

Meson Relativistic Spectroscopy*

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A two-body relativistic equation, derived from Dirac's constraint dynamics, is used to obtain the meson mass spectra. Spin-dependent effects are not considered. Comparison with recent experimental data and with the results given by a nonrelativistic approximation is made. The leptonic and hadronic decay widths and radiative transition rates are also calculated for some mesons.

I. Introduction

Hadrons are usually considered as being composed of quarks. The model describing the interaction among quarks is Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) with the symmetry group given by colour SU(3). In this model mesons are interpreted as quark-antiquark bound states belonging to the color singlet representation. The discovery of the families $J/\psi(c\bar{c})$ e $\gamma(b\bar{b})$ represented a great contribution to the understanding of the quark-antiquark bound states. The ratios v/c for these systems are relatively small and consequently the nonrelativistic approximation to the Bethe-Salpeter equation can be used for the calculation of the spectra. Relativistic corrections are added through perturbative calculations. The static potential in the nonrelativistic approximation has one part related to asymptotic freedom and another part, purely phenomenological, related to confinement. Since confinement is not well understood, a particular confining potential is only justified when the output is compared with the experimental data. But still the justification for using the Bethe-Salpeter equation is also partial. The problem can be dealt with in another way: we need a relativistic two-body equation which could be easily handled, and in general this is not the case with the Bethe-Salpeter equation. In this sense an equation that fits in this context is the Crater-Alstine equation¹, which is a relativistic equation obtained from Dirac's constraint dynamics for two spinless particles interacting through an interaction potential which can have a timelike vector part, a spacelike vector part and a scalar part. In the derivation of this equation mass-shell constraints and interactions among particles are introduced by the minimal substitutions $p_i^\mu \rightarrow p_i^\mu - A_i^\mu$ for the vector potential, and

$m_i \rightarrow m_i + S_i$ for the scalar one. The important result is the attainment of a Klein-Gordon-like two-body equation. For weak potentials this equation reduces to the homogeneous quasipotential equation of Todorov² for stationary states of two spinless particles. The advantage of the Crater-Alstine equation is that while being relativistic it can be applied to two interacting bodies in a nonperturbative way. This does not happen with the Breit equation, which is obtained from the Bethe-Salpeter equation in the ladder approximation³, where the relativistic corrections are made perturbatively. Besides, with the Crater-Alstine equation we have three kinds of potentials at our disposal: one of them corresponds to the electromagnetic potential and the other two correspond to phenomenological choices. This is the case of the confining potential used in the nonrelativistic approximation for calculation of quark-antiquark bound states. In the nonrelativistic approximation various potentials have been proposed and the calculated spectra are, in general, compatible⁴ with them. The purpose of this paper is to calculate the meson spectra using the Crater-Alstine equation and to confront the results with those obtained through a nonrelativistic approach.

II. The Potential Model

The Breit-Fermi equation, obtained through the instantaneous approximation to the Bethe-Salpeter equation, is commonly used in the calculation of the meson mass spectroscopy. The Breit-Fermi equation provides a Schrödinger equation plus spin-dependent and spin-independent relativistic corrections

$$\left(m_1 + m_2 + \frac{\vec{p}^2}{2\mu} + V(\vec{r}) + \text{relativistic corrections} \right) \psi = E\psi. \quad (1)$$

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These corrections depend on the behaviour of the potential under Lorentz transformations. The Coulombian part of the potential, due to one gluon exchange, is vectorial. Nevertheless, the confining potential does not have a Lorentz structure known from first principles, but only informations from a phenomenological point of view. The confining potential has been considered in previous work⁵ as a mixture of vectorial and scalar coupling, i.e.,

$$V(r) = V_{\text{Coul}}(r) + V_{\text{conf}}(r) + C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b), \quad (2a)$$

$$V(r) = V_v(r) + V_s(r) + C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b), \quad (2b)$$

$$V_v(r) = (1 - f)V_{\text{conf}}(r) + V_{\text{Coul}}(r), \quad (2c)$$

$$V_s(r) = fV_{\text{conf}}(r). \quad (2d)$$

The confining potential is purely vectorial for $f = 0$ and purely scalar for $f = 1$. Comparison with experimental data⁶ leads to a scalar contribution for the confining potential of the order of 50% to 60%.

For light quark-antiquark systems the nonrelativistic approach is safe only if the ratio v/c is small. As a matter of fact, only the $b\bar{b}$ system fits nicely this approach, although the $c\bar{c}$ system may also be considered as acceptable. With the relativistic equation

$$\left((\vec{p}^2 - (\epsilon_w - A)^2 + 2\epsilon_w \mathcal{V} - \mathcal{V}^2 + (m_w + S)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 \ln G + \frac{1}{4} (\nabla \ln G)^2) \phi = 0, \quad (3)$$

Crater and Alstine¹ obtained the light and heavy meson mass spectra taking into account only time-like vector couplings ($A = 0$, $C = 1$ and $V \neq 0$) and scalar coupling. The expression for the interaction V and S were obtained with the Richardson potential⁴. This potential, in the nonrelativistic approximation, describes only the heavy meson spectroscopy, and is not adequate for light meson spectroscopy. Crater and Alstine extended consistently the applicability of the Richardson potential to light meson spectra.

In previous work we have used another potential to describe the light and heavy meson spectra in the nonrelativistic approximation⁵. The same potential is used here in the relativistic equation for two scalar particles. In this sense the obtained spectra is spin-averaged. The potentials involved appear in Eq. (3) are defined by

$$A = V_{\text{Coul}}(r) = -\frac{4\alpha_s}{3r}, \quad (4a)$$

$$G = \left(1 - \frac{2A}{W} \right)^{-1/2}, \quad (4b)$$

$$\mathcal{V}(r) = (1 - f)V_{\text{conf}}(r) = (1 - f)Kr^{1/2}, \quad (4c)$$

$$S(r) = fV_{\text{conf}}(r) + C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b) = fKr^{1/2} + C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b). \quad (4d)$$

With these potential functions Eq. (3) takes the form

$$\left[\vec{p}^2 - 2\alpha_s \frac{\epsilon_w}{r} - \frac{\alpha_s^2}{r^2} + \frac{5\alpha_s^2}{4r^2(Wr + 2\alpha_s)^2} + 2K(\epsilon_w(1 - f) + fm_w + fC)r^{1/2} + K^2(2f - 1)r + 2m_w C + C^2 \right] \psi = b^2 \psi. \quad (5)$$

The parameters of the potential and quark masses are fitted in a way slightly different from that of the nonrelativistic case⁵. Instead of given as inputs, the quark masses are fitted together with the potential parameters. Again the parameter K is universal for all pairs of quark-antiquark. The strong coupling is not constant but depends of the transferred momentum and the number of flavors of the quarks

$$\alpha_s(Q^2) = \frac{12\pi}{(33 - 2N_f) \ln(Q^2/\Lambda^2)}. \quad (6)$$

The scale parameter Λ is fixed by the bottomonium spectrum and N_f assumes the values 5, 4, 3 and 2, for the systems $b\bar{b}$, $c\bar{c}$, $s\bar{s}$, $q\bar{q}$, respectively. Here q represents a light quark u or d . Using Eq. (5) we obtain $f = 1$, $A = 0.118$ GeV, $W = 0.740$ GeV^{3/2}, and b , c , s , and u quark masses of 4.5, 1.41, 0.337 and 0.16 GeV, respectively, whereas $\alpha_s(b) = 0.187$, $\alpha_s(c) = 0.231$, $\alpha_s(s) = 0.324$ and $\alpha_s(u) = 0.346$. $C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b)$ takes the values -0.275, -0.800, -1.129 and -1.207 GeV, for the $b\bar{b}$, $c\bar{c}$, $s\bar{s}$ and $u\bar{u}$, respectively. $C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b)$ is fitted as

$$C(q_\alpha \bar{q}_b) = 0.004x^2 + 0.099x - 0.894, \quad (7a)$$

where

$$x = \ln [m_q^2 m_{\bar{q}_b} + m_q m_{\bar{q}_b}^2]. \quad (7b)$$

The resulting spectra are shown in tables Ia and Ib. The experimental results for the states $u\bar{b}$ and $s\bar{c}$ have a structure 1S_0 and are only shown as a hint to the values of the 3S_1 states. The masses of the bound states $u\bar{b}$, $s\bar{c}$, $c\bar{b}$ are calculated using (7). In Table II we compare our results with those obtained by Crater and Alstine¹, and also with those obtained using a nonrelativistic approach.

The expressions for the leptonic and hadronic decays of the n^3S_1 states, including perturbative corrections of QCD are given by⁷

$$\Gamma_{q\bar{q} \rightarrow e^+e^-} = 16\pi\alpha^2 e_q |\psi(0)/M_{q\bar{q}}^2|^2 \left(1 - \frac{16\alpha_s}{3\pi} \right), \quad (8a)$$

$$\Gamma_{\psi \rightarrow \text{hadrons}} = \Gamma^{(0)} \left(1 + (4.9 \pm 0.5) \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right), \quad (8b)$$

$$\Gamma_{\gamma \rightarrow \text{hadrons}} = \Gamma^{(0)} \left(1 + (3.8 \pm 0.5) \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right), \quad (8c)$$

where

$$\Gamma^{(0)} = \frac{160}{81} (\pi^2 - 9) \alpha_s^3 |\psi(0)/M_{q\bar{q}}^2|^2. \quad (8d)$$

Table Ia - Mass spectra of the light and heavy mesons, in GeV

	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$	$s\bar{s}$	$u\bar{u}$
$C(q_a\bar{q}_a)$	-0.275	-0.800	-1.129	-1.207
1S theory	9.463	3.097	1.020	0.768
exp	$\gamma(9.460)$	$\psi(3.097)$	$\phi(1.020)$	$\rho(0.768)$
2S theory	10.010	3.686	1.679	1.451
exp	$\gamma(10.023)$	$\psi(3.686)$	$\phi(1.680)$	$\rho(1.450)$
3S theory	10.353	4.092	2.171	1.953
exp	$\gamma(10.355)$	$\psi(4.040)$		$\rho(1.712)$
4S theory	10.617	4.418	2.567	2.360
exp	$\gamma(10.580)$	$\psi(4.415)$		
5S theory	10.838	4.696	2.906	2.705
exp	$\gamma(10.865)$			
6S theory	11.030	4.941	3.201	3.006
exp	$\gamma(11.019)$			
1P theory	9.838	3.510	1.431	1.176
exp	(9.900)	(3.525)	(1.476)	(1.262)
2P theory	10.220	3.956	1.996	1.774
exp				
1D theory	10.138	3.795	1.761	1.516
exp		$\psi(3.769)$		$\rho(1.691)$
2D theory	10.437	4.171	2.249	2.030
exp		$\psi(4.159)$		

Table Ib - Mass spectra of the light and heavy mesons, in GeV

	$u\bar{b}$	$s\bar{c}$	$u\bar{c}$	$u\bar{s}$
$C(q_a\bar{q}_a)$	-0.511	-0.926	-0.928	-1.224
1S theory	5.156	2.117	2.010	0.892
exp	$B(5.271)$	$F^*(2.140)$	$D^*(2.010)$	$K^*(0.892)$
2S theory	5.661	2.712	2.600	1.565
exp				$K^*(1.370)$
3S theory	6.011	3.143	3.034	2.066
exp				$K^*(1.678)$
1P theory	5.493	2.509	2.392	1.309
exp			$D_2^*(2.459)$	$K_2^*(1.430)$
2P theory	5.887	2.990	2.879	1.893
exp				
1D theory	5.861	2.811	2.684	1.648
exp				$K^*(1.780)$

Table II - Mass spectra of the light and heavy mesons, in GeV. Values with a asterisk are 1S_0 states

		Nonrelativ. ⁵	Relativ.	Relativ. ¹	Exp. ⁶
(1S)	$b\bar{b}$	9.467	9.463	9.460	9.460
	$c\bar{c}$	3.094	3.097	3.097	3.097
	$u\bar{c}$	2.008	2.010	1.990	2.010
	$s\bar{s}$	1.020	1.020	1.020	1.020
	$u\bar{s}$	0.892	0.892	0.892	0.892
	$u\bar{u}$	0.770	0.768	0.759	0.768
	$u\bar{b}$	5.271	5.156	5.311	5.271*
	$c\bar{b}$	6.329	6.330	6.337	
	$s\bar{b}$	5.383	5.318	5.414	
	$s\bar{c}$	2.140	2.117	2.140	2.140*
(2S)	$b\bar{b}$	10.012	10.010	10.021	10.023
	$c\bar{c}$	3.696	3.686	3.661	3.686
	$u\bar{c}$	2.694	2.600	2.575	
	$s\bar{s}$	1.727	1.679	1.706	1.680
	$u\bar{s}$	1.616	1.565	1.606	1.370
	$u\bar{u}$	1.511	1.451	1.509	1.450
	$u\bar{b}$	5.941	5.661	5.830	
	$c\bar{b}$	6.904	6.887	6.879	
	$s\bar{b}$	6.028	5.845	5.939	
	$s\bar{c}$	2.804	2.712	2.685	
(3S)	$b\bar{b}$	10.352	10.353	10.349	10.353
	$c\bar{c}$	4.093	4.092	4.055	4.040
	$s\bar{s}$	2.208	2.171		
	$u\bar{u}$	2.015	1.953		1.712
(4S)	$b\bar{b}$	10.614	10.617	10.604	10.580
	$c\bar{c}$	4.406	4.418	4.383	4.415
(1P)	$b\bar{b}$	9.875	9.883	9.935	9.900
	$c\bar{c}$	3.516	3.510	3.556	3.525
	$u\bar{c}$	2.475	2.392	2.457	2.459
	$s\bar{s}$	1.499	1.431	1.564	1.476
	$u\bar{s}$	1.381	1.309	1.456	1.434
	$u\bar{u}$	1.269	1.176	1.353	1.262
	$u\bar{b}$	5.729	5.493	5.573	
	$c\bar{b}$	6.740	6.478	6.786	
	$s\bar{b}$	5.827	5.681	5.840	
	$s\bar{c}$	2.594	2.509	2.569	

Table III - Leptonic and hadronic decay widths for the bottomonium and charmonium S-states, in KeV.

	Nonrelativ. ⁵		Relativ.		Exp. ⁶	
	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$
$\Gamma(1S \rightarrow e^+e^-)$	0.88	5.26	0.99	3.70	1.34	4.72
$\Gamma(2S \rightarrow e^+e^-)$	0.44	2.37	0.54	2.57	0.59	2.14
$\Gamma(3S \rightarrow e^+e^-)$	0.31	1.56	0.41	2.10	0.44	0.75
$\Gamma(4S \rightarrow e^+e^-)$	0.25	1.16	0.35	1.85	0.24	0.47
$\Gamma(1S \rightarrow \text{hadrons})$	59.51	93.60	68.00	150.00	32.00	58.00

Table IV - Radiative transitions in bottomonium and charmonium, in KeV.

	Nonrelativ. ⁵		Relativ.		Exp. ⁶	
	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$	$b\bar{b}$	$c\bar{c}$
$\Gamma_{E_1}(2^3S_1 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3P_2)$	2.0	40.0	1.872	25.83	0.7 ± 0.9	17 ± 5
$\Gamma_{E_1}(2^3S_1 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3P_1)$	2.0	57.8	1.898	38.46	1.6 ± 0.8	19 ± 5
$\Gamma_{E_1}(2^3S_1 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3P_0)$	1.1	64.7	1.218	46.81	1.0 ± 0.7	21 ± 6
$\Gamma_{E_1}(1^3P_2 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3S_1)$	49.5	601.7	40.763	493.83		330 ± 170
$\Gamma_{E_1}(1^3P_1 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3S_1)$	43.2	436.7	35.353	359.00		< 700
$\Gamma_{E_1}(1^3P_0 \rightarrow \gamma 1^3S_1)$	36.9	206.7	28.064	162.69		97 ± 38

Our results are shown in Table III. For light mesons, the hadronic decay width is calculated from QCD without perturbative corrections.

The expressions for the electromagnetic transitions in the electric dipole approximations are given by⁸

$$\Gamma_{E_1}(2^3S_1 \rightarrow \gamma + 1^3P_J) = \frac{4}{3} \frac{(2J+1)}{9} \alpha e_q^2 \omega^3 \quad (9)$$

$$\left| \int_0^{+\infty} dr R_{1P}(r) r^3 R_{2S}(r) \right|^2,$$

and

$$\Gamma_{E_1}(1^3P_J \rightarrow \gamma + 1^3S_1) = \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{4}{9} \alpha e_q^2 \omega^3 \left| \int_0^{+\infty} dr R_{1S}(r) r^3 R_{1P}(r) \right|^2,$$

where w is the energy of the photon emitted and $R(r)$ is the normalized radial wave function. The results for charmonium and bottomonium families are shown in Table IV.

III. Conclusion

Comparison of the results obtained in this work with more recent experimental results⁶ shows that this model describes well the meson mass spectra. The greatest discrepancy takes place in the $u\bar{u}$ and $u\bar{s}$ systems. For the system $u\bar{u}$, the resonances $\rho(1450)$ and $\rho(1700)$ are interpreted as 2S and 3S states, respectively, whereas for the $u\bar{s}$ system the resonances $K^*(1370)$ and $K^*(1680)$ are interpreted as 2S and 3S, respectively. Until 1988 the experimental results had furnished evidence that the resonance $\rho(1600)$ was a 2S state of the $u\bar{u}$ system. Since then, it is believed that this resonance is a superposition of two others, E(1450) and E(1700). Table II shows that our results are compatible with other approaches.

For the bottomonium, the leptonic decay widths present a better agreement with the experimental results than in the nonrelativistic case. The same does not happen with the results for charmonium. As a matter of fact, this is expected since a nonrelativistic approximation was done in the calculations of the leptonic decay widths and consequently the results

for bottomonium are favored. With the approach used here we do not obtain compatible results between experimental and theoretical hadronic decay widths. In fact, our results are worse than those obtained with the nonrelativistic approach⁵. This is probably due to the way by which the hadronic decay widths were calculated here. The crucial difference is the hadronization was made taking as model similar calculations in QED for the case of the three-photon decay of the ortho-positronium. A better understanding of the hadronization process may contribute to improve the results.

The radiative transition rates, in the electric dipole approximation, furnish practically the same results for the bottomonium when compared with the nonrelativistic case. Nevertheless, for the charmonium the results obtained with the relativistic description are improved. This fact shows that the relativistic effects are more important for the charmonium.

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