
Lattice-QCD Studies of the H-Dibaryon

Hartmut Wittig

PRISMA Cluster of Excellence, Institute for Nuclear Physics and Helmholtz Institute Mainz

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Nuclear Physics from Lattice QCD

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Introduction — The H-Dibaryon

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

31 JANUARY 1977

Perhaps a Stable Dihyperon*

R. L. Jaffe†

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, and Department of Physics and Laboratory of Nuclear Science,‡ Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

(Received 1 November 1976)

In the quark bag model, the same gluon-exchange forces which make the proton lighter than the $\Delta(1236)$ bind six quarks to form a stable, flavor-singlet (with strangeness of -2) $J^P = 0^+$ dihyperon (H) at 2150 MeV. Another isosinglet dihyperon (H^*) with $J^P = 1^+$ at 2335 MeV should appear as a bump in $\Lambda\Lambda$ invariant-mass plots. Production and decay systematics of the H are discussed.

- * MIT bag model predicts di-hyperon state (H) with

$$I = 0, S = -2, J^P = 0^+$$

and a mass of $m_H = 2150 \text{ MeV}$

- * H -Dibaryon must decay weakly

Experimental Searches

VOLUME 87, NUMBER 21

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

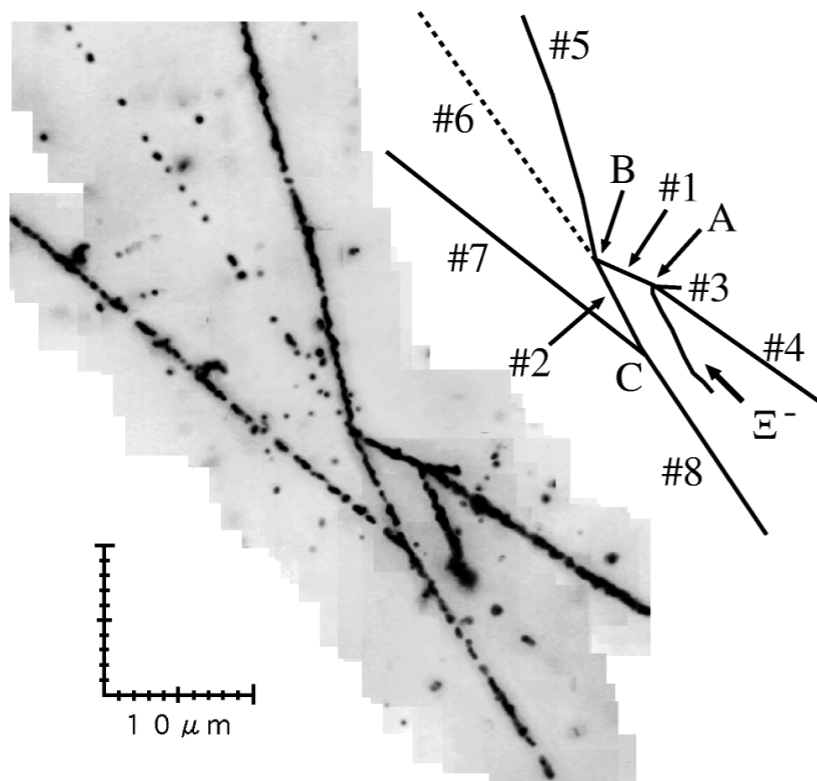
19 NOVEMBER 2001

Observation of a $\Lambda\Lambda^6\text{He}$ Double Hypernucleus

(E373@KEK):

A double-hyperfragment event has been found in a hybrid-emulsion experiment. It is identified uniquely as the sequential decay of $\Lambda\Lambda^6\text{He}$ emitted from a Ξ^- hyperon nuclear capture at rest. The mass of $\Lambda\Lambda^6\text{He}$ and the Λ - Λ interaction energy $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda}$ have been measured for the first time devoid of the ambiguities due to the possibilities of excited states. The value of $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda}$ is $1.01 \pm 0.20_{-0.11}^{+0.18}$ MeV. This demonstrates that the Λ - Λ interaction is weakly attractive.

“Nagara” event



Observation of a $\Lambda\Lambda^6\text{He}$ double-hypernucleus

Binding energy:

$$B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 7.25 \pm 0.19 \left(\begin{smallmatrix} +0.18 \\ -0.11 \end{smallmatrix} \right) \text{ MeV}$$

Interpreted as sequential weak decay of $\Lambda\Lambda^6\text{He}$

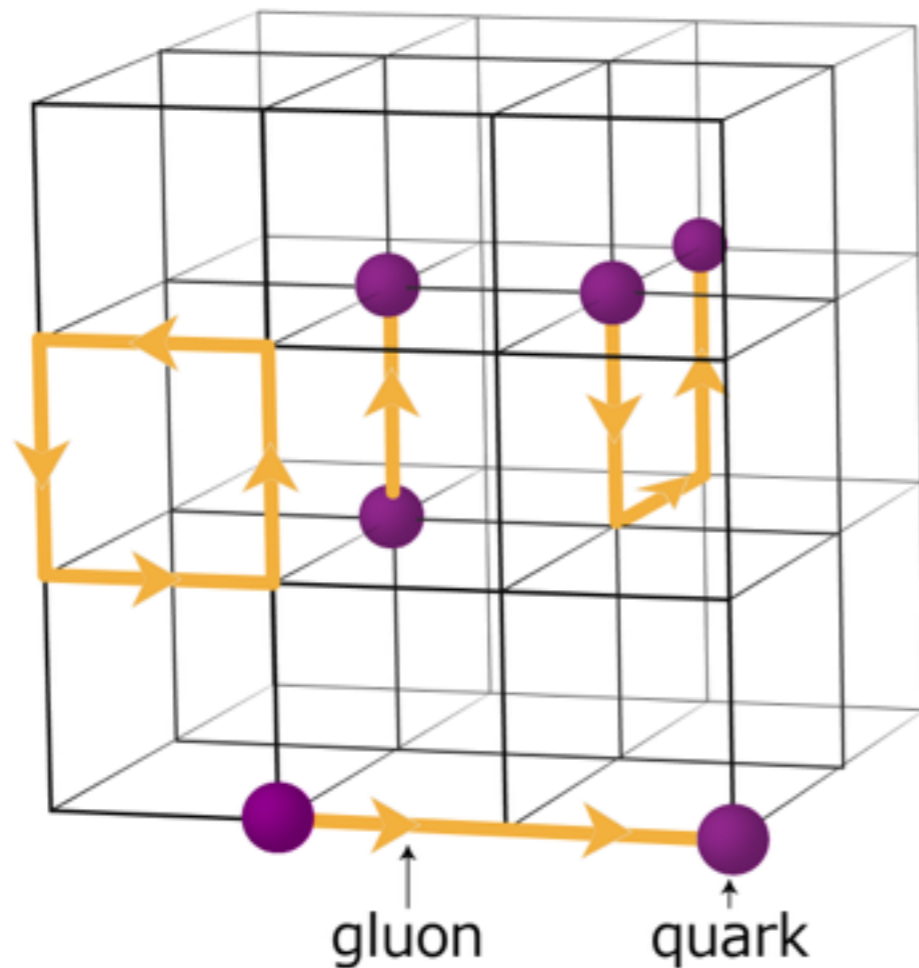
$$m_H > 2m_\Lambda - B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 2223.7 \text{ MeV} \quad @ 90\% \text{ CL}$$

Current Status

- * H-Dibaryon not firmly established experimentally
- * Is a bound H-Dibaryon a consequence of QCD?

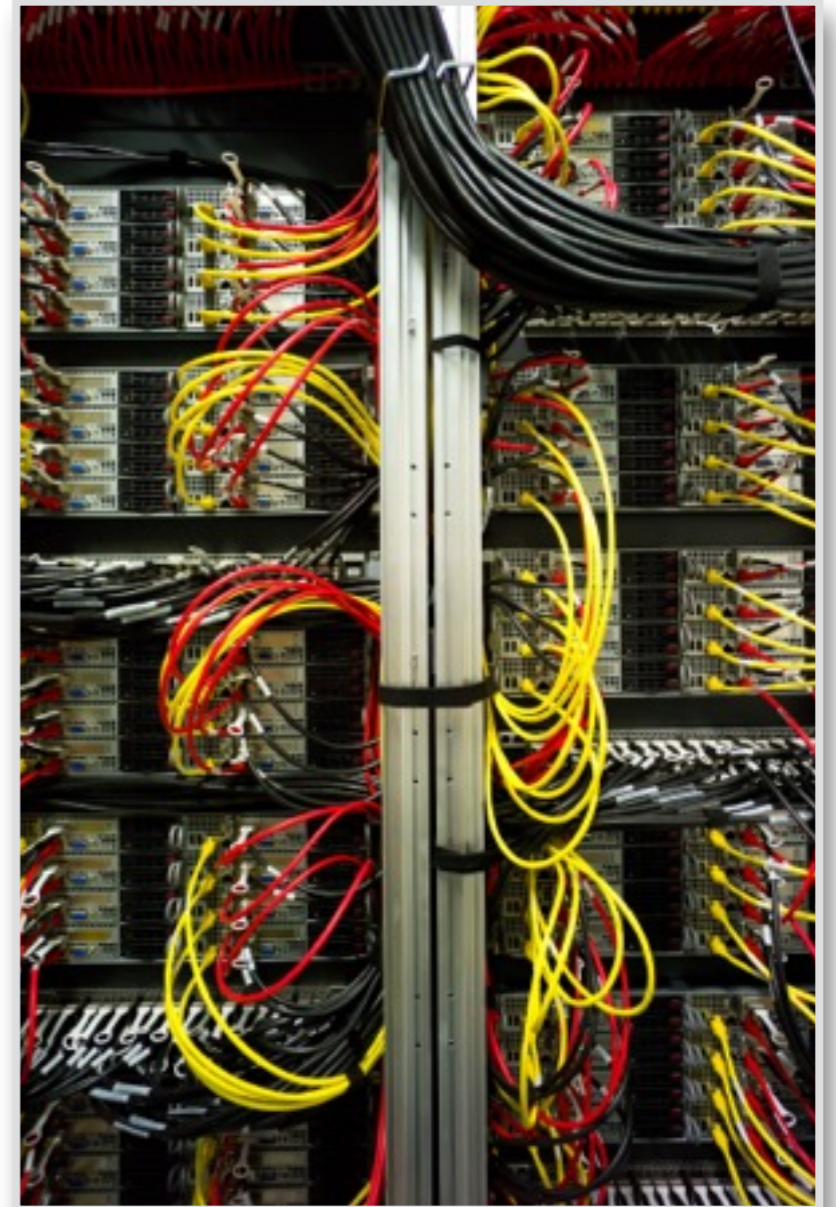
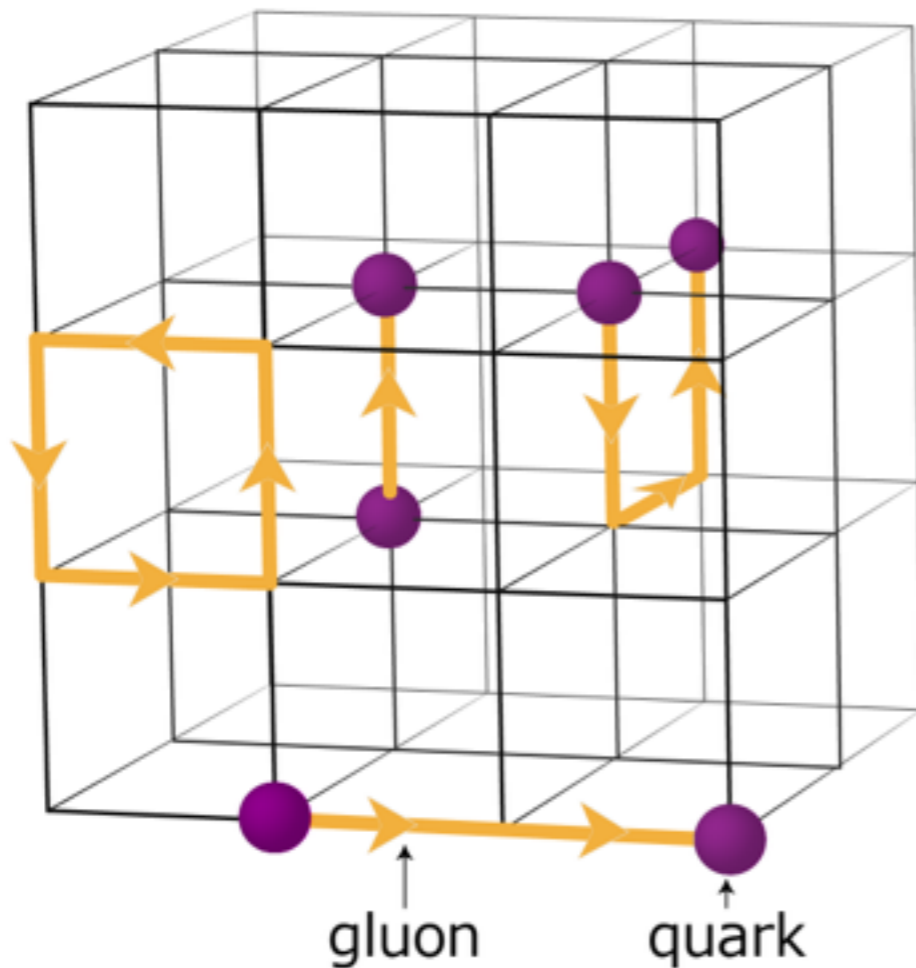
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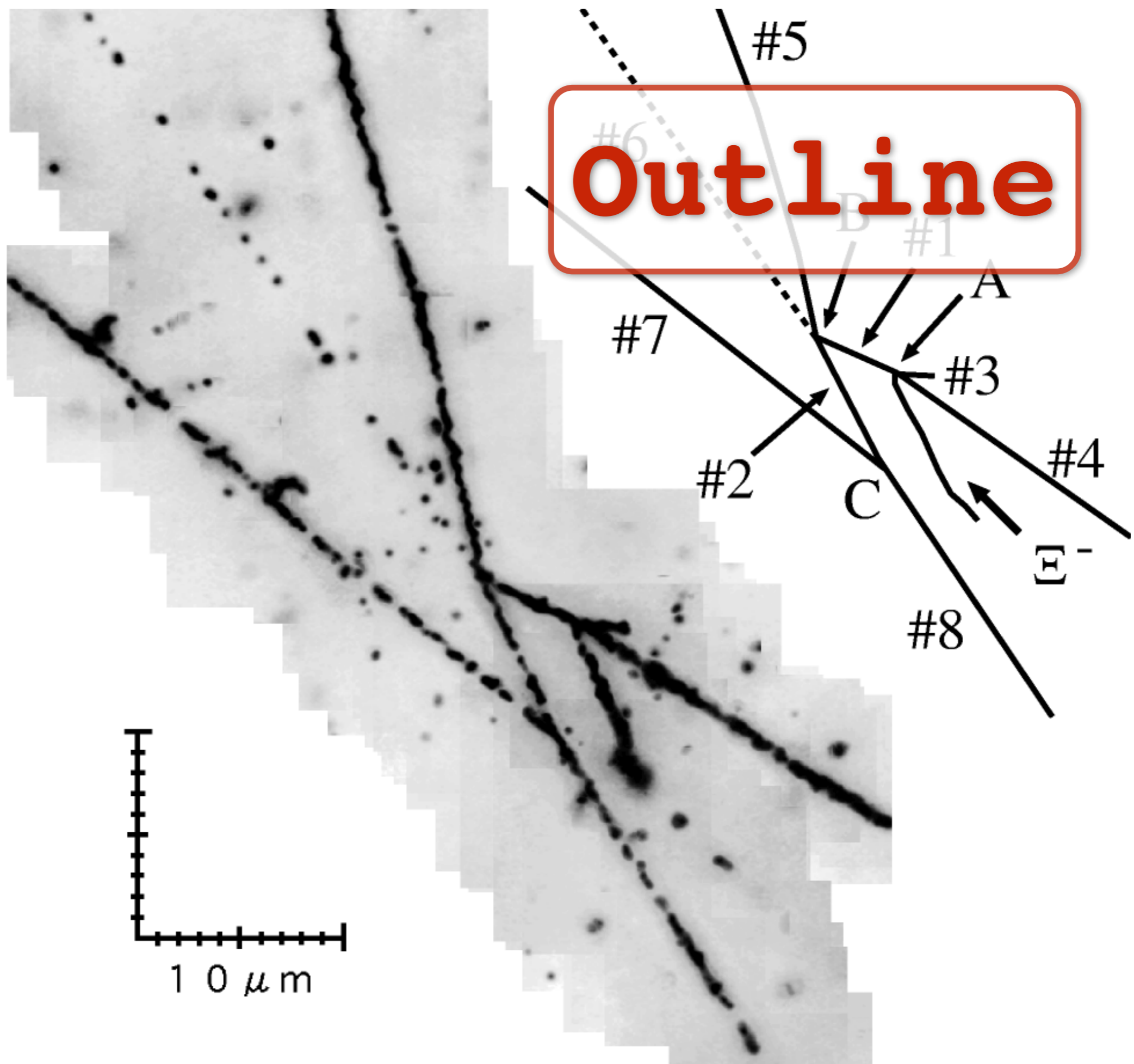


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“Clover” @ Mainz

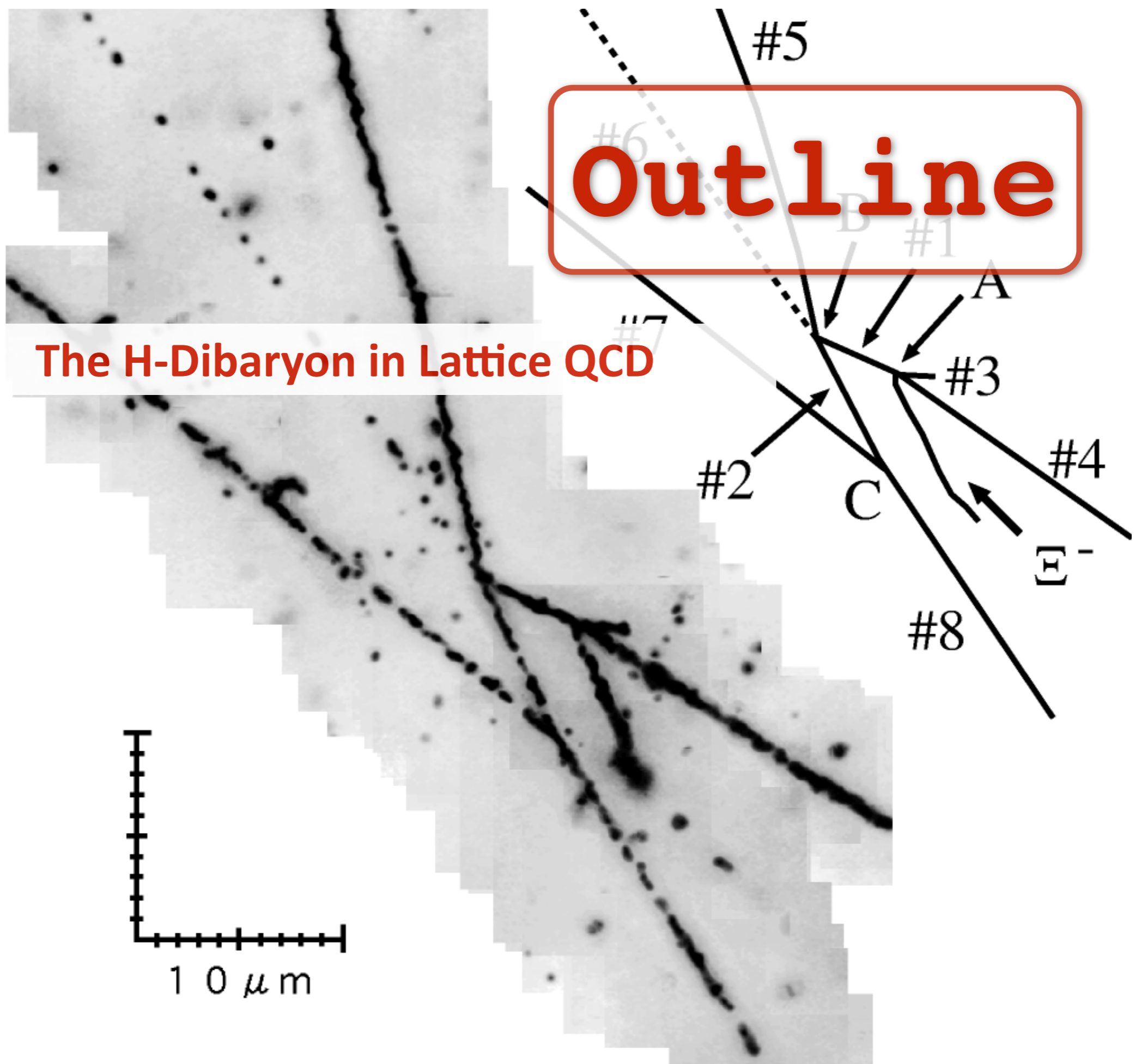


Outline

10 μm

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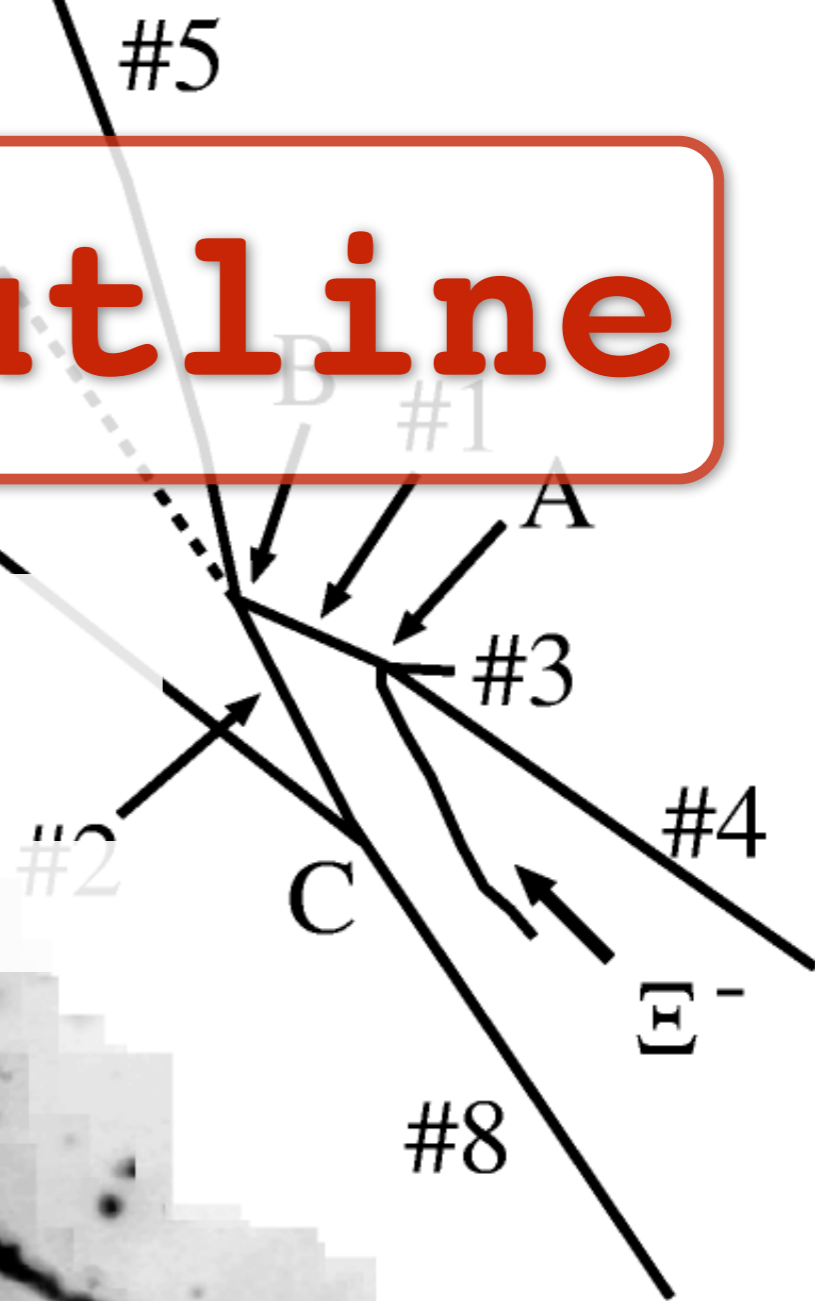
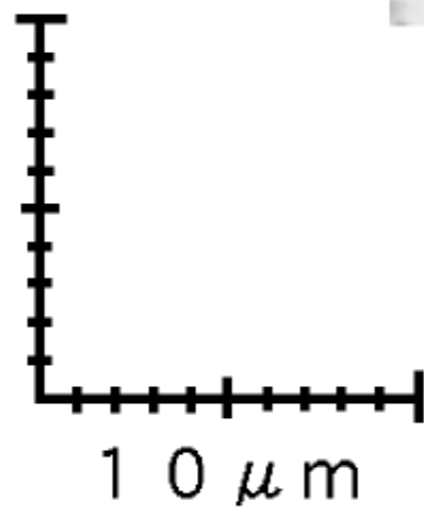
I. The H-Dibaryon in Lattice QCD



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II. Overview of recent calculations

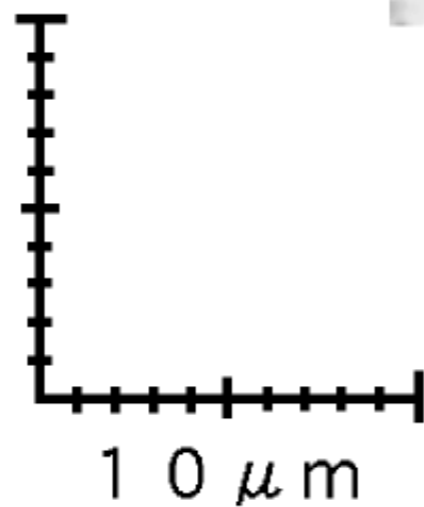


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II. Overview of recent calculations

III. Results from the Mainz group



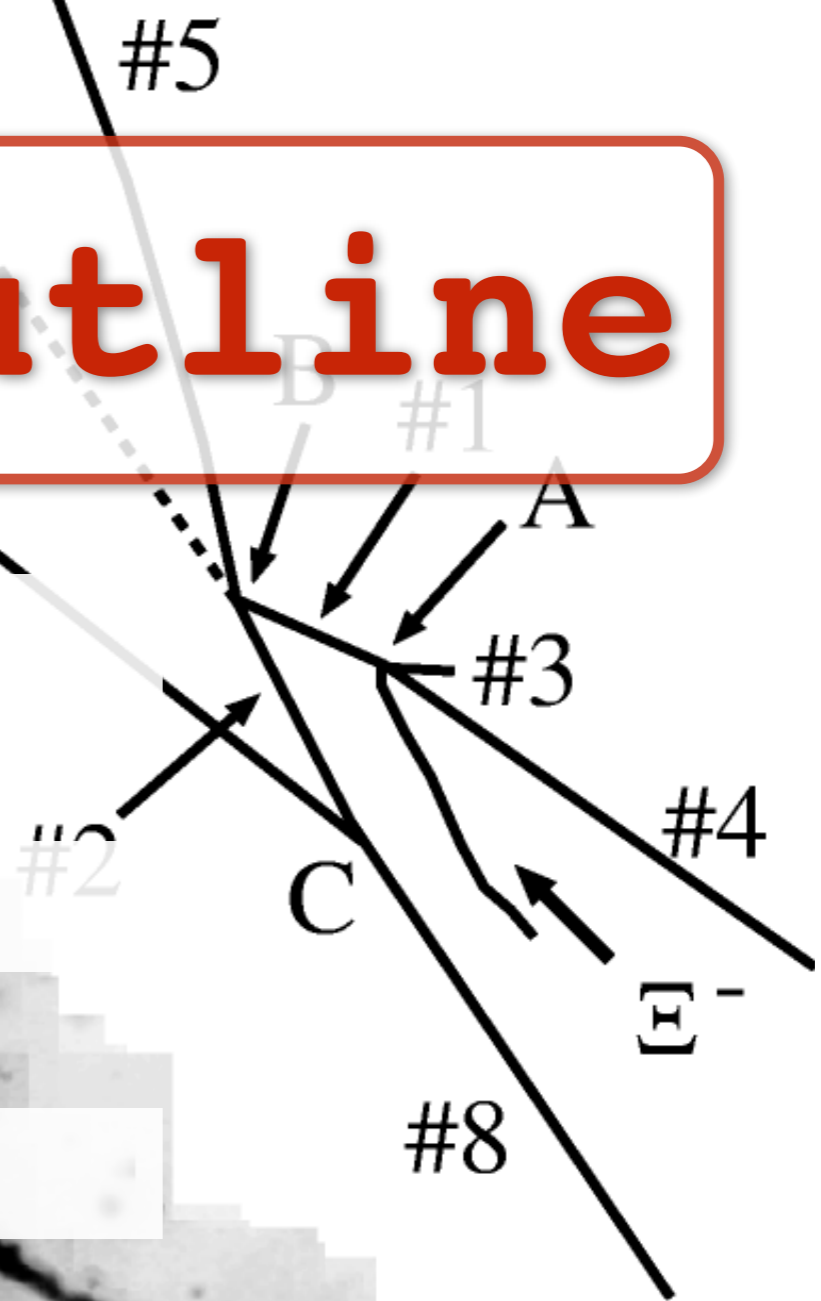
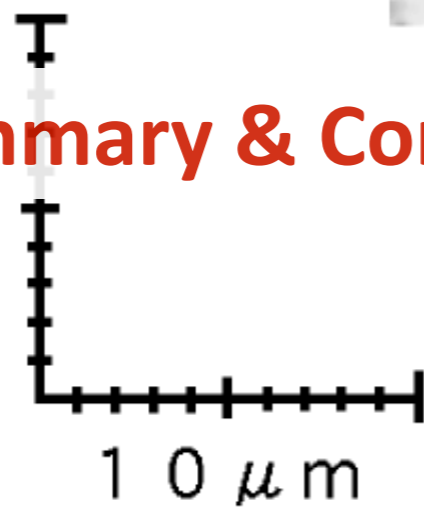
Outline

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IV. Summary & Conclusions



Beyond Perturbation Theory: Lattice QCD

- * Non-perturbative treatment; regularised Euclidean functional integrals

Lattice spacing: $a, \quad x_\mu = n_\mu a, \quad a^{-1} = \Lambda_{UV}$

Finite volume: $L^3 \cdot T$

$$\langle \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \prod_{x,\mu} dU_\mu(x) \Omega \prod_f \det (\not{D}^{\text{lat}} + m_f) e^{-S_G[U]}$$

- * **Stochastic** evaluation of $\langle \Omega \rangle$ via **Markov process**

Strong growth of numerical cost near physical m_u, m_d

- * Pion mass, i.e. lightest mass in pseudoscalar channel:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \approx 500 \text{ MeV} & \longrightarrow & \approx 130 - 200 \text{ MeV} \\ (2001) & & (2016) \end{array}$$

Systematic effects

* Lattice artefacts:

$$\left\langle \frac{m_N}{f_\pi} \right\rangle^{\text{lat}} = \left\langle \frac{m_N}{f_\pi} \right\rangle^{\text{cont}} + O(a^p), \quad p \geq 1$$

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→ extrapolate to continuum limit from $a \approx 0.05 - 0.12 \text{ fm}$

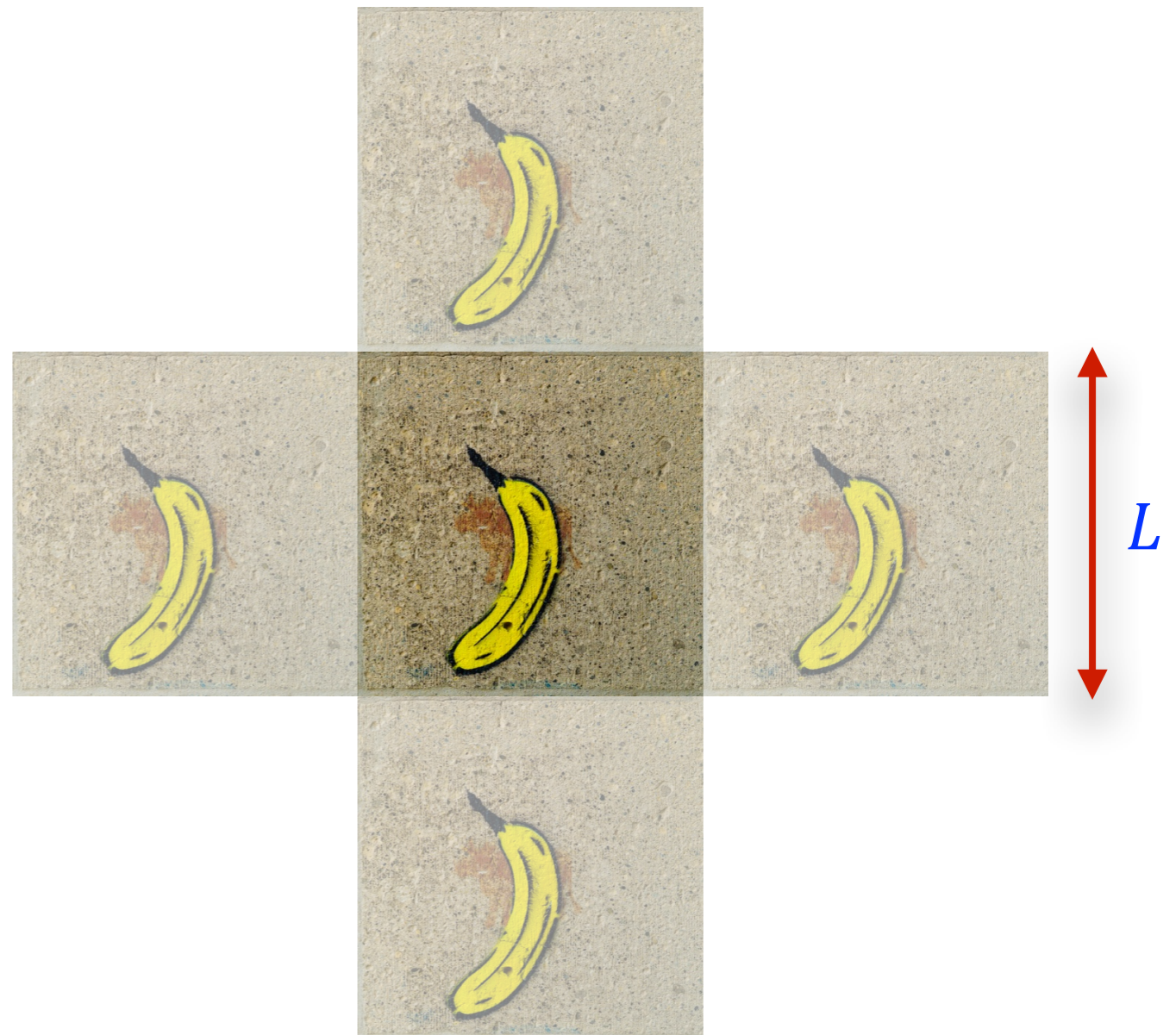
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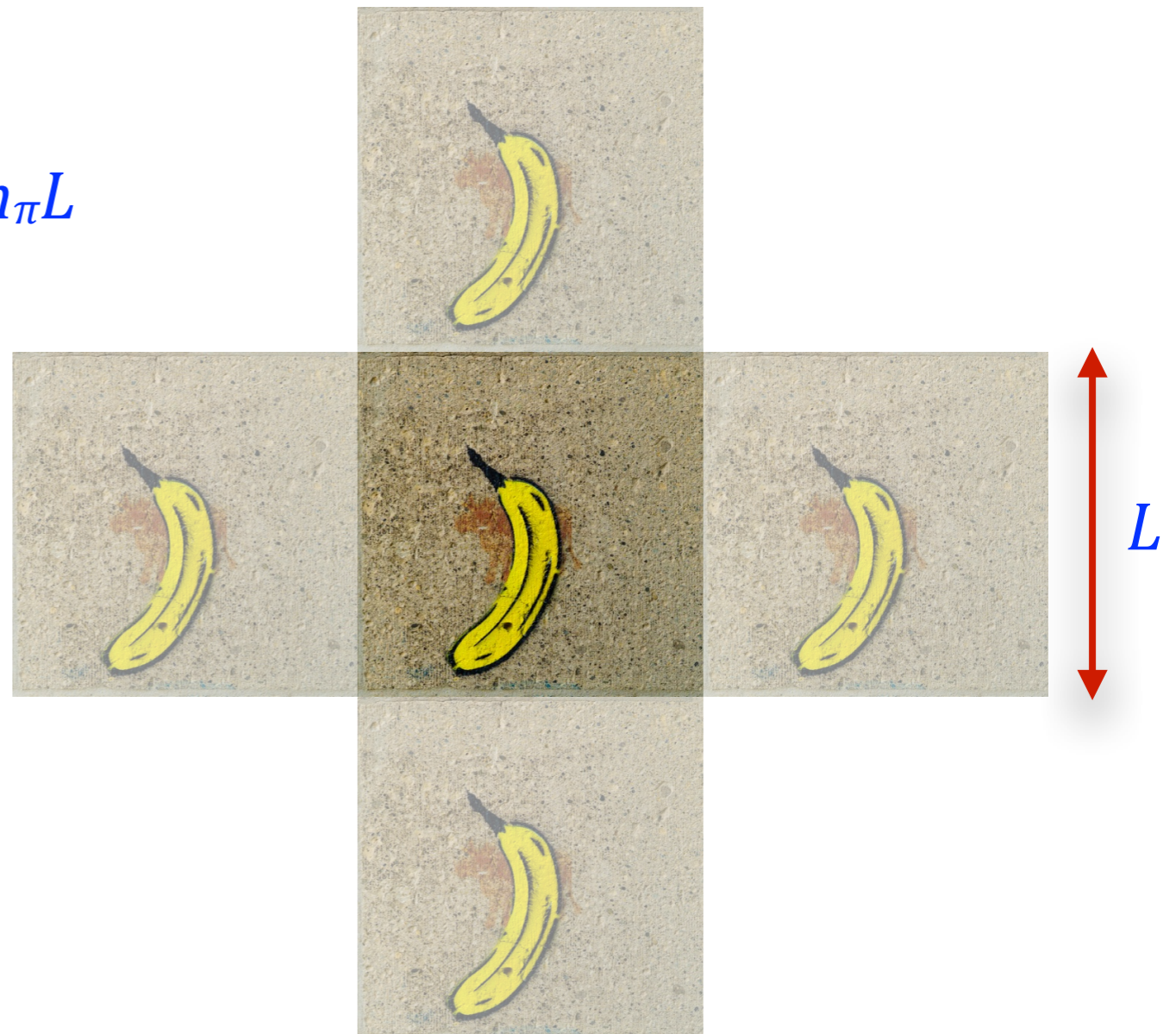
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Exponentially suppressed in $m_\pi L$



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* Finite volume effects

- Empirically: $m_\pi L \geq 4$ sufficient for many purposes
- Could be more severe for multi-baryon systems
- Provide information on **scattering phase shifts**

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* Inefficient sampling of SU(3) group manifold

- Simulations become trapped in topological sectors as $a \rightarrow 0$
- Use **open boundary conditions** in time direction *[Lüscher & Schaefer, 2012]*

The H-Dibaryon in Lattice QCD

* Spectrum extracted from correlation functions:

$$\sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{y}} \left\langle O_{\text{had}}(y) O_{\text{had}}^\dagger(x) \right\rangle = Z_0 e^{-E_0(y_0 - x_0)} + Z_1 e^{-E_1(y_0 - x_0)} + \dots$$

$O_{\text{had}}(x)$: **interpolating operator** for a given hadron;
projects on **all** states with the same quantum numbers

nucleon : $O_N = \epsilon_{abc} (u^a C \gamma_5 d^b) u^c$

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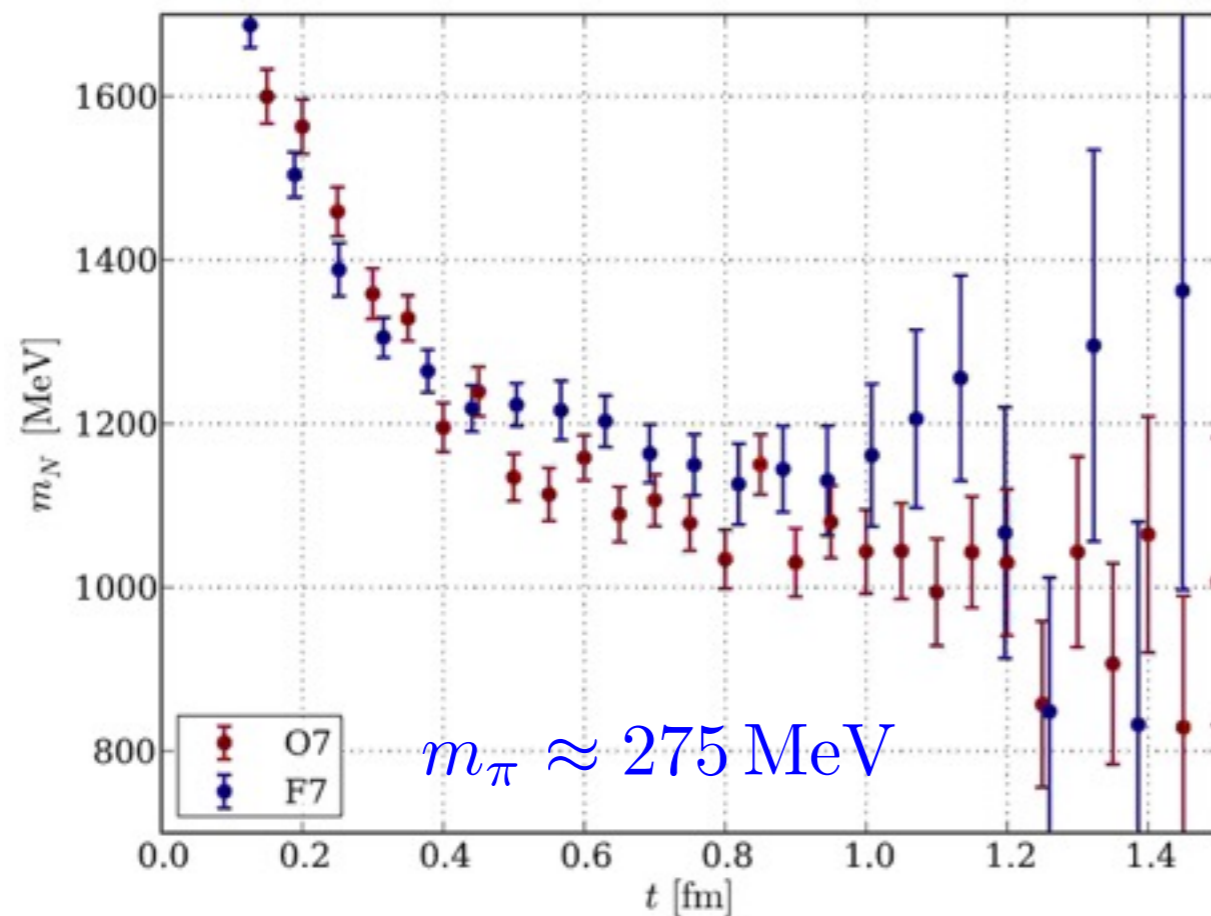
- * Ground state dominates at large Euclidean times: $y_0 - x_0 \rightarrow \infty$
- * Excited states are **sub-leading** contributions

The H-Dibaryon in Lattice QCD

* Noise problem of baryonic correlation functions:

Exponential growth of noise-to-signal ratio

Nucleon at rest: $R_{NS}(x_0) = e^{(m_N - \frac{3}{2}m_\pi)x_0}$



- Excited state contributions die out slowly
- Ground state dominates only for $a \geq 0.5$ fm
- Precise calculations require very large statistics

[Capitani et al., arXiv:1504.04628]

The H-Dibaryon in Lattice QCD

- * **Lüscher Method:** Finite-volume effects provide physical information
- * Two-particle binding momentum:

$$p^2 = \frac{1}{4}(E^2 - \vec{P} \cdot \vec{P}) - m_\Lambda^2 \quad E, m_\Lambda : \text{determined in finite volume}$$

- * Relation to scattering phase shifts in **infinite volume:**

$$p \cot \delta_0(p) = \frac{2}{\gamma L \sqrt{\pi}} \mathcal{Z}_{0,0}(1, q^2), \quad q = \frac{pL}{2\pi}$$

[Lüscher 1991,
Rummukainen & Gottlieb 1995]

$$\mathcal{Z}_{0,0}(1, q^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \left\{ \sum_{q^2 \neq n^2}^{\Lambda_n} \frac{1}{q^2 - n^2} - 4\pi \Lambda_n \right\}$$

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- * Scattering amplitude: $A \propto \frac{1}{p \cot \delta_0(p) - ip}$

Pole corresponds to binding energy in infinite volume

Recent lattice calculations: Overview

Collaboration	Method	m_π [MeV]	N_f	References
HALQCD	Baryon-baryon potential; Nambu-Bethe-Salpeter wave function	470–1170	3	<i>Phys Rev Lett 106 (2011) 162002</i> <i>Nucl Phys A881 (2012) 28</i>
NPLQCD	Two-point correlation functions	806	3	<i>Phys Rev D87 (2013) 034506</i>
	Two-point correlation functions	230, 390	2+1	<i>Phys Rev Lett 106 (2011) 162001</i> <i>Mod Phys Lett A26 (2011) 2587</i>
Mainz	Two-point correlation functions	450–1000	2	<i>PoS LATTICE2013 (2014) 440</i> <i>PoS LATTICE2014 (2015) 107</i> <i>arXiv:1511.01849 [hep-lat]</i>

* NPLQCD and HALQCD find bound H-dibaryon for $m_\pi \geq 400$ MeV

HALQCD Collaboration

- * Obtain baryon-baryon potential from Nambu-Bethe-Salpeter amplitude computed on the lattice

$$G_4(\vec{r}, t - t_0) = \langle 0 | (BB)^{(\alpha)}(\vec{r}, t) (\overline{BB})^{(\alpha)}(t_0) | 0 \rangle = \phi(\vec{r}, t) e^{-2M(t-t_0)}$$

$(BB)^{(\alpha)}(\vec{r}, t)$: 2-baryon interpolating operator; flavour irrep. α

$\phi(\vec{r}, t)$: NBS wave function

M : single baryon mass

- * Determine potential via
$$V(r) = \frac{[-H_0 - (\partial / \partial t)] \phi(\vec{r}, t)}{\phi(\vec{r}, t)}$$

- * Solve the Schrödinger equation to determine binding energies and scattering phase shifts

HALQCD Collaboration

* Details of the calculation:

$N_f = 3$ i.e. mass-degenerate u, d, s quarks

Single lattice spacing: $a = 0.121(2)$ fm

5 pion masses in the range: $m_\pi = 469 - 1171$ MeV

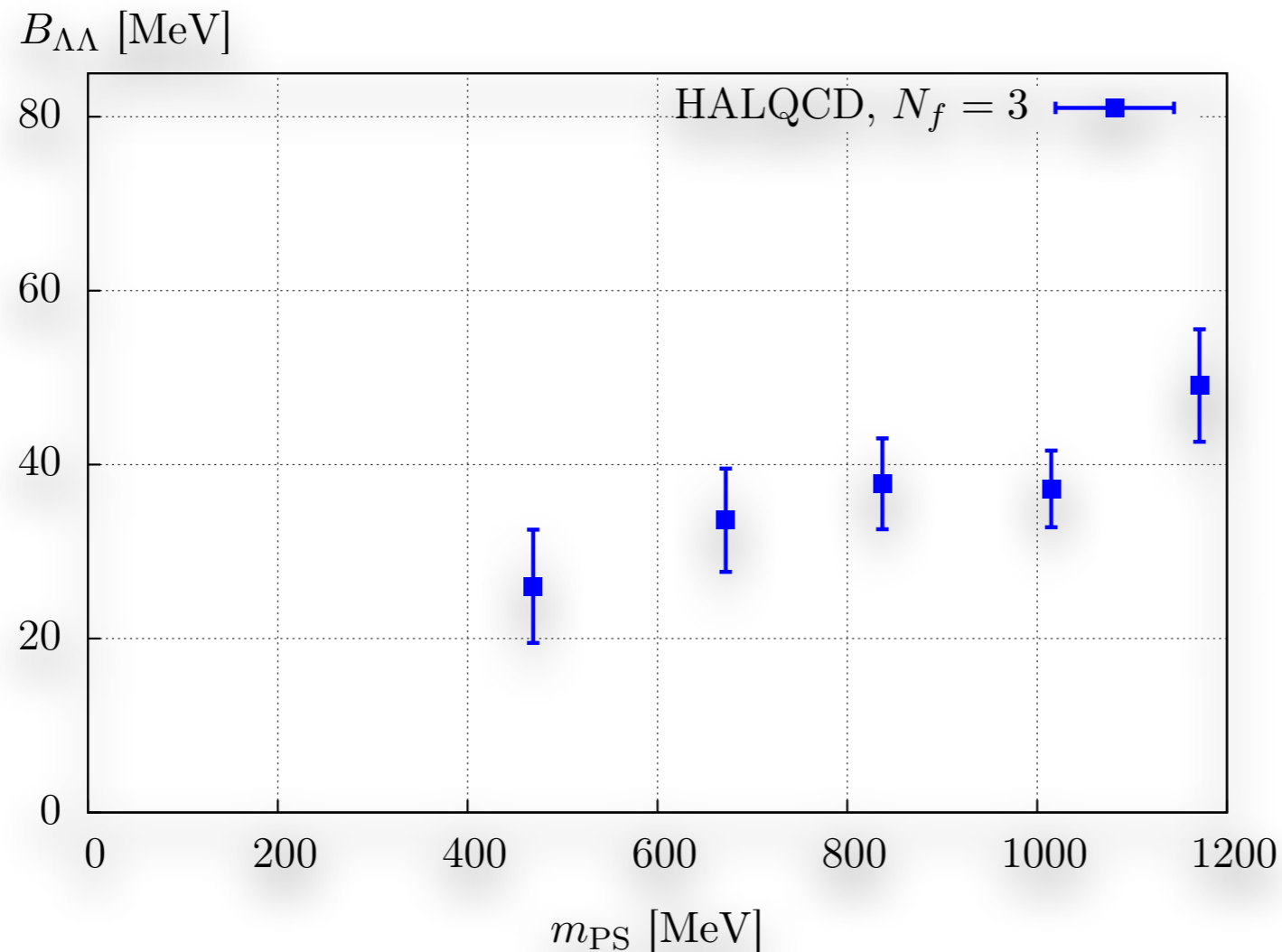
Volumes: $L = 3.87, 2.90, 1.97$ fm

Statistics: $O(500)$ gauge configurations per ensemble

$O(8000)$ “measurements” for each pion mass

HALQCD Collaboration

- * Chiral behaviour of H-dibaryon binding energies in SU(3) limit:



(statistical and systematic errors combined)

- * SU(3) breaking effects not accounted for

Variational method

- * Consider set of interpolating operators: $O_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$

Matrix correlator:
$$C_{ij}(t) = \sum_{\vec{x}} \left\langle O_i(\vec{x}, t + t_0) O_j^\dagger(\vec{x}_0, t_0) \right\rangle$$

- * **Variational method:** solve Generalised Eigenvalue Problem (GEVP):

$$\mathbf{C}(t + \Delta t) v_n(t) = \lambda_n(t) \mathbf{C}(t) v_n(t) \quad E_{\text{eff}}(t) = -\partial_t \log \lambda_n(t)$$

- * Operator basis:

- Apply “**smearing**” to interpolating operators at source and sink
- Use 6-quark and two-baryon operators
- Project onto irreducible representations in flavour space

Variational basis in the dibaryon channel

* Six-quark operators:

$$[rstuvw] = \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{lmn} (s^a C \gamma_5 P_+ t^b) (v^l C \gamma_5 P_+ w^m) (r^k C \gamma_5 P_+ u^n)$$

$$H^{(\mathbf{1})} = \frac{1}{48} ([sudsud] - [udusds] - [dudsus])$$

$$H^{(\mathbf{27})} = \frac{1}{48\sqrt{3}} (2[sudsud] + [udusds] - [dudsus])$$

* Momentum-projected two-baryon operators:

$$B_\alpha \equiv [rst]_\alpha = \epsilon_{ijk} (s^i C \gamma_5 t^j) r_\alpha^k$$

$$(BB)(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; t) = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{y}} e^{i\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{x}} e^{i\vec{p}_2 \cdot \vec{y}} B_1(\vec{x}, t) C \gamma_5 P_+ B_2(\vec{y}, t)$$

Construct $(BB)^{(\mathbf{1})}$, $(BB)^{(\mathbf{8})}$, $(BB)^{(\mathbf{27})}$

NPLQCD Collaboration

- * Compute energy levels in Di-baryon channel from two-point correlation functions of multi-baryon operators:

$$O_H^{2\text{baryon}} = \epsilon_{ijk} \{ (r^i C \gamma_5 P_+ s^j) t^k \} (\vec{x}, t) \epsilon_{lmn} \{ (u^l C \gamma_5 P_+ v^m) w^n \} (\vec{y}, t)$$

- * Binding energy: $B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 2m_\Lambda - E_{\Lambda\Lambda}$

- * Details of the calculation: *[Beane et al, Phys Rev D87 (2013) 034506]*

$N_f = 3$ i.e. mass-degenerate u, d, s quarks

Single lattice spacing: $a = 0.145(2)$ fm

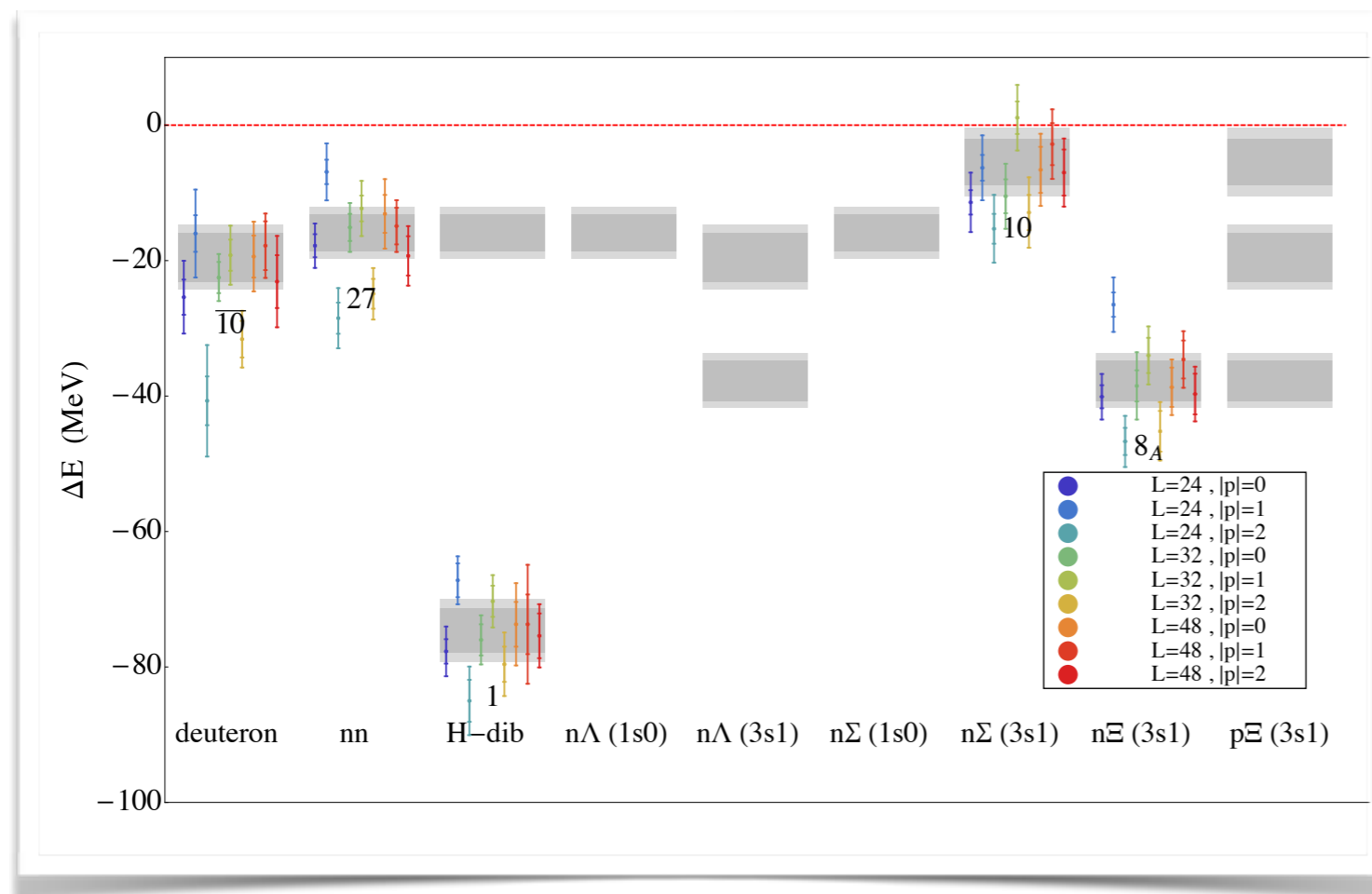
Single pion mass: $m_\pi = 807$ MeV

Volumes: $L = 3.4, 4.5, 6.7$ fm

Statistics: $O(10^5)$ “measurements” per ensemble

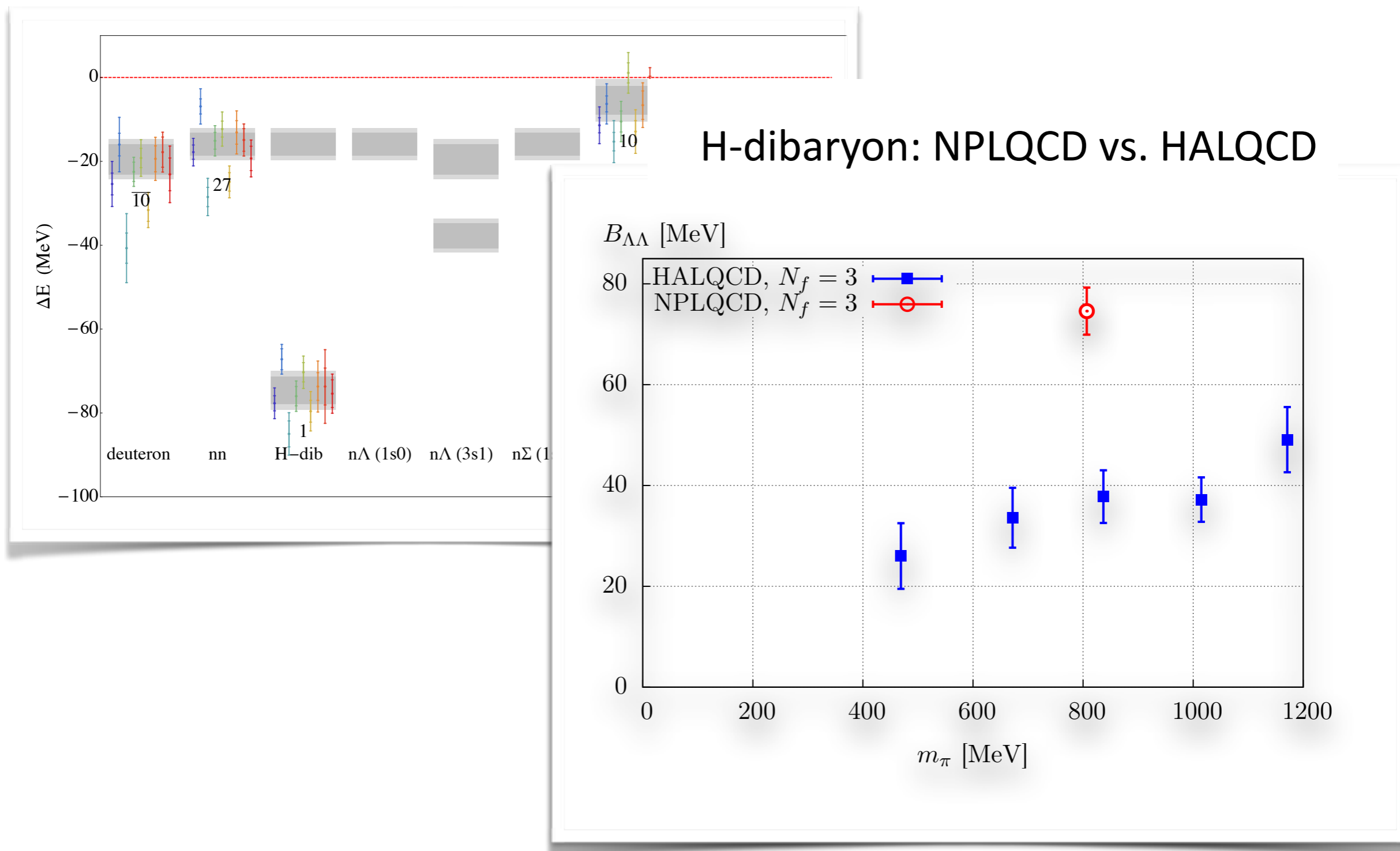
NPLQCD Collaboration

Binding energies of various two-baryon systems:



NPLQCD Collaboration

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Mod Phys Lett A26 (2011) 2587]

$N_f = 2 + 1$, anisotropic action: $a_s/a_t = 3.50(3)$

Single lattice spacing: $a_s = 0.123(1)$ fm

Pion masses: $m_\pi = 389, 230$ MeV

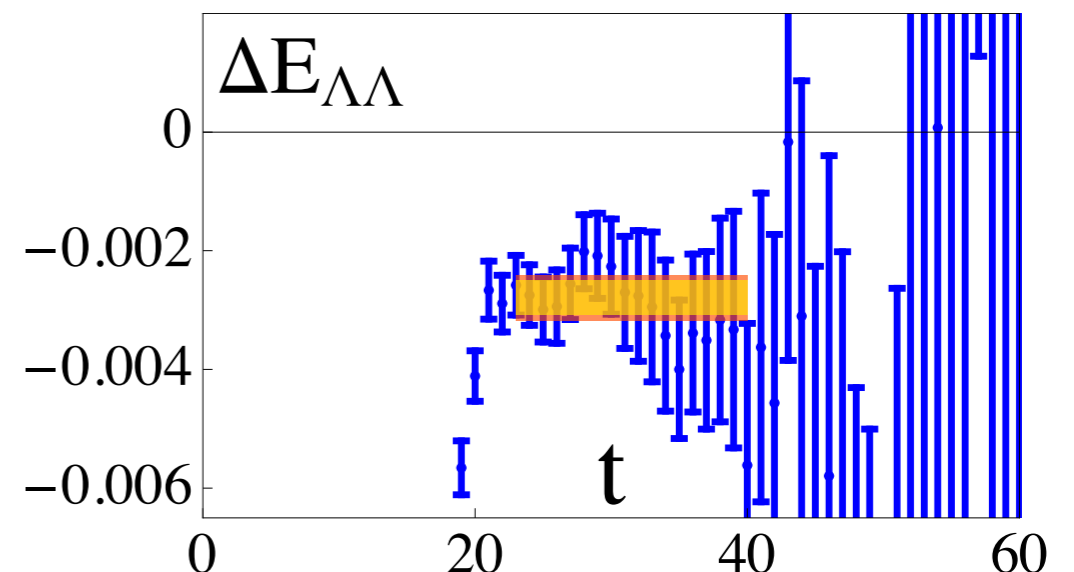
Volumes: $L = 3.9, 3.0, 2.5, 2.0$ fm

Statistics: $O(10^5)$ “measurements” per ensemble

* Variational approach:

source: six-quark operators

sink: two-baryon operators



The Mainz Dibaryon Project

* In collaboration with:

A. Francis, J. Green, M. Hansen, P. Junnarkar, Ch. Miao, T. Rae

* $N_f = 2$ flavours of $O(a)$ improved Wilson fermions; quenched strange quark

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Run	a [fm]	L/a	L [fm]	m_π [MeV]	$m_\pi L$	N_{cfg}	N_{src}	N_{meas}
E1	0.063	32	2.02	1000	10.2	168	128	43 008
N1	0.050	48	2.45	830	10.1	100	128	25 600
A1	0.079	32	2.53	770	9.9	286	128	73 216
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* Ensembles E1, N1, A1: $m_s = m_{\text{light}}$, i.e. SU(3)-symmetric

Noise reduction

* All-mode-averaging

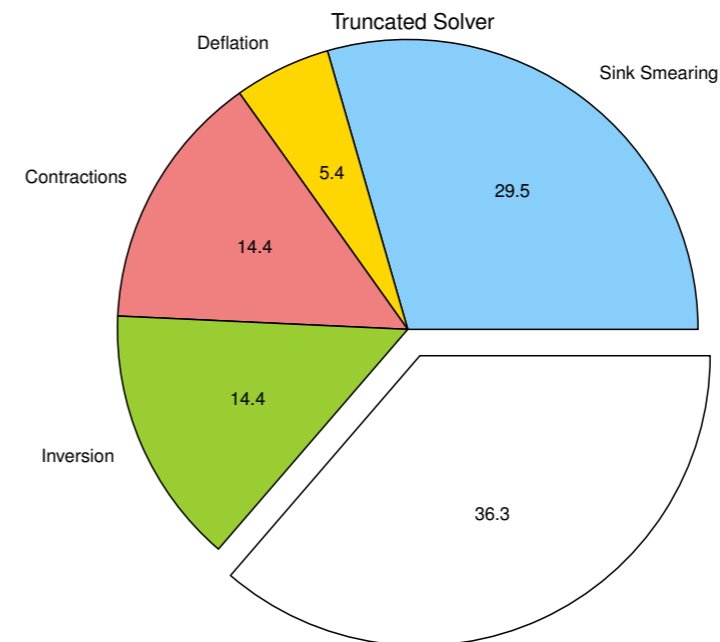
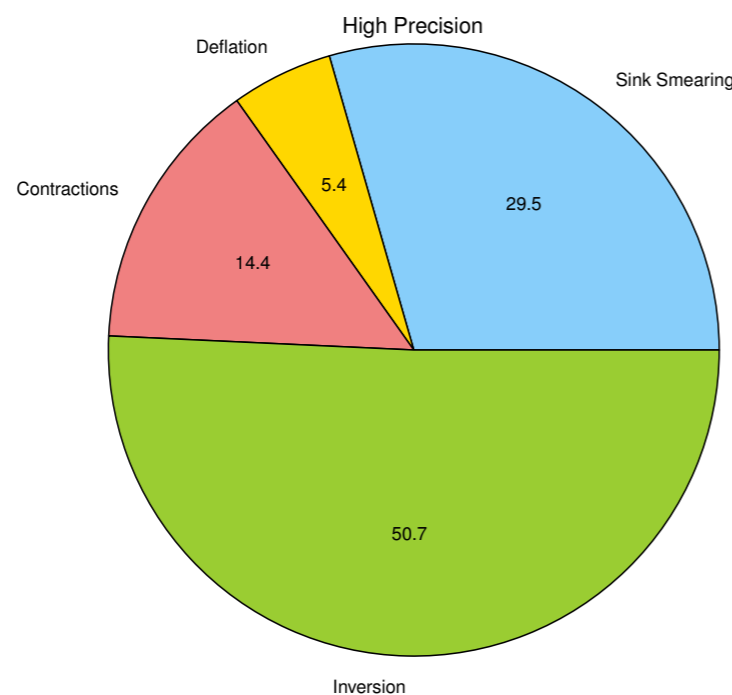
[Blum et al, Phys Rev D88 (2013) 094503]

Combine low-precision solver with bias correction:

$$O = O_{\vec{x}_0} - O_{\vec{x}_0}^{(\text{apprx})} + \frac{1}{N_{\Delta\vec{x}}} \sum_{\Delta\vec{x}} O_{\vec{x}_0 + \Delta\vec{x}}^{(\text{apprx})}$$

Variance reduction:

$$2(1 - r) + \frac{1}{N_{\Delta\vec{x}}}, \quad r = \text{Corr} \left(O_{\vec{x} + \Delta\vec{x}}^{(\text{apprx})}, O_{\vec{x} + \Delta\vec{x}'}^{(\text{apprx})} \right)$$

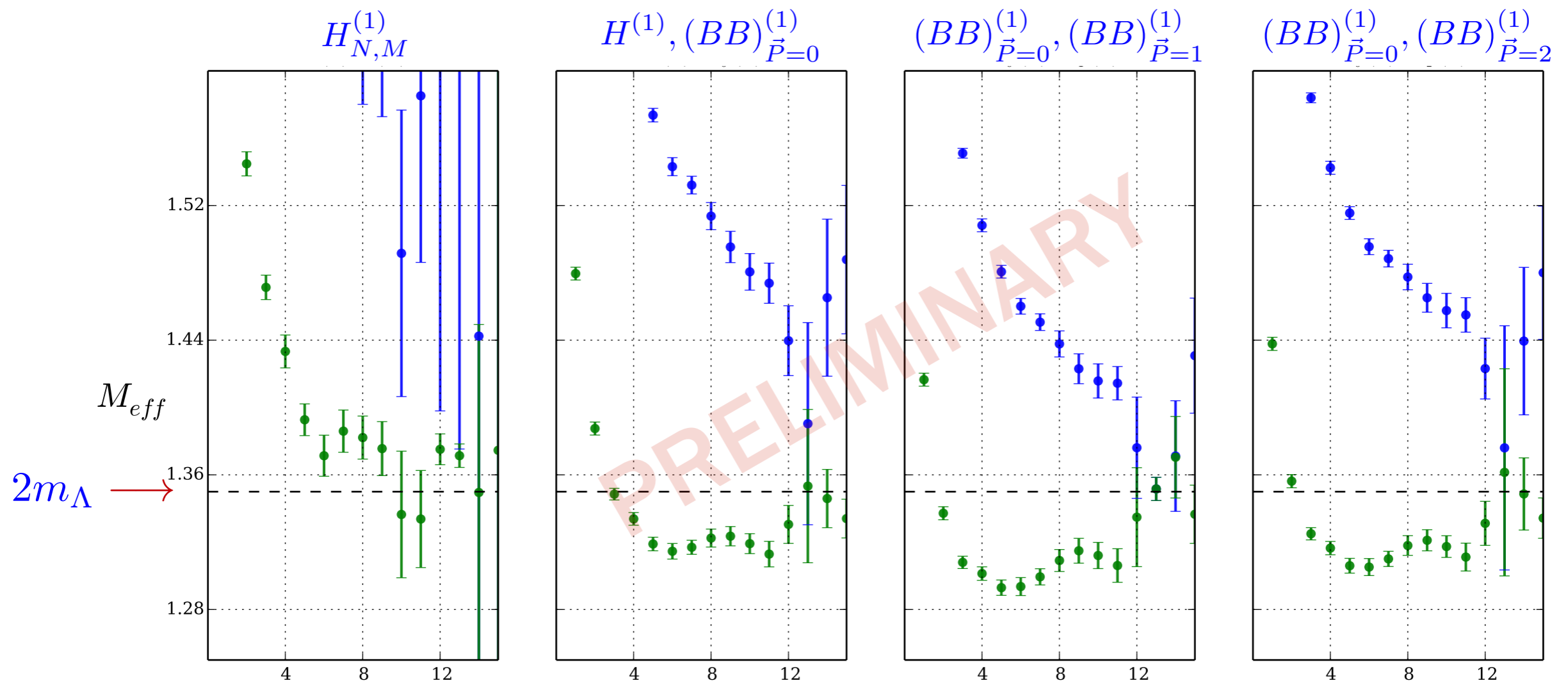


GEVP Setup

- * Ensembles E1, N1, A1 — SU(3)-symmetric situation:
 - source: 6-quark operator $H^{(1)}$ with two different smearing levels
 - sink: 6-quark and multi-baryon operators
- * Ensemble E5 — estimate SU(3)-breaking effects:
 - source: 6-quark operators $H^{(1)}$, $H^{(27)}$, different smearing levels
 - sink: $H^{(1)}$ and $H^{(27)}$ or $(BB)^{(1)}$ and $(BB)^{(27)}$
- * Asymmetric GEVP: use different sink operators to check for systematics
- * Different total momentum — rest frame vs. moving frame

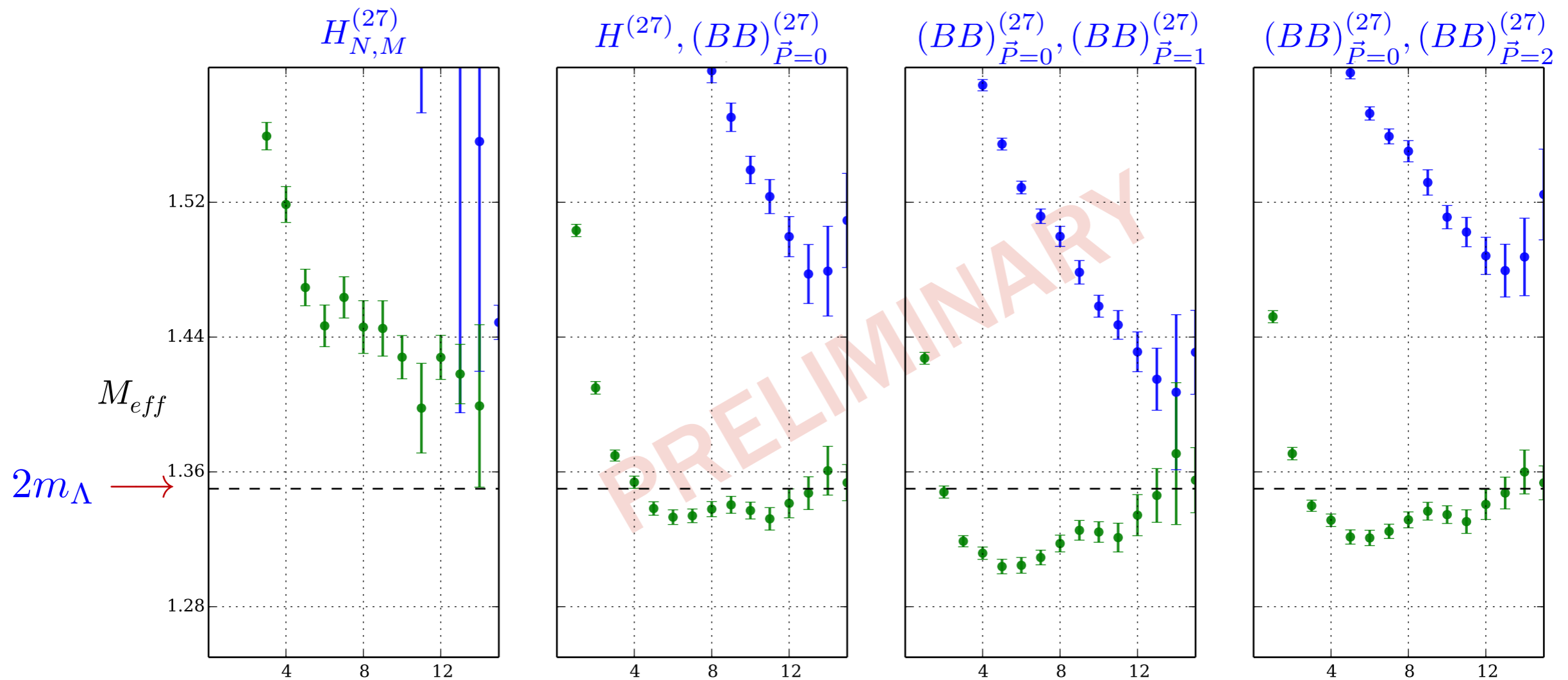
SU(3)-symmetric case

- * Ensemble E1 ($m_\pi = 1000$ MeV)
- * Energy levels probed by different sink operators — **singlet channel**:



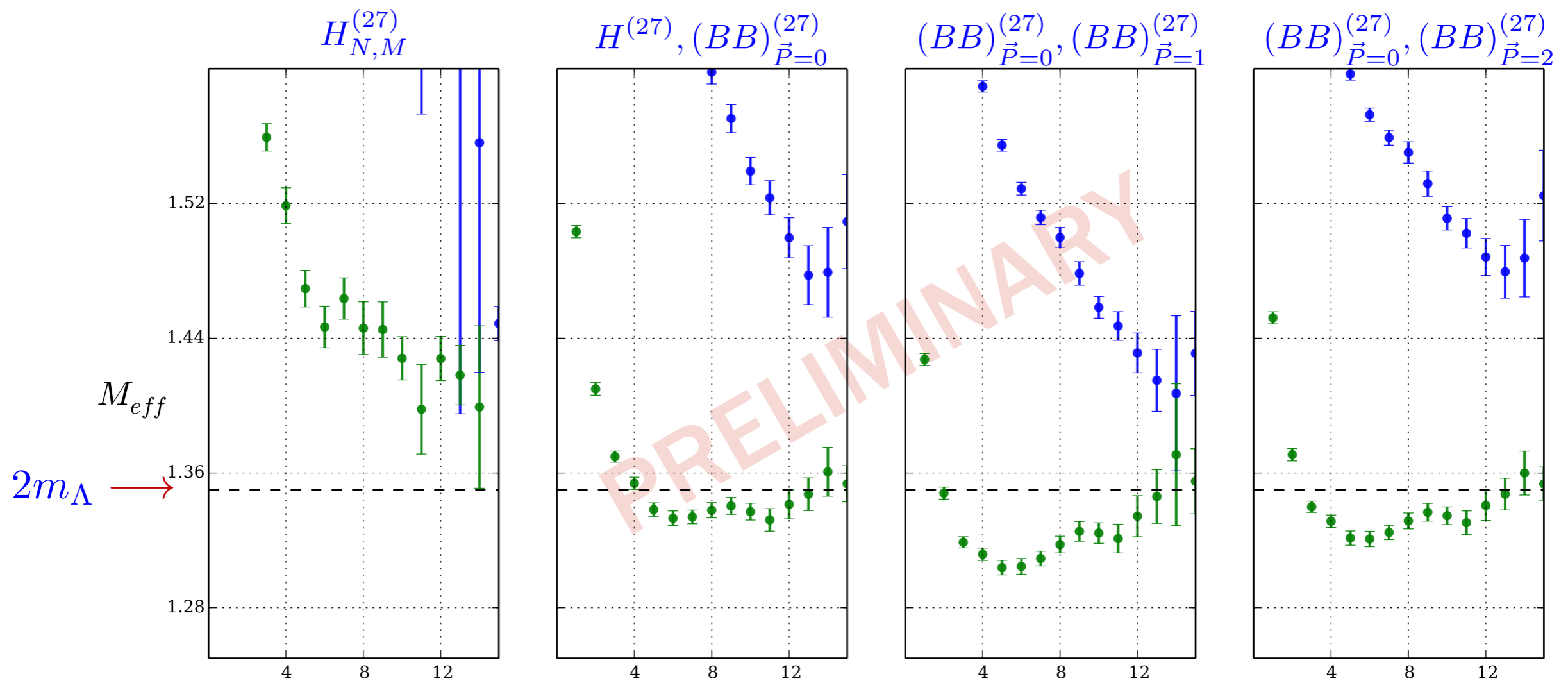
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SU(3)-symmetric case

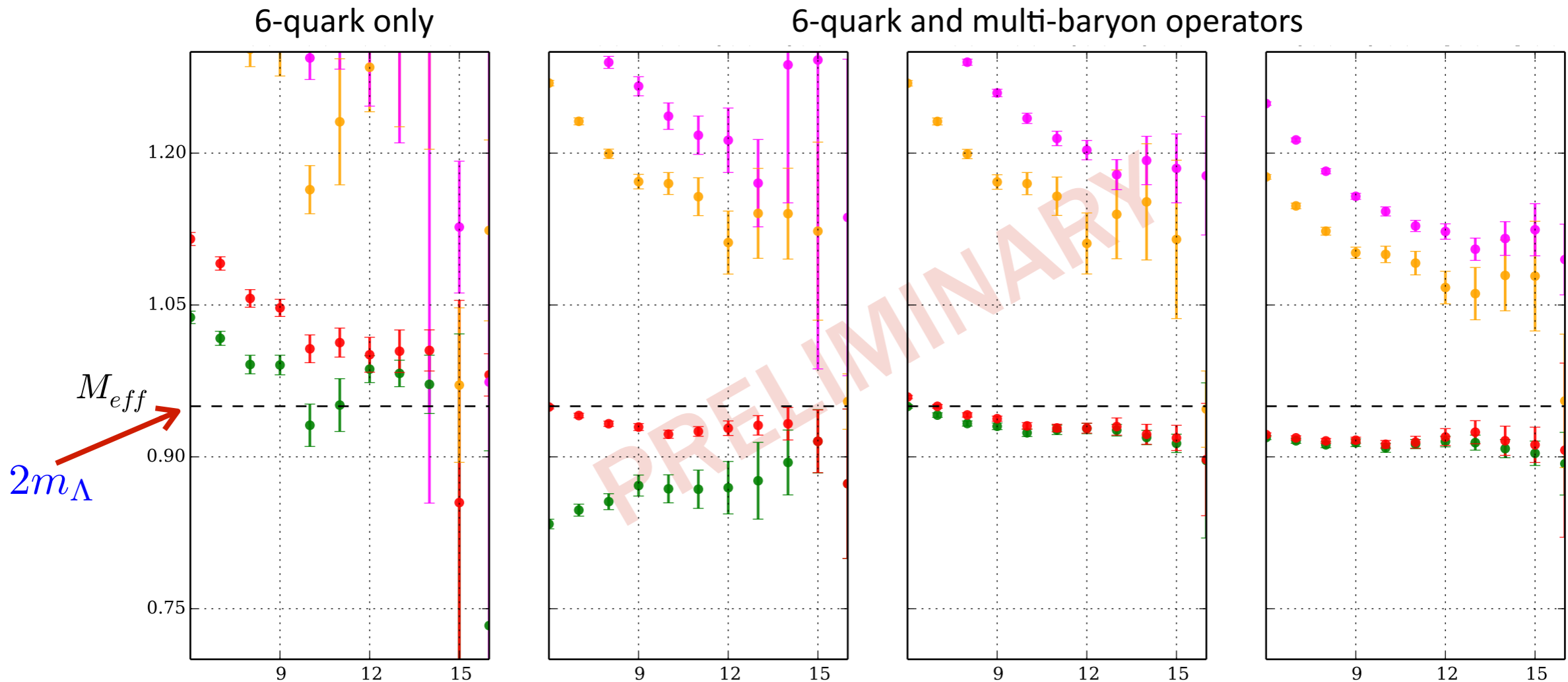
- * Ensemble E1 ($m_\pi = 1000$ MeV)
- * Energy levels probed by different sink operators — 27-plet:



- * Similar results for lighter pion masses and different lattice spacings

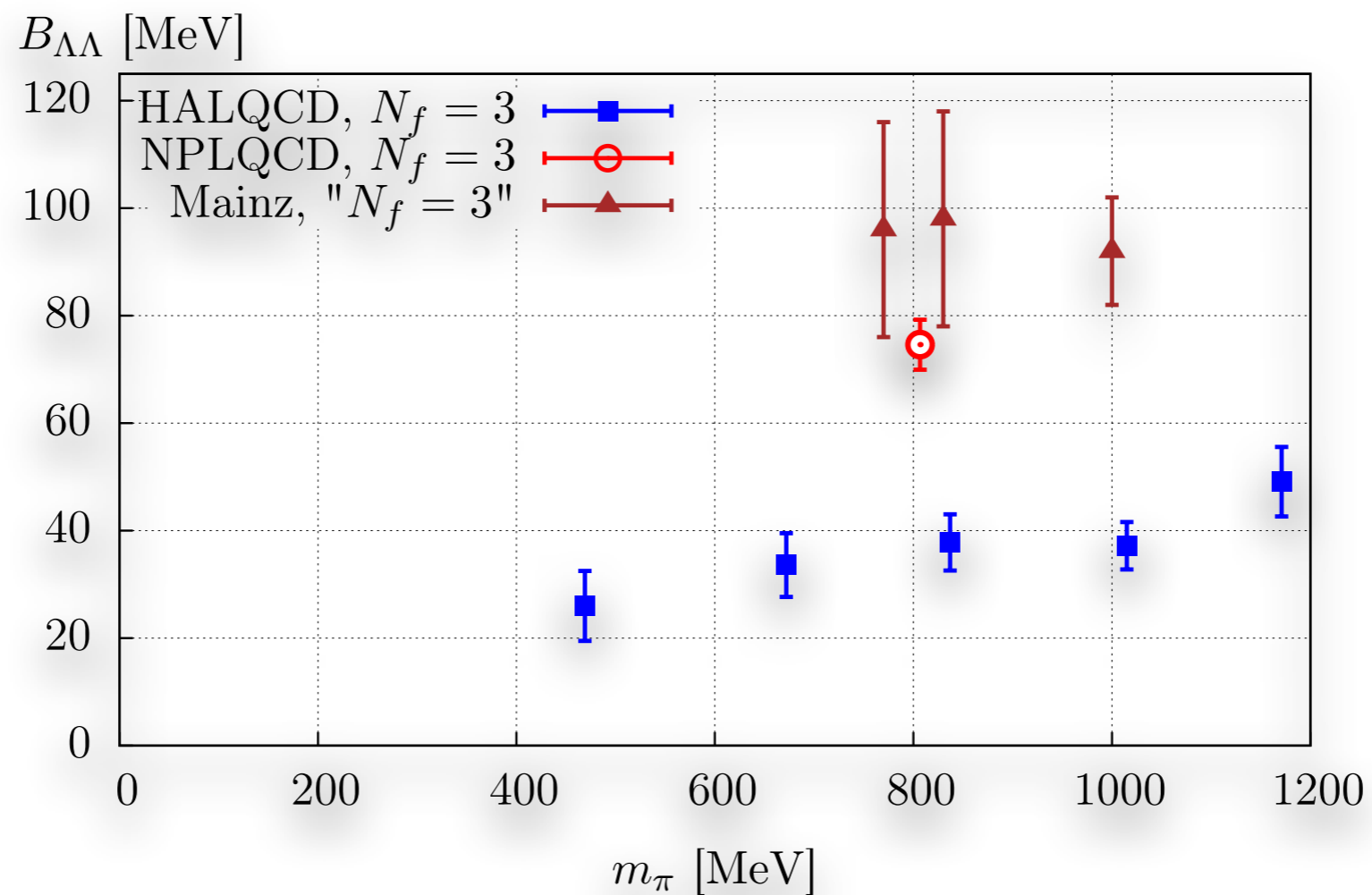
SU(3)-nondegenerate case

- * Ensemble E5 ($m_\pi = 451$ MeV), $m_s \neq m_{u,d}$
- * Energy levels determined from 4x4 GEVP



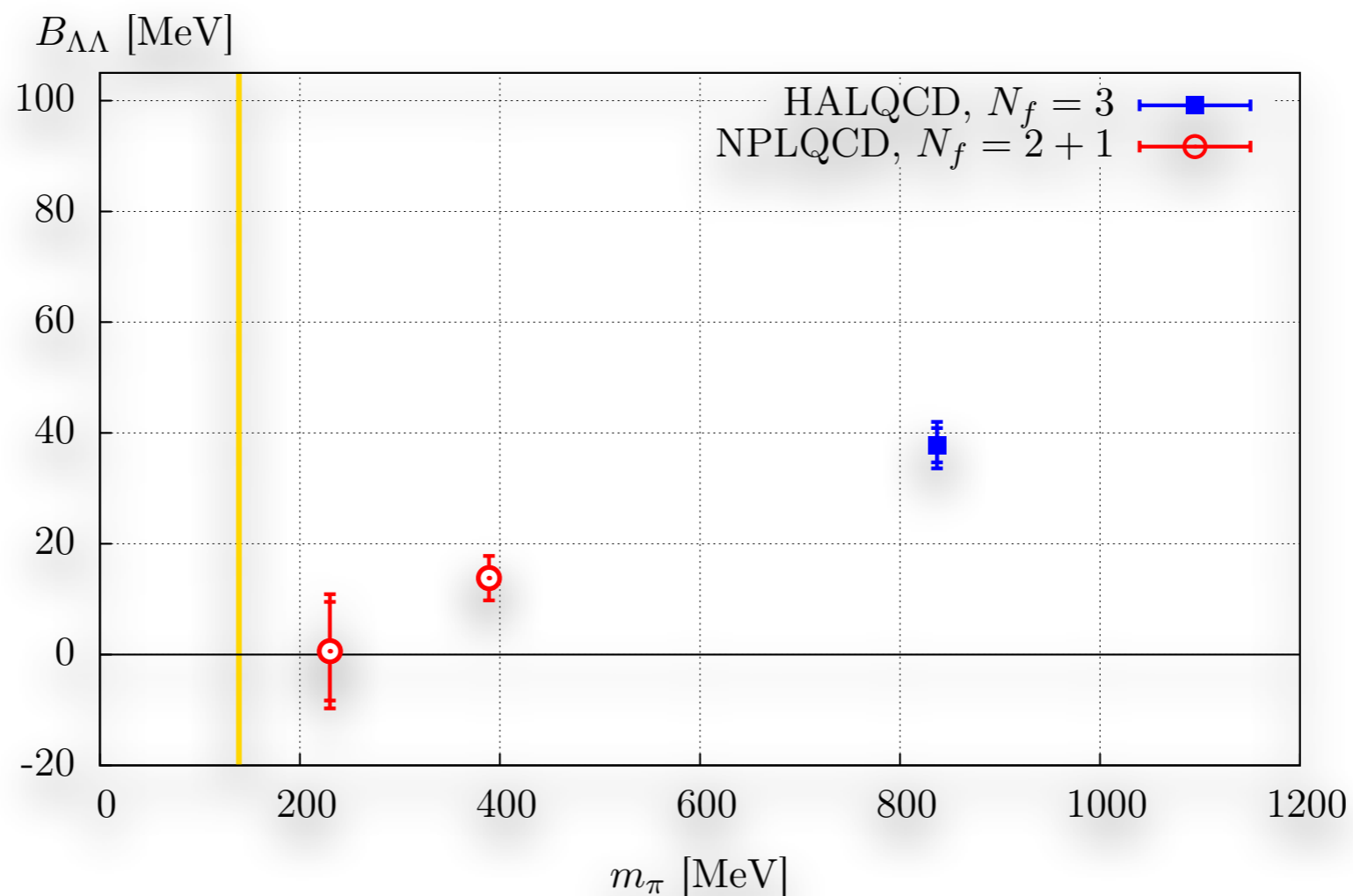
Comparison — chiral behaviour

- * Bound dibaryon observed; multi-baryon operators provide better overlap onto ground state
- * SU(3)-symmetric case:



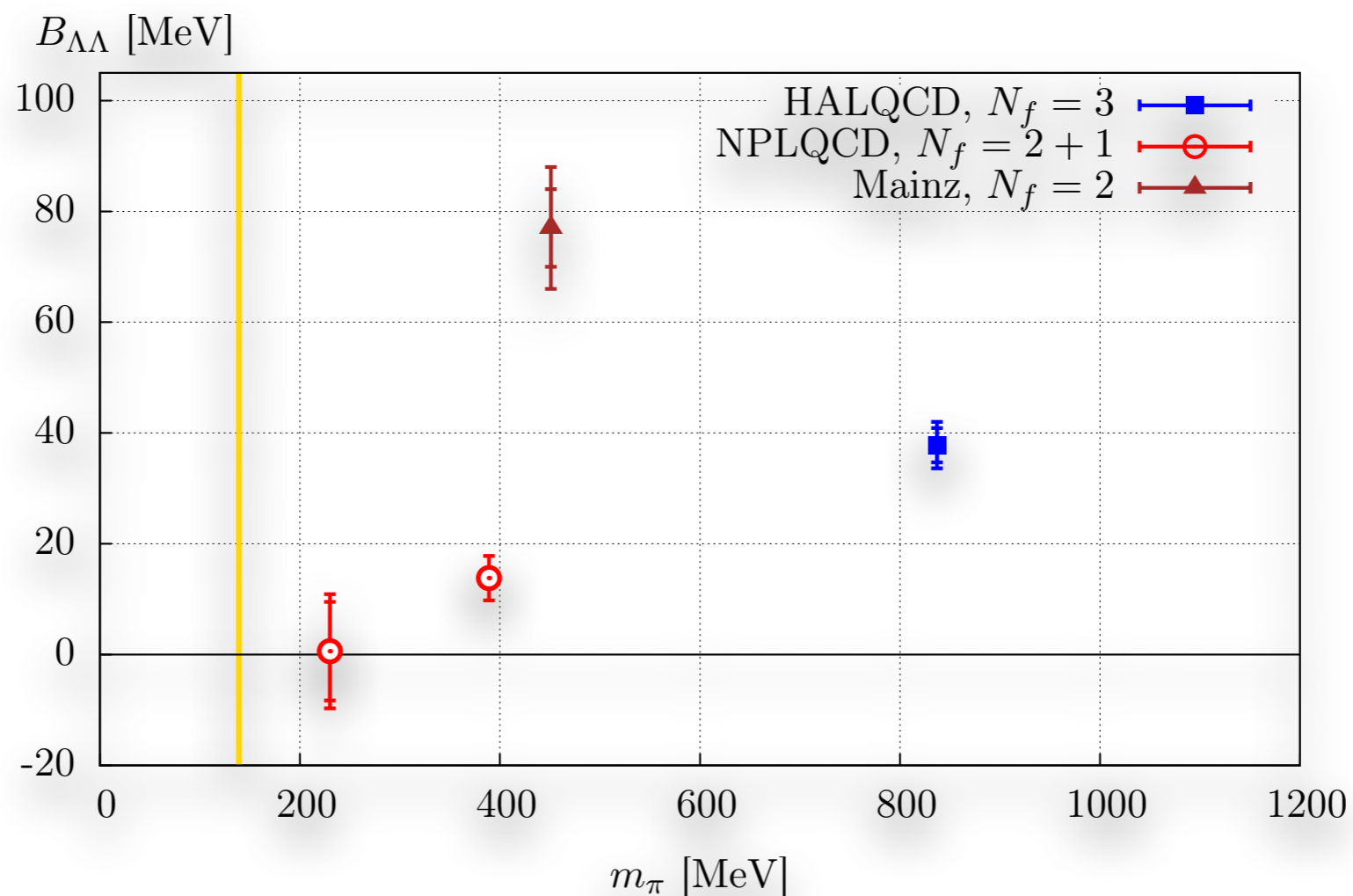
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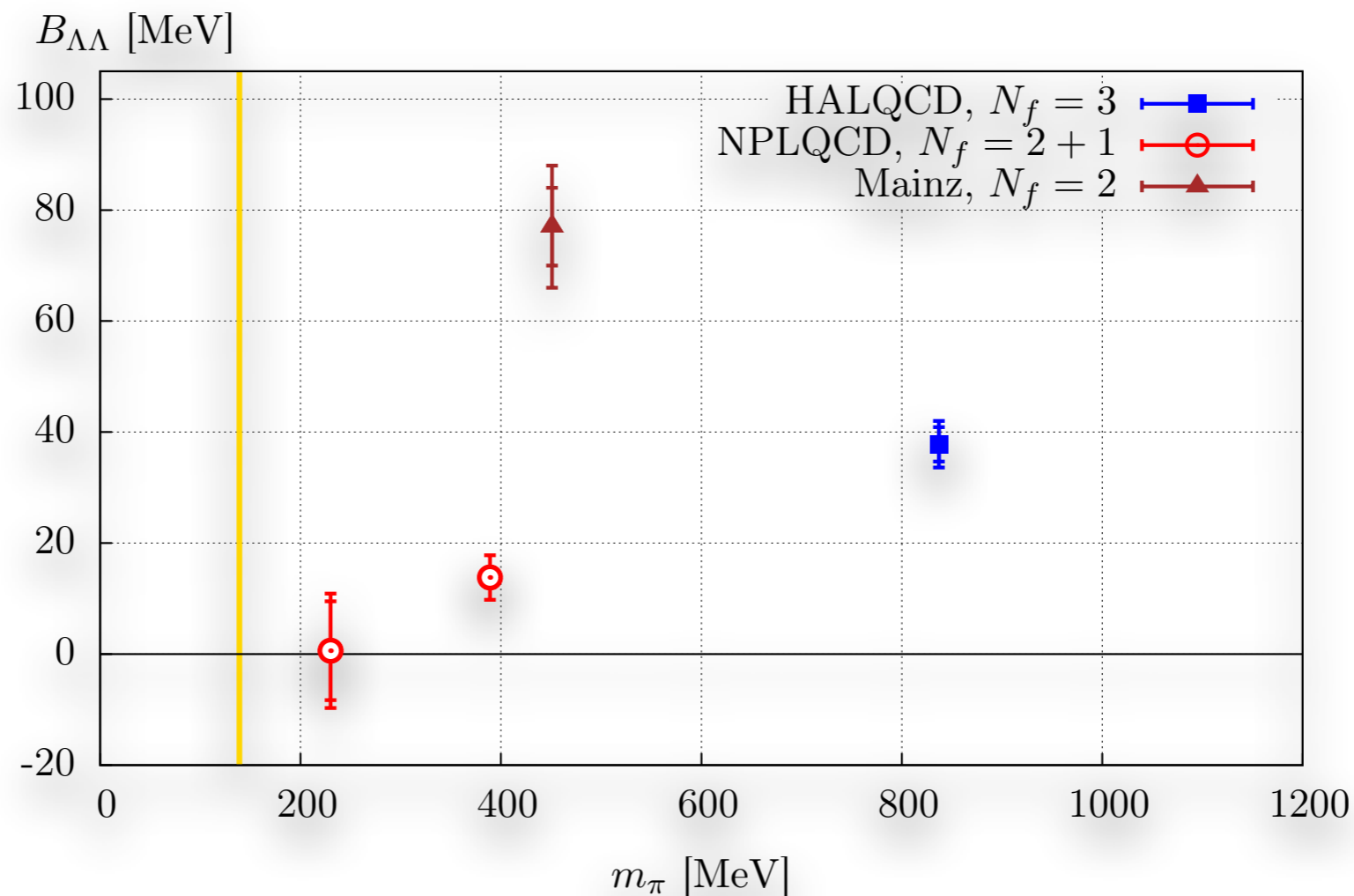
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Comparison — chiral behaviour

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- * SU(3)-non-degenerate case:



- * Caveat: binding energy estimated relative to non-interacting Λ 's

Scattering phase shifts

* Lüscher recap:
$$p \cot \delta_0(p) = \frac{2}{\gamma L \sqrt{\pi}} \mathcal{Z}_{0,0}(1, q^2), \quad q = \frac{pL}{2\pi}$$

* Binding momentum p :
$$p^2 = \frac{1}{4}(E^2 - \vec{P}^2) - m_\Lambda^2$$

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Determine in lattice calculation

* Locate pole of the scattering amplitude:

$$A \propto \frac{1}{p \cot \delta_0(p) - ip}$$

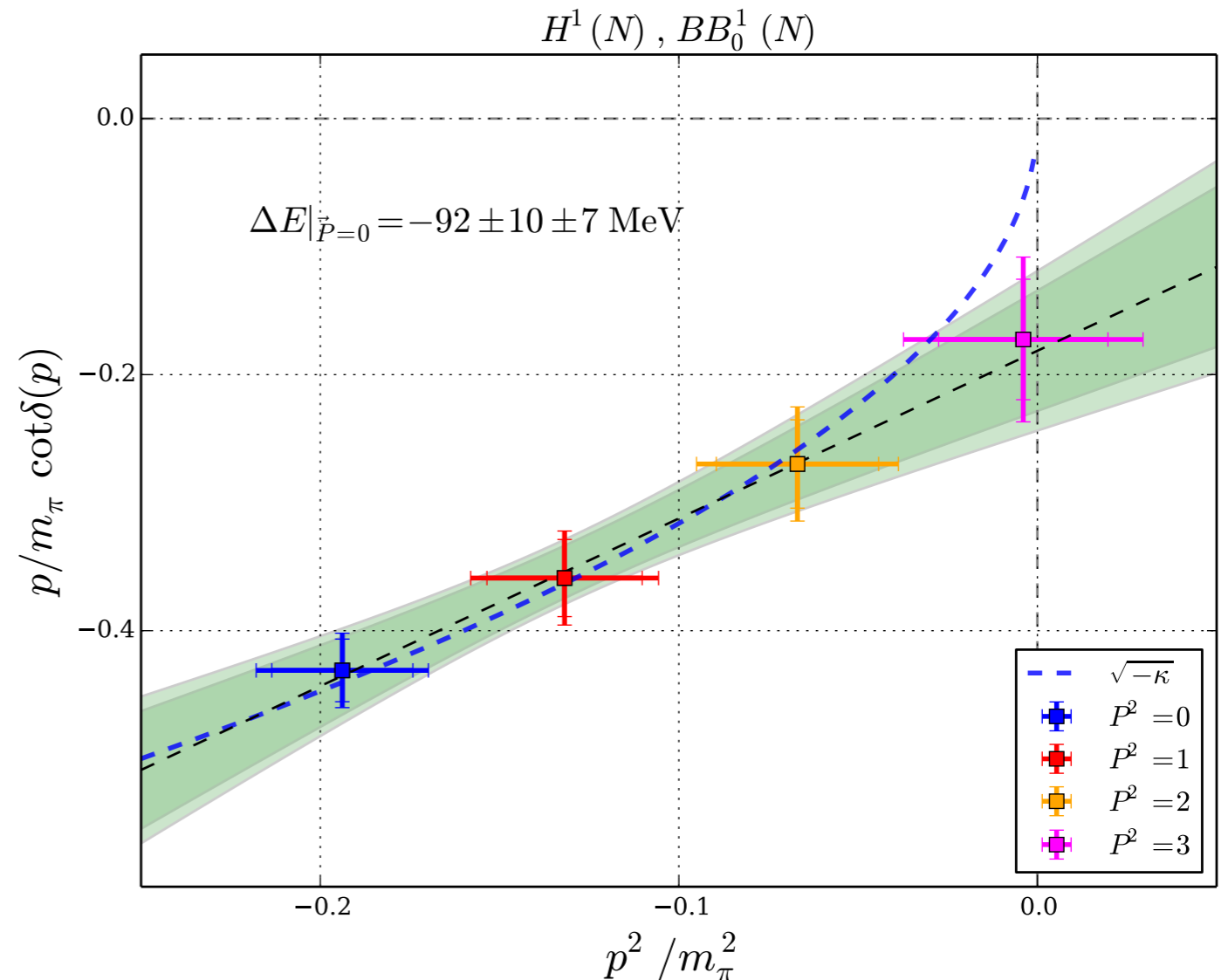
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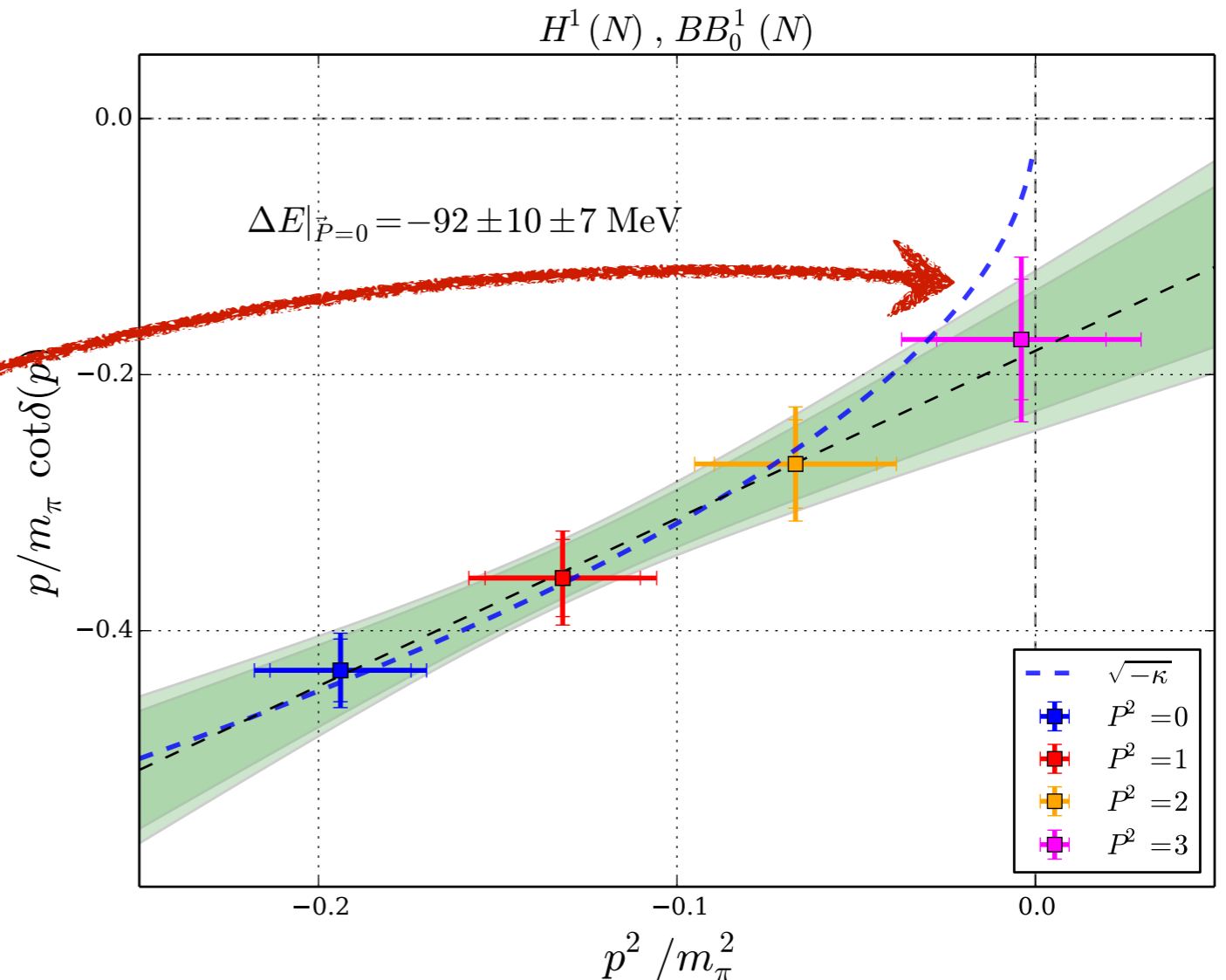
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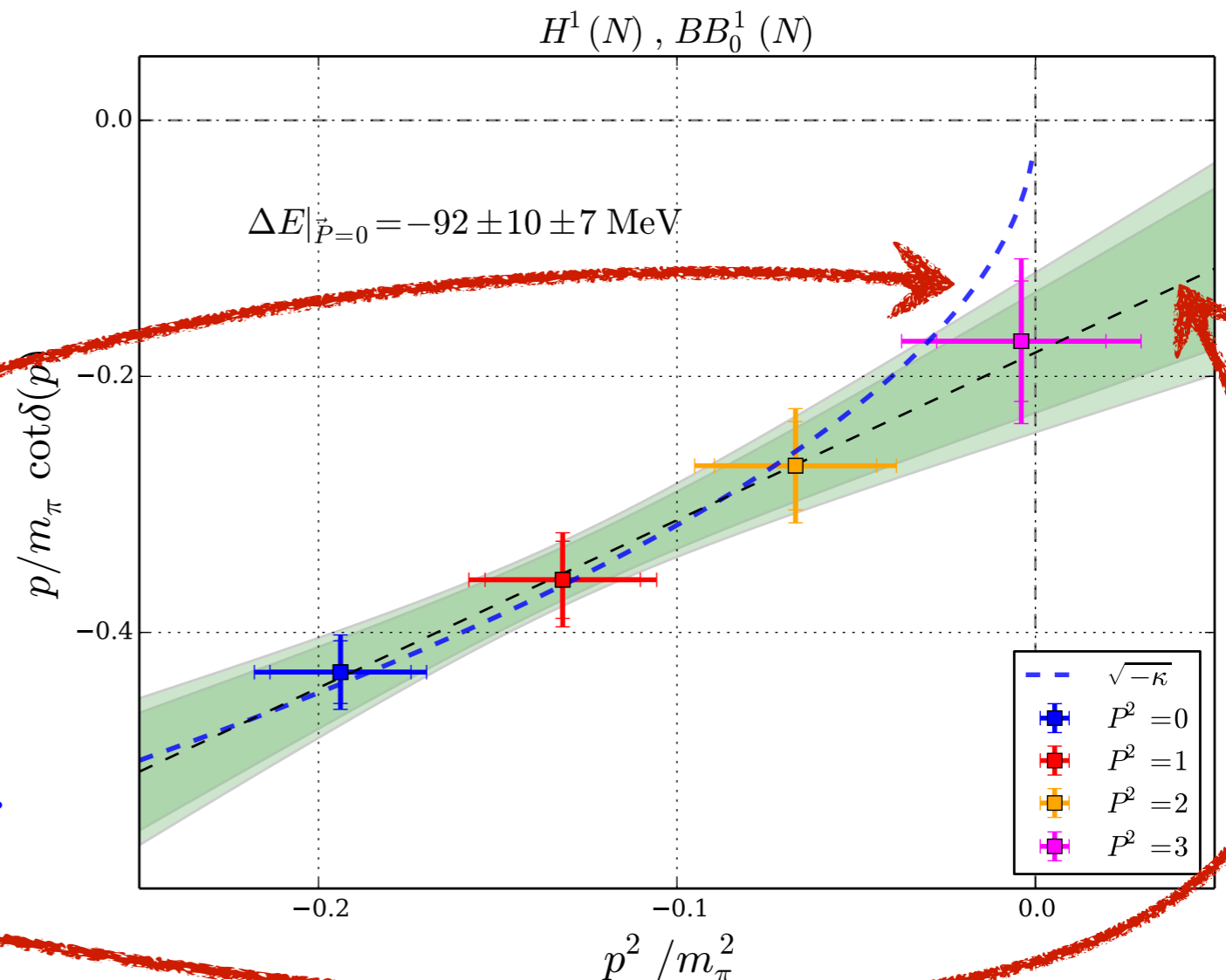
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$$p \cot \delta_0(p) = A + Bp^2 + \dots$$



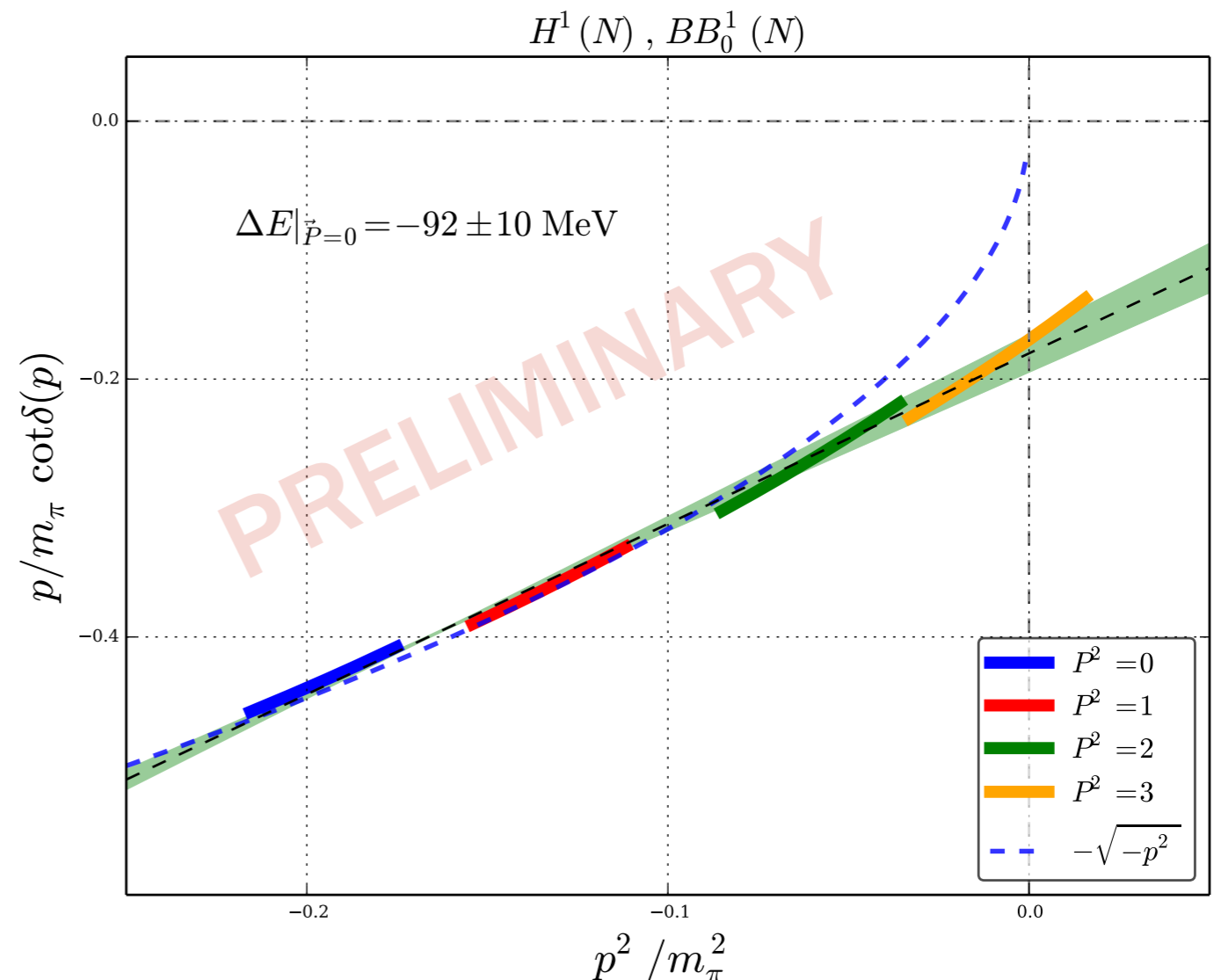
Scattering phase shifts

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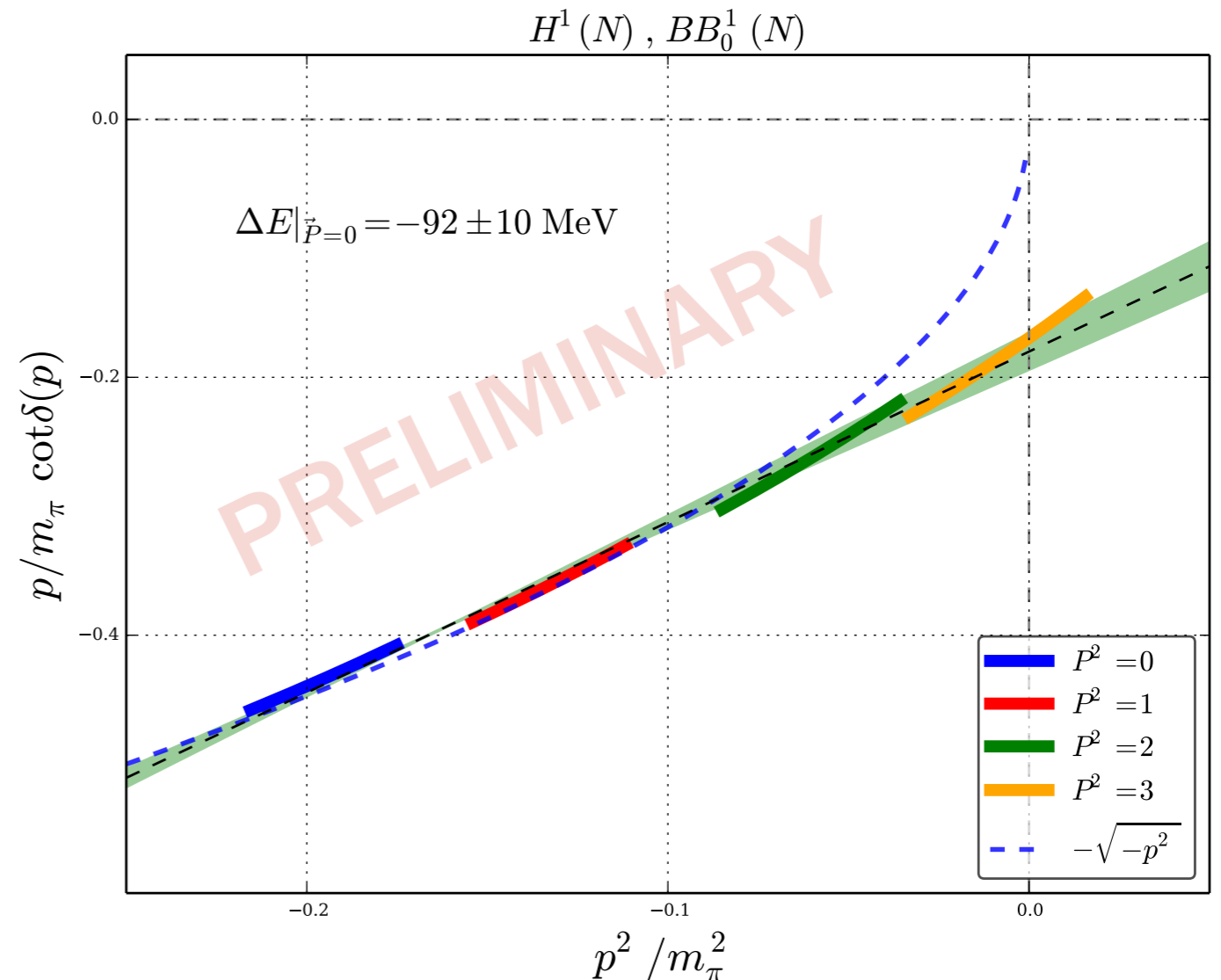
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* Difficult to determine intersection of the two curves





Summary and Outlook

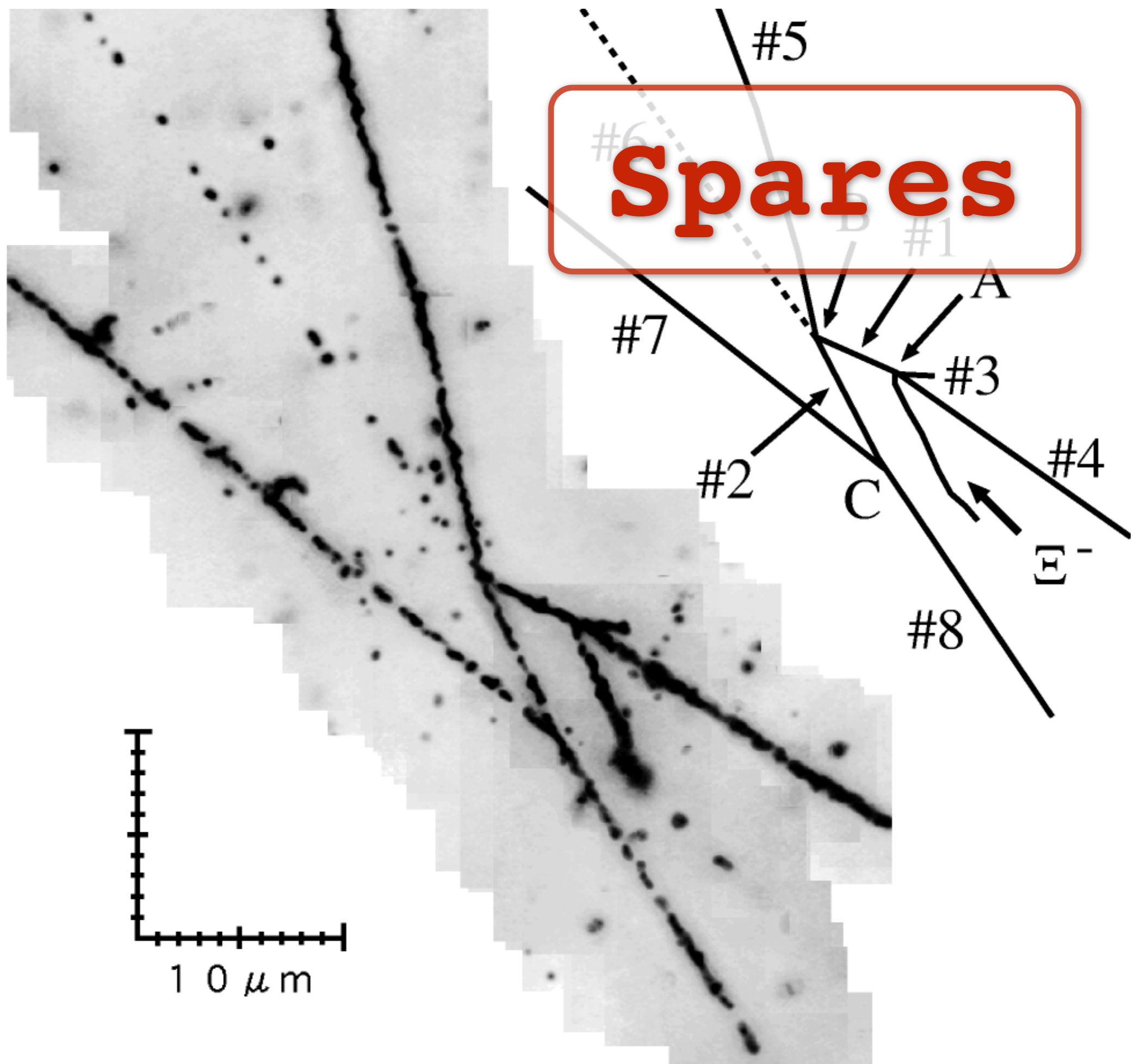


Summary and Outlook

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- * Bound H-Dibaryon found for unphysically large pion masses
- * Multi-baryon operators crucial for isolating the ground state
- * Chiral behaviour of binding energies and SU(3)-breaking effects to be investigated

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-
- * Future plans: process ensembles with $N_f = 2+1$ generated by CLS:
 - SU(3)-symmetric point at physical strange quark mass
 - Different volumes
 - Numerical improvements

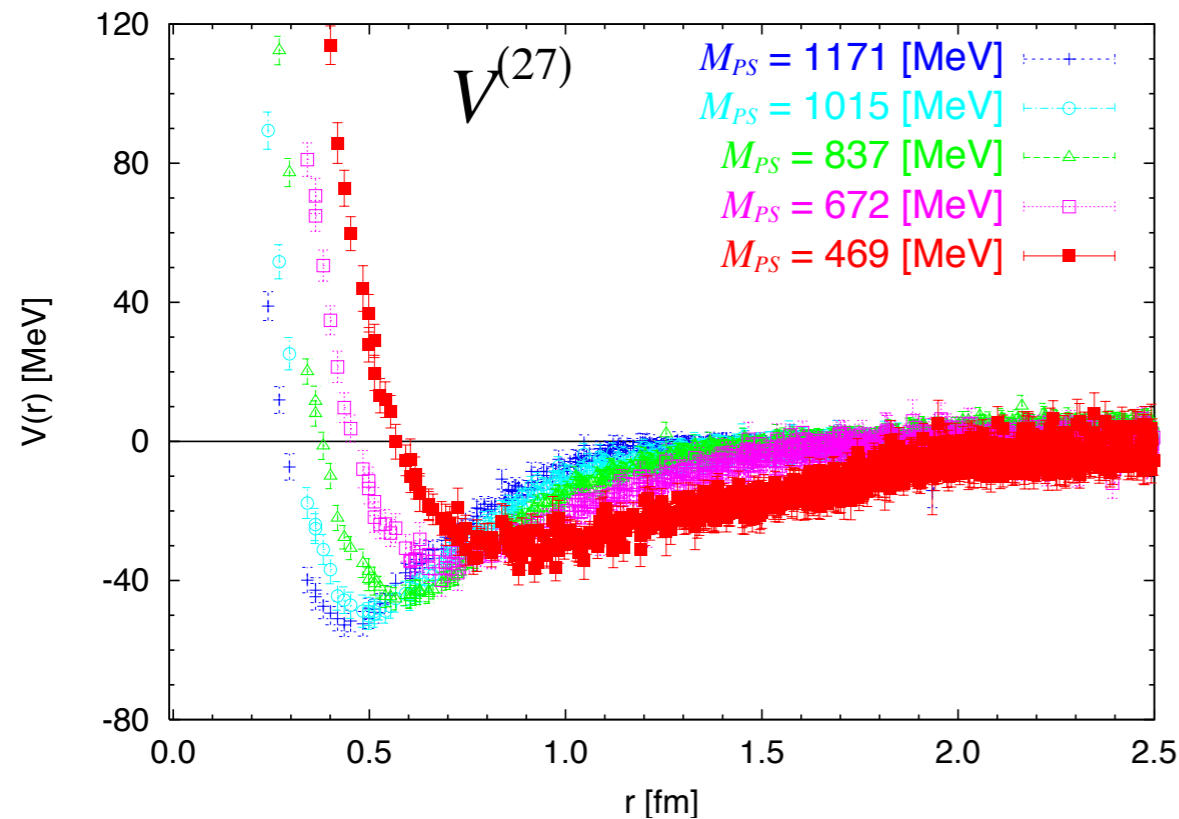


Spares

10 μm

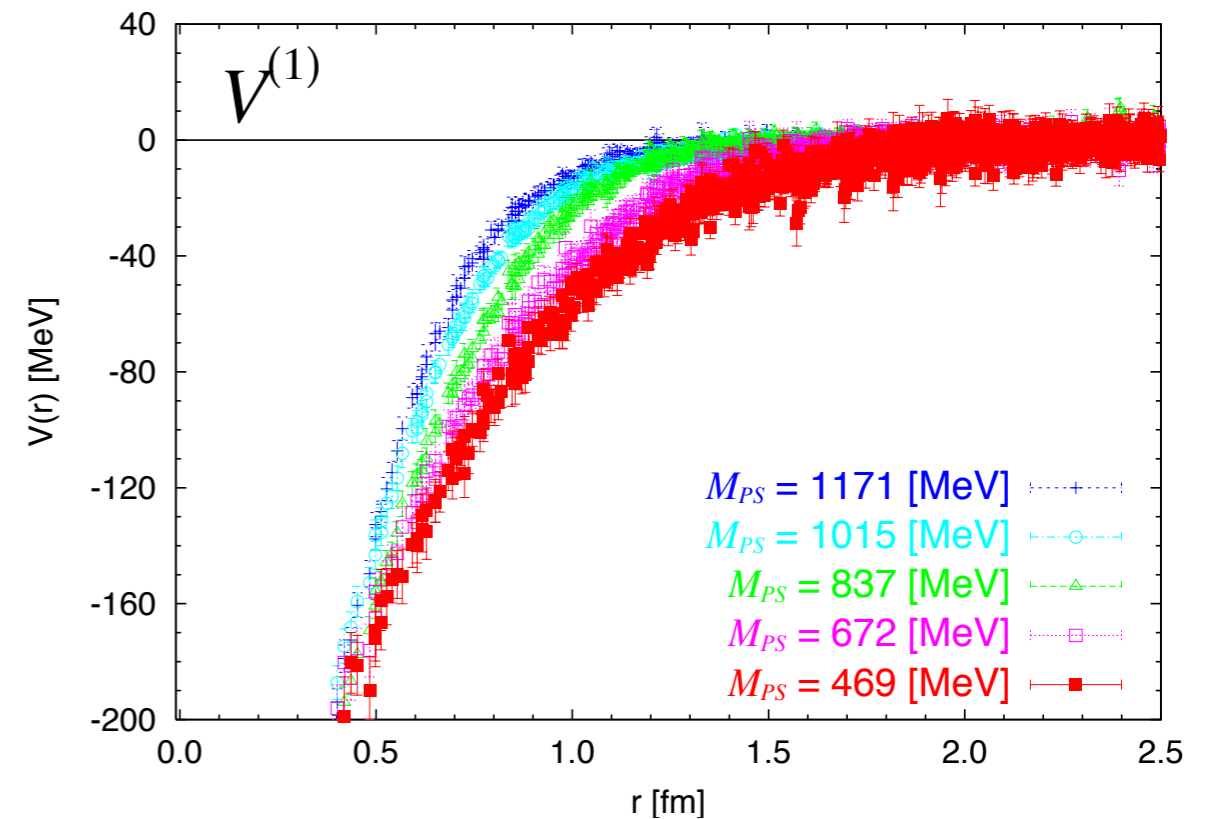
HALQCD Collaboration

NN potential (27-plet)



- Repulsive core
- Attractive well at intermediate and long distances

Flavour-singlet potential



- Attractive core
- Mild pion mass dependence
- Parameterise potential as input for Schrödinger equation

NPLQCD Collaboration

- * Binding energy in infinite volume limit:

[Beane et al, Phys Rev Lett (2011) 162001,
Mod Phys Lett A26 (2011) 2587]

$$B_{\Lambda\Lambda}^{\infty} = \begin{cases} 13.2(1.8)_{\text{stat}} (4.0)_{\text{syst}} \text{ MeV}, & m_{\pi} = 389 \text{ MeV} \\ 0.6(8.9)_{\text{stat}} (10.3)_{\text{syst}} \text{ MeV}, & m_{\pi} = 230 \text{ MeV} \end{cases}$$

- * Chiral behaviour:

