

# Exotic hadrons with heavy quarks - from exploratory calculations to reliable predictions

Daniel Mohler

Technische Universität Darmstadt

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- 1 Introduction and Motivation
- 2 Positive-parity  $B_S$  states
- 3 Doubly-heavy tetraquarks
- 4 Conclusions and Outlook

# What to call an exotic state in QCD ?

- Textbook: Quark-antiquark mesons and 3-quark baryons
- Historically, multiquark states and hybrids (made of quark and gluons) already suggested by Gell-Mann in addition
- We are now seeing some explicitly *exotic* states – in particular with heavy quarks
- Various possible structures: regular mesons/baryons; molecules; tetraquarks/pentaquarks; hybrid hadrons; glueballs; Di-Baryons
- For the purpose of this talk:  
I will also consider states with quantum numbers allowed by quark-antiquark states but unexpected properties as exotic

# Exotic $D_s$ and $B_s$ candidates

Established s and p-wave hadrons:

$D_s$  ( $J^P = 0^-$ ) and  $D_s^*$  ( $1^-$ )  
 $D_{s0}^*(2317)$  ( $0^+$ ),  $D_{s1}(2460)$  ( $1^+$ ),  
 $D_{s1}(2536)$  ( $1^+$ ),  $D_{s2}^*(2573)$  ( $2^+$ )

$B_s$  ( $J^P = 0^-$ ) and  $B_s^*$  ( $1^-$ )  
?

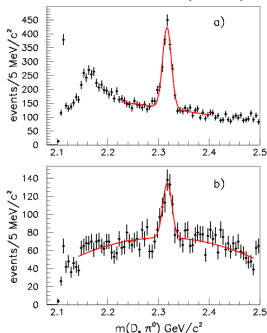
$B_{s1}(5830)$  ( $1^+$ ),  $B_{s2}^*(5840)$  ( $2^+$ )

- Corresponding  $D_0^*(2400)$  and  $D_1(2430)$  are broad resonances
- Perceived peculiarity:  $M_{c\bar{s}} \approx M_{c\bar{d}}$  (an old dispute; likely not the case)
- Additional exotic states are expected (in the sextet representation)

See for example Kolomeitsev, Lutz, PLB 582, 39 (2004)

- $B_s$  cousins of the  $D_{s0}^*(2317)$  and  $D_{s1}(2460)$  not (yet) seen in experiment

$D_{s0}^*(2317)$ :  
PRL 90 242001 (2003)



# Tetraquarks - the $T_{bb}$

The  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$   $ud\bar{b}\bar{b}$  tetraquark,  $T_{bb}$ , is the most concrete pure-tetraquark candidate phenomenologically and from the lattice in terms of being deeply-bound and strong-interaction-stable.

Cousin of the  $T_{cc}$  but likely has quite different physics,

$T_{bb}$  bound by  $\approx 100$  MeV,  $T_{cc}$  by 360 KeV

$T_{bb}$  often described by the diquark picture:

- "Good" (attractive) light diquark ( $u^T C \gamma_5 d$ ) - lighter diquark increases binding
- Color-Coulomb heavy antidiquark ( $\bar{b} C \gamma_i \bar{b}^T$ ) - deeper binding as heavy mass gets heavier

No Wick-contractions with annihilation  $\rightarrow$  easy to compute on the lattice!

# Determining the finite-volume spectra

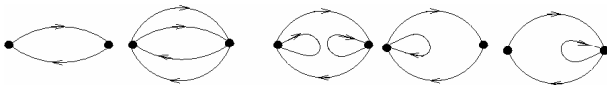
- In practical calculations  $\bar{q}q$  and  $qqq$  interpolators couple very weakly to multi-hadron states

McNeile & Michael, Phys. Lett. B 556, 177 (2003); Engel et al. PRD 82, 034505 (2010);  
Bulava et al. PRD 82, 014507(2010); Dudek et al. PRD 82, 034508(2010);

- Similar observations in string breaking studies

Pennanen & Michael hep-lat/0001015; Bernard et al. PRD 64 074509 2001;

- This (often) necessitates the inclusion of hadron-hadron interpolators



- We also know: Energy levels  $\neq$  resonance masses  
Naïve expectation: Correct up to  $\mathcal{O}(\Gamma_R(m_\pi))$
- Was once upon a rime good enough for heavy pion masses where one would deal with bound states or very narrow resonances.

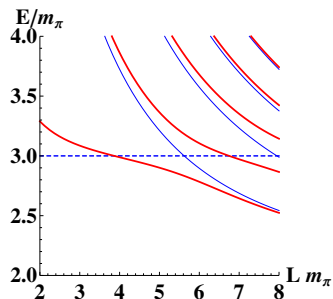
# Progress from an old idea: Lüscher's finite-volume method

M. Lüscher Commun. Math. Phys. 105 (1986) 153;  
Nucl. Phys. B 354 (1991) 531; Nucl. Phys. B 364 (1991) 237.

*Basic observation:* Finite-volume, multi-particle energies are shifted with regard to the free energy levels due to the interaction

$$E = E(p_1) + E(p_2) + \Delta_E$$

- Energy shifts encode scattering amplitude(s)
- Original method: Elastic scattering in the rest-frame in multiple spatial volumes  $L^3$
- Coupled 2-hadron channels well understood
- $2 \leftrightarrow 1$  and  $2 \leftrightarrow 2$  transitions well understood (example  $\pi\pi \rightarrow \pi\gamma^*$ )
- Significant progress for 3-particle scattering



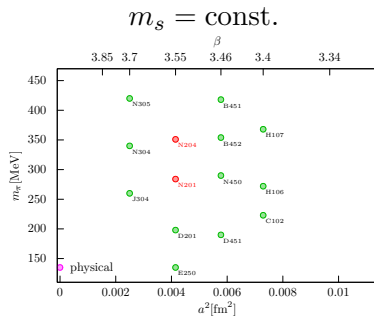
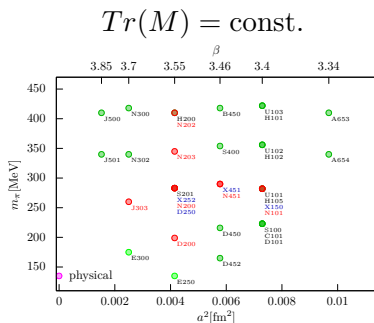
# Challenges

- Hierarchy of difficulties
  - Meson systems are simpler than baryons (exponentially degrading signal to noise)
  - For deeply bound states Lüscher/scattering studies not strictly necessary
  - Cost of correlation functions much larger for systems with baryons
  - Complicated scattering amplitudes need more data (volumes, frames) single two-hadron channel; coupled two-hadron channels; three-hadron scattering
- Hierarchy of projects:
  - Proof of principle
  - Explore quark mass dependence
  - Full spectroscopy calculation including continuum limit
  - Structure observables (transitions, form factors, . . .)
- Two examples:
  - Low-lying positive-parity  $B_S$  mesons  
Most systematics can be addressed!
  - Doubly-heavy tetraquark states (see also Travis Whyte on Friday!)  
(illustrate different stages of progress/difficulties)



# CLS gauge field ensembles

Bruno et al. JHEP 1502 043 (2015); Bali et al. PRD 94 074501 (2016)



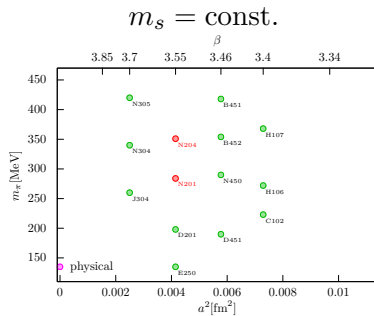
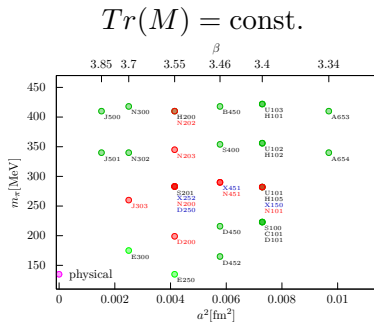
plot style by Jakob Simeth, RQCD

Important lattice systematics from

- Taking the *continuum limit*:  $a(g, m) \rightarrow 0$
- Taking the *infinite volume limit*:  $L \rightarrow \infty$
- Calculation at (or extrapolation to) physical quark masses

# CLS gauge field ensembles

Bruno *et al.* JHEP 1502 043 (2015); Bali *et al.* PRD 94 074501 (2016)



plot style by Jakob Simeth, RQCD

Important lattice systematics from

- Taking the *continuum limit*:  $a(g, m) \rightarrow 0$
- Want to exploit (power law) finite volume effects (keeping exponential effects small)
- Calculation at (or extrapolation to) physical quark masses

Typical tadpole-improved NRQCD action (here we will use  $n=4$ )

Lepage et al., PRD 46, 4052-4067 (1992)

$$H_0 = -\frac{1}{2aM_0}\Delta^2,$$

$$H_I = \left(-c_1\frac{1}{8(aM_0)^2} - c_6\frac{1}{16n(aM_0)^2}\right)(\Delta^2)^2 + c_2\frac{i}{8(aM_0)^2}(\tilde{\Delta}\cdot\tilde{E} - \tilde{E}\cdot\tilde{\Delta}) + c_5\frac{\Delta^4}{24(aM_0)}$$

$$H_D = -c_3\frac{1}{8(aM_0)^2}\sigma\cdot(\tilde{\Delta}\times\tilde{E} - \tilde{E}\times\tilde{\Delta}) - c_4\frac{1}{8(aM_0)}\sigma\cdot\tilde{B}$$

$$\delta H = H_I + H_D.$$

Propagators generated through symmetric evolution equation

$$G(x, t+1) = \left(1 - \frac{\delta H}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{H_0}{2n}\right)^n \tilde{U}_t(x, t_0)^\dagger \left(1 - \frac{H_0}{2n}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\delta H}{2}\right) G(x, t).$$

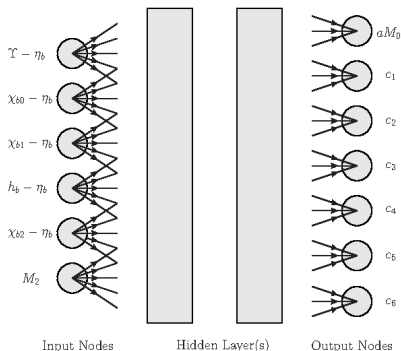
- We also tune a  $\mathcal{O}(v^6)$  action with tree-level coefficients for the higher order terms

# Neural net (RHQ and) NRQCD tuning and setup

R.J. Hudspith, DM, PRD 106, 034508 (2022)

R.J. Hudspith, DM, PRD 107, 114510 (2023)

- Calculate runs with a random distribution for the action parameters
- Let the neural network make parameter predictions
- Due to additive mass we must only consider splittings  $\rightarrow$  we subtract the  $\eta_B$  from all states
- Perform tuning at  $SU(3)_f$ -symmetric point
- Gauge-fixed wall sources
- Tuning precision is about 1%



**Figure:** Schematic picture of our NRQCD setup

# Input used for the tuning

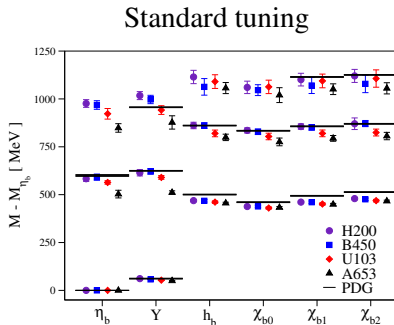
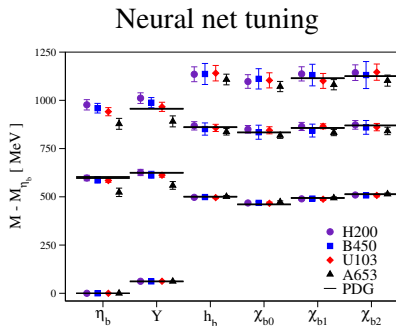
Consider only quark-line connected parts of simple meson operators

$$O(x) = (\bar{b}\Gamma(x)b)(x),$$

State	PDG mass [GeV]	$\Gamma(x)$
$\eta_b(1S)$	9.3987(20)	$\gamma_5$
$\Upsilon(1S)$	9.4603(3)	$\gamma_i$
$\chi_{b0}(1P)$	9.8594(5)	$\sigma \cdot \Delta$
$\chi_{b1}(1P)$	9.8928(4)	$\sigma_j \Delta_i - \sigma_i \Delta_j \ (i \neq j)$
$\chi_{b2}(1P)$	9.9122(4)	$\sigma_j \Delta_i + \sigma_i \Delta_j \ (i \neq j)$
$h_b(1P)$	9.8993(8)	$\Delta_i$

**Table:** Table of lattice operators used and their continuum analogs.

# NRQCD Neural Net Tuning: Stable s- and p-wave bottomonia



- Higher S- and P-wave states serve as a check whether our tuning leads to reasonable results
- Main results from the lattice spacing of U103; H200 used to estimate systematics

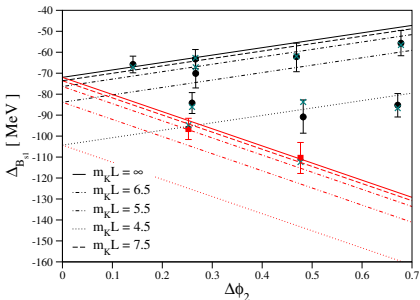
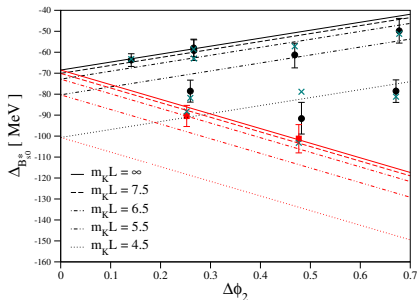
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## $B_s$ : Chiral – infinite volume extrapolation

- We explore the previously predicted  $J^P = 0^+$  and  $1^+$  bound states
- Mainly the CLS  $\text{Tr}M = \text{const}$  trajectory and  $2 m_S = \text{const}$  ensembles

Combined extrapolation:

$$\Delta_{B_{s0}^*/B_{s1}}(\Delta\phi_2, m_K L, a) = \Delta_{B_{s0}^*/B_{s1}}(0, \infty, a) (1 + A\Delta\phi_2 + B e^{-m_K L})$$
$$\Delta\phi_2 = \phi_2^{\text{Lat}} - \phi_2^{\text{Phys}} \quad ; \quad \phi_2 = 8t_0 m_\pi^2$$





# Systematic uncertainties and final result

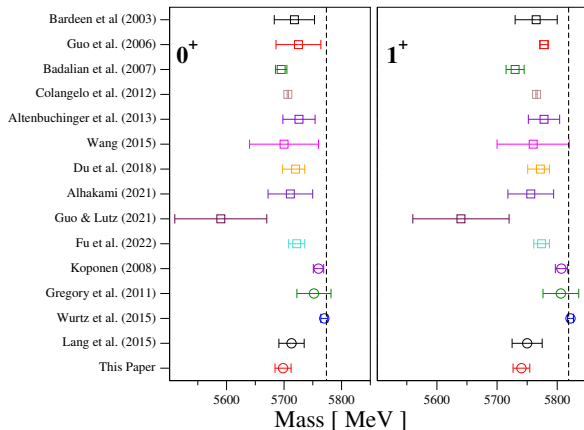
Resulting binding energies:

$$\Delta_{B_{s0}^*}(0, \infty, 0) = -75.4(3.0)_{\text{Stat.}}(13.7)_a \text{ [MeV]},$$

$$\Delta_{B_{s1}}(0, \infty, 0) = -78.7(3.7)_{\text{Stat.}}(13.4)_a \text{ [MeV]}.$$

- Small uncertainty from statistics + combined extrapolation
- Largest systematics from usage of NRQCD/discretization effects
- Central value shifted by applying half the mass difference between H200 and U103
- All other explored uncertainties (finite volume shapes, modified quark-mass dependence, etc.) small

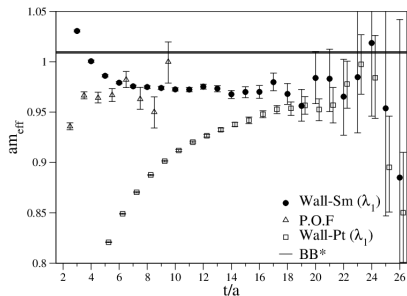
# Comparison to the literature



- Results agree well with models based on unitarized  $\chi$ PT
- Improved uncertainty estimate over older Lattice calculations

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# A high-statistics problem

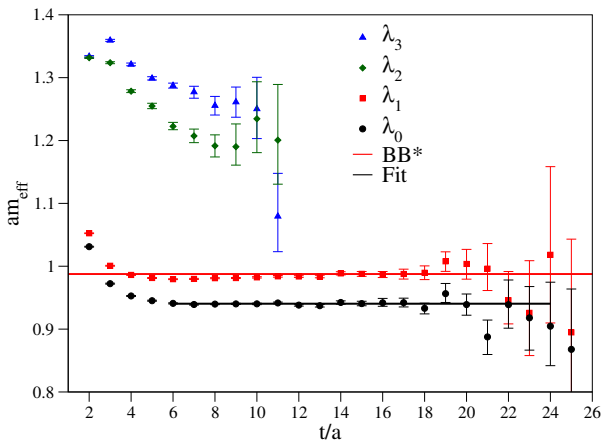


**Figure:** Effective mass of the  $T_{bb}$  correlator from ensemble U103 using 28,000 propagators.

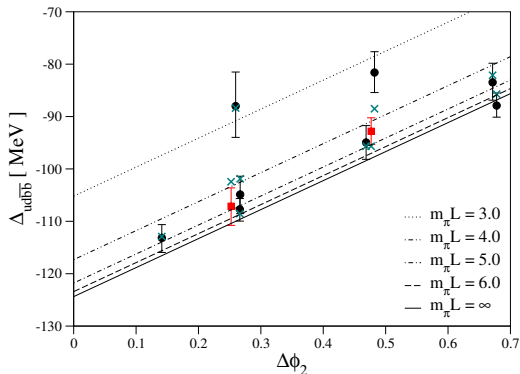
Wall-point data still not at plateau as it loses precision. Wall-sm shows stable plateau for long range of  $t$ . P.O.F plateaus fastest but is noisiest. **Can easily fit a single exponential to Wall-point data and get too deep binding!**

# $T_{bb}$ – Basis and effective masses (on N101)

$$D = (u_a^T C \gamma_5 d_b) (\bar{b}_a C \gamma_i \bar{b}_b^T), \quad E = (u_a^T C \gamma_t \gamma_5 d_b) (\bar{b}_a C \gamma_i \gamma_t \bar{b}_b^T),$$
$$M = (\bar{b} \gamma_5 u) (\bar{b} \gamma_i d) - [u \leftrightarrow d], \quad N = (\bar{b} I u) (\bar{b} \gamma_5 \gamma_i d) - [u \leftrightarrow d].$$



# Combined mass and volume extrapolations

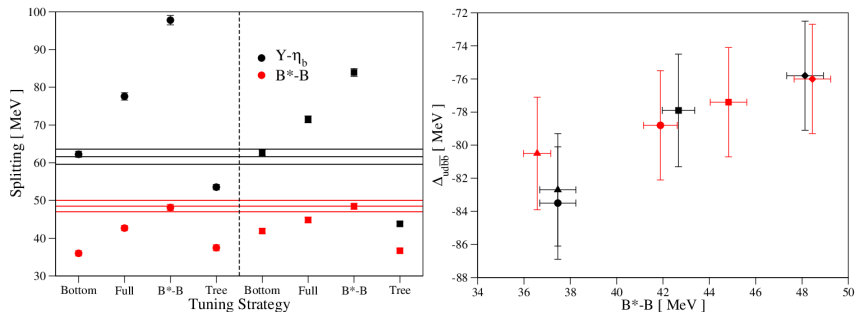


- Ansatz for a deeply-bound state:

$$\Delta_{ud\bar{b}\bar{b}}(\Delta\phi_2, m_\pi L, a) = \Delta_{ud\bar{b}\bar{b}}(0, \infty, a)(1 + A\Delta\phi_2 + Be^{-m_\pi L}).$$

- Strong  $e^{-m_\pi L}$  volume effects and deeper binding at lighter pion mass.

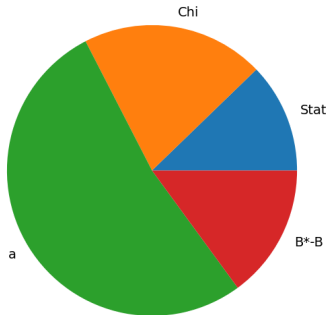
# Varying the NRQCD tuning



**Figure:** Alternative tuning strategies with/without B-mesons and higher-order terms (left). Clear correlation of the  $B^* - B$  splitting with the  $T_{bb}$  binning. (right)

- Simultaneously reproducing both hyperfine splittings seems impossible
- Tree-level performs poor; For our strategies higher order terms help.
- Shallower  $T_{bb}$  binding, with increased  $B^* - B$  splitting.

# $T_{bb}$ – quantifying systematics

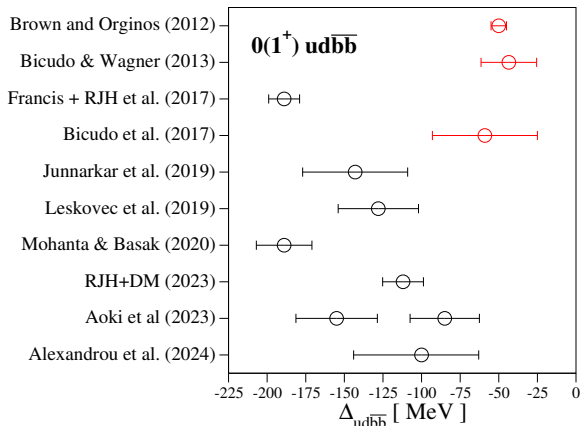


$$\Delta_{ud\bar{b}\bar{b}}(0, \infty, 0) = -112.0(2.7)_{\text{Stat.}}(4.5)_{\chi}(11.6)_a(3.3)_{B^*-B}$$

- $(\dots)_a$  uncertainty from comparison of the results for two lattice spacings (H200 vs. U103)
- Both leading systematic uncertainties come from discretization effects/ the use of Lattice NRQCD!



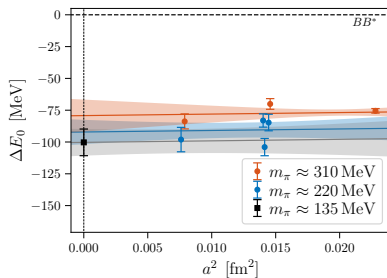
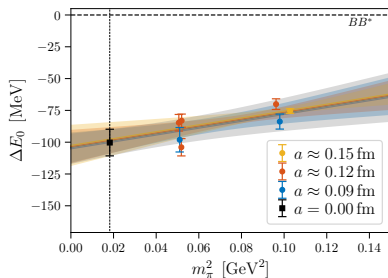
# Overview of Lattice $I(J^P) = 0(1^+) T_{bb}$ determinations



- Red: Static b-quarks; Black: Lattice NRQCD b quarks
- Interesting playground for understanding systematic uncertainties!

# Recent study with local and scattering interpolators

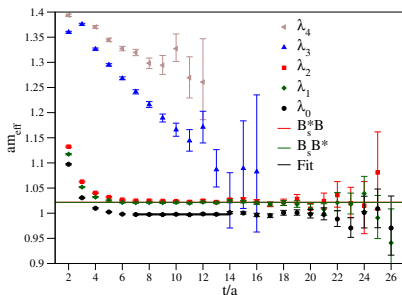
Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:2404.03588



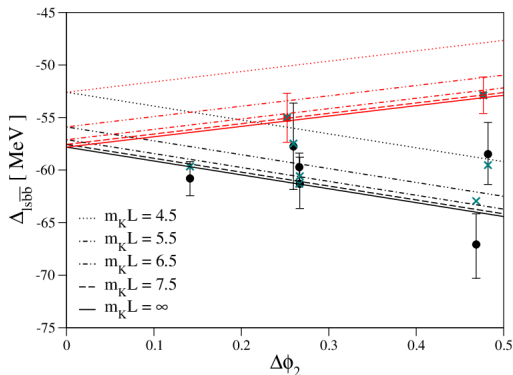
- NRQCD bottom; Wilson Clover with HYP-smearing for the valence quarks; HISQ 2+1+1 sea
- Authors assume/argue that finite-volume effects to be negligible compared to their statistical uncertainty

# $T_{bb_s}$ – Basis and effective masses

$$M = (\bar{b}\gamma_5 u)(\bar{b}\gamma_i s), \quad N = (\bar{b}Iu)(\bar{b}\gamma_5\gamma_i s)$$
$$O = (\bar{b}\gamma_5 s)(\bar{b}\gamma_i u), \quad P = (\bar{b}I s)(\bar{b}\gamma_5\gamma_i u)$$
$$Q = \epsilon_{ijk}(\bar{b}\gamma_j u)(\bar{b}\gamma_k s).$$



# $T_{bbs}$ – chiral and infinite volume extrapolation

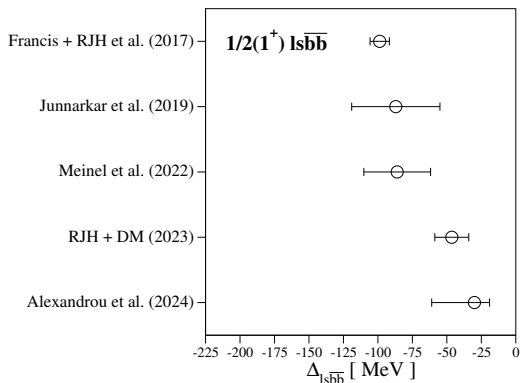


- Chiral/infinite-volume Ansatz:

$$\Delta_{ls\bar{b}\bar{b}}(\Delta\phi_2, m_K L, a) = \Delta_{ls\bar{b}\bar{b}}(0, \infty, a) (1 + A\Delta\phi_2 + Be^{-m_K L})$$

- Large  $e^{-m_K L}$  volume effects.
- Consistent with light-diquark picture.

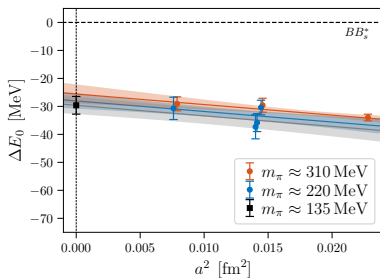
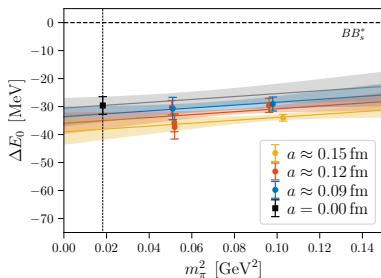
# Overview of lattice $T_{bb_s}$ determinations



- Close/overlapping EM threshold  $BB_s\gamma$ , still possible that it is narrow and decays weakly

# Recent study with local and scattering interpolators

Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:2404.03588



- NRQCD bottom; Wilson Clover with HYP-smearing for the valence quarks; HISQ 2+1+1 sea
- Authors assume/argue that finite-volume effects to be negligible compared to their statistical uncertainty

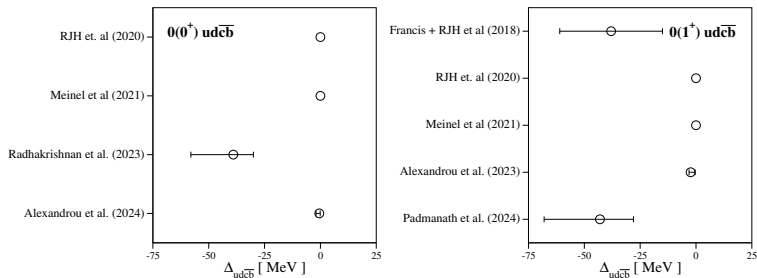
# Sad prospects for $T_{bb}$ : Difficult to see at the LHC

- $T_{bb}$  is very heavy ( $\approx 10.5$  GeV) and decays weakly
- A possible exemplary decay channel could be  
see [Phys.Rev.Lett. 118 \(2017\) 14, 142001](#) - A. Francis, RJH et al.:

$$T_{bb} \rightarrow B^+ \bar{D}^0$$

- It is unlikely to be found anytime soon at the LHC
- Obvious next candidate  $0^+$  or  $1^+$   $ud\bar{c}\bar{b}$  " $T_{cb}$ "  
potentially unbound or very weakly bound, due to the reduction of binding from the heavy antiquark.
- Further exotic states  $ud\bar{s}\bar{b}$  or  $us\bar{c}\bar{b}$   
seem to be unlikely by diquark picture but worth investigating as some models predict these being deeply bound (mostly Chiral Quark models)

# The $0^+/1^+$ $T_{cb}$ - confusing results



- New results:

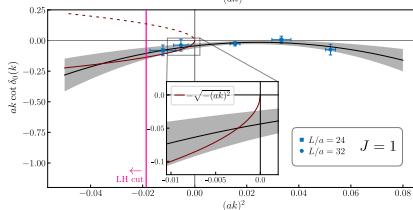
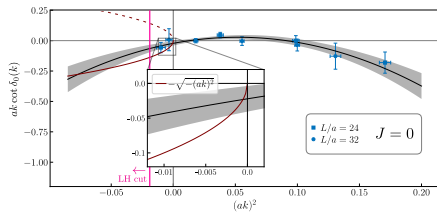
Alexandrou *et al.*, PRL 132 151902 (2024)  
Radhakrishnan *et al.*, arXiv:2404.08109  
Padmanath *et al.*, PRL 132 201902 (2024)

- Close to threshold state could also be a virtual bound state
- Results are more or less incompatible



# Shallow bound states and broad resonances in a scattering study

Alexandrou *et al.*, PRL 132 151902 (2024)



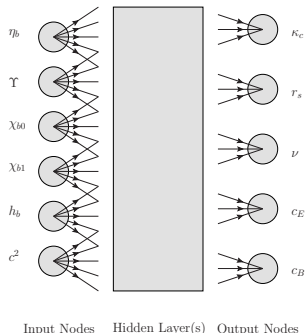
	$\Delta m_{\text{GBS}}$ [MeV]	$\Delta m_{\text{R}}$ [MeV]
$J=0$	$-0.5^{+0.4}_{-1.5}$	138(13)
$J=1$	$-2.4^{+2.0}_{-0.7}$	67(24)

- Obtained resonance poles just outside the radius of convergence of the ERE

# Improving RHQ b-quarks

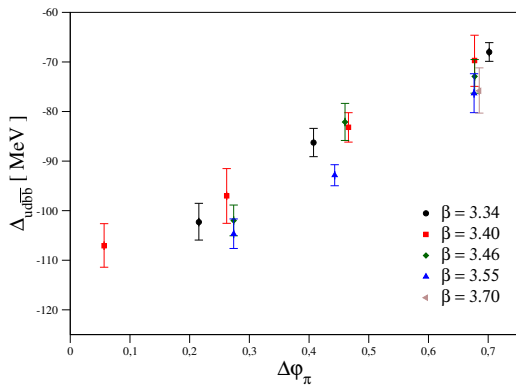
I think NRQCD for the  $T_{bb}$  and  $T_{bbs}$  is at an end. RHQ b-tuning using the "Tsukuba" action as we did for charm in .

- Again learn the dependence of states on parameters
- Absolute scales included
- Fixed  $c^2 = 1$  to ensure relativistic nature
- 5-parameter tuning
- see large variations from 1 of  $r_s, \nu, c_E, c_B$

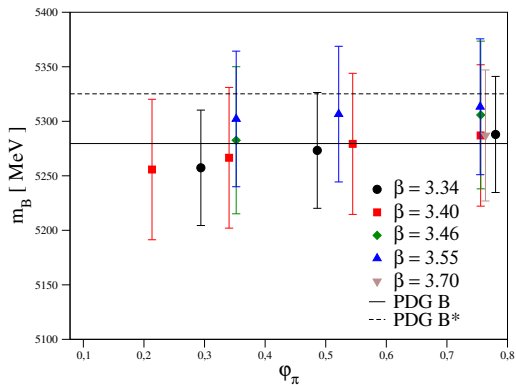


**Figure:** Schematic picture of our RHQ b-quark tuning

# A glimpse at the future: $T_{BB}$ with RHQ bottom



# A glimpse at the future: Resulting $B$ -meson masses



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# Conclusions and Outlook

- Positive-parity heavy-light mesons
  - NRQCD calculation with full uncertainty estimate for  $B_0^*$  and  $B_{s1}$   
→ refined predictions for LHCb, BelleII
  - Calculation could be further improved with RHQ action
  - Scattering amplitudes for the  $D_{s0}^*(2317)$  and  $D_{s1}$  states using RHQ action planned
- Explicitly exotic heavy-quark tetraquarks
  - Lattice QCD is good at determining deeply-bound states and can rule out phenomenological models for states not yet observed in experiment
  - The calculations are systematically-improvable and we are seeing convergence for the easiest-to-compute quantities such as the  $T_{bb}$
  - The smoking-gun tetraquark state  $T_{bb}$  is very difficult to see in current experiments; it is worth exploring weaker-bound candidates such as  $T_{bc}$
  - More and more indications that the multi-quark exotic spectrum at heavy masses is diverse
  - Further insight can be gained from exploring the quark-mass dependence between charm and bottom.

# Backup slides

# Comparison of b and c parameters - $c_E$ and $c_B$

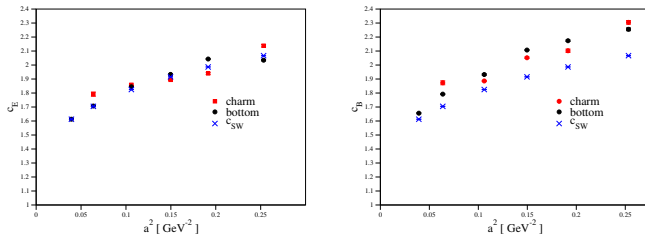


Figure: RHQ clover terms  $c_E$  and  $c_B$  for **bottom** and **charm**

As a rule of thumb  $c_E \approx c_{SW}$ ,  $c_B > c_E$ . No big difference between bottom and charm!



# Comparison of b and c parameters - $\kappa, r_s, \nu$

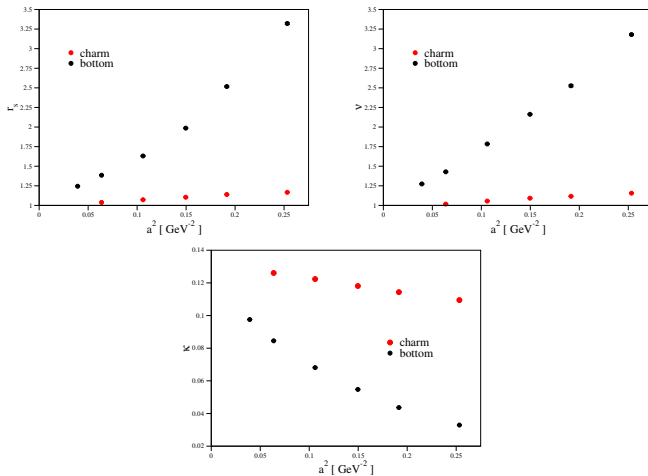


Figure: RHQ action terms  $r_s, \nu, \kappa$  for **bottom** and **charm**

# $D_{s0}^*(2317)$ : D-meson – Kaon s-wave scattering

M. Lüscher Commun. Math. Phys. 105 (1986) 153;  
Nucl. Phys. B 354 (1991) 531; Nucl. Phys. B 364 (1991) 237.

## Charm-light hadrons

$D_{s0}^*(2317)^\pm$

$I(J^P) = 0(0^+)$   
 $J, P$  need confirmation.

$J^P$  is natural, low mass consistent with  $0^+$ .

Mass  $m = 2317.7 \pm 0.6$  MeV

$m_{D_{s0}^*(2317)^\pm} - m_{D_s^\pm} = 349.4 \pm 0.6$  MeV

Full width  $\Gamma < 3.8$  MeV, CL = 95%

$$p \cot \delta_0(p) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}L} Z_{00} \left( 1; \left( \frac{L}{2\pi} p \right)^2 \right) \\ \approx \frac{1}{a_0} + \frac{1}{2} r_0 p^2$$

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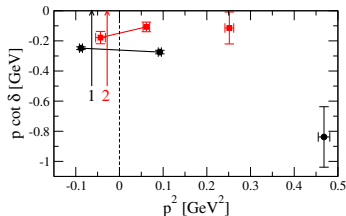
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DM et al. PRL 111 222001 (2013)

Lang, DM et al. PRD 90 034510 (2014)

## Results for ensembles (1) and (2)



$$a_0 = -0.756 \pm 0.025 \text{ fm} \quad (1)$$

$$r_0 = -0.056 \pm 0.031 \text{ fm}$$

$$a_0 = -1.33 \pm 0.20 \text{ fm} \quad (2)$$

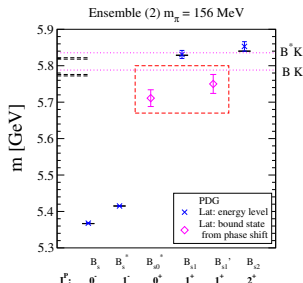
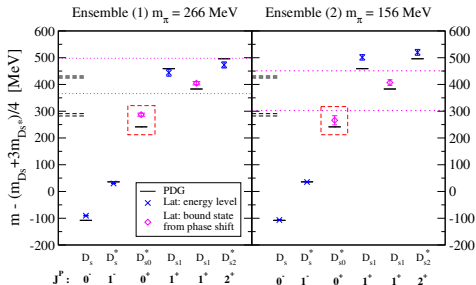
$$r_0 = 0.27 \pm 0.17 \text{ fm}$$

# Positive-parity states in the $D_s$ and $B_s$ spectrum

DM *et al.* PRL 111 222001 (2013)

Lang, DM *et al.* PRD 90 034510 (2014)

Lang, DM, Prelovsek, Woloshyn PLB 750 17 (2015)

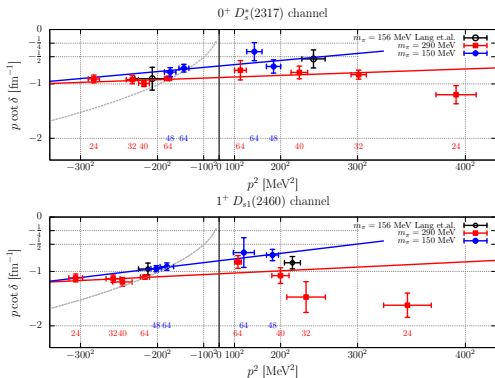


- Spectrum reliably extracted and agrees qualitatively with experiment
- Uncontrolled systematics sizable for the  $D_s$  states

- Full uncertainty estimate only for magenta  $B_s$  states
- Prediction of exotic states from Lattice QCD!

# $D_s$ results in multiple volumes from RQCD

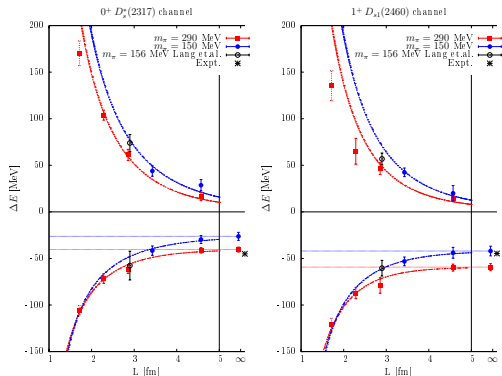
Bali, Collins, Cox, Schäfer, PRD 96 074501 (2017)



- Study with different volumes at pion masses of 150, 290 MeV
- Results confirm basic behavior seen in a single volume
- Discretization effects remain unexplored

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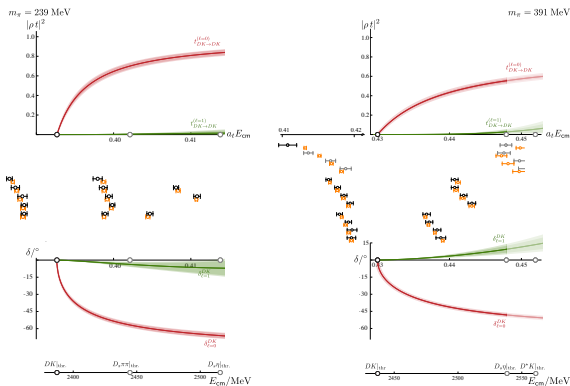
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# $DK$ and $D\bar{K}$ scattering and the $D_{s0}^*(2317)$

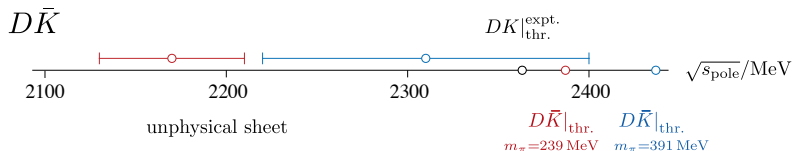
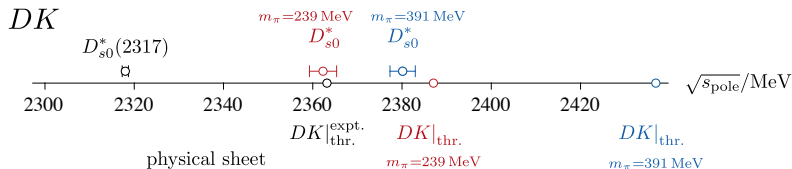
Hadron spectrum collaboration, Cheung *et al.* JHEP 02 100 (2021)



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