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PROGRESS IN QCD USING LATTICE GAUGE THEORY

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1 Introduction

Quantum chromodynamics (QCD) is the only serious candidate for the theory of strong interactions. It is supported by overwhelming qualitative evidence and a growing body of quantitative evidence. Lattice gauge theory is the only fundamental formulation of QCD allowing the calculation of all its consequences in both the high and low energy regimes.

Low energy QCD is worth studying not only for its own sake, but also for its role in understanding what lies beyond the standard model. At present, the only experimental clues for this puzzle are the fundamental parameters of the standard model. Of these, the values of the strong coupling constant, all of the quark masses except the top quark mass, and most of the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix elements either are now or soon will be dominated by

theoretical uncertainties that can be attacked with lattice QCD. Table 1 contains a list of the most fundamental quantities in the standard model. Where appropriate it also indicates how lattice QCD will play an important role, and the section(s) of this article containing relevant material. The central theme of this review is standard model phenomenology, with emphasis on lattice calculations needed to determine the parameters and to understand the reliability of the determinations.

When lattice gauge theory was first introduced by Wilson in 1974 [2], several calculational approaches were suggested, including strong coupling expansions and various renormalization group methods. Monte Carlo methods were first applied to pure gauge theory in 1979 [3, 4]. Methods for treating quarks in Monte Carlo calculations were introduced in 1981 [5]. Although these initial calculations of the hadron spectrum had approximately the reliability of the nonrelativistic quark model, it was clear, at least in principle, how to develop them into genuine first principles QCD calculations. They initiated the wave of effort leading to the calculations described in this article.

A very brief overview of lattice methods is given in Section 2. That section also details the sources of error and uncertainty which must be understood and eliminated as lattice methods evolve into true first principles calculations. Most of the calculations we discuss employ an approximation introduced in References [5], called the "quenched" or "valence" approximation. The former name is more common in the literature, but the latter one is, perhaps, more descriptive: the quenched approximation treats valence quarks exactly and ignores the effects of sea quarks.

In Section 3.1 we discuss lattice calculations of the the ψ and Υ systems. Solid error analysis is easiest to produce in these simple systems because of the possibility of using nonrelativistic methods. The 1P-1S splitting, $\Delta m_{\rm 1P-1S}$, in these systems is insensitive to the most serious sources of error in lattice calculations. This makes it the ideal quantity for setting the scale, i.e. converting from lattice to physical units. The calculation of the light hadron spectrum is one of the original goals of lattice gauge theory, and a completely reliable calculation is still a major piece of unfinished business. For many years the progress was incremental. As discussed in Section 3.2, however, recent developments may represent a new standard in the thoroughness in the treatment of errors.

Section 4 discusses applications of the spectrum calculations towards determining the fundamental parameters of QCD, the quark masses and strong coupling constant. The lattice determination of the latter from the ψ and Υ spectra is already competitive with perturbative determinations from highenergy scattering experiments. As with the "traditional" results for α_S , there is still a phenomenological component in the lattice determinations. The ma-

jor uncertainty in the lattice QCD results come from modeling the effects of sea quarks. However, in lattice QCD the path is clear towards eliminating the modeling completely. Hence, in the long run, the most precise determination of α_S will likely come from lattice QCD.

Although the spectrum calculations are indisputably essential to the verification of QCD, many lattice calculations in weak-interaction phenomenology are of even greater importance to the standard model. This is the subject of Section 5. The CKM matrix is responsible for (at least) four parameters, and one would like to overdetermine it to test whether there are further generations (with massive neutrinos). The good news is that some of the associated hadronic physics, such as the kaon "B" parameter, can be calculated with comparable or greater reliability than the light hadron spectrum.

Since an excellent introduction appeared in this series eight years ago [6], this article does not review the foundations of lattice field theory. Another pedagogical introduction is in Reference [7]. For an encyclopedic overview of the activity in lattice field theory, the reader can consult any recent proceedings of the annual international symposium on lattice field theory [8]–[13].

This review also omits several important applications of lattice field theory. The study of the deconfinement temperature in SU(3) gauge theory without quarks was influential. It was the first careful application of large scale Monte Carlo methods to a quantity whose value was not well known in advance [14, 15]. More recent work with three light quarks suggests that the structure of the phase transition in QCD may depend sensitively on the mass of the strange quark [16]. For a review of these and other topics in QCD thermodynamics, see Reference [17]. Analytical and numerical methods of lattice field theory have been used to obtain upper bounds on the masses of the Higgs boson and of heavy quarks in the standard model [18]. Most proposals for strongly coupled models of electroweak symmetry breaking require a lattice regularization for chiral fermions. This problem is still unsolved; the status of of current ideas for solutions is reviewed in Reference [19].

With one exception, all of the QCD entries in Table 1 are based on meson properties. The bound on the strong CP-violating parameter $\theta_{\rm QCD}$, however, comes from the neutron electric dipole moment [20, 21]. Lattice QCD calculations of such baryon properties are more difficult than comparable ones for mesons, so there has been less systematic work. Another QCD topic of vital interest is the study of glueballs and other bound states that would not appear in the quark model. Despite the algorithmic improvements of recent years [22, 23], glueball mass calculations still suffer from a small signal-to-noise ratio. Therefore, it seems appropriate to postpone a review of baryon and glueball phenomenology.

Table 1: Parameters of the standard model and lattice calculations which will help determine them. Ranges for CKM matrix elements assume unitarity but not three generations. Numerical values taken from Reference [1], except $\sin \delta$ and $\theta_{\rm QCD}$.

parameter	value or range	related lattice calculations	section(s)
$\alpha_{ m em}$	1/137.036		(5)
10^5G_F	$1.166~{ m GeV^{-2}}$		
$lpha_{\overline{ m MS}}(M_Z)$	0.110-0.118	$\Delta m_{ m 1P-1S}$; scaling	3.1; 4.1
m_Z	91.17 GeV	11 15,	,
m_H	> 48 GeV		
m_e	0.51100 MeV		
m_{μ}	105.66 MeV		
$m_{ au}$	1.78 GeV		
m_u	2-8 MeV	m_π^2,m_K^2	3.2, 4.2
m_d	5-15 MeV	m_π^2,m_K^2	3.2, 4.2
m_s	100-300 MeV	m_{K}^{2}	3.2, 4.2
m_c	1.3-1.7 GeV	$m_{J/\psi}$	3.1, 4.2
m_b	4.7-5.3 GeV	$m_{f \Upsilon}$	3.1, 4.2
m_t	> 91 GeV	·	,
$ V_{ud} $	0.974		
$ V_{us} $	0.220		
$ V_{ub} $	0.002 - 0.007	B o ho l u	5.2
$ V_{cd} $	0.179 - 0.228	$D o\pi l u$	5.2
$ V_{cs} $	0.864 - 0.975	$D \to K l \nu$	5.2
$ V_{cb} $	0.032 - 0.054	$B o D l \nu$	5.2
$ V_{td} $	0.0 - 0.14	$f_B, B_B; B_K$	5.1, 5.3
$ V_{ts} $	0.0 - 0.45	f_{B_A}, B_{B_A}	5.1, 5.3
$ V_{tb} $	0.0 - 0.9995	• •	·
$\sin\delta$	$\neq 0$	B_K , B_B , B_B ,	5.3
$ heta_{ ext{QCD}}$	< 10 ⁻⁹	d_n	

2 Lattice Methodology

Because of our emphasis on standard-model phenomenology, we omit discussion of most technical details. For a more thorough introduction, see References [6, 7]. We provide here only a schematic overview of lattice methods, plus a brief discussion for nonexperts of the most important sources of uncertainty in lattice calculations.

2.1 Methods

The path integral formulation of quantum field theory is used to define lattice QCD:

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}U \,\mathcal{D}\psi \,\mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \,e^{-S_G - S_Q}. \tag{1}$$

The integration is over each U variable (SU(3) matrices representing the gluon fields, defined on each link of the lattice) and each ψ and $\bar{\psi}$ field (anticommuting variables representing quark fields, defined on each site of the lattice). The standard action used in almost all lattice calculations is

$$S_G = \frac{\beta}{6} \sum_{x,\mu,\nu} P_{\mu\nu}(x) \tag{2}$$

for the gluons. The "plaquette" $P_{\mu\nu}(x)$ is the trace of the product of the U matrices around the elementary square at x in the μ - ν plane. There are two commonly used formulations of lattice fermions. Except for quark masses and B_K , the calculations we discuss use the Wilson formulation

$$S_{Q} = -\kappa \sum_{x,\mu} \bar{\psi}_{x} [(1 - \gamma_{\mu}) U_{x,\mu} \psi_{x+\hat{\mu}} + (1 + \gamma_{\mu}) U_{x-\hat{\mu},\mu}^{\dagger} \psi_{x-\hat{\mu}}]$$

$$+ \sum_{x} \bar{\psi}_{x} \psi_{x}.$$
(3)

Wilson fermions allow the proper number of flavors at the expense of a difficult handling of chiral symmetry. When chiral symmetry is crucial another formulation is available, "staggered fermions," which maintain an exact chiral symmetry, but then the number of flavors is a multiple of four.

The parameters in the lattice action are β and the "hopping parameter" κ . The bare lattice coupling constant is given by $\beta=6/g_0^2$. The bare quark mass is related to κ by $\kappa=1/(8+2m_0a)$. Using these identifications it is easy to show that in the zero lattice spacing limit, this action reduces to the usual QCD action, $S_Q=\int d^4x\,\bar{\psi}(x)(\partial_\mu\gamma_\mu+m_0)\psi(x)$, and $S_G=(1/4g_0^2)\int d^4x(F_{\mu\nu}^a)^2$, plus errors which vanish with the lattice spacing. The lattice spacing a is made

to vanish by taking $\beta \to \infty$, keeping physical quantities fixed. Note, however, that much of the literature uses "lattice units," where a = 1.

The path integral formalism shows how the correlation functions of hadron operators $\Phi_t(U, \psi, \bar{\psi})$ (at time t) behave:

$$\langle \Phi_t \Phi_0^{\dagger} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}U \, \mathcal{D}\psi \, \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \, \Phi_t \Phi_0^{\dagger} e^{-S_G - S_F}$$
 (4)

$$= \sum_{\beta} |\langle 0|\hat{\Phi}|\beta\rangle|^2 e^{-tE_{\beta}}. \tag{5}$$

The hadronic correlation functions decay as sums of exponentials if the theory is formulated in Euclidean space. The rates of decay E_{β} of these exponentials are the energies of the states β . The coefficients of the exponentials are related to hadronic matrix elements. The Euclidean-space formulation has many numerical advantages. For example, for t large enough, it is possible to isolate the state with the lowest energy. However, the contributions to the correlation function of all the states β , other than the lowest state, produce errors which must estimated and eliminated.

In integrals such as Equation 4 the integration over the Fermi fields can performed explicitly, leaving a gauge-field integral. This step expresses the correlation function in terms of quark propagators in a background gauge field. The integration over the gauge fields is evaluated by Monte Carlo with importance sampling, yielding ensembles of lattice gauge fields. The gauge-field integral is approximated as a finite sum, introducing a statistical error. New gauge field configurations are generated from previous ones and are correlated with them. This effect must be carefully accounted for in the statistical analysis.

Quark propagators are solutions of the discrete Dirac equation, which is a sparse matrix equation. Sparse matrix methods are used to produce the propagators for each lattice. These algorithms must be employed much more often in full QCD than in the quenched approximation, to account for the back-reaction of the sea quarks on the gluons.

2.2 Error Analysis

These sources of uncertainty in this section must be individually understood if numerical lattice QCD is to become a widely accepted calculational tool. A first pass at a thorough enumeration has been attempted for only a few of the simplest quantities, but there is a good hope that full error analysis (in the quenched approximation) will be extended to many more quantities over the next two or three years, including some extremely interesting ones. Therefore, we shall now discuss how the various sources of error can be reduced:

Statistical errors. Any Monte Carlo procedure has statistical uncertainties. In lattice QCD these may be the errors which are currently under best control. A subtlety is to cope with the correlations among subsequent configurations. These correlations can extend over stretches in the Monte Carlo chain, especially for the algorithms used in full QCD. Another subtlety is that the statistical uncertainty of quantities calculated within a single ensemble of gauge fields are correlated. Hence, ratios of similar quantities usually have smaller statistical errors than the quantities themselves.

Finite lattice spacing errors. If the lattice action in is expanded in powers of the lattice spacing, one obtains the standard continuum action of QCD, plus an infinite series of unwanted, higher dimension operators whose effects on masses (or other quantities derived from the spectrum) vanish as powers of the lattice spacing. Their effects can be systematically eliminated by adding higher dimension correction operators to the lattice action [24]. An order of magnitude estimate of their effects is $a\Lambda_{\rm QCD}$ to the appropriate power. For $\beta=6.0$, $a^{-1}\approx 2$ GeV, this is around 10-15% for the simple O(a) correction for Wilson fermions, and 1-2% for the more complicated $O(a^2)$ errors of the quark and gluon actions.

The most serious of these errors, the O(a) error for Wilson fermions, can be corrected by the addition of a single term to the fermion action [25]

$$\delta S_{Q} = ig \frac{c}{2} \kappa \sum_{x,\mu,\nu} \bar{\psi}_{x} \sigma_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \psi_{x}, \qquad (6)$$

where $\sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}[\gamma_{\mu}, \gamma_{\nu}]$, the γ_{μ} are Euclidean gamma matrices, and $F_{\mu\nu}$ reduces to the QCD field strength tensor as $a \to 0$. Direct calculational evidence of the importance of this correction has been given in Reference [26] and in the charmonium calculations described in Section 3.1. A more careful examination reveals that the coefficient c depends on the bare coupling. In perturbation theory $c = 1 + c_1 g_0^2 + \cdots$. The systematic program of adding corrections like ΔS_Q and calculating their coefficients is called "improvement" [24].

Finite volume errors. Numerical calculations of lattice QCD are done in a finite volume, because then there is a finite number of degrees of freedom, which can be stored in the finite memory of a computer. Finite volume errors are nonperturbative properties of QCD, and thus more complicated to analyze. However, for periodic boundary conditions, they are expected to fall exponentially with lattice size. It is therefore a reasonable goal to increase the lattice until they are really negligible. The asymptotic errors are known for the proton

mass [27], and quite small for lattices of reasonable size. The functional form in the intermediate region is unknown and must be carefully determined by numerical calculation. For an excellent technical review of the state of the art on this and many other issues in hadron spectroscopy, see [28].

The effects of higher mass states. In extracting the properties of the ground state from correlation functions such as Equation 5, the contamination from more massive states with the same quantum numbers must be estimated and reduced. This is most often done by separating the creation and destruction operators far enough that only a single exponential of the sum in Equation 5 is visible within the statistical errors. This approach has the drawbacks that it is limited by increasing statistical errors as the operators are separated, and that systematic uncertainty estimates are difficult. Another approach is to vary the operator or matrix of operators Φ to maximize the overlap with the desired state and minimize the overlap with the rest.

The extrapolation to physical quark mass. Current lattice algorithms for sparse matrix inversion (and thus for the inclusion of the effects of sea quarks) become much more computationally demanding, and sometimes fail entirely, as the quark mass is reduced toward its physical value. Current calculations rarely go below $m_{\pi}/m_{\rho} \sim 0.4$, compared to the physical value of 0.18. Leading-order chiral behavior is usually assumed in extrapolating to the physical quark mass (m_{π}^2) and the masses of the other hadrons proportional to m_q . The size of deviations from linearity for mesons of nearly the mass of the kaon are controversial among workers in chiral perturbation theory. In lattice QCD they must be determined by numerical calculations.

2.3 The quenched approximation

While gradual and systematic programs exist for the elimination of the above sources of error, no better way is known to improve on the quenched approximation than to include all effects of sea quarks at once. Formulas for the effects of small numbers of internal quark loops may be derived in terms of correlations of hadronic operators with the fermionic effective action, but they appear to be even harder to handle than the exact formula. Algorithms for inclusion of quark loops are much more computationally demanding than those which omit them, so the analysis of the other sources of uncertainty is much cruder for calculations which include them. This review will therefore concentrate on calculations which omit them. In a few cases, but not in general, it is possible

to make phenomenological estimates of the accuracy of the quenched approximation. We will return in Section 6 to the general case of the effects of sea quarks.

3 Establishing and Testing Lattice Methods

3.1 The ψ and Υ Systems

The discovery of charmonium, the bound states of c and \bar{c} quarks, with their clear positronium-like spectra, provided an important psychological boost to the belief in the reality of quarks. The success nonrelativistic potential models [29] in accounting for these spectra provided a boost to the acceptance of QCD as the theory of strong interactions, since the models became equivalent to leading order QCD in a well defined limit: the large quark mass limit. The ψ and Υ systems are proving crucial in establishing the accuracy of lattice calculations because nonrelativistic reasoning opens ways of checking and rechecking methods of error analysis that are unavailable for the lighter hadrons.

As Lepage [30], has emphasized, now that lattice methods are coming into fruition, it is these simple systems which will provide the best early tests of lattice methods. There are some technical reasons for this. Since the quarks are heavy, the extrapolation to the physical light quark mass required in light hadron calculations is unnecessary. The propagators of heavy quarks are much quicker to calculate on the lattice than those of light quarks. Further, since the heavy mesons are smaller than the light hadrons, smaller physical volumes suffice. However, the most important fact making the properties of these mesons the easiest to calculate on the lattice is the one that made possible the good phenomenological treatment of them twenty years ago: they are nonrelativistic systems. This means means that potential models and the nonrelativistic arguments justifying them can be used both to guide the physics expectations of the lattice calculations, and to supplement the analysis of corrections and uncertainties in the lattice calculations.

Potential models play an important role in defining physics expectations for lattice charmonium calculations. For example, the part of the hyperfine interaction which is due to perturbative gluon exchange is

$$H_{HF} = \frac{32\pi}{9} \frac{\alpha_s}{m_a^2} \mathbf{S_1} \cdot \mathbf{S_2} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}). \tag{7}$$

Evaluating this term perturbatively with nonrelativistic wave functions gives

$$\Delta M_{HF} = \frac{32\pi}{9} \frac{\alpha_s}{m_q^2} |\Psi(0)|^2 \tag{8}$$

for the splitting between the ψ and the η_c . The spin-spin interaction in Equation 7 arises from the exchange of transverse gluons between the heavy quarks. For massive quarks, the dominant effect of the O(a) correction for Wilson fermions, Equation 6, is just such a gluon-spin interaction, so the hyperfine splitting will be sensitive to this correction. According to Equation 8, ΔM_{HF} is also sensitive to the value of the quark mass, which is not determined on the lattice to perfect accuracy. We can therefore expect the hyperfine splitting to be a sensitive test of lattice methods.

On the other hand, the spin averaged splitting between the lowest angular momentum (l=0 and l=1) levels of the ψ and Υ systems is a crucial one for lattice QCD because nonrelativistic arguments tell us to expect it to be insensitive to these important sources of error. Since it is a spin averaged quantity, it should be insensitive to uncertainties in the coefficient of the O(a) correction term. Since it is virtually the same for the ψ and the Υ , it should be insensitive to any imperfections in our knowledge of the quark mass. It is therefore a good quantity to use to extract information about QCD from lattice methods. It may be the most accurate determination of the lattice spacing in physical units (a key component of the extraction of the strong coupling constant using lattice methods).

Because the systems are nonrelativistic, their Coulomb-gauge wave functions calculated on the lattice will give a good picture of the properties of the states. Figure 1 shows the wave function of the J/ψ meson calculated on a 24⁴ lattice at $\beta=6.1$ [31]. It has approximately the exponential shape of a Coulomb wave function, but at large distances it falls off faster due to confinement, and at short distances it rises more slowly due to asymptotic freedom. Halfway across the lattice, at r/a=12, the effects of periodic boundary conditions are clearly seen. Such wave functions have practical roles to play in lattice calculations. They can be used to estimate finite lattice spacing and finite volume errors perturbatively. They can be used to make improved operators to create and destroy the meson states. One of their most important roles, however, is the clear and simple demonstration that the lattice calculations are indeed producing charmonium states.

To the extent that the ψ and Υ systems are nonrelativistic, one can use potential model arguments to estimate and correct for the effects of sea quarks. These effects are expected to be rather small, since, for example, the widths of excited ψ and Υ states into D or B mesons, 50-100 MeV, are only 10-20% of typical energy splittings between states.

If middle distance physics like the 1P-1S splitting is used to tune the bare parameters of the theory, the effective action at those distances will be about right. In a theory with too much asymptotic freedom, the effective coupling

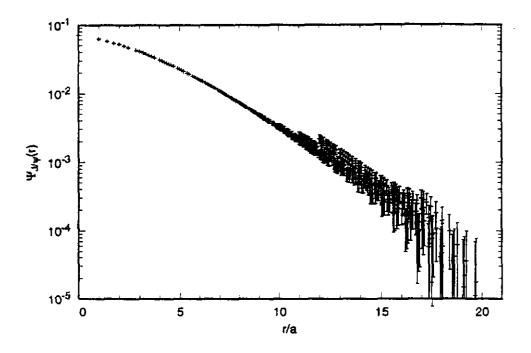


Figure 1: The wave function of the J/ψ meson calculated on the lattice [31].

at short distances will be a bit too small. Likewise, short distance quantities which depend on it, like the wave function at the origin, will be too small.

These effects may be estimated using the Richardson potential [32], which incorporates the effects of asymptotic freedom at short distances. Figure 2 shows two potentials resulting from fits to the charmonium spectrum: the lower potential having the correct one loop β function $b_0 = 11 - 2n_f/3$ with $n_f = 3$, and the upper one with the stronger β function for $n_f = 0$ of quenched QCD. As expected, the two potentials agree almost perfectly in the middle distance region, but the $n_f = 0$ potential is too soft at short distances.

The spin-averaged 1P-1S splitting has been calculated by several groups [31, 33, 34]. The lattice spacing in physical units is obtained by the lattice result obtained in lattice units with the physical answer. In the ψ system, for example, $\Delta m_{1P-1S} = m_{h_c} - (3m_{J/\psi} + m_{\eta_c})/4 = 458.6 \pm 0.4$ MeV. In the Υ system, since the 1P_1 is undiscovered, the splitting between the spin-averaged χ_b states and the spin-averaged 1S states may be used, $\Delta m_{1P-1S} = 452$ MeV. The values of the lattice spacing obtained from this splitting are shown in Table 2. They will be crucial components in the determination of the strong coupling constant in Section 4.1. They do not differ dramatically from those

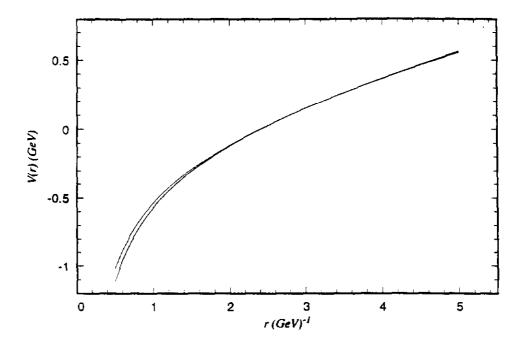


Figure 2: Results from fits to the charmonium spectrum with asymptotically free phenomenological potentials having the correct β function (bottom) and the β function of quenched QCD (top).

obtained from other quantities, such as the ρ mass [35] or the string tension [36]. It is the possibility of making better uncertainty estimates that makes this an important way of determining the lattice spacing.

In Reference [31], finite lattice spacing errors were treated by the explicit inclusion of the term in Equation 6, in the numerical calculations. In Reference [33], corrections operators were evaluated perturbatively using the Richardson potential model wave functions, as the hyperfine splitting was evaluated in Equation 8. The lattice action of nonrelativistic QCD (NRQCD) [30] was used in this work, so $O(v^2)$ correction were also included. These estimates could also be made without recourse to potential models, but still using using non-relativistic reasoning, by using wave functions calculated directly with lattice methods (see Figure 1).

Both groups checked these corrections by verifying that the same answer was obtained for several different lattice spacings. It would be desirable to have a calculation in which both methods were used in the same analysis in order to test carefully the method of directly including the correction operators in the

Table 2: Inverse lattice spacings obtained from the 1P-1S splitting in the ψ and Υ systems.

β	a^{-1} (GeV)	System	Ref.
5.7	1.15(8)	ψ	[31]
5.9	1.78(9)	$oldsymbol{\psi}$	[31]
6.1	2.43(15)	$oldsymbol{\psi}$	[31]
5.7	1.14(4)	$oldsymbol{\psi}$	[33]
5.7	1.26(14)	Υ	[33]
6.0	2.11(7)	Υ	[33]

simulation, since that is the only avenue for evaluating them available for the light hadrons.

Likewise, for the light hadrons the functional form of the finite volume errors in the crucial intermediate distance region is not known, and must be calculated numerically. Such a calculation in a nonrelativistic system supplemented by a nonrelativistic wave function calculation of the finite volume errors would be useful in illuminating the methods of error analysis for the light hadrons.

The nonrelativistic picture tells us that the hyperfine splitting and leptonic decay amplitude are short distance quantities, proportional to the square of the wave function at the origin. The hyperfine splitting is also proportional to the short distance coupling constant, and thus additionally suppressed. The size of these suppressions for the hyperfine splitting has been estimated as -30-40% using the Richardson potential [37].

The hyperfine splitting can be used to check the effects of the O(a) correction term for Wilson fermions, Equation 6, which yields dominantly a spin-spin coupling for quarkonia. Compared with its physical value of 117 MeV and the estimate of the quenched corrected value of 70 MeV, unimproved Wilson fermions (c=0) in Equation 6) produce splittings of as little as 10-20 MeV, depending on the lattice spacing. Calculations with the tree level coefficient c=1.0 yield around 50 MeV [38], and with a perturbatively corrected coefficient c=1.4 yield around 90 MeV [37]. The precision is insufficient to allow a phenomenological determination of the coefficient to supplant the perturbative one, but does show clearly that the improved action yields reasonable results while the unimproved action does not.

A topic related to quarkonium is the lattice QCD calculation of the static potential. In Figure 3 we show results in the quenched approximation from a

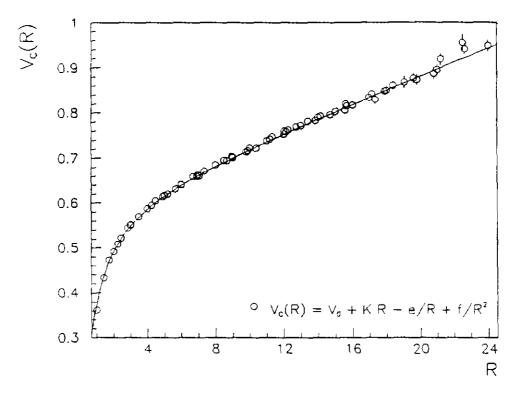


Figure 3: The heavy-quark potential (in lattice units) calculated in the quenched approximation [36, 39].

324 lattice at $\beta=6.4$ [36, 39]. It is fit very well by a Coulomb-plus-linear form. At short distances it agrees well with the predictions of lattice perturbation theory [40]. The potential at large distances is well fit by a straight line. The string tension obtained obeys asymptotic scaling to about 20% if a renormalized coupling constant is used. That is, the ratio $\sqrt{\sigma}/\Lambda_{\overline{\rm MS}}^{(0)}$ varies by less than 20% when $\beta>5.7$ (a<0.2 fm). Earlier apparent evidence that scaling violations as large as a factor of two and that much smaller lattice spacings were required has been understood as an artifact of the use of the bare lattice coupling constant for the perturbative analysis [41]. This introduced poor behavior into the perturbation theory somewhat analogous to that resulting from attempting to do perturbative QCD phenomenology with the MS coupling constant $\alpha_{\rm MS}(q)$ rather than the $\overline{\rm MS}$ coupling constant $\alpha_{\rm MS}(q)$. The remaining small scaling violations arise from both logarithmic (in a) perturbative corrections and power law finite a effects, so uncertainties associated with them cannot be removed

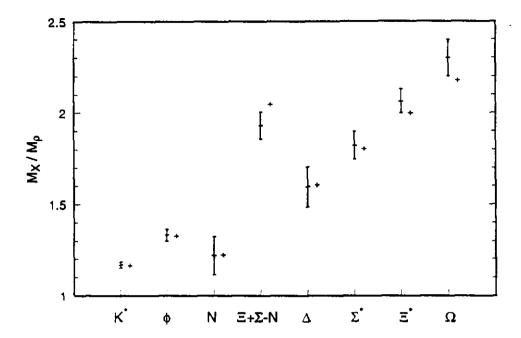


Figure 4: The spectrum of the light hadrons. Error bars are from lattice calculations in the quenched approximation [35], and + denotes experiment.

cleanly by extrapolation. A summary of various recent analyses [28] contains results all falling in the range

$$\sqrt{\sigma}/\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}^{(0)} = 1.85 \pm 10\%.$$
 (9)

3.2 The Light Hadron Spectrum

This year Weingarten and collaborators took an important step forward in the calculation of the light hadron spectrum in the quenched approximation [35]. This work, in a single, systematic calculation, attempted to analyze and extrapolate away the three major source of systematic error in the quenched approximation: extrapolation to zero lattice spacing, to infinite volume, and to physical quark mass.

The results are shown in Figure 4. The lattice spacing has been eliminated using m_{ρ} , and the bare quark masses using m_{π}^2 and m_{K}^2 . The errors shown are statistical. The authors argue that the uncertainties involved in the extrapolations to infinite volume and physical quark mass are smaller than the

statistical errors. They have not attempted to estimate the uncertainty in the extrapolation to zero lattice spacing.

The extrapolation of m_π^2 and the masses of the other hadrons to physical quark mass was made linearly in m_q in accordance with theoretical prejudice. The expected functional forms were seen in the data. A version of the Gell-Mann-Okubo formula was used to argue that the error arising from this extrapolation was around 1%. This estimate could be supplemented by direct numerical investigation of the functional form.

The extrapolation to infinite volume was made by performing the calculations on the coarsest lattice at several volumes, and using the results to extrapolate the calculations on the finer lattices to infinite volume. The extrapolation used only two points. Much work is now by several groups [28] to determine the functional form of the volume dependence which should make the extrapolation reasonably solid.

The results were extrapolated linearly in a to zero lattice spacing in accordance with theoretical prejudice, but the data were not precise enough to test the accuracy of that prejudice. This extrapolation can be improved by adding the single additional term to the quark action which suffices to remove the O(a) error from Wilson fermions [25] and checking that the observed dependence of the results on the lattice spacing disappears.

Possible problems with contamination from higher mass states in each hadronic channel showing up in the work of other groups have been emphasized by Ukawa [28]. An important contribution toward reducing these problems was made by the APE collaboration in 1988 [42] who pointed out that quarks spread out over roughly the size of a light hadron have a much larger overlap with the light hadrons and a much smaller overlap with excited states than do the local quark operators which had been in use up to that time. Much more sophisticated work along these lines is possible following the lead of glueball calculations whose worse signal to noise problems have forced a more serious examination of this problem [43].

The analysis of the uncertainties in a light hadron calculation is more demanding than in a charmonium calculation, since nonrelativistic arguments do not help. Nevertheless, there are further technical tools available, such as Equation 6, than have been applied so far in this calculation, which should make possible the confirmation or improvement of these uncertainty estimates for the quenched light hadron spectrum with the present generation of computers.

4 QCD Phenomenology

QCD is supposed to describe high-energy perturbative phenomena, such as deep inelastic scattering, as well as low-energy nonperturbative phenomena, such as hadron masses. In QCD with n_f quark flavors, there are $n_f + 1$ parameters, the quark masses and the strong coupling constant. The latter is equivalent to a standard mass to set the scale in MeV. Using the nonperturbative lattice formulation of QCD it is possible to compute them using $n_f + 1$ hadron masses as the physics input. If these masses are chosen unwisely, a cumbersome juggling act must be performed, adjusting the bare parameters, computing the hadron masses and working back to the renormalized parameters. As explained in Section 3.1 the 1P-1S splitting of quarkonium is insensitive to light and heavy quark masses. Consequently, it is ideal for converting from lattice units to MeV. Once this has been done, it is relatively straightforward to use meson masses to determine quark masses.

Given α_S one can then test whether the same QCD describes the strong interactions at all energies. One simply inserts the nonperturbatively computed coupling into the perturbative series for high-energy scattering and compares with data. A favorable outcome will increase our quantitative confidence in QCD enormously. At present lattice QCD can offer α_S with systematic uncertainties comparable to deep inelastic scattering, although the analysis is less mature. These results, and the theoretical ideas needed to reduce the uncertainties to a negligible level, are in Section 4.1.

Because of confinement, quark masses cannot be measured directly. However, every serious theoretical construct that goes beyond the standard model provides $\overline{\text{MS}}$ quark masses as an output. Hence, good estimates of quark masses from lattice QCD should prove useful to builders of new physics models.

4.1 The Coupling Constant

The numerical value of the strong coupling depends on the "scheme" chosen to define it. A scheme can be defined by a renormalization convention, such as the $\overline{\rm MS}$ scheme in dimensional regularization or the bare scheme in lattice perturbation theory. More generally, it can be defined by any physical quantity that is equal to the bare coupling at the leading order of perturbation theory. For example, in QED the low-energy limit of Thomson scattering is used to define the electromagnetic coupling.

For QCD Lüscher, et al., have delineated four criteria for a practical scheme [44]. The physical quantity should have a rigorous nonperturbative definition; otherwise it cannot be calculated nonperturbatively. In Monte Carlo simu-

lations it ought to have a good signal-to-noise ratio, so that small statistical uncertainties can be achieved in a reasonable amount of computer time. Furthermore, uncertainties arising from extrapolations in lattice spacing and quark mass should accumulate slowly. Finally, a perturbative calculation of the physical quantity must be tractable, so that the nonperturbative coupling can be used in perturbative QCD.

Once one has chosen a scheme s, one must relate the dimensionless coupling to the standard mass. This is done using the renormalization group. It is important to realize that renormalization-group calculations can be carried out nonperturbatively. Because of asymptotic freedom, the nonperturbative and perturbative q dependence must agree for large enough q. The region of agreement provides a numerical value for $g_s^2(q)$ that can be used in perturbative series for high-energy scattering. The standard mass is needed to convert q from lattice units of the nonperturbative calculations to physical units. For example,

$$q \text{ (MeV)} = \frac{aq}{a\Delta m_{1P-1S}} 458.6 \text{ (MeV)};$$
 (10)

the numerator and denominator of the fraction come from the lattice calculation, and $\Delta m_{1P-1S} = 458.6$ MeV from experiment.

In Reference [31], a perturbative relation (improved by mean field theory) was used to estimate the continuum coupling constant in terms of the bare lattice coupling constant. In Reference [41] it was found that perturbative calculations of short distance physical quantities in terms of a coupling constant estimated in this way were systematically lower than Monte Carlo calculations by a few per cent. This suggests that a slightly improved determination would be given by extracting the coupling directly from Monte Carlo calculations. It remains to be checked that there are no substantial deviations between the couplings determined in this way, from physics on scales from one to half a dozen lattice spacings, and true continuum couplings [44].

The work of Reference [31] gave

$$\alpha_{\overline{MS}}^{(0)}(5 \text{ GeV}) = 0.140 \pm 0.004,$$
 (11)

where the superscript emphasizes the number of active quark flavors. This error bar comes from the statistical uncertainty in the 1P-1S splitting used to determine a, augmented somewhat by lattice-spacing effects. Complementary analyses based on the short-distance static potential [36, 45] yield values of $\alpha_{\overline{\rm MS}}^{(0)}(5~{\rm GeV})$ consistent with these. The $n_f=0$ result can be converted to $n_f=4$ by appealing to the potential

models that describe quarkonia so well. Choosing the 1P-1S splitting to set the

scale is equivalent to adjusting the coupling of the quenched theory to reproduce physics at intermediate energies. Since the coupling runs faster for fewer quarks, this adjustment makes the coupling at 5 GeV too small. Correcting the quenched result for this effect yields [31]

$$\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(4)}(5 \text{ GeV}) = 0.174 \pm 0.012.$$
 (12)

For comparison with the compilation in Reference [1]

$$\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(5)}(M_Z) = 0.105 \pm 0.004.$$
 (13)

The error bar in Equation 12 is three times larger than in Equation 11, because the matching energy is not known exactly, and because for charmonium it is rather low. The bulk of the correction is due to the effects of light quarks on the potential at short distances, which can be calculated in perturbation theory. However, a part of the correction arises from the effects of light quarks on the potential at middle distances, which must be estimated phenomenologically.

It is therefore significant that a similar analysis has also been carried out using NRQCD in both the ψ and Υ systems [33]. Typical energy scales in the Υ are about twice those in the ψ . (For example, typical gluon momenta are 400 MeV and 800 MeV in the J/ψ and Υ states, respectively.) The effects of light quarks in the murky intermediate distance region may be expected to be quite different at the Υ than at the ψ . Although some details of the systematic error analysis is different, the ψ -system calculation agrees with Equations 11 and 12. There are subtle differences in the determination of $\alpha_{\overline{\rm MS}}$ from the Υ system, which arise because the typical energy scales are higher. As shown in Table 2 the lattice spacing determined by the Υ 1P-1S splitting is about 10% smaller. Propagating this change implies that $\alpha_{\overline{\rm MS}}^{(0)}(5~{\rm GeV})$ is somewhat larger. However, the correction for the quenched approximation is smaller, because the matching is done at somewhat higher energies. If the argument used to compute the correction is valid, the two effects should cancel in $\alpha_{\overline{\rm MS}}^{(4)}$. Reference [33] finds

$$\alpha_{\overline{MS}}^{(4)}(5 \text{ GeV}) = 0.170 \pm 0.010$$
 (14)

from the Υ system, which agrees remarkably well with the results from the ψ system.

The only way to eliminate the error from the quenched approximation in Equation 12 is to perform calculations in full QCD. The second-most important uncertainty comes from the dependence on the lattice spacing. Because the scale q is tied to the cutoff in these calculations, it is impossible to separate the scaling dependence from any other a dependence. In other words, the criterion that

uncertainties do not accumulate during extrapolation is not strictly respected. To clear things up, one must associate q with a physical scale. An elegant way to do so is to take q = 1/L [46], where L is the linear size of the finite volume. References [44, 46] also suggest a class of schemes for which the extrapolation to the continuum limit is controlled. So far these ideas have been applied to the pure SU(2) gauge theory [44, 46]. For the coupling chosen, the scaling behavior matches two-loop perturbation theory at surprisingly low energies, perhaps even as low as q = 1 GeV.

In several years full QCD calculations with the scaling analysis of References [44, 46] will have computed the strong coupling constant with a precision of a few per cent. The uncertainty will be due to finite statistics, compounded somewhat by extrapolations to zero lattice spacing and physical quark masses. There will be no uncertainty from truncating perturbation theory and no uncertainty from nonperturbative effects. The specific value for $\alpha_s(q)$ will be complemented by an energy scale q, above which perturbative evolution is valid. Purely perturbative calculations can then be used to relate the nonperturbative scheme s to the $\overline{\rm MS}$ scheme. Rather than use this relation to determine $\alpha_{\overline{\rm MS}}$, one ought to eliminate it from high-energy perturbative series in favor of α_s . This is analogous to the strategy used in perturbative QED, where the $\overline{\rm MS}$ coupling is used only as an intermediate step.

4.2 Quark Masses

The masses of the charm and bottom quarks are currently estimated from potential model calculations. Lattice calculations should eventually be able to pin these down to a precision of perhaps 5%, limited by perturbation theory. The existing numerical data on the masses of the J/ψ and the Υ is already quite adequate for this purpose. The remaining work required is short-distance lattice perturbation theory with massive quarks, which is rather complicated.

The top quark is expected to decay weakly before it can form a QCD bound state. Lattice calculations are unlikely to be useful in determining its mass after it is found.

For the light quarks it is convenient to discuss the combinations $\hat{m} = \frac{1}{2}(m_d + m_u)$, $\Delta m_{du}^2 = m_d^2 - m_u^2$, and m_s . Ratios of the light-quark masses are currently best estimated using chiral perturbation theory, a systematic description of the low energy, small quark mass limit of QCD [47]. To set the overall scale requires a dynamical calculation. In lattice QCD, \hat{m} and m_s can be extracted from the variation in the square of the pseudoscalar mass between m_π^2 and m_K^2 . The most difficult quark-mass combination is Δm_{du}^2 , which causes the isospin-violating part of the splittings in hadron multiplets. Since chiral perturbation

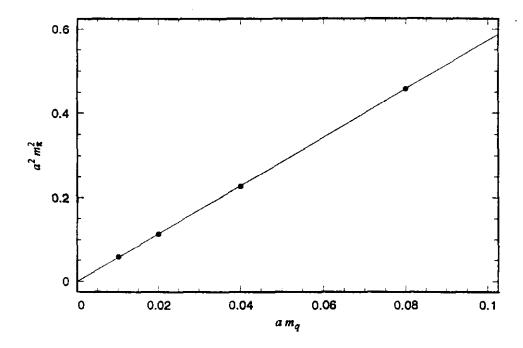


Figure 5: Pseudoscalar meson mass squared as a function of the quark mass, calculated in the quenched approximation [48]. The line is a linear fit to the data.

theory provides a formula for $\Delta m_{du}^2/m_s^2$ with only second-order corrections, it is likely that the best determination of Δm_{du}^2 will come from combining the formula with a lattice QCD result for m_s .

Uncertainties in the chiral estimates of these ratios arise from varying treatments of higher-order terms. Existing lattice calculations either use very massive sea quarks or ignore sea quarks entirely, so they also treat higher-order hadronic effects somewhat incorrectly. We probably must wait for better calculations including sea quarks correctly before lattice calculations can contribute to the determination of the ratios. As illustrated in Figure 5, present calculations show a linear relation between the quark mass and the square of the meson mass, as expected from lowest order chiral perturbation theory alone, up to surprisingly large values of the quark mass.

The overall mass scale of the light quarks is currently determined by less reliable phenomenological assumptions. A full error analysis of lattice determinations of this quantity has not been completed, but it is poorly enough known from conventional phenomenology that it is worth discussing the state of the

lattice results. Because staggered fermions have an exact chiral symmetry, they are likely to be superior for these calculations. As summarized by Ukawa [28], quenched results for $\hat{m}_{\overline{\rm MS}}(1~{\rm GeV})$ are in the range 2.4–3.0 MeV. This is outside the range of 3.5–11.5 MeV indicated in Table 1. There is no evidence in the data for large finite volume, finite lattice spacing, or statistical errors. When relatively heavy sea quarks are added to the calculation no qualitative change is observed: these results cluster around 2 MeV. These results should not be taken too seriously until a more complete error analysis exists, but the possibility that the conventional estimates are too high is intriguing.

5 Weak-Interaction Phenomenology

We now turn to the role lattice QCD can play in determining the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix. In the standard model the CKM matrix accounts for four of the 19 parameters. Furthermore, to test the standard model one would like to extract all elements of the CKM matrix and verify that it is unitary. Because the observable consequences of the CKM matrix involve weak transitions of hadrons, nonperturbative QCD enters immediately. We shall focus on processes that are especially amenable to lattice technology that also play a crucial role in determining the CKM matrix. For a review of weak-interaction phenomenology with emphasis on the CKM matrix see Reference [49]; for more technical reviews of the lattice technology see References [50, 51]. This section discusses leptonic decays in subsection 5.1, semi-leptonic decays in subsection 5.2, and neutral meson mixing in subsection 5.3. A brief explanation of the difficulties with non-leptonic decays is in subsection 5.4.

A lattice large enough to encompass the scales $\Lambda_{\rm QCD}$ and m_W (or m_t) would have several thousand sites on each side. That is obviously not feasible. Fortunately, it is also not necessary. Leptonic and semi-leptonic decay amplitudes factor into a product of leptonic and hadronic matrix elements of electroweak currents. Lattice QCD is needed to calculate the hadronic factors $\langle 0|J_{\mu}|h\rangle$ for leptonic decays and $\langle h'|J_{\mu}|h\rangle$ for semi-leptonic decays. For neutral meson mixing and non-leptonic decays, the standard theoretical apparatus uses the operator product expansion to disentangle contributions above and below a scale $\mu < m_W$ (and m_t). This analysis leads to the effective weak Hamiltonian, which can be written schematically as

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{n} C_n(\mu) O^{(n)}(\mu),$$
 (15)

where, to leading order in m_W^{-2} , the $O^{(n)}$ are four-quark operators. Lattice QCD

is needed to calculate hadronic matrix elements $\langle h'|O^{(n)}|h\rangle(\mu)$, where h and h' are various hadronic states.

Several conditions must be met before hadronic matrix elements of the four-quark operators can be applied to phenomenology. The μ dependence of the coefficient functions and the four-quark operators must cancel. Since the coefficient functions are determined perturbatively, the lattice calculations must be performed with lattice spacings for which perturbation theory is applicable. In this way the lattice regulated matrix element $\langle h'|O_{\rm lat}^{(n)}|h\rangle(\pi/a)$ can be related to the renormalized matrix element $\langle h'|O_R^{(n)}|h\rangle(\mu)$ in the scheme R and at the scale μ for which the coefficient functions are available. Similar, but simpler, relations apply to currents J_μ as well, see below. With our present understanding of lattice perturbation theory [41], this conversion should not introduce large uncertainties.

Independent of such scheme and scale dependence, the four-quark operators must be defined nonperturbatively. Interactions cause mixing with operators with the same (lattice) quantum numbers. When these other operators have the same or higher dimension, it is presumably adequate to use the definitions of perturbation theory. It is at least consistent, because a similar classification already arises in the operator product expansion, Equation 15 which is established perturbatively. A more pernicious problem is mixing with lower dimension operators. Since the coefficients of these operators contain inverse powers of a there is no reliable method to remove them perturbatively. The only feasible way to remove them nonperturbatively is to insist on the correct scaling behavior and the restoration of continuum-limit symmetries.

5.1 Decay Constants

Lattice calculations of the decay constants are necessary both as tests and as predictions of lattice QCD. We shall follow the normalization convention that for pseudoscalar mesons

$$\langle 0|\bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d|\pi^{-}\rangle = ip_{\mu}f_{\pi} \tag{16}$$

and for vector mesons

$$\langle 0|\bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}d|\rho^{-};\lambda\rangle = i\varepsilon_{\mu}^{(\lambda)}m_{\rho}f_{\rho}. \tag{17}$$

From leptonic decays one finds $f_{\pi}=131$ MeV, $f_{K}=160$ MeV, and $f_{\rho}=216$ MeV. On the other hand, the decay constants of heavy-light mesons (D and B) are not known experimentally, and the measurements would be difficult. Hence, even semi-quantitative lattice calculations of f_{D} and f_{B} are

interesting, and, when the uncertainties are fully understood, quantitative lattice calculations will play an essential role in understanding D- and B-meson phenomenology $\{52\}$.

Section 2 pointed out that the lattice artifacts of masses approach the continuum limit as a power of a. Hadronic matrix elements, such as decay constants, typically approach the continuum limit more slowly. The lattice operator and the continuum operator are related as follows

$$\bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d|_{\text{lat}} = \bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d|_{\text{cont}} + c'a\bar{u}D_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d + \cdots, \qquad (18)$$

where a is the lattice spacing. In one-loop perturbation theory one easily sees that D_{μ} in the second term can absorb a gluon with momentum $\sim 1/a$. This contribution, together with analogous ones from the unwritten terms, yield $cg_0^2a(1/a)/(16\pi^2)$. Generalizing to all orders

$$|\bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d|_{\text{lat}} = |\bar{u}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}d|_{\text{cont}} \left[1 + \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} c_{\nu} \left(\frac{g_{0}^{2}}{16\pi^{2}}\right)^{\nu}\right] + O(a),$$
 (19)

where equality holds for matrix elements of low-momentum states, and O(a) denotes terms that vanish as a power. For small a, $g_0^2 \propto (\log a)^{-1}$. Hence $\bar{u}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 d|_{\rm lat}$ approaches $\bar{u}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 d|_{\rm cont}$ rather slowly. Although we have used the axial current as an example, composite operators generally obey an equation analogous to Equation 19.

There are several strategies for handling the lattice-spacing errors indicated in Equation 19. One can ignore the perturbative bracket and hope that the O(a) terms are the largest lattice artifact at accessible values of a. This would only be sensible if the coefficients c_1 were small, but explicit calculations in several papers [53, 54, 55] show that they are not. One could acquire numerical data over a wide range of g_0^2 to perform a correct extrapolation, but that is impractical. Fortunately, it is possible to improve the situation. First, if one recasts perturbative series such as the one in Equation 19 in terms of a renormalized coupling constant, one expects the higher-order corrections to be small [41]. Second, most of c_1 comes from a certain class of diagrams (Feynman gauge tadpole diagrams) [56]. These contributions can be isolated and treated nonperturbatively [41]. Third, systematic improvement to the action [25] and the operators [57] can reduce the O(a) terms. With these three improvements it should be possible to reduce lattice-spacing errors so that they are smaller than the statistical uncertainties.

The most systematic investigation of light-meson decay constants [58] uses the same gauge configurations and quark propagators used to compute light-hadron masses in Reference [35]. The extrapolation in quark mass and the

Table 3: Summary of results for decay constants. The error bars for light mesons [58] do not include errors estimates for the quenched approximation and plausibly small residual lattice-spacing errors. The error bars for heavylight mesons [61] do not include, quenched, finite-volume, or non-zero lattice spacing errors. See the text for a discussion of these errors.

	$f_\pi/m_ ho$	$f_K/m_{ ho}$	$f_{ ho}/m_{ ho}$	f_D/f_π	f_B/f_π
expt.	0.171	0.209	0.281		
IQCD Ref.	$0.129^{+0.040}_{-0.051}$ [58]	$0.164^{+0.030}_{-0.034}$ [58]	0.245 ^{+0.055} -0.049 [58]	1.58 ± 0.15	1.43 ± 0.15
1001.	[00]	[00]	[96]	[61]	[61]

finite-volume corrections were handled in the same manner as for the hadron masses (cf. Section 3.2). In this case the finite-volume corrections increase the error bars. The lattice-spacing extrapolation was done as follows. The logarithmic a dependence and some of the O(a) dependence was accounted for as specified in References [41, 59, 60], and the remaining a dependence was assumed to be linear in a. The results of this analysis are tabulated in Table 3.

One of the most eagerly pursued topics in lattice QCD is the calculation of heavy-light meson properties. When one of the quarks in the meson becomes heavy, the dynamics simplifies considerably [62, 63]. In particular, for $m_q \gg \Lambda_{\rm QCD}$ the typical momentum in a heavy-light meson remains small, $p \sim \Lambda_{\rm QCD}$. The energy scale m_q decouples from the heavy quark dynamics, making it possible to derive effective theories [64]-[70]. For infinite mass there are new symmetries among different spins and flavors of heavy quarks. These symmetries have many interesting implications. For example, $m_P = m_V$ and $f_P = f_V$, where "P" and "V" denote generic pseudoscalar and vector heavy-light mesons, and the various form factors discussed in Section 5.2 can be expressed in terms of one universal function [66].

For this section the most important result of heavy-quark symmetry is a scaling law for the pseudoscalar decay constant $f_P \propto M_P^{-1/2}$ [71]. The leading symmetry-breaking effect is at order M_P^{-1} , i.e.

$$\Phi_P = f_P \sqrt{M_P} = \Phi_\infty - \Phi'_\infty M_P^{-1}.$$
 (20)

Because of the theoretical utility of heavy-quark symmetry, lattice QCD results for Φ_{∞} and Φ'_{∞} are interesting, as well as the physical results f_D and f_B .

The large mass is also an important technical issue for lattice QCD calculations of heavy-light meson properties. At currently accessible values of the

lattice spacing, charm and bottom lie in region $m_q a \approx 1$, and for the infinite mass limit one must reconcile $m_q \to \infty$ and $a \to 0$ in a compatible way. This is done by formulating a lattice action of the effective theories, either static [52] or nonrelativistic [67, 70]. In analogy with eqs. (18) and (19), the currents of the effective lattice theory must be matched to the relativistic continuum theory [72, 73, 74, 75]. Another approach is to use Wilson fermions and extrapolate towards infinite mass. At first sight this seems risky. However, it is possible to show how the energy scale m_q decouples in the lattice theory [76]. Such an analysis shows how to interpret the Wilson theory as an effective theory, and how it shares many features with the static and nonrelativistic theories [59, 60].

Now let us discuss results from lattice QCD for Φ_{∞} , Φ'_{∞} , f_D , and f_B . Most of the work has focussed on one of two lines of attack. One is a systematic analysis of the infinite-mass (or static) limit [77, 78, 79, 80], concentrating on Φ_{∞} . The important technical issues are optimizing the signal-to-noise ratio, and studying the lattice-spacing and finite-volume dependence of Φ_{∞} . The other line of attack is to concentrate on the mass dependence. Until now this has meant combining numerical data from quark masses near the charm mass with the static-limit results, and interpolating [61, 82, 83, 84, 85].

Results for f_D and f_B from Reference [61] are in Table 3. (We cite Reference [61] because it comes close to incorporating the mass effects derived in References [59, 76].) Heavy-strange meson decay constants are $f_D/f_{D_s}=f_B/f_{B_s}=0.90\pm0.05$. Taking meson masses and f_π from experiment, the scaling combinations are $\Phi_D=0.28\pm0.03~{\rm GeV}^{3/2}$ and $\Phi_B=0.43\pm0.04~{\rm GeV}^{3/2}$, which can be compared with the static limit $\Phi_\infty=0.53\pm0.10~{\rm GeV}^{3/2}$ [61]. (This value is consistent with References [78, 85] and with Reference [77] when scale-setting ambiguities are resolved.) The systematic studies of the static limit [78] suggest that the extrapolation to infinite volume will change these results negligibly, and that the extrapolation to a=0 may reduce the results by 10%. A more serious source of uncertainty comes from setting the scale. The results presented here use f_π to set the scale. This may not be the best choice as a rule, but one might argue that the quenched approximation's errors cancel to some extent in f_P/f_π . For example, the ratio f_K/f_π in Table 3 [58] agrees much better with experiment than the decay constants themselves.

Although the numerical results may not yet be definitive, there are two important conclusions to draw from these lattice results: First, Φ_{∞} , f_D , and f_B are larger than many model calculations had suggested [86]. By combining the first column of Table 3 with the heavy-light results, one sees that discrepancy is even more dramatic using m_{ρ} as the standard of mass. Second, the $1/M_P$ corrections are large and phenomenologically important. This is not really unexpected from the heavy-quark symmetry arguments, since the correction is

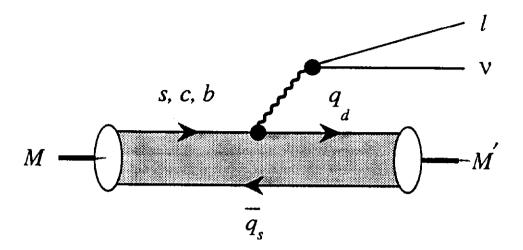


Figure 6: Spectator diagram for meson semi-leptonic decays. For the weak interactions, the diagram may be interpreted as a Feynman diagram. However the strong interactions binding quarks into mesons must be treated nonperturbatively, as indicated by the grey shading.

first order, and it need not be indicative of the size of second-order corrections.

5.2 Semi-Leptonic Decays

A generic semi-leptonic decay can be denoted $A \to Xl\nu$, where A is a flavored hadron. We shall focus on mesons, because they are easier than baryons to study, both experimentally and theoretically. The process is depicted in Figure 6. The flavored quark (strange, charm, or bottom) undergoes a weak decay by emitting a virtual W boson that subsequently turns into the lepton pair. The other quark (\bar{q}_s in Figure 6) does not take part in the weak decay, so it is called the spectator. However, the QCD interaction between the spectator quark and the decaying quark $(s, c, b \to q_d)$ in Figure 6) is the most difficult feature of the decay to calculate. It is the part that requires lattice QCD.

The amplitude for $A \to X l \nu$ is proportional to the hadronic matrix element $\langle X | J_{\mu} | A \rangle$, where J_{μ} is the V-A charged current. If the quark of flavor a turns

When the final state meson X is an isoscalar and A is charged, there is another diagram in which A annihilates into W and X emerges out of the glue. For simplicity we shall ignore these decays.

into flavor x

$$J_{\mu} = \bar{x}\gamma_{\mu}(1-\gamma_5)a. \tag{21}$$

It is convenient to express the amplitude in terms of form factors. When X is a pseudoscalar meson one writes

$$\langle X|J_{\mu}|A\rangle = f_{+}(q^{2})(p+p')_{\mu} + f_{-}(q^{2})(p-p')_{\mu}, \tag{22}$$

where p(p') is the initial (final) state meson's momentum and $q = p - p' = p_l + p_\nu$. Similarly, when X is a vector meson there are four independent form factors. Decays correspond to the kinematic region $m_l^2 < q^2 \le q_{\max}^2 = (m - m')^2$; in the rest frame of the initial meson, the neutrino is soft at $q^2 = m_l^2$, whereas the final state meson is at rest at the "endpoint" $q^2 = q_{\max}^2$.

The interplay between experiment, lattice QCD, and the CKM matrix becomes clear upon examining the differential decay rate. For example, when X is a pseudoscalar meson

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dq^2} = \frac{G_F^2 \lambda^{3/2}}{192\pi^3 m_A^3} \left| V_{ax} f_+(q^2) \right|^2, \tag{23}$$

where V_{ax} is the element of the CKM matrix associated with the quark-W vertex in Figure 6, and $\lambda = (m_A^2 - m_X^2 - q^2)^2 - 4m_X^2q^2$. The contribution of f_- to the rate is proportional to the lepton mass, so in most cases it can be neglected. The exceptions are $K \to \pi\mu\nu$ and τ lepton final states. When X is a vector meson, the decay rate obeys a similar formula, with the contribution of one of the four form factors suppressed by one power of the lepton mass. Everything in Equation 23 is well-known or measurable except V_{ax} and f_+ , so a measurement of $d\Gamma/dq^2$ constitutes a measurement of $|V_{ax}f_+(q^2)|$. Specific decays and their CKM matrix elements are shown in Table 4.

The form factor is calculable. The theoretical tools available are lattice QCD and symmetry arguments. For example, chiral symmetry requires $f_+^{K\to\pi}(0)=1$, with second-order corrections estimated to be $\lesssim 1\%$. A combination of experimental measurements of the q^2 dependence with this normalization condition gives the best determination of V_{us} [87]. It is not likely that lattice QCD will compete with this approach in the foreseeable future, especially since the small quark masses in $K\to\pi$ pose additional technical difficulties for the lattice calculations. Nevertheless, a comparison of the q^2 dependence of lattice and experimental form factors, such as in Reference [88], could be used to get a feel for the reliability of the quenched approximation. Similarly, heavy-quark symmetry [66] requires $f_+^{B\to D}(q_{\max}^2)=1$, again with second-order corrections [89]. Especially for the D-meson, the applicability of heavy-quark symmetry is not guaranteed, but lattice QCD can be used to test it.

Table 4: Semi-leptonic decays and the CKM matrix elements they determine. For brevity only pseudoscalar final states are listed; vector final states are ρ , K^* and D^* , as appropriate.

$A \rightarrow X$	V_{ax}	COMMENT
$K \to \pi$	V_{us}	calibrate quenched approximation
$D \rightarrow \pi$	V_{cd}	uncertainty dominated first by BR($D \to \pi e \nu$), then by f_+
$D \rightarrow K$		
$B \rightarrow D$	V_{cb}	test corrections to heavy quark limit
$B \rightarrow \pi$	V_{ub}	vector final states useful; cf. text

Lattice calculations of semi-leptonic form factors, essentially using the strategy of Reference [90], have been carried out for $D \to \pi$, K [88, 90, 91, 92, 93] and $D \to \rho$, K^* [94, 95, 96]. Two groups are involved, which we shall abbreviate BKS [88, 90, 94, 96] and ELC [91, 92, 93, 95]. Both groups report statistical errors of roughly 15%. BKS also estimate systematic errors, which introduce an additional 30-40% uncertainty; presumably the systematic uncertainties of the ELC calculations are similarly large. Except for the quenched approximation, however, the systematic uncertainties would be smaller if the statistical errors were smaller. For example, the largest contributor to the systematic uncertainty is the lattice-spacing dependence of the form factors [88, 94]. With better statistics over a wider range of lattice spacing, this component can be reduced by extrapolating.

Table 5 summarizes lattice results for several form factors in semi-leptonic decays of the D. Lattice results are most reliable at and near q_{\max}^2 , i.e. when the spatial momentum of the hadrons is small. However, especially by giving the initial-state meson non-zero momentum [91], it is possible to reach even $q^2 < 0$. Experiments customarily quote results for the form factor at $q^2 = 0$, so BKS and ELC do so too. The extrapolation to $q^2 = 0$ is done by fitting to the pole-dominance form

$$f_{+}(q^{2}) = \frac{f_{+}(0)}{1 - q^{2}/m^{2}}$$
 (24)

where m is a suitable resonance mass. Both BKS and ELC find that their numerical calculations agree qualitatively with this form. However, verification of pole dominance is not essential to lattice QCD or to experiments. BKS stress the utility of a direct comparison for vector-meson final states near the endpoint [96]. Lattice calculations are most straightforward at q_{max}^2 , but then vector

Table 5: Some results for form factors $f_+(q^2)$ in $D \to K$ semi-leptonic decays and $A_1(q^2)$ and $A_2(q^2)$ in $D \to K^*$ semi-leptonic decays. Experimental results are from E691 and E653; their statistical and systematic errors have been added in quadrature. For BKS and ELC systematic errors are *not* listed. Based on the estimates of BKS, it is reasonable to assign 30-40% systematic errors to form factors themselves and 20-30% to the ratio.

	$f_{+}(0)$	$f_{+}(q_{\max}^2)$	$A_1(0)$	$A_{2}(0)$	$\overline{A_2/A_1}(0)$	$A_1(q_{\max}^2)$
expt	0.69(04)		0.46(07)		0.82(25)	0.54(08)
BKS	0.90(08)	1.64(36)	0.83(14)	0.59(14)	0.70(16)	1.23(16)
ELC	0.63(08)		0.53(03)	0.19(21)		

modes are preferable experimentally, because the phase-space suppression of the dominant form factor in the differential decay rate at the endpoint is only $\lambda^{1/2} = 2m_A p_X$.

Although the uncertainty estimates on the results presented in Table 5 are still at a qualitative stage, it is important to realize that semi-leptonic decays are not much more difficult to compute than the hadron masses and decay constants. Since References [35, 58] have demonstrated the feasibility of a systematic, rather than incremental, approach, one can hope for a comparable analysis of semi-leptonic decays in the near future.

5.3 Neutral Meson Mixing

Some of the operators on the right-hand side of Equation 15 induce neutral meson mixing, e.g. $K^0 \leftrightarrow \bar{K}^0$. For the kaon the four-quark operator is

$$\mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} = \bar{s}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d_a \bar{s}_b \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d_b, \tag{25}$$

where a and b denote color indices. The mixing amplitude is proportional to the matrix element $\langle \bar{K}^0 | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} | K^0 \rangle$. Similarly, the $\Delta B=2$ operator obtained by the substitution $\bar{s} \mapsto \bar{b}$ induces $B^0 - \bar{B}^0$ mixing. On the other hand, $D^0 - \bar{D}^0$ mixing is expected to be too small to be interesting.

Let us focus on the kaon. Phenomenologists use the so-called "vacuum saturation approximation" as a standard of comparison for $\langle \bar{K}^0 | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} | K^0 \rangle$. This approximation treats the four-quark operator a product of two-quark operators, inserts a complete set of states, and then keeps only the vacuum contribution

[97]. The result is

$$\langle \bar{K}^0 | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} | K^0 \rangle \Big|_{VSA} = \frac{8}{3} m_K^2 f_K^2. \tag{26}$$

The factor 8/3 arises because there are two Fierz arrangements and because both \bar{s} operators can act on the initial state. It is customary to define the "kaon B parameter"

$$B_K = \frac{\langle \bar{K}^0 | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} | K^0 \rangle}{\frac{8}{3} m_K^2 f_K^2}.$$
 (27)

In numerical lattice QCD the ratio B_K is a convenient quantity, because the statistical and systematic uncertainties of the ratio are under better control than those of numerator or denominator separately.

A typical result using B_K is the one for the parameter ϵ , which appears in the analysis of CP violation in the K^0 - \bar{K}^0 system. Combining the measurement of $|\epsilon|$ with other experimentally known numbers, the standard model predicts (cf. Reference [49] and references therein)

$$5.6 \times 10^{-8} = -\hat{B}_{K} |V_{cb}| \operatorname{Im} V_{td} \left[(\eta_{3} f_{3}(y_{t}) - \eta_{1}) y_{c} |V_{cd}| + \eta_{2} y_{t} f_{2}(y_{t}) |V_{cb}| \operatorname{Re} V_{td} \right],$$
(28)

where $y_q = m_q^2/m_W^2$, V is the CKM matrix, the f_i are kinematic functions, the η_i are perturbative QCD corrections, and \hat{B}_K is a renormalization group invariant quantity related to B_K . Taking the one-loop anomalous dimension of $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2}$ into account

$$\hat{B}_K = (\alpha_S(\mu))^{-2/9} B_K(\mu). \tag{29}$$

The combination of CKM matrix elements in Equation 28 depends on the CP-violating phase and (using unitarity constraints) on $|V_{ub}/V_{cb}|$.

As mentioned above, although there is no physical reason to prefer B_K to the matrix element $\langle \bar{K}^0|\mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2}|K^0\rangle$, it makes better sense to quote B_K from lattice QCD. Because of correlations in the Monte Carlo, the statistical fluctuations of the numerator and denominator cancel to a large extent. Moreover, an analysis based on chiral perturbation theory suggests that some effects of the quenched approximation also cancel in the ratio [98]. Finally, B_K should be finite in the chiral limit $(m_K^2 \to 0)$, providing a consistency check on the numerical results.

The most important reason why the lattice calculations of $\langle \bar{K}^0 | \mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2} | K^0 \rangle$ are feasible is that there can be no mixing with lower dimension operators, because $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta S=2}$ is the lowest dimension operator with $\Delta S=2$. Consequently, the numerical calculations presented below are much more reliable than calculations of analogous matrix elements of penguins and other denizens in the zoo of

four-quark operators. Despite these advantages, there are still some difficulties. For Wilson fermions there are problems with chiral symmetry, making necessary a subtraction [99, 100] that ultimately decreases the signal-to-noise ratio. For staggered fermions chiral symmetry makes this subtraction unnecessary, but one must treat the extra flavors with care [101].

The numerical results with the smallest uncertainties have been done with staggered fermions [98]. At present the largest uncertainty comes from extrapolating in a; it is uncertain whether the extrapolation should be taken in a or a^2 . The most recent quenched results [102] are $\hat{B}_K = 0.66 \pm 0.06$ after a linear extrapolation and $\hat{B}_K = 0.79 \pm 0.03$ after a quadratic extrapolation. By comparison, Wilson quarks yield 0.88 ± 0.13 [99, 103]. A calculation in full QCD is compatible with the results from the quenched approximation, supporting the arguments that effects of the quenched approximation cancel in B_K [104].

These results for B_K might foster the impression that the vacuum saturation approximation gives a fair description, but that is misleading. Separating the four-quark operator into VV and AA terms, it turns out that the two have large contributions that cancel in quenched lattice QCD. Conversely, the vacuum saturation approximation would assert that the AA term contributes everything and the VV term nothing.

Mixing is also of great interest in the neutral B-meson system, because, like ϵ in the neutral kaon system, it gives insight into the third row of the CKM matrix. In the standard model

$$x_d = (\text{known factors}) \left| V_{td}^* V_{tb} \right|^2 f_B^2 B_B, \tag{30}$$

where $x_d = \Delta M_{B^0}/\Gamma_{B^0} = 0.66 \pm 0.11$ is a measure of the mixing. A similar formula applies to the B_s meson. In addition to the decay constant, discussed above, the B-meson B parameter is needed. Pilot lattice studies [84] yield values of B_B and B_B , close to the vacuum saturation value of unity. The level of technical detail in these calculations is not yet high enough to understand all uncertainties, but a better understanding will certainly emerge in the coming years.

5.4 Non-Leptonic Decays

Non-leptonic decays, such as $K \to \pi\pi$ processes, are also mediated by fourquark operators from Equation 15. Many of the interesting operators suffer from the problem of mixing with lower dimension operators, which did not afflict the calculation of B_K . A more serious obstacle to the treatment of nonleptonic decays is the presence of two (or more) hadrons in the final state. The technical aspect is the difficulty of separating the particles in the finite volume. The conceptual aspect is the determination of final-state phase shifts from purely real quantities computed in Euclidean field theories [105, 106]. It is rigorously known [107] how to determine the properties of the ρ resonance, which decays through an interaction in the QCD Hamiltonian. The stumbling block is evidently the application of the ideas in Reference [107] when the particle decays through an interaction being treated as a perturbation, as for weak decays. Note that these difficulties do not stem from the lattice cutoff, but from other features, finite volume and imaginary time, introduced to make the computational method tractable. Nevertheless, until these issues are resolved, lattice results for non-leptonic decays probably will not warrant attention from non-experts.

6 Summary and Prospects

The coming generation of calculations will be done on computers with speeds of tens of gigaflops. In a few years, computers with hundreds of gigaflops or perhaps a teraflop will probably be available [108]. These machines will make possible crucial improvements in lattice calculations, but increases in computing power alone with no methodological improvements will probably be insufficient to make possible first principles calculations with light sea quarks. Algorithms for the direct inclusion of sea quarks in QCD simulations made dramatic progress during the 1980's. The current best algorithms are orders of magnitude more efficient than those proposed for the first Monte Carlo spectrum calculations around 1980. However, for large lattices and medium quark masses they still exhibit extremely long correlation times which are not understood theoretically, and whose scaling behavior in such quantities as the lattice volume and quark mass are not understood. The current consensus is that one order of magnitude in computing power is likely to be too little to do definitive calculations including light sea quarks, without further theoretical insight.

What direction will lattice phenomenology take if there are no new algorithmic ideas? For heavy $Q\bar{Q}$ mesons, nonrelativistic arguments should make possible rock solid understanding of all errors aside from quenching errors, and decent understanding of those. For hadrons containing light quarks, it now appears that good control of all errors aside from quenching errors is likely to be achievable in the coming generation of calculations. The uncertainties shown in Figure 4 [35], will be checked in the coming few years (and perhaps reduced to the point that the degree of disagreement of the quenched approximation with the real world stands out more clearly). If the mass of one of the light hadrons were unknown, one might take the typical disagreement with the known

quantities as a phenomenological estimate of the quenching uncertainties.

Today there are a couple of phenomenologically interesting lattice QCD calculations in which, because they are in one way or another special cases, a complete error analysis has been attempted. For the more demanding case of the light hadron spectrum, a systematic calculation this year made corrections for all of the sources of error within the quenched approximation, but did not completely estimate the uncertainties of all of the corrections. It is likely that such estimates for light hadron calculations will prove possible in the quenched approximation on the current and coming generation of large scale computers without great conceptual breakthroughs (although with much labor). If this becomes the case, many of the most crucial applications of lattice QCD to standard model phenomenogy will be likewise calculable.

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