

Nucleon structure from lattice QCD

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Outline

■ Introduction

- Hadron structure from the lattice
- Computational issues: cost, simulations and analysis

■ Methods for hadron structure on the lattice

- Methods for excited state identification

■ Representative results

- Nucleon axial and tensor charge
- Electromagnetic form factors of the nucleon
- Nucleon σ -terms
- Nucleon to Δ transition form factors

■ Outlook and summary

- Outlook on new methods for noise reduction
- Summary



Lattice QCD

- **Post-diction of experimentally well known quantities**

- Masses of low-lying hadrons
- Nucleon axial-charge g_A
- Nucleon momentum fraction $\langle x \rangle$
- Nucleon electromagnetic form-factors

“Benchmark” or “Gold-plated”
quantities

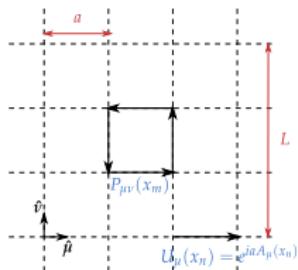
- **Pre-diction of experimentally less (or not) known quantities**

- Nucleon scalar and tensor charges g_S, g_T
- Nucleon sigma terms
- Axial charges of hyperons
- Neutron electric dipole moment
- Precision measurements of proton radius, anomalous magnetic moment of muon (hadronic)

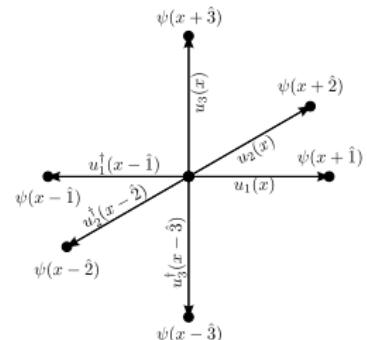
Contact to new physics

QCD on the lattice

4D space - time lattice



- 4D grid, spacing a , extent L
- Quark fields $\psi(x)$, $\bar{\psi}(x)$, gluon fields $U_\mu(x)$
- Finite $a \rightarrow$ UV cut-off
- Finite $L \rightarrow$ quantized momenta $\frac{2\pi}{L} \vec{n}$



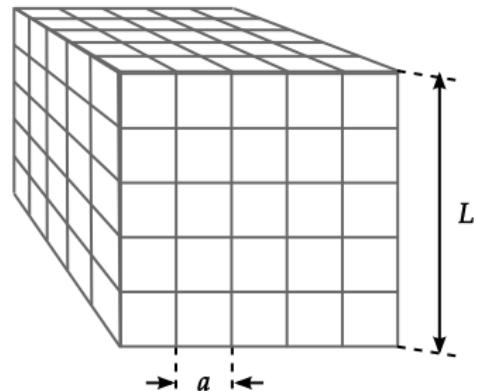
- Monte Carlo simulation for ensembles of gluon fields, with probability $e^{S[U, M^{-1}]}$ (Euclidean time)
- Observables: $\langle O \rangle = \sum_{\{U\}} O(M^{-1}, U_\mu)$, with M^{-1} the quark propagator
- M , discrete covariant derivative (Dirac operator) \rightarrow 4D stencil

■ Sources of uncertainty

- $\mathcal{O}(1,000)$ to $\mathcal{O}(100,000)$ independent statistics depending on observable and required precision
- Take $a \rightarrow 0$ limit (3 lattice spacings)
- Take $L \rightarrow \infty$ limit (2-3 volumes)
- ~~M : ill-conditioned for $m_q \ll$, need several m_q to take $m_q \rightarrow m_q^{\text{phys}}$~~
Simulations available at $m_q = m_q^{\text{phys}}$
- Inclusion of disconnected quark loop contributions

■ Current state-of-the-art

- $L \gtrapprox 5$ fm
- $a \simeq 0.1$ fm
- Lattice sizes $\gtrapprox 48^3 \times 96 = \mathcal{O}(10^7)$ sites



Twisted mass fermions

Transform quark spinor fields $\psi = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$ to “Twisted Mass” basis:

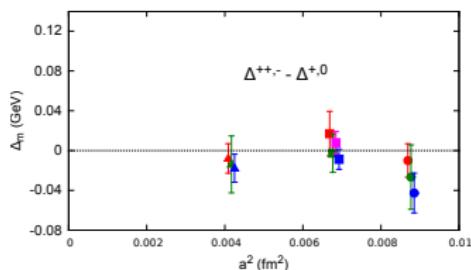
$$\chi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1 + i\gamma_5\tau_3)\psi, \quad \bar{\chi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\psi}(1 + i\gamma_5\tau_3).$$

Twisted mass fermion actions

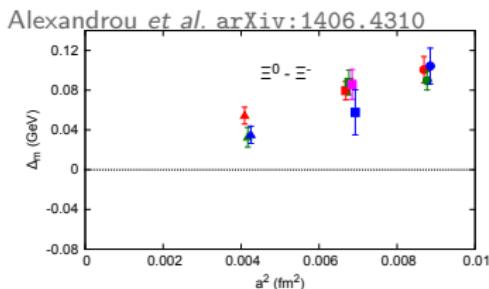
$$S_F = \bar{\chi} M \chi = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\chi}(x) [D[U] + m + i\mu\gamma_5\tau_3] \chi(x)$$

with $D[U] = \frac{1}{2}[\gamma_\mu(\nabla_\mu + \nabla_\mu^*) - a\nabla_\mu^*\nabla_\mu]$ the massless Wilson-Dirac operator

- $m = m_{\text{crit}}$ “maximal twist”:
 - ✓ Automatic $O(a)$ improvement
 - ✓ No additional operator improvement terms required
 - ✗ Isospin breaking at $O(a^2)$

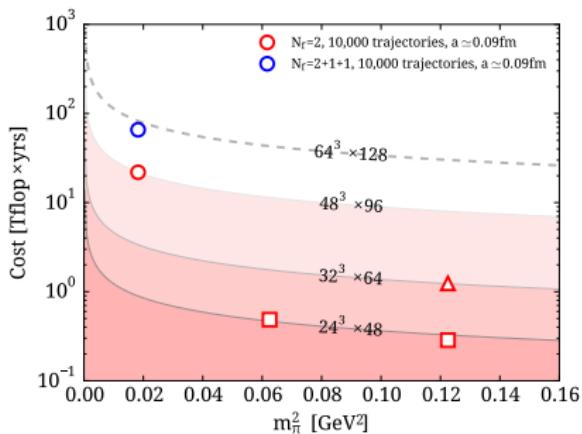


Small isospin breaking effects - worst case Ξ^0 - Ξ^-



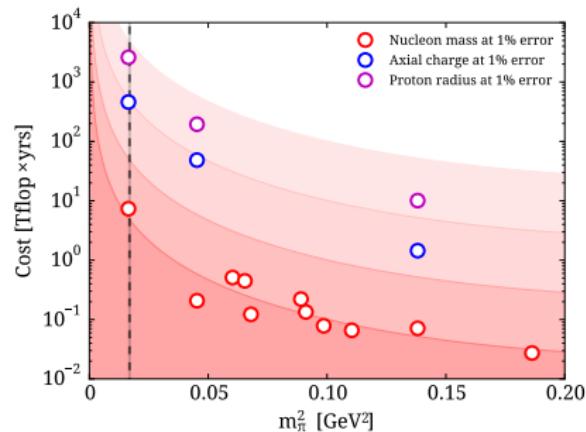
Simulation and analysis cost

Simulation cost



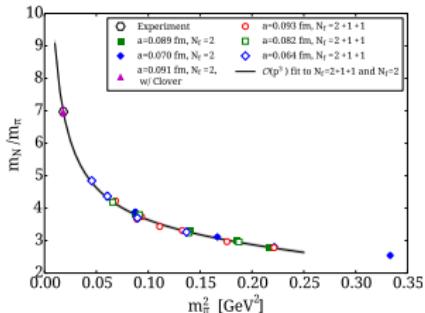
- Twisted mass fermions
- $N_f=2$ and $N_f=2+1+1$ flavors
- Empirical cost formula:
$$C^{\text{sim}} \propto \left(\frac{0.3\text{GeV}}{m_{\text{PS}}}\right)^{C_m} \left(\frac{L}{2\text{fm}}\right)^{C_L} \left(\frac{0.1\text{fm}}{a}\right)^{C_a}$$

Analysis cost

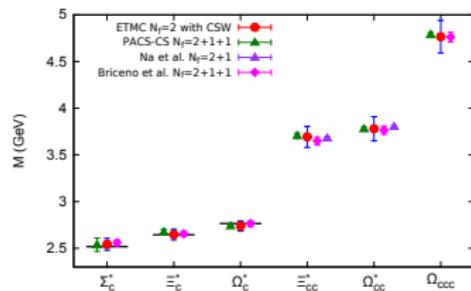
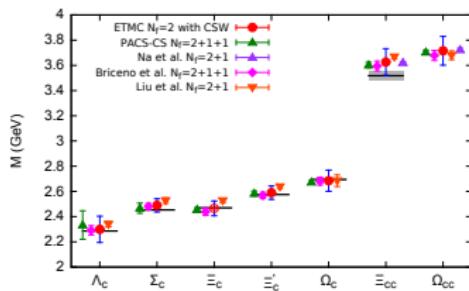


- Analysis cost dominated by inversion cost
- Up-scaled to $64^3 \times 128$
- Peta-flop sustained → Exa-flop requirements

Hadron masses



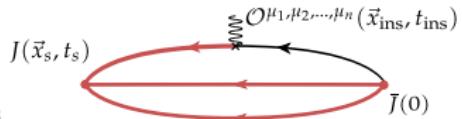
- Physical point simulation: agreement with physical m_N/m_π ratio
- Chiral fit to $m_\pi > m_\pi^{\text{phys}}$ lattice data reproduces the physical point
- Agreement between $N_f = 2$ and $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$ simulations



- Post-diction of observed charmed baryons (bands)
- Prediction of yet to be observed Ω_{cc} , Ω_{cc}^* , Ω_{ccc} , and Ξ_{cc}^*

C. Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:1411.3494

Nucleon matrix element methods



- Matrix elements from three-point correlation functions

$$G_{3\text{pt}}^{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n}(\Gamma_\nu, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, t_s, t_{\text{ins}}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{x}_{\text{ins}}} e^{-i\mathbf{x}_s \cdot \mathbf{p}} e^{-i\mathbf{x}_{\text{ins}} \cdot \mathbf{q}} \Gamma_\beta^\nu \langle J_\alpha(t_s, \mathbf{x}_s) \mathcal{O}_\Gamma^{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n}(t_{\text{ins}}, \mathbf{x}_{\text{ins}}) \bar{J}_\beta(0) \rangle$$

- Form an appropriate ratio with two-point functions:

$$R(\Gamma^\lambda, t_s, t_{\text{ins}}) \propto \mathcal{M} + \mathcal{R} e^{-\Delta(t_s - t_{\text{ins}})} + \mathcal{R}^\dagger e^{-\Delta t_{\text{ins}}} + O(e^{-\Delta' t_{\text{ins}}})$$

- \mathcal{M} = $\langle N | \mathcal{O} | N \rangle$ desired matrix element
- Δ, Δ' energy gaps with 1st and 2nd excited states
- a) Take large time extents to yield “plateau value”

$$R(\Gamma^\lambda, t_s, t_{\text{ins}}) \xrightarrow[t_s - t_{\text{ins}} \gg]{t_{\text{ins}} \gg} \Pi(\Gamma^\lambda)$$

- b) Sum over insertion time for “summation method”

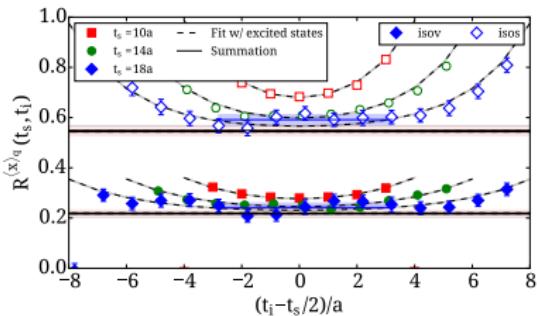
$$\sum_{t_{\text{ins}}} R(\Gamma^\lambda, t_s, t_{\text{ins}}) = \text{Const.} + \mathcal{M} t_s + O(e^{-\Delta t_s})$$

- c) Fit including first excited state effects (Δ, \mathcal{R})

Nucleon matrix element methods

Fit to plateau

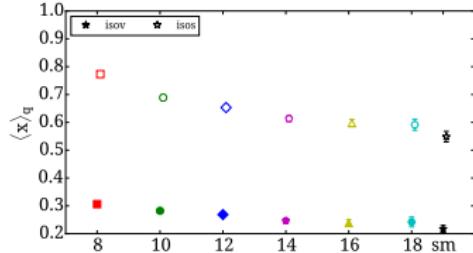
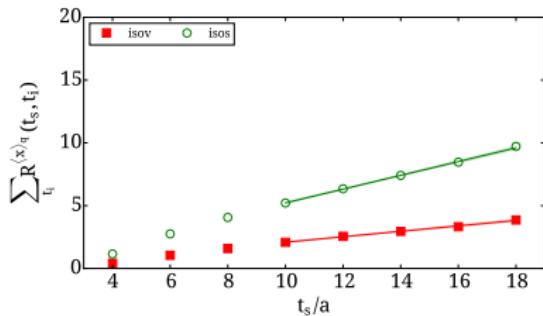
- ✓ Fit to constant
- ✗ Excited states enter as $\max e^{-\Delta(t_s - t_{ins})}, e^{-\Delta t_{ins}}$



- Example a lattice with $m_\pi \simeq 370$ MeV
- t_s available from 0.7 - 1.5 fm
- Fit to excited states not always possible
- Ideally, matrix element value and error confirmed by all available methods

Fit to summed ratio

- ✓ Excited states enter as $e^{-\Delta t_s}$
- ✗ Two parameter fit: cross-correlations between fit parameters \Rightarrow larger uncertainties

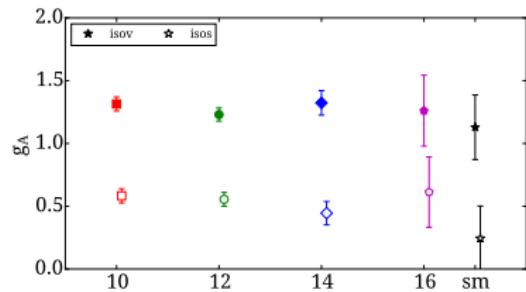
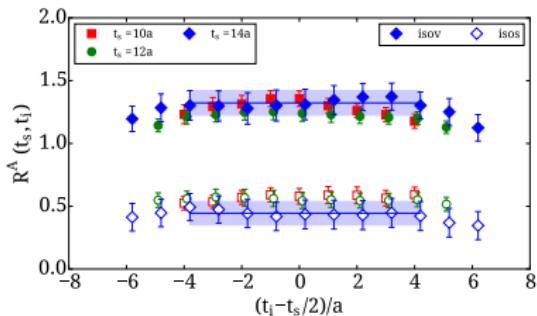


Nucleon axial charge g_A

- Isovector axial charge, from isovector axial vector current:

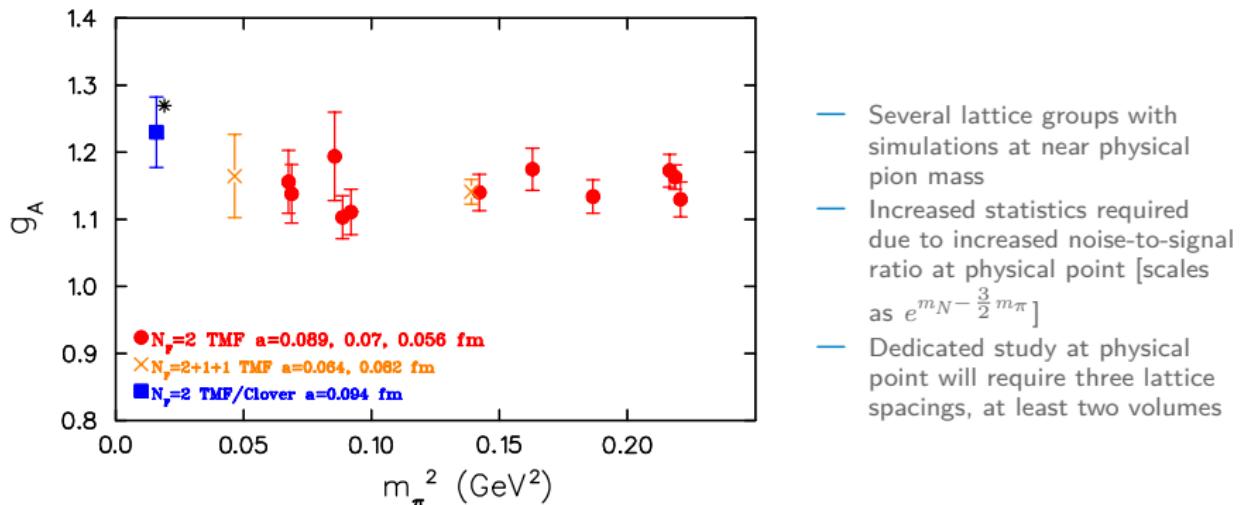
$$O_{A3}^\mu = \bar{u}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu u - \bar{d}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu d \rightarrow \bar{v}_N(\mathbf{p}') \left[\gamma_5\gamma_\mu G_A(q^2) + \frac{q^\mu}{2m} \gamma_5 G_p(q^2) \right] v_N(\mathbf{p}),$$

- $g_A = G_A(0)$, isovector combination \Rightarrow no quark-loops at $m_u = m_d$ limit
- Directly accessible at $q^2=0$



- Also showing connected isoscalar case: $\bar{u}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu u + \bar{d}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu d$
- Physical point lattice: $m_\pi = 0.135$ GeV, $a=0.094$ fm, $48^3 \times 96$
- $\sim 1,500$ configurations analyzed
- No detectable excited state effects while varying t_s between 0.94–1.3 fm

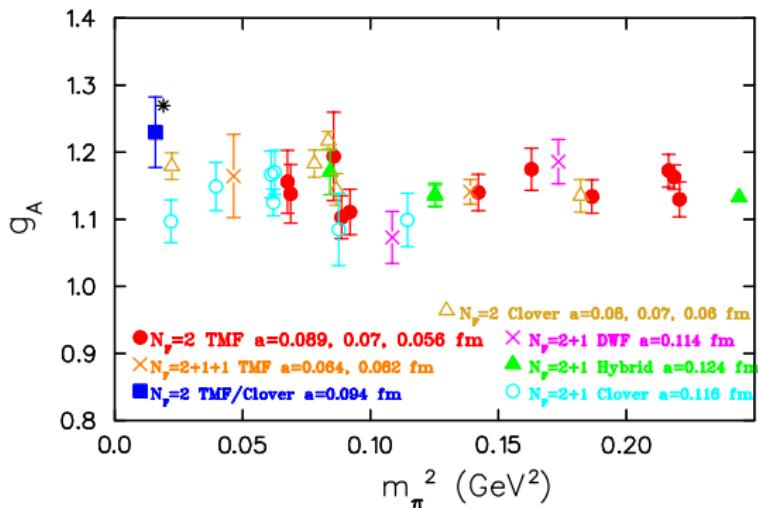
Nucleon axial charge g_A



- Several lattice groups with simulations at near physical pion mass
- Increased statistics required due to increased noise-to-signal ratio at physical point [scales as $e^{m_N - \frac{3}{2} m_\pi}$]
- Dedicated study at physical point will require three lattice spacings, at least two volumes

- Twisted mass, $N_f = 2$, C. Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:1012.0857, 1411.3494
- Twisted mass, $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$, C. Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:1303.5979
- $N_f = 2$ clover, G. Bali *et al.* arXiv:1412.7336; $N_f = 2 + 1$ DWF, T. Yamazaki *et al.* arXiv:0904.2039; $N_f = 2 + 1$ DWF on a staggered sea, LHPC arXiv:1001.3620; $N_f = 2 + 1$ clover, Green *et al.* arXiv:1209.1687

Nucleon axial charge g_A

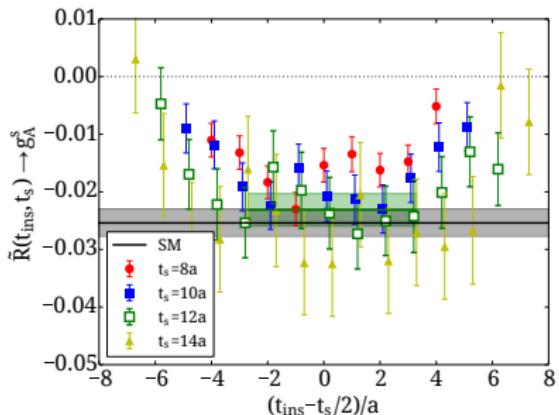
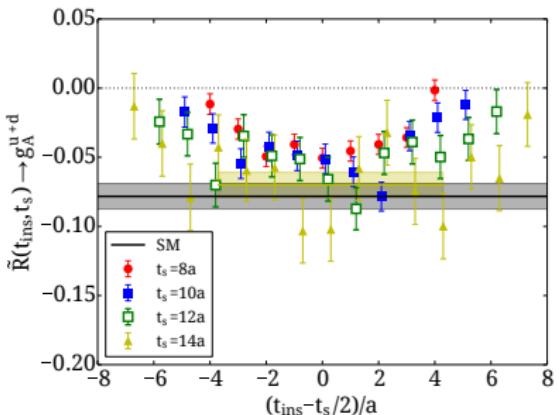
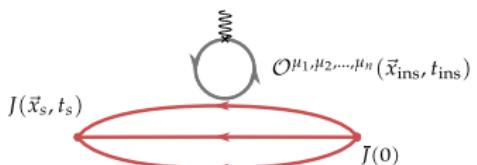


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Nucleon axial charge g_A

- Disconnected quark loop contributions
 - Contribute to isoscalar combinations of u- and d-quark currents.
 - s-quark contributions to nucleon matrix elements



- Dedicated methods for stochastic evaluation of disconnected fermion loops
A. Abdel-Rehim, C. Alexandrou, M. Constantinou, V. Drach, K. Hadjiyannakou, K. Jansen, G. K., A. Vaquero arXiv:1310.6339
 - 150,000 statistics at $m_\pi \simeq 370$ MeV, $O(10^2)$ more than connected
 - Contributions needed to isolate intrinsic nucleon spin contribution of individual u-, d- and s-quarks

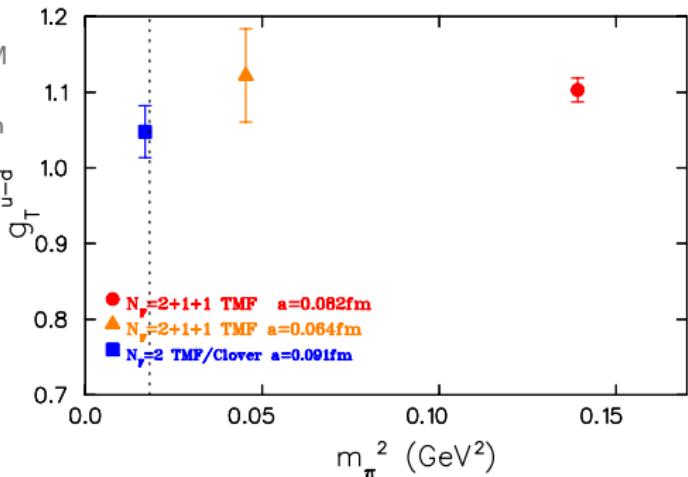
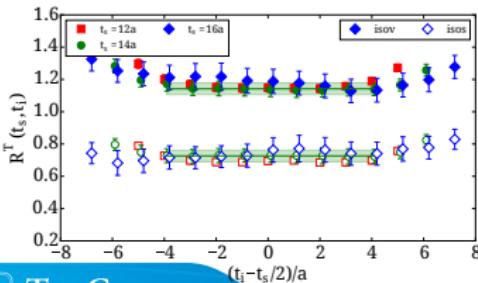
Tensor charge

- Isovector tensor charge:

$$\mathcal{O}_{T^3}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{u}\sigma_{\mu\nu}u - \bar{d}\sigma_{\mu\nu}d \rightarrow \bar{v}_N(\mathbf{p}') \left[\sigma_{\mu\nu} A_{T10}(q^2) + \frac{\gamma^{[\mu} \Delta^{\nu]}}{2m} B_{10}(q^2) + \frac{P^{[\mu} \Delta^{\nu]}}{m^2} \tilde{A}_{T10}(q^2) \right] v_N(\mathbf{p}),$$

$$g_T = A_{T10}(0)$$

- Ultra-cold neutron decay experiments for BSM
- Consistency between lattice descriptions
- Excited state effects expected small, based on high-statistics analysis at 370 MeV pion mass
- C. Alexandrou *et al.* arXiv:1411.3494



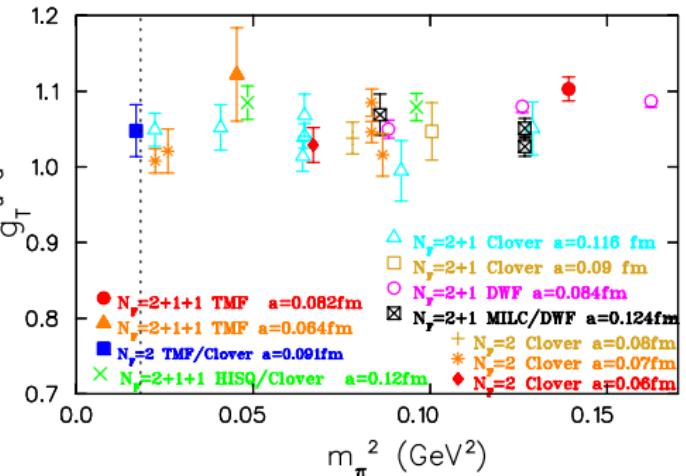
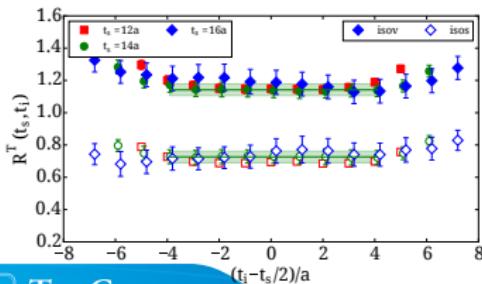
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G. Bali *et al.* arXiv:1412.7336;



Nucleon electromagnetic form factors

- From vector current:

$$\mathcal{O}_V^\mu = \bar{u}\gamma_\mu u \pm \bar{d}\gamma_\mu d \rightarrow \bar{v}_N(\mathbf{p}') \left[\gamma_\mu F_1^V(q^2) + \frac{i\sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu}{2m} F_2^V(q^2) \right] v_N(\mathbf{p}),$$

- Alternatively, the Electric (G_E) and (G_M) Sachs form factors:

$$G_E(q^2) = F_1(q^2) + \frac{q^2}{(2M_N)^2} F_2(q^2), \quad G_M(q^2) = F_1(q^2) + F_2(q^2)$$

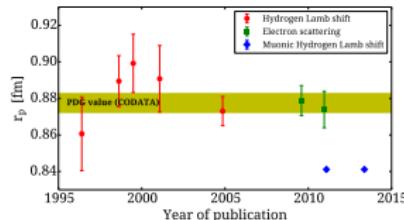
- Radii (Dirac and Pauli) defined as slope at $Q^2 = 0$:

$$\langle r_i^2 \rangle = -\frac{6}{F_i} \frac{dF_i}{dQ^2} \Big|_{Q^2=0}$$

similarly for $\langle r_E^2 \rangle$, $\langle r_M^2 \rangle$ (Electric and magnetic)

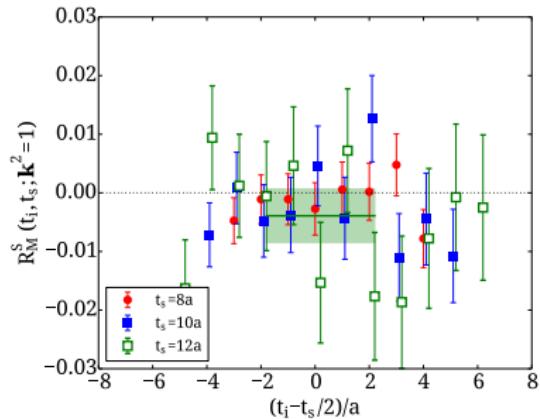
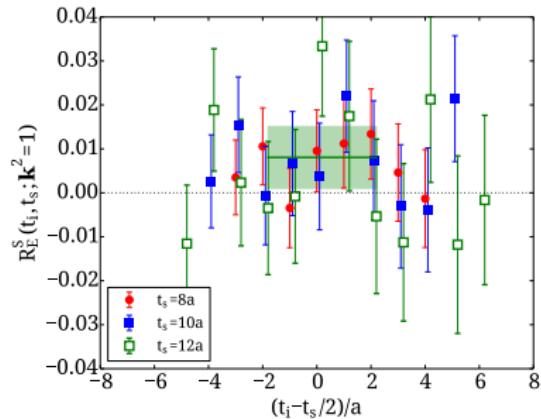
- Isovector and isoscalar combinations

- $j_{EM}^\mu = \frac{2}{3} \bar{u}\gamma_\mu u - \frac{1}{3} \bar{d}\gamma_\mu d$
- $\langle p|j_{EM}^\mu|p\rangle - \langle n|j_{EM}^\mu|n\rangle = \langle p|\bar{u}\gamma_\mu u - \bar{d}\gamma_\mu d|p\rangle$ - **Isovector** (no quark loop contributions)
- $\langle p|j_{EM}^\mu|p\rangle + \langle n|j_{EM}^\mu|n\rangle = \frac{1}{3} \langle p|\bar{u}\gamma_\mu u + \bar{d}\gamma_\mu d|p\rangle$ - **Isoscalar** (quark loop contributions)
- $F^p - F^n = F^V$ assuming flavor SU(2) isospin symmetry,
- $F^p + F^n = \frac{1}{3} F^S$ i.e. $p \leftrightarrow n$ when $u \leftrightarrow d$



Nucleon electromagnetic form factors

Dedicated study of disconnected contribution arXiv:1310.6339

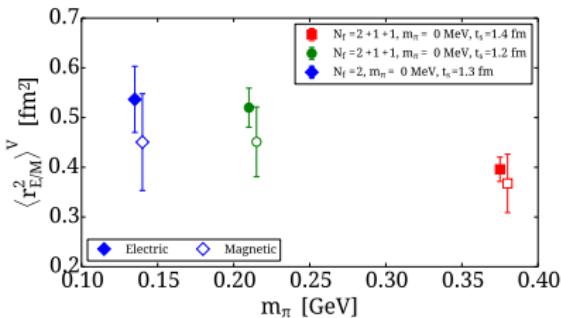
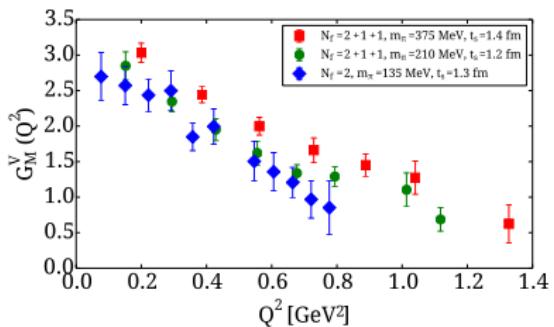
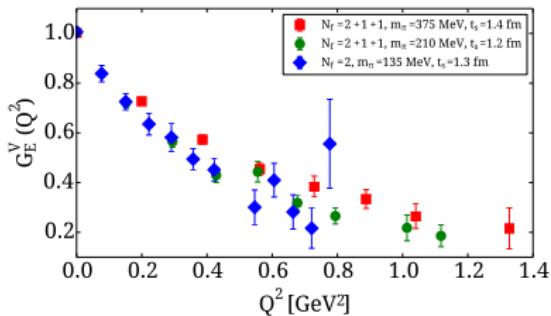


Twisted mass $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$, $a \simeq 0.085$ fm, $m_\pi \simeq 370$ MeV

$\sim 150,000$ statistics

Connected contribution $O(1) \Rightarrow$ disconnected bound to $\sim 1\%$ at this pion mass

Nucleon electromagnetic form factors



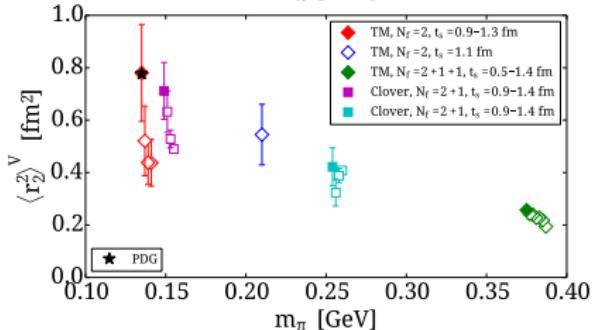
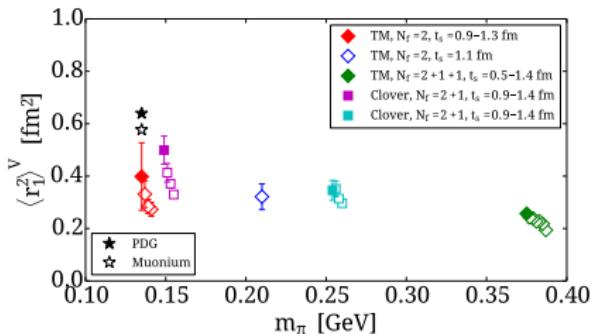
- Three ensembles of twisted mass fermions
 - Physical point: $N_f = 2$, $a \simeq 0.094$ fm,
 $m_\pi \simeq 135$ MeV
 - ▶ ~1,000 statistics for $t_s - t_0 = 1.1$ and
 1.3 fm, ~300 for 0.9 fm
 - $t_s - t_0 > 1.2$ fm
 - Tendency for steeper G_E and G_M as
 $m_\pi \rightarrow 135$ MeV \Rightarrow larger radii
 - Radii from fit to dipole forms:

$$F_1(Q^2) = \frac{1}{(1 + Q^2/M_1^2)^2},$$

$$F_2(Q^2) = \frac{F_2(0)}{(1 + Q^2/M_D^2)^2}$$

$$\langle r_i^2 \rangle = \frac{12}{M_i^2}$$

Nucleon electromagnetic form factors



- Including LHPC data: arXiv:1404.4029
 - ▶ Clover improved, $a = 0.116$ fm, $m_\pi = 149$ MeV
 - ▶ Consistency between the two discretizations
- Curvature towards physical point
- Increasing trend for enlarging source-sink separation at near physical pion masses
- Need $\sim 1\%$ error to contact experiment, or a multiple-fold increase in statistics.

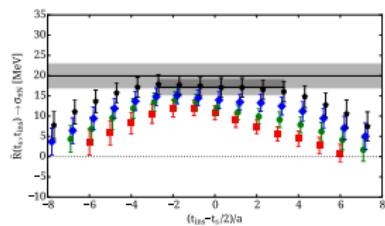
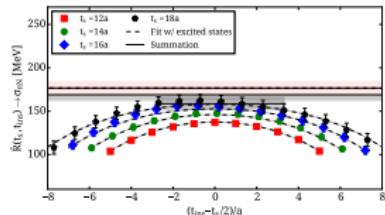
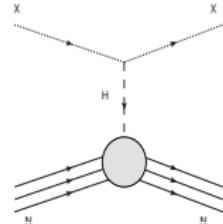
Nucleon σ -terms

- Pion-nucleon (light) σ -term: $\sigma_{\pi N} = m_{ud}\langle N|\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d|N\rangle$
- Strange σ -term: $\sigma_s = m_s\langle N|\bar{s}s|N\rangle$
- Non negligible contribution from excited states
- Strange content:

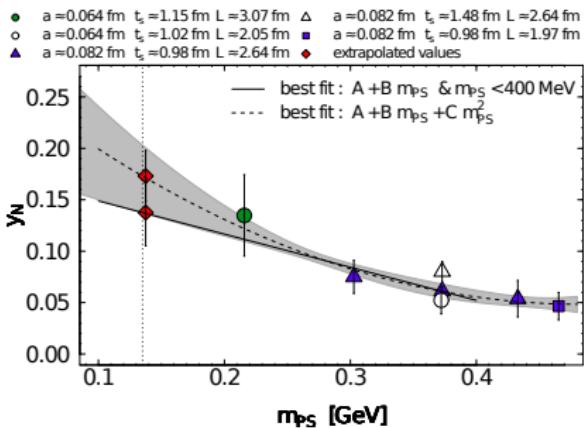
$$y_N = \frac{2\langle N|\bar{s}s|N\rangle}{\langle N|\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d|N\rangle} = 1 - \frac{\sigma_0}{\sigma_{\pi N}}$$

with $\sigma_0 = m_{ud}\langle N|\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d - 2\bar{s}s|N\rangle$

- Three estimates for $\sigma_{\pi N}$:
 45 ± 8 MeV (GLS);
 64 ± 7 MeV (GWU);
 59 ± 7 MeV (AMO);
- $\sigma_0 = 36 \pm 7$ MeV B. Borasoy and U.-G. Meissner
- $\sigma_0 = 58 \pm 8$ MeV J. Alarcon, L. Geng, J. Martin Camalich, and J. Oller
- Yields: y_N within 0.02 - 0.44 with at least 30% error
- Enters super-symmetric candidate particle scattering cross sections with nucleon (e.g. neutralino through Higgs)
→ First principles evaluation from the lattice

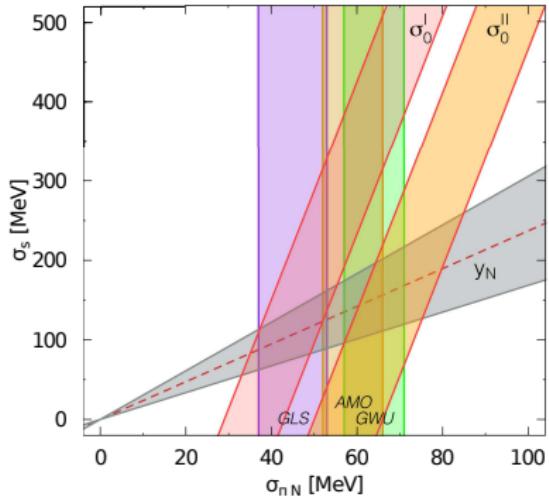


Nucleon σ -terms



- Chiral extrapolation to physical pion mass
 - $y_N = 0.173(29)(36)(19)(9)$
 - Error budget includes excited states
(source-sink separation), chiral fit, lattice spacing

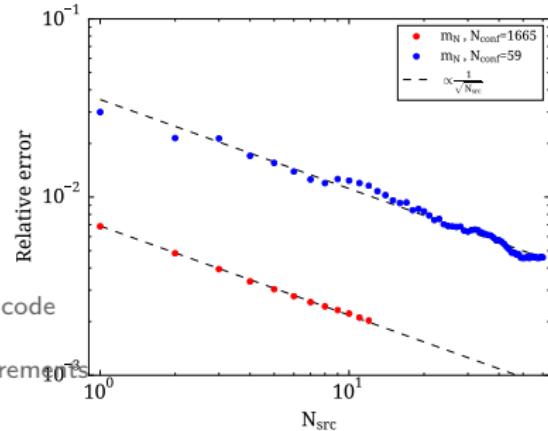
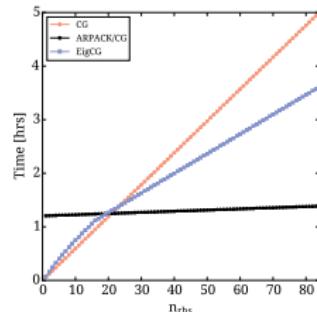
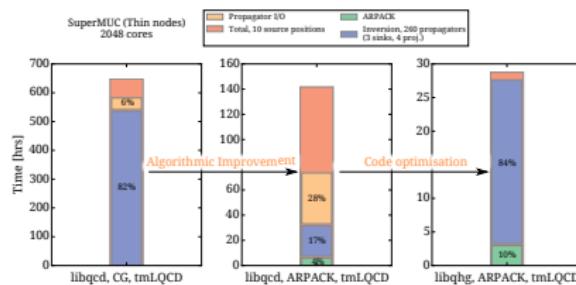
C. Alexandrou et al. arXiv:1309.7768



- Given y_N can infer constraints on $\sigma_{\pi N}$, σ_0

Noise reduction techniques

- Use multiple measurements per gauge-field configuration (e.g. multiple source locations)
- Statistically independent for large enough volumes
- Allows employing multiple right-hand-side solvers
- Exact deflation via a polynomially accelerated Arnoldi



- Combination of both algorithmic improvements and code optimisation for multiple-fold run-time improvement
- Confirmed $1/\sqrt{N}$ error scaling with up to 64 measurements per configuration

Nucleon to Δ electromagnetic transition

- Transition form factors:

$$\langle \Delta(p', s') | j_{\text{EM}}^\mu | N(p, s) \rangle \rightarrow \bar{v}_\sigma(p', s') \left[G_{M1}(q^2) K_{M1}^{\sigma\mu} + G_{E2}(q^2) K_{E2}^{\sigma\mu} + G_{C2}(q^2) K_{C2}^{\sigma\mu} \right] v(p, s)$$

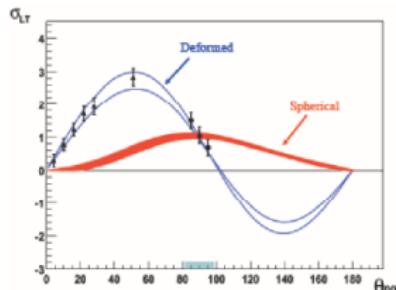
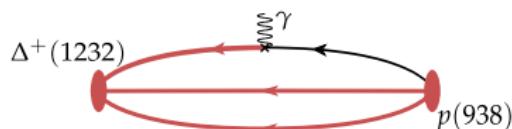
- Dominant magnetic dipole transition G_{M1}

- Subdominant

- ▶ Electric quadrupole G_{E2}

- ▶ Coulomb quadrupole G_{C2}

- Non-zero sub-dominants indicate an intrinsic quadrupole moment

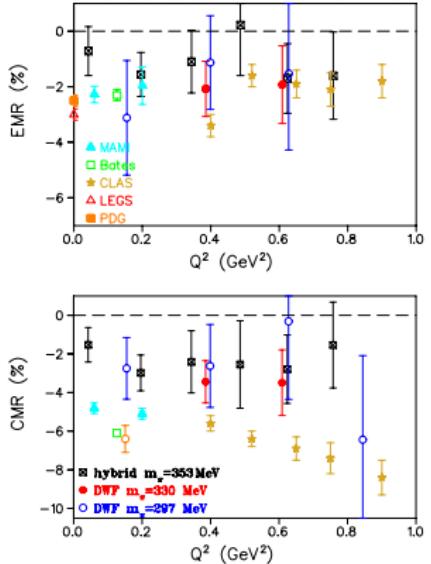


Experimentally used as probe for deformation in nucleon

C. N. Papanicolas, Eur. Phys. J. A18 (2003); N. Sparveris et al., PRL 94, 022003 (2005)

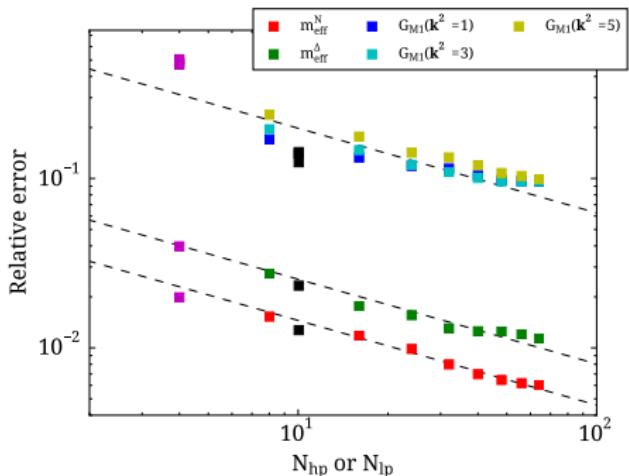
Nucleon to Δ electromagnetic transition

C. Alexandrou et al. arXiv:1011.3233



- Large uncertainties for sub-dominants from the lattice
- However consistently negative and non-zero

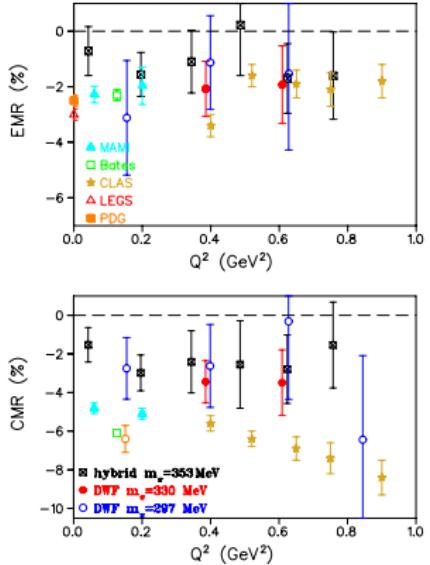
With USQCD group @ MIT



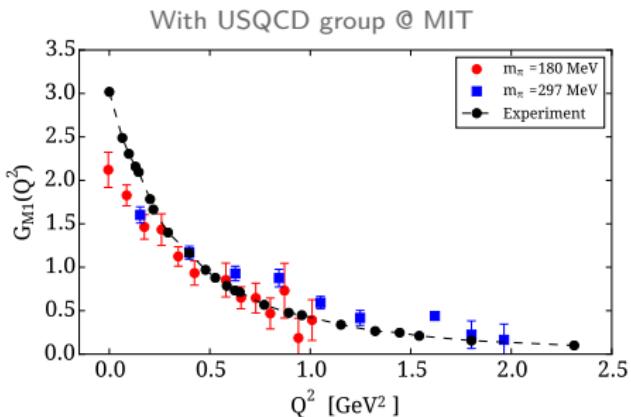
- Domain Wall configurations by the RBC collaboration
- New methods for efficiently calculating correlation functions at near-physical pion mass
- $m_\pi = 180 \text{ MeV}$ Domain Wall fermions
- All-mode-averaging for 64 measurements per gauge configuration
- 100 gauge configurations \rightarrow 6,400 statistics

Nucleon to Δ electromagnetic transition

C. Alexandrou et al. arXiv:1011.3233



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Summary

- **LQCD benchmark quantities**
 - A number of lattice QCD calculations at physical pion mass
 - Multiple lattice spacings and volumes required for removing all systematic uncertainties
- **Need improved methods for efficiently increasing statistics at physical point**
 - Multiple right-hand-side linear solvers
 - Disconnected diagram calculations possible thanks to new computer technologies (e.g. GPUs) and methods
- **Paves the way towards precision nucleon structure calculations**
 - First pin down benchmark quantities, e.g. g_A , $\langle x \rangle$
 - Confidence in precision matrix element calculations
 - Multiple observables in the pipeline: σ -terms, tensor charge, EM form-factors

Thank you!

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- Fermi at CINECA
- Minotauro at BSC



Configurations by the European
Twisted Mass collaboration