

Pseudoscalar Mesons and **Emergent Mass**

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<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00601-024-01924-2>

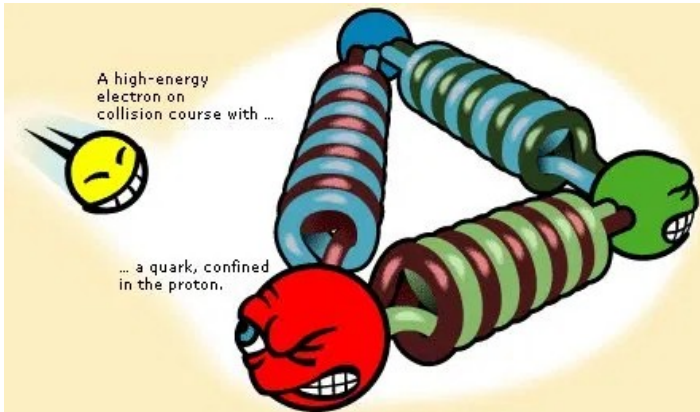
Science at the Luminosity Frontier: JLab at 22 GeV
Frascati, Italy. December 9-13, 2024

QCD: Emergent Phenomena

- QCD is characterized by two **emergent** phenomena: **confinement** and dynamical generation of mass (DGM).



- ◆ Quarks and gluons not *isolated* in nature.
- ➔ Formation of colorless bound states: “**Hadrons**”
- ➔ **1-fm scale** size of hadrons?



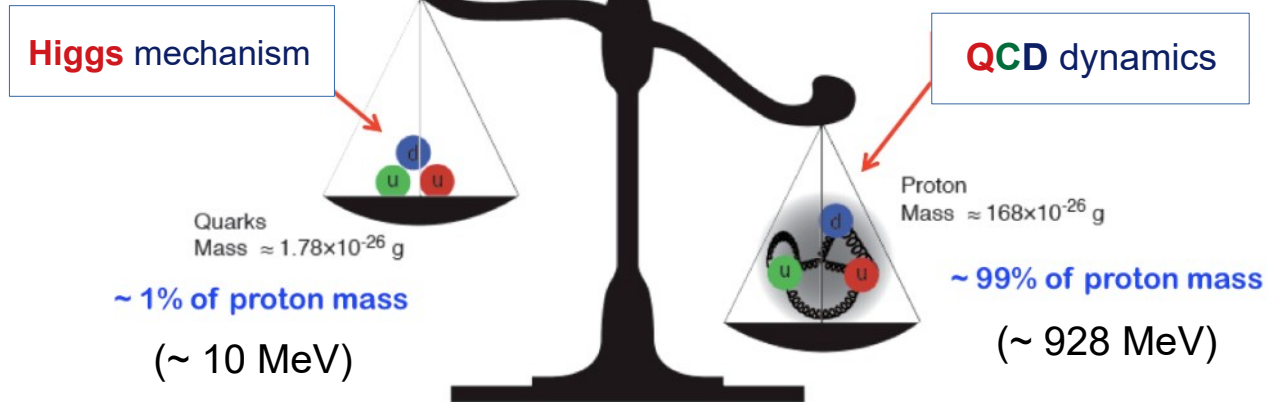
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \sum_{j=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{q}_j [\gamma_\mu D_\mu + m_j] q_j + \frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G_{\mu\nu}^a,$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + ig \frac{1}{2} \lambda^a A_\mu^a,$$

$$G_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a - g f^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c,$$



- ◆ Emergence of hadron masses (EHM) from QCD **dynamics**



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- **QCD** is characterized by two **emergent** phenomena: **confinement** and dynamical generation of mass (**DGM**).

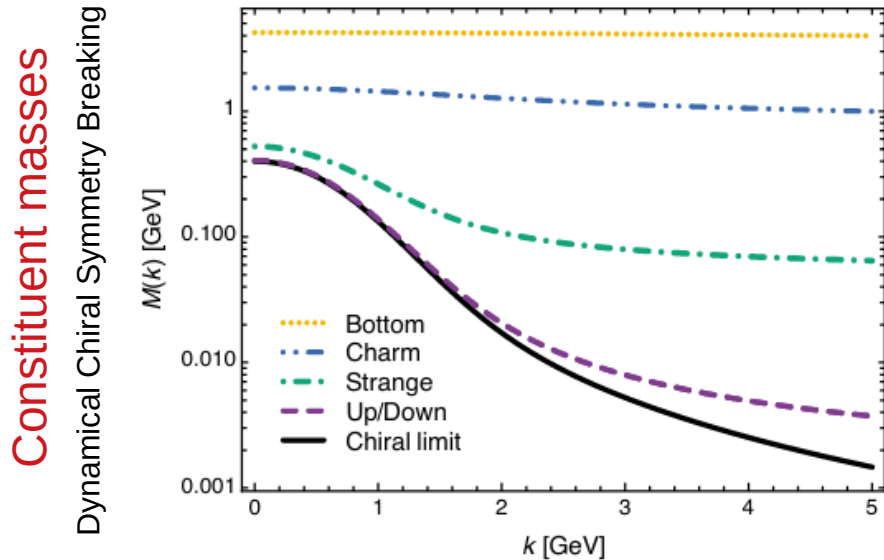
Can we trace them down to fundamental d.o.f?

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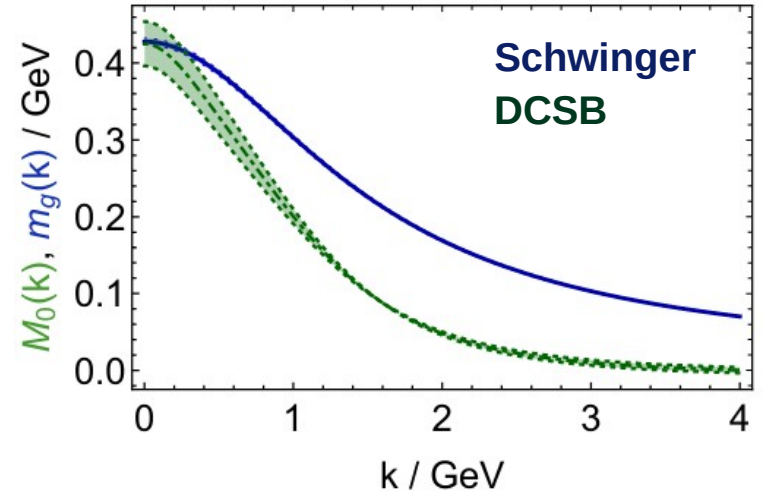
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- ◆ Emergence of hadron masses (**EHM**) from QCD **dynamics**



$$S_f^{-1}(p) = Z_f^{-1}(p^2)(i\gamma \cdot p + \mathbf{M}_f(p^2))$$

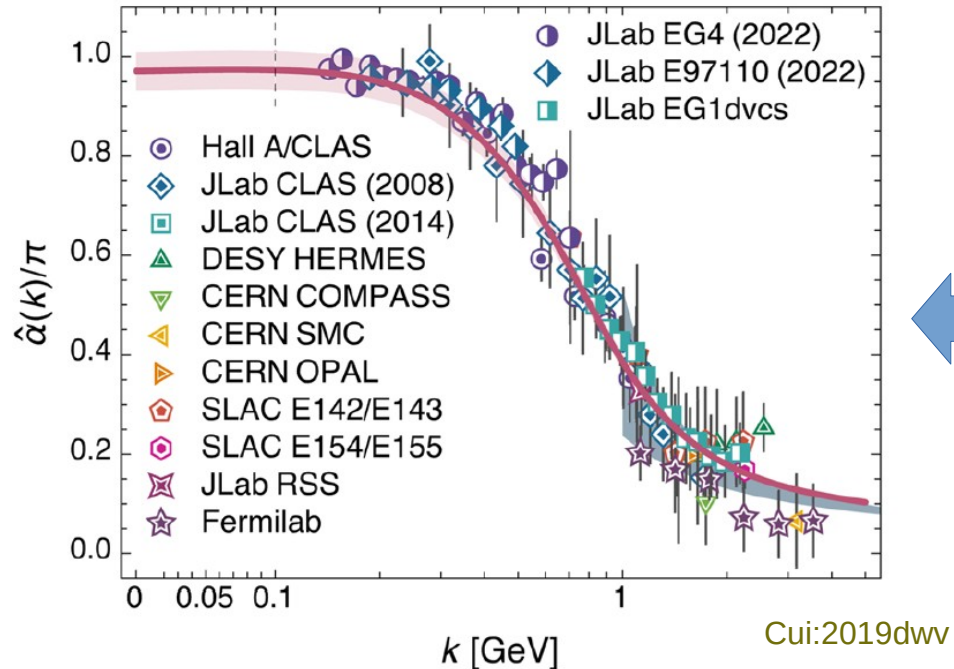


Gluon and quark *running masses*

QCD: Emergent Phenomena

- **QCD** is characterized by two **emergent** phenomena:
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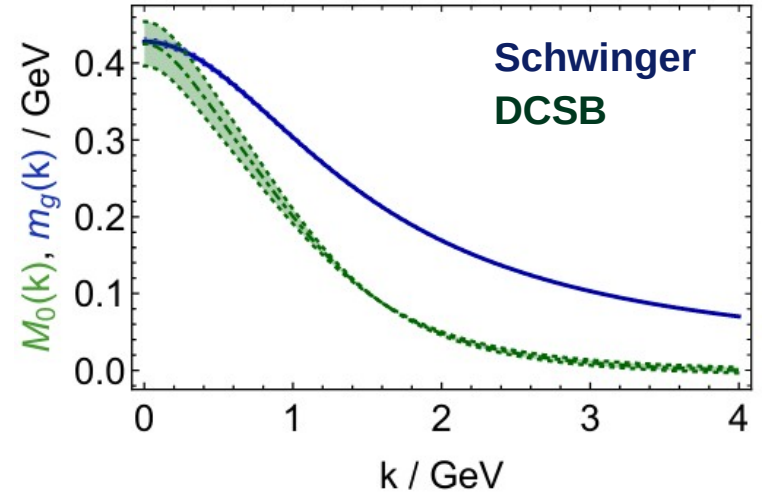


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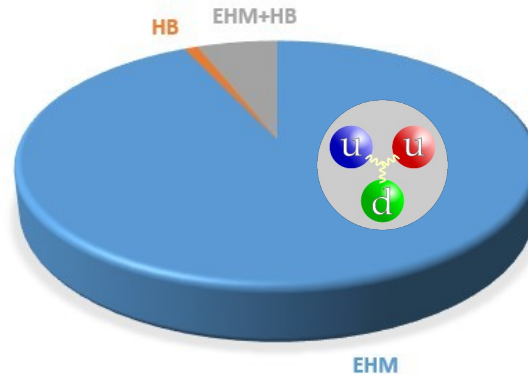
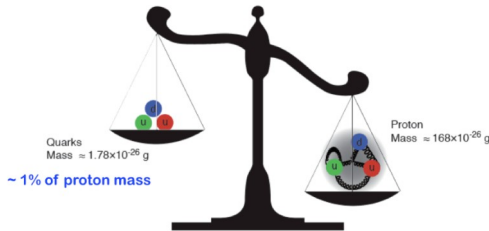
Gluon and quark *running masses*

Mass Budgets

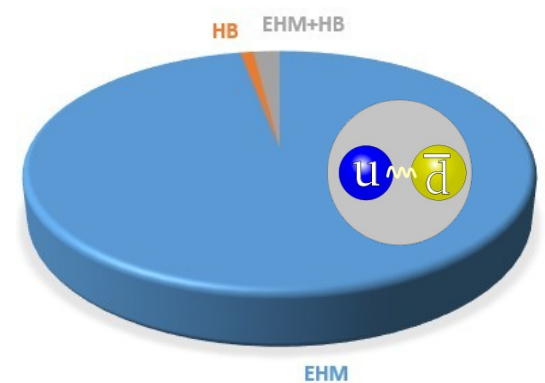
$$M_{u/d} \approx 0.3 \text{ GeV}$$

- What is the origin of **EHM**?
... its connection with e.g. **confinement** and **DCSB**?

- ➔ Most of the **mass** in the visible universe is contained within **nucleons**
- ➔ Which remain **pretty massive** whether there is Higgs mechanism or not...



Proton mass budget



Rho meson mass budget

$$m_p = 0.938 \text{ GeV} \approx 2M_u + M_d$$

$$m_\rho = 0.775 \text{ GeV} \approx M_u + M_d$$

Proton and **rho** meson mass budgets are practically **identical**

Mass Budgets

$$m_s/m_u \sim 20$$
$$f_K/f_\pi \sim M_s/M_u \sim 1.2$$

- The lightest hadrons in Nature, **pions** and **kaons**, follow an opposite pattern.

$$m_\pi = 0.14 \text{ GeV} \neq M_u + M_d$$

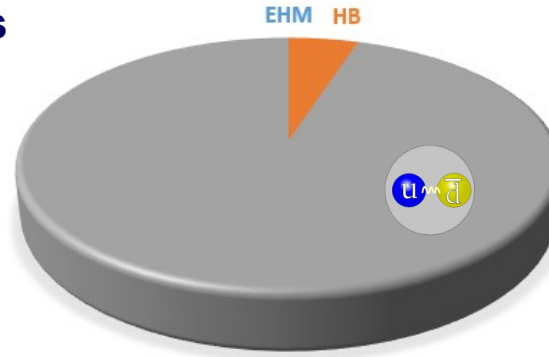
$$m_K = 0.49 \text{ GeV} \neq M_u + M_s$$

- In fact, the **absence of Higgs** mechanism would render these states **massless**.

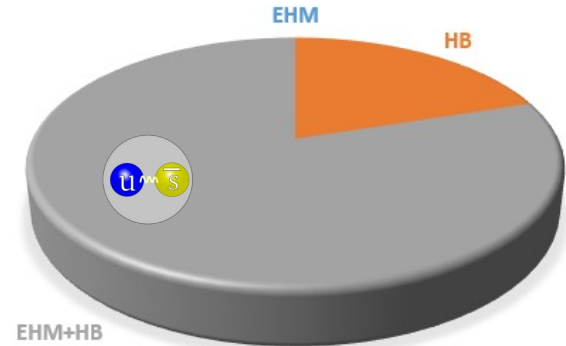
→ And **structurally alike**.

→ Both are quark-antiquark **bound-states** and **NG bosons**

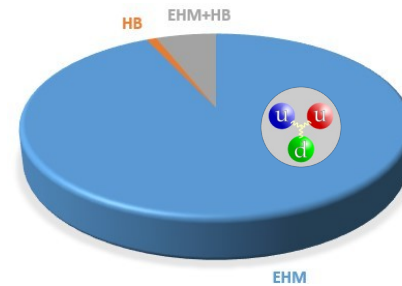
→ Their mere **existence** is connected with **mass** generation in the **SM**



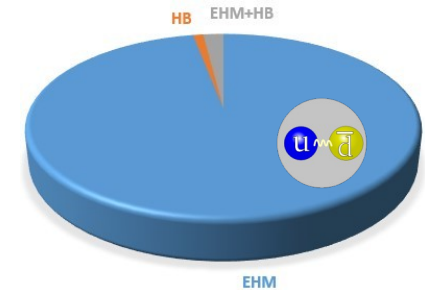
EHM+HB
Pion mass budget



EHM+HB
Kaon mass budget



EHM
Proton mass budget



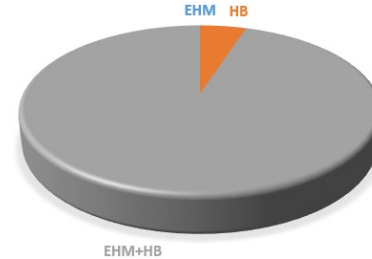
EHM
Rho meson mass budget

Mass Budgets

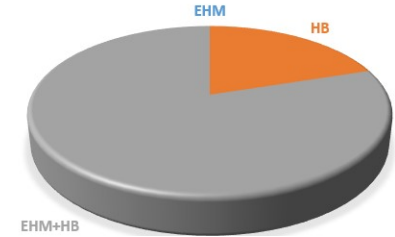
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$$f_K/f_\pi \sim M_s/M_u \sim 1.2$$

- Both are quark-antiquark **bound-states** and **NG bosons**
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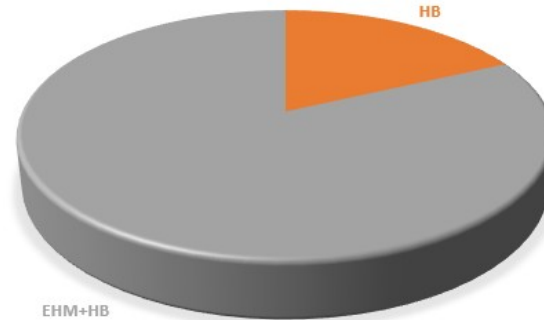
- This is also true for the **η meson**, but not for its partner, **η'** .
- The **$U_A(1)$** anomaly, another manifestation of **EHM**, sets it apart from the **NG-boson** family
- Yet, the **η - η'** system have tightly intertwined properties



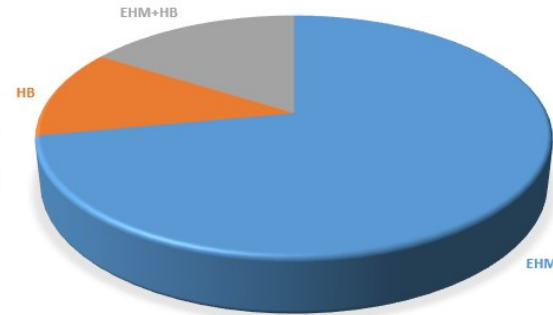
Pion mass budget



Kaon mass budget



η mass budget



η' mass budget

Mass Budgets

$$m_s/m_u \sim 20$$
$$f_K/f_\pi \sim M_s/M_u \sim 1.2$$

➤ The examination of **all** pseudoscalars is crucial in elucidating the role of the **mass generation** mechanisms on the structural **properties**.

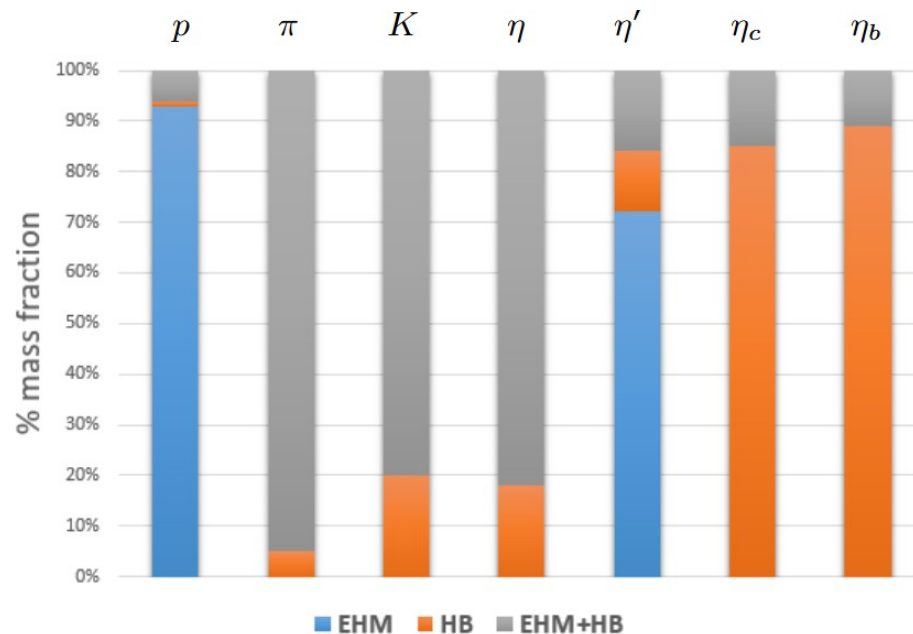
→ An so the **emergent** features of the strong interactions.

(confinement, mass generation)

➤ Light **pseudoscalars** hold a special role due to their link with **symmetries and anomalies** in the Standard Model.

➤ **Modern facilities** are set to scrutinize their properties at **unprecedented** depth.

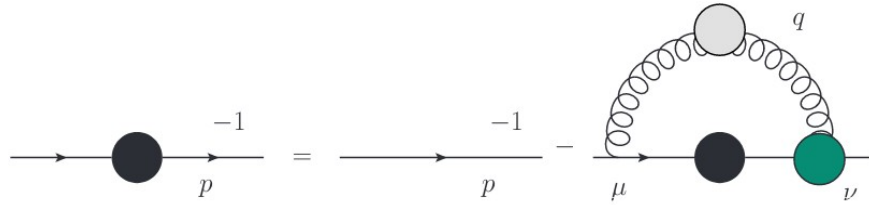
Accardi:2023chb Arrington:2021biu Chen:2020ijn



Continuum Schwinger Methods (CSM)



DSE-BSE approach



Quark DSE

→ Relates the quark propagator with **QGV** and **gluon propagator**.

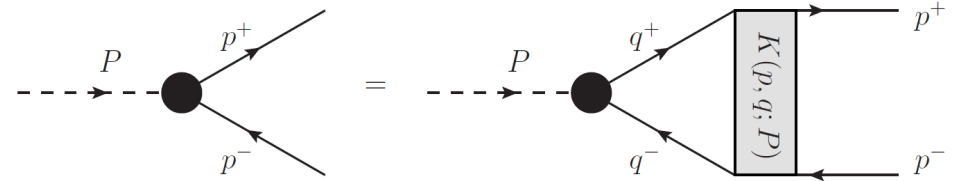
- Any sensible truncation must preserve the **Goldstone's Theorem**, whose most fundamental expression is captured in:

“**Pions** exists, if and only if, **DCSB** occurs.”

$$f_\pi E_\pi(k; P=0) = B(k^2)$$

Leading BSA

“**Mass Function**”



Meson BSE

→ Contains **all interactions** between the valence quark and antiquark

Valence-quark distribution amplitudes (**DAs**)

$$f_{\mathbf{P}} \varphi_{\mathbf{P}}^q(x; \zeta) = \text{tr}_{\text{CD}} \int_{dk}^{\Lambda} \delta_{n,P}^x(k) \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n(k; P) \chi_{\mathbf{P}}(k_-; P)$$

Light-front momentum fraction

Expressed in terms of **BSWF**

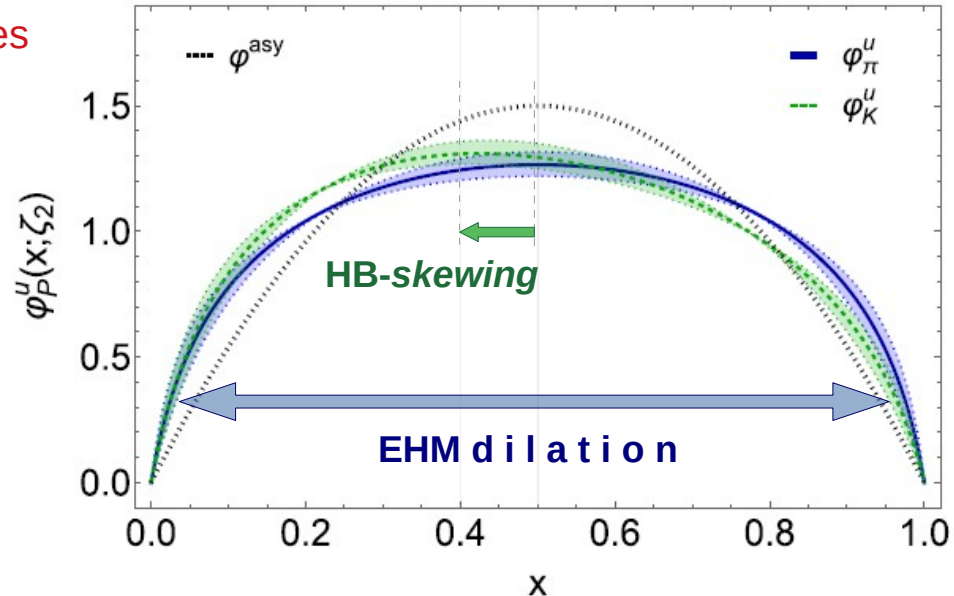
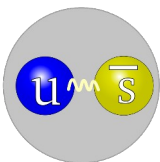
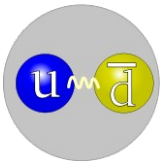
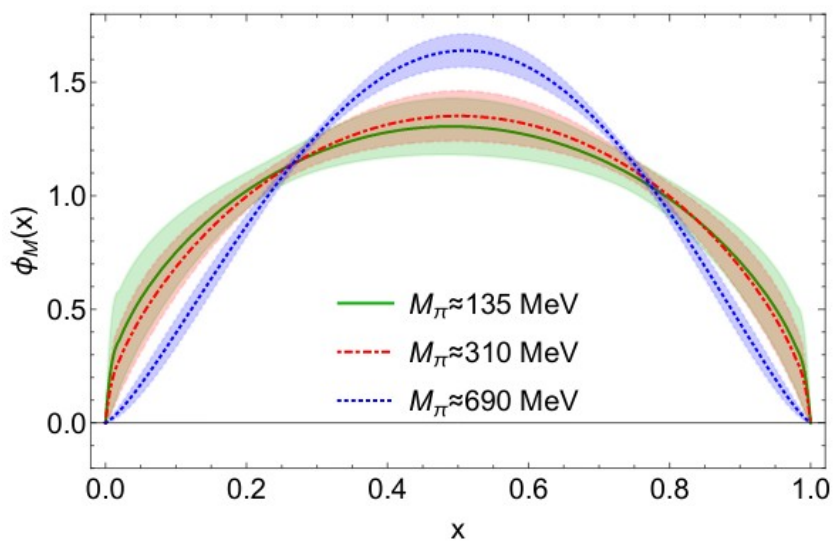
- **1-dimensional** projection of the **light-front wavefunction**.
- Clear **probe of EHM**, related with hard **exclusive processes**, etc.

π -K DAs

$$m_s/m_u \sim 20$$

$$f_K/f_\pi \sim M_s/M_u \sim 1.2$$

- ✓ **Broad** and concave **DAs**. @ real-life scales
- ✓ **Mild** skewing in **Kaon**: strong & weak interplay.

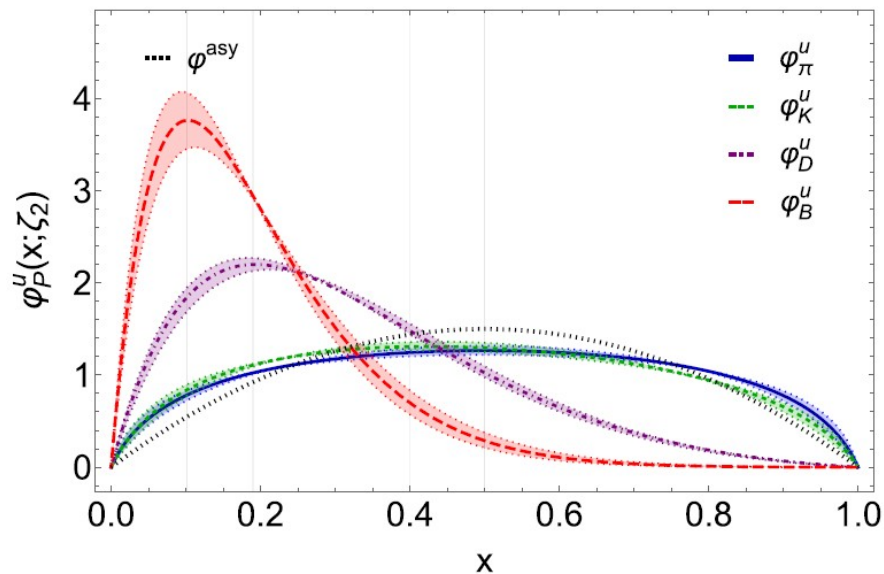
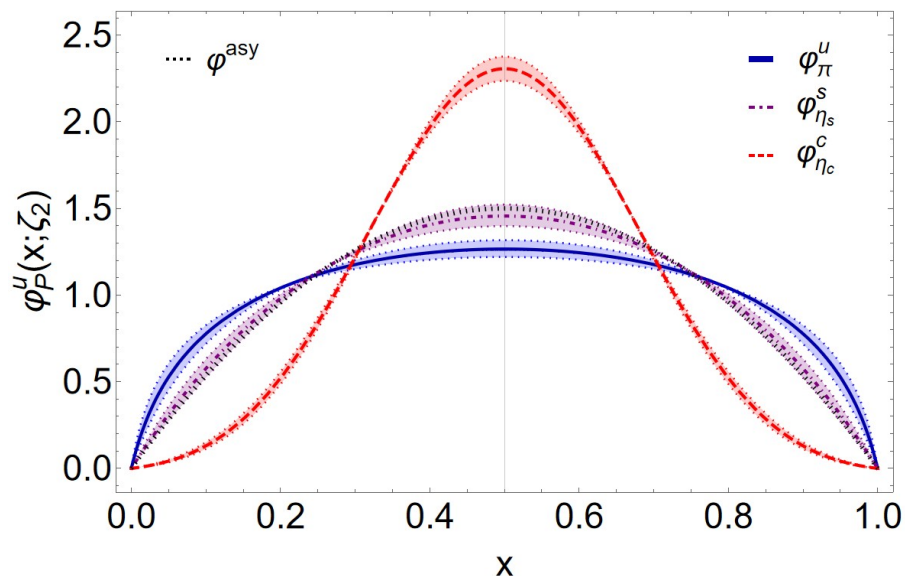


- ✓ Lattice QCD supports those findings:
[Zhang:2020gaj](#) [Bali:2019dqc](#) [Segovia:2013eca](#)

Pointwise form of the **PDA**!

'Heavy' mesons **DAs**

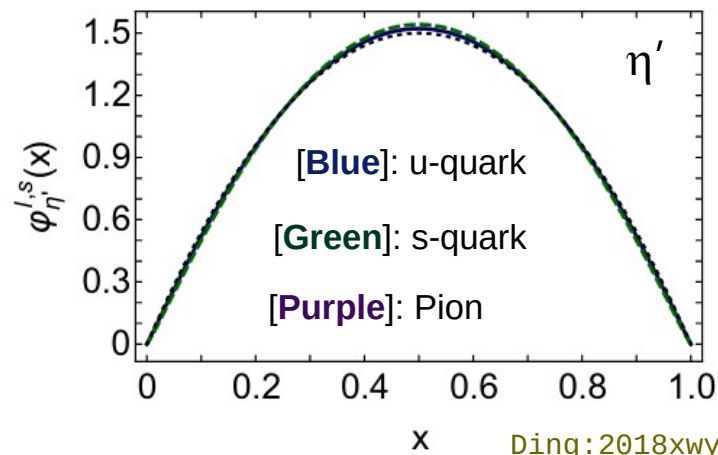
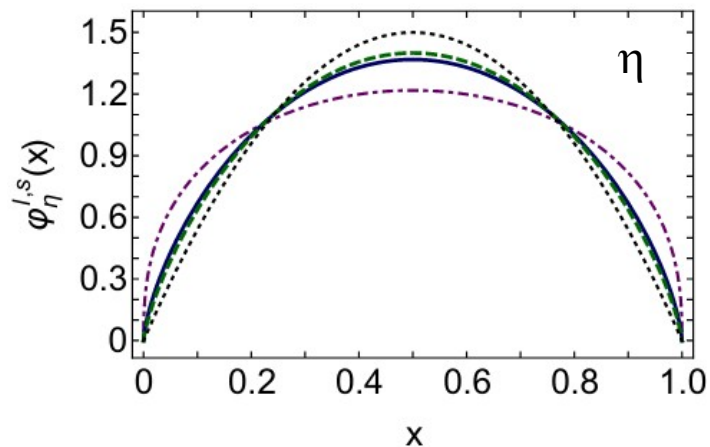
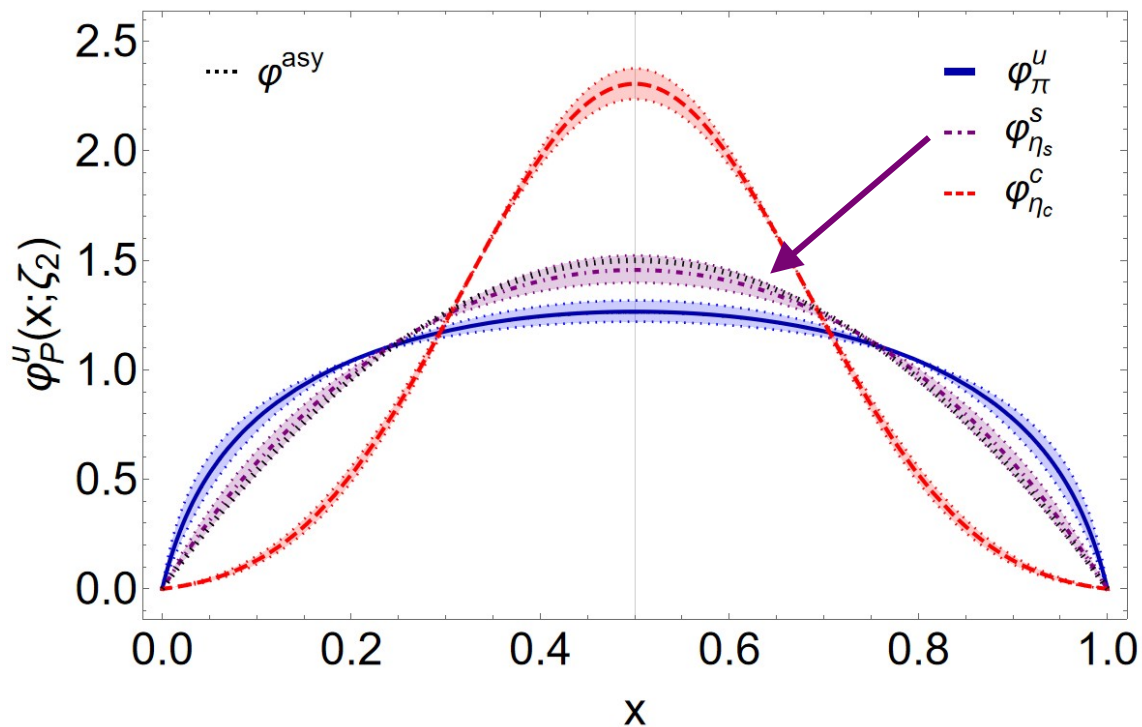
- ✓ In systems with heavy quarks, the **DAs** become **narrow**.



- ✓ Unlike the Kaon, heavy-light systems **DAs** are markedly **skewed**
 - The **peaks** located at: $x_{\text{max}}^{\pi, K, D, B} = 0.5, 0.4, 0.18, 0.1$

Drawing boundaries

- ✓ Systems with **ss-bar** components draw the line between **strong** and **weak** mass generation being dominant.

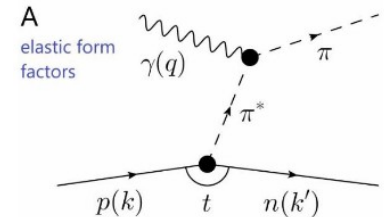
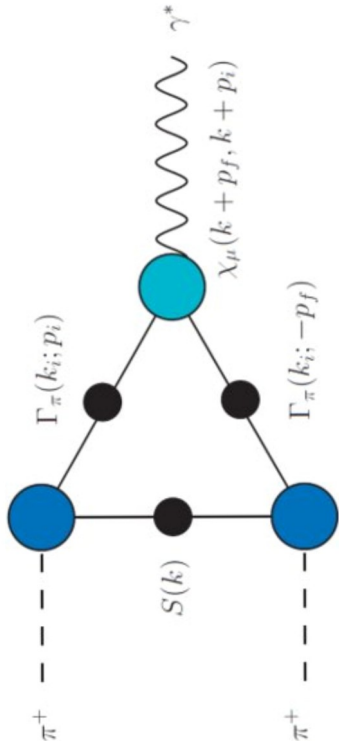


Electromagnetic Elastic Form Factors (EFFs)

$$P_\mu F_{\mathbf{P}}^q(Q^2) = \text{tr}_{\text{CD}} \int_{dk}^\Lambda \chi_\mu^q(k + p_o, k + p_i) \Gamma_{\mathbf{P}}(k_i; p_i) S_h(k) \Gamma_{\mathbf{P}}(k_o; -p_o)$$

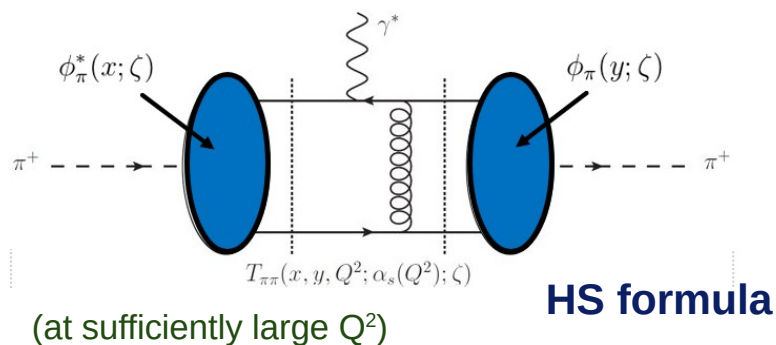
All can be written in terms of **propagators** and **vertices**

- Gives information on **momentum/charge** distribution.
- **Pion EFF** highly relevant for contemporary physics.



Elastic Form Factors

- In the **large- Q^2** regime, **QCD** connects the **EFF** and **DA**:



- At **leading-order**:

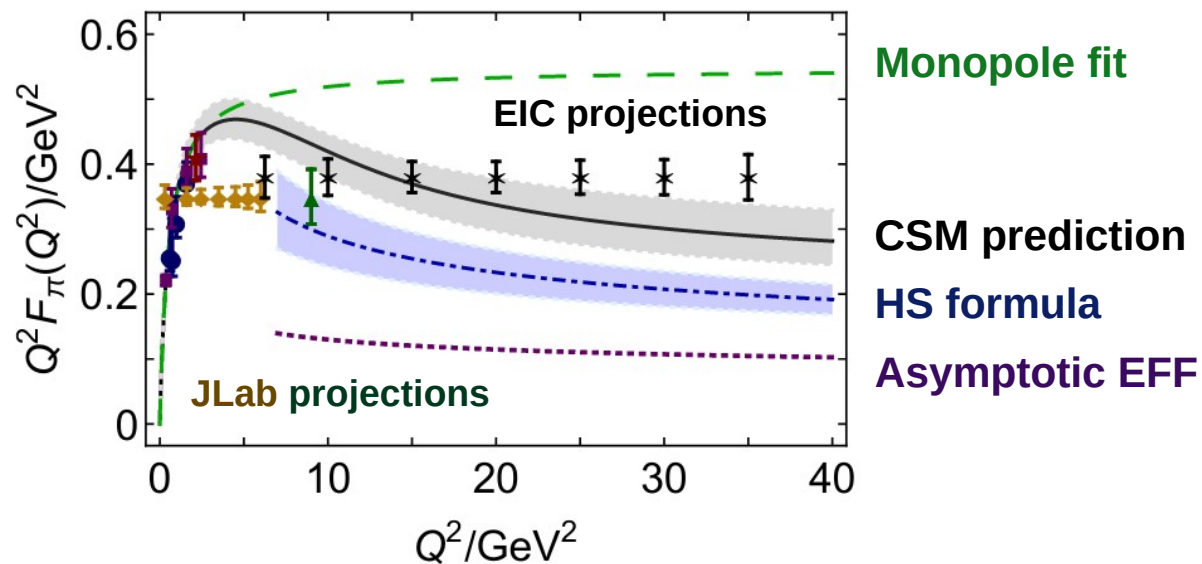
$$Q^2 F_P(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 \gg m_p^2}{\approx} 16\pi\alpha_s(Q^2) f_P^2 w_P^2(Q^2)$$

$$w_P = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^1 dx \frac{1}{x} \varphi_P(x; Q^2) \leftarrow \text{PDA} \rightarrow$$

→ The asymptotic behavior is weighted by f_P , a measure of **EHM**.

→ **Factorization/scaling violations** are proof of the validity of **QCD itself**.

B



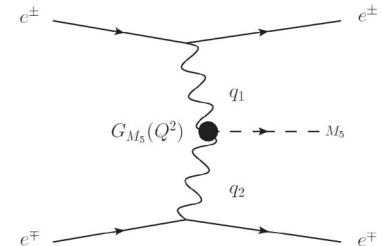
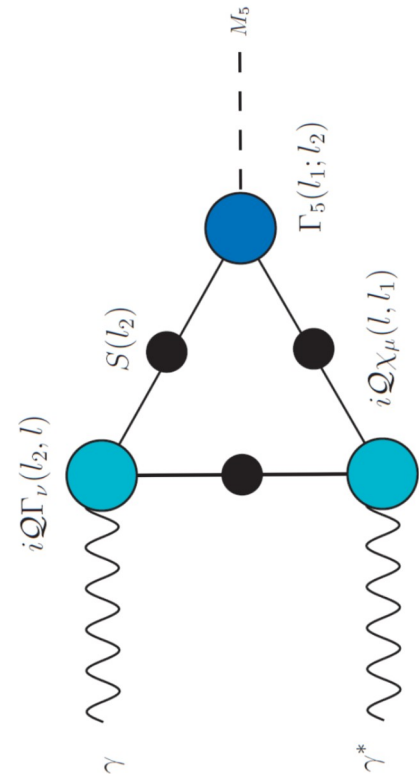
Two-photon Transition Form Factors (TFFs)

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(k_1, k_2) = \frac{e^2}{4\pi^2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} k_{1\alpha} k_{2\beta} G_{\mathbf{P}}(k_1^2, k_2^2, k_1 \cdot k_2)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}(k_1, k_2) = e^2 Q_{\mathbf{P}}^2 \text{tr} \int_l i\chi_{\mu}^q(l, l_1) \Gamma_{\mathbf{P}}(l_1, l_2) S(l_2) i\Gamma_{\nu}^q(l_2, l)$$

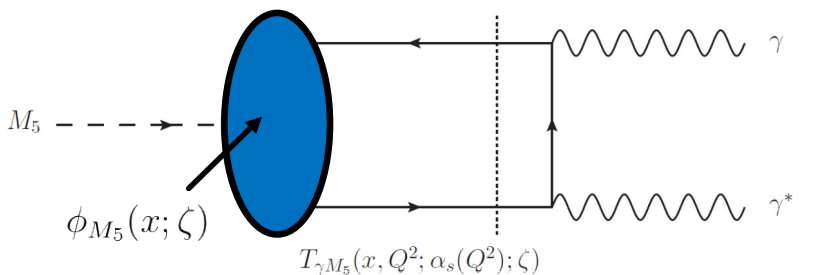
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- **Pion TFF** highly relevant for contemporary physics.



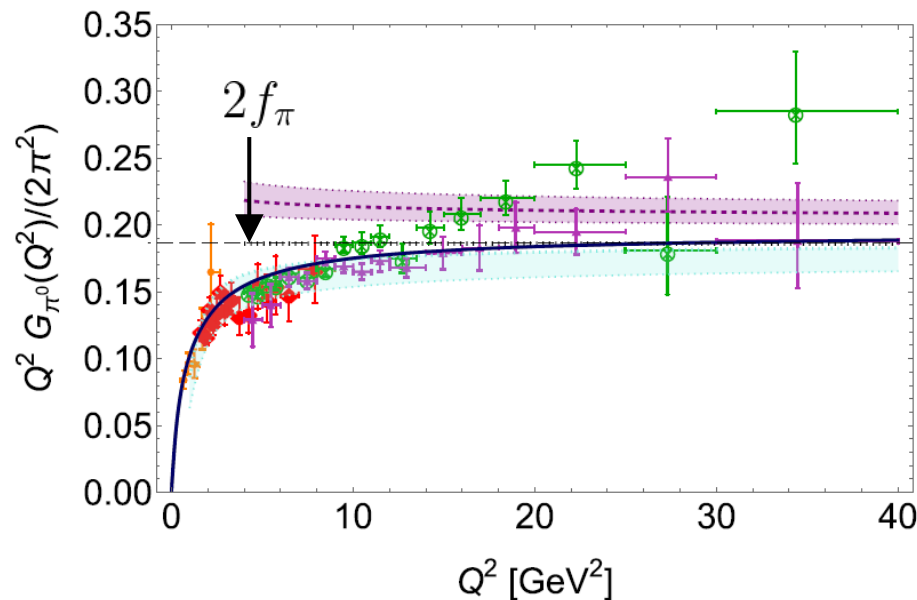
Two-photon TFFs

- In the **large- Q^2** regime, **QCD** connects the **EFF** and **DA**:



HS formula

(at sufficiently large Q^2)



HS formula
CSM prediction
Asymptotic TFF

- At **leading-order**:

$$Q^2 G_{\mathbf{P}}^q(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 \gg m_{\mathbf{P}}^2}{\approx} 12\pi^2 f_{\mathbf{P}}^q e_q^2 w_q(Q^2)$$

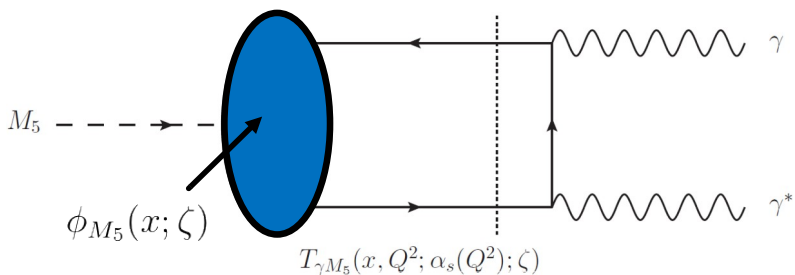
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Two-photon TFFs

- In the **large- Q^2** regime, **QCD** connects the **EFF** and **DA**:



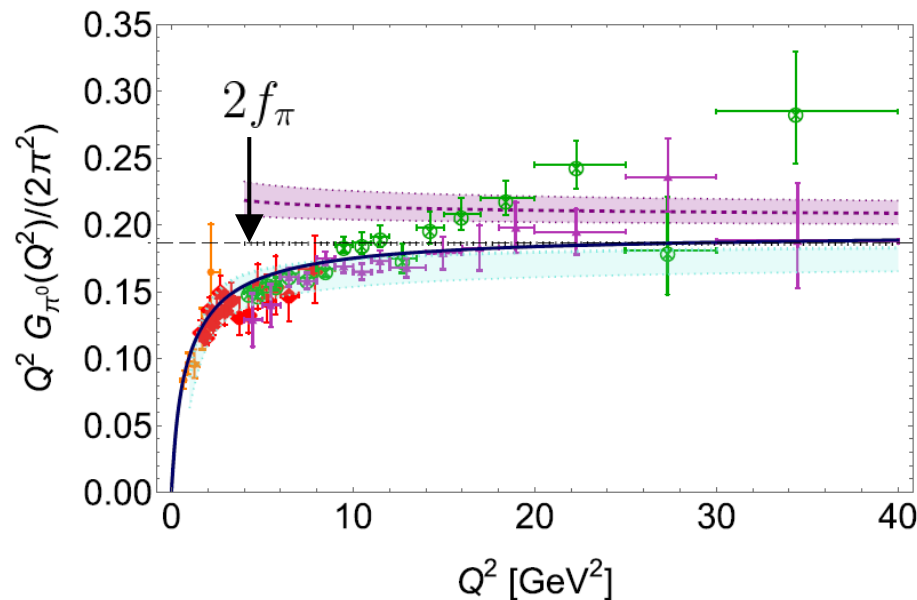
HS formula

(at sufficiently large Q^2)

$$Q^2 G_{\mathbf{P}}^q(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 \gg m_p^2}{\approx} 12\pi^2 f_{\mathbf{P}}^q e_q^2 w_q(Q^2)$$

- In the **opposing** end, the **chiral anomaly** entails:

$$2f_{\mathbf{P}}^0 G_{\mathbf{P}^0}^0(Q^2 = 0) = 1$$



HS formula

CSM prediction

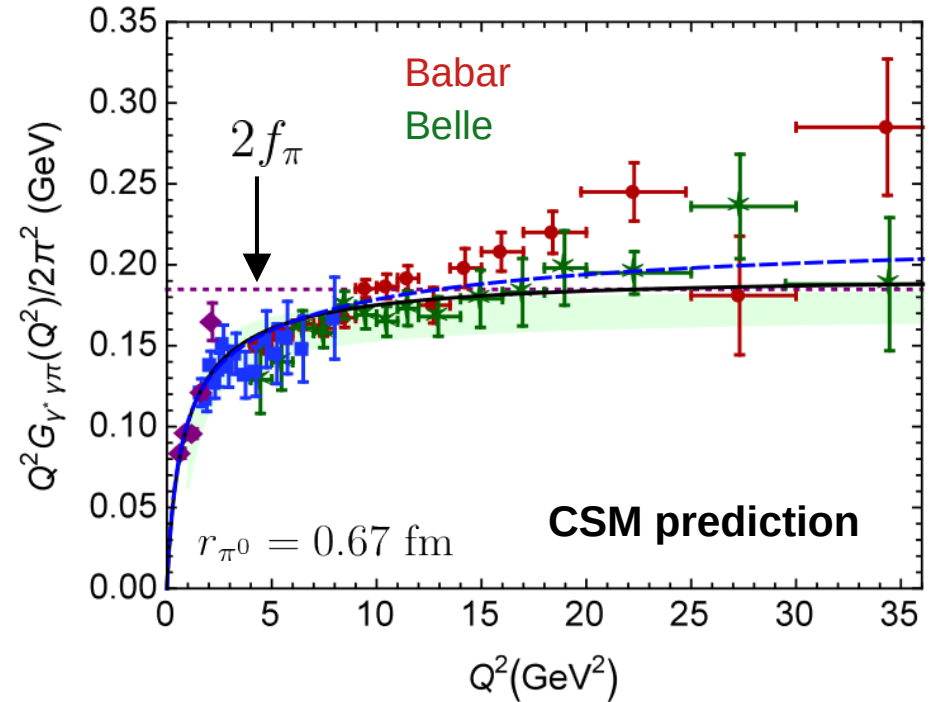
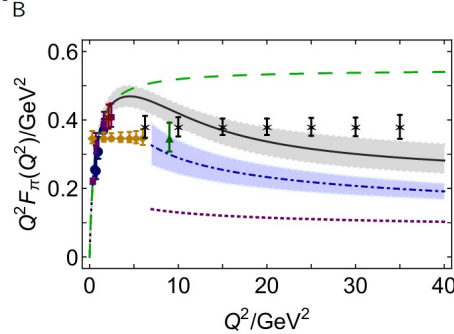
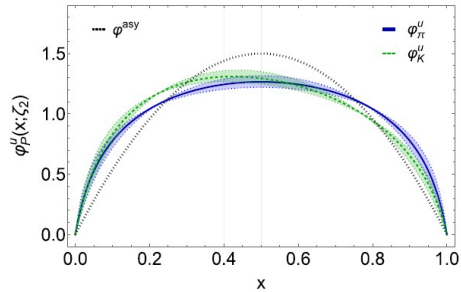
Asymptotic TFF

- Thus **EHM** (via **DCSB**) sets the infrared scale as well.
- Any deviations from this result are a measure of **EHM+HB** interplay.

Pion TFFs

KR, L. Chang, A. Bashir *et al.*,
Phys.Rev.D 93 (2016) 7, 074017

- The **CSM prediction** satisfies the **Abelian anomaly**, $2f_\pi^0 G_{\pi^0}^0(Q^2 = 0) = 1$
... while faithfully recovering the **asymptotic limit**.
- A **dilated+concave DA**, at the hadronic scale, connects both pion **EFF** and **TFF**.

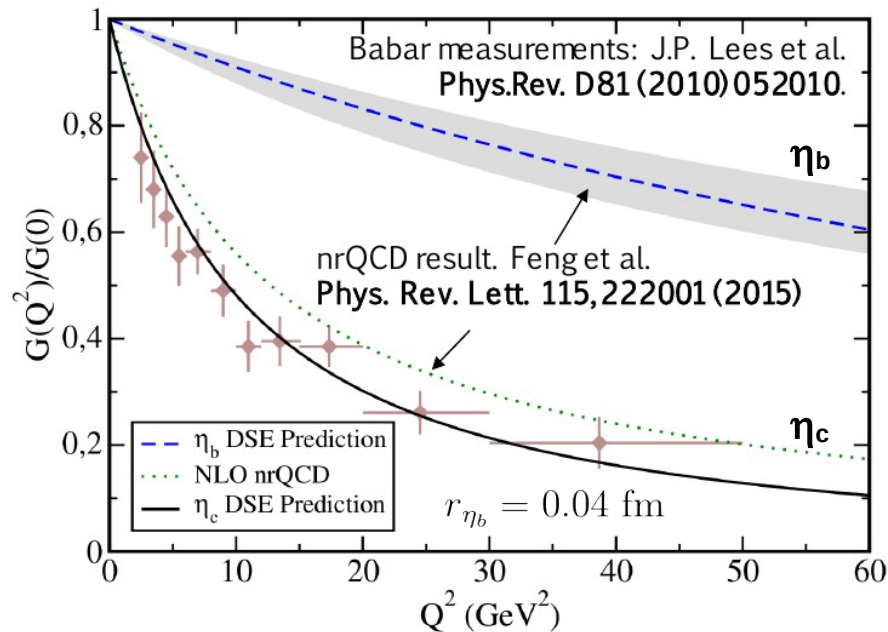
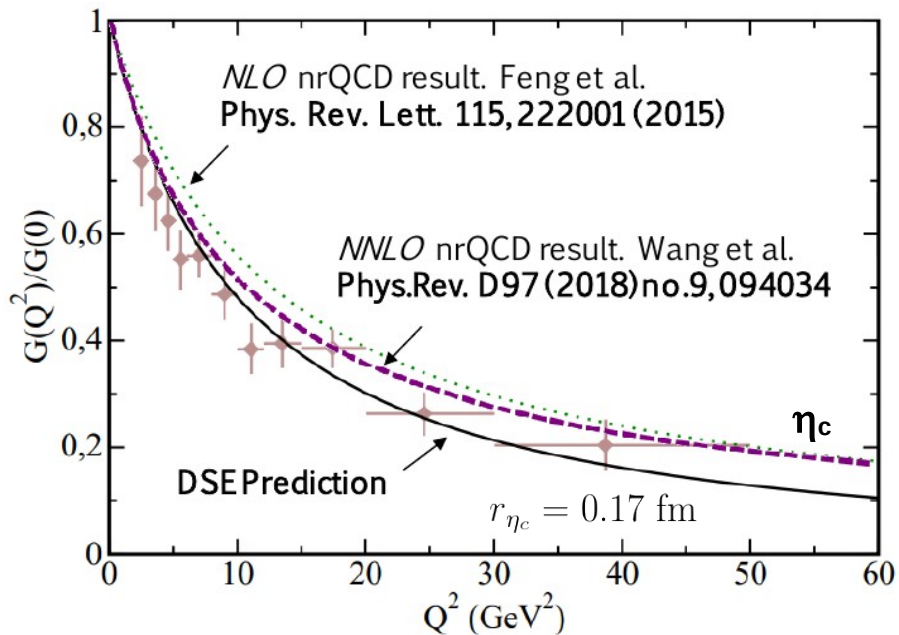


- Precise **agreement** with **all** experimental data; except for **Babar** at large **Q²**.

$$Q^2 G_P^q(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 \gg m_p^2}{\approx} 12\pi^2 f_P^q e_q^2 w_q(Q^2)$$

- Studying the **heavy quarkonia** provide a complementary perspective.

(recall the narrow DAs)

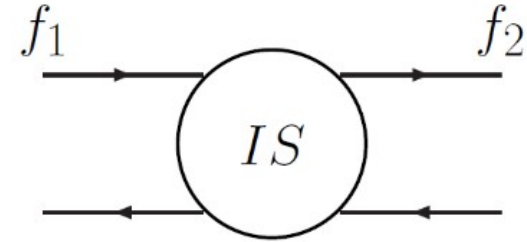


- The η_c prediction shows agreement with available **experimental** data.
- In both η_c and η_b cases, there is compatibility with **nrQCD**.

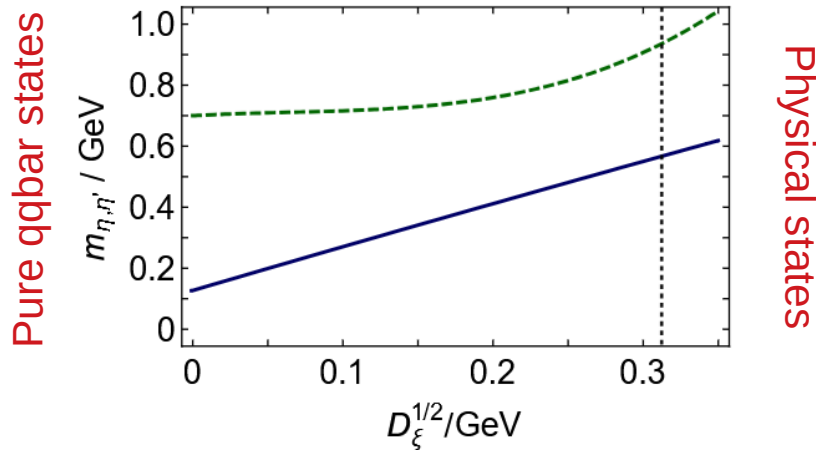
- In addressing the η - η' properties, interaction kernels need to consider the **non-Abelian** anomaly. Bhagwat:2007ha

$$[\Gamma_{\eta,\eta'}(P)]_{l_1 l_2} = \int_q [\mathcal{K}_L + \mathcal{K}_N]_{l_1 l_2}^{l'_1 l'_2}(P) [\chi_{\eta,\eta'}(q; P)]_{l'_1 l'_2}$$

↗ Ladder kernel ↖ Anomaly kernel



- The strength of the **non-Abelian** anomaly dictates the η - η' **mass splitting**, and the degree of **mixing**.

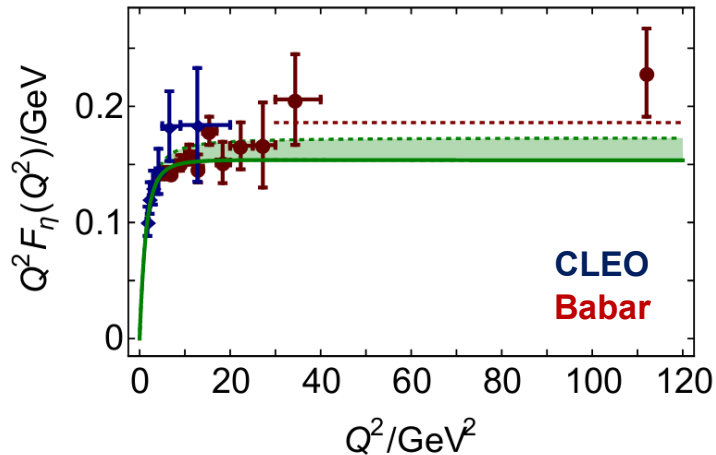
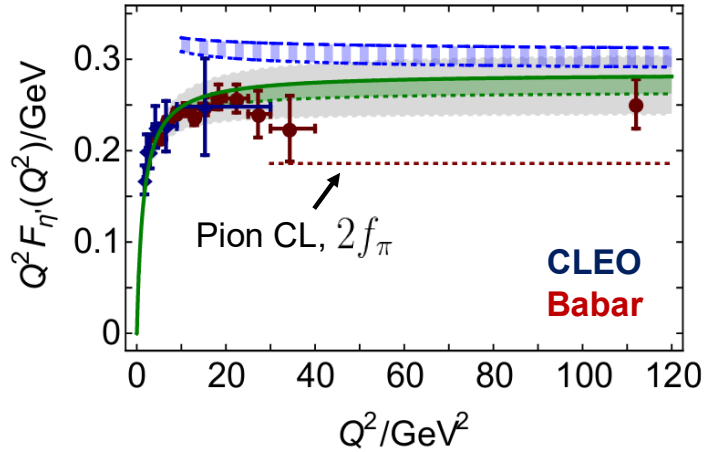


- Masses, decay **widths** and **TFFs** are sensitive to the effects of the **anomalies**.

Meson	This Work	Experiment [5]
π^0	0.2753 (31)	0.2725 (29)
η	0.2562 (170)	0.2736 (60)
η'	0.3495 (60)	0.3412 (76)
η_c	0.0705 (40)	0.0678 (30)
η_b	0.0038 (2)	---

$$F_M(0,0) = \sqrt{\frac{4\Gamma_M^{\gamma\gamma}}{\pi\alpha_{em}^2 m_M^3}}$$

Raya:2019dnh

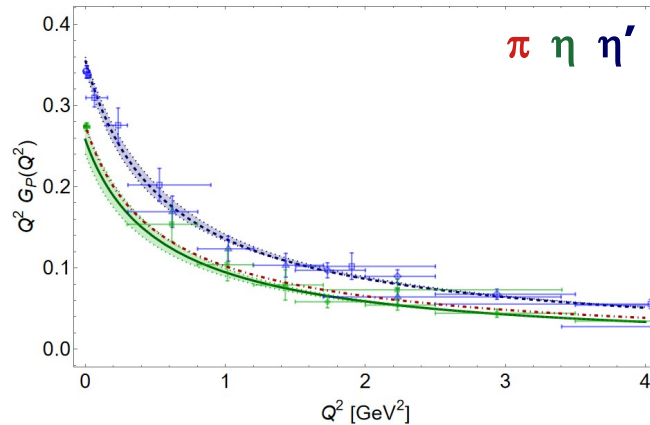


- The produced TFFs meet the **expectations** of the **chiral anomaly**

$$F_M(0,0) = \sqrt{\frac{4\Gamma_M^{\gamma\gamma}}{\pi\alpha_{em}^2 m_M^3}}$$

Meson	This Work	Experiment [5]
π^0	0.2753 (31)	0.2725 (29)
η	0.2562 (170)	0.2736 (60)
η'	0.3495 (60)	0.3412 (76)

- Are **plainly compatible** with the **experimental** data, in both **low** and **large- Q^2** regions.



Domain of **interest** for muon **g-2** HLbL contributions !

$$a_\mu^{\pi^0\text{-pole}} = (6.14 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-10}$$

$$a_\mu^{\eta\text{-pole}} = (1.47 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-10}$$


$$a_\mu^{\eta'\text{-pole}} = (1.36 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-10}$$

Raya:2019dnh

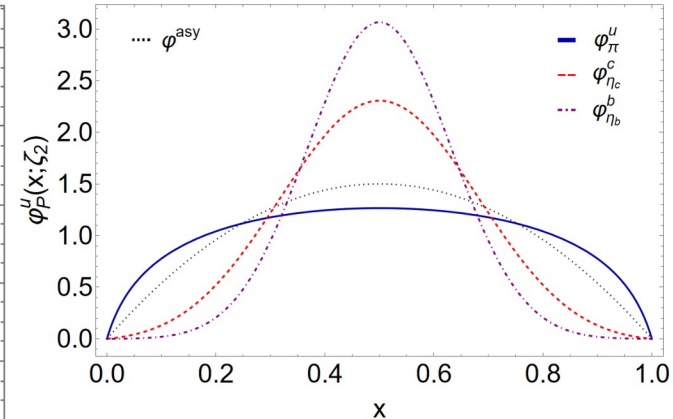
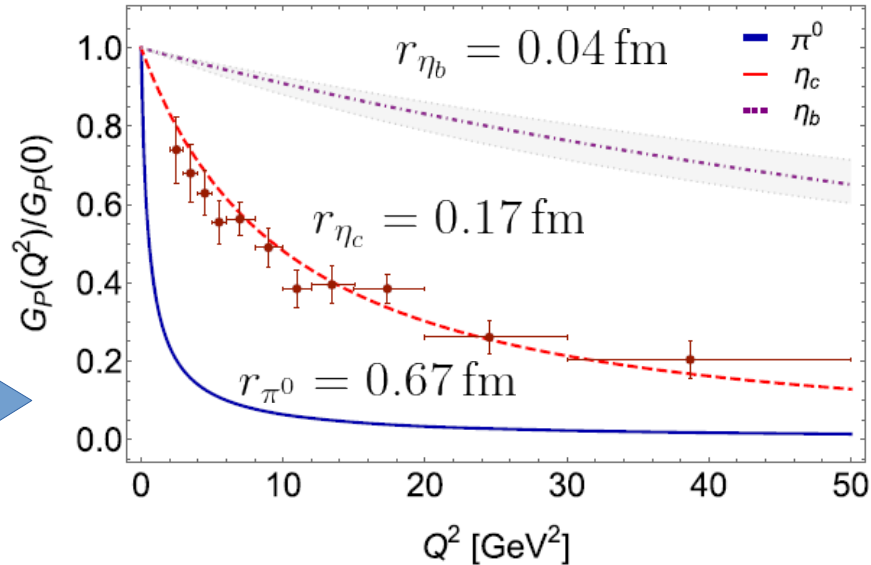
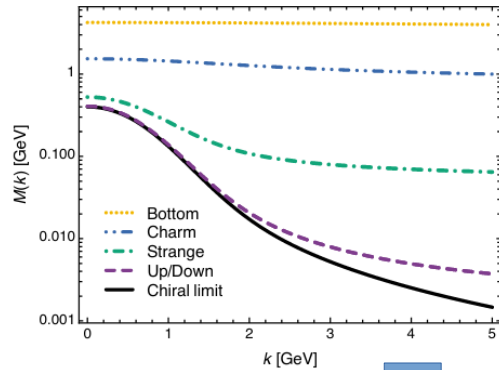
- TFFs also feature the **trends** expected from **pQCD**.

Two-photon TFFs

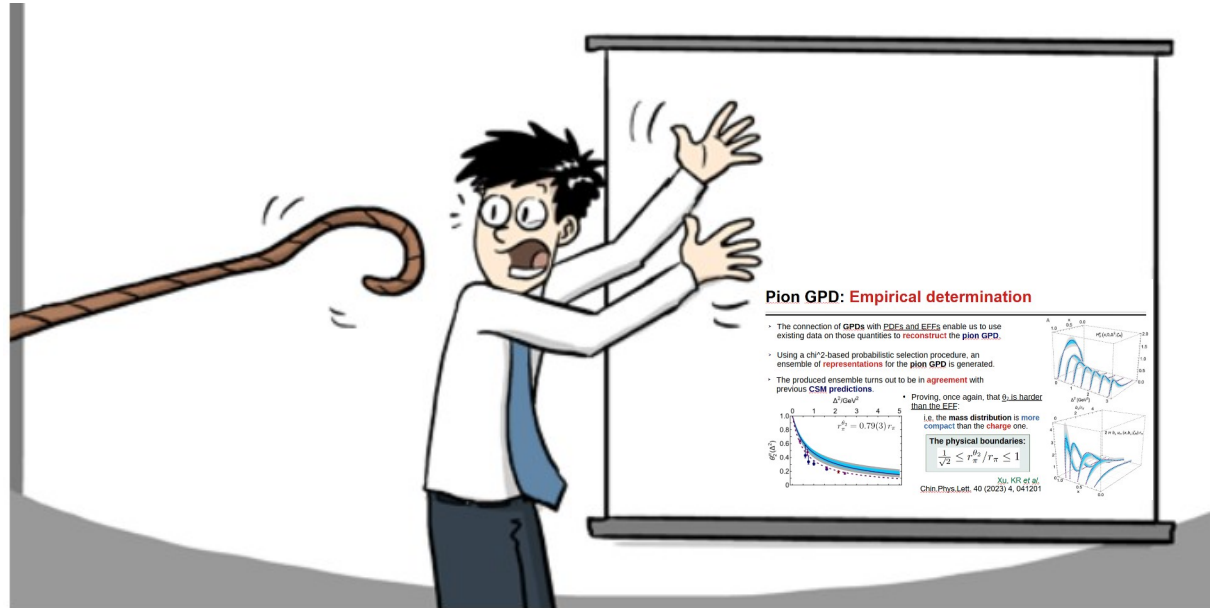
KR, A. Bashir, P. Roig
Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 7, 074021

- **All** two-photon **TFFs** involving ground-state neutral pseudoscalars are within reach:
 - ➔ Invariably, **agreement** with the **experimental** data is found, with the exception of the **large- Q^2** Babar data for the pion.
- Clearly, the shape of **$M(k)$** echoes in **TFFs** and **DAs**. 

Exposing the **impact** of the **mass generation** mechanisms

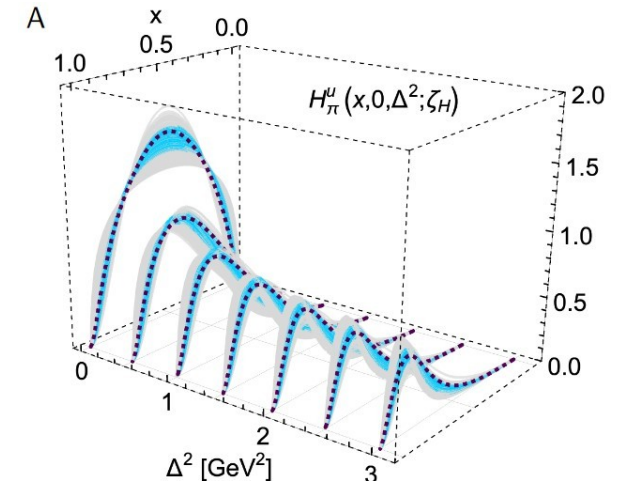


Final Highlights



Final Highlights

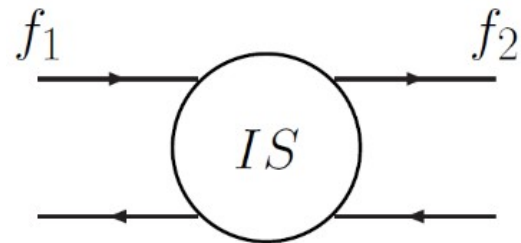
- The **emergent phenomena** in **QCD** produces unique outcomes:
 - The degrees-of-freedom are not directly accessible, we get to observe hadrons (**confinement**).
 - Through their own mechanisms, **dynamical mass generation** is present in both **matter** and **gauge** sectors of QCD; the later yielding a running **coupling** that saturates at infrared momenta.
- **Pseudoscalar** mesons are an ideal platform to inquire on these facets of **QCD**:
 - Their mere **existence and properties** are connected with the **mass generation** in the Standard Model and, potentially, **confinement**.
 - Modern facilities are **capable** to address the properties of **NG bosons** and it's connection with QCD's emergent phenomena.
- Theory has evolved to the point where **all sorts of** parton **distributions** of pseudoscalar mesons are **within reach**.
 - ➔ **TFFs are valuable as they encode symmetries, their breaking, scaling violations, and the transition between soft and hard scales.**



- In addressing the η - η' properties, interaction kernels need to consider the **non-Abelian** anomaly. Bhagwat:2007ha

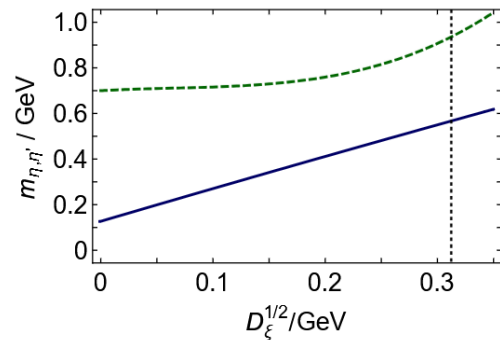
$$[\Gamma_{\eta,\eta'}(P)]_{l_1 l_2} = \int_q [\mathcal{K}_L + \mathcal{K}_N]_{l_1 l_2}^{l'_1 l'_2}(P) [\chi_{\eta,\eta'}(q; P)]_{l'_1 l'_2}$$

↗ Ladder kernel ↖ Anomaly kernel



$$\mathcal{K}_N = \xi(s) \left[\cos^2 \theta_\xi [z\gamma_5]_{l'_2 l'_1} [z\gamma_5]_{l_2 l_1} + \sin^2 \theta_\xi [z\gamma_5 \gamma \cdot P]_{l'_2 l'_1} [z\gamma_5 \gamma \cdot P]_{l_2 l_1} / M_l^2 \right]$$

$$\xi(s) = \frac{8\pi^2}{\omega_\xi^4} D_\xi e^{-s/\omega_\xi^2} \quad z = \text{diag}[1, 1, M_l/M_s]$$



$$\begin{aligned} \phi &= 42.8^\circ, \\ f^l &= 0.101 \text{ GeV} = 1.08 f_\pi, \\ f^s &= 0.138 \text{ GeV} = 1.49 f_\pi, \end{aligned}$$

	f_η^l	f_η^s	$f_{\eta'}^l$	$f_{\eta'}^s$
herein - direct	0.072	-0.092	0.070	0.104
herein - Eq. (28)	0.074	-0.094	0.068	0.101
phen. [36, 81, 82]	0.090(13)	-0.093(28)	0.073(14)	0.094(8)

Quark-photon Vertex

KR, L. Chang *et al.*,
Phys.Rev.D 93 (2016) 7, 074017

> The **QPV** should fulfill (at least) the following:

- ✓ Longitudinal WGTI
- ✓ Free of kinematic singularities
- ✓ Recover the point-particle limit
- ✓ Produce the abelian anomaly

> Should **expedite** the computation of the **TFFs**

> The **transverse** pieces makes it possible to recover the **Abelian anomaly**, via:

$$s = 1 + s_0 \exp(-\mathcal{E}_\pi/M_E)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_\pi = Q/2$$

$$M_E = \{p|p^2 = M^2(p^2), p > 0\}$$

> We adopt the following **Ansatz**:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_\mu(k_f, k_i) = & \gamma_\mu \Delta_{k^2 \sigma_V} \\ & + [s \gamma \cdot k_f \gamma_\mu \gamma \cdot k_i + \bar{s} \gamma \cdot k_i \gamma_\mu \gamma \cdot k_f] \Delta_{\sigma_V} \\ & + [s (\gamma \cdot k_f \gamma_\mu + \gamma_\mu \gamma \cdot k_i) \\ & + \bar{s} (\gamma \cdot k_i \gamma_\mu + \gamma_\mu \gamma \cdot k_f)] i \Delta_{\sigma_S}, \end{aligned}$$

> Where: $\Delta_F = [F(k_f^2) - F(k_i^2)]/[k_f^2 - k_i^2]$

> The value s_0 is fixed so that the TFF is properly normalized in line with the **predicted decay width**:

$$\Gamma_{\eta_{c,b}}^{\gamma\gamma} = \frac{8\pi\alpha_{em}^2 c_{\eta_{c,b}}^4 f_{\eta_{c,b}}^2}{m_{\eta_{c,b}}}$$

$$\Gamma_{\eta,\eta'}^{\gamma\gamma} = \frac{9\alpha_{em}^2 m_{\eta,\eta'}^3}{64\pi^3} \left[c_l \frac{f_{\eta,\eta'}^l}{(f^l)^2} + c_s \frac{f_{\eta,\eta'}^s}{(f^s)^2} \right]^2$$

$$F_M(0,0) = \sqrt{\frac{4\Gamma_M^{\gamma\gamma}}{\pi\alpha_{em}^2 m_M^3}}$$