Hadronic Light-by-Light contribution to a_μ using $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$ twisted mass ensembles

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Introduction

$g-2$: benchmark of precision physics [1]:

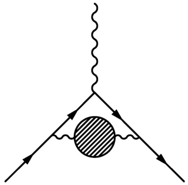
$$a_\mu^{\rm SM} = 116592033(62)\cdot 10^{-11}$$
$$a_\mu^{\rm exp} = 116592071.5(14.5)\cdot 10^{-11}$$

Hadronic contribution

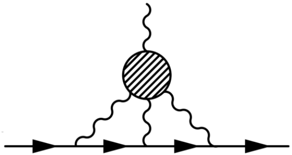
Main source of uncertainty coming from:

$$a_\mu^{\rm had} = a_\mu^{\rm HVP} + a_\mu^{\rm HLbL}$$

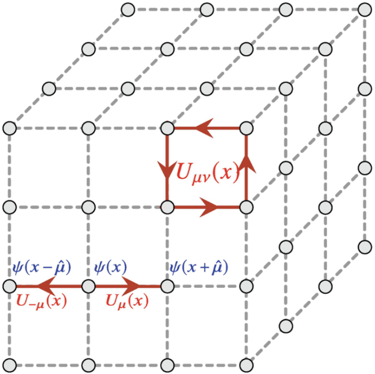
Hadronic Vacuum Polarization (HVP)



Hadronic Light by Light (HLbL)



Hadronic contribution from the lattice



$$S[U,\psi,\bar{\psi}] = S_{\rm YM}[U] + S_F[\psi,\bar{\psi},U]$$

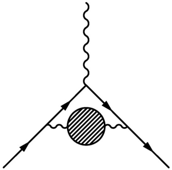
- $a_\mu^{\rm had}$ is led by non-perturbative effects.
- A lattice calculation provides a first-principles tool to perform the calculation
- Physical predictions are found by extrapolating to the continuum ($a \to 0$) and infinite volume ($V \to \infty$):

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}U\, O[U,\psi,\bar{\psi}]\, e^{-S[U,\psi,\bar{\psi}]}}{\int \mathcal{D}U e^{-S[U,\psi,\bar{\psi}]}}$$

Hadronic contribution from the lattice

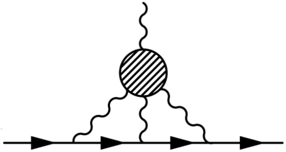
From the lattice we extract Vacuum Expectation Values and convolute them with QED kernels:

HVP



$\langle j_\mu(x) j_\nu(0) \rangle$

HLbL



$\langle j_\mu(x) j_\nu(y) j_\sigma(z) j_\lambda(0) \rangle$

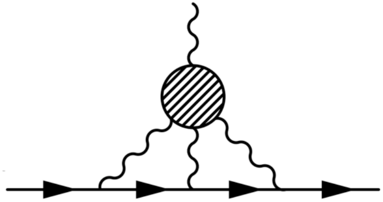
Steps of the calculation

- Integrate fermions, gauge links distributed as $\sim \prod_f \det(D_f)\, e^{-S_{\rm YM}}$
- Wick contractions and average over links configurations

Computational setup

Our lattice calculation of a_μ^{HLbL}:

- $N_f = 2+1+1$ dynamical flavors: $u = d = \ell$ (isospin symmetry) $+\ s$ and c quarks
- Quark masses tuned to the physical point
- Twisted mass fermions at maximal twist $\implies$ automatic $O(a)$-improvement of lattice artifacts
- Continuum extrapolation: $a[\mathrm{fm}] \approx 0.05 - 0.08$
- Volumes: $L[\mathrm{fm}] = 5.09 - 5.46$



Ensemble	a^{iso} [fm]	L [fm]
B64	0.07948(11)	5.09
C80	0.06819(14)	5.46
D96	0.056850(90)	5.46
E112	0.04892(11)	5.48

Master formula

The HLbL contribution is the convolution of a QED kernel with the 4-point polarization function [2] (Mainz group):

$$\boxed{a_\mu^{\mathrm{HLbL}} = \frac{m_\mu e^6}{3} \int d^4y \left[\int d^4x \, \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma]\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) \, i\Pi_{\rho\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x,y) \right] \,,}$$

where:

$$i\Pi_{\rho\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x,y) = \int d^4z \, (-z_\rho) \, \langle j_\mu(x) j_\nu(y) j_\sigma(z) j_\lambda(0) \rangle$$

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Features of the integrand

- $\mathcal{L} \cdot \Pi$ is a Lorentz scalar. We can fix a reference frame.
- The QED kernel is known. From the lattice we extract $i\Pi$.

$|y|$ integrand

Fixing the frame of reference

When integrating over x and y, what matters are $|x|$, $|y|$ and $c_\beta = \frac{x \cdot y}{|x||y|}$.

$\implies$ Direction $\hat{y}$ fixed, angular integration over Ω_y done exactly.

$$\boxed{a_\mu^{\mathrm{HLbL}} = \int_0^\infty d|y|\, f(|y|)}$$

$$f(|y|) = \frac{m_\mu e^6}{3} 2\pi^2 |y|^3 \int_x \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) \left[\int_z (-z_\rho) i\Pi_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) \right]$$

Sum over topologies (Wick contractions)

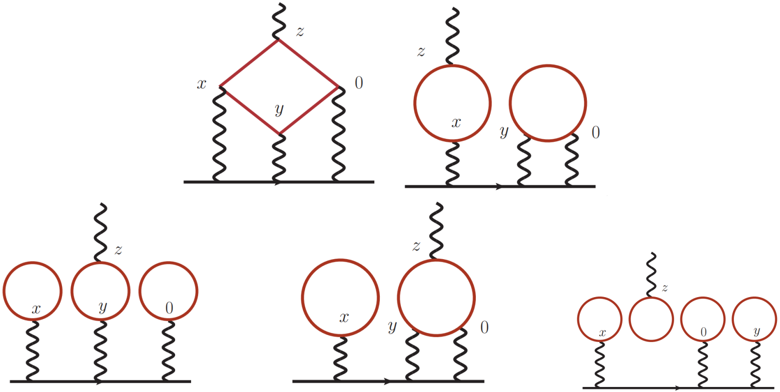
$$f(|y|) = \sum_{\mathrm{Topology}} f^{(\mathrm{Topology})}(|y|)$$

Topologies

Lattice calculation: Π is defined in terms of quark fields:

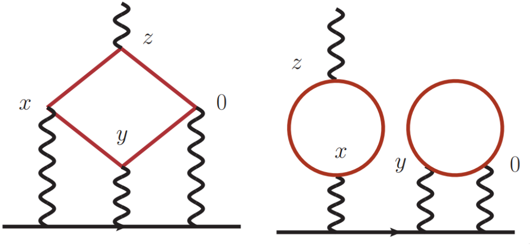
$$j_\mu(x) = \frac{2}{3}(\overline{u}\gamma_\mu u)(x) - \frac{1}{3}(\overline{d}\gamma_\mu d)(x) - \frac{1}{3}(\overline{s}\gamma_\mu s)(x) + \frac{2}{3}(\overline{c}\gamma_\mu c)(x) \quad (1)$$

The 4-point function results in 5 topologies of Wick contractions [3]:



Topologies hierarchy

We restrict to the leading contributions: **fully-connected** and $(\mathbf{2}+\mathbf{2})$.



Argument (contributions suppressed)

- At the $\mathrm{SU}_f(3)$ symmetric point, the last 3 topologies do not contribute.
- In the large N_c limit they are suppressed [3] + numerical evidence from the lattice [4] (RBC/UKQCD 2016) and [3] (Mainz 2021)

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Choice of the kernel

Kernel freedom

At $L \to \infty$ we can change the QED kernel by some irrelevant terms.

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda)}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) = \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu}(x_\alpha e^{-\Lambda m^2 x^2/2})\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\alpha\nu\lambda}(0,y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\nu}(y_\alpha e^{-\Lambda m^2 y^2/2})\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\alpha\lambda}(x,0)$$

Advantage for lattice calculation

- Data noisy at large $|y|$ + few $|y|$ values at coarse lattice spacing
- Ideal kernel: main contribution from intermediate $|y|$

$$f(|y|) = \frac{m_\mu e^6}{3} 2\pi^2 |y|^3 \int_x \bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda)}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) \left[\int_z (-z_\rho) i\Pi_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z)\right]$$

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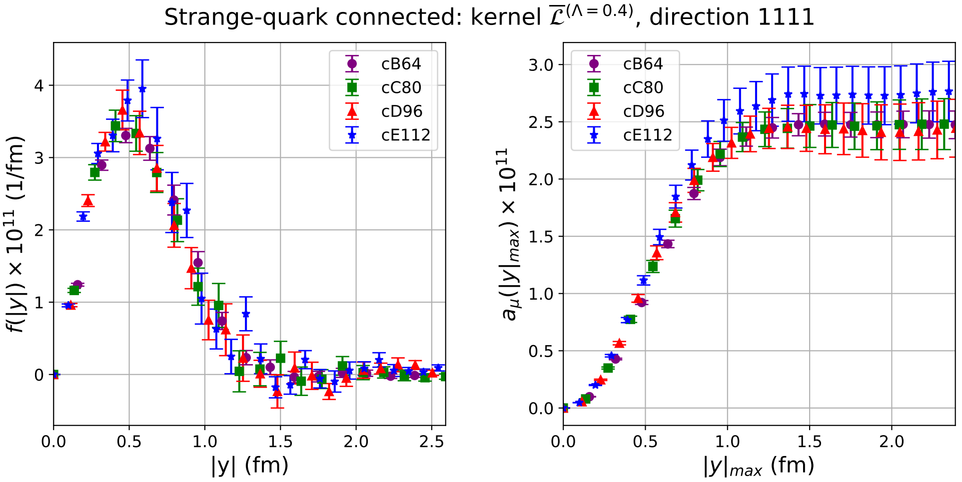
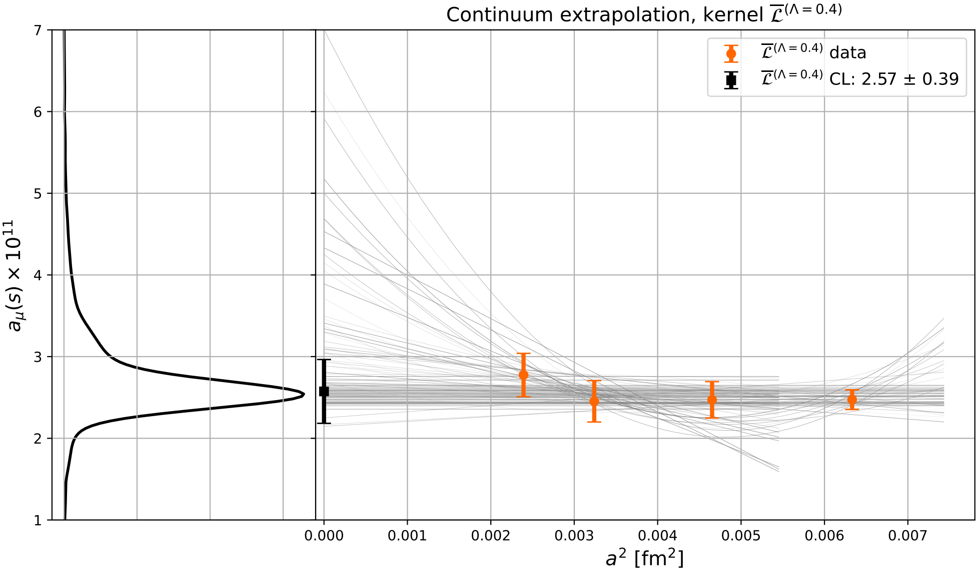
Strange contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$



Strange contribution: continuum extrapolation



Comments and comparison with other collaborations

	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(3)}$	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
$a_\mu^{\mathrm{HLbL},(4s)}$	2.37(45)	2.57(39)

- FVEs expected to be small, consistent with compatibility of the 2 kernels
- 2σ-compatibility with Ref. [5] (RBC/UKQCD collaboration):

$$a_\mu^{(4s),\mathrm{Ref.}\ [5]} = 3.530(70)_{\mathrm{stat}} \times 10^{-11}$$

- 2σ-compatibility with Ref. [6] (BMW collaboration):

$$a_\mu^{(4s),\mathrm{Ref.}\ [6]} = 3.694(17)_{\mathrm{stat}}(18)_{\mathrm{a}}(8)_{\mathrm{syst}} \times 10^{-11}$$

- Mainz collaboration: only [connected + (2+2)] available [1, 7]

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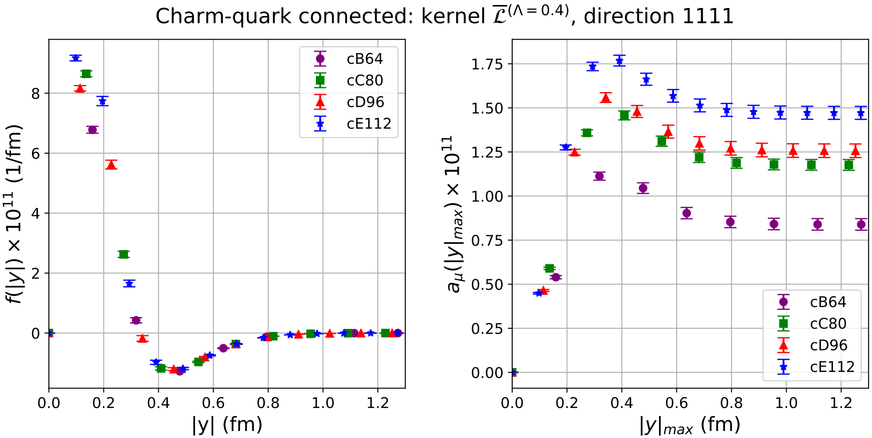
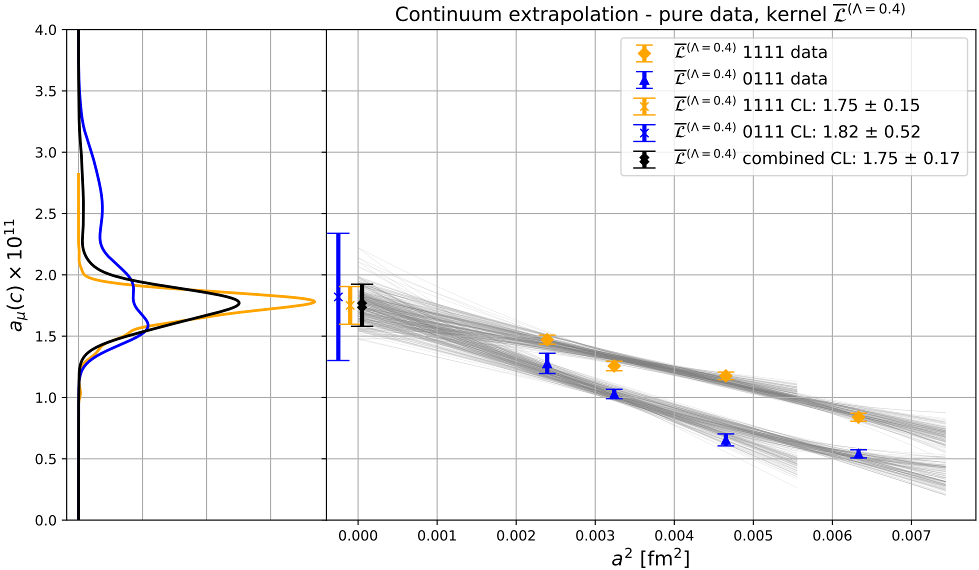
Charm contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$



Charm contribution: continuum extrapolation



Charm quark: improving the lattice artifacts

Subtracting the free-fermion loop contribution

We subtract the tree-level contribution as in Ref. [6] (BMW):

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL, lat}}(c) \to a_\mu^{\text{HLbL, lat}}(c) + \left[a_\mu^{\text{HLbL free, cont}}(c) - a_\mu^{\text{HLbL free,lat.}}(c)\right]$$

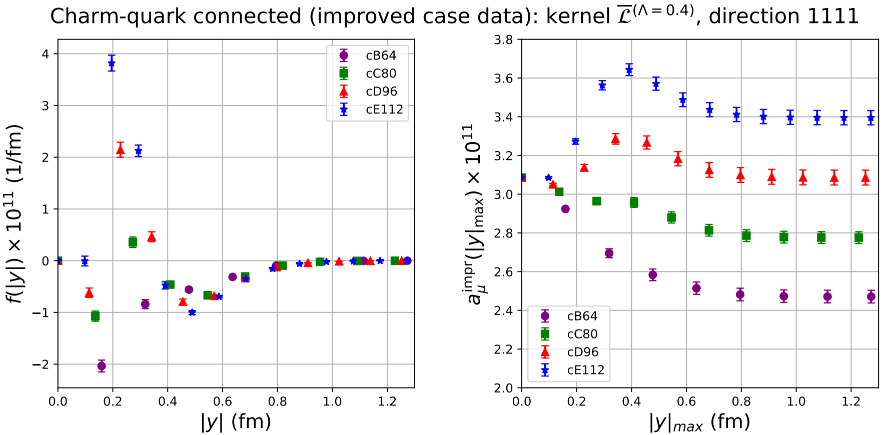
Setup

- Charm quark mass in the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme: $\overline{m}_c(\overline{m}_c) = 1.27$ GeV.
- Continuum value found by adapting the calculation of τ lepton loop (see Ref. [6]).
- Lattice free-quark loop curve found by turning off the strong interactions: $U_\mu(x) = \mathbb{1}$.

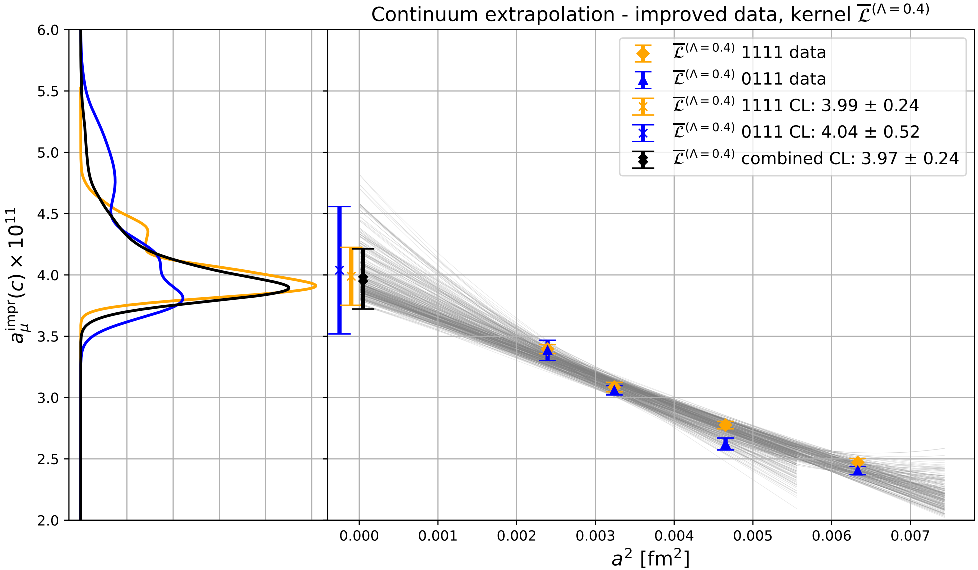
Final goal

Reduction of lattice artifacts → flatter continuum extrapolation

Charm quark: tree-level improved lattice artifacts, $\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$



Charm quark: tree-level improved continuum extrapolation



Charm contribution: tree-level improved version

Final result

	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(3)}$	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL, conn, improved}}(c)$	3.88(25)	3.97(24)

Comments and open points

- Compatibility with Ref. [6] (BMW collaboration):

$$a_\mu^{(c),\text{Ref. [6]}} = 3.916(12)_{\text{stat}}(20)_{\text{syst}}(72)_{\text{cont}}(250)_{\text{kernel}} \times 10^{-11}$$

- Comparison with Ref. [8] (Mainz/CLS collaboration) [w/o perturbative improvement]:

$$a_\mu^{(c),\text{Ref. [8]}} = 2.8(5) \times 10^{-11}$$

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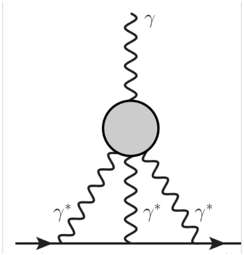
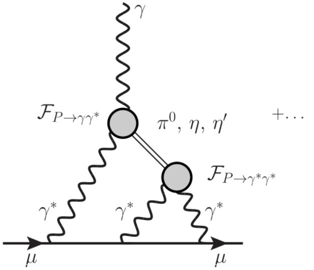
Light contribution and meson poles (cf. [9, 10])





Effective models

PQChPT: connection with Wick contractions [7] (Mainz collab.):

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL, conn.}}(|y|) \approx \frac{34}{9} a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},\pi^0}(|y|)$$

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},(2+2)}(|y|) \approx -\frac{25}{9} a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},\pi^0}(|y|) + a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},\eta}(|y|) + a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},\eta'}(|y|)$$

Pole contribution and Transition Form Factors

$$\Pi_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) = \Pi^{(1)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) + \Pi^{(2)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) + \Pi^{(3)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z)\,,$$

where, e.g., (see Refs [5, 6]):

$$\Pi^{(1)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) = -\int_{u,v} \widetilde{M}_{\mu\nu}(u,x,y)\left[\frac{e^{ipx}}{p^2+m_P^2}\right]\widetilde{M}_{\sigma\lambda}(v,z,0)\,,$$

$$\tilde{M}_{\mu\nu}(u,x,y) = -\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\,\partial_{x_\alpha}\partial_{y_\beta}\int_{q_1,q_2}\mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-q_1^2,-q_2^2)\,e^{iq_1(x-u)}e^{iq_2(y-u)}, \qquad (2)$$

Lattice calculation of VMD approximation

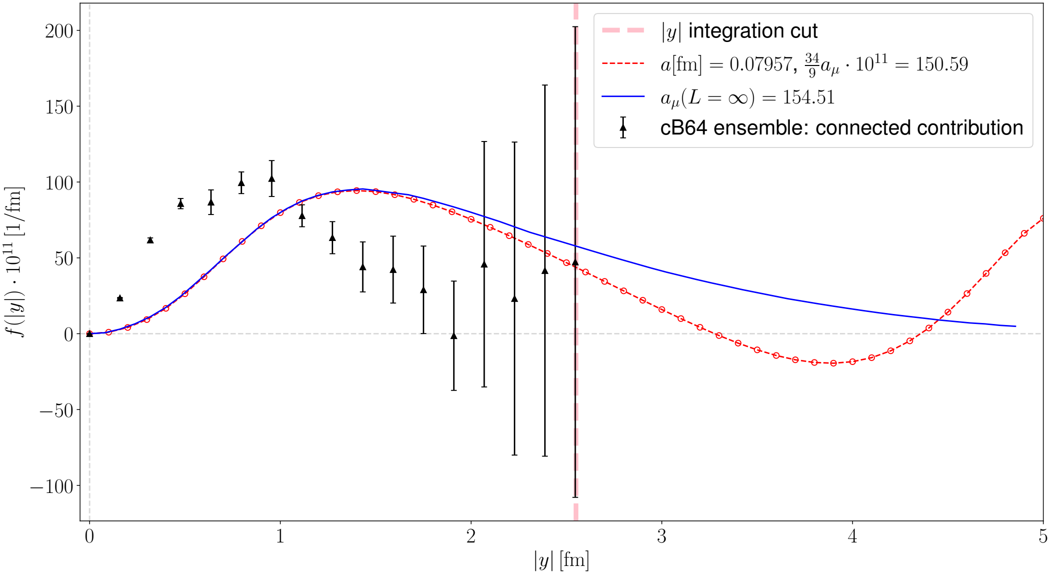
VMD parametrization

$$\mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-q_1^2, -q_2^2) = -\frac{N_c}{12\pi^2 F_\pi} \frac{M_V^4}{(q_1^2 + M_V^2)(q_2^2 + M_V^2)}$$

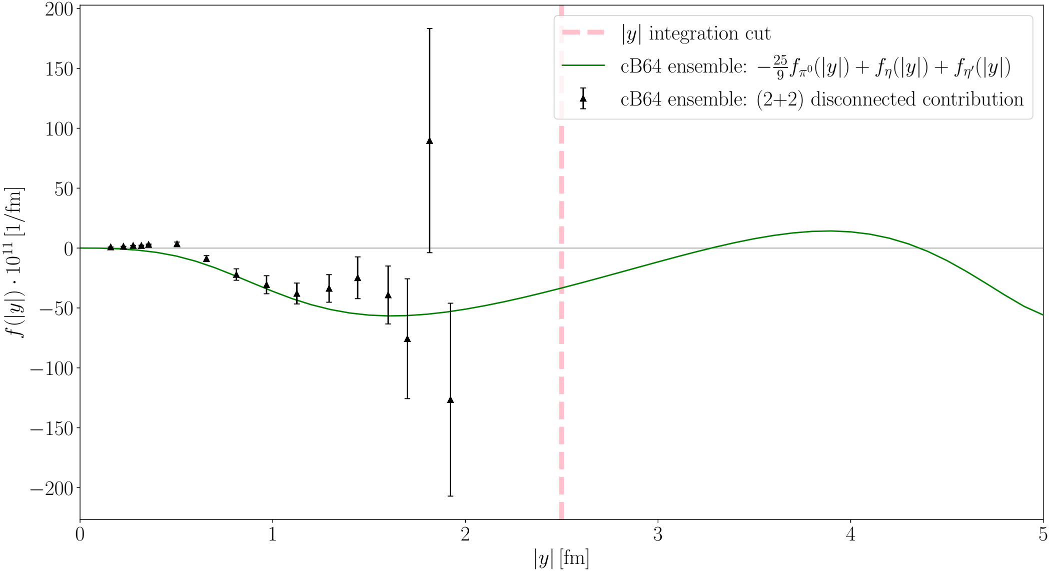
Lattice calculation: explicit sum over lattice points: $\int_w \to \sum_w$

$$\boxed{f(|y|) = \frac{m_\mu e^6}{3} 2\pi^2 |y|^3 \int_x \bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda)}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y) \left[\int_z (-z_\rho) i\Pi^{\mathrm{VMD}}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z) \right]}$$

Pole contribution VS lattice data: connected contribution



Pole contribution VS lattice data: 2+2 disconnected



Treating the tail of the integrand

High noise-to-signal ratio in the $|y|$ tail

- It seems we cannot use the π^0 pole
- *Workaround*: similarly to Ref. [7] (Mainz), we replace the tail with the ansatz:

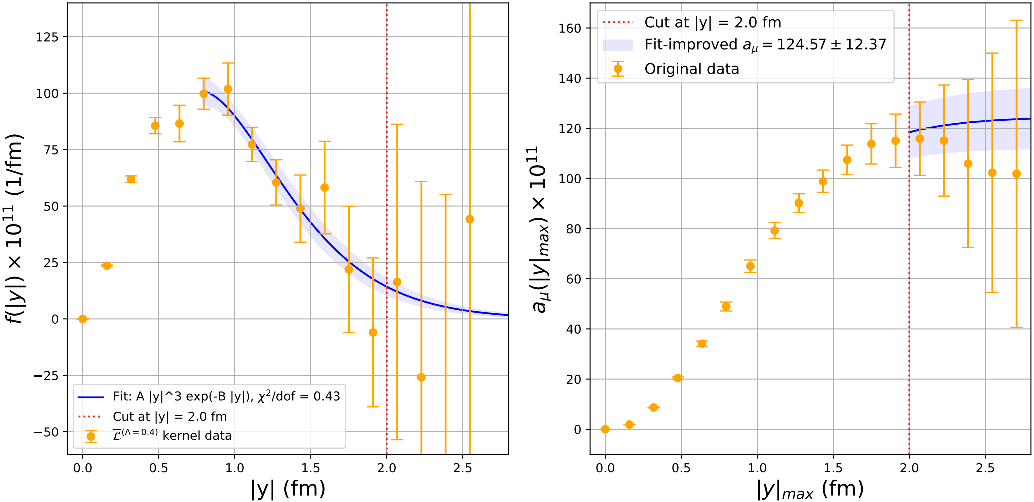
$$A|y|^3 e^{-B|y|} \tag{3}$$

A, B are free parameters of a fit to the tail data.

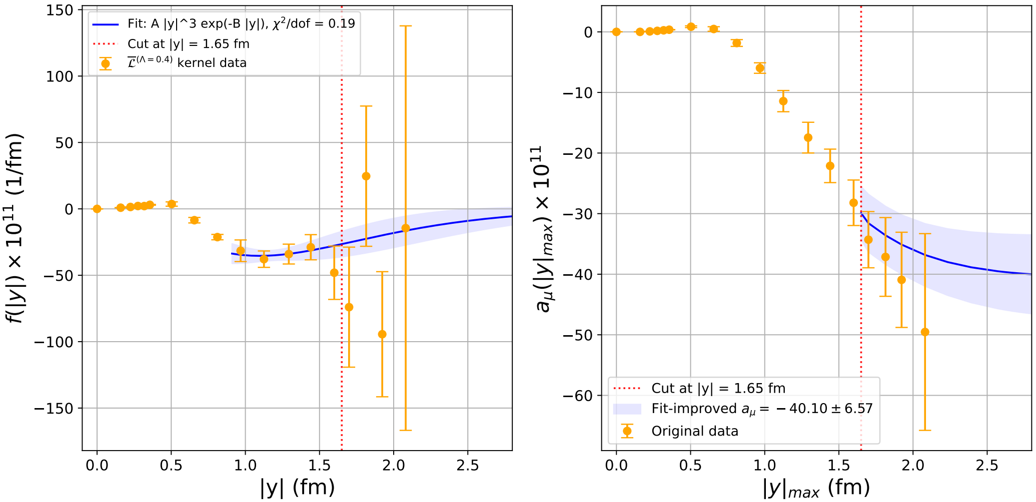
Steps of the calculation

1. Choose the values $|y|_{\text{fit}}$ and $|y|_{\text{cut}}$ and fit the lattice data in between
2. Replace the lattice data with the ansatz for $|y| > |y|_{\text{cut}}$

Light contribution (connected) - cB64 ensemble



Light contribution (2+2 disconnected) - cB64



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Conclusion [PRELIMINARY RESULTS]

Heavy quarks

Contribution	Diagrams	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(3)}$	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
Strange	connected	2.37(45)	2.57(39)
Charm	connected	1.75(17)	1.70(18)
Charm (improved)	connected	3.88(25)	3.97(24)

Light quarks

Contribution	Diagrams	Result: $\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
Light (cB64 ensemble)	connected	124(12)
Light (cB64 ensemble)	$(2+2)$ disc.	-40.10(6.57)

Outlook

Open points

- Charm: quark loop and discretization improvement on the integrand.
- Light: pole contribution, matching the tail of the integrand.

Future directions

- Strange and charm: nearing publication (stay tuned)
- Light: continuum limit
- Flavor-mixing disconnected contributions.

Thank you for the attention!

Backup slides

Wick contractions

On the lattice we compute the average over the gauge configurations of:

$$\langle j_\mu(x)\, j_\nu(y)\, j_\sigma(z)\, j_\lambda(0)\rangle = -2\,\mathrm{Re}\left\{ I^{(1)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,0) + I^{(2)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,0) + I^{(3)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,0) \right\}\,, \tag{4}$$

where:

$$I^{(1)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,w) = \mathrm{Tr}\left\{\gamma_\mu S(x,y)\gamma_\nu S(y,z)\gamma_\sigma S(z,w)\gamma_\lambda S(w,x)\right\} \tag{5}$$

$$I^{(2)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,w) = I^{(1)}_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x,y,w,z) \tag{6}$$

$$I^{(3)}_{\mu\nu\sigma\lambda}(x,y,z,w) = I^{(1)}_{\lambda\nu\sigma\mu}(w,y,z,x) \tag{7}$$

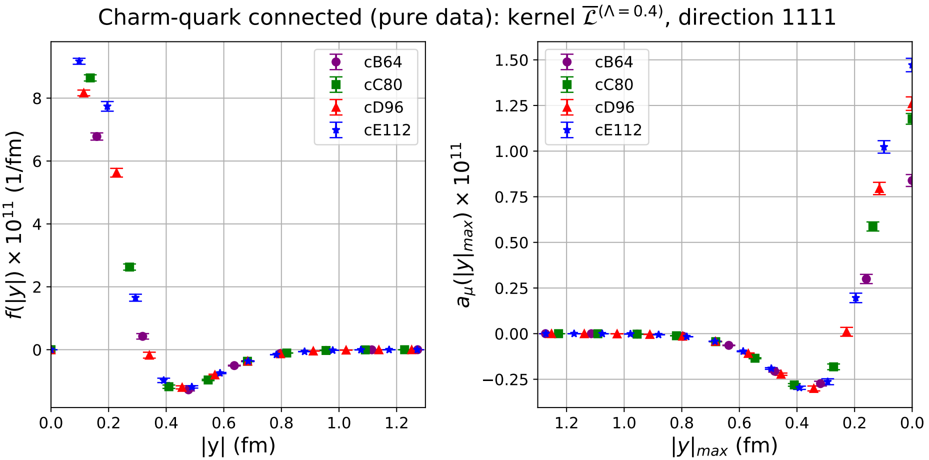
Calculation trick

We use these symmetries, by changing the kernel $\rightarrow \sim (1/3)$ of the Dirac inversions.

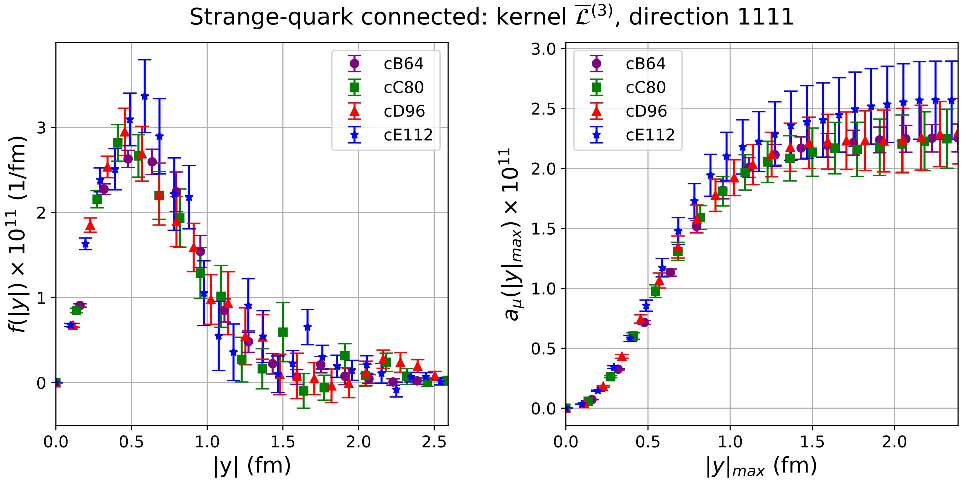
Numerical inversion

$$D\psi = \eta \;\rightarrow\; \psi = S\eta$$

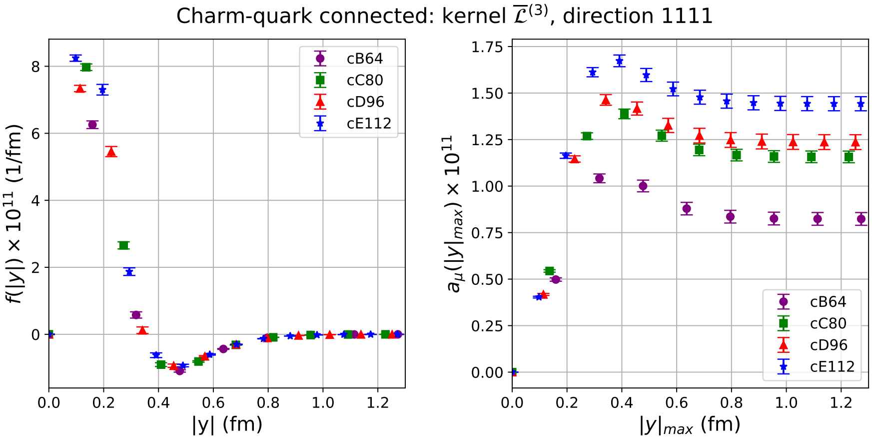
Charm contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$: reverse integration



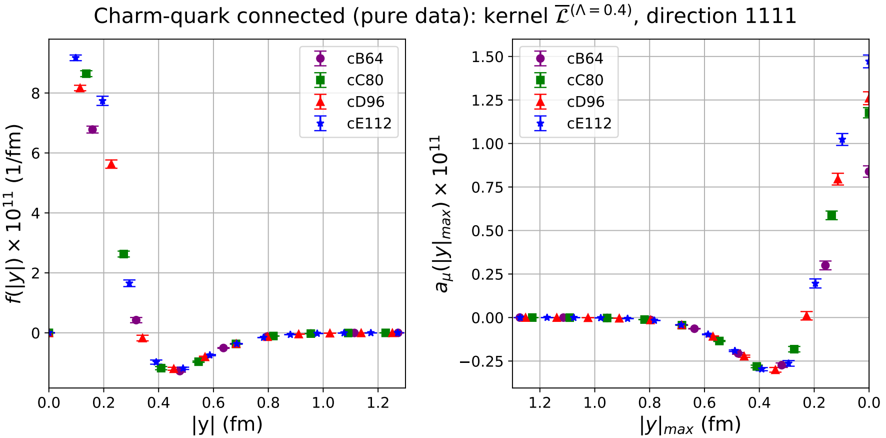
Strange contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$



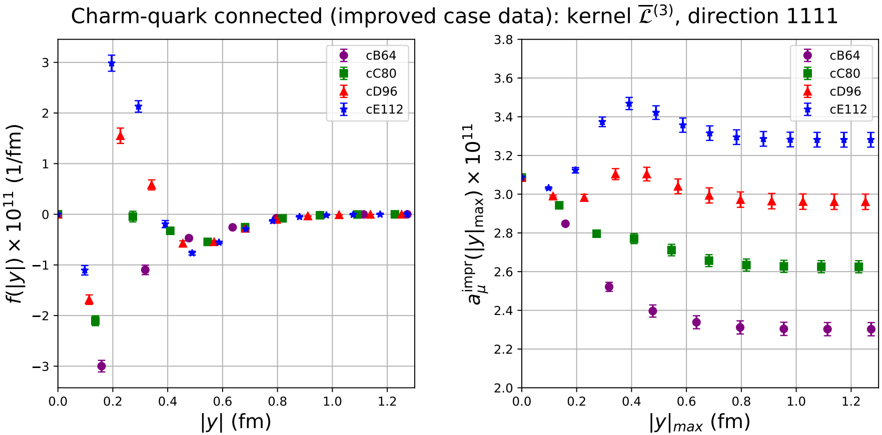
Charm contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$



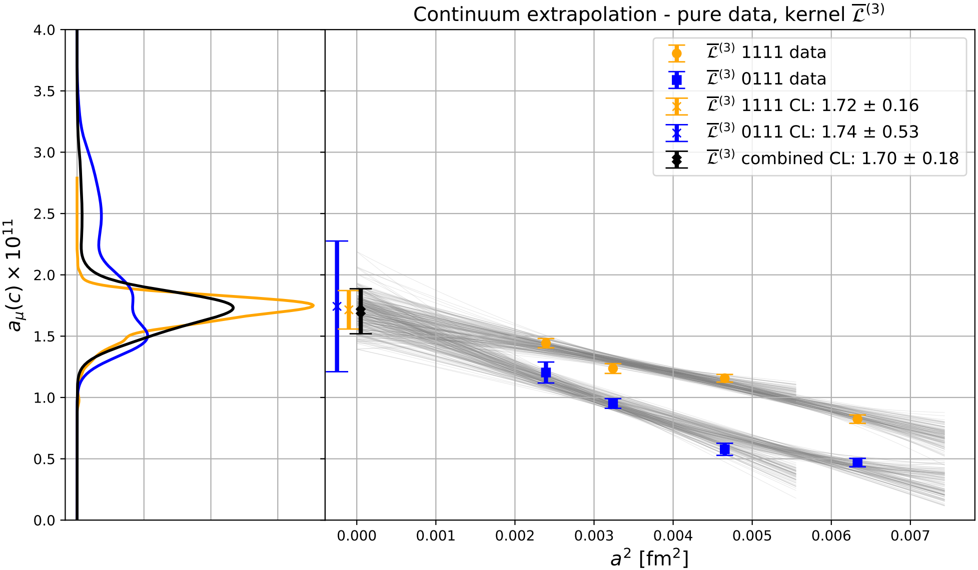
Charm contribution (connected) - $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$: reverse integration



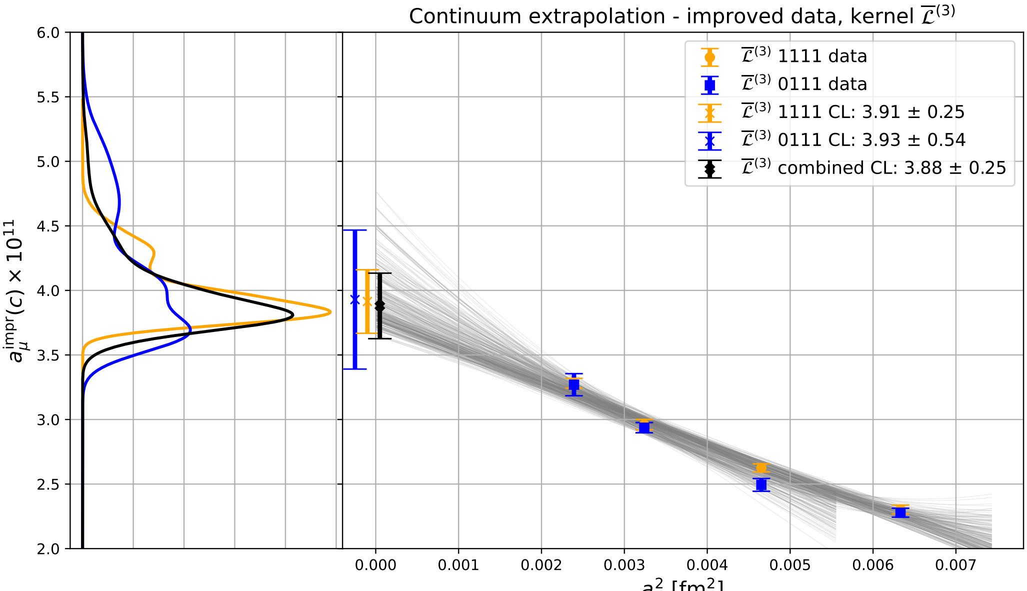
Charm quark: improved lattice artifacts, $\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(3)}$



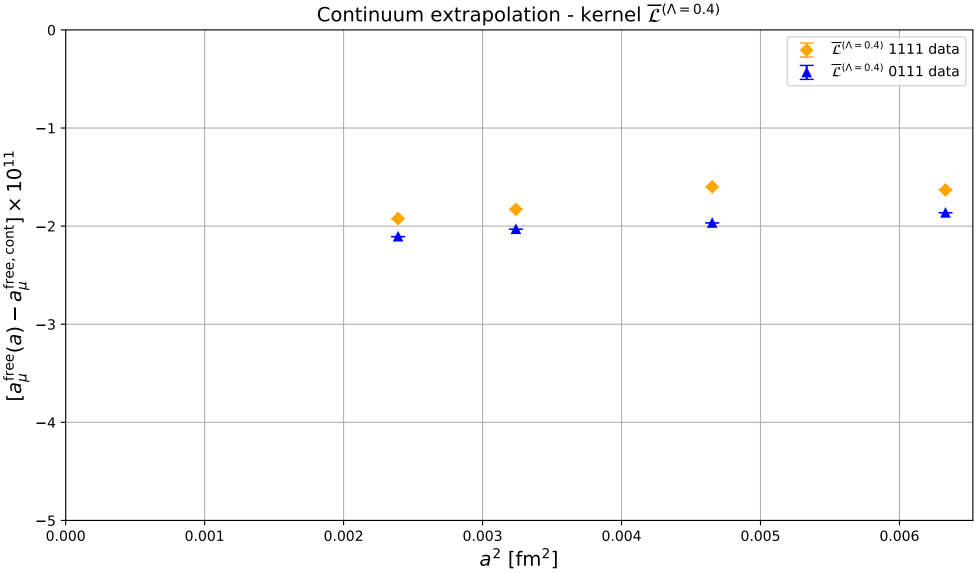
Charm contribution: continuum extrapolation



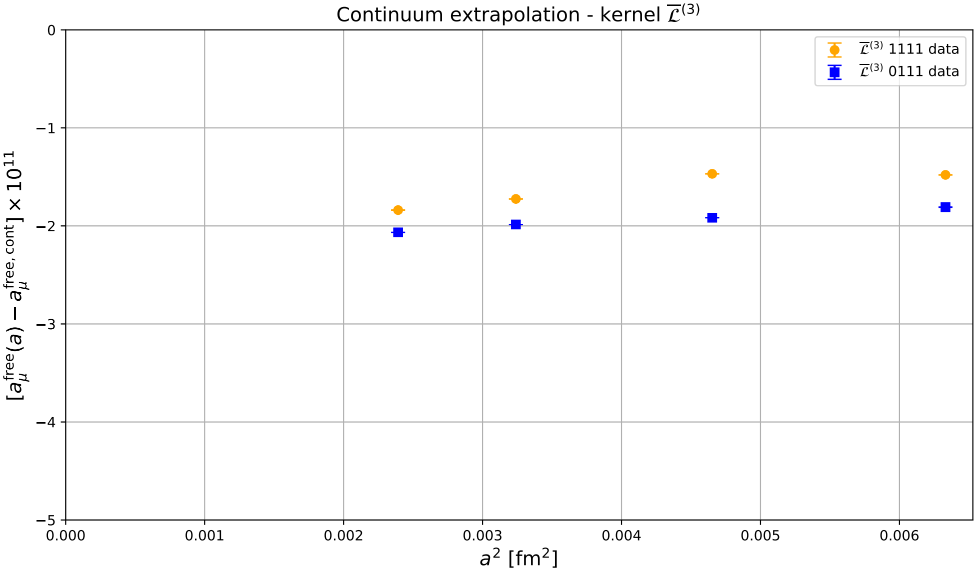
Charm quark: improved continuum extrapolation



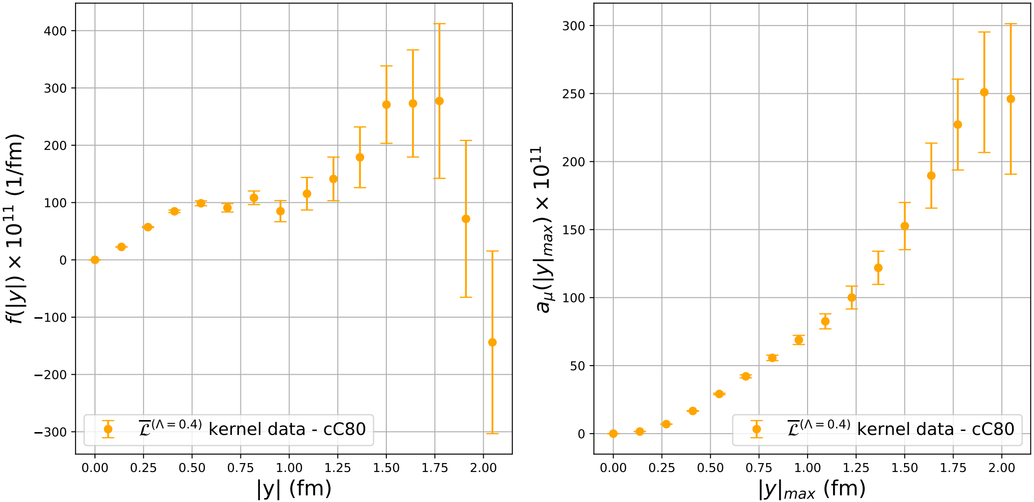
Charm quark: subtracted lattice artifact



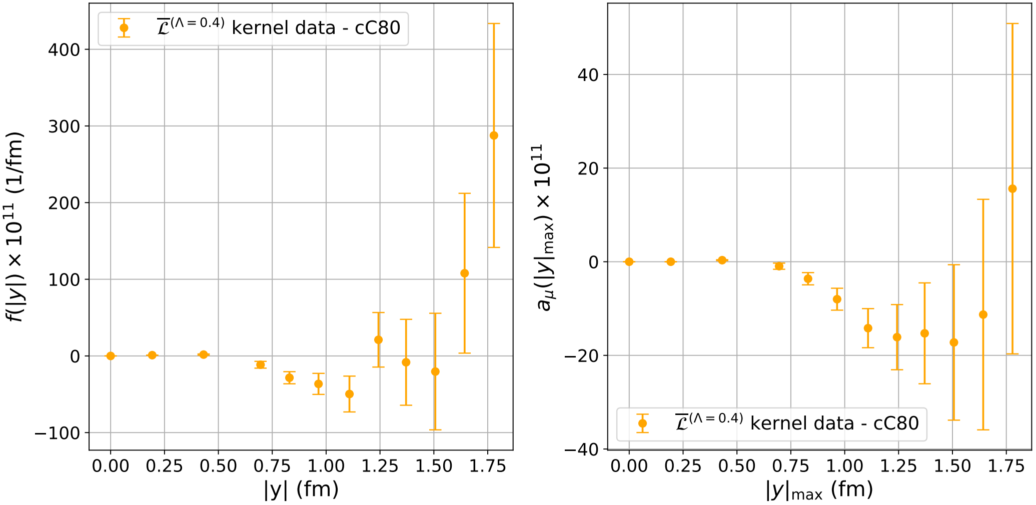
Charm quark: subtracted lattice artifact



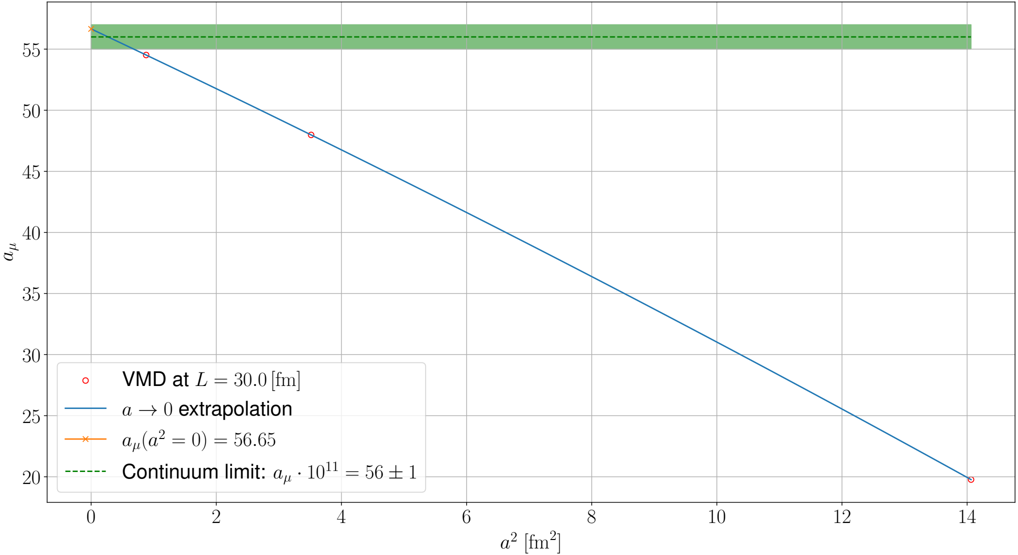
Light contribution (connected) - cC80 ensemble



Light contribution (2+2 disconnected) - cC80



π^0-pole contribution (consistent continuum limit)



Pole contribution (VMD, infinite volume)

At finite volume we sum over lattice points explicitly. In the $L \to \infty$ limit we match the known expression from the VMD model [2]:

$$
i\hat{\Pi}^{\mathrm{VMD}}_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x,y) = \frac{c_\pi^2}{M_V^2(M_V^2 - M_\pi^2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\beta} \times
$$

$$
\left[\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\epsilon_{\sigma\lambda\rho\gamma} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_\gamma} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\gamma} \right) K_\pi(x,y) + \epsilon_{\mu\lambda\alpha\beta}\epsilon_{\nu\sigma\gamma\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_\gamma} K_\pi(y-x,y) \right.
$$

$$
\left. + \epsilon_{\mu\sigma\alpha\rho}\epsilon_{\nu\lambda\beta\gamma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\gamma} K_\pi(x, x-y) \right] ,
$$

$$
K_\pi(x,y) = \int_u \left(G_{m_P}(u) - G_{m_V}(u) \right) G_{m_V}(x-u) G_{m_V}(y-u)
$$

Pole contribution: other collaborations' findings

VMD and LMD

Good description of TFF at small momenta.
VMD and LMD in position space differ only at short distances.

Comparing with the literature

- Ref. [3] (Mainz 2020): $SU(3)_f$-symmetric point, $m_{\pi,K,\eta} \approx 410 - 420\text{MeV}$.
  $\pi^0 + \eta$ VMD integrand is slightly above the lattice data, FVEs are non-negligible.
- Ref. [2, 7] (Mainz 2021, 2023): VMD,
  $(34/9) \cdot a_\mu^{\text{HLbL},\pi^0}(|y|) > a_\mu^{\text{HLbL, light, conn.}}(|y|)$.
  Including π^+ (scalar QED) improves the matching of the tail for one ensemble.
- Ref. [6] (BMW 2024): $290 < M_\pi\,[\text{MeV}] < 430$.
  Good agreement of the VMD/LMD tail for connected and disconnected integrands.

AIC model averaging

We combine different fit ans´atze using the (modified) Akaike criterion [11].

CDF from bootstraps

The Cumulative Density Function is given by a weighted histogram over the bootstrap samples.
The weights of each model i is:

$$w_i = \exp\left[-(\chi_i^2 + 2n_{\text{par}} - n_{\text{data}})/2\right]$$

Total error

The total error is found from quantiles:

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{stat}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{syst.}}^2} = (y_{84} - y_{16})/2$$

Statistics

Heavy quarks

Contribution	Diagrams	N_{confs}	N_{src}	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(3)}$	$\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
Strange	connected	~ 65	1	2.37(45)	2.57(39)
Charm	connected	~ 260	1	1.75(17)	1.70(18)
Charm (improved)	connected	~ 260	1	3.88(25)	3.97(24)

Light quarks

Contribution	Diagrams	N_{confs}	N_{src}	Result: $\bar{\mathcal{L}}^{(\Lambda=0.4)}$
Light (cB64 ensemble)	connected	~ 780	$\lvert y \rvert$-dependent	124(12)
Light (cB64 ensemble)	$(2+2)$ disc.	~ 780	$\lvert y \rvert$-dependent	-50.9(7.9)

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