

Revealing Mysteries of QCD

via Hadron Spectroscopy

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 $H = H_{\text{kinetic}} + H_{\text{Coulomb}} + H_{\text{spin-orbit}} + H_{\text{relativistic}} + H_{\text{QED}}$

Background: Hadron — The QCD "atom"





Theories: Simple (few-body) objects could involve surprisingly rich physics.

Experiments: High-precision measurements could make the story very different.

Background: Hadron — The QCD "atom"







Relativistic bound states

"These problems are those involving bound states [...] such problems necessarily involve a breakdown of ordinary perturbation theory. [...] The pole therefore can only arise from a divergence of the sum of all diagrams [...]"

The QFT book vol1 p564 Weinberg

Strongly coupled systems



- Color Confinement: No matter how hard one strikes the proton, one cannot liberate an individual quark or gluon (Millennium Problems).
- Dynamical Chiral Symmetry Breaking: Mystery of bound state masses, e.g., current quark mass (Higgs) is small, and no degeneracy between *parity partners*.



Chapter I: Theory

Physics of quark, gluon, vertex, and kernel

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Continuum QCD: Interaction between quarks





Continuum QCD: Interaction between quarks





Continuum QCD: Equations of motion





Quark: Running mass function



$$S(p) = \frac{1}{i\gamma \cdot pA(p^2) + B(p^2)} = \frac{Z(p^2)}{i\gamma \cdot p + M(p^2)}$$

Chang et. al., PRD 104, 094509 (2021)



Now:

- 1. The quark's **effective mass** runs with its momentum.
- 2. The most **constituent mass** of a light quark comes from a cloud of gluons.

Next:

- 1. What is the **infrared scale** of quark mass function?
- 2. How does the **transition** connect the non-perturbative and perturbative regions?

Gluon: Dynamical mass scale



Gluon gap equation: Aguilar, Binosi, Papavassiliou and Rodriguez-Quintero



 The interaction can be decomposed: *gluon running mass* + *effective running coupling*

$$g^2 D_{\mu\nu}(k) = \mathscr{G}(k^2) \left(\delta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^2} \right)$$

$$\mathscr{G}(k^2) \approx \frac{4\pi\alpha_{RL}(k^2)}{k^2 + m_g^2(k^2)}$$

 In QCD: Gluons are *cannibals* – a particle species whose members become massive by eating each other!





Gluon: Dynamical mass scale



Gluon mass function: O. Oliveira et. al., J. Phys. G38, 045003 (2011)



Running coupling: Binosi, Mezrag, Papavassiliou, Roberts and Rodriguez-Quintero



◆ Now:

1. The dressed gluon can be well parameterized by a **mass scale**

$$m_g^2(k^2) = \frac{M_g^4}{M_g^2 + k^2}$$

2. The effective running coupling **saturates** in the infrared limit.

Next:

1. What is the mass scale of gluon?

2. What is the **infrared magnitude** of running coupling?

Vertex: DCSB feedback





★ The Dirac and Pauli terms: for an on-shell fermion, the vertex can be decomposed by two form factors: $\Gamma^{\mu}(P',P) = \gamma^{\mu}F_1(Q^2) + \frac{i\sigma_{\mu\nu}}{2M_f}Q^{\nu}F_2(Q^2)$

The form factors express (color-)charge and (color-)magnetization densities. And the so-called anomalous magnetic moment is proportional to the Pauli term.

See, e.g., PLB722, 384 (2013)

Vertex: DCSB feedback





The WGTIs of the vertices can be decoupled and (partially) solved.

See, e.g., PLB722, 384 (2013)

Vertex: DCSB feedback





Now:

- 1. There is a dynamic chiral symmetry breaking (DCSB) feedback.
- 2. The **appearance** of the vertex is dramatically modified by the **dynamics**.

Next:

- 1. What are the exact **strengths** of the terms in the vertex?
- 2. What the exact **behaviors** of the form factors in the vertex?

See, e.g., PLB722, 384 (2013)

Kernel: Twofold role of pion







Bound state of quark and anti-quark, but abnormally light:

 $M_{\pi} \ll M_u + M_{\bar{d}}$

Goldstone's theorem: If a generic continuous symmetry is spontaneously broken, then new massless scalar particles appear in the spectrum of possible excitations.

The discrete and continuous symmetries strongly constrain the kernel:

Poincaré symmetry C-, P-, T-symmetry

Gauge symmetry

Chiral symmetry

Kernel: Twofold role of pion



Now:

1. A deep connection between one-body and two-body problem:

 $f_\pi E_\pi(k^2) = B(k^2)$

Pion exists if, and only if, the **quark mass** is dynamically generated.

Two-body problem solved, almost completely, once solution of one-body problem is known.

2. A realistic kernel must involves the Dirac and Pauli structures:



Next:

- 1. How to further **pin down structures** of the kernel?
- 2. How to simplify the kernel for more practical applications?

See, e.g., CPL 38 (2021) 7, 071201



Chapter II: Applications

Spectra of mesons and baryons with light and heavy flavors.

Application: Partial-wave structures of mesons



Structure of wave function, e.g. *ρ* meson:

$$\begin{split} \tau_{1^{-}}^{1} &= i\gamma_{\mu}^{T}, \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{2} &= i\left[3k_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot k^{T} - \gamma_{\mu}^{T}k^{T} \cdot k^{T}\right], \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{3} &= ik_{\mu}^{T}k \cdot P \gamma \cdot P, \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{4} &= i\left[\gamma_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot P \gamma \cdot k^{T} + k_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot P\right], \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{5} &= k_{\mu}^{T}, \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{6} &= k \cdot P\left[\gamma_{\mu}^{T}\gamma^{T} \cdot k - \gamma \cdot k^{T}\gamma_{\mu}^{T}\right], \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{7} &= (k^{T})^{2}\left(\gamma_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot P - \gamma \cdot P\gamma_{\mu}^{T}\right) - 2k_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot k^{T}\gamma \cdot P, \\ \tau_{1^{-}}^{8} &= k_{\mu}^{T}\gamma \cdot k^{T}\gamma \cdot P. \end{split}$$

$$\begin{cases} S = 0, L = 1 \\ S = 1, L = 0 \\ S = 1, L = 2 \end{cases}$$



 Total angular momentum J is a good quantum number, but S and L are not. The partial waves mix together.

$$P \neq (-1)^{L+1}$$

 Missing some partial waves could remarkably affect the mass, especially of radial excitation states.

See, e.g., PRC 85, 035202 (2012)

Application: Spin-orbit interaction of light mesons







Light-flavor meson spectrum:



With increasing the AM strength, the a₁-p mass-splitting rises very rapidly. From a quark model perspective, the DCSB-enhanced kernel increases spin-orbit repulsion.

The spin-orbit boosted quark-core mass of the f₀ is greater than the empirical value, and matches the estimated result obtained using chiral perturbation theory.

 The magnitude and ordering of radial excitation states can be fixed with the DCSB-enhanced kernel.

See, e.g., CPL 38 (2021) 7, 071201





The low-lying mesons with strangeness can be well produced by the DCSB-enhanced kernel, e.g., pion, kaon, and etc.

See, e.g., Eur.Phys.J. A59, 39 (2023)

Application: Partial-wave structures of baryons





See, e.g., PRD 97, 114017 (2018)





The interaction strength and current quark masses are fixed by properties of pseudo-scalar mesons, e.g., pion, kaon, and etc.

See, e.g., Few-Body Syst 60, 26 (2019)

Application: Charm & Bottom flavors





 The ground states of Nucleon and Delta families can be described by a simple kernel.

 The excited states and the parity partners require a DCSB-enhanced kernel.



See, e.g., Few-Body Syst 60, 26 (2019)

Summary



 Hadrons play a role for revealing QCD's mysteries. High-precision measurements and simulations of their spectrum are critical for the next step.

The bound-state equation for describing hadron properties has made important progress by exposing QCD's fundamental features (e.g., in quark, gluon, vertex, and kernel).

Outlook

With the sophisticated approach, we can further iterate with future experiments and simulations on light and heavy hadrons, from spectroscopy to structures.

 Hopefully, based on more and more successful applications, we may provide a faithful path to understand QCD and mass.