X and $Z_{cs}$ in $B^{+} \to J/\psi \phi K^+$ as $s$-wave threshold cusps and alternative spin-parity assignments to $X(4274)$ and $X(4500)$

Xuan Luo\textsuperscript{1} and Satoshi X. Nakamura\textsuperscript{2,3}\textsuperscript{\dagger}

\textsuperscript{1}School of Physics and Optoelectronics Engineering, Anhui University, Hefei 230061, People’s Republic of China
\textsuperscript{2}University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei 230026, People’s Republic of China
\textsuperscript{3}State Key Laboratory of Particle Detection and Electronics (IHEP-USTC), Hefei 230026, People’s Republic of China

Recent LHCb’s amplitude analysis on $B^+ \to J/\psi \phi K^+$ suggests the existence of exotic X and $Z_{cs}$ hadrons, based on an assumption that Breit-Wigner resonances describe all the peak structures. However, all the peaks and also dips in the spectra are located at relevant meson-meson thresholds where threshold kinematical cusps might cause such structures. This points to the importance of an independent amplitude analysis with due consideration of the kinematical effects, and this is what we do in this work. Our model fits well $J/\psi \phi$, $J/\psi K^+$, and $K^+ \phi$ invariant mass distributions simultaneously, demonstrating that all the X, $Z_{cs}$, and dip structures can be well described with the ordinary s-wave threshold cusps. Spin-parity of the X(4274) and X(4500) structures are respectively $0^-$ and $1^-$ from our model, as opposed to $1^+$ and $0^+$ from the LHCb’s. With all relevant threshold cusps considered, the number of fitting parameters seems to be significantly reduced. The LHCb data requires $D_s^{(*)}D^*$ scattering lengths in our model to be consistent with zero, disfavoring $D_s^{(*)}D^*$ molecule interpretations of $Z_{cs}(4000)$ and $Z_{cs}(4220)$ and, via the SU(3) relation, being consistent with previous lattice QCD results.

Introduction.— Recent experimental developments resulted in many discoveries of new hadrons that are not categorized into the conventional $qqq$ and $q\bar{q}$ structures. Countless theoretical papers followed to understand the nature of such exotic hadrons often called XYZ, thereby deepening our knowledge of QCD in the nonperturbative regime; see reviews \cite{14, 15, 16}. Hadron properties such as mass, width, and spin-parity ($J^P$) are crucial information to address the hadrons’ nature and structures, and amplitude analysis is the method to extract those information from data. However, amplitude analysis results are often neither unique nor model-independent for assumptions and simplifications that go into the analyses. It is therefore important to bring different and independent analysis results together to establish the hadron properties through critical reviews and comparisons.

The $B^+ \to J/\psi \phi K^+$ decay \cite{17} is an interesting case. Earlier analyses \cite{5, 12} fitted structures in the $J/\psi$ invariant mass ($M_{J/\psi\phi}$) distribution with Breit-Wigner amplitudes, and claimed exotic X(4140) and X(4274) without $J^P$ determinations. A first six-dimensional amplitude analysis was done by the LHCb Collaboration \cite{13} \cite{14}, and four X states with $J^P$ were reported: X(4140) and X(4274) with $J^P = 1^+$, X(4500) and X(4700) with $J^P = 0^+$. These X states were confirmed with higher statistics data recently, and $1^+X(4685)$, $2^+X(4150)$, and $1^-X(4630)$ were also added \cite{15}. Furthermore, the LHCb claimed $1^+cu\bar{c}s$ tetraquarks $Z_{cs}(4000)^+$ and $Z_{cs}(4220)^+$ appearing as bumps in the $M_{J/\psi K^+}$ distribution.

The LHCb’s analysis assumes that all bumps in the $M_{J/\psi\phi}$ and $M_{J/\psi K^+}$ distributions are caused by X and $Z_{cs}$ resonances that can be simulated by Breit-Wigner amplitudes. However, these X [$Z_{cs}$] bumps and also dips are located at $D_s^+\bar{D}_s^*(s)$, $D^*_s\bar{D}_s(s)$, and $\psi' \phi [D^*_s \bar{D}_s]$ thresholds where kinematical effects such as threshold cusps and/or triangle singularities may cause resonancelike and dip structures \cite{16}. Indeed, it has been shown that X(4140) and X(4700) can be described with $D_s^+D_s$ and $\psi' \phi$ threshold cusps, respectively \cite{14} \cite{17, 21}. While $1^+X(4274)$ [$0^+X(4500)$] at the $D_{s0}(2317)D_s$ [$D_{s1}(2536)D_s$] threshold cannot be an ordinary s-wave cusp for having different $J^P$, they might still be described with p-wave cusps enhanced by quasi double-triangle singularities \cite{21}. It is however noted that the LHCb’s $J^P$ assignments are not model-independent but influenced by their assumptions. Once possible threshold cusps not only at the peaks but also at the dips are considered in the fit, it is unclear whether the LHCb’s $J^P$ assignments remain unchanged. We address this issue.

Another issue concerns the nature of the $Z_{cs}(4000)$ and $Z_{cs}(4220)$. A similar structure, called $Z_{cs}(3985)$, was also discovered by the BESIII collaboration in $e^+e^- \to K^+(D_s^0 D^*+D_{s1}^- D^0)$ \cite{22}. While $Z_{cs}(4000)$ and $Z_{cs}(3985)$ have similar masses (4003$^{+6}_{-14}$ MeV and 3982$^{+11}_{-24}$ MeV), their widths are rather different (131$\pm$5 MeV and 12.8$^{+5.3}_{-4.4}$ MeV); the first (second) errors are statistical (systematic). $Z_{cs}(3985)$ and $Z_{cs}(4000)$ are argued to be the same $cu\bar{c}s$ tetraquark state in Refs. \cite{23, 24}. However, other works considered them to be different tetraquark states \cite{25, 28}, or different $D^*_s \bar{D}_s(s)$ molecules \cite{29, 30, 31}, or one of them is a

\footnote{1 We follow the hadron naming scheme in Ref. \cite{14}. We often denote $J/\psi$ and $\psi(2S)$ by $\psi$ and $\psi'$, respectively, for simplicity. $D_{s0}^*(2317)$ and $D_{s1}^*(2536)$ are generically denoted by $D_s^{(*)}$. The charge conjugate decays are implied throughout, and charge indices are often suppressed.}
tetraquark and the other is a molecule. \(^{33}\) \(Z_{cs}(3985)\) and \(Z_{cs}(4000)\) may also be from a common virtual pole that enhances the \(D_sD^*\) threshold cusp \(^{32}33\), as demonstrated by fitting both the LHCb’s \(M_{J/\psi K^+}\) distribution and BESIII data \(^{32}\). Also, \(J/\psi K^+\) and \(\psi'K^+\) threshold cusps could cause the \(Z_{cs}(4000)\) and \(Z_{cs}(4220)\) structures, respectively \(^{34}\).

\(Z_{cs}(3985/4000)\) may be regarded as a SU(3) partner of \(Z_{c}(3900)\) \(^{23}24\) \(^{26}30\) \(^{32}35\) \(^{36}\). Lattice QCD (LQCD) results disfavor the existence of a narrow \(Z_{c}(3900)\) pole, suggesting \(Z_{c}(3900)\) to be a kinematical effect \(^{37}31\). This implies, via the SU(3) relation, no pole for \(Z_{cs}(3985)\) and/or \(Z_{cs}(4000)\). However, consistency with the LQCD results was not considered in most previous models \(^{2}\).

In this work, we develop a model that simultaneously describes the \(J/\psi\phi\), \(J/\psi K^+\), and \(K^+\phi\) invariant mass distributions for \(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\phi K^+\) from the LHCb. We demonstrate that all the peaks \((X, Z_{cs})\) and dips in the \(M_{J/\psi\phi}\) and \(M_{J/\psi K^+}\) distributions are well described with ordinary s-wave threshold cusps from one-loop diagrams in Fig. [1] virtual poles near the thresholds are not necessary for a good fit. Our model, \(J^P\) of the cusps as well, should be well-constrained by simultaneously fitting the three invariant mass distributions. Thus, we claim \(J^P = 0^-\) and \(1^-\) for the \(X(4274)\) and \(X(4500)\) cusps, respectively, alternative to \(J^P = 1^+\) and \(0^+\) from the LHCb analysis; the different \(J^P\) assignments would be from considering different mechanisms. We will argue possible advantages of our model over the LHCb’s model. We also examine to what extent the \(D_s^{(*)}\) \(\bar{D}^*\) molecule interpretation of \(Z_{cs}(4000)\) and \(Z_{cs}(4220)\) is allowed by the LHCb data. The \(D_s^{(*)}\) \(\bar{D}^*\) scattering lengths in our model is required to be consistent with zero, disfavoring the molecule interpretation, and being consistent with the above-mentioned LQCD results.

The model.— We consider one-loop mechanisms of Fig. [1]a,b [Fig. [1]c] and their s-wave threshold cusps that generate structures in the \(M_{J/\psi\phi} [M_{J/\psi K^+}]\) distribution of \(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\phi K^+\). We also consider \(K^*_J\) excitations of Fig. [1]d that would shape the \(M_{K^+\phi}\) distribution. We assume that other possible mechanisms play a minor role, and their effects can be effectively absorbed by the considered mechanisms. We derive the corresponding amplitudes by writing down effective Lagrangians of relevant hadrons and their matrix elements, and combining them following the time-ordered perturbation theory.

The one-loop mechanisms of Fig. [1]a include s-wave pairs of

\[
D_s^{(*)}(2317)^+D_s^-(0^-), \quad D_s^*(2317)^+D_s^-(1^-),
\]

\[
D_s(2536)^+D_s^-(1^-), \quad D_s(2536)^+D_s^-(0^-),
\]

(1)

where \(J^P\) of a pair is indicated in the parenthesis; a \(J^P = 0^- (1^-)\) pair is from a parity-violating (conserving) weak decay. These mechanisms include short-range (e.g., quark-exchange) \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{(*)}\) \(\rightarrow J/\psi\phi\) interactions that would require a \(cs\) component in \(D_s^{(*)}\). \(D_s(2536)\) is considered to be a p-wave \(cs\) \(^{44}\). While \(D_s^{(*)}(2317)\) may have a dominant \(DK\)-molecule component as found by analyzing LQCD energy spectrum \(^{44}47\), a bare \(cs\) component can still be an important constituent \(^{44}\). The diagrams of Fig. [1]b include s-wave pairs of

\[
D_s^{(+)}D_s^-(1^+), \quad D_s^{+}D_s^-(0^+), \quad \psi'\phi(0^+), \quad \psi'\phi(1^+),
\]

(2)

where a \(J^P = 1^+ (0^+)\) pair is for a parity-violating (conserving) process. Since \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{(*)}\) and \(J/\psi\phi(1^+)\) have different \(C\)-parity, \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{(*)}\) does not contribute here. The diagrams of Fig. [1]c include s-wave pairs of

\[
D_s^{+}\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+), \quad D_s^+\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+),
\]

(3)

that can contribute to both parity-conserving and violating processes. While a \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+)\) one-loop mechanism is also possible, its singular behavior is similar to that of \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+)\) due to almost degenerate thresholds (~1.8 MeV difference). We thus assume that the \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+)\) one-loop amplitude implicitly absorbs the \(D_s^{(*)}\bar{D}_s^{0}(1^+)\) contribution.

In Eqs. [1]–[3], we did not exhaust all possible \(J^P\) such as \(D_{s1}(2536)^+D_{s}^{*-}(1^-,2^-)\) and \(D_s^{+}D_s^{*-}(2^+)\). While they can in principle contribute to the process, we found them unnecessary to reasonably fit the three invariant
We denote the energy, width, three-couplings, and/or -violating (pv) amplitudes or neither (−) are considered, as indicated in the square brackets.

| 0− | 1− | 1+ | 2− |
|---|---|---|---|
| K(1460) [−] | K∗(1410) [pc] | K1(1400) [−] | K2(1770) [pc] |
| K∗(1680) [pc] | K1(1650) [pc, pv] | K2(1820) [pc] |

mass distributions. We thus do not consider them and keep the number of fitting parameters smaller. Also, we do not explicitly consider charge analogous amplitudes that include, for example, $D_1^+ D_{s0}^*(2317)^−$ rather than $D_{s0}^*(2317)^− D_s^+$ in Fig. 1(a). While the charge analogous amplitudes generally have independent strengths, their singular behaviors are the same as the original ones. It is understood that their effects and projections onto positive C-parity are taken into account in coupling strengths of the considered processes.

We consider the $K_{s0}^*$-excitation mechanisms of Fig. 1(d) in Breit-Wigner forms. With the LHCb’s amplitude analysis result as reference, we consider $K_{s0}^*$ as listed in Table II. Each $K_{s0}^*$ may have parity-conserving and/or -violating $B^+ \to K_{s0} J/\psi K^+$ couplings, depending on $J^P$ of $K_{s0}^*$.

We present an amplitude formula for Fig. 1(c) with a $D_1^+ D_{s0}^*(1^+)$ pair that generates a $Z_{cs}(4000)$-like cusp; see the Supplemental Material for amplitude formulas for other mechanisms. We denote the energy, width, three-momentum and polarization vector of a particle $x$ by $E_x$, $\Gamma_x$, $\vec{p}_x$ and $\vec{\varepsilon}_x$, respectively. The particle masses and widths are taken from Ref. 1 unless otherwise stated. A parity-conserving (pc) $B^+ \to D_1^+ D_{s0}^*(1^+)$ and the subsequent $D_1^+ D_{s0}^* \to J/\psi K^+$ interaction that enter the amplitude are

$$e_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}^{pc} \varepsilon \frac{f_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}}{D_{s0}^*},$$

$$e_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}^{pc} \varepsilon \frac{f_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}}{D_{s0}^*},$$

respectively, where we introduced dipole form factors $F_{ij}^{LL}$ and $f^{ij}$; we use a common cutoff of $\Lambda = 1$ GeV in all form factors; $e_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}$ and $e_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}$ are coupling constants. With the above ingredients, the one-loop amplitude is given by

$$A_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}^{LL, pc} = e_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)} \varepsilon \frac{f_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}}{D_{s0}^*} \times \int d^3 p_{D_1} \frac{f_{D_1 f_{D_1 D_{s0}^* (1^+)}^0}}{D_{s0}^* \varepsilon \phi \omega},$$

where $\Gamma_{D_{s0}^*}$ has been neglected for being estimated to be small ($\Gamma_{D_{s0}^*} \sim 55$ keV). The $D_1^+(s^+) \to J/\psi K^+$ threshold cusp from Eq. (6) could be enhanced by virtual or bound states near the thresholds.

To implement this effect, we describe the $D_1^+(s^+) \to J/\psi K^+$ transition with a single-channel $D_1^+(s^+) \to J/\psi K^+$ scattering followed by a perturbative $D_1^+(s^+) \to J/\psi K^+$ transition. We use a $D_1^+(s^+) \to J/\psi K^+$ interaction potential of

$$v_{\alpha}(p', p) = f_0(p') h_{\alpha} f_0^*(p),$$

where $\alpha$ labels an interaction channel; $h_{\alpha}$ is a coupling constant and $f_0^*$ is a dipole form factor. We can implement the rescattering effect in Eq. (6) by multiplying $[1 - h_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha}(M_{J/\psi K^+})]^{-1}$ with

$$\sigma_{\alpha}(E) = \int dqq^2 E - E_{D_1}(q) - E_{D_{s0}^*}(q) + i\varepsilon.$$
FIG. 3. Combined fit to (a) $J/\psi \phi$, (b) $J/\psi K^+$, and (c) $\phi K^+$ invariant mass distributions for $B^+ \to J/\psi \phi K^+$. The red solid curves are from the default model. Contributions are from Fig. 1(a-c) that include $D_s^+D_s(1^+)$ [red dashed], $D_s^+D_s^*- (0^-)$ [black solid], $D_s^0(2317)^+D_s^- (0^-)$ [purple dash-dotted], $D_s^0(2317)^+D_s^0 (1^-)$ [orange solid], $D_s(2536)^+D_s^- (1^-)$ [purple solid], $D_s^0(2536)^+D_s^0 (0^-)$ [black dashed], $\psi' \phi(0^+)$ [green solid], $\psi \phi(1^+)$ [yellow solid], $D_s^+D_s^0 (1^-)$ [magenta dash-two-dotted], and $D_s^+D_s^0 (1^-)$ [blue solid]. Contributions from Fig. 1(d) are $K^*$ [cyan solid], $K_1$ [green dashed], and $K_2$ [brown dash-two-dotted]. The dotted vertical lines in (a) [(b)] indicate thresholds for, from left to right, $D_s^+D_s$, $D_s^0D_s^*$, $D_s^0(2317)D_s$, $D_s^0(2317)D_s^*$, $D_s(2536)D_s$, and $D_s(2536)D_s^*$, and $\psi' \phi$ [$D_s^+D_s^0$ and $D_s^*D_s^0$], respectively. The data are from Ref. [15].

FIG. 4. Continued from Fig. 3.

Fig. 1(c) with Eq. (3), we remove a parity-violating [con-}
interferences are important for a reasonable fit.

![FIG. 5. The $J/\psi\phi$ invariant mass distributions from the fits with different cutoff ($\Lambda$) values in the dipole form factors. The blue dashed curve is from a model where the $D_s^+(2317)$ and $D_s^+(2112)$ loop mechanisms are removed from the default model. Other features are the same as those in Fig. 3(a).](image)

![FIG. 6. The $J/\psi\phi$ invariant mass distributions from the fits with different mechanisms. The red solid curve is from the default model. The blue dashed curve is from a model where the $D_s^{\ast+}D_s^{\ast-}(0^+)$, $D_s^{\ast+}(2317)^+D_s^{\ast-}(1^-)$, and $D_s(2536)^+D_s^{\ast-}(0^-)$ loop mechanisms are removed from the default model. Other features are the same as those in Fig. 3(a).](image)

We examine if the fit is stable against changing the form factor. Instead of $\Lambda = 1000$ MeV (cutoff) in all the dipole form factors of the default model, we fit the data with $\Lambda = 750, 1250,$ and $1500$ MeV. As seen in Fig. 5, for the $M_{J/\psi\phi}$ distribution, while the sharpness of the $X(4274)$ peak is somewhat sensitive to the cutoff value, the fit is reasonably stable overall. Similarly, stable fits are also obtained for the $M_{J/\psi K^+}$ and $M_{K^{+}\phi}$ distributions. This stability is expected since the threshold cusps are caused by low-momentum components in the loop integrals, and are insensitive to how high-momentum components are cut off. We also used monopole and Gaussian form factors with $\Lambda = 1$ GeV, and confirmed that the result is very similar to the case of $\Lambda = 1250$ MeV in Fig. 5.

Our results are different from the LHCb’s in many points. First, all $X$ and $Z_{ns}$ structures are from the threshold cusps in our model, while they are from resonances of the Breit-Wigner forms in the LHCb’s. Second, $J^P$ of the $X(4274)$ and $X(4500)$ peaks are respectively $0^-$ and $1^-$ cusps in our model while $1^+$ and $0^+$ resonances in the LHCb’s. This difference in $J^P$ might be from the fact that our model creates the sharp three dips in the $M_{J/\psi\phi}$ distribution with the threshold cusps. In Fig. 6, we see that the dip regions are not well fitted with a model in which the threshold cusps at the dips are removed from the default setting [blue dashed]; adding more $K^+_s$ in Table 1 does not help. On the other hand, the LHCb did not introduce resonances but use complicated interferences to fit the dip regions. Possibly due to this fitting choice, the LHCb amplitude model actually needs significantly more mechanisms and fitting parameters than our model does, as will be discussed shortly.

Another noteworthy point is that the LHCb’s model includes a contact $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\phi(1^+)K^+$ mechanism with a large ($\sim 28\%$) fit fraction while our model does not. Since sequential two-body decay chains usually dominate, this large fit fraction could hint relevant missing mechanisms. Although our model also includes contact mechanisms such as $B^+ \rightarrow D_{sJ}^{(+)}D_{sJ}^{(+)}K^+$, $D_{sJ}^{(+)}D_s^{+}\phi$ in Fig. 3a-c, they can be understood as color-favored sequential two-body decay chains such as $B^+ \rightarrow D_{sJ}^{(+)}D'$ followed by $D' \rightarrow D_{sJ}^{(+)}K^+$, $D^{+}\phi$, and the off-shell excited charmed mesons ($D'$) in the loops can be shrunk to the contact mechanisms.

We also point out the difference in the number of fitting parameters ($N_p$) and its implication. Our default model is fitted to the $M_{J/\psi\phi}$, $M_{J/\psi K^+}$, and $M_{K^{+}\phi}$ distributions with $N_p = 29$. The LHCb’s amplitude model is fitted to the six-dimensional distribution with $N_p = 144$ and, in comparison with the $M_{J/\psi\phi}$, $M_{J/\psi K^+}$, and $M_{K^{+}\phi}$ distributions, $\chi^2 = 82.5, 79.4, 60.7$, respectively. This large difference in $N_p$ should be partly from the fact that the six-dimensional distribution include more information, and that the LHCb’s fit quality is somewhat better. However, this might not fully explain the difference in $N_p$. Possibly, the LHCb’s model misses relevant mechanisms and needs many others to mimic the missing ones through complicated interferences, resulting in the large $N_p$. At present, we cannot discuss which of the LHCb’s model or ours is statistically more significant, since they were fitted to the different datasets.
Since the LHCb claimed \( X(4630)(1^-) \) and \( X(4150)(2^-) \), we added them to our default model to see their relevance. Although the fit quality is slightly improved (\( \chi^2/\text{ndf} = 1.74 \)) a similar improvement can also be made by \( K^*_f \)-excitation mechanisms not included in the default model. We thus conclude that \( X(4630)(1^-) \) and \( X(4150)(2^-) \) are not relevant in our model and their importance seems model-dependent, as far as we fit the three invariant mass distributions.

Our default model fits well the \( Z_{cs} \)-like structures in the \( M_{J/\psi K^+} \) distribution with the threshold cusps without any poles nearby. We examine to what extent a molecule (pole) scenario for the \( Z_{cs} \) structures is allowed by the LHCb data. We vary the fitting parameters for Fig. 4(c) and also two independent \( D^+_s D^{*0} \) and \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) interaction strengths \( h_\alpha \) in Eq. (7), and find their allowed ranges. For the \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) scattering, we find \(-0.33 < h_\alpha < 0.93 \) that corresponds to the scattering length of \(-0.12 < a(\text{fm}) < 0.06 \), and a virtual pole at 93 MeV below the threshold or deeper. Regarding the \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) scattering, \(-0.17 < h_\alpha < 2.02, -0.21 < a(\text{fm}) < 0.03 \), and a virtual pole at 103 MeV below the threshold or deeper.

The result would disfavor the \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) molecules as an explanation for the \( Z_{cs} \) structures. Meanwhile, Otegina et al. [32] fitted well the \( M_{J/\psi K^+} \) distribution with \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) threshold cusps enhanced by virtual poles at \( 5 - 14 \) MeV below the thresholds. The difference from our result is partly from the fact that they used momentum-independent \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) production vertices while we used form factors. If we also use momentum-independent production vertices, we obtain, for the \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) scattering, \(-1.99 < h_\alpha < -0.25, 0.04 < a(\text{fm}) < 0.22 \), and a virtual pole at \( 48 - 99 \) MeV below the threshold. The molecule picture is still not clearly seen. To further examine the molecule scenario, Ref. [50] stressed the importance of considering also the elastic final state (e.g., the BESIII \( e^+e^- \to K^+(D^- D^{*0} + D^{*-} D^0) \) data [22] in the present context).

The LQCD results [37-41] suggested weak hadron-hadron interactions and neither narrow nor narrow resonances in the channel for \( Z_{c}(3900) \) (\( J^{PC} = 1^{++} \)) and its \( 1^{++} \) partner. Our results above, including the default model, are consistent with the LQCD results via the SU(3) relation; most of the previous \( Z_{cs} \) models did not take the consistency into account. Yet, a non-pole scenario has not well explained the experimentally observed peak structures [22] that are commonly interpreted with the \( Z_{c}(3900) \) and \( Z_{cs}(3985) \) states. More works from experimental, phenomenological, and LQCD approaches are necessary to reach a consistent picture of \( Z_{c(s)} \).

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**Supplemental Material**

1. Formulas for amplitudes in the default model

We present one-loop amplitudes of Fig. 1(a) that include s-wave \( D_{s0}D_{s}(0^-) \), \( D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(0^-) \), \( D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \) and \( D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \). The initial weak vertices \( B^+ \to D^{*+} D^{*0} \) are

\[
\begin{align*}
    c_{D_{s0}D_{s}(0^-)}& F^{00}_{D_{s0}D_{s}(0^-)} D_{s1}K^+,B^+, \quad (9) \\
    c_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(0^-)}& F^{01}_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(0^-)} K^+,B^+, \quad (10) \\
    c_{D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(1^-)}& F^{00}_{D_{s1}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(1^-)} K^+,B^+, \quad (11) \\
    c_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(1^-)}& F^{01}_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(1^-)} K^+,B^+, \quad (12)
\end{align*}
\]

and the subsequent \( D^{*+} D^{*0} \) to \( J/\psi \phi \) interactions are

\[
\begin{align*}
    c_{D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(0^-) \phi} & F^{11}_{D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(0^-) \phi} D_{s1}K^+,B^+, \quad (13) \\
    c_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(0^-) \phi} & F^{11}_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(0^-) \phi} D_{s0}^{*}K^+,B^+, \quad (14) \\
    c_{D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \phi} & F^{11}_{D_{s0}^{*}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \phi} K^+,B^+, \quad (15) \\
    c_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \phi} & F^{11}_{D_{s1}D_{s}^{*}(1^-) \phi} K^+,B^+, \quad (16)
\end{align*}
\]

respectively. We have introduced dipole form factors \( f_{ij} \), \( f_{ijk} \), and \( F_{ij,k,l}^{LL'} \) given by

\[
\begin{align*}
    f_{ij}^L &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{E_i E_j}} \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda^2 + q_{ij}^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{L}{2} \right)^2, \quad (17) \\
    f_{ijk}^L &= \frac{f_{ij}^L}{\sqrt{E_k}}, \quad (18) \\
    F_{ij,k,l}^{LL'} &= \frac{f_{ij}^L}{\sqrt{E_k E_l}} \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{\Lambda^2 + p_{ij}^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{L'}{2} \right)^2, \quad (19)
\end{align*}
\]

where \( q_{ij} \) and \( p_{ij} \) is the momentum of \( i \) (k) in the \( ij \) (total) center-of-mass frame; \( \Lambda^2 \) is a cutoff for which we use a common value of \( 1 \) GeV in all form factors. With the above ingredients, the one-loop amplitudes are given by
Similarly, one-loop amplitudes of Fig. 1(b) that include s-wave $D_s^*\bar{D}_s(1^+)$, $D_s^*\bar{D}_s(0^+)$, and $\psi'\phi(0^+,1^+)$ are given by

\begin{equation}
A_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s(1^+)}^{1L} = c_{\psi,\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{\psi,\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{\psi,\phi} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
A_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s(0^+)}^{1L} = 3c_{\psi,\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{\psi,\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{\psi,\phi} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
A_{\psi'\phi(0^+)}^{1L} = 3c_{\psi',\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{\psi'} \frac{f_{\psi',\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0+} F_{\psi',\phi,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{\psi,\phi} - E_{\psi'} - E_{\phi} + \frac{1}{2}i\Gamma_\phi},
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
A_{\psi'\phi(1^+)}^{1L} = 2c_{\psi',\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{\psi'} \frac{f_{\psi',\phi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s}^{0+} F_{\psi',\phi,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{\psi,\phi} - E_{\psi'} - E_{\phi} + \frac{1}{2}i\Gamma_\phi},
\end{equation}

where superscripts pc and pv indicate parity-conserving and parity-violating, respectively. The subsequent $D_s^*(1^+)\bar{D}_s(1^+)$ interactions are given by

\begin{equation}
c_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{K^+} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
c_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{K^+} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

With the above ingredients, the one-loop amplitudes are

\begin{equation}
A_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s(1^+)}^{1L,pc} = c_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{K^+} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
A_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s(1^+)}^{1L,pv} = -2c_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{1^+} \bar{p}_K \cdot (\varepsilon_\psi \times \varepsilon_\phi) \int d^3p_{D_s^*} \frac{f_{K^+\psi,D_s^*\bar{D}_s,D^{*0}}^{0+} F_{D_s^*\bar{D}_s,B^+}^{0+}}{M_{K^+} - E_{D_s^*} - E_{\bar{D}_s} + i\epsilon},
\end{equation}

Now we present formulas for $K^*_J$-excitation mechanisms of Fig. 1(d); see Table 1 for $K^*_J$ considered in our
default model. For $1^-K^*$, our default model includes a parity-conserving amplitude given by

$$ A_{K^*}^{PC} = C_{K^*} \frac{(\bar{p}_\psi \times \bar{e}_\psi) \cdot (\bar{p}_\phi \times \bar{e}_\phi) f_{0,K^*} f_{1,K^*} f_{1,K^*}}{E - E_\psi - E_{K^*} + \frac{i}{2} \Gamma_{K^*}}, $$

(34)

where $K^*$ is either $K^{*+}(1410)$ or $K^{*0}(1680)$.

As for $1^+K_1$, we consider both parity-conserving and -violating amplitudes given as

$$ A_{K_1}^{PC} = C_{K_1}^{PC} \frac{f_{0,K_1} f_{K_1} f_{1,K_1}}{E - E_\psi - E_{K_1} + \frac{i}{2} \Gamma_{K_1}}, $$

(35)

$$ A_{K_1}^{PV} = C_{K_1}^{PV} \frac{i(\bar{e}_\phi \times \bar{e}_\psi) \cdot \bar{p}_\psi f_{0,K_1} f_{1,K_1}}{E - E_\psi - E_{K_1} + \frac{i}{2} \Gamma_{K_1}}, $$

(36)

respectively, with $K_1 = K_1(1650)$.

Regarding $2^-K_2$, our default model includes a parity-conserving amplitude given by

$$ A_{K_2}^{PC} = C_{K_2} \frac{f_{0,K_2} f_{0,K_2} f_{1,K_2} f_{1,K_2}}{E - E_\psi - E_{K_2} + \frac{i}{2} \Gamma_{K_2}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \bar{e}_\phi \cdot \bar{p}_\psi \bar{e}_\psi \cdot \bar{p}_\phi \right. $$

$$ + \left. \frac{1}{2} \bar{e}_\phi \cdot \bar{e}_\psi \bar{p}_\psi \cdot \bar{p}_\phi - \frac{1}{3} \bar{e}_\phi \cdot \bar{e}_\psi \bar{p}_\psi \cdot \bar{p}_\phi \right), $$

(37)

where $K_2$ is either $K_2(1770)$ or $K_2(1820)$.

In practice, we calculate amplitudes of Eqs. (20)-(27) [Eqs. (32) and (33)] in the $J/\psi \phi [J/\psi K^+]$ center-of-mass frame. The $K^+$-excitation amplitudes of Eqs. (34)-(37) are calculated in the total center-of-mass frame, but the second $K^+_1 \to K^+\phi$ vertices are calculated in the $K^0\phi$ center-of-mass frame, as in the helicity formalism employed by the LHCb analysis. The invariant amplitudes are obtained from the above-presented amplitudes by multiplying relevant kinematical factors, and are plugged into the Dalitz plot distribution formula; see Appendix B of Ref. [52] for details.

Parameter values obtained from the fit are listed in Table I. The masses and widths appearing in the above formulas are taken from Ref. [4]. In Table I we also list each mechanism’s fit fraction defined by

$$ FF_i = \frac{\Gamma_{A_i}}{\Gamma_{full}} \times 100(\%), $$

(38)

where $\Gamma_{full}$ and $\Gamma_{A_i}$ are $B^+ \to J/\psi\phi K^+$ decay rates calculated with the default model and with an amplitude $A_x$ only, respectively.

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