## Lattice Calculation of the Hadron Tensor of the Pion

#### William I. Jay - MIT 21 April 2023 — USQCD All-Hands Meeting



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## Outline

- Motivation
- Challenges
  - Computing a Euclidean 4pt function
  - Solving an inverse problem
- A few preliminary spectral reconstructions
- Outlook

## **Motivation** Inclusive eN scattering

Defined experimentally in terms of outgoing electron's energy and scattering angle

 $\iff$  Q<sup>2</sup> and x=Q<sup>2</sup>/2mv ("momentum fraction")

- Deep inelastic limit:  $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$  with fixed x
- Scaling of structure functions gave classic test of pQCD

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## **Motivation** Inclusive eN scattering

Defined experimentally in terms of outgoing electron's energy and scattering angle

- $\iff$  Q<sup>2</sup> and W (final hadronic invariant mass)
  - Shallow inelastic region:  $W \ge \Delta(1232)$ ,  $Q^2 \approx \text{few GeV}$
  - Many open channels, rich resonant structure
  - Essentially no first-principles understanding from QCD in this region
  - Experimentally relevant for accelerator-based neutrino program (e.g., DUNE). Knowledge of axial-current resonant structure very poorly known. Important input for neutrino event generators (like the theory-driven generator Achilles)
  - Connections exist to the EIC program









# Motivation

#### **Inclusive eN scattering**





A.N. Hiller Blin et al arXiv:2105.05834

CLAS hep-ph/0301204

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# Motivation

Inclusive eN scattering





- Differential cross section specified completely by two objects
  - Leptonic tensor  $L_{\mu\nu}$  (perturbatively calculable in QED, known)
  - Hadronic tensor  $W_{\mu\nu}$  (generically nonperturbative in QCD)

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p,q) = \int \frac{d^4x}{4\pi} e^{iq\cdot x} \langle p | [j^{\rm EM}_{\mu}(x), j^{\rm EM}_{\nu}(0)] | p \rangle$$

 Our project hadtensor is developing techniques to access observables like these using lattice QCD.

# Hadron tensor of the pion Inclusive $e\pi$ scattering

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p,q) = \int \frac{d^4x}{4\pi} e^{iq \cdot x} \langle \pi | [j^{\rm EM}_{\mu}(x), j^{\rm EM}_{\nu}(0)] | \pi \rangle$$

- Nucleons are difficult in LQCD due to signal-to-noise problems
- Pions have advantageous signal-to-noise properties and are a good proving ground for new methods
- Little is known experimentally about the hadronic (resonant) structure of mesons
- There are prospects to measure F<sub>1</sub>π, F<sub>2</sub>π at the EIC via the DIS Sullivan Process



### Hadron tensor of the pion Inclusive eπ scattering

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p,q) = \int \frac{d^4x}{4\pi} e^{iq\cdot x} \langle \pi | [j^{\rm EM}_{\mu}(x), j^{\rm EM}_{\nu}(0)] | \pi \rangle$$

- LQCD calculations of the hadron tensor face two challenges:
  - 1. Calculating the Euclidean four-point function

$$\sum_{\boldsymbol{x}_i, \boldsymbol{x}_f} \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}_1, \boldsymbol{x}_2} e^{-i\boldsymbol{q} \cdot (\boldsymbol{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{x}_1)} \langle \boldsymbol{\theta} | \chi_{\pi}(\boldsymbol{x}_f) J_{\mu}(\boldsymbol{x}_2) J_{\nu}(\boldsymbol{x}_1) \bar{\chi}_{\pi}(\boldsymbol{x}_i) | \boldsymbol{\theta} \rangle$$

2. Connecting the Euclidean object to the "real-time"  $W_{\mu\nu}$ 

$$W^{\text{Euc.}}_{\mu\nu}(\boldsymbol{q}^2,\tau) \equiv \int d\omega \, e^{-\omega\tau} W_{\mu\nu}(\boldsymbol{q}^2,\omega).$$

## **Calculating the Euclidean 4pt function**

#### **Diagrams and topologies**

$$\sum_{\boldsymbol{x}_i, \boldsymbol{x}_f} \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}_1, \boldsymbol{x}_2} e^{-i\boldsymbol{q} \cdot (\boldsymbol{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{x}_1)} \langle \emptyset | \chi_{\pi}(x_f) J_{\mu}(x_2) J_{\nu}(x_1) \bar{\chi}_{\pi}(x_i) | \emptyset \rangle$$

 Evaluating the Wick contractions yields five basic topologies, including disconnected diagrams:



 Computing all five classes of diagrams naturally leads to all-to-all methods for quark propagators

#### **All-to-All Methods** Meson fields

• Consider the usual decomposition of the propagator:

$$D_{A2A}^{-1}(x,y) = \sum_{l=1}^{N_{low}} v_l(x) w_l^{\dagger}(y) + \sum_{h=N_{low}+1}^{N_{total}} v_h(x) w_h^{\dagger}(y)$$
$$v_l(x) = \phi_l(x) \quad w_l(x) = \phi_l(x)/\lambda_l$$

- Compute low modes exactly (Lanczos), high modes stochastically
- Define meson fields:

$$\Pi_{ij}(t_x, \boldsymbol{p}; \Gamma) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{x}} w_i^{\dagger} \Gamma v_j(x) e^{i\boldsymbol{x} \cdot \boldsymbol{p}}$$

• Evaluate correlation functions via traces of products, e.g.,

$$C(t_f - t_i) = \sum_{jk} \Pi_{jk}(t_f; \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_5) \Pi_{kj}(t_i; \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_5)$$

## **Spectral Reconstruction**

Inverse Laplace transform  $\iff$  Extract the spectral density  $\rho(\omega)$ 

$$C(\tau) = \int d\omega \, e^{-\omega\tau} \rho(\omega) \to C_i(\tau_i) = K_{ij} \rho(\omega_j)$$

- Conceptual difficulty #1:
  - Finite volume:

$$\rho(\omega) = \sum_{n} \langle \emptyset | \mathcal{O} | n \rangle \delta(\omega - E_n)$$

- Infinite volume: •  $\rho \ni \delta$ -functions from single-particle states
  - $\rho \ni$  continuous functions from multi-particle states
- Conceptual difficulty #2:
  - Ambiguity in definition of "the" solution  $\iff K_{ij}$  has a large null space

### **Spectral Reconstruction** Connecting finite and infinite volumes

 Smeared spectral densities bridge the gap between finite-volume and infinite-volume observables [Hansen, Meyer, and Robaina, arXiv:1704.08993]:
 Smearing function, e.g.,

$$\rho_{\sigma}(\omega; L) = \int d\omega' \delta_{\sigma}(\omega - \omega') \rho(\omega; L)$$
Gaussian of width  $\sigma$ 

$$\rho(\omega) = \lim_{\sigma \to 0} \lim_{L \to \infty} \rho_{\sigma}(\omega; L)$$
Gaussian of width  $\sigma$ 

$$Ordered limit$$
•  $L \to \infty$  first  
•  $\sigma \to 0$  second

 A nice algorithm to compute ρ<sub>σ</sub>(ω) was proposed by Martin Hansen, Lupo, and Tantalo [arXiv:1903.06476]. The HLT method generalizes and improves the "Backus-Gilbert" method.

## **Spectral Reconstruction** Resolving the ambiguity in analytic continuation

- Some of us (WJ + MIT students) have developed a new reconstruction method:
  - Imposes known analytic structure for Green functions in the complex plane.
  - Reduces to HLT method for a certain choice of smearing kernel
  - Furnishes a robust quantification of uncertainties
    - Total error = (Systematic) ⊕ (Statistical)
    - Systematic = "Compute the null space explicitly"
    - "Null space" = Space of functions consistently with imposed analytic structure and given Euclidean data
- Dedicated methods paper is nearly complete, arXiv:2205.XXXX

## **Our calculation**

•  $N_f=2+1+1$  HISQ ensembles generated by the MILC collaboration

$\approx a [\text{ fm}]$	$N_s^3 \times N_t$	$\approx L[\text{ fm}]$	Configurations		
			(analyzed to date)	$(proposed \ 2023)$	Total
0.15	$32^3 \times 48$	4.8	30	-	30
0.15	$48^3  imes 64$	7.2	0	$\boldsymbol{175}$	175
0.12	$48^3 \times 64$	5.8	50	<b>125</b>	175

- Code: Grid + Hadrons
  - Native support for improved staggered fermions
  - Required local staggered currents implemented by us, tested against MILC
  - Smeared links computed externally

## **Spectral Reconstruction**

#### Some preliminary results: a≈0.12 fm, V=48<sup>3</sup>×64



Four-point function



 $\langle P(t+2\Delta t)V_i(t+\Delta t)V_i(\Delta t)P(0)\rangle$ 





#### **Spectral Reconstruction** Example from a different project

- Nucleon-nucleon 2pt function with high statistics
- Blue band = systematic = "compute null space analytically"
- Excellent compatibility with a 3-state Bayesian fit (wide priors)
- Nota bene: reconstruction is nonparametric: 3-peak structure is an output of the method

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![](_page_17_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

# **Next Steps**

- We continue to run productively with our 2022-2023 allocation
- Our 2023-2024 proposal aims to:
  - Increase statistics at a  $\approx$  0.12 fm, V = 48<sup>3</sup>×64
  - Calculate correlators on a larger physical volume  $a \approx 0.12$  fm, V =  $48^3 \times 64$
- We have developed a new method for spectral reconstruction
  - Dedicated paper describing the method 2205.XXXX
  - Analysis of data is preliminary, but we're excited about the performance of the method to date
- A key goal of our project is robust estimation of systematic uncertainty
  - New reconstruction method developed specifically with this goal in mind
  - 2023-2024 proposal targeted at measuring finite-volume dependence

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![](_page_19_Picture_4.jpeg)

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