Warmest congratulations and best wishes

C3NT: Missions & Programo

Nuclear structure Nuclear matter under extreme conditions Hadron physics Nuclear astrophysics and fundamental symmetry Quantum computing and AI in nuclear physics

Provide an open environment that is conducive to cutting-edge research and collaboration at the forefront of nuclear theory and phenomenology with close contact with experiments.

Inaugural Symposium of the Central China Center for Nuclear Theory (C3NT) on Frontiers in Nuclear Theory

Recent progress in Femtoscopic studies

Li-Sheng Geng (耿立升) @ Beihang U.

Zhi-Wei Liu, Jun-Xu Lu, LSG*, PRD 107(2023)074019 Zhi-Wei Liu, Jun-Xu Lu, Ming-Zhu Liu, LSG*, PRD 108(2023)L031503 Zhi-Wei Liu, Jun-Xu Lu, Ming-Zhu Liu, LSG*, 2404.18607 Ming-Zhu Liu, Ya-Wen Pan, Zhi-Wei Liu, Tian-Wei Wu, Jun-Xu Lu, LSG*, Phys.Rept. 1108 (2025) 1-108 (Image: CERN)

Contents

- **Brief introduction: exotic hadrons and femtoscopy**
- Femtoscopic correlation functions (CFs)—general features
 Recent applications
 - $P_{s0}^{*}(2317), P_{c}(4440)$ and $P_{c}(4457)$, $Z_{c}(3900)$ and $Z_{cs}(3985)$

Summary and outlook

One central theme in physics (Science)



What are the basic building blocks of NATURE?

How do they interact with one another?

The Thinker by <u>Auguste Rodin</u>

The world was once very simple

Particles discovered before 1932





Many particles observed in the 1950/60s





They cannot all be "elementary particles" !

Naive QM: hadron structure





1964



George Zweig

Beyond Naïve QM hadrons, more complicated structures allowed



Naïve quark models more or less fine until 2003

 $\Lambda(1405), N^*(1535),...$ $f_0(500), f_0(980), a_0(980), ...$

2003—the beginning of a new era

as of 2025.05.17



Many more exotic hadrons discovered



Many (if not all) of them close to thresholds—molecules



Feng-Kun Guo, Christoph Hanhart, Ulf-G. Meißner, Qian Wang, Qiang Zhao, Bing-Song Zou. Rev.Mod.Phys. 90 (2018) 015004

Richard F. Lebed, Ryan E. Mitchell, Eric S. Swanson, Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 93 (2017) 143

Atsushi Hosaka, Toru Iijima, Kenkichi Miyabayashi, Yoshihide Sakai , Shigehiro Yasui, PTEP 2016 (2016) 062C01

Hua-Xing Chen, Wei Chen, Xiang Liu Shi-Lin Zhu, Phys. Rept.639 (2016) 1

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Physics Reports 1108 (2025) 1-108



Three ways to decipher the nature of exotic hadrons: Multiplets, three-body hadronic molecules, and correlation functions

Ming-Zhu Liu ^{a,b}, Ya-Wen Pan ^c, Zhi-Wei Liu ^c, Tian-Wei Wu ^d, Jun-Xu Lu ^c, Li-Sheng Geng ^{c,e,f,g,h,*}

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How to check the molecular picture?

Directly measure two-hadron interactions. Check whether they can form molecules.

New probe—femtoscopic correlation functions

□ For stable hadrons, scattering experiments are extremely valuable in

extracting their interactions





Ernest Rutherford Rutherford Scattering Experiment



- NN scattering, 8125 data
- Foundation of highprecision nuclear force

□ For unstable particles, direct scattering experiments are impossible!

- Difficult to get large
 quantity of beam particles
- No fixed targets available

$\Lambda p ightarrow \Lambda p$	$\Sigma^- p ightarrow \Lambda n$	$\Sigma^+p o \Sigma^+p$	$\Sigma^- p o \Sigma^- p$	$\Sigma^- p o \Sigma^0 n$
12	6	4	7	6

- Hyperon-nucleon low energy scattering, 35 data
- Hindering hyper-nuclear physics and neutron star studies

New probe—femtoscopic correlation functions





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- > Double J/Ψ

Ber Summary and outlook

Abundant particles produced in AA, pA, and pp collisions



Femtoscopic correlation functions (CFs) $C(p_1, p_2) = \frac{P(p_1, p_2)}{P(p_1) \cdot P(p_2)}$

$$\int \frac{1}{10^{10} \text{ fr}^2} \int \frac{1}{10^{10} \text{ f$$

Exp. measurement
mixed-event techniqueTheo. description
Koonin-Pratt formulaBasic Properties
$$C(k) = \xi(k) \frac{N_{same}(k)}{N_{mixed}(k)}$$
 $C(k) = \int S_{12}(r) |\psi(k, r)|^2 dr$
final-state interactions
quantum statistics effects
coupled-channel effects $Basic Properties$ Nmixed: the mixed event distributions
 k : the corrections for experimental effects $C(k) = \int S_{12}(r) |\psi(k, r)|^2 dr$
quantum statistics effects
coupled-channel effects $C(k) = \int S_{12}(r) |\psi(k, r)|^2 dr$
final-state interactions
quantum statistics effects $C(k) = \int S_{12}(r) |\psi(k, r)|^2 dr$
 $< 1 if the interaction is attractive $< 1 if the interaction is repulsive$$

Femtoscopic correlation functions (CFs)

Koonin–Pratt (KP) formula

S. E. Koonin, Phys. Lett. B **70** (1) (1977) 43 *A. Ohnishi, Nucl. Phys. A* **954** (2016) 294

 $\rangle + G'I' |\phi\rangle$

$$C(k) = \int S_{12}(r) |\Psi(r, k)|^2 dr$$

Only S-waves $C(k) \simeq 1 + \int_0^\infty 4\pi r^2 dr S_{12}(r) [|\psi_0(r, k)|^2 - |j_0(kr)|^2]$

Common static and spherical Gaussian source

 $S_{12}(r) = \exp[-r^2/(4R^2)]/(2\sqrt{\pi}R)^3$

- Scattering wave function
 - the Schrödinger equation

• the Lippmann-Schwinger equation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\nabla^2\psi + V\psi = E\psi \qquad \qquad T = V + VGT \implies |\psi\rangle = |\phi\rangle$$

Constraining the source function

Using the well-known proton-proton interaction to calibrate the source

$$C(k^*) = \int S\left(\vec{r}^*\right) \left| \psi\left(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*\right) \right|^2 d^3 \vec{r}^*$$

> For CFs involving short-lived resonances $(c\tau \sim 1 \text{ fm})$ —Resonance Source Model





Constraining the source function



Lingxiao Wang and Jiaxing Zhao, 2411.16343

Classification of hadron-hadron interactions



CFs in the presence of bound states



Zhi-Wei Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and **LSG***, PRD 107, 074019 (2023)

CFs in the presence of resonant and virtual states



Zhi-Wei Liu, Ming-Zhu Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and LSG*, 2404.18607



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Summary and outlook

Basic philosophy





Experiments measure the correlation functions

Mysterious exotic hadron $D_{s0}^{*}(2317)$



> 160 MeV lower than the quark model predictions – difficult to understand as a conventional charm-strange meson

It could be a DK bound state

- ✓ E. E. Kolomeitsev 2004
- ✓ F. K. Guo 2006
- ✓ D. Gamermann 2007



Weinberg-Tomozawa Interaction (leading order)

□ LO interaction between a NGB and a heavy pseudoscalar boson

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{4f_{\pi}^{2}} \Big(\partial^{\mu} P[\Phi, \partial_{\mu} \Phi] P^{\dagger} - P[\Phi, \partial_{\mu} \Phi] \partial^{\mu} P^{\dagger} \Big) \\ \Phi &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \pi^{0} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \eta & \pi^{+} & K^{+} \\ \pi^{-} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \pi^{0} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \eta & K^{0} \\ K^{-} & \bar{K}^{0} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \eta \end{pmatrix} \\ P &= \begin{pmatrix} D^{0}, D^{+}, D_{s}^{+} \end{pmatrix} \end{split}$$



□ Weinberg-Tomozawa (WT) potential – parameter free

$$V_{\nu'\nu} = \frac{C_{\nu'\nu}}{4f_0^2} \left[(p_1 + p_2)^2 - (p_1 - p_4) \right] \qquad p_{1(3)} = (E_{1(3)}, \boldsymbol{p^{(\prime)}}), \quad p_{2(4)} = (\sqrt{s} - E_{1(3)}, -\boldsymbol{p^{(\prime)}})$$

Scattering wave function

□ Coupled-channel scat. eq.

$$T_{\nu'\nu}(k',k) = V_{\nu'\nu} \cdot f_{\Lambda_F}(k',k) + \sum_{\nu''} \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}k''k''^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{V_{\nu'\nu''} \cdot f_{\Lambda_F}(k',k'') \cdot T_{\nu''\nu}(k'',k)}{E_{P,\nu''}E_{\Phi,\nu''}(\sqrt{s} - E_{P,\nu''} - E_{\Phi,\nu''} + i\epsilon)}$$

$$f_{\Lambda_F}(k',k) = \exp\left[-\left(\frac{k'}{\Lambda_F}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{k}{\Lambda_F}\right)^2\right] \quad M_{D_{s0}^*} = 2317.8 \text{ MeV} \longrightarrow \Lambda_F = 1107 \text{ MeV}$$

□ S-wave scattering wave function (including off-shell effect)

$$\psi_{\nu'\nu}(k,r) = \delta_{\nu'\nu} j_0(kr) + \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}k'k'^2}{8\pi^2} \frac{T_{\nu'\nu}(k',k) \cdot j_0(k'r)}{E_{P,\nu'}E_{\Phi,\nu'}(\sqrt{s} - E_{P,\nu'} - E_{\Phi,\nu'} + i\epsilon)}$$

DK CFs and its source size dependence



Typical feature of deeply bound states



Zhi-Wei Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and LSG*, PRD107(2023)074019

Confirmed by two subsequent studies









Brief introduction: exotic states and femtoscopy

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Summary and outlook

Pentaquark states *P_c*(4440) & *P_c*(4457)





LHCb, PRL122 (2019) 222001



Pentaquark states • 2015 APS Highlights

They can be nicely arranged into a Σ_c^(*) D̄^(*) multiplet

M. Z. Liu, Y. W. Pan, F. Z. Peng, M. Sánchez S, LSG, A. Hosaka, M. P. Valderrama, PR122 (2019) 242001*



How to distinguish the spins of $P_c(4440)$ and $P_c(4457)$?

Light vector meson exchange interactions

□ Interactions in The hidden local symmetry approach – parameter free

$$\begin{split} V_{\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}}^{I=\frac{3}{2}} &= 2M_{\Sigma_{c}}M_{\bar{D}^{(*)}}\widetilde{\beta}_{1}\widetilde{\beta}_{2}g_{V}^{2}\left(\frac{1}{m_{\omega}^{2}} + \frac{1}{m_{\rho}^{2}}\right) \\ V_{\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}}^{I=\frac{1}{2}} &= 2M_{\Sigma_{c}}M_{\bar{D}^{(*)}}\widetilde{\beta}_{1}\widetilde{\beta}_{2}g_{V}^{2}\left(\frac{1}{m_{\omega}^{2}} - \frac{2}{m_{\rho}^{2}}\right) \\ \hline \\ Isospin basis \\ \downarrow \\ \Box_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}, I &= \frac{3}{2}, I_{3} = \frac{1}{2} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}, I &= \frac{3}{2}, I_{3} = \frac{1}{2} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}\right|\Sigma_{c}^{+}\bar{D}^{(*)0} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}, I &= \frac{1}{2}, I_{3} = \frac{1}{2} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}\right|\Sigma_{c}^{+}\bar{D}^{(*)0} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)}, I &= \frac{1}{2}, I_{3} = \frac{1}{2} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}\right|\Sigma_{c}^{+}\bar{D}^{(*)0} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}\right|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^{(*)0} \\ & \left|\Sigma_{c}\bar{D}^$$

Two different spin assignments



CF for the shallow bound state is **significantly larger** than that for the deep bound

Experimental CFs – spin-averaged



Spin-averaged $\Sigma_c \overline{D}^*$ CFs



Zhi-Wei Liu, Ming-Zhu Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and LSG*, PRD108(2023)L031503



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Summary and outlook

Tetraquark states *Z_c*(3900) & *Z_{cs}*(3985)



Z_c(3900) & Z_{cs}(3985): Resonant VS Virtual states Particle Data Group, PTEP 2022 (2022) 083C01 M.-L. Du, M. Albaladejo, F.-K. Guo and J. Nieves, PRD 105 (2022) 074018 T. Ji, X.-K. Dong, M. Albaladejo, M.-L. Du, F.-K. Guo and J. Nieves, PRD106 (2022) 094002 L.-W. Yan, Z.-H. Guo, F.-K. Guo, D.-L. Yao and Z.-Y. Zhou, PRD109 (2024) 014026

Invariant mass distributions fail to distinguish vir. or res.

Virtual state scenario

Resonant state scenario



M.-L. Du, M. Albaladejo, F.-K. Guo, and J. Nieves, PRD105(2022)074018

Data are compatible with either a resonant or virtual state.

How to tell which is reality?

General potential from EFTs

□ Interaction between heavy pseudoscalar bosons

- $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{k^2}, \qquad \mathbf{k} = \sqrt{[\mathbf{s} (\mathbf{m_1} + \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{2})^2][\mathbf{s} (\mathbf{m_1} \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{2})^2]}/2\sqrt{\mathbf{s}}$
- \succ energy-dependent potential \rightarrow resonant state
- ➤ contact-range potential —→ bound or virtual state



□ Scattering equation – unitarity

 $T = V + VGT \iff T = V$

$$T = V + V + G + V + G + G + G + V + \cdots$$

Loop function G with cutoff regularization

$$\mathbf{G}(\sqrt{s}) = \int_{0}^{|\boldsymbol{q}| < \mathbf{q}_{\max}} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}\mathbf{k}'}{(2\pi)^{3}} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{1}(\mathbf{k}') + \mathbf{E}_{2}(\mathbf{k}')}{2\mathbf{E}_{1}(\mathbf{k}')\mathbf{E}_{2}(\mathbf{k}')} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}^{2} - [\mathbf{E}_{1}(\mathbf{k}') + \mathbf{E}_{2}(\mathbf{k}')]^{2} + \mathbf{i}\varepsilon}, \quad \mathbf{q}_{\max} \in [0.8, 1.2] \,\, \mathbf{GeV}$$

Interaction strengths determined by fitting to data

$Z_{c}(3900) = \frac{\text{Res. [95]}}{\text{Vir. [27]}} \frac{3887.1}{3796} \frac{28.4}{0} \frac{D^{0}D^{*-}(3875.1)}{D^{0}D^{*-}(3875.1)} -101.6$	
Vir. [27] 3796 0 $D^0 D^{*-}$ (3875.1) -87.3	8 -1380.60
	6 0
Res. [95] 3988 13 $D^0 D_s^{*-}$ (3977.04) -84.1	7 -2894.16
Vir. [27] 3967 0 $D^0 D_s^{*-}$ (3977.04) -130.2	1 0

[95] Particle Data Group, PTEP 2022,(2022)083C01

[27] M.-L. Du, M. Albaladejo, F.-K. Guo, and J. Nieves, PRD105(2022)074018

□ Correlation functions with on-shell approximation

$$C(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{1} + \int_0^\infty 4\pi \mathbf{r^2} d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{S_{12}}(\mathbf{r}) \, \theta(\mathbf{q}_{\max} - \mathbf{k}) \left[\left| \mathbf{j_0}(\mathbf{kr}) + \mathbf{T}(\sqrt{s}) \, \widetilde{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{r}, \sqrt{s}) \right|^2 - |\mathbf{j_0}(\mathbf{kr})|^2 \right]$$

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{r},\sqrt{\mathbf{s}}) = \int_{\mathbf{0}}^{|\mathbf{q}| < \mathbf{q}_{\max}} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{\mathbf{3}}\mathbf{k}'}{(2\pi)^{\mathbf{3}}} \frac{\mathbf{E_1}(\mathbf{k}') + \mathbf{E_2}(\mathbf{k}')}{\mathbf{2E_1}(\mathbf{k}')\mathbf{E_2}(\mathbf{k}')} \frac{\mathbf{j_0}(\mathbf{k}'\mathbf{r})}{\sqrt{\mathbf{s}^2} - [\mathbf{E_1}(\mathbf{k}') + \mathbf{E_2}(\mathbf{k}')]^2 + \mathbf{i}\varepsilon}$$

$D^0 D^{*-}$ CFs for $Z_c(3900)$

Zhi-Wei Liu, Ming-Zhu Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and LSG*, <u>2404.18607</u>



 $D^0 D_s^{*-}$ CFs $Z_{cs}(3985)$

Zhi-Wei Liu, Ming-Zhu Liu, Jun-Xu Lu and LSG*, 2404.18607





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Summary and outlook

□ Femtoscopy offers high-precision tests of the strong interaction between pairs of (un)stable particles and can be valuable to decipher the nature of the many exotic hadrons discovered so far.
 ✓ D^{*}_{s0}(2317), P_c(4440) and P_c(4457), Z_c(3900)/Z_{cs}(3985)

More recent studies not covered in this talk

- ✓ J/ Ψ -N and η_c -N correlation functions with lattice QCD phaseshifts—in relation to the tetra-charm X(6200), <u>2504.04853</u>
- ✓ Deuteron-deuteron interactions in comparison with the STAT data—in relation to nuclear clusters, <u>2502.18872</u>
- ✓ J/ Ψ J/ Ψ correlation functions with EFT potential—in relation to the pentaquark states, in preparation

□ With more data from LHC Run3/4/5, more two-hadron correlations involving s, c, b quarks, and even three-particle correlations can be studied



□ Many questions remain unanswered, at least not satisfactorily

- ✓ Is the factorization of the KP formula well justified
- ✓ Can one define a universal source function
- ✓ How to study three-body correlation functions





Universal source function



2311.14527v1.



... "providing compelling evidence for the presence of a common emission source for all hadrons in small collision systems at the LHC ..."

Inverse method

One can also perform inverse studies and extract hadron-hadron interaction from the exp. CF data



Inverse problem in femtoscopic correlation functions: The Tcc(3875)+ state,

Albaladejo, Feijoo, Vidaña, Nieves, and Oset, 2307.09873

$$C_{D^{0}D^{*+}}(p_{D^{0}}) = 1 + 4\pi \,\theta(\Lambda - p_{D^{0}}) \int_{0}^{\infty} dr r^{2} S_{12}(r)$$

$$\times \left\{ \left| j_{0}(p_{D^{0}}r) + T_{11}(s)\widetilde{G}_{1}(r;s) \right|^{2} + \left| T_{12}(s)\widetilde{G}_{2}(r;s) \right|^{2} - j_{0}^{2}(p_{D^{0}}r) \right\}, \qquad (1)$$

$$C_{D^+D^{*0}}(p_{D^+}) = 1 + 4\pi \,\theta(\Lambda - p_{D^+}) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 S_{12}(r) \\ \times \left\{ \left| j_0(p_{D^+}r) + T_{22}(s)\widetilde{G}_2(r;s) \right|^2 + \left| T_{12}(s)\widetilde{G}_1(r;s) \right|^2 - j_0^2(p_{D^+}r) \right\},$$
(2)