

# Reconstruction of light-cone parton distribution functions from lattice QCD simulations at the physical point

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in collaboration with:

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- 2. Results
  - Bare ME
  - Renormalized ME
  - Matching
  - Final result
  - Comparison of physical and non-physical  $m_{\pi}$
- 3. Conclusions and prospects

# Based on:

- C. Alexandrou, K. Cichy, M. Constantinou, K. Jansen, A. Scapellato, F. Steffens, "Reconstruction of light-cone parton distribution functions from lattice QCD simulations at the physical point", arXiv: 1803.02685 [hep-lat]
- C. Alexandrou, K. Cichy, M. Constantinou, K. Hadjiyiannakou, K. Jansen, H. Panagopoulos, F. Steffens, "A complete non-perturbative renormalization prescription for quasi-PDFs", Nucl. Phys. B923 (2017) 394-415 (Frontiers Article)
- M. Constantinou, H. Panagopoulos, "Perturbative Renormalization of quasi-PDFs", Phys. Rev. D96 (2017) 054506
- C. Alexandrou, K. Cichy, M. Constantinou, K. Hadjiyiannakou, K. Jansen, F. Steffens, C. Wiese, "Updated Lattice Results for Parton Distributions", Phys. Rev. D96 (2017) 014513
- C. Alexandrou, K. Cichy, V. Drach, E. Garcia-Ramos, K. Hadjiyiannakou, K. Jansen, F. Steffens, C. Wiese, "A Lattice Calculation of Parton Distributions", Phys. Rev. D92 (2015) 014502





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# Introduction

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# PDFs – why is it difficult on the lattice?



- Hadrons are complicated systems with properties resulting from the strong dynamics of quarks and gluons inside them.
  - This dynamics is characterized in terms of, among others, parton distribution functions (PDFs).
- PDFs are essential in making predictions for collider expriments.
- PDFs have non-perturbative nature  $\Rightarrow$  LATTICE?
- But: PDFs given in terms of non-local light-cone correlators intrinsically Minkowskian problem for the lattice!

$$q(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d\xi^- e^{-ixp^+\xi^-} \langle N | \overline{\psi}(\xi^-) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(\xi^-, 0) \psi(0) | N \rangle,$$

where:  $\xi^- = \frac{\xi^0 - \xi^3}{\sqrt{2}}$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\xi^-, 0)$  is the Wilson line from 0 to  $\xi^-$ .

- This expression is light-cone dominated needs  $\xi^2 = \vec{x}^2 + t^2 \sim 0$ – very hard due to non-zero lattice spacing!
- Accessible on the lattice moments of the distributions, but ...

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• Moments of PDFs are defined via matrix elements of local operators:

$$\int dx \, x^{n-1} q(x) = \langle N | \mathcal{O}^{\{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n\}} | N \rangle,$$

with:

$$\mathcal{O}^{\{\mu_1\dots\mu_n\}} = \bar{\psi} \left( \gamma^{\{\mu_1} i\overleftrightarrow{D}^{\mu_2}\dots i\overleftrightarrow{D}^{\mu_n\}} \right) \frac{\tau^a}{2} \psi.$$

• Example – isovector quark momentum fraction (q(x) = u(x) - d(x)):

$$\langle x \rangle_{u-d} = \int dx \, x \, \left( q(x) + \bar{q}(x) \right).$$

- However, higher moments are difficult for technical reasons:
  - $\star$  higher derivatives noisy,
  - $\star$  operator mixing.



ETMC, C. Alexandrou et al., 1509.04936

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There is, however, an important lesson to be learned from moments calculations:



- source-sink separation  $T_s$  has to be at least 1 fm!
- simultaneous fits to different  $T_s$  make sense **only** if one can get the safe=large  $T_s$  with similar precision as the lower ones
- else, the simultaneous fit is certainly dominated by the lower  $T_s$

See also slides by André

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.25\\ 0.2\\ 0.15\\ 0.1\\ 0.05\\ 0\\ 14\\ 16\\ 18\\ 20\\ 22\\ 24\\ t_{sink}/a \end{array}$ 

ETMC, S. Dinter et al. Phys. Lett. B704, 89 (2011)



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0.3



# **Quasi-PDFs**

• Quasi-PDF approach:

X. Ji, Parton Physics on a Euclidean Lattice, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110 (2013) 262002

• Compute a quasi distribution  $\tilde{q}$ , which is purely spatial and uses nucleons with finite momentum:

$$\tilde{q}(x,\mu^2,P_3) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixP_3z} \langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle.$$

- z distance in any *spatial* direction z,
- $P_3$  momentum boost in this direction.
- e.g.  $\Gamma = \gamma_0, \, \gamma_3$  unpolarized,  $\Gamma = \gamma_5 \gamma_3$  helicity
- Theoretically very appealing and intuitive!
- Differs from light-front PDFs by  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{P_3^2}, \frac{m_N^2}{P_3^2}\right)$ .
- The highly non-trivial aspect: how to relate  $\tilde{q}(x, \mu^2, P_3)$  to the light-front PDF  $q(x, \mu^2)$  (infinite momentum frame)  $\implies$  LaMET







# Quasi-PDFs on the lattice



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Beautiful idea and solid theoretical framework!

BUT: lattice realization far from trivial!

- Signal for the relevant nucleon 2-pt and 3-pt function depends on:
  - \* nucleon momentum  $P_3$  exponentially decaying with  $P_3!$
  - \* source-sink separation  $T_s$  exponentially decaying with  $T_s$ !
  - $\star$  quark mass worsens for smaller masses.
- Many systematics to control!

HENCE: Choice of the pairs  $(T_s, P_3)$  is crucial!



# Lattice setup



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- fermions:  $N_f = 2$  twisted mass fermions + clover term lacksquare
- gluons: Iwasaki gauge action,  $\beta = 2.1$

$\beta {=} 2.10$ ,	$c_{\rm SW} = 1.57751$ , $a = 0.0938(3)(2)$ fm
$48^3 \times 96$	$a\mu = 0.0009$ $m_N = 0.932(4)$ GeV
$L = 4.5 \mathrm{fm}$	$m_{\pi} = 0.1304(4) \text{ GeV}  m_{\pi}L = 2.98(1)$

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The Wilson twisted mass fermion action for the 2 light (u, d quarks) is given in the so-called twisted basis by: [R. Frezzotti, P. Grassi, G.C. Rossi, S. Sint, P. Weisz, 2000-2004]

$$S_{l}[\psi, \bar{\psi}, U] = a^{4} \sum_{x} \bar{\chi}_{l}(x) \big( D_{W} + m_{0,l} + i\mu_{l}\gamma_{5}\tau_{3} \big) \chi_{l}(x),$$

- $D_W$  Wilson-Dirac operator,
- $m_{0,l}$  and  $\mu_l$  bare untwisted and twisted light quark masses,
- $\chi_l = (\chi_u, \chi_d) 2$ -component vector in flavor space; chiral rotation of standard one:  $\psi = e^{i\gamma_5\tau_3\omega/2}\chi$
- Maximal twist:  $\omega = \pi/2$  by tuning the PCAC mass to zero  $\Rightarrow$  automatic  $\mathcal{O}(a)$ -improvement.



#### Momentum smearing



$$S_{\text{mom}}\psi(x) = \frac{1}{1+6\alpha} \left( \psi(x) + \alpha \sum_{j=\pm 1}^{\pm 3} U_j(x) e^{i\xi \hat{j}} \psi(x+\hat{j}) \right)$$

G. Bali et al., Phys. Rev. D93, 094515 (2016)



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### **Computation setup**



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For each gauge field configuration, we use:

- 6 directions of Wilson line:  $\pm x, \pm y, \pm z$
- 16 source positions:
  - $\star$  1 high precision (HP) inversion
  - $\star$  16 low precision (LP) inversions
- Bias from the LP inversions corrected using the Covariant Approximation Averaging technique (CAA)
   E. Shintani et al., Phys. Rev. D91, 114511 (2015)

**Crucial thing:** choice of nucleon momenta Needs careful choice of source-sink separation







See also slides by Jeremy

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Source-sink separation  $T_s = 12a \approx 1.13$  fm



Excited states effects seem to be under control!

See also slides by Jeremy

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#### Source-sink separation





Certain regions of *z* are very much affected by excited states!

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# Cost of the computation





Reaching 1.5 GeV @  $T_s \approx 1.1$  fm needs already  $\mathcal{O}(20)$  million CPUh

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### Cost extrapolation to 3 GeV





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# Cost of the computation – lower $T_s$





Reaching 2.2 GeV @  $T_s \approx 0.75$  fm pretty cheap –  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  million CPUh

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# Cost extrapolation to 3 GeV – lower $T_s$





BUT: definitely too large excited states contamination

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# Conclusion from this



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- Elimination of excited states must not be compromised reaching really large momenta extremely difficult if one takes excited states seriously.
- Note that the log-linear extrapolation of the cost is likely to underestimate this cost.
- Momentum smearing technique is **extremely useful**, but it does not kill the exponential signal-to-noise problem.
- It moves it to somewhat higher momenta:
  - \* without it, momentum 0.8-0.9 GeV at  $T_s \approx 1.1$  fm becomes the borderline (tens of million CPUh),
  - $\star$  with it, the same cost makes 1.4-1.5 GeV reachable.
- Key aspect for the future: how to tackle the signal-to-noise problem at safe source-sink separations.





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- In our work, we decided to learn from:
  - $\star$  the many-year effort to compute moments on the lattice,
  - \* tests of 3 source-sink separations:  $T_s \approx 0.75, 0.94, 1.13$  fm.
- $T_s \approx 1.1$  fm seems to be the lowest justifiable choice, i.e. it should be safe from excited states at the  $\sim 10\%$  level.
- With  $T_s \approx 0.75$  fm, excited states totally uncontrolled (20%, 30%, 50% ???) may affect different *x*-ranges in a different way.
- Simultaneous fit of different  $T_s$ ? Makes sense only if similar statistical precision of all  $T_s \implies$  impossible here without investing resources beyond the current computing capabilities.
- Hence, given these capabilities, we take:
  - $\star aP_3 = 6\pi/48 \Rightarrow P_3 \approx 0.83 \text{ GeV}$
  - $\star aP_3 = 8\pi/48 \Rightarrow P_3 \approx 1.11 \text{ GeV}$
  - $\star aP_3 = 10\pi/48 \Rightarrow P_3 \approx 1.38 \text{ GeV}$
- all at  $T_s\approx 1.13~{\rm fm}$

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### **Statistics**



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$P_3 = \frac{6\pi}{L}$			$P_3 = \frac{8\pi}{L}$			$P_3 = \frac{10\pi}{L}$		
Ins.	$N_{\rm conf}$	$N_{\rm meas}$	lns.	$N_{\rm conf}$	$N_{\rm meas}$	lns.	$N_{\rm conf}$	$N_{ m meas}$
$\gamma_0$	50	4800	$\gamma_0$	425	38250	$\gamma_0$	655	58950
$\gamma_5\gamma_3$	65	6240	$\gamma_5\gamma_3$	425	38250	$\gamma_5\gamma_3$	655	58950



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# Summary of the procedure



The procedure to obtain light-cone PDFs from the lattice computation can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Compute bare matrix elements:  $\langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle$
- 2. Compute vertex functions and the resulting renormalization functions in the intermediate RI'-MOM scheme  $Z^{\text{RI'}}(z,\mu)$ .
- 3. Convert the renormalization functions to the  $\overline{\rm MS}$  scheme and evolve to  $\bar{\mu}=2$  GeV.
- 4. Apply the renormalization functions to the bare matrix elements, obtaining renormalized matrix elements in the  $\overline{\rm MS}$  scheme.
- 5. Calculate the Fourier transform, obtaining quasi-PDFs:

 $\tilde{q}(x,\mu^2,P_3) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixP_3z} \langle N|\overline{\psi}(z)\Gamma\mathcal{A}(z,0)\psi(0)|N\rangle.$ 

- 6. Relate quasi-PDFs to light-cone PDFs via a matching procedure.
- 7. Apply target mass corrections to eliminate residual  $m_N/P_3$  effects.

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# Step 1



The procedure to obtain light-cone PDFs from the lattice computation can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Compute bare matrix elements:  $\langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle$
- 2. Compute vertex functions and the resulting renormalization functions in the intermediate RI'-MOM scheme  $Z^{\text{RI}'}(z,\mu)$ .
- 3. Convert the renormalization functions to the  $\overline{\rm MS}$  scheme and evolve to  $\bar{\mu}=2$  GeV.
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# Steps 2-4



The procedure to obtain light-cone PDFs from the lattice computation can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Compute bare matrix elements:  $\langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle$
- 2. Compute vertex functions and the resulting renormalization functions in the intermediate RI'-MOM scheme  $Z^{\text{RI}'}(z,\mu)$ .
- 3. Convert the renormalization functions to the  $\overline{MS}$  scheme and evolve to  $\overline{\mu} = 2$  GeV. See slides by Martha
- 4. Apply the renormalization functions to the bare matrix elements, obtaining renormalized matrix elements in the  $\overline{\mathrm{MS}}$  scheme.
- 5. Calculate the Fourier transform, obtaining quasi-PDFs:

$$\tilde{q}(x,\mu^2,P_3) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixP_3z} \langle N|\overline{\psi}(z)\Gamma\mathcal{A}(z,0)\psi(0)|N\rangle.$$

- 6. Relate quasi-PDFs to light-cone PDFs via a matching procedure.
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### Renormalization



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Bare matrix elements  $\langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle$  contain divergences that need to be removed:

- standard logarithmic divergence with respect to the regulator,  $log(a\mu)$ ,
- power divergence related to the Wilson line; resums into a multiplicative exponential factor,  $\exp(-\delta m |z|/a + c|z|)$  $\delta m$  – strength of the divergence, operator independent, c – arbitrary scale (to be fixed by the renormalization prescription).

See slides by Martha

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# Renormalization



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Proposed renormalization programme described in:
C. Alexandrou, K. Cichy, M. Constantinou, K. Hadjiyiannakou, K. Jansen,
H. Panagopoulos, F. Steffens, "A complete non-perturbative renormalization prescription for quasi-PDFs", Nucl. Phys. B923 (2017) 394-415 (Frontiers Article)

Important insights also from the lattice perturbative paper: M. Constantinou, H. Panagopoulos, "Perturbative Renormalization of quasi-PDFs", Phys. Rev. D96 (2017) 054506

 $\rightarrow$  discovered mixing between the vector and scalar matrix elements (unpolarized PDF). This perturbative analysis is very important guidance to non-perturbative renormalization!

Non-perturbative renormalization scheme: RI'-MOM.

G. Martinelli et al., Nucl. Phys. B445 (1995) 81

See slides by Martha



#### Renormalization



RI'-MOM renormalization conditions (for cases without mixing): for the operator:

$$Z_q^{-1} Z_{\mathcal{O}}(z) \frac{1}{12} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathcal{V}(p, z) \left( \mathcal{V}^{\text{Born}}(p, z) \right)^{-1} \right] \Big|_{p^2 = \bar{\mu}_0^2} = 1 \,,$$

for the quark field:

$$Z_q = \frac{1}{12} \operatorname{Tr} \left[ (S(p))^{-1} S^{\operatorname{Born}}(p) \right] \Big|_{p^2 = \bar{\mu}_0^2}.$$

See slides by Martha

- momentum p in the vertex function is set to the RI' renormalization scale  $ar{\mu}_0$
- $\mathcal{V}(p,z)$  amputated vertex function of the operator,
- $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Born}}$  its tree-level value,  $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Born}}(p,z) = i\gamma_3\gamma_5 e^{ipz}$  for helicity,
- S(p) fermion propagator ( $S^{Born}(p)$  at tree-level).

This prescription handles all divergences that are present and applies the necessary finite renormalization related to the lattice regularization.



# Stout smearing



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- The power divergence related to the Wilson line makes the values of Z-factors very large at large lengths.
- Hence, we mildly smoothen the divergence by applying stout smearing **only to the Wilson line**.
- Note: we do not apply it to the Dirac operator potentially dangerous procedure.
- We test:
  - ★ 5 stout smearing steps
  - $\star$  10 stout smearing steps
  - $\star$  15 stout smearing steps

See also slides by Martha

- This influences both bare matrix elements and the values of *Z*-factors.
- But: renormalized matrix elements should be **independent** of the number of stout steps!



# Renormalized matrix elements for helicity PDFs





Important self-consistency check for the renormalization procedure! See also slides by Martha

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# Steps 5-6



The procedure to obtain light-cone PDFs from the lattice computation can be summarized as follows:

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- 2. Compute vertex functions and the resulting renormalization functions in the intermediate RI'-MOM scheme  $Z^{\text{RI}'}(z,\mu)$ .
- 3. Convert the renormalization functions to the  $\overline{\rm MS}$  scheme and evolve to  $\bar{\mu}=2$  GeV.
- 4. Apply the renormalization functions to the bare matrix elements, obtaining renormalized matrix elements in the  $\overline{\mathrm{MS}}$  scheme.
- 5. Calculate the Fourier transform, obtaining quasi-PDFs:

$$\tilde{q}(x,\mu^2,P_3) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixP_3 z} \langle N | \overline{\psi}(z) \Gamma \mathcal{A}(z,0) \psi(0) | N \rangle.$$

- 6. Relate quasi-PDFs to light-cone PDFs via a matching procedure. See slides by Fernanda
- 7. Apply target mass corrections to eliminate residual  $m_N/P_3$  effects.

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**Quasi-PDF** 

Twisted Mass Mass Mass





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#### Quasi-PDF + pheno



Nucleon momentum  $\frac{10\pi}{48}$ 



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The matching formula can be expressed as:

$$q(x,\mu) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\xi}{|\xi|} C\left(\xi, \frac{\mu}{xP_3}\right) \tilde{q}\left(\frac{x}{\xi}, \mu, P_3\right)$$

C – matching kernel:

Plus prescription at  $\xi = 1$ :

$$C\left(\xi,\frac{\xi\mu}{xP_{3}}\right) = \delta(1-\xi) + \frac{\alpha_{s}}{2\pi}C_{F} \begin{cases} \left[\frac{1+\xi^{2}}{1-\xi}\ln\frac{\xi}{\xi-1} + 1 + \frac{3}{2\xi}\right]_{+} & \xi > 1, \\ \left[\frac{1+\xi^{2}}{1-\xi}\ln\frac{x^{2}P_{3}^{2}}{\xi^{2}\mu^{2}}\left(4\xi(1-\xi)\right) - \frac{\xi(1+\xi)}{1-\xi} + 2\iota(1-\xi)\right]_{+} & 0 < \xi < 1, \\ \left[-\frac{1+\xi^{2}}{1-\xi}\ln\frac{\xi}{\xi-1} - 1 + \frac{3}{2(1-\xi)}\right]_{+} & \xi < 0, \end{cases}$$

[T. Izubuchi et al., arXiv:1801.03917 [hep-ph], C. Alexandrou et al., arXiv:1803.02685 [hep-lat]]  $\iota=0$  for  $\gamma_0$  and  $\iota=1$  for  $\gamma_3/\gamma_5\gamma_3$ .

See slides by Fernanda

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#### Matched PDF



Nucleon momentum  $\frac{10\pi}{48}$ 



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The procedure to obtain light-cone PDFs from the lattice computation can be summarized as follows:

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$$\tilde{q}(x,\mu^2,P_3) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixP_3z} \langle N|\overline{\psi}(z)\Gamma\mathcal{A}(z,0)\psi(0)|N\rangle.$$

- 6. Relate quasi-PDFs to light-cone PDFs via a matching procedure.
- 7. Apply target mass corrections to eliminate residual  $m_N/P_3$  effects.

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Summary

In the infinite momentum frame, nucleon mass does not matter, i.e.  $m_N/P_3 = 0$ .

Here, we work with nucleon boosted to finite momentum  $P_3$  and we need to correct for  $m_N/P_3 \neq 0$ .

We use formulae derived in:

[J.W. Chen et al., Nucl.Phys. B911 (2016) 246-273, arXiv:1603.06664 [hep-ph]]

Important feature: particle number is conserved in nucleon mass corrections.

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### Matched PDF + TMCs



Nucleon momentum  $\frac{10\pi}{48}$ 



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Momentum dependence of final PDF





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# Comparison with non-physical pion mass



Physical vs. non-physical pion mass – 135 vs. 375 MeV unpolarized PDF



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# **Systematics**



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Different systematic effects still need to be addressed:

- pion mass 🗸
- cut-off effects 🗸 🗡
- finite volume effects 🗸 🗡
- contamination by excited states
- higher-twist effects
- truncation of conversion, evolution and matching X
- lattice artifacts in renormalization functions
- . . .

Biggest challenge: Reach large momenta at large source-sink separations





Introduction

Results

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- We have shown a computation of the full Bjorken-x dependence of PDFs from first principles at a physical pion mass.
- Very encouraging results and already agreement with pheno for a range of x values.
- But: still a long way to go to control all systematics.
- We need to be slow and careful, go one step at a time.
- There will always be room for improvement of precision and given the importance of the subject, a better precision will always be desired.
- In the future: also other kinds of structure functions: GPDs, TMDs, gluon PDFs etc.



# Conclusions



Outline of the talk

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# Thank you for your attention!

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# Standard vs. derivative Fourier transform



Standard Fourier transform defining qPDFs:  $\tilde{q}(x) = 2P_3 \int_{-z_{\text{max}}}^{z_{\text{max}}} \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixzP_3} h(z)$ can be rewritten using integration by parts as: [H.W. Lin et al., arXiv:1708.05301]

$$\tilde{q}(x) = h(z) \frac{e^{ixzP_3}}{2\pi ix} \Big|_{-z_{\max}}^{z_{\max}} - \int_{-z_{\max}}^{z_{\max}} \frac{dz}{2\pi} \frac{e^{ixzP_3}}{ix} h'(z).$$

Truncation:  $h(|z| \ge z_{\max}) = 0$  is equivalent to neglecting the surface term.



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