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Regge trajectories in light and heavy mesons: the pattern of appearances and possible dynamical explanations

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We will briefly review the Regge approach to the hadron spectrum and advocate a dynamical emergence of principal quantum number in the known spectrum of light non-strange mesons. Further we show how the linear radial trajectories with universal slope can be extended to heavy quarkonia and give a qualitative string interpretation. After that we propose a novel and non-string mechanism leading to a natural appearance of linear Regge trajectories and explaining many mass relations.

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