



26th International
Symposium on Spin Physics
A Century of Spin



Quantum simulations of non-perturbative quantities in hadron scattering

Speaker: Tianyin Li (李天胤), from RIKEN iTHEMS

Collaborate with: Xingyu Guo, Wai Kin Lai, Xiaohui Liu, Enke Wang, Hongxi Xing,

Dan-Bo Zhang and Shi-Liang Zhu (QuNu Collaboration)

26th International Symposium on Spin Physics

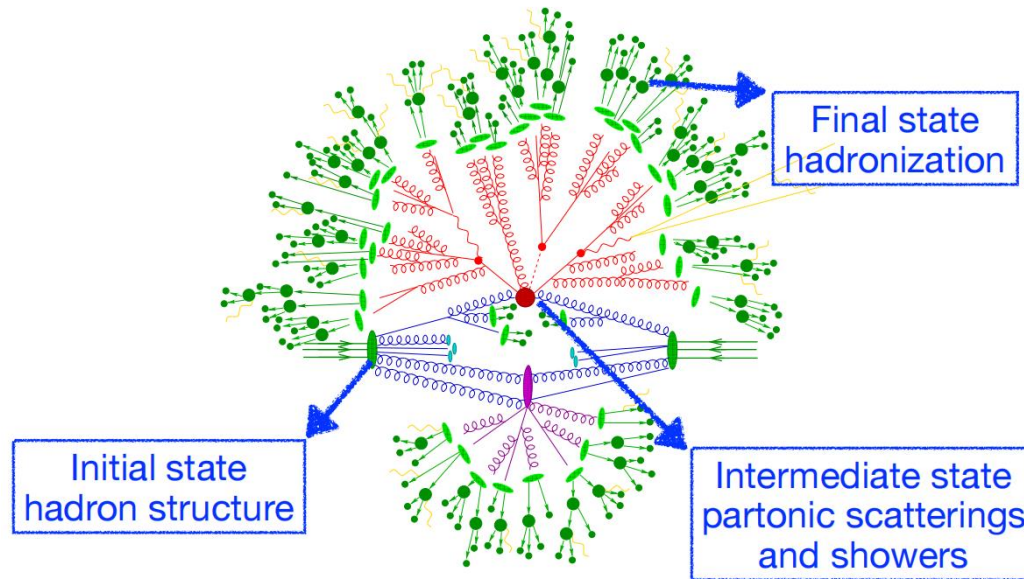
Outline

- I. Background
- II. Quantum simulations of hadron scattering based on QCD factorization
- III. Scattering amplitude from quantum computing with the reduction formula
- IV. Discussions of mapping gauge fields to qubits
- V. Summary

Part I: Background

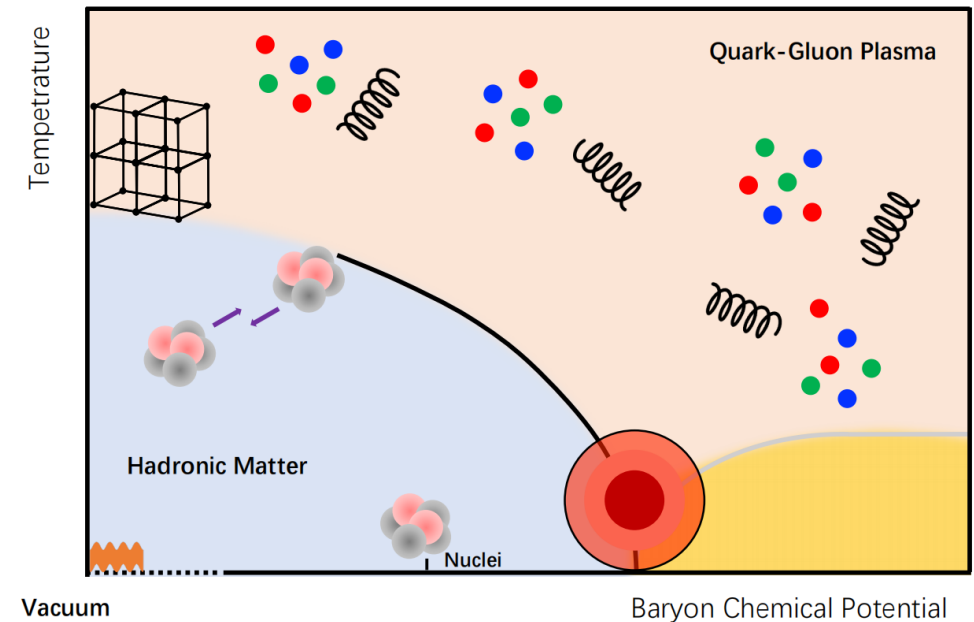
Non-perturbative problems with sign problem

- Time-dependent problem:
Cross sections of hadron scattering



From H. Xing's slides

- Finite chemical potential problem:
QCD phase diagram



From L. Wang's slides

They are the primary goals of RHIC, LHC, and other similar experiments. But it is a big challenge to simulate those quantities on a classical computer due to the limitation of computational resources.

Quantum computing: A new computing paradigm

What is a quantum computer?

- A quantum computer is a computer that uses the physical rules of quantum mechanics to perform calculations.

Advantages of the Quantum computing method:

- It is Controllable.
- It can store quantum states efficiently.
- Compared to classical computers, quantum computers can achieve exponential acceleration when simulating time-dependent systems. (No sign problem.)



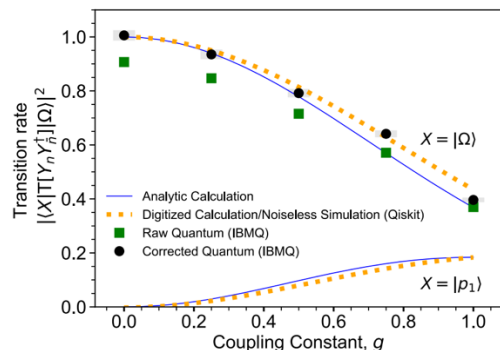
“... and if you want to make a simulation of nature, you’d better make it quantum mechanical, ...” – R. Feynman

Quantum simulations of scattering on a collider: An overview

Red technical route:

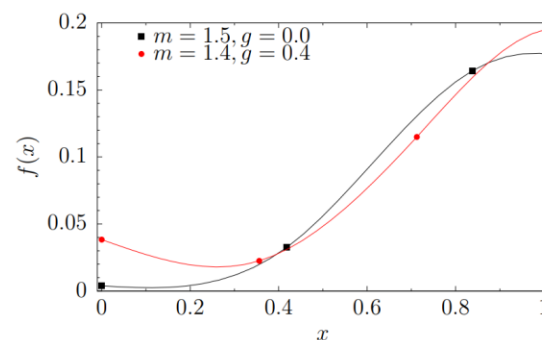
- Based on QCD factorization.
- Suitable for near-term quantum computers.

Simulating Collider Physics on Quantum Computers **Using Effective Field Theories:**



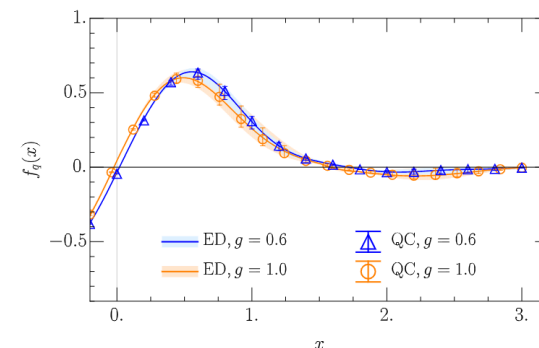
C. W. Bauer, and B. Nachman, PRL, (2021)

Parton distribution functions (PDFs) form hadron tensor by quantum computing:



H. Lamm, S. Lawrence, and Y. Yamauchi, PRR, (2020)

PDFs from light-cone correlation functions



TL et al (QuNu), PRD (letter, 2022)

Orange technical route:

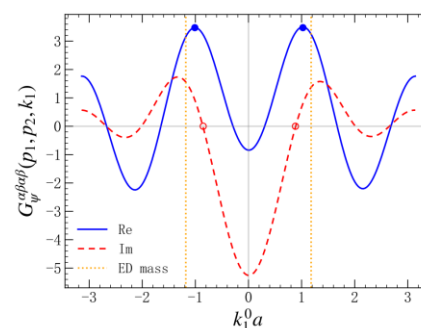
- Catch all information of scattering process
- Suitable for future fault-tolerant quantum computers.

First attempt to simulate scattering amplitude on quantum computers:

$$G_{\text{weak}} \sim \begin{cases} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{1.5+o(1)}, & d = 1 \\ \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{2.376+o(1)}, & d = 2 \\ \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{5.5+o(1)}, & d = 3 \end{cases}$$

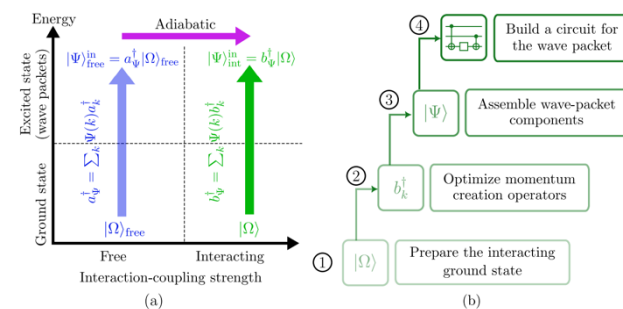
S. Jordan, K. S. M. Lee, and J. Preskill, Science, (2012).

Scattering amplitude from quantum computing with reduction formula:



TL et al (QuNu), PRD, (2024)

Bound state scattering of the scalar field and gauge theories



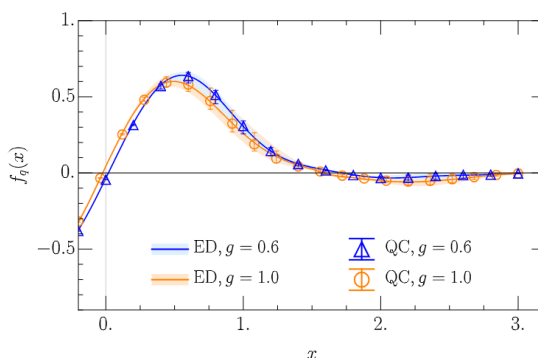
M. Turco et al, PRX Quantum, (2024). Z. Davoudi et al, Quantum (2024).

Part II: Quantum simulations of hadron scattering based on QCD factorization

Red technical route:

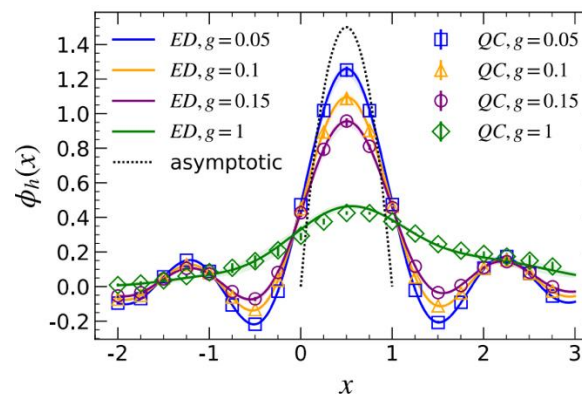
- Based on QCD factorization.
- Suitable for near-term quantum computers.

PDFs from light-cone correlation functions



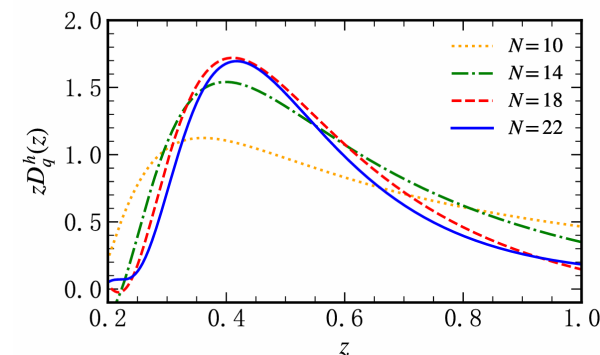
TL et al (QuNu), PRD (letter, 2022)

Quantum simulation of light-cone distribution amplitudes (LCDAs)



TL et al (QuNu), SCPMA (2023)

Quantum simulation of fragmentation functions (FFs)



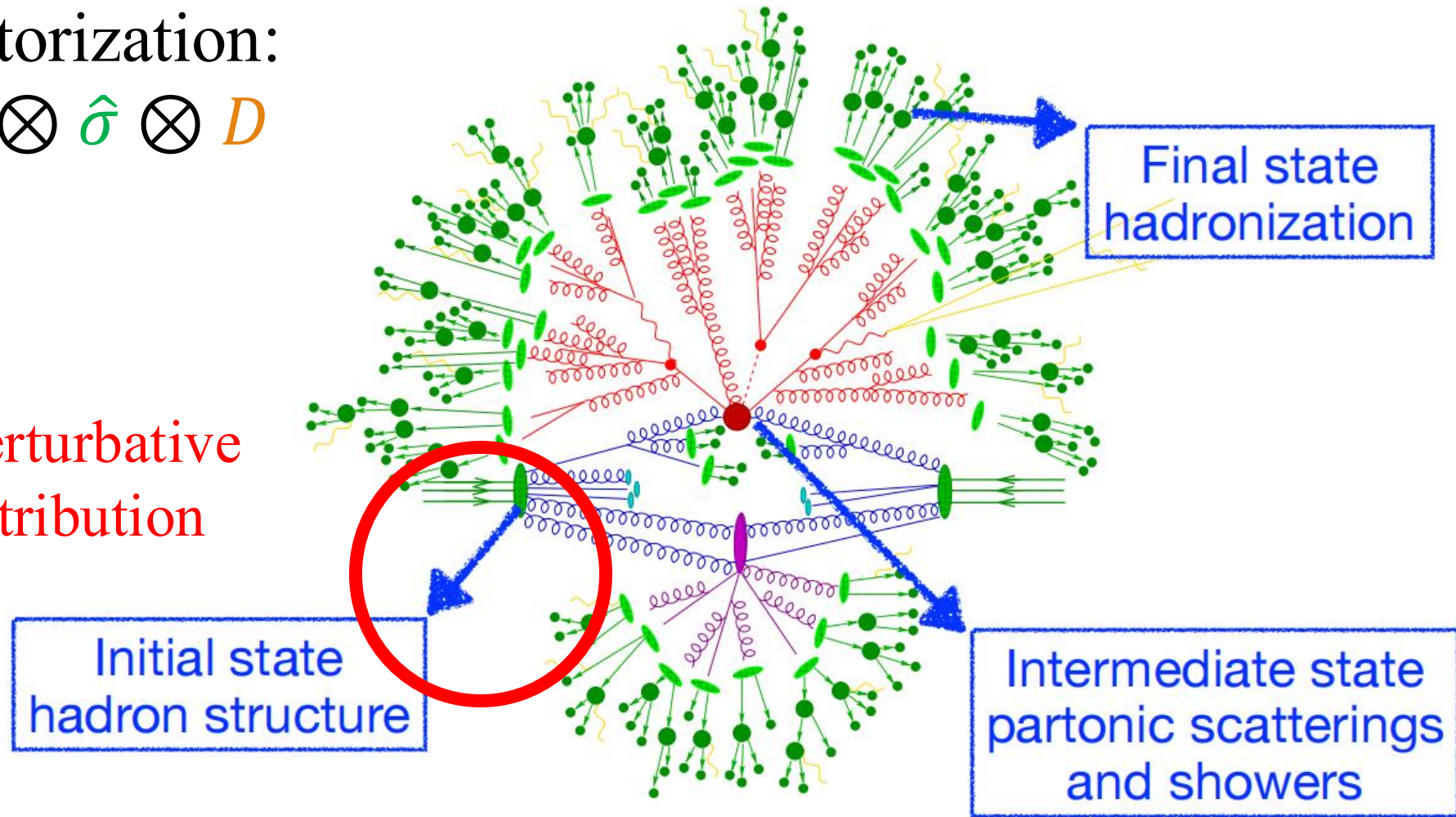
TL, H. Xing and D.B. Zhang, arXiv:2406.05683.

QCD factorization in high-energy scattering

QCD factorization:

$$\sigma = f \otimes \hat{\sigma} \otimes D$$

f : Non-perturbative
parton distribution
function



Quantum simulations of PDFs in NJL model

Hamiltonian of NJL model: $H = \int dx [\bar{\psi}(-i\gamma^1 \partial_1 + m)\psi - g(\bar{\psi}\psi)^2]$

The operator definition of PDFs, with $n^\mu = (1, -1)$:

$$f_{q/h}(x) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-ixm_h z} \langle h(\vec{p} = 0) | e^{iHz} \bar{\psi}(0, -z) e^{-iHz} \gamma^+ \psi(0) | h(\vec{p} = 0) \rangle$$
$$\equiv \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-ixm_h z} \boxed{\tilde{f}_{q/h}(z)} \longrightarrow \text{Need to be simulated on quantum computers}$$

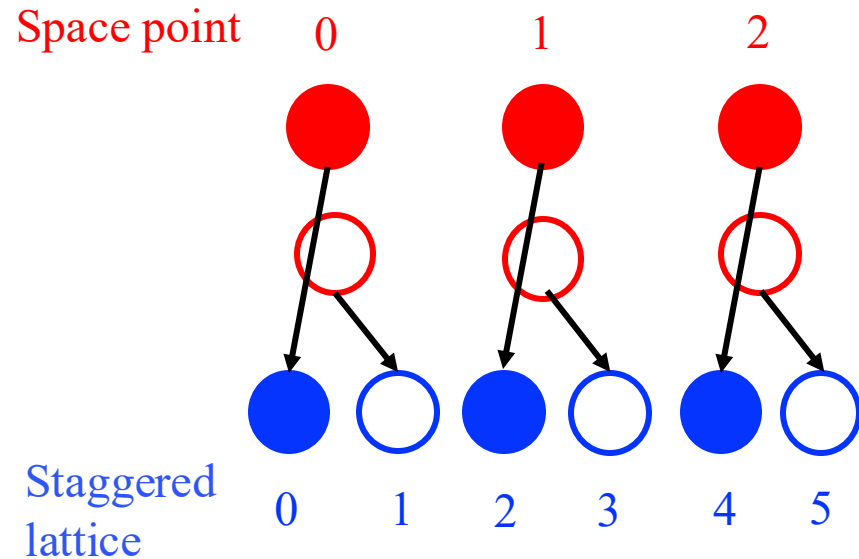
Four steps to simulate PDFs on a quantum computer:

- Discretize and map fields to qubits.
- Preparation of the hadron state $|h\rangle$.
- Evaluate the **light-cone correlation function**.

Discretization and mapping of fermion fields to qubits

Discretization: staggered fermion

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(N) \\ \psi_2(N) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi(2N) \\ \phi(2N+1) \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \phi(n) \\ \phi(n+1) \end{pmatrix}$$



Mapping to qubits by Jordan-Wigner transformation:

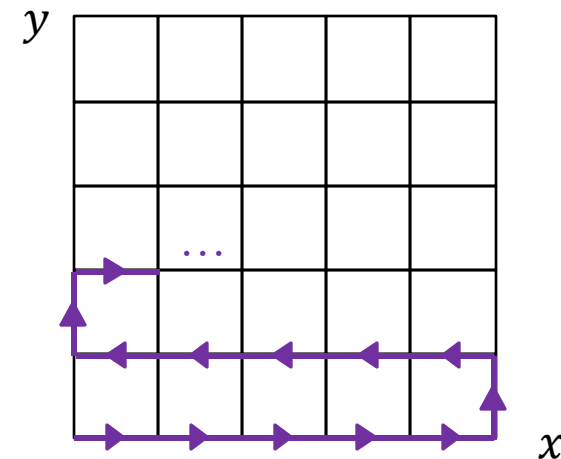
$$\phi(n) = \prod_{i < n} \sigma_i^z (\sigma_n^x + i \sigma_n^y).$$

(σ_n^x , σ_n^y and σ_n^z are Pauli operators)

➤ This transformation preserves the anti-commutator

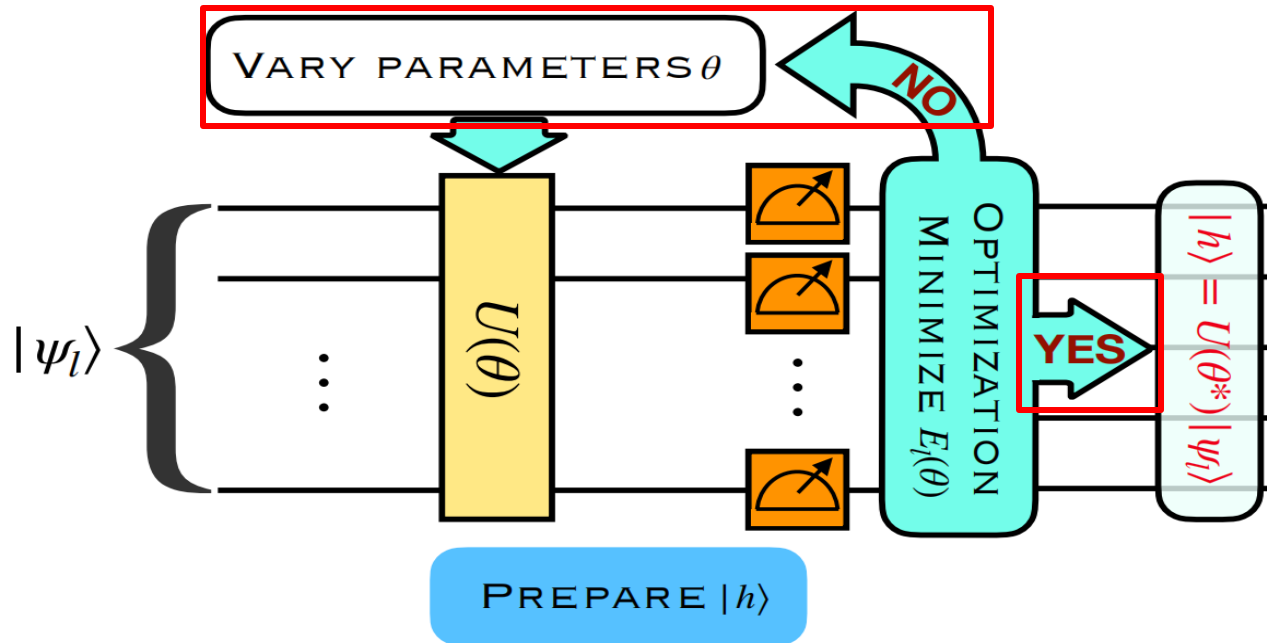
$$\{\phi(n), \phi^\dagger(m)\} = \delta_{nm}$$

➤ A path is needed in more than (1+1)-D:



Variational quantum eigensolver (VQE) to prepare the hadron state

TL et al (QuNu), PRD (letter, 2022)



- For given **quantum numbers l** , we use k reference states to obtain the **first k excited states**.
- **Divide** $H = H_1 + H_2 + \dots + H_n$:
 - $[H_i, H_{i+1}] \neq 0$.
 - Every H_i preserve all symmetry of the full Hamiltonian H .
 - $U(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^p (\prod_{j=1}^n \exp(i\theta_{ij} H_j))$.
- Trial wave function: $|\psi_{li}(\theta)\rangle = U(\theta)|\psi_{li}\rangle_{ref}$
- **Measure** the loss function $E_l(\theta) = \sum_i^k w_{li} \langle \psi_{li}(\theta) | H | \psi_{li}(\theta) \rangle$ **on quantum computers**.
- **Optimize** loss function **on classical computers**

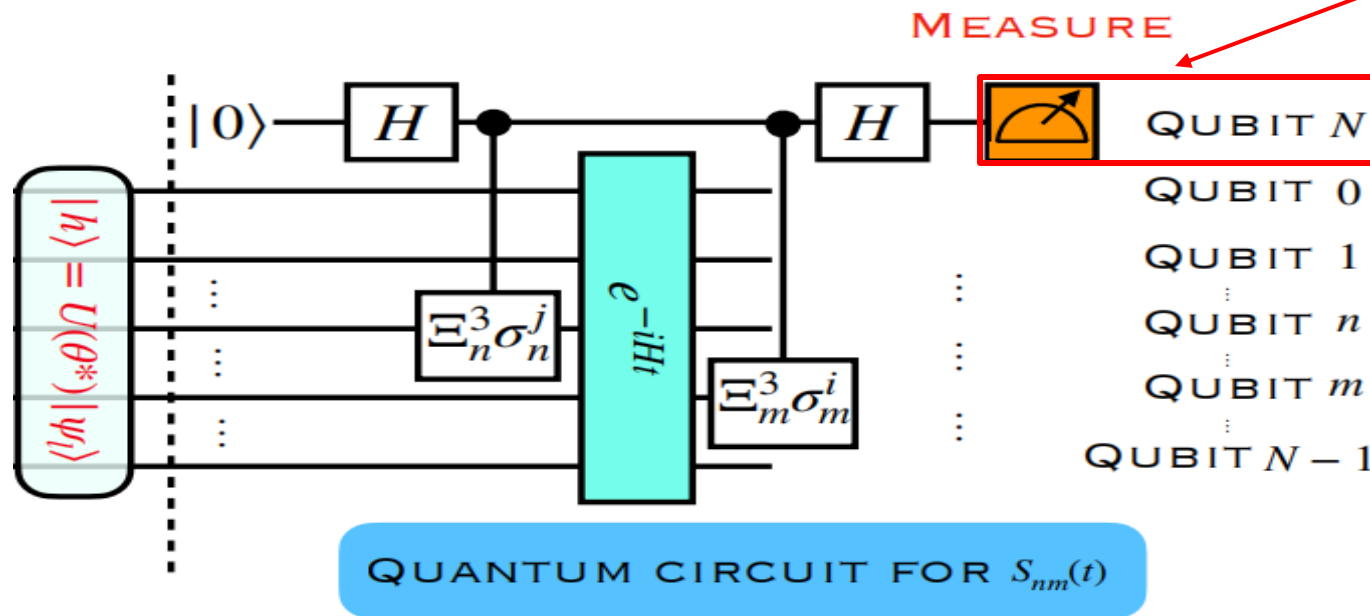
Details of this quantum algorithm will be given in Dairui's presentation.

Evaluate the dynamical correlation function

- Evaluate the dynamical two-point correlation function

$$S_{mn}(t) = \left\langle h \left| e^{iHt} \Xi_m^3 \sigma_m^i e^{-iHt} \Xi_n^3 \sigma_n^j \right| h \right\rangle.$$

Qubit PDFs can be written as sum of such correlation functions.



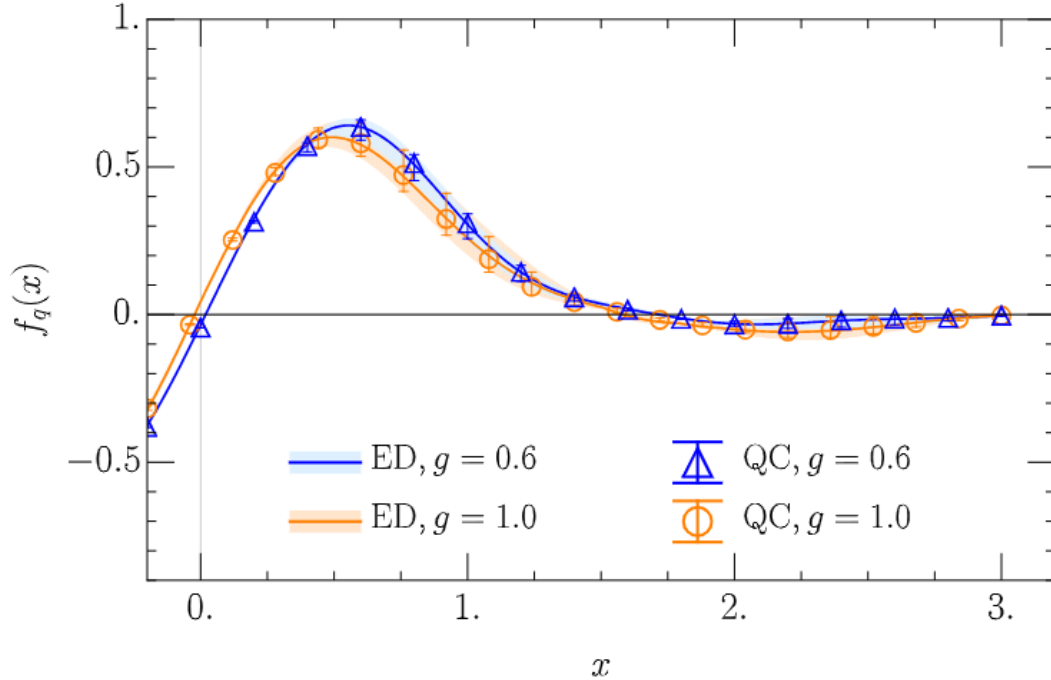
Re(Im)[$S_{mn}(t)$] can be obtained by measuring σ_N^x (σ_N^y).

Details of this quantum algorithm will be given in Dairui's presentation.

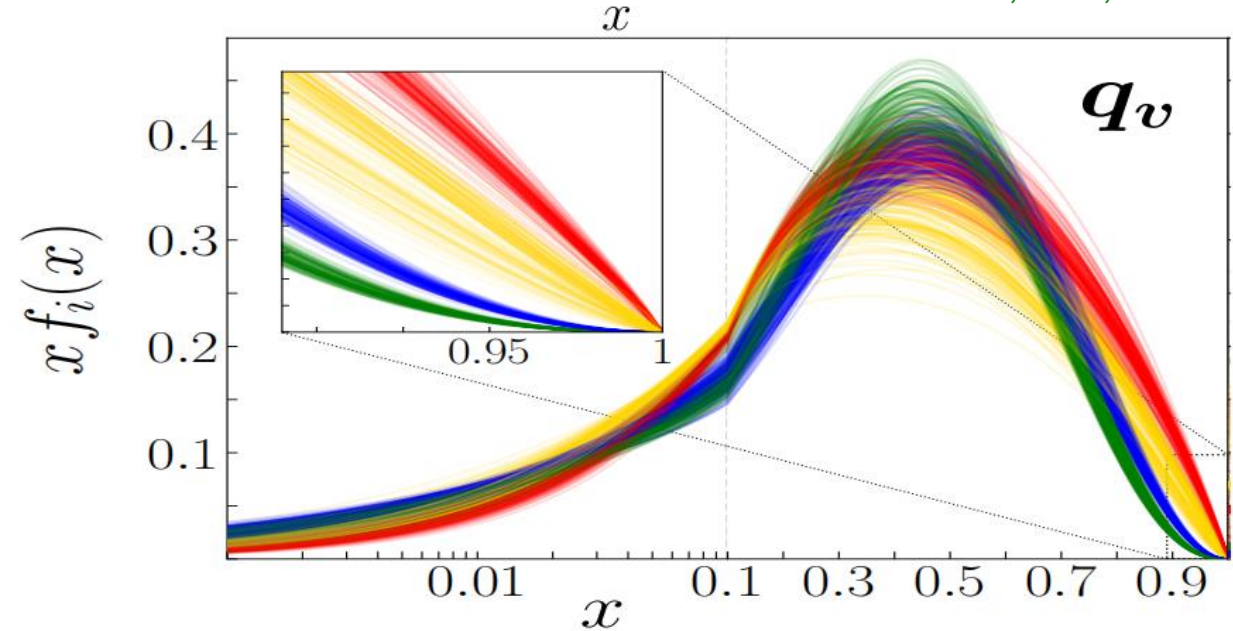
Pedernales et al, PRL, (2014)

Results of lowest $q\bar{q}$ bound state quark PDF in NJL model

TL et al (QuNu), PRD (letter, 2022)



JAM Collaboration, PRL, 2021

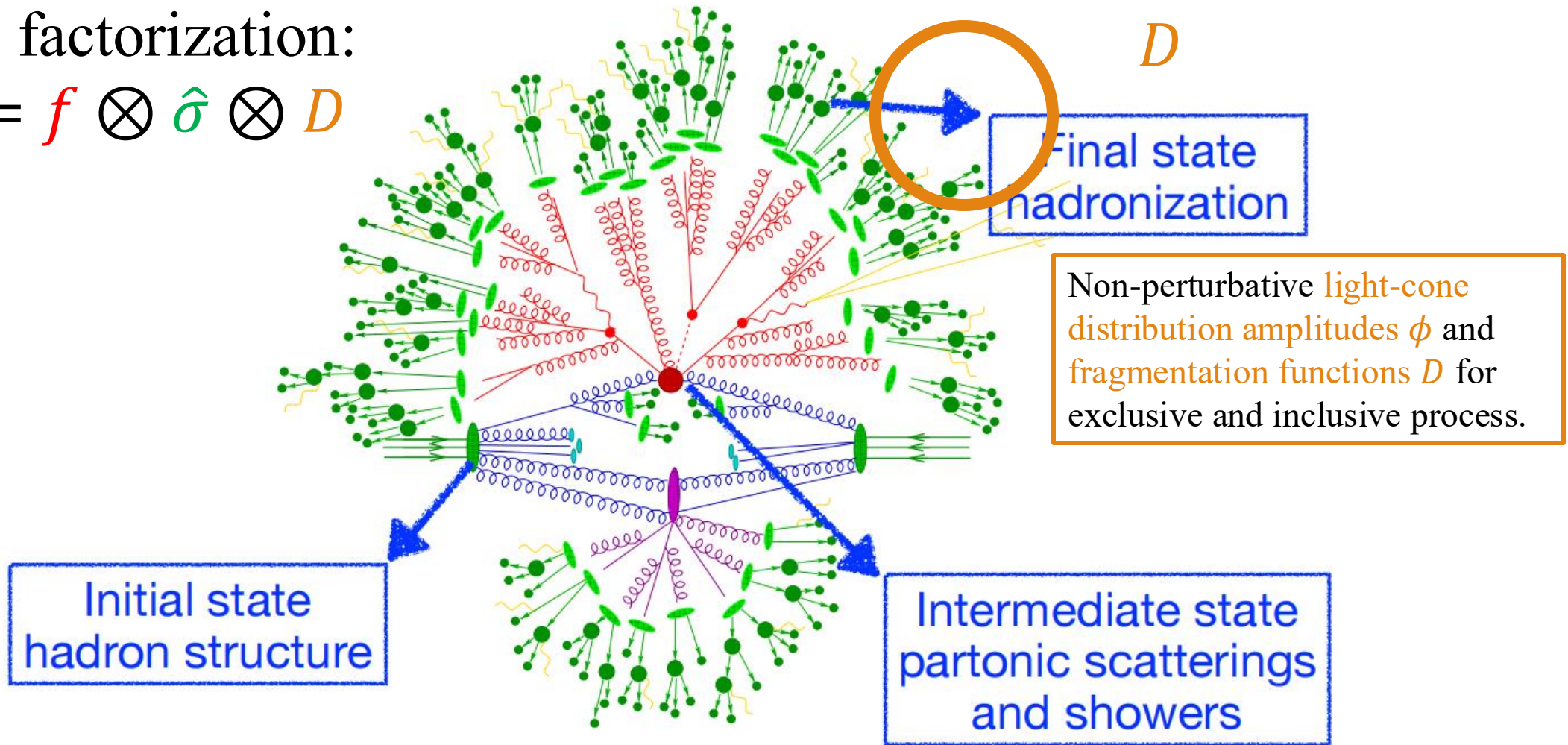


- Our result is obtained from a classical simulator.
- Good agreement between quantum computing (QC) and numerical exact diagonalization (ED) results.
- The non-vanishing contribution in the $x > 1$ is partly due to the finite volume effect.
- Our result has an expected peak around $x = 0.5$, it is also in qualitative agreement with pion PDFs.

Simulating hadronization on quantum computers

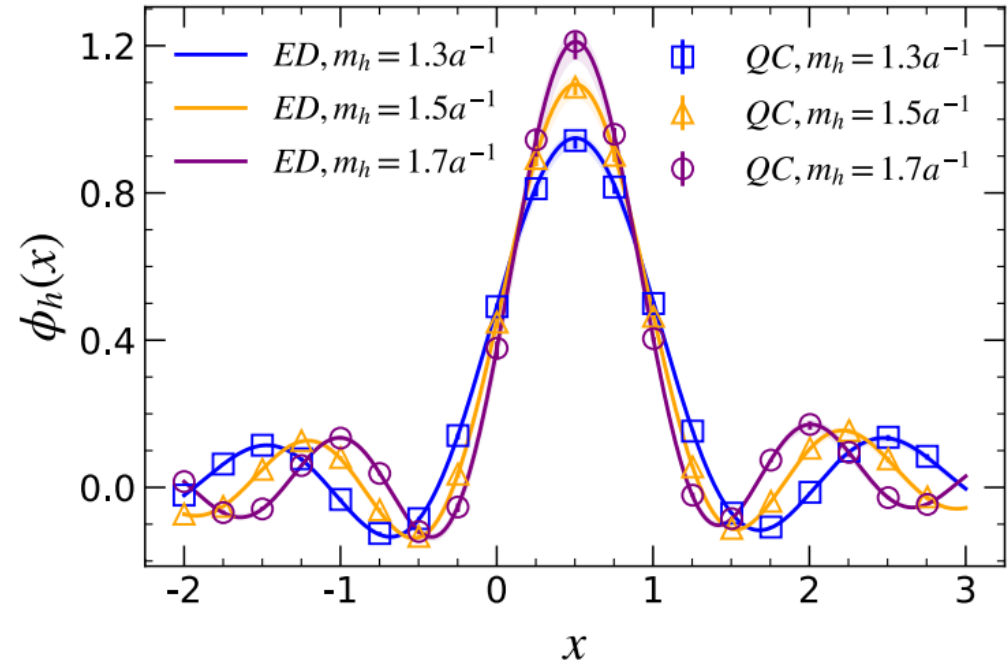
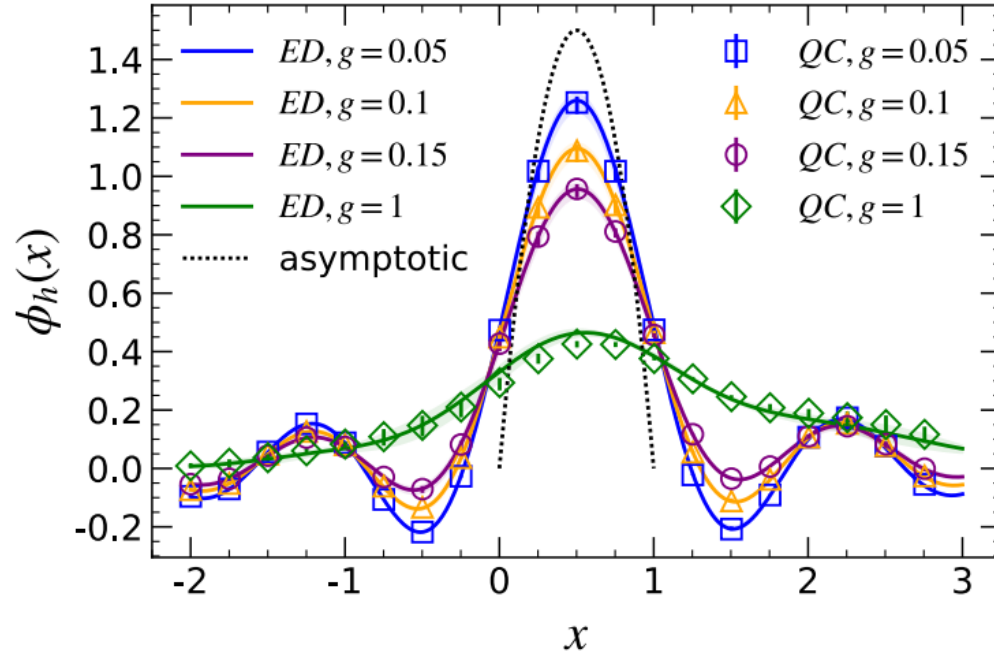
QCD factorization:

$$\sigma = f \otimes \hat{\sigma} \otimes D$$



Results of lowest $\bar{q}q$ bound state quark LCDA in NJL model

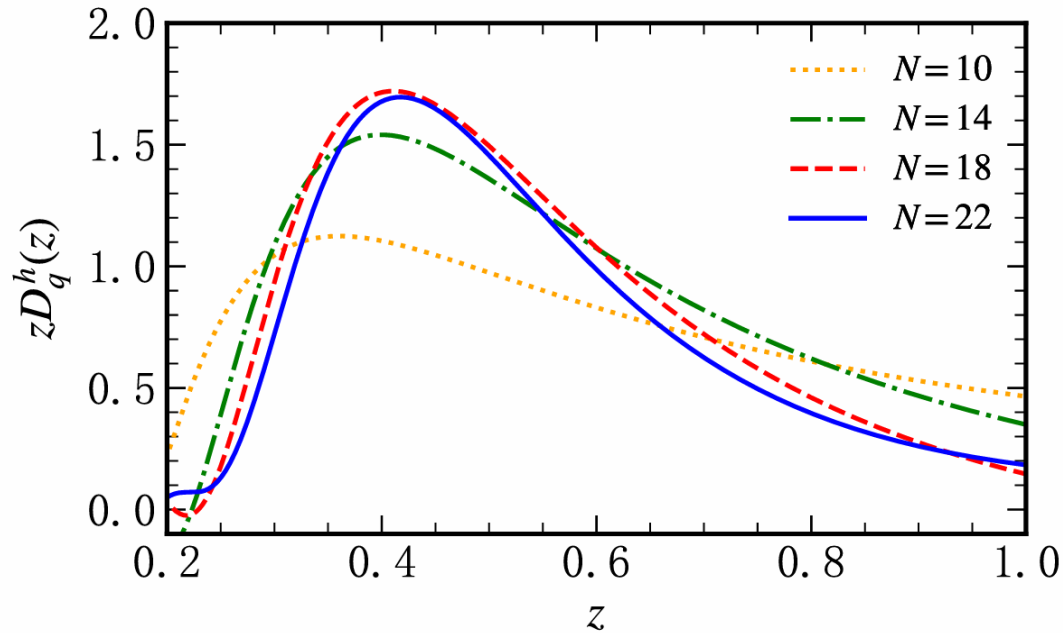
TL et al (QuNu), SCPMA (2023)



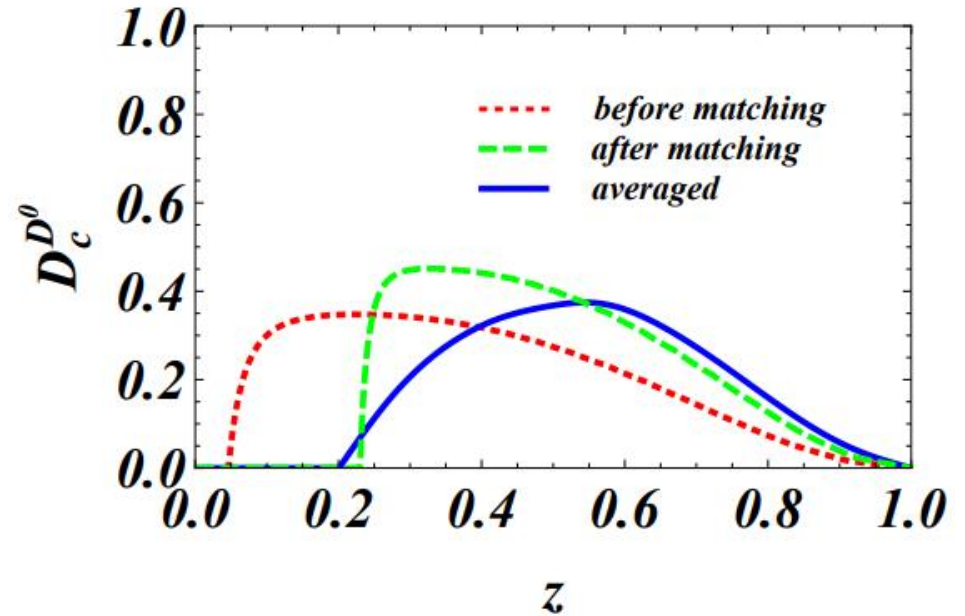
- The QC result converges to asymptotic result $6x(1-x)$ in the weak coupling limit.
- Peak gets narrower with increasing hadron mass.

Results of fragmentation function in NJL model

TL et al (QuNu), arXiv:2406.05683.



D.-J. Yang, PRD, (2020).



- Similar with the result of $D_c^{D^0}$ in [D.-J. Yang, PRD,(2020)], our result also vanishes in the small z region and a peak appears in $0.4 < z < 0.6$.

Part III: Scattering amplitude from quantum computing with reduction formula

Orange technical route:

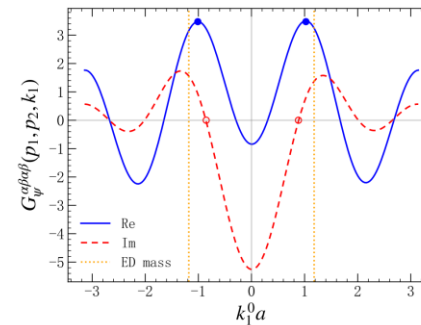
- Catch all information of scattering process
- Suitable for future fault-tolerant quantum computers.

First attempt to simulate scattering amplitude on quantum computers:

$$G_{\text{weak}} \sim \begin{cases} \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{1.5+o(1)}, & d=1 \\ \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{2.376+o(1)}, & d=2 \\ \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{5.5+o(1)}, & d=3 \end{cases}$$

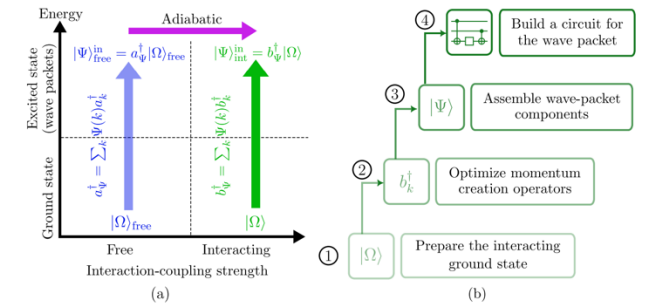
S. Jordan, K. S. M. Lee, and J. Preskill, Science, (2012).

Scattering amplitude from quantum computing with reduction formula:



TL et al (QuNu), PRD, (2024)

Bound state scattering of the scalar field and gauge theories



M. Turco et al, PRX Quantum, (2024). Z. Davoudi et al, Quantum (2024).

LSZ reduction formula

- We propose an alternative framework to calculate scattering amplitudes on a quantum computer based on the LSZ reduction formula.
- Using the LSZ reduction formula to calculate the scattering amplitude of $h(k_1) + h(k_2) + \cdots + h(k_{n_{in}}) \rightarrow h(p_1) + h(p_2) + \cdots + h(p_{n_{out}})$

$$i\mathcal{M} = \boxed{R^{n_{in}+n_{out}}} \times \boxed{\text{On-shell connected } n_{in} + n_{out}\text{-point functions}} \times \boxed{\left(\text{On-shell connected two-point functions} \right)^{-n_{in}-n_{out}}}$$

Field renormalization $|\langle \Omega | \phi(0) | h \rangle|$

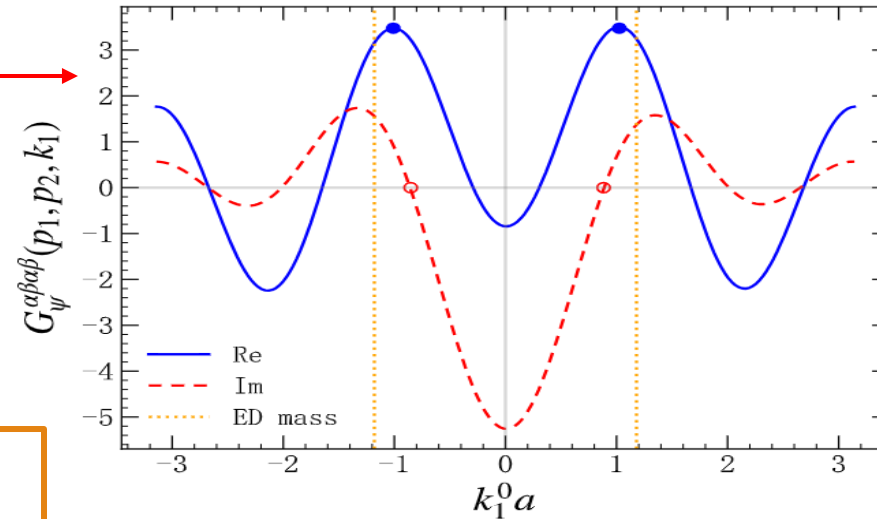
On-shell connected two-point functions

On-shell connected $n_{in} + n_{out}$ -point functions

Results of NJL model

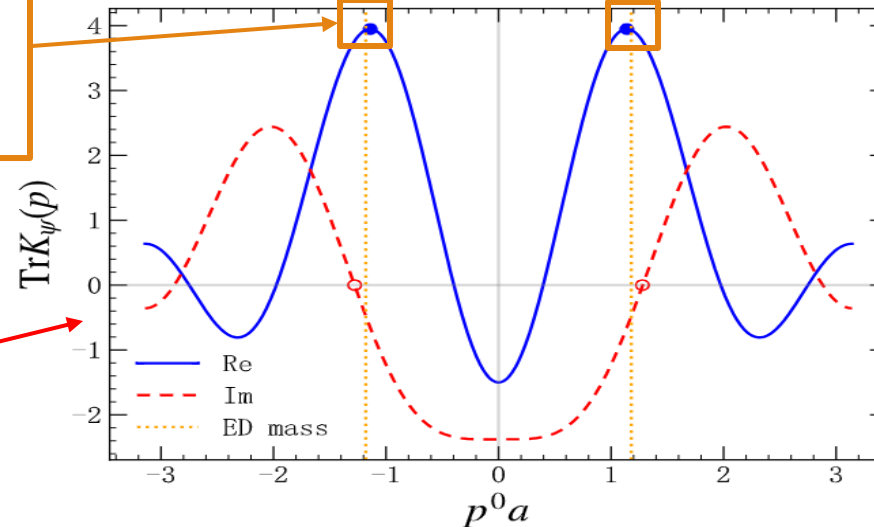
TL et al (QuNu), PRD, (2024)

Connected four-point function
 $G^{\alpha\beta\alpha\beta}(p_1, p_2, k_1)$, with p_1, p_2 off shell:
 $p_1 = (0,0), p_2 = (k_1^0, \frac{\pi}{a}), k_1 = (k_1^0, 0)$.



Quark mass poles $i/(p^2 - m_q^2 + i\epsilon)$ of
 $\bar{\psi}\psi$ two-point function.

Poles position: ± 1.14 ;
 ED quark mass: $m_q a = 1.18$.

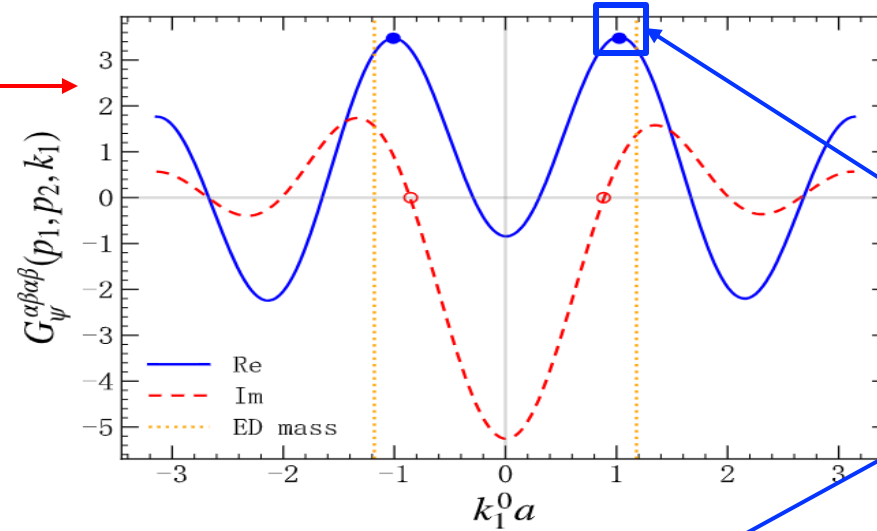


Fermion propagator with $p = (p^0 a, 0)$
 $K_\psi = \int d^2x e^{ip \cdot x} \langle \Omega | \bar{\psi}(x) \psi(0) | \Omega \rangle$

Results of NJL model

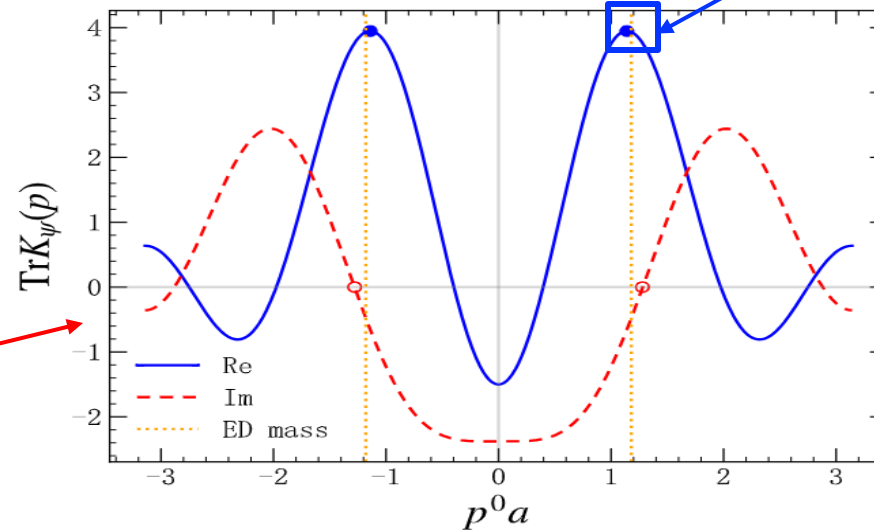
TL et al (QuNu), PRD, (2024)

Connected four-point function
 $G^{\alpha\beta\alpha\beta}(p_1, p_2, k_1)$, with p_1, p_2 off shell:
 $p_1 = (0,0), p_2 = (k_1^0, \frac{\pi}{a}), k_1 = (k_1^0, 0)$.



Our quantum algorithm removes the pole structure of four-point function successfully.

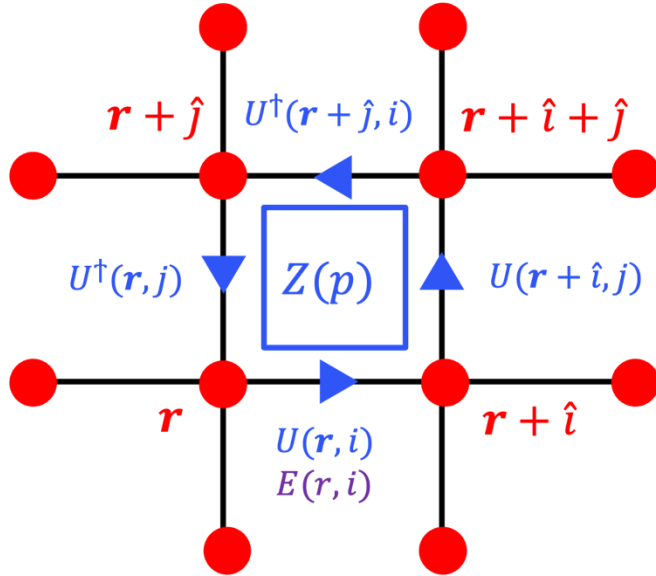
Fermion propagator with $p = (p^0 a, 0)$
 $K_\psi = \int d^2x e^{ip \cdot x} \langle \Omega | \bar{\psi}(x) \psi(0) | \Omega \rangle$



Part IV: Discussions of mapping gauge fields to qubits

Review of Kogut-Susskind formalism (without gauge fixing)

J. B. Kogut, and L. Susskind, PRD, (1975)



Two constraints:

- Primary constraint: $\Pi^0 \approx 0$.
- Secondary constraint (Gauss's law): $G(E) = \partial_i E_a^i - J_a^0 \approx 0$
- Hamiltonian of the constraint system:

$$H = H_E + H_B - A_0 G(E)$$

- Quantization conditions:

$$[E^a, U_{ij}^\rho] = - \sum_k (T_\rho^a)_{ik} U_{kj}^\rho, \dots$$

How to remove the inference from the **undeterminate function** A^0 ?

- Using Gauss's law operator to project to the physical subspace:

$$G(E)|\text{Phys}\rangle = 0$$

- Hamiltonian should be gauge invariant – The eigenstate of Hamiltonian should be well-defined

$$[H, G(E)] = 0$$

Impossible triangle of K-S formalism in finite-dimensional Hilbert space

The Hilbert space of quantum computers has a finite dimension

The following two conditions conflict with each other in a finite-dimensional Hilbert space:

1. $[E^a, U_{ij}^\rho] = -\sum_k (T_\rho^a)_{ik} U_{kj}^\rho, \dots$
2. U is unitary.

Broken of Gauss's law
 $[H, G] = 0$ or unitary.

Can we modify 1?

Preserve Gauss's law strictly after digitization. (Including dynamical quark)

Impossible triangle

Has controllable digitization error

Unitary gauge link


- Truncation of E basis: T. Byrnes and Y. Yamamoto, PRA, (2006). E. Zohar, J. I. Cirac, and B. Reznik, PRL, (2012)...
- Discrete subgroup method: Y. Ji, H. Lamm, and S. Zhu, PRD, (2020)...
- Fixing to the maximum tree gauge: I. D'Andrea et al., PRD, (2024)...
- Quantum link model: D. Luo et al., PRA, (2020)...
- ...


The impossible triangle can be overcome by fixing to the Coulomb gauge!


Coulomb gauge QED on lattice


In CG A^0 is determined by:

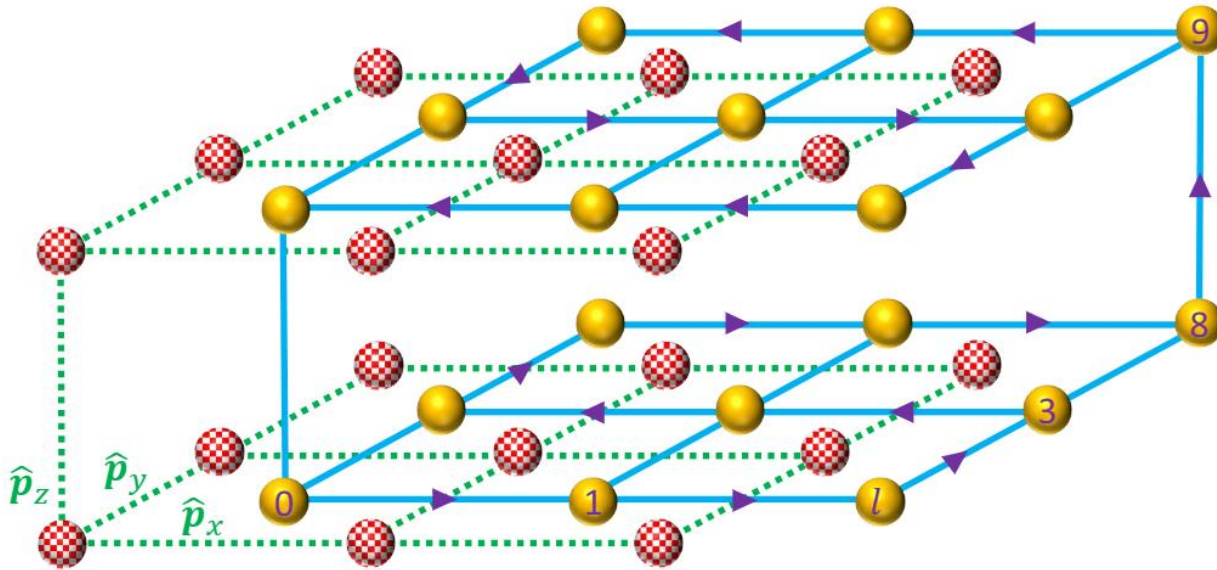
$$A^0 = \int d^3y \frac{J^0(x)J^0(y)}{4\pi|x-y|}$$

 Lattice of position space

 Fermion fields $\psi_\alpha(\mathbf{n})$

 Lattice of momentum space

 Photon fields a_p^r



TL, PRD, (2025)

$$\hat{H}_E + \hat{H}_B = \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} \sum_r \hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}} a_{\mathbf{p}}^{r\dagger} a_{\mathbf{p}}^r$$

$$\hat{H}_I = \sum_{\mathbf{n}, i} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_r \frac{J^i(\mathbf{n})}{\sqrt{2\hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}}M^3}} [\hat{\epsilon}_i^r a_{\mathbf{p}}^r e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n}} + \text{H. c.}]$$

$$\hat{H}_V = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{J^0(\mathbf{m})J^0(\mathbf{n})}{\hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}}^2} e^{-i\mathbf{p} \cdot (\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n})}$$

$$\hat{H}_M = \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{\psi}(\mathbf{n}) \left[-i\gamma^i \frac{\psi(\mathbf{n} + \hat{i}) - \psi(\mathbf{n} - \hat{i})}{2} + m\bar{\psi}(\mathbf{n})\psi(\mathbf{n}) \right]$$

$$\hat{H}_W = \sum_{\mathbf{n}} -\frac{w}{2} \bar{\psi}(\mathbf{n}) \hat{\Delta} \psi(\mathbf{n})$$

- We set $a = 1$ here.
- We have M lattice sites for each special dimension.
- Wilson term \hat{H}_W comes from Wilson fermion.

Overcome the impossible triangle in CG formalism

Preserve Gauss's law strictly by solving A^0 and polarization vector $\hat{\epsilon}^s(\mathbf{p})$ on lattice

Controllable truncation error:

➤ Truncation of the Fock states:

$$a_p^{r\dagger} |\Lambda = 2^K - 1\rangle_{p,r} = 0$$

➤ Given truncation Λ , the error ε_s of arbitrary state $|\psi\rangle$ scales as:

$$\varepsilon_s \sim O\left(\frac{g^2 M^{3d+3} + EM^{d+1}}{\Lambda}\right)$$

Unitarity of gauge link: $U_i(\mathbf{n})$:

$$U_i(\mathbf{n}) = \exp(-igA_i(\mathbf{n}))$$

, where $A_i(\mathbf{n})$ is Hermitian.

➤ As a cost, the Coulomb gauge formalism **has non-local interaction terms** in the Hamiltonian.

Map the QED Hamiltonian to qubits

$$\hat{H}_E + \hat{H}_B = \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} \sum_r \hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}} a_{\mathbf{p}}^{r\dagger} a_{\mathbf{p}}^r = \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} \sum_r \sum_{J=0}^{K-1} 2^J \left[\frac{1}{2} (I - \sigma_{J,\mathbf{p},r}^3) \right]$$

$$\hat{H}_I = \hat{H}_I^S + \hat{H}_I^A$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_I^S = & \sum_{\mathbf{n}, i} \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} \sum_r \sum_{L=0}^{K-1} \sum_{\substack{\mu_0, \dots, \mu_L=1,2 \\ \mu_0 + \dots + \mu_L - L - 1 = \text{even}}} \sum_{\mu_{L+1}, \dots, \mu_{K-1}=0,3} \frac{2^{-L} J^i(\mathbf{n})}{M^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{2\hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}}}} \\ & \times [\text{Re}(\epsilon_i^r(\mathbf{p})) \cos(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n}) - \text{Im}(\epsilon_i^r(\mathbf{p})) \sin(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n})] \mathcal{F}_{\mu_{K-1}, \dots, \mu_{L+1}} \mathcal{G}_{\mu_L, \dots, \mu_0}^S \sigma_{K-1, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_{K-1}} \dots \sigma_{L+1, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_{L+1}} \sigma_{L, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_L} \dots \sigma_{0, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_I^A = & \sum_{\mathbf{n}, i} \sum_{\mathbf{p} \neq 0} \sum_r \sum_{L=0}^{K-1} \sum_{\substack{\mu_0, \dots, \mu_L=1,2 \\ \mu_0 + \dots + \mu_L - L - 1 = \text{odd}}} \sum_{\mu_{L+1}, \dots, \mu_{K-1}=0,3} \frac{2^{-L} J^i(\mathbf{n})}{M^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{2\hat{E}_{\mathbf{p}}}} \\ & \times [\text{Re}(\epsilon_i^r(\mathbf{p})) \sin(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n}) + \text{Im}(\epsilon_i^r(\mathbf{p})) \cos(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n})] \mathcal{F}_{\mu_{K-1}, \dots, \mu_{L+1}} \mathcal{G}_{\mu_L, \dots, \mu_0}^A \sigma_{K-1, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_{K-1}} \dots \sigma_{L+1, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_{L+1}} \sigma_{L, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_L} \dots \sigma_{0, \mathbf{p}, r}^{\mu_0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mu_{K-1}, \dots, \mu_{L+1}} = \sum_{\mu_0, \dots, \mu_L=0,3} (-1)^{\mu_L} f_{\mu_{K-1}, \dots, \mu_0} \quad f_{\mu_{K-1}, \dots, \mu_0} = \sum_{i_0, \dots, i_{K-1}=0}^1 \sqrt{\mathcal{N}(i_{K-1}, \dots, i_0)} (-1)^{i_{K-1} \mu_{K-1}} \times \dots \times (-1)^{i_0 \mu_0}$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{\mu_L, \dots, \mu_0}^S = (-1)^{\mu_L-1} (-1)^{(-L-1 + \sum_{J=0}^L \mu_J)/2} \quad \mathcal{G}_{\mu_L, \dots, \mu_0}^A = (-1)^{\mu_L-1} (-1)^{(-L-2 + \sum_{J=0}^L \mu_J)/2}$$

Summary

- We proposed quantum algorithms for simulating PDFs, LCDAs, and FFs.
- Based on the LSZ reduction formula, we proposed that the scattering amplitude of $h_1 + h_2 + \dots + h_{n_{in}} \rightarrow h'_1 + h'_2 + \dots + h'_{n_{out}}$ processes can be obtained by simulating $n_{in} + n_{out}$ point functions on quantum computers.
- We proposed that using Coulomb-gauge-based lattice regularization can overcome the impossible triangle of K-S formalism.

Thank you for listening!