

# Hadronic contributions to $g - 2$ from lattice QCD

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1. Brief overview of lattice activities at DESY
2. Introduction – muon  $g - 2$
3. Hadronic vacuum polarization
4. Hadronic light-by-light scattering
5. Outlook

...is a regularization of Euclidean-space QCD such that the path integral can be done fully non-perturbatively.

- ▶ Euclidean spacetime becomes a periodic hypercubic lattice, with spacing  $a$  and box size  $L_s^3 \times L_t$ .
- ▶ Path integral over fermion degrees of freedom is done analytically, for each gauge configuration. Solving the Dirac equation with a fixed source yields a source-to-all quark propagator.
- ▶ Path integral over gauge degrees of freedom is done numerically using Monte Carlo methods to generate an *ensemble of gauge configurations*.

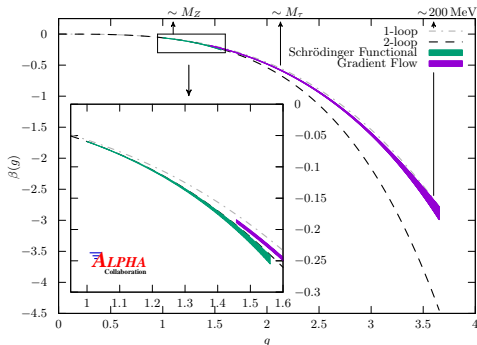
The  $a \rightarrow 0$  and  $L_s, L_t \rightarrow \infty$  extrapolations need to be taken by using multiple ensembles.

# Lattice activities at DESY

- ▶ Broad research in lattice field theory
  - ▶ lattice QCD
  - ▶ algorithm and conceptual developments
  - ▶ new approaches (e.g. tensor network techniques)
- ▶ Multi-level algorithm → reduce exponential signal-to-noise problem
- ▶ Group plays leading and central role in two large European efforts:
  - ▶ European Twisted Mass Collaboration (ETMC)
  - ▶ Coordinated Lattice Simulations (CLS)

## ALPHA Collaboration:

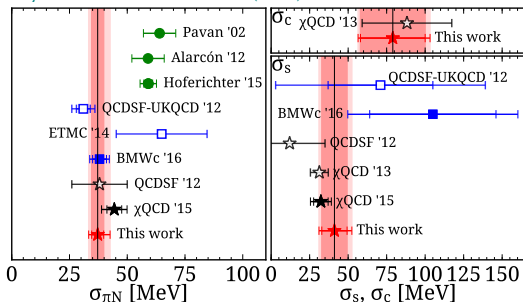
- ▶ HQET, B-physics
- ▶ final determination of strong coupling constant based on 3-flavour calculations
- ▶ lattice ensembles pushing toward physical quark masses



## ETMC:

- ▶ Nucleon sigma terms
  - ▶ computed on one  $N_f = 2$  ensemble with physical  $m_\pi$
  - ▶ relevant for dark matter searches
  - ▶ most precise results for  $\sigma_s$  and  $\sigma_c$

Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 252001 (2016), 1601.01624



- ▶ Nucleon structure:
  - ▶ form factors
  - ▶ moments of parton distribution functions
  - ▶ direct calculation of parton distribution functions
- ▶ Muon anomalous magnetic moment
- ▶ Future outlook: more-physical calculations
  - ▶  $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$  with correct  $\pi$ ,  $K$  and  $D$  meson masses
  - ▶ include QED and isospin breaking

## Muon anomalous magnetic moment

A muon has magnetic moment  $\vec{\mu} = g_{\mu} \frac{e}{2m_{\mu}} \vec{S}$ . The Dirac equation predicts  $g_{\mu} = 2$ , but quantum effects produce a small deviation,

$$a_{\mu} \equiv \frac{g_{\mu} - 2}{2} = \begin{cases} 116\,592\,089(63) \times 10^{-11} & \text{experiment BNL E821, PRD 73, 072003 (2006)} \\ 116\,591\,828(50) \times 10^{-11} & \text{theory US "Snowmass" Self Study, 1311.2198} \end{cases}$$

$\Delta a_{\mu} = (261 \pm 78) \times 10^{-11}$ , a  $3\sigma$  discrepancy.

- ▶ New experiments promise to reduce the uncertainty fourfold:
  - ▶ Fermilab E989, using the same storage ring from BNL.
  - ▶ J-PARC E34, using a new method with ultra-cold muons.
- ▶ The theoretical uncertainty should likewise be reduced.
  - ▶ Hadronic effects are the dominant contributions.

## Muon $g - 2$ : theory uncertainty

The two dominant sources of uncertainty are hadronic effects:

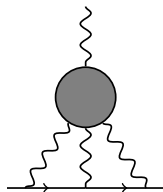
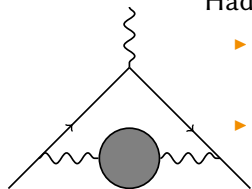
Hadronic vacuum polarization:  $a_{\mu}^{\text{HVP,LO}} = 6949(43) \times 10^{-11}$ .

- ▶ Determined using experimental data on cross section for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ .
- ▶ Very active field for lattice QCD calculations working toward an *ab initio* prediction with competitive uncertainty.

Hadronic light-by-light scattering:

$a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}} = 105(26)$  or  $116(39) \times 10^{-11}$ .

- ▶ Determined using models that include meson exchange terms, charged meson loops, etc.
- ▶ Could benefit significantly with reliable input from the lattice.



# Hadronic vacuum polarization (HVP) on the lattice

$$a_{\mu}^{\text{HVP,LO}} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2 \int_0^{\infty} dQ^2 f(Q^2) [\Pi(Q^2) - \Pi(0)],$$

where  $f(Q^2)$  is a known kernel and the integrand peaks near  $Q^2 = (m_{\mu}/2)^2$ .

Two main strategies:

## 1. Momentum space

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi_{\mu\nu}(Q) &\equiv \int d^4x e^{iQ \cdot x} \langle J_{\mu}(x) J_{\nu}(0) \rangle \\ &= (g_{\mu\nu} Q^2 - Q_{\mu} Q_{\nu}) \Pi(Q^2)\end{aligned}$$

Cannot directly obtain  $\Pi(0)$ .

Limited resolution at low  $Q^2$ , where  $f(Q^2)$  is peaked, so constrained fitting is needed.

## 2. Time-momentum representation

D. Bernecker and H. B. Meyer,  
Eur. Phys. J. A 47, 148 (2011)

$$G(x_0) \equiv -\frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=1}^3 \int d^3x \langle J_k(x_0, x) J_k(0) \rangle,$$

$$\Pi(Q^2) - \Pi(0) = \int_0^{\infty} dx_0 G(x_0) x_0^2 g(Qx_0),$$

$$g(y) \equiv 1 - \frac{4}{y^2} \sin^2(y/2)$$

Challenge is understanding large- $x_0$  behaviour of  $G(x_0)$ .



# Timelike pion form factor

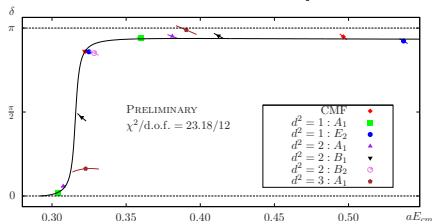
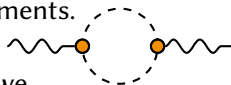
The time-momentum correlator has a spectral representation,

$$G(x_0) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \omega^2 \rho(\omega^2) e^{-\omega|x_0|}, \quad \rho(s) = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{4\pi\alpha(s)^2/(3s)}.$$

At low energies, this is given by  $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-)$ , which depends on the timelike pion form factor  $|F_\pi(\sqrt{s})|^2$ . For  $2m_\pi \leq \sqrt{s} \leq 4m_\pi$ , this can be computed from finite-volume energy levels and matrix elements.

H. B. Meyer, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **107**, 072002 (2011)

By separately computing  $|F_\pi|^2$  and fitting it with a curve, we can replace the discrete low-energy finite-volume spectrum in  $G(x_0)$  with a  $\pi^+\pi^-$  continuum, and improve the approach to the infinite-volume limit.



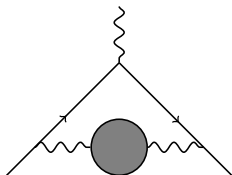
First step: compute the  $p$ -wave  $\pi\pi$  scattering phase shift. Exploratory study with  $m_\pi = 437$  MeV.

F. Erben, JG, D. Mohler, H. Wittig, poster at Lattice 2016, 1611.06805

# Hadronic contributions to the muon $g - 2$

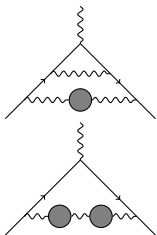
$O(\alpha^2)$ :

Leading order hadronic vacuum polarization.

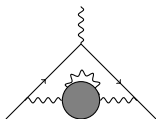


$O(\alpha^3)$ :

Higher-order contributions from leading order HVP.

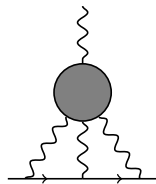


Leading-order contribution from  $O(\alpha)$  correction to HVP.



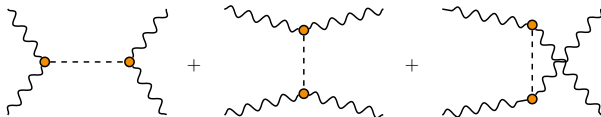
Included in the phenomenological leading-order HVP.

Hadronic light-by-light.



## $\pi^0$ contribution to HLbL scattering

About 2/3 of theory prediction for  $a_\mu^{\text{HLbL}}$  comes from  $\pi^0$  exchange diagrams, which dominate at long distances. Large contributions also come from  $\eta, \eta'$ .



Their contribution to the four-point function:

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pi_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}^{E, \pi^0}(p_4; p_1, p_2) \\ &= -p_{1\alpha} p_{2\beta} p_{3\sigma} p_{4\tau} \left( \frac{\mathcal{F}_{12} \epsilon_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \alpha \beta} \mathcal{F}_{34} \epsilon_{\mu_3 \mu_4 \sigma \tau}}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 + m_\pi^2} + \frac{\mathcal{F}_{13} \epsilon_{\mu_1 \mu_3 \alpha \sigma} \mathcal{F}_{24} \epsilon_{\mu_2 \mu_4 \beta \tau}}{(p_1 + p_3)^2 + m_\pi^2} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{\mathcal{F}_{14} \epsilon_{\mu_1 \mu_4 \alpha \tau} \mathcal{F}_{23} \epsilon_{\mu_2 \mu_3 \beta \sigma}}{(p_2 + p_3)^2 + m_\pi^2} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $p_3 = -(p_1 + p_2 + p_4)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{ij} = \mathcal{F}(-p_i^2, -p_j^2)$  is the  $\pi^0 \gamma^* \gamma^*$  form factor.

# Lattice calculation of the $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma^* \gamma^*$ form factor

A. Gérardin, H. B. Meyer, A. Nyffeler, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 074507 (2016), 1607.08174

In Minkowski space:

$$M_{\mu\nu}(p, q_1) = i \int d^4x e^{iq_1x} \langle 0 | T \{ J_\mu(x) J_\nu(0) \} | \pi^0(p) \rangle = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} q_1^\alpha q_2^\beta \mathcal{F}_{\pi^0 \gamma^* \gamma^*}(q_1^2, q_2^2),$$

where  $p = q_1 + q_2$ . In Euclidean space on the lattice, compute

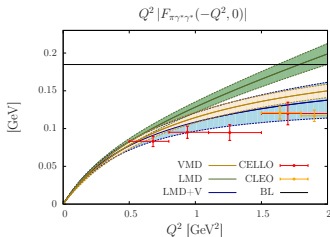
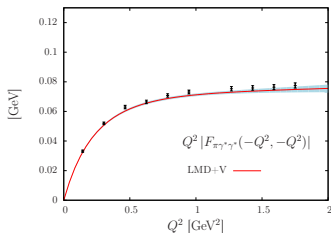
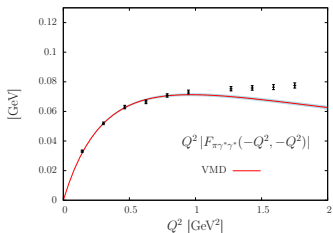
$$M_{\mu\nu}^E \equiv - \int d\tau e^{\omega_1 \tau} \int d^3z e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \vec{z}} \langle 0 | T \{ J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) \} | \pi(p) \rangle.$$

Different models were fit to the lattice data, of which only LMD+V has the correct behaviour at large  $Q^2$  of  $\mathcal{F}(-Q^2, 0)$  and  $\mathcal{F}(-Q^2, -Q^2)$ .

# Lattice calculation of the $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma^* \gamma^*$ form factor

A. Gérardin, H. B. Meyer, A. Nyffeler, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 074507 (2016), 1607.08174

Doubly virtual  
(on one ensemble)



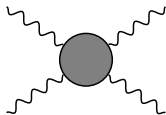
Singly virtual (extrapolated  
to  $m_\pi^{\text{phys}}$ ,  $a = 0$ )

Preferred LMD+V fit model used to  
estimate the  $\pi^0$  exchange  
contribution to  $g - 2$ :

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL}, \pi^0} = (65.0 \pm 8.3) \times 10^{-11},$$

which fits well into the range of  
model calculations,  $(50 - 80) \times 10^{-11}$ .

Before computing  $a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}}$ , start by studying light-by-light scattering by itself.



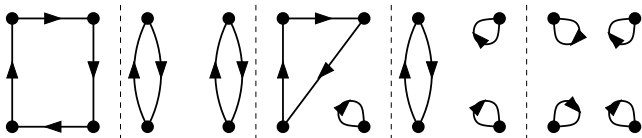
This has much more information than just  $a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}}$ . We can:

- ▶ Compare against phenomenology.
- ▶ Test models used to compute  $a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}}$ .

Some of these results were published in

JG, O. Gryniuk, G. von Hippel, H. B. Meyer, V. Pascalutsa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **115**, 222003 (2015) [1507.01577]

# Quark contractions for four-point function

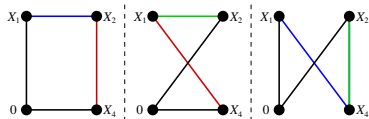


Compute only the *fully-connected* contractions, with fixed kernels summed over  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ :

$$\Pi_{\mu_1\mu_2\mu_3\mu_4}^{\text{pos}'}(x_4; f_1, f_2) = \sum_{x_1, x_2} f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2) \langle J_{\mu_1}(x_1) J_{\mu_2}(x_2) J_{\mu_3}(0) J_{\mu_4}(x_4) \rangle$$

Generically, need the following propagators:

- ▶ 1 point-source propagator from  $x_3 = 0$
- ▶ 8 sequential propagators through  $x_1$ , for each  $\mu_1$  and  $f_1$  or  $f_1^*$
- ▶ 8 sequential propagators through  $x_2$
- ▶ 32 double-sequential propagators through  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , for each  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  and  $(f_1, f_2)$  or  $(f_1^*, f_2^*)$



Obtain momentum-space Euclidean four-point function using plane waves:

$$\Pi_{\mu_1\mu_2\mu_3\mu_4}^E(p_4; p_1, p_2) = \sum_{x_4} e^{-ip_4 \cdot x_4} \Pi_{\mu_1\mu_2\mu_3\mu_4}^{\text{pos}'}(x_4; f_1, f_2) \Big|_{f_a(x) = e^{-ip_a \cdot x}}.$$

Thus, we can efficiently fix  $p_{1,2}$  and choose arbitrary  $p_4$ .

- ▶ Full 4-point tensor is very complicated: it can be decomposed into 41 scalar functions of 6 kinematic invariants.
- ▶ Forward case is simpler:

$$Q_1 \equiv p_2 = -p_1, \quad Q_2 \equiv p_4.$$

Then there are 8 scalar functions that depend on 3 kinematic invariants.



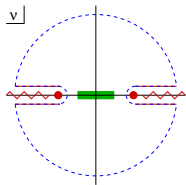
## Forward LbL amplitude

Take the amplitude for forward scattering of transversely polarized virtual photons,

$$\mathcal{M}_{TT}(-Q_1^2, -Q_2^2, \nu) = \frac{e^4}{4} R_{\mu_1 \mu_2} R_{\mu_3 \mu_4} \Pi_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}^E(-Q_2; -Q_1, Q_1),$$

where  $\nu = -Q_1 \cdot Q_2$  and  $R_{\mu\nu}$  projects onto the plane orthogonal to  $Q_1, Q_2$ .

A subtracted dispersion relation at fixed spacelike  $Q_1^2, Q_2^2$  relates this to the  $\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow$  hadrons cross sections  $\sigma_{0,2}$ :



$$\mathcal{M}_{TT}(q_1^2, q_2^2, \nu) - \mathcal{M}_{TT}(q_1^2, q_2^2, 0) = \frac{2\nu^2}{\pi} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} d\nu' \frac{\sqrt{\nu'^2 - q_1^2 q_2^2}}{\nu'(\nu'^2 - \nu^2 - i\epsilon)} [\sigma_0(\nu') + \sigma_2(\nu')]$$

This is model-independent and will allow for systematically improvable comparisons between lattice and experiment.

# Model for $\sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \text{hadrons})$

V. Pascalutsa, V. Pauk, M. Vanderhaeghen, Phys. Rev. D **85** (2012) 116001

Include single mesons and  $\pi^+ \pi^-$  final states:

$$\sigma_0 + \sigma_2 = \sum_M \sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow M) + \sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)$$

Mesons:

- ▶ pseudoscalar ( $\pi^0, \eta'$ )
- ▶ scalar ( $a_0, f_0$ )
- ▶ axial vector ( $f_1$ )
- ▶ tensor ( $a_2, f_2$ )

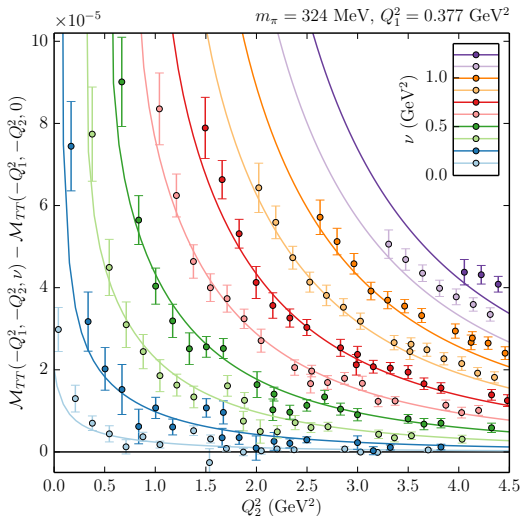
$\sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow M)$  depends on the meson's:

- ▶ mass  $m$  and width  $\Gamma$
- ▶ two-photon decay width  $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$
- ▶ two-photon transition form factor  $F(q_1^2, q_2^2)$

assume  $F(q_1^2, q_2^2) = F(q_1^2, 0)F(0, q_2^2)/F(0, 0)$

Use scalar QED dressed with form factors for  $\sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)$ .

# $M_{TT}$ : dependence on $\nu$ and $Q_2^2$



Points: lattice data.

Curves: dispersion relation + model for cross section.

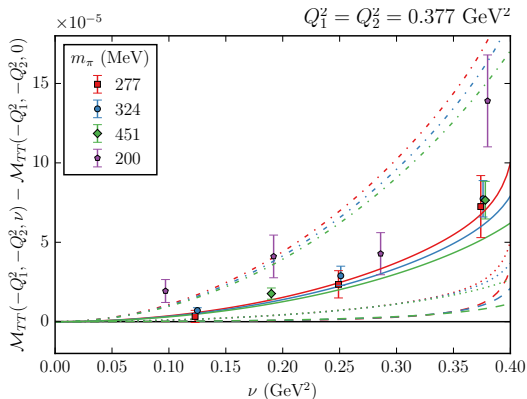
For scalar, tensor mesons there is no data from expt; we use

$$F(q^2, 0) = F(0, q^2) = \frac{1}{1 - q^2/\Lambda^2}$$

with  $\Lambda$  set by hand to 1.6 GeV

Changing  $\Lambda$  by  $\pm 0.4$  GeV adjusts curves by up to  $\pm 50\%$ .

# $\mathcal{M}_{TT}$ : dependence on $\nu$ and $m_\pi$



Points: lattice data.

Curves: dispersion relation +  
model for cross section.

In increasing order:

- ▶  $\pi^0$
- ▶  $\pi^0 + \eta'$
- ▶ full model
- ▶ full model + high-energy  $\sigma(\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \text{hadrons})$  at physical  $m_\pi$

# Eight forward-scattering amplitudes

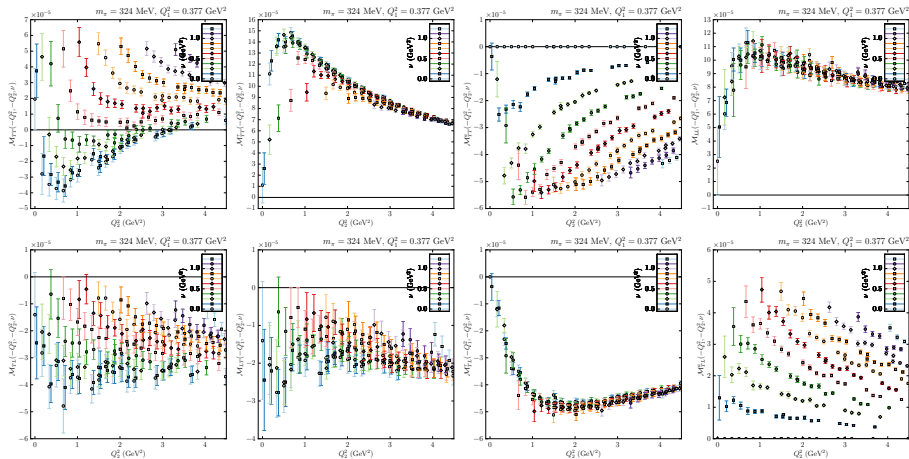
V. M. Budnev, V. L. Chernyak and I. F. Ginzburg, Nucl. Phys. B **34**, 470 (1971)

V. M. Budnev, I. F. Ginzburg, G. V. Meledin and V. G. Serbo, Phys. Rept. **15**, 181 (1975)

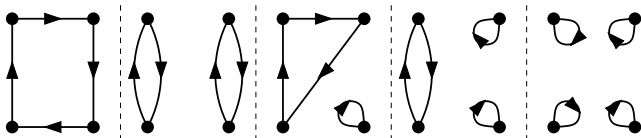
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}^{\mu\nu, \mu'\nu'}(q_1, q_2) &= R^{\mu\mu'} R^{\nu\nu'} \mathcal{M}_{TT} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left[ R^{\mu\nu} R^{\mu'\nu'} + R^{\mu\nu'} R^{\mu'\nu} - R^{\mu\mu'} R^{\nu\nu'} \right] \mathcal{M}_{TT}^\tau \\ &+ \left[ R^{\mu\nu} R^{\mu'\nu'} - R^{\mu\nu'} R^{\mu'\nu} \right] \mathcal{M}_{TT}^a \\ &+ R^{\mu\mu'} k_2^\nu k_2^{\nu'} \mathcal{M}_{TL} + k_1^\mu k_1^{\mu'} R^{\nu\nu'} \mathcal{M}_{LT} + k_1^\mu k_1^{\mu'} k_2^\nu k_2^{\nu'} \mathcal{M}_{LL} \\ &- \left[ R^{\mu\nu} k_1^{\mu'} k_2^{\nu'} + R^{\mu\nu'} k_1^{\mu'} k_2^\nu + (\mu\nu \leftrightarrow \mu'\nu') \right] \mathcal{M}_{TL}^a \\ &- \left[ R^{\mu\nu} k_1^{\mu'} k_2^{\nu'} - R^{\mu\nu'} k_1^{\mu'} k_2^\nu + (\mu\nu \leftrightarrow \mu'\nu') \right] \mathcal{M}_{TL}^\tau,\end{aligned}$$

where  $R$  is a projector onto transverse polarizations and  $k_a$  are longitudinal polarization vectors.

# Eight forward-scattering amplitudes: data



## Quark contractions: relative importance



Consider the charge factors, with  $q_u = 2/3$ ,  $q_d = q_s = -1/3$ :

diagram	factor	$N_f = 2$	$N_f = 3$
(4)	$\sum_f q_f^4$	17/81	18/81
(2,2)	$(\sum_f q_f^2)^2$	25/81	36/81
(3,1)	$(\sum_f q_f^3)(\sum_f q_f)$	7/81	0
(2,1,1)	$(\sum_f q_f^2)(\sum_f q_f)^2$	5/81	0
(1,1,1,1)	$(\sum_f q_f)^4$	1/81	0

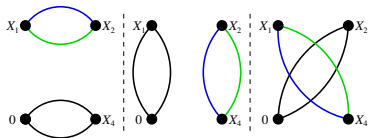
It is also argued that with only the fully-connected diagrams, the  $\eta'$  falsely appears with the mass of the pion, so that effectively the  $\pi^0$  contribution is enhanced by a factor of 34/9. [J. Bijnens, J. Releford, JHEP 1609, 113 \(2016\)](#)

## (2,2) quark-disconnected contractions

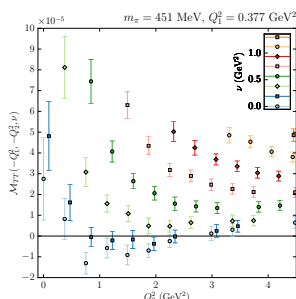
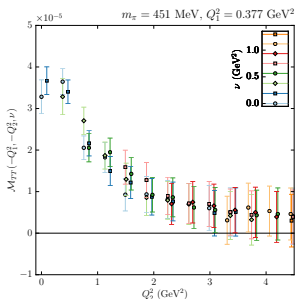
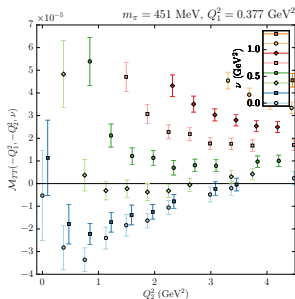
Evaluate one of the quark loops using stochastic estimation.

Need the following propagators:

- ▶ 1 point-source propagator from  $x_3 = 0$
- ▶ 1 noise-source propagator
- ▶ 1 noise-momentum-source propagator



Preliminary results for unsubtracted  $\mathcal{M}_{TT}$ : **Large finite-volume effect!**



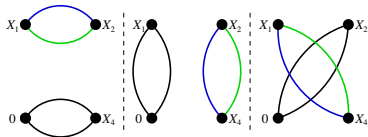


## (2,2) quark-disconnected contractions

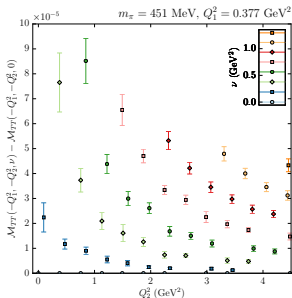
Evaluate one of the quark loops using stochastic estimation.

Need the following propagators:

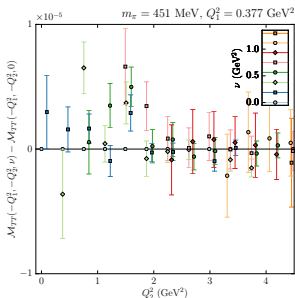
- ▶ 1 point-source propagator from  $x_3 = 0$
- ▶ 1 noise-source propagator
- ▶ 1 noise-momentum-source propagator



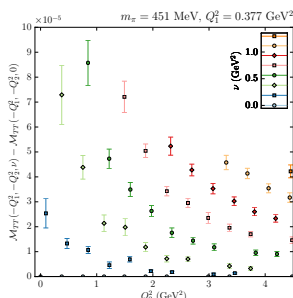
Preliminary results for subtracted  $\mathcal{M}_{TT}$ :



fully-connected



(2,2)-disconnected



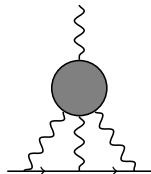
sum

## Strategy for muon $g - 2$ : kernel

In Euclidean space, give muon momentum  $p = im\hat{\epsilon}$ ,  $\hat{\epsilon}^2 = 1$ .

Apply QED Feynman rules and isolate  $F_2(0)$ ; obtain

$$a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}} = \int d^4x d^4y \mathcal{L}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(\hat{\epsilon}, x, y) i\hat{\Pi}_{\rho;\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x, y),$$



where 
$$\hat{\Pi}_{\rho;\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}(x_1, x_2) = \int d^4x_4 (ix_4)_{\rho} \langle J_{\mu}(x_1) J_{\nu}(x_2) J_{\lambda}(0) J_{\sigma}(x_4) \rangle.$$

The integrand for  $a_{\mu}$  is a scalar function of 5 invariants:  $x^2$ ,  $y^2$ ,  $x \cdot y$ ,  $x \cdot \epsilon$ , and  $y \cdot \epsilon$ , so 3 of the 8 dimensions in the integral are trivial.

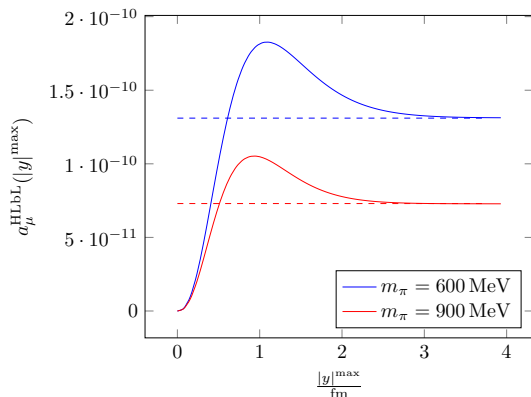
Five dimensions is still too many. Result is independent of  $\hat{\epsilon}$ , so we can eliminate it by averaging in the integrand:

$$\mathcal{L}(\hat{\epsilon}, x, y) \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{L}}(x, y) \equiv \langle \mathcal{L}(\hat{\epsilon}, x, y) \rangle_{\hat{\epsilon}}$$

Then the integrand depends only on  $x^2$ ,  $y^2$ , and  $x \cdot y$ .

# Test of position-space kernel: $\pi^0$ contribution

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- ▶ Using a VMD model for  $\mathcal{F}_{\pi^0 \gamma^* \gamma^*}$ , work out the  $\pi^0$ -exchange contribution to  $\hat{\Pi}(x, y)$ .
- ▶ Integrate it with the kernel  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(x, y)$  to compute  $a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}, \pi^0}$ , using a cutoff  $|x|^{\text{max}} = 4.05 \text{ fm}$  and varying  $|y|^{\text{max}}$ .
- ▶ Compare against the result computed in momentum space.

$$\begin{aligned} a_{\mu}^{\text{HLbL}} &= \int d^4x \int d^4y d^4z \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y)(-z)_{\rho} \langle J_{\mu}(x)J_{\nu}(y)J_{\lambda}(0)J_{\sigma}(z) \rangle \\ &= 2\pi^2 \int_0^{\infty} x^3 dx \int d^4y d^4z \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y)(-z)_{\rho} \langle J_{\mu}(x)J_{\nu}(y)J_{\lambda}(0)J_{\sigma}(z) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Evaluate the  $y$  and  $z$  integrals in the following way:

1. Fix local currents at the origin and  $x$ , and compute point-source propagators.
2. Evaluate the integral over  $z$  using sequential propagators.
3. Contract with  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{[\rho,\sigma];\mu\nu\lambda}(x,y)$  and sum over  $y$ .

The above has similar cost to evaluating scattering amplitudes at fixed  $p_1, p_2$ . Do this several times to perform the one-dimensional integral over  $|x|$ .

## Summary and outlook

- ▶ Significant progress is being made in lattice QCD calculations aiming to reduce the leading theoretical uncertainties of the muon  $g - 2$ .
- ▶ The contribution from the fully-connected four-point function to the light-by-light scattering amplitude can be efficiently evaluated if two of the three momenta are fixed.
- ▶ Forward-scattering case is related to  $\sigma(\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \text{hadrons})$ ; lattice is consistent with phenomenology, within the latter's large uncertainty.
- ▶ For typical Euclidean kinematics the  $\pi^0$  contribution is not dominant.
- ▶ We have a position-space kernel for computing the leading-order HLbL contribution to the muon  $g - 2$ .

Work is ongoing to integrate it into a lattice calculation.

- ▶ Phenomenology indicates the  $\pi^0$  contribution is dominant for  $g - 2$ ; reaching this regime (physical  $m_\pi$ , large volumes) may be challenging on the lattice.
- ▶ In the meantime, calculations of the  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma^* \gamma^*$  form factor should improve the reliability of phenomenological values for  $a_\mu^{\text{HLbL}}$ .