Photoproduction of $J/\psi$ in association with a $c\bar{c}$ pair

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Abstract

Based on the color-singlet model, we investigate the photoproduction of $J/\psi$ associated with a $c\bar{c}$ pair with all subprocesses including the direct, single-resolved, and double-resolved channels. The amplitude squared of these subprocesses are obtained analytically. By choosing corresponding parameters, we give theoretical predictions for the $J/\psi$ transverse momentum distributions both at the LEPII and at the future photon colliders for these subprocesses. The numerical results show that at the LEPII these processes can not give enough contributions to account for the experimental data, and it indicates that the color-octet mechanism may still be needed. At the photon collider with the laser back scattering photons, the resolved photon channel will dominate over the direct one in small and moderate $p_t$ regions with large $\sqrt{s}$. By measuring the $J/\psi$ production associated with a $c\bar{c}$ pair, this process can be separated from the inclusive $J/\psi$ production and may provide a new chance to test the color-singlet contributions.

PACS numbers: 12.38.Bx, 14.40.Lb
I. INTRODUCTION

Since the discovery of $J/\psi$, heavy quarkonium has provided an ideal laboratory to investigate the fundamental theory of strong interactions, Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD). Conventionally, people use the color-singlet model (CSM) \[1\] to describe the production and decay of heavy quarkonium. In order to overcome the theoretical difficulties related to the infrared divergences in the CSM \[2, 3\] and reconcile the large discrepancy between the Tevatron data and the theoretical prediction given by the CSM \[4\], an effective theory, the non-relativistic quantum chromodynamics (NRQCD) factorization formalism was proposed \[5\]. In NRQCD the production and decay rates of heavy quarkonium are factorized into the short distance parts and the long distance parts, and because the contributions of high Fock states are taken into account, the intermediate $Q\bar{Q}$ pair that is produced in the short distance part can be in various states with different angular momenta and different colors. By introducing the color-octet mechanism (COM) in NRQCD, one may resolve the problem of infrared divergences in the CSM \[6\] and may hope to give a proper interpretation for the transverse momentum $p_t$ distribution of $J/\psi$ production at the Tevatron \[7\]. More detail descriptions on many aspects of heavy quarkonium physics can be found in Ref.\[8\].

The photoproduction of $J/\psi$ has been investigated by many authors \[9, 10, 11\]. In 2001 the DELPHI Collaboration gave the measurement on inclusive photoproduction of $J/\psi$ \[12\]. Theoretical analysis indicates that the $p_t$ distribution predicted in the CSM is an order of magnitude smaller than the experimental result and the NRQCD prediction can give a good account for it by the COM \[13\]. It has been reviewed as a strong support to the COM in NRQCD. The color evaporation model and the $k_t$ factorization formulism were also used to investigate this process \[14\]. Furthermore, the next-to-leading-order (NLO) QCD corrections to the processes $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow c\bar{c}[^3S_1^{(8)}] + g$ and $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow c\bar{c}[^3S_1^{(1)}] + \gamma$ are accomplished in \[15\] and the authors also give theoretical predictions for these processes at the TESLA.

Recently, a number of studies show the importance of the heavy quark pair associated $J/\psi$ production in the CSM. The contributions from $J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ final states in $J/\psi$ inclusive production have been discussed by many authors at $B$ factories \[16, 17\] and LEP \[18\], and at the Tevatron and LHC \[11, 19\], and even been studied in the $k_t$ factorization formalism \[20\]. Although it is a NLO process, the $p_t$ distribution can be changed and the differential cross section can be enhanced at large $p_t$ due to the different kinematics of the Feynman diagrams.
At B factories, the $e^+ + e^- \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ process gives more than half contribution to the total cross section of the $J/\psi$ inclusive production [21]. In Ref. [18], the authors study the process $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ and find that the NLO process gives more contribution compared with that of the leading-order (LO) process $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ at the LEP. In the large $p_t$ region, the contribution from $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ is bigger than that of the fragmentation process $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow c + \bar{c}$ frag. $\rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$. In Ref. [19], the process $\gamma + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ was studied in the $k_t$ factorization formalism.

In this paper, we will investigate all the subprocesses of the photoproduction of $J/\psi$ associated with $c\bar{c}$ in the CSM. Firstly, the full results including contributions from all the single and double resolved photon processes of the $J/\psi$ production associated with heavy quark-antiquark pair at the LEP will be presented for the first time. Secondly, these processes will be extended to the photon colliders and the results with different photon production mechanisms will be given.

The paper is organized as follows. In section II, we give definitions of some relevant quantities and derive the analytical formulas of the differential cross sections for all the subprocesses. Numerical results are given in section III. Finally, a summary is given in section IV.

II. FORMULATION AND CALCULATION

There are three classes of subprocesses for $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} + X$: As shown in Eq. (1), the direct process, where the two photons directly couple to the final heavy quarks; In Eq. (2), the single-resolved process, where one photon fluctuates to a parton (here, the gluon) and collide with the other photon to produce the final states; In Eq. (3), the double-resolved processes, where both the two photons fluctuate to partons to produce the final states. So in order to investigate the process thoroughly, the following four subprocesses must be calculated:

$$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \quad (1)$$

$$\gamma + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \quad (2)$$

$$g + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$$

$$q + \bar{q} \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \quad (3)$$
The four subprocesses involve 20, 30, 42, 7 Feynman diagrams, respectively. Fig. 1 and 2 just show the Feynman diagrams of the processes $\gamma + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ and $q + \bar{q} \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$. The Feynman diagrams of the other two subprocesses are as same as those given in the Ref. [18, 19]. Following the color-singlet factorization formalism and the standard covariant projection method [22], the scattering amplitudes of these subprocesses can be expressed as

$$\mathcal{M}(a(k_1) + b(k_2) \rightarrow c\bar{c}(^{2S+1}L_j^{(1)})(P) + c(p_1) + \bar{c}(p_2)) = \sqrt{C_L} \sum_{L_zS_zs_1s_2} \sum_{j_k} \times \langle s_1; s_2 | SS_z \rangle \langle LL_z; SS_z | JJ_z \rangle \langle 3j; 3k | 1 \rangle$$

$$\times \mathcal{M}(a(k_1) + b(k_2) \rightarrow c_j(P_{\frac{1}{2}}; s_1) + \bar{c}_k(P_{\frac{1}{2}}; s_2) + c(p_1) + \bar{c}(p_2)),$$

where $\langle 3j; 3k | 1 \rangle$, $\langle s_1; s_2 | SS_z \rangle$ and $\langle LL_z; SS_z | JJ_z \rangle$ are the color-SU(3), spin-SU(2), and orbital angular momentum Clebsch-Gordan coefficients respectively for $c\bar{c}$ pairs projecting...
out appropriate quantum numbers of the bound states. The $C_L$ is the probability that describes a heavy quark-antiquark pair having the appropriate quantum numbers to evolved into a corresponding meson and, for the $J/\psi$ here, can be related to the wave function at the origin $R(0)$ or the color-singlet long distance matrix element $\langle 0 | O_1^{J/\psi} | 0 \rangle$ as following

$$C_L = \frac{1}{4\pi} |R(0)|^2 = \frac{1}{2N_c(2J+1)} \langle 0 | O_1^{J/\psi} | 0 \rangle.$$ 

As for $J/\psi$ production, the spin-triplet projection operator should be used, which is defined as

$$P_{1S_z}(P, 0) = \sum_{\pm} \langle \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} | 1S_z \rangle v\left( \frac{P}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \bar{u}\left( \frac{P}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \delta(S_z)(P + 2m_c).$$

At the same time, the color projection operator for the color-singlet state is given by

$$\langle 3j; 3k | 1 \rangle = \delta_{ij}/\sqrt{N_c}. \quad (5)$$

We use the FeynArts \[23\] to generate the Feynman diagrams and amplitudes in the Feynman gauge, then insert the projection operators and use the FeynCalc \[24\] to evaluate the square of the amplitudes. In calculating the subprocesses $g + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$, $-g^{\mu \nu}$ is used for the polarization summation of the initial gluons and therefore the corresponding contribution of the ghost diagrams must be subtracted. The analytical results for every subprocess are too tedious to be shown in this paper. In order to check the gauge invariance, the polarization vector of one initial gluon (photon) is replaced by the corresponding momentum in the direct and single-resolved processes and the zero results are obtained at the level of squared matrix element analytically. To check the gauge invariance of the subprocess $g + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$, we replace the polarization vector of one of the initial gluons by its momentum and use the physical polarization tensor $P_{\mu \nu}$ for the polarization summation of the other gluon. Then the square of the amplitude vanishes. Otherwise, the ghost diagrams must be taken into consideration for checking the gauge invariance. Here the physical polarization tensor $P_{\mu \nu}$ is explicitly expressed as

$$P_{\mu \nu} = -g_{\mu \nu} + \frac{k_{\mu} \eta_{\nu} + k_{\nu} \eta_{\mu}}{k \cdot \eta}, \quad (6)$$

where $k$ is the momentum of the gluon, $\eta$ is an arbitrary light-like four vector with $k \cdot \eta \neq 0$. In the calculation, $\eta$ is set as the momentum of the other initial gluon conveniently.
The differential cross section can be obtained by convoluting the parton level differential cross section with the photon density functions and the parton distribution functions of the photon. It is expressed as

\[
\frac{d\sigma}{dx_1dx_2f_\gamma(x_1)f_\gamma(x_2)} \times \sum_{i,j} \int dx_1dx_2f_{i/\gamma}(x_i)f_{j/\gamma}(x_j)d\hat{\sigma}(i + j \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c}),
\]

(7)

where \(f_\gamma(x)\) is the photon density function and \(f_{i/\gamma}(x)\) is the parton distribution function of the photon. Here the labels i and j denote the parton contents of the photon, such as gluon and the light quarks. In the direct photon process, the distribution function \(f_{\gamma/\gamma}(x) = \delta(1 - x)\).

In the photon-photon collisions, the initial photons can be generated by the bremsstrahlung or by the laser back scattering (LBS) from the \(e^+e^-\) collision. The spectrum of the bremsstrahlung photon can be described by the Weizsacker-Williams approximation (WWA) as following [25]

\[
f_\gamma(x) = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left( 2m^2(\frac{1}{Q^2_{\text{max}}} - \frac{1}{Q^2_{\text{min}}})x + \frac{(1 - x)^2}{x} \log\left(\frac{Q^2_{\text{max}}}{Q^2_{\text{min}}}ight) \right),
\]

(8)

where \(x = E_\gamma/E_e\), \(\alpha\) is the the fine structure constant and \(m_e\) is the electron mass. The definition of \(Q^2_{\text{max}}\) and \(Q^2_{\text{min}}\) are given by

\[
Q^2_{\text{min}} = \frac{m^2}{1 - x},
\]

(9)

\[
Q^2_{\text{max}} = \left(\frac{\sqrt{s}\theta}{2}\right)^2(1 - x) + Q^2_{\text{min}},
\]

(10)

where \(\theta\) is the angle between the momentum of the photon and the direction of the electron beam. This angle is taken as 32mrad at the LEP II. On the other hand, the laser back scattering can generate more energetic and luminous photons. The spectrum of the LBS photon is expressed as [26]

\[
f_\gamma(x) = \frac{1}{N} \left[ 1 - x + \frac{1}{1 - x} - 4r(1 - r) \right],
\]

(11)

where \(x = E_\gamma/E_e\), \(r = \frac{x}{x_m(1 - x)}\), and the constant \(N\) is given by

\[
N = \left( 1 - \frac{4}{x_m} - \frac{8}{x^2_m} \right) \log(1 + x_m) + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{8}{x_m} - \frac{1}{2(1 + m_x)^2},
\]

(12)
where \( x_m = 4E_b E_l \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \). Here \( E_b \) is the energy of electron beam, \( E_l \) is the energy of the incident laser beam, \( \theta \) is the angle between the laser and the electron beam. The energy of the LBS photon is restricted by the following equation

\[
0 \leq x \leq \frac{x_m}{1 + x_m},
\]  

(13)

Telnov \cite{27} argued that the optimal value of \( x_m \) is 4.83.

![FIG. 3: The photon spectra of the WWA and LBS at \( \sqrt{s} = 500\text{GeV} \).](image)

The spectra of the LBS and WWA photons are very different. While the latter depends only on the center-of-mass energy, the former depends on the parameter \( x_m \) also. By comparing the spectra of the WWA photon at \( \sqrt{s} = 500 \) GeV to the one at \( \sqrt{s} = 1 \) TeV, we clearly see that there is no qualitative difference between them and the numerical difference is less than 15%. Therefore, we just show the comparison of the the spectra of WWA photon and that of the LBS photon at \( \sqrt{s} = 500 \) GeV in the Fig. 3. And it can be seen that the distribution of the WWA photon is large at the small \( x \) region and tends to infinite at the end-point \( x \approx 0 \). On the contrary, the distribution of the LBS photon is moderate in the
whole x region and get its maximum value at the largest x point. These two distributions can result in significant different results.

III. NUMERICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In calculating the numerical results, we choose the following parameters: \( M_c = 1.5 \text{ GeV} \), \( \alpha = 1/137 \), \( m_e = 0.511 \text{ MeV} \) and the color-singlet matrix element \( \langle 0|O^{J/\psi}(3S_1^{[1]})|0 \rangle = 1.4 \text{ GeV}^3 \)\(^{18}\). The GRS99\(^{28}\) parton distribution function of photon is used and the running of \( \alpha_s \) is evaluated by the LO formula of GRV98\(^{29}\). Both the renormalization and factorization scales are fixed as \( \sqrt{4M_c^2 + p_t^2} \). The numerical results are multiplied by a factor of 1.278 to include the feeddown contribution from the \( \psi' \)\(^{18}\).

![FIG. 4: \( p_t \) distributions of differential cross sections of \( J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \) production in various subprocesses at the LEPII. The solid, dashed, dotted and dash-dotted lines correspond to the subprocesses \( \gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \), \( \gamma + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \), \( g + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \) and \( q + \bar{q} \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} \), respectively. The experimental result of DELPHI is also presented\(^{12}\).](image-url)
FIG. 5: $p_t$ distributions of differential cross sections of $J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ production at the photon collider with the WWA photon spectrum at different $\sqrt{s}$. Here we use the same notations as those in Fig.4.

The differential cross sections $d\sigma/dp_t^2$ for all the four subprocesses at the LEPII are shown in Fig.4. To obtain theoretical predictions, the parameters which are related to the LEPII experimental conditions are chosen as $\sqrt{s} = 197$ GeV, $\theta_{\max} = 32$ mrad and the rapidity cut $-2 < y < 2$. The constraint of center-of-mass energy for the two photons is $W \leq 35$ GeV\[12\]. From Fig.4 one can see that the direct photon subprocess is dominant at the LEPII with the WWA photon. The contribution from the single-resolved subprocess is smaller than that of the direct one by an order or more in magnitude and the contributions from the double-resolved subprocesses are even smaller than that of the direct one by almost four orders in magnitude. In the $p_t$ region that we investigated, the contribution from the double-resolved gluon subprocess and quark-antiquark subprocess are of the same order in magnitude.

FIG. 6: $p_t$ distributions of differential cross sections of $J/\psi + c + \bar{c}$ production at the photon collider with the LBS photon spectrum at different $\sqrt{s}$. Here we use the same notations as those in Fig.4.
In the future, the $e^+e^-$ collider may run at $\sqrt{s} = 500\text{GeV}$ or even at $\sqrt{s} = 1\text{ TeV}$, and the LBS photon collision may be realized. Therefore, we also investigate the four subprocesses at $\sqrt{s} = 500\text{ GeV}$ and $\sqrt{s} = 1\text{ TeV}$. For comparison, we give the theoretical results with both the WWA photon and LBS photon at these two center-of-mass energy. Here we set the $\theta_{\text{max}}$ of WW approximation as $20\text{mrad}$ \[10\] and the $x_m$ of LBS photon as $4.83$, which determines the maximum photon energy fraction as $0.83$ \[27\]. In contrast to the calculation for the LEPII, here we do not use the constrain $W \leq 35\text{ GeV}$.

Fig.5 and Fig.6 give the $p_t$ distributions of the differential cross sections at different center-of-mass energies with the LBS photon and WWA photon, respectively, at photon collider. For the WWA photon case, the direct photon production subprocess is always the dominant one. The contribution from the single-resolved process is less than that from the direct one, but larger than those from the double-resolved processes. However, in the case of the LBS photon, with the increase of the center-of-mass energy, the contributions from the single-resolved and the double-resolved gluon subprocesses are compatible with or even larger than that from the direct one. But the contribution from the quark-antiquark subprocess is much smaller than those from the other three subprocesses.

Fig.7 shows the parton distributions of photon in the GRS99 parametrization \[28\]. It can be seen that the gluon content is dominant in small $x$ region and even divergent when $x$ tends to zero. It is only in the large $x$ region that the quark contents can be dominant.

Let us first consider the subprocesses with the LBS photons as initial states. When the $p_t$ of $J/\psi$ is lower or the $\sqrt{s}$ becomes larger, the contributions from small $x$ region partons are dominant. Because the LBS photon spectrum function has no singularity at small $x$ region, and at the same time the gluon distribution function of photon has a great enhancement at small $x$ region, the single-resolved and double-resolved gluon subprocess can be dominant in the $J/\psi$ production with lower $p_t$ or larger $\sqrt{s}$. However, as for the subprocesses with the WWA photons as initial states, where both the photon spectrum function and the gluon distribution function of the photon have great enhancements at small $x$ region, the single- and double-resolved subprocesses have no predominance compared with the direct one in all the region of $p_t$.

Table I gives the integrated cross sections of every subprocesses of the photoproduction of $J/\psi$ associated with $c\bar{c}$ pair. From the numerical results, it can be seen that the total contributions from the resolved (including single and double resolved) subprocesses are smaller.
FIG. 7: Parton distributions of the photon in the GRS99 [28] parametrization at $Q^2 = 30$ GeV$^2$. Here $x$ is the parton energy fraction.

than that of direct one by about an order in magnitude in the case of WWA photons. On the contrary, in the case of LBS photons the total contributions from the resolved subprocesses are larger than that from the direct one for by a factor of 2.5 at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV and 9 at $\sqrt{s} = 1000$ GeV. It can also be inferred from the $p_t$ distribution presented in Fig. 4, 5 and 6. At the same time, all the integrated cross sections increase with the increase of $\sqrt{s}$ for the processes initiated by the WWA photons. And in the case of LBS photons, only the cross section of the subprocess $g + g \rightarrow J/\psi + c\bar{c}$ increased with $\sqrt{s}$ enhanced from 500GeV to 1TeV.

For the direct photon subprocess, our numerical result is a little different from the one in Ref. [18]. The numerical results indicate that the contributions from the single-resolved and double-resolved processes are much less than that from the direct one at the LEPII. The authors of Ref. [15] have given the results of the NLO QCD corrections for the subprocesses $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ and $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow c\bar{c}[^3S_1] + g$ at the TESLA. For the subprocess $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$, the $K$ factor is smaller than one. And the QCD correction for the color-octet subprocess
TABLE I: Integrated cross sections of photoproduction of $J/\psi$ associated with a $c\bar{c}$ pair for different initial state $e^+e^-$ energy $\sqrt{s}$ and subprocesses. The $p_t$ cut of $J/\psi$ is set as $p_t > 1$ GeV. Other parameters and cut conditions are chosen as the one being used to calculate the $p_t$ distributions in the text. (units: $\sqrt{s}$ in GeV and $\sigma$ in nb.)

| $\sqrt{s}$ | $\sigma_{\gamma+\gamma}$ | $\sigma_{\gamma+g}$ | $\sigma_{g+g}$ | $\sigma_{g+\bar{q}}$ |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 197 (WWA) | $2.06 \times 10^{-4}$ | $2.91 \times 10^{-6}$ | $8.68 \times 10^{-9}$ | $6.38 \times 10^{-9}$ |
| 500 (WWA) | $3.51 \times 10^{-4}$ | $2.53 \times 10^{-5}$ | $9.74 \times 10^{-7}$ | $2.83 \times 10^{-8}$ |
| 500 (LBS) | $5.33 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.17 \times 10^{-3}$ | $2.57 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.28 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1000 (WWA) | $4.80 \times 10^{-4}$ | $5.54 \times 10^{-5}$ | $3.80 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5.22 \times 10^{-8}$ |
| 1000 (LBS) | $1.97 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.13 \times 10^{-3}$ | $6.66 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ |

$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow c\bar{c}[^{3}S_{1}^{1}] + g$ can enhanced the differential cross section significantly in the large $p_t$ region. From the above NLO results at the TESLA, one can expect that the NLO corrections to the color-singlet subprocess $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ could not enhance the result largely at the LEPII also. So the contributions from the color-octet mechanism can not be excluded in the inclusive $J/\psi$ photoproduction at the LEPII. The full investigation on the NLO QCD radiative corrections on the direct and resolved subprocesses may help us to clarify the situation.

As for the photon collider with LBS initial photons, the contributions from the single- and double-resolved photon subprocesses become large significantly at lower and moderate $p_t$ region with large $\sqrt{s}$. This feature comes from the small $x$ behavior of the gluon content distribution function of the photon, and can be checked in the future.
IV. SUMMARY

In this paper, we investigate the production of $J/\psi$ associated with a $c\bar{c}$ pair in the CSM in photon-photon collisions, including the direct, single-resolved and double-resolved subprocesses. The formulas for the cross sections of the four subprocesses are obtained in the collinear factorization formulism. Moreover, the results of the single-resolved subprocess are given for the first time. The numerical results show that the contributions from color-octet processes can not be excluded at present with the LEP experiment.

At the photon collider with the LBS initial photons, the single-resolved and even the double-resolved processes will dominate over the direct one in the small and moderate $p_t$ regions. By measuring the final state $J/\psi$ and $c\bar{c}$ pair, the process $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow J/\psi + c + \bar{c} + X$ can be separated from the inclusive $J/\psi$ production and could provide a channel to probe the parton contents of the photon. Furthermore, to separate this channel in experiment and compare the data with the theoretical prediction in the CSM also gives a new chance to test the CSM contributions.

Acknowledgments

We thank Prof. Jian-Xiong Wang, Dr. Ce Meng and Dr. Yu-Jie Zhang for helpful discussions. R.L. also thanks Dr. E. Reya and Dr. I. Schienbein for providing the fortran code on the GRS parton distribution of the photon. This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No 10675003, No 10721063).

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