Bottom quark mass from QCD sum rules for the Υ system

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The talk presents an update of the bottom quark mass determination from QCD moment sum rules for the Υ system by the authors \cite{1}. Employing the \textit{MS} scheme, we find $m_b(m_b) = 4.19 \pm 0.06$ GeV. The differences to our previous analysis will be discussed and we comment on the determination of the pole mass for the bottom quark.

1. Introduction

A precise determination of the bottom quark mass, being one of the fundamental parameters in the Standard Model (SM), is of paramount interest in several areas of present day particle phenomenology. In the past, QCD moment sum rule analyses have been successfully applied for extracting charm and bottom quark masses from experimental data on the charmonium and bottomium systems respectively \cite{2–4}.

The basic ingredient in these investigations is the vacuum polarisation $\Pi(q^2)$,

$$(q_\mu q_\nu - g_\mu \nu q^2) \Pi(q^2) = i \int dx e^{i q x} \langle T \{ j_\mu(x) j_\nu(0) \} \rangle$$

induced by the vector current $j_\mu \equiv \bar{Q} \gamma_\mu Q$ for a heavy quark $Q$. Inclusive quantities, like $\Pi(q^2)$, where no reference to a particular hadronic state is needed, are especially well suited for a description in terms of quarks and gluons. Theoretically, $\Pi(q^2)$ can be calculated in the framework of the operator product expansion (OPE).

On the phenomenological side, the imaginary part of $\Pi(q^2)$ is a physical quantity, related to the experimentally measured cross section for $e^+e^- \rightarrow QQ$:

$$R(s) \equiv \frac{1}{Q^2} \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow QQ)}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} = 12 \pi \Im \Pi(s+i\epsilon).$$

Because of its analytic properties, $\Pi(s)$ satisfies a dispersion relation. Taking $n$ derivatives of $\Pi(s)$ at $s = 0$, one arrives at the following expression for the $n$th moment $M_n$,

$$M_n = \frac{12 \pi^2}{n!} (4M^2 \frac{d}{ds})^n \Pi(s) \bigg|_{s=0}$$

\text{where } v = \sqrt{1 - 4M^2/s}. M \text{ is the heavy quark pole mass, defined as the pole of the perturbatively renormalised propagator.}$

Under the assumption of quark-hadron duality, the moments $M_n$ can either be calculated theoretically in renormalisation group improved perturbation theory, including non-perturbative condensate contributions, or can be obtained from experiment. In this way, hadronic quantities like masses and decay widths get related to the QCD parameters $\alpha_s$, quark masses and condensates.

As can be seen from eq. (1), for large values of $n$ the moments become more and more sensitive to the quark mass, but also to the threshold region which is dominated by large Coulombic corrections growing like $(\alpha_s \sqrt{n})^6$. The situation is greatly improved by utilising the quark mass in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme where perturbative QCD corrections turn out to be much smaller than in the pole mass scheme. In addition for large $n$ the non-perturbative terms, the first being the gluon condensate, start to dominate over the perturbative contribution. It will prove possible to find an intermediate range of $n$ where the sum rules are already very sensitive to the bottom quark mass and contributions from higher states are suf-
ficiently suppressed, whereas the corrections from higher order as well as non-perturbative corrections are still under control.

2. Perturbative spectral function

The perturbative spectral function $R(v)$ can be expanded in powers of the strong coupling constant $\alpha_s$,

$$R(v) = R^{(0)}(v) + aR^{(1)}(v) + a^2R^{(2)}(v),$$

with $a \equiv \alpha_s/\pi$. From this expression the corresponding moments $\mathcal{M}_n^{(k)}$ can be calculated via the integral of eq. (1). The first two terms are known analytically and can for example be found in ref. [1].

The second order contribution is as yet not fully known analytically. However, exploiting available results at high energies, analytical expressions for the first eight moments $\mathcal{M}_n^{(2)}$ ($n = 1, \ldots, 8$) and the known threshold behaviour of $R^{(2)}(v)$, Padé approximants for the function $R^{(2)}(v)$ could be extracted [2]. This information is sufficient for a reliable determination of $\mathcal{M}_n^{(2)}$ for $n$ in the region of interest.

Until now, our expressions for the moments have been written in terms of the pole quark mass $M$. The relation between the pole and $\overline{\text{MS}}$ mass is known up to second order in $\alpha_s$ [3]:

$$m(\mu_m) = M[1 + a(\mu_a)r_m^{(1)}(\mu_m) + a^2r_m^{(2)}(\mu_a, \mu_m)],$$

where $\mu_a$ and $\mu_m$ are renormalisation scales for coupling and mass respectively. Explicit expressions for $r_m^{(1)}$ and $r_m^{(2)}$ can be found in appendix A of ref. [4]. Using this relation one finds the following expression for the moments $\mathcal{M}_n^{(1)}$ and $\mathcal{M}_n^{(2)}$ in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme:

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n^{(1)} = \mathcal{M}_n^{(1)} + 2n r_m^{(1)} \mathcal{M}_n^{(0)},$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n^{(2)} = \mathcal{M}_n^{(2)} + 2n r_m^{(1)} \mathcal{M}_n^{(1)} + n \left(2r_m^{(2)} + (2n-1)r_m^{(1)^2}\right) \mathcal{M}_n^{(0)}.$$

These expressions for the moments will be used in our numerical analysis presented in section 5.

3. Power Corrections

The leading non-perturbative correction is the gluon-condensate contribution to the massive vector correlator. It is known at the next-to-leading order [5]. The relative growth of $\mathcal{M}_n^{(0)}/\mathcal{M}_n^{(0)}$ is proportional to $n^3$. Therefore, the non-perturbative contribution grows much faster than the perturbative moments. In addition, in the pole mass scheme, the next-to-leading order correction to $\mathcal{M}_n^{(0)}$ is of the same size or larger as the leading term. Because the perturbative expansion for the gluon condensate cannot be trusted, we shall restrict our analysis to the range $n \leq 20$ where its contribution to the $b\bar{b}$ moments is below 3%. For different reasons to be discussed below, we shall anyhow restrict the analysis to moments $n \lesssim 15$. Thus the gluon condensate can be safely neglected.

4. Phenomenological spectral function

The first six $\Upsilon$ resonances have been observed. Their masses are known rather accurately, and their electronic widths have been measured with an accuracy which ranges from 3% for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ to 23% for the $\Upsilon(6S)$. For our purposes, the narrow–width approximation provides a very good description of these states, because the full widths of the first three $\Upsilon$ resonances are roughly a factor $10^{-5}$ smaller than the corresponding masses, and the higher-resonance contributions to the moments are suppressed:

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n = \frac{9\pi}{\bar{\alpha}^2 Q_b^2} \sum_{k=1}^{6} \frac{\Gamma_{k\bar{S}}}{M_{k\bar{S}}^{2n+1}} + \int_{s_0}^{\infty} ds \frac{R(s)}{s^{n+1}},$$

where $\Gamma_{k\bar{S}} \equiv \Gamma[\Upsilon(k\bar{S}) \to e^+e^-]$ and the running fine structure constant $\bar{\alpha}^2 = 1.07 \alpha^2$ [5].

The $e^+e^- \to b\bar{b}$ cross-section above threshold is unfortunately very badly measured [6]. The second term in Eq. (2) accounts for the contributions to $R_0$ above the sixth resonance as well as additional continuum contributions between $\Upsilon(4s)$ and $\Upsilon(6s)$ and is approximated by the perturbative QCD continuum. Hence the threshold $M_0 \equiv \sqrt{s_0}$ should lie somewhat lower than the mass of the next resonance which has been
estimated in potential models. It is found to be $M_{\Upsilon(7s)} \approx 11.2$ GeV. A more precise estimate of $M_0$ can be obtained by requiring stability of the sum rule for very low moments. From the numerical analysis to be discussed below, we find $M_0 \approx 11.1$ GeV. On the other hand only taking into account the first three $\Upsilon$ resonances the uncertainty of the sum rule for very low moments. From this choice from the solid curve in fig. 1 it is clear that the prediction for $m_b$ is stable even for $n \gtrsim 20$ where the non-perturbative contributions start to become important.

The more 'natural' choice $\mu_m = m_b$ is displayed in the dotted curve. In this case the result for $m_b$ is stable up to $n \approx 15$ and then becomes unreliable due to $\alpha_s$ corrections growing large. For this reason we have restricted the range of $n$ from which we determine the bottom quark mass to $7 \leq n \leq 15$. Including all variations of the input parameters as well as the renormalisation scales in our error estimate, as our final result for the running $\overline{MS}$ mass $m_b(m_b)$ we obtain:

$$m_b(m_b) = 4.19 \pm 0.06\text{ GeV}.$$  

For very low moments the continuum contribution in eq. (2) is not very well suppressed and thus $m_b$ displays a strong dependence on the threshold $M_0$. As has been already discussed in the last section, by requiring stability of the sum rule we obtain $M_0 \approx 11.1$ GeV (solid line). For comparison, as extreme cases, in fig. 1 we have also plotted the sum rule for the choices $M_0 \approx 10.6$ GeV (dashed line) and $M_0 \approx 11.4$ GeV (dot-dashed line).

The first case corresponds to using the perturbative QCD continuum above the $\Upsilon(4S)$ but nevertheless including the higher resonance contribution. This is certainly overcounting the continuum contribution. The second choice would assume a very high mass for the $\Upsilon(7S)$ and no additional continuum contribution above the $\Upsilon(4S)$. This is definitely on the low side of the estimates. As can be seen in fig. 1, even for these extreme cases using moments with $n \gtrsim 7$ sufficiently suppresses the dependence on the continuum contribution and gives a good determination of $m_b$.

6. Discussion

Our updated result for the bottom quark $\overline{MS}$ mass $m_b(m_b)$ as obtained from the sum rules for the $\Upsilon$ system is in very good agreement to other recent determinations also including lattice gauge
theory [10, 12]. It is 1σ higher than our previous determination for \( m_b \) [1]. The reason was a small inconsistency in implementing the scale dependence of the \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) mass in our numerical program. However, this shift lies well within the range of our estimated error.

Very recently it has become possible to obtain an estimate of the bottom quark mass measuring three-jet rates at LEP [13, 14]. The natural scale at which \( m_b \) is evaluated in this case is \( M_Z \). Evolving the value for \( m_b \) determined in our analysis to the \( Z \)-boson mass, we find:

\[
m_b(M_Z) = 2.86 \pm 0.05 \text{ GeV}.
\]

The result obtained from LEP measurements is at present much less precise but nevertheless in very good agreement with the value given above. On the other hand it is the first indication of a scale running of the bottom quark mass in the \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) scheme.

Another frequently used mass definition for the bottom quark is the pole mass. Recent determinations of the bottom quark pole mass include [3, 10, 11]. The pole mass determination from the \( T \) system suffers from two difficulties: firstly the \( \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s) \) corrections in this case are much larger than for the \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) scheme and a resummation of these large Coulombic corrections has to be performed. The second problem is the fact that the pole mass suffers from a renormalon ambiguity which introduces an intrinsic unknown uncertainty [3].

Using our result for \( m_b \) given above and the perturbative relation between pole and \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) mass given in section 2, we obtain \( M_b = 4.84 \pm 0.08 \text{ GeV} \). This result is in agreement with the cited pole mass determinations except for the previous work by the authors where \( M_b = 4.60 \text{ GeV} \) was found. The discrepancy is due to the fact that in ref. [3] the contribution from the Coulomb poles has been neglected. This contribution formally is of \( \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \) and the analysis [3] was especially aiming for a consistent treatment of higher orders up to \( \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \). Nevertheless it turned out that the contribution from Coulomb poles is very important and should be included. The analysis in the \( \overline{\text{MS}} \) scheme was not inflicted by such a problem. We shall come back to these and related questions in a forthcoming publication.

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