

Exotic tetraquarks at LHCb

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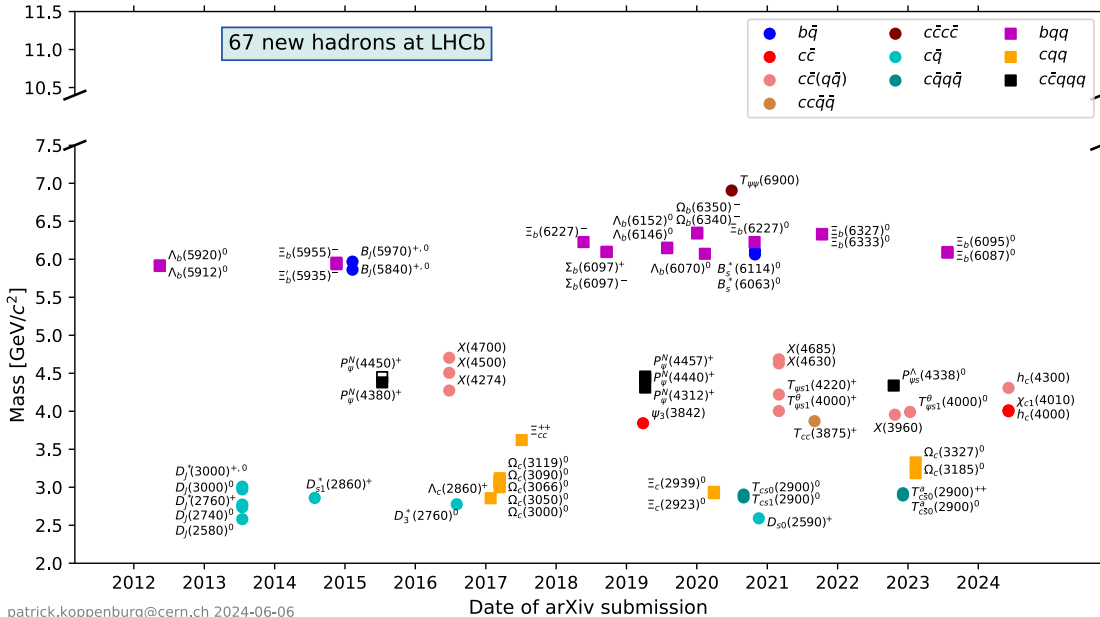
Università di Ferrara

INFN Sezione di Ferrara

On behalf of the LHCb collaboration



The spectroscopy programme at LHCb



Conventional heavy-hadron spectroscopy

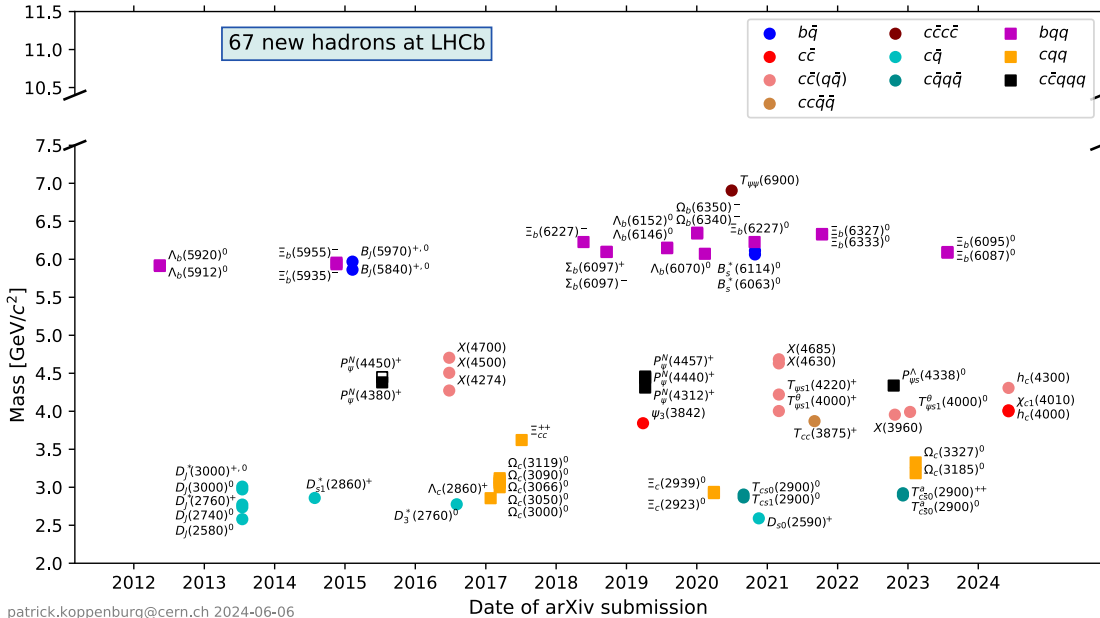
- Excited open-flavour mesons
- Excited conventional charmonia
- Excited heavy baryons

Exotic heavy-hadron spectroscopy

- 23 new exotic states discovered
- Charged, $c\bar{c}$, $cc\bar{c}\bar{c}$, open flavour
- Pentaquark candidates
- Search for unexpected contributions

NB: naming scheme is evolving following a suggestion from LHCb which was partially accepted in the 2024 PDG edition

The spectroscopy programme at LHCb



Conventional heavy-hadron spectroscopy

- Excited open-flavour mesons
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- Excited heavy baryons

Exotic heavy-hadron spectroscopy

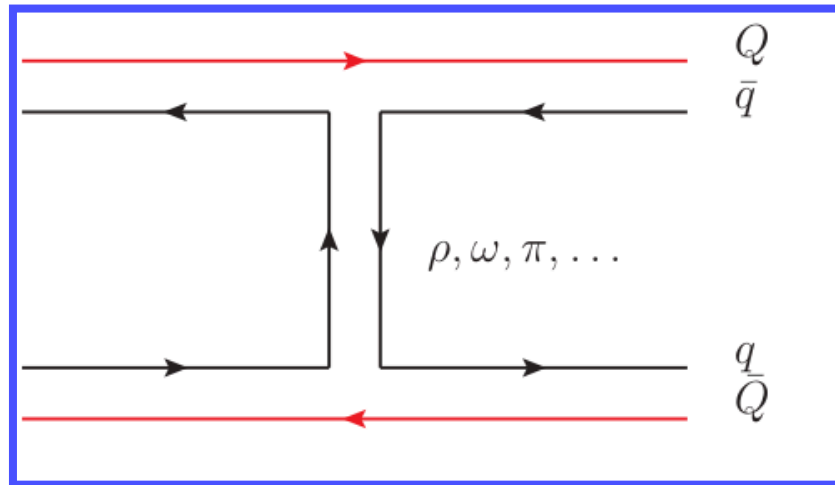
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Today: focus on the most recent results on tetraquark states

Exotic hadrons as multiquark states

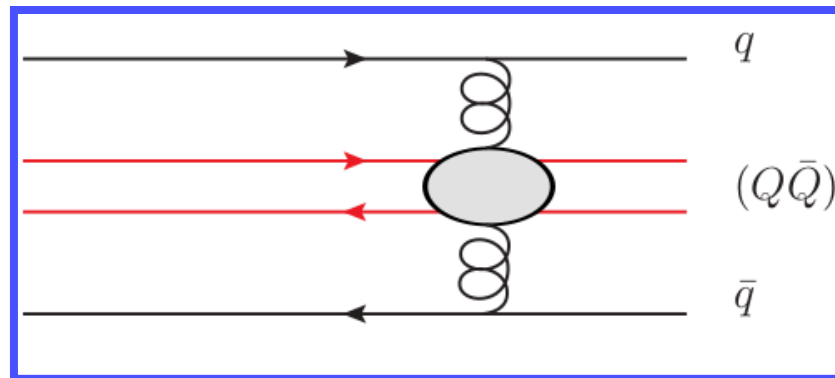
Mesonic/baryonic molecule

- Low binding energy, narrow states
- Orbital excitations suppressed
- Independently decaying components
- Mass close to two-body thresholds



Compact tetraquark/pentaquark

- Tightly bound states
- Large prompt production at high p_T
- Rich isospin splitting
- Charged isospin partners predicted



Hidden and explicit heavy exotics

Hidden exotics

- Minimal quark content “mimics” regular hadronic structure
- $[c\bar{c}u\bar{u}]$, $[c\bar{c}d\bar{d}]$...
- Careful study needed
- Establish quantum numbers
- Measure production cross-section
- Unusual mass and/or width

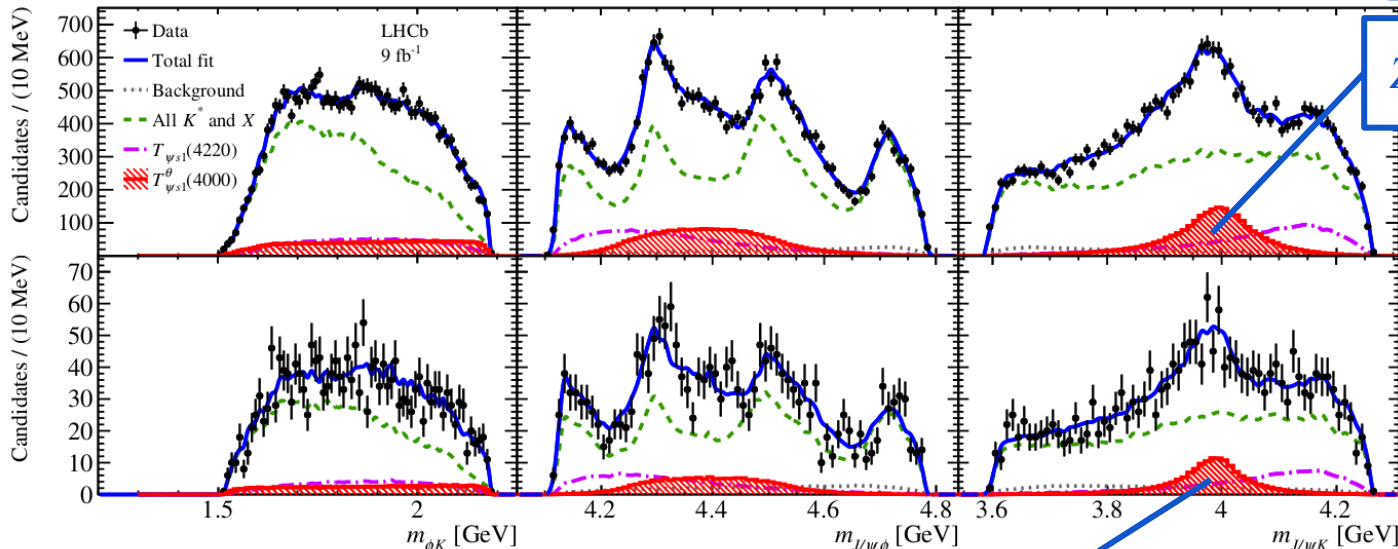
Explicit exotics

- Minimal quark content shows up as manifestly exotic
- “Charged quarkonia” such as Z_c^+ , Z_b^+ with $[c\bar{c}u\bar{d}]$ or $[b\bar{b}u\bar{d}]$
- Open-flavour tetraquarks: $[c\bar{s}u\bar{d}]$
- Doubly charm tetraquarks: $[c\bar{u}c\bar{d}]$
- Fully charm tetraquarks: $[cc\bar{c}\bar{c}]$
- Pentaquarks: $[c\bar{c}uud]$, $[c\bar{c}uds]$...

HIDDEN TETRAQUARKS

Neutral isospin partner of the $Z_{cs}(4000)^+$ (aka $T_{c\bar{c}s1}(4000)^+$)

Minimal quark content
[$c\bar{c}u\bar{s}$]



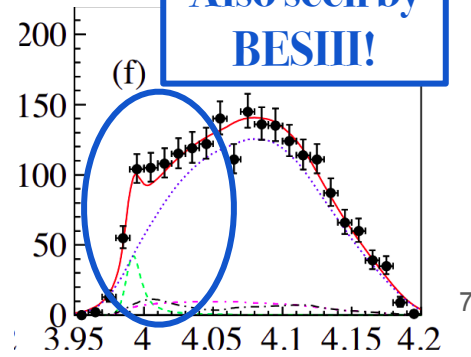
$Z_{cs}(4000)^+$

$$B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \phi K^+$$

$$B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \phi K_s^0$$

$Z_{cs}(4000)^0$

Also seen by
BESIII!

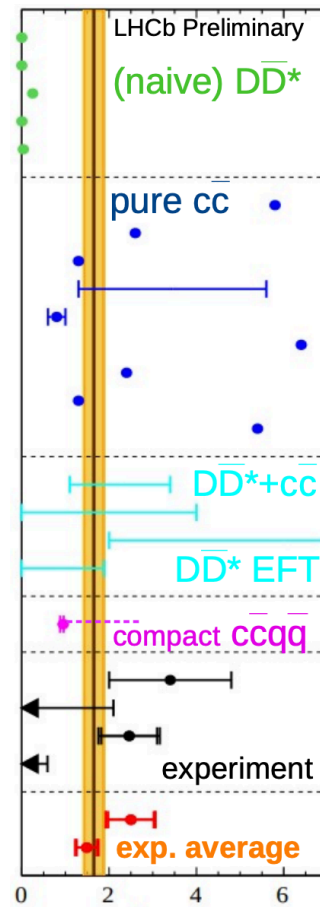
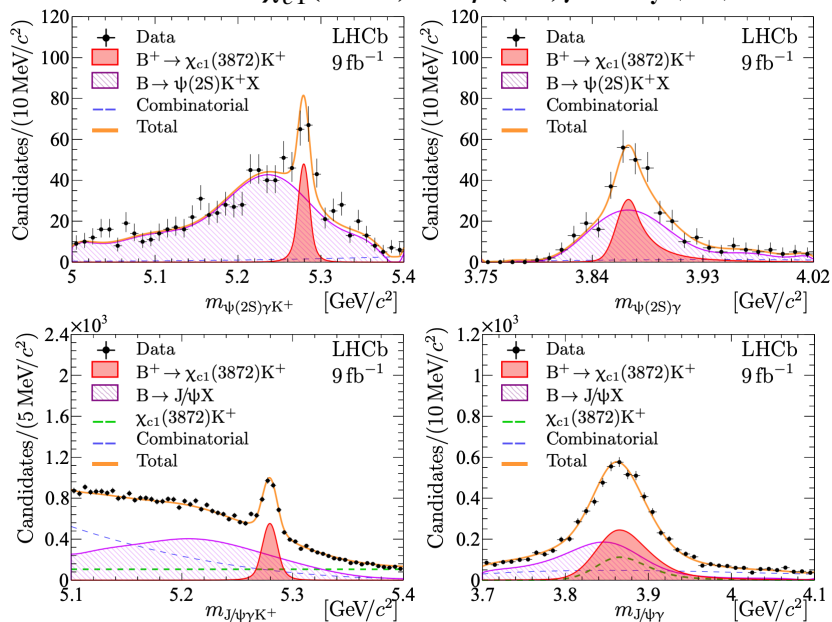


- Search for an isospin partner of the $Z_{cs}(4000)^+$ in the isospin-conjugate decay channel $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \phi K^+$
- Amplitude model includes 9 excited K^* states and the 9 already observed exotics
- Evidence for a new state at 4σ significance!
- Mass difference $\Delta M = 12_{-10}^{+11+6}$ MeV is consistent with isospin partners

Radiative decays of the $\chi_{c1}(3872)$

Measurement of the ratio $\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow (\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow \psi(2S)\gamma) K^+)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow (\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi\gamma) K^+)}$

First observation of the $\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow \psi(2S)\gamma$ decay (6σ)



$$\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma} = \frac{\Gamma_{\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow \psi(2S)\gamma}}{\Gamma_{\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi\gamma}}$$

LHCb Preliminary
(naive) DD^*

pure cc

DD^*+cc

DD^* EFT

compact $CCQQ$

experiment

exp. average

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Y. Dong *et al.*
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BaBar 2008
Belle 2011
LHCb/Run 1 2014
BESIII 2020

LHCb/Run 1 2024
LHCb/Run 2 2024

Radiative decays of the $\chi_{c1}(3872)$

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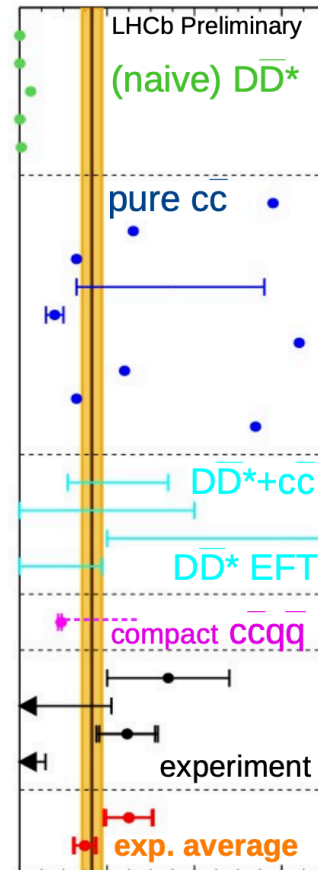
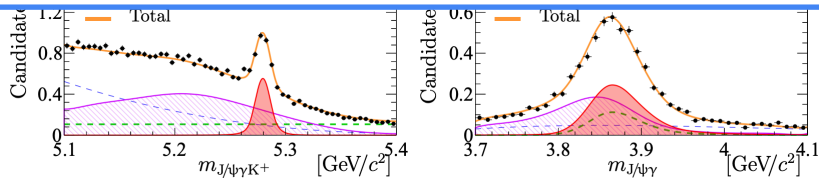
First observation of the $\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow \psi(2S)\gamma$ decay (6σ)

$$\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma}^{\text{Run 1}} = 2.50 \pm 0.52^{+0.20}_{-0.23} \pm 0.06$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma}^{\text{Run 2}} = 1.49 \pm 0.23^{+0.13}_{-0.12} \pm 0.03$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma}^{\text{Comb}} = 1.67 \pm 0.21 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.04$$

Strong indication of a sizeable compact component



$$\mathcal{R}_{\psi\gamma} = \frac{\Gamma_{\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow \psi(2S)\gamma}}{\Gamma_{\chi_{c1}(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi\gamma}}$$

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CHARGED
AND
OPEN-FLAVOUR
TETRAQUARKS

The first open-charm tetraquarks: $X(2900)$

Minimal quark content

$$[\bar{c}d\bar{s}u]$$

Amplitude analysis of the $B^+ \rightarrow D^+D^-K^+$ channel shows discrepancies

Known excited charmonia cannot explain the mass spectrum

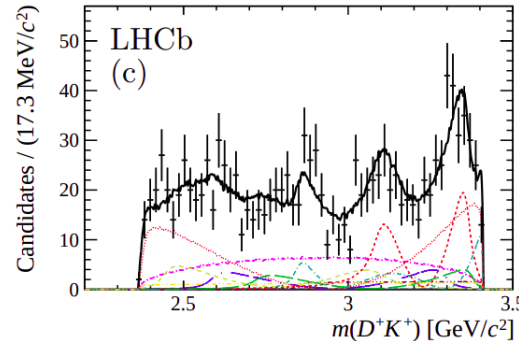
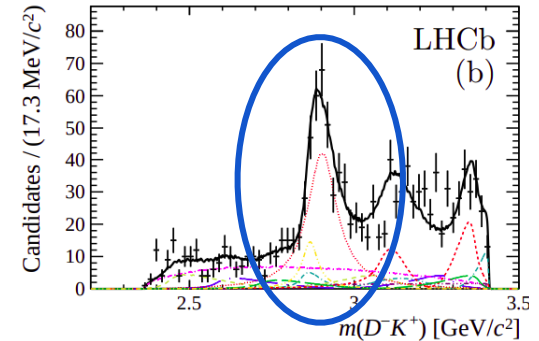
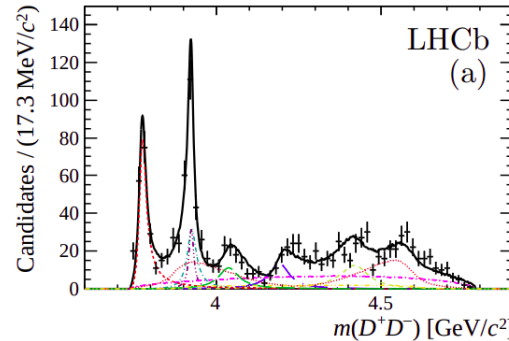
No conventional resonance is expected in the D^-K^+ final state

Two new states are needed to describe the data!

- $X_0(2900)$ aka $T_{cs0}^*(2870)^0$

- $X_1(2900)$ aka $T_{cs1}^*(2900)^0$

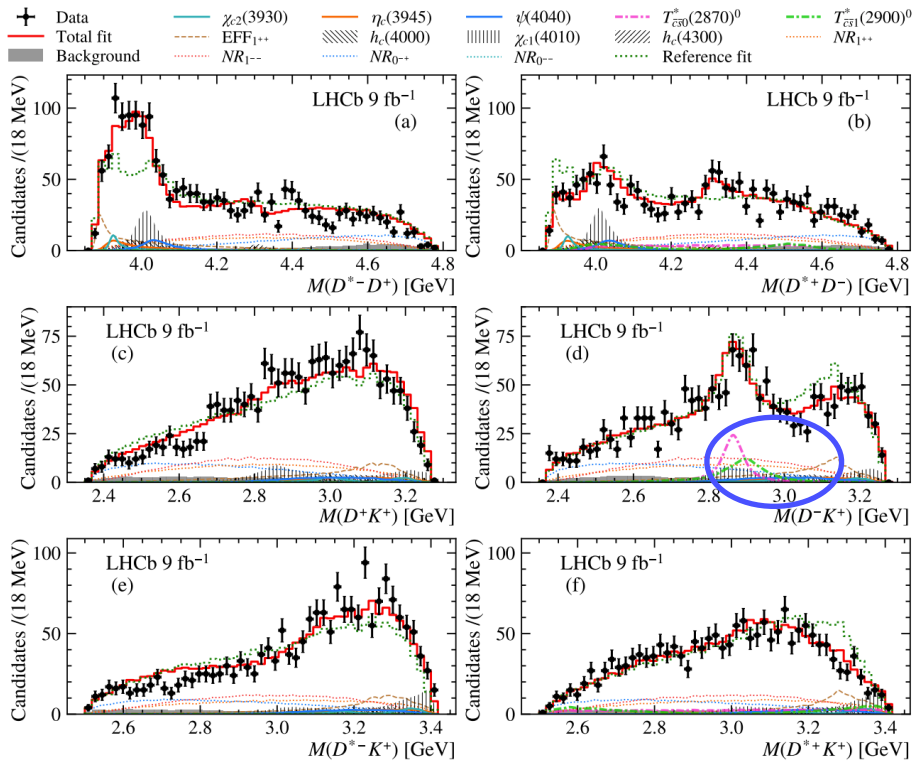
First observation of an exotic state without heavy quark-antiquark



- $\psi(3770) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $\chi_{c0}(3930) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $\chi_{c2}(3930) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $\psi(4040) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $\psi(4160) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $\psi(4415) \rightarrow D^+ D^-$
- $X_0(2900) \rightarrow D^- K^+$
- $X_1(2900) \rightarrow D^- K^+$
- **Nonresonant**

Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow D^{*\pm} D^{\mp} K^+$ decays

Minimal quark content
 $[\bar{c}d\bar{s}u]$



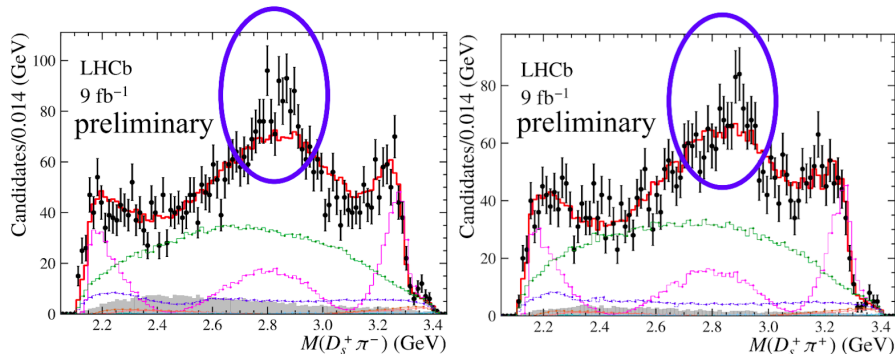
Confirmation of the states previously observed in the $B^+ \rightarrow D^+ D^- K^+$ channel. Fit fractions:

- $\sim 6\%$ each for $T_{cs\{0,1\}}^{*0} \rightarrow D^- K^+$
- $< 1.5\%$ for $T_{cs1}^*(2900)^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} K^+$ (95% CL)
- $< 3.3\%$ for $T_{cs0}^*(2900)^{++} \rightarrow D^+ K^+$ (95% CL)

Property	This work	Previous work
$T_{\bar{c}s0}^*(2870)^0$ mass [MeV]	$2914 \pm 11 \pm 15$	2866 ± 7
$T_{\bar{c}s0}^*(2870)^0$ width [MeV]	$128 \pm 22 \pm 23$	57 ± 13
$T_{\bar{c}s1}^*(2900)^0$ mass [MeV]	$2887 \pm 8 \pm 6$	2904 ± 5
$T_{\bar{c}s1}^*(2900)^0$ width [MeV]	$92 \pm 16 \pm 16$	110 ± 12
$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow T_{\bar{c}s0}^*(2870)^0 D^{(*)+})$	$(4.5^{+0.6}_{-0.8} {}^{+0.9}_{-1.0} \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-5}$	$(1.2 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$
$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow T_{\bar{c}s1}^*(2900)^0 D^{(*)+})$	$(3.8^{+0.7}_{-1.0} {}^{+1.6}_{-1.1} \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-5}$	$(6.7 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-5}$
$\frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow T_{\bar{c}s0}^*(2870)^0 D^{(*)+})}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow T_{\bar{c}s1}^*(2900)^0 D^{(*)+})}$	$1.17 \pm 0.31 \pm 0.48$	0.18 ± 0.05

Amplitude analysis of $B \rightarrow DD_s\pi$ decays

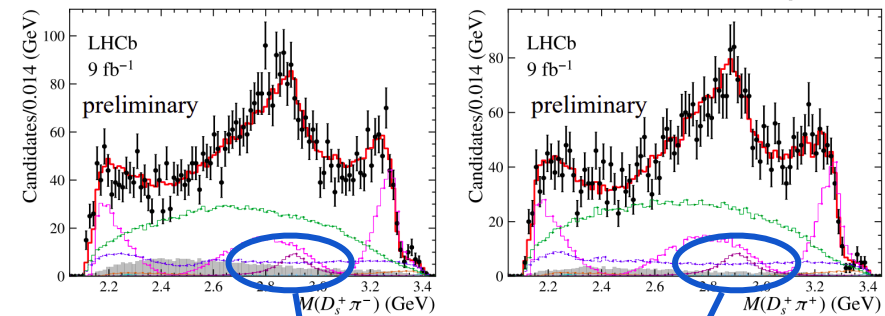
Minimal quark content
 $[c\bar{s}d\bar{u}]$, $[c\bar{s}u\bar{d}]$



Joint amplitude analysis linked through isospin symmetry

- $B^+ \rightarrow D^- D_s^+ \pi^+$ (left)

- $B^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 D_s^+ \pi^-$ (right)



Two new exotic states necessary to describe the resonant structure (one per channel)

- $T_{c\bar{s}0}^*(2900)^0$
- $T_{c\bar{s}0}^*(2900)^{++}$
- Quantum numbers $J^P = 0^+$

$T(2900)^0$

$T(2900)^{++}$

Not the same as the $T_{c\bar{s}0}^*(2870)^0$ observed in
 $B^+ \rightarrow D^+ D^- K^+$ decays

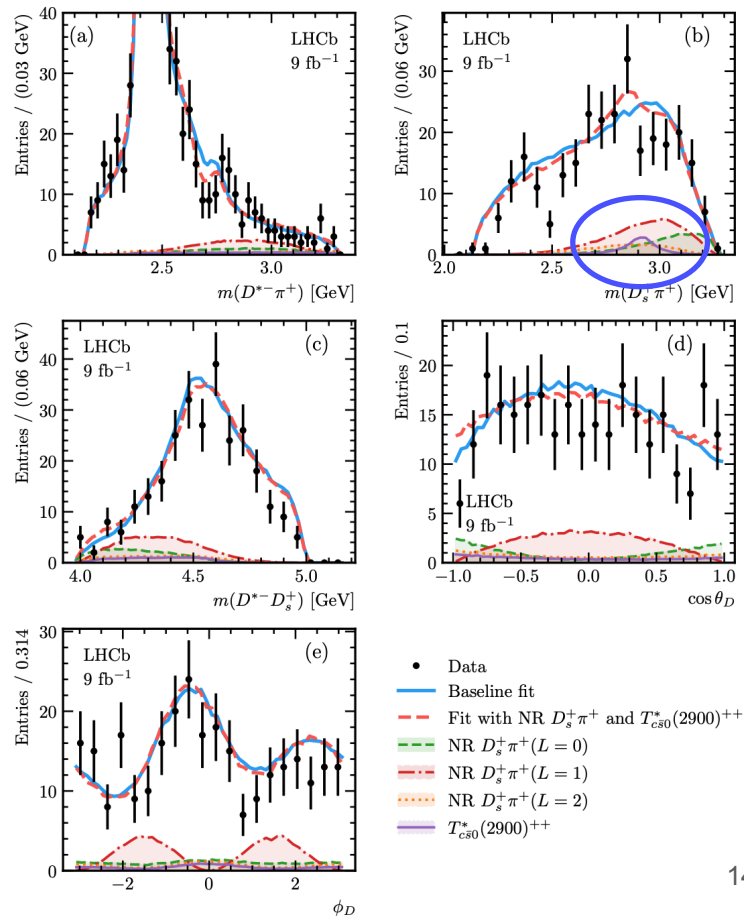
Different quark content: $[c\bar{d}s\bar{u}]$

Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow D^{*-} D_s^+ \pi^+$ decays

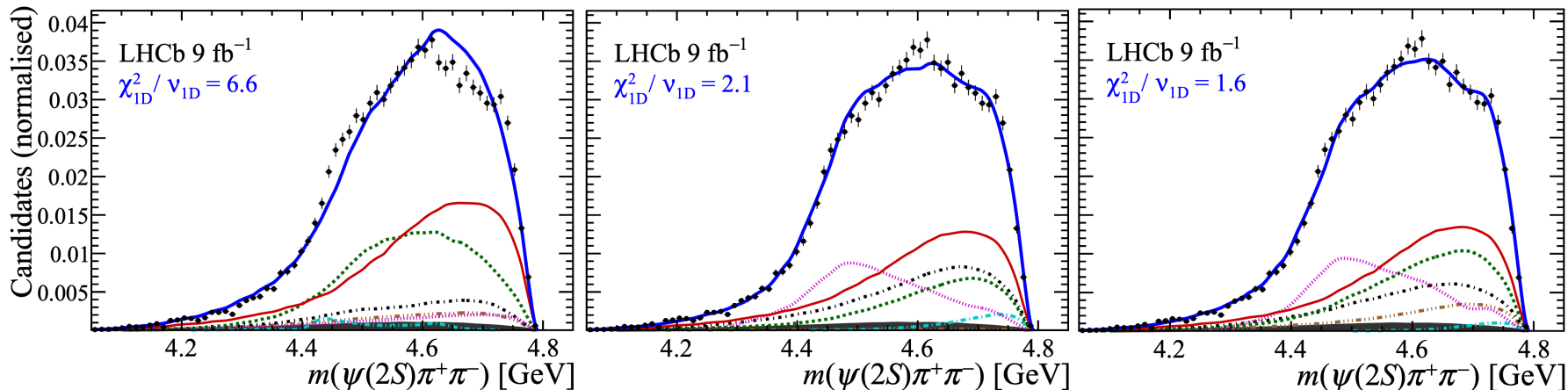
The $T(2900)^{++}$ state has been also searched in $B^+ \rightarrow D^{*-} D_s^+ \pi^+$ decays

No strong evidence of exotics states contributing to the total decay amplitude

Fit fraction of $T_{c\bar{s}0}^*(2900)^{++} \rightarrow D_s^+ \pi^+$ is found to be less than 2.3% at 90% CL



Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^+\pi^+\pi^-$ decays



<p>8 known excited $K' \rightarrow K\pi\pi$ 3 known excited $\psi^* \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi$ No exotic states</p>	<p>6 known excited $K' \rightarrow K\pi\pi$ 1 known excited $\psi^* \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi$ 8 “known” $T \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi, \psi(2S)\pi$ or $\psi(2S)K$</p>	<p>6 known excited $K' \rightarrow K\pi\pi$ 1 known excited $\psi^* \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi$ 8 “known” $T \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi, \psi(2S)\pi$ or $\psi(2S)K$ 3 new exotic states</p>
<p>7D amplitude analysis, using a model-building algorithm to iteratively add contributions to the total amplitude. Interpretation of results is not straightforward. Solid groundwork for subsequent investigations into similar decay modes.</p>		<p>$T_{c\bar{c}s1}(4600)^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K\pi$ $T_{c\bar{c}s1}(4900)^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K\pi$ $T_{c\bar{c}s1}^*(5200)^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K\pi$</p>

CONCLUSIONS
AND
PROSPECTS

Conclusions and prospects

After more than 20 years, the field of exotic spectroscopy is still mostly an unexplored territory!

- **Unveil the true nature of X(3872)**: are the observed exotics molecules, compact states or something else?
- **Tetraquarks, pentaquarks and more**: do six-quark bound states exist?
- **Direct line with open-flavour exotics**: the removal of the hardware trigger in LHCb allows studies on fully-hadronic final states starting from Run 3 data
- **Increased sensitivity**: sensitivity of spectroscopy studies is highly increased due to the higher efficiency of the LHCb topological trigger in Run 3
- **Heavyweight championship**: the T_{cc} state has been observed, how about T_{bc} and T_{bb} ?
- **Production mechanisms**: what is the connection between exotics production and event multiplicity? Do all exotics form through coalescence?

More than 30% of the new hadrons discovered at LHC experiments are exotics

Exotic hadrons are not rare!

Plenty of new exciting results are guaranteed in the near future!

BACKUP

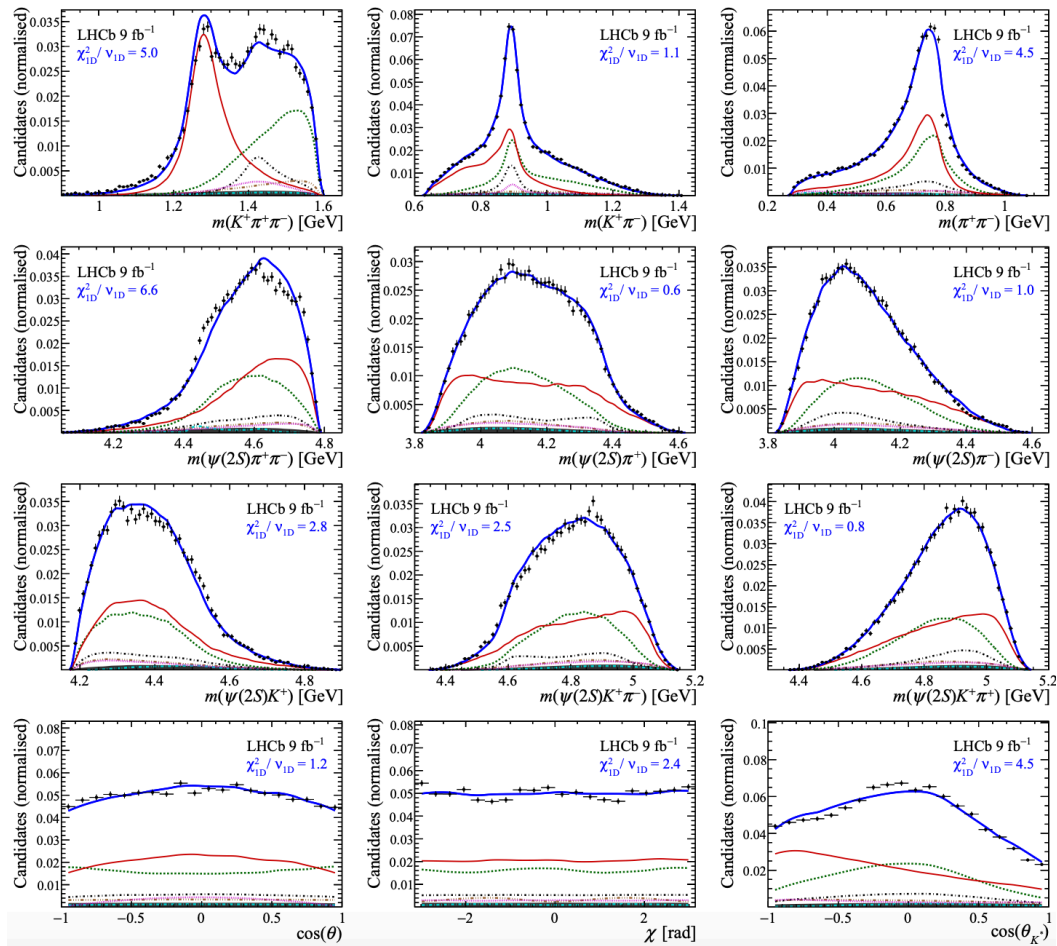
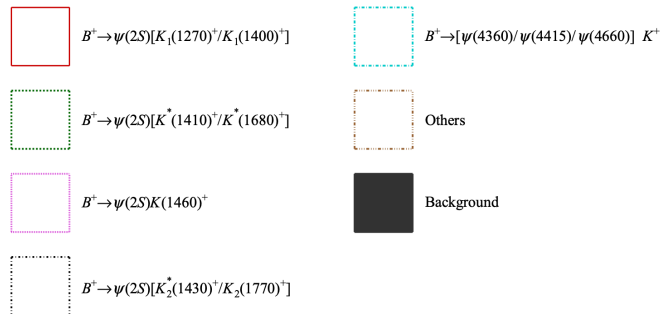
Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^+\pi^+\pi^-$ decays

Fit projections

6 known excited $K' \rightarrow K\pi\pi$

1 known excited $\psi^* \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi$

No exotics



Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^+\pi^+\pi^-$ decays

Fit projections

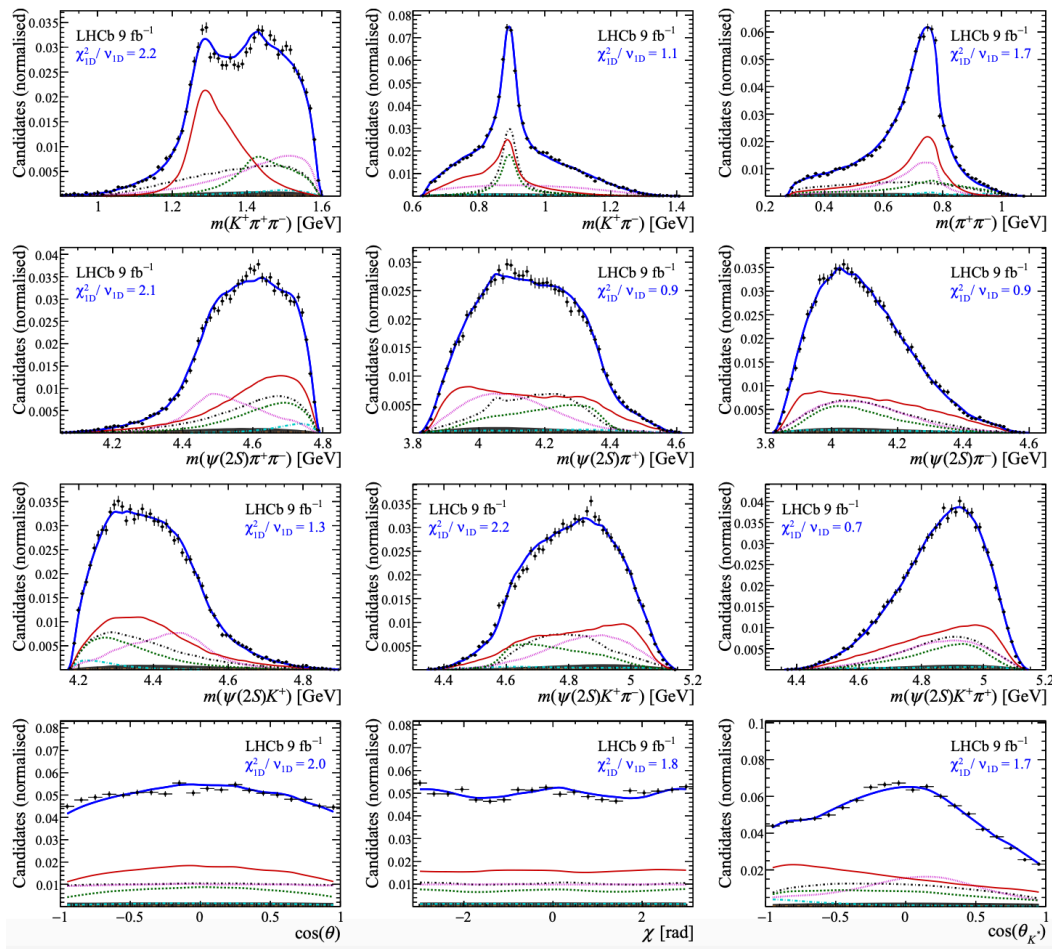
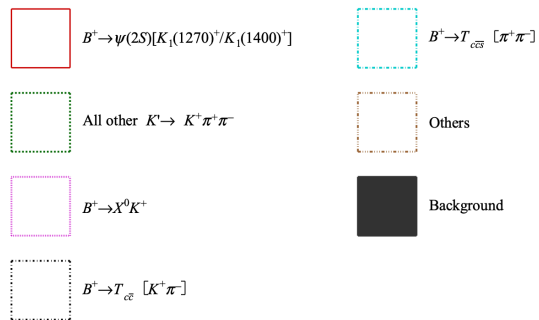
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1 known excited $\psi^* \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi$

8 “known”

$T \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi\pi, \psi(2S)\pi$

or $\psi(2S)K$



Amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^+\pi^+\pi^-$ decays

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3 new exotic states

