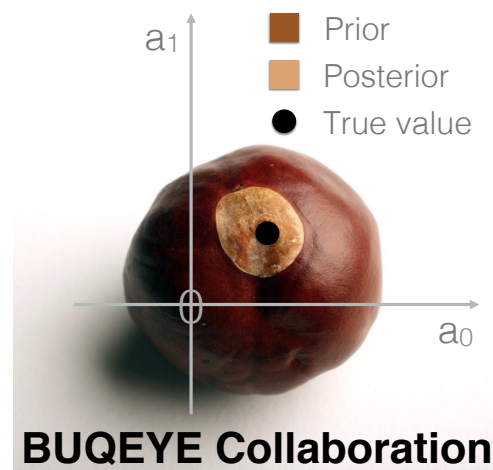


# Bayesian methods for effective field theories

Sarah Wesolowski  
The Ohio State University  
INT Bayes Workshop 2016



- Dick Furnstahl (OSU)
- Daniel Phillips (OU)
- Arbin Thapilaya (OU)
- Natalie Klco (OU -> UW)
- Harald Griesshammer (GWU)



# Outline

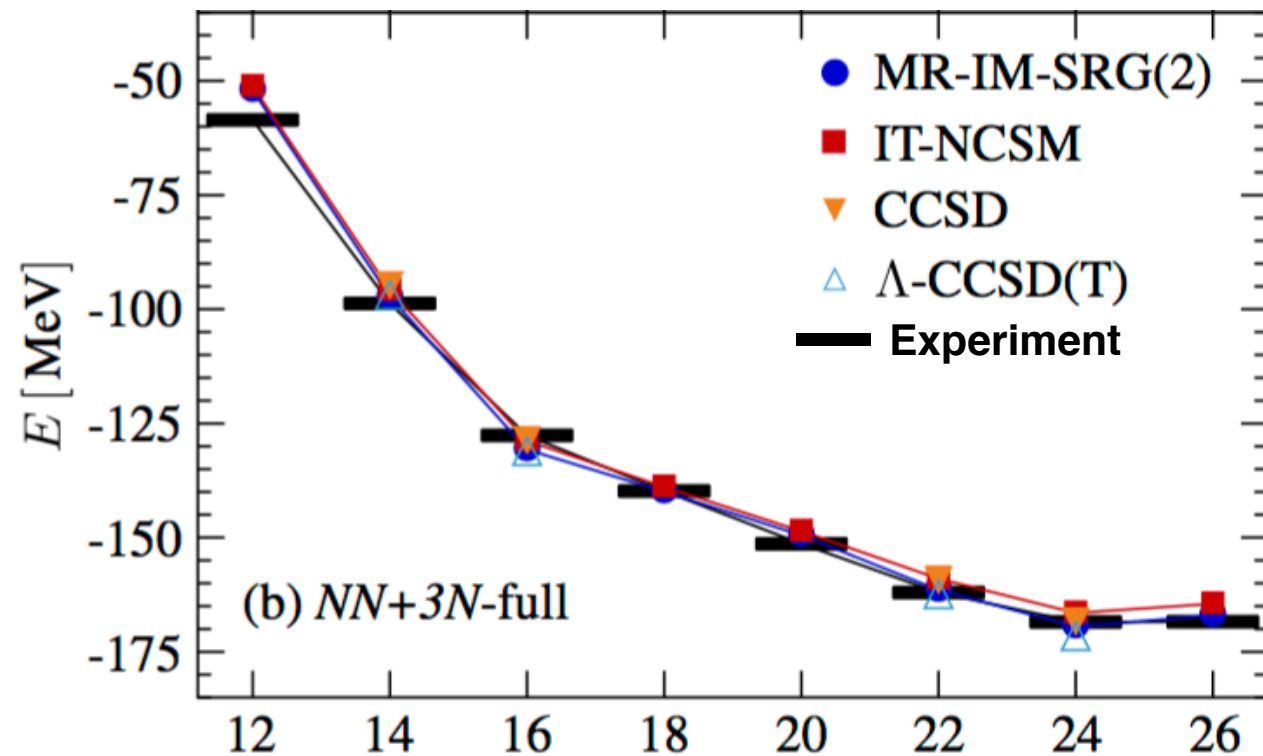
- Introduction to effective field theories
- The parameter estimation problem
- Diagnostics for parameter estimation
- Model problems to the chiral EFT problem
- Conclusions and questions



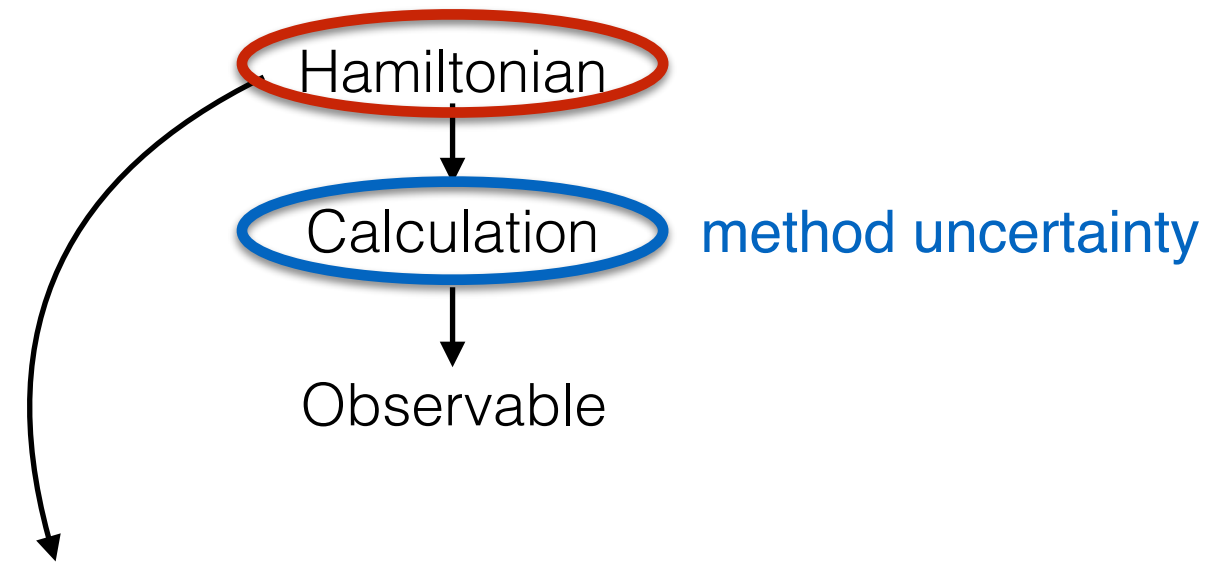
# Uncertainty quantification for modern nuclear calculations

## Era of precision observable calculations

Ground-state energies for even oxygen isotopes



Hergert et al. PRL **110**, 242501 (2013) A

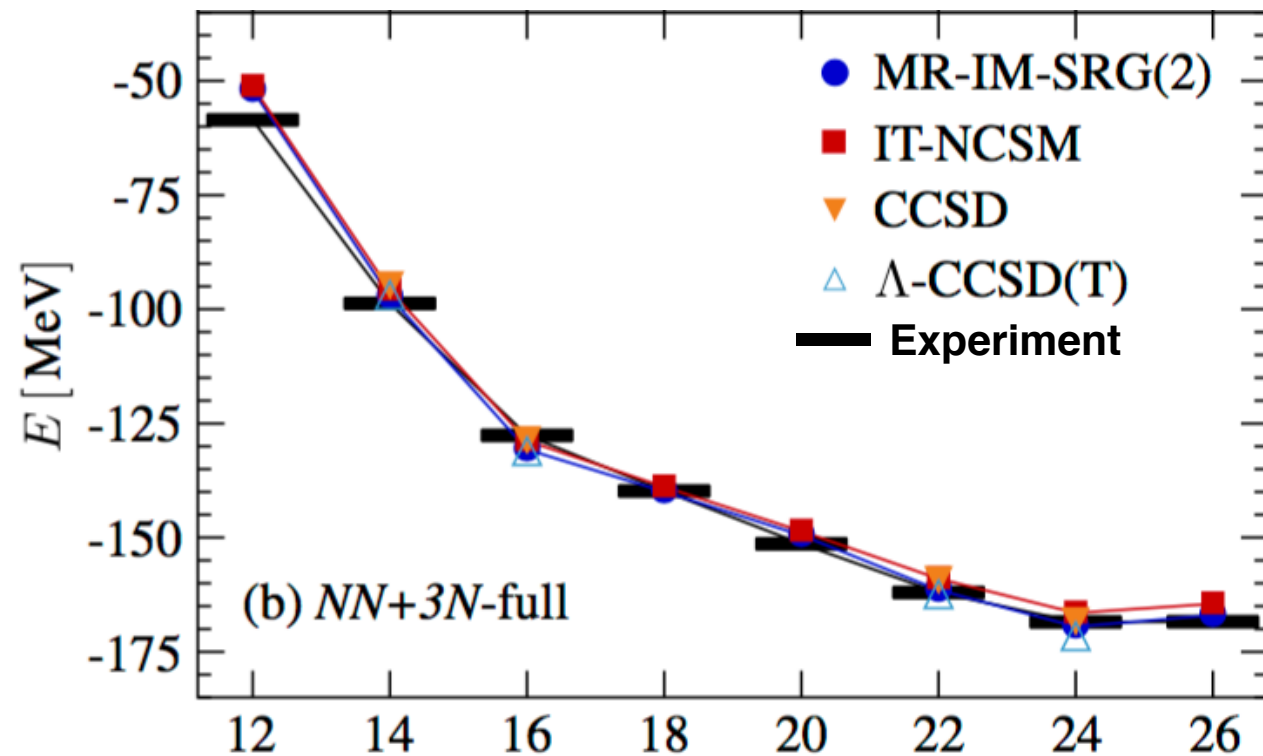


Where are the theory errors?



## Era of precision observable calculations

Ground-state energies for even oxygen isotopes

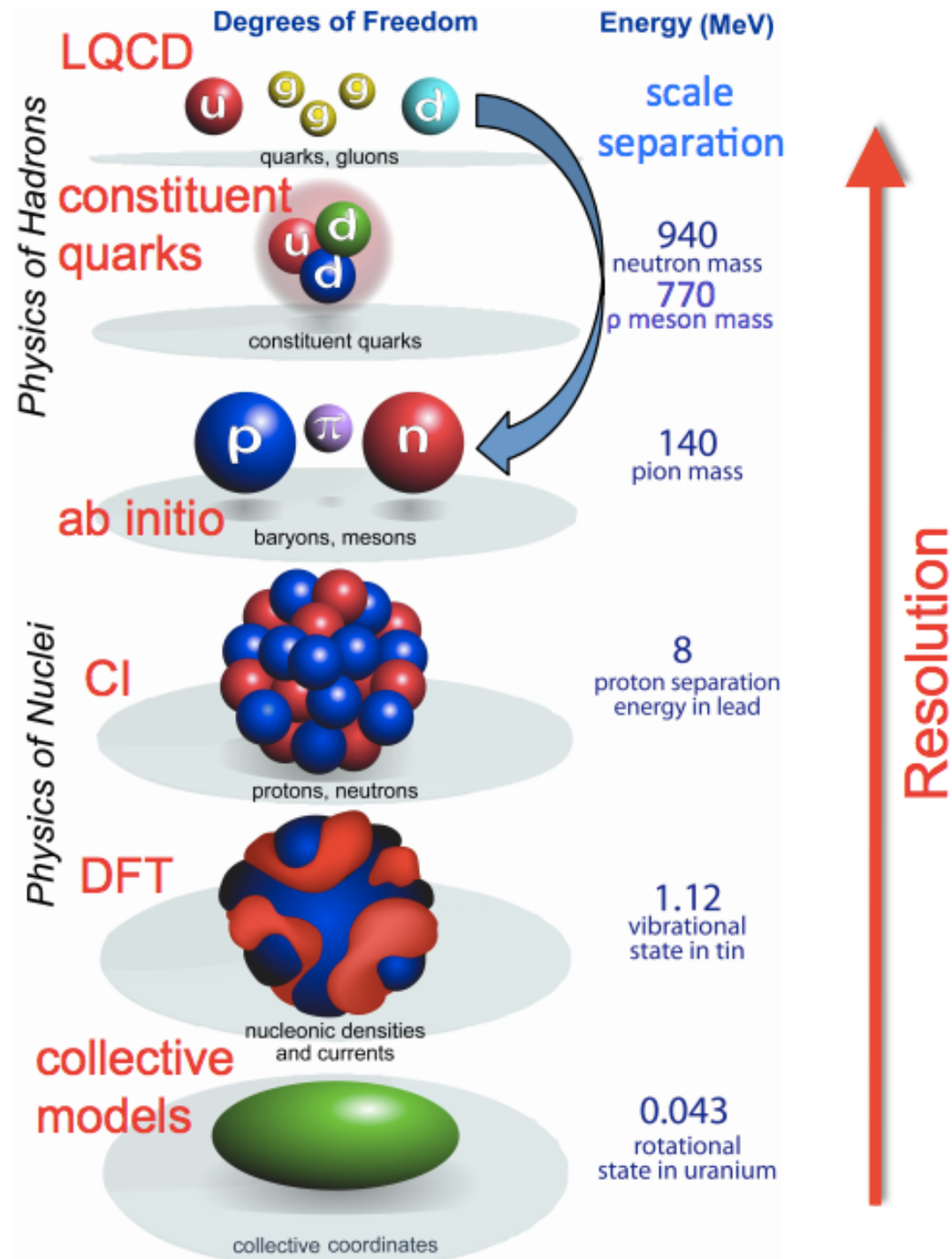


Hergert et al. PRL **110**, 242501 (2013) A

- Include **all** sources of uncertainty
- Theory uncertainty from input interaction.
- Current efforts on interaction uncertainty:
  - Navarro Pérez *et al.*, JPG **42**, 034013 (2015)
  - Epelbaum *et al.*, EPJA **51**, 5 (2015)
  - Carlsson *et al.*, PRX **6**, 011019 (2016)
- Focus on **Bayesian approach**:
  - SW *et al.*, JPG **43** 074001(2016)
  - RJF *et al.*, PRC **92**, 024005 (2015)
  - RJF *et al.*, JPG **42**, 034028 (2015)



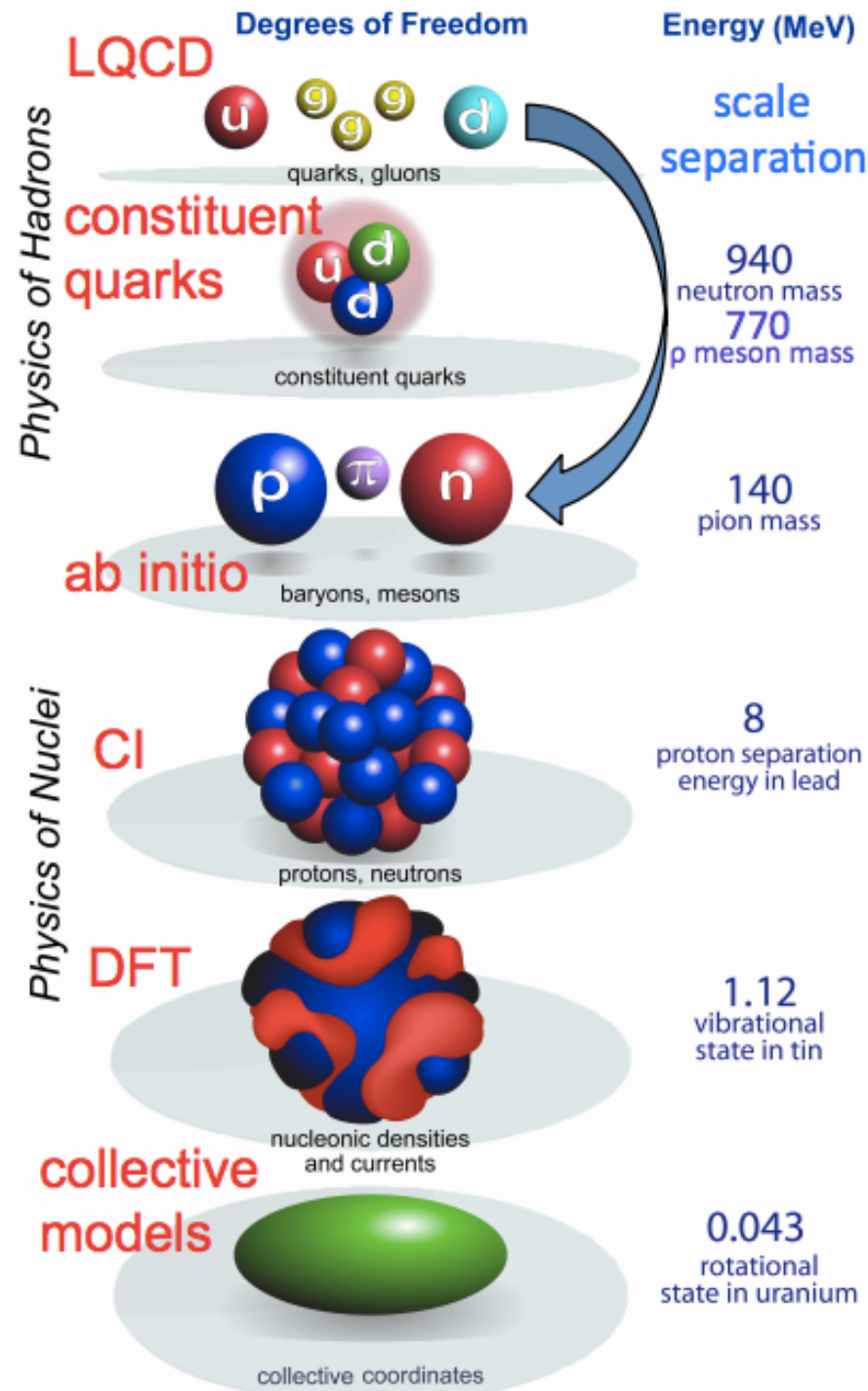
# Effective field theories and you



- Relevant degrees of freedom depend on resolution
- Construct most general theory consistent with symmetries
- “Model-independent” predictions
- Scale separation leads to **expansion parameter**
- “Natural-sized” low-energy constants (LECs): **controlled expansion**



# Effective field theories and you



- Relevant degrees of freedom depend on resolution
- Construct most general theory consistent with symmetries
- “Model-independent” predictions

- Scale separation leads to **expansion parameter**
- “Natural-sized” low-energy constants (LECs): **controlled expansion**

Can estimate theoretical uncertainties!



# Parameter estimation problem (schematic)

Fit coefficients (LECs)  
of this function

$$V(x) \sim V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n \quad x = \frac{p}{\Lambda_b}$$

Small expansion parameter  $x$



# Parameter estimation problem (schematic)

Fit coefficients (LECs)  
of this function

These are  $O(1)$

$$V(x) \sim V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$$

$x = \frac{p}{\Lambda_b}$

Solution method:  
e.g., Lippman-Schwinger

Small expansion parameter  $x$

Observable:  
match to experiment

$$\eta(x)$$





# Parameter estimation problem (schematic)

Uncertainty from fitting to data

$$V(x) \sim V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n + V_0 \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\max}} a_n x^n$$

Solution method:  
e.g., Lippman-Schwinger

All higher powers we left out of calculation

Numerical errors in calculation method

$$\eta(x)$$



# Parameter estimation problem (schematic)

Order to which we calculate

$$V(x) \sim V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n + V_0 \sum_{n=k+1}^{k_{\max}} a_n x^n$$

Solution method:  
e.g., Lippman-Schwinger

Account for corrections above  $k$  with this: marginalization!

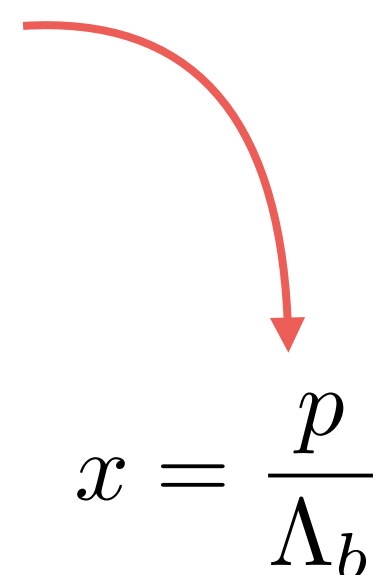
$$\eta(x)$$



# Issues to address

## Uncertainty budget

- $a_n$ 's from fit to data
- truncation error
- calculation method

$$V(x; \mathbf{a}, k) = V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n + \Delta_k(x)$$


$x = \frac{p}{\Lambda_b}$

## What could possibly go wrong?

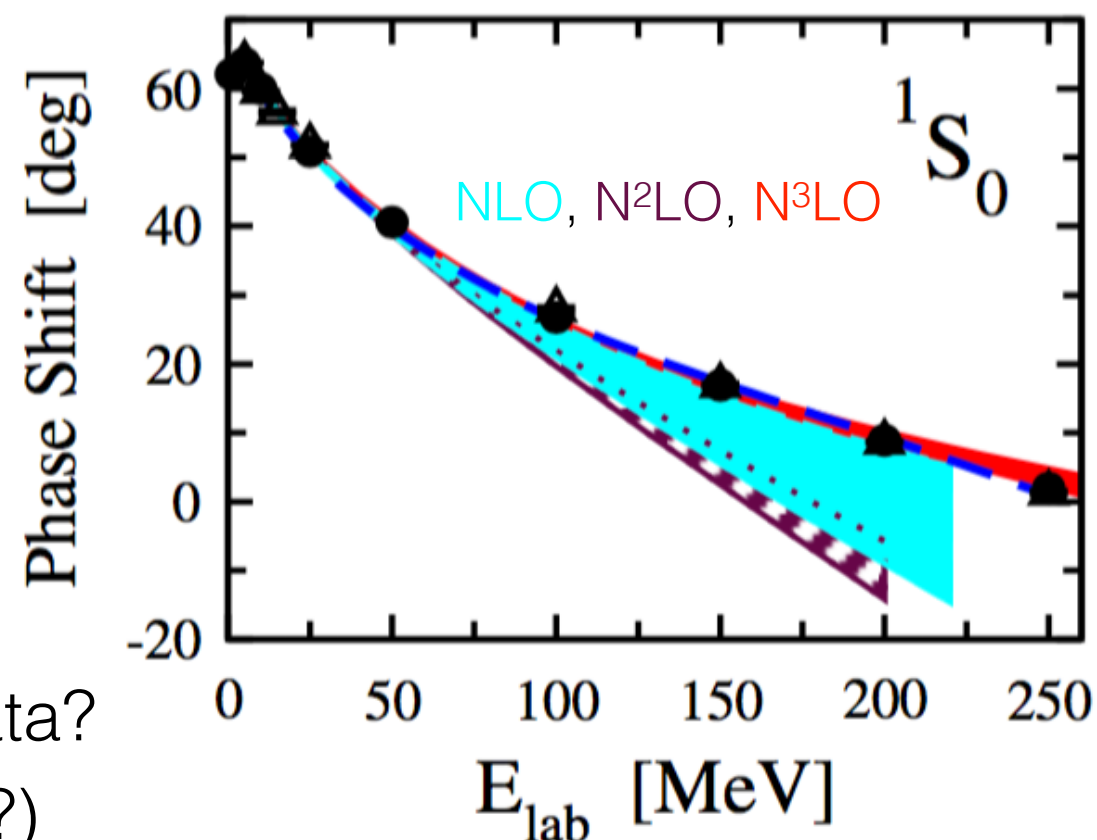
- Form of  $V$  at higher order may not be known
- $V_0$  and  $\Lambda_b$  may not be properly identified
- Can have unnaturally large  $a_n$ 's
- Regulator artifacts (won't go into detail here)



# What was done before

- Vary piece of calculation:  
Cutoff regulator  $\Lambda$ 
  - Convergence with order unclear
  - Underestimates uncertainty
  - No statistical interpretation
- Issues with past analyses:
  - What is the LEC uncertainty from fit to data?
  - Optimization procedures opaque (priors?)
  - Underfitting avoided by limiting range of data

Fits of  $V(x; \mathbf{a}, k)$  to  
one type of  $\eta(x)$



Epelbaum et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. **81** 1773–825



# What was done before

- Vary piece of calculation:

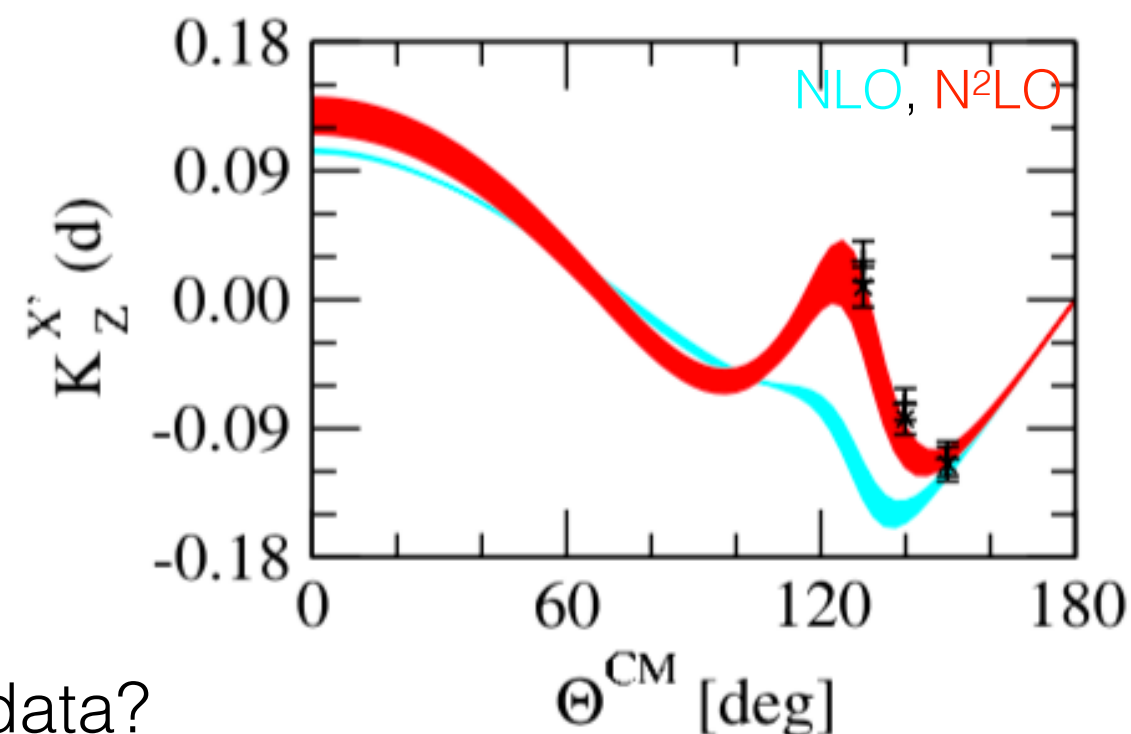
Cutoff regulator  $\Lambda$

- Convergence with order unclear
- Underestimates uncertainty
- No statistical interpretation

- Issues with past analyses:

- What is the LEC uncertainty from fit to data?
- Optimization procedures opaque (priors?)
- Underfitting avoided by limiting range of data

Use  $V(x; \mathbf{a}, k)$  to predict a  $\eta(x)$  not in fit

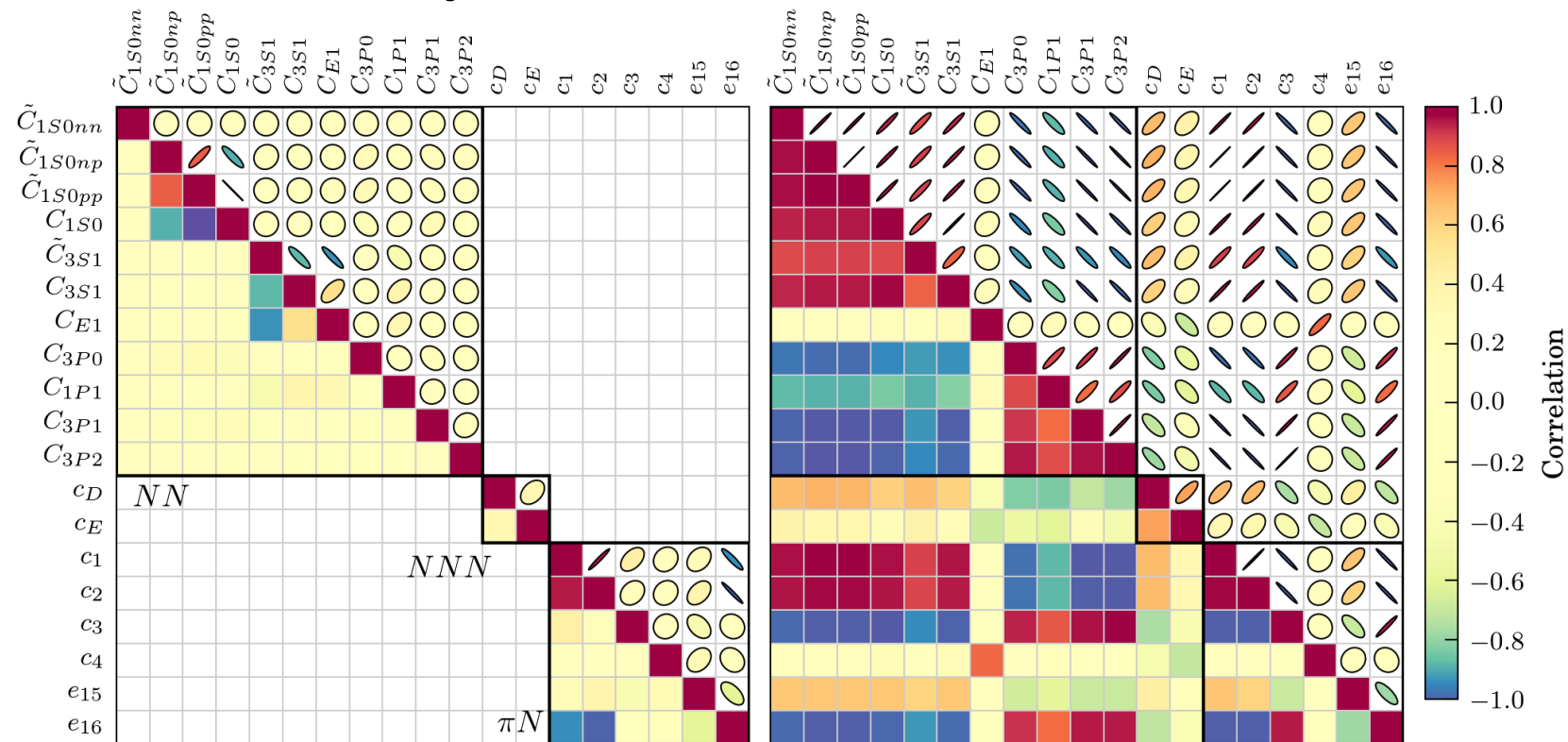


Epelbaum et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. **81** 1773–825  
One proton-to-deuteron polarization transfer coefficient



# More modern approaches: uncertainty from data

- Covariance analysis of LECs  $\mathbf{a}$  from EFT fit to data



Carlsson *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. X* **6**, 011019 (2016)

- Are they really Gaussian?
- Inclusion of truncation error in fits? (Birge factors)
- Simultaneous or separate fits to all types of data?



# More modern approaches: truncation uncertainty

$$\eta(x; k) = \eta_0 \sum_{n=0}^k c_n x^n + \Delta_k(x)$$

Given these order-by-order calculations...

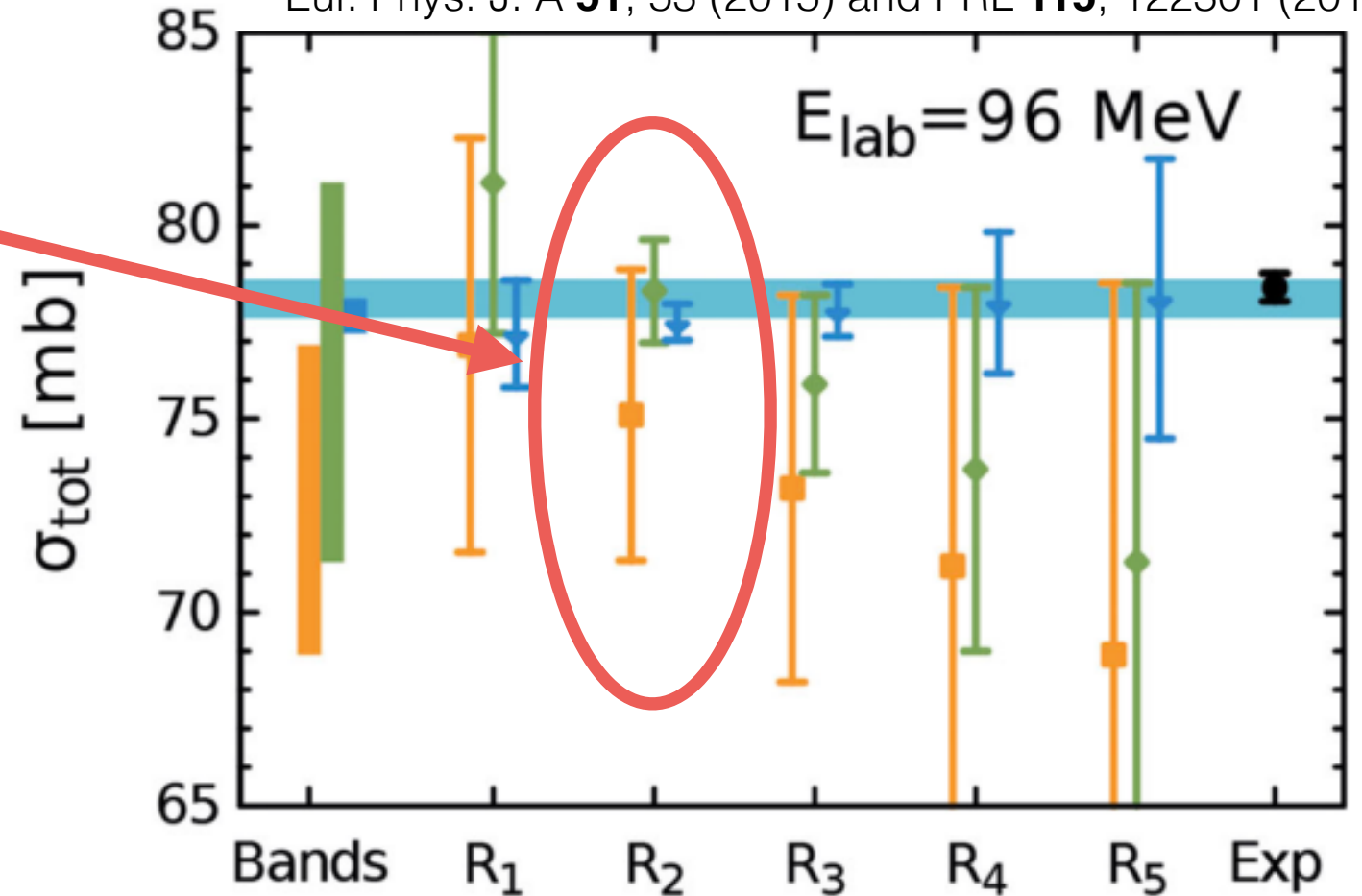
What is this?

Estimate next-order correction

$$c_{k+1} = \max\{c_0, c_1, \dots, c_k\}$$

$$\Delta_k(x) \approx \eta_0 c_{k+1} x^{k+1}$$

Epelbaum, *et al.*,  
Eur. Phys. J. A **51**, 53 (2015) and PRL **115**, 122301 (2015)



Procedure for error estimates based on order-by-order convergence



# More modern approaches: truncation uncertainty

$$\eta(x; k) = \eta_0 \sum_{n=0}^k c_n x^n + \Delta_k(x)$$

Given these order-by-order calculations...

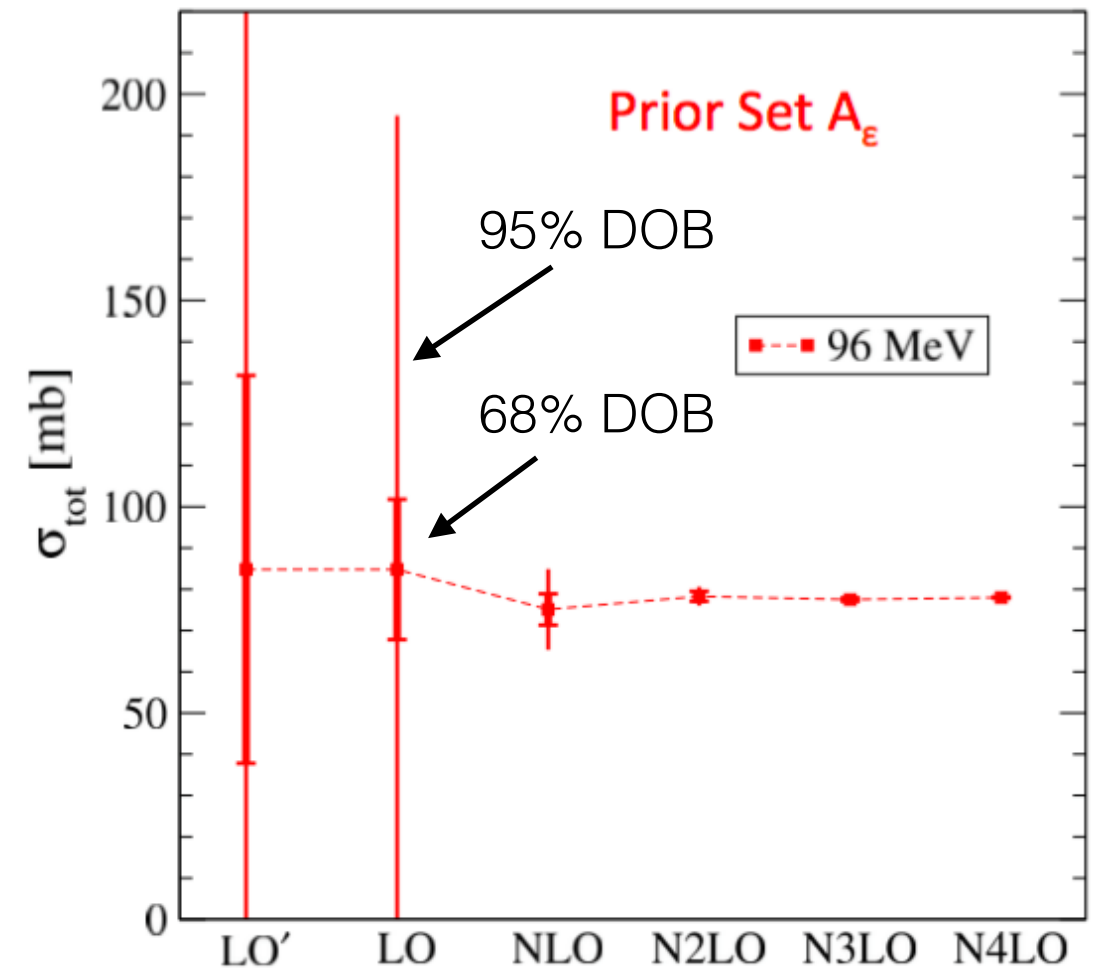
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$$\Delta_k(x) \approx \eta_0 c_{k+1} x^{k+1}$$

Furnstahl, Phillips, SW, Klco,  
Phys. Rev. C 92 024005 (2015)



Bayesian derivation gives statistical interpretation and full pdf

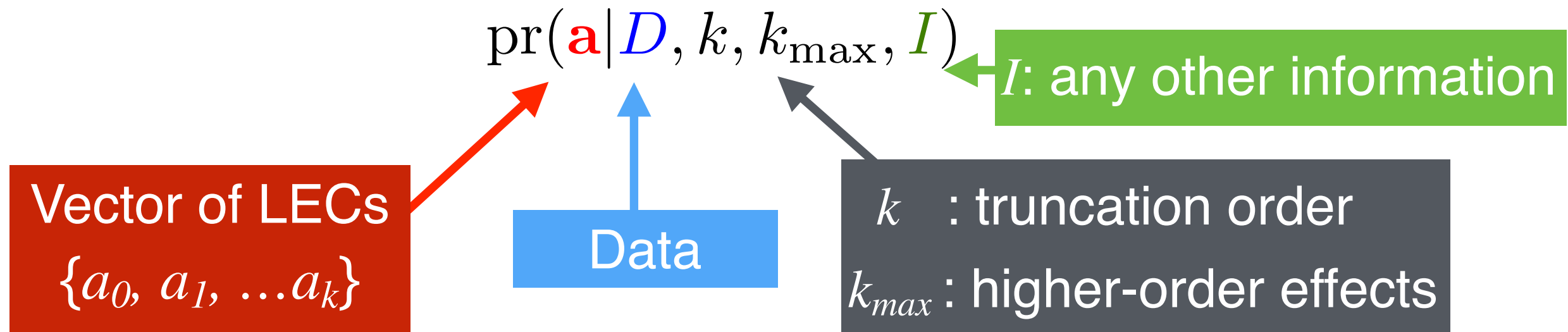
See talk of H. Griesshammer from last week for applications to other EFTs!





# Set up Bayesian approach

Goal: estimate coefficient posterior



Known prior information:

$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a} | \bar{a})$  Naturalness prior

$\text{pr}(\bar{a})$  Prior for naturalness parameter



# Set up Bayesian approach

Goal: estimate coefficient posterior

“Integrate in” higher-order coefficients  $\{a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k_{\max}}\}$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a} | D, k, k_{\max}) = \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} | D, k, k_{\max})$$

$$\propto \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(D | \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}, k, k_{\max}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} | k, k_{\max})$$

Bayes theorem



# Set up Bayesian approach

Goal: estimate coefficient posterior

“Integrate in” higher-order coefficients  $\{a_{k+1}, \dots, a_{k_{\max}}\}$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a} | D, k, k_{\max}) = \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} | D, k, k_{\max})$$

Bayes theorem

$$\propto \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(D | \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}, k, k_{\max}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} | k, k_{\max})$$

Integrate in naturalness parameter

$$\propto \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} d\bar{a} \text{pr}(D | \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}, k, k_{\max}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} | \bar{a}, k, k_{\max}) \text{pr}(\bar{a} | k, k_{\max})$$



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

“Bayesian parameter estimation for effective field theories”  
SW, Klco, Furnstahl, Phillips, Thapilaya  
J.Phys. G **43**, 074001 (2016)

Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions

- Specify model to be fit:  $V(x) \sim V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$
- Prior information
  - naturalness, symmetries, etc.
  - functional form, hyperparameters

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|\bar{a}) \sim e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{a}^2}$$

$$\text{pr}(\bar{a}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\bar{a} \ln(\bar{a}_>/\bar{a}_<)} & \text{when } \bar{a} \in [\bar{a}_<, \bar{a}_>] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Likelihood to be used

$$\text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \sim e^{-\chi^2/2}$$



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions

Real-life example:

$$V_{\text{contact}}(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \tilde{C}_{(1S0)} + C_{(1S0)}(p^2 + p'^2) + D_{(1S0)}^1 p^2 p'^2 + D_{(1S0)}^2 (p^4 + p'^4) + \dots$$

$\mathcal{C}_n = \text{scaled } \{\tilde{C}_{(1S0)}, C_{(1S0)}, D_{(1S0)}^1, D_{(1S0)}^2, \dots\}$   
scaled  $\equiv$  correct  $f_\pi, 4\pi, \Lambda_b$  factored out

$$\text{pr}(\mathcal{C}_n | \bar{a}, I) \propto e^{-\mathcal{C}_n^2 / 2\bar{a}^2}$$

Added complication: we don't know  $\Lambda_b$  a priori



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Information from available data  $D$

Guidance

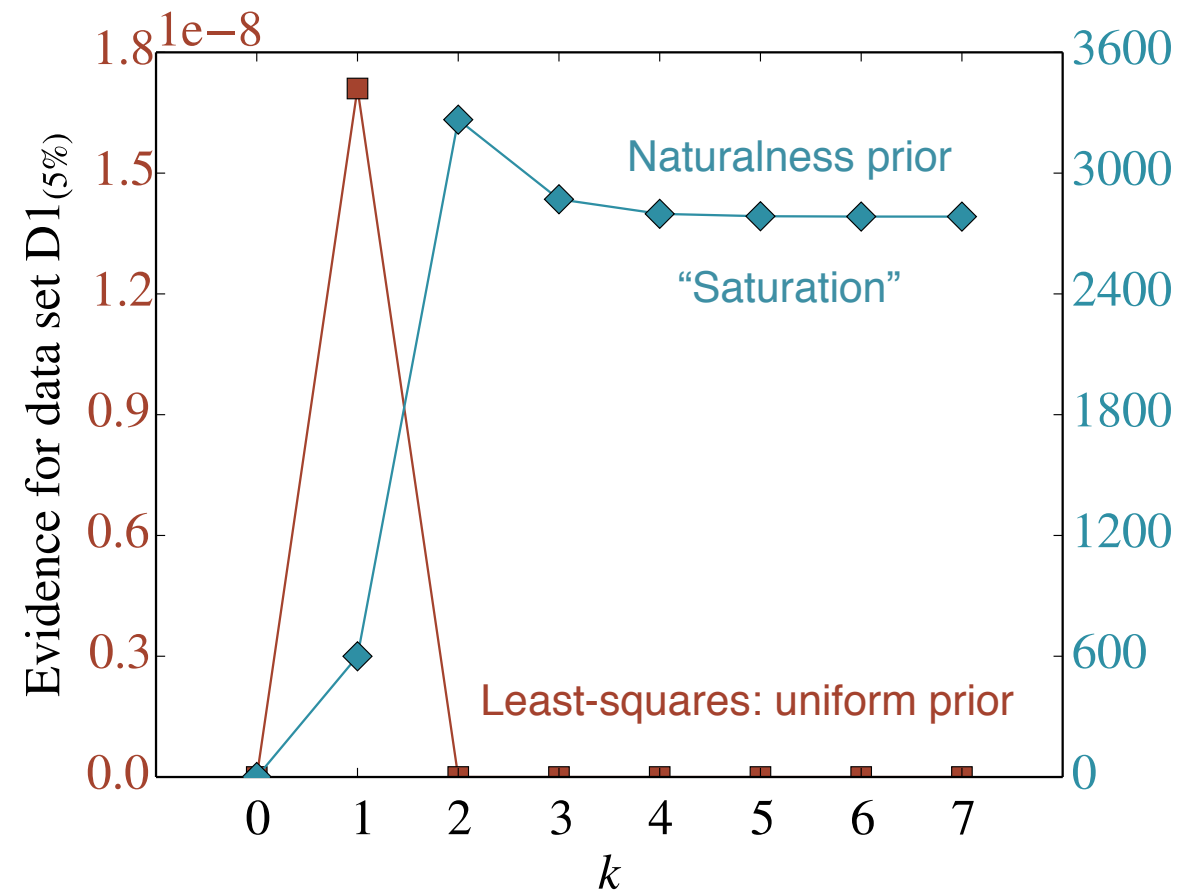
Calculate Bayes factors for different orders:

$$\frac{\text{pr}(M_k | D)}{\text{pr}(M_{k+1} | D)} = \frac{\int d\mathbf{a}_1 \text{pr}(D | \mathbf{a}_1, M_k) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}_1 | M_k)}{\int d\mathbf{a}_2 \text{pr}(D | \mathbf{a}_2, M_{k+1}) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}_2 | M_{k+1})}$$

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Information from available data  $D$

Guidance

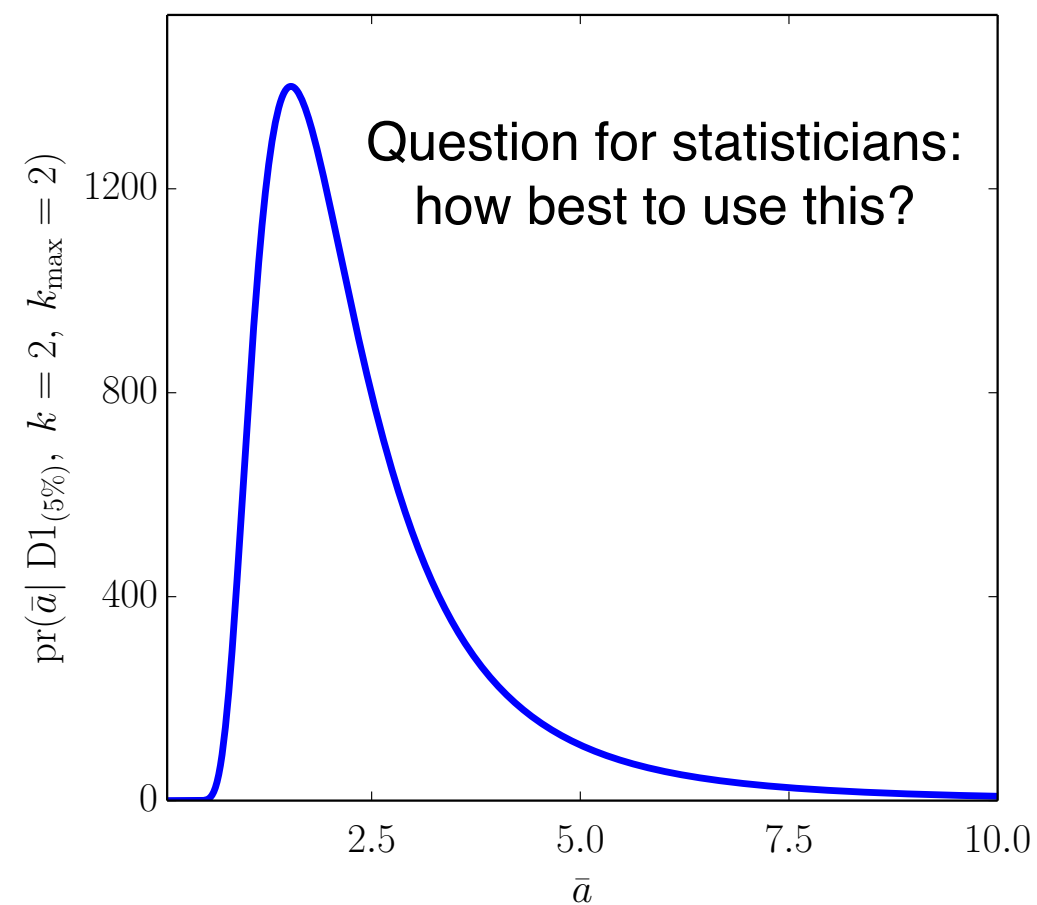
Calculate posterior for naturalness hyperparameter:

$$\text{pr}(\bar{a}|D, I) = \int d\mathbf{a} \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, I) \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|\bar{a}, I) \text{pr}(\bar{a}|I)$$

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions





# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions

Detour to a model problem to explore generic features in EFT fitting...



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

Consider a model observable [Schindler/Phillips (2009)]:

“Real World”:

$$g(x) = \left( \frac{1}{2} + \tan \left( \frac{\pi x}{2} \right) \right)^2$$

Generate synthetic data

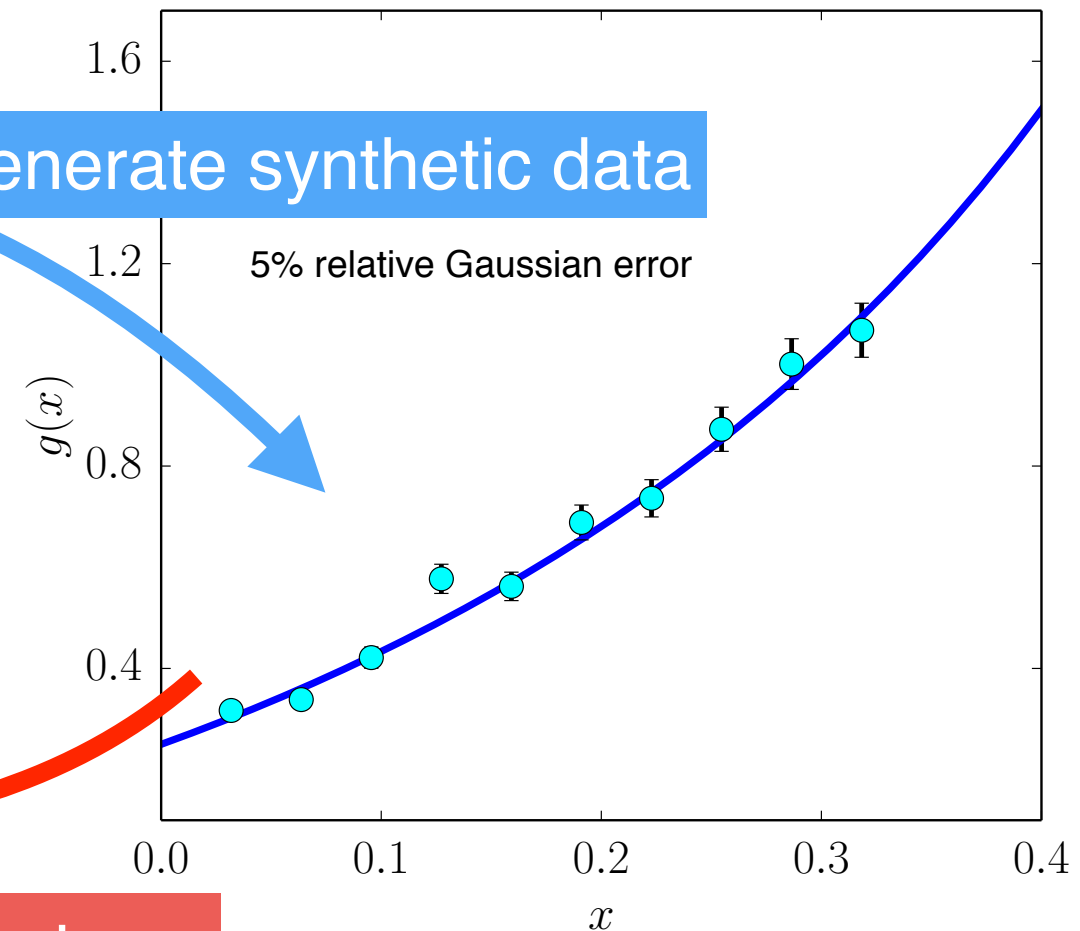
Expansion:

$$g(x) = 0.25 + 1.57x + 2.47x^2 + \dots$$

Model “EFT”:

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$$

Try to extract coefficients of model



Parameter estimation question:  
Are estimates consistent with underlying expansion?



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Posterior} & \text{Likelihood} & \text{Prior} \\ \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\max}) \propto & \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \times & \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|k, k_{\max}) \\ \text{Quantity of interest} & \text{Controlled by data} & \text{Prior knowledge} \\ & \sim \exp[-\chi^2/2] & \end{array}$$



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Posterior} & \text{Likelihood} & \text{Prior} \\ \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\max}) \propto & \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \times & \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|k, k_{\max}) \\ \text{Quantity of interest} & \text{Controlled by data} & \text{Prior knowledge} \\ & \sim \exp[-\chi^2/2] & \end{array}$$

Compare results for different prior assumptions, take  $k_{\max} = k$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times \mathbf{1} \qquad \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{a}^2}$$



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

$$\text{Posterior } \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\max}) \propto \text{Likelihood } \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \times \text{Prior } \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|k, k_{\max})$$

Quantity of interest

Controlled by data  
~ exp[-χ<sup>2</sup>/2]

Prior knowledge

Compare results for different prior assumptions, take  $k_{\max} = k$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times \mathbf{1}$$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{\mathbf{a}}^2}$$

$k_{\max}$	$\chi^2/\text{dof}$	$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$
true		0.25	1.57	2.47
1	2.2	0.20±0.01	2.6±0.1	
2	1.6	0.25±0.02	1.6±0.4	3.3±1.3
3	1.9	0.27±0.04	1.0±1	8.1±8.0
4	2.0	0.33±0.07	-1.9±3	7.5±30
5	1.4	0.57±0.3	-15±7	280±100

- Highly unstable for  $k > 2$
- Errors large and unstable
- $\chi^2/\text{dof}$  looks good!

$k_{\max}$	$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$
true	0.25	1.57	2.47
1	0.20±0.01	2.6±0.1	
2	0.25±0.02	1.6±0.4	3.1±1
3	0.25±0.02	1.7±0.5	3.0±2
4	0.25±0.02	1.7±0.5	3.0±2
5	0.25±0.02	1.7±0.5	3.0±2

- Stable with increasing  $k$
- Errors are reasonable
- “Saturates” at  $k = 2$



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

Posterior  
 $\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\max}) \propto$

Quantity of interest

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times \mathbf{1}$$

Likelihood

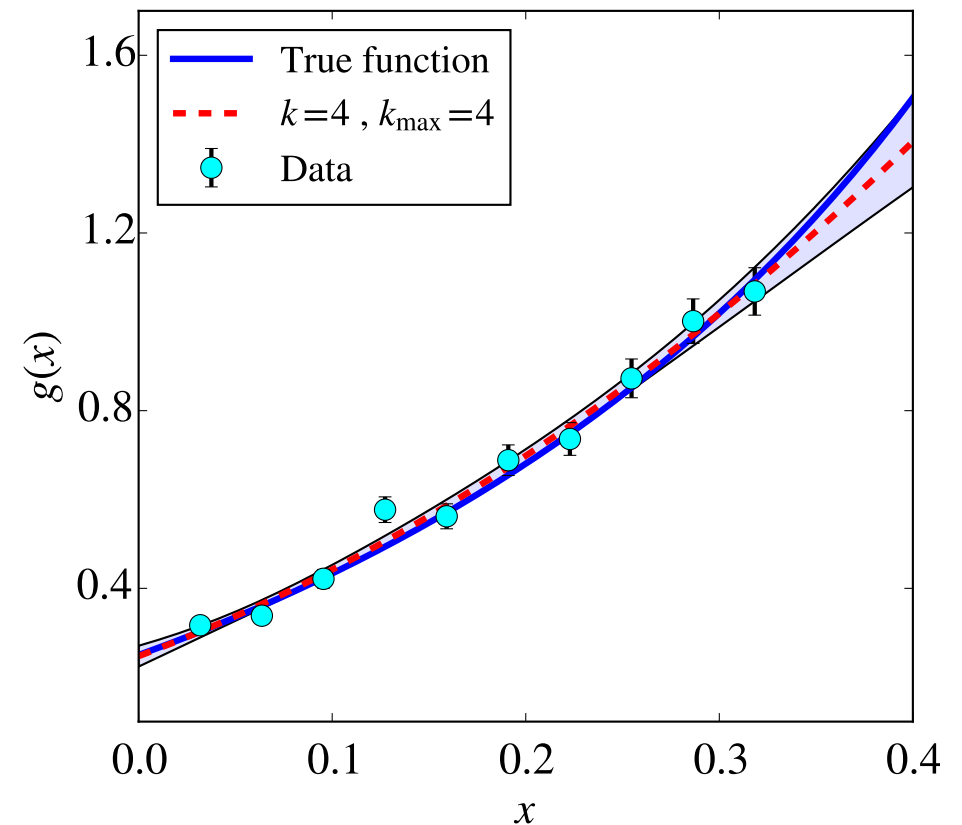
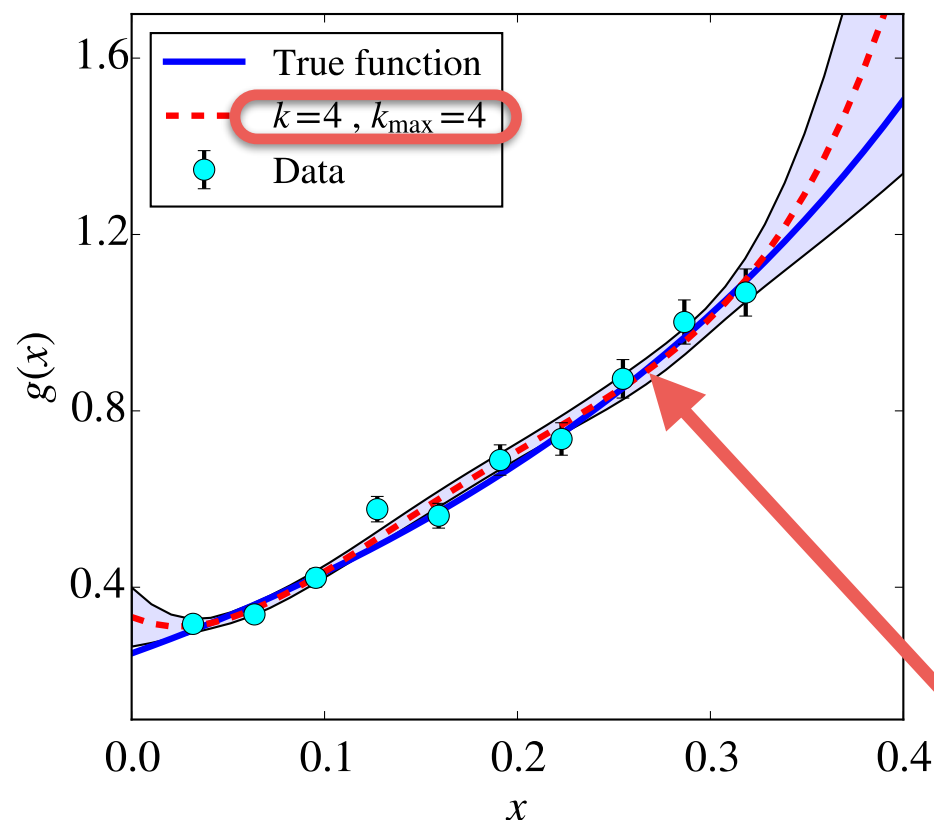
$$\text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \times \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|k, k_{\max})$$

Controlled by data  
 $\sim \exp[-\chi^2/2]$

Prior

Prior knowledge

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{a}^2}$$



“Overfitting” - fine-tuned to reproduce data in fit range



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

Posterior  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k, k_{\max}) \propto$  Likelihood  $\text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, k, k_{\max}) \times$  Prior  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|k, k_{\max})$

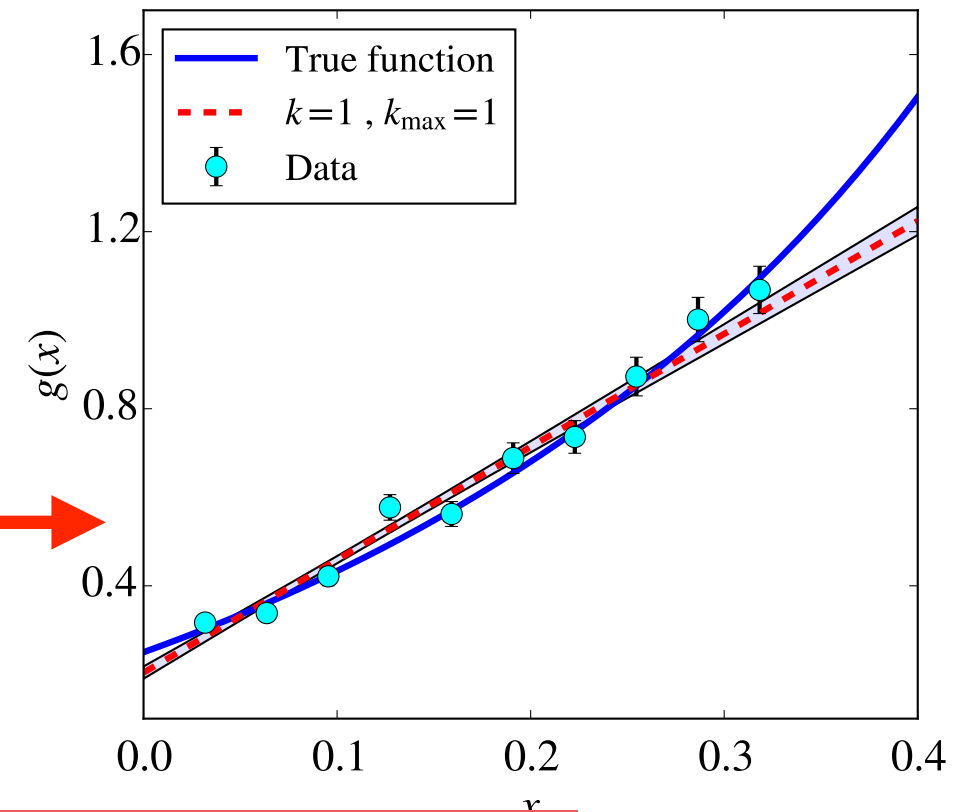
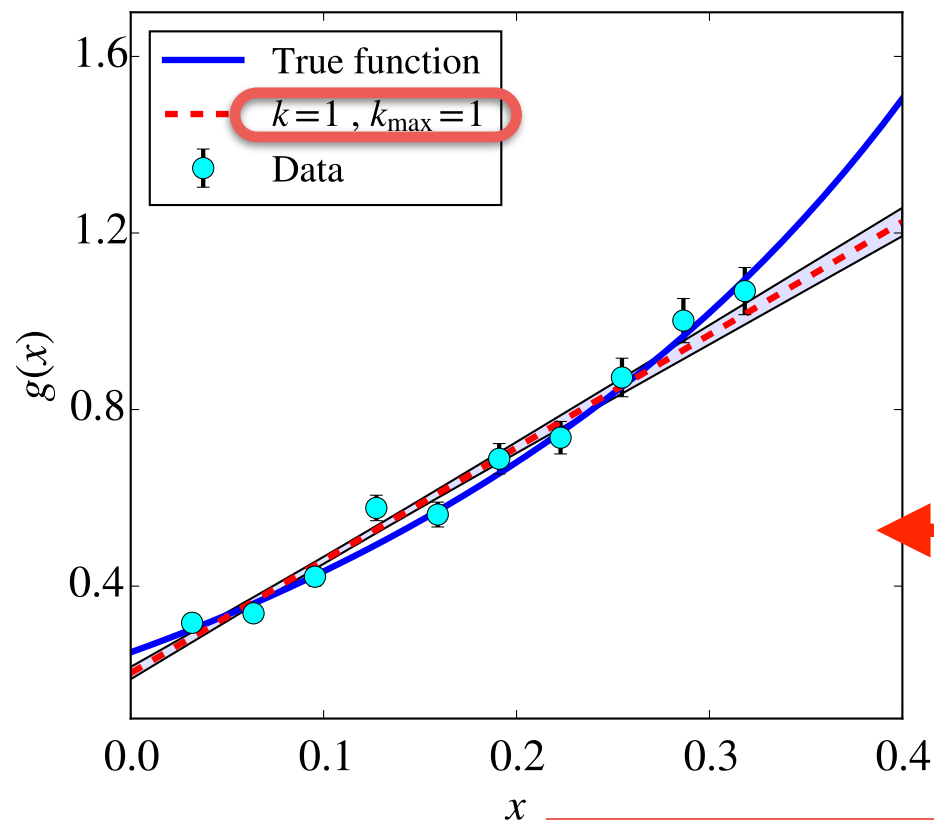
Quantity of interest

Controlled by data  
 $\sim \exp[-\chi^2/2]$

Prior knowledge

$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times \mathbf{1}$

$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{a}^2}$



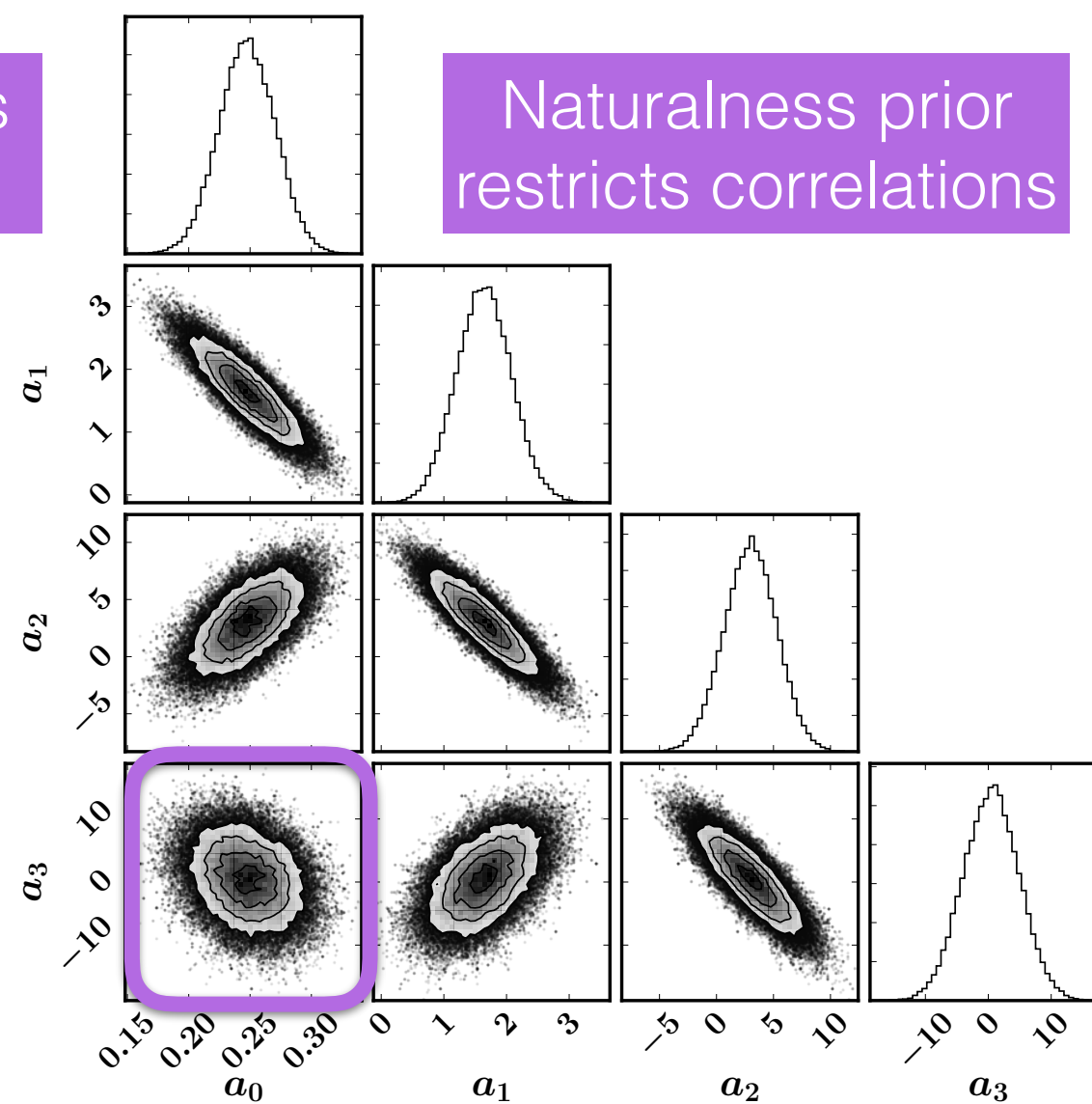
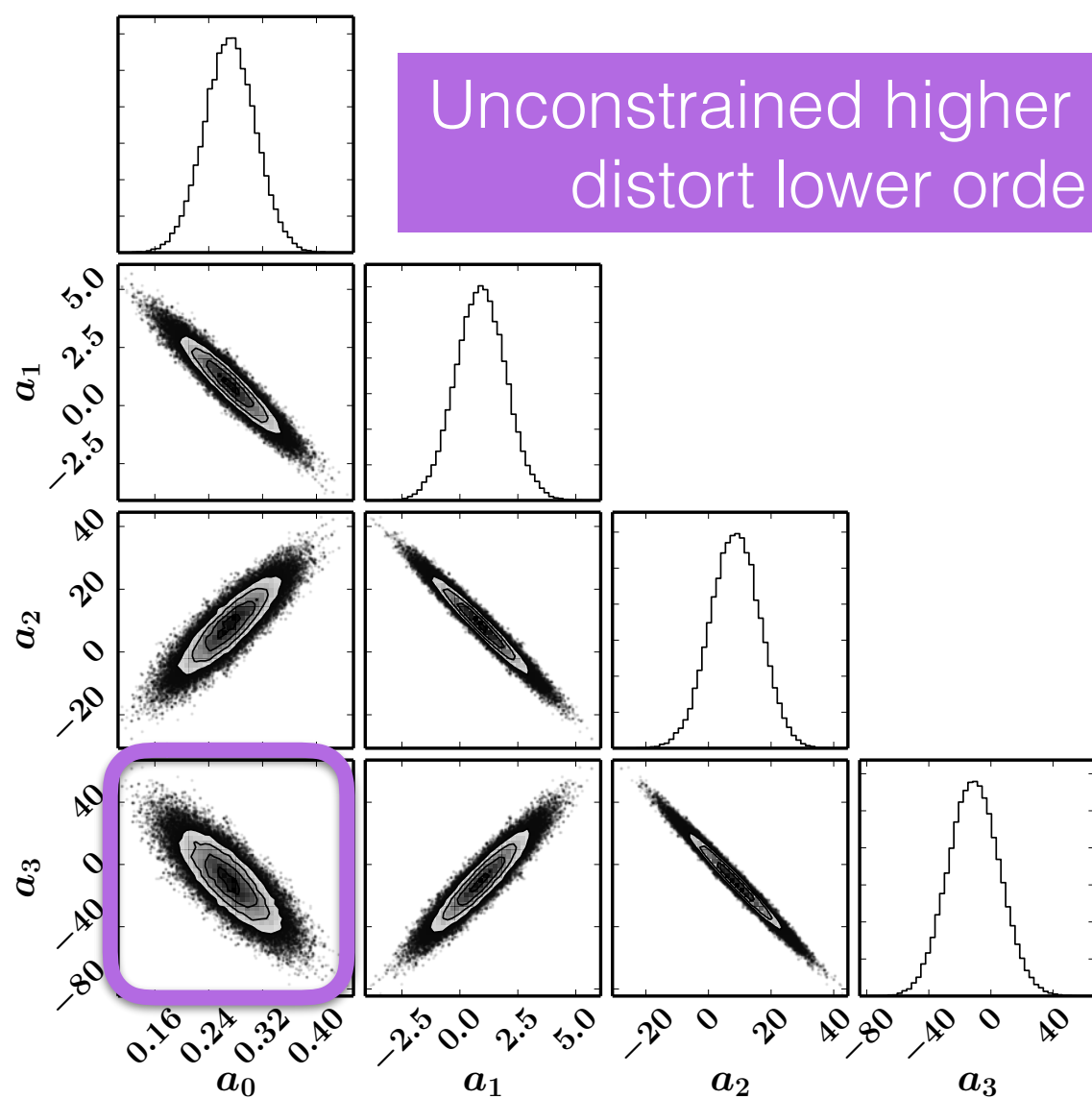
“Underfitting” - model too simplistic for data  
 Naturalness prior makes no difference



# Detour: parameter estimation in linear case

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times \mathbf{1}$$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, k) \propto e^{-\chi^2/2} \times e^{-\mathbf{a}^2/2\bar{a}^2}$$





# Diagnostic framework

Set up

Guidance

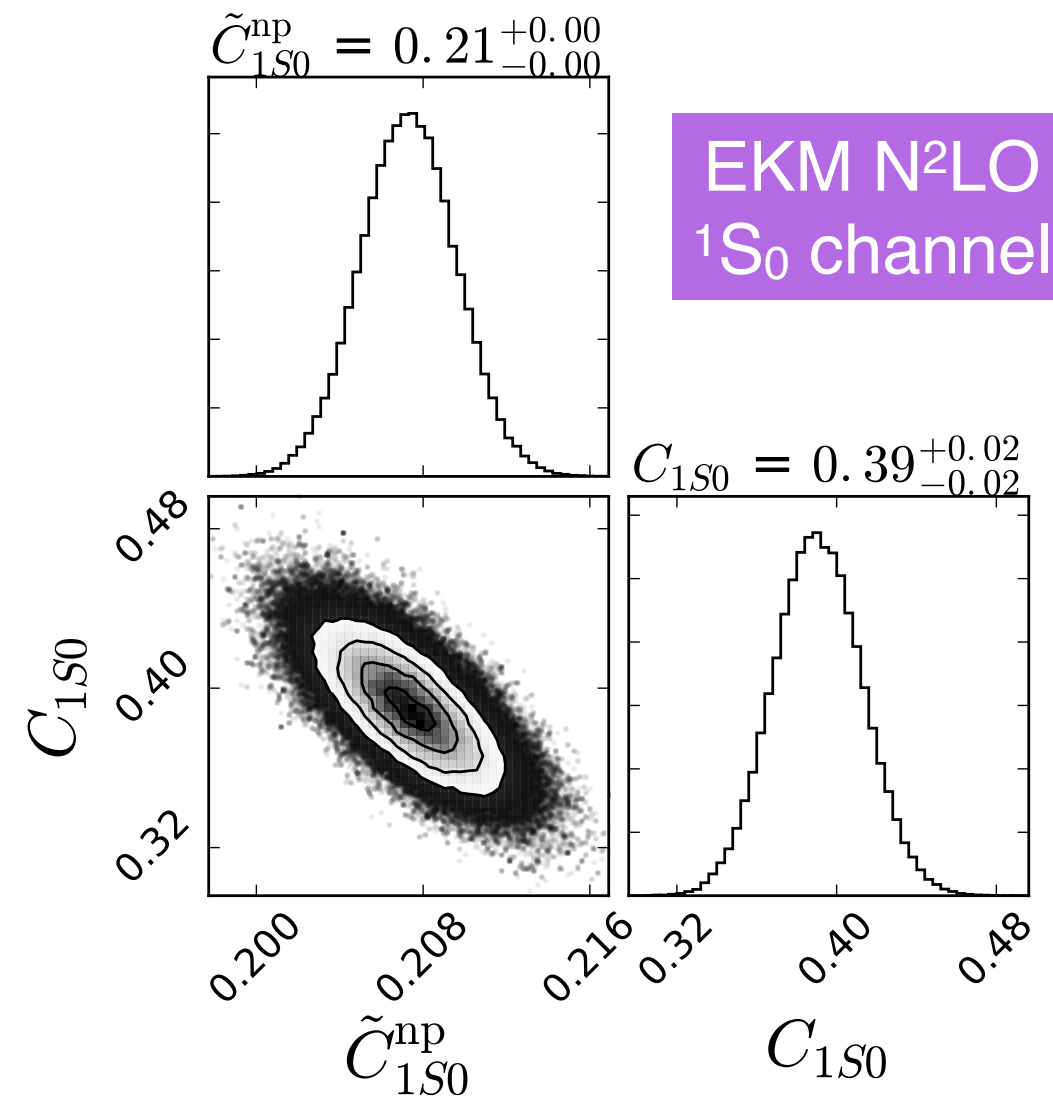
Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions

What about real life?

Estimate posterior and associated diagnostics



Data used: synthetic phase shifts at N<sup>2</sup>LO



# Diagnostic framework

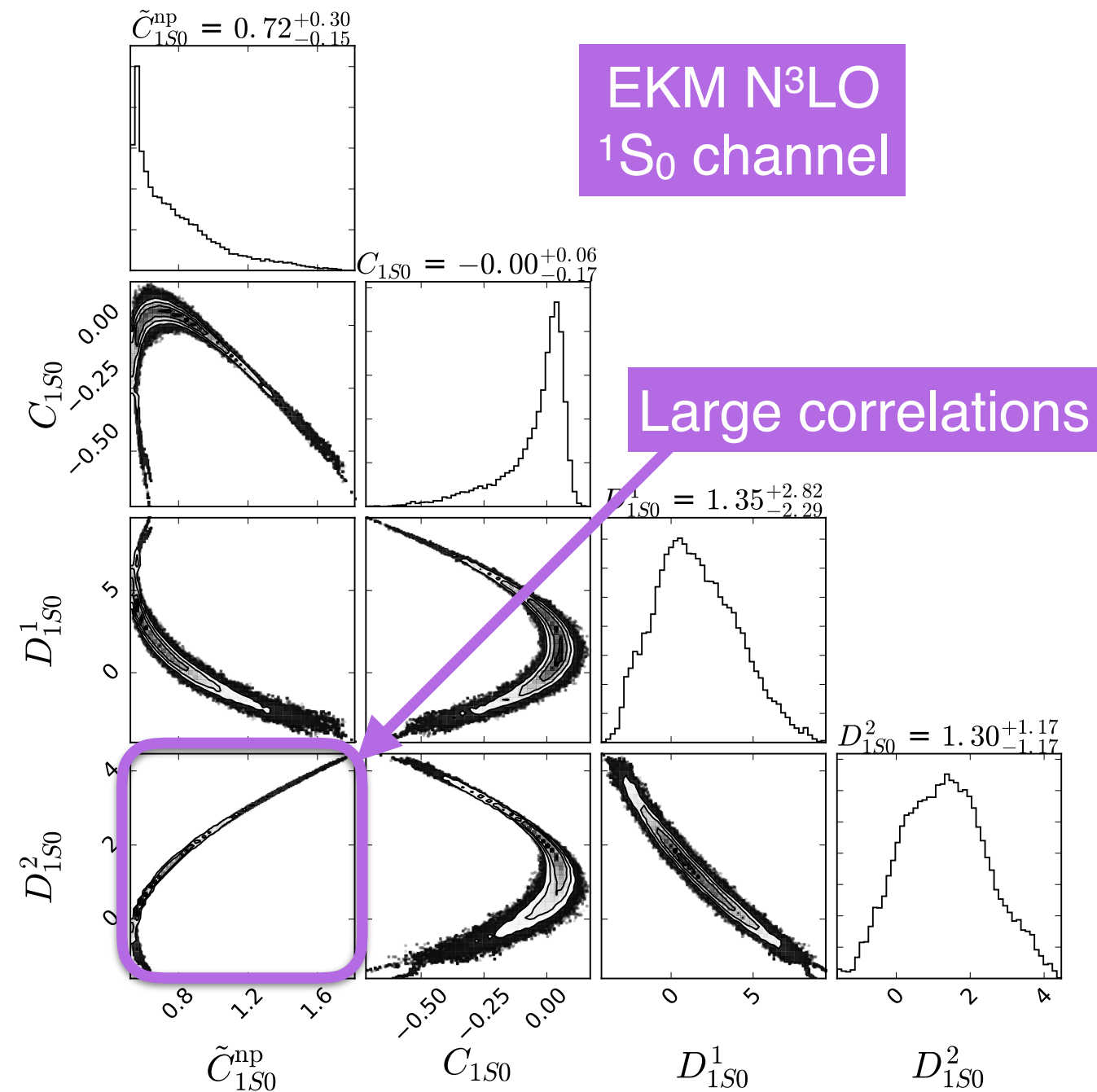
Set up

Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions



Data used: synthetic phase shifts at N<sup>3</sup>LO



# Why are the correlations so large?

## N<sup>3</sup>LO s-wave coefficients on-shell

- E.g., single linear combination of  $D^1_{(1S_0)}$  and  $D^2_{(1S_0)}$ :

$$D^1_{(1S_0)}p^2p'^2 + D^2_{(1S_0)}(p^4 + p'^4) = \frac{1}{4}(D^1_{(1S_0)} + 2D^2_{(1S_0)})(p^2 + p'^2)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(D^1_{(1S_0)} - 2D^2_{(1S_0)})(p^2 - p'^2)^2$$

N<sup>3</sup>LO NN contacts:  $p^4$

- All s-wave LECs from EKM fits to Nijmegen phase shifts:

Combination	<sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> N <sup>3</sup> LO	<sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> N <sup>4</sup> LO	<sup>3</sup> S <sub>1</sub> N <sup>3</sup> LO	<sup>3</sup> S <sub>1</sub> N <sup>4</sup> LO
$D^1$	-1.59	-5.50	-7.13	-6.18
$D^2$	2.65	4.18	5.64	4.70
$\frac{1}{4}(D^1 + 2D^2)$	0.93	0.71	1.04	0.80
$\frac{1}{4}(-D^1 + 2D^2)$	1.72	3.47	4.60	3.89



# Why are the correlations so large?

## N<sup>3</sup>LO s-wave coefficients on-shell

- E.g., single linear combination of  $D^1_{(1S_0)}$  and  $D^2_{(1S_0)}$ :

$$D^1_{(1S_0)}p^2p'^2 + D^2_{(1S_0)}(p^4 + p'^4) = \frac{1}{4}(D^1_{(1S_0)} + 2D^2_{(1S_0)})(p^2 + p'^2)^2 - \frac{1}{4}(D^1_{(1S_0)} - 2D^2_{(1S_0)})(p^2 - p'^2)^2$$

N<sup>3</sup>LO NN contacts:  $p^4$

- All s-wave LECs from EKM fits to Nijmegen phase shifts:

Combination	<sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> N <sup>3</sup> LO	<sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> N <sup>4</sup> LO	<sup>3</sup> S <sub>1</sub> N <sup>3</sup> LO	<sup>3</sup> S <sub>1</sub> N <sup>4</sup> LO
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$\frac{1}{4}(-D^1 + 2D^2)$	1.72	3.47	4.60	3.89

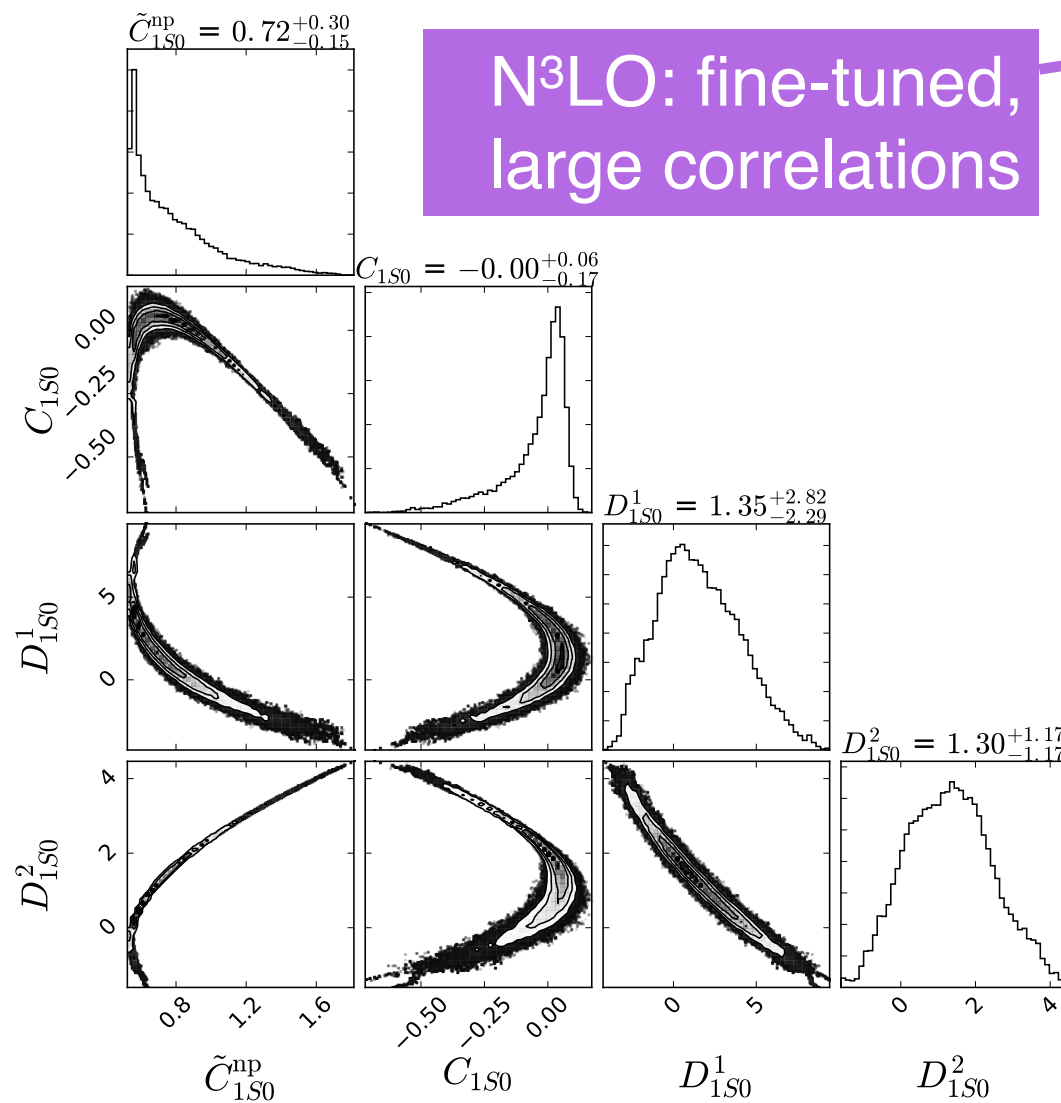
enhancement of x4 could indicate overfitting: explore further!



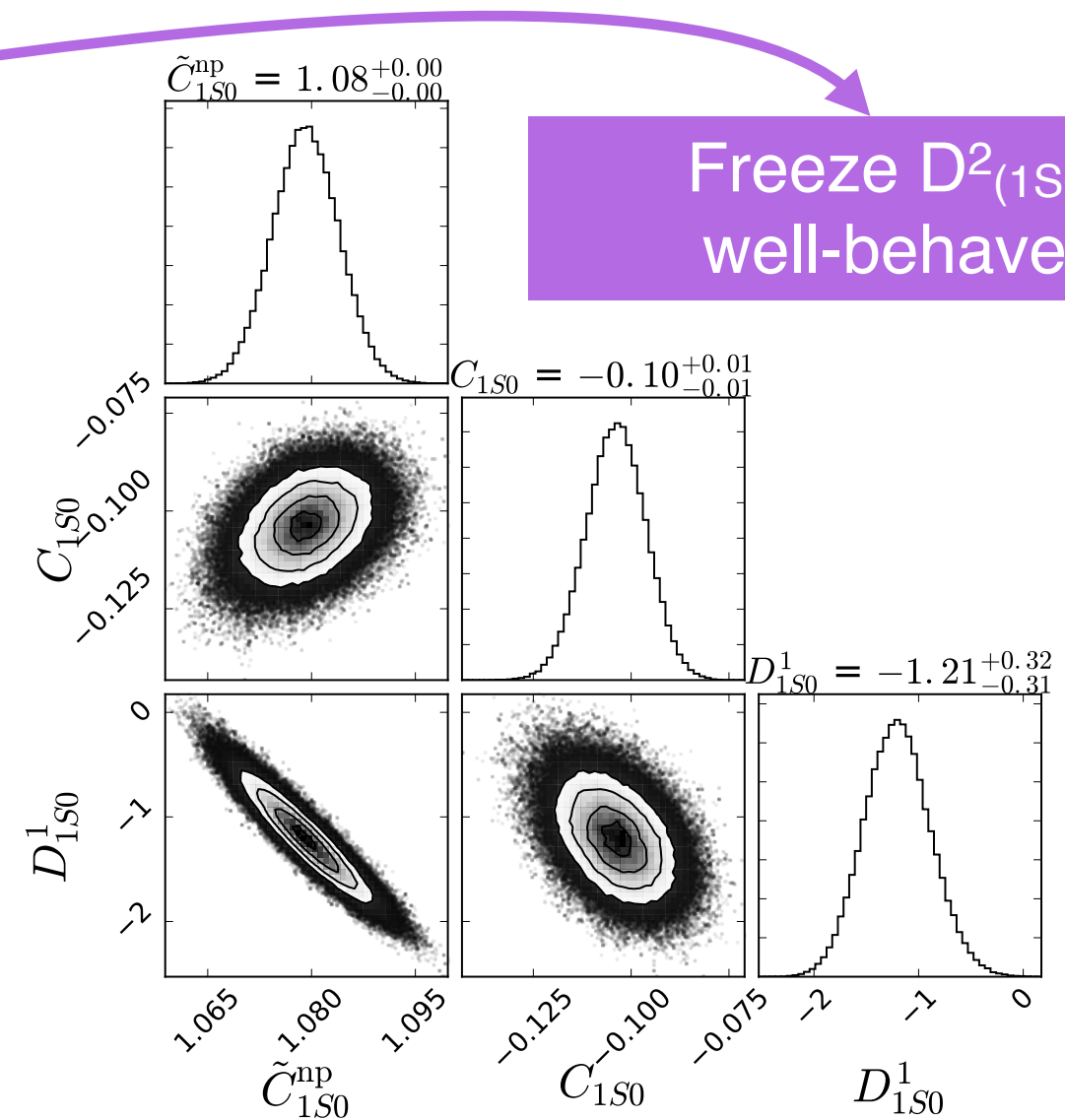
# Why are the correlations so large?

## N<sup>3</sup>LO s-wave coefficients on-shell

- Is there overfitting once we go to N<sup>3</sup>LO in the s-waves?



N<sup>3</sup>LO: fine-tuned,  
large correlations



Freeze  $D_{1S0}^2$ ,  
well-behaved



# Diagnostic framework

Set up

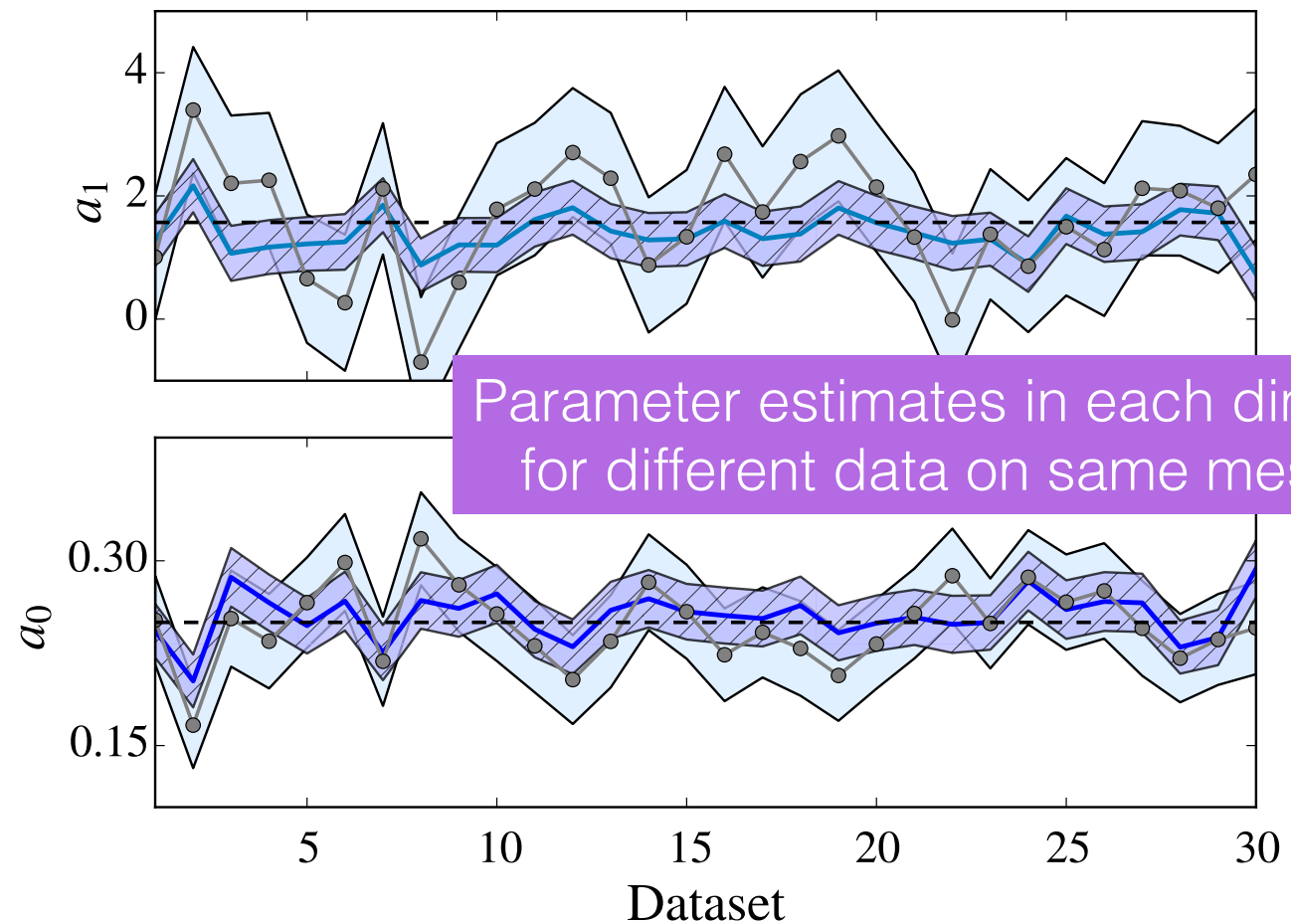
Guidance

Parameter estimation

Validation

Predictions

- Fluctuations between subdivided data sets
- Accumulate data, likelihood-prior competition
- Check power-law behavior (Lepage plots)



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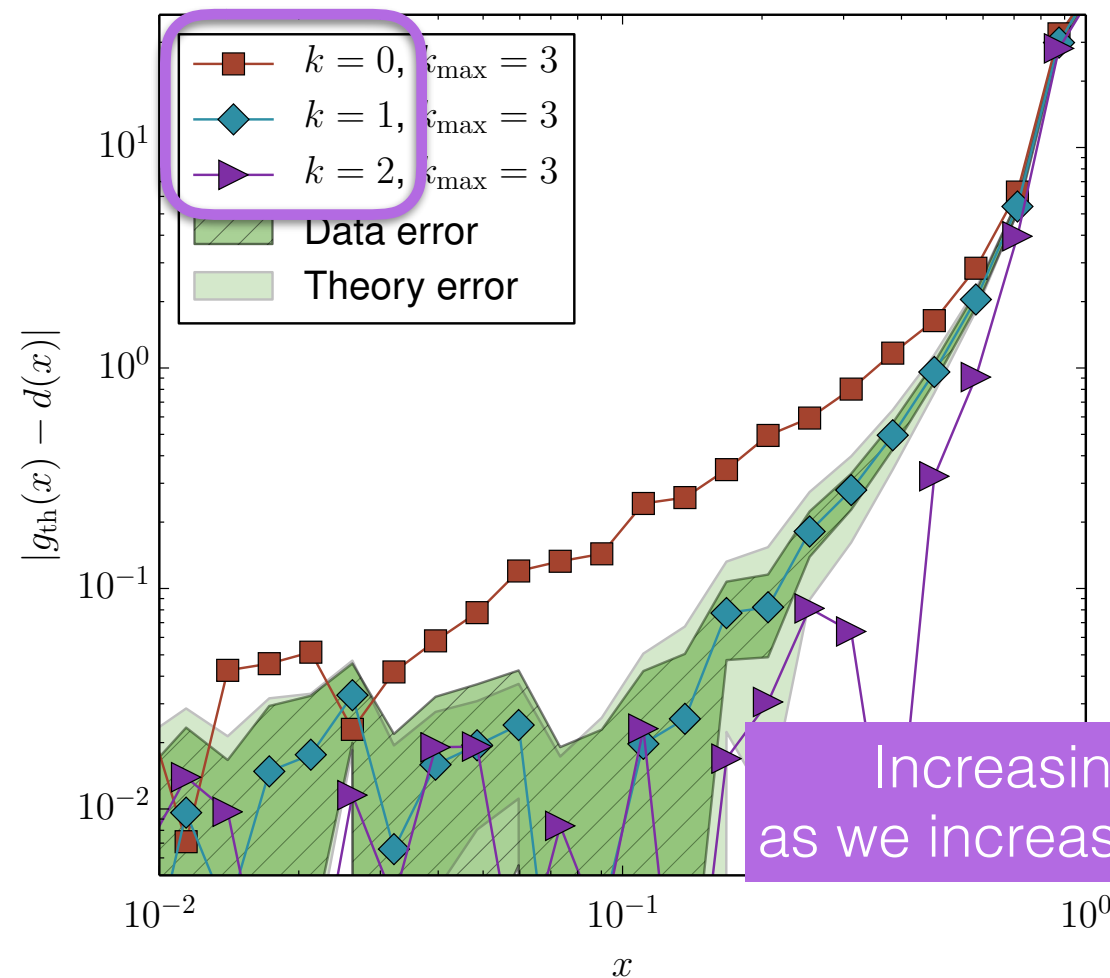
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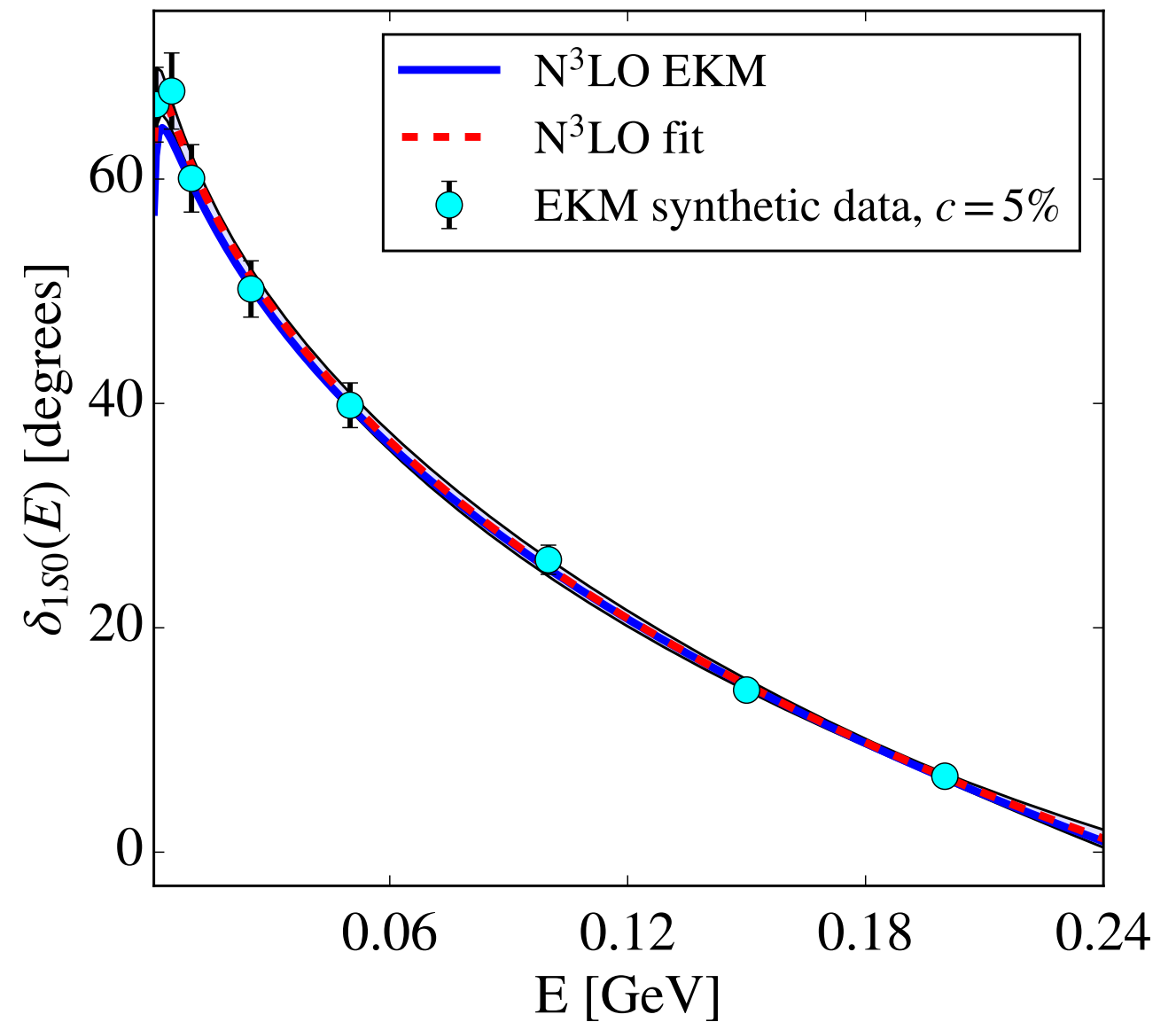
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Propagate errors to predictions!



Also can calculate truncation uncertainty





# Summary

- Recently completed diagnostic framework for generic EFTs
  - S. Wesolowski et al., "Bayesian parameter estimation for effective field theories", J. Phys G 43, 074001 (2016)
- Parameter estimation for EKM NN interactions in progress
  - Explore fitting to phase shifts vs. full cross sections
  - Nearing computational wall for evidence integrals
  - Exploring possible redundancy in s-waves

## Next steps

- Find Bayesian interpretations for current EFT fitting methods
  - Naive least-squares is never used by practitioners- what are assumptions/priors?
- Parallelization of MCMC calculations
- Nested sampling?
- Mixture models as alternative to evidence



# Questions

- Alternatives to Bayes factors?
- Relationship to common practices in EFTs

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=0}^N \left( \frac{\eta(x_i; \mathbf{a}, k) - d_i}{\sigma_i^2 + (C_x x^{k+1})^2} \right)^2$$

Fit  $C_x$  so  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 1$ : Birge factor?

- What if form of  $V(x; \mathbf{a}, k) = V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$  is not known at higher  $k$ ?
- How could we determine  $\Lambda_b$ ?
- Model selection in pionless EFT sandbox.
- Where would GP emulators be useful?
- Should we be orthogonalizing the posterior?



# Backup: Prototype EFT

$$V(x) = V_0 \sum_{n=0}^k \mathcal{A}_n(x) x^n \quad \text{with} \quad x = \frac{p}{\Lambda_b}$$

Natural-sized coefficients

Small expansion parameter  $x$

$$\mathcal{A}_n(x) = a_n(\mu) + f_n(x, \mu)$$

$$a_n, f_n \sim 1 \quad \text{when} \quad \mu \sim \Lambda_b$$

$f_n(x, \mu)$  encodes IR physics at order  $n$



# Backup: Marginalize higher-order corrections

Marginalization over higher-order effects

$$k = 0, \quad k_{\max} = 3$$

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3$$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, I) = \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}|D, I)$$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}|D, I) \propto \int d\mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}} \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}, I)\text{pr}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}_{\text{marg}}|I)$$

Correlated higher-order errors, see [\[arXiv:hep-ph/0101051\]](#)  
and [\[arXiv:1407.0657\]](#)

