

Tetraquarks from the Bethe-Salpeter equation

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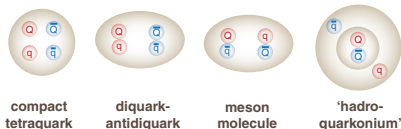
Outline

- **Introduction**
- Some background: **Bethe-Salpeter equations, rainbow-ladder**, applications to mesons and baryons
- **Tetraquarks** as meson-meson / diquark-antidiquark systems
[Heupel, GE, Fischer, PLB 718 \(2012\)](#)
- **Tetraquarks** as **four-quark** systems
[Heupel, GE, Fischer, in preparation](#)
- **Summary**

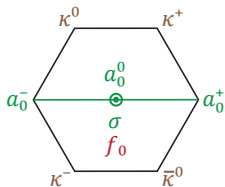
Introduction

- Increasing evidence for four-quark states in **charmonium & bottomonium** spectrum: X(3872), Y(4260), charged Z states, ...

Godfrey 0910.3409, Brambilla et al., EPJ C71 (2011) & EPJ C74 (2014), Olsen, Front. Phys. 10 (2015)



- But already **light scalar** (0^{++}) **mesons** don't fit into the conventional meson spectrum:



a_0 (980 MeV) } $u\bar{u}, d\bar{d}, u\bar{d}$
 σ (500 MeV) }
 κ (680 MeV) } $u\bar{s}, d\bar{s}$
 f_0 (980 MeV) } $s\bar{s}$

- Why are a_0, f_0 mass-degenerate?
- Why are their **decay widths** so different?

$$\Gamma(\sigma, \kappa) \approx 550 \text{ MeV}$$

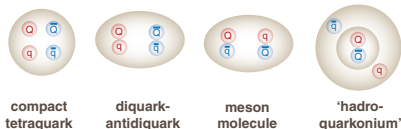
$$\Gamma(a_0, f_0) \approx 50\text{--}100 \text{ MeV}$$

- Why are they so **light**?
Scalar mesons ~ **p-waves**, should have masses similar to axial-vectors: $a_1, f_1 \sim 1.3 \text{ GeV}$

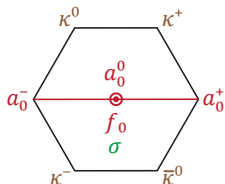
Introduction

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- But already **light scalar** (0^{++}) **mesons** don't fit into the conventional meson spectrum: What if they were **tetraquarks** (diquark-antidiquark)? Jaffe 1977, Close, Tornqvist 2002, Maiani, Polosa, Riquer 2004



$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_0 (980 \text{ MeV}) \\ f_0 (980 \text{ MeV}) \end{array} \right\} us\bar{u}\bar{s}, \dots$
 $\kappa (680 \text{ MeV}) \quad us\bar{u}\bar{d}, \dots$
 $\sigma (500 \text{ MeV}) \quad ud\bar{u}\bar{d}$

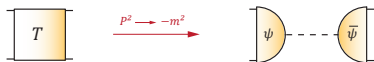
- Explains **mass ordering**:
 f_0 and a_0 have same strangeness content
- Explains **decay widths**:
 f_0 and a_0 couple to $K\bar{K}$, large widths for σ, κ



- Actual **scalar** $q\bar{q}$ **ground states** $\sim 1.3\text{--}1.5 \text{ GeV}$
- Large N_c , unitarized ChPT, quark models, ELSM, ...
Pelaez 2004, Weinberg 2013, Knecht & Peris 2013, Cohen & Lebed 2014, Giacosa 2006, Bicudo, Cardoso 2010, Parganlija, Giacosa, Rischke 2010, ...

Bethe-Salpeter equations

- Extract hadron properties from **poles** in $q\bar{q}, qq, qq\bar{q}$ **scattering matrices**:



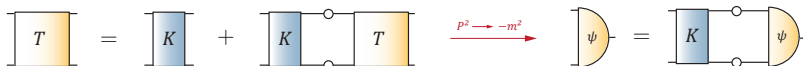
- defines onshell **Bethe-Salpeter amplitude**. Simplest example: **pion**

$$\psi(q, P) = \gamma_5 (f_1 + f_2 \not{P} + f_3 \not{q} + f_4 [\not{q}, \not{P}]) \otimes \text{Color} \otimes \text{Flavor}$$

most general Dirac-Lorentz structure,
Lorentz-invariant dressing functions:

$$f_i = f_i(q^2, q \cdot P, P^2 = -m^2)$$

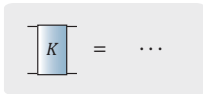
- Use **scattering equation** (inhomogeneous BSE) to obtain T in the first place: $T = K + K G_0 T$



Homogeneous BSE
for **BS amplitude**:

Bethe-Salpeter equations

Kernel is closely related to **quark Dyson-Schwinger equation**:

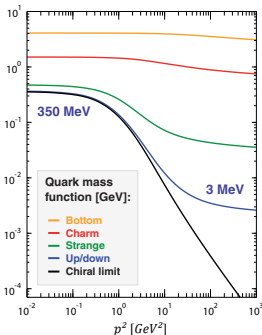


- **Dynamical breaking of chiral symmetry** generates “constituent- quark masses”

$$S_0(p) = \frac{-i\not{p} + m}{p^2 + m^2} \rightarrow S(p) = \frac{1}{A(p^2)} \frac{-i\not{p} + M(p^2)}{p^2 + M^2(p^2)}$$

- **Vector & axial symmetries** automatically preserved:

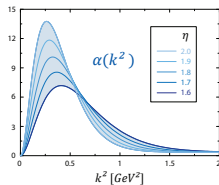
- ⇒ Goldstone theorem, massless pion in χ L
- ⇒ em. current conservation
- ⇒ Goldberger-Treiman



Rainbow-ladder:
tree-level vertex +
effective coupling

$$\alpha(k^2) = \alpha_{\text{IR}} \left(\frac{k^2}{\Lambda^2}, \eta \right) + \alpha_{\text{UV}}(k^2)$$

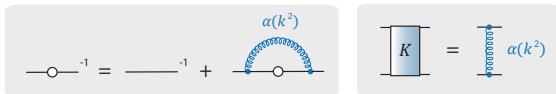
Maris, Roberts, Tandy,
PRC 56 (1997), PRC 60 (1999)



Adjust scale Λ to observable,
keep width η as parameter

Bethe-Salpeter equations

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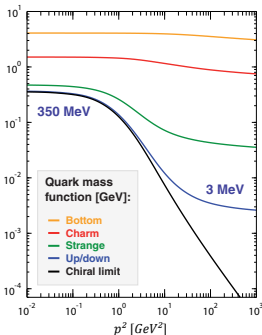


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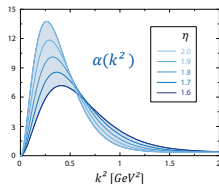
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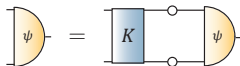


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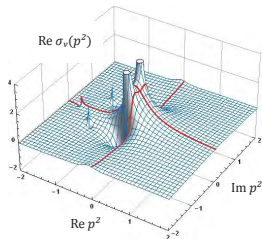
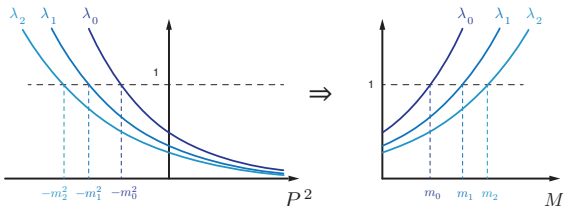
Bethe-Salpeter equations

- BS amplitude makes only sense **onshell**, but homogeneous BSE = **eigenvalue equation**, can be solved for offshell momenta:

$$K \psi_i = \lambda_i(P^2) \psi_i, \quad \lambda_i \xrightarrow{P^2 \rightarrow -m_i^2} 1$$



- Largest eigenvalue \Leftrightarrow ground state, smaller ones \Leftrightarrow excitations



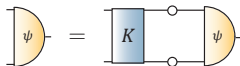
- Restricted by singularity structure in **quark propagator** (but no **physical threshold!**): mesons: $M < 2m_p$, baryons: $M < 3m_p$, $m_p \sim 500 \text{ MeV}$

\Rightarrow include residues (numerically difficult) or **extrapolate eigenvalue**

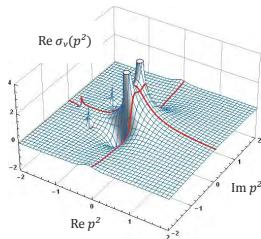
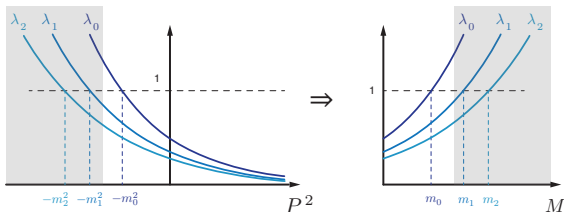
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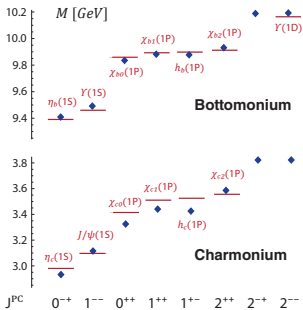
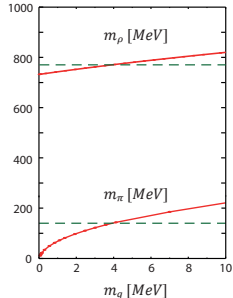
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Mesons

- Rainbow-ladder works well for **pseudoscalar & vector mesons**: masses, form factors, decays, ...

Maris, Roberts, Tandy, PRC 56 (1997), PRC 60 (1999);
 Bashir et al., Commun.Theor. Phys.58 (2012)

Pion is Goldstone boson, satisfies GMOR: $m_\pi^2 \sim m_q$



- Heavy mesons**

Blank, Krassnigg, PRD 84 (2011),
 Fischer, Kubrak, Williams,
 EPJ A 51 (2015)

— exp
 ◆ calc

- Rainbow-ladder good for ‘**s-wave**’ dominated states
- Need to go **beyond rainbow-ladder** for scalar & axialvector mesons, excited states, η - η' , ...

Fischer, Williams & Chang, Roberts, PRL 103 (2009)

Alkofer et al., EPJ A38 (2008), Bhagwat et al., PRC 76 (2007),

e.g. σ meson: 600-700 MeV in RL \longrightarrow $\gtrsim 1$ GeV

Baryons

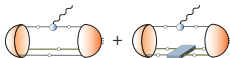
- Covariant Faddeev equation for **baryons**:
keep 2-body interactions & rainbow-ladder,
but no further approximations: $M_N = 0.94 \text{ GeV}$

GE, Alkofer, Krassnigg, Nicorus, PRL 104 (2010), GE, PRD 84 (2011),
Sanchis-Alepuz, Fischer, PRD 90 (2014)



- Baryon form factors:**
nucleon and Δ FFs, $N \rightarrow \Delta\gamma$ transition

GE, PRD 84 (2011), Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, Alkofer, PRD 87 (2013),
Alkofer, GE, Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, 1412.8413



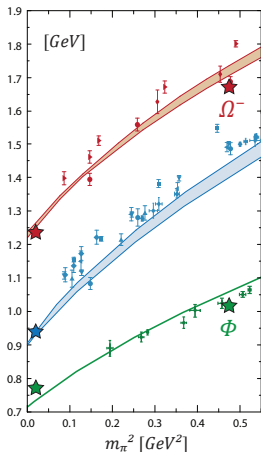
- Scattering amplitudes:**

Compton scattering

GE & Fischer, PRD 85 (2012) & PRD 87 (2013)

hadronic light-by-light for muon g-2

GE, Fischer, Heupel, Williams, 1411.7876



Delta:

Sanchis-Alepuz
et al., PRD 84 (2011)

Nucleon:

GE, Alkofer,
Krassnigg, Nicorus,
PRL 104 (2010);
GE, PRD 84 (2011)

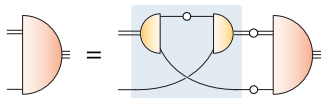
ρ -meson:

Maris & Tandy,
PRC 60 (1999)

Tetraquarks: two-body equation

Use **quark-diquark model** as template:

- Assumption: separable qq scattering matrix \Rightarrow Faddeev equation simplifies to **quark-diquark BSE**



- Quark exchange** between quark & diquark binds nucleon
- All quark and diquark properties calculated from quark level, same rainbow-ladder interaction:
scalar diquark ~ 800 MeV, axialvector diquark ~ 1 GeV
- N and Δ masses & form factors very similar:
quark-diquark model is good approximation for three-body equation

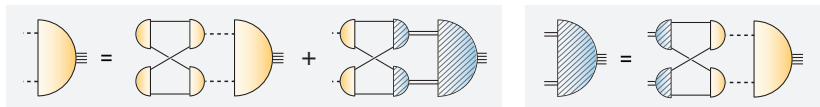
Nucleon and Δ electromagnetic FFs, $N \rightarrow \Delta\pi$ decay, $N \rightarrow \Delta\gamma$ transition

GE, PhD Thesis, 0909.0703, GE, Cloet, Alkofer, Krassnigg, Roberts, PRC 79 (2009),
Nimorus, GE, Alkofer, PRD 82 (2010), Mader, GE, Blank, Krassnigg, PRD 84 (2011), GE, Nicorus, PRD 85 (2012)

Tetraquarks: two-body equation

Use **quark-diquark model** as template:

- Assumption: separable qq , $q\bar{q}$ scattering matrices \Rightarrow coupled **diquark-antidiquark / meson-meson** equations: [Heupel, GE, Fischer, PLB 718 \(2012\)](#)



- Quark exchange** between mesons and diquarks binds tetraquark
- Coupled equations can be contracted into single **meson-meson equation**, where diquarks appear only internally (not vice versa!)
 \Rightarrow **meson molecule** with **diquark-antidiquark admixture!**

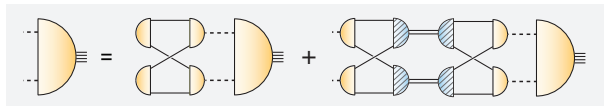
So far:

- 0^{++} , isoscalar, 4 identical quarks: $nn\bar{n}\bar{n}$, $sss\bar{s}\bar{s}$, $ccc\bar{c}\bar{c}$,
- keep only **pseudoscalar meson** and **scalar diquark**, calculated in rainbow-ladder

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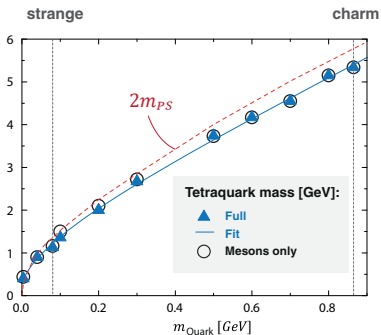
Tetraquarks: two-body equation

Tetraquark masses:

Heupel, GE, Fischer, PLB 718 (2012)

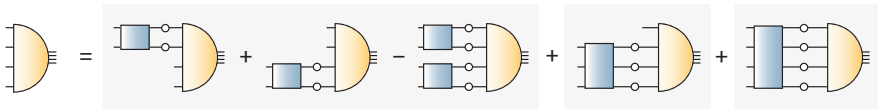
- up/down: $m \sim 400 \text{ MeV} \Leftrightarrow \sigma/f_0(500)?$
- The σ is so light because it 'feels' **Goldstone nature of the pion** - diquarks completely irrelevant!
- Resolves problem with diquark-antidiquark interpretation: '2 x 800 MeV - binding energy' $\sim 500 \text{ MeV}?!$
- **All-strange** tetraquark: $m \sim 1.2 \text{ GeV}$
all-charm tetraquark: $m \sim 5.3 \text{ GeV}$
(below $2\eta_c$ threshold)

⇒ Artifact of 2-body approximation or genuine result?
What about $\kappa, a_0/f_0$?



Tetraquarks: four-body equation

Start from **four-quark bound-state equation**:



Two-body interactions:

- $K \otimes I + I \otimes K - K \otimes K$ structure necessary to prevent overcounting in T-matrix $T = K + K G_0 T$
Kvinikhidze & Khvedelidze, Theor. Math. Phys. 90 (1992)

- plus permutations:

$$(qq)(\bar{q}\bar{q}), (q\bar{q})(q\bar{q}), (q\bar{q})(q\bar{q})$$
$$(12)(34) \quad (23)(14) \quad (13)(24)$$

Three-body interactions
(+ permutations)

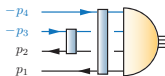
Four-body interactions

Keep **two-body interactions** with **rainbow-ladder kernel**:
well motivated by many other studies, tetraquark is **s-wave**

Structure of the amplitude

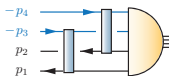
Bethe-Salpeter amplitude $\Gamma(p, q, k, P)$
depends on **four independent momenta**:

$$P = p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4$$



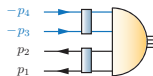
$$p = \frac{1}{2}(p_2 + p_3 - p_1 - p_4)$$

's channel'



$$q = \frac{1}{2}(p_3 + p_1 - p_2 - p_4)$$

'u channel'



$$k = \frac{1}{2}(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4)$$

't channel'

General structure quite complicated:

$$\Gamma(p, q, k, P) = \sum_i f_i(p^2, q^2, k^2, \{\omega_j\}, \{\eta_j\}) \tau_i(p, q, k, P)$$

⊗ Color ⊗ Flavor

9 Lorentz invariants:

$$p^2, q^2, k^2$$

$$\omega_1 = q \cdot k \quad \eta_1 = p \cdot P$$

$$\omega_2 = p \cdot k \quad \eta_2 = q \cdot P$$

$$\omega_3 = p \cdot q \quad \eta_3 = k \cdot P$$

$$P^2 = -M^2$$

256
Dirac-
Lorentz
tensors

2 Color
tensors:

$$3 \otimes \bar{3}, 6 \otimes \bar{6} \text{ or}$$

$$1 \otimes 1, 8 \otimes 8$$

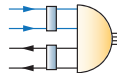
(Fierz-equivalent)

Structure of the amplitude

Keep **s waves** only:
Fierz-complete, **16 Dirac-Lorentz tensors**

#	Structure
1	$(C^T \gamma_5)_{2,1} \otimes (\gamma_5 C)_{3,4}$
2	$C^T \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_5 C + C^T \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_5 \not{P} C$
3	$C^T \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_5 C - C^T \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_5 \not{P} C$
4	$C^T \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_5 \not{P} C$
5	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \otimes \gamma_T^\mu C$
6	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu C + C^T \gamma_T^\mu \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
7	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu C - C^T \gamma_T^\mu \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
8	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
9	$C^T \mathbb{1} \otimes \mathbb{1} C$
10	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu C + C^T \gamma_T^\mu \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
11	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu C - C^T \gamma_T^\mu \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
12	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \not{P} C$
13	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 C$
14	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 C + C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} C$
15	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 C - C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} C$
16	$C^T \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} \otimes \gamma_T^\mu \gamma_5 \not{P} C$

Table 2.8: Symmetrized Momentum independent s-wave tensor structures.



$$k = \frac{1}{2}(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4)$$

't channel'

$$\tau_i(p, q, k, P) \otimes \text{Color} \otimes \text{Flavor}$$

256
Dirac-
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2 Color
tensors:

$$3 \otimes \bar{3}, 6 \otimes \bar{6} \text{ or}$$

$$1 \otimes 1, 8 \otimes 8$$

(Fierz-equivalent)

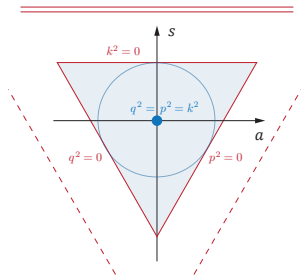
Structure of the amplitude

- **Singlet:** symmetric variable, carries overall scale:

$$S_0 = \frac{1}{4} (p^2 + q^2 + k^2)$$

- **Doublet:** $\mathcal{D}_0 = \frac{1}{4S_0} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{3}(q^2 - p^2) \\ p^2 + q^2 - 2k^2 \end{bmatrix}$

Mandelstam triangle,
outside: **meson and diquark poles!**

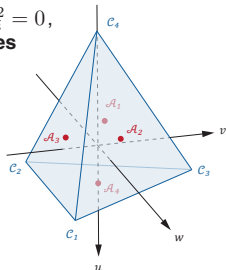


Lorentz invariants can be grouped into **multiplets of the permutation group S4**:

GE, Fischer, Heupel, Williams, 1411.7876

- **Triplet:** $\mathcal{T}_0 = \frac{1}{4S_0} \begin{bmatrix} 2(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3) \\ \sqrt{2}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 - 2\omega_3) \\ \sqrt{6}(\omega_2 - \omega_1) \end{bmatrix}$

tetrahedron bounded by $p_i^2 = 0$,
outside: **quark singularities**



- **Second triplet:**
3dim. sphere

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \frac{1}{4S_0} \begin{bmatrix} 2(\eta_1 + \eta_2 + \eta_3) \\ \sqrt{2}(\eta_1 + \eta_2 - 2\eta_3) \\ \sqrt{6}(\eta_2 - \eta_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Structure of the amplitude

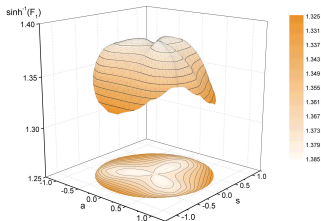
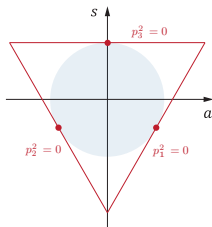
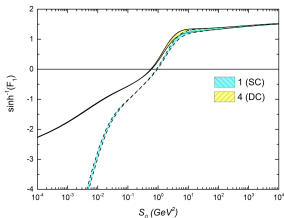
Idea: use symmetries to figure out **relevant** momentum dependence:

$$f_i(S_0, \nabla, \triangle, \circ)$$

- cf. **photon four-point function** \Leftrightarrow hadronic LbL scattering contribution to **muon g-2**

GE, Fischer, Heupel, Williams, 1411.7876

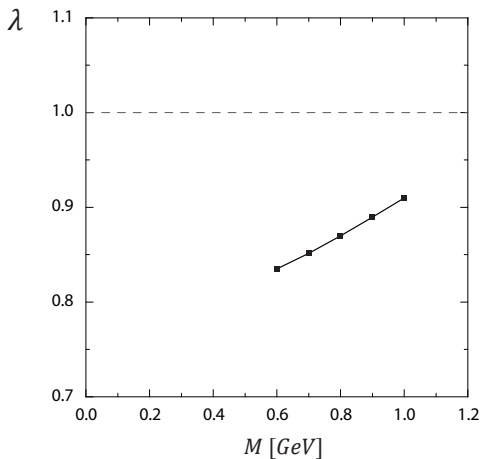
- cf. **three-gluon vertex**: angular variation in Mandelstam plane is negligible, only S_0 relevant [GE, Williams, Alkofer, Vujanovic, PRD 89 \(2014\)](#)



→ see also talks by [Markus Huber](#) and [Adrian Blum](#)

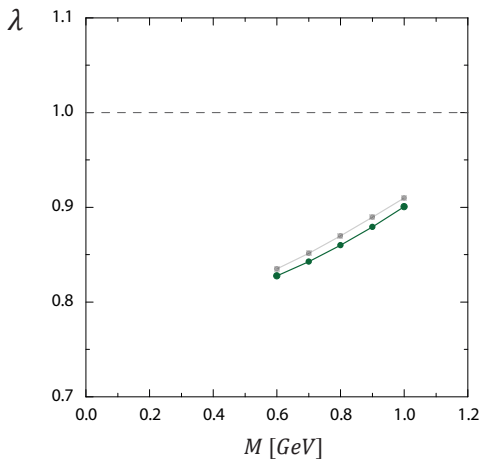
BSE eigenvalue

$$f_i(\mathcal{S}_0, \nabla, \diamond, \circ)$$



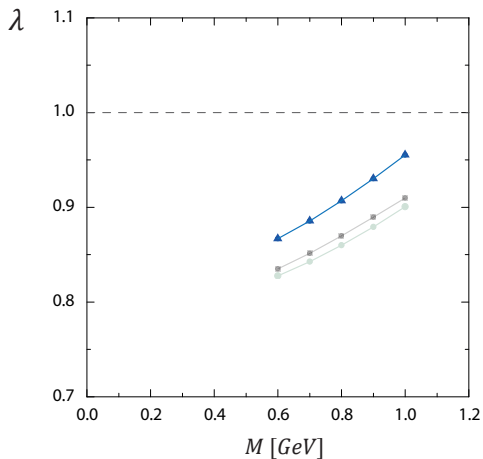
BSE eigenvalue

$$f_i(\mathcal{S}_0, \nabla, \diamond, \circ)$$



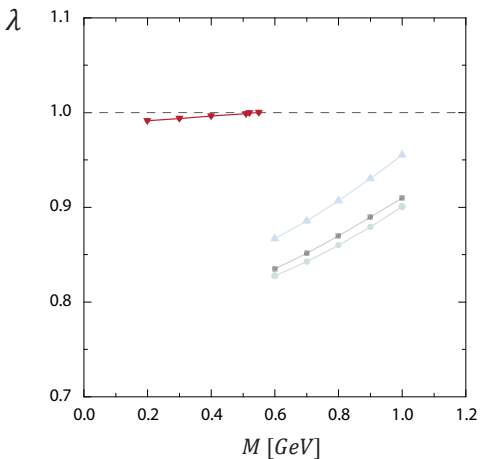
BSE eigenvalue

$$f_i(\mathcal{S}_0, \nabla, \triangle, \circ)$$

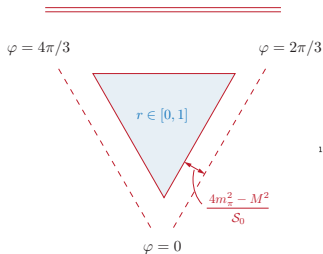


BSE eigenvalue

$$f_i(\mathcal{S}_0, \nabla, \diamond, \circ)$$

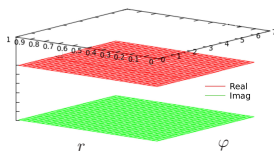


Pion poles



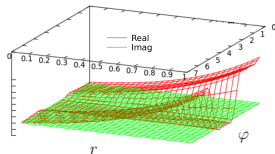
Small S_0 : no angular dependence

$$f_i(S_0, \nabla, \triangle, \circ)$$



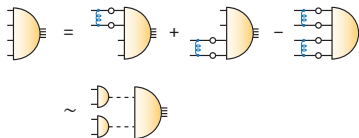
Larger S_0 : gap in Mandelstam triangle due to **pion poles!**

$$f_i(S_0, \nabla, \triangle, \circ)$$



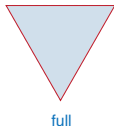
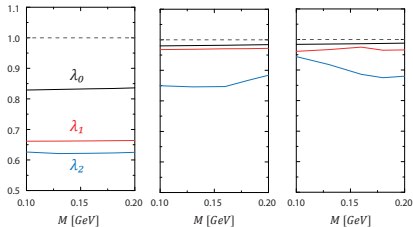
- Bethe-Salpeter amplitude sensitive to **pion poles outside the integration domain**, although equation knows nothing about pions
- drive tetraquark mass from 2 GeV to ~ 500 MeV
- **Poles enter integration domain** above threshold $M > 2m_\pi$: the tetraquark becomes a **resonance**

- Four-quark equation generates **bound state** together with its **decay channels!**



Tetraquark mass

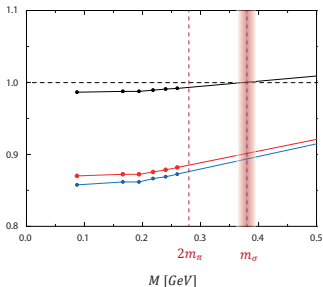
Tetraquark mass driven by momentum dependence close to $r = 1$: visible from phase space cuts (larger eigenvalue \Leftrightarrow smaller mass)



But dense eigenvalue spectrum:
spurious states?

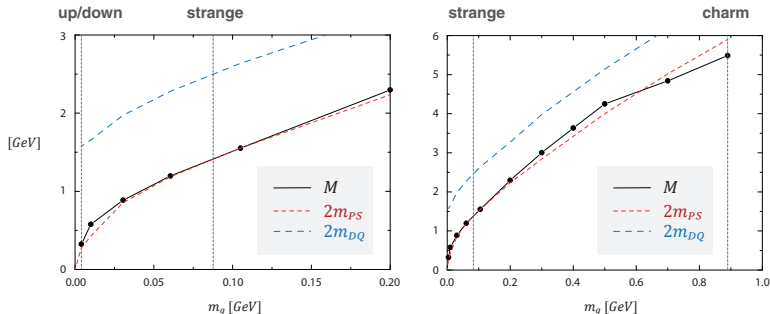
No, just numerical artifact:
pion poles at large S_0 (UV!)
not properly resolved

\Rightarrow Implement pion (and diquark) poles analytically: ground state unchanged, but low-lying excitations disappear



Tetraquark mass

Evolution with **current-quark mass**:



- Resonance just above $\pi\pi$ threshold, becomes bound state in charm-quark region
- $\sigma \sim 380$ MeV, $\kappa \sim 700$ MeV, $a_0/f_0 \sim 920$ MeV

Summary

- Two-body and four-body equations give consistent results, suggest **light scalar mesons are tetraquarks**
- $\sigma \sim 380 \text{ MeV}$, $\kappa \sim 700 \text{ MeV}$, $a_0/f_0 \sim 920 \text{ MeV}$
- Dominated by pseudoscalar Goldstone bosons, diquarks irrelevant: **'meson molecule'** (but resonance)
- Extract **widths?**
Maybe, not sure yet (look for poles in complex plane)
- Tetraquarks in **heavy-quark regime?**
Maybe, but rainbow-ladder problematic for heavy-light systems
- First solution of **genuine four-quark BSE** (which is also a **resonance!**)