Quarkonium production in pNRQCD: the $P$-wave case

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We review our recent understanding of quarkonium production at $e^+e^-$ and hadronic colliders from the point of view of potential non-relativistic QCD, and apply it to $P$-wave charmonium and bottomonium inclusive production.
1. Inclusive quarkonium production in non relativistic EFTs

The physics of heavy quarkonium (e.g. bottomonium and charmonium) may be conveniently described in terms of non relativistic effective field theories (EFTs) [1]. Indeed, a hierarchy of EFTs can be constructed out of the hierarchy of energy scales characterising any non relativistic bound state:

$$m \gg mv \gg mv^2,$$

where $m$ is the mass of the heavy quark and $v$ the relative velocity of the heavy quark in the bound state. The sequence of EFTs that follows from integrating out modes associated with the scales $m$ and $mv$ is shown in figure 1.

![Figure 1: Hierarchy of energy scales vs hierarchy of non relativistic EFTs.](image)

Each EFT leads to a factorization of high and low energy contributions in the expression of the observables. Several quarkonium observables have been computed along the tower of EFTs shown in figure 1, but until recently this has not been the case for quarkonium production cross sections, which in the framework of non relativistic effective field theories have been investigated only in non relativistic QCD (NRQCD). For reviews of such investigations we refer to [2–4]. In this contribution, instead, we summarize the work done in the last two years to provide, under some circumstances, a description of quarkonium production cross sections also in the ultimate EFT listed in figure 1, i.e. potential NRQCD (pNRQCD) [5–7].

1.1 NRQCD

Non relativistic QCD is the EFT that follows from QCD by integrating out quark and gluon modes of energy or momentum of order $m$. In NRQCD, the inclusive production cross section for a quarkonium $Q$ factorizes into short distance coefficients, $\sigma_{Q(N)}$, encoding contributions from energy scales of order $m$ or larger, and into long distance matrix elements (LDMEs), $\langle \Omega|O^Q(N)|\Omega \rangle$, encoding contributions from energy scales of order $mv$, $mv^2$ or of the hadronic scale $\Lambda_{QCD}$. 

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Eventually in NRQCD one writes [8]:

$$\sigma_{Q+X} = \sum_N \sigma_{Q(N)}\langle \Omega | O^Q(N) | \Omega \rangle,$$

(2)

where in the hadronic case $\sigma_{Q+X}$ is the inclusive production cross section of a quarkonium $Q$ with additional light particles $X$; in the electromagnetic case we will consider $X = \gamma$. The state $|\Omega\rangle$ is the QCD vacuum. The operators $O^Q(N)$ are four fermion operators that generate and annihilate a heavy quark-antiquark pair. If the operators project on color singlet states one speaks of color singlet operators, whereas if they project on color octet states one speaks of a color octet operators. A more detailed expression of these operators will be given in the following. The LDMEs for electromagnetic production can be related to those describing quarkonium electromagnetic decay widths. The NRQCD factorization has been proved for inclusive quarkonium decays, but it has not for hadroproduction. Nevertheless, a significant effort has been made in the last years and proofs have been provided at some finite order in perturbation theory [9–13].

Equation (2) is an expansion in the strong coupling constant $\alpha_s$, encoded in the short distance coefficients, and an expansion in $v$, encoded in the LDMEs. The LDMEs are however poorly known, as they are inherently non-perturbative. They are usually fitted on data, but the inclusion of different set of data in the fit typically leads to different determinations, none of them able to describe all the data in a satisfactory manner [14, 15]. From the point of view of figure 1, the LDMEs still contain contributions from the scales $m v$ and $m^2 v^2$. Integrating out the scale $m v$ may therefore lead to a further factorization of the LDMEs and a consequent reduction in the unknown parameters to be fitted to the data. Hence, moving from NRQCD to pNRQCD could possibly clarify some of the conundrums plaguing the determinations of the quarkonium production cross sections in NRQCD, specially in the case of hadroproduction whose color octet matrix elements have no equivalent in the expressions of the quarkonium decay widths.

1.2 Strongly coupled pNRQCD

Potential NRQCD is the EFT that follows from NRQCD by integrating out gluon modes of energy or momentum larger than $m v^2$. We will further assume that

$$m v^2 \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}},$$

(3)

which appears to be appropriate for excited (non Coulombic) quarkonium states [16]. Potential NRQCD supplemented with the condition (3) is called strongly coupled pNRQCD. The factorization formula for the LDMEs in strongly coupled pNRQCD reads at leading order in $v$ (and in the large $N_c$ limit for hadronic color octet matrix elements, $N_c$ being the number of colors) [5, 6]

$$\langle \Omega | O^Q(N) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\langle P = 0 | P = 0 \rangle} \int d^3 x_1 d^3 x_2 d^3 x'_1 d^3 x'_2 \phi^{(0)}_Q(x_1 - x_2)$$

$$\times \left[ -V_{O(N)}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) \delta^{(3)}(x_1 - x'_1) \delta^{(3)}(x_2 - x'_2) \right] \phi^{(0)*}_Q(x'_1 - x'_2),$$

(4)

where $|P\rangle$ is an eigenstate of the center of mass momentum $P$ of the heavy quark-antiquark pair. We will outline the derivation of (4) in the following; the wavefunction $\phi^{(0)}_Q(x_1 - x_2)$ and the contact term $V_{O(N)}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ are determined by matching the NRQCD LDMEs to pNRQCD.
1.2.1 Matching the spectrum

Before matching the LDMEs, we need to match the NRQCD Hamiltonian $H_{\text{NRQCD}}$ [17–19]. The spectral decomposition of $H_{\text{NRQCD}}$ in the heavy quark-antiquark sector of the Hilbert space reads

$$H_{\text{NRQCD}} = \sum_n \int d^3x_1 \, d^3x_2 \, |n; x_1, x_2\rangle \, E_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) \langle n; x_1, x_2| ,$$

where $|n; x_1, x_2\rangle = \psi^\dagger(x_1)\chi(x_2)|n; x_1, x_2\rangle$ are orthonormal states made of a heavy quark, $\psi$, a heavy antiquark, $\chi$, and some light degrees of freedom labeled by $n$. The states $|n; x_1, x_2\rangle$ do not contain heavy particles and are also normalized. The operators $E_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ depend on the coordinates, momenta and spin of the heavy quark-antiquark pair. In the static limit, $E_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) = E_n^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2)$ are the different energy excitations of a static quark-antiquark pair, with $E_n^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2)$ being the quarkonium static energy. They may be computed in lattice QCD as a function of the relative distance $r = x_1 - x_2$ of the two static sources. Computations done in the hybrid sector [20–22] suggest that the different static energies $E_n^{(0)}(r)$, if not degenerate, are separated at large distances by energy gaps of order $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, which is consistent with expectations from non perturbative QCD. In the strong coupling regime, $m v^2 \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, the energy levels associated to each static energy are expected to distribute schematically as in figure 2. The eigenstates of the NRQCD Hamiltonian in the heavy quark-antiquark sector can be written as

$$|Q(n, P)\rangle = \int d^3x_1 d^3x_2 \phi_{Q(n,P)}(x_1, x_2) |n; x_1, x_2\rangle ,$$

where the functions $\phi_{Q(n,P)}(x_1, x_2)$ are eigenfunctions of $E_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$. The state $|Q(n, P)\rangle$ is made of a heavy quark-antiquark pair moving with center of mass momentum $P$.

![Figure 2: Schematic distribution of energy levels induced by the static quark-antiquark potential, which is of the Cornell type, and its first gluonic excitation.](image)

In strongly coupled pNRQCD, the pNRQCD Hamiltonian that describes the low energy dynamics of a color singlet field $S_n$ made of a heavy quark-antiquark pair and light degrees of freedom in a state $n$ reads

$$H_{\text{pNRQCD}} = \int d^3x_1 \, d^3x_2 \, S_n^\dagger h_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) S_n .$$

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The pNRQCD Hamiltonian $h_n$ is obtained by matching the NRQCD energy $E_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$. The matching may be performed order by order in $1/m$ by expanding the NRQCD Hamiltonian and computing the states $|\Psi(x_1, x_2)\rangle$ in quantum mechanical perturbation theory. At leading order in $\nu$ we obtain

$$h_n(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) = -\frac{\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2}{2m} + V^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2).$$

(8)

The matching fixes the static potential $V^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2)$ to be the static energy $E_n^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2)$. In particular, $V^{(0)}(x_1 - x_2)$ is the quarkonium static energy. As a consequence of the matching, the wavefunctions $\Phi_n(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - x_2)$ are eigenfunctions of $h_n$. The functions $\Phi_n^{(0)}(x_1, x_2)$ are the functions $\Phi_n^{(0)}(x_1, x_2)$ at leading order in $\nu$, i.e. the eigenfunctions of the right-hand side of equation (8).

1.2.2 Matching the LDMEs

We consider, first, LDMEs for electromagnetic production of heavy quarkonium. LDMEs for electromagnetic production of quarkonia have the form

$$O^Q(N) = \chi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N\psi|Q(0, P)\rangle\langle Q(0, P)|\psi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N\chi,$$

(9)

where $\mathcal{K}_N$ and $\mathcal{K}_N'$ are generic gauge covariant operators not containing heavy particle fields.

The state $|Q(0, P)\rangle$ describes a quarkonium state with center of mass momentum $P$. This state can be written as in equation (6) setting $n = 0$. The functions $\Phi_{Q(n, P)}(x_1, x_2)$ are the quarkonium wavefunctions. At leading order in $\nu$, they may be approximated by $\Phi_{Q(n, P)}^{(0)}(x_1, x_2)$, which are the solutions of the Schrödinger equation with the static potential $V^{(0, 0)}(x_1 - x_2)$.

The matching conditions for the electromagnetic production contact terms $V_{O(N)}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$, which appear in equation (4), are

$$\int d^3x \langle \Omega| \left( \chi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N\psi \right) (x)|\Omega\rangle = -V_{O(N)}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) \delta^{(3)}(x_1 - x_1')\delta^{(3)}(x_2 - x_2').$$

(10)

Since we may express the states $|\Psi(x_1, x_2)\rangle$ as series in $1/m$, the contact terms $V_{O(N)}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ are computed order by order in $1/m$.

Color singlet and color octet operators for hadroproduction of quarkonia have the form respectively

$$O^Q(N_{\text{color singlet}}) = \chi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N\psi P_{Q(P=0)}\psi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N\chi,$$

(11)

$$O^Q(N_{\text{color octet}}) = \chi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N T^a\psi \Phi_{Q(P=0)}^{T^a} (0)\psi^{N}\mathcal{K}_N T^c\chi,$$

(12)

where $\Phi_{Q(P)}$ is a Wilson line along the direction $\ell$ in the adjoint representation extending from $x$ to $x + l\infty$ required to ensure the gauge invariance of the color octet LDME [9]. The operator $P_{Q(P)}$ projects onto a state containing a heavy quarkonium $Q$ with momentum $P$. The projector commutes with the NRQCD Hamiltonian (the number of quarkonia is conserved) and therefore is diagonalized by the same eigenstates of the NRQCD Hamiltonian. It has the form

$$P_{Q(P)} = \sum_{n \in S} |Q(n, P)\rangle\langle Q(n, P)|.$$ 

(13)
The sum extends over the set $\mathbb{S}$ that contains all states where the heavy quark-antiquark pair forms a color singlet at the origin in the static limit. This is a necessary condition to produce a quarkonium.

Through equation (6) the projector $P_{QJ}$ depends on the wavefunctions $\phi_{Q(n,P)}(x_1, x_2)$ with $n \in \mathbb{S}$. At leading order in $v$, they can be approximated by the wavefunctions $\phi_{Q(n,P)}^{(0)}(x_1, x_2)$, which are solutions of the Schrödinger equation with static potential $V^{(0,n)}(x_1 - x_2)$. The static potential $V^{(0,n)}$ can be computed from the energy exponent associated to a static Wilson loop in the presence of some disconnected gluon fields selecting the $n$th excitation of the color singlet quark-antiquark pair. Lattice QCD determinations of $V^{(0,n)}$ for $n \in \mathbb{S}$ and $n \neq 0$ are not available yet. Nevertheless, the expectation is that disconnected gluon fields produce mainly a constant shift to the potentials, for instance in the form of a glueball mass. To the same conclusion one arrives by looking at the large $N_c$ limit. At large $N_c$, the vacuum expectation value of a Wilson loop in the presence of additional disconnected gluon fields factorizes into the vacuum expectation value of the Wilson loop times the vacuum expectation value of the additional gluon fields up to corrections of order $1/N_c^2$ [23, 24]. Since the slopes of the static potentials are all the same for $n \in \mathbb{S}$, we may approximate

$$\phi_{Q(n,P)}(x_1, x_2) \approx e^{iP(x_1 + x_2)/2} \phi_{Q(n,P)}^{(0)}(x_1, x_2). \quad (14)$$

This approximation is valid up to corrections of relative order $v^2$ and $1/N_c^2$. In equation (14) we have also made explicit the leading order dependence on the center of mass momentum, which is that one of a plane wave; $\phi_{Q(n,P)}^{(0)}(x_1, x_2)$ depends only on the relative distance $r$.

The matching conditions for the hadroproduction contact terms $V_{QJ}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$, which appear in equation (4), are for singlet and octet respectively

\[ \sum_{n \in \mathbb{S}} \int d^3x \langle \Omega | \left( x^c K_N \chi \right) (x) | n; x_1, x_2 \rangle \langle n; x_1', x_2' | \left( \psi^c K_N \chi \right) (x) | \Omega \rangle = -V_{QJ}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) \delta^{(3)}(x_1 - x_2') \delta^{(3)}(x_2 - x_1'), \quad (15) \]

\[ \sum_{n \in \mathbb{S}} \int d^3x \langle \Omega | \left( x^c K_N T^a \chi \right) (x) | n; x_1, x_2 \rangle \langle n; x_1', x_2' | \Phi_T^{ab} (0, x) \Phi_T^{bc} (0, x) \left( \psi^c T^c \chi \right) (x) | \Omega \rangle = -V_{QJ}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2) \delta^{(3)}(x_1 - x_1') \delta^{(3)}(x_2 - x_2'), \quad (16) \]

where, again, the contact terms $V_{QJ}(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$ can be computed order by order in $1/m$.

2. $e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{QJ}(nP) + \gamma$

We apply now the general framework to the computation of the cross sections for the $P$-wave quarkonium electromagnetic production processes

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{QJ}(nP) + \gamma. \quad (17)$$

The NRQCD factorization formula up to relative order $v^2$ reads

$$\sigma_{e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{QJ}(nP) + \gamma} = \sigma_{QJ}^{em} \langle \Omega | O_{QJ}^{(3) P_{J}^{[1]} | (3)} | \Omega \rangle + \sigma_{QJ}^{em} \langle \Omega | O_{QJ}^{(3) P_{J}^{[2]} | (3)} | \Omega \rangle + \sigma_{QJ}^{em} \langle \Omega | O_{QJ}^{(3) P_{J}^{[3]} | (3)} | \Omega \rangle. \quad (18)$$
For a recent study of these cross sections in the framework of NRQCD we refer to [25], where one may also find the expressions of the relevant four fermion operators.

Since the electromagnetic production matrix elements, \( \langle \Omega | O^{Q}(N; \text{em}) | \Omega \rangle \), are related to the electromagnetic decay matrix elements, \( \langle Q | O^{\text{em}}(N) | Q \rangle \), through

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{Q}(N; \text{em}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \langle Q | O^{\text{em}}(N) | Q \rangle ,
\]

where \( J \) is the total angular momentum of the quarkonium \( Q \) and in the left-hand side a sum over all quarkonium polarizations is implicit, the computation of the production LDMEs is the same as the computation of the decay matrix elements for \( P \)-wave quarkonia [5, 26, 27]. Following [5], we find that after matching with pNRQCD the contact terms \( V_{O(N)}(r, \nabla r) \) projecting on \( P \)-wave states read up to higher order corrections

\[
V_{O^{QJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em})}(r, \nabla r) = N_e \gamma_{1j} \nabla_r \left( 1 + \frac{2iE_2}{3m} \right) \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla_r' , \tag{20}
\]

\[
V_{P^{QJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em})}(r, \nabla r) = N_e \gamma_{1j} 4 \frac{E_1}{3m} \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla_r , \tag{21}
\]

\[
V_{P^{QJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em})}(r, \nabla r) = N_e \gamma_{1j} \delta^{(3)}(r) \left( -\nabla_r^2 - \frac{5}{3}E_1 \right) \nabla_r , \tag{22}
\]

where \( \gamma_{1j} \) are spin projectors,

\[
\gamma_{10} = \sigma^0 \otimes \sigma^0 , \tag{23}
\]

\[
\gamma_{11} = \frac{\epsilon_{\text{kim}}}{2} \epsilon_{\text{kjm}} \sigma^m \otimes \sigma^n , \tag{24}
\]

\[
\gamma_{12} = \left( \frac{\delta_{mn} \sigma^m + \delta_{jn} \sigma^m - \delta_{mn} \sigma^j}{2} \right) \otimes \left( \frac{\delta_{mn} \sigma^m + \delta_{jn} \sigma^m - \delta_{mn} \sigma^j}{3} \right) , \tag{25}
\]

and \( E_n \) are correlators of two chromoelectric fields \( E^{a,i} \) located at \( 0 \):

\[
E_n = \frac{1}{2N_e} \int_0^{\infty} dt \ t^n \langle \Omega | g E^{a,i}(t) \Phi^{ab}(0; t) \Phi^{be}(0) | \Omega \rangle , \tag{26}
\]

\( \Phi^{ab}(0; t) \) is a Wilson line in the adjoint representation connecting \( (0, 0) \) with \( (t, 0) \).

It follows from (4) that the pNRQCD factorization formulas for \( P \)-wave quarkonium electromagnetic production read

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{OJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \frac{3N_e}{2\pi} |R'(0)|^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{2iE_2}{3m} + O(v^2) \right] , \tag{27}
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | T^{OJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \frac{3N_e}{2\pi} |R'(0)|^2 \left[ 4 \frac{E_1}{3m} [1 + O(v)] \right] , \tag{28}
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | P^{OJ}(\perp P_{1j}^0; \text{em}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \frac{3N_e}{2\pi} |R'(0)|^2 \left[ me - \frac{2}{3}E_1 + O(v^3) \right] ; \tag{29}
\]

\( R'(0) \) is the derivative of the \( P \)-wave radial wavefunction at the origin, and \( e \) is the binding energy.
2.1 Correlators

Both $R'(0)$ and $\epsilon$ can be computed out of the eigenfunctions and eigenvalues of the pNRQCD Hamiltonian $h_0(x_1, x_2; \nabla_1, \nabla_2)$. The potential should ideally be determined from lattice QCD. This becomes unpractical, however, if $R'(0)$ needs to be known beyond leading order in $v$, because not all relativistic corrections to the quarkonium potential have been computed in lattice QCD. In [5], $R'(0)$ and $\epsilon$ were determined using several potential models. The chromoelectric field correlators were instead fitted on the decay widths for $\chi_{c0}(1P) \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $\chi_{c2}(1P) \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, taken from the PDG [28], and on $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{c1}(1P) + \gamma) = 17.3^{+4.2}_{-3.9} \pm 1.7$ fb at $\sqrt{s} = 10.6$ GeV, taken from from Belle [29], obtaining

$$E_1 = -0.20^{+0.14}_{-0.14} \pm 0.90 \text{ GeV}^2, \quad (30)$$

$$iE_2 = 0.77^{+0.98}_{-0.86} \pm 0.85 \text{ GeV}, \quad (31)$$

where the first uncertainty accounts for the model dependence.

2.2 Phenomenology

The correlators are universal: they do not depend neither on the flavor of the heavy quark nor on the quarkonium state. It is precisely the universal nature of the correlators that allows us to use them to compute cross sections (and decay widths) for quarkonia with different principal quantum number and bottomonia. Summarizing our results, in the charmonium sector we get at the Belle center of mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 10.6$ GeV the following $P$-wave charmonium cross sections [5]:

$$\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{c0}(1P) + \gamma) = 1.84^{+0.25}_{-0.26} \pm 0.76 \text{ fb}, \quad (32)$$

$$\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{c1}(1P) + \gamma) = 16.4^{+0.2}_{-0.2} \pm 6.4 \text{ fb}, \quad (33)$$

$$\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{c2}(1P) + \gamma) = 3.75^{+0.67}_{-0.56} \pm 2.16 \text{ fb}. \quad (34)$$

The results for the corresponding cross sections in the bottomonium sector are shown for a wide range of center of mass energies in figures 3, 4 and 5.

![Figure 3: Predicted $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{bJ}(1P) + \gamma)$ for $J = 0, 1, 2$. From [5].](image)
Figure 4: Predicted $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{bJ}(2P) + \gamma)$ for $J = 0, 1, 2$. From [5].

Figure 5: Predicted $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \chi_{bJ}(3P) + \gamma)$ for $J = 0, 1, 2$. From [5].

3. $pp \rightarrow \chi_{QJ}(nP) + X$

We consider the quarkonium inclusive hadroproduction processes

$$pp \rightarrow h_Q(nP) + X \quad \text{and} \quad pp \rightarrow \chi_{QJ}(nP) + X.$$  \hfill (35)

The NRQCD factorization formulas at leading order in $v$ read [8]

$$\sigma_{h_Q+X} = \sigma_{Q\bar{Q}^{(1)P_1^{[1]}}} \langle \Omega | O^{h_Q(1P_1^{[1]})} | \Omega \rangle + \sigma_{Q\bar{Q}^{(1)S_0^{[1]}}} \langle \Omega | O^{h_Q(1S_0^{[1]})} | \Omega \rangle,$$  \hfill (36)

$$\sigma_{\chi_{QJ}+X} = \sigma_{Q\bar{Q}^{(1)P_1^{[1]}}} \langle \Omega | O^{\chi_{QJ}(3P_1^{[1]})} | \Omega \rangle + \sigma_{Q\bar{Q}^{(1)S_1^{[1]}}} \langle \Omega | O^{\chi_{QJ}(3S_1^{[1]})} | \Omega \rangle.$$  \hfill (37)
Following [6, 7], we find that after matching with pNRQCD the contact terms \( V_{O(N)}(r, \nabla_r) \) projecting on \( P \)-wave states read up to higher order corrections

\[
V_{O(1P^{[1]})}(r, \nabla_r) = N_c \nabla_i^j \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla^j_r, \tag{38}
\]

\[
V_{O(1S^{[0]})}(r, \nabla_r) = N_c \nabla_i^j \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla^j_r \frac{\mathcal{E}_{ij}}{N_c^2 m^2}, \tag{39}
\]

\[
V_{O(3P^{[1]})}(r, \nabla_r) = T^{ij}_1 N_c \nabla_i^j \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla^j_r, \tag{40}
\]

\[
V_{O(3S^{[0]})}(r, \nabla_r) = \sigma^k \otimes \sigma^k N_c \nabla_i^j \delta^{(3)}(r) \nabla^j_r \frac{\mathcal{E}_{ij}}{N_c^2 m^2}. \tag{41}
\]

where the tensor \( \mathcal{E}_{ij} \) is defined by

\[
\mathcal{E}_{ij} = \int_0^\infty dt \int_0^\infty dt' \langle \Omega | \Phi^i_\ell \Phi^j_\ell (0; t) g E^{d,i}_t (t) g E^{c,j}_t (t') \Phi^e_\ell (0; t') \Phi^c_\ell | \Omega \rangle. \tag{42}
\]

The direction component \( \ell^0 \) may be chosen in such a way that the fields in \( g E^{c,j}(t') \Phi^e c(0; t') \Phi^c_\ell \) are time ordered (\( T \)) and those in \( \Phi^i_\ell \Phi^j_\ell (0; t) g E^{d,i}_t (t) \) are anti-time ordered (\( \bar{T} \)). Hence the correlator \( \mathcal{E}_{ij} \) may be interpreted as the cut diagram shown in figure 6. For polarization-summed cross sections or for production of scalar states only the isotropic part of \( \mathcal{E}_{ij} \) is relevant. This is the dimensionless chromoelectric correlator \( \mathcal{E} \):

\[
\mathcal{E} = \frac{3}{N_c} \int_0^\infty dt \int_0^\infty dt' \langle \Omega | \Phi^{i\ell} \Phi^{j\ell} (0; t) g E^{d,i}_t (t) g E^{c,j}_t (t') \Phi^e_\ell (0; t') \Phi^c_\ell | \Omega \rangle. \tag{43}
\]

**Figure 6:** Graphical representation of the chromoelectric fields and Wilson lines in equation (42): a circle with a cross represents an insertion of a chromoelectric field at the given time, the filled circle represents the spacetime origin, solid lines stand for temporal Wilson lines, double lines for gauge-completion Wilson lines in the \( \ell \) direction, and the dashed line is the cut.

It follows from (4) that the pNRQCD factorization formulas for \( P \)-wave quarkonium hadroproduction read at leading order in \( v \) (and \( 1/N_c \) for octet LDMEs)

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{h_Q} (1P^{[1]}) | \Omega \rangle = 3 \frac{3 N_c}{2 \pi} |R'(0)|^2, \tag{44}
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{h_Q} (1S^{[0]}) | \Omega \rangle = 3 \frac{3 N_c}{2 \pi} |R'(0)|^2 \frac{\mathcal{E}}{9 N_c m^2}, \tag{45}
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{h_Q} (3P^{[1]}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \frac{3 N_c}{2 \pi} |R'(0)|^2, \tag{46}
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{h_Q} (3S^{[0]}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J + 1) \frac{3 N_c}{2 \pi} |R'(0)|^2 \frac{\mathcal{E}}{9 N_c m^2}. \tag{47}
\]
The LDMEs have to be understood as polarization summed. The above expressions imply (at leading order in $\nu$) the universality of the ratios

\[
\frac{m^2 \langle \Omega | O^{J \lambda} (3 S^0_1) | \Omega \rangle}{\langle \Omega | O^{J \lambda} (3 P^0_1) | \Omega \rangle} = \frac{m^2 \langle \Omega | O^{J \lambda} (4 S^0_0) | \Omega \rangle}{\langle \Omega | O^{J \lambda} (4 F^1_1) | \Omega \rangle} = \frac{E}{9 N_c}.
\]

(48)

### 3.1 NRQCD factorization

For the pNRQCD expressions of the LDMEs to be consistent with perturbative QCD, they must reproduce the same infrared divergences. At two loop accuracy and at lowest order in the relative momentum $q$ of the heavy quark-antiquark, the infrared diverges in the NRQCD LDMEs can be cast in the factor

\[
\mathcal{I}_2(p, q) = \sum_N \int_0^\infty d\lambda' \lambda' \langle \bar{\psi} \bar{c} \gamma_\mu p \gamma^\mu p' c | p' q' F_{\nu\lambda}(\lambda') \rangle \langle N | \Phi_p(\lambda') \rangle | \Omega \rangle
\]

\times \int_0^\infty d\lambda \langle N | T \left\{ \Phi_{\nu\mu} [p' q' F_{\nu\lambda}(\lambda)] \Phi_p(\lambda) \right\} | \Omega \rangle,
\]

(49)

where the sum in $N$ goes over all possible intermediate states, $p$ is half the center of mass momentum of the heavy quark-antiquark pair and $\Phi_p(\lambda)$ is an adjoint Wilson line along $p$ connecting 0 with $\lambda p [9–11]$.

Since in $\mathcal{I}_2(p, q)$ a momentum $q$ comes from each side of the cut, the factor $\mathcal{I}_2(p, q)$ contributes to the production of color singlet $P$-wave states. In the rest frame of the heavy quark-antiquark pair, $p = 0$, $q^0 = 0$, $\Phi_p(\lambda) = \Phi(0; t)$ with $t = \sqrt{p^2} \lambda$, $p' q' F_{\nu\lambda}(\lambda) = -\sqrt{p^2} q' E^{\nu\lambda}(t)$ so that $\mathcal{I}_2(p, q)$ can be written as $E^{\nu\lambda} q' q' / p^2$. Since this expression is proportional to the contact terms $V_{O(3 S^0_1)}$ and $V_{O(3 S^0_0)}$ in momentum space, the pNRQCD expressions for the color octet LDMEs reproduce the infrared divergences of the NRQCD infrared factor. Moreover, the one-loop running of $E$ is $\frac{d}{d \log \Lambda} E(\Lambda) = 12 C_F \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}$, which implies $\frac{d}{d \log \Lambda} \langle O^{J \lambda} (3 S^0_1) \rangle = \frac{4 C_F \alpha_s}{3 N_c \pi^2} \langle O^{J \lambda} (3 P^0_1) \rangle$ with $C_F = (N_c^2 - 1) / (2 N_c)$. This agrees with the one-loop evolution equation derived in perturbative NRQCD [8].

### 3.2 Correlator

Following [7], the correlator $\mathcal{E}$ can be fitted to the ratio $r_{21} = (d\sigma_{\chi_{c1}(1P)} / dp_T) / (d\sigma_{\chi_{c1}(1P)} / dp_T)$, which does not depend at leading order in $\nu$ on the wavefunction. In order to compare to measurements, we compute $r_{21}$ multiplied with $B_{\chi_{c1}(1P) / \chi_{c1}(1P)}$, where $B_{\chi_{c1}(1P) / \chi_{c1}(1P)} = Br(\chi_{c1}(1P) \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma) Br(J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$, and $Br$ stands for the branching ratio. We take $B_{\chi_{c1}(1P)}$ from the PDG [28].

By performing a fit to the measured values of $r_{21} B_{\chi_{c1}(1P) / \chi_{c1}(1P)}$ by CMS [30] and ATLAS [31], we obtain, from fixed-order next-to-leading order (NLO) calculations of the short-distance coefficients,

\[
\mathcal{E}_{\text{NLO}}(\Lambda = 1.5 \text{ GeV}) = 1.17 \pm 0.05.
\]

(50)

Alternatively, we can use short-distance coefficients where logarithms in the ratio of the transverse momentum, $p_T$, over the charm mass, $m_c$, have been resummed at leading logarithmic accuracy at leading power (LP) in the expansion in powers of $m_c / p_T$ [32, 33]. Although these coefficients
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contain more information, large LP contributions are generated at order $\alpha_s^2$, which is incomplete. By using LP+NLO expressions for the short-distance coefficients, we obtain

$$\mathcal{E}|_{\text{LP+NLO}}(\Lambda = 1.5 \text{ GeV}) = 4.48 \pm 0.14.$$  

(51)

The difference between the values of $\mathcal{E}$ in equations (50) and (51) reflects the difference between fixed-order NLO and LP+NLO calculations of the short-distance coefficients. We show our result for $r_{21}$ compared to ATLAS and CMS data in figure 7.

![Figure 7: The ratio of the $\chi_{c2}(1P)$ and $\chi_{c1}(1P)$ differential cross sections times $B_{\chi_{c1}(1P)}/B_{\chi_{c2}(1P)}$ at the LHC center of mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ and in the rapidity range $|y| < 0.75$, with fitted $\mathcal{E}$, compared to CMS [30] and ATLAS [31] data. From [7].](image)

The combination of the two determinations of $\mathcal{E}$ gives

$$\mathcal{E}(\Lambda = 1.5 \text{ GeV}) = 2.8 \pm 1.7,$$  

(52)

where the central value is the average of the central values of the determinations in (50) and (51), and the error is such to encompass both determinations. We will use the combination (52) when computing bottomonium cross sections.

3.3 Phenomenology

The correlator $\mathcal{E}$ is universal: it does not depend neither on the flavor of the heavy quark nor on the quarkonium state. As in the electromagnetic production case, the universal nature of the correlator allows us to use it to compute cross sections for quarkonia with different principal quantum number and for bottomonia (once accounted for the running) without having to fit new octet LDMEs.

The following hadroproduction results are based on the formulas (36) and (37), which are valid at leading order in $v$. Hence we just need the $P$-wave quarkonium wavefunction at the origin at leading order in $v$. In the charmonium case, it may be extracted from $\Gamma(\chi_{c0,2}(1P) \to \gamma\gamma)$ data. In the bottomonium case, we take it from the set of potential models considered in [5].

For $P$-wave charmonium production, we show in figure 8 the differential production cross sections $\sigma(pp \to \chi_{cJ}(1P) + X)$ for $J = 1, 2$. We may also consider polarized cross sections.
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Figure 8: Differential production cross sections of the $\chi_{c1}(1P)$ and $\chi_{c2}(1P)$ at the LHC center of mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and in the rapidity range $|y| < 0.75$ compared with ATLAS data [31]. From [7].

For polarized cross sections, the non-isotropic part of $E^{ij}$ can in principle contribute to the color octet matrix elements, and, if such contribution does not vanish, the color octet matrix elements acquire a dependence on the direction of the gauge-completion Wilson lines. For the universality of the NRQCD LDMEs to be valid also for the case of polarized cross sections, such non-isotropic contributions need to vanish in the NRQCD matrix elements. This has not been proved, but often assumed in the literature, leading to the equalities

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{\chi \psi J} (3, S_0^{[8]}) | \Omega \rangle = 3 \langle \Omega | \chi^\dagger T^a \psi \Phi^{\tau ab}_\ell (0) \mathcal{P}_{\chi_0(\lambda, P=0)} \Phi^{bc}_\ell (0) \psi^\dagger T^c \chi | \Omega \rangle, \quad (53)
\]

\[
\langle \Omega | O^{\chi \psi J} (3, S_0^{[8]}) | \Omega \rangle = (2J+1) \langle \Omega | \chi^\dagger \sigma^{i} T^a \psi \Phi^{\tau ab}_\ell (0) \mathcal{P}_{\chi_0(\lambda, P=0)} \Phi^{bc}_\ell (0) \psi^\dagger \sigma^{i} T^c \chi | \Omega \rangle. \quad (54)
\]

Under the assumption of universality of the polarized color octet LDMEs, we can compute the polarization parameters

\[
\lambda_{\chi^{cJ}} = \frac{1 - 3 \xi_{\chi^{cJ}}}{1 + \xi_{\chi^{cJ}}}, \quad (55)
\]

where $\xi_{\chi^{cJ}}$ is the fraction of $J/\psi$ produced with longitudinal polarization from decays of $\chi^{cJ}$. The spin quantization axis of the $J/\psi$ is defined in the hadron helicity frame. The result is shown in figure 9.

For $P$-wave bottomonium, we show in figure 10 the differential production cross section ratio $(d\sigma_{\chi_b(1P)}/dp_T)/(d\sigma_{\chi_b(1P)}/dp_T)$, which does not depend at leading order in $\nu$ and $1/N_c$ on the
bottomonium wavefunction and, therefore, is expected to be the same for all \(nP\) bottomonium states. We compare with LHCb and CMS data. The ratio does depend instead on \(E\) (at the scale of the \(b\) mass). Since \(E\) has been determined on charmonium data (we use here the value given in equation (52)), this is a test of the universality of the pNRQCD factorization. In figure 11, we predict the inclusive hadroproduction differential cross sections \(pp \rightarrow \chi_{bJ}(nP) + X\) for \(J = 1, 2\) and \(n = 1, 2, 3\), which have not been measured yet. Finally, in figure 12 we compare with LHCb data the feeddown fractions \(R_{\Upsilon(n'S)}^{\chi_{bJ}(nP)} = \frac{\sum_{J=1,2} \text{Br}(\chi_{bJ}(nP) \rightarrow \Upsilon(n'S) + \gamma) \sigma_{\Upsilon(n'S)}}{\sigma_{\Upsilon(n'S)}}\). Note that for the feeddown fractions model dependence enters not only in the \(\chi_{bJ}\) wavefunctions but also to some extent in the determination of the \(S\)-wave bottomonium cross sections and in some branching ratios.
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Figure 11: Production cross sections of the $\chi_{b1}(nP)$ and $\chi_{b2}(nP)$ ($n = 1, 2, \text{ and } 3$) at the LHC center of mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV in the rapidity range $2 < y < 4.5$. From [7].

4. Outlook

We have reviewed how strongly coupled pNRQCD can be used to factorize certain NRQCD production matrix elements into universal correlators and a factor that depends on the behaviour of the wavefunction at the origin. The result is similar to an analogous factorization valid for NRQCD decay matrix elements, although the correlators in the hadroproduction case are different. From a theoretical perspective, the pNRQCD factorization of the NRQCD production matrix elements in the case of hadroproduction may shed some light on their conjectured universality. From the phenomenology viewpoint, pNRQCD reduces the number of unknown parameters in the expressions of the quarkonium production cross sections; more specifically, the novelty of the pNRQCD approach resides in the treatment of the color octet long distance matrix elements. Hence the pNRQCD expressions have more predictive power than the corresponding NRQCD ones. In particular, correlators determined with charmonium data may be used to compute color octet matrix elements and hence observables in the bottomonium sector. A clean example of this is the determination of the ratio of the $\chi_{b2}(1P)$ and $\chi_{b1}(1P)$ differential cross sections for hadroproduction.
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Figure 12: Feeddown fractions $R_{\chi_b(nP)}^{\Upsilon(nS)}$ at the LHC center of mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and in the rapidity range $2 < y < 4.5$ compared with LHCb data [37]. From [7].

shown in figure 10.

Ideally, correlators of gluon fields should be determined by computations in lattice QCD. There exist some specific lattice studies for few of the correlators entering quarkonium electromagnetic production, but none for those entering quarkonium hadroproduction. The major uncertainties at the moment come, however, from the poor knowledge of the quarkonium wavefunctions. At leading order in the velocity, $P$-wave charmonium wavefunctions at the origin may be extracted from two photon decay data, but neither the $\chi_{b0}$ and $\chi_{b2}$ decay widths into two photons nor their total decay widths have been measured yet. Hence $P$-wave bottomonium wavefunctions rely on potential models already at leading order. Beyond leading order, also charmonium wavefunctions are presently model dependent. Recent progress towards a more rigorous determination of the behaviour of the quarkonium wavefunctions at the origin has been made in [38, 39].

The pNRQCD factorization has been applied so far to $P$-wave quarkonium production only. An obvious extension would be the treatment of $S$-wave quarkonium production, including some relevant electroweak channel (like in [40]). For $S$-wave quarkonium production a large amount of data is available and yet a completely satisfactory description in the framework of NRQCD is missing, an example being hadroproduction of the $\eta_c$. Since for $S$-wave production color octet matrix elements show up beyond leading order in the velocity expansion, pNRQCD factorization starts playing a crucial role at relative order $v^2$ or higher. Although phenomenological applications may be then limited by the poor knowledge of the quarkonium wavefunctions beyond leading order, as we discussed above, still pNRQCD can provide stringent constraints on the $S$-wave color octet matrix elements.
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