

Contribution ID: 188 Type: Talk

NJ/ψ and $N\eta_c$ interactions from lattice QCD

Wednesday, 31 July 2024 12:15 (20 minutes)

The interaction between the nucleon and charmonia $(J/\psi \text{ and } \eta_c)$ is expected to deepen our understanding of various aspects in nonperturbative QCD ranging from the origin of nucleon mass to J/ψ suppression in heavy ion collisions and properties of hidden-charm pentaquark states. Here, we present the first lattice QCD studies on low-energy NJ/ψ and $N\eta_c$ interactions based on (2+1) flavor configurations with nearly physical pion mass $m_\pi=146$ MeV. The interactions, extracted from the spacetime correlations of nucleon and charmonium system by using HAL QCD method, are found to be attractive in all distances and manifest a characteristic long-range tail, which is consistent with the two-pion exchange interaction between a nucleon and a color-dipole. The resulting scattering lengths are around 0.4 fm, 0.3 fm and 0.2 fm for NJ/ψ with spin 1/2, with spin 3/2, and $N\eta_c$, respectively. Our results are orders of magnitude larger than those from the photo-production experiments assuming the vector meson dominance.

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Session Classification: Hadronic and nuclear spectrum and interactions

Track Classification: Hadronic and Nuclear Spectrum and Interactions