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# Light meson spectroscopy at **BES**

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# light QCD physics

- Well-known classes of hadrons: meson( $q\overline{q}$ ), baryon(qqq)
- QCD allows for hadrons beyond quark model so-called exotics:

### •Multi-quark states ; Hybrids ; Glueballs

•Strong evidences for multi-quark in heavy quark sector

A new "particle zoo": https://qwg.ph.nat.tum.de/exoticshub/

- •Evidence for gluonic excitations remains sparse
- Light meson spectroscopy
  - •Key tool to study/develop QCD in nonperturbative region





### World's Largest $\tau$ –charm Data Sets in $e^+e^-$ Annihilation



**Beijing Electron Positron Collider (BEPCII)** 

 $\Gamma(J/\psi\to\gamma G)>\Gamma(J/\psi\to\gamma H)>\Gamma(J/\psi\to\gamma M)\geq\Gamma(J/\psi\to\gamma F)$ 



Glueballs and hybrids are expected to have a larger yield compared to mesons.

Charmonium radiative decays provide an ideal laboratory for gluonic states

### Gluon-rich process

- Well defined initial and final states
  - Kinematic constraints
  - $I(J^{pc})$  filter :
- > Clean high statistics data sample :  $10 \times 10^9 J/\psi$  and 2.  $9 \times 10^9 \psi(2S)$  @BESIII

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# Light hadrons with exotic quantum numbers

 $\vec{s}_1$ 

 $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S} P = (-1)^{L+1} C = (-1)^{L+S}$ Allowed  $\vec{J}^{PC}: 0^{-+}, 0^{++}, 1^{--}, 1^{+-}, 2^{++}, ...$ 

- Unambiguous signature for <mark>exotics</mark>
  - ✓ Light Flavor-exotic hard to establish
  - ✓ Efforts concentrate on Spin-exotic
    - Forbidden for  $(q\overline{q}): 0^{--}, even^{+-}, odd^{-+}$
- Only 3 spin exotic candidate so far  $\Rightarrow$  all 1<sup>-+</sup> isovectors :  $\pi_1(1400)$ : seen in  $\eta\pi$   $\pi_1(1600)$ : seen in  $\rho\pi$ ,  $\eta'\pi$ ,  $b_1\pi$ ,  $f_1\pi$   $\pi_1(2015)$ : seen in  $b_1\pi$ ,  $f_1\pi$ 
  - ✓  $\pi_1(1400), \pi_1(1600)$  can be explained as one pole Phys. Rev. D 105, 012005 (2022)







## Light hadrons with exotic quantum numbers



■ Isoscalar 1<sup>-+</sup> is critical to establish the hybrid nonet

- Can be produced in the gluon-rich charmonium decays
- Can decay to  $\eta \eta'$  in P-wave

[PRD 83,014021 (2011), PRD 83,014006 (2011), EP.J.P 135, 945(2020)]



Search for  $\eta_1(1^{-+})$  in  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \eta \eta'$ 



 $\Gamma(J/\psi\to\gamma H){\sim}O(\alpha\alpha_s^3)$ 

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## Observation of Exotic Isoscalar State $\eta_1(1855)$ in $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \eta \eta'$

An isoscalar  $1^{-+}$  state,  $\eta_1(1855)$ , has been observed with statistical significance larger than  $19\sigma$ 

 $M = (1855 \pm 9^{+6}_{-1}) MeV/c^2; \quad \Gamma = (188 \pm 18 \pm {}^{+3}_{-8}) MeV$ 

 $B(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \eta_1(1855) \rightarrow \gamma \eta \eta') = (2.70 \pm 0.41^{+0.16}_{-0.35}) \times 10^{-6}$ 

- Mass is consistent with hybrid on LQCD
- Inspired many interpretations:
  - Hybrid?
  - Molecule?
  - Tetraquark?

Phys.Rev.D107(2023)7,074028; Rept.Prog.Phys.86(2023)026201; CPC46,051001(2022); CPL39,051201(2022); PLB834,137478(2022); PRD106,074003(2022); PRD 106, 036005(2022) PRL 129, 192002 (2022); PRL 130, 159901 (2023) (erratum) PRD 106,072012 (2022); PRD 107,079901 (2023) (erratum)



Further more, suppression of  $f_0(1710) \rightarrow \eta \eta'$  supports it has a large overlap with glueball

$$\frac{Br(f_0(1500) \to \eta \eta')}{Br(f_0(1500) \to \pi \pi)} = (1.66^{+0.42}_{-0.40}) \times 10^{-1}$$

$$\frac{Br(f_0(1710) \to \eta \eta')}{Br(f_0(1710) \to \pi \pi)} < 2.87 \times 10^{-3} @90\% C.L$$

### Opens a new direction to completing the picture of spin-exotics

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## Observation of $\pi_1(1600)$ in $\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \eta' \pi^+ \pi^-$

### **2**. **7** × 10<sup>9</sup> $\psi$ (3686) @BESIII [preliminary]



- Amplitude analysis of  $\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \eta^{'} \pi^{+} \pi^{-}$  is performed
- $\pi_1(1600)$  is observed with significances  $> 10\sigma$
- The J<sup>pc</sup> of  $\pi_1(1600)$  is measured to be exotic  $1^{-+}$ 
  - ✓ better than other assignments
- With significant Breit-Wigner phase motion
  - ✓ Evidence of  $\pi_1(1600) \rightarrow \eta' \pi$  at CLEO-c is confirmed [PR D84 112009 (2011)]

### Observations of $\pi_1$ and $\eta_1$ in charmonium decays provide a new path to study $1^{-+}$



# Glueball

- Glueballs: the most direct prediction of QCD
- Low-lying glueballs with ordinary J<sup>PC</sup> (0<sup>++</sup>, 2<sup>++</sup>, 0<sup>-+</sup>)
  - $\checkmark$  mixing with  $q\overline{q}$ 
    - Challenge: reveal the exotic admixture.

### **Non** $q\bar{q}$ nature difficult to be established

- ✓ Overpopulation, but QM assignment is difficult
- ✓ Identification is model-dependent

### $\Rightarrow$ Systematical study is needed in the identification

### Lattice QCD predictions for glueball masses and BR:

- 0<sup>++</sup> ground state: 1.5-1.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>;  $B(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma G_{0^{++}}) = 3.8(9) \times 10^{-3}$
- $0^{-+}$  ground state: 2.3-2.4 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>;  $B(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma G_{0^{-+}}) = 2.31(80) \times 10^{-4}$
- $2^{++}$  ground state: 2.3-2.6 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>;  $B(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma G_{2^{++}}) = 1.1(2) \times 10^{-2}$



(quenched and unquenched results)

# Scalar Glueball

- Observed  $f_0(1370)$ ,  $f_0(1500)$ ,  $f_0(1710)$ 
  - ✓ supernumerary scalars suggest additional degrees of freedom
  - ✓ However, mixing scenarios are controversial
- Measured  $B(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma f_0(1710))$  is x10 larger than  $f_0(1500)$

BESIII [PRD 87 092009, PRD 92 052003, PRD 98 072003]

Flavor-blindness of glueball decays

 $\Gamma(G \to \pi\pi: K\overline{K}: \eta\eta: \eta\eta': \eta'\eta') = 3:4:1:0:1$ 

- $G \rightarrow \eta \eta'$  decay is expected to be suppressed
- Scalar glueball expected to be suppressed  $\Gamma(G \rightarrow \eta \eta') / \Gamma(G \rightarrow \pi \pi) < 0.04$ [PR D 92, 121902; PR D 92, 114035]
- **New inputs from J**/ $\psi \rightarrow \gamma \eta \eta'$
- Significant  $f_0(1500)$

 $\frac{Br(f_0(1500) \to \eta \eta')}{Br(f_0(1500) \to \pi \pi)} = (1.66^{+0.42}_{-0.40}) \times 10^{-1}$ 

• Absence of  $f_0(1710)$ 

 $\frac{Br(f_0(1710) \to \eta \eta')}{Br(f_0(1710) \to \pi \pi)} < 2.7 \times 10^{-3} @90\% C.L$ 

#### Supports to the hypothesis that $f_0(1710)$ overlaps with the ground state scalar glueball

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# **Tensor Glueball**

 $\Gamma(J/\psi 
ightarrow \gamma G_{2^+}) = 1.01(22) keV$ 

 $\Gamma(J/\psi 
ightarrow \gamma G_{2^+})/\Gamma_{tot} = 1.1 imes 10^{-2}$ 

CLQCD, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 091601 (2013)

### **Experimental results**

$$\begin{split} Br(J/\psi \to \gamma f_2(2340) \to \gamma \eta \eta) &= (3.8^{+0.62}_{-0.65} + 2.37_{-2.07}) \times 10^{-5} \\ & \text{BESIII PRD 87,092009 (2013)} \\ Br(J/\psi \to \gamma f_2(2340) \to \gamma \phi \phi) &= (1.91 \pm 0.14^{+0.72}_{-0.75}) \times 10^{-4} \\ & \text{BESIII PRD 93, 112011 (2016)} \\ Br(J/\psi \to \gamma f_2(2340) \to \gamma K^0_s K^0_s) &= (5.54^{+0.34}_{-0.40} + 3.82_{-1.49}) \times 10^{-5} \\ & \text{BESIII PRD 98,072003 (2018)} \\ Br(J/\psi \to \gamma f_2(2340) \to \gamma \eta \dot{\eta} \dot{\eta}) &= (8.67 \pm 0.7^{+0.16}_{-1.67}) \times 10^{-6} \\ & \text{BESIII PRD 105,072002 (2022)} \end{split}$$

### BESIII $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \phi \phi$ with 1.3B $J/\psi$



- $f_2(2010), f_2(2300), f_2(2340)$  in  $\pi p$ reactions are all observed in  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \phi \phi$ with a strong production of  $f_2(2340)$
- Consistent with double-Pomeron exchange from WA102@

More complicated due to the large number of tensor states

### More decay modes are desired

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# Pseudoscalar Glueball

### Pseudoscalar meson spectrum

- ✓ Only  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  (& radial excitations) from quark model
- $\checkmark$  A promising place to search for extra states
- LQCD predicts: 0<sup>-+</sup> glueball (2.3~2.6 GeV)
   Little experimental information above 2 GeV
  - ✓ A glueball-like state X(2370) [Zhang Peng's talk]

### • $\eta(1405)/\eta(1475)$ puzzle (found by MarkIII)



- ✓ Quark model predicts :only one pseudoscalar meson near 1.4 GeV
- ✓ Theoretical interpretations :

 $\eta(1475) \Rightarrow$  the first radial excitation of  $\eta'$ 

 $\eta(1405) \Rightarrow$  the glueball candidate &&Mass incompatible with LQCD

# $\eta(1405)$ and $\eta(1475)$ are two separate states or just one pseudoscalar state, namely $\eta(1440)$ , in different decay mode?

### What's the nature of the outnumbered $\eta(1405)$ ?

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# Partial Wave Analysis of $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma K_s^0 K_s^0 \pi^0$

#### JHEP03(2023)121



Resonance	$M({ m MeV}/c^2)$	$\Gamma({ m MeV})$
$\eta(1405)$	$1391.7\pm0.7^{+11.3}_{-0.3}$	$60.8 \pm 1.2^{+5.5}_{-12.0}$
$\eta(1475)$	$1507.6 \pm 1.6^{+15.5}_{-32.2}$	$115.8 \pm 2.4^{+14.8}_{-10.9}$
$f_1(1285)$	$1280.2\pm0.6^{+1.2}_{-1.5}$	$28.2 \pm 1.1^{+5.5}_{-2.9}$
$f_1(1420)$	$1433.5 \pm 1.1^{+27.9}_{-0.7}$	$95.9 \pm 2.3^{+13.6}_{-10.9}$
$f_2(1525)$	$1515.4 \pm 2.5^{+3.2}_{-7.6}$	$64.0\pm4.3^{+2.0}_{-6.1}$

- Mass Independent PWA : Disentangle *J<sup>PC</sup>* in each bin
  - Valuable inputs to develop models
  - Two 0<sup>-+</sup> around 1.4 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> in  $(K_s^0 K_s^0)_{s-wave} \pi^0$

and  $(K_s^0 \pi^0)_{p-wave} K_s^0$  partial waves

Mass Dependent PWA with BW to extract resonances

- Consistency between MI and MD results
- Dominated by 0<sup>-+</sup>
  - Two BWs around 1.4 GeV is needed

# **Theorists attempt to reveal** $\eta(1405)/\eta(1475)$ pole structure

Phys.Rev.D 107, L091505 (2023) Phys.Rev.D 109, 014021 (2024)

• further study is needed

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# Partial Wave Analysis of $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \gamma \phi$

The decays  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma X, X \rightarrow \gamma V$  ( $V = \rho, \omega, \phi$ ) serve as flavor filter •unravelling quark contents of the intermediate resonances

### main challenges

high background level (55%)

non- $\phi$  background (46.7%).

 $\phi$  background (8.2%)

### innovative point

• non- $\phi$  background (Q factor method, CLAS)

$$Q_i = \frac{F_s(\vec{\xi}_r, \hat{\alpha}_i)}{F_s(\vec{\xi}_r, \hat{\alpha}_i) + F_b(\vec{\xi}_r, \hat{\alpha}_i)}$$

• *φ* background (ML based multi-dimensional reweighting method, BESIII)





arXiv: 2401.00918

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The decays  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma X, X \rightarrow \gamma V$  ( $V = \rho, \omega, \phi$ ) serve as flavor filter •unravelling quark contents of the intermediate resonances



•  $\eta(1405)$  is observed, while  $\eta(1475)$  can not be excluded

- $X(1835) \rightarrow \gamma \phi$  suggests its assignment of second  $\eta'$  excitation
- $\eta_c \rightarrow \gamma \phi$  is observed for the first time, the first radiative decay mode of  $\eta_c$
- Observation of  $f_2(1950)$  and  $f_0(2200) \rightarrow \gamma \phi$  unfavored their glueball interpretations. [PRD 108, 014023 (2013); arXiv: 2404.01564]
- No evidence of η<sub>1</sub>(1855) and X(2370), well consistent with the predictions for hybrid/ glueball. [PRD 107, 114020(2023); NPA 1037, 122683]

# X(1880): A New State Observed in $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma 3(\pi^+\pi^-)$



Anomalous shape observed in  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma 3(\pi^+\pi^-)$  near M(pp) threshold

### **Two models:**

- Flatte model
- Interference between two resonances

### Observed line shape consistent with two overlapping resonant structure: X(1840) and X(1880) (10 $\sigma$ )

- According to angular distribution, the  $J^{pc}$  for X(1840) and X(1880) tend to be  $0^{-+}$
- X(1880): interpretation of a  $p\overline{p}$  bound state

#### $\Rightarrow$ complex resonant structures near the $p\overline{p}$ threshold





## Summary and outlook

### BESIII experiment is an excellent laboratory to study light hadron physics and search for light QCD exotic states

Exciting results from new  $J/\psi$  and  $\psi'$  data are presented

- pesudoscalar state :  $\eta(1405)$  , X(2370), X(1880)
- isoscalar/isovector 1<sup>-+</sup>spin exotics state:  $\eta_1(1855) / \pi_1(1600)$

### BESIII is taking data since 2008. It will continue to run ~2030

• BEPCII-U: 3x upgrade on luminosity; Ecms expanded to 5.6 GeV (summer 2024)

### More interesting results are expected!!!



### The remaining background can be divided into two categories

### $\succ \phi$ background

Dominated by  $J/\psi \rightarrow \phi \pi^0 \pi^0$ , which has rich structures. Difficult to be modeled with MC.



### > non- $\phi$ background

 $\boldsymbol{\phi}$  sideband is tricky:

 $e.\,g.\,J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta(1405), \eta(1405) \rightarrow \pi_0 K^+ K^-, \pi_0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ 

(1) If one of the photons  $\gamma_2 \gamma_3$  from the  $\pi_0$  decay is soft (say,  $\gamma_3$ ), the  $\gamma_2$  will be energetic and M( $\gamma_2 K^+ K^-$ ) will be at the  $\eta(1405)$  mass.

(2)The  $K^+K^-$  mass distribution from  $\eta(1405) \rightarrow \pi_0 K^+K^-$  peaks nears  $K^+K^-$  threshold, which is very close to  $\phi$  mass.

### $\succ \phi$ background

Using a Machine learning based multi-dimensional reweighting method to get "data-like" MC of  $J/\psi \rightarrow \phi \pi^0 \pi^0$ 

- Select  $J/\psi \rightarrow \phi \pi_0 \pi_0$  events from data
- Generate  $J/\psi \rightarrow \phi \pi_0 \pi_0 PHSP MC$
- Perform multi-dimensional reweighting (ML)
- The distributions of weighted MC are well consistent with data
- The weighted  $J/\psi \rightarrow \phi \pi_0 \pi_0$  MC after  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \gamma \phi$  event selection will be used for background estimation



\* Beijiang. Liu, Xian Xiong, Guoyi Hou, Shiming Song, and Lin Shen. PoS ICHEP2018, 160 (2019). http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1451985

2024/8/14

□ **Q-factor method: multi-dimensional sideband subtraction** [JINST 4 P10003 (2009) Generalize the 'sideband' subtraction method to higher dimensions without requiring the data to be divided into bins, successfully used in BAM-00221, Phys. Rev. D 100, 052012, by Malte Albrecht et al.

- ▶ In multi-dimensional phase space of  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma \gamma \phi$ , a so called Q-weight is given event-by-event, representing the probability of signal.
- A set of coordinates  $\xi$  must be defined ( $\cos\theta(\gamma_{rad}), \cos\theta(\phi), \cos\theta(K^+), M^2(\gamma_{high}\phi), M^2(\gamma_{low}\phi)$ ). For event *i*, we find 200 of its nearest neighboring events in PHSP. The normalization  $\Delta_k$  by default is set to the largest possible distance between two events in the coordinate  $\xi_k$ , and fit the reference coordinate  $\xi_r = M(K^+K^-)$ .

$$d_{i,j}^2 = \sum_{k \neq r} \left[ \frac{\xi_k^i - \xi_k^j}{\Delta_k} \right]^2$$

▶ Q-factor for event *i*, is determined by the fitting results and its  $M(K^+K^-)$ .

$$Q_{i} = \frac{F_{s}(\vec{\xi}_{r}, \hat{\alpha}_{i})}{F_{s}(\vec{\xi}_{r}, \hat{\alpha}_{i}) + F_{b}(\vec{\xi}_{r}, \hat{\alpha}_{i})}$$

**\*CLAS experiment:** Journal of Instrumentation, 4(10):P10003, 2009. **\*CB/LEAR experiment:** The European Physical Journal C, 75(3), 2015.

2024/8/14



These figures show the generated distribution for signal (Magenta line) and background (green line), the signal (blue dots) and background (red dots) estimated by Q-factor.

The Q-factor method can well present the true signal spectrum.

## Hybrid from LQCD



## Observation of $\pi_1(1600)$ in $\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \eta' \pi^+ \pi^-$

### • Spin-parity of the $\pi_1(1600)$

•  $1^{-+}$  assignment fit is better than that for  $0^{++}$ ,  $2^{++}$  or  $4^{++}$  assignments with significances well over  $10\sigma$ 

### Significance of the Breit-Wigner phase motion

• Replace the resonant  $\pi_1(1600)$  with a non-resonant  $\pi\eta'$  P-wave described by the Breit-Wigner function without phase motion

$$\bullet f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(m^2 - s)^2 + m^2 \Gamma^2}}$$

- The fit yields that:  $\Delta M = +6.9 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ,  $\Delta \Gamma = -96.4 \text{ MeV}$
- We observed significant phase motion with a statistical significance greater than  $10\sigma$