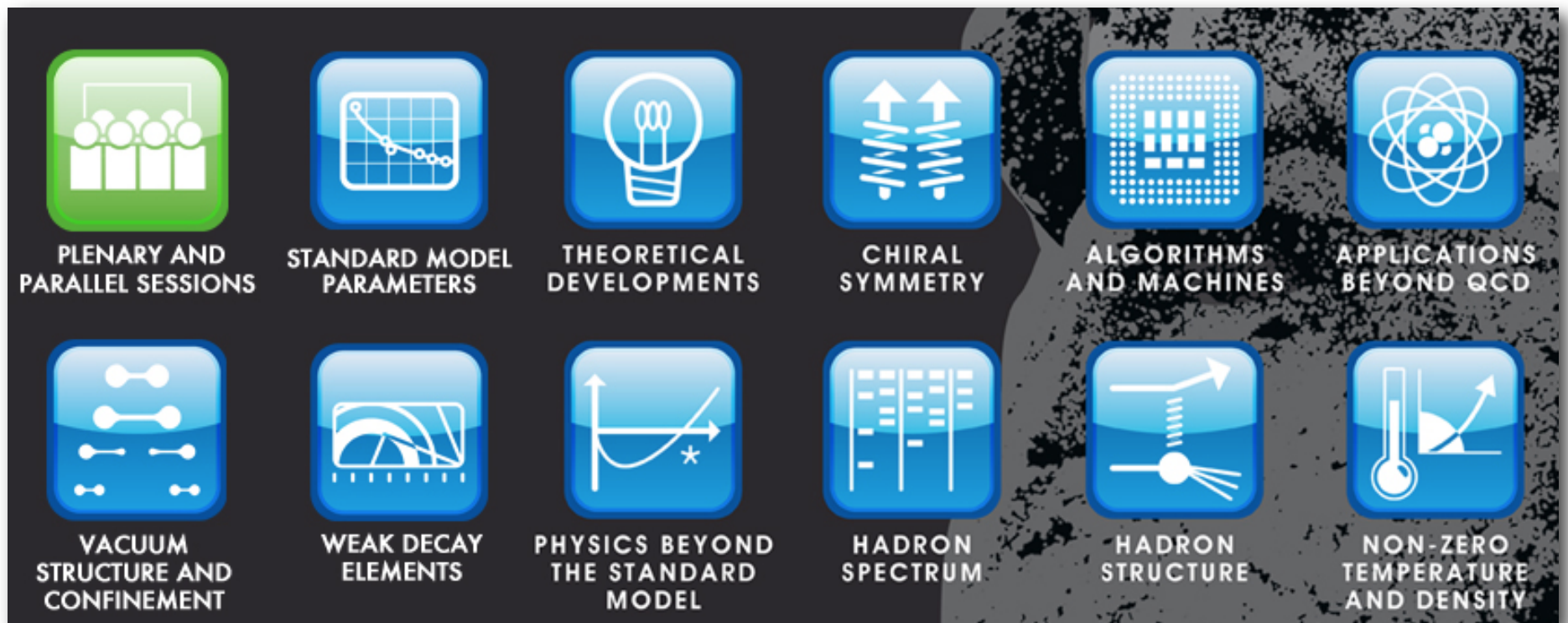


# Introduction to Lattice QCD

Carlos Pena



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Taller de Altas Energías, Benasque, 15-28 Sep 2013

# outline

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- motivation: strong interaction(s) and non-perturbative physics
- lattice field theory
  - QFT in Euclidean space
  - matter and gauge fields on a lattice
  - interacting gauge theories on a lattice: QCD
- numerical aspects
  - Monte Carlo techniques for non-perturbative QFT
  - reach of QCD computations
  - anatomy of an example
- overview of physics capabilities
  - FLAG
  - selected lattice QCD results
  - beyond the SM

## (some) reference texts

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L Lellouch et al. (ed.), *Modern Perspectives in Lattice QCD: Quantum Field Theory and High Performance Computing*.

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T DeGrand & C DeTar, *Lattice Methods for Quantum Chromodynamics*

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HJ Rothe, *Lattice Gauge Theories* (3rd ed.)

World Scientific 2005

J Smit, *Introduction to Quantum Fields on a Lattice*

Cambridge University Press 2002

[pioneer] M Creutz, *Quarks, Gluons and Lattices*

Cambridge University Press 1983

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# why lattice field theory



# standard model of particle physics

## Three Generations of Matter (Fermions)

	I	II	III	
mass→	2.4 MeV	1.27 GeV	171.2 GeV	0
charge→	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0
spin→	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
name→	<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>γ</b> photon
Quarks	4.8 MeV	104 MeV	4.2 GeV	0
	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
	<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b>g</b> gluon
Leptons	<2.2 eV	<0.17 MeV	<15.5 MeV	91.2 GeV
	0	0	0	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
	<b>ν<sub>e</sub></b> electron neutrino	<b>ν<sub>μ</sub></b> muon neutrino	<b>ν<sub>τ</sub></b> tau neutrino	<b>Z<sup>0</sup></b> weak force
	0.511 MeV	105.7 MeV	1.777 GeV	80.4 GeV
	-1	-1	-1	$\pm 1$
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
	<b>e</b> electron	<b>μ</b> muon	<b>τ</b> tau	<b>W<sup>±</sup></b> weak force

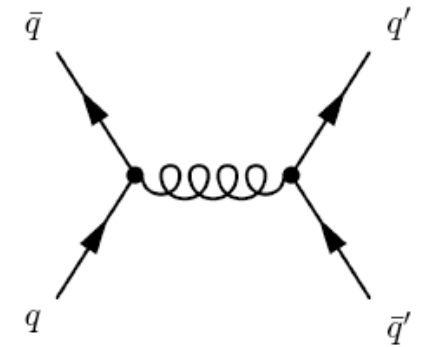
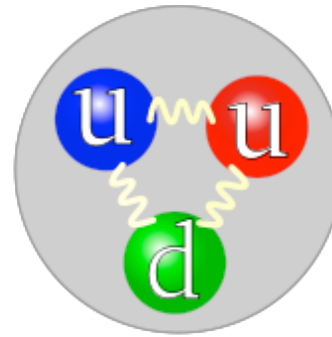
Bosons (Forces)

# Quantum ChromoDynamics

Three Generations of Matter (Fermions)

	I	II	III	
mass→	2.4 MeV	1.27 GeV	171.2 GeV	0
charge→	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0
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name→	<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>γ</b> photon
Quarks	4.8 MeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ <b>d</b> down	104 MeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ <b>s</b> strange	4.2 GeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ <b>b</b> bottom	0 0 1 <b>g</b> gluon
	<2.2 eV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>ν<sub>e</sub></b> electron neutrino	<0.17 MeV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>ν<sub>μ</sub></b> muon neutrino	<15.5 MeV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>ν<sub>τ</sub></b> tau neutrino	91.2 GeV 0 1 <b>Z<sup>0</sup></b> weak force
	0.511 MeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>e</b> electron	105.7 MeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>μ</b> muon	1.777 GeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <b>τ</b> tau	80.4 GeV $\pm 1$ 1 <b>W<sup>±</sup></b> weak force
Leptons				Bosons (Forces)

QFT that describes the **strong** interaction at a fundamental level

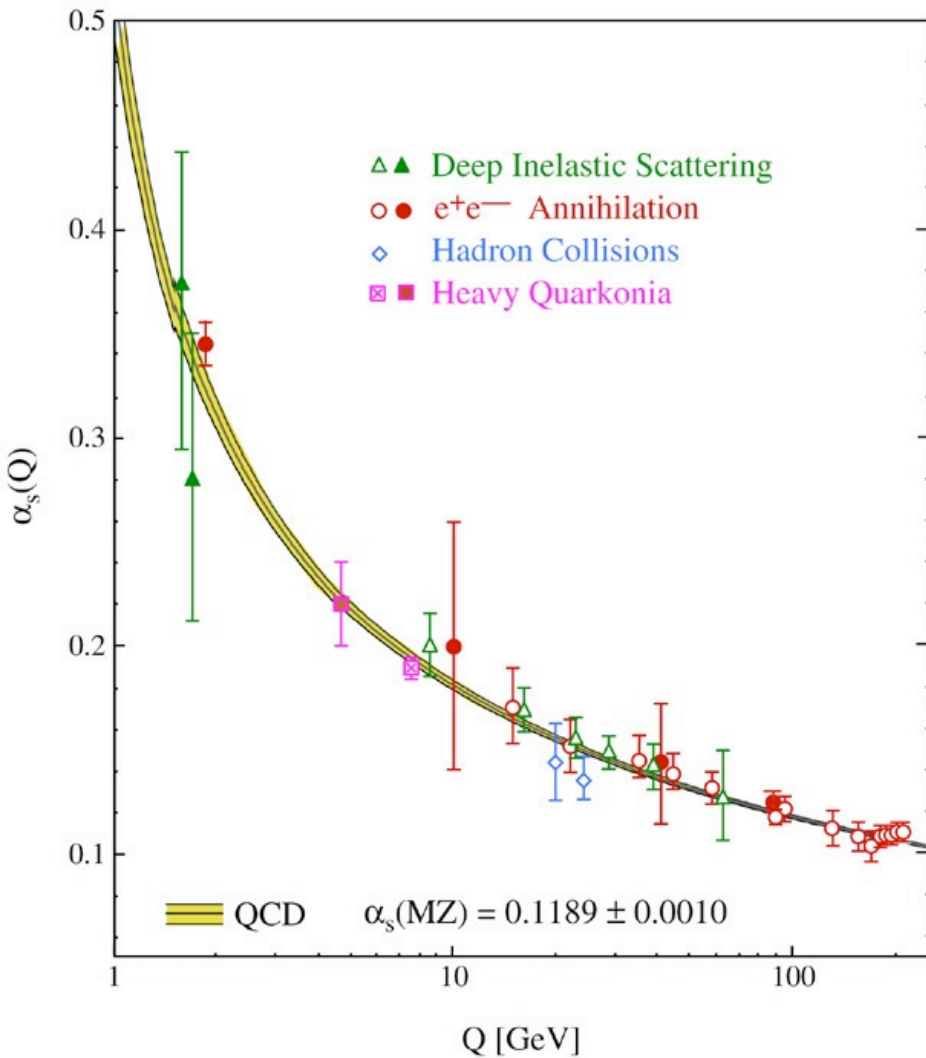


Elementary d.o.f.: gluon exchanges between colour charges (cf. QED: photon exchanges between electrically charged particles).

Distinctive features:

- **asymptotic freedom**: interaction grows weaker at shorter distances;
- quarks and gluons **confined** into colourless bound states (**hadrons**);
- **spontaneous symmetry breaking** determines low-energy dynamics.

# asymptotic freedom



**Asymptotic freedom:** QCD coupling is weak at short distances (high energies), strong at long distances (low energies).



The Nobel Prize in Physics 2004  
David J. Gross, H. David Politzer, Frank Wilczek



David J. Gross



H. David Politzer

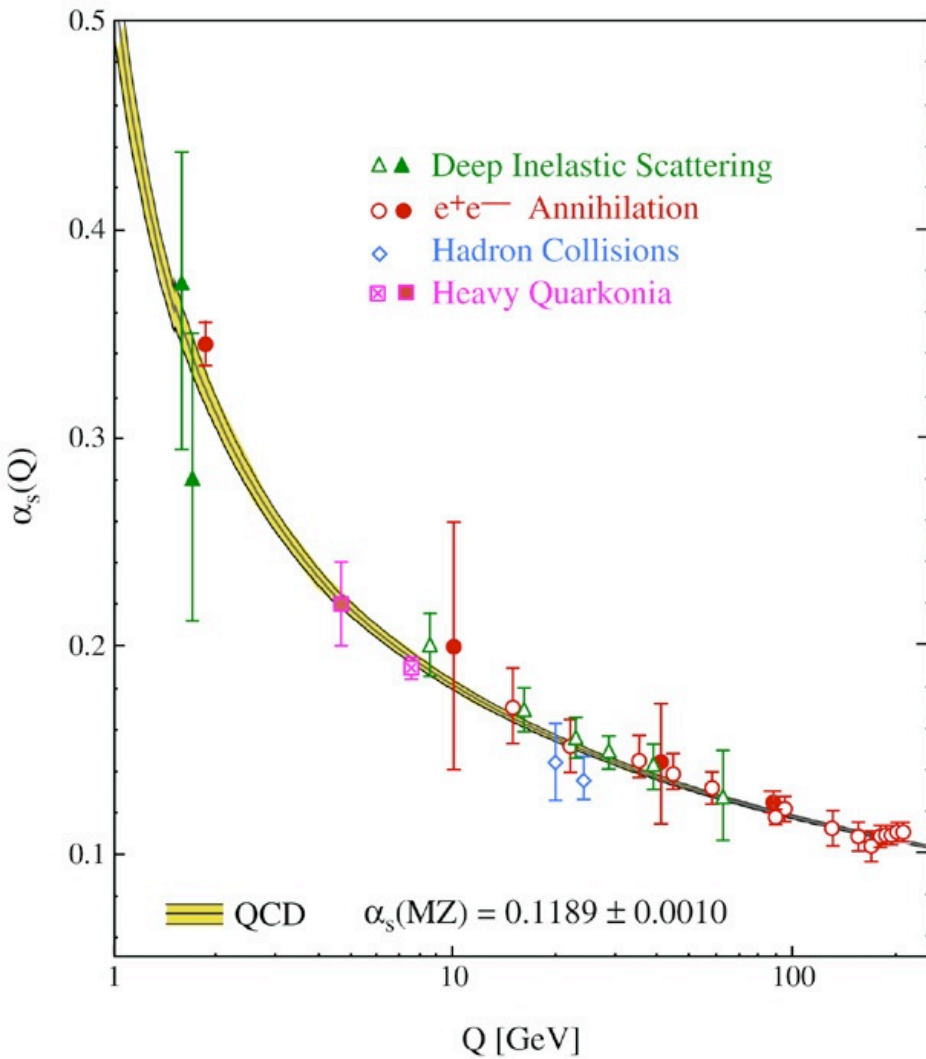


Frank Wilczek

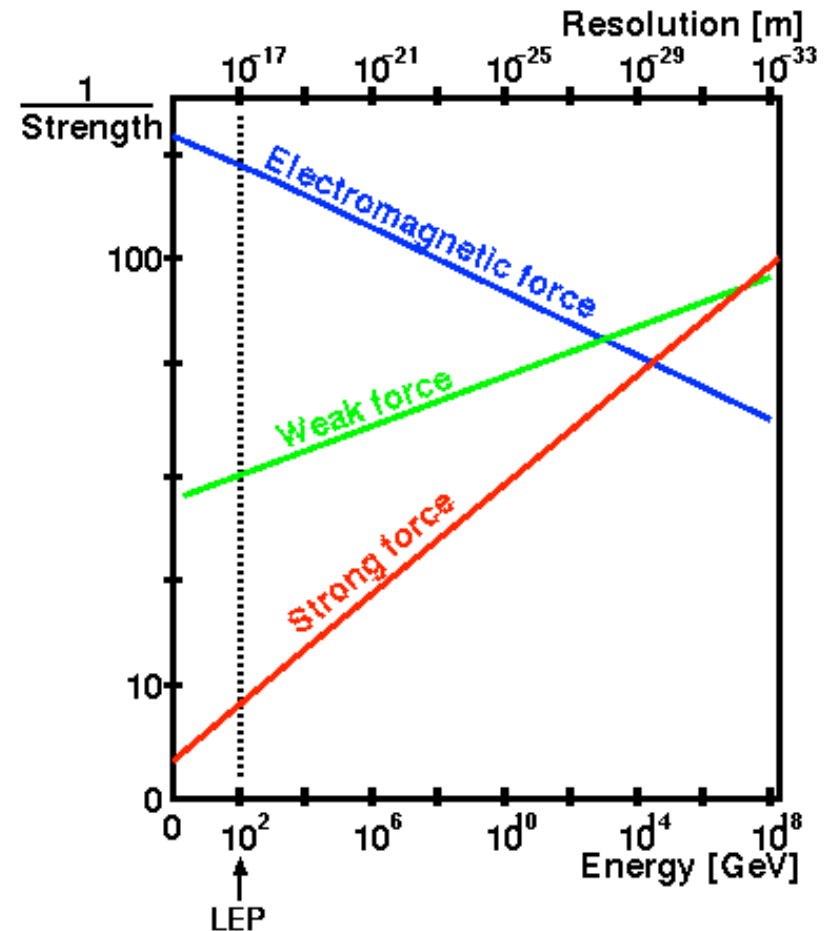
The Nobel Prize in Physics 2004 was awarded jointly to David J. Gross, H. David Politzer and Frank Wilczek "for the discovery of asymptotic freedom in the theory of the strong interaction".



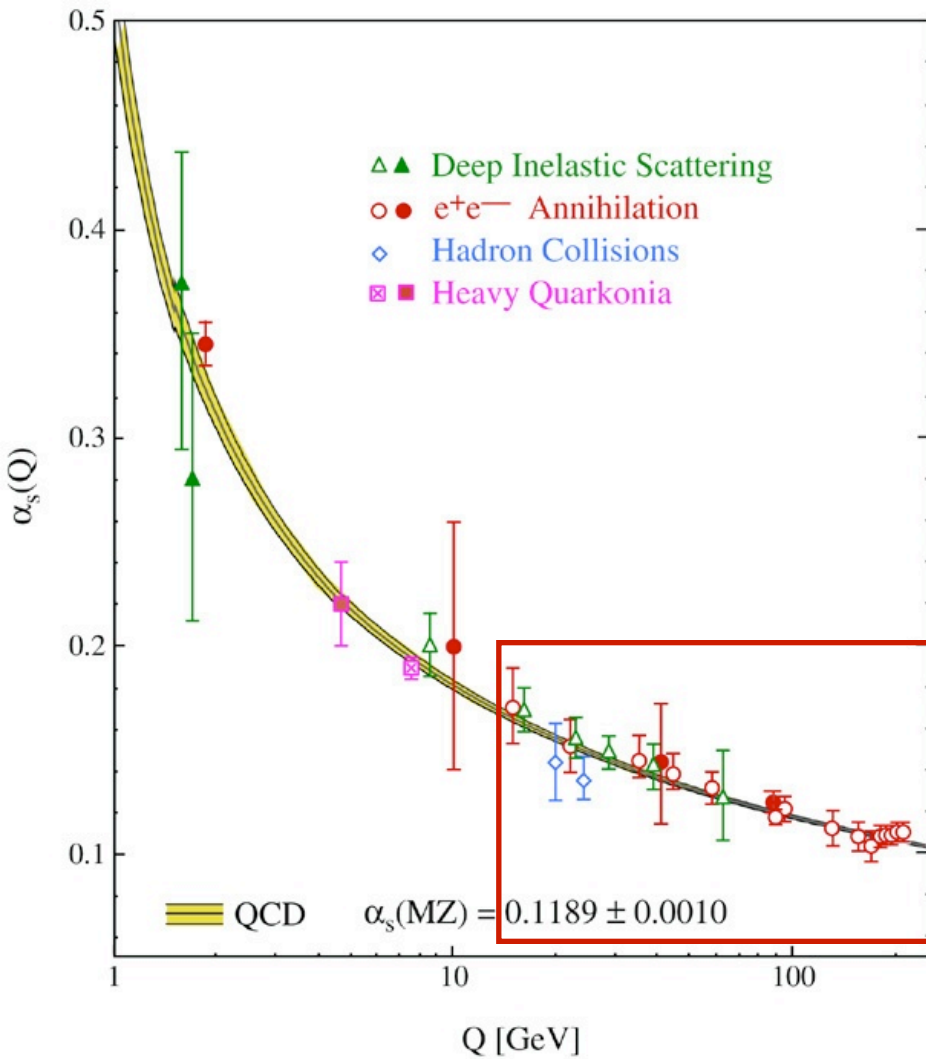
# asymptotic freedom



**Asymptotic freedom:** QCD coupling is weak at short distances (high energies), strong at long distances (low energies).



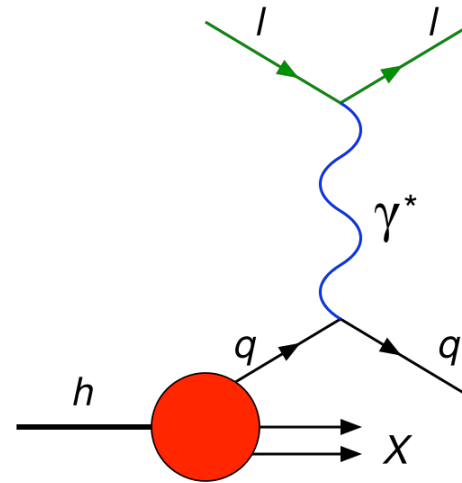
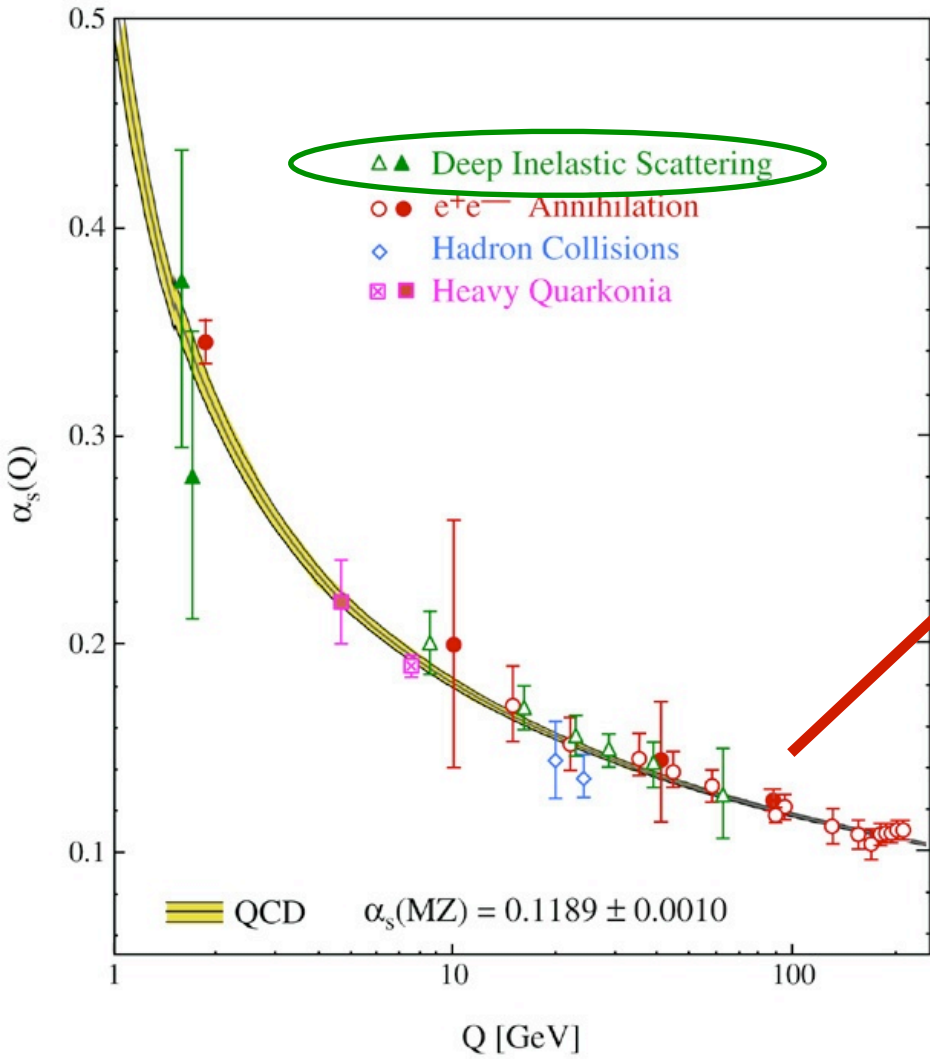
# asymptotic freedom



high-energy regime: quarks weakly coupled, “seen” as individual entities by sufficiently energetic probes

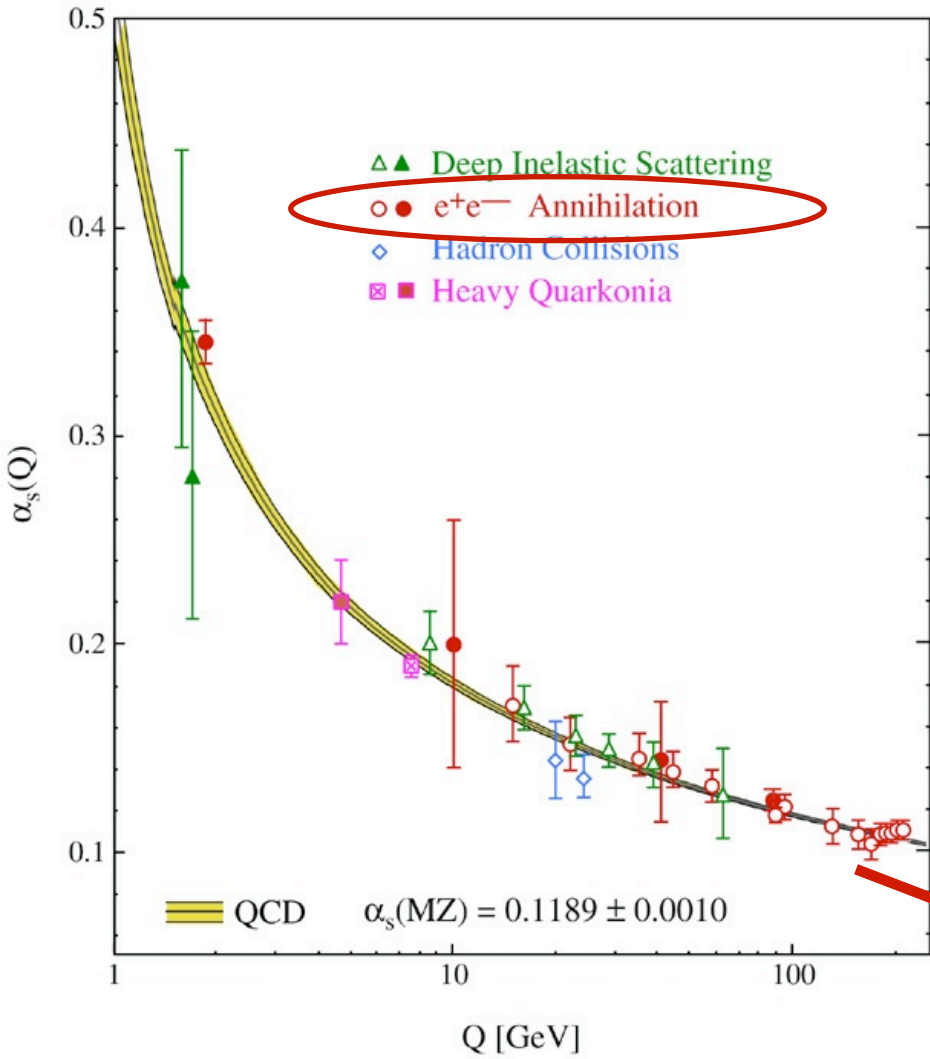
perturbation theory applicable

# asymptotic freedom

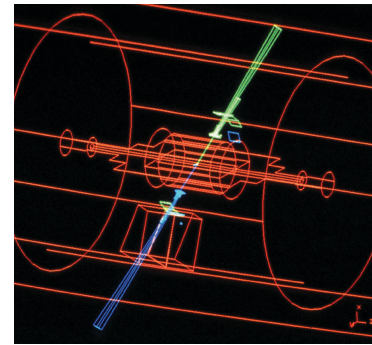




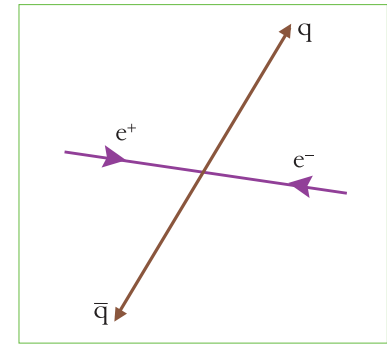
# asymptotic freedom



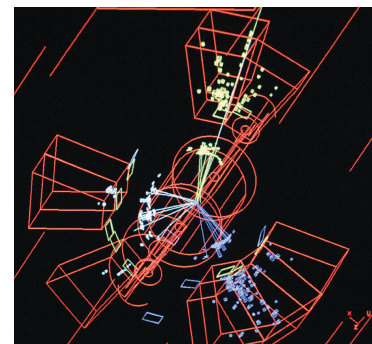
2a



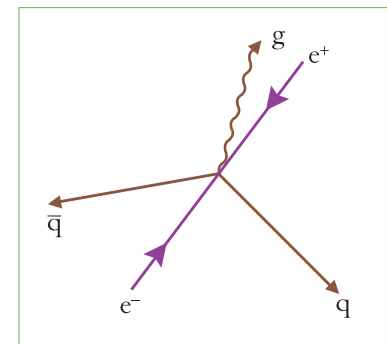
2c



2b

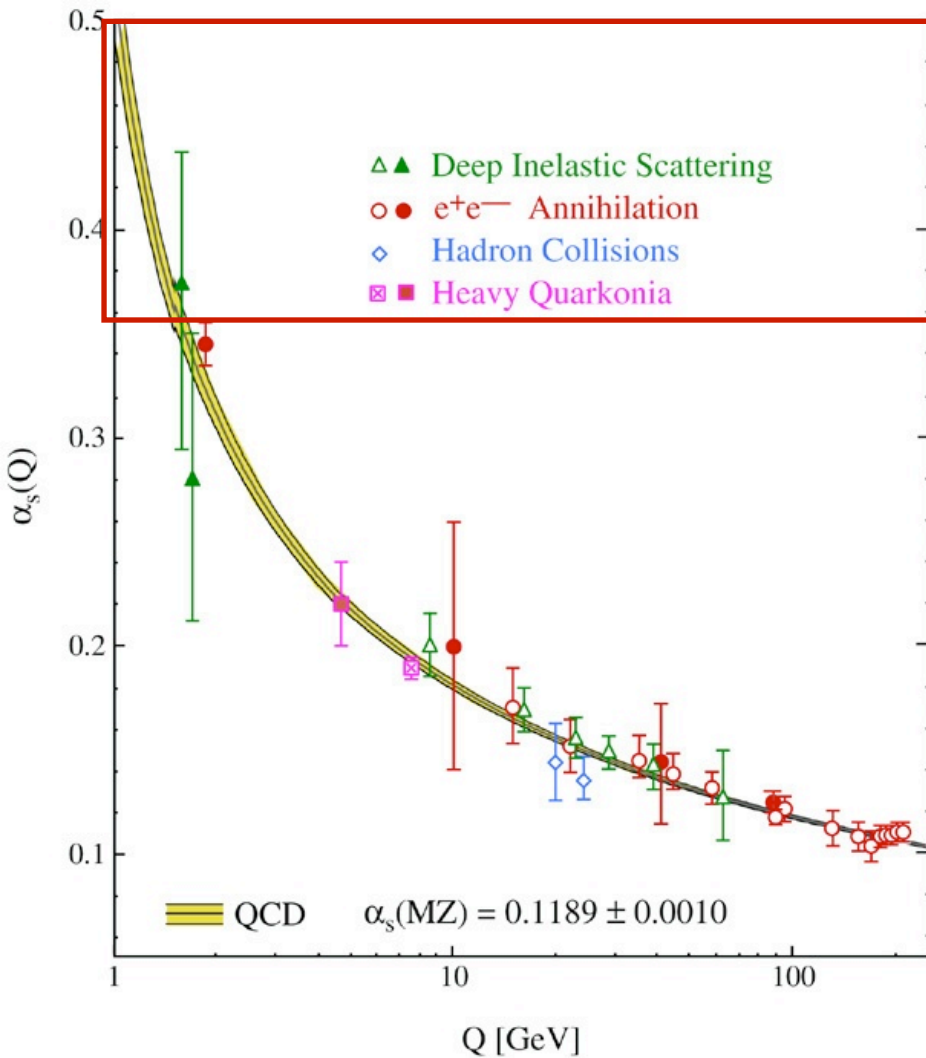


2d

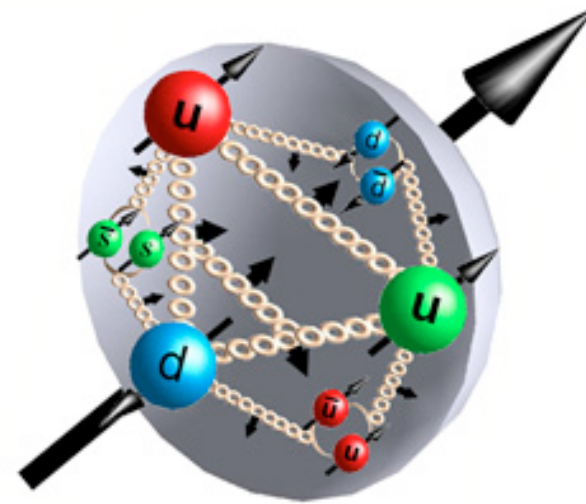




# infrared slavery

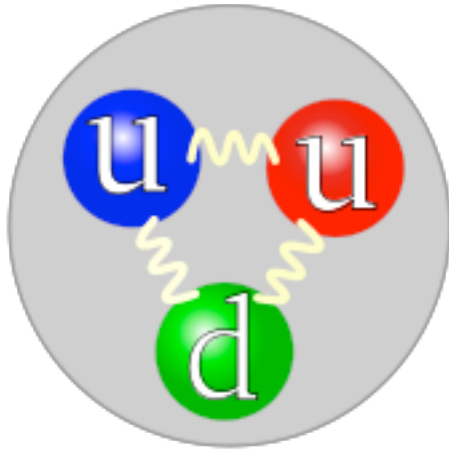


low-energy regime: quarks strongly coupled, relevant degrees of freedom are hadrons



perturbation theory breaks down  
need of formulation, computational techniques

# how strong?



electromagnetism:  $\frac{E_{\text{bind}}(H)}{(m_e + m_p)c^2} \simeq 1.4 \times 10^{-7}$

strong interaction:  $\frac{E_{\text{bind}}(\text{proton})}{(2m_u + m_d)c^2} \sim 60$



vast majority of mass of baryonic matter = strong interaction binding energy

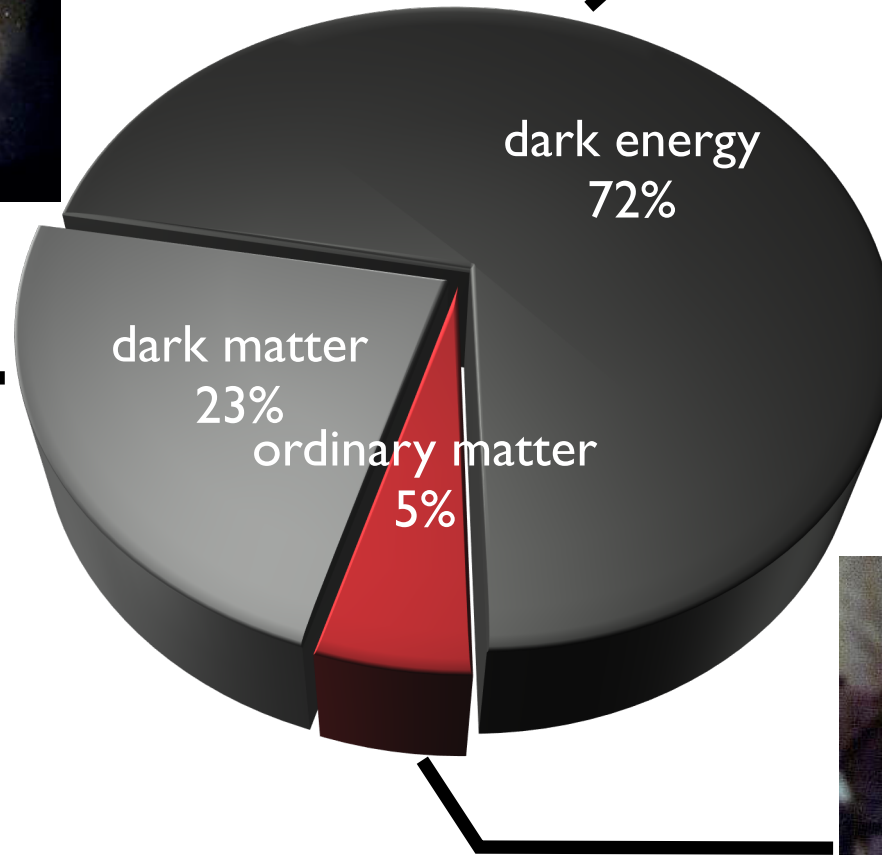
# how strong?



???



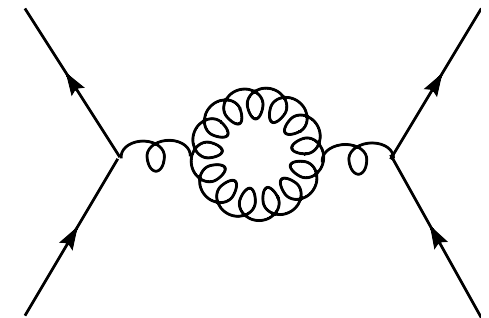
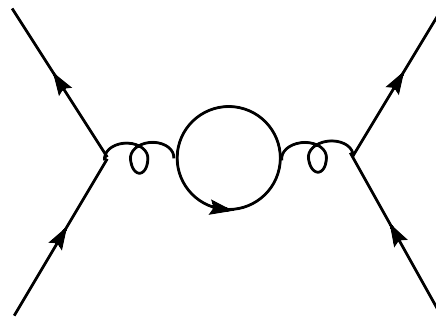
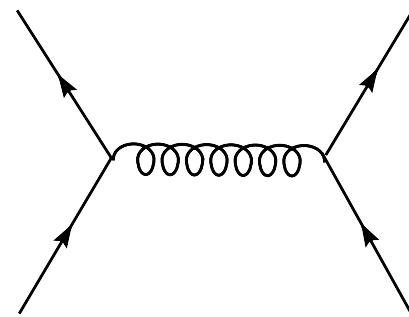
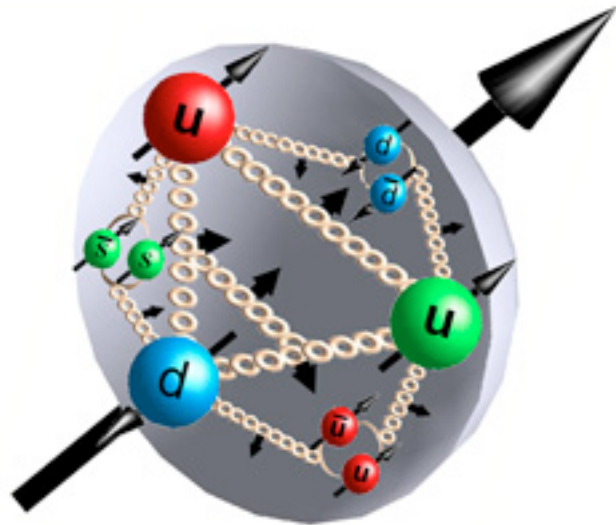
?????



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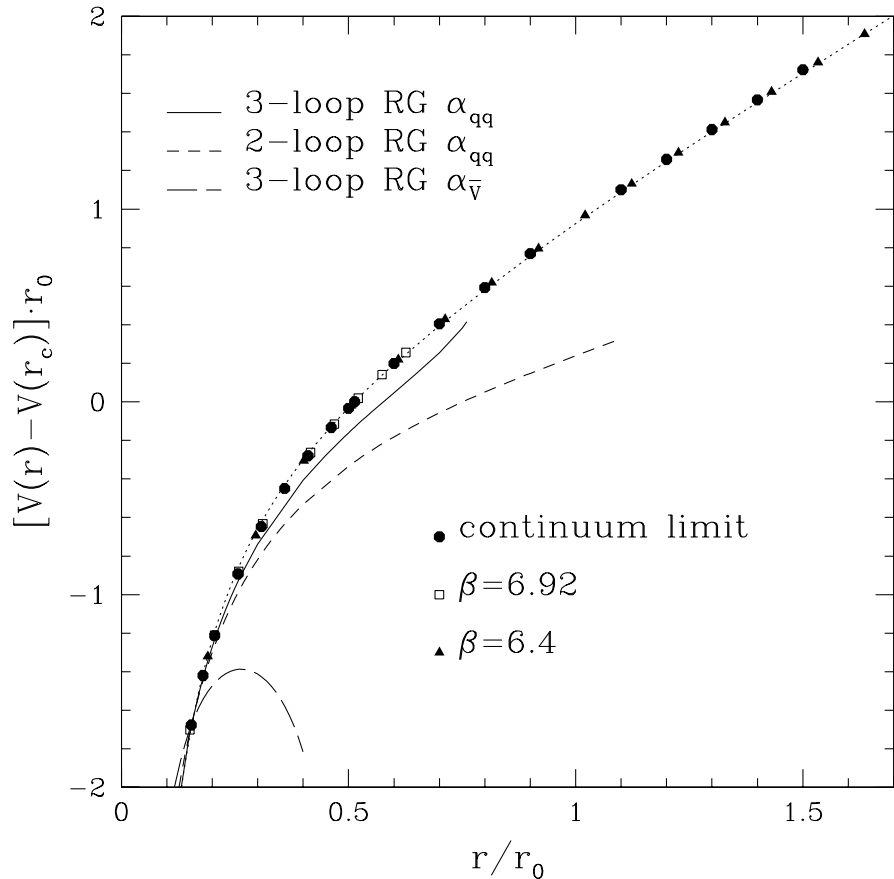
# how strong? confinement and strings

non-trivial vacuum dynamics plays crucial role in hadronic regime



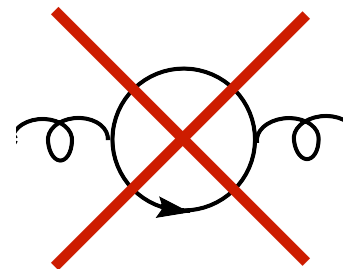
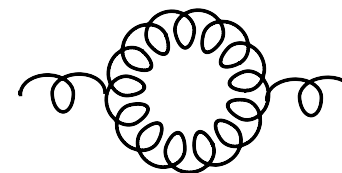
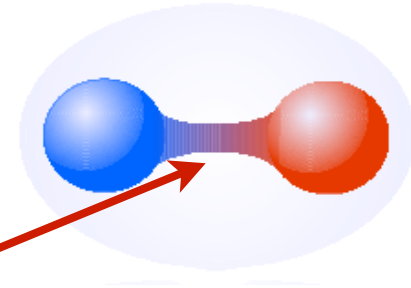
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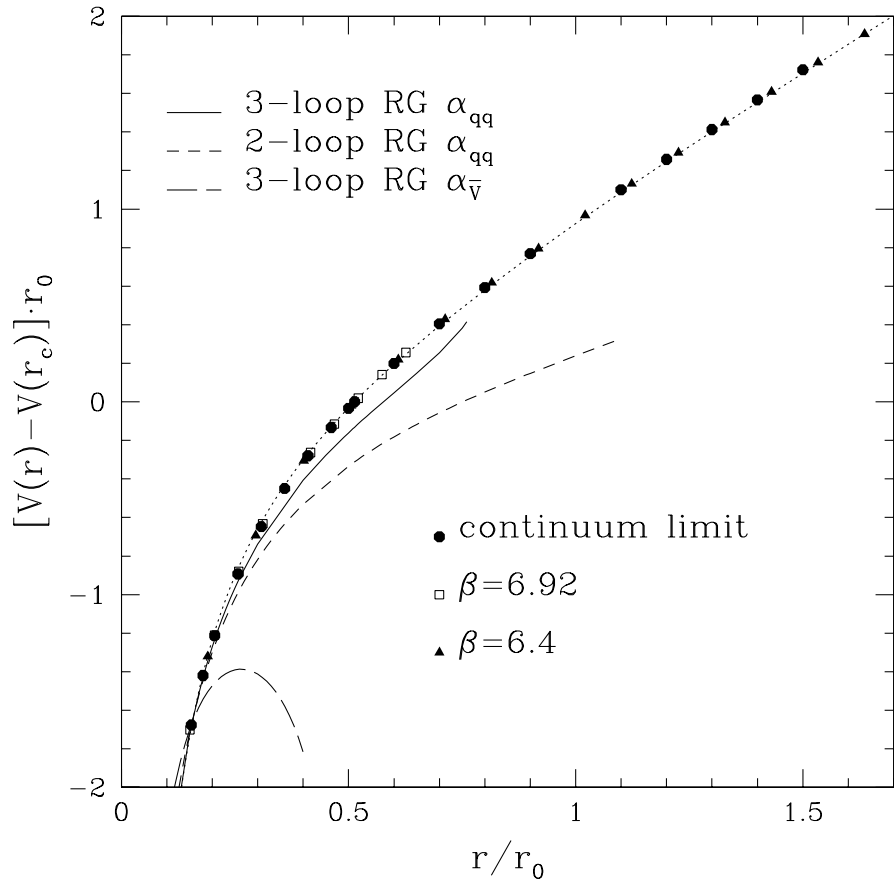
[Necco, Sommer 2001]

$$\sigma \approx (0.4 \text{ GeV})^2$$



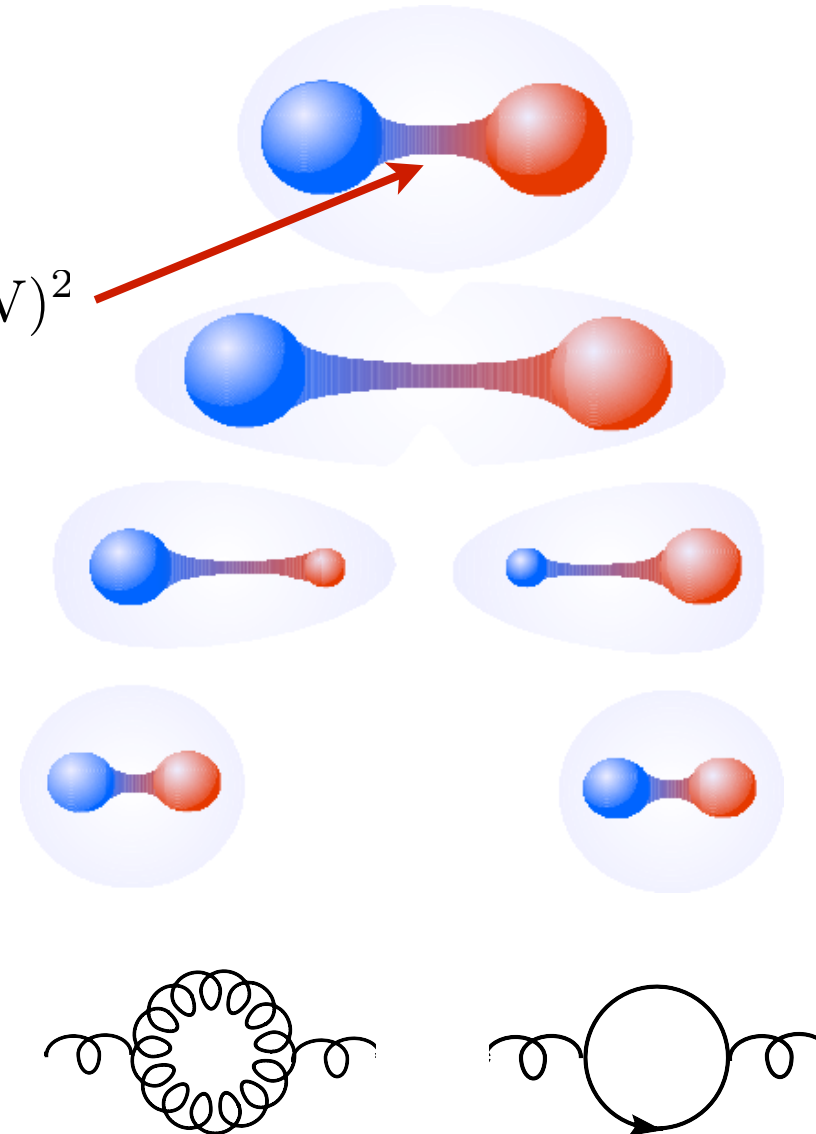
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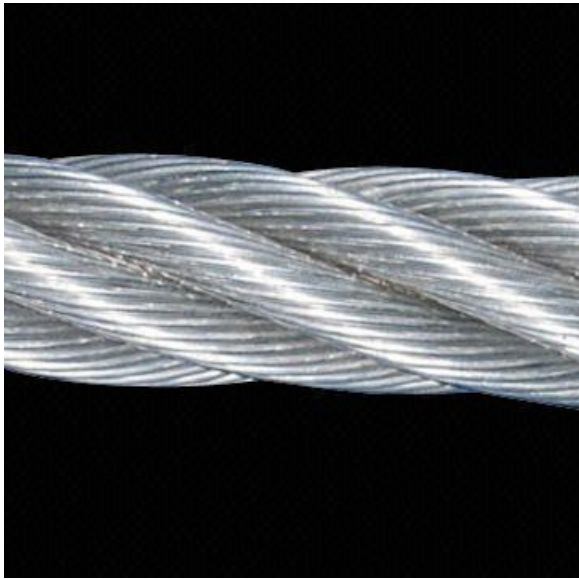
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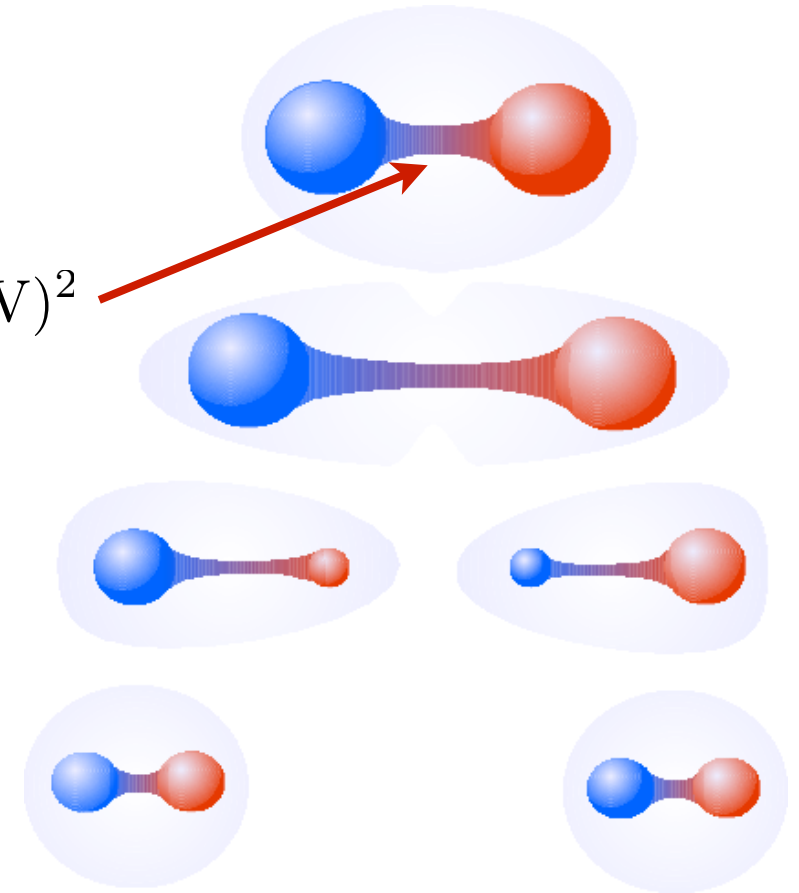


# how strong? confinement and strings

non-trivial vacuum dynamics plays crucial role in hadronic regime



$$\sigma \approx (0.4 \text{ GeV})^2$$



similar to a cm-thick steel cable, but 13 orders of magnitude thinner

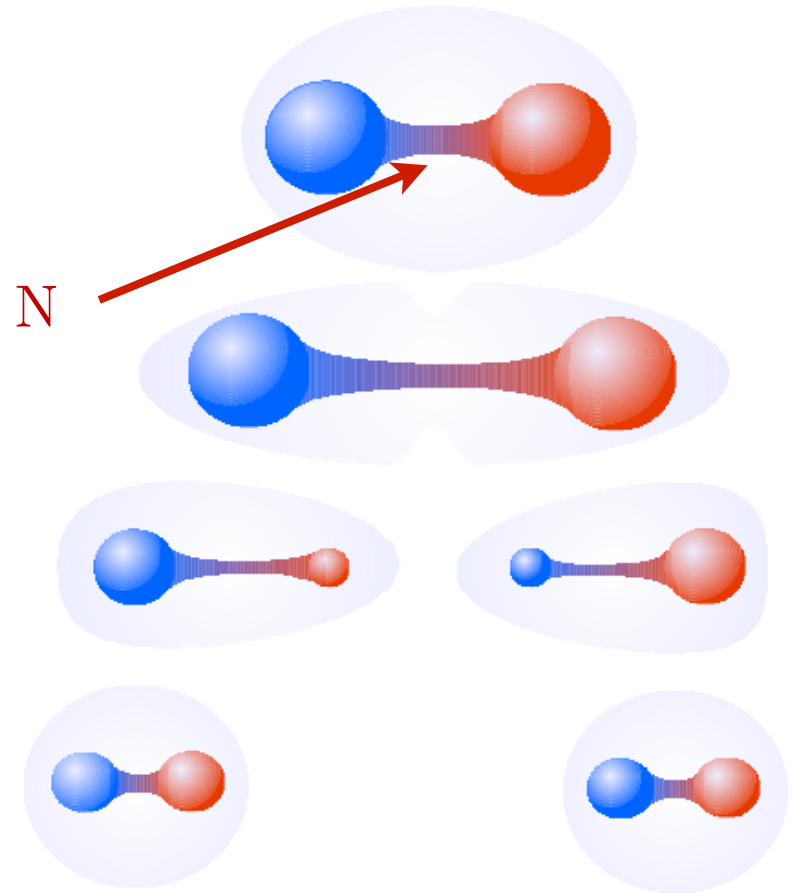


# how strong? confinement and strings

non-trivial vacuum dynamics plays crucial role in hadronic regime



$$F \sim 10^5 \text{ N}$$





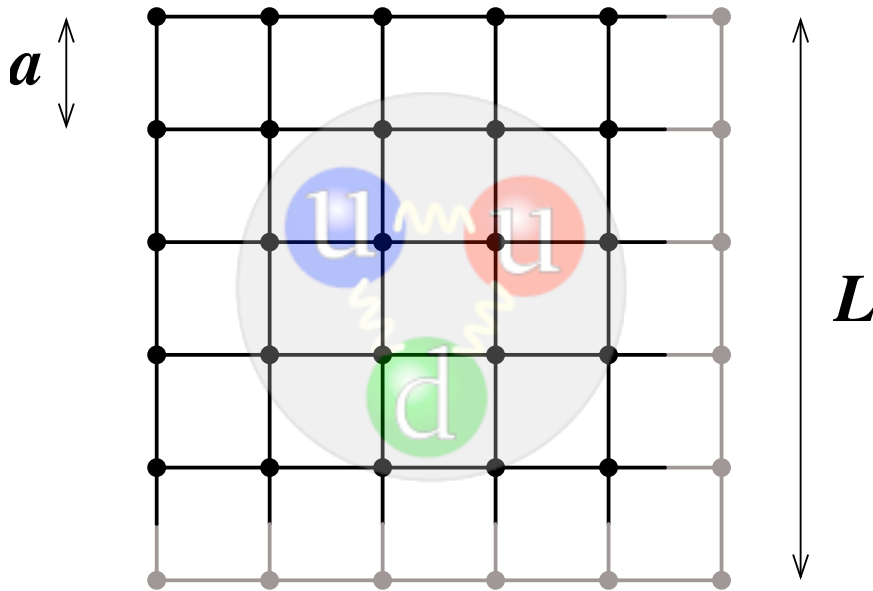
# why lattice field theory

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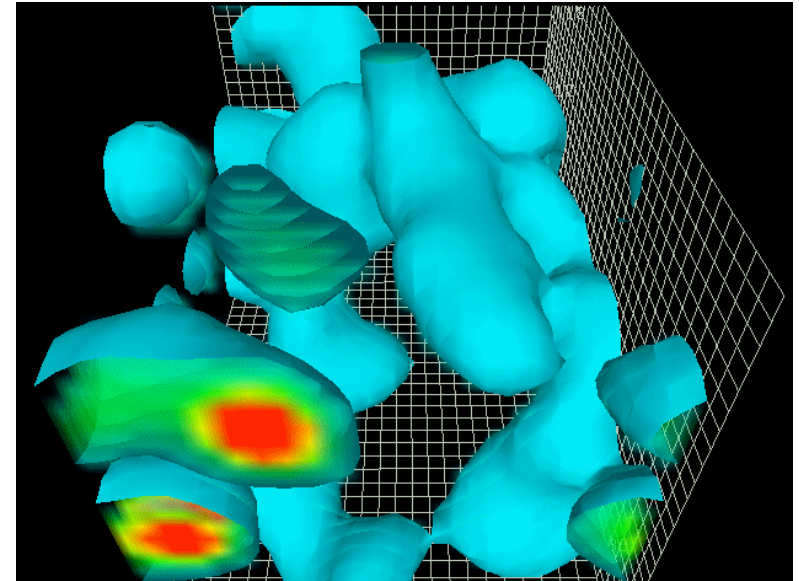
crucial tool to understand physics in a hadronic environment (or: any other strongly coupled dynamics in HEP)

- validate QCD as fundamental theory of strong interaction *at low energies*
- understand confinement
- understand spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking (QCD; EWSB?)
- compute basic hadron properties
- compute electroweak amplitudes involving hadrons
- study exotic states of matter (quark-gluon plasma, ...)
- .....

# how lattice field theory



[Wilson 1974]



- define fields on discrete spacetime  $\Rightarrow$  introduce cutoff in a **gauge-invariant, nonperturbative** way
- [no free lunch: break Poincaré symmetry, face subtleties regarding discrete symmetries]
- quantise using path integral formalism
- remove cutoff non-perturbatively by exploiting renormalisation group

# outline

- motivation: strong interaction(s) and non-perturbative physics
- **lattice field theory**
  - QFT in Euclidean space
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# how lattice field theory



# Euclidean correlation functions

Minkowski space:

$$\langle 0 | \phi(x) \phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | \phi(0, \mathbf{x}) e^{-iHx_0} \phi(0) | 0 \rangle$$

extend to analytic function for  $\text{Im } x_0 < 0$  (n.b.:  $H \geq 0$ )

$\Rightarrow$  for  $x_0 > 0$  we can define:

$$\langle \phi(x) \phi(0) \rangle = \langle 0 | \phi(x) \phi(0) | 0 \rangle_{x_0 \rightarrow -ix_0} = \langle 0 | \phi(0, \mathbf{x}) e^{-Hx_0} \phi(0) | 0 \rangle$$

n-point functions (ordered times):

$$\langle \phi(x_1) \cdots \phi(x_n) \rangle = \langle 0 | \phi(0, \mathbf{x}_1) e^{-H(x_1-x_2)_0} \phi(0, \mathbf{x}_2) \cdots e^{-H(x_{n-1}-x_n)_0} \phi(0, \mathbf{x}_n) | 0 \rangle$$

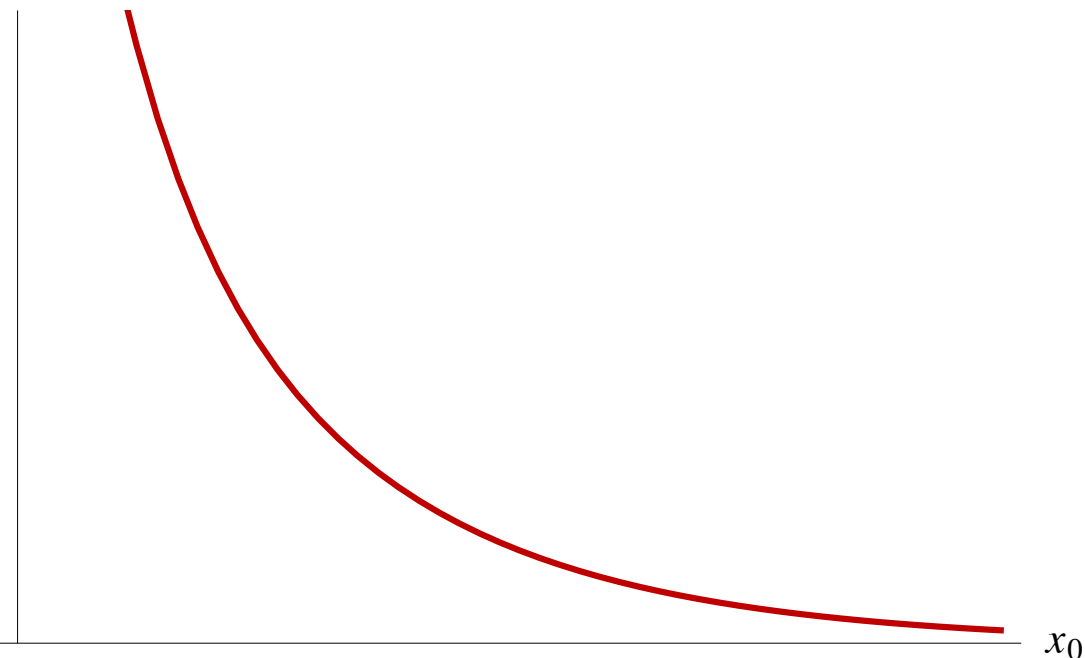
**theorem: Euclidean n-point functions are real, analytic functions in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , with power singularities at coinciding points (contact terms).**

# Euclidean correlation functions

example: (charged) pion two-point function

$$\begin{aligned} G(x_0) &= \int d^3x \langle (\overbrace{\bar{u}\gamma_5 d}^{\equiv P(x)})(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(0) \rangle = -\langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -\sum_{\text{PS}} \langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}|\text{PS}\rangle \langle \text{PS}|P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -e^{-M_\pi x_0} |\langle 0|P(x)|\pi\rangle|^2 + \mathcal{O}(e^{-3M_\pi x_0}) \end{aligned}$$

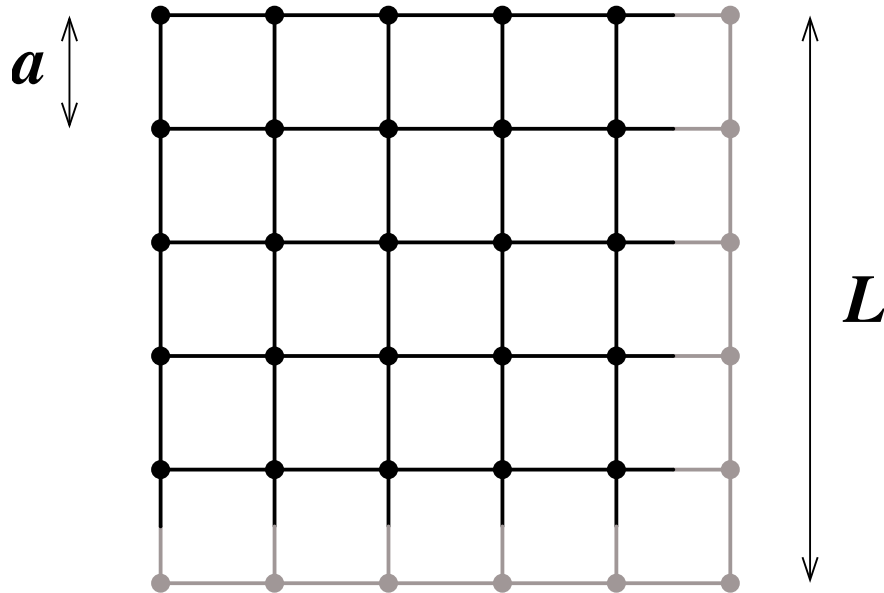
$G(x_0)$



computation of hadron masses, simple hadronic matrix elements, ... does **not** require analytic continuation back to Minkowski space

# free matter fields on a lattice

replace Euclidean spacetime by 4-dimensional hypercubic lattice



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

$a \equiv$  lattice spacing

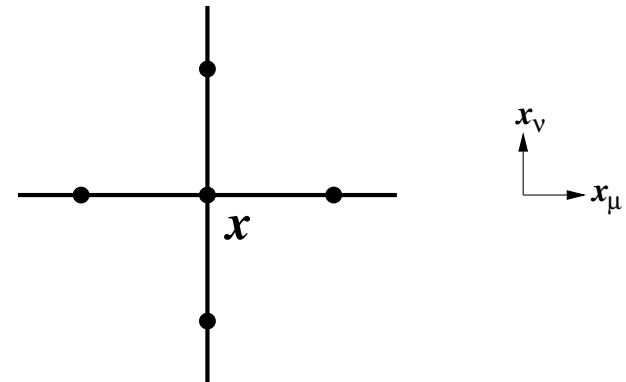
$L/a \equiv$  lattice size

$L \leq \infty$ , possibly  $T \neq L$

lattice “derivatives” (difference operators):

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

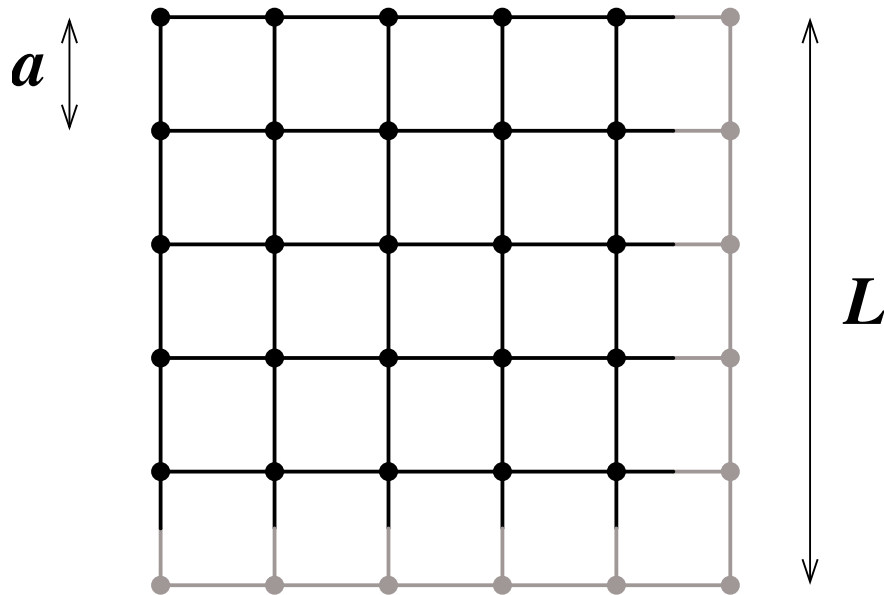
$$\partial_\mu^* f(x) = \frac{1}{a} \{f(x) - f(x - a\hat{\mu})\}$$





# free matter fields on a lattice

replace Euclidean spacetime by 4-dimensional hypercubic lattice



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

$a \equiv$  lattice spacing

$L/a \equiv$  lattice size

$L \leq \infty$ , possibly  $T \neq L$

Fourier transform:

$$\tilde{f}(p) = a^4 \sum_x e^{-ipx} f(x) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(x) = \int_{-\pi/a}^{+\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} e^{ipx} \tilde{f}(p)$$

momentum cutoff

$$\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) \rightarrow \frac{i}{a} \sin(ap_\mu) \equiv i\hat{p}_\mu; \quad \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \rightarrow -\hat{p}_\mu \hat{p}_\mu, \quad \hat{p}_\mu \equiv \frac{2}{a} \sin\left(\frac{ap_\mu}{2}\right)$$



# free matter fields on a lattice

action for a free real scalar field:

$$S_{\text{cont}} = \int d^4x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \right\}$$



$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{latt}} &= a^4 \sum_x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) \phi \right]^2 + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 \right\} \\ &= a^4 \sum_{x,\mu} \frac{1}{4a^2} [\phi(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \phi(x - a\hat{\mu})]^2 + a^4 \sum_x \frac{m^2}{2} \phi(x)^2 \end{aligned}$$

# free matter fields on a lattice

action for a free (Dirac) fermion field:

$$S_{\text{cont}} = \int d^4x \bar{\psi}(x) [\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + m] \psi(x); \quad \{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu\} = 2\delta_{\mu\nu}, \quad \gamma_\mu^\dagger = \gamma_\mu$$



$$S_{\text{latt}} = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} [\gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) \right. \left. ] + m \right\} \psi(x)$$

# free matter fields on a lattice

action for a free (Dirac) fermion field:

$$S_{\text{cont}} = \int d^4x \bar{\psi}(x) [\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + m] \psi(x); \quad \{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu\} = 2\delta_{\mu\nu}, \quad \gamma_\mu^\dagger = \gamma_\mu$$



$$S_{\text{latt}} = a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} [\gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) - a \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu] + m \right\} \psi(x)$$

$$D_w = \sum_\mu \frac{1}{2} \{ \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu^* + \partial_\mu) - a \partial_\mu^* \partial_\mu \}$$

$$\rightarrow i\gamma_\mu \hat{p}_\mu + \frac{1}{2} a \hat{p}^2$$

**Wilson-Dirac operator**  
(n.b. it is a very large, sparse matrix!)

# free matter fields on a lattice

quark field two-point function — continuum:

$$\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0) \rangle = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{ipx}}{i\gamma_\mu p_\mu + m} \longleftrightarrow (\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + m) \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0) \rangle = \delta(x)$$

quark field two-point function — lattice:

$$\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0) \rangle = \int_{-\frac{\pi}{a}}^{+\frac{\pi}{a}} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{ipx}}{i\gamma_\mu \hat{p}_\mu + \frac{1}{2} a \hat{p}^2 + m} \longleftrightarrow (D_w + m) \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(0) \rangle = a^{-4} \delta_{x0}$$

[Källén-Lehmann representation]

$$= \int_{-\frac{\pi}{a}}^{+\frac{\pi}{a}} \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} x_0 + i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \rho_{\mathbf{p}} \quad \epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{2}{a} \operatorname{asinh} \left\{ \frac{a}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2 + m_{\mathbf{p}}^2}{1 + a m_{\mathbf{p}}}} \right\}$$

$m_{\mathbf{p}} \equiv m + \frac{1}{2} a \hat{\mathbf{p}}^2$ ,  $\rho_{\mathbf{p}} = \text{spectral density}$

# free matter fields on a lattice

Taking the (naive) continuum limit:

- the lattice spacing simply sets the scale (“standard ruler”):

$$\Phi(a, m, p, \dots) = a^{d_\Phi} \Phi(1, am, ap, \dots)$$

- therefore, the CL is obtained by setting all physical scales far away from the lattice spacing,

$$m \ll a^{-1}, \quad |p| \ll a^{-1}, \quad |x| \gg a, \quad \dots$$

- one can check e.g. that the Wilson-Dirac propagator has the correct CL:

$$\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} = \sqrt{m^2 + \mathbf{p}^2} + \mathcal{O}(am, a\mathbf{p})$$

$$\rho_{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{i\gamma_\mu p_\mu - m}{2ip_0} \Big|_{p_0 = i\sqrt{m^2 + \mathbf{p}^2}} + \mathcal{O}(am, a\mathbf{p})$$

# free matter fields on a lattice

## Taking the (naive) continuum limit:

- the lattice spacing simply sets the scale (“standard ruler”):

$$\Phi(a, m, p, \dots) = a^{d_\Phi} \Phi(1, am, ap, \dots)$$

- therefore, the CL is obtained by setting all physical scales far away from the lattice spacing,

$$m \ll a^{-1}, \quad |p| \ll a^{-1}, \quad |x| \gg a, \quad \dots$$

taking the CL in an interacting theory will be much more complicated:

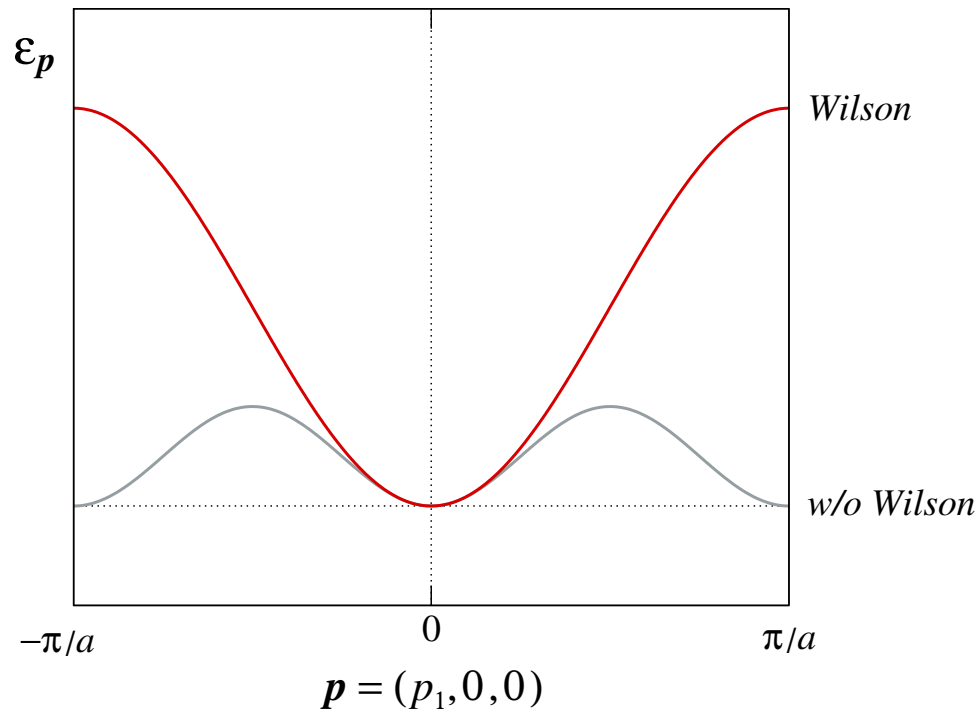
- the lattice spacing will depend on dynamical quantities (e.g. in a gauge theory it will be related to the gauge coupling)
- in the presence of interactions, all couplings and correlation functions will require renormalisation (unless protected by symmetries)

# free matter fields on a lattice

so, why did we introduce the Wilson term?

$$D_w = \sum_{\mu} \frac{1}{2} \{ \gamma_{\mu} (\partial_{\mu}^* + \partial_{\mu}) - a \partial_{\mu}^* \partial_{\mu} \}$$

- irrelevant in CL (disappears as  $a \rightarrow 0$ ) ...
- ... but breaks chiral symmetry at  $a \neq 0$ !



wrong continuum limit without Wilson term: additional massless states (“**doublers**”) with energy  $\ll \pi/a$ !

# free matter fields on a lattice

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- irrelevant in CL (disappears as  $a \rightarrow 0$ ) ...
- ... but breaks chiral symmetry at  $a \neq 0$ !

N.B.: several other actions for lattice fermions exist, that treat the doubling/chiral symmetry breaking problem in various ways — including the exact preservation of (a generalised form of) chiral symmetry — which in turn provides insight into the very nature of the latter.

- staggered (Kogut-Susskind) fermions
- Wilson twisted-mass QCD
- Ginsparg-Wilson fermions (Neuberger, domain wall, fixed-point ...)
- ...



# gauge fields on a lattice

---

gauge transformations and covariant derivatives in continuum theory:

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \Lambda(x)\psi(x), \quad \Lambda(x) \in \text{SU}(N)$$

$$D_\mu\psi = (\partial_\mu - iA_\mu)\psi, \quad A_\mu \rightarrow \Lambda A_\mu \Lambda^\dagger + i\Lambda\partial_\mu\Lambda^\dagger$$

the gauge potential provides a **connection** between colour spaces at infinitesimally separated points in spacetime

# gauge fields on a lattice

on the lattice:

$$\partial_\mu f(x) = \frac{1}{a} \{f(x + a\hat{\mu}) - f(x)\} \rightarrow \frac{1}{a} \{\Lambda(x + a\hat{\mu})f(x + a\hat{\mu}) - \Lambda(x)f(x)\}$$

$$U_\mu(x) \rightarrow \Lambda(x)U_\mu(x)\Lambda(x + a\hat{\mu})^\dagger, \quad U_\mu(x) \in \text{SU}(3) \quad \text{colour transport}$$

$$\nabla_\mu f(x) \equiv \frac{1}{a} \{U_\mu(x)f(x + a\hat{\mu}) - f(x)\} \rightarrow \Lambda(x)\nabla_\mu f(x) \quad \text{covariant diff. op.}$$

# gauge fields on a lattice

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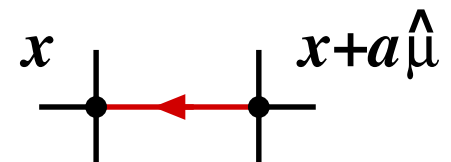
$$\nabla_\mu f(x) \equiv \frac{1}{a} \{U_\mu(x)f(x + a\hat{\mu}) - f(x)\} \rightarrow \Lambda(x)\nabla_\mu f(x) \quad \text{covariant diff. op.}$$

similarly, define a covariant backward derivative and a covariant Wilson-Dirac operator:

$$\nabla_\mu^* f(x) \equiv \frac{1}{a} \{f(x)U_\mu(x - a\hat{\mu})^\dagger f(x - a\hat{\mu})\}$$

$$D_w = \frac{1}{2} \sum_\mu \{\gamma_\mu (\nabla_\mu^* + \nabla_\mu) - a \nabla_\mu^* \nabla_\mu\}$$

an  $\text{SU}(N)$  lattice gauge field is an assignment of an  $\text{SU}(N)$  matrix  $U_\mu(x)$  to every link on the lattice



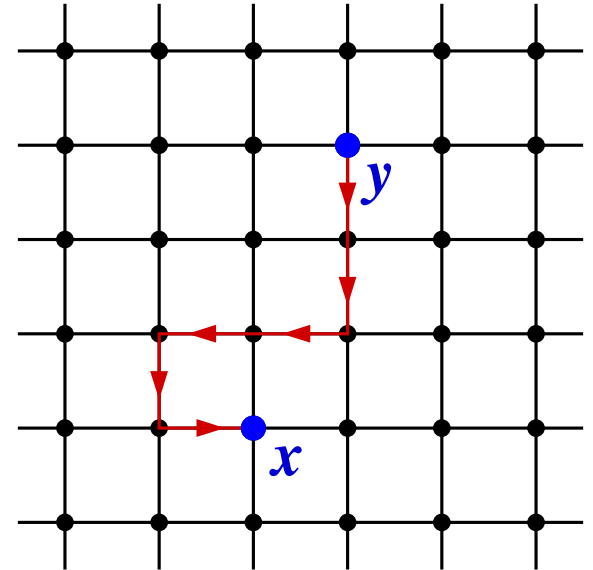
# gauge fields on a lattice

**Wilson lines:** any path-ordered product of gauge links is gauge covariant

$$U(x, y; \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \Lambda(x)U(x, y; \mathcal{P})\Lambda(y)^\dagger$$

**Wilson loops:** the trace of a closed loop is gauge invariant

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





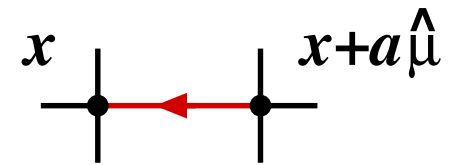
# gauge fields on a lattice

classical continuum limit: how can we ...

- connect link variables to continuum gauge potential?
- construct an action that reduces to the correct classical Yang-Mills theory in the continuum limit?

links = continuum Wilson lines (parallel transport) along corresponding paths

$$U_\mu(x) = \text{P exp} \left\{ ia \int_0^1 dt A_\mu(x + (1-t)a\hat{\mu}) \right\}$$
$$= \mathbf{1} + iaA_\mu(x) + \mathcal{O}(a^2)$$



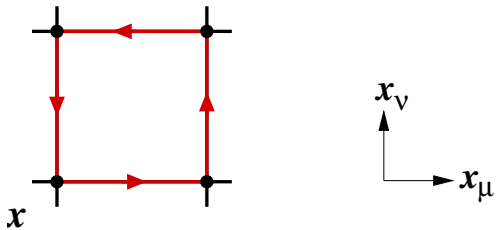
mapping  $A \rightarrow U$  uniquely defined, gauge covariant

# gauge fields on a lattice

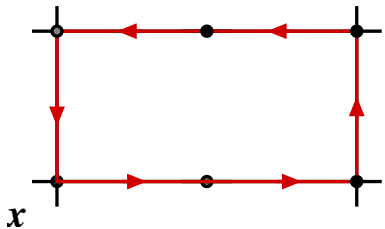
classical continuum limit: how can we ...

- connect link variables to continuum gauge potential?
- construct an action that reduces to the correct classical Yang-Mills theory in the continuum limit?

links = continuum Wilson lines (parallel transport) along corresponding paths



$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{\mu\nu}(x) &= \text{Re tr}\{\mathbf{1} - U(x, x; \square)\} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2}a^4 \text{tr}\{F_{\mu\nu}(x)F_{\mu\nu}(x)\} + \mathcal{O}(a^5)
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{\mu\nu}(x) &= \text{Re tr}\{\mathbf{1} - U(x, x; \square)\} \\
 &= -2a^4 \text{tr}\{F_{\mu\nu}(x)F_{\mu\nu}(x)\} + \mathcal{O}(a^5)
 \end{aligned}$$

[different!]

any gauge-invariant, local continuum field can be represented in the lattice; however, the representation is not unique.

# lattice QCD

now we know how to construct gauge-invariant operators involving both fermion and gauge fields on the lattice

$$\bar{\psi}\psi, \quad \bar{\psi}\gamma_5\tau^a\psi, \quad \dots$$

$$\text{tr}P_{\mu\nu}(x), \quad \text{tr}R_{\mu\nu}(x), \quad \dots$$

$$\bar{\psi}\gamma_\mu(\nabla_\mu^* + \nabla_\mu)\psi, \quad \bar{\psi}\nabla_\mu\nabla_\nu\psi, \quad \dots$$

classical continuum limit well understood for gauge and free fermion fields: lattice fields can be classified by their leading behaviour in the CL

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

combine invariants into action that becomes SU(N) gauge theory in classical CL



# lattice QCD

Wilson action:

$$S = S_G + S_F$$

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

$P_{\mu\nu}(x)$  = plaquette field

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

$D_w$  = Wilson-Dirac operator (with SU(3) covariant derivatives)

$M$  = quark mass matrix

[Wilson 1974]

- infinitely many lattice actions with correct continuum limit can be written
- extra terms can be tuned to control approach to continuum limit (e.g. depressing the subleading terms in  $a \equiv$  **cutoff effects**)
  - ⇒ **Symanzik improvement programme**

# quantisation of lattice QCD

employ path integral formalism: Euclidean correlation function of  $n$  gauge-invariant fields given by

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int D[U] \int D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] e^{-S[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi]} \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n)$$

$\psi, \bar{\psi}$  indep. variables in Euclidean qft      LQCD action

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int D[U] \int D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] e^{-S[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi]}$$

- the functional integral is the definition of the quantum theory
- the integration measures  $D[U], D[\psi]D[\bar{\psi}]$  are local and mostly determined by symmetry
- provided basic properties (locality, gauge symmetry, ...) are respected, we expect good behaviour as  $a \rightarrow 0$

# quantisation of lattice QCD

employ path integral formalism: Euclidean correlation function of  $n$  gauge-invariant fields given by

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int D[U] \int D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] e^{-S[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi]} \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n)$$

$\psi, \bar{\psi}$  indep. variables in Euclidean qft LQCD action

crucial: on a lattice, this is a **standard integral** (over a very large number of variables)

$$D[\phi] = \prod_x d\phi(x)$$

$$D[U] = \prod_{x, \nu} \mu_{\text{Haar}}[U_\nu(x)]$$

$$D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] = \prod_x dc(x) d\bar{c}(x)$$

generators of Grassmann algebra (for each fermionic d.o.f.) at spacetime point  $x$

# quantisation of lattice QCD

**integration over fermion fields** can be done explicitly, since the action is a bilinear

$$\mathcal{Z}_F = \int D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] \exp \left\{ -a^4 \sum_x \bar{\psi}(x) [D_w + M] \psi(x) \right\}$$

$$= \det(D_w + M) = \prod_{q=1}^{N_f} \det(D_w + m_q) \quad (\text{up to a power of } a)$$

[n.b.: the Wilson-Dirac operator is a function of the gauge field]

quark propagator and correlation functions involving fermion fields:

$$(D_w + M) S(x, y; U) = a^{-4} \delta_{xy}$$

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

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

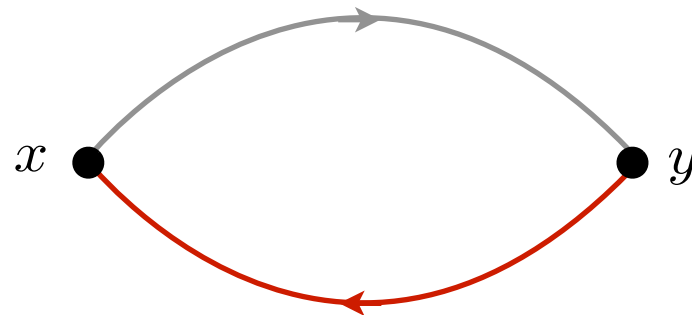
# quantisation of lattice QCD

⇒ in QCD functional integral quark fields can be integrated out completely

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

for instance, the charged pion propagator can be obtained from a purely bosonic integral:

$$\langle (\bar{u}\gamma_5 d)(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(y) \rangle_F = -\text{tr} \{ \gamma_5 S(x, y; U)_d \gamma_5 S(y, x; U)_u \}$$



definition of Wilson lattice QCD theory completed by integrating over the gauge field (integration well-defined by considering Haar measure for each link)

# lattice QCD: basic properties

## I. regularity

in finite volume:

- the space of all gauge fields is compact
- after fermions are integrated out, one is normally left with a well-behaved integrand
- the partition function is positive

⇒ correlation functions are completely well-defined

⇒ lattice QCD provides a non-perturbative regularisation of QCD



# lattice QCD: basic properties

## 1. regularity

## 2. gauge invariance

for any observable and (regular) gauge function  $\Lambda$

$$\langle O \rangle = \langle O^\Lambda \rangle, \quad O^\Lambda[U, \psi, \bar{\psi}] = O[U^\Lambda, \bar{\psi}^\Lambda, \psi^\Lambda]$$

expectation values of non-invariant quantities naturally vanish; e.g.

$$\langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(y) \rangle = \Lambda(x) \langle \psi(x) \bar{\psi}(y) \rangle \Lambda(y)^\dagger = 0 \quad \text{if } x \neq y$$

gauge invariance is fully respected by the regulator, and there is no need of gauge fixing (although it may be convenient in some computations)

# lattice QCD: basic properties

---

1. regularity

2. gauge invariance

3. spacetime symmetries

Poincaré symmetry is broken: correlation functions are only invariant under a discrete subgroup of the full Poincaré group

- translations by lattice vectors
- rotations in the four-dimensional hypercubic group
- parity, time reversal, and charge conjugation (although some of them are broken/modified by some fermion actions)

# lattice QCD: basic properties

1. regularity

2. gauge invariance

3. spacetime symmetries

4. global (flavour) symmetries

the vector  $U(N_f)$  symmetry works as in the continuum

the axial symmetry is explicitly broken (Wilson term); it can be recovered in the CL by properly tuning counterterms that restore AWI's, which is feasible but amounts to quite some amount of non-trivial work

[other fermion regularisations preserve more axial symmetry; trade breakings between vector and axial symmetries; or preserve chiral symmetry altogether; always at the price of other complications (no-free-lunch theorem)]

# lattice QCD: basic properties

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1. regularity

2. gauge invariance

3. spacetime symmetries

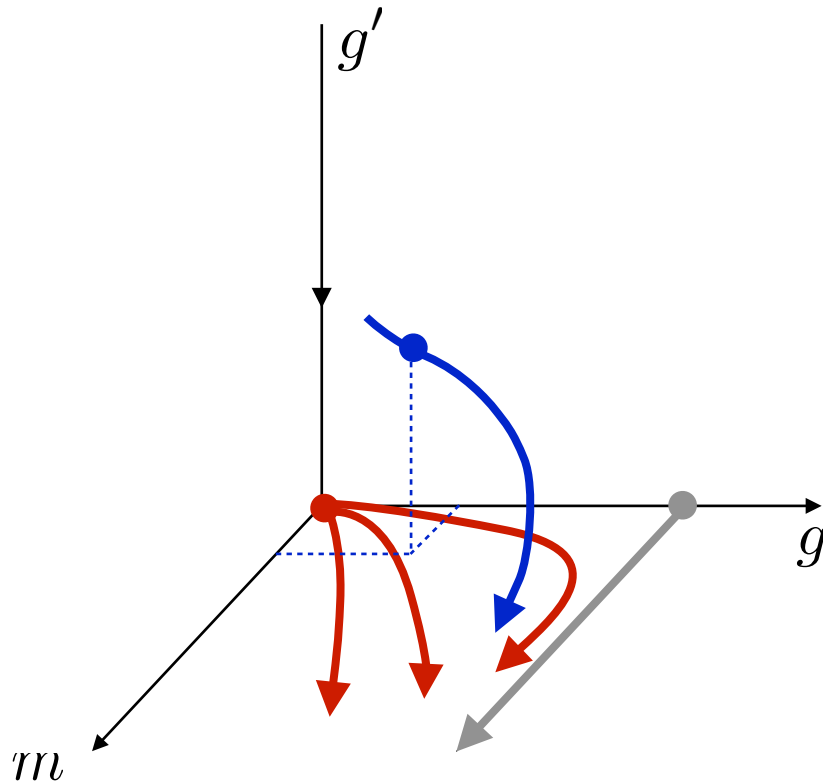
4. global (flavour) symmetries

5. unitarity

can be shown to hold rigorously in the Wilson theory; more sophisticated lattice regularisations typically involve harmless short-distance violations

# the continuum limit

in order to obtain fully physical results, the cutoff has to be removed: this is accomplished by taking the CL  $a \rightarrow 0$  in the interacting quantum theory



once QCD has been regularised on a lattice, the result is a statistical mechanical system: the UV divergences expected as the cutoff is removed, which will require renormalisation, adopt the form of **critical behaviour**.

the continuum renormalised quantum theory appears as a 2nd-order phase transition in the CL

how does the lattice spacing relate to physical scales?

# the continuum limit

how is the lattice spacing fixed?

consider two-flavour QCD in the isospin limit:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m_0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad m_0 = \text{bare mass of } u, d \text{ quarks}$$

the parameters in the lattice action are  $g_0$ ,  $am_0$  and  $a$  — which disappears if quark fields are rescaled as  $\psi \rightarrow a^{-3/2}\psi$ ,  $\bar{\psi} \rightarrow a^{-3/2}\bar{\psi}$

fixing the two parameters in the action thus requires computing two physical observables — e.g. the pion and proton masses

$$O_\pi(x) = \bar{u}(x)\gamma_5 d(x) \quad \rightarrow \quad a^3 \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \langle O_\pi(x) O_\pi(0) \rangle_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} \sim e^{-M_\pi x_0}$$

$$O_p(x) = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} (d_a^T C \gamma_5 u_\beta) u_\gamma \quad \rightarrow \quad a^3 \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \langle O_p(x) O_p(0) \rangle_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} \sim e^{-M_p x_0}$$

$$x_0 = na, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad \Rightarrow \quad aM_\pi, aM_p \quad \text{are obtained}$$



# the continuum limit

one thus has

$$aM_\pi = f_\pi(g_0, am_0)$$

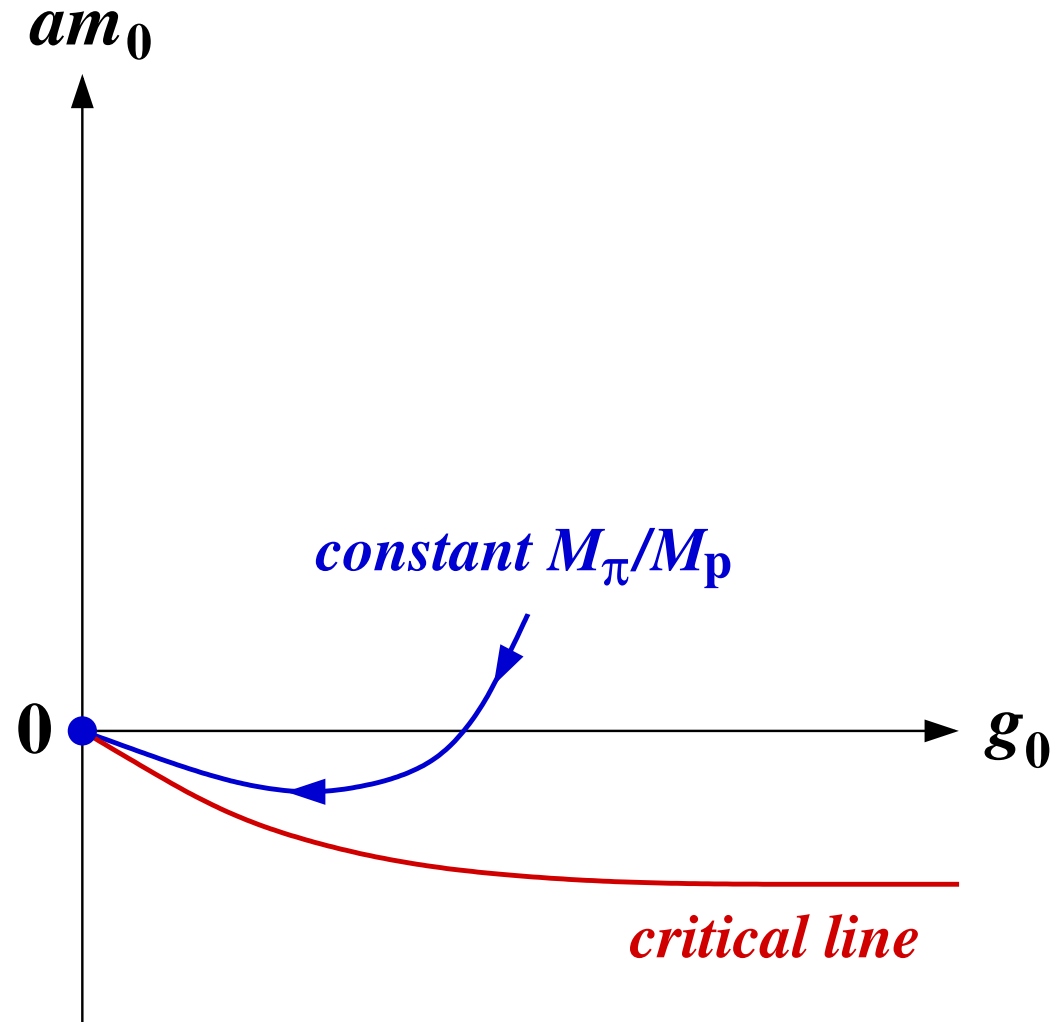
$$aM_p = f_p(g_0, am_0)$$

taking the continuum limit means

$$M_\pi, M_p \ll a^{-1}$$

keeping the ratio  $M_\pi/M_p$  fixed  
(constant physics!)

equivalent to taking  $g_0, am_0 \rightarrow 0$   
**asymptotic freedom!**



# the continuum limit

one thus has

$$aM_\pi = f_\pi(g_0, am_0)$$

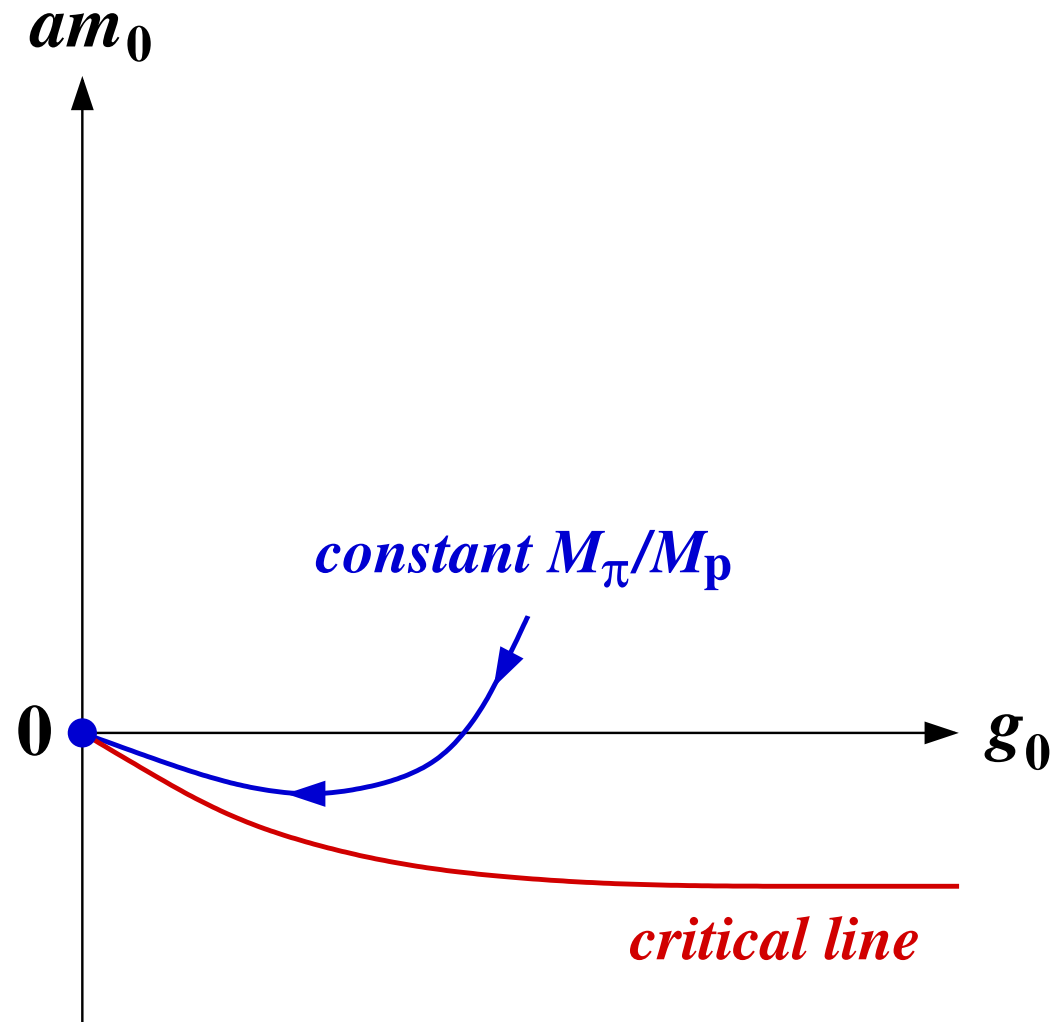
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- setting  $M_p = 938$  MeV gives  $a = \frac{aM_p}{M_p} = 0.21 \times aM_p$  fm along trajectory
- other physical scales can be used:  $a[\text{fm}]$  slightly convention-dependent

# the continuum limit

one thus has

$$aM_\pi = f_\pi(g_0, am_0)$$

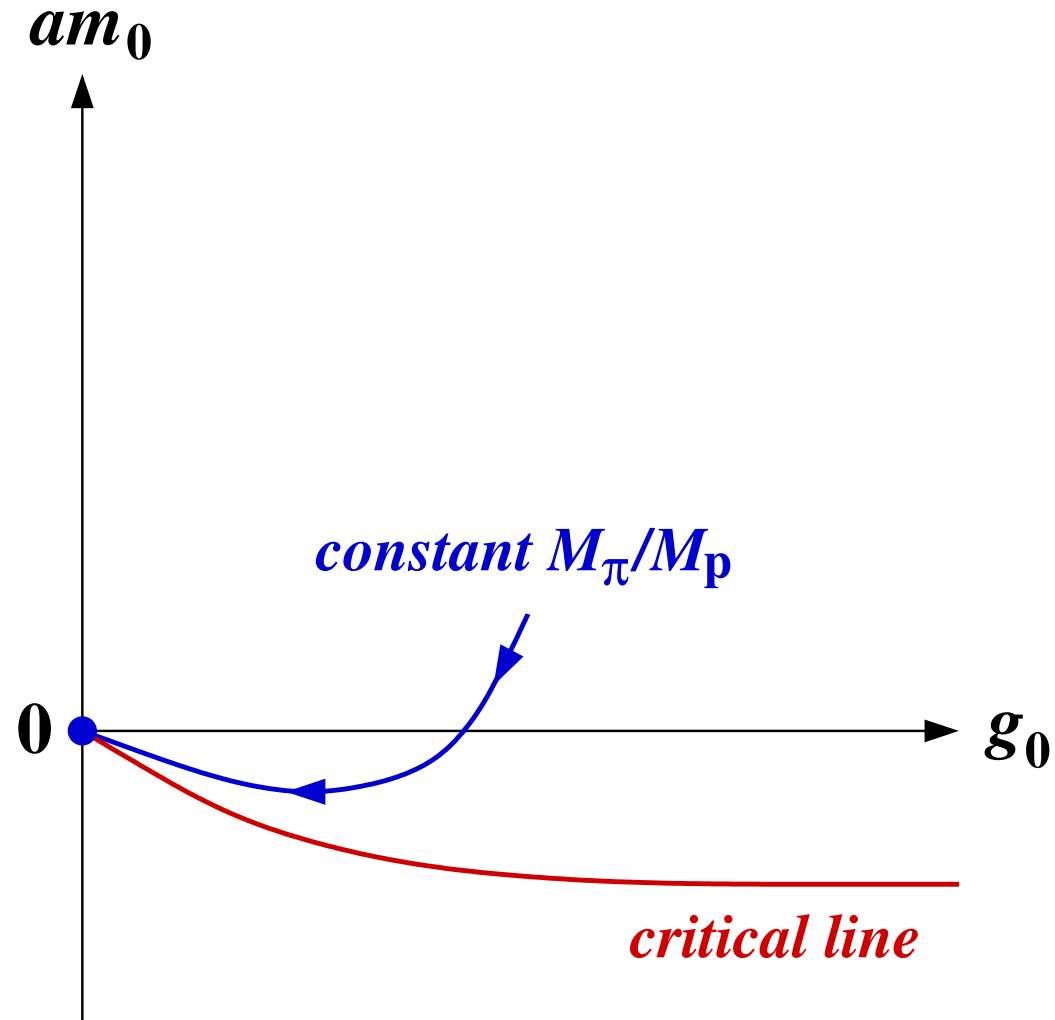
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renormalisation of couplings and other divergent quantities still required

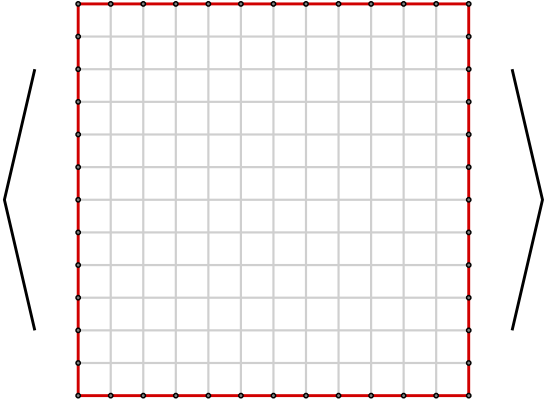
# analytical tools: strong coupling expansion

$$\psi \rightarrow a^{-2} m_0^{-1/2} \psi, \quad \bar{\psi} \rightarrow a^{-2} m_0^{-1/2} \bar{\psi}$$

$$S = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \bar{\psi}(x) \psi(x) + \frac{1}{m_0} \bar{\psi}(x) D_w \psi(x) + \frac{1}{g_0^2} \sum_{\mu\nu} P_{\mu\nu}(x) \right\}$$

⇒ simple expansion around  $\frac{1}{m_0}, \frac{1}{g_0^2} \rightarrow 0$

⇒ simple picture of confinement at  $m_0 \rightarrow \infty$



The diagram shows a rectangular lattice of points. The boundary of the lattice is highlighted with a red line. To the right of the lattice, there is a double-line arrow pointing to the right, indicating a direction of expansion or a specific property of the lattice.

$$\sim (1/g_0^2)^{N_{\text{plaq}}} = \exp\{-\sigma \times \text{area}\}$$

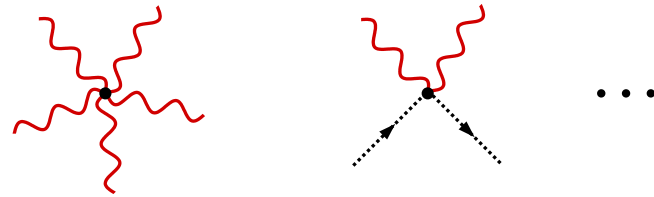
N.B.: not really physical — recall continuum theory is realised as  $g_0 \rightarrow 0$

# analytical tools: weak coupling expansion

**perturbation theory** can be defined as usual, by expanding in  $g_0$  around free fields

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle \sim \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_0^{2k} C_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) \quad \leftarrow \text{(sum over Feynman diagrams)}$$

Lorentz symmetry breaking generates new vertices proportional to  $a^{n \geq 1}$



useful to

- make contact with other regularisations (needed e.g. to match high-energy observables)
- study approach to continuum limit: recall the latter is realised at  $g_0 \rightarrow 0$
- obtain formal results (e.g. Reisz's theorem: lattice QCD rigorously proven to be renormalisable at all orders in perturbation theory)

# renormalisation

renormalisation of couplings and other divergent quantities still required

easy to study in perturbation theory

$$a \frac{\partial g_0}{\partial a} = \beta(g_0(a)) \approx -g_0^3 (b_0 + b_1 g_0^2 + \dots), \quad b_0 = -\frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \left\{ 11 - \frac{2}{3} N_f \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow g_0^2 \underset{a \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \frac{1}{b_0 \ln(a\mu)} + \dots$$

RG equations do however hold beyond perturbation theory, and frameworks exist to work out the renormalisation of QCD (and other strongly coupled gauge theories) **non-perturbatively**

- Schrödinger Functional
- RI/MOM
- ...

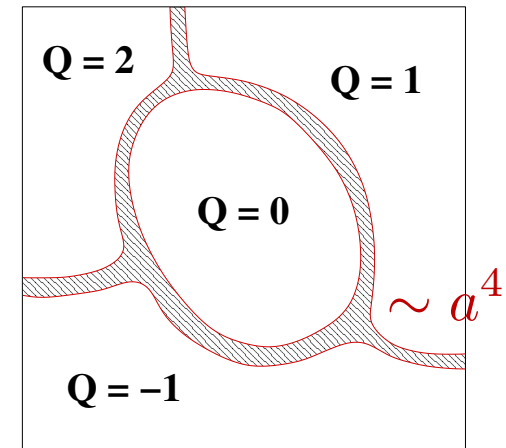
# finite volume

lattice field theories are usually formulated in a finite volume, which raises subtleties:

- **boundary conditions:** note that even periodic boundary conditions are non-trivial — fields with gauge d.o.f. periodic only up to gauge transformations that satisfy cocycle condition.

$$A_\mu(x + L\hat{\nu}) = \Omega_\nu(x) A_\mu(x) \Omega_\nu(x)^\dagger + i\Omega_\nu(x) \partial_\mu \Omega_\nu(x)^\dagger$$

- in the continuum gauge fields have **topological structure**, and can be classified by their topological charge (instanton number) — but on the lattice gauge topological sectors become connected.



- finite volume  $\Rightarrow$  periodicity structure, finite volume effects in Euclidean correlators  $\Rightarrow$  difficulties (some severe) to get  $V=\infty$  physics.

$$|h_1\rangle \rightarrow |h'_1 \dots h'_n\rangle ???$$

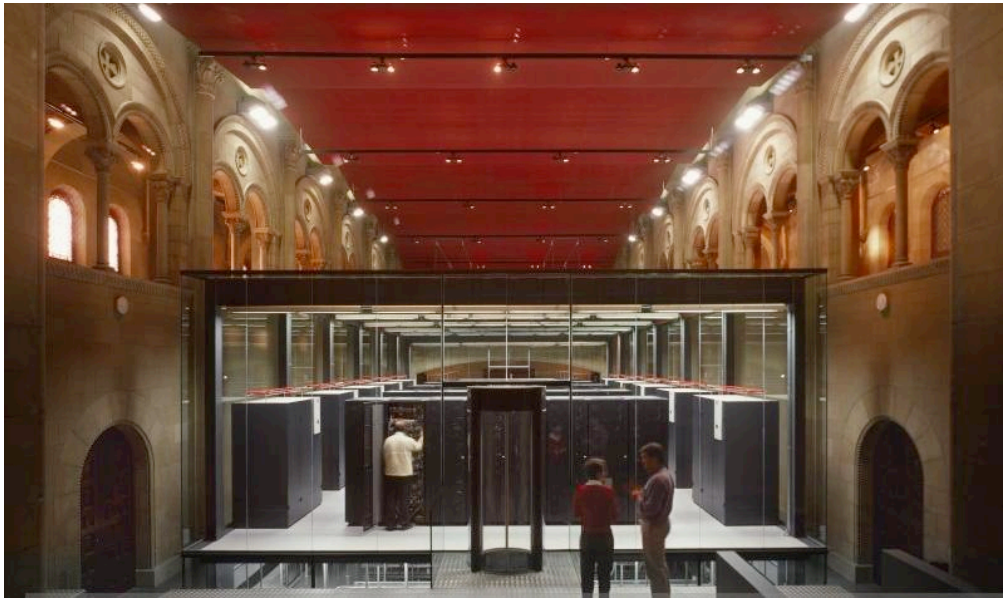
- ...

# outline

- motivation: strong interaction(s) and non-perturbative physics
- lattice field theory
  - QFT in Euclidean space
  - matter and gauge fields on a lattice
  - interacting gauge theories on a lattice: QCD
- **numerical aspects**
  - Monte Carlo techniques for non-perturbative QFT
  - reach of QCD computations
  - anatomy of an example
- overview of physics capabilities
  - FLAG
  - selected lattice QCD results
  - beyond the SM



# numerical simulations



# numerical simulations

employ path integral formalism: Euclidean correlation function of  $n$  gauge-invariant fields given by

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int D[U] \int D[\psi] D[\bar{\psi}] e^{-S[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi]} \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n)$$

$\psi, \bar{\psi}$  indep. variables in Euclidean qft

crucial: on a lattice, this is a **standard integral** (over a very large number of variables)

$$D[\phi] = \prod_x d\phi(x)$$

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generators of Grassmann algebra (for each fermionic d.o.f.) at spacetime point  $x$

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$\psi, \bar{\psi}$  indep. variables in Euclidean qft



crucial: on a lattice, this is a **standard integral** (over a very large number of variables)

$$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1, \quad (L/a)^3 \times (T/a) = 64^3 \times 128$$

$$\Rightarrow D_w = (1.6 \times 10^9)^2 \quad \text{complex matrix}$$

untractable analytically: use numerical techniques to compute correlation functions

# Monte Carlo integration

$\int_{\alpha}^{\beta} dx f(x)$  Riemann integrability:

$$[x_0 = \alpha, x_1], [x_1, x_2], \dots, [x_{N-1}, x_N = \beta]$$

$$\varepsilon(N) = \frac{\beta - \alpha}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left[ \max_{x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]} \{f(x)\} - \min_{x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]} \{f(x)\} \right] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

yields approximation method for the integral:

$$\int_{\alpha}^{\beta} dx f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{\beta - \alpha}{N} f(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(f'/N^2)$$

# Monte Carlo integration

$\int_{\alpha}^{\beta} dx f(x)$  Riemann integrability:

$$[x_0 = \alpha, x_1], [x_1, x_2], \dots, [x_{N-1}, x_N = \beta]$$

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## Monte Carlo algorithm:

1. generate a set of  $N$  random points  $\{x^{[i]}\}$  uniformly distributed in the integration interval (domain)

2. compute  $f(x^{[i]}) \quad \forall i$

3. compute the average  $I(N) = \frac{\beta - \alpha}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} f(x^{[i]})$

$$f \text{ is Riemann integrable} \Rightarrow I(N) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} dx f(x)$$

# Monte Carlo integration

---

basic MC technique easily generalisable to arbitrary number of variables, but path integrals are more complicated:

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \int \frac{D\phi e^{-S[\phi]}}{\mathcal{Z}} \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n)$$

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integration measure

$$I = \int_0^1 dx_0 \int_0^1 dx_1 \cdots \int_0^1 dx_{K-1} P(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x})$$

points for MC cannot be uniformly distributed: they are distributed with weights given by measure

# Monte Carlo integration

$$I = \int_0^1 dx_0 \int_0^1 dx_1 \cdots \int_0^1 dx_{K-1} P(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x})$$

1. generate a set of  $N$  random points  $\{\mathbf{x}^{[i]}\}$  **distributed with**  $P(\mathbf{x})$  in the integration domain  $\mathcal{D}$

2. compute  $f(\mathbf{x}^{[i]}) \quad \forall i$

3. compute the average  $I(N) = \frac{\text{Vol}(\mathcal{D})}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} f(\mathbf{x}^{[i]})$

convergence guaranteed under certain conditions by Central Limit theorem; in general, the convergence rate is  $1/\sqrt{N}$



# Monte Carlo integration

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how to distribute points properly: choose them to be a **Markov chain**

sequence of random variables:  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$

$$P(X_{n+1} = x | X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) = P(X_{n+1} = x | X_n = x_n)$$

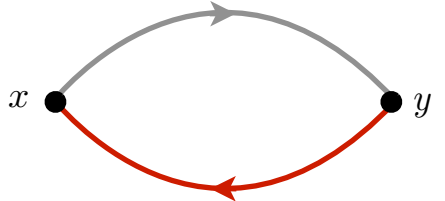
each step in the chain “knows” only of the immediately previous step

**several standard algorithms available and optimised for lattice QCD computations**

# Monte Carlo integration

in practice: computational needs determined by inversion of lattice Dirac operator

$$\langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int D[U] \langle \phi_1(x_1) \cdots \phi_n(x_n) \rangle_{\text{F}} \times \\ \times \prod_{q=1}^{N_f} \det[D_{\text{w}}(U) + m_q] e^{-S_{\text{G}}[U]}$$

$$\langle (\bar{u}\gamma_5 d)(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(y) \rangle_{\text{F}} = -\text{tr} \{ \gamma_5 S(x, y; U)_d \gamma_5 S(y, x; U)_u \}$$


- quark propagators
- computation of the determinant

cost of computation  $\longleftrightarrow$  condition number of lattice Dirac operator

# Monte Carlo integration

reaching physical quarks masses difficult because of spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking

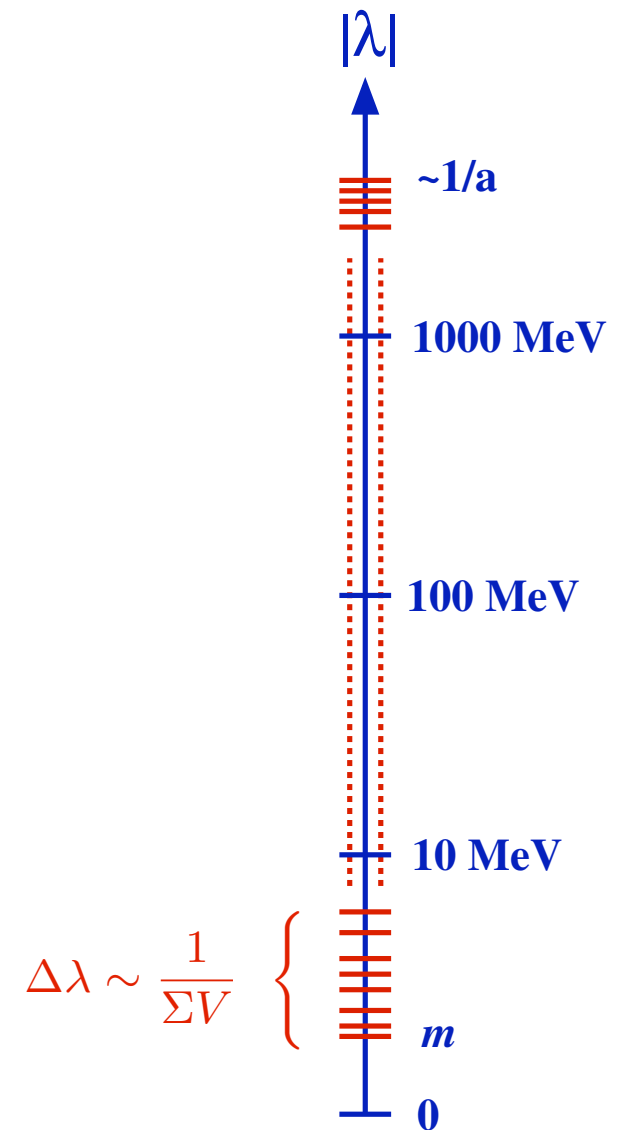
hierarchy of scales  $\leftrightarrow$  SSB:  $m \ll M_\pi \ll 4\pi F_\pi$   
[Leutwyler, Smilga 1992]

- ➔ condition number  $\lambda_{\max}/\lambda_{\min}$  large.
- ➔ computation of  $D^{-1}\phi$  expensive.

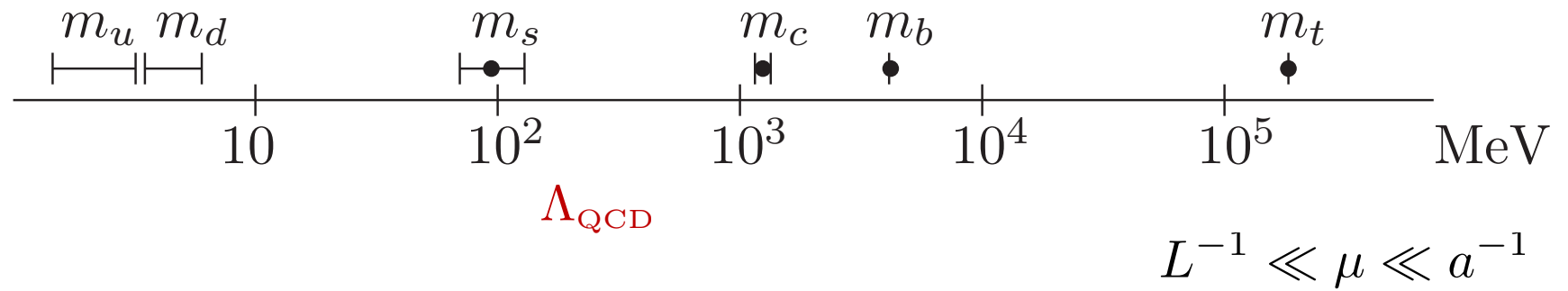
teach the physics to the algorithms!

[Sexton-Weingarten 1990s; Hasenbusch, Lüscher 2000s]

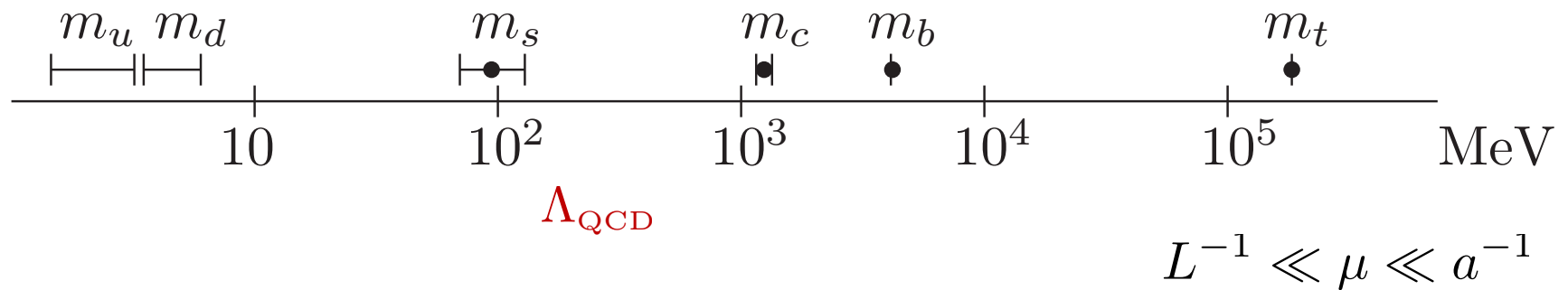
mass preconditioning/domain decomposition, deflation  $\Rightarrow$  mild mass dependence



# reach of modern lattice QCD computations



# reach of modern lattice QCD computations



main cost factor: reiterated inversion of lattice Dirac operator on fixed gauge field

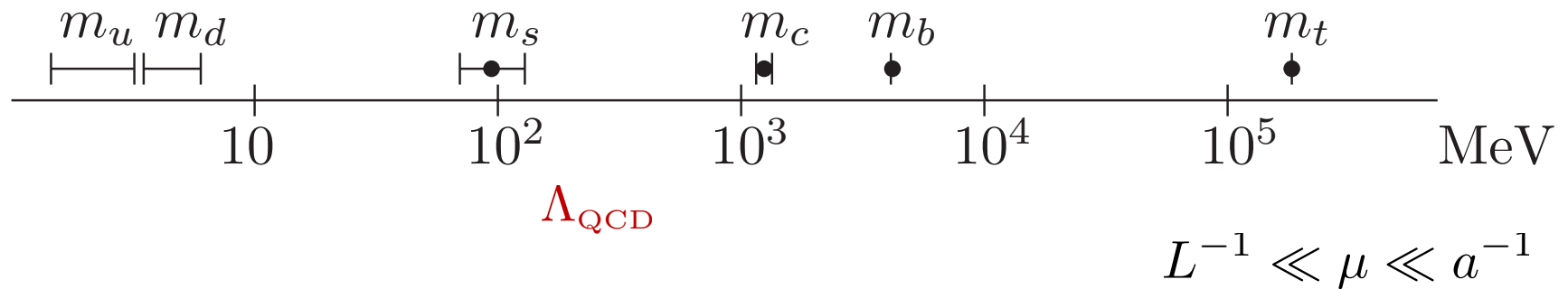
$$\text{cost} = N \left( \frac{20 \text{ MeV}}{m} \right)^\alpha \left( \frac{L}{3 \text{ fm}} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{0.1 \text{ fm}}{a} \right)^\gamma$$

overall cost ( $\Rightarrow$  cpu power)

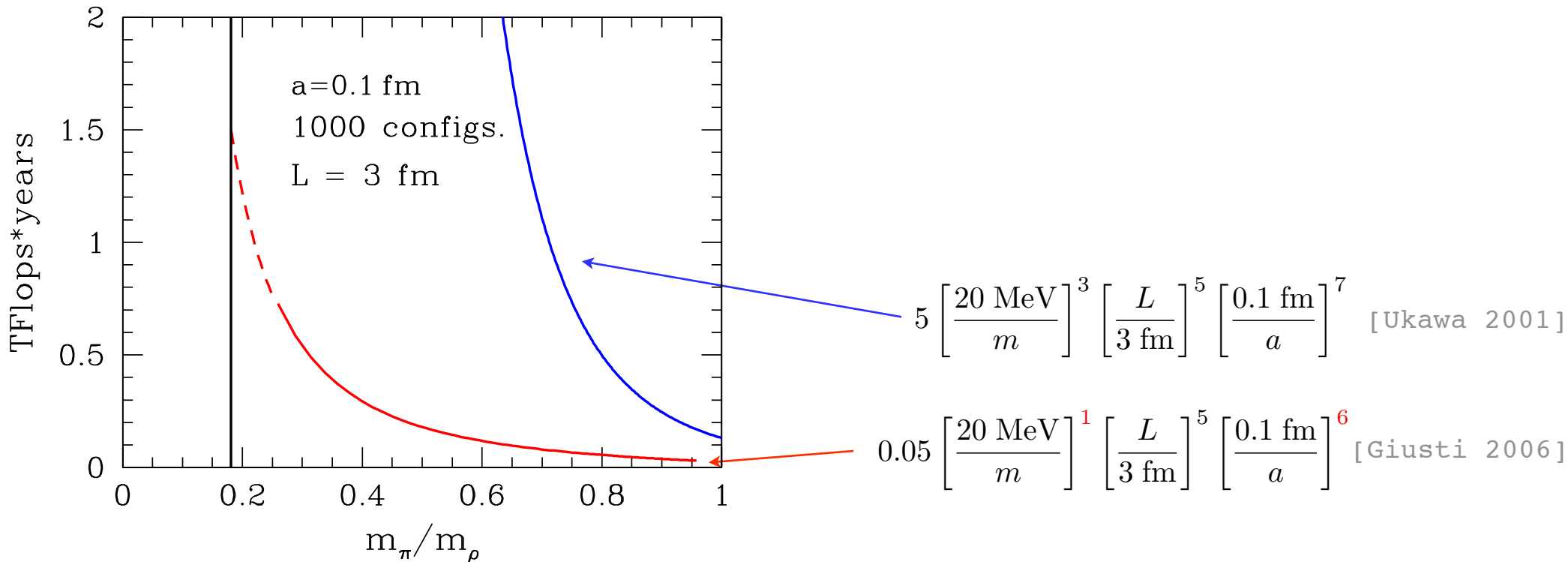
physics reach

for a long time: serious difficulties in reaching light dynamical quark masses

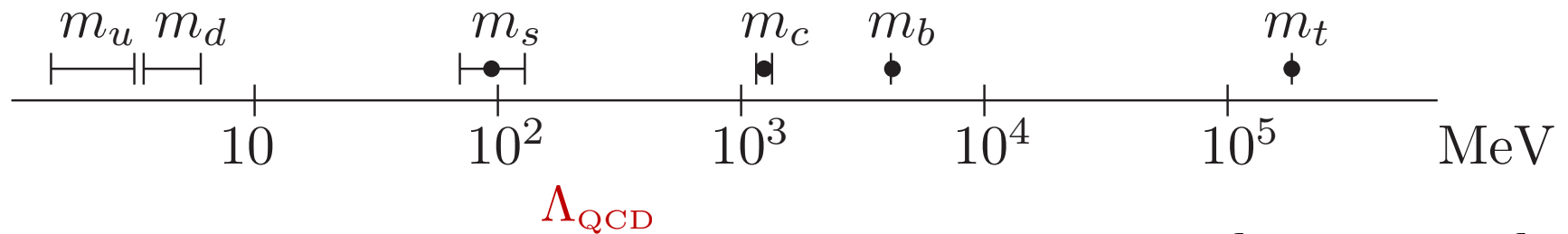
# reach of modern lattice QCD computations



main cost factor: reiterated inversion of lattice Dirac operator on fixed gauge field

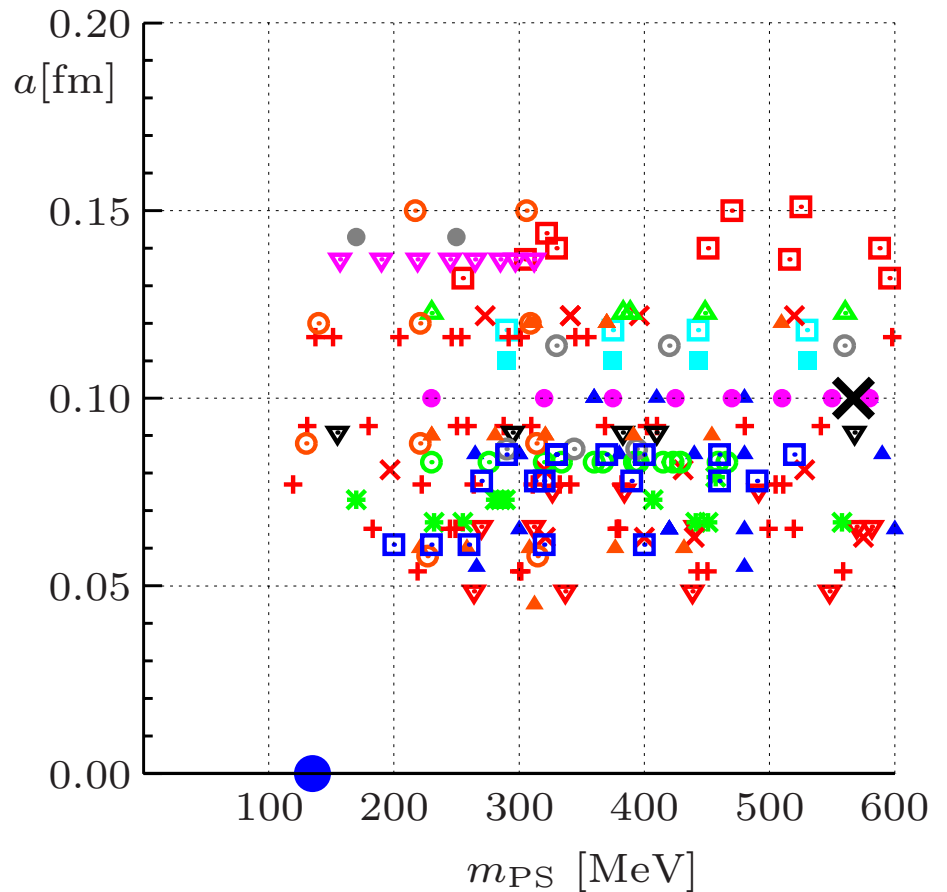


# lattice QCD reach: simulation landscape



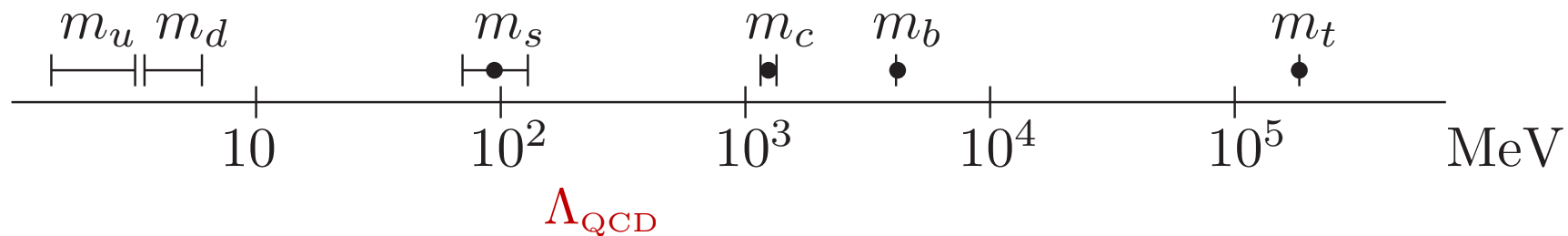
$$L^{-1} \ll \mu \ll a^{-1}$$

CLS	$N_f = 2$	$\nabla$
ETMC	$N_f = 2$	$\blacktriangle$
QCDSF	$N_f = 2$	$\ast$
BGR	$N_f = 2$	$\square$
JLQCD	$N_f = 2$	$\square$
(plaq) TWQCD	$N_f = 2$	$\bullet$
(Iwa) TWQCD	$N_f = 2$	$\nabla$
(HEX) BMW	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$+$
(stout) BMW	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\times$
HSC	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\blacktriangle$
PACS-CS	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\blacktriangledown$
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RBC-UKQCD	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\odot$
(IDSDR) RBC-UKQCD	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\bullet$
MILC	$N_f = 2 + 1$	$\blacktriangle$
MILC	$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$	$\circ$
ETMC	$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$	$\square$
JLQCD/CP-PACS (2001)	$N_f = 2$	$\times$
	$\text{exp}^t$	$\bullet$



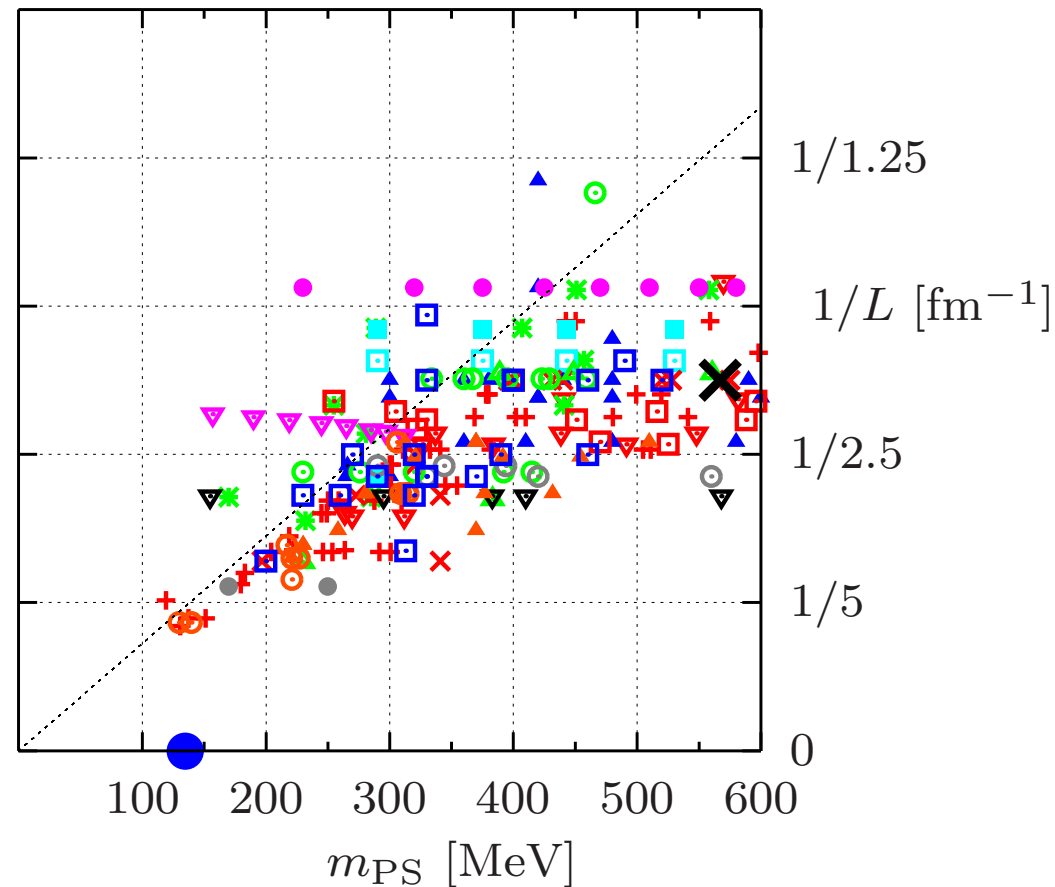
[plot courtesy of G. Herdoíza]

# lattice QCD reach: simulation landscape



$$L^{-1} \ll \mu \ll a^{-1}$$

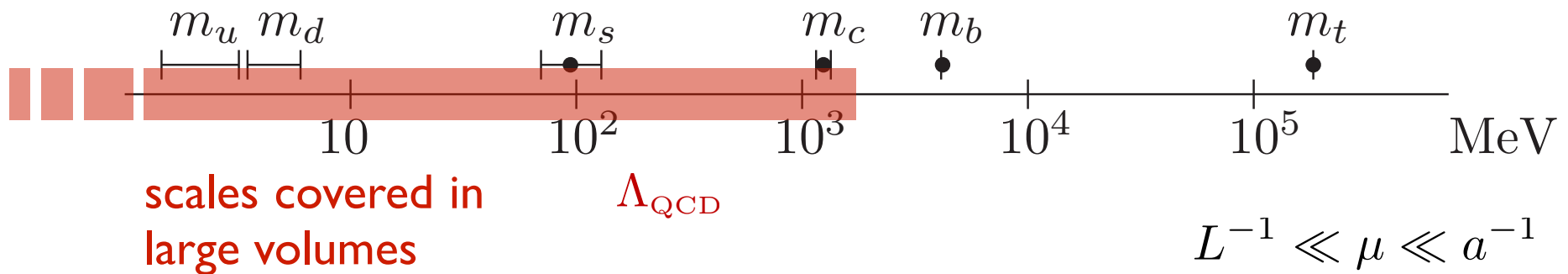
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JLQCD/CP-PACS (2001)	$N_f = 2$	$\times$
	$\text{exp}^t$	$\bullet$



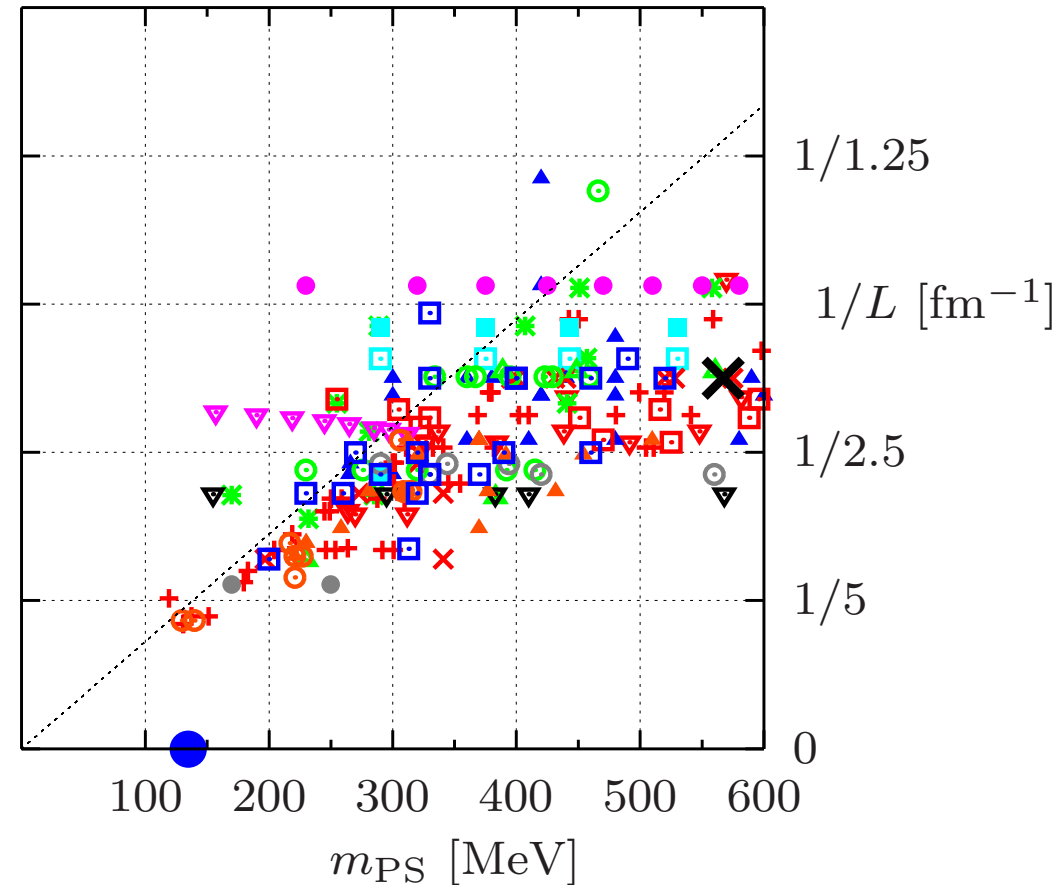
[plot courtesy of G. Herdoíza]



# lattice QCD reach: simulation landscape



CLS	$N_f = 2$	▽
ETMC	$N_f = 2$	▲
QCDSF	$N_f = 2$	✱
BGR	$N_f = 2$	◻
JLQCD	$N_f = 2$	◻
(plaq) TWQCD	$N_f = 2$	●
(Iwa) TWQCD	$N_f = 2$	▽
(HEX) BMW	$N_f = 2 + 1$	+
(stout) BMW	$N_f = 2 + 1$	×
HSC	$N_f = 2 + 1$	▲
PACS-CS	$N_f = 2 + 1$	▽
QCDSF	$N_f = 2 + 1$	⊙
JLQCD	$N_f = 2 + 1$	◻
RBC-UKQCD	$N_f = 2 + 1$	⊙
(IDSDR) RBC-UKQCD	$N_f = 2 + 1$	●
MILC	$N_f = 2 + 1$	▲
MILC	$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$	⊙
ETMC	$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$	◻
JLQCD/CP-PACS (2001)	$N_f = 2$	✕
	exp <sup>t</sup>	●



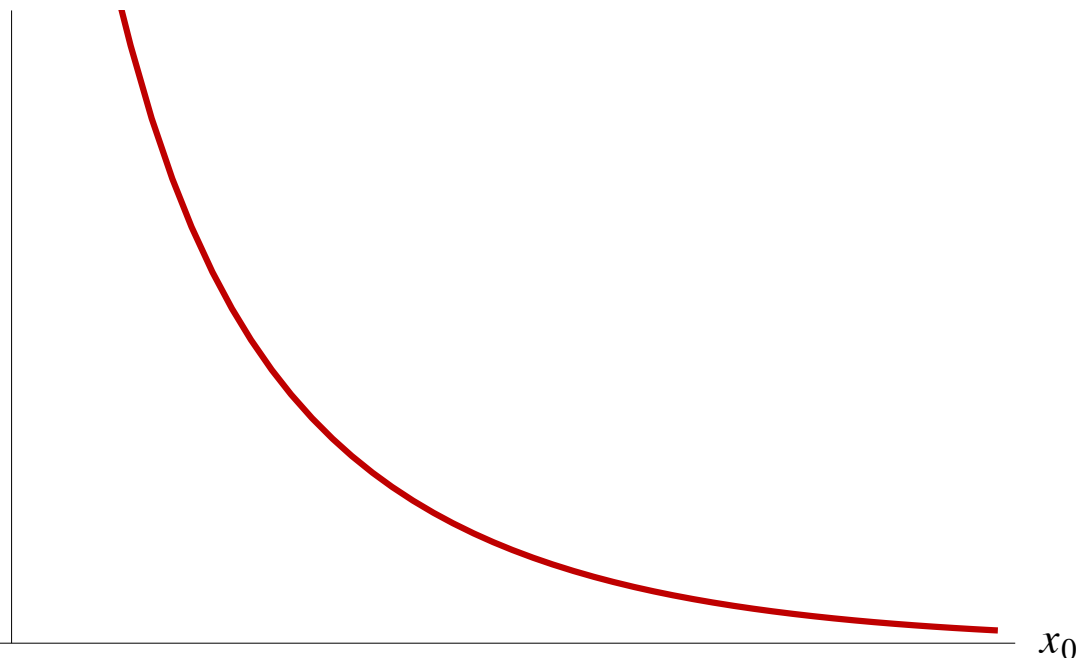
[plot courtesy of G. Herdoíza]

# example computation: pion mass and decay constant

(charged) pion two-point function

$$\begin{aligned} G(x_0) &= \int d^3x \langle (\overbrace{\bar{u}\gamma_5 d} \equiv P(x})(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(0) \rangle = -\langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -\sum_{\text{PS}} \langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}|\text{PS}\rangle \langle \text{PS}|P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -e^{-M_\pi x_0} |\langle 0|P(x)|\pi\rangle|^2 + \mathcal{O}(e^{-3M_\pi x_0}) \end{aligned}$$

$G(x_0)$



computation of hadron masses, simple hadronic matrix elements, ... does **not** require analytic continuation back to Minkowski space

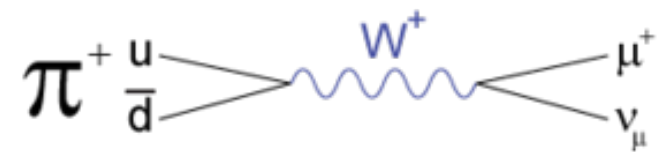
# example computation: pion mass and decay constant

(charged) pion two-point function

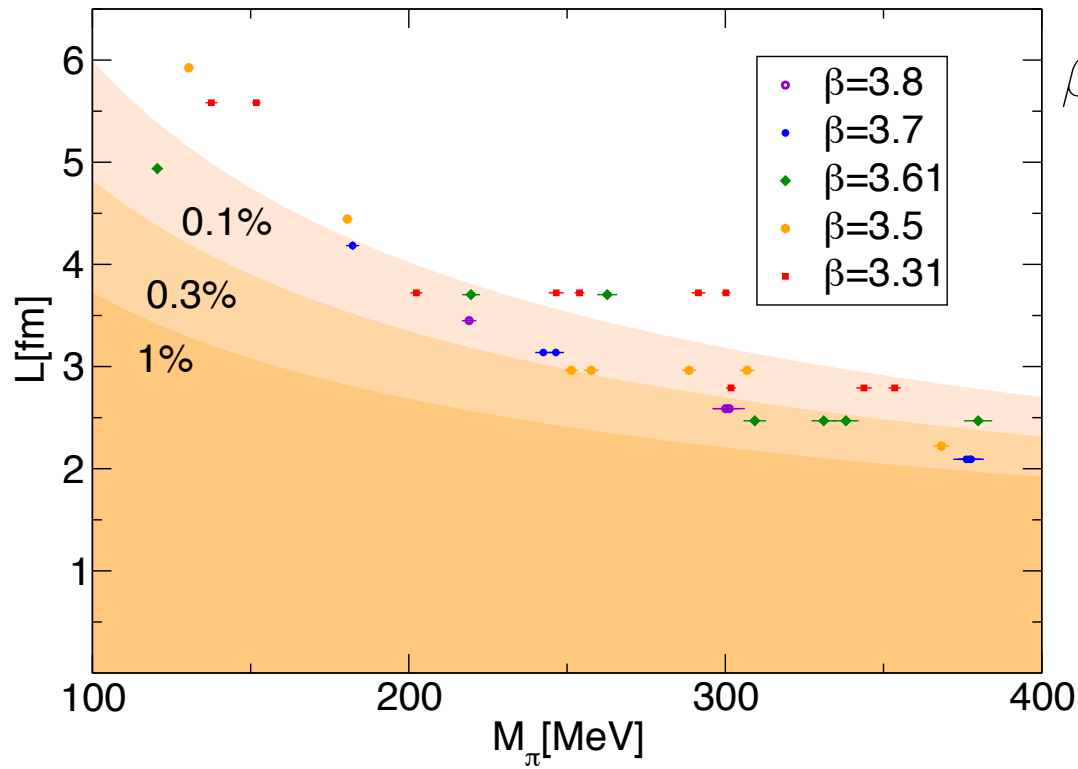
$$\begin{aligned} G(x_0) &= \int d^3x \langle (\overbrace{\bar{u}\gamma_5 d} \equiv P(x))(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(0) \rangle = -\langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -\sum_{\text{PS}} \langle 0|P(0, \mathbf{x})e^{-Hx_0}|\text{PS}\rangle \langle \text{PS}|P(0, \mathbf{0})|0\rangle \\ &= -e^{-M_\pi x_0} |\langle 0|P(x)|\pi\rangle|^2 + \mathcal{O}(e^{-3M_\pi x_0}) \end{aligned}$$

decay constant: combine with

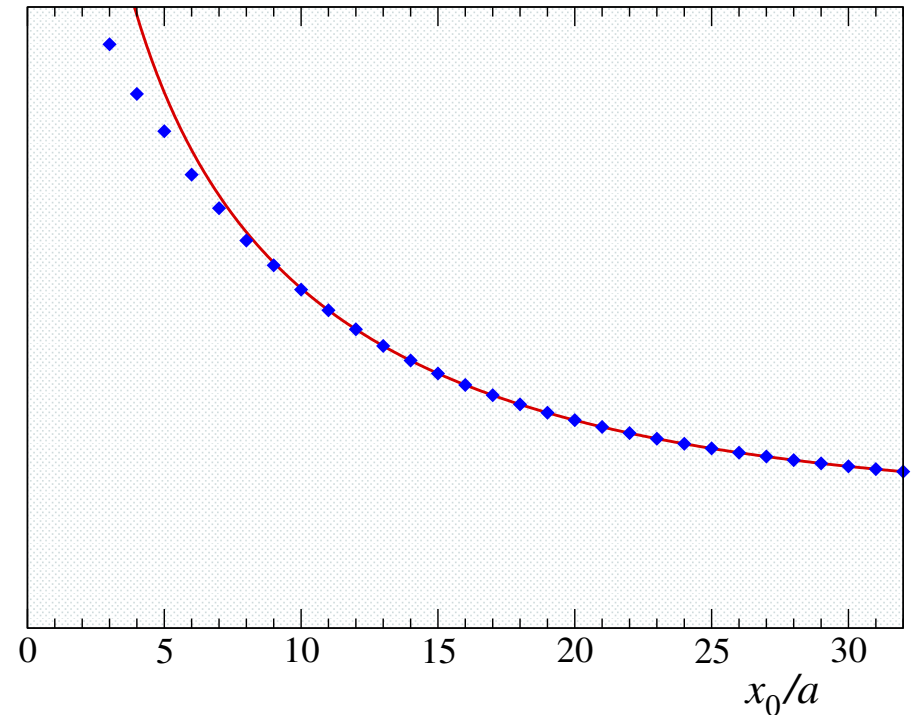
$$\begin{aligned} G_A(x_0) &= \int d^3x \langle (\bar{u}\gamma_0\gamma_5 d)(x) (\bar{d}\gamma_5 u)(0) \rangle \\ &\propto F_\pi e^{-M_\pi x_0} \end{aligned}$$



# example computation: pion mass and decay constant

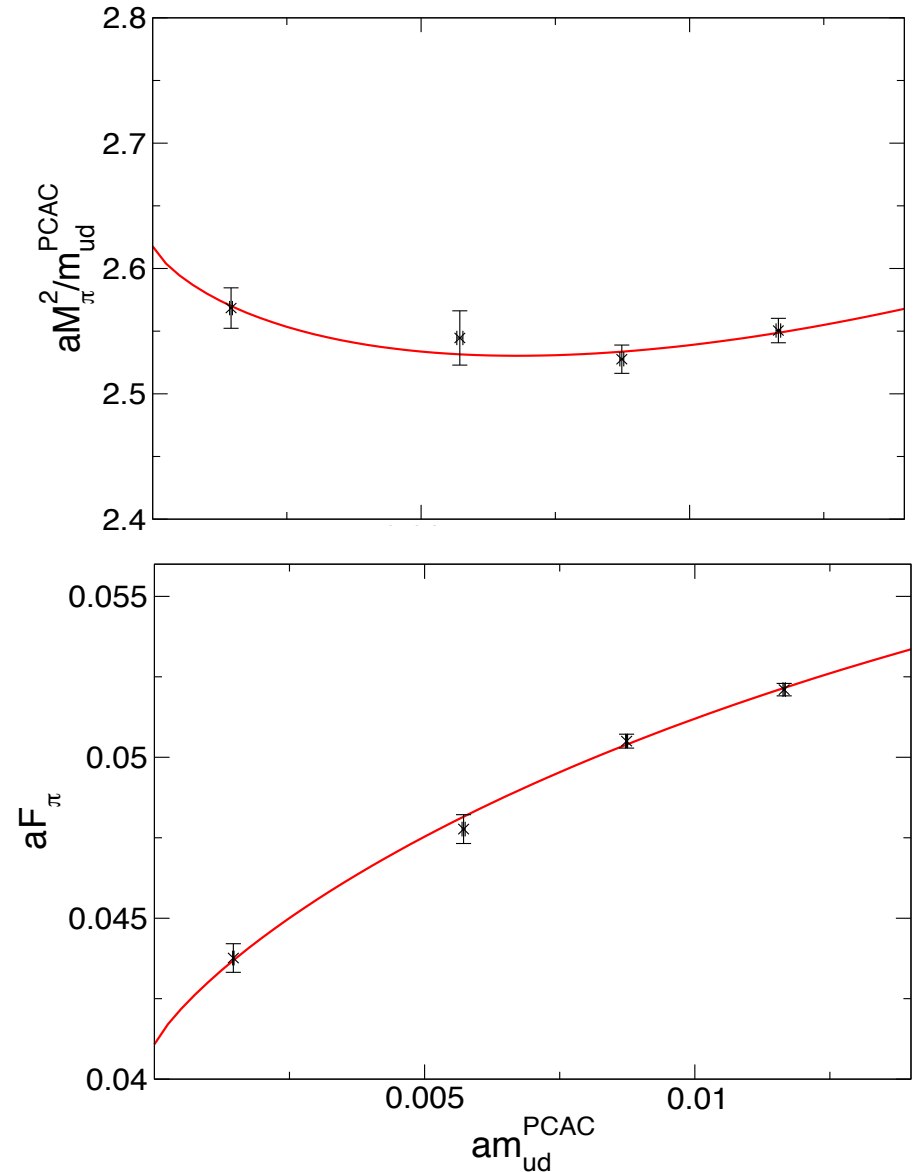
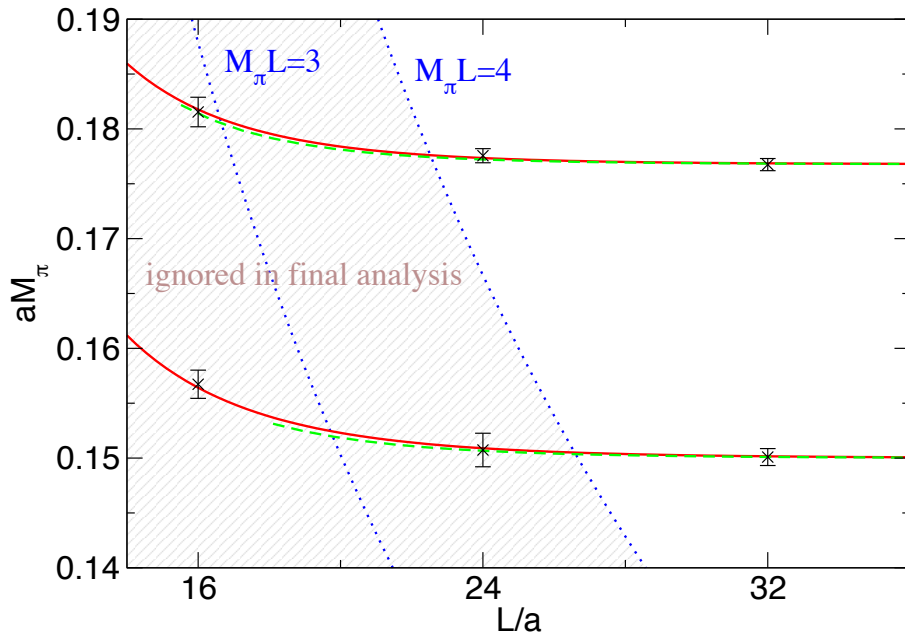


for each simulation point, extract  $M_\pi, F_\pi$



# example computation: pion mass and decay constant

determine dependence with quark mass, volume, lattice spacing and extra/  
interpolate to physical point



# outline

- motivation: strong interaction(s) and non-perturbative physics
- lattice field theory
  - QFT in Euclidean space
  - matter and gauge fields on a lattice
  - interacting gauge theories on a lattice: QCD
- numerical aspects
  - Monte Carlo techniques for non-perturbative QFT
  - reach of QCD computations
  - anatomy of an example
- overview of physics capabilities
  - FLAG
  - selected lattice QCD results
  - beyond the SM

# overview of current QCD physics from the lattice



PLENARY AND  
PARALLEL SESSIONS



STANDARD MODEL  
PARAMETERS



THEORETICAL  
DEVELOPMENTS



CHIRAL  
SYMMETRY



ALGORITHMS  
AND MACHINES



APPLICATIONS  
BEYOND QCD



VACUUM  
STRUCTURE AND  
CONFINEMENT



WEAK DECAY  
ELEMENTS



PHYSICS BEYOND  
THE STANDARD  
MODEL



HADRON  
SPECTRUM



HADRON  
STRUCTURE



NON-ZERO  
TEMPERATURE  
AND DENSITY

# overview of current QCD physics from the lattice

very competitive area, several large collaborations (Europe/Japan/USA)  
example collaboration:

- CERN 
- DESY 
- Dublin 
- Humboldt 
- Madrid  
- Mainz 
- Milan 
- Münster 
- Regensburg 
- Rome Sapienza 
- Rome ToV 
- Valencia 
- Wuppertal 





# overview of current QCD physics from the lattice

effort by the lattice community to summarise and qualify results for non-experts



**advisory board:** S.Aoki (J), C. Bernard (US), C. Sachrajda (EU)

**editorial board:** G. Colangelo, H. Leutwyler, A. Vladikas, U. Wenger

**working groups:**

quark masses

$V_{ud}, V_{us}$

LECs

$B_K$

$\alpha_s$

$f_B, B_B, f_D$

$B, D \rightarrow H \ell \nu$

T. Blum, L. Lellouch, V. Lubicz

A. Jüttner, T. Kaneko, S. Simula

S. Dürr, H. Fukaya, S. Necco

J. Laiho, S. Sharpe, H. Wittig

T. Onogi, J. Shigemitsu, R. Sommer

Y.Aoki, M. Della Morte, A. El Khadra

E. Lunghi, CP, R. Van de Water

**FLAG-2 review partially published online, full version to appear within year end**  
new published review every 2nd year; regular web updates in between.

# overview of current QCD physics from the lattice

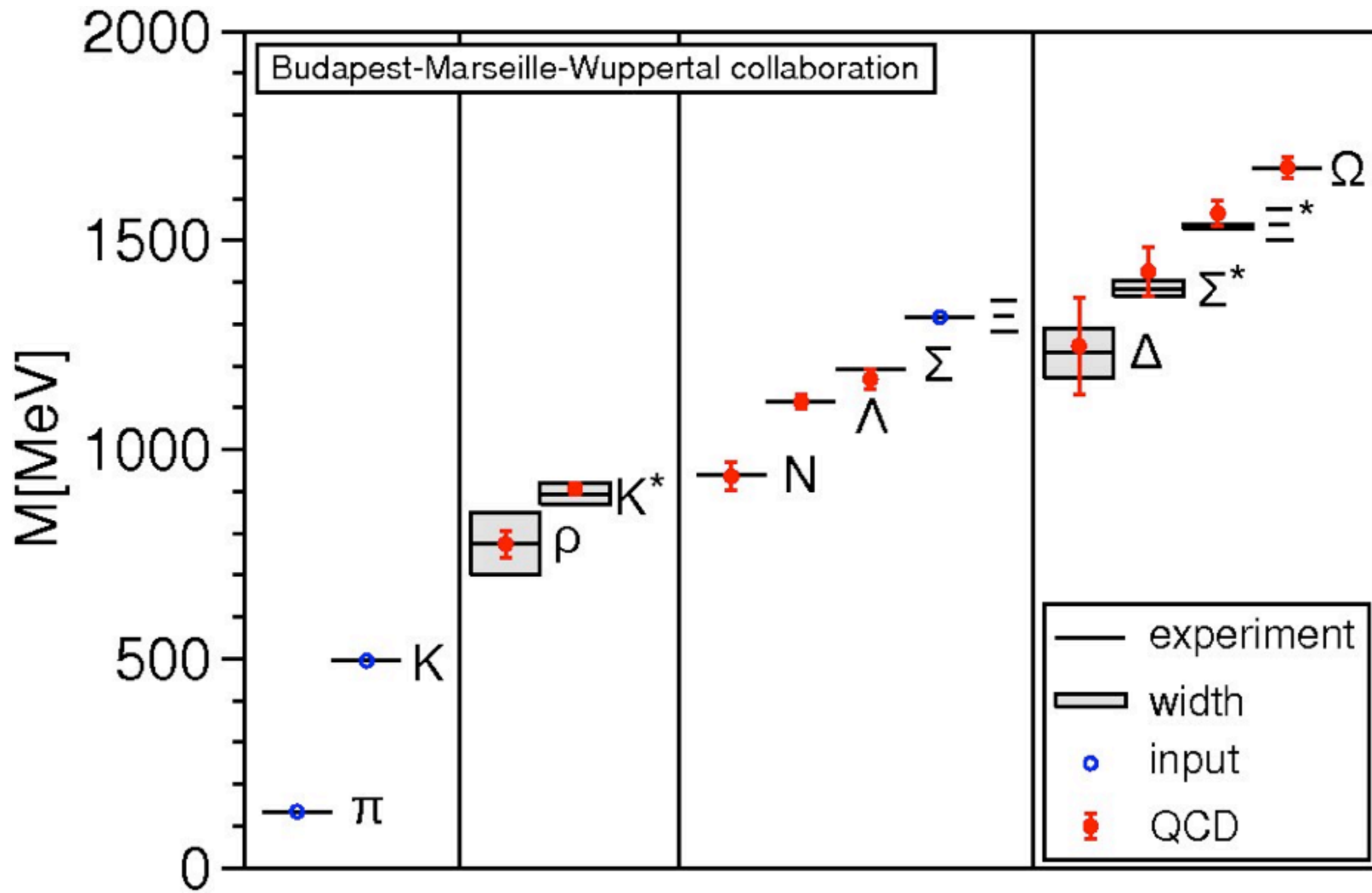
## FLAG quantities

- light quark masses
- LECs (light hadron dynamics)
- decay constants
- pion and kaon form factors
- kaon bag parameter
- D meson leptonic and semileptonic decays
- B meson leptonic and semileptonic decays, mixing
- strong coupling constant

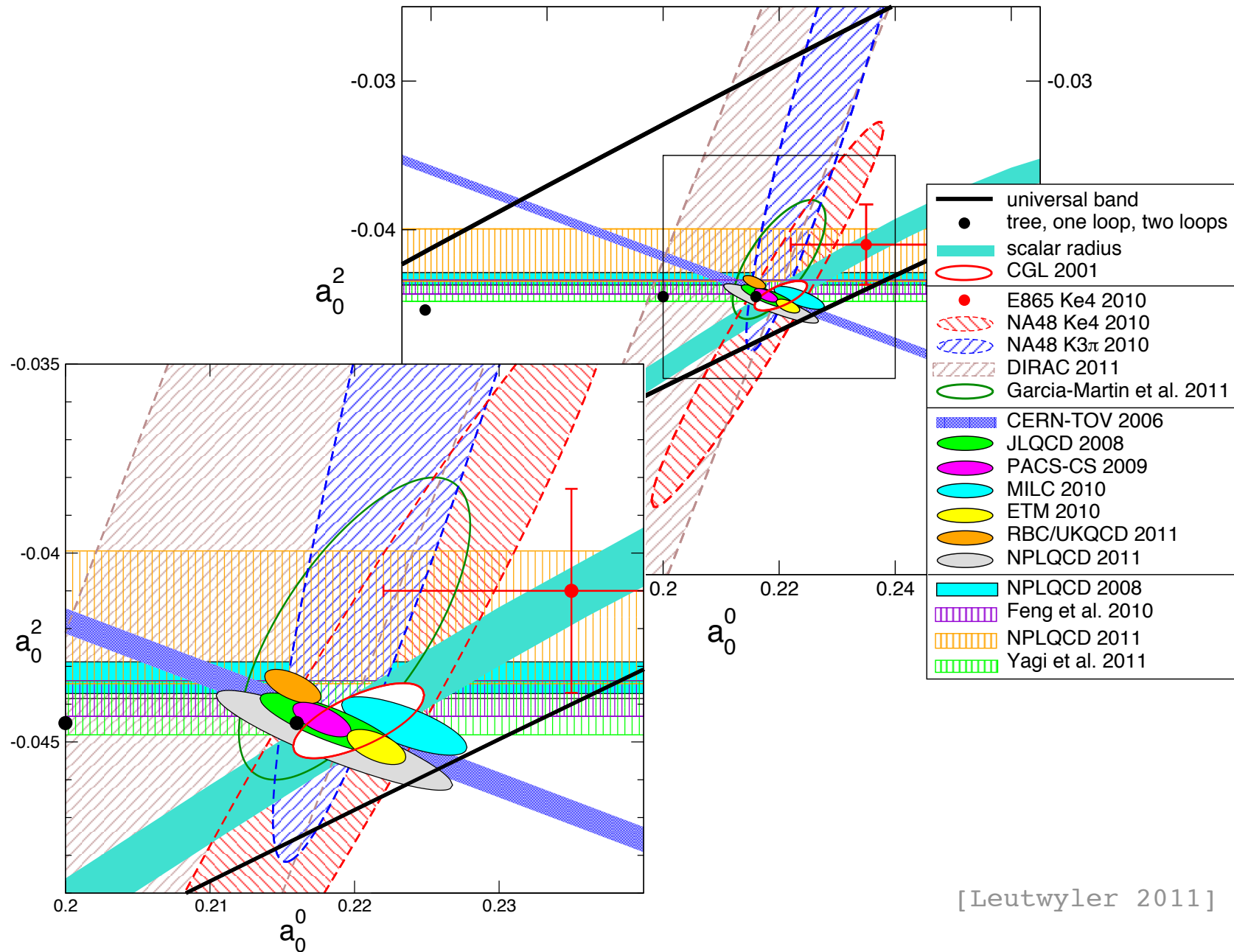
For each quantity provide:

- complete list of references, summary of formulae/notations, ...
- summary of essential aspects of each computation
- averages (if sensible)
- “lattice dictionary” for non-experts

# light hadron spectrum

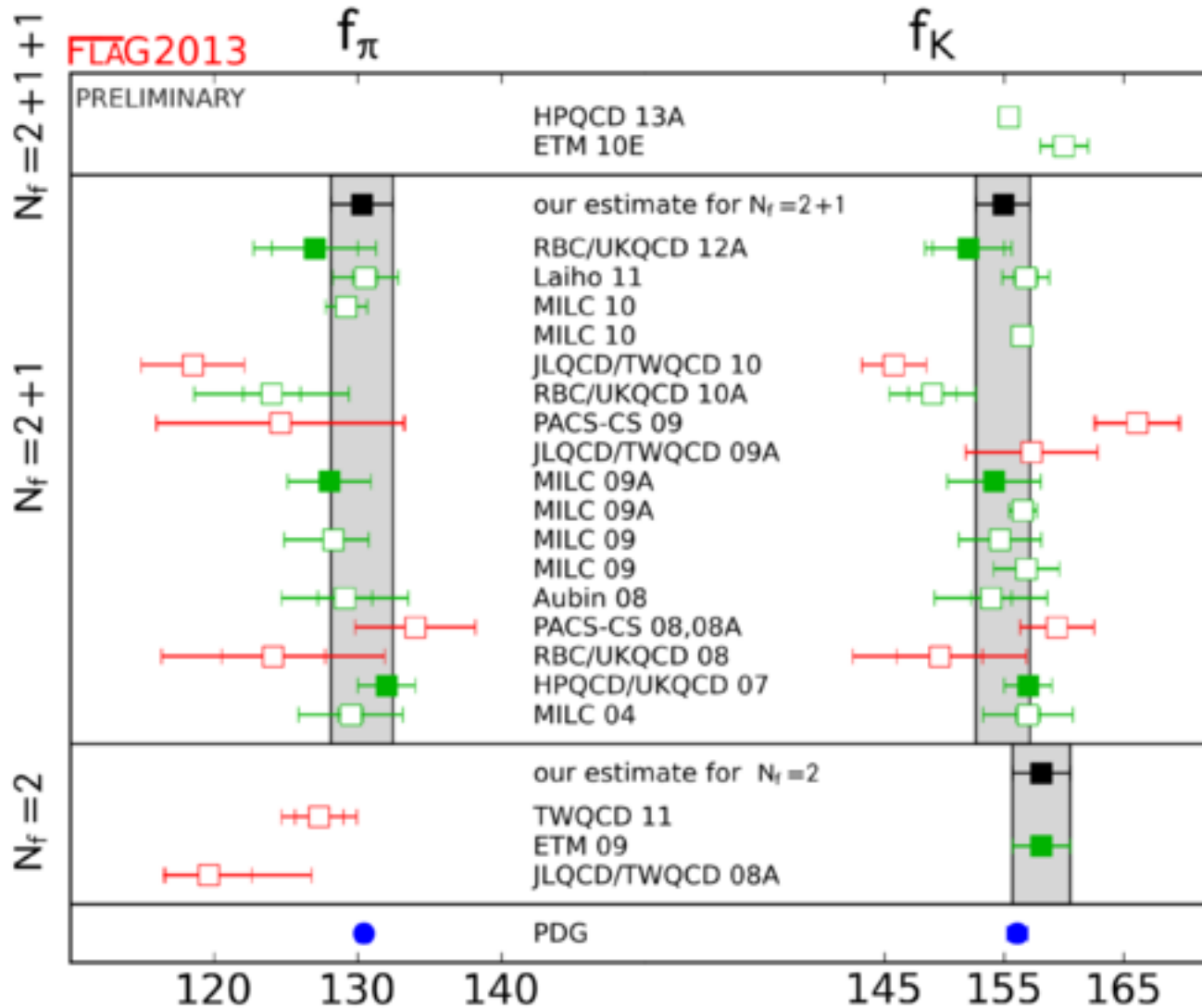
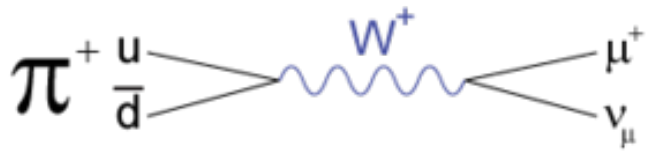


# light hadron dynamics: pion scattering

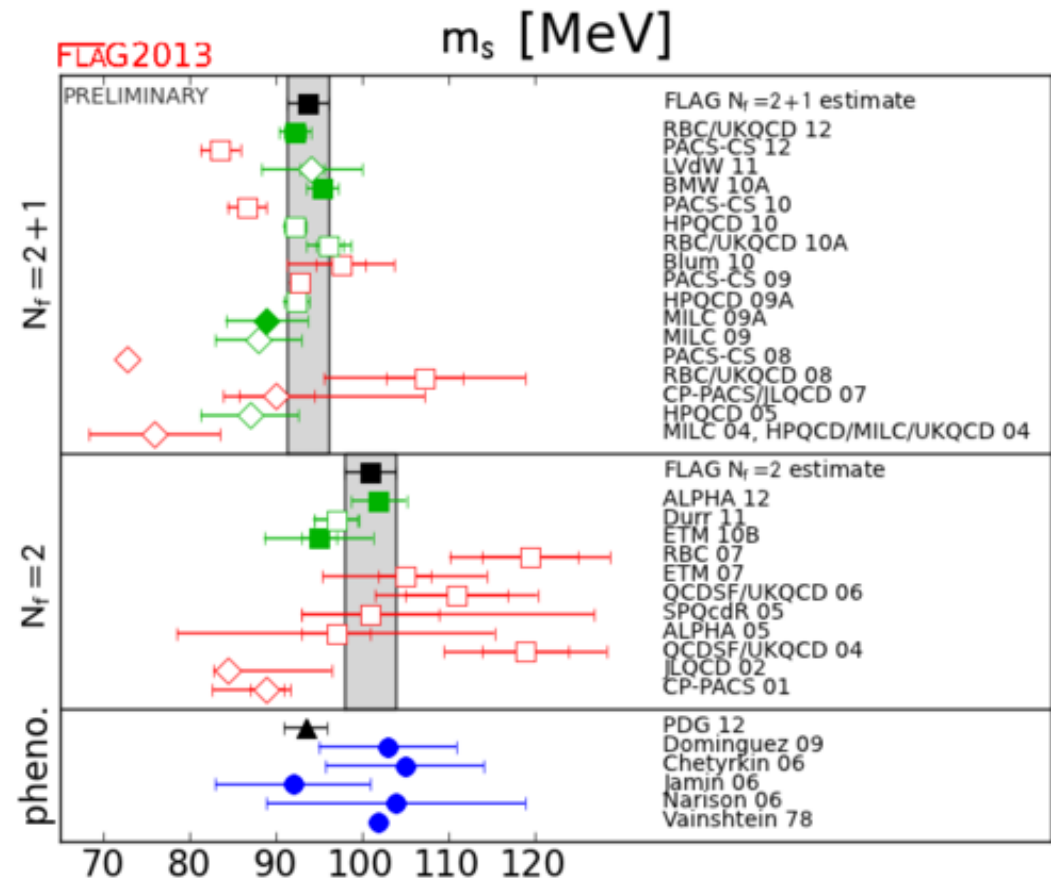
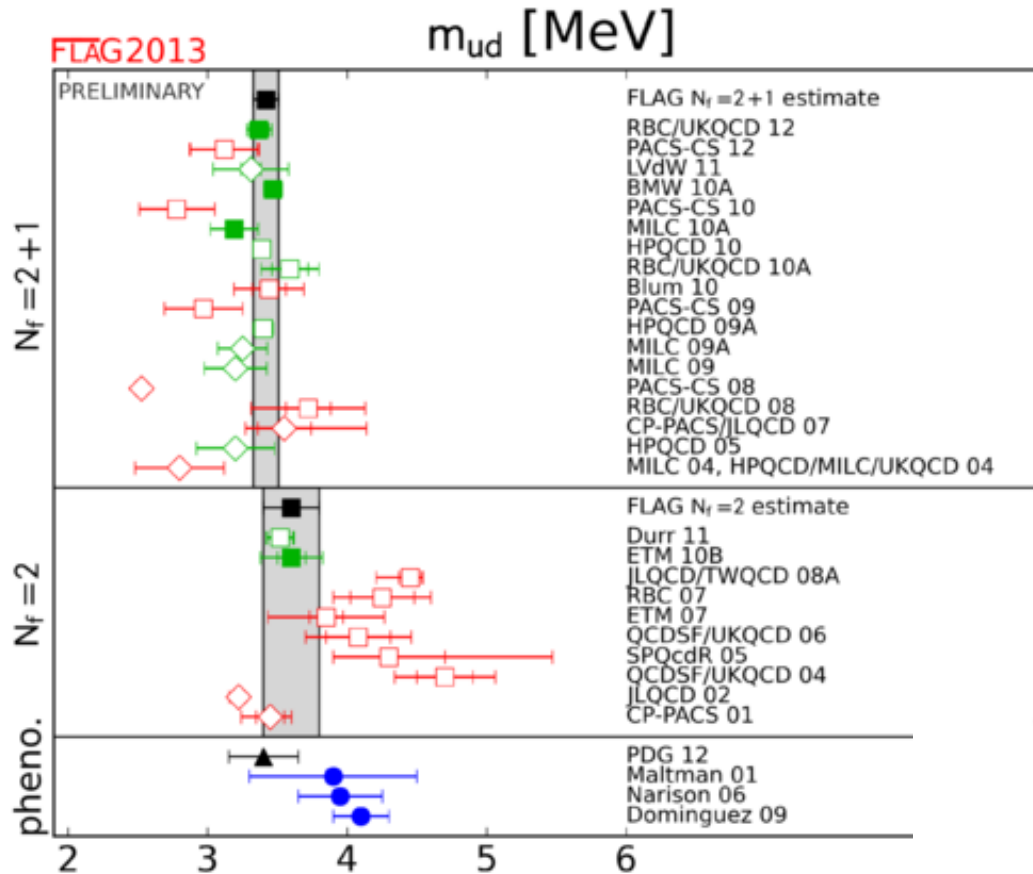


[Leutwyler 2011]

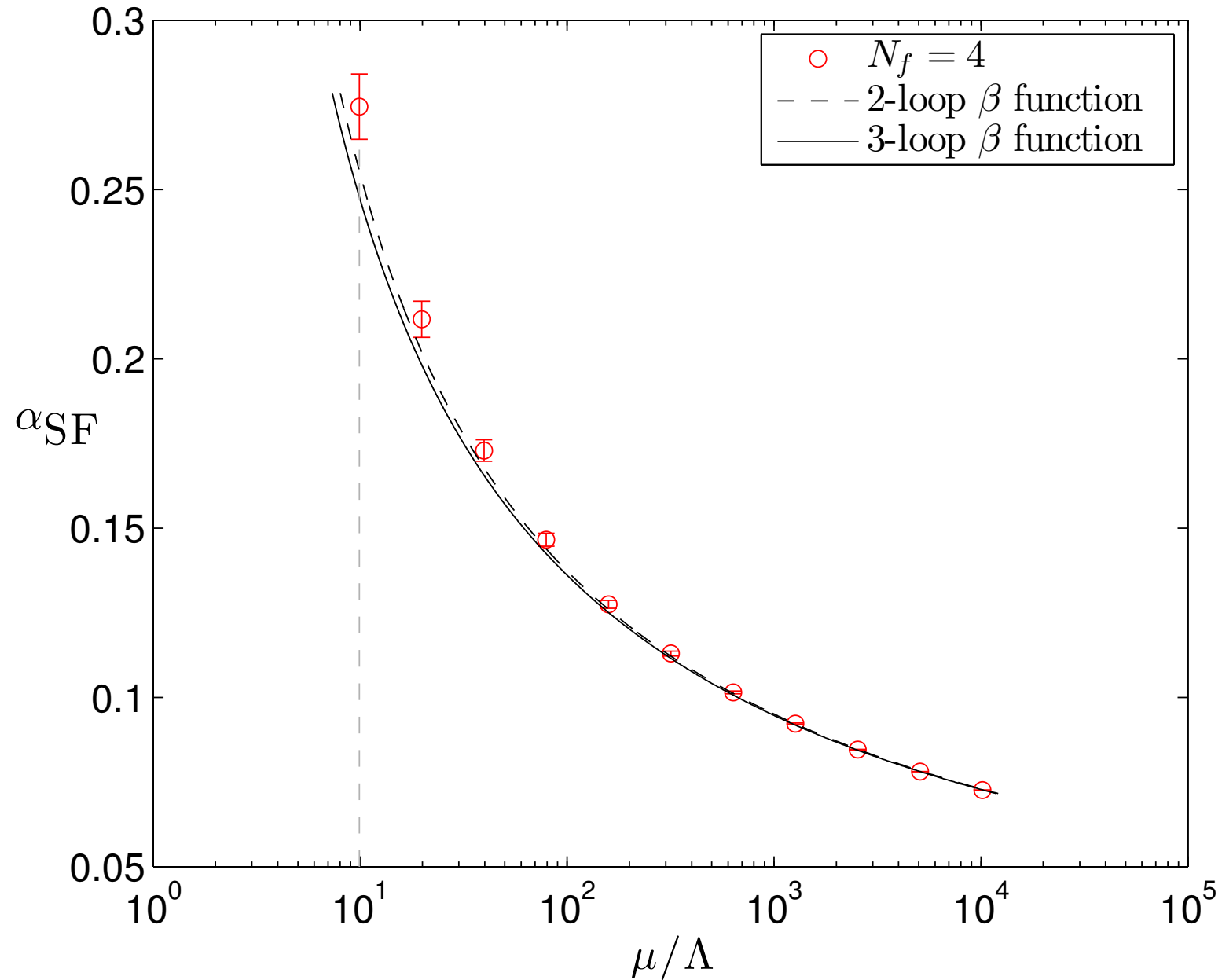
# light hadron dynamics: kaon and pion decay



# fundamental parameters: quark masses

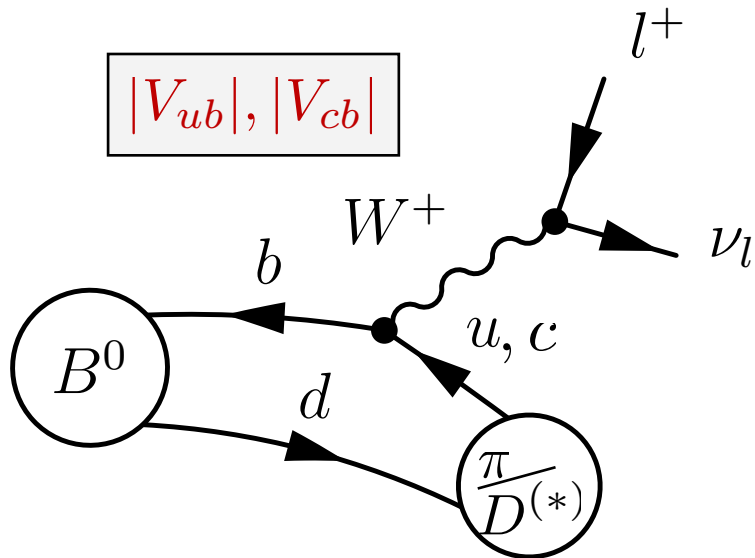


# fundamental parameters: strong coupling constant



# flavour physics + fundamental parameters: CKM

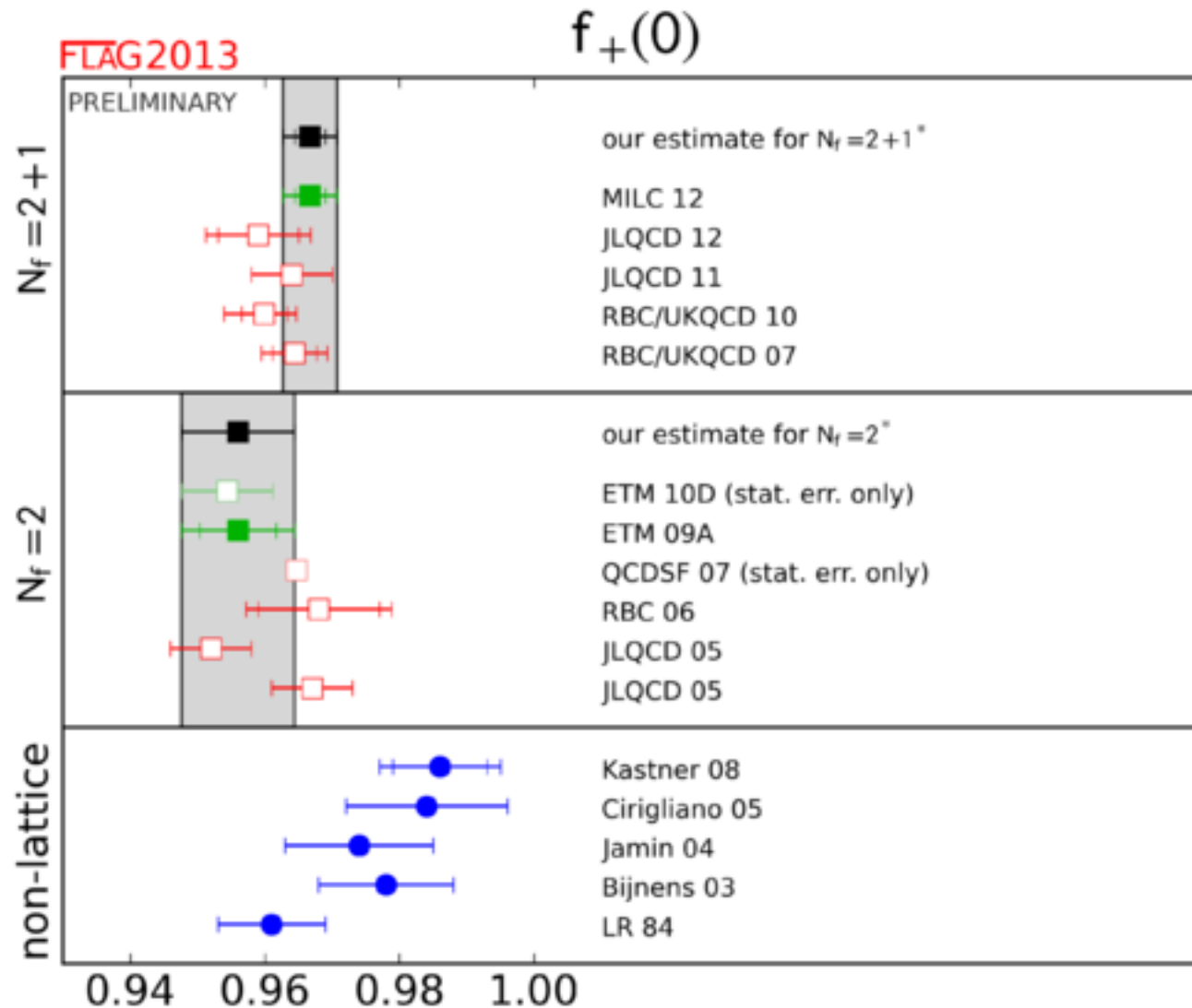
$$\Gamma(P \rightarrow P' \ell \nu) = \frac{G_F^2 M_P^5}{192\pi^3} |V_{ij}|^2 [c_+(q^2) |f_+(q^2)|^2 + c_0(q^2) |f_0(q^2)|^2]$$





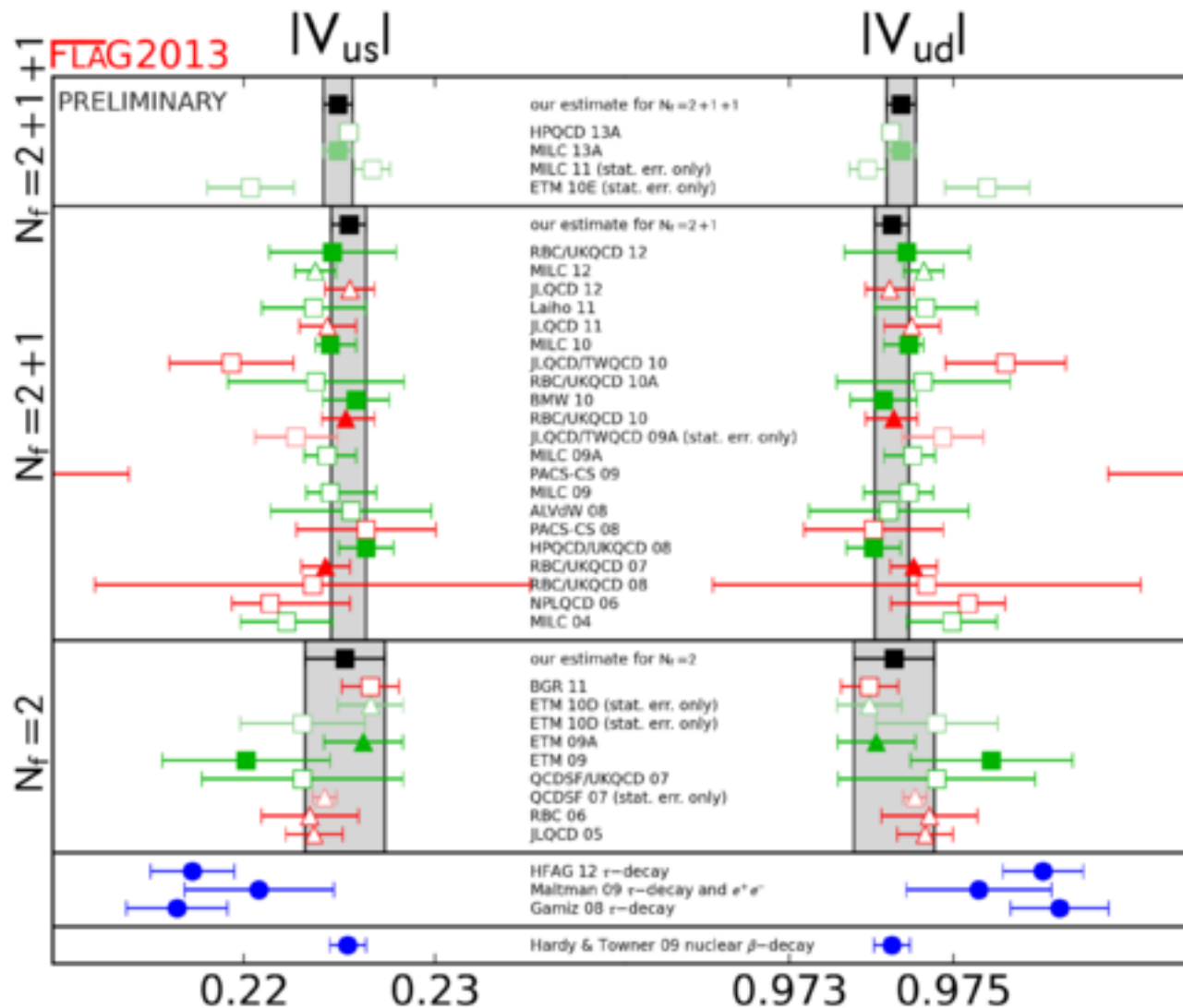
# flavour physics + fundamental parameters: CKM

$$\Gamma(P \rightarrow P' \ell \nu) = \frac{G_F^2 M_P^5}{192\pi^3} |V_{ij}|^2 [c_+(q^2) |f_+(q^2)|^2 + c_0(q^2) |f_0(q^2)|^2]$$



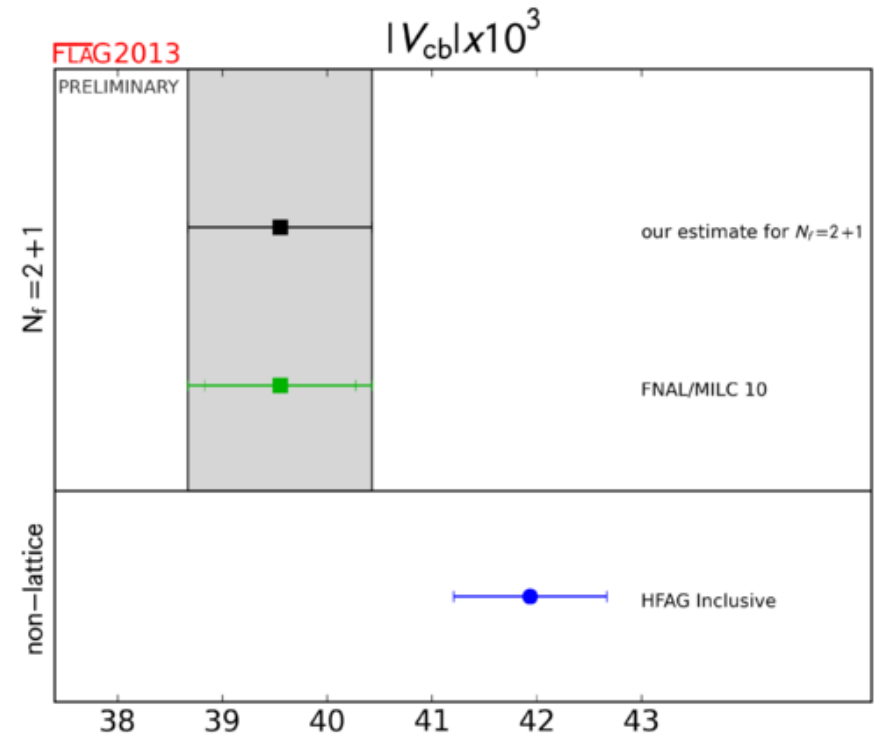
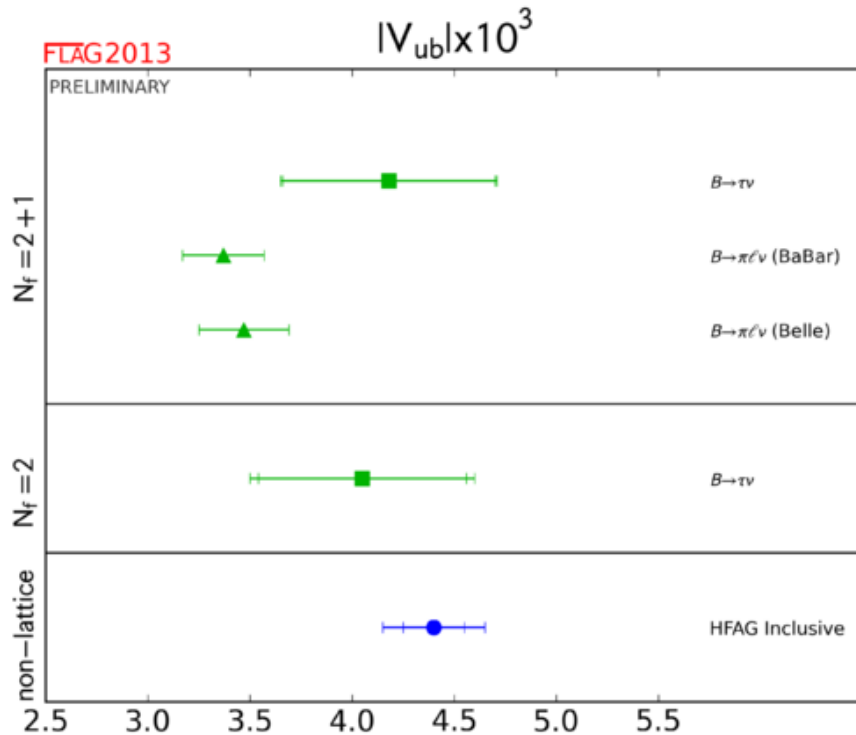
# flavour physics + fundamental parameters: CKM

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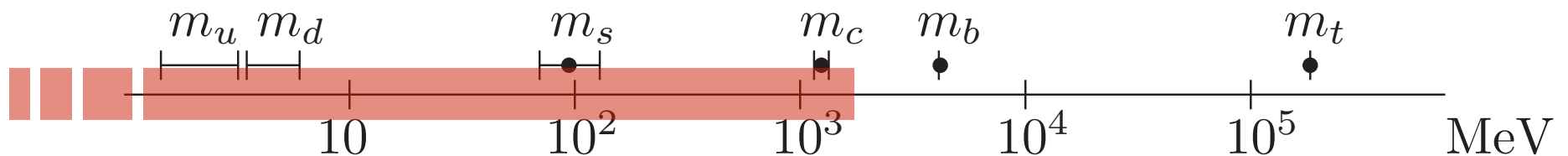


# flavour physics + fundamental parameters: CKM

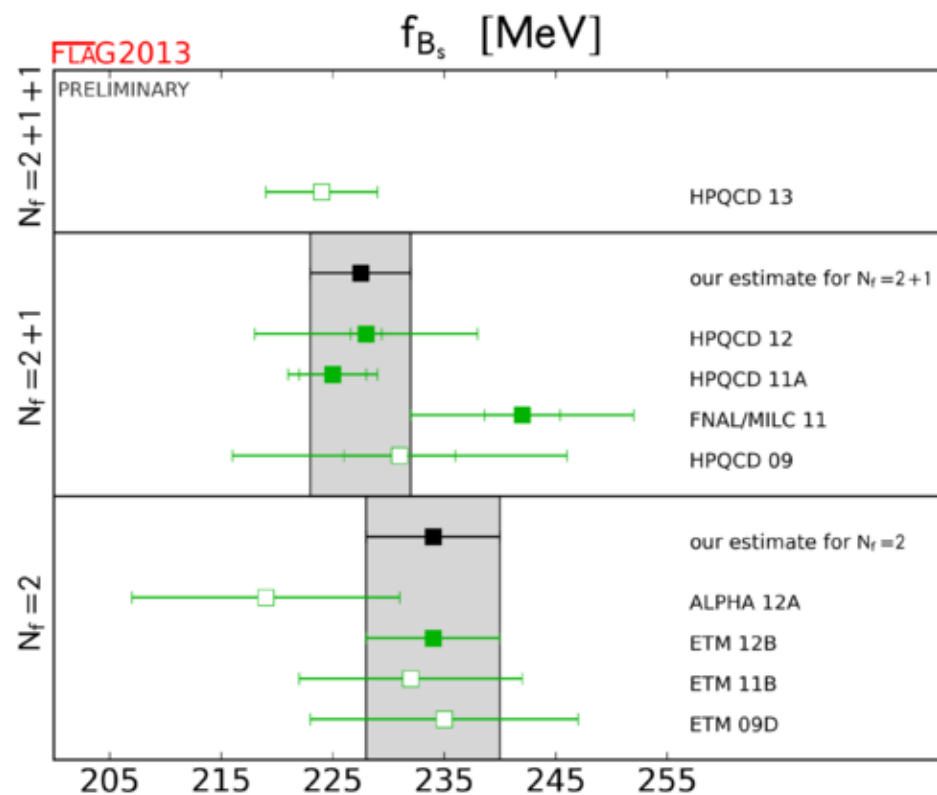
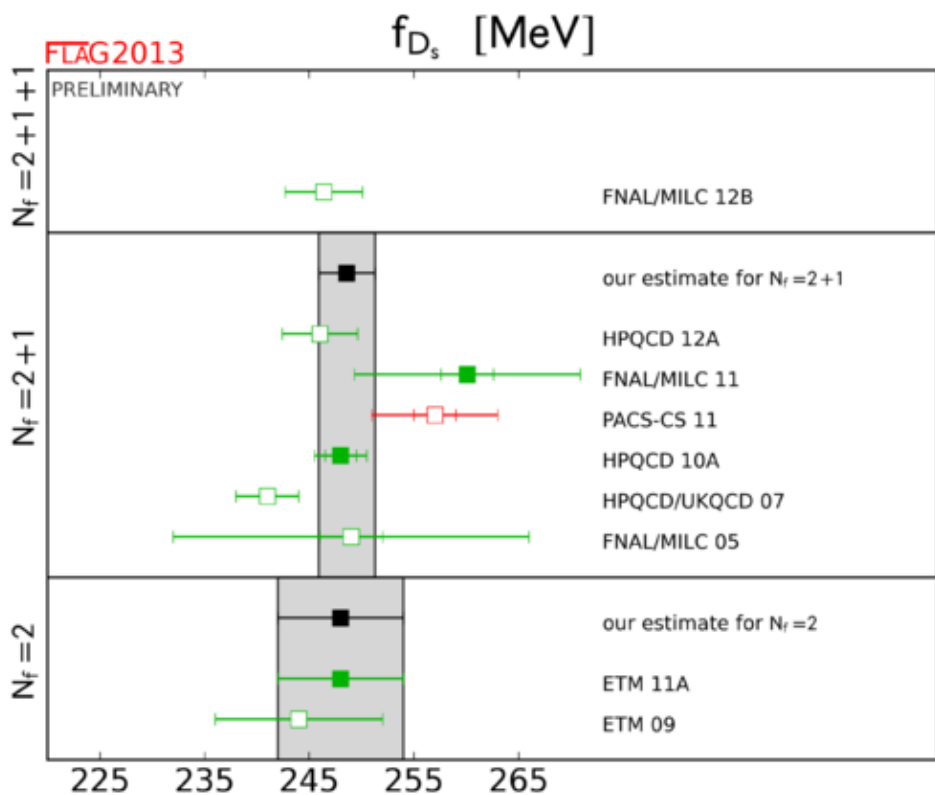
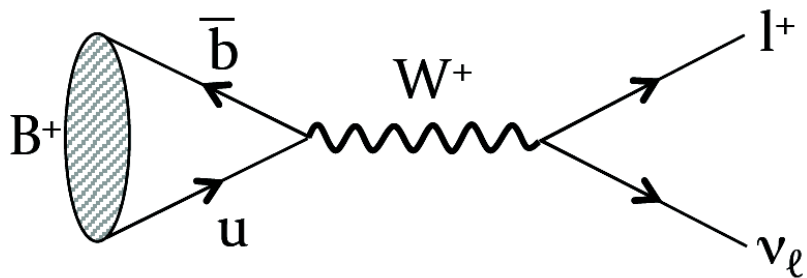
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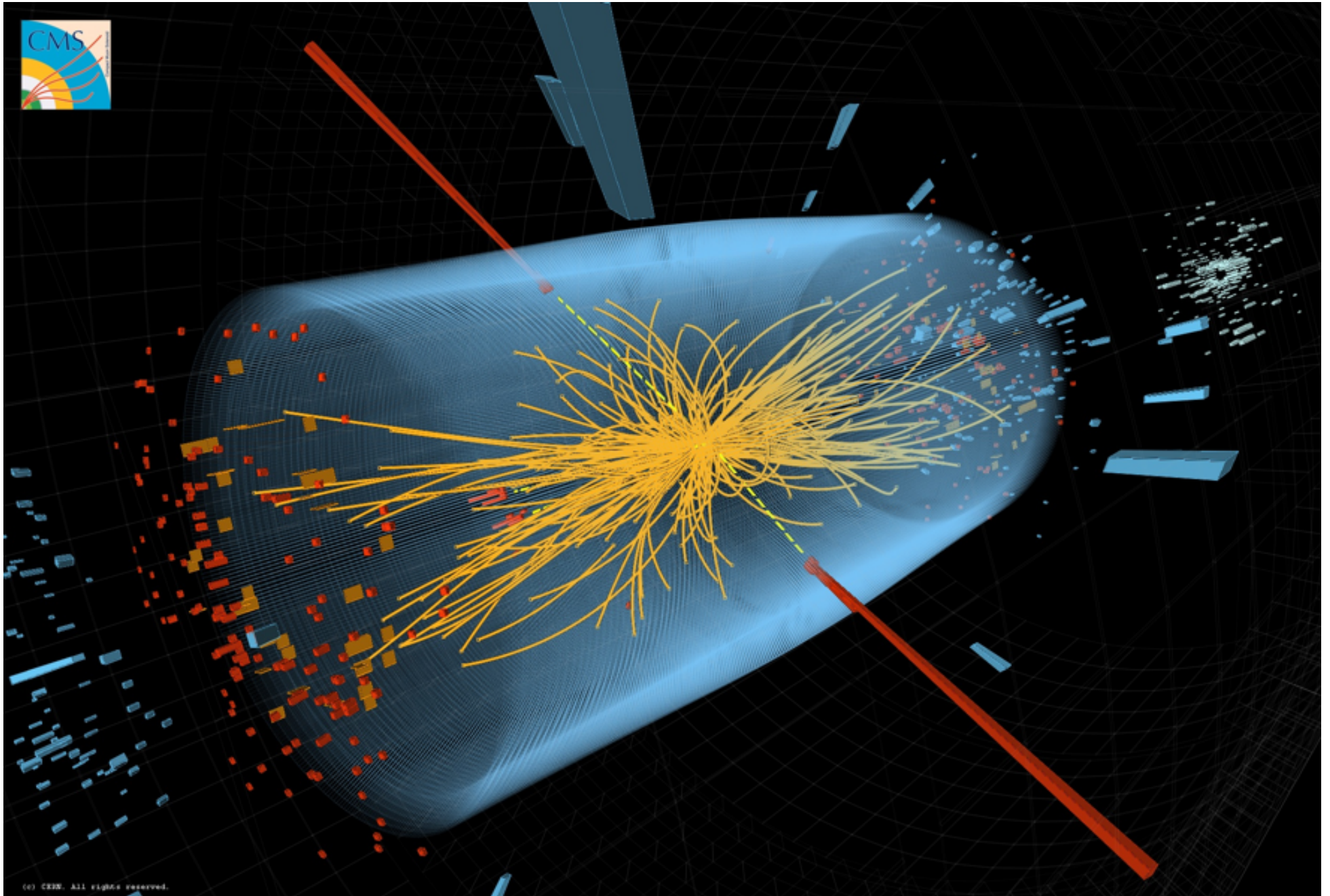
n.b.: computations involving heavy quarks still face several issues, are less developed than light physics counterparts



# heavy quark dynamics: decay constants

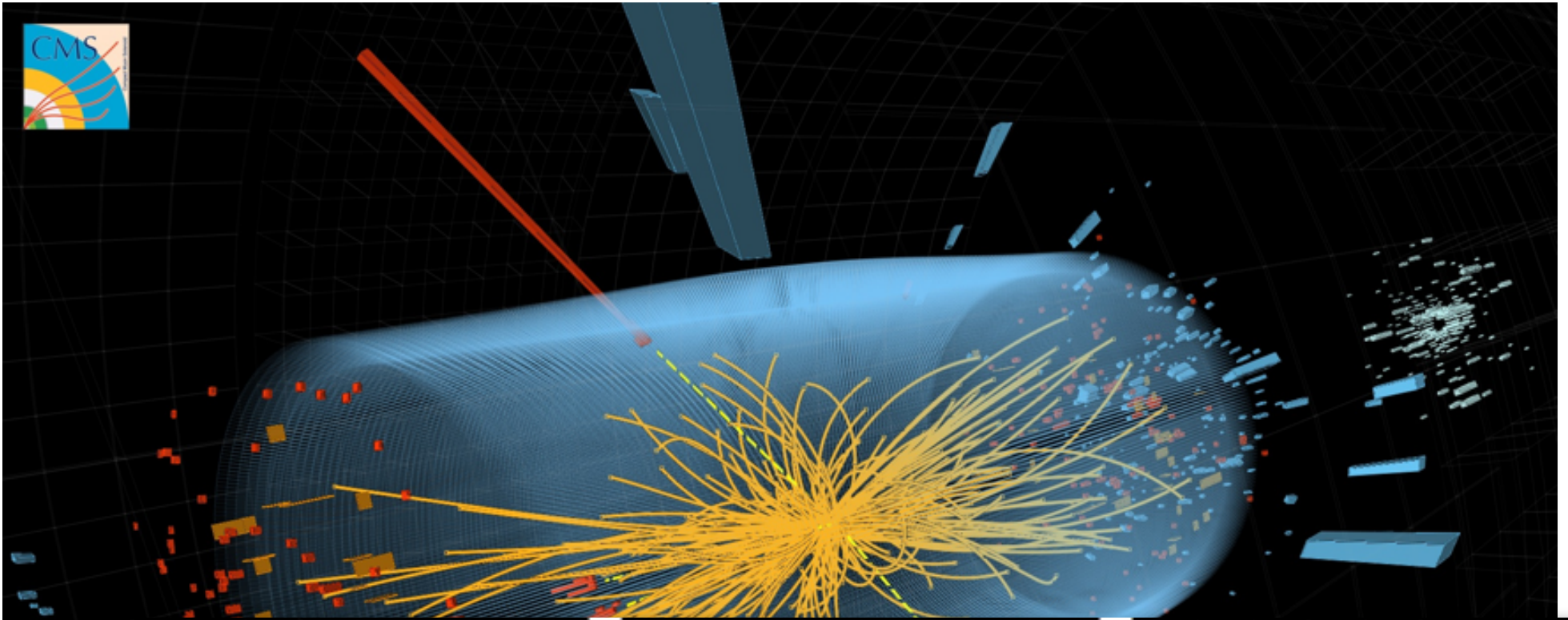


# beyond QCD

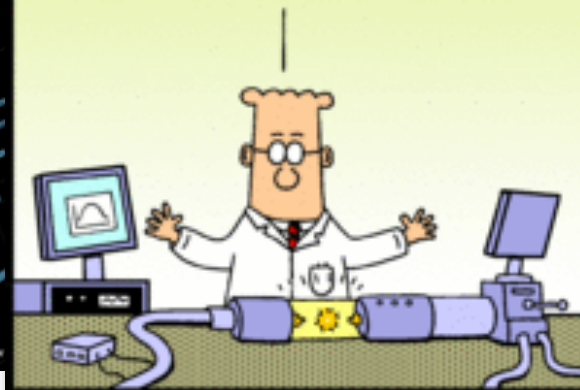




# beyond QCD



**GASP!**  
I'VE FOUND THE  
HIGGS BOSON!



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

**BUILD  
AN ARK!**



2-21-12 ©2012 Scott Adams, Inc. /Dist. by Universal Uclick

NOTHING  
BUT TROUBLE.



# electroweak symmetry breaking

two classes of models:

- EW symmetry broken by **weakly coupled** scalar field(s):
  - without SUSY (hierarchy problem);
  - with SUSY (natural, but plethora of soft-breaking parameters);
  
- EWSB degrees of freedom are actual Nambu-Goldstone bosons:
  - **immediately connects EWSB and flavour**;
  - dynamics necessarily **strongly coupled**.

Emphasis biased because of technical difficulties posed by strongly coupled dynamics.

**May the success story of lattice QCD make up for that?**

# strong electroweak symmetry breaking

- technicolour
- composite Higgs

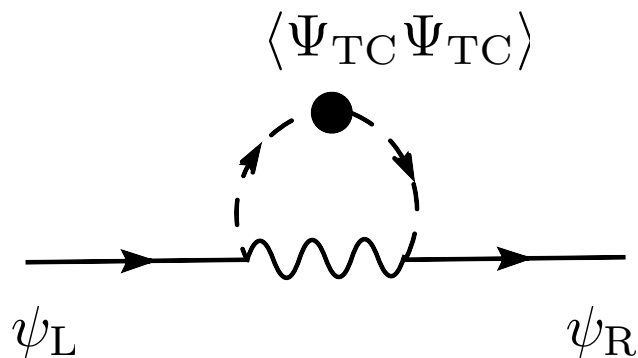
Chiral SSB in QCD provides qualitatively correct mechanism for W mass generation:

$$\text{wavy line} \times \text{---} \overset{\pi}{\text{---}} \text{---} \times \text{wavy line} \quad \longrightarrow \quad M_W \approx \frac{g f_\pi}{2} \simeq 29 \text{ MeV}$$

Postulate super-strong interaction with  $f_\pi \sim 250 \text{ GeV}$ .

[Weinberg, Susskind 1979]

flavour:



$$m_q \sim \frac{\Sigma_{TC}}{M_X^2} \sim \frac{\Sigma_{TC}}{f_{TC}^2}$$

mixing ( $\subset$  FCNC)

[Dimopoulos et al. 1979; Eichten et al. 1980]



# strong electroweak symmetry breaking

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## LATTICE GAUGE THEORIES AT THE ENERGY FRONTIER

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(Dated: February 11, 2013)

### Abstract

This White Paper has been prepared as a planning document for the Division of High Energy Physics of the U. S. Department of Energy. Recent progress in lattice-based studies of physics beyond the standard model is summarized, and major current goals of USQCD research in this area are presented. Challenges and opportunities associated with the recently discovered 126 GeV Higgs-like particle are highlighted. Computational resources needed for reaching important goals are described. The document was finalized on February 11, 2013 with references that are not aimed to be complete, or account for an accurate historical record of the field.

extremely active field, providing crucial input for the understanding of Higgs physics

# conclusions

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- (a large part of) QCD in the hadronic regime tamed by the lattice
- essential tool in several studies at the frontier of particle physics
  - understand hadron dynamics
  - study flavour physics
  - explore dynamics underlying EWSB and the flavour sector
- challenges for the immediate future
  - does new physics appear in flavour?
  - is dynamical EWSB compatible with LHC findings? does it offer room to understand flavour?