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Spectroscopy of Charmed Hadrons: Facing the Latest Experimental Results with the Theory

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Heavy Quark and Chiral Symmetries

1.1 Heavy Quark Effective Theory

There is a strong analogy between the Heavy Quark Effective Theory (HQET) and the non-relativistic limit of a Dirac spinor interacting with the electromagnetic field. Lets briefly review the latter. The Lagrangian density for such a particle is

$$\mathcal{L} = \psi^{\dagger} \left(\left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - e\phi \right) - c\alpha \cdot \left(-i\hbar \nabla - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) - \beta m_0 c^2 \right) \psi \tag{1.1}$$

and the equation of motion is

$$i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi = \left(e\phi + c\alpha \cdot \left(-i\hbar\nabla - \frac{e}{c}\mathbf{A}\right) + \beta m_0 c^2\right)\psi$$
 (1.2)

Now, in order to take the non-relativistic limit, one consider a particle with four-momentum $p_{\mu} = m_0 c \delta_{\mu 0} + k_{\mu}$ where k_{μ} is small compared to $m_0 c$. To this end is convenient to drop out the rest-frame oscillating phase contribution and write explicitly the lower and upper spinor components.

$$\psi = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}m_0c^2t\right)\begin{pmatrix}\varphi\\\chi\end{pmatrix} \quad . \tag{1.3}$$

In terms of φ and χ the Lagrangian becomes

$$\mathcal{L} = \varphi^{\dagger} \left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - e\phi \right) \varphi + \chi^{\dagger} \left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - e\phi - 2m_{0}c^{2} \right) \chi$$
$$-\varphi^{\dagger} c\alpha \cdot \left(-i\hbar \nabla - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \chi - \chi^{\dagger} c\alpha \cdot \left(-i\hbar \nabla - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \varphi \quad , \tag{1.4}$$

and the equation of motion

$$\begin{cases} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi - e\phi\varphi = \sigma \cdot \left(-i\hbar \nabla - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \chi \\ i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi - 2m_0 c^2 \chi - e\varphi\chi = \sigma \cdot \left(-i\hbar \nabla - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \varphi \end{cases}$$
(1.5)

If $|i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\chi|$, $|e\phi\chi| \ll |2m_0c^2\chi|$ then one can express the latter in the following way:

$$\chi = -\frac{1}{2m_0c^2} \left[1 + \left(\frac{i\hbar}{2m_0c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{e\phi}{2m_0c^2} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{m_0^2} \right) \right] \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \left(-i\hbar \boldsymbol{\nabla} - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right)$$
(1.6)

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to the leading order the lagrangian becomes

$$\mathcal{L} = \varphi^{\dagger} \left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - e\phi \right) \varphi + \frac{1}{2m_{0}c^{2}} \varphi^{\dagger} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \left(-i\hbar \boldsymbol{\nabla} - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right) \right)^{2} \varphi$$

$$= \varphi^{\dagger} \left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - e\phi \right) \varphi + \frac{1}{2m_{0}c^{2}} \varphi^{\dagger} \left(-i\hbar \boldsymbol{\nabla} - \frac{e}{c} \mathbf{A} \right)^{2} \varphi - \frac{e\hbar}{c} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$
(1.7)