

# Lattice Calculation of Proton-Proton Fusion Matrix Element

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Zi-Yu Wang (王子毓)

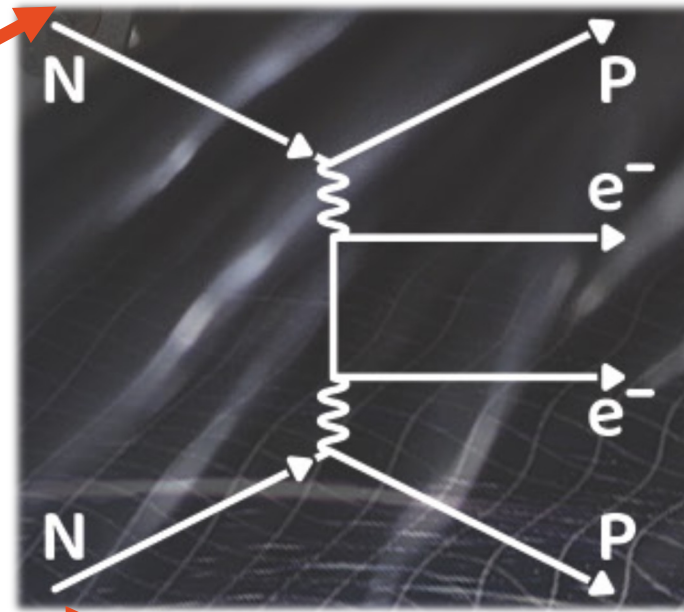
In collaboration: Xu Feng, Lu-chang Jin, Chuan Liu



# Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay



2023 Long Range Plan  
For Nuclear Science



If  $0\nu 2\beta$  is observed:

→ Direct evidence for the Majorana nature of neutrinos

→ LNV process

# Challenges for LQCD

- Significant progress in the pion sector
  - @physical pion mass
  - Include both LD and SD matrix elements

A. Nicholson et al., PRL121 (2018) 172501

X. Feng, L. Jin, X. Tuo, S. Xia, PRL122 (2019) 022001

X. Tuo, X. Feng, L. Jin, PRD100 (2019) 094511

X. Tuo, X. Feng, L. Jin, PRD106 (2022) 074510

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## ➤ But only NPLQCD collaboration has report their pioneering calculations

in nucleon sector @ $m_\pi=806$  MeV

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Anthony Grebe's plenary talk on 8.3

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## ➤ What are the challenges?

- **Signal-to-noise problem**
- Pseudo plateau
- Complicated contractions
- FV corrections
- Other systematic effects

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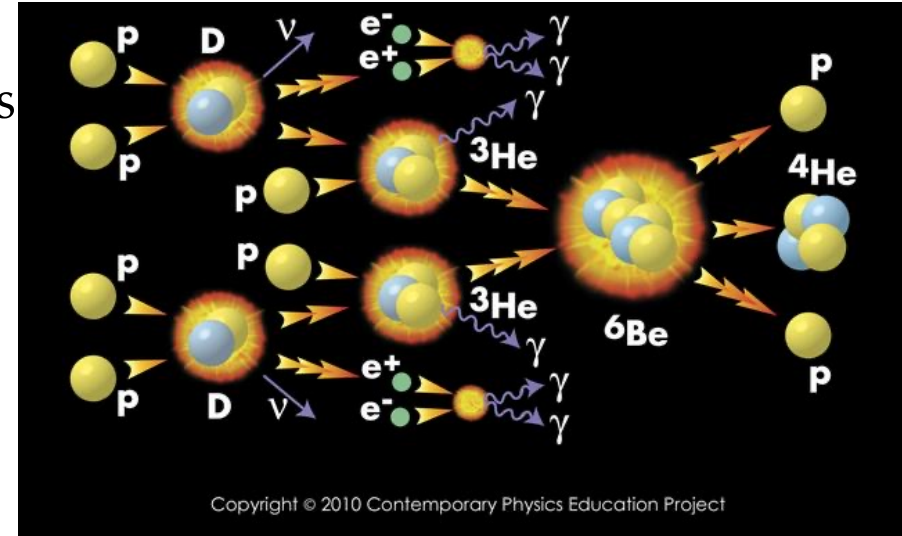
- **Signal-to-noise problem**
- Pseudo plateau
- Complicated contractions
- FV corrections
- Other systematic effects

## ➤ A simpler case of 1<sup>st</sup> order weak transition: Proton-Proton Fusion

# Proton-Proton Fusion

## ➤ The Proton-Proton Fusion Process

- Initiating the **proton-proton fusion chain reaction** that provides the dominant energy production mechanism in stars.
- It is related to **neutrino-induced deuteron-breakup reaction**, which is relevant to the measurement of **neutrino oscillations**.
- A first step towards understanding  **$g_A$  quenching** in nuclei.

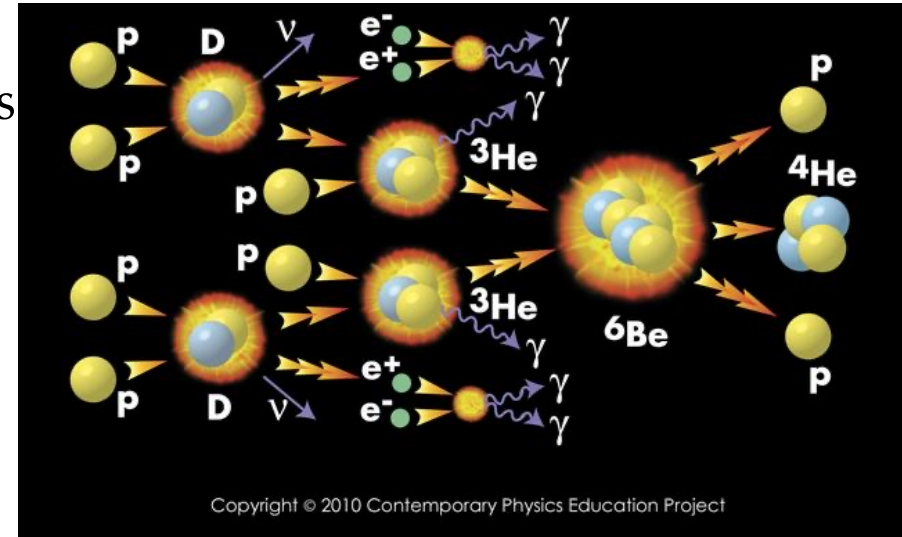




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## ➤ Lattice QCD Calculation of Proton-Proton Fusion

- P-P fusion process is hard to access in laboratory, but relatively easy to study by lattice calculation.
- All the techniques we developed here can be used for future double beta decay calculations.



# Lattice Calculation

## ➤ Ensemble (RBC/UKQCD):

- 2+1 flavour **domain wall fermion + Iwasaki** gauge action,
- 162 cfgs, 128 meas./cfg.
- Field Sparsening: Computational cost reduced to 1/8
- Based on the Qlattice package by Luchang Jin.

Y. Li et al., PRD 103 (2021) 1, 014514  
W. Detmold, PRD 104 (2021) 3, 034502

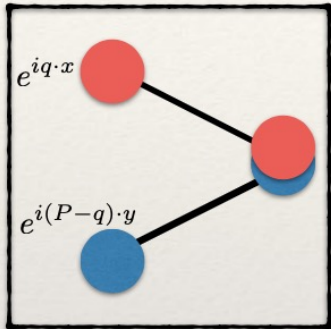
$\beta$	$am_l$	$L^3 \times T$	$L(\text{fm})$	$a^{-1}(\text{GeV})$	$m_\pi(\text{MeV})$
2.13	0.01	$24^3 \times 64$	$\sim 2.65$	1.7844(49)	432.2(1.4)

# Two-nucleon Interpolators

To bind or not to bind: A question of various two-nucleon interpolators

Lattice 2023: FNAL  
3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023

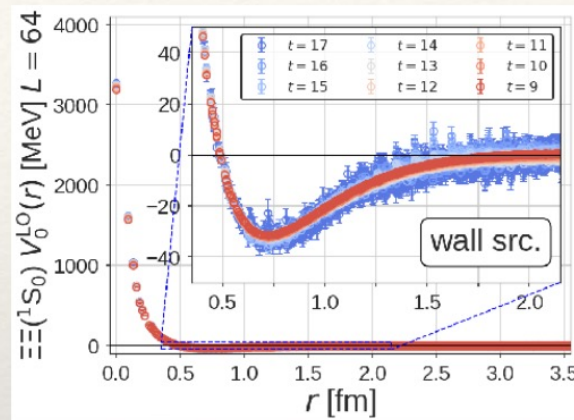
NPLQCD,  
Yamazaki et al.,  
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Compact, hexa-quark  
creation operator

Deep bound di-nucleons

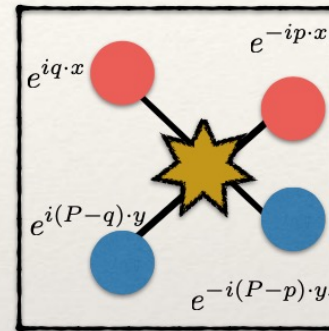
HAL QCD Potential



diffuse - wall source

no bound state

“Mainz” (Distillation)  
CoSMoN (stochastic LapH)  
NPLQCD (sparsened momentum)



momentum-space  
creation & annihilation  
positive-definite correlation matrix

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André Walker-Loud,  
Lattice 2023

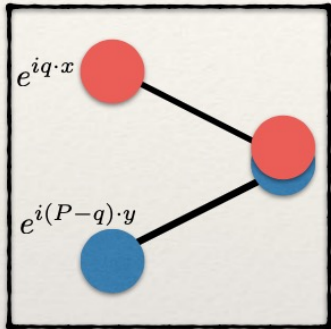


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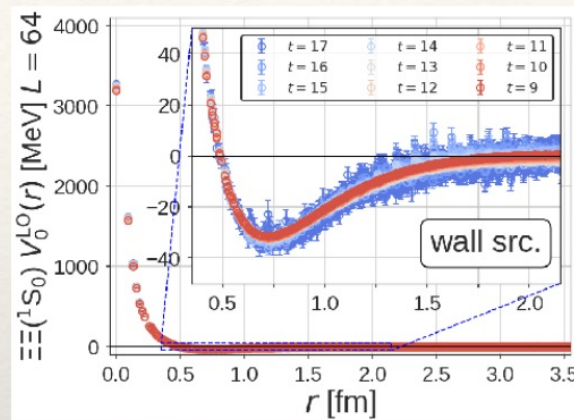
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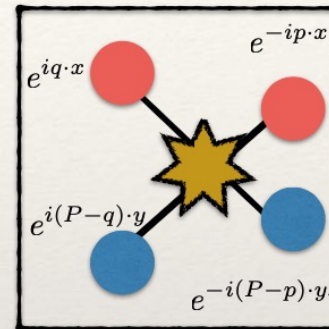
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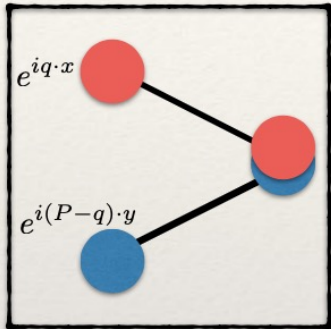
“An open question until now,  
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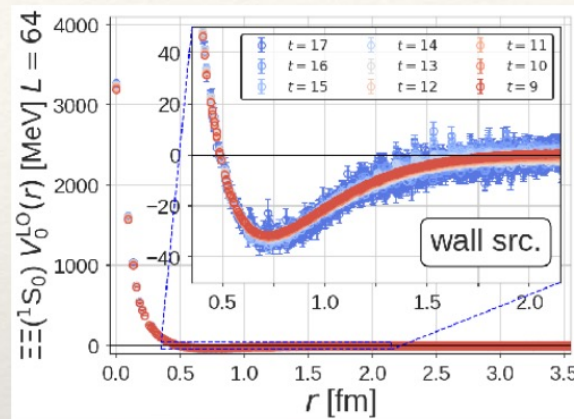
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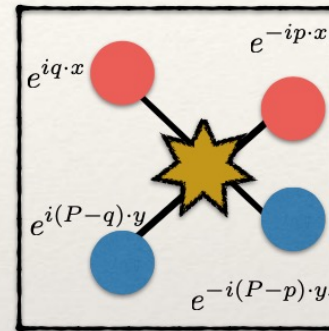
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André Walker-Loud,  
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“An open question until now,  
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This work: Utilizing in  
matrix element calculation



# Interpolators Comparison

## ➤ Hexa-quark Interpolators

- All six quarks are located on one site
- Significant excited-state contamination:

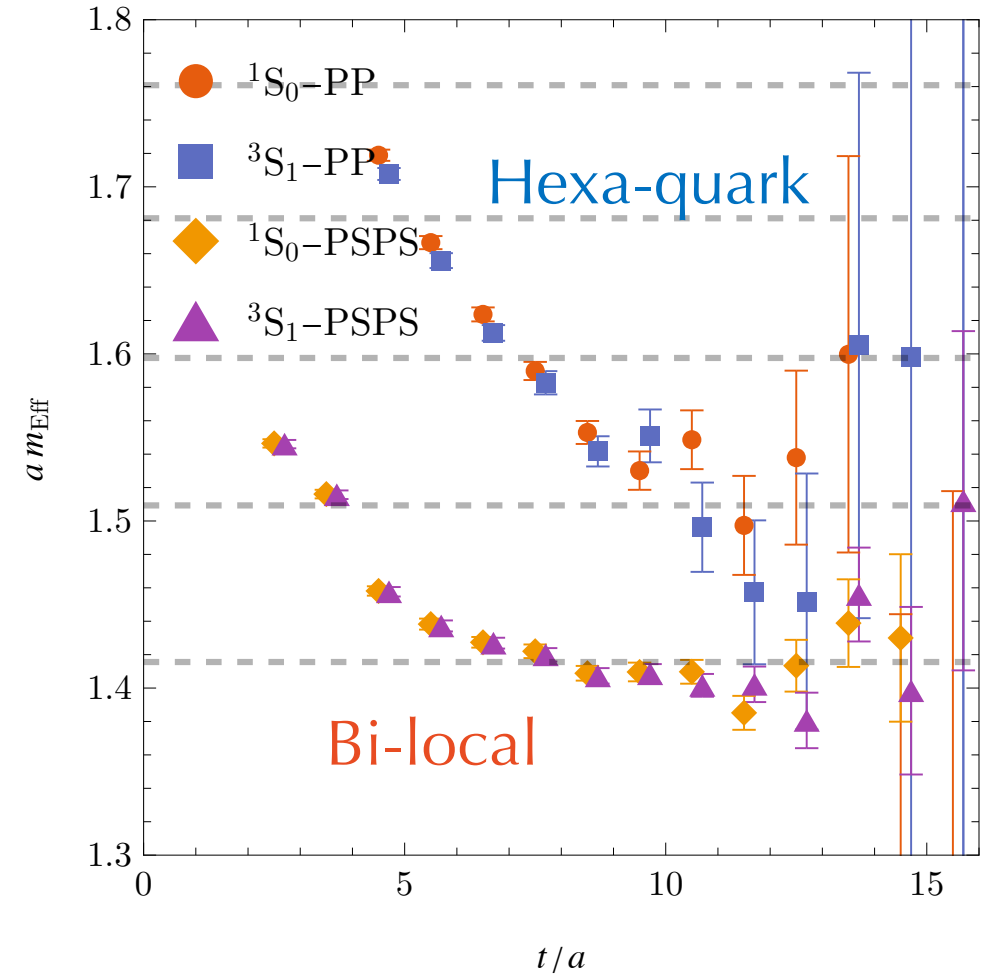
$$\sum_x N(x)N(x) = \sum_p \tilde{N}(p)\tilde{N}(-p)$$

## ➤ Bi-local Interpolators

- Resemble the bi-local nature of NN system
- Suppressed excited-state contamination:

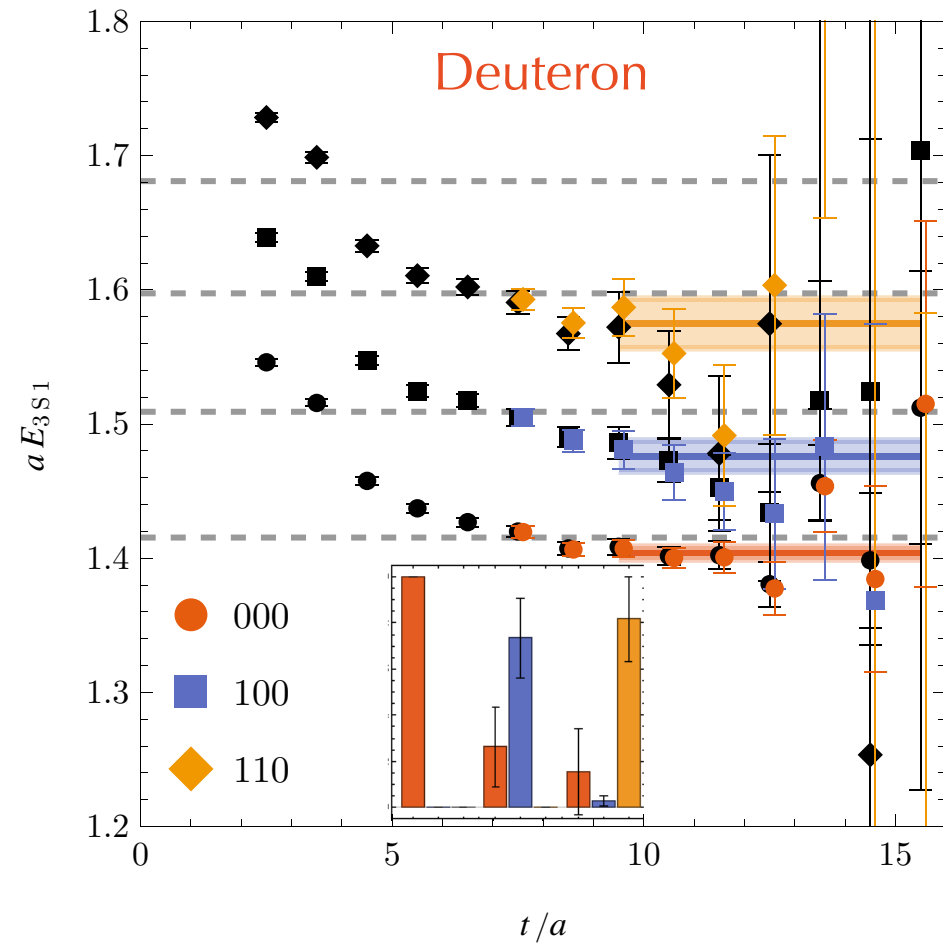
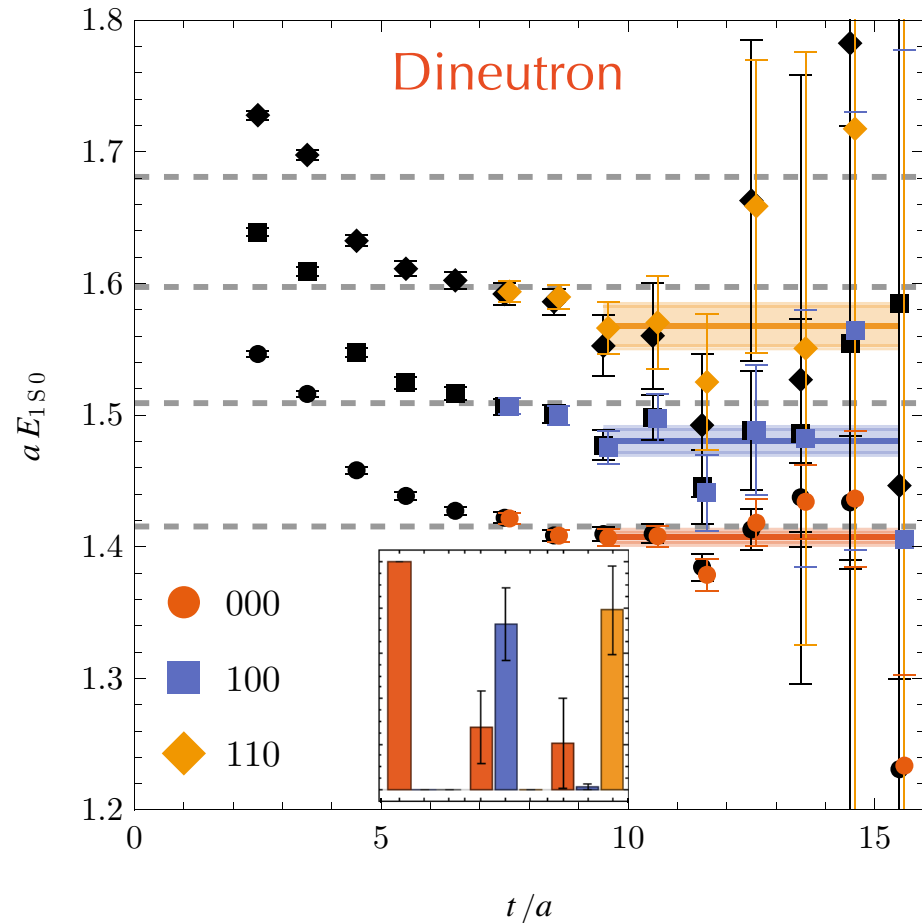
$$\sum_{x,y} N(x)N(y) = \tilde{N}(0)\tilde{N}(0)$$

- All the propagators are APE smeared.



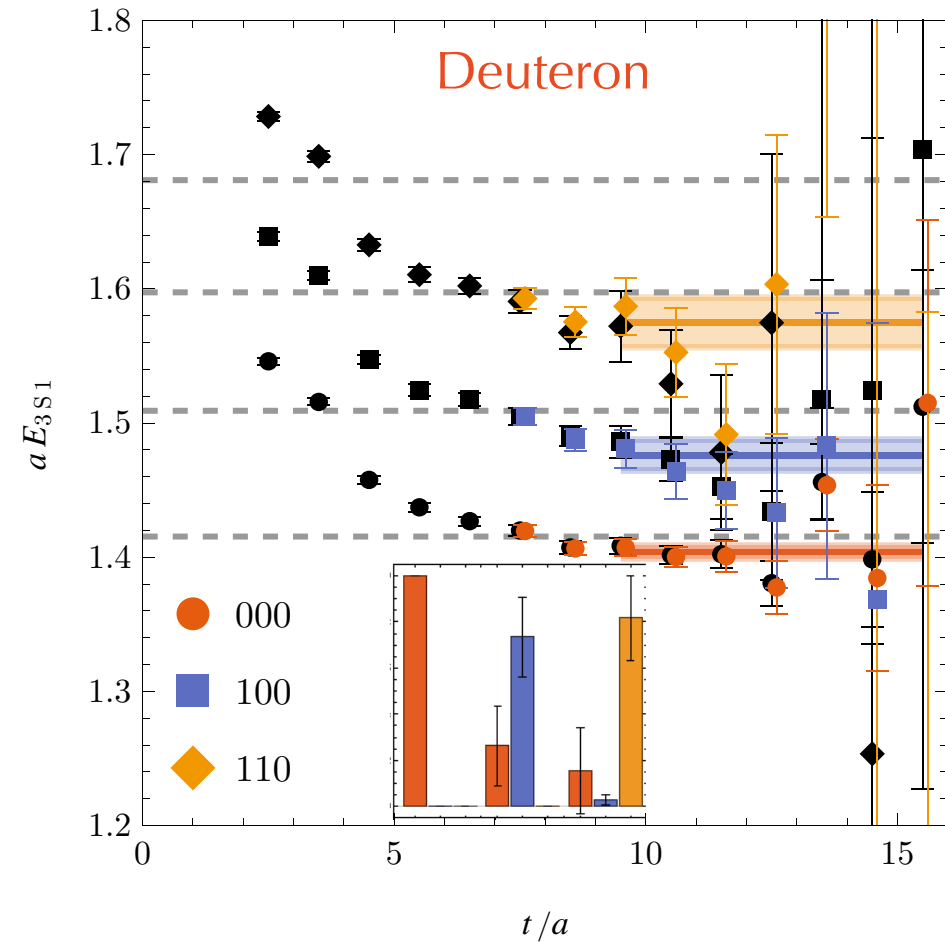
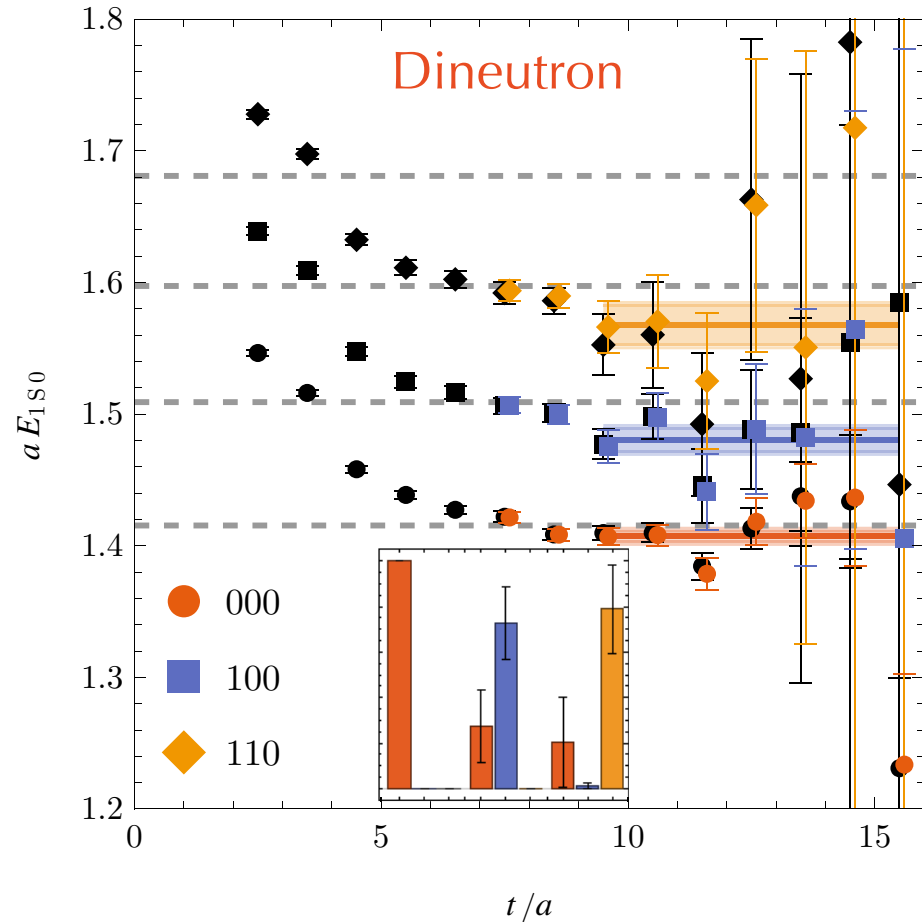
# Ground-State Determination I: Variational Analysis

➤ Momentum space op. set  $\{O_q | q = 000, 100, 110\}$



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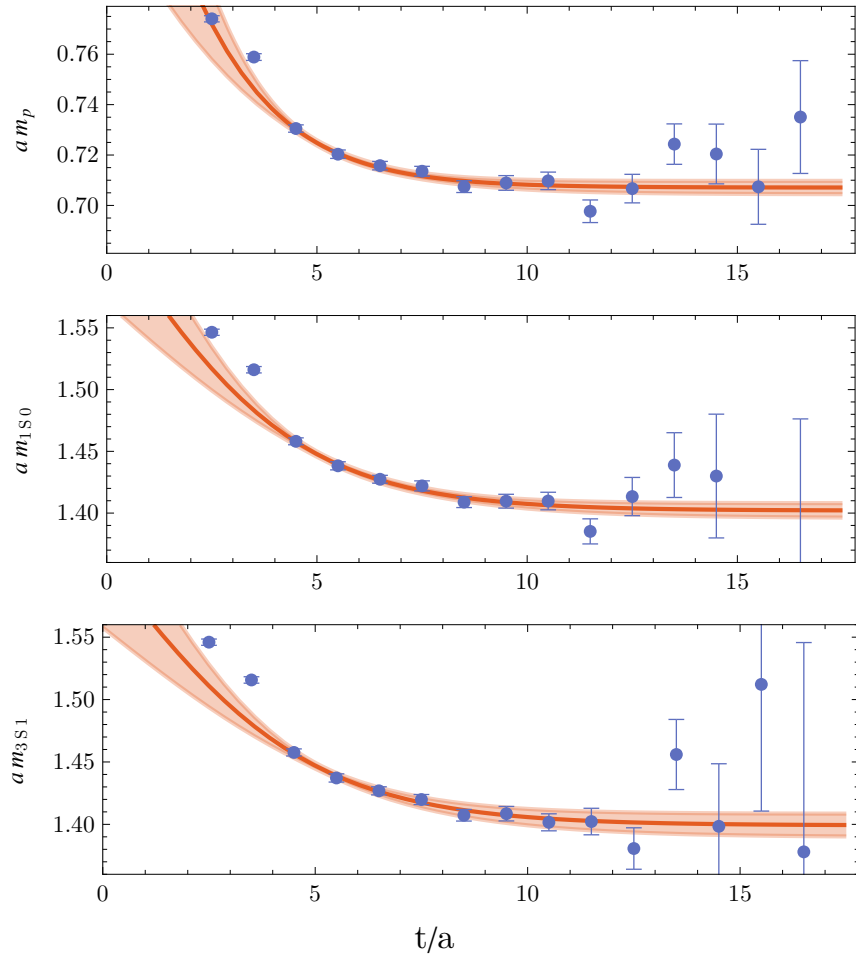
The overlap between GEVP ground state and non-zero momentum state is weak, but it is crucial to the energy difference.



# Ground-State Determination II: Multi-state Fit

## ➤ Multi-state Fit ( $t/a = 4 - 16$ )

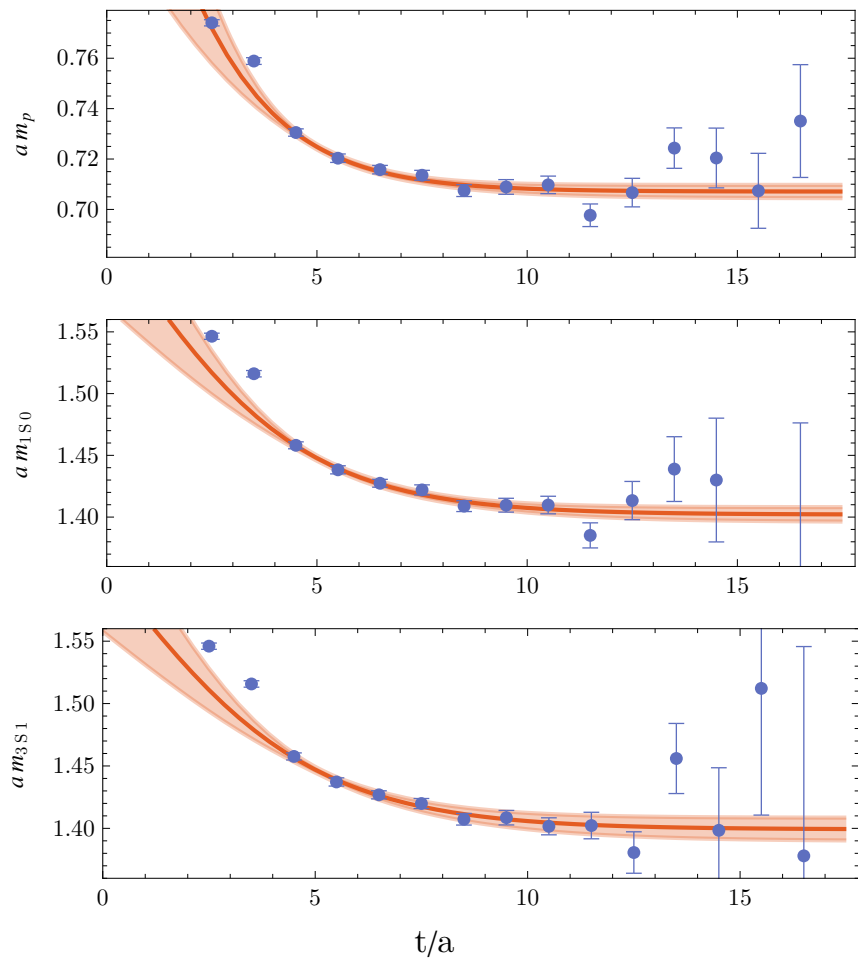
$$C(t) = A_0 e^{-E_0 t} (1 + r e^{-\delta t})$$



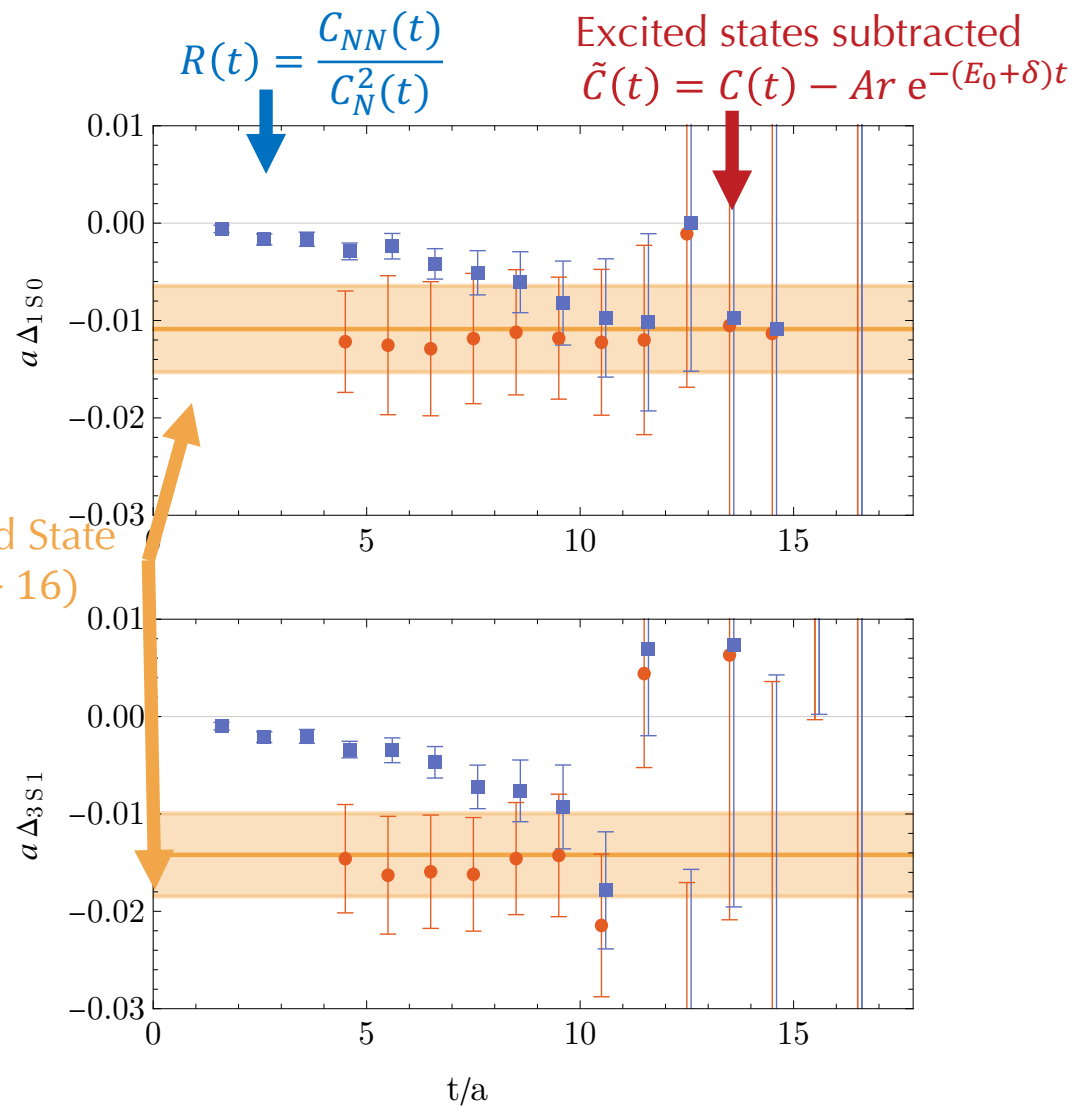
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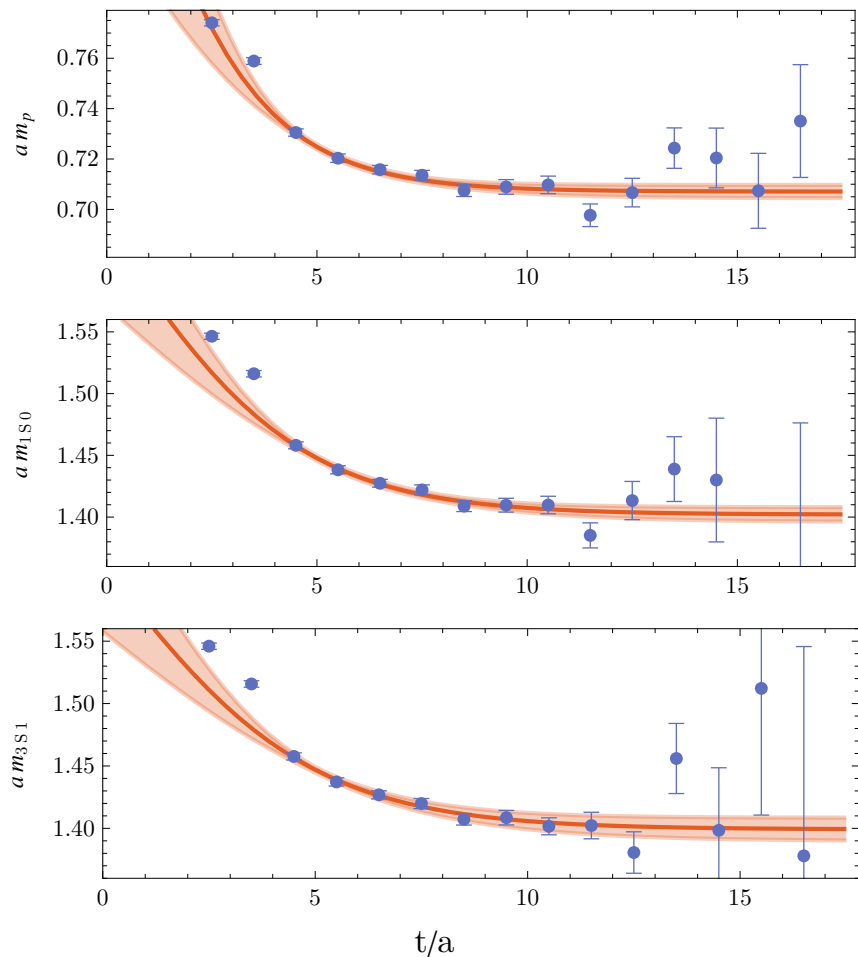
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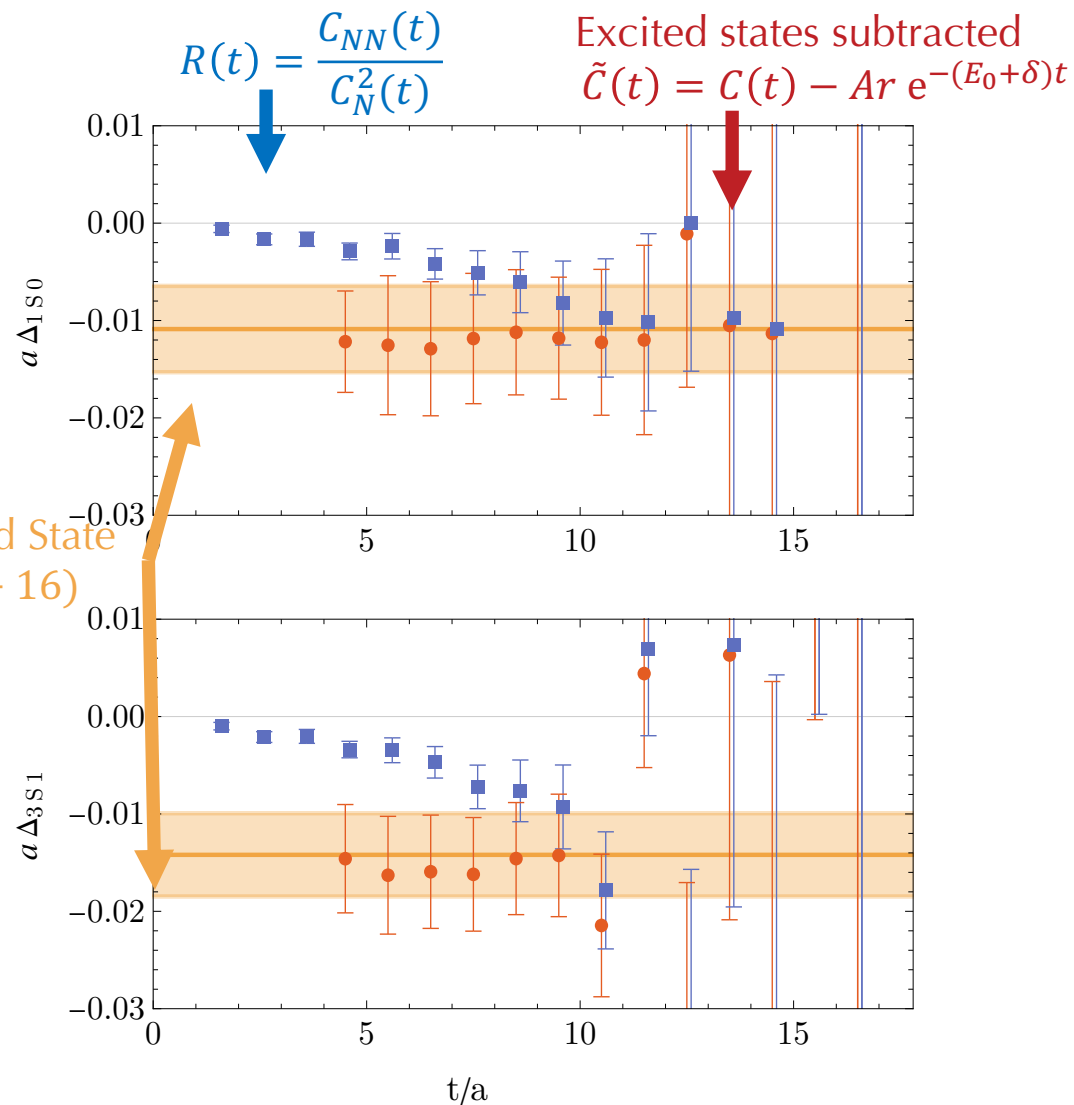
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GEVP Ground State  
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The (elastic) excited-state contamination is effectively removed by GEVP at large time slices.

# Summary of the Ground State Energy

## ➤ Results

- We present the result of variational method as our final result. ( $t_i/a = 9, t_f/a = 16$ )

$$m_p = 1.2649(42) \text{ GeV},$$

$$m_{1S_0} = 2.5104(90) \text{ GeV},$$

$$m_{3S_1} = 2.5045(89) \text{ GeV},$$

$$\Delta_{1S_0} \equiv m_{1S_0} - 2m_p = -19.4(7.9) \text{ MeV},$$

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Yan Lyu, Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 7, 074512

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- Since we already have a GEVP spectrum, let us take a look at their scattering properties.

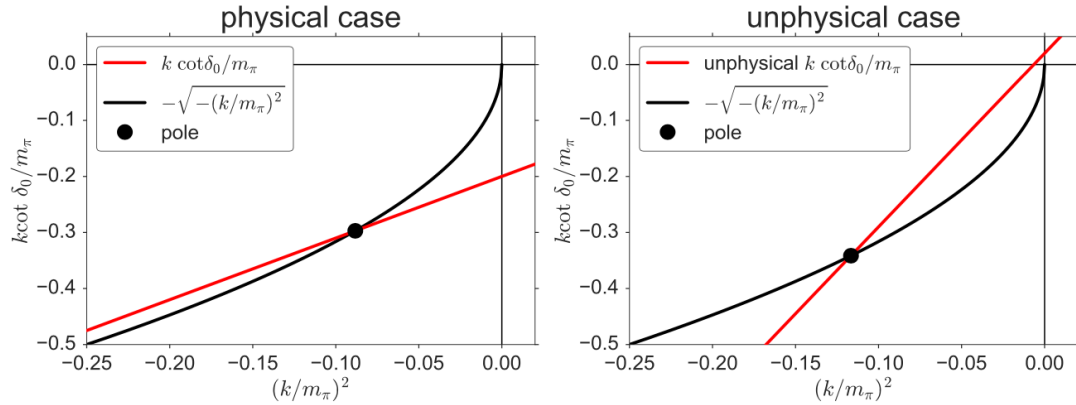
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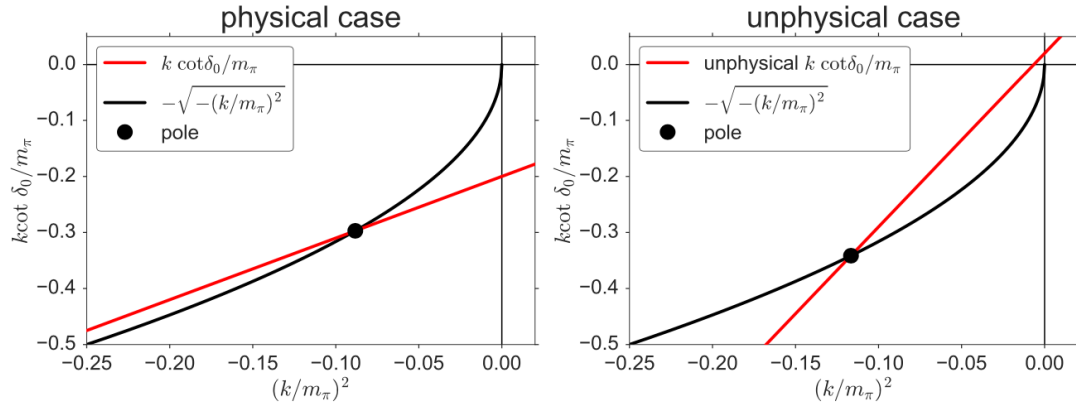


T. Iritani, PRD(2017), 96(3), 034521

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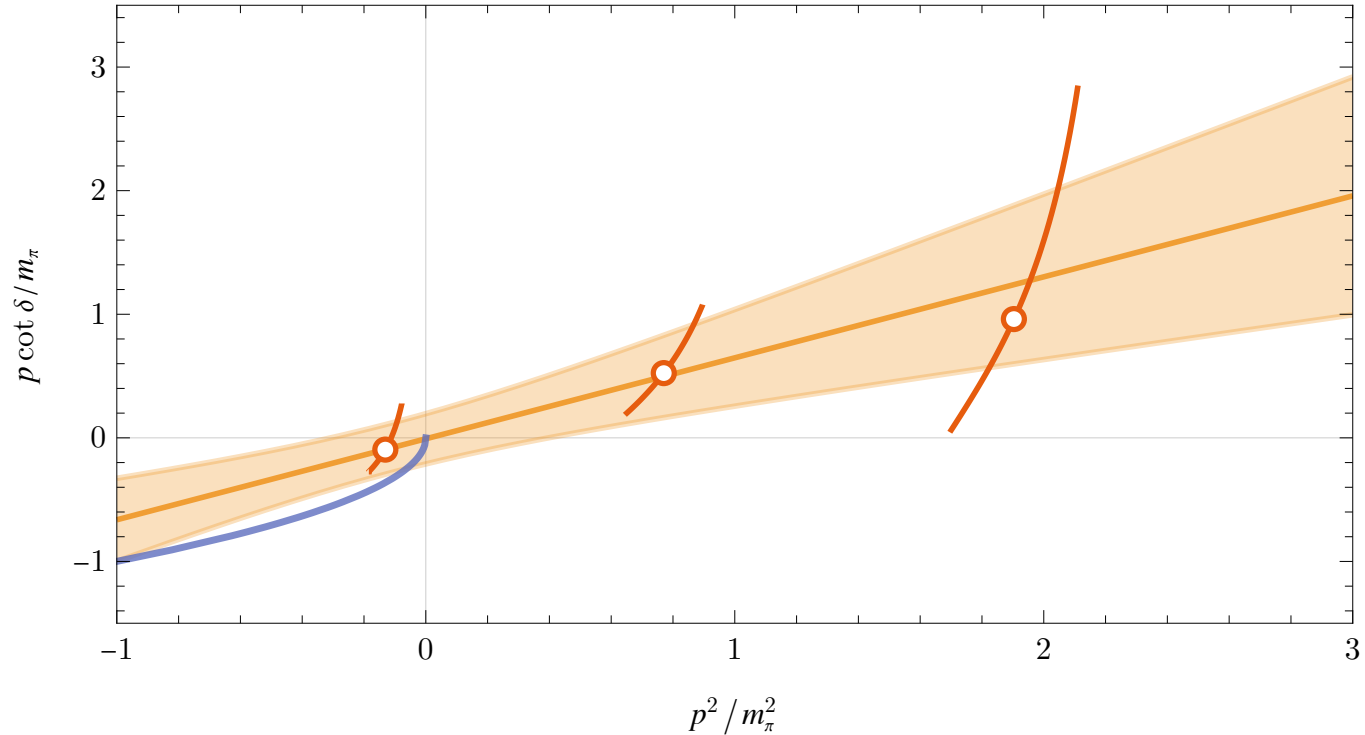
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T. Iritani, PRD(2017), 96(3), 034521

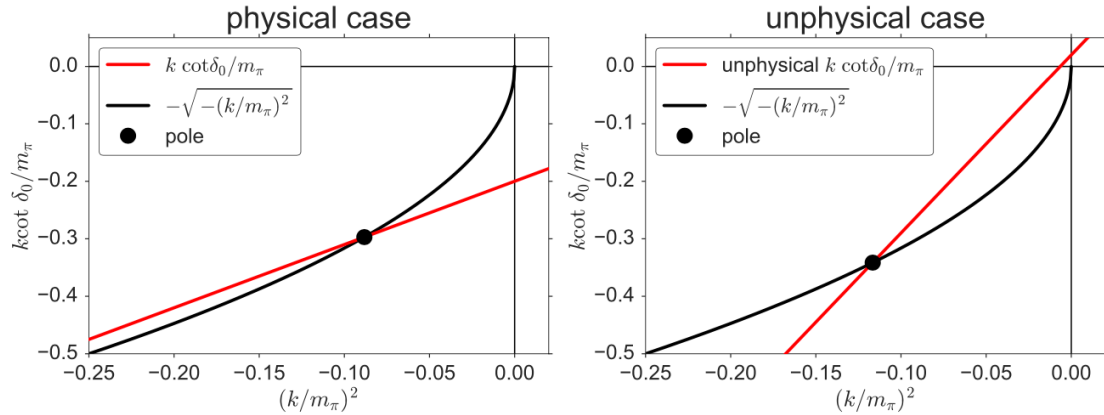
➤ Current result of 1S0 channel:

- No deep bound state
- shallow bound state or scattering state



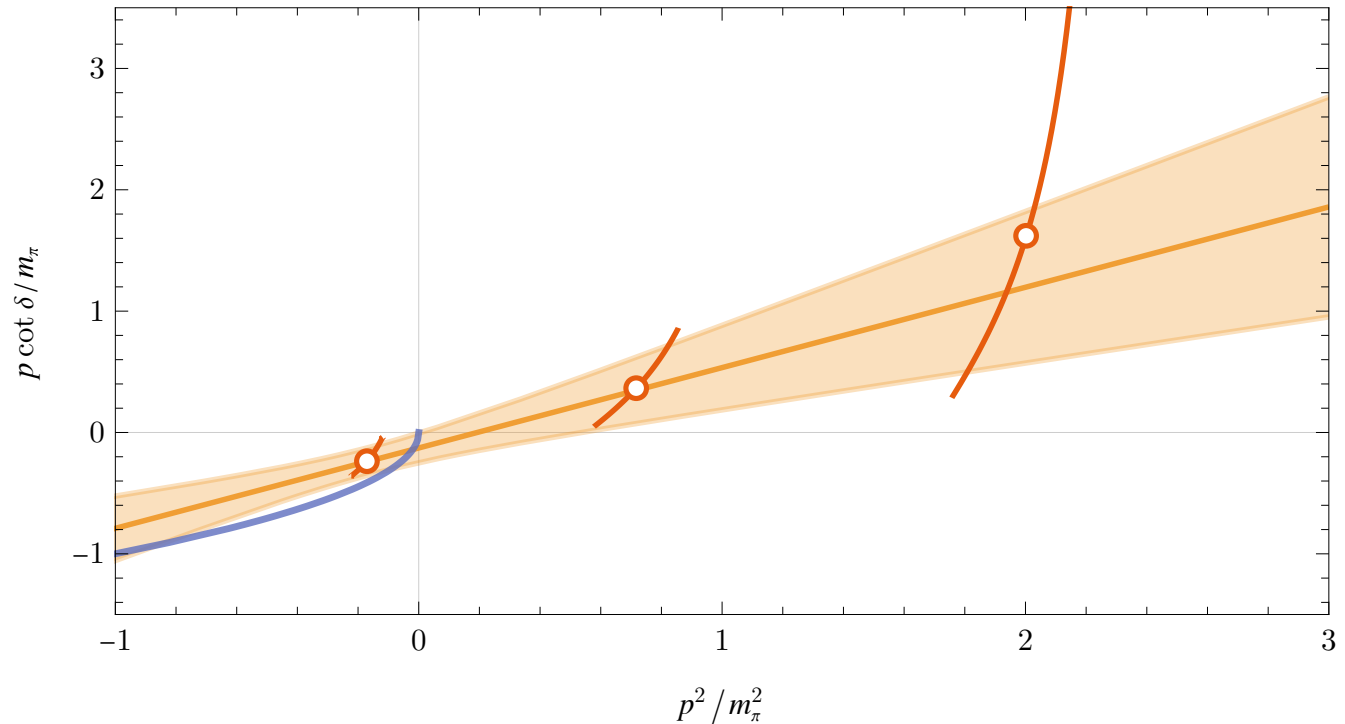
# Scattering Phase Shift of Deuteron (3S1)

- Lüscher's Method: FV spectrum  $\rightarrow$  scattering phase shift
- Consistency check for a physical bound state:



T. Iritani, PRD(2017), 96(3), 034521

- Current result of 3S1 channel:
  - No deep bound state
  - Most likely to be a shallow bound state
  - Binding energy:  $E = 3(6)$  MeV



# Summary of Two-nucleon Spectroscopy

## ➤ Results

- The **deuteron** is likely to be a **shallow bound state** at  $m_\pi \sim 432$  MeV.
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- A conclusive result still needs further improvement in accuracy and systematics.

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- The excited state energy is above the inelastic threshold.
- As the pion mass continues to decrease, a larger spatial volume will be essential to ensure that the two-nucleon scattering is elastic. This is beyond the scope of this work.

# Calculation of Matrix elements

## ➤ Methods

- Isospin rotation: Flavour changing process  $\rightarrow$  Flavour conserving process

$$\langle p | \mathcal{F}^+ | n \rangle = \sqrt{2} \langle p | \mathcal{F}_3 | p \rangle,$$

$$\langle d | \mathcal{F}^+ | pp(^1S_0) \rangle = - \langle d | \mathcal{F}_3 | pn(^1S_0) \rangle.$$

- Sequential-source propagator technique: 3pt  $\rightarrow$  2pt

- Matrix elements extracted from the ratio:  $R_3(t) = \frac{C_3(t)}{C_2(t)} = \left( \frac{\langle f | \mathcal{J} | i \rangle}{Z_A} \right) t + \dots,$

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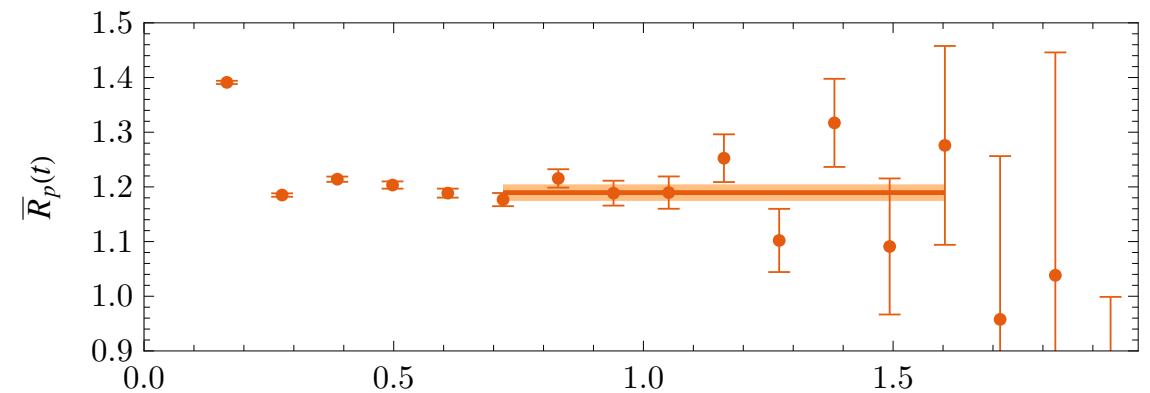
## ➤ Determination of nucleon axial charge

$$g_A = 1.190(10),$$

Consistent with RBC/UKQCD (same ensemble):

$$g_A = 1.186(36)$$

Yamazaki, et al., PRL, 100 (2008), 171602

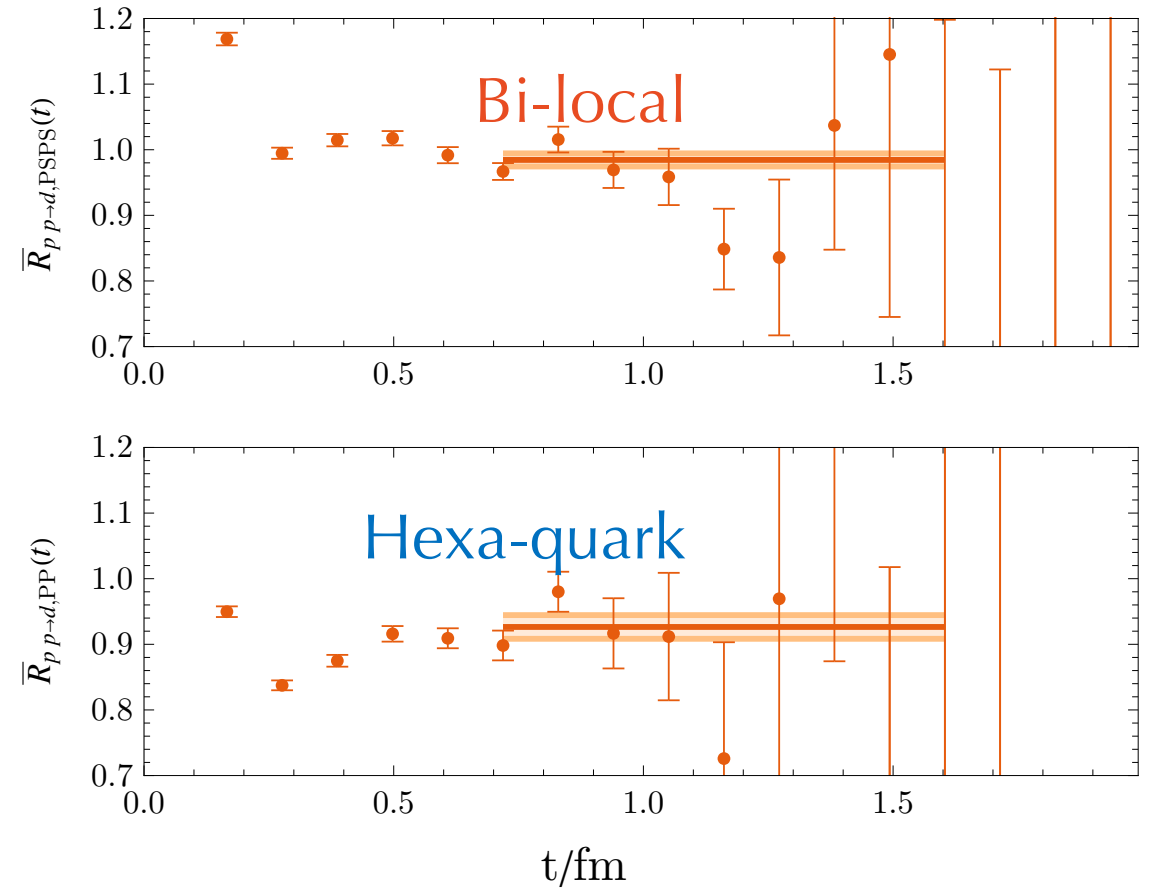


# NME of Proton-Proton Fusion

- Applying the same techniques to two-nucleon interpolators:  $R_3(t) = \frac{C_3(t)}{C_2(t)} = \left( \frac{\langle f | \mathcal{J} | i \rangle}{Z_A} \right) t + \dots$ ,  
→ Matrix elements of proton-proton fusion.

$$\frac{\langle d | \mathcal{J} | pp \rangle_{\text{PSPS}}}{\sqrt{2}g_A} = 0.984(10),$$

$$\frac{\langle d | \mathcal{J} | pp \rangle_{\text{PP}}}{\sqrt{2}g_A} = 0.926(18),$$



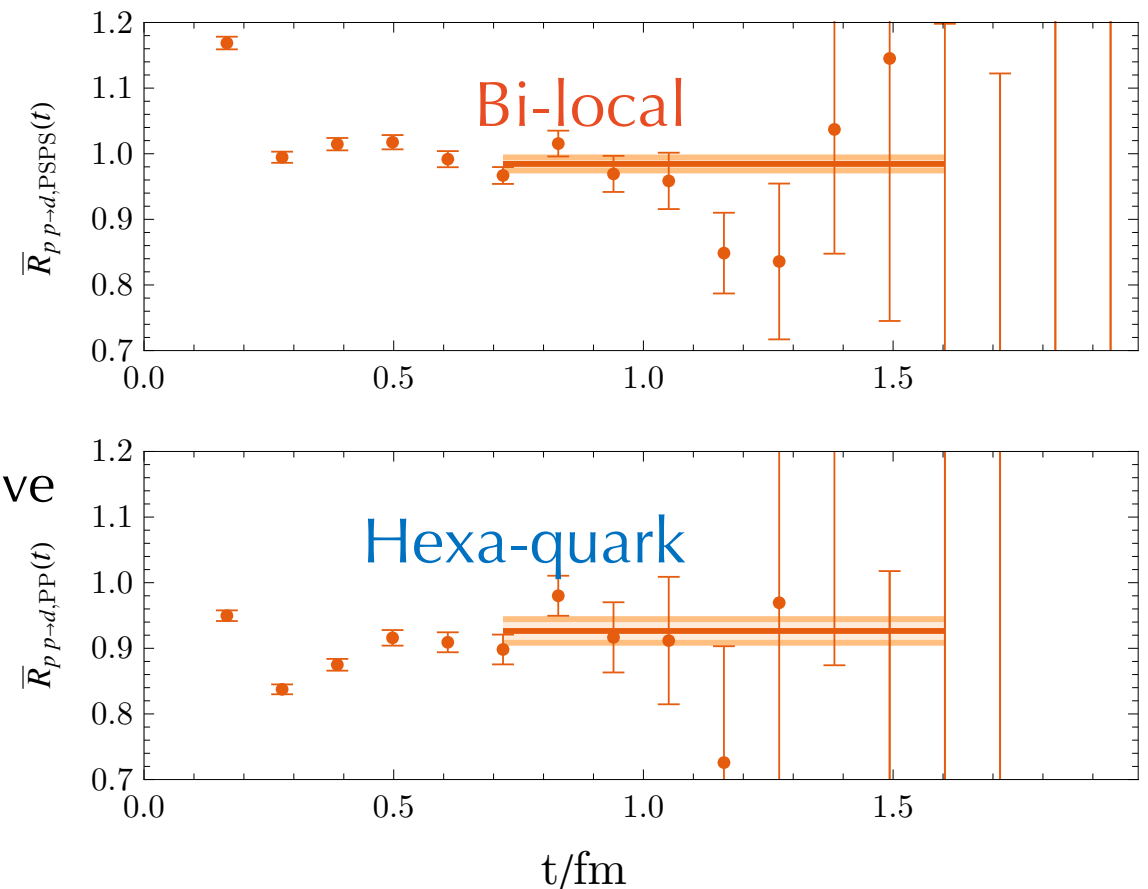
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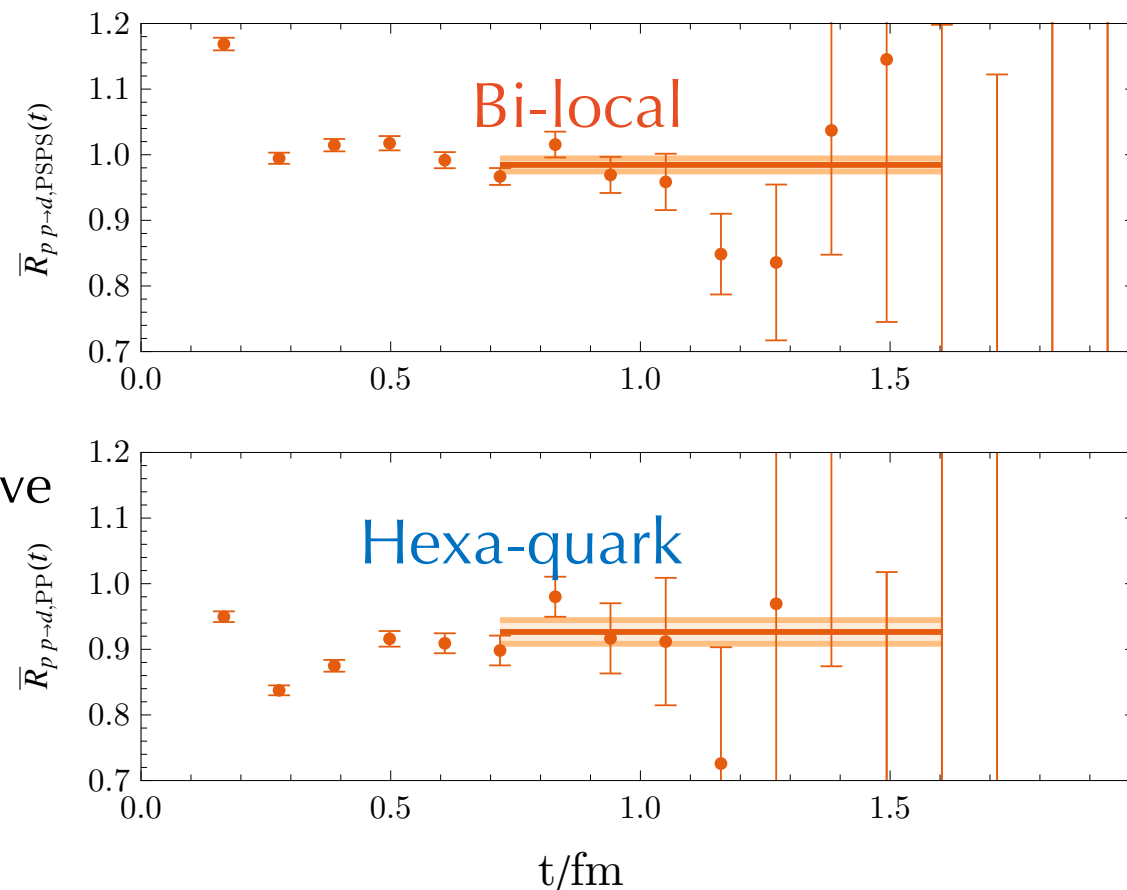
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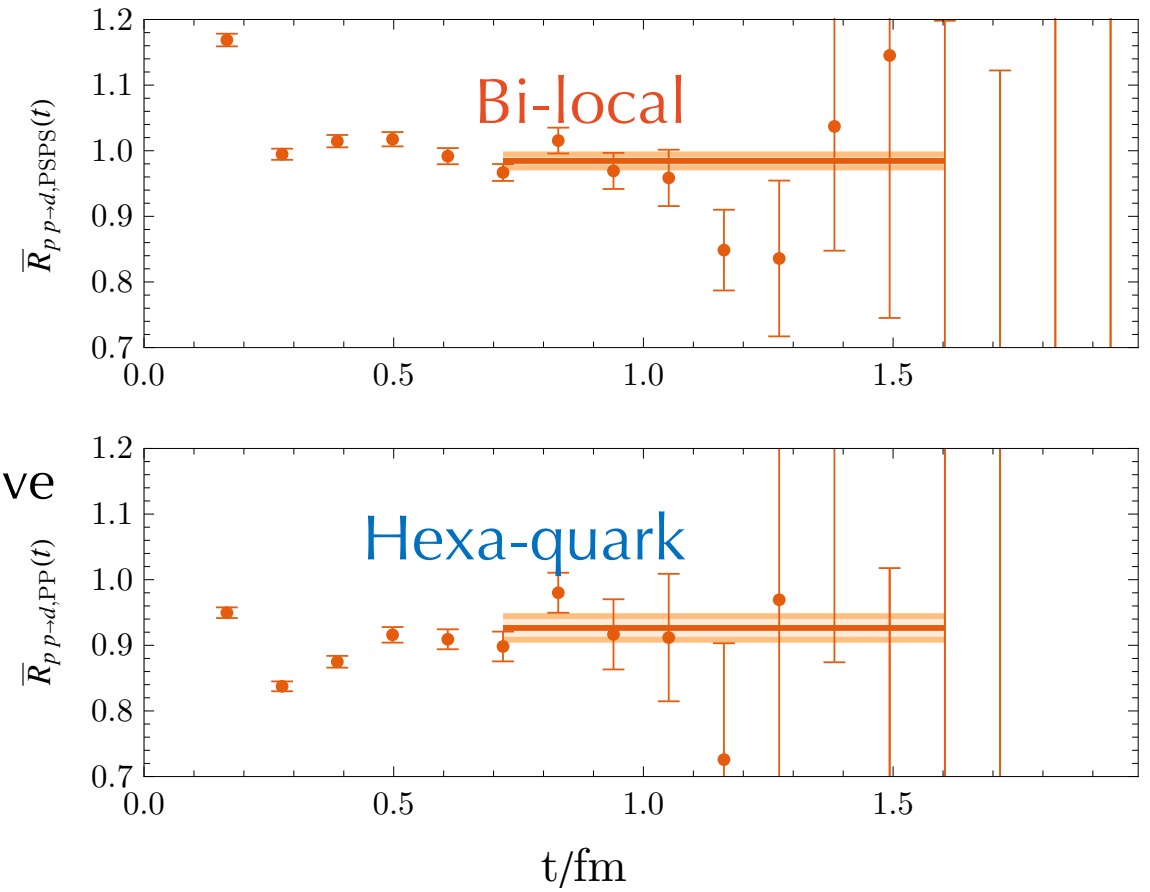
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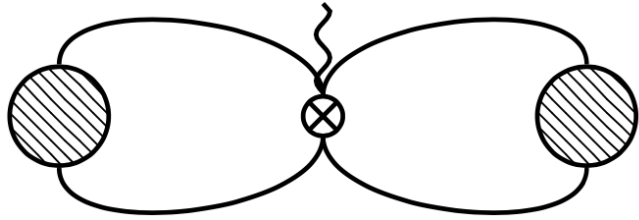
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# Finite Volume Analysis



## ➤ Two kinds of contributions

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  - The FV correction for  $2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2$  process:

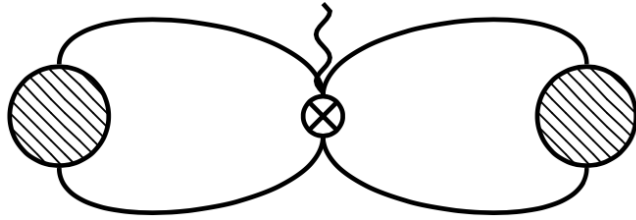
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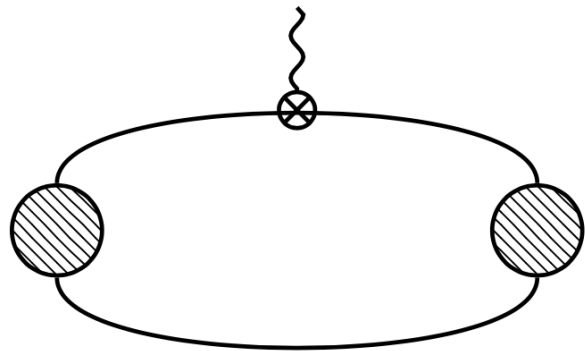


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- The one-body contribution “triangle diagram”:
  - Related to nucleon axial charge  $g_A$
  - FV formalism has present by:



- Relativistic: R.A. Briceño & M. T. Hansen
- Non-relativistic: Z. Davoudi & S. V. Kadam

PRD 94 (2016) 1, 013008

PRD 102 (2020) 11, 114521

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Joseph Moscoso's talk on 7.30.

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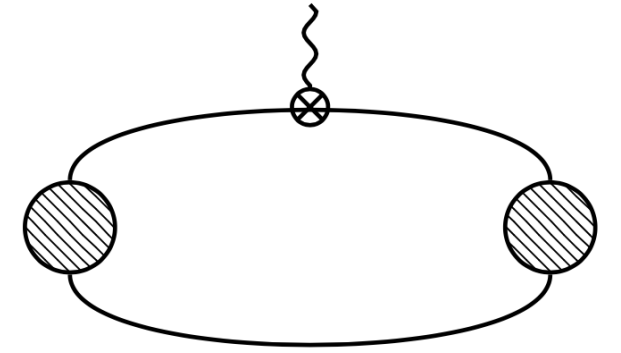
- Relation between Lellouch-Lüscher factor and the kinematic function  $G(P, L)$
- Relation from Ward-Takahashi identity:  

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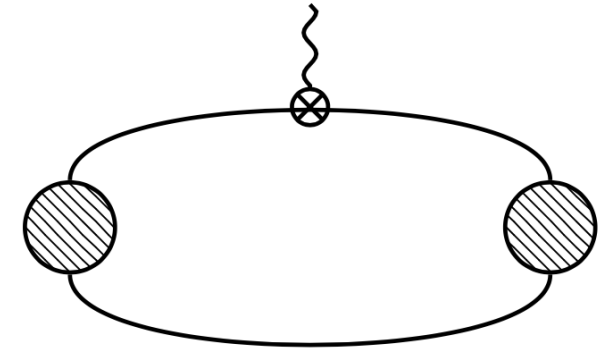
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$$L^6 |\langle E_f, L | \mathcal{J}^{1B} | E_i, L \rangle|^2 \quad \text{Z. Davoudi, S. V. Kadam, PRD 102 (2020) 11, 114521}$$

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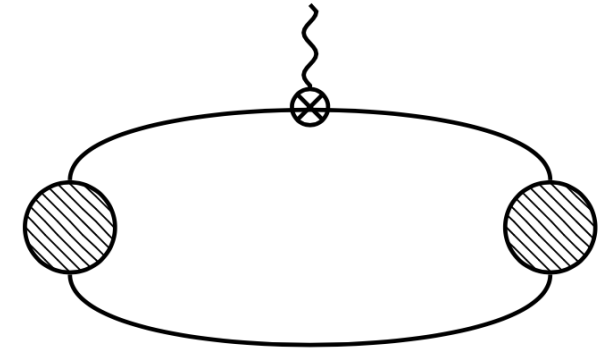
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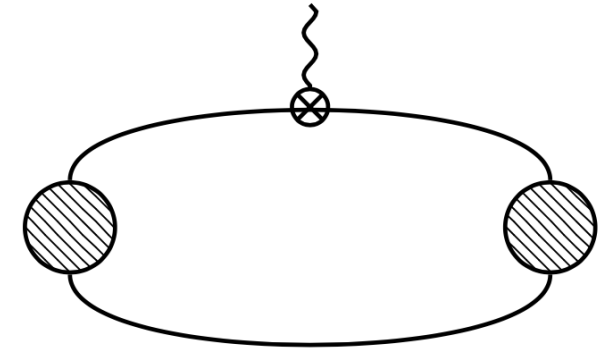
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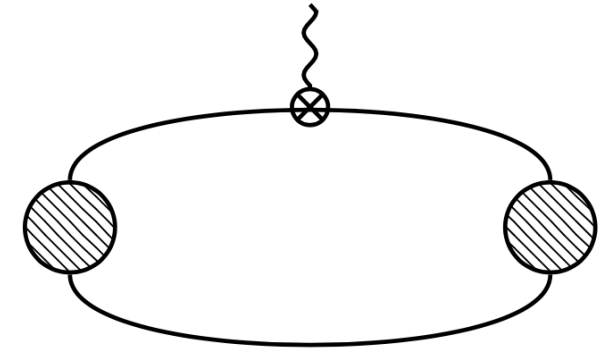
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ME of one-body contribution exactly reproduced  $g_A$  when  $E_i = E_f$

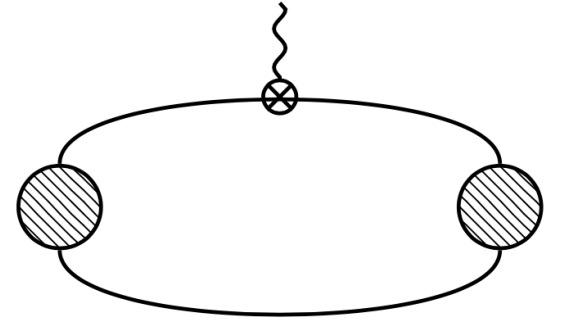
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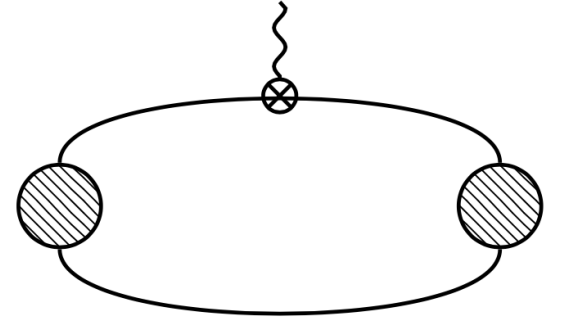
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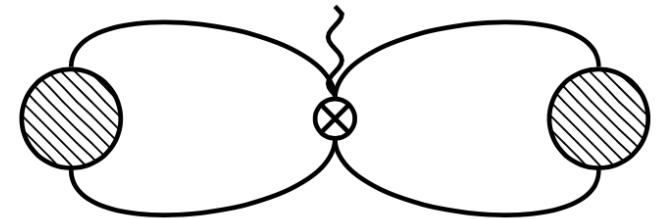
- LL-factors for both initial and final states.

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short-distance two-body contribution

- The numerical result is  $\delta_{2B} = 0.19(45)$ .



# Matching to Low Energy Constant in Pionless EFT

- Matching Directly at unphysical pion mass PRD 105 (2022) 9, 094502
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M. Savage et al., PRL 119 (2017) 6, 062002

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$$L_{1,A} = 3.5(1.3) \text{ fm}^3 \text{ (Ignoring both } \delta_{1B} \text{ and } \delta_{2B}\text{)}$$

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- NPLQCD's result at  $m_\pi \sim 806$  MeV :  $L_{1,A} = 3.9(0.2)(1.4)\text{fm}^3$  (Ignoring both  $\delta_{1B}$  and  $\delta_{2B}$ )

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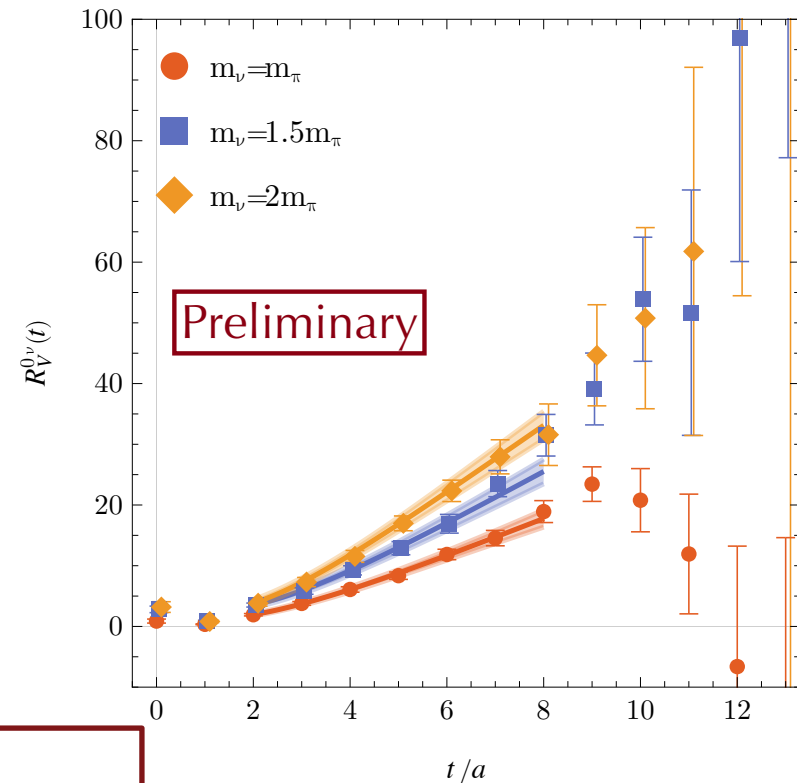
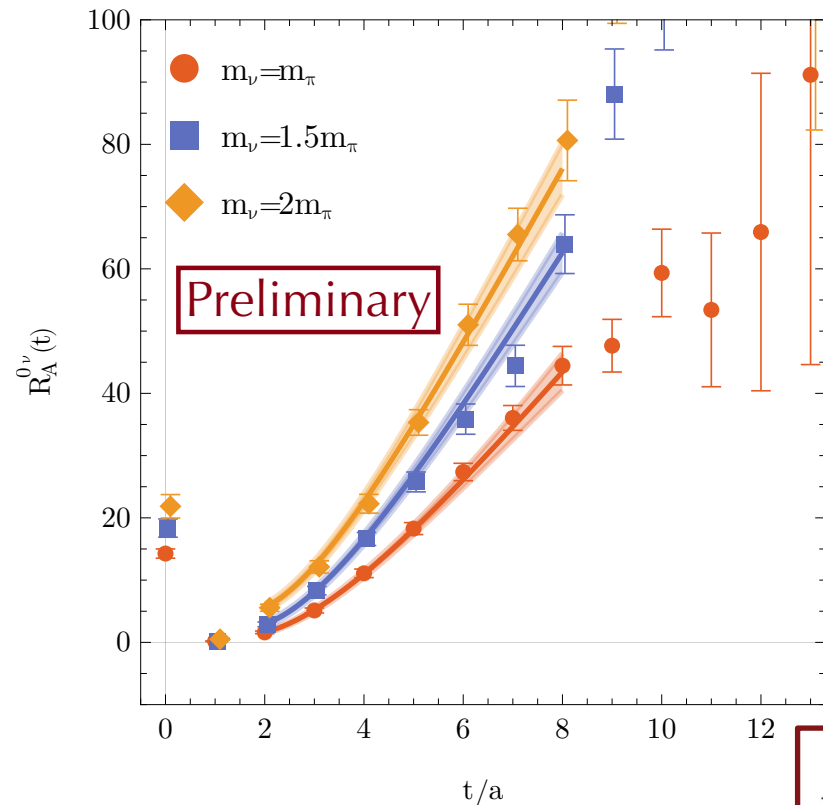
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The **major FV** correction comes from **one-body** contribution. Because the **two-body** contribution accounts for only about **2%** of the matrix elements.

# Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay (Preliminary)

- **Massive neutrino** scheme is used to remove the divergence of neutrino propagator.
- This scheme can also simplify finite volume analysis. Xu Feng et al., PRD 103 (2021) 3, 034508
- We noticed that the loop momentum can easily exceed the pion production threshold, so the match requires **chiral EFT**, which is currently not available.



$$R(t) \equiv \frac{C_{4\text{pt}}(t)}{C_{2\text{pt}}(t)} = M_{0\nu} V t + b e^{-\Delta t},$$

# Conclusion

- Lattice Calculation of Proton-Proton Fusion Matrix Element
  - **Bi-local interpolators** can effectively reduce the excited-state contamination.
  - **Deuteron** is likely to be a **shallow bound state** at  $m_\pi \sim 432$  MeV.
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## ➤ Outlooks

- We will use ensembles with larger spatial volume to control FV effects and other systematics.
- Improving the accuracy of two-nucleon FV spectrum is essential to the FV corrections.
- With these techniques, we are able to move on to more physical pion mass.

Thanks.