

# Exotic meson spectroscopy from lattice QCD

“17th International Workshop on Meson Physics” – Krakow, Poland

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# Introductory remarks

- In this talk only **heavy** exotic mesons:

- tetraquarks  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ ,
- tetraquarks  $\bar{b}b\bar{q}q$ ,
- hybrid mesons  $\bar{b}b + \text{gluons}$

(light quarks  $q \in \{u, d, s\}$ ).

(possibly more about light exotic mesons in Gernot Eichmann's talk at 10:30)

- Lattice QCD = numerical QCD.

- Lattice QCD is not a model, there are no approximations.
- Results are in principle full and rigorous QCD results.
- Lattice QCD simulations can be seen as computer experiments (based on the theory QCD).
- However, the investigation of exotic mesons in lattice QCD is technically very difficult.  
→ Even though we use lattice QCD, there are quite often assumptions and simplifying approximations (as you will see during the talk) ...

# Two types of approaches

- Two types of approaches, when studying **heavy** exotic mesons with lattice QCD:
  - **Born-Oppenheimer approximation** (a 2-step procedure):
    - (1) Compute the potential  $V(r)$  of the two heavy quarks (approximated as static quarks) in the presence of two light quarks and/or gluons using lattice QCD.  
→ full QCD results
    - (2) Use standard techniques from quantum mechanics and  $V(r)$  to study the dynamics of two heavy quarks (Schrödinger equation, scattering theory, etc.).  
→ an approximation
  - **The main focus of this talk.**
  - **Full lattice QCD computations of eigenvalues of the QCD Hamiltonian:**
    - \* Masses of stable hadrons correspond to energy eigenvalues at infinite volume (comparatively easy).
    - \* Masses and decay widths of resonances can be calculated from the volume dependence of the energy eigenvalues (rather difficult).
  - **Only a few short remarks at the end, if time is left.**  
(possibly more about this approach in Daniel Mohler's talk at 13:00)

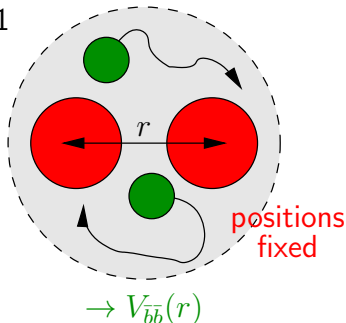
# **Part 1:**

## **Born-Oppenheimer approximation**

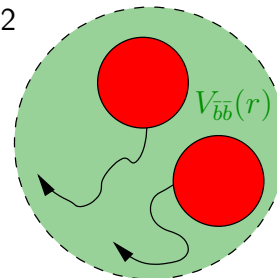
# Basic idea: lattice QCD + BO

- Start with  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ .
  - $\bar{b}\bar{b}ud$  with  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$  is the bottom counterpart of the experimentally observed  $T_{cc}$ .  
[R. Aaij *et al.* [LHCb], *Nature Phys.* **18**, 751-754 (2022) [arXiv:2109.01038]].
  - Study such  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$  tetraquarks in two steps:
    - (1) **Compute potentials of the two static quarks  $\bar{b}\bar{b}$  in the presence of two lighter quarks  $qq$  ( $q \in \{u, d, s\}$ ) using lattice QCD.**
    - (2) **Check, whether these potentials are sufficiently attractive to host bound states or resonances ( $\rightarrow$  tetraquarks) by using techniques from quantum mechanics and scattering theory.**
- (1) + (2)  $\rightarrow$  Born-Oppenheimer approximation.

step 1



step 2



# $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ / $BB$ potentials

- To determine  $\bar{b}\bar{b}$  potentials  $V_{qq,j_z,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{P}_x}(r)$ , compute temporal correlation functions

$$\langle \Omega | \mathcal{O}_{BB,\Gamma}^\dagger(t) \mathcal{O}_{BB,\Gamma}(0) | \Omega \rangle \propto_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-V_{qq,j_z,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{P}_x}(r)t}$$

of operators

$$\mathcal{O}_{BB,\Gamma} = 2N_{BB}(\mathcal{C}\Gamma)_{AB}(\mathcal{C}\tilde{\Gamma})_{CD} \left( \bar{Q}_C^a(-\mathbf{r}/2) q_A^a(-\mathbf{r}/2) \right) \left( \bar{Q}_D^b(+\mathbf{r}/2) q_B^b(+\mathbf{r}/2) \right).$$

- Many different channels: attractive as well as repulsive, different asymptotic values ...
- The most attractive potential of a  $B^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  meson pair has  $(I, |j_z|, P, P_x) = (0, 0, +, -)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} -\psi^{(f)}\psi^{(f')} &= ud - du, \Gamma \in \{(1 + \gamma_0)\gamma_5, (1 - \gamma_0)\gamma_5\}. \\ -\bar{Q}\bar{Q} &= \bar{b}\bar{b}, \tilde{\Gamma} \in \{(1 + \gamma_0)\gamma_5, (1 + \gamma_0)\gamma_j\} \text{ (irrelevant)}. \end{aligned}$$

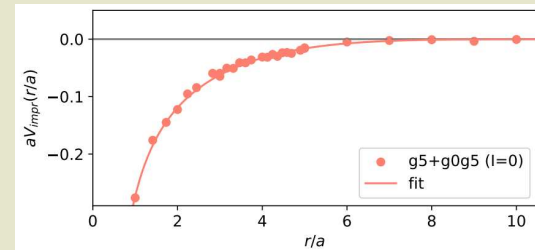
- Parameterize lattice results by

$$V_{qq,j_z,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{P}_x}(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{r}{d}\right)^p\right) + V_0$$

(1-gluon exchange at small  $r$ ; color screening at large  $r$ ).

[P. Bicudo, K. Cichy, A. Peters, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **93**, 034501 (2016) [arXiv:1510.03441]]

[L. Müller, unpublished ongoing work]



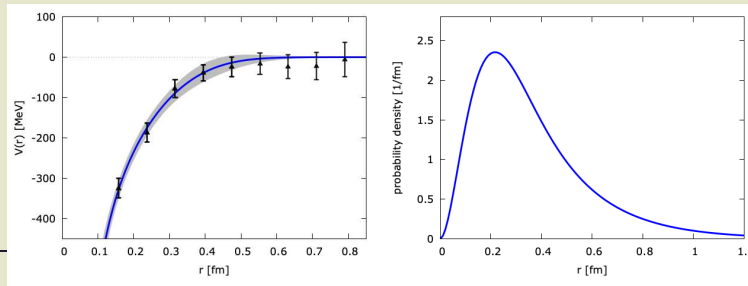
# Stable $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ tetraquarks

- Solve the Schrödinger equation for the relative coordinate of the heavy quarks  $\bar{b}\bar{b}$  using the previously computed  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$  /  $BB$  potentials,

$$\left( \frac{1}{m_b} \left( -\frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{L(L+1)}{r^2} \right) + V_{qq,jz,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{P}_x}(r) - 2m_B \right) R(r) = ER(r).$$

- Possibly existing bound states, i.e.  $E < 0$ , indicate QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$  tetraquarks.
- There is a bound state for orbital angular momentum  $L = 0$  of  $\bar{b}\bar{b}$ :
  - Binding energy  $E = -90^{+43}_{-36}$  MeV with respect to the  $BB^*$  threshold.
  - Quantum numbers:  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$ .

[P. Bicudo, M.W., Phys. Rev. D 87, 114511 (2013) [arXiv:1209.6274]]



# Further $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ results (1)

- Are there further QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$  tetraquarks with other  $I(J^P)$  and light flavor quantum numbers?
  - No, not for  $qq = ud$  (both  $I = 0, 1$ ), not for  $qq = ss$ .  
[P. Bicudo, K. Cichy, A. Peters, B. Wagenbach, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **92**, 014507 (2015) [arXiv:1505.00613]]
  - $\bar{b}\bar{b}us$  was not investigated.
  - Strong evidence from full QCD computations that a QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}us$  tetraquark exists (see part 2 of this talk).
- Effect of heavy quark spins:
  - Expected to be  $\mathcal{O}(m_{B^*} - m_B) = \mathcal{O}(45 \text{ MeV})$ .
  - Previously ignored (potentials of static quarks are independent of the heavy spins).
  - In [P. Bicudo, J. Scheunert, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **95**, 034502 (2017) [arXiv:1612.02758]] included in a crude phenomenological way via a  $BB^*$  and a  $B^*B^*$  coupled channel Schrödinger equation with the experimental mass difference  $m_{B^*} - m_B$  as input.
  - Binding energy reduced from around 90 MeV to 59 MeV.
  - Physical reason: the previously discussed attractive potential does not only correspond to a lighter  $BB^*$  pair, but has also a heavier  $B^*B^*$  contribution.



# Further $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ results (2)

- Are there  $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$  tetraquark resonances?

– In

[P. Bicudo, M. Cardoso, A. Peters,  
M. Pflaumer, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **96**,  
054510 (2017) [arXiv:1704.02383]]

resonances studied via standard  
scattering theory from quantum  
mechanics textbooks.

→ Heavy quark spins ignored.

→ Indication for  $\bar{b}\bar{b}ud$  tetraquark resonance with  $I(J^P) = 0(1^-)$  found,  $E = 17_{-4}^{+4}$  MeV  
above the  $BB$  threshold, decay width  $\Gamma = 112_{-103}^{+90}$  MeV.

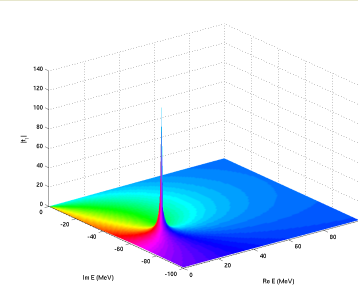
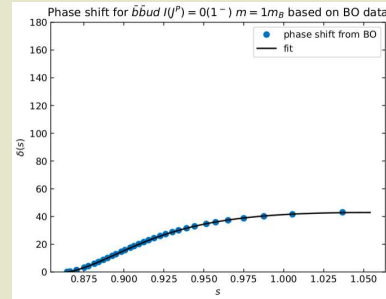
– In

[J. Hoffmann, A. Zimmermann-Santos and M.W., PoS **LATTICE2022**, 262 (2023)  
[arXiv:2211.15765]]

heavy quark spins included.

→  $\bar{b}\bar{b}ud$  resonance not anymore existent.

→ Physical reason: the relevant attractive potential does not only correspond to a lighter  
 $BB$  pair, but has also a heavier  $B^*B^*$  contribution.



# Further $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$ results (3)

- Structure of the QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}ud$  tetraquark with  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$ : meson-meson ( $BB$ ) versus diquark-antidiquark ( $Dd$ ).

- Use not just one but two operators,

$$\mathcal{O}_{BB,\Gamma} = 2N_{BB}(\mathcal{C}\Gamma)_{AB}(\mathcal{C}\tilde{\Gamma})_{CD}\left(\bar{Q}_C^a(-\mathbf{r}/2)\psi_A^{(f)a}(-\mathbf{r}/2)\right)\left(\bar{Q}_D^b(+\mathbf{r}/2)\psi_B^{(f')b}(+\mathbf{r}/2)\right)$$

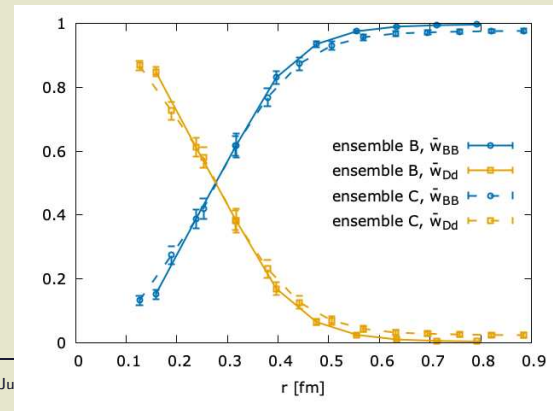
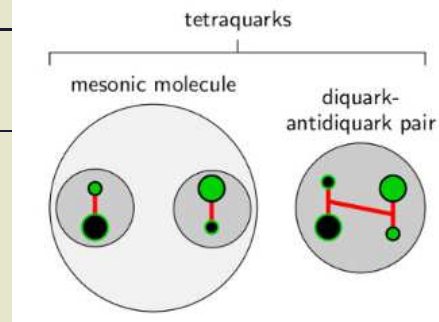
$$\mathcal{O}_{Dd,\Gamma} = -N_{Dd}\epsilon^{abc}\left(\psi_A^{(f)b}(\mathbf{z})(\mathcal{C}\Gamma)_{AB}\psi_B^{(f')c}(\mathbf{z})\right)$$

$$\epsilon^{ade}\left(\bar{Q}_C^f(-\mathbf{r}/2)U^{fd}(-\mathbf{r}/2;\mathbf{z})(\mathcal{C}\tilde{\Gamma})_{CD}\bar{Q}_D^g(+\mathbf{r}/2)U^{ge}(+\mathbf{r}/2;\mathbf{z})\right),$$

compare the contribution of each operator to the  $\bar{b}\bar{b}$  potential  $V_{qq,jz,\mathcal{P},\mathcal{P}_x}(r)$ .

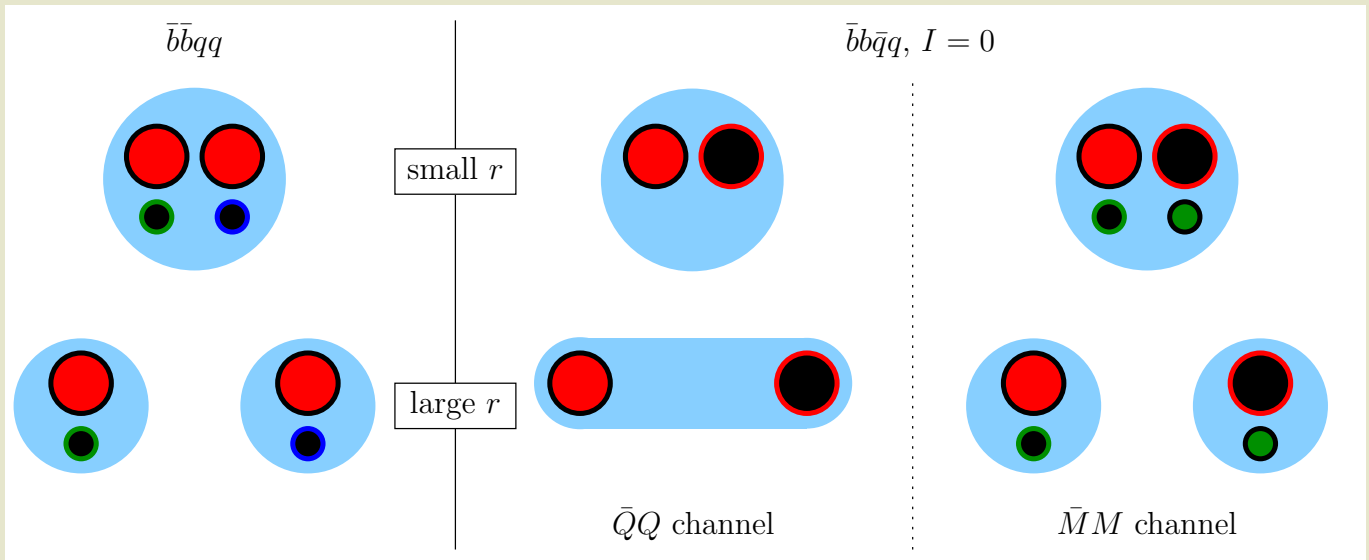
[P. Bicudo, A. Peters, S. Veltens, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **103**, 114506 (2021) [arXiv:2101.00723]]

- $r \lesssim 0.2$  fm: Clear diquark-antidiquark dominance.
- $0.5$  fm  $\lesssim r$ : Essentially a meson-meson system.
- Integrate over  $t$  to estimate the composition of the tetraquark:  $\%BB \approx 60\%$ ,  $\%Dd \approx 40\%$ .



# Bottomonium, $I = 0$ : difference to $\bar{b}\bar{b}qq$

- Now **bottomonium** with  $I = 0$ , i.e.  $\bar{b}b$  and/or  $\bar{b}b\bar{q}q$  (with  $\bar{q}q = (\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d)/\sqrt{2}, \bar{s}s$ ).
- Technically **more complicated** than  $\bar{b}b\bar{q}q$ , **because there are two channels**:
  - Quarkonium channel,  $\bar{Q}Q$  (with  $Q \equiv b$ ).
  - Heavy-light meson-meson channel,  $\bar{M}M$  (with  $M = \bar{Q}q$ ), “string breaking”.



# Bottomonium, $I = 0$ : ...

- Lattice computation of **potentials for both channels** ( $\bar{Q}Q$  and  $\bar{M}M$ ) needed, **additionally** also a mixing potential:

- Pioneering work:

[G. S. Bali *et al.* [SESAM Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D **71**, 114513 (2005) [hep-lat/0505012]]

**Rather heavy  $u/d$  quark masses ( $m_\pi \approx 650$  MeV), only 2 flavors, not  $2 + 1$ .**

- More recent work:

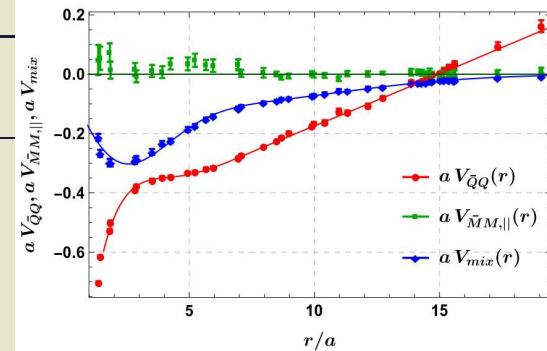
[J. Bulava, B. Hörz, F. Knechtli, V. Koch, G. Moir, C. Morningstar and M. Peardon, Phys. Lett. B **793**, 493-498 (2019) [arXiv:1902.04006]]

**Unfortunately, mixing potential not computed.**

- Several assumptions needed to adapt the “Bali results” to  $2 + 1$  flavors and physical quark masses.

→ Potential for a coupled channel Schrödinger equation (see next slide):

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} V_{\bar{Q}Q}(r) & V_{\text{mix}}(r)(1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_r) & (1/\sqrt{2})V_{\text{mix}}(r)(1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_r) \\ V_{\text{mix}}(r)(1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_r) & V_{\bar{M}M}(r) & 0 \\ (1/\sqrt{2})V_{\text{mix}}(r)(1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_r) & 0 & V_{\bar{M}M}(r) \end{pmatrix}.$$



# Bottomonium, $I = 0$ : SE

- Schrödinger equation non-trivial:

- 3 coupled channels,  $\bar{b}b$ ,  $BB$  (3 components),  $B_s B_s$  (3 components).
- Static potentials used as input have other symmetries and quantum numbers than bottomonium states ( $\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon$  versus  $J^{PC}$ ).

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\mu^{-1}\left(\partial_r^2 + \frac{2}{r}\partial_r - \frac{\mathbf{L}^2}{r^2}\right) + V(\mathbf{r}) + \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{threshold}} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2m_M & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2m_{M_s} \end{pmatrix} - E \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = 0.$$

- Project to definite total angular momentum,
  - \* 7 coupled PDEs  $\rightarrow$  3 coupled ODEs for  $\tilde{J} = 0$ ,
  - \* 7 coupled PDEs  $\rightarrow$  5 coupled ODEs for  $\tilde{J} \geq 1$
 ( $\tilde{J}$ : total angular momentum excluding the heavy quark spins).
- Add scattering boundary conditions.
- Determine scattering amplitudes and T matrices from the Schrödinger equation, find poles of  $T_{\tilde{J}}$  in the complex energy plane to identify bound states and resonances.
- The components of the resulting wave functions provide the compositions of the states, i.e. the quarkonium and meson-meson percentages  $\% \bar{Q}Q$  and  $\% \bar{M}M$ .

theory				experiment			
$\bar{J}^{PC}$	$n$	$m[\text{GeV}]$	$\Gamma[\text{MeV}]$	name	$m[\text{GeV}]$	$\Gamma[\text{MeV}]$	$I^G(J^{PC})$
$0^{++}$	1	$9.618^{+10}_{-15}$	-	$\eta_b(1S)$	$9.399(2)$	$10(5)$	$0^+(0^{+-})$
				$\Upsilon_b(1S)$	$9.460(0)$	$\approx 0$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	2	$10.114^{+7}_{-11}$	-	$\eta_b(2S)_{\text{BELLE}}$	$9.999(6)$	-	$0^+(0^{+-})$
				$\Upsilon(2S)$	$10.023(0)$	$\approx 0$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	3	$10.442^{+7}_{-9}$	-	$\Upsilon(3S)$	$10.355(1)$	$\approx 0$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	4	$10.629^{+1}_{-1}$	$49.3^{+5.4}_{-3.9}$	$\Upsilon(4S)$	$10.579(1)$	$21(3)$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	5	$10.773^{+1}_{-2}$	$15.9^{+2.9}_{-4.4}$	$\Upsilon(10750)_{\text{BELLE II}}$	$10.753(7)$	$36(22)$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	6	$10.938^{+2}_{-2}$	$61.8^{+7.6}_{-8.0}$	$\Upsilon(10860)$	$10.890(3)$	$51(7)$	$0^-(1^{--})$
	7	$11.041^{+5}_{-7}$	$45.5^{+13.5}_{-8.2}$	$\Upsilon(11020)$	$10.993(1)$	$49(15)$	$0^-(1^{--})$
$1^{--}$	1	$9.930^{+43}_{-52}$	-	$\chi_{b0}(1P)$	$9.859(1)$	-	$0^+(0^{++})$
				$h_b(1P)$	$9.890(1)$	-	$?^?(1^{+-})$
				$\chi_{b1}(1P)$	$9.893(1)$	-	$0^+(1^{++})$
				$\chi_{b2}(1P)$	$9.912(1)$	-	$0^+(2^{++})$
	2	$10.315^{+29}_{-40}$	-	$\chi_{b0}(2P)$	$10.233(1)$	-	$0^+(0^{++})$
				$\chi_{b1}(2P)$	$10.255(1)$	-	$0^+(1^{++})$
				$h_b(2P)_{\text{BELLE}}$	$10.260(2)$	-	$?^?(1^{+-})$
				$\chi_{b2}(2P)$	$10.267(1)$	-	$0^+(2^{++})$
	3	$10.594^{+32}_{-28}$	-	$\chi_{b1}(3P)$	$10.512(2)$	-	$0^+(0^{++})$
	4	$10.865^{+37}_{-21}$	$67.5^{+5.1}_{-4.9}$				
	5	$10.932^{+33}_{-54}$	$101.8^{+7.3}_{-5.1}$				
	6	$11.144^{+52}_{-75}$	$25.0^{+1.1}_{-1.3}$				
$2^{++}$	1	$10.181^{+35}_{-46}$	-	$\Upsilon(1D)$	$10.164(2)$	-	$0^-(2^{--})$
	2	$10.486^{+32}_{-36}$	-				
	3	$10.799^{+2}_{-2}$	$13.0^{+2.1}_{-2.0}$				
	4	$11.038^{+30}_{-44}$	$40.8^{+2.0}_{-2.8}$				
$3^{--}$	1	$10.390^{+28}_{-39}$	-				
	2	$10.639^{+31}_{-25}$	$2.4^{+1.5}_{-0.9}$				
	3	$10.944^{+20}_{-29}$	$46.8^{+4.6}_{-6.2}$				
	4	$11.174^{+51}_{-69}$	$1.9^{+2.1}_{-1.4}$				

# Bottomonium, $I = 0$ : results

- Results for masses of bound states and resonances consistent with experimentally observed states within expected errors.
- Errors might be large:
  - Lattice QCD results for the potentials computed with unphysically heavy  $u/d$  quarks.
  - Heavy quark spin effects and corrections due to the finite  $b$  quark mass not included.
- Several bound states in the sectors  $\tilde{J} = 0, 1, 2$  with clear experimental counterparts.
- Two resonance candidates for  $\Upsilon(10753)$  recently found by Belle:
  - $S$  wave state,  $\tilde{J} = 0$ ,  $n = 5$  ( $\% \bar{Q}Q \approx 24$ ,  $\% \bar{M}M \approx 76$ ).
  - $D$  wave state,  $\tilde{J} = 2$ ,  $n = 3$  ( $\% \bar{Q}Q \approx 21$ ,  $\% \bar{M}M \approx 79$ ).
- $\Upsilon(10860)$  confirmed as an  $S$  wave state,  $\tilde{J} = 0$ ,  $n = 6$  ( $\% \bar{Q}Q \approx 35$ ,  $\% \bar{M}M \approx 65$ ).  
[P. Bicudo, M. Cardoso, N. Cardoso, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **101**, 034503 (2020) [arXiv:1910.04827]]  
[P. Bicudo, N. Cardoso, L. Müller, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **103**, 074507 (2021) [arXiv:2008.05605]]  
[P. Bicudo, N. Cardoso, L. Müller, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **107**, 094515 (2023) [arXiv:2205.11475]]

# Bottomonium, $I = 0$ : $1/m_Q$ corrections

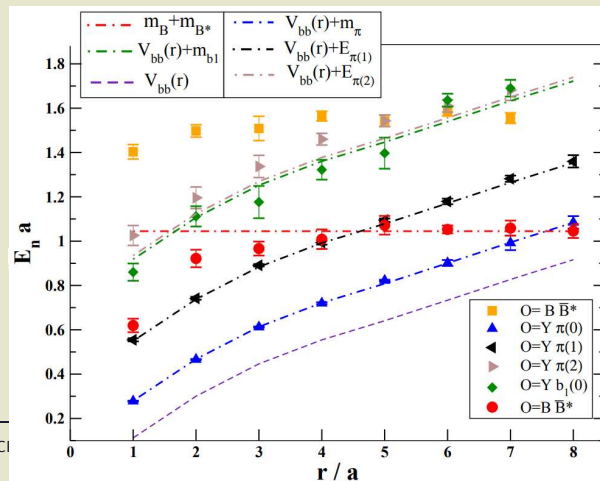
- Potentials of static quarks are independent of the heavy spins.  
→ Systematic errors are possibly large,  $\mathcal{O}(m_{B^*} - m_B) = \mathcal{O}(45 \text{ MeV})$ .
- Such spin effects and further corrections due to the finite  $b$  quark mass can be expressed order by order in  $1/m_b$ .  
[\[E. Eichten and F. Feinberg, Phys. Rev. D \*\*23\*\*, 2724 \(1981\)\]](#)  
[\[N. Brambilla, A. Pineda, J. Soto and A. Vairo, Phys. Rev. D \*\*63\*\*, 014023 \(2001\) \[arXiv:hep-ph/0002250\]\]](#)
- The corresponding correlation functions are Wilson loops with field strength insertions.
- Computations in pure SU(3) lattice gauge theory (no light quarks) up to order  $1/m_Q^2$  in  
[\[Y. Koma and M. Koma, Nucl. Phys. B \*\*769\*\*, 79-107 \(2007\) \[arXiv:hep-lat/0609078\]\]](#)
- $1/m_Q$  and  $1/m_Q^2$  corrections used to predict low lying (stable) bottomonium states with 1st order stationary perturbation theory.  
[\[Y. Koma and M. Koma, PoS \*\*LATTICE2012\*\*, 140 \(2012\) \[arXiv:1211.6795 \[hep-lat\]\]](#)  
→ Improvements, but still no satisfactory agreement with experimental results.
- Ongoing efforts
  - to compute these  $1/m_Q$  and  $1/m_Q^2$  corrections more precisely using gradient flow,
  - to replace perturbation theory by a non-perturbative coupled channel SE.



# Bottomonium, $I = 1$ : potentials

- Now bottomonium with  $I = 1$ ,  $\bar{b}b\bar{q}q$ .
- Bottomonium with  $I = 1$  includes the experimentally observed  $Z_b$  tetraquarks.
- Technically even more complicated than bottomonium with  $I = 0$ , because the relevant  $\bar{B}^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  channel does not correspond to the ground state, but to an excited state.
  - Ordinary bottomonium  $\Upsilon \equiv \bar{b}b$  and a pion (possibly with non-vanishing momentum) have the same quantum numbers, but lower energies.
  - In lattice QCD you can compute the energy of an excited state, but only if you also compute all energy levels below.
- The relevant low-lying potentials were recently computed for the first time.
 

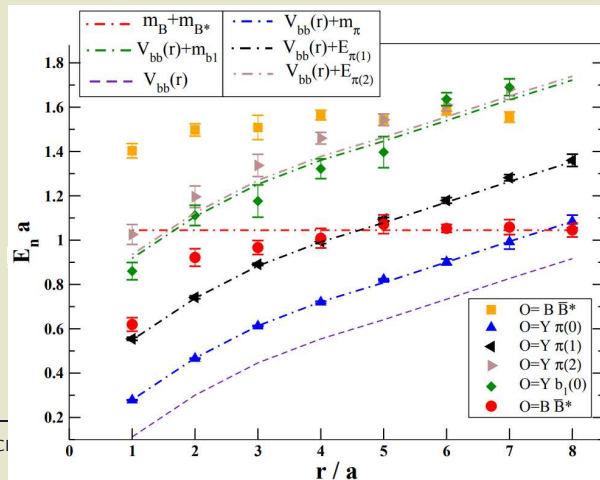
[S. Prelovsek, H. Bahtiyar, J. Petkovic, Phys. Lett. B **805**, 135467 (2020) [arXiv:1912.02656]]
- The relevant  $\bar{B}^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  potential is represented by the red points.
- For small separations it corresponds to the 2nd excited state ( $\Upsilon + \pi$  at rest [blue] and with 1 quantum of momentum [black] are below).



# Bottomonium, $I = 1$ : BO results

- Single-channel Schrödinger equation with the computed  $\bar{B}^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  potential:
  - There seems to be a bound state close to the  $\bar{B}^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  threshold, binding energy  $E = -48_{-108}^{+41}$  MeV.
  - Probably related to  $Z_b(10610)$  and  $Z_b(10650)$ .
  - A very interesting and impressive result.
- [S. Prelovsek, H. Bahtiyar, J. Petkovic, Phys. Lett. B **805**, 135467 (2020) [arXiv:1912.02656]]
- However, possibly large systematic errors:
  - Heavy spin effects and corrections due to the finite  $b$  quark mass neglected.
  - No coupling of the  $\bar{B}^{(*)}B^{(*)}$  channel to the other channels, in particular  $\Upsilon + \pi$ .
- 3 related four-quark sectors with quantum numbers differing in parity and charge conjugation do not show any sign of a bound state.

[M. Sadl, S. Prelovsek, Phys. Rev. D **104**, 114503 (2021) [arXiv:2109.08560]]

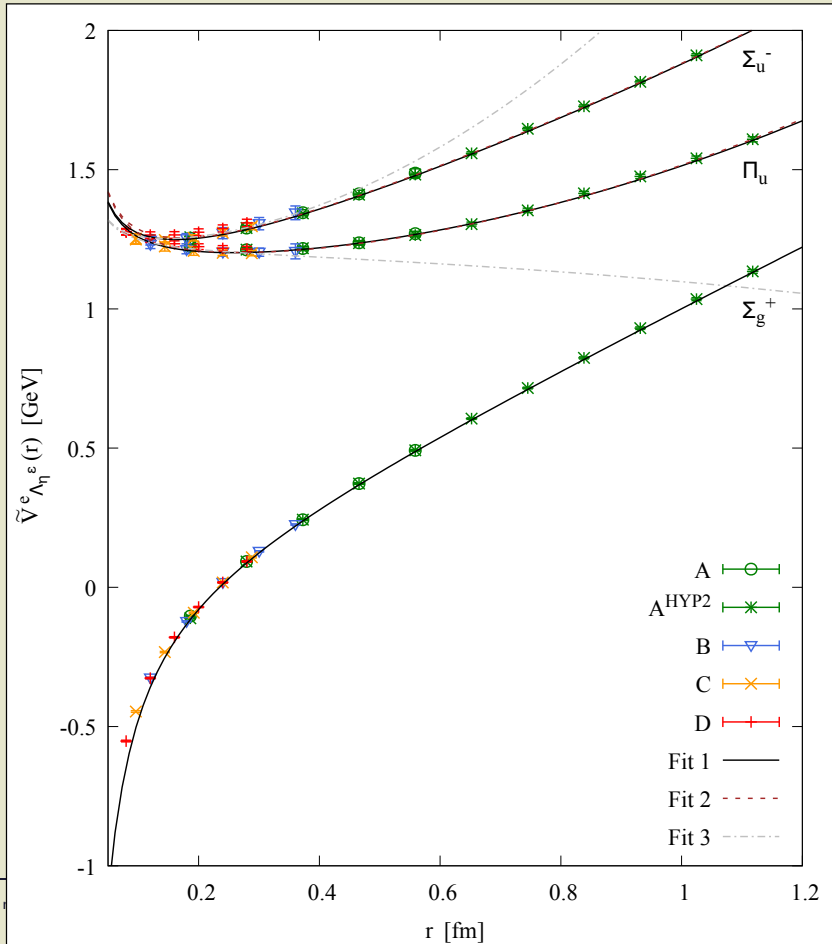


# Heavy hybrid mesons: potentials (1)

- Now heavy hybrid mesons, i.e.  $\bar{b}b$  + gluons.
- (Hybrid) static potentials can be characterized by the following quantum numbers:
  - Absolute total angular momentum with respect to the  $\bar{Q}Q$  separation axis ( $z$  axis):  
 $\Lambda = 0, 1, 2, \dots \equiv \Sigma, \Pi, \Delta, \dots$
  - Parity combined with charge conjugation:  $\eta = +, - = g, u$ .
  - Reflection along an axis perpendicular to the  $\bar{Q}Q$  separation axis ( $x$  axis):  $\epsilon = +, -$ .
- The ordinary static potential has quantum numbers  $\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon = \Sigma_g^+$ .
- Particularly interesting: the two lowest hybrid static potentials with  $\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon = \Pi_u, \Sigma_u^-$ .
- References:
  - [K. J. Juge, J. Kuti, C. J. Morningstar, Nucl. Phys. Proc. Suppl. **63**, 326 (1998) [hep-lat/9709131]
  - [C. Michael, Nucl. Phys. A **655**, 12 (1999) [hep-ph/9810415]
  - [G. S. Bali *et al.* [SESAM and T $\chi$ L Collaborations], Phys. Rev. D **62**, 054503 (2000) [hep-lat/0003012]
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  - [C. Michael, Int. Rev. Nucl. Phys. **9**, 103 (2004) [hep-lat/0302001]
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  - [P. Bicudo, N. Cardoso, M. Cardoso, Phys. Rev. D **98**, 114507 (2018) [arXiv:1808.08815 [hep-lat]]]
  - [S. Capitani, O. Philipsen, C. Reisinger, C. Riehl. M.W., Phys. Rev. D **99**, 034502 (2019) [arXiv:1811.11046 [hep-lat]]]

# Heavy hybrid mesons: potentials (2)

- [C. Schlosser, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **105**, 054503 (2022) [arXiv:2111.00741]]



# Heavy hybrid mesons: SE

- Solve Schrödinger equations for the relative coordinate of  $\bar{b}b$  using hybrid static potentials,

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{L(L+1) - 2\Lambda^2 + J_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}(J_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon} + 1)}{2\mu r^2} + V_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}(r) \right) u_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon; L, n}(r) = E_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon; L, n} u_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon; L, n}(r).$$

Energy eigenvalues  $E_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon; L, n}$  correspond to masses of  $\bar{b}b$  hybrid mesons.

[E. Braaten, C. Langmack, D. H. Smith, Phys. Rev. D **90**, 014044 (2014) [arXiv:1402.0438]]

[M. Berwein, N. Brambilla, J. Tarrus Castella, A. Vairo, Phys. Rev. D **92**, 114019 (2015)  
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- Important recent and ongoing work to include heavy spin and  $1/m_b$  corrections.

[N. Brambilla, G. Krein, J. Tarrus Castella, A. Vairo, Phys. Rev. D **97**, 016016 (2018)  
[arXiv:1707.09647]]

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[arXiv:1805.07713]]

# Hybrid flux tubes (1)

- We are interested in

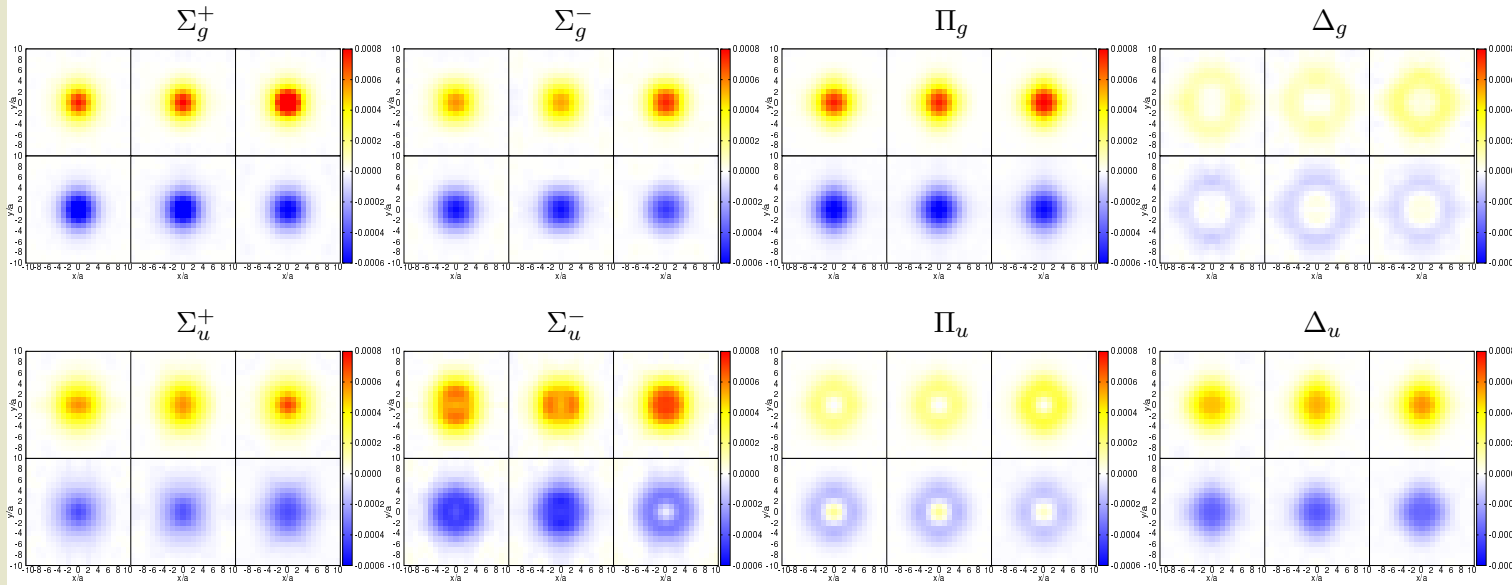
$$\Delta F_{\mu\nu, \Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}^2(r; \mathbf{x}) = \langle 0_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}(r) | F_{\mu\nu}^2(\mathbf{x}) | 0_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}(r) \rangle - \langle \Omega | F_{\mu\nu}^2 | \Omega \rangle.$$

- $F_{\mu\nu}^2(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $F_{\mu\nu}^2$ : squared chromoelectric/chromomagnetic field strength.
  - $|0_{\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}(r)\rangle$ : “hybrid static potential (ground) state” ( $r$  denotes the  $\bar{Q}Q$  separation).
  - $|\Omega\rangle$ : vacuum state.
- The sum over the six independent  $\Delta F_{\mu\nu, \Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}^2(r; \mathbf{x})$  is proportional to the chromoelectric and -magnetic energy density of hybrid flux tubes.

# Hybrid flux tubes (2)

- $\Delta F_{\mu\nu, \Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}^2(r; \mathbf{x})$ , SU(2), mediator plane ( $x$ - $y$  plane with  $Q, \bar{Q}$  at  $(0, 0, \pm r/2)$ ),  $r \approx 0.8$  fm.  
[L. Müller, O. Philipsen, C. Reisinger, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **100**, 054503 (2019) [arXiv:1907.014820]]
- For results for  $\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon = \Sigma_g^+, \Sigma_u^+, \Pi_u$  see also  
[P. Bicudo, N. Cardoso and M. Cardoso, Phys. Rev. D **98**, 114507 (2018) [arXiv:1808.08815]]

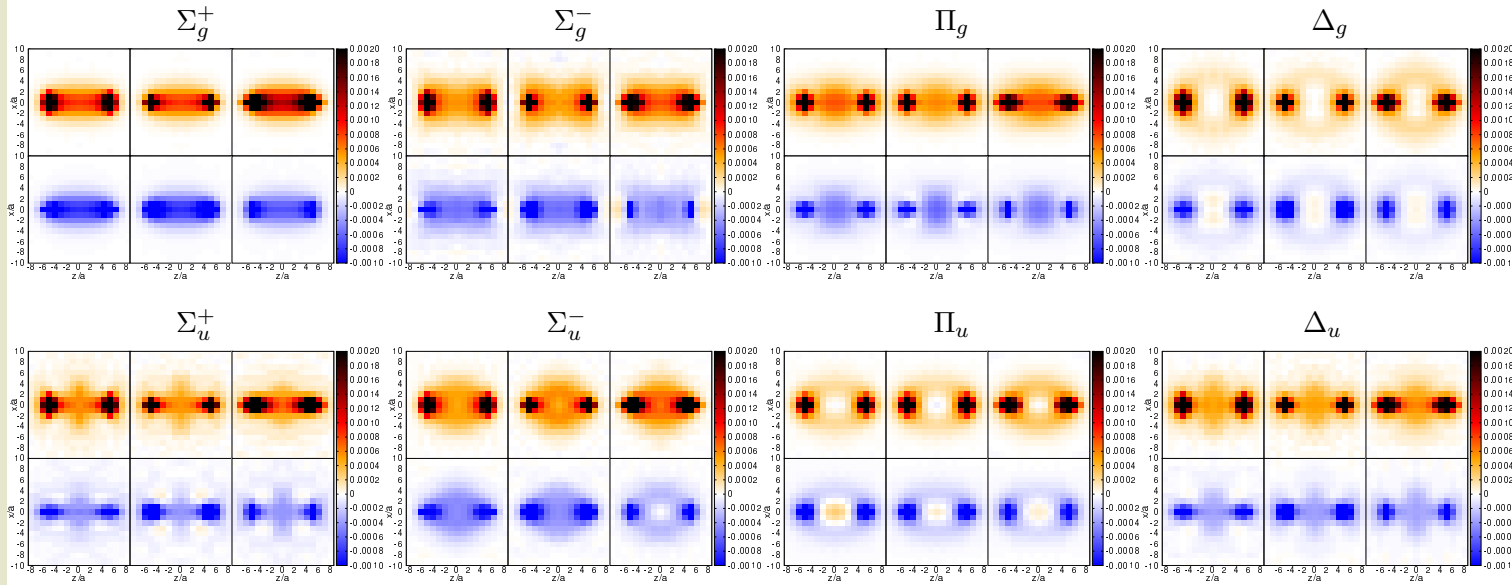
$\Delta E_x^2$	$\Delta E_y^2$	$\Delta E_z^2$
$\Delta B_x^2$	$\Delta B_y^2$	$\Delta B_z^2$



# Hybrid flux tubes (3)

- $\Delta F_{\mu\nu, \Lambda_\eta^\epsilon}^2(r; \mathbf{x})$ ,  $SU(2)$ , separation plane ( $x$ - $z$  plane with  $Q, \bar{Q}$  at  $(0, 0, \pm r/2)$ ),  $r \approx 0.8$  fm.  
[L. Müller, O. Philipsen, C. Reisinger, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **100**, 054503 (2019) [arXiv:1907.014820]]
- For results for  $\Lambda_\eta^\epsilon = \Sigma_g^+, \Sigma_u^+, \Pi_u$  see also  
[P. Bicudo, N. Cardoso and M. Cardoso, Phys. Rev. D **98**, 114507 (2018) [arXiv:1808.08815]]

$\frac{\Delta E_x^2}{\Delta B_x^2}$	$\frac{\Delta E_y^2}{\Delta B_y^2}$	$\frac{\Delta E_z^2}{\Delta B_z^2}$
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**Part 2:**  
**Full lattice QCD computations of  
eigenvalues of the QCD Hamiltonian**

# Full lattice QCD computations

- Do not treat the heavy  $b$  or  $c$  quarks as static.
- Do not separate the computations for heavy and for light quarks, i.e. no potentials.
- Compute eigenvalues of the QCD Hamiltonian at finite spatial volume.
- For QCD-stable states that might already be sufficient.
- For resonances:
  - Relate finite volume energy levels to infinite volume scattering phases (or equivalently scattering amplitudes).
  - Fit an ansatz for the scattering amplitude to the few data points from the previous step.
  - Find poles in the complex energy plane.

$$\bar{b}\bar{b}ud, I(J^P) = 0(1^+) \text{ and } \bar{b}\bar{b}us, J^P = 1^+$$

- QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}ud$  tetraquark,  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$ ,  $\approx 130$  MeV below the  $BB^*$  threshold.
- QCD-stable  $\bar{b}\bar{b}us$  tetraquark,  $J^P = 1^+$ ,  $\approx 90$  MeV below the  $BB_s^*$  threshold.

- Lattice QCD results from independent groups consistent within statistical errors.

[A. Francis, R. J. Hudspith, R. Lewis, K. Maltman, Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 142001 (2017)  
[arXiv:1607.05214]] ( $\bar{b}bud$ ,  $\bar{b}bus$ )

[P. Junnarkar, N. Mathur, M. Padmanath, Phys. Rev. D **99**, 034507 (2019) [arXiv:1810.12285]] ( $\bar{b}bud$ ,  
 $\bar{b}bus$ )

[L. Leskovec, S. Meinel, M. Pflaumer, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **100**, 014503 (2019) [arXiv:1904.04197]]  
( $\bar{b}bud$ )

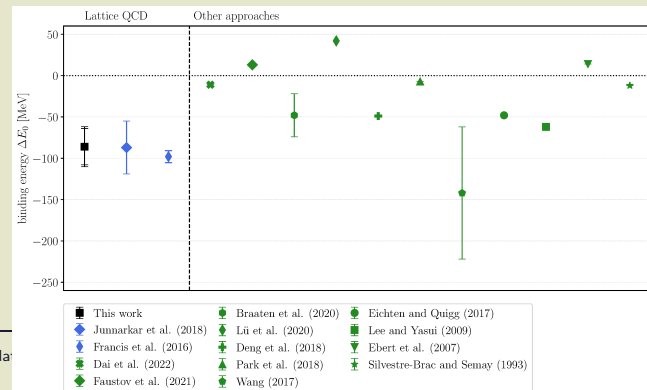
[P. Mohanta, S. Basak, Phys. Rev. D **102**, 094516 (2020) [arXiv:2008.11146]] ( $\bar{b}bud$ )

[S. Meinel, M. Pflaumer, M.W., Phys. Rev. D **106**, 034507 (2022) [arXiv:2205.13982]] ( $\bar{b}bus$ )

[R. J. Hudspith, D. Mohler, Phys. Rev. D **107**, 114510 (2023) [arXiv:2303.17295]] ( $\bar{b}bud$ ,  $\bar{b}bus$ )

[T. Aoki, S. Aoki, T. Inoue, [arXiv:2306.03565]] ( $\bar{b}bud$ )

- Strong discrepancies between non-lattice QCD results.



# Conclusions

- Significant progress and interesting lattice QCD results in the past  $\approx 10$  years on heavy exotic mesons ... but still a lot to do and several problems to solve.
- This talk: focus on heavy exotics with two bottom (anti)quarks in the Born-Oppenheimer approximation.
  - Lattice QCD used to compute  $bb$  and  $\bar{b}b$  potentials in QCD.
  - Majority of presented results obtained with static  $b$  quarks.
    - Crude, errors of order  $\mathcal{O}(m_{B^*} - m_B) = \mathcal{O}(45 \text{ MeV})$  expected.
  - The computation of potentials provides interesting insights, e.g. composition of exotic mesons or hybrid flux tubes.
  - For solid quantitative results heavy spin and finite  $b$  quark mass corrections needed (ongoing work, challenge for the near future).
- Full lattice QCD computations, i.e. not Born-Oppenheimer: mostly studies of  $\bar{Q}\bar{Q}qq$ .
- At the moment quantitatively reliable results only for two systems, the QCD-stable tetraquarks  $\bar{b}bud$  with  $I(J^P) = 0(1^+)$  and  $\bar{b}bus$  with  $J^P = 1^+$ .