

NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND REACTIONS FROM LATTICE QCD

U. van Kolck

*Institut de Physique Nucléaire d'Orsay
and University of Arizona*

Outline

- QCD at Low Energies and the Lattice
- Nuclear Effective Field Theories
- EFT for Lattice Nuclei
- Outlook and Conclusion



Two goals of nuclear physics

- Nucleus as a laboratory:
properties of the Standard Model and beyond
 - nuclear matrix elements for symmetry tests
 - reaction rates for nucleosynthesis
 - equation of state for stellar structure
 - variation of parameters for cosmology
 - ...



"ab initio" methods, phenomenology, etc.

- Nucleus as the simplest complex system:
quarks and gluons interacting strongly,
yet exhibiting many regularities
 - QCD at large distances an unsolved part of the SM
 - tools for non-perturbative quantum (field) theories,
e.g. cold atoms

TODAY

QCD

d.o.f.s

quarks: $q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$ gluons: G_μ^a (photon: A_μ)

symmetries

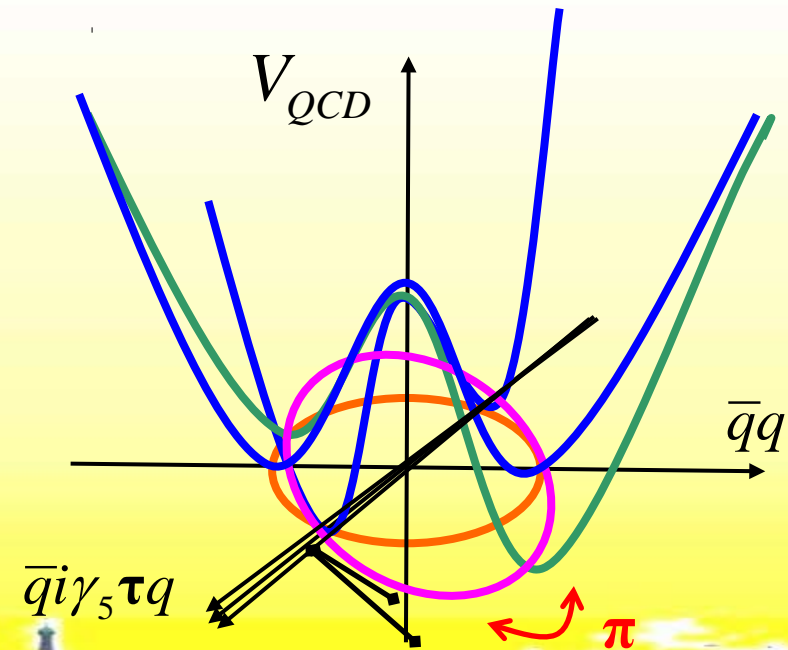
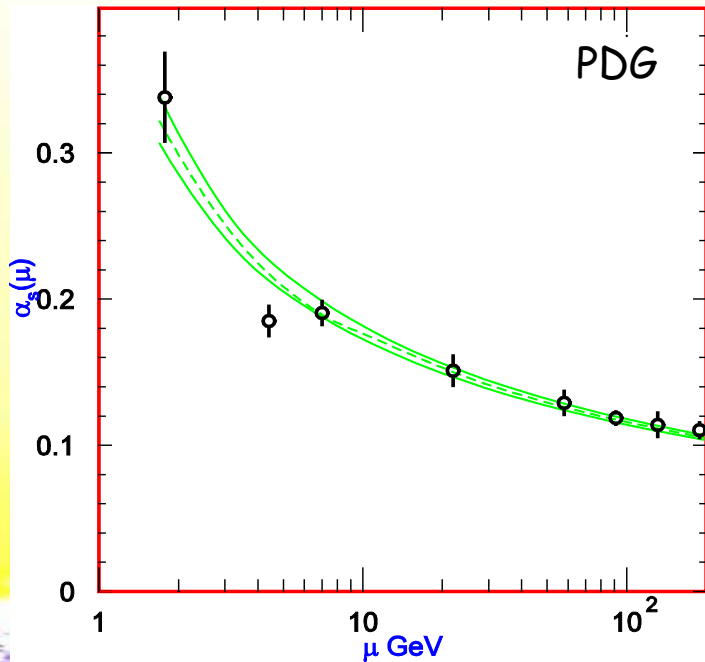
$SO(3,1)$ global, $SU_c(3)$ gauge (+ $U_{em}(1)$ gauge)

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \underbrace{\bar{q} (i\partial + g_s \mathbf{G}) q - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} G^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{quarks and gluons}} + \underbrace{\bar{m} \bar{q} (1 - \varepsilon \tau_3) q}_{\text{quark mass}} + \dots$$

Basic

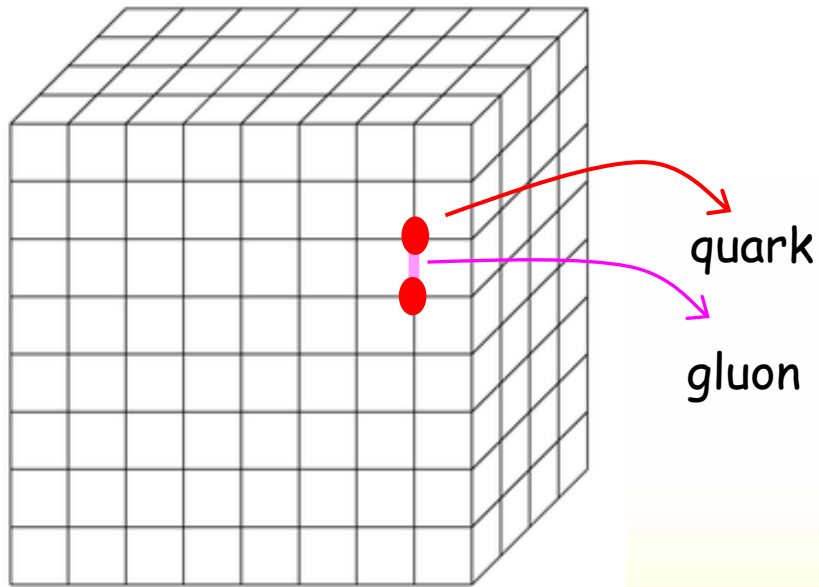
mass scales

$$M_{QCD} \sim m_N, m_\rho, 4\pi f_\pi, \dots \sim 1 \text{ GeV} \quad m_\pi \sim \sqrt{\bar{m} M_{QCD}} \approx 140 \text{ MeV}$$

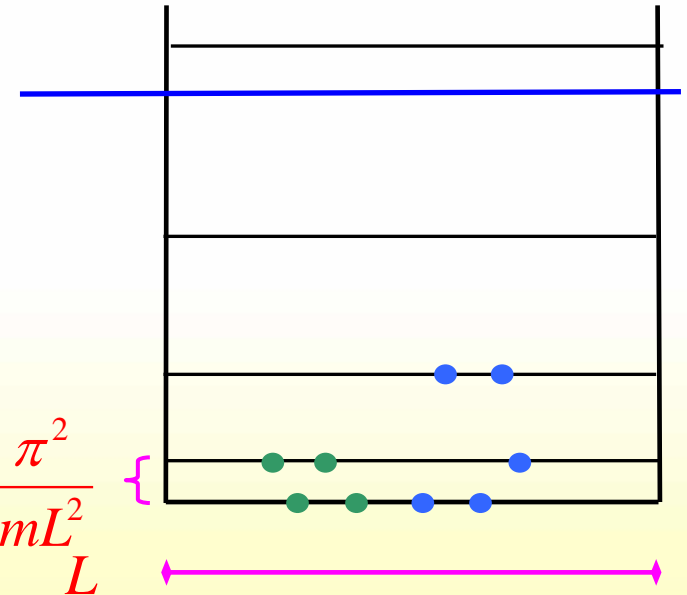


$$f_\pi \sim M_{QCD} / 4\pi + \mathcal{O}(\bar{m}) \approx 100 \text{ MeV}$$

Lattice QCD

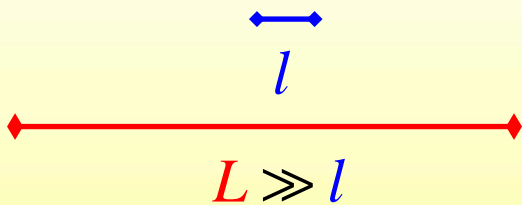


lattice "model space"



$$\frac{\pi^2}{ml^2}$$

$$\frac{\pi^2}{mL^2 L}$$



$$\Lambda \sim 1/l$$

$$\lambda \sim 1/L$$

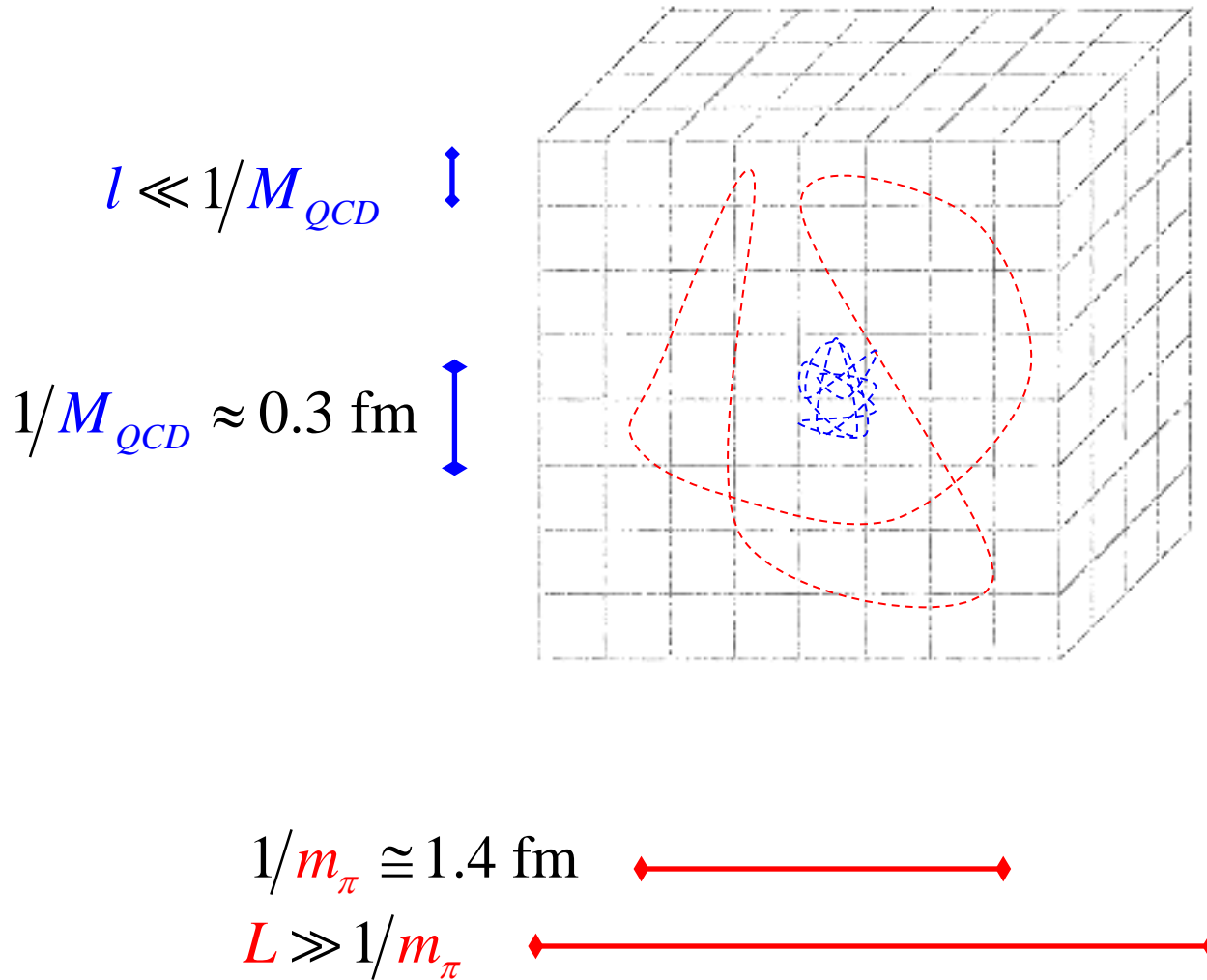
path integral solved with Monte Carlo methods, typically for unrealistically large quark masses

$$\cot \delta(E) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{mEL}} \left[\pi \sum_{|\mathbf{n}| < L/l} \frac{1}{(2\pi\mathbf{n})^2 - mEL^2} - \frac{L}{l} \right]$$

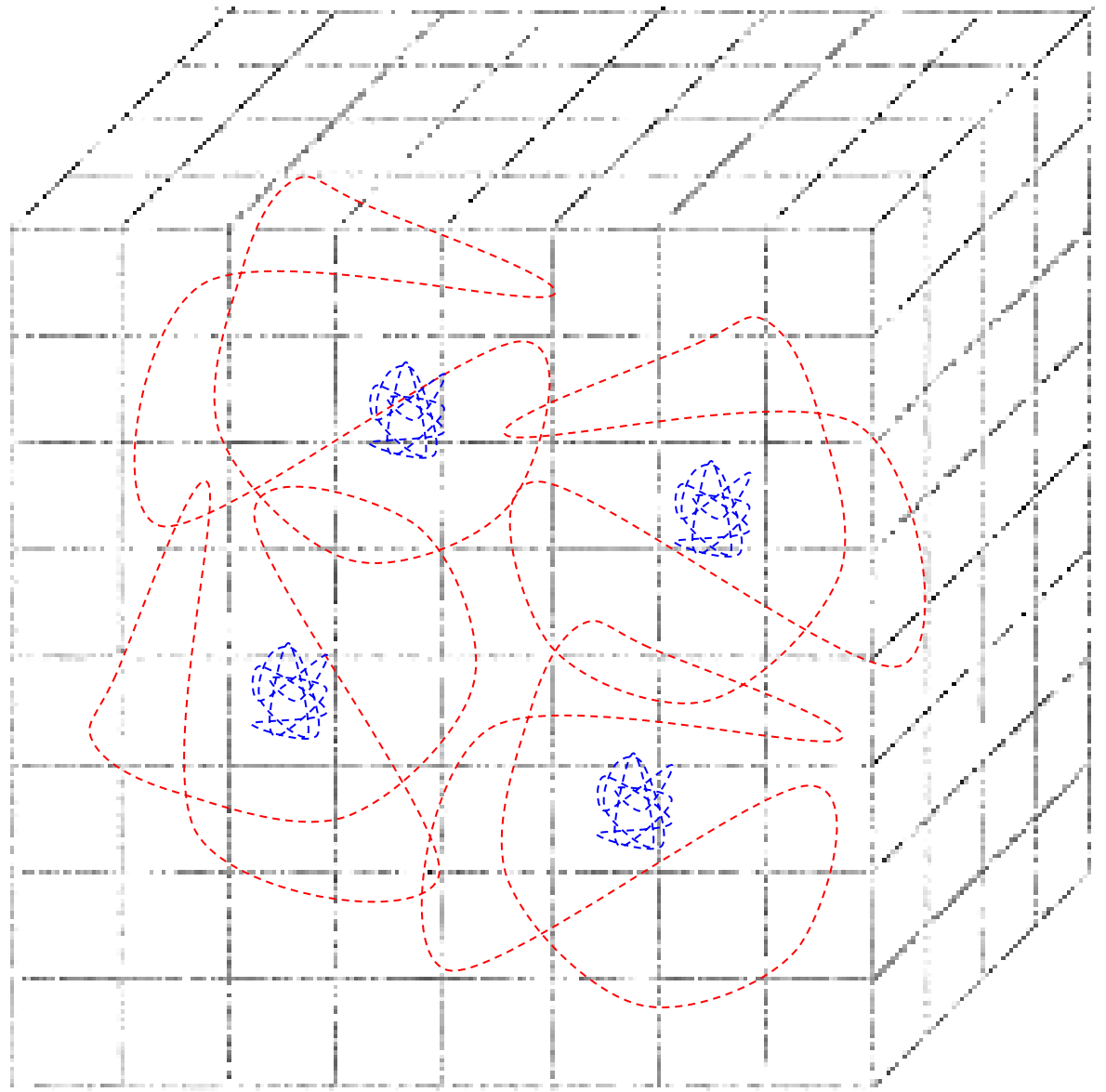
Lüscher '91



nucleon



nucleus



$$l \ll 1/M_{QCD}$$



$$1/M_{QCD} \approx 0.3 \text{ fm}$$



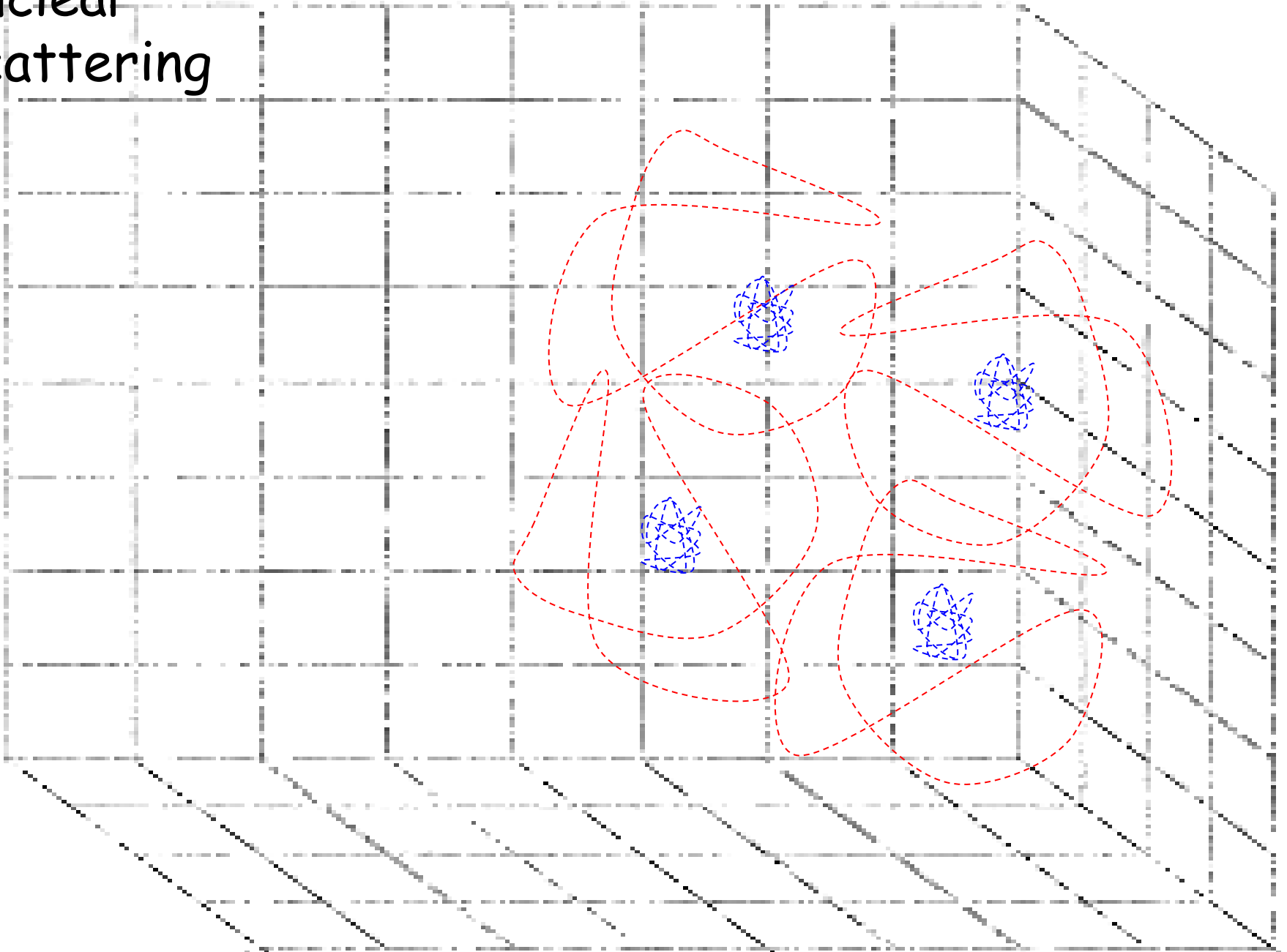
$$R \sim \rho(m_\pi/f_\pi) A^{1/3}/m_\pi \approx 1.2 A^{1/3} \text{ fm}$$



$$L \gg \rho(m_\pi/f_\pi) A^{1/3}/m_\pi$$



nuclear
scattering

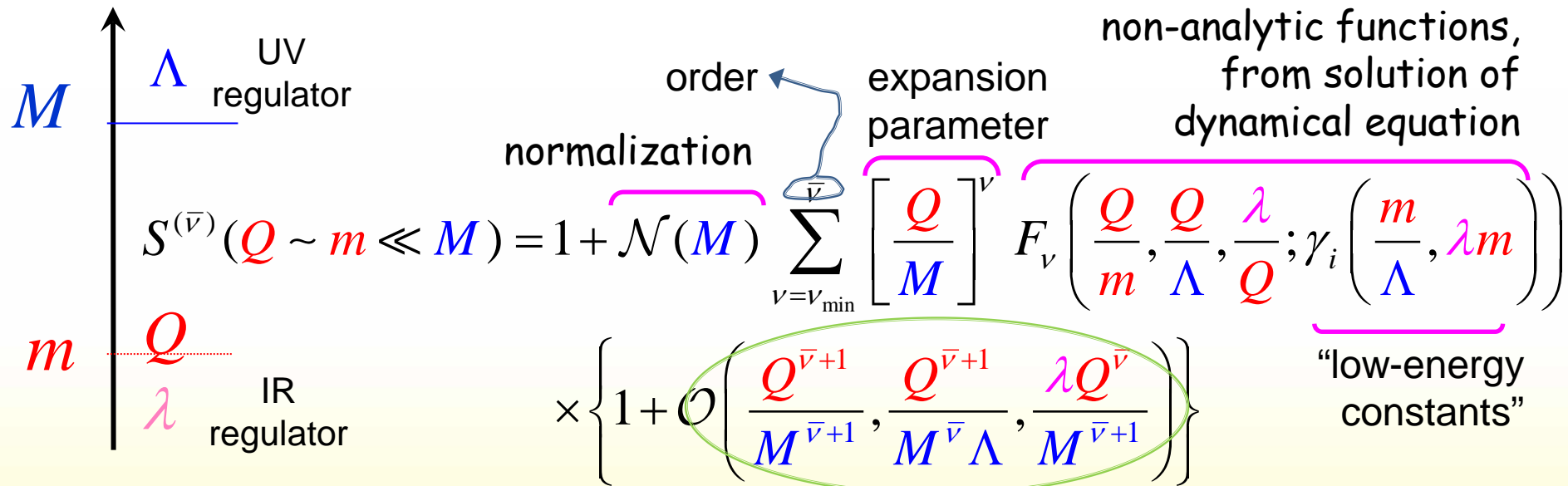


How?

Lattice QCD + Effective Field Theory [©]

Most general S matrix with given symmetries

mass scales



$N^{\bar{\nu}-\bar{\nu}_{\min}}$ LO

(unfortunately **not** the usage by nuclear potential modelers)

CONTROLLED UNCERTAINTY

Want large “model space”

renormalization-group invariance

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\Lambda}{S^{(\bar{\nu})}} \frac{\partial S^{(\bar{\nu})}}{\partial \Lambda} = \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{Q^{\bar{\nu}+1}}{M^{\bar{\nu}} \Lambda} \right) \\ \frac{\lambda}{S^{(\bar{\nu})}} \frac{\partial S^{(\bar{\nu})}}{\partial \lambda} = \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{Q^{\bar{\nu}} \lambda}{M^{\bar{\nu}+1}} \right) \end{array} \right.$$

MODEL INDEPENDENCE
(insensitivity to high-mom details)

$$\Lambda \gtrsim M$$

$$\lambda \lesssim Q$$

two-step strategy

ab initio primo

II) ~~for~~ EFT for

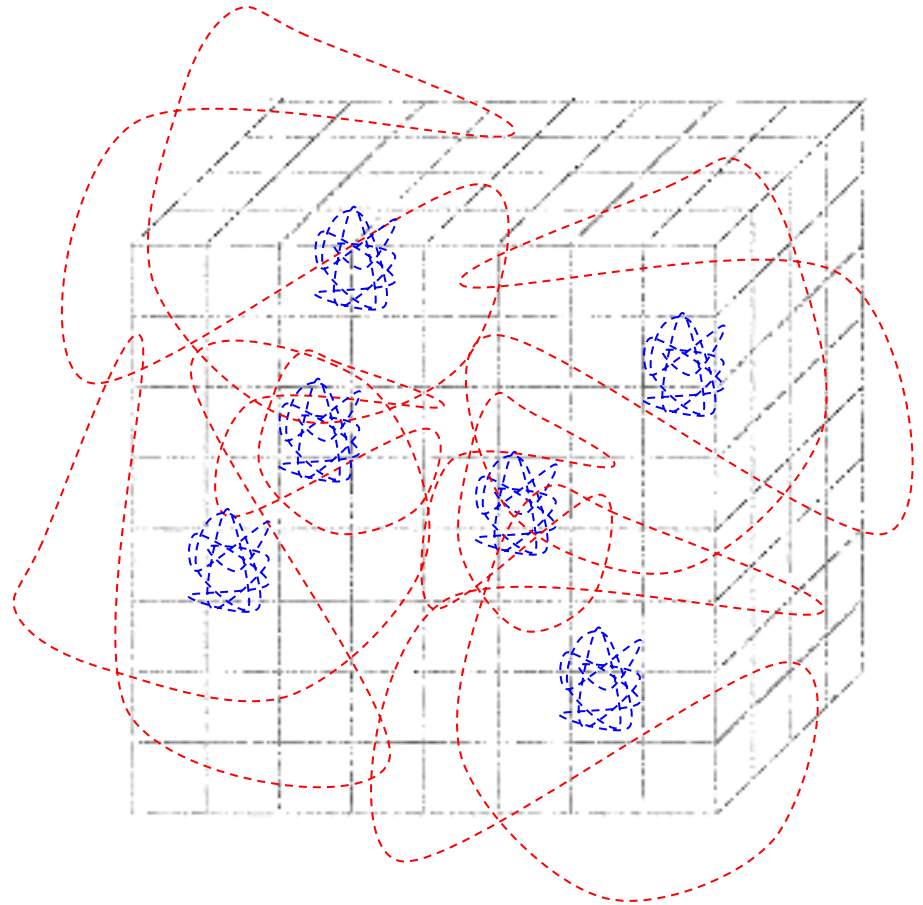
$$A \lesssim 3, 4$$

$$m_\pi \geq M_\pi \text{ any } 300, 400 \text{ MeV}$$

$$l \ll 1/M_{QCD} \quad \downarrow$$

$$1/M_{QCD} \approx 0.3 \text{ fm} \quad \downarrow$$

Also for reactions



$$\begin{array}{l}
 1/m_\pi \quad 1/M_\pi \quad \leftarrow \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \rightarrow \\
 \rho(m_\pi/f_\pi) A^{1/3}/m_\pi \quad \leftarrow \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \rightarrow \\
 L \gg \rho(M_\pi/f_\pi) a^{1/3}/M_\pi \quad \leftarrow \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \rightarrow
 \end{array}$$

Experimental and LQCD data

+ Inoue *et al.* '12 ...

(MeV)

| m_π Nucleus | 140 [nature] | 300 [10] | 510 [7] | 805 [8] |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| n | 939.6 | 1053 | 1320 | 1634 |
| p | 938.3 | 1053 | 1320 | 1634 |
| ${}^2\text{n}$ | — | $8.5 \pm 0.7^{+2.2}_{-0.4}$ | 7.4 ± 1.4 | 15.9 ± 3.8 |
| ${}^2\text{H}$ | 2.224 | $14.5 \pm 0.7^{+2.4}_{-0.7}$ | 11.5 ± 1.3 | 19.5 ± 4.8 |
| ${}^3\text{n}$ | — | | | |
| ${}^3\text{H}$ | 8.482 | $21.7 \pm 1.2^{+5.7}_{-1.6}$ | 20.3 ± 4.5 | 53.9 ± 10.7 |
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| ${}^4\text{He}^*$ | 8.09 | | | |
| ${}^5\text{He}$ | 27.50 | | [10] Yamazaki <i>et al.</i> '15 | |
| ${}^5\text{Li}$ | 26.61 | | [7] Yamazaki <i>et al.</i> '12 | |
| ${}^6\text{Li}$ | 32.00 | | [8] Beane <i>et al.</i> '12 | |

Beane *et al.* '13

$$a^{(1S_0)} = 2.33^{+0.19+0.27}_{-0.17-0.20} \text{ fm} \quad , \quad r^{(1S_0)} = 1.130^{+0.071+0.059}_{-0.077-0.063} \text{ fm}$$

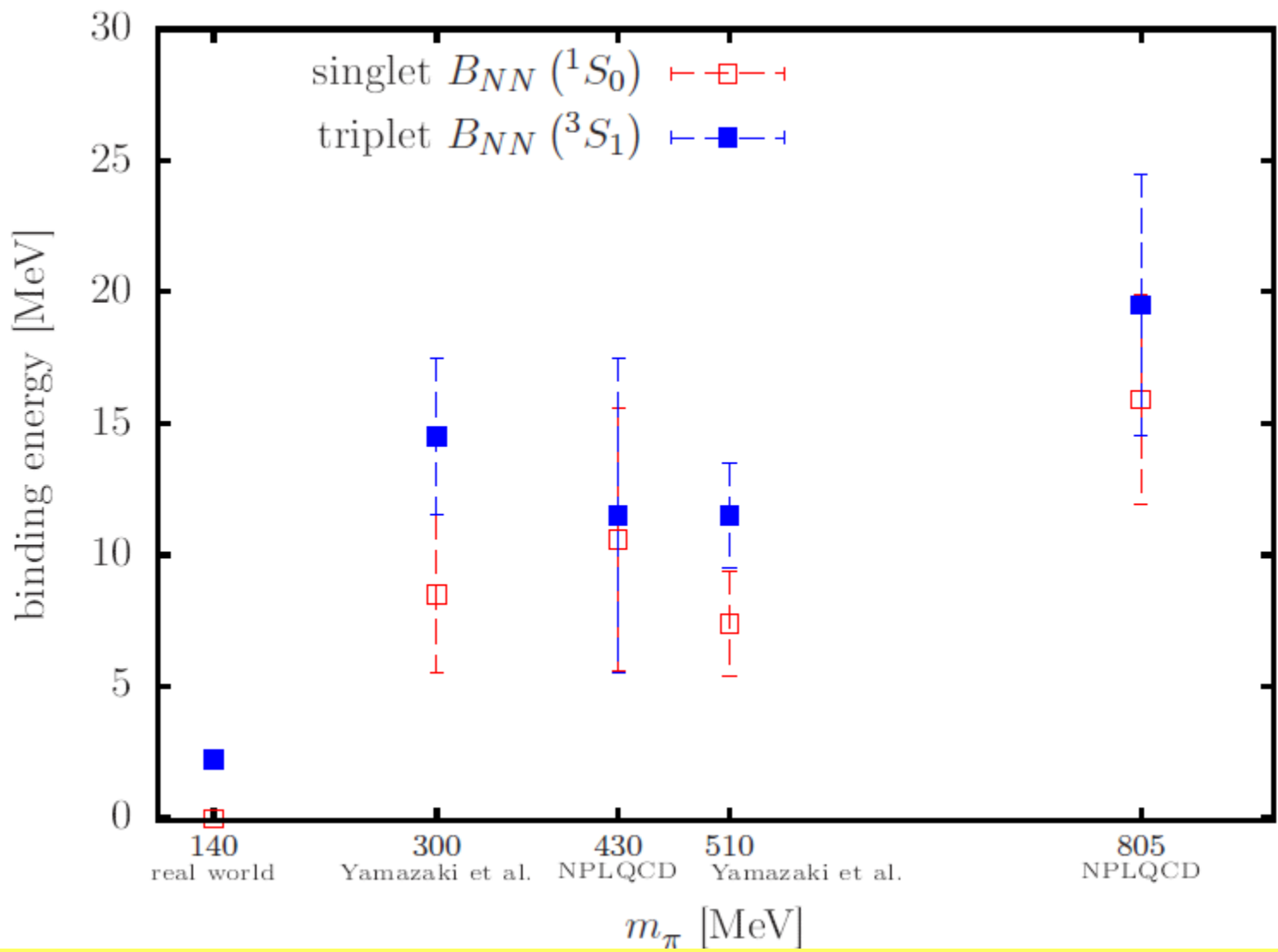
$$a^{(3S_1)} = 1.82^{+0.14+0.17}_{-0.13-0.12} \text{ fm} \quad , \quad r^{(3S_1)} = 0.906^{+0.068+0.068}_{-0.075-0.084} \text{ fm}$$



+ Berkowitz *et al.* 16

+ Beane *et al.* -
in progress





J. Kirscher



Scales (MeV)

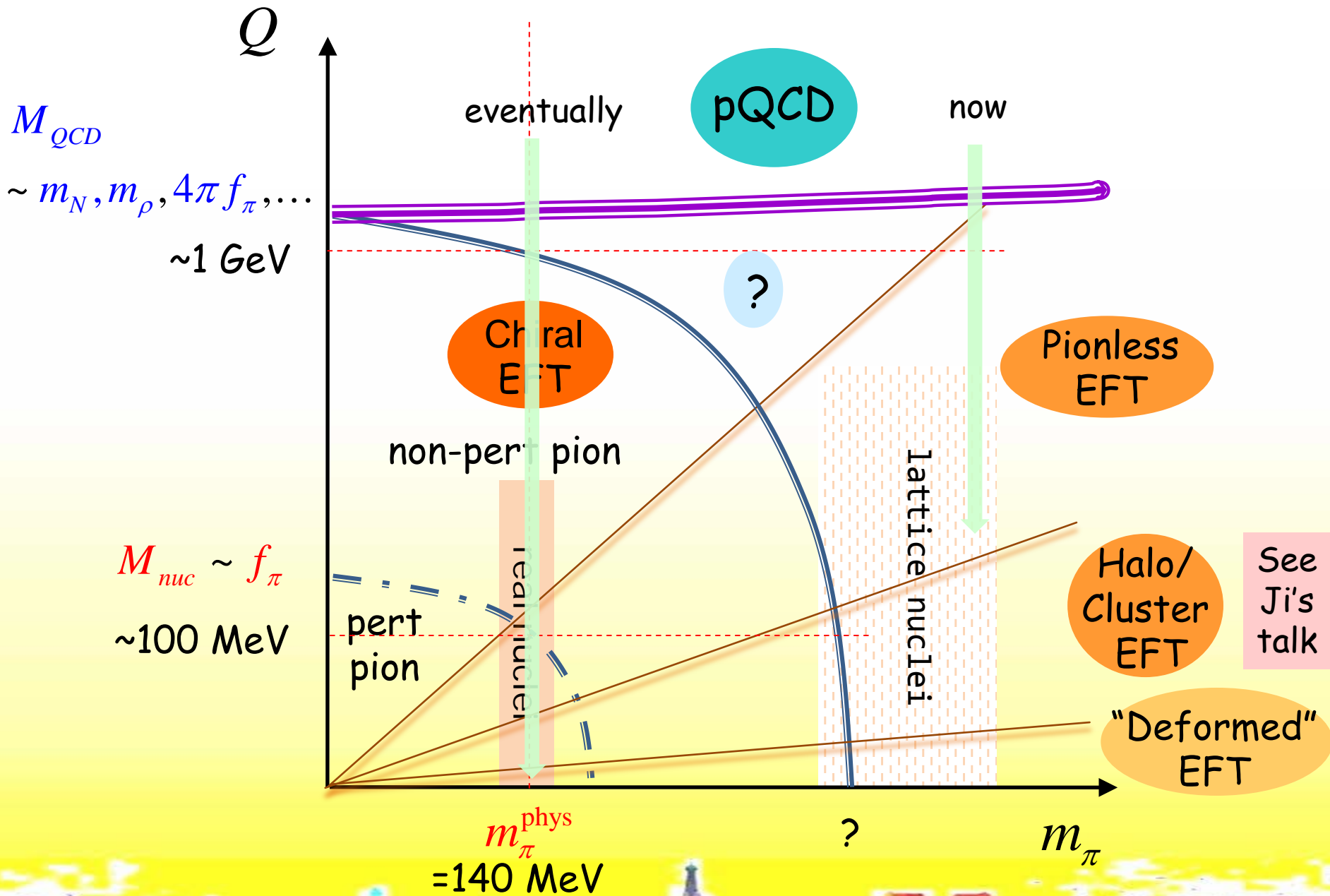
| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| m_N | 940 | 1050 | 1320 | 1630 |
| $\sqrt{2m_N(m_\Delta - m_N)}$ | 750 | 800 | 900 | 800 |
| m_π | 140 | 300 | 500 | 800 |
| $\sqrt{2m_N B_A/A} (A = 2 \mapsto 4)$ | 45 \mapsto 110 | 100 \mapsto 150 | 130 \mapsto 170 | 185 \mapsto 300 |



$$Q \sim \mathfrak{N} \equiv \sqrt{m_N B_2} < m_\pi \lesssim M_{QCD}$$



The Nuclear EFT Landscape



See Ji's talk



Extrapolation in pion mass

Pionful (Chiral) EFT

$$Q \sim m_\pi \ll M_{QCD}$$

Another talk...



Pionless EFT

$$Q \sim \mathcal{N} \sim \sqrt{m_N B_2} \ll m_\pi \sim M$$

- degrees of freedom: nucleons
- symmetries: Lorentz, ~~P~~, ~~T~~

$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT} = N^+ \left(i\partial_0 + \frac{\nabla^2}{2m_N} \right) N - \frac{C_0}{2} N^+ N N^+ N - \frac{D_0}{6} N^+ N N^+ N N^+ N$$

$$+ N^+ \frac{\nabla^4}{8m_N^3} N - \frac{C_2}{4} N^+ N \nabla^2 N^+ N + \dots$$

[omitting spin, isospin]

- expansion in: $\frac{Q}{M} = \begin{cases} Q/m_N & \text{non-relativistic} \\ Q/m_\pi, \dots & \text{multipole} \end{cases}$

Universality:
first orders
apply also to
neutral atoms

$$m_\pi \rightarrow 1/l_{vdW} \text{ where } V(r) = -\frac{l_{vdW}^4}{2m_{at} r^6} + \dots$$

Bedaque, Hammer
+ v.K. '99 '00
Bedaque, Braaten
+ Hammer '01

v.K. '97
Kaplan, Savage
+ Wise '98

$$V_{ij} = \sum_{s=0}^1 \left\{ \underbrace{C_{0(s)} \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)}_{a_2 \quad \text{LO}} + \underbrace{C_{2(s)} \left[\nabla^2 \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) + \dots \right]}_{a_2, r_2 \quad \text{NLO}} + \dots \right\}$$

NNLO and higher

$$+ \frac{\alpha}{\underbrace{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}_{\text{NLO}}} + \dots$$

NNLO and higher

König, Griebhammer, Hammer + v.K. '15
...

$$V_{ijk} = \underbrace{D_0 \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \delta(\vec{r}_j - \vec{r}_k)}_{a_3 \quad \text{LO}} + \dots$$

NNLO and higher

Bedaque, Hammer + v.K. '99 '00
Hammer + Mehen '00
...

$$V_{ijkl} = E_0 \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \delta(\vec{r}_j - \vec{r}_k) \delta(\vec{r}_k - \vec{r}_l) + \dots$$

not LO

Platter, Hammer + Meißner '04 '05
Hammer + Platter '07
...

etc.



➤ Regularization
(arbitrary)

$$\delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \rightarrow \delta_\Lambda(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$$

e.g. local Gaussian regulator $\delta_\Lambda(\vec{r}) = \frac{\Lambda^3}{8\pi^{3/2}} \exp(-\Lambda^2 \vec{r}^2/4)$

➤ Solution

LO $H_A^{(0)} |\Psi_A^{(0)}\rangle = E_A^{(0)} |\Psi_A^{(0)}\rangle$

NLO $E_A^{(1)} = \langle \Psi_A^{(0)} | H_A^{(1)} | \Psi_A^{(0)} \rangle$

etc.

➤ Renormalization
(essential)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C_{0(0,1)}(\Lambda) \text{ fitted to two two-body data, e.g. } a_{NN(0,1)} \\ D_0(\Lambda) \text{ fitted to one three-body datum, e.g. } a_{nd(1/2)} \\ \text{etc.} \end{array} \right.$$

$A = 2$

equivalent to $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{effective-range expansion} \\ \text{pseudopotential} \\ \text{boundary condition at origin} \end{array} \right.$

Bethe '49
Fermi '37
Bethe + Peierls '35

$A \geq 3$

not *just* the effective-range expansion:
includes many-body forces!

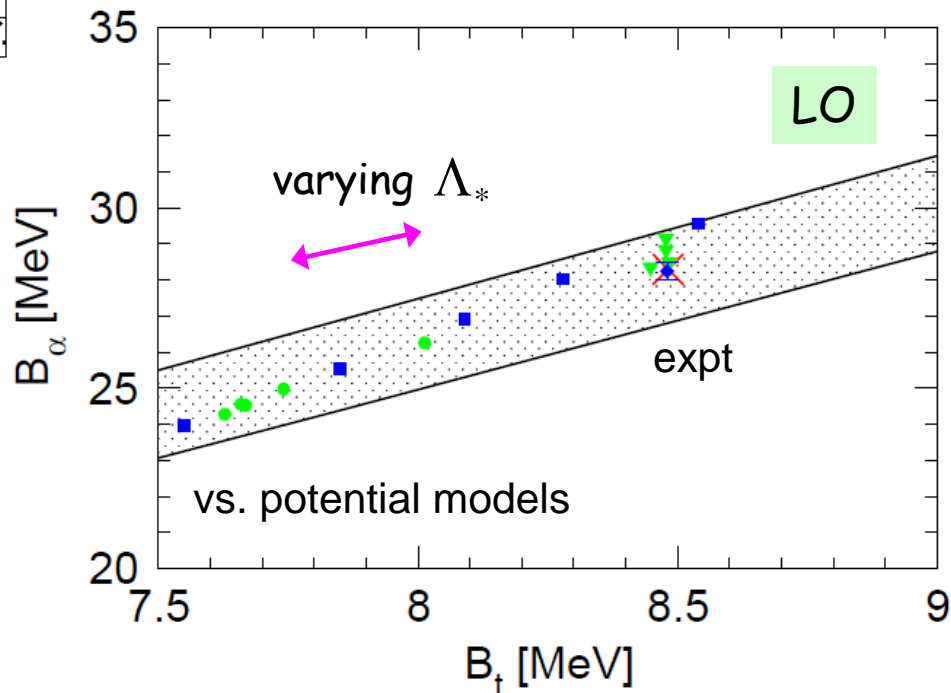
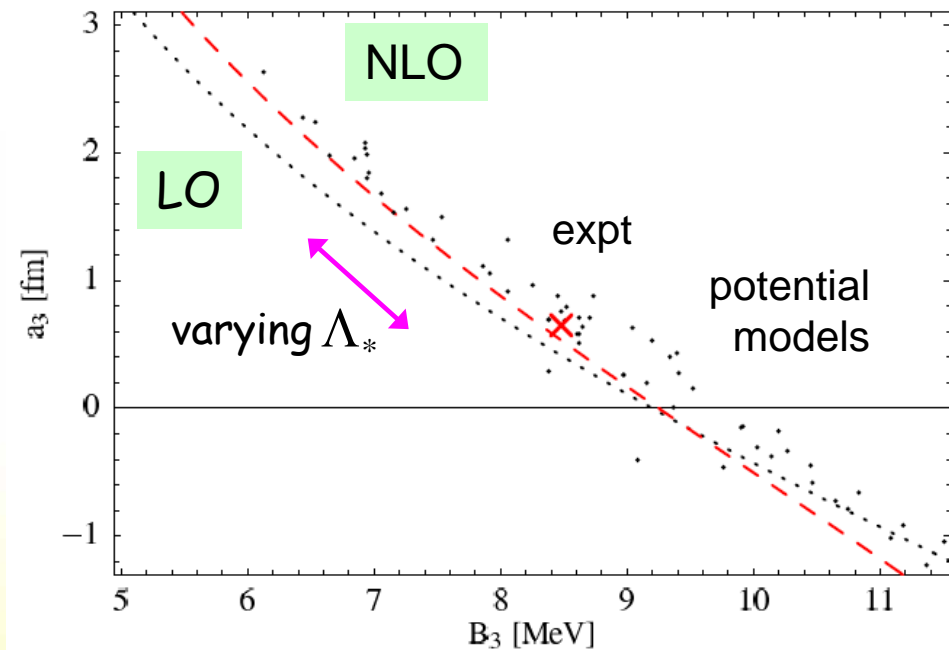


Three-Body Force at LO

Bedaque, Hammer + v.K. '99, '00
 Bedaque, Grißhammer,
 Hammer + Rupak '02
 ...
 Hammer, Meißner + Platter '05
 ...

single $SU(4)_W$ -symmetric parameter

$$\Lambda_*$$



Phillips line

Tjon line

Pionless EFT

- ✓ reproduces effective range expansion
- ✓ explains Thomas collapse from improper renormalization
- ✓ explains correlations (Phillips, Tjon lines) from proper renormalization
- ✓ generates Efimov states and its descendants as consequence of (approximate) discrete scale invariance
- ✓ gives approximate Wigner $SU(4)$ invariance

but

- applies only at momenta below pion mass
- has unknown reach in terms of nucleon number



Extrapolation in nucleon number

$$m_\pi \ll M_{QCD} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Pionful EFT} \\ \text{Pionless EFT} \end{array} \right\} m_\pi \sim M_{QCD}$$

+ any "exact" "*ab initio*" method

That is,

- 1) truncate EFT expansion at desired order
- 2) solve Schrödinger equation for low A at fixed cutoff
(exactly for LO, subLOs in perturbation theory)
- 3) fit LECs to selected *lattice* input
- 4) solve Schrödinger equation for larger A
- 5) repeat steps 2-4 at other cutoffs
- 6) obtain observables at large cutoffs



Experimental and LQCD data

LO pionless fit:

$$m_N, C_{0(0)},$$

$$C_{0(1)}, D_0$$

Stetcu, Barrett + v.K. '06

| m_π Nucleus | 140 [nature] | 300 [10] | 510 [7] | 805 [8] |
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[10] Yamazaki *et al.* '15
 [7] Yamazaki *et al.* '12
 [8] Beane *et al.* '12

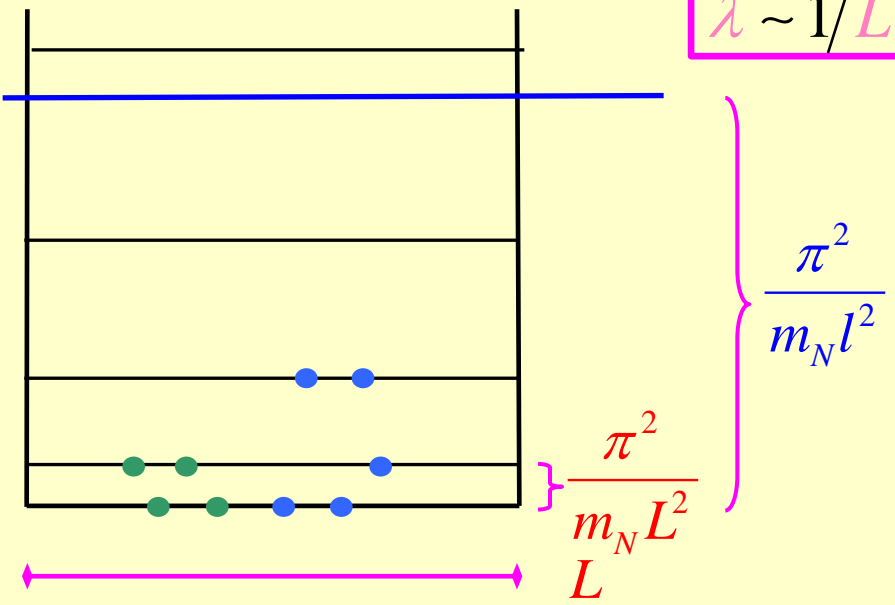


$A \gtrsim 4$

As A grows, given computational power limits
number of accessible one-nucleon states

IR cutoff

Lattice Box



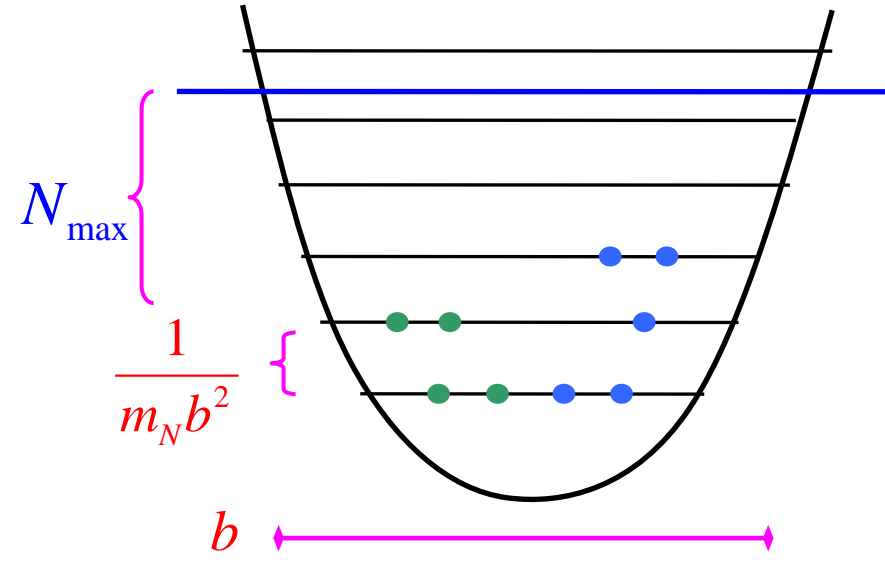
$$\Lambda \sim 1/l$$

$$\lambda \sim 1/L$$

$$\Lambda \sim \sqrt{N_{\max}}/b$$

$$\lambda \sim 1/\sqrt{N_{\max}b}$$

Harmonic Oscillator
"No-Core Shell Model"



nuclear matter
few nucleons

Mueller *et al.* '99
Lee *et al.* '05
...

$$\cot \delta(E) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{m_N E L}} \left[\pi \sum_{|\mathbf{n}| < L/l} \frac{1}{(2\pi\mathbf{n})^2 - m_N E L^2} - \frac{L}{l} \right]$$

Lüscher '91
...

finite nuclei

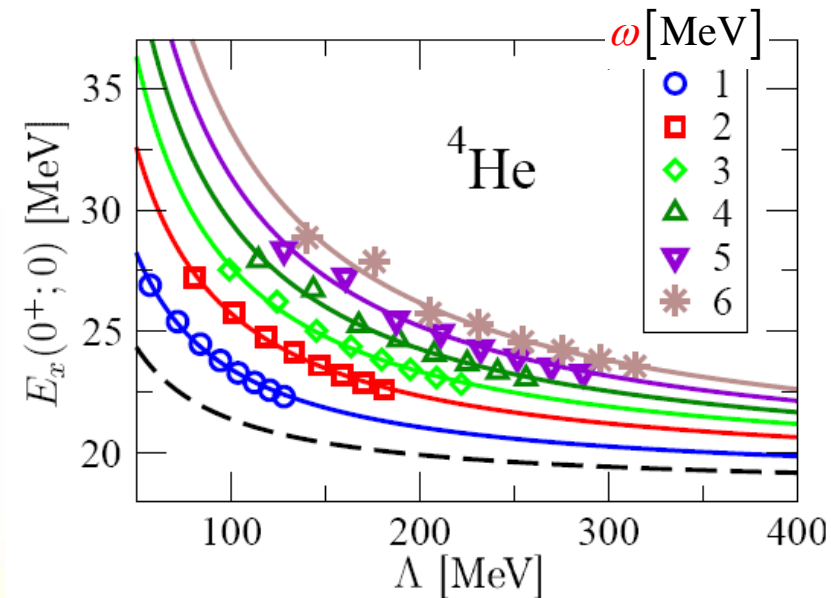
Stetcu *et al.* '06
...

$$\cot \delta(E) = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{m_N E b}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{m_N E b^2}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{m_N E b^2}{2}\right)}$$

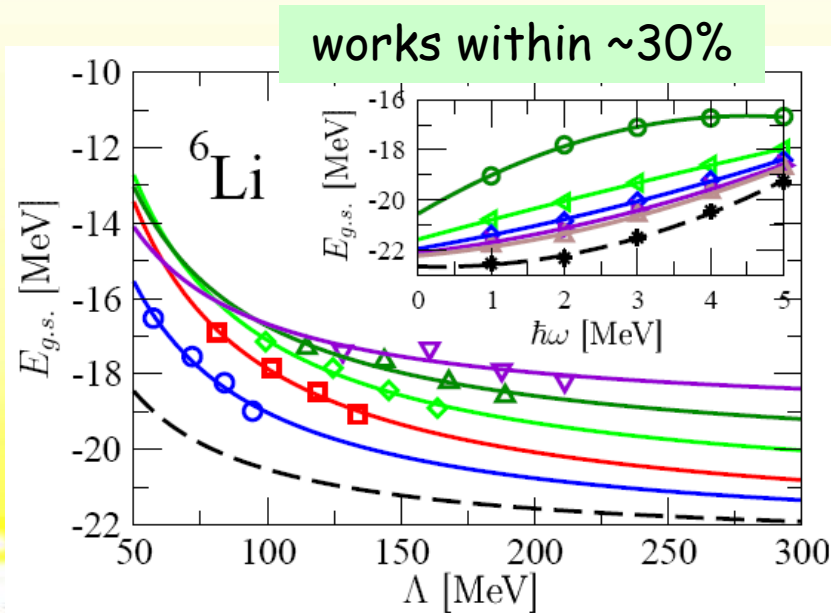
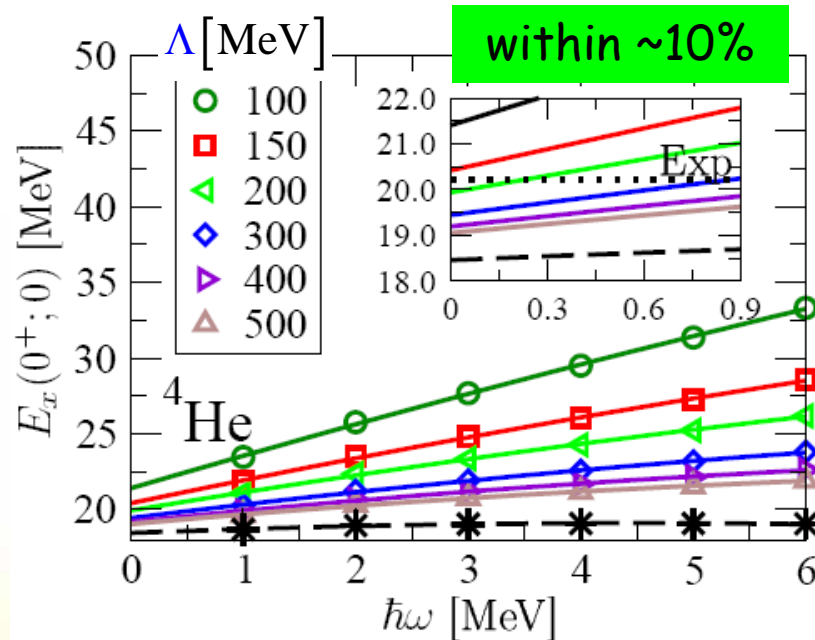
Busch *et al.* '99
...

Pionless EFT: LO

(parameters fitted to d, t, α ground-state binding energies)



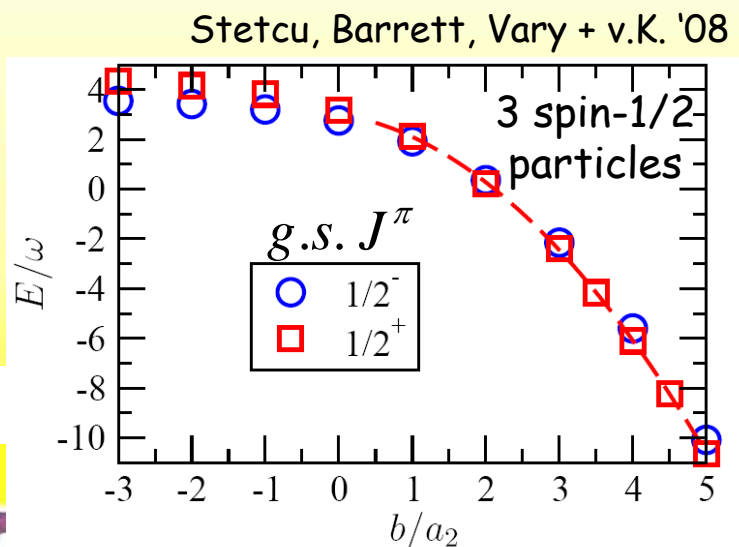
$N_{\max} \leq 16$



$N_{\max} \leq 8$

$N_{\max} \approx 30$

Bonus:



Barnea, Contessi, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '13
 Kirscher, Barnea, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '15
 Contessi, Lovato, Pederiva,
 Roggero, Kirscher + v.K. '17

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| ${}^4\text{He}^*$ | 8.09 | 10 ± 3 | | | |
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| ${}^5\text{Li}$ | 26.61 | | | | |
| ${}^6\text{Li}$ | 32.00 | 23 ± 7 | | | |

LO pionless fit:

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[23] Stetcu *et al.* '06
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Ab initio methods employed

Effective-Interaction Hyperspherical Harmonics (EIHH)

Barnea *et al.* '00' 01

- ✓ hyperspherical coordinates: hyperradius + 3A-4 hyperangles
- ✓ model space: hyperangular momentum $K \leq K_{max}$
- ✓ wavefunction: expanded in antisymmetrized spin/isospin states
- ✓ effective interaction: Lee-Suzuki projection to subspace "in medium"
- ✓ extrapolation: $K_{max} \rightarrow \infty$

Refined Resonating Group Method (RRGM)

Hoffmann '86

- ✓ wavefunction: expanded in overcomplete basis of Gaussians in all cluster channels
- ✓ Kohn-Hulthen variational approach minimizing reactance matrix
- ✓ convergence (heavier channels, higher partial waves, Gaussian set) tested

Auxiliary-Field Diffusion Monte Carlo (AFDMC)

Schmidt + Fantoni '99

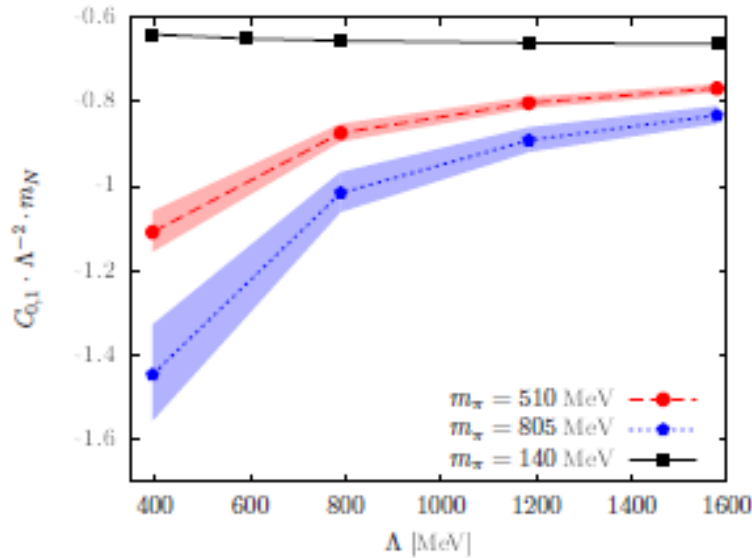
- ✓ integral equation for evolution of wavefunction in imaginary time τ in terms of Green's function (diffusion)
- ✓ two- and more-body operators linearized by auxiliary fields (Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation)
- ✓ trial wavefunction probed stochastically with weight given by the Green's function
- ✓ lowest-energy state with symmetries projected onto as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$



$$H^{(0)} = -\frac{1}{2m_N} \sum_i \nabla_i^2$$

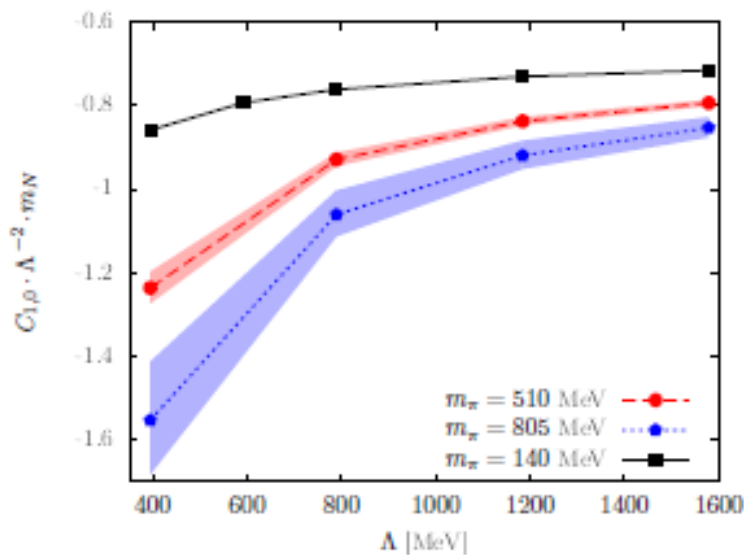
$$+ \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i < j} \left[3C_{10}(\Lambda) + C_{01}(\Lambda) + (C_{10}(\Lambda) - C_{01}(\Lambda)) \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j \right] e^{-\Lambda^2 r_{ij}^2 / 4} + \sum_{i < j < k} \sum_{\text{cyc}} D_1(\Lambda) \vec{\tau}_i \cdot \vec{\tau}_j e^{-\Lambda^2 (r_{ij}^2 + r_{jk}^2) / 4}$$

Barnea, Contessi, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '13
Kirscher, Barnea, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '15



$$\frac{m_N}{\Lambda^2} C_{SI}(\Lambda) = \theta_0 + \frac{\theta_1}{a_0^{(s)} \Lambda} + O\left(\left(a_0^{(s)} \Lambda\right)^{-2}\right)$$

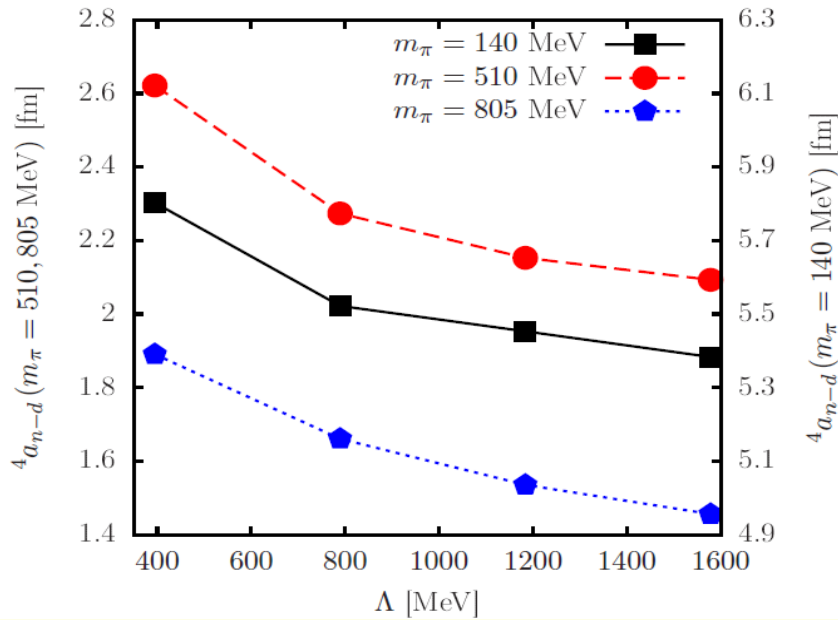
$$\theta_0 = -0.7$$



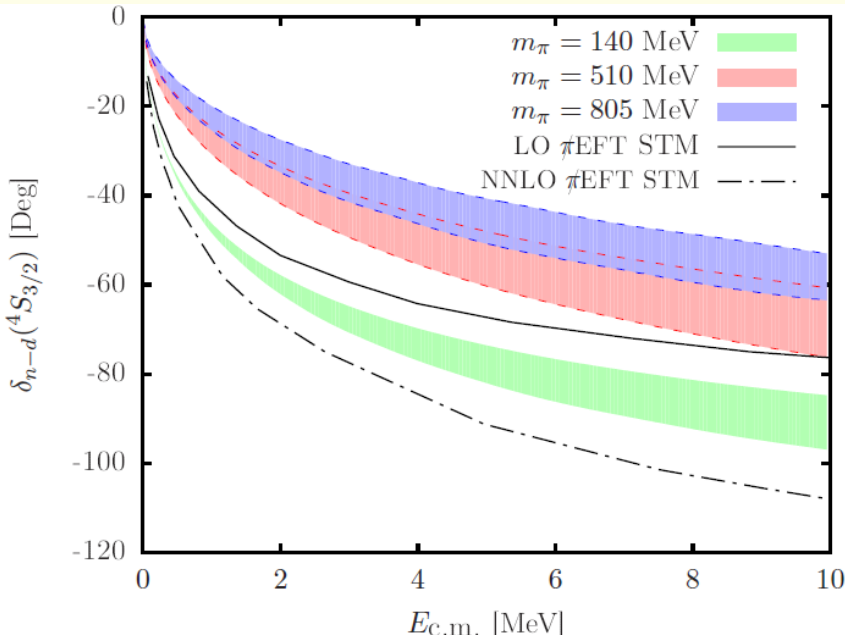
$$a^{(3S_1)} = (1.2 \pm 0.5) \text{ fm}$$

cutoff variation 2 to 14 fm⁻¹

Neutron-deuteron scattering: quartet



| | $\not{\pi}$ EFT | | $\not{\pi}$ EFT | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| m_π [MeV] | 140 | 510 | 805 | |
| ${}^4a_{nD}$ [fm] | 5.5 ± 1.3 | 2.3 ± 1.3 | 1.6 ± 1.3 | |
| | experiment [79] | | LQCD | |
| ${}^4a_{nD}$ [fm] | 6.4 ± 0.020 | ? | ? | |



for all masses ${}^4a_{nD} = \mathcal{O}(1/k_{pn})$

$$k_{pn} = \sqrt{4m_N B_D / 3}$$

deuteron break-up threshold

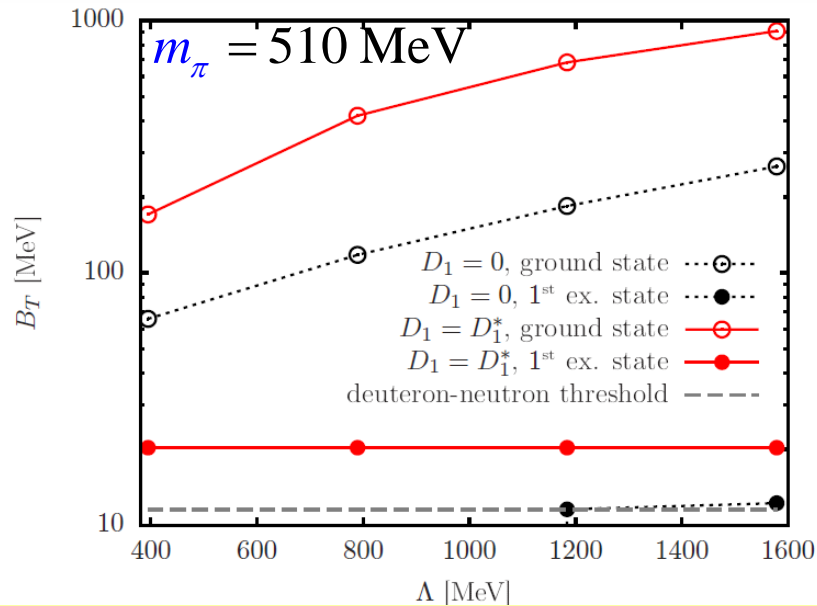
Kirscher, Barnea, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '15



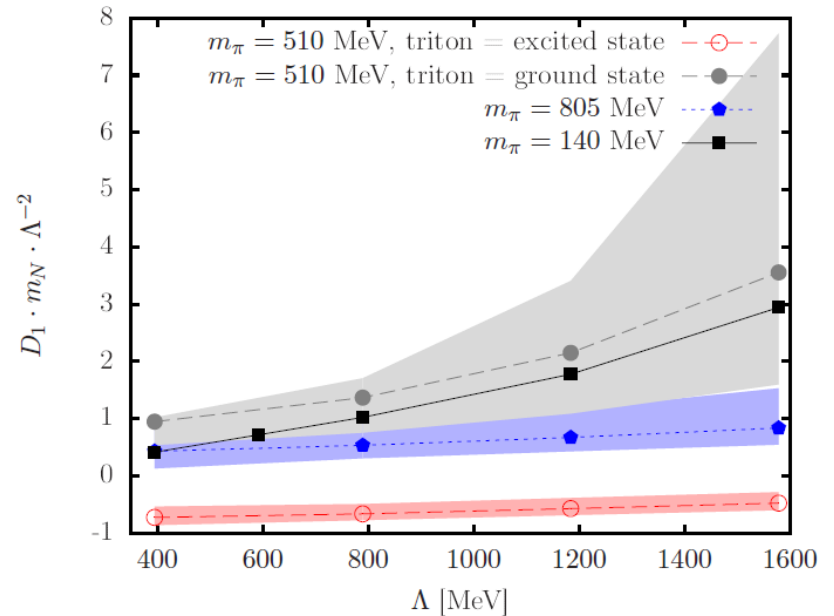
$$H^{(0)} = -\frac{1}{2m_N} \sum_i \nabla_i^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i < j} \left[3C_{10}(\Lambda) + C_{01}(\Lambda) + (C_{10}(\Lambda) - C_{01}(\Lambda)) \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j \right] e^{-\Lambda^2 r_{ij}^2 / 4} + \sum_{i < j < k} \sum_{\text{cyc}} D_1(\Lambda) \vec{\tau}_i \cdot \vec{\tau}_j e^{-\Lambda^2 (r_{ij}^2 + r_{jk}^2) / 4}$$

Barnea, Contessi, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '13
Kirscher, Barnea, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '15



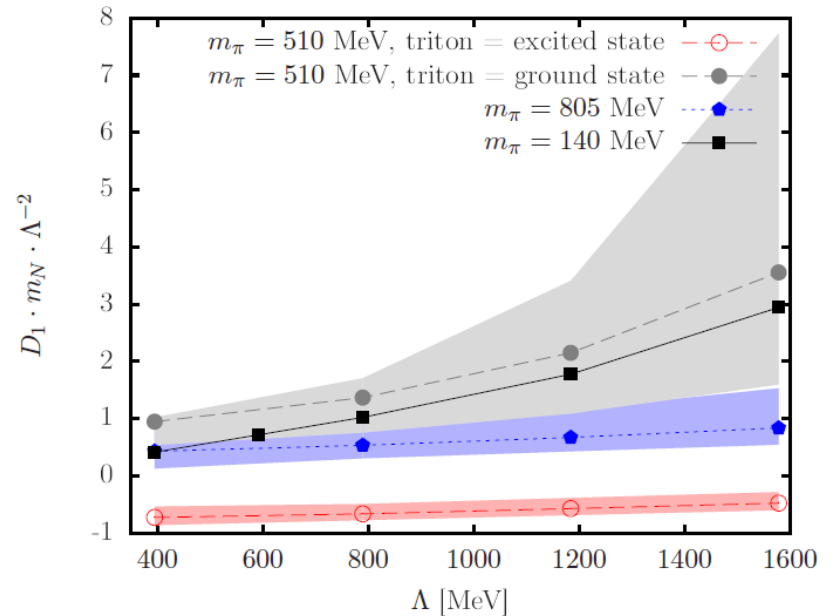
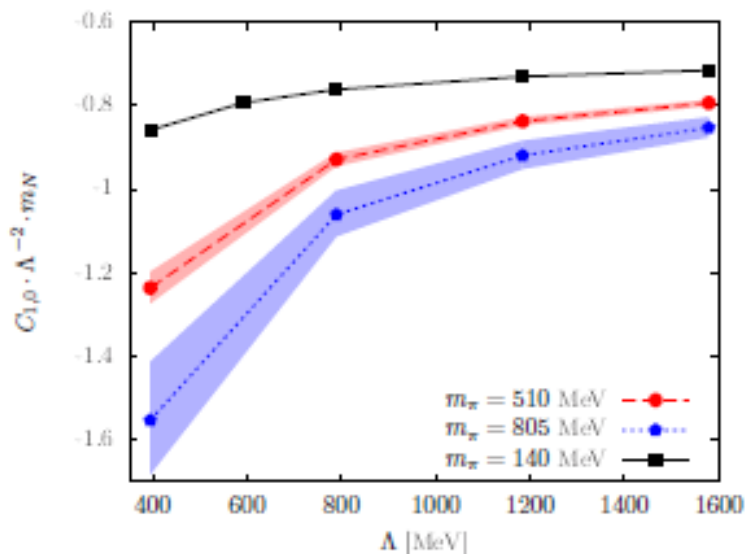
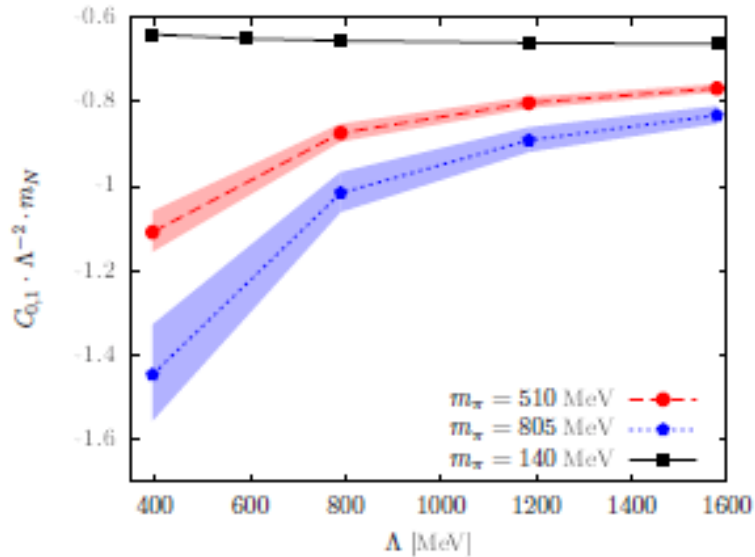
$$\frac{m_N}{\Lambda^2} D_1(\Lambda) = F(\Lambda/\Lambda_*)$$



$$H^{(0)} = -\frac{1}{2m_N} \sum_i \nabla_i^2$$

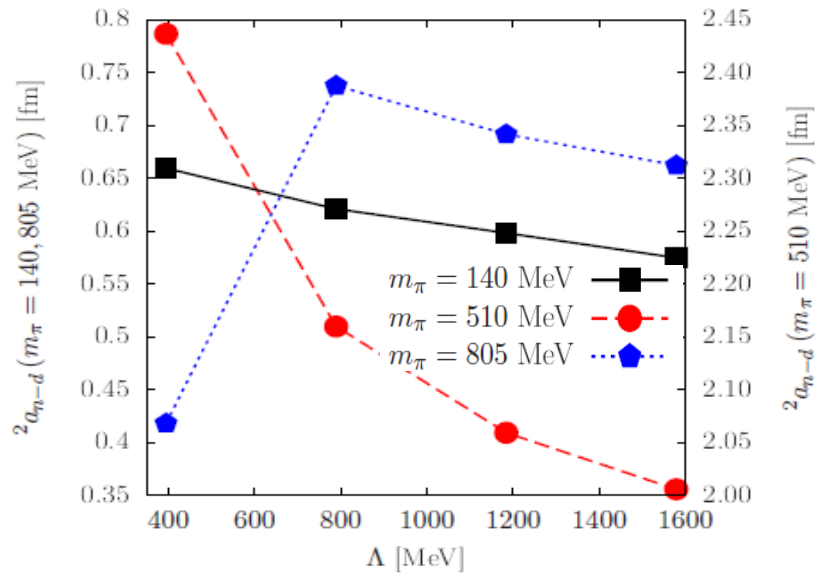
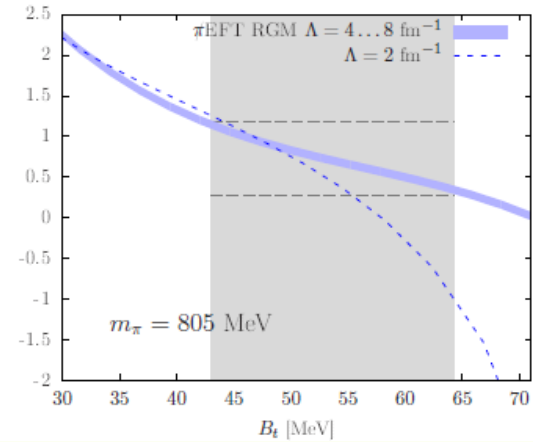
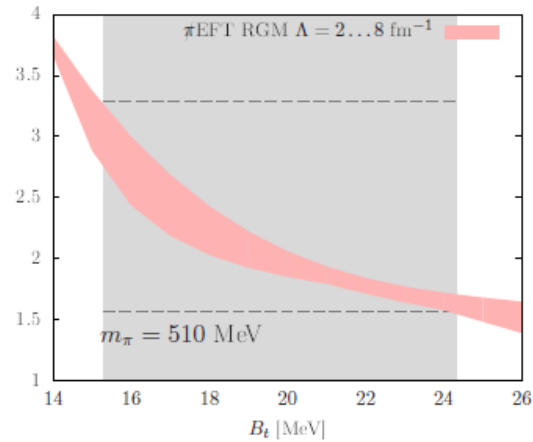
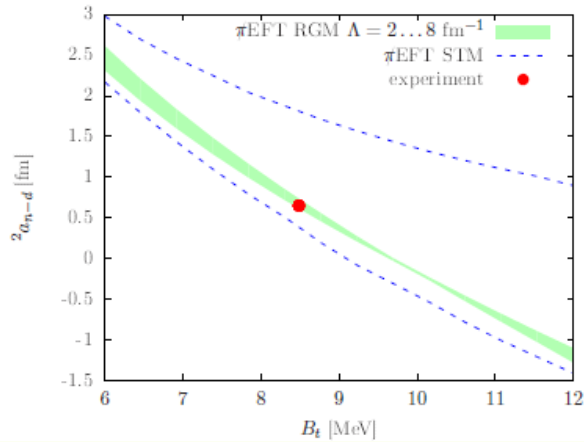
$$+ \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i < j} \left[3C_{10}(\Lambda) + C_{01}(\Lambda) + (C_{10}(\Lambda) - C_{01}(\Lambda)) \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j \right] e^{-\Lambda^2 r_{ij}^2 / 4} + \sum_{i < j < k} \sum_{\text{cyc}} D_1(\Lambda) \vec{\tau}_i \cdot \vec{\tau}_j e^{-\Lambda^2 (r_{ij}^2 + r_{jk}^2) / 4}$$

Barnea, Contessi, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '13
Kirscher, Barnea, Gazit, Pederiva + v.K. '15



Neutron-deuteron scattering: doublet

Phillips correlations at various pion masses

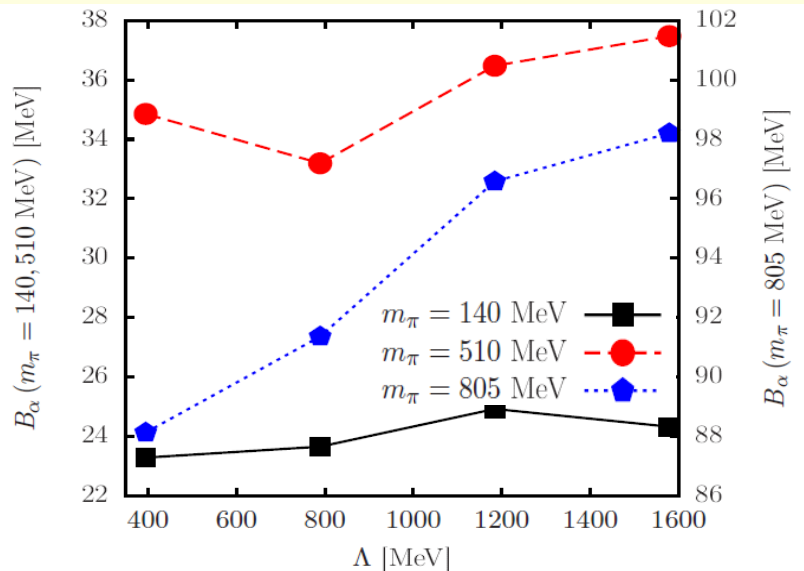
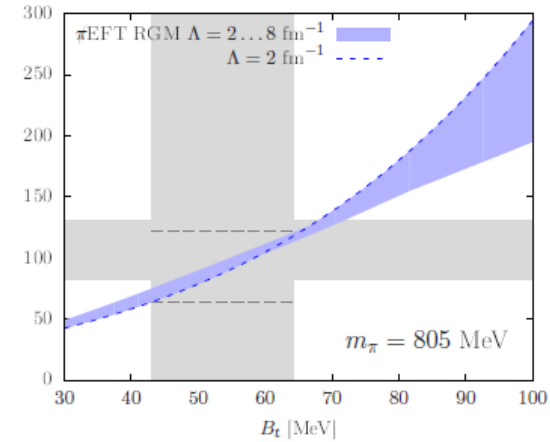
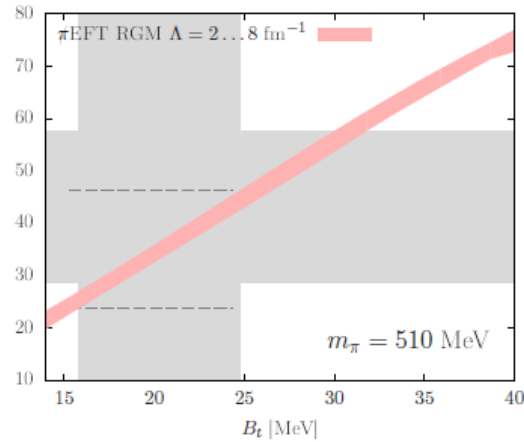
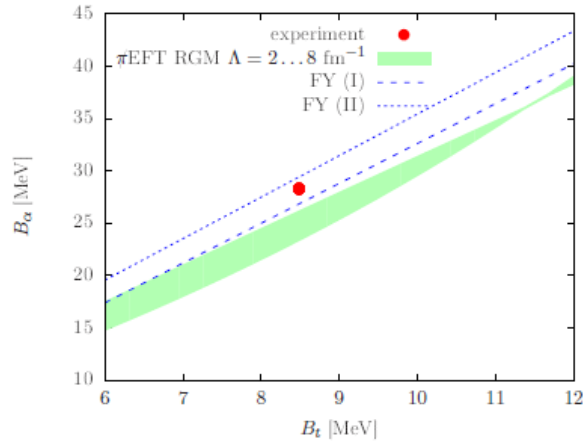


| | $\cancel{\pi}$ EFT | π EFT | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| m_π [MeV] | 140 | 510 | 805 |
| $^2a_{nD}$ [fm] | 0.61 ± 0.50 | 2.2 ± 2.1 | 0.62 ± 1.0 |
| | experiment [79] | LQCD | |
| $^2a_{nD}$ [fm] | 0.65 ± 0.040 | ? | ? |

zero of \mathcal{T}
 close to threshold $^4a_{nD} = \mathcal{O}(1/k_{pn})$

Alpha Particle

Tjon correlations at various pion masses



| m_π [MeV] | 140 | 510 | 805 |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | $\not\pi$ EFT | | $\not\pi$ EFT |
| B_α [MeV] | 24.9 ± 4.3 | 35 ± 22 | 94 ± 45 |
| B_α/B_T | 2.9 ± 0.51 | 1.7 ± 1.1 | 1.8 ± 0.9 |
| | experiment | | LQCD |
| B_α [MeV] | 28.3 | 43.0 ± 14.4 | 107.0 ± 24.2 |
| B_α/B_T | 3.34 | 2.1 ± 0.85 | 2.0 ± 0.6 |

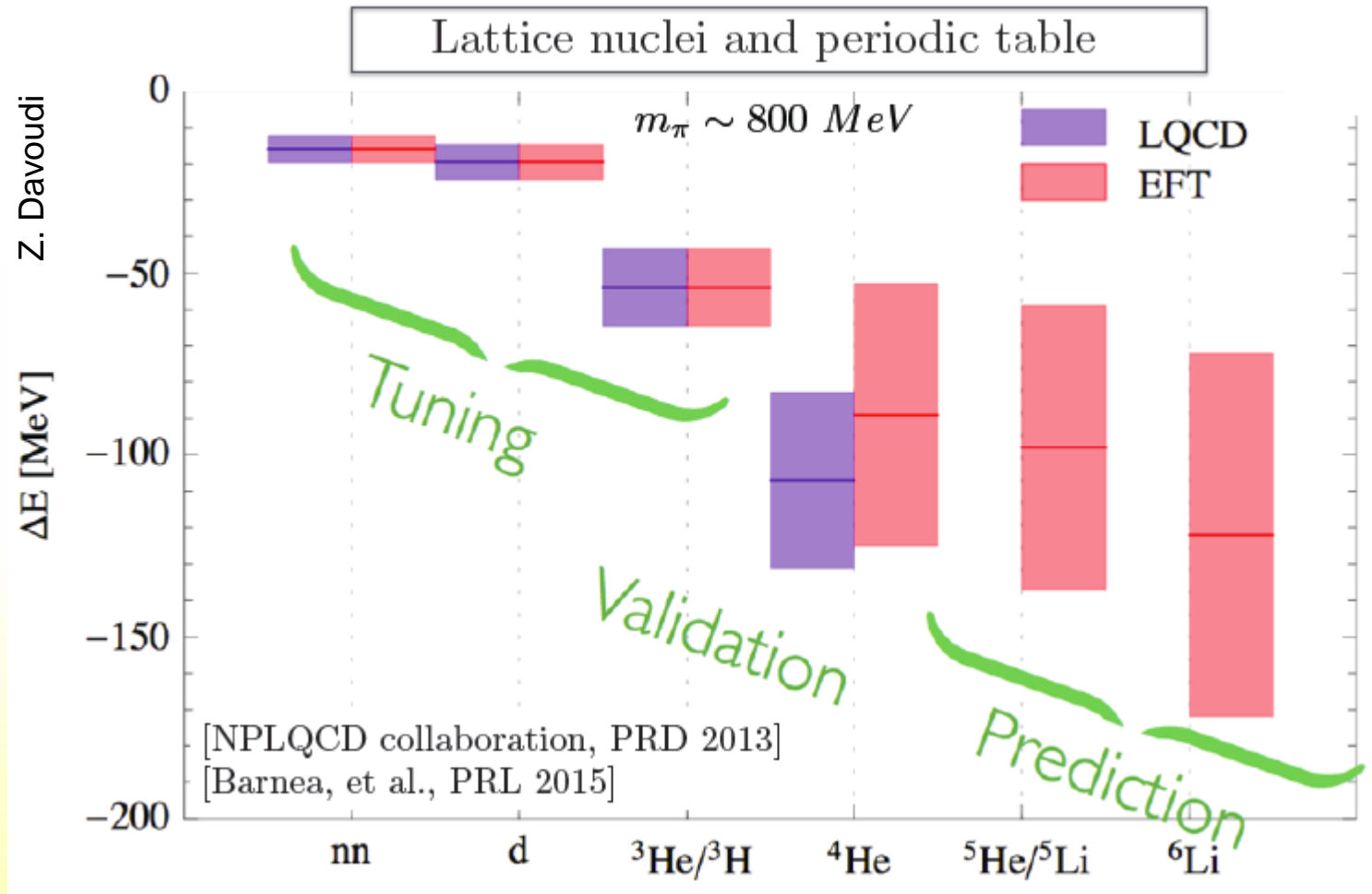
- no excited states for $A=2,3,4$
- no 3n droplet

| m_π Nucleus | 140 [nature] | 140 [23] | 300 [10] | 510 [7] | 805 [8] | 805 [4] |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| n | 939.6 | 939.0 * | 1053 | 1320 | 1634 | 1634 * |
| p | 938.3 | 939.0 | 1053 | 1320 | 1634 | 1634 |
| 2n | — | — | $8.5 \pm 0.7^{+2.2}_{-0.4}$ | 7.4 ± 1.4 | 15.9 ± 3.8 | $15.9 \pm 3.8 *$ |
| 2H | 2.224 | 2.224 * | $14.5 \pm 0.7^{+2.4}_{-0.7}$ | 11.5 ± 1.3 | 19.5 ± 4.8 | $19.5 \pm 4.8 *$ |
| 3n | — | — | — | — | — | < 12.1 |
| 3H | 8.482 | 8.482 * | $21.7 \pm 1.2^{+5.7}_{-1.6}$ | 20.3 ± 4.5 | $53.9 \pm 10.7 *$ | $53.9 \pm 10.7 *$ |
| 3He | 7.718 | — | $21.7 \pm 1.2^{+5.7}_{-1.6}$ | 20.3 ± 4.5 | 53.9 ± 10.7 | 53.9 ± 10.7 |
| 4He | 28.30 | 28.30 * | $47 \pm 7^{+11}_{-9}$ | 43.0 ± 14.4 | 107.0 ± 24.2 | 89 ± 36 |
| ${}^4He^*$ | 8.09 | 10 ± 3 | — | — | — | < 43.2 |
| 5He | 27.50 | — | — | — | — | 98 ± 39 |
| 5Li | 26.61 | — | — | — | — | 98 ± 39 |
| 6Li | 32.00 | 23 ± 7 | — | — | — | 122 ± 50 |

[23] Stetcu *et al.* '06
 [10] Yamazaki *et al.* '15
 [7] Yamazaki *et al.* '12
 [8] Beane *et al.* '12
 [4] Barnea *et al.* '13

} predictions





consistency between
EFT and LQCD,
including plateau id

$B_5 \approx B_4$
A=5 gap persists!?

$\frac{B_6}{6} \approx \frac{B_4}{4}$
nuclear saturation survives!?

Maybe pions play less of a role than we are used to think?

A Scene from Program INT-16-1

...

--- **Effective field theorist:** (nonchalant)

Pionless EFT works pretty well for light nuclei.

--- **Esteemed nuclear theorist:** (doubtful)

But has it been applied to a *real* nucleus?

--- **EFTst:** (stunned)

What the hell is a *real* nucleus? When we did deuteron we were told triton was more like a real nucleus. When we did triton we were told it's the alpha particle that's a real nucleus. Now you tell me the alpha particle is *not* a real nucleus?

--- **ENTst:** (didactic)

No, you need to show saturation for a real nucleus like ^{16}O .

--- **EFTst:** (outraged)

But we have shown saturation for triton and alpha particle! It's due to the three-body force, so ^{16}O will saturate.

--- **ENTst:** (jaded)

I believe it when I see it.

...



$$H^{(0)} = -\frac{1}{2m_N} \sum_i \nabla_i^2$$

$$+ \sum_{i<j} [C_1(\Lambda) + C_2(\Lambda) \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j] e^{-\Lambda^2 r_{ij}^2/4} + \sum_{i<j<k} \sum_{cyc} D_0(\Lambda) e^{-\Lambda^2 (r_{ij}^2 + r_{jk}^2)/4}$$

| Λ | $m_\pi = 140$ MeV | $m_\pi = 510$ MeV | $m_\pi = 805$ MeV |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2 fm ⁻¹ | -23.17 ± 0.02 | -31.15 ± 0.02 | -88.09 ± 0.01 |
| 4 fm ⁻¹ | -23.63 ± 0.03 | -34.88 ± 0.03 | -91.40 ± 0.03 |
| 6 fm ⁻¹ | -25.06 ± 0.02 | -36.89 ± 0.02 | -96.97 ± 0.01 |
| 8 fm ⁻¹ | -26.04 ± 0.05 | -37.65 ± 0.03 | -101.72 ± 0.03 |
| → ∞ | -30 ^{±0.3 (sys)} ±2 (stat) | -39 ^{±1 (sys)} ±2 (stat) | -124 ^{±3 (sys)} ±1 (stat) |
| Exp. | -28.30 | - | - |
| LQCD | - | -43.0 ± 14.4 | -107.0 ± 24.2 |

⁴He

within previous
error bar

in good agreement with
previous calculations
experiment 😊

indistinguishable from
four-alpha threshold;
if anything,
too much saturation...

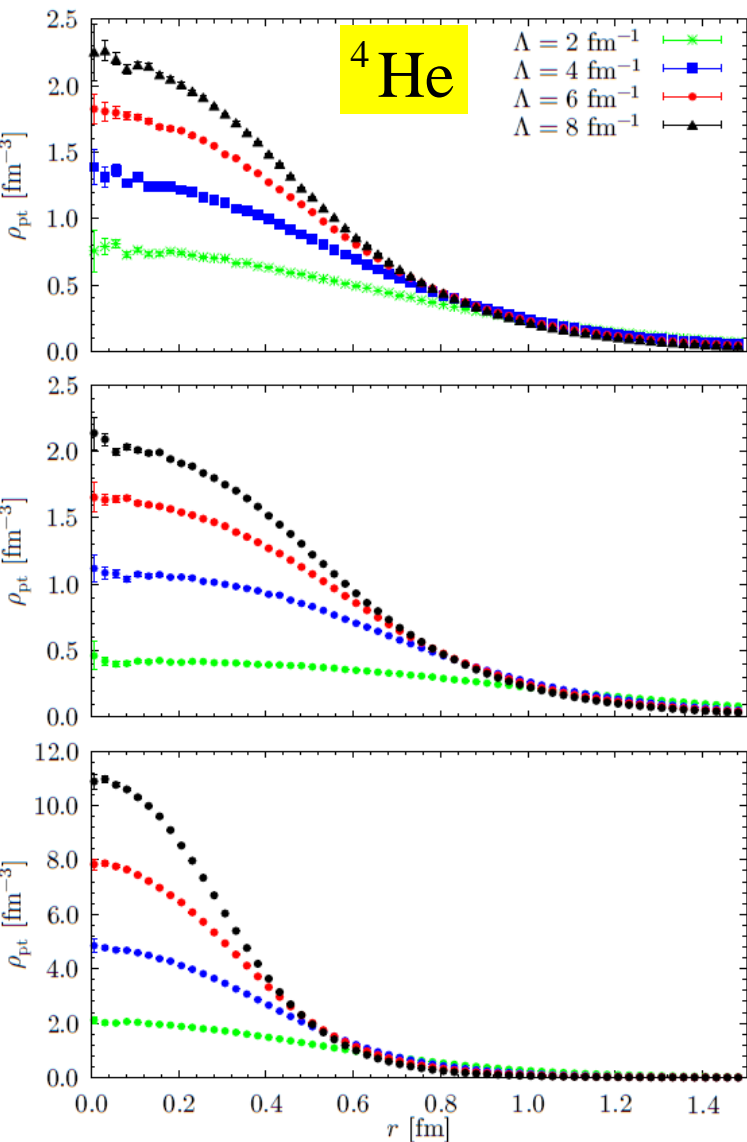
¹⁶O

| Λ | $m_\pi = 140$ MeV | $m_\pi = 510$ MeV | $m_\pi = 805$ MeV |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 2 fm ⁻¹ | -97.19 ± 0.06 | -116.59 ± 0.08 | -350.69 ± 0.05 |
| 4 fm ⁻¹ | -92.23 ± 0.14 | -137.15 ± 0.15 | -362.92 ± 0.07 |
| 6 fm ⁻¹ | -97.51 ± 0.14 | -143.84 ± 0.17 | -382.17 ± 0.25 |
| 8 fm ⁻¹ | -100.97 ± 0.20 | -146.37 ± 0.27 | -402.24 ± 0.39 |
| → ∞ | -115 ^{±1 (sys)} ±8 (stat) | -151 ^{±2 (sys)} ±10 (stat) | -504 ^{±20 (sys)} ±12 (stat) |
| Exp. | -127.62 | - | - |

Alpha-particle clusterization

Contessi, Lovato, Pederiva,
Roggero, Kirscher + v.K. '17

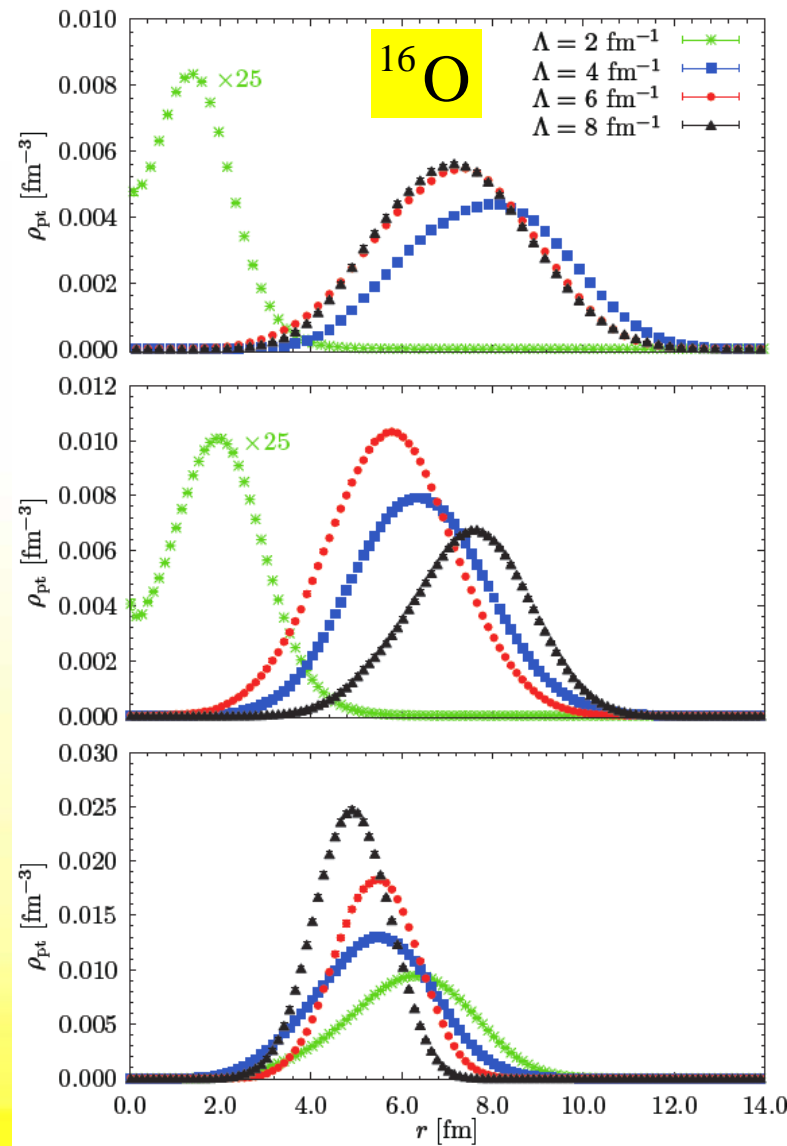
Single-nucleon point densities



$$m_\pi = 140 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_\pi = 510 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_\pi = 805 \text{ MeV}$$

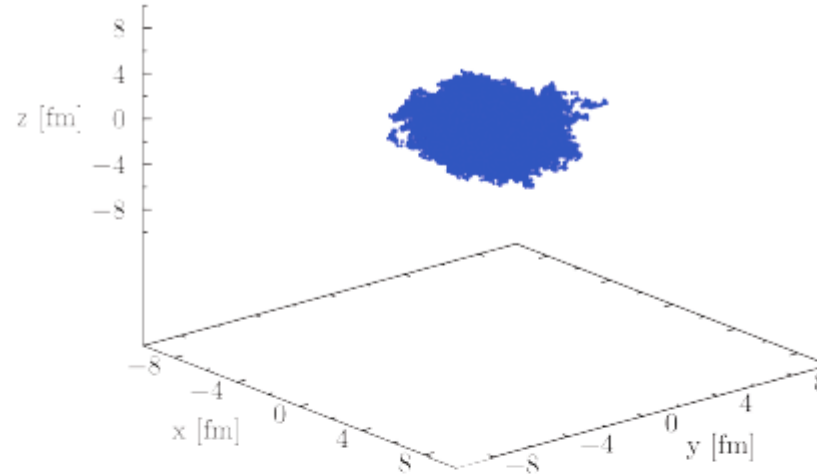


^{16}O

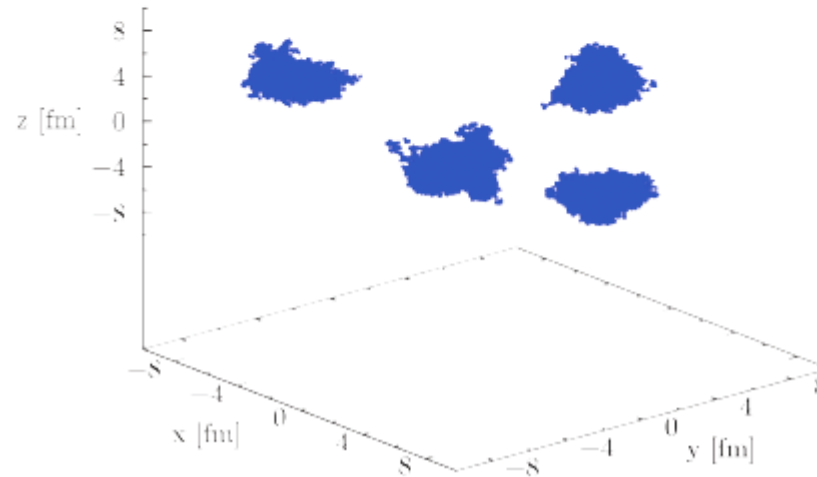
imaginary-time diffusion of a single walker

$$m_\pi = 140 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Lambda = 2 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$



$$\Lambda = 8 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$



What next?

- NLO *Bazak et al., in progress*
- Other A
- hypernuclei
- Chiral EFT at lower m_π (when available)
- ...



Conclusion

- ◆ EFT is constrained *only* by symmetries and thus can be matched onto lattice QCD
- ◆ EFT allows controlled extrapolations of lattice results in nucleon number (and pion mass), *including reactions!*
- ◆ First, proof-of-principle calculations carried out at $m_\pi \approx 500, 800$ MeV with Pionless EFT
- ◆ World at large pion mass *might* be just a denser version of ours

