

## Observation and investigation of the $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$ structure in $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$ decays

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The first four-dimensional amplitude analysis of the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay is performed with proton-proton collision data collected by the LHCb experiment at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV, corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $5.4 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The data cannot be fully explained by  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^{*+}$  contributions alone. A significantly better description of the data is obtained by adding a  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  contribution decaying to  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$ . The properties of the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  structure are consistent with the exotic state  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  reported in the isospin-related  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$  decay. Effects of a possible  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  decay mode on the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  mass distribution are investigated through a Flatté parametrization, providing constraints on the relative decay strength. A description of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure using the triangle singularity mechanism is studied and also found to be consistent with the data.

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Hadrons beyond conventional  $q\bar{q}$  mesons or  $qqq$  baryons have been anticipated since the introduction of the quark model [1]. Referred to as exotic states, such hadrons serve as distinctive showcases of the intricate nonperturbative nature of QCD at low energies. A wealth of exotic candidates has been observed experimentally, whose properties do not fit in the known conventions of hadron spectroscopy [2–8]. The first evidence for a charged charmoniumlike structure was found in the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  final state of the  $B \rightarrow \psi(2S)K\pi^+$  decay [9,10].<sup>1</sup> The minimum quark content of the observed structure, referred to as  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  in the following, is  $c\bar{c}u\bar{d}$ , and its spin-parity has been determined by an amplitude analysis to be  $J^P = 1^+$  [11–13].

Many theoretical interpretations of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure using kinematic effects or dynamical models have been proposed. In dynamical interpretations, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure is regarded as a genuine exotic state, described as a hadronic molecule with meson-meson interactions [14–16] or a compact tetraquark formed by color-exchange interactions [17–20]. However, these dynamical interpretations face challenges in explaining the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure. In the hadronic molecular

scenario, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure is interpreted as an S-wave  $\bar{D}^*D_1$  hadronic molecule with possible spin-parity quantum numbers  $J^P = 0^-, 1^-$  or  $2^-$  [14–16], which is strongly disfavored by the LHCb analysis reported in Ref. [12]. In the compact tetraquark scenario, an octet group of meson states is predicted; however none of these, apart from the possible  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  state, have been observed. In contrast, in the kinematical interpretations, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure is generated as a kinematical singularity in the  $B$ -decay amplitude [21–23]. In one possible model [24], the rescattering of  $\psi(4230)\pi^+$  hadrons in the  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^*(892)^0\psi(4230)$ ,  $\bar{K}^*(892)^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+$  cascade decay could form a peaking structure in the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  final state, consistent with the measured  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  properties. Additionally, lattice QCD simulations cannot predict the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  state due to the entanglement of many possible decay channels [25]. To date, there is no consensus on the nature of  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure. Further experimental and theoretical studies are needed for new insights.

This paper reports on an amplitude analysis performed on the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay, analogous to the isospin-related decay channel  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$ . The data used are proton-proton ( $pp$ ) collisions recorded by the LHCb experiment, at a center-of-mass energy of 13 TeV, and corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $5.4 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The LHCb detector is a single-arm forward spectrometer covering the pseudorapidity range  $2 < \eta < 5$ , described in detail in Refs. [26,27]. Candidate  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decays are formed by combining  $\pi^+$  candidate tracks with  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K_S^0$  meson candidates reconstructed in the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  and  $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  decay modes, respectively. Particle

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<sup>1</sup>Unless otherwise specified, charge-conjugated states or decays are implied throughout this paper.

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identification, track quality, and impact parameter requirements are applied to all final-state particles to ensure consistency with the signal decay. The reconstructed  $B^+$ ,  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K_S^0$  mesons are required to have good vertex-fit  $\chi^2$  and invariant masses close to their known values [28]. The background, dominated by random combinations of  $\psi(2S)$ ,  $\pi^+$ , and  $K_S^0$  candidates, is further suppressed by a boosted decision tree (BDT) [29,30] classifier. The classifier is implemented with the TMVA toolkit [31,32] and uses as discriminating variables the transverse momenta, vertex-fit quality, and particle-identification information of the final-state particles. A simulated sample of  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decays, generated with the software packages described in Refs. [33–35], is used to model the effects of the detector acceptance and the imposed selection requirements. The simulated decays are subjected to the same reconstruction and selection procedures as the data.

The  $B^+$  candidate invariant-mass distribution, calculated with the  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K_S^0$  masses constrained to their known values [28], is shown in the Supplemental Material [36]. The signal yield is found to be  $9600 \pm 100$ , determined from an unbinned extended maximum-likelihood fit to the  $B^+$  mass spectrum, where the signal component is modeled by a modified Gaussian function [37] with power-law tails on both sides, and the combinatorial background is described by an exponential function. The fit result is further used to assign a signal weight [38,39] to each candidate, which is employed to perform background subtraction in the subsequent analysis steps following the sFit technique [39–41].

An amplitude analysis is performed to investigate the various contributions in the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay, where the amplitude models are developed following the helicity formalism [42]. The first model includes only  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^{*+}$  contributions, with excited  $K^{*+}$  mesons decaying into  $K_S^0\pi^+$ . Four independent variables are needed to describe the kinematics of the cascade decay, referred to as the  $K^*$  chain:  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^{*+}$ ,  $K^{*+} \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^+$ ,  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ . The variables are chosen in the fit to be the  $K^{*+}$  invariant mass,  $m_{K\pi}$ , the cosines of the helicity angles of the  $K^*$  and  $\psi(2S)$  decays,  $\cos\theta_{K^*}$  and  $\cos\theta_\psi$ , and the angle between the  $K^{*+}$  and  $\psi(2S)$  decay planes  $\phi$ , as defined in the Supplemental Material [36]. The four independent variables are calculated with the  $B^+$  and  $\psi(2S)$  masses constrained to their known values [28].

The total amplitude model is constructed using the isobar approach [43], where a coherent sum is taken over various  $K^{*+}$  resonances and an incoherent sum over final-state  $\mu^+$  and  $\mu^-$  helicities. All known  $K^{*+}$  resonances with masses below the upper kinematic limit ( $1.593 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) are considered in the baseline amplitude model. These comprise the  $K_0^*(700)^+$  and  $K_0^*(1430)^+$  mesons with  $J = 0$ , the  $K^*(892)^+$  and  $K^*(1410)^+$  mesons with  $J = 1$ , and the  $K_2^*(1430)^+$  meson with  $J = 2$ . The masses and widths of

these  $K^{*+}$  resonances are fixed to their known values [28], except for the dominant  $K^*(892)^+$  state, whose mass and width are allowed to float in the amplitude fit with Gaussian constraints to the known values [28]. The amplitude is constructed using  $LS$  (orbital angular momentum and spin coupling) bases instead of helicity bases [44]. The relative momentum between the  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K^{*+}$  meson in the  $B^+$  rest frame is rather small, so only the amplitudes with the lowest possible orbital angular momentum between  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K^{*+}$  mesons are considered in the baseline fit, except for  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^*(892)^+$  amplitudes where all three possible contributions are included. The effects of including amplitudes with higher orbital angular momenta are considered as systematic uncertainties. Each amplitude is associated with a complex coupling, which is determined by the fit to data.

The  $K^{*+}$  resonances are modeled using relativistic Breit-Wigner amplitudes,

$$BW(m_{K\pi}|m_0, \Gamma_0) = \frac{1}{m_0^2 - m_{K\pi}^2 - im_0\Gamma(m_{K\pi})}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Gamma(m_{K\pi}) = \Gamma_0(q/q_0)^{2L+1}(m_0/m_{K\pi})B_L^2(q, q_0, d)$  is the mass-dependent width, and  $m_0$  and  $\Gamma_0$  are the mass and natural width of a  $K^{*+}$  resonance. The variable  $q$  refers to the momentum of the  $K_S^0$  meson in the  $K^{*+}$  rest frame, and  $q_0$  denotes the value evaluated at the resonance peak  $m_{K\pi} = m_0$ . The orbital angular momentum between  $K_S^0$  and  $\pi^+$  mesons,  $L$ , is fixed by the  $K^{*+}$  resonance spin. The Blatt-Weisskopf form factor is also applied to the relativistic Breit-Wigner amplitude, together with an orbital angular momentum suppression factor, to account for the effects of higher partial waves with nonzero orbital angular momentum. In the Blatt-Weisskopf form factor [45],  $B_L(q, q_0, d)$ , the radius  $d = 3 \text{ (GeV}/c)^{-1}$  is used for intermediate states and  $d = 5 \text{ (GeV}/c)^{-1}$  for the  $B^+$  meson [12].

A weighted, unbinned maximum-likelihood fit is performed to the data in four kinematic variables, following the sFit technique [39–41], which removes the need of an explicit description of the background in the fit. In the fit, the efficiency dependence on kinematic variables is determined using simulated samples of the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay.

The background-subtracted invariant-mass distributions for  $K_S^0\pi^+$  ( $m_{K\pi}$ ),  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  ( $m_{\psi\pi}$ ) and  $\psi(2S)K_S^0$  ( $m_{\psi K}$ ) pairs are shown in Fig. 1, together with the results of the fit considering only  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^{*+}$  contributions. While the  $K^{*+}$  model can describe the  $m_{K\pi}$  and  $m_{\psi K}$  distributions well, the fit does not provide an adequate description of the  $m_{\psi\pi}$  shape, especially in the range  $4.2 < m_{\psi\pi} < 4.7 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ . Adding more  $K^{*+}$  resonances or nonresonant  $K_S^0\pi^+$  contributions does not significantly improve the fit quality in this region.

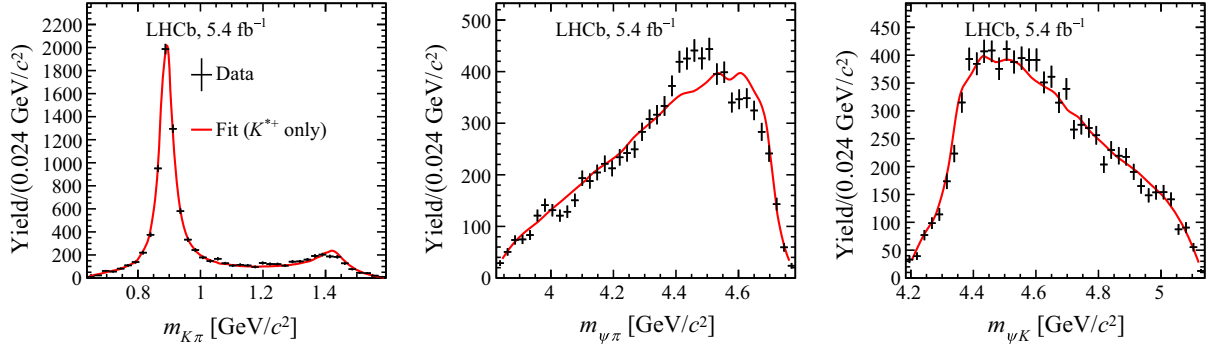


FIG. 1. Invariant-mass distributions of (left) the  $K_S^0\pi^+$ , (middle)  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$ , and (right)  $\psi(2S)K_S^0$  pairs for background-subtracted data (black dots), together with projections of the results of an amplitude fit (red solid line) with only  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^{*+}$  contributions.

The unidentified structure in the  $m_{\psi\pi}$  spectrum (in the following referred to as structure X) is investigated by adding a  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  component to the  $K^{*+}$  amplitudes. In the coherent sum of the  $K^{*+}$  and  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  amplitudes, the muon helicity reference frames are aligned by applying a rotation that depends on the four independent variables  $m_{K\pi}$ ,  $\cos\theta_{K^*}$ ,  $\cos\theta_\psi$  and  $\phi$  [44]. A model-independent approach is employed to describe the X invariant-mass distribution, with a cubic spline interpolation of the amplitudes at six fixed  $m_{\psi\pi}$  values chosen equidistantly in the range [4.2, 4.7] GeV/ $c^2$ . The complex amplitudes at six fixed  $m_{\psi\pi}$  values, with the orbital angular momentum between  $\psi(2S)$  and  $\pi^+$  fixed to zero, describe the data well. The projection of the fit on the  $m_{\psi\pi}$  distribution is shown on the left side of Fig. 2. The corresponding amplitudes in the complex plane (the Argand diagram [46]) are presented on the right side of Fig. 2, revealing a circular phase shift as a function of  $m_{\psi\pi}$  from lower to higher  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  masses, suggesting that the X structure is unlikely to be caused by statistical fluctuations in data. Counterclockwise evolution with mass is consistent with a resonant behavior but could also originate from other physical effects, such as triangle singularity [22,24].

Model-dependent approaches are used to extract the properties of the X structure. In the first model the structure is considered as a resonance,  $T_{c\bar{c}^+}$ , decaying into the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  final state and with the mass distribution described by a relativistic Breit-Wigner function. The mass and width of the  $T_{c\bar{c}^+}$  state are allowed to float, and only the lowest possible orbital angular momentum between the  $\psi(2S)$  and  $\pi^+$  mesons is considered in the baseline fit. A satisfactory description of data is achieved for the spin-parity  $J^P(T_{c\bar{c}^+}) = 1^+$ . The projection of the amplitude fit result onto the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant mass is shown by the red curve in Fig. 3. The  $T_{c\bar{c}^+}$  mass and width are measured to be  $M_{T_{c\bar{c}^+}} = 4.452 \pm 0.016_{-0.033}^{+0.055}$  GeV/ $c^2$  and  $\Gamma_{T_{c\bar{c}^+}} = 0.174 \pm 0.019_{-0.020}^{+0.083}$  GeV. The  $T_{c\bar{c}^+}$  fit fraction in the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay is determined to be  $f_{T_{c\bar{c}^+}} = (3.7 \pm 0.6_{-0.7}^{+4.0})\%$ , where the first uncertainty is statistical and the second systematic. The fit fraction of a specific contribution is calculated as the integral of its amplitude squared over the full phase space divided by that of the total amplitude squared. The sources of systematic uncertainties are described below. The  $T_{c\bar{c}^+}$  properties are consistent with those of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure observed

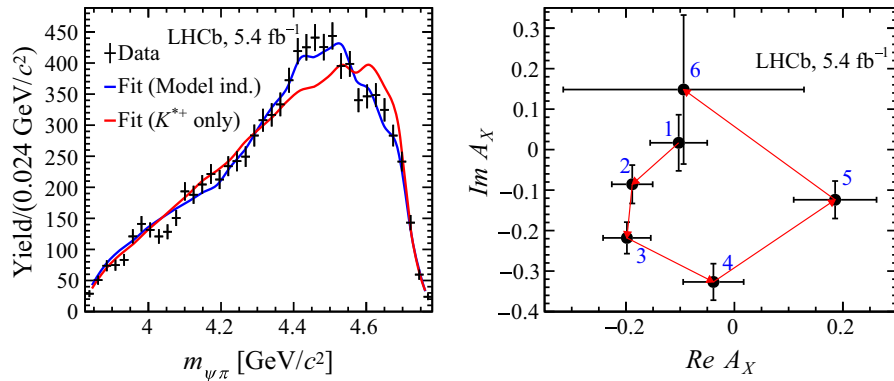


FIG. 2. Left: distribution of the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant-mass of background-subtracted data. The projections of the fit including (red) only  $K^{*+}$  resonances and (blue) a model-independent amplitude are also shown. Right: Argand diagram for the amplitude  $A_X$ , showing the complex amplitude values at six points. Each point corresponds to a different value of  $m_{\psi\pi}$ , which increases in the counterclockwise direction.

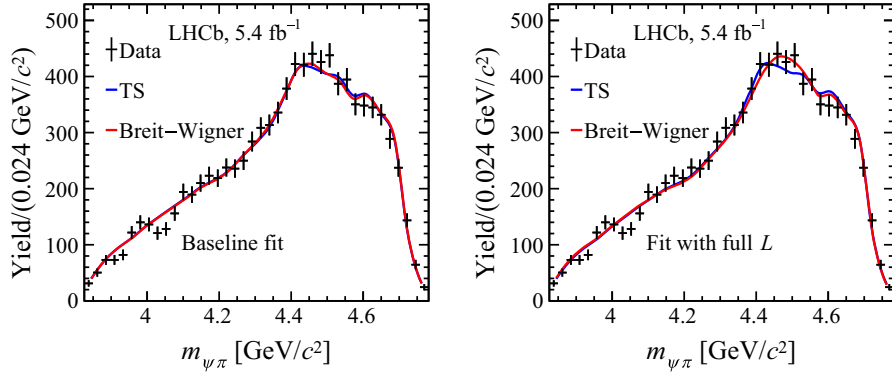


FIG. 3. Distribution of the  $\psi(2S)\pi$  invariant-mass of background-subtracted data, with the projections of the fit including the relativistic Breit–Wigner parametrization (red) or the triangle singularity amplitude (blue) for the (left) baseline fit and (right) the fit with full orbital angular momenta.

in the  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$  decay [28]. The significance of the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  state is evaluated based on  $2\Delta \ln L = 2 \ln L_{T_{c\bar{c}}^+} - 2 \ln L_{K^{*+}}$ , where  $L_{K^{*+}}$  and  $L_{T_{c\bar{c}}^+}$  refer to the likelihood functions without and with the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  component, each evaluated at its maximum. The quantity  $2\Delta \ln L$  follows a  $\chi^2$  distribution, with a number of degrees of freedom approximately twice the number of additional free parameters in the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  fit compared to the  $K^{*+}$ -only fit, after accounting for the look-elsewhere effect [12,47]. The statistical significance of the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  state with  $J^P = 1^+$  is determined to be more than  $16\sigma$ , and remains above  $9\sigma$  after including systematic effects, which is obtained by the fit with the smallest  $\Delta \ln L$  among all systematic sources.

The  $J^P$  assignment for the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  state is determined by comparing the likelihood values of the fits with different hypotheses. The  $0^+$  assignment is excluded due to parity conservation. The hypotheses  $0^-$ ,  $1^-$ ,  $2^-$ ,  $2^+$  are rejected relative to the  $1^+$  hypothesis with a significance of more than  $6\sigma$ ,  $11\sigma$ ,  $7\sigma$ ,  $11\sigma$ , respectively, after accounting for the systematic uncertainty. Therefore, the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  spin-parity is unambiguously determined as  $J^P = 1^+$ , consistent with the quantum numbers of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  state observed in the  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$  decay [28]. Consequently, it is reasonable to conclude that the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  state in the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay corresponds to that observed in the  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$  decay [11,12,47], being produced by the decay processes related via isospin symmetry.

Various sources of systematic uncertainties are studied for the mass, width and fit fraction measurements of the  $T_{c\bar{c}}^+$  state, including varying the masses and widths of  $K^{*+}$  resonances; adding a nonresonant  $K_S^0\pi^+$  component with zero spin; including the low mass tails of  $K^*(1680)^+$  and  $K_3^*(1780)^+$  into the amplitude fit; parametrizing the  $K_0^*(700)^+$  and  $K_0^*(1430)^+$  states with the LASS model [48]; varying the Blatt-Weisskopf radius for both  $B^+$  and intermediate states' decays between 3 and 5  $(\text{GeV}/c)^{-1}$ ; allowing higher orbital angular momenta to contribute; extracting the signal projection weights using alternative

signal or background models in the  $B^+$  invariant-mass fit. The differences between the results of the baseline fit and alternative fits are taken as the systematic uncertainties. Based on previous measurements of  $\psi(nS)\pi^+$  spectra [11–13,47], an additional  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4200)^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  or  $T_{c\bar{c}0}(4240)^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  component is added to the amplitude with the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4200)^+$  or  $T_{c\bar{c}0}(4240)^+$  parameters fixed to their known values [28] as another source of systematic uncertainty. The significance of either the  $T_{c\bar{c}}(4200)^+$  state or the  $T_{c\bar{c}}(4240)^+$  state is determined to be  $4\sigma$ . Among systematic uncertainties related to the  $K^{*+}$  modeling, which are not independent, only the maximum difference is retained and is combined with other sources to obtain the total systematic uncertainty.

In the model described above, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  state is assumed to decay only into the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  final state. However, if the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  has a molecular nature, it is expected to couple strongly to open-charm hadrons whose invariant-mass threshold lies near its mass. Notably, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  mass is close to the  $\bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  production threshold, and its spin-parity is consistent with an S-wave  $\bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  configuration. To account for this possibility, the amplitude model is modified, taking into account the effect that the opening of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  decay channel would have on the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  lineshape. Within this framework, the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  resonance is modeled using the Flatté parametrization [49],

$$F = \frac{1}{m_f^2 - m^2 - i(\rho_1 g_1^2 + \rho_2 g_2^2)}, \quad (2)$$

where the positive parameters  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  represent the coupling strengths to the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  and  $\bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  channels, respectively, and  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  are the corresponding phase-space factors, discussed further in the Supplemental Material [36]. The Flatté parametrization reduces to the relativistic Breit–Wigner parametrization for  $g_2 = 0$ .

The amplitude fit with the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  state modeled with the Flatté parametrization yields  $m_f = 4.452 \pm 0.022_{-0.005}^{+0.103}$  GeV/ $c^2$ ,  $g_1 = 1.58 \pm 0.17_{-0.82}^{+0.05}$  GeV/ $c^2$ ,  $g_2 = 0.00 \pm 1.78 \pm 2.81$  GeV/ $c^2$  and the fit fraction  $f = (3.7 \pm 0.6_{-0.7}^{+3.7})\%$ . The upper limit for the relative decay strength  $R \equiv |g_2/g_1|$  is determined to be  $R < 6.8$  at the 95% confidence level, using a profile-likelihood scan. This constrains the coupling of  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  to the  $\bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  final state.

Apart from dynamical interpretations, the origin of the  $X$  structure could be kinematical. Following the model in Ref. [24], a triangle singularity mechanism is tested, where the  $X$  structure in the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  mass spectrum arises from the  $\psi(4230)\pi^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  rescattering in the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(4230)K^*(892)^+$ ,  $K^*(892)^+ \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^+$  cascade decay, as shown in the Supplemental Material [36]. In such a triangle singularity mechanism, a relatively large  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(4230)K^*(892)^+$  branching fraction is implied. The  $K^{*+}(892)\psi(4230)\pi^+$  triangle diagram develops a singularity in the S-matrix of  $\psi(4230)\pi^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  transition when the intermediate states are simultaneously on shell. The amplitude for the triangle singularity is obtained through integration over the triangle diagram, and the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant-mass distribution is determined by the properties of the involved intermediate and final-state hadrons, leaving no free parameters apart from an overall complex coupling. The triangle singularity also exhibits a phase shift behavior as a function of the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant mass, very similar to that of the Breit-Wigner distribution. The result of the fit using the  $K^*(892)^+\psi(4230)\pi^+$  triangle amplitude to model the  $X$  structure is shown in Fig. 3 projected onto the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant mass. The model provides a reasonable description of the data. The fit yields a fit fraction  $f_X = (3.9 \pm 0.7_{-0.1}^{+3.3})\%$ , consistent with that of the fit using the Breit-Wigner function. In some of the scenarios considered in the study of systematic uncertainties, the fit quality of the triangle contribution is reduced relative to that of the Breit-Wigner lineshape. For example, including higher orbital angular momenta between  $\psi(2S)$  and  $K^{*+}$  mesons, the quality of the fit with the triangle amplitude is slightly worse than that with the Breit-Wigner lineshape for the  $X$  structure, as shown on the right of Fig. 3. Larger samples may help to distinguish the two models. An alternative triangle singularity model, described in Ref. [50], was also investigated. It features longer tails in the  $m_{\psi\pi}$  distribution, and cannot provide a satisfactory description of data.

To summarize, a full amplitude analysis is performed to the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay using  $pp$  collision data collected by the LHCb experiment at a center-of-mass energy of 13 TeV and corresponding to an integrated luminosity of 5.4 fb $^{-1}$ . With contributions of known

$K^{*+}$  resonances only, a discrepancy between data and the amplitude fit is observed, most obvious in the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant-mass distribution around 4.5 GeV/ $c^2$ . The discrepancy is resolved by including a component in the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  final state in the amplitude. A model-independent description of this component reveals a peaking structure with its complex phase evolving as a function of the  $\psi(2S)\pi^+$  invariant mass. Modeling the structure with a Breit-Wigner function gives a measurement of its mass, width, spin-parity and fit fraction in  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decays of:  $M_{T_{c\bar{c}}^+} = 4.452 \pm 0.016_{-0.033}^{+0.055}$  GeV/ $c^2$ ,  $\Gamma_{T_{c\bar{c}}^+} = 0.174 \pm 0.019_{-0.020}^{+0.083}$  GeV,  $J^P = 1^+$ , and  $f_{T_{c\bar{c}}^+} = (3.7 \pm 0.6_{-0.7}^{+4.0})\%$ . The results are consistent with the exotic candidate  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  reported by the Belle and LHCb collaborations in the  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K^-\pi^+$  decay. An additional fit is performed with a formalism that includes the possible  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  decay into the  $\bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  final state. An upper limit is set on the coupling strength of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}_1^*(2600)^0 D^+$  decay relative to that of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$  decay. A reasonable description of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure is also achieved using a kinematical model incorporating the singularity in the  $\psi(4230)K^{*+}\pi^+$  triangle diagram [24].

This analysis reports the observation of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure in the  $B^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_S^0\pi^+$  decay, and is the first experimental investigation into the nature of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure using a hadronic molecule-motivated model and the amplitude of a triangle diagram with a full amplitude analysis. These results provide valuable insights into the nature of the  $T_{c\bar{c}1}(4430)^+$  structure.

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#### Data availability.

The data that support the findings of this article are not publicly available because they are owned by a third party and the terms of use prevent public distribution. The data are available from the authors upon reasonable request.

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L. M. Garcia Martin<sup>50</sup>, P. Garcia Moreno<sup>45</sup>, J. García Pardiñas<sup>65</sup>, P. Gardner<sup>67</sup>, L. Garrido<sup>45</sup>, C. Gaspar<sup>49</sup>,  
A. Gavrikov<sup>33</sup>, L. L. Gerken<sup>19</sup>, E. Gersabeck<sup>20</sup>, M. Gersabeck<sup>20</sup>, T. Gershon<sup>57</sup>, S. Ghizzo<sup>29,j</sup>,  
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A. Gioventù<sup>45</sup>, L. Girardey<sup>63,58</sup>, M. A. Giza<sup>41</sup>, F. C. Glaser<sup>14,22</sup>, V. V. Gligorov<sup>16</sup>, C. Göbel<sup>70</sup>,  
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E. Graverini<sup>50,t</sup>, L. Grazette<sup>57</sup>, G. Graziani<sup>27</sup>, A. T. Grecu<sup>43</sup>, N. A. Grieser<sup>66</sup>, L. Grillo<sup>60</sup>, S. Gromov<sup>44</sup>,  
C. Gu<sup>15</sup>, M. Guarise<sup>26</sup>, L. Guerry<sup>11</sup>, A.-K. Guseinov<sup>50</sup>, E. Gushchin<sup>44</sup>, Y. Guz<sup>6,49</sup>, T. Gys<sup>49</sup>, K. Habermann<sup>18</sup>,  
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J. Hammerich<sup>61</sup>, Q. Han<sup>33</sup>, X. Han<sup>22,49</sup>, S. Hansmann-Menzemer<sup>22</sup>, L. Hao<sup>7</sup>, N. Harnew<sup>64</sup>, T. H. Harris<sup>1</sup>,  
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R. D. L. Henderson<sup>1</sup>, A. M. Hennequin<sup>49</sup>, K. Hennessy<sup>61</sup>, L. Henry<sup>50</sup>, J. Herd<sup>62</sup>, P. Herrero Gascon<sup>22</sup>,  
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D. Hutchcroft<sup>61</sup>, M. Idzik<sup>40</sup>, D. Ilin<sup>44</sup>, P. Ilten<sup>66</sup>, A. Iniukhin<sup>44</sup>, A. Iohner<sup>10</sup>, A. Ishteev<sup>44</sup>, K. Ivshin<sup>44</sup>,  
H. Jage<sup>17</sup>, S. J. Jaimes Elles<sup>77,48,49</sup>, S. Jakobsen<sup>49</sup>, E. Jans<sup>38</sup>, B. K. Jashal<sup>48</sup>, A. Jawahery<sup>67</sup>, C. Jayaweera<sup>54</sup>,  
V. Jevtic<sup>19</sup>, Z. Jia<sup>16</sup>, E. Jiang<sup>67</sup>, X. Jiang<sup>5,7</sup>, Y. Jiang<sup>7</sup>, Y. J. Jiang<sup>6</sup>, E. Jimenez Moya<sup>9</sup>, N. Jindal<sup>88</sup>, M. John<sup>64</sup>,  
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I. Juszczak<sup>41</sup>, D. Kaminaris<sup>50</sup>, S. Kandybei<sup>52</sup>, M. Kane<sup>59</sup>, Y. Kang<sup>4,m</sup>, C. Kar<sup>11</sup>, M. Karacson<sup>49</sup>,  
A. Kauniskangas<sup>50</sup>, J. W. Kautz<sup>66</sup>, M. K. Kazanecki<sup>41</sup>, F. Keizer<sup>49</sup>, M. Kenzie<sup>56</sup>, T. Ketel<sup>38</sup>, B. Khanji<sup>69</sup>

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 L. Kolk<sup>19</sup> A. Konoplyannikov<sup>6</sup> P. Kopciwicz<sup>49</sup> P. Koppenburg<sup>38</sup> A. Korchin<sup>52</sup> M. Korolev<sup>44</sup> I. Kostiuk<sup>38</sup>  
 O. Kot<sup>53</sup> S. Kotriakhova<sup>26</sup> E. Kowalczyk<sup>67</sup> A. Kozachuk<sup>44</sup> P. Kravchenko<sup>44</sup> L. Kravchuk<sup>44</sup> O. Kravcov<sup>80</sup>  
 M. Kreps<sup>57</sup> P. Krokovny<sup>44</sup> W. Krupa<sup>69</sup> W. Krzemien<sup>42</sup> O. Kshyvanskyi<sup>53</sup> S. Kubis<sup>83</sup> M. Kucharczyk<sup>41</sup>  
 V. Kudryavtsev<sup>44</sup> E. Kulikova<sup>44</sup> A. Kupsc<sup>85</sup> V. Kushnir<sup>52</sup> B. Kutsenko<sup>13</sup> J. Kvapil<sup>68</sup> I. Kyrillin<sup>52</sup>  
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 F. M. Manganella<sup>37</sup> D. Manuzzi<sup>25</sup> D. Marangotto<sup>30,i</sup> J. F. Marchand<sup>10</sup> R. Marchevski<sup>50</sup> U. Marconi<sup>25</sup>  
 E. Mariani<sup>16</sup> S. Mariani<sup>49</sup> C. Marin Benito<sup>45</sup> J. Marks<sup>22</sup> A. M. Marshall<sup>55</sup> L. Martel<sup>64</sup> G. Martelli<sup>34</sup>  
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 F. Martinez Vidal<sup>48</sup> A. Martorell i Granollers<sup>46</sup> A. Massafferri<sup>2</sup> R. Matev<sup>49</sup> A. Mathad<sup>49</sup> V. Matiunin<sup>44</sup>  
 C. Matteuzzi<sup>69</sup> K. R. Mattioli<sup>15</sup> A. Mauri<sup>62</sup> E. Maurice<sup>15</sup> J. Mauricio<sup>45</sup> P. Mayencourt<sup>50</sup> J. Mazorra de Cos<sup>48</sup>  
 M. Mazurek<sup>42</sup> M. McCann<sup>62</sup> N. T. McHugh<sup>60</sup> A. McNab<sup>63</sup> R. McNulty<sup>23</sup> B. Meadows<sup>66</sup> G. Meier<sup>19</sup>  
 D. Melnychuk<sup>42</sup> D. Mendoza Granada<sup>16</sup> P. Menendez Valdes Perez<sup>47</sup> F. M. Meng<sup>4,m</sup> M. Merk<sup>38,82</sup>  
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 R. D. Moise<sup>17</sup> E. F. Molina Cardenas<sup>87</sup> T. Mombächer<sup>49</sup> M. Monk<sup>56</sup> S. Monteil<sup>11</sup> A. Morcillo Gomez<sup>47</sup>  
 G. Morello<sup>28</sup> M. J. Morello<sup>35,k</sup> M. P. Morgenthaler<sup>22</sup> A. Moro<sup>31,c</sup> J. Moron<sup>40</sup> W. Morren<sup>38</sup> A. B. Morris<sup>49</sup>  
 A. G. Morris<sup>13</sup> R. Mountain<sup>69</sup> H. Mu<sup>4,m</sup> Z. M. Mu<sup>6</sup> E. Muhammad<sup>57</sup> F. Muheim<sup>59</sup> M. Mulder<sup>81</sup>  
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 T. Nanut<sup>49</sup> I. Nasteva<sup>3</sup> M. Needham<sup>59</sup> E. Nekrasova<sup>44</sup> N. Neri<sup>30,i</sup> S. Neubert<sup>18</sup> N. Neufeld<sup>49</sup> P. Neustroev<sup>44</sup>  
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 M. Olocco<sup>19</sup> R. H. O'Neil<sup>49</sup> J. S. Ordonez Soto<sup>11</sup> D. Osthus<sup>19</sup> J. M. Otalora Goicochea<sup>3</sup> P. Owen<sup>51</sup>  
 A. Oyanguren<sup>48</sup> O. Ozcelik<sup>49</sup> F. Paciolla<sup>35,y</sup> A. Padee<sup>42</sup> K. O. Padeken<sup>18</sup> B. Pagare<sup>47</sup> T. Pajero<sup>49</sup>  
 A. Palano<sup>24</sup> L. Palini<sup>30</sup> M. Palutan<sup>28</sup> C. Pan<sup>75</sup> X. Pan<sup>4,m</sup> S. Panebianco<sup>12</sup> G. Panshin<sup>5</sup> L. Paolucci<sup>63</sup>  
 A. Papanestis<sup>58</sup> M. Pappagallo<sup>24,q</sup> L. L. Pappalardo<sup>26</sup> C. Pappenheimer<sup>66</sup> C. Parkes<sup>63</sup> D. Parmar<sup>78</sup>  
 G. Passaleva<sup>27</sup> D. Passaro<sup>35,49,k</sup> A. Pastore<sup>24</sup> M. Patel<sup>62</sup> J. Patoc<sup>64</sup> C. Patrignani<sup>25,i</sup> A. Paul<sup>69</sup>  
 C. J. Pawley<sup>82</sup> A. Pellegrino<sup>38</sup> J. Peng<sup>5,7</sup> X. Peng<sup>74</sup> M. Pepe Altarelli<sup>28</sup> S. Perazzini<sup>25</sup> D. Pereima<sup>44</sup>  
 H. Pereira Da Costa<sup>68</sup> M. Pereira Martinez<sup>47</sup> A. Pereiro Castro<sup>47</sup> C. Perez<sup>46</sup> P. Perret<sup>11</sup> A. Perrevoort<sup>81</sup>  
 A. Perro<sup>49,13</sup> M. J. Peters<sup>66</sup> K. Petridis<sup>55</sup> A. Petrolini<sup>29,j</sup> S. Pezzulo<sup>29,j</sup> J. P. Pfaller<sup>66</sup> H. Pham<sup>69</sup> L. Pica<sup>35,k</sup>  
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 M. Pizzichemi<sup>31,49,c</sup> V. M. Placinta<sup>43</sup> M. Plo Casasus<sup>47</sup> T. Poeschl<sup>49</sup> F. Polci<sup>16</sup> M. Poli Lener<sup>28</sup>  
 A. Poluektov<sup>13</sup> N. Polukhina<sup>44</sup> I. Polyakov<sup>63</sup> E. Polycarpo<sup>3</sup> S. Ponce<sup>49</sup> D. Popov<sup>7,49</sup> S. Poslavskii<sup>44</sup>  
 K. Prasanth<sup>59</sup> C. Prouve<sup>84</sup> D. Provenzano<sup>32,49,o</sup> V. Pugatch<sup>53</sup> A. Puicercus Gomez<sup>49</sup> G. Punzi<sup>35,t</sup>  
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Z. Ren<sup>7</sup> P. K. Resmi<sup>64</sup> M. Ribalda Galvez<sup>45</sup> R. Ribatti<sup>50</sup> G. Ricart<sup>15,12</sup> D. Riccardi<sup>35,k</sup> S. Ricciardi<sup>58</sup>  
K. Richardson<sup>65</sup> M. Richardson-Slipper<sup>56</sup> F. Riehn<sup>19</sup> K. Rinnert<sup>61</sup> P. Robbe<sup>14,49</sup> G. Robertson<sup>60</sup>  
E. Rodrigues<sup>61</sup> A. Rodriguez Alvarez<sup>45</sup> E. Rodriguez Fernandez<sup>47</sup> J. A. Rodriguez Lopez<sup>77</sup>  
E. Rodriguez Rodriguez<sup>49</sup> J. Roensch<sup>19</sup> A. Rogachev<sup>44</sup> A. Rogovskiy<sup>58</sup> D. L. Rolf<sup>19</sup> P. Roloff<sup>49</sup>  
V. Romanovskiy<sup>66</sup> A. Romero Vidal<sup>47</sup> G. Romolini<sup>26,49</sup> F. Ronchetti<sup>50</sup> T. Rong<sup>6</sup> M. Rotondo<sup>28</sup> S. R. Roy<sup>22</sup>  
M. S. Rudolph<sup>69</sup> M. Ruiz Diaz<sup>22</sup> R. A. Ruiz Fernandez<sup>47</sup> J. Ruiz Vidal<sup>82</sup> J. J. Saavedra-Arias<sup>9</sup>  
J. J. Saborido Silva<sup>47</sup> S. E. R. Sacha Emile R.<sup>49</sup> N. Sagidova<sup>44</sup> D. Sahoo<sup>79</sup> N. Sahoo<sup>54</sup> B. Saitta<sup>32,o</sup>  
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E. Santovetti<sup>37</sup> A. Saputi<sup>26,49</sup> D. Saranin<sup>44</sup> A. Sarnatskiy<sup>81</sup> G. Sarpis<sup>49</sup> M. Sarpis<sup>80</sup> C. Satriano<sup>36,z</sup>  
A. Satta<sup>37</sup> M. Saur<sup>74</sup> D. Savrina<sup>44</sup> H. Sazak<sup>17</sup> F. Sborzacchi<sup>49,28</sup> A. Scarabotto<sup>19</sup> S. Schael<sup>17</sup> S. Scherl<sup>61</sup>  
M. Schiller<sup>22</sup> H. Schindler<sup>49</sup> M. Schmelling<sup>21</sup> B. Schmidt<sup>49</sup> N. Schmidt<sup>68</sup> S. Schmitt<sup>65</sup> H. Schmitz<sup>18</sup>  
O. Schneider<sup>50</sup> A. Schopper<sup>62</sup> N. Schulte<sup>19</sup> M. H. Schune<sup>14</sup> G. Schwering<sup>17</sup> B. Sciascia<sup>28</sup> A. Sciuccati<sup>49</sup>  
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