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Parity partners in the baryon resonance spectrum

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We describe a calculation of the spectrum of flavour-SU(3) octet and decuplet baryons, their parity partners, and the radial excitations of these systems, made using a symmetry-preserving treatment of a vector × vector contact interaction as the foundation for the relevant few-body equations. Dynamical chiral symmetry breaking generates nonpointlike diquarks within these baryons and hence, using the contact interaction, flavour-antitriplet scalar, pseudoscalar and vector, and flavour-sextet axial-vector quark-quark correlations can all play an active role. The model yields reasonable masses for all systems studied, and Faddeev amplitudes for ground states and associated parity partners that sketch a realistic picture of their internal structure: ground-state, even parity baryons are constituted, almost exclusively, from like-parity diquark correlations; but orbital angular momentum plays an important role in the rest-frame wave functions of odd-parity baryons, whose Faddeev amplitudes are dominated by odd-parity diquarks.

I. INTRODUCTION

In a symmetry-preserving treatment using relativistic quantum field theory, one may generate the interpolating field for the parity partner of any given state via a simple chiral rotation of that associated with the original state. It follows that parity partners will be degenerate in mass and alike in structure in all theories that possess a chiral symmetry realised in the Wigner-Weyl mode. This knowledge has long made the mass-splittings between parity partners in the strong-interaction spectrum a subject of particular interest. A classic example is provided by the ρ(770)- and a1(1260)-mesons: viewed as chiral and hence parity partners, it has been argued [1] that their mass and structural differences can be attributed entirely to dynamical chiral symmetry breaking (DCSB), viz. realisation of chiral symmetry in the Nambu-Goldstone mode.

Potentially connected intimately with confinement [2], DCSB is a key emergent strong interaction phenomenon; and regarding its role in explaining the splitting between parity partners, additional insights can be developed by studying the quantum field theory bound-state equations appropriate to the ρ- and a1-mesons. One finds that the rest-frame projections of their Poincaré-covariant wave functions are primarily S-wave in nature [3–8], even though both possess nonzero angular momentum [9, 10], whose magnitude influences the size of the splitting [5].

On the other hand, the picture is quite different when drawn using a quantum mechanical constituent-quark model. Such a framework does not support the notion of chiral partners; and the a1-meson is typically described as an L = 1 orbital-angular-momentum excitation of an L = 0 ρ-meson quark-antiquark system, with the roughly 500 MeV mass-splitting produced by tuning the model’s potential [11, 12]. Such conflicts of interpretation are repeatedly encountered in the spectrum of light-quark mesons.

They are also common in the baryon spectrum. For instance, quark models predict that the N(1535), A(1670), Σ(1750) baryons are all states with three constituent-quarks possessing one unit of orbital angular momentum, L = 1 [13]. However, in quantum field theory these systems appear as chiral partners of the ground state baryons N(939), A(1116), Σ(1193), in which case, again, the roughly 500 MeV mass differences should chiefly be generated by DCSB. In this connection, elucidating the details of the mechanism would be of great interest and value.

The preceding discussion highlights that baryon spectroscopy has played a key role in developing our understanding of strong-interaction dynamics and formulating quantum chromodynamics (QCD) [14–17], and yet quark-model concepts still seem a sound way to label and organise the spectrum of baryon resonances. It is
II. BOUND-STATE EQUATIONS

A. Quark-quark interaction

The Dyson-Schwinger equations [18, 19] provide a natural framework for the symmetry-preserving treatment of hadron bound states in quantum field theory; and the starting point in the matter sector is knowledge of the quark-quark interaction. This is now known with some certainty [20–27], as are its consequences: whilst the effective charge, and gluon and quark masses run with momentum, \( k^2 \), they all saturate at infrared momenta, each changing by \( \lesssim 20\% \) on \( 0 \lesssim \sqrt{k^2} \lesssim m_\rho \approx m_\rho/2 \), where \( m_\rho \) is a renormalisation-group-invariant gluon mass-scale and \( m_\rho \) is the proton mass. It follows that, employed judiciously, a symmetry-preserving treatment of a vector \( \times \) vector contact interaction can provide insights and useful results for those hadron observables whose measurement involves probe momenta less-than \( m_\rho \) [6, 7, 28–43]. Hadron masses are such quantities.

In the context of a vector \( \times \) vector contact interaction, a symmetry-preserving formulation of the coupled two- and three-valence-body bound-state problems is detailed in Refs. [6, 7]. It is based upon the rainbow-ladder (RL) approximation, which is the leading-order in a systematic DSE truncation scheme [45], and we follow that approach herein, using the same parameter values. They are reported in Table I, along with the results they yield for the masses of the dressed \( u = d \)- and \( s \)-quarks when used in the rainbow-truncation gap equation.

In this approach, baryon masses are obtained by solving a Poincaré-covariant Faddeev equation [46–49], which sums all possible quantum field theoretical exchanges and interactions that can take place between the three dressed-quarks that characterise its valence-quark content. A dynamical prediction of Faddeev equation studies is the appearance of nonpointlike, colour-antitriplet quark+quark (diquark) correlations within baryons, whose characteristics are greatly influenced by DCSB [50–56]. Consequently, the baryon bound-state problem is transformed into the exercise of solving the linear, homogeneous matrix equation depicted in Fig. 1.

B. Diquark correlations

As highlighted by Fig. 1, in order to complete the Faddeev equation kernels for all octet and decuplet baryons, and their parity partners, it is necessary to compute the masses and canonically normalised correlation amplitudes for each diquark system that can contribute to these bound states. This is readily achieved by solving Bethe-Salpeter equations in all relevant channels, once those channels are identified.

Regarding colour, all participating diquark correlations are antitriplets because they must combine with the bystander quark to form a colour singlet. Notably, the colour-sextet quark+quark channel does not support correlations because gluon exchange is repulsive in this channel [50].

Diquark spin-flavour structure is more complex. It is revealed by solving the Bethe-Salpeter equations, with the result that a contact interaction supports the following systems (the subscript indicates \( J^P \)):

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma_{0^+}^+(K) &= \bar{H} T^{g}_{3,j} [i\gamma_5 E_0^{j} + \frac{1}{M_R^{j}}\gamma_5 \cdot K P_0^{j}] C, \\
\Gamma_{1^+}^+ (K) &= \bar{H} T^{g}_{6,j} \gamma_\mu C E^{j}_{1^+}, \\
\Gamma_{0^-}^-(K) &= \bar{H} T^{g}_{3,j} iC E^{j}_{0^-}, \\
\Gamma_{1^-}^- (K) &= \bar{H} T^{g}_{3,j} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 C E^{j}_{1^-},
\end{align*}
\]

where \( K \) is the total momentum of the correlation, \( K \cdot \bar{\gamma} = 0; M_R = M_u = M_d, M_R^3 = 2M_uM_s/(M_u + M_s); \bar{H} = \)
\(\{i\lambda_i^7, -i\lambda_i^5, i\lambda_i^2\}\), with \(\lambda_i^k, k = 1, \ldots, 8\) denoting Gell-Mann matrices in colour space, expresses the diquarks' colour antitriplet character; \(C\) is the charge-conjugation matrix;

\[
\begin{align*}
\{T_{3j}^j, j = 1, 2, 3\} &= \{i\lambda^2, i\lambda^5, i\lambda^7\}, \\
\{T_{6g}^j, g = 1, \ldots, 6\} &= \{s_0\lambda_0^0 + s_3\lambda_3^3 + s_8\lambda_8^8, \lambda_1^1, \lambda_4^4, \lambda_0^0 - s_3\lambda_3^3 + s_8\lambda_8^8, s_0\lambda_0^0 - 2s_8\lambda_8^8\},
\end{align*}
\]

with \(s_0 = \sqrt{2}/3\), \(s_3 = 1/\sqrt{2}\), \(s_8 = 1/\sqrt{6}\), \(\{\lambda_i^k, k = 1, \ldots, 8\}\) denoting flavour Gell-Mann matrices, \(\lambda^0 = \text{diag}[1,1,1]\), and all flavour matrices left-active on column\([u, d, s]\). Notably, using a contact interaction, the amplitudes do not depend on the relative momentum, i.e. angular momentum is suppressed in these bound-states; and it follows that a flavour-sextet vector-diquark is not supported by a RL-like treatment of the contact interaction [32]. (Our Euclidean metric conventions are explained in Appendix A of Ref. [7].)

We obtain the masses and amplitudes of the contact-interaction diquark correlations by solving the appropriate Bethe-Salpeter equations in a RL-like truncation. (At this level, the equation for a \(J^P\) diquark is readily obtained from that for a \(J^P\) meson [50].) However, the pseudoscalar and vector diquark equations are adjusted in order to implement DCSB effects that are crucial for a successful description of the meson spectrum but only appear in truncations that nonperturbatively improve upon RL [5]. These adjustments mock-up the impact of DCSB-enhanced “spin-orbit” repulsion in the Bethe-Salpeter kernels that feed upon \(L \neq 0\) components of meson wave functions, which are normally subleading in light-quark two-body systems. In Refs. [6, 7], the desired result was achieved by including a multiplicative factor \(g_{SO} = 0.24\) in the Bethe-Salpeter kernels for the 0\(^-\), 1\(^-\) diquarks: the value was chosen to give the empirical size of the \(a_1\)-meson mass-splitting. (N.B. In a Poincaré covariant treatment, no bound-state can be purely \(S\) - or \(P\)-wave; and \(g_{SO} = 1\) means no additional repulsion beyond that generated by the RL kernel.)

In extending a contact-interaction analysis of the spectrum and structure of baryons to include opposite-parity diquark correlations, e.g. both \(P = +\) and \(P = -\) diquarks in \(P = +\) baryons whenever physically allowed, we find the approach of Refs. [6, 7] to be inadequate because it produces a splitting between 1\(^-\) and 0\(^-\) diquarks that is too small to support a realistic spectrum. For instance, one finds that the parity-partner of the \(\Xi\)-baryon is unbound. The first step toward eliminating this weakness is made by introducing two distinct SO-parameters in the meson sector, one for the axial-vector channel and another for scalar:

\[
1^{+}_{\nu} g_{SO} = 0.25, \quad 0^{+}_{\nu} g_{SO} = 0.32,
\]

one obtains \(m_{a_1} - m_{\rho} = 0.45\) GeV, in line with experiment, and \(m_{\sigma_{\text{core}}} - m_{\rho} = 0.29\) GeV, which matches the splitting produced by the sophisticated Bethe-Salpeter kernels described in Ref. [5]. The spectrum of ground-state mesons thus obtained is listed in Table II.

We would like to emphasise here that the meson labels indicate the quark-cores of the respective systems, which are distinguished in a well-defined manner from the empirical states, as detailed, e.g. in Refs. [6, 7]. To expand a little, owing to our choice for the current-quark masses, \(m_{\pi}\) and \(m_K\) agree with experiment, but all other computed values for ground-state masses are greater than the empirical values. This is typical of DCSB-corrected kernels that nevertheless omit resonant contributions, i.e. do not contain effects that may be associated with a meson cloud. Such kernels should produce dressed-quark-core masses for hadron ground-states that are larger than the empirical values, thereby leaving room for resonant corrections to reduce the mass [57–64]. For instance, the most complete computation of this sort predicts that such effects reduce \(m_{\rho}\) by 0.13 GeV [62]. Applied to our result, this would produce \(m_{\rho, \text{loop-corrected}} = 0.8\) GeV, in fair agreement with the empirical value: 0.78 GeV.

The second step is to dampen spin-orbit effects in diquark channels, viz. we write:

\[
1^{+}_{\nu} 0^{+}_{\nu} g_{SO} = 1^{+}_{\nu} 0^{+}_{\nu} g_{SO} \times s_0, \quad s_{SO} = 1.8,
\]
so that the modification factor in our RL-like diquark Bethe-Salpeter equations is nearer unity and hence generates less repulsion. Physically, this might be understood by acknowledging that valence-quarks within a diquark are more loosely correlated than the valence-quark and -antiquark pair in a bound-state meson and, consequently, spin-orbit repulsion in diquarks should be less pronounced than it is in mesons. The spectrum of diquark mass-scales, obtained following the procedure described above, is listed in Table II: a ±10% change in $s_{SO}$ alters the $0^+$, $1^-$ values by ±2%.

The size of $s_{SO}$ in Eq. (4) is explained below. Meanwhile, inspection of Table II reveals that this value serves to reverse the $0^+_q - 0^+_{q\bar{q}}$, $1^+_{q\bar{q}} - 1^+_q$ meson-diquark mass orderings that are characteristic of RL truncation. As we shall see, such a reversal in the $0^+$, $1^-$ diquark channels seems to be required if one wishes to obtain a realistic baryon spectrum from the contact interaction. Whether such ordering is itself realistic, however, ought to be checked using the most sophisticated Bethe-Salpeter kernels that are currently available.

The truncation employed herein generates asymptotic (freely propagating) diquarks. Such states are not observed empirically and their appearance is an artefact of the truncation. Higher-order terms in the quark-quark scattering matrix do not materially affect meson properties, ensure that consequences of the truncation. Higher-order terms in the quark-quark scattering matrix do not materially affect meson properties, ensure that diquarks...
Ref. [6, 7], with the appropriate masses from Table II, analogous to Eq. (6c); and, with $p^2 = -1$,

$$
S^\pm = s^\pm I_D G^\pm, \quad iP^\pm = p^\pm \gamma_5 G^\pm,
$$

$$
iA^{\pm f}_\mu = (a^{\pm f}_1 \gamma_\mu - ia^{\pm f}_2 \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu)G^\pm,
$$

$$
iV^{\pm}_\mu = (v^+_1 \gamma_\mu - iv^+_2 I_D \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu)G^\pm.
$$

In order to obtain the masses, $m^2_\pm$, and eigenvectors $(s^{\pm}, a^{\pm f}_1, a^{\pm f}_2, p^{\pm}, v^+_1, v^+_2)$, one substitutes the amplitudes from Eq. (9) into the Faddeev equation depicted in Fig.1 and solves the resulting eigenvalue problems. The explicit form of the nucleon’s Faddeev equation, obtained in the absence of pseudoscalar and vector diquarks, is derived in Refs. [6, 7]. Owing to isospin symmetry, the kernel can be reduced to a $3 \times 3$ matrix because $a^{\pm}_{(ud)} = -a^{\pm}_{(uu)}/\sqrt{2}$. The extended equation, including pseudoscalar and vector diquarks, and the analogous complete equation for the nucleon’s parity partner can both be obtained by following the same procedure. The kernels may be expressed as $6 \times 6$ matrices, each element of which has the type of algebraic structure expressed in Eq. (7). (We list the spin-flavour composition of all baryon Faddeev amplitudes in Eqs. (A.1).)

The Faddeev equations for the other octet baryons and their parity partners can similarly be obtained. In fact, if one keeps track of isospin, then the $\Sigma_k$ equations may simply be obtained from the $N_k$ equations by replacing the $d$-quark by the $s$ quark, and the $\Xi_k$ equations by making the exchange $s \leftrightarrow u$ in the $\Sigma_k$ equations. Regarding the $J = 0 \Delta_k$-baryons, one must pay some attention to ensuring the correct flavour structure, but this is made straightforward by following Ref. [7]. The procedure yields an $8 \times 8$-matrix Faddeev kernel describing systems that involve only the $J = 0$ combinations of diquarks identified in Eq. (A.1b).

Solving the equations thus obtained, one finds that the ground-state $P = +$ octet baryons are primarily constituted from like-parity diquarks, with negligible contributions from $P = -$ correlations. This was to be anticipated, given the quality of existing studies that omitted $\bar{P} = -$ diquarks [6, 7]. Unexpectedly, on the other hand, the parity partners of the ground-state octet baryons: $N^*(1535)\frac{1}{2}^-, \Lambda(1670)\frac{1}{2}^-, \Sigma(1750)\frac{1}{2}^-, \Xi(1830)\frac{1}{2}^-$, are also dominated by $P = +$ diquark correlations and, consequently, too light. It appears, therefore, that something important is missing from the RL-like contact-interaction treatment of odd-parity octet baryons. As with mesons and diquarks, the obvious candidate is spin-orbit repulsion. We therefore introduce a new parameter into the Faddeev equation for $J^P = (1/2)^P$ baryons: $g_{DB}$, a linear multiplicative factor attached to each unequal-parity diquark amplitude in the baryon’s Faddeev equation kernel. For example, in the nucleon’s Faddeev equation:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
N(940) & E_{0+}, E_{0+} \rightarrow E_{0+}, E_{0+} \\
E_{0+}, E_{0+} \rightarrow g_{DB} E_{0+}, E_{0+} \\
E_{0-}, E_{0-} \rightarrow g_{DB} E_{0-}, E_{0-} \\
\end{array}
$$

with like treatment of all similar terms; whereas in the equation for the nucleon’s parity partner, the pattern is reversed:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
N^*(1535) & E_{0+}, E_{0+} \rightarrow g_{DB} E_{0+}, E_{0+} \\
E_{0+}, E_{0+} \rightarrow E_{0+}, E_{0+} \\
E_{0-}, E_{0-} \rightarrow E_{0-}, E_{0-} \\
\end{array}
$$

The contact-interaction Faddeev equations for decuplet baryons are very simple, with both positive and negative parity systems involving only 6 $f$ axial-vector diquarks. Consequently, we do not include a similar factor, thereby assuming implicitly that spin-orbit repulsion is less-important, but not unimportant, in these $J = (3/2)$ states. Whether this contact-interaction feature is sensible, or not, can only be tested by using more realistic Faddeev kernels. Some studies exist [74], but it is desirable to conduct such analyses using kernels that leave room for contributions from meson-baryon final-state interactions and are capable of yielding testable resonance structure predictions on a large domain of spacelike momenta [71–73].

Faddeev equations describing all ground-state octet and decuplet baryons, and their parity partners are now in hand. At this point it is natural to ask whether one can simultaneously address the radial excitations of these systems. In quantum mechanics, the radial wave function for a bound-state’s first radial excitation possesses a simple zero by hand into the kernels described above. A similar feature is expressed in quantum field theory: namely, in a fully covariant approach, a single zero is usually seen in the relative-momentum dependence of the leading Chebyshev moment of the field theory: namely, in a fully covariant approach, a single zero is usually seen in the relative-momentum dependence of the leading Chebyshev moment of the dominant Dirac term in the bound state amplitude for a hadron’s first radial excitation [73, 75, 76]. The existence of radial excitations is therefore clear evidence against the possibility that the interaction between quarks is momentum-independent: a bound-state amplitude that is independent of the relative momentum cannot exhibit a zero. One may also express this differently, viz. if the location of the zero is at $k_0^2$, then it is only possible for a momentum-independent interaction to produce reasonable results for phenomena that probe momentum scales $k^2 \ll k_0^2$. Typically, $k_0^2 \sim 2M^2 \sim (0.5\,\text{GeV})^2$ [73, 75, 76].

In the phenomenological application of a contact interaction, however, this difficulty has been skirted by means of an expedient employed in Refs. [77, 78], i.e. one inserts a zero by hand into the kernels described above. Plainly, the presence of this zero reduces the coupling in the Faddeev equation and hence increases the bound-state’s mass. Although this may not be as transparent with a more sophisticated interaction, a qualitatively
TABLE III. Dressed-quark-core masses of ground-state octet and decuplet baryons, those of their radial excitations and of all their parity partners, computed using the formulation of a vector×vector contact interaction described herein. Row 1: Baryon ground-states. The lowest mass state in each channel has positive parity. Row 3: First radial excitations of the ground-states, which provide the second level in each channel. Row 5: Parity partners of the baryon ground-states, which provide the third level in each channel. Row 7: First radial excitations of the parity partner to each of the baryon ground-states, which provide the fourth level in each channel. Masses in the rows labelled “expt.” are taken from Ref. [13]; where the estimated uncertainty in the location of a resonance’s pole position is noticeable, it is indicated by an error bar in Fig. 2; and a hyphen in any position indicates that no empirically known resonance can confidently be associated with the theoretically predicted state. (All masses are listed in GeV.)

| P = + | n=0 | DSE | N | 1.14 | 1.26 | 1.36 | 1.43 | Δ | 1.39 | 1.51 | 1.63 | 1.76 |
|-------|-----|-----|---|------|------|------|------|---|------|------|------|------|
|       |     |     | A | 0.94 | 1.12 | 1.19 | 1.31 |   | 1.23 | 1.39 | 1.53 | 1.67 |
| P = + | n=1 | DSE | Σ | 1.82 | 1.89 | 1.94 | 2.01 | Δ | 1.84 | 1.95 | 2.05 | 2.14 |
|       |     |     |   | 1.44 | 1.51 | 1.66 | -   | Σ*| 1.60 | -    | -    | -    |
| P = - | n=0 | DSE | Ξ | 1.82 | 1.92 | 1.96 | 2.04 | Δ | 2.07 | 2.16 | 2.26 | 2.36 |
|       |     |     |   | 1.54 | 1.67 | 1.75 | -   | Ξ*| 1.65 | 1.67 | 1.82 | -    |
| P = - | n=1 | DSE | ΔΣ | 1.89 | 1.99 | 2.02 | 2.10 | Δ | 2.11 | 2.24 | 2.33 | 2.40 |
|       |     |     |   | 1.65 | 1.80 | -    | -   | Ω | 1.86 | 1.94 | -    | -    |

The equivalent mechanism is responsible for the elevated values of the masses of radial excitations [73, 75, 76]. We follow Refs. [6, 7] in implementing this idea, viz. the following replacement is made in each Faddeev kernel:

\[ \overline{V}_1(\sigma) \rightarrow \overline{F}_1(\sigma), \]

(13)

where \( \overline{F}_1(\sigma) = \overline{C}_1(\sigma) - d_\sigma \overline{D}_1(\sigma), \)

\[ \overline{D}_1(\sigma) = \int_{r_0}^{r_s} d\tau \frac{2}{\tau^2} \exp[-\tau \sigma]. \]

(14)

We use \( 1/d_\sigma = 2M_0^2 \), with \( M_0 \) defined in Table I: a 20% change in this value changes the mass of no radial excitation by more than 5% [6, 7].

As already noted, a complete explanation for this method for analysing hadron radial excitations within a contact-interaction framework can be found elsewhere [6, 7]. The tool thus defined appears to produce sensible estimates for the masses of such baryons. However, the Faddeev amplitudes are unrealistic, e.g. the nucleon’s radial excitation – the Roper resonance – is predicted to contain essentially no scalar diquark component, whereas realistic, momentum-dependent kernels predict that the scalar diquark content of both the nucleon and Roper is roughly 60% [73].

III. BARYON SPECTRUM

One is now in a position to compute masses and Faddeev amplitudes for ground-state octet and decuplet baryons, their parity partners, and the first radial excitation of each of these systems.

In retracing the analysis of Ref. [7], we have introduced two free parameters, \( s_{SO} \) in Eq. (4) and \( g_{DB} \), described in connection with Eqs. (11), (12). They are chosen in order to ensure that the dressed-quark core of the nucleon’s parity partner is not lighter than that of its first radial excitation and the Faddeev amplitude of the \( \Xi \) baryon’s parity partner is dominated by negative-parity diquarks. These complementary requirements are met with \( s_{SO} = 1.8, \) Eq. (4), and

\[ g_{DB} = 0.1, \]

(15)

values that yield the spectrum in Table III, which is represented pictorially in Fig. 2. Since changes of ±10% in either parameter have no material impact on these results, we do not list a model error. This low level of sensitivity to model-defining parameters enables us to achieve our primary aim of developing qualitative insights into the spectrum and structure of baryons, which can serve to inform a similarly wide-ranging analysis using realistic Faddeev kernels. In this connection, it is notable that the value of \( g_{DB} \) is small and enforces significant suppression of unmatched-parity diquarks in a given \( J = \frac{1}{2} \) bound-state: a value of \( g_{DB} = 0.2 \) would see positive-parity diquark correlations dominate in negative-parity octet baryons, thereby reducing their masses. The issue of whether such suppression is realistic cannot be addressed until a sophisticated beyond-RL truncation is employed to treat an equally large array of baryon bound-states.

The Faddeev amplitudes associated with the masses listed in Table III are catalogued in Table A.1. We consider that the \( n = 0 \) (ground state) eigenvectors provide a sound guide; namely, a more realistic Faddeev equation kernel should produce roughly the same relative strengths of the various diquark components. These strengths are depicted in Fig. 3, from which it is apparent that the parameter choices in Eqs. (4), (15) generate
octet baryons with natural diquark content, *i.e.* a baryon with parity "P" is constituted primarily from like-parity diquark correlations.

On the other hand, for the reasons detailed in connection with Eq. (13), the eigenvectors associated with a contact interaction treatment of radial excitations \((n = 1)\) must be treated with caution. For instance, the Table III prediction that the nucleon’s radial excitation is almost purely constituted from axial-vector diquark correlations is now known to be an artefact of the contact interaction: using a QCD-kindred kernel, the scalar diquark component of this state is almost precisely the same as that of the ground-state nucleon [73].

In Fig. 4 we depict the theory-experiment mass-differences computed from Table III. This difference is uniformly less-than 0.2 GeV for ground-states. Moreover, it usually decreases as the number of *s*-quarks in the system is increased, as illustrated by the dashed lines in Fig. 4. For octet systems, there is another regularity, *viz.* the theory-experiment difference is greatest for the positive-parity radial excitations (\(\approx 0.35\) GeV), less for the \((P = - , n = 0)\) states (\(\approx 0.25\) GeV), and least for the \((P = - , n = 1)\) systems (\(\approx 0.22\) GeV). The \((P = + , n = 0)\), *i.e.* ground-state, and \((P = + , n = 1)\) differences are consistent with those found in Ref. [7], which ignored negative-parity diquark correlations in positive-parity baryons. On the other hand, the results for parity partners are a marked contradiction, being much smaller herein. It follows that no study of odd-parity baryons can be reliable unless it includes odd-parity diquark correlations.

Having made these observations, it is worth returning to the issue of meson-cloud effects on baryon masses. In this connection, recall that our predictions, Table III, are those for the mass of a given baryon’s dressed-quark core, whereas the empirical values include effects associated with meson-baryon final-state interactions, which typically produce sizeable reductions [69, 79]. This was explained and illustrated for the nucleon and \(\Delta\)-resonance in Sect. 4.5 of Ref. [6] and in particular for the Roper resonance in Ref. [33]. Here we reiterate those instances in which a comparison can be made (masses in GeV):

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccc}
\text{nucleon} & N^1_{1440} & N^1_{1535} & N^1_{1650} & \Delta^1_{1232} & \Delta^1_{1700} \\
\text{herein} & 1.14 & 1.82 & 1.89 & 1.39 & 2.07 \\
M^0_B [69] & 1.76 & 1.80 & 1.88 & 1.39 & 1.98 \\
M^0_B [79] & 1.24 & 2.05 & 1.92 & 1.46 & 2.25 \\
\end{array}
\]

where \(M^0_B\), when it appears, is the relevant bare mass inferred in the associated dynamical coupled-channels (DCC) analysis [69, 79].\(^1\) These bare masses have hitherto been uncertain and dependent on model details. However, as we made no attempt to fit the \(M^0_B\) values, their proximity to our results suggests that it might now be possible to place these bare masses on firmer ground, investing them with meaning within the context of hadron structure calculations that have a traceable connection with QCD. Such a possibility is made more plausible by the fact that, with the inclusion of odd-parity diquark correlations, the agreement between our contact-interaction predictions and the DCC bare masses is much better than previously found, *e.g.* whereas

\(^1\) It is notable that the bare masses determined in Ref. [69] do not exceed our computed dressed-quark-core masses, whereas those inferred in Ref. [79] are uniformly greater: relative error \(= -7\pm 4\%). Since meson-baryon final-state interactions normally act to lower the pole-mass of a resonance, this observation suggests that Ref. [69] provides the more reliable indication of hadron quark-core masses.
FIG. 3. Diquark content of octet baryons, computed from the unit-normalised Faddeev amplitudes listed in Table A.1: upper panel (a), ground-state even-parity systems; and lower panel (b), their parity partners.

FIG. 4. Theory-experiment mass differences computed, where possible, from Table III. Horizontal axis: particle name with a subscript that indicates its row in the table, e.g. \( N_1 \) means nucleon column, row 1.

the mean relative-difference between contact-interaction core-masses and the bare masses from Ref. [69] was 15 ± 13% in the absence of odd-parity diquarks, it is herein just 2 ± 2%.

IV. CONCLUSION

Contemporary studies suggest that QCD possesses an infrared fixed point and therefore exhibits nearly conformal behaviour at infrared momenta [23–27]. As a consequence, when defined and used judiciously, a vector \( \times \) vector contact interaction can be a useful tool for the analysis of numerous low-energy hadron properties. Hadron masses are amongst these quantities, and we therefore used such an interaction to formulate Faddeev equations for the ground-state octet and decuplet baryons, their first radial excitation, and the parity partners of these systems. The solutions of the equations yield the masses of the dressed-quark cores in these systems and information about the associated internal structure. Notably, dynamical chiral symmetry breaking (DCSB) drives the formation of diquark correlations within baryons; and our Faddeev equation kernels incorporate all diquarks supported by a rainbow-ladder-like truncation of the equations describing such correlations, \( \text{viz.} \) flavour-antitriplet scalar, pseudoscalar and vector, and flavour-sextet axial-vector.

A defect of rainbow-ladder (RL) truncation is that it suppresses angular momentum within hadron bound states. This weakness typically leads to a poor description of all but the lowest-mass entries in the spectra of various hadron species. Therefore, in formulating the bound-state equations relevant to a description of the baryon spectrum, we elaborated upon RL truncation by introducing phenomenological parameters that can ameliorate this sort of defect. We thereby arrived at a model capable of yielding realistic insights, which can be used to guide subsequent studies with more sophisticated interactions.

Our key modification was the introduction of two parameters that work to express spin-orbit repulsion, one in the Bethe-Salpeter equations describing odd-parity diquarks and another in the Faddeev equations. These two parameters, which find their origin in DCSB, were tuned in order to ensure: (i) that the dressed-
quark core of the nucleon’s parity partner is not lighter than that of its first radial excitation; and (ii) the Faddeev amplitude of the Σ baryon’s parity partner is dominated by negative-parity diquarks. The parameter values required to achieve these ends indicate that orbital angular momentum must play a significant role in the rest-frame wave functions of all so-called $P$-wave baryons. Hence, a primary conclusion of our analysis is that DCSB is the key to explaining the mass splitting between parity partners and it works by enhancing repulsive spin-orbit interactions between all quarks in the bound state.

With this reformulation of the contact-interaction bound-state equations, we calculated the mass and Faddeev amplitudes of the dressed-quark cores in thirty-two isospin+strangeness-distinct baryons, i.e. all octet and decuplet baryons, their lowest radial excitations, and the parity partners of all these systems. The computed masses of all systems are reasonable, and the Faddeev amplitudes for ground states and their parity partners describe a realistic picture of the internal composition of these systems: ground-state, even parity baryons are constituted, almost exclusively, from like-parity diquark correlations, but odd-parity baryons must contain odd-parity diquarks, and such correlations should be dominant therein.

An important next step is to compute the spectrum studied herein using more realistic Faddeev equation kernels, e.g. those built from the momentum-dependent propagators and diquark amplitudes used successfully in the description and prediction of nucleon elastic and nucleon-to-resonance transition form factors on a large domain of spacelike momenta [71–73]. This will help reveal just how realistic are the perspectives suggested by the contact-interaction analysis described herein.

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**Appendix A: Assorted Formulae**

We assume isospin symmetry throughout, in which case it is sufficient to specify the following spin-flavour column vectors for the octet baryons supported by our formulation of the contact-interaction:

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{u}_p &= \begin{bmatrix} u[ud]_0^+ \\ d[uu]_1^+ \\ u[ud]_1^+ \\ u[ud]_0^- \\ u[ud]_1^- \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_p^1 \\ a_p^1 \\ a_p^1 \\ a_p^1 \\ a_p^1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\mathbf{u}_\Lambda &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} s[ud]_0^+ \\ d[us]_1^+ - u[ds]_0^+ \\ d[us]_1^- + u[ds]_1^- \\ d[us]_1^- - u[ds]_1^- \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_{\Lambda}^1 \\ a_{\Lambda}^1 \\ a_{\Lambda}^1 \\ a_{\Lambda}^1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\mathbf{u}_\Sigma &= \begin{bmatrix} u[us]_0^+ \\ s[us]_1^+ \\ u[us]_1^+ \\ u[us]_0^- \\ u[us]_1^- \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_\Sigma^2 \\ a_\Sigma^2 \\ a_\Sigma^2 \\ a_\Sigma^2 \\ a_\Sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\mathbf{u}_\Xi &= \begin{bmatrix} s[ss]_1^+ \\ s[ss]_1^- \\ s[ss]_0^+ \\ s[ss]_1^- \\ s[ss]_0^- \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_{\Xi}^2 \\ a_{\Xi}^2 \\ a_{\Xi}^2 \\ a_{\Xi}^2 \\ a_{\Xi}^2 \end{bmatrix},
\end{align*}
\]  

where $[\cdot]$$_{IP}$ and $\{\cdot\}$$_{IP}$ denote, respectively, flavour combinations generated by $T_{3J}$, and $T_{5J}$ in Eqs. (2), with the subscript indicating the spin-parity of the associated correlation. Naturally, the same vector applies to ground-states, their parity partners, and the associated radial excitations. The difference between these states is expressed in the values of the coefficients $s$, $a_{1,2}$, $p$, $v_{1,2}$ that appear in Eq. (10) and are obtained by solving the appropriate Faddeev equations. A shorthand notation for these coefficients, which expresses their connection with Eqs. (2), is specified by the rightmost column of each of Eqs. (A.1): superscript “1” connects with $T_{3J}$, $T_{5J}$, ..., superscript “4” $T_{3J}$, $T_{5J}$, ..., superscript “9” $T_{6J}$, $T_{6J}$, ..., The unit-normalised amplitudes obtained as solutions of our octet baryon Faddeev equations are listed in Table A.1.

It is worth comparing Eqs. (A.1b) and (A.1c), with the latter adapted to the neutral $\Sigma^0$ case following Eq. (49) in Ref. [7]. Whilst the $\Lambda^0$ and $\Sigma^0$ baryons are associated with the same combination of valence-quarks, their spin-flavour wave functions are different: the $\Lambda^0$ contains more of the lighter $J = 0$ diquark correlations than the $\Sigma^0$. It follows that the $\Lambda^0$ must be lighter than the $\Sigma^0$. The mechanism underlying this splitting is analogous to that which produces the $\tau$-mass difference, and also to that associated with the colour-hyperfine interaction used in quark models. It is realised here via the breaking of isospin-symmetry in the associated baryon wave functions.
TABLE A.1. Contact-interaction Faddeev amplitudes (dimensionless, unit normalised) for each of the octet baryons and their low-lying excitations. The superscript in the expression $s'$ or $a'$ is a diquark enumeration label associated with Eq. (A.1). The rightmost column lists the square of the largest $J = 0$ contribution to the amplitude, i.e. it measures either the probability of finding a scalar diquark in an even-parity baryon or a pseudoscalar diquark in an odd-parity baryon. N.B. In the notation of Eq. (10), we list only $a_{1/2}$ for the nucleon because $a_{1/2}^2 = -a_{1/2}^4/\sqrt{2}$.

| $(P, n)$ | $s^1$ | $s^2$ | $s^{[2,3]}$ | $d^1_2$ | $d^2_1$ | $d^3_1$ | $d^{[6,8]}_1$ | $a^1_2$ | $a^2_1$ | $a^{[6,8]}_1$ | $P_{J=0}$ |
|---------|-------|-------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|
| (+, 0)  | 0.88  | 0.38  | -0.06       | 0.02    | 0.02    | 0.00    | 0.01        | 0.01    | 0.00    | 0.77        | 77%   |
| $\Lambda$ | 0.66  | 0.50  | 0.45        | 0.08    | 0.02    | 0.03    | 0.01        | 0.00    | 0.79    |             |       |
| $\Sigma$ | 0.85  | 0.45  | -0.26       | -0.03   | -0.01   | 0.01    | 0.00        | 0.72    |         |             |       |
| $\Xi$    | 0.89  | -0.33 | 0.31        | -0.05   | -0.04   | 0.03    | 0.02        | 0.00    | 0.79    |             |       |
| (+, 1)  | 0.02  | 0.52  | -0.62       | 0.07    | 0.02    | -0.02   | 0.00        | 0.00    | 0.62    |             | 0%    |
| $\Lambda$ | 0.03  | 0.06  | 0.77        | 0.06    | 0.14    | 0.06    | 0.01        | -0.01   | 0.00    |             | 0%    |
| $\Sigma$ | 0.02  | 0.52  | -0.13       | 0.13    | 0.36    | 0.13    | -0.11       | 0.00    | 0.00    |             | 0%    |
| $\Xi$    | 0.03  | -0.31 | 0.42        | 0.15    | -0.32   | 0.70    | 0.24        | -0.24   | 0.79    |             |       |
| (-, 0)  | 0.35  | 0.04  | 0.00        | 0.92    | -0.05   | 0.18    | 0.84        | 0.00    | 0.12    |             | 87%   |
| $\Lambda$ | 0.25  | 0.22  | 0.01        | 0.69    | 0.63    | -0.05   | -0.12       | 0.87    |         |             |       |
| $\Sigma$ | 0.42  | 0.11  | -0.06       | 0.06    | 0.03    | 0.88    | 0.00        | 0.16    | 0.78    |             |       |
| $\Xi$    | 0.35  | -0.01 | 0.01        | 0.01    | -0.02   | 0.91    | -0.11       | 0.21    | 0.82    |             |       |
| (-, 1)  | 0.53  | 0.28  | 0.26        | 0.62    | 0.34    | 0.04    | 0.39        | 0.49    | 0.39    |             | 39%   |
| $\Lambda$ | 0.41  | 0.37  | 0.28        | 0.25    | 0.36    | 0.60    | 0.25        | 0.05    | 0.49    |             |       |
| $\Sigma$ | 0.52  | 0.37  | -0.18       | 0.39    | -0.17   | 0.56    | 0.27        | 0.02    | 0.31    |             |       |
| $\Xi$    | 0.61  | -0.21 | 0.22        | -0.19   | 0.22    | 0.58    | 0.34        | 0.04    | 0.34    |             |       |

The analogous vectors for the decuplet baryons are:

\begin{align}
\text{u}_\Delta &= \left[u\{uu\}_1\right] \leftrightarrow [f^4_\Delta] \quad \text{(A.2a)} \\
\text{u}_\Sigma^* &= \left[s\{uu\}_1\right] \leftrightarrow [f^4_{\Sigma^*}] \quad \text{(A.2b)} \\
\text{u}_\Xi^* &= \left[s\{us\}_1\right] \leftrightarrow [f^6_{\Xi^*}] \quad \text{(A.2c)} \\
\text{u}_\Omega &= \left[s\{ss\}_1\right] \leftrightarrow [f^6_\Delta]. \quad \text{(A.2d)}
\end{align}

Only the $\Sigma^*$ and $\Xi^*$ systems possess nontrivial unit-normalised Faddeev amplitudes:

| $(P, n)$ | $f^4$ | $f^6$ | $f^8$ |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| (+, 0)  | 0.61  | 0.79  | 0.52  |
| $\Sigma^*$ | 0.85  | 0.52  |       |
| (+, 1)  | 0.71  | 0.71  | 0.47  |
| $\Sigma^*$ | 0.88  | 0.47  |       |
| (-, 0)  | 0.68  | 0.74  | 0.49  |
| $\Sigma^*$ | 0.87  | 0.49  |       |
| (-, 1)  | 0.67  | 0.75  | 0.50  |
| $\Sigma^*$ | 0.87  | 0.50  |       |

In each case, the mixed-flavour diquark is favoured for an obvious reason, viz. considering the Faddeev equation kernel, it is fed by twice as many exchange processes as the like-flavour correlation.

We do not record the baryon Faddeev equations herein. They are readily derived, following the procedures detailed in Refs. [6, 7], but the final expressions for octet systems are lengthy with, e.g. the kernel for the $\Sigma$-baryon involving sixty-four entries. On the other hand, each such entry has a simple form, similar to that on the right-hand-side of Eq. (7), and all kernels are recognisable extensions of those listed in full elsewhere [6, 7]. Hence, those interested in repeating the calculations described herein need only ensure they can recover the elements already published and then complete the kernel matrices using the same methods.

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