

# Pseudoscalar transition form factors and the muon $g - 2$

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Antoine Gérardin

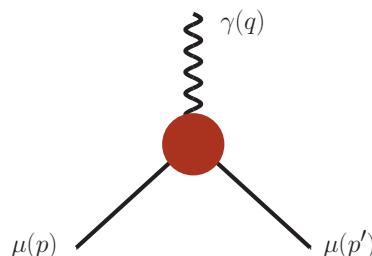
Based on 2305.04570 [hep-lat]

DESY - Lattice Seminar  
January 29, 2024

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$$\vec{\mu} = g \left( \frac{Qe}{2m} \right) \vec{S}$$

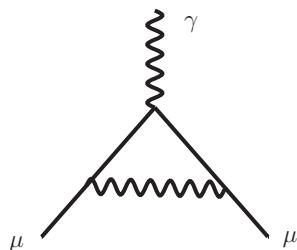
- Corrections to the vertex function : Dirac and Pauli form factors



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= -ie \bar{u}(p', \sigma') \Gamma_\mu(p', p) u(p, \sigma) \\
 &= -ie \bar{u}(p', \sigma') \left[ \gamma_\mu F_1(q^2) + \frac{i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q_\nu}{2m} F_2(q^2) \right] u(p, \sigma)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$F_2(0) = a_\mu = \frac{g-2}{2}$$

- Classical result :  $g = 2$  for elementary fermions (Dirac equation)



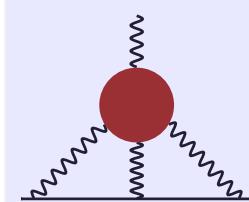
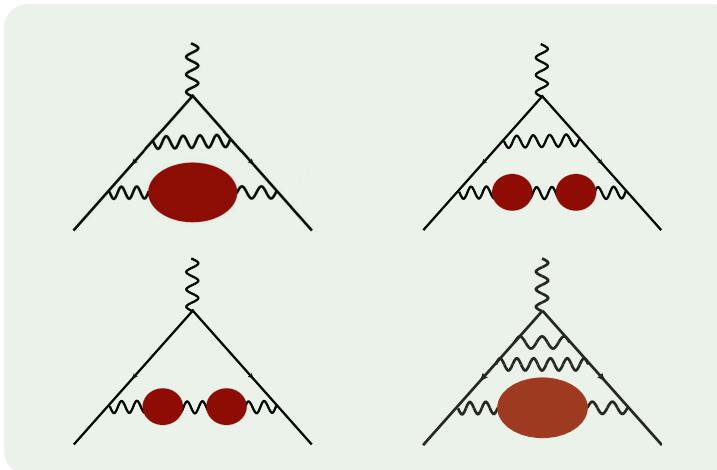
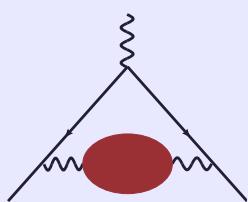
Quantum field theory :  $a_\mu = \frac{g-2}{2} \neq 0$   
 $\rightarrow$  generated by quantum effects

$$a_\mu^{(1)} = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \quad [\text{Schwinger '48}]$$

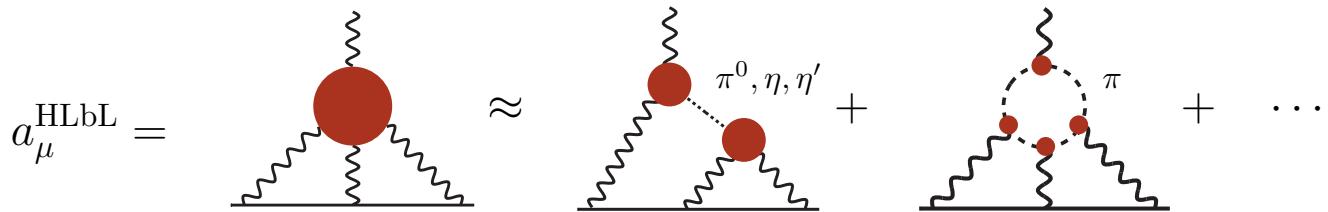
*"The anomalous magnetic moment of the muon in the Standard Model "* [Phys.Rept. 887 (2020) 1-166]

Contribution	$a_\mu \times 10^{11}$
- <b>QED</b> (10 <sup>th</sup> order)	$116\ 584\ 718.931 \pm 0.104$
- <b>Electroweak</b>	$153.6 \pm 1.0$
- <b>Strong interaction</b>	
HVP (LO)	$6\ 931 \pm 40$
HVP (NLO)	$-98.3 \pm 0.7$
HVP (NNLO)	$12.4 \pm 0.1$
HLbL	$92 \pm 18$
Total (Standard Model)	$116\ 591\ 810 \pm 43$
Experiment	$116\ 592\ 059 \pm 22$

- Theory error larger than current experimental precisions
- Error budget **dominated by hadronic contributions** : **LO-HVP and HLbL**
  - HVP : precision of a few permil is needed
  - HLbL : precision of 10% would be sufficient
  - dominated by low-energy physics where QCD is non-perturbative

**LO HVP** ( $\alpha^2$ )**NLO HVP** ( $\alpha^3$ )**NNLO HVP** ( $\alpha^4$ )**HLbL** ( $\alpha^3$ )

- LO-HVP
- NLO HVP and NNLO HVP differ by the QED kernel functions
  - NLO HVP : same order as HLbL
  - not negligible, but error under control



Dispersive framework ('21)  $a_\mu \times 10^{11}$

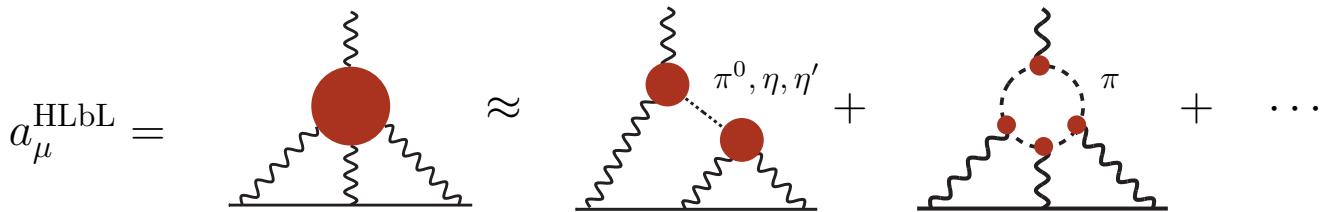
$\pi^0, \eta, \eta'$	$93.8 \pm 4$
pion/kaon loops	$-16.4 \pm 0.2$
S-wave $\pi\pi$	$-8 \pm 1$
axial vector	$6 \pm 6$
scalar + tensor	$-1 \pm 3$
q-loops / short. dist. cstr	$15 \pm 10$
charm + heavy q	$3 \pm 1$
sum	$92 \pm 19$
Mainz '22	$109.6 \pm 15.9$
RBC/UKQCD '23	$124.7 \pm 15.2$

Two approaches on the lattice :

$\pi^0, \eta, \eta'$  : accessible on the lattice

direct lattice calculation

- ▶ both approaches are complementary
- ▶ target precision for HLbL : <10%

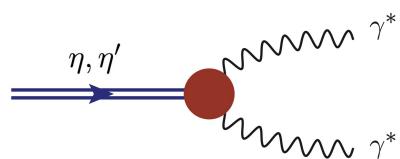

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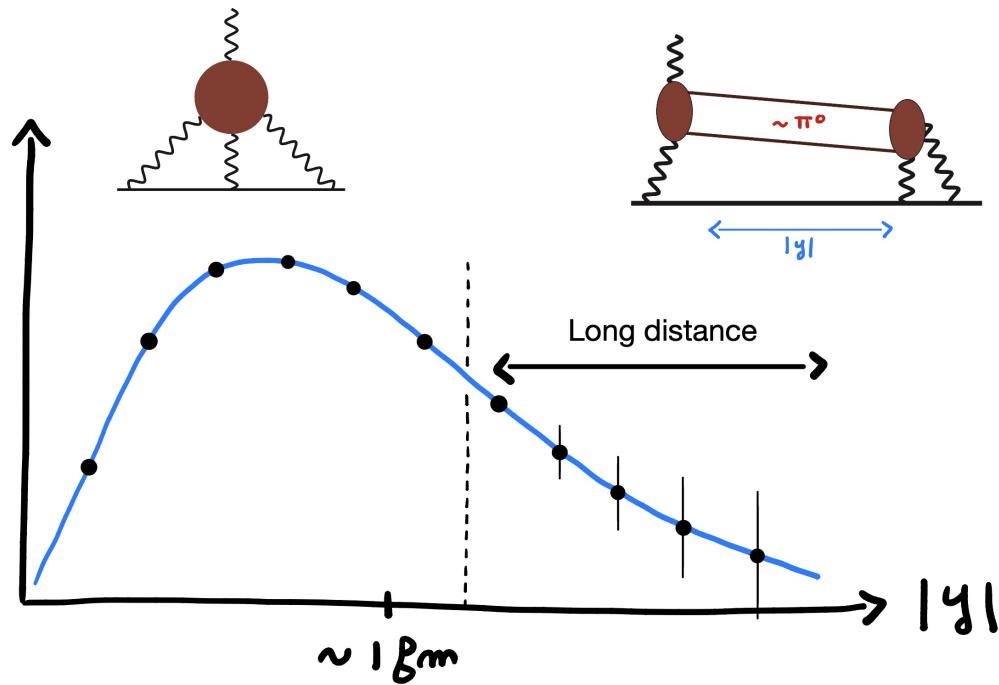
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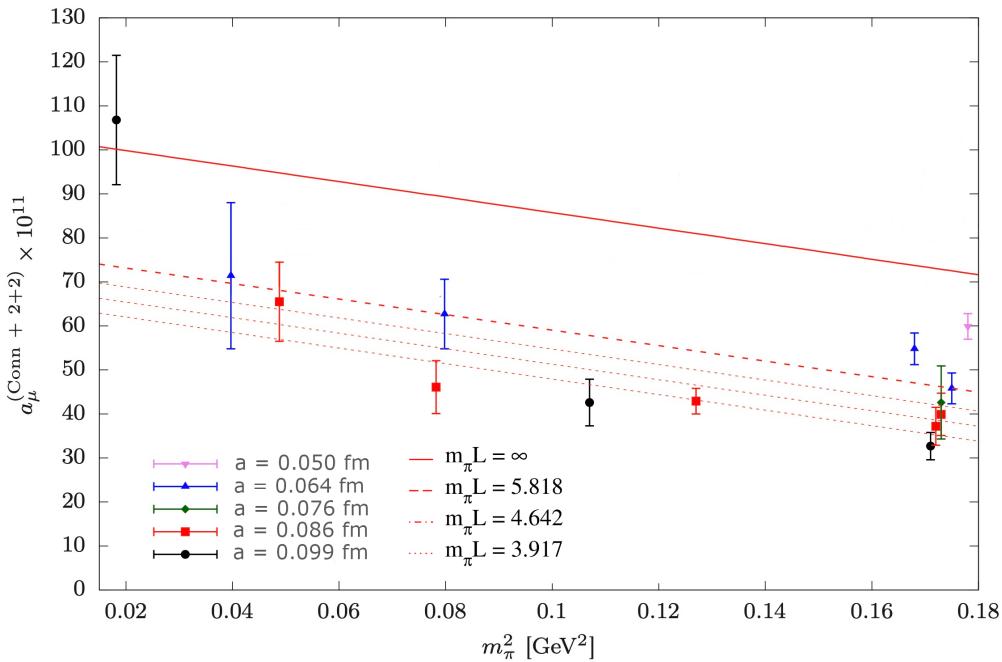
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- ▶ Noisy long distance dominated by pion-pole
- ▶ Finite-volume effects → long-distance physics : pion-pole

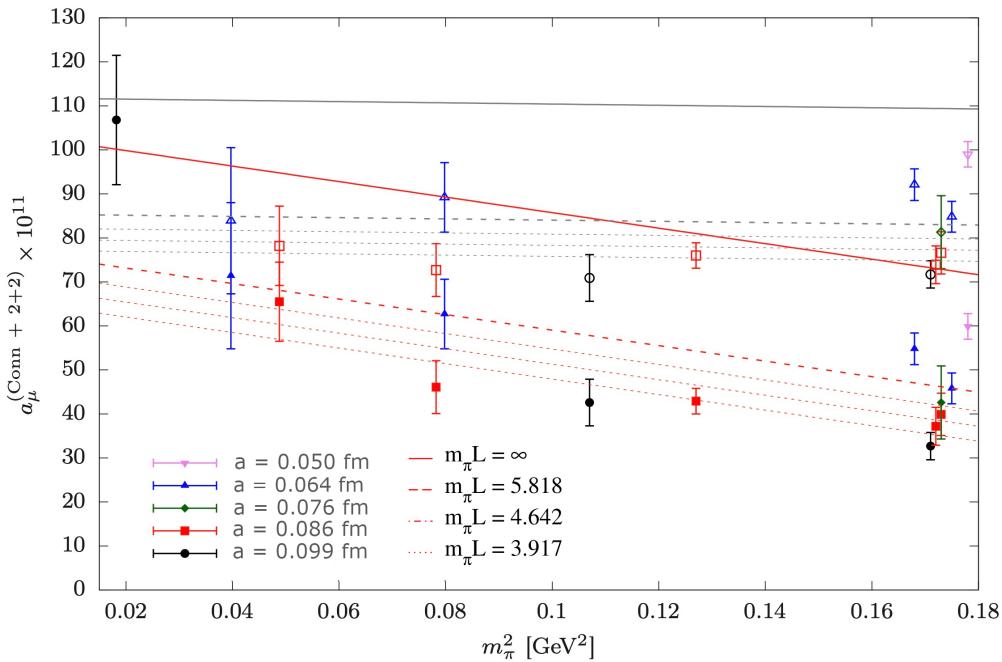
Pseudoscalar-pole plays an important role in the direct calculation

## Pion-pole subtraction



- Results obtained with the Mainz group [[Eur.Phys.J.C 81 \(2021\) 7, 651](#)]
- Statistical precision deteriorates rapidly at low pion masses
- Correction :  $a_\mu^{\text{hlbl,cor}}(a, m_\pi) = a_\mu^{\text{hlbl,data}}(a, m_\pi) + \left( a_\mu^{\pi^0, \text{phys}(a, m_\pi)} - a_\mu^{\pi^0}(a, m_\pi) \right)$

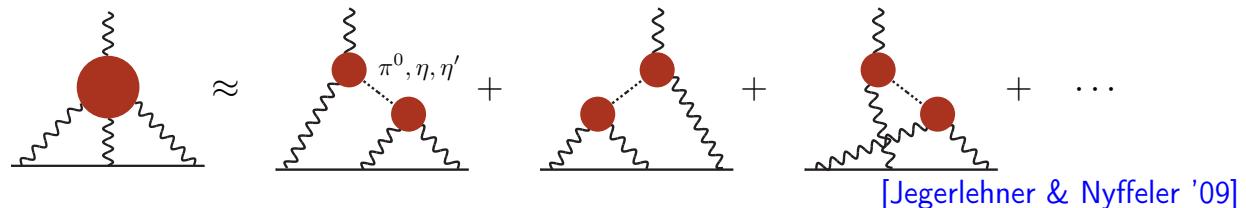
## Pion-pole subtraction



- Open symbols :  $a_\mu^{\text{hlbl,cor}}(a, m_\pi) = a_\mu^{\text{hlbl,data}}(a, m_\pi) + \left( a_\mu^{\pi^0, \text{phys}(a, m_\pi)} - a_\mu^{\pi^0}(a, m_\pi) \right)$

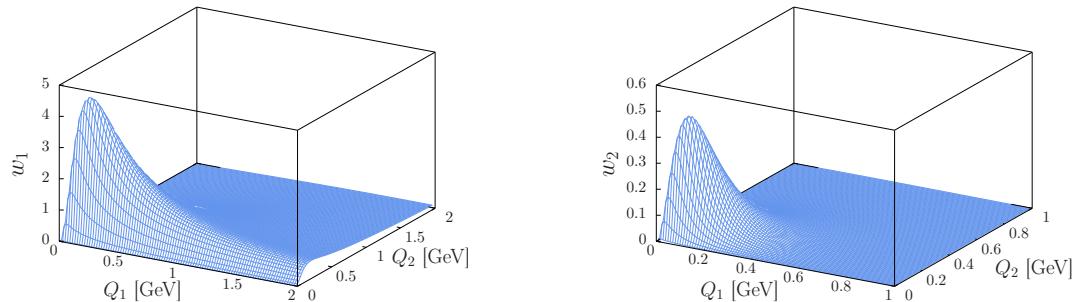
Chiral extrapolation significantly improved !

# Pseudoscalar-pole contribution to Hadronic Light-by-light diagram



$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\pi^0} = \int_0^\infty dQ_1 \int_0^\infty dQ_2 \int_{-1}^1 d\tau \ w_1(Q_1, Q_2, \tau) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_1^2, -(Q_1 + Q_2)^2) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_2^2, 0) + \\ w_2(Q_1, Q_2, \tau) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_1^2, -Q_2^2) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-(Q_1 + Q_2)^2, 0)$$

- Product of one **single-virtual** and one **double-virtual** transition form factors
- $w_{1,2}(Q_1, Q_2, \tau)$  are model-independent weight functions
- The weight functions are **concentrated at small momenta below 1 GeV**



↪ Hadronic input : TFFs for arbitrary space-like virtualities in the momentum range  $[0 - 3]$  GeV<sup>2</sup>

- Relative contribution of the pseudoscalar-pole contributions  $a_\mu^{\text{hlbl,P}}$  as a function of the momentum cutoff  $Q_{\text{cut}}$

$Q_{\text{cut}}$ [GeV]	$\pi^0$	$\eta$	$\eta'$
0.50	71%	50%	38%
1.00	84%	68%	60%
2.00	92%	81%	78%
3.00	94%	86%	85%
5.00	97%	91%	92%

- **pion transition form factor**

→ first lattice calculation done in collaboration with the Mainz group [[Phys.Rev.D 100 \(2019\) 3](#)]

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\pi^0} = (59.7 \pm 3.6) \times 10^{-11} \quad [6\%]$$

$$\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 7.17 \pm 0.49 \text{ eV}$$

→ recently : new result by ETM [[2308.12458 \[hep-lat\]](#)]

→ this talk : new independent calculation

→ warm-up with staggered quarks before moving to  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  TFFs

- **$\eta$  and  $\eta'$  transition form factors**

→ calculation at the physical point + continuum limit

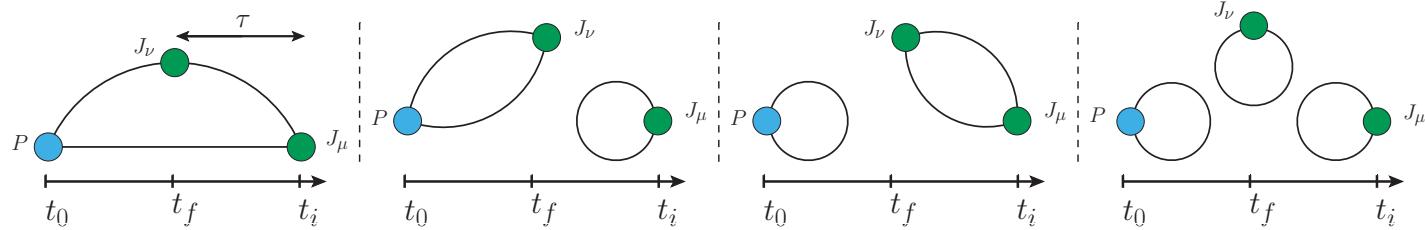
→ estimates from Canterbury approximants [[PRD 95, 054026 \(2017\)](#)] and Dyson-Schwinger equations [[Phys. Lett. B 797, 134855 \(2019\)](#)] [[PRD 101, 074021 \(2020\)](#)]

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta} \approx 15 \times 10^{-11}$$

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta'} \approx 14 \times 10^{-11}$$

→ much more difficult :  $\eta - \eta'$  mixing, noisy quark-disconnected contributions

→ 25-30% on  $a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta+\eta'}$  precision would suffice to reach 10%



$$C_{\mu\nu}^{(3)}(\tau, t_\pi) = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{z}} \langle T \left\{ \textcolor{green}{J}_\nu(\vec{0}, t_f) J_\mu(\vec{z}, t_i) P(\vec{x}, t_0) \right\} \rangle e^{i\vec{p}\vec{x}} e^{-i\vec{q}_1\vec{z}}$$

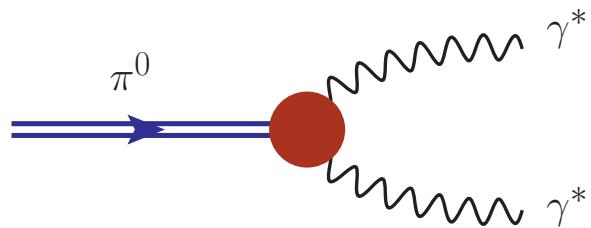
- **Diagram 1** : contributes to all meson TFFs
- **Diagram 2** : contributes to all meson TFFs (only disconnected diagram for  $\pi^0$ )
  - we work in the isospin limit of QCD  $\Rightarrow$  single pseudoscalar loop vanishes
  - numerically small :  $O(1\%)$  [Mainz '19, BMW '23]
- **Diagram 3 and 4** : contribute to the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ 
  - third diagram is large, noisy and enters with an opposite sign
  - fourth diagram expected to be small : SU(3)-suppressed vector loops

## Calculation based on Budapest-Marseille-Wuppertal (BMW) gauge ensembles

- Goldstone pion/kaon are tuned to their physical pion/kaon masses  
→  $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$  dynamical staggered fermions with four steps of stout smearing
- up to 6 lattice spacings from 0.13 fm down to 0.064 fm
- different physical volumes from 3 to 6 fm
  - pion TFF : based on large 6 fm ensembles only
  - smaller boxes also used for the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  to boost statistics

More details are given in [2305.04570 \[hep-lat\]](#)

## The pion transition form factor



In Minkowski space-time :

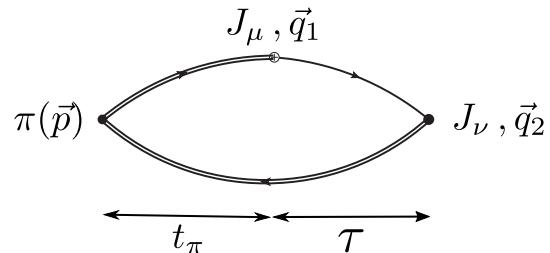
$$M_{\mu\nu}(q_1^2, q_2^2) = i \int d^4x e^{iq_1 x} \langle 0 | T\{J_\mu(x) J_\nu(0)\} | \pi^0(p) \rangle = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} q_1^\alpha q_2^\beta \mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}(q_1^2, q_2^2)$$

- $J_\mu(x)$  hadronic component of the electromagnetic current :  $J_\mu(x) = \frac{2}{3}\bar{u}(x)\gamma_\mu u(x) - \frac{1}{3}\bar{d}(x)\gamma_\mu d(x) + \dots$

In Euclidean space-time : [Ji & Jung '01] [Cohen et al. '08] [Feng et al. '12]

$$M_{\mu\nu}^E(q_1^2, q_2^2) = - \int d\tau e^{\omega_1 \tau} \int d^3x e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \vec{x}} \langle 0 | T \left\{ J_\mu(\vec{x}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) \right\} | \pi^0(p) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\pi^0)}(\tau) e^{\omega_1 \tau}$$

- Kinematics :  $q_1 = (\omega_1, \vec{q}_1)$
- $|\vec{q}_1|^2 = (2\pi/L)^2 |\vec{n}|^2$  ,  $|\vec{n}|^2 = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$
- valid below hadronic threshold



Euclidean three-point correlation function :

$$C_{\mu\nu}^{(3)}(\tau, t_\pi; \vec{p}, \vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{z}} \langle T \left\{ J_\nu(\vec{0}, t_f) J_\mu(\vec{z}, t_i) P(\vec{x}, t_0) \right\} \rangle e^{i\vec{p}\vec{x}} e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \vec{z}}$$

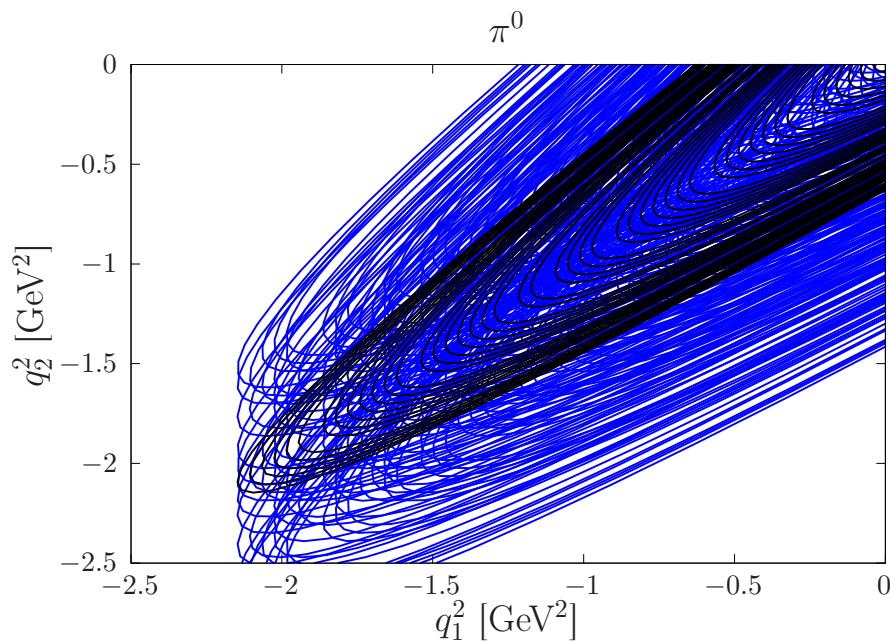
Photons virtualities (pion rest frame) :

$$q_1^2 = \omega_1^2 - |\vec{q}_1|^2$$

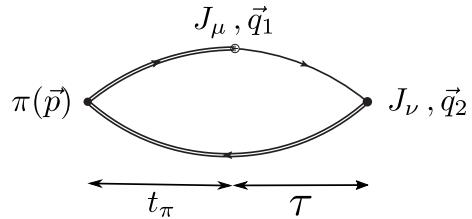
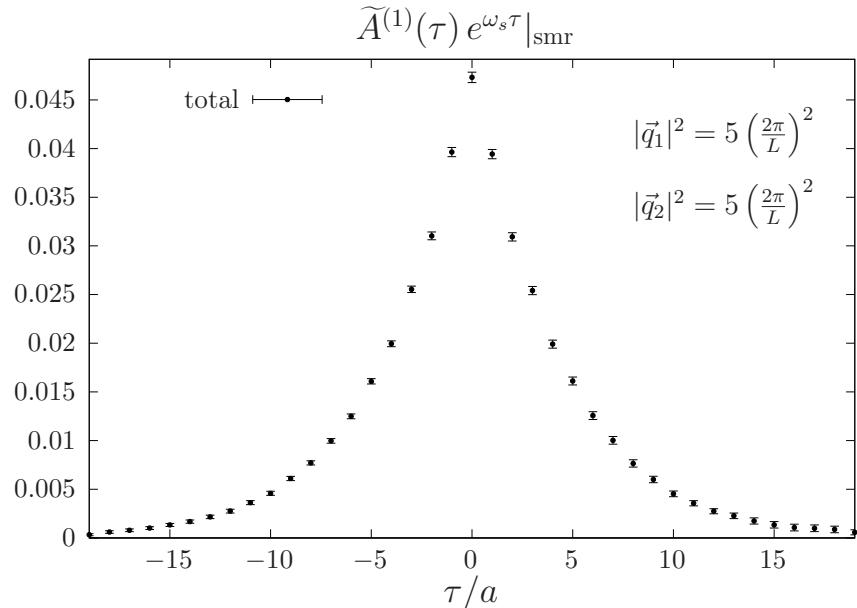
$$q_2^2 = (m_\pi - \omega_1)^2 - |\vec{q}_1|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{q}_1|^2 = (2\pi/L)^2 |\vec{n}|^2 , \quad |\vec{n}|^2 = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$$

$\Rightarrow \omega_1$  is a (real) free parameter



$$\mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}(q_1^2, q_2^2) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}(\tau) e^{\omega_1 \tau} \quad \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\pi)}(\tau) = \lim_{t_P \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2E_\pi}{Z_\pi} e^{E_\pi(t_f - t_0)} C_{\mu\nu}^{(3)}(\tau, t_P)$$



On the lattice :

- Discrete sum over lattice points :

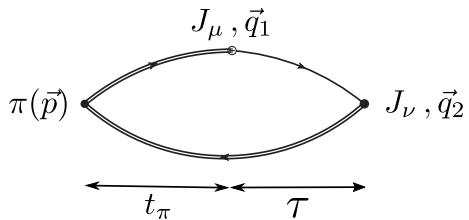
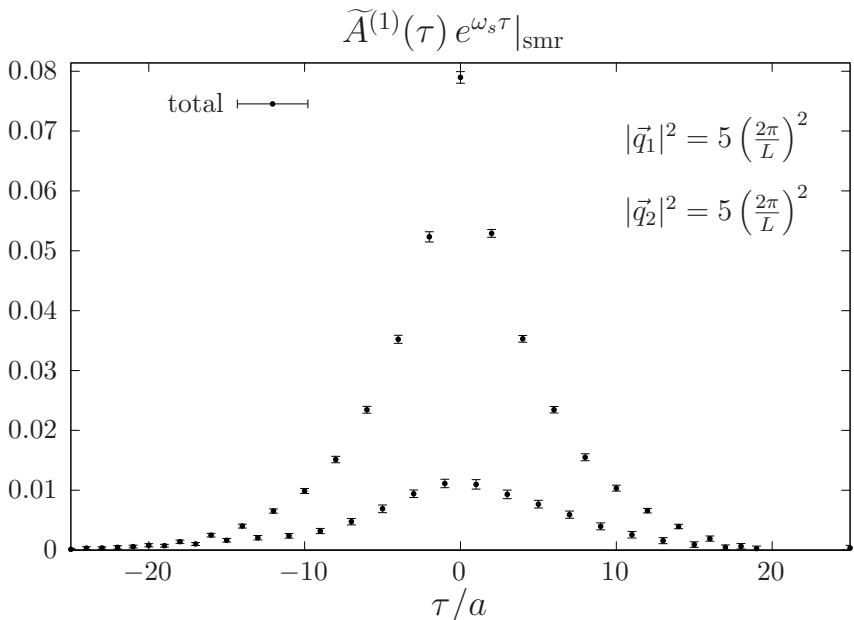
$$\int d\tau \rightarrow a \sum_{\tau}$$

- Finite size of the box :

$$|\tau| \leq \tau_{\max} \neq \infty$$

- The small contribution  $\tau > \tau_{\max}$  is evaluated assuming a VMD (or LMD) parametrization

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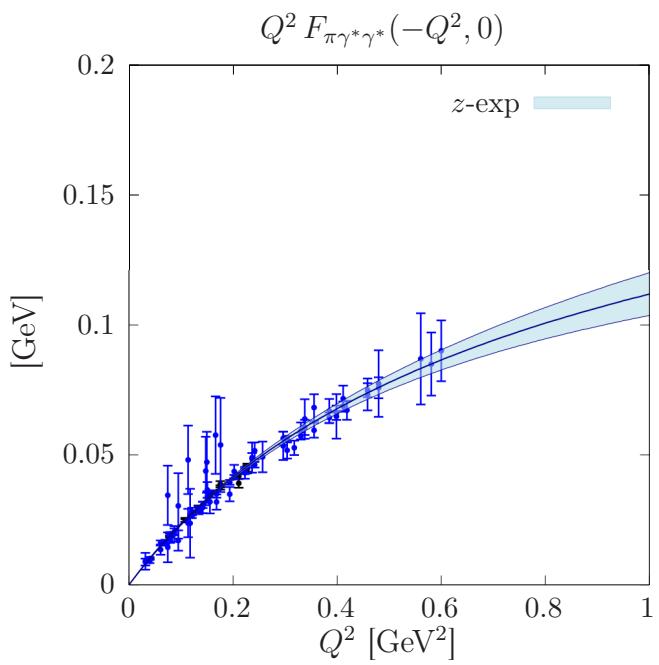
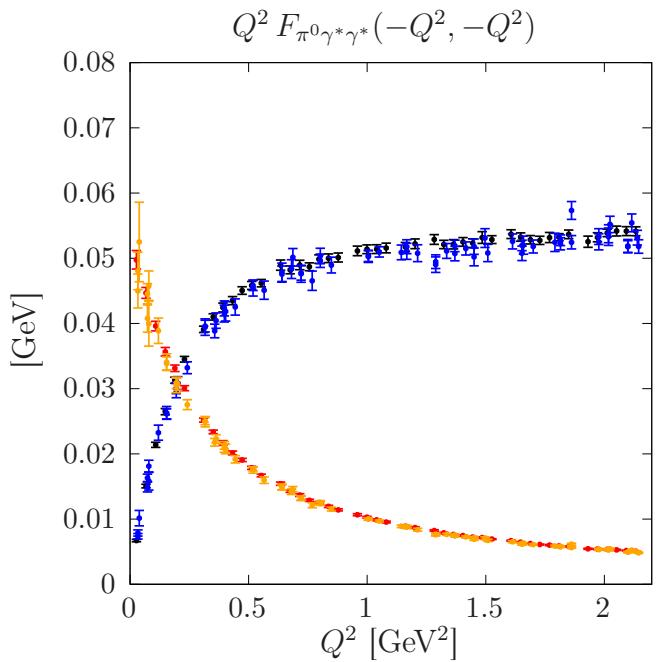
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- Black/blue points : two different pion frames
- **Reminder** : lattice data are not restricted to these kinematics
- **OPE / Brodsky Lepage** : TFF decays as  $1/Q^2$  for large virtualities

► Model independent double  $z$ -expansion for space-like momenta [Mainz '19]

$$\mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = \sum_{n,m=0}^N c_{nm} z_1^n z_2^m , \quad z_i = \frac{\sqrt{t_c + Q_i^2} - \sqrt{t_c - t_0}}{\sqrt{t_c + Q_i^2} + \sqrt{t_c - t_0}}$$

$$\rightarrow t_c = 4m_\pi^2$$

$\rightarrow t_0$  chosen to reduce the maximum value of  $|z_i|$  in the range  $[0, Q_{\max}^2]$

$\rightarrow$  truncation of the sum (finite  $N$ )

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- Analytical + short-distance constraints (Brodsky-Lepage behavior and OPE ) [Mainz '19]

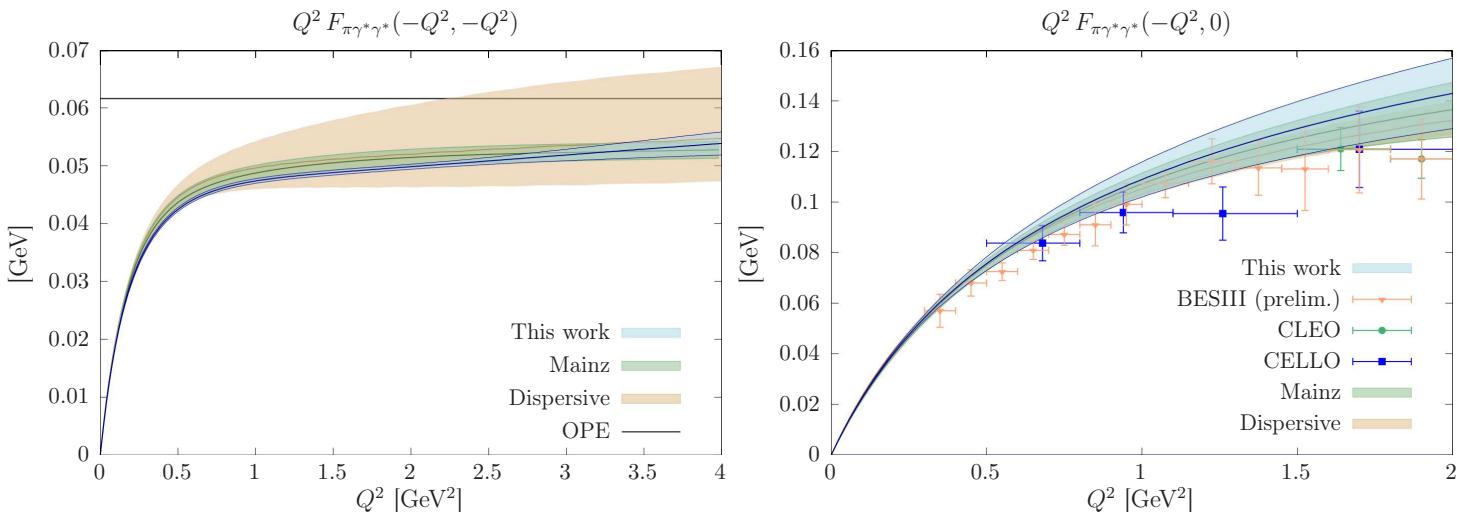
$$P(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = \sum_{n,m=0}^{N-1} c_{nm} \left( z_1^n - \frac{(-1)^{N+n} n z_1^N}{N} \right) \left( z_2^m - \frac{(-1)^{N+m} m z_2^N}{N} \right)$$

with

$$P(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = 1 + \frac{Q_1^2 + Q_2^2}{M_V^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma^*\gamma} \sim \frac{1}{Q^2}$$

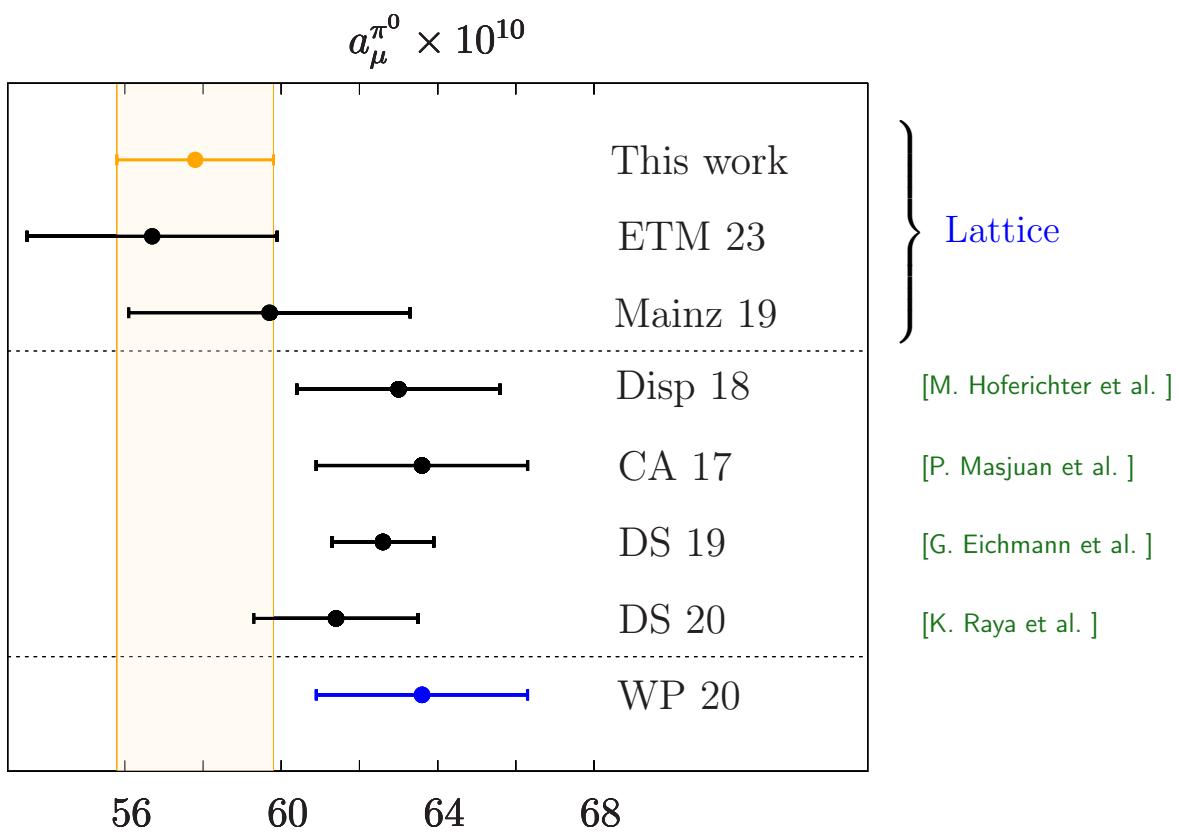
- Discretization effects :  $\tilde{c}_{mn}(a) = c_{mn} + \gamma_{mn}^{(1)} a^2 + \gamma_{mn}^{(2)} a^4$
- Uncorrelated fits. Systematic error by varying  $N$

# Continuum limit of the pion transition form factor



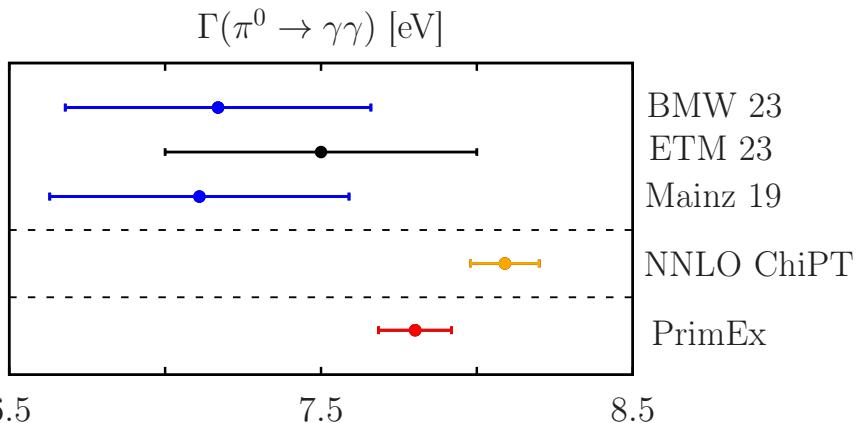
$$\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 7.11(0.44)_{\text{stat}}(0.21)_{\text{syst}} \text{ eV}$$

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\pi^0} = 57.8(1.8)_{\text{stat}}(0.9)_{\text{syst}} \times 10^{-11}$$



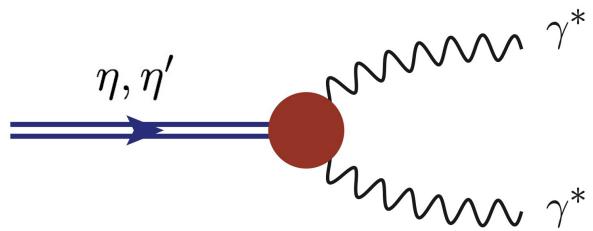
► two-photon decay width :

$$\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = \frac{\pi\alpha^2 m_{\pi^0}^3}{4} \mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}^2(0, 0)$$



- lattice results tend to be smaller than exp. value ... but compatible within 1 - 1.5  $\sigma$   
→ error dominated by statistics
- $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$  and  $a_\mu^{\pi^0}$  are correlated : low- $Q^2$  region dominates in  $a_\mu^{\pi^0}$

## The $\eta$ and $\eta'$ transition form factors



- In principle, the same techniques work for  $\eta$

$$C_{\mu\nu}^{(i)}(\tau, t_P) = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{z}} \langle J_\mu(\vec{z}, t_i) J_\nu(\vec{0}, t_f) \mathcal{O}_i(\vec{x}, t_0) \rangle e^{i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}} e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}}$$

with the  $\eta_8$  and  $\eta_0$  interpolating operators :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_8(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\bar{u}\gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d}\gamma_5 d(x) - 2\bar{s}\gamma_5 s(x)) , \\ \mathcal{O}_0(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (\bar{u}\gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d}\gamma_5 d(x) + \bar{s}\gamma_5 s(x)) . \end{aligned}$$

For the  $\eta$ , the spectral decomposition reads

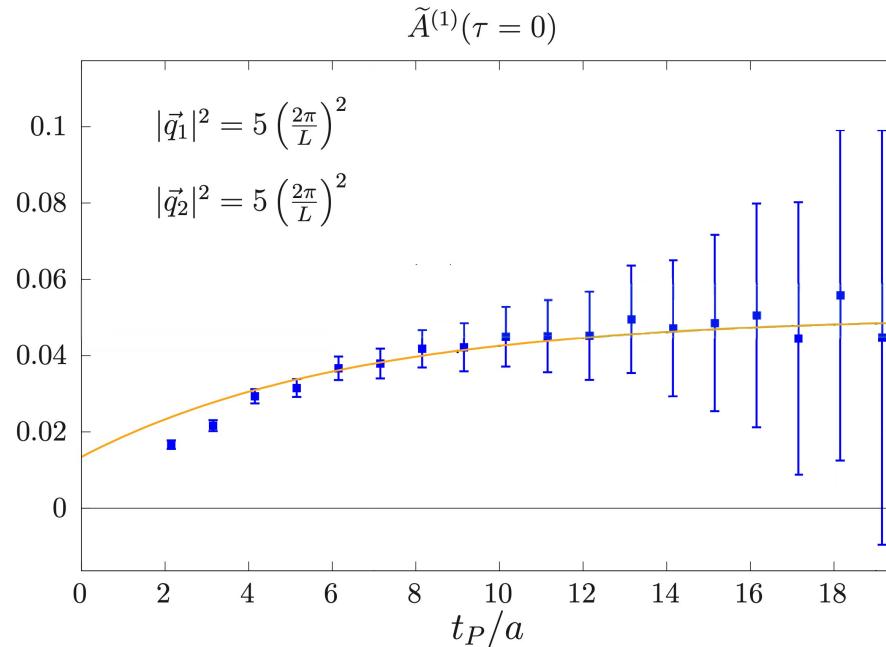
$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mu\nu}^{(i)}(\tau, t_P) &= \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_\eta} \langle \eta(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E_\eta(t_0 - t_f)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta'(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_{\eta'}} \langle \eta'(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E'_{\eta'}(t_0 - t_f)} \\ &\quad + \text{higher excited states} \end{aligned}$$

→  $\eta'$  is just an excited state : contribution vanishes exponentially with  $t_P$

→ but the mass gap  $\Delta E = E_{\eta'} - E_\eta \approx 400$  MeV is not so large

## Excited state contribution

- $\Delta E = E_{\eta'} - E_\eta \approx 400$  MeV not so large
- Large excited state contribution : large statistical error at large  $t_P$



- Large time separations  $t_P$  are needed
- Does not work for the  $\eta' \rightarrow$  excited state

Solution : Generalized eigenvalue problem to deal with excited states.

Spectral decomposition :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mu\nu}^{(i)}(\tau, t_P) = & \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_\eta} \langle \eta(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E_\eta(t_0 - t_f)} \\ & + \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta'(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_{\eta'}} \langle \eta'(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E'_{\eta'}(t_0 - t_f)} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Matrix notation :

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{\mu\nu}^{(8)} \\ C_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_\eta^{(8)} & T_{\eta'}^{(8)} \\ T_\eta^{(0)} & T_{\eta'}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\eta)} \\ \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\eta')} \end{pmatrix},$$

with

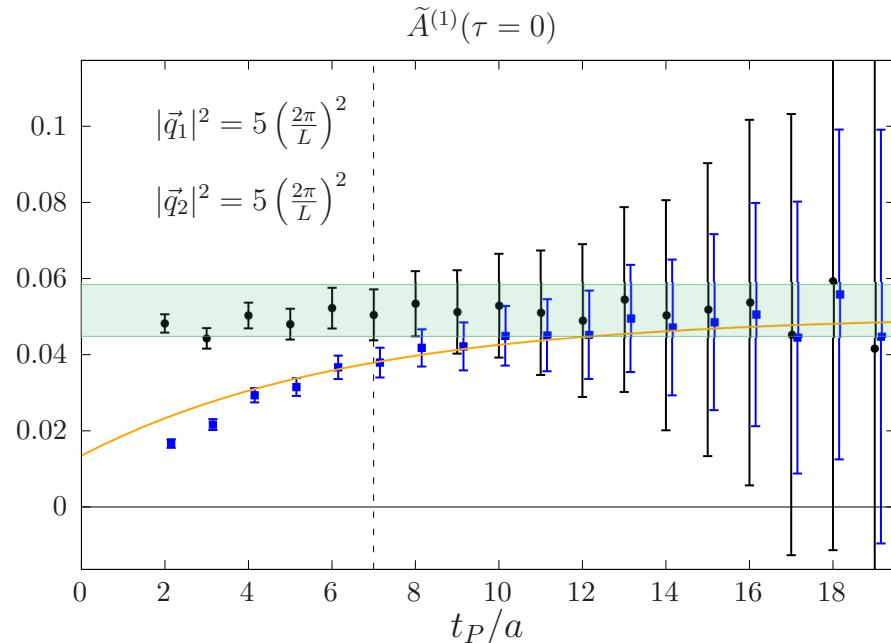
$$T_n^{(i)} = \frac{Z_n^{(i)}}{2E_n} e^{-E_n(t_f - t_0)}, \quad \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(n)}(\tau) = \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | n(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{z}}$$

Inverting the system :

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\eta)} &= \cos^2 \phi_I \frac{C_{\mu\nu}^{(8)}}{T_\eta^{(8)}} + \sin^2 \phi_I \frac{C_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}}{T_\eta^{(0)}} \\ \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}^{(\eta')} &= \sin^2 \phi_I \frac{C_{\mu\nu}^{(8)}}{T_{\eta'}^{(8)}} + \cos^2 \phi_I \frac{C_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}}{T_{\eta'}^{(0)}} \end{aligned}$$

with  $\tan^2 \phi_I = -(Z_{\eta'}^{(8)} Z_\eta^{(0)}) / (Z_\eta^{(8)} Z_{\eta'}^{(0)})$  (mixing angle)

- $\Delta E = E_{\eta'} - E_\eta \approx 400$  MeV not so large
- Large excited state contribution : large statistical error at large  $t_P$



- Black point : new estimator

We obtain a plateau for short time separation  $t_P$

# Masses of the $\eta$ and $\eta'$ meson : taste-singlet operators

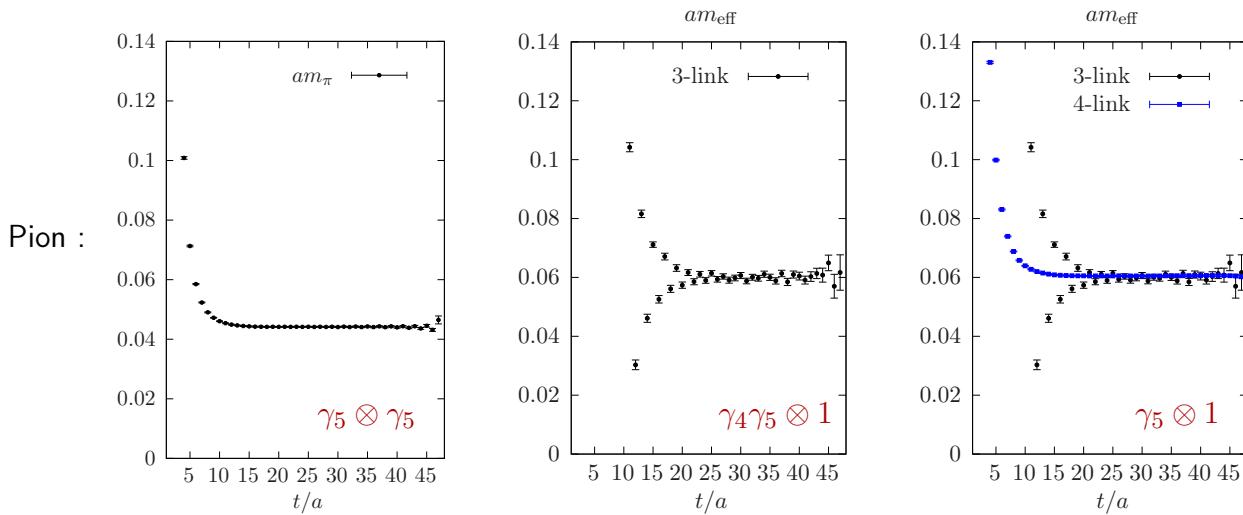
Two staggered operators with correct quantum numbers (taste-singlet pseudoscalar) [Altmeyer et al. '93]

$$O_3(x) = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i,j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} \bar{\chi}(x) [\eta_i \Delta_i [\eta_j \Delta_j [\eta_k \Delta_k]]] \chi(x) \quad (\gamma_4 \gamma_5 \otimes 1)$$

$$O_4(x) = \frac{1}{2} \eta_4(x) [\bar{\chi}(x) \hat{O}_3 \chi_+(x) + \bar{\chi}_+(x) \hat{O}_3 \chi(x)] \quad (\gamma_5 \otimes 1)$$

- Symmetric shift operator :  $\Delta_\mu \chi(x) = \frac{1}{2}[U_\mu(x)\chi(x+a\hat{\mu}) + U_\mu^\dagger(x-a\hat{\mu})\chi(x-a\hat{\mu})]$
- Time shifted fields :  $\chi_+(x) = U_4(x)\chi(x+a\hat{t})$  and  $\bar{\chi}_+(x) = \bar{\chi}(x+a\hat{t})U_4^\dagger(x)$
- Staggered quark operators : parity is not a “good quantum number” :

$$C(t; \vec{p}) = A \cosh(E_1(\vec{p})[T/2 - t]) + (-1)^{t/a} B \cosh(E_2(\vec{p})[T/2 - t]),$$



# Masses of the $\eta$ and $\eta'$ meson : taste-singlet operators

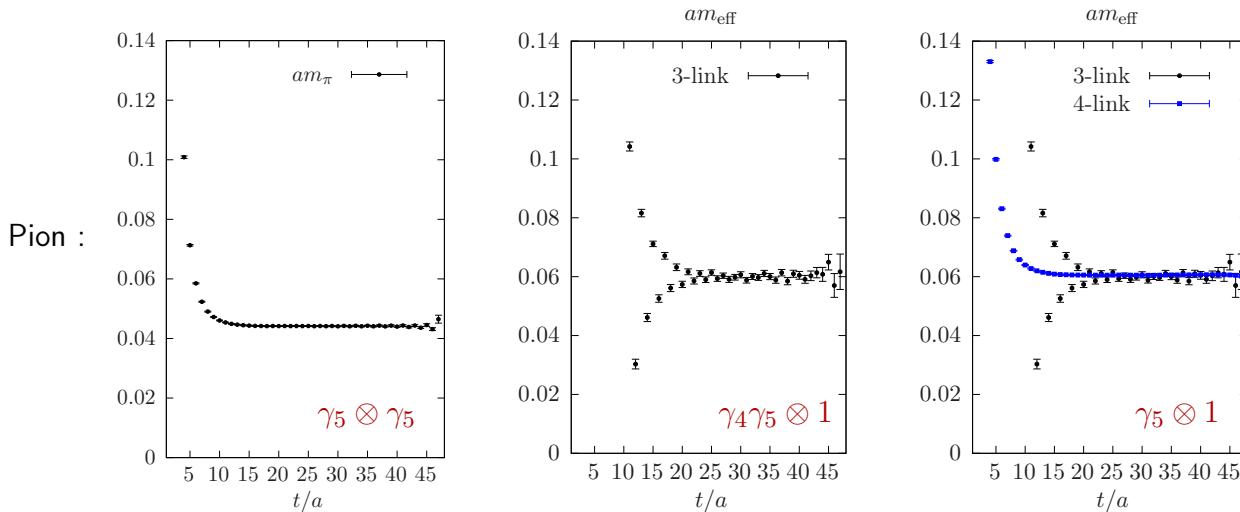
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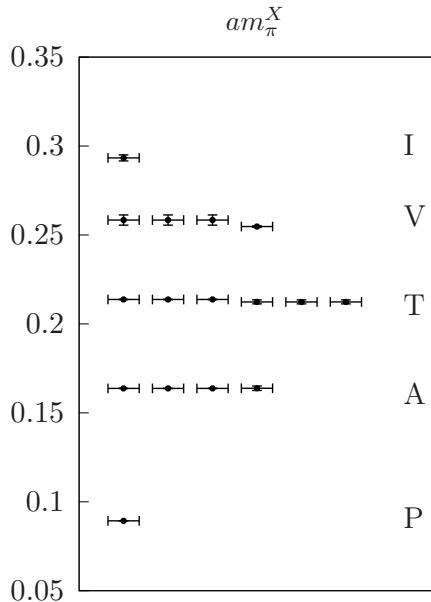


→ 4-link operators : efficient methods to compute the disconnected loops [Venkataraman & Kilcup '97 ]

→ we only use the 4-link operator for the TFFs

## Pion mass splitting at our coarsest lattice spacing

- Pion spectrum with staggered quarks (16 tastes)
- Staggered ChPT :  $(m_\pi^X)^2 = \mu(m_u + m_d) + a^2 \Delta_X$  [Lee & Sharpe '99]



- from rS $\chi$ PT is [Bernard 2007] :

$$m_{\eta_8, I}^2 = \frac{1}{3} m_{uu, I}^2 + \frac{2}{3} m_{ss, I}^2$$

- expect discretization effects  $\sim 140$  MeV for the  $\eta$  meson mass at our coarsest lattice spacing

Consider two operators that interpolate the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  mesons :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_8(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\bar{u}\gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d}\gamma_5 d(x) - 2\bar{s}\gamma_5 s(x)) \\ \mathcal{O}_0(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (\bar{u}\gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d}\gamma_5 d(x) + \bar{s}\gamma_5 s(x))\end{aligned}$$

and build the correlation matrix

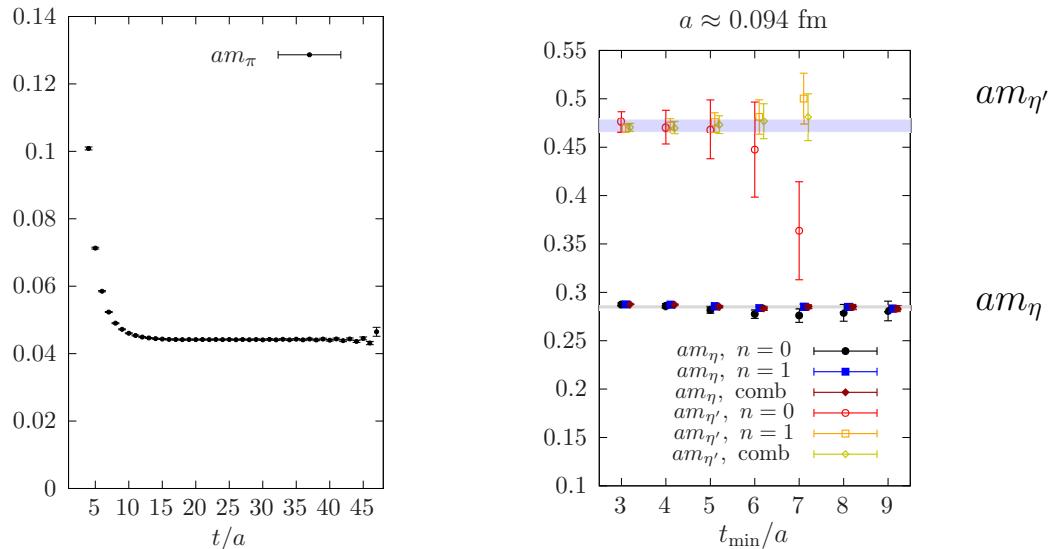
$$C_I(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathcal{O}_8(t)\mathcal{O}_8^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_8(t)\mathcal{O}_0^\dagger(0) \rangle \\ \langle \mathcal{O}_0(t)\mathcal{O}_8^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_0(t)\mathcal{O}_0^\dagger(0) \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

In this isospin basis, the correlators are given by

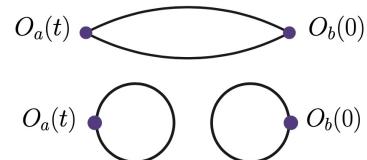
$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathcal{O}_8(t)\mathcal{O}_8^\dagger(0) \rangle &= \frac{1}{3} (\mathcal{C}_l + 2\mathcal{C}_s + 2\mathcal{D}_{ll} + 2\mathcal{D}_{ss} - 2\mathcal{D}_{ls} - 2\mathcal{D}_{sl}) \\ \langle \mathcal{O}_8(t)\mathcal{O}_0^\dagger(0) \rangle &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} (\mathcal{C}_l - \mathcal{C}_s + 2\mathcal{D}_{ll} - \mathcal{D}_{ss} + \mathcal{D}_{ls} - 2\mathcal{D}_{sl}) \\ \langle \mathcal{O}_0(t)\mathcal{O}_8^\dagger(0) \rangle &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} (\mathcal{C}_l - \mathcal{C}_s + 2\mathcal{D}_{ll} - \mathcal{D}_{ss} + \mathcal{D}_{sl} - 2\mathcal{D}_{ls}) \\ \langle \mathcal{O}_0(t)\mathcal{O}_0^\dagger(0) \rangle &= \frac{1}{3} (2\mathcal{C}_l + \mathcal{C}_s + 4\mathcal{D}_{ll} + \mathcal{D}_{ss} + 2\mathcal{D}_{ls} + 2\mathcal{D}_{sl})\end{aligned}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_a(t)\mathcal{O}_b^\dagger(0) \rangle = \frac{Z_\eta^{(a)} Z_\eta^{(b)*}}{2E_\eta} e^{-E_\eta t} + \frac{Z_{\eta'}^{(a)} Z_{\eta'}^{(b)*}}{2E_{\eta'}} e^{-E_{\eta'} t} + \dots$$

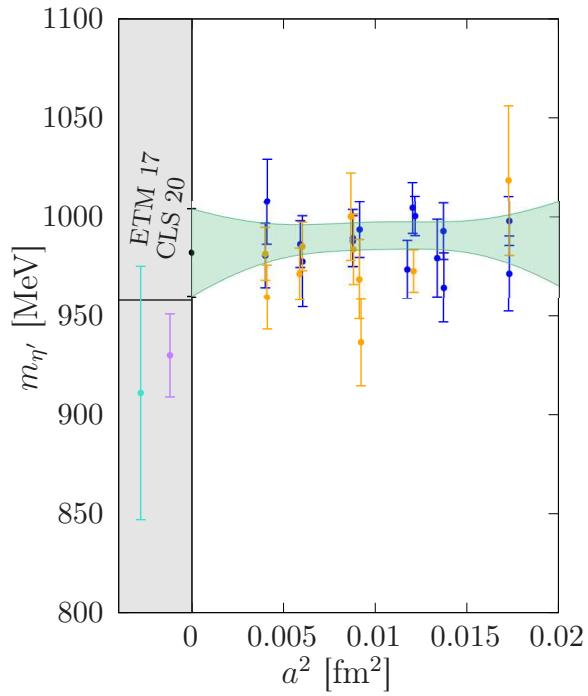
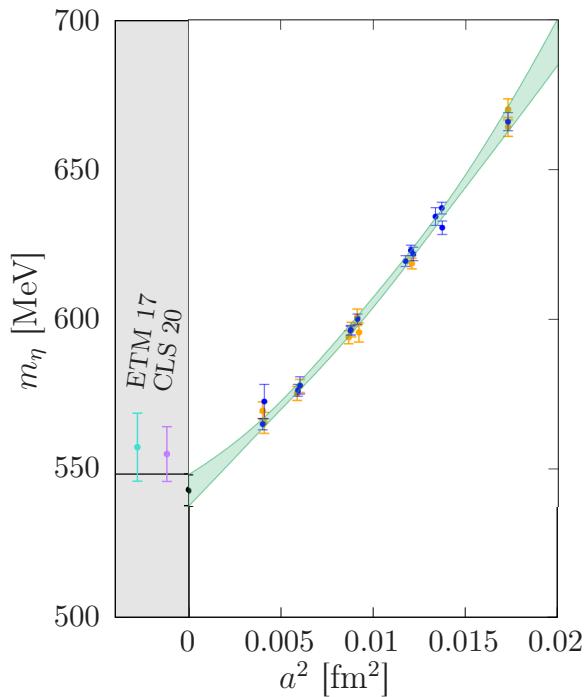
- Extraction of the  $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  masses from two-point correlation functions



- signal deteriorates rapidly for the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$
- need to study the mixing between the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$
- noisy disconnected diagrams



- Preliminary - no systematic error



- We reproduce the experimental values in the continuum limit
- Blue points are obtained using large volume ensembles ( $L = 6$ fm)
- Orange points correspond to smaller volumes ( $L = 3/4$ fm) (not included in the fit)

- 3-point correlation functions for the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$

$$C_{\mu\nu}^{(i)}(\tau, t_P) = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{z}} \langle J_\mu(\vec{z}, t_i) J_\nu(\vec{0}, t_f) \mathcal{O}_i(\vec{x}, t_0) \rangle e^{i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}} e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}}$$

with the  $\eta_8$  and  $\eta_0$  interpolating operators :

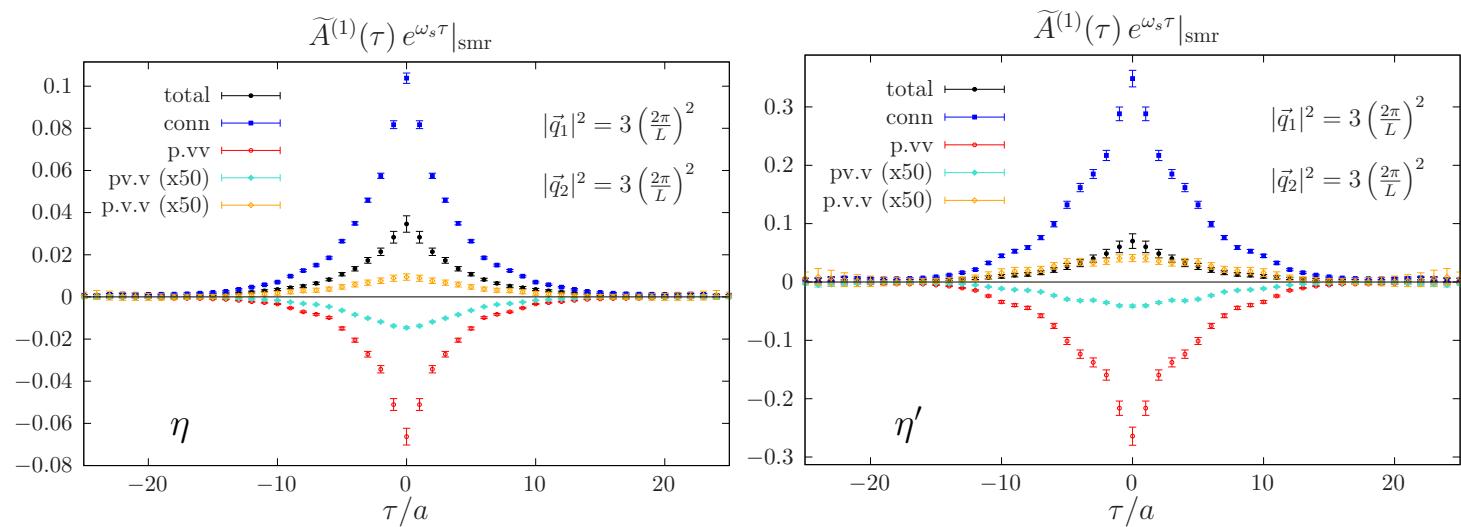
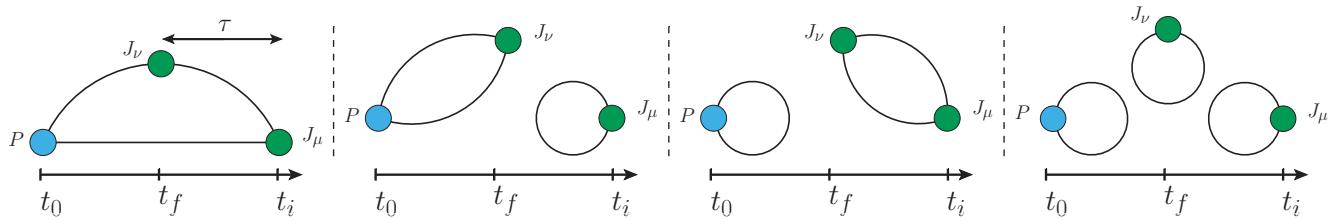
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_8(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \left( \bar{u} \gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d} \gamma_5 d(x) - 2 \bar{s} \gamma_5 s(x) \right), \\ \mathcal{O}_0(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left( \bar{u} \gamma_5 u(x) + \bar{d} \gamma_5 d(x) + \bar{s} \gamma_5 s(x) \right). \end{aligned}$$

For the  $\eta$ , the spectral decomposition reads

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mu\nu}^{(i)}(\tau, t_P) &= \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_\eta} \langle \eta(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E_\eta(t_0 - t_f)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\vec{z}} \langle 0 | J_\mu(\vec{z}, \tau) J_\nu(\vec{0}, 0) | \eta'(\vec{p}) \rangle e^{-i\vec{q}_1\cdot\vec{z}} \times \frac{1}{2E_{\eta'}} \langle \eta'(\vec{p}) | \mathcal{O}_i | 0 \rangle e^{E'_{\eta'}(t_0 - t_f)} \\ &\quad + \text{higher excited states} \end{aligned}$$

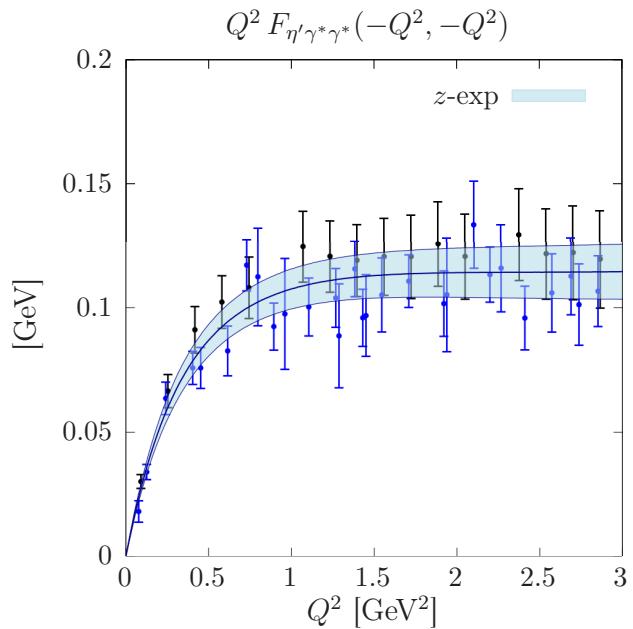
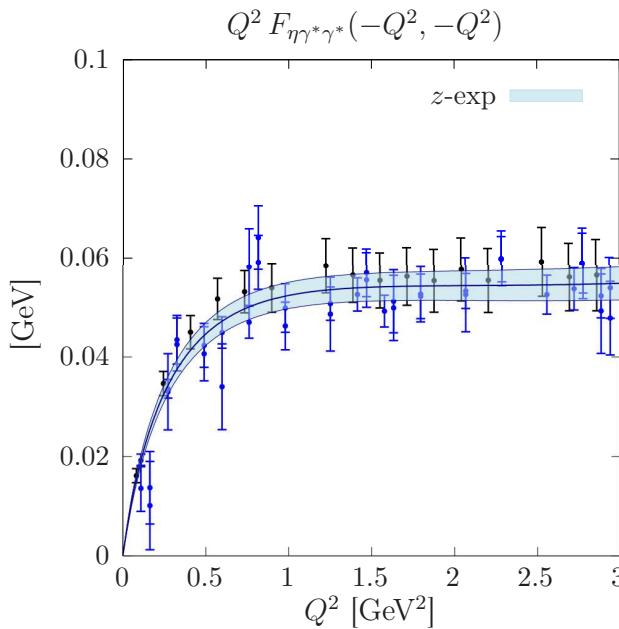
- $\eta'$  is just an excited states, its contribution vanishes exponentially with  $t_P$   
 → but the mass gap  $\Delta E = E_{\eta'} - E_\eta \approx 400$  MeV is not so large

# Amplitudes for the $\eta$ and $\eta'$



$$\mathcal{F}_{P\gamma\gamma}(q_1^2, q_2^2) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \tilde{A}_{\mu\nu}(\tau) e^{\omega_1 \tau}$$

- Double-virtual TFFs

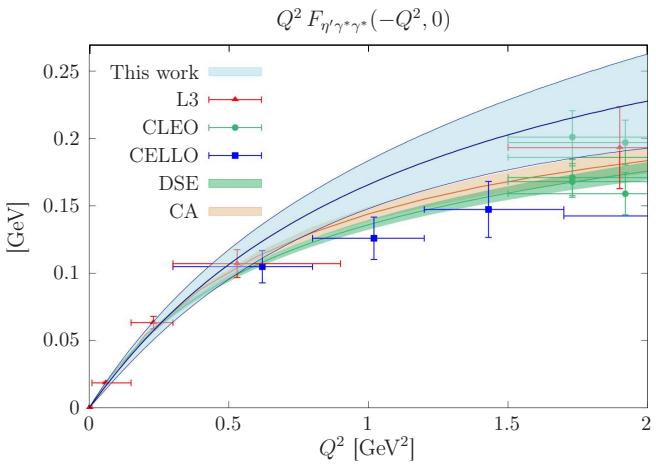
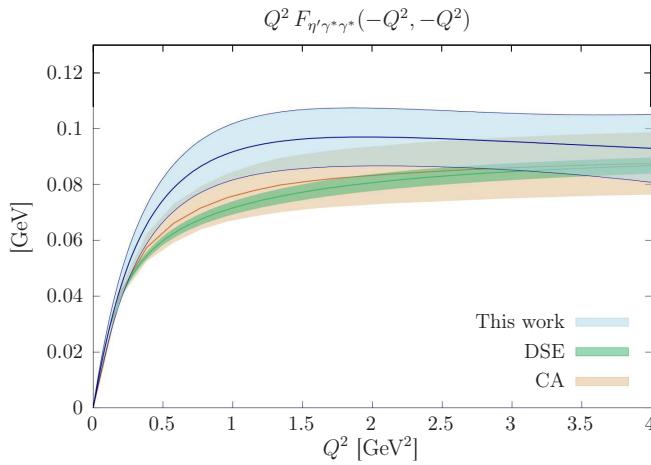
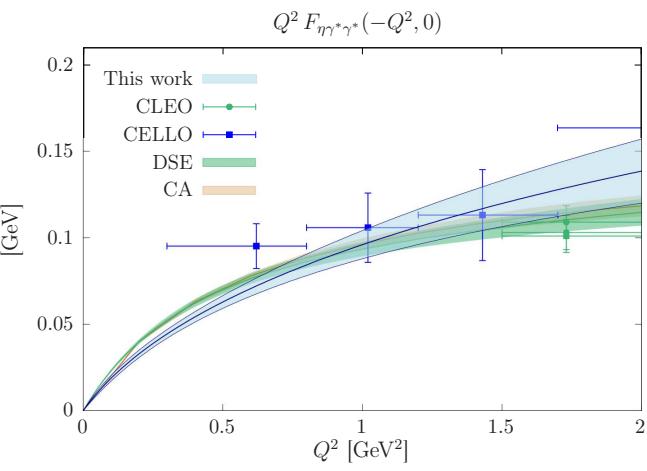
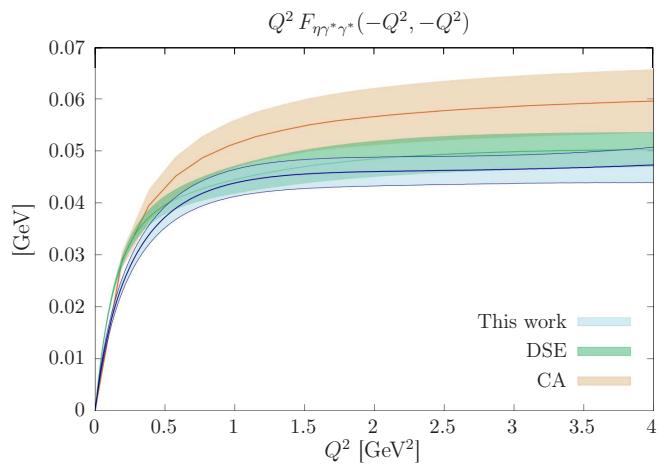


- Next step : continuum extrapolation

→ same strategy as for the pion :  $z$ -expansion parametrization

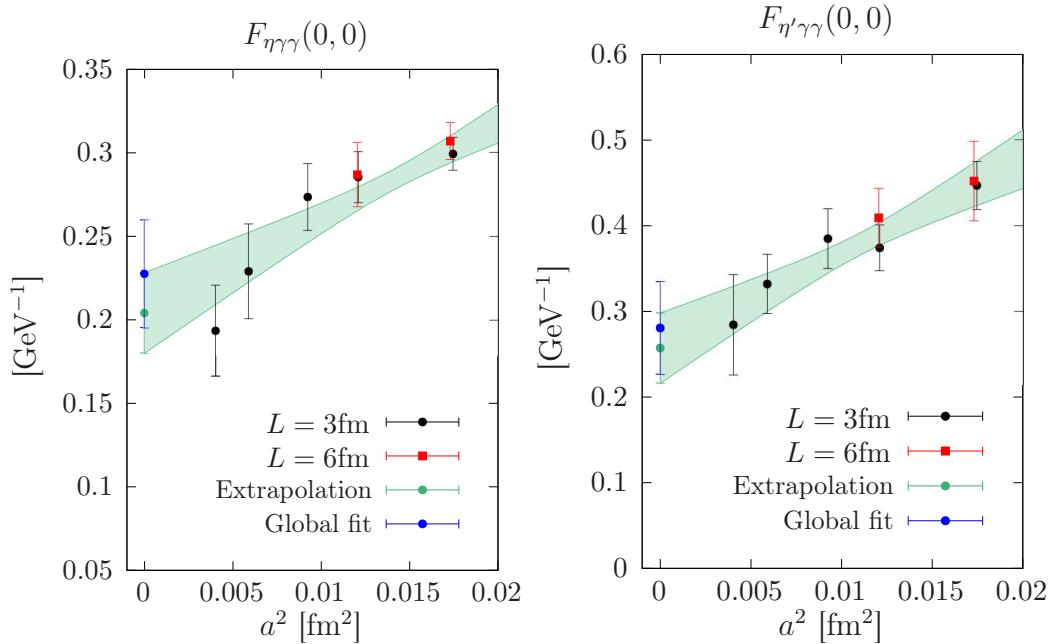
$$\rightarrow \tilde{c}_{mn}(a) = c_{mn} + \gamma_{mn}^{(1)} a^2$$

# Model-independent extrapolation to the physical point



► two-photon decay width :

$$\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = \frac{\pi\alpha^2 m_{\pi^0}^3}{4} \mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}^2(0,0)$$



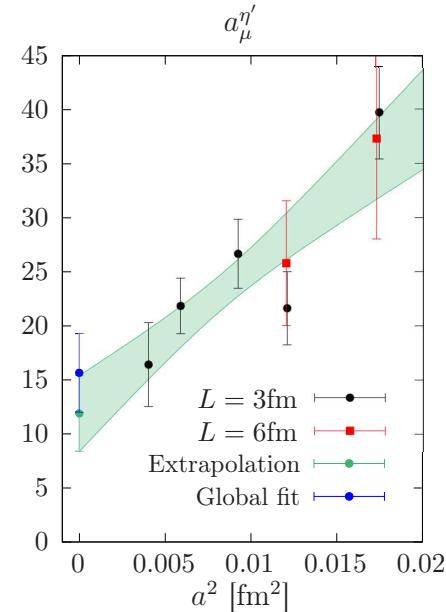
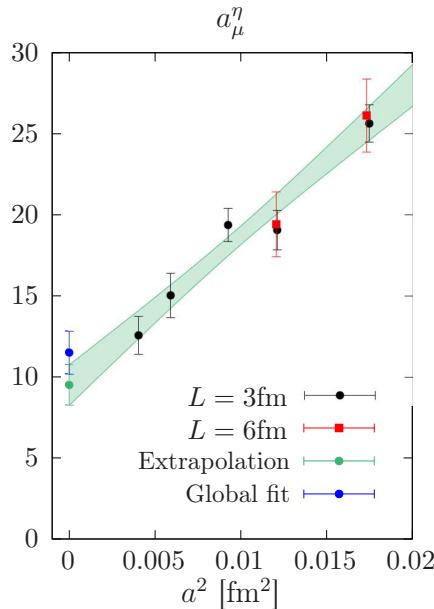
$$\Gamma(\eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 338(94)_{\text{stat}}(35)_{\text{syst}} \text{ eV}$$

$$\Gamma(\eta' \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 3.4(1.0)_{\text{stat}}(0.4)_{\text{syst}} \text{ keV}$$

→ PDG :  $\Gamma(\eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 516(18) \text{ eV}$

→ PDG :  $\Gamma(\eta' \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 4.28(19) \text{ keV}$

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\pi^0} = \int_0^\infty dQ_1 \int_0^\infty dQ_2 \int_{-1}^1 d\tau \ w_1(Q_1, Q_2, \tau) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_1^2, -(Q_1 + Q_2)^2) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_2^2, 0) + \\ w_2(Q_1, Q_2, \tau) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-Q_1^2, -Q_2^2) \ \mathcal{F}_{P\gamma^*\gamma^*}(-(Q_1 + Q_2)^2, 0)$$



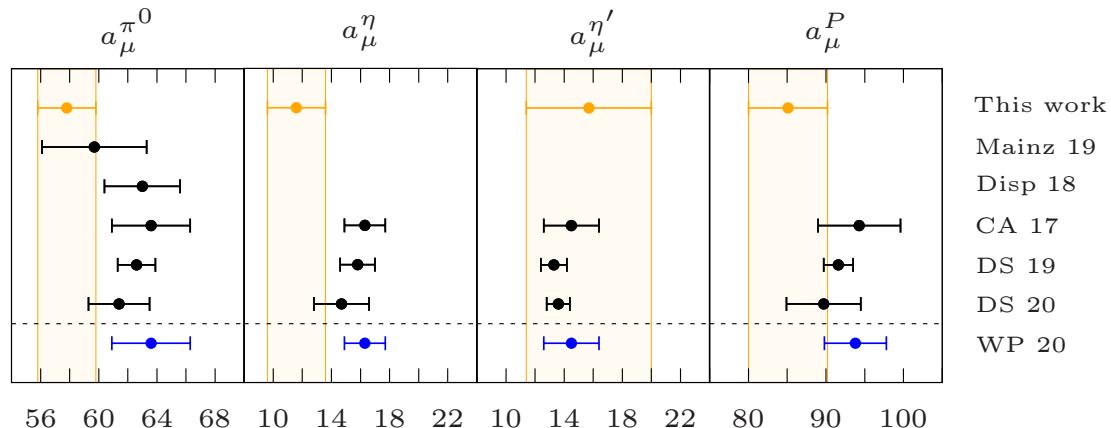
$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta} = 11.6(1.6)_{\text{stat}}(0.5)_{\text{syst}}(1.1)_{\text{FSE}} \times 10^{-11}$$

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta'} = 15.7(3.9)_{\text{stat}}(1.1)_{\text{syst}}(1.3)_{\text{FSE}} \times 10^{-11}$$

Canterbury approximants [PRD 95, 054026 (2017)]

$$\rightarrow a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta} = 16.3(1.4) \times 10^{-11}$$

$$\rightarrow a_\mu^{\text{HLbL};\eta'} = 14.5(1.9) \times 10^{-11}$$



- Our final estimate

$$a_\mu^{\text{HLbL;ps-poles}} = (85.1 \pm 4.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-11}.$$

- Pion transition form factor

→ good agreement with Mainz'19, ETM'23 and with exp. data for  $\mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}(Q^2, 0)$   
 → calculation of  $\mathcal{F}_{\pi^0\gamma\gamma}(0, 0)$  might help to reduce the error (+ comparison with PrimEx)

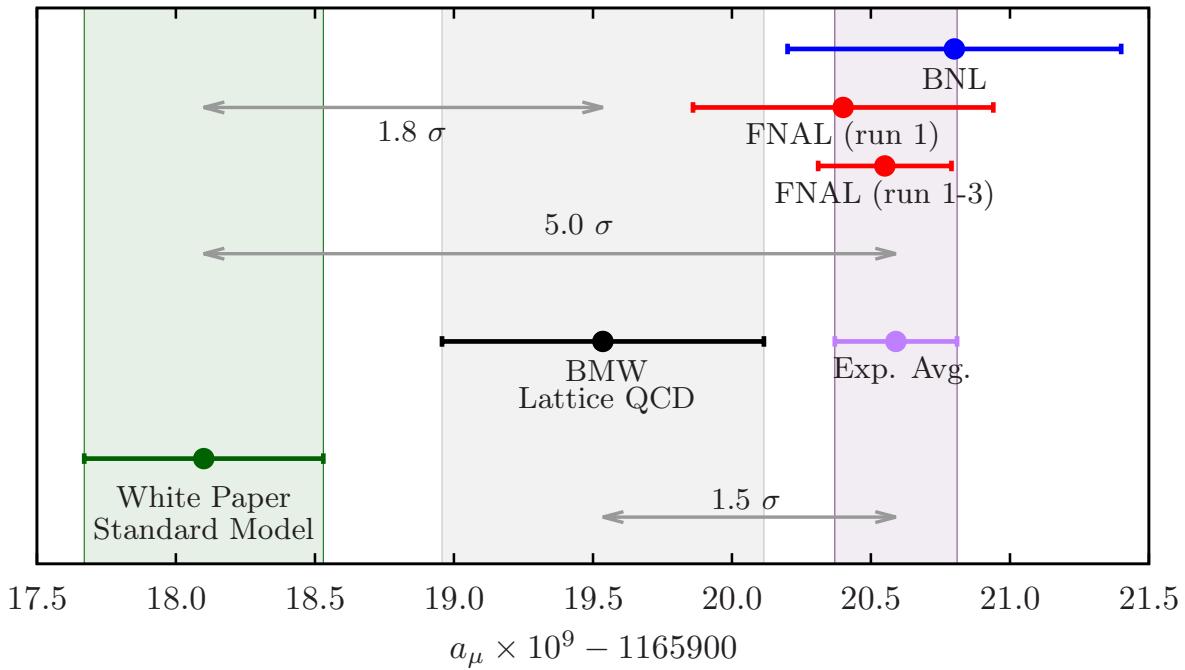
- $\eta - \eta'$  transition form factors

→ first ab-initio calculation - error dominated by statistics  
 → some tensions for the  $\eta$  TFF at very low virtualities

- Spectroscopy of the  $\eta/\eta'$  with rooted staggered fermions

Thank you !

Status after runs 1-3 at Fermilab (August 2023)



- Can be measured with very high precision ( $\sim 0.2$  ppm !)
- Can be computed with similar precision within the Standard Model of particle physics

Good probe to test the SM and to look for possible new physics