# Chiral symmetry breaking and the vector meson mass in medium



- 1. Some previous STAR measurements at larger energies
- 2. Measurement near threshold
- 4. E-16 and E-88 experiment at JPARC
- 5. Some more insight

# STAR Data

### A talk by STAR at quark matter 25



Experiment Overview: STAR

Sooraj Radhakrishnan (Kent State University) for the STAR Collaboration

> Quark Matter 2025, Frankfurt, Germany

Supported in part by









Quark Matter 2025



# Motivation: Directed flow (v<sub>1</sub>)



Previous work: explained by separate flow of q and  $\overline{q} \rightarrow$  coalescence

# **Directed flow of identified hadrons**

Directed flow sensitive probe of early time interactions and EoS



- Precision measurement of v<sub>1</sub> of various identified particles across the collision energies
- Kaons show sign change as protons, but with minimum between 4.5 and 7.7 GeV
- Unexpectedly large  $v_1$  for  $\varphi$ mesons in the high  $\mu_B$  region, similar  $v_1$  as protons and  $\Lambda$ !

Sooraj Radhakrishnan

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Poster by Guangyu Zheng, #696 Talk by Sharangrav Sharma, Wed, P31

Near threshold via hadronic interaction  $N + N \rightarrow N + N^* (> 1960 \text{ MeV}) \rightarrow N + (N + \phi)$ 

But no  $N^*$  (>1960 MeV) with  $(N + \phi)$  decay in Particle data book

STAR



#### N(1650) DECAY MODES

The following branching fractions are our estimates, not fits or averages.

	Mode	Fraction $(\Gamma_i/\Gamma)$
Г1	$N\pi$	50–70 %
Γ2	$N\eta$	15–35 %
Γ3	ΛΚ	5–15 %
Γ <sub>4</sub>	$N\pi\pi$	20–58 %
Γ <sub>5</sub>	$arDelta(1232)\pi$ , $D$ -wave	6–18 %
Г <sub>6</sub>	N  ho	12–22 %
Γ <sub>7</sub>	N $ ho$ , S=1/2, S-wave	<4 %
Г <sub>8</sub>	N $ ho$ , S=3/2, D-wave	12–18 %
Γ <sub>9</sub>	$N\sigma$	2–18 %
$\Gamma_{10}$	$N(1440)\pi$	6–26 %
$\Gamma_{11}$	$p\gamma$ , helicity ${=}1/2$	0.04–0.20 %
Γ <sub>12</sub>	$n\gamma$ , helicity=1/2	0.003–0.17 %

Also, why no K+  $\rightarrow$ 

# $\boldsymbol{\varphi}\text{-N}$ interaction, or $\boldsymbol{\varphi}$ in medium

• *φ*-N potential: Lattice

 $\Box$  Long range part: attraction 2- $\pi$ 

$$V(r \gg (2m_{\pi})^{-1}) = -\alpha \frac{\exp(-2m_{\pi}r)}{r^2}, \quad \alpha \simeq 91 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}^2$$

$$\Delta E_{2\pi-N} \approx \rho_{n.m} \int_{r_0} -\alpha \frac{\exp(-2m_{\pi}r)}{r^2} d^3x \le 10 \text{ MeV}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Coupling to 2- $\pi$ 



0 -100V(r) [MeV] -10-200 -20 -300 -30 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 -400 t/a=12 t/a=13 -500 t/a=14 -600 LL\_\_\_\_ 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 r [fm]

FIG. 1. The *N*- $\phi$  potential *V*(*r*) in the  ${}^{4}S_{3/2}$  channel as a function of separation *r* at Euclidean time t/a = 12 (red squares), 13 (green circles), and 14 (blue triangles).



#### Y. Lyu et al (HAL) PRD106,074507(22)



# ALICE: pp

#### $\phi N$ correlation function



S. Acharya et al. (ALICE Coll.), Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 172301 (2021).

$$V_{\phi}(\rho) = -\frac{2\pi}{m_{\phi}}\rho \left(1 + \frac{m_{\phi}}{m_{N}}\right)a_{0}$$
$$\simeq -85\frac{\rho}{\rho_{0}}\left(\frac{a_{0}}{\text{fm}}\right)\text{MeV}$$

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 $\phi$ -in medium: KEK E325



R. Muto et al. (E325 Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 98, 042501 (2007).

• *J/ψ-N potential: Lattice* 

 $\Box$  Long range part: attraction 2- $\pi$ 

$$V(r \gg (2m_{\pi})^{-1}) = -\alpha \frac{\exp(-2m_{\pi}r)}{r^{2}}, \quad \alpha \simeq 22,23 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}^{2}$$

$$\Delta E_{2\pi-N} \approx \rho_{n.m} \int_{1 \text{fm}} -\alpha \, \frac{\exp(-2m_{\pi}r)}{r^2} d^3x \le 7 \text{ MeV}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Coupling to 2- $\pi$ 



Y. Lyu et al (HAL) PLB860,139178(25)

**Fig. 2.** The bands show the fit with the TPE function  $V(r) = -\alpha e^{-2m_{\pi}r}/r^2$  to the long-range *N*- $c\bar{c}$  potential. The gray dashed line is the best fit with  $V(r) = -\alpha/r^7$  for comparison.





## **J**/ $\psi$ –sum rule to dim-6 (S.Kim, SHL, NPA679(2001)517)

### **U** Up to dim 6

		Spin=0	Spin=2	Spin=4			
	Dim 4	$g^2 G^a_{\mu u} G^a_{\mu u}$	$g^2 G^a_{lpha\mu} G^a_{eta\mu}$				
	Dim 6	$g^{3}f^{abc}G^{a}_{\mu u}G^{b}_{\mulpha}G^{c}_{ ulpha}$	$g^2 D_{lpha} G^a_{\mu u} D_{eta} G^a_{\mu u}$ $g^2 D_{lpha} G^a_{eta\mu} D_{ u} G^a_{\mu u}$	$g^2 G^a_{\alpha\mu} D_{\chi} D_{\delta} G^a_{\beta\mu}$			
		$g^2 D_{\mu} G^{\mu}_{\mu\alpha} D_{\nu} G^{\mu}_{\nu\alpha}$	$g^2 D_{\mu} G^a_{\alpha\mu} D_{\nu} G^a_{\beta\nu}$				
But note $D_{\nu}G^{a}_{\mu\nu} = g\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\mu}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)$ $g^{4}\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)$ $g^{4}\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\beta}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)$							

Higher order in  $\alpha$  but can couple to  $2-\pi$ 



 $\hfill\square$  Contribution of 4-quark operator in J/ $\psi$ 

$$\left\langle g^{4}\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\right\rangle$$



Also appears in  $\rho - a_1$  sum rule (but to  $\alpha$ ): can separate into chiral symmetric and breaking parts

- Vacuum saturation (only chiral symmetry breaking part contributes)

$$\left\langle \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \right\rangle \rightarrow -\frac{8}{9} \left\langle \overline{q} q \right\rangle^{2}$$

- Fiertz transformation to extract  $2-\pi$  contribution

$$\left\langle \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \right\rangle \rightarrow \sum_{i,j=u,d} \left( \dots + 2 \left\langle \left( \overline{q}_{i} \gamma_{5} q_{j} \right) \left( \overline{q}_{j} \gamma_{5} \gamma_{\mu} q_{j} \right) \left( \overline{q}_{j} \gamma_{5} \gamma_{\mu} q_{i} \right) \right\rangle \right) \rightarrow + \frac{1}{6} \left\langle \overline{q} q \right\rangle^{2}$$

- Use linear density part of the chiral symmetry breaking operators  $\rightarrow$  2- $\pi$  and 2-K contributions leads to small attraction around 1 MeV

• *φ*-N potential: Lattice

 $\Box$  Long range part: attraction 2- $\pi$ 

$$V(r \gg (2m_{\pi})^{-1}) = -\alpha \frac{\exp(-2m_{\pi}r)}{r^2}, \quad \alpha \simeq 91 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}^2$$

$$\Delta E_{2\pi-N} \approx \rho_{n.m} \int_{r_0} -\alpha \, \frac{\exp\left(-2m_{\pi}r\right)}{r^2} d^3x \le 30 \text{ MeV}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Coupling to 2- $\pi$ 





Y. Lyu et al (HAL) PRD106,074507(22)

FIG. 1. The *N*- $\phi$  potential *V*(*r*) in the  ${}^{4}S_{3/2}$  channel as a function of separation *r* at Euclidean time t/a = 12 (red squares), 13 (green circles), and 14 (blue triangles).



 $\hfill\square$  Contribution of 4-quark operator in  $\phi$ 

$$\left\langle g^{4}\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\left(\overline{q}\gamma_{\alpha}\frac{\lambda^{a}}{2}q\right)\right\rangle$$

Wilson coefficient is more complicated

- Naïve extension of J/ $\psi$  sum rules to  $\phi$  gives larger attraction
- But Wilson coefficient is more complicated

$$\left\langle \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \left( \overline{q} \gamma_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda^{a}}{2} q \right) \right\rangle \rightarrow \sum_{i,j=u,d} \left( \dots + 2 \left\langle \left( \overline{q}_{i} \gamma_{5} q_{j} \right) \left( \overline{q}_{j} \gamma_{5} q_{i} \right) \right\rangle + \left\langle \left( \overline{q}_{i} \gamma_{5} \gamma_{\mu} q_{j} \right) \left( \overline{q}_{j} \gamma_{5} \gamma_{\mu} q_{i} \right) \right\rangle \right) \rightarrow + \frac{1}{6} \left\langle \overline{q} q \right\rangle^{2}$$

Use linear density part of the chiral symmetry breaking operators
 → 2-π + 2-K contribution leads to attraction of around (less reliable) 2 MeV
 → Chiral symmetric operators should be non-trivial



# $\phi\text{-in}$ medium: JPARC E-16 and E-88

E-16:  $\phi \rightarrow$  e+ e- decay E-88 :  $\phi \rightarrow$  K+ K- decay Journal of Subatomic Particles and Cosmology 3 (2025) 100019



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Full Length Article

# Experimental investigation of vector mesons in medium through dielectron decay at J-PARC

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#### Table 1

E16 Run History and Plan. The first number on the rightmost column indicates the number of STS modules if associated with  $^{\dagger}$ ; otherwise, it indicates the number of old SSD modules that were used for earlier runs. \*Two out of ten GTR modules are only equipped with GTR1 and GTR2.

Run	Year	User time	Targets	Configuration SSD+GTR+ HBD+LG
Run 0a	Jun. 2020	159 h	C, Cu	6+6+4+6
Run Ob	Feb. 2021	110 h	C, Cu	6+8+6+6
Run Oc	May. 2021	134 h	C, Cu	6+8+6+6
Run 0d	Jun. 2023	10.5 h	C, Cu	$10^{\dagger} + 10^{*} + 8 + 8$
Run 0e	Apr. 2024	206 h	C, Cu	$8^{\dagger}+10^{*}+8+8$
Run 1	TBD	1280 h	C, Cu	$10^{\dagger} + 10^{*} + 8 + 8$
Run 2	TBD	2560 h	C, Cu, Pb, $CH_2$	$26^{\dagger}+26+26+26$



**Fig. 6.** Excess fraction plotted as a function of  $\beta\gamma$  of  $\phi$  mesons. Black (pink) points are the results for the C (Cu) target measured by KEK-E325 experiment [7]. Green points are the expectation in Run 1 [26]. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



Fig. 7. Dispersion relation. Pink point represents the E325 results. Blue points depict the expectation when 1.7 times Run 1 statistics are collected. Dotted lines show a theoretical prediction extrapolated up to 3 GeV/c. [26]. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



Fig. 5. Invariant mass distributions expected in Run 1. The plots are divided into four samples according to  $\beta\gamma$  of the  $e^+e^-$  pairs. Black points are expected in Run 1. Red lines show the expected line shape assuming the vacuum shape. The upper four panels are obtained when the data is fitted for the entire region, while the lower four panels are obtained when the area between the green lines is eliminated from the fit. [26]. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



**Fig. 6.** Excess fraction plotted as a function of  $\beta\gamma$  of  $\phi$  mesons. Black (pink) points are the results for the C (Cu) target measured by KEK-E325 experiment [7]. Green points are the expectation in Run 1 [26]. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

# Research activities (experiment) $\phi \rightarrow K^+K^-$ experiment with E16 spectrometer (E88)

As a results of this Reimei Program, we won Kakenhi Kiban S. 1.6B yen in JFY2025-2029



- High-statistics invariant mass spectrum measurements (800x KEK-E325)
  - − 1M  $\phi$ →K+K- events in p+C, p+Cu and p+Pb in 30-day
  - − Good acceptance overlap with  $\phi \rightarrow e+e$ -
- Kaon-ID detectors (Multi-layer Resistive Plate Chamber (MRPC), Aerogel Che renkov detector (AC), and Start Timing Counter (SC)
- ~100% acceptance for Kaon decay angles in  $\phi \rightarrow K+K-$  to distinguish  $\phi$  polarizat ion

### Chiral symmetry restoration and hadron mass



### Vector meson in Flavor SU(3) symmetry and broken symmetry



$$\omega_{1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left( \overline{u}u + \overline{d}d + \overline{s}s \right) - \omega_{8} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \left( \overline{u}u + \overline{d}d - 2\overline{s}s \right) - \omega_{8}$$

Mixing due to  $m_s \gg m_d \sim m_u$ 

$$\phi(1020) = \overline{ss}$$
$$\omega(782) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\overline{u}u + \overline{d}d\right)$$

# Spin-1 Flavor Octet





Broken Chiral Symmetry

## Which vector meson should one study in medium

### 1) Hadrons with small width: $\phi$ is the best candidate

	J <sup>PC</sup> =1 <sup></sup>	Mass	Width	J <sup>PC</sup> =1++	Mass	Width
	ρ	770 MeV	150 MeV	a <sub>1</sub>	1260	250-600
	ω	782	8.49	f <sub>1</sub>	1285	24.2
J-PARC E16, E88	• •	1020	4.266	f <sub>1</sub>	1420	54.9
	K*(1⁻)	892	50.3	K <sub>1</sub> (1+)	1270	90

2) Chiral partner: K\* and K1 is the best candidate

- Decay mode of chiral partners typically has one more pion

$$m_{K^*} - m_{K_1} \propto \langle \overline{q}q \rangle \qquad \qquad K^* \to K\pi, \qquad K_1^- \to \begin{cases} \rho(\pi\pi) + K \\ \pi + K^*(K\pi) \end{cases}$$

3) If possible measurement of  $f_1(1420)$  is also interesting (parity partner of  $\phi$ )

$$m_{\phi} - m_{f_1(1420)} \propto \langle \overline{ss} \rangle + \text{other}$$
  $\phi \to K + K \quad f_1(1420) \to K + K^*(K\pi)$ 

## Which vector meson should one study in medium

### 1) Hadrons with small width

	J <sup>PC</sup> =1 <sup></sup>	Mass	Width	J <sup>PC</sup> =1++	Mass	Width
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	K*(1⁻)	892	50.3	K₁(1+)	1270	90

### 2) Use condensate based Operator Product Expansion (OPE) methods

- Can identify Chiral symmetry breaking effects

- Can relate them to mass

$$\Pi\left(q^{2}\right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int ds \, \frac{\mathrm{Im}\Pi\left(s\right)}{s-q^{2}}.$$

### K1/K\* production in heavy ion collision



T<sub>F</sub>  $\tau$ QGP Hadron phase 1 1 fm/c 5 fm/c 7 fm/c 17 fm/c

### 5) K1/K\* vs Centrality



FIG. 5. The yield ratio  $K_1/K^*$  in Pb+Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV at three centralities of 0–5%, 40–50%, and 70–80% for various scenarios.

### 5) K1/K\* vs Centrality



Study of K<sub>1</sub> meson production in pp collisions with ALICE SU-JEONG JI<sup>1</sup>) on behalf of the Alice Collaboration | 1) PUSAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



#### SIGNAL EXTRACTION ×10<sup>3</sup> Source Counts Counts ALICE Performance pp $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$ V0M 50-100% 300 p\_>1 GeV/c, ly l < 0.5 Data 250 50 Mixed-event bk 200 40 ALICE Performance 150 pp √s = 13 TeV VOM 50-100% 30 100 p\_>1 GeV/c, ly l < 0.5 Data 50 20¦ 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.1 1.5 Mass (GeV/c2) Mass (GeV/c2) **Signal:** $\pi^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}K^{\pm}$ pairs Counts $\rho K \leftarrow K1$ 1.6 ALICE Performance Injected MC $\omega K \leftarrow K1$ pp √s = 13 TeV **Background:** $K^*\pi \leftarrow K1$ p\_>1 GeV/c lv l < 0.5 $\pi^{\pm}\pi^{\pm}K^{\mp}$ , $\pi^{\pm}\pi^{\pm}K^{\pm}$ pairs from mixed event 0.8 0.6 (30 events, $\Delta z_{vtx} \leq 2 \text{ cm}$ ) 0.4 Fit Function: Breit-Wigner 0.2 + quadratic fn. 0 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.1 1.5

The signal peak is seen at 1270 MeV/ $c^2$  in data.

Mass (GeV/c2)



Possible future experiment to measure masses of chiral partners

 $\rightarrow$  K<sub>1</sub> excitation energy measurement at JPARC



### Summary

- 1) v1 of  $\phi$  meseon from STAR seems consistent with strong attraction seen in
  - ALICE  $\phi$  –N correlation
  - Lattice calculation of  $\phi$  –N potential
  - QCD sum rules

2)  $\phi$  –in medium experiment: KEK 325  $\rightarrow$  JPARC E-16, E-88

3) In future K1, K\* measurement should also be interesting