[70, ℓ+] baryons in large $N_c$ QCD revisited: The effect on Regge trajectories.

N. Matagne

University of Mons, Service de Physique Nucléaire et Subnucléaire, Place du Parc 20, B-7000 Mons, Belgium

Fl. Stancu

University of Liège, Institute of Physics B5, Sart Tilman, B-4000 Liège 1, Belgium

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Abstract

A simple procedure within the $1/N_c$ expansion method where all the $N_c$ quarks are treated on the same footing has been found successful in describing mixed symmetric negative parity baryon states belonging to the $[70, ℓ^-]$ multiplets of the $N = 1$ and 3 bands. Presently it is applied to mixed symmetric positive parity $[70, 0^+]$ and $[70, 2^+]$ multiplets of the $N = 2$ band. We search for the most dominant terms in the mass formula. The results are compared to those obtained in the procedure where the system is separated into a core and an excited quark. We find that both the spin and isospin operators of the entire system of $N_c$ quarks play dominant roles in describing the data, like for negative parity states. As a by-product we present the contribution of the leading spin-isospin singlet term as a function of the band number, which hints at distinct Regge trajectories for the symmetric and mixed symmetric states.

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a E-mail address: nicolas.matagne@umons.ac.be
b E-mail address: fstancu@ulg.ac.be
1. INTRODUCTION

The $1/N_c$ expansion method, where $N_c$ is the number of colors, is based on the discovery that, for $N_f$ flavors, the ground state baryons display an exact SU($2N_f$) spin-flavor symmetry in the large $N_c$ limit of QCD. Presently it is considered to be a model independent, powerful and systematic tool for baryon spectroscopy. It has been applied with great success to the ground state baryons ($N = 0$ band), described by the symmetric representation 56 of SU(6), where $N_f = 3$. At $N_c \to \infty$ the ground state baryons are degenerate. At large, but finite $N_c$, the mass splitting starts at order $1/N_c$.

The extension of the $1/N_c$ expansion method to excited states is based on the observation these states can approximately be classified as SU($2N_f$) multiplets, and that the resonances can be grouped into excitation bands, $N = 1, 2, ...$, as in quark models, each band containing a number of SU(6) × O(3) multiplets. The symmetric multiplets of these bands were analyzed by analogy to the ground state. In this case the splitting starts at order $1/N_c$ as well.

The study of mixed symmetric multiplets was less straightforward, being technically more complicated. Two procedures have been proposed and applied to the excited states belonging to the [70, 1−] multiplet ($N = 1$ band). The first one is based on the separation of the system into a ground state core + an excited quark. It is an extension of the ground state treatment to excited states inspired by the Hartree picture. Later on it was supported by the authors of Ref. [17]. In the second method, proposed by us, the system of $N_c$ quarks is treated as a whole. All identical quarks are considered on the same footing and therefore the Pauli principle is satisfied. It has successfully been applied to the negative parity multiplet [70, 1−] of the $N = 1$ band and recently to the multiplets [70, ℓ−] (with $\ell = 1, 2, 3$) of the $N = 3$ band. The advantage is that our mass formula has fewer terms than the ground state core + excited quark method, so that it is physically more transparent.

It is worth mentioning that in both procedures the mass splitting of mixed symmetric states starts at order $N_c^0$ and they are both compatible with the meson-nucleon scattering picture. For the ground state core + excited quark approach this has been shown in Refs. [16, 25] by using a mass formula with three leading operators (one of order $N_c$, two of order $N_c^0$) generating three sets of degenerate states called three towers of states.
\( \ell = 1 \). In Ref. [26] we gave an explicit proof of the degeneracy of mass eigenvalues for \( \ell = 3 \). In a similar way, but with three different leading operators in our approach, we have also proven the above compatibility for mixed symmetric \( \ell = 1 \) [27] states in SU(4). Note that in both procedures only operators containing components of the angular momentum start at order \( N_0^c \).

Here we wish to test our method [18] on mixed symmetric positive parity multiplets, studied so far within the ground state core + excited quark approach [28, 29]. Our study is especially motivated by the fact that a recent multichannel partial wave analysis has revealed the existence of new positive parity resonances which appeared in the 2012 version of the Review of Particle Properties (PDG) [30].

The paper is organized as follows. In the next section we shortly review previous studies on positive parity resonances within the symmetric core + excited quark method and present the orbital-flavor-spin wave function in the new approach [18]. In Section III we introduce the mass operator and derive the analytic expressions of the matrix elements of the required operators as a function of \( N_c \), using the method of Ref. [18]. In Section IV the experimental situation is shortly reviewed. In Section V our results for mixed symmetric positive parity states are presented. Section VI is devoted to Regge trajectories and the last section contains some conclusions.

II. THE LOWEST EXCITED POSITIVE PARITY STATES

The lowest excited positive parity resonances belong to the \( N = 2 \) band, which contains the multiplets [56', 0\(^+\)], [56, 2\(^+\)], [70, 0\(^+\)], [70, 2\(^+\)] and [20, 1\(^+\)]. Radially excited states [56', 0\(^+\)] have been studied in Ref. [31] with a simplified - Gürsey-Radicati type - mass formula. The masses of the baryons supposed to belong to the multiplet [56, 2\(^+\)] have been calculated within the \( 1/N_c \) expansion method in Ref. [32]. The approach of Ref. [32] has been extended to higher excitations belonging to the [56, 4\(^+\)] multiplet (\( N = 4 \) band) [33]. We recall that in the symmetric representation it is not necessary to distinguish between excited and core quarks, thus the wave function has a simple structure [32].

As already mentioned, the mixed symmetric multiplets [70, 0\(^+\)] and [70, 2\(^+\)] have been studied by applying the symmetric core + an excited quark approach [28, 29]. The structure of the intrinsic orbital wave function was rather complicated, containing a term with an
excited symmetric core in contrast to the wave function of the \( N = 1 \) band, where the symmetric core was in the ground state \([13]\). Such a wave function has been constructed in Ref. \([28]\) by using generalized Jacobi coordinates \([34]\) and fractional parentage techniques \([35]\). It had been first applied to SU(4) \((N_f = 2)\) \([28]\) and next extended to SU(6) \((N_f = 3)\) baryons \([29]\).

Presently we treat the system of \( N_c \) quarks as a whole, no quark separation. Both the orbitally excited and the spin-flavor parts of the total wave function are described by the partition \([f] = [N_c - 1, 1]\). By inner product rules of the permutation group one can form a totally symmetric orbital-spin-flavor wave function described by the partition \([N_c]\). Following Ref. \([19]\) the most general form of such a wave function in SU(6) \(\times\) O(3), having a total angular momentum \(J\) and projection \(J_3\) is given by

\[
|\ell S, JJ_3; (\lambda \mu)YII_3\rangle = \sum_{m_\ell, S_3} \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \ell & S & J \\ m_\ell & S_3 & J_3 \end{array} \right) |\ell m_\ell\rangle [f](\lambda \mu)YII_3; SS_3\rangle, \tag{1}
\]

where the orbital part of the wave function of the entire system, denoted by \(|\ell m_\ell\rangle\), has a permutation symmetry \([f]\), for simplicity not specified, the same as its flavor-spin part \([f](\lambda \mu)YII_3; SS_3\rangle\). The wave function (1), together with an SU\(_c\)(3) color singlet \([1^{N_c}]\) forms a totally antisymmetric \(N_c\) quark state.

In order to calculate the expectation value of the mass operator defined in the following section one needs to know the matrix elements of the SU(6) generators \(S^i, T^a\) and \(G^{ia}\) between the states \([f](\lambda \mu)YII_3; SS_3\rangle\) of a given SU(3) symmetry \((\lambda \mu)\) and a spin \(S\), associated to the entire system of \(N_c\) quarks. In Ref. \([36]\) these matrix elements were presented under the form of a generalized Wigner-Eckart theorem, containing isoscalar factors of SU(3) and SU(6). Tables for the most needed isoscalar factors of SU(6) were produced in the same paper for the \(^28, ^48, ^210\) and \(^21\) SU(3) \(\times\) SU(2) multiplets. Extended tables were obtained in Ref. \([19]\).

As already mentioned, applications to the \([70, 1^-]\) multiplet of the \( N = 1 \) band and to the \([70, \ell^-]\) \((\ell = 1, 2, 3)\) of the \( N = 3 \) band were made in Refs. \([19]\) and \([20]\) respectively. In the following we shall follow a similar approach.
III. THE MASS OPERATOR

The general form of the mass operator, where the SU(3) symmetry is broken, has first been proposed in Ref. [8] as

\[ M = \sum_i c_i O_i + \sum_i d_i B_i. \]  

(2)

This is inspired by the perturbative expansion in powers of \(1/N_c\) proposed by 't Hooft [1] where the operators \(O_i\) represent \(1/N_c\) corrections to the leading spin-flavor (SF) singlet operator \(O_1\) proportional to \(N_c\). The contributions of \(O_i\) with \(i > 1\) estimate the amount of SF symmetry breaking. Accordingly, the operators \(O_i\) are defined as the scalar products

\[ O_i = \frac{1}{N_c n-1} O^{(k)}_\ell \cdot O^{(k)}_{SF}, \]

(3)

where \(O_i^{(k)}\) is a \(k\)-rank tensor in SO(3) and \(O^{(k)}_{SF}\) a \(k\)-rank tensor in SU(2)-spin, but invariant in SU(\(N_f\)). Thus \(O_i\) are rotational invariant. For the ground state one has \(k = 0\). The excited states also require \(k = 1\) and \(k = 2\) terms. The rank \(k = 1\) tensor has as components the generators \(L^i\) of SO(3). The components of the \(k = 2\) tensor operator of SO(3) are

\[ L^{(2)ij} = \frac{1}{2} \{L^i, L^j\} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{i,-j} \vec{L} \cdot \vec{L}, \]

(4)

which, like \(L^i\), act on the orbital wave function \(|\ell m_\ell\rangle\) of the whole system of \(N_c\) quarks (see Ref. [28] for the normalization of \(L^{(2)ij}\)). According to the large \(N_c\) counting rules [2] an \(n\)-body operator carries a coefficient \(1/N_c\) reflecting the minimum of \(n - 1\) gluon exchanges between two quarks in QCD.

The operators \(B_i\) break SU(3) explicitly and are defined to have zero expectation values for nonstrange baryons. Only first order SU(3) breaking terms have been considered so far.

Using the experimental data described below we have performed several numerical fits to obtain the unknown coefficients \(c_i\) and \(d_i\), which encode the QCD dynamics. As the data are still scarce we had to restrict the number of terms in the mass formula, therefore we had to choose the most relevant operators. They were suggested by our previous experience with negative parity states and are exhibited in Table I.

The first is the trivial spin-flavor singlet operator \(O_1\) of order \(O(N_c)\). The first nontrivial operator is the spin-orbit operator \(O_2\), which we identify with the the single-particle operator

\[ \ell \cdot s = \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} \ell(i) \cdot s(i), \]

(5)
TABLE I. List of dominant operators and their coefficients in the mass formula (2) obtained in three distinct numerical fits.

| Operator | Fit 1     | Fit 2     | Fit 3     |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| $O_1 = N_c \mathbb{1}$ | $616 \pm 11$ | $616 \pm 11$ | $616 \pm 11$ |
| $O_2 = \ell^i s^i$ | $150 \pm 239$ | $52 \pm 44$ | $243 \pm 237$ |
| $O_3 = \frac{1}{N_c} S^i S^i$ | $149 \pm 30$ | $152 \pm 29$ | $136 \pm 29$ |
| $O_4 = \frac{1}{N_c} \left[ T^a T^a - \frac{1}{12} N_c (N_c + 6) \right]$ | $66 \pm 55$ | $57 \pm 51$ | $86 \pm 55$ |
| $O_5 = \frac{3}{N_c} L^i T^a G^i$ | $-22 \pm 5$ | $-25 \pm 52$ | $-22 \pm 52$ |
| $O_6 = \frac{15}{N_c} L^{(2)ij} G^{ia} G^{ja}$ | $14 \pm 5$ | $14 \pm 5$ | $14 \pm 5$ |

$B_1 = -S$

| $\chi^2_{\text{dof}}$ | $0.61$ | $0.52$ | $2.27$ |

TABLE II. Matrix elements of $O_i$ for octet resonances.

| $O_1$ | $O_2$ | $O_3$ | $O_4$ | $O_5$ | $O_6$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $^{4}S[70, 2^{+}]_{7/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $2$ | $15$ | $3$ | $3(N_c + 3)$ | $15(N_c - 1)$ |
| $^{2}S[70, 2^{+}]_{7/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $2$ | $\frac{2}{9N_c} (2N_c - 3)$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $0$ |
| $^{4}S[70, 2^{+}]_{5/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $\frac{1}{9}$ | $\frac{15}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $- \frac{N_c + 3}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{75(N_c - 1)}{8N_c}$ |
| $^{4}S[70, 0^{+}]_{3/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $0$ | $\frac{15}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $0$ | $0$ |
| $^{2}S[70, 2^{+}]_{3/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $- \frac{1}{3N_c} (2N_c - 3)$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $- \frac{9}{2N_c}$ | $0$ |
| $^{4}S[70, 2^{+}]_{3/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $- \frac{2}{3}$ | $\frac{15}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $- \frac{3(N_c + 3)}{2N_c}$ | $0$ |
| $^{2}S[70, 0^{+}]_{1/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $0$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $0$ | $0$ |
| $^{4}S[70, 2^{+}]_{1/2}^{+}$ | $N_c$ | $-1$ | $\frac{15}{4N_c}$ | $\frac{3}{4N_c}$ | $- \frac{9(N_c + 3)}{4N_c}$ | $- \frac{105(N_c - 1)}{8N_c}$ |

the matrix elements of which are of order $N_c^0$ and are given in Ref. [29]. The analytic expression of the matrix elements of $O_2$ can be found in the Appendix A of Ref. [20].

The spin operator $O_3$ and the flavor operator $O_4$ are two-body and linearly independent.
TABLE III. Matrix elements of $O_i$ for decuplet resonances.

|       | $O_1$ | $O_2$ | $O_3$ | $O_4$ | $O_5$ | $O_6$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $^{2}1[70,2^+]_{\frac{5}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | -2/9  | 3/4Nc | 15/4Nc | 3(Nc+1)/2Nc | 0     |
| $^{2}1[70,2^+]_{\frac{3}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | 1/3   | 3/4Nc | 15/4Nc | -9(Nc+1)/4Nc | 0     |
| $^{2}1[70,2^+]_{\frac{1}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | 0     | 3/4Nc | 15/4Nc | 0     | 0     |

TABLE IV. Matrix elements of $O_i$ for singlet resonances.

|       | $O_1$ | $O_2$ | $O_3$ | $O_4$ | $O_5$ | $O_6$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $^{2}1[70,2^+]_{\frac{5}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | 2/3   | 3/4Nc | -2Nc+3/4Nc | -Nc-3/2Nc | 0     |
| $^{2}1[70,2^+]_{\frac{3}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | -1    | 3/4Nc | 2Nc+3/4Nc | 3(Nc-3)/4Nc | 0     |
| $^{2}1[70,0^+]_{\frac{1}{2}}$ | $N_c$ | 0     | 3/4Nc | 2Nc+3/4Nc | 0     | 0     |

The expectation value of $O_3$ is $\frac{1}{N_c} S(S+1)$ where $S$ is the spin of the entire system of $N_c$ quarks. The expression of the operator $O_4$ given in Table I is consistent with the usual $1/N_c(T^aT^a)$ definition in SU(4). In extending it to SU(6) we had to subtract the quantity $(N_c + 6)/12$ as explained in Ref. [36]. Then, as one can see from Tables III, III and IV the expectation values of $O_4$ are positive for octets and decuplets and of order $N_c^{-1}$, as in SU(4), and negative and of order $N_c^0$ for flavor singlets.

By construction, the operators $O_5$ and $O_6$ have non-vanishing contributions for orbitally excited states only. They are also two-body, which means that they carry a factor $1/N_c$ in the definition. The operator $O_6$ contains the irreducible spherical tensor (4) and the SU(6) generator $G^{ja}$ both acting on the whole system. The latter is a coherent operator which introduces an extra power $N_c$ so that the order of the matrix elements of $O_6$ is $O(1)$, as it can be seen from Table III. For decuplets and singlets its matrix elements vanish, see Tables III and IV respectively.

The matrix elements of $O_5$ and $O_6$ were obtained from the formulas (B2) and (B4) of Ref. [19] where the multiplet $[70,1^-]$ has been discussed. The contribution of $O_5$ cancels out for flavor singlets when $N_c = 3$, like for $\ell = 1$ [19] and $\ell = 3$ [20]. This property follows from the analytic expression of the isoscalar factors given in Ref. [19].
Therefore in the mass formula there is one operator, namely $O_1$, of order $O(N_c)$ and two operators, $O_2$ and $O_6$ of order $O(N_c^6)$. They have been used in Refs. [26, 27] where the compatibility of the present approach with the meson-nucleon scattering picture has been proven, as mentioned in the introduction.

We remind that the advantage of the present procedure over the standard one, where the system is separated into a ground state core + an excited quark [13], is that the number of relevant operators needed in the fit is usually smaller than the number of data and it allows a better understanding of their role in the mass formula, in particular the role of the isospin operator $O_4$ which has been omitted in the symmetric core + excited quark procedure in the analysis of mixed symmetric negative parity states [13, 15]. We should also mention that in our approach the permutation symmetry remains exact in all applications.

A comment is in order for the flavor breaking operators $B_i$. In the procedure where the system is separated into a core and an excited quark one deals with two operators $B_1 = t^8 - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}$ and $B_2 = T^8_c - \frac{N_c - 1}{2\sqrt{3}}$ acting on the excited quark and the core respectively (lower case indicates operators acting on the excited quark and subscript $c$ indicates those acting on the core). These two operators have distinct matrix elements in each sector $^2S^2_J, ^4S^2_J, ^2I^2_J$ and $^2I^1_J$ [15, 29]. In the present method there is a single operator $T^8 = t^8 + T^8_c$ which generates the flavor breaking operator

$$B_1 = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}(T^8 - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}O_1)$$

the matrix element of which is $\langle B_1 \rangle = -S$, the same for all sectors, as indicated in Table II where $S$ is the strangeness. Such a result is consistent with Table V of Ref. [29] from which we get

$$\langle T^8 \rangle = \frac{N_c + 3S}{2\sqrt{3}},$$

for all sectors, as in Ref. [8]. This considerably simplifies the situation and implies that the flavor symmetry breaking picture is different in the present approach as compared to the symmetric core + excited quark approach, inasmuch as in the first the breaking is independent of the sector and in the second it is not. This may provide an explanation of the unexpectedly large $\Lambda\Sigma$ splitting obtained in the sector $^4S^0$, with the symmetric core + excited quark approach, see Ref. [29], while presently, where $\langle B_1 \rangle = -S$, there is no splitting at all.
TABLE V. The partial contribution and the total mass (MeV) predicted by the $1/N_c$ expansion using Fit 2 of Table I. The last two columns give the empirically known masses and the 2012 status in the Review of Particles Properties [30].

| Part. contrib. (MeV) | Total (MeV) | Exp. (MeV) | Name, status |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| $c_1O_1$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2051 ± 44 | 2016 ± 104 | $N(1990)7/2^+**$ |
| $c_2O_2$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2075 ± 63 | 2094 ± 78 | $\Lambda(2020)7/2^+*$ |
| $d_1O_3$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2099 ± 93 | | |
| $c_3O_4$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2075 ± 63 | | |
| $c_6O_5$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2051 ± 44 | 2016 ± 104 | $N(1990)7/2^+**$ |
| $d_1O_6$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2075 ± 63 | 2094 ± 78 | $\Lambda(2020)7/2^+*$ |
| $d_1O_7$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2099 ± 93 | | |
| $c_1O_8$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2075 ± 63 | 2094 ± 78 | $\Lambda(2020)7/2^+*$ |
| $c_2O_9$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2099 ± 93 | | |
| $c_3O_{10}$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2075 ± 63 | 2094 ± 78 | $\Lambda(2020)7/2^+*$ |
| $c_6O_{11}$ 1848 35 190 14 -36 0 | 2099 ± 93 | | |
| Part. contrib. (MeV) | Total (MeV) | Exp. (MeV) | Name, status |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| $c_1 O_1$ $c_2 O_2$ $c_3 O_3$ $c_4 O_4$ $c_6 O_6$ $d_1 B_1$ |
| $^2 N[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 1848 | 0 | 38 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 1900 ± 27 |
| $^2 \Lambda[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 24 | 1924 ± 52 |
| $^2 \Sigma[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 24 | 1924 ± 52 |
| $^2 \Xi[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 48 | 1948 ± 87 |
| $^4 N[70, 2^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 1848 | -52 | 190 | 14 | -125 | 0 | 1875 ± 34 | 1870 ± 35 | $N(1880) 1/2^{++}$ |
| $^4 \Lambda[70, 2^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 24 | 1899 ± 58 |
| $^4 \Sigma[70, 2^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 24 | 1899 ± 58 |
| $^4 \Xi[70, 2^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 48 | 1923 ± 92 |
| $^2 \Delta[70, 2^+ \frac{5}{2}]$ | 1848 | -12 | 38 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 1946 ± 58 | 1892 ± 143 | $\Delta(2000) 5/2^{++}$ |
| $^2 \Sigma'[70, 2^+ \frac{5}{2}]$ | 24 | 1970 ± 67 |
| $^2 \Xi'[70, 2^+ \frac{5}{2}]$ | 48 | 1994 ± 92 |
| $^2 \Omega[70, 2^+ \frac{5}{2}]$ | 71 | 2018 ± 124 |
| $^2 \Delta[70, 2^+ \frac{3}{2}]$ | 1848 | 17 | 38 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 1975 ± 64 |
| $^2 \Sigma'[70, 2^+ \frac{3}{2}]$ | 24 | 1999 ± 71 |
| $^2 \Xi'[70, 2^+ \frac{3}{2}]$ | 48 | 2023 ± 95 |
| $^2 \Omega[70, 2^+ \frac{3}{2}]$ | 71 | 2046 ± 126 |
| $^2 \Delta[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 1848 | 0 | 38 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 1958 ± 59 |
| $^2 \Sigma'[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 24 | 1982 ± 68 | 1896 ± 95 | $\Sigma(1880) 1/2^{++}$ |
| $^2 \Xi'[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 48 | 2005 ± 93 |
| $^2 \Omega[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 71 | 2029 ± 124 |
| $^2 \Lambda'[70, 2^+ \frac{5}{2}]$ | 1848 | 35 | 38 | -43 | 0 | 24 | 1901 ± 84 |
| $^2 \Lambda'[70, 2^+ \frac{3}{2}]$ | 1848 | -52 | 38 | -43 | 0 | 24 | 1815 ± 87 |
| $^2 \Lambda'[70, 0^+ \frac{1}{2}]$ | 1848 | 0 | 38 | -43 | 0 | 24 | 1867 ± 77 | 1791 ± 64 | $\Lambda(1810) 1/2^{++}$ |
IV. THE EXPERIMENTAL SITUATION

In our previous work [29] we have made use of the Baryon Particle Listings of the Particle Data Group before 2012 and made averages over the baryon masses of the Karlsruhe-Helsinki group [37] and the Carnegie Mellon-Berkeley group [38] or considered some values obtained by Manley and Saleski [39]. Here we rely on the 2012 version of the Review of Particle Properties (PDG) [30] which incorporates the new multichannel partial wave analysis of the Bonn-Gatchina group [40]. The changes in PDG for positive parity resonances (for a summary of the Bonn-Gatchina group see Ref. [41]) are important for our work.

First, the resonance $P_{13}(1900)$ has been upgraded from two to three stars with a Breit-Wigner mass of $1905 \pm 30$ MeV. Second, the resonance $N(2000)_{5/2}^+$ has been split into two two-star resonances $N(1860)_{5/2}^+$ and $N(2000)_{5/2}^+$ with masses indicated in Table V. The suggestion was that $N(1860)_{5/2}^+$ belongs to a quartet [42]. There is a new one-star resonance $N(2040)_{3/2}^+$ observed in the decay $J/\psi \rightarrow p\bar{p}\pi^0$. There is also a new two-star resonance $N(1880)_{1/2}^+$ observed by the Bonn-Gatchina group with a mass of $1870 \pm 35$ MeV [40], which confirms a previous observation by Manley and Saleski [39] where a mass of $1885 \pm 30$ MeV has been found.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We have performed several numerical fits for finding the unknown coefficients $c_i$ and $d_i$ of the mass formula (2) using the 2012 Review of Particle Properties (PDG) [30] which incorporates the new multichannel partial wave analysis of the Bonn-Gatchina group [40], implying the changes described in Sec. IV. In Table I we present three of the most favorable fits.

Actually we have started by including all experimentally known resonances located in the appropriate mass region, except for those which were supposed to belong to the $[56, 2^+]$ multiplet [32]. Finally we found out that only a selective choice of resonances give a reasonable fit when described by the formalism presented above.

The final result includes 11 resonances, having a status of three, two or occasionally one star. There are no 4-star resonances as candidates for the $[70, \ell^+]$ multiplet. The selection we have made is described below. As experimental masses we took either the Bonn-Gatchina
group results, or we averaged over all values indicated in the Particle Listings of PDG [30]. For example, for $\Delta(2000)5/2^{++}$ and $\Sigma(1880)1/2^{++}$ we averaged over three and eleven experimental values respectively.

As a matter of fact we have included the new $N(1860)5/2^{++}$ and $N(2040)3/2^{++}$ resonances and obtained a better numerical fit when interpreting the $N(1860)5/2^{++}$ resonance as a member of a spin doublet (see Table V) instead of a quartet, as proposed in Ref. [42]. The reason is that the spin operator $O_3$ contributes with a quantity proportional to $S(S+1)$ and $c_3$ is positive, see Table I so that a doublet member should be below a spin quartet member with $J^P = 5/2^+$. The latter is thus expected to have a mass larger than 1860 MeV. However we agree with Ref. [42] that the resonance $N(1880)1/2^{++}$ belongs to a spin quartet, see Table V.

On the other hand, in order to obtain natural sizes for the coefficient $c_i$ [16], from the final fit we have removed several resonances which were included in our previous work based on the excited quark + symmetric core procedure [29], but which are not compatible with the present approach. These are the $N(1710)1/2^{++}$ and the $\Sigma(1770)1/2^{++}$ resonances. The theoretical argument is that their masses are too low. On the experimental side one can justify the removal of the $N(1710)1/2^{++}$ resonance as due to the latest GWU analysis of Arndt et al. [43] where it has not been seen. This is anyhow a controversial resonance.

We had also ignored the $\Delta(1750)1/2^{++}$ resonance, considered previously [29], inasmuch as, neither Arndt et al. [43] nor Anisovich et al. [40] find evidence for it.

From Table I one can see that $\chi^2_{\text{dof}}$ of Fits 1, 2 and 3 are 0.61, 0.52 and 2.27 respectively. In Fit 1 the mass formula contains the operators up to order $1/N_c$ included, which, according to our previous experience with mixed symmetric negative parity states, see, for example, [20], are thought to be the most dominant. Note that despite a good $\chi^2_{\text{dof}}$, the coefficient $c_2$ of the spin-orbit operator is not well determined. Its central value is consistent with predictions from the $1/N_c$ expansion for the $N = 1$ band [16] but we expect a smaller $c_2$ in the $N = 2$ band, inasmuch as the contribution from the spin-orbit operator decreases with the excitation energy [28].

In Fit 2 we have removed the operator $O_5$ and obtained a reasonable value for $c_2$. In Fit 3 we have removed the operator $O_6$, which like $O_2$ is of order $N_c^0$, crucial for the compatibility of the quark-shell picture used here and the more fundamental meson-nucleon scattering picture, as discussed in Ref. [27]. In Fit 3 the coefficient $d_1$ of the SU(3) breaking term
becomes negative which is not good for the mass sequence within a multiplet. Thus the presence of $O_6$ is necessary. It implies once more that the model used here is compatible with the contracted $SU(2N_f)$ symmetry which is exact when $N_c \to \infty$.

Thus Fit 2 is the best fit. The baryon masses calculated from this fit with the formula (2) are exhibited in Table V together with the partial contributions of various operators. One can clearly see that the isospin operator $O_4$, neglected in the symmetric core + excited quark studies of the $N = 1$ band is crucial for the fit. To the masses of the decuplet members it contributes nearly two times more than the spin operator $O_3$. As its matrix elements are negative for flavor singlets, see Table IV it also allows a good description of the $\Lambda(1810)1/2^+$ resonance. The important role of $O_4$ is in agreement with the conclusion of previous studies on negative parity states [19, 20].

VI. REGGE TRAJECTORIES

In Ref. [28] we searched for a systematic global behavior of some $c_i$ coefficients as a function of the excitation energy, i.e. as a function of the band number $N$. Accordingly, we have plotted some of the known $c_i$ at that time for $N \leq 4$. The points corresponding to mixed symmetric states were obtained from the symmetric core + excited quark approach. There were no studies of the $N = 3$ band available yet. We found that $c_1$ increases linearly as a function of $N$, while $c_2$ and the spin term coefficient decrease as a function of $N$, as expected from quark models.

These findings inspired further studies to establish a connection between the $1/N_c$ expansion method and a simple semi-relativistic quark model with a $Y$-junction confinement potential plus a hyperfine interaction generated by one gluon exchange, both for nonstrange and strange baryons [44, 45]. The band number $N$ emerged naturally from both approaches. We found that the large $N_c$ results for $c_1^2$ are practically indistinguishable from the quark model results and they followed a linear Regge trajectory as a function of $N$. The linear Regge trajectories are a manifestation of the non-perturbative aspect of QCD dynamics, which at long distance becomes dominated by confinement [46]. Indeed, let us denote by $M_{qqq}$ the contribution of the kinetic plus the confinement energy in the quark model. Then from the identification of this contribution with the leading spin-flavor singlet operator of
FIG. 1. The coefficient $c_1^2$ (GeV$^2$) as a function of the band number $N$. The numerical values of $c_1$ were taken from Ref. [44] for $N = 0$, from Ref. [19] Fit 3 for $N = 1$, from Ref. [32] for $N = 2$ [56, 2$^+$], from the present work Fit 2 for $N = 2$ [70, $\ell^+$] ($\ell = 0, 2$), from Ref. [20] Fit 3 for $N = 3$ [70, $\ell^-$] ($\ell = 1, 2, 3$), from Ref. [33] for $N = 4$ [56, 4$^+$]. The heavy dots refer to [56]-plets and the stars to [70]-plets. The best fit of these data was obtained with two distinct linear trajectories.

The large $N_c$ mass formula one has

$$c_1^2 = M_{qqq}^2 / 9,$$

where we have set $N_c = 3$, so that the values of $c_1^2$ were compared to the quark model results, see Fig. 1 of Ref. [47] where a review can also be found.

Presently, we have a consistent description of mixed symmetric positive and negative parity states corresponding to $N = 1, 2$ and $3$ bands. It is interesting to revisit the the Regge trajectory problem. In Fig. 1 we plot $c_1^2$ as a function of the band number $N$ for $N \leq 4$. The value of $c_1$ at $N = 3$ is presently known [20], while in Ref. [28] the corresponding point was missing. One can see that two distinct trajectories emerge from this new picture, one for symmetric [56]-plets, the other for mixed symmetric [70]-plets. This behavior reminds that obtained in Ref. [48] where two distinct trajectories have been found for the evolution of $(N_c c_1)^2$ as a function of the angular momentum $\ell \leq 6$ (Chew-Frautschi plots). Note that in Ref. [48] the mixed symmetric states were described within the the ground state core + excited quark approach. The mass operator was reduced to the contribution of the
\( \mathcal{O}(N_c) \) spin-flavor singlet, the \( \mathcal{O}(1/N_c) \) hyperfine spin-spin interaction, acting between core quarks only, and SU(3) breaking terms. As a consequence there is no contribution from the spin dependent terms in flavor singlets because their core has \( S_c = 0 \). There are no \( \mathcal{O}(N_c^0) \) contributions. For a consistent treatment, in Ref. [48] the hyperfine interaction was restricted to core quarks in symmetric states as well. It was not necessary to specify whether or not the core is excited, due to the simplicity of the mass operator.

In our case, the symmetric and mixed symmetric states are treated on an equal basis: there is no distinction between the core and an excited quark (the core may be excited as well), the Pauli principle is always fulfilled and all quark-quark interaction terms are included. The existence of two distinct Regge trajectories, one for symmetric, another for mixed symmetric states, may be due to the existence of terms of order \( N_c^0 \) in the mass formula for mixed symmetric states, which often bring a negative contribution, see e.g. the operator \( O_6 \), while for symmetric states the expansion starts at order \( 1/N_c \). This may require the coefficient \( c_1 \) to be larger for mixed symmetric states, for compensating the negative contribution of operators of order \( N_c^0 \).

VII. CONCLUSIONS

We have revisited the mass spectrum of resonances supposed to belong to the \([70, \ell^+]\) multiplets of the \( N = 2 \) band with \( \ell = 0 \) or 2 in the light of a recent multichannel partial wave analysis which enriched the Review of Particle Properties in 2012. We found that the new resonances can well be described as belonging to the above multiplets. However, we found more appropriate to describe the resonance \( N(1860)5/2^+ \) as a member of a doublet rather than that of a spin quartet, at variance with the suggestion of Ref. [42]. The three-star resonance \( N(1710)1/2^{++*} \) does not fit into our treatment of the \([70, \ell^+]\) multiplets. It would be useful to better understand its nature.

We point out that the \( 1/N_c \) expansion method allows us to search for a classification of excited baryons into SU(6) \( \times \) O(3) multiplets, as presently shown in Table V. This is a natural and useful extension of the classification of ground state baryons. It allows us to make predictions for the mass range of unknown baryons as members of octets or decuplets, which may guide experimentalists in the search for highly excited or strange baryons for which data are scarce.
Like for the $N = 1$ and 3 bands, we found that both the quark spin and isospin operators, acting on the entire system, play dominant roles in describing the data. In the symmetric core + excited quark approach applied to the $N = 1$ band [13], the latter was split into the core part $T_c^2$ (where its contribution is identical to that of the spin part $S_c^2$) and a term, $\frac{1}{N_c} t^a T_c^a$ acting between the excited quark and the core, which was ignored. In our previous work [29] we found that $\frac{1}{N_c} t^a T_c^a$ contributes with some important amount to the mass.

Two distinct Regge trajectories have been found for symmetric and mixed symmetric states. An important remark is that the bases of operators used for different mixed symmetric multiplets was the same, irrespective of the resonance parity. The extension of our studies to resonances belonging to $N > 4$ would help in better understanding the existence of two Regge trajectory, although we are aware that the number of experimental data is very limited at higher energies.

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