

# Towards $\eta_c$ GPDs from lattice QCD

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**Jose Manuel Morgado Chávez**

In collaboration with: B. Blossier, C. Mezrag, T. San José...

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Email: [jose-manuel.morgadochavez@cea.fr](mailto:jose-manuel.morgadochavez@cea.fr)



# Introduction: $\eta_c$ mesons

$\eta_c$  meson

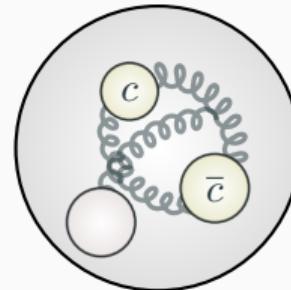
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Composition:  $c\bar{c}$

$J^{PC}$ :  $0^{-+}$

Mass:  $2983.9 \pm 0.4$  MeV

Width:  $32.0 \pm 0.7$  MeV



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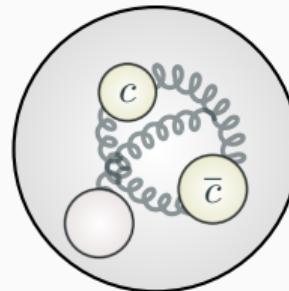
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## $\eta_c$ -hadron structure

- How does it emerge from the bounding of a pair  $c\bar{c}$ ?
- Comparison with lighter  $0^-$  mesons: Assess effect of the Higgs mechanism on hadron structure.

# Introduction: Hadron structure

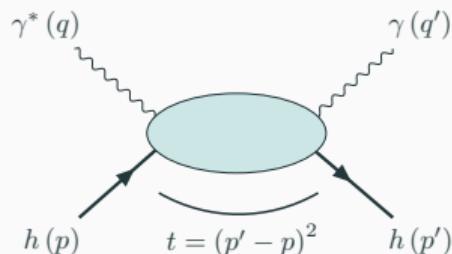
## Hadron structure

*How do quarks and gluons combine to make hadrons up?*

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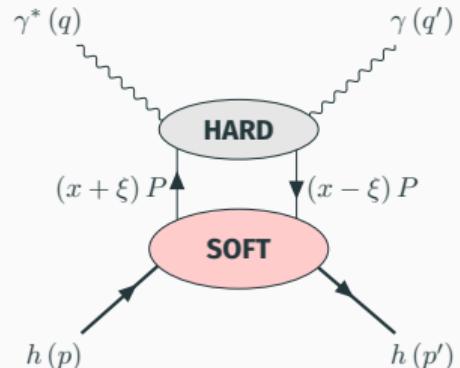
## Hadron structure

*How do quarks and gluons combine to make hadrons up?*



Generalized Bjorken limit  
 $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$  with  $Q^2 \gg t$   
and  $\xi$  fixed.

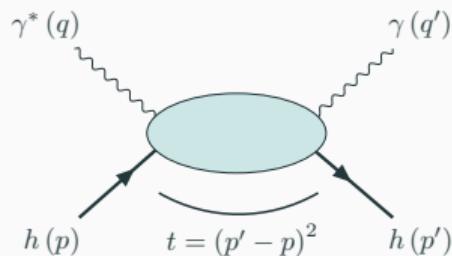
**Factorization**  
[Phys. Rev. D59(1999)074009]



# Introduction: Hadron structure

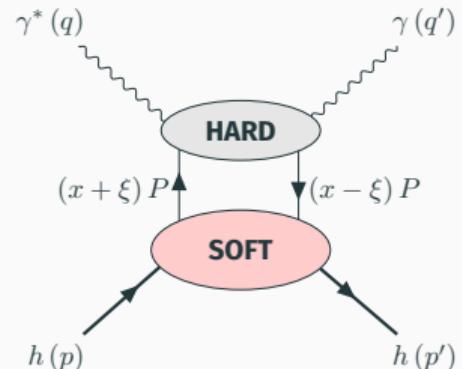
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Factorization  
[Phys. Rev. D59 (1999) 074009]



DVCS:

$$\mathcal{H}(\xi, t; Q^2) = \sum_{p=q,g} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{\xi} \mathcal{K}^p \left( \frac{x}{\xi}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu_F^2}, \alpha_s(\mu_F^2) \right) H^p(x, \xi, t; \mu_F^2)$$

Hard kernel  $\mathcal{K}^p$ : Perturbative information

Generalized Parton distributions  $H^p$ : Non perturbative QCD

## Introduction: Generalized parton distributions

**(GPD) – Generalized parton distributions:**

Non-local, light-like separated quark and gluon operators, evaluated between hadron states in non-forward kinematics and projected onto the light front.

[Fortsch.Phys.:42(1994)101, Phys.Lett.B:380(1996)417, Phys.Rev.D:55(1997)7114]

**Example:** Twist-two chiral-even quark GPD of a spinless hadron.

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} e^{-i\nu x} \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(\nu n/2) \gamma^\mu \hat{W}[\nu n/2, -\nu n/2] \psi_q(-\nu n/2) | h(p) \rangle n_\mu$$

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## Properties:

- Universality *i.e.* hadron-specific objects.
- Contain parton distribution functions (PDFs) and form factors.
- Non-perturbative description of hadron structure: Tomography.

# Introduction: Lattice QCD (I)

(Continuum) Quantum field theory

$$\langle \Omega | \mathcal{O} | \Omega \rangle \propto \int \mathcal{D} [A_\mu, \bar{\psi}, \psi] (x) \mathcal{O} [A_\mu, \bar{\psi}, \psi] (x) e^{iS[A_\mu, \bar{\psi}, \psi](x)}$$

Extremely hard to assess beyond  
perturbation theory

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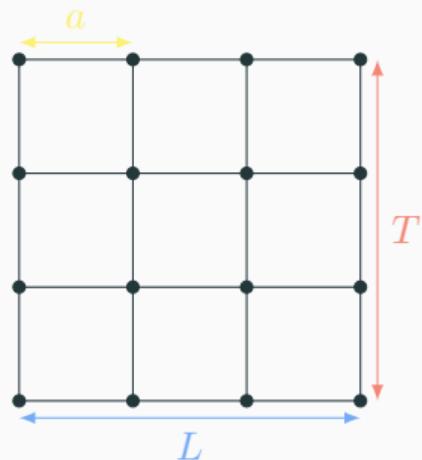
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## (Lattice) Quantum field theory

- Analytic continuation:  $t \rightarrow -it_E \Rightarrow e^{iS} \rightarrow e^{-S_E}$
- Space time discretization:
  - $a$  (lattice spacing): UV cut-off.
  - $L^3 \times T$  (finite box): Finite number of degrees of freedom.



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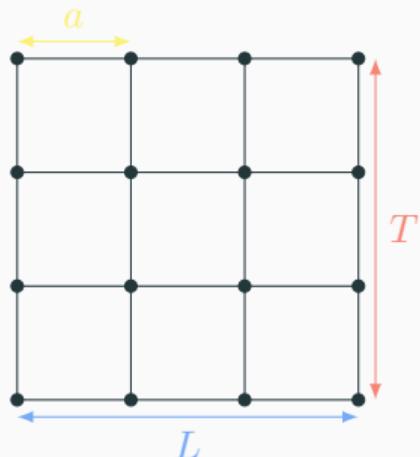
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Amenable for numerical evaluation of the path integral:

**Non-perturbative calculations!**



## Introduction: Lattice QCD (II)

In Lattice field theory, the expectation value of an observable  $\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle$  is computed through Monte Carlo sampling of the Euclidean path integral, which is interpreted as a Boltzmann probability distribution.

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle \propto \int \mathcal{D}[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi] \mathcal{O}[\bar{\psi}, \psi, U] e^{-S_E[U, \bar{\psi}, \psi]}$$

Computed expectation values are connected to (Euclidean) correlation functions

[Comm.Math.Phys.:42(1975)281, Comm.Math.Phys.:54(1977)283]

## Generalized parton distributions and pseudodistributions (I)

**Question:** How can we compute GPDs in Lattice field theory?

# Generalized parton distributions and pseudodistributions (I)

**(ITGPD) – Ioffe time Generalized parton distributions:**

Equal light-cone time, non-local quark and gluon operators, evaluated between hadron states in non-forward kinematics.

[Nucl.Phys.B:311(1989)541, Phys.Rev.D:51(1995)6036, Phys.Rev.D:100(2019)116011]

$$\tilde{H}_{q/h}(\nu, \xi, t; \mu) = 2P^+ \int_{-1}^1 dx e^{i\nu x} H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu)$$

**Example:** Twist-two chiral-even quark ITGPD of a spinless hadron.

$$\tilde{H}_{q/h}(\nu, \xi, t; \mu) = \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(-z/2) \gamma^+ \hat{\mathcal{W}}[-z/2; z/2] \psi_q(z/2) | h(p) \rangle \Big|_{\substack{z^+ = 0 \\ z_\perp = 0}}$$

**Properties:**

- Universality *i.e.* hadron-specific objects.
- Contain Ioffe-time PDFs and form factors.
- Non-perturbative description of hadron structure: Tomography.

## Generalized parton distributions and pseudodistributions (II)

Consider a **generic matrix element** with  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  or even  $z \in \mathbb{R}^4$

[Phys. Rev. D:96(2017)034025, Phys. Rev. D:96(2017)094503, Phys. Rev. D:100(2019)116011]

$$M_{q/h}^\mu(P, \Delta, z) = \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(-z/2) \gamma^\mu \hat{\mathcal{W}}[-z/2; z/2] \psi_q(z/2) | h(p) \rangle = 2P^\mu \mathcal{M}_P - \Delta^\mu \mathcal{M}_\Delta + z^\mu \mathcal{M}_z$$

$$\text{with } \mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2)$$

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If we take  $\mu = +$  and  $z = z^-$  with  $\mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} M_{q/h}^+(P, \Delta, z) &= \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(-z^-/2) \gamma^+ \hat{\mathcal{W}}[-z^-/2; z^-/2] \psi_q(z^-/2) | h(p) \rangle \\ &= 2P^+ \mathcal{M}_P(\nu, \xi, t, 0) - \Delta^+ \mathcal{M}_\Delta(\nu, \xi, t, 0) = \tilde{H}_{q/h}(\nu, \xi, t; \mu) \end{aligned}$$

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which thus allows to compute GPDs as:

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} e^{-i\nu x} [\mathcal{M}_P(\nu, \xi, t, 0) + \xi \mathcal{M}_\Delta(\nu, \xi, t, 0)]$$

Computing Generalized parton distributions is equivalent to computing form factors of the generic matrix element  $M^\mu(P, \Delta, z)$ .

# GPDs from lattice QCD: Computational strategy

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} e^{-i\nu x} [\mathcal{M}_P(\nu, \xi, t, 0) + \xi \mathcal{M}_\Delta(\nu, \xi, t, 0)]$$

**Step 1.** Evaluate generic matrix element on the Lattice:

$$\langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(-z/2) \gamma^\mu \hat{\mathcal{W}}[-z/2; z/2] \psi_q(z/2) | h(p) \rangle = 2P^\mu \mathcal{M}_P - \Delta^\mu \mathcal{M}_\Delta + z^\mu \mathcal{M}_z, \quad \mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2; a, m_\pi)$$

## Matrix elements

[Phys.Lett.B 815 (2021) 136158]

[Chin. Phys. C 46 (2022) 1, 013105]

[Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 9, 094012]

# GPDs from lattice QCD: Computational strategy

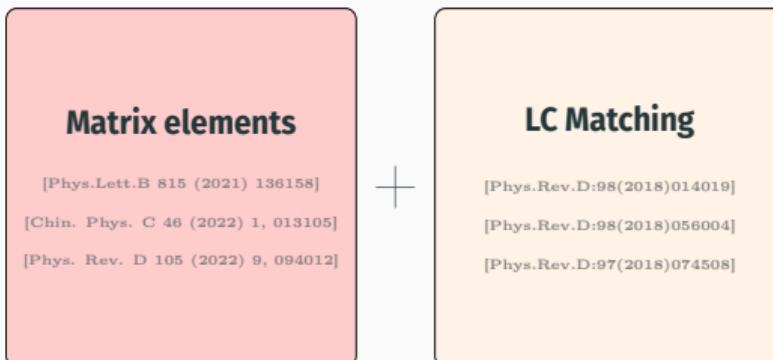
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**Step 2.** Match it onto the light front:

$$\mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2; a, m_\pi) \xrightarrow[m_\pi \rightarrow m_\pi]{a \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2) \xrightarrow{\text{LC}} \mathcal{M}_i(\nu, \xi, t, z^2 = 0)$$



# GPDs from lattice QCD: Computational strategy

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} e^{-i\nu x} [\mathcal{M}_P(\nu, \xi, t, 0) + \xi \mathcal{M}_\Delta(\nu, \xi, t, 0)]$$

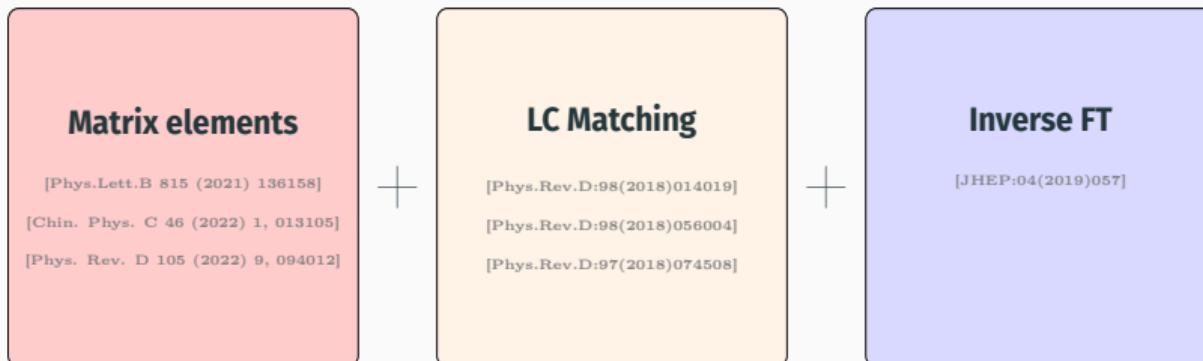
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**Step 3.** Fourier transform to momentum-space.



## **Lattice calculation**

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## Numerical setup

**Goal:**

$$\langle \eta_c(\vec{p}_{out}; 1s) | \bar{\psi}_c(z) \gamma_\mu \hat{W}[z, 0] \psi_c(0) | \eta_c(\vec{p}_{in}; 1s) \rangle$$

- $N_f = 2$  ensemble (CLS)

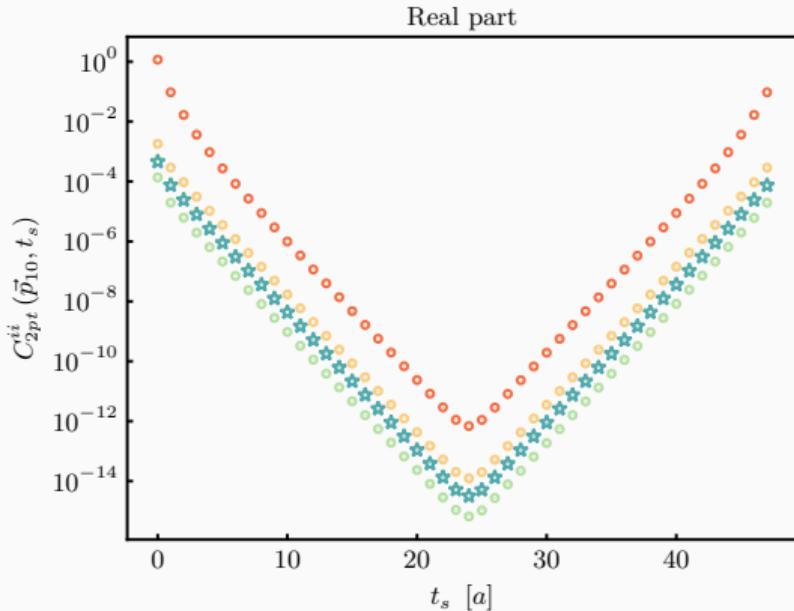
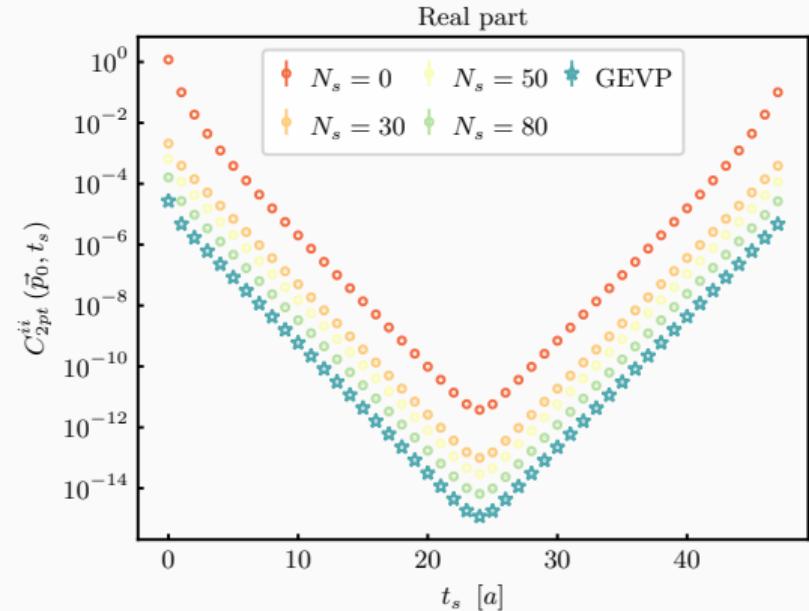
| Name | $\beta$ | $a$ [fm] | $L^3 \times T$   | $N_f$  | $m_\pi$ [MeV] |
|------|---------|----------|------------------|--------|---------------|
| D5   | 5.3     | 0.06245  | $24^3 \times 48$ | $u, d$ | 476           |

- Twisted boundary conditions and a symmetric frame.
- 1 Interpolator and 4 smearings.

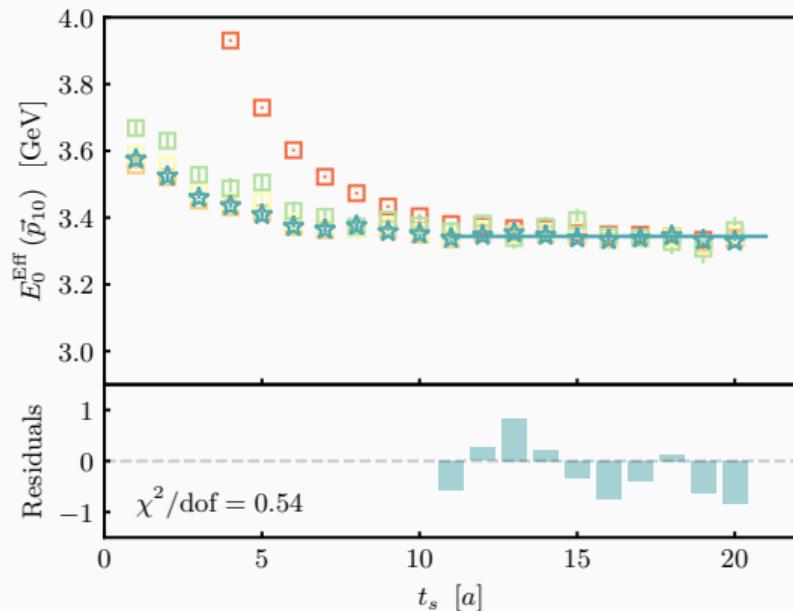
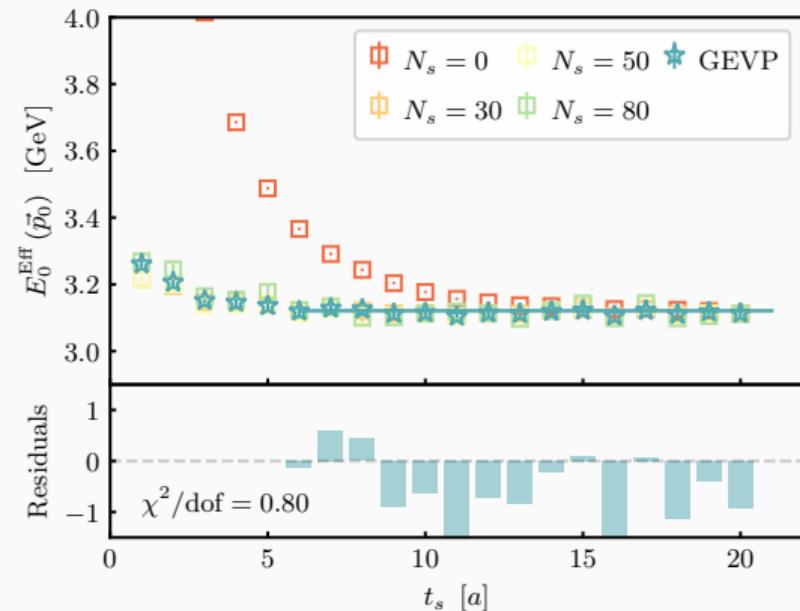
$$\begin{aligned}\eta_c^s(x) &= \psi_c^s(x) \gamma_5 \psi_c^s(x) \quad , \quad J^{PC} = 0^{-+} \\ \psi_q^s(x) &= (1 + 0.125 \Delta_{APE})^{N_s} \psi_q(x) \quad , \quad N_s \in \{0, 30, 50, 80\}\end{aligned}$$

- 
- 2pt functions:  $\langle \eta_c^i(\vec{x}', t_s) \bar{\eta}_c^j(\vec{x}, t) \rangle$
  - 3pt functions:  $\langle \eta_c^i(\vec{x}', t_s) \mathcal{O}_\mu^{ij}(\vec{z}, \tau) \bar{\eta}_c^j(\vec{x}, t) \rangle$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_\mu^{ij}(\vec{z}, \tau) = \bar{\psi}_c^i(\vec{z}, \tau) \gamma_\mu \hat{W}[\vec{z}, \vec{0}] \psi_c^j(\vec{0}, \tau)$

# Data analysis: Two-point functions



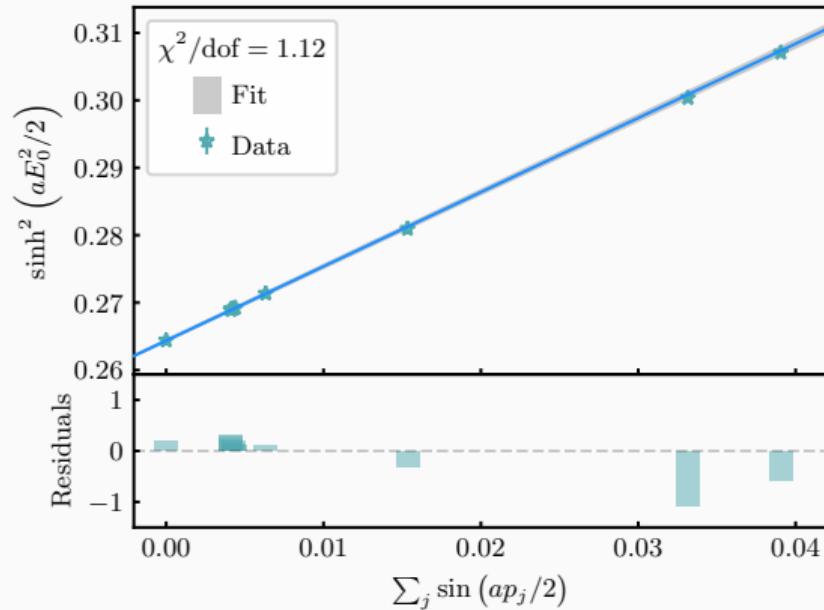
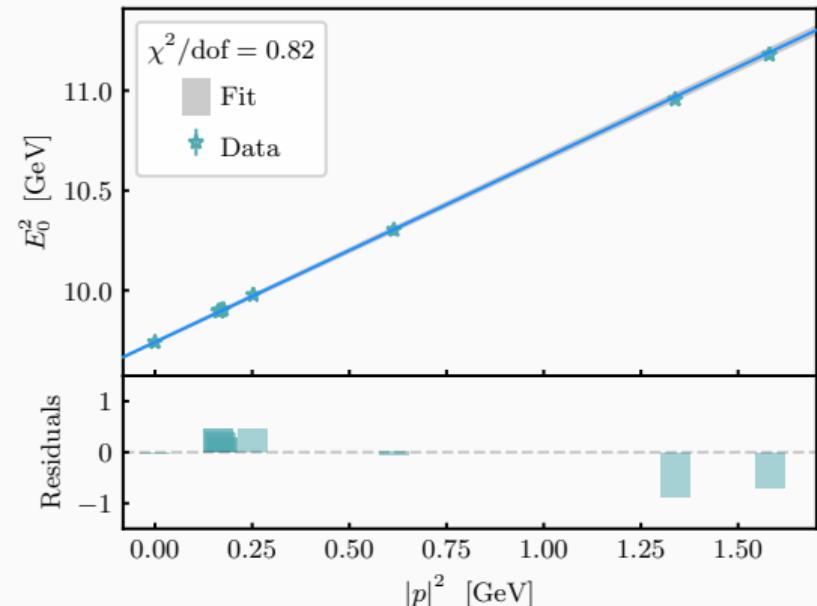
## Data analysis: Effective masses



Energy spectrum compatible with expectation within finite volume and cut-off effects.

**Systematics:** - Fit range: Model averaging (AIC) [[Phys. Rev.D.:103\(2021\)114502](#)]  
- Excited state: GEVP. [[Nucl.Phys.B:259\(1985\)58](#), [JHEP:04\(2009\)094](#)]

# Data analysis: Dispersion relations



Consistency check: Expected energy-momentum dispersion relations fulfilled.

## Data analysis: Three-point functions

$$C_{3pt}^{ij}(\vec{p}_{out}, \vec{p}_{in}, t_s, \tau) = \sum_{\vec{x}', \vec{x}} e^{-i\vec{p}_{out}\cdot\vec{x}' + i\vec{p}_{in}\cdot\vec{x}} \langle \eta_c^i(\vec{x}', t_s) \mathcal{O}_\mu^{ij}(\vec{z}, \tau) \bar{\eta}_c^j(\vec{x}, t) \rangle,$$

with

$$\mathcal{O}_\mu^{ij}(\vec{z}, \tau) = \bar{\psi}_c^i(\vec{z}, \tau) \gamma_\mu \hat{\mathcal{W}}[\vec{z}, \vec{0}] \psi_c(\vec{0}, \tau)$$

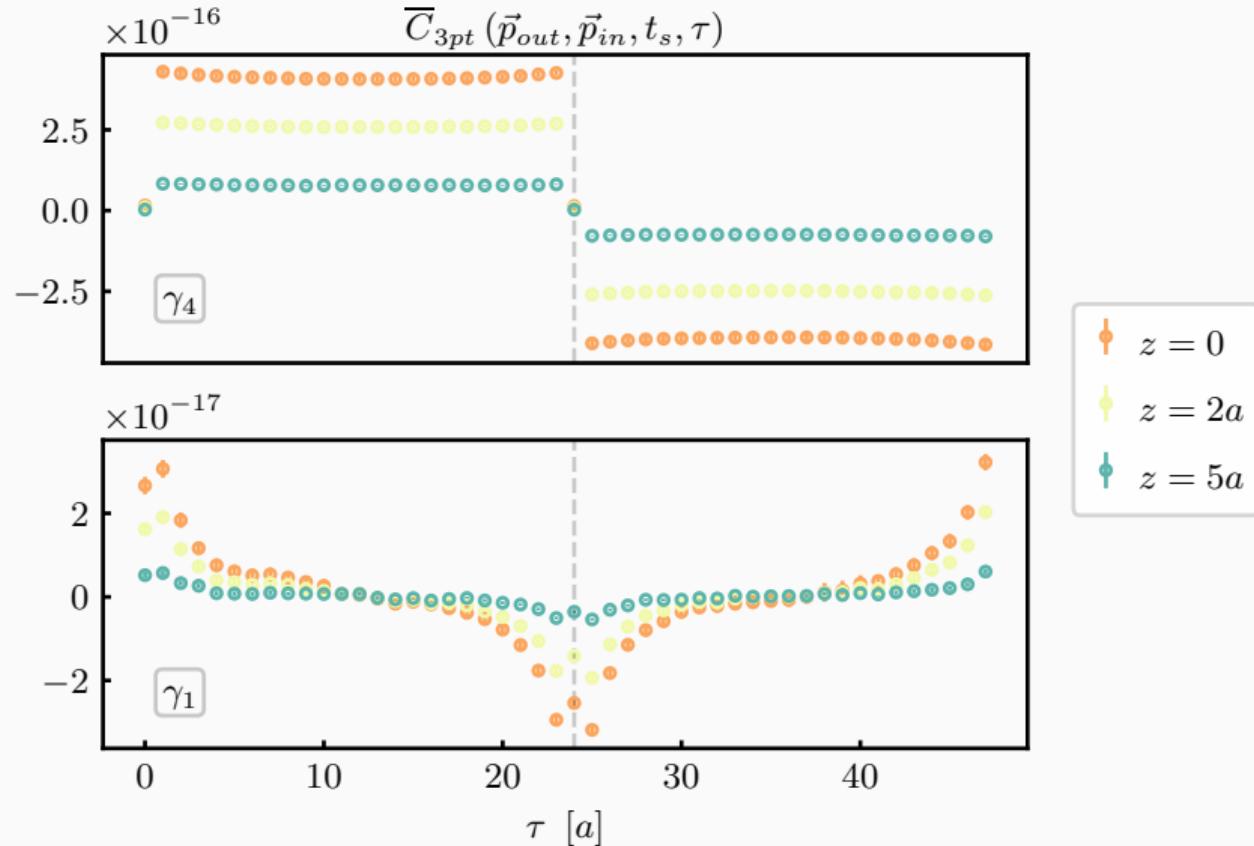
We choose

- $\gamma_\mu \in \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_4\}$
- $z_\mu = (0, 0, z_3, 0)$ , with  $z_3/a \in \mathbb{Z} \cap [0, 10]$
- $\vec{p}_{out}$  and  $\vec{p}_{in}$  chosen such that  $p_{out}^{x,y} = -p_{in}^{x,y}$  and  $\xi \equiv \frac{p_{out}^z - p_{in}^z}{p_{out}^z + p_{in}^z} = \text{Fixed}$

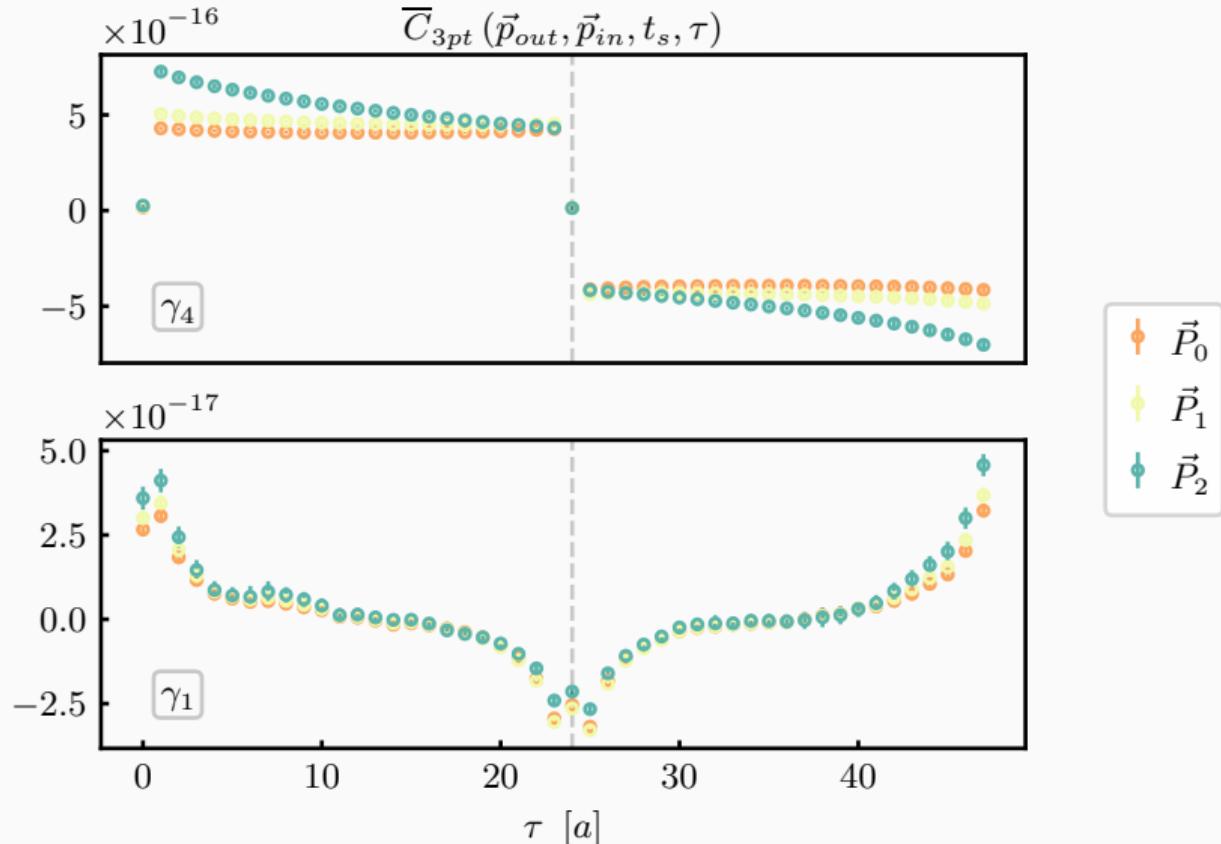
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$$C_{3pt}^{ij}(\vec{p}_{out}, \vec{p}_{in}, t_s, \tau) = \sum_{n,m} \frac{e^{-E_n^{out}t_s + \tau(E_n^{out} - E_m^{in})}}{4E_n^{out}E_m^{in}} \langle n(\vec{p}_{out}) | \hat{\mathcal{O}}_\mu^{ij}(\vec{z}) | m(\vec{p}_{in}) \rangle \mathcal{N}_n^i(\vec{p}_{out}) \mathcal{N}_m^{j,*}(\vec{p}_{in})$$
$$\mathcal{N}_n^i(\vec{p}) \equiv \langle \Omega | \eta_c^i | n(\vec{p}) \rangle$$

## Data analysis: Three-point functions



## Data analysis: Three-point functions



## Data analysis: Ratios and matrix elements

The extraction of matrix elements is made easier through ratios of three- and two-point functions:

$$R_B(\tau, t_s) = \frac{\bar{C}_{3pt}(\vec{p}_{out}, \vec{p}_{in}, t_s, \tau)}{\bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{out}, t_s)} \sqrt{\frac{\bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{in}, t_s - \tau) \bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{out}, \tau) \bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{out}, t_s)}{\bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{out}, t_s - \tau) \bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{in}, \tau) \bar{C}_{2pt}(\vec{p}_{in}, t_s)}}$$

[PoS LAT2055(2006)360]

Under the assumption of ground state dominance ( $0 \ll \tau \ll t_s$ ) and setting  $t_s = T/2$

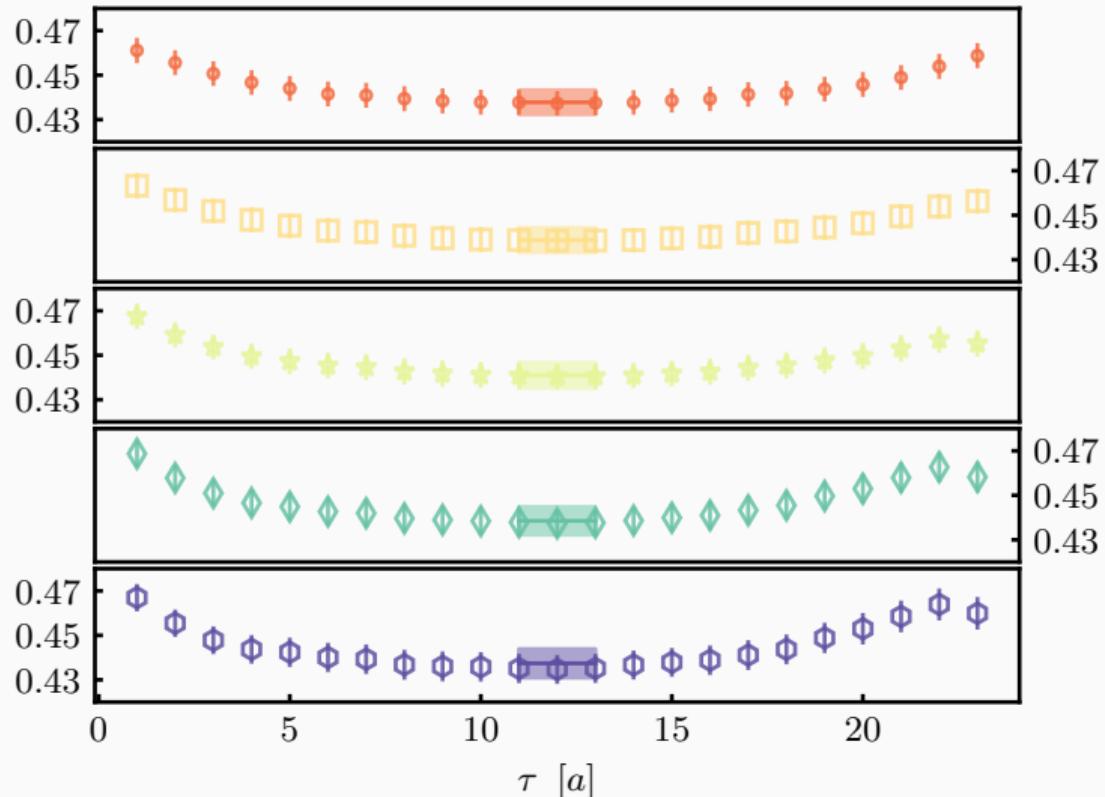
$$R_B(\tau, t_s = T/2) = \frac{\langle 0(\vec{p}_{out}) | \hat{O}_\mu | 0(\vec{p}_{in}) \rangle}{4\sqrt{E_0^{out} E_0^{in}}} \sqrt{\frac{(1 + e^{-2\tau E_0^{in}})(1 + e^{-2(T/2-\tau) E_0^{out}})}{(1 + e^{-2\tau E_0^{in}})(1 + e^{-2(T/2-\tau) E_0^{out}})}}$$

For  $\tau - T/4 \equiv \delta \rightarrow 0$

$$R_B(\tau, t_s = T/2) \simeq \frac{\langle 0(\vec{p}_{out}) | \hat{O}_\mu(\vec{z}) | 0(\vec{p}_{in}) \rangle}{4\sqrt{E_0^{out} E_0^{in}}} [1 + 2\delta \mathcal{C}_\delta(E_0^{out}, E_0^{in}) + 2\delta^2 \mathcal{C}_\delta^2(E_0^{out}, E_0^{in})]$$

## Data analysis: Ratios and matrix elements

$$R_B(\tau, t_s = T/2), \quad \text{Fixed } z = 0$$



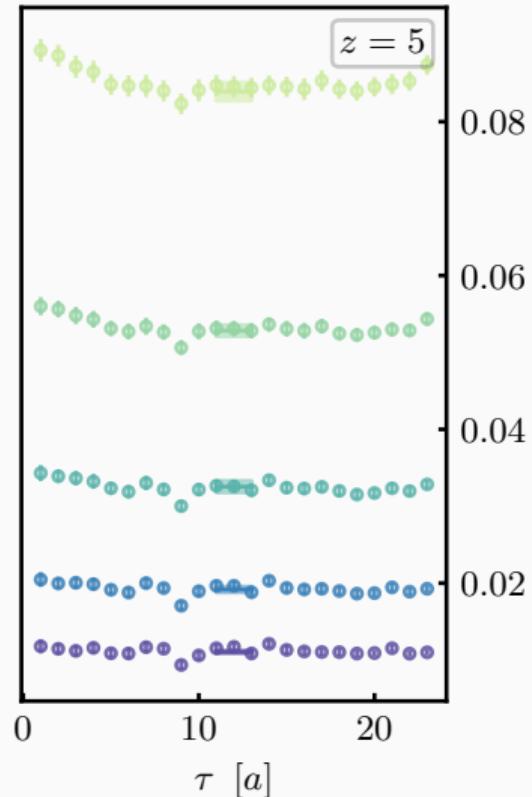
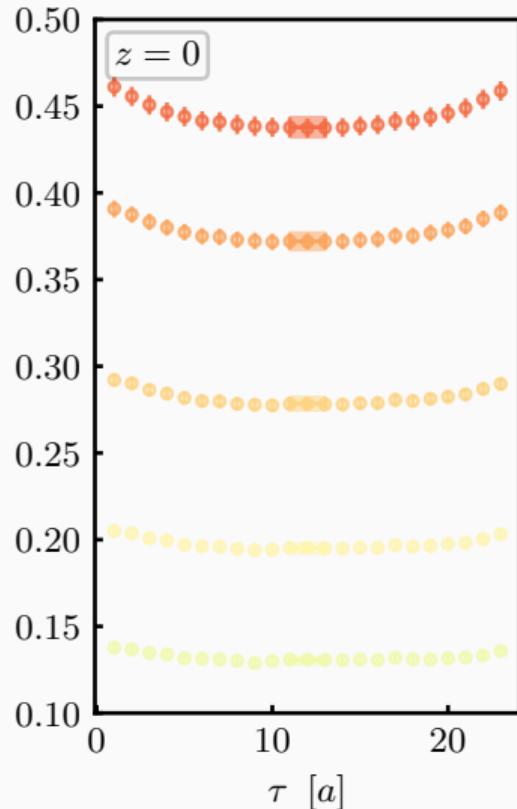
Fixed  $z$  changing  $P$

$\chi^2/\text{dof} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$

3-points fits favored by AIC.

## Data analysis: Matrix elements

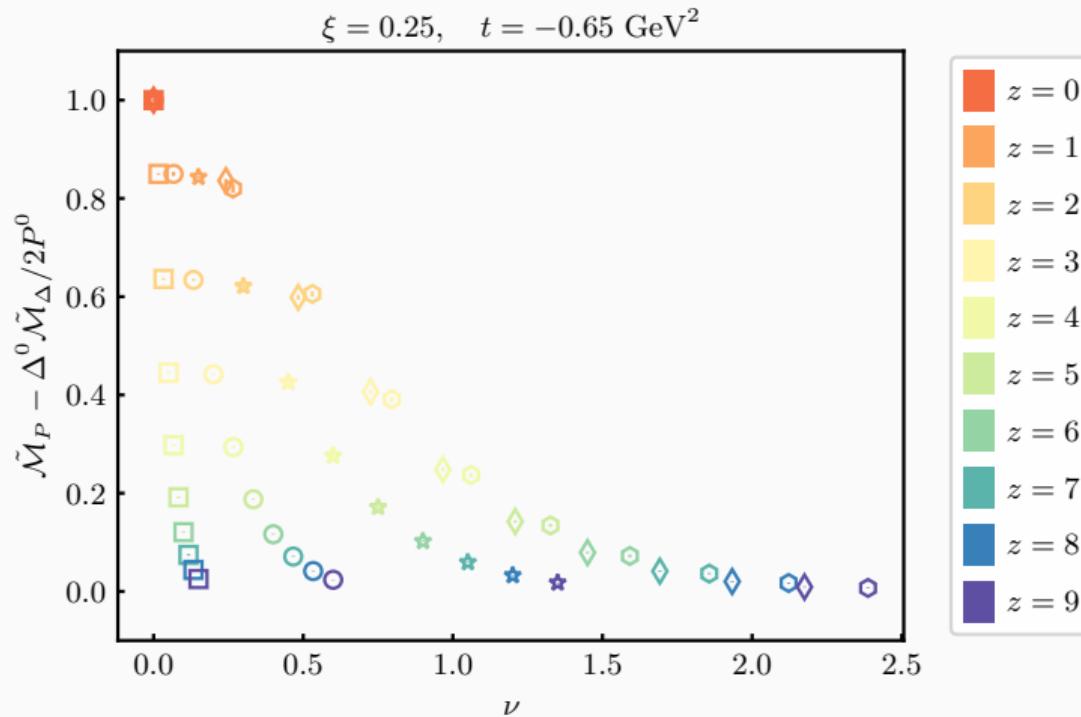
$$R_B(\tau, t_s = T/2), \quad \text{Fixed } P_0$$



Fixed  $P$  changing  $z$   
 $\chi^2/\text{dof} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$   
3-points fits favored  
by AIC.

## Data analysis: Three-point functions

$$\langle \eta_c(\vec{p}_{out}; 1s) | \hat{\mathcal{O}}_4(\vec{z}) | \eta_c(\vec{p}_{in}; 1s) \rangle = [E_0^{out} + E_0^{in}] \mathcal{M}_P - [E_0^{out} - E_0^{in}] \mathcal{M}_\Delta$$



# Conclusions and future steps

## Summary

- Study of  $\eta_c$ -meson's structure through GPDs within lattice QCD.
- GPDs give a comprehensive picture about hadron structure.
- Ongoing effort for the extraction of form factors.

## Future steps

- Handling excited state contamination.
- Extract form factors  $\mathcal{M}_P$  and  $\mathcal{M}_\Delta$ .
- Matching to the light cone.
  - Continuum limit.
  - Infinite volume limit.
- Reconstruction of light-cone distribution amplitudes.
  - Ill-posedness of the inverse Fourier transform.

**Thank you!**

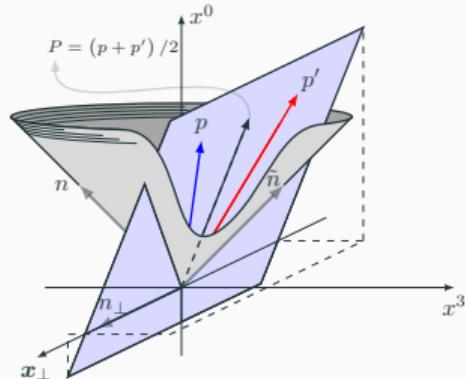
## **Back-up slides**

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# Ioffe time

**Question:** How can we compute GPDs in Lattice field theory?

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi} e^{-i\nu x} \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(\nu n/2) \gamma^\mu \hat{W}[\nu n/2, -\nu n/2] \psi_q(-\nu n/2) | h(p) \rangle n_\mu$$



**Hadron frame**

$$P = \frac{p + p'}{2} \text{ such that } P_\perp = 0$$

trigger interpretation of  $\nu$  as *Ioffe time*  
 [Phys.Lett:30B(1969)123, Phys.Rev.D:51(1995)6036]

$$z = -\nu n \Rightarrow \nu = -z^- P^+ \equiv -z \cdot P$$

$$H_{q/h}(x, \xi, t; \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dz^-}{2\pi} e^{ixP^+ z^-} \langle h(p') | \bar{\psi}_q(-z/2) \gamma^+ \hat{W}[-z/2; z/2] \psi_q(z/2) | h(p) \rangle \Big|_{\substack{z^+ = 0 \\ z_\perp = 0}}$$

# Momenta

| $j$ | $p_x$      | $p_y$     | $p_z$ |
|-----|------------|-----------|-------|
| 0   | 0.0        | 0.0       | 0.0   |
| 1   | -2.17075   | -2.17075  | 0.2   |
| 2   | -2.10085   | -2.10085  | 0.8   |
| 3   | -1.77431   | -1.77431  | 1.8   |
| 4   | -0.872673  | -0.872673 | 2.9   |
| 5   | -0.0526329 | 0.0526329 | 3.183 |
| 6   | 2.17075    | 2.17075   | 0.6   |
| 7   | 2.10085    | 2.10085   | 2.4   |
| 8   | 1.77431    | 1.77431   | 5.4   |
| 9   | 0.872673   | 0.872673  | 8.7   |
| 10  | 0.0526329  | 0.0526329 | 9.549 |

Consider a matrix of correlators,

$$C_{ij}(t) \equiv \langle \mathcal{O}_i(t) \mathcal{O}_j(0) \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-tE_n} \mathcal{N}_n^i \mathcal{N}_n^j$$

If  $N$  operators are available (*i.e.*  $i, j = 0, \dots, N - 1$ ), separate

$$C_{ij}^{(0)}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-tE_n} \mathcal{N}_n^i \mathcal{N}_n^j, \quad C_{ij}^{(1)}(t) = \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} e^{-tE_n} \mathcal{N}_n^i \mathcal{N}_n^j$$

**Lemma:** The matrix  $C^{(0)}(t)$  satisfies a Generalized Eigenvalue Problem (GEVP):  
[Nucl.Phys.B:259(1985)58, JHEP:04(2009)094]

$$C^{(0)}(\vec{p}, t) v_n^{(0)}(t, t_0) = \lambda_n^{(0)}(t, t_0) C^{(0)}(\vec{p}, t_0) v_n^{(0)}(t, t_0)$$

such that

$$\left(v_n^{(0)}, \mathcal{N}_m\right) = \delta_{nm}, \quad \lambda_n^{(0)}(t, t_0) = e^{-E_n^{\text{Eff}}(t-t_0)}, \quad \left(v_m^{(0)}, C^{(0)} v_n^{(0)}\right) = \delta_{nm} e^{-t E_n^{\text{Eff}}}$$

**Theorem:** If  $t_0 \geq t/2$ , the corrections to a state  $n$  of  $C^{(0)}$  given by perturbations from  $C^{(1)}$  vanish exponentially as:  
[JHEP:04(2009)094]

$$E_n^{\text{Eff}} = E_n + \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-t(E_N - E_n)}\right)$$

