

## Exotic cousins of the proton: tetraquarks, pentaquarks and hadronic molecules

Marek Karliner  
Tel Aviv University  
Joint work with Jon Rosner

35-th Recontres de Blois, Oct 23 2024

# Outline

- quarks are fundamental building blocks of protons, neutrons and all hadrons
- all quarks are equal, but heavy quarks are more equal than others

## new combinations with heavy quarks, incl. exotics:

- newly discovered  $T_{cc}^+$  tetraquark =  $(cc\bar{u}\bar{d})$
- stable  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  tetraquark
- hadronic molecules, esp. LHCb pentaquarks 6 by the latest count:  
3 nonstrange & 3 strange
- *“like a new layer in the periodic table”*

$\exists$  robust experimental evidence  
for multiquark states, a.k.a.  
exotic hadrons with heavy  $Q$

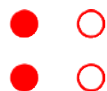
- non  $\bar{q}q'$  mesons, e.g.  $\bar{Q}Q\bar{q}q$ ,  $QQ\bar{q}\bar{q}$   
 $Q = c, b$      $q = u, d, s$
- non  $qq'q''$  baryons, e.g.  $\bar{Q}Qqq'q''$

two key questions:

- which additional exotics should we expect?
- how are quarks organized inside them?



Tq



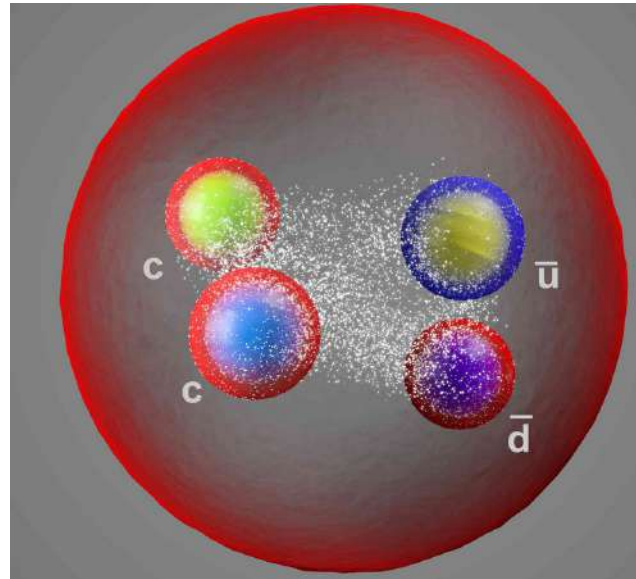
dq-dq



had. mol.

...

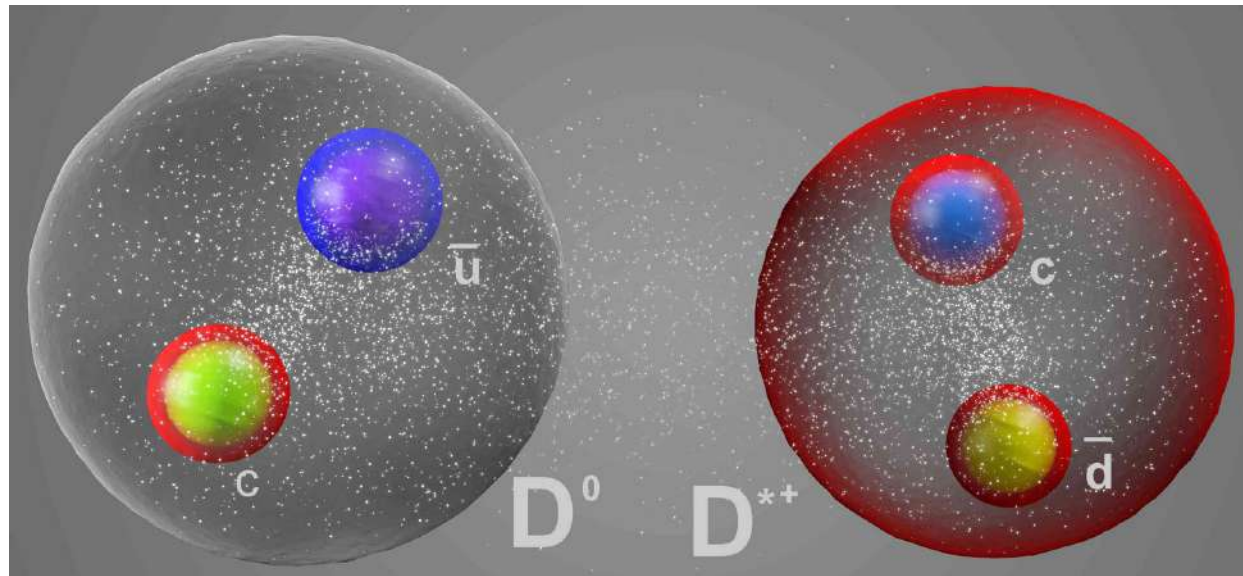
tightly-bound  
tetraquark



each quark  
sees the color charges  
of all other quarks

or

hadronic  
molecule?



two color  
singlets  
interacting  
by  
light meson  
x-change



CERN-EP-2021-165  
LHCb-PAPER-2021-031  
September 2, 2021

Phys. Rev. Lett. 131 (2023) 041902

Nature Commun. 13 (2022) 3351

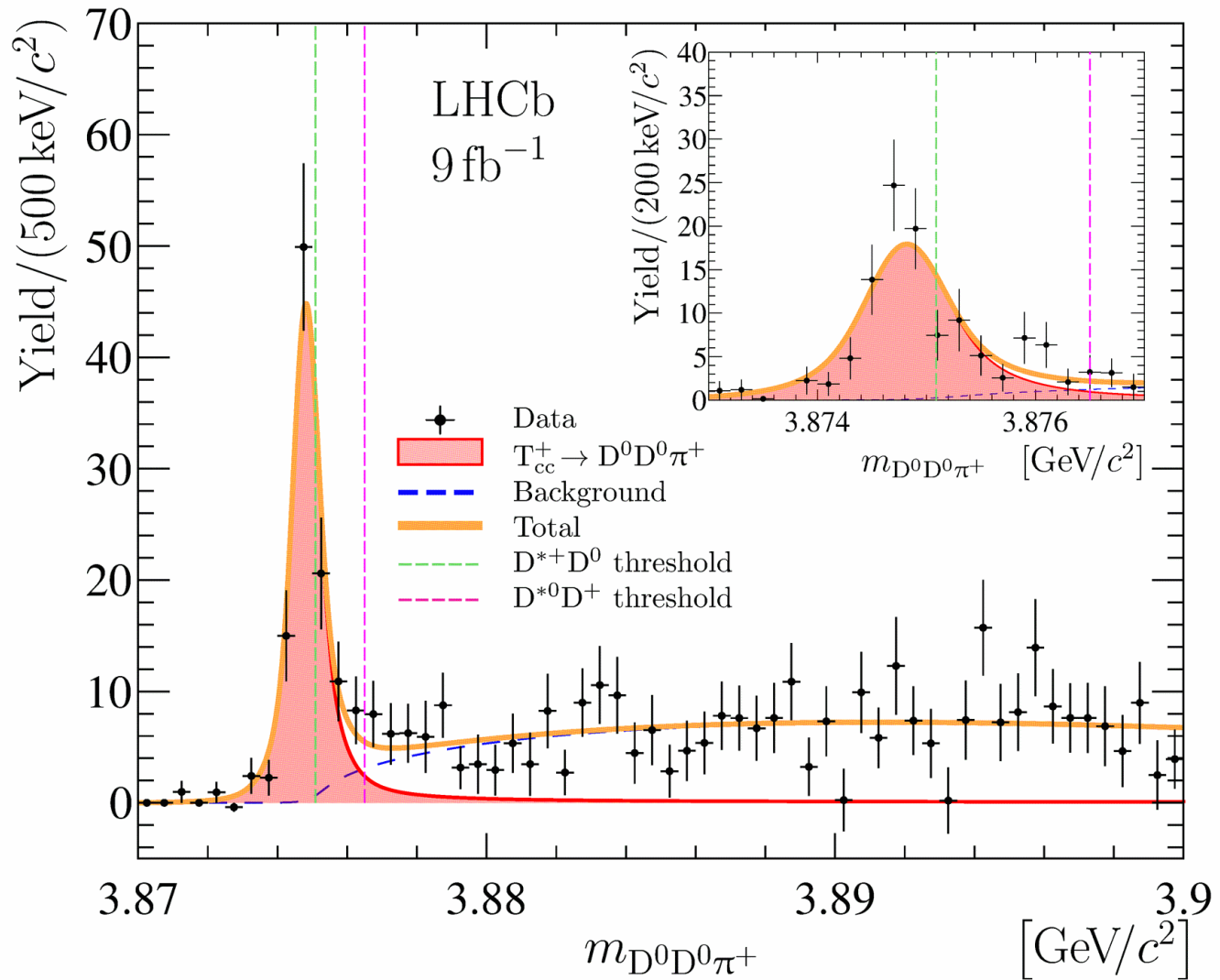
arXiv:2109.01038v1 [hep-ex] 2 Sep 2021

# Observation of an exotic narrow doubly charmed tetraquark

LHCb collaboration<sup>†</sup>

## Abstract

Conventional hadronic matter consists of baryons and mesons made of three quarks and quark-antiquark pairs, respectively. The observation of a new type of hadronic state, a doubly charmed tetraquark containing two charm quarks, an anti-u and an anti-d quark, is reported using data collected by the LHCb experiment at the Large Hadron Collider. This exotic state with a mass of about  $3875 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  manifests itself as a narrow peak in the mass spectrum of  $D^0 D^0 \pi^+$  mesons just below the  $D^{*+} D^0$  mass threshold. The near-threshold mass together with a strikingly narrow width reveals the resonance nature of the state.



**The D<sup>0</sup>D<sup>0</sup>π<sup>+</sup> mass distribution.** The D<sup>0</sup>D<sup>0</sup>π<sup>+</sup> mass distribution where the contribution of the non-D<sup>0</sup> background has been statistically subtracted. The result of the fit described in the text is overlaid.

Table 1: Signal yield,  $N$ , Breit–Wigner mass relative to  $D^{*+}D^0$  mass threshold,  $\delta m_{\text{BW}}$ , and width,  $\Gamma_{\text{BW}}$ , obtained from the fit to the  $D^0D^0\pi^+$  mass spectrum. The uncertainties are statistical only.

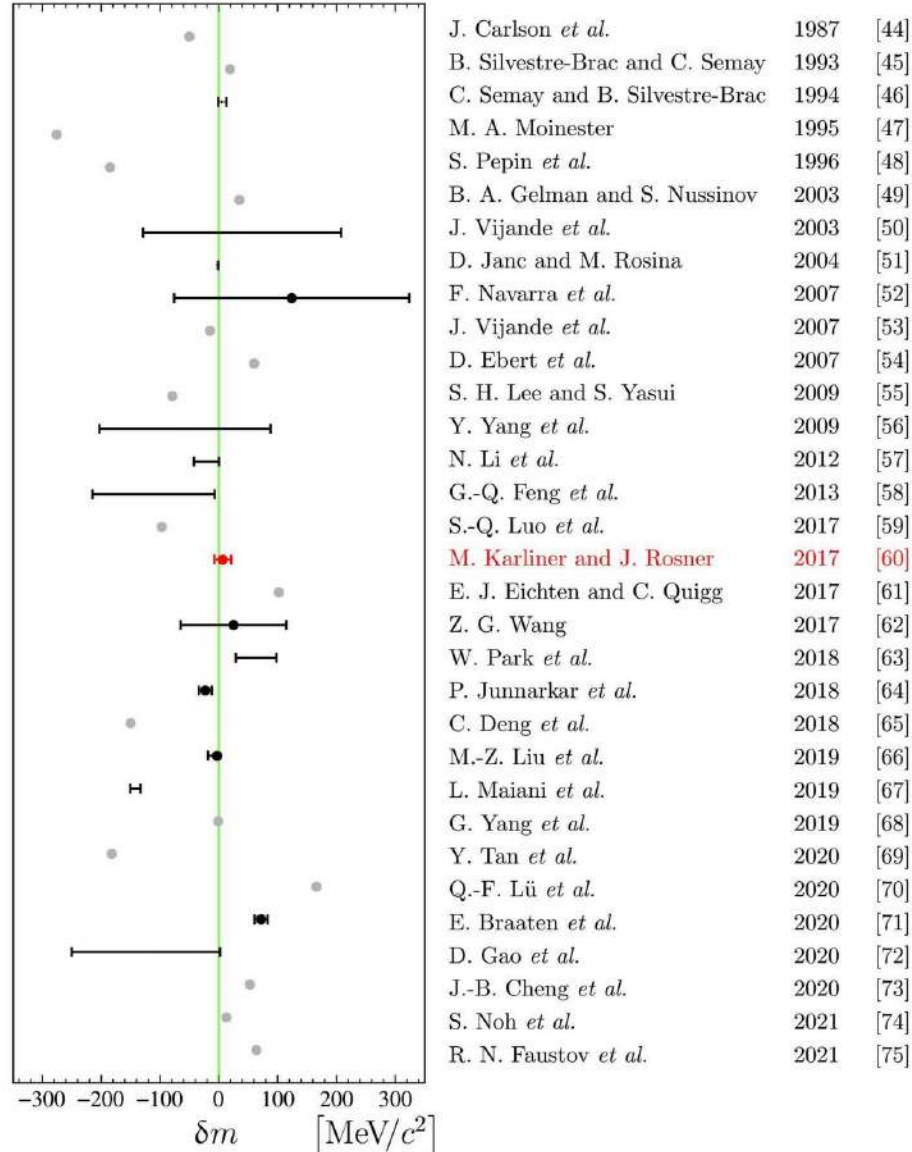
Parameter	Value	
$N$	$117 \pm 16$	
$\delta m_{\text{BW}}$	$-273 \pm 61 \text{ keV}/c^2$	@ 4.3 $\sigma$
$\Gamma_{\text{BW}}$	$410 \pm 165 \text{ keV}$	
$\delta m_{\text{pole}}$	$= -360 \pm 40_{-0}^{+4} \text{ keV}/c^2,$	
$\Gamma_{\text{pole}}$	$= 48 \pm 2_{-14}^{+0} \text{ keV},$	

$$[M(D^{*0}) + M(D^+)] - [M(D^{*+}) + M(D^0)] = 1.4 \text{ MeV} \gg \Gamma(T_{cc}^+)$$

so  $T_{cc}^+ \iff D^{*+}D^0$ , with very little  $D^{*0}D^+$

# TH predictions for $T_{cc}^+$ mass, $I = 0, J^P = 1^+$

$$\delta m_U = -359 \pm 40_{-6}^{+9} \text{ keV}/c^2$$






important digression:  $X(3872)$  observed by CMS in heavy ion collisions

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **128**, 032001 (2022)

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**Evidence for  $X(3872)$  in Pb-Pb Collisions and Studies of its Prompt Production at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV**

A. M. Sirunyan *et al.*\*  
CMS Collaboration

 (Received 25 February 2021; revised 2 September 2021; accepted 22 December 2021; published 19 January 2022)

The first evidence for  $X(3872)$  production in relativistic heavy ion collisions is reported. The  $X(3872)$  production is studied in lead-lead (Pb-Pb) collisions at a center-of-mass energy of  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV per nucleon pair, using the decay chain  $X(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\pi^+\pi^-$ . The data were recorded with the CMS detector in 2018 and correspond to an integrated luminosity of  $1.7 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ . The measurement is performed in the rapidity and transverse momentum ranges  $|y| < 1.6$  and  $15 < p_T < 50 \text{ GeV}/c$ . The significance of the inclusive  $X(3872)$  signal is 4.2 standard deviations. The prompt  $X(3872)$  to  $\psi 2S$  yield ratio is found to be  $\rho^{\text{Pb-Pb}} = 1.08 \pm 0.49(\text{stat}) \pm 0.52(\text{syst})$ , to be compared with typical values of 0.1 for  $pp$  collisions. This result provides a unique experimental input to theoretical models of the  $X(3872)$  production mechanism, and of the nature of this exotic state.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.128.032001](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.128.032001)

The production cross section is much larger, due to multi-parton events, but the huge combinatorial background has been a major challenge. This is a proof that this challenge can be dealt with, at least in some cases,

Prompt production of  $X(3872)$  in Pb-Pb collisions.  $\implies$  what about  $T_{cc}^+$  ?

9

hadrons w. heavy quarks are *much simpler*:

- heavy quarks almost static
- smaller spin-dep. interaction  $\propto 1/m_Q$
- key to accurate prediction of  $b$  quark baryons

- Phenomenological approach
- Identify eff. d.o.f. & their interactions
- Extract model parameters from exp
- Then use them to make predictions

apply the toolbox to

doubly-heavy baryons , e.g.  $ccu$

and

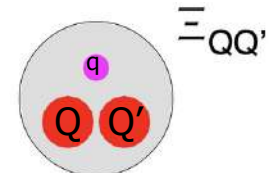
doubly-heavy tetraquarks, e.g.  $cc\bar{u}\bar{d}$

in both heavy  $cc$  diquark  $3_c^*$  coupled to a light  $3_c$

doubly-heavy baryons non-exotic, must exist

$\Rightarrow$  excellent testing ground for the toolbox

MK & JR, PRD 90, 094007(2014)



# doubly heavy baryons: mass predictions

MK & JR, Phys. Rev. D90, 094007 (2014)

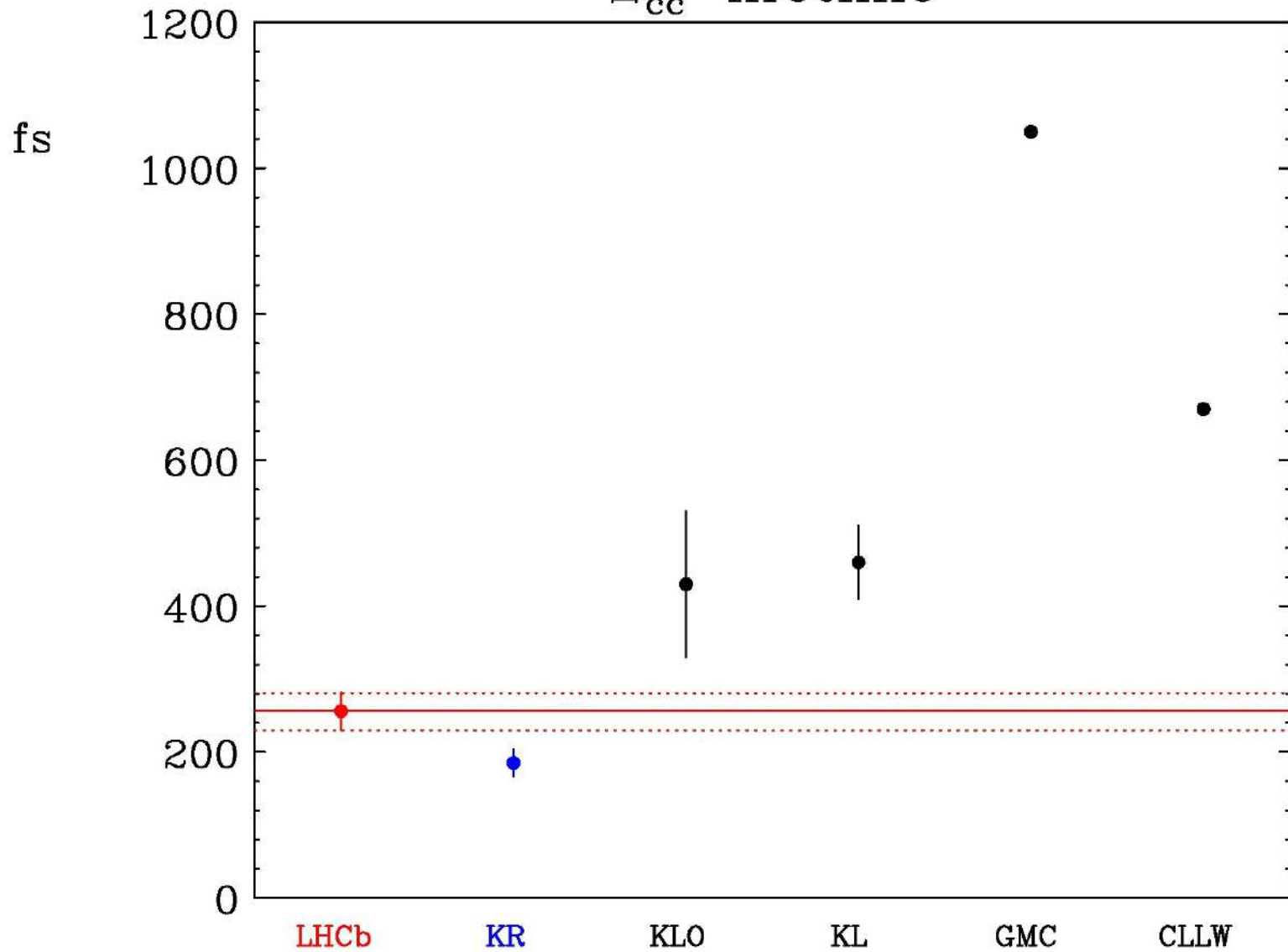
TABLE XVIII. Summary of our mass predictions (in MeV) for lowest-lying baryons with two heavy quarks. States without a star have  $J = 1/2$ ; states with a star are their  $J = 3/2$  hyperfine partners. The quark  $q$  can be either  $u$  or  $d$ . The square or curved brackets around  $cq$  denote coupling to spin 0 or 1.

State	Quark content	$M(J = 1/2)$	$M(J = 3/2)$
$[1]_{cc}^{(*)}$	$ccq$	$3627 \pm 12$	$3690 \pm 12$
$[1]_{bc}^{(*)}$	$b[cq]$	$6914 \pm 13$	$6969 \pm 14$
$[1]_{bc}'$	$b(cq)$	$6933 \pm 12$	...
$[1]_{bb}^{(*)}$	$bbq$	$10162 \pm 12$	$10184 \pm 12$

LHCb:  $3621.6 \pm 0.4$

PRL 119,112001, (2017)

# $\Xi_{cc}^{++}$ lifetime



$$\tau(\Xi_{cc}^{++}) = 256_{-22}^{+21} \pm 14 \text{ fs}$$

# $ccq$ mass calculation

sum of :

- $2m_c$
- $V_{cc}$  in  $3_c^*$
- $V_{HF}(cc)$
- $V_{HF}(cq)$
- $m_q$

# $ccq$ mass calculation

sum of :

- $2m_c$
  - $V_{cc}$  in  $3_c^*$
  - $V_{HF}(cc)$
  - $V_{HF}(cq)$
  - $m_q$
- } no exp info !



# Effective masses

in mesons:

$$m_u^m = m_d^m = m_q^m = 310 \text{ MeV}, m_c^m = 1663.3 \text{ MeV}$$

in baryons:

$$m_u^b = m_d^b = m_q^b = 363 \text{ MeV}, m_c^b = 1710.5 \text{ MeV}$$

$V(cc)$  from  $V(c\bar{c})$ :

$$\bar{M}(c\bar{c} : 1S) \equiv [3M(J/\psi) + M(\eta_c)]/4 = 3068.6 \text{ MeV}$$

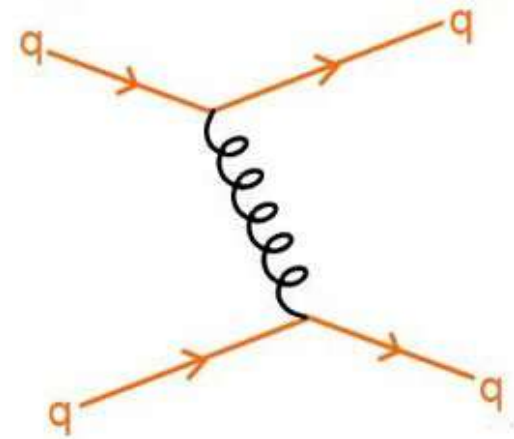
$$V(c\bar{c}) = \bar{M}(c\bar{c} : 1S) - 2m_c^m = -258.0 \text{ MeV.}$$

$$V(cc) = \frac{1}{2} V(c\bar{c}) = -129.0 \text{ MeV.}$$

in weak coupling follows  
from color algebra in  $1g_x$

here a dynamical assumption:

$V(cc)$  and  $V(c\bar{c})$  factorize  
into color  $\times$  space



gluon exchange by 2 quarks

$V_{HF}(cc)$  from  $V_{HF}(c\bar{c})$ :

$$V_{HF}(cc) = \frac{a_{cc}}{m_c^2}$$

$$V_{HF}(c\bar{c}) = M(J/\psi) - M(\eta_c) = 113.2 \text{ MeV} = \frac{4a_{c\bar{c}}}{m_c^2}$$

assume  $a_{cc} = \frac{1}{2}a_{c\bar{c}}$ ,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a_{cc}}{m_c^2} = 1/2 \cdot \frac{M(J/\psi) - M(\eta_c)}{4} = 14.2 \text{ MeV}$$

## Contributions to $\Xi_{cc}$ mass

Contribution	Value (MeV)
$2m_c^b + m_q^b$	3783.9
$cc$ binding	-129.0
$a_{cc}/(m_c^b)^2$	14.2
$-4a/m_q^b m_c^b$	-42.4
Total	$3627 \pm 12$

The  $\pm 12$  MeV error estimate from  
ave. error for  $Qqq$  baryons

The same theoretical toolbox  
that led to the accurate  $\Xi_{cc}$  mass prediction  
now predicts

a stable, deeply bound  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  tetraquark,

215 MeV below  $BB^*$  threshold

the first manifestly exotic stable hadron



## Discovery of the Doubly Charmed $\Xi_{cc}$ Baryon Implies a Stable $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$ Tetraquark

Marek Karliner<sup>1,\*</sup> and Jonathan L. Rosner<sup>2,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Physics and Astronomy, Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel*

<sup>2</sup>*Enrico Fermi Institute and Department of Physics, University of Chicago, 5620 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA*

(Received 28 July 2017; published 15 November 2017)

Recently, the LHCb Collaboration discovered the first doubly charmed baryon  $\Xi_{cc}^{++} = ccu$  at  $3621.40 \pm 0.78$  MeV, very close to our theoretical prediction. We use the same methods to predict a doubly bottom tetraquark  $T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$  with  $J^P = 1^+$  at  $10389 \pm 12$  MeV, 215 MeV below the  $B^-\bar{B}^{*0}$  threshold and 170 MeV below the threshold for decay to  $B^-\bar{B}^0\gamma$ . The  $T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$  is therefore stable under strong and electromagnetic interactions and can only decay weakly, the first exotic hadron with such a property. On the other hand, the mass of  $T(cc\bar{u}\bar{d})$  with  $J^P = 1^+$  is predicted to be  $3882 \pm 12$  MeV, 7 MeV above the  $D^0D^{*+}$  threshold and 148 MeV above the  $D^0D^+\gamma$  threshold.  $T(bc\bar{u}\bar{d})$  with  $J^P = 0^+$  is predicted at  $7134 \pm 13$  MeV, 11 MeV below the  $\bar{B}^0D^0$  threshold. Our precision is not sufficient to determine whether  $bc\bar{u}\bar{d}$  is actually above or below the threshold. It could manifest itself as a narrow resonance just at threshold.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.119.202001

# Calculation of tetraquark $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$ mass

build on accuracy of the  $\Xi_{cc}$  mass prediction

$$V(bb) = \frac{1}{2} V(\bar{b}b)$$

to obtain lowest possible mass, assume:

- $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  in  $S$ -wave
- $\bar{u}\bar{d}$  :  $\mathbf{3}_c$  “good” antidiquark,  $S=0$ ,  $I=0$   
(it's the lightest one)

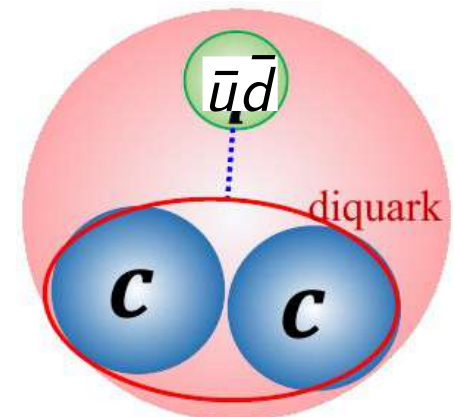
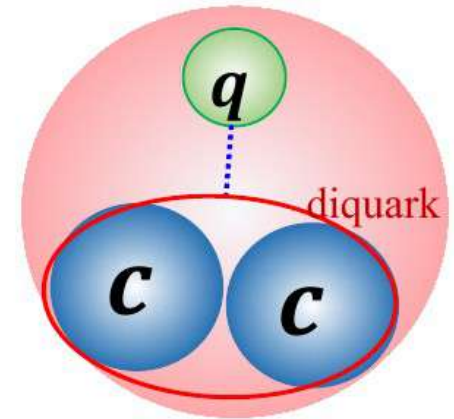
$\Rightarrow bb$  must be  $\bar{\mathbf{3}}_c$ ; Fermi stats: spin 1

$$(bb)_{s=1} (\bar{u}\bar{d})_{s=0} \Rightarrow J^P = 1^+.$$

$\Rightarrow (bb) (\bar{u}\bar{d})$  very similar to  $bbq$  baryon:

$$q \leftrightarrow (\bar{u}\bar{d})$$

$bbq$  baryon



$\Xi_{cc}$  discovery  $\Rightarrow$  quantitative validation

qualitatively  $E_{binding} \sim \alpha_s^2 M_Q$

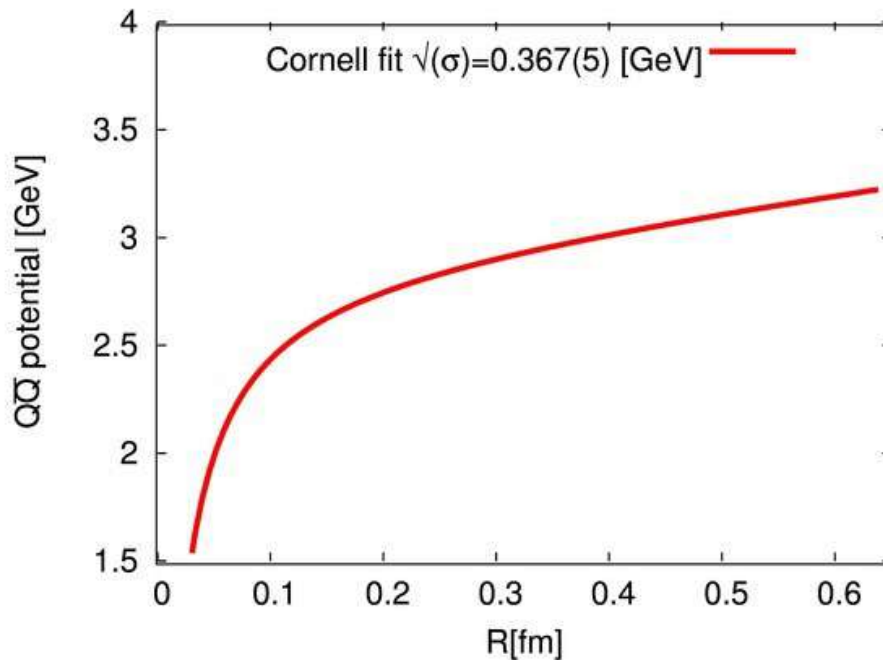
so for  $M_Q \rightarrow \infty$

$QQ\bar{u}\bar{d}$  must be bound



# Contributions to mass of $(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$ Tq with $J^P = 1^+$

Contribution	Value (MeV)
$2m_b^b$	10087.0
$2m_q^b$	726.0
$a_{bb}/(m_b^b)^2$	7.8
$-3a/(m_q^b)^2$	-150.0
$bb$ binding	-281.4
Total	$10389.4 \pm 12$



$T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$ :

$m_b \approx 5$  GeV

$\Rightarrow R(bb) \sim 0.2$  fm

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha_s(r)}{r} + \sigma r$$

$\Rightarrow B(bb) \approx -280$  MeV

tightly bound, but  $\bar{3}_c$ ,

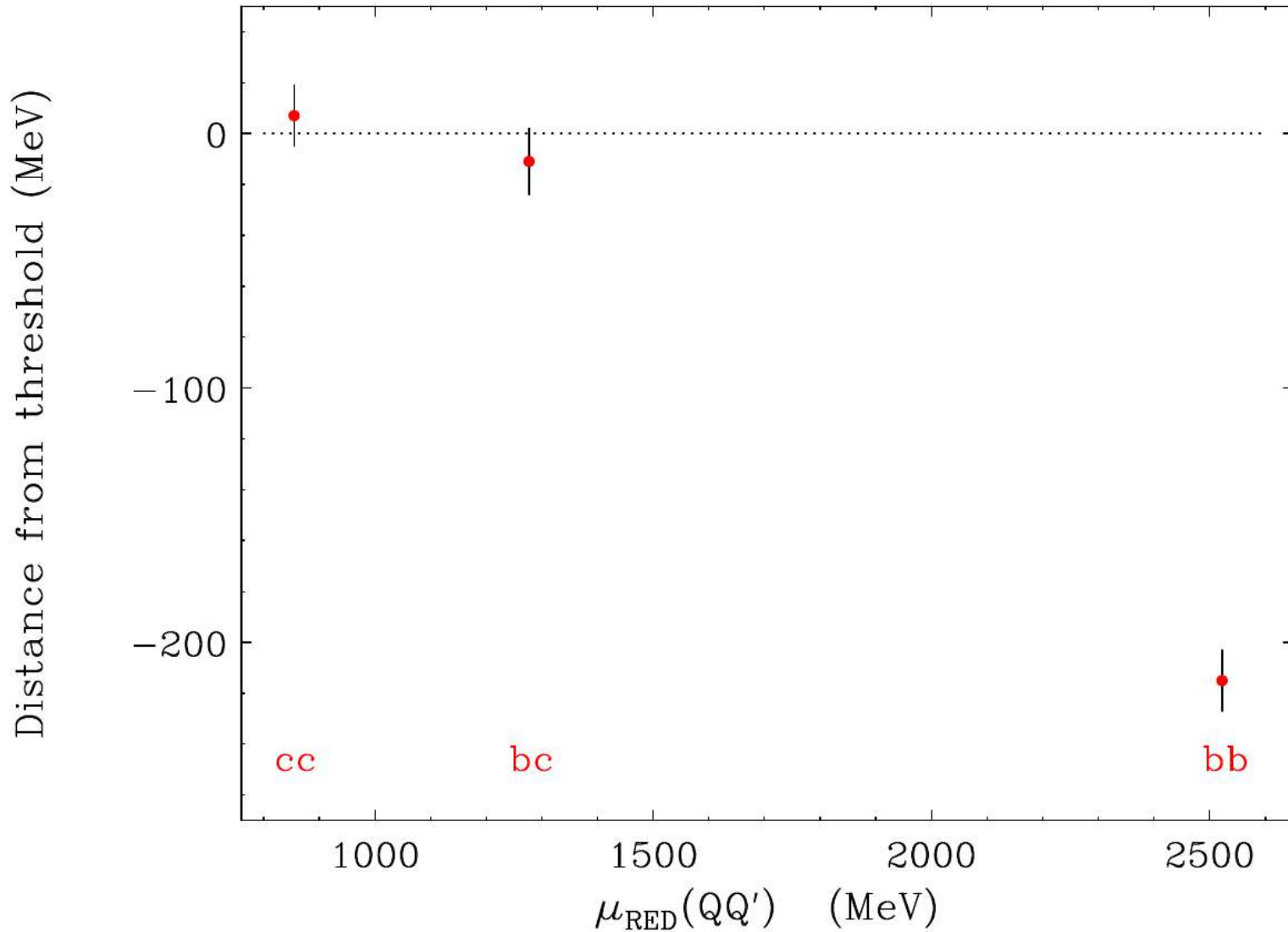
so cannot disengage from  $\bar{u}\bar{d}$

The channel  $T_{bb} \rightarrow BB^*$  is kinematically closed

because in  $BB^*$  the two  $b$  quarks are far from each other and the v. large  $bb$  binding energy is lost

$\Rightarrow T_{bb}$  is stable against strong decay

Distance of the  $QQ'\bar{u}\bar{d}$  Tq masses  
from the relevant two-meson thresholds (MeV).



# Tetraquark production

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) + X \lesssim \sigma(pp \rightarrow \Xi_{bb} + X)$$

same bottleneck:  $\sigma(pp \rightarrow \{bb\} + X)$

hadronization:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \{bb\} \rightarrow \{bb\}q \\ \{bb\} \rightarrow \{bb\}\bar{u}\bar{d} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} P(\bar{u}\bar{d}) \lesssim P(q) \\ \mathbf{3}_c \qquad \mathbf{3}_c \end{array}$$

LHCb observed  $ccu = \Xi_{cc}^{+++}$

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow \Xi_{bb} + X) = (b/c)^2 \cdot \sigma(pp \rightarrow \Xi_{cc} + X)$$

$\Rightarrow \Xi_{bb}$  and  $T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$  accessible,  $T(cc\bar{u}\bar{d})$  near thr.  $\rightarrow$  v. narrow accessible  
with much more  $\int \mathcal{L} dt$  now:  $D^0 D^{*+}$ , etc.

# Inclusive signature of either $bbq$ or $bb\bar{q}\bar{q}$ : displaced $B_c$

T. Gershon & A. Poluektov JHEP 1901 (2019) 019

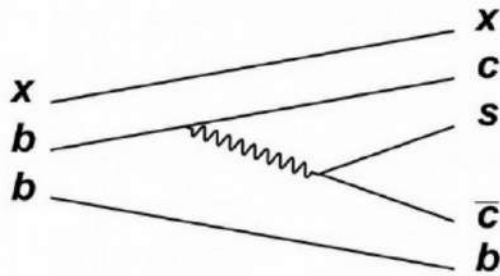
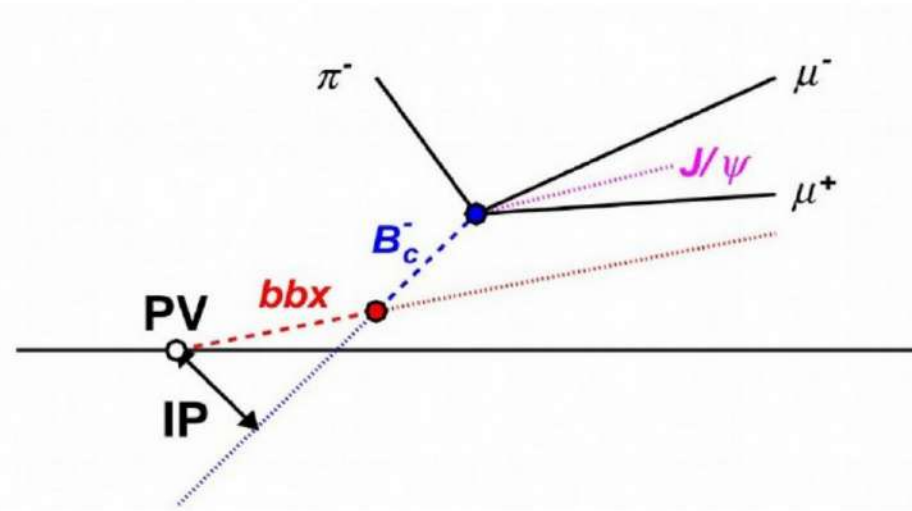


Diagram for production of a  $B_c^-$  meson from a double beauty hadron decay.



$\mathcal{O}(1\%)$  of all  $B_c$ -s @LHC come from  $bbx$

- major enhancement of eff.  $bbx$  rate
- $bbq$  or  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  ?

incl.  $\sigma(bbx)$ :  
heavy ions  $\gg pp$

$\Rightarrow$  displaced  $B_c$  @ALICE & RHIC !

# crude estimate of $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$ lifetime

$$M_{initial} = M(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) = 10,389.4 \text{ MeV}$$

$$M_{final} = M(\bar{B}) + M(D) = 7,144.5 \text{ MeV},$$

$W^{-*} \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}_e, \mu\bar{\nu}_\mu, \tau\bar{\nu}_\tau, 3 \text{ colors of } \bar{u}\bar{d} \text{ and } \bar{c}s,$

a kinematic suppression factor

$$F(x) = 1 - 8x + 8x^3 - x^4 + 12x^2 \ln(1/x),$$

$$x \equiv \{[M(\bar{B}) + M(D)]/M(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})\}^2,$$

$|V_{cb}| = 0.04$ , factor of 2 to count each decaying  $b$  quark.

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) = \frac{18 G_F^2 M(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})^5}{192\pi^3} F(x) |V_{cb}|^2 = 17.9 \times 10^{-13} \text{ GeV},$$

$$\tau(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) = 367 \text{ fs.}$$

# $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$ decay channels

(a) “standard process”  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d} \rightarrow cb\bar{u}\bar{d} + W^{*-}$ .

$(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow D^0 \bar{B}^0 \pi^-, D^+ B^- \pi^-$

$(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow J/\psi K^- \bar{B}^0, J/\psi \bar{K}^0 B^-.$

$(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow \Omega_{bc} \bar{p}, \Omega_{bc} \bar{\Lambda}_c, \Xi_{bc}^0 \bar{p}, \Xi_{bc}^0 \bar{\Lambda}_c$

In addition, a rare process where *both*  $b \rightarrow c\bar{c}s$ ,

$(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow J/\psi J/\psi K^- \bar{K}^0.$

striking signature:  $2J/\psi$ -s from same 2ndary vertex

(b) The  $W$ -exchange  $b\bar{d} \rightarrow c\bar{u}$

e.g.  $(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow D^0 B^-.$

# $T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$ Summary

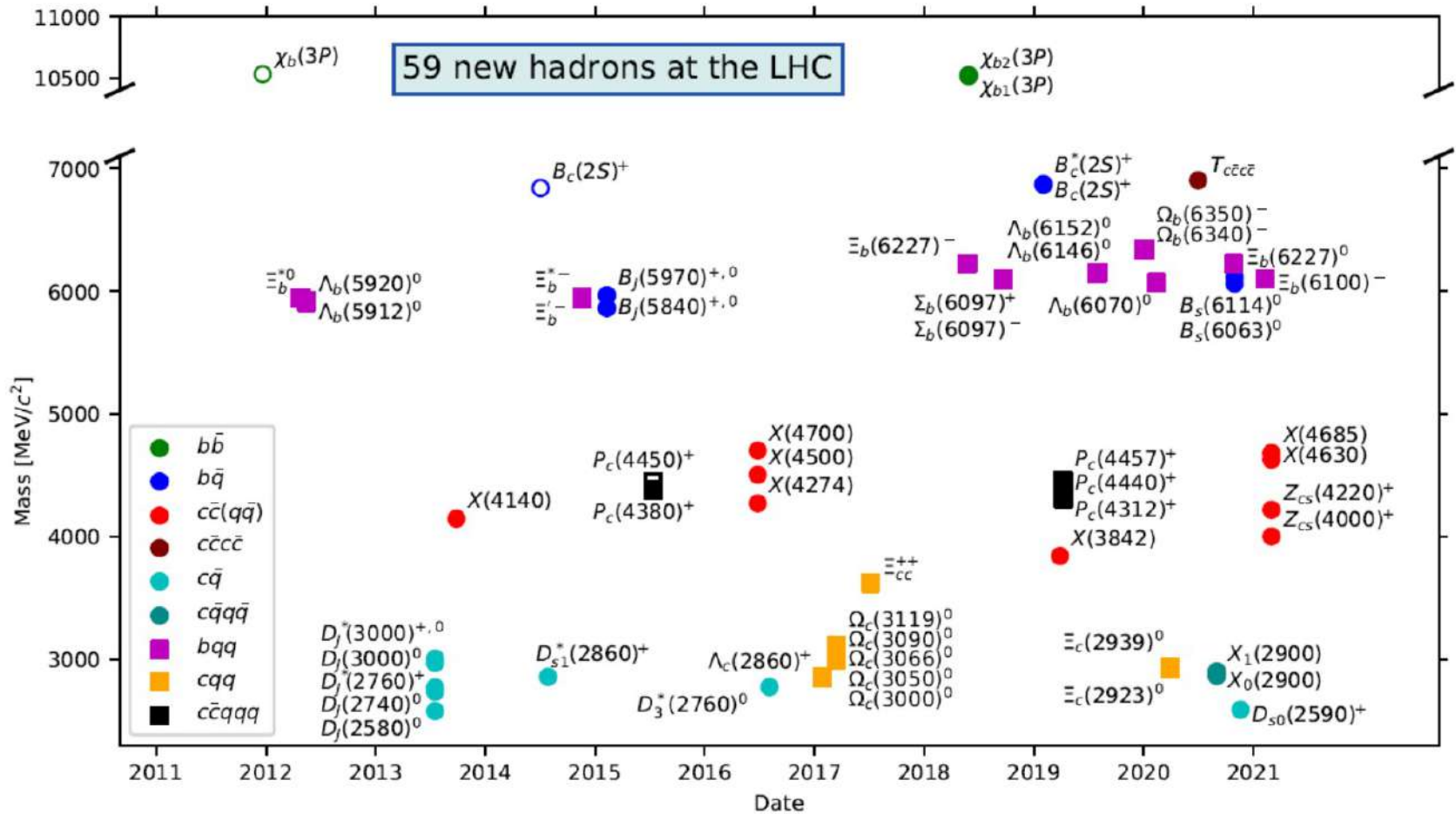
- stable, deeply bound  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  tetraquark
- $J^P = 1^+$ ,  $M(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) = 10389 \pm 12$  MeV
- 215 MeV below  $BB^*$  threshold
- first manifesty exotic stable hadron

- $(bb\bar{u}\bar{d}) \rightarrow \bar{B}D\pi^-, J/\psi\bar{K}\bar{B},$   
 $J/\psi J/\psi K^- \bar{K}^0, D^0 B^-$

$bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$   
cousins

- $(bc\bar{u}\bar{d})$ :  $J^P = 0^+$ , borderline bound  $7134 \pm 13$  MeV, 11 MeV below  $\bar{B}^0 D^0$
- $(cc\bar{u}\bar{d})$ :  $J^P = 1^+$ , **observed**: 3875 MeV, just  $\mathcal{O}(300)$  keV below  $D^0 D^{*+}$ ,  $\Gamma \ll 1$  MeV





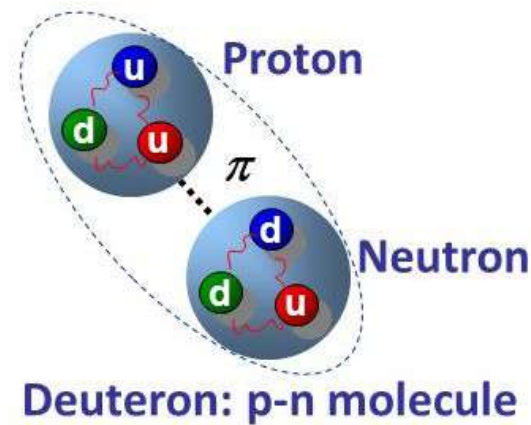
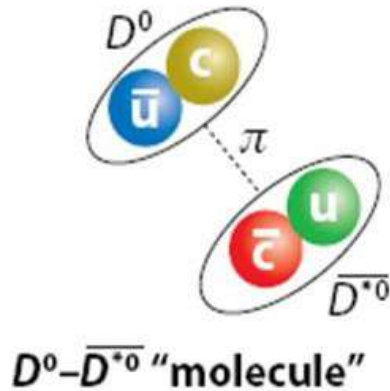
The full list of new hadrons found at the LHC, organised by year of discovery (horizontal axis) and particle mass (vertical axis). The colours and shapes denote the quark content of these states. (Image: LHCb/CERN)

## 5 narrow exotic states close to meson-meson thresholds

state	mass MeV	width MeV	$\bar{Q}Q$ decay mode	phase space MeV	nearby threshold	$\Delta E$ MeV
$X(3872)$	3872	$< 1.2$	$J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-$	495	$\bar{D}D^*$	$< 1$
$Z_b(10610)$	10608	21	$\Upsilon \pi$	1008	$\bar{B}B^*$	$2 \pm 2$
$Z_b(10650)$	10651	10	$\Upsilon \pi$	1051	$\bar{B}^*B^*$	$2 \pm 2$
$Z_c(3900)$	3900	24 – 46	$J/\psi \pi$	663	$\bar{D}D^*$	24
$Z_c(4020)$	4020	8 – 25	$J/\psi \pi$	783	$\bar{D}^*D^*$	6
$\times$					$\bar{D}D$	
$\times$					$\bar{B}B$	

- masses and widths approximate
- quarkonium decays mode listed have max phase space
- offset from threshold for orientation only, v. sensitive to exact mass

# Hadronic molecules: deuteron-like

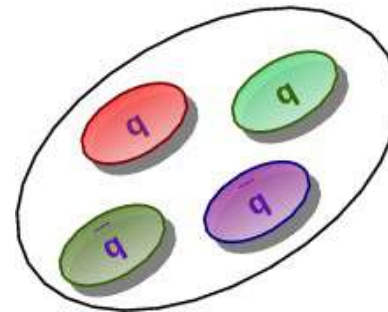
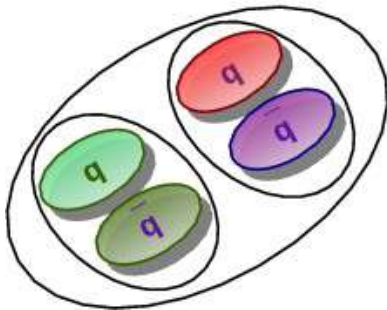


## Tetraquarks: same 4 quarks, but tightly bound:

Hadronic Molecule

Tetraquark

two color singlets attract through residual forces



each quark sees color charges of all the other quarks

Belle, PRL 116, 212001 (2016):

$$\frac{\Gamma(Z_b(10610) \rightarrow \bar{B}B^*)}{\Gamma(Z_b(10610) \rightarrow \Upsilon(1S)\pi)} \approx \frac{86\%}{0.54\%} = \mathcal{O}(100)$$

despite 1000 MeV of phase space  
for  $\Upsilon(1S)\pi$  vs few MeV for  $\bar{B}B^*$  !

overlap of  $Z_b$  wave function with  $\Upsilon\pi$   
dramatically smaller than with  $\bar{B}B^*$

similarly

$$\frac{\Gamma(X(3872) \rightarrow \bar{D}D^*)}{\Gamma(X(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+\pi^-)} = 9.1^{+3.4}_{-2.0}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(Z_c(3885) \rightarrow \bar{D}D^*)}{\Gamma(Z_c(3885) \rightarrow J/\psi\pi)} = 6.2 \pm 1.1 \pm 2.7$$

## 4 pieces of experimental evidence in support of molecular interpretation of $Z_Q$ and $X(3872)$ :

1. masses near thresholds and  $J^P$  of S-wave
2. narrow width despite very large phase space
3.  $\text{BR}(\text{fall apart mode}) \gg \text{BR}(\text{quarkonium} + X)$
4. no states which require binding through 3 pseudoscalar coupling

the binding mechanism can in principle  
apply to any two heavy hadrons  
which couple to isospin  
and are heavy enough,  
*be they mesons or baryons*

doubly-heavy hadronic molecules:

most likely candidates with  $Q\bar{Q}'$ ,  $Q = c, b$ ,  $\bar{Q}' = \bar{c}, \bar{b}$ :

$D\bar{D}^*$ ,  $D^*\bar{D}^*$ ,  $D^*B^*$ ,  $\bar{B}B^*$ ,  $\bar{B}^*B^*$ ,

$\Sigma_c\bar{D}^*$ ,  $\Sigma_c B^*$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{D}^*$ ,  $\Sigma_b B^*$ , **the lightest of new kind**

$\Sigma_c\bar{\Sigma}_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Sigma}_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_b$ , and  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_c$ .

$c\bar{c}$  and  $b\bar{b}$  states decay strongly to  $\bar{c}c$  or  $\bar{b}b$  and  $\pi$ -(s)

$b\bar{c}$  and  $c\bar{b}$  states decay strongly to  $B_c^\pm$  and  $\pi$ -(s)

$QQ'$  candidates – dibaryons

$\Sigma_c\Sigma_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\Lambda_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\Lambda_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\Sigma_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\Lambda_b$ , and  $\Sigma_b\Lambda_c$ .

# Thresholds for $Q\bar{Q}'$ molecular states

Channel	Minimum isospin	Minimal quark content <sup>a,b</sup>	Threshold (MeV) <sup>c</sup>	Example of decay mode
$D\bar{D}^*$	0	$c\bar{c}q\bar{q}$	3875.8	$J/\psi \pi\pi$
$D^*\bar{D}^*$	0	$c\bar{c}q\bar{q}$	4017.2	$J/\psi \pi\pi$
$D^*B^*$	0	$c\bar{b}q\bar{q}$	7333.8	$B_c^+ \pi\pi$
$\bar{B}B^*$	0	$b\bar{b}q\bar{q}$	10604.6	$\Upsilon(nS)\pi\pi$
$\bar{B}^*B^*$	0	$b\bar{b}q\bar{q}$	10650.4	$\Upsilon(nS)\pi\pi$
$\Sigma_c\bar{D}^*$	1/2	$c\bar{c}qqq'$	4462.4	$J/\psi p$
$\Sigma_c B^*$	1/2	$c\bar{b}qqq'$	7779.5	$B_c^+ p$
$\Sigma_b\bar{D}^*$	1/2	$b\bar{c}qqq'$	7823.0	$B_c^- p$
$\Sigma_b B^*$	1/2	$b\bar{b}qqq'$	11139.6	$\Upsilon(nS)p$
$\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_c$	1	$c\bar{c}qq' \bar{u}\bar{d}$	4740.3	$J/\psi \pi$
$\Sigma_c\bar{\Sigma}_c$	0	$c\bar{c}qq' \bar{q}\bar{q}'$	4907.6	$J/\psi \pi\pi$
$\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_b$	1	$c\bar{b}qq' \bar{u}\bar{d}$	8073.3 <sup>d</sup>	$B_c^+ \pi$
$\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_c$	1	$b\bar{c}qq' \bar{u}\bar{d}$	8100.9 <sup>d</sup>	$B_c^- \pi$
$\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_b$	1	$b\bar{b}qq' \bar{u}\bar{d}$	11433.9	$\Upsilon(nS)\pi$
$\Sigma_b\bar{\Sigma}_b$	0	$b\bar{b}qq' \bar{q}\bar{q}'$	11628.8	$\Upsilon(nS)\pi\pi$

<sup>a</sup>Ignoring annihilation of quarks.

<sup>b</sup>Plus other charge states when  $I \neq 0$ .

<sup>c</sup>Based on isospin-averaged masses.

<sup>d</sup>Thresholds differ by 27.6 MeV.



## New Exotic Meson and Baryon Resonances from Doubly Heavy Hadronic Molecules

Marek Karliner<sup>1,\*</sup> and Jonathan L. Rosner<sup>2,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Physics and Astronomy, Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences,  
Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel*

<sup>2</sup>*Enrico Fermi Institute and Department of Physics, University of Chicago, 5620 S. Ellis Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA*

(Received 13 July 2015; published 14 September 2015)

We predict several new exotic doubly heavy hadronic resonances, inferring from the observed exotic bottomoniumlike and charmoniumlike narrow states  $X(3872)$ ,  $Z_b(10610)$ ,  $Z_b(10650)$ ,  $Z_c(3900)$ , and  $Z_c(4020/4025)$ . We interpret the binding mechanism as mostly molecularlike isospin-exchange attraction between two heavy-light mesons in a relative  $S$ -wave state. We then generalize it to other systems containing two heavy hadrons which can couple through isospin exchange. The new predicted states include resonances in meson-meson, meson-baryon, baryon-baryon, and baryon-antibaryon channels. These include those giving rise to final states involving a heavy quark  $Q = c, b$  and antiquark  $\bar{Q}' = \bar{c}, \bar{b}$ , namely,  $D\bar{D}^*$ ,  $D^*\bar{D}^*$ ,  $D^*B^*$ ,  $\bar{B}B^*$ ,  $\bar{B}^*B^*$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{D}^*$ ,  $\Sigma_c B^*$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{D}^*$ ,  $\Sigma_b B^*$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{\Sigma}_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_c$ ,  $\Sigma_c\bar{\Lambda}_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Sigma}_b$ ,  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_b$ , and  $\Sigma_b\bar{\Lambda}_c$ , as well as corresponding  $S$ -wave states giving rise to  $QQ'$  or  $\bar{Q}\bar{Q}'$ .

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.115.122001

PACS numbers: 14.20.Pt, 12.39.Hg, 12.39.Jh, 14.40.Rt

## Observation of $J/\psi p$ Resonances Consistent with Pentaquark States in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^- p$ Decays

R. Aaij *et al.*<sup>\*</sup>

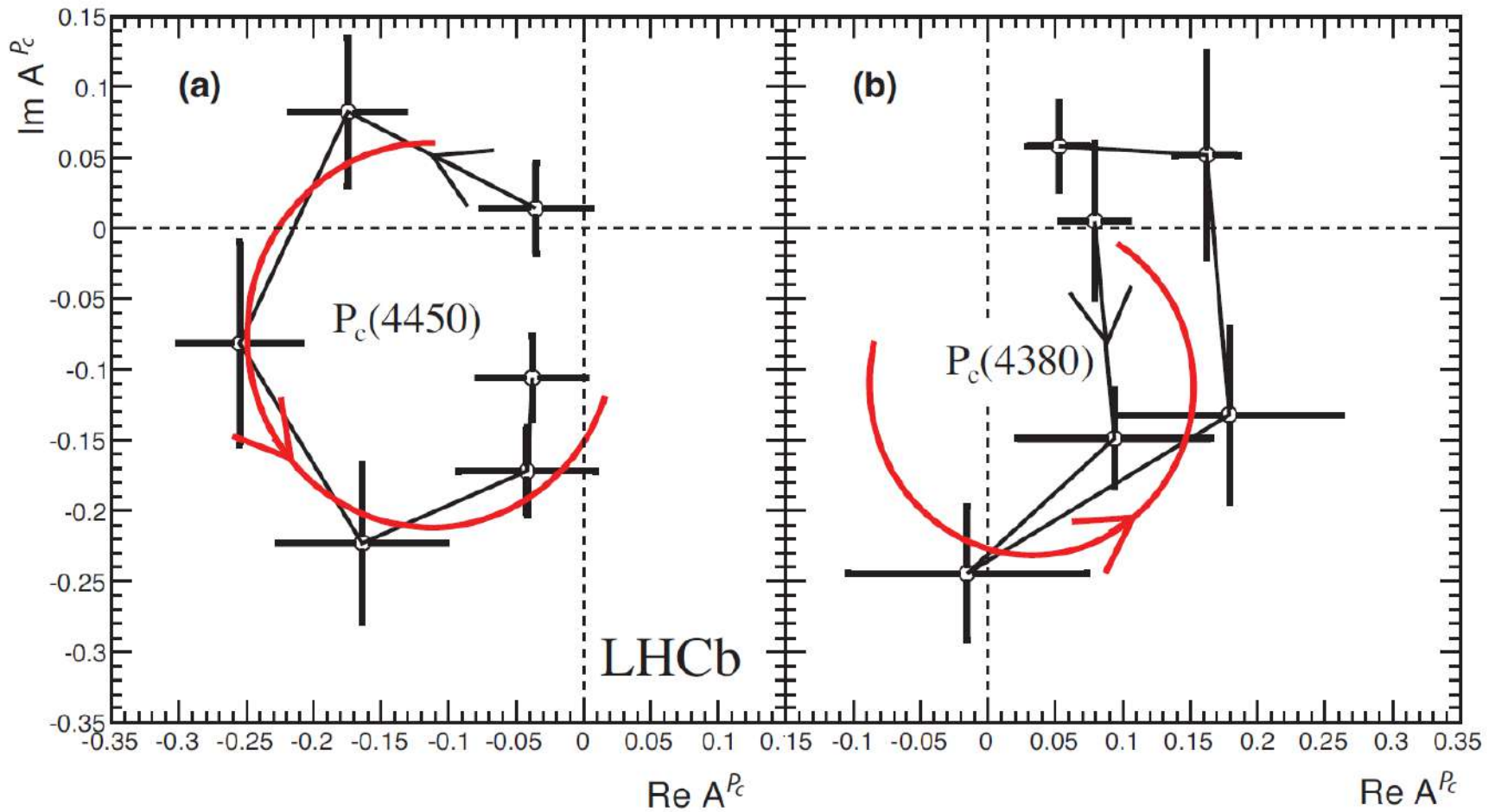
(LHCb Collaboration)

(Received 13 July 2015; published 12 August 2015)

Observations of exotic structures in the  $J/\psi p$  channel, which we refer to as charmonium-pentaquark states, in  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^- p$  decays are presented. The data sample corresponds to an integrated luminosity of  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  acquired with the LHCb detector from 7 and 8 TeV  $pp$  collisions. An amplitude analysis of the three-body final state reproduces the two-body mass and angular distributions. To obtain a satisfactory fit of the structures seen in the  $J/\psi p$  mass spectrum, it is necessary to include two Breit-Wigner amplitudes that each describe a resonant state. The significance of each of these resonances is more than 9 standard deviations. One has a mass of  $4380 \pm 8 \pm 29 \text{ MeV}$  and a width of  $205 \pm 18 \pm 86 \text{ MeV}$ , while the second is narrower, with a mass of  $4449.8 \pm 1.7 \pm 2.5 \text{ MeV}$  and a width of  $39 \pm 5 \pm 19 \text{ MeV}$ . The preferred  $J^P$  assignments are of opposite parity, with one state having spin  $3/2$  and the other  $5/2$ .

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.115.072001

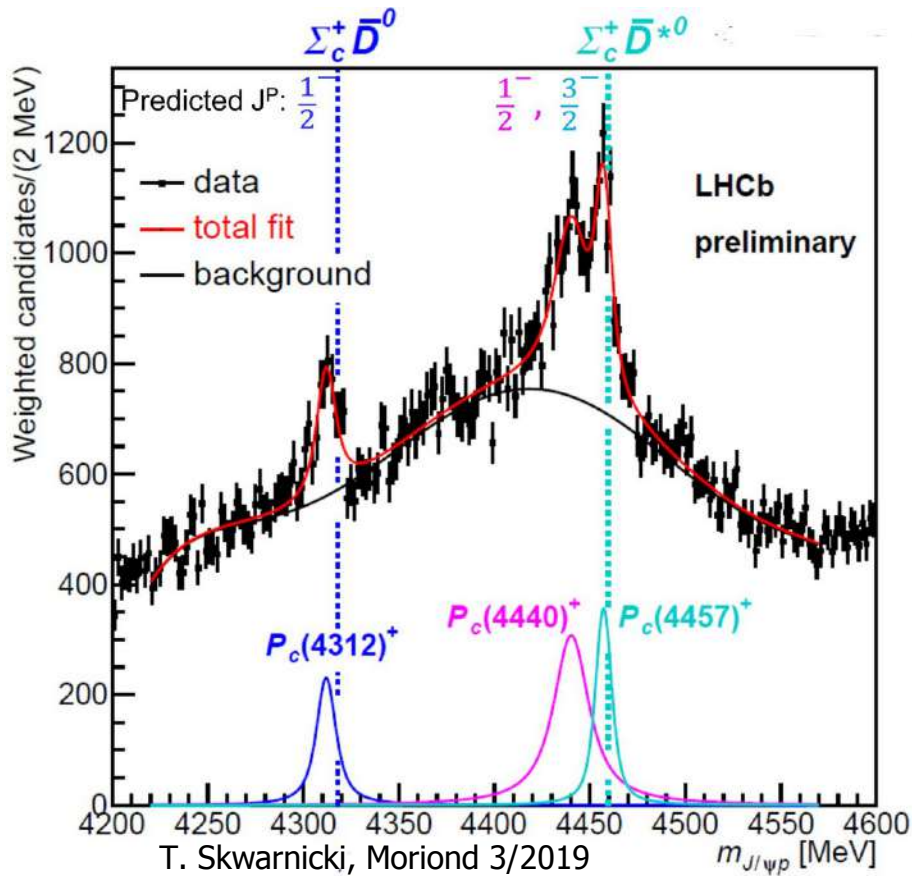
PACS numbers: 14.40.Pq, 13.25.Gv



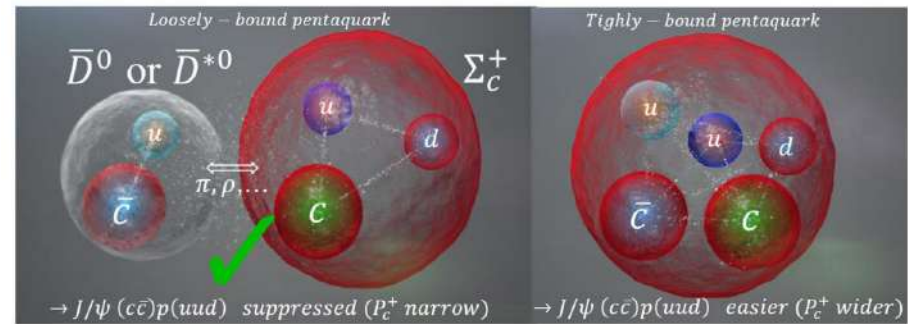
$P_c(4450)$ : predicted,  
 narrow:  $\Gamma = 39 \pm 5 \pm 19$ ,  
 10 MeV from  $\Sigma_c \bar{D}^*$  threshold  
 perfect Argand plot: a molecule

$P_c(4380)$ : not predicted,  
 wide:  $\Gamma = 205 \pm 18 \pm 86$  MeV,  
 Argand plot not resonance-like  
 ???

**$P_c(4450)$  might be just the first of many “heavy deuterons”**



The near-threshold masses and the narrow widths of  $P_c(4312)^+$ ,  $P_c(4440)^+$  and  $P_c(4457)^+$  favor “molecular” pentaquarks with meson-baryon substructure!



observe all 3  $S$ -wave states:

$$\Sigma_c \bar{D}; \quad J^P = \frac{1}{2}^-,$$

$$\Sigma_c \bar{D}^*; \quad J^P = \frac{1}{2}^-, \frac{3}{2}^-$$

for  $Q \rightarrow \infty$  4 more  $S$ -wave states:

$$\Sigma_c^* \bar{D}; \quad J^P = \frac{3}{2}^-$$

$$\Sigma_c^* \bar{D}^*; \quad J^P = \frac{1}{2}^-, \frac{3}{2}^-, \frac{5}{2}^-$$

but  $\Gamma(\Sigma_c^* \rightarrow \Lambda_c \pi) \approx 15 \text{ MeV} \dots$

two v. different types of exotics:

$$Q\bar{Q}q\bar{q}$$
$$QQ\bar{q}\bar{q}$$

e.g.

$$Z_b(10610)$$
$$T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$$
$$\bar{B}B^*$$

molecule

tightly-bound

tetraquark

why is it so ?

Exotics with  $\bar{Q}Q$  vs.  $QQ$ : very different

$$V(\bar{Q}Q) = 2V(QQ), \text{ hundreds of MeV}$$

but *only* if  $\bar{Q}Q$  color singlet

$\Rightarrow \bar{Q}Q$  can immediately hadronize as quarkonium

$\Rightarrow$  exotics:  $\bar{Q}$  in one hadron and  $Q$  in the other

$\Rightarrow$  deuteron-like "hadronic molecules"

vs.  $QQ$  *never* a color singlet,

$\Rightarrow$  tightly bound exotics, tetraquarks

$T(bb\bar{u}\bar{d})$ :

$$m_b \approx 5 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Rightarrow R(bb) \sim 0.2 \text{ fm}$$

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha_s(r)}{r} + \sigma r$$

$$\Rightarrow B(bb) \approx -280 \text{ MeV}$$

tightly bound, but  $\bar{3}_c$ ,

so cannot disengage from  $\bar{u}\bar{d}$

$Z_b(10610)$ :  $b\bar{b}u\bar{d}$

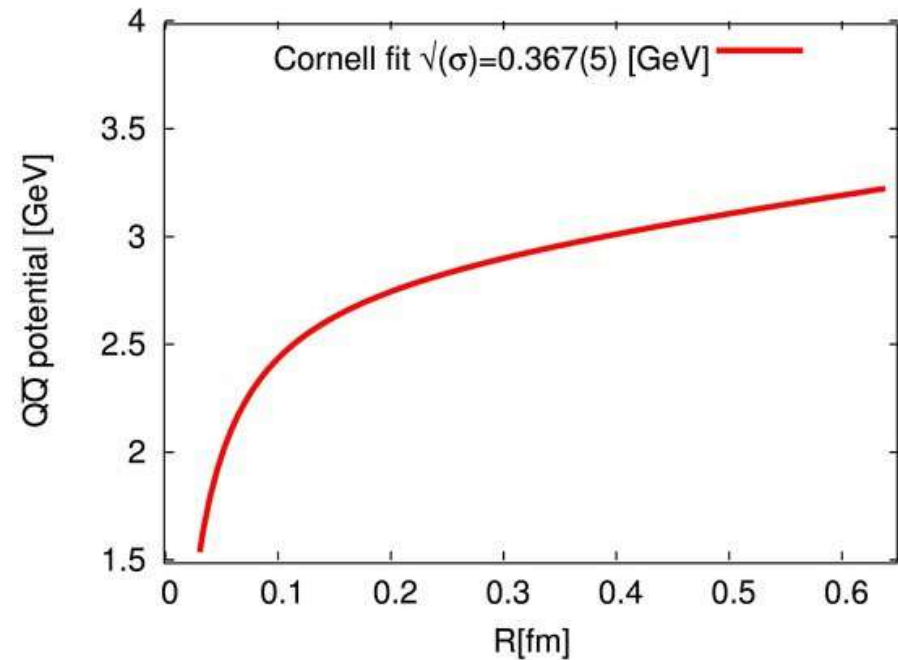
if  $b\bar{b}$  compact  $\Rightarrow$  color singlet:

decouple from  $u\bar{d}$ ,  $Z_b \rightarrow \Upsilon\pi^+$

so only semi-stable config.,

“hadronic molecule:”  $\bar{B}B^* \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$  above  $\Upsilon\pi$

yet narrow  $\sim 15 \text{ MeV}$ , because  $r(\Upsilon)/r(\bar{B}B^*) \ll 1$



very different!

Upshot:

$bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$ : tightly bound tetraquark

$b\bar{b}q\bar{q}$ : a molecule

recent news from LHCb: new strange Pq-s

$J/\psi$   $\Lambda$  resonances in

$$B^- \rightarrow J/\psi \Lambda \bar{p}, \quad \Xi_b^- \rightarrow J/\psi \Lambda K^-$$

$\implies$  new “molecular” pentaquarks:

$$(c\bar{c}sud) \approx \Xi_c^0(csd)\bar{D}^{*0}(\bar{c}u) \rightarrow J/\psi \Lambda$$

vs.  $(c\bar{c}uud) \approx \Sigma_c^+(cud)\bar{D}^{*0}(\bar{c}u) \rightarrow J/\psi p$

LHCb arXiv:2012.10380, Sci. Bull. **66**, 1278-1287 (2021)

LHC seminar “Particle Zoo 2.0: New tetra- and pentaquarks at LHCb”,  
July 5, 2022, <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1176505/>  
and LHCb-PAPER-2022-031, in preparation.

$$\Xi_c \bar{D}^{(*)} \text{ molecules} \implies \Xi'_c \bar{D}^{(*)} \text{ molecules}$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **106**, 036024 (2022)

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## New strange pentaquarks

Marek Karliner<sup>1,\*</sup> and Jonathan L. Rosner<sup>2,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Physics and Astronomy, Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences,  
Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel*

<sup>2</sup>*Enrico Fermi Institute and Department of Physics, University of Chicago,  
5620 South Ellis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA*

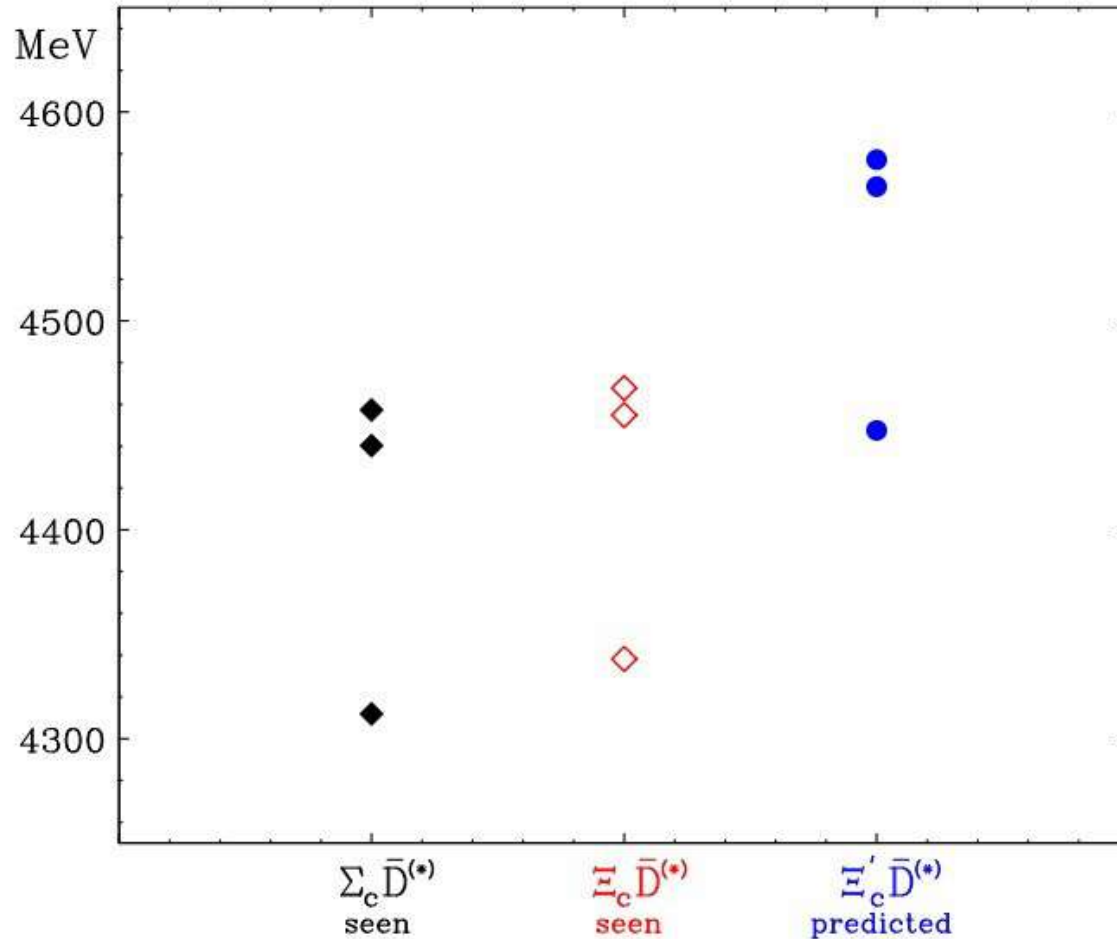
(Received 25 July 2022; accepted 8 August 2022; published 25 August 2022)

The new strange pentaquarks observed by LHCb are very likely hadronic molecules consisting of  $\Xi_c \bar{D}$  and  $\Xi_c \bar{D}^*$ . We discuss the experimental evidence supporting this conclusion, pointing out the similarities and differences with the  $P_c(4312)$ ,  $P_c(4440)$  and  $P_c(4457)$  pentaquarks in the nonstrange sector. The latter clearly are hadronic molecules consisting of  $\Sigma_c \bar{D}$  and  $\Sigma_c \bar{D}^*$ . **Following this line of thought, we predict three additional strange pentaquarks consisting of  $\Xi'_c \bar{D}$  and  $\Xi'_c \bar{D}^*$ . The masses of these states are expected to be shifted upward by  $M(\Xi'_c) = M(\Xi_c) \approx 110$  MeV with respect to the corresponding known strange pentaquarks.**

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevD.106.036024](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.106.036024)

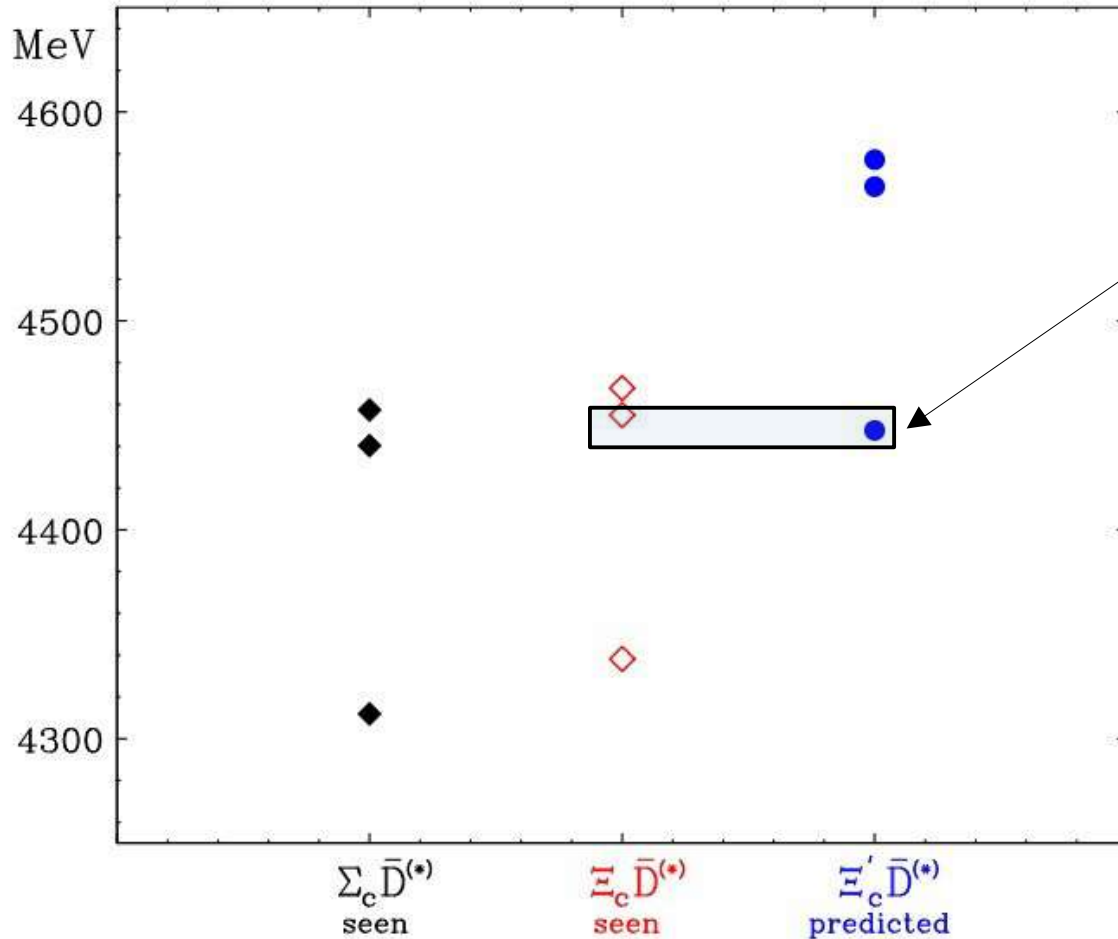


## Pentaquarks as hadronic molecules



Pentaquarks as hadronic molecules.  $\Sigma_c \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states are denoted by black diamonds,  $\Xi_c \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states by open red diamonds and  $\Xi_c' \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states by blue circles.

# Pentaquarks as hadronic molecules



only 7 MeV difference;  
 $\Xi_c' \bar{D}$  spin- $\frac{1}{2}$   
 if  $P_{\psi_s}^\Lambda(4455)$   
 spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow$  mixing

Pentaquarks as hadronic molecules.  $\Sigma_c \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states are denoted by black diamonds,  $\Xi_c \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states by open red diamonds and  $\Xi_c' \bar{D}^{(*)}$  states by blue circles.

## LHCb, June 2020:

- a narrow resonance decaying into two  $J/\psi$ -s
- quark content  $cc\bar{c}\bar{c}$ , confirmed by CMS
- $M \approx 6.9$  GeV:  $X(6900)$
- tetraquark-like
- $\sim 700$  MeV above  $J/\psi J/\psi$  threshold  
 $\Rightarrow$  probably a  $2S$  excited  $cc\bar{c}\bar{c}$  state
- first exotic containing both  $QQ$  and  $\bar{Q}\bar{Q}$
- $\Rightarrow$  bottom analogue:  $\Upsilon\Upsilon$  at  $\gtrsim 19.4$  GeV ?
- stimulating challenge for EXP and TH

# Interpretation of structure in di- $J/\psi$ spectrum

- structure in LHCb di- $J/\psi$  spectrum around 6.9 and 7.2 GeV
- interpreted in terms of  $J^{PC} = 0^{++} (cc)-(\bar{c}\bar{c})$  Tq resonances
- Tq masses from recently confirmed string-junction picture
- main peak around 6.9 GeV likely dominated by the  $0^{++}(2S)$ , radial exc. of  $(cc)-(\bar{c}\bar{c})$  Tq, predicted at  $6.871 \pm 0.025$  GeV
- dip around 6.75 GeV: opening of  $S$ -wave di- $\chi_{c0}$  channel
- dip around 7.2 GeV: opening of di- $\eta_c(2S)$  &  $\Xi_{cc}\bar{\Xi}_{cc}$  channels?
- low-mass structure appears to require broad resonance consistent with predicted  $0^{++}(1S)$  at  $6191.5 \pm 25$  MeV.
- Implications for  $bb\bar{b}\bar{b}$  tetraquarks

# recent venture into exotics with light quarks only

arXiv:2406.05920v1 [hep-ph] 9 Jun 2024

## Possible mixing of a diquark-antidiquark with a $p\bar{p}$ hadronic molecule

Marek Karliner<sup>a†</sup> and Jonathan L. Rosner<sup>b‡</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *School of Physics and Astronomy  
Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel*

<sup>b</sup> *Enrico Fermi Institute and Department of Physics  
University of Chicago, 5620 S. Ellis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637, USA*


### ABSTRACT

We discuss the possibility that the two nearby resonances observed by BESIII partially below the  $p\bar{p}$  threshold might be due to mixing between two metastable states with the same  $J^{PC} = 0^{-+}$  quantum numbers, but rather different internal structure. One is a  $p\bar{p}$  hadronic molecule and the other a bound state of a light-quark diquark and an antidiquark, both with spin 1 and isospin 0, a composite color antitriplet and triplet, respectively. The doubling of resonances, one of which may be interpreted as a hadronic molecule, while the other arises from  $q\bar{q}$  annihilation in a state with vacuum quantum numbers may be a more general feature than the specific case considered here.

## mixing of diquark-antidiquark with a $p\bar{p}$ H.M. ?

- BESIII: two close resonances in  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma 3(\pi^+\pi^-)$   
X(1840):  $M = 1842.2 \pm 4.2_{-2.6}^{+7.1}$  MeV,  $\Gamma = 83 \pm 14 \pm 11$  MeV,  $J^{PC}=0^{-+}$   
X(1880):  $M = 1882.1 \pm 1.7 \pm 0.7$  MeV,  $\Gamma = 30.7 \pm 5.5 \pm 2.4$  MeV,  $J^{PC}=0^{-+}$   
width includes  $\sim 10$  MeV below  $p\bar{p}$  threshold if  $p\bar{p}$
- postulate: 2nd state a  $P$ -wave narrow diquark-antidiquark state, both  $S = 1$
- $p\bar{p} \iff \{qq\}_{S=1} - \{\bar{q}\bar{q}\}_{S=1}$  via  $q\bar{q}$  annihilation in  ${}^3P_0$  flavor singlet  
vacuum q. numbers
- $M(\{qq\}_{S=1} - \{\bar{q}\bar{q}\}_{S=1}) = 1886$  MeV, (quark model estimate)
- possible analogues:
  - $f_0(980)$ :  $K\bar{K}$  molecule and mixture of  $(u\bar{u} + d\bar{d})/\sqrt{2}$  and  $s\bar{s}$  in  ${}^3P_0$
  - $D_{s0}(2317)$ :  $c\bar{s}$  in  ${}^3P_0$ ; expect  $DK^+$  molecule near 2359 MeV threshold
  - $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ :  $\bar{D}D^*$  with admixture of  $c\bar{c}$  in  ${}^3P_1$

# SUMMARY

- narrow  $cc\bar{u}\bar{d}$  tetraquark discovered by LHCb
- doubly charmed baryon found exactly where predicted  
 $\Xi_{cc}^{++}(ccu) \Rightarrow (bcq), (bbq)$
- stable  $bb\bar{u}\bar{d}$  (?also  $bc\bar{u}\bar{d}$ ) tetraquark: LHCb!
- narrow exotics with  $Q\bar{Q}$ : “heavy deuterons”/hadronic molecules  
 $\bar{D}D^*, \bar{D}^*D^*, \bar{B}B^*, \bar{B}^*B^*,$   
 $\Sigma_c\bar{D}^*(S = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}), \Sigma_c\bar{D}(S = \frac{1}{2}); \quad \gamma p \rightarrow J/\psi p ?$   
 $\Xi_c\bar{D}^{(*)}$  seen, expect 3 additional  $\Xi_c'\bar{D}^{(*)}$  states  
 $\Sigma_c B^*, \Sigma_b\bar{D}^*, \Sigma_b B^*, D^*B^*, \dots$
- $D^+K^-$  res.  $\Leftrightarrow cs\bar{u}\bar{d}$  Tq w. string junction ;  $bs\bar{u}\bar{d} = \bar{B}^0 K^- ?$
- $J/\psi J/\psi$  res.  $\Leftrightarrow$  excited  $cc\bar{c}\bar{c}$  Tq, probably  $2S$ ,  $J/\psi \Upsilon, \Upsilon\Upsilon ?$
- light quark sector: possible mixture of  $p\bar{p}$  and  $\{qq\}_{S=1}-\{\bar{q}\bar{q}\}_{S=1}$ , etc.

**both kinds of exotic hadrons exist in Nature**  
**exciting new spectroscopy awaiting discovery**