Study of the processes $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^- + n\pi$ ($n = 1, 2, 3$) with the CMD-3 detector at the VEPP-2000 electron-positron collider

G.V. FEDOTOVICH$^{1,2,*,**}$, R.R. Akhmetshin$^1$, A.N. Amirkhanov$^{1,2}$, A.V. Anisenkov$^{1,2}$, V.M. Aulchenko$^{1,2}$, V.S. Banzarov$^1$, N.S. Bashtovoy$^{1,2}$, D.E. Berkeev$^{1,2}$, A.E. Bondar$^{1,2}$, A.V. Bragin$^1$, S.I. Eidelman$^{1,2}$, D.A. Epifanov$^{1,2}$, L.B. Epshteyn$^{1,2,3}$, A.L. Erofeev$^{1,2}$, S.E. Gayazov$^{1,2}$, A.S. Kasaev$^{1,2}$, V.F. Kazanin$^{1,2}$, A.A. Korobov$^{1,2}$, I.A. Koop$^1$, A.N. Kozyrev$^{1,2,3}$, E.A. Kozyrev$^{1,2}$, P.P. Krokovny$^{1,2}$, A.E. Kuzmenko$^{1,2}$, A.S. Kuzmin$^{1,2}$, I.B. Logashenko$^{1,2}$, P.A. Lukin$^{1,2}$, A.P. Lysenko$^1$, K. Yu. Mikhailov$^{1,2}$, V.S. Okhapkin$^1$, E.A. Perevedentsev$^{1,2}$, Yu. N. Pestov$^1$, A.S. Popov$^{1,2}$, G.P. Razueva$^{1,2}$, Yu. A. Rogovsky$^{1,2}$, A.A. Ruban$^1$, N.M. Ryskulov$^1$, A.E. Ryzhenenkov$^{1,2}$, V.E. Shebalin$^{1,2}$, D.N. Shemyakin$^{1,2}$, B.A. Shwartz$^{1,2}$, D.B. Shwartz$^{1,2}$, A.L. Sibidanov$^4$, Yu. M. Shatunov$^1$, E.P. Solodov$^{1,2}$, A.A. Talyshov$^{1,2}$, A.I. Vorobiov$^1$, Yu. V. Yudin$^{1,2}$, I.M. Zemlyansky$^1$

$^1$Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, SB RAS, Novosibirsk, 630090, Russia
$^2$Novosibirsk State University, Novosibirsk, 630090, Russia
$^3$Novosibirsk State Technical University, Novosibirsk, 630092, Russia
$^4$University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8W 3P6

Abstract. The data sample collected in 2011-2013 at the c.m.s. energies between 0.32-2 GeV with the CMD-3 detector operating at the VEPP-2000 $e^+e^-$ collider is analyzed. The collected data corresponds to an integrated luminosity about $\sim 60 \text{pb}^{-1}$. The techniques for determination of the integrated luminosity for each energy setting is described. Some preliminary results of the study of the processes $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^- + n\pi$ ($n = 1, 2, 3$) with two charged kaons in the final state are presented. These processes have several intermediate states, which are important to correctly describe the angular distributions of final particles and the cross sections dependence on the energy.

1 Introduction

Precision data for hadronic cross sections $e^+e^- \rightarrow hadrons$ required for many applications, in particular, for the estimating the hadronic contribution to muon anomalous magnetic moment (AMM), $a_\mu = (g - 2)_\mu / 2$. The energy region of VEPP-2000 collider provides the major contribution ($\sim 92\%$) to $a_\mu^{had}$ and is essential for an accurate determination of its accuracy [1].

Cryogenic magnetic detector of the third generation (CMD-3, BINP SB RAS) collected the experimental data during several runs in 2011 - 2013. To reaching the project luminosity of $10^{32}$ cm$^{-2}$s$^{-1}$ the concept of round beams was implemented for the first time at the VEPP-2000 [2].

*e-mail: fedotovich@inp.nsk.su
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The knowledge of the collider’s integrated luminosity is instrumental for extracting the hadronic cross sections from the data. As a rule the luminosity uncertainty is one of the major sources of the $\sigma_{\text{had}}$. In our experiment the integrating luminosity is determined using two reactions $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ which have absolute different systematic errors. Due to this fact we can reliably estimate the systematic uncertainty by combining measurements for these reactions.

2 CMD3 detector and luminosity measurement

The CMD3 detector [3] has a standard structure and consists of cylindrical drift chamber, DC, and serves to detect the tracks secondary particles and reconstructing their momenta and emission angles. The z-coordinates of the tracks measured with a precision of 0.5 mm using a cylindrical two layer proportional Z-chamber deployed downstream of the DC. The calorimeter relies on three sub-systems [4]: the front-end calorimeter based on the BGO crystal (13.4$X_0$) located at the DC endcaps, the liquid-xenon (LXe, 5.4$X_0$) and the CsI-based (8.1$X_0$) cylindrical calorimeters both deployed outside of the thin superconductive solenoid (0.08$X_0$) producing a magnetic field of 1.3 T. The LXe calorimeter allows to measure coordinates of the photon conversion point with precision $\sim$1 mm. The CsI calorimeter consists of 1152 crystals which are arranged in 8 octants. The combine energy resolution is goes to $\sigma_E/E = 0.036 \sqrt{E/\text{GeV}} \oplus 0.027$. Two types of the first level triggers “CHARGED” and “NEUTRAL” were used while data taking. A special topological combination of signals from DC cells and Z-chamber, which roughly reproduce “track”, start a special processor “TRACKFINDER” (TF). “CLUSTERFINDER” (CF) start to operate by signals coming from calorimeters. A positive decision of any trigger generates a command for the data acquisition system. The average trigger counting rate was about 200–400 Hz all over the runs.

The energy region between 1 and 2 GeV was scanned twice (upward and downward) with a pitch of 50 MeV. Nearly 500 nb$^{-1}$ of integrated luminosity was collected at each energy setting. In the downward scan, the energy settings, for which the experimental data were collected, were shifted by 25 MeV with respect to those of the upward scan. The beam energy is monitored with precision of 1-3 MeV by measuring the currents in the dipole magnets of the VEPP-2000 collider. For some energy settings around the $\phi$-meson mass and near 2 GeV, the beam energy was refined to $\sim$50 keV using the method of inverse Compton scattering [5]. The selected $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events had to satisfy the conditions of centrality and collinearity. The background events were rejected with cut on the energy deposition in the calorimeter. The process $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ offers an independent probe of the luminosity [6] since its diagrams involve neither the radiation and Coulomb interaction of finalstate particles nor the effects of vacuum polarization. The events of this reaction are selected by requiring that two opposite clusters be detected calorimeter and that no tracks originating from the beam-collision point be detected in the DC.

During dataset we used two types of primary trigger “CHARGED” and “NEUTRAL”. The combination of signals from the cells of DC and sectors of ZC which roughly reproduced the central track, initiated the special track trigger processor “TRACKFINDER” (TF). “CLUSTERFINDER” (CF) is activated from the signals coming from towers of the calorimeters. The positive decision of any processor is allowed read-write current events to disk with a storage capacity $\sim$2 TB. The average frequency of trigger was within 200–400 Hz.

The integrated luminosity collected by the CMD3 for three years amounts to $\sim$60 pb$^{-1}$ including $\sim$34 pb$^{-1}$ above the $\phi$-meson mass, 8.3 and 8.4 pb$^{-1}$ in the vicinities of the $\omega$ and $\phi$ resonances, respectively, and 9.4 pb$^{-1}$ in scanning the energy region below the $\phi$-meson mass. The luminosities were determined using the events of the Bhabha scattering and the $\gamma\gamma$. Over the energy range between the $\phi$-mass and 2 GeV, these two estimates of the luminosity differ by 0.2 ± 0.3% on average. The
systematic uncertainty on the luminosity we estimated as 1% for energies above 1 GeV. In the experimental runs in 2011-2013, the collider’s peak luminosity was restricted by the positron accumulation rate and by the 825 MeV maximum energy at which the booster injects the beam into the collider. The nominal luminosity nearly was reached in 2017 upon implementing a new scheme for injection of the electrons and positrons to the collider.

3 Cross section measurement of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^0$

Analysis of the reaction $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^0$ based on an integrated luminosity of nearly 34 pb$^{-1}$ collected in the energy region between 1.2 and 2 GeV. The signal events have to have two central “good” tracks which should satisfy the conditions of non-collinearity: $|\Delta \phi - \pi| > 0.15$ or $|\Delta \theta + \pi| > 0.25$ radian and two or more photons must be detected in calorimeter.

For each pairs of photons the kinematic reconstruction were performed with the condition that these two photons are the decay product of the $\pi^0$. If the kinematics of these four particles satisfies energy-momentum and ionization losses in DC correspond to the kaons, the combination with the smallest $\chi^2$ is selected for further analysis. The main sources of the background come from the reactions $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$, which is mostly suppressed when we use the $dE/dx$ information from DC. Also the kinematic reconstruction eliminates significantly the events of the processes $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-2\pi^0$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\eta$.

Upon the analysis, 940 $\pm$ 63 signal events were selected. The detection efficiency was estimated through a simulation involving the primary generator, the GEANT4 package, and the same reconstruction algorithms as applied to the raw data, including the radiation of photon jets by the electrons and positrons [7]. Preliminary results for the cross section are presented in Fig. 1, where only the statistical errors are shown. Our measurement to be consistent with those of BaBar but a bit more accurate. The systematic uncertaincy currently is estimated as 10%. Our preliminary analysis and that of BaBar indicate that dominant contribution to the investigated process comes from the intermediate state: $K^{pm}K^{mp}(892)$. This is demonstrated by the scatter plot in Fig. 2, where the invariant mass of the $K^+K^-$ is plotted versus that of the $K\pi$ system.
Preliminary CMD-3 results on the $e^+e^- \rightarrow \phi(1020)\eta$ cross section (red symbols) compared with the BaBar measurements relay on $\eta \rightarrow 2\gamma$ process (blue symbols). The error bars are purely statistical.

Figure 3.

Shown preliminary CMD-3 results on the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ cross section (red symbols) in comparison with of the BaBar measurement (blue symbols). The error bars are purely statistical.

Figure 4.

4 Cross section measurement of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\eta$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ processes

The $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\eta$ process has been earlier studied by the BaBar in the c.m. energy ($E_{\text{c.m.}}$) range from 1.56 - 3.48 GeV in the $\eta \rightarrow 2\gamma$ decay channel and in 1.56-2.64 GeV, respectively when $\eta$ decay to $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ [8]. The our study of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\eta$ process is based on an integrated luminosity of 22 pb$^{-1}$ collected over the energy range between 1.59-2.0 GeV at 30 energy points. The $\eta$ meson was treated as a recoil particle, that allows us to save statistics due to selection of specific $\eta$ decay mode, but such approach leads to a complicated background subtraction, which was carefully studied. The candidates to the signal should have the following features: kaons are the product of the $\phi(1020)$ decay, at least two central tracks should be detected in DC with ionization losses $dE/dx$ which correspond to kaons. The latter condition allows significantly reject physical background. The further extraction of the signal events based on the study of the missing mass of the $K^+K^-$ system and study the invariant mass spectrum in the vicinity of the $\phi$-mass.

The detection efficiency was determined from the simulation taking into account radiative corrections. The simulated events were treated with the same package of the reconstruction program as experimental data.

The preliminary results of the cross section of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \phi(1020)\eta$ process are shown in Fig. 3, which are in good agreement with the data of the BaBar experiment except one failed point near 1.7 GeV. Analysis of events with decay $\eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ also shows an even more profound failure of the cross section at this place. In the upcoming experiments we will increase statistics and confirm/close possible anomaly in the cross section at this energy region. Let us note that a hint of the existence of such anomalies is also qualitatively visible in the data of the BaBar and SND detectors. The systematic uncertainty on the cross section is estimated as 7%. The cross section of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ was measured in the energy range 1.84-2 GeV and based on the integrated luminosity $\sim$12 pb$^{-1}$. We measure the cross section of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ considering $\pi^0$ from $\omega \rightarrow 3\pi$ decay as a recoil particle. The selection of “good” tracks and $K/\pi$ separation are performed in the same way as in $K^+K^-\eta$ case. The only difference is that in $K^+K^-\omega$ case: event should have 3 or 4 “good” tracks with the requirement of two kaon candidates in the event.
The simulation shows that the major background processes are $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^*K^+\eta$. To suppress these events we applied the cuts for missing mass and and spectrum of the KK-system. As a result we got in the experiment $967 \pm 35$ of signal events. The preliminary results obtained for the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ cross section along with that of BaBar is shown in Fig. 4. Only statistical errors are presented. It is a bit seen that our cross section points are systematically higher than that of BaBar. The overall systematic uncertainty of the $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\omega$ cross section measurement is estimated to be 5%.

5 Study of the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$

The process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ has been earlier studied with the DM1 and DM2 detectors and more recently at the BaBar [9] using an ISR approach. Part of $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ intermediate states were studied by the Babar collaboration, but now with higher statistics collected with the CMD-3 it is possible to make more detailed analysis dynamics production of this final state.

The presented results for the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ are based on 22 pb$^{-1}$ integrated luminosity accumulated by the CMD-3 in energy range 1.5–2.0 GeV.

Candidates for the process under study are required to have in the DC three or four “good” tracks coming from the interaction region which satisfy the energy-momentum conservation. Fig. 5 presents a two-dimensional plot of the candidates to the signal events. On the vertical axis pending the measured energy of four particles minus twice beam energy in the assumption that all particles are pions, and the horizontal axis - module of the vector sum of the momentum of these particles. It is clear seen that the origin is a focus of the events $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ at the same time the cluster of signal events is shifted down due to the heavier masses of the kaons. In addition, visible shelf events, which are correlated with energy-momentum. The emergence of these events is due to the photons emission of primary electrons. As a result of the analysis, we selected $\sim 13300$ four and $\sim 16000$ three track events.

The pions and kaons separation is performed by analyzing the ionization losses in the DC. To obtain a detection efficiency, the $K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ events were simulated with a primary generator with main intermediate mechanisms using the GEANT4 package and then reconstructed with the same software as experimental data.

The detection efficiency is about 50% and is basically determined by detector acceptance. The radiative correction smoothly increases from 0.8 to 0.98 in the studied energy range. The cross section as a function of energy is presented in Fig. 6. Systematic errors are estimated as 6.1% and the main source of uncertainty due to the theoretical model describing the angular distribution of final particles. The obtained cross section agrees with the previous measurement by the BaBar Collaboration presented by open circles on the same figure.

The study of the dynamics production of $e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ events confirms the presence of several intermediate states such as: $K1^*(1270, 1400)K \rightarrow K^*(892)K\pi$, $K1^*(1270)K \rightarrow KK\rho$, $\phi\pi^+\pi^-$ and which are sufficient to describe correctly the angular distributions of final particles and invariant mass. It was shown that the intermediate state $K^*(892)$ gives the main contribution to the spectrum of the invariant mass of the $K\pi$, the $\rho$-meson in the combination $\pi^+\pi^-$. More detailed analysis can be found in [10].

6 Conclusion

The processes $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-, \gamma\gamma$ were used to determine the integrated luminosity collected in 2011-2013 by the CMD3 detector ($\sim 60pb^{-1}$ on total) operating at the collider VEPP-2000. The current systematic uncertainty of luminosity is estimated as 1%.
Figure 5. Scatter plot of the $\Delta E_{4\pi} = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 + E_4 - 2E_{\text{beam}}$ vs the total momentum $P_{\text{tot}}$ for the four-track events at $E_{\text{c.m.}} = 1980$ MeV.

Figure 6. Cross section of the process $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$. CMD-3 - red and black points, BaBar - green points.

The processes $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\pi^0$, $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\eta(\omega(782))$ and $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$ have been studied in the center-of-mass energy ranges from 1.2 to 2.01 GeV. In the production of $K^+K^-\pi^0$ final state we observe the dominant contribution of $K^\pm\bar{K}^\mp(982)$ intermediate states.

On the base about 1470 and 970 selected signal events the cross sections of $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\pi^0(\phi(1020))\eta$ and $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\omega(720)$ processes have been measured with the statistical precision comparable or better than in previous measurements and with systematic uncertainties of 6% and 5% respectively. Our results for the $e^+e^- \to K^+K^-\omega(782)$ cross section are systematically higher than that of BaBar. The last year upgrade of the VEPP-2000 is completed and we plan to measure these cross sections, as well as $\phi'(1680)$-meson parameters with much better accuracy.

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References