Two Recent Developments in QCD Spectroscopy

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Abstract. The presentation has two parts, the first, and main part, is devoted to the presentation of results from the first measurements of the production of Λ, Σ, Ξ and Ω hyperons at large timelike momentum transfers of 13.6, 14.2 and 17.4 GeV/c² made using e⁺e⁻ annihilation data taken at the CESER electron-positron collider at Cornell using the CLEOc detector. The measurements reveal interesting features of hyperon production systematics and timelike form factors, and provide evidence for diquark correlations in hyperon structure.

The second part of the presentation is devoted to measurements of photoproduction of J/ψ near threshold energies, E_G = 8 – 12 GeV, at the new photon physics facility, GlueX, at the Jefferson Laboratory. The first preliminary results are presented. These are expected to shed light on the gluon structure of protons, gluons which mediate the production of J/ψ in the reaction, γ + p → J/ψ + p, J/ψ → e⁺e⁻.

1 Introduction

The quark-gluon model of hadrons was introduced by Gell-Mann in 1956 to explain the structure of the quark-antiquark mesons and the three quark baryons which were the only hadrons known at that time. However, Gell-Mann suggested that other color-neutral hadrons containing larger number of quarks and antiquarks, as well as hybrids containing valence gluons, and glueballs containing only glue should exist. These predictions launched numerous searches for these unconventional hadrons. Among the first of these was the search for six-quark “dibaryons”. Many were proposed, and numerous claims and counter-claims were published. Unfortunately, none survived, and I myself claim responsibility for the demise of many of them [1]. Similarly, despite many dedicated searches during the last twenty years most claims for glueballs have not survived either [2].

These failures did not stop the searches by stubborn physicists that we are. But, so far no dibaryons or glueballs have been convincingly identified, and I will not talk about them.

However, a silver lining has recently emerged. Several convincing citings of the unconventional hadrons have been reported. An excellent summary of these exist in the 2011 compilation of QWG [3]. Subsequent updates have been presented in this conference by Belle and LHCb. With that said, I want to talk about only two developments in hadron spectroscopy in which I have been personally involved.

2 Hyperons

The major part of my talk is devoted to hyperons.

The universe is built of baryons. Before 1947 only two baryons, the proton and neutron, made of up and down quarks, were known. The 1947 discovery of the first strange particles, the kaon and the Lambda, and consequently, of the strange quark enriched the field of baryons immensely. By 1960, when the theoretically predicted Ω⁻ was discovered, all seven light baryons, containing strange quarks, Λ⁰, Σ⁰, Σ⁺, Σ⁻, Ξ⁰, Ξ⁻ and Ω⁻, known as hyperons, were known. However, even more than 50 years after their discovery very little more than the static properties of their ground states as listed in Table 1 are known [4].

Most of our extensive knowledge of nucleon structure comes from lepton scattering by nucleon and nuclear targets [5]. Unfortunately, hyperons are not available as targets, and this is responsible in large part for the lack of our understanding of the structure of hyperons.

In 1960 Cabibo and Gatto [6] pointed out that electron-positron colliders were being planned at various laboratories, and they offered opportunity of overcoming the lack of target disadvantage of hyperons; one could measure timelike form factors of hyperons in e⁺e⁻ → BB (B ≡ hyperon) measurements. To put this opportunity in perspective, we note that four momentum transfers is defined as

\[ Q(4\text{mom.})^2 = q(3\text{mom.})^2_{\text{space}} - (\text{energy})^2_{\text{time}} \] (1)

It can be positive and spacelike, as in scattering measurements, or negative and timelike, as in production measurements, as illustrated in Figure 1.

Form factors are analytic functions of momentum transfer \(|Q|^2\), and BB pair production experiments can be analyzed in the same formalism as the scattering experiments, i.e., in terms of the Dirac form factor, \(F_1(|Q|^2)\), and the Pauli form factor, \(F_2(|Q|^2)\), or equivalently, in terms of
the electric and magnetic form factors

\[ G_E(|Q|^2) = F_1(|Q|^2) + (s/m^2)F_2(|Q|^2), \]

and

\[ G_M(|Q|^2) = F_1(|Q|^2) + F_2(|Q|^2). \]

It took 30 years for the first successful measurement of \( \Lambda^0 \Lambda^0 \) hyperon production by the DM2 Collaboration at Orsay [7], and seventeen more years by the BaBar Collaboration at SLAC [8] to report measurements of \( \Lambda^0 \Sigma^0 \) and \( \Lambda^0 \Sigma^0 \) transition form factors. Because both these measurements were made near threshold energies \( \sqrt{s} \approx 2.4 \text{ GeV} \), and only a few events \( 4\Lambda^0 \Lambda^0 \) by DM2, \( \leq 22 \) by SLAC were observed, they were not suitable for QCD based analyses. No further progress in hyperon production studies was made until at CLEO in 2005 we made measurements of pair production of hyperons at the \( \psi(2S) \) resonance, \( \sqrt{s} = 3.69 \text{ GeV}, |Q|^2 = 13.59 \text{ GeV}^2 \) [9].

We must remember, however, that unlike for spacelike form factors, \( G_E \) and \( G_M \) for timelike form factors do not relate to spatial distributions of charge and magnetic moment. Instead they relate to the helicity correlations between the particle and antiparticle pair produced. \( F_2(|Q|^2) \) denotes photon coupling to parallel spins and \( F_1 \) to antiparallel spins of the pair.

Hadronic decays at resonances proceed via gluons and have large yields. To measure electromagnetic form factors we require the decays to be electromagnetic, which have much smaller yields. To measure form factors we must measure \( e^+e^- \) annihilation at non-resonance energies, or at those resonances where it can be demonstrated that resonance yields are negligibly small, as \( \psi(3770) \) and \( \psi(4170) \) which mainly decay to \( DD \). Using the experimentally confirmed pQCD relation, schematically, illustrated below,

\[ \frac{B(\psi(n')) \rightarrow \text{hadrons}}{B(\psi(n)) \rightarrow \text{hadrons}} = \frac{B(\psi(n') \rightarrow \text{leptons})}{B(\psi(n) \rightarrow \text{leptons})}, \]

we estimate the expected number of resonance events as in Table 2, i.e., at \( \psi(3770) \) and \( \psi(4170) \) the resonance contribution is indeed negligible for all hyperons, and the observed hyperon yield is entirely electromagnetic.

We have now made the world’s first measurements of the pair production of \( \Lambda^0, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^+, \Xi^0, \Xi^- \) and \( \Omega^- \) hyperons at large momentum transfers of 13.6, 14.2 and 17.4 \text{ GeV}^2, and with good statistics. These measurements provide insight into the systematics of pair production of hyperons, the dependence of their cross section on their s-quark content, evidence for diquark correlations, and their timelike form factors. We use \( e^+e^- \) annihilation data taken at the CESR collider using the CLEO-c detector. The near-4pi acceptance CLEO-c detector, illustrated in Figure 3, has cylindrical geometry and consists of a CsI electromagnetic calorimeter, drift chambers, and a RICH detector, all in a 1 Tesla solenoidal magnetic field. The data used in the measurements are listed in Table 3.

| Hyperon | Quarks | Mass, M(MeV) | Mag.mom. (\( \mu_N \)) | Main Decay |
|---------|--------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| Proton, p | uud | 938.272(0.001) | 2.793(0.001) | stable |
| \( \Lambda^0 \) | uds | 1115.683(6) | -0.613(4) | \( p\pi^- \) (64%) |
| \( \Sigma^+ \) | uds | 1192.642(24) | 1.61(8) | \( \Lambda^0\gamma(100%) \) |
| \( \Sigma^0 \) | uds | 1189.37(7) | 2.458(10) | \( p\pi^0 \) (52%) |
| \( \Sigma^- \) | dds | 1197.449(30) | -1.160(25) | \( n\pi^- \) (99.8%) |
| \( \Xi^0 \) | uds | 1314.86(20) | -1.250(14) | \( \Lambda^0\pi^+(99.5%) \) |
| \( \Xi^- \) | dss | 1321.71(7) | -0.6507(25) | \( \Lambda^0\pi^- \) (99.9%) |
| \( \Omega^- \) | sss | 1672.43(29) | -2.02(5) | \( \Lambda^0\Sigma^- \) (69%) |

Table 1. The hyperon.

| \( \Lambda \) | \( \Sigma^+ \) | \( \Sigma^0 \) | \( \Xi^0 \) | \( \Xi^- \) | \( \Omega^- \) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| \( \Lambda \Lambda \) | \( \psi(3770) \) | 3.0 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| \( \psi(4170) \) | 2.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.2 |

Table 2. The estimation events from \( \psi(3770) \) and \( \psi(4170) \).
of my talk, Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the steps in hyperon identification very effectively.

The six panels in Figure 6 show the invariant mass distribution of $B\bar{B}$ pair production events of Figures 4. The six panels in Figure 7 show event distribution for $\psi(3770)$ data for electromagnetic production of hyperons with backgrounds due to inclusive production of single hyperons.

In Table 4 we present the summary of pair production cross-sections. We note that the cross sections for electromagnetic production at $\psi(3770)$ are smaller by factors of $\psi(3770)/\psi(2S)$ which has the same uds quark construct. The bottom panel in Figure 8 illustrates the variation of cross sections for hyperon pair production at $\psi(3770)$. It shows that $\sigma(\Sigma^0)$ is much smaller than the general trend of the data for $J = 1/2$ hyperons, and nearly factor 2.3 $\pm$ 0.4 smaller than $\sigma(\Lambda^0)$ which has the same uds quark construct. The bottom panel in Figure 8 illustrates an unexpected feature, the ratio $\sigma(3770)/\sigma(4170)$ does not vary as $1/s^3$ as pQCD predicts, but shows steps with increasing number of s-quarks in the hyperons. More about this very important observation later.

| $\psi(2S)$ | $\psi(3770)$ | $\psi(4160)$ |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| $\sqrt{s}$ (GeV) | $|Q|^2$ (GeV$^{-2}$) | Luminosity (pb$^{-1}$) |
| 3.69 | 13.6 | 48 |
| 3.77 | 14.2 | 805 |
| 4.17 | 17.4 | 586 |

Figure 3. CLEO-c detector.

Figure 4. The six panels show the raw invariant mass distribution for $\psi(2S)$ data.

Figure 5. The six panels show the momentum distribution for $\psi(2S)$ data. The large yields on left correspond to inclusive production and the sharp peaks on right to exclusive $B\bar{B}$ pair production.

Figure 6. $\psi(2S)$ pair production: the numbers of observed events are $N(\Lambda, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^+)$ = 6531, 2645, 1874, $N(\Xi^-, \Xi^0, \Omega)$ = 3580, 1242, 326.

Figure 7. $\psi(3770)$ pair production: the numbers of observed events are $N(\Lambda, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^+)$ = 498, 142, 200, $N(\Xi^-, \Xi^0, \Omega)$ = 240, 111, 20. Notice an order or more decrease than the resonance yield at $\psi(2S)$.
Table 4. Summary of pair production cross sections (picobarns), and $G_M(3770)$.

|        | $p$  | $\Lambda^0$ | $\Sigma^0$ | $\Sigma^+$ | $\Xi^-$ | $\Xi^0$ | $\Omega^-$ | $\Lambda^0\Sigma^0$ |
|-------|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|------------------|
| $\psi(2S)$ | 196(12) | 244.7(106) | 145.6(77) | 151.4(74) | 199.9(100) | 131.6(82) | 33.7(100) | 81.1(16) |
| $\psi(3770)$ | 0.46(4) | 1.13(10) | 0.46(8) | 0.97(10) | 0.78(7) | 0.68(9) | 0.11(3) | 0.43(9) |
| VDM Theory $\psi(3770)$ [10] | 0.069 | 0.010 | – | 0.081 | 0.064 | 0.014 | 0.006 | 0.042 |
| $G_M(3770)$ | 0.88(4) | 1.40(6) | 0.91(7) | 1.31(7) | 1.20(5) | 1.12(6) | 0.53(8) | 0.77(8) |

Figure 8. The cross sections from $\psi(3770)$ and $\psi(4170)$ data. Note steps at number of strange quark, $S = 0, 1, 2$.

As for nucleons, the timelike form factors are related to cross sections in terms of form factors $G_E$ and $G_M$, which now refer to correlations between the helicities of the baryon and antibaryon

$$
\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2 r^2}{4\pi} \left| G^E_B(s) \right|^2 (1 + \cos^2 \theta)
+ \frac{4m^2_B}{s} |G^E_B(s)|^2 \sin^2 \theta,
$$

(5)

$$
\sigma_{BB} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2 r^2}{3s} \left( \left| G^B_B(s) \right|^2 + 2m^2_B/G^E_B(s) \right).
$$

(6)

Because of small yield of hyperons from electromagnetic decays, it is generally not possible to determine $G_E$ and $G_M$, or $G_E/G_M$ separately, and most experimental data are analyzed by assuming $G_E/G_M = 0$ or 1.

BaBar has recently analyzed the angular distributions for their ISR based production of $\Lambda\Lambda$ pairs in two vs bins. They obtained $|G_E/G_M| = 1.73_{-0.57}^{+0.59}$ for the $\sqrt{s} = 2.23 - 2.40$ GeV/$c^2$ bin with 115 events, and $|G_E/G_M| = 0.71_{-0.71}^{+0.66}$ for the $\sqrt{s} = 2.40 - 2.80$ GeV/$c^2$ bin with 61 events. They considered both of them as consistent with $G_E/G_M = 1$, and analyzed their data with that assumption.

We note that because of their large errors BaBar’s results are equally consistent with $G_E/G_M = 0$. We have analyzed our data for $\Lambda^0, \Xi^0, \Xi^-$ production, and obtained $G_E/G_M = 0$ in all three cases, with 90% confidence limits: $\Lambda^0 < 0.17, \Xi^0 < 0.32, \Xi^- < 0.29$. Unexpected as this result is, it is consistent with the recent Jlab observation, $G_E = 0$ at $|Q|^2 \approx 8$ GeV$^2$ for spacelike form factor of proton. We have analyzed our data for $|Q|^2 = 14.2$ and 17.4 GeV$^2$ assuming $G_E = 0$. The results for $\psi(3770)$ are presented in Table 4. Unfortunately, unlike for the proton there are no measurements of spacelike form factors hyperons to compare with.

We note that these are the first measurements ever of these timelike form factors of hyperons at such large momentum transfer. There are no VDM or QCD based predictions for them. We note that $G_M$ for all $J = 1/2$ hyperons are the same within a factor ~ 1.5. We note that $G_M(\Lambda)/G_M(\Sigma^0) = 1.5 \pm 0.1$.

Figure 9 illustrates variation of $G_M(3770)$, and the steps in the ratio $G_M(3770)/G_M(4170)$ with increasing number of strange quarks. Figure 10 shows the rapid decrease of inclusive hyperon production from $\Lambda^0$, to $\Sigma^0$, to $\Xi^0$, and finally to $J = 3/2$ $\Omega^-$. 

Figure 9. The $G_M$ results from $\psi(3770)$ and $\psi(4170)$ data. Note steps at $S = 0, 1, 2$. 

4
3 Diquark in hyperons

Our most important result concerns the evidence for diquark correlations in hyperon pair production. The importance of certain configurations of flavor, spin, and isospin of two quarks in the structure of hadrons has been recognized for a long time [12]. One dramatic example of the role of diquarks was provided by the Fermilab observation that the timelike form factor of the proton was twice as large as the spacelike form factor at the same large momentum transfer $|Q|^2$ [13], and its successful explanation by Kroll et al. [14] in terms of the diquark-quark structure of the proton.

Recently Wilczek and colleagues [15] have emphasized the role of diquarks in QCD in terms of isoscalar “good”, and isovector “bad” diquarks. They predicted that the “good” diquark in Λ0 with isospin 0 compared to the “bad” diquark in Σ0 with isospin 1, would lead to enhancement of Λ0 over Σ0 in production experiments. They cited the observation of $Λ^0/Σ^0 = 3.5 \pm 1.7$ in the LEP experiment in support of this prediction.

Our measurements provide strong independent support for the role of diquarks in $Λ^0/Σ^0$ hyperon production. We observe $σ(Λ^0)/σ(Λ^0) = 2.46 \pm 0.46$ at $|Q|^2 = 14.2$ GeV$^2$ (in exclusive pair production), $σ(Λ^0)/σ(Λ^0) = 2.56 \pm 1.40$ at $|Q|^2 = 17.4$ GeV$^2$ (in exclusive pair production), $σ(Λ^0)/σ(Λ^0) = 4.1 \pm 0.6$ at $|Q|^2 = 13.6$ GeV$^2$ (in inclusive pair production). Our data provide the opportunity to consider diquark pairs other than the up/down diquarks, and we expect that they will lead to a deeper understanding of diquark correlations. Lattice calculations are also expected to address diquark correlations soon [16].

4 Threshold photoproduction of $J/\psi$

The second part of my talk is not about a new subject like hyperons, but an old subject: Threshold photoproduction of $J/\psi$. The discovery of $J/\psi$ in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow J/\psi$ launched the modern era in QCD spectroscopy. Despite the fact that all particle physics experiments cut their teeth on the detection of $J/\psi$, it remains true that $J/\psi$ production mechanisms are not well understood. There are theoretical models to be sure, color singlet model, color evaporation model, factorization models, etc., but serious problems in quantitative understanding of $J/\psi$ production remain. Of particular interest is understanding photoproduction of $J/\psi$ at energies near threshold, $\sqrt{s} \sim 8.5$ GeV, because at small momentum transfers coherent electro production of vector mesons like $φ, J/\psi$, etc. provides valuable insight into the gluon structure function of the target [17].

Gluon distribution functions at small x have been of interest in relation to studies of deconfinement in QGP, the phenomena of color transparency and others, and good precision data on $J/\psi$ photoproduction near threshold energies has long been needed to distinguish between models of gluon structure functions.

Brodsky et al. have made a more detailed study of $J/\psi$ photoproduction and predicted that near threshold the $J/\psi$ production cross sections have very different dependence on the momentum of photons depending on whether two or three gluons carry the targets momentum to the charm quarks [18] (Figure 11). The existing data consists of just two small statistics measurements by Cornell [19] and SLAC [20], and they are too sparse to distinguish between the two models (Figure 12).

At the Jefferson lab we now have polarized and unpolarized electron beams of energies up to 12 GeV available, and a facility called GlueX has been constructed, dedicated to photo production experiments (Figure 13). This has made it possible to fill the gap in threshold measurements of $J/\psi$ photoproduction. We have made the first such measurements of $\gamma + p \rightarrow p + J/\psi, J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-$, and I want to present the first results of these measurements which we believe shed valuable light on the gluon content of protons and their role on $J/\psi$ photo produc-
tion. Figure 13 shows the photon beam production and the schematic of the GlueX detector.

Figure 13. The GlueX detector.

We have made the first successful measurements of $\gamma + p \to p + J/\psi, J/\psi \to e^+e^-$ with tagged photons of energies between 8 and 12 GeV at the GlueX facility at Jlab. I will not bore you with the details of event selection for these, but here are a few details: (1) At least 3 charged tracks are required in the event. (2) The yield of the $e^+e^-$ decays are overwhelmed by more than three orders of magnitude larger production of the Bethe-Heitler production of $\pi^+\pi^-$. To reject the $\pi^+\pi^-$ BH background we use the quantity $E/p$, with $E$ from EM calorimeter and $p$ from drift chambers. $E/p \sim 1$ for electrons, and is much smaller for pions. We require $E/p > 0.8$ for the selected events, which selects $e^+e^-$ events very effectively, and provides very good rejection of the pion background.

Brodsky et al [18] pointed out that the negative charge conjugation $J/\psi$ can be populated in photoproduction mainly by transition of two gluons from the proton target $\gamma + 2g$. If convincing evidence is found for this gluon transition $\gamma + 3g$, the gluons have to carry orbital angular momentum in addition to spin. This possibility is of great fundamental importance to QCD in many contexts, e.g., in context of the famous problem of proton spin, and it has been long studied by means of deep inelastic scattering. If our measurements of $J/\psi$ photoproduction in the threshold region provide evidence for 3-gluon transition, we will have made a major contribution to QCD itself.

We have made two measurements of $J/\psi$ photoproduction in the threshold region, in Feb. 2016 ($E_\gamma = 8 - 12$ GeV), and in Feb. 2017 ($E_\gamma = 8 - 11.5$ GeV), whose invariant mass spectra are shown in the Figure 14. Population of the vector resonances $J/\psi$ and $\phi$ are clearly observed. The detailed plot of our observed $J/\psi$ spectrum is shown in Figures along with the results of the earlier referred measurements of SLAC and Cornell, for comparison. I have to disappoint you by telling you that we are not yet able to quote production cross sections or their all important energy dependence. We expect to be able to do so in about three months. Keep tuned.

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