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Generalization of the model-independent Laurent–Pietarinen single-channel pole-extraction formalism to multiple channels

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ABSTRACT

A method to extract resonance pole information from single-channel partial-wave amplitudes based on a Laurent (Mittag-Leffler) expansion and conformal mapping techniques has recently been developed. This method has been applied to a number of reactions and provides a model-independent extraction procedure which is particularly useful in cases where a set of amplitudes is available only at discrete energies. This method has been generalized and applied to the case of a multi-channel fit, where several sets of amplitudes are analyzed simultaneously. The importance of unitarity constraints is discussed. The final result provides a powerful, model-independent tool for analyzing partial-wave amplitudes of coupled or connected channels based entirely on the concepts of analyticity and unitarity.

The Particle Data Group (PDG) [1] has begun to include and emphasize the importance of pole-related quantities, de-emphasizing and eliminating many Breit–Wigner parameters, as the link between experiment and QCD. As a result, the analytic structure of theoretical and experimental partial-wave amplitudes in the complex energy plane has become increasingly important. A common approach involves the construction and solution of elaborate theoretical models, with free parameters fitted to available sets of experimental data. These can then be analytically continued into the complex energy plane. As a typical model is extremely complex and very difficult to solve, simpler single-channel pole extraction methods such as the speed plot [2], time delay [3], the N/D method [4], regularization procedures [5], and Pade approximants [6] have been used. However, success has been limited. As a step forward, a simple but quite reliable, model-independent single-channel pole-extraction formalism has been constructed, based entirely on principles of analyticity and unitarity. This method was named the Laurent+Pietarinen (L+P) expansion [7], and is based on an early application of these principles in the analysis of pion-nucleon scattering data [8–11].

In spite of the fact that this single-channel L+P method is now generally applicable, extensively used in a wide array of problems [12–14], and already recognized by PDG as a confident tool for extracting pole positions of most baryon resonances [1], all applications in which one pole couples to several correlated quantities are still beyond its reach. For example, correlated multipoles in π and η photoproduction, and partial wave amplitudes in coupled-channel models can only be treated in a sequence of independent single-channel procedures, missing the constraint that poles in all such situations must be the same. Also, in some cases, all existing poles may not be recognized in each individual process, and that in particular happens if a resonance coupling to a particular channel is weak. Thus, the main purpose of this paper is to create a new method which enables the treatment of all connected channels simultaneously. We have generalized the existing single-channel L+P formalism (SC L+P) to the multi-channel case (MC L+P) in such a way that pole positions are unique, but with differing residua which are to be related to branching fractions. This also allows the analysis of photo- and electro-production in which a single pole contributes to two or three multipoles. Just as in the single-channel L+P method, the most important application of the method would be the analysis of partial wave data (discreet quantities obtained directly from experiment, with very few stabilizing theoretical assumptions), rather than treating the partial wave am-

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plitudes which are coming from theoretical models. Therefore, this method as such represents the first model-independent way to treat multi-channel experimental data directly, and is extremely important for precise and rapid analysis of new ongoing experimental programs.

The driving concept behind the single-channel L+P approach was to replace solving an elaborate theoretical model and analytically continuing its solution into the full complex energy plane, with a local power-series representation of partial wave amplitudes given on the real energy axis. In such a way, the global complexity of a model is replaced by much simpler model-independent expansion limited to the regions near the real energy axis which is sufficient to obtain poles and their residues. Formally, the introduced L+P method was based on the Mittag-Leffler expansion[1] of partial wave amplitudes near the real energy axis, representing the regular, but unknown, background term by a conformal-mapping-generated, rapidly converging power series called a Pietarinen expansion.[2] In practice we have represented the regular background part with three Pietarinen expansion series, and fitted all free parameters in our approach to the chosen channel input. The first Pietarinen expansion with branch-point x_P was restricted to an unphysical energy range and represented all left-hand cut contributions, and next two Pietarinen expansions described background in the physical range with branch-points x_Q and x_R defined by the analytic properties of the analyzed partial wave. A second branch-point was usually fixed to the elastic channel branch-point, and the third one was either fixed to the dominant channel threshold value or left free. Thus, solely on the basis of general physical assumptions about analytic properties of the fitted process (number of poles and number and position of conformal mapping branch-points) the pole parameters in the complex energy plane are obtained. In such a way, the simplest analytic function with a set of poles and branch-points which is fitting the input is actually constructed. This method is equally applicable to both theoretical and experimental input,[3] and represents the first reliable procedure to extract pole positions from experimental data, with minimal model bias.

The generalization of L+P method to MC L+P is performed in the following way: i) we have made separate Laurent expansions for each channel (coupled quantity); ii) we have kept pole positions fixed for all channels (quantities), iii) we have left all residua and all Pietarinen coefficients free; iv) we have chosen the branch-points exactly as we would for the single-channel model; v) we have generalized the single-channel discrepancy function D^a_{dp} (see Eq. (5) in Ref. [13]) which quantifies the deviation of the fitted function from employed input to a multi-channel quantity D_{dp} by summing up all single-channel contributions, and vi) the minimization is performed for all channels of the input in order to obtain the final solution.

The final model can be summarized by the following set of formulae for k resonances:

$$T^a(W) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{x_i^a + \imath\ y_i^a}{W_i - W} + \sum_{l=0}^{L^a} c_l^a\, X^a(W)^l + \sum_{m=0}^{M^a} d_m^a\, Y^a(W)^m + \sum_{n=0}^{N^a} e_n^a\, Z^a(W)^n$$

$$X^a(W) = \frac{\alpha^a - \sqrt{x_P^a - W}}{\alpha^a + \sqrt{x_P^a - W}}; \quad Y^a(W) = \frac{\beta^a - \sqrt{x_Q^a - W}}{\beta^a + \sqrt{x_Q^a - W}};$$

$$Z^a(W) = \frac{\gamma^a - \sqrt{x_R^a - W}}{\gamma^a + \sqrt{x_R^a - W}}$$

$$D_{dp} = \sum_a^{all} D^a_{dp}$$

$$D^a_{dp} = \frac{1}{2\,N_{data}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{data}} \left\{ \left[\frac{\mathrm{Re}\,T^a(W_i) - \mathrm{Re}\,T^a_{exp}(W_i)}{Err^{\mathrm{Re}}_{i,a}} \right]^2 + \left[\frac{\mathrm{Im}\,T^a(W_i) - \mathrm{Im}\,T^a_{exp}(W_i)}{Err^{\mathrm{Im}}_{i,a}} \right]^2 \right\} + \mathcal{P}^a + \mathcal{U}^a$$

$\mathcal{P}^a$ and $\mathcal{U}^a$ … Pietarinen and unitarity penalty functions

$Err^{\mathrm{Re,\,Im}}_{i,a}$ … minimization error of real and imaginary part respectively,

a … correlated quantity index ($\pi N \to \pi N$, $\pi N \to \eta N$, $E_{l_\pm}$, $M_{l_\pm}$ …)

$L^a,\ M^a,\ N^a \ldots \in \mathbb{N}$ number of Pietarinen coefficients in channel a

$W_i,\ W \in \mathbb{C}$

$x_i^a,\ y_i^a,\ c_l^a,\ d_m^a,\ e_n^a,\ \alpha^a,\ \beta^a,\ \gamma^a \ldots \in \mathbb{R}$

Here $x_i^a + \imath\ y_i^a$ are the channel residua and $W_i = M_i - \imath\ \frac{\Gamma_i}{2}$ are the pole positions of resonances "i". The Pietarinen expansions formalize the most general form of functions having a branch-point at the Pietarinen-expansion parameters, and in this paper we use three Pietarinen expansions with expansion parameters x_P^a, x_Q^a, and x_R^a to represent the full analytic structure of the non-resonant background. The first coefficient x_P^a is restricted to the unphysical range and represents all left hand cuts, including a circular cut. The second parameter x_Q^a is usually fixed to the elastic channel branch-point, and the third branch-point x_R^a represents all inelastic-channel openings in the physical domain. If inelastic channels consist of particles having weak or electromagnetic decays ($\pi N \to \eta N$, $\pi N \to K\Lambda$, etc.) the coefficient is real, and if it contains quasi-two-body final states (such as $\pi N \to \pi\Delta$, $\pi N \to \rho N$, etc.) it becomes complex. In principle, one should have a Pietarinen expansion for each branch-point, producing at least 4–5 Pietarinen expansions in the physical range. However, to avoid over-parametrizing our model, we have retained only a single Pietarinen expansion in the physical range, effectively representing all physical branch-points. The first and third branch points x_P^a and x_R^a are usually free, while the second one x_Q^a is fixed to the value of the πN elastic threshold. The initial value for the third branch-point x_R^a is chosen close to the branch-point dominant for the analyzed partial wave. This point varies depending on the partial wave. Coefficients α^a, β^a, and γ^a are Pietarinen-expansion strength parameters. The inclusion of additional Pietarinen expansions, while legitimate, has not yet been implemented.

In the MC L+P formalism, the Pietarinen single-channel penalty function $\mathcal{P}$ is generalized to:

[1] Mittag-Leffler expansion [15] is the generalization of a Laurent expansion to a more-than-one pole situation. For simplicity, we will simply refer to this as a Laurent expansion.

[2] A conformal mapping expansion of this particular type was introduced by Ciulli and Fisher [8,9], was described in detail and used in pion-nucleon scattering by Esco Pietarinen [10,11]. The procedure was denoted as a Pietarinen expansion by G. Höhler in [16].

[3] Observe that fitting partial wave data coming from experiment is even more favorable.