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Theoretical Interpretations of the XYZ States¹ ERIC BRAATEN, Ohio State University

The XYZ mesons are unexpected $c\bar{c}$ and $b\bar{b}$ mesons that have been discovered during the last decade. The models for the XYZ mesons that have been proposed, none of which have revealed a compelling pattern, include conventional quarkonium, quarkonium hybrids, and quarkonium tetraquarks (whose four constituents can be clustered in various ways). The Born-Oppenheimer approximation provides a coherent QCD framework for describing the XYZ mesons that can be informed by lattice QCD. The additional hints that will be provided by current and upcoming experiments guarantee the eventual solution of the XYZ puzzle.

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