



Model-independent determination of gravitational form factors from dispersion relations

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XHC, Feng-Kun Guo, Qu-Zhi Li & De-Liang Yao, **Dispersive determination of nucleon gravitational form factors**, *Nat. Commun.* **16**, 6979 (2025)

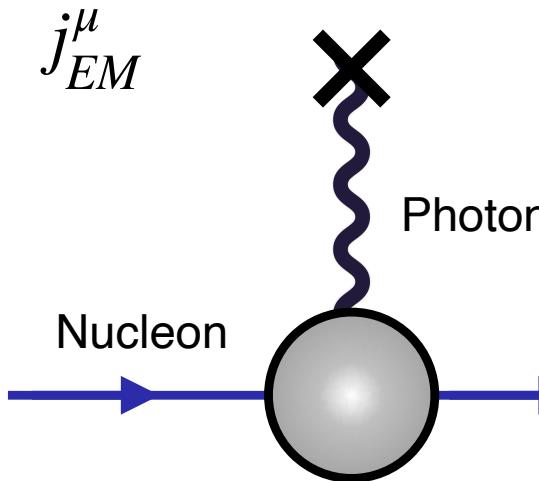
XHC, Feng-Kun Guo, Qu-Zhi Li, Bo-Wen Wu & De-Liang Yao, **Gravitational form factors of pions, kaons and nucleons from dispersion relations**, *Eur.Phys.J.* ST in press



华 中 师 范 大 学
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2025/9/12-9/15

EM interactions: Hadrons in external field



- Definition: $t \equiv q^2 = (p' - p)^2$

$$\langle N(p') | j_{EM}^\mu | N(p) \rangle = \bar{u}(p') \left[F_1(t) \gamma^\mu + i \frac{F_2(t)}{2m_N} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu \right] u(p)$$

- Sachs form factors: $G_E = F_1 + \frac{t}{4m_N^2} F_2, \quad G_M = F_1 + F_2$

- Charge radius (proton):

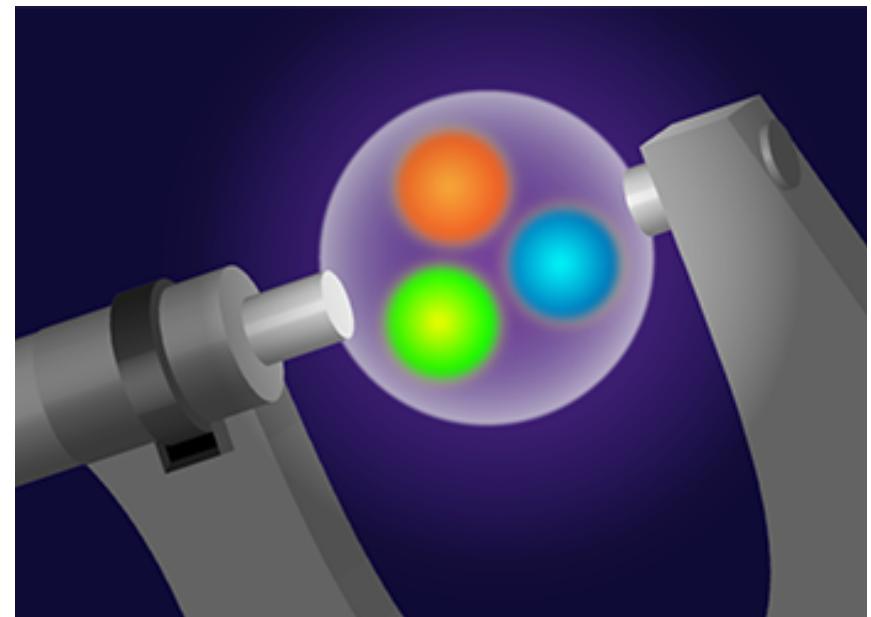
$$G_E(t) = 1 + t \langle r_C^2 \rangle / 6 + \dots$$

- Extracted from the lepton-nucleon elastic scattering or the hydrogen(-like) atom spectroscopy

“proton radius puzzle”

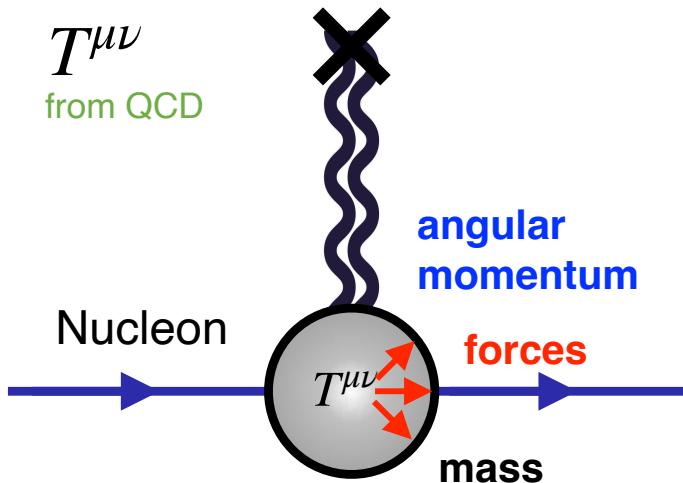
0.84 fm v.s. 0.88 fm

Gao and Vanderhaeghen, RMP (2022)



<https://physics.aps.org/articles/v12/s28>

Gravitational structure of nucleons



- Gravity couples to matter through energy-momentum tensor (EMT) $T^{\mu\nu}$

$$T_{\text{QCD}}^{\mu\nu} = T_q^{\mu\nu} + T_g^{\mu\nu}$$

study gravitational forces within hadrons



study mechanical properties of hadrons



- Definition:

$$\langle N(p') | T^{\mu\nu} | N(p) \rangle = \frac{1}{4m_N} \bar{u}(p') \left[A(t) P^\mu P^\nu + J(t) \left(i P^{\{\mu} \sigma^{\nu\}\rho} \Delta_\rho \right) + D(t) (\Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu - g^{\mu\nu} \Delta^2) \right] u(p)$$

Kobzarev, Okun (1962)
Pagels (1966)

Mass normalization:

$$m_N = \int d^3r T_{00}(r)$$

$$A(0) = 1$$

Spin normalization:

$$J^i = \epsilon_{ijk} \int d^3r r_j T_{0k}(r)$$

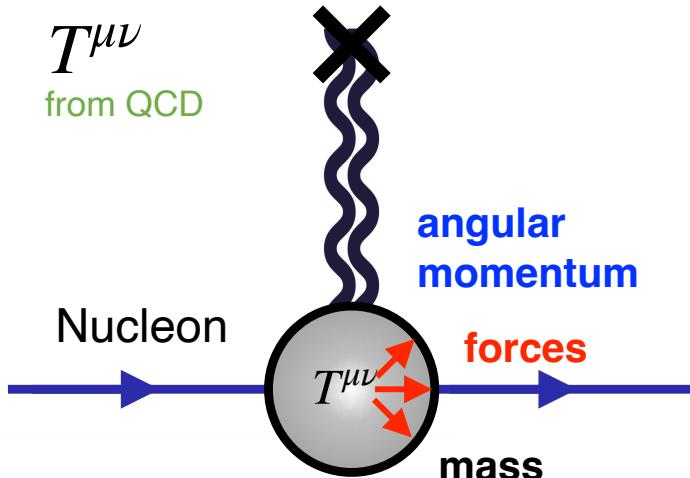
$$J(0) = 1/2$$

D-term: $D \equiv D(0)$

$$D = -\frac{m_N}{2} \int d^3r \left(r_i r_j - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \right) T_{ij}(r)$$

$$D = ?$$

Gravitational structure of nucleons



**D-term as the
“last unknown global property”**

Polyakov, and Schweitzer, (2018)

em: $\partial_\mu J_{\text{em}}^\mu = 0$ $\langle N' | J_{\text{em}}^\mu | N \rangle \rightarrow Q = 1.602176487(40) \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$
 $\mu = 2.792847356(23) \mu_N$

weak: PCAC $\langle N' | J_{\text{weak}}^\mu | N \rangle \rightarrow g_A = 1.2694(28)$
 $g_p = 8.06(55)$

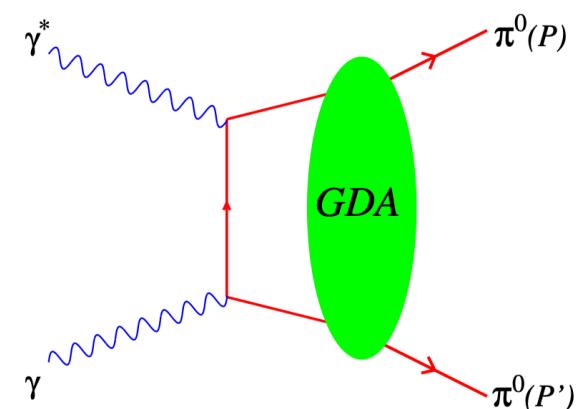
gravity: $\partial_\mu T_{\text{grav}}^{\mu\nu} = 0$ $\langle N' | T_{\text{grav}}^{\mu\nu} | N \rangle \rightarrow m = 938.272013(23) \text{ MeV}/c^2$
 $J = \frac{1}{2}$
 $D = ?$

First insights from experiment

- π^0 : $\gamma^*\gamma \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0$ in e^+e^- Belle data: PRD 93, 032003 (2016)
 $D_{\pi^0}^Q \simeq -0.7$ at $\langle Q^2 \rangle = 16.6 \text{ GeV}^2$

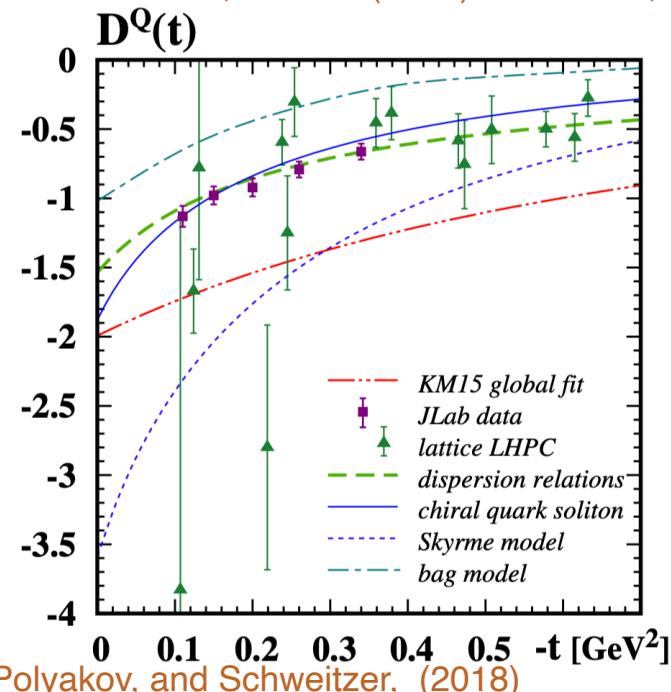
Kumano, Song, Teryaev, PRD (2018)

Chiral symmetry: total $D_{\pi^0} \simeq -1$ (gluons contribute the rest)

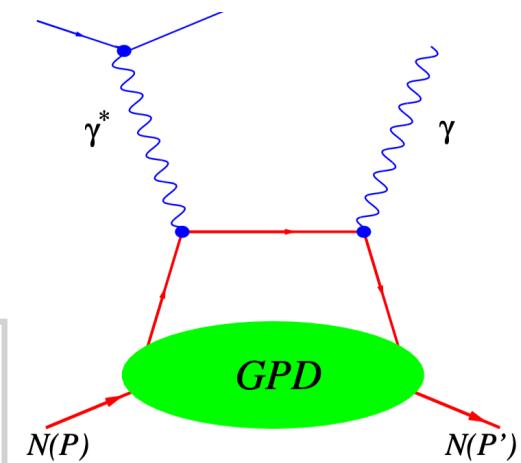


- Proton: Burkert, Elouadrhiri, Girod, Nature 557, 396 (2018)

JLab data: PRL 100, 162002 (2008) & PRL 115, 212003 (2015)



subtraction function in
dispersion relations for
DVCS amplitudes



- $\Delta(t, \mu) \rightarrow D^Q(t, \mu)$ scale-dependent
model-dependent
- Explore Q^2 range at EIC & EicC

Scalar radius puzzle

- Trace FF:

$$\left\langle N(p') \left| T_{\mu}^{\mu} \right| N(p) \right\rangle = m_N \bar{u}(p') \left[A(t) - \frac{t}{4m_N^2} [A(t) - 2J(t) + 3D(t)] \right] u(p) \equiv \bar{u}(p') \Theta(t) u(p)$$

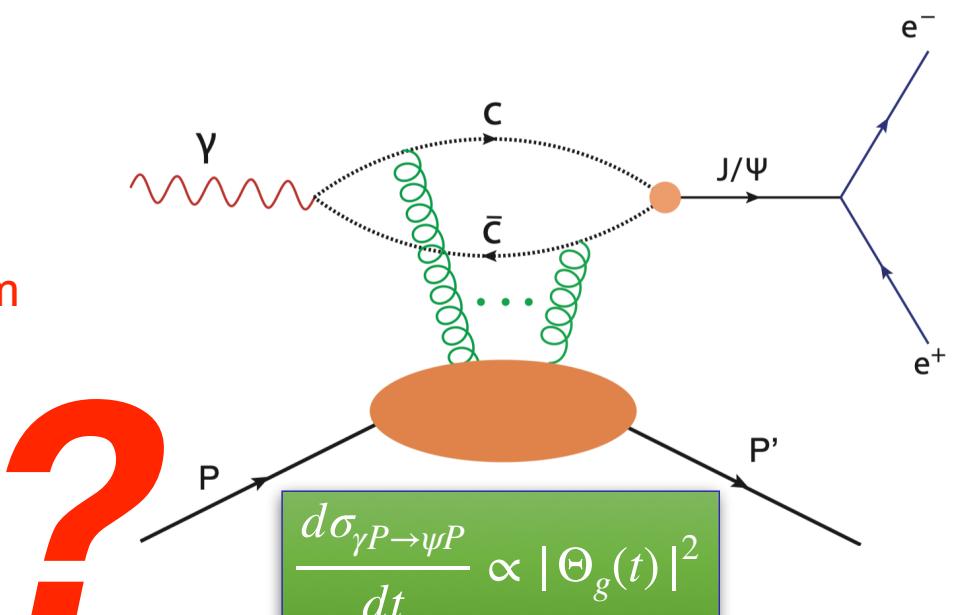
- Trace anomaly in QCD: $T_{\mu}^{\mu} = \frac{\beta(g)}{2g} F^{a,\mu\nu} F^a{}_{\mu\nu} + (1 + \gamma_m) \sum_q m_q \bar{\psi}_q \psi_q$

- Scalar radius: $\Theta(t) = m_N (1 + t \langle r_{\Theta}^2 \rangle / 6 + \dots)$

• Kharzeev proposed it can be extracted from the threshold photoproduction of the vector-meson, e.g., J/ψ , and the fit result is ~ 0.55 fm
Kharzeev, PRD (2021).....

• Recently, two LQCD calculations at near physical quark mass result in a large scalar radius, ~ 1 fm

Hackett et al., PRL (2024); Wang et al. [xQCD], PRD (2024)

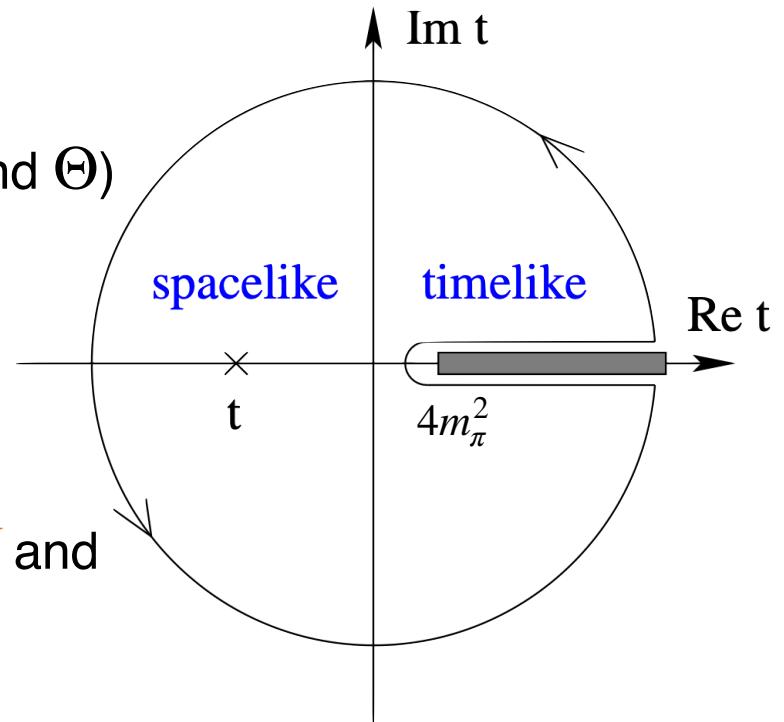


Kharzeev, PRD (2021)

fits to low-t data \Rightarrow dispersive analyses of "all" data

Why data-driven dispersion theory?

- Based on fundamental principles: **unitarity**, **analyticity** and **crossing symmetry**
- Simultaneous analysis of all four FFs (A, J, D and Θ)
- Connects FFs over full range of momentum transfers: **timelike** and **spacelike** data
- Connects to data from other processes ($\pi\pi, K\bar{K}$ and $\pi N, KN$ scatterings...)
- Constraints from **ChPT**, pQCD



Unitarity relation for pion GFFs

- Gravitational form factors (GFFs) for spin-0 particles, e.g., for pion:

$$\left\langle \pi^a(p') \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| \pi^b(p) \right\rangle = \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[A^\pi(t) P^\mu P^\nu + D^\pi(t) (\Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu - \text{tg}^{\mu\nu}) \right]$$

$$P^\mu = p'^\mu + p^\mu, \quad \Delta^\mu = p'^\mu - p^\mu$$



Crossing symmetry
for constructing dispersion relations

$$\left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle = \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[A^\pi(t) \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + D^\pi(t) (P^\mu P^\nu - \text{tg}^{\mu\nu}) \right]$$

- Unitarity for full amplitude \Rightarrow discontinuity (imaginary part) of the pion GFFs

$$\text{Disc} \left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l \left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \mid \pi^c(l) \pi^d(P-l) \right\rangle \left\langle \pi^c(l) \pi^d(P-l) \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle^*$$

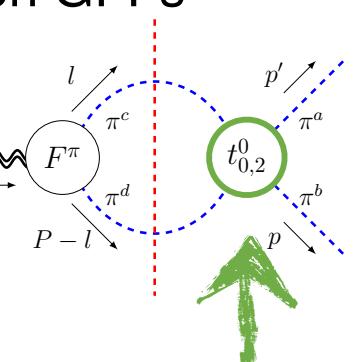
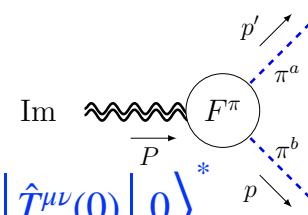
$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l [A(t, s, u) \delta^{ab} \delta^{cd} + A(s, t, u) \delta^{ac} \delta^{bd} + A(u, s, t) \delta^{ad} \delta^{bc}]$$

$$\times \frac{\delta^{cd}}{2} \left[(A^\pi(t))^* (2l-P)^\mu (2l-P)^\nu + (D^\pi(t))^* (P^\mu P^\nu - \text{tg}^{\mu\nu}) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} A^{I=0}(t, s, u) [(A^\pi(t))^* (2l-P)^\mu (2l-P)^\nu + (D^\pi(t))^* (P^\mu P^\nu - \text{tg}^{\mu\nu})]$$

S-,D-waves

S-wave



$\pi\pi$ scattering

Unitarity relation for pion GFFs

- Discontinuity of A^π and D^π : associated only with t_0^0, t_2^0 partial waves.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Disc} \left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \rangle &= \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[\text{Disc } A^\pi(t) \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \text{Disc } D^\pi(t) (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] \\ &= 2i \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[(A^\pi(t))^* \left(\frac{4}{3t} p_\pi^2 [t_0^0(t) - t_2^0(t)] (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) + [t_2^0(t)] \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu \right) + (D^\pi(t))^* [t_0^0(t)] (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Partial-wave amplitudes of $\pi\pi$ scattering

- Partial-wave unitarity

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im } A^\pi(t) &= \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} (t_2^0(t))^* A^\pi(t) \\ \text{Im } D^\pi(t) &= \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \left[\frac{4}{3} \frac{p_\pi^2}{t} (t_0^0(t) - t_2^0(t))^* A^\pi(t) + (t_0^0(t))^* D^\pi(t) \right] \end{aligned}$$

- Decomposition into $J^{PC} = 0^{++}, 2^{++}$, matrix elements (conserved separately):

$$\left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \rangle = \delta^{ab} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} \left(g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{P^\mu P^\nu}{P^2} \right) \Theta^\pi(t) + \left[\Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \frac{\Delta^2}{3t} (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] A^\pi(t) \right\} \quad \text{Raman, PRD (1971)}$$

Trace part: $\left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^\mu{}_\mu(0) \right| 0 \rangle = \delta^{ab} \Theta^\pi(t), \quad \Theta^\pi(t) = -\frac{1}{2} (4p_\pi^2 A^\pi(t) + 3t D^\pi(t))$

Unitarity relation for pion GFFs

- Discontinuity of A^π and D^π : associated only with t_0^0, t_2^0 partial waves.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Disc} \left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \rangle &= \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[\text{Disc } A^\pi(t) \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \text{Disc } D^\pi(t) (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] \\ &= 2i \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} \left[(A^\pi(t))^* \left(\frac{4}{3t} p_\pi^2 [t_0^0(t) - t_2^0(t)] (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) + [t_2^0(t)] \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu \right) + (D^\pi(t))^* [t_0^0(t)] (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Partial-wave amplitudes of $\pi\pi$ scattering

- Partial-wave unitarity

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im } A^\pi(t) &= \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} (t_2^0(t))^* A^\pi(t) \\ \text{Im } D^\pi(t) &= \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \left[\frac{4}{3} \frac{p_\pi^2}{t} (t_0^0(t) - t_2^0(t))^* A^\pi(t) + (t_0^0(t))^* D^\pi(t) \right] \end{aligned} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Im } \Theta^\pi(t) = \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} (t_0^0(t))^* \Theta^\pi(t)$$

- Decomposition into $J^{PC} = 0^{++}, 2^{++}$, matrix elements (conserved separately):

$$\left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \rangle = \delta^{ab} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} \left(g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{P^\mu P^\nu}{P^2} \right) \Theta^\pi(t) + \left[\Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \frac{\Delta^2}{3t} (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] A^\pi(t) \right\}$$

Trace part: $\left\langle \pi^a(p') \pi^b(p) \middle| \hat{T}^\mu_\mu(0) \right| 0 \rangle = \delta^{ab} \Theta^\pi(t), \quad \Theta^\pi(t) = -\frac{1}{2} (4p_\pi^2 A^\pi(t) + 3t D^\pi(t))$

A^π : D-wave single channel

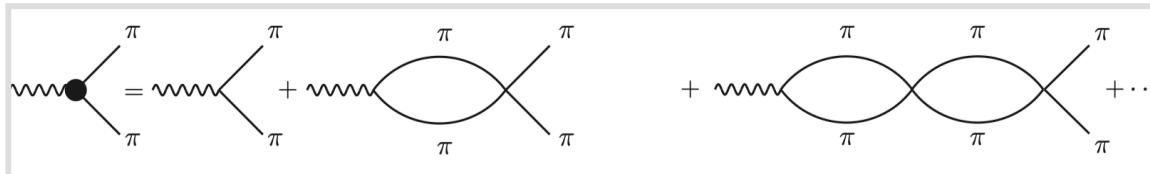
● **Single-channel:** Watson's theorem \Rightarrow phase of FF = scattering phase shift

$$\text{disc } A^\pi(t) = 2iA^\pi(t)\sin\delta_2^0(t)e^{-i\delta_2^0(t)}\theta(t - t_\pi)$$

$$|t_2^0| e^{i\phi_2^0} = \frac{\eta_2^0 e^{2i\delta_2^0} - 1}{2i\sigma_\pi}$$

❖ **Omnes solution**

$$A^\pi(t) = P_2^\pi(t)\Omega_2^0(t), \quad \Omega_2^0(t) \equiv \exp \left\{ \frac{t}{\pi} \int_{t_\pi}^\infty \frac{dt'}{t'} \frac{\phi_2^0(t')}{t' - t} \right\}$$



δ_2^0 replaced by the phase of $\pi\pi$ partial wave ϕ_2^0 to account for inelasticity

Hoferichter et al., Phys. Rept. (2016)

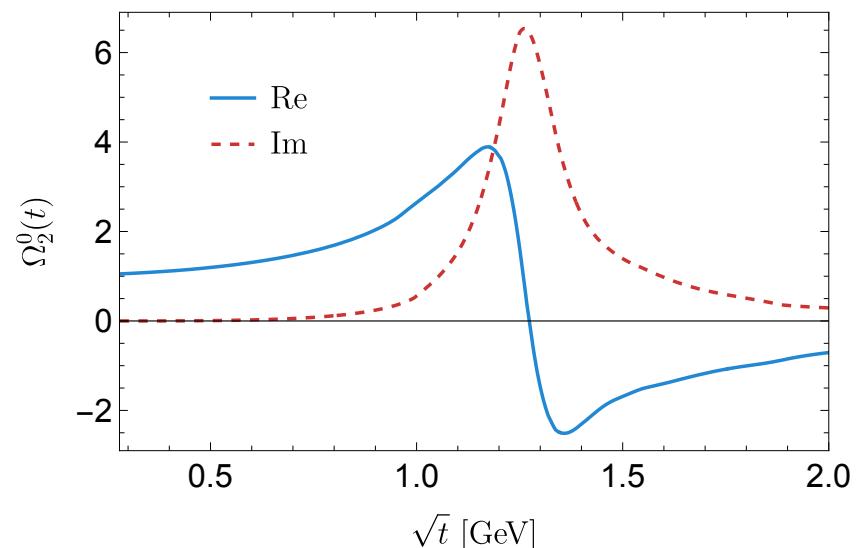
• δ_2^0, η_2^0 up to $E_0 \simeq 2$ GeV from dispersive analysis Bydžovský et al., PRD (2016)

• Polynomial: $P_2^\pi(t) = 1 + \alpha t$ matched to NLO ChPT

$$\Rightarrow A^\pi(t) = 1 - \frac{2L_{12}^r}{F_\pi^2}t$$

Tensor-meson dominance estimate: $L_{12}^r = -\frac{F_\pi^2}{2m_{f_2}^2}$

$$P_2^\pi(t) = 1 + \left[\frac{1}{m_{f_2}^2} - \dot{\Omega}_2^0(0) \right] t \simeq 1 - (0.01 \text{GeV}^{-2}) t$$



Θ^π : S-wave $\pi\pi - K\bar{K}$ coupled channel

- $\pi\pi$ S-wave phase shifts known precisely from Roy(-like) equation analyses

Bern group; Madrid-Krakow group

- Generalisation to coupled channels: isoscalar-scalar $f_0(500)$, $f_0(980)$ mesons

Unitarity relation for $\Theta^\pi \Rightarrow$ Matrix relation for coupled channels (both pion and kaon trace GFFs):

$$\text{Im } \Theta^\pi(t) = \frac{2p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} (t_0^0(t))^* \Theta^\pi(t)$$

$$\text{Im } \Theta(t) = [\mathbf{T}_0^0(t)]^* \Sigma_0^0(t) \Theta(t)$$

$$\Theta(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \Theta^\pi(t) \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \Theta^K(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Phase-space factor

$$\Sigma_0^0(t) \equiv \text{diag}(\sigma_\pi \theta(t - t_\pi), \sigma_K \theta(t - t_K))$$

$$\text{With } \sigma_i(t) = \sqrt{1 - 4m_i^2/t} \quad (i = \pi, K)$$

$\pi\pi-K\bar{K}$ T-matrix

$$\mathbf{T}_0^0(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\eta_0^0(t)e^{2i\delta_0^0(t)} - 1}{2i\sigma_\pi} & |g_0^0(t)| e^{i\Psi_0^0(t)} \\ |g_0^0(t)| e^{i\Psi_0^0(t)} & \frac{\eta_0^0(t)e^{2i(\Psi_0^0(t) - \delta_0^0(t))} - 1}{2i\sigma_K} \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\eta_0^0(t) = \sqrt{1 - 4\sigma_\pi\sigma_K|g_0^0(t)|^2\theta(t - t_K)}$$

Muskhelishvili-Omnès problem

Donoghue, Gasser, Leutwyler, NPB (1991)

XHC

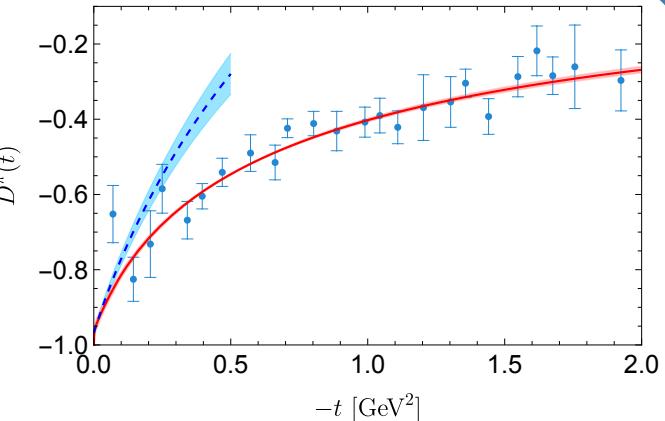
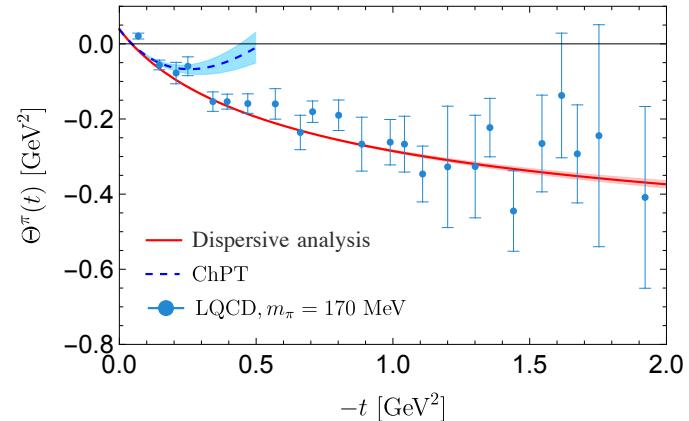
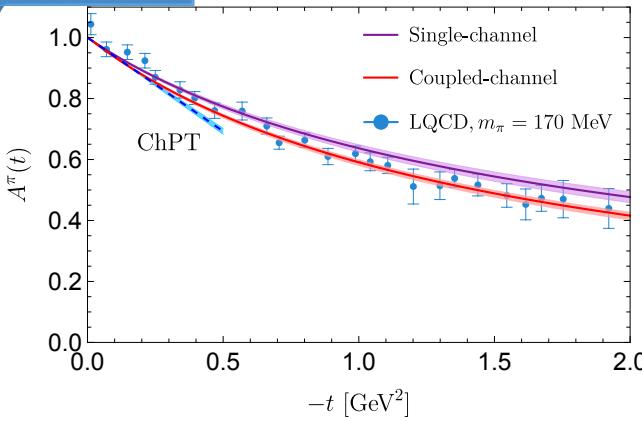
Model-independent determination of gravitational form factors from DRs

2025/9/13

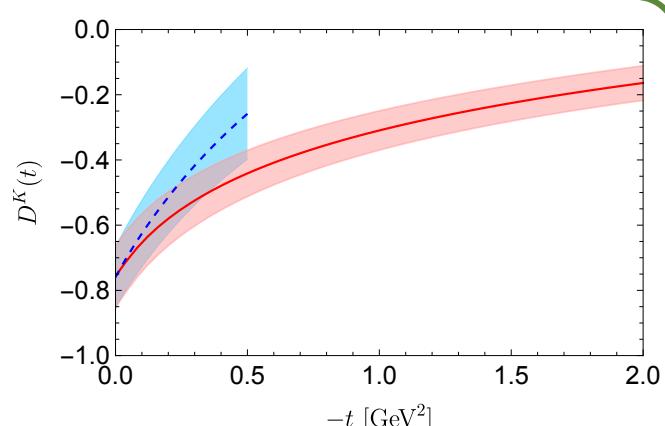
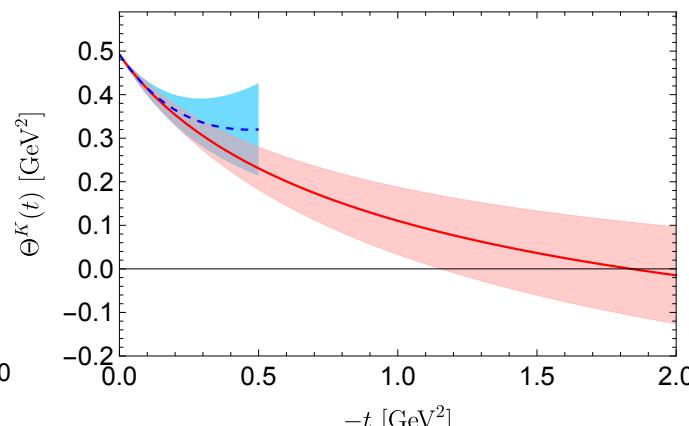
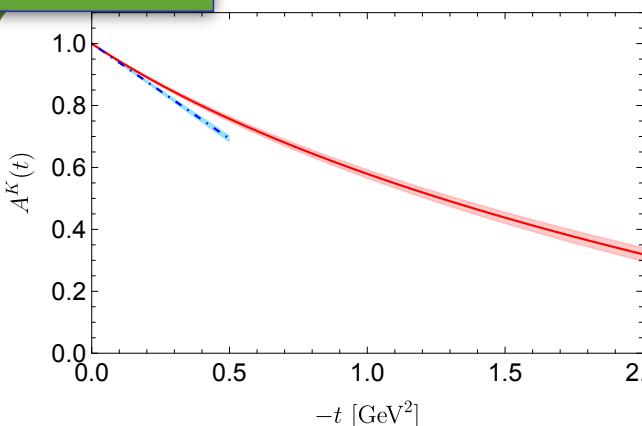
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Pion and Kaon GFFs

Prediction, Not fit

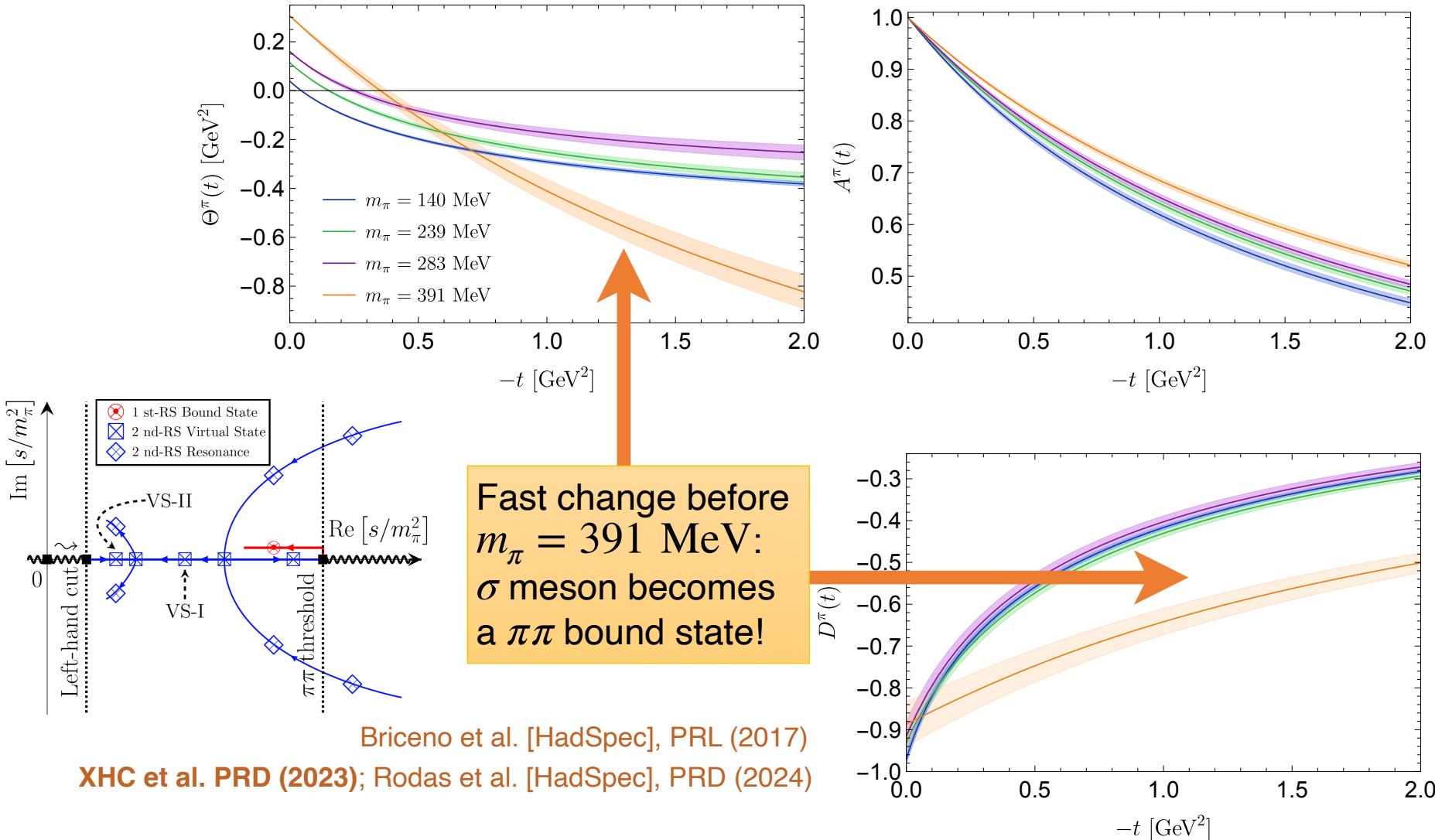


LQCD ($m_\pi \simeq 170 \text{ MeV}$): Hackett et al., PRD (2023)



Pion GFFs: pion mass dependence

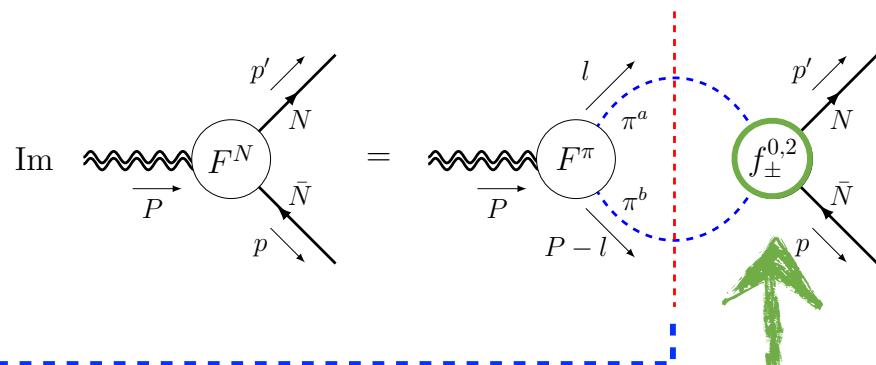
- Using the scattering phase shifts at unphysical pion masses (239 MeV, 283 MeV, 391 MeV) obtained from Roy equation analyses
XHC et al. PRD (2023); Rodas et al. [HadSpec], PRD (2024)



Unitarity relation for nucleon GFFs

● Discontinuity

$$\text{Disc} \left\langle N(p') \bar{N}(p) \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle \\ \propto \sum_n \langle N(p') \bar{N}(p) | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) | 0 \rangle^* \delta^4(p + p' - p_n)$$



● In the elastic region, only $\pi\pi$ intermediate state

$\pi\pi(K\bar{K}) \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ scattering

$$\text{Disc} \left\langle N(p') \bar{N}(p) \left| \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle \\ = \frac{1}{4m_N} \bar{u}(p') \left[\text{Disc} \hat{A}(t) \Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \text{Disc} \hat{J}(t) \left(i \Delta^{\{\mu} \sigma^{\nu\}} \rho P_\rho \right) + \text{Disc} \hat{D}(t) (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] v(p) \\ = \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l \langle N(p') \bar{N}(p) | \pi^a(l) \pi^b(P-l) \rangle \langle \pi^a(l) \pi^b(P-l) | \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) | 0 \rangle^* \\ = \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l \bar{u}(p') \left[\delta^{ab} \mathbb{1} \left(A^+ + \frac{(\not{P} - 2\not{l})}{2} B^+ \right) + i \epsilon_{bac} \tau^c \left(A^- + \frac{(\not{P} - 2\not{l})}{2} B^- \right) \right] v(p) \\ \times \frac{\delta^{ab}}{2} [(A^\pi(t))^* (2l - P)^\mu (2l - P)^\nu + (D^\pi(t))^* (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu})] \\ = \frac{1}{2} \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{p_\pi}{\sqrt{t}} \int d\Omega_l \bar{u}(p') \frac{3}{2} \left(A^+ + \frac{(\not{P} - 2\not{l})}{2} B^+ \right) v(p) [(A^\pi(t))^* (2l - P)^\mu (2l - P)^\nu + (D^\pi(t))^* (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu})]$$

A^\pm, B^\pm : Lorentz invariant πN scattering amplitudes

Unitarity relation for nucleon GFFs

- Discontinuity of the nucleon GFFs

$$\Gamma^2 = m_N^2 \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} f_-^2 - f_+^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im } A(t) &= \frac{3p_\pi^5}{\sqrt{6t}} \left[f_-^2(t) + \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{m_N}{p_N^2} \Gamma^2(t) \right]^* A^\pi(t) \\ \text{Im } J(t) &= \frac{3p_\pi^5}{2\sqrt{6t}} [f_-^2(t)]^* A^\pi(t) \\ \text{Im } D(t) &= -\frac{3m_N p_\pi}{2p_N^2 \sqrt{t}} \left[\frac{4p_\pi^2}{3t} \left((f_+^0(t))^* - (p_\pi p_N)^2 (f_+^2(t))^* \right) A^\pi(t) + (f_+^0(t))^* D^\pi(t) \right] \end{aligned}$$

→

$$\text{Im } \Theta(t) = -\frac{3p_\pi}{4p_N^2 \sqrt{t}} [f_+^0(t)]^* \Theta^\pi(t)$$

$f_\pm^J: \pi\pi \rightarrow K\bar{K}$ partial wave amp. With $+/-$ for parallel/anti-parallel $N\bar{N}$ helicities

Frazer & Fulco (1960); Höhler (1983)

- Decomposition into $J^{PC} = 0^{++}, 2^{++}$, matrix elements

Coupled-channel

$$\langle N(p') \bar{N}(p) | \hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(0) | 0 \rangle = \bar{u}(p') \left(\color{red} T_S^{\mu\nu} \color{black} + \color{blue} T_T^{\mu\nu} \right) v(p)$$

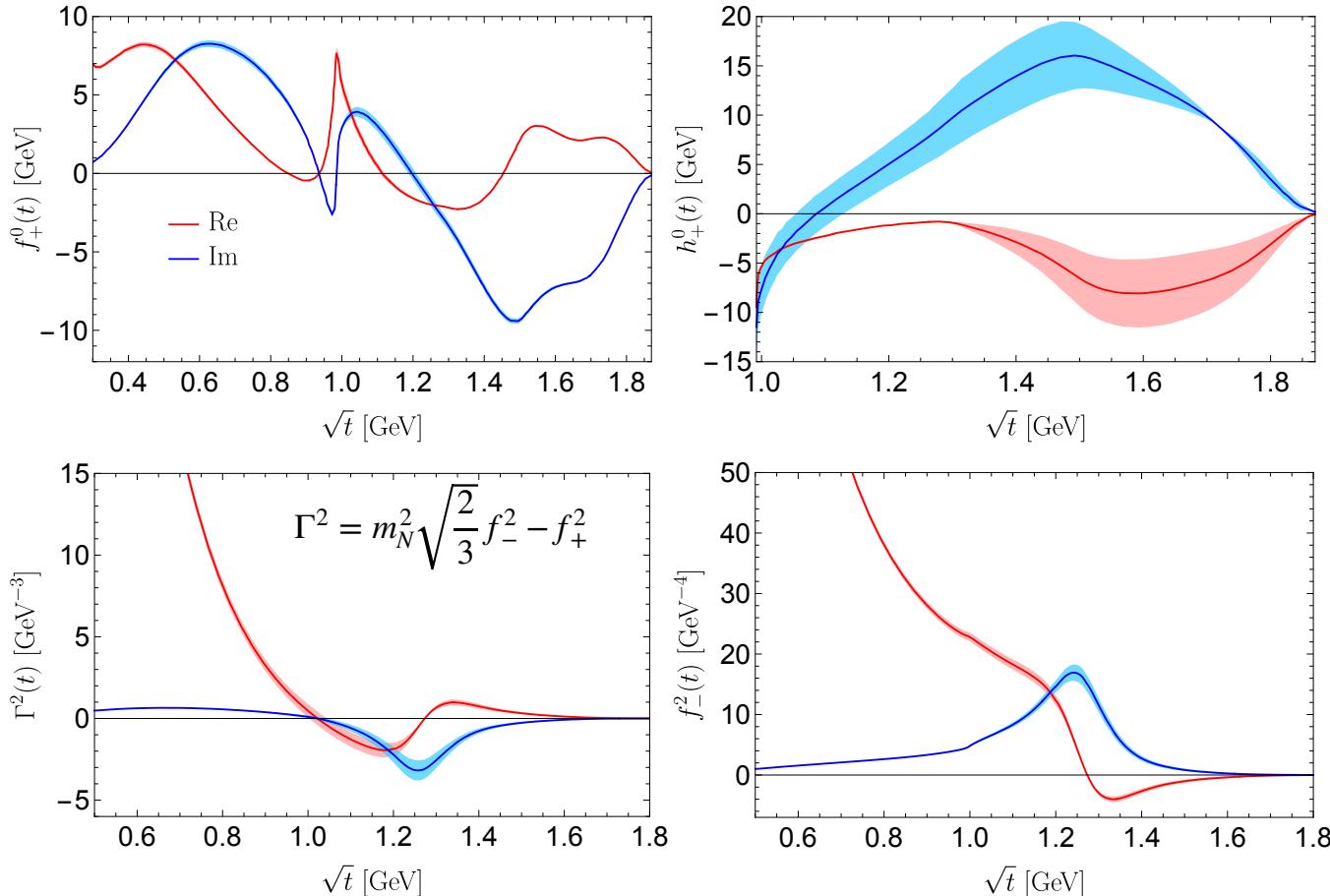
$$T_S^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{3} \left(g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{P^\mu P^\nu}{P^2} \right) \Theta(t)$$

$$\text{Im } \Theta(t) = -\frac{3}{4p_N^2 \sqrt{t}} \left\{ p_\pi [f_+^0(t)]^* \Theta^\pi(t) \theta(t - t_\pi) + \frac{4}{3} p_K [h_+^0(t)]^* \Theta^K(t) \theta(t - t_K) \right\}$$

$$T_T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{4m_N} \left[\Delta^\mu \Delta^\nu + \frac{\Delta^2}{3t} (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] A(t) + \left[i \Delta^{\{\mu} \sigma^{\nu\}\rho} P_\rho + \frac{2i \sigma^{\rho\kappa} \Delta_\rho P_\kappa}{3t} (P^\mu P^\nu - t g^{\mu\nu}) \right] J(t)$$

$\pi\pi/K\bar{K} \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ partial wave amplitudes

- Inputs: $\pi\pi/K\bar{K} \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ partial wave amp. $f_{\pm}^{0,2}, h_+^0$ from Roy-Steiner analyses
Hite & Steiner, Nuove Cimento A (1973)



πN amplitudes from modern Roy-Steiner equation analyses

Ditsche, et al., JHEP (2012); Hoferichter, et al., PRL 115, 092301(2015); PRL 115, 192301 (2015); Phys. Rept. (2016);
XHC, Q.-Z. Li & H.-Q. Zheng, JHEP (2022); Hoferichter, et al., PLB (2024)

Gravitational form factors of the nucleon

- Dispersive relations (DRs) for the nucleon GFFs :

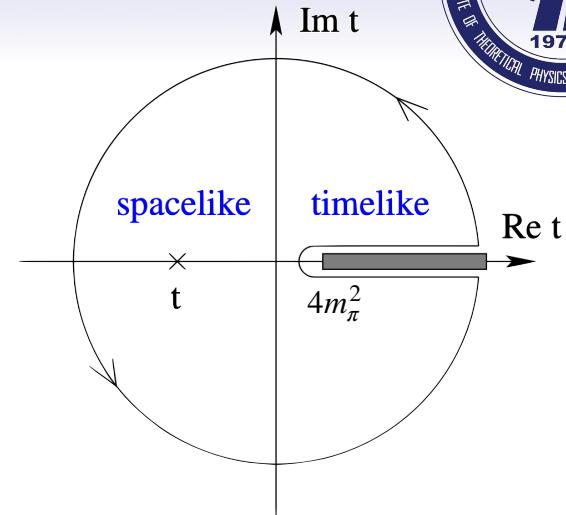
$$(A, J, \Theta)(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m_\pi^2}^{\infty} dt' \frac{\text{Im}(A, J, \Theta)(t')}{t' - t}$$

- Constraints:

⌚ Normalizations: mass m_N , spin 1/2

⇒ sum rules saturated by $\pi\pi$, $K\bar{K}$ continuum and some higher mass states

Belushkin et al., PRC (2007); Hoferichter et al., EPJA (2016) ...



$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m_\pi^2}^{\infty} dt' \frac{\text{Im}(A, J, \Theta)(t')}{t'} = \left(1, \frac{1}{2}, m_N \right)$$

Introduce S -wave 0^{++} and D -wave (2^{++}) poles to the spectral functions:

$\pi c_{S,D} m_{S,D}^2 \delta(t - m_{S,D}^2)$ to satisfy the sum rules

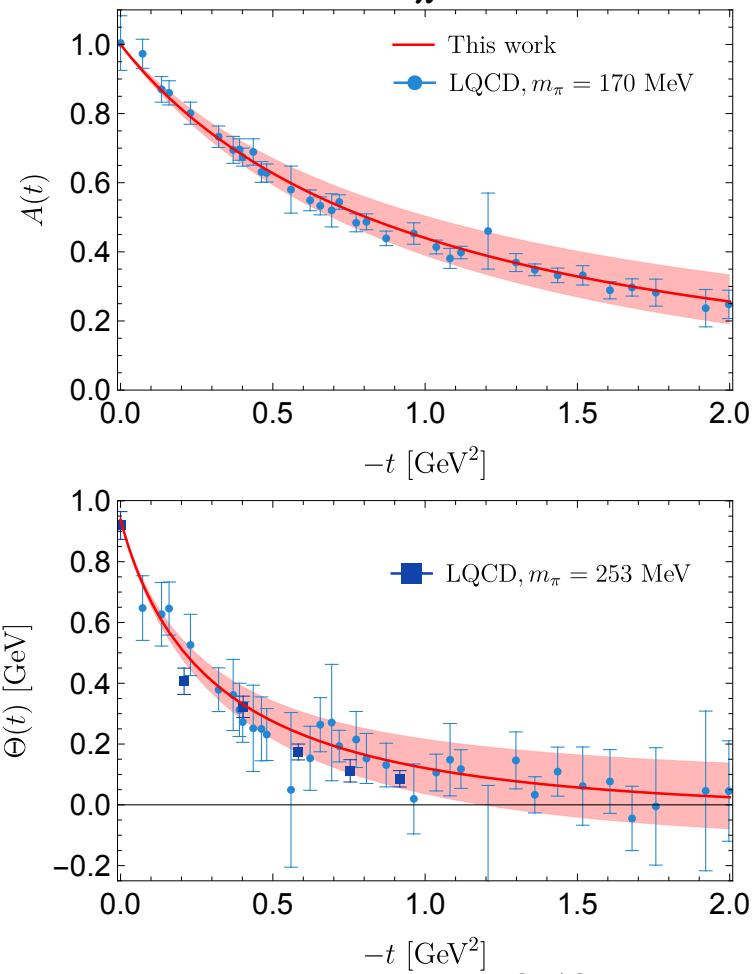
✓ 0^{++} : $m_S \in (1.5, 1.8)$ GeV to cover $f_0(1500)$ and $f_0(1710)$

✓ 2^{++} : $m_D \in (1.5, 2.2)$ GeV to cover $f_2(1500)$, $f_2(1950)$ and $f_2(2010)$

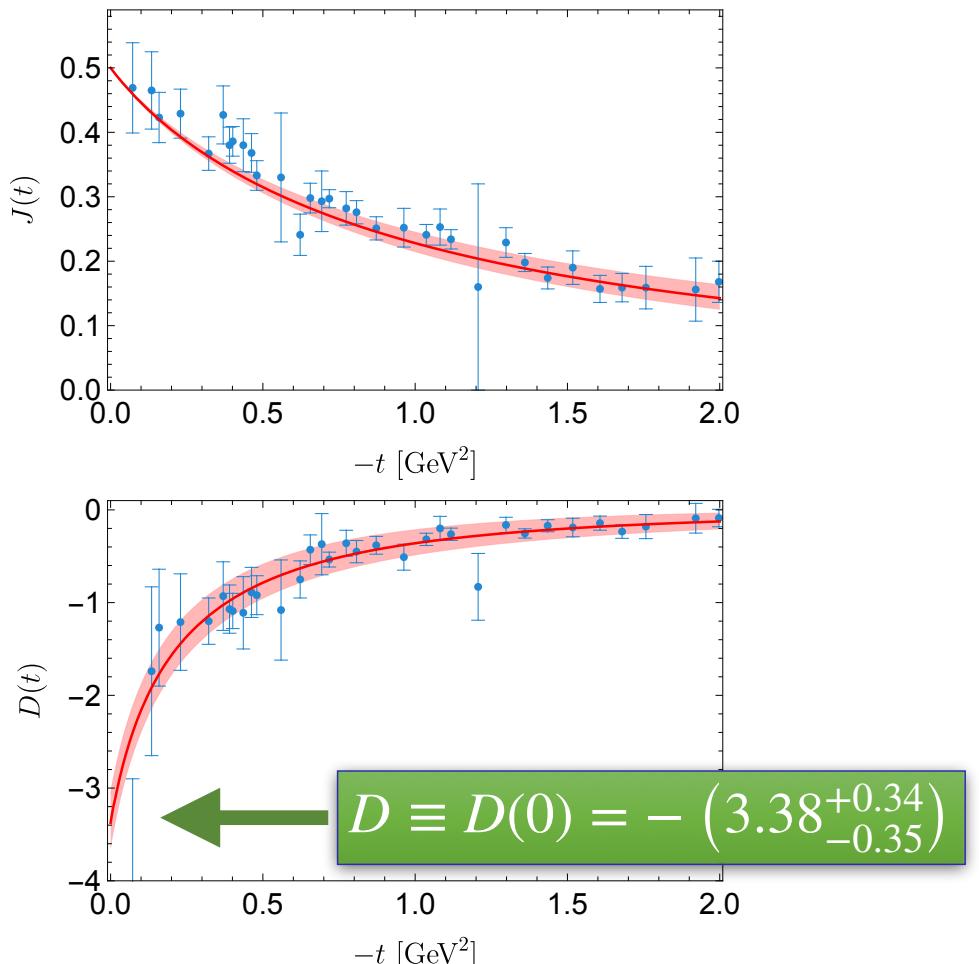
Nucleon GFFs

Predictions:

LQCD ($m_\pi \simeq 170$ MeV): Hackett et al., PRL (2024)



LQCD ($m_\pi \simeq 253$ MeV): Wang et al. [xQCD], PRD (2024)

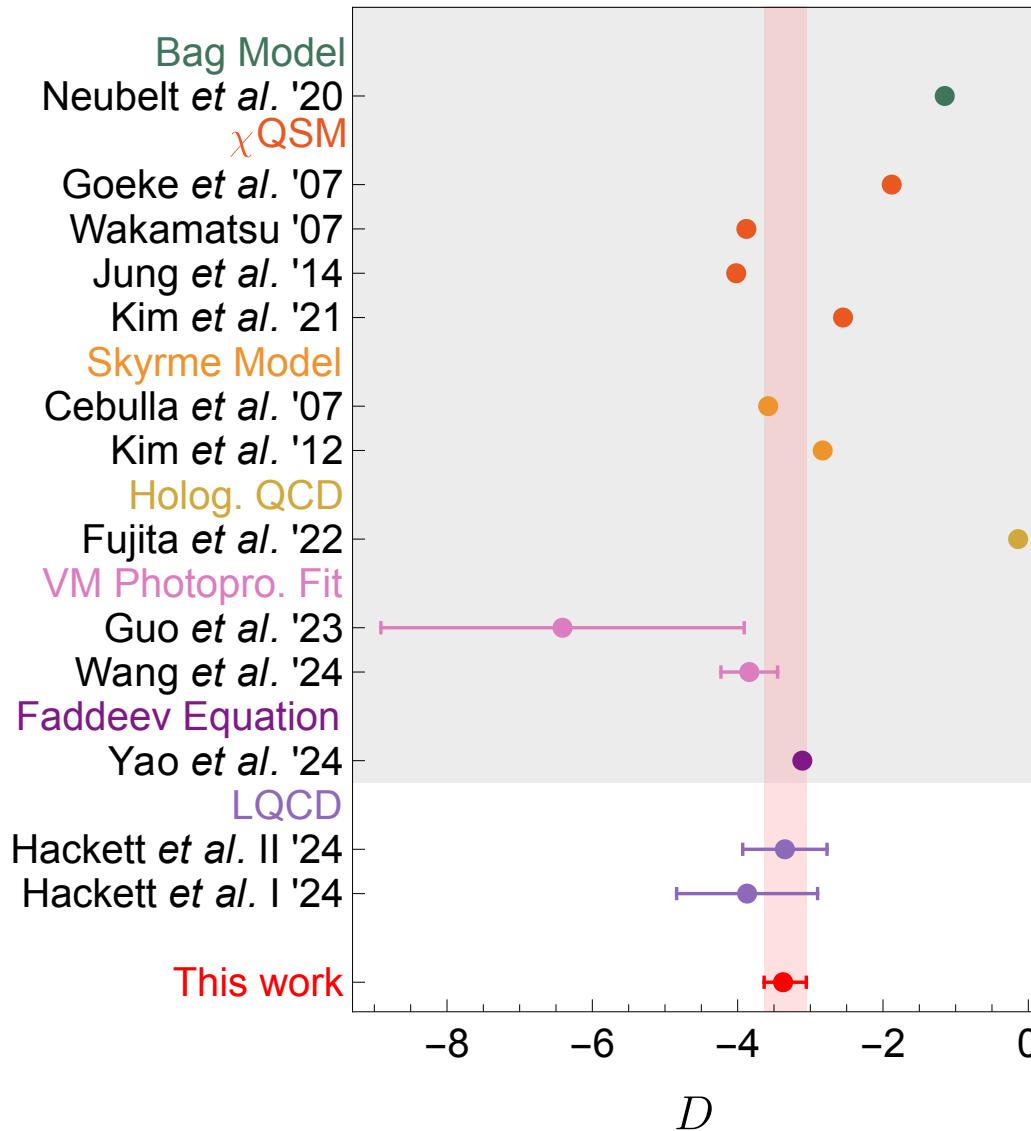


- GFFs be **model-independently** predicted using data-driven dispersion relations + ChPT
- Not a fit!

Nucleon D-term

- Nucleon D-term $D \equiv D(0)$:

$$D = - (3.38^{+0.34}_{-0.35})$$



- Positivity bound:

$$D < -0.2$$

Gegelia & Polyakov, PLB (2021)

“The stability condition”

$$\text{normal force } \frac{2}{3}s(r) + p(r) \geq 0$$

$$\widetilde{D}(r) = \int \frac{d^3\Delta}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\Delta \cdot r} D(-\Delta^2) < 0$$

Nucleon GFFs: D-term & radii

● Various radii in the Breit frame

Radius of the scalar trace density

$$\langle r_\Theta^2 \rangle = \frac{6\dot{\Theta}(0)}{m_N} = 6\dot{A}(0) - \frac{9D}{2m_N^2}$$

Radius of the mass (energy) density

$$\langle r_{\text{Mass}}^2 \rangle = 6\dot{A}(0) - \frac{3D}{2m_N^2}$$

Mechanical radius

Polyakov, PLB (2003)
Polyakov, & Schweitzer, IJMPA (2018)

$$\langle r_{\text{Mech}}^2 \rangle = \frac{6D}{\int_{-\infty}^0 dt D(t)}$$

Radius of the angular momentum (spin) density

$$J(t) + \frac{2}{3}t \frac{dJ(t)}{dt}$$

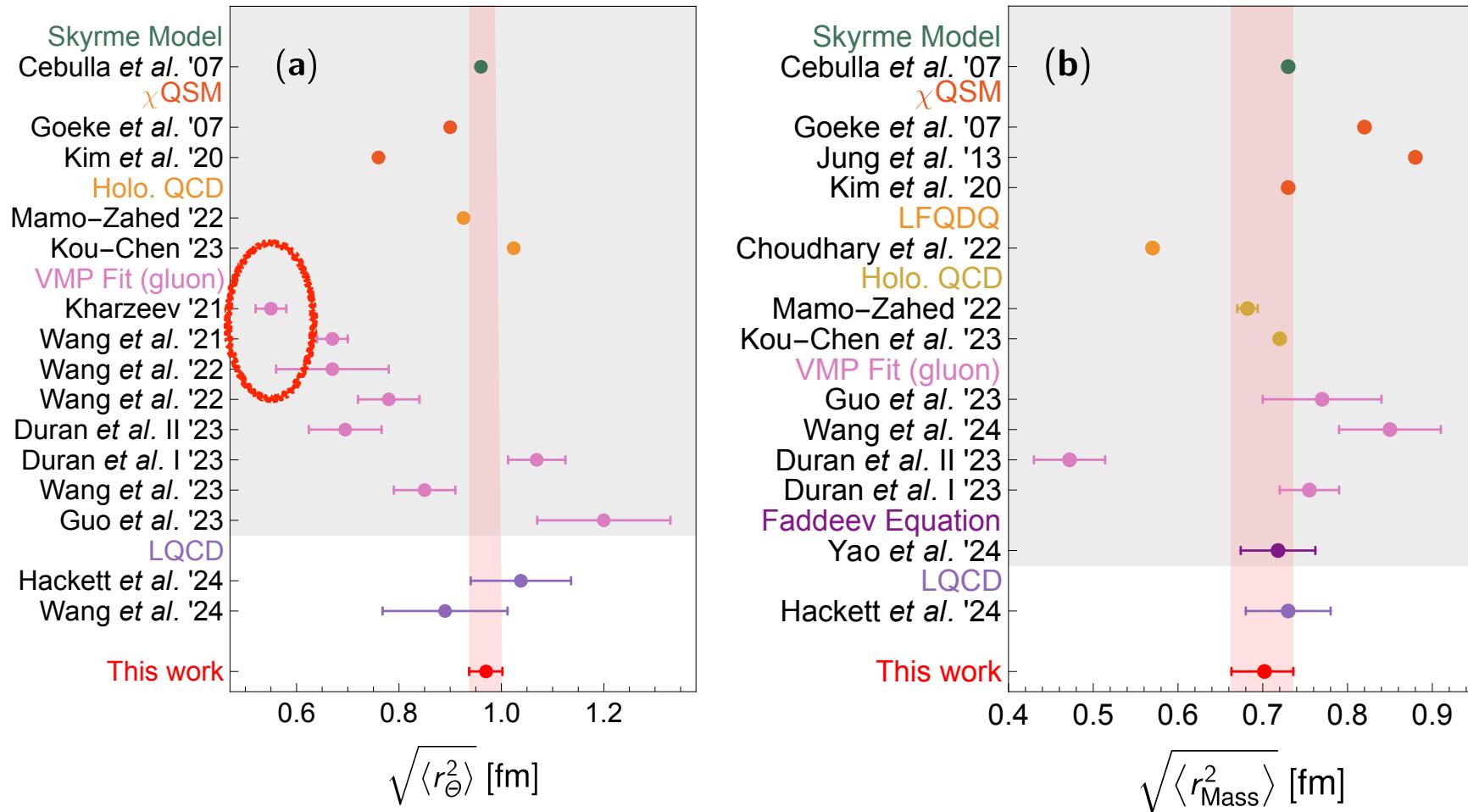
Polyakov, PLB (2003)
Lorcé et al., PLB (2018)

$$\langle r_J^2 \rangle = 20J'(0)$$

Quantity	Result	Error budget
D-term	$-3.38^{+0.34}_{-0.35}$	$+(0.18)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.12)_{\text{PWA}}(0.26)_{\text{eff}}$
$\sqrt{\langle r_\Theta^2 \rangle} [\text{fm}]$	$0.97^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$	$-(0.16)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.12)_{\text{PWA}}(0.29)_{\text{eff}}$
$\sqrt{\langle r_{\text{Mass}}^2 \rangle}$	$0.70^{+0.03}_{-0.04}$	$+(0.01)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.03)_{\text{eff}}$
$\sqrt{\langle r_{\text{Mech}}^2 \rangle}$	$0.72^{+0.09}_{-0.08}$	$-(0.02)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.26)_{\text{eff}}$
$\sqrt{\langle r_J^2 \rangle}$	$0.70^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$+(0.02)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.02)_{\text{eff}}$
		$+(0.02)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.03)_{\text{eff}}$
		$+(0.02)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.00)_{\text{PWA}}(0.09)_{\text{eff}}$
		$-(0.03)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.07)_{\text{eff}}$
		$+(0.01)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.01)_{\text{PWA}}(0.01)_{\text{eff}}$
		$-(0.01)_{\text{ChPT}}(0.00)_{\text{PWA}}(0.02)_{\text{eff}}$

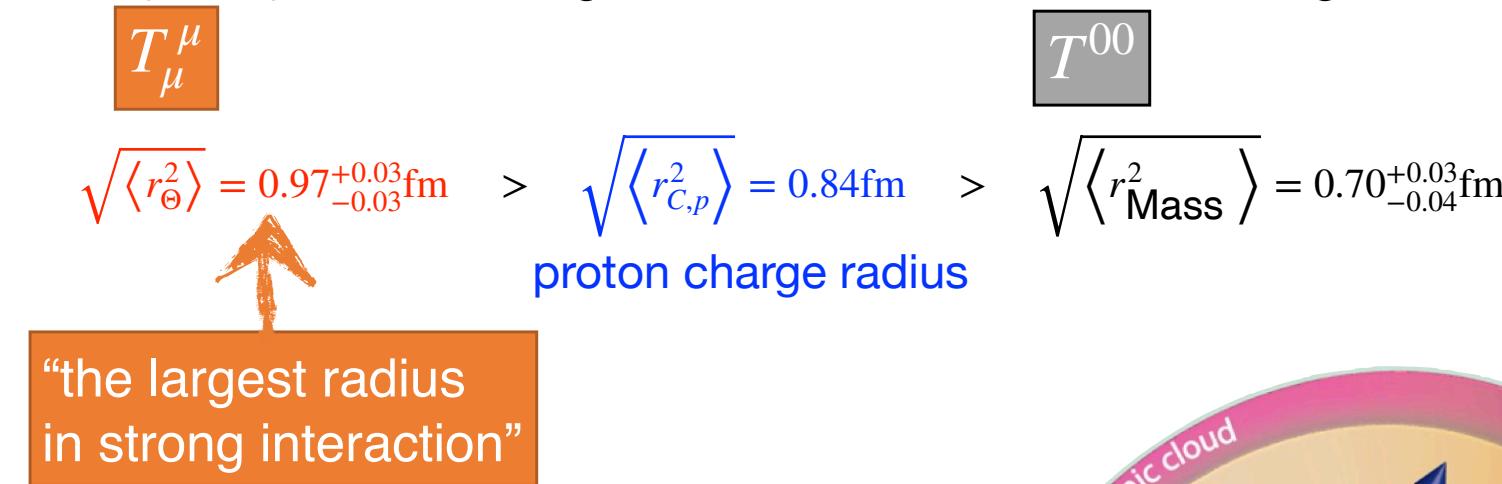
ChPT: NLO ChPT inputs
pwa: $\pi\pi/K\bar{K} \rightarrow N\bar{N}$
eff: effective poles m_S, m_D

Comparison with other works



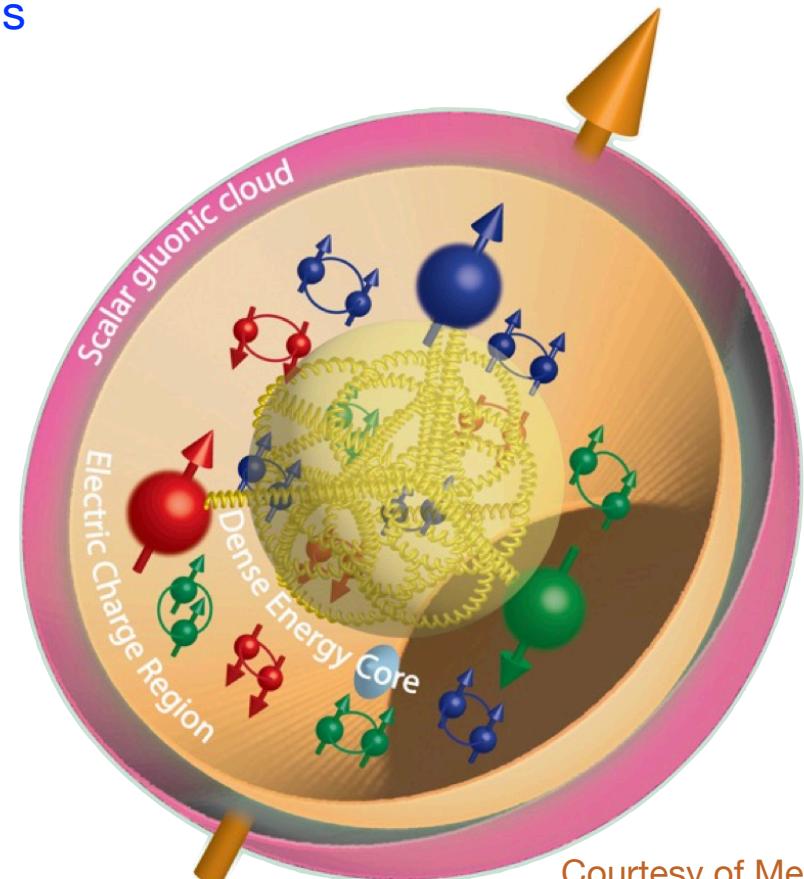
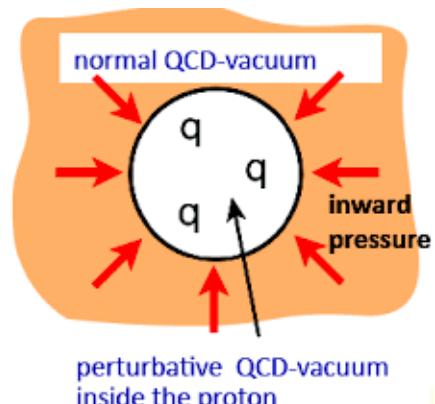
Physics of the scalar (trace) radius

- The scalar (trace) radius is larger than the mass radius as long as $D < 0$



- In the MIT bag model, **scalar radius** may be considered as the **bag (confinement) radius**
 $\sim 1 \text{ fm}$ (physical boundary of confinement)

Ji, Front.Phys.(Beijing) (2021)



Courtesy of Meziani

Summary and outlook

The pion, kaon and nucleon GFFs are precisely determined using model-independent dispersive method

Quantification of systematic and theoretical uncertainties

Nucleon static properties:

$$D = -3.38^{+0.34}_{-0.35}, \quad \sqrt{\langle r_\Theta^2 \rangle} = 0.97^{+0.03}_{-0.03} \text{ fm} \quad > \quad \sqrt{\langle r_{C,p}^2 \rangle} = 0.84 \text{ fm} \quad > \quad \sqrt{\langle r_{\text{Mass}}^2 \rangle} = 0.70^{+0.03}_{-0.04} \text{ fm}$$

proton charge radius

Pion-mass dependence of nucleon GFFs

Hyperon gravitational structure.....

Thank you for your attention!



Muskhelishvili-Omnes representation



- **Coupled-channel:** solution known as the Muskhelishvili-Omnes (MO) representation

• Take isoscalar-scalar $\pi\pi - K\bar{K}$ as example (matching point ~ 1.3 GeV)

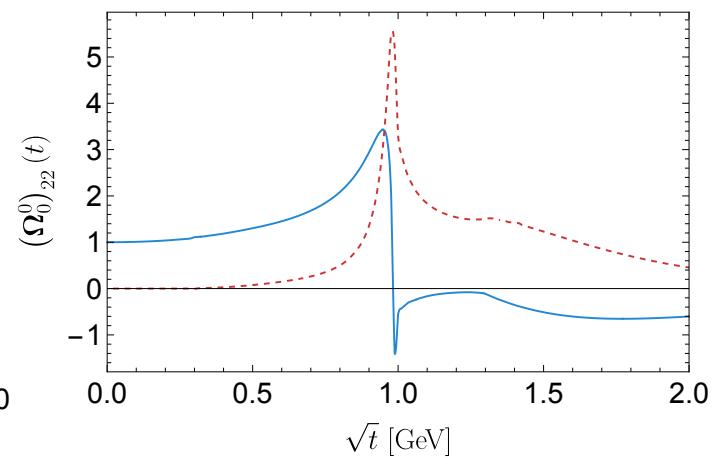
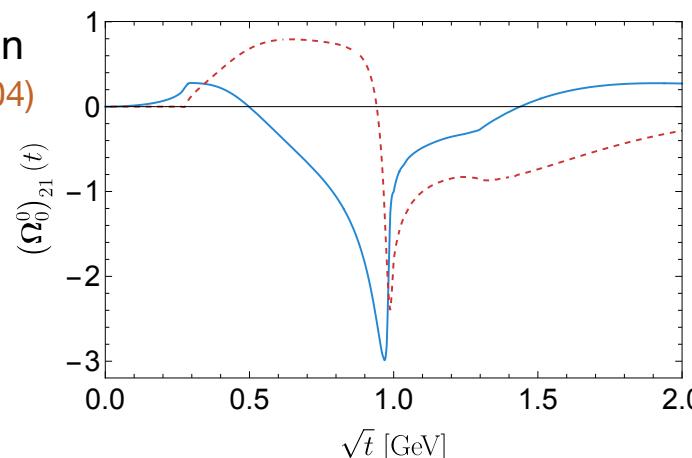
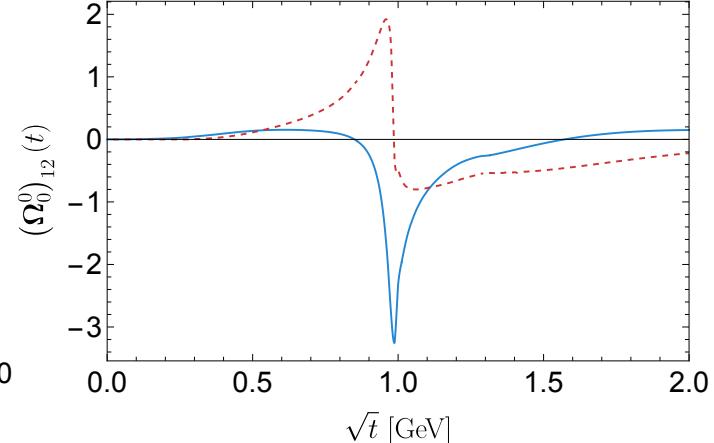
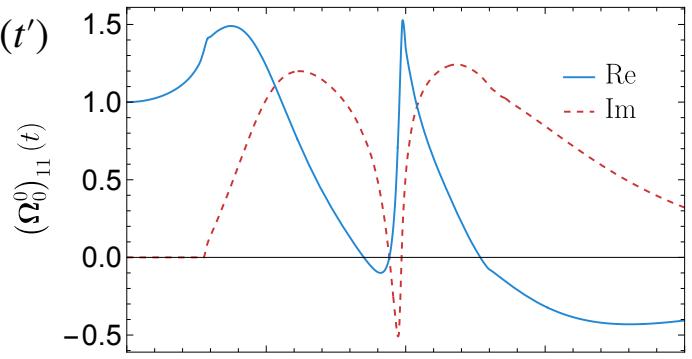
$$\Omega_0^0(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_\pi}^\infty \frac{dt'}{t' - t} [\mathbf{T}_0^0(t)]^* \Sigma_0^0(t) \Omega_0^0(t')$$

$\pi\pi$ phase shift: Roy equation

Ananthanarayan et al., Phys. Rept. (2012)
Caprini et al., EPJC (2012)

$\pi\pi \rightarrow K\bar{K}$: Roy-Steiner equation

Büttiker et al., EPJC (2004)



See also Hoferichter et al., JHEP (2012)

ChPT matching

- Pion and kaon trace GFFs

$$[\Theta(t)]^T = [\mathbf{P}_0(t)]^T \boldsymbol{\Omega}_0^0(t), \quad \mathbf{P}_0(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 2m_\pi^2 + \beta_\pi t \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} (2m_K^2 + \beta_K t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\beta_\pi = \dot{\Theta}^\pi(0) - 2m_\pi^2 \left(\dot{\Omega}_0^0 \right)_{11}(0) - \frac{4m_K^2}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\dot{\Omega}_0^0 \right)_{12}(0),$$

$$\beta_K = \dot{\Theta}^K(0) - \sqrt{3}m_\pi^2 \left(\dot{\Omega}_0^0 \right)_{21}(0) - 2m_K^2 \left(\dot{\Omega}_0^0 \right)_{22}(0),$$

- Matching to **NLO ChPT** Donoghue, Leutwyler, ZPC 52 (1991) 343

$$\dot{\Theta}^\pi(0) = 1 - 4L_{12}^r \frac{m_\pi^2}{F_\pi^2} - 24(L_{11}^r - L_{13}^r) \frac{m_\pi^2}{F_\pi^2} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{m_\pi^2}{F_\pi^2} I_\pi + \frac{m_\pi^2}{2F_\pi^2} I_\eta = 0.98(2)$$

$$\dot{\Theta}^K(0) = 1 - 4L_{12}^r \frac{m_K^2}{F_\pi^2} - 24(L_{11}^r - L_{13}^r) \frac{m_K^2}{F_\pi^2} - \frac{m_K^2}{F_\pi^2} I_\eta = 0.94(14) \quad \Rightarrow \text{ chiral logs: } I_i = \frac{1}{48\pi^2} \left(\ln \frac{\mu^2}{m_i^2} - 1 \right)$$

- Similar coupled-channel analysis for D -wave

\Rightarrow coupled channel results for A^π, A^K and D^π, D^K