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Measurement of Σ^+ transverse polarization in e^+e^- collisions at $\sqrt{s}=3.68-3.71\,\text{GeV}$



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ABSTRACT: Using e^+e^- collision data collected with the BESIII detector at seven energy points ranging from 3.68 to 3.71 GeV and corresponding to an integrated luminosity of 652.1 pb⁻¹, we present an energy-dependent measurement of the transverse polarization, relative phase and modulus ratio of the electromagnetic form factors of the Σ^+ hyperon in the $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ reaction. At each energy point, no evident polarization is observed. These results are helpful to understand the production mechanism of the Σ^+ - $\bar{\Sigma}^-$ pairs.

Keywords: e^+ - e^- Experiments, Polarization, QCD

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1 Introduction

As early as 1960, the significance of baryon structure was widely acknowledged [1]. However, at present, understanding the structure of baryons remains a great challenge. Apart from protons and neutrons, knowledge has been relatively scarce. The proton, being a stable particle, allows for the determination of the space-like electromagnetic form factors (EMFFs) via elastic electron-proton scattering [2]. More recently, e^+e^- collisions, resulting in the production of baryon pairs, provide an ideal experimental framework to study baryon structure. This is because the e^+e^- process offers access to the time-like EMFFs via virtual photon production, thereby facilitating the quantitative assessment of baryonic electromagnetic structure. Experimentally accessible time-like EMFFs are intimately connected with more intuitive space-like quantities, such as charge and magnetization densities, through the dispersion relation [3, 4]. Baryon pairs with a spin of 1/2 produced by the e^+e^- process via a virtual photon are elegantly described by two distinct EMFFs: the electric form factor G_E and magnetic form factor G_M [5, 6]. These form factors are functions of the square of the four-momentum transfer, denoted as q^2 . In the time-like region, where $q^2 > 0$, the EMFFs exhibit non-zero imaginary components. Consequently, when G_E and G_M are different, they give rise to a relative phase denoted as $\Delta \Phi = \Phi_E - \Phi_M$, where Φ_E and Φ_M are the phases of G_E and G_M , respectively.

In accordance with the Phragmén-Lindelöf theorem [7], as $q^2 \to \infty$, the asymptotic behavior of the time-like EMFFs can be obtained from their corresponding space-like counterparts. In the space-like region, the EMFFs are assumed to be real. Consequently, as

 $q^2 \to \infty$, the time-like EMFFs must also be real, and the relative phase of the EMFFs should approach an integer multiple of π . In the case where q^2 does not approach the limit, the phase can be any value, which causes the final state to be polarized, even if the initial state is unpolarized [8]. This allows the determination of the EMFFs, as the polarization and cross-section are functions of form factors themselves [4, 9–12]. Recent results from BESIII [13], BaBar [6] and Belle [14], focusing solely on measuring the effective form factor, have reported consistent results. Additionally, the CLEO collaboration has made significant progress in determining the cross sections and the EMFFs of various baryon pairs $(p, \Lambda, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^+, \Xi^0, \Xi^-, \text{ and } \Omega^-)$ [15, 16]. Their conclusions regarding EMFFs and di-quark correlations [17, 18] rely on the assumption that one-photon exchange dominates the production process and that charmonia contributions are negligible. Furthermore, the BESIII collaboration has measured the cross sections for several baryon pairs $(\Lambda, \Sigma^0, \Xi^-, \Sigma^\pm, \text{ and } \Xi^0)$ near the production threshold [13, 19–23] and above open charm threshold [25–29]. However, experimental measurements of the relative phase between G_E and G_M are still relatively scarce.

For spin 1/2 baryon pairs produced by the e^+e^- process via vector charmonia, where the above statements concerning EMFFs also apply, the formalism is described in ref. [9]. In these cases, the amplitudes include the EM-psionic form factors, G_E^{Ψ} and G_M^{Ψ} [30, 31]. While the EM-psionic form factors describe a different process, the form of the hadron current matrix element for the charmonia process is the same as that for the virtual photon one [9, 32].

Previous studies often neglected the polarization effects of hyperons [33–38]. However, Σ^+ polarization was recently observed and measured in the $e^+e^- \to J/\psi$, $\psi(3686) \to \Sigma^+ \bar{\Sigma}^-$ processes by the BESIII collaboration [39, 40]. The results not only reveal a non-zero relative phase but also demonstrate that the phase changes sign at the mass of the $\psi(3686)$ resonance compared to the value measured at the J/ψ resonance. Subsequently, the polarization effects of Λ and Ξ^- were also observed and measured by the BESIII collaboration. The Λ polarization was observed in the $e^+e^- \to \Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$ process at the J/ψ , $\psi(3770)$, and off-resonance regions [41–43]. Additionally, a non-zero polarization has been observed for Ξ^- in the $e^+e^- \to J/\psi$, $\psi(3686) \to \Xi^-\bar{\Xi}^+$ processes [44–46]. However, for Ξ^0 , completely different effects were observed in processes $e^+e^- \to J/\psi \to \Xi^0\bar{\Xi}^0$ [47] and $e^+e^- \to \psi(3686) \to \Xi^0\bar{\Xi}^0$ [48].

The data samples used in this analysis correspond to an integrated luminosity of 652.1 pb⁻¹, collected at the center-of-mass (CM) energies of $\sqrt{s} = 3.682$, 3.683, 3.684, 3.685, 3.687, 3.691, and 3.710 GeV with the BESIII detector [49] in symmetric e^+e^- collisions provided by the BEPCII storage ring [50]. The above energy points around $\psi(3686)$ resonance, which are used to study the energy dependence of $\Delta\Phi$, are particularly intriguing, as the production occurs through a combination of one-photon exchange [51], mixed with the $\psi(3686)$ resonance [30], and resonance dominance [41, 42]. Also, it can enrich the experimental information of form factors measurement in higher energy region [52]. Since the energy range studied here includes both the virtual photon and vector charmonium processes, $G_E^{\gamma/\Psi}$ and $G_M^{\gamma/\Psi}$ are used to represent the form factors in the following, and the methods used in the following apply to both processes.

2 BESIII detector and Monte Carlo simulation

The BESIII detector [49] records symmetric e^+e^- collisions provided by the BEPCII storage ring [50] in the CM energy ranging from 1.84 to 4.95 GeV, with a peak luminosity of 1×10^{33} cm⁻² s⁻¹ achieved at $\sqrt{s} = 3.773$ GeV. BESIII has collected large data samples in this energy region [53–55]. The cylindrical core of the BESIII detector covers 93% of the full solid angle and consists of a helium-based multilayer drift chamber (MDC), a plastic scintillator barrel and multigap resistive plate chamber end cap time-of-flight system (TOF), and a CsI(Tl) electromagnetic calorimeter (EMC), all enclosed in a superconducting solenoidal magnet providing a 1.0 T magnetic field. The solenoid is supported by an octagonal flux-return yoke with resistive plate counter muon identification modules interleaved with steel. The charged-particle momentum resolution at 1 GeV/c is 0.5%, and the dE/dx resolution is 6% for electrons from Bhabha scattering. The EMC measures photon energies with a resolution of 2.5% (5%) at 1 GeV in the barrel (end cap) region. The time resolution in the TOF barrel region is 68 ps, while that in the end cap region is 60 ps [56–58].

To evaluate detection efficiencies and estimate backgrounds, simulated data samples are produced using GEANT4-based Monte Carlo (MC) software [59], which incorporates the geometric description of the BESIII detector [60] as well as the detector response. The simulation models the beam energy spread and initial-state radiation (ISR) effect in the e^+e^- annihilation process with KKMC [61]. The detection efficiency for the $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ process is determined through MC simulations. For each of the 7 energy points ranging from 3.68 to 3.71 GeV, a sample of 100,000 events is simulated with a uniform phase space (PHSP) distribution. The $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ baryon and its subsequent decays are simulated using EVTGEN [62, 63] with a PHSP model.

3 Event selection

A double-tag technique is employed in the event selection involving the decays of $\Sigma^+ \to p\pi^0$ and $\bar{\Sigma}^- \to \bar{p}\pi^0$ with the subsequent decay $\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma$. Hence, in the final state, there are two charged particles, a proton and an anti-proton, along with four photons utilized for the reconstruction of two π^0 s. Consequently, suitable candidates must meet the following event selection criteria.

Charged tracks detected in the MDC are required to be within a polar angle (θ) range of $|\cos\theta| < 0.93$, where θ is defined with respect to the z-axis, which is the symmetry axis of the MDC. At least two oppositely charged tracks, which must be well reconstructed in the MDC with good helix fits, are required. For the distance V_{xy} between the vertex and the xy plane, and the distance V_z between the vertex and the z-axis, both the signal and background distributions are around 0. To avoid efficiency loss, there is no vertex requirement. Since (anti-)protons from $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ decays can be distinguished from other charged particles by requiring the momentum to be greater than 0.5 GeV/c, there is no additional particle identification (PID) requirement.

Showers deposited in the EMC are used to reconstruct π^0 s. The deposited energy of each shower must be more than 25 MeV in the barrel region ($|\cos \theta| < 0.80$) and more than 50 MeV in the end cap region ($0.86 < |\cos \theta| < 0.92$). To suppress electronic noise and showers

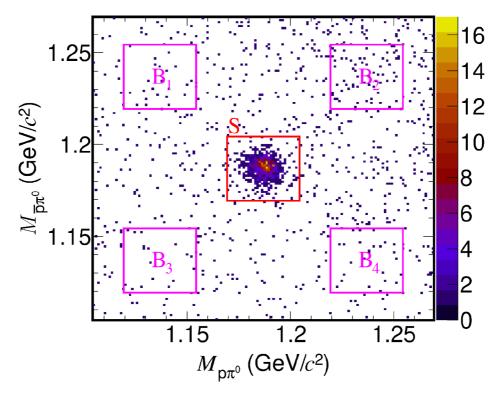


Figure 1. Two-dimensional distribution of $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0}$ versus $M_{p\pi^0}$ of the accepted candidates summed over all energy points, where the red square marked with S indicates the signal region, and the pink squares marked with B_i (i=1,2,3,4) show the selected background regions.

unrelated to the event, the difference between the EMC time and the event start time is required to be within [0, 700] ns. After selection, at least four photons are required.

To select the correct combination of proton, anti-proton, and $\pi^0\pi^0$ candidates, a sixconstraint (6C) kinematic fit is applied to all $p\bar{p}\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ combinations in each event. The 6C kinematic fit conserves energy and momentum while constraining the invariant mass of photon combinations to the known π^0 mass [64]. The $p\bar{p}\pi^0\pi^0$ combination with the smallest χ^2 is retained, and χ^2_{6C} < 100 is required to suppress the background. This requirement is determined by analyzing the figure-of-merit (FOM) $N_{\rm sig}/\sqrt{N_{\rm sig}+N_{\rm bkg}}$, where $N_{\rm sig}$ and $N_{\rm bkg}$ represent the numbers of signal and background events, respectively, both based on MC simulation. To match p and \bar{p} with the correct π^0 , the $\Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ pair with the minimum difference $\sqrt{(M_{p\pi^0}-m_{\Sigma^+})^2+(M_{\bar{p}\pi^0}-m_{\bar{\Sigma}^-})^2}$ is selected for further analysis. Here, $M_{p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)}$ is the invariant mass of the $p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)$ combination, and $m_{\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)}$ is the known Σ^+ mass [64]. To eliminate the primary background originating from the $e^+e^- \to \pi^0\pi^0 J/\psi \to p\bar{p}\pi^0\pi^0$ process, the veto requirement $|M_{\pi^0\pi^0}^{\rm Recoil} - m_{J/\psi}| > 15\,{\rm MeV}/c^2$ is applied. Here, $M_{\pi^0\pi^0}^{\rm Recoil}$ is the recoil mass of the $\pi^0\pi^0$ combination and $m_{J/\psi}$ is the mass of J/ψ [64]. This requirement is also determined by FOM optimization. Figure 1 shows the distribution of $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0}$ versus $M_{p\pi^0}$ of the accepted candidates summed over all energy points. The $M_{p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)}$ candidates are required to be within the range of $[m_{\Sigma^+} - 4\sigma, m_{\Sigma^+} + 3\sigma] \,\text{MeV}/c^2$, denoted by S in figure 1, where the resolution σ is determined by a one-dimensional fit with the Crystal-Ball function [65]. Due to the energy leakage of the photon in the EMC, the signal shape is asymmetric.

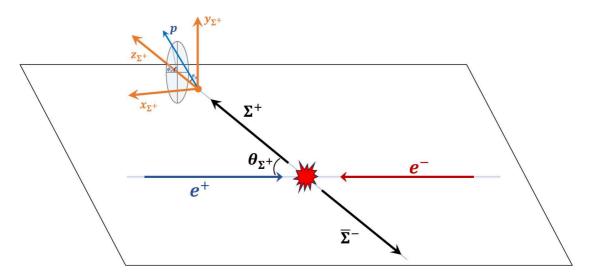


Figure 2. Definition of the coordinate system describing the $e^+e^- \to \gamma^*/\Psi \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^- \to p\bar{p}\pi^0\pi^0$ reaction. The Σ^+ particle is emitted along the z_{Σ^+} axis direction, and the $\bar{\Sigma}^-$ in the opposite direction. The y_{Σ^+} axis is perpendicular to the plane of Σ^+ and e^- , and the x_{Σ^+} axis is defined by a right-handed coordinate system. The Σ^+ decay product, the proton, is measured in this coordinate system.

After applying the event selection criteria to the data, the remaining background mainly comes from non- $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ events, such as the non-resonant process $e^+e^- \to \pi^0\pi^0 p\bar{p}$. The number of background events is estimated using the sideband method, i.e. $\sum_{i=1}^4 B_i/4$ for the $M_{p\pi^0}$ and $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0}$ windows, where i runs over the four regions shown in figure 1, and the exact ranges are defined as B_1 : $M_{p\pi^0} \in [1.119, 1.154]$ GeV/ c^2 and $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0} \in [1.219, 1.254]$ GeV/ c^2 , B_2 : $M_{p\pi^0} \in [1.219, 1.254]$ GeV/ c^2 and $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0} \in [1.219, 1.254]$ GeV/ c^2 and $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0} \in [1.119, 1.154]$ GeV/ c^2 , B_4 : $M_{p\pi^0} \in [1.219, 1.254]$ GeV/ c^2 and $M_{\bar{p}\pi^0} \in [1.119, 1.154]$ GeV/ c^2 .

The signal yield combining all energy points is 898 ± 30 (stat.) events. The numbers of signal events for each energy point are listed in table 1. The number of background events estimated with the sideband method is 36 ± 3 (stat.), which is a background level of 3.85%.

4 Σ^+ polarization

The exclusive process $e^+e^- \to \gamma^*/\Psi \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^- \to p\bar{p}\pi^0\pi^0$ can be fully described by the Σ^+ scattering angle, θ_{Σ^+} , in the CM system of the e^+e^- reaction and the p and \bar{p} directions, \hat{n}_1 and \hat{n}_2 , respectively, in the rest frames of their parent particles. Here γ^*/Ψ indicates that the process $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ occurs via a pure EM process or a ψ resonance. The components of these vectors are expressed using a coordinate system $(x_{\Sigma^+}, y_{\Sigma^+}, z_{\Sigma^+})$ as shown in figure 2. A right-handed system for each hyperon decay is defined with the z axis along the Σ^+ momentum $\mathbf{p}_{\Sigma^+} = -\mathbf{p}_{\bar{\Sigma}^-} = \mathbf{p}$ in the CM system. The y axis is taken as the normal to the scattering plane, $\mathbf{p}_{\Sigma^+} \times \mathbf{k}_{e^-}$, where $\mathbf{k}_{e^-} = -\mathbf{k}_{e^+} = \mathbf{k}$ is the electron beam momentum in the CM system.

The joint decay angular distribution of the process $e^+e^- \to \gamma^*/\Psi \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^- \to p\bar{p}\pi^0\pi^0$, involving spin-entangled $\Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$, is expressed as [9]

$$\mathcal{W}(\boldsymbol{\xi}; \boldsymbol{\Omega}) = F_0(\boldsymbol{\xi}) + \eta F_5(\boldsymbol{\xi}) + \alpha_{\Sigma^+} \alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-}$$

$$\times \left[F_1(\boldsymbol{\xi}) + \sqrt{1 - \eta^2} \cos(\Delta \Phi) F_2(\boldsymbol{\xi}) + \eta F_6(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \right]$$

$$+ \sqrt{1 - \eta^2} \sin(\Delta \Phi) \left[\alpha_{\Sigma^+} F_3(\boldsymbol{\xi}) + \alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-} F_4(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \right], \tag{4.1}$$

where η is the angular distribution parameter, $\Omega = (\eta, \Delta\Phi, \alpha_{\Sigma^+}, \alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-})$ represents the production and decay parameters, the kinematic variables $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\theta_{\Sigma^+}, \boldsymbol{\hat{n}}_1, \boldsymbol{\hat{n}}_2)$ describe the production and subsequent decay, and $\alpha_{\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)}$ denotes the asymmetry parameter of the $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-) \to p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)$ decay. The angular functions $F_i(\xi)$ $(i=0,1,\ldots 6)$ are described in detail in ref. [9], and the definitions of five terms with angular distribution of final states are shown in eq. (4.2).

$$F_{1} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} (\sin^{2}\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{1,x}^{i} n_{2,x}^{i} + \cos^{2}\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{1,z}^{i} n_{2,z}^{i}),$$

$$F_{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} \sin\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} \cos\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} (n_{1,x}^{i} n_{2,z}^{i} + n_{1,z}^{i} n_{2,x}^{i}),$$

$$F_{3} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} \sin\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} \cos\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{1,y}^{i},$$

$$F_{4} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} \sin\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} \cos\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{2,y}^{i},$$

$$F_{5} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} (n_{1,z}^{i} n_{2,z}^{i} - \sin^{2}\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{1,y}^{i} n_{2,y}^{i}),$$

$$F_{6} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{k}} (n_{1,z}^{i} n_{2,z}^{i} - \sin^{2}\theta_{\Sigma^{+}} n_{1,y}^{i} n_{2,y}^{i}),$$

where, N_k is the number of events in the $k^{\text{th}} \cos \theta_{\Sigma^+}$ interval, $n_{1,j}$ $(n_{2,j})$ (j = x, y, z) represents the component of vector $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_1$ $(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_2)$ in the coordinate system $(x_{\Sigma^+}, y_{\Sigma^+}, z_{\Sigma^+})$, and i is the index from 1 to N_k .

The modulus ratio of the form factors, R [30], can be described by the angular distribution parameter η .

$$R = \frac{|G_E^{\gamma/\Psi}|}{|G_M^{\gamma/\Psi}|} = \sqrt{\frac{\tau(1-\eta)}{1+\eta}},$$
(4.3)

where $\tau = \frac{s}{4m_{\Sigma^+}^2}$ and s is the square of the CM energy. If the initial state is unpolarized, and the production process is either strong or electromagnetic and hence parity-conserving, then a non-zero polarization is only possible in the transverse direction y. The polarization is given by [9]

$$P_y = \frac{\sqrt{1 - \eta^2 \sin \theta_{\Sigma^+} \cos \theta_{\Sigma^+}}}{1 + \eta \cos^2 \theta_{\Sigma^+}} \sin(\Delta \Phi). \tag{4.4}$$

To determine η and $\Delta\Phi$, an unbinned maximum likelihood fit is performed, where the decay parameters α_{Σ^+} and $\alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-}$ are fixed to the values -0.994 and 0.994, respectively,

obtained from the average in ref. [39], assuming CP conservation. In the fit, the likelihood function \mathcal{L} is constructed from the probability function, $\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)$, for event i characterized by the measured angles $\boldsymbol{\xi}_i$

$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{CW}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \epsilon(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{i}), \tag{4.5}$$

where N is the number of events in the signal region, and $\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\xi}_i)$ is the detection efficiency. For the ISR effect at the higher energy points 3.691 and 3.710 GeV, MC studies are performed where the input cross section for $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ for calculating the ISR effect is taken from ref. [66]. The ISR effect at these two energy points brings absolute differences of 0.02 and 0.04 rad for η and $\Delta\Phi$, respectively, which are negligible. The normalization factor $\mathcal{C} = \frac{1}{N_{\rm MC}} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\rm MC}} \mathcal{W}(\boldsymbol{\xi}^j, \boldsymbol{\Omega})$ is given by the sum of the corresponding angular distribution function \mathcal{W} using the accepted MC events, $N_{\rm MC}$, and the difference in efficiency between data and MC simulations is taken into account as a systematic uncertainty, described later. The minimization of the function

$$\mathcal{S} = -\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{data}},\tag{4.6}$$

is performed with RooFit [67]. Here, \mathcal{L}_{data} is the likelihood function of events selected in the signal region.

Figure 3 shows the distributions of the five $F_k(k=1,2,3,4,6)$ moments [9] with respect to $\cos \theta_{\Sigma^+}$, divided into 10 intervals, and the weighted PHSP MC results corrected by the global fit. The numerical fit results and the weighted average values are summarized in table 1. The weighted average can provide an overall evaluation of the Σ^+ polarization related to the production mechanism of the $\Sigma^{+}\bar{\Sigma}^{-}$ pair around this energy range. It is calculated by $\frac{1}{w}\sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i$ [64], where n is the number of energy points, $w_i = 1/\sigma_i^2$, x_i and σ_i are the measured values and their uncertainties at each energy point, respectively, and $w = \sum_i w_i$. The significance is estimated by comparing the likelihoods of the baseline fit and the one defined assuming no polarization [68]. The calculation of significance also accounts for the systematic uncertainties in the decay parameter, mass window, and background. After evaluating the significance following each systematic uncertainty, we select the smallest value as a conservative estimation. The significance of each energy point is also summarized in table 1. Since the significances are all less than 3σ , no evident polarization is observed. Note that the significance of polarization P_y can not be directly determined by $\Delta\Phi$ and it should be directly determined by $\sin(\Delta\Phi)$ when $P_y \propto \sin(\Delta\Phi) = 0$ according to eq. (4.4). It although means that $\Delta\Phi$ allows two values either $\Delta\Phi$ or $\Delta\Phi - \pi$, the terms $\sin(\Delta\Phi)$ and $\cos(\Delta\Phi)$ in eq. (4.1) can constraint the unique $\Delta\Phi$ value.

The comparison between this work and previous measurements [40, 69] is also provided in figure 4. Here, $\Delta\Phi$ is less than zero for J/ψ decay and $\sqrt{s}=3.71\,\mathrm{GeV}$, and greater than zero at other energy points, which implies that there may be at least one $\Delta\Phi=0$ rad between these energy points. Such an evolution is important input for understanding its asymptotic behavior and the dynamics of baryons similar to the Λ hyperon [70]. Figure 5

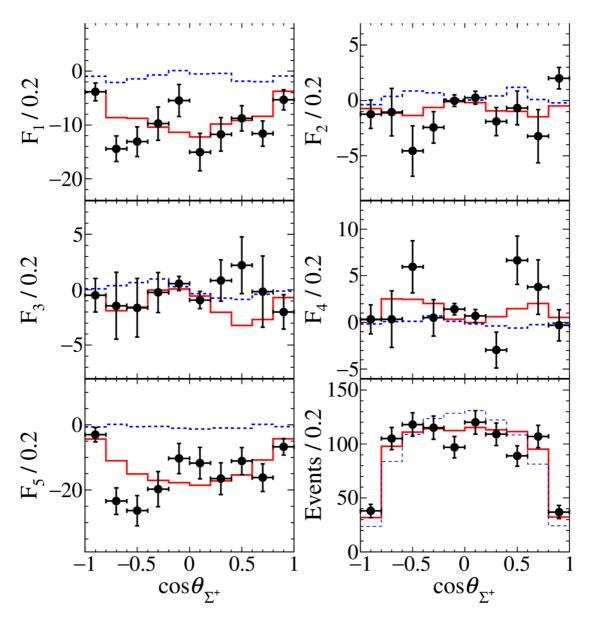


Figure 3. Distributions of $F_k(k=1,2,3,4,6)$ moments with respect to $\cos \theta_{\Sigma^+}$. The dots with error bars are data combined from all energy points, and the red solid lines are the weighted PHSP MC corrected by the results of global fit. The blue dashed lines represent the distributions of the simulated events evenly distributed in PHSP, without polarization.

shows the distribution of the moment given by

$$M(\cos \theta_{\Sigma^{+}}) = \frac{m}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} (n_{1,y}^i - n_{2,y}^i), \tag{4.7}$$

which is calculated for m=10 intervals in $\cos\theta_{\Sigma^+}$. Here, N represents the total number of events in the data sample. According to ref. [41], $M(\cos\theta_{\Sigma^+})$ is related to the polarization by

$$M(\cos \theta_{\Sigma^{+}}) = \frac{\alpha_{\Sigma^{+}} - \alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^{-}}}{2} \frac{1 + \eta \cos^{2} \theta_{\Sigma^{+}}}{3 + \eta} P_{y}(\theta_{\Sigma^{+}}). \tag{4.8}$$

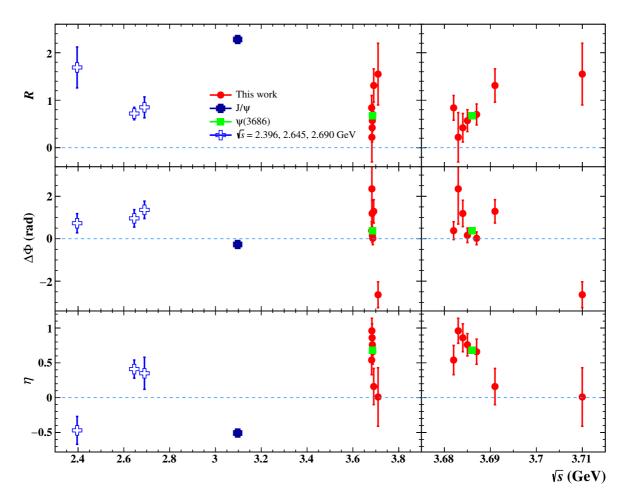


Figure 4. The comparisons of η , $\Delta\Phi$, and R as a function of CM energy between this work and the previous measurements [40, 69].

Assuming CP conservation, we have $\alpha_{\Sigma^+} = -\alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-}$, and the expected angular dependence of $M(\cos\theta_{\Sigma^+})$ is proportional to $\sqrt{1-\eta^2}\alpha_{\Sigma^+}\sin\Delta\Phi\cos\theta_{\Sigma^+}\sin\theta_{\Sigma^+}/(3+\eta)$, which is consistent with the data in figure 5.

5 Systematic uncertainty

The systematic uncertainties on the measurement of the Σ^+ hyperon polarization arise due to the $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ reconstruction, the requirements on the $p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)$ mass window, the background estimation, the fit method, and the decay parameters $\alpha_{\Sigma^+/\bar{\Sigma}^-}$.

5.1 $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ reconstruction

The systematic uncertainty due to the $\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ reconstruction efficiency, incorporating the efficiencies of tracking, PID, kinematic fit and requirements of $M_{\pi^0\pi^0}^{\rm Recoil}$ and π^0 reconstruction, is estimated using the control sample of $\psi(3686) \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ with the same method as described in refs. [71–73]. The efficiency difference is evaluated by comparing a full reconstruction sample that reconstructs both the baryon and anti-baryon sides, with two partial reconstruction samples that only reconstruct one side. The MC samples are then corrected with the efficiency

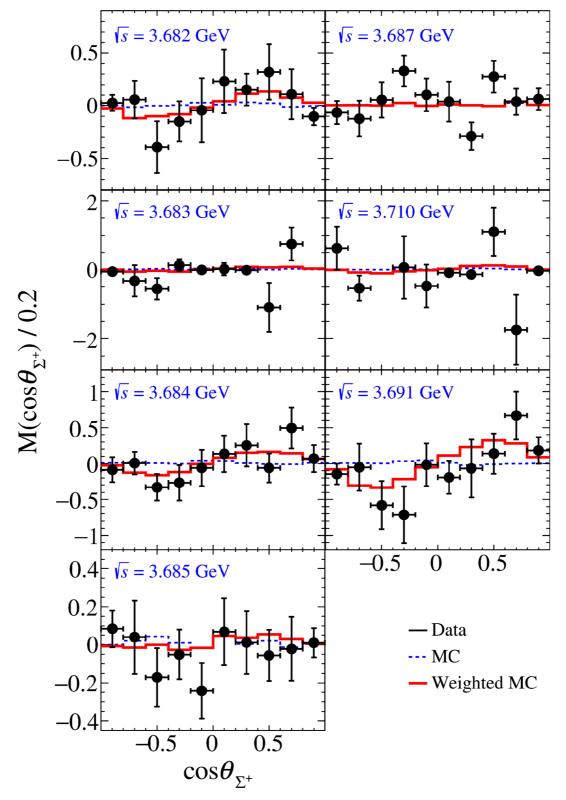


Figure 5. The moment $M(\cos \theta_{\Sigma^+})$ as a function of $\cos \theta_{\Sigma^+}$ for the $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ reaction at different CM energies. Points with error bars are data, the red solid lines are the weighted PHSP MC corrected by the results of global fit, and the blue dashed lines represent the distributions without polarization from simulated events, evenly distributed in the PHSP.

$\sqrt{s} \; (\text{MeV})$	σ_{cms} (MeV)	$\int \mathcal{L}dt \ (\mathrm{pb}^{-1})$	$N_{ m obs}$	η	$\Delta\Phi$ (rad)	R	$S(\sigma)$
3682.00 ± 0.20	1.334	404.0	$134.2^{+12.4}_{-11.8}$	$0.54 \pm 0.17 \pm 0.12$	$0.38 \pm 0.40 \pm 0.12$	$0.84 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.14$	0.9
3682.75 ± 0.20	1.335	28.7	$27.2^{+6.0}_{-5.4}$	$0.96 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.12$	$2.35 \pm 1.66 \pm 0.12$	$0.22 \pm 0.37 \pm 0.34$	0.5
3684.22 ± 0.20	1.336	28.7	$97.8^{+10.7}_{-10.1}$	$0.86 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.12$	$1.19 \pm 0.61 \pm 0.12$	$0.42 \pm 0.21 \pm 0.20$	1.8
3685.26 ± 0.20	1.336	26.0	$256.2_{-16.2}^{+16.8}$	$0.76 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.12$	$0.16 \pm 0.32 \pm 0.12$	$0.57 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.16$	0.3
3686.50 ± 0.20	1.338	25.1	$283.0^{+17.8}_{-16.8}$	$0.66 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.12$	$0.02 \pm 0.27 \pm 0.12$	$0.70 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.15$	0.0
3691.36 ± 0.20	1.344	69.4	$77.5^{+9.8}_{-8.8}$	$0.16 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.12$	$1.29 \pm 0.54 \pm 0.12$	$1.31 \pm 0.30 \pm 0.16$	2.8
3709.76 ± 0.20	1.360	70.3	$22.0_{-4.7}^{+5.8}$	$0.01 \pm 0.40 \pm 0.12$	$-2.64 \pm 0.60 \pm 0.12$	$1.55 \pm 0.62 \pm 0.19$	2.0
AVG.	_	_	_	$0.69 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.05$	$0.14 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.05$	$0.72 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.07$	_

Table 1. The energy spread, σ_{cms} , the number of observed events, $N_{\rm obs}$, integrated luminosities, $\int \mathcal{L}dt$, measured parameters η , $\Delta\Phi$ and R for each energy point, the weighted average values, and the significance of the $\Delta\Phi$, S. For \sqrt{s} , the uncertainties are conservative estimates and have the same bias because of the correlation. For $N_{\rm obs}$, the uncertainties are statistical. For measured parameters, the first column uncertainties are statistical and the second column are systematic.

difference, and the fit is repeated. The differences between the new and nominal values are taken as the systematic uncertainties.

5.2 Mass window

The uncertainty due to the requirements on the $p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)$ mass window is estimated with the same method as introduced in ref. [39]. The range of the $p\pi^0(\bar{p}\pi^0)$ mass window is increased or decreased by $1 \text{ MeV}/c^2$, and the maximum differences between the new and nominal values are taken as the systematic uncertainties.

5.3 Background

The systematic uncertainty associated with the background is determined by comparing the results obtained from the fits with and without considering the sideband background. The modified likelihood function is expressed as

$$\mathcal{S} = -\ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{data}} + \ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{bg}}, \tag{5.1}$$

where $\mathscr{L}_{\mathrm{bg}}$ is the likelihood function of background events determined in the sideband regions.

5.4 Fit method

To validate the reliability of the fit results, an input and output check is conducted using 500 pseudo-experiments. The helicity amplitude formula provided in ref. [9] is utilized. To ensure that the Gaussian function is fitted comprehensively, the input values of the polarization parameters are deliberately chosen to be far away from the fit boundary. In order to ensure sufficient statistics, 6000 events are generated for each MC sample. In addition, to avoid the reconstruction effect, the MC samples used here have not been corrected by the detector. The differences between the input and output values obtained from the fits are negligible.

5.5 Decay parameter

The uncertainties from the decay parameters α_{Σ^+} for $\Sigma^+ \to p\pi^0$ and $\alpha_{\bar{\Sigma}^-}$ for $\bar{\Sigma}^- \to \bar{p}\pi^0$ are estimated by varying the value, obtained from averaging the results in ref. [39], by $\pm 1\sigma$. The largest differences in the result are taken as the systematic uncertainties.

Source	η	$\Delta\Phi$ (rad)
$\Sigma^+(\bar{\Sigma}^-)$ reconstruction	0.02	0.00
Mass window	0.01	0.02
Sideband background	0.11	0.11
Fit method	0.00	0.00
Decay parameter	0.05	0.03
Total	0.12	0.12

Table 2. Absolute systematic uncertainties of the measured parameters.

5.6 Total systematic uncertainty

The systematic uncertainties on the polarization measurement are summarized in table 2. Assuming all sources are independent, the total systematic uncertainties are determined by adding these sources in quadrature.

6 Summary

In summary, based on e^+e^- collision data corresponding to an integrated luminosity of 652.1 pb⁻¹ collected with the BESIII detector at the BEPCII collider, we present an energy-dependent measurement of transverse polarization, relative phase and the modulus ratio of the form factors of Σ^+ hyperon in the $e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$ reaction. For the first time, the phase of the Σ^+ hyperon electromagnetic form factors is explored in a higher range of four-momentum transfer above $q^2 > 13.5 \text{ GeV}^2$. No polarization is evident at each energy point. These results are important to understand the production mechanism of the Σ^+ - $\bar{\Sigma}^-$ pairs at different energy points.

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