Electromagnetic form factors from a covariant Bethe-Salpeter approach

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Why do we want to investigate Form factors?

- Fundamental tools to explore the inner structure of hadrons.
- They encode information about charge, magnetic moment and charge radius, but also are interrelated with hadron spectroscopy.
- Most of research facilities have programs to investigate them (JLAB, MAMI, ELSA, BES III, PANDA).
- A thorough understanding of time-like form factors is a very timely subject.

Formalism

Dyson-Schwinger equations

- They are the equations of motion of a quantum field theory.
- Infinite set of coupled integral equations.

Bethe-Salpeter equations

The solutions of the Bethe–Salpeter equations encode all information about the hadron.

- Mass
- Decay constants
- Decay width

We have access to form factor when we couple to an external field

– DSE/BSE

- They conform a non perturbative method to study QCD.
- Provide access to a continuum range of energies, from infrared to ultraviolet.
- Infinite set of integral equations, truncation will be necessary.



Rainbow-ladder

- Simplest truncation to preserve chiral symmetry.
- It has a lot of success to describe hadron spectroscopy.
- Model needed to describe the effective coupling.
- We use Maris-Tandy model for this exploratory study.



Problems with R-L truncation



- The solutions are stable bound states, do not describe the decay width.
- Describes quite well the data for a space-like photon.
- Fails to reproduce the experimental data for a time-like photon.
- Objective: use a more sophisticated truncation into the DSE/ BSE system to describe the correct behaviour of the form factor.

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Pion form factor

- Pion as quark-antiquark bound state and as pseudo Goldstone Boson.
- Mixing of the ρ-meson with a virtual photon (quark-antiquark bound state in the quark-photon vertex).
- ρ -meson decay, ρ -> π π .
- Exploratory study in the isospin limit.
- To allow a decay mechanism we include pion cloud effects.



Pion form factor: Space-like



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Next step: kaon form factor

- Kaon as bound state of quarks up/down and strange
- In this case, the photon couples also to the strange quark, giving origin to the phi-meson resonance pole for the time-like form factor.
- The phi-meson decays into two kaons.
- Pion cloud will not be enough to describe to correct physics in the time-like regime.

Kaon form factor (Space-like)



- First, we calculate the kaon form factor using R-L truncation and including only pion cloud effects.
- Kaon cloud effects not included yet.
- The calculation for a space-like photon describes well the experimental data.

Summary

- First calculation for a time-like form factor using the formalism of Bethe-Salpeter and Dyson Schwinger equations including pion cloud effects.
- On the space-like region our calculations agree with the experimental data at the quantitative level.
- On the time-like regime, the agreement is mostly quantitative.