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SU(3) symmetry of elementary particles has a natural explanation within the framework of the composite model, based on a triplet of quarks [1]. Inasmuch as the quark has spin 1/2, its wave function should be a bispinor of the Lorentz group $\psi_{a\alpha}$ (a - index of the triplet, α - index of the bispinor). However, if we construct particles from such quarks, then no connection whatever is obtained between the unitary and the spin properties. The connection arises only in a theory which treats all the 12 components ψ_A as equivalent.

We can choose for the baryon wave function a symmetrical spinor of third rank $\psi_{A,B,C}$ (A,B,C = 1, ..., 12), which has 364 components. When the moderately-strong interaction is turned on, this supermultiplet breaks up into SU(3) multiplets with definite values of spin and parity [2]

$$364 = \underline{10}(3/2^+) + \underline{8}(1/2^+) + \underline{1}(1/2^-) + \underline{8}(3/2^-) \quad (1)$$

Such a supermultiplet composition ties in very well with the experimental data [3] and justifies our choice of the baryon wave function. Its explicit form is

$$\psi_{ABC} = \sqrt{(2/3)}(e_{abd} \mathcal{P}_{\alpha\beta} B_{c,\gamma}^d + e_{bcd} \mathcal{P}_{\beta\gamma} B_{a,\alpha}^d + e_{cad} \mathcal{P}_{\gamma d} B_{b,\beta}^d) \quad (2)$$

Here e_{abd} is a completely antisymmetrical tensor, B_b^a is the bispinor of the baryon octet, and

$$\mathcal{P}_{\alpha\beta} = \left[\frac{-i\hat{p} + m}{2m} \gamma_5 C \right]_{\alpha\beta} \quad (3)$$

is an antisymmetrical spinor of second rank, C - charge conjugation matrix, and p and m - momentum and mass of the baryon.

It is convenient to expand the baryon current in terms of the system of 16 Dirac matrices

$$J_B^A = \frac{1}{2} \delta_B^A \bar{\psi}^{CDE} \psi_{CDE} - \bar{\psi}^{ADE} \psi_{BDE} = S_b^a \delta_{\beta\alpha} + (v_\mu)_b^a (\gamma_\mu)_{\beta\alpha} + (T_{\mu\nu})_b^a (\gamma_{\mu\nu})_{\beta\alpha} + \\ + (A_\mu)_b^a (i\gamma_5 \gamma_\mu)_{\beta\alpha} + P_b^a (\gamma_5)_{\beta\alpha} \quad (4)$$

with coefficients

$$(J_1)_b^a = \frac{-P^2}{6m^2} \bar{u}(p_2) \Gamma_1 u(p_1) (D + F)_b^a + \frac{\omega_1}{12m^2} (\bar{u}_2 \hat{P} \Gamma_1 \hat{P} u_1) D_b^a - \\ - \frac{(\bar{u}_2 u_1)_{Sp}}{6} \mathcal{P} \bar{\mathcal{P}} \Gamma_1 (D - F)_b^a \quad (5)$$

in which F_b^a and D_b^a are known combinations of wave functions (see, for example, [4]) $P = p_1 + p_2$, $\Gamma_i = 1, \gamma_\mu, \gamma_{\mu\nu}, i\gamma_5 \gamma_\mu, \gamma_5, \bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\alpha\beta}$ - adjoint spinor, $\omega_i = +1$ for S, V, P and -1 for T and A.

We note first of all that in the static limit the obtained expression for J_B^A reduces to two currents of the Shekhter type [4] with different spatial parity. Thus, SU(6) symmetry is contained in the given theory as a limiting case.

The electromagnetic current of the baryon octet is

$$J_{\mu}^{(em)} = \langle \gamma_{\mu} \rangle (F_b^a + \frac{3q^2}{4m^2} D_b^a) + \frac{1}{2m} \langle \gamma_{\mu\nu} q_{\nu} \rangle (3D_b^a + F_b^a + \frac{q^2}{2m^2} F_b^a) \quad (6)$$

and in the static limit ($q^2 \rightarrow 0$) is of the pure F-type in agreement with the hypothesis on the octet character of the electromagnetic current [5], making it possible to calculate the magnetic moments of the baryons

$$\mu = (3D + F)\mu_{nuc} \quad (7)$$

Formula (7) contains not only the moment ratios known from SU(6) symmetry, but also their absolute values

$$\mu_p = + 3\mu_{nuc}, \quad \mu_n = - 2\mu_{nuc} \quad (8)$$

which agree within 5 - 10% with experiment.

When $q^2 \neq 0$, formula (6) leads to the following results:

- a) Equality of the form factors of the proton $F_1^{(p)}(q^2) = F_2^{(p)}(q^2)$.
- b) Vanishing of the form factor of the neutron, $G_E^{(n)}(q^2) = 0$.
- c) The value of the derivative

$$dG_1^{(n)}(q^2)/dq^2|_{q^2=0} = \frac{1}{2m^2} = 0.022 F^2 \quad (9)$$

agrees well with experiment [6] (within $\pm 5\%$). From (9) we can obtain the depth of the neutron-electron interaction well $U_{ne} = - 4,270 \text{ eV}$ [7].

We can consider weak current in the same manner.

After this work was completed, we learned of the paper by Salam et al. [8], in which the same problems are considered from a different point of view. Their derivations differ essentially from ours in many respects.

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