

# Three-particle scattering amplitudes from lattice QCD

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Steve Sharpe  
University of Washington



# Outline

- Motivations
- The fundamental issue & its resolution
- Recent applications of three-particle formalism
  - Three-particle amplitudes involving pions & kaons at physical quark masses
  - $\pi(1300) \rightarrow 3\pi$  resonance
  - $DD\pi$  scattering, relevant for the  $T_{cc}^+$
  - Progress on  $N\pi\pi$  — towards the Roper resonance
  - Dreaming of three neutrons
- Summary & Outlook

# Contributions at Lat25

Monday a.m. plenary

<b>Hadron spectroscopy and interactions</b>	<i>Jeremy Green</i>
<i>Homi Bhabha Auditorium</i>	11:45 - 12:30
<b>Nucleon-nucleon interactions: past, present, and future</b>	<i>Amy Nicholson</i>
<i>Homi Bhabha Auditorium</i>	12:30 - 13:00

Monday p.m.

<b>Lattice study of ccus tetraquark channel in <math>D^{(*)}D_s^{(*)}</math> scattering</b>	<i>Tanishk Shrimal</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:00 - 17:20
<b>Importance of local tetraquark operators for the <math>T_{cc}(3875)^{+}</math> spectrum</b>	<i>Andres Stump</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:20 - 17:40
<b><math>T_{cc}</math> pole trajectory</b>	<i>Protick Mohanta</i>

Tuesday p.m.

<b>Bayesian Analysis and Analytic Continuation of Scattering Amplitudes from Lattice QCD</b>	<i>Miguel Salg</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:00 - 17:20
<b>Towards four-pion effects in multi-hadron decays</b>	<i>Rajnandini Mukherjee</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:20 - 17:40

Friday p.m.

<b>Systematic uncertainties in lattice QCD calculations of multi-hadron systems</b>	<i>Robert Perry</i>
<i>AG66</i>	15:10 - 15:30
<b>QCD Predictions for Physical Multimeson Scattering Amplitudes</b>	<i>Fernando Romero López</i>
<i>AG66</i>	16:40 - 17:00
<b>Three-body study of the <math>T_{cc}^{+}</math> from lattice QCD</b>	<i>Andre Baidao Raposo</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:00 - 17:20
<b>Extending the finite volume formalism to the <math>N\pi\pi\pi</math> system at maximal isospin</b>	<i>Stephen Sharpe</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:20 - 17:40
<b>Emergence of the <math>\pi(1300)</math> Resonance from Lattice QCD</b>	<i>Maxim Mai</i>
<i>AG66</i>	17:40 - 18:00

# Previous related plenaries

- Lattice 2024
  - Nilmani Mathur, “Hadron Spectroscopy from Lattice QCD”
  - Felix Erben, “From scattering towards multi-hadron weak decays”
- Lattice 2023
  - Drew Hanlon, “Hadron spectroscopy and few-body dynamics from LQCD”
- Lattice 2022
  - Fernando Romero-López, “Multi-hadron interactions from lattice QCD”
- Lattice 2021
  - Ben Hörz, “Spectroscopy and hadron interactions”
- Lattice 2019
  - Akaki Rusetsky, “Three particles on the lattice”



# Topics not discussed

- **Matrix elements involving resonances**
  - Felipe Ortega Gama, “Two-particle matrix elements in a box”
  - Ajay Shanmuga Sakthivasan, “The EM Form Factor of the Rho Meson on the lattice”
- **Electroweak decay amplitudes**
  - Luka Leskovec, plenary at Lattice 2023, “Electroweak transitions involving resonances”
  - Erik Lundstrum, “Isospin-breaking contributions to  $\varepsilon'$  from lattice QCD”
  - Felix Erben, “ $K\pi$  scattering as a step towards  $B \rightarrow K^* \ell^+ \ell^-$  from lattice QCD”
- **Methods for inclusive decays**
  - Marco Garofalo, “Inclusive semileptonic decays of heavy mesons from lattice QCD”
  - Francesca Margari, “The smeared R-ratio in isoQCD from first-principles lattice simulations”
  - D. Gavriel, “A novel framework for spectral density reconstruction via quadrature-based Laplace inversion”
  - Ryan Abbott, “Moment problems and spectral functions”
  - Ahmed Elgaziari, “Study on the systematic effects on  $b \rightarrow c$  inclusive semileptonic decays”
  - Sarah Fields, “Nevanlinna-Pick interpolation from inexact data”
  - Gabriele Moriandi, “Towards the time-like pion form factor beyond the elastic regime using domain-wall QCD”
  - Christian Zimmermann, “The hadronic tensor from four-point functions on the lattice”
  - A. del Pino Rubio, “Hadronic contributions to  $\alpha(Q^2)$  &  $\sin^2 \theta_W$  from spectral reconstruction on the lattice”

# Topics not discussed

- Ground state energy of multiparticle systems
  - [Lee, Huang, Yang, 1957]
  - “n-Boson Energies at Finite Volume and Three-Boson Interactions”, [Beane, Detmold, Savage, 0707.1670 (PRD)]
  - ...
  - “Lattice quantum chromodynamics at large isospin density” (6144 pions in a lattice) [Abbott et al. (NPLQCD), 2307.15014 (PRD) & 2406.09273 (PRL)]

# Motivations

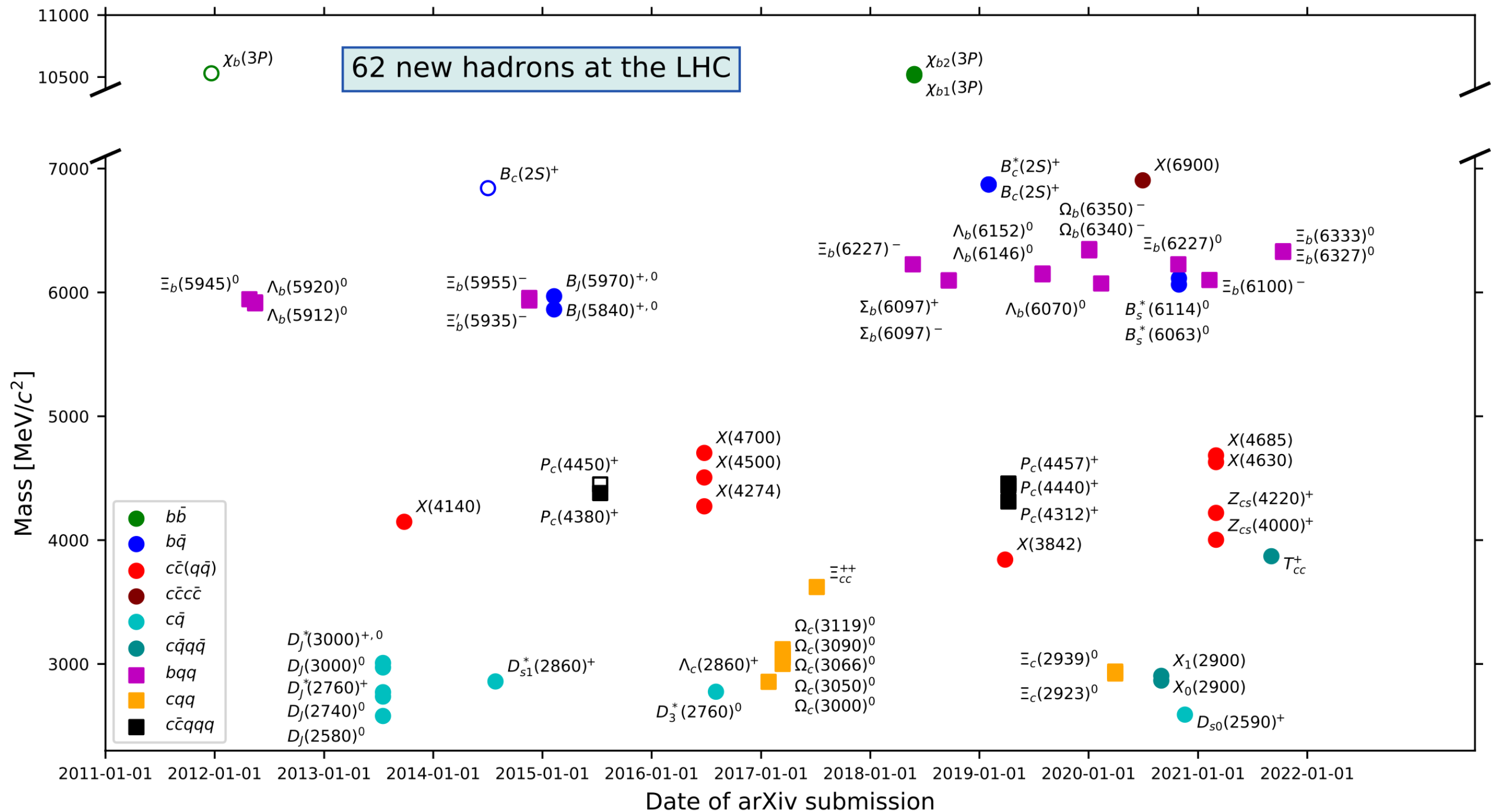
# Underlying motivations

- Determine properties of strong interaction resonances from QCD
  - E.g. exotics such as  $T_{cc}(3875)^+ \rightarrow DD^* \rightarrow DD\pi$
  - Long-standing puzzles, e.g. Roper  $N(1440) \rightarrow N\pi + N\pi\pi$
- Determine three particle “forces” for  $3n$ ,  $3\pi$ ,  $3K$ , ...
  - Needed to understand neutron star EoS, properties of large nuclei, ...

# Underlying motivations

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- Determine three particle “forces” for  $3n$ ,  $3\pi$ ,  $3K$ , ...
  - Needed to understand neutron star EoS, properties of large nuclei, ...
- Calculate weak decay amplitudes within the Standard Model, in order to search for new physics
  - E.g.  $K \rightarrow 2\pi$  (essentially done),  $K \rightarrow 3\pi$  (method known), &  $D \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ ,  $K^+K^-$  (open question)

# Cornucopia of exotics



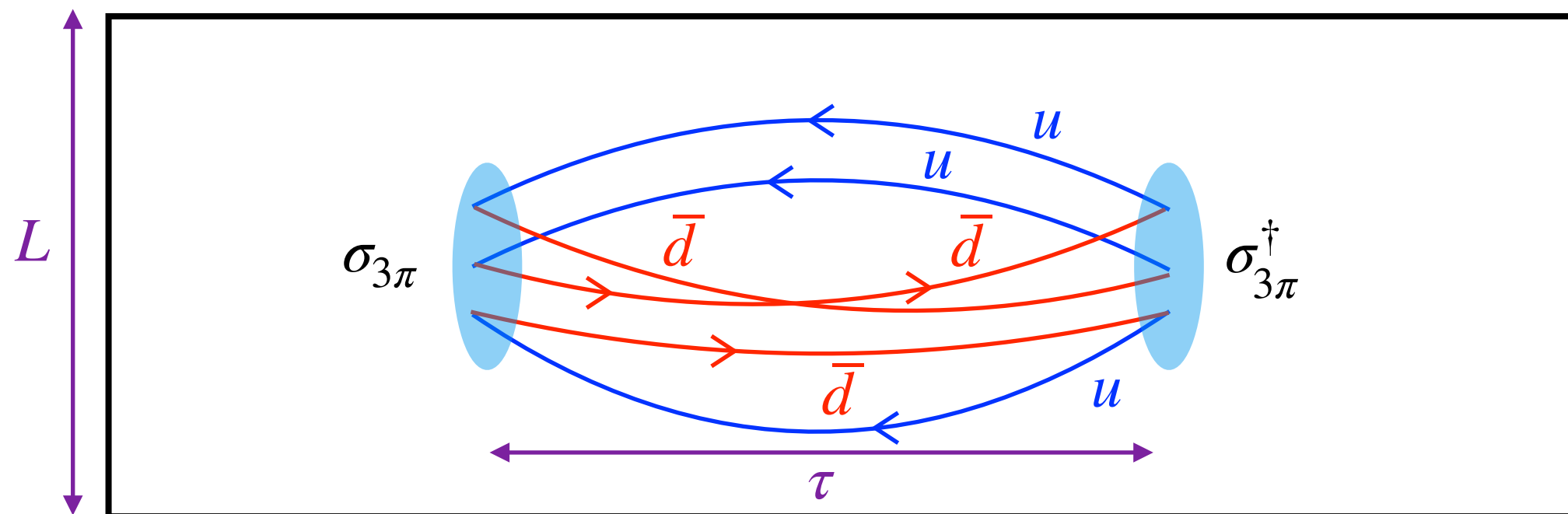
[I. Danilkin, talk at INT workshop, March 23]

+ data from Babar, Belle, COMPASS, ...

# The fundamental issue & its resolution

# On the one hand...

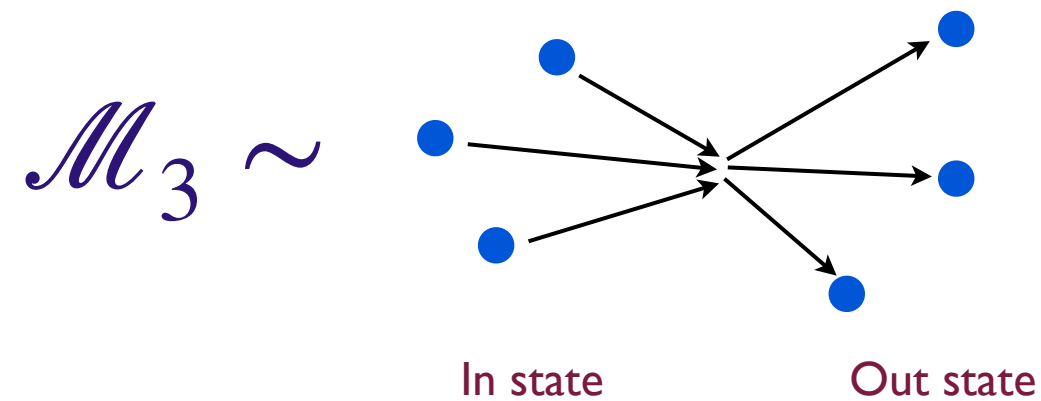
- LQCD determines energies and properties of finite-volume eigenstates
  - Obtained from Euclidean correlation functions
  - Outputs are physical quantities (with statistical & systematic errors)





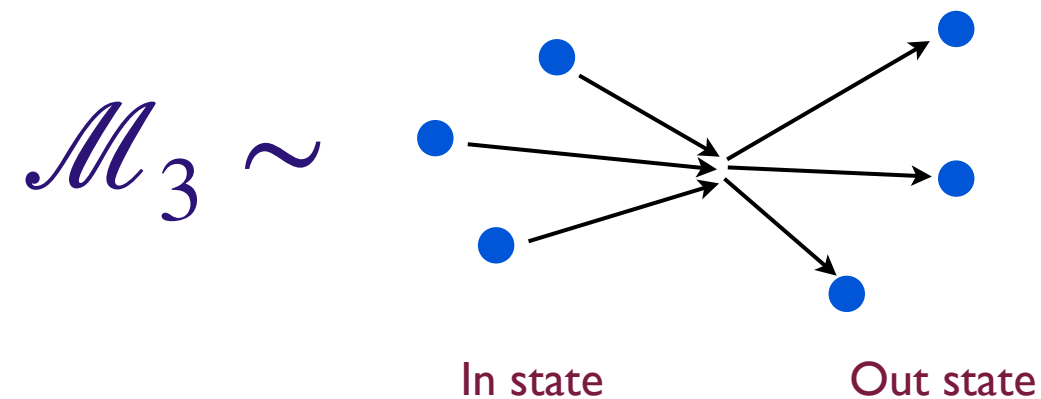
# ...while on the other

- We want infinite-volume scattering amplitudes, e.g.

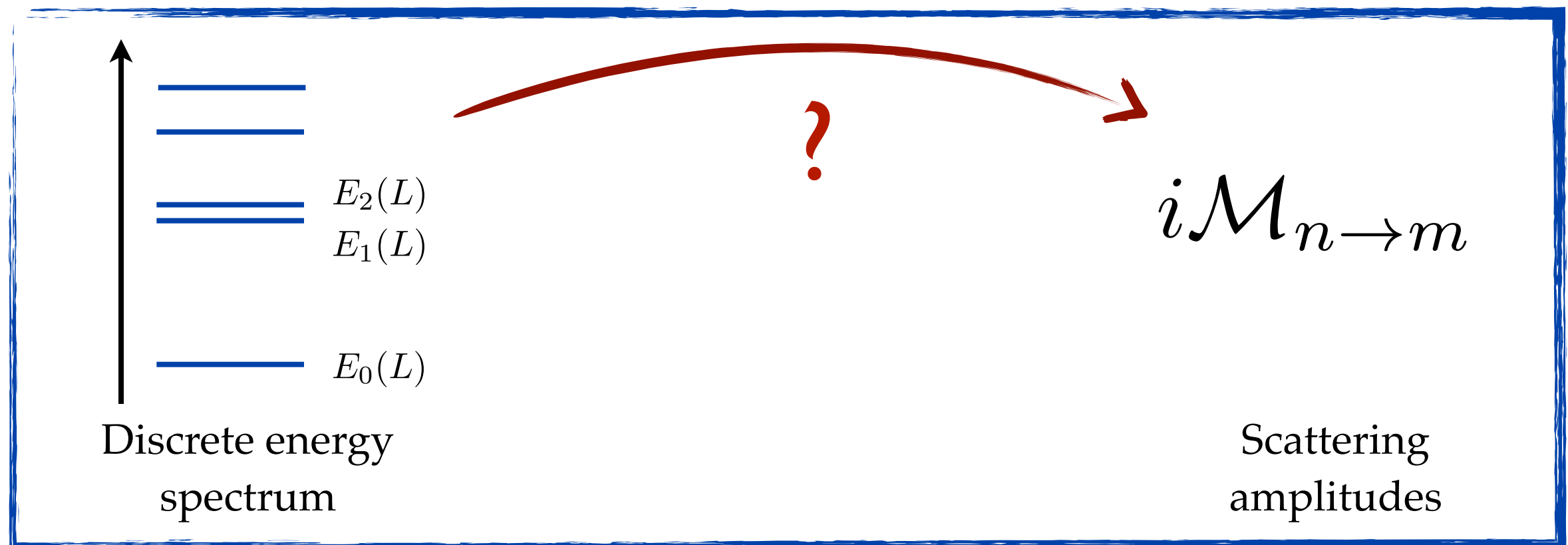


# ...while on the other

- We want infinite-volume scattering amplitudes, e.g.

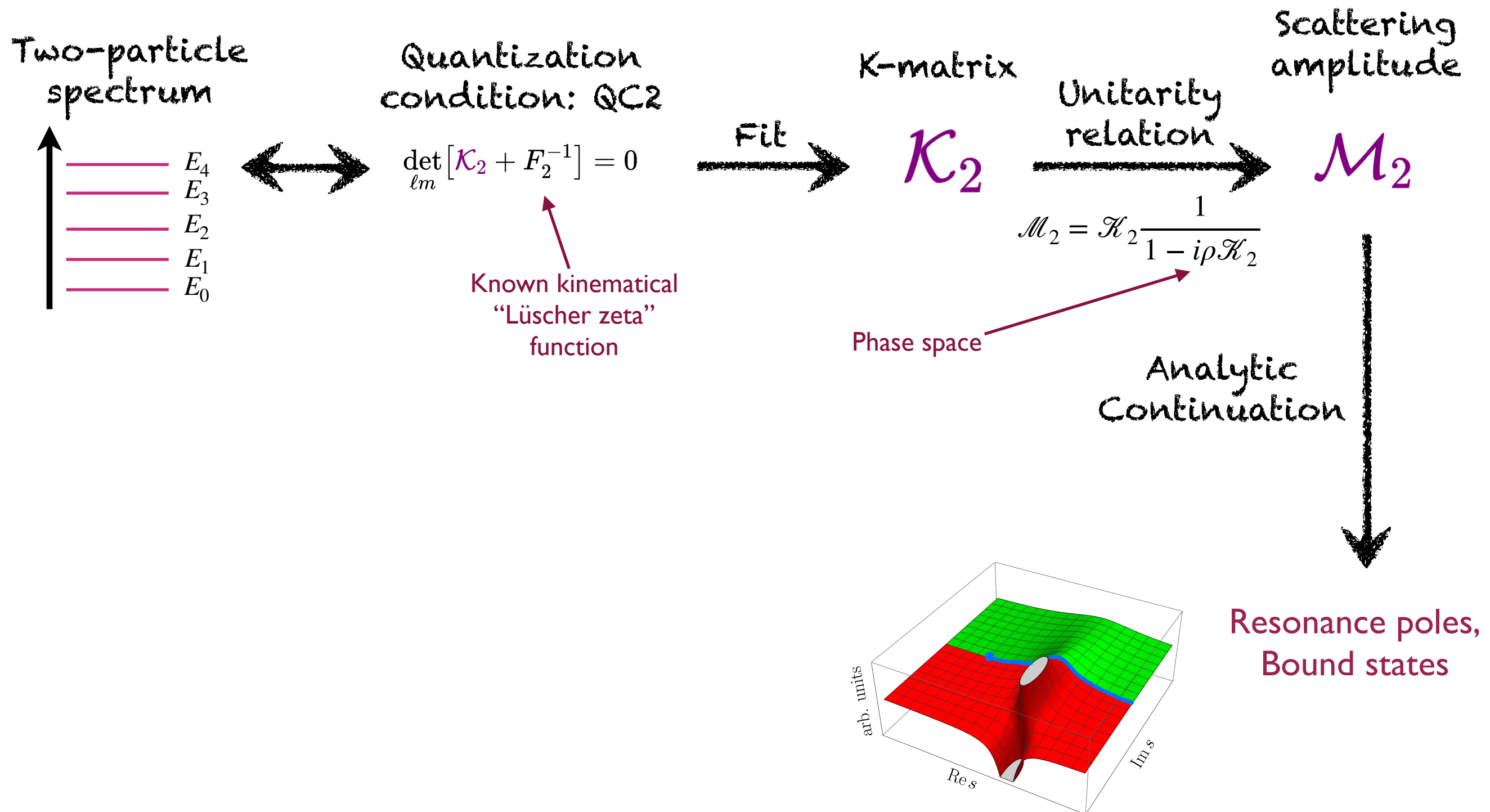


- How do we relate these? A finite-volume QFT problem.



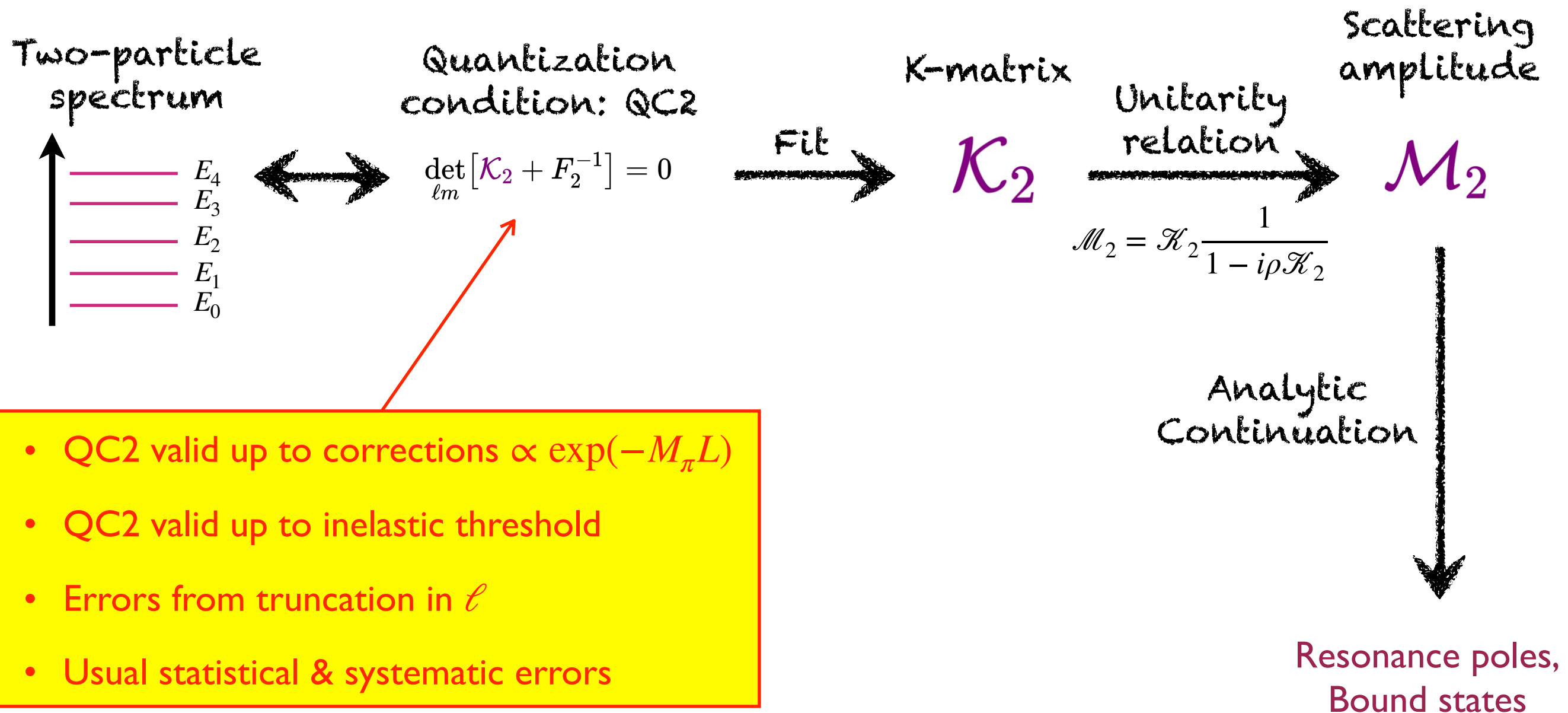
# 2-particle formalism

[Lüscher, 1986-91 + many subsequent works]



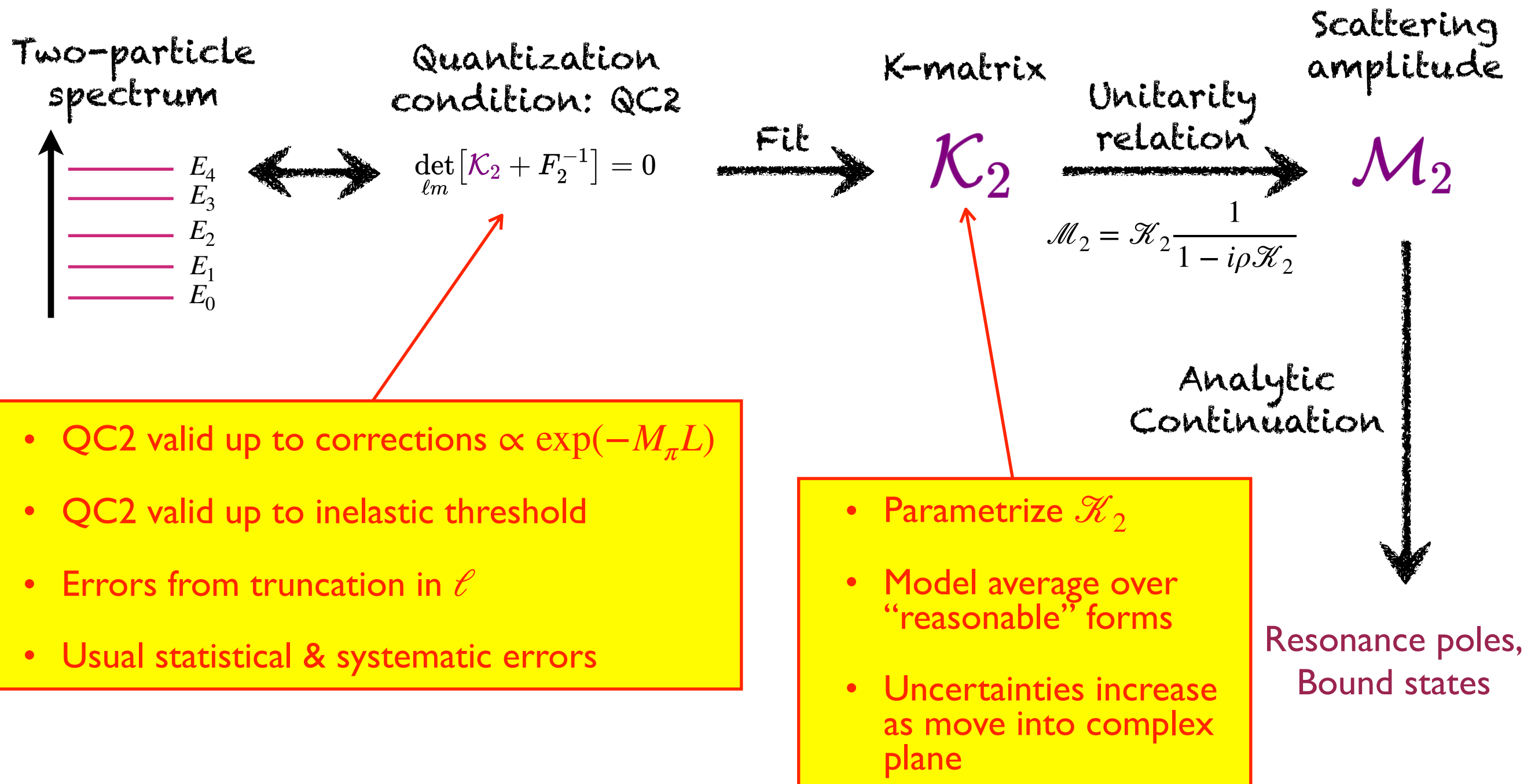
# 2-particle formalism

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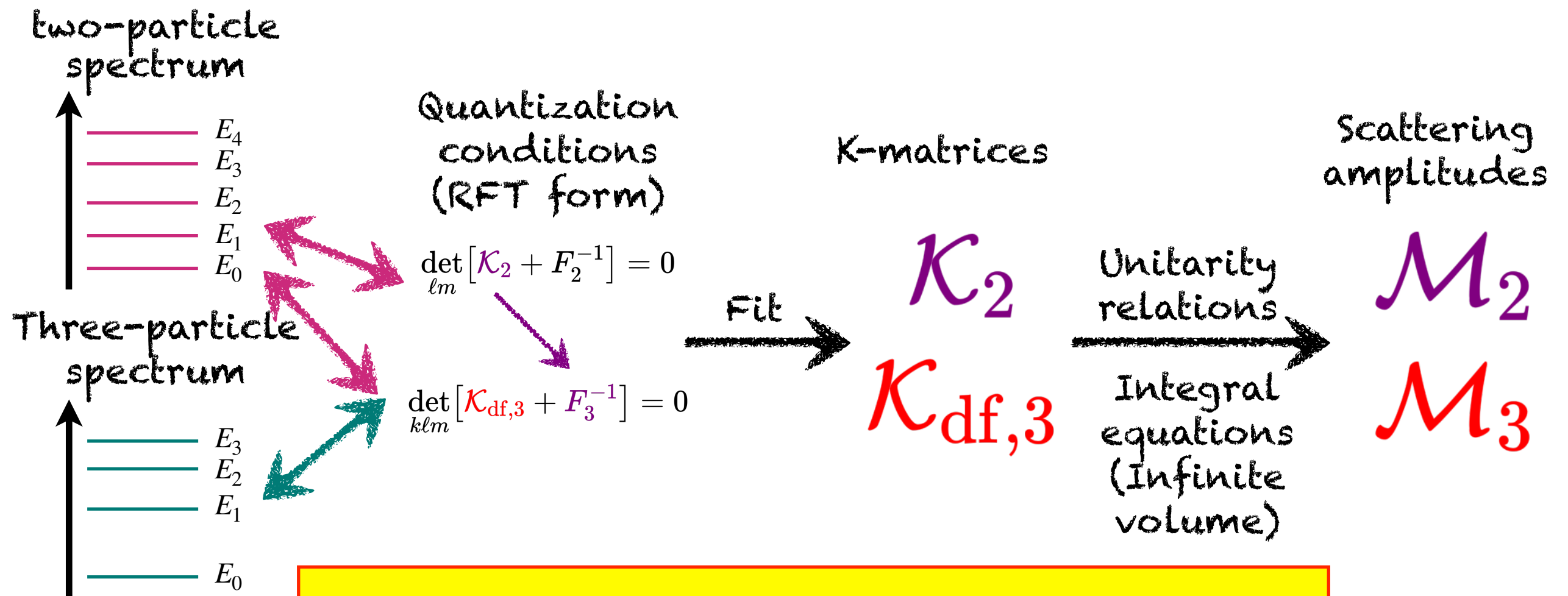
# 2-particle formalism

[Lüscher, 1986-91 + many subsequent works]



# 3-particle formalism

[Hansen & SRS, 2014 & 2015 + many subsequent works]



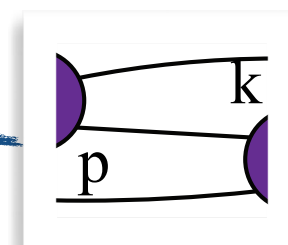
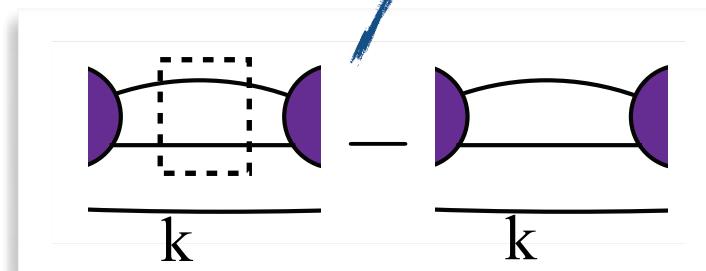
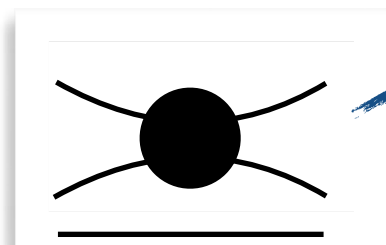
- Using more data than QC2, but fitting much more challenging
- More quantities to parametrize, with limited phenomenological knowledge for  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$
- Solving integral equations involves new challenges

# QC3

$$\det_{k\ell m} \left[ F_3^{-1} + \mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3} \right] = 0$$

- QC3 valid up to corrections  $\propto \exp(-M_\pi L)$
- QC3 valid up to first inelastic threshold, e.g.  $E^* = 5M_\pi$  for 3 pion system
- Matrix indices are spectator finite-volume momentum  $k$ , and pair CM-frame  $\ell, m$
- RFT formalism includes smooth cutoff in  $k$ ; must truncate “by hand” in  $\ell$

$$F_3 = \frac{1}{2\omega L^3} \left[ \frac{F}{3} - F \frac{1}{1/\mathcal{K}_{2,L} + F + G} F \right]$$



# Relating $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$ to $\mathcal{M}_3$

$$\mathcal{M}_3 = \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{S} \left\{ \mathcal{D}_L^{(u,u)} + \mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3,L}^{(u,u)} \right\} = \mathcal{D} + \mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3}$$

- $\mathcal{D}$  contains all divergent contributions to  $\mathcal{M}_3$ , but depends on cutoff function  $H(\vec{k})$

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{S} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right\} + \dots$$

The diagram shows a sequence of terms in curly braces. The first term consists of two horizontal lines with two circles labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  on them. A purple  $G$  is placed between the two circles. The second term consists of two horizontal lines with three circles labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  on them. Two purple  $G$ 's are placed between the circles. The sequence continues with an ellipsis.

- $\mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3}$  is divergence-free, equals  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$  at leading order, and is also cutoff-dependent

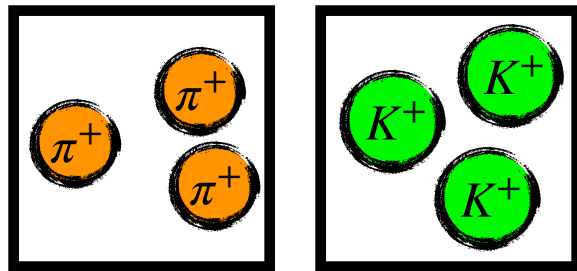
$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3} = \mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3} + \mathcal{S} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right\} + \dots$$

The diagram shows a sequence of terms in curly braces. The first term consists of two horizontal lines with two circles. The left circle is labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  and the right circle is labeled  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$ . A purple  $\rho$  is placed between them. The second term consists of two horizontal lines with two circles. The left circle is labeled  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$  and the right circle is labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$ . A purple  $\rho$  is placed between them. The sequence continues with an ellipsis.

- “Decorations” ensure that  $\mathcal{M}_3$  is unitary

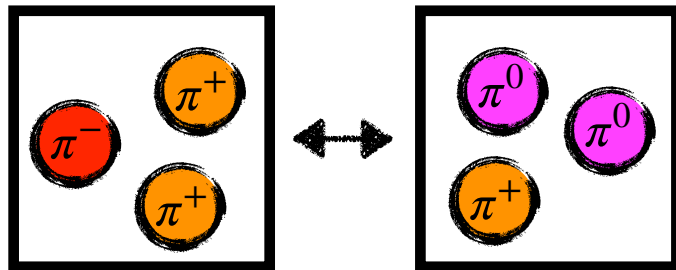


# Status: formalism



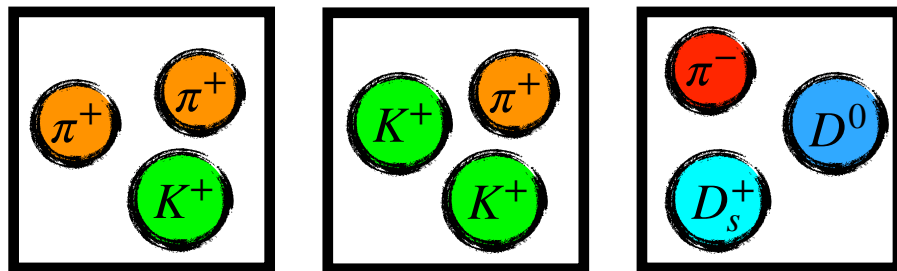
[Hansen & SRS 14,15 (RFT); Hammer, Pang, Rusetsky 17 (NREFT); Mai, Döring 17 (FVU)]

[Many subsequent refinements & tests]

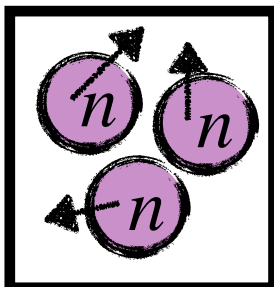


[Hansen, Romero-López, SRS 20;

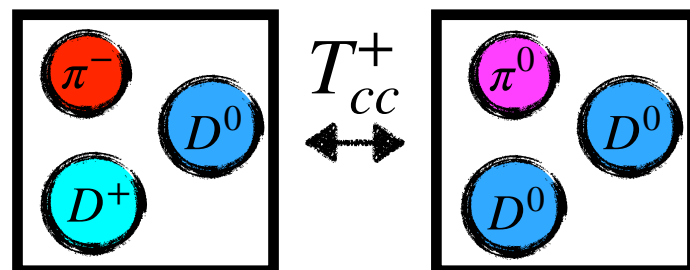
Mai, Alexandru, Brett, Culver, Döring, Lee, Sadasivan (FVU) 21]



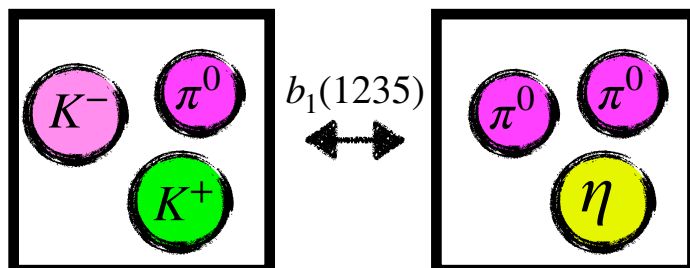
[Blanton, SRS 20, 21]



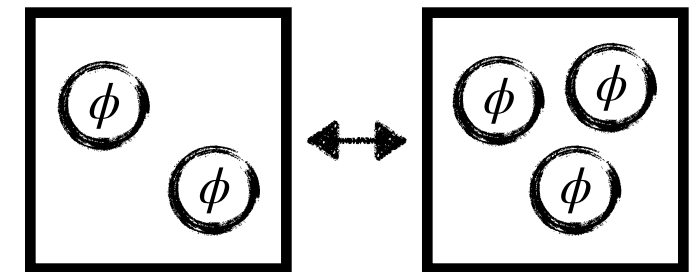
[Draper, Hansen, Romero-López, SRS 23]



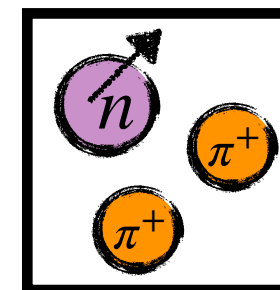
[Hansen, Romero-López, SRS 24]



[Draper, SRS 24]

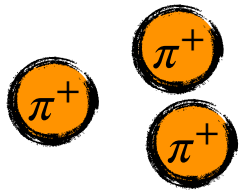


[Briceño, Hansen, SRS 17]

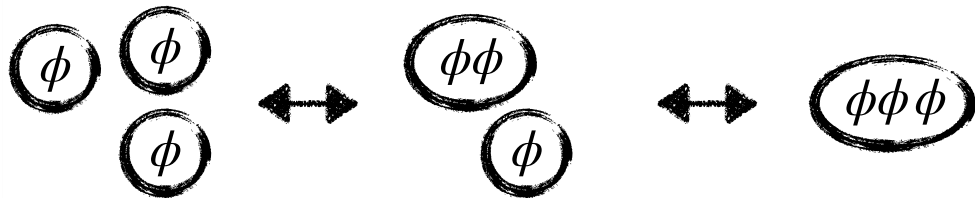


[Hansen, Romero-López, SRS 25]

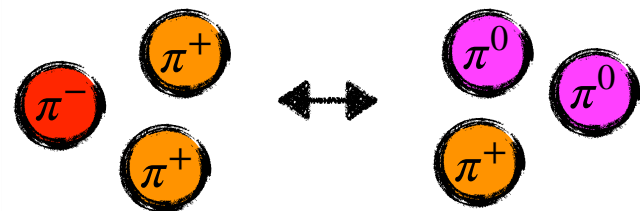
# Status: solving integral equations



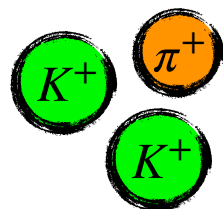
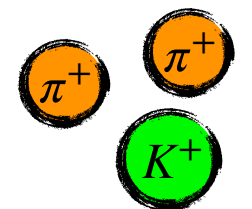
[Hansen, Briceño, Edwards, Thomas, Wilson, 20]



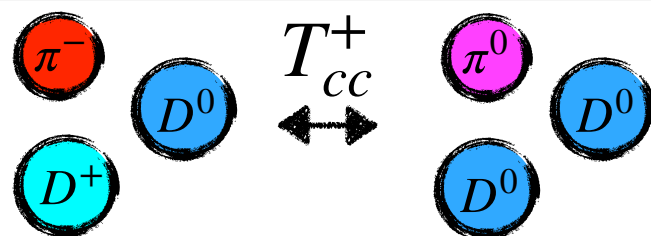
[Jackura, Briceño, Dawid, Islam, McCarty, 20;  
Dawid, Islam, Briceño, 23;  
Dawid, Islam, Briceño, Jackura, 23]



[Mai, Alexandru, Brett, Culver, Döring, Lee, Sadasivan (IVU) 21;  
Jackura, Briceño, 23; Briceño, Costa, Jackura, 24; Jackura, Chambers, Briceño, 25;  
Yan, Mai, Garofalo, Feng, Meißner, Liu, Liu, Urbach (IVU) 24;  
Yan, Mai, Garofalo, Feng, Döring, Liu, Liu, Meißner, Urbach (IVU) 25]



[Dawid, Draper, Hanlon, Hörz, Morningstar, Romero-López, SRS, Skinner, 25]



[Dawid, Romero-López, SRS 24, 25]

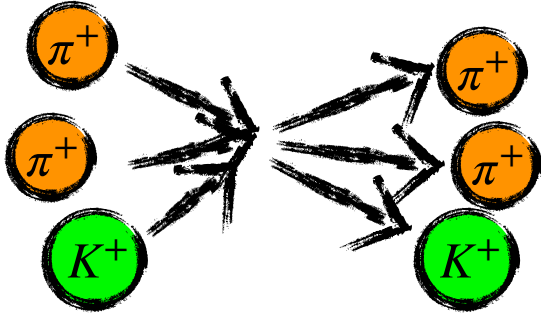
# Recent applications of three-particle formalism

# QCD predictions for physical multimeson scattering amplitudes

Sebastian M. Dawid,<sup>1</sup> Zachary T. Draper,<sup>1</sup> Andrew D. Hanlon,<sup>2</sup> Ben Hörz,<sup>3</sup> Colin Morningstar,<sup>4</sup> Fernando Romero-López,<sup>5,6</sup> Stephen R. Sharpe,<sup>1</sup> and Sarah Skinner<sup>4</sup>

[2502.14348 (PRL) & 2502.17976 (PRD)  
Talk by Fernando Romero-López]

# Three PGBs at maximal isospin



$$3\pi^+, \quad 3K^+, \quad \pi^+\pi^+K^+, \quad K^+K^+\pi^+$$

- Benchmark system, with simple repulsive dynamics
  - First calculation at physical quark masses
  - Study  $J^P = 0^-, 1^+, 2^-$ , including subchannels with  $\ell = 0, 1, 2$
  - Compare to expectations from ChPT
- Use CLS ensembles ( $\mathcal{O}(a)$  improved Wilson) + GEVP

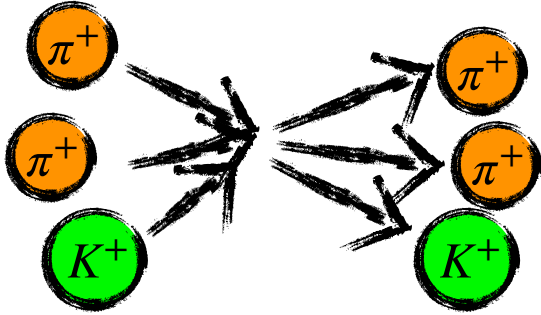
	$(L/a)^3 \times (T/a)$	$M_\pi[\text{MeV}]$	$M_K[\text{MeV}]$	$N_{\text{cfg}}$	$M_\pi L$
N203	$48^3 \times 128$	340	440	771	5.41
N200	$48^3 \times 128$	280	460	1712	4.42
D200	$64^3 \times 128$	200	480	2000	4.20
E250	$96^3 \times 192$	130	500	505	4.05

[Blanton, SRS, et al.,  
PRL 2020 & JHEP 2021]  
[Draper, SRS, et al.,  
JHEP 2023]

New work

$$a \simeq 0.063 \text{ fm}$$

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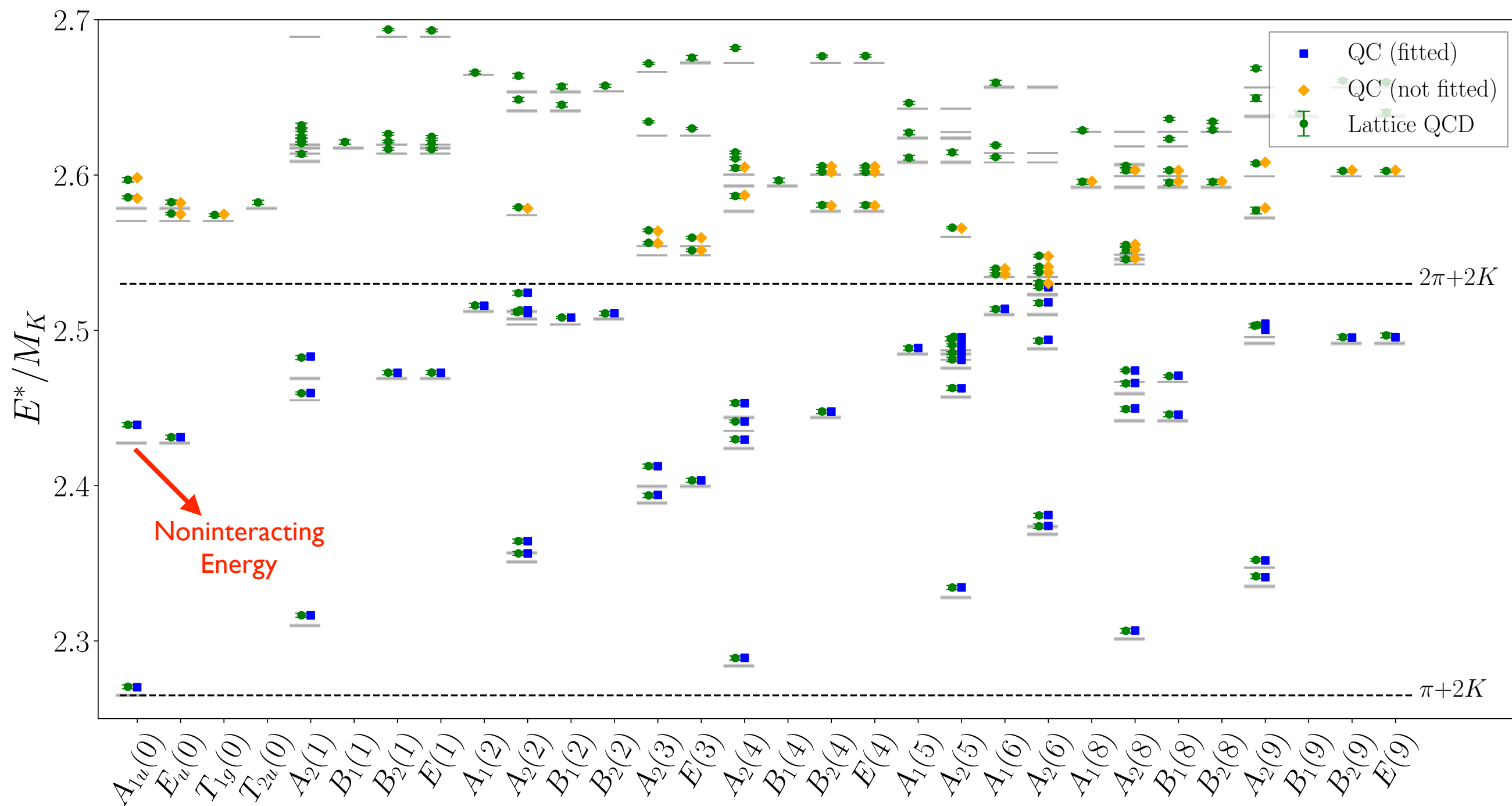
[Blanton, SRS, et al.,  
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New work

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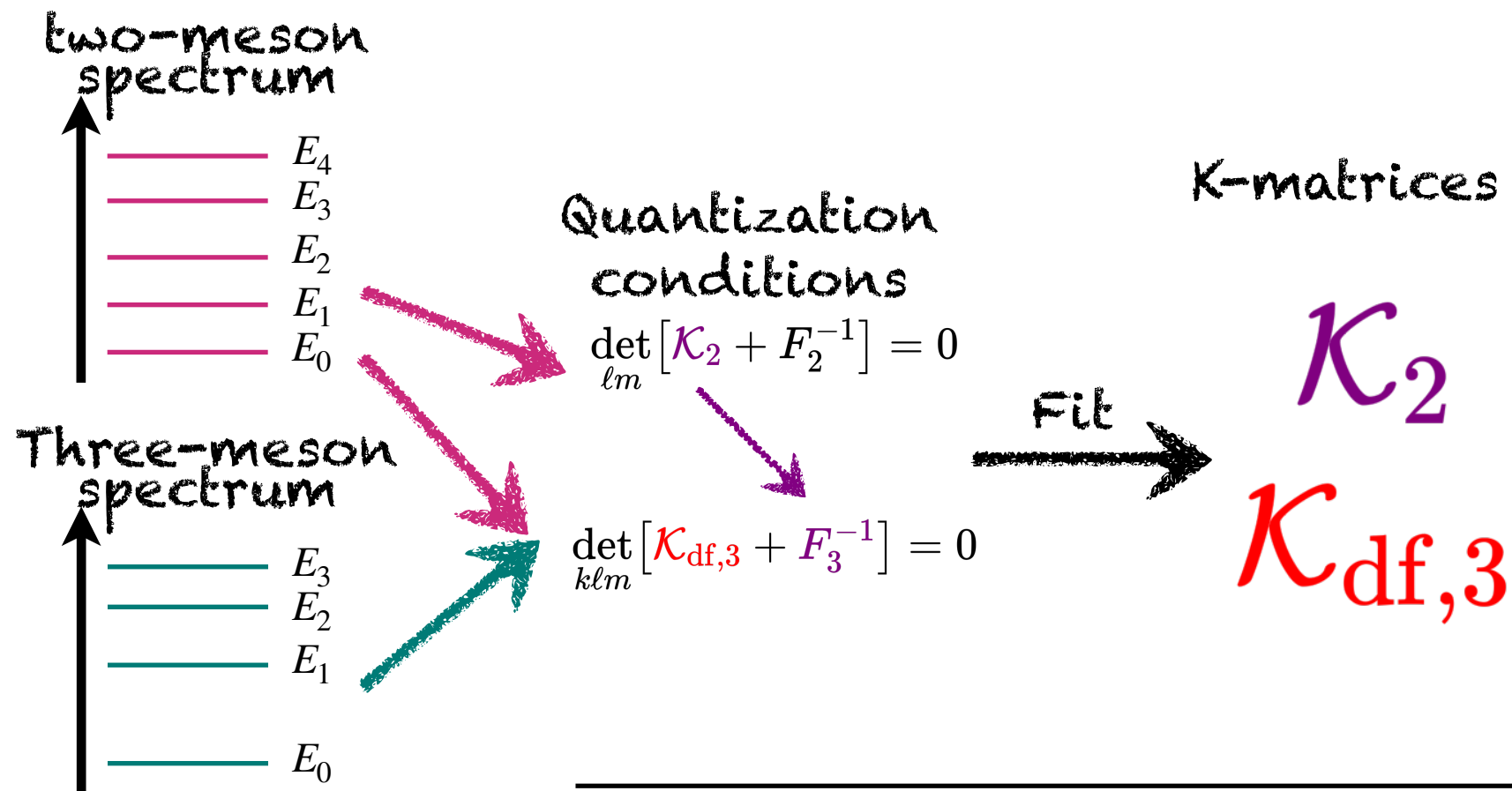
$$\text{tr } m_q = 2m_{ud} + m_s \simeq \text{const}$$

# Example of spectrum



E250:  $K^+ K^+ \pi^+$

# Fits to spectra



channels	# levels	# parameters	$\chi^2/\text{DOF}$
$2\pi/3\pi$	$34 + 32$	6	1.14
$2\pi/\pi K/2\pi K$	$24 + 25 + 23$	9	1.23
$2K/\pi K/2K\pi$	$25 + 40 + 50$	10	1.95
$2K/3K$	$40 + 53$	6	1.49

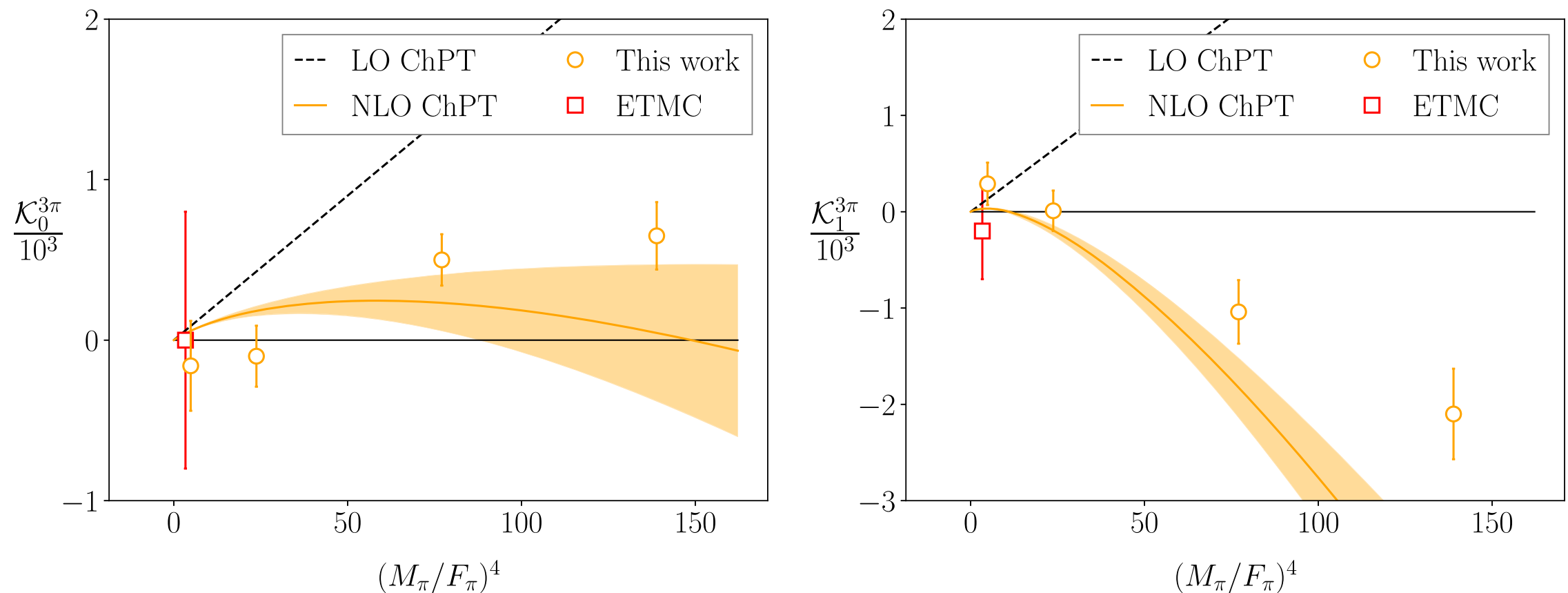
Parameters in  $\mathcal{K}_2$  and  $\mathcal{K}_3$ : use threshold expansions



# Comparing $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$ to ChPT

- Parametrize  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$  in a threshold expansion, keeping first two terms
- From fits to spectra, we find non vanishing results for these terms at heavier quark masses
- Compare to NLO Chiral Perturbation theory calculation of  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$  for  $3\pi \rightarrow 3\pi$

[Baeza-Ballesteros, Bijnsens, Husek, Romero-López, SRS, Sjö, 2303.13206 (JHEP) & 2401.14293 (JHEP) ]

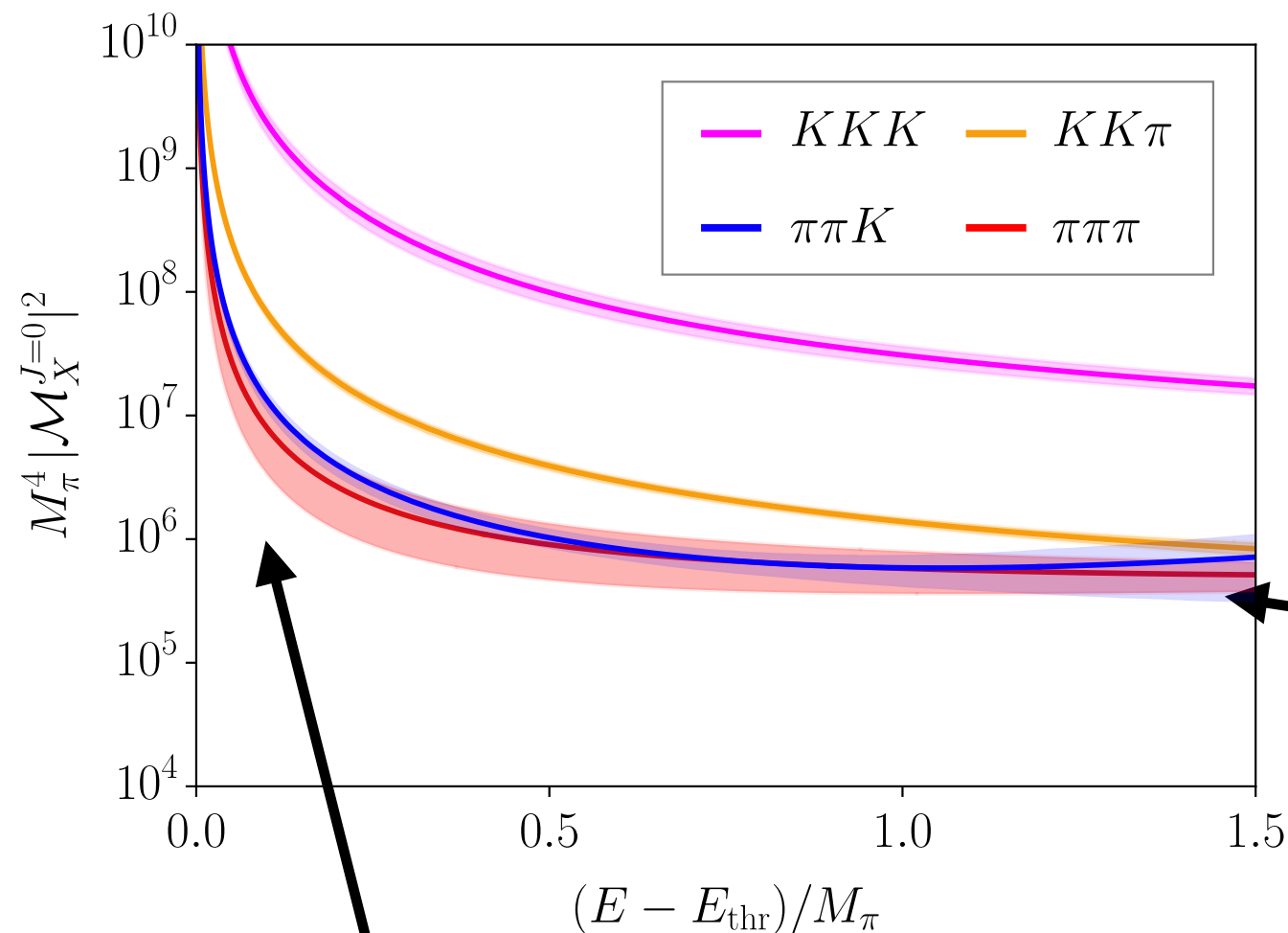


Large NLO corrections in ChPT resolve LO inconsistency

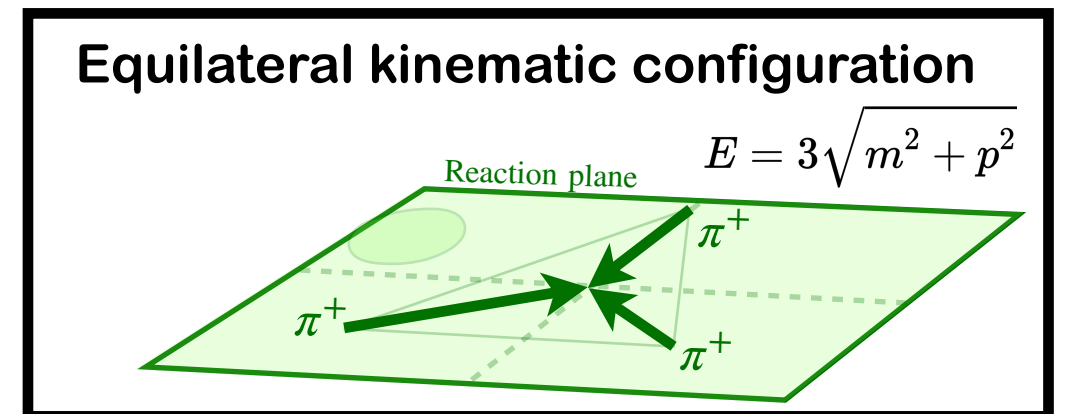
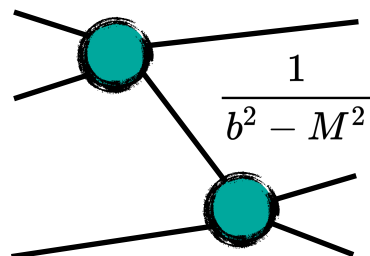
# Physical 3-particle amplitudes

$$M_\pi^4 |\text{Amplitude}|^2$$

$$J^P = 0^-$$



**Divergent  
at threshold**



**Pion interactions  
are chirally suppressed**

$$\mathcal{M}_3 = \mathcal{D} + \mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3}$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{S} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} + \dots \right\}$$

Diagram 1: Two vertices labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  connected by a line labeled  $G$ .

Diagram 2: Three vertices labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  connected by two lines labeled  $G$ .

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{df},3} = \mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3} + \mathcal{S} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 3} \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} + \dots \right\}$$

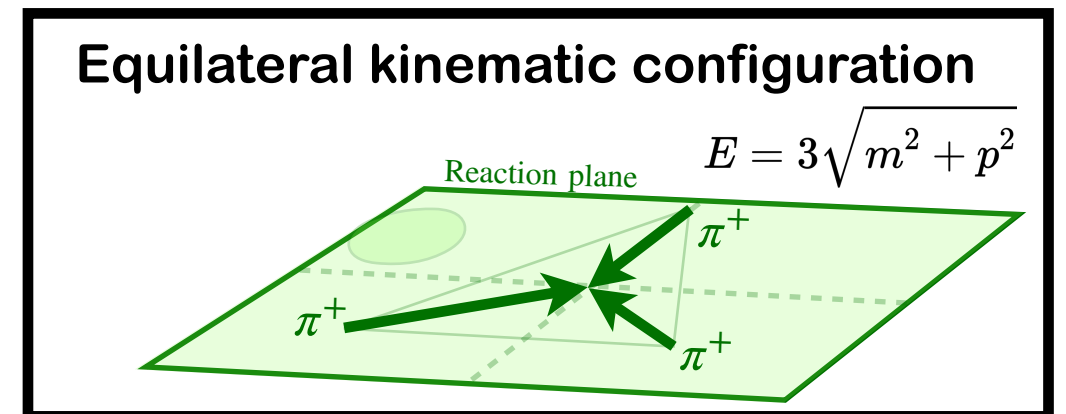
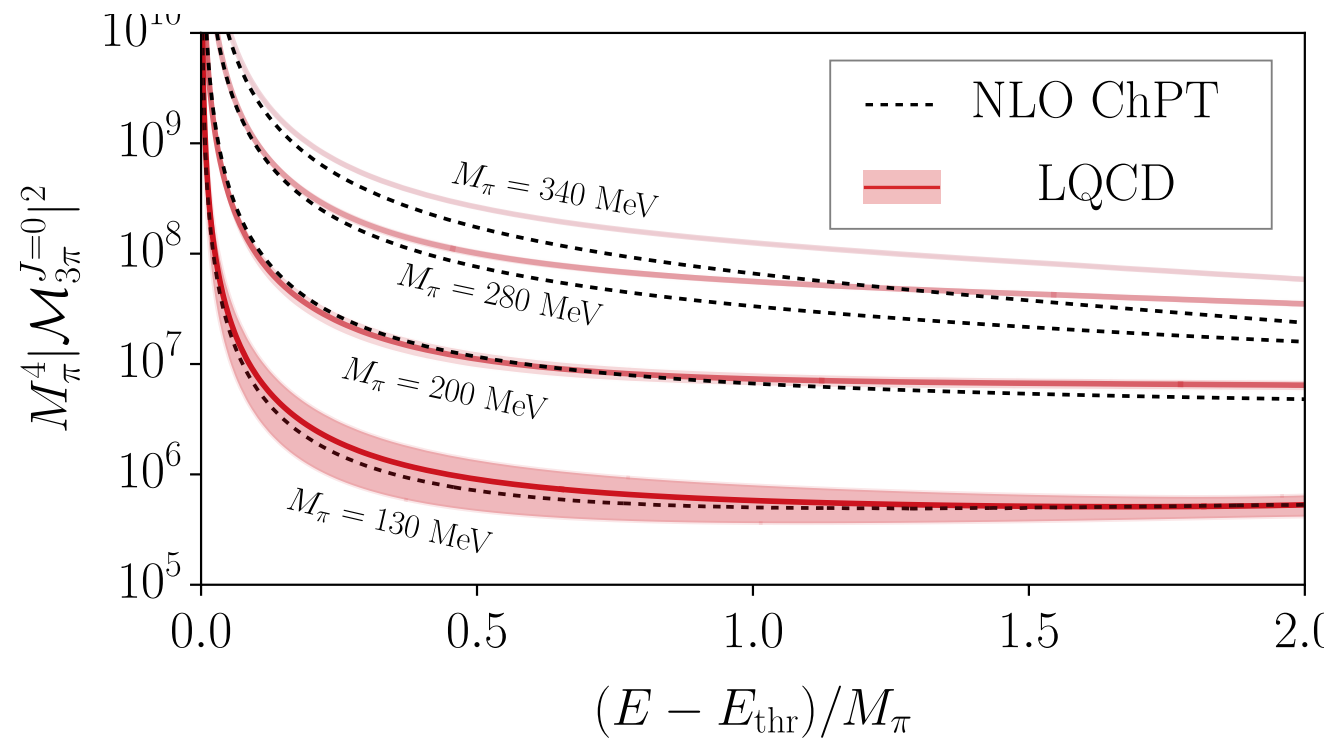
Diagram 3: Two vertices labeled  $\mathcal{M}_2$  connected by a line labeled  $\rho$ .

Diagram 4: Two vertices labeled  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$  connected by a line labeled  $\rho$ .

# Comparison with ChPT

$$M_\pi^4 |\text{Amplitude}|^2$$

$$J^P = 0^-$$



Observe expected breakdown of ChPT as  $M_\pi$  or  $p_\pi$  increase

# 3-particle resonances

## Emergence of the $\pi(1300)$ Resonance from Lattice QCD

Haobo Yan (燕浩波),<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Maxim Mai,<sup>3,4,†</sup> Marco Garofalo,<sup>2,‡</sup> Yuchuan Feng,<sup>4,§</sup> Michael Döring,<sup>4,¶</sup>  
Chuan Liu (刘川),<sup>1,5,6,\*\*</sup> Liuming Liu (刘柳明),<sup>7,8,††</sup> Ulf-G. Meißner,<sup>2,9,10,‡‡</sup> and Carsten Urbach<sup>2,§§</sup>

[2510.09476, talk by Maxim Mai]

## $\omega$ Meson from lattice QCD

Haobo Yan (燕浩波),<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Maxim Mai,<sup>2,3,4,†</sup> Marco Garofalo,<sup>2,‡</sup>  
Ulf-G. Meißner,<sup>2,5,6,§</sup> Chuan Liu,<sup>1,7,8,¶</sup> Liuming Liu,<sup>9,10,\*\*</sup> and Carsten Urbach<sup>2,††</sup>

[2407.16659, PRL]

# Natural candidate for QC<sub>3</sub>?

$\pi(1300)$

$I^G(J^{PC}) = 1^-(0^{-+})$

[PDGlive]

$\pi(1300)$  MASS

[1] 1300 ±100 MeV

▼

$\pi(1300)$  WIDTH

[1] 200 to 600 MeV

▼

$\pi(1300)$  DECAY MODES

Mode	Fraction ( $\Gamma_i / \Gamma$ )	Scale Factor/ Conf. Level	P(MeV/c)	
$\Gamma_1$ $\rho\pi$	seen		404	▼
$\Gamma_2$ $\pi(\pi\pi)_{S\text{-wave}}$	seen			▼
$\Gamma_3$ $\gamma\gamma$			650	▼

[1] Our estimate. See the Particle Listings for details.

Pro:  $s$ -wave decay to  $3\pi$  implies strong 3-particle coupling

Con: Lies well above the inelastic threshold for QC<sub>3</sub>

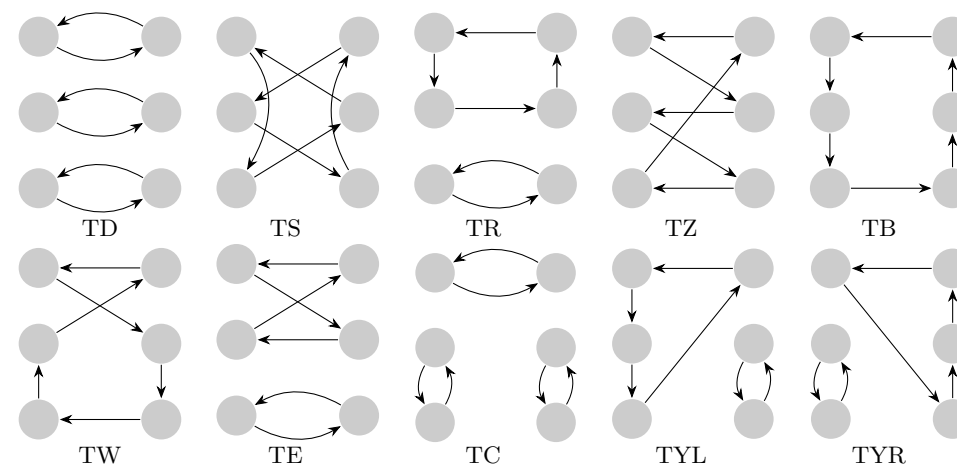
- $M(\pi(1300)) \approx 10M_\pi \gg 5M_\pi$
- QC<sub>3</sub> will apply for heavier than physical quark masses

# Simulation details

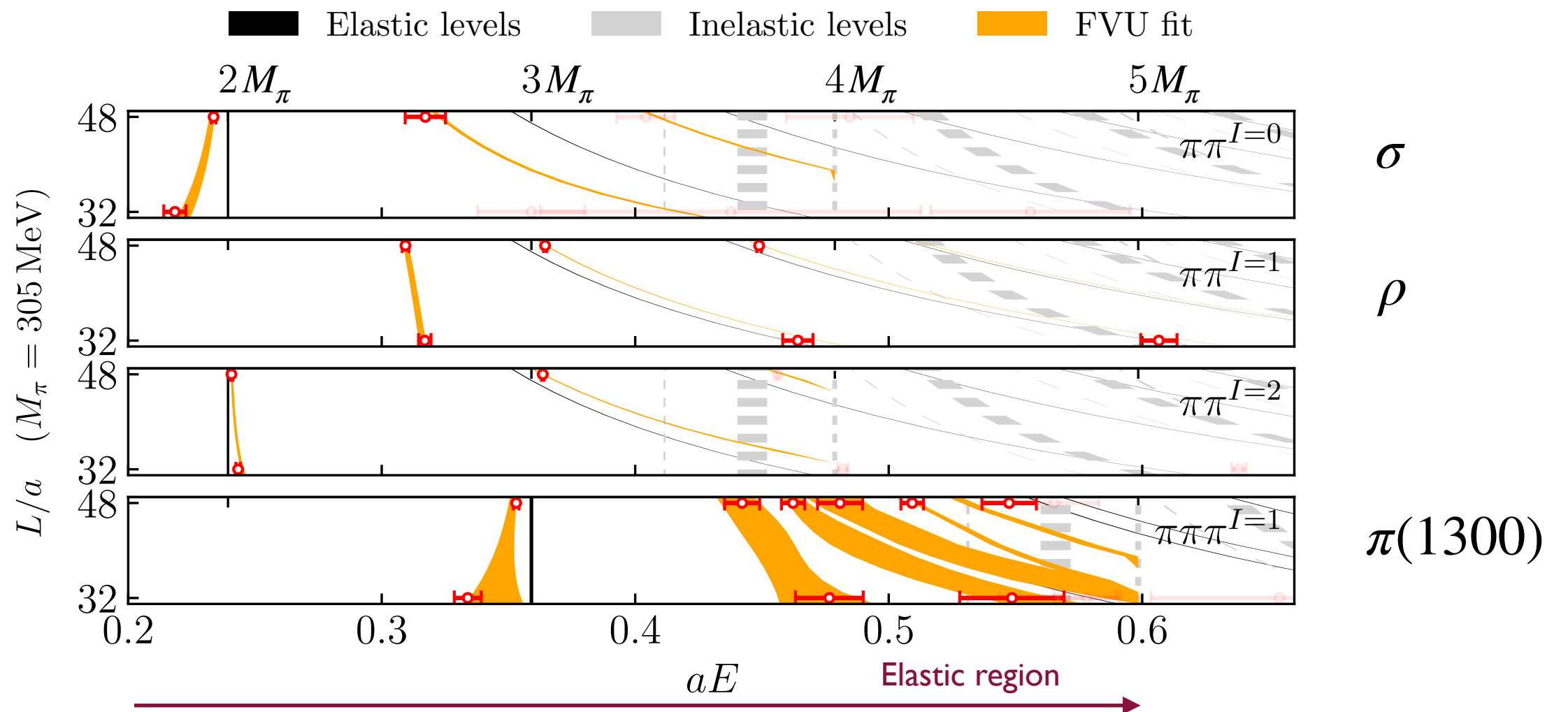
- Use CLQCD ensembles (tadpole improved Clover), fixed  $m_s, a = 0.07746(18)\text{fm}$ 
  - Rest-frame only and single irrep

ens.	size	$M_\pi(\text{MeV})$	$M_K(\text{MeV})$	$M_\pi L$	# $2\pi$ levels	# $3\pi$ levels
F32P30	$32^3 \times 96$	303	525	3.8	5	3
F48P30	$48^3 \times 96$	303	524	5.7	7	6
F32P21	$32^3 \times 64$	211	492	2.7	5	0
F48P21	$48^3 \times 96$	207	493	3.9	7	3

- Large basis of operators:  $\pi, \rho\pi, \sigma\pi, 3\pi$  for three-particle case
  - Large set of contractions, e.g.



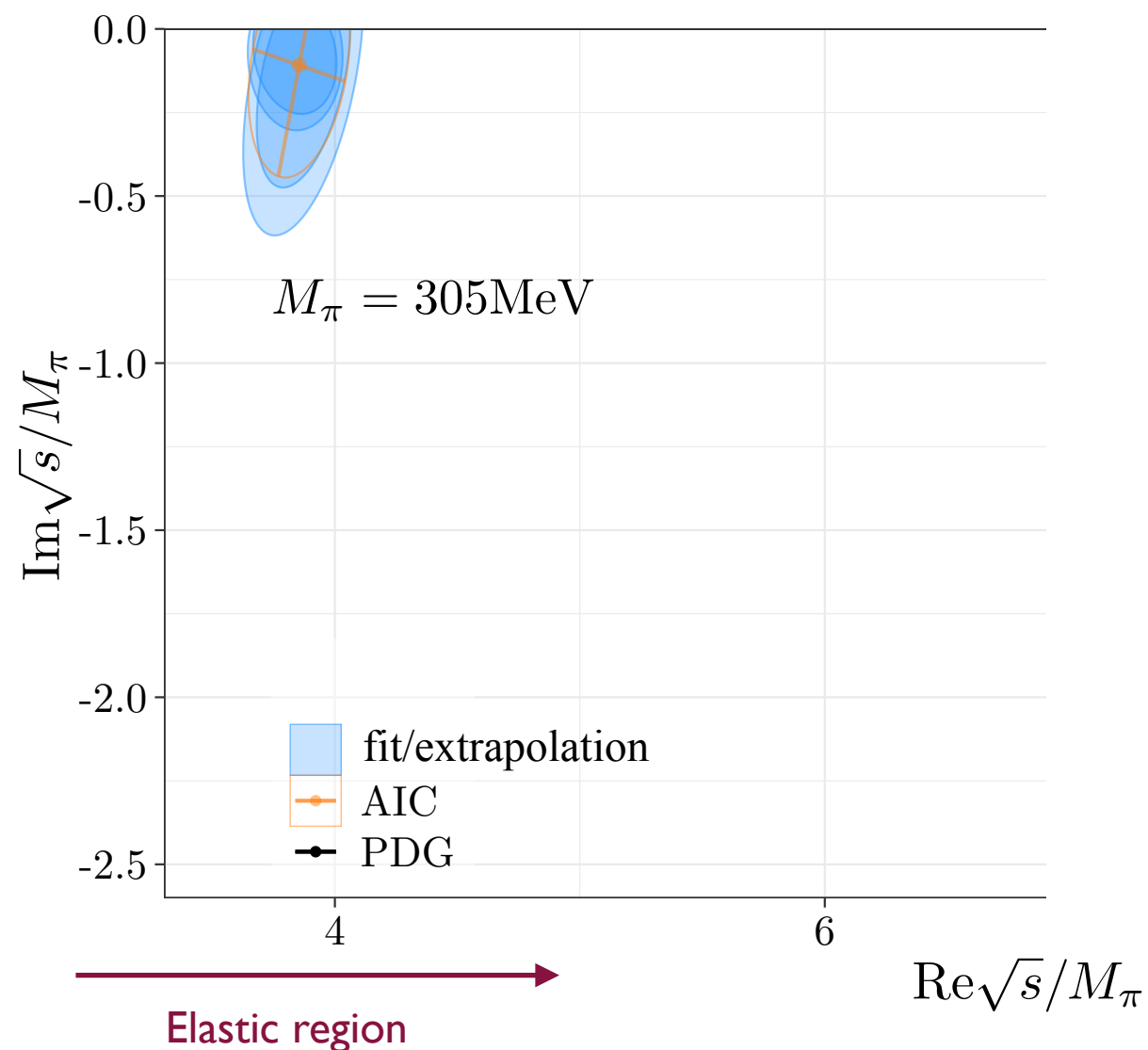
# Fits



- Best global fit to both masses and volumes
  - 9 params (3 for  $2\pi$ , and 6 for  $3\pi$ ) to 36 levels, with  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 1.08$
  - Final results from model averaging with Akaike information criterion

# Pole positions

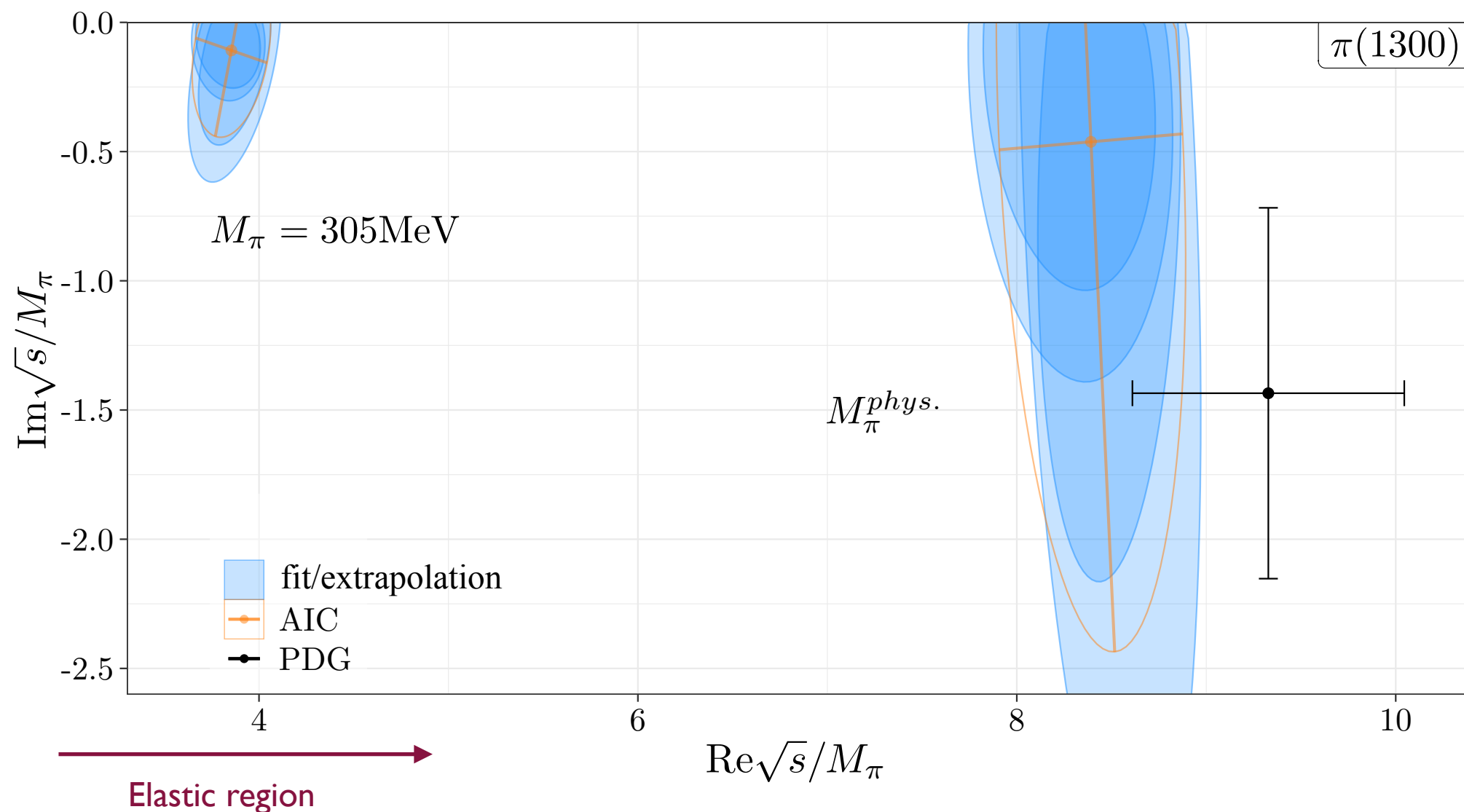
- Solve IVU (=infinite-volume unitarity) form of integral equations
  - Find resonance pole for  $M_\pi = 305 \text{ MeV}$ !





# Pole positions

- Solve IVU (=infinite-volume unitarity) form of integral equations
  - Find resonance pole for  $M_\pi = 305 \text{ MeV}$ !
- Extrapolate to physical masses using EFT-inspired form



# Using three-particle methods to study the $T_{cc}^+(3875)$

Incorporating  $DD\pi$  effects and left-hand cuts in lattice QCD studies of the  $T_{cc}(3875)^+$

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Maxwell T. Hansen,<sup>a</sup> Fernando Romero-López <sup>b</sup> and Stephen R. Sharpe <sup>c</sup>

[2401.06609, JHEP]

Finite- and infinite-volume study of  $DD\pi$  scattering

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Sebastian M. Dawid <sup>a</sup>, Fernando Romero-López <sup>b,c</sup> and Stephen R. Sharpe <sup>a</sup>

[2409.17059, JHEP]

Comparison of integral equations used to study  $T_{cc}^+$  for a stable  $D^*$

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Sebastian M. Dawid <sup>a</sup>, Fernando Romero-López <sup>b</sup> and Stephen R. Sharpe <sup>a</sup>

[2505.05466, JHEP]

+ work in progress [talk by André Baião Raposo]

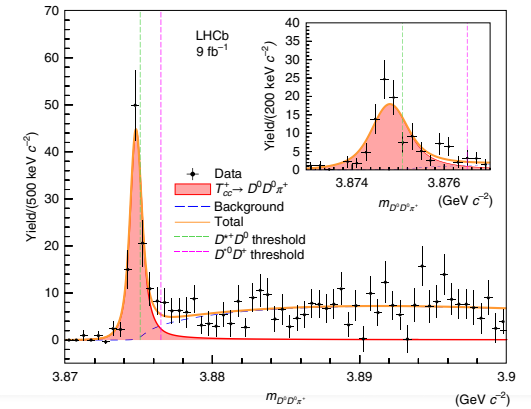
# Doubly-charmed tetraquark

NATURE PHYSICS | VOL 18 | JULY 2022 | 751-754 | [www.nature.com/naturephysics](http://www.nature.com/naturephysics)

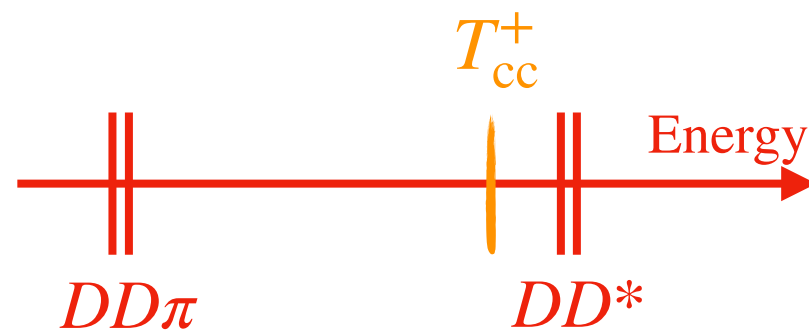
## Observation of an exotic narrow doubly charmed tetraquark

LHCb Collaboration\*

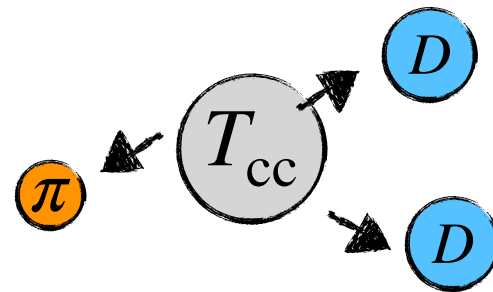
$$T_{cc}^+(3875)$$
$$I = 0, J^P = 1^+$$
$$cc\bar{u}\bar{d}$$



### Experiment



► For physical quark masses is a three-body resonance



need three-body formalism!

Adapted from: Fernando Romero-López

# Doubly-charmed tetraquark

NATURE PHYSICS | VOL 18 | JULY 2022 | 751-754 | [www.nature.com/naturephysics](http://www.nature.com/naturephysics)

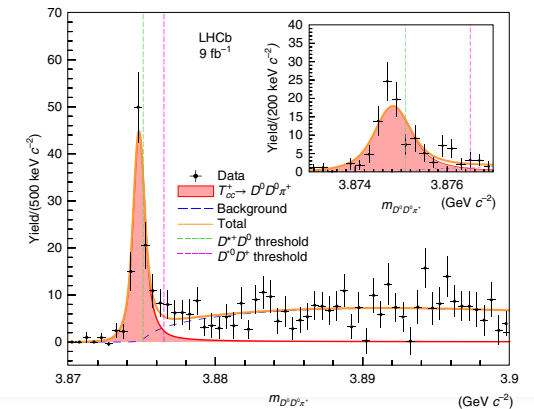
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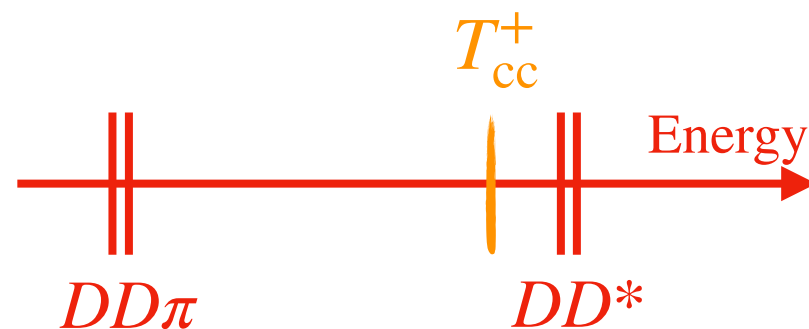
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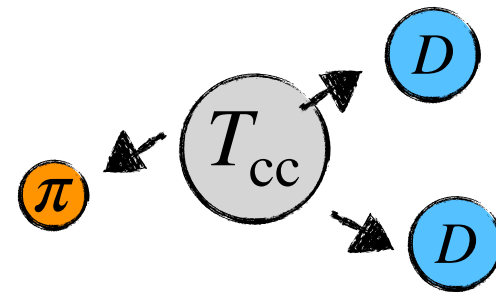
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### Experiment

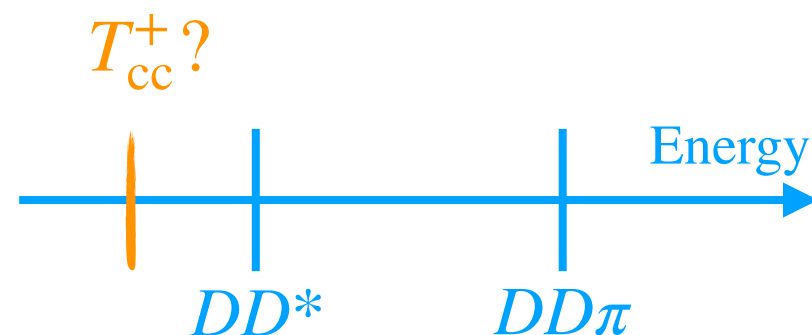


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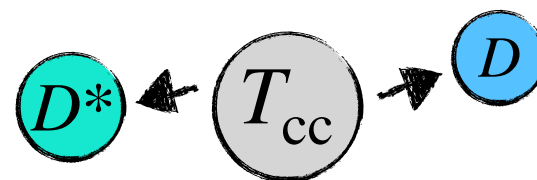


need three-body formalism!

### LQCD calculations with heavier-than-physical quarks



► D\* is stable for slightly heavier-than-physical quarks



suitable for the two-body finite-volume formalism?

Adapted from: Fernando Romero-López

# $DD^*$ scattering

- Several LQCD studies using QC2 in  $T_{cc}$  channel

[Chen et al., 2206.06185]

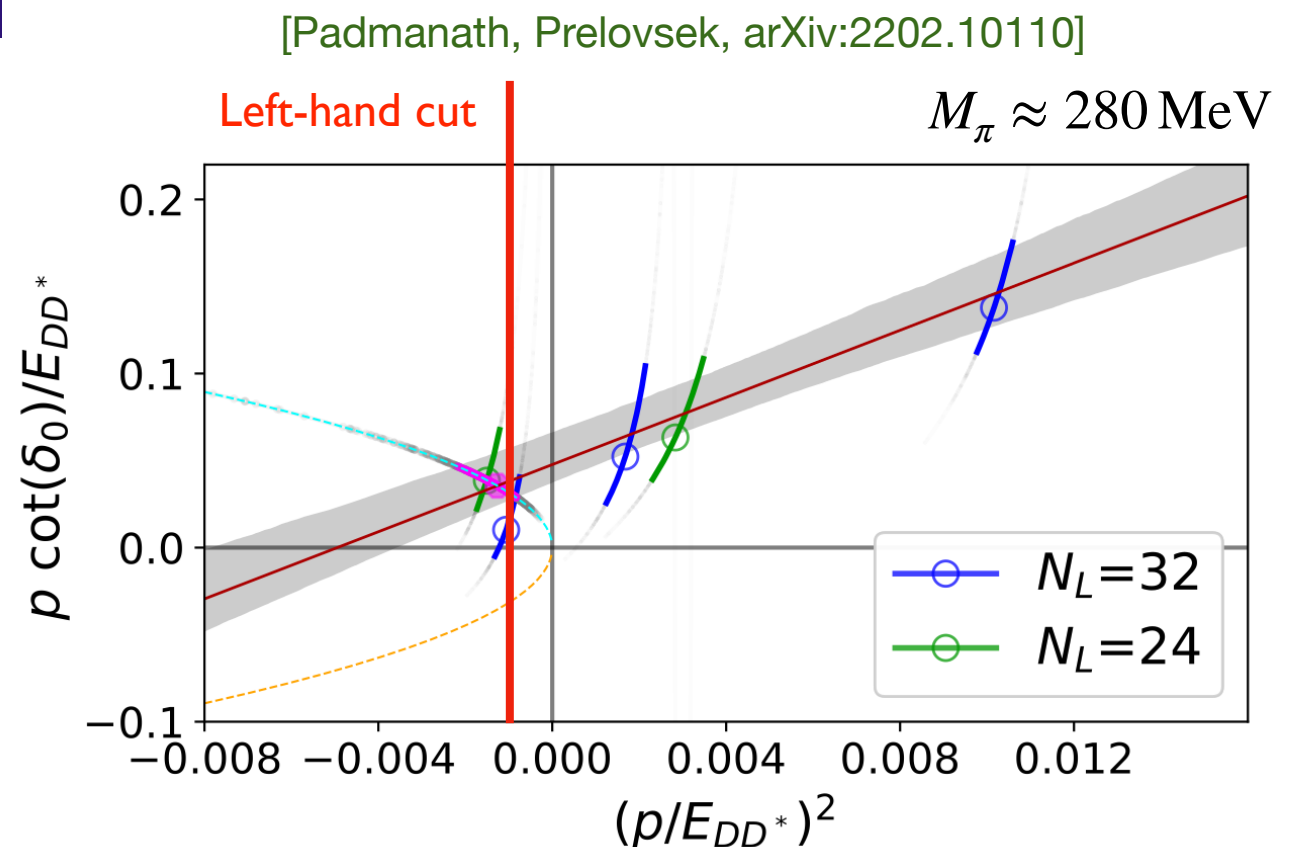
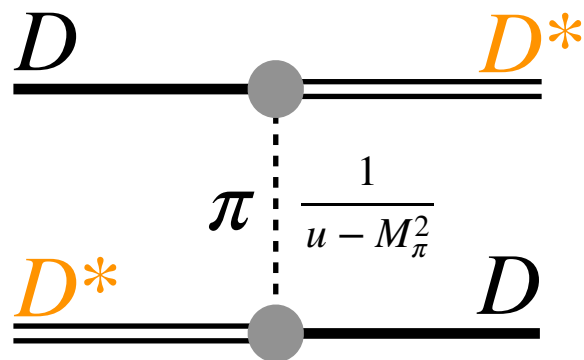
[Lyu et al. (HALQCD), 2302.04505]

[Padmanath & Prelovsek, 2202.10110]

[Whyte, Thomas, Wilson, 2405.15741]

[Several talks at Lattice 2025]

- Use heavier-than-physical quarks
- Find signature of virtual bound state
- But QC2 fails at left-hand cut, below which phase shift becomes complex



- Several solutions to failure have been proposed, by generalizing the QC2

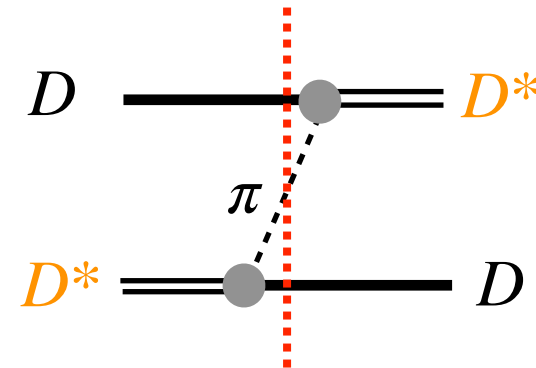
[Du et al (2408.09375); Abolnikov et al. (2407.04649), Bubna et al. (2402.12985);

Meng et al. (2312.01930); Raposo, Hansen (2311.18793); Raposo, Hansen, Briceño, Jackura (2502.19375)]

# 3-body solution

[Hansen, Romero-López, SRS, 2401.06609, JHEP]

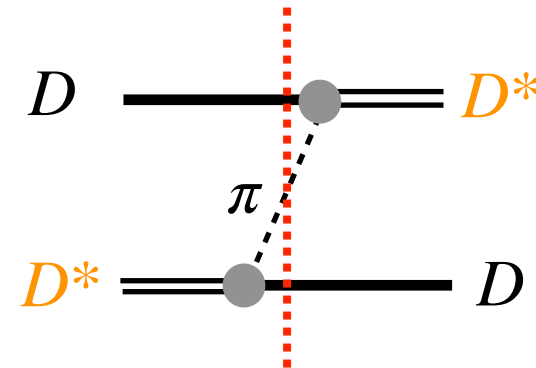
- Left-hand cut is a three-body effect



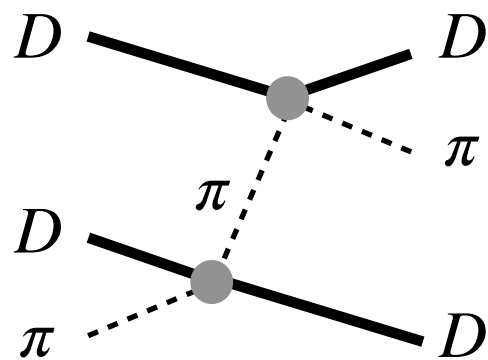
# 3-body solution

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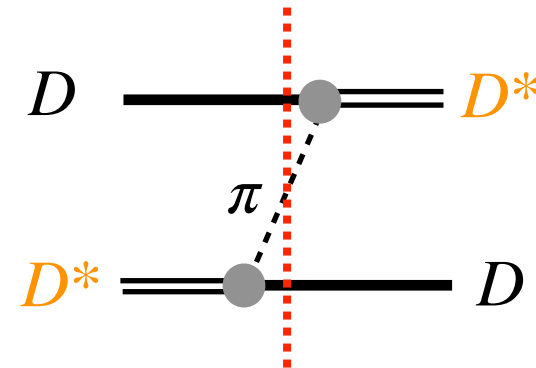
- Use  $DD\pi$  QC3, but include  $D^*$  as a bound state in  $p$ -wave  $D\pi$  channel



# 3-body solution

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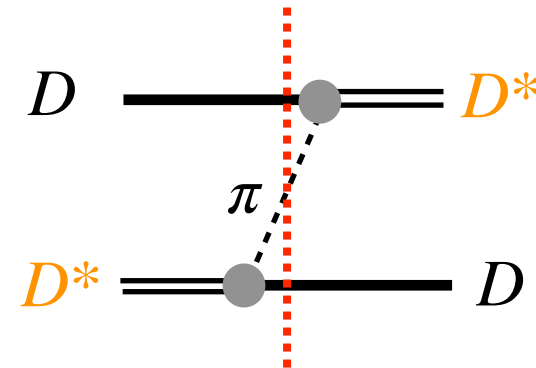
- Finite-volume effects from  $u$ -channel pion exchange naturally incorporated



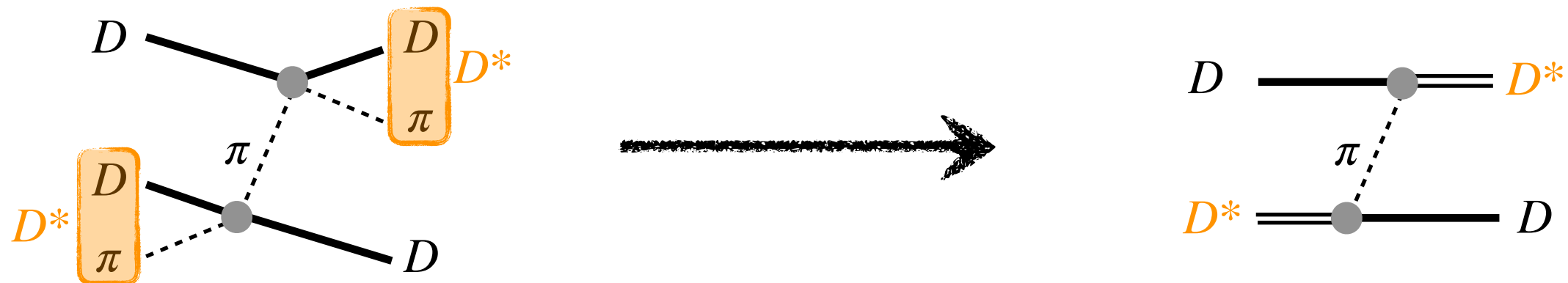
# 3-body solution

[Hansen, Romero-López, SRS, 2401.06609, JHEP]

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- Use  $DD\pi$  QC3, but include  $D^*$  as a bound state in  $p$ -wave  $D\pi$  channel



- Finite-volume effects from  $u$ -channel pion exchange naturally incorporated
- Another advantage of QC3 approach:
  - Works for all choices of quark masses, including physical case of unbound  $D^*$
- Successfully implemented in [Dawid, Romero-López, SRS, 2409.17059, JHEP & 2505.05466, JHEP; plus work in progress (talk by André Baião Raposo)]

# Towards a formalism for the Roper

## Finite-volume formalism for $N\pi\pi$ at maximal isospin

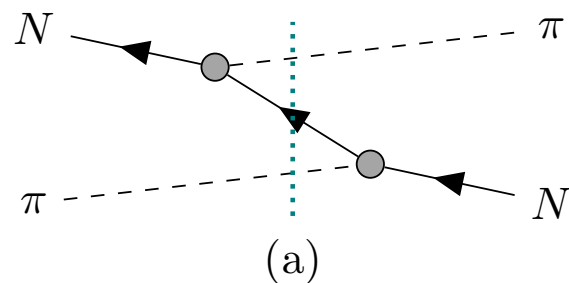
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Maxwell T. Hansen<sup>a</sup>, Fernando Romero-López<sup>b</sup>, and Stephen R. Sharpe<sup>c</sup>

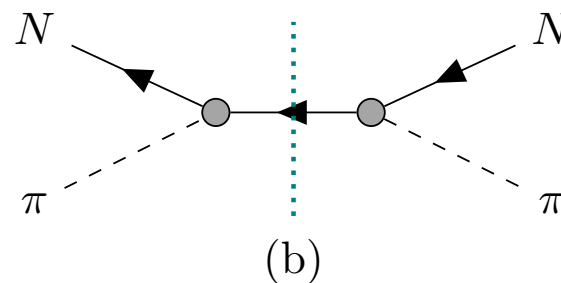
[2509.24778, talk by SRS]

# A failed hope for studying N(1440)

- Need a formalism that accommodates  $N\pi + N\pi\pi$ 
  - Can one include  $N$  as a pole in  $p$ -wave  $N\pi$  scattering, and use the  $N\pi\pi$  formalism?
  - No! Nucleon pole lies below the singularity due to  $u$ -channel nucleon exchange



$$\sigma_{N\pi} = M_N^2 + 2M_\pi^2$$



$$\sigma_{N\pi} = M_N^2$$

- Formalism for  $N\pi\pi$  alone only valid at maximal isospin, which forbids mixing with  $N\pi$ 
  - Interesting dynamics due to  $\Delta\pi$  subchannel
  - Provides one 3-particle block of arbitrary isospin  $N\pi + N\pi\pi$  formalism

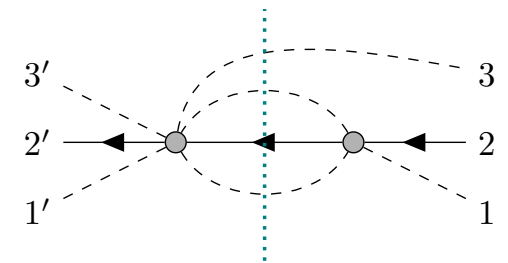
# Parameter space in QC3

QC3 for  $N\pi\pi$ : 
$$\det_{i\mathbf{p}\ell m m_s} \left( 1 + \hat{\mathcal{K}}_{\text{df},3}(E^*) \hat{F}_3(E, \mathbf{P}, L) \right) = 0$$

Matrix indices are:  
channel, spectator momentum,  
pair angular momentum,  
lab frame nucleon spin

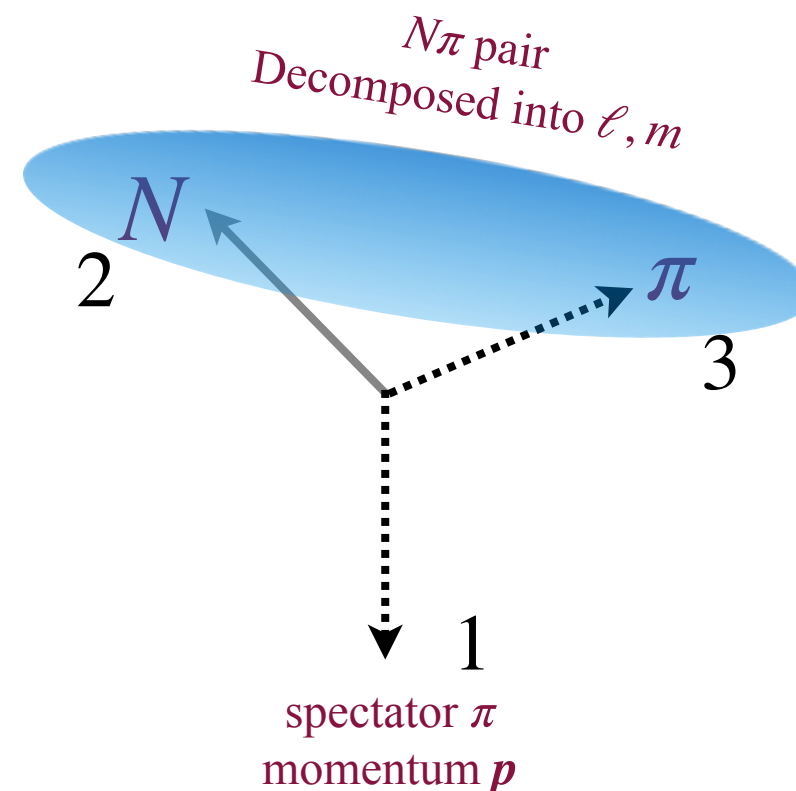
- A key quantity in derivation is  $B_3$ ,  $3 \rightarrow 3$  Bethe-Salpeter kernel (3 Particle Irreducible)

- Must be nonsingular in range of kinematic parameters
- Otherwise introduce uncontrolled  $L^{-n}$  finite-volume effects



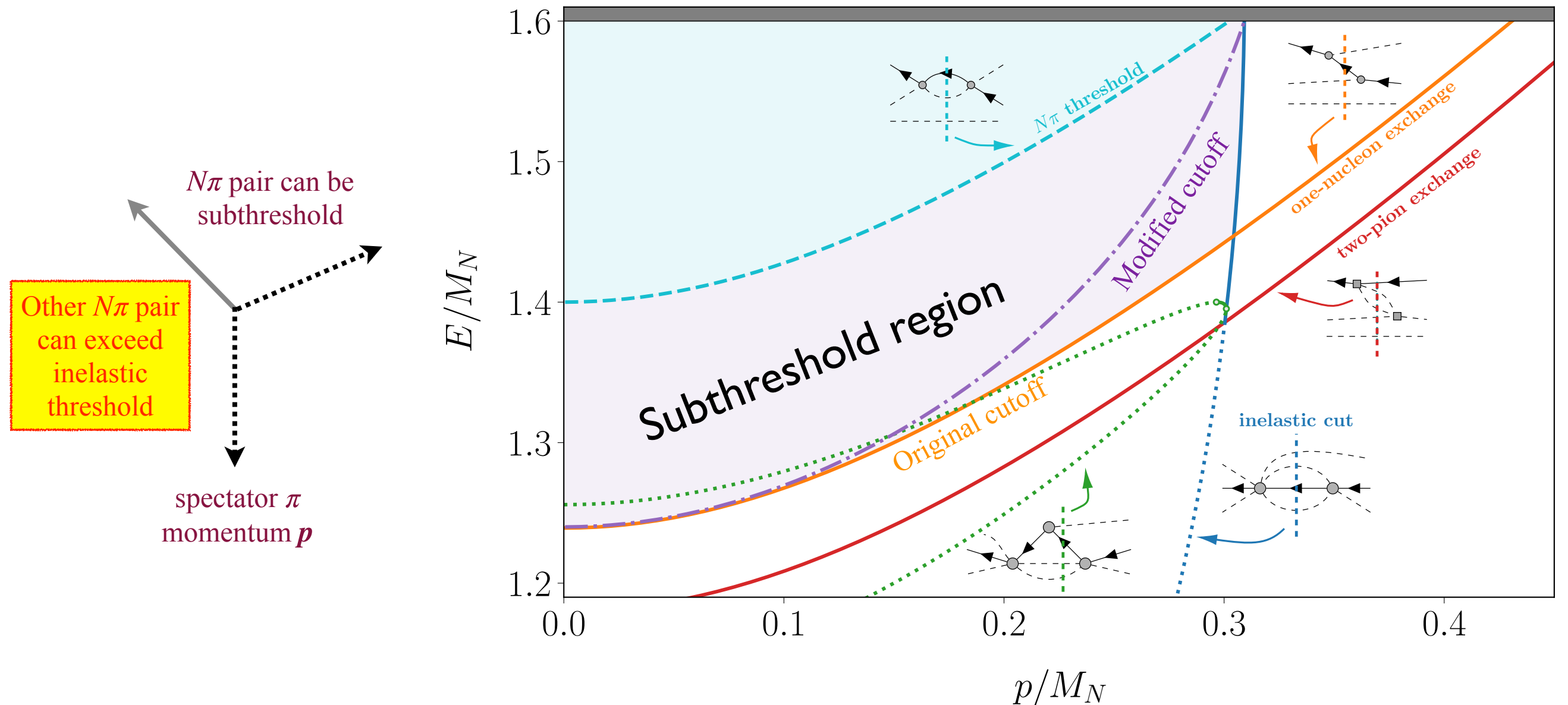
- Parameter space (for pion spectator)

- Energy  $E$ , momentum  $\mathbf{P}$



# Subthreshold singularities

Parameter space for  $P = 0$ ,  $M_\pi/M_N = 0.2$



# Dreaming of 3 neutrons

## Three relativistic neutrons in a finite volume

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Zachary T. Draper,<sup>a</sup> Maxwell T. Hansen,<sup>b</sup> Fernando Romero-López<sup>c</sup>  
and Stephen R. Sharpe<sup>a</sup>

[2303.10219,  
JHEP]

## Implementation of the three-neutron quantization condition

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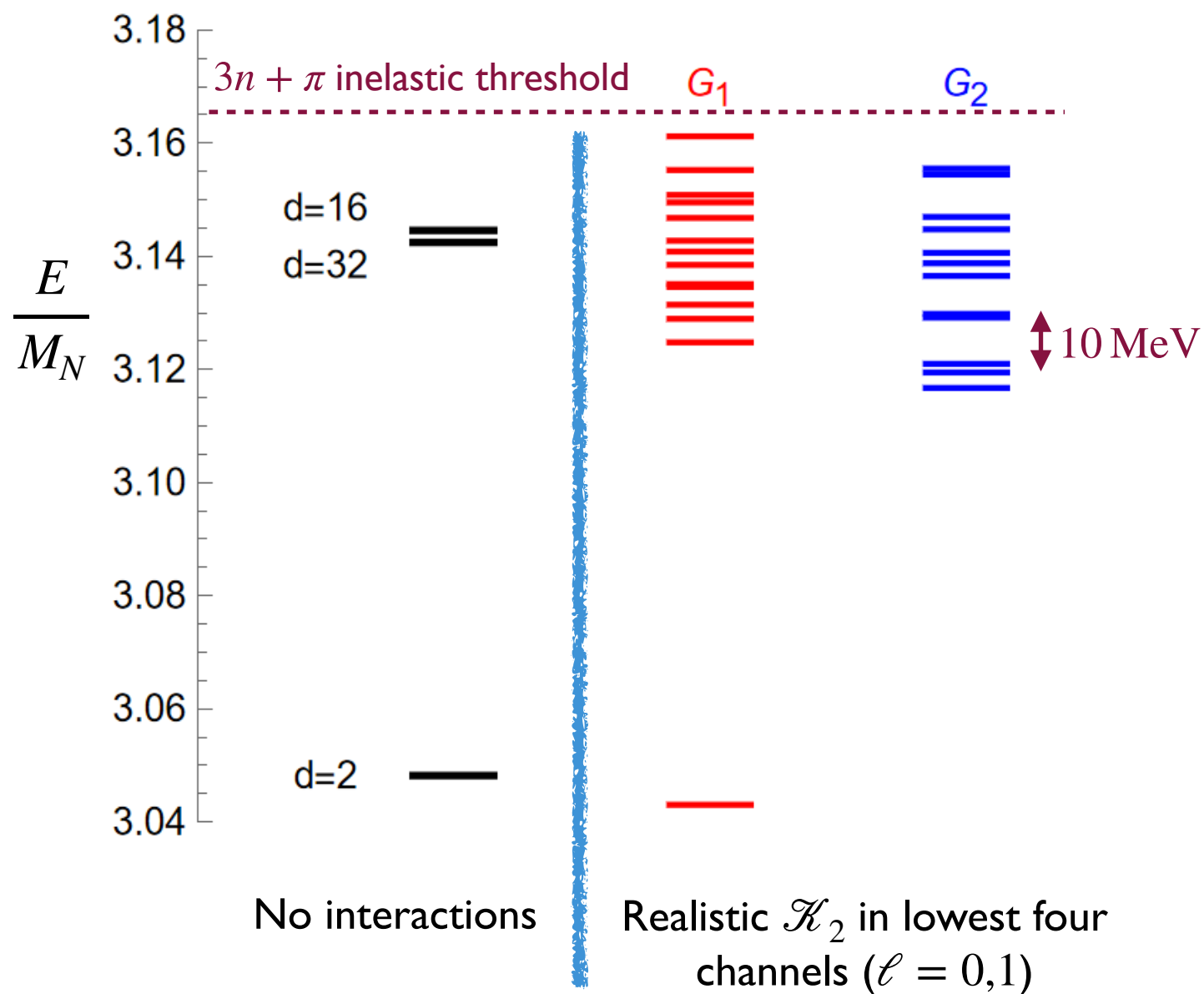
Wilder Schaaf<sup>a</sup> and Stephen R. Sharpe<sup>a</sup>

[2410.14037  
(Lattice 24)  
& in progress]

# Spectrum in realistic setup

- Physical masses,  $L \approx 4.3$  fm:
  - $M_N L = 20$ ,  $M_\pi = 0.15 M_N \Rightarrow M_\pi L = 3$

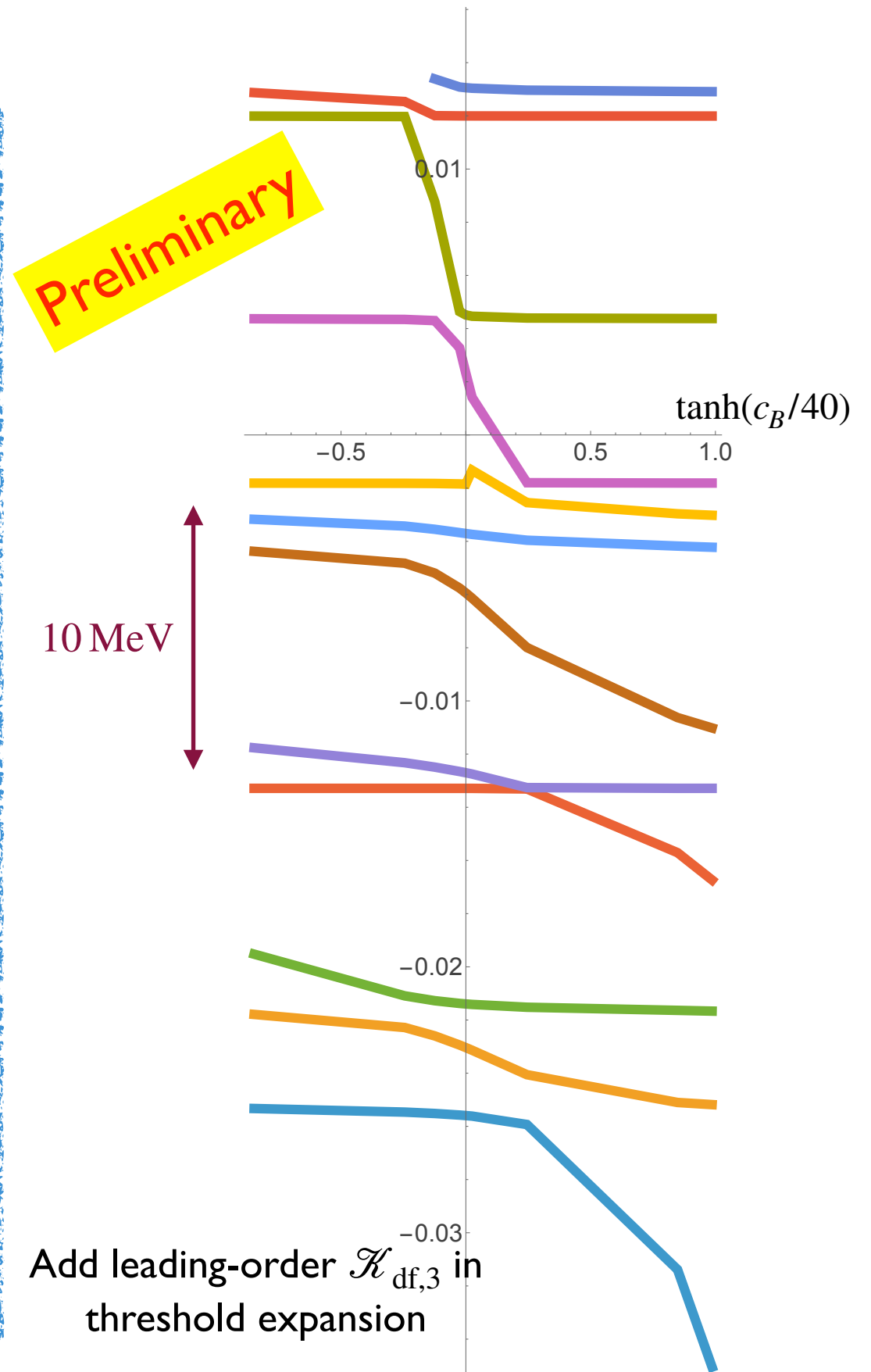
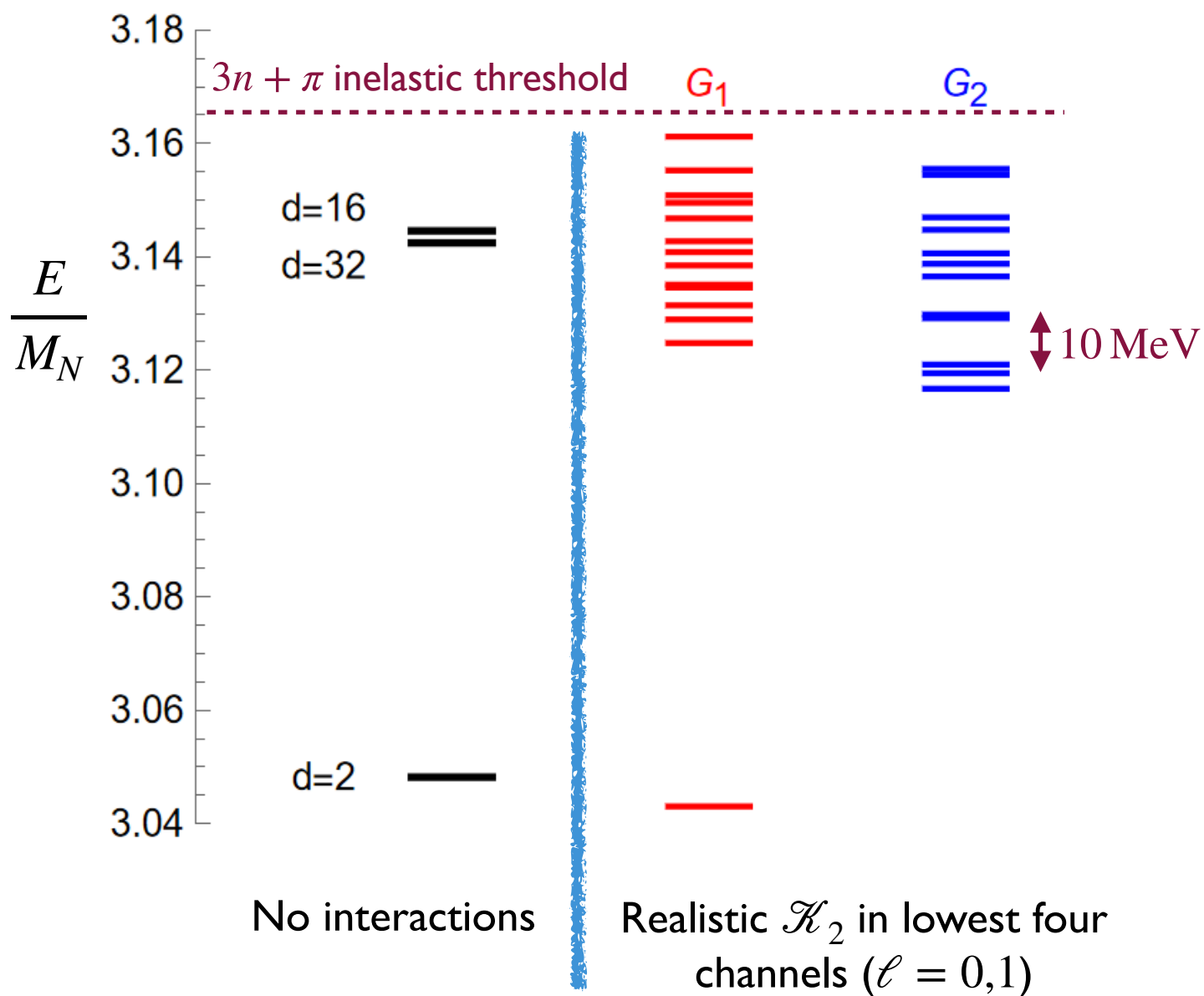
Levels in  $\mathbf{P} = \frac{2\pi}{L}(0,0,1)$  frame



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Levels in  $\mathbf{P} = \frac{2\pi}{L}(0,0,1)$  frame





# Summary & Outlook

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- Major steps have been taken in the three-particle sector
  - Formalism well established & cross checked, and almost complete
  - Several pioneering end-to-end applications to three-particle spectra from LQCD
    - Another one appeared last Thursday!  $3\pi(I=2) \leftrightarrow \rho\pi$  [Briceño et al. (HADSPEC) 2510.24894]
  - Path to a calculation of  $K \rightarrow 3\pi$  decay amplitudes is now open
- Near-term steps in implementation
  - $T_{cc}^+ \rightarrow D^*D \rightarrow DD\pi$  for lighter quark masses
  - Extended calculations for  $3\pi(I=0,1,2)$
  - $N\pi\pi \leftrightarrow \Delta\pi(I=5/2)$
- Final steps in three-particle formalism
  - $3\pi(I=0) \leftrightarrow K\bar{K}$  (WZW term)
  - $NNN(I=\frac{1}{2}), N\pi\pi + N\pi$  [for Roper],  $NN\pi + NN$

# Challenges & Future

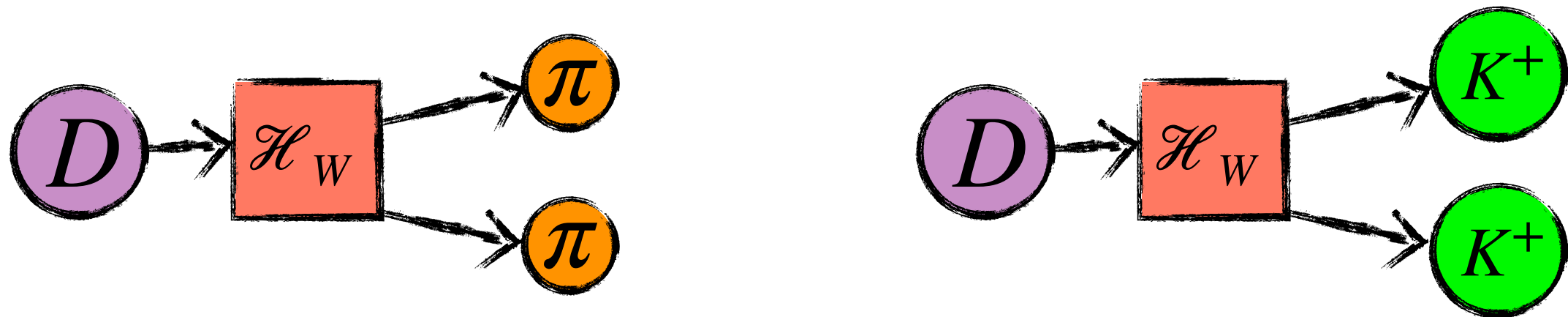
- Reducing model-dependence in fitting & analytic continuation
  - [Salg, Romero-López, Jay, [2506.16161](#)] propose using Bayesian reconstruction + Nevanlinna interpolation
- Controlling all systematic errors (when FLAG-ready?)
  - For which processes is precision important?
  - For three-nucleon interaction even a semiquantitative result would be useful
- Comparing formalisms in detail (e.g. RFT vs FVU)
  - Equivalent up to technical details (e.g. smooth vs hard cutoff functions)
  - Share data for cross-checking analysis? Bootcamp?
- Moving to more particles (needed, e.g., for  $D \rightarrow \pi\pi, K\bar{K}$  & physical  $\pi(1300)$  )
  - QC4 (which is not yet known except in threshold expansion) may be practical [Talk by Raj Mukerjee]
  - QCN seems impractical—combine QC2-4 with inclusive methods in some yet-to-developed manner?
    - “Scattering amplitudes from finite-volume spectral functions” [Bulava & Hansen, [1903.11735](#)]
    - Squeeze as much information as we can out of the lattice simulations!
- Investigate alternative approaches
  - “Scattering amplitudes from Euclidean correlators: Haag-Ruelle theory and approximation formulae”, [Patella & Tantalo, [2407.02069](#)]
  - HALQCD approach? [Doi et al., [1106.2276](#): 3 nucleon potentials in NR regime]
- Combine LQCD results with EFT and amplitude-analysis methods (Exohad collab.)

Thank you!  
Questions?

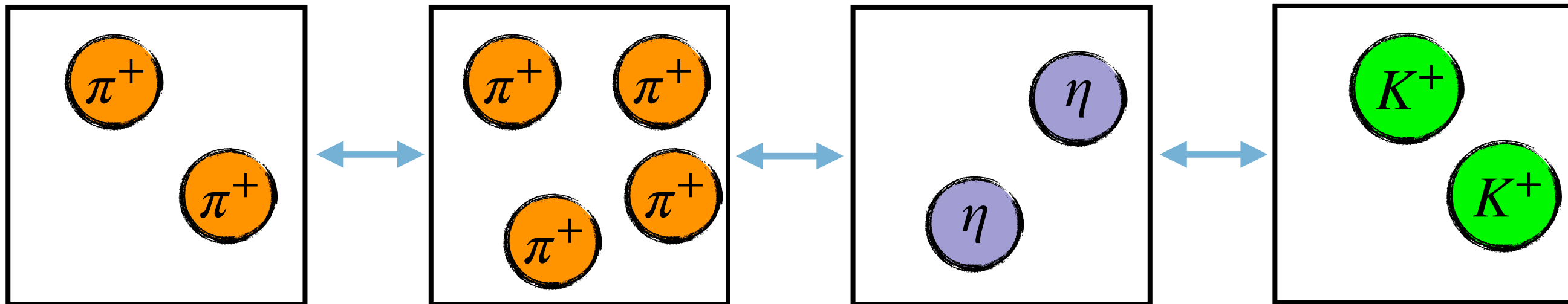
# Backup slides

# Long-term dream

CP violation in D decays

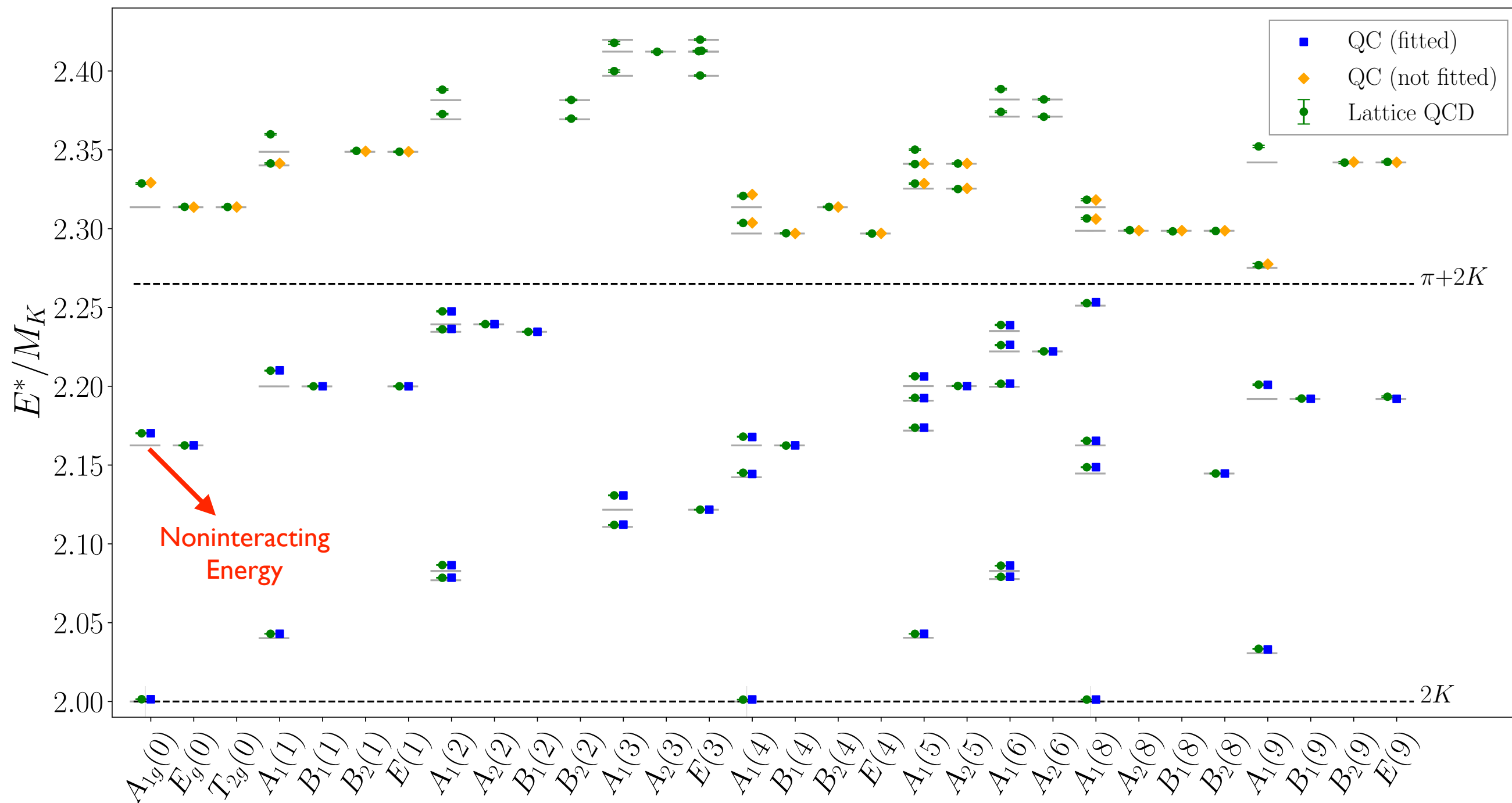


Challenge: finite-volume mixing with  $4\pi$ ,  $6\pi$ ,  $\eta\eta$ , ...



4+-particle formalism not yet developed

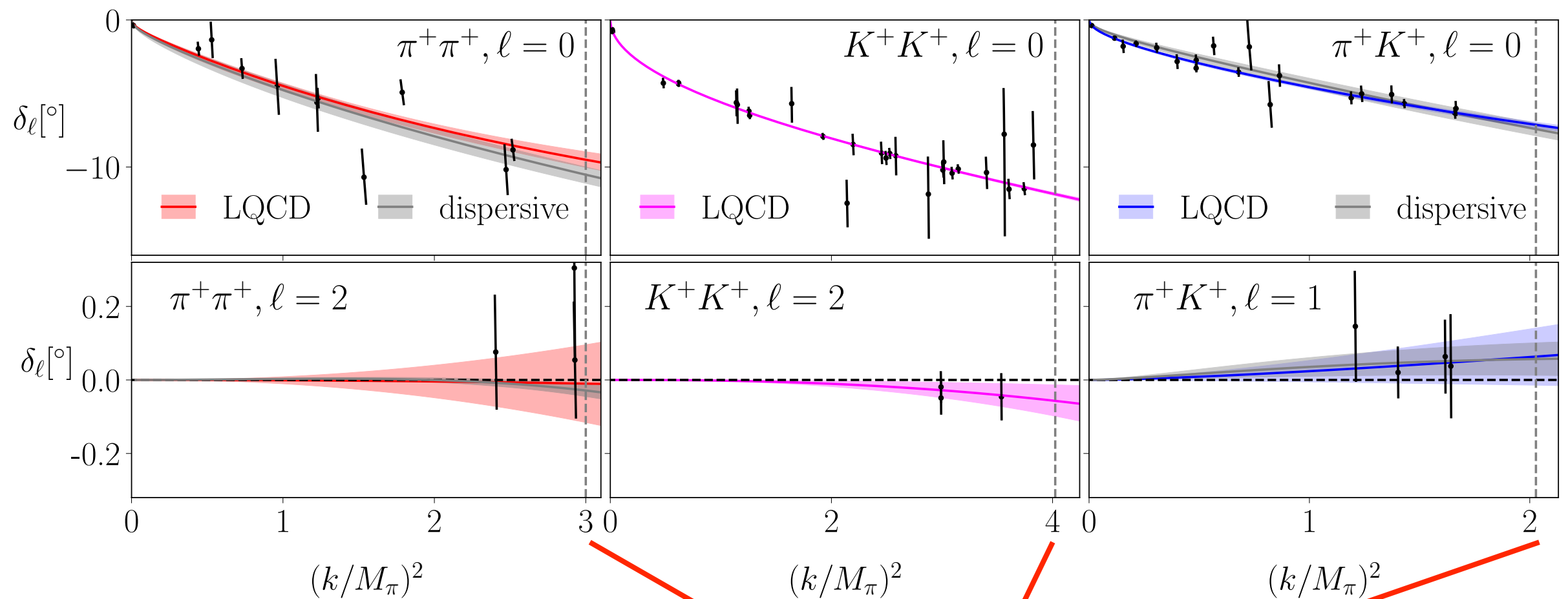
# Example of spectrum



E250:  $K^+K^+$

# 2-particle interactions

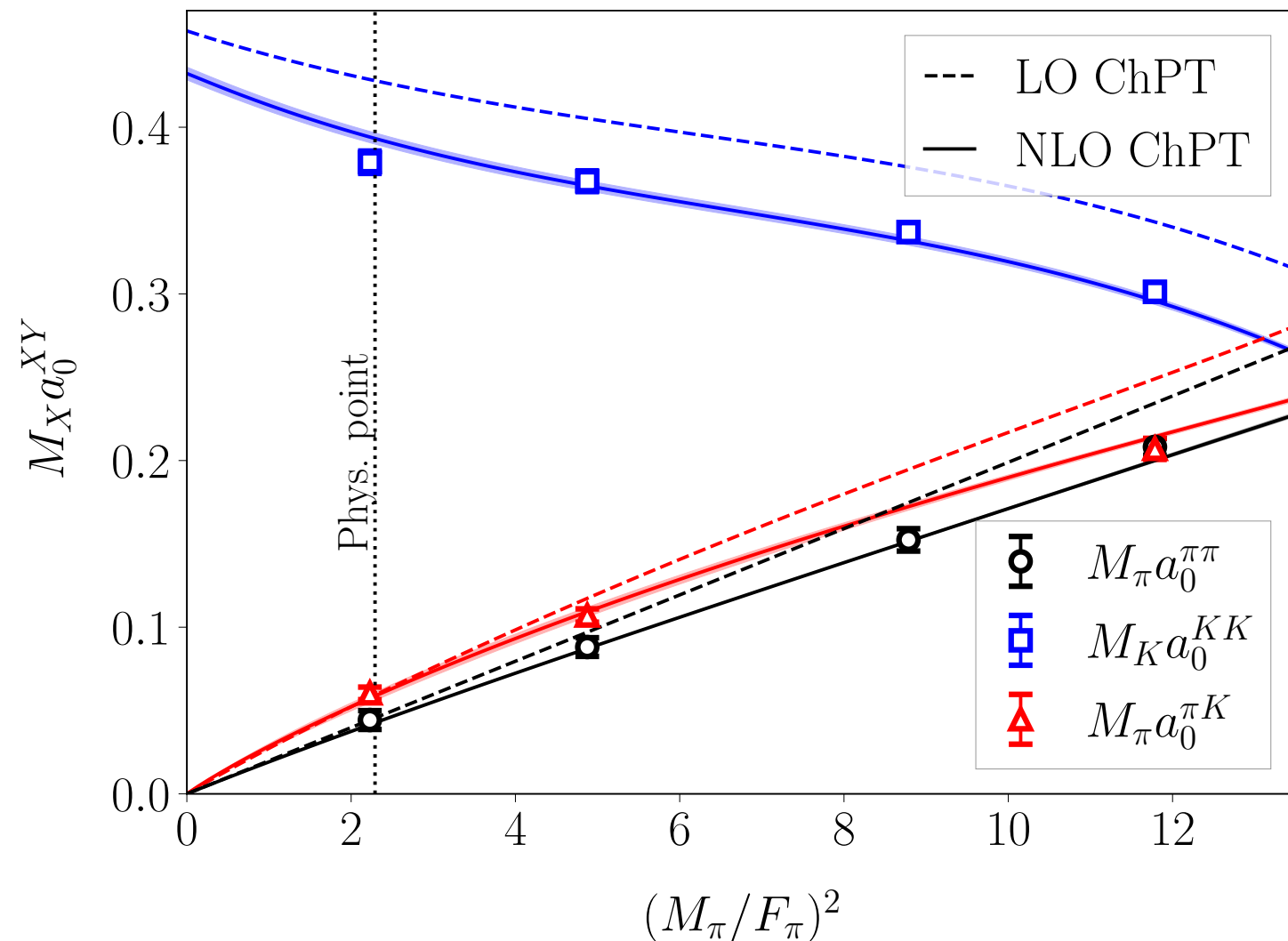
E250:  $\sim$ physical quark masses



Inelastic thresholds



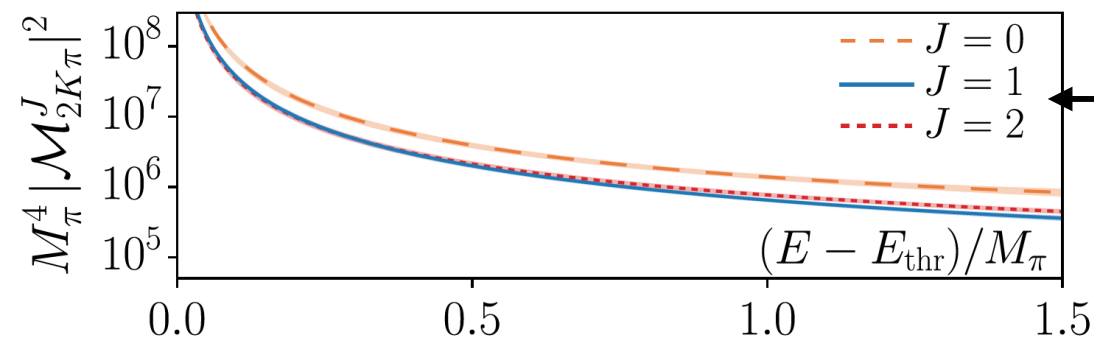
# Scattering lengths



$$\chi^2/\text{dof} = 12.4/(11 - 2)$$

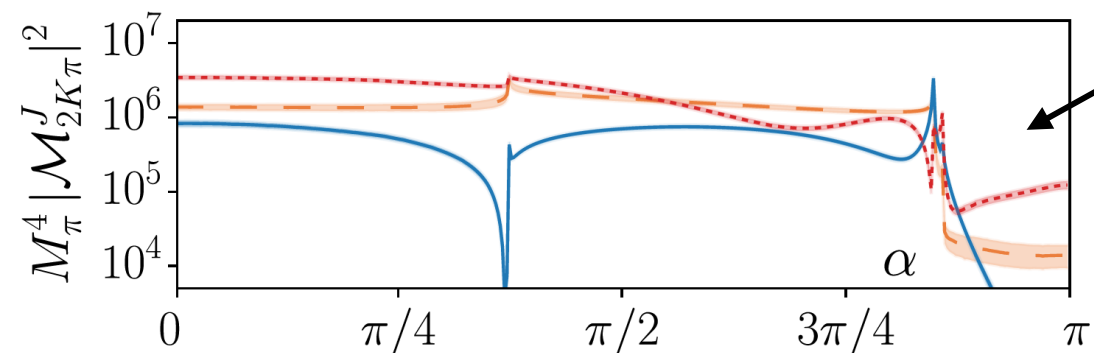
- Simultaneous chiral fit to  $\pi\pi$ ,  $\pi K$ ,  $KK$  scattering lengths
  - Fit involves two LECs, one of which is determined with 2% stat. Errors

# Some angular dependence

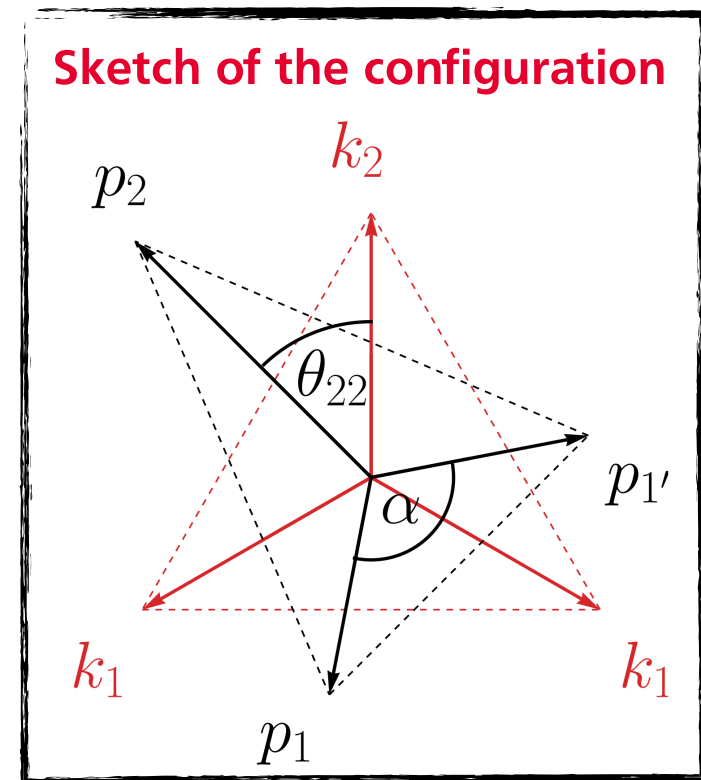
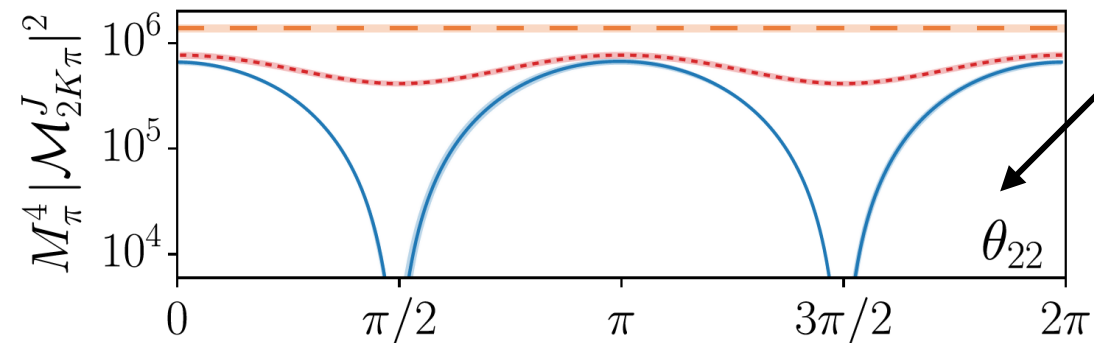


Different partial waves (largest is  $J = 0$ )

Angle in the triangle:  
equilateral ( $\alpha = \pi/3$ ) vs isosceles



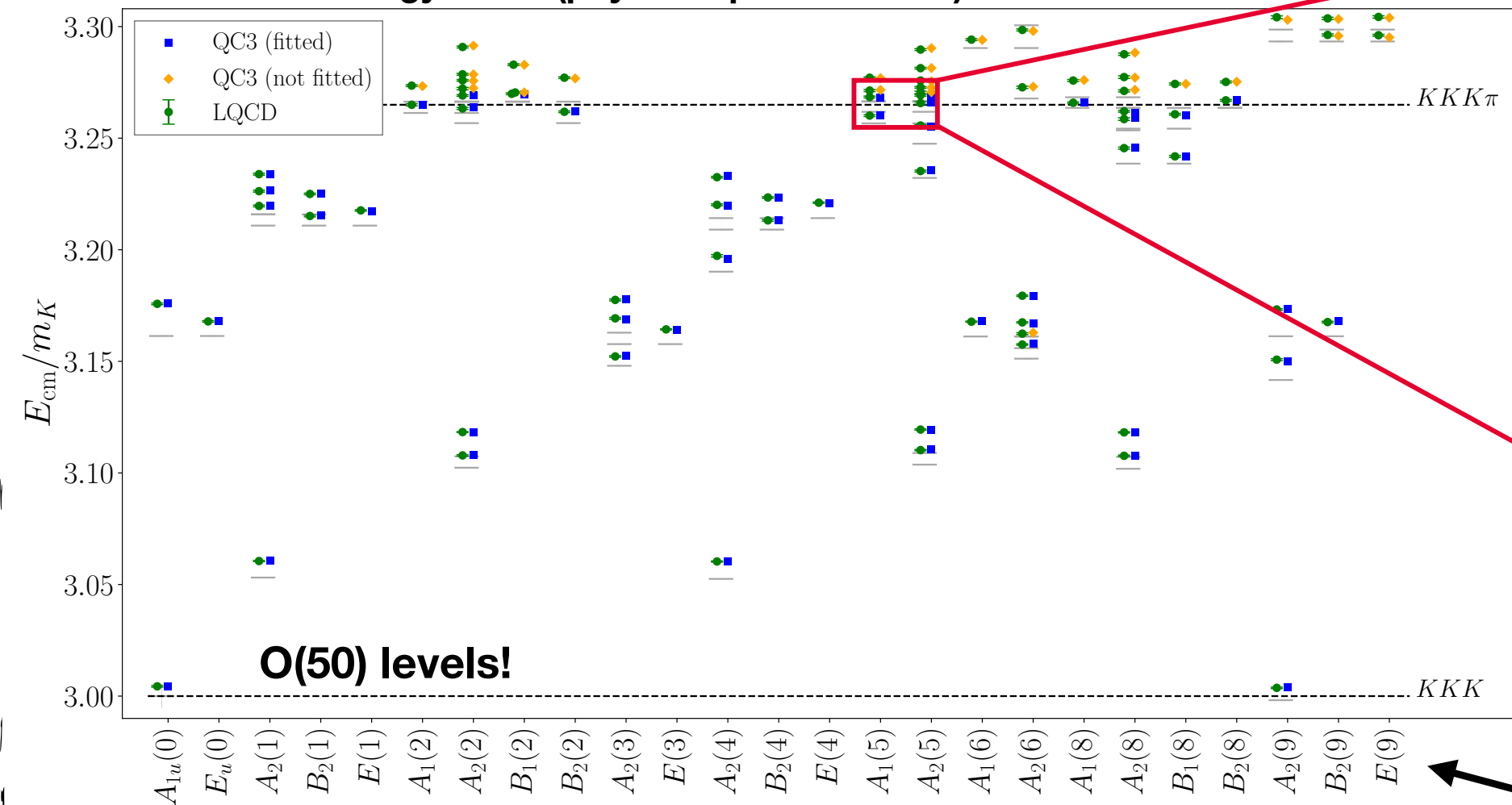
Angle between  
in/out momenta



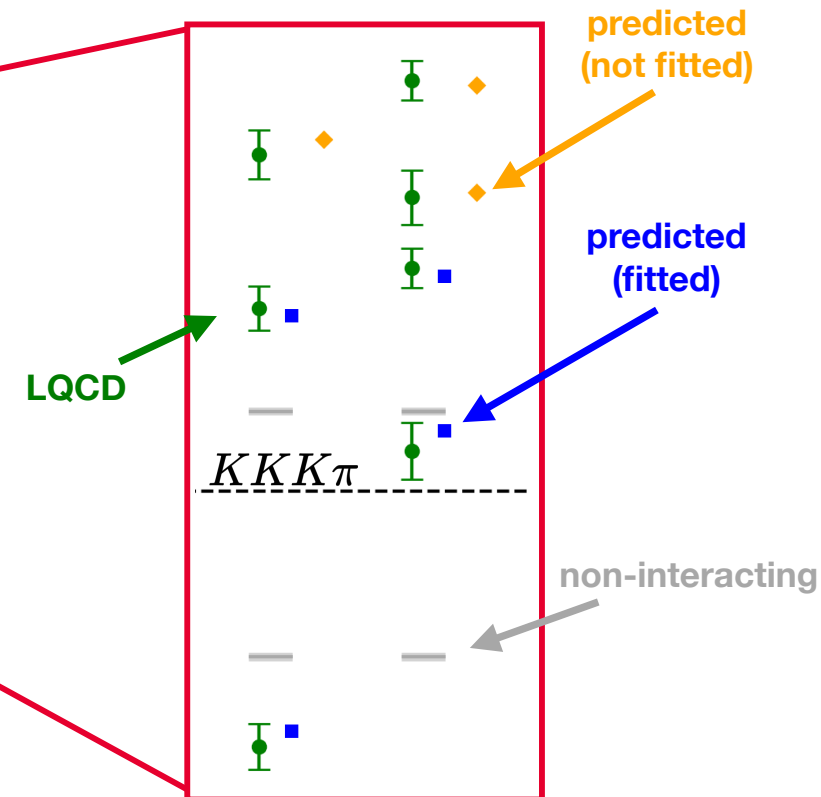
15/17

# Three-meson spectrum

Three-kaon energy levels (physical quark masses)



**O(50) levels!**

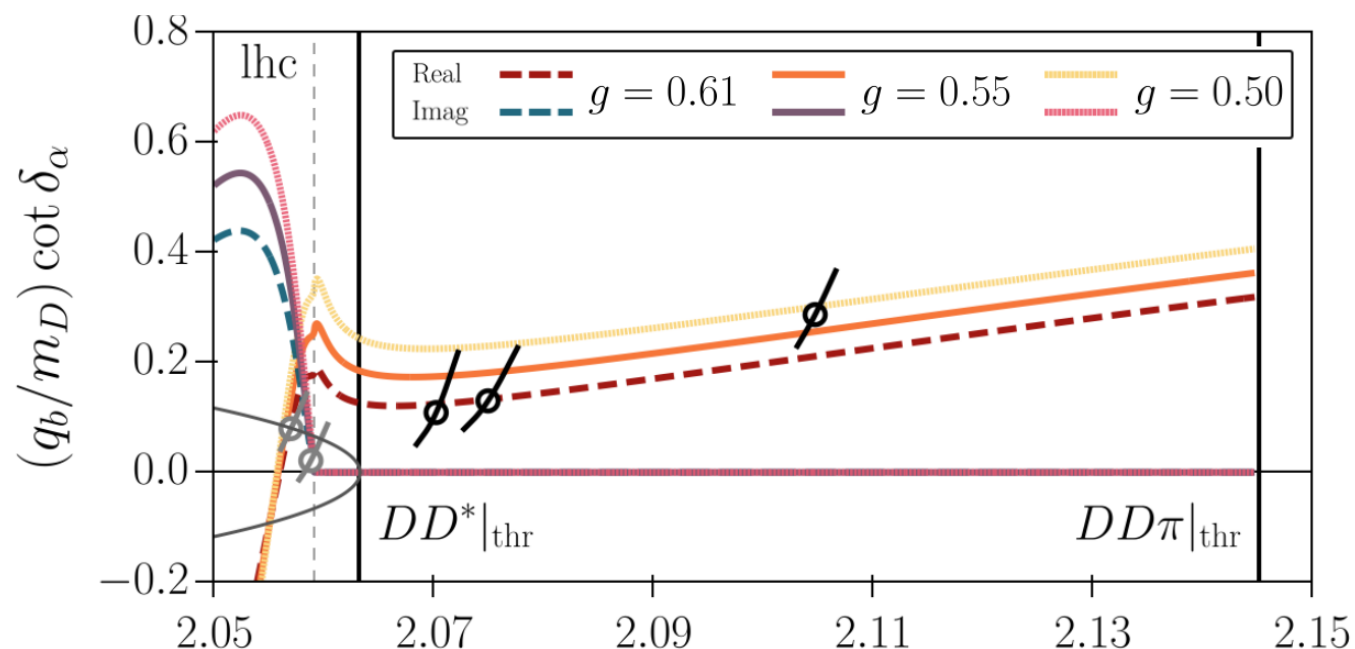


Displayed fit:  
 $\chi^2 = 129$ , dof = 87

# Application to LQCD data

[Dawid, Romero-López, SRS, 2409.17059, JHEP]

- Proof of concept study to (limited) existing LQCD data with bound  $D^*$ 
  - Choose  $p$ -wave  $D\pi$  scattering amplitude to obtain  $D^*$ , for given choice of  $g_{D^*D\pi}$
  - Choose reasonable  $s$ -wave  $D\pi$  and  $DD$  amplitudes
  - Eyeball fit to results of [Padmanath, Prelovsek, arXiv:2202.10110] requires inclusion of  $\mathcal{K}_{\text{df},3}$
  - Solve integral equations, analytically continue to  $D^*$  pole, use LSZ to obtain  $\mathcal{M}(DD^*)$
  - Result shows appropriate behavior at and below left-hand cut



- Virtual bound-state pole moves into complex plane!
- Looking forward: complete analysis requires more extensive LQCD spectra
  - $DD$ ,  $D\pi$ ,  $DD\pi$  &  $DD^*$  levels