

Dark Nuclei

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- Dark nuclear physics of QCD like theory with $N_c=2$ and $N_f=2$
- Based on two papers in collaboration with [Matthew McCullough](#) & [Andrew Pochinsky](#)
 - *Dark Nuclei I: Cosmology and Indirect Detection* —1406.2276
 - *Dark Nuclei II: Nuclear Spectroscopy in Two-Colour QCD* —1406.4116
- Motivation
 - Dark matter model building:
 - Binding energy is a new scale
 - Interesting new phenomenology
 - Understand what is “nuclear physics” in a general context
What generic feature, what is special?

- Two-colour QCD with two flavours of fundamental fermions
 - Numerically feasible (simpler than QCD)
 - Emergent complexity: novel phenomenological aspects
- Single hadron aspects already considered in DM context
[Lewis et al., Neil & Buckley, Hietanen et al.]
- Also lattice investigations of quenched $N_c=4$ QCD and other theories in this context
 - Sigma terms, polarisabilities,...

Symmetries of two-colour QCD

- Global flavour symmetry $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ enlarges to $SU(4)$
- Pseudo-reality of $SU(2)$ - left and right handed quarks can be combined into multiplets

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \\ -i\sigma_2 C \bar{u}_R^\top \\ -i\sigma_2 C \bar{d}_R^\top \end{pmatrix} \quad \Psi \xrightarrow{SU(4)} \exp \left(i \sum_{j=1}^{15} \theta_j T_j \right) \Psi$$

- Strong interactions result in condensate that spontaneously breaks the global symmetry: $SU(4) \rightarrow Sp(4) \sim SO(5)$ [Peskin 1980]
- Numerical calculations have significant explicit symmetry breaking: $m_u = m_d \sim \Lambda_{QCD}$

- Simplest colour singlets
 - “Pions”: $\pi^- \sim \bar{u}\gamma_5 d$, $\pi^0 \sim \bar{u}\gamma_5 u + \bar{d}\gamma_5 d$, $\pi^+ \sim \bar{d}\gamma_5 u$ $J^P=0^-$
 - (anti-)“Nucleons”: $u d$, $\bar{u}\bar{d}$ $J^P=0^+$
- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Degenerate} \\ \text{SO(5) multiplet} \end{array} \right\}$
- “Rhos”: $\rho^- \sim \bar{u}\gamma_\mu d$, $\rho^0 \sim \bar{u}\gamma_\mu u + \bar{d}\gamma_\mu d$, $\rho^+ \sim \bar{d}\gamma_\mu u$ $J^P=1^-$
- (anti-)“Deltas”: $u\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 d$, $\bar{u}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 \bar{d}$ $J^P=1^+$
- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Degenerate} \\ \text{SO(5) multiplet} \end{array} \right\}$
- Axial vector, scalar, tensor mesons + associated baryons
- Single hadron spectrum studied by [Hietanen et al. 1404.2794]
- Pion multiplet are pseudoGoldstone bosons of χ SB: $SU(4) \rightarrow Sp(4)$
- Rho stable for masses considered

- Colour singlets can combine
 - Two-, three-, ... particle scattering states
 - “Nuclei” for sufficiently attractive interactions—not *a priori* obvious
- Two “pions” combine to give 25 of states: $\mathbf{5} \otimes \mathbf{5} = \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{10} \oplus \mathbf{14}$
- $J=0$ systems, contains $B=2, 1, 0, -1, -2$ states
- “pion”+ “rho”: $J=1$ systems with same flavour breakdown

$$\mathbf{D}^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} S_+^\mu & D_{2,0}^\mu & D_{1,0}^\mu & D_{1,-1}^\mu & D_{1,1}^\mu \\ \bar{D}_{2,0}^\mu & S_-^\mu & D_{-1,0}^\mu & D_{-1,-1}^\mu & D_{-1,1}^\mu \\ \bar{D}_{1,0}^\mu & \bar{D}_{-1,0}^\mu & S_0^\mu & D_{0,-1}^\mu & D_{0,1}^\mu \\ \bar{D}_{1,-1}^\mu & \bar{D}_{-1,-1}^\mu & \bar{D}_{0,-1}^\mu & S_B^\mu & D_{0,2}^\mu \\ \bar{D}_{1,1}^\mu & \bar{D}_{-1,1}^\mu & \bar{D}_{0,1}^\mu & \bar{D}_{0,2}^\mu & S_{\bar{B}}^\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{D}_1^\mu &= \text{Tr}(\mathbf{D}^\mu) , \\ \mathbf{D}_{10}^\mu &= \frac{i}{2} (\mathbf{D}^\mu - \mathbf{D}^{\mu T}) , \\ \mathbf{D}_{14}^\mu &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{D}^\mu + \mathbf{D}^{\mu T}) - \frac{1}{5} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{D}^\mu) \mathbb{1}_5 \end{aligned}$$

- Higher body systems: $J=0, 1$, flavour = $\underbrace{\square \square \square \cdots \square \square}_n$, $n=2, \dots, 8$

- Wilson gauge and fermion actions
- HMC using modified **chroma**
- 4 lattice spacings (β), 6 masses
 - Isospin symmetric
- 3 or 4 volumes per choice (β, m_0)
- Long streams of configurations

Label	β	m_0	$L^3 \times T$	N_{traj}
<i>A</i>	1.8	−1.0890	$12^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$16^3 \times 72$	4,120
			$20^3 \times 72$	3,250
<i>B</i>	2.0	−0.9490	$12^3 \times 48$	10,000
			$16^3 \times 48$	4,000
			$20^3 \times 48$	3,840
			$24^3 \times 48$	2,930
<i>C</i>	2.0	−0.9200	$12^3 \times 48$	10,000
			$16^3 \times 48$	9,780
			$20^3 \times 48$	10,000
<i>D</i>	2.0	−0.8500	$12^3 \times 48$	9,990
			$16^3 \times 48$	5,040
			$16^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$20^3 \times 48$	5,000
			$24^3 \times 48$	5,050
<i>E</i>	2.1	−0.7700	$12^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$16^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$20^3 \times 72$	4,300
<i>F</i>	2.2	−0.6000	$12^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$16^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$20^3 \times 72$	5,000
			$24^3 \times 72$	5,070

Single hadron systems

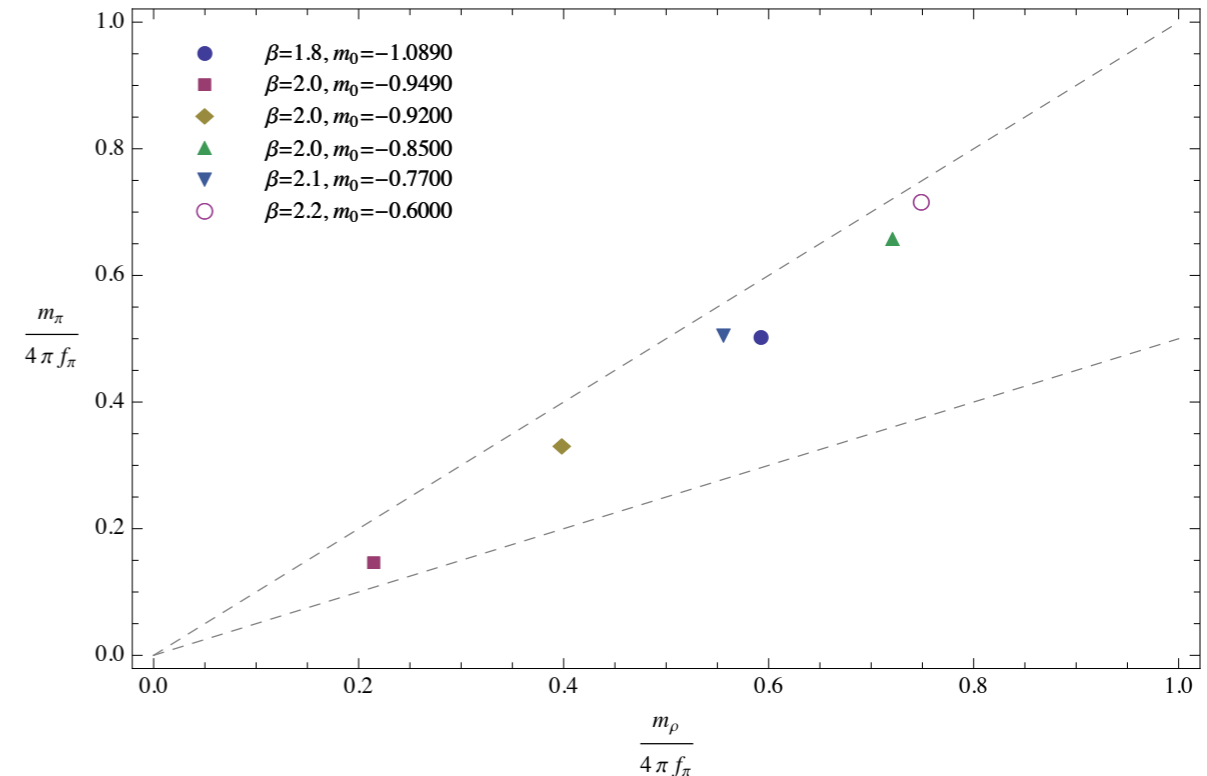
- Single hadron systems needed to set scales, characterise theory

Ensemble	β	m_0	$a m_q$	$a f_\pi$	$a m_\pi$	m_π/m_ρ
<i>A</i>	1.8	-1.0890	0.1299(1)(1)	0.259(1)(1)	0.8281(8)(5)	0.844(1)(2)
<i>B</i>	2.0	-0.9490	0.0280(2)(4)	0.101(3)(5)	0.347(6)(13)	0.663(9)(10)
<i>C</i>	2.0	-0.9200	0.0823(3)(3)	0.159(2)(4)	0.609(3)(4)	0.826(3)(4)
<i>D</i>	2.0	-0.8500	0.1911(3)(2)	0.2156(16)(11)	0.9151(13)(6)	0.910(2)(2)
<i>E</i>	2.1	-0.7700	0.1442(1)(1)	0.1582(1)(1)	0.7450(9)(7)	0.904(2)(2)
<i>F</i>	2.2	-0.6000	0.2277(2)(1)	0.1525(5)(7)	0.8805(7)(5)	0.951(3)(3)

- Scale set by demanding $f_\pi=246$ GeV
@ fixed $m_\pi/m_\rho=0.9$

β	$a [10^{-3} \text{ fm}]$
1.8	0.35(2)
2.0	0.24(1)
2.1	0.19(1)
2.2	0.14(2)

- Single hadron volume effects are small for most ensembles



- Extract spectrum of multi-baryon states from correlators

$$C_{nN}(t) = \left\langle 0 \left| \left(\sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{O}_N^{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{x}, t) \right)^n \left(\mathcal{O}_N^{\mathcal{S}\dagger}(\mathbf{x}_0, t_0) \right)^n \right| 0 \right\rangle$$

$$C_{nN,\Delta}^{(i,j)}(t) = \left\langle 0 \left| \left(\sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{O}_N^{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{x}, t) \right)^n \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_j}^{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{x}, t) \left(\mathcal{O}_N^{\mathcal{S}\dagger}(\mathbf{x}_0, t_0) \right)^n \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i}^{\mathcal{S}\dagger}(\mathbf{x}_0, t_0) \right| 0 \right\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\{N,\Delta_i\},s}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \psi_u^{\top}(\mathbf{x}, t) (-i\sigma_2) C \{1, \gamma_i \gamma_5\} \psi_d(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

- Local and smeared sources and sinks
- Need to be careful of thermal effects

$$C_{X,Y}^{s,s'}(t, T; \mathbf{0}) \xrightarrow{T \rightarrow \infty} \sum_n Z_{X,s}^{(n)\dagger} Z_{Y,s'}^{(n)} e^{-E_n t}$$

- Effective mass $M(t) = \ln [C(t)/C(t+1)] \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} E_0$

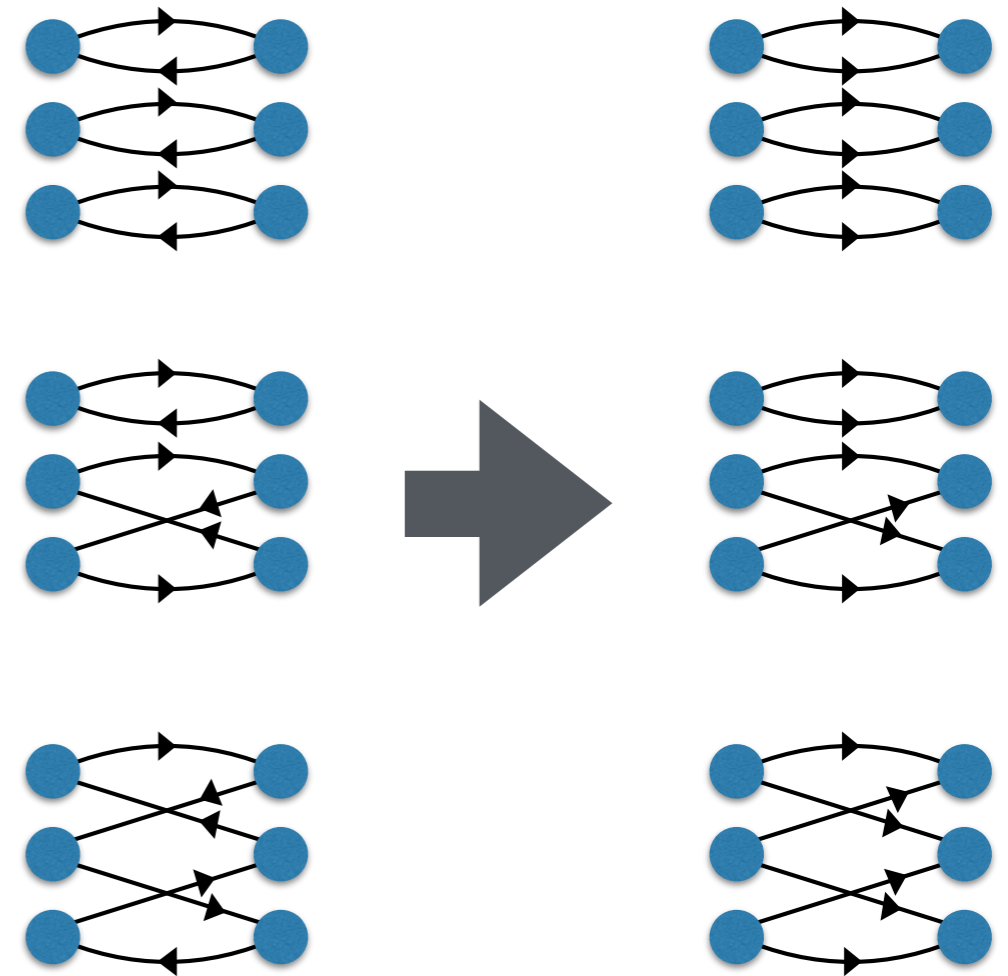
Multi-baryon contractions

- SU(2) multi-baryon contractions equivalent to maximal isospin multi-meson contractions
- Clear from degeneracies but explicitly

$$S(y, x) = C^\dagger (-i\sigma_2)^\dagger S(x, y)^T (-i\sigma_2) C$$

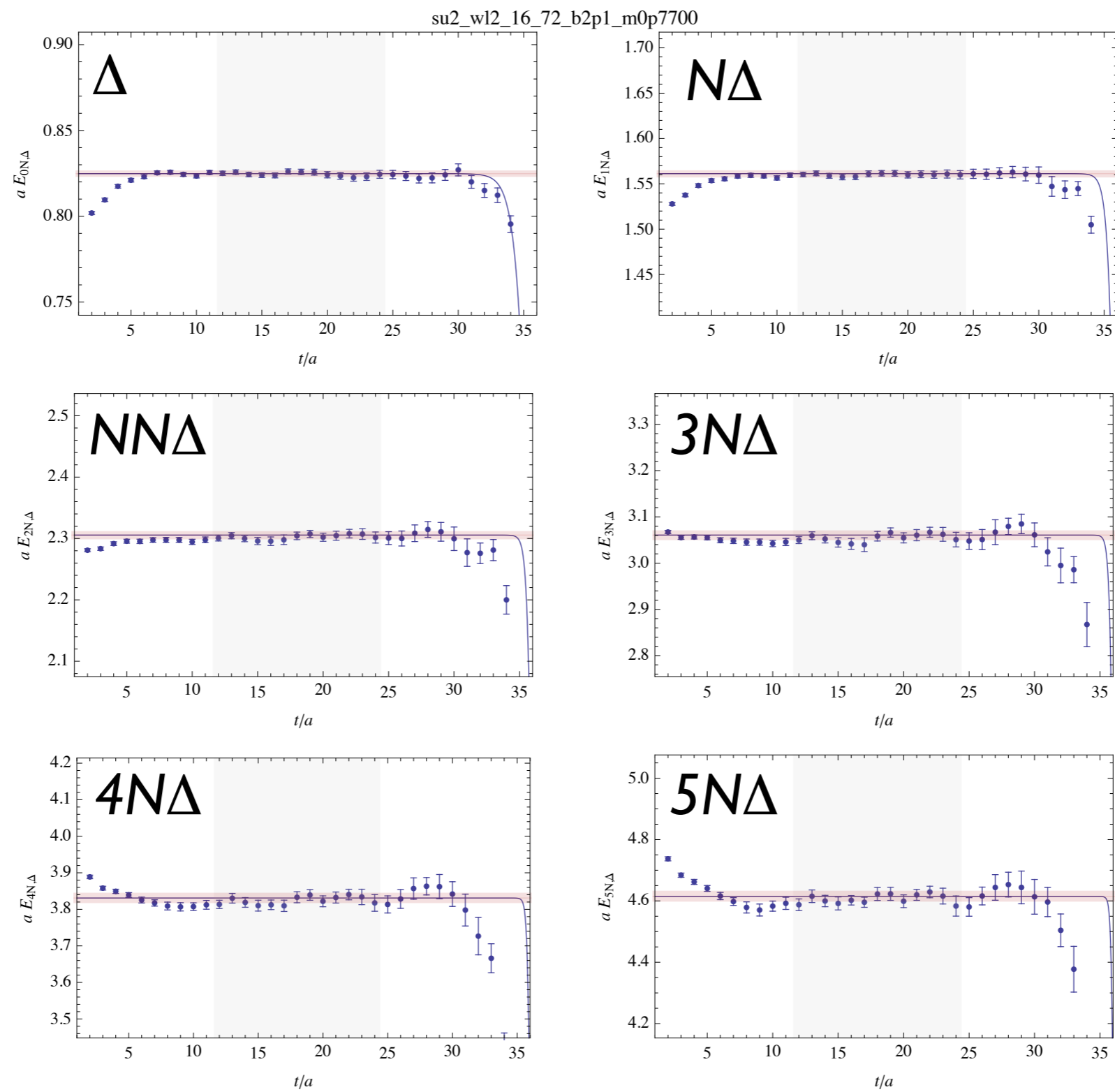
$$S(y, x) = \gamma_5 S^\dagger(x, y) \gamma_5$$

first relation specific to $N_c=2$
- Use algorithms from $N_c=3$ QCD
[WD & Savage 2011; WD, Orginos, Shi 2012]
- $(n-1)N\Delta \sim$ mixed pion-kaon contractions
[WD & Smigielski 2011]



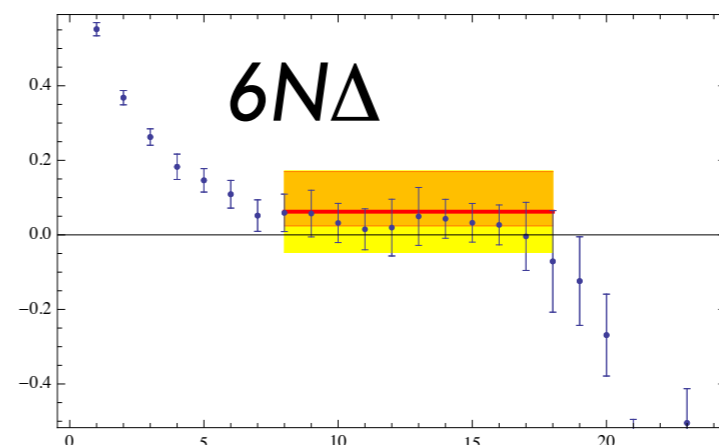
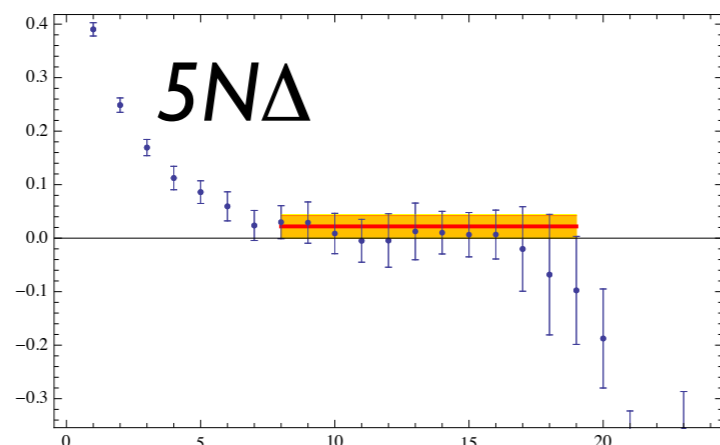
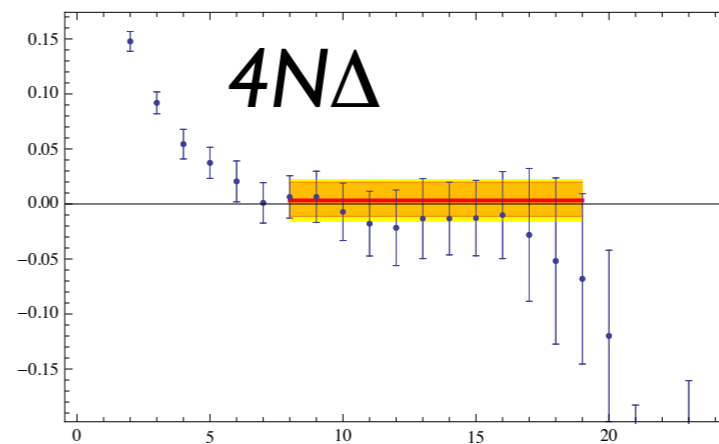
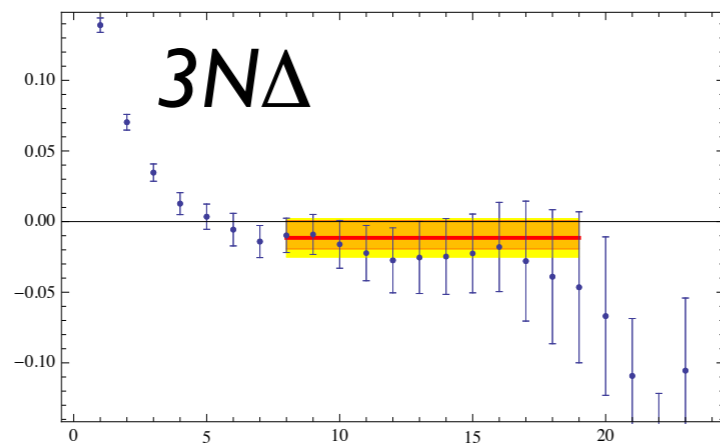
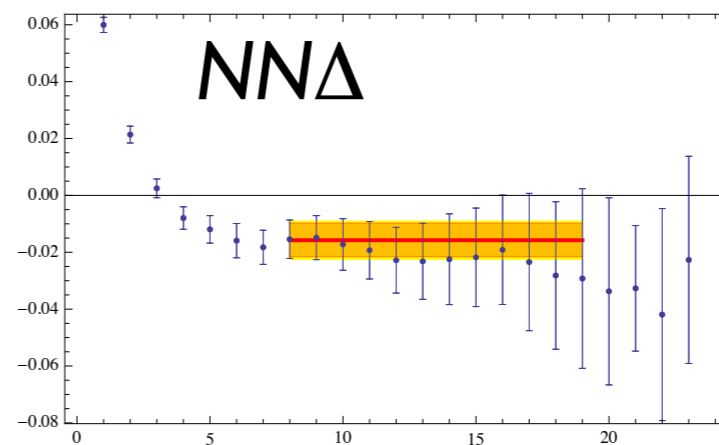
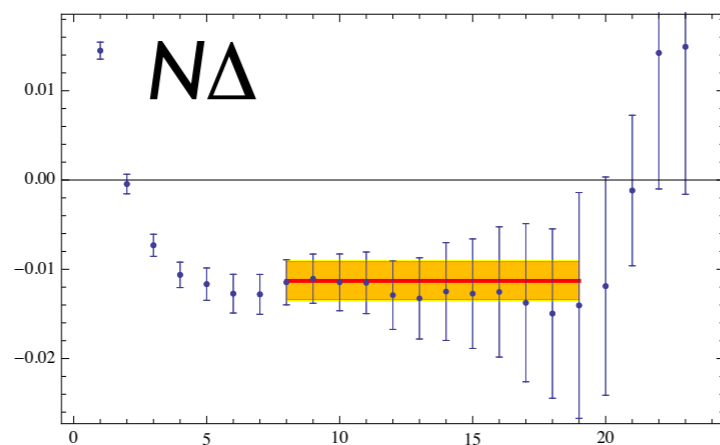
Ex.: three types of contractions
for $l=3$ $\pi\pi\pi$ and NNN

Example effective mass plots

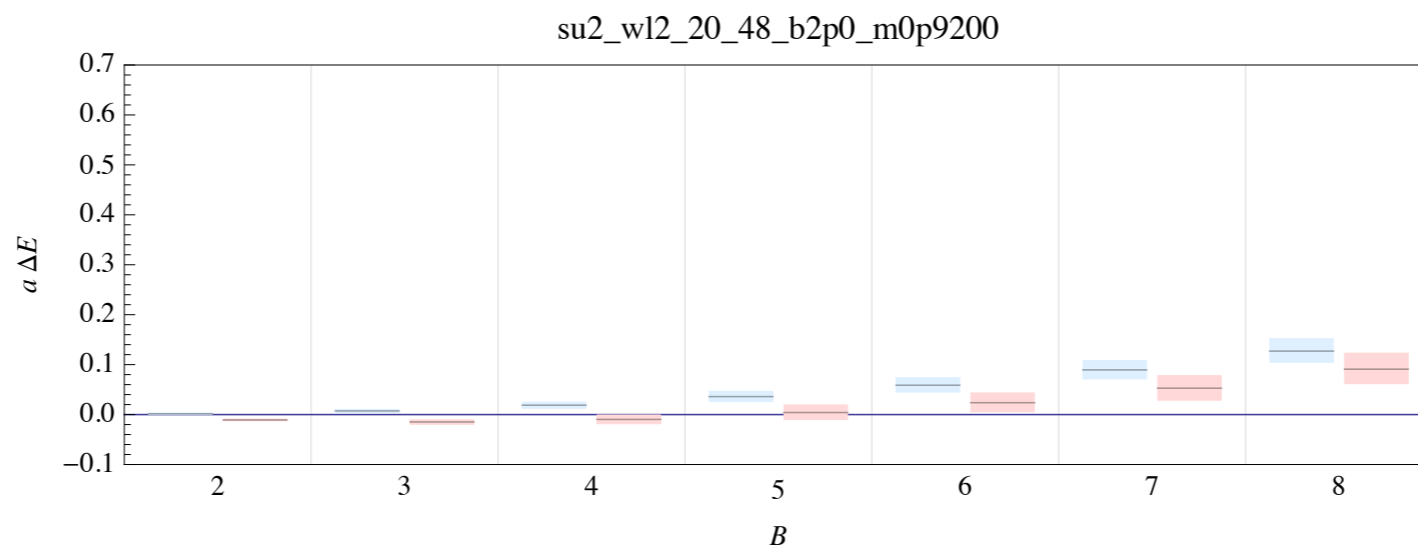
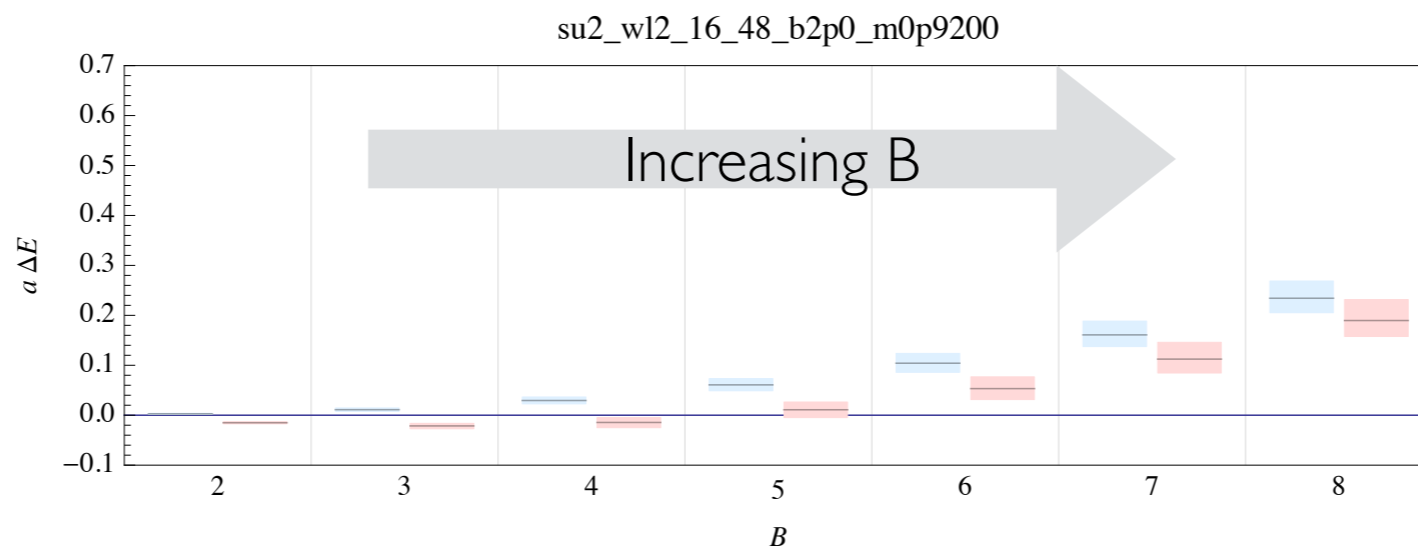
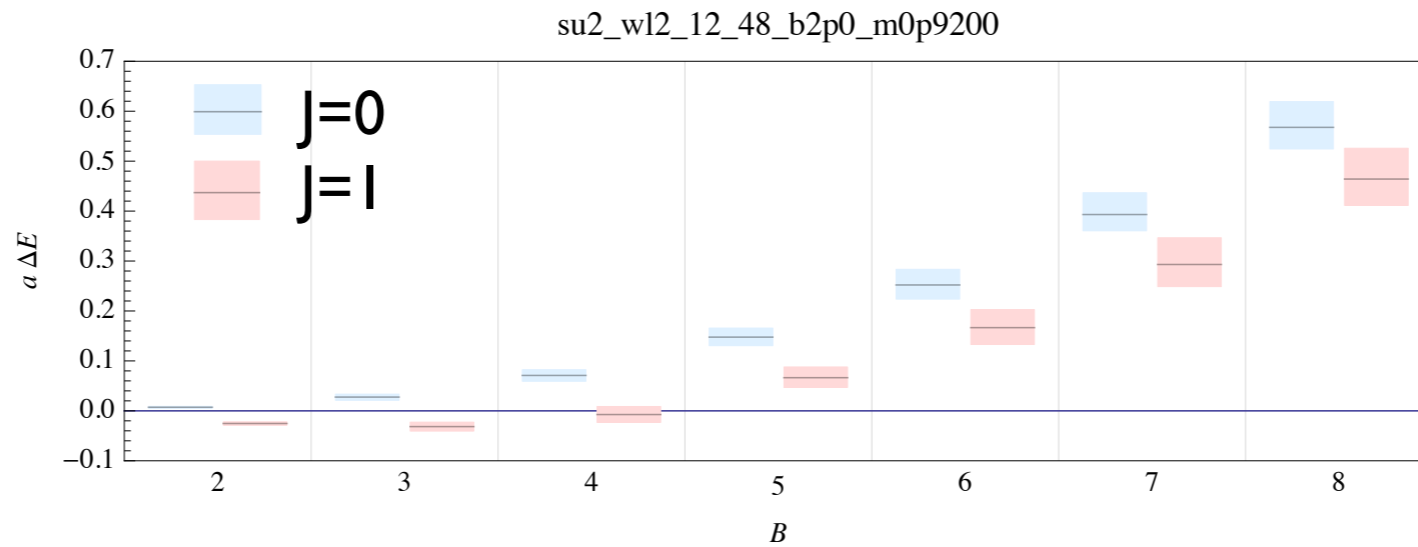


Example effective mass shift plots

$$R_{nN}(t) \equiv \frac{C_{nN}(t)}{[C_{1N}(t)]^n}, \quad R_{nN,\Delta}(t) \equiv \frac{\sum_i C_{nN,\Delta}^{(i,i)}(t)}{[C_{1N}(t)]^n \sum_i C_{0N,\Delta}^{(i,i)}(t)}$$



Energy shifts for different volumes



- Bound/scattering state hypotheses (Lüscher):

$$H_1 : \quad \Delta E_{\text{bound}}(L) = -\Delta E_{\infty} \left[1 + C \frac{e^{-\kappa L}}{L} \right],$$

$$H_2 : \quad \Delta E_{\text{scatter}}(L) = \frac{2\pi A}{\mu L^3} \binom{n}{2} \left[1 - \left(\frac{A}{\pi L} \right) \mathcal{I} + \left(\frac{A}{\pi L} \right)^2 [\mathcal{I}^2 + (2n - 5)\mathcal{J}] \right] + \frac{B}{L^6}$$

- Assess support for each hypothesis using the Bayes factor

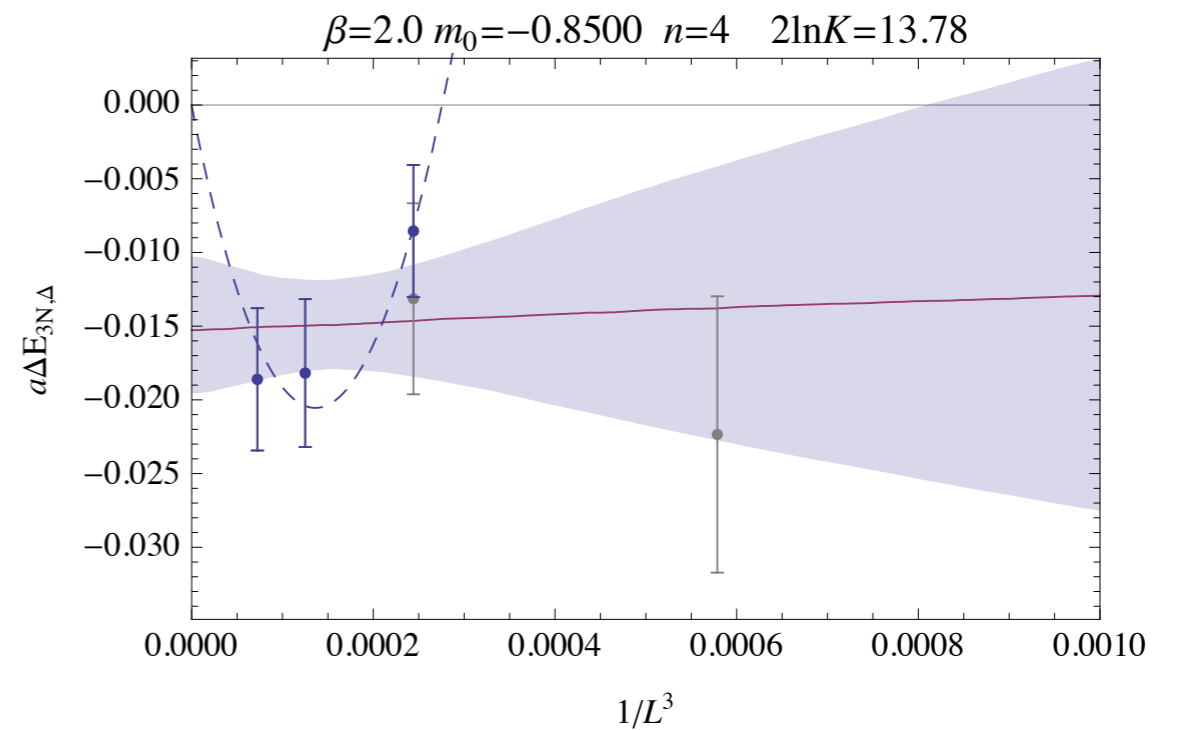
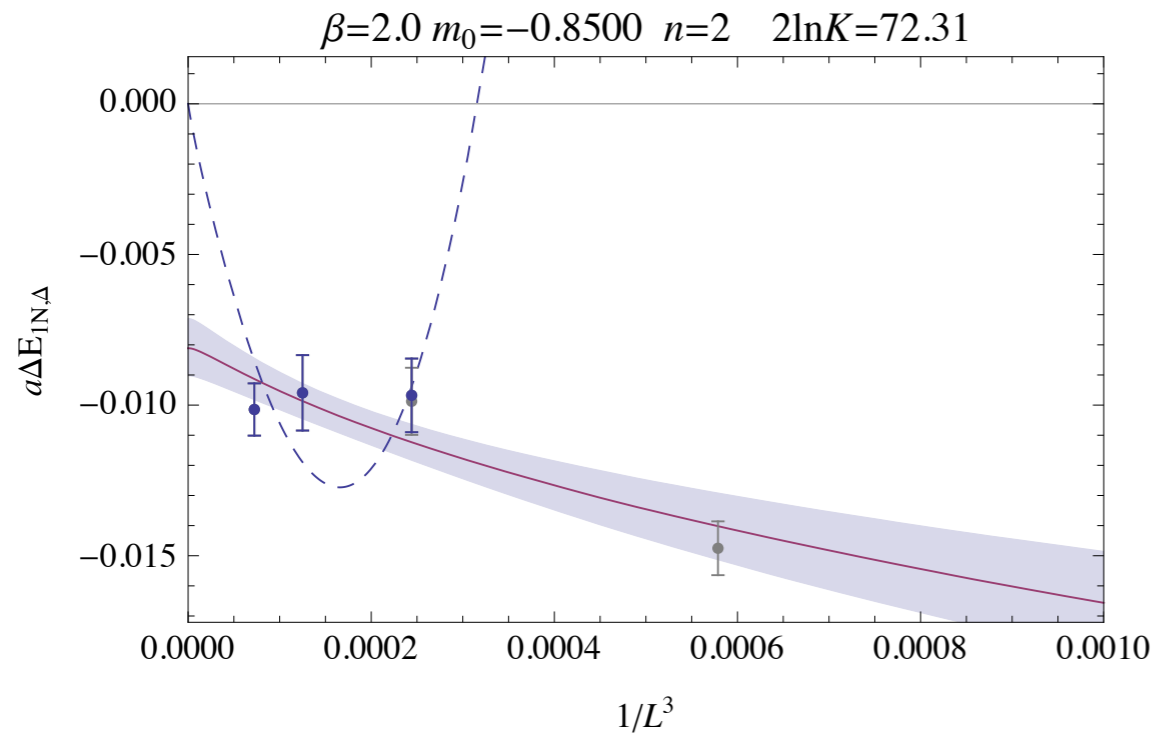
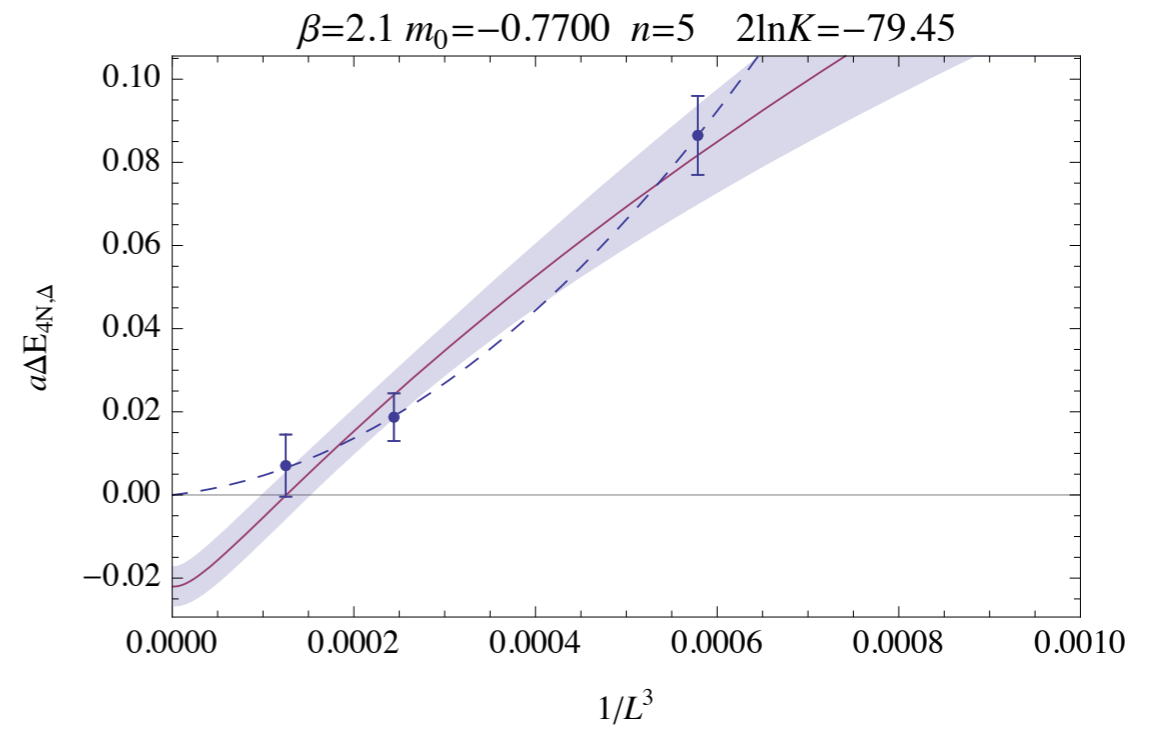
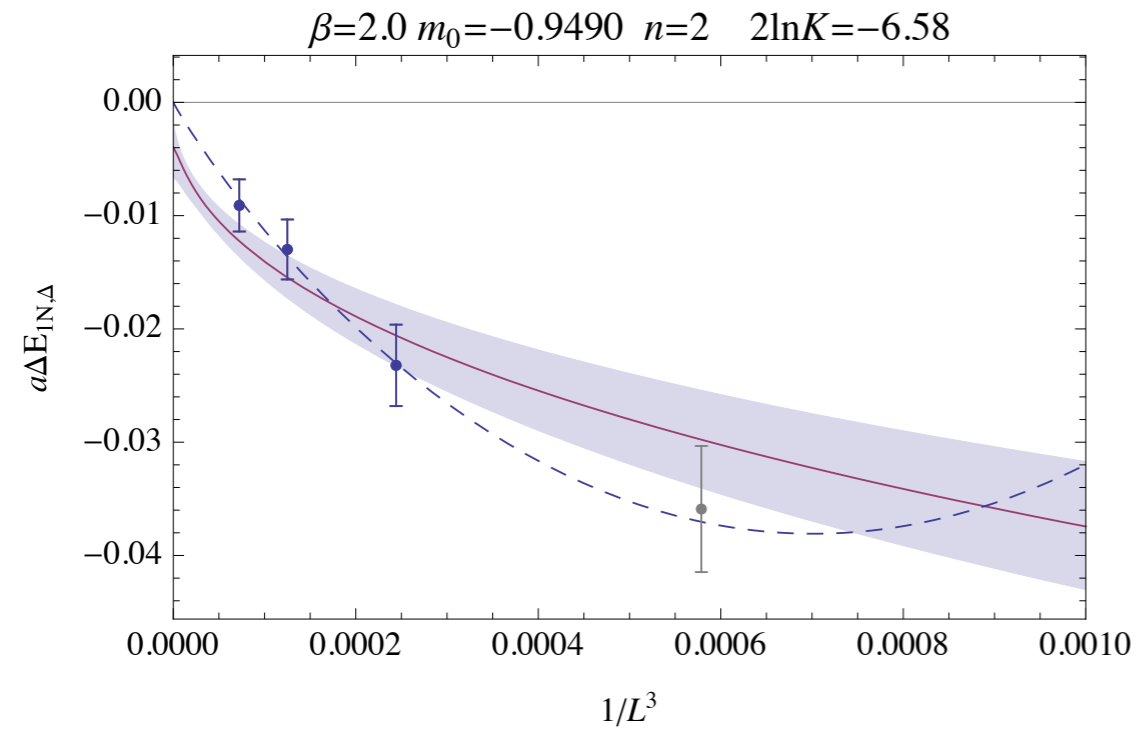
$$K = \frac{P(D|H_1)}{P(D|H_2)} = \frac{\int P(D|H_1, p_1)P(p_1|H_1)dp_1}{\int P(D|H_2, p_2)P(p_2|H_2)dp_2}$$

$$\text{where } \log P(D|H_i, p_i) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{[d_j - H_i(x_j; p_i)]^2}{\sigma_j^2}$$

and $P(p_i|H_i)$ are broad prior distributions for convergence

- If $2 \ln[K] > 6$: “strong evidence” of preference for H_1 over H_2
then ask what are the bounds on the binding energy

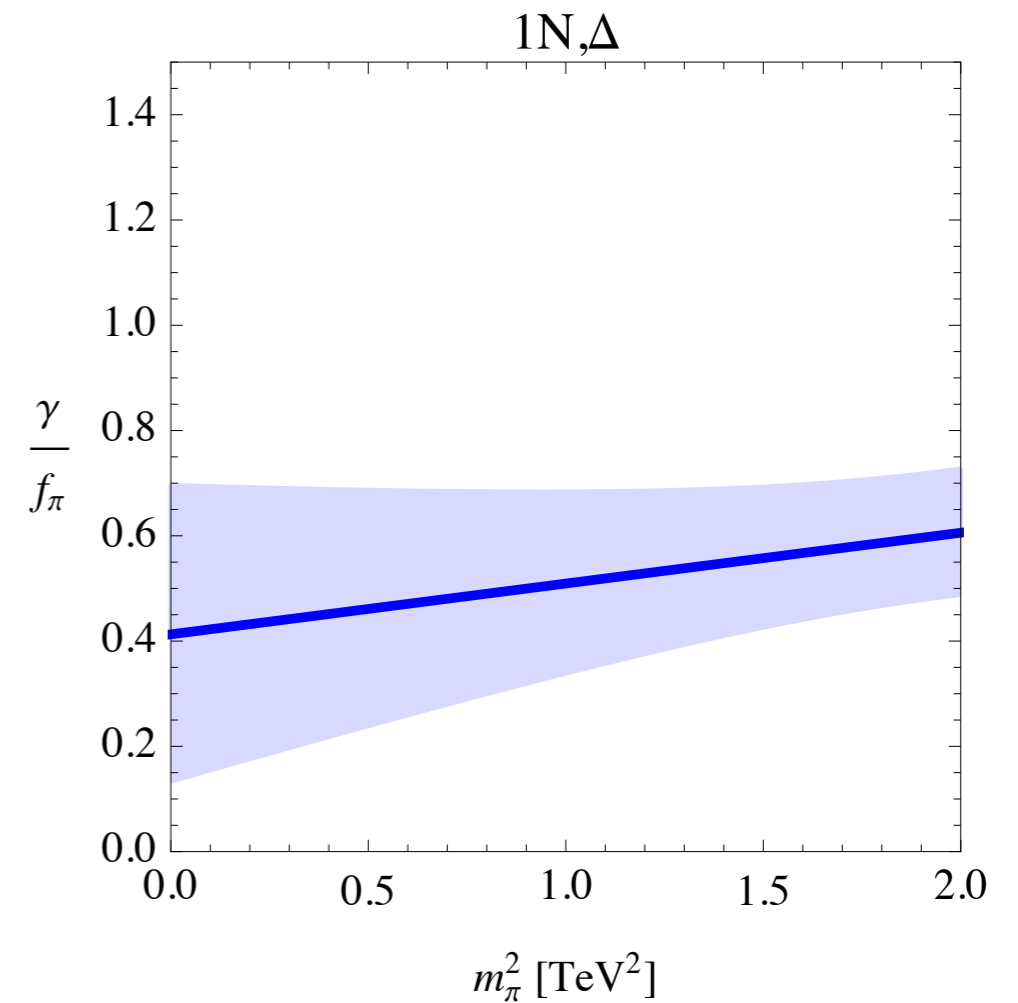
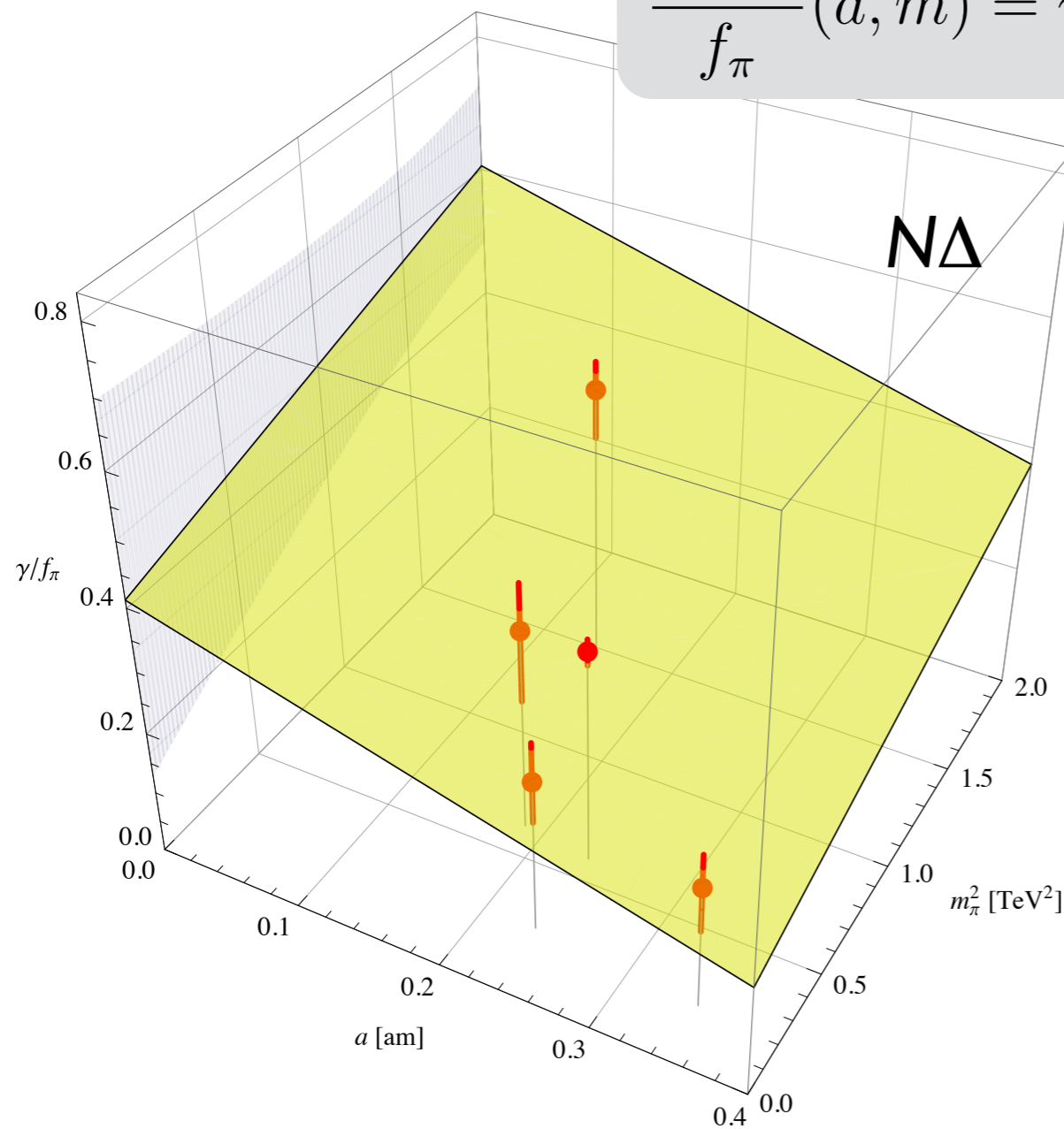
Infinite volume extrapolations



Continuum extrapolations

- Simple continuum limit extrapolation of binding momentum, γ

$$\frac{\gamma_{nN,\Delta}}{f_\pi}(a, m) = \gamma_{nN,\Delta}^{(0)} + a \delta_n^{(a)} + m_\pi^2 \delta_n^{(m)}$$

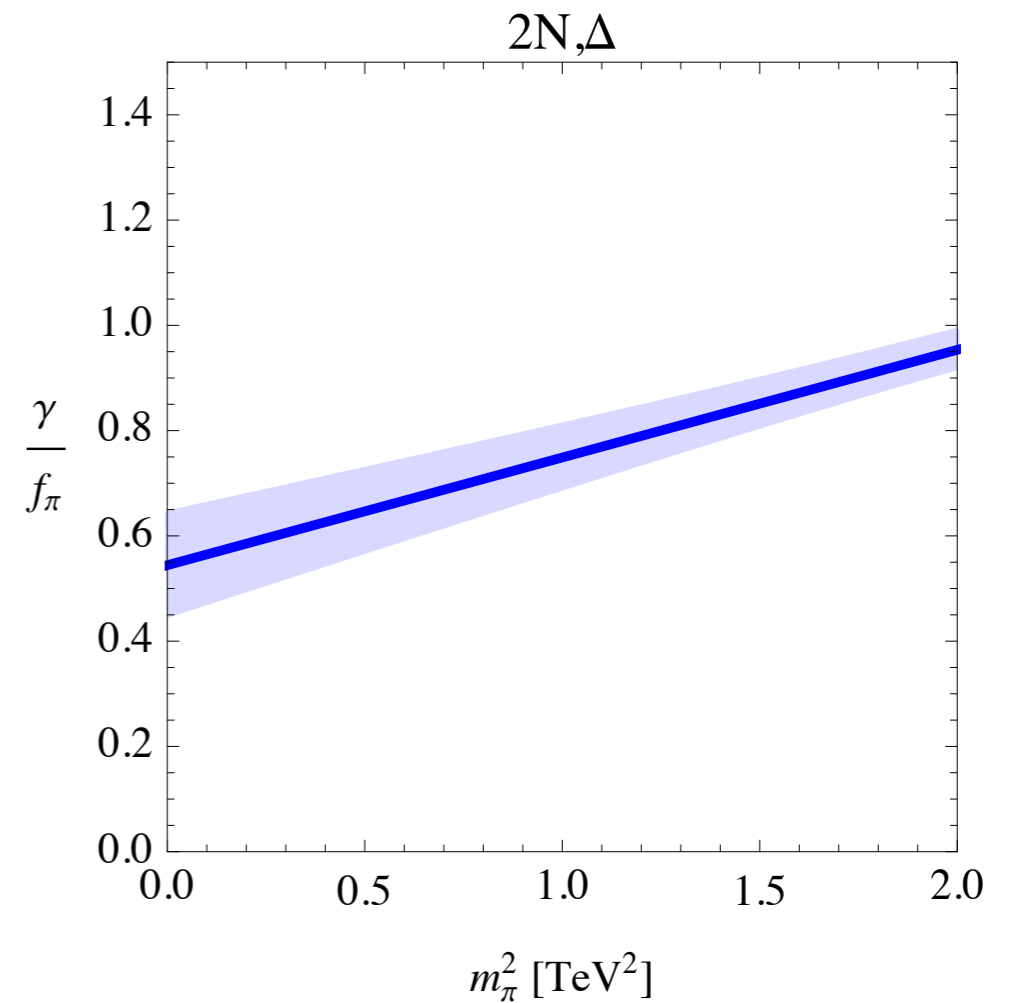
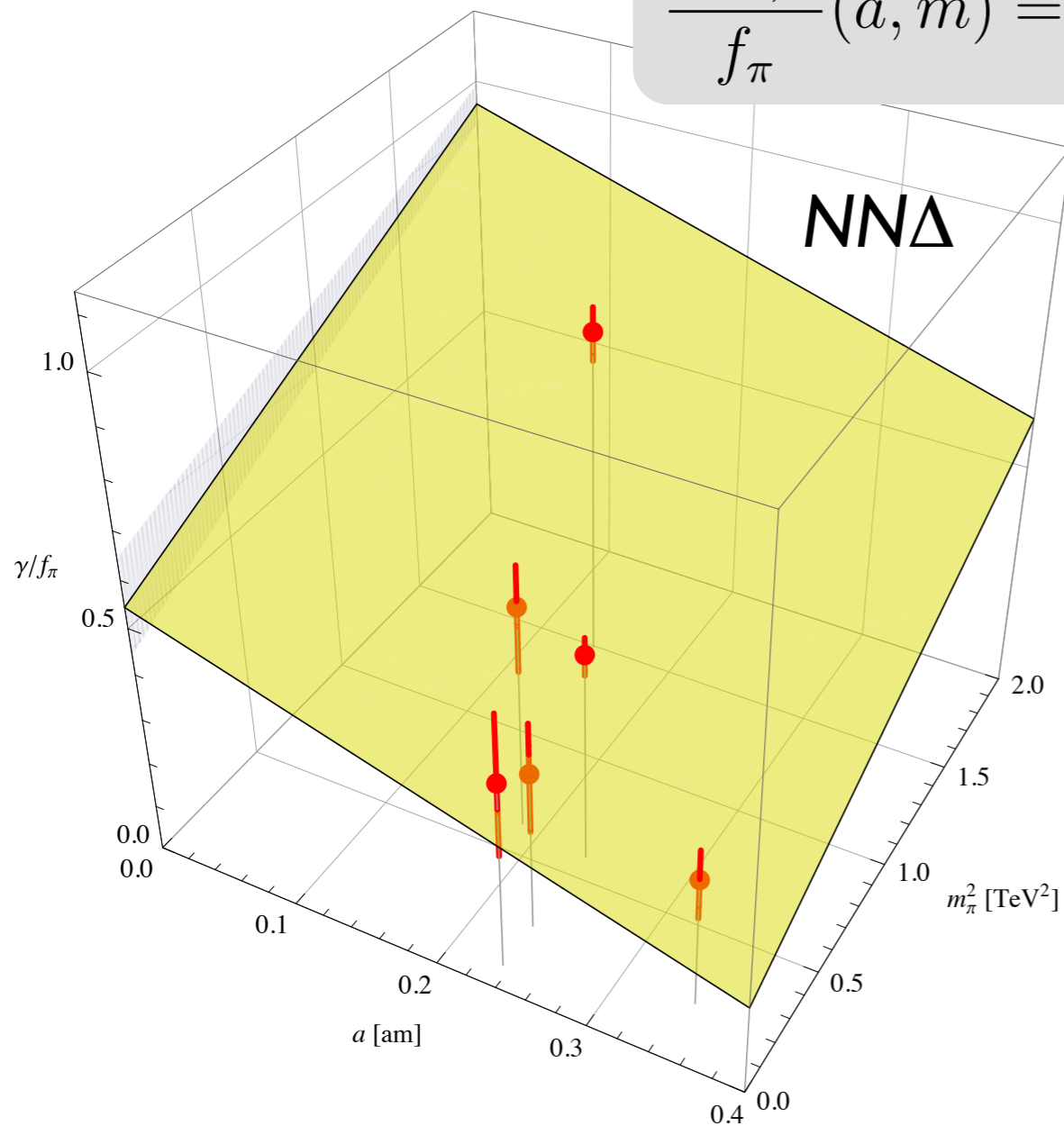


NB: physical scale set by demanding $f_\pi=246$ GeV (arbitrary)

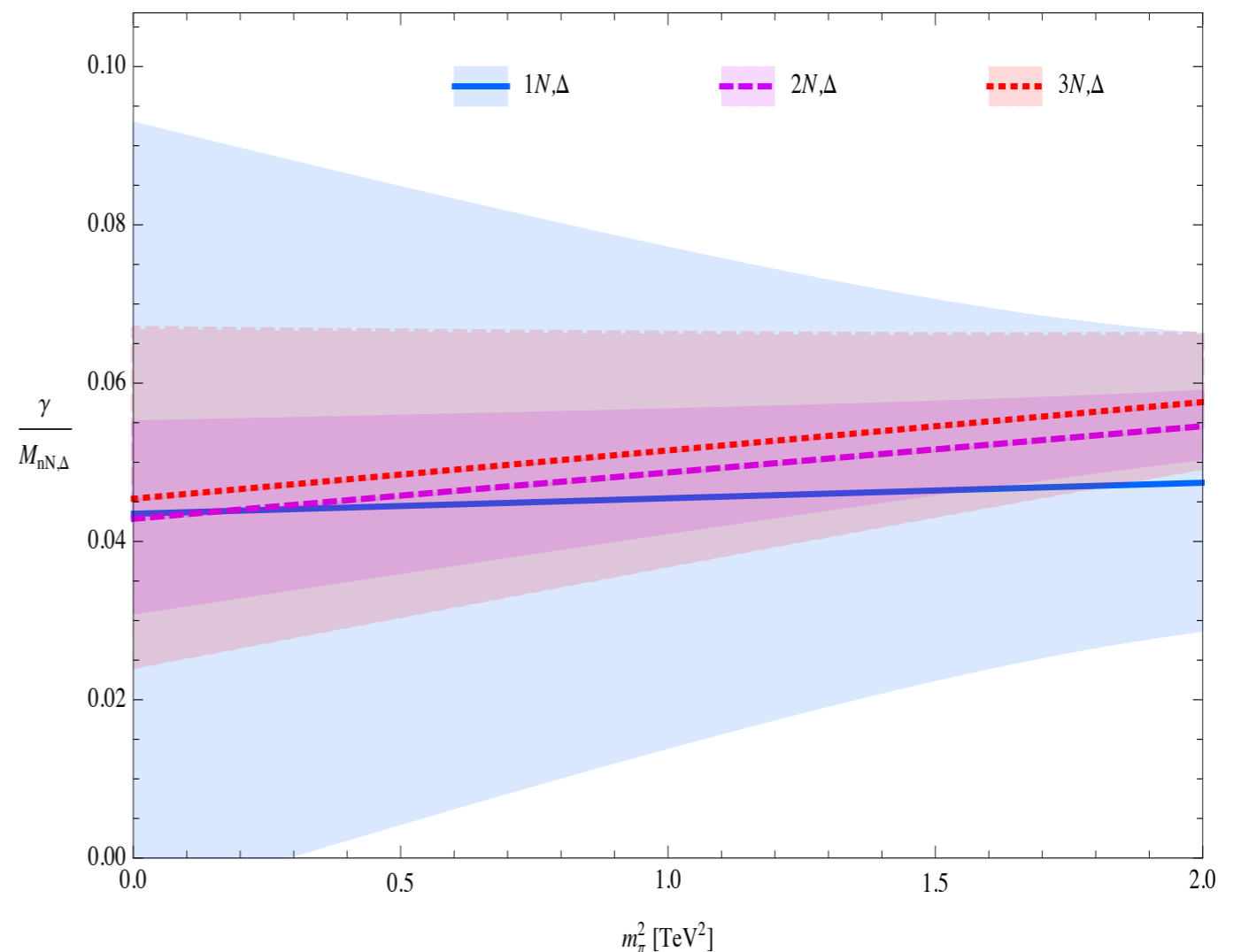
Continuum extrapolations

- Simple continuum limit extrapolation of binding momentum, γ

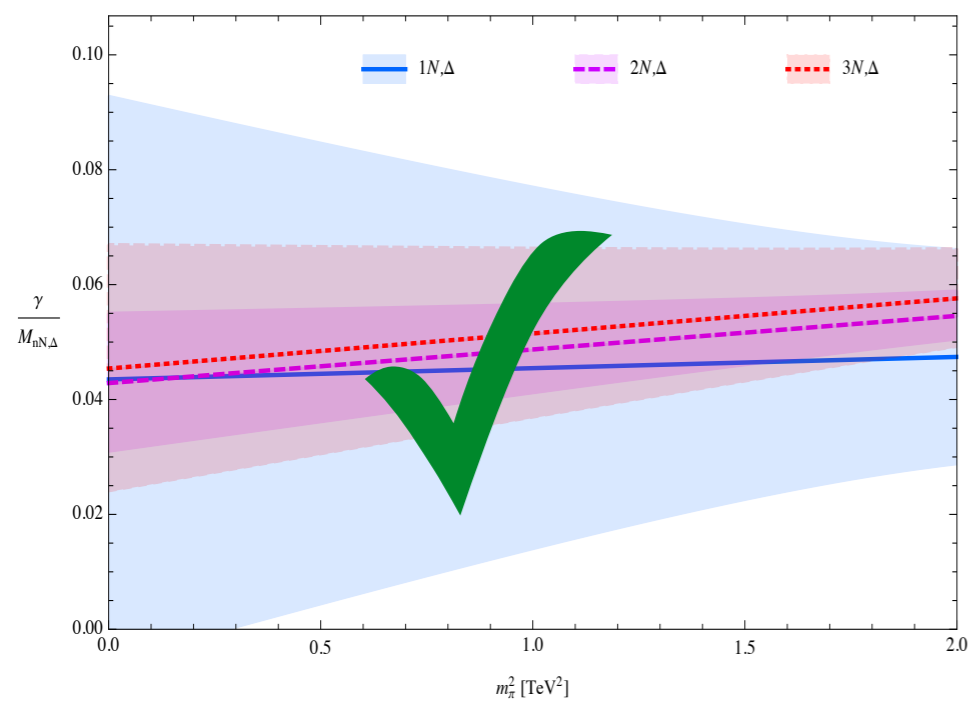
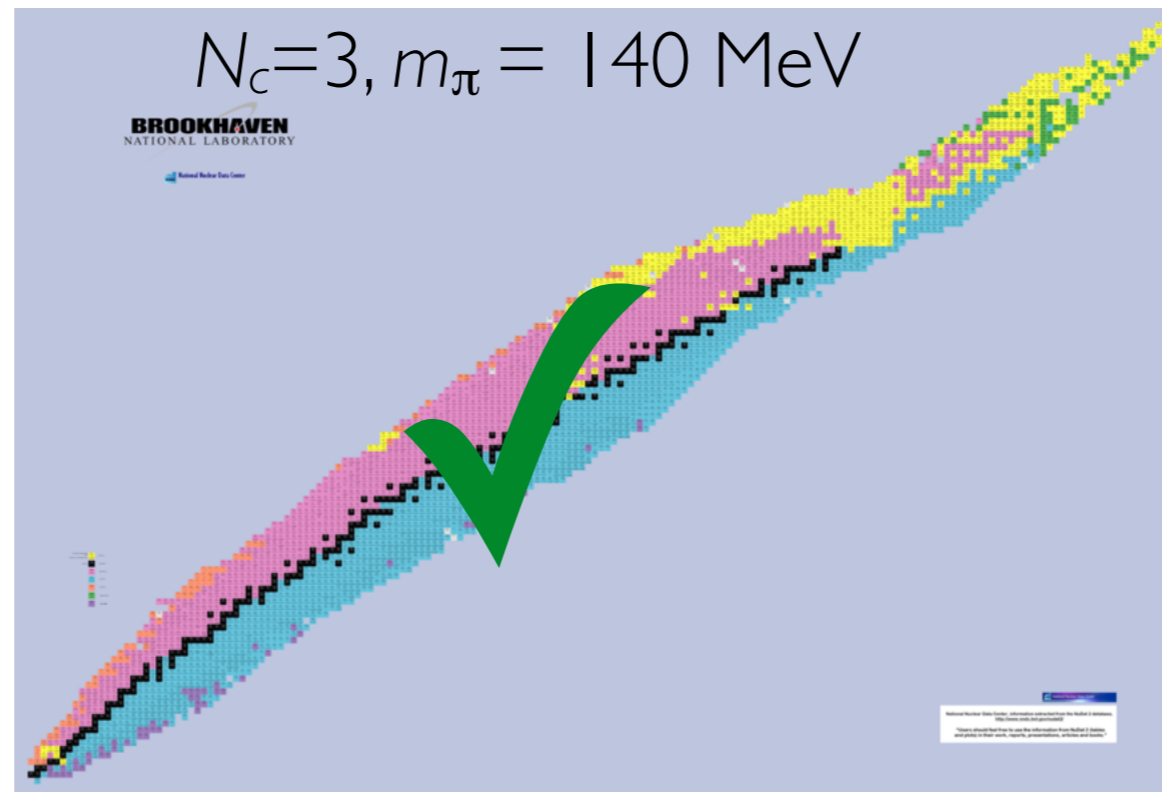
$$\frac{\gamma_{nN,\Delta}}{f_\pi}(a, m) = \gamma_{nN,\Delta}^{(0)} + a \delta_n^{(a)} + m_\pi^2 \delta_n^{(m)}$$



- $J=0$ nuclei: very likely unbound (all positively shifted)
- $J=1$, strong evidence for bound states for $B=2,3, 4(?)$
 $B=5,...,8$ seem unbound
- Bindings decrease with quark mass and increase towards continuum
- Strength of binding is significant w.r.t. mass
- Nuclear states with other quantum #s may also be bound

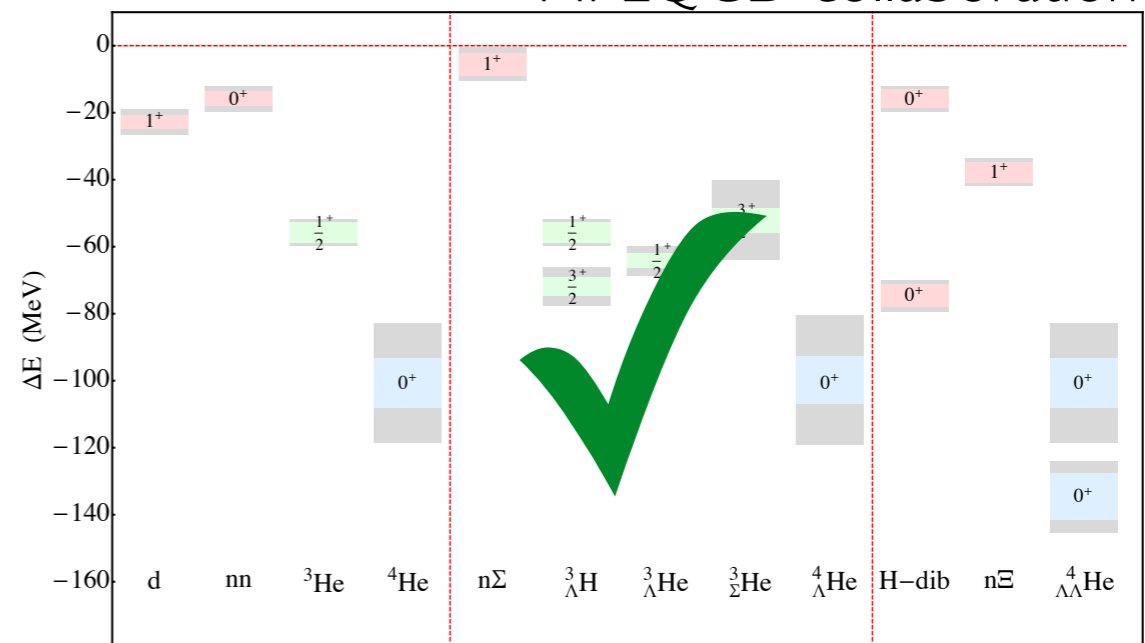


The ubiquity of nuclei?



$N_c=2, m_\pi = 1 \text{ TeV}$

NPLQCD collaboration



$N_c=3, m_\pi = 400\text{--}800 \text{ MeV}$

The ubiquity of nuclei?

- Appears nuclei are rather generic and not an accident of parameters
- What are nuclei? e.g. shell model vs quark blobs
 - More detailed studies necessary
- How generic are layers of effective degrees of freedom?
 - nucleons \rightarrow nuclei \rightarrow alpha clusters

Dark matter model building

- Extend strongly-interacting dark sector to talk minimally to SM
- Simple extension: add scalar particle that kinematically mixes with Higgs

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{strong}} - \frac{\lambda}{4} (v_D - H_D^2)^2 - \left(\kappa H_D (u_R^\dagger u_L + d_L^\dagger d_R) + h.c. \right) + \delta H_D^2 |H|^2$$

- Dark Higgs vev gives quark masses
- Kinematic mixing controlled by δ : must be small $\sim 10^{-3}$

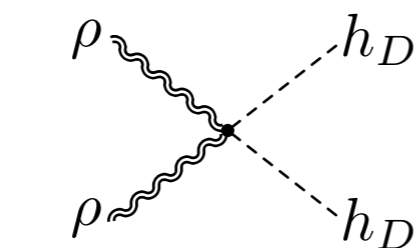
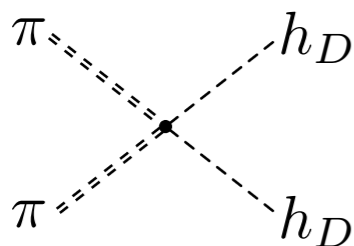
Field	Spin	$SU(2)_L$	$SU(2)_R$	$SU(2)_{QCD}$
$\begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}$	1/2	\square	1	\square
$\begin{pmatrix} u_R \\ d_R \end{pmatrix}$	1/2	1	\square	$\bar{\square}$
H_D	0	1	1	1
A_μ^a	1	1	1	adj

Dark matter model building

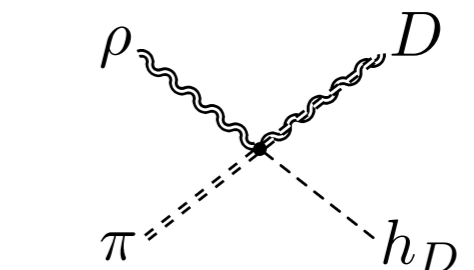
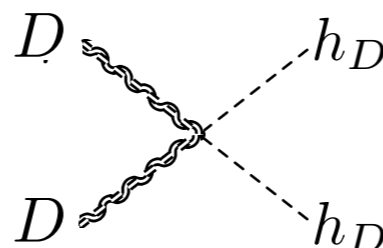
- Hadronic theory: construct based on broken global symmetries
 $SU(4) \rightarrow Sp(4) \sim SO(5)$
- Consider only pions, rhos, “deuterons” (LQCD calculations provide motivation to consider deuterons)
- Ignore compositeness!
- Ignore larger baryon number states
- Interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Int}} = A_\pi h_D \left((\pi^0)^2/2 + \pi^+ \pi^- + \pi^B \pi^{\bar{B}} \right) + A_\rho h_D \left((\rho^0)^2/2 + \rho^+ \rho^- + \rho^B \rho^{\bar{B}} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho\pi D} \sim \pi^\dagger (\bar{\lambda}_1 \mathbf{D}_1^\mu + \bar{\lambda}_{10} \mathbf{D}_{10}^\mu + \bar{\lambda}_{14} \mathbf{D}_{14}^\mu) \rho_\mu$$



Annihilation



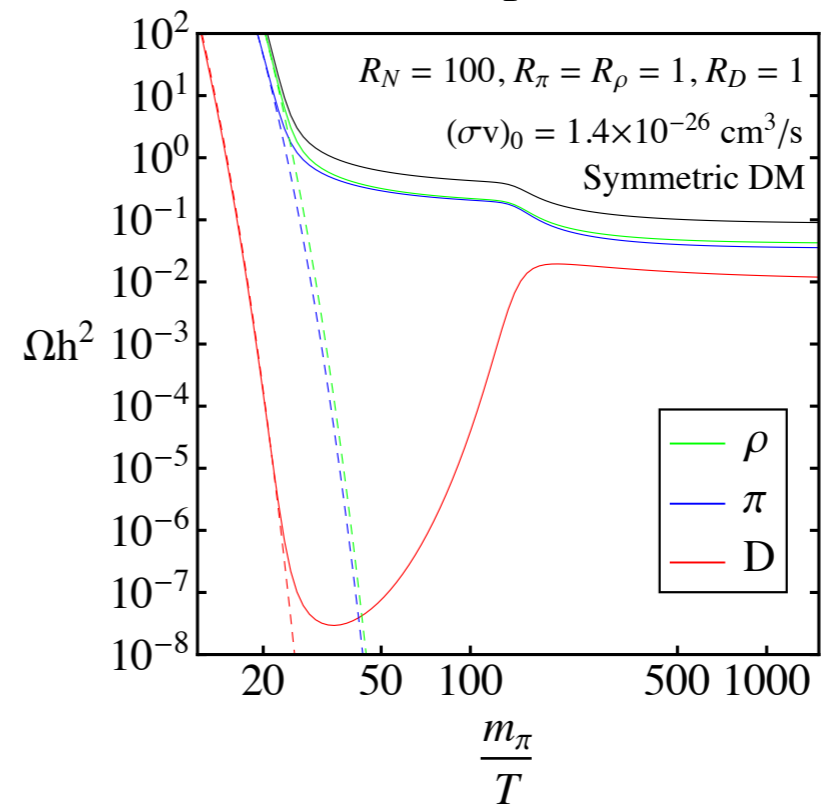
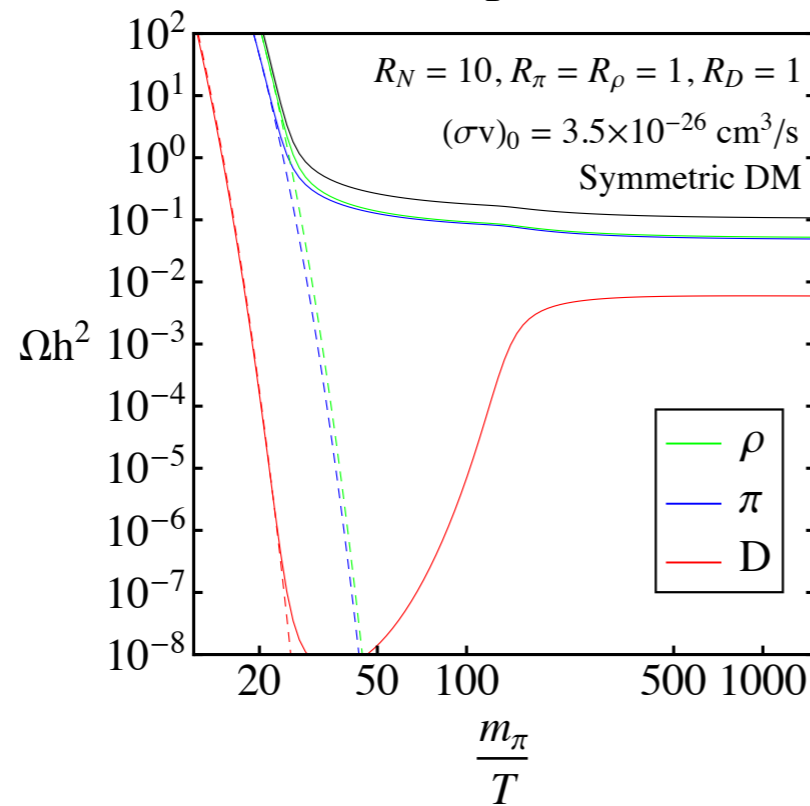
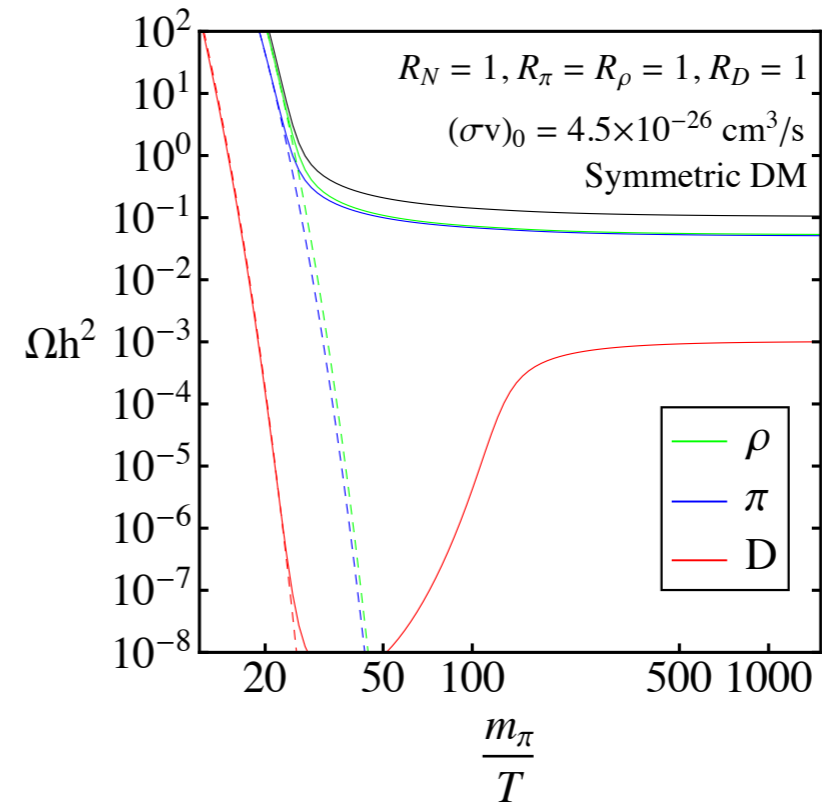
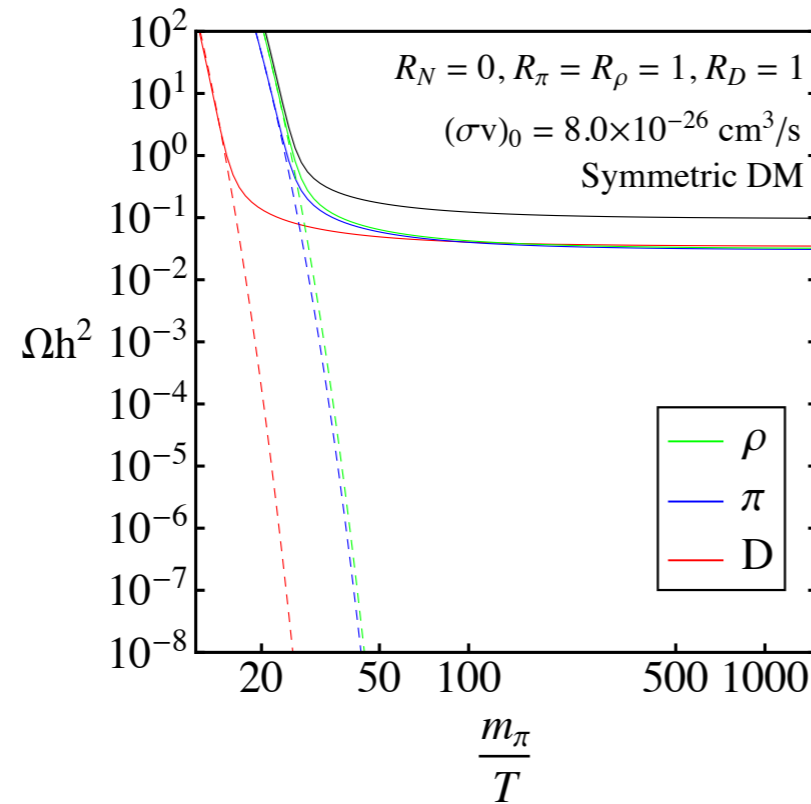
Nucleosynthesis

- Dark nucleosynthesis, dark capture processes modify early universe cosmology (both symmetric & asymmetric scenarios)
- Estimate cross sections and solve Boltzmann equations for co-moving number densities

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dY_{\pi^B}}{dx} &= -\lambda \left[R_{\pi} \left(Y_{\pi^B} Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}} - Y_{\pi^B}^{eq} Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) + R_N \left(Y_{\pi^B} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}} - \frac{Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}}{Y_{\rho^B}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^B}^{eq} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - R_N \left(Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}} Y_{D^B} - \frac{Y_{\pi^B}}{Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} Y_{D^B}^{eq} \right) + R_N f(x) \left(Y_{\pi^B} Y_{\rho^B} - \frac{Y_{D^B}}{Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^B}^{eq} Y_{\rho^B}^{eq} \right) \right] \\
 \frac{dY_{\rho^B}}{dx} &= -\lambda \left[R_{\rho} \left(Y_{\rho^B} Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}} - Y_{\rho^B}^{eq} Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) + R_N \left(Y_{\rho^B} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}} - \frac{Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}}{Y_{\pi^B}^{eq}} Y_{\rho^B}^{eq} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - R_N \left(Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}} Y_{D^B} - \frac{Y_{\rho^B}}{Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} Y_{D^B}^{eq} \right) + R_N f(x) \left(Y_{\pi^B} Y_{\rho^B} - \frac{Y_{D^B}}{Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^B}^{eq} Y_{\rho^B}^{eq} \right) \right] \\
 \frac{dY_{D^B}}{dx} &= -\lambda \left[R_D \left(Y_{D^B} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}} - Y_{D^B}^{eq} Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) - R_N f(x) \left(Y_{\pi^B} Y_{\rho^B} - \frac{Y_{D^B}}{Y_{D^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^B}^{eq} Y_{\rho^B}^{eq} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + R_N \left(\left(Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}} + Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}} \right) Y_{D^B} - \left(\frac{Y_{\rho^B}}{Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} + \frac{Y_{\pi^B}}{Y_{\pi^{\bar{B}}}^{eq}} Y_{\rho^{\bar{B}}}^{eq} \right) Y_{D^B}^{eq} \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

- Range of possible compositions of relic density

Cosmology



Indirect detection signals

- Presence of nuclear binding energies: new scale for phenomenology is significantly different than Λ_{QC2D}

Signature	Collider	Direct Detection	Annihilation	Nucleosynthesis	Capture
Sym-DM	$M, 2M$	$M, 2M$	$M, 2M$	$B_D \ll M$	M
Asym-DM	$M, 2M$	$M, 2M$	—	$B_D \ll M$	—

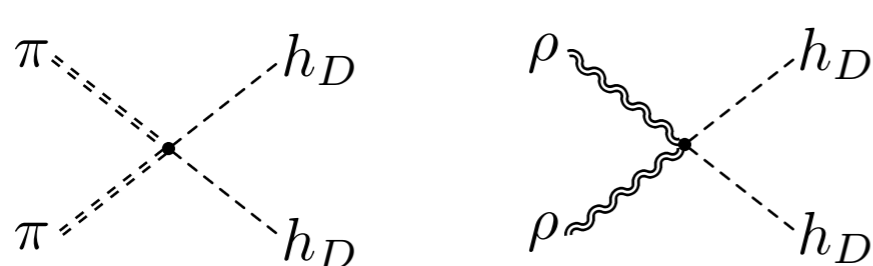
- For symmetric DM, additional scale/process may lead to signals at multiple different energy scales with identical spatial morphology
- For asymmetric DM scenarios (only dark baryon number carrying states remain) nucleosynthesis allows indirect detection signals

Dark matter model building

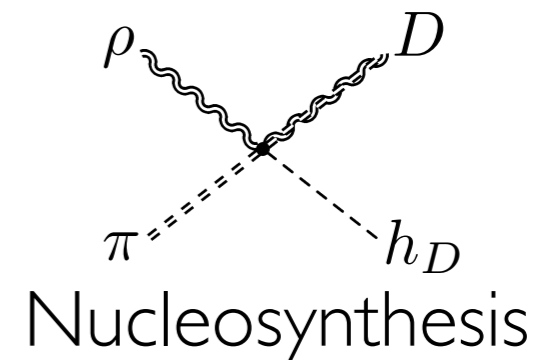
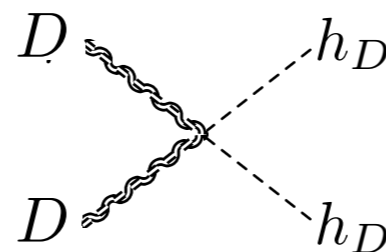
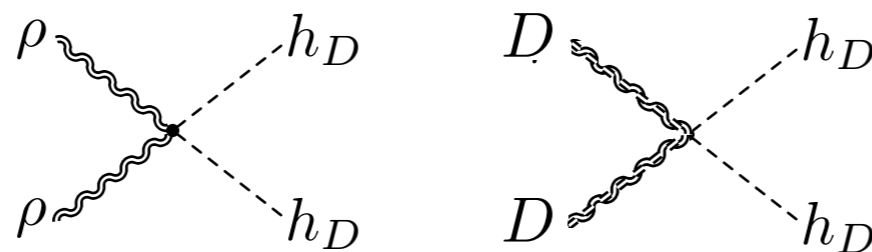
- Extend strongly-interacting dark sector to talk minimally to SM
 - Simple extension: add scalar particle that kinematically mixes with Higgs

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{strong}} - \frac{\lambda}{4} (v_D - H_D^2)^2 - \left(\kappa H_D (u_R^\dagger u_L + d_L^\dagger d_R) + h.c. \right) + \delta H_D^2 |H|^2$$

- Dark Higgs vev gives quark masses
 - Kinematic mixing controlled by δ : must be small $\sim 10^{-3}$
- Hadronic theory: consider only pions, rhos, “deuterons” (LQCD calculations provide motivation to consider deuterons)
- Interactions



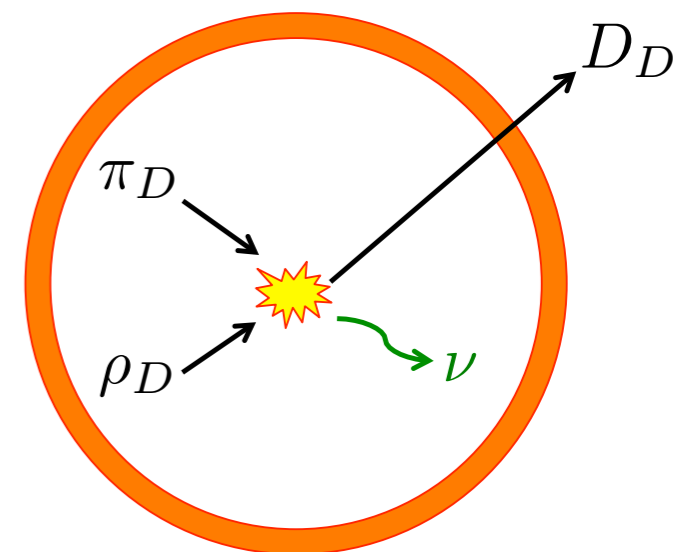
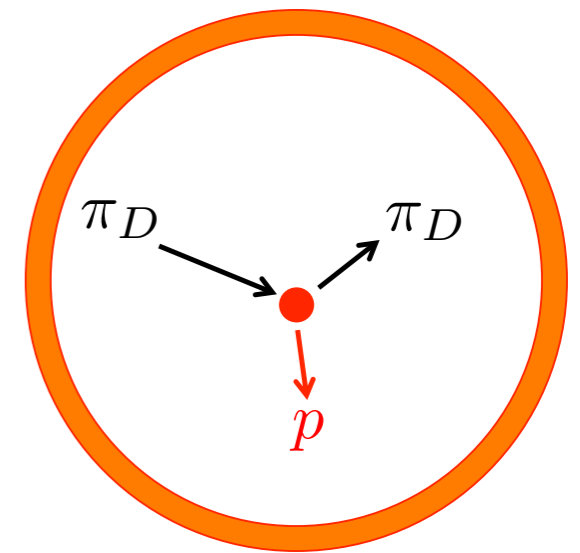
Annihilation



Nucleosynthesis

Compact Objects

- Significant modifications to physics of astrophysical bodies
- Dark matter gravitationally captured after scattering on visible matter
- Helioseismology and neutron star lifetimes strongly modified – strongly constrains asymmetric DM models
- Very rich phenomenology!
 - Liberation of binding energy may allow ejection of dark matter
- Star develops a co-located dark nuclear process site

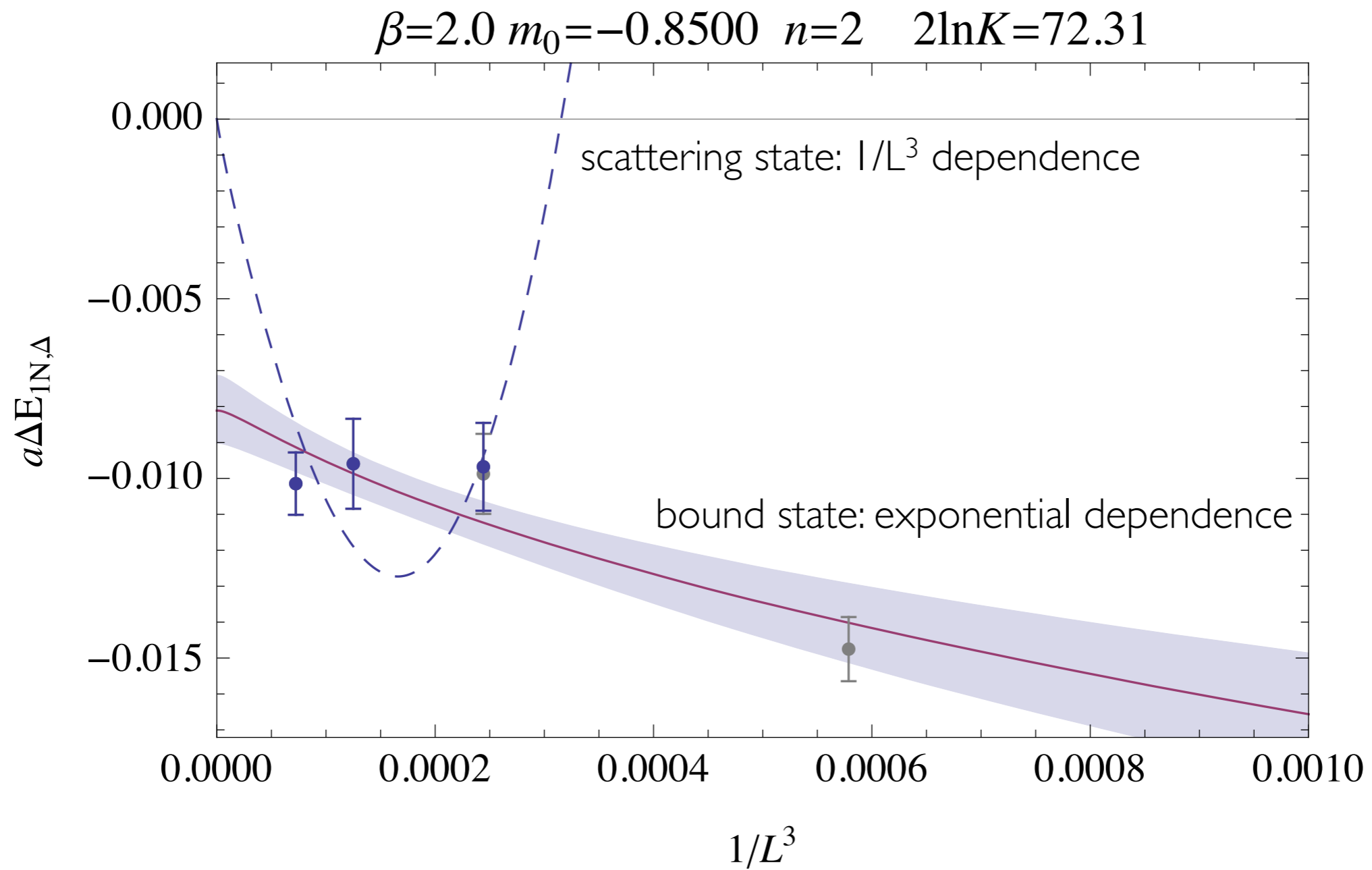


Summary

- Two-flavour, two-colour QCD has a complex spectrum exhibiting the analogues of nuclei
 - Ubiquity of nuclei
- Composite dark matter is a natural scenario to consider
 - Nuclear binding provides a scale that is small relative to the QCD scale in a natural way
 - Predicts a range of different phenomenology that beyond what is possible in simpler models

fin

Infinite volume extrapolations



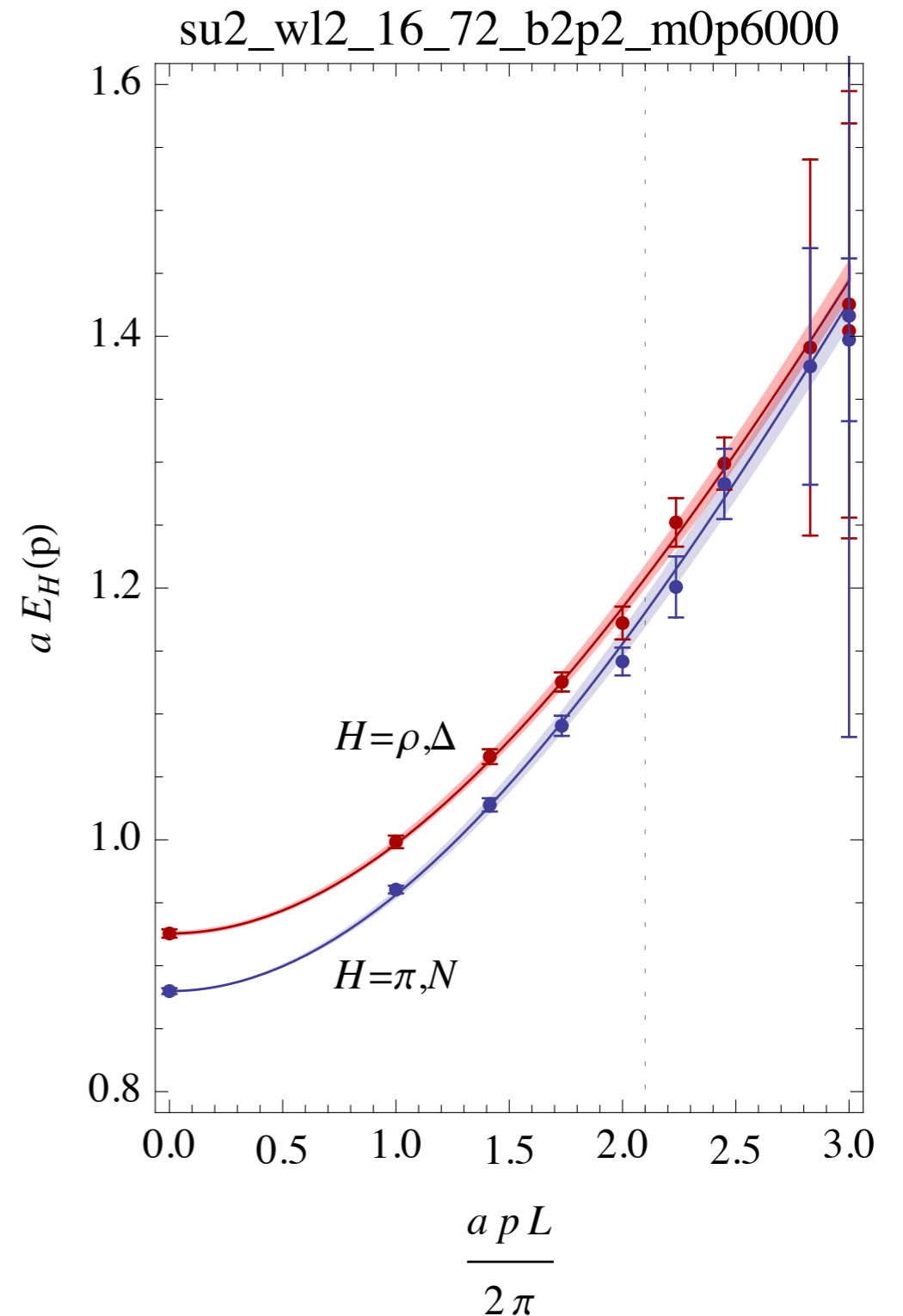
Dispersion relation

- Consider boosted hadrons
- Lattice artifacts break relativity

$$E_H(p) = \sqrt{M_H^2 + c_H^2 p^2}$$

- Speed of light $\neq 1$

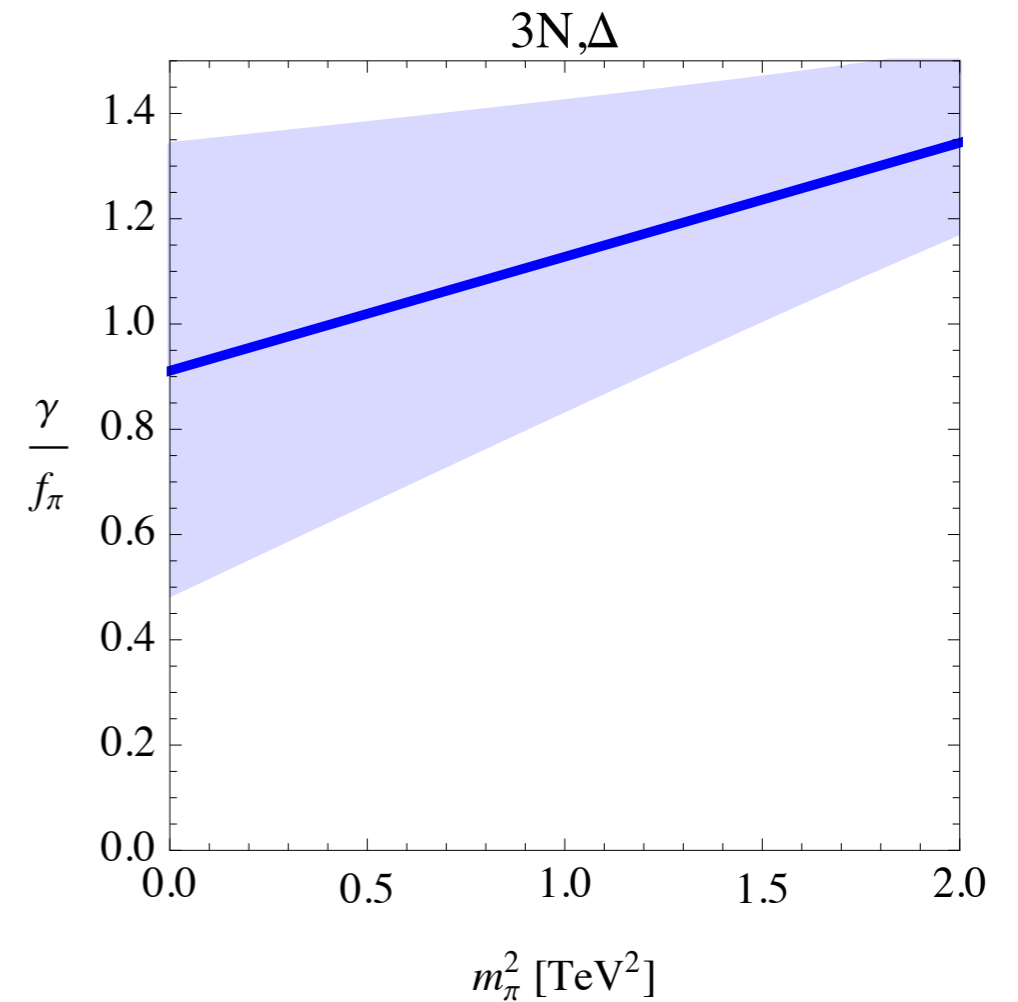
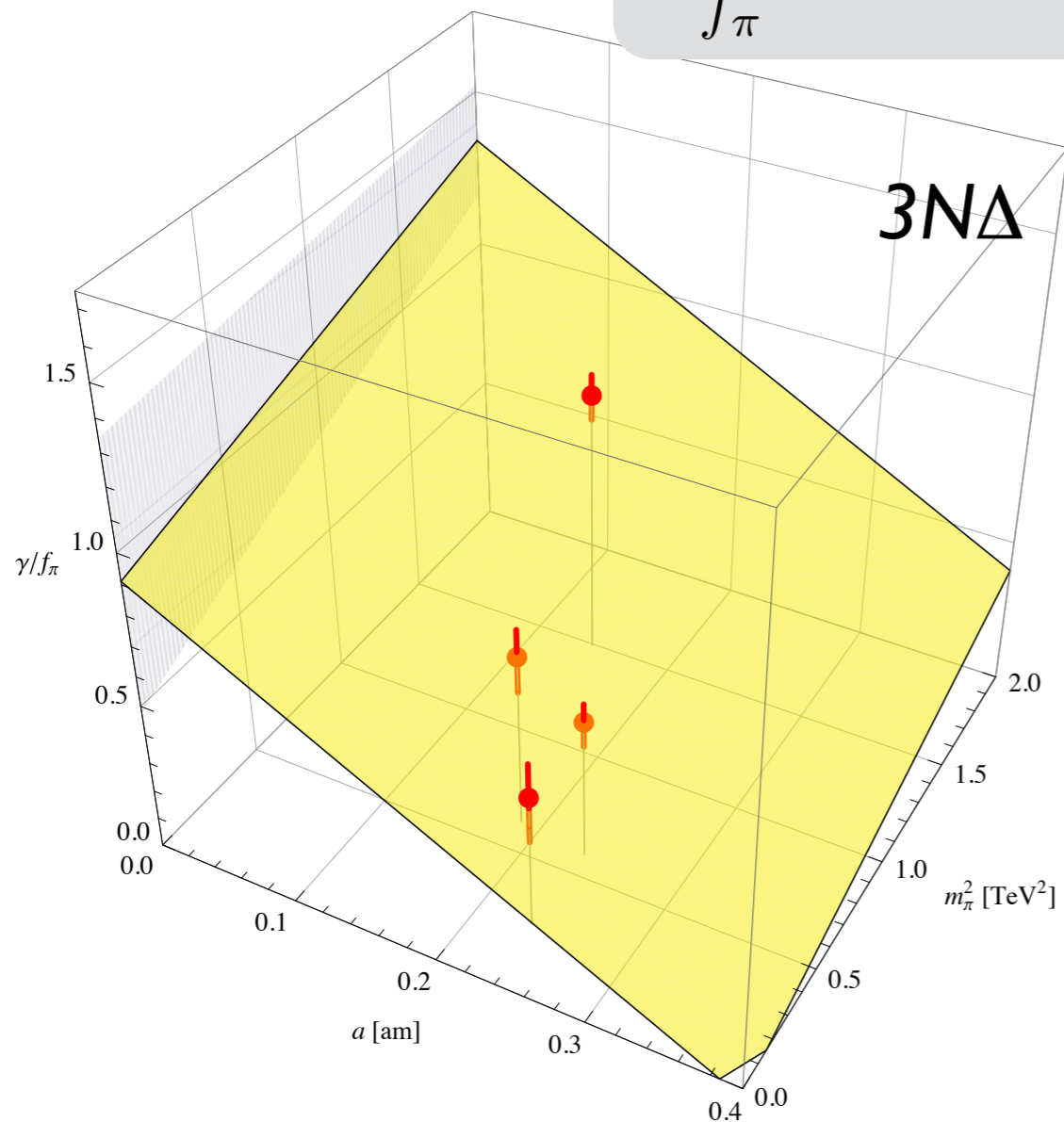
Ensemble	c_π	c_ρ
<i>A</i>	0.93(1)	0.87(4)
<i>B</i>	0.92(5)	0.97(5)
<i>C</i>	0.99(2)	0.94(1)
<i>D</i>	0.94(2)	0.92(3)
<i>E</i>	0.95(1)	0.93(3)
<i>F</i>	0.96(2)	0.94(1)



Continuum extrapolations

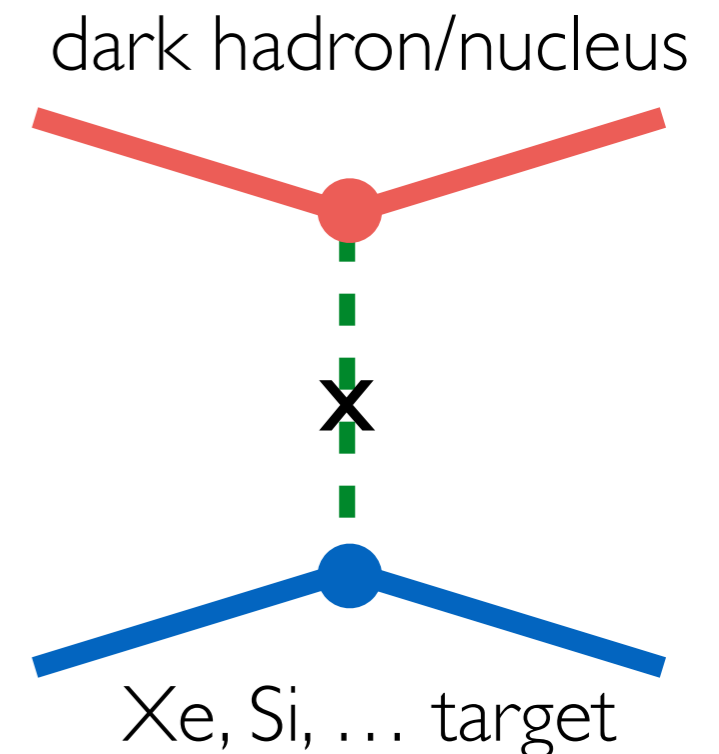
- Simple continuum limit extrapolation of binding momentum, γ

$$\frac{\gamma_{nN,\Delta}}{f_\pi}(a, m) = \gamma_{nN,\Delta}^{(0)} + a \delta_n^{(a)} + m_\pi^2 \delta_n^{(m)}$$



Sigma terms

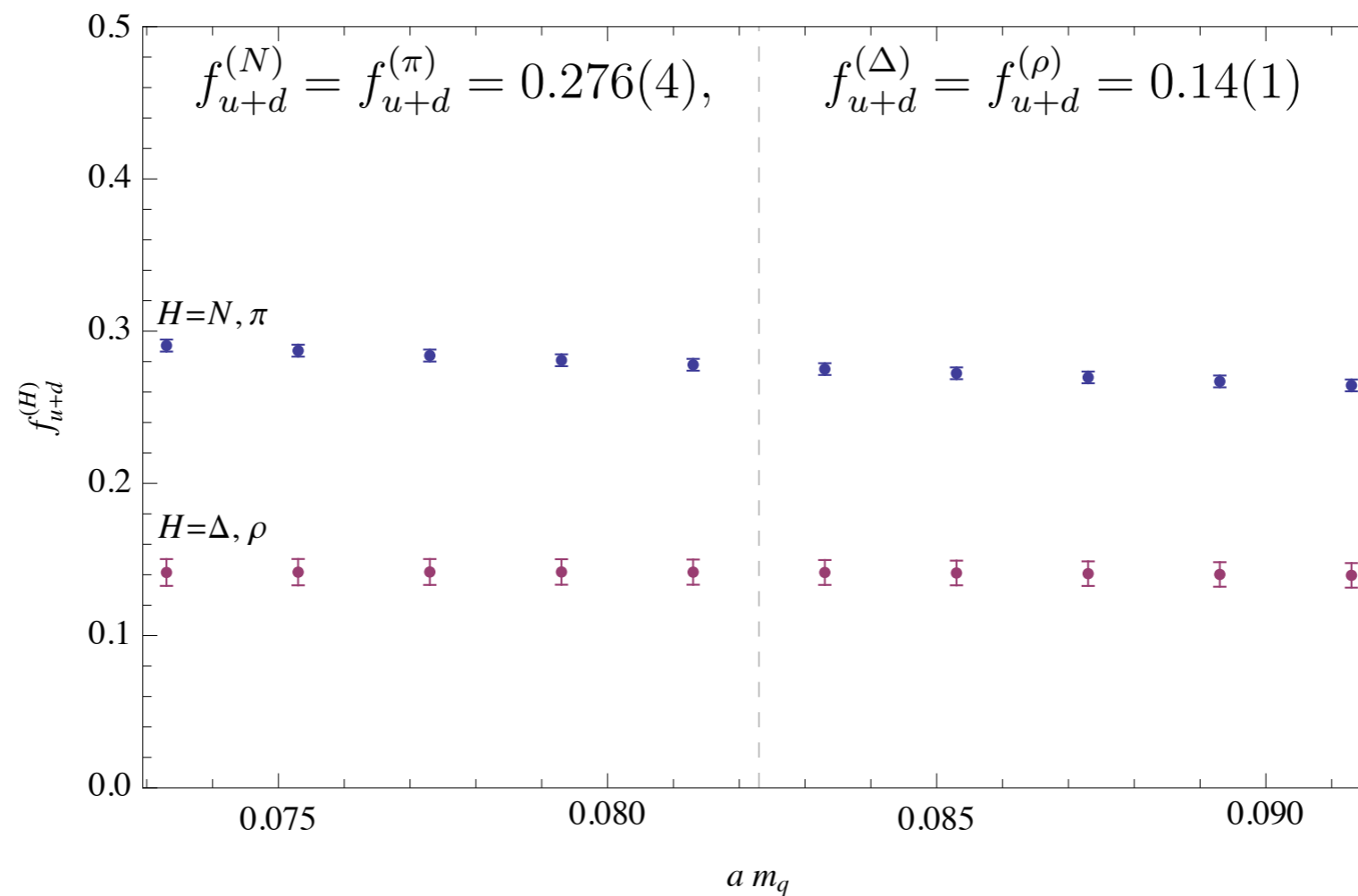
- DM may interact via scalar exchange (Higgs portal)
- Depends on QCD nuclear sigma terms
- For composite dark matter, depends on sigma terms of dark hadrons/nuclei
- Nuclear sigma terms
 - Particle physicists: $A \times$ proton sigma term
 - Reality: non-trivial deviations from 2-body physics
Calculate from QCD/EFT [Beane *et al.* 2013]
- Dark sigma terms: accessible from Feynman-Hellman theorem



$$f_q^{(H)} = \frac{m_q}{M_H} \frac{\partial M_H}{\partial m_q}$$

Sigma terms

- Estimate via partially-quenched calculation for single hadrons



- Surprisingly naive dimensional analysis works

Correlations

- Different normalisation choices change results a little because of correlations

