

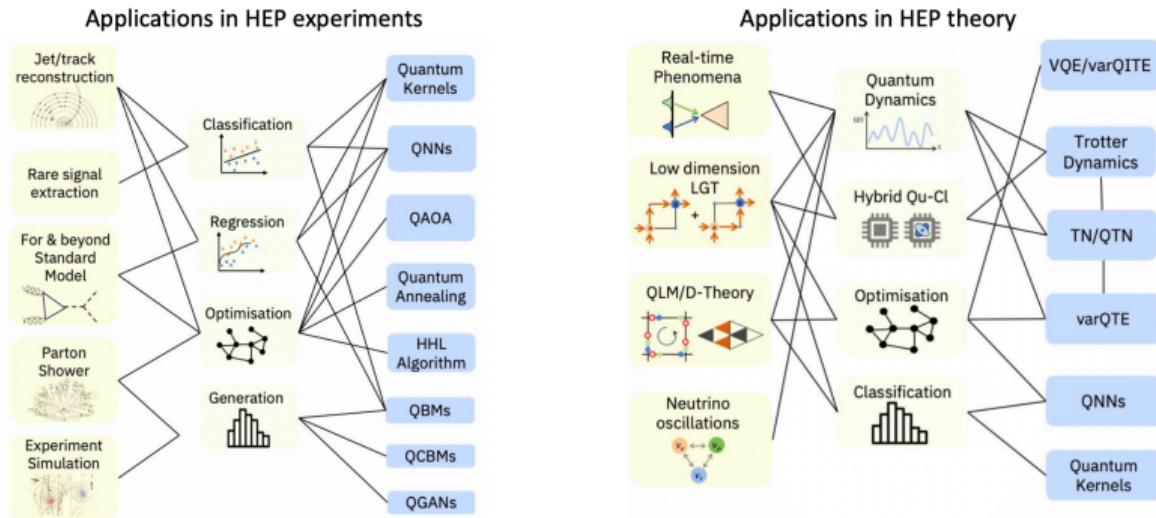
Strong interaction in the quantum era

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量子计算和人工智能与高能物理交叉研讨会
核探测与核电子学国家重点实验室，2025年1月11日，合肥



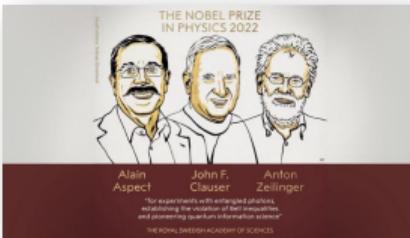
- Quantum algorithms provides theoretical speedup to overcome the large data bottleneck in HEP experiments
- Quantum simulation algorithm provides an ultimate path to overcome the computational complexity in simulating quantum field theories (QFTs)



Bell Inequality Violation & Entanglement in e^+e^- annihilation

Motivation

- In history, the study of quantum information is initially focused on **photonic system**.
- With the progress of HEP, quantum information can also be investigated in **high-energy particles at colliders**.



2022 Nobel prize

Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 18 September 2024

Observation of quantum entanglement with top quarks at the ATLAS detector

The ATLAS Collaboration

Nature 633, 542–547 (2024) | [Cite this article](#)

See ref. [The ATLAS Collaboration, Nature, 633, 542–547 (2024)].

$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow Y\bar{Y}$ at BEPCII

- Bell inequality violation (BIV) and entanglement can be probed in the hyperon-antihyperon system, with $Y\bar{Y} = \Lambda\bar{\Lambda}, \Sigma\bar{\Sigma}, \Xi\bar{\Xi}$.

$$\Theta_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_\psi \cos^2 \vartheta} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \alpha_\psi \cos^2 \vartheta & 0 & \beta_\psi \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2 \vartheta & 0 & \gamma_\psi \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta \\ \beta_\psi \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta & 0 & -\alpha_\psi \sin^2 \vartheta & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_\psi \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta & 0 & \alpha_\psi + \cos^2 \vartheta \end{bmatrix}$$

P^- : spin polarization(\bar{Y})
 P^+ : spin polarization(Y)
 C_{ij} : spin correlation($Y\bar{Y}$)



- The investigation is based on the **two-qubit density operator** for final hyperon systems.

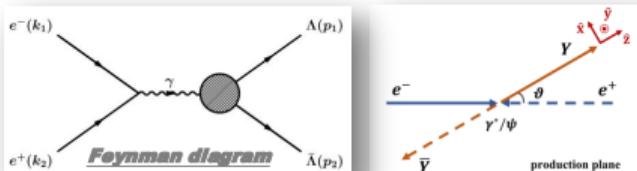


Table I. Some parameters in $e^+e^- \rightarrow J/\psi \rightarrow Y\bar{Y}$, where $Y\bar{Y}$ is a pair of ground-state octet hyperons.

	$\mathcal{B} (\times 10^{-4})$	α_ψ	$\Delta\Phi/\text{rad}$	Ref
$\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$	19.43(33)	0.475(4)	0.752(8)	[30, 41]
$\Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$	15.0(24)	-0.508(7)	-0.270(15)	[42, 43]
$\Xi^-\bar{\Xi}^+$	9.7(8)	0.586(16)	1.213(49)	[31, 44]
$\Xi^0\bar{\Xi}^0$	11.65(4)	0.514(16)	1.168(26)	[45, 46]



~~Strong interaction in the quantum era~~



Hamiltonian approach to strongly coupled quantum field theories suitable for quantum computing

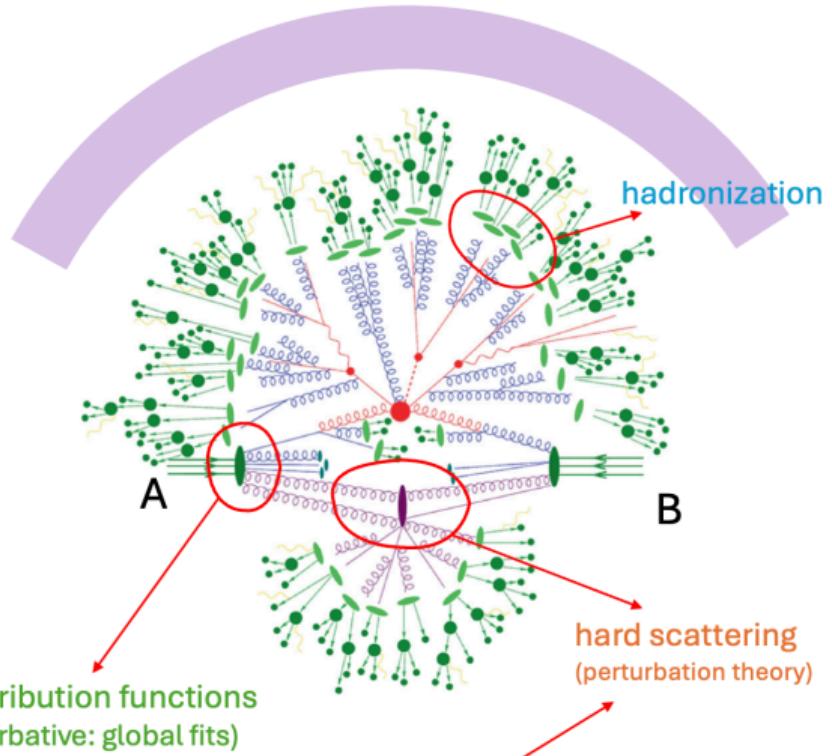
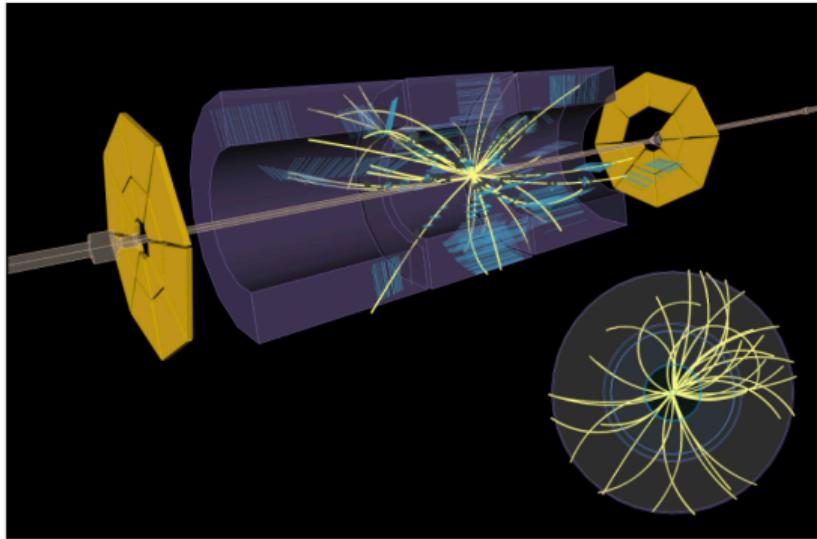
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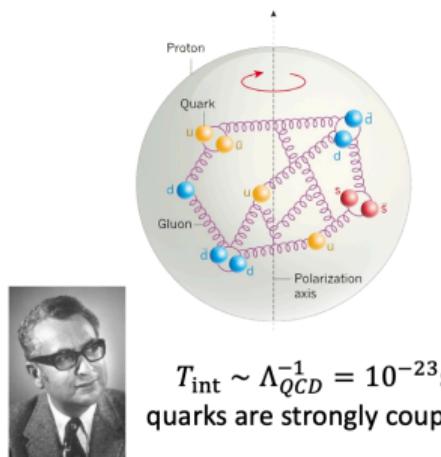


$$\sigma = \sum_{ab} \int_0^1 dx_a dx_b f_{a/A}(x_a, \mu_F) f_{b/B}(x_b, \mu_F) \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow X}$$

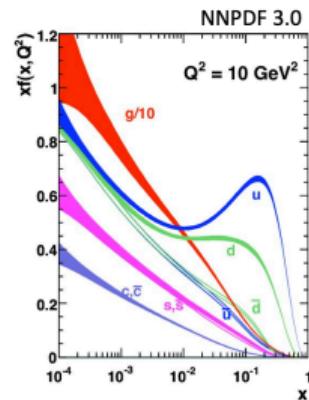
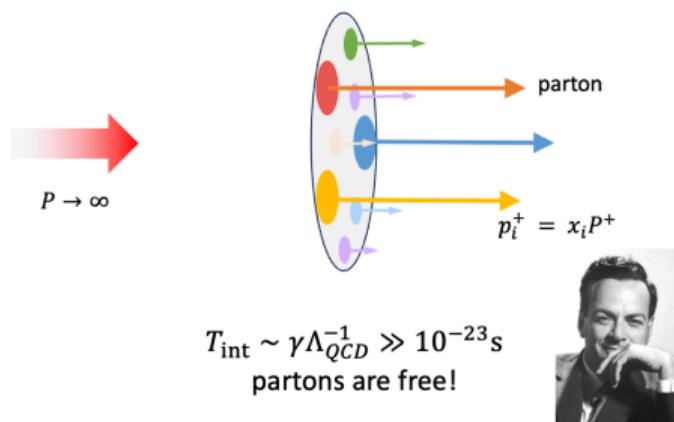
Parton picture

- Parton distribution function (PDF) $f(x)$ describes the **probability density** of finding a collinear parton of longitudinal momentum fraction x
- Non-perturbative \rightarrow obtained from **global fits**

quark model, Gell-Mann 1964



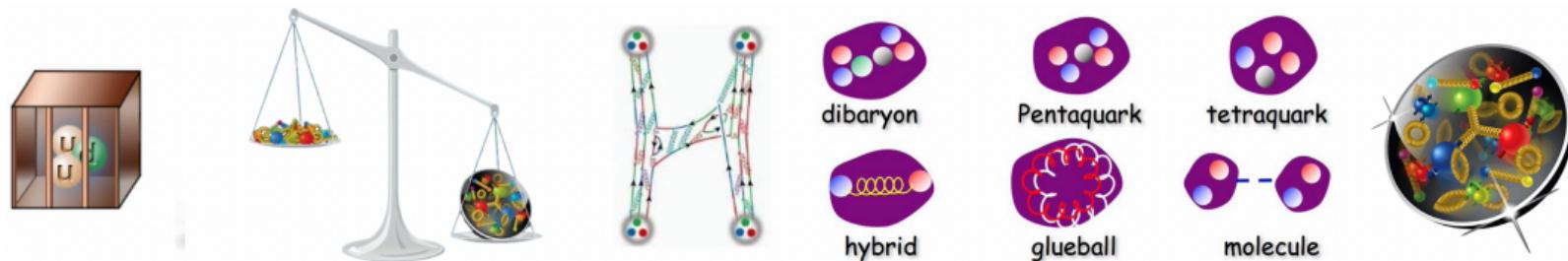
parton model, Feynman 1969



Parton entropy

$$S_{part} = - \int_0^1 dx f(x) \log f(x) > 0.$$

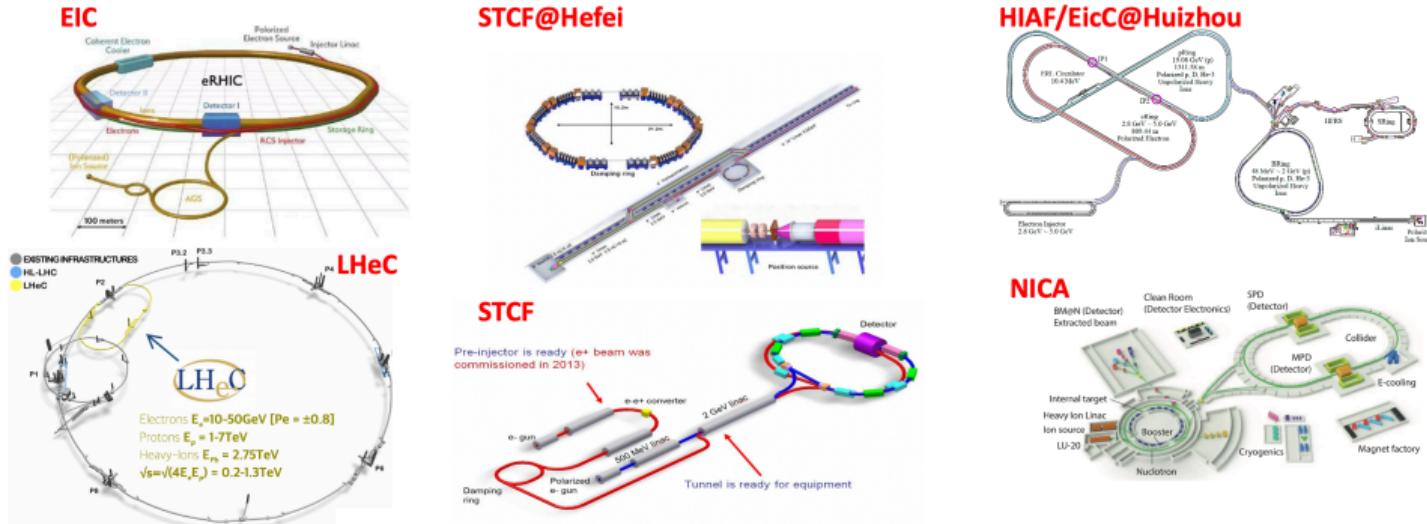
- From parton distribution $f(x)$, we can obtain a non-zero parton entropy S_{part}
- But, the proton is a pure state $\rho = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$ with vanishing von Neumann entropy
- Entropy = loss of information: **some quantum information of the proton is lost in the parton picture**
- Related to some of the big puzzles in high-energy physics? confinement, origin of mass, origin of exotic hadrons etc



- Electron-ion colliders: eRHIC, EicC, LHeC
- Electron-positron colliders: superKEKB, Super τ -charm facility (STCF)
- Heavy ion colliders: NICA, HIAF, FAIR

[AbdulKhalek:2021gbh, Anderle:2021wcy, LHeC:2020van]

[Peng:2020orp]



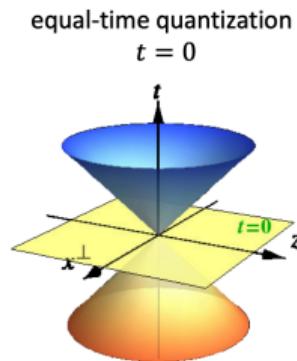
Light-Front Hamiltonian formalism

[Reviews: Brodsky '98, Burkardt '02, Bakker '14, Ji '21]

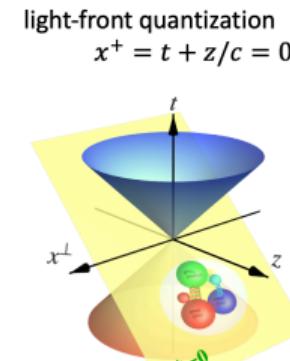
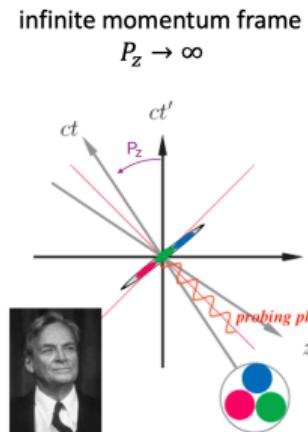
- Full quantum information is contained in the hadronic wave function $|\Psi\rangle$

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} |\Psi\rangle = P_\mu |\Psi\rangle, \quad (\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3)$$

- Relativity allows a free choice of the time variable, e.g. $x^0, x^+ = x^0 + x^3$
- Infinite momentum frame = light-front quantization: retaining the partonic picture



$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\Psi\rangle = P^0 |\Psi\rangle$$

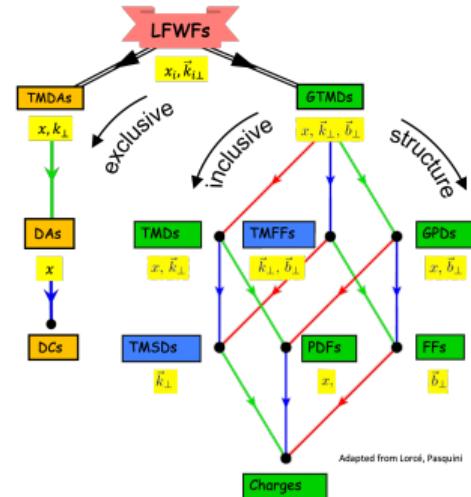
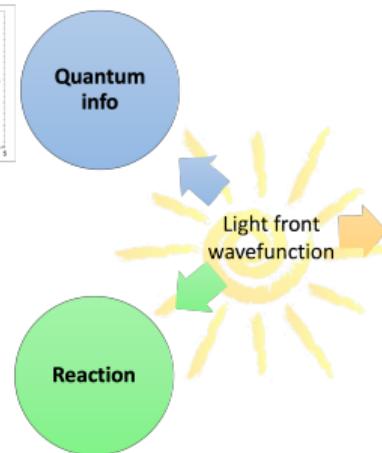
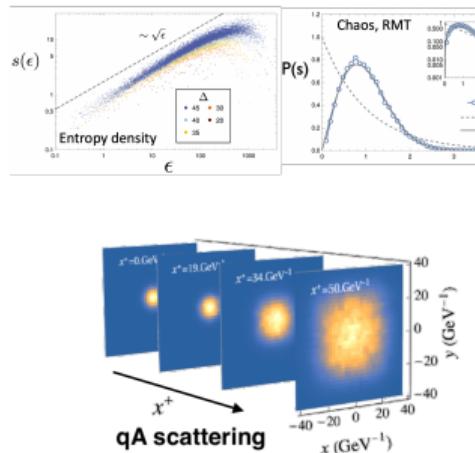


$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^+} |\Psi\rangle = P_+ |\Psi\rangle$$

Light-front wave functions (LFWFs)

[Reviews: Brodsky:1997de; Anand:2020gnn]

- Light-front physics underlines hadron structures measured in high-energy scattering experiments
- Light-front wave functions provide the full quantum information of hadrons



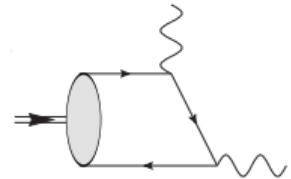
Other approaches to access the LFWFs:

[Chang:2013pq, Yang:2018nqn, dePaula:2022pcb, Eichmann:2021vnj, Frederico:2019noo, Ji:2013dva, Radyushkin:2017cyf, Ma:2021yqx]

Example: diphoton decay $P \rightarrow \gamma\gamma^*$

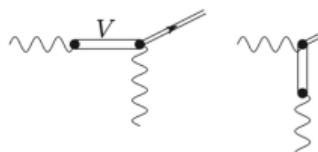
[Lepage:1980fj, Li:2021ejv]

$$\mathcal{M}_{P \rightarrow \gamma\gamma^*}^{\mu\nu} = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{em}}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}q_\rho n_\sigma F_{P\gamma}(-q^2)$$



$$F_{P\gamma}(Q^2) = e_f^2 2\sqrt{2N_C} \int \frac{dx}{2\sqrt{x(1-x)}} \int \frac{d^2 k_\perp}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\psi_{\uparrow\downarrow-\downarrow\uparrow/p}^*(x, \vec{k}_\perp)}{k_\perp^2 + m_f^2 + x(1-x)Q^2} + \dots$$

$$\sum_V \frac{e_f^2 f_V}{1 + \frac{M_p}{M_V}} \frac{g_V(0)}{M_V^2 + Q^2}$$



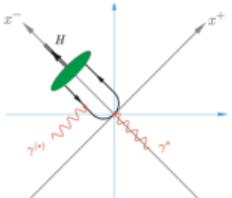
vector meson dominance

(hadron picture)



$$e_f^2 f_P \int_0^1 dx \frac{\phi_P(x, \mu)}{x(1-x)Q^2 + m_f^2}$$

parton distribution amplitude



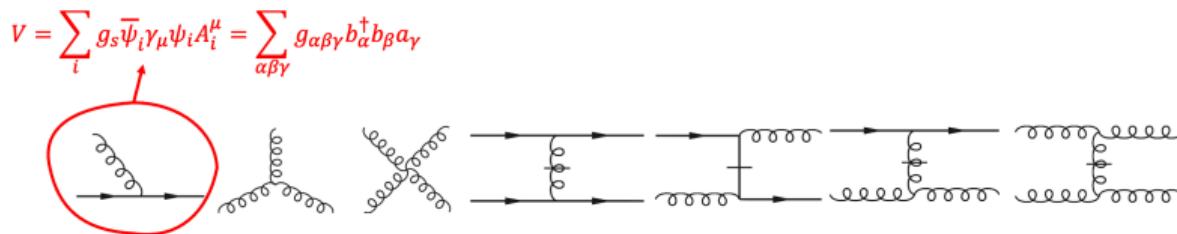
light-cone dominance

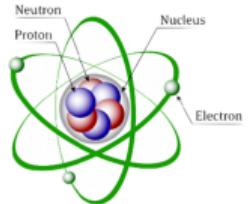
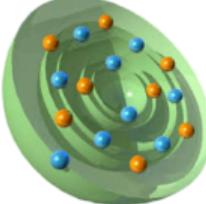
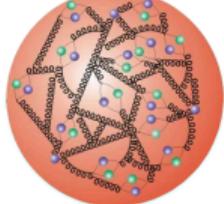
(parton picture)

Light-front wave functions bridge the parton picture and the non-perturbative hadronic picture

Proton as a strongly coupled relativistic quantum many-body system

$$H_{\text{LF}} = \sum_i \frac{\vec{p}_{i\perp}^2 + m_i^2}{x_i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} V_{ij} + \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{i,j,k} V_{ijk}$$

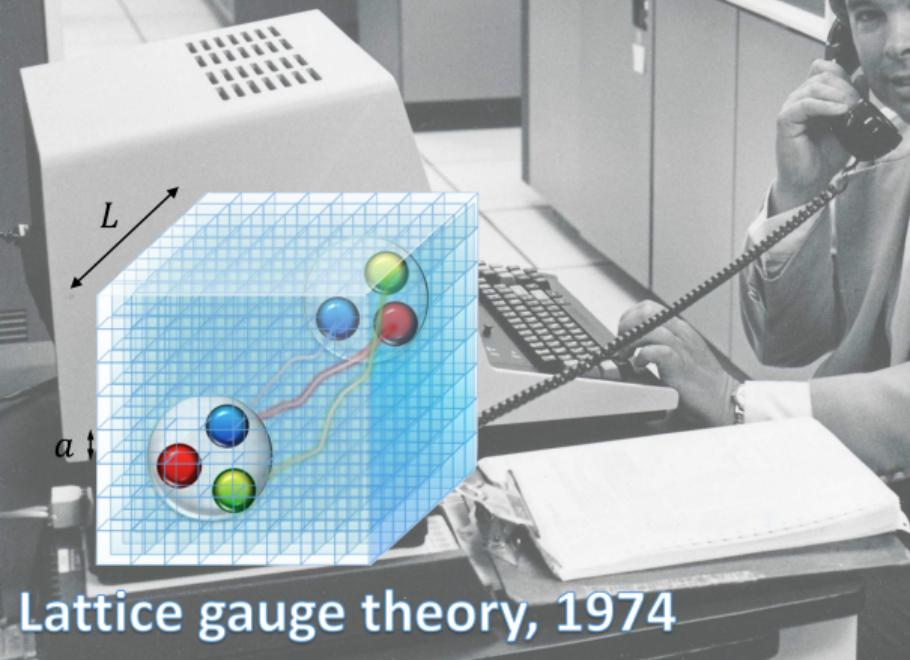


	Atoms	Nuclei	Hadrons
$H \Psi\rangle = E \Psi\rangle$			
	non-relativistic weakly coupled	non-relativistic strongly coupled	relativistic strongly coupled

a hard problem!

Wilson's big idea: put QCD in big computers

First transistor: 1947 (Bell Lab)
First qubit: 1998 (LANL)



Lattice gauge theory, 1974

n	Sector	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	q3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	q4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	q5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	q6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	q7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	q8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	q9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	q10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	q11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	q12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	q13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

LF Hamiltonian theory, 1989

QCD₁₊₁ at large N_c

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(i\not{\partial} - m)\psi - \frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu a}F_{\mu\nu}^a, \quad (a = 1, 2, \dots, N_c^2 - 1)$$

- Confinement and chiral symmetry breaking
- 't Hooft quantized the theory on the light front $x^+ = 0$:

$$H_{\text{LF}} = \sum_i \int_{\epsilon}^{+\infty} \frac{dk^+}{2\pi} \left(\frac{m^2 - 2\lambda}{2k^+} + \frac{\lambda}{\epsilon} \right) [b_i^\dagger(k^+) b_i(k^+) + d_i^\dagger(k^+) d_i(k^+)] \\ - \frac{\lambda}{8\pi^2 N_c} \sum_{i,j} \int dk_1^+ dk_2^+ dk_3^+ \frac{1}{(k_1^+ - k_2^+)^2} b_i^\dagger(k_2^+ + k_3^+ - k_1^+) d_i^\dagger(k_1^+) d_j(k_2^+) b_j(k_3^+)$$

where, $\lambda = g_s^2 N_c / 4\pi$ is known as the 't Hooft coupling.

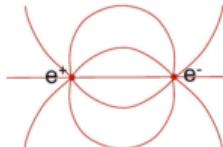
- Hadrons as eigenstates of the light-front Hamiltonian,

$$H_{\text{LF}} |\psi_n(p^+) \rangle = \frac{M_n^2}{p^+} |\psi_n(p^+) \rangle$$

(1+1)D



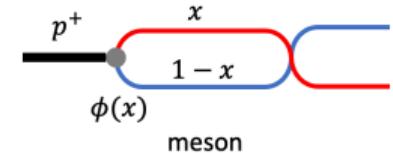
(3+1)D



QCD₁₊₁ at large N_c

- Meson sector:

$$|M_n(p^+)\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{p^+}{2\pi N_c}} \sum_i \int_0^1 dx \phi_n(x) b_i^\dagger(xp^+) d_i^\dagger((1-x)p^+) |0\rangle$$

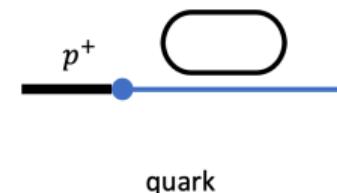


where, the meson light-front wave function $\phi_n(x)$ satisfies the 't Hooft equation,

$$\left(\frac{m^2 - 2\lambda}{x} + \frac{m^2 - 2\lambda}{1-x} \right) \phi_n^2(x) - 2\lambda \int_0^1 \frac{dy}{(x-y)^2} \phi_n(y) = M_n^2 \phi_n(x)$$

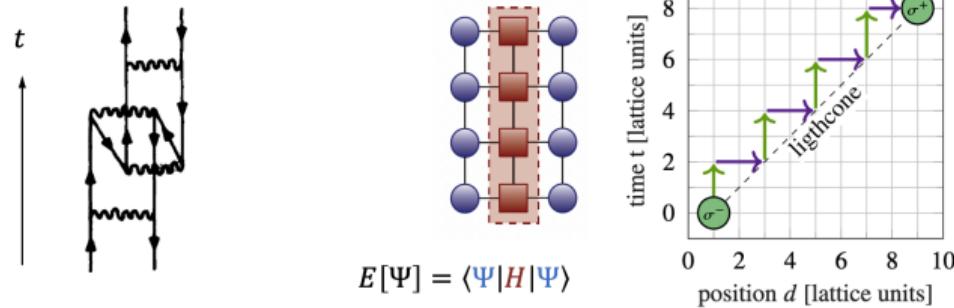
- Quark sector: the light-front energy of a quark diverges -- **confinement!**

$$\begin{aligned} |Q(p^+, i)\rangle &= b_i^\dagger(p^+) |0\rangle, \\ \Rightarrow M_Q^2 &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{m^2 - 2\lambda}{2p^+} + \frac{\lambda}{\epsilon} \right) \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

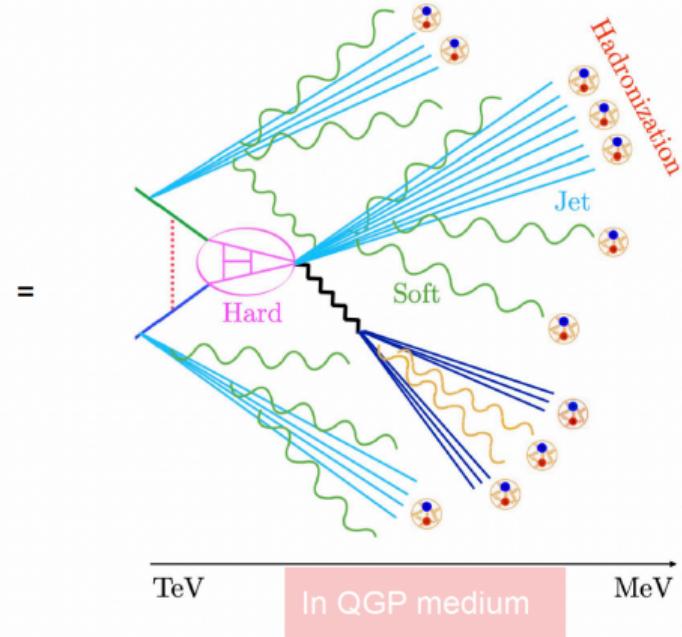
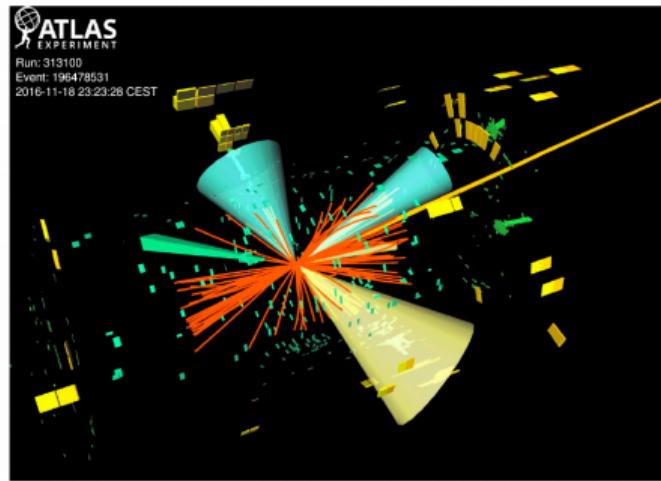


QCD_{1+1} at large N_c

- Instant-from ($x^0 = 0$) Hamiltonian: involving forward and backward propagating modes -- complicated (& no probabilistic interpretation)
- Lattice Hamiltonian (Schwinger model): TN/VQE, zig-zag light cone [Nature Comm. 12, 6499 (2021),]
- Approach the light-front Hamiltonian in the infinite momentum limit



Quantum Jet simulation: single parton evolution in QCD_{3+1}

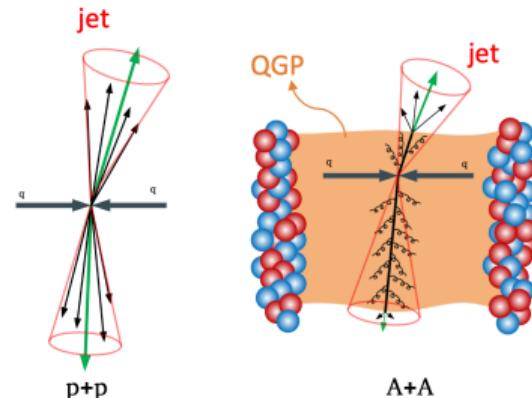


Jet evolution in QGP medium

- In relativistic heavy-ion collision, quark-gluon plasma (QGP) is formed
- We describe the QGP as a classical external field, and investigate the evolution of a parton within the medium

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu}{}_a F_{\mu\nu}^a + \bar{\Psi}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_q)\Psi$$

$$D^\mu \equiv \partial_\mu + ig(A^\mu + \mathcal{A}^\mu)$$



Classical simulation

Electron in laser field [Zhao et al, 1303.3273](#)

Ultrarelativistic quark-nucleus scattering [Li et al, 2002.09757](#)

Scattering and gluon emission in a color field

Jet in Glasma field [Li, Lappi, Zhao, 2107.02225](#)
[Li et al, 2305.12490](#)

... [Ongoing work by Avramescu et al](#)

Quantum simulation

Nuclear inelastic scattering [Du et al, 2006.01369](#)

Strategy to Jet quenching parameter

Medium-induced QCD jet [Barata, Salgado, 2104.04661](#)

[Barata et al, 2208.06750, 2307.01792](#)
[Yao, 2205.07902](#)

[Wu et al, 2404.00819](#)
[WQ et al, 2411.09762](#) **Adapted from W. Qian**

Digital quantum simulation on the light-front

➤ Quantum algorithms:

- Static: ground state
- Dynamic: time evolution

➤ Truncated Taylor Series $H = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \alpha_\ell H_\ell$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-itH} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-it)^k}{k!} H^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^K \frac{(-it)^k}{k!} H^k + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\|tH\|^{K+1}}{(K+1)!}\right) \\ &\approx \sum_{k=0}^K \sum_{\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k=0}^{L-1} \frac{(-it)^k}{k!} \alpha_{\ell_1} \cdots \alpha_{\ell_k} H_{\ell_1} \cdots H_{\ell_k} \end{aligned}$$

A post-Trotter algorithm based on linear combination of unitaries, see ref. [Dominic W. Berry, et al. Phys. Rev. Lett., 114, 090502].

➤ Time complexity

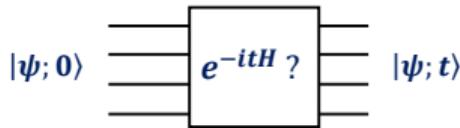
$$\text{Complexity}_{\text{TTS}} \sim T \frac{\log \frac{T}{\epsilon}}{\log \log \frac{T}{\epsilon}}$$



Trotter algorithm: $\frac{T^2}{\epsilon}$

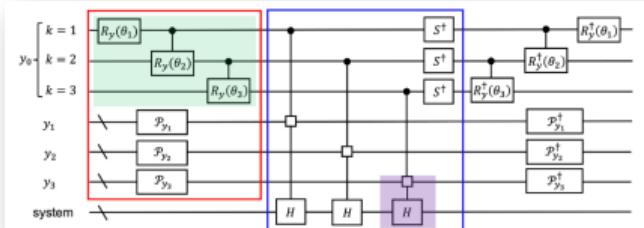
better than trotter's

➤ Quantum circuit design



Dynamic of the quantum system.

The truncation makes the evolution non-unitary.

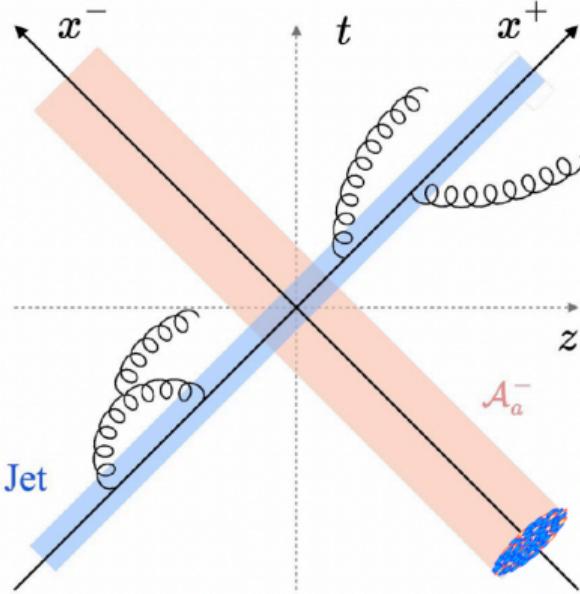


➤ Block-encoding

$$H = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \alpha_\ell H_\ell \xrightarrow{\text{TTS}} \begin{bmatrix} H/\Lambda & * \\ * & * \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{OAA}} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{e^{i\Lambda}} e^{-itH} & * \\ * & * \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{OAA}} \begin{bmatrix} e^{-itH} & * \\ * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

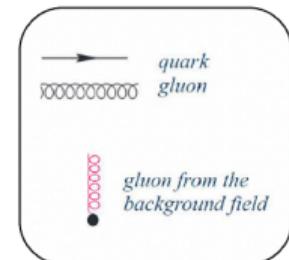
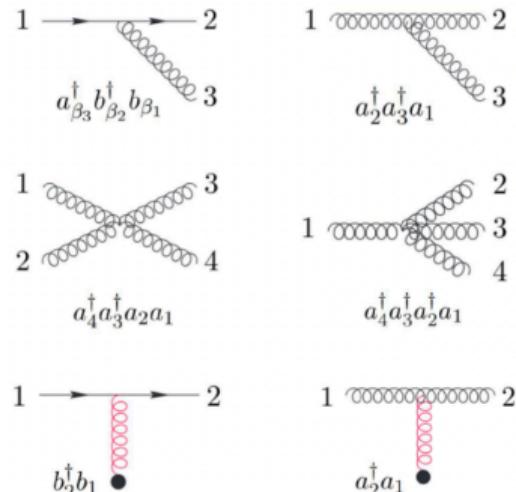
Embed the non-unitary into a larger system.

Efficient quantum simulation of quark/gluon jet



$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^+} |\Psi\rangle = H_{LF} |\Psi\rangle$$

where, $H_{LF} = H_{LFQCD} + J_\mu \mathcal{A}^\mu$



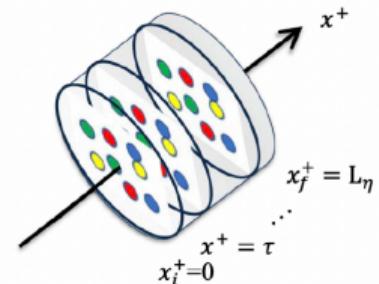
Medium and Evolution

Classical **stochastic** background field (to reduce problem complexity)

$$\langle\langle \rho_a(x^+, \mathbf{x}) \rho_b(y^+, \mathbf{y}) \rangle\rangle = g^2 \mu^2 \delta_{ab} \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \delta(x^+ - y^+)$$

$$(m_g^2 - \nabla_\perp^2) \mathcal{A}_a^-(x^+, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_a(x^+, \mathbf{x})$$

$$Q_s^2 \equiv \frac{C_F g^4 \mu^2 L_\eta}{2\pi} \quad \text{saturation scales}$$

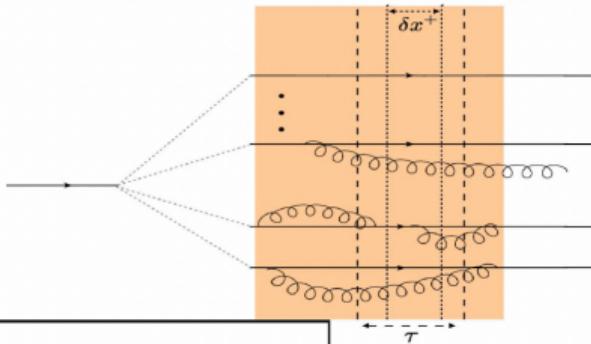


McLerran and Venugopalan,
9309289 (1993)

Jet probe evolution, decomposed as sequence of unitary operators

$$|\psi_{L_\eta}\rangle = U(L_\eta; 0) |\psi_0\rangle \equiv \mathcal{T}_+ e^{-i \int_0^{L_\eta} dx^+ P^-(x^+)} |\psi_0\rangle$$

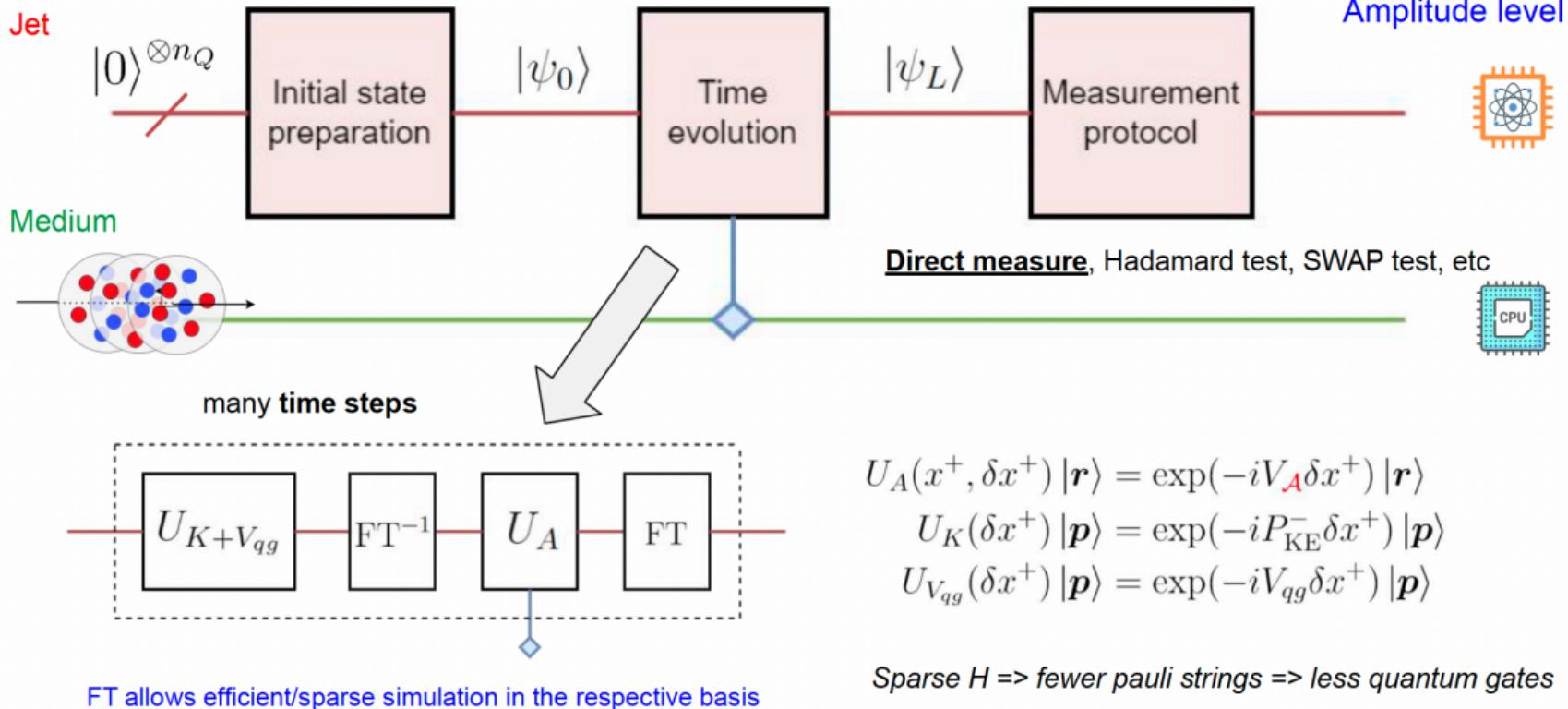
$$U(L_\eta; 0) = \prod_{k=1}^{N_t} U(x_k^+; x_{k-1}^+) \quad \text{non-perturbative}$$



Universal framework to simulate (3+1)-d QCD jet probe evolution in medium in real-time!

Quantum simulation algorithm

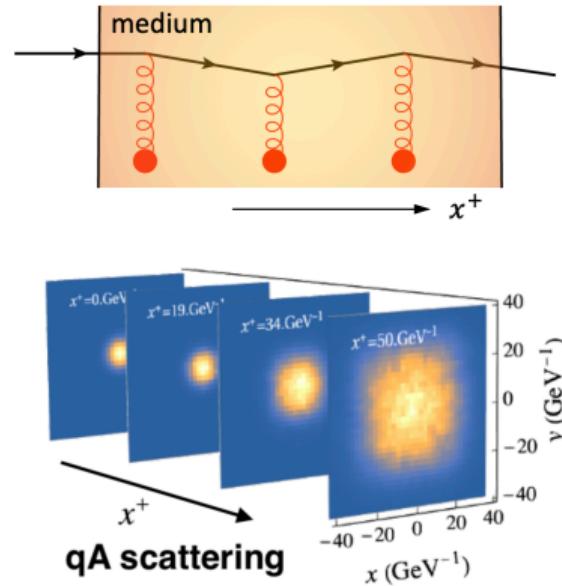
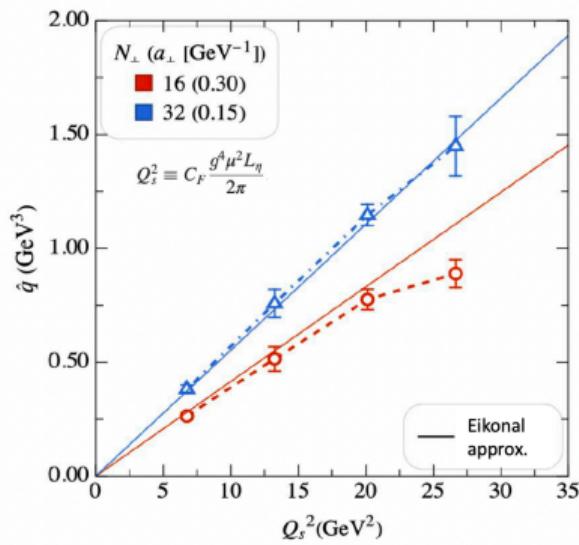
Wiesner, 9603028 (1996); Zalka, 9603026 (1996)



Jet quenching

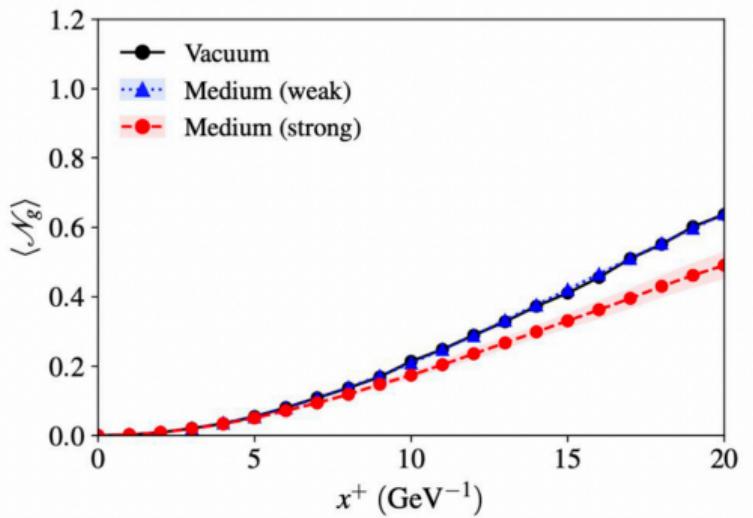
Quark momentum broadening: $\hat{q} = \frac{\Delta \langle p_{\perp}^2(x^+) \rangle}{\Delta x^+}$

Eikonal approximation: $\hat{q} = \frac{Q_s^2}{L_{\eta}}$

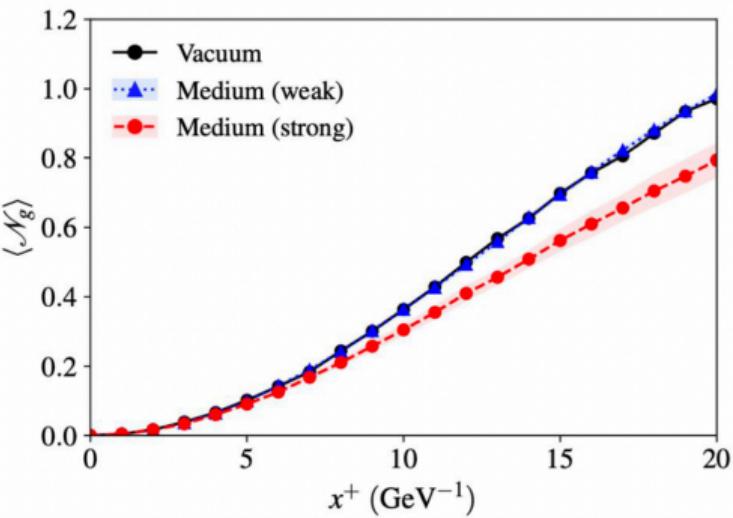
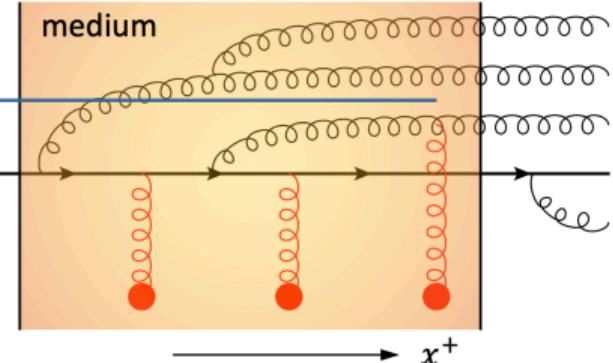


Medium modification of gluon radiation

Gluon number operator $\mathcal{N}_g \equiv \sum_{\beta} a_{\beta}^{\dagger} a_{\beta}$



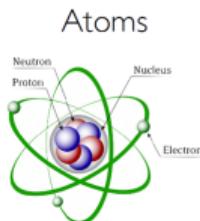
(a) $K = 1.5$, $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle$



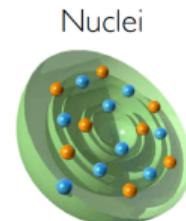
(b) $K = 2.5$, $|q\rangle + |qg\rangle + |ggg\rangle$

QCD_{3+1} : strongly coupled relativistic quantum many-body problem

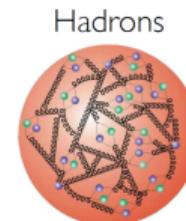
$$H|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$



non-relativistic
weakly coupled



non-relativistic
strongly coupled



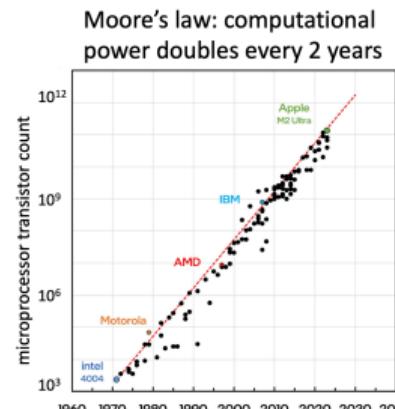
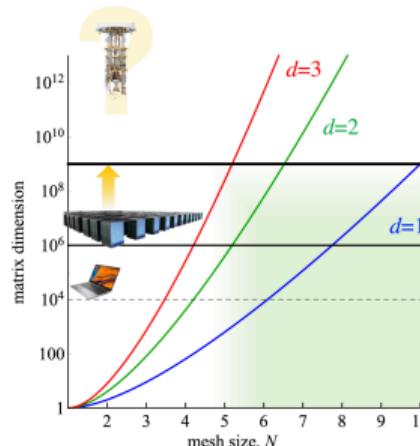
relativistic
strongly coupled

- The quantum Hamiltonian is not fully known
 - need non-perturbative renormalization:

$$H_R = \underbrace{H_{\text{can}}}_{\text{divergent}} + \underbrace{H_{\text{ct}}}_{\text{divergent}} = \underbrace{H_{\text{can}}}_{\text{known}} + \sum_i c_i O_i \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{not known}}$$

- Exponential wall

$$\dim \mathcal{H} = N^{dA}, \quad (A \sim N)$$



Strongly coupled scalar theory with Yukawa interaction

[Li:2015iaw, Karmanov:2016yzu]

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial_\mu N^\dagger \partial^\mu N - m^2 N^\dagger N + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \pi \partial^\mu \pi - \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 \pi^2 + g N^\dagger N \pi,$$

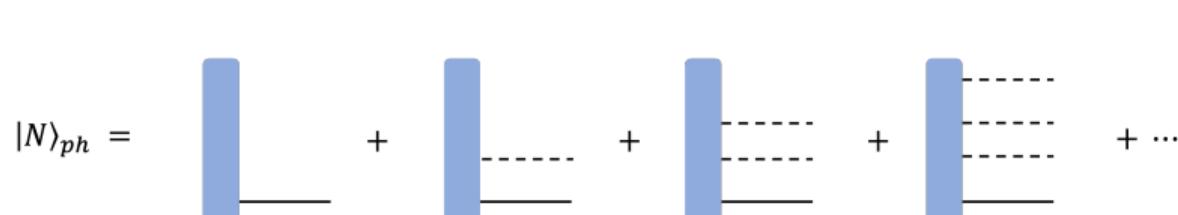
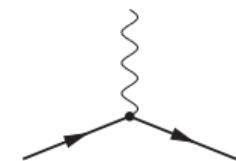
$$m = 0.94 \text{ GeV}, \mu = 0.14 \text{ GeV}, \alpha = g^2 / (16\pi m^2) \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$

- Simplest strongly coupled QFT in (3+1)D, a rudimentary model for $N\pi$ interaction

$$\Rightarrow H_{\text{int}} = -g \int d^3x N^\dagger N \pi, \quad \rightarrow \quad U(r) = -\alpha \frac{e^{-\mu r}}{r}$$

- Systematic Fock sector expansion and truncation:

$$|N\rangle_{\text{ph}} = |N\rangle + |N\pi\rangle + |N\pi\pi\rangle + |N\pi\pi\pi\rangle + \dots$$

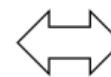


$$H_R = \underbrace{H_{\text{can}}}_{\text{divergence}} + \underbrace{H_{\text{ct}}}_{\text{divergence}} = H_{\text{can}} + \sum_i c_i O_i$$

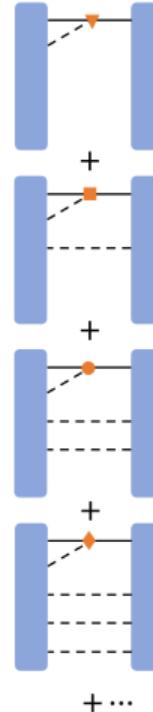
- Weinbergian renormalization: symmetry + power counting
 - Breaking of Poincare symmetry due to truncation requires an infinite number of counterterms
 - Power counting insufficient to cancel out all divergences
- Fock sector dependent renormalization
 - Continuum regularization: introducing Pauli-Villars (PV) particles whose mass μ_{PV} serves as a regulator
 - Kinematical symmetry + parton number counting [Li:2015iaw, Karmanov:2016yzu]

Diagrammatic representation of eigenvalue equation

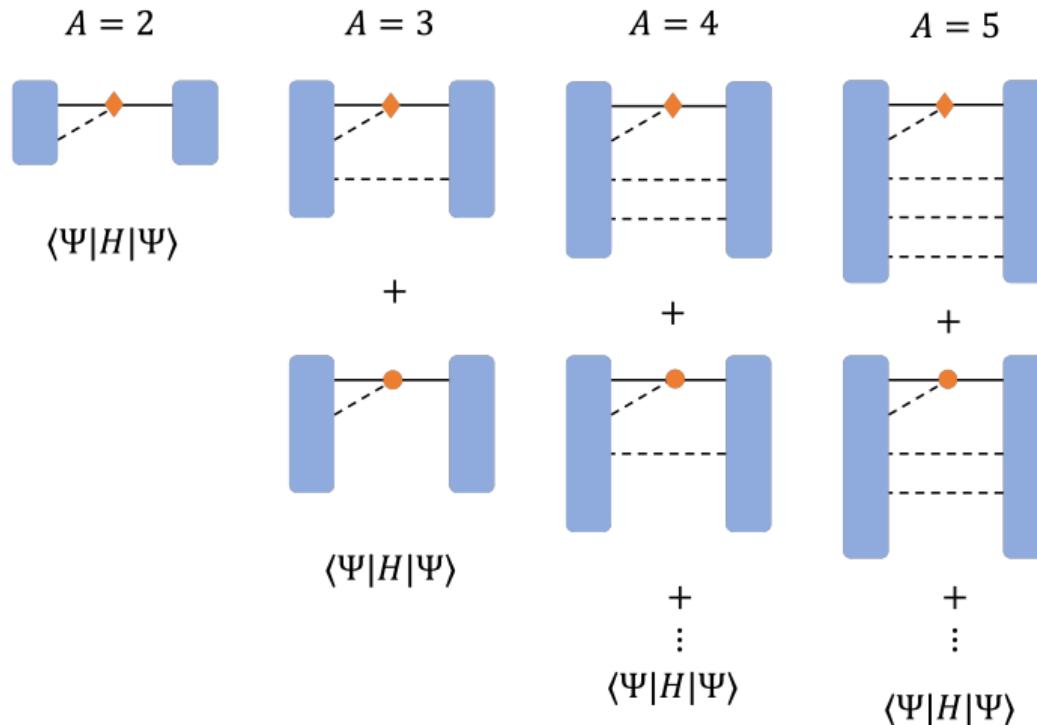
$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma_1 &= \Gamma_1 - \delta m^2 + \Gamma_2 - g_B \\
 \Gamma_2 &= \Gamma_1 - g_B + \Gamma_2 - \delta m^2 \\
 &+ \Gamma_3 - g_B \\
 \Gamma_3 &= \Gamma_2 - g_B + \Gamma_2 - g_B \\
 &+ \Gamma_3 - g_B \\
 &+ \Gamma_3 - \delta m^2 + \Gamma_4 - g_B \\
 \Gamma_4 &= \Gamma_3 - g_B + \Gamma_3 - g_B \\
 &+ (a \leftrightarrow b) + (a \leftrightarrow c) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



$\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle =$



Fock sector dependent renormalization

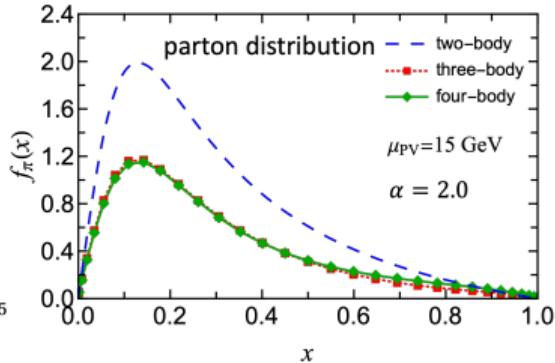
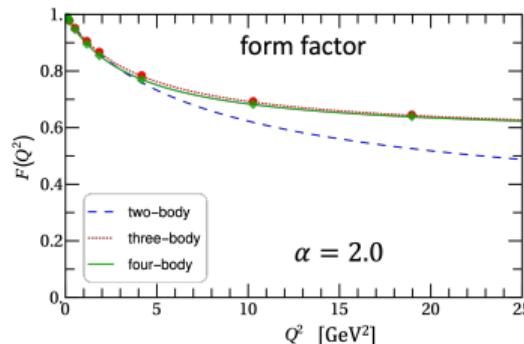
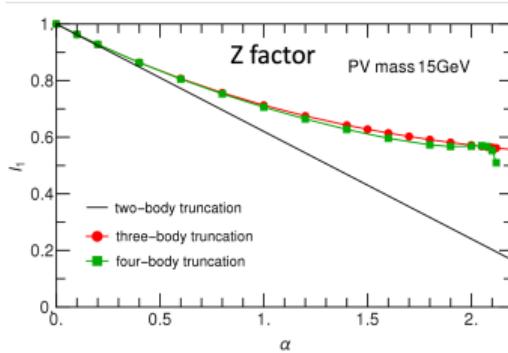


Numerical solution and Fock sector convergence

- Work with momentum space and Fock sector (parton number) truncation $A = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \dots$
- Adopt Lagrange mesh as the momentum-space grid
- Adopt standard linear solver on parallel machines

$$\dim \mathcal{H}_{A=4} = N^8 \rightarrow N^5 \sim 10^7$$

- Scalar theory is numerically well converged up to three- and four-body truncations



Similarity renormalization group (SRG)

- Effective Hamiltonian at a finite scale s , built from infinitesimal similarity transformations:

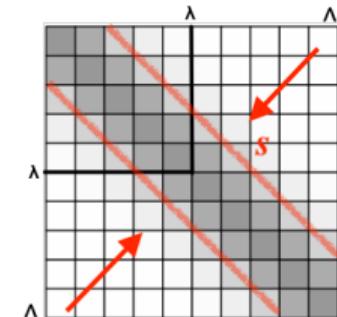
$$H_s = \underbrace{\mathcal{U}_s^{-1} H_\infty \mathcal{U}_s}_{\text{divergence free}} \Rightarrow \frac{dH_s}{ds} = [G_s, H_s]$$

- Perturbative solution of SRG at scale $s \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ thanks to asymptotic freedom

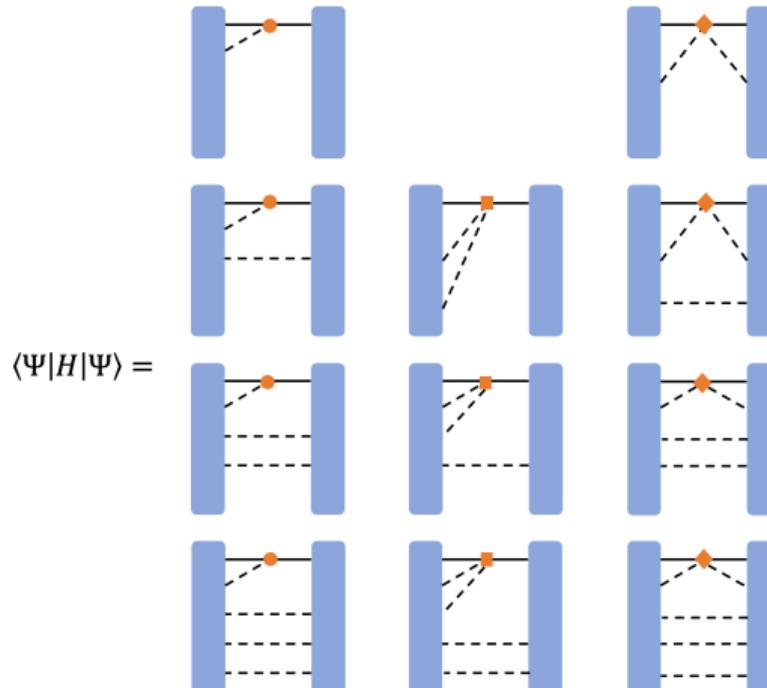
[Glazek:2012qj]

$$H_s = T + g_s V_{1s} + g_s^2 V_{2s} + O(g_s^3)$$

	One-body	two-body	Three-body	Four-body
$O(g_s)$				
$O(g_s^2)$				
$O(g_s^3)$				



Similarity renormalization group (SRG)



Lessons from quantum chemistry

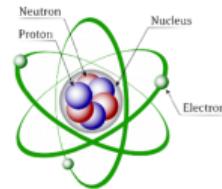


AB INITIO QUANTUM CHEMISTRY: A SOURCE OF IDEAS FOR LATTICE GAUGE THEORISTS

Kenneth G. WILSON

The Ohio State University, Department of Physics, 174 W. 18th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210 USA

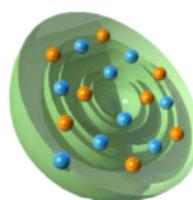
Atoms



non-relativistic
weakly coupled

Bohr Model

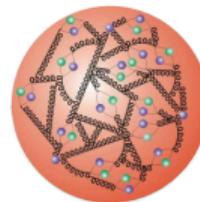
Nuclei



non-relativistic
strongly coupled

Shell Model

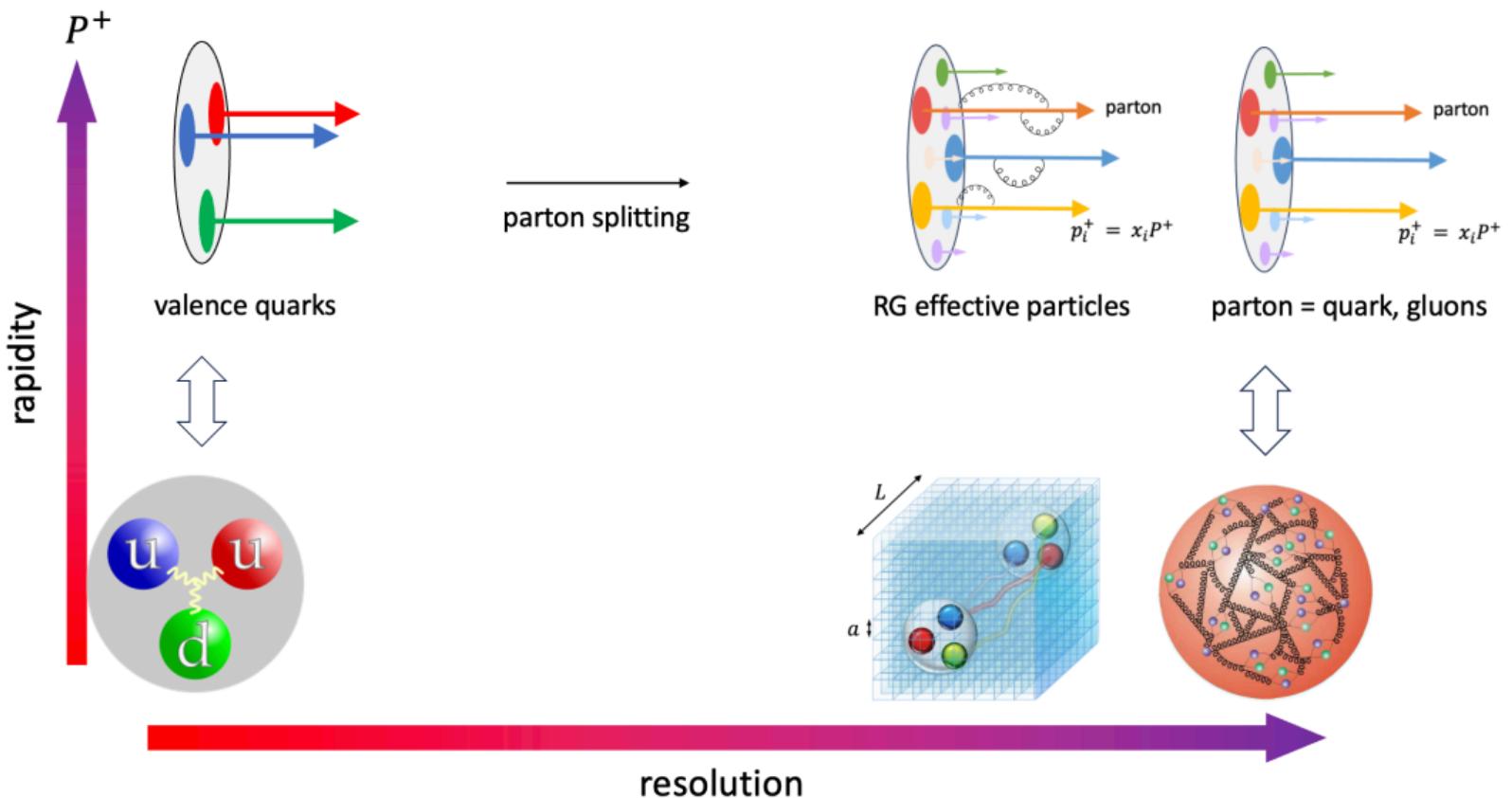
Hadrons



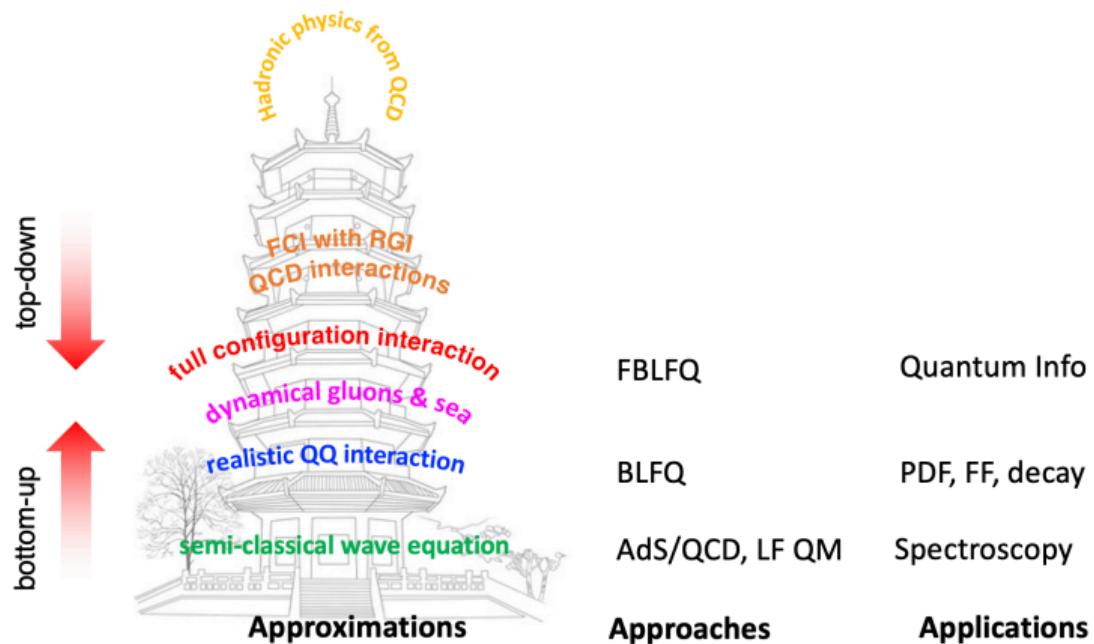
relativistic
strongly coupled



Jacob's ladder in quantum chemistry

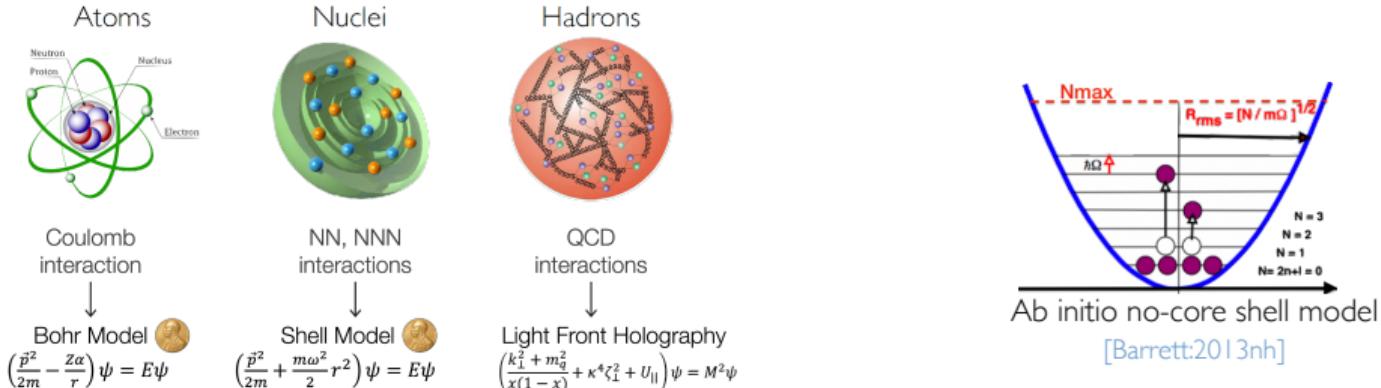


Jacob's tower for light-front QCD



Basis light-front quantization (BLFQ)

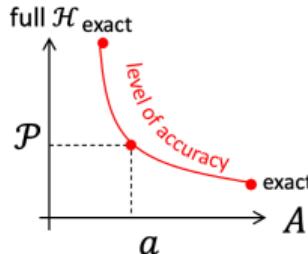
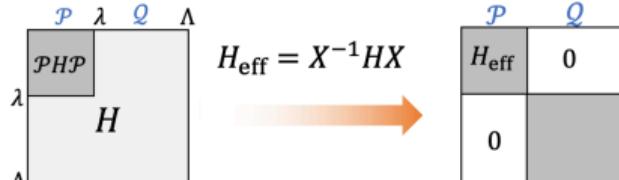
[Vary:2009gt]



- Work with small basis space ($N \sim 8$) through Hamiltonian renormalization: $\dim \mathcal{H} = N^{dA}$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{P} X^{-1} H_0 X \mathcal{P} \approx T + V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_a + \underline{V_{a+1}} + \dots + V_A$$

- Retain semi-classical approximation & all symmetries in basis space



Basis light-front quantization I

- Configuration interaction:

[Vary:2009gt]

$$H|\psi\rangle = M^2|\psi\rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_j H_{ij}c_j = M^2c_i$$

where, $H_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | H | \phi_j \rangle$, $c_i = \langle \phi_i | \psi \rangle$.

- Single-particle basis $\{|\phi_i\rangle\}$ is chosen to **preserve all kinematical symmetries** of QCD
 - 3 Boosts + 1 rotation:

$$\phi_{nml}(\vec{x}_\perp, x^-) = \mathcal{N} e^{\frac{i\pi l x^-}{L} + im\theta_\perp - \frac{\rho^2}{2}} \rho^{|m|} L_n^{|m|}(\rho), \quad (\rho = \Omega \sqrt{l/K} x_\perp)$$

- Longitudinal direction: discretized momentum basis, Jacobi polynomials on a k -simplex

[Chabysheva:2013oka, Li:2017mlw]
- Other symmetries of QCD
- Consistent with holographic LFQCD
- Large sparse matrix eigenvalue problem: suitable for modern HPC (& quantum computing)

Basis light-front quantization II

- Energy cutoffs/regularization:

$$\sum_i [2n_i + |m_i| + 1] \leq N_{\max}, \quad \sum_i m_i + s_i = m_J, \quad \sum_i l_i = K.$$

- UV & IR regulators:

$$\Lambda_{\text{UV}} = \Omega \sqrt{N_{\max}}, \quad \Lambda_{\text{IR}} = \Omega / \sqrt{N_{\max}}$$

- Truncation on the many-body basis:

- Fock sector truncation

- N_{\max} -truncation, K -truncation

- Coupled cluster/coherent basis

[Hiller:2016itl, More:2014rma]

- DMRG, matrix product states, tensor network, ...

- Variational theorem

- Continuum limit (need a proof):

$$N_{\max} \rightarrow \infty, \quad K \rightarrow \infty, \quad A \rightarrow \infty$$

Effective hadron Hamiltonian

One may also consider effective (3+1)d Hamiltonian on the light front.

Valence $|q\bar{q}\rangle$ for light mesons

WQ, Jia, Li, Vary, 2005.13806

$$H_{\text{eff},\gamma_5} = \underbrace{\frac{\mathbf{k}_\perp^2 + m_q^2}{x} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_\perp^2 + m_{\bar{q}}^2}{1-x}}_{\text{LF kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\kappa^4 x(1-x)\mathbf{r}_\perp^2 - \frac{\kappa^4}{(m_q + m_{\bar{q}})^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x(1-x)\frac{\partial}{\partial x})}_{\text{confinement}} + V_g + H_{\gamma_5}$$

For given set of basis states, the Hamiltonian operator can be written in creation and annihilation operators for those modes:

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + \dots = \sum_{ij} h_{ij} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijkl} h_{ijkl} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j^\dagger \hat{a}_k \hat{a}_l + \dots$$

Qubit encoding: One-hot encoding and Binary encoding $(N, N) = (2^n, 2^n) \rightarrow H_q = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} P_{\alpha}$

$O(N)$

$O(\log N)$

Jordan & Wigner (1928);
Kreshchuk et al, 2002.04016

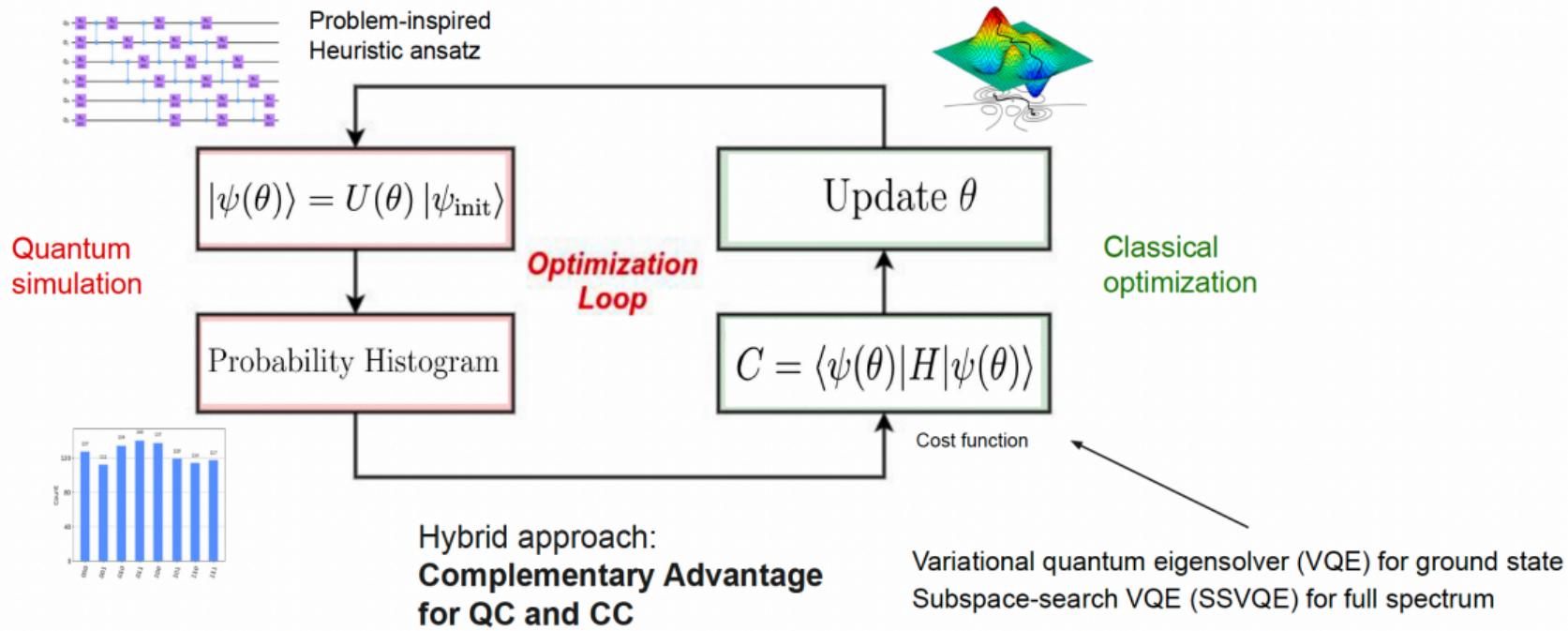
Variational approaches are used to solve the hadronic mass spectrum

Variational quantum algorithms

Peruzzo, et al, 1304.3061 (2014)
Nakanishi, Mitarai, Fujii, 1810.09434 (2019)

Based on variational principle, build parameterized wave functions

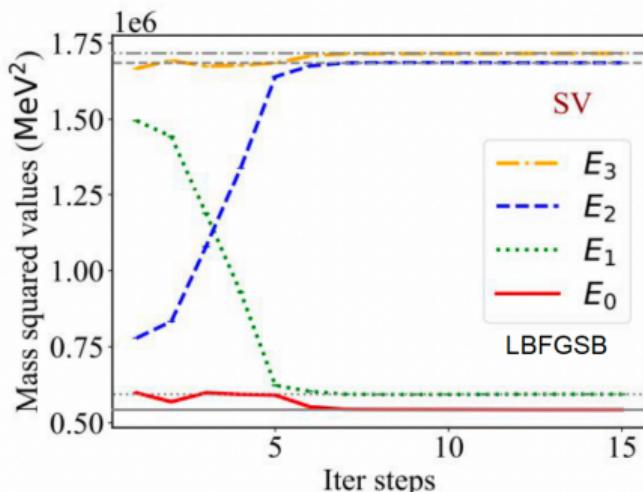
$$\langle \psi(\theta) | H | \psi(\theta) \rangle \geq \langle E_0 \rangle = \langle \psi_0 | H | \psi_0 \rangle$$



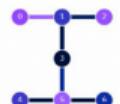
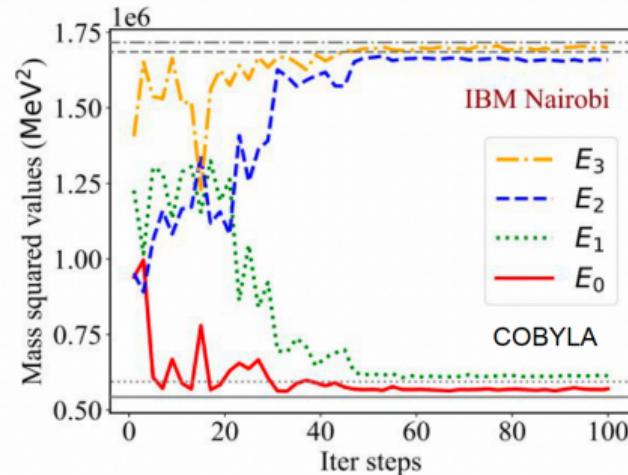
Hadron spectrum

WQ, Basili, Pal, Luecke, Vary; 2112.01927

Noiseless simulation (2 qubits)

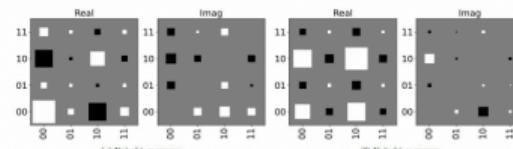
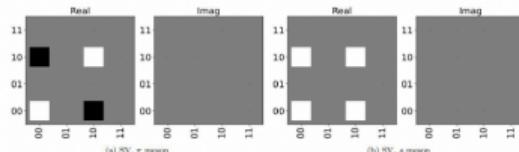


IBM Quantum devices **with Noise-Mitigation**



IBM
Nairobi:
7 qubit
32 QV

Qubit representation (density matrix) for lowest two states: $D_{ij} = |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_j|$



Hadronic observables

Li, Maris, Vary, 1704.06968
 WQ, Basili, Pal, Luecke, Vary, 2112.01927

Using light-front wave functions (LFWF) on qubits to compute various observables with projection ops

$$f_{P,V} = 2\sqrt{2N_c} \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{2\sqrt{x(1-x)}} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{(2\pi)^3} \psi_{\uparrow\downarrow\mp\downarrow\uparrow}^{(m_j=0)}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$$

$$\equiv \frac{\kappa\sqrt{N_c}}{\pi} \sum_{nl} (-1)^n C_l(m_q, \kappa) \left(\tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\downarrow}^{(m_j=0)}(n, 0, l) \mp \tilde{\psi}_{\downarrow\uparrow}^{(m_j=0)}(n, 0, l) \right)$$

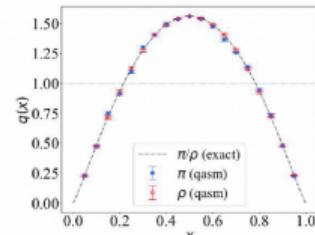
$$f_{P,V} \propto |\langle \nu_{P,V} | \psi(\vec{\theta}) \rangle|$$

$$q(x; \mu) = \frac{1}{x(1-x)} \sum_{s\bar{s}} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{2(2\pi)^3} |\psi_{s\bar{s}}^{(m_j=0)}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp)|^2$$

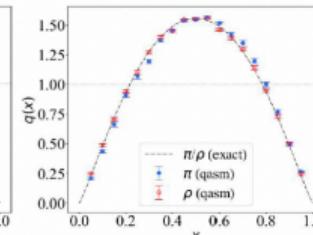
$$\equiv \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{s\bar{s}} \sum_{nm} \sum_{l\bar{l}} \tilde{\psi}_{s\bar{s}}^{*(m_j=0)}(n, m, \bar{l}) \tilde{\psi}_{s\bar{s}}^{(m_j=0)}(n, m, l) \chi_l(x) \chi_{\bar{l}}(x)$$

$$q(x) = \sum_{s\bar{s}} \sum_{nm} \sum_{l\bar{l}} \langle \psi(\vec{\theta}) | \hat{O}_{\text{pdf}}(x) | \psi(\vec{\theta}) \rangle$$

N_{\max}	L_{\max}	Decay constants	Exact result (MeV)	qasm sim (MeV)
1	1	f_π	178.18	178.17 ± 1.97
		f_ρ	178.18	178.17 ± 1.97
4	1	f_π	193.71	194.28 ± 15.49
		f_ρ	231.00	225.72 ± 13.44

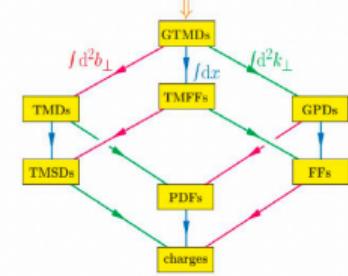


(a) PDFs at $N_{\max} = L_{\max} = 1$



(b) PDFs at $N_{\max} = 4, L_{\max} = 1$

light-front wave functions

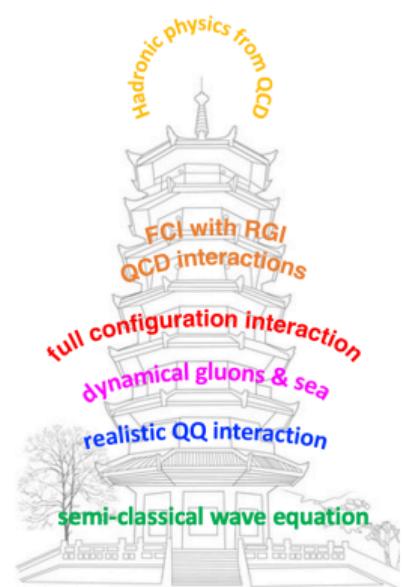


Applications

[Review: 50 years of QCD Sect. 5.3, 2212.11107]

- Semi-classical LF wave equations: [Li:2021jqb, Li:2022izo, Li:2022ytx, Li:2023izn]
- Realistic QQ interaction:
 - QED: [Honkanen:2010rc, Zhao:2014xaa, Wiecki:2014ola, Hu:2020arv, Nair:2022evk, Nair:2023lir]
 - heavy flavors [Li:2015zda, Li:2017mlw, Leitao:2017esb, Li:2018uif, Adhikari:2018umb, Tang:2018myz, Lan:2019img, Tang:2019gvn, Tang:2020org, Li:2021ejv, Li:2021cww, Wang:2023nhb]
 - light mesons [Jia:2018ary, Lan:2019vui, Lan:2019rba, Qian:2020utg, Mondal:2021czk, Adhikari:2021jrh, Li:2022mlg, Zhu:2023lst]
 - nucleons & baryons [Mondal:2019jdg, Xu:2021wwj, Liu:2022fvl, Hu:2022ctr, Peng:2022lte, Zhu:2023lst, Zhang:2023xfe, Zhu:2023nh]
 - tetraquarks [Kuang:2022vdy]
- Dynamical gluons & sea: [Lan:2021wok, Xu:2022abw, Xu:2023nqv, Lin:2023ezw, Kaur:2024iwn]
- Time-dependent problems (tBLFQ): [Zhao:2013cma, Zhao:2013jia, Chen:2017uuq, Li:2020uhl, Li:2023jeh]
- Quantum computing: [Kreshchuk:2020kcz, Kreshchuk:2020aiq, Qian:2021jxp, Kreshchuk:2023btr, Wu:2024adk, Du:2024zvr]

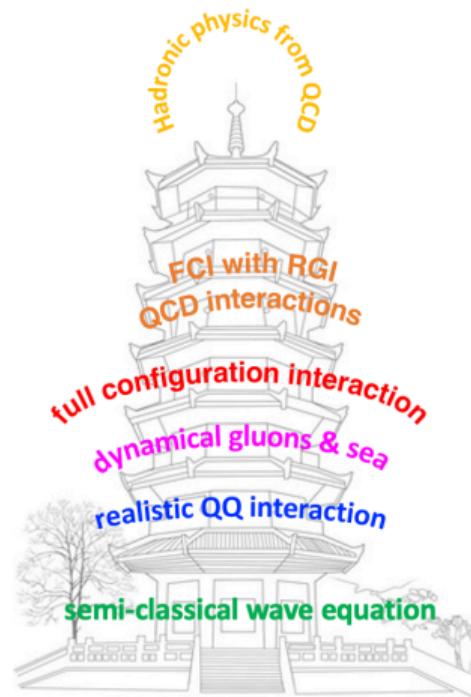
Similar methods: [deTeramond:2021yyi, Ahmady:2021lsh Lyubovitskij:2022rod, Ahmady:2022dfv, Shuryak:2021fsu, Shuryak:2021hng, Shuryak:2021mlh, Shuryak:2022thi, Shuryak:2022wtk, Shuryak:2023siq, Liu:2023yuj, Liu:2023fpj, Miesch:2023hvl]



Summary

- Light-front Hamiltonian formalism is a natural framework to describe hadrons as relativistic quantum many-body problems
- Quantum computers are possible powerful platform to enable the description of strong interaction on the amplitude level
- Basis light-front quantization provides an avenue to solving QCD from first principles on classical and quantum machines

Thank you!



backup

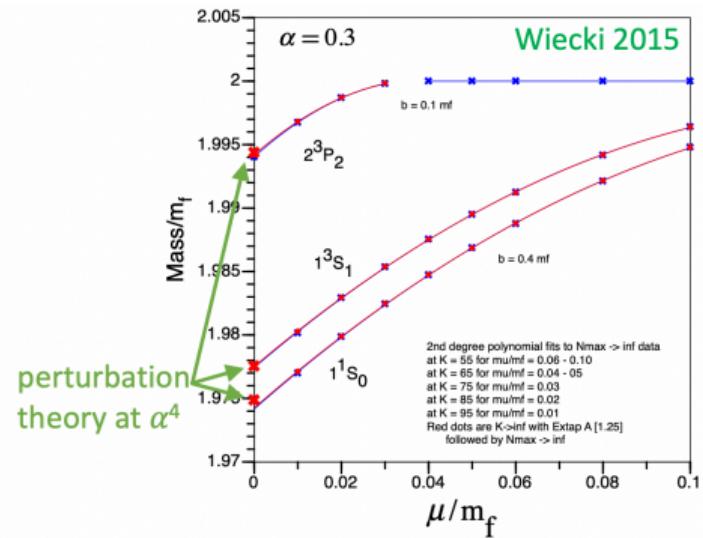
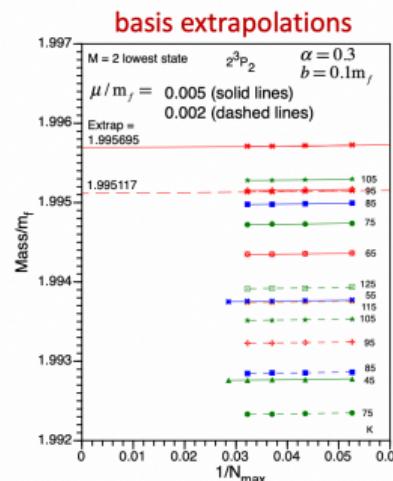
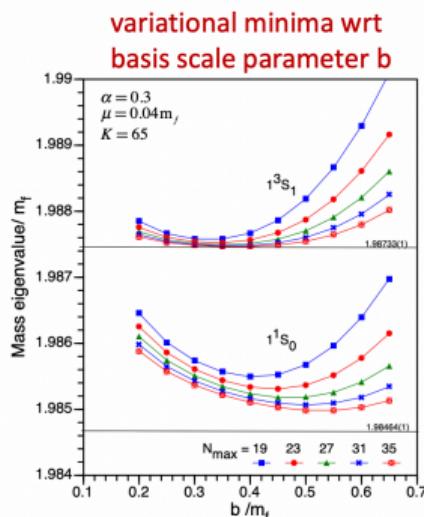
- Bloch-Wilson interaction: perturbative solution to the OSL effective Hamiltonian [Krautgartner:1991xz]

$$V = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{Q^2} \bar{u}_{s'}(k') \gamma_\mu u_s(k) \bar{v}_{\bar{s}}(\bar{k}) \gamma^\mu v_{\bar{s}'}(\bar{k}') + O(\alpha^2)$$

- Comparison with perturbative QED:

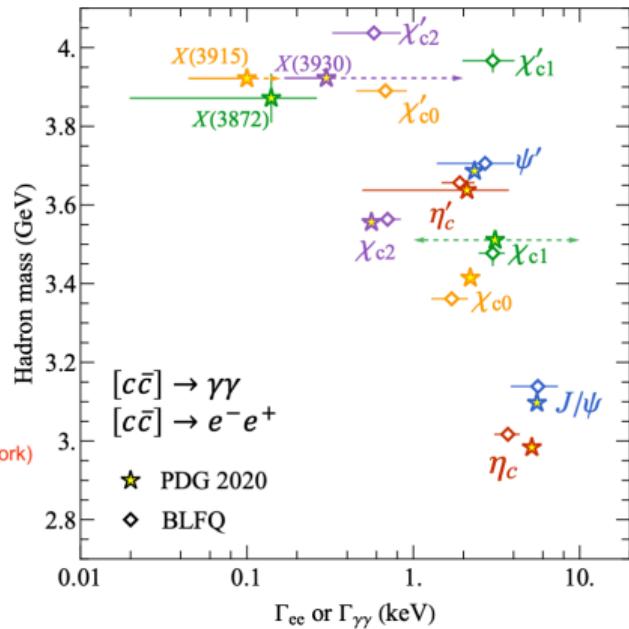
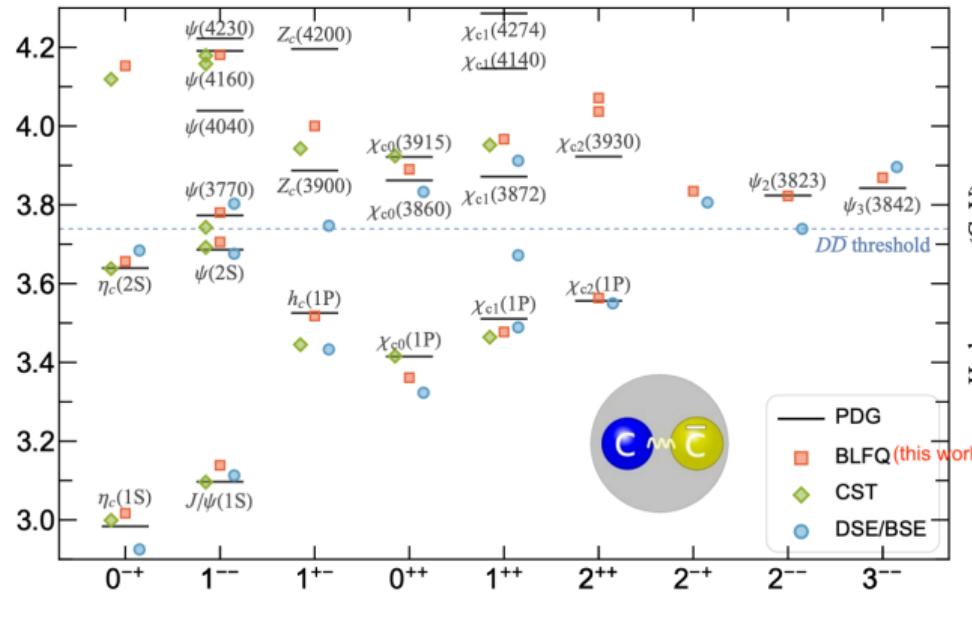
[Bethe & Salpeter, 1977 Springer; cf. Lamm:2016djr]

$$H = T + H_{\text{Col}} + H_{\text{Dar}} + H_{\text{rel}} + H_{\text{LS}} + H_{\text{SS}}$$



Charmonium: hydrogen atom of QCD

[Li:2015zda, Li:2017mlw, Li:2021ejv]



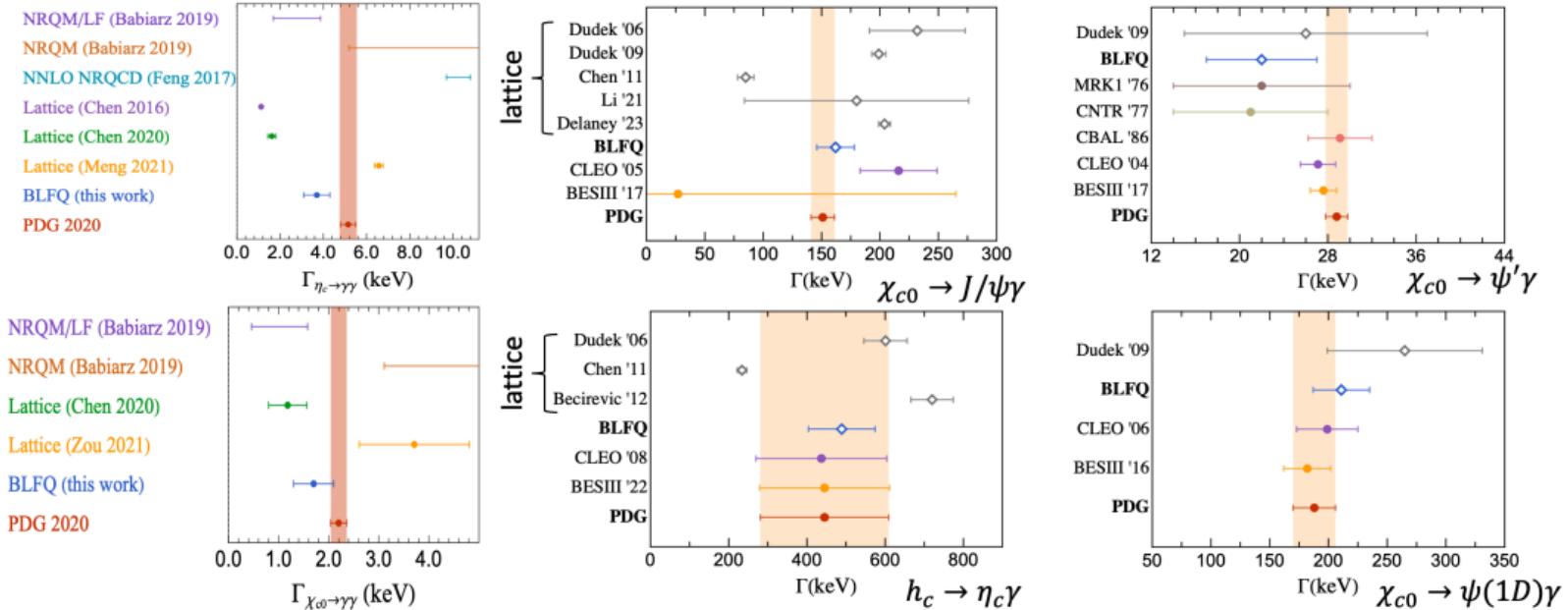
- Two free parameters (m_c, κ), rms deviation: 30 MeV
- Good agreement with the PDG data for both the masses and the widths

[Gross:2022hyw]

[LFWFs published on Mendeley Data, doi: 10.17632/cjs4ykv8cv2]

Parameter-free prediction of radiative widths

[Li:2018uif, Li:2021ejv, Wang:2023nhb]



$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(p', \lambda') | J^\mu(0) | S(p) \rangle &= E_1(Q^2) \left[e_{\lambda'}^{*\mu}(p') - \frac{e_{\lambda'}^* \cdot p}{(p \cdot p')^2 - M_S^2 M_V^2} (p'^\mu (p \cdot p') - M_V^2 p^\mu) \right] \\ &\quad + C_1(Q^2) \frac{M_V}{Q(p \cdot p')^2 - M_S^2 M_V^2} (e_{\lambda'}^* \cdot p) \left[(p \cdot p')(p + p')^\mu - M_S^2 p'^\mu - M_V^2 p^\mu \right], \end{aligned}$$

All radiative transitions

[Li:2015zda, Li:2017mlw, Li:2018uif, Li:2021ejv, Wang:2023nhb]

Leptonic and radiative transitions probe the fundamental structure of the hadrons:

[Review: Barnes & Yuan, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 2009]

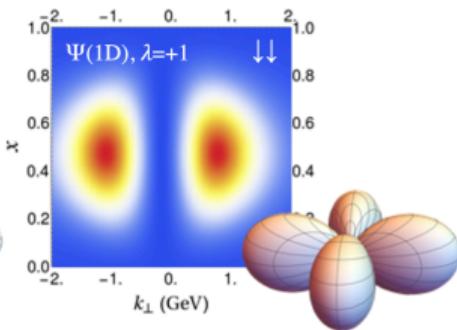
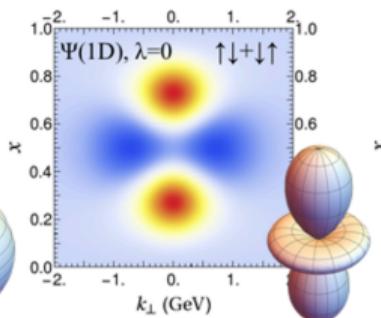
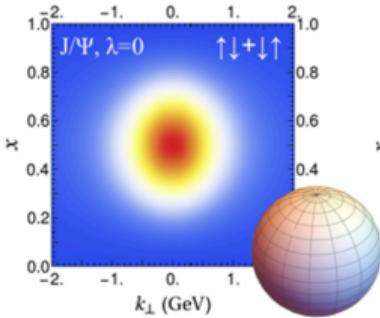
	decay width (keV)	Γ_{ee}	$\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$					
η_c	PDG	-	5.15(35)					
	BLFQ	-	3.7(6)	$\Gamma_{\eta_c\gamma}$				
J/ψ	PDG	5.53(10)	-	1.6(4)				
	BLFQ	5.7(1.9)	-	2.72(5)	$\Gamma_{J/\psi\gamma}$			
χ_{c0}	PDG	-	2.20(16)	-	151(10)			
	BLFQ	-	1.7(4)	-	162(16)	$\Gamma_{\chi_{c0}\gamma}$		
χ_{c1}	PDG	-	-	-	288(16)	-		
	BLFQ	-	-	-	in progress	-	$\Gamma_{\chi_{c1}\gamma}$	
h_c	PDG	-	-	445(164)	-			
	BLFQ	-	-	489(85)		in progress	in progress	$\Gamma_{h_c\gamma}$
χ_{c2}	PDG	-	0.56(5)	-	374(20)	-	-	
	BLFQ	-	0.70(13)	-	in progress	-	-	$\Gamma_{\chi_{c2}\gamma}$
η'_c	PDG	-	2.1(1.6)	-	<195	-	-	-
	BLFQ	-	1.9(4)	-	0.16(23)	-	-	$\Gamma_{\eta'_c\gamma}$
ψ'	PDG	2.33(81)	-	1.00(16)	-	28.8(1.0)	28.7(1.1)	-
	BLFQ	2.7(1.3)	-	2.9(20)	-	22(5)	in progress	-
$\psi(1D)$	PDG	0.261(21)	-	<19	-	188(18)	80(7)	-
	BLFQ	0.051(19)	-	0.136(2)	-	211(24)	in progress	-

M1	E1	E1, M2	M1, E2	E1, M2, E3	M1, E2, M3
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Quarkonium light-front wave functions

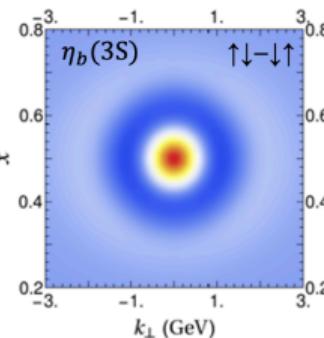
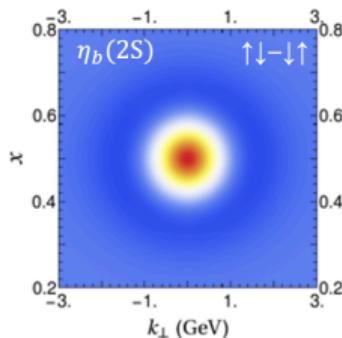
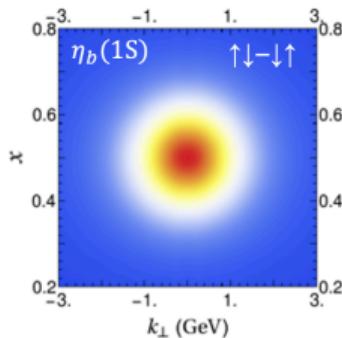
angular
excitation

S



radial
excitation

S



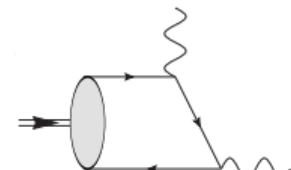
[LFWFs published on Mendeley Data, doi: 10.17632/cjs4ykv8cv.2]

LFWF representation of radiative transition form factors

[Lepage:1980fj, Li:2021ejv]

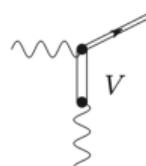
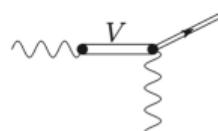
Amplitude of single-tag two-photon of a pseudo-scalar meson ($n^2 = 0$):

$$\mathcal{M}_{P \rightarrow \gamma\gamma^*}^{\mu\nu} = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{em}}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}q_\rho n_\sigma F_{P\gamma}(-q^2)$$



$$F_{P\gamma}(Q^2) = e_f^2 2\sqrt{2N_C} \int \frac{dx}{2\sqrt{x(1-x)}} \int \frac{d^2 k_\perp}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\psi_{\uparrow\downarrow-\downarrow\uparrow/p}^*(x, \vec{k}_\perp)}{k_\perp^2 + m_f^2 + x(1-x)Q^2} + \dots$$

$$\sum_V \frac{e_f^2 f_V}{1 + \frac{M_p}{M_V}} \frac{g_V(0)}{M_V^2 + Q^2}$$

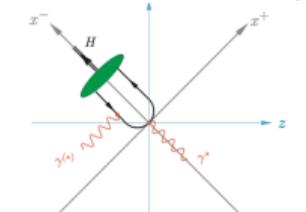


vector meson dominance



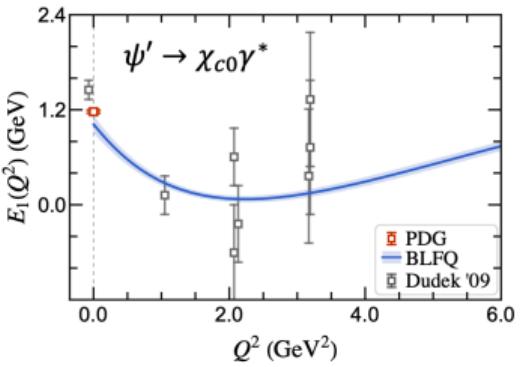
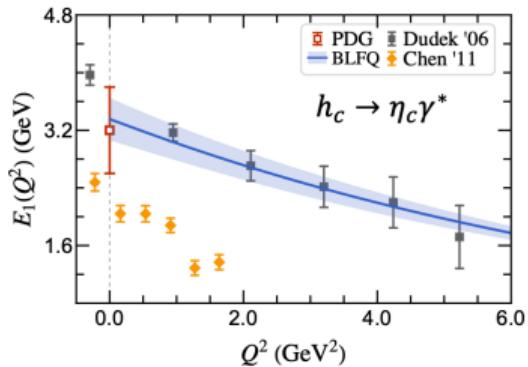
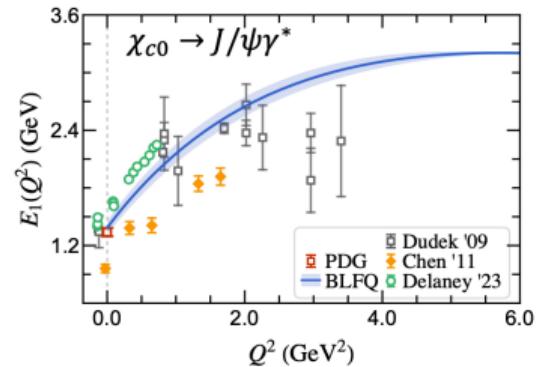
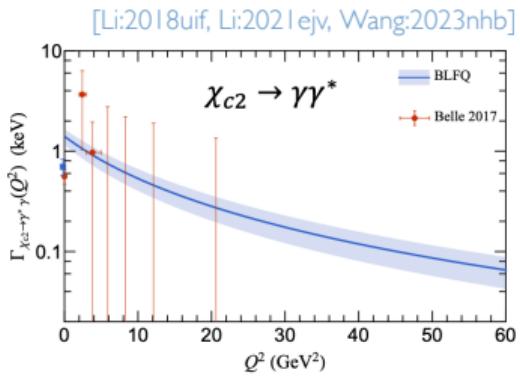
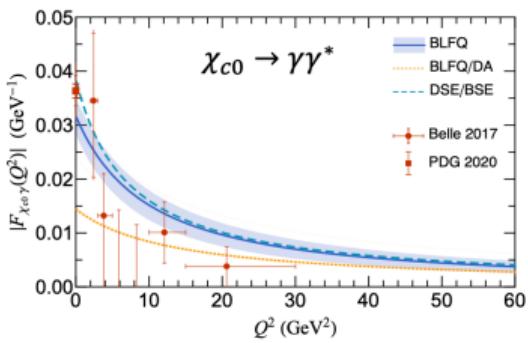
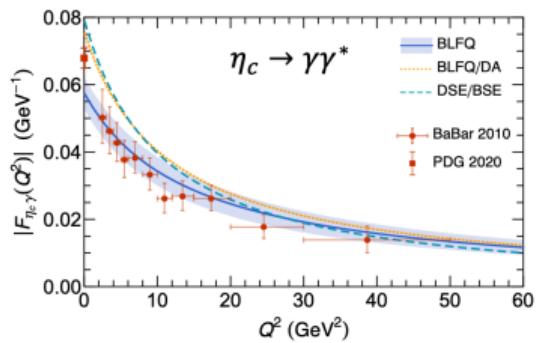
$$\begin{aligned} & \xrightarrow{Q \rightarrow 0} \sum_V \frac{e_f^2 f_V}{1 + \frac{M_p}{M_V}} \frac{g_V(0)}{M_V^2 + Q^2} \\ & \xrightarrow{Q \rightarrow \infty} e_f^2 f_p \int_0^1 dx \frac{\phi_p(x, \mu)}{x(1-x)Q^2 + m_f^2} \end{aligned}$$

higher Fock sector contributions



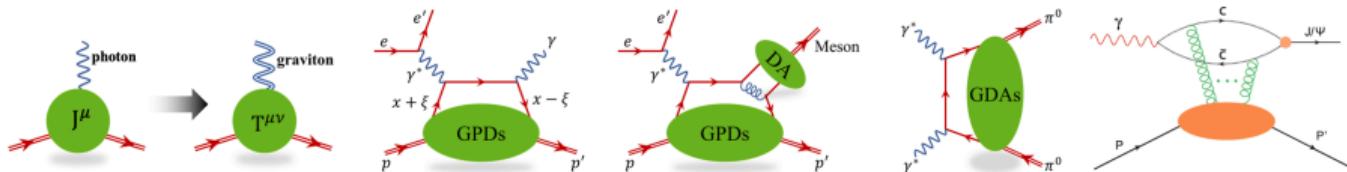
light-cone dominance

Parameter-free prediction of transition form factors



Gravitational form factors (GFFs)

[Polyakov:2018zvc, Burkert:2023wzr]

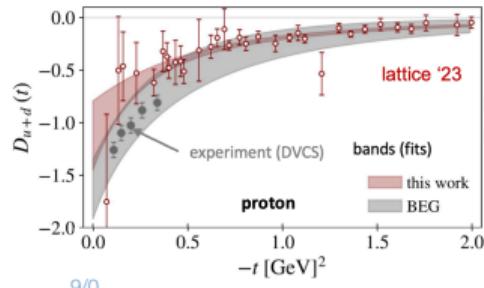


$$\langle p' | T_i^{\mu\nu}(0) | p \rangle = P^\mu P^\nu A_i(-q^2) + \frac{1}{4} (q^\mu q^\nu - g^{\mu\nu} q^2) D_i(-q^2) + g^{\mu\nu} \bar{c}_i(-q^2)$$

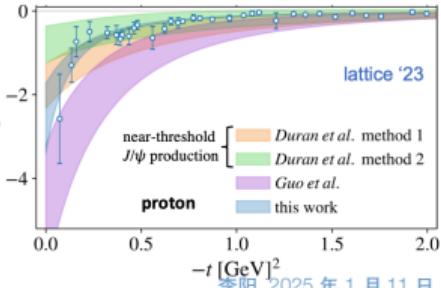
- Hadronic matrix element of the stress-energy tensor, which encodes the energy and stress distributions within the system
 - Mass decomposition and the anomalous mass of the proton
 - Mechanical properties, equilibrium and stability
- Experimentally accessible through GPDs -- tremendous attention
- Physical interpretation of GFFs are under tense debate

[Ji:1996nm, Polyakov:2002yz]

electromagnetic	$G_E(0) = Q = 1.602176487(40) \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
	$G_M(0) = \mu = 2.792847356(23) \mu_N$
weak	$G_A(0) = g_A = 1.2694(28)$
	$G_P(0) = g_p = 8.06(55)$
gravitational	$m A(0) = m = 938.272013(23) \text{ MeV}/c^2$
	$J(0) = J = \frac{1}{2}$
	D(0) = D = ?
	"The last global unknown of the proton"



[Lattice '23: Hackett:2023nkr]

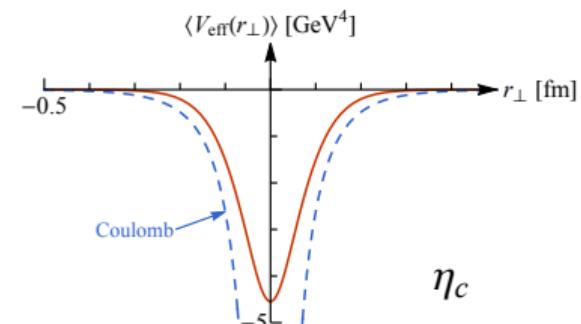
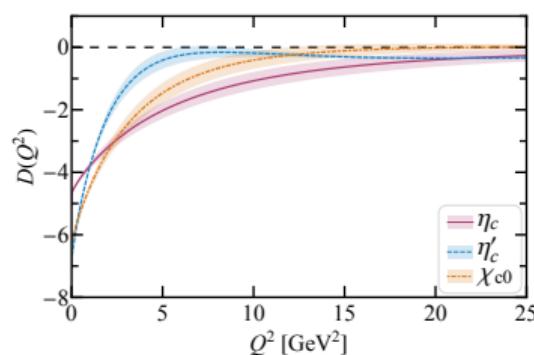
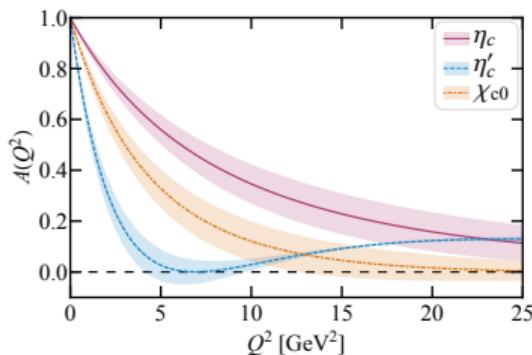


Charmonium gravitational form factors

[Xu:2024cfa; Hu:2024edc]

- Adopt charmonium wave functions from basis light-front quantization (BLFQ) [Li:2017mlw]
- Alternative charmonium wave functions from Dyson-Schwinger equations [Cao, in progress]
- Effective one-body $c\bar{c}$ potential:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\text{int}}^-(r_\perp) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{T}^{+-}(r_\perp) - \left\langle \sum_j \delta^2(r_\perp - r_{j\perp}) \frac{-\frac{1}{4}\vec{\nabla}_{j\perp}^2 + m_j^2 + \frac{1}{4}\nabla_\perp^2}{x_j P^+} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{P^+} \langle V_{\text{eff}}(r_\perp) \rangle \sim \psi^*(r) V(r) \psi(r)$$



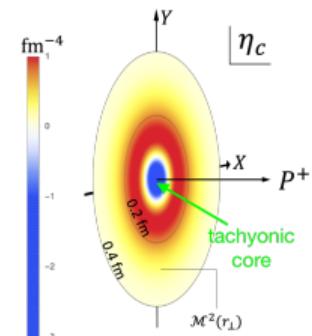
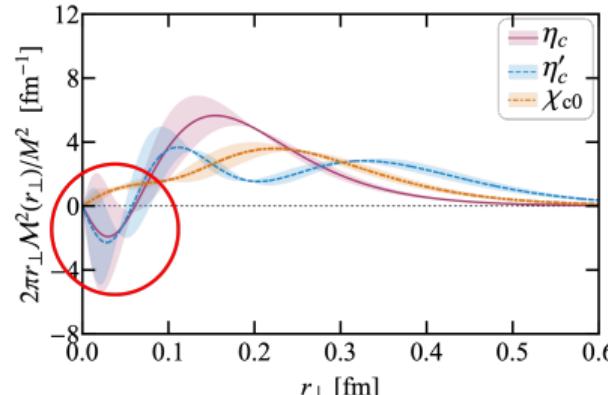
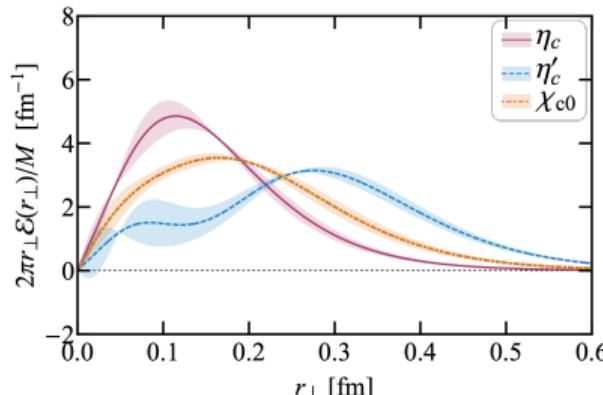
Energy density vs invariant mass squared density

Energy density $\mathcal{E}(r_\perp)$ vs the invariant mass squared density $\mathcal{M}^2(r_\perp)$:

$$\mathcal{E}(r_\perp) = M \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\vec{q}_\perp \cdot \vec{r}_\perp} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{q_\perp^2}{4M^2} \right) A(q_\perp^2) + \frac{q_\perp^2}{4M^2} D(q_\perp^2) \right\},$$

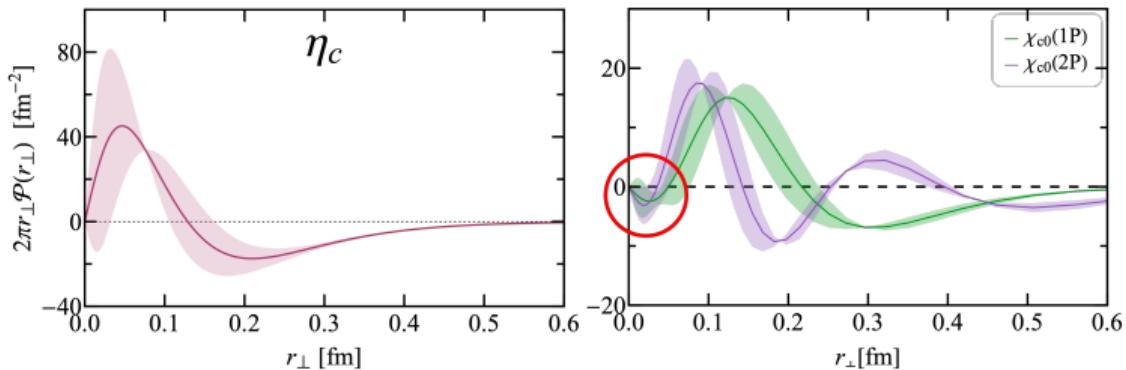
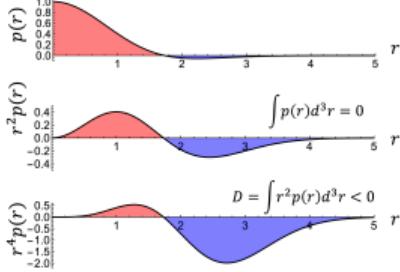
$$\mathcal{M}^2(r_\perp) = M^2 \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\vec{q}_\perp \cdot \vec{r}_\perp} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{q_\perp^2}{4M^2} \right) A(q_\perp^2) + \frac{q_\perp^2}{2M^2} D(q_\perp^2) \right\} = M \left[\mathcal{E}(r_\perp) - \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{P}(r_\perp) \right]$$

- Energy density is positive
- Invariant mass squared density becomes negative at small r_\perp : tachyonic core within charmonium?



$$D = \int d^3r r^2 \mathcal{P}(r) \stackrel{??}{<} 0$$

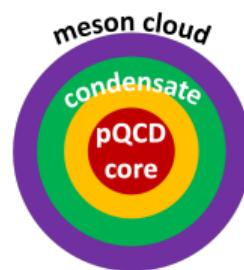
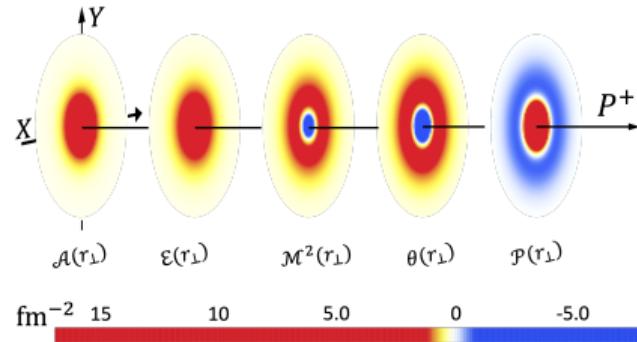
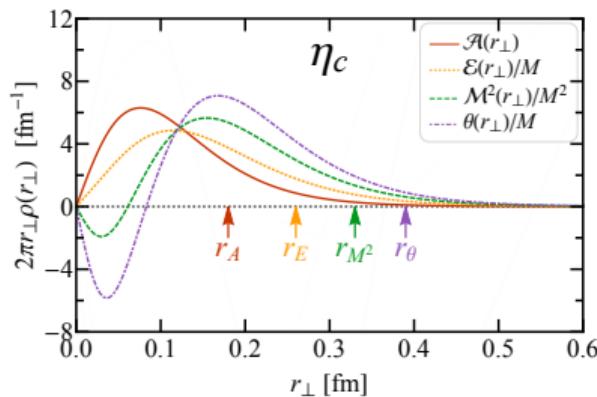
- Speculation: a mechanically stable system must have a repulsive core and an attractive edge
- We find that while η_c has a repulsive core, χ_{c0} has an attractive cores, and both have negative D !



Physical densities

[Xu:2024cfa]

Matter density $\mathcal{A}(r_\perp)$, energy density $\mathcal{E}(r_\perp)$, invariant mass squared density $\mathcal{M}^2(r_\perp)$ and trace scalar density $\theta(r_\perp)$



Application to nucleon structures

[Mondal:2019jdg, Xu:2021wwj, Xu:2022abw, Xu:2023nqv, Xu:2024sjt]

