

ELECTROMAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF MESONS IN SU(6) SYMMETRY

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In the present note we investigate the relations between the magnetic moments of charged vector mesons and the amplitudes of the decay  $V \rightarrow P + \gamma$  within the framework of SU(6) symmetry [1] ( $V$  - vector meson belonging to a unitary octet or singlet,  $P$  - pseudoscalar meson).

The vector and pseudoscalar mesons are described in SU(6) symmetry by a second-rank tensor  $\Phi_B^A$  ( $A, B = 1, \dots, 6$ ) which has the following form in terms of the meson wave functions [2]:

$$\Phi_B^A \equiv \Phi_{j,\beta}^{i,\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\delta_j^i f_\beta^\alpha + (\sigma)_j^i (V_\beta^\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \delta_\beta^\alpha V_0)] \quad (1)$$

where  $i, j = 1, 2$  are the spin indices,  $\alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3$  are unitary indices,  $f_\beta^\alpha$  is the wave function of the octet of pseudoscalar mesons,  $V_\beta^\alpha$  is the wave function of the octet of vector mesons, and  $V_0$  is the wave function of the vector singlet.

If the electromagnetic meson current is a component of an SU(6) representation of dimensionality  $\underline{35}$ , corresponding to a triplet (inasmuch as we are dealing here with magnetic moments or magnetic transitions) relative to the spin subgroup SU(2) and the component  $T_{\underline{1}}^{\underline{1}}$  of the octet relative to the subgroup SU(3), then we can obtain for the current

$$\frac{I_{A'}^{A'}}{I_{i\alpha}^{i'\alpha'}} = a(\bar{\Phi}_{j,\beta}^{i',\alpha'} \Phi_{i,\alpha}^{j,\beta} + \bar{\Phi}_{i,\alpha}^{j,\beta} \Phi_{j,\beta}^{i',\alpha'} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{i\alpha}^{i'\alpha'} \delta_{j,\beta}^{j,\beta} r, r) + b(\bar{\Phi}_{j,\beta}^{i',\alpha'} \Phi_{i,\alpha}^{j,\beta} - \Phi_{i,\alpha}^{j,\beta} \bar{\Phi}_{j,\beta}^{i',\alpha'}) \quad (2)$$

The fact that the current is determined by two parameters follows immediately from the resolution of  $\underline{35} \otimes \underline{35}$  into the irreducible SU(6) representations:  $\underline{35} \times \underline{35} = 1 + \underline{35} + \underline{35} + \underline{189} + \underline{280} + \underline{280}^* + \underline{405}$ .

According to the invariance against charge conjugation, the magnetic moments of neutral vector mesons are equal to zero, and for this reason we must put  $b = 0$  in (2). Substituting in (2) the expression (1) for  $\Phi_B^A$ , we obtain the following expression for the current responsible for the magnetic moments and the magnetic transitions:

$$\frac{I_{A'}^{A'}}{I_{i\alpha}^{i'\alpha'}} = a \frac{i!}{i!} [(f_\beta^\alpha Q_\alpha^\beta + f_\alpha^\beta Q_\beta^\alpha) + (Q_\beta^\alpha f_\alpha^\beta + Q_\alpha^\beta f_\beta^\alpha)] + ia(\sigma_r)_i^{i'} \epsilon_{pqz} [(Q_p^\alpha)^{\alpha'} (Q_q)^\beta - (Q_p)^\beta (Q_q)^{\alpha'}] \quad (3)$$

where

$$Q_\beta^\alpha = V_\beta^\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \delta_\beta^\alpha V_0$$

In (3) the term proportional to  $(\sigma)_i^{i'}$  describes magnetic transitions of the type  $V \rightarrow P + \gamma$ , while the term proportional to  $(\sigma_r)_i^{i'}$  corresponds to the magnetic moments of vector mesons with all these quantities determined by one parameter.

From (3) we obtain the following relations for the amplitudes of the decays  $V \rightarrow P + \gamma$ :

$$g(\rho^- \rightarrow \pi^- \gamma) = g(\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \gamma) = g(K^{*-} \rightarrow K^- \gamma) = g(K^{*+} \rightarrow K^+ \gamma) = -\frac{1}{2} g(K^{*0} \rightarrow K^0 \gamma) = -\frac{1}{2} g(\bar{K}^{*0} \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 \gamma) =$$

$$= g(\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} g(\rho^0 \rightarrow \eta \gamma) = -g(\omega_8 \rightarrow \eta \gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} g(\omega_8 \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} g(\omega_1 \rightarrow \eta \gamma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} g(\omega_1 \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma) = a \quad (4)$$

where  $\omega_8$  and  $\omega_1$  are isotopic singlets of the unitary octet and singlet.

Relations (4) contain predictions that follow from charge symmetry and SU(3) unitary symmetry [3], and also several consequences which appear only in SU(6) symmetry. In particular, if we go over from  $\omega_8$  and  $\omega_1$  to the physical particles  $\omega$  and  $\varphi$ , putting  $\cos \theta = \sqrt{2/3}$  and  $\sin \theta = \sqrt{1/3}$ , we obtain

$$g(\varphi \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma) = 0 \quad (5a)$$

$$\frac{1}{3} g(\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma) = g(\varphi \rightarrow \eta \gamma) = g(\omega \rightarrow \eta \gamma) = a \quad (5b)$$

It follows from (5a) that the decay  $\varphi \rightarrow \pi^0 + \gamma$  is forbidden in natural fashion in SU(6) symmetry, in good agreement with the experimental data [5]. In SU(3) it was necessary to introduce the forbiddenness from the outside. Then, according to the  $\rho$ -dominating model for vector meson decay [6], Eq. (5a) leads to forbiddenness of the decays  $\varphi \rightarrow 3\pi$  and  $\varphi \rightarrow \rho + \pi$ , which is also in good agreement with data on  $\varphi$ -meson decay.

Finally, for the magnetic moments of the charged vector mesons we have the relations

$$\mu(\rho^+) = -\mu(\rho^-) = \mu(K^{*+}) = -\mu(K^{*-}) = 3a \quad (6)$$

Using a value of 1 MeV for the width of the  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 + \gamma$  decay [7], we obtain for the magnetic moment of the  $\rho^+$  meson the following value

$$\mu(\rho^+) = \pm 3.2 \text{ mesic magnetons.} \quad (7)$$

The sign of the magnetic moment could be determined in principle from experiments on photoproduction of charged vector mesons on protons, or from experiments on the formation of a pair of mesons in colliding ( $e^+e^-$ ) beams.

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