

Determining the meson-nucleus potential - on the way to mesic states

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Experimental approaches to determine the real and imaginary part of the meson-nucleus potential will be described. The experiments have been performed with the Crystal Barrel/TAPS detector at the electron accelerator ELSA (Bonn) and the Crystal Ball/TAPS detector at MAMI (Mainz). Measuring the transparency ratio as well as the excitation function and momentum distribution for photo production of ω - and η' - mesons, we find that for the η' -meson the imaginary part of the potential is smaller than the real part. In case of the ω -meson we observe the opposite. This makes the eta prime meson a good candidate for the search for meson-nucleus bound states while no resolved ω -mesic states can be expected. The results are discussed and compared to theoretical predictions. An outlook on future experiments is given.

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