

# *Survey of Lattice QCD*

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# *Survey of Lattice QCD*

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- *Why do we use/need lattice QCD?*
- *What is lattice QCD?*
- *Some details of Lattice QFT*
- *Some select results*

some slide material borrowed  
from Andrea Shindler, MSU

# *Survey of Lattice QCD*

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*Why do I use lattice QCD?*

- *Understanding Nuclear Physics from QCD*
- *Testing the Standard Model at low-energy in nuclear environments*

# *Nuclear Physics from QCD*

● *QCD is The fundamental theory of the strong interactions*

$$E_{N,Z,S}^{(i)} = \Lambda_{QCD} \times f_{N,Z,S}^{(i)} \left( \frac{m_u}{\Lambda_{QCD}}, \frac{m_d}{\Lambda_{QCD}}, \frac{m_s}{\Lambda_{QCD}}, \alpha_{f.s.}, \Lambda_{QCD}^2 G_F \right)$$

 *these energy levels range from a few KeV to MeV to many GeV*

*We would like to understand the spectrum and transitions/reaction rates in nuclear physics directly from QCD*

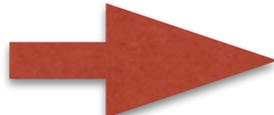
# *Nuclear Physics from QCD*

● *There are well known fine-tunings in nature that have a significant impact on our existence*

$M_n - M_p$ ,  $B_d$ , triple alpha process and  $^{12}\text{C}$ , ...

*How sensitive are these fine-tunings to variations of fundamental parameters in the Standard Model?*

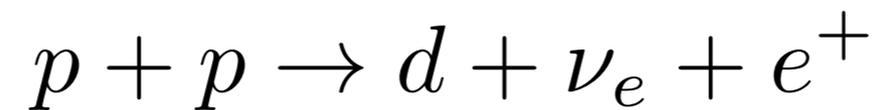
*How sensitive is the Universe as we know it to variations in these fundamental parameters?*

 *need a solution to QCD*

# *Nuclear Physics from QCD*

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- *What is the weak fusion rate*



*as a function of parameters in the Standard Model?*

- *What is the composition and equation of state of dense nuclear matter in neutron stars?*

- ...

# *Nuclear Physics from QCD*

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- *These are examples of understanding QCD to connect interesting nuclear physics to the fundamental theory*
- *There is another very compelling reason - depending on your taste - you will find more or less compelling (or the same, like me)*

# *Testing the Standard Model at low-energy*

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- *With the discovery of the Higgs boson, the Standard Model (SM) is now complete*
- *However, the LHC has turned up no hints of any physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM)*
- *Further, there is almost NO terrestrial experimental hints for any physics BSM*
  - the exceptions: muon anomalous magnetic moment*
  - proton radius puzzle*

# Testing the Standard Model at low-energy

## ● muon anomalous magnetic moment

*the numerical size of the discrepancy between theory and experiment is the size of a one-loop SM correction*

*This makes it difficult to understand this coming from high-energy BSM physics - as there is no room in any other SM comparison for a correction the size of one-loop electro-weak*



*could the BSM physics come from weakly coupled light degrees of freedom?*

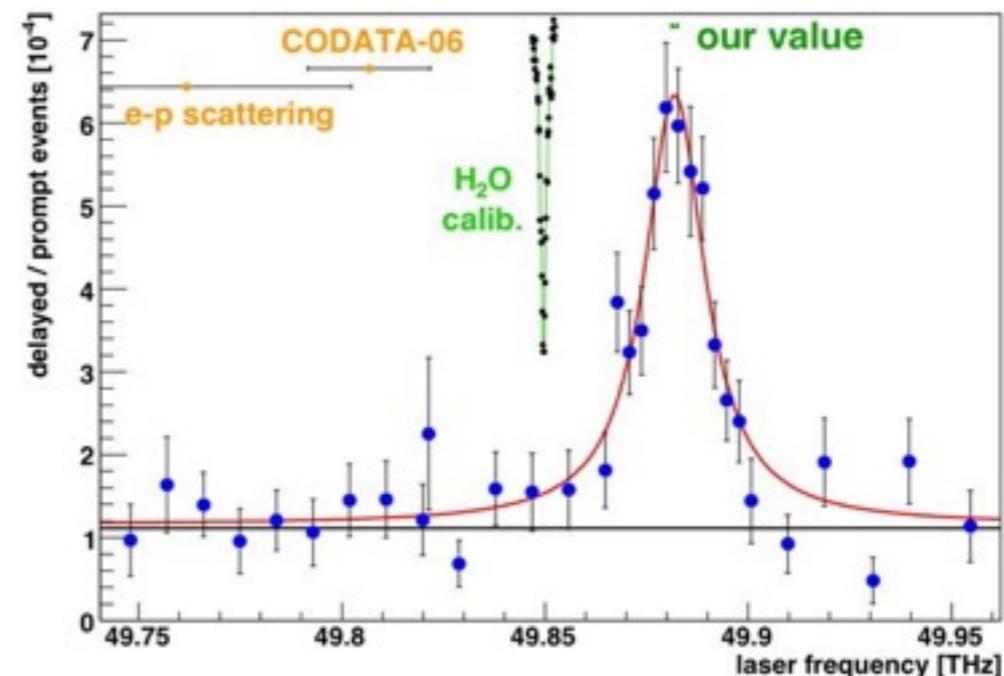
# Testing the Standard Model at low-energy

## ● proton radius puzzle

*the discrepancy between the quoted value of the proton*

*charge radius*  $\langle r_E^2 \rangle \equiv -6 \frac{\partial G_E(Q^2)}{\partial Q^2} \Big|_{Q^2=0}$

*measured in muonic-hydrogen and e-p scattering is  $\sim 7$  sigma!*



*The determinations of this quantity have been put under extreme scrutiny - while the resolution is still a mystery - it is fair to say many people working on this subject suspect the systematics in e-p are underestimated*

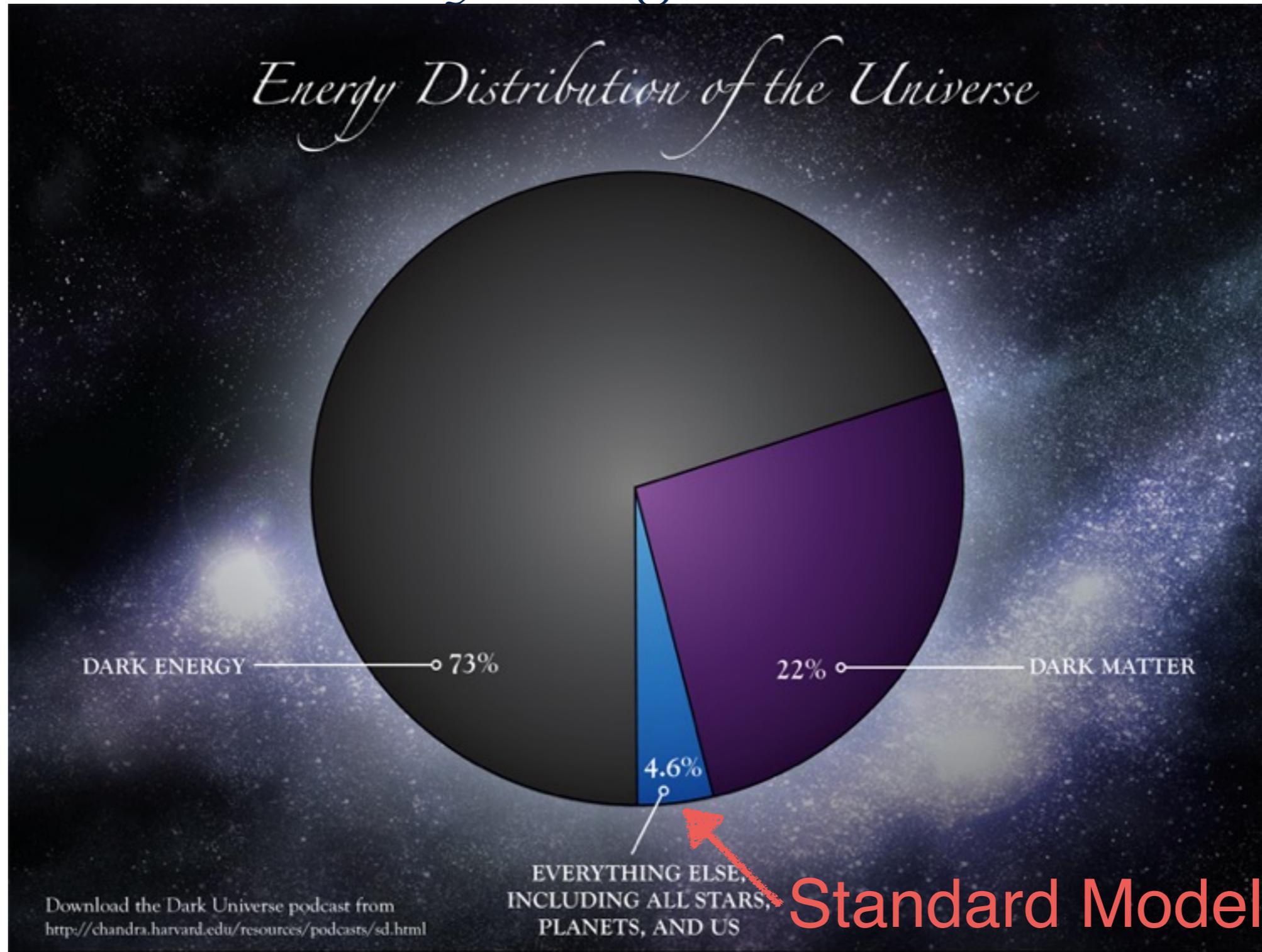
# *Testing the Standard Model at low-energy*

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- *high-energy physics colliders are one way to search for BSM physics - but it is not clear this will be possible in the near future*  
*this helps emphasize the important role low-energy precision nuclear physics can play in searching for new physics (in addition to muon  $g-2$  and proton size)*

# Testing the Standard Model at low-energy

- While we have no direct confirmation of any BSM physics - we have very strong indirect evidence:



# *Testing the Standard Model at low-energy*

● *To the best of our knowledge, the SM matter in the Universe is comprised entirely of matter and not anti-matter*

*A measure of the excess matter in the Universe is given by the primordial ratio of the number of baryons to photons - from the CMB, we know this number to be*

$$\eta \equiv \frac{X_N}{X_\gamma} \simeq 6.2 \times 10^{-10}$$

*However, the SM is nearly symmetric in matter and anti-matter. While this observed asymmetry is small, it is larger than predicted by the SM*

# *Testing the Standard Model at low-energy*

● *To produce a matter/anti-matter asymmetry, we need the three Sakharov conditions:*

- baryon number violation*
- C-symmetry and CP-symmetry violation*
- interactions out of thermal equilibrium*

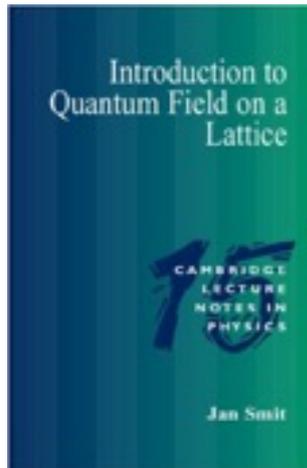
*CP violation implies permanent electric dipole moments (EDMs) for SM fermions. There are significant experimental efforts to search for permanent electric dipole moments in electrons, protons, neutrons, deuterium, ...  $^{199}\text{Hg}$ ,  $^{225}\text{Ra}$ , ...*

*In order to relate constraints/measurements on permanent EDMs in nucleons/nuclei to BSM physics,*

*we must be able to solve QCD!*

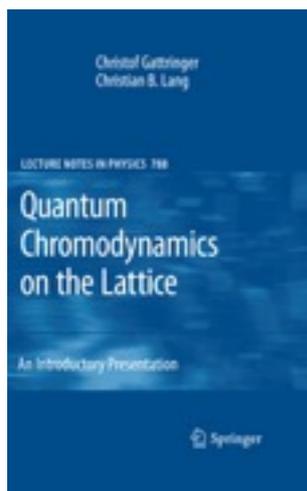
# *Survey of Lattice QCD*

## *What is lattice QCD?*



Introduction to Quantum Fields on a Lattice  
Jan Smit  
Cambridge Lecture Notes in Physics, 2002

my favorite formal introduction



Quantum Chromodynamics on the Lattice  
Christof Gattringer & Christian B. Lang  
Springer, 2010

good practical intro to lattice QCD

Lattice QCD for novices  
Peter LePage  
[arxiv.org/abs/hep-lat/0506036](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-lat/0506036)

get your hands dirty with your laptop

Advanced Lattice QCD  
Martin Lüscher  
[arxiv.org/abs/hep-lat/9802029](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-lat/9802029)

if you want to know more

# QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) \{ i\gamma^\mu [\partial_\mu + igA_\mu^a T^a] - m_f \} \psi_f(x)$$

$$\psi_{f\alpha}^A(x) \quad A_\mu^{AB}(x) = \sum_{a=1}^8 A_\mu^a(x) T_{AB}^a \quad F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a - gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

quarks                  gluons                                  field-strength tensor

- The only free parameters are the gauge coupling  $g$  and the quark masses  $m_u, m_d, \dots$
- QCD is thus an extremely predicting theory, if only we could solve it...

# QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) \{ i\gamma^\mu [\partial_\mu + ig A_\mu^a T^a] - m_f \} \psi_f(x)$$

$$\psi_{f\alpha}^A(x) \quad A_\mu^{AB}(x) = \sum_{a=1}^8 A_\mu^a(x) T_{AB}^a \quad F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a - gf^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

quarks                  gluons                                  field-strength tensor

- There are two important symmetries that will help understand the strong interactions
  - gauge symmetry of QCD
  - approximate chiral symmetry involving the light quarks

# QCD

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{\psi} &= \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) [i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m_f] \psi_f(x) \\ &= \bar{\psi}_L(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_L(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_L(x) m \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) m \psi_L(x)\end{aligned}$$

(in the second line, I have suppressed the flavor labels, f)

$$\psi_L = \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2} \psi \quad \psi_R = \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2} \psi$$

- In the limit the quark masses go to zero,  $m \rightarrow 0$ , QCD would have an exact chiral symmetry as the left and right handed modes would decouple from each other. For the lightest two quark flavors, u & d, QCD is perturbatively close to having this chiral symmetry. This would be an  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$  GLOBAL symmetry.
- GLOBAL = rotate all u to d and d to u quarks in the universe simultaneously and the physics is invariant

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix} \quad \psi \rightarrow e^{i\frac{\tau_a}{2}\theta_a} \psi = \left[ \cos(\theta/2) + i \sin(\theta/2) \hat{\theta}_a \tau_a \right] \psi$$

# QCD

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{\psi} &= \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) [i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m_f] \psi_f(x) \\ &= \bar{\psi}_L(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_L(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_L(x) m \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) m \psi_L(x)\end{aligned}$$

(in the second line, I have suppressed the flavor labels, f)

$$\psi_L = P_L \psi \quad \psi_R = P_R \psi \quad P_L = \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2}, \quad P_R = \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2}$$

- If this approximate chiral symmetry were realized in nature, then we would observe a near degeneracy in the spectrum. The negative parity nucleon would have nearly the same mass as the nucleon, with small perturbative corrections due to the finite u,d quark masses, but:

$$m_N \simeq 940 \text{ MeV} \quad m_{N^*} \simeq 1535 \text{ MeV}$$

- The expected degeneracy arises because the parity operator, which includes  $\gamma_4$ , flips the  $P_L \leftrightarrow P_R$  projectors

# QCD

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{\psi} &= \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) [i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m_f] \psi_f(x) \\ &= \bar{\psi}_L(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_L(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_L(x) m \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) m \psi_L(x)\end{aligned}$$

(in the second line, I have suppressed the flavor labels, f)

$$\psi_L = \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2} \psi \quad \psi_R = \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2} \psi$$

- We also observe that all hadrons made of u,d quarks have masses  $\geq 770$  MeV, except for 3:  $\pi^+$   $\pi^-$   $\pi^0$

$$m_{\pi^0} \simeq 135 \text{ MeV} \quad m_{\pi^{\pm}} \simeq 139 \text{ MeV}$$

- What are these three light particles doing in the spectrum and why do we not observe a near degeneracy in the parity partners in the spectrum?

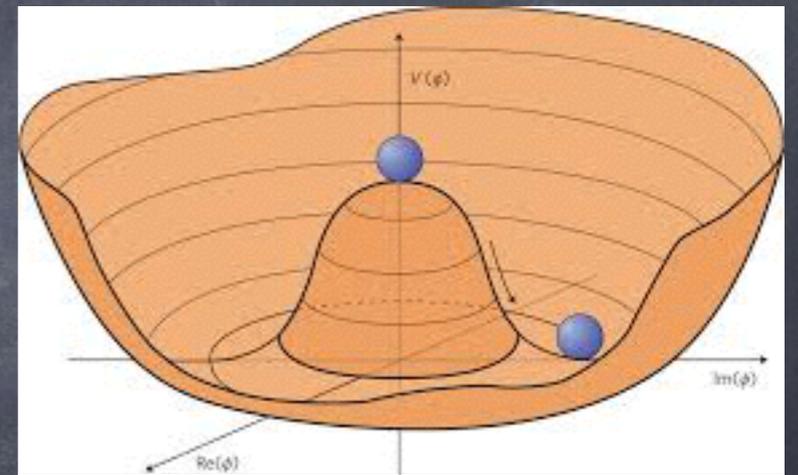
# QCD

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{\psi} &= \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) [i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m_f] \psi_f(x) \\ &= \bar{\psi}_L(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_L(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_L(x) m \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) m \psi_L(x)\end{aligned}$$

- This reminds us of spontaneous symmetry breaking. If a global symmetry is spontaneously broken, there must emerge a Nambu-Goldstone mode which is a massless excitation
- In our case, we have an approximate global symmetry. We postulate that the QCD vacuum spontaneously breaks this approximate global chiral symmetry down to the vector subgroup:

$$SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \xrightarrow{|\Omega_{QCD}\rangle} SU(2)_V$$

- In our two flavor considerations, this  $SU(2)_V$  group is the  $SU(2)$  of Isospin proposed by Heisenberg

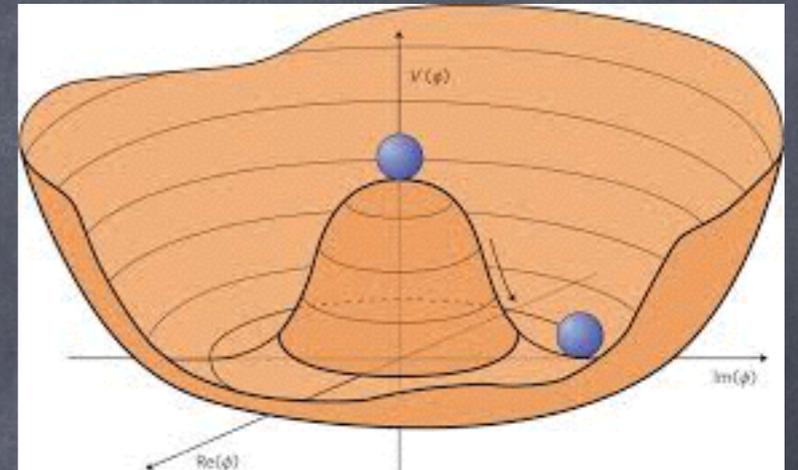


# QCD

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QCD}^{\psi} &= \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f(x) [i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m_f] \psi_f(x) \\ &= \bar{\psi}_L(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_L(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) i\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_L(x) m \psi_R(x) + \bar{\psi}_R(x) m \psi_L(x)\end{aligned}$$

$$SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \xrightarrow{|\Omega_{QCD}\rangle} SU(2)_V$$

- We began with 3+3 generators of the symmetry (3 Pauli matrices for L and R  $SU(2)$ ), but end with only 3 generators of the unbroken symmetry,  $SU(2)_V$ .
- The vector subgroup is parity-even, so we therefore expect to observe three nearly massless parity-odd spin-0 particles in the spectrum (the massless Nambu-Goldstone modes acquire a small mass from the non-zero values of the u,d quark masses) - these are the pions.
- Our understanding of low-energy QCD is heavily based upon this realization of the approximate chiral symmetry.

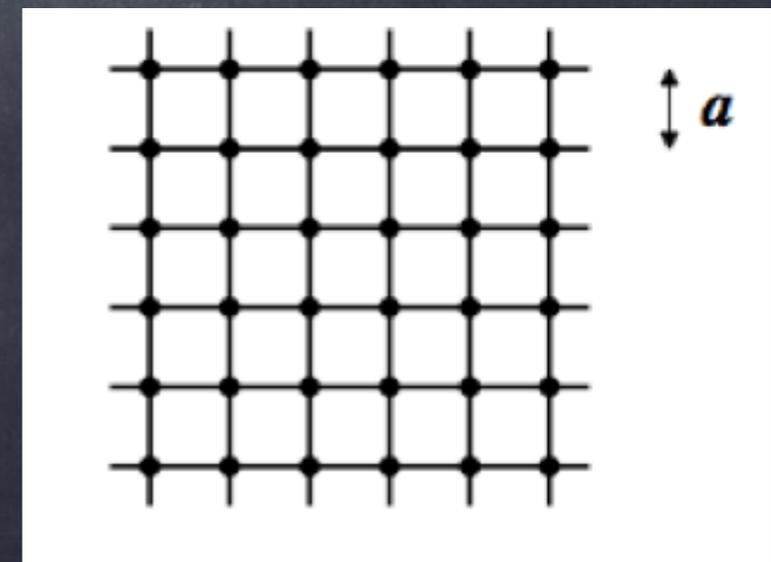


# Feynman Path Integrals

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{iS_{QCD}} \quad S_{QCD} = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_{QCD}$$

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{iS_{QCD}} \mathcal{O}(y) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x)$$

- The path-integral gives us a relation between matrix elements of operators and a high dimensional integral over field configurations.
- We know how to do the integral on the right (in principle at least). The beginning of lattice QFT is to discretize the universe so that we can compute the path-integral representation directly with a computer.
- Suppose we chop the universe into size  $32 \times 32 \times 32 \times 64 = 2^{21}$
- our path integral goes over all field configurations on all sites,  $n^{2^{21}}$  terms!



# Feynman Path Integrals

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{iS_{QCD}} \quad S_{QCD} = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_{QCD}$$

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{iS_{QCD}} \mathcal{O}(y) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x)$$

- How can we actually perform this integral?
- If we Wick-rotate to Euclidean time,  $t \rightarrow it_E$ , then we have

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-S_{QCD}^E} \mathcal{O}(y_E) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x_E)$$

- For zero quark chemical-potential (zero baryon chemical potential)

$$e^{-S_{QCD}^E} \in \mathbb{R}$$

- We can use this factor as a probability measure to importance sample the integral with Monte-Carlo methods for those field configurations that minimize  $S_{QCD}^E$

# Feynman Path Integrals

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-S_Q^E} \mathcal{O}(y_E) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x_E)$$

- We can make  $N_{\text{cfg}}$  different samples of the field configurations and then our correlation functions are approximated with finite statistics

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) | \Omega \rangle = \lim_{N_{\text{cfg}} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N_{\text{cfg}}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{cfg}}} \langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) [A_\mu^i, \psi_i, \bar{\psi}_i] \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) [A_\mu^i, \psi_i, \bar{\psi}_i] | \Omega \rangle$$

$[A_\mu^i, \psi_i, \bar{\psi}_i]$  = the  $i^{\text{th}}$  value of the fields on "configuration"  $i$

- At finite statistics (finite  $N_{\text{cfg}}$ ) we will have an approximation to the correlation functions with some computable statistical uncertainty that can be systematically improved (with more computing time)

# Feynman Path Integrals

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-S_Q^E} \mathcal{O}(y_E) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x_E)$$

- What do we expect our Euclidean spacetime correlation functions to look like? Let us take  $x_E=0$  (without loss of generality - translation invariance lets us do this) and  $\vec{y}_E = 0$  for simplicity

$$C(t) = \langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(t, \vec{0}) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(0, \vec{0}) | \Omega \rangle$$

- Insert a complete set of states


$$1 = \sum_n |n\rangle \langle n|$$

$$C(t) = \sum_n \langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(t) | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(0) | \Omega \rangle$$

$$= \sum_n \langle \Omega | e^{\hat{H}t} \hat{\mathcal{O}}(0) e^{-\hat{H}t} | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(0) | \Omega \rangle$$

$$= \sum_n Z_n Z_n^\dagger e^{-E_n t}$$

$$Z_n = \langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(0) | n \rangle$$

# Feynman Path Integrals

$$\langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(y_E) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(x_E) | \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int DA_\mu D\psi D\bar{\psi} e^{-S_{QCD}^E} \mathcal{O}(y_E) \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x_E)$$

$$C(t) = \langle \Omega | \hat{\mathcal{O}}(t, \vec{0}) \hat{\mathcal{O}}^\dagger(0, \vec{0}) | \Omega \rangle = \sum_n Z_n Z_n^\dagger e^{-E_n t}$$

$$= A_0 e^{-E_0 t} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n>0} \frac{A_n}{A_0} e^{-\Delta_{n0} t} \right]$$

$$A_n \equiv Z_n Z_n^\dagger \quad \Delta_{n0} \equiv E_n - E_0$$

- In the long Euclidean time limit, the excited tower of states becomes exponentially suppressed compared with the ground state,  $E_0$ . For simple quantities like the spectrum, we do not need to worry about calculating in Euclidean time rather than Minkowski time.

# Feynman Path Integrals

$$C(t) = \langle \Omega | \hat{O}(t, \vec{0}) \hat{O}^\dagger(0, \vec{0}) | \Omega \rangle = \sum_n Z_n Z_n^\dagger e^{-E_n t}$$
$$= A_0 e^{-E_0 t} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n>0} \frac{A_n}{A_0} e^{-\Delta_{n0} t} \right]$$

- We use a derived quantity, the effective mass, to help understand our numerical calculations:

$$m_{eff}(t, \tau) = \frac{1}{\tau} \ln \left( \frac{C(t)}{C(t + \tau)} \right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{\tau} \ln \left( \frac{A_0 e^{-E_0 t} (1 + A_1/A_0 e^{-\Delta_{10} t} + \dots)}{A_0 e^{-E_0(t+\tau)} (1 + A_1/A_0 e^{-\Delta_{10}(t+\tau)} + \dots)} \right)$$
$$= E_0 + \frac{1}{\tau} \ln \left( \frac{1 + A_1/A_0 e^{-\Delta_{10} t} + \dots}{1 + A_1/A_0 e^{-\Delta_{10}(t+\tau)} + \dots} \right)$$

# Quark fields

$$[\not{\partial} + m] \underbrace{\psi(x)\bar{\psi}(0)} = \delta^{(4)}(x) \quad \underbrace{\psi(x)\bar{\psi}(0)} \equiv S(x, 0)$$

Euclidean free-quark two-point function

$$\underbrace{\psi(x)\bar{\psi}(0)} = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{ipx}}{i \not{p} + m}$$

$$\gamma_\mu^\dagger = \gamma_\mu \quad \{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu\} = 2\delta_{\mu\nu}$$

$$p \cdot x = p_0 x_0 + p_k x_k \quad \not{p} = \gamma_0 p_0 + \gamma_k p_k$$

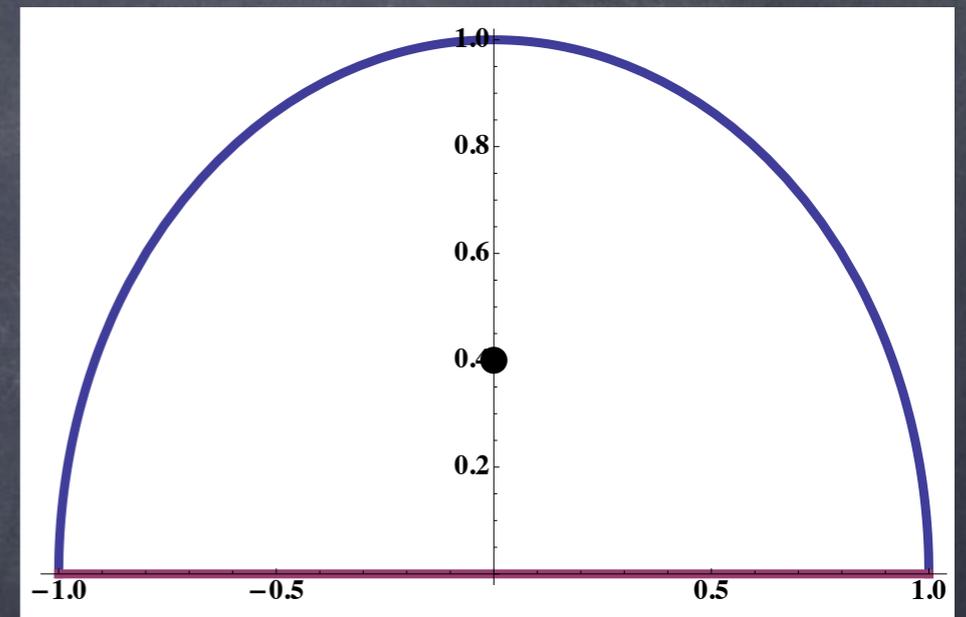
# Quark correlator

$$\int d^3x S(x, 0) = \int d^3x \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dp_0}{2\pi} \frac{-i \not{p} + m}{p^2 + m^2} e^{ipx}$$

$$x_0 > 0$$

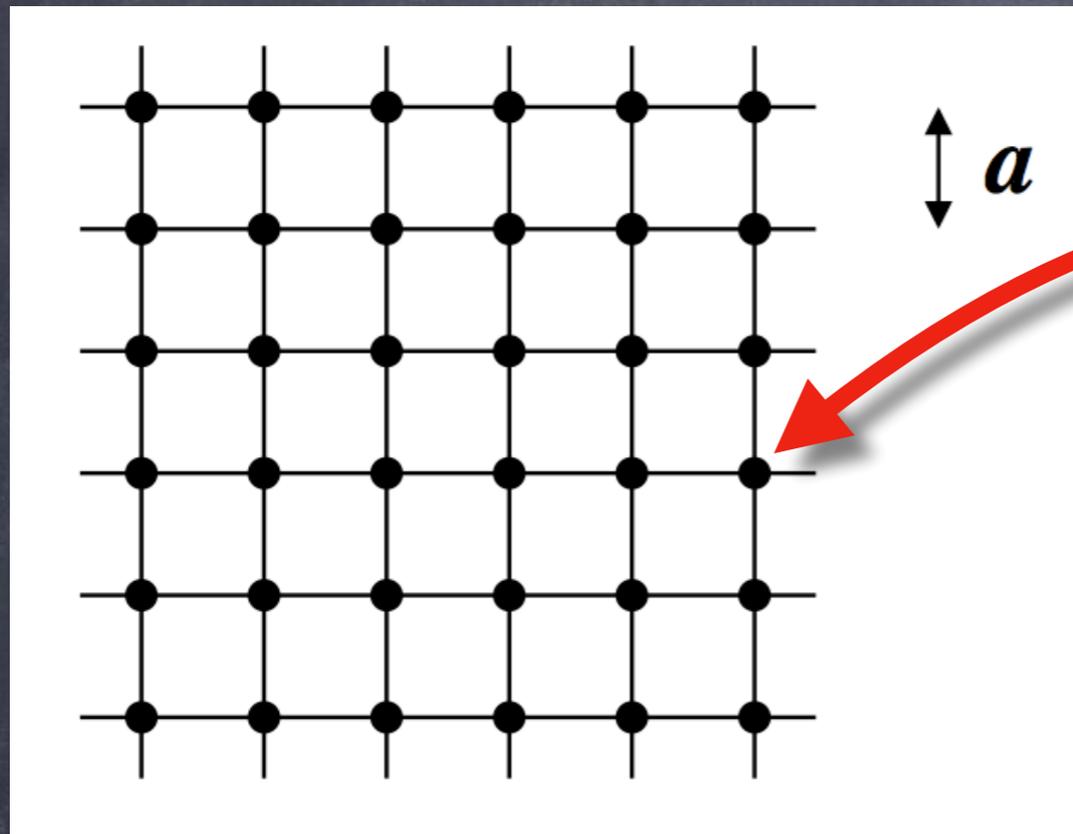
$$\int d^3x S(x, 0) = P_+ e^{-mx_0}$$

$$P_+ = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_0)$$



# Lattice Path Integrals

- Now we need to construct discrete versions of our fields.



$$\psi(x) = \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{2\pi^4} e^{ipx} \tilde{\psi}(p)$$

Cutoff  $|p_\mu| \leq \frac{\pi}{a}$

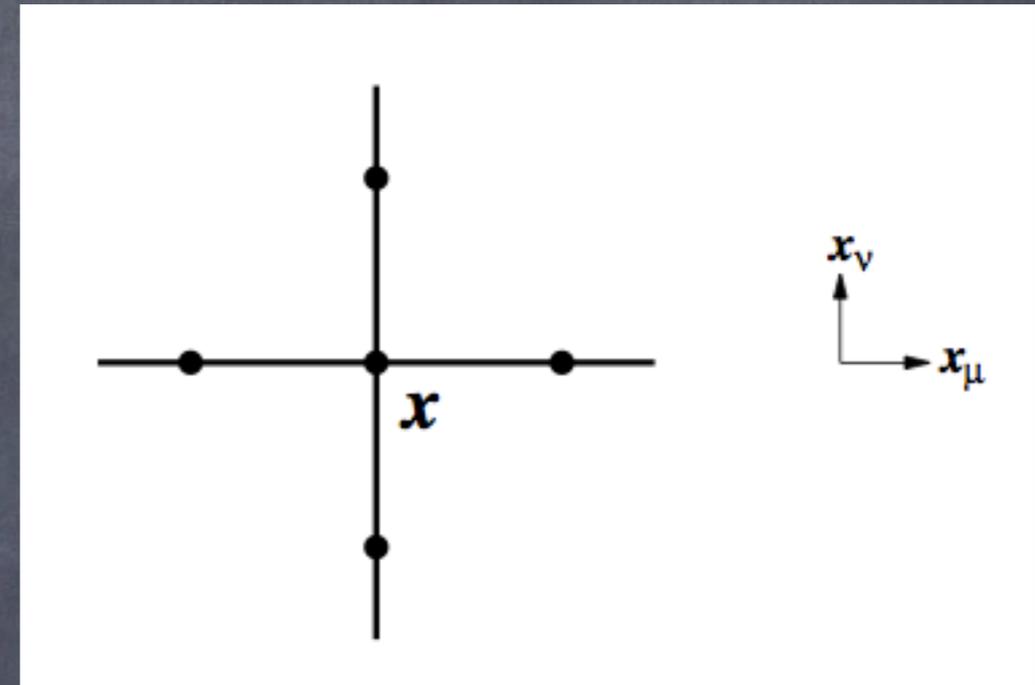
$$x = a(n_0, n_1, n_2, n_3) \quad n_\mu \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\tilde{\psi}(p) = a^4 \sum_x e^{-ipx} \psi(x)$$

# Derivatives

$$\partial_\mu \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x)]$$

$$\partial_\mu^* \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\psi(x) - \psi(x - a\hat{\mu})]$$



$$\partial_\mu \longrightarrow \frac{1}{a} [e^{iap_\mu} - 1] = ip_\mu [1 + O(ap)]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) \longrightarrow \frac{i}{a} \sin(ap_\mu) \equiv i\hat{p}_\mu \quad \hat{p}_\mu = p_\mu + O(a^2)$$

$$\partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \longrightarrow -\hat{p}_\mu \hat{p}_\mu \quad \hat{p}_\mu = \frac{2}{a} \sin\left(\frac{ap_\mu}{2}\right)$$

# Doublers

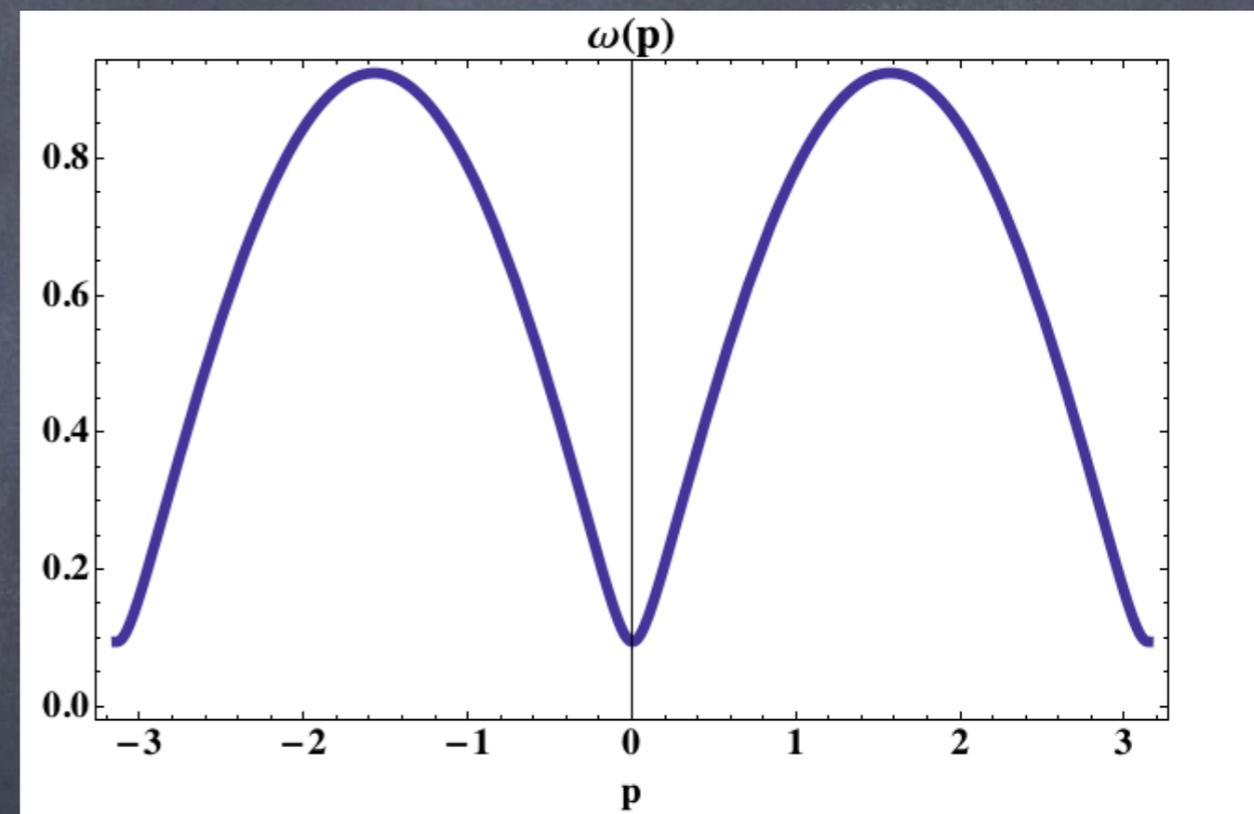
$$\frac{1}{i \not{p} + m} = \frac{-i \not{p} + m}{\not{p}^2 + m^2}$$

$$= \frac{-i \not{p} + m}{\frac{\sin^2(ap_\mu)}{a^2} + m^2}$$

$$\omega(\underline{p}) = \frac{2}{a} \operatorname{asinh} \left\{ \frac{a}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\underline{p}^2 + m^2}{1 + am}} \right\}$$

Poles

$$p_0 = \pm i\omega(\underline{p})$$



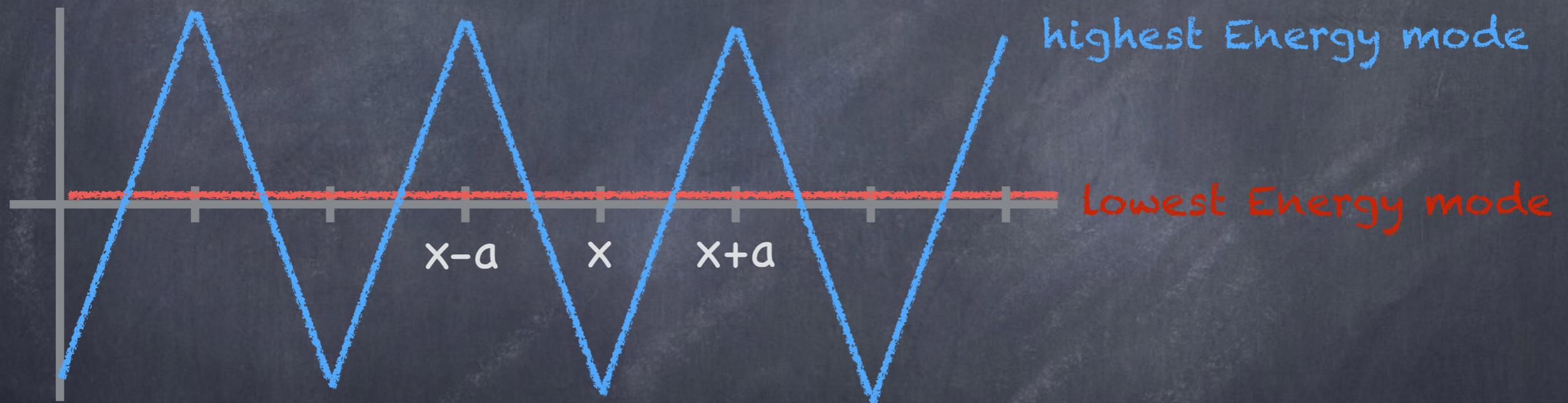
Additional states with  
energy = mass!

- each naive fermion we add really has  $2^d$  states in  $d$  dimensions

# Doublers

- Why do we get these doublers?
- It is because of the Dirac equation having only a single derivative for fermions:

$$\nabla_{\mu} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}^{*} + \partial_{\mu}) \quad \nabla_{\mu}\psi = \frac{\psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x - a\hat{\mu})}{2a}$$



- Our difference operator can not distinguish between the lowest and highest energy modes allowed. This does not happen for bosons

$$\partial_{\mu}^{*}\partial_{\mu}\phi = \frac{\phi(x + a\hat{\mu}) + \phi(x - a\hat{\mu}) - 2\phi(x)}{a^2}$$

# Wilson-Dirac operator

$$D_W = \sum_{\mu=0}^3 \frac{1}{2} [\gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) - a \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu] \longrightarrow i \not{p} + \frac{1}{2} a \hat{p}^2$$

Free-quark two-point functions

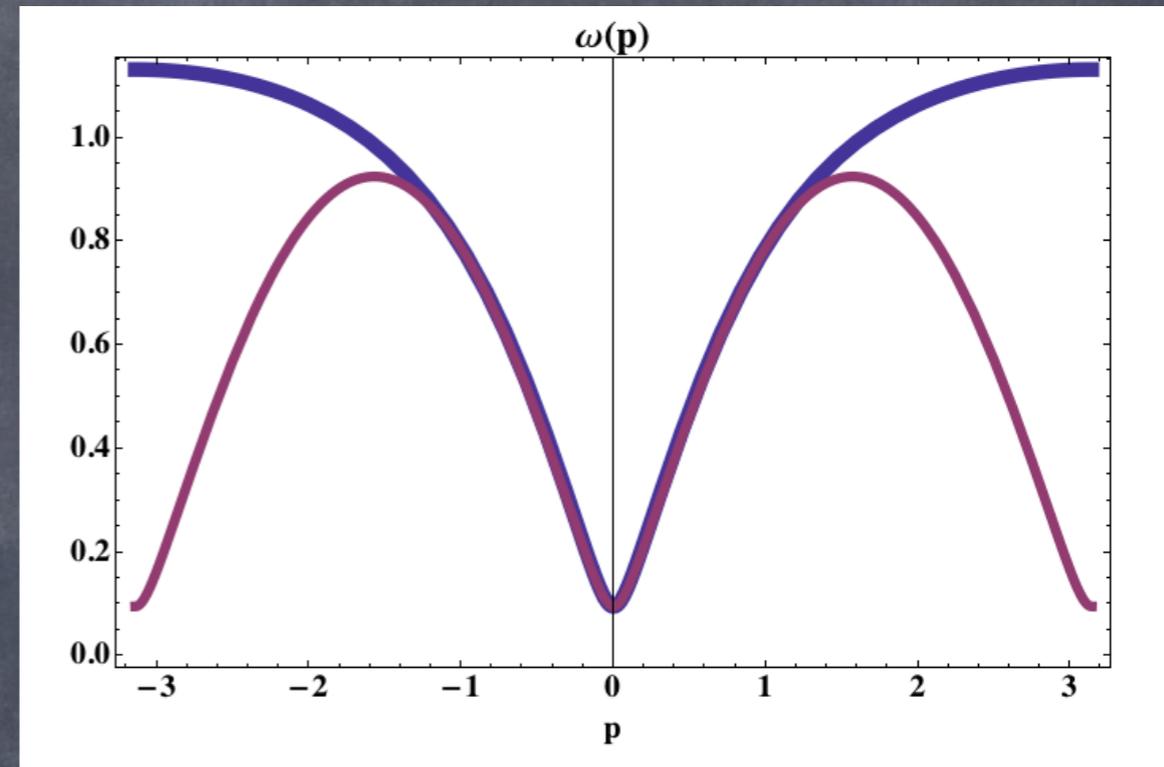
$$(D_W + m) \underbrace{\psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0)} = \frac{1}{a^4} \delta_{x,0}$$

$$\underbrace{\psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0)} = \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{ipx}}{i \not{p} + \frac{1}{2} a \hat{p}^2 + m}$$

# Energy

$$\frac{1}{i \not{p} + \frac{1}{2}a\hat{p}^2 + m} = \frac{-i \not{p} + M(p)}{\not{p}^2 + M(p)^2}$$

**Poles**  $p_0 = \pm i\omega(\underline{p})$



$$\omega(\underline{p}) = \frac{2}{a} \operatorname{asinh} \left\{ \frac{a}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\underline{p}^2 + M(\underline{p})^2}{1 + aM(\underline{p})}} \right\}$$

$$M(\underline{p}) \equiv m + \frac{1}{2}a\hat{p}^2$$

# Wilson term

$$D_W = \sum_{\mu=0}^3 \frac{1}{2} [\gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) - a \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu]$$

- The Wilson term is irrelevant in the continuum limit

$$a \bar{\psi} \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \psi$$

- dimension 5 operator, so coefficient must have dimension -1 to include  $[a] = -1$  in the Lagrangian
- irrelevant = vanishes in continuum limit

- The Wilson term breaks chiral symmetry!

$$\bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \psi = \bar{\psi}_L \gamma_\mu \psi_L + \bar{\psi}_R \gamma_\mu \psi_R$$

$$\bar{\psi} \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \psi = \bar{\psi}_L \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \psi_R + \bar{\psi}_R \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \psi_L$$

- The Wilson operator will mix non-perturbatively with the quark mass operator

$$\bar{\psi} m \psi = \bar{\psi}_L m \psi_R + \bar{\psi}_R m \psi_L$$

- The input quark mass receives LARGE additive correction from non-perturbative effects from Wilson operator - FINE TUNING BY LQCD practitioner to get light physical quark masses

# Chiral Symmetry on the lattice

- Constructing a lattice action that respects chiral symmetry is challenging (1-2 orders of magnitude more expensive)
  - define lattice-chiral symmetry: Ginsparg Wilson relation
  - Domain-Wall Fermions
  - Overlap Fermions

# Gauge fields

## Gauge transformations

$$\psi(x) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)\psi(x) \quad \Lambda(x) \in SU(3)$$

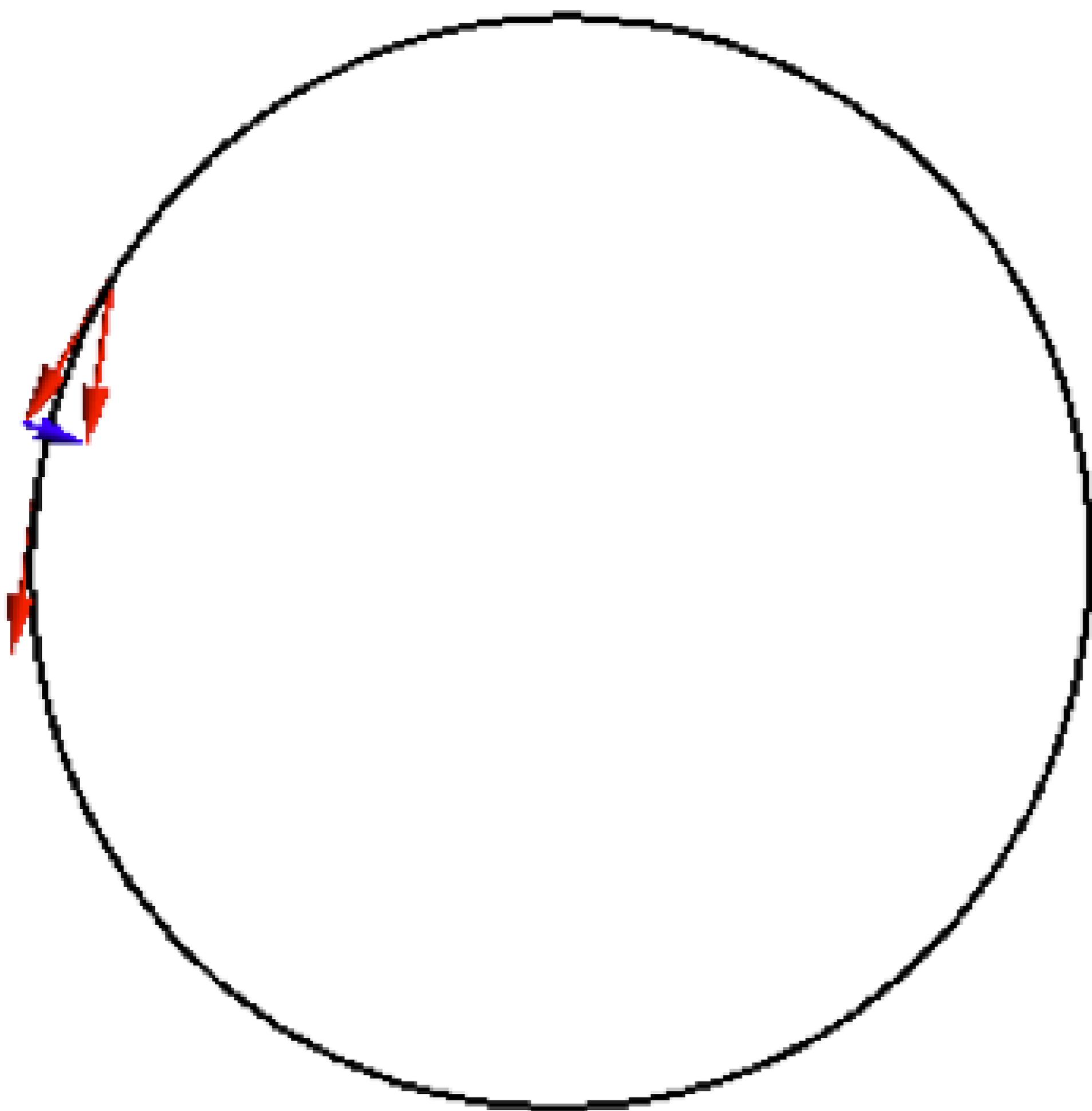
## Covariant derivative in the continuum

$$D_\mu\psi(x) = (\partial_\mu + A_\mu(x))\psi(x)$$

$$A_\mu(x) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)A_\mu(x)\Lambda(x)^{-1} + \Lambda(x)\partial_\mu\Lambda(x)^{-1}$$



$$D_\mu\psi(x) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x) [D_\mu\psi(x)]$$



# Lattice covariant derivatives

$$\partial_\mu \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [\psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x)]$$

$$\longrightarrow \frac{1}{a} [\Lambda(x + a\hat{\mu})\psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \Lambda(x)\psi(x)]$$

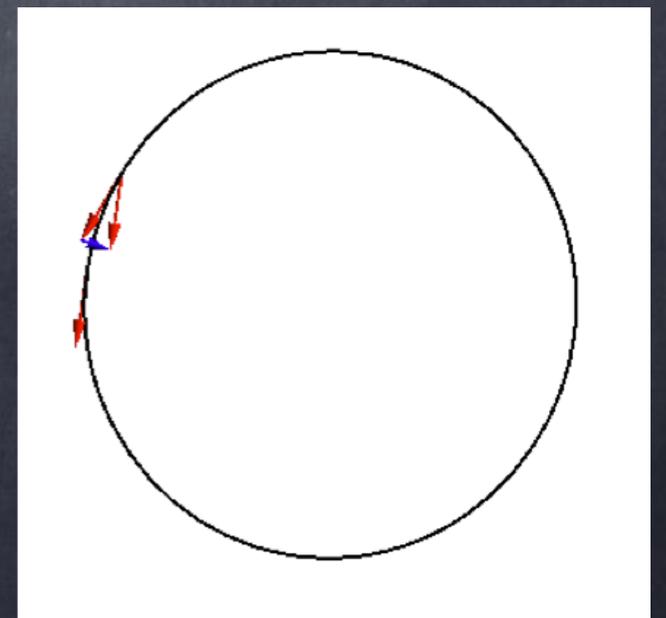
Need gauge connection

$$U(x, \mu) \in SU(3) \quad U(x, \mu) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)U(x, \mu)\Lambda(x + a\hat{\mu})^{-1}$$

Covariant derivatives

$$\nabla_\mu \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} [U(x, \mu)\psi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x)]$$

$$\nabla_\mu \psi(x) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)\nabla_\mu \psi(x)$$



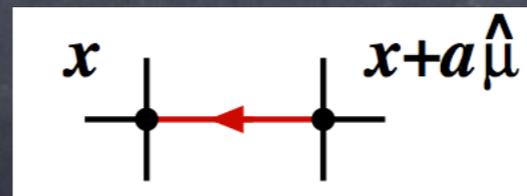
$$\nabla_{\mu}^* \psi(x) = \frac{1}{a} \left[ \psi(x) - U(x - a\hat{\mu}, \mu)^{-1} \psi(x - a\hat{\mu}) \right]$$

=> gauge covariant Wilson-Dirac operator

$$D_W = \sum_{\mu=0}^3 \frac{1}{2} \left[ \gamma_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu}^* + \nabla_{\mu}) - a \nabla_{\mu}^* \nabla_{\mu} \right]$$

An  $SU(3)$  lattice gauge field is an assignment of a matrix

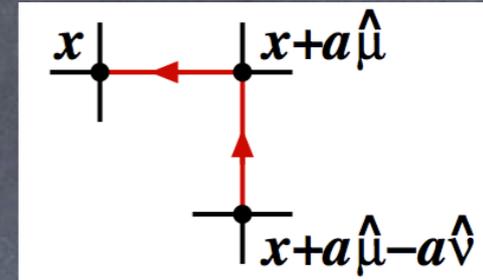
$$U(x, \mu) \in SU(3)$$



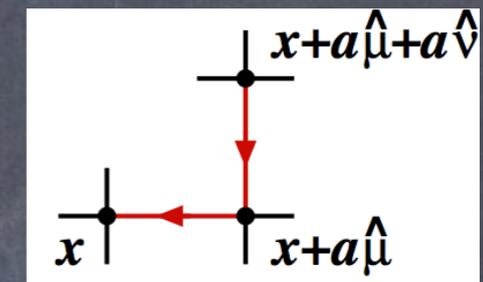
to every link  $(x, x + a\hat{\mu})$  on the lattice

# Wilson lines

$$U(x, \mu)U(x + a\hat{\mu} - a\hat{\nu}, \nu)^{-1}$$

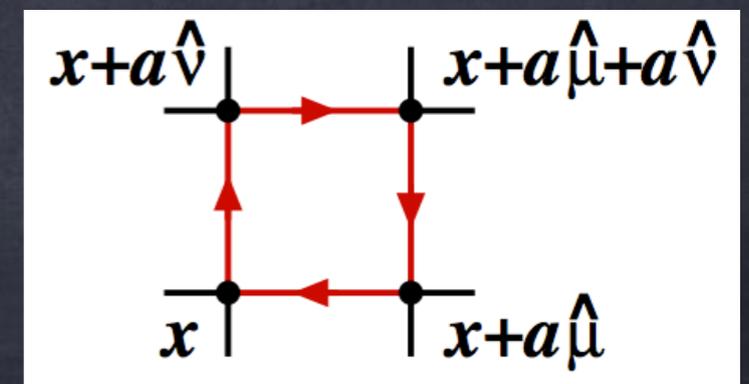


$$U(x, \mu)U(x + a\hat{\mu}, \nu)$$



## Plaquette

$$U(x, \mu)U(x + a\hat{\mu}, \nu)U(x + a\hat{\nu}, \mu)^{-1}U(x, \nu)^{-1}$$



# Wilson lines

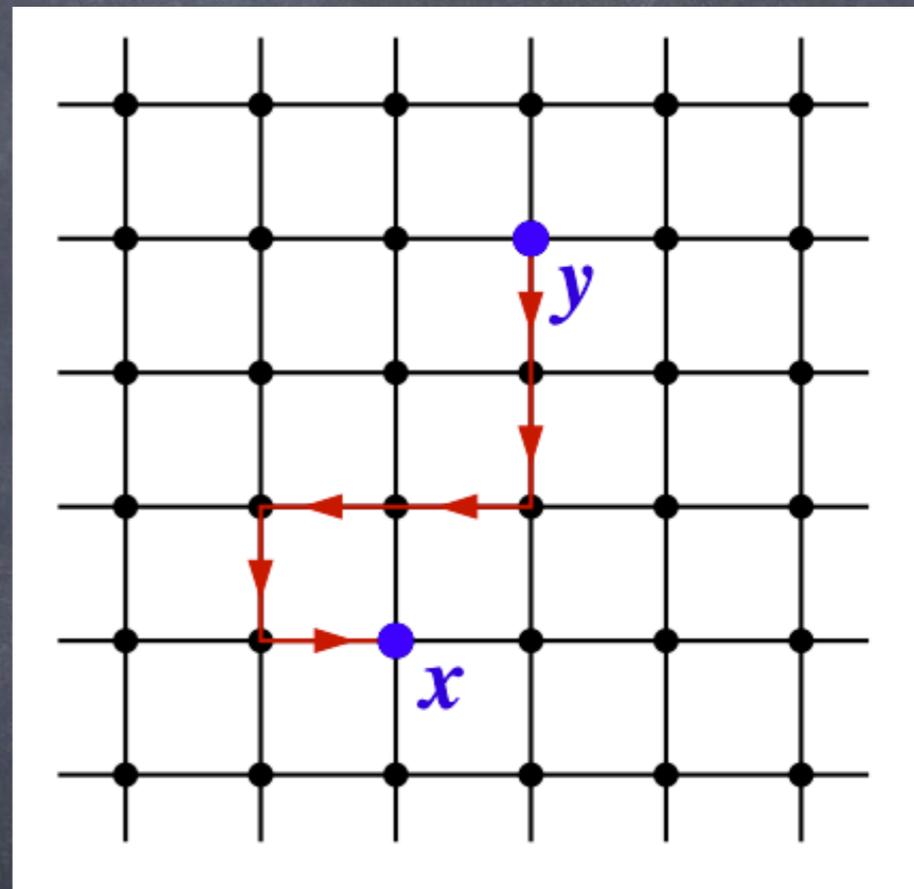
$U(x, y; \mathcal{C})$  Ordered products of  $U$ 's

$$U(x, y; \mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)U(x, y; \mathcal{C})\Lambda(y)^{-1}$$

For any closed curve the Wilson loop

$$W(\mathcal{C}) = \text{tr} [U(x, x; \mathcal{C})]$$

is gauge invariant and independent of  $x$



# Lattice and continuum gauge fields

How do we approximate a continuum gauge field by a lattice gauge field?

$$U(x, y; \mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \Lambda(x)U(x, y; \mathcal{C})\Lambda(y)^{-1}$$

In the continuum the "gauge transporter"

$$G(x, x + a\hat{\mu}) = \mathcal{T} \exp \left\{ a \int_0^1 d\tau A_\mu (x + (1 - \tau)a\hat{\mu}) \right\}$$

$$G(x, x + a\hat{\mu}) \rightarrow \Lambda(x)G(x, x + a\hat{\mu})\Lambda^{-1}(x + a\hat{\mu})$$

Lattice gauge field = gauge transporter

# Lattice and continuum gauge fields

$$U(x, x + a\hat{\mu}) = G(x, x + a\hat{\mu}) + O(a)$$

Introduce algebra-valued gauge field

$$U(x, \mu) = \exp \{aA_\mu\} \simeq 1 + aA_\mu(x) + O(a^2)$$

$\implies$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_\mu \psi(x) &= \frac{1}{a} [(1 + aA_\mu(x))\psi(x + 1\hat{\mu}) - \psi(x)] + O(a) = \\ &(\partial_\mu + A_\mu(x)) \psi(x) + O(a) \end{aligned}$$

# Gauge invariant local fields

## Quark bilinears

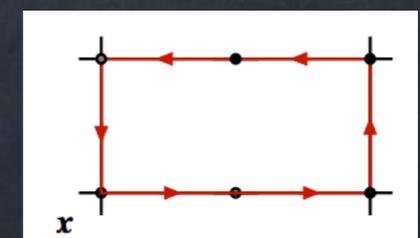
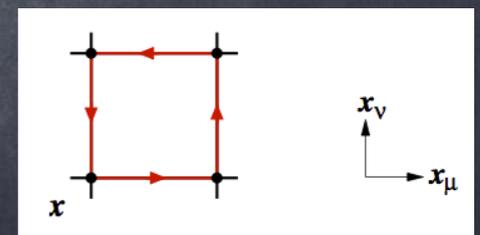
$$\bar{\psi}(x)\psi(x) \quad \bar{\psi}(x)\gamma_5\tau^a\psi(x) \quad \bar{\psi}(x)\gamma_\mu\psi(x)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x)\gamma_\mu\nabla_\nu\psi(x) \quad \bar{\psi}(x)\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu\psi(x) \quad \bar{\psi}(x)U(x,\mu)\psi(x+a\hat{\mu})$$

## Plaquette and rectangle fields

$$P_{\mu\nu}(x) = \text{Re tr} [1 - U(x, x; \square)]$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} = \text{Re tr} \{1 - U(x, x; \square)\}$$



# Classical continuum limit

$$\mathcal{O}(x) \underset{a \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \sum_{n \geq 0} a^n \mathcal{O}_n(x)$$

$\mathcal{O}_n(x)$  Gauge invariant polynomial of  $\psi(x)$ ,  $\bar{\psi}(x)$ ,  $A_\mu(x)$  and their derivatives of dim=n

## Examples

$$U(x, x; \square) = -\frac{1}{2}a^4 \text{tr} [F_{\mu\nu}(x) F_{\mu\nu}(x)] - \frac{1}{2}a^5 \text{tr} [F_{\mu\nu}(x) (D_\mu + D_\nu) F_{\mu\nu}(x)] + \dots$$

$$R_{\mu\nu}(x) = -2a^4 \text{tr} [F_{\mu\nu}(x) F_{\mu\nu}(x)] + \dots$$

- Lattice fields can be classified by their leading behavior in the classical continuum limit
- Any gauge-invariant, local continuum field can be represented on the lattice
- The representation is not unique  $\Leftrightarrow$  many lattice representations for a local continuum field

# Lattice QCD action

Wilson 1974

$$S = S_G + S_F$$

$$S_G = \frac{1}{g_0^2} \sum_x \sum_{\mu, \nu} P_{\mu\nu}(x)$$

$$S_F = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) [D_W + M] \psi(x)$$

$$D_W = \frac{1}{2} [\gamma_\mu (\nabla_\mu + \nabla_\mu^*) - a \nabla_\mu^* \nabla_\mu]$$

# Other lattice actions

$$S_G = \frac{1}{g_0^2} \sum_x \sum_{\mu\nu} [c_0 P_{\mu\nu}(x) + c_1 R_{\mu\nu}(x)] \quad c_0 + 4c_1 = 1$$

- The differences are of order  $a^p$  in the classical continuum limit
- Additional terms can be added and the coefficients tuned to improve the convergence to the continuum limit

# Integrating the fermion fields

$$\mathcal{Z}_F = \int \mathcal{D}[\psi] \mathcal{D}[\bar{\psi}] \exp \{ -S_W [U, \bar{\psi}, \psi] \} \quad S_W = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) [D_W + M] \psi(x)$$

This integral is quadratic in the fermions, so we can directly do the integral

$$= \det [D_W + M] = \prod_{q=1}^{N_f} \det [D_W + m_q]$$

$$\mathcal{Z}_{QCD} = \int DU_\mu \det [D_W + M] e^{-S_G[U_\mu]}$$

# Quark contractions

$$[D_W + M] S(x, y; U) = \frac{1}{a^4} \delta_{xy}$$

Quark propagator  
and  
correlation function

$$\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(y) \rangle_F = S(x, y; U)$$

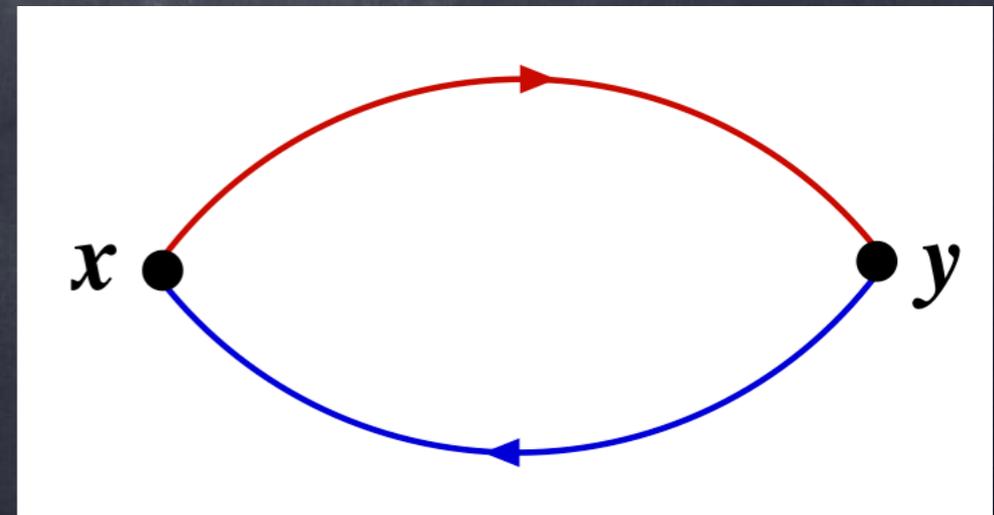
$$\langle \psi(x_1) \bar{\psi}(y_2) \psi(x_2) \bar{\psi}(y_2) \rangle_F = S(x_1, y_1; U) S(x_2, y_2; U) - \dots$$

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}[U] \langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle_F \prod_{q=1}^{N_f} \det [D_W + m_q] \exp \{-S_G[U]\}$$

## Pion correlation function

$$\langle \bar{u}(x) \gamma_5 d(x) \bar{d}(y) \gamma_5 u(y) \rangle_F = -\text{tr} \{ \gamma_5 S_{dd}(x, y; U) \gamma_5 S_{uu}(y, x; U) \}$$

==> now only bosonic integral



# Regularity

In a finite volume

- The space of gauge fields is compact
- After fermion fields are integrated out one is normally left with a bosonic integral

$\implies$  the correlation functions are well defined

$\implies$  lattice QCD provides a non-perturbative regularization of QCD

# Gauge invariance

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{O}^\Lambda \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{O}^\Lambda [U, \bar{\psi}, \psi] = \mathcal{O} [U^\Lambda, \bar{\psi}^\Lambda, \psi^\Lambda]$$

$$U^\Lambda(x, \mu) = \Lambda(x) U(x, \mu) \Lambda(x + a\hat{\mu})^{-1}, \dots$$

## Example

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(y) \rangle &= \Lambda(x) \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(y) \rangle \Lambda(y)^{-1} \\ &= 0 \quad x \neq y \end{aligned}$$

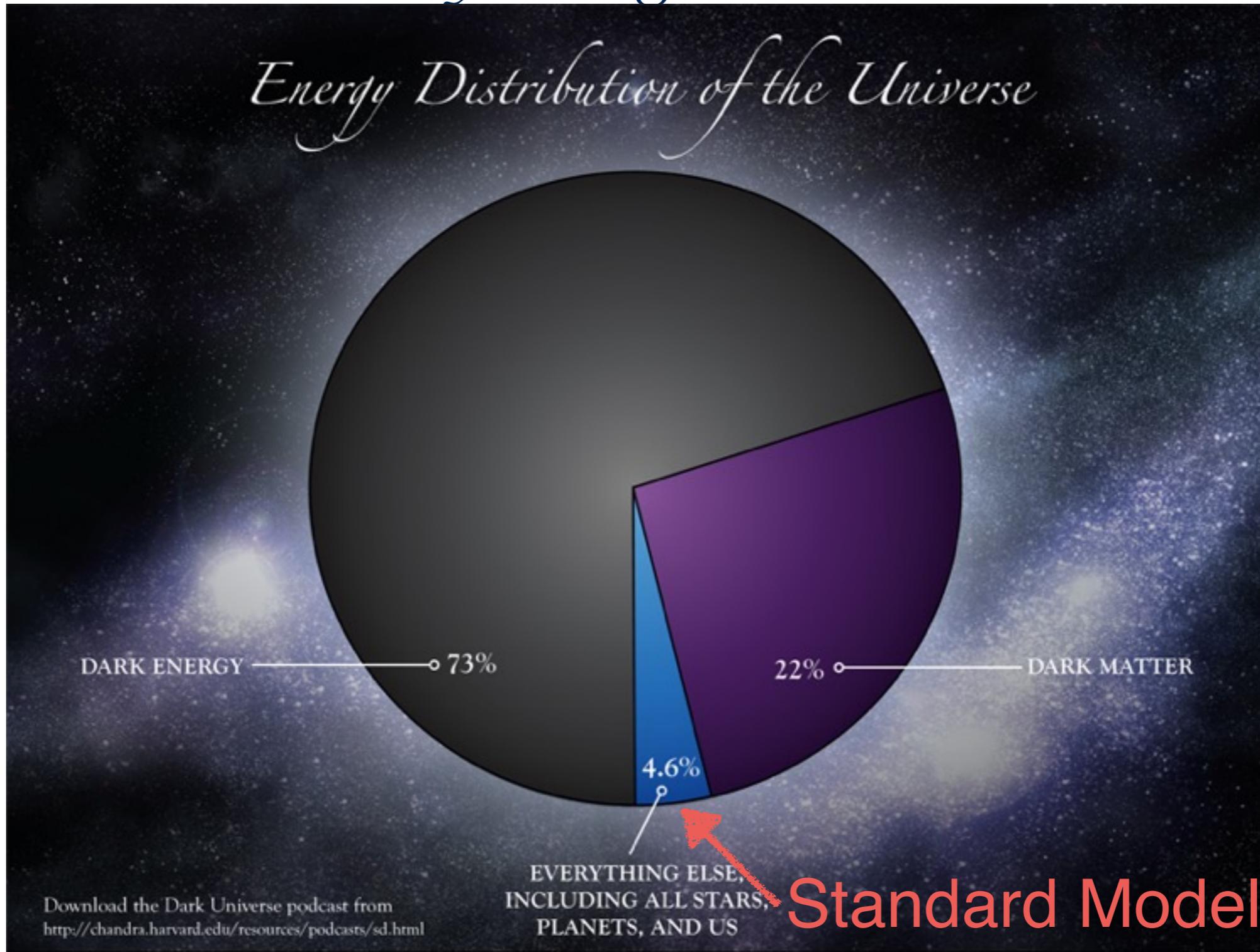
# Space-time symmetries

Correlation functions are invariant

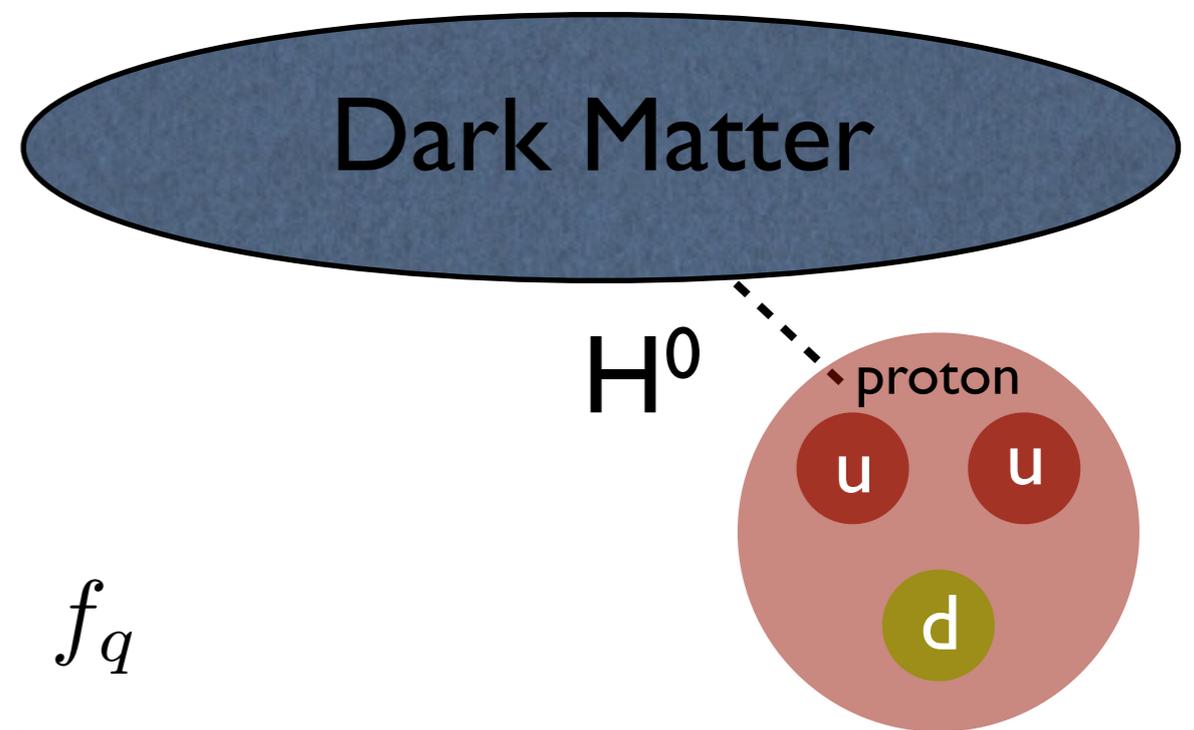
- Translation by lattice vectors
- Space-time rotations  $H(4)$ 
  - continuous rotational symmetry  $O(4)$  is broken down to hypercubic rotations
- Charge conjugation, [parity, time-reversal]

# Testing the Standard Model at low-energy

- While we have no direct confirmation of any BSM physics - we have very strong indirect evidence:



If Dark Matter couples to the scalar current of the nucleon (eg via Higgs) **Spin Independent cross section**



$$\sigma \propto |f|^2 \quad f = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{7}{9} \sum_{q=u,d,s} f_q$$

$$f_q \equiv \frac{\langle N | m_q \bar{q}q | N \rangle}{m_N}$$

scalar current difficult to measure experimentally

see eg. [Cheung, Hall, Pinner, Ruderman](#)  
arXiv:1211.4873

with enhancement of  $A^2$  for nucleus (Xenon)

$f_{u,d}$  estimated from pion-nucleon scattering

$f_s$  uncertainty dominates estimates of cross section

[Ellis, Olive, Savage](#)  
Phys.Rev. D77 (2008)

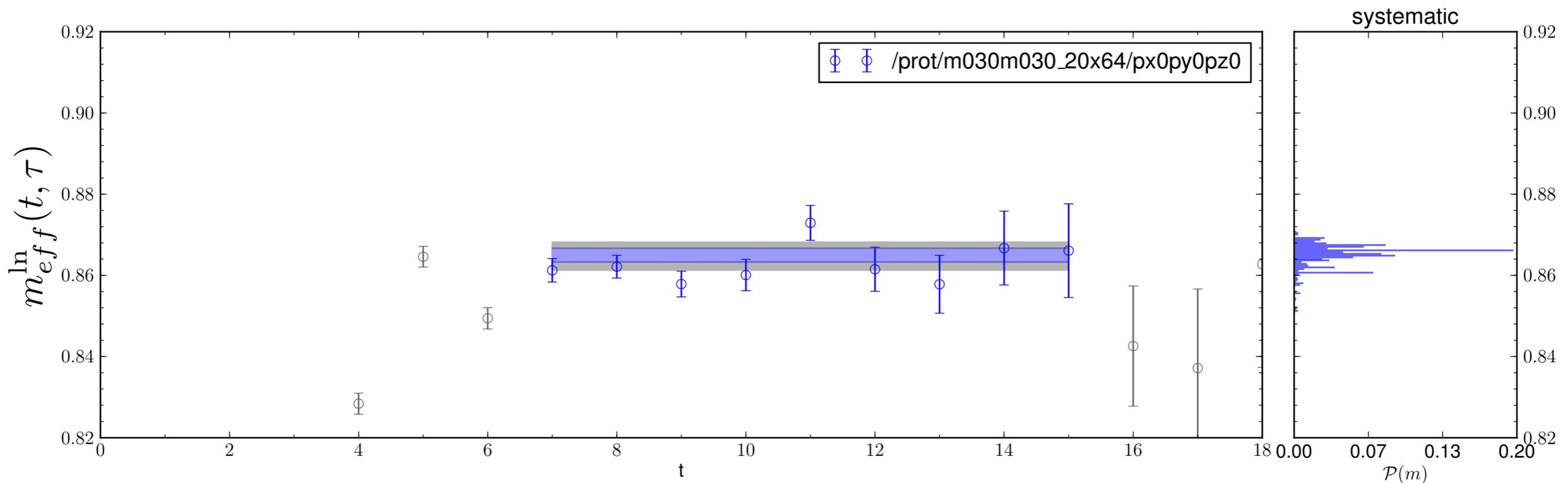


# strange content of the nucleon

P. Junnarkar and AWL  
arXiv:1301.1114

Lattice QCD perfect tool to compute strange content of nucleon  $m_s \langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle$

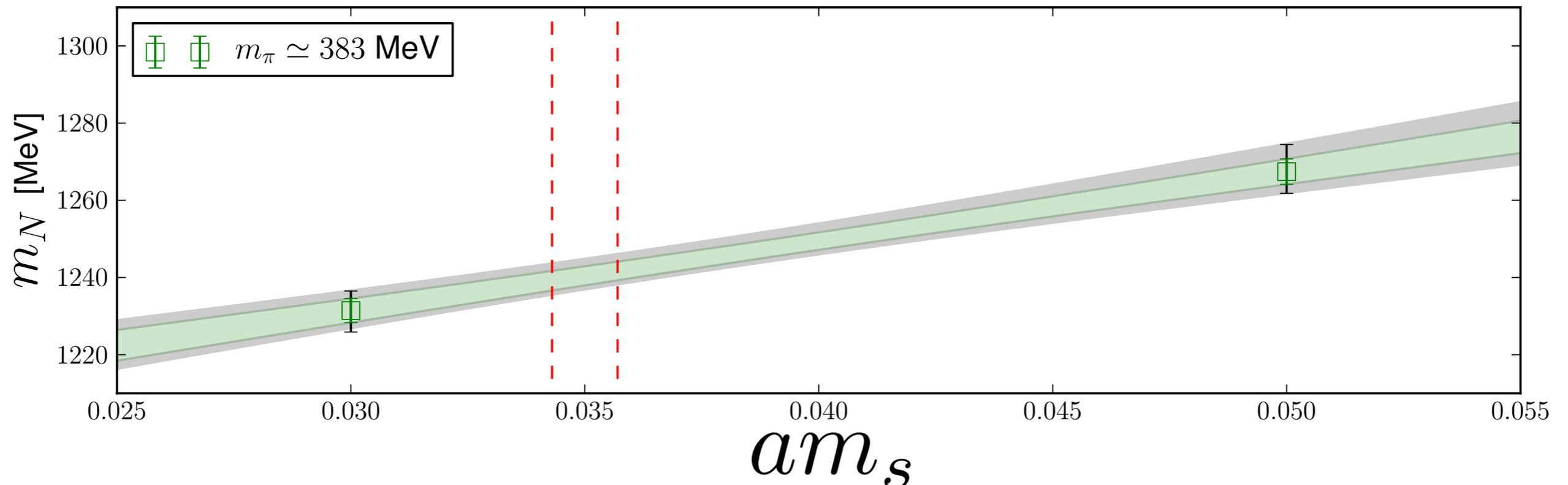
Feynman-Hellmann Theorem  $m_q \langle N | \bar{q}q | N \rangle = m_q \frac{\partial}{\partial m_q} m_N$



Lattice QCD perfect tool to compute strange content of nucleon  $m_s \langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle$

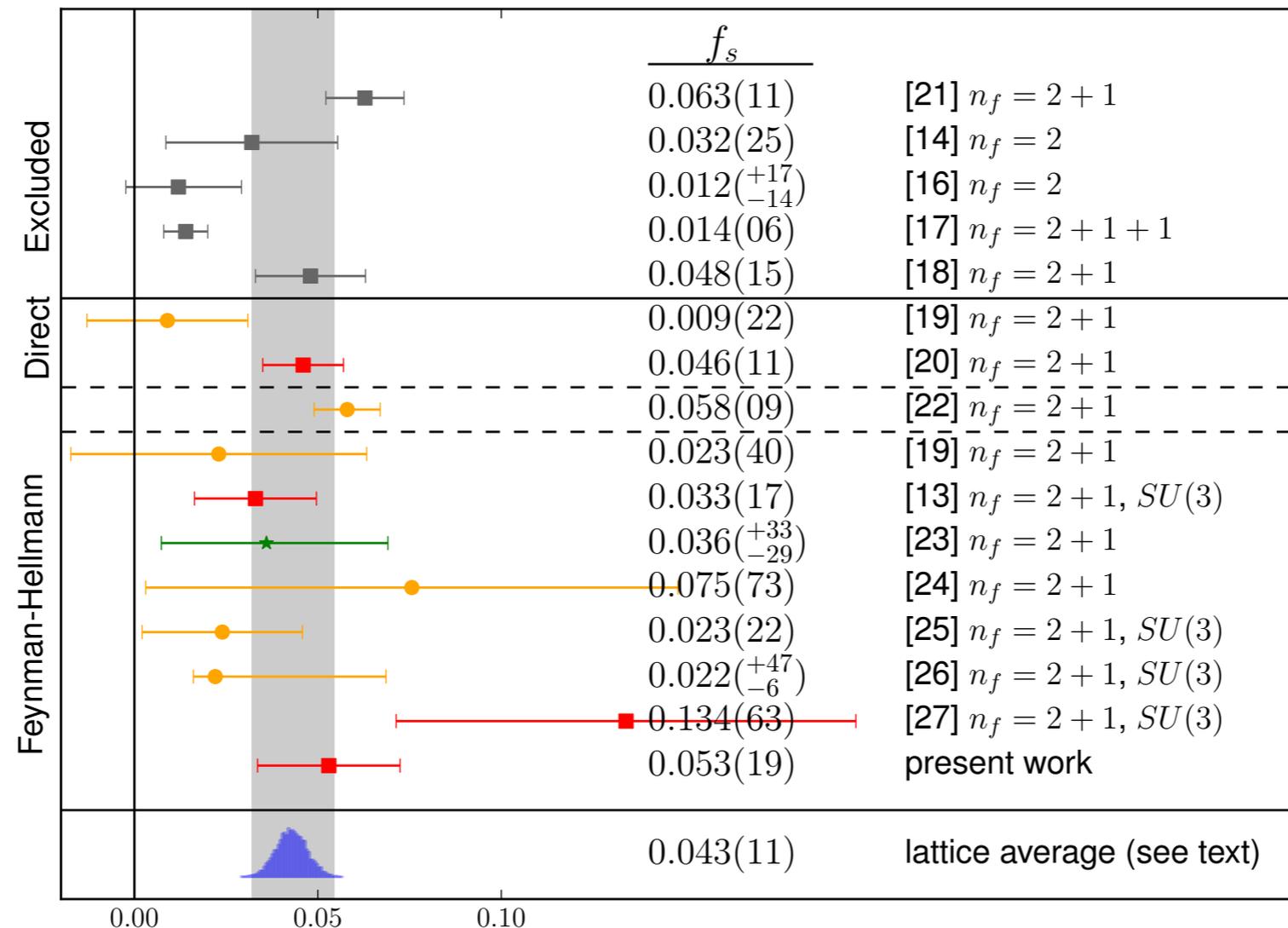
Feynman-Hellmann Theorem  $m_q \langle N | \bar{q}q | N \rangle = m_q \frac{\partial}{\partial m_q} m_N$

$am_s^{phys}$



Lattice QCD perfect tool to compute strange content of nucleon  $m_s \langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle$

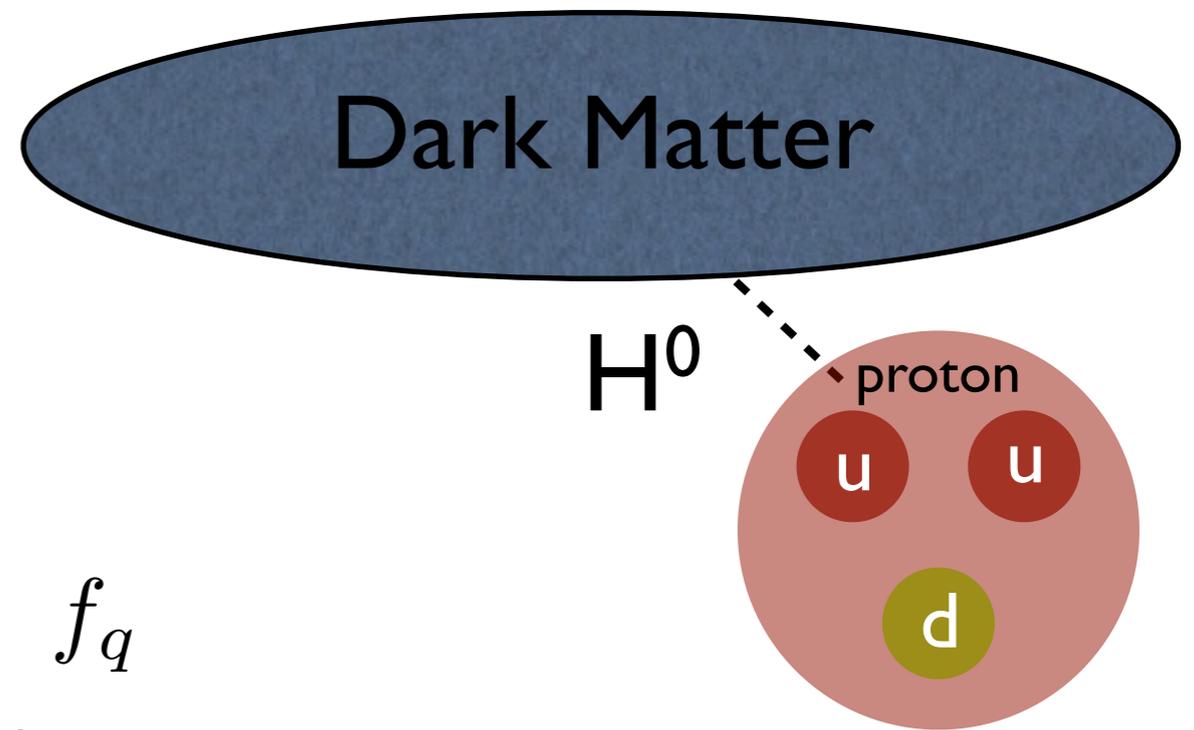
Feynman-Hellmann Theorem  $m_q \langle N | \bar{q}q | N \rangle = m_q \frac{\partial}{\partial m_q} m_N$



$$\hat{f}_s = m_s \langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle / m_N$$



If Dark Matter couples to the scalar current of the nucleon (eg via Higgs) **Spin Independent cross section**



$$\sigma \propto |f|^2 \quad f = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{7}{9} \sum_{q=u,d,s} f_q$$

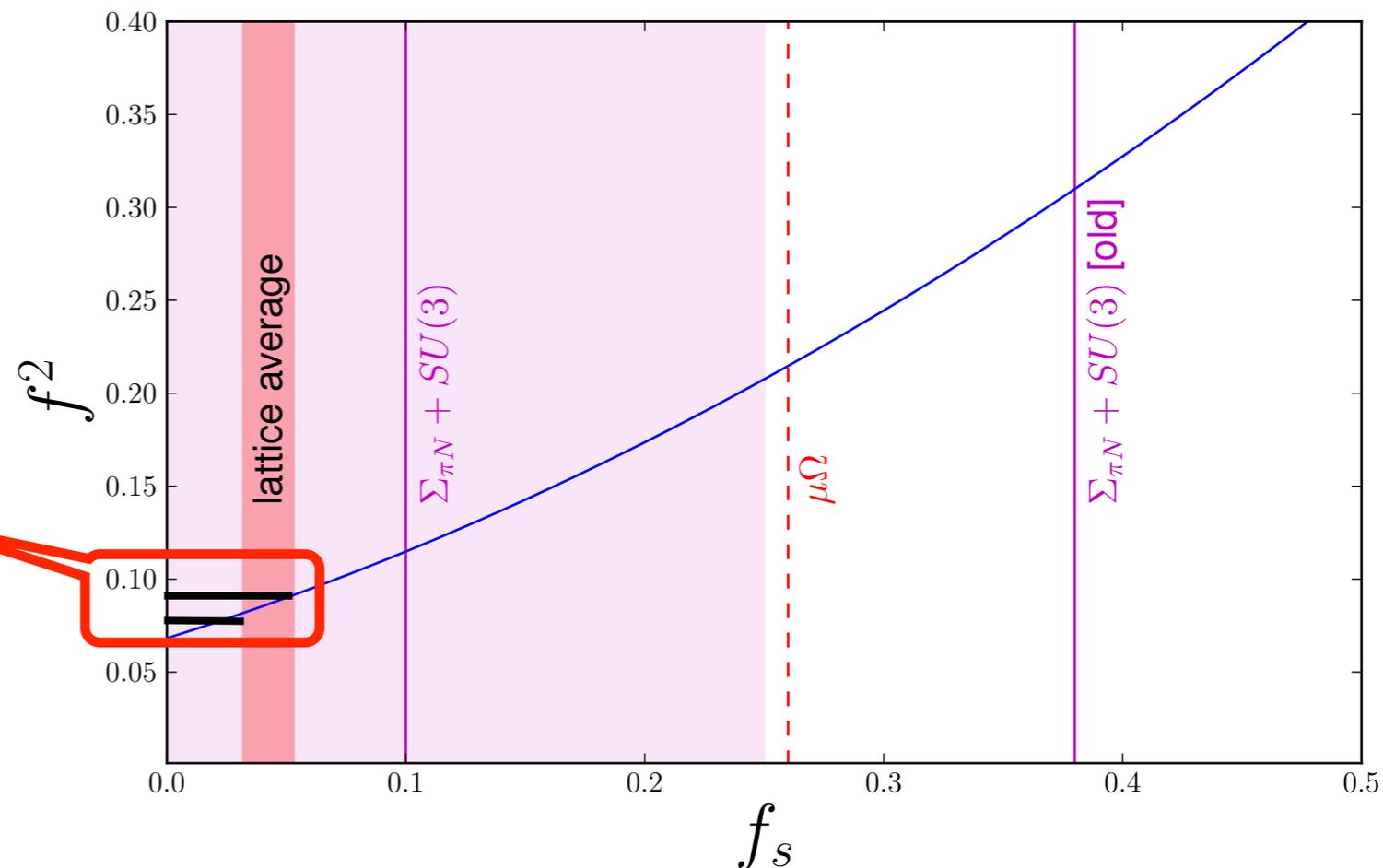
$$f_q \equiv \frac{\langle N | m_q \bar{q}q | N \rangle}{m_N}$$

figure adapted from arXiv:1211.4873  
thanks to J. Ruderman and collaborators

see eg. **Cheung, Hall, Pinner, Ruderman**  
arXiv:1211.4873

dramatic reduction in uncertainty of cross section

now  $f_{u,d}$  gives larger uncertainty - but harder



# Light quark mass dependence of $M_B$

---

$f_{u,d}$  can be determined from the pion mass dependence of the nucleon mass

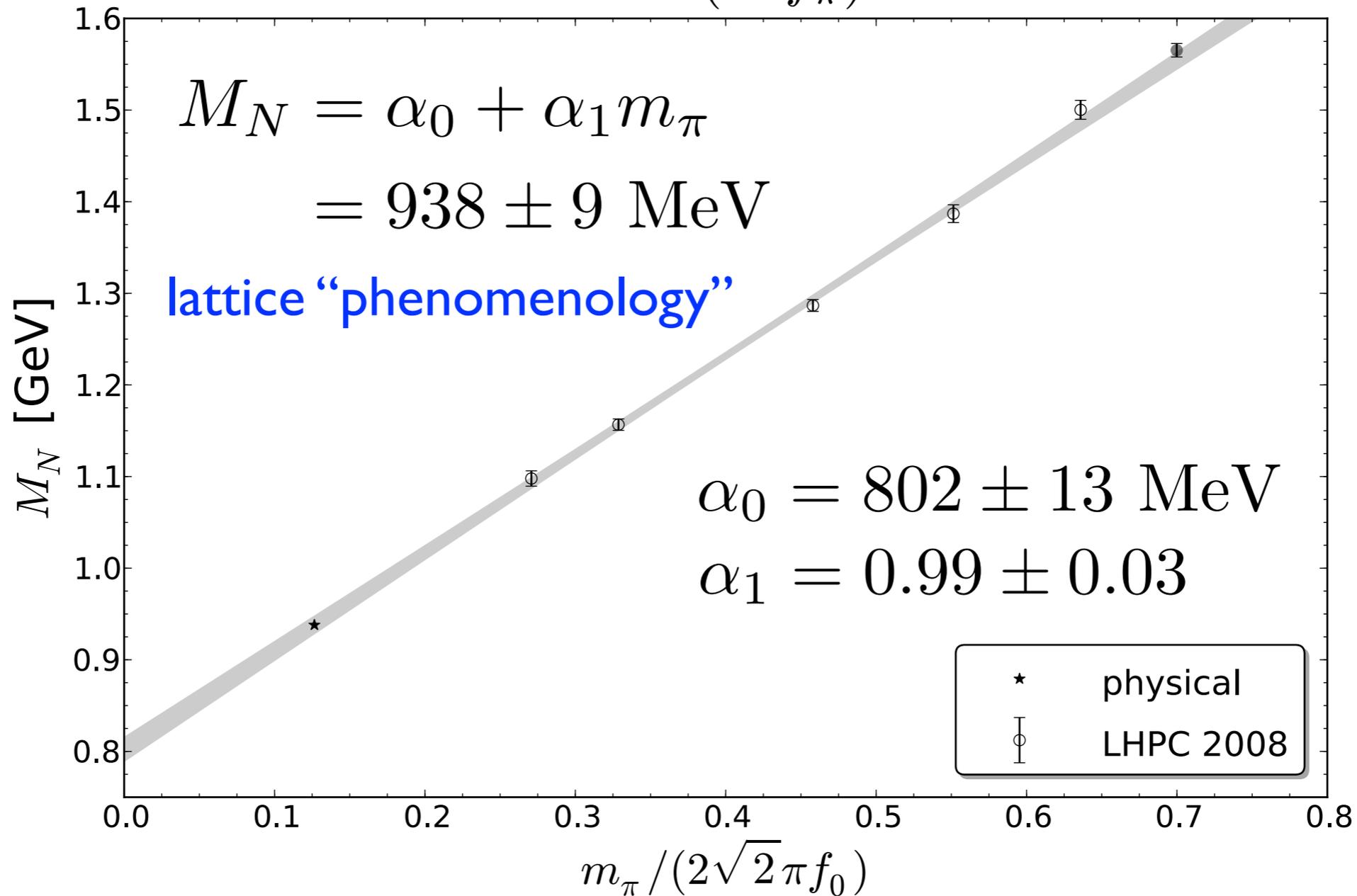
$$M_N = M_0 + \alpha_N m_\pi^2 - \frac{3\pi g_A^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} m_\pi^3 + \dots$$

$$m_\pi^2 = B_0(m_u + m_d) + \dots$$

(these expressions are derived from chiral perturbation theory, the low-energy effective field theory of QCD whose construction is based upon the approximate chiral symmetry of QCD)

# Light quark mass dependence of $M_B$

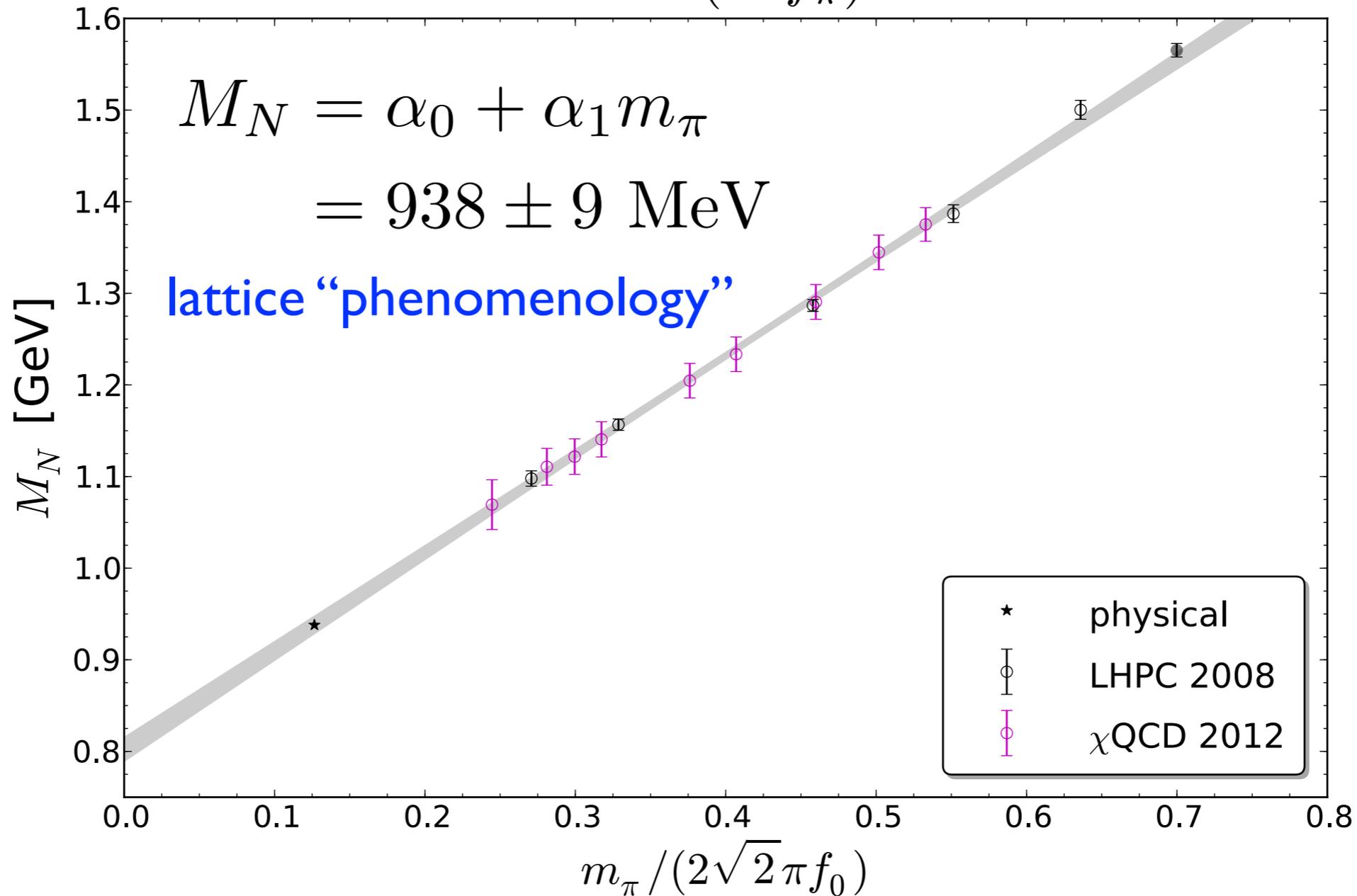
$$M_N = M_0 + \alpha_N m_\pi^2 - \frac{3\pi g_A^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} m_\pi^3 + \dots \quad \text{theory}$$



Physical point **NOT** included in fit

# Light quark mass dependence of $M_B$

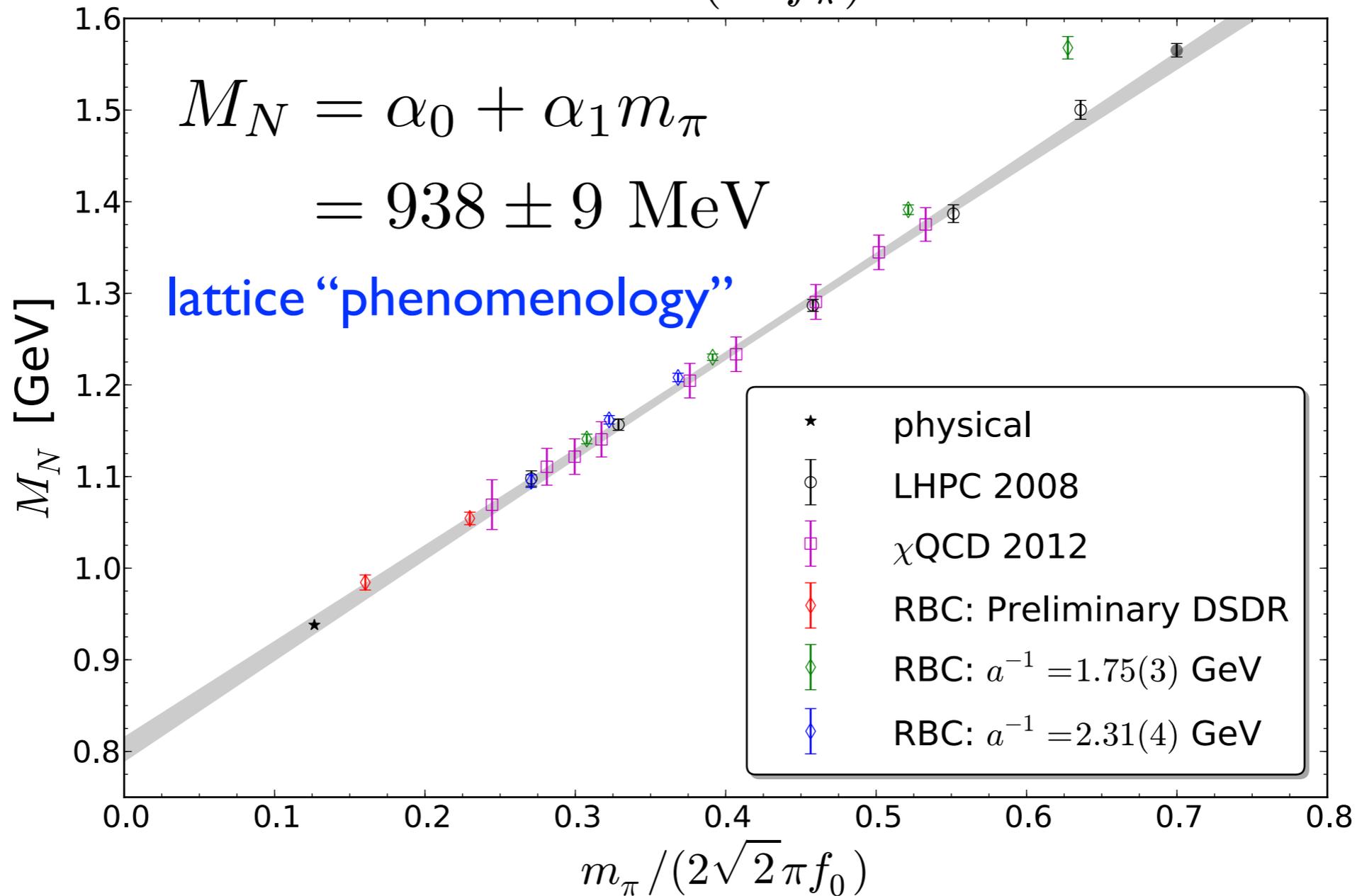
$$M_N = M_0 + \alpha_N m_\pi^2 - \frac{3\pi g_A^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} m_\pi^3 + \dots \quad \text{theory}$$



$\chi$ QCD Collaboration uses **Overlap Valence** fermions on **Domain-Wall** (RBC-UKQCD) sea fermions

# Light quark mass dependence of $M_B$

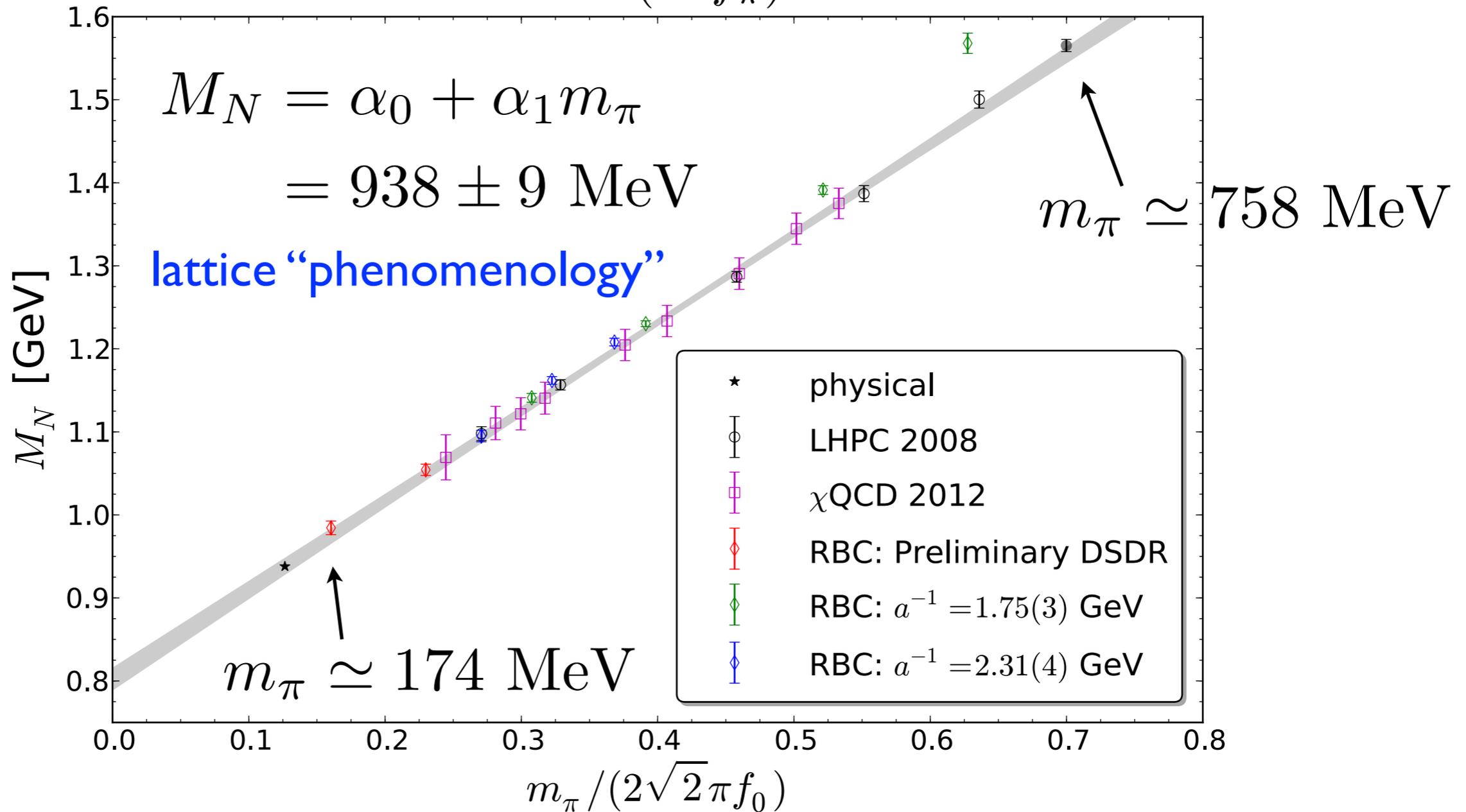
$$M_N = M_0 + \alpha_N m_\pi^2 - \frac{3\pi g_A^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} m_\pi^3 + \dots \quad \text{theory}$$



RBC-UKQCD Collaboration uses Domain-Wall valence and sea fermions

# Light quark mass dependence of $M_B$

$$M_N = M_0 + \alpha_N m_\pi^2 - \frac{3\pi g_A^2}{(4\pi f_\pi)^2} m_\pi^3 + \dots \quad \text{theory}$$



Taking this seriously yields

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = 67 \pm 4 \text{ MeV}$$

I am not advocating this as a good model for QCD!

# Conclusions

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- Understanding nuclear physics from the fundamental theory of strong interactions, QCD, is exciting and important for these and other reasons:
- Quantitative connection between QCD and the rich nuclear phenomenology
- Understanding precision low-energy nuclear physics to constrain the SM and searches for BSM physics
- The growth of computing power and algorithms means that **TODAY** is the beginning of a renaissance in nuclear physics where these exciting things are just becoming possible!

These were just a few select examples!

*Thank You*