

# Multi-hadron-state contamination in nucleon observables from chiral perturbation theory

Oliver Bär

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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Granada

# Outline

- Motivation:  
Excited-state contamination in lattice QCD with physical pion mass
- ChPT application:  
Estimate contamination of multi-particle states involving light pions
- Explicitly: ChPT results for  $N\pi$ -state contribution to lattice estimates for
  - nucleon charges:  $g_A$   $g_S$   $g_T$
  - moments of PDFs:  $\langle x \rangle_{u-d}$   $\langle x \rangle_{\Delta u-\Delta d}$   $\langle x \rangle_{\delta u-\delta d}$
- Comparison with lattice data
- ToDo list and Summary

Details in

- Bär, Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015) 074504
- Bär, Phys. Rev. D 94 (2016) 054505
- Bär, Phys. Rev. D 95 (2017) 035506

# Simple example: Nucleon 2-pt function

- Consider the nucleon 2-pt function  $C_2(t) = \sum_{\vec{x}} \langle N(\vec{x}, t) \bar{N}(0, 0) \rangle$ 
  - $\Sigma_x$  : projection to zero momentum
  - $N$  : interpolating field, quantum numbers of the nucleon
- Spectral decomposition and large time separations  
( Note: finite volume  $\Rightarrow$  discrete spectrum )

$$\rightarrow C_2(t) = b_0 e^{-M_N t} + b_1 e^{-E_1 t} + b_2 e^{-E_2 t} \dots$$

excited-state contribution

$\uparrow$   
 $|\langle 0 | N(0, 0) | N(\vec{p} = 0) \rangle|^2$

$$\rightarrow M_{\text{eff}}(t) = M_N + \frac{b_1}{b_0} \Delta E_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t} + \frac{b_2}{b_0} \Delta E_2 e^{-\Delta E_2 t} + \dots$$

effective mass

$\Rightarrow$  time separation needs to be sufficiently large for small excited-state corrections

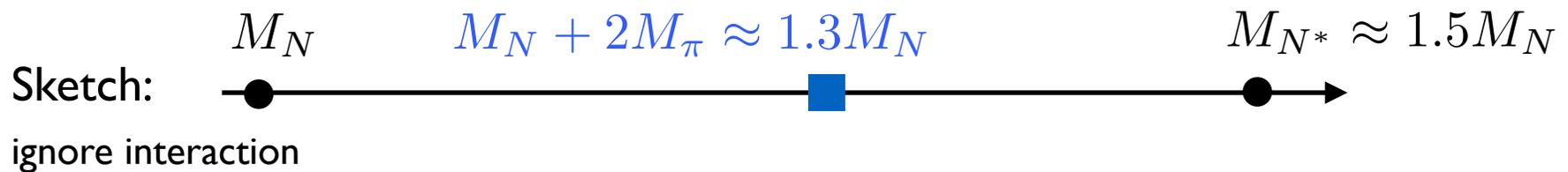
# Excited states in the nucleon sector

- Excited states contributing to the nucleon 2-pt function:
  - Resonance states:  $N^*(1440)$ ,  $N^*(1710)$ , ...
  - Multi-particle states:  $N\pi$ ,  $N\pi\pi$ ,  $\Delta\pi$ , ...
- Multi-particle states become important for physical pion masses



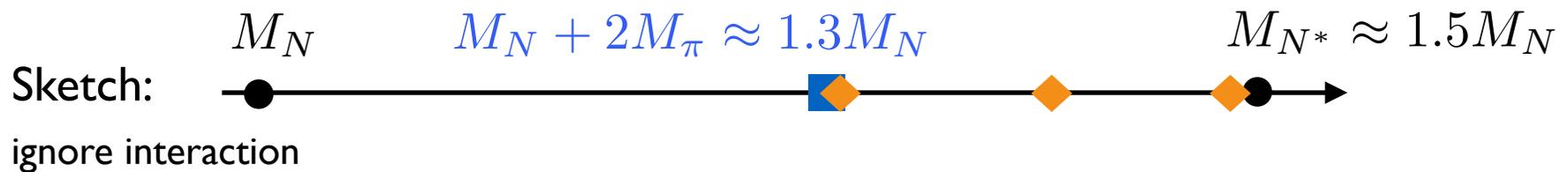
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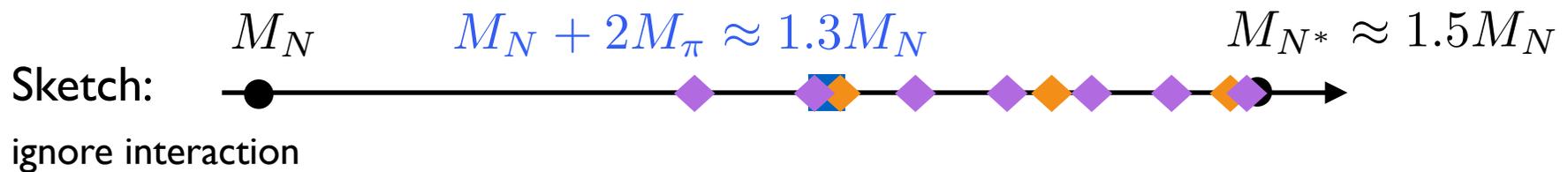
Finite volume, periodic bc  $M_{\pi,\text{phys}}L = 4$   $\#N(\vec{p}_k)\pi(-\vec{p}_k) = 3$  ◆

⇒ discrete momenta

$$\vec{p}_k = \frac{2\pi}{L}\vec{k}$$

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$\Rightarrow$  discrete momenta

$\vec{p}_k = \frac{2\pi}{L}\vec{k}$   $M_{\pi,\text{phys}}L = 6$   $\#N(\vec{p}_k)\pi(-\vec{p}_k) = 7$  ◆

# Excited states in the nucleon sector

$$M_{\text{eff}}(t) = M_N + \frac{b_1}{b_0} \Delta E_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t} + \frac{b_2}{b_0} \Delta E_2 e^{-\Delta E_2 t} + \dots$$

- Expectation:  
Many multi-particle states contribute in physical point simulations and dominate at large time separation
- However: Their relevance depends also on the prefactors  $b_k/b_0$   
Known:  $b_k \propto 1/L^3$   
BUT: not a FV effect, number of states increases for larger volumes

# Other observables:

## Nucleon charges and moments of pdfs

- Charges/moments refer to nucleon matrix elements  $\langle N(\vec{p}) | O_X(0) | N(\vec{p}) \rangle$  with local quark bilinears  $O_X$
- Nucleon charges:
  - **Axial charge  $g_A$** : precisely known from neutron beta decay,  $g_A/g_V = 1.2723(23)$   
Benchmark observable in Lattice QCD PDG 2015
  - **Scalar and tensor charge  $g_S, g_T$** : poorly known  
Revived interest in these charges in the context of BSM physics Bhattacharya et al 2012
- Mellin moments of parton distribution functions: related to one-derivative operators

Example:  $O_X \rightarrow V_{\mu\nu}^a = \bar{u}\gamma_{\{\mu}D_{\nu\}}^- u - \bar{d}\gamma_{\{\mu}D_{\nu\}}^- d \quad D_{\mu}^- = (\vec{D}_{\mu} - \overleftarrow{D}_{\mu})/2$

gives *average quark momentum fraction*  $\langle x \rangle_{u-d}$

Analogously: *helicity moment*  $\langle x \rangle_{\Delta u-\Delta d}$  and the *transversity moment*  $\langle x \rangle_{\delta u-\delta d}$

# Lattice determination of axial charge $g_A$

- In principle: (axial charge, analogous for other charges and moments)

A) Compute the 3-pt function

$$C_3(t, t') = \sum_{\vec{x}, \vec{y}} \Gamma_k \langle N(\vec{x}, t) A_k^3(\vec{y}, t') \bar{N}(\vec{0}, 0) \rangle$$

axial vector current  
gamma matrix, properly chosen

B) Form ratio with 2-pt function

$$R_A = \frac{C_3(t, t')}{C_2(t)}$$

and consider large time separations

excited-state contribution

$$R_A \xrightarrow{t \gg t' \gg 0} g_A + \tilde{b}_1 e^{-\Delta E_1(t-t')} + \tilde{b}'_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t'} + \tilde{c}_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t} + \dots$$

C) Obtain axial charge from a fit to lattice data for  $R_A$

Plateau method, Summation method  $\rightarrow$  later

- In practice: smaller time separations  $t-t'$  and  $t'$  than in 2-pt function  
 $\rightarrow$  less exponential suppression and larger excited-state contributions

## $N\pi$ contribution in ChPT

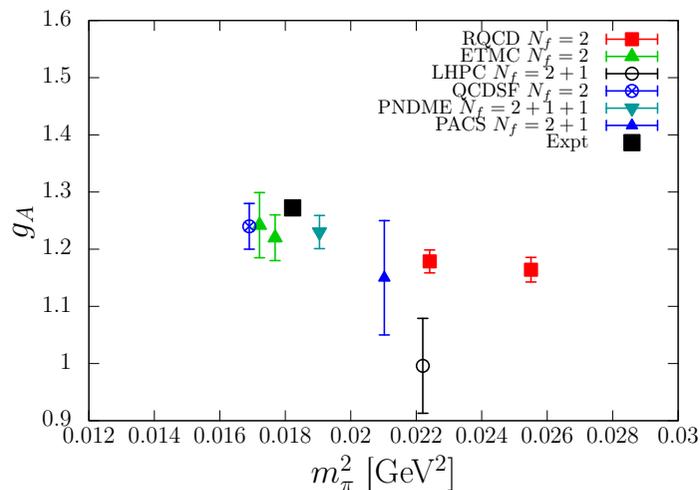
$$R_A = g_A + \tilde{b}_1 e^{-\Delta E_1(t-t')} + \tilde{b}'_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t'} + \tilde{c}_1 e^{-\Delta E_1 t} + \dots$$

- In the following: Compute the 2pt and 3pt functions and the ratios in ChPT
  - ➔ Provides the contribution due to  $N\pi$  states which is expected to dominate for large time separations
- Not a new idea  
Tiburzi 2008; OB, Golterman 2013
- Note: The leading order results for the  $N\pi$  contribution to all charges and moments are related  
Chiral symmetry at work !

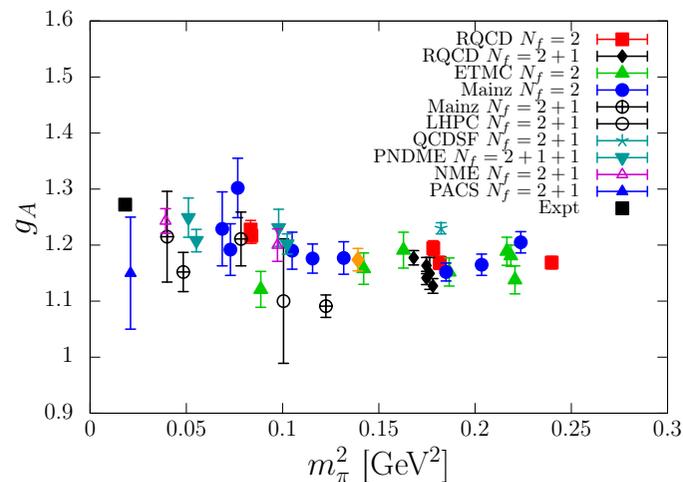
# Lattice results for $g_A$ - Status 2016

## Isovector charges $g_A$

Several  $m_\pi < 165$  MeV results.



Impose  $Lm_\pi > 4$ ,  $a < 0.1$  fm



**ETMC:** [Alexandrou, Mon, 15:15]  $N_f = 2$  twisted mass fermions,  $Lm_\pi = 3$ . Increased statistics on 1507.04936, 579 configs  $\times$  16 measurements,  $g_A = 1.22(3)(2)$  - systematics from fitting.

**PACS:** [Kuramashi, Thu, 16:30]  $N_f = 2+1$  NP clover, stout smeared links,  $m_\pi = 145$  MeV,  $a = 0.085$  fm, 146 configs  $\times$  64 measurements,  $t_f - t_i = 1.3$  fm,  $Lm_\pi = 6$

**PNDME:** [Gupta, Thu, 17:50]

# Chiral Perturbation Theory (ChPT)

- Well-known and widely used in Lattice QCD

ChPT: low-energy effective theory of QCD

Weinberg 1979,  
Gasser, Leutwyler 1983,  
Gasser, Sainio, Švarc 1988,  
Becher, Leutwyler 1998,  
...

- Many applications of Baryon ChPT

review: V. Bernard, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 60 (2008) 82-160

- Nucleon-pion scattering, nucleon form factors, ...
- Pion mass dependence of nucleon observables
- FV effects due to pions
- ...

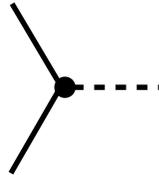
# ChPT including nucleons

- SU(2) ChPT at LO

isospin symmetry, euclidean space time

Gasser, Sainio, Švarc 1988

contains the three pions and the nucleon doublet  $\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix}$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int},1\pi}^{(1)} = \frac{ig_A}{2f} \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \sigma^a \Psi \partial_\mu \pi^a \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{nucleon-pion vertex}$$
A Feynman diagram representing a nucleon-pion vertex. It consists of a central black dot. Two solid black lines extend from the dot to the left, representing nucleon legs. A dashed black line extends from the dot to the right, representing a pion leg.

Note:

- one pion derivative
- 2 LECs:  $g_A$  axial charge  
 $f$  pion decay constant  
chiral limit values

# ChPT including nucleons

## Operators in ChPT:

- Known:
  - Axial vector and scalar density for axial and scalar charge  $g_A, g_S$   
Gasser, Sainio, Švarc 1988, Fettes *et al* 2000
  - Effective operators for  $\langle X \rangle_{u-d}$  and  $\langle X \rangle_{\Delta u-\Delta d}$   
Dorati, Gail, Hemmert 2008, Wein, Bruns, Schäfer, 2014
- Easy to construct (to LO): operators for tensor charge  $g_T$  and  $\langle X \rangle_{\delta u-\delta d}$   
(tensor operators at the quark level)  
OB 2016
- Note: The chiral limit values of all charges and moments appear as LECs !  
Input, not predicted by ChPT

# ChPT including nucleons

Nucleon interpolating fields in ChPT:

- Standard local 3-quark baryon operators are mapped to ChPT based on their symmetry properties

Nagata et al 2008; Wein, Bruns, Hemmert, Schäfer 2011

- Holds for smeared interpolating fields too if  $R_{\text{smeared}} \ll \frac{1}{M_\pi}$

Lüscher 2013; OB, Golterman 2014

Physical pion mass:  $R_{\text{smeared}} \cong 0.3 - 0.4 \text{ fm}$  seems ok

- Difference between local and smeared fields: different LECs

# $N\pi$ contribution in ChPT

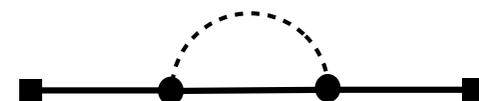
- Calculation of the 2pt and 3pt functions is a standard calculation in PT in position space and in a finite spatial volume (time extent infinite for simplicity)
- E.g.: Feynman diagrams for the  $N\pi$  contribution in the 2pt-function:

→ Extract contribution with exponential decay given by

$$E_{\text{tot}} = E_N + E_\pi \quad \vec{p}_N = -\vec{p}_\pi$$

(ignore other contributions !)

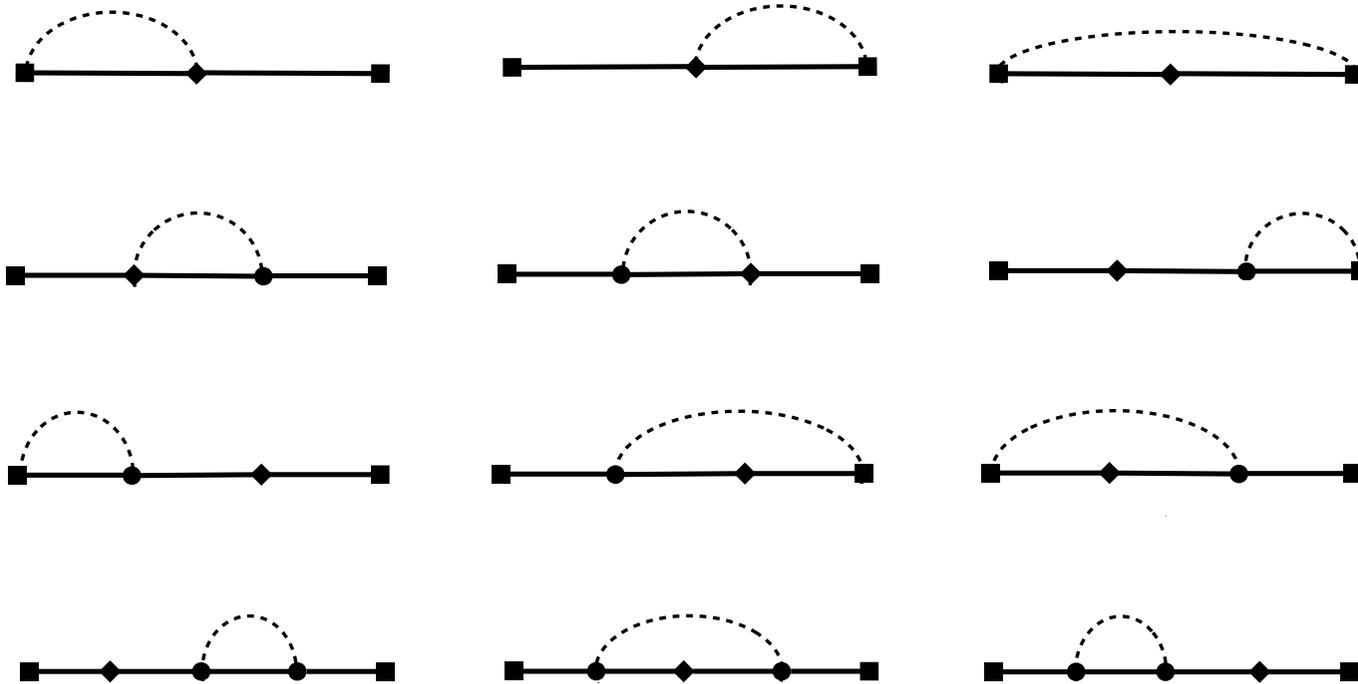
- Note: Tree-level calculation !



■ interpolating field

● interaction vertex

# Feynman diagrams for the 3pt-functions



■ interpolating field

◆ operator

● interaction vertex

## Results: $N\pi$ contribution to ratio $R_X$

$$R_X(t, t') = g_X \left[ 1 + \sum_{\vec{p}_n} \left( b_{X,n} e^{-\Delta E_n(t-t')} + b_{X,n} e^{-\Delta E_n t'} + c_{X,n} e^{-\Delta E_n t} \right) \right]$$

$$\Delta E_n = E_{\text{tot},n} - M_N$$

$X = A$  (axial vector),  $S$  (scalar density), ...

- Non-trivial result of the calculation: The coefficients  $b_{X,n}, c_{X,n}$
- Example:

$$c_{X,n} = \frac{m_n}{16(fL)^2 E_{\pi,n} L} \left( 1 - \frac{M_{N,\text{ch}}}{E_{N,n}} \right) \left( \dots \right)$$

$m_n$ : degeneracy factor  
 $m_1 = 6, m_2 = 12, \dots$

↖ not very illuminating ...

- Note:
- $1/L^3$  suppression of individual coefficients
  - vanishes for nucleon/pion at rest (parity!)

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### The coefficients

- do not depend on the LECs associated with the interpolating fields  
no longer true beyond LO
- depend only on
  - pion mass and decay constant
  - the spatial volume via  $M_\pi L$
  - four LO LECs: nucleon mass, axial charge, av. mom. fraction and helicity moment  
chiral limit values
- Use exp. / phen. values  $\Rightarrow$  estimate  $N\pi$  contribution in lattice simulations

# Impact on the plateau estimate

- Plateau / Midpoint estimate for the charges and moments:

$$R_X(t, t' = \frac{t}{2}) \approx g_X + O(e^{-\Delta E_n \frac{t}{2}}) + O(e^{-\Delta E_n t})$$

minimises excited-state contribution for a given source-sink separation

- For estimates use experimental values for masses / low-energy constants:

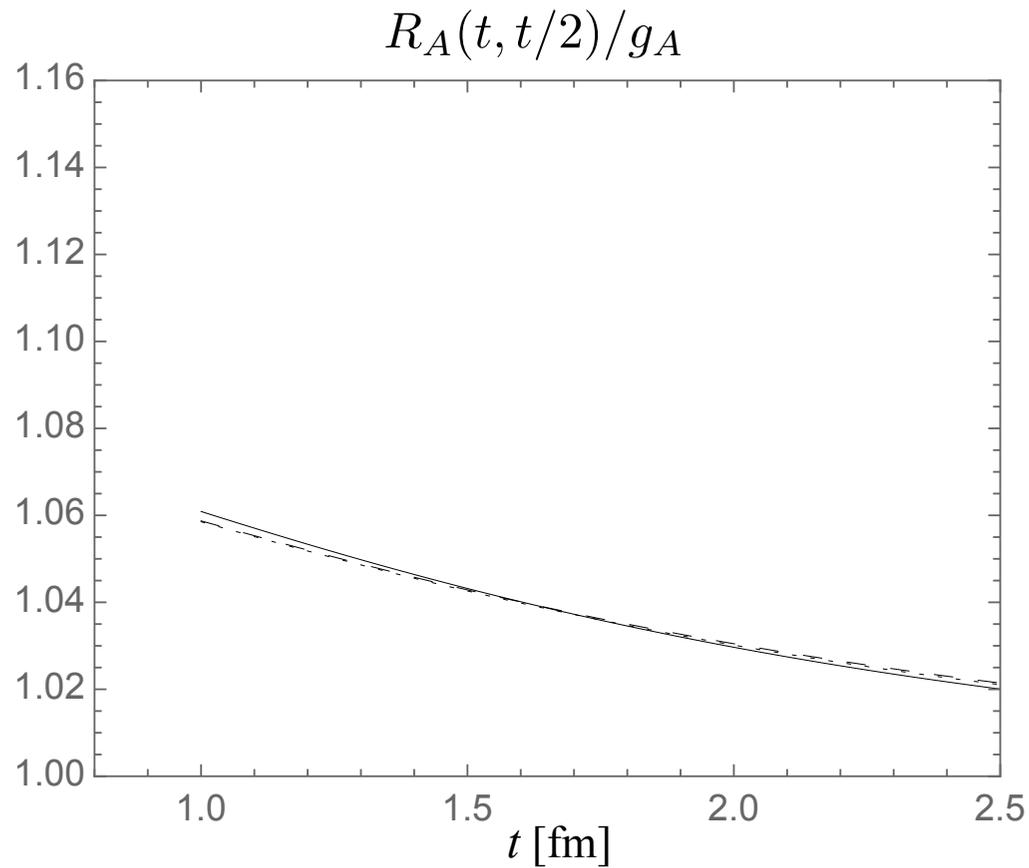
$$M_\pi = 140 \text{ MeV} \quad M_N = 940 \text{ MeV}$$

$$f_\pi = 93 \text{ MeV} \quad g_A = 1.27 \quad \langle x \rangle_{u-d} = 0.165 \quad \langle x \rangle_{\Delta u - \Delta d} = 0.19$$

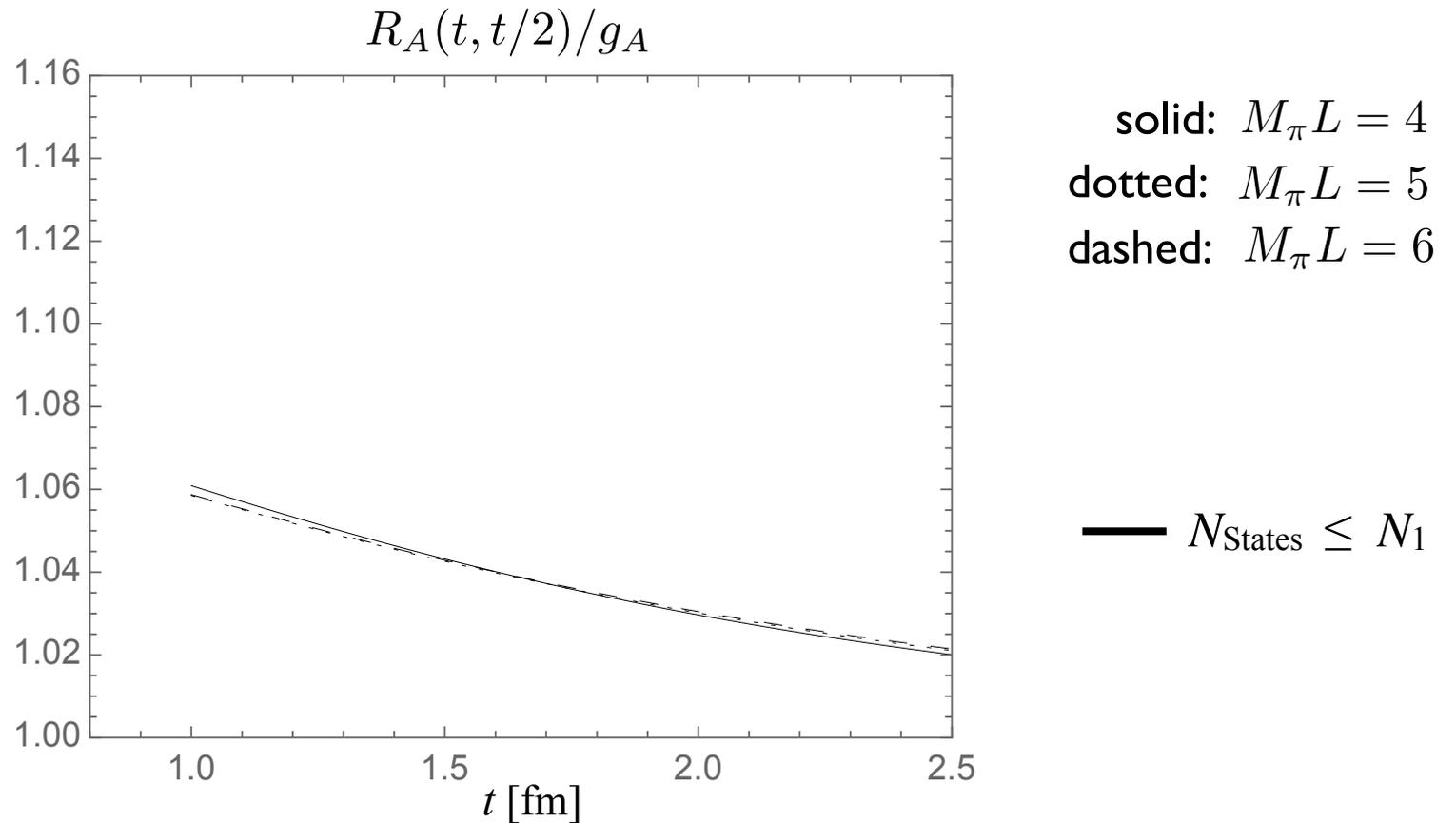
PDG 2015  
Alekhin et al 2012  
Blümlein et al 2010

➔ only the spatial volume remains to be fixed ( via  $M_\pi L$  )

# $N\pi$ contribution to plateau estimate for $g_A$



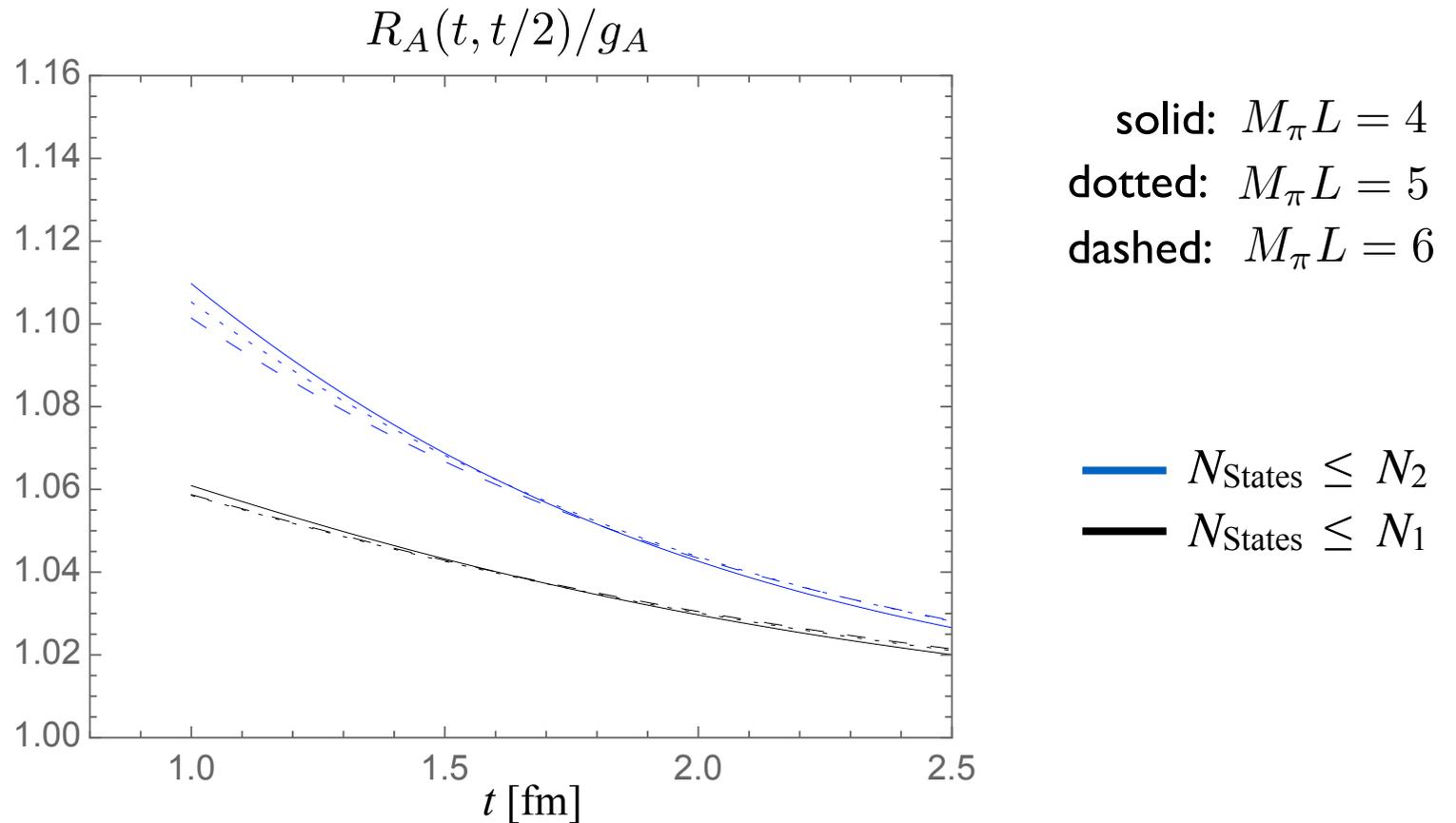
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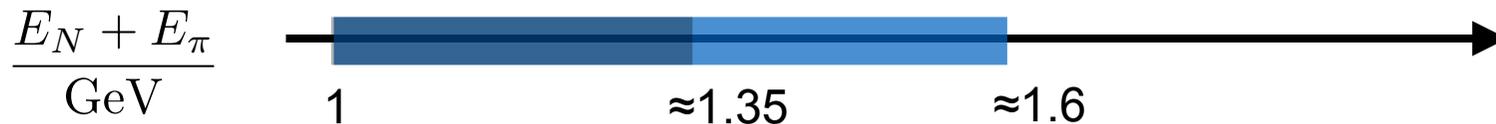
$N_{\text{States}}(L)$  such that energy interval is fixed:



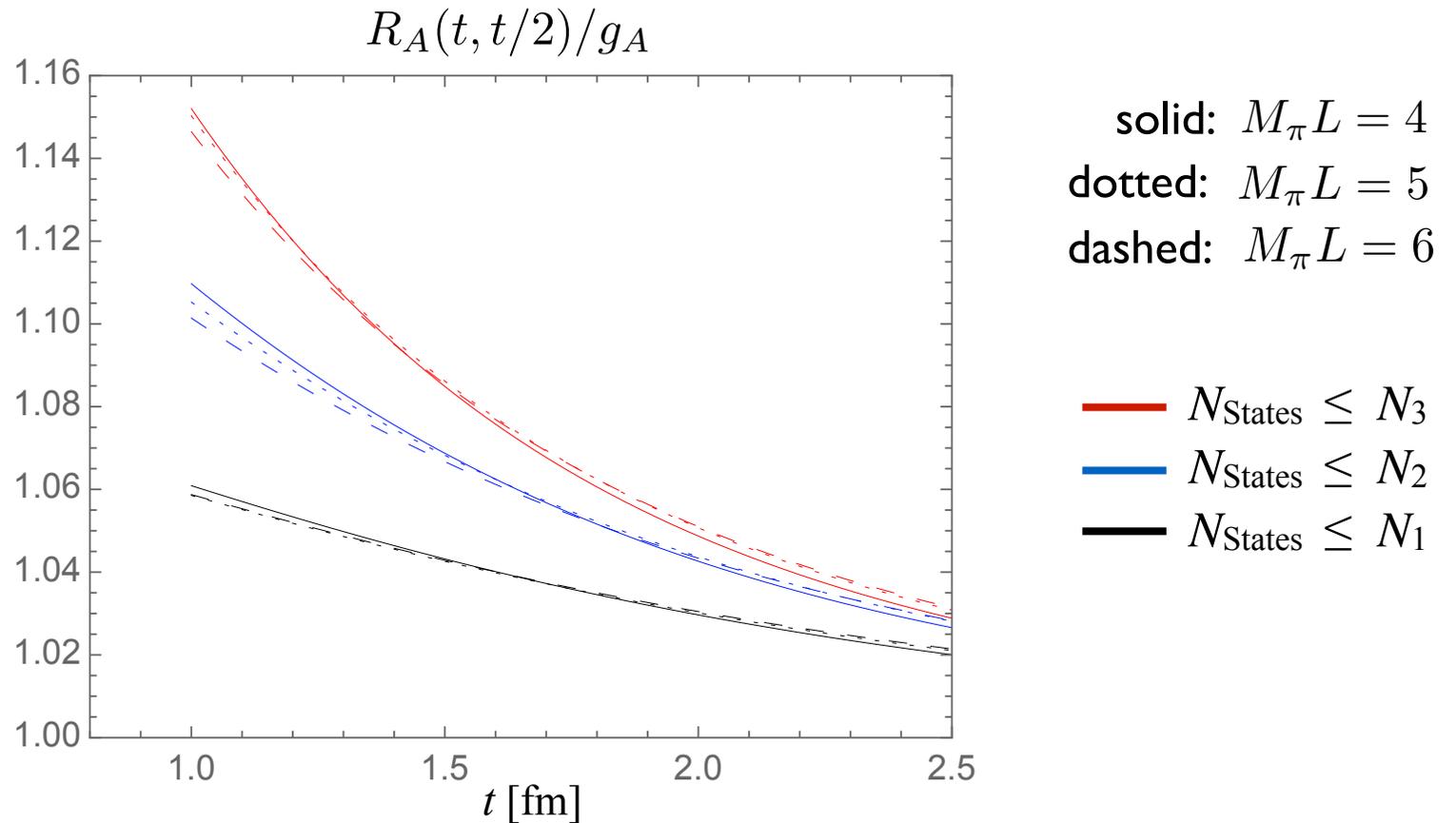
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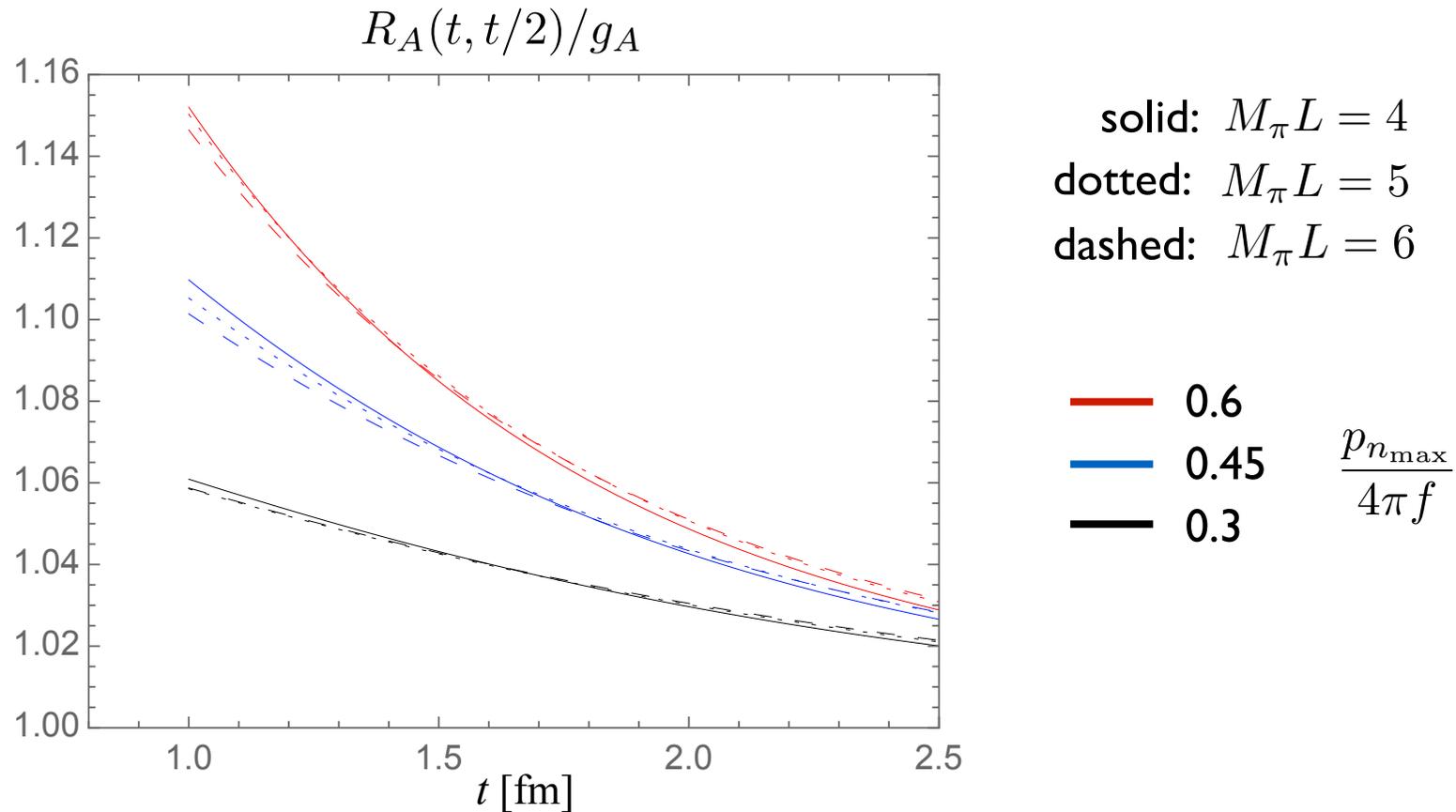
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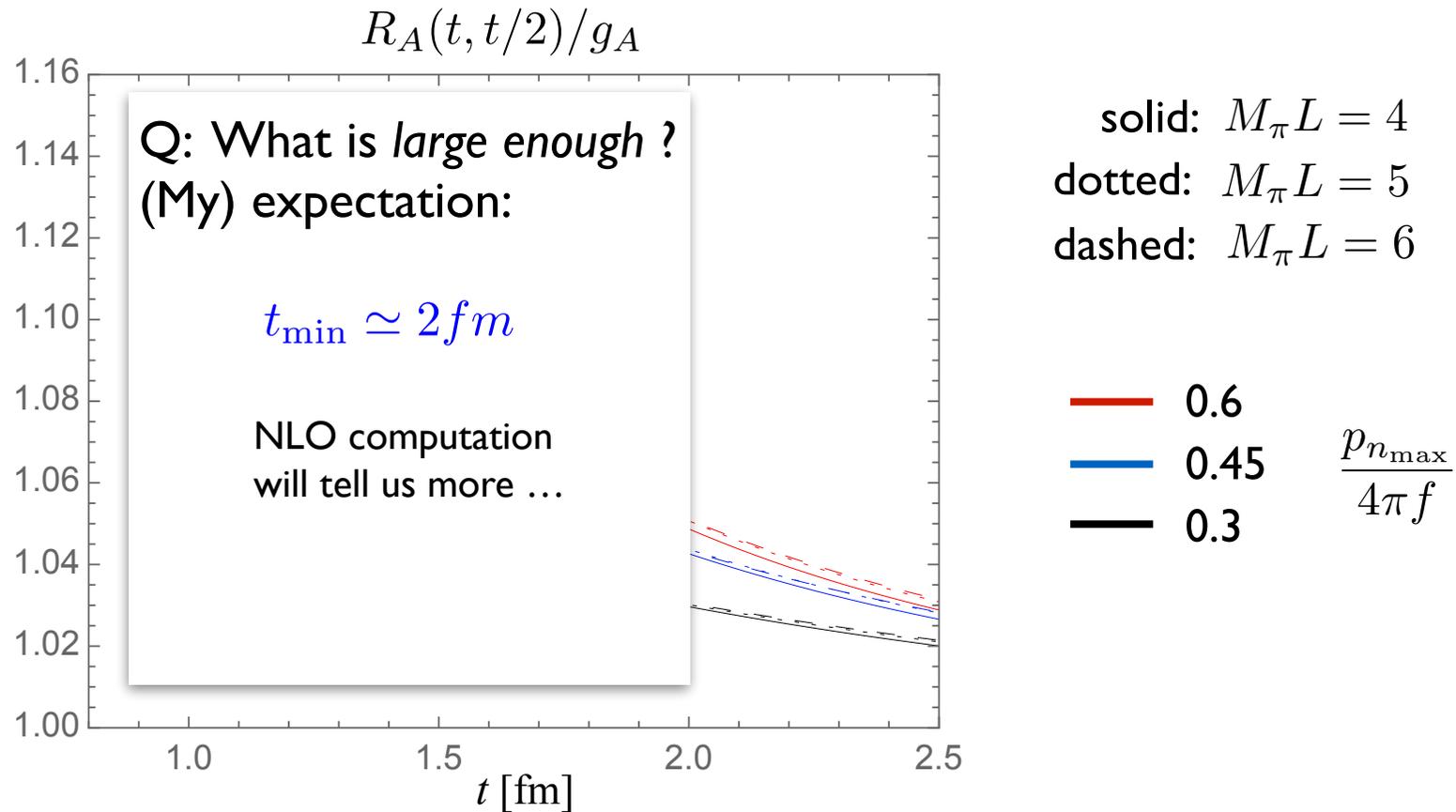
# $N\pi$ contribution to plateau estimate for $g_A$



Conclusion:  $N\pi$  contribution leads to an overestimation of the axial charge  
But: ChPT is an expansion in small momenta  $p_n/4\pi f$

- ➔ source-sink separation needs to be large enough for high-momentum states to be sufficiently suppressed

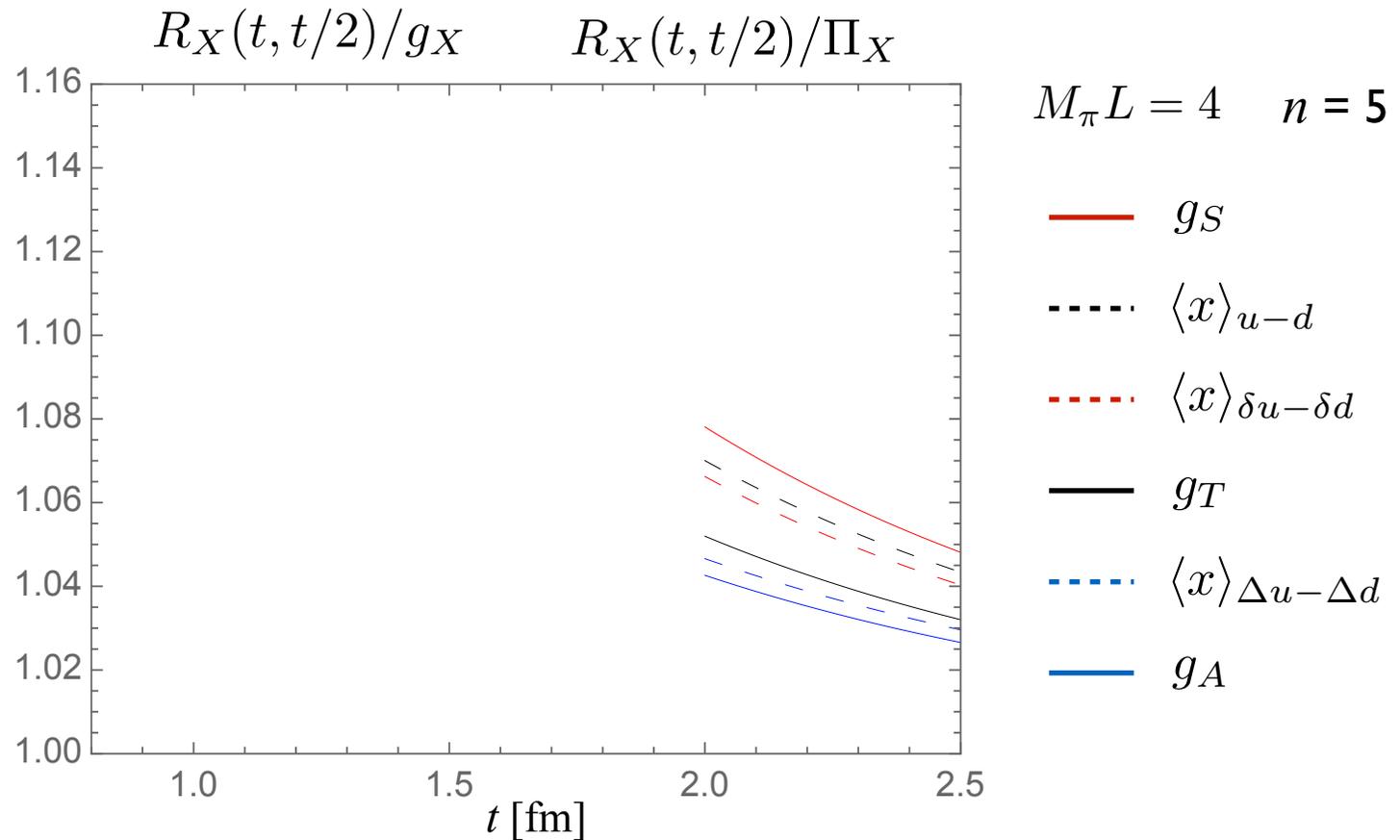
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# Analogous results for other charges and moments



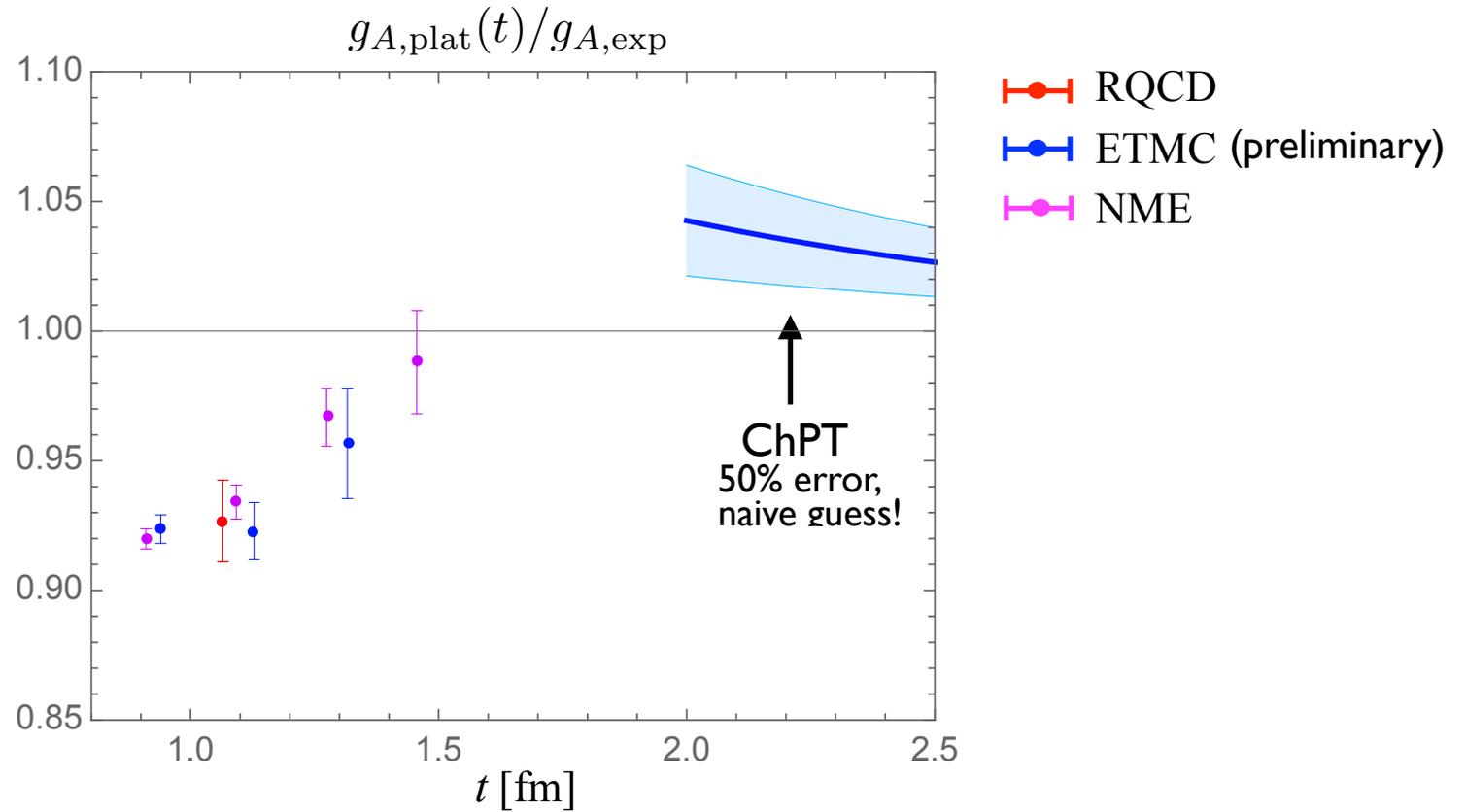
Analogous results for all charges and the moments:

- Small FV effects
- Small momentum  $N\pi$  states start to dominate for  $t \gtrsim 2$  fm
- $N\pi$  contribution leads to an overestimation for all charges / moments
- The overestimation is at the 5 - 10% level for  $t \approx 2$  fm

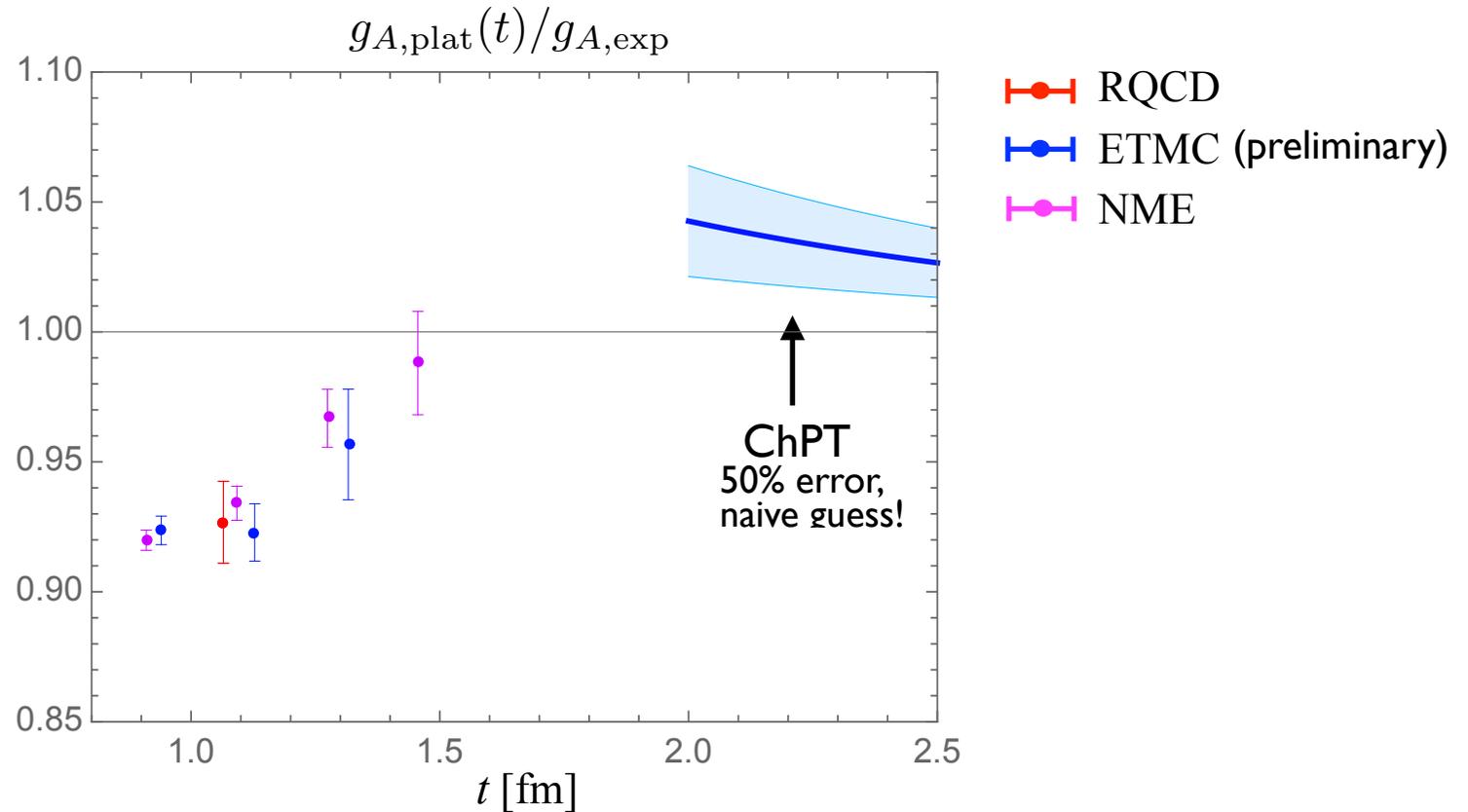
# Comparison with lattice data ?

- Some collaborations have performed simulations with  $M_\pi \lesssim 165$  MeV
  - RQCD  
 $N_f=2$  NPI Wilson-clover,  $a \approx 0.07$  fm,  $M_\pi \approx 150$  MeV,  $M_\pi L \approx 3.5$   
PRD 90 (2014) 074510  
PRD 91 (2015) 054501
  - ETMC  
 $N_f=2$  WilsonTM-clover,  $a \approx 0.09$  fm,  $M_\pi \approx 130$  MeV,  $M_\pi L \approx 3$   
PRD 92 (2015) 114513  
arXiv:1706.02973
  - NME  
 $N_f=2+1$  Wilson-clover,  $a \approx 0.09$  fm,  $M_\pi \approx 166$  MeV,  $M_\pi L \approx 3.7$   
→ R. Gupta, Mon, 14:30  
PRD 95 (2017) 074508
- Main obstacle for direct comparison with ChPT results:  $t \lesssim 1.5$  fm, too small !

# Comparison with lattice data: axial charge



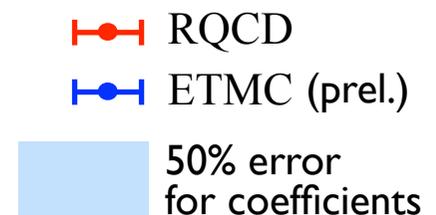
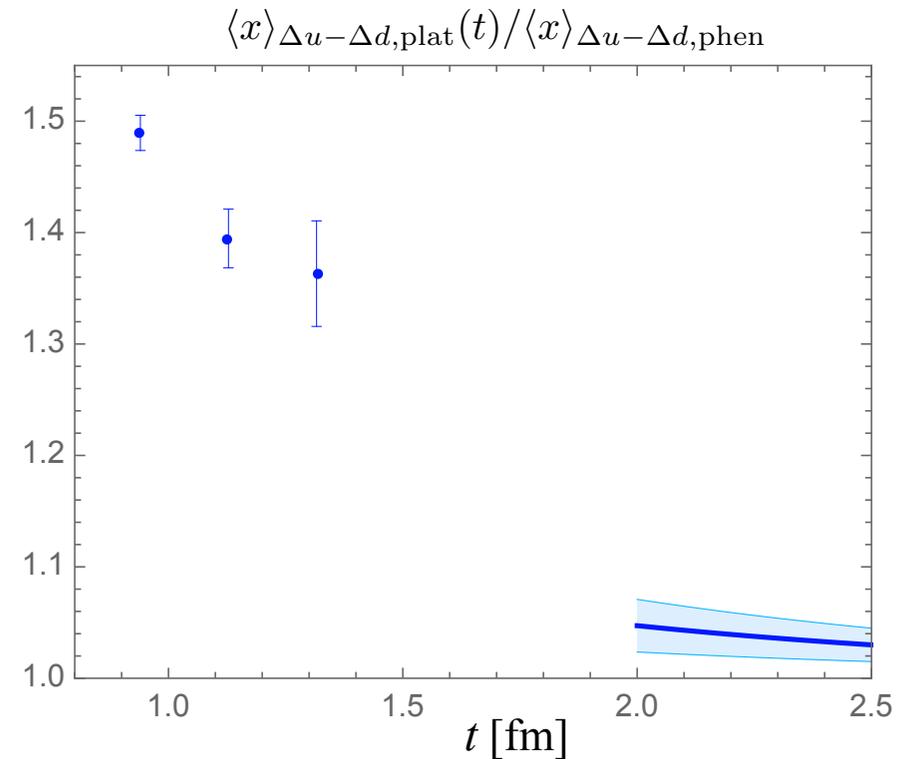
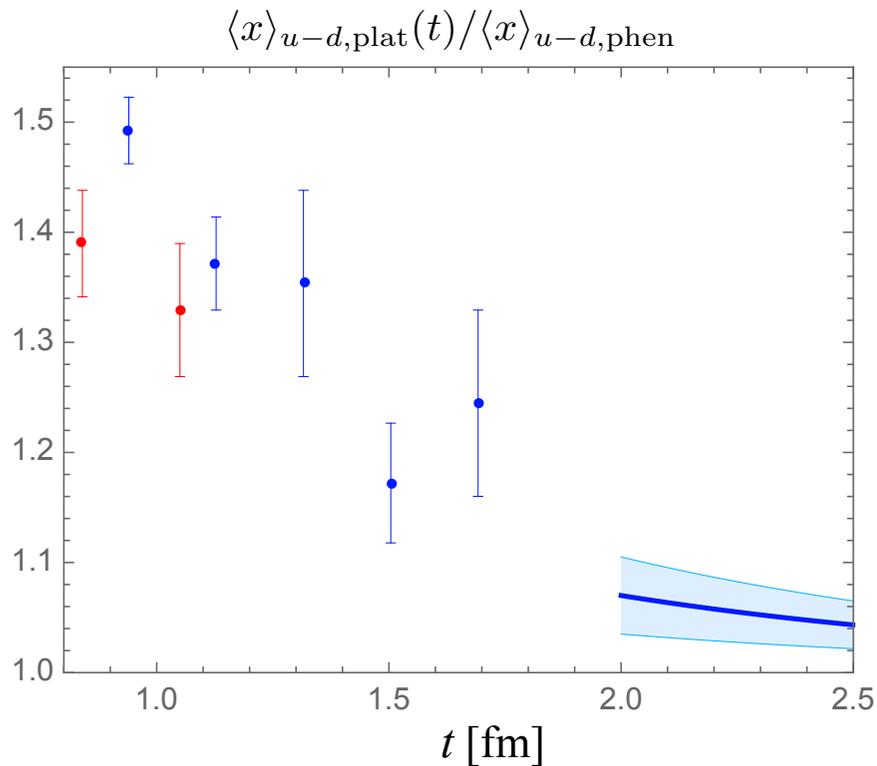
# Comparison with lattice data: axial charge



Lattice data + ChPT suggests accidental agreement for some  $t \approx 1.5\text{fm}$

➔ needs to be checked !

# Comparison with lattice data: average momentum fraction and helicity moment



# Impact on the summation estimate

- Summation estimate for the axial charge (analogous for other charges and moments)

$$\sum_{t'=0}^t R_A(t, t') \xrightarrow{t \gg 0} t [g_A + O(e^{-\Delta E_n t})] + \dots$$

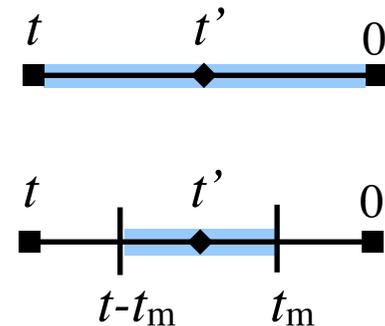
summation estimate

Maiani *et.al.* 1987  
Capitani *et.al.* 2012

- Note: involves 3pt-function at short distances

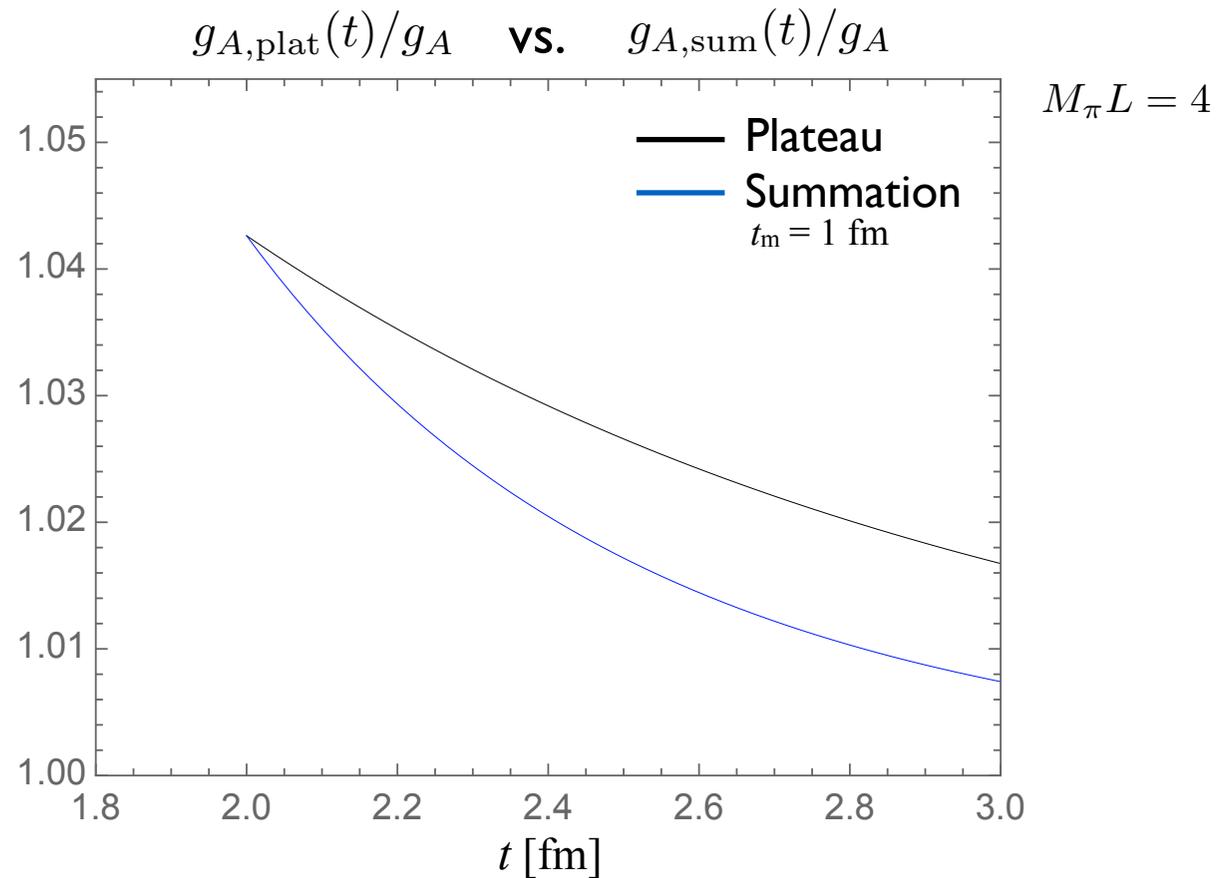
➔ not properly captured by ChPT

- Remedy: Sum/Integrate over sub-interval only  
keeping all distances large



➔ even larger source sink separations are needed than for the plateau method

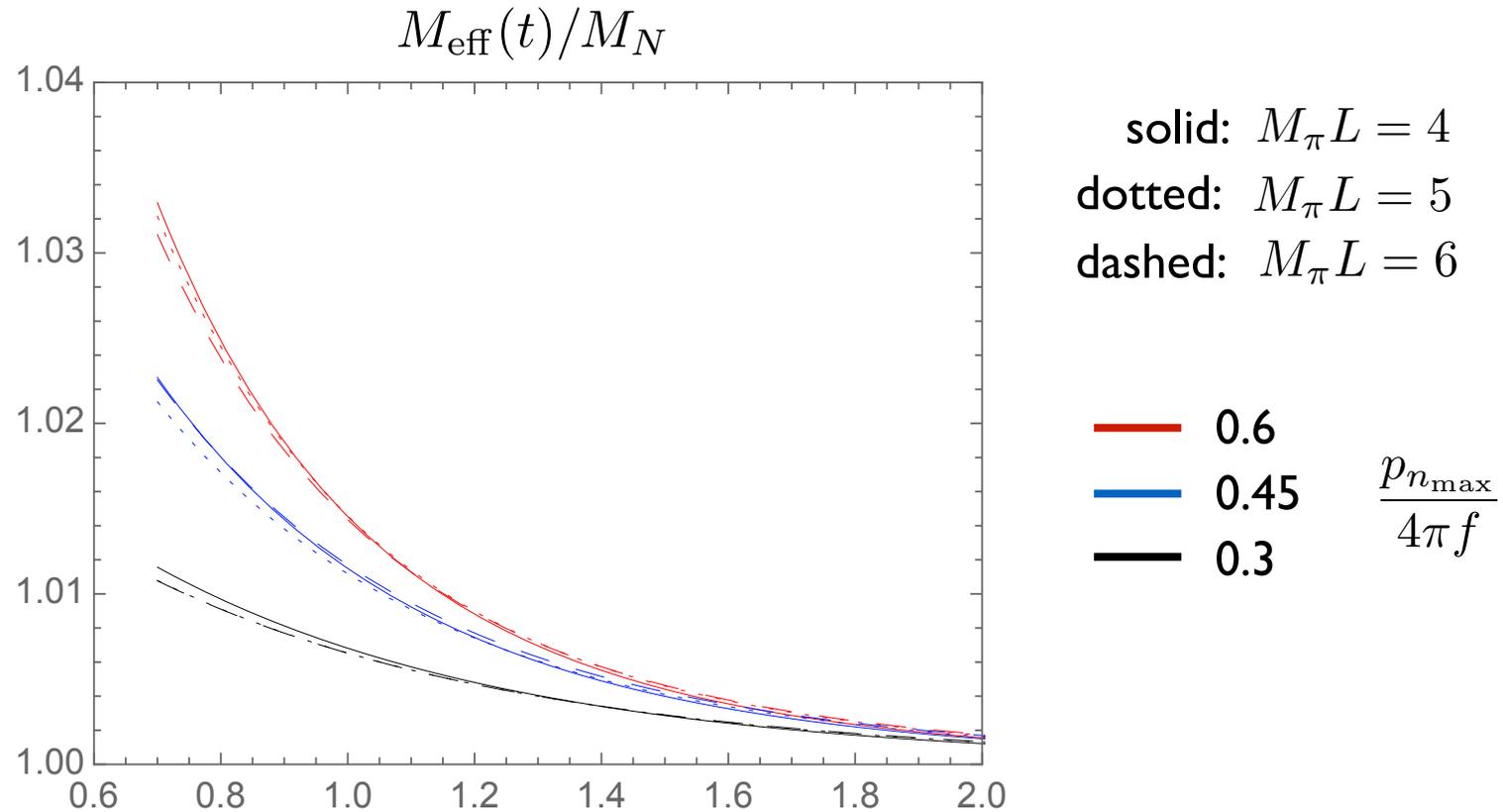
# Result: Summation estimate for axial charge



Conclusions:

- Summation estimate is slightly better
- Summation method leads to overestimation too

# $N\pi$ contribution to effective nucleon mass



- Conclusions:
- Small momentum  $N\pi$  states start to dominate for  $t \gtrsim 1.2$  fm
  - $N\pi$  contribution is well below 2% for  $t \gtrsim 1.2$  fm

## To do list

- So far: Conclusions based on LO results for  $N\pi$ -state contribution
- To do
  - Compute/estimate impact of other states:  $N\pi\pi$ ,  $\Delta\pi$ ,  $N^*$
  - Compute  $N\pi$  contribution to next order to get a more honest error estimate

# Summary

- ChPT can provide estimates for multi-hadron-state contributions in nucleon observables
- Based on LO ChPT: The  $N\pi$ -state contribution
  - leads to an overestimation of various nucleon charges and pdf moments
  - is at the 5-10% level for these observables
    - !!! assuming source-sink separations  $t \approx 2$  fm
- Comparison with lattice data suggests that much larger source-sink separations are needed
  - to be in the asymptotic regime with ground state dominance
  - to get the charges/moments with few percent precision

requires new ideas to tackle the signal-to-noise problem

→ L. Giusti, Mon, 12:00

→ M. Wagman, Thu, 15:10

# Backup slides

# Results: Plateau estimate for $g_A$

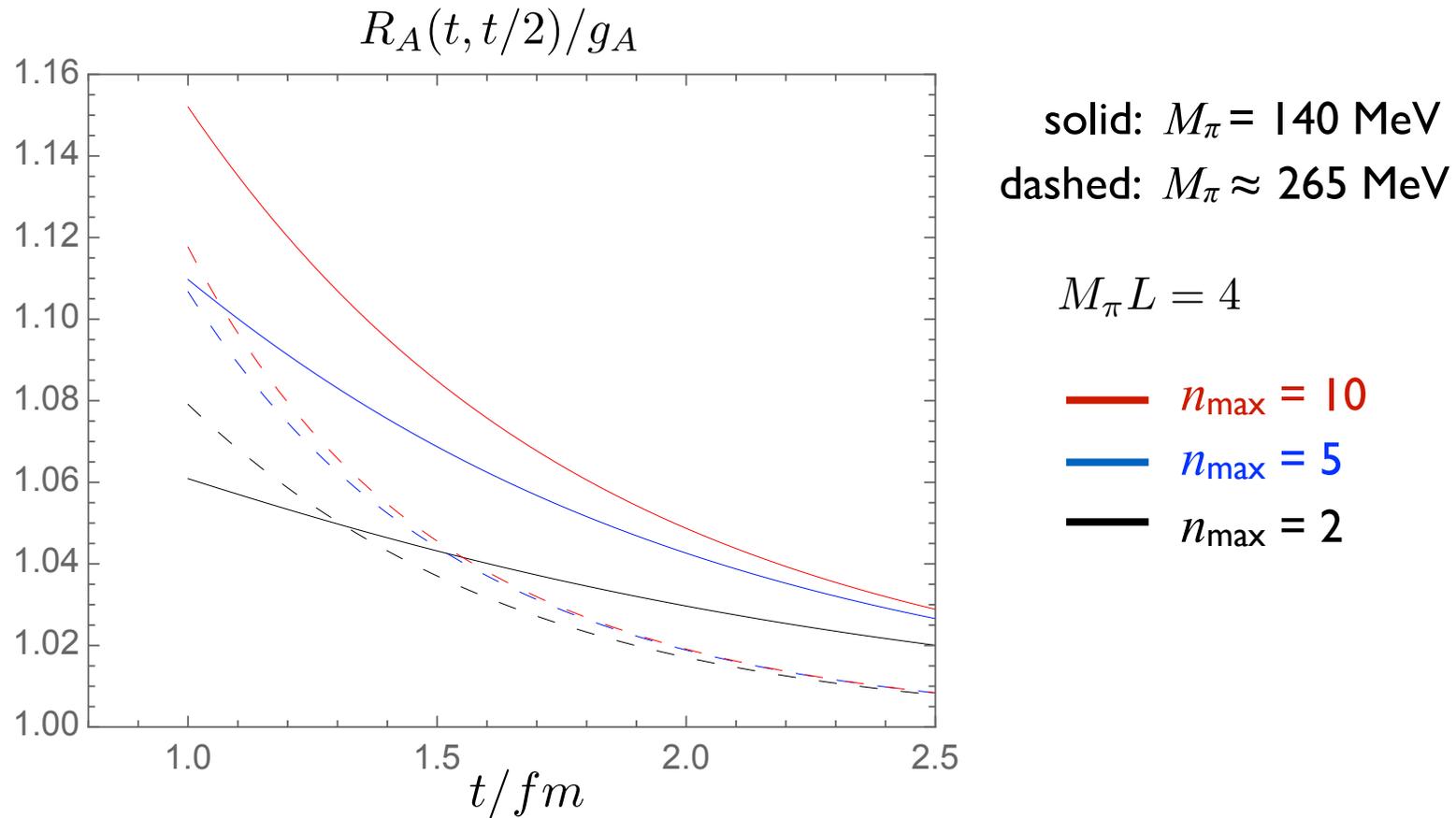
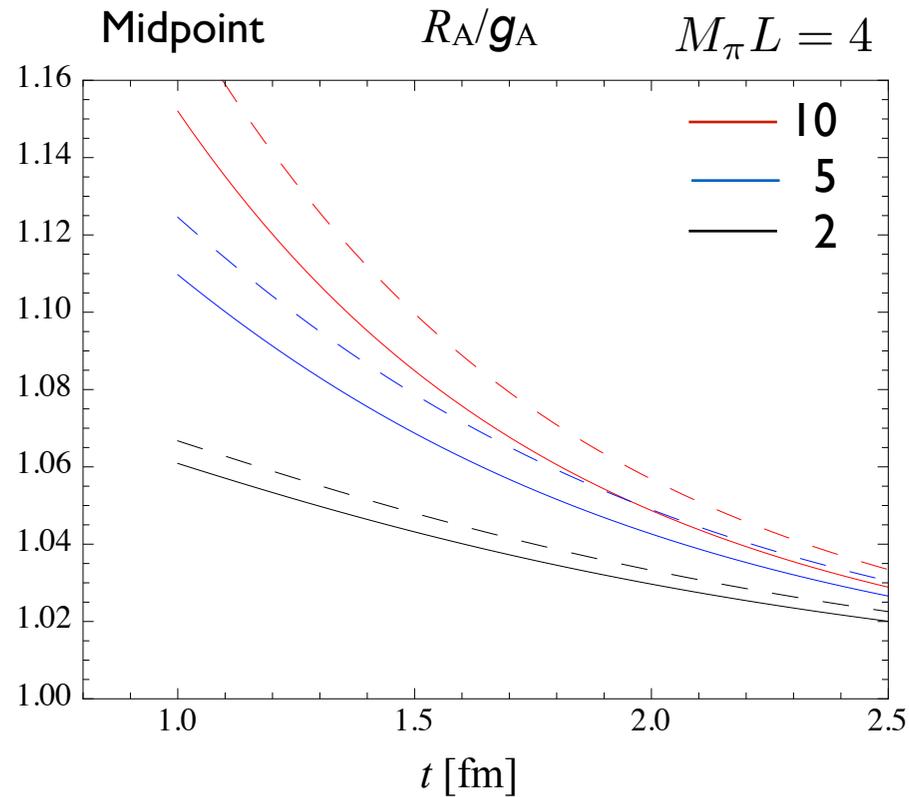


Illustration: heavier than physical pion mass

- $N\pi$  contribution is a factor 2-3 smaller
- dominant contribution stems from smaller number of states for smaller values  $t$

# Impact $N\pi$ vertex in interpolating field



Observation:

$N\pi$  vertex correction to interpolating field has a small impact on the total result  
True for higher orders too???

# Include finite volume effects

Our result

$$R_A = g_{A,\text{ch}} \left[ 1 + \delta_{N\pi, g_A}(M_\pi L, M_\pi/M_N) \right]$$

Replace

$$g_{A,\text{ch}} \longrightarrow g_A(L) = g_A(\infty) \left[ 1 + \delta_{\text{FV}, g_A}(M_\pi L) \right]$$

stems from 1-loop diagrams shown before



FV correction is known

Ali Khan et al 2006

Horsley et al 2014

$$\delta_{\text{FV}, g_A}(M_\pi L) = \delta_{\text{FV}, f_\pi}(M_\pi L) + \Delta(M_\pi L)$$

$$\approx \delta_{\text{FV}, f_\pi}(M_\pi L)$$

$\Rightarrow 10^{-3}$  correction for physical pion mass and  $M_\pi L = 4$

## $N\pi$ contribution to ratio $R_X$

$$\Delta E_n = E_n - M_N$$

$$R_X(t, t') = g_X \left[ 1 + \sum_{n \leq n_{\max}} b_{X,n} \left( e^{-\Delta E_n(t-t')} + e^{-\Delta E_n t'} \right) + c_{X,n} e^{-\Delta E_n t} \right]$$

- Non-trivial result of the calculation: The coefficients  $b_{X,n}, c_{X,n}$
- For example

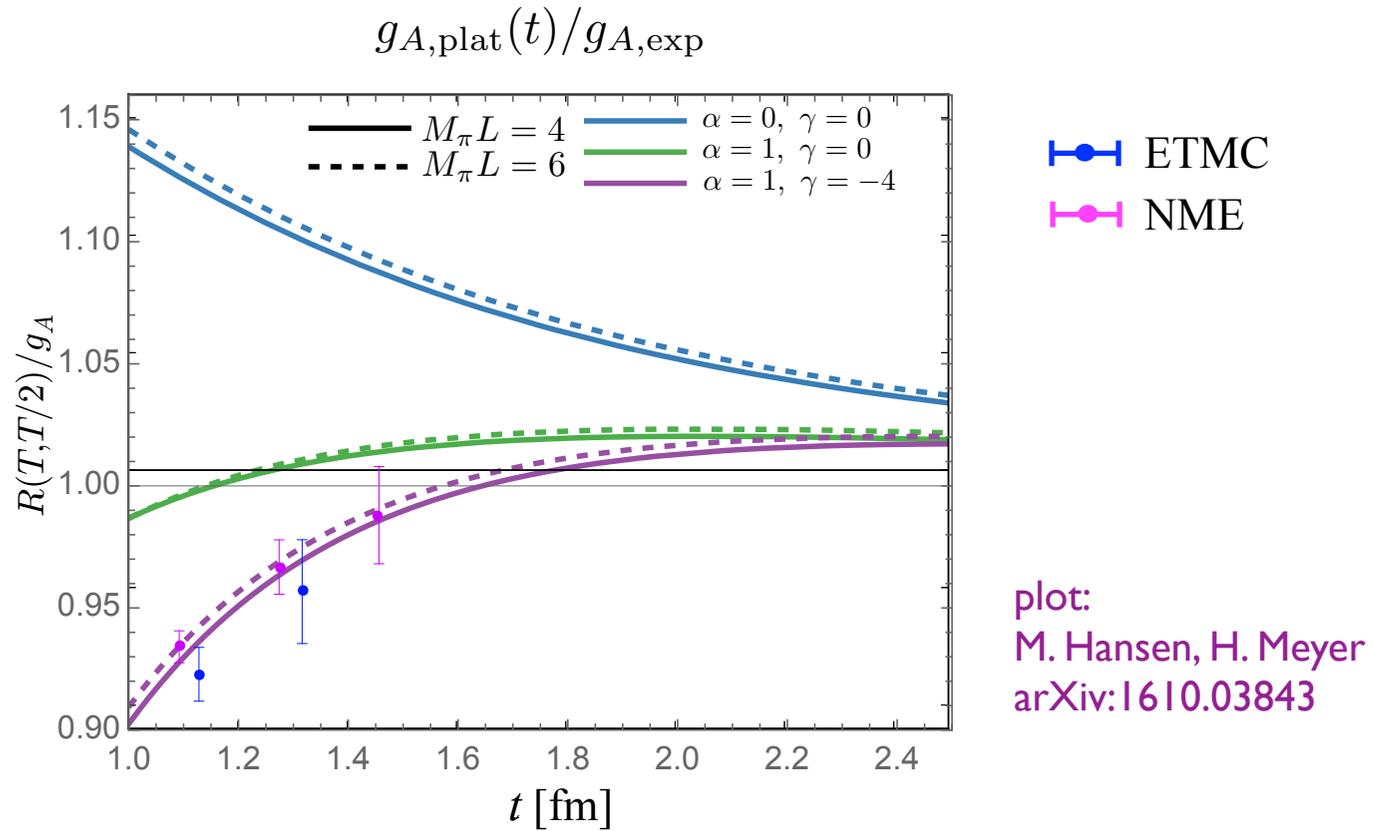
$$c_{X,n} = \frac{m_n}{16(fL)^2 E_{\pi,n} L} \left( 1 - \frac{M_{N,\text{ch}}}{E_{N,n}} \right) C_{X,n}$$

$$C_{A,n} = (\bar{g}_A - 1)^2 \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{M_N}{E_{N,n}} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad \bar{g}_A = g_A \frac{E_{N\pi,n} + M_N}{E_{N\pi,n} - M_N}$$

total  $N\pi$  energy  
↓

- Note:
- vanishes for nucleon/pion at rest (parity!)
  - $1/L^3$  suppression of individual coefficients

# Comparison with lattice data: axial charge



# Test: vector current conservation

We assume isospin symmetry  $\Rightarrow$  the vector current is conserved

$$\rightarrow C_{3,V_0}(t, t') = g_V C_2(t) \quad g_V = 1$$

Provides non-trivial test for the MATHEMATICA programs  
used to compute the correlation functions

# Nucleon interpolating fields in QCD

- Our interest here: Correlators of *nucleon interpolating fields*  $N(x)$   
How to map these to ChPT ?

- Starting point: Nucleon interpolating fields in QCD  
We consider

- local 3-quark operators
- no derivatives
- ➔ two independent operators  
Ioffe 1981, Espriu et al 1983

$$\begin{aligned}
 N_1 &= (\tilde{q}q)q \\
 N_2 &= (\tilde{q}\gamma_5 q)\gamma_5 q
 \end{aligned}
 \quad
 q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}
 \quad
 \tilde{q} = q^T C \gamma_5 (i\sigma_2)$$

charge conjugation

antisym sum over color indices suppressed !

- Transformation under chiral symmetry and parity  
Nagata et al 2008

$$N_i = N_{i,R} + N_{i,L} \xrightarrow{R,L} RN_{i,R} + LN_{i,L}$$

$$N_i = N_{i,R} + N_{i,L} \xrightarrow{P} \gamma_0(N_{i,L} + N_{i,R})$$

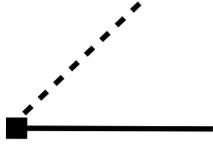
# Nucleon interpolating fields in ChPT

- Map interpolating fields to ChPT and expand

P. Wein et.al. 2011

$$N_i = \alpha_i \left( \Psi + \frac{i}{2f} \pi^a \sigma^a \gamma_5 \Psi + \dots \right) + \text{higher orders}$$

↖ LO LEC associated with interpolating field

- By construction: Transform as the fields at the quark level
- Note: Same chiral expansion for both operators ( $i=1$  and  $2$ ), but different LECs  $\alpha_i$
- Expression implies  $\Psi\pi$ -Vertex 
- NLO: two more terms, two more LECs

# Smearing interpolating fields

- Often used in Lattice QCD: *Smearing interpolating fields* build from smeared quark fields

$$q_{\text{sm}}(x) = \int d^4y K(x-y)q(y) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} N_{1,\text{sm}} &= (\tilde{q}_{\text{sm}} q_{\text{sm}}) q_{\text{sm}} \\ N_{2,\text{sm}} &= (\tilde{q}_{\text{sm}} \gamma_5 q_{\text{sm}}) \gamma_5 q_{\text{sm}} \end{aligned}$$

- The gauge covariant kernel  $K$

- is essentially zero for  $|x-y| > R_{\text{smear}}$  (“*smearing radius*”)
- contains a delta function in time for *Gaussian smearing*
- is truly 4-dimensional for the gradient flow Lüscher 2013
- is diagonal in spinor space

Gasket 1989,  
Alexandrou et. al. 1991

If  $R_{\text{smear}} \ll \frac{1}{M_\pi} \Rightarrow$  Smearing fields map to the same **point-like** fields as their unsmeared counterparts  
Difference in the LECs only