

# Light nuclei and hypernuclei from Lattice QCD ( $A=2,3,4$ )

Assumpta Parreño (U Barcelona)

for the NPLQCD Collaboration

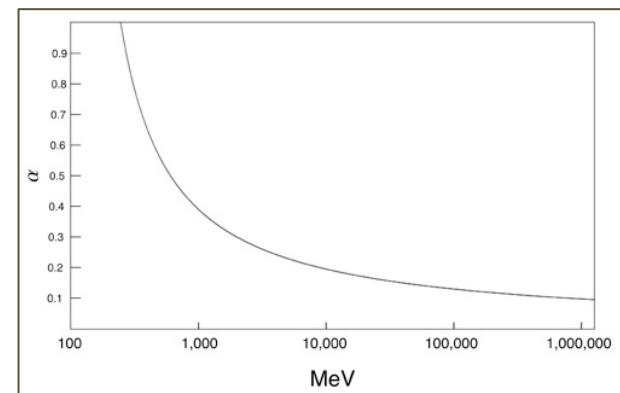
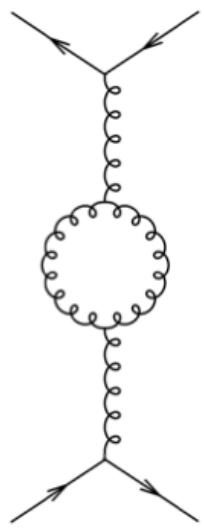


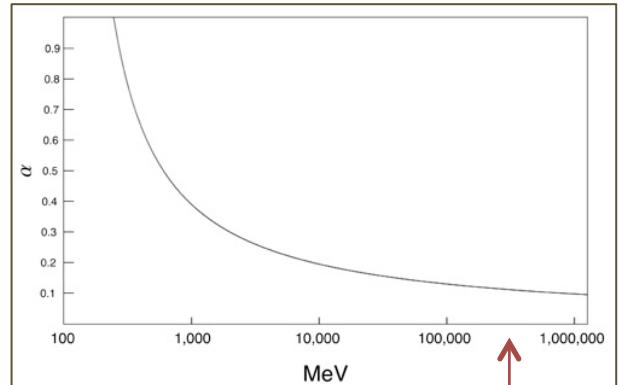
Nucleus Nucleus Collisions 2015

June 22, 2015 @ Università di Catania, Italy



Generalitat de Catalunya  
**Departament d'Economia  
i Coneixement**

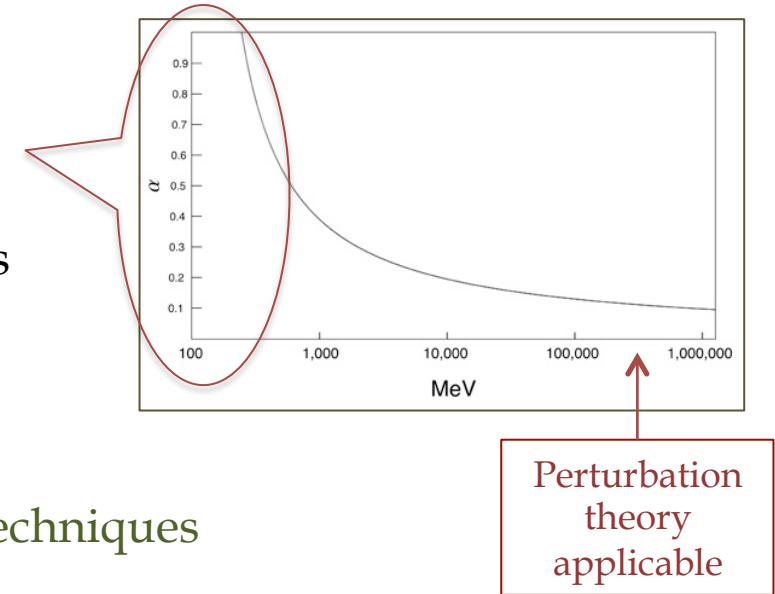




Perturbation  
theory  
applicable

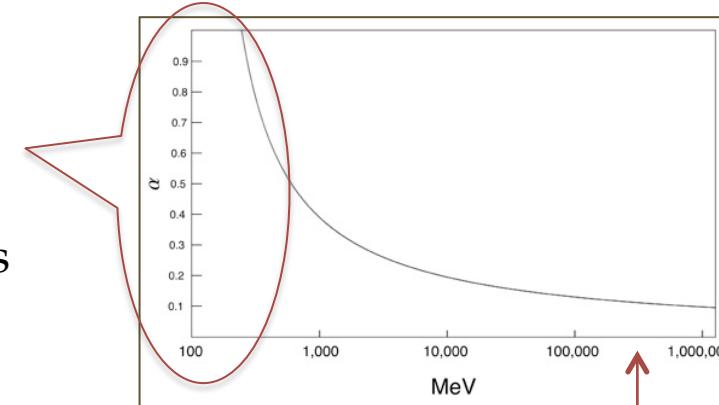
## Nuclear physics, the low-energy regime

- ✓ quarks and gluons confined into colourless bound states: hadrons ( $p$ ,  $n$ ,  $\pi$ ...)
- ✓ quarks strongly coupled
- ✓ perturbation theory breaks down:  
need of other formulations, computational techniques

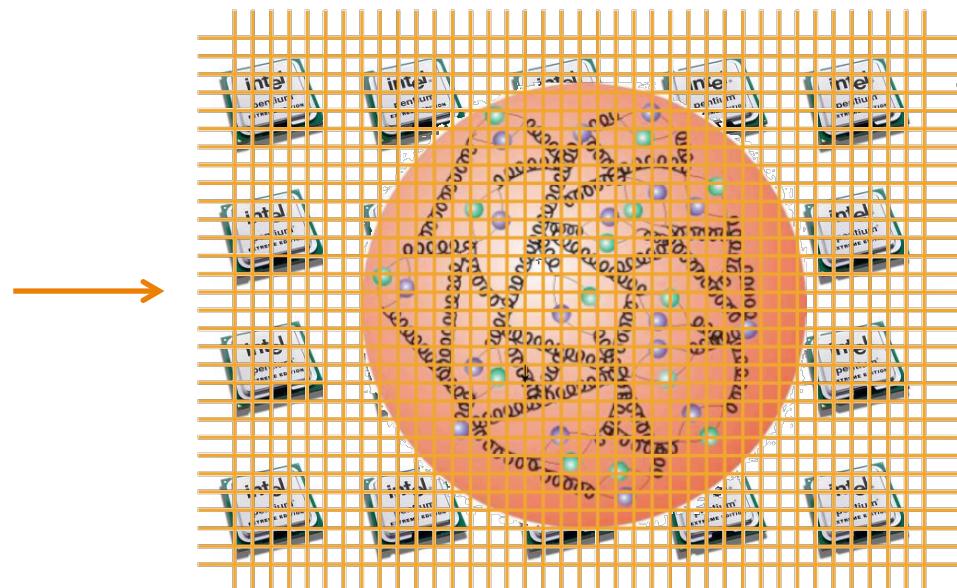
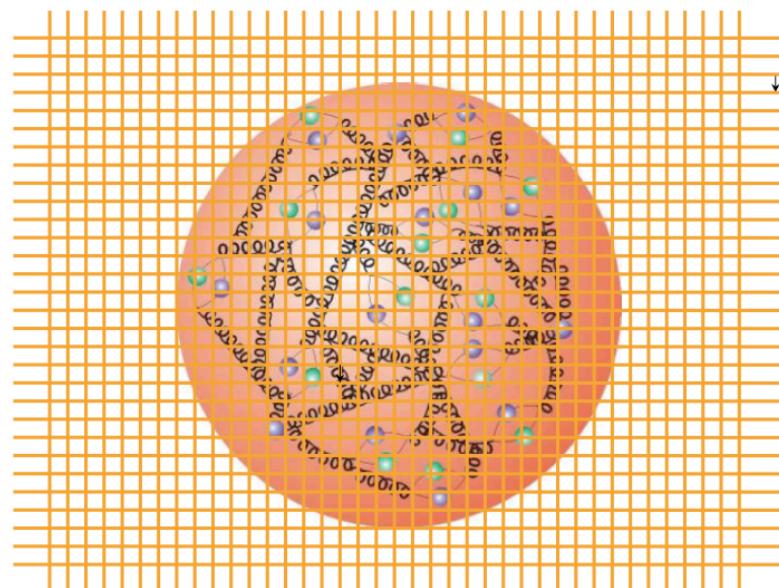


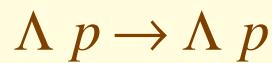
## Nuclear physics, the low-energy regime

- ✓ quarks and gluons confined into colourless bound states: hadrons ( $p$ ,  $n$ ,  $\pi$ ...)
- ✓ quarks strongly coupled
- ✓ perturbation theory breaks down:  
need of other formulations, computational techniques
- ✓ keep the basic degrees of freedom (quarks, gluons) and develop non-perturbative methods (Lattice QCD)

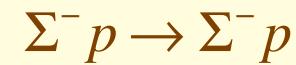


Perturbation  
theory  
applicable



**Total elastic cross-section**

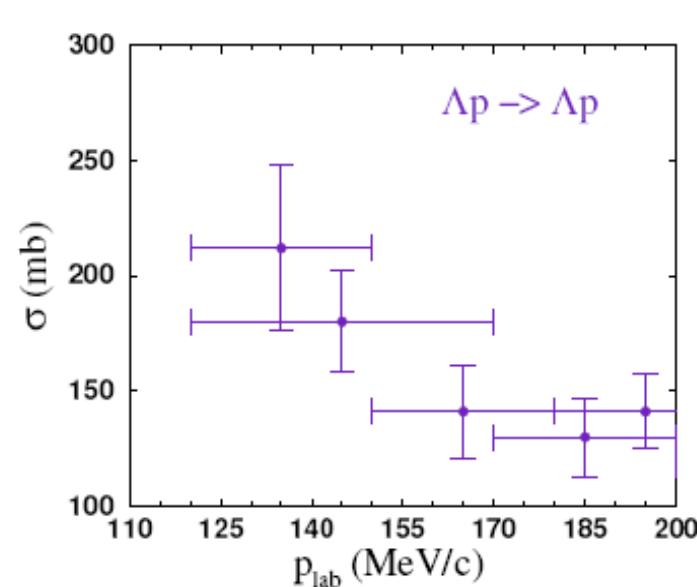
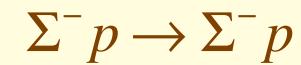
momentum range (MeV/c)	number of events	SGT (mb)	reference
120 - 150	34	212	+/- 36 AL68
120 - 150	14	209	+/- 58 SE68
150 - 180	48	141	+/- 20 AL68
150 - 180	28	177	+/- 38 SE68
150 - 400	11	34	+/- 10 PI64
150 - 600	6	22	+/- 10 GR63
180 - 210	80	141	+/- 16 AL68
180 - 210	49	153	+/- 27 SE68
200 - 400		24.0	+/- 5.0 KA71
210 - 240	88	95	+/- 10 AL68
210 - 240	54	111	+/- 18 SE68
240 - 270	92	81	+/- 8 AL68
240 - 270	59	87	+/- 13 SE68
270 - 320	36	56	+/- 9 AL68
270 - 330	20	46	+/- 11 SE68
300 - 400		17.2	+/- 8.6 HA77
400 - 500		26.9	+/- 7.8 HA77
400 - 600		9.0	+/- 2.0 KA71
400 - 638	7	24.7	+/- 9.3 AL61
400 - 700		14.0	+/- 3.5 CL67
400 - 1500		42	+/- 16 AR62
500 - 600		7.0	+/- 4.0 HA77
500 - 1000	4	40	+/- 20 CR59
500 - 1000	20	22.2	+/- 5.0 CH70
500 - 1200	86	25	+/- 4 BE64
600 - 700		16.5	+/- 3.5 KA71
600 - 700		9.0	+/- 4.0 HA77
600 - 1500	20	19	+/- 5 GR63
639 - 1000	7	20.4	+/- 7.7 AL61
700 - 800		10.8	+/- 2.7 KA71
700 - 800		13.6	+/- 4.5 HA77
700 - 1000		15.5	+/- 3.5 CL67
800 - 900		10.2	+/- 2.7 KA71
800 - 900		11.3	+/- 3.6 HA77
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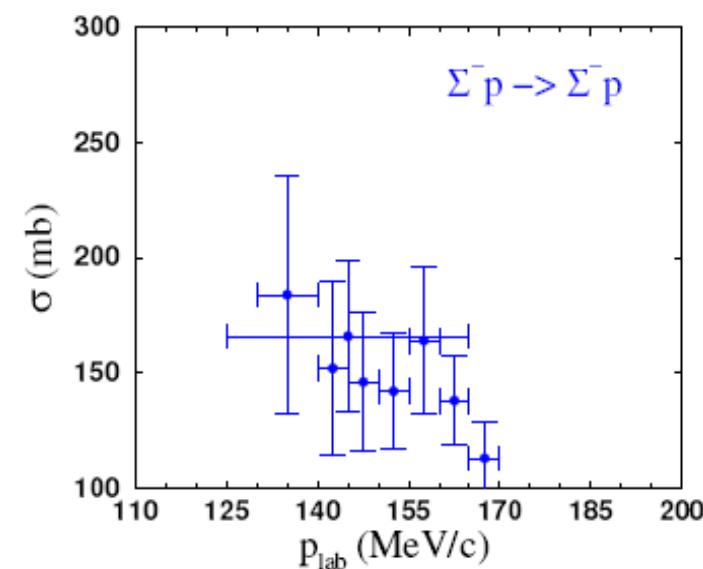
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100 - 1900	6	10	+ 6 - 4 ST61
125 - 165	25	166	+/- 33 RU67
130 - 140	14	184	+/- 52 EI71
135 - 145		207	+/- 85 DO66
140 - 145	19	152	+/- 38 EI71
145 - 150	30	146	+/- 30 EI71
145 - 155		198	+/- 48 DO66
150 - 155	49	142	+/- 25 EI71
155 - 160	81	164	+/- 32 EI71
155 - 165		189	+/- 32 DO66
160 - 165	107	138	+/- 19 EI71
165 - 170	106	113	+/- 16 EI71
500 - 1500	6	13.2	+/- 4.7 CH70
1500 - 2500	11	13.9	+/- 4.1 CH70
2500 - 4000	4	7.5	+/- 3.8 CH70

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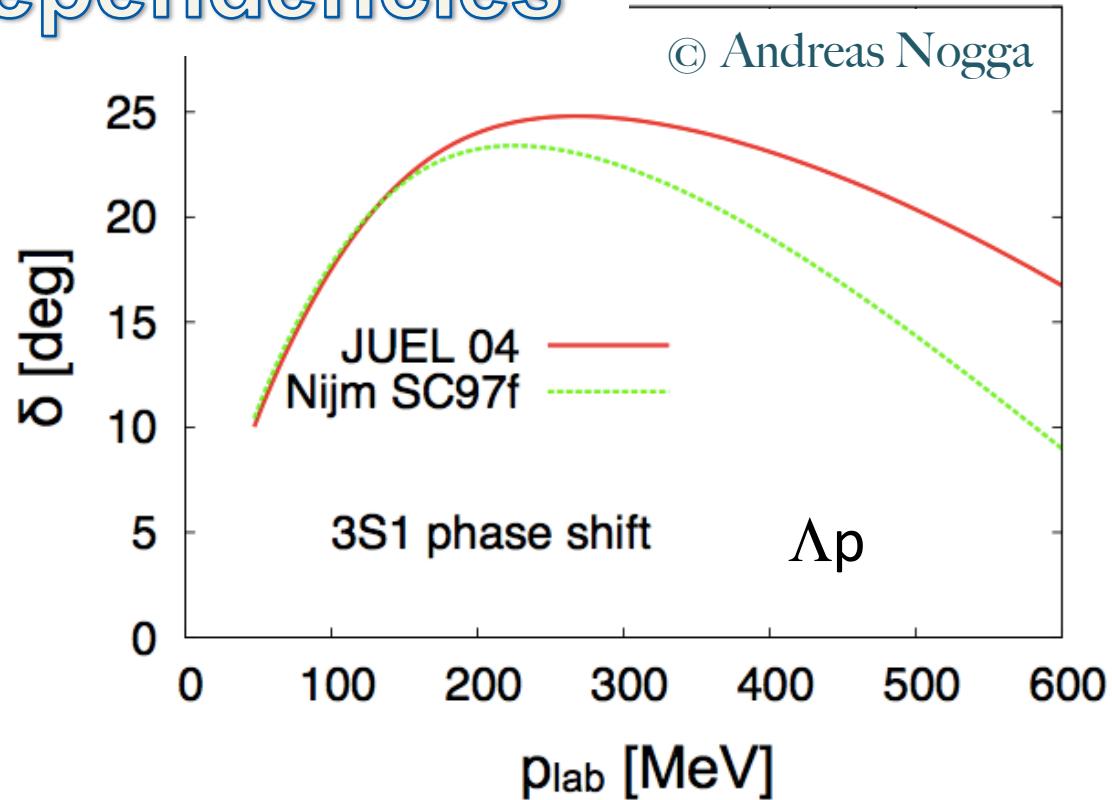
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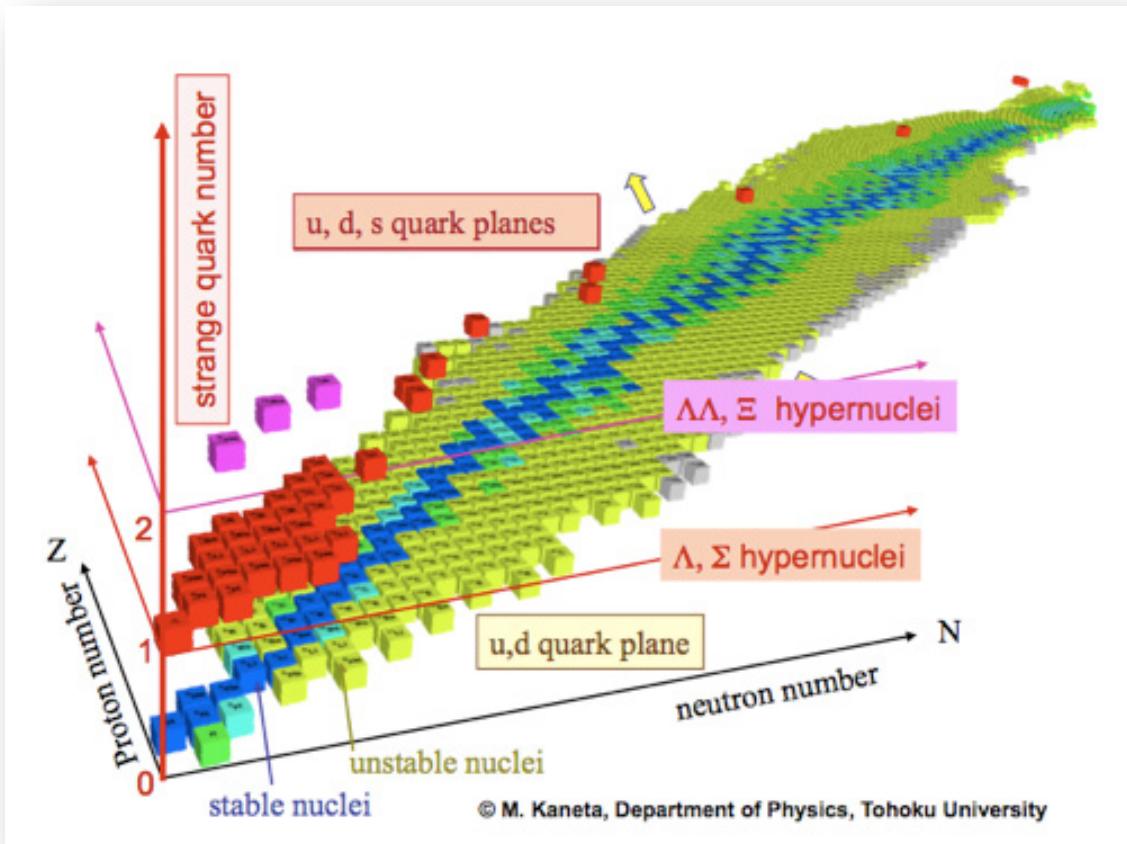
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# model dependencies

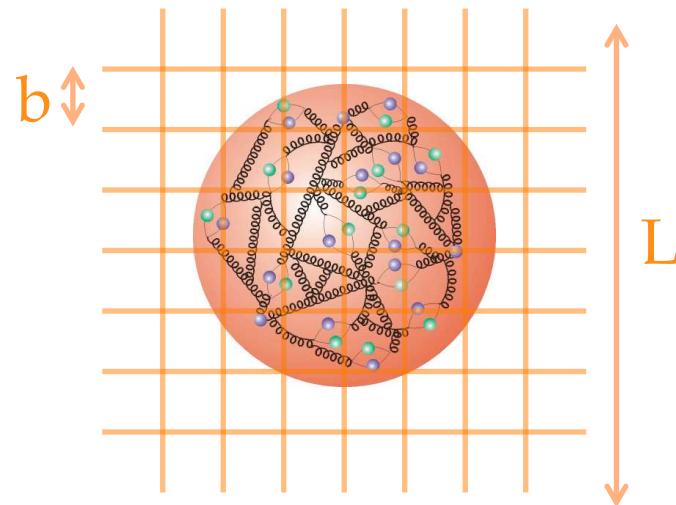
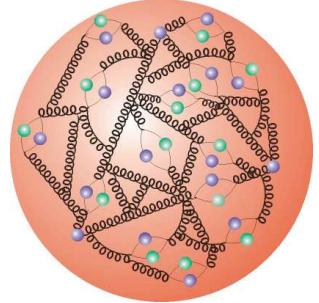
© Andreas Nogga



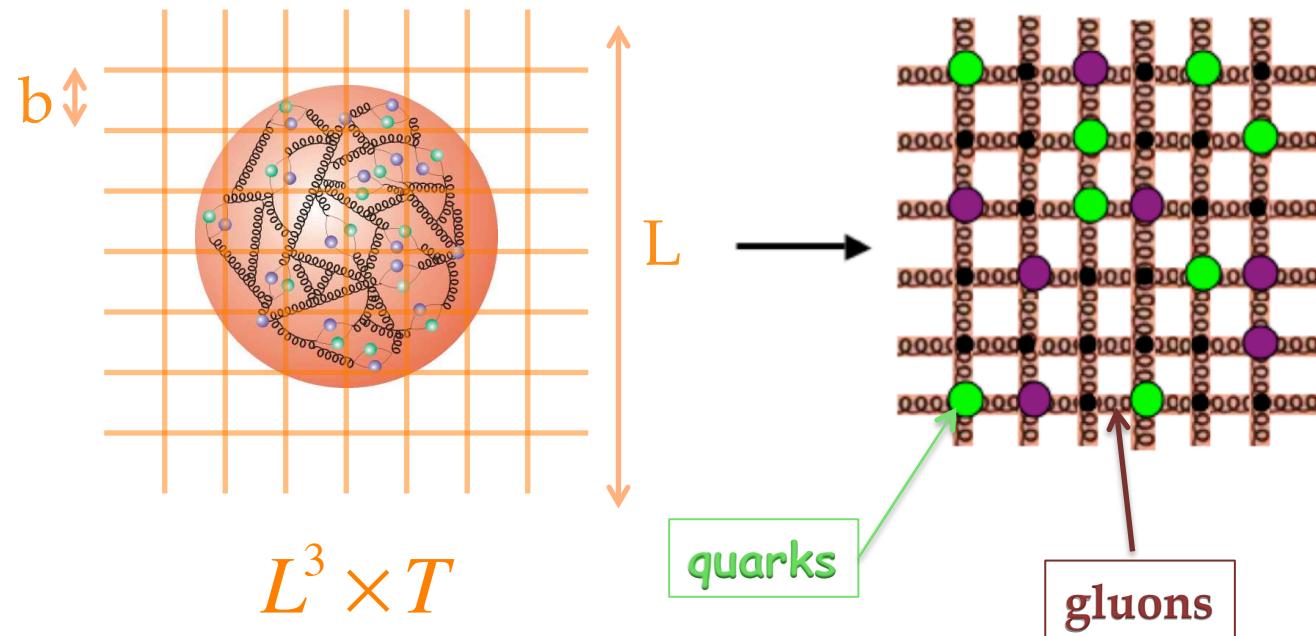
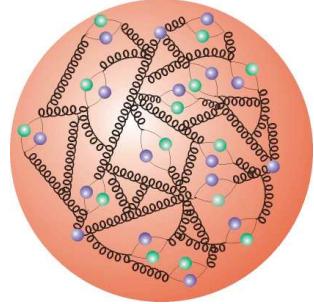


**Hypernuclei:**  
Bound nuclear states  
containing strange baryons  
(hyperons)

JPARC, DAPHNE, FAIR, GSI, JLAB, ...



$$L^3 \times T$$

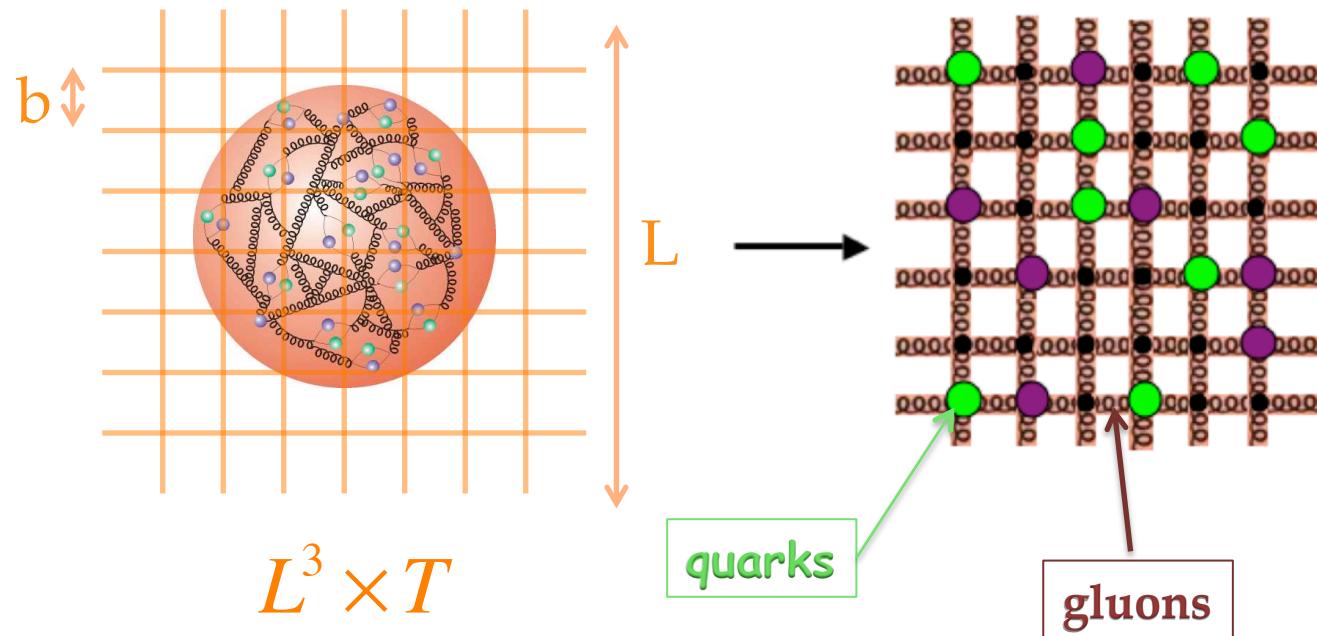
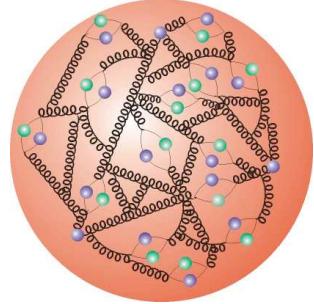


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For numerical calculations in QCD, the theory is formulated on a (Euclidean) space-time lattice

((anti) periodic (time) spatial boundary conditions)

$N_s \times N_s \times N_s \times N_t$



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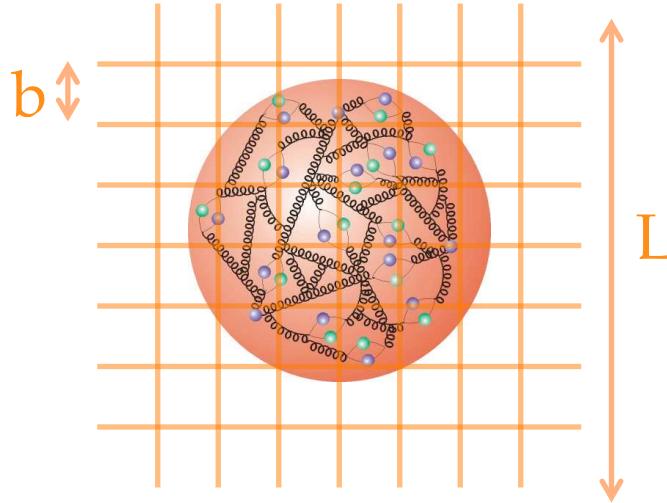
((anti) periodic (time) spatial boundary conditions)

$N_s \times N_s \times N_s \times N_t$

$$L \gg \text{relevant scales} \gg b \quad \left( \frac{1}{L} \ll m_\pi \ll \Lambda_\chi \ll \frac{1}{b} \right) \quad \rightarrow \text{finite number of d.o.f.} \\ (\text{finite volume})$$

$b L \gg 1 \text{ fm}$  (fundamental scale of QCD)  
with  $b \ll 1 \text{ fm}$

nucleon-nucleon scattering  
 $\Rightarrow L > 2\pi m_\pi^{-1}$



$$N_s \times N_s \times N_s \times N_t$$

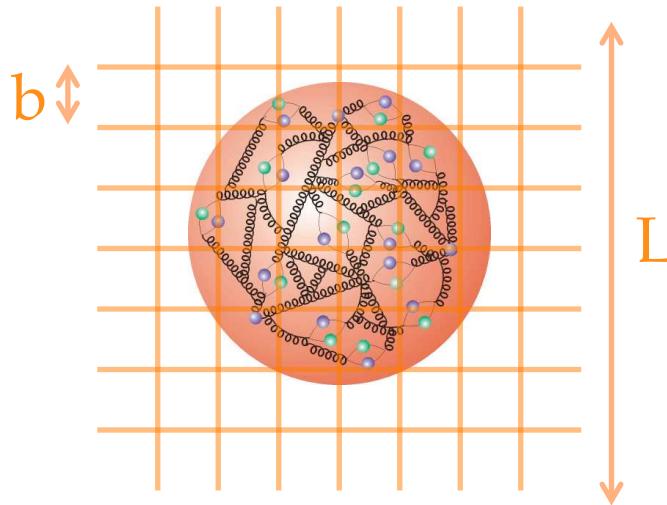
$$\text{Cost} \approx \left[ \frac{1}{m_q} \right] [L]^a \left[ \frac{1}{b} \right]^\gamma$$

Significant computational resources required for calculations @  $m_{u,d}^{\text{phys}}$  (petascale)

### USE UNPHYSICAL VALUES OF THESE PARAMETERS

Published works have  $L \leq 7$  fm,  $b < \sim 0.1$  fm and  $m_\pi \geq 200$  MeV

sources of systematic errors in the numerical simulation  
 finite volume  $L$ , discretization (finite spacing)  $b$ , value of the light quark masses



$$N_s \times N_s \times N_s \times N_t$$

$$\text{Cost} \approx \left[ \frac{1}{m_q} \right] [L]^a \left[ \frac{1}{b} \right]^\gamma$$

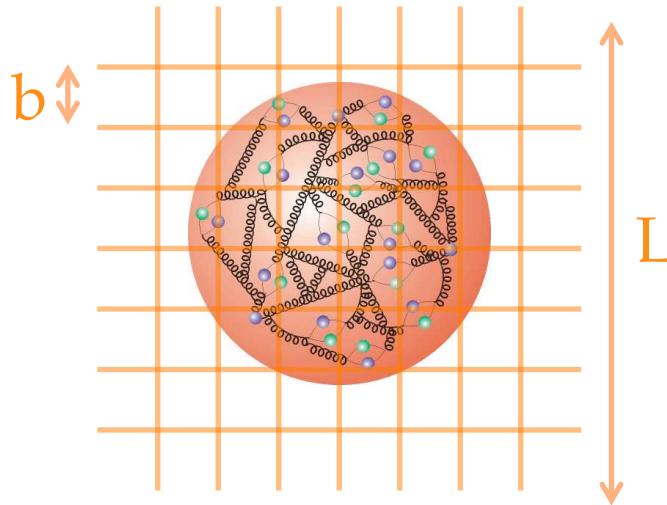
USE UNPHYSICAL VALUES OF THESE PARAMETERS

Extrapolations to connect with real life

$$L \rightarrow \infty$$

$$b \rightarrow 0$$

$$m_q \rightarrow m_q^{\text{physical}}$$



$$N_s \times N_s \times N_s \times N_t$$

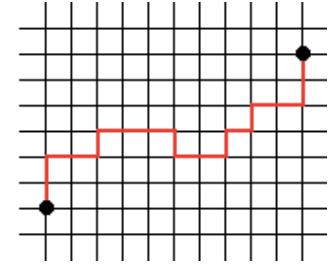
$$\text{Cost} \approx \left[ \frac{1}{m_q} \right] [L]^a \left[ \frac{1}{b} \right]^\gamma$$

$$\underbrace{64^3 \times 256}_{L^3 \times T} \times 3_{\text{color}} \times 4_{\text{spin}} \approx 10^{11} \text{ degrees of freedom}$$



only practical way for this type of computation → **Monte Carlo integration**

LQCD is a non-perturbative implementation of Field Theory, which uses the Feynman path-integral approach to evaluate transition matrix elements

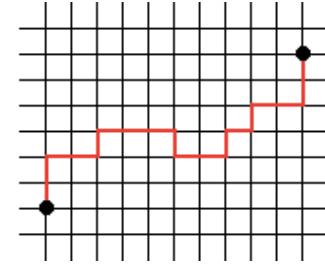


Our continuous Path-Integral (QCD partition function):

$$Z = \int D\varphi(x) e^{-iS_{QCD}[\varphi(x)]} = \int \textcolor{red}{DU} \textcolor{blue}{D\bar{\psi}} \textcolor{blue}{D\psi} e^{-iS_{QCD}[\textcolor{red}{U}, \textcolor{red}{\bar{\psi}}, \textcolor{blue}{\psi}]} \quad \text{oscillating phase}$$

$(U_{x\mu} \sim e^{igbA_{x\mu}})$      $\leftarrow$        $\rightarrow$     each path contributes a phase

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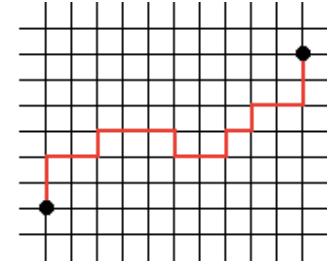
By rotating to Euclidean time:

$$-iS_{QCD}[\varphi(x)] = -i \int d^3x dt \mathcal{L} \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow -i\tilde{t}]{} - \int d^4x \tilde{\mathcal{L}} = -\tilde{S}_E \quad \text{decaying exponential}$$

Now, the weight of each path is a real positive quantity

**BASIS OF NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS**

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**BASIS OF NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS**

$$Z = \int DU \left\{ \int D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-\bar{\psi} Q(U)\psi} \right\} e^{-S_g[U]} = \int DU \det Q(U) e^{-S_g[U]} \sim P(U)$$

$$\det[Q_f(A)] \equiv \det(D[A] + m)$$

(quark matrix)

**1.** Generate an ensemble of  $N$  gauge-field configurations  $\{U_i\}$  according to the probability distribution  $P(U)$

$$Z = \int DU \left\{ \int D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-\bar{\psi} Q(U)\psi} \right\} e^{-S_g[U]} = \int DU \det Q(U) e^{-S_g[U]} \sim P(U)$$

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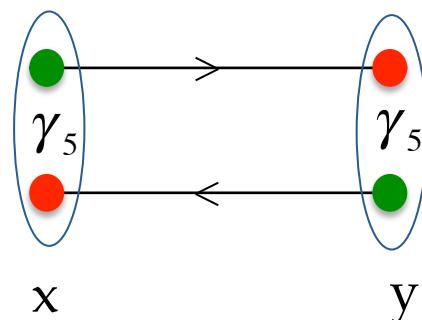
## expectation values

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}\mathbf{U} \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi O[\psi, \bar{\psi}, \mathbf{U}] e^{-S_E[\mathbf{U}, \bar{\psi}, \psi]}$$

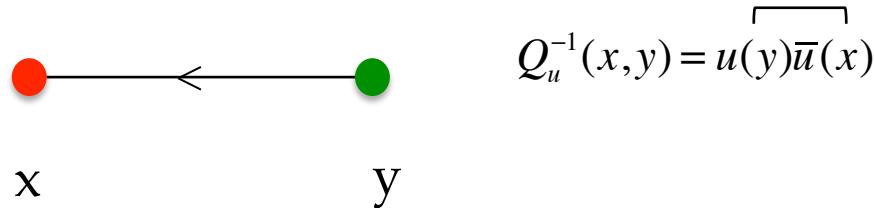
When computing expectation values of any given operator  $O$ , the quark fields in  $O$  are re-expressed in terms of quark propagators using Wick's Theorem: **write all possible contractions for the fields** (removing the dependence of quarks as dynamical fields)

$$\pi^+ = \bar{d} \gamma_5 u \quad \text{only possible (Wick) contractions:}$$

$$\langle \pi^\dagger(x) \pi(y) \rangle = \overline{\langle \bar{u}(x) \gamma_5 d(x) \bar{d}(y) \gamma_5 u(y) \rangle}$$



**2.** Use the  $N$  gauge-field configurations previously generated to calculate the quark propagators on each configuration  $Q^{-1}[U_i]$



**3.** Contract propagators onto correlation functions  $C_i(t)$  ( $t_0=0$ )

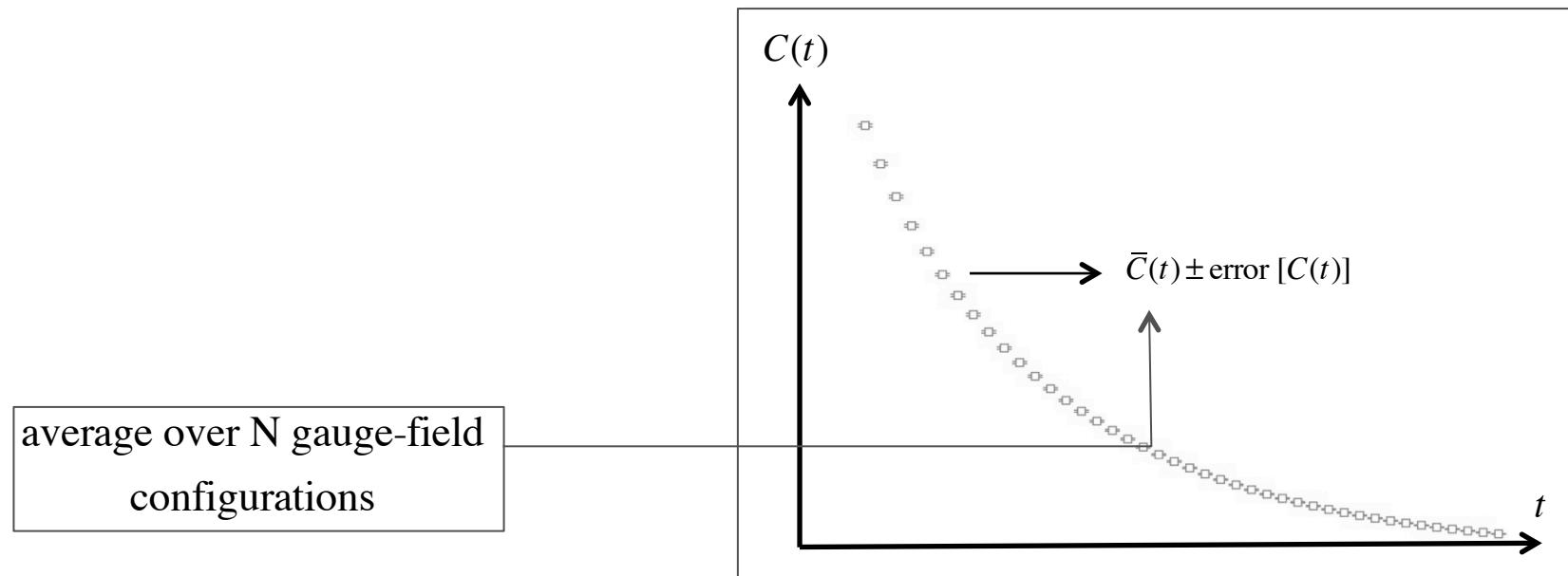


$$C(\Gamma^\nu, \vec{p}, t) = \sum_{\vec{x}_1} e^{-i\vec{p}\vec{x}_1} \Gamma^\nu \langle J(\vec{x}_1, t) \bar{J}(\vec{x}_0, 0) \rangle$$

## How do we get masses?

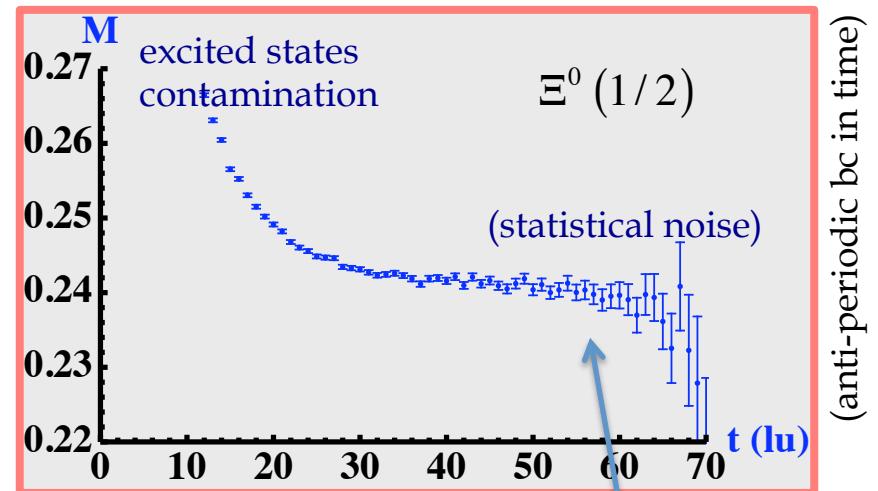
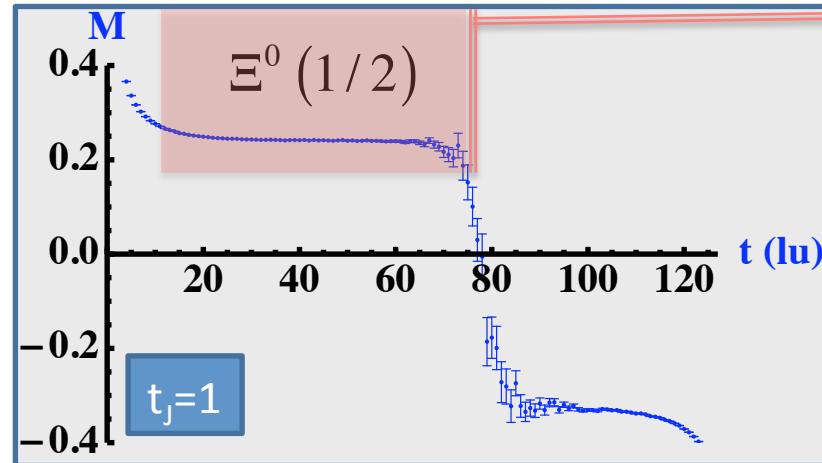
$$C(t) = \langle 0 | \phi(t) \phi^\dagger(0) | 0 \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \phi | e^{-Ht} | \phi \rangle = \sum_n \langle \phi | e^{-Ht} | n \rangle \langle n | \phi \rangle = \sum_n |\langle \phi | n \rangle|^2 e^{-E_n t}$$
$$\phi(t) = e^{Ht} \phi e^{-Ht} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} Z_0 e^{-E_0 t}$$

mass



Baryons, an example:  $\Xi^0$  mass (uss)

$$\Xi_\alpha^0(\vec{x}, t) = \epsilon^{ijk} s_\alpha^i(\vec{x}, t) \left( u_\alpha^{j^T}(\vec{x}, t) C \gamma_5 s^k(\vec{x}, t) \right)$$



$$\frac{1}{t_J} \log \frac{C_A(t)}{C_A(t + t_J)} = E_{0A} \quad (m_A)$$

Generalized effective plots

$$\overbrace{C_A(t) \sim Z_{0A} e^{-E_0 t}}$$

$$C_A(t + t_J) \sim Z_{0A} e^{-E_0(t + t_J)}$$

g.s. energy (mass) from plateau

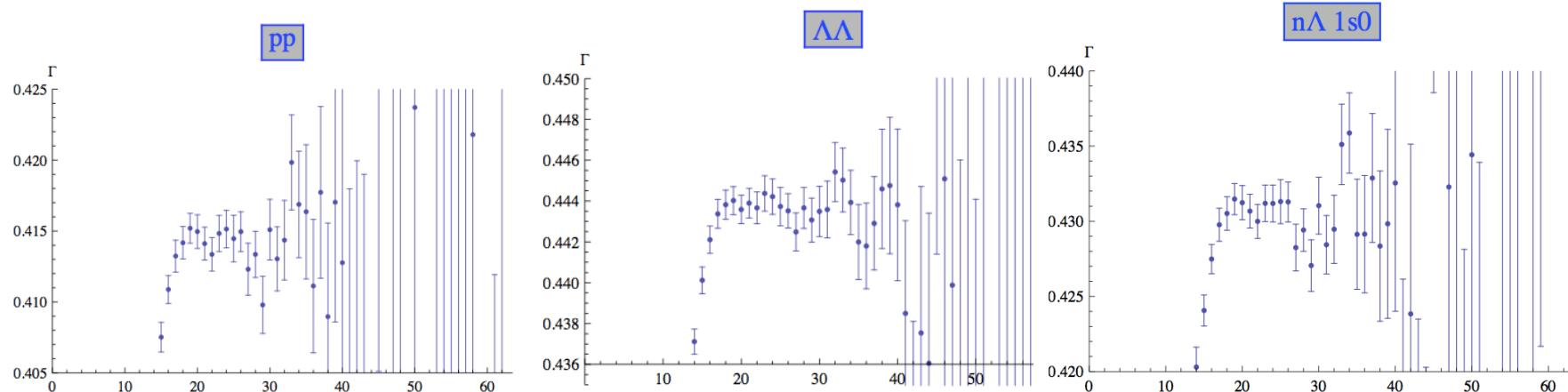
nucleons:

$$\frac{\sigma}{\langle C \rangle} \sim \frac{\exp\left(M_N - \frac{3m_\pi}{2}\right)t}{\sqrt{N}}$$

for baryons, the noise grows exponentially with time  
poor signal-to-noise ratio

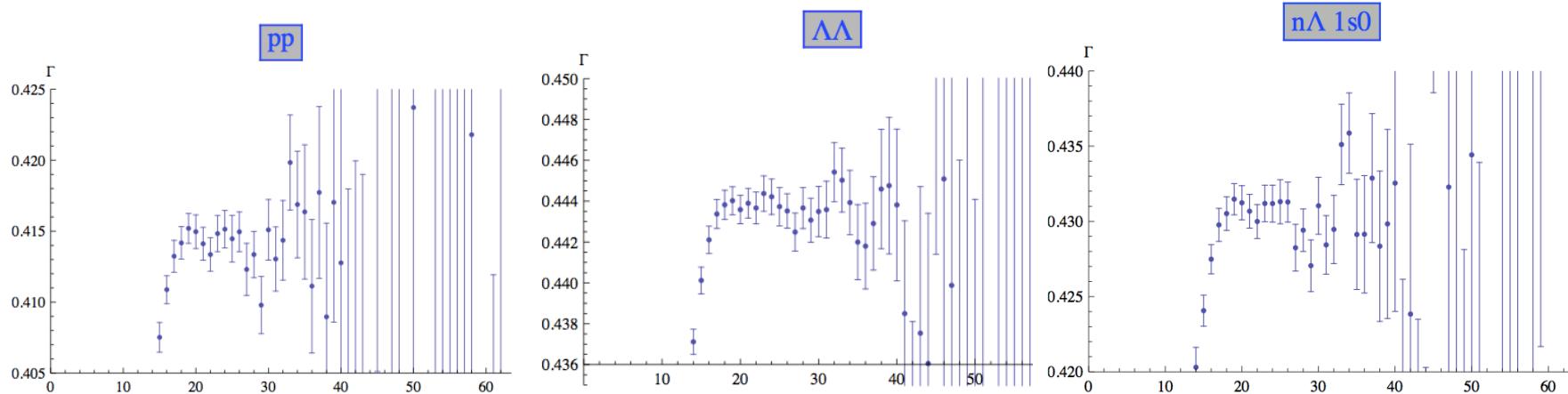
$m_\pi \sim 390$  MeV,  $L_s \sim 2.5$  fm,  $b=0.123$  fm

NPLQCD, Phys.Rev. D81 (2010) 054505



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### LQCD calculations involving $A > 2$ particles

Greater complexity of multinucleon systems as compared to single meson and baryon calcs

# Wick contractions at quark level, to form the correlation function is naively  $N_u! N_d! N_s!$

$$((A+Z)!(2A-Z)!)$$

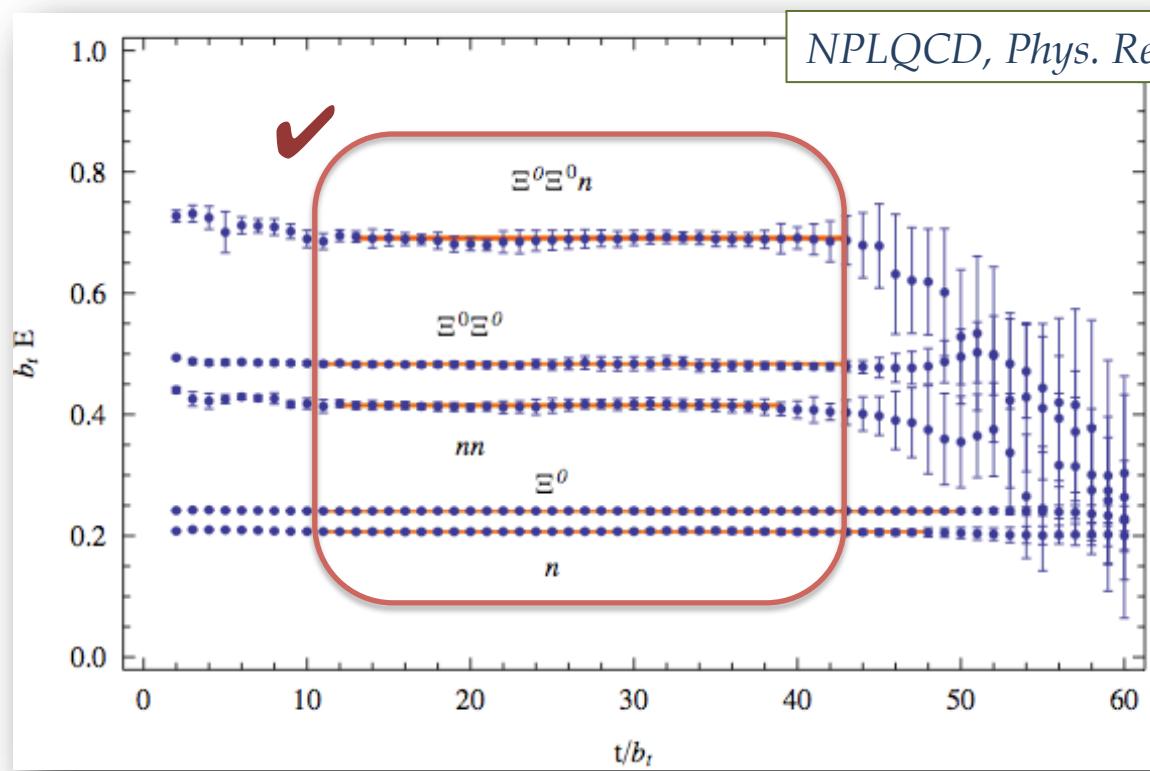
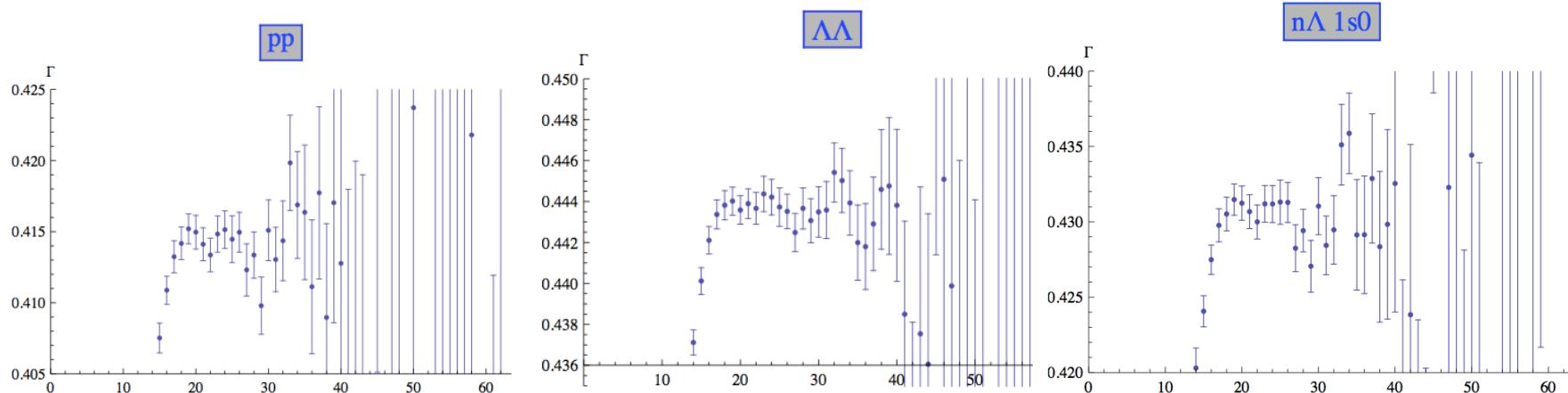


Expectation is that for  $A$  nucleons:

$$\frac{\sigma}{\langle C \rangle} \sim \frac{\exp \left[ A \left( M_N - \frac{3m_\pi}{2} \right) t \right]}{\sqrt{N}}$$

$m_\pi \sim 390$  MeV,  $L_s \sim 2.5$  fm,  $b=0.123$  fm

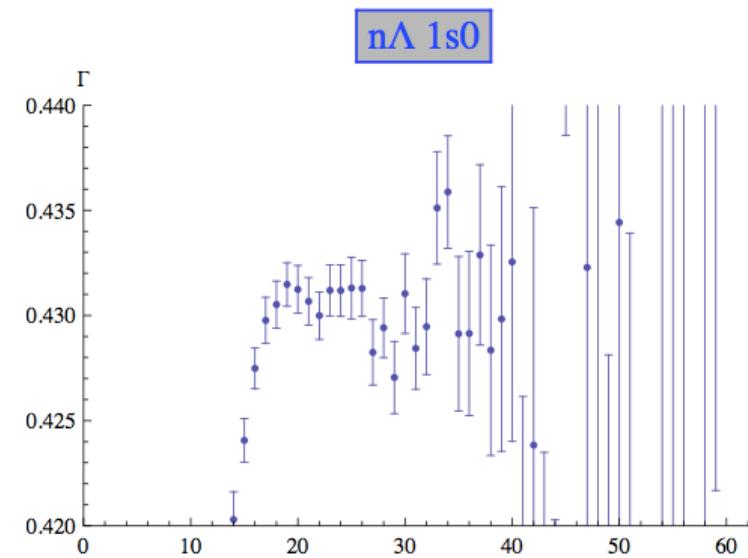
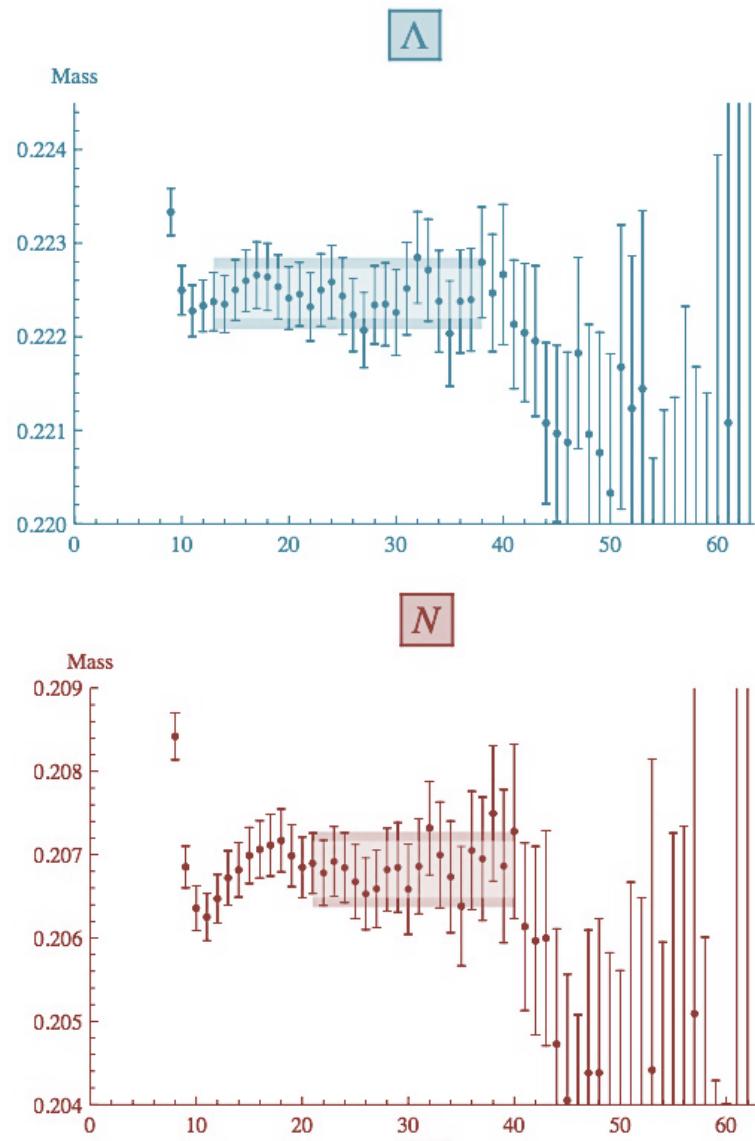
NPLQCD, Phys.Rev. D81 (2010) 054505



cheapest 3-baryon system:  
 $\Xi^0 \Xi^0 n$ , with  $3! 2! 4! = 288$   
Wick contractions

$m_\pi \sim 390$  MeV  
 $L_s \sim 2.5$  fm

We can also extract the energy of the interacting system for a given  $\{m_\pi, L, b\}$  set



$$G_{\Lambda N(^1S_0)}(t) = \frac{C_{\Lambda N(^1S_0)}(t)}{C_\Lambda(t) C_N(t)} \rightarrow A_0 e^{-\Delta E_{\Lambda N(^1S_0)} t}$$

Effective Mass method

$$\frac{1}{t_J} \log \frac{G(t)}{G(t+t_J)} \rightarrow \text{extract } \Delta E$$

Scattering states:

*Beane, Bedaque, Parreño, Savage, Phys. Lett. B585 (2004) 106-114*

$$\Delta E_0 = \frac{p^2}{M} = \frac{4\pi a}{ML^3} \left[ 1 - c_1 \frac{a}{L} + c_2 \left( \frac{a}{L} \right)^2 + \dots \right] \quad \text{Ground state energy shift}$$

Recovering *M. Lüscher, Commun. Math. Phys. 105, 153 (1986)* (L>>a)

Bound states?

$$\mathcal{A} \sim \text{Diagram} + \text{Diagram} + \dots = \frac{4\pi}{M} \frac{1}{p \cot \delta(p) - ip}$$

infinite volume

$$\text{b.s.} \quad p^2 = -\gamma^2$$

$$\cot \delta(i\gamma) = i$$

finite volume:

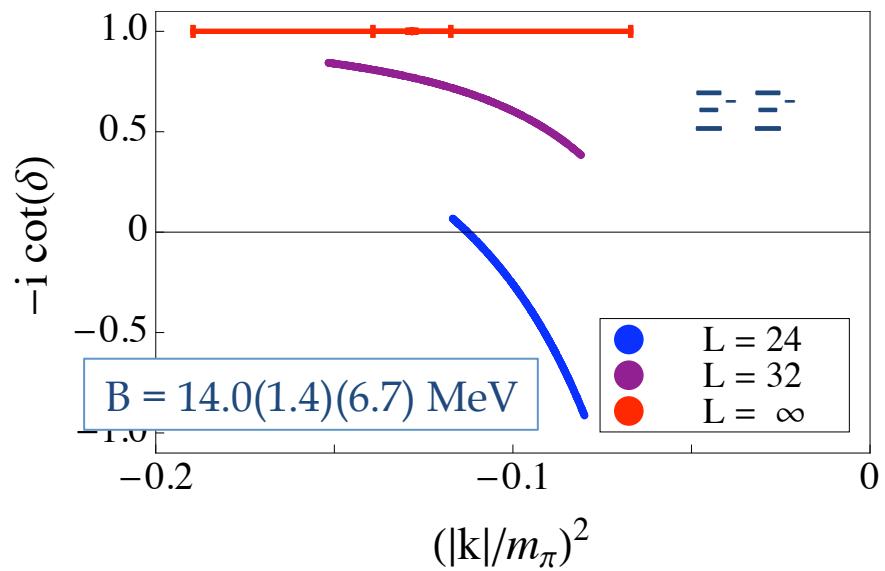
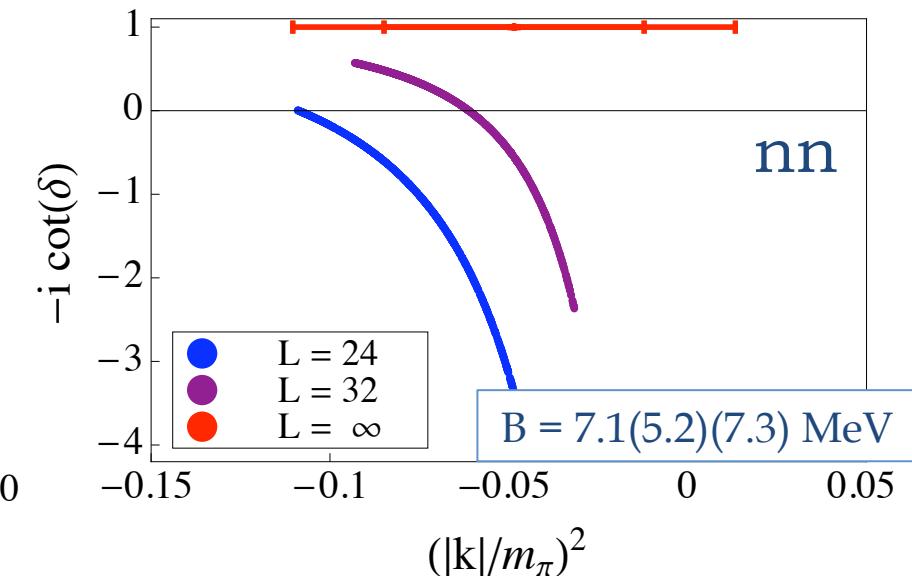
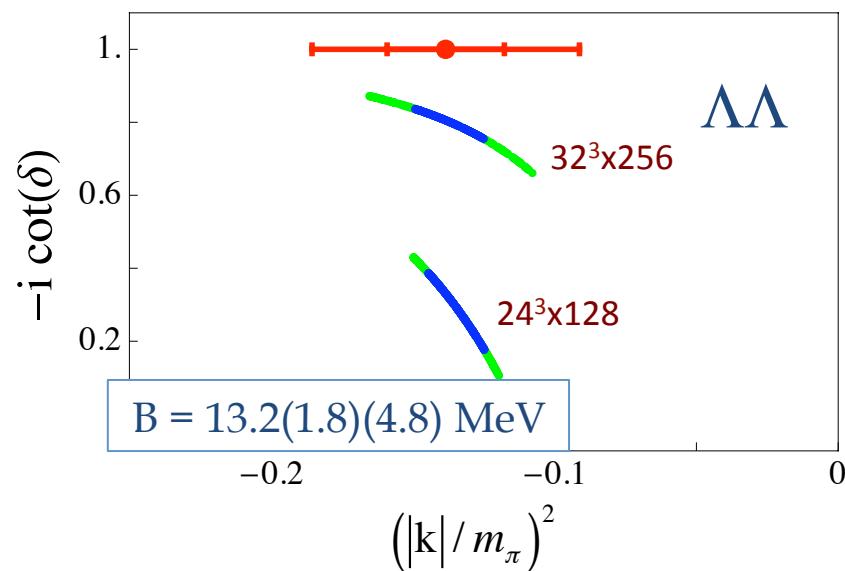
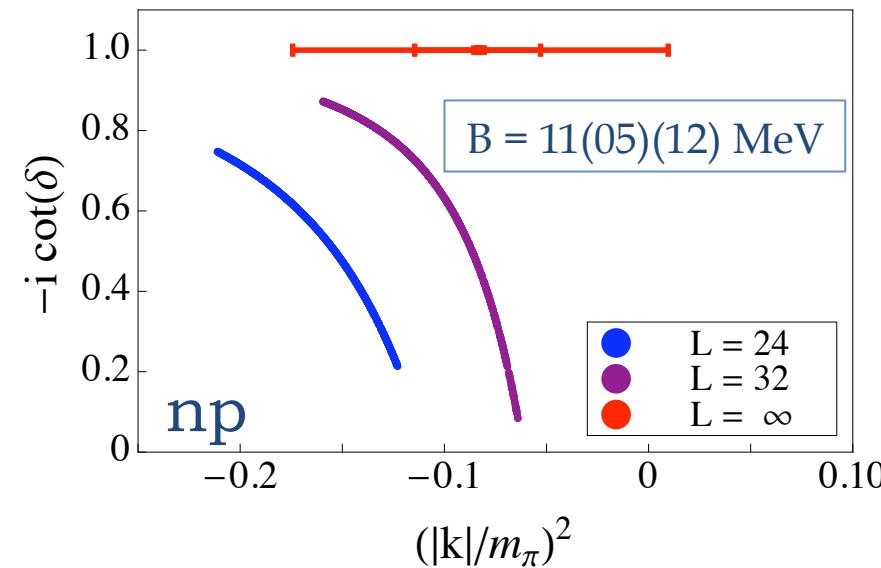
$$\cot \delta(i\gamma) \Big|_{k=i\gamma} = i - i \sum_{\vec{m} \neq \vec{0}} \frac{e^{-|\vec{m}|\gamma L}}{|\vec{m}| \gamma L}$$

$$k^2 < 0, \quad k = i\kappa \quad \kappa = \gamma + \frac{g_1}{L} \left( e^{-\gamma L} + \sqrt{2} e^{-\sqrt{2}\gamma L} + \dots \right) \quad \kappa \rightarrow \gamma \quad \text{for large } L$$

$$B_\infty = \frac{\gamma^2}{M}$$

$m_\pi \sim 390$  MeV,  $L_s \sim 2, 2.5, 3, 4$  fm,  $b=0.123$  fm

NPLQCD, Phys.Rev. D85 (2012) 054511



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## Going beyond A=2

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infinite volume extrapolations with enough statistics for (hyper) nuclear systems

energy splittings in nuclear physics are small → Need of high statistics calculations

Move to heavier quark masses:

resources required to generate configurations and q-propagators are smaller  
degradation in the signal-to-noise ratio in multinucleon correlation functions is reduced

calculations at the SU(3)-flavor symmetric point

$L/b$	$T/b$	$\beta$	$b m_q$	$b$ (fm)	$L$ (fm)	$T$ (fm)	$m_\pi$ (MeV)	$m_\pi L$	$m_\pi T$	$N_{\text{cfg}}$	$N_{\text{src}}$
24	48	6.1	-0.2450	0.145	3.4	6.7	806.5(0.3)(0)(8.9)	14.3	28.5	3822	96
32	48	6.1	-0.2450	0.145	4.5	6.7	806.9(0.3)(0.5)(8.9)	19.0	28.5	3050	72
48	64	6.1	-0.2450	0.145	6.7	9.0	806.7(0.3)(0)(8.9)	28.5	38.0	1905	54

physical strange quark mass

no physical light-quark masses yet  
only one lattice spacing

*NPLQCD, PRD 87, 034506 (2013); PRC 88, 024003 (2013)*

**Anisotropic lattices:  $N_t \gg N_s$**

( $N_f=2+1$  clover-improved Wilson fermion actions)

higher resolution in the time direction:

better study of noisy states  
better extraction of excited states  
reduce the systematic due to fitting  
(confident plateaus)

Going beyond A=2

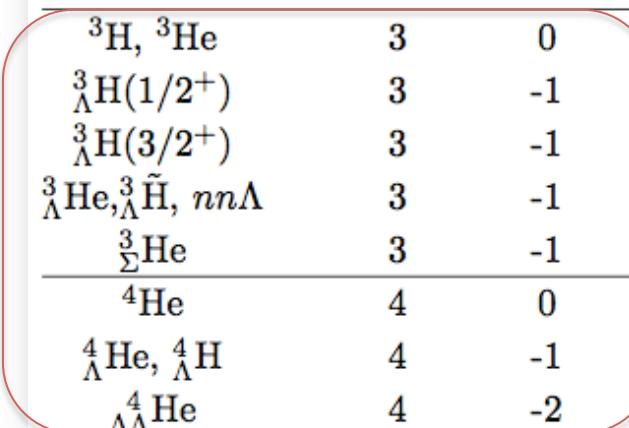
 $SU(3)_f$ 

NPLQCD Phys.Rev. D87 (2013), 034506

 $(\pi, J^2, J_z, s, A, I^2, I_z)$ 

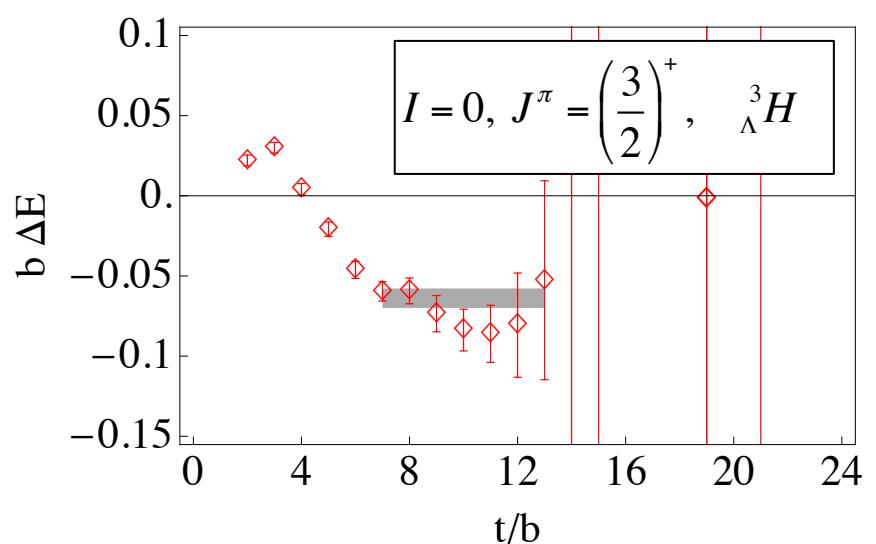
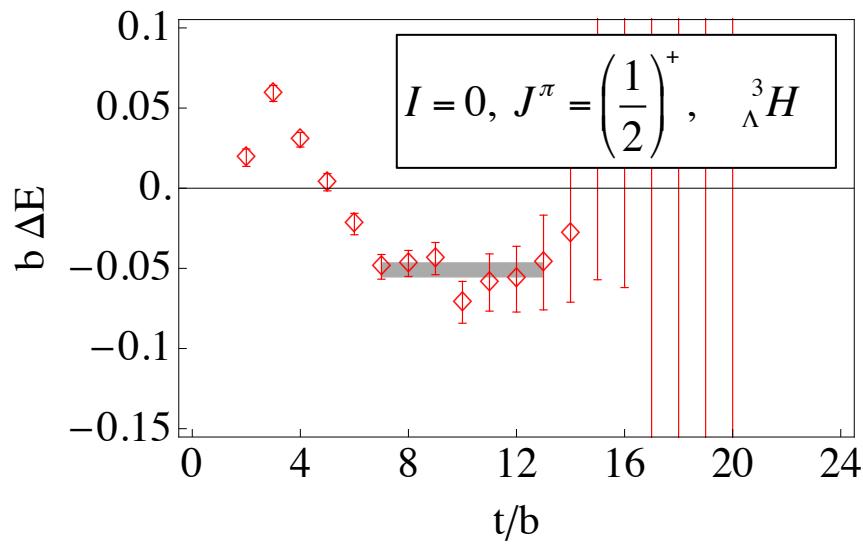
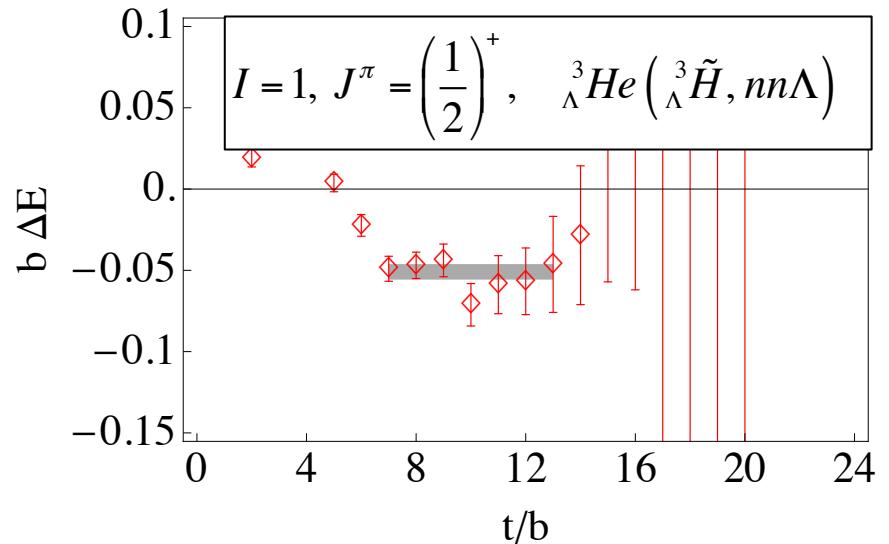
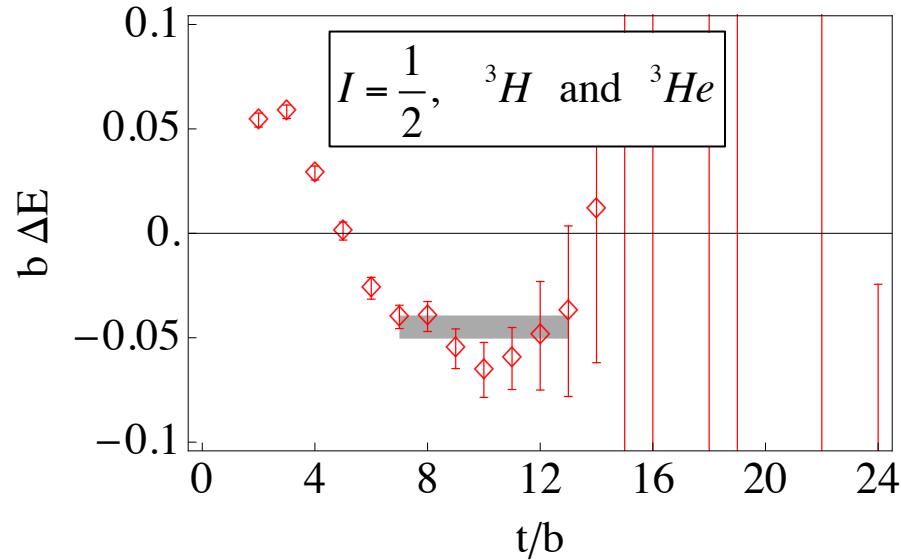
(no e.m. interactions)

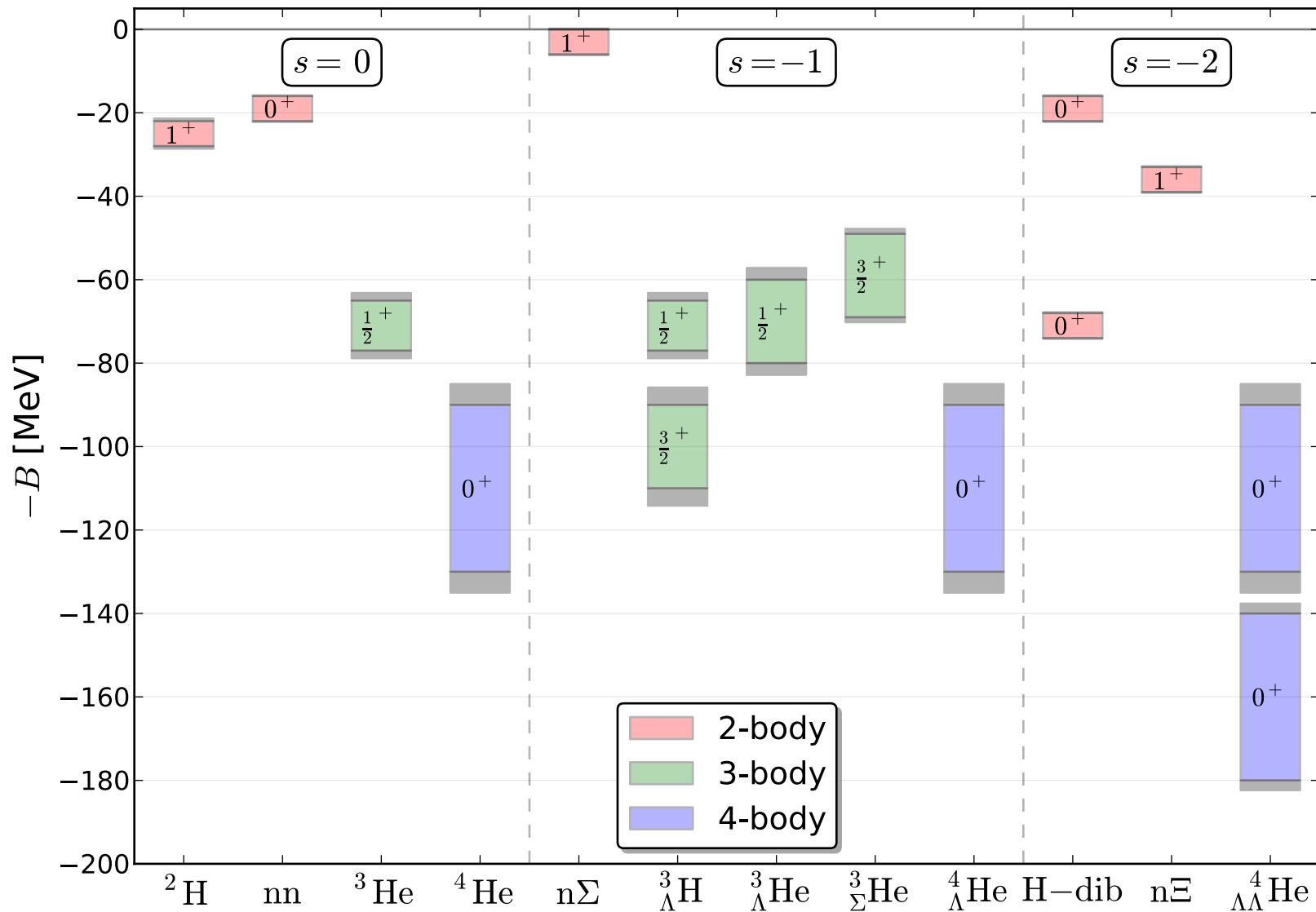
Label	$A$	$s$	$I$	$J^\pi$	Local SU(3) irreps	This work
$N$	1	0	1/2	1/2 $^+$	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
$\Lambda$	1	-1	0	1/2 $^+$	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
$\Sigma$	1	-1	1	1/2 $^+$	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
$\Xi$	1	-2	1/2	1/2 $^+$	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
$d$	2	0	0	1 $^+$	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
$nn$	2	0	1	0 $^+$	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
$n\Lambda$	2	-1	1/2	0 $^+$	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
$n\Lambda$	2	-1	1/2	1 $^+$	$8_A, \overline{10}$	—
$n\Sigma$	2	-1	3/2	0 $^+$	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
$n\Sigma$	2	-1	3/2	1 $^+$	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
$n\Xi$	2	-2	0	1 $^+$	$8_A$	$8_A$
$n\Xi$	2	-2	1	1 $^+$	$8_A, 10, \overline{10}$	—
$H$	2	-2	0	0 $^+$	<b>1, 27</b>	<b>1, 27</b>
${}^3H, {}^3He$	3	0	1/2	1/2 $^+$	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>
${}^3\Lambda H(1/2^+)$	3	-1	0	1/2 $^+$	<b>35</b>	—
${}^3\Lambda H(3/2^+)$	3	-1	0	3/2 $^+$	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
${}^3\Lambda He, {}^3\tilde{\Lambda} H, nn\Lambda$	3	-1	1	1/2 $^+$	<b>27, 35</b>	<b>27, 35</b>
${}^3\Sigma He$	3	-1	1	3/2 $^+$	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
${}^4He$	4	0	0	0 $^+$	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>
${}^4\Lambda He, {}^4\Lambda H$	4	-1	1/2	0 $^+$	<b>28</b>	—
${}^4\Lambda\Lambda He$	4	-2	0	0 $^+$	<b>27, 28</b>	<b>27, 28</b>



For example, for the A=3 system:

$(48^3 \times 64)$





Use background magnetic fields

$$e|B| = \frac{6\pi}{L^2} \tilde{n}, \quad \vec{B} = \hat{z} \cdot \vec{B} \quad (e|B| \sim 0.046 \tilde{n} \text{ GeV}^2)$$

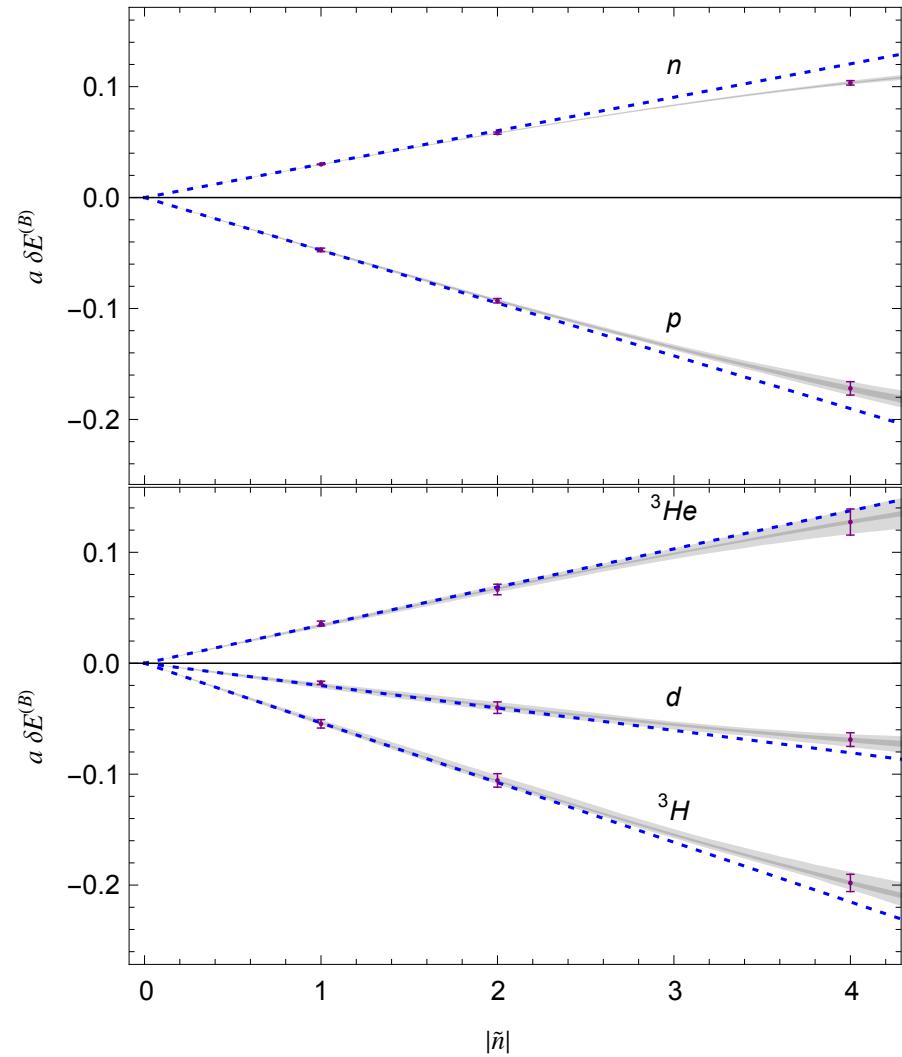
$$E(B) = M + \frac{|QeB|}{2M} - \mu \cdot B - 2\pi\beta |B|^2 + \dots$$

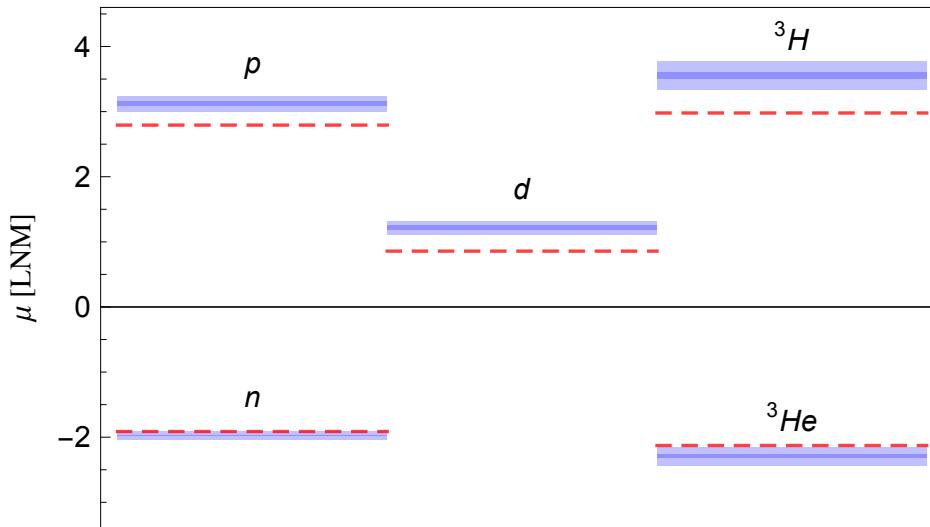
$$\delta E^B = E_{+j}^B - E_{-j}^B$$

$$R(B) = \frac{C_{j_z}^B(t) C_{-j_z}^0(t)}{C_{-j_z}^B(t) C_{j_z}^0(t)} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} Z e^{-\delta E^B t}$$

$$\delta E^B = -2\mu|B| + \gamma_3 |B|^3$$

$$m_\pi \sim 800 \text{ MeV}$$

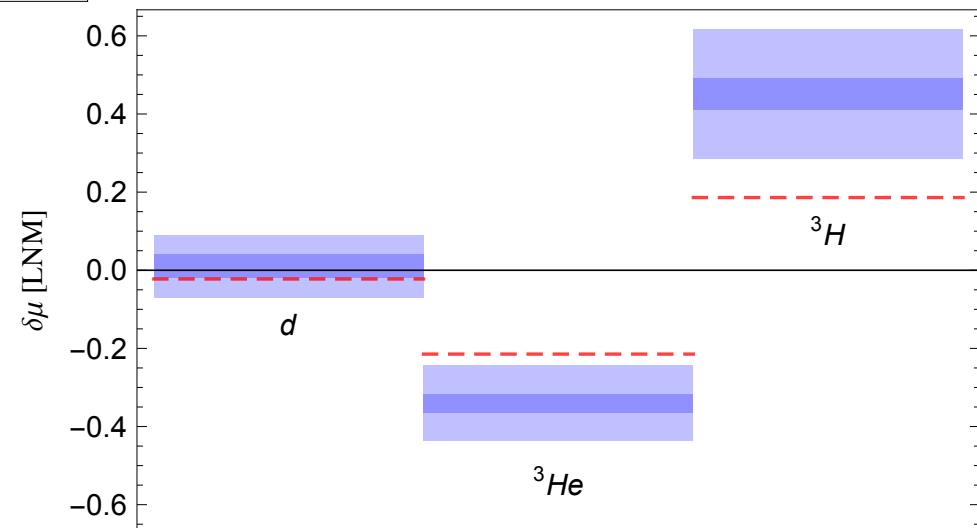




$$m_\pi \sim 800 \text{ MeV}$$

*NPLQCD, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 (2014) 25, 252001*

$$\text{LNM} = \frac{e}{2M_N^{\text{latt}}}$$



# Light nuclei and hypernuclei from Lattice QCD ( $A \leq 4$ )

*Can we understand the properties of (small) nuclei directly from QCD?*

*Calculation of important quantities in nuclear physics with LQCD is only now becoming practical, with first calculations of simple multibaryon interactions being performed, although at unphysical quark masses.*

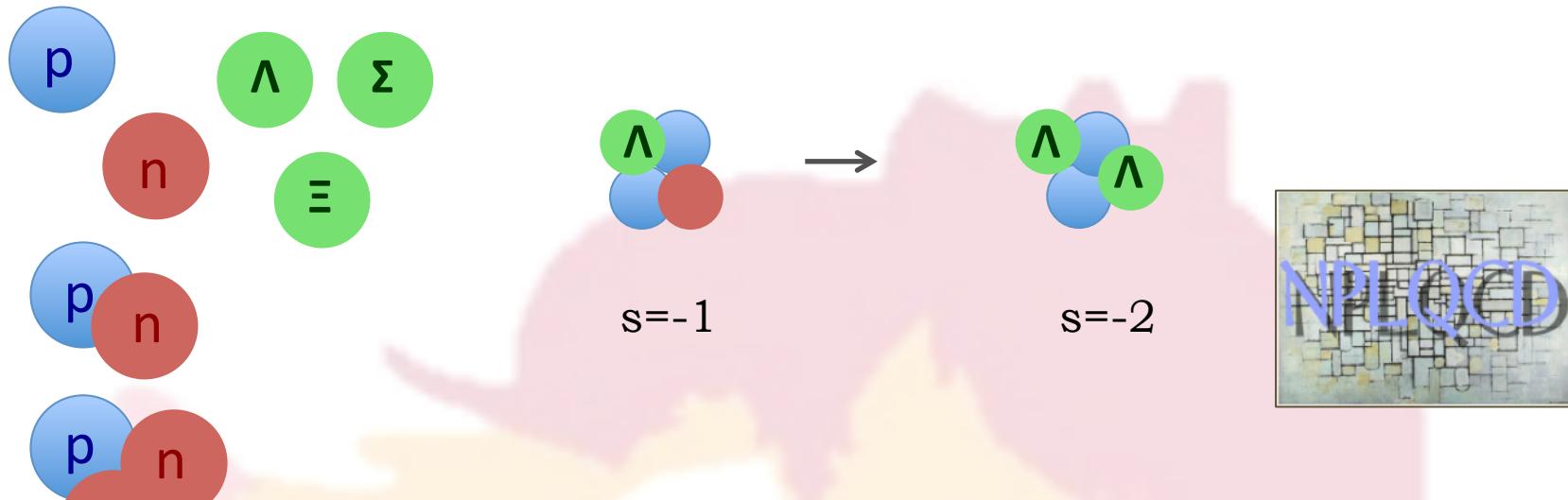
*Present day computing power begins to be sufficient to calculate nuclear properties in lattice QCD with near physical quark masses (completed calculations @ 430 MeV & on-going calcs. @ 300 MeV)*

*A chiral extrapolation to the physical pion mass may be possible if sufficiently many results at various pion masses are available.*

*Also, calculations at different lattice spacings are now at reach ( $b \sim 0.1, 0.08 \text{ fm}$ )*

*LQCD calculations would be specially of interest for systems that are not accessible experimentally → Complementary information to experimental programs not too far in the future.*

*"This is a long term project that can be done given sufficient resources. Once completed will definitely be transformative although each individual step may not be."*  
*(encouraging referee's comment)*



Thanks to the NPLQCD Collaboration

Silas R. Beane & Emmanuel Chang (U of Washington, Seattle)  
William Detmold (MIT), Kostas Orginos (William and Mary & JLab),  
Assumpta Parreño (Barcelona), Martin J. Savage (INT, Seattle)

and

Saul Cohen, Huey-Wen Lin, Thomas C. Luu, Parikshit Junnarkar,  
Brian Tiburzi, André Walker-Loud