Bj at Stanford in the 60s

Fred Gilman November 9, 2024

Introduction

- Bj received his undergraduate degree in physics from MIT and then his PhD in 1959 from Stanford with Sid Drell as his advisor. Afterwards, he was a postdoctoral fellow in the Stanford physics department. During this time period, he was also able to be a visitor at CERN, the Institute for Advanced Study, and the Neils Bohr Institute in Copenhagen. He moved from the Stanford physics department to SLAC, once it was created, as a founding faculty member along with Pief Panofsky, Sid Drell, Dick Taylor, and Burt Richter
- He was the author of multiple groundbreaking papers in two areas in the 60s
 J. D. Bjorken and S. L. Glashow, "Elementary Particles and SU(4)"
 Phys. Lett. <u>11</u> 255-257 (1964) proposing the charm quark
 J. D. Bjorken, "Asymptotic Sum Rules at Infinite Momentum" (most cited paper)
 Phys. Rev. <u>179</u> 1547 (1969) current algebra sum rules, scaling, quarks

Charm

- Bj was a visitor at the Neils Bohr Institute in 1964, as was Sheldon Glashow
- Earlier that year, the concept of quarks had been proposed by Murray Gell-Mann and (independently) by George Zweig: u, d, and s quarks composed all hadrons
- The u and d quarks formed an isospin doublet; while s was a singlet.
 Bjorken and Glashow proposed adding a fourth (charmed) quark, for
 "aesthetic" or "symmetry" reasons, as c and s formed a doublet like u and d.
 Many physicists rejected the concept of quarks altogether.
- Glashow, Iliopoulos, and Maiani (GIM mechanism) showed in 1970 that the charm quark is needed in an SU(2) x U(1) electroweak theory to suppress strangeness-changing processes in neutral K meson decays and mixing.

"Elementary Particles and SU(4)" B. J. Bjorken and S. L. Glashow

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Charm is Found

- The November Revolution showed the existence of charm-anticharm states.
 - 1976 brought mesons containing a charm quark and u, d, or s antiquarks, as well as baryons containing a charm quark.
- For the Topical Conference at the end of the 1976 SLAC Summer Institute, I asked Shelly Glashow to come and give a talk. The Bjorkens, Glashows, and Gilmans drove together to San Francisco for a terrific celebratory dinner, followed by coffee at Caffe Trieste in San Francisco.

Current Algebra The Essence of Quarks Distilled to a Lie Algebra

- Quarks initially *seemed* to have <u>two fatal problems</u>: 1. No "free" quarks and
 2. Statistics the ground states for baryons were symmetric.
- It was Gell-Mann's genius to focus on the weak and electromagnetic <u>interactions</u>, which were <u>formulated in terms of currents</u>, and require that they <u>behave as if composed of quark fields</u>.
 - i.e., the vector and axial-vector electromagnetic and weak currents have commutation relations as if composed of u, d, and s quarks at every point of space and time.
 - The commutator of two of these currents gives another of the currents.
 - \Rightarrow an algebra of currents = a <u>current algebra</u>. SU(3) x SU(3)

Current Algebra The Adler Weissberger Sum Rule

Let Q^i and Q_A^j be the vector and axial-vector charges; <u>A schematic recipe</u>:

- * Take the expectation value of $[Q_A^+, Q_A^-] = 2 Q^3$ between proton states,
- * Insert a complete sum of intermediate states
- * Express the result as the one nucleon contribution plus an integral

 g_A^2 + a weighted integral over a difference of cross sections = 1

- Discovered in 1965 by Steve Adler (Harvard) and Bill Weissberger (SLAC) (Sidney Coleman and FJG made them aware of each other's work.)
 Bj is the first person thanked in Bill Weissberger's paper.
- Using PCAC and known cross sections, the A -W sum rule "worked."
- Bj derived several other important sum rules in the mid-60s

Another Derivation after A+W: Feynman's Notebook 1965 "Murray says" Use of Infinite Momentum (Copy to FJG in 1966)

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Current Algebra Deep Inelastic Scattering of Electrons and Neutrinos

• The algebra of current <u>densities</u> leads to sum rules for deep inelastic scattering of electrons or neutrinos of the form

$$\int_0^\infty W_2 \left(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} , \mathbf{q}^2 \right) \, \mathrm{d} \mathbf{v} = 1$$

where p is the four-momentum of the initial nucleon, q is the four-momentum transferred to the proton, and $v = p \cdot q / M$ is the energy transferred to the nucleon when initially at rest. The structure function W_2 is a Lorentz scalar.

• There are an infinity of sum rules, one for each value of q². We have effectively converted the commutation relations at every point in real space-time to an infinity of sum rules in momentum-energy space.

Opening Session of the 1966 ICHEP at UC Berkeley From R to L, Row 1: Gell-Mann, Goldberger, ..., Row 2: Bjorken, Beg, Ne'eman, Glashow, Sommerfield



III International Symposium on Electron Photon Interactions at High Energy @ SLAC September 1967

- Bj gave a prophetic plenary talk:
 - "Theoretical Ideas on Inelastic Electron and Muon Scattering," starting with "It is an indication of the state of the subject that I am going to talk about that only one paper was contributed to this conference on the theory of inelastic electron scattering. It cannot be stressed too much how ignorant we are of what goes on in this area. Furthermore, I think that it is a region which is unique in particle physics in that we may be able to learn in other ways."
- In the talk, Bj argued for point-like constituents of the nucleon being seen in the forthcoming deep inelastic electron scattering experiments to be done at SLAC in End Station A.

III International Symposium on Electron Photon Interactions at High Energy @ SLAC (continued)

I had just arrived at SLAC as a postdoc and was able to attend the Symposium. (I had met Bj when I gave a seminar at SLAC early in 1966.)

Bj and Joan were married at the end of the Symposium, While they were away on their honeymoon, I was enlisted by a secretary to make a transcription of his talk from the tape recording to help him in writing up his talk.

Scaling in Deep Inelastic Electron-Proton Scattering

- The inelastic scattering data in the spring of 1968 showed large cross sections, much bigger than predicted they fell off with increasing q² like the form factors for the proton and neutron. Instead, they were roughly of order that might be expected if the current algebra sum rules to be correct. The SLAC MIT Collaboration was cautious, checking radiative corrections, and comparing data at different scattering angles.
- Bj asked for the data be plotted in terms of the variable v / q^2 to see if that single variable describes $v W_2(v, q^2)$ as v and $q^2 \rightarrow \infty$, i.e., if <u>scaling</u> holds in that limit.

Why v/q^2 ? What's Scaling?

• The Lorentz-invariant structure functions W_1 and W_2 depend on the Lorentz invariant variables $p \cdot q = Mv$ and q^2 (M = mass of target nucleon)

$$v W_2(v, q^2) = (p \cdot q / M) W_2(p \cdot q / M, q^2)$$
 is dimensionless

If the <u>scattering occurs off point-like objects</u> as v and $q^2 \rightarrow \infty$, (i.e., no other quantity with dimensions enters the calculation) $= > v W_2 (v, q^2)$ <u>cannot be a function of v and q² independently</u>,

but <u>only a function of the ratio</u> $p \cdot q / q^2 = M v/q^2$ corresponds to <u>scaling</u>

Define the variable $\omega = 2 p \cdot q / q^2 = 2 M v / q^2$ to give the scaling variable a name

Scaling and Sum Rules

What happens to the sum rule when scaling holds as v and $q^2 \rightarrow \infty$?

$$\int_0^\infty W_2 (p \cdot q, q^2) \, dv = 1 \quad \text{for any given } q^2$$

$$= \int_0^\infty v W_2 (p \cdot q, q^2) (dv / v) = 1$$

$$= \int_0^\infty v W_2 (2p \cdot q / q^2) (dv / v) = 1$$

$$\rightarrow \int_0^\infty v W_2(\omega) \ (d\omega / \omega) = 1 \text{ as } v \text{ and } q^2 \rightarrow \infty ,$$

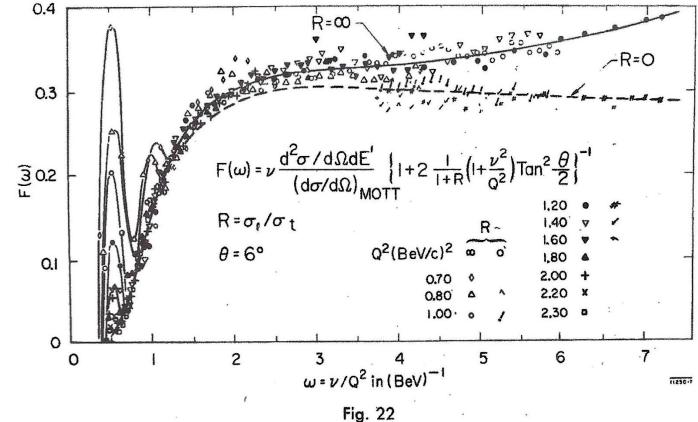
All the sum rules become the same in the scaling limit, v and $q^2 \rightarrow \infty$,

XIV International Conference on HEP September 1968

- Pief Panofsky was the rapporteur at Vienna for inelastic electron and muon scattering. SLAC data on photoproduction and electroproduction were just beginning to join those from other labs. There was lots of pressure to show early, exciting results.
- The electroproduction data were presented in the parallel session by Jerry Friedman and showed the first evidence of scaling.
- In Pief's plenary talk, a few slides near the (rushed) end were devoted to deep inelastic scattering, only one slide at the end was fully focused on scaling.

Not many in the audience that day understood the significance

XIV International Conference on HEP (*a*) **Vienna Panofsky's Plenary Talk**



Scaling a la Feynman

- During the Vienna Conference, Feynman came from Caltech to visit his sister, who lived not far from Stanford. He spent a day at SLAC and talked with both theorists and experimentalists, including getting briefed on the deep inelastic scattering data.
- The SLAC data could be analyzed in the approach to understanding hadronic collisions at very high energies which he had been developing using "partons" Treating collisions in the infinite momentum frame, a given parton had a fraction x of the four-momentum p of its parent (a nucleon in this case). When struck by a virtual photon with four-momentum q, and neglecting masses,

$$2 x q \cdot p + q^2 = 0 \implies x = -q^2 / (2 q \cdot p) = 1/\omega$$

- The parton description was soon adopted by the community. x, f(x)
- Within one year, scaling and the existence of point-like quarks was established.

Bj at Stanford in the 60s

We were privileged to share these amazing times

with Bj one of the amazing people.