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# Modern Theory of nuclear forces

Lectures 1+2: Foundations

Lecture 3: Foundations (cont.) + state of the art for NN force

Lecture 4: Many-body forces & nuclear lattice simulations



RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

# Summary of parts I + II

- Effective field theories aim to describe phenomena in a certain energy range/distance scale. Crucial: use the proper degrees of freedom and exploit the symmetries.
- Low-energy interactions of pions can be systematically described in Chiral Perturbation Theory (the EFT of QCD).
- NN interaction is strong, need some resummation beyond perturbation theory.
- NN at very low momenta  $Q \ll M_\pi$  can be described by pionless EFT ( $\sim$ ERE).
- To go to higher energies one needs to include pions. There is evidence that OPEP is nonperturbative in certain spin-triplet channels.

## Today:

- Few-N in chiral EFT: Weinberg's approach in a nutshell
- From effective Lagrangians to nuclear forces: Method of Unitary Transformation
- Chiral expansion for the 2N force: State of the art

# Few-N in $\chi$ EFT: W approach in a nutshell

- Write down the most general effective Lagrangian for pions and nucleons

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = N^\dagger \left[ i\partial_0 - \frac{g_A}{2F} \boldsymbol{\tau} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\pi} - \frac{1}{4F^2} \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\pi} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\pi}} + \frac{g_A}{4F^3} \left( (4\alpha - 1) \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi} (\boldsymbol{\pi} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\pi}) + 2\alpha \pi^2 (\boldsymbol{\tau} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\pi}) \right) + \dots \right] N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = N^\dagger \left[ 4M^2 c_1 - \frac{2c_1}{F^2} M^2 \pi^2 + \frac{c_2}{F^2} \dot{\boldsymbol{\pi}}^2 + \frac{c_3}{F^2} (\partial_\mu \boldsymbol{\pi}) \cdot (\partial^\mu \boldsymbol{\pi}) - \frac{c_4}{4F^2} (\boldsymbol{\tau} \vec{\sigma} \times \vec{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\pi}) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\pi} + \dots \right] N$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{NN}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{2} C_S N^\dagger N N^\dagger N + \frac{1}{2} C_S N^\dagger \vec{\sigma} N \cdot N^\dagger \vec{\sigma} N$$

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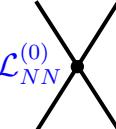
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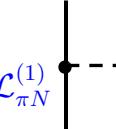
...

- Naively, power counting for a N-nucleon connected Feynman graph is:  
Weinberg '90

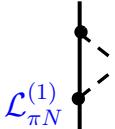
$$\nu = 2 - N + 2L + \sum_i V_i \Delta_i \quad \text{where} \quad \Delta_i = -2 + \frac{1}{2} n_i + d_i$$

# of derivatives  
power of  $Q$     # of loops    # of vertices of type  $\Delta_i$     # of nucleon field operators

Examples:  $\mathcal{L}_{NN}^{(0)}$    $\sim Q^0$

$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)}$    $\sim Q^0$

$v = 2$  [derivatives]  
 $-2$  [ $\pi$ -propagator]

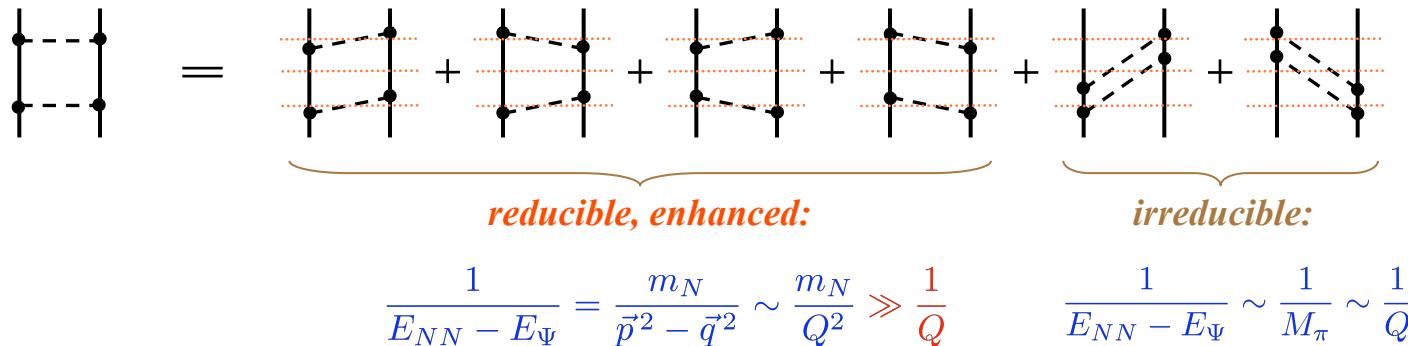
$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)}$    $\sim Q^2$

$v = 4$  [loop int.]  
 $+4$  [derivatives]  
 $-4$  [2  $\pi$ -propagators]  
 $-2$  [2 HB nucl. propagators]

# Few-N in $\chi$ EFT: W approach in a nutshell

- But... If true, NN scattering would be perturbative!

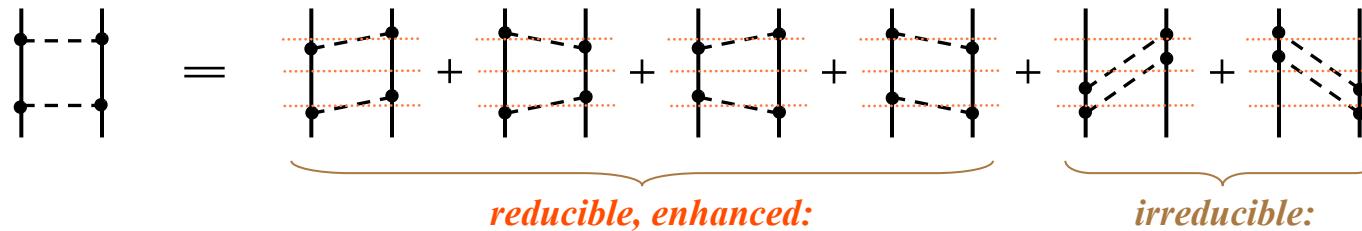
Diagrams involving NN cuts (i.e. reducible) are enhanced (IR divergent in the  $m_N \rightarrow \infty$  limit)



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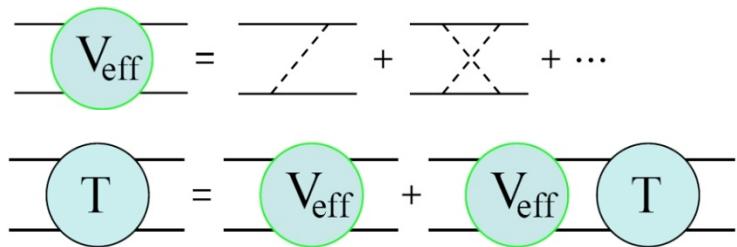


$$\frac{1}{E_{NN} - E_\Psi} = \frac{m_N}{\vec{p}^2 - \vec{q}^2} \sim \frac{m_N}{Q^2} \gg \frac{1}{Q}$$

$$\frac{1}{E_{NN} - E_\Psi} \sim \frac{1}{M_\pi} \sim \frac{1}{Q}$$

## Weinberg's approach

- Use ChPT to compute irreducible graphs = nuclear forces/currents
- Resum enhanced reducible graphs by solving the Schrödinger/LS eq.



$$\left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^A \frac{-\vec{\nabla}_i^2}{2m_N} + \mathcal{O}(m_N^{-3}) \right) + \underbrace{V_{2N} + V_{3N} + V_{4N} + \dots}_{\text{derived within ChPT}} \right] |\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

# From effective Lagrangian to nuclear forces

see also lectures by Rocco

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

Complication: nuclear forces  $\neq$  scattering amplitude

→ scheme-dependent, renormalizable ??

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$$\text{calculate in ChPT} \rightarrow \text{A} = V + VV + \dots$$

define  $V$  by matching to  $A$

The diagram shows a horizontal line with two vertices. The left vertex is shaded red and labeled 'A'. The right vertex is shaded blue and labeled 'V'. An equals sign follows. To the right of the equals sign is another horizontal line with two vertices, both shaded blue and labeled 'V'. This is followed by a plus sign. To the right of the plus sign is another horizontal line with two vertices, both shaded blue and labeled 'V'. This is followed by a plus sign and three dots, indicating a series of terms.

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calculate in ChPT

$$\text{A} = V + VV + \dots$$

define  $V$  by matching to  $A$

$$A^{(2)} = \text{A}^{(2)}_0 \rightarrow V^{(2)} = V^{(2)}_0 = A^{(2)}_0$$

$$A^{(4)} = \text{A}^{(4)}_0 \rightarrow V^{(4)} = V^{(4)}_0 = A^{(4)}_0 - \underbrace{V^{(2)}_0 G_0 V^{(2)}_0}_{V^{(2)}_0 G_0 V^{(2)}_0}$$

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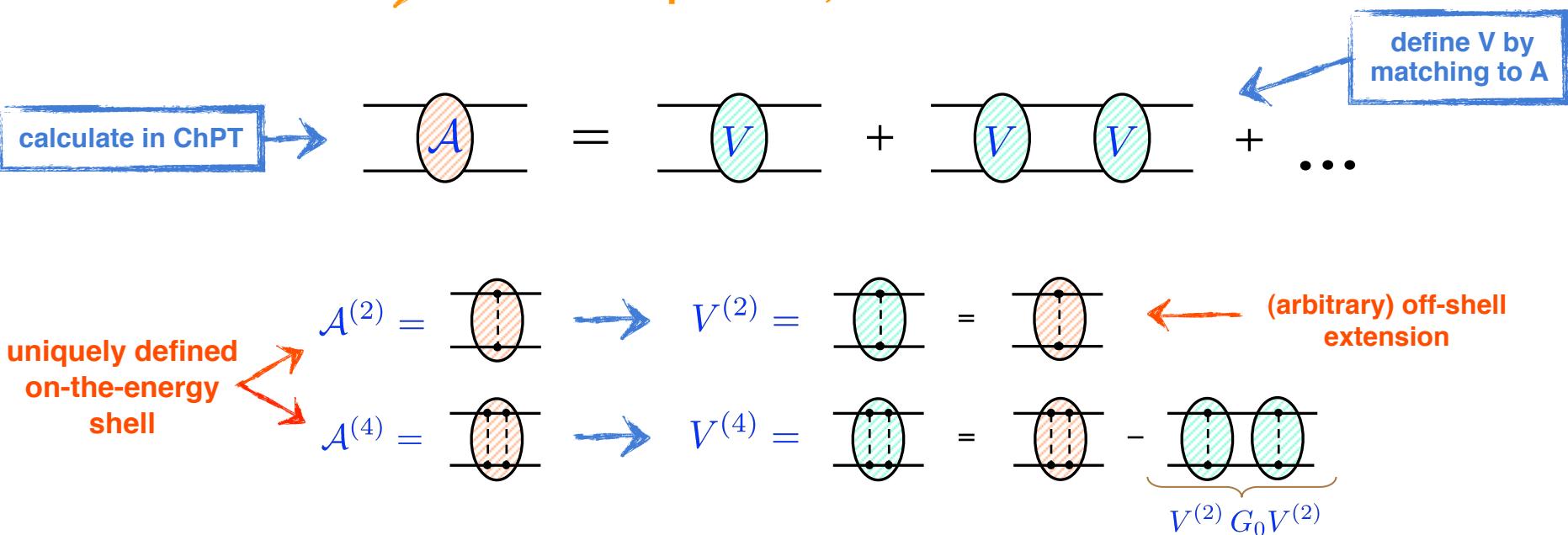
$$\begin{aligned} A^{(2)} &= \text{A}^{(2)} & V^{(2)} &= \text{V}^{(2)} = \text{A}^{(2)} & \xleftarrow{\text{(arbitrary) off-shell extension}} \\ A^{(4)} &= \text{A}^{(4)} & V^{(4)} &= \text{V}^{(4)} = \text{A}^{(4)} - \underbrace{\text{V}^{(2)} G_0 \text{V}^{(2)}}_{\text{V}^{(2)} G_0 \text{V}^{(2)}} \end{aligned}$$

uniquely defined  
on-the-energy  
shell

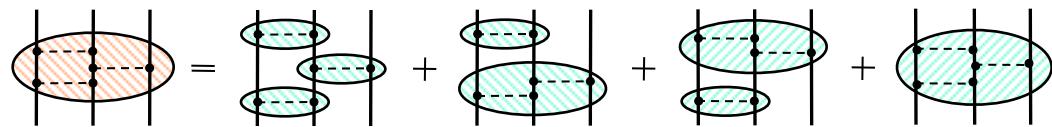
# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

Complication: nuclear forces  $\neq$  scattering amplitude

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- Higher-order terms in the Hamiltonian „know“ about the choice made for the off-shell extension (consistency...)
- Finite (=renormalized) matrix elements only for specific choices possible...



# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

## Method of unitary transformation

Taketani, Mashida, Ohnuma '52; Okubo '54; EE, Glöckle, Meißner, Krebs, Kölling, ...

1. Canonical transformation & quantization:  $\mathcal{L}_{\pi N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\pi N} = \underline{\bullet} + \underline{\circ} + \dots$

EOM: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta H \eta & \eta H \lambda \\ \lambda H \eta & \lambda H \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |\phi\rangle \\ |\psi\rangle \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} |\phi\rangle \\ |\psi\rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad \leftarrow$$

*nucleonic states*  $|N\rangle, |NN\rangle, \dots$

*states with mesons*  $|N\pi\rangle, |N\pi\pi\rangle, \dots$

can not solve  
(infinite-dimensional eq.)

*projectors*

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

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can not solve  
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2. Decouple pions via a suitable UT:  $\tilde{H} \equiv U^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} \eta H \eta & \eta H \lambda \\ \lambda H \eta & \lambda H \lambda \end{pmatrix} U = \begin{pmatrix} \eta \tilde{H} \eta & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \tilde{H} \lambda \end{pmatrix}$

A minimal parametrization of  $U$ :  $U = \begin{pmatrix} \eta(1 + A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} & -A^\dagger(1 + AA^\dagger)^{-1/2} \\ A(1 + A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} & \lambda(1 + AA^\dagger)^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \lambda A \eta$   
Okubo '54

Require:  $\eta \tilde{H} \lambda = \lambda \tilde{H} \eta = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\lambda (H - [A, H] - AHA) \eta = 0}$

The major problem is to solve the nonlinear decoupling equation.

Notice: similar methods widely used in nuclear & many-body physics (Lee-Suzuki)

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

Example: expansion in powers of the coupling constant

$$H_I = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \propto g \quad \xrightarrow{\text{ansatz}} \quad A = A^{(1)} + A^{(2)} + A^{(3)} + \dots$$

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

Example: expansion in powers of the coupling constant

$$H_I = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \hline - \bullet - \end{array} \propto g \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad \text{ansatz: } A = A^{(1)} + A^{(2)} + A^{(3)} + \dots$$

Recursive solution of the decoupling equation  $\lambda(H - [A, H] - AHA)\eta = 0$

$$g^1 : \quad \lambda(H_I - [A^{(1)}, H_0])\eta = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad A^{(1)} = -\lambda \frac{H_I}{E_\eta - E_\lambda} \eta$$

$$g^2 : \quad \lambda(H_I A^{(1)} - [A^{(2)}, H_0])\eta = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad A^{(2)} = -\lambda \frac{H_I A^{(1)}}{E_\eta - E_\lambda} \eta$$

...

In the static approximation, i.e. in the limit  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , one has:  $E_\eta - E_\lambda \sim E_\pi$ .

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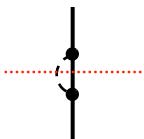
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...

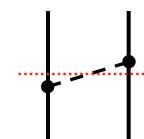
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- LO:  $V_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = -\eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta$  Taking the LO  $\pi N$  vertex from  $\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)}$ ,  $\frac{g_A}{2F_\pi} \tau_i \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{q}$ , one gets:

1-nucleon operator  
(renormalization of  $m_N$ )



2-nucleon operator  
(one-pion exchange potential)



$$V_{1\pi} = -\left(\frac{g_A}{2F_\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q} \vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q}}{\vec{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2$$

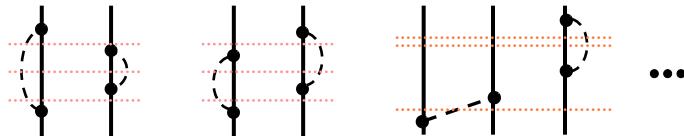
# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

- **NLO:**  $V_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = -\eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta + \frac{1}{2} \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi^2} H_I \eta + \frac{1}{2} \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi^2} H_I \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta$

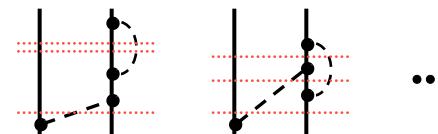
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1. All disconnected contributions to 2N, 3N and 4N operators disappear (general feature in the method of UT; not automatically the case in TOPT)

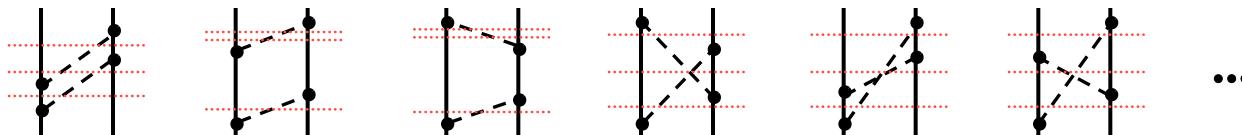


2. 1N contribution again only leads to renormalization of the nucleon mass

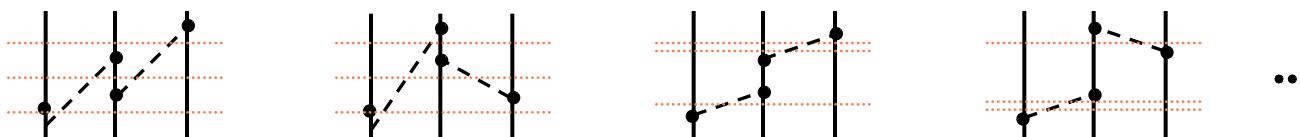


3. 1-loop contributions to the OPE 2N potential do not produce any new structures (renormalization of  $m_N$ ,  $g_A$ ,  $F_\pi$ ) EE, Glöckle, Meißner '02

4. Two-pion exchange 2N potential



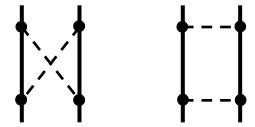
5. Two-pion exchange 3N potential vanishes



# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

Example: chiral  $2\pi$ -exchange potential proportional to  $g_A^4$ :

$$V_{2\pi}^{(2)}(q) = -\eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta + \frac{1}{2} \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi^2} H_I \eta + \frac{1}{2} \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi^2} H_I \eta H_I \frac{\lambda}{E_\pi} H_I \eta .$$

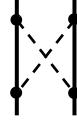
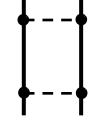


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$$= -\frac{g_A^4}{2(2F_\pi)^4} \int \frac{d^3 l}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\omega_+^2 + \omega_+ \omega_- + \omega_-^2}{\omega_+^3 \omega_-^3 (\omega_+ + \omega_-)} \left\{ \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \left( \vec{l}^2 - \vec{q}^2 \right)^2 + 6(\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot [\vec{q} \times \vec{l}]) (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot [\vec{q} \times \vec{l}]) \right\}$$

$\omega_{\pm} = \sqrt{(\vec{q} \pm \vec{l}) + 4M_\pi^2}$

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$\omega_{\pm} = \sqrt{(\vec{q} \pm \vec{l})^2 + 4M_\pi^2}$

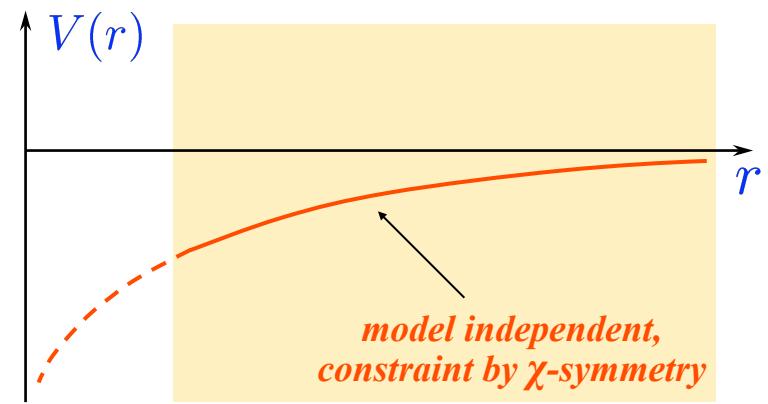
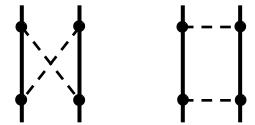
$$= -\frac{g_A^4}{384\pi^2 F_\pi^4} \left[ \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \left( 20M_\pi^2 + 23q^2 + \frac{48M_\pi^4}{4M_\pi^2 + q^2} \right) - 18(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q} \vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q} - q^2 \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) \right] L(q) + \dots$$

where the loop function is given by (in DR):

$$L(q) = \frac{1}{q} \sqrt{4M_\pi^2 + q^2} \ln \frac{\sqrt{4M_\pi^2 + q^2} + q}{2M_\pi}$$

The integral has logarithmic and quadratic divergences can be absorbed into short-range terms:

$$V_{\text{cont}} = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 q^2) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 + \alpha_3 (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q}) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q}) + \alpha_4 (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) q^2$$



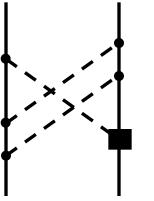
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So far, we assumed an expansion in powers of the coupling constant. In chiral EFT, we are doing an **expansion in powers of the soft scales** ( $Q \sim M_\pi$ ).

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Recall: chiral power counting for  $N$ -nucleon connected irreducible diagrams:


$$\sim \left(\frac{Q}{\Lambda}\right)^\nu \quad \text{where} \quad \nu = 2 - N + 2L + \sum_i V_i \Delta_i$$

# of loops      # of vertices of type  $\Delta_i$

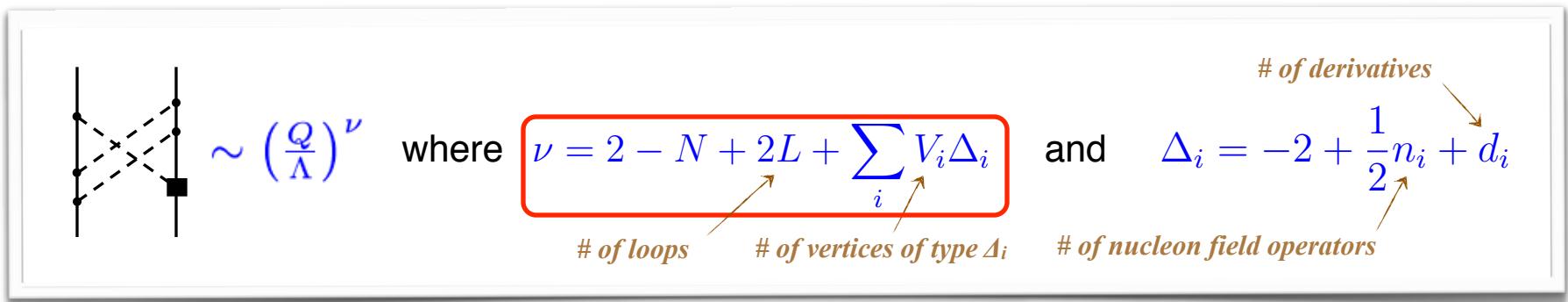
# of derivatives  
and     $\Delta_i = -2 + \frac{1}{2}n_i + d_i$   
# of nucleon field operators

Perfect for diagrams, but inconvenient for solving  $\lambda (H - [A, H] - AHA) \eta = 0$

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

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Let's rewrite the power counting in a more suitable way. Trick: count the powers of the *hard scale*  $\Lambda$  rather than the soft scale  $Q$ . Given that the only way for  $\Lambda$  to emerge is through the LECs of the effective Lagrangian, the power  $\nu$  is given by:

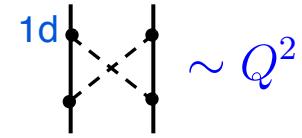
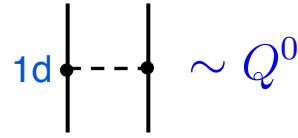
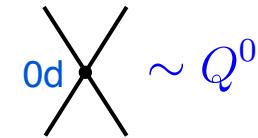
$$\nu = -2 + \sum_i V_i \kappa_i$$

where  $\kappa$  is an inverse mass dimension of the coupling constant of a vertex  $i$ .

$$\mathcal{L}_i = c_i (N^\dagger(\dots) N)^{\frac{n_i}{2}} \pi^{p_i} (\partial_\mu, M_\pi)^{d_i} \rightarrow [c_i] = (\text{mass})^{-\kappa_i} \text{ with } \kappa_i = d_i + \frac{3}{2} n_i + p_i - 4$$

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

## Examples:



$$\sim Q^0$$

$$\sim Q^0$$

$$\sim Q^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} v = & 2 \text{ [derivatives]} \\ - & 2 \text{ [\pi-propagator]} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v = & 4 \text{ [loop int.]} \\ + & 4 \text{ [derivatives]} \\ - & 4 \text{ [2 \pi-propagators]} \\ - & 2 \text{ [2 HB nucl. prop.]} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_i = -2 + \frac{1}{2}n_i + d_i$$

$$\nu = 2 - N + 2L + \sum_i V_i \Delta_i$$

$$\kappa_i = d_i + \frac{3}{2}n_i + p_i - 4$$

$$\nu = -2 + \sum_i V_i \kappa_i$$

$$\Delta = -2 + 2 + 0 = 0$$

$$v = 2 - 2 + 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$\Delta = -2 + 1 + 1 = 0$$

$$v = 2 - 2 + 0 + 2*0 = 0$$

$$\Delta = -2 + 1 + 1 = 0$$

$$v = 2 - 2 + 2 + 4*0 = 2$$

$$\kappa = 1 + 3 + 1 - 4 = 1$$

$$v = -2 + 4*1 = 2$$

Notice: chiral symmetry guarantees that **only non-renormalizable interactions with  $\kappa > 0$** , i.e. the so called irrelevant interactions, appear in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}$   $\rightarrow$  perturbative expansion for nuclear forces

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

The new form of the power counting is ideally suited for derivation of the potential using the method of UT.

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We are looking for a unitary operator

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \eta(1+A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} & -A^\dagger(1+AA^\dagger)^{-1/2} \\ A(1+A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} & \lambda(1+AA^\dagger)^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{such that} \quad \tilde{H} \equiv U^\dagger H U = \begin{pmatrix} \eta \tilde{H} \eta & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \tilde{H} \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

This leads to the decoupling equation:  $\lambda(H - [A, H] - AHA)\eta = 0$

Once this equation is solved, the effective potential can be calculated via:

$$\tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{UT}} = \eta(\tilde{H} - H_0) = \eta \left[ (1+A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} (H + A^\dagger H + HA + A^\dagger HA) (1+A^\dagger A)^{-1/2} - H_0 \right] \eta$$

# From $L_{\text{eff}}$ to nuclear forces

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These expressions can be computed in perturbation theory by making **expansion in inverse mass dimension of coupling constants in the effective pion-nucleon Hamiltonian**:

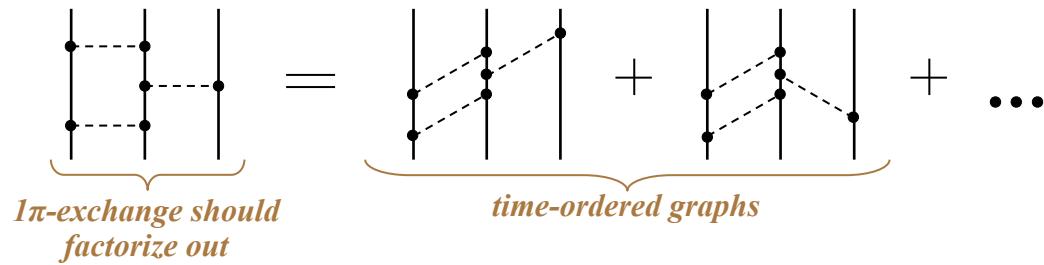
$$H_I = \sum_{\kappa=1}^{\infty} H^{(\kappa)} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{ansatz: } A = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} A^{(\alpha)}$$

Recursive solution of the decoupling equation:

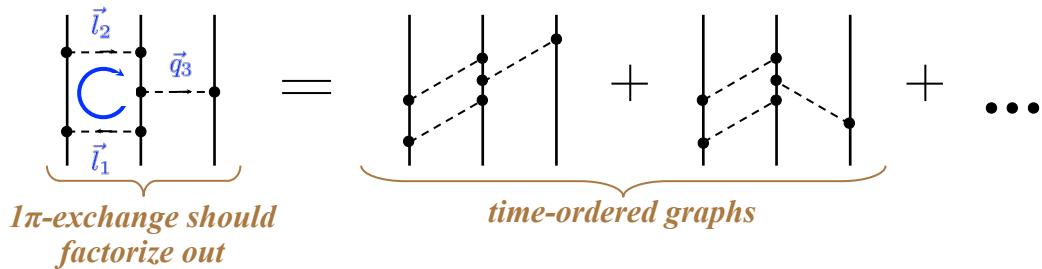
$$A^{(\alpha)} = -\frac{1}{E_\lambda} \lambda \left[ H^{(\alpha)} + \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha-1} H^{(i)} A^{(\alpha-i)} - \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha-1} A^{(\alpha-i)} H^{(i)} - \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha-2} \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha-i-1} A^{(i)} H^{(j)} A^{(\alpha-i-j)} \right] \eta$$

$\rightarrow \tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{UT}} = \dots$  (can be straightforwardly implemented in e.g. FORM, MATHEMATICA, ...)

# A note on renormalization...



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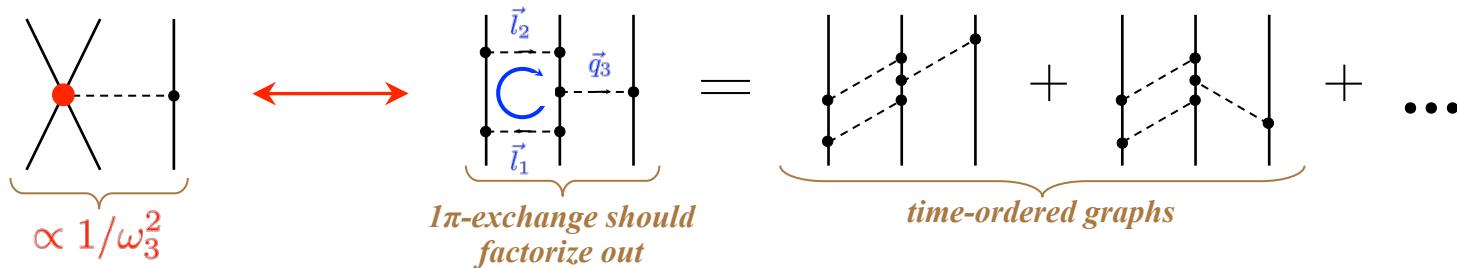


$$V = \dots = \int d^3 l_1 d^3 l_2 \delta(\vec{l}_1 - \vec{l}_2 - \vec{q}_1) [\dots]$$

$$\times \left[ 2 \frac{\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2}{\omega_1^4 \omega_2^4 \omega_3^2} + \frac{8}{\omega_1^2 \omega_2^2 \omega_3^4} - \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_2}{\omega_1^3 \omega_2^3 \omega_3^3} - \frac{2}{\omega_1^4 \omega_2^2 \omega_3 (\omega_1 + \omega_3)} - \frac{2}{\omega_1^2 \omega_2^4 \omega_3 (\omega_2 + \omega_3)} \right]$$

$\sqrt{\vec{l}_{1,2}^2 + M_\pi^2}$

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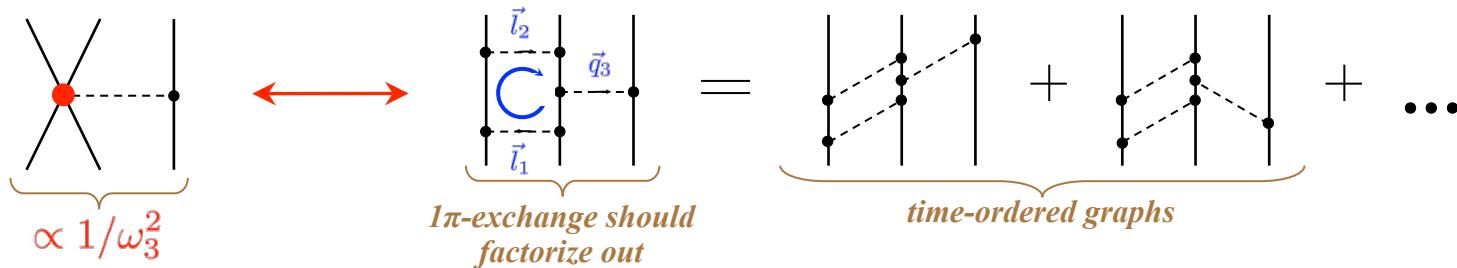
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# A note on renormalization...



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→ cannot renormalize the potential !

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## Solution EE '06

Nuclear potentials are not uniquely defined. Employing additional UTs in Fock space, it was (so far) always possible to maintain renormalizability at the level of the nuclear Hamiltonian. Same problem emerges for the current operators...

# Summary of part III

- Weinberg's approach to nuclear chiral EFT: use ChPT to derive the potential & solve the Schrödinger eq. (nonperturbative resummations).
- Nuclear potentials can be derived from the effective chiral Lagrangian e.g. using the method of unitary transformation.

Next: (i) Chiral nuclear forces,  
(ii) Nuclear lattice simulations