

Exotic Spectroscopy

‘Old’ problems and New solutions

A. Esposito, A. Glioti, D. G., A. D. Polosa [arXiv:2502.02505 \[hep-ph\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.02505)

Overview

Introduction

- Exotic hadrons
- Exotic spectroscopy

X(3872): compact vs molecule

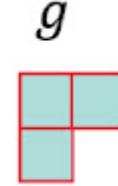
- X(3872) natura from NREFT
- Future prospects

Exotic Hadrons

Exotic hadrons are subatomic particles composed of quarks and gluons, but which consist of more than three valence quarks or have an explicit valence gluon content.

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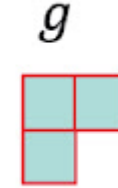
- **$SU(3)_C$ rule:** every combination is allowed as long as it respects confinement i.e. boxes forms columns of three elements

Exotic Hadrons

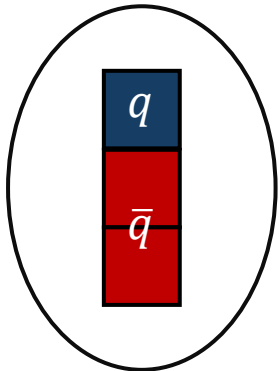
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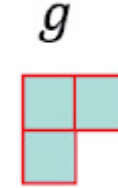
Meson

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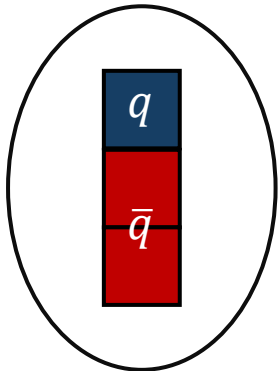
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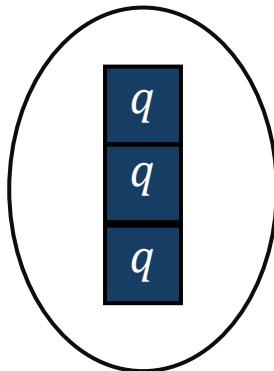
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Meson



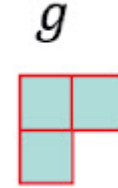
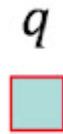
Baryon

Exotic Hadrons

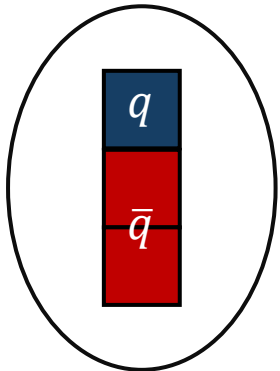
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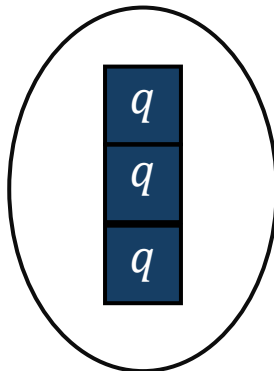
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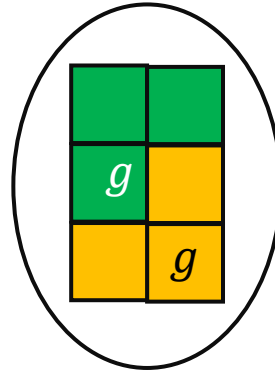
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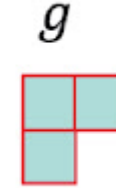
Glueball

Exotic Hadrons

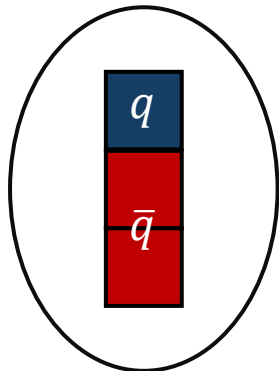
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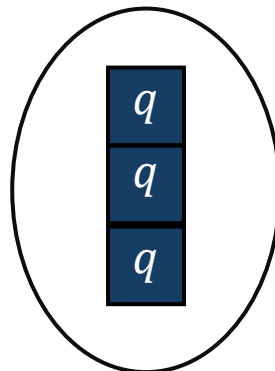
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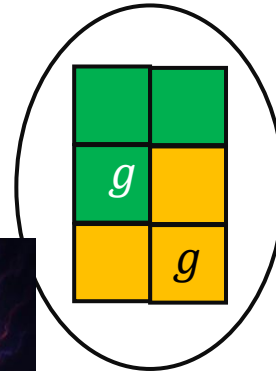
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Baryon



ChatGPT



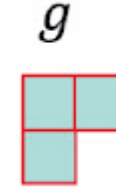
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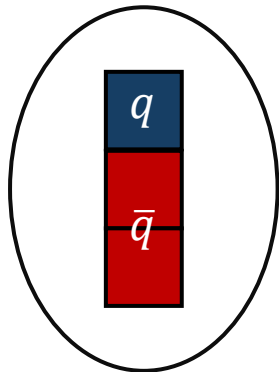
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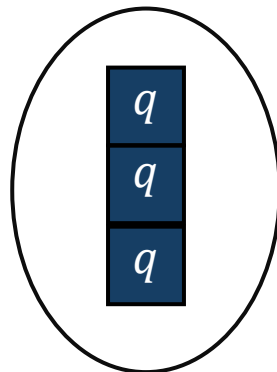
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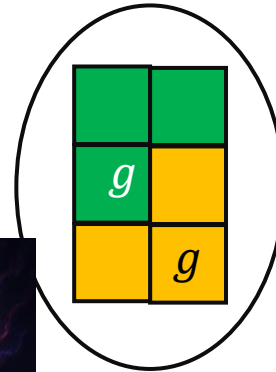
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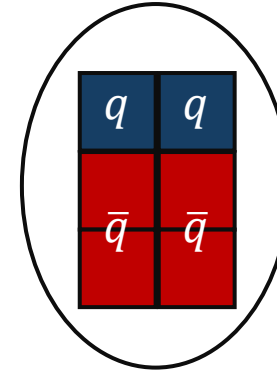
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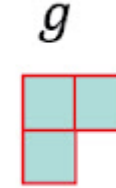
Tetraquark

Exotic Hadrons

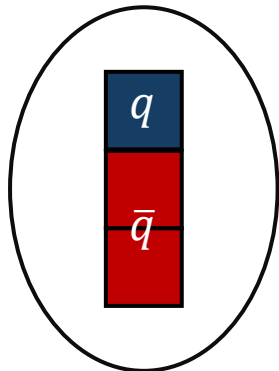
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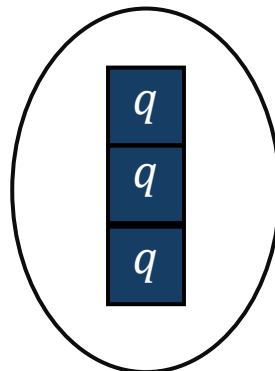
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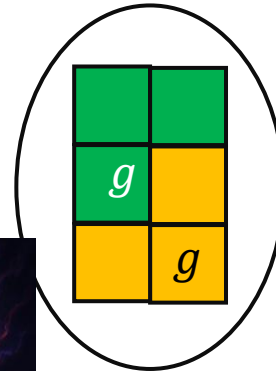
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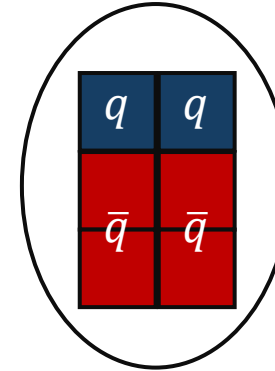
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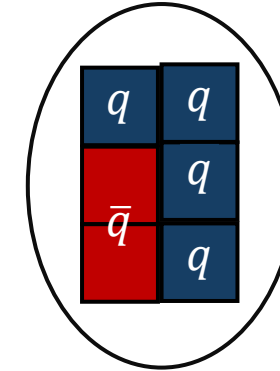
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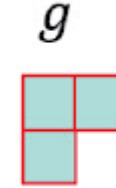
Pentaquark

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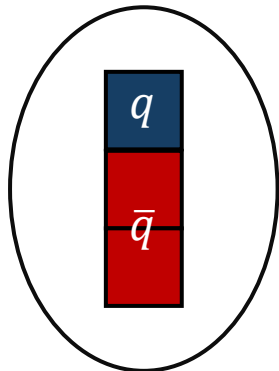
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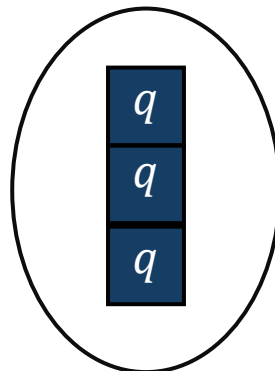
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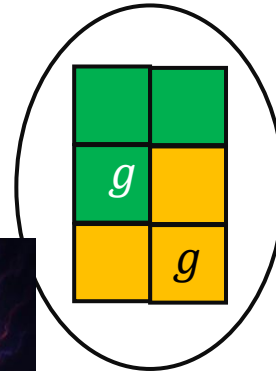
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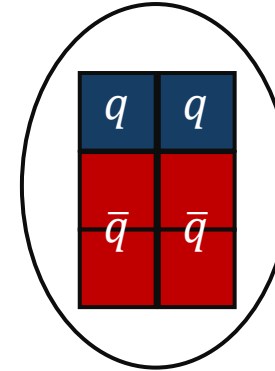
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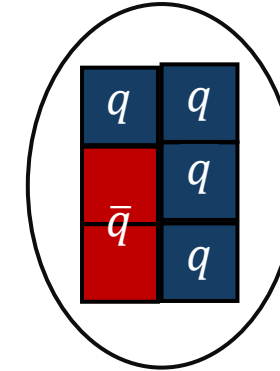
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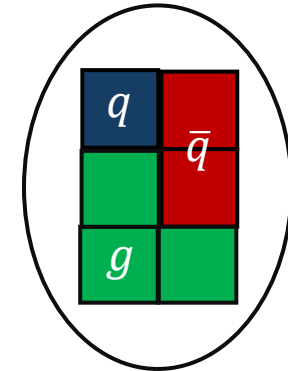
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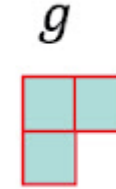
Hybrid

Exotic Hadrons

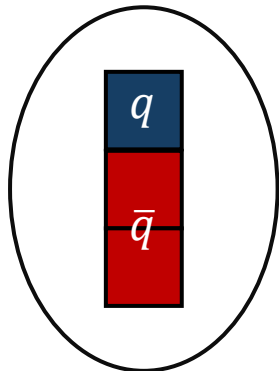
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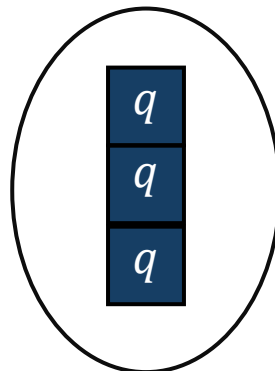
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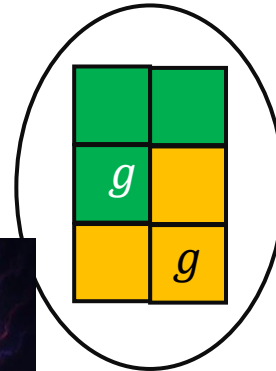
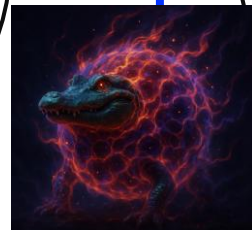
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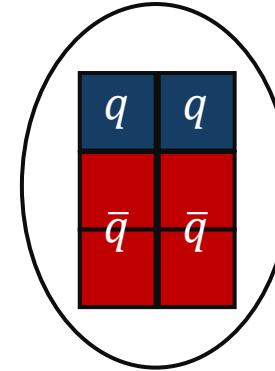
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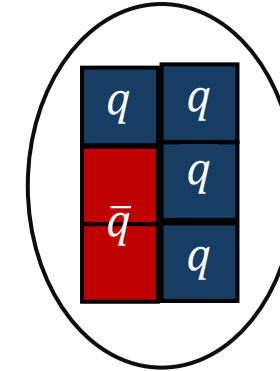
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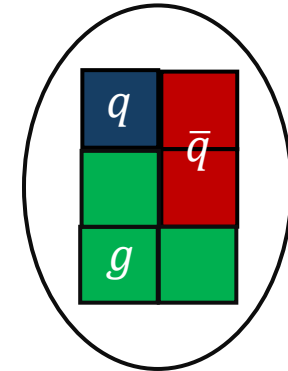
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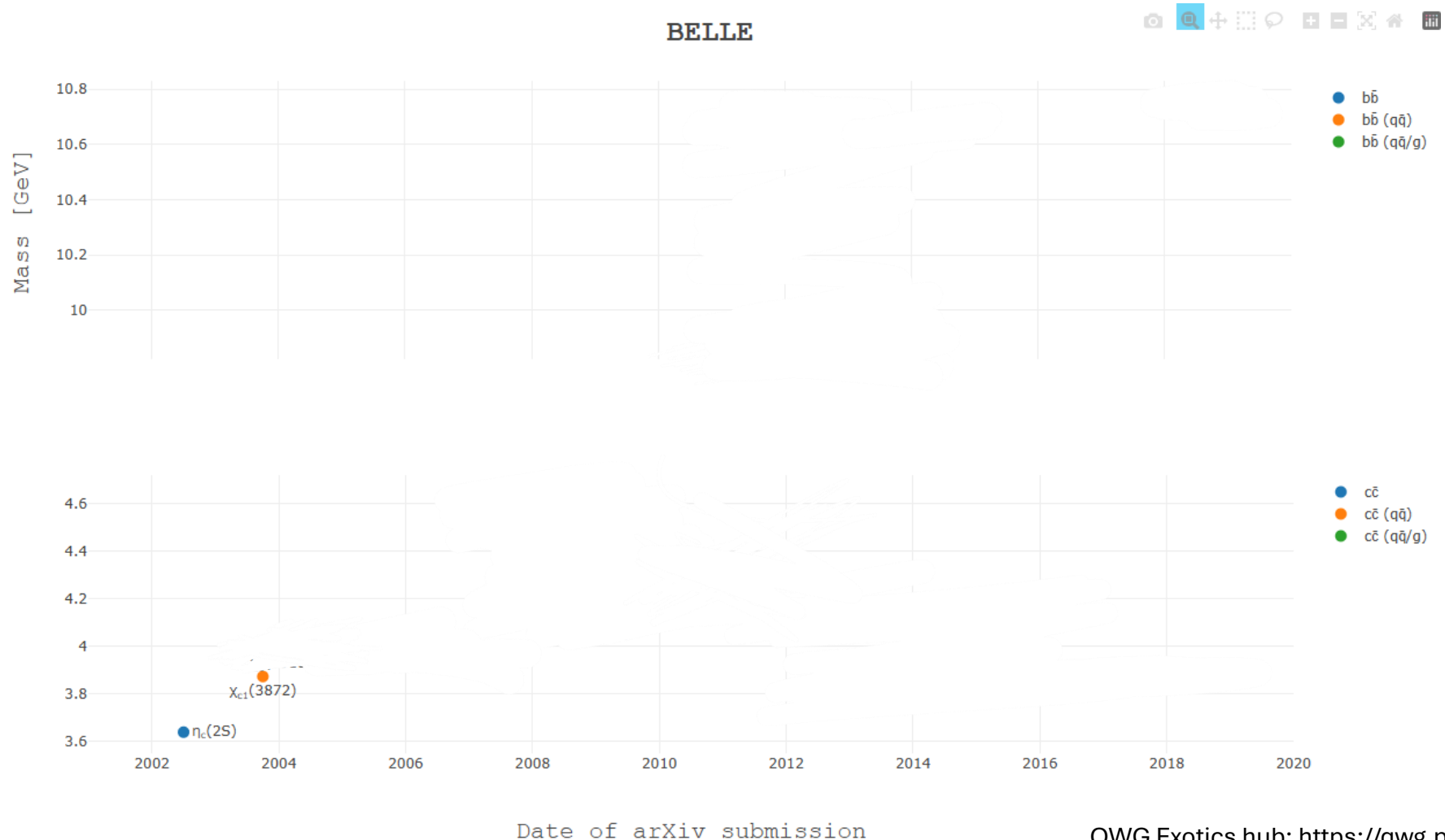
Hybrid

ChatGPT

EXOTIC HADRONS

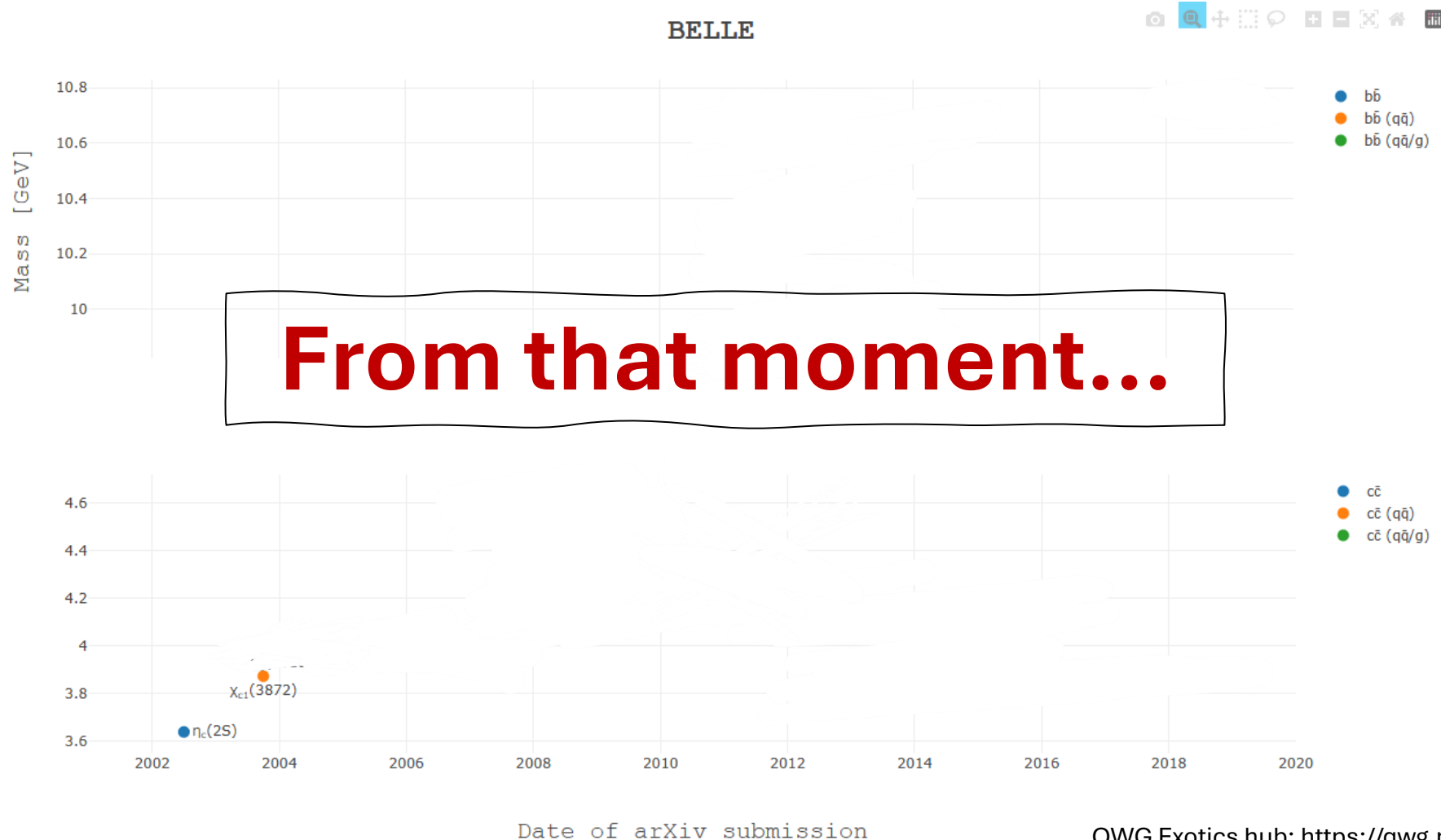
Exotic Hadrons

Although the existence of exotic states had already been theorized in the 1970s, the first exotic particle was discovered in 2003: the **$X(3872)$** .



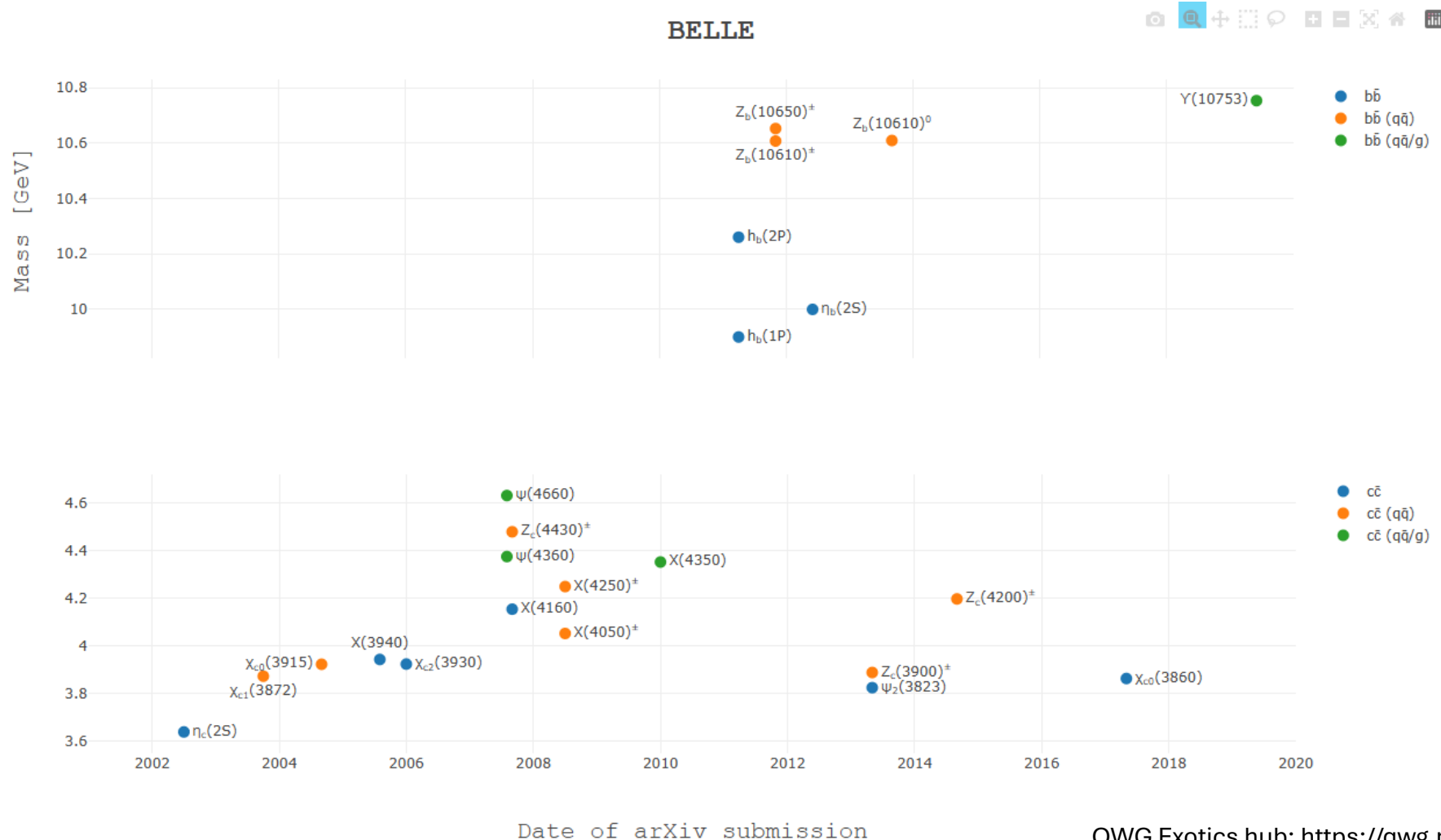
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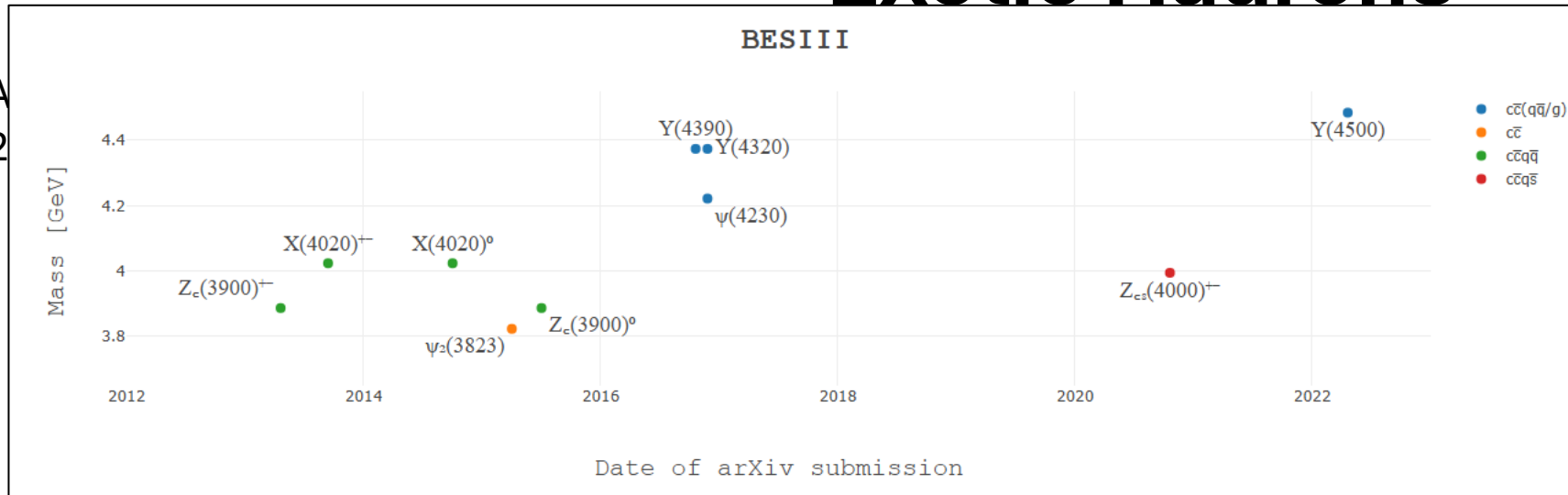
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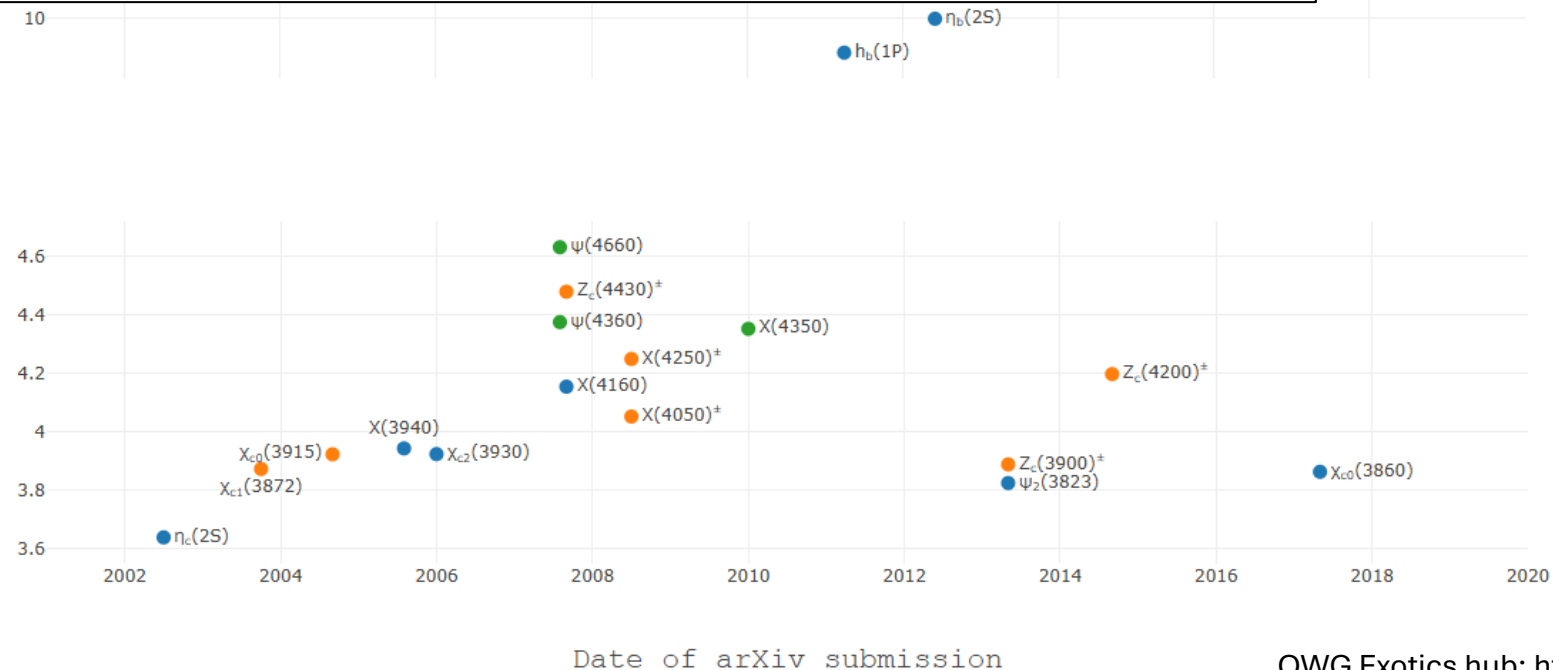
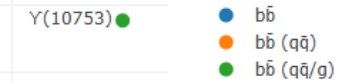
QWG Exotics hub: <https://qwg.ph.nat.tum.de/exoticshub/>

Exotic Hadrons

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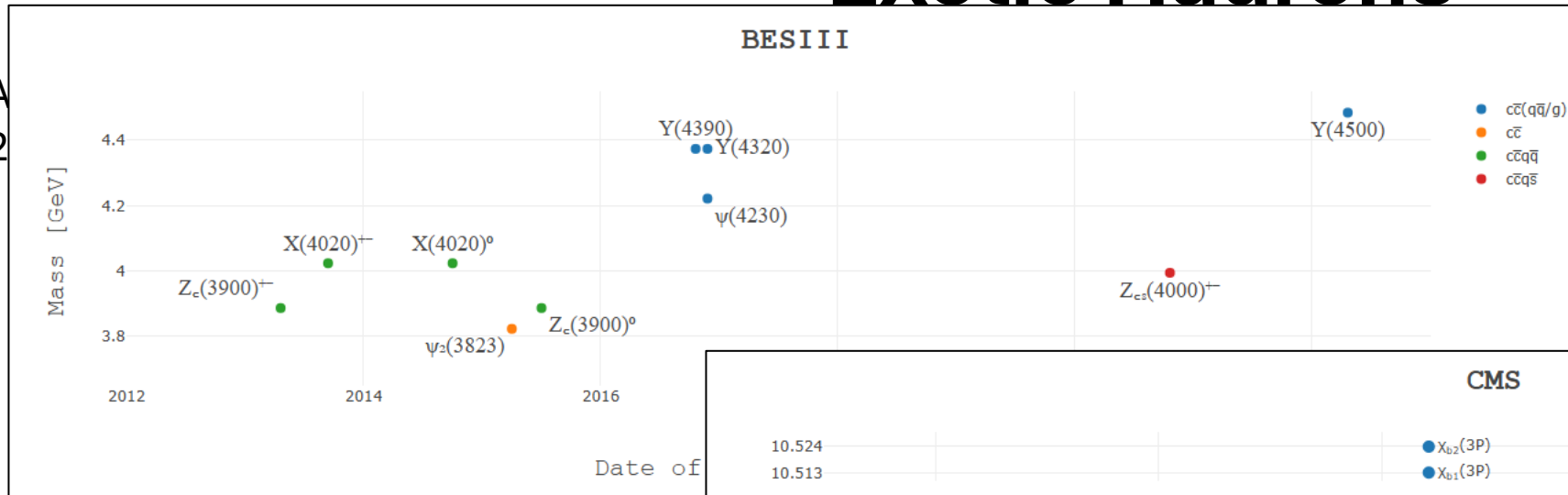
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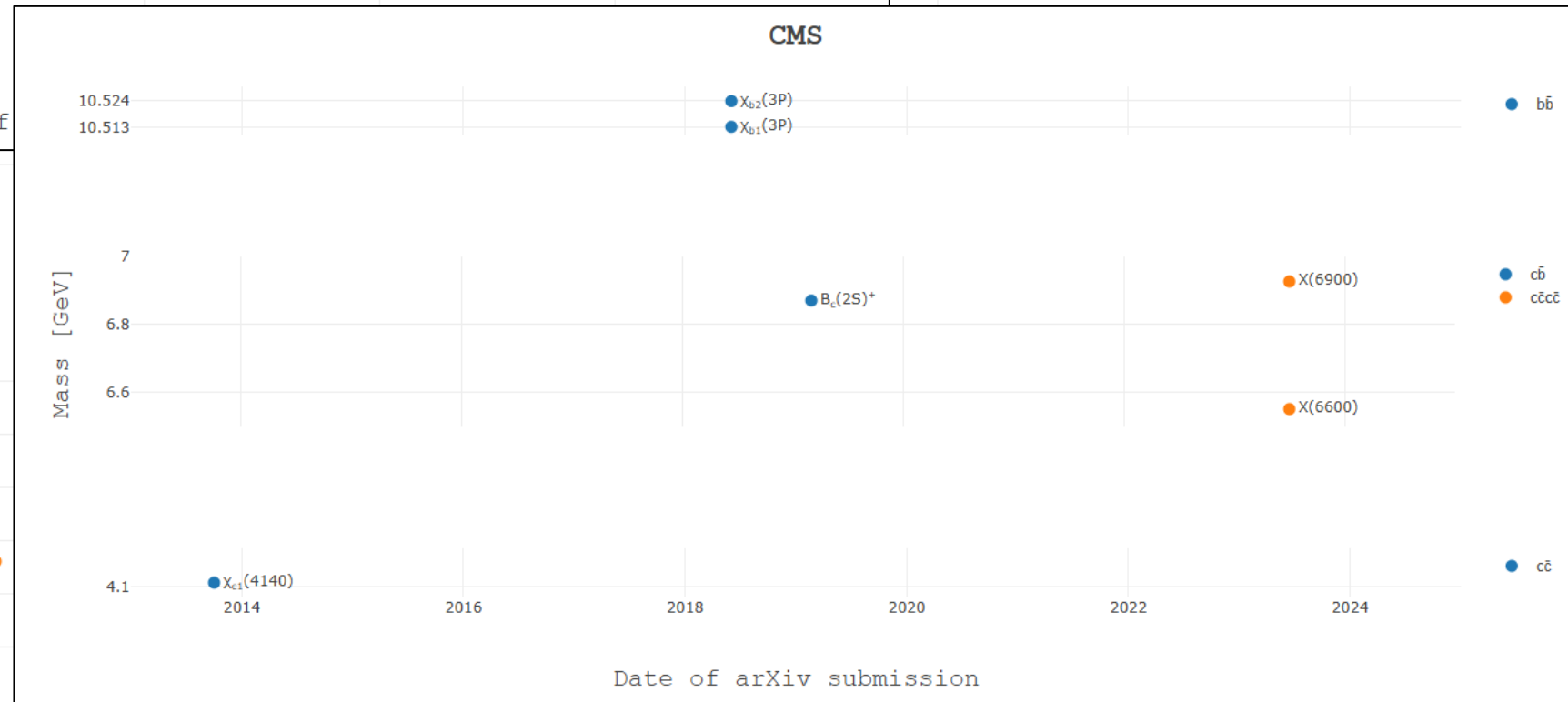
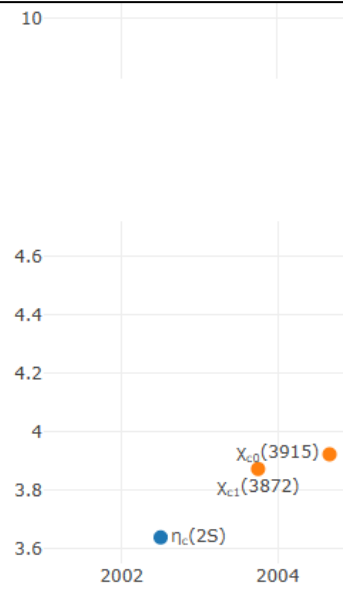
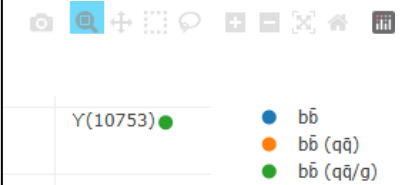
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Date of arXiv submission

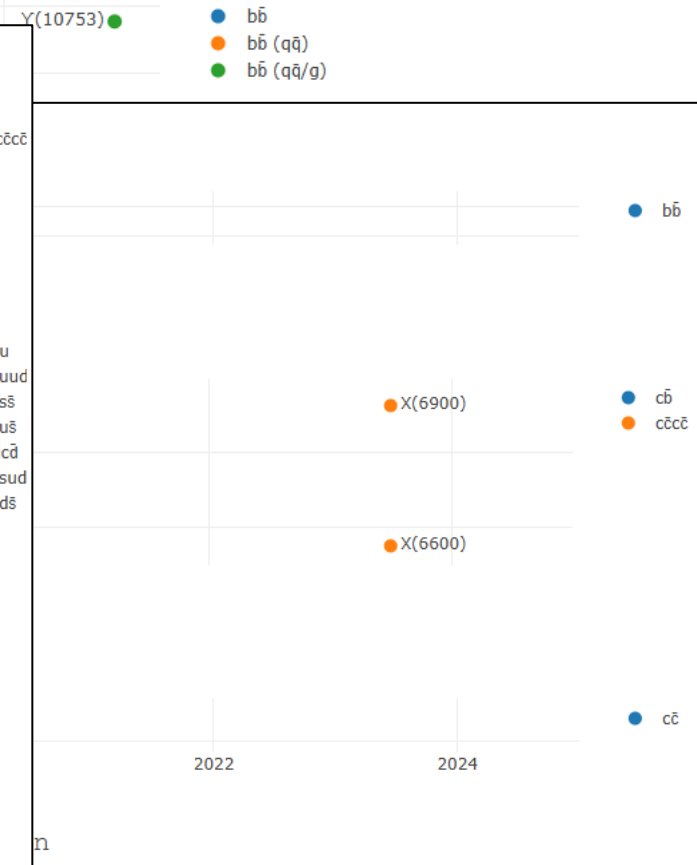
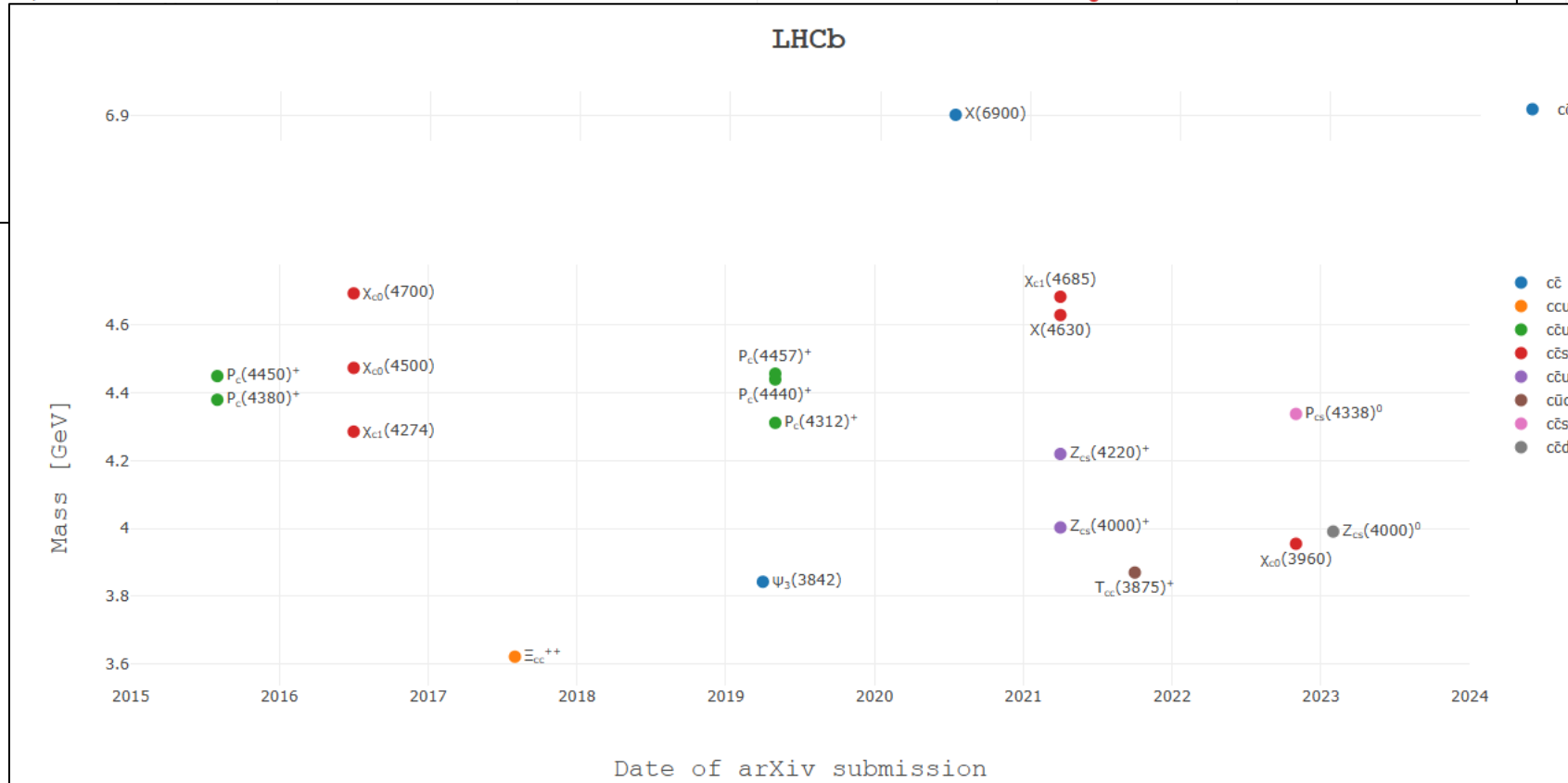
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Exotic spectroscopy

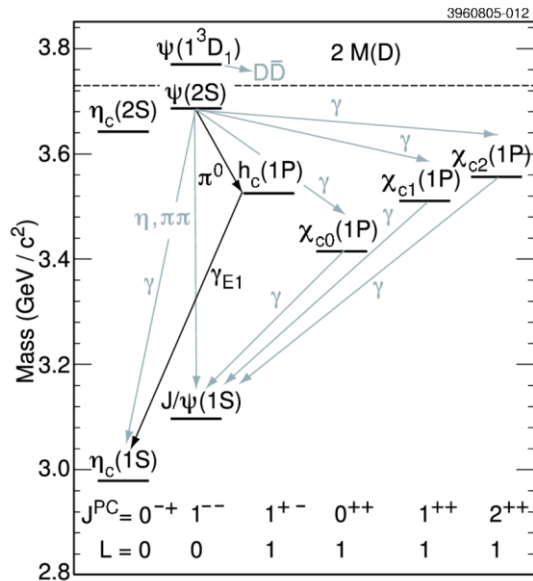
Around **50 exotic hadrons** with at least one heavy (c or b) quark are reported.

N. Hüsken, E. Spadaro Norella, I. Polyakov [arXiv:2410.06923 \[hep-ph\]](#)

Exotic spectroscopy is a branch of particle physics that focuses on studying the properties of exotic hadrons.

- Provide a theoretical explanation of the experimentally observed properties, grounded as much as possible in first principles (QCD).
- Make predictions about the masses and quantum numbers of exotic hadrons to test hypotheses on the non-confining dynamics of QCD.

Idea



[CLEO Collaboration], **Phys. Rev. D** **72**, 092004 (2005)

Reality

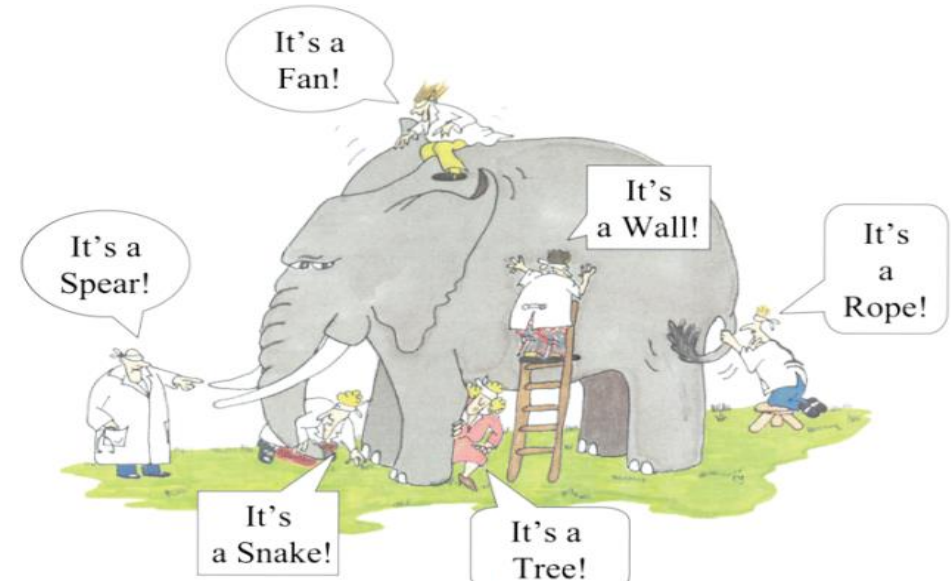


Figure from E. Braaten talk: **Charm 2020 conference**

Who is the $X(3872)$?

$$I(J^{PC}) = 0(1^{++})$$

↓
Isosinglet

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES:

Threshold distance:

$$(m_D + m_{D^*}) - m_X \sim O(\text{keV})$$

Main decay channel:

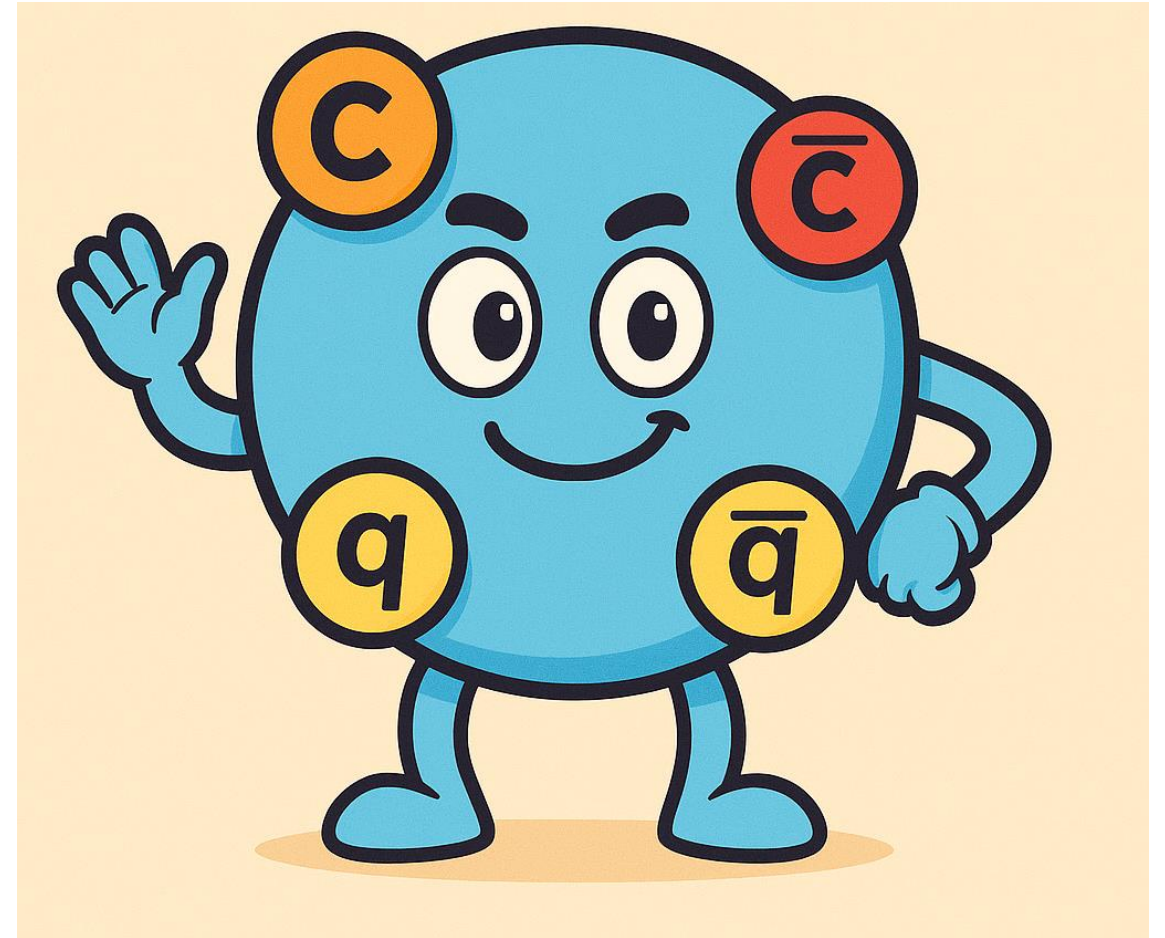
$$X(3872) \rightarrow D^0 \bar{D}^{0*} \rightarrow D^0 \bar{D}^0 \pi^0 \quad (55 \pm 28)\%$$

Isospin violating decay:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(X \rightarrow J/\psi \omega)}{\mathcal{B}(X \rightarrow J/\psi \rho)} \simeq 1$$

S. Navas et al. (Particle Data Group), *Phys. Rev. D* **110**, 030001 (2024)

Exotic Meson $[Q\bar{Q}q\bar{q}]$



Mass: $3871.65 \pm 0.06 \text{ MeV}$

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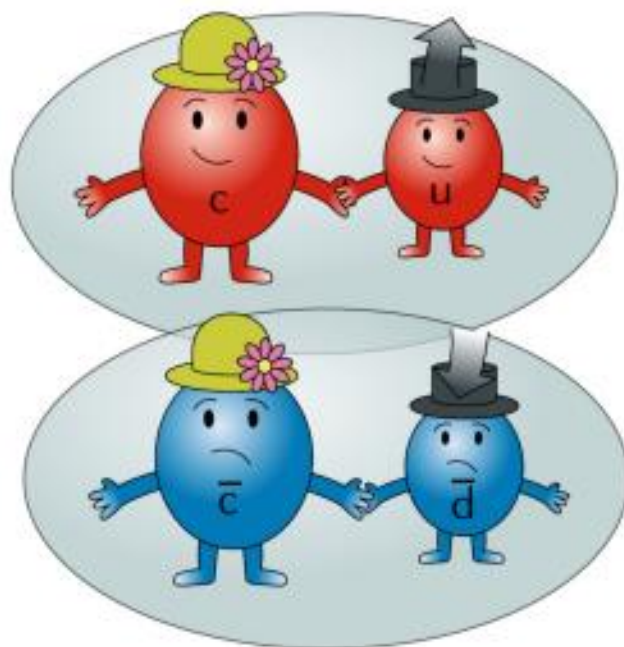


Fine Tuning

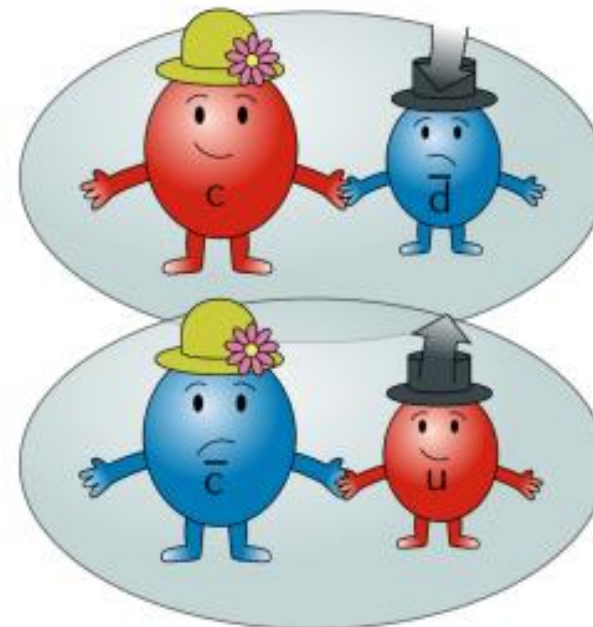
$$B \ll \Lambda_{QCD} \longrightarrow \frac{1}{10^3}$$

Compact objects vs Molecules

The $X(3872)$'s closeness to the $D^0 D^{*0}$ threshold makes it challenging to clearly determine whether the state is molecular or compact.



Tetraquark



Molecule

Non-relativistic EFT: Effective range & Nature of Poles

At low energies, the scattering amplitude depends on two parameters.

Limit $k \rightarrow 0$:

$$f(\theta) \simeq f_0 = \frac{1}{k \cot \delta_0 - ik}$$

$$k \cot \delta_0 = -\frac{1}{a_s} + \frac{1}{2}r_0 k^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^4)$$

The sign of r_0 is related to whether the particle is a molecule or a compact state (Weinberg 1965).

Weinberg Phys. Rev. 137, B672 (1965)

- $a_s > 0$: the pole is related to a **real particle**;
- $a_s < 0$: the pole is related to a **virtual particle**.
- $r_0 \geq 0$: The particle is a **bound state**;
- $r_0 < 0$: The particle is a **compact state**.

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Effective range

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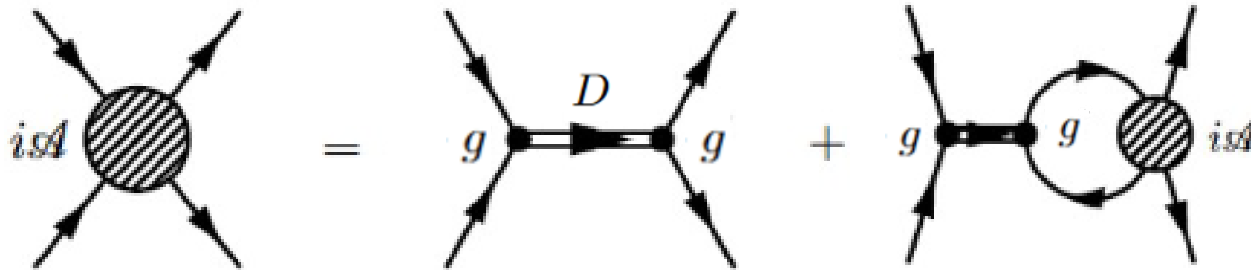
Proton – Neutron: the dibarion field (aka deuteron)

$$\mathcal{L} = N^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2M} \right) N + \sigma D^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{4M} - \mu \right) D - \boxed{g D^\dagger (NN)} + h.c.$$

D. B. Kaplan, **Nucl. Phys. B** 494(1997), 471–484, nucl-th/9610052.

↓
Dibarion field

The dibarion's kinetic term is defined up to a sign $\sigma = \pm 1$



$$f = -\frac{M}{4\pi} \frac{\sigma g^2}{E - \mu + i \sigma g^2 \frac{M}{4\pi} k}$$

D. B. Kaplan, **Nucl. Phys. B** 494(1997), 471–484, nucl-th/9610052.

$$f(\theta) \simeq f_0 = \frac{1}{k \cot \delta_0 - ik}$$

Proton – Neutron: the dibarion field (aka deuteron)

$$\mathcal{L} = N^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2M} \right) N + \sigma D^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{4M} - \mu \right) D - g D^\dagger (NN) + h.c.$$

$$\frac{1}{a_s} = -\sigma \frac{4\pi}{M g^2} \mu$$

$$r_0 = -\sigma \frac{8\pi}{g^2 M^2}$$

- $\sigma = +1$: ‘Classical’ kinetic term and $r_0 < 0$. The field represents a **compact particle** if $\mu < 0$.
- $\sigma = -1$: ‘Inverted’ kinetic term and $r_0 > 0$. The field represents a **bound state** if $\mu > 0$.

$$f(\theta) \simeq f_0 = \frac{1}{k \cot \delta_0 - ik}$$

$$k \cot \delta_0 = -\frac{1}{a_s} + \frac{1}{2} r_0 k^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^4)$$

The XEFT

A. Esposito et al. arXiv:2502.02505 [hep-ph]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{kin} = & D^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2m_D} - \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) D + \bar{D}^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2m_D} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \bar{D} + \\ & + D^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2m_{D^*}} - \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) D + \bar{D}^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2m_{D^*}} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_2 \end{pmatrix} \right) \bar{D} + \\ & + X^\dagger \left(i\partial_t + \frac{\nabla^2}{2(m_D + m_{D^*})} - m_F \right) X.\end{aligned}$$

A lot of fields...

and interactions

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{int} \supset & -\frac{\lambda_S}{2} (\bar{D}D)_+^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} (\bar{D}D)_+ - \frac{\lambda_T}{2} (\bar{D}D)_+^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} (\bar{D}D)_+ \\ & - \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} X^\dagger (\bar{D}^0 D^0)_+ + \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} X^\dagger (D^- D^+)_+.\end{aligned}$$

The XEFT: what can we do?

R. Aaij, et al. [LHCb], Phys. Rev. D 102, 9 (2020), 092005, 2005.13419.

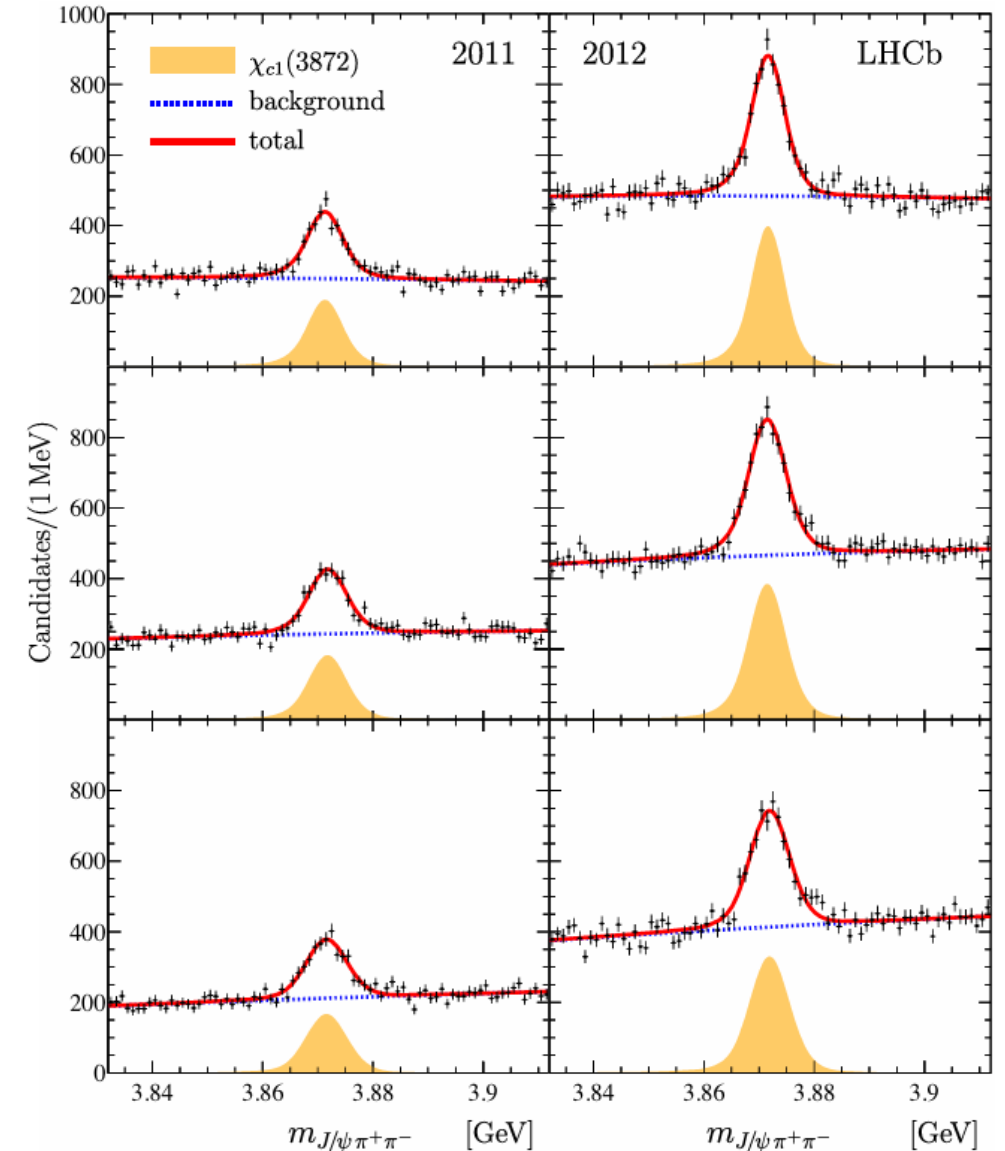
$$\frac{dR(J/\psi\pi^+\pi^-)}{dE} \propto \frac{\Gamma_\rho(E)}{|D(E)|^2}$$

$$D(E) = E - E_f + \frac{i}{2} [g(k_1 + k_2) + \Gamma_\rho(E) + \Gamma_\omega(E) + \Gamma_0].$$

$$\frac{1}{a} = -\frac{2m_F}{g_{\text{LHCb}}} - \sqrt{2m_+\Delta} \simeq 6.92 \text{ MeV},$$

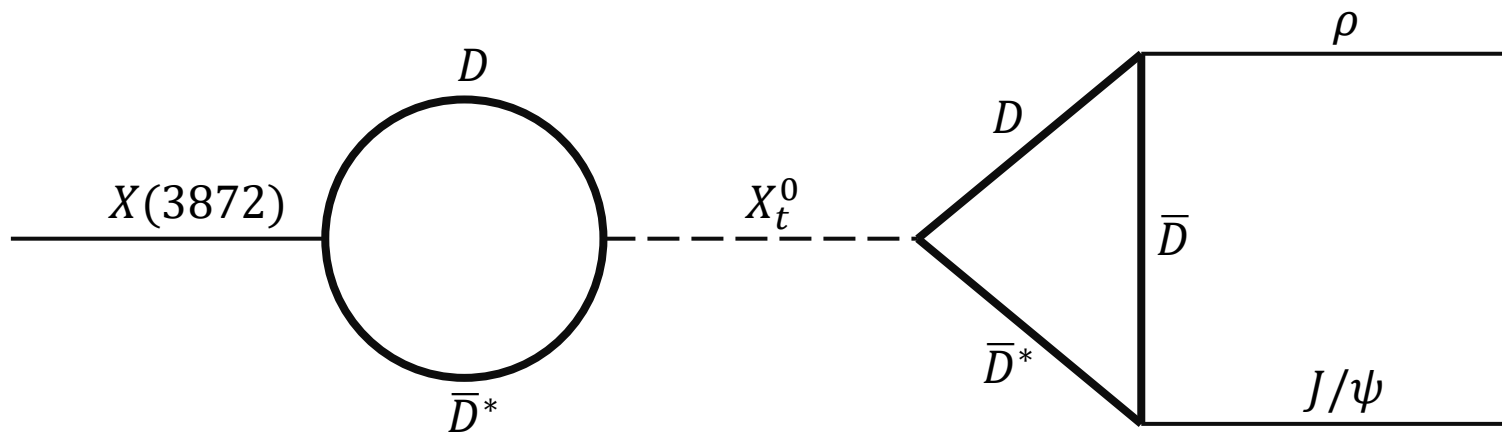
$$r_0 = -\frac{2}{mg_{\text{LHCb}}} - \sqrt{\frac{m_+}{2m^2\Delta}} \simeq -5.34 \text{ fm}.$$

A. Esposito et al. arXiv:2502.02505 [hep-ph]



The XEFT: what needs to be done

In the previous Lagrangian, it is also possible to add a field for the isospin triplet X_t , that we expect since SU(2) is a good symmetry of QCD. By doing so, we can generate loops that turn the isosinglet $X(3872)$ into its neutral isotriplet partner X_t^0 .



The enhancement of the isospin violating decay could be due to mixing between the isosinglet and isotriplet, induced by D -meson loops.

Conclusions

Since 2003, the nature of the $X(3872)$ has eluded our understanding. In a NREFT framework, we can infer the nature of the resonance by analyzing the kinetic term in the Lagrangian. So far, LHCb data suggest a compact nature for the resonance. By introducing the isospin triplet partners, the isospin-violating decay can be explained through the mixing induced by D and D^* mesons.

