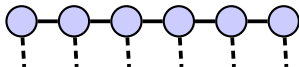


# Hadron structure from Hamiltonian lattice gauge theory with tensor networks

**Manuel Schneider**

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[arXiv:2504.07508]

[arXiv:2409.16996]

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31 July 2026

## Collaborators



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## Outline

### 1 Motivation & Goal: Parton Distribution Functions

### 2 Method: Tensor Network States

### 3 Application: Schwinger Model

### 4 Results

### 5 Summary & Outlook

## Parton Distribution Functions

- PDF: probability of constituent with momentum fraction  $\xi$



[EIC]

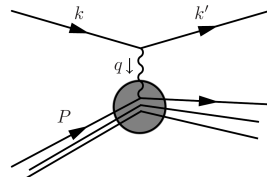
## Parton Distribution Functions

- PDF: probability of constituent with momentum fraction  $\xi$
- factorization at large energy  $Q^2 = -q^2$ , e.g. DIS:

$$\underset{\text{experiment}}{\sigma(\xi, Q^2)} = \underset{\text{perturbative}}{\hat{\sigma}(\xi, Q^2)} \otimes \underset{\text{non-perturbative}}{f(\xi)}$$



[EIC]



Deep Inelastic Scattering  
[Schwartz 2014]

## Parton Distribution Functions

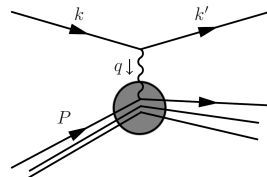
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[EIC]



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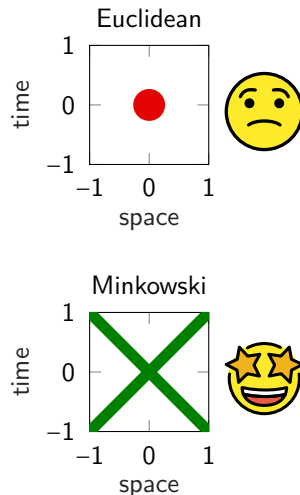
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- ▶  $z^-$ : lightcone coordinate
- ▶ lattice QCD in Euclidean space: lightcone  $\rightarrow$  point
- ▶ Hamiltonian formalism: lightcone in Minkowski space  
 $\rightarrow$  tensor network states/quantum devices



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## Tensor Networks

- ▶ generic state scales **exponentially**

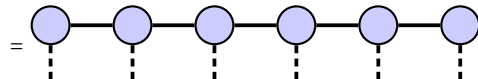
$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N} \psi^{s_1 s_2 \dots s_N} |s_1\rangle \otimes |s_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |s_N\rangle$$

# Tensor Networks

- ▶ generic state scales **exponentially**
- ▶ **tensor network state** as ansatz
- ▶ 1d: matrix product state (MPS)

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N} \psi^{s_1 s_2 \dots s_N} |s_1\rangle \otimes |s_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |s_N\rangle$$

$$\psi^{s_1 s_2 \dots s_N} = \sum_{\{i_x\}} A_{i_1}^{1, s_1} \cdot A_{i_1, i_2}^{2, s_2} \cdot A_{i_2, i_3}^{3, s_3} \cdot \dots \cdot A_{i_{N-1}}^{N, s_N}$$

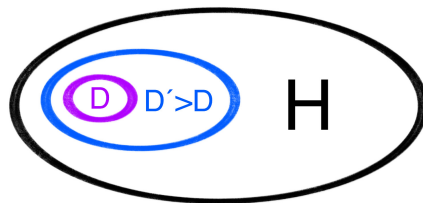
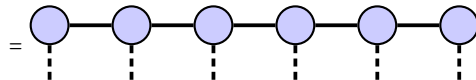


# Tensor Networks

- ▶ generic state scales **exponentially**
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- ▶ 1d: matrix product state (MPS)
- ▶ truncation to **bond dimension D**
- ▶ **polynomial** resource scaling

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$$\psi^{s_1 s_2 \dots s_N} \approx \sum_{\{i_x\}=1}^D A_{i_1}^{1, s_1} \cdot A_{i_1, i_2}^{2, s_2} \cdot A_{i_2, i_3}^{3, s_3} \dots A_{i_{N-1}}^{N, s_N}$$

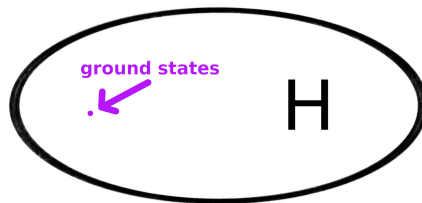
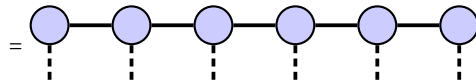


# Tensor Networks

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- ▶ **tensor network state** as ansatz
- ▶ 1d: matrix product state (MPS)
- ▶ truncation to **bond dimension D**
- ▶ **polynomial** resource scaling
- ▶ good approximation for **ground states** and **low excited states** [Hastings 2007]
- ▶ **no sampling**, fundamentally different systematics compared to Monte Carlo

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N} \psi^{s_1 s_2 \dots s_N} |s_1\rangle \otimes |s_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |s_N\rangle$$

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## Schwinger Model [Schwinger 1962; Hamer et al. 1997]

QED in 1+1 dimensions

$$\mathcal{H} = -i\bar{\Psi}\gamma^1(\partial_1 - igA_1)\Psi + m\bar{\Psi}\Psi + \frac{1}{2}E^2$$

$$H = x \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} [\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_n^- \sigma_{n+1}^+] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [1 + (-1)^n \sigma_n^z] + \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n ((-1)^k + \sigma_k^z + 2q_k) \right]^2$$

- scattering → PDF [Dai et al. 1995]
- matrix elements

$$\langle h | \sigma^+(z^-) W_{z^- \leftarrow 0} \sigma^-(0) | h \rangle$$

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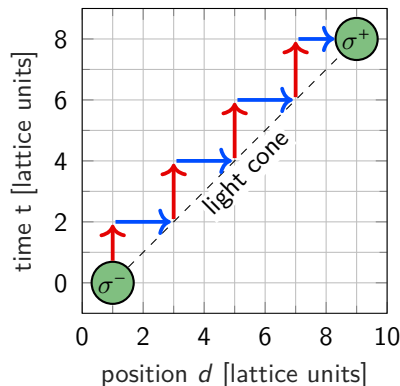
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- ▶ scattering → PDF [Dai et al. 1995]
- ▶ matrix elements

$$\langle h | \sigma^+(z^-) W_{z^- \leftarrow 0} \sigma^-(0) | h \rangle$$

- ▶ lightcone → **time**- and **space**-like steps
- ▶ time evolution:  

$$e^{-i\tau H} \approx (e^{-i\delta\tau H_{eo}} e^{-i\delta\tau H_{oe}} e^{-i\delta\tau H_L})^{N_\tau}$$
- ▶ spatial evolution:  
 change electric field along the path  
 → move static charges

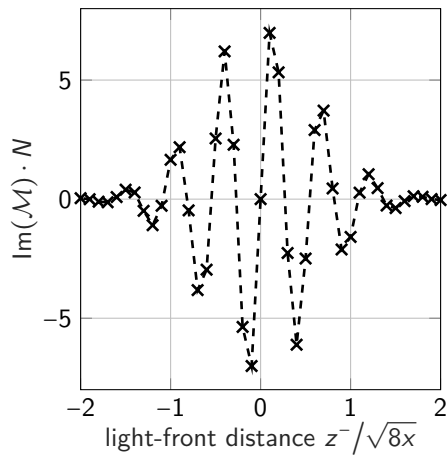


## Outline

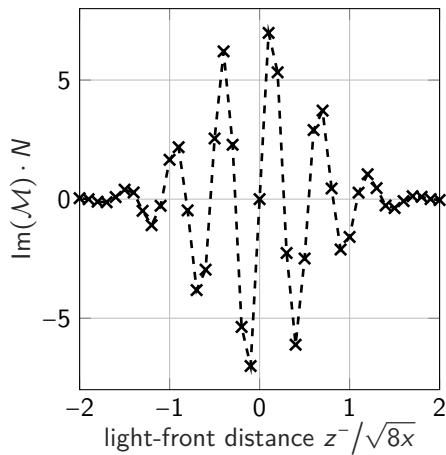
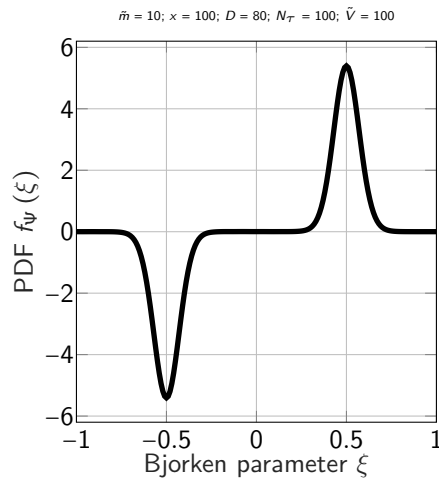
- 1 Motivation & Goal: Parton Distribution Functions
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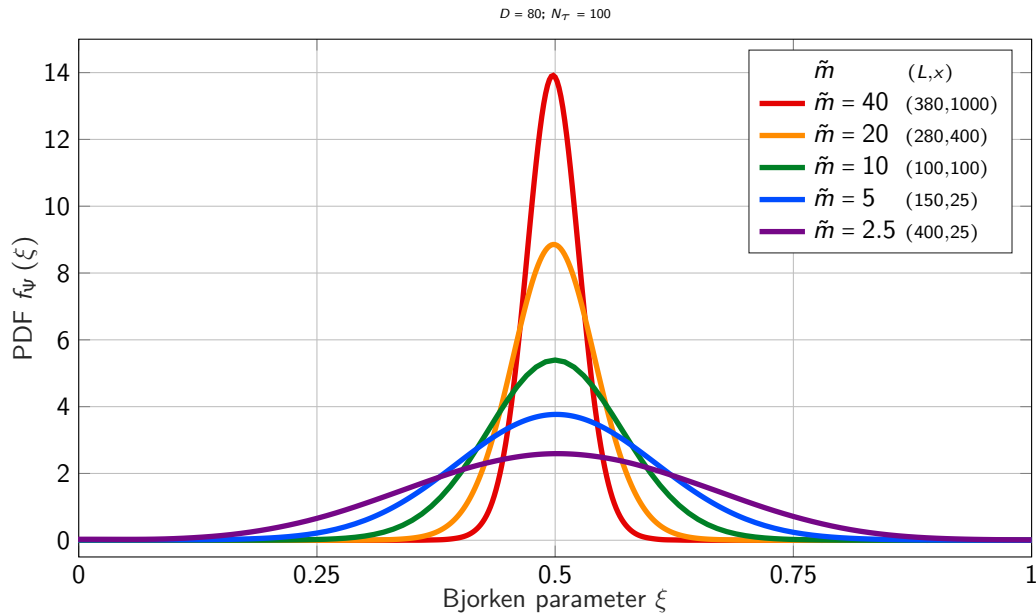
## Results

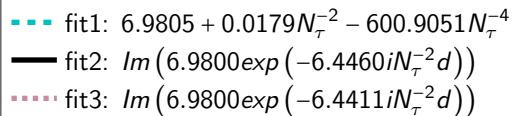
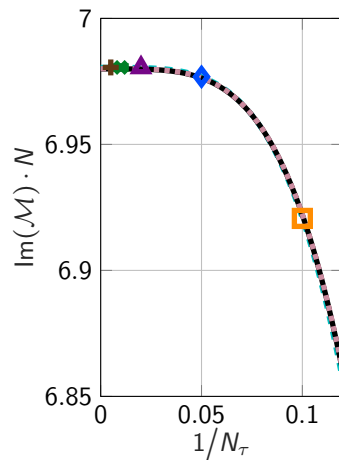
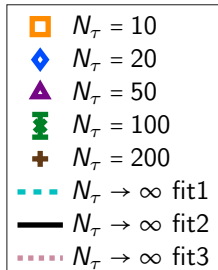
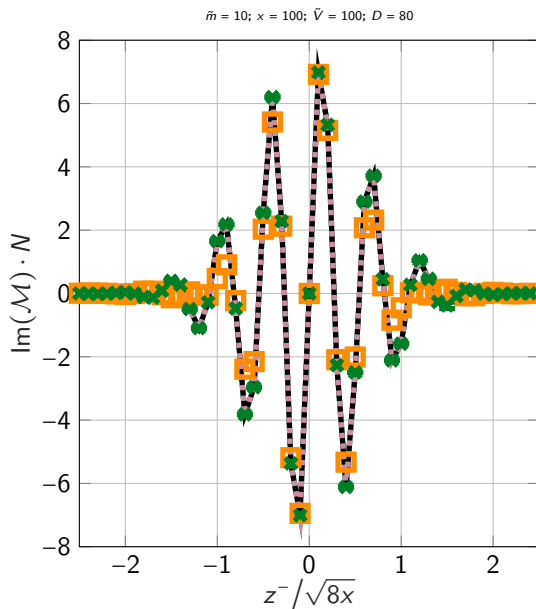


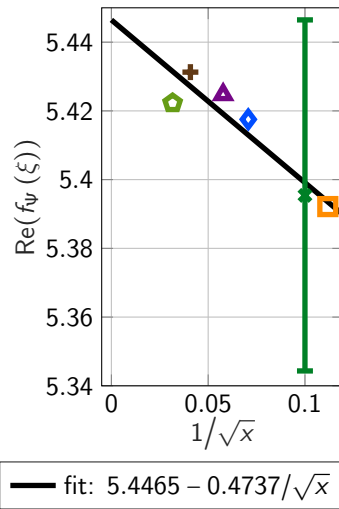
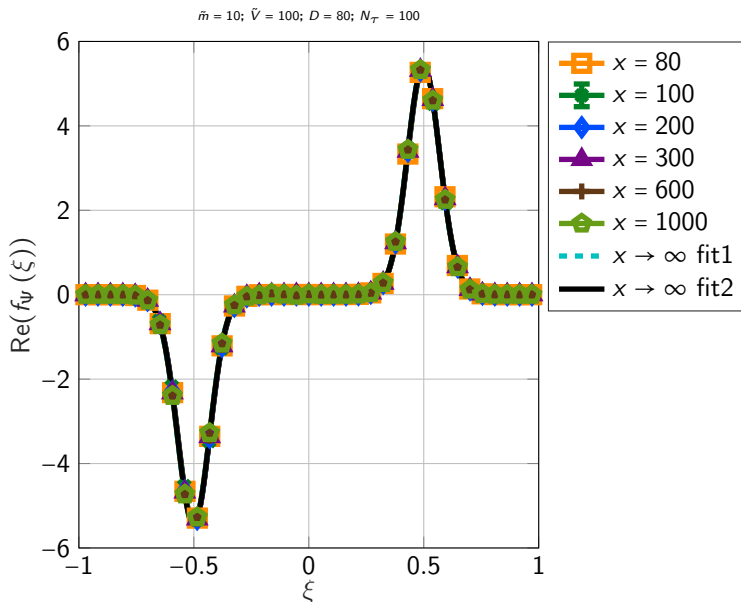
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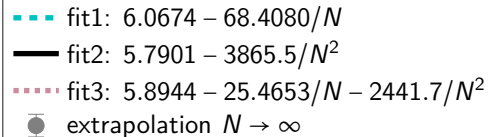
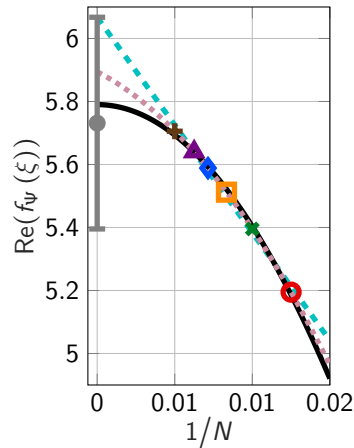
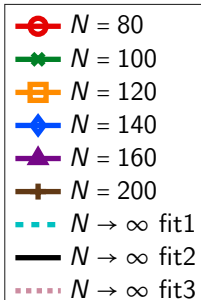
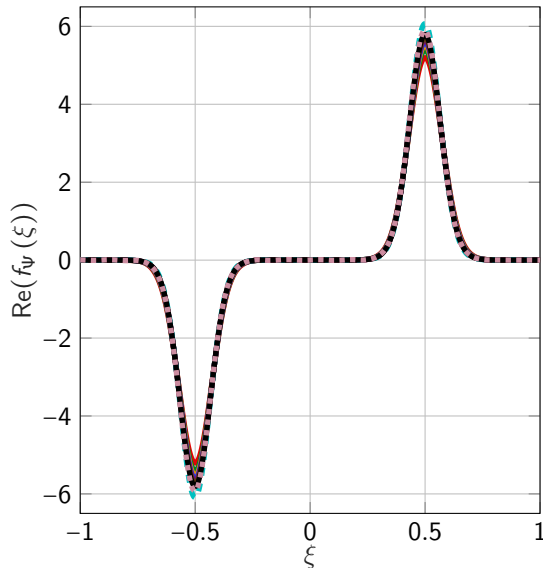
 $\xrightarrow{\text{FT}}$ 

## Mass dependence

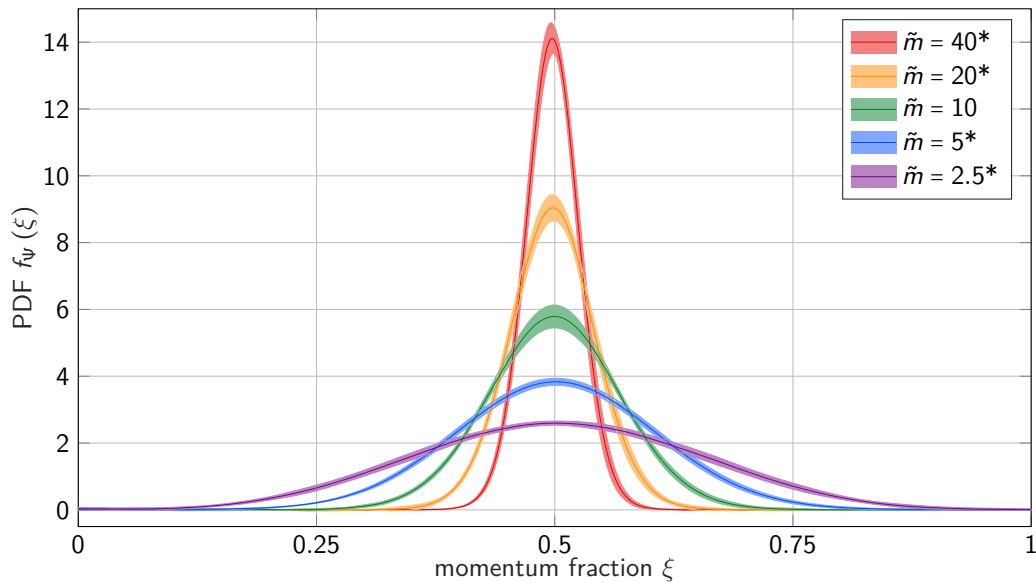


Results:  $N_\tau$ -dependence

Results:  $x$ -dependence

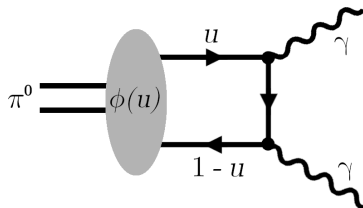
Results:  $N$ -dependence $\tilde{m} = 10; x = 100; D = 80; N_T = 100$ 

## Results: PDF [\*preliminary]



# Lightcone Distribution Amplitude (LCDA) [preliminary]

LCDA: decay or hadronization



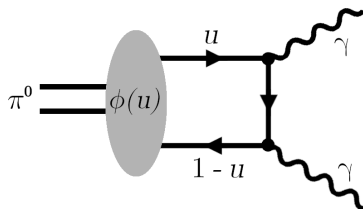
$$\pi^0 \rightarrow q(u)\bar{q}(1-u) \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$\text{if } \phi(u) = \int dz^- e^{iuP^+z^-} \langle 0 | \bar{\psi}(z^-) \gamma^+ \gamma_5 W(z^- \leftarrow 0) \psi(0) | P \rangle$$

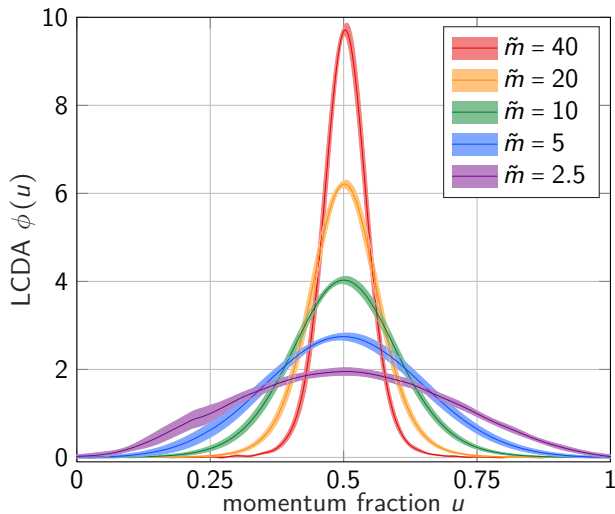


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## Summary

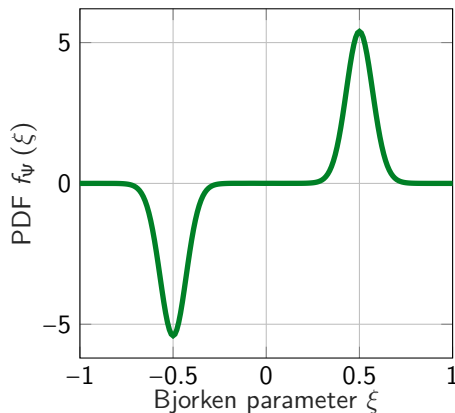
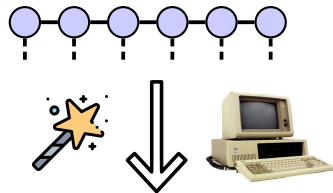
### Summary:

- ▶ PDF → universal structure of hadrons
- ▶ Euclidean space: **lightcone** → point 
- ▶ ⇒ use **tensor network states** / quantum devices
- ▶ Schwinger model:  
**fermion- and anti-fermion-PDF** of the vector meson



[arXiv:2504.07508]

[arXiv:2409.16996]



### Outlook:

- ▶ further lightcone observables
- ▶ same analysis for QCD 😊

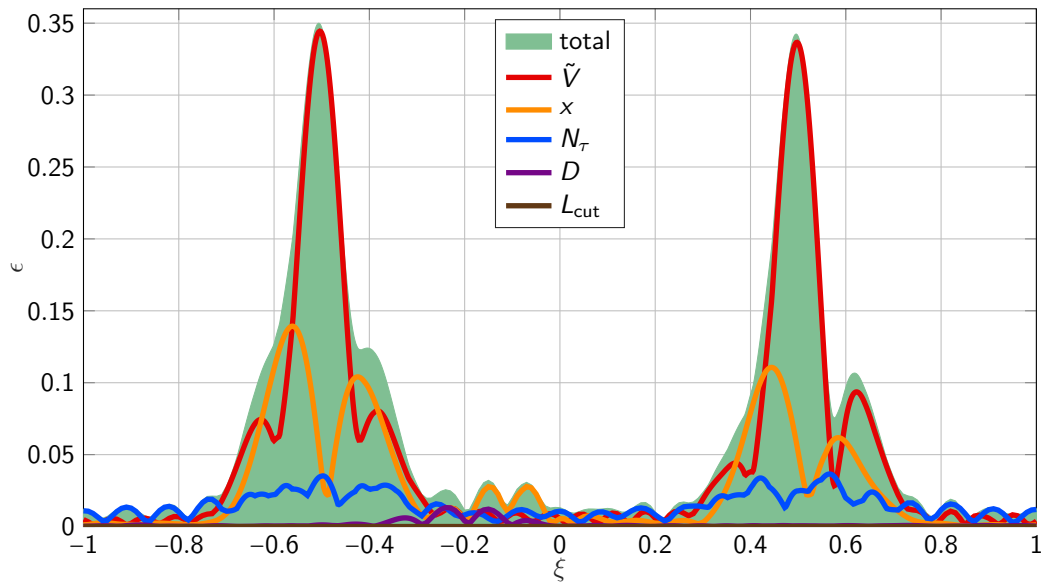
- <sup>1</sup> M. C. Bañuls, K. Cichy, C.-J. D. Lin, and M. Schneider, “Parton distribution functions in the schwinger model from tensor network states,” *Phys. Rev. D* **113**, L011502 (2026) doi:10.1103/lcyh-rxf3.
- <sup>2</sup> M. Schneider, M. C. Bañuls, K. Cichy, and C.-J. D. Lin, “Parton Distribution Functions in the Schwinger Model with Tensor Networks,” in *Proceedings of the 41st international symposium on lattice field theory — pos(lattice2024)*, Vol. 466 (2025), p. 024, doi:10.22323/1.466.0024.
- <sup>3</sup> M. D. Schwartz, *Quantum Field Theory and the Standard Model*, (Cambridge University Press, Mar. 2014), ISBN: 978-1-107-03473-0, 978-1-107-03473-0, doi:10.1017/9781139540940.
- <sup>4</sup> M. B. Hastings, “An area law for one-dimensional quantum systems,” *Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory & Exp.* **2007**, 08024 (2007) doi:10.1088/1742-5468/2007/08/P08024.
- <sup>5</sup> M. C. Bañuls, K. Cichy, J. I. Cirac, and K. Jansen, “The mass spectrum of the schwinger model with matrix product states,” *JHEP* **2013**, 158 (2013) doi:10.1007/JHEP11(2013)158.
- <sup>6</sup> J. Dai, J. Hughes, and J. Liu, “Perturbative analysis of the massless schwinger model,” *Phys. Rev. D* **51**, 5209–5215 (1995) doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.51.5209.
- <sup>7</sup> J. Schwinger, “Gauge invariance and mass. ii,” *Phys. Rev.* **128**, 2425–2429 (1962) doi:10.1103/PhysRev.128.2425.
- <sup>8</sup> C. J. Hamer, Z. Weihong, and J. Oitmaa, “Series expansions for the massive schwinger model in hamiltonian lattice theory,” *Phys. Rev. D* **56**, 55–67 (1997) doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.56.55.

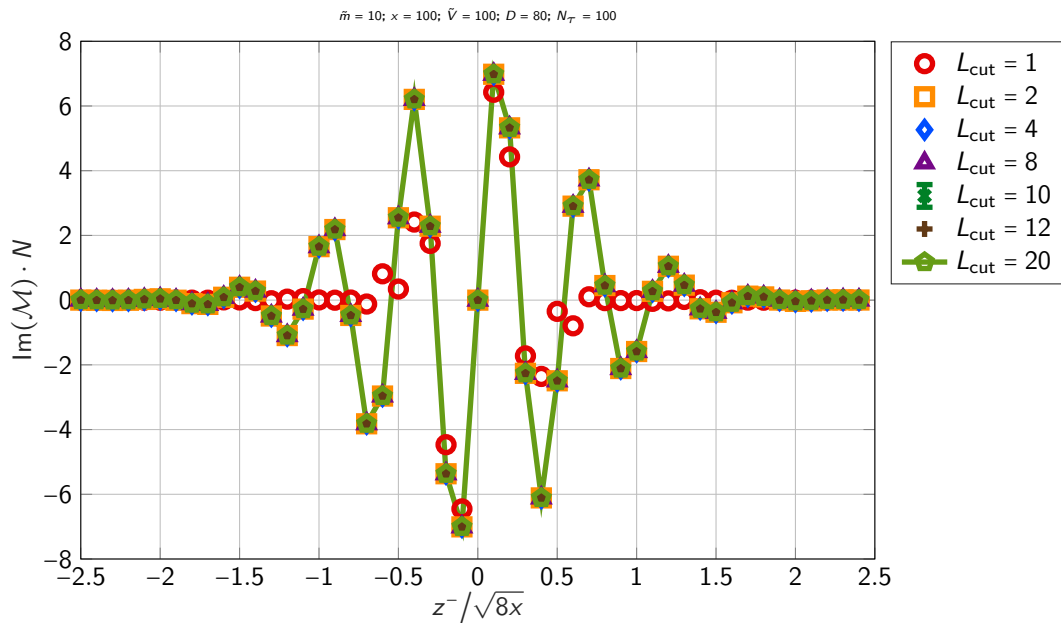
- <sup>9</sup> Y. Mo and R. J. Perry, “Basis function calculations for the massive schwinger model in the light-front tamm-dancoff approximation,” *Journal of Computational Physics* **108**, 159–174 (1993) doi:10.1006/jcph.1993.1171.
- <sup>10</sup> Further image sources, EIC, [www.computerhistory.org/timeline/1981](http://www.computerhistory.org/timeline/1981), <https://openmoji.org>, [www.flaticon.com/free-icons/search](http://www.flaticon.com/free-icons/search).

## Outline

### 6 Backup

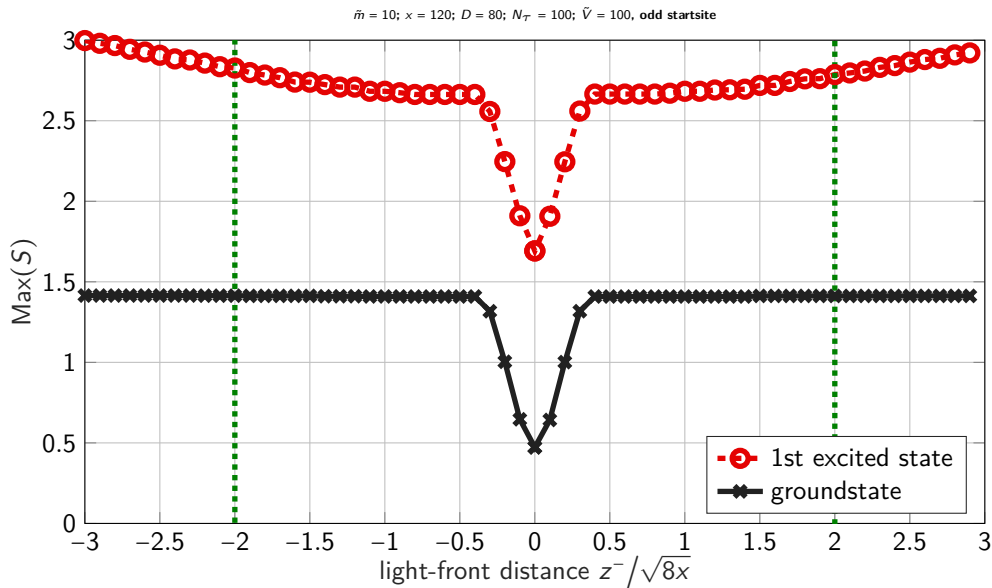
## Contributions to error



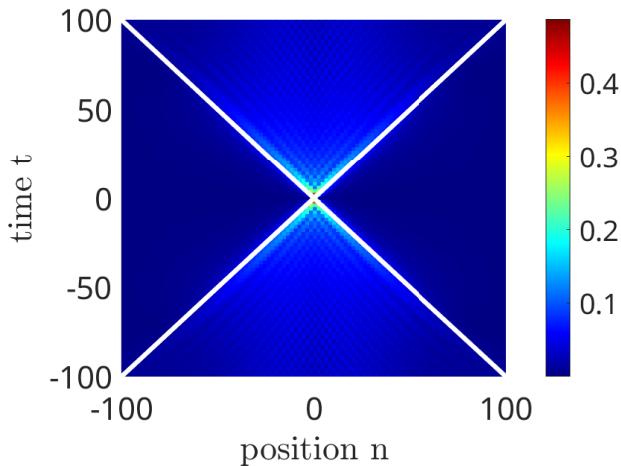
$L_{\text{cut}}$ -dependence: truncation of electric field



## Results: Entanglement entropy



## Light-cone structure



$$\langle P | e^{iHt} \prod_{k < n} (i\sigma_k^z) \sigma_n^+ e^{-iH_0 t} \prod_{k' < 0} (-i\sigma_{k'}^z) \sigma_0^- | P \rangle$$

- ▶ even-to-even matrix element
- ▶ calculated to each site at each timeslice
- ▶ static charge fixed at origin

## Spin formulation of the Schwinger Model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}(i\cancel{\partial} - g\cancel{A} - m)\Psi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - A_0\rho$$

$$\mathcal{H} = -i\bar{\Psi}\gamma^1(\partial_1 - igA_1)\Psi + m\bar{\Psi}\Psi + \frac{1}{2}E^2 + A_0(g\Psi^\dagger\Psi + \rho - \partial_1 E)$$

Legendre transformation  
( $E = F_{01}$ )

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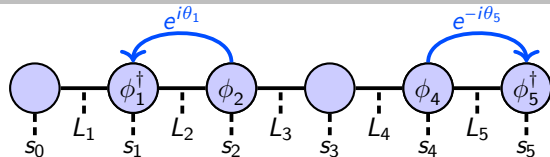
temporal Gauge:  $A_0 \equiv 0$

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$$H = -\frac{i}{2a} \sum_n \left( \phi_n^\dagger e^{i\theta_n} \phi_{n+1} - \phi_{n+1}^\dagger e^{-i\theta_n} \phi_n \right) + m \sum_n (-1)^n \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n + \frac{ag^2}{2} \sum_n L_n^2$$



staggered fermions  
 $(\theta = agA_1, gL = E)$

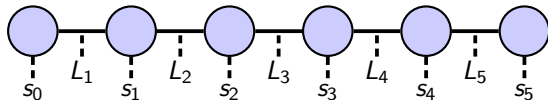
$$\phi_n \sim \begin{cases} \Psi_{\text{upper}}(x) & \text{if } n \text{ even} \\ \Psi_{\text{lower}}(x) & \text{if } n \text{ odd,} \end{cases}$$

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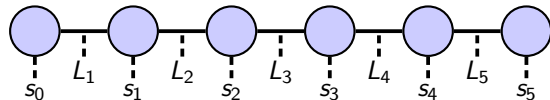


decoupling

$$\phi_n \rightarrow \prod_{k < n} (e^{-i\theta_k}) \phi_n$$

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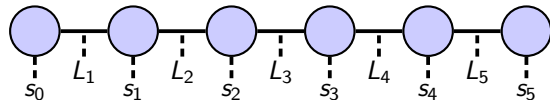
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Jordan-Wigner  
transformation

$$\hat{\phi}_n = \prod_{k < n} (i\sigma_k^z) \sigma_n^-$$

## Spin formulation of the Schwinger Model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}(i\cancel{\partial} - g\cancel{A} - m)\Psi - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - A_0\rho$$



$$\mathcal{H} = -i\bar{\Psi}\gamma^1(\partial_1 - igA_1)\Psi + m\bar{\Psi}\Psi + \frac{1}{2}E^2 + A_0(\cancel{g\Psi^\dagger\Psi + \rho - \partial_1 E})$$

$$H = -\frac{i}{2a} \sum_n \left( \cancel{\phi_n^\dagger e^{i\theta_n} \phi_{n+1}} - \cancel{\phi_{n+1}^\dagger e^{-i\theta_n} \phi_n} \right) + m \sum_n (-1)^n \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n + \frac{ag^2}{2} \sum_n L_n^2$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2a} \sum_n (\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_{n+1}^- \sigma_n^+) + \frac{m}{2} \sum_n [1 + (-1)^n \sigma_n^z] + \frac{ag^2}{2} \sum_n L_n^2$$

Gauss's law:

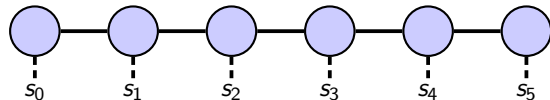
$$(x = \frac{1}{a^2 g^2}, \mu = \frac{2m}{ag^2})$$

$$L_n - L_{n-1} = Q_n = \frac{1}{2} [(-1)^n + \sigma_n^z] + q_n$$



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$$H = x \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} [\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_{n+1}^- \sigma_n^+] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [1 + (-1)^n \sigma_n^z] + \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^n Q_k \right]^2$$

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## Efficient Tensor Network operations

- Find groundstate and excited states

$$\min \left( E = \frac{\langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle} = \frac{\text{Diagram 1}}{\text{Diagram 2}} \right)$$

Diagram 1: A 2x6 grid of green squares representing the Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$ . The top and bottom edges of this grid are connected to a 1x6 chain of blue circles representing the state  $|\Psi\rangle$ .

Diagram 2: A 2x6 grid of blue circles representing the state  $|\Psi\rangle$ .

- Apply operators / time evolution

$$\hat{O}|\Psi\rangle = \text{Diagram 3} \longrightarrow |\Phi\rangle = \text{Diagram 4}$$

Diagram 3: A diagram representing the application of an operator  $\hat{O}$  to the state  $|\Psi\rangle$ . It shows a 2x6 grid of green squares (representing  $\hat{H}$ ) with a 1x6 chain of blue circles (representing  $|\Psi\rangle$ ) on top. The green squares are connected to a 1x6 chain of pink circles (representing  $|\Phi\rangle$ ) on the right. Dashed lines indicate connections between the green squares and the pink circles.

Diagram 4: A 1x6 chain of pink circles representing the state  $|\Phi\rangle$ .

- Calculate overlap

$$\langle \Psi | \Phi \rangle = \text{Diagram 5}$$

Diagram 5: A diagram representing the overlap  $\langle \Psi | \Phi \rangle$ . It shows a 1x6 chain of pink circles (representing  $|\Phi\rangle$ ) on top and a 1x6 chain of blue circles (representing  $|\Psi\rangle$ ) on the bottom. The two chains are connected by vertical lines, representing the contraction of the indices.

## Time evolution with MPS

$$H = x \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} [\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_n^- \sigma_{n+1}^+] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [1 + (-1)^n \sigma_n^z] + \sum_{n=0}^{N-2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n ((-1)^k + \sigma_k^z + 2q_k) \right]^2$$

Suzuki-Trotter decomposition:

$$e^{-i\tau H} \approx \left( e^{-i\delta\tau H_{eo}} e^{-i\delta\tau H_{oe}} e^{-i\delta\tau H_L} \right)^{N_\tau}$$

$$e^{-i\delta\tau H_{eo}} = \prod_{n=0,2,\dots} e^{-i\delta\tau x [\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_n^- \sigma_{n+1}^+]}$$

$$e^{-i\delta\tau H_{oe}} = \prod_{n=1,3,\dots} e^{-i\delta\tau x [\sigma_n^+ \sigma_{n+1}^- + \sigma_n^- \sigma_{n+1}^+]}$$

$e^{-i\delta\tau H_L}$ : MPO with indices  $L_n \in [-n, n]$

→ truncate to  $L_{\text{cut}}$

Optimize to get new MPS

