

Scalars in Charmed Meson Decays at BESIII

Shu-Lei Zhang (张书磊) Hunan University On behalf of BESIII Collaboration

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Email: zhangshulei@hnu.edu.cn







Physics motivation \checkmark

Data and analysis method

Results in review

^{[]4} Summary and prospect











Jose R. Pelaez, Physics Reports 658 (2016) 1,

"From controversy to precision on the sigma meson:

a review on the status of the non-ordinary $f_0(500)$ resonance"

For researchers outside the field, it may be surprising that despite having established Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) as the fundamental theory of the Strong Interaction 40 years ago, the spectrum of lowest mass states, and particularly that of scalar mesons, may be still under debate. Actually, light scalar mesons have been a puzzle in our understanding of the Strong Interaction for almost six decades. This may be even more amazing given the fact that they play a very relevant role within nuclear and hadron physics, as in the nucleon-nucleon attraction and in the spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry, both of them fundamental features of the Strong Interaction. The relatively poor theoretical understanding of hadrons at low energies causes little surprise since it is textbook knowledge that QCD becomes non-perturbative at low energies and does not allow for precise calculations of the light hadron spectrum. However, young and not so young people outside the field are often unaware of the fact that even basic empirical properties such as the existence of many of the lightest mesons and resonances are still actively discussed, even if they were suggested much before QCD was proposed. Moreover, it is often the case that



Scalar mesons $f_0(500)$, $K^*(700)$, $f_0(980)$ and $a_0(980)$

- > Their nontrivial quark structure has remained controversial for many years!
- > Many interpretations: $q\bar{q}$ mixture, tetraquark, molecule, and hybrid etc.
- They play a important role in the dynamics of the spontaneous breaking of QCD chiral symmetry and in the origin of pseudoscalar meson masses.
- > They can help to understand the confinement of quarks.





??? Why is semi-leptonic decay of charmed meson?





- > Clean environment: hadrons X can be separated from leptons pair.
- > High statistics of charmed meson at experiments.
- > Besides, the branching fraction (BF) measurement of semi-leptonic decay can be used to achieve:
 - ➢ Hadronic Form factor (FF) measurement → Test different QCD models (LQCD/QCDSR)
 - > $\mathcal{R}_{\mu/e} = \mathcal{B}(D_{(s)} \to X\mu^+\nu_{\mu})/\mathcal{B}(D_{(s)} \to Xe^+\nu_e)$ measurement \rightarrow Test lepton flavor universality (LFU)







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Data sample



Symmetric e^+e^- collider @2 – 5GeV



~20 fb⁻¹ on the $\psi(3770)$ had been collected!

 $D_s D_s^*$ @4.13-4.23GeV: 7.33 fb⁻¹

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2.175: 108 pb



Analysis method: Double Tag

Take Ds decay as an example (complicated case)







Mature method

- Absolute BF measurement
- Low background
- Systematic cancellation (tag)

$$U_{\text{miss}} = E_{\text{miss}} - |\vec{p}_{\text{miss}}|$$
$$M_{\text{miss}}^2 = E_{\text{miss}}^2 - |\vec{p}_{\text{miss}}|^2$$



Analysis method: Single Tag sample





The differential decay rate of $D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell v_{\ell}$

$$\begin{split} \Gamma(D_{(s)} \to S\ell^+ \nu_\ell)/dq^2 &\propto |V_{cd(s)}|^2 |f_+(q^2)|^2 \\ S: a_0(980), f_0(500), f_0(980) \end{split}$$

 \succ Use least χ^2 method to fit the measured partial decay width in different q^2 bin.

 \succ Taking the correlations among q^2 bins into account.

> FF in different form (The width needs to be considered ?)





> Point-like differential decay rate:

$$\frac{d\Gamma(D_{(s)} \to S\ell^+ \nu_\ell)}{dq^2} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{cd(s)}|^2}{24\pi^3} p_{f_0}^3 |f_+(q^2)|^2$$

Double differential decay rate:

(N.N.Achasov et al., PRD102,016022(2020); W. Wang, PLB759,501(2016))

$$\frac{d^2 \Gamma(D_{(s)} \to S\ell^+ \nu_\ell)}{ds dq^2} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{cd(s)}|^2}{192\pi^4 m_{D_{(s)}}^3} \lambda^{\frac{3}{2}} \left(m_{D_{(s)}}^2, s, q^2 \right) |f_+(q^2)|^2 P(s)$$

$$P(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{g_1 \rho_{\pi\pi/\pi\eta}}{|m_0^2 - s - i(g_1 \rho_{\pi\pi/\pi\eta} + g_1 \rho_{KK})|^2}, & \text{Flatte: } f_0(980)/a_0(980) \\ \frac{m_{f_0} \Gamma(s)}{(s - m_{f_0}^2)^2 + m_{f_0}^2 \Gamma^2(s)}, & \text{RBW: } f_0(500) \\ \frac{m_r \Gamma_{tot}(s)}{(m_r^2 - s - g_1^2 \frac{s - s_A}{m_r^2 - s_A} z(s))^2 + m_r^2 \Gamma_{tot}^2(s)}, & \text{Bugg: } f_0(500) \end{cases}$$

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▶ 2.93 fb⁻¹ data @ 3.773 GeV

 $> N_{\rm sig}^{D^0} = 25.7^{+6.4}_{-5.7}$

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 $> N_{\rm sig}^{D^+} = 10.2^{+5.0}_{-4.1}$

> Branching fraction (BF) help to understand the nature of the $a_0(980)$



Decay	BF ($\times 10^{-4}$)	Significance
$D^0 \to a_0(980)^- e^+ \nu_e, a_0(980)^- \to \eta \pi^-$	$1.33^{+0.33}_{-0.29} \pm 0.09$	6.4σ
$D^+ \to a_0(980)^0 e^+ \nu_e, a_0(980)^0 \to \eta \pi^0$	$1.66^{+0.81}_{-0.66} \pm 0.11 < 3.0$ (90% C.L.)	2.9σ

First observation of $D^+ o f_0(500) e^+ v_e$



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Search for the decay $D_s^+ ightarrow a_0(980) \ e^+ u_e$

Phys. Rev. D. 103, 092004 (2021) (b) Events / (0.02 GeV²/ \boldsymbol{c}^4) E Events / (20 MeV/ c^2) 0➢ 6.33 fb⁻¹ data @ 4.178-4.226 GeV > No significant signal is observed. 0.8 Ŏ.6 1.2 1.4 1.6 -0.2 0.1 -0.10 0.2 $M_{\pi^0 n} (GeV/c^2)$ $MM^2 (GeV^2/c^4)$ An upper limit is determined at 90% confidence level (CL): $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to a_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \to \pi^0\eta) < 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ 0.8 9.0 50 70 70 First study of $a_0(980) - f_0(980)$ mixing in the charm sector. No obvious isospin violation is observed. 0.2 -2 2 0 **BF** (× 10⁻⁴)



Phys. Rev. D. 105, L031101 (2022)

- ➢ 6.32 fb⁻¹ data @ 4.178-4.226 GeV
- $> N_{\text{sig}}^{f_0(980)} = 54.8 \pm 10.1$ (7.8 σ significance)

First BFs Measurement:

 $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to f_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \to \pi^0\pi^0)$ = (7.9 ± 1.4 ± 0.4)×10⁻⁴

> No significant signal:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to f_0(500)e^+ \nu_e, f_0(500) \to \pi^0 \pi^0) < 7.3 \times 10^{-4} \\ \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 e^+ \nu_e) < 3.8 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

> BFs help to understand the nature of the $f_0(500)$ and

 $f_0(980)$, and test different theoretical calculations.





Study of the $f_0(980)$ through the decay $D_s^+ \to K^+ K^- \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}$

Events/ (0.20)



> 7.33 fb⁻¹ data @ 4.128-4.226 GeV

 $> N_{sig} = 1725 \pm 68$ for BF measurement

 $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to \phi \mu^+ \nu_\mu) = (2.25 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-2}$

 $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to \phi \mu^+ \nu_{\mu}) / \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to \phi e^+ \nu_e) = 0.94 \pm 0.08 \rightarrow \text{No LFU violation}$

 $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to f_0(980)\mu^+\nu_\mu) \cdot \mathcal{B}(f_0(980) \to K^+K^-) < 5.45 \times 10^{-4} @90\% \text{ C.L.} (\sim 2.2\sigma)$

First FF measurement based on single pole parameterization:

 \blacktriangleright **Partial wave analysis** is performed $\rightarrow \phi$ dominate

- $\rightarrow \mu$ mass is considered in the formula
- Table 5. Measured FF ratios and comparison with previous measurements.

	Experiments	r_V	r_2
	PDG [42]	$1.80{\pm}0.08$	$0.84{\pm}0.11$
	This analysis	$1.58{\pm}0.17{\pm}0.02$	$0.71{\pm}0.14{\pm}0.02$
	BABAR [25]	$1.807{\pm}0.046{\pm}0.065$	$0.816 {\pm} 0.036 {\pm} 0.030$
	FOCUS [58]	$1.549{\pm}0.250{\pm}0.148$	$0.713 {\pm} 0.202 {\pm} 0.284$
	Theory	r_V	r_2
	CCQM [5]	$1.34{\pm}0.27$	$0.99 {\pm} 0.20$
	CQM [6]	1.72	0.73
	LFQM [7]	1.42	0.86
	LQCD [3]	$1.72{\pm}0.21$	$0.74{\pm}0.12$
July/11/202	4 ΗΜχΤ [8]	1.80	0.52





Phys. Rev. D. 109, 072003 (2024)

➢ 7.9 fb⁻¹ data @ 3.773 GeV [2010,2011,2021]

 \geq No significant signal is observed, upper limits are determined at 90%CL assuming $a_0(980)$ contribution:

$$B(D^0 \to K_S^0 K^- e^+ \nu_e) < 2.13 \times 10^{-5}$$

 $\mathcal{B}\left(D^+ \to K^0_S K^0_S e^+ \nu_e\right) < 1.54 \times 10^{-5}, \mathcal{B}(D^+ \to K^+ K^- e^+ \nu_e) < 2.10 \times 10^{-5}$





 \succ 7.33 fb⁻¹ data @ 4.128-4.226 GeV → $N_{sig} = 439 \pm 33$

 $\succ \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to f_0(980)e^+ \nu_e, f_0(980) \to \pi^+\pi^-) = (1.72 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-3}$

- → $s\bar{s}$ is dominant based on $|f_0(980)\rangle = \sin\phi |\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(u\bar{u} + d\bar{d})\rangle + \cos\phi |s\bar{s}\rangle$ $\phi = (19.7 \pm 12.8)^\circ$
- **First form factor measurement** with simple pole form:
- → $f_{+}^{f_0}(0)|V_{cs}| = 0.504 \pm 0.017 \pm 0.035$

→
$$f_{+}^{f_{0}}(0) = 0.518 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.036$$
 ($|V_{cs}| = 0.97349 \pm 0.00016$ PDG2022)

	This work	CLFD $[6]$	DR [6]	QCDSR $[7]$	QCDSR [8]	LCSR [9]	LFQM [11]	CCQM [12]
$f_{+}^{f_{0}}(0)$	$0.518 \pm 0.018_{\rm stat} \pm 0.036_{\rm syst}$	0.45	0.46	0.50 ± 0.13	0.48 ± 0.23	0.30 ± 0.03	0.24 ± 0.05	0.36 ± 0.02
Difference (σ)		1.7	1.4	0.1	0.2	4.3	4.3	2.8
ϕ	$\phi = (19.7 \pm 12.8)^{\circ}$	$(32 \pm 4.8)^{\circ}$	$(41.3 \pm 5.5)^{\circ}$	35°	$(8^{+21}_{-8})^{\circ}$		$(56\pm7)^{\circ}$	31°

First search of D⁺_s → f₀(500)e⁺ v_e, f₀(500) → π⁺π⁻ (M_{π⁺π⁻} < 0.45 GeV/c²)
 B(D⁺_s → f₀(500)e⁺ v_e, f₀(500) → π⁺π⁻) < 3.3×10⁻⁴

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 $M_{\rm miss}^2$ (GeV²/c⁴)

 $\Gamma/dq^2 (ns^{-1}/GeV^2/c^4)$



Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 141901 (2024)

 \succ 7.33 fb⁻¹ data @ 4.128-4.226 GeV → $N_{sig} = 439 \pm 33$

 $\succ \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \to f_0(980)e^+ \,\nu_e, f_0(980) \to \pi^+\pi^-) = (1.72 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-3}$

→ $s\bar{s}$ is dominant based on $|f_0(980)\rangle = \sin\phi |\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(u\bar{u} + d\bar{d})\rangle + \cos\phi |s\bar{s}\rangle$ $\phi = (19.7 \pm 12.8)^\circ$

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Difference (σ)		1.7	1.4	0.1	0.2	4.3	4.3	2.8
ϕ	$\phi=(19.7\pm12.8)^\circ$	$(32 \pm 4.8)^{\circ}$	$(41.3 \pm 5.5)^{\circ}$	35°	$(8^{+21}_{-8})^{\circ}$		$(56 \pm 7)^{\circ}$	31°

First search of D⁺_s → f₀(500)e⁺ v_e, f₀(500) → π⁺π⁻ (M_{π⁺π⁻} < 0.45 GeV/c²)
 B(D⁺_s → f₀(500)e⁺ v_e, f₀(500) → π⁺π⁻) < 3.3×10⁻⁴

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Study of the decay $D^+ o f_0(500) \ell^+ u_\ell$

arXiv: 2401.13225 (Submitted to PRL) > 2.93 fb⁻¹ data @ 3.773 GeV

First observation of $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+\nu_{\mu}$.

Signal mode	$N_{ m obs}$	$\mathcal{S}\left(\sigma ight)$	$\epsilon_{ m sig}~(\%)$	$\mathcal{B}_{ m sig}(imes 10^{-3})$
$f_0(500)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	209 ± 38	5.9	18.93 ± 0.13	0.72 ± 0.13
$ ho^0 \mu^+ u_\mu$	496 ± 38	> 10	19.86 ± 0.13	1.64 ± 0.13
$f_0(500)e^+ u_e$	412 ± 43	> 10	44.76 ± 0.25	0.60 ± 0.06
$ ho^0 e^+ u_e$	1237 ± 47	> 10	44.12 ± 0.25	1.84 ± 0.07

First FF measurement of $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\ell^+\nu_\ell$.

Based Z series expansion for FF and Bugg form for $f_0(500)$ $\rightarrow f_+^{f_0}(0)|V_{cd}| = 0.0787 \pm 0.0060 \pm 0.0033$ $\rightarrow f_+^{f_0}(0) = 0.350 \pm 0.027 \pm 0.015$

ps: $|V_{cd}| = 0.22438 \pm 0.00044$ from SM global fit (PDG2022) July/11/2024 Shulei Zhang@BESIII









Data and analysis method \checkmark

D3 Results in review \checkmark

^{[]4} Summary and prospect \checkmark



Light scalar mesons via semi-leptonic charm decays at BESIII

Channel	Publication	Status
$D^0 ightarrow a_0 (980)^- (\eta \pi^-) e^+ u_e$	PRL 121, 081802(2018)	Update in process (Draft review)
$D^+ ightarrow a_0(980)^0(\eta\pi^0)e^+ u_e$	PRL 121, 081802(2018)	Update in process (Group review)
$D ightarrow a_0(980) \ (\eta\pi)\mu^+ u_\mu$	No	In process (Group review)
$D \rightarrow a_0(980) \ (K\overline{K})e^+\nu_e$	PRD 109, 072003(2024)	Published
$D^+ \to f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	PRL 122, 062001(2019)	Update in process (Group review)
$D^+ \to f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+ u_\mu$	arXiv: 2401.13225	Submitted to PRL
$D^+ \to f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	PRL 122, 062001(2019)	Update in process (Group review)
$D_s^+ ightarrow a_0(980)^0(\eta\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	PRD 103, 092004(2021)	Published
$D_s^+ \to f_0(980)(\pi^0\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	PRD 105, L031101(2022)	Published
$D_s^+ \to f_0(500)(\pi^0\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	PRD 105, L031101(2022)	Published
$D_s^+ \to f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	PRL 132,141901(2024)	Published
$D_s^+ \to f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	No	In process (Memo review)
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(K^+K^-)e^+\nu_e$	Νο	In process (Draft review)
$D_s^+ \to f_0(980)(K^+K^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	JHEP12(2023)072	Published



Summary:

- > BESIII has the largest data samples at $D\overline{D}/D_sD_s^*$ threshold.
- > Light scalar mesons are studied systematically via semi-leptonic charm decays.
- > BFs and FF measurements help to understand the nature of light scalar mesons.

Prospect:

- ➢ BESIII has **20 fb⁻¹** @3.773 GeV in total now.
- More scalar mesons could be studied via semi-leptonic charm decays.

 $\rightarrow K^{*}(700), K_{0}^{*}(1430), f_{0}(1370), f_{0}(1500), a_{0}(1450)$

> More results are on the way!





BESIII experiment





BEPCII collider

- Two ring symmetric e^+e^- collider
- Circumference: 240 m
- Design luminosity: $1 \times 10^{33} cm^{-2} s^{-1}$

Achieved time: 5 April, 2016

- *E_{cm}*: 2 5 GeV
- Beam crossing angle: 22 mrad





BESIII detector

