

Current algebras and the heavy quark limit

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Current algebra is used to obtain the matrix elements for $B, D \rightarrow \pi$ in semileptonic B and D decays. The relation $g_{D^*D\pi} = (m_D^* m_D)^{1/2} / 2f_\pi$ is also obtained, using SU(4) current algebra, PCAC, and the heavy quark limit.

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Recently [1,2], the chiral and heavy quark symmetries [3–5] have been combined. An effective Lagrangian [1,2] has been constructed to describe interactions of low-momentum pions with heavy quarks.

In this paper current algebra and partial conservation of axial-vector current (PCAC) are used to derive results similar to those obtained in Refs. [1,2]. We also obtain $g_{D^*D\pi} = (m_D^* m_D)^{1/2} / 2f_\pi$ [6] using SU(4) current algebra, PCAC, and the heavy quark limit (HQL).

We define the matrix elements

$$\langle \pi^-, q | i\bar{d}\gamma_\mu c | D, p \rangle = [F_+(p+q)_\mu + F_-(p-q)_\mu], \quad (1)$$

$$\langle \pi^-, q | i\bar{d}\gamma_\mu \gamma_5 c | D^*, p \rangle = i[G_1 \epsilon_\mu + G_2 q \cdot \epsilon (p+q)_\mu + G_3 q \cdot \epsilon (p-q)_\mu], \quad (2)$$

$$\langle O | i\bar{u}\gamma_\mu \gamma_5 c | D \rangle = i\sqrt{2}f_D p_\mu, \quad (3)$$

$$\langle O | i\bar{u}\gamma_\mu c | D^* \rangle = \sqrt{2}f_{D^*} \epsilon_\mu, \quad (4)$$

$$\langle D, p' | J_\pi^- | D^*, p \rangle = \sqrt{2}g_{D^*D\pi} (p-2p') \cdot \epsilon, \quad (5)$$

where ϵ_μ is the polarization vector of D^* . We have suppressed the kinematic factors. In our normalization, $f_\pi = 93$ MeV. The form factors F and G are functions of t : $t = -(p-q)^2 = m_D^2 + 2m_D v \cdot q$, where $p = m_D v$ and we have put $m_\pi^2 = 0$. In the rest frame of the heavy quark, $t = m_D^2 - 2m_D E_\pi$.

Writing a once-subtracted dispersion relation for $(F_+ + F_-)$ and an unsubtracted dispersion relation for $(F_+ - F_-)$, we obtain [1]

$$F_+ + F_- = + \frac{f_D}{f_\pi} \left[1 - 2 \frac{f_\pi g_{D^*D\pi}}{m_D} \frac{v \cdot q}{\Delta - v \cdot q} \right], \quad (6)$$

$$F_+ - F_- = - \frac{2f_D g_{D^*D\pi}}{\Delta - v \cdot q}, \quad (7)$$

where $\Delta = m_{D^*} - m_D$. In deriving the above relations, only the contribution of the D^* pole has been retained in the dispersion integral and the current algebra result [7]

$$F_+(m_D^2) + F_-(m_D^2) = +f_D / f_\pi \quad (8)$$

has been used. Since only the D^* pole has been retained in the dispersion integral, it is therefore obvious that Eqs.

(6) and (7) hold in the neighborhood of $t = m_D^2$. The range of validity of these results has been discussed in Refs. [2,8,9]. A similar result for the form factor G_1 can be derived. In the chiral limit, the current algebra result [10] is

$$G_1(m_{D^*}^2) = - \frac{f_{D^*}}{f_\pi}. \quad (9)$$

Heavy quark spin symmetry [3] gives

$$f_{D^*} = m_D f_D, \quad (10)$$

$$-\langle \pi^- | i\bar{d}\gamma_4 c | D \rangle = \langle \pi^- | i\bar{d}\gamma_3 \gamma_5 c | D^* \rangle. \quad (11)$$

From Eq. (11) we obtain

$$-[F_+(p+q)_4 + F_-(p-q)_4] = i[G_1 \epsilon_3 + G_2 q \cdot \epsilon (p+q)_3 + G_3 q \cdot \epsilon (p-q)_3]. \quad (12)$$

Evaluating Eq. (12) in the rest frame of the heavy quark, we get

$$-[(F_+ + F_-)m_D + (F_+ - F_-)E_\pi] = G_1 + G_2 E_\pi^2 - G_3 E_\pi^2. \quad (13)$$

From Eqs. (13), (6), and (7), we get

$$G_1 + G_2 E_\pi^2 - G_3 E_\pi^2 = - \frac{f_D}{f_\pi} m_D. \quad (14)$$

In the chiral limit ($E_\pi \rightarrow 0$), we get back the current algebra result when Eq. (10) is used. The form factor G_3 is dominated by the D pole, viz.,

$$G_3 = \frac{2f_D}{m_D^*} \frac{g_{D^*D\pi}}{\Delta + v \cdot q}. \quad (15)$$

The relation (10) in the form $f_{D^*} = (m_D^* m_D)^{1/2} f_D$ was known before the advent of heavy quark spin symmetry (see, for example, Ref. [6]). It can be derived in a nonrelativistic bound state picture for D and D^* . Relation (10) follows from it by taking $m_D^* = m_D$.

The only unknown in the form factors F_+ , F_- , G_1 , and G_3 is $g_{D^*D\pi}$. This can be fixed as follows. We use the SU(4) algebra generated by axial charges [11,12], viz.,

$$[S_i^{(+)}, S_j^{(-)}] = 2\delta_{ij} I_3, \quad (16)$$

where

$$S_i^+ = \int A_i^{(+)}(x) d^3x, \quad (17)$$

$$A_\mu^{(+)} = i\bar{u}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 d, \quad A_i^{(+)} = -u^\dagger\sigma_i d, \quad \sigma_i = -i\gamma_4\gamma_i\gamma_5,$$

and

$$I_3 = -i \int V_{43}(x) d^3x, \quad V_{4i} = \frac{1}{2}q^\dagger\tau_3 q. \quad (18)$$

Taking the matrix elements of Eq. (16), between $|D^+\rangle$, we get

$$\langle D^+ | [S_i^{(+)}, S_j^{(-)}] | D^+ \rangle = 2\delta_{ij} \langle D^+ | I_3 | D^+ \rangle = \delta_{ij}. \quad (19)$$

We define

$$\begin{aligned} \langle D^+, p' | A_\mu^+ | D^{*0}, p \rangle \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2p_0 2p'_0}} i [A_1 \epsilon_\mu + A_2 p' \cdot \epsilon(p+p')_\mu \\ + A_3 p' \cdot \epsilon(p-p')_\mu]. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

In order to evaluate the left-hand side of Eq. (19), we introduce the complete set of allowed intermediate states. We retain only D^{*0} state; i.e., we assume that the algebra is saturated by isospin multiplet (D^{*+}, D^{*0}) . In the rest frame of the D meson, we obtain

$$A_1^2 = 4m_D m_D^*. \quad (21)$$

PCAC gives

$$A_1 + A_2(m_D^2 - m_D^{*2}) = -4f_\pi g_{D^* D \pi}. \quad (22)$$

In the HQL, $m_D^2 - m_D^{*2} = \text{const.}$ But the second term on the left-hand side of Eq. (22) can be neglected in the HQL because A_2 is suppressed with respect to A_1 by an inverse power of the heavy mass. Hence we obtain

$$g_{D^* D \pi} = \frac{(m_D m_D^*)^{1/2}}{2f_\pi}. \quad (23)$$

It may be noted that Eq. (23) follows from Eq. (21) plus PCAC and the HQL.

For K^* and ρ , the SU(6) relations $g_{K^* \bar{K} \pi} = m_{K^*} / 2f_\pi$ and $g_{\rho \pi \pi} = m_\rho / f_\pi$ have been known since 1966 [11,13]. These relations differ from Kawarabayashi-Suzuki-Riazuddin-Fayyazuddin (KSFR) values [14] $g_{K^* \bar{K} \pi} = m_{K^*} / 2\sqrt{2}f_\pi$ and $g_{\rho \pi \pi} = m_\rho / \sqrt{2}f_\pi$ by a factor of $\sqrt{2}$. Experimentally, the SU(6) relation for K^* or ρ is not tenable. But for heavy quarks relation (23) is expected to hold for the following reasons. (i) For SU(4) algebra the natural frame is the $\mathbf{p}=0$ frame, a good frame for heavy mesons. For heavy quarks the static limit is a good approximation. The spin of a D or B meson is flipped with the emission of a pion, with negligible recoil. (ii) The PCAC relation (22) reduces to $A_1 = -4f_\pi g_{D^* D \pi}$ in the HQL. This relation is exact in this limit and is crucial in deriving relation (23). This is not the case for ρ and K^* mesons. If we take the matrix element of Eq. (16) between $|D^{*+}\rangle$ and assume that the left-hand side is sa-

turated by the D state, we get Eq. (21).

Let us consider the possible contribution of p -wave states D_J ($J=0,1,2$) to the sum rule (19). The D ($J=1^+$) states do not contribute to the sum rule (19) due to the following argument. From Lorentz and parity invariance, the matrix element $\langle D^+, p' | A_\mu^+ | D(J=1^+), p \rangle$ is proportional to $\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \eta_\nu p'_\alpha p_\beta$, where η_ν is the polarization vector for $D(J=1^+)$. Thus

$$\langle D^+, p' | A_i^+ | D(J=1^+) \rangle \sim \epsilon_{ijk} \eta_j p_k$$

and hence it vanishes in the static limit.

Equation (23) was derived in Ref. [6], using PCAC and the nonrelativistic bound state picture for mesons with a heavy quark. The derivation of Eqs. (10) and (23) shows a close relation between the bound state picture and algebraic approach. A relation similar to Eq. (23) was obtained in Ref. [15], using a Adler-Weisberger-type sum rule with only a pole contribution in the sum rule. Note that for this type of algebra the natural frame is the $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \infty$ frame.

Using Eq. (23) and neglecting terms of order $v \cdot q / m_D$, we obtain

$$F_+ = -\frac{f_D (m_D m_D^*)^{1/2}}{2f_\pi} \frac{1}{\Delta - v \cdot q} = -F_-, \quad (24a)$$

$$G_1 = -(m_D m_D^*)^{1/2} f_D / f_\pi, \quad (24b)$$

$$G_3 = \frac{f_D (m_D m_D^*)^{1/2}}{m_D^* f_\pi} \frac{1}{\Delta + v \cdot q}. \quad (24c)$$

Needless to say, the above relations are equally applicable to B mesons. Since for B mesons $\Delta = m_{B^*} - m_B = 50$ MeV as compared to 140 MeV for $m_{D^*} - m_D$ and m_B is much larger than m_D , the above results are expected to be more accurate for B mesons. However, the decay $B^* \rightarrow B\pi$ is not allowed energetically; the relation $g_{B^* B \pi} = (m_B m_B^*)^{1/2} / 2f_\pi$ cannot be tested directly.

From Eq. (23), we obtain $\Gamma(D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+) = 184$ keV, $\Gamma(D^{*+} \rightarrow D^+ \pi^0) = 84$ keV, and $\Gamma(D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0) = 121$ keV. Since a direct experimental measurement of these decay widths is difficult, to make contact with experiment, we use the branching ratios $B_{\pi^0}^0, B_\gamma^0, B_{\pi^+}^+, B_{\pi^0}^+, B_\gamma^+$. Recent CLEO data [16] give the branching ratios (%) $B_{\pi^0}^0 = 63.6 \pm 2.3 \pm 3.3$, $B_\gamma^0 = 36.4 \pm 2.3 \pm 3.3$, $B_{\pi^+}^+ = 68.1 \pm 1.0 \pm 1.3$, $B_{\pi^0}^+ = 30.8 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.8$, and $B_\gamma^+ = 1.1 \pm 1.4 \pm 1.6$. Taking $30\% \leq B_\gamma^0 \leq 40\%$, we find $52 \leq \Gamma(D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma) \leq 81$ keV. Most models [17] for the $M1$ transition for $D^* \rightarrow D\gamma$ give $B_\gamma^+ < 1.4\%$. Thus we find $\Gamma(D^{*+} \rightarrow D^+ \gamma) < 4$ keV. Equation (23) combined with the present experimental branching ratios give $M1$ transition decay widths for $D^{*+,0}$ to be higher than those given by most models [17] for these decays.

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