

Baryon Chiral Perturbation Theory

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Outline (1)

Part I: Basics

- construction of the meson-baryon Lagrangian
- power counting and its failure
- heavy-baryon ChPT and infrared regularisation

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Part II: πN σ -term and strangeness in the nucleon (1)

- quark mass dependence of the nucleon mass
- sigma term and πN scattering

Outline (2)

Part III: Strangeness in the nucleon (2)

- Strangeness form factors and parity-violating e^-p scattering
- Chiral perturbation theory: a failure

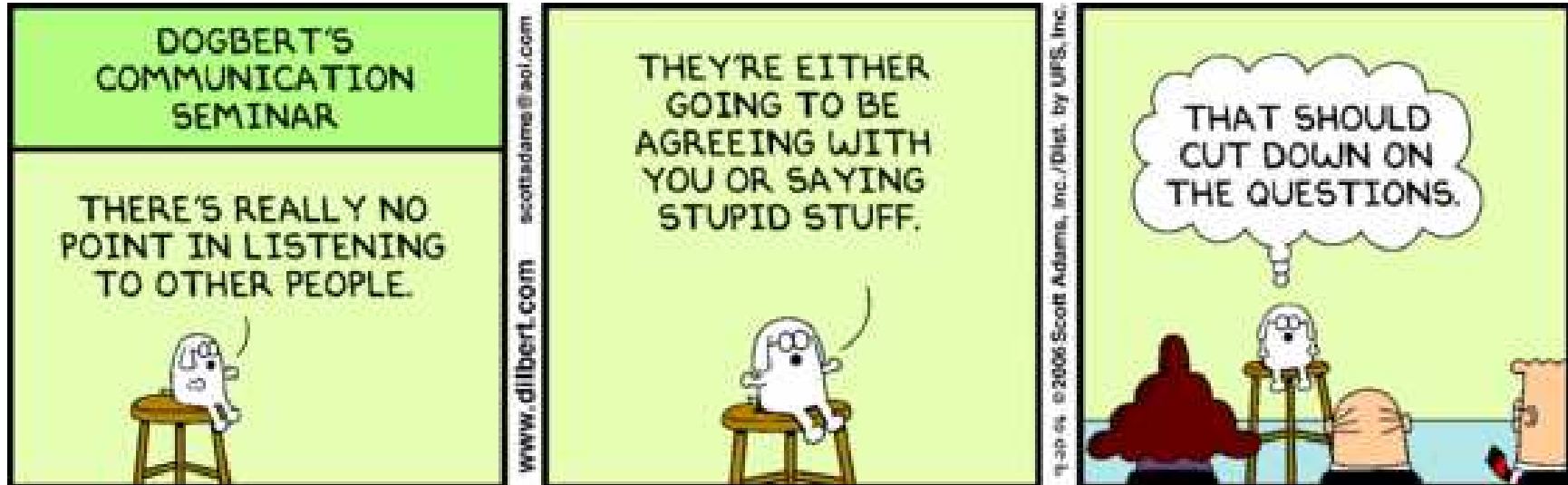
Part IV: Isospin-violating form factors

- Why? isospin violation and strangeness
- Chiral perturbation theory: a success

Part VI: Crimes and omissions

- The role of the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance
- Two- and more-nucleon systems

Questions, anyone?



I reserve the use of irony without warning.

Part I: Basics

Chiral perturbation theory with baryons

- H. Leutwyler's lectures: ChPT for (pseudo) Goldstone bosons
- perhaps the most important extension: inclusion of **nucleons** [chiral SU(2)] / the **baryon** ground state octet [SU(3)]
- objective: understand the properties of nucleons
- long-term goal: put nuclear physics on a more systematic footing

Chiral perturbation theory with baryons

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- objective: understand the properties of nucleons
- long-term goal: put nuclear physics on a more systematic footing
- problem (as we shall see later):
nucleon mass is a new, heavy mass scale that does not vanish in the chiral limit,

$$\lim_{m_q \rightarrow 0} m_N \approx m_N$$

- idea: view nucleons as (massive) matter fields coupled to pions and external sources
3-momenta ought to remain small $\sim M_\pi$
- number of baryons conserved
no baryon–antibaryon creation / annihilation
here: consider only processes with 1 baryon

Construction of the meson–baryon Lagrangian (1)

- proceed as before:
 - ▷ choose **suitable representation / transformation law** for baryons under $SU(N)_L \times SU(N)_R$
 - ▷ construct effective Lagrangians according to increasing number of momenta
- remember: $U \mapsto V_L U V_R^\dagger$ for the Goldstone boson fields
- introduce a new field u according to $u^2 = U$

$$\begin{aligned} u \mapsto \sqrt{V_L U V_R^\dagger} &= V_L u K^\dagger(V_L, V_R, U) \\ &= K(V_L, V_R, U) u V_R^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

$K(V_L, V_R, U) \in SU(N)$ **compensator** field

- for $SU(N)_V$ transformations ($V_L = V_R$), reduces to $K(V_L, V_R, U) = V_L = V_R$

Construction of the meson–baryon Lagrangian (2)

- particularly convenient representation for nucleons / baryons:

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ n \end{pmatrix} \longmapsto \psi' = K\psi \quad [\text{SU}(2)]$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\Sigma^0}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} & \Sigma^+ & p \\ \Sigma^- & -\frac{\Sigma^0}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} & n \\ \Xi^- & \Xi^0 & -\frac{2\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} \end{pmatrix} \longmapsto B' = KBK^{-1} \quad [\text{SU}(3)]$$

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- introduce a **covariant derivative**:

$$D^\mu = \partial^\mu + \Gamma^\mu = \partial^\mu + V^\mu$$

Γ^μ **chiral connection** (vector)

$$\Gamma^\mu = \frac{1}{2} (u^\dagger (\partial^\mu - i r^\mu) u + u (\partial^\mu - i l^\mu) u^\dagger)$$

transforms according to

$$\Gamma^\mu \longmapsto K\Gamma^\mu K^\dagger - (\partial^\mu K)K^\dagger$$

such that

$$D^\mu \psi \longmapsto K D^\mu \psi$$

Construction of the meson–baryon Lagrangian (3)

- chiral vielbein (axial vector)

$$u^\mu = i (u^\dagger (\partial^\mu - i r^\mu) u - u (\partial^\mu - i l^\mu) u^\dagger)$$

transforms according to

$$u^\mu \longmapsto K u^\mu K^\dagger$$

- finally, rewrite quark mass term $\chi = 2B(s + i p) = 2B\mathcal{M} + \dots$

$$\chi_+ = u^\dagger \chi u^\dagger + u \chi^\dagger u$$

such that

$$\chi_+ \longmapsto K \chi_+ K^\dagger$$

⇒ everything transforms in the same way

- power counting: $\Gamma^\mu, u^\mu = \mathcal{O}(p), \chi_+ = \mathcal{O}(p^2)$

The leading-order chiral meson-baryon Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi}^{(2)} = \frac{F^2}{4} \langle u_\mu u^\mu + \chi_+ \rangle = \frac{F^2}{4} \langle D_\mu U D^\mu U^\dagger + \chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger \rangle$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = \bar{\psi} \left(i\gamma_\mu D^\mu - m + \frac{g_A}{2} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 u^\mu \right) \psi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\phi B}^{(1)} &= \langle \bar{B} (i\gamma_\mu D^\mu - m) B \rangle \\ &+ \frac{D}{2} \langle \bar{B} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \{u^\mu, B\} \rangle + \frac{F}{2} \langle \bar{B} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 [u^\mu, B] \rangle \end{aligned}$$

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Remarks:

- $i\gamma_\mu D^\mu$, $m = \mathcal{O}(p^0)$ both individually **large**, but $i\gamma_\mu D^\mu - m = \mathcal{O}(p)$
- in meson ChPT, Lagrangians came in even powers of momenta (Lorentz invariance)
- here, due to spin (Dirac structures), odd powers possible:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N} = \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} + \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(2)} + \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(3)} + \mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(4)} + \dots$$

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new parameters:

- m : nucleon (baryon) **mass** in the chiral limit
- g_A : expand $u_\mu = 2a_\mu + \mathcal{O}(\pi) \Rightarrow$ **axial vector coupling**
known from neutron beta decay, $g_A = 1.26$
- D/F : two axial vector couplings in SU(3), can be determined from semileptonic hyperon decays, SU(2) constraint $D + F = g_A$
($D \approx 0.80, F \approx 0.46$)

Goldberger-Treiman relation

- setting $v_\mu = a_\mu = 0$, the chiral vielbein is $u_\mu = -\frac{\partial_\mu \pi}{F_\pi} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^3)$
find the πNN vertex

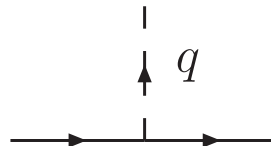
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- Feynman rule:

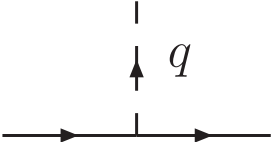


$$\frac{g_A}{2F_\pi} \not{q} \gamma_5 \vec{\tau} = V_{\pi NN}$$

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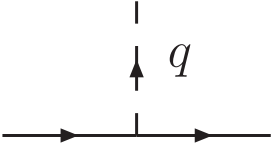
- $N \rightarrow \pi N$ transition amplitude:

$$T_{\pi NN} = -i \bar{u}(p') V_{\pi NN} u(p) = -i \frac{g_A m_N}{F_\pi} \bar{u}(p') \gamma_5 u(p) \vec{\tau}$$

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- compared to the canonical amplitude $-i g_{\pi N} \bar{u}(p') \gamma_5 u(p) \vec{\tau}$:

$$g_{\pi N} = \frac{g_A m_N}{F_\pi}$$

remarkable for relating weak and strong interactions
numerically: $13.1 \dots 13.4 = 12.8$

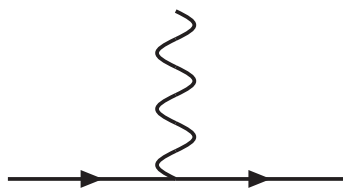
Some other familiar Feynman rules

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = \bar{\psi} \left(i\gamma_\mu D^\mu - m + \frac{g_A}{2} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 u^\mu \right) \psi, \quad D^\mu = \partial^\mu + \Gamma^\mu$$

- expand Γ_μ, u_μ in powers of the pion fields:

$$i\Gamma_\mu = v_\mu + \frac{i}{8F^2} [\pi, \partial_\mu \pi] - \frac{1}{8F^2} [\pi, [\pi, v_\mu]] + \dots$$

$$u_\mu = 2a_\mu - \frac{\partial_\mu \pi}{F} + \frac{i}{2F} [v_\mu, \pi] + \dots$$



$$ie \not{\epsilon} \frac{1}{2} (1 + \tau^3)$$

γ - N coupling (electric)

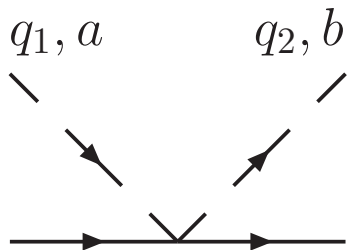
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$$\frac{1}{4F^2} (\not{q}_1 + \not{q}_2) \epsilon^{abc} \tau^c \quad \text{Weinberg-Tomozawa term}$$

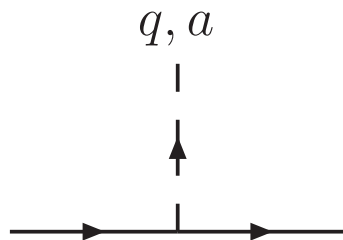
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$$\frac{g_A}{2F} \not{q} \gamma_5 \tau^a$$

(axial vector) πNN coupling

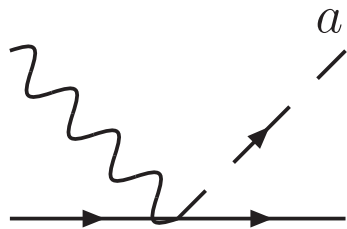
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$$\frac{ieg_A}{2F} \not{\epsilon} \gamma_5 \epsilon^{a3b} \tau^b$$

Kroll–Rudermann term

Weinberg's power counting argument for pions (1)

- consider an arbitrary **loop diagram** based on

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \sum_d \mathcal{L}^{(d)}$$

with L loops, I internal lines, V_d vertices of order d :

$$\mathcal{A} \propto \int (d^4 p)^L \frac{1}{(p^2)^I} \prod_d (p^d)^{V_d}$$

- let \mathcal{A} be of **chiral dimension** ν

$$\nu = 4L - 2I + \sum_d dV_d$$

- use topological identity for L to eliminate I

$$L = I - \sum_d V_d + 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\nu = \sum_d V_d (d - 2) + 2L + 2}$$

Weinberg's power counting argument for pions (2)

$$\nu = \sum_d V_d (d - 2) + 2L + 2$$

- chiral Lagrangian starts with $\mathcal{L}^{(2)}$, i.e. $d \geq 2$,
i.e. right-hand-side is a sum of non-negative terms
 \Rightarrow for fixed ν , there is only a finite number of combinations L, V_d
- $+2L$: each loop suppressed amplitude by two orders
in the momentum expansion

Weinberg's power counting for the 1-baryon sector

- similar derivation as for the meson sector:
chiral dimension ν of an arbitrary L -loop diagram
with $V_d^{\pi\pi}$ meson–meson vertices of order d
and $V_{d'}^{\pi N}$ meson–baryon vertices of order d' :

$$\nu = 2L + 1 + \sum_d V_d^{\pi\pi} (d - 2) + \sum_{d'} V_{d'}^{\pi N} (d' - 1)$$

note again: $d \geq 2$, $d' \geq 1$

- therefore:
 $\mathcal{O}(p^1)$, $\mathcal{O}(p^2)$: tree only
 $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$, $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$: tree + one-loop
 $\mathcal{O}(p^5)$, $\mathcal{O}(p^6)$: tree + one-loop + two-loop
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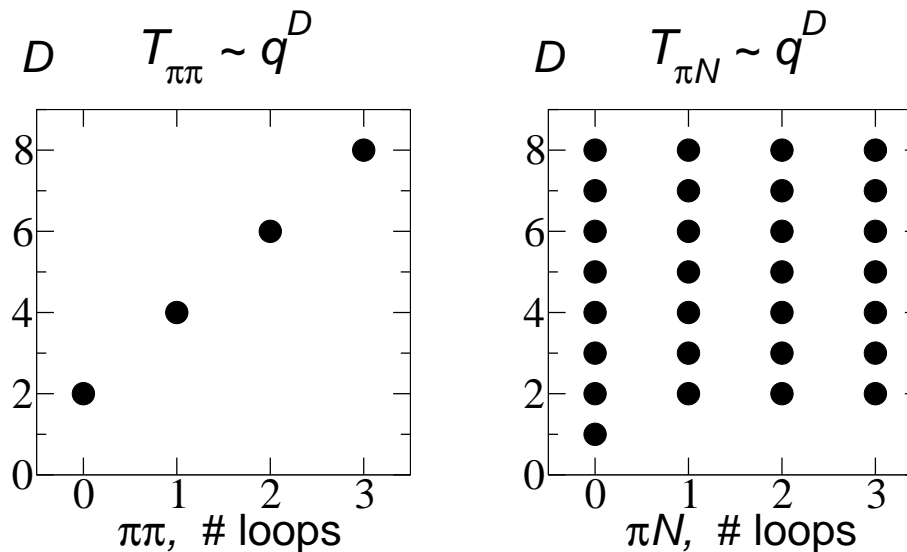
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...
- and the problem is: **it doesn't work ...**

The failure of power counting in meson–baryon ChPT

- loop integrals cover all energy scales
- Goldstone boson sector: all mass scales "small" in a mass-independent regularisation scheme (like dimensional regularisation), naive power counting has to work
- with baryons: new mass scale $m_N \approx \Lambda_\chi \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$
loop integration picks up momenta $p \sim m_N$

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- schematically: Gasser, Sainio, Švarc 1988



⇒ higher-order loops renormalise lower-order couplings

Remedies (1): Heavy-baryon ChPT

Jenkins, Manohar 1991

Bernard, Kaiser, Meißner 1995

- in close analogy to heavy-quark EFT:
decompose baryon momentum according to

$$p_\mu = \underbrace{m_N v_\mu}_{\text{large}} + \underbrace{l_\mu}_{\text{residual}}, \quad v^2 = 1, \quad v \cdot l \ll m_N$$

- nucleon propagator in the heavy-baryon limit:

$$\frac{1}{p^2 - m_N^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2m_N} \frac{1}{v \cdot l} + \mathcal{O}(1/m_N^2)$$

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- eliminates mass scale m_N from propagator
re-enters as parametrical suppression factor

- two-fold expansion $\left(\frac{p}{\Lambda_\chi}\right)^n, \left(\frac{p}{m_N}\right)^n$ ($m_N \approx \Lambda_\chi$)

Heavy-baryon ChPT (2)

- decompose ψ into velocity eigenstates:

$$\text{"big": } H_v(x) = e^{im_N v \cdot x} P_v^+ \psi(x)$$

$$\text{"small": } h_v(x) = e^{im_N v \cdot x} P_v^- \psi(x)$$

- projectors $P_v^\pm = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \not{v})$
- exponential "rotates away" the large mass term from time evolution of the field H_v

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- projectors $P_v^\pm = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \not{v})$
- exponential "rotates away" the large mass term from time evolution of the field H_v
- $\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)}$ becomes:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)} = \bar{H}_v (i v \cdot D + g_A \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{u}) H_v + \mathcal{O}(1/m_N)$$

Pauli-Lubanski **spin vector** $S_\mu = \frac{i}{2} \gamma_5 \sigma_{\mu\nu} v^\nu$

\Rightarrow **nucleon mass gone from** $\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(1)}$


\Rightarrow Dirac structure massively simplified

- $1/m_N$ corrections can be constructed systematically on Lagrangian level à la Foldy–Wouthuysen

Remedies (2): Infrared regularisation

Becher, Leutwyler 1999


consider (relativistic) nucleon self-energy graph (at threshold):


$$= \frac{\Gamma(2 - \frac{d}{2})}{(4\pi)^{d/2}(d - 3)} \frac{m_N^{d-3} + M_\pi^{d-3}}{m_N + M_\pi}$$

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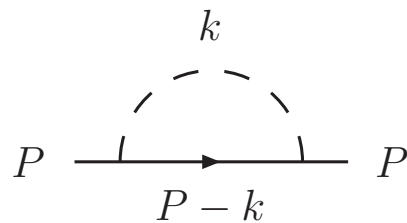
"regular" part

- fractional powers in m_N , regular in M_π, p
 - violates naive power counting
 - can be expanded as polynomial in M_π, p
- ⇒ can be absorbed by re-definition of contact terms

"infrared" part

- fractional powers in M_π, p
 - obeys power counting rules
 - non-analytic terms, imaginary parts ...
- ⇒ all "interesting" loop contributions

Infrared regularisation (2)



$$a = M_\pi^2 - k^2 - i\epsilon, \quad b = m_N^2 - (P - k)^2 - i\epsilon$$

$$H = \frac{1}{i} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{ab} = \int_0^1 dz \frac{1}{i} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{[(1-z)a + zb]^2}$$

- Landau equations: singularity structure

$$z = \frac{M_\pi}{m_N + M_\pi} \quad \text{leading (pinch) singularity} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad P^2 = (m_N + M_\pi)^2$$

$$z = 0 \quad \text{endpoint singularity} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad M_\pi^2 = 0$$

$$z = 1 \quad \text{endpoint singularity} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad m_N^2 = 0$$

- $z = 1$ not a "low-energy" singularity
- obtain infrared part by avoiding the $z = 1$ endpoint singularity:

$$IR = \int_0^{\infty} dz \frac{1}{i} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{[(1-z)a + zb]^2}$$

Part II: πN σ -term and strangeness in the nucleon (1)

Quark mass dependence of the nucleon mass

- calculate m_N up to $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N}^{(2)} = c_1 \bar{\psi} \langle \chi_+ \rangle \psi + \dots \text{ (6 more terms)}$$

+ one-pion loop:



$$m_N = m - 4c_1 M_\pi^2 - \frac{3g_A^2 M_\pi^3}{32\pi F_\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4)$$

- pion loop yields non-analytic term $\propto M_\pi^3 \propto \hat{m}^{3/2}$
- leading correction term comes with unknown low-energy constant c_1

The πN σ -term

- define **scalar form factor** of the nucleon:

$$\langle N(p') | \hat{m}(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d) | N(p) \rangle = \sigma(t) \bar{u}(p') u(p)$$

$$\sigma \equiv \sigma(0) = \frac{\hat{m}}{2m_N} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle$$

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$$\sigma \equiv \sigma(0) = \frac{\hat{m}}{2m_N} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle$$

- Feynman–Hellman theorem:

$$\sigma = \hat{m} \frac{\partial m_N}{\partial \hat{m}} = -4c_1 M_\pi^2 - \frac{9g_A^2 M_\pi^3}{64\pi F_\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4)$$

The πN σ -term

- define **scalar form factor** of the nucleon:

$$\langle N(p') | \hat{m}(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d) | N(p) \rangle = \sigma(t) \bar{u}(p') u(p)$$

$$\sigma \equiv \sigma(0) = \frac{\hat{m}}{2m_N} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle$$

- relate σ to strangeness content of the nucleon!

$$\sigma = \frac{\hat{m}}{2m_N} \frac{\langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d - 2\bar{s}s | N \rangle}{1 - y}, \quad y = \frac{2\langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle}{\langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle}$$

now $(m_s - \hat{m})(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d - 2\bar{s}s)$ is the part of \mathcal{L}_{QCD} that produces SU(3) mass splittings:

$$\sigma = \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{1 - y}, \quad \hat{\sigma} = \frac{\hat{m}}{m_s - \hat{m}} (m_\Xi + m_\Sigma - 2m_N) \simeq 26 \text{ MeV}$$

higher-order corrections: $\hat{\sigma} \rightarrow (36 \pm 7) \text{ MeV}$

- if we know σ , we know $y \Rightarrow$ strangeness in the nucleon

The σ -term and πN scattering (1)

- remember: learnt about M_π^2 from $\pi\pi$ scattering
- isospin even / odd πN scattering amplitudes:

$$T_{\pi N}^\pm = \frac{1}{2} [T(\pi^- p \rightarrow \pi^- p) \pm T(\pi^+ p \rightarrow \pi^+ p)]$$

- decompose T^\pm further (spin-flip / non-flip amplitudes ...)
 \Rightarrow consider specific combinations \bar{D}^\pm
- show in Chiral Perturbation Theory:

$$\Sigma \equiv F_\pi^2 \bar{D}^+ \underbrace{\left(s = u = m_N^2, t = 2M_\pi^2 \right)}_{\text{"Cheng-Dashen point"}} = \sigma(2M_\pi^2) + \Delta_R$$

$$\Delta_R = \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4) \text{ is very small, } \Delta_R \lesssim 2 \text{ MeV}$$

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

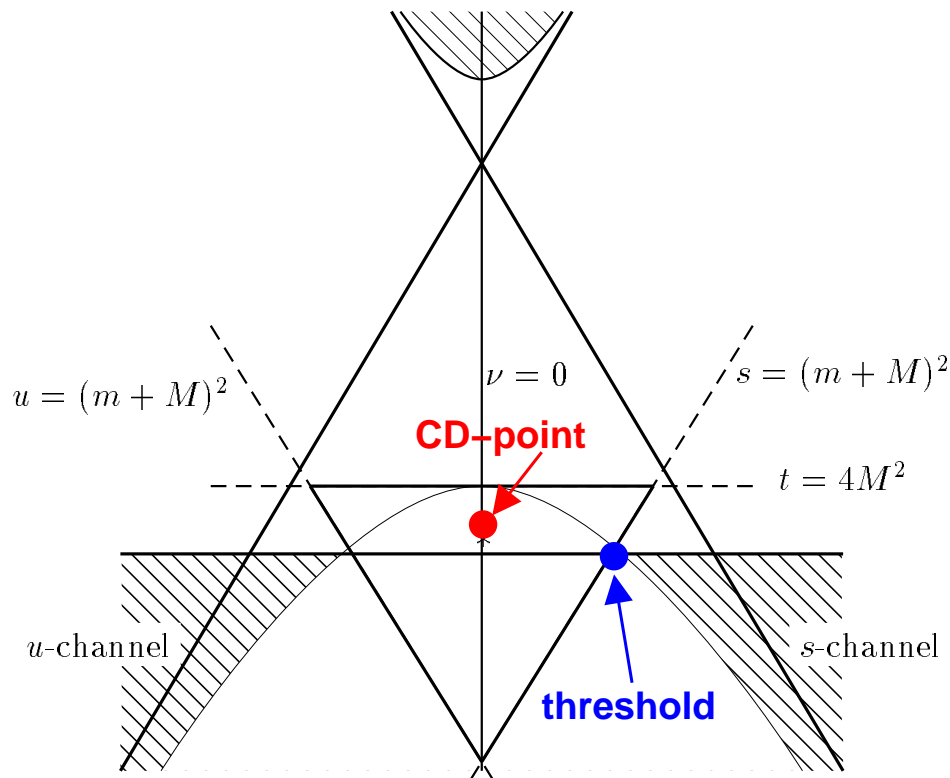
$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(1)



- Cheng–Dashen point:
 $s = u = m_N^2, t = 2M_\pi^2$
- physical region:
 $s \geq (m_N + M_\pi)^2, t \leq 0$
- extrapolate using dispersion relations

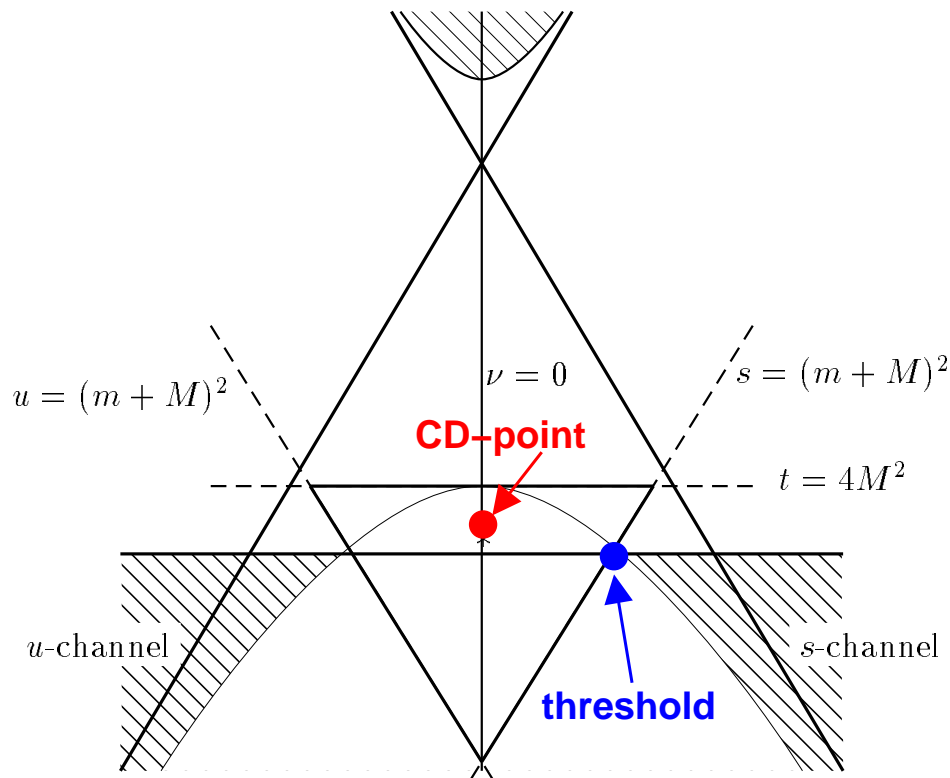
$$\Sigma = 60 \pm 7 \text{ MeV}$$

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(1)



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 $s = u = m_N^2, t = 2M_\pi^2$
- physical region:
 $s \geq (m_N + M_\pi)^2, t \leq 0$
- extrapolate using dispersion relations

$$\Sigma = 60 \pm 7 \text{ MeV}$$

(2) $\Sigma = \sigma(2M_\pi^2) + \Delta_R, \quad \Delta_R \leq 2 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow \text{okay}$

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(3)

- $$\sigma(2M_\pi^2) = \sigma(0) + \Delta\sigma$$

 \Rightarrow understand the t -dependence of the scalar form factor $\sigma(t)$!
- crude estimate:
 - $\triangleright \sigma(t) = \sigma(0) \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{6} \langle r^2 \rangle_\sigma t + \dots \right\}$
 - \triangleright assume $\langle r^2 \rangle_\sigma \simeq \langle r^2 \rangle_{\text{EM}} = 0.8 \text{ fm}^2 \Rightarrow \Delta\sigma \approx 3.5 \text{ MeV}$
- one-loop ChPT: $\Delta\sigma = 4.6 \text{ MeV}$

$$\sigma \approx 55 \text{ MeV}$$

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(4)

- $y = 1 - \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{\sigma} = 1 - \frac{35 \text{ MeV}}{55 \text{ MeV}} \approx 0.4 !!$
- " σ term puzzle":
300 MeV of nucleon mass due to strange quarks??

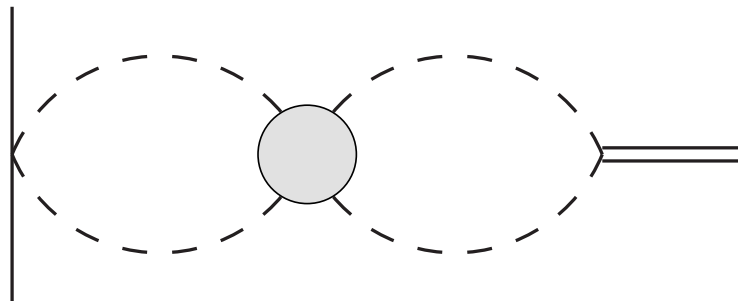
The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(3)

- scalar form factor beyond one loop:



isoscalar s -wave $\pi\pi$ scattering \Rightarrow strong!

- dispersive analysis, $\langle r^2 \rangle_\sigma \approx 2 \langle r^2 \rangle_{EM}$
large curvature $\Rightarrow \Delta\sigma \approx 15 \text{ MeV}$

$$\sigma \approx 45 \text{ MeV}$$

Gasser, Leutwyler, Sainio 1991

The σ -term and πN scattering (2)

Procedure:

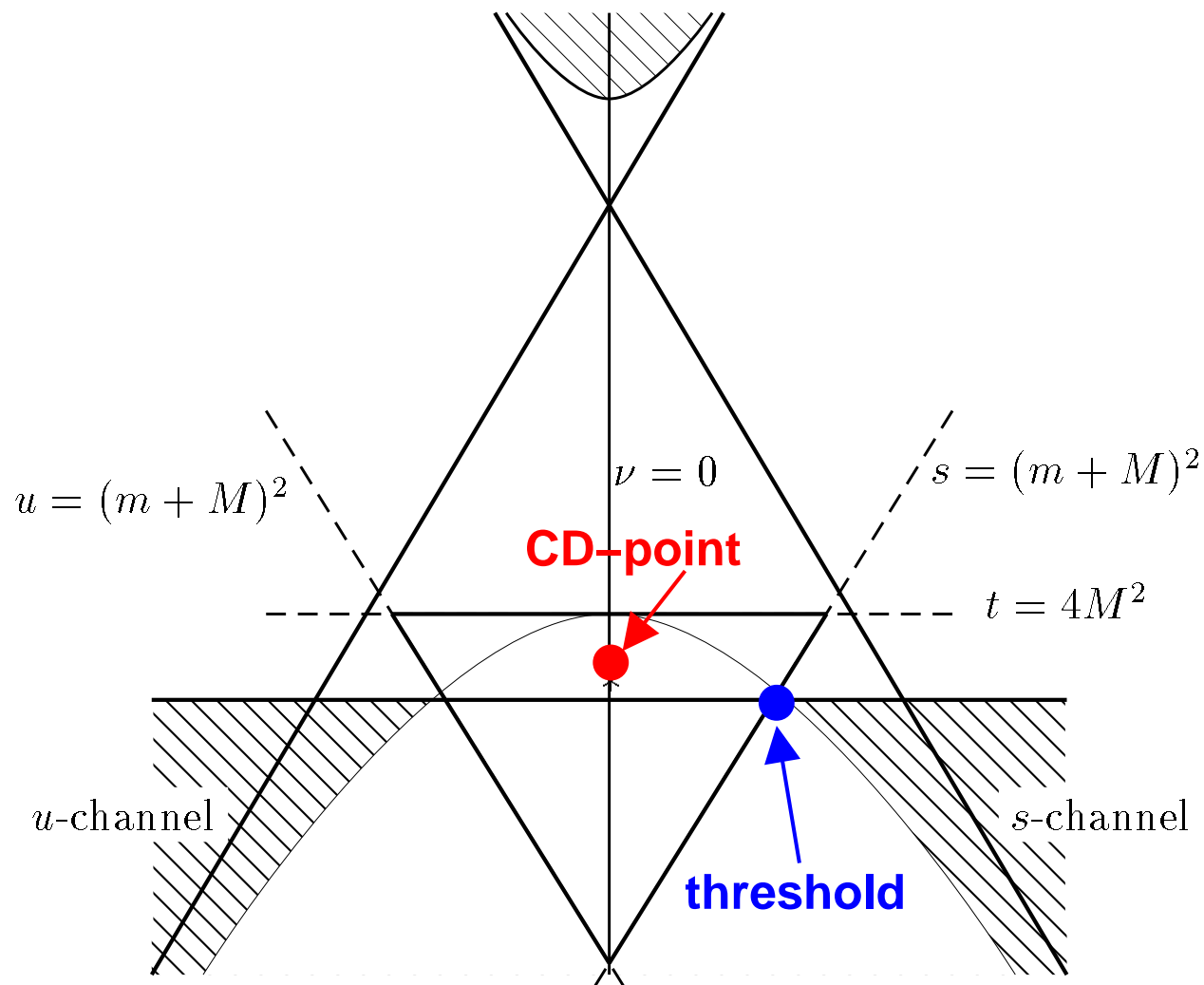
$$\pi N \text{ scattering} \xrightarrow{(1)} \Sigma = F_\pi^2 \bar{D}_{CD}^+ \xrightarrow{(2)} \sigma(2M_\pi^2) \xrightarrow{(3)} \sigma(0) \xrightarrow{(4)} y$$

(4)

- $y = 1 - \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{\sigma} = 1 - \frac{35 \text{ MeV}}{45 \text{ MeV}} \approx 0.2$
- strangeness in the nucleon sizeable, but not outrageous

$$\langle N | m_s \bar{s} s | N \rangle \simeq 130 \text{ MeV}$$

πN scattering lengths



Büttiker, Meißner 1999

πN scattering lengths in ChPT

- at threshold: πN scattering lengths

$$a^\pm = \frac{1}{4\pi(1 + M_\pi/m_N)} T^\pm (s = (m_N + M_\pi)^2)$$

- in ChPT:

$$a^- = \frac{M_\pi}{8\pi(1 + M_\pi/m_N)F_\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^3)$$

$$a^+ = 0 + \frac{M_\pi^2(-g_A^2 + 8m_N(-2c_1 + c_2 + c_3))}{16\pi m_N(1 + M_\pi/m_N)F_\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^3)$$

- $a^- = 8.0 \times 10^{-2} M_\pi^{-1} + \text{small corrections}$
- a^+ vanishes at leading order, several LECs, bad convergence
 \Rightarrow the helpful guy for the σ term barely known
 \Rightarrow chiral series very different for a^\pm

πN scattering lengths from pionic atoms (1)

- $\pi^- p$, $\pi^- d$ systems, bound by electromagnetism calculate energy levels as in quantum mechanics for the hydrogen atom!
- energy levels perturbed by strong interactions: ground state not stable, **decays**: $A_{\pi^- p} \rightarrow \pi^0 n, \gamma n, \dots$
- ground state strong **energy level shift** ΔE^{str} and **width** Γ related to πN scattering amplitudes at threshold:

$$\Delta E^{\text{str}} = -2\alpha^3 \mu_c^2 \mathcal{A}(\pi^- p \rightarrow \pi^- p) + \dots \propto a^+ + a^- + \dots$$

$$\Gamma = 8\alpha^3 \mu_c^2 p^* |\mathcal{A}(\pi^- p \rightarrow \pi^0 n)|^2 + \dots \propto -a^- + \dots$$

μ_c : reduced mass, p^* : CMS-momentum of π^0

Deser, Goldberg, Baumann, Thirring 1954

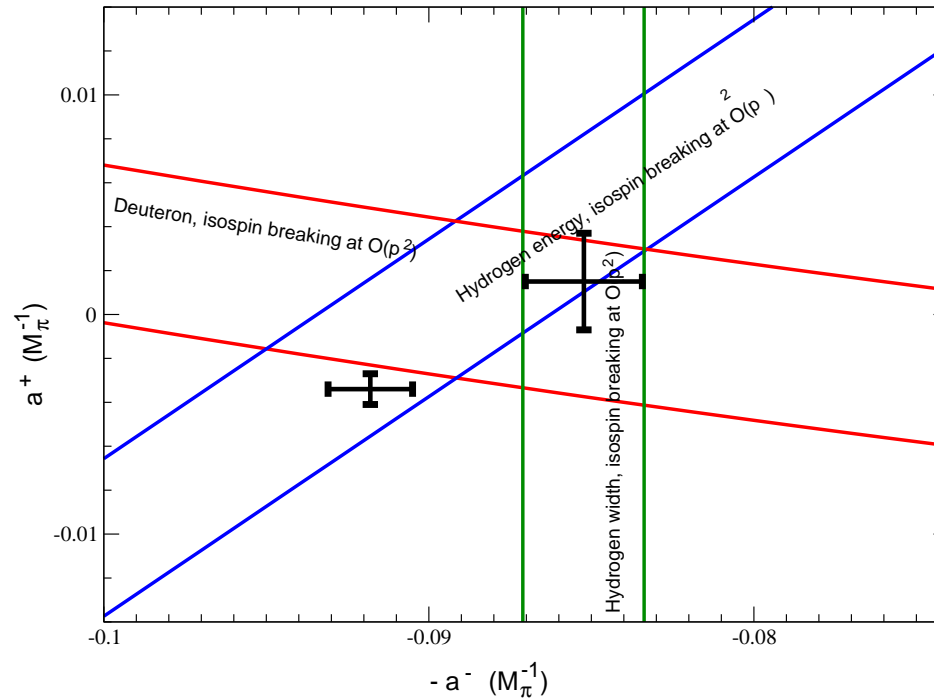
Gasser, Lyubovitskij, Rusetsky 2008

- $\pi^- d$: additional information due to different isospin combinations

πN scattering lengths from pionic atoms (2)

from pionic hydrogen and deuterium measurements:

PSI 1995-2006



$$a^- = (8.52 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-2} M_\pi^{-1}$$

$$a^+ = (0.15 \pm 0.22) \times 10^{-2} M_\pi^{-1}$$

Meißner, Raha, Rusetsky 2006

a^+ very small, quite sensitive to isospin breaking corrections

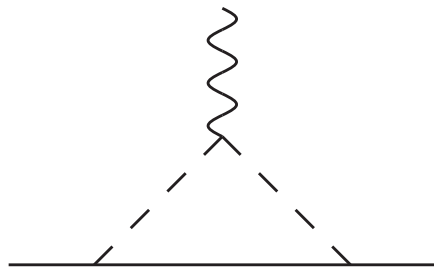
Spares

Heavy-baryon vs. infrared regularisation (1)

- consider the **electromagnetic form factors** of the nucleon:

$$\langle N(p') | J_\mu^{em} | N(p) \rangle = e \bar{u}(p') \left\{ \gamma_\mu F_1^N(t) + \frac{i\sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu}{2m_N} F_2^N(t) \right\} u(p)$$

- important contribution to the **spectral function** $\text{Im } F_1^v(t)$ [$F_1^v(t) = F_1^p(t) - F_1^n(t)$] from so-called triangle graph:



- "normal" threshold at $t = 4M_\pi^2$
- anomalous threshold at $t = 4M_\pi^2 - \frac{M_\pi^4}{m_N^2} \stackrel{\text{HB}}{=} 4M_\pi^2 + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4)$

\Rightarrow analytic structure distorted

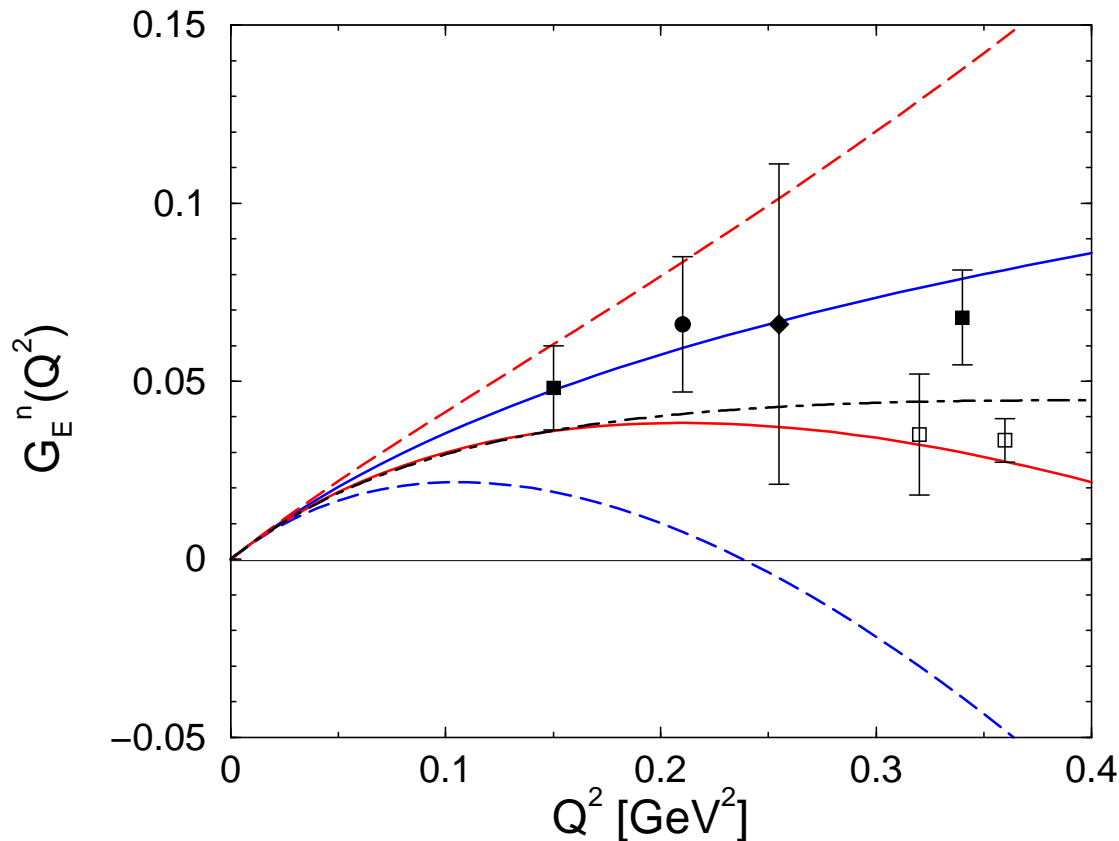
$$\text{Im } F_1^v(t) \stackrel{\text{IR}}{=} \frac{g_A^2}{192\pi F_\pi^2} (4m_N^2 - M_\pi^2) \left(1 - \frac{4M_\pi^2}{t}\right)^{3/2} + \dots \quad \text{p-wave}$$

$$\text{Im } F_1^v(t) \stackrel{\text{HB}}{=} \frac{g_A^2}{96\pi F_\pi^2} (5t - 8M_\pi^2) \left(1 - \frac{4M_\pi^2}{t}\right)^{1/2} + \dots \quad \text{wrong!}$$

Heavy-baryon vs. infrared regularisation (2)

- resummation of nucleon "recoil effects"
(\Rightarrow correct relativistic kinematics) sometimes helps:

$$G_E^n(t) = F_1^n(t) + \frac{t}{4m_N^2} F_2^n(t), \quad Q^2 = -t$$



blue: $\mathcal{O}(q^3)$
 red: $\mathcal{O}(q^4)$
 full: IR
 dashed: HB
 (dot-dashed: disp.th.)

BK, Meißner 2000