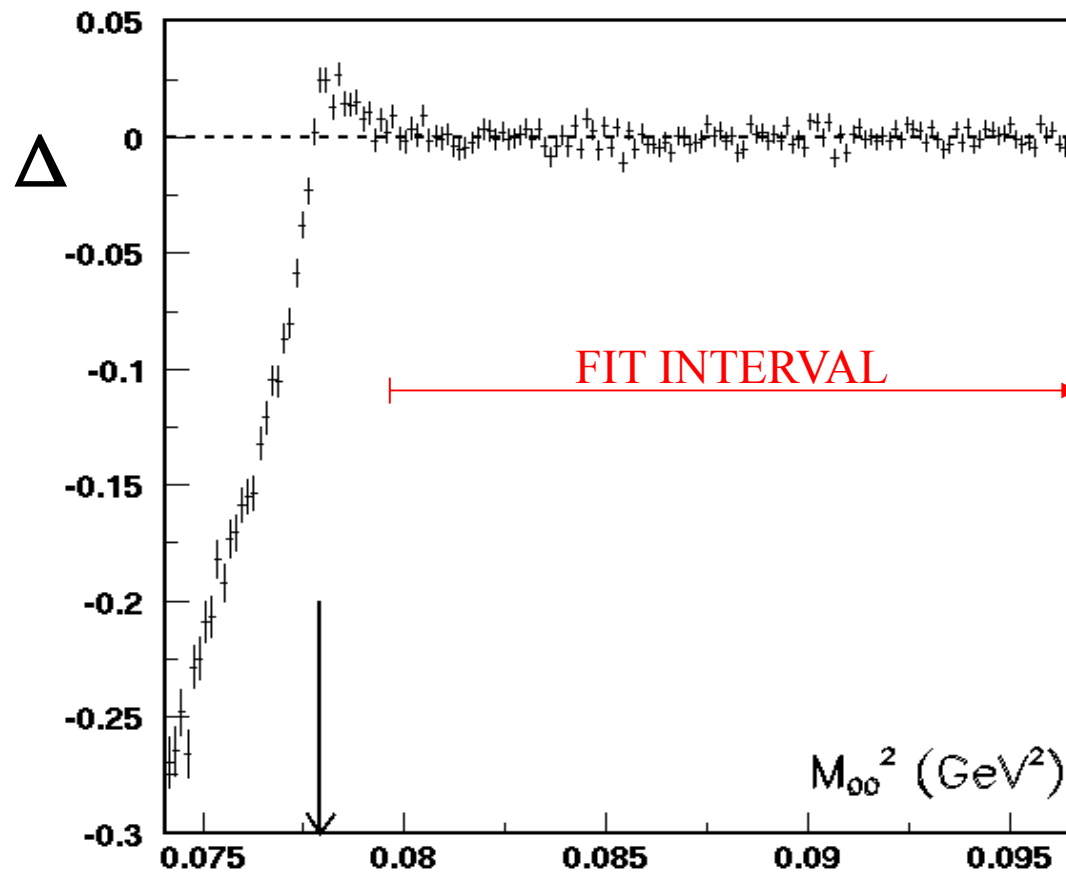
$$\Gamma(A_{\pi\pi}) \approx 3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}$$

Gasser *et al.* '01

- The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp: a closer look to NA48/2 data [*courtesy of Luigi di Lella*]

$$\Delta \equiv (\text{data} - \text{fit}) / \text{data} \text{ versus } M_{00}^2$$

Without the re-scattering effect....



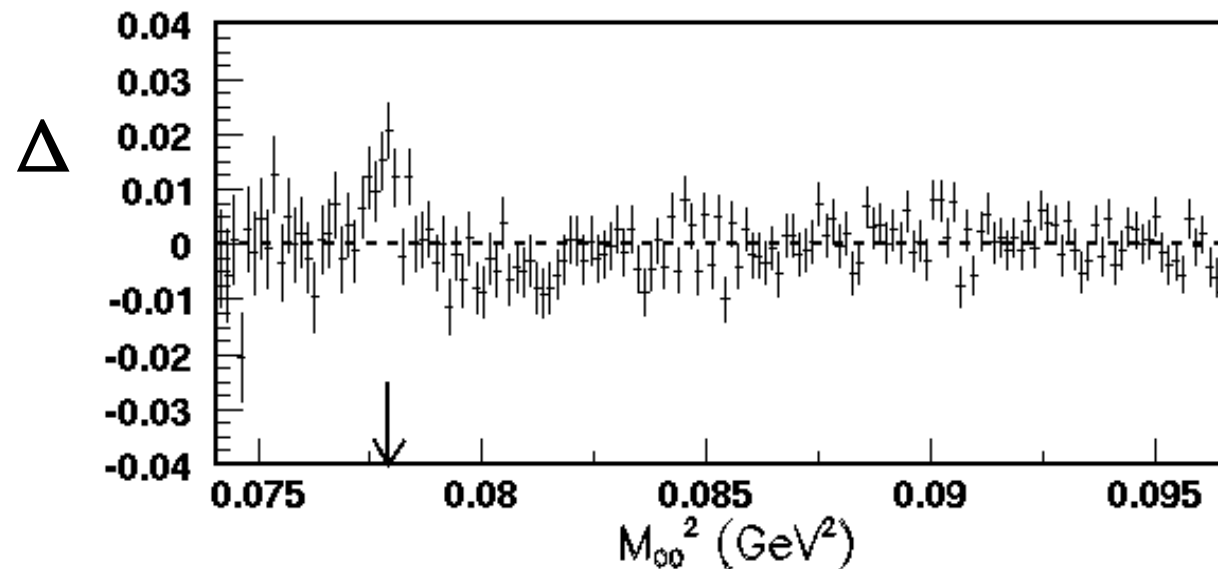
$$\chi^2 = 13574 / 148 \text{ d.o.f.} \Rightarrow 120 / 110 \text{ d.o.f.}$$

- The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp: a closer look to NA48/2 data [courtesy of Luigi di Lella]

$$\Delta \equiv (\text{data} - \text{fit}) / \text{data} \text{ versus } M_{\pi\pi}^2$$

One-loop parameterization [Cabibbo, P.R.L. '04]

One additional parameter with respect to the PDG fit: $(a_0 - a_2)m_\pi$



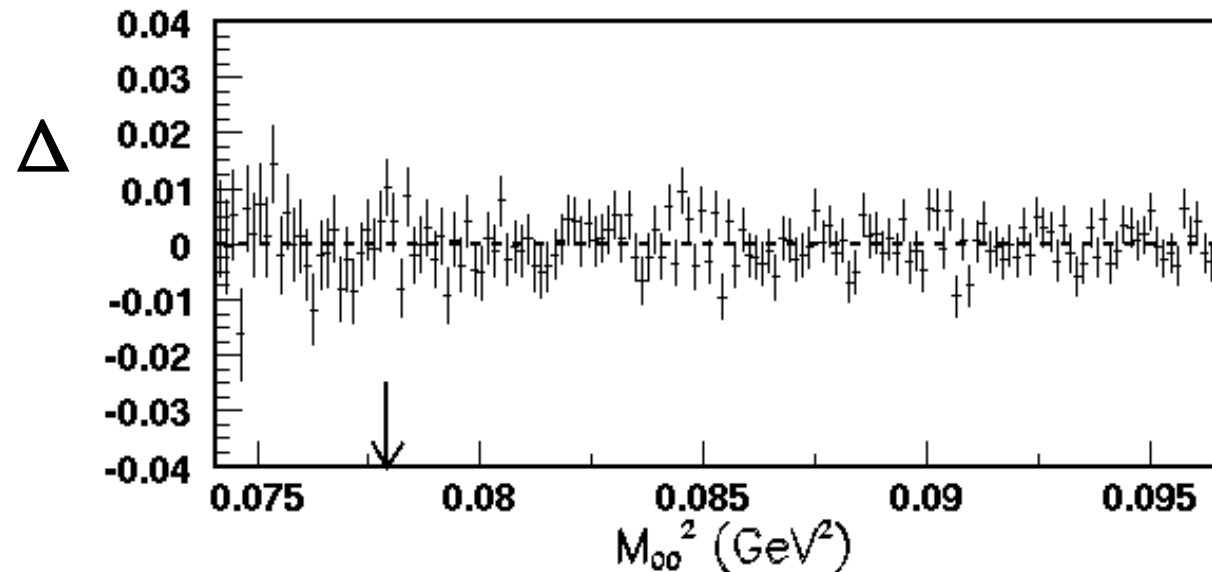
$$\chi^2 = 217 / 147 \text{ d.o.f.}$$

- The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp: a closer look to NA48/2 data [*courtesy of Luigi di Lella*]

$$\Delta \equiv (\text{data} - \text{fit}) / \text{data} \text{ versus } M_{00}^2$$

Two-loop parameterization [Cabibbo & G.I., JHEP '05]

Two additional parameters with respect to the PDG fit: $(a_0 - a_2)m_\pi$ & $a_2 m_\pi$



$$\chi^2 = 156 / 146 \text{ d.o.f.}$$

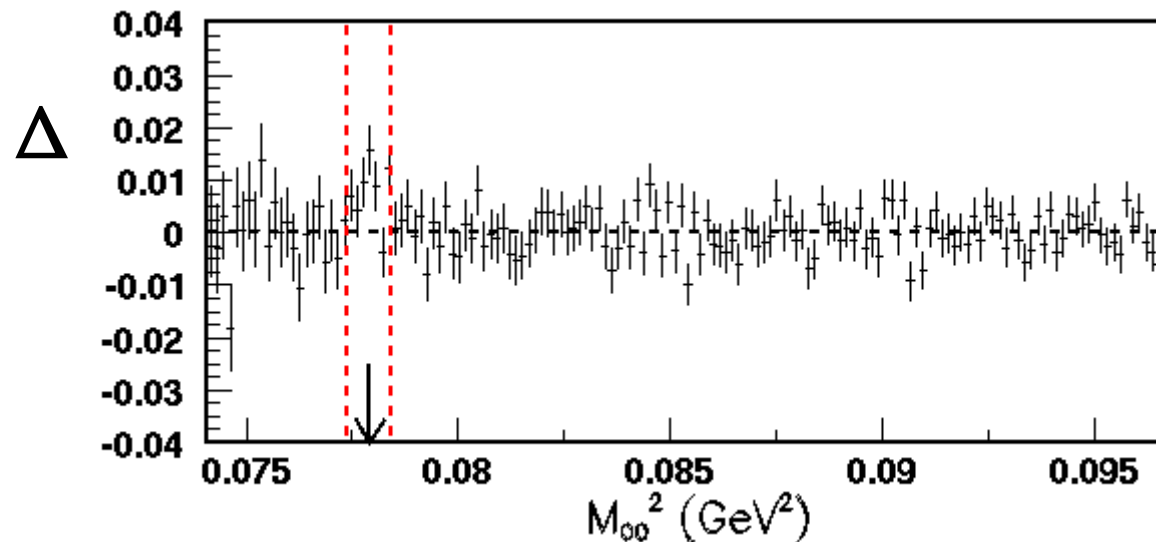
► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp: a closer look to NA48/2 data [*courtesy of Luigi di Lella*]

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Two-loop parameterization [Cabibbo & G.I., JHEP '05]

Two additional parameters with respect to the PDG fit: $(a_0 - a_2)m_\pi$ & $a_2 m_\pi$

Fit excluding 7 bins centered around $M_{00} = 2m_{\pi^+}$



Excess of events in excluded bins \Rightarrow evidence for pionium

Statistical significance $\sim 2.5 \sigma$
[agreement with th. expectations]

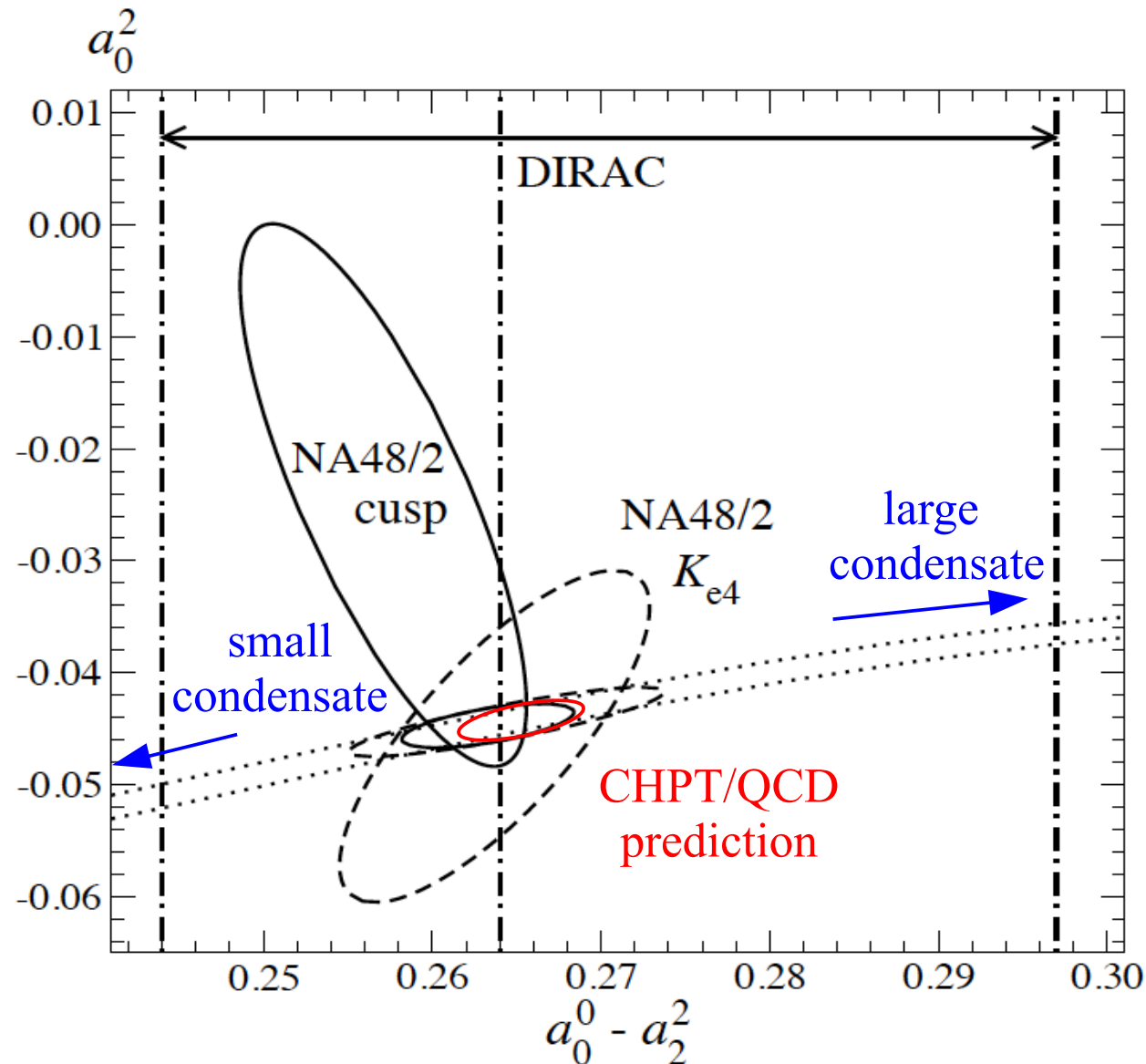
$$\chi^2 = 141 / 139 \text{ d.o.f.} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_0^0 - a_0^2 &= 0.2571 \pm 0.0048_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.0025_{\text{syst}} \pm 0.0014_{\text{ext}} \\ a_0^2 &= -0.024 \pm 0.013_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.009_{\text{syst}} \pm 0.002_{\text{ext}} \end{aligned}$$

Values corrected for e.m. effects [Bissiger *et al.* '09]

► The $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ cusp

Final impact of NA48/2 in the determination of $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths:



Bastian Kubis '09
Cusp effects in meson decays

► *The most important lessons from NA48/2*
[*at least from my perspective...*]:

- The importance of “having a vision”, possibly challenging current beliefs, and able to inspire others [*“Italo's dream”...*]
- The importance of a close collaboration between theory and experiments [*The “Cabibbo-Mannelli” effect...*]
- The most interesting results are the unexpected ones... [*The cusp effect was true discovery !*]