

International Journal of Modern Physics A
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STRUCTURE OF $\Lambda^*(1405)$ AND THE Λ^* -MESON-BARYON COUPLING CONSTANTS

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Received (Day Month Year)

Revised (Day Month Year)

Within an extended chiral constituent quark model, three- and five-quark structure of the S_{01} resonance $\Lambda(1405)$ is investigated with respect to the coupling constants $g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}^2$ and $g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}^2$. Our findings corroborate with about 50% of five-quark admixture in the $\Lambda(1405)$ needed in reproducing the strong decay width, $\Gamma_{\Lambda(1405)\rightarrow(\Sigma\pi)^\circ}$.

Keywords: Phenomenological quark models; Hyperons; Strong coupling constants.

1. Introduction and Theoretical Frame

The nature of the $\Lambda^*(1405)$ -resonance, investigated since half a century, still bears puzzling features. Its well established couplings to $\bar{K}N$ and $\pi\Sigma$ states have offered guidance to various theoretical approaches in improving our understanding of it.

Recent achievements¹ in describing non-strange baryons such as the nucleon, Δ -, $P_{11}(1440)$ and $S_{11}(1535)$ -resonances as a superposition of three- and five-quark states bring in new insights into the structure of baryons.

In a recent work² a chiral constituent quark model approach was extended to the strangeness sector, studying the $\Lambda^*(1405)$ in a truncated Fock space, which includes three- and five-quark components, as well as configuration mixings among them, namely, $qqq \leftrightarrow qq\bar{q}\bar{q}$ transitions. That formalism allowed us to calculate the helicity amplitudes for the electromagnetic decays ($\Lambda^* \rightarrow \Lambda(1116)\gamma$, $\Sigma(1194)\gamma$), and transition amplitudes for strong decays ($\Lambda^* \rightarrow \Sigma(1194)\pi$, K^-p), as well as the relevant decay widths, namely, $\Gamma_{\Lambda^*\rightarrow\Lambda(1116)\gamma}$, $\Gamma_{\Lambda^*\rightarrow\Sigma(1193)\gamma}$, and $\Gamma_{\Lambda(1405)\rightarrow\Sigma(1194)\pi}$. The only available experimental value³, for the strong decay width $\Gamma_{\Lambda^*\rightarrow(\Sigma\pi)^\circ}$, was well reproduced with about 50% of five-quark admixture in Λ^* .

In this contribution we concentrate on the coupling constants $g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}$ and $g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}$ allowing us to put further constraints on the percentage of the five-quark component within the Λ^* . The starting point is the hadronic level Lagrangian for the $\Lambda(1405)BM$ coupling, with $B \equiv \Sigma$, N and $M \equiv \pi$, K

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Lambda(1405)BM} = i \frac{f_{\Lambda(1405)BM}}{m_M} \bar{\psi}_B \gamma_\mu \partial^\mu \phi_M X_M \psi_{\Lambda(1405)} + h.c., \quad (1)$$

where the transition coupling amplitude reads

$$\frac{f_{\Lambda(1405)BM}}{m_M} = \frac{\langle [\hat{T}_d^M + \hat{T}_{35}^M + \hat{T}_{\bar{3}3}^M] \rangle}{m_{\Lambda(1405)} - m_B}, \quad (2)$$

with the diagonal (\hat{T}_d^M) and non diagonal (\hat{T}_{35}^M and $\hat{T}_{\bar{3}3}^M$) transition amplitudes calculated within the nonrelativistic chiral constituent quark model². The Λ^* -Baryon-Meson coupling constant is given by

$$g_{\Lambda^*BM} = \frac{m_B - m_{\Lambda^*}}{m_M} f_{\Lambda^*BM}. \quad (3)$$

2. Results and Discussion

The coupling constants $g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}$ and $g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}$, as well as the ratio $R = g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}/g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}$ have been investigated both experimentally⁴ and within various theoretical approaches^{5,6,7,8,9,10,11}, but none of them relying on the internal quark structure of the Λ^* -resonance. Here we report on the results obtained within our chiral constituent quark approach, and investigate the dependence of the coupling constants on the percentage of genuine five-quark admixture in the Λ^* wave function.

Values for those entities, extracted through a T-matrix effective-range expansion⁶ are

$$g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}^2/4\pi = 0.047 \pm 0.007 ; g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}^2/4\pi = 0.32 \pm 0.02 ; R = \frac{g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}^2}{g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}^2} = 6.8 \pm 1.0 .$$

Several authors report results for the ratio R and not always for individual coupling constants. The ratio R , given above, comes out to be about one order of magnitude larger than its value (2/3) if it were a pure $SU(3)$ singlet. It is also significantly different from values obtained by various approaches, such as current algebra^{7,8}: 3.2, potential models^{7,9}: 4.8, dispersion relations¹⁰: 4.0, or still asymptotic $SU(3)$ symmetry approach¹¹: 4.8.

In Fig. 1 our results are shown. In the Left panel coupling constants as a function of five-quark component percentage (P_{5q}) in the Λ^* wave function are depicted. As known from other sources, the $\bar{K}N$ coupling to Λ^* is (much) larger than coupling to $\pi\Sigma$. The latter, within our approach, shows no significant sensitivity to P_{5q} . Actually, the predicted value for $g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}^2$ starts and ends at 0.031, after having gone through a maximum around 0.065 at $P_{5q} \approx 46\%$. This smooth dependence on P_{5q} does not impose significant constraints on the P_{5q} range. On the contrary, the $g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}^2$ varies, at least up to $P_{5q} \lesssim 60\%$, rather drastically. The horizontal line corresponds to the central value in $g_{\Lambda^*\bar{K}N}^2/4\pi = 0.32 \pm 0.02$ and dotted lines to $\pm\sigma$, intercepting the prediction curve at $P_{5q} = (55 \pm 1)\%$.

In the Right panel, Fig. 1, our results for the ratio R as a function of P_{5q} are shown. The horizontal lines correspond to $R = 6.8 \pm 1.0$. We notice that the smooth variation of $g_{\Lambda^*\pi\Sigma}^2$ affects nevertheless the shape of R and the intersection values. Actually, from that figure we deduce $P_{5q} = (48 \pm 3)\%$, in agreement with

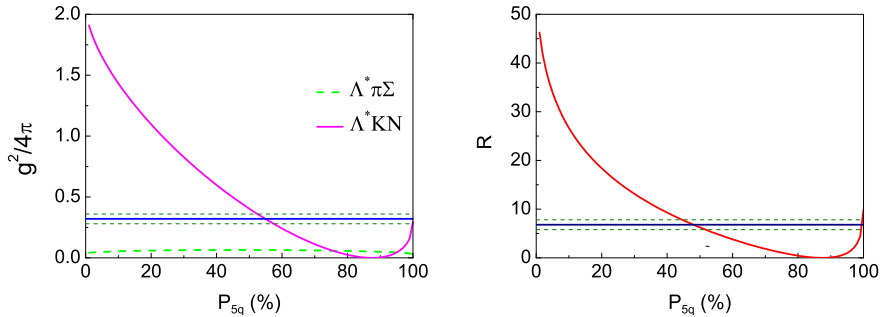


Fig. 1. **Left:** Coupling constants $g_{\Lambda^* \bar{K}N}$ and $g_{\Lambda^* \pi \Sigma}$ as a function of the five-quark component (P_{5q}) in $\Lambda^*(1405)$ **Right:** ratio $R = g_{\Lambda^* \bar{K}N}/g_{\Lambda^* \pi \Sigma}$ as a function of P_{5q} . For explanations of horizontal lines see the text.

the $P_{5q} \approx 50\%$ found to reproduce the strong decay width $\Gamma_{\Lambda(1405) \rightarrow (\Sigma\pi)^0} = 50 \pm 2$ MeV.

In conclusion, our recent² and present studies strongly suggest an admixture of five-quark components in Λ^* at the level of $P_{5q} \approx 50\%$. Extensive ongoing theoretical investigations (see e.g. Refs.^{2,12} and references therein) will greatly benefit from current experimental programmes on the K^- -nucleon interactions in $DA\Phi NE$ ¹³ and electromagnetic production of $\Lambda^*(1405)$ in JLab¹⁴.

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