

Evolution of charm-meson ratios in an expanding hadron gas

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CONTENTS





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A t-channel scattering process: an unstable particle decays and one of its decay products is scattered.

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The singularity arises if the exchanged particle can be on-shell.

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t-channel singularity

First pointed out by Peierls in 1961 in π N* scattering



The exchanged N can be on-shell, which leads to a divergence in the cross section.

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V First pointed out by Peierls in 1961 in π N* scattering



The exchanged N can be on-shell, which leads to a divergence in the cross section.

Peierls suggested that reaction rate could be regularized by inserting width of N* into N propagator, but the large cross section is unphysical. \bigcirc

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The t-channel singularities is unavoidable in reactions involving unstable particles.



Accounting for the finite sizes of the colliding beams results in the regularization of this singularity.

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K. Melnikov and V.G. Serbo, PRL 76, 3263 (1996)

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The t-channel singularities is unavoidable in reactions involving unstable particles.



Accounting for the finite sizes of the colliding beams results in the regularization of this singularity.

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K. Melnikov and V.G. Serbo, PRL 76, 3263 (1996)



Elastic scattering: W⁻e⁻ \rightarrow e⁻W⁻ mediated by v_e, *etc.* Inelastic scattering: W⁻v_e \rightarrow e⁻Z mediated by vbar_e, *etc.*

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In a thermal medium, a t-channel singularity is regularized by the thermal width of the exchanged particle.

$$egin{aligned} rac{1}{t-M^2} & \longrightarrow rac{1}{t-M^2-\Pi}, & \Pi pprox 2M\delta M - iM \Gamma \end{aligned}$$

Grzadkowski, Iglicki, and Mr´owczy´nski, NPB 984, 115967 (2022)

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Thermally averaged cross section quickly increases with $x \equiv M/T$.

Grzadkowski, Iglicki, and Mr´owczy´nski, NPB 984, 115967 (2022)

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 $\pi D^* \rightarrow \pi D^*$ scattering has t-channel singularity because exchanged D can be on-shell.

In hadron gas, the divergences are regularized by thermal width of D.



M*: mass of D* M: mass of D m: mass of π

1 The beginning of a story Motivation

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Does t-channel singularities in charm-meson reactions have any observable consequences?

One possibility is that t-channel singularities could modify the charm-meson abundances produced in a high-energy collision through the interactions with hadron gas (mainly pions after kinetic freezeout).

1 The beginning of a story Motivation

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The observed numbers N₀ and N₊ of D⁰ and D⁺ can be predicted in terms of the numbers $(N_a)_0$ and $(N_{*a})_0$ before D^{*} decays and the branching fraction B₊₀ = 68% for D^{*+} \rightarrow D⁰ π^+ :

$$N_{0} = (N_{0})_{0} + (N_{*0})_{0} + B_{+0} (N_{*+})_{0},$$

$$N_{+} = (N_{+})_{0} + 0 + (1 - B_{+0}) (N_{*+})_{0},$$

We will show that the charm-meson abundances are modified by t-channel singularities.

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Charm-mesons in heavy-ion collision

Heavy-ion collisions proceed through several stages:

Quark-gluon plasma (QGP)



Hadron resonance gas (HRG)



Kinetic freeze-out



Expanding hadron gas

The formation and thermalization of the QGP

The deconfined quarks and gluons hadronize into HRG

Particles stop interacting, momentum distributions frozen

Charm-mesons in heavy-ion collision



Charm quarks are primarily created in the hard collisions of the heavy ions.

Hadronization:

Statistical Hadronization Model (SHM) SHMc (SHM for charm)

Multiplicities before D* decays predicted by SHMc:

 $(dN_0/dy)_0 = 2.12,$ $(dN_+/dy)_0 = 2.03,$ $(dN_{*0}/dy)_0 = 2.59,$ $(dN_{*+}/dy)_0 = 2.52.$

> A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger and J. Stachel, Nucl. Phys. A 772, 167-199 (2006); A. Andronic, *etc.*, JHEP 07, 035 (2021).

Charm-mesons in heavy-ion collision



The t-channel singularities in charm meson reactions could have significant effects

 either during the expansion and cooling of the HRG between hadronization and kinetic freezeout (requires a full treatment of the HRG) or during the expansion of the hadron gas after kinetic freezeout (thermal widths are determined primarily by the pion number density).

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We study the effects of t-channel singularities in charm meson reactions in the expansion of the hadron gas after kinetic freeze-out.

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Expanding hadron gas



— Expanding hadron gas is mainly PIONS!

Volume V(τ) for $\tau > \tau_F$:

$$V(\tau) = \pi \left[R_F + v_F (\tau - \tau_F) \right]^2 c\tau,$$

$$\tau_F = 21.5 \text{ fm}/c, R_F = 24.0 \text{ fm}, \text{ and } v_F = 1.00 \text{ c}$$

Number density for pions as system expanding:

$$\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}(\tau) = [V(\tau_F)/V(\tau)]\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}(\tau_F).$$

J.D. Bjorken, PRD 27, 140-151 (1983));
J. Hong, *etc.*, PRC 98, 014913 (2018);
L.M. Abreu, PRD 103, 036013 (2021).

Expanding hadron gas



Expanding hadron gas is mainly PIONS!

Volume V(au) for au > au_{F} : $V(au) = \pi \left[R_F + v_F (au - au_F) \right]^2 c au$,

$$\tau_F = 21.5 \text{ fm}/c, R_F = 24.0 \text{ fm}, \text{ and } v_F = 1.00 c$$

Number density for pions as system expanding:

 $\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}(\tau) = [V(\tau_F)/V(\tau)]\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}(\tau_F).$

We can estimate the charm-meson number densities at times τ before D* decays (initial parameters):

 $\mathfrak{n}_{D^{(*)}}(\tau) = [(dN_{D^{(*)}}/dy)/(dN_{\pi}/dy)]_0 \,\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}(\tau).$

$$dN_{\pi}/dy = 769 \pm 34.$$

J.D. Bjorken, PRD 27, 140-151 (1983)); J. Hong, *etc.*, PRC 98, 014913 (2018); L.M. Abreu, PRD 103, 036013 (2021). S. Acharya et al. [ALICE], PRC 101, 044907 (2020)

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2 Thermal mass shifts and widths

Pion momentum distribution



We consider a pion gas in which the momentum distribution of the pions is a Bose-Einstein distribution with temperature T.

2 Thermal mass shifts and widths

Pion momentum distribution



We consider a pion gas in which the momentum distribution of the pions is a Bose-Einstein distribution with temperature T.



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{n}_{\pi}^{(\text{eq})} &= \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{e^{\beta \omega_q} - 1}. \end{aligned} \text{ where } \beta = 1/T. \\ \mathbf{f}_{\pi}(\omega_q) &= \frac{\mathbf{n}_{\pi}}{\mathbf{n}_{\pi}^{(\text{eq})}} \frac{1}{e^{\beta \omega_q} - 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Integral of a function weighted by the pion momentum distribution:

$$\int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\omega_q) F(\boldsymbol{q}) = \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \langle F(\boldsymbol{q}) \rangle.$$

Pion mass shift and thermal width

The pion mass shift and thermal width after kinetic freeze-out can be calculated using χ EFT at LO:

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$$\delta m_{\pi} = (m_{\pi}/2f_{\pi}^2) \,\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \left\langle 1/\omega_q \right\rangle,\,$$

The pion thermal width is 0 at this order.

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D^(*) mass shift and thermal width

The charm-meson mass shift and thermal width can be calculated using HH_XEFT at LO:

$$\delta M = (3g_{\pi}^2/2f_{\pi}^2) \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \Delta \langle 1/\omega_q \rangle, \ \delta M_* = -\delta M/3,$$

$$\begin{split} \Gamma_{a} &= 3 \mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta) \sum_{c} \Gamma_{*c,a}, \\ \Gamma_{*a} &= [1 + \mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)] \sum_{c} \Gamma_{*a,c} + \Gamma_{*a,\gamma}, \text{ with } \overset{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta) = 0.414 \frac{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}^{(eq)}} \end{split}$$

where decay rates in the vacuum:

$$\Gamma_{*+,+} = \frac{g_{\pi}^2}{12\pi f_{\pi}^2} \left[(M_{*+} - M_{+})^2 - m_{\pi 0}^2 \right]^{3/2},$$

$$\Gamma_{*+,0} = \frac{g_{\pi}^2}{6\pi f_{\pi}^2} \left[(M_{*+} - M_0)^2 - m_{\pi +}^2 \right]^{3/2},$$

$$\Gamma_{*0,0} = \frac{g_{\pi}^2}{12\pi f_{\pi}^2} \left[(M_{*0} - M_0)^2 - m_{\pi 0}^2 \right]^{3/2},$$

 $\Gamma_{*0,+} = 0.$

 $\Gamma_{*a,\gamma}$ is the radiative decay rate

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2 Thermal mass shifts and widths

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D(*) mass shift and thermal width



2 Thermal mass shifts and widths

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D(*) mass shift and thermal width



Γ_D0

 $\Gamma_{D^{+}}$

Γ_{D*0}

Γ_D*+

Γπ

π D(*) reaction rates in pion gas

The reaction rates of $\pi D^{(*)}$ near the kinetic freezeout temperature would have large effects on the charm-meson abundances:

- spin transitions between D and D*,
- isospin transitions between D^{(*)0} and D^{(*)+}.

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π D(*) reaction rates in pion gas

 $D^a\pi
ightarrow D^{*b}$: increase D* density, but decrease D density.

$$\langle v\sigma_{\pi D^+ \to D^{*+}} \rangle = \left[\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)/\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \right] \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^+\pi},$$

$$\langle v\sigma_{\pi D^0 \to D^{*+}} \rangle = \left[\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)/\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \right] \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^0\pi},$$

$$\langle v\sigma_{\pi D^0 \to D^{*0}} \rangle = \left[\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)/\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \right] \Gamma_{D^{*0} \to D^0\pi},$$

$$\langle v\sigma_{\pi D^+ \to D^{*0}} \rangle = 0.$$

π **D**(*) reaction rates in pion gas

 $\sqrt{\pi} n^{*a} \leftrightarrow \pi D^{b}$: increase/decrease D* density, but decrease/increase D density.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle v\sigma_{\pi*0,\pi0} \rangle &= \langle v\sigma_{\pi*+,\pi+} \rangle = 0.2446 \, g_{\pi}^4 \, m_{\pi}^2 / f_{\pi}^4, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi*0,\pi+} \rangle &= \langle v\sigma_{\pi*+,\pi0} \rangle = 0.0056 \, g_{\pi}^4 \, m_{\pi}^2 / f_{\pi}^4, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi0,\pi*0} \rangle &= \langle v\sigma_{\pi+,\pi*+} \rangle = 0.2181 \, g_{\pi}^4 \, m_{\pi}^2 / f_{\pi}^4, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi0,\pi*+} \rangle &= \langle v\sigma_{\pi+,\pi*0} \rangle = 0.0049 \, g_{\pi}^4 \, m_{\pi}^2 / f_{\pi}^4. \end{aligned}$$

π D(*) reaction rates in pion gas

 $\sqrt[]{\pi D^a}
ightarrow \pi D^b$: change the D^o and D⁺ densities

$$\begin{split} \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{0} \to \pi D^{0}} \rangle &= \left(0.5004 + 0.1900 \, g_{\pi}^{4} \right) \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{f_{\pi}^{4}} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \left(\frac{\Gamma_{D^{*0} \to D^{0}\pi}^{2}}{\Gamma_{*0}} + \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{0}\pi}^{2}}{\Gamma_{*+}} \right), \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{0} \to \pi D^{+}} \rangle &= \left(1.0007 + 0.3336 \, g_{\pi}^{4} \right) \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{f_{\pi}^{4}} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{0}\pi} \, \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{+}\pi}}{\Gamma_{*+}}, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{+} \to \pi D^{0}} \rangle &= \left(1.0007 + 0.3336 \, g_{\pi}^{4} \right) \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{f_{\pi}^{4}} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{0}\pi} \, \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{+}\pi}}{\Gamma_{*+}}, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{+} \to \pi D^{+}} \rangle &= \left(0.5004 + 0.1900 \, g_{\pi}^{4} \right) \frac{m_{\pi}^{2}}{f_{\pi}^{4}} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{0}\pi} \, \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{+}\pi}}{\Gamma_{*+}}. \end{split}$$

The resonance term is about three orders of magnitude smaller than the nonresonant term for $n_{\pi} < n^{(eq)}_{\pi}$.

π D(*) reaction rates in pion gas

 $\sqrt[]{\pi D^{*a}} \rightarrow \pi D^{*b}$: change the D^{*0} and D^{*+} densities

$$\begin{split} \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{*0} \to \pi D^{*0}} \rangle &= (0.5004 + 0.4739 \, g_{\pi}^4) \, \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{f_{\pi}^4} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \, \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*0} \to D^0 \pi}}{\Gamma_0}, \\ \hline \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{*0} \to \pi D^{*+}} \rangle &= (1.0007 + 0.3086 \, g_{\pi}^4) \, \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{f_{\pi}^4} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \, \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*0} \to D^0 \pi} \, \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi}}{\Gamma_0}, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{*+} \to \pi D^{*0}} \rangle &= (1.0007 + 0.3086 \, g_{\pi}^4) \, \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{f_{\pi}^4} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \, \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*0} \to D^0 \pi} \, \Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi}}{\Gamma_0}, \\ \langle v\sigma_{\pi D^{*+} \to \pi D^{*+}} \rangle &= (0.5004 + 0.4739 \, g_{\pi}^4) \, \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{f_{\pi}^4} + \frac{\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta)}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \, \left(\frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi}}{\Gamma_0} + \frac{\Gamma_{D^{*+} \to D^{+} \pi}}{\Gamma_+} \right) \end{split}$$

The t-channel singularity term is larger than the nonsingular term when $n_{\pi} < 10^{-3} n^{(eq)}_{\pi}$.

4 Evolution of charm-meson abundance Evolution equations

$$\begin{split} \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \frac{d}{d\tau} \left(\frac{\mathfrak{n}_{D^{a}}}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \right) &= \left[1 + \mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta) \right] \sum_{b} \Gamma_{*b,a} \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{*b}} + \Gamma_{*a,\gamma} \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{*a}} - 3 \sum_{b} \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi a,*b} \right\rangle \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{a}} \,\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \\ &+ 3 \sum_{b \neq a} \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi b,\pi a} \right\rangle \, \left(\mathfrak{n}_{D^{b}} - \mathfrak{n}_{D^{a}} \right) \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} + 3 \sum_{b} \left(\left\langle v \sigma_{\pi * b,\pi a} \right\rangle \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{*b}} - \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi a,\pi * b} \right\rangle \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{a}} \right) \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} + \dots, \\ \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \frac{d}{d\tau} \left(\frac{\mathfrak{n}_{D^{*a}}}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \right) &= 3 \sum_{b} \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi b \to *a} \right\rangle \mathfrak{n}_{D^{b}} \,\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} - \left(\left[1 + \mathfrak{f}_{\pi}(\Delta) \right] \sum_{b} \Gamma_{*a,b} + \Gamma_{*a,\gamma} \right) \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*a}} \\ &+ 3 \sum_{b} \left(\left\langle v \sigma_{\pi b,\pi *a} \right\rangle \,\mathfrak{n}_{D^{b}} - \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi *a,\pi b} \right\rangle \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*a}} \right) \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} + 3 \sum_{b \neq a} \left\langle v \sigma_{\pi *b,\pi *a} \right\rangle \, \left(\mathfrak{n}_{D^{*b}} - \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*a}} \right) \mathfrak{n}_{\pi} + \dots. \end{split}$$

Note:
$$\mathfrak{n}_{\pi} \frac{d}{d\tau} \left(\frac{\mathfrak{n}_{D^0} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^+} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*0}} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*+}}}{\mathfrak{n}_{\pi}} \right) = 0$$

4 Evolution of charm-meson abundance

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Evolution of the charm-meson fractions

charm-meson fractions $f_{D^{(*)}} = \mathfrak{n}_{D^{(*)}}/(\mathfrak{n}_{D^0} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^+} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*0}} + \mathfrak{n}_{D^{*+}})$ (sum is 1)



solid: solving complete evolution equations

dashed: solving evolution equations with only D* decay terms

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Analytical solution to evolution equations

At times τ large enough, the only terms in evolution equations that survive are 1-body terms: decay terms and t-channel singularities.

Analytical solution to evolution function



At times τ large enough, the only terms in evoluation function that survive are 1-body terms: decay terms and t-channel singularities.



If we only keep the 1-body terms with the vacuum values of $\Gamma_{*a,b}$, the evolution equations can be solved analytically.

$$egin{aligned} rac{d}{d au} R(au) &= egin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Gamma_{*0} & B_{+0}\Gamma_{*+} \ 0 & 0 & 0 & (1-B_{+0})\Gamma_{*+} \ 0 & 0 & -(\Gamma_{*0}+\gamma) & \gamma \ 0 & 0 & \gamma & -(\Gamma_{*+}+\gamma) \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} R(au), \, R(au) &= egin{pmatrix} n_{D^+}/n_\pi \ n_{D^{*0}}/n_\pi \ n_{D^{*+}}/n_\pi \ n_{D^{*+}}/n_\pi \ \end{pmatrix} \, , \ \end{split}$$

 $\frac{1}{\gamma} = \frac{1}{B_{00}\Gamma_{*0}} + \frac{1}{B_{+0}\Gamma_{*+}} \quad B_{00}: \text{ fraction of } D^{*0} \to D^0\pi^0; \quad B_{*0}: \text{ fraction of } D^{*+} \to D^0\pi^*$

4 Evolution of charm-meson abundance

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Analytical solution to evolution function

The resulting predictions for the numbers of D^o and D⁺ are

$$N_{0} = (N_{0})_{0} + \left(1 - \frac{(1 - B_{+0})\Gamma_{*+}\gamma}{\Gamma_{*+}\Gamma_{*0} + (\Gamma_{*+} + \Gamma_{*0})\gamma}\right)(N_{*0})_{0} + \left(B_{+0} + \frac{(1 - B_{+0})\Gamma_{*0}\gamma}{\Gamma_{*+}\Gamma_{*0} + (\Gamma_{*+} + \Gamma_{*0})\gamma}\right)(N_{*+})_{0},$$

$$N_{+} = (N_{+})_{0} + \frac{(1 - B_{+0})\Gamma_{*+}\gamma}{\Gamma_{*+}\Gamma_{*0} + (\Gamma_{*+} + \Gamma_{*0})\gamma}(N_{*0})_{0} + \left(1 - B_{+0} - \frac{(1 - B_{+0})\Gamma_{*0}\gamma}{\Gamma_{*+}\Gamma_{*0} + (\Gamma_{*+} + \Gamma_{*0})\gamma}\right)(N_{*+})_{0},$$

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in comparison with the naive predictions

$$N_{0} = (N_{0})_{0} + (N_{*0})_{0} + B_{+0} (N_{*+})_{0},$$

$$N_{+} = (N_{+})_{0} + 0 + (1 - B_{+0}) (N_{*+})_{0},$$

4 Evolution of charm-meson abundance

Numerical comparison

initial: SHMc prediction before D* decays

numerical: solve the complete evolution equations

naive: consider D* decays only

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analytical: consider 1-body terms (D* decays + t-channel singularity)

1	initial	numerical	naive	analytic
N_0/N_+	1.044	2.100	2.256 ± 0.014	2.177 ± 0.016

4 Evolution of charm-meson abundance Numerical comparison

initial: SHMc prediction before D* decays numerical: solve the complete evolution equations

naive: consider D* decays only

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analytical: consider 1-body terms (D* decays + t-channel singularity)



This difference (with or without t-channel singularity) differs from 0 by about 13 standard deviations.

Errors are from B_{00} , B_{+0} , Γ_{*0} , Γ_{*0+} .

5 Summary & outlook

Summary

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The evolution of charm-meson abundances after the kinetic freeze-out of an expanding hadron gas produced by a central heavy-ion collision is studied.

We have shown that the t-channel singularities in charm-meson reactions can have observable consequences in charm-meson ratio.

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5 Summary & outlook

Outlook

The charm-meson reactions $\pi D^* \leftrightarrow \pi \pi D$ have <u>a pion t-channel singularity</u> from the decay $D^* \rightarrow D\pi$ followed by the scattering $\pi \pi \rightarrow \pi \pi$. Preliminary results indicate that pion t-channel singularities are more important than D-meson t-channel singularities.

The t-channel singularities have been completely overlooked in studies of the charm mesons in a thermal hadronic medium.

It might be worthwhile to look for other aspects of the thermal physics of charm mesons in which the effects of t-channel singularities are significant, for example the production of the exotic heavy hadrons like X(3872) and $T_{cc}(3875)$.



Evolution of charm-meson ratios in an expanding hadron gas

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