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Scalar mesons: fifty years of challenging the quark model

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Five decades of work on the light scalar-meson nonet composed of $f_0(500)$, $f_0(980)$, $K_0^*(800)$, and $a_0(980)$, as well as on other scalar mesons, will be briefly reviewed. The different phenomenological descriptions include tetraquark bound states, pure meson-meson models, unitarised effective chiral approaches, unitarised quark models, and lattice-QCD simulations. Also, the charmed-strange scalar meson $D_{s0}^*(2317)$ is shown to be an excellent laboratory for studying the scalar-meson dynamics. Very recent lattice results are presented that confirm the dynamical quark-antiquark/meson-meson picture successfully modelled by us long ago.

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