

# Multi-meson systems in QCD

William Detmold



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# Multi-boson energies

- $n$ -boson systems in a box ( $L^3$ )  
[Bogoliubov '47][Huang, Yang '57][Wu '59][Lüscher '85]
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# Many mesons in LQCD

- Consider  $n$   $\pi^+$  correlator ( $m_u=m_d$ )

$$C_n(t) = \left\langle 0 \left| \left[ \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \bar{d} \gamma_5 u(\mathbf{x}, t) \bar{u} \gamma_5 d(0, 0) \right]^n \right| 0 \right\rangle$$
$$\rightarrow A e^{-E_n t}$$

- $n!^2$  Wick contractions

$$C_3(t) = \text{tr} [\Pi]^3 - 3 \text{tr} [\Pi] \text{tr} [\Pi^2] + 2 \text{tr} [\Pi^3]$$

$$\Pi = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \gamma_5 S(\mathbf{x}, t; 0) \gamma_5 S^\dagger(\mathbf{x}, t; 0)$$

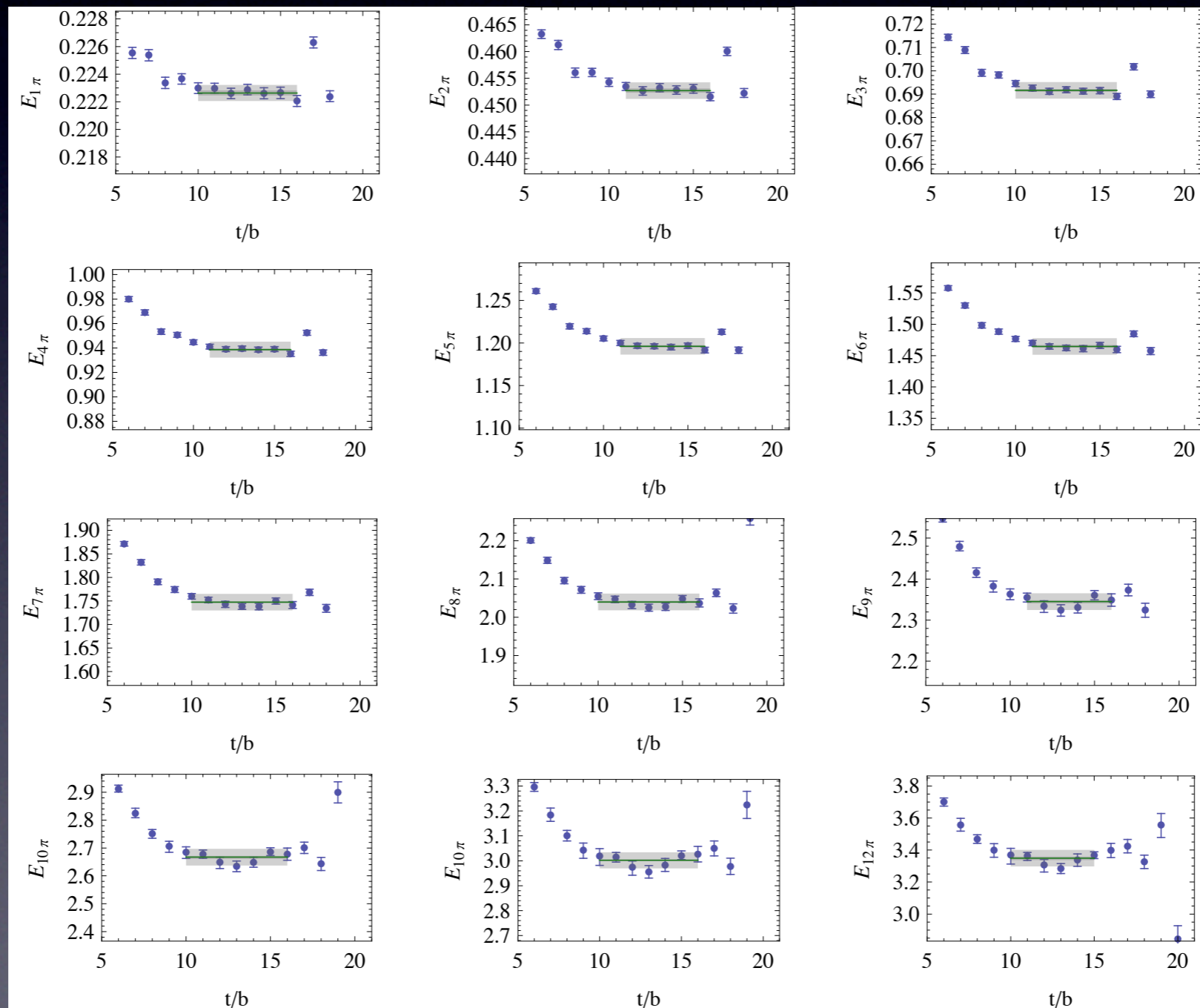


- $\pi^+$  contractions: only a single quark propagator

PRELIMINARY

# n-meson energies

- Effective energy plots:  $\log[C_n(t)/C_n(t+1)]$



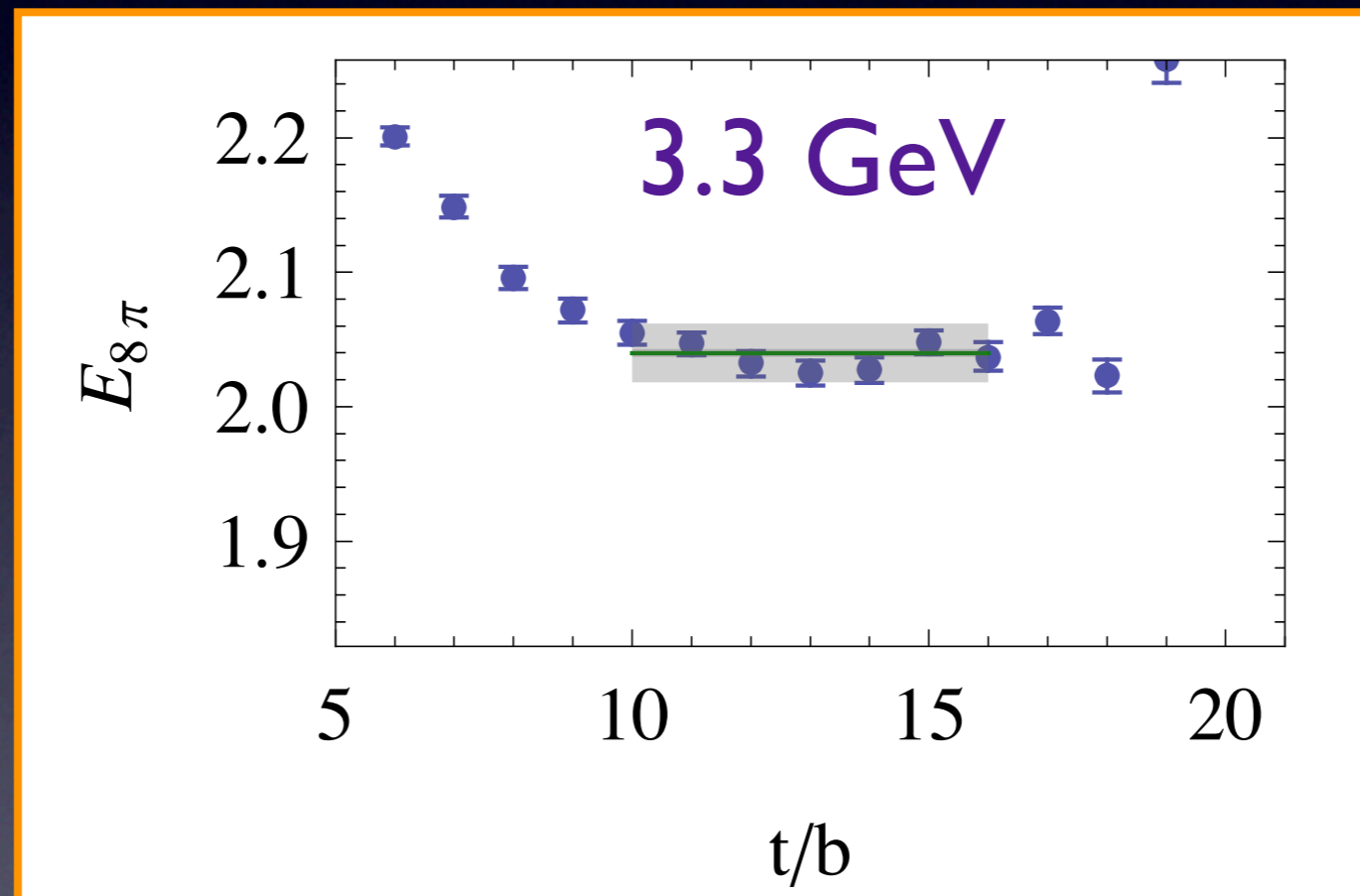
DW propagators  
on coarse MILC  
gauge configs

$m_\pi = 352$  MeV

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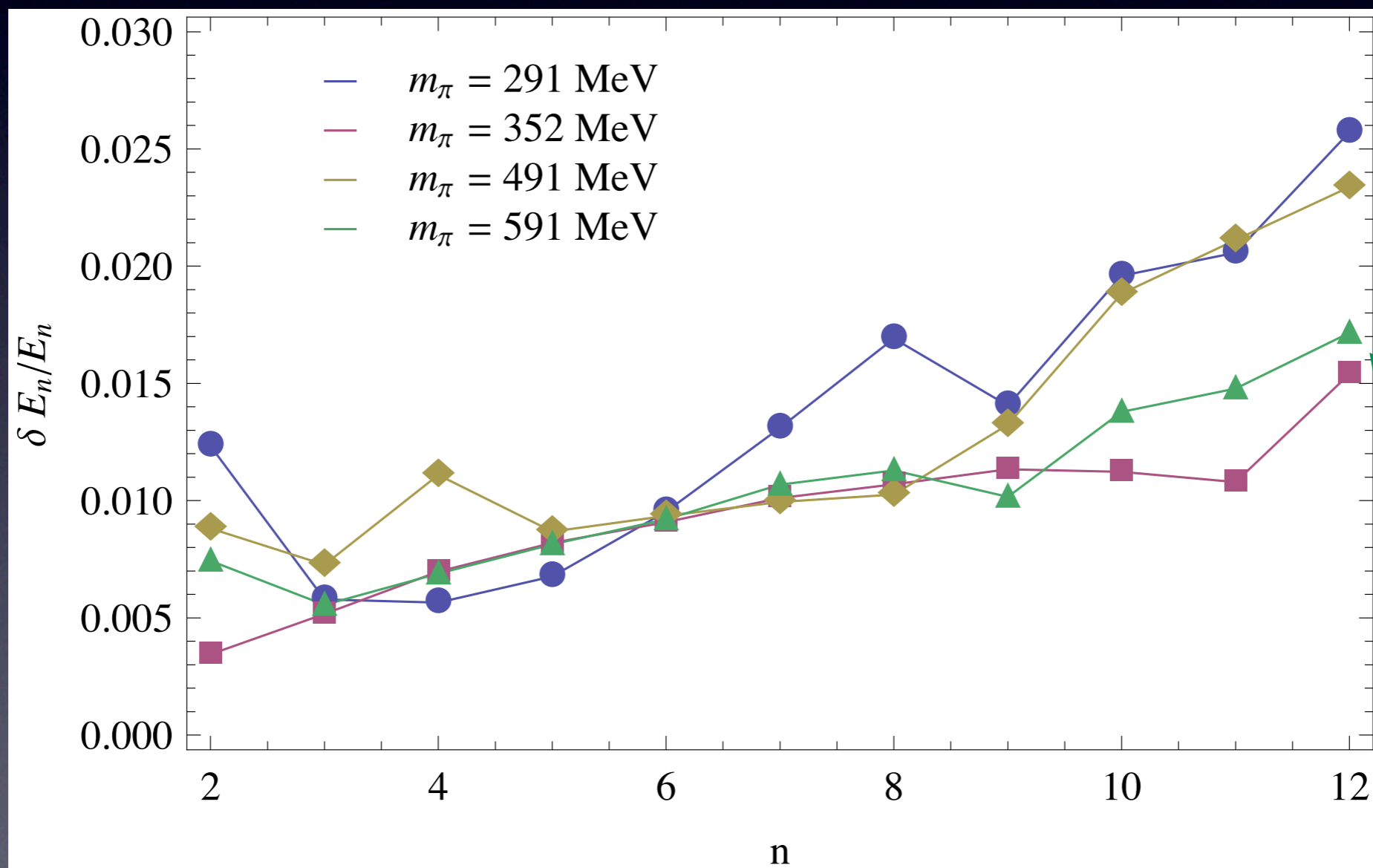
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PRELIMINARY

# n-meson energies

- Clear signals for  $n=1, \dots, 12$



~ 8 GeV !

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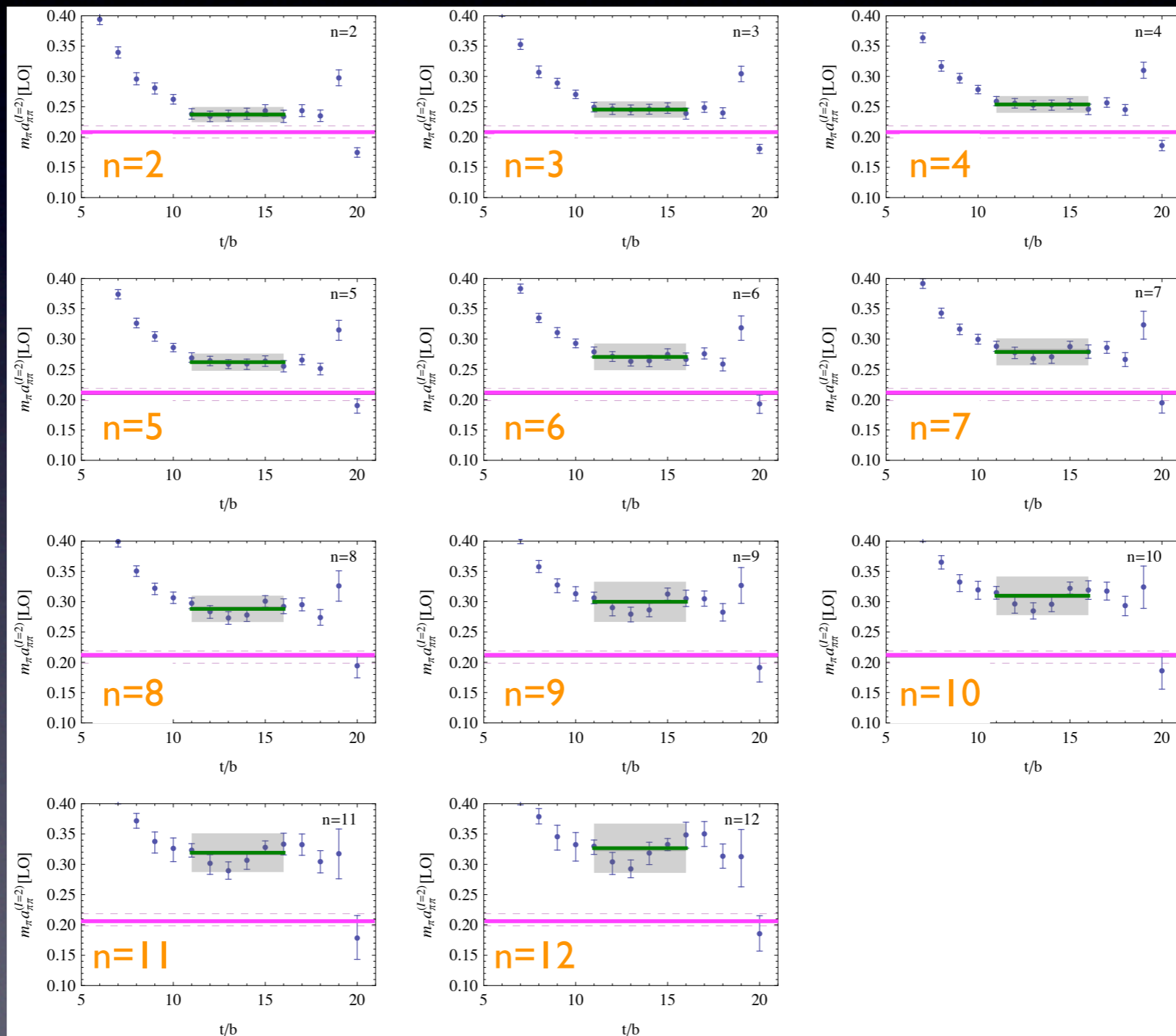
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PRELIMINARY

# Pion scattering

- Extractions of  $m_\pi a$  from four orders in L

LO



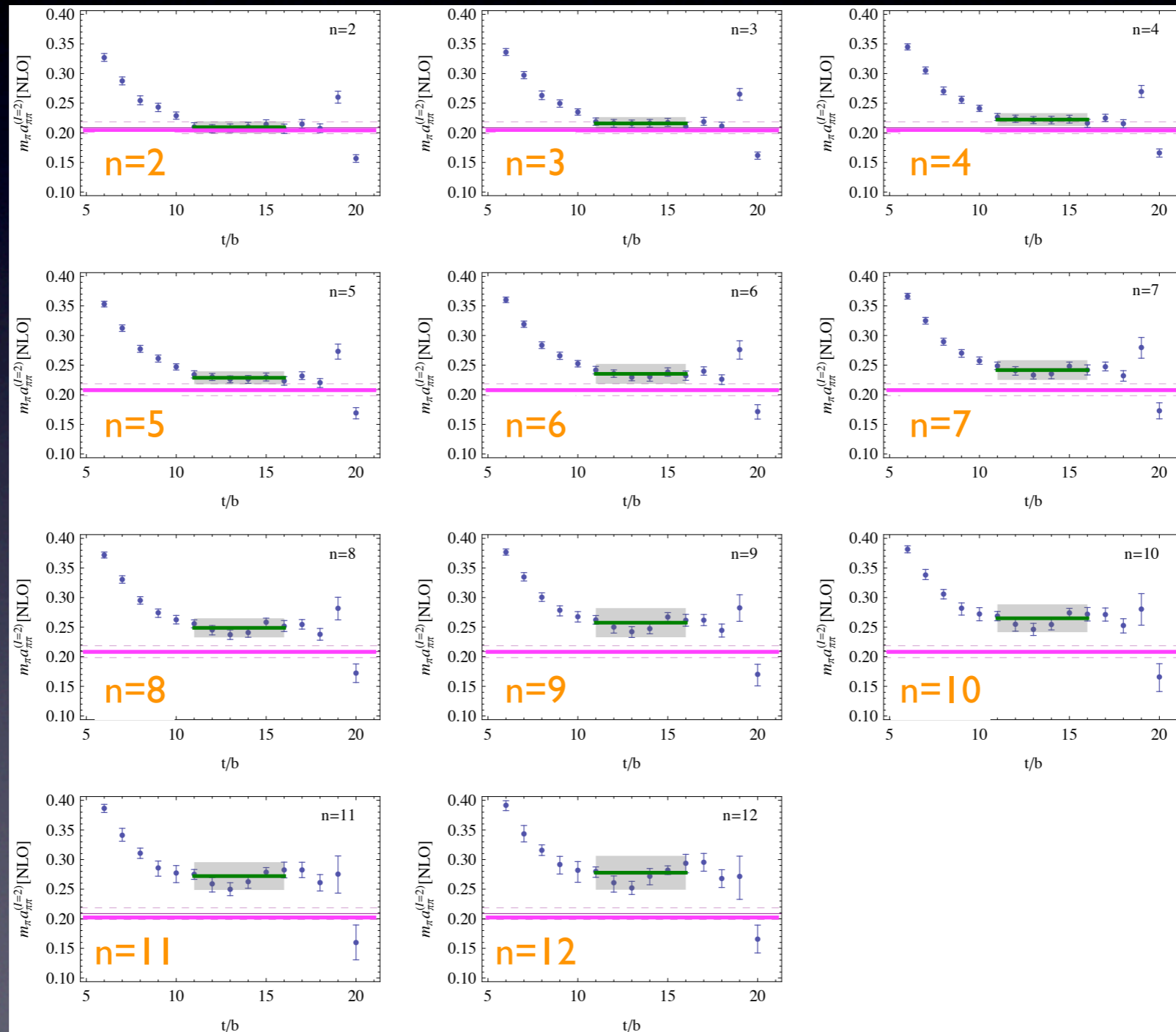
Lüscher exact two-body

PRELIMINARY

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NLO



Lüscher exact two-body

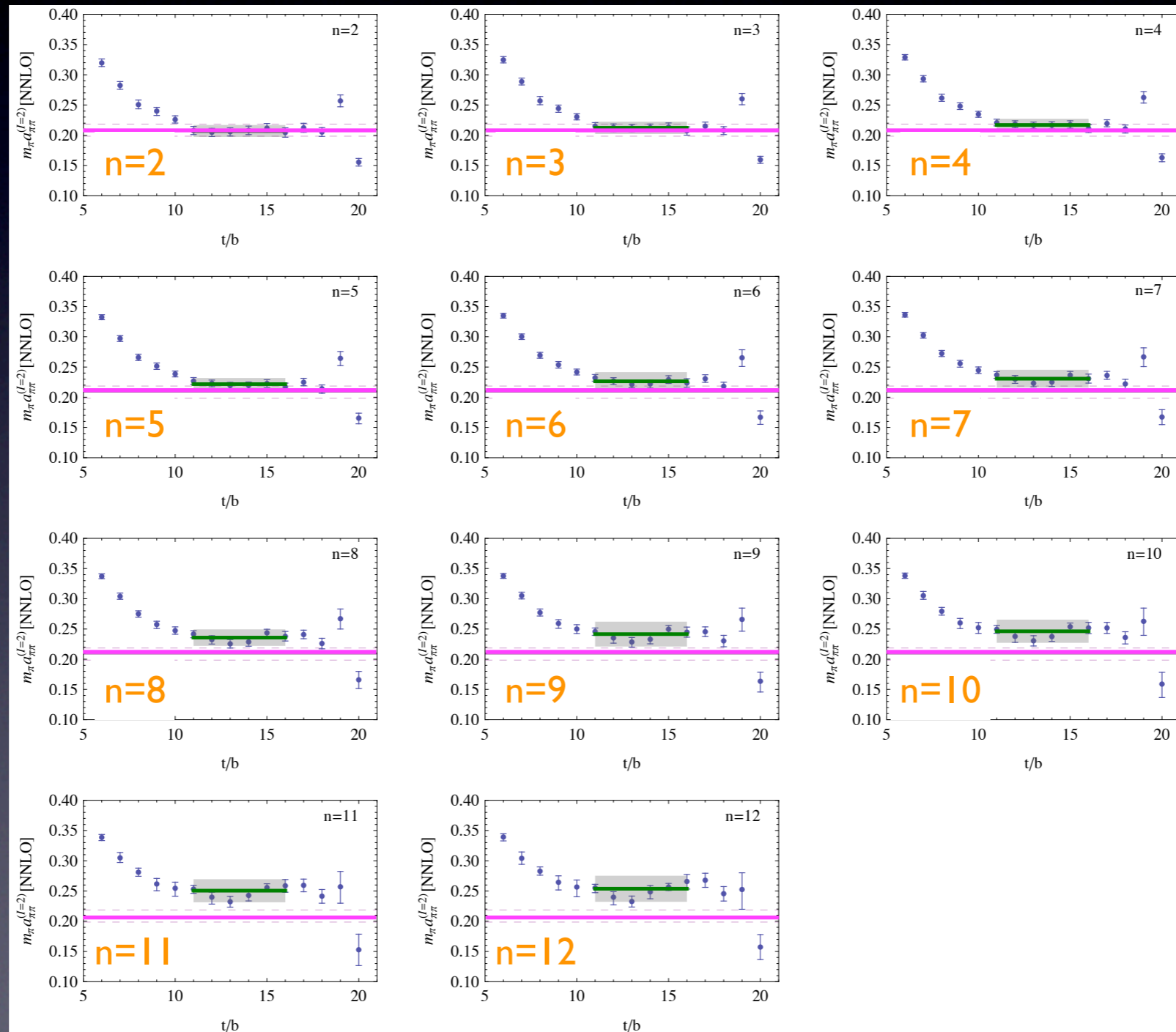


PRELIMINARY

# Pion scattering

- Extractions of  $m_\pi a$  from four orders in L

NNLO

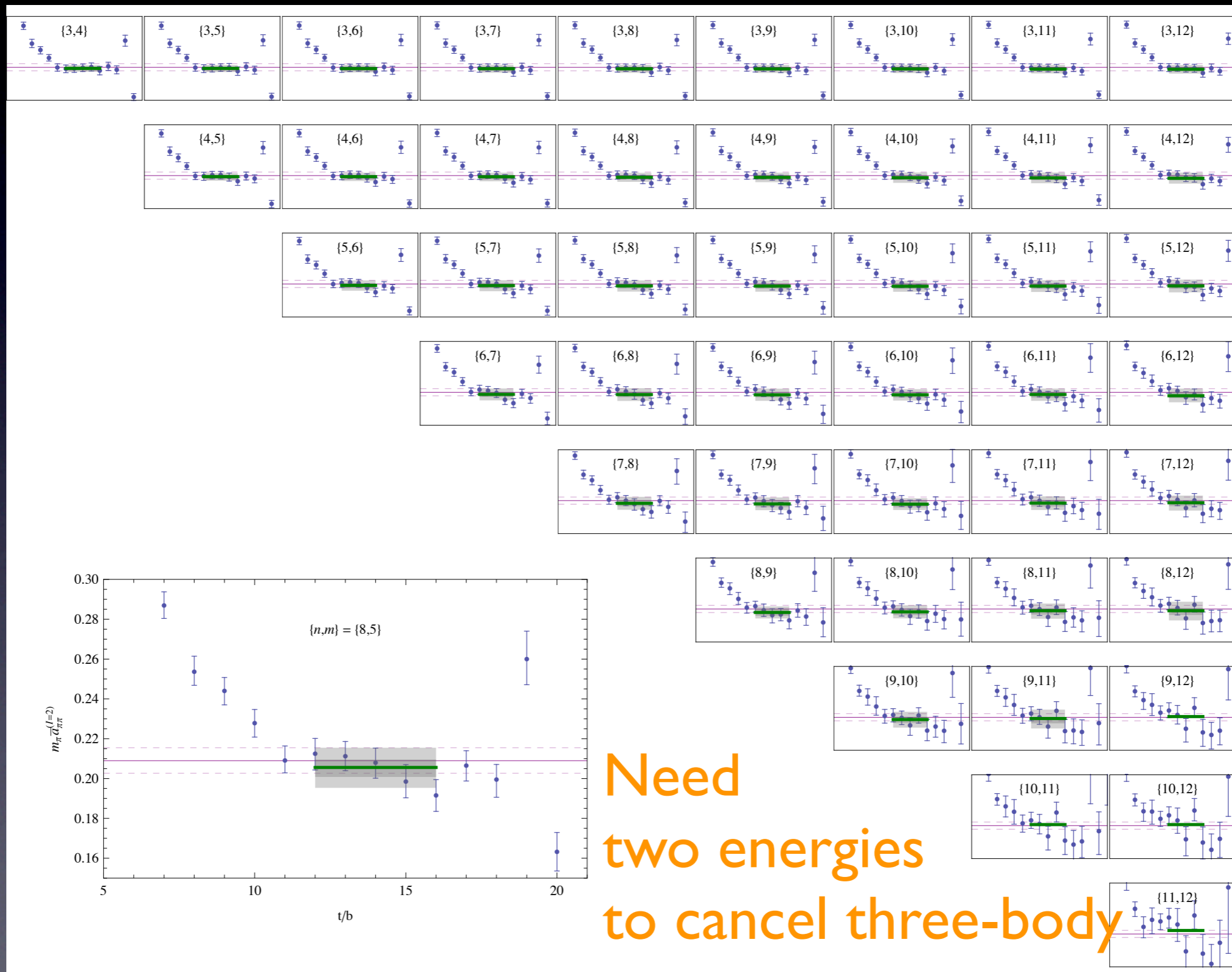


Lüscher exact two-body

PRELIMINARY

# N<sup>3</sup>LO

m ←

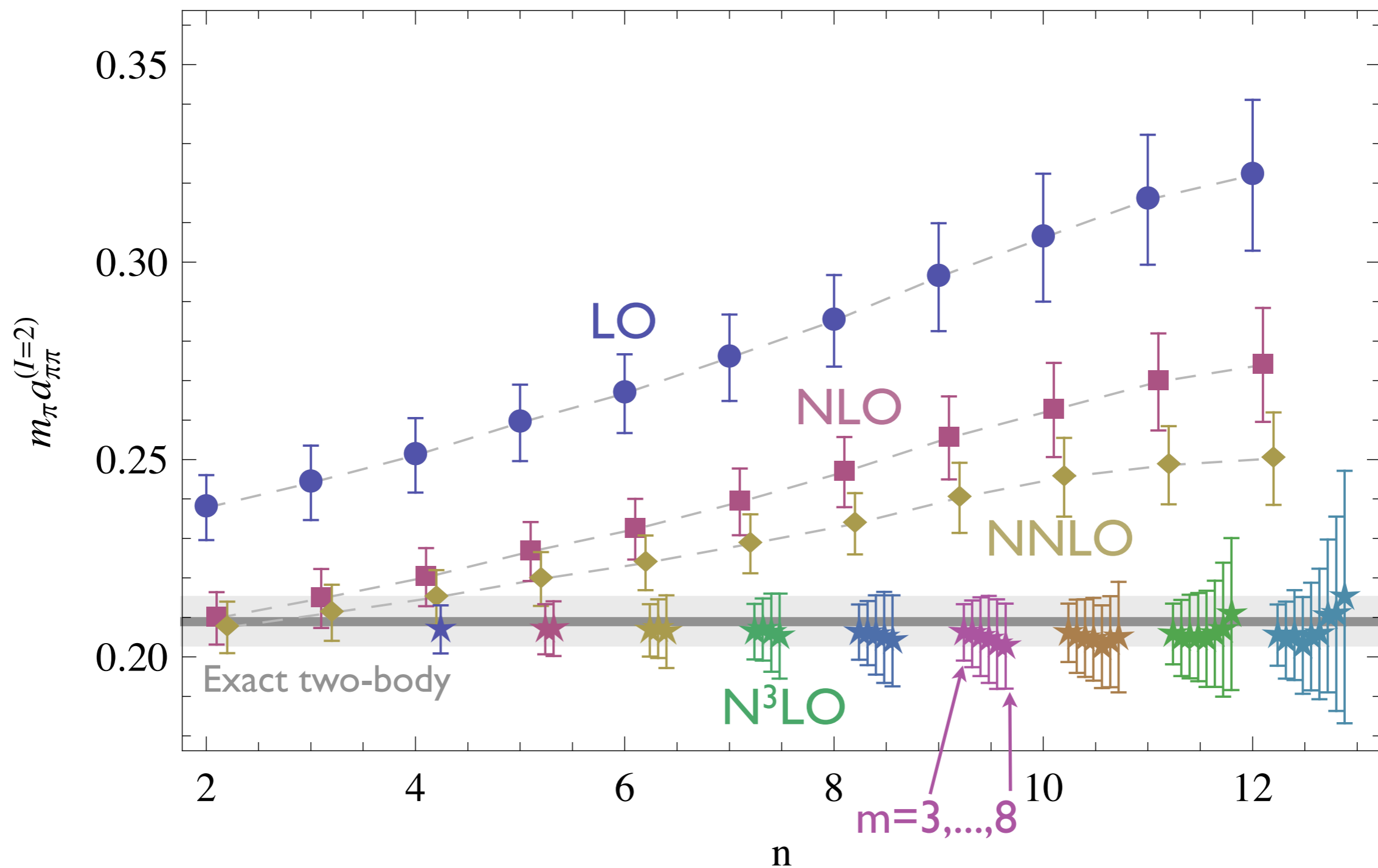


Need two energies to cancel three-body

n=3  
n=4  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
⋮  
n=12

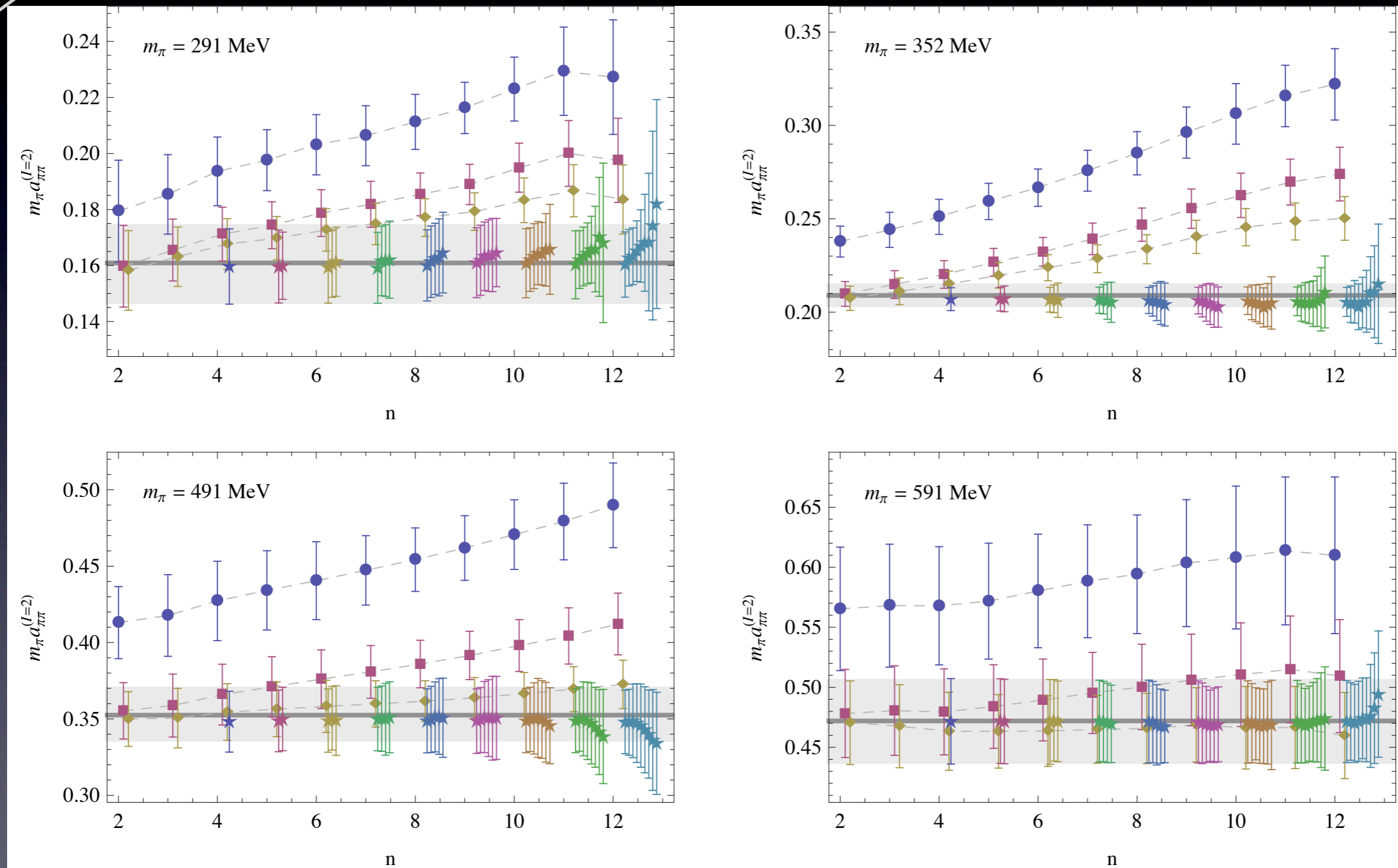
PRELIMINARY

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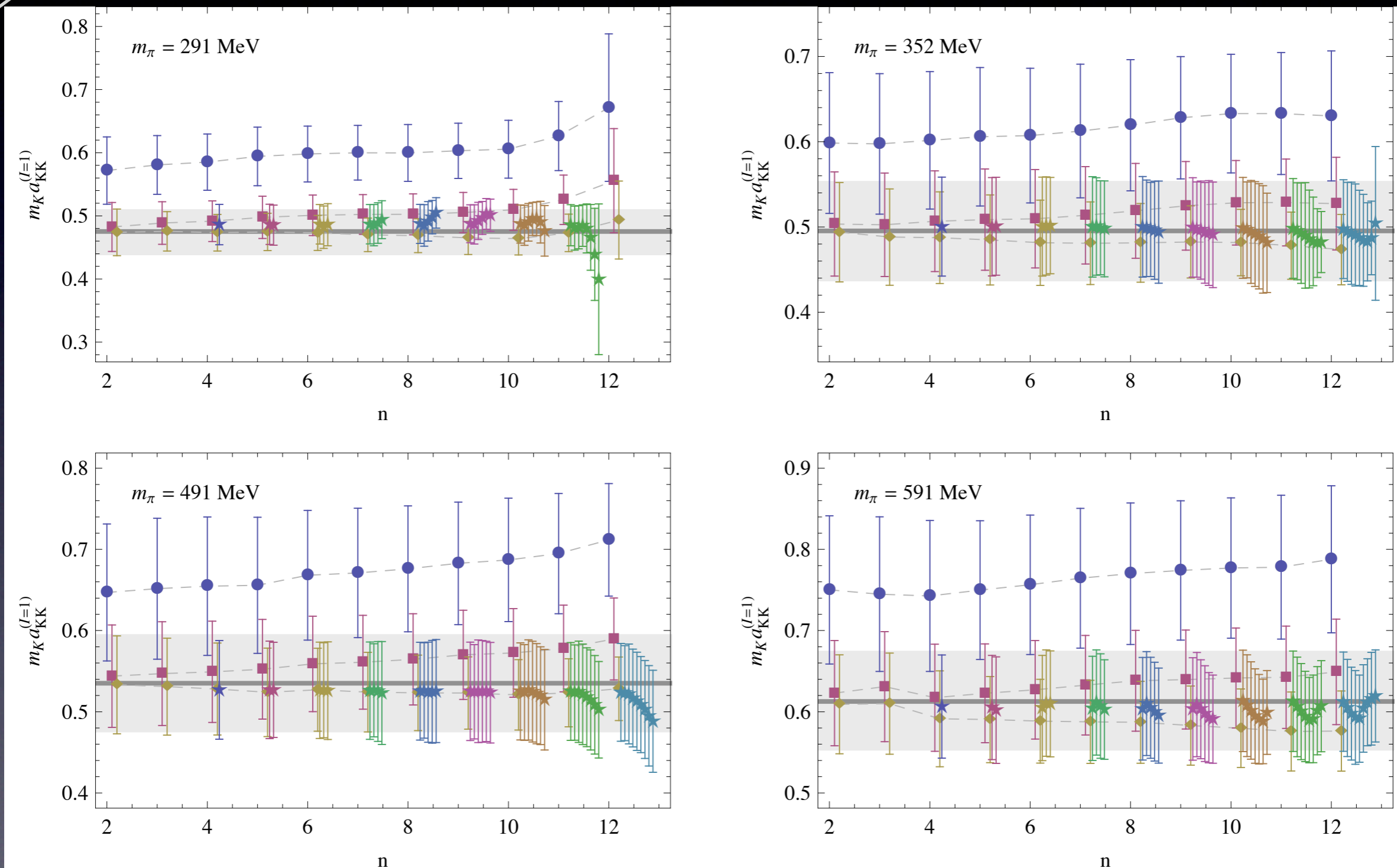
PRELIMINARY

# Pion scattering



PRELIMINARY

# Kaon scattering



# Scattering lengths

- Scattering lengths equally well extracted for two mesons or ten mesons
- Described by analytic prediction
- Shows presence of contribution that scales as  $\binom{n}{3}$ 
  - varies by two-orders of magnitude

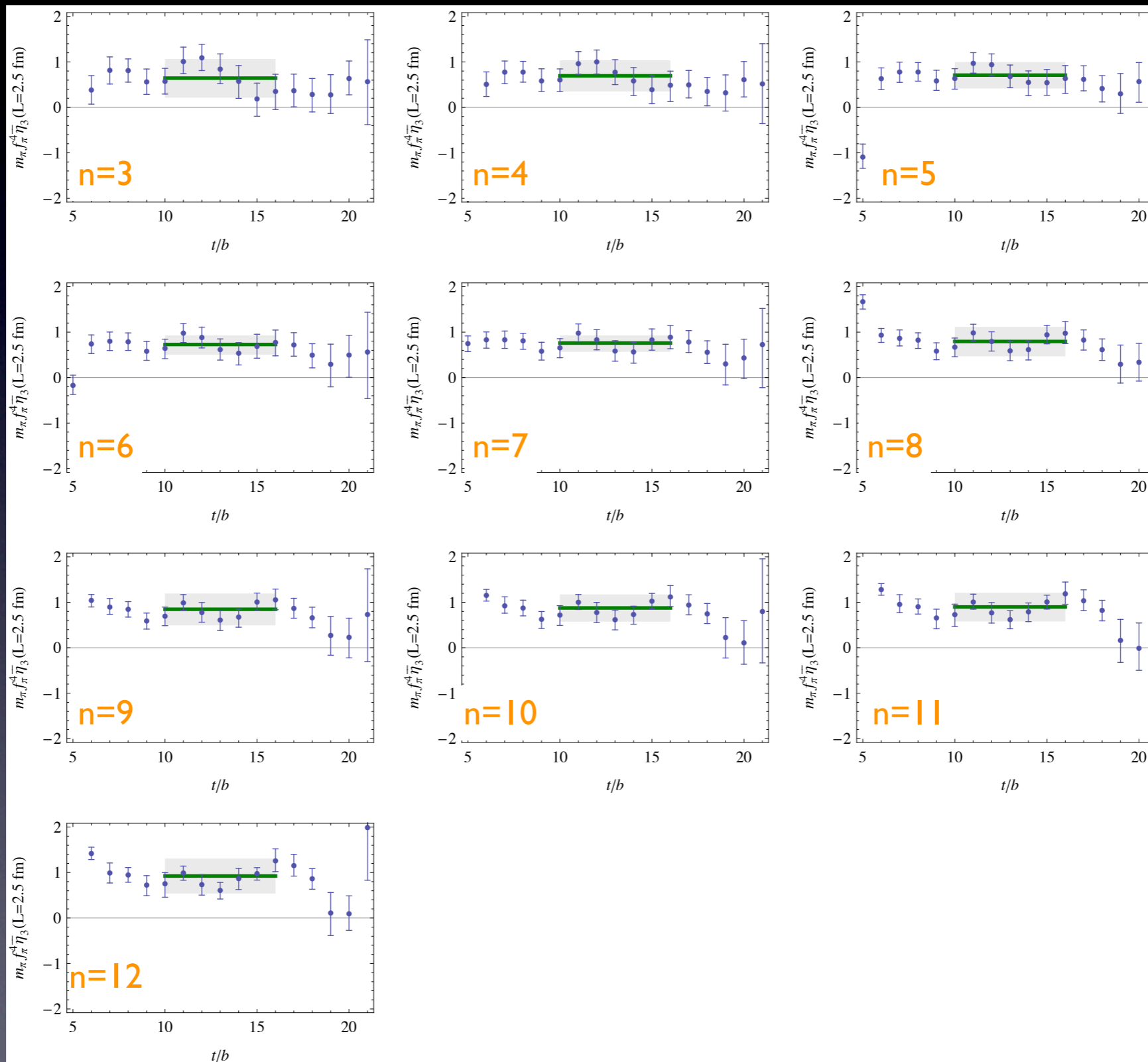
# Three meson interactions

- At  $1/L^6$ , point-like three-boson interaction must occur [Braaten, Nieto '95]
- RGI 3BI:  $\bar{\eta}_3^{(L)}$  physically meaningful
- Depends logarithmically on  $L$
- Naive dimensional-analysis  $m_\pi f_\pi^4 \bar{\eta}_3^{(L)} \sim 1$
- Combinations of energy shifts isolates the RGI interaction



PRELIMINARY

# $\pi^+\pi^+\pi^+$ interaction

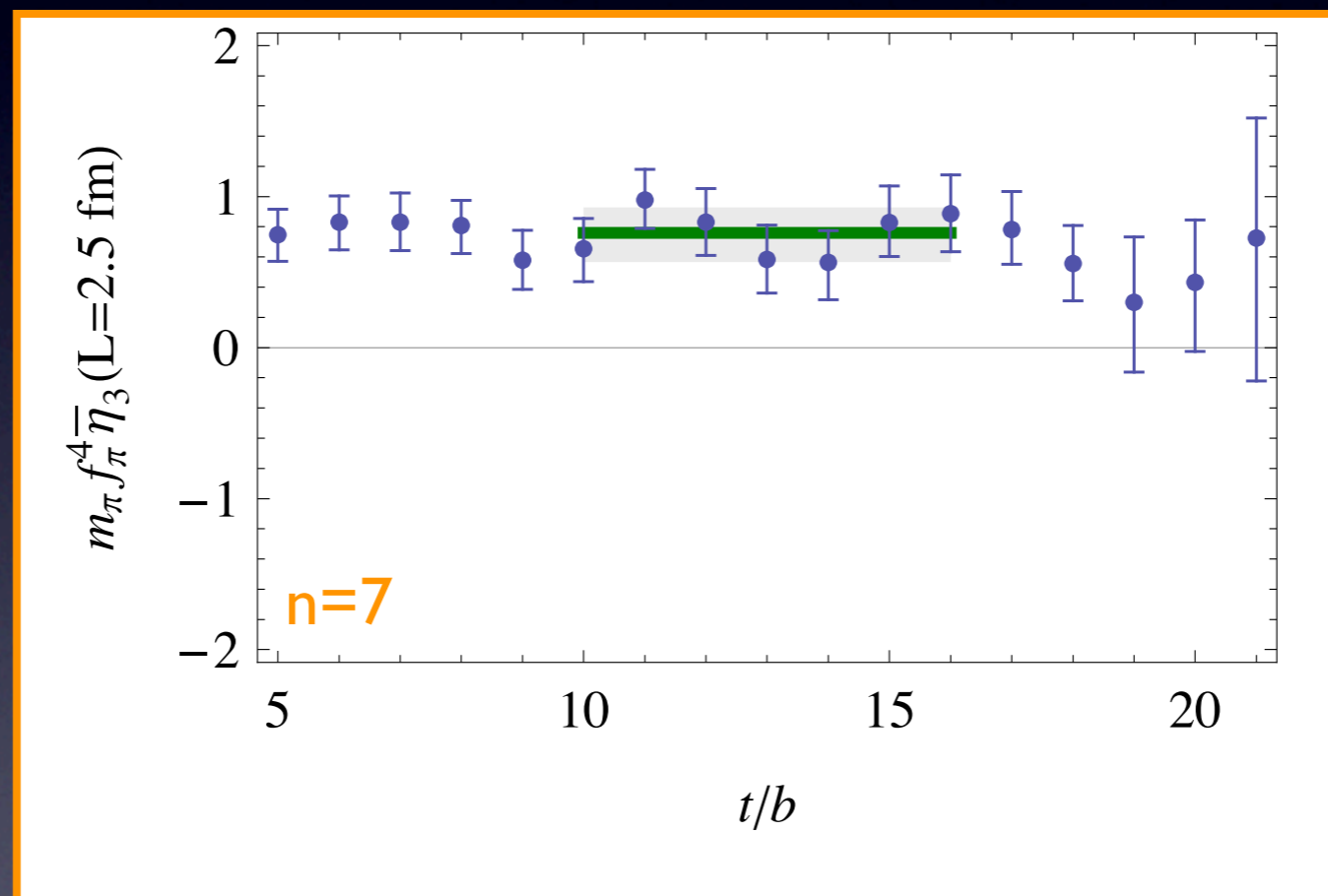


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PRELIMINARY

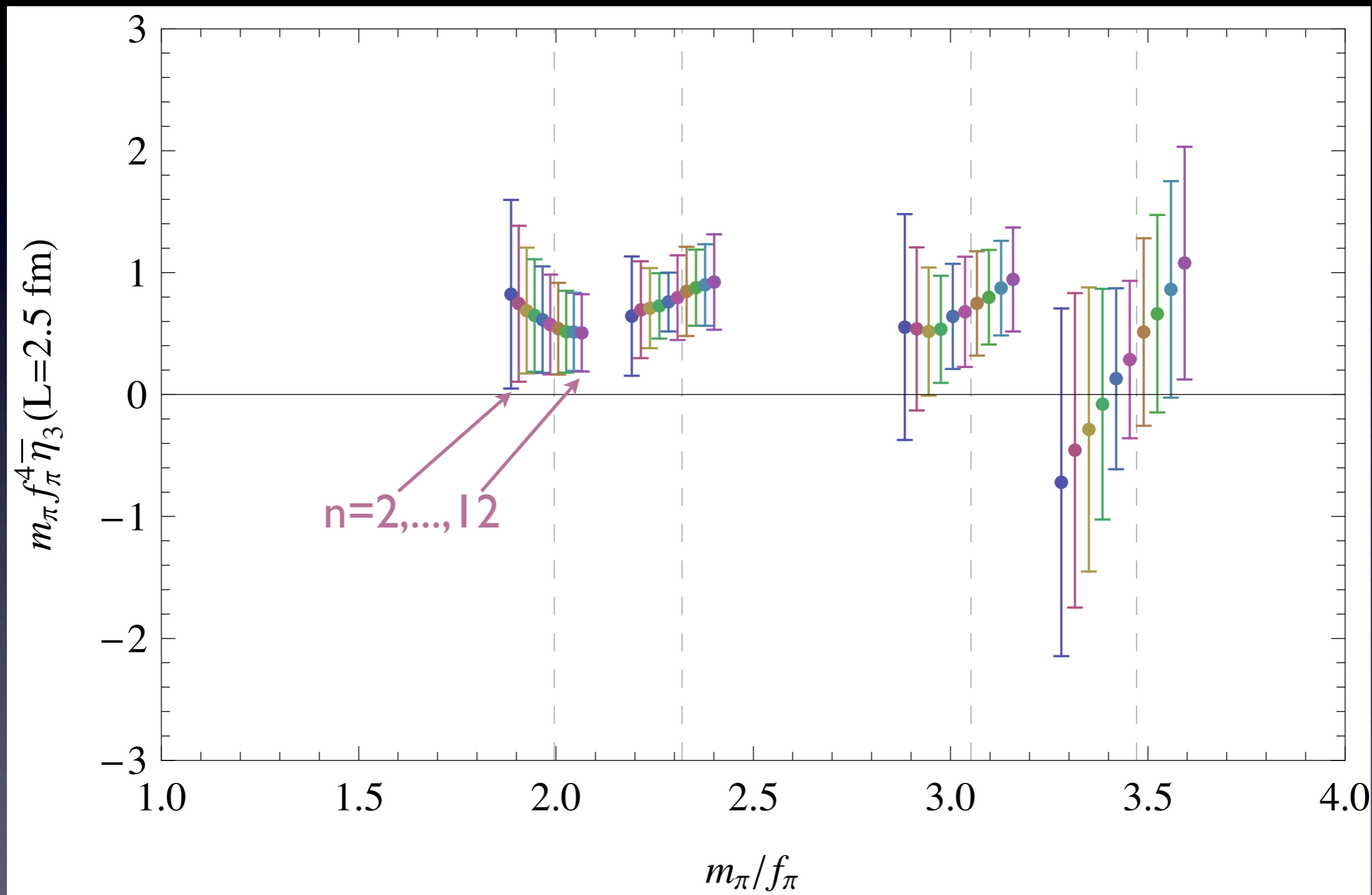
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PRELIMINARY

# Mass dependence



# $3|4\pi^+$ ?

- Limits on larger systems
  - More and more propagators: Pauli EP
  - Ground state - condensation?
- In progress
  - Different volumes, lattice spacings/actions
  - Analyse at  $1/L^7$ 
    - Reduce errors
    - Disentangle  $a, r$ , p-wave interaction, relativity
  - Mixed systems:  $n$  pions and  $m$  kaons
  - Fermions: issues