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Momentum distribution of J/ψ in *B* decays

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The discrepancy between theory and data in the momentum distribution of slow J/ψ in *B* decays has been several times addressed as a puzzle. Using the most recent results on exclusive *B* decays into J/ψ and heavy kaons or exotic mesons and reconsidering the non-relativistic-QCD calculation of the color octet fragmentation component, we show that an improvement in the comparison between data and theory can be obtained. There is still room for a better fit to data, and this may imply that new exotic mesons of the *XYZ* kind have yet to be discovered.

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In the first study of the inclusive decays of *B* mesons to J/ψ , the CLEO Collaboration [1] observed that the J/ψ momentum distribution $d\Gamma/dp_{\psi}$ is well described at large p_{ψ} by the sum of the exclusive modes $B \rightarrow KJ/\psi$ and $B \rightarrow K^*J/\psi$ [2]. At lower momenta there are significant contributions from feed-down processes $B \rightarrow \chi_c X$, $\chi_c \rightarrow J/\psi\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow \psi' X$, $\psi' \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+\pi^-$. After combining these contributions with the two-body modes, there naturally remains a shortfall across a large range of p_{ψ} , having not counted contributions from higher kaon resonances and nonresonant multiparticle final states.

Beneke *et al.* [3] proposed that the remaining part of spectrum could be explained by a large $c\bar{c}$ color octet contribution which feeds nonresonant multibody final states; the calculation is performed within the framework of non-relativistic-QCD (NRQCD). They confront their results with the inclusive J/ψ spectrum after having subtracted from it the $B \rightarrow KJ/\psi$ and $B \rightarrow K^*J/\psi$ components. The agreement found with data is rather good using reasonable values for the physical parameters involved in the computation, essentially $\Lambda_{\rm QCD}$ and the Fermi momentum p_F of the *b* quark inside the *B* meson.

Belle [4] subsequently observed the decay $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)J/\psi$ with a branching fraction larger than $B \rightarrow KJ/\psi$ and $B \rightarrow K^*J/\psi$. In an improved analysis of the inclusive J/ψ spectrum, CLEO found that by summing all three of the two-body modes, a good fit to the inclusive spectra is obtained for $p_{\psi} > 1.5$ GeV [5], which implies that the color octet contribution should be refitted.

In a higher statistics analysis by *BABAR* [6], in which many feed-down modes from higher charmonia were directly measured and subtracted, the inclusive spectrum is confronted with the results of Beneke *et al.*, and it is noted that even after including color octet contributions, there remains an excess of events at low momenta: see Fig. 1 red-dashed curve in the region $0 < p_{\psi} < 0.8$ GeV. This excess has provoked, since its observation, a variety of exotic interpretations. In [7] the discrepancy has been explained assuming that the J/ψ recoils against a Λ - \bar{p} strange baryonium state, while in [8,9] the existence of *intrinsic charm* inside the *B* meson has been considered. Nevertheless the most explored possibility is the production of a strange hybrid meson $K_H = s\bar{d}g$ together with the J/ψ in the *B*-meson decay. First proposed in [9], its contribution has been later quantified in [10–12]. The *BABAR* analysis, however, does not include the large $K_1(1270)J/\psi$ mode; thus, for the reasons outlined above, it does not yield the full picture.

More recently, Belle [13] analyzed the large $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ decay and performed an amplitude analysis to determine the resonant structure of the $K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ system, identifying several heavy kaon resonances $\mathcal{K} = K_1(1270)$, $K_1(1400)$, $K^*(1410)$, $K_2^*(1430)$, $K_2(1600)$, $K_2(1770)$, $K_2(1980)$. The two-body modes $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}J/\psi$ further constrain the contribution from nonresonant (color octet) final states, and, moreover, given that these newly identified kaons have large masses, they are expected to make significant contributions to the lower side of the momentum spectrum of J/ψ . The red-solid line in Fig. 2 is our picture of all the above listed exclusive twobody contributions. Not including the color octet component, the agreement with data we found extends down to $p_{\psi} \sim 1.2$ GeV.

We also notice that *XYZ* exotic resonances are found to fill the low p_{ψ} bins as shown in Fig. 2: the green-dashed curve. Even if their weight in terms of branching ratio turns out to be modest with respect to what would be needed, their distribution peaks in the right region as commented in [14].

We thus reconsider the role of the NRQCD based model by Beneke *et al.* [3] with the aim of fully reconstructing the entire $d\Gamma/dp_{\psi}$ distribution. In the following we discuss our computation of the black-solid curve in Fig. 1 which includes a new fit of the color octet component (see octet curves in Fig. 2) and draw our conclusions. Essentially we notice that if new states of the *XYZ* kind will be found, since the fit turns out to be sensitive to this component, they would aid the color octet contribution to consistently fill



FIG. 1 (color online). The black-solid line represents the sum of all the contributions reported in Fig. 2, namely, $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}J/\psi$, $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}X$, and the octet contribution for $\Lambda_{QCD} = 500 \text{ MeV}$ and $p_F = 500 \text{ MeV}$, compared to the old theoretical prediction [6] (red-dashed line) computed as the sum of $B \rightarrow KJ/\psi$, $B \rightarrow K^*J/\psi$, and the color octet component with $\Lambda_{QCD} =$ 300 MeV and $p_F = 300 \text{ MeV}$. Going from the red-dashed line to the black-solid one the χ^2/DOF improves from 60/19 to 22/19, having included also the theoretical errors. If one chooses $\Lambda_{QCD} = 800 \text{ MeV}$ and $p_F = 300 \text{ MeV}$ the best fit further improves ($\chi^2/\text{DOF} = 19/19$). Data points, black disks, are taken from *BABAR* [6].

the gap in the data. The observed relative small weight of XYZ in terms of branching ratios, as shown in Fig. 2, requires instead to force the NRQCD calculation in the high allowed region of values for Λ_{OCD} and p_F .

The heavy Kaons and XYZ contributions. Belle [13] measures the branching ratio



FIG. 2 (color online). Different contributions to the inclusive spectrum of $B \rightarrow J/\psi$ + All decays. The red-solid line accounts for the two-body decays of the type $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}J/\psi$; the blue dot-dashed line shows the contributions from $B \rightarrow KJ/\psi$ and $B \rightarrow K^*J/\psi$ decays considered in [6]; the green-dashed line represents the decays mediated by the exotic mesons $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}X \rightarrow \mathcal{K}J/\psi$ + light hadrons; the purple-dotted lines come from the nonresonant multiparticle final states, i.e., the color octet component, for three values of $\Lambda_{QCD} = 300, 500, 800 \text{ MeV}$ (and $p_F = 300 \text{ MeV}$) from right to left, respectively, according to [3]. Data points, black disks, are taken from *BABAR* [6].

TABLE I. Branching ratios for the decays $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_j J/\psi$ extracted from Belle [13].

\mathcal{K}_{j}	$m_{\mathcal{K}_j}(\text{GeV})$	$\Gamma_{\mathcal{K}_j}(\text{GeV})$	$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \to \mathcal{K}_j J/\psi) \times 10^5$
$K_1(1270)$	1.270	0.090	144.0 ± 29.3
$K_1(1400)$	1.403	0.174	25.1 ± 5.7
$K^{*}(1410)$	1.414	0.232	$>5.1 \pm 2.4$ and $<11.8 \pm 5.7$
$K_2^*(1430)$	1.430	0.100	40.2 ± 24.0
$\bar{K_2}(1600)$	1.605	0.115	$> 8.4 \pm 2.9$
$K_2(1770)$	1.773	0.186	$>4.4 \pm 1.5$
$K_2(1980)$	1.973	0.373	>15.2 ± 2.5

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{tot}} = \mathcal{B}(B^+ \to J/\psi K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) = (71.6 \pm 1 \pm 6) \times 10^{-5}.$$
(1)

Looking at the invariant mass spectrum of $K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$, they are able to isolate the resonant contributions in which $K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ originate from the decay of a heavy kaon \mathcal{K}_j through some intermediate resonant state, namely, $\mathcal{R}_i = K\rho/\omega, K^*\pi, K_0^*(1430)\pi, K_2^*(1430)\pi, Kf_{0,2}$, as in

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \to \mathcal{K}_j J/\psi \to \mathcal{R}_i J/\psi \to J/\psi K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) = \mathcal{B}_{\text{tot}} f_i^j$$
(2)

with f_i^j the measured fractions. Since the interference between different heavy kaons is neglected, the sum of the measured fractions is larger than 1. The neglected interference contributions are expected to be irrelevant when $\Gamma_{\mathcal{K}_j}/m_{\mathcal{K}_j} \ll 1$, so we rescale each fraction f_i^j proportionally to the width of the heavy kaon \mathcal{K}_i

$$\tilde{f}_{i}^{j} = C \times \left(1 - \frac{\Gamma_{j}}{m_{j}}\right) f_{i}^{j}, \qquad (3)$$

where *C* is chosen in such a way that the sum over *i* and *j* of \tilde{f}_i^j adds up to one. Now we observe that

$$\mathcal{B}(B^{+} \to \mathcal{K}_{j}J/\psi \to \mathcal{R}_{i}J/\psi \to J/\psi K^{+}\pi^{+}\pi^{-})$$

= $I_{i} \times \mathcal{B}(B^{+} \to \mathcal{K}_{j}J/\psi) \times \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K}_{j} \to \mathcal{R}_{i})$
 $\times \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}_{i} \to K\pi\pi),$ (4)

where I_i are isospin factors.¹ $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}_i \to K\pi\pi)$ are all unity except for $\mathcal{B}(K\omega \to K\pi\pi) = 0.0153$ and $\mathcal{B}(Kf_2 \to K\pi\pi) = 0.848$. For some of the heavy kaons, namely, $K_2(1600)$, $K_2(1770)$, and $K_2(1980)$, the values of $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{K}_j \to \mathcal{R}_i)$ are not known experimentally, and we thus extract a maximum value for them and in turn a minimum value for the relative $\mathcal{B}(B \to \mathcal{K}_j J/\psi)$. The results obtained are summarized in Table I.

The branching ratios in Table I are used to perform a Monte Carlo simulation of the decay chain, weighting

¹
$$I(K\rho) = 1/3$$
, $I(K^*\pi) = I(K_{0,2}^*(1430)\pi) = 4/9$, $I(K\omega) = 1$,
 $I(Kf_0) = I(Kf_2) = 2/3$.

TABLE II. Measured branching ratios for the decay $B \rightarrow K X_j$. Where data is available for both neutral and charged B we take the average.

$\overline{\chi_{_j}}$	$m_{\chi_j}(\text{GeV})$	$\Gamma_{\chi_j}(\text{GeV})$	Final state	$\mathcal{B}(B \to K \chi_j \to K J/\psi + \text{light hadrons}) \times 10^5$
X(3872)	3.872	0.003	$J/\psi ho ightarrow J/\psi \pi^+\pi^-$	0.72 ± 0.22 [16]
			$J/\psi \omega$	0.6 ± 0.3 [17]
Y(3940)	3.940	0.087	$J/\psi \omega$	3.70 ± 1.14 [18]
<i>Y</i> (4140)	4.140	0.012	$J/\psi\phi$	0.9 ± 0.4 [19]
Y(4260)	4.260	0.095	$J/\psi f_0 \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-$	2.00 ± 0.73 [18]

vertices with the appropriate powers of momenta required by the decay partial wave.² The sum of all contributions is shown by the red-solid curve of Fig. 2.

We do the same for the exotic XYZ states. Even if almost all of these mesons decay into final states containing a charmonium state together with light hadrons, they cannot be easily interpreted as standard charmonia and thus are referred to as exotics [15]. Some of them have been observed in B decays produced together with the pseudoscalar kaon K. The relative branching ratios are reported in Table II. In addition to these decays one can suppose that XYZ are produced with heavier kaons, when allowed by kinematics. Assuming that all the exotic particles Xare spin 1 states (most of them do not yet have definitive quantum numbers) the transition matrix elements are given by $\langle X(\epsilon, p) \mathcal{K}(q) | B(P) \rangle = g \epsilon \cdot q$ for a spin 0 kaon and by $\langle \chi(\epsilon, p) \mathcal{K}(\eta, q) | B(P) \rangle = g' \epsilon \cdot \eta$ for a spin 1 kaon.³ From a dimensional analysis $[g] = M^0$ and [g'] = M. Since we only have data on the branching ratios $\mathcal{B}(B \to K X)$ we need some hypothesis on the relationship between gand g'. We suppose that $g' = \Lambda g$, with Λ some mass scale. Using $\mathcal{B}(B \to KX(3872))$ reported in Table II and the upper limit [20]

$$\mathcal{B}(B \to K^* X(3872)) \times \mathcal{B}(X(3872) \to J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-) < 0.34 \times 10^{-5},$$
(5)

we obtain $\Lambda \gtrsim 550$ MeV. We thus decide to extract *g* from the known branching ratios reported in Table II and fix $g' = m_{\mathcal{K}(J=1)}g$, where $m_{\mathcal{K}(J=1)}$ is the mass of a generic spin 1 kaon. The green-dashed line in Fig. 2 shows the sum of all *XYZ* contributions along with all kaons allowed by kinematics.

The color octet component. We reanalyzed the Beneke et al. [3] calculation to refit the color octet curve contribution to the J/ψ spectrum. Their computation, based on the NRQCD factorization approach, assumes that the production of the $c\bar{c}$ pair in a color octet state, which has approximately the same probability as in color singlet, has a large kinematic effect on the momentum spectrum, due to the energy distribution of the soft gluons emitted by the $(c\bar{c})_8$ fragmentation into J/ψ .

The $(c\bar{c})_8$ pair can be produced, at order v^4 in the non relativistic expansion, in three different L-S configurations: $1^{1}S_{0}$, $1^{3}P_{I}$, and $1^{3}S_{1}$. One can associate with each of these configurations a nonperturbative shape function for the energy and an invariant mass distribution of the radiated system (with a characteristic energy scale of $m_c v^2 \approx \Lambda_{\rm OCD}$). The normalizations of the shape functions are related to the conventional NRQCD matrix elements $\langle \mathcal{O}_n^{J/\psi} \rangle$, which describe the hadronization into a J/ψ from a $c\bar{c}$ pair in an angular momentum and color state *n*. The $\langle \mathcal{O}_n^{J/\psi} \rangle$ can be determined by fits to J/ψ production in a variety of processes. Nevertheless, enforcing these normalization conditions underestimates data because the phenomenological values of the matrix elements are computed from integrated quantities in leading order calculations, while the shape functions contain higher order corrections in the velocity expansion. To overcome this difficulty one chooses to fix the absolute normalization by adjusting the sum of all contributions to data. The Fermi motion of the bquark inside the B meson is taken into account using the ACCMM model [21]. The tunable parameters are essentially Λ_{OCD} and the Fermi momentum p_F .

In this approach the color octet channel leads to nonresonant multibody final states since the probability that the emitted soft gluons reassemble with the spectators (light quarks and gluons inside the B) to form a single hadron is assumed to be very small (factorization hypothesis). The two-body modes are due to the color singlet channel and must be considered separately.

In [3] the comparison is made with data where the two-body modes with K and K^{*} are subtracted. The agreement with the experimental spectrum, having fixed $\Lambda_{\rm QCD} = 300 \text{ MeV}$ and $p_F = 300 \text{ MeV}$, is shown in Fig. 1, red-dashed curve.

An observation is in order: possible interference effects between the octet final states, which at least contain two pions in addition to $\mathcal{K}J/\psi$, and the multibody final states originated from the exclusive modes with heavier kaons decaying to \mathcal{K} + pions and *XYZ* resonances can be safely neglected as $\Gamma_{\mathcal{K}_j}/m_{\mathcal{K}_j} < 0.2$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{X}_j}/m_{\mathcal{X}_j} \ll 1$. This would be a stronger assumption for hypothetical new broad resonances.

²Since the heaviest kaons are spin 2 states the decay occurs in *P* wave and thus events are naturally pushed towards higher values of p_{th} in the allowed kinematic region.

³We cannot consider here the decay $B \rightarrow \mathcal{K}X$ with a spin 2 kaon, since we do not have any experimental data to compare with.

Results and outlook. The black-solid curve in Fig. 1 is obtained as a sum of the standard two-body contributions from kaons (red-solid curve in Fig. 2) with the *XYZ* contributions (green-dashed) plus one of the color octet components (purple-dotted). The latter are three curves obtained with $\Lambda_{QCD} = 300$, 500, 800 MeV (and $p_F = 300 \text{ MeV}$) from right to left, respectively. To best fit data in Fig. 1 we choose the octet component with $\Lambda_{QCD} = 500 \text{ MeV}$ and also need to push p_F up to $p_F = 500 \text{ MeV}$. The values chosen for Λ_{QCD} and p_F are critically on the high sides of the allowed ranges which are supposed to be $\Lambda_{QCD} \in [200, 450] \text{ MeV}$ [22] and $p_F \in [300, 450] \text{ MeV}$. Yet the black-solid curve in Fig. 1 represents a considerable improvement with respect to the old one (red-dashed).

Relying on the validity of the NRQCD approach, our results seem to indicate that the addition of new resonances of the XYZ kind feeding the low p_{ψ} region would effectively improve the agreement with data. Indeed if the total branching ratio due to the XYZ turns out to be 3 times the currently observed value, a good description of data, namely, $\chi^2/\text{DOF} = 28/19$, would be obtained including a color octet component with $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} = 300$ MeV and $p_F = 500$ MeV. In this respect our results could be suggestive of the existence of a number of not yet discovered exotic mesons: new outcomes may arrive from Belle and LHCb.

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