

Mixing of heavy and light quarks in charmonium and light mesons

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XVIth Quark Confinement and the Hadron Spectrum,
Cairns, 20 August 2024

Outline

- ▶ Motivation
- ▶ A bit of introduction to lattice QCD
- ▶ Mixing of flavors, glueballs and 2-pion states in the scalar channel
- ▶ Conclusions



Part I

Motivation



Motivation

- ▶ Confinement predicts the existence of states made of gluons alone called glueballs which still await experimental confirmation; renewed interest e.g. [M. Ablikim et al. \(BESIII\), Phys.Rev.Lett., 132, 2024](#)
- ▶ ... and more exotic states than “just” mesons and baryons called XYZ states; despite experimental discoveries since two decades still no understanding of their internal mechanics
- ▶ Glueballs are expected at energies close to charmonium; in QCD they are resonances with many decay channels e.g. into pions
- ▶ Several XYZ states have been discovered with charmonium content
- ▶ ⇒ **study mixing of light and charm quarks**
- ▶ Lattice QCD provides ab-initio tool to study glueballs and exotics but it is challenging: signal-to-noise ratio, unstable states, ...



Part II

A bit of introduction to lattice QCD



Spectroscopy on the Lattice

- ▶ Lattice QCD is very good at computing Euclidean correlation functions

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(t)\mathcal{O}^\dagger(0) \rangle$$

where “operator” \mathcal{O} is a (temporally) local combination of fields

- ▶ This path integral expression is related to an underlying QFT with Hamiltonian \hat{H} and complete set of states $|n\rangle$, $\hat{H}|n\rangle = E_n|n\rangle$.

$$\langle n|m\rangle = \delta_{n,m}, \quad \sum_n |n\rangle\langle n| = 1$$

- ▶ A consequence of this relation is the “spectral decomposition”

$$\langle \mathcal{O}(t)\mathcal{O}^\dagger(0) \rangle = \sum_n |c_n|^2 e^{-E_n t}$$

with matrix elements called **overlaps**

$$c_n = \langle n|\mathcal{O}|\Omega\rangle$$



Excited States

GEVP method (Generalized eigenvalue problem) M. Lüscher & U. Wolff,
Nuclear Physics B 339, 222–252, B. Blossier et al. Journal of High Energy Physics 2009, 094–094 :

- ▶ Consider several operators for the same symmetry channel
 $\mathcal{O}_1, \dots, \mathcal{O}_{N_{\text{op}}}$
- ▶ Compute a correlation matrix with elements
 $C_{ij}(t) = \langle \mathcal{O}_i(t) \mathcal{O}_j^\dagger(0) \rangle$
- ▶ The generalized eigenvalues $\lambda_n(t, t_0)$ of

$$C(t)\vec{v}_n = \lambda_n C(t_0)\vec{v}_n$$

behave like

$$\lambda_n(t, t_0) = e^{-(t-t_0)E_n} \times \left(1 + e^{-(t-t_0)\Delta_n} \right)$$

But we need a variational basis with operators that have good **overlaps** $\langle n | \mathcal{O}_i | \Omega \rangle \propto [C(t_0)v_n(t, t_0)]_i$ with all states.

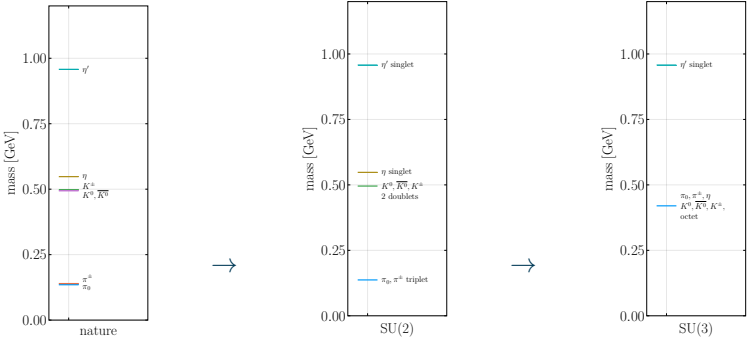


Symmetries (Flavor)

Nature has no exact flavor symmetry, but an approximate $SU(2)$, or even $SU(3)$. In $N_f = 3 + 1$ QCD

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \\ s \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow V \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \\ s \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\bar{u}, \bar{d}, \bar{s}) \rightarrow (\bar{u}, \bar{d}, \bar{s})V^\dagger, \quad V \in SU(3)$$

is a symmetry \rightarrow Energy eigenstates labeled by $|D, Y, I, I_3\rangle$



Lüscher's formalism

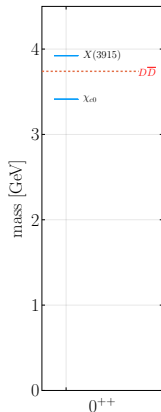
- ▶ A scattering process like: two particles \rightarrow two particles happens in real time
- ▶ In lattice QCD we work in Euclidean (imaginary) time
 - ▶ Perfect for spectroscopy
 - ▶ No direct access to scattering
- ▶ Lüscher's idea [M. Lüscher, Nucl.Phys.B354, 531 \(1991\)](#) : compute the two-particle spectrum in a finite volume and solve an equation to find the phase shifts and infer the resonance parameters, cf. talk by C. Thomas Tue 14:30 Session C



Scalar Channel(s)

Goals of FOR5269:

- ▶ Decay of scalar glueball into pions
- ▶ Mixing of Charmonia with light hadrons
- ▶ E.g. the 0^{++} , flavor singlet channel
 - ▶ Charmonia



courtesy T. Korzec

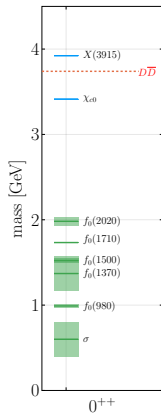


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Particle Data Group, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2022



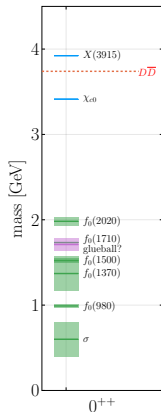
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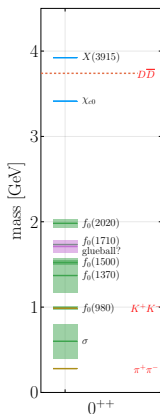
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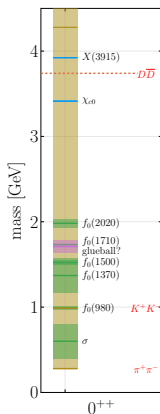


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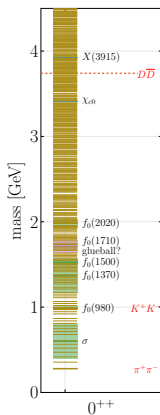
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- ▶ Finite volume helps!
Momenta are quantized $\vec{p} = \vec{n} 2\pi/L$ (free case)



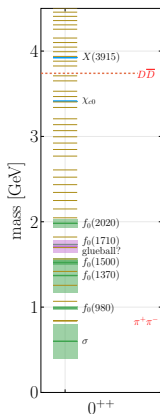
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Momenta are quantized $\vec{p} = \vec{n} 2\pi/L$ (free case)
- ▶ Heavier pions help, e.g. SU(3) flavor symmetric point $m_\pi = 420$ MeV



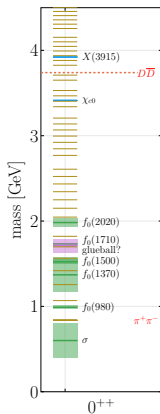
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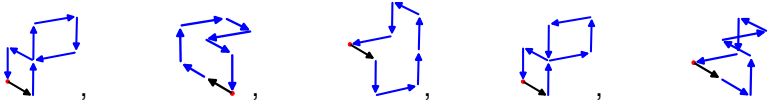
courtesy T. Korzec


Strategy: Start with $N_f = 3 + 1$, $m_\pi \approx 1$ GeV, then $\searrow 420$ MeV

Operators


- ▶ scalar glueball 

\mathcal{O}_g is a linear combination of Wilson loops of different shapes and lengths, e.g.



- ▶ charmonium 

$$\mathcal{O}_{\chi_{c0}} = \bar{c}c$$

- ▶ light scalar 

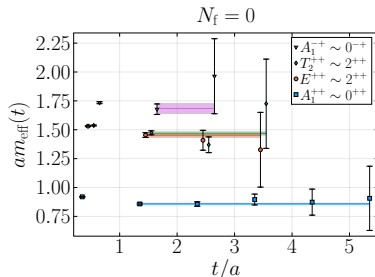
- ▶ singlet $\mathcal{O}_{f_0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d + \bar{s}s)$
- ▶ octet $\mathcal{O}_{a_0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{u}u - \bar{d}d)$
and 7 more operators



Signal-to-noise problem

- ▶ Example: gluonic operators, pure gauge, $\beta = 5.85$, 9000 gauge configurations
- ▶ effective masses
 $am_{\text{eff}} = \ln(C_{ij}(t)/C_{ij}(t+a))$
approach ground state energy E_0 at large t
- ▶ Exponential increase of statistical errors

- Need operators with large overlaps onto eigenstates to get early plateaus already at small t (large variational basis, smearing)
- Similar issue affects quark-line disconnected diagrams: we use quark smearing called **distillation** [M.Peardon et al. Phys.Rev.D 80 \(2009\)](#) with profiles [F.Knechtli, T.Korzec, M.Peardon, J.A.Urrea-Niño, Phys.Rev.D 106 \(2022\)](#)



Part III

Mixing of flavors, glueballs and 2-pion states in the scalar channel



Mixing

Calculate the low-lying meson spectrum in $N_f = 3 + 1$ QCD.

This includes different states related to $SU(3)_F$:

- ▶ Flavor-singlet: f_0, η_c , glueballs, 2-pion states, etc...
- ▶ Flavor-octet: π, a_0 , octet 2-pion states, etc...

Common approach:

- ▶ Study light meson states with $\bar{l}(t)\Gamma l(t)$ operators including disconnected correlations.
- ▶ Study charmonium states with $\bar{c}(t)\Gamma c(t)$ operators disregarding charm disconnected correlations.

!!! Mixing is artificially **eliminated**.

But $\mathcal{O}_c = \bar{c}\Gamma c$ and $\mathcal{O}_l = \bar{u}\Gamma u + \bar{d}\Gamma d + \bar{s}\Gamma s$ are in the same symmetry channel. E.g. flavor-singlet 0^{++} channel ($\Gamma = \mathbb{I}$)

$$C_l(t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} |\langle f_0 | \mathcal{O}_l | \Omega \rangle|^2 e^{-E_{f_0} t}$$

$$C_c(t) \stackrel{t \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} |\langle f_0 | \mathcal{O}_c | \Omega \rangle|^2 e^{-E_{f_0} t} \neq |\langle \chi_{c0} | \mathcal{O}_c | \Omega \rangle|^2 e^{-E_{\chi_{c0}} t}$$

If mixing is included do not need to rely on assumptions like $|\langle \chi_{c0} | \mathcal{O}_c | \Omega \rangle| \gg |\langle f_0 | \mathcal{O}_c | \Omega \rangle| > 0$ to compute charmonium spectrum



Mixing contd

Mixing matrix $C(t) =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathcal{O}_l(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_l(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_l(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_c(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_l(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_{2\pi}(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_l(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_g(0) \rangle \\ * & \langle \mathcal{O}_c(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_c(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_c(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_{2\pi}(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_c(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_g(0) \rangle \\ * & * & \langle \mathcal{O}_{2\pi}(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_{2\pi}(0) \rangle & \langle \mathcal{O}_{2\pi}(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_g(0) \rangle \\ * & * & * & \langle \mathcal{O}_g(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_g(0) \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ $\mathcal{O}_g(t)$: gluonic operators, e.g built from Wilson loops.
- ▶ $\mathcal{O}_{2\pi}(t)$: flavor-singlet 2-pion operators at zero total momentum.

→ $\langle \mathcal{O}_i(t) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_j(0) \rangle \neq 0$ for $i \neq j$ means **no decoupling** between operators.

We solve a GEVP:

$$C(t) \vec{v}_n(t, t_0) = \lambda_n(t, t_0) C(t_0) \vec{v}_n(t, t_0)$$

and compute the overlaps $\langle n | \mathcal{O}_i | \Omega \rangle$

Noise in vectors and choice of t_0 play a large role here [J.J. Dudek et al.](#)

[Phys. Rev. D 77, 034501 \(2008\)](#)



Diagrams after Wick contractions

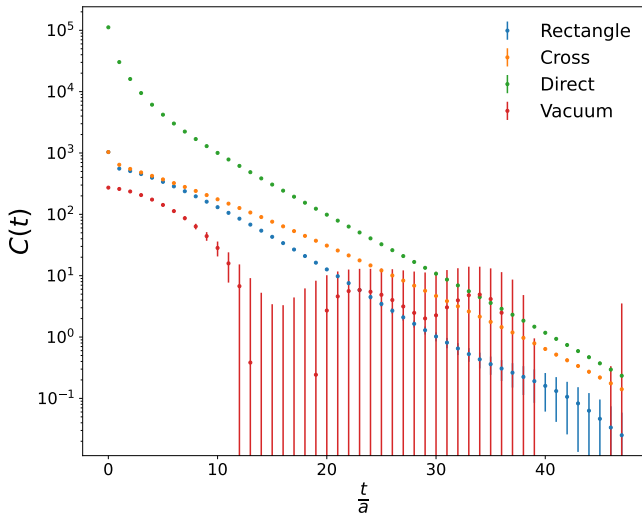
	\mathcal{O}_l	\mathcal{O}_c	$\mathcal{O}_{2\pi}$	\mathcal{O}_g
\mathcal{O}_l				
\mathcal{O}_c	-			
$\mathcal{O}_{2\pi}$	-	-		
\mathcal{O}_g	-	-	-	

Disconnected diagrams arise for flavor-singlets; they have large statistical errors

- ▶ Basis of different distillation profiles for 1-particle states ($\Gamma = \mathbb{I}$)
- ▶ 2-pion operator with standard distillation *for now*



$\pi\pi$ Diagrams and their error in A1



$$\text{Singlet } \langle \mathcal{O}_{|1,0,0,0}\rangle \mathcal{O}_{|1,0,0,0}^\dagger \rangle = -\frac{32}{3}\mathcal{R} + \frac{2}{3}\mathcal{C} + 2\mathcal{D} + 8\mathcal{V}$$



$N_f = 3 + 1$ ensembles

Wilson fermion action with non-perturbatively determined clover improvement + Lüscher-Weisz gauge action P. Fritzsche et al. J. High Energ.

Phys. 2018, 25 (2018); R. Höllwieser et al. Eur. Phys. J. C 80, 349.

A1	A1h
96×32^3	96×32^3
$a \approx 0.054$ fm	$a \approx 0.069$ fm
$m_\pi \approx 420$ MeV	$m_\pi \approx 800$ MeV
$N_v^{light} = 100$	$N_v^{light} = 200$
$N_v^{charm} = 200$	$N_v^{charm} = 200$

Varying m_π we can control the decay thresholds:

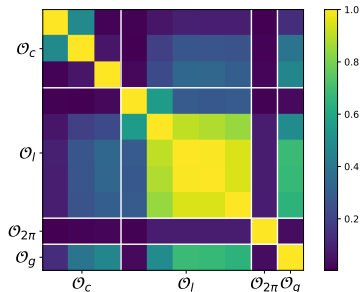
- ▶ Quenched 0^{++} glueball ≈ 1800 MeV
- ▶ ensemble A1: 0^{++} Glueball $\rightarrow \pi\pi, \pi\pi\pi\pi$
- ▶ ensemble A1h: 0^{++} Glueball $\rightarrow \pi\pi$

Following results were presented by J.A. Urrea-Niño at Lattice 2024

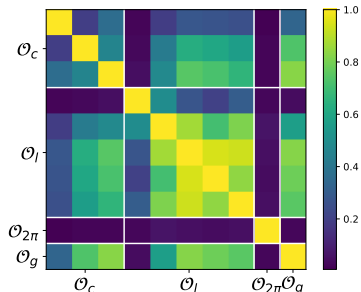


0^{++} flavor-singlet correlation matrix at $t = a$

$$C_{ij}(t) \rightarrow C_{ij}(t) / \sqrt{C_{ii}(a)C_{jj}(a)}.$$



A1 ensemble



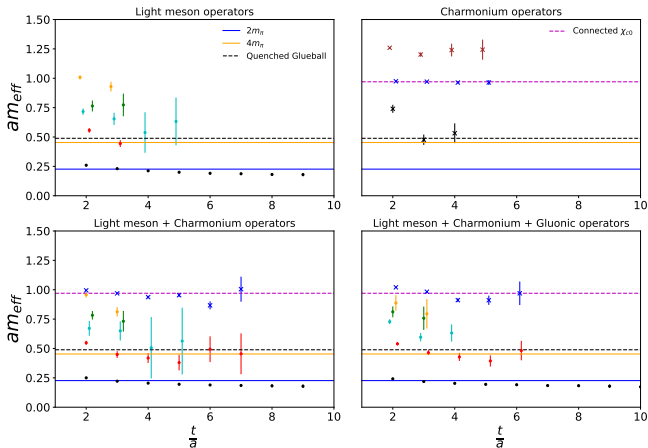
A1h ensemble

All operators "talk" to each other to some degree.

- ▶ \mathcal{O}_g : Sum of Laplacian eigenvalues. [C. Morningstar et al. Phys. Rev. D 88, 014511](#)
- ▶ $\mathcal{O}_{l/c}$: From SVD pruning of sub-blocks. [J. Balog et al., Phys. Rev. D 60, 094508](#), [F. Niedermayer et al., Nuclear Physics B 597, 413–450](#)



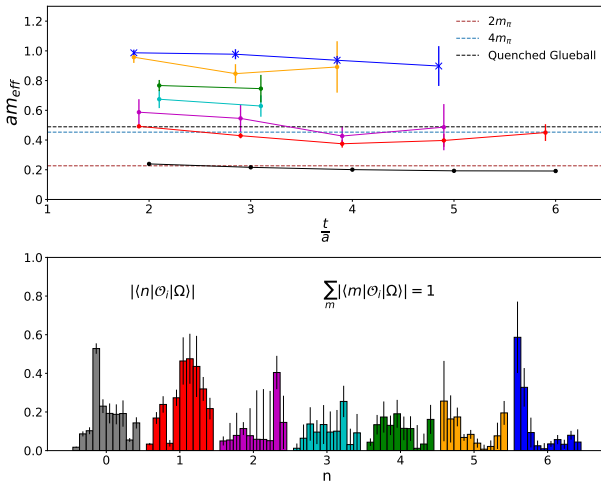
0^{++} single-particle operator mixing in A1



- ▶ Charmonium operators alone see a light state
- ▶ Including \mathcal{O}_g does not change the low-lying spectrum; similar findings to [R. Brett et al. 1909.07306](#)



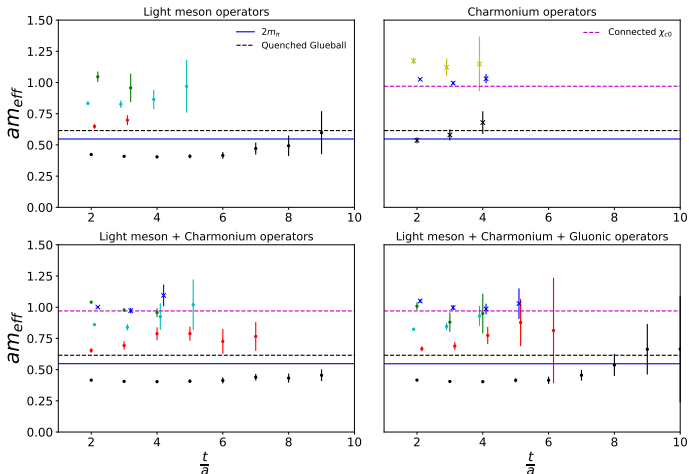
0^{++} full operator mixing in A1



- ▶ 10 operators: $3 \times \mathcal{O}_c$, $5 \times \mathcal{O}_l$, $\mathcal{O}_{2\pi}$ and \mathcal{O}_g
- ▶ 2-pion operator introduces an **additional state** ($n = 2$)



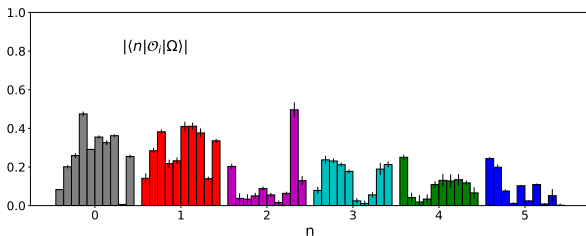
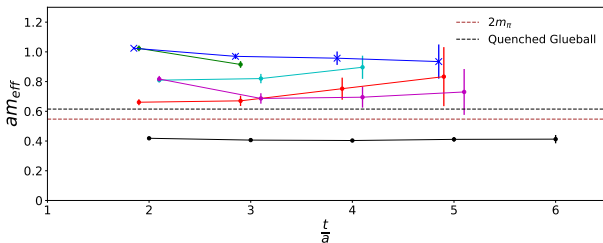
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Part IV

Conclusions



Conclusions and Outlook

- ▶ Observation of mixing of light and heavy quarks, glueball and 2-pion states in flavor singlets through lattice simulations of $N_f = 3 + 1$ QCD at two values of the pion mass
- ▶ 2-pion operator has the smallest mixing with one-particle states; it yields an additional state very close to quenched 0^{++} glueball
- ▶ Inclusion of disconnected diagrams in charmonium correlators leads to a state in the region of light mesons
- ▶ Inclusion of glueball operators in the GEVP basis does not lead to a new state
- ▶ Statistical noise from glueball and disconnected correlations is a major problem

Outlook:

- ▶ More 1-particle operators to better sample radial excitations
- ▶ More 2-pion operators: back-to-back momentum + profiles
- ▶ Better sampling methods for disconnected diagrams, e.g. multi-level sampling with fermions [Cè, Giusti and Schaefer, Phys.Rev.D 95 \(2017\)](#) ; cf. quenched glueballs [L. Barca et al, 2406.12656](#)
- ▶ Apply Lüscher's method at different volumes to study scattering

