

Evgeny Epelbaum, Ruhr University Bochum

PREN 2023 & μ ASTI Workshop, the Helmholtz-Institute Mainz

Electromagnetic form factors of light nuclei in chiral EFT

In collaboration with: Arseniy Filin, Daniel Möller, Vadim Baru, Christopher Körber, Hermann Krebs, Andreas Nogga and Patrick Reinert

State of the art, limitations, ongoing work
and future perspectives...

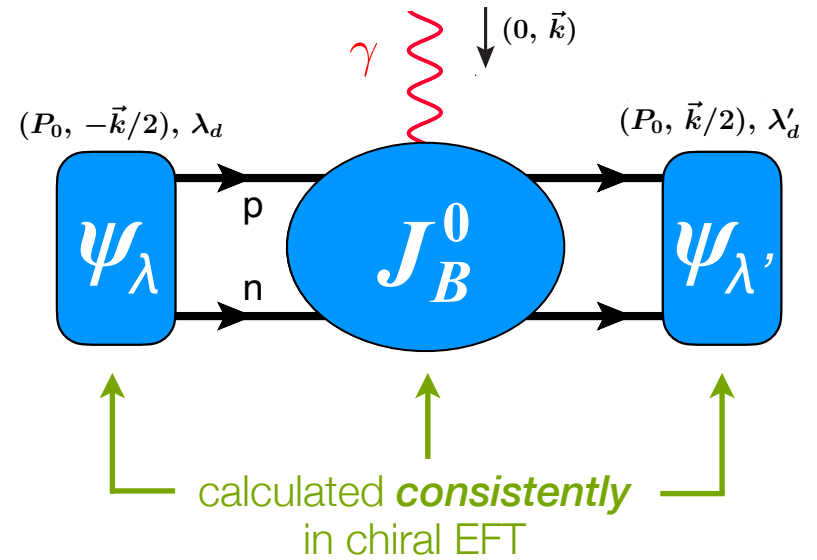


Ministerium für
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des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



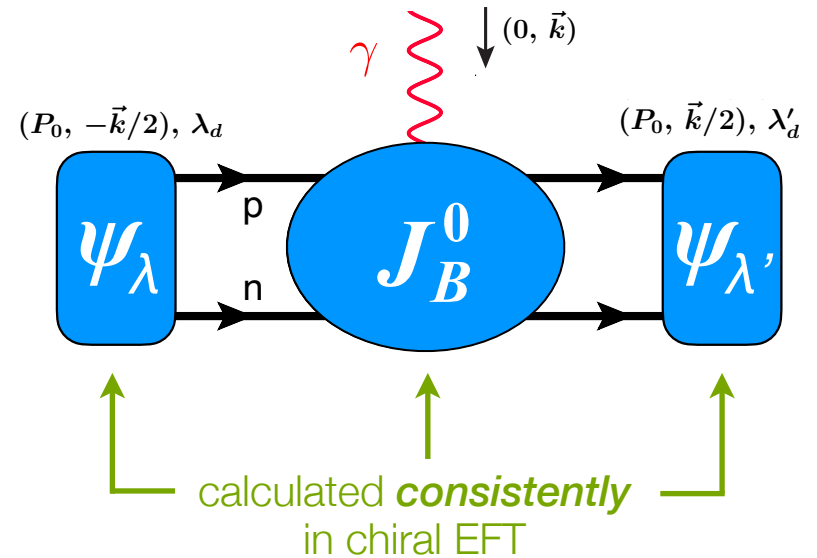
Theory in a nutshell

- Chiral EFT for the nuclear Hamiltonian H and J^μ



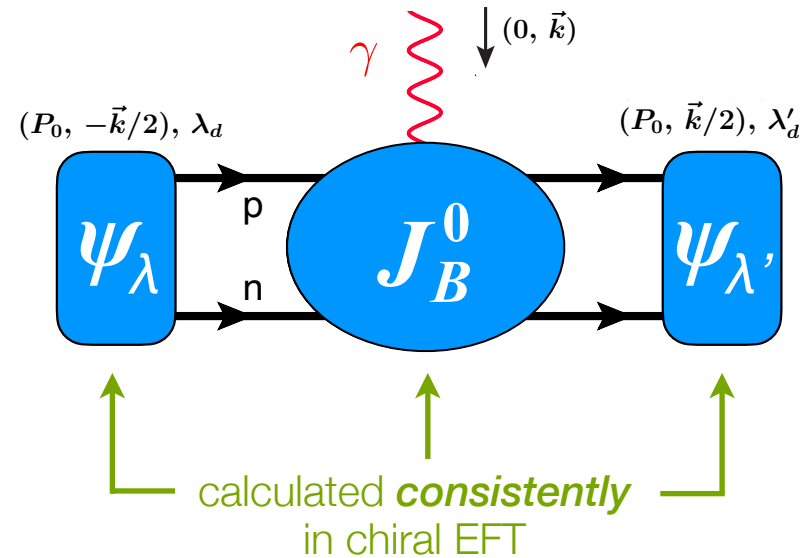
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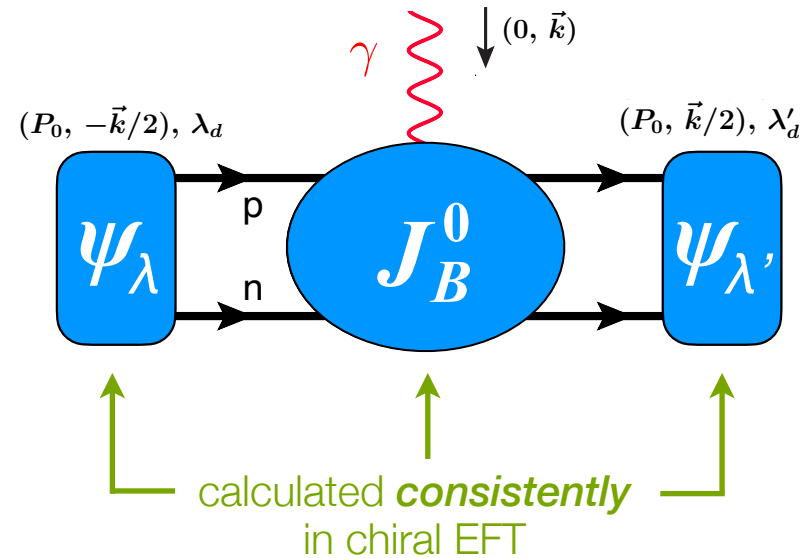
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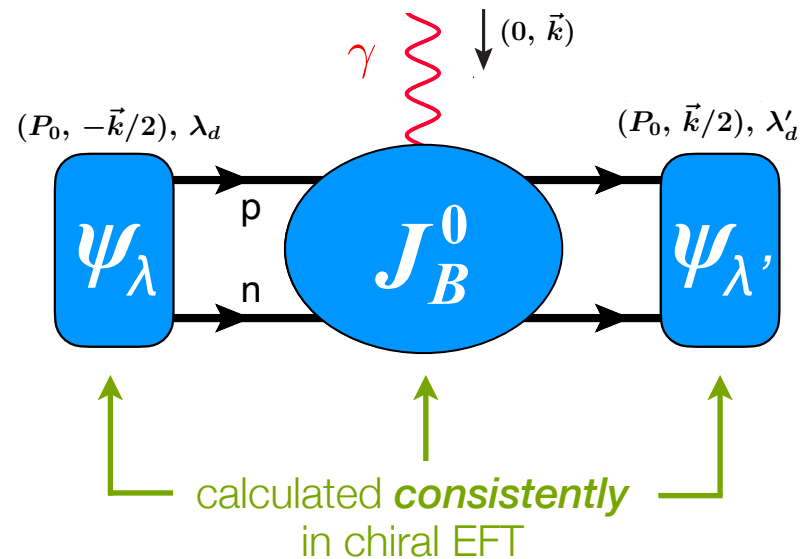
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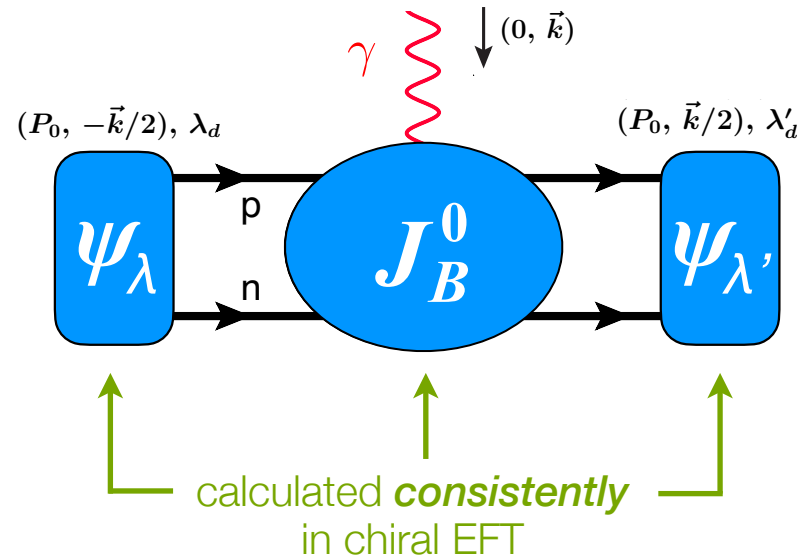
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 - isospin breaking effects (including neutron-neutron interaction)
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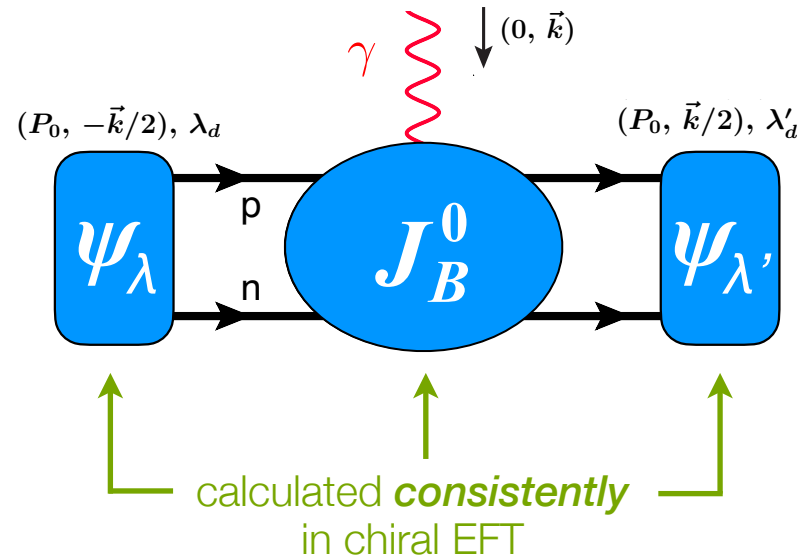
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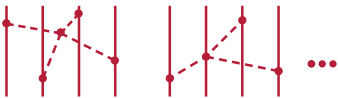





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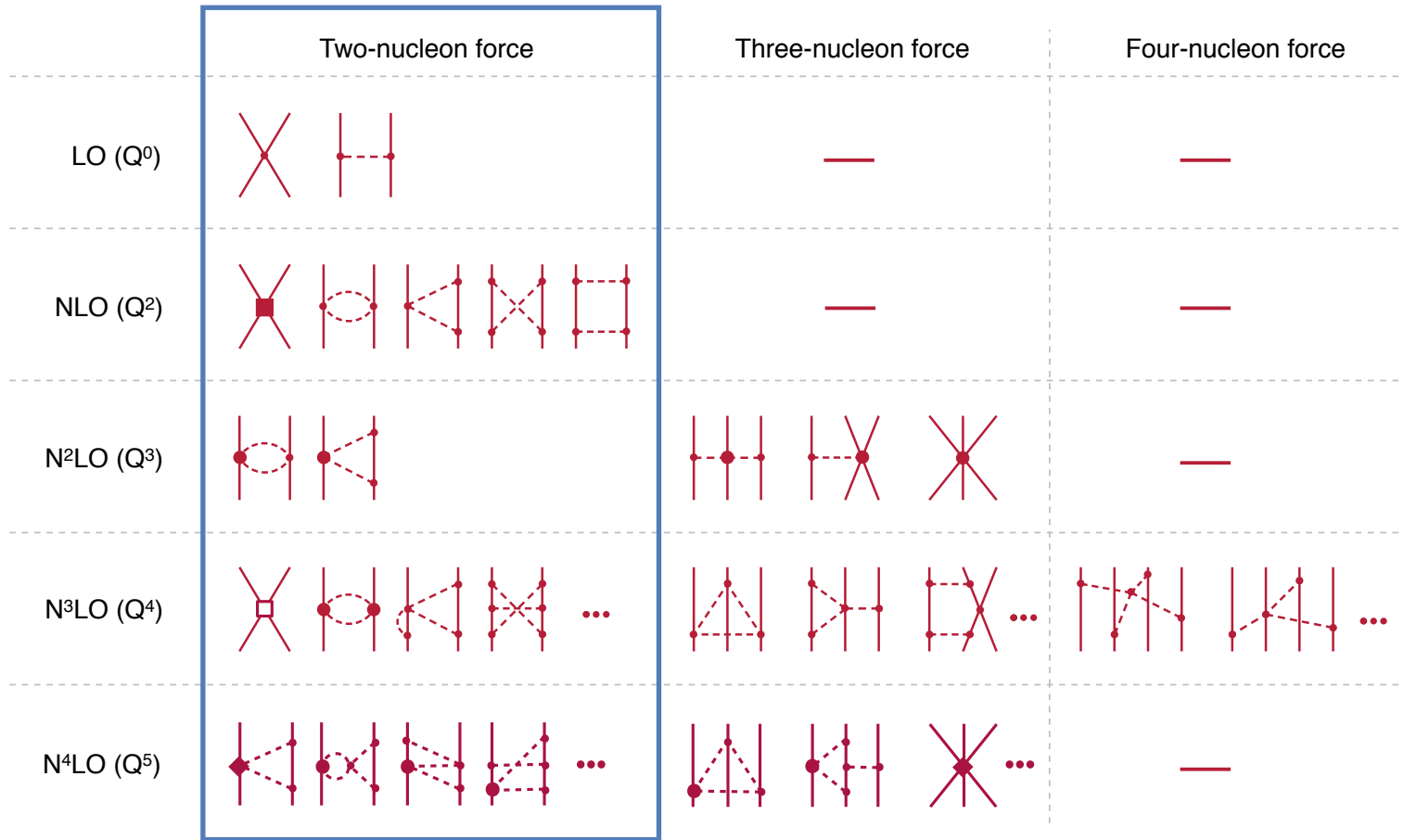
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- **Computational limitations for $A > 4$**



The Hamiltonian

	Two-nucleon force	Three-nucleon force	Four-nucleon force
LO (Q^0)			
NLO (Q^2)			
N ² LO (Q^3)			
N ³ LO (Q^4)			
N ⁴ LO (Q^5)			

The Hamiltonian



The newest Bochum NN interactions [Reinert, Krebs, EE, EPJA 54 \(2018\) 86](#); [PRL 126 \(2021\) 092501](#)

$$V_{1\pi}(q) = \frac{\alpha}{\vec{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}^2 + M_\pi^2}{\Lambda^2}} + \text{subtraction}, \quad V_{2\pi}(q) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{2M_\pi}^{\infty} d\mu \mu \frac{\rho(\mu)}{\vec{q}^2 + \mu^2} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}^2 + \mu^2}{2\Lambda^2}} + \text{subtractions}$$

+ nonlocal (Gaussian) cutoff for contacts

SMS chiral NN interactions

Reinert, Krebs, EE, EPJA 54 (18) 86; PRL 126 (21) 092501

Statistically perfect description of mutually consistent NN scattering data

(own database of 2124 proton-proton + 2935 neutron-proton data below $E_{\text{lab}} = 290$ MeV)

high-precision „realistic“ potentials

Nijm I	Nijm II	Reid93	CD Bonn
1.061	1.070	1.078	1.042

Idaho χ EFT

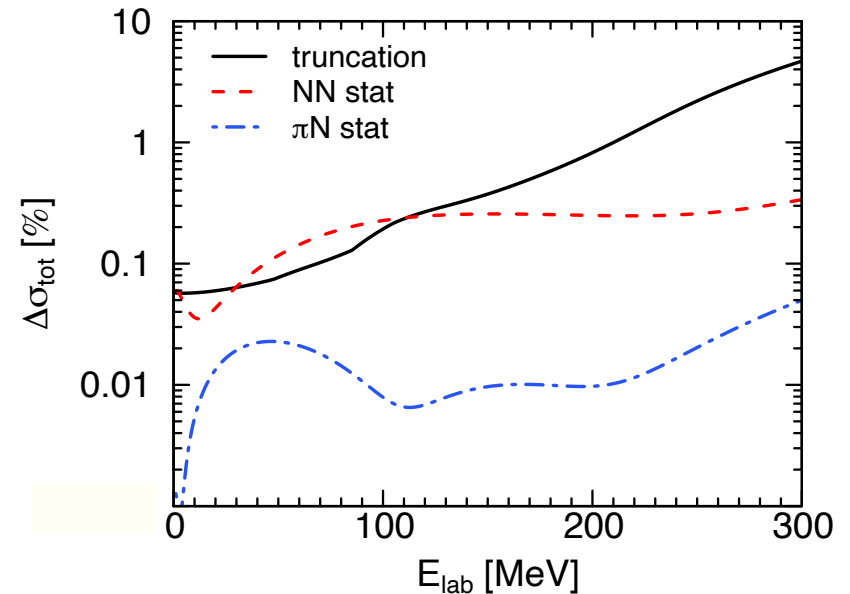
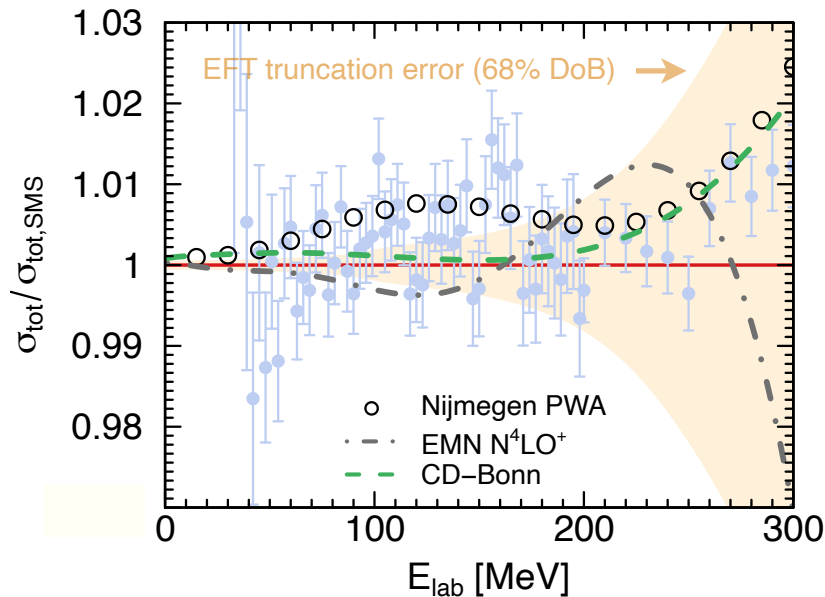
$N^4\text{LO}^+_{450}$	$N^4\text{LO}^+_{500}$
2.019	1.203

Bochum SMS χ EFT

$N^4\text{LO}^+_{450}$	$N^4\text{LO}^+_{500}$
1.013	1.015

Reinert, Krebs, EE, 2021

Results for np total cross section and the error budget



Residual cutoff dependence

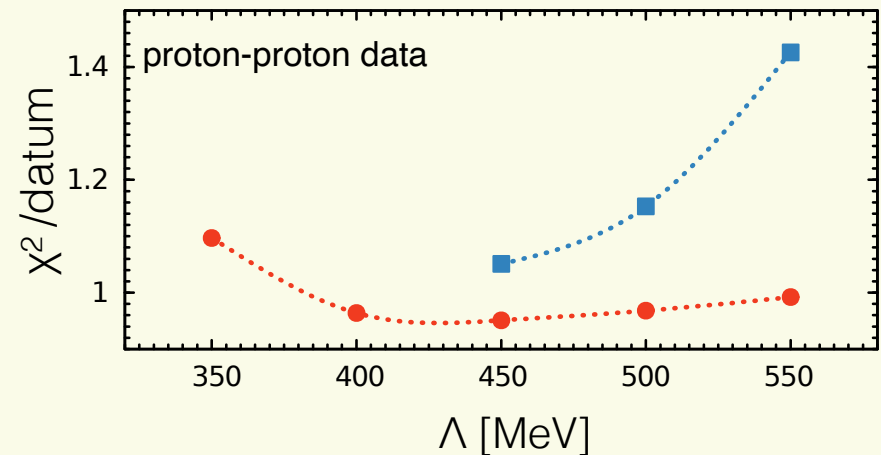
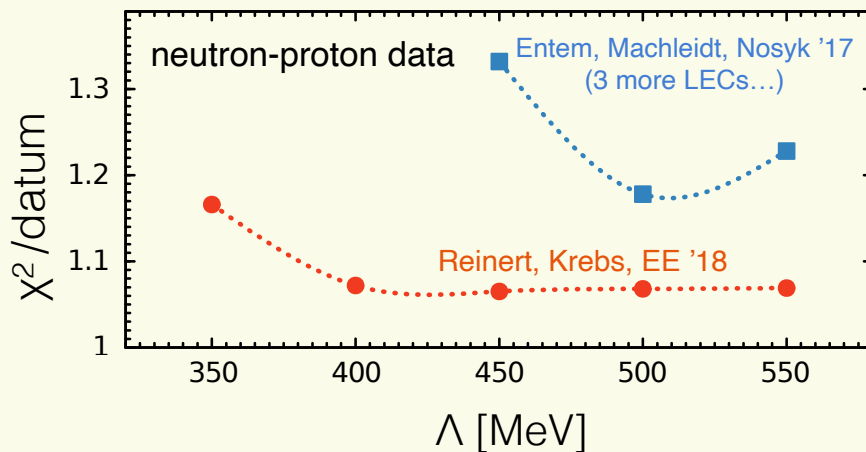
Resummation of non-renormalizable interactions (e.g., $V_{1\pi}(r) \sim 1/r^3$) in the LS equation **requires** keeping Λ finite, $\Lambda \sim \Lambda_b$ Lepage '97; EE, Gegelia '09; EE, Gasparyan, Gegelia, Meißner '18

Implicit renormalization (express bare LECs $C_i(\Lambda)$ in terms of observable quantities)

Renormalizability in the EFT sense (\equiv all power-counting breaking terms absorbable into the available counter terms) **has been proven to NLO** Gasparyan, EE, PRC 105 (2022), PRC 107 (2023)

Residual cutoff dependence at a given finite order as a tool to check consistency

χ^2_{datum} for the description of NN data in the range $E_{\text{lab}} = 0 - 200$ MeV at N⁴LO+

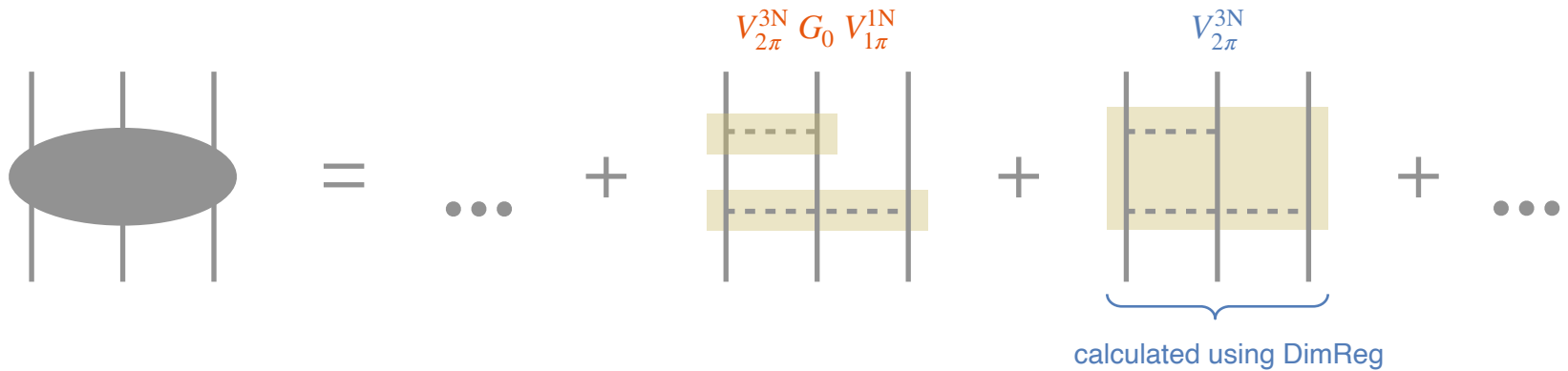


\Rightarrow The 2N interaction is in a good shape

Regularization and symmetry

Nuclear potentials are derived using dim. reg. and supplied with an additional cutoff prior to solving the Schrödinger equation. Consistent?

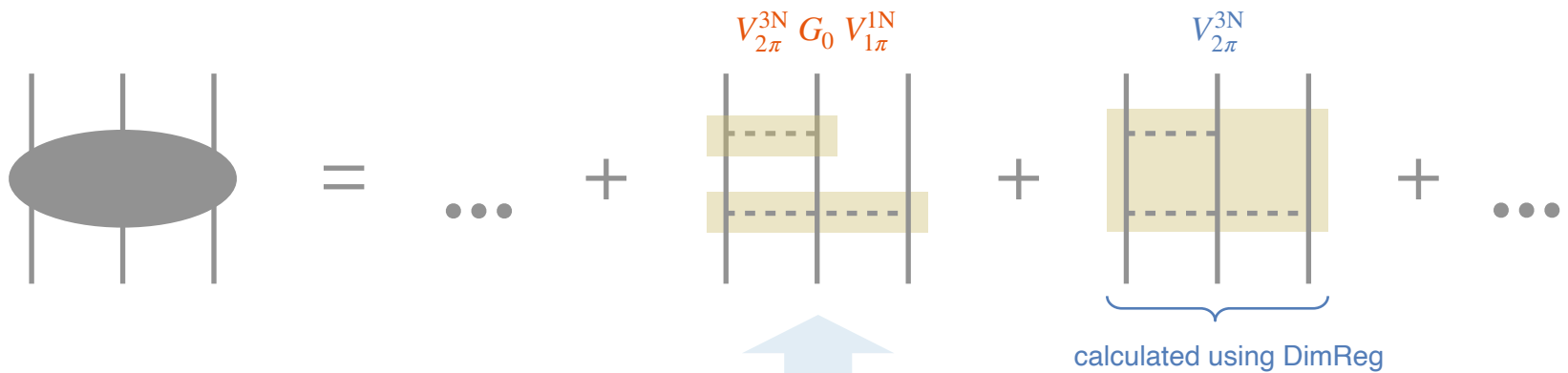
Faddeev equation for 3N scattering:



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Faddeev equation for 3N scattering:



$$-\Lambda \frac{g_A^4}{96\sqrt{2\pi^3}F_\pi^6} \left[\underbrace{\tau_1 \cdot \tau_3 (\vec{q}_3 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_1)}_{\text{absorbable into } c_D: \text{X}} - \underbrace{\frac{4}{3}(\tau_2 \cdot \tau_3 - \tau_1 \cdot \tau_3)(\vec{q}_2 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_3)}_{\text{violates chiral symmetry}} \right] \frac{\vec{q}_3 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_3}{q_3^3 + M_\pi^2} + \dots$$

Regularization and symmetry

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Faddeev equation for 3N scattering:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Full amplitude} = \dots + V_{2\pi}^{3N} G_0 V_{1\pi}^{1N} + \underbrace{V_{2\pi}^{3N}}_{\text{calculated using DimReg}} + \dots \\
 & \text{Expression in box: } -\Lambda \frac{g_A^4}{96\sqrt{2\pi^3} F_\pi^6} \left[\underbrace{\tau_1 \cdot \tau_3 (\vec{q}_3 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_1)}_{\text{absorbable into } c_D: \times} - \underbrace{\frac{4}{3} (\tau_2 \cdot \tau_3 - \tau_1 \cdot \tau_3) (\vec{q}_2 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_3)}_{\text{violates chiral symmetry}} \right] \frac{\vec{q}_3 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_3}{q_3^2 + M_\pi^2} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

If $V_{2\pi}^{3N}$ were calculated with a cutoff, the problematic divergence would cancel exactly. This issue affects all loop contributions beyond N²LO to 3NF and exchange currents. In contrast, NN forces are not affected (at a fixed M_π).

Gradient flow regularization

Hermann Krebs, EE, in preparation

⇒ Re-derive nuclear forces & currents using SYMMETRY PRESERVING cutoff regularization

An attractive option is the **gradient flow method**:

- successfully applied to Yang-Mills theories (QCD) **Martin Lüscher '14**
- proposed as a regulator for chiral EFT in several talks by **David Kaplan**

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Idea: let pion fields evolve in the flow „time“ τ by replacing the pion field U by the smoothed one $W(\tau)$, $W(0) = U$, which fulfills the (covariant) gradient flow equation:

$$\partial_\tau W = iw \text{EOM}(\tau) w, \text{ where } w = \sqrt{W} \text{ and } \text{EOM} = \underbrace{[D_\mu, w_\mu]}_{w_\mu|_{\tau=0} = u_\mu} + \frac{i}{2} \chi_i - \frac{i}{4} \text{Tr}(\chi_-)$$

The flow „time“ τ acts as a regulator (smearing), the choice $\tau = (2\Lambda)^{-1}$ matches the employed regularization of the OPEP:

$$V_{1\pi}(q) = \frac{\alpha}{\vec{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}^2 + M_\pi^2}{\Lambda^2}}$$

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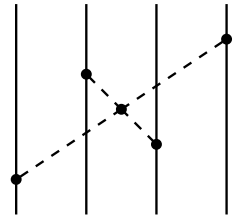
Complication: the regularized Lagrangian involves arbitrary powers of time derivatives

⇒ cannot use Hamiltonian-based methods (like MUT) to derive nuclear forces/currents

⇒ new path-integral method to derive nuclear interactions **Hermann Krebs**, EE, in preparation

Example: gradient flow reg. of the 4NF

Consider e.g. the contribution to the 4NF at N³LO involving a 4π-vertex:



Unregularized expression:

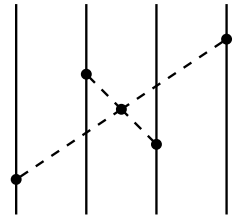
EE, PLB 639 (2006) 456; EPJA 34 (2007) 197

$$V_{4N} = \frac{g_A^4}{2(2F_\pi)^6} \frac{\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_1 \vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_2 \vec{\sigma}_3 \cdot \vec{q}_3 \vec{\sigma}_4 \cdot \vec{q}_4}{(\vec{q}_1^2 + M_\pi^2)(\vec{q}_2^2 + M_\pi^2)(\vec{q}_3^2 + M_\pi^2)(\vec{q}_4^2 + M_\pi^2)} \left[(\vec{q}_1 + \vec{q}_2)^2 + M_\pi^2 \right]$$

+ 3-pole terms + all permutations

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Applying the gradient flow regularization method consistent with the 2NF yields:

Hermann Krebs, EE, preliminary

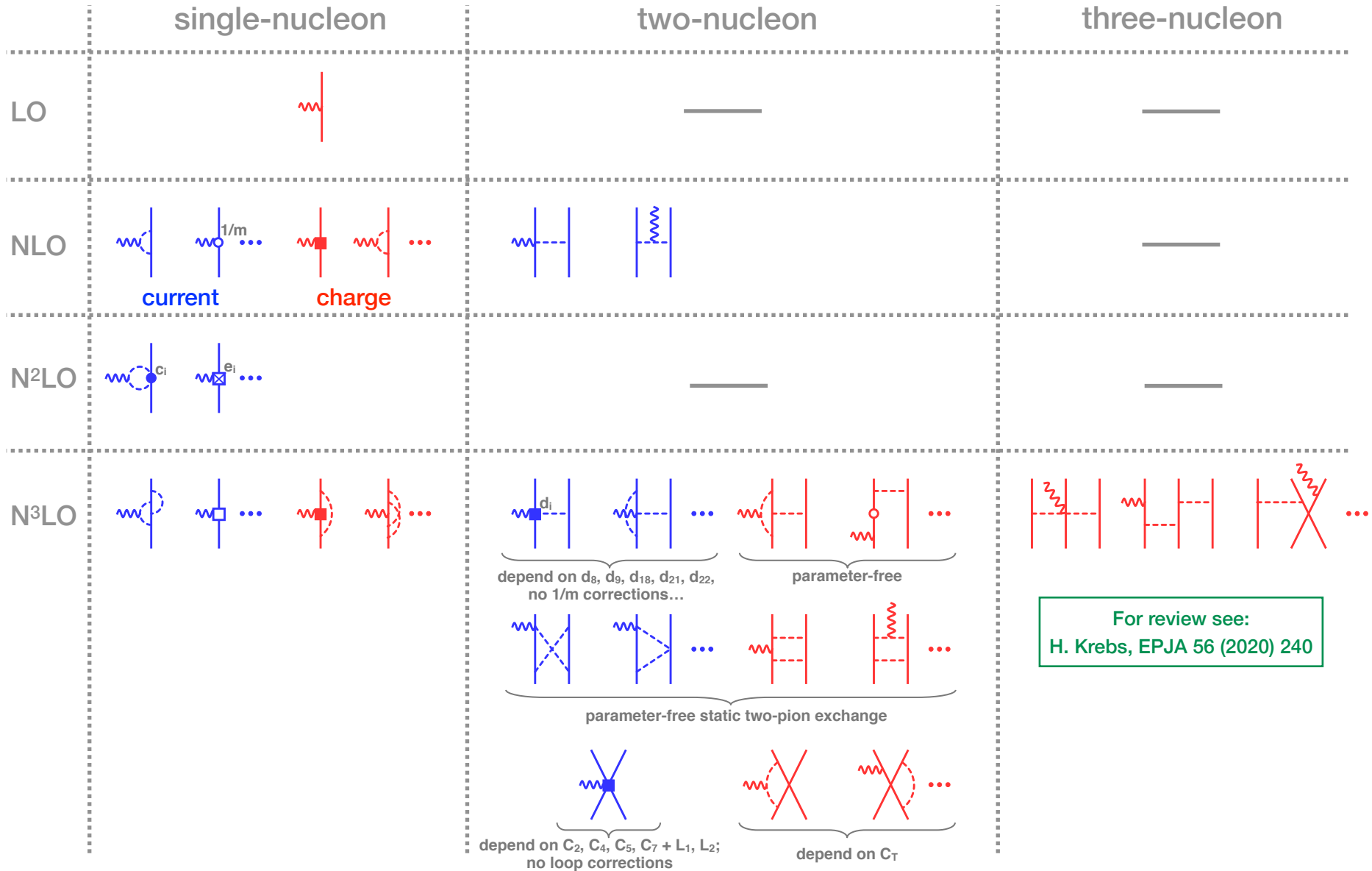
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$$\times \left(4 e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_2^2 + M_\pi^2}{\Lambda^2}} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_3^2 + M_\pi^2}{\Lambda^2}} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_4^2 + M_\pi^2}{\Lambda^2}} - 3 e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_1^2 + M_\pi^2}{2\Lambda^2}} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_2^2 + M_\pi^2}{2\Lambda^2}} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_3^2 + M_\pi^2}{2\Lambda^2}} e^{-\frac{\vec{q}_4^2 + M_\pi^2}{2\Lambda^2}} \right)$$

+ 3-pole terms + all permutations

Electromagnetic currents

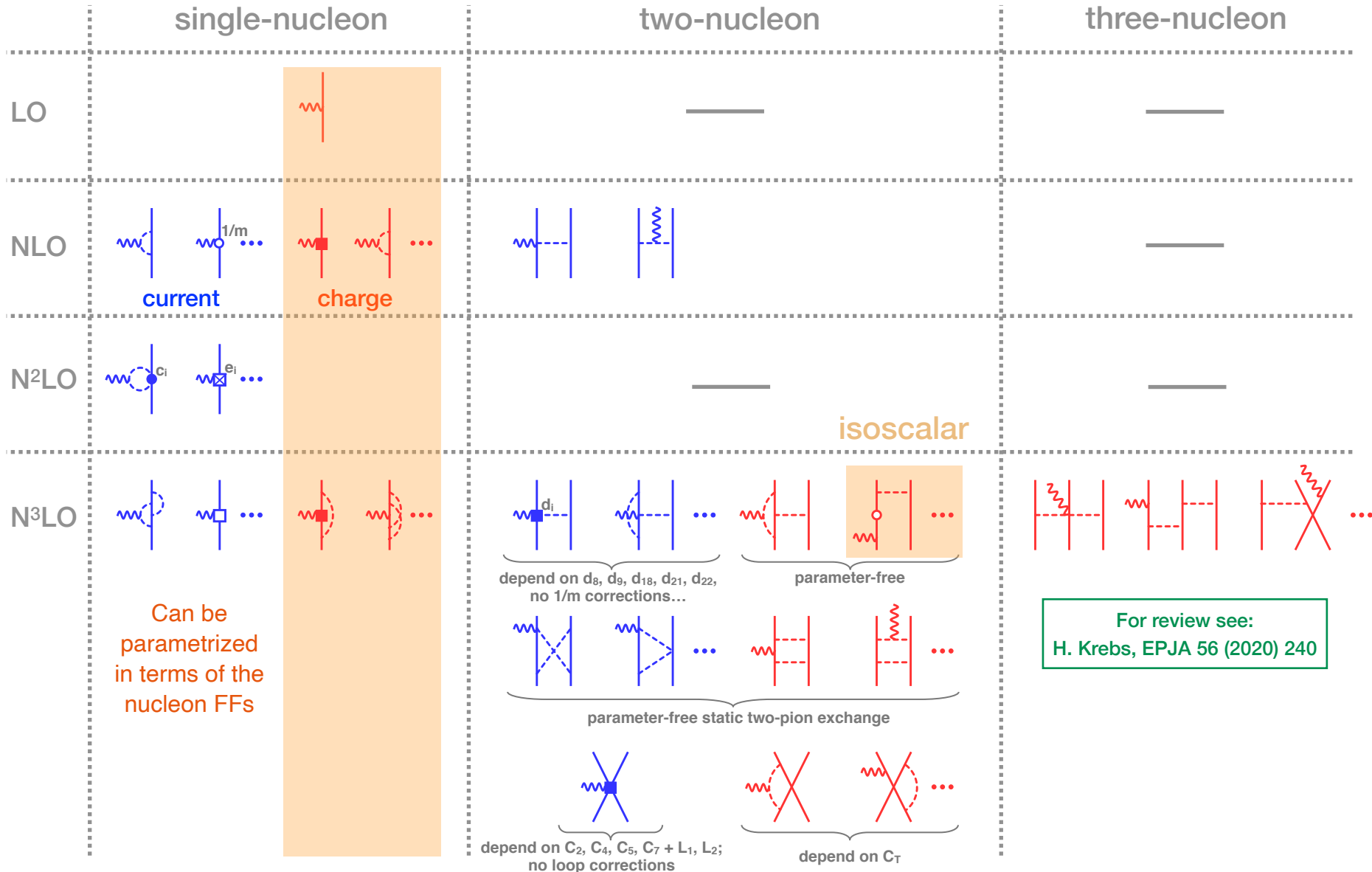
Kölling, EE, Krebs, Meißner, PRC 80 (09) 045502; PRC 86 (12) 047001; Krebs, EE, Meißner, FBS 60 (2019) 31



For review see:
H. Krebs, EPJA 56 (2020) 240

Electromagnetic currents

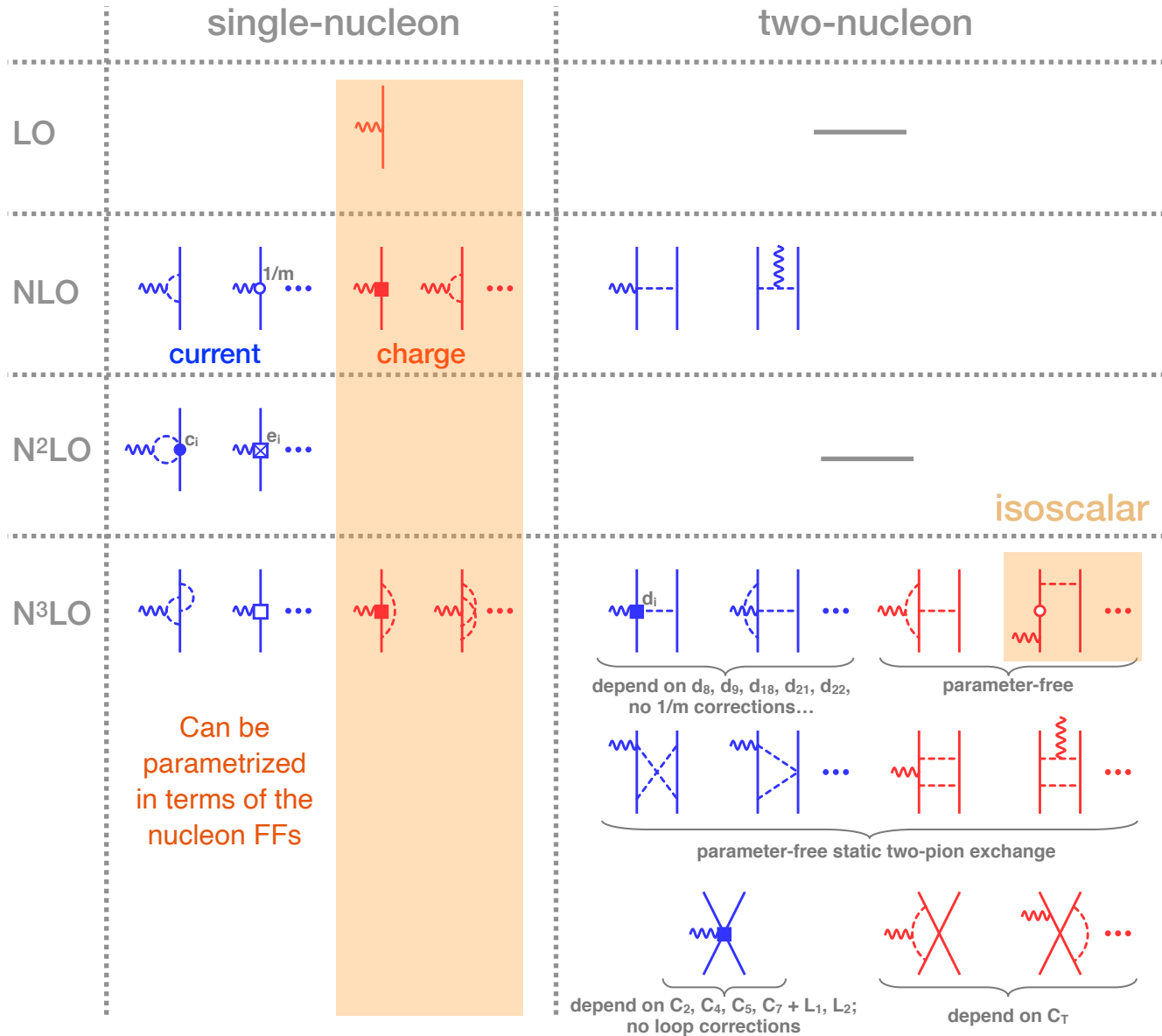
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+ N⁴LO
[3 LECs]

The charge and quadrupole FFs of ${}^2\text{H}$

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Patrick Reinert, Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 082501;

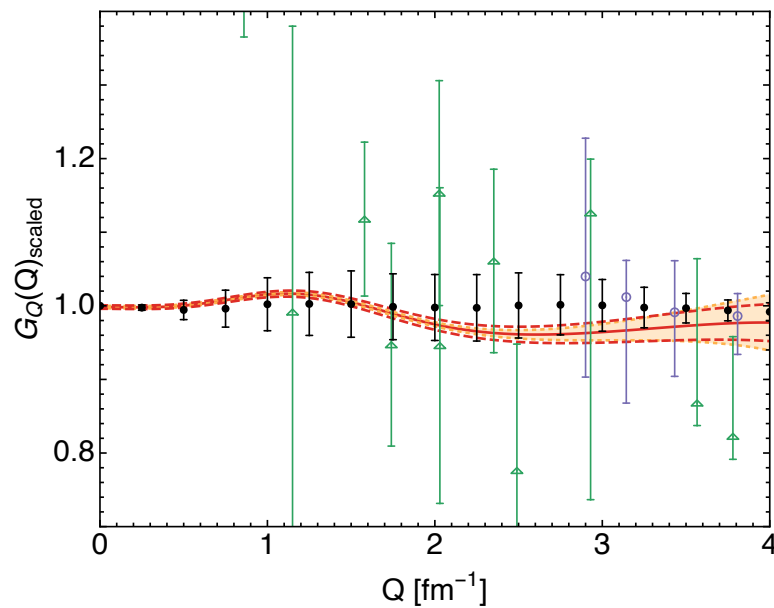
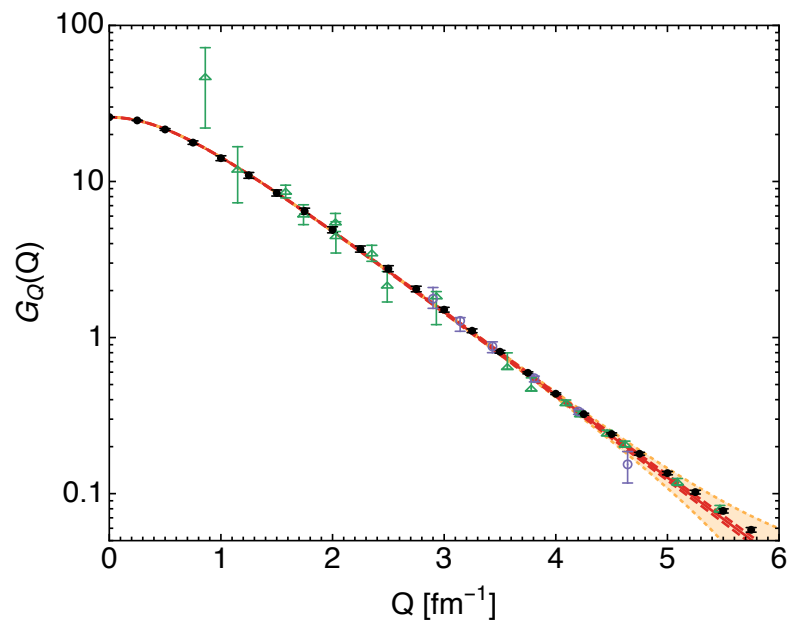
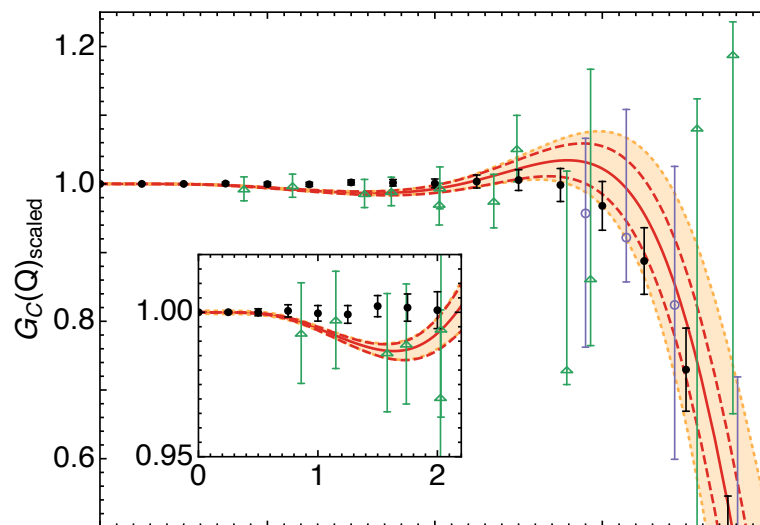
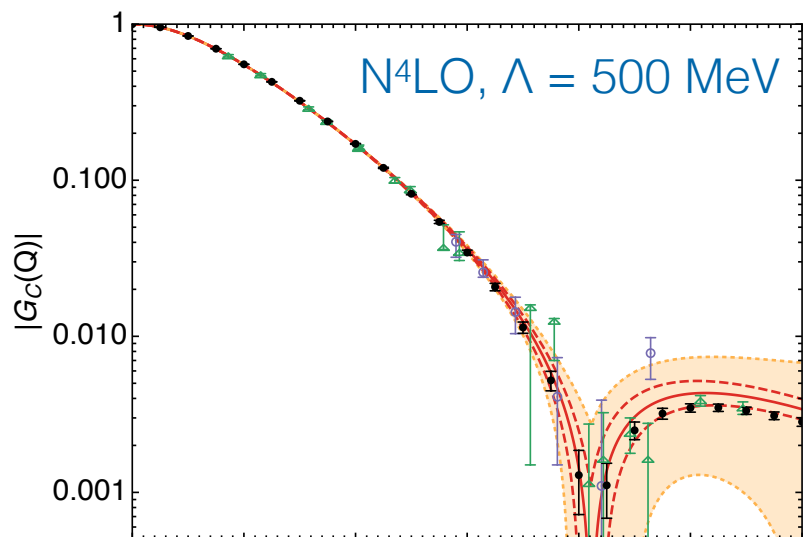
Phys. Rev. C103 (2021) 024313

$$\rho_{1N}^{\text{DF}} = -e \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{8m_N^2} G_E(\mathbf{k}^2)$$
$$G(Q^2) = \underbrace{G^{\text{Main}}(Q^2)}_{\rho_{1N}^{\text{Main}} = eG_E(\mathbf{k}^2)} + \underbrace{G^{\text{DF}}(Q^2) + G^{\text{SO}}(Q^2)}_{\rho_{1N}^{\text{SO}} = ie \frac{2G_M(\mathbf{k}^2) - G_E(\mathbf{k}^2)}{4m_N^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{p}} + G^{\text{Boost}}(Q^2) + G^{1\pi}(Q^2) + G^{\text{Cont}}(Q^2)$$

- Both the nuclear force and the 2N charge density are available to N⁴LO
- Simple numerics

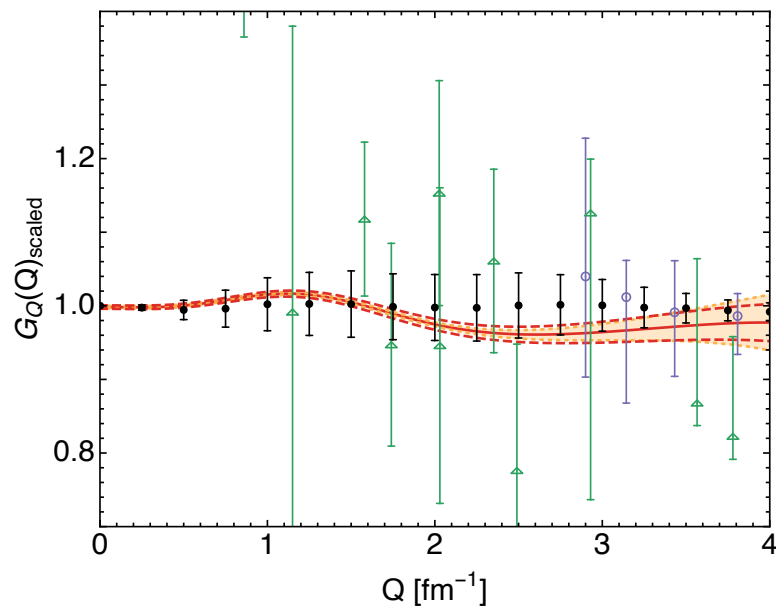
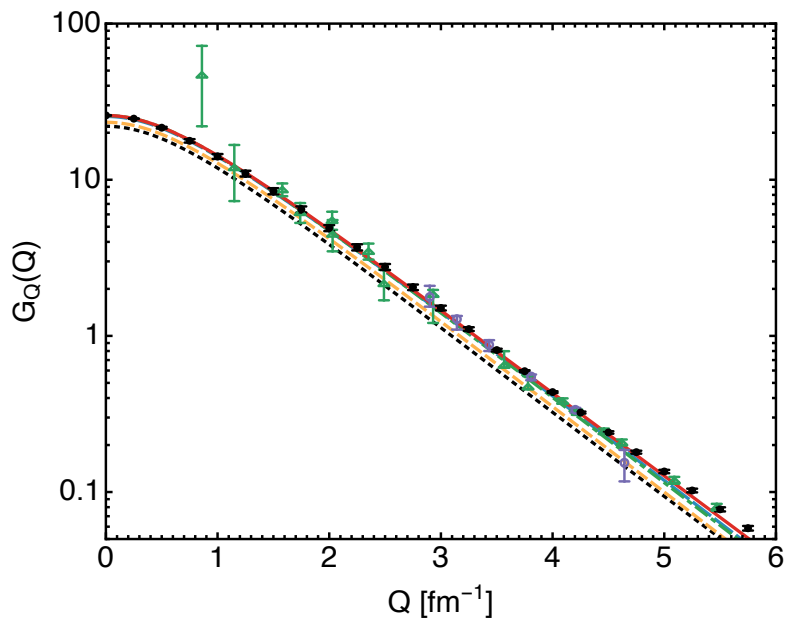
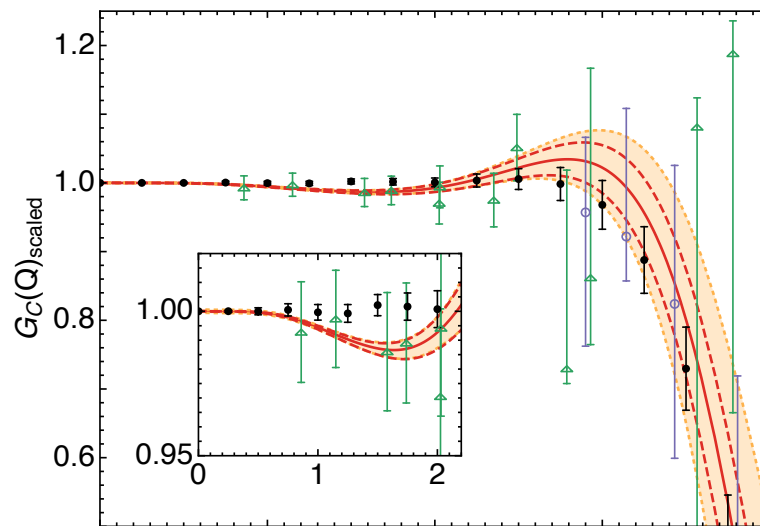
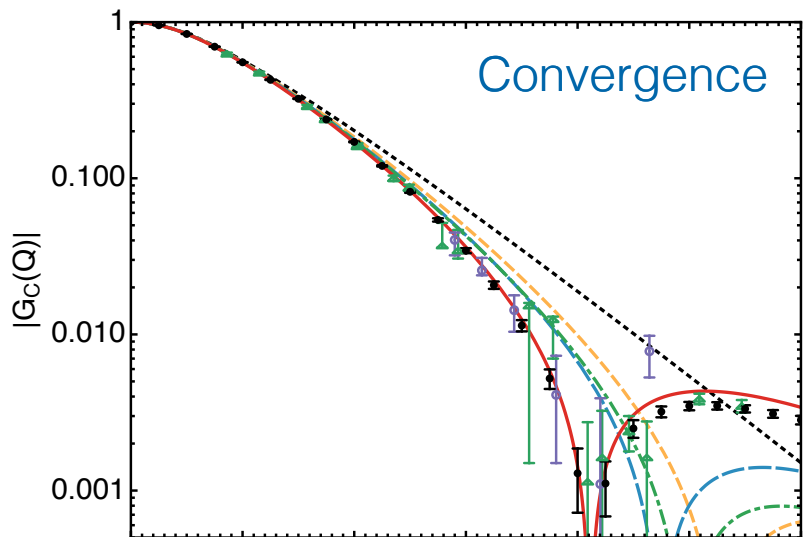
The charge and quadrupole FFs of ${}^2\text{H}$

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Patrick Reinert, PRL 124 (2020) 082501; PRC 103 (2021) 024313



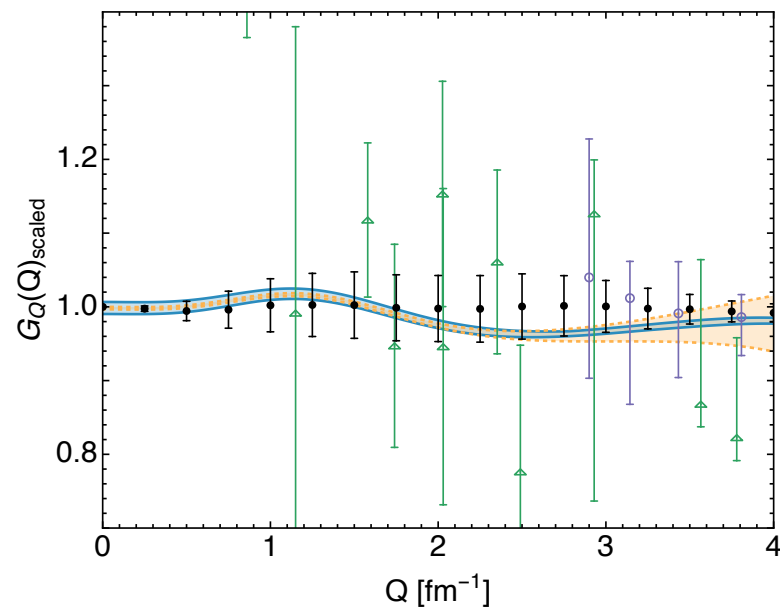
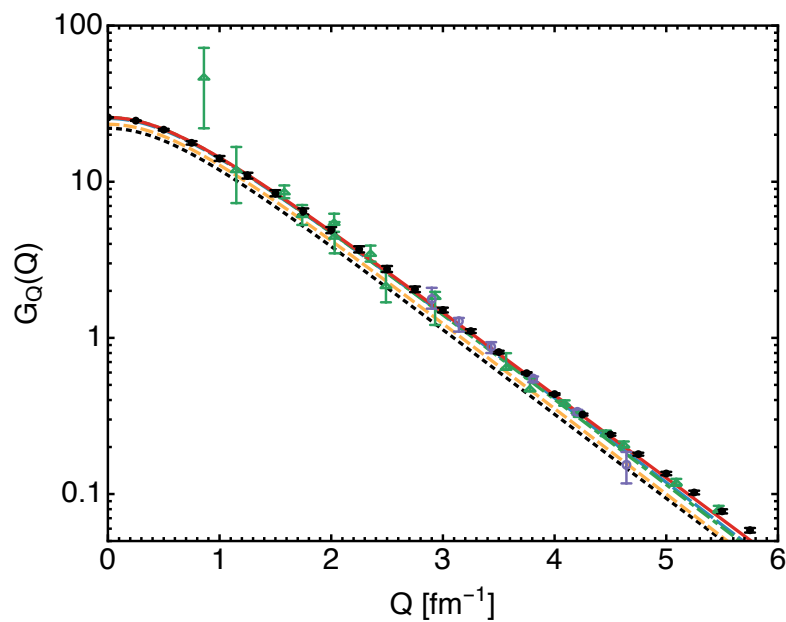
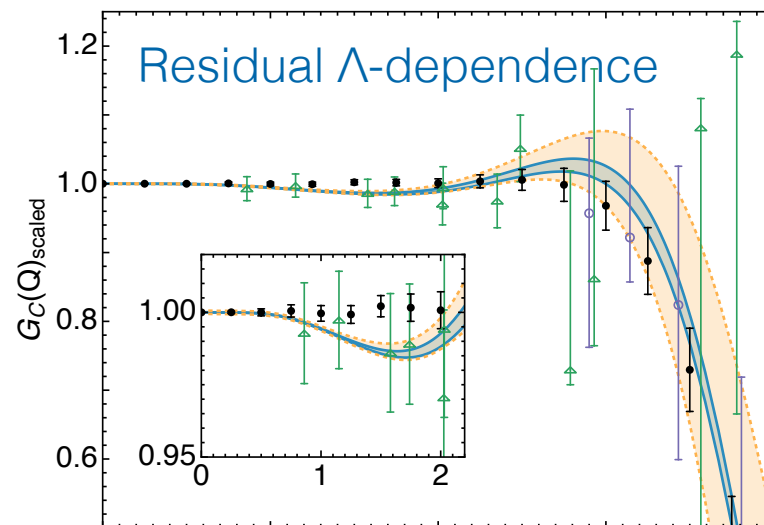
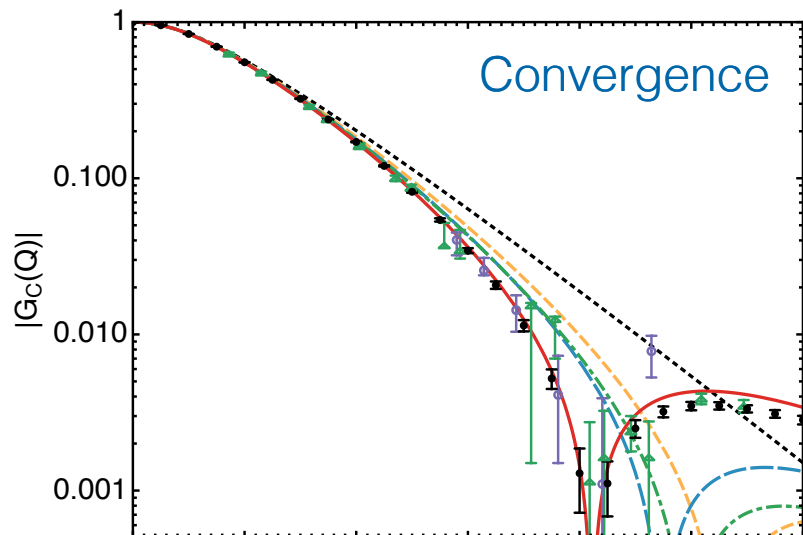
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Charge radius and quadrupole moment

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Patrick Reinert, PRL 124 (2020) 082501; PRC 103 (2021) 024313

Deuteron charge *and structure* radii: $r_d^2 = r_{\text{str}}^2 + r_p^2 + r_n^2 + \frac{3}{4m_p^2}$

EFT truncation, choice of fitting range, NN, π N and γ NN LECs

Our results: $r_{\text{str}} = 1.9729^{+0.0015}_{-0.0012} \text{ fm}$, $Q_d = 0.2854^{+0.0038}_{-0.0017} \text{ fm}^2$

$Q_d^{\text{exp}} = 0.285\,699(15)(18) \text{ fm}^2$ Puchalski et al., PRL 125 (2020)

Error budget:

	central	truncation	$\rho_{\text{Cont}}^{\text{reg}}$	π N LECs RSA	2N LECs and f_i^2	Q-range	total
$r_{\text{str}}^2 [\text{fm}^2]$	3.8925	± 0.0030	± 0.0024	± 0.0003	± 0.0025	$+0.0035$ -0.0005	$+0.0058$ -0.0046
$Q_d [\text{fm}^2]$	0.2854	± 0.0005	± 0.0007	± 0.0003	± 0.0016	$+0.0035$ -0.0005	$+0.0038$ -0.0017

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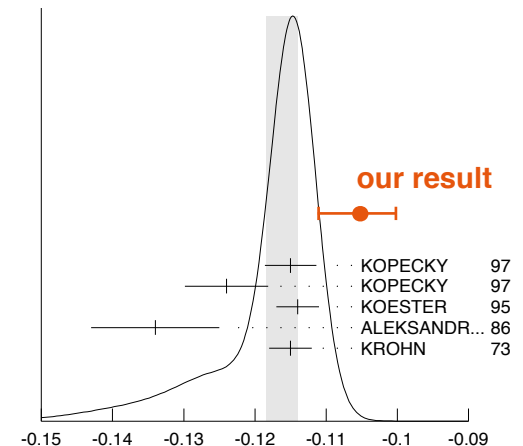
Error budget:

	central	truncation	$\rho_{\text{Cont}}^{\text{reg}}$	π N LECs RSA	2N LECs and f_i^2	Q -range	total
$r_{\text{str}}^2 [\text{fm}^2]$	3.8925	± 0.0030	± 0.0024	± 0.0003	± 0.0025	$+0.0035$ -0.0005	$+0.0058$ -0.0046
$Q_d [\text{fm}^2]$	0.2854	± 0.0005	± 0.0007	± 0.0003	± 0.0016	$+0.0035$ -0.0005	$+0.0038$ -0.0017

Combining our result for r_{str}^2 with the ^1H - ^2H isotope shift datum $r_d^2 - r_p^2 = 3.82007(65) \text{ fm}^2$ Jentschura et al., PRA 83 (2011)

leads to the prediction for the neutron radius:

$$r_n^2 = -0.105^{+0.005}_{-0.006} \text{ fm}^2$$



Charge radius and quadrupole moment

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Patrick Reinert, PRL 124 (2020) 082501; PRC 103 (2021) 024313

Deuteron charge *and structure* radii: $r_d^2 = r_{\text{str}}^2 + r_p^2 + r_n^2 + \frac{3}{4m_p^2}$

EFT truncation, choice of fitting range, NN, π N and γ NN LECs

Our results: $r_{\text{str}} = 1.9729^{+0.0015}_{-0.0012} \text{ fm}$, $Q_d = 0.2854^{+0.0038}_{-0.0017} \text{ fm}^2$

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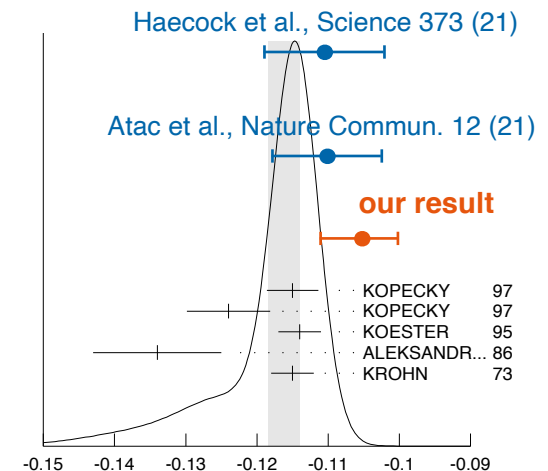
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4th moment of the charge distribution

Arseniy Filin et al., in preparation

The fourth-order moment $\langle r_d^4 \rangle := 60 G_C''(0)$ is being measured in the ULQ2 exp [Toshimi Suda et al.](#)

$$\langle r_d^4 \rangle = r_{\text{str}}^{(4)} + \frac{10}{3} r_{\text{str}}^{(2)} \left(r_n^{(2)} + r_p^{(2)} + \frac{3}{4m^2} \right) + \left(r_n^{(4)} + \frac{5}{2m^2} r_n^{(2)} \right) + \left(r_p^{(4)} + \frac{5}{2m^2} r_p^{(2)} + \frac{45}{16m^4} \right)$$

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(very preliminary, likely to change)

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Alternative determination of the nucleon isoscalar radius?

1% accuracy \Rightarrow 8% accuracy for $r_n^{(2)} + r_p^{(2)} \dots$

$$r_p^{(2)} + r_n^{(2)} = \frac{\left[\langle r_d^4 \rangle - r_p^{(4)} - r_n^{(4)} \right] - r_{\text{str}}^{(4)} - \frac{15}{16m^4}}{\frac{10}{3} r_{\text{str}}^{(2)} + \frac{5}{2m^2}} - \frac{3}{4m^2}$$

Towards charge FFs of $A = 3,4$ nuclei

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Andreas Nogga, Patrick Reinert, in progress

Goal: precise determination of $r_{\text{str}, 4\text{He}}$ & prediction for $r_{\text{str}, A=3} = \sqrt{1/3 r_{\text{str}, 3\text{H}}^2 + 2/3 r_{\text{str}, 3\text{He}}^2}$

Towards charge FFs of A = 3,4 nuclei

Arseniy Filin, Vadim Baru, EE, Christopher Körber, Hermann Krebs, Daniel Möller, Andreas Nogga, Patrick Reinert, in progress

- ✓ NN interactions available at N⁴LO
- ✓ 3NF beyond N²LO not yet available (but can use correlation between radii and BEs)
- ✓ Isovector ρ_{2N} not available beyond N²LO \Rightarrow can only calculate ${}^4\text{He}$ & ${}^3\text{H}(\text{e})_{\text{isoscalar}}$; the last remaining γNN LEC (${}^1\text{S}_0 \rightarrow {}^1\text{S}_0$) fixed from the ${}^4\text{He}$ FF data
- ✓ Isospin-breaking corrections, EM interactions (also beyond point-Coulomb)
- ✓ Relativistic corrections from boosting ${}^3\text{H}(\text{e})$, ${}^4\text{He}$ to the Breit frame

⚠ Relativistic corrections to the BEs and WFs

$$\left(2\sqrt{\hat{p}^2 + m^2} + \tilde{V}\right) \Psi = 2\sqrt{k^2 + m^2} \Psi \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left(\frac{\hat{p}^2}{m} + V\right) \Psi = \frac{k^2}{m} \Psi$$

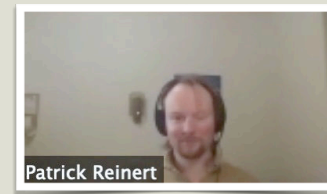
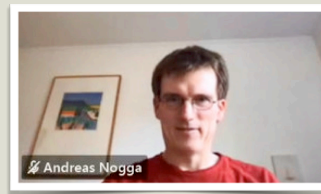
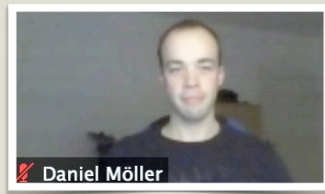
$\chi\text{EFT NN potential}$

1. Reconstruct \tilde{V} from V (nonlinear eq., solved by iterations)
2. Use \tilde{V} to construct few-N irreps. of the Poincaré group by employing the dynamical mass operator (\Rightarrow boost effects, ...) Polyzou et al., Few Body Syst. 49 (2011)
3. Solve the relativistic Faddeev / Faddeev-Yakubovsky equations

⚠ Propagation of uncertainties and error analysis (expect $\sim 2\%$ accuracy)

Summary and conclusions

- Charge & quadrupole FFs of ${}^2\text{H}$ are in good shape (N^4LO , high-precision)
- Other systems and processes are limited to N^2LO accuracy due to unavailability of (consistently regularized) many-body forces & exchange currents
 - ⇒ symmetry-preserving gradient flow regularization Hermann Krebs, EE, in progress
- Correlations between BEs and radii can be employed to obtain precise results for the charge FFs of ${}^4\text{He}$ & ${}^3\text{H}(e)_{\text{isoscalar}}$ already at this stage Arseniy Filin et al., in progress



Thanks to my collaborators!