Recent Progress on the Hadronic Vacuum Polarization Contribution from RBC/UKQCD



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Orsay, 10th September, 2025

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RBC/UKQCD Roadmap (1/2)

- 2018: First QCD+QED calculation of all components with total uncertainty of $\delta a_{\mu}^{\rm HVP}=19\times 10^{-10};$ introduced windows [Blum et al., PRL121(2018)022003]
- 2023: Update QCD+QED intermediate distance window to uncertainty of 0.8×10^{-10} and light-quark connected short-distance window to 0.7×10^{-10} [Blum et al., PRD108(2023)054507]
- 2024: Scrutinize continuum-limit of light-quark connected short-distance window (consistent result, consolidate at 0.7×10^{-10}) [Spiegel, Lehner, arxiv:2410.17053; PRD111(2025)114517]
- 2024: First calculation of light-quark connected long-distance window; reduced uncertainty of light-quark connected isospin symmetric result to 5×10^{-10} [Blum et al., arxiv:2410.20590; PRL134(2025)201901]
- ullet Target: $1.5 imes 10^{-10}$ total uncertainty to match FNAL E989

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RBC/UKQCD Roadmap (2/2)

- Next (2025/26): reduce uncertainty of quark-disconnected and QED+SIB corrections; aim at target precision for all components apart from the long-distance isospin symmetric window
- 1.9.2025: Long-distance reconstruction of QED corrections to the HVP [Lehner, Parrino, Völklein,

arxiv:2508.21685]

→ Talk by Christoph Lehner

Long-distance reconstruction of QED corrections to the hadronic vacuum polarization for the muon g-2

C. Lehner, ¹ J. Parrino, ¹ and A. Völklein ¹

¹ Fakultät für Physik, Universität Regensbury, Universitätsstraße 31, 93040 Regensbury, Germany (Datel: September 1, 2025)

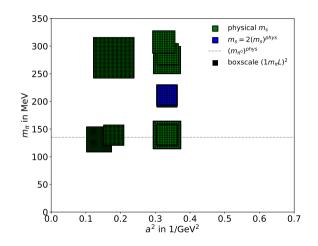
- XX.9.2025: Isospin-breaking effects in inclusive hadronic τ data for the muon (g-2) from first principles \to Talk by Mattia Bruno
- Focus of this talk: Calculation of isospin breaking correction to the HVP

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Ensemble overview

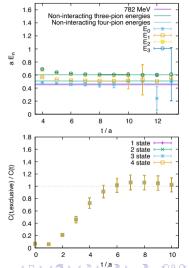
- $N_f = 2 + 1$ Möbius domain wall ensembles
- 4 ensembles at physical pion mass in use so far
- Ensembles up to volumes of $m_{\pi}L \approx 8$; also new physical pion ensemble with $L^3 = (11 \text{fm})^3$
- Generation of new finer physical pion mass ensemble ($128^3 \times 288$): $a^2 \text{ GeV}^2 = 0.08$ and $m_{\pi}L = 4.9$; see talk by Christoph at KEK workshop



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Quark-disconnected reconstruction

- Reconstruct long-distance contribution again exactly from the finite-volume exclusive state contributions.
- Relate disconnected contribution to I=0: $C^{I=0}=(Q_u+Q_d)^2(c/2-d),\ C^{I=1}=(Q_u-Q_d)^2c/2$ \Rightarrow $C^{\mathrm{conn}}=(Q_u^2+Q_d^2)c,$ $C^{\mathrm{disc}}=(Q_u+Q_d)^2(-d)=C^{I=0}-C^{\mathrm{conn}}/10$ with connected (c) and disconnected (d) diagram.
- ullet Study three-pion operators with lowest momenta; ω state seems to dominate strongly over three-pion FV states
- Status: complete data generation over ensembles; then: blind analysis with multiple analysis groups



Tadpole fields

For quark-disconnected diagram (d) but also for many QED diagrams, we need estimators
of the tadpole field

$$T_x^{(f)} = \langle \psi_f(x) \bar{\psi}_f(x) \rangle$$

with quark flavor $f \in \{u, d, s\}$.

- Employ method of our first quark-disconnected physical pion mass paper [Blum et al., PRL116(2016)232002]:
 - Compute $T^{(ud)} T^{(s)} = T^{(ud,low)} + T^{(ud,high)} T^{(s)}$ with $T^{(ud,high)} = T^{(ud)} T^{(ud,low)}$
 - Use multi-grid Lanczos [Clark, Jung, Lehner, arxiv:1710.06884] to compute exact low-mode field $T_x^{(ud,low)}$ over 2000-5000 lowest preconditioned Dirac modes
 - Estimate $T^{(ud,high)} T^{(s)}$ using a random sparse Z_2 grid

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Isospin breaking corrections: Scheme definition

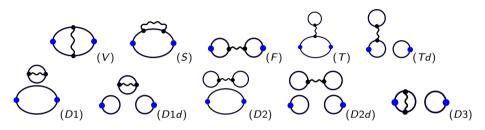
- Use RM123 approach: Exapnd around isospin symmetric QCD
- Parameters for $N_f = 1 + 1 + 1$: $\mathbf{g} = (g_s, m_u, m_d, m_s, \alpha_{OFD})$
- Use physical hadron mass shifts masses to set scale PDG 2024 [PhysRevD.110.030001]

$$m_{\pi^0} = 134.9768(5) \text{ MeV},$$
 $m_{K^0} = 497.611(13) \text{ MeV},$ $m_{K^0} - m_{K^+} = 3.9340(2) \text{ MeV},$ $m_{\Omega} = 1672.45(29) \text{ MeV}$

• Electromagnetic coupling does not renormalize at leading order

$$(\alpha_{\text{QED}})^{-1} = 137.035999177(21)$$

Computational strategy: Wick contractions



- For Wick contractions: Lattice operator toolkit (http://github.com/jparrino/lotk, see Backup)
- Names (V,S,...) refer to topology without minus sign, charge- or symmetryfactor

$$G^{1\gamma^*}(z) = 2\pi\alpha_{\text{QED}} \left\{ -\frac{17}{81} (2V + 4S) + \frac{25}{81} (2F + D1) + \frac{7}{81} (4T + 4D3) - \frac{5}{81} (4T_d + D1_d + D2) + \frac{1}{81} (D2_d) \right\}$$

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Lattice QCD implementation using gpt library (http://github.com/lehner/gpt)

We need to calculate correlators of type

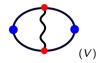
$$\int_{x,y} G_{\nu\rho}(x,y) \langle \pi^+(\boldsymbol{\rho},t) | T\{j_{\nu}^{em}(y)j_{\rho}^{em}(x)\} | \pi^-(\boldsymbol{\rho},0) \rangle_{QCD}$$

$$\supset \int_{x,y,z} G_{\nu\rho}(x,y) \Big\langle \operatorname{Tr} \Big[\gamma_5 S(z,x) \gamma_\rho S(x,(\mathbf{0},t)) \gamma_5 S((\mathbf{0},t),y) \gamma_\nu S(y,z) \Big] \Big\rangle_U = \bigcup_{(V)} (V)$$

- Challenge: $V^2 \times L^3$ sum has to be computed
- Calculating all-to-all propagators is not feasible
 - → RBC/UKQCD approach: Evaluate integrals stochastically

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- Propagators are calculated on stochastic subset of points (Introduced in calculation of hadronic light-by-light contribution [Blum et al., arxiv:1510.07100])
- Propagator from N source points to M sink points are saved on disc
- No extra inversion needed to calculate diagram
- Can be contracted with different versions of the photon propagator

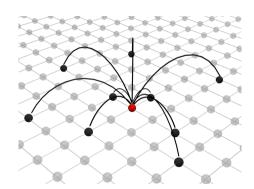
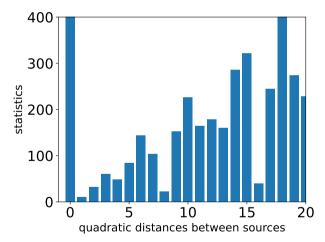


Fig. 1: Propagator for (red) source point to several (black) sink points

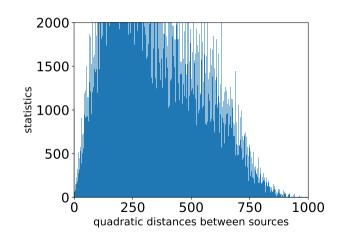
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- Histogram of point source separations on $24^3 \times 48$ ensemble
- Zero-distance is sampled with high statistics
- $O(10^3)$ source positions
- $O(10^6)$ sink positions
- Number of points to sample from can be chosen on the fly



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- Histogram of point source separations on 24³ × 48 ensemble
- Short-distance regime with more statistics
- $O(10^3)$ source positions
- $O(10^6)$ sink positions
- Number of points to sample from can be chosen on the fly



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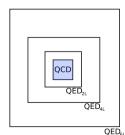
Computational strategy: Photon propagator

To address systematic uncertainties, consider several photon regularizations:

• QED
$$_L$$
 [Hayakawa et al., arxiv:0804.2044]:] $G(x,y) = \sum_{k \in (rac{2\pi}{L}\mathbb{Z})^4} rac{e^{ik(x-y)}}{(2\pi)^4} rac{1}{\hat{k}^2} (1-\delta_{\pmb{k},0})$

• QED
$$_r$$
 [Di Carlo et al., arxiv:2501.07936]: $G(x,y) = \sum_{k=rac{2\pi n}{L}, n\in\mathbb{Z}} rac{e^{ik(x-y)}}{(2\pi)^4} rac{(1+\delta_{|m{n}|,1}/6)}{\hat{k}^2} (1-\delta_{m{k},0})$

- ullet QED $_{\infty}$: [Blum et al., arxiv:1801.07224] $G(x,y)=\int_{-\pi}^{\pi}rac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4}rac{1}{\hat{k}^2}e^{ikx}$
 - Use subsequent version of QED_L
 - E.g. QED_{2L},QED_{4L}, QED_{6L}, QED_{NL}
 - Ensures same UV-behaviour
 - Take the limit $N \to \infty$

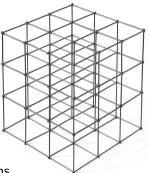


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Crosschecks: Reference implementation

Crosscheck for implementation

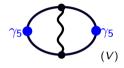
- Do calculation on $4^3 \times 8$ box
- Compute exact all-to-all propagators
- One gauge configuration
- Full statistics $< 4GB \rightarrow can be run on laptop$
- Simple implementation of all diagrams using Numpy code
- Check for all operator insertions and photon implementations
- Crosscheck implementation of stochastic sampling for all diagrams



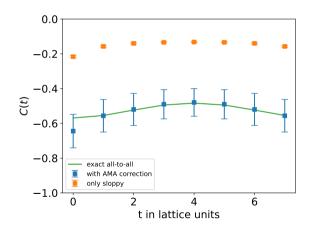
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Crosschecks: Reference implementation

Crosscheck diagram V for QED_L



- Between reference implementation and lattice QCD code using gpt [http://github.com/lehner/gpt]
- Intentionally large AMA correction to check for correctness
- Statistical error from point-sources sampling



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Crosschecks: Reference implementation

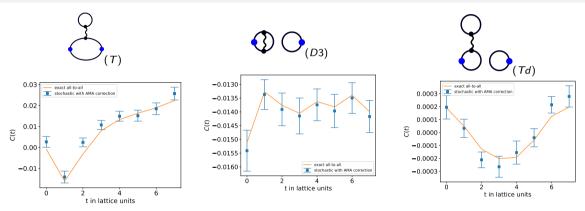


Fig. 2: (T) in QED_{4L} for $(\gamma_3\gamma_5, \gamma_5)$

Fig. 3: (D3) in QED_{6L} for (γ_2, γ_2)

Fig. 4: (Td) in QED_r for (γ_1, γ_1)

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• For all 14 diagrams, checks have been performed for several external operator insertions and implementations of the photon propagator

Preliminary results: Pion mass shift

- $24^3 imes 48$ ensemble at $m_\pi = 275$ MeV
- ullet Extract mass shift $\Delta m_\pi = m_{\pi^+} m_{\pi^0}$ from fit to

$$\frac{e^2}{2}(q_u-q_d)^2 \frac{ \bigcirc_{(V)} - \bigcirc_{(F)}}{ \bigcirc_{(V)}}$$

• Obtained Δm_π with $\sim 2\%$ uncertainty

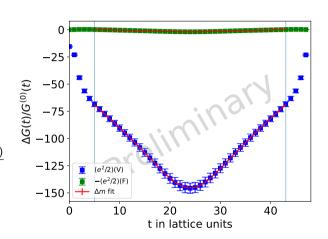


Fig. 5: Pion mass shift in QED_L

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Preliminary results: Kaon mass shift

• Extract mass shift $\Delta m_K = m_{K^+} - m_{K^0}$ from fit to

$$e^{2}(q_{u}^{2}-q_{d}^{2}) \underbrace{\bigcirc_{(V)} - \bigcirc_{(S)}}_{(V)}$$

$$+e^{2}(q_{u}-q_{d}) \sum_{f} q_{f} \underbrace{\bigcirc_{(T)}}_{(M)}$$

$$-(m_{d}-m_{u}) \underbrace{\bigcirc_{(M)}}_{(M)}$$

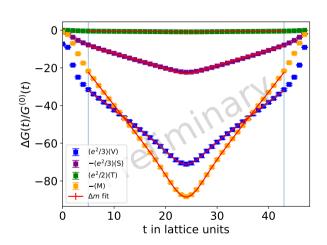


Fig. 6: Kaon mass shift in QED_L

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Preliminary results: HVP integrand

• HVP integrand for diagram V on $24^3 \times 48$ ensemble at $m_\pi = 275$ MeV

$$\tilde{f}(t, m_{\mu}) \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \gamma_{i}$$

For now: Use blinded HVP kernel

$$\tilde{f}(t,m_{\mu})=t^4$$

Good signal to noise ratio

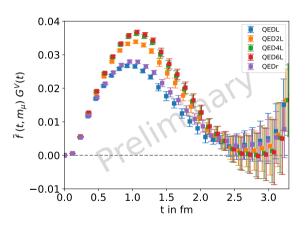


Fig. 7: Integrand for the EM contribution to the HVP (diagram V)

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Preliminary results: Connected contribution

- Connected contribution in QED_L with blinded kernel
- Tail is affected by signal-to-noise problem
 - → Use long-distance reconstruction (Christoph Lehners Talk)

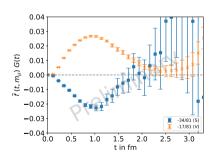


Fig. 8: Fully connected diagrams





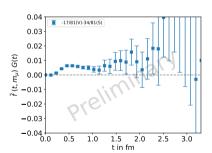
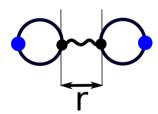


Fig. 9: Combined contribution

Preliminary results: Diagram F

- Contribution from diagram F is finite
- For QED_L, VEV subtraction not necessary, but useful for noise reduction
- Calculate diagram for several separations between internal vertices



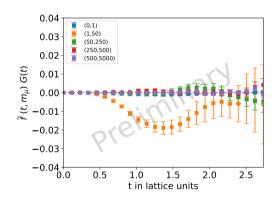


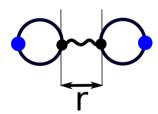
Fig. 10: Diagram F in QED_L for different separations (r_1^2, r_2^2)

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Preliminary results: Diagram F

- Contribution from diagram F is finite
- For QED_L, VEV subtraction not necessary, but useful for noise reduction
- Calculate diagram for several separations between internal vertices



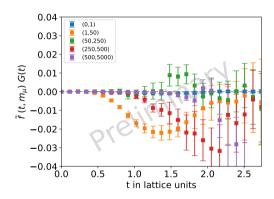


Fig. 11: Diagram F in QED_{6L} for different separations (r_1^2, r_2^2)

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Preliminary results: Diagram F

• Dominant part of $G^{1\gamma^*}(z)$ comes from

$$-\frac{17}{81}(V+2S)+\frac{25}{81}F$$

- Comparison between diagram F and connected (blinded kernel)
- Noise is comparable between (F) and (V)
- Strong cancellation between connected part and diagram F

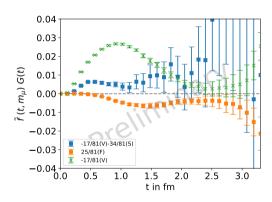


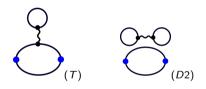
Fig. 12: Comparison of diagram F and connected contribution in QED_I

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Preliminary results: Tadpole diagrams

- Reuse tadpole fields from leading order disconnected calculation
- Tadpole diagrams T and D2



- Absolute size of tadpole contributions well below 1/10 of connected part
- Long-distance reconstruction can also be applied here

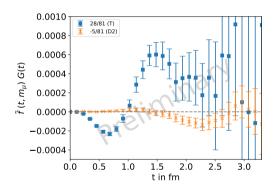
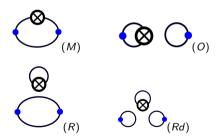


Fig. 13: Tadpole diagrams in QED_L

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Preliminary results: Strong isospin breaking

- Computation with scalar insertion
- Global fit with different valence masses



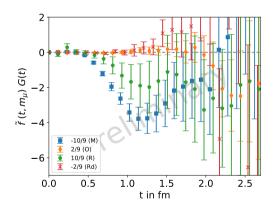
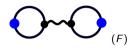


Fig. 14: Strong isospin breaking corrections

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• Computation of diagram F on two physical point ensembles, $m_{\pi}=139.32(30)$ MeV, $a^{-1}=1.7312(28)$ GeV

• With different physical volume, $m_{\pi}L = 3.9$ (48I), $m_{\pi}L = 5.2$ (Ca)

• Large finite-size effects for QED_L

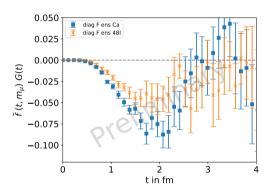


Fig. 15: QED,

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- Computation of diagram F on two physical point ensembles, $m_{\pi}=139.32(30)$ MeV, $a^{-1}=1.7312(28)$ GeV
- With different physical volume, $m_{\pi}L = 3.9$ (481), $m_{\pi}L = 5.2$ (Ca)
- Large finite-size effects for QEDL
- Finite-size effects reduced, when volume of QED box $L \to \infty$

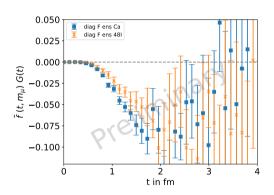


Fig. 16: QED_{2L}





- Computation of diagram F on two physical point ensembles, $m_{\pi}=139.32(30)$ MeV, $a^{-1}=1.7312(28)$ GeV
- With different physical volume, $m_{\pi}L = 3.9$ (481), $m_{\pi}L = 5.2$ (Ca)
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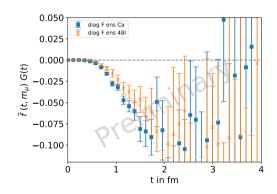


Fig. 17: QED_{4L}



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- Computation of diagram F on two physical point ensembles, $m_{\pi}=139.32(30)$ MeV, $a^{-1}=1.7312(28)$ GeV
- With different physical volume, $m_{\pi}L = 3.9$ (481), $m_{\pi}L = 5.2$ (Ca)
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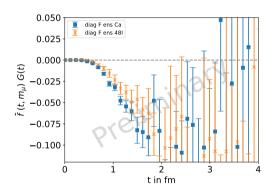


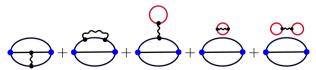
Fig. 18: QED_{6L}



Outlook

- Ongoing production of correlators on physical point ensembles with different lattice spacing for all diagrams
- Global analysis of <u>blindend</u> correlators and extrapolation to physical point defined by the $m_{\pi}, m_{K}, \Delta m_{K}, m_{\Omega}$
- ullet QED corrections to renormalization factor for local vector current Z_V

• QED corrections to Omega Baryon mass m_{Ω} for lattice scale setting



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Backup: Wick contractions

For Wick contractions: Lattice operator toolkit (http://github.com/jparrino/lotk)

- Lightweight easy to use symbolic manipulation of operators and contractions
- Operators are written in ASCII format
- Algebraic operations and simplifications
- Automatic generation of Wick contractions in LaTeX and graphically
- Algebraic operations and simplifications
- Can look at arbitrary quark charges, to study individual diagrams

```
import lotk
[...]

o1=kaonMinusOperator("x")

o2=kaonPlusOperator("y")

o3=2*o1*o2-o2*o1

print(o3.simplify())
```

Listing: $O^{K^-}(x)O^{K^+}(y)$ operator

Backup: Wick contractions

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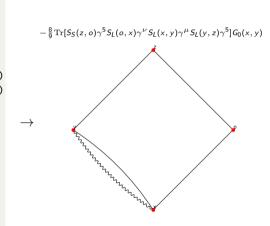
```
1 FACTOR 1.0 O.O
2 UBAR x
3 GAMMA 5
4 S x
5 SBAR y
6 GAMMA 5
7 U y
8
```

Listing: $O^{K^-}(x)O^{K^+}(y)$ operator

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Backup: Wick contractions

```
1 import lotk
2 [...]
3 import lotk.diagrams.toLatex as tl
4 import lotk.diagrams.drawDiagrams as dd
6 fourptf = kaonNeutralOperator("z")
     *vectorCurrent(["U","D","S"],"v","NU")
     *vectorCurrent(["U","D","S"],"x","MU")
8
     *kaonBarNeutralOperator("o")
     *photonPropagator("x", "y")
contraction = TraceContraction.contract(
     fourptf).simplify()
13 latex = tl.diagrams_to_latex(str(
     contraction[0]))
dd.generate_feynman_diagram(str(
     contraction[0]))
15
```

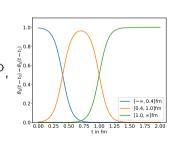


Backup: HVP contribution from lattice QCD

• Time-momentum representation, [Bernecker, Meyer, arxiv:1107.4388]

$$a_{\mu}^{ ext{hvp}} = \left(\frac{lpha}{\pi}\right)^2 \int_0^{\infty} dt \, f(t, m_{\mu}) \, \frac{1}{3} \sum_{m{x}} \sum_{i=1}^3 \langle j_i(m{x}, t) j_i(0)
angle$$

- ullet Vector current $j_{\mu}^{em}=i\Big(rac{2}{3}ar{u}\gamma_{\mu}u-rac{1}{3}ar{d}\gamma_{\mu}d+\dots\Big)$
- For window quantities $a_{\mu}^{\mathsf{hvp}} = (a_{\mu}^{\mathsf{hvp}})^{\mathsf{SD}} + (a_{\mu}^{\mathsf{hvp}})^{\mathsf{ID}} + (a_{\mu}^{\mathsf{hvp}})^{\mathsf{LD}}$, window function also depends on lattice scale





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Backup: QCD+QED: Electromagnetic corrections

• RM123 [Divitiis et al., arxiv:1303.4896] approach: Expand around isospin symmetric theory

$$\langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle_{QCD+QED} = \{O(z)\}\rangle_{QCD} + e^{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial e^{2}} \langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle_{QCD+QED} \Big|_{e^{2}=0} + O(e^{4})$$

$$= \langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle_{QCD}$$

$$-\alpha_{\text{EM}} 2\pi \int_{x,y} G_{\nu\rho}(x,y) \langle T\{O(z)j_{\nu}^{em}(y)j_{\rho}^{em}(x)\}\rangle_{QCD} + O(\alpha_{\text{EM}}^{2})$$

- ullet With photon propagator in Feynman gauge: $G_{
 u
 ho}(x,y)=\delta_{
 u
 ho}G(x,y)$
- ullet Strong isospin breaking corrections $(m_u
 eq m_d)$ are expressed via



$$\langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle_{m_f\neq\hat{m}} = \langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle_{m_f=\hat{m}} + (m_f - \hat{m})\frac{\partial}{\partial m_f}\langle T\{O(z)\}\rangle\Big|_{m_f=\hat{m}} + O((m_f - \hat{m})^2)$$

Backup: Finite volume correction

• Leading finite volume correction for charged pion mass in QED_L and QED_r ([Borsanyi et al., arxiv:1406.4088], [Di Carlo et al., arxiv:2501.07936])

$$\Delta m_{\pi}^2(L) = e^2 m_{\pi}^2 \left[\frac{c_2}{4\pi^2 m_{\pi} L} + \frac{c_1}{2\pi (m_{\pi} L)^2} - \frac{c_0}{(m_{\pi} L)^3} \left(\frac{\langle r_{\pi}^2 \rangle m_{\pi}^2}{3} + C \right) + O(\frac{1}{(m_{\pi} L)^4}) \right]$$

- With real coefficients c_0 , c_1 , c_2 from [Di Carlo et al., arxiv:2501.07936]
- For QED_r : $c_0 = 0$



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Backup: QCD+QED: Omega baryon

- Omega mass can be obtained from correlation function $\langle \Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu}(z) \Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu}(0) \rangle$ of the operator $\Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu} = \epsilon_{ijk} (s_i^T C \gamma_{\mu} s_j) s_k^{\alpha}$ [Blum et al. , arxiv:1411.7017]
- At leading order:

$$C^{(0)}(t) =$$

- Radiative corrections are small (previous electroquenched calculation by RBC/UKQCD in 2018 [Blum et al., arxiv:1801.07224])
- ullet Only composed of strange quarks o no strong isospin breaking corrections at leading order
- Challenge: Multiple operators are needed for control of excited states, but in practice doable



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Backup: QCD+QED: Omega baryon

- Omega mass can be obtained from correlation function $\langle \Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu}(z) \Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu}(0) \rangle$ of the operator $\Omega^{\alpha}_{\mu} = \epsilon_{ijk} (s_i^T C \gamma_{\mu} s_j) s_k^{\alpha}$ [Blum et al. , arxiv:1411.7017]
- Ongoing project: compute isospin breaking corrections including seaquark effects

$$C^{(1)} = e^2 \left(\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right) + \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right) + \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right)$$

• Extract first order effective mass from $\partial_t \frac{C^{(1)}(t)}{C^{(0)}(t)}$



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