



WESTFÄLISCHE  
WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT  
MÜNSTER



institut für  
theoretische physik



GRK 2149

ALPHA  
Collaboration

# Charm(ing) meson physics from lattice QCD

RTG *Strong and Weak Interactions* — from Hadrons to Dark Matter

Inauguration Retreat @ Heidehotel Waldhütte, Telgte, November 24 – 26, 2015

# RG Heitger: Particle Physics Theory & Lattice QCD

## Group members

- Ph.D. students:

Christian Wittemeier, Kevin Eckert (€  GRK 2149)

- M.Sc. students:

Carl Chr. Köster, Fabian Joswig, Alexander Hock, Matthias Post

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## Main research topics

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- Determinations of QCD/SM parameters via LQCD:  $\alpha_s(\mu)$ ,  $m_{\text{quark}}$
- Non-perturbative renormalization and  $O(a)$  improvement
- Lattice hadron and (heavy) flavour physics phenomenology:  
(semi-)leptonic D- & B-meson decays, spectroscopy, HQET, ...

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- Computation of decay constants  $f_D, f_{D_s}$  in 3-flavour LQCD
- Decoupling of charm (sea) quarks and its physical effects
- $D_{(s)}$ -meson spectroscopy, exotics, hybrids, ... through LQCD

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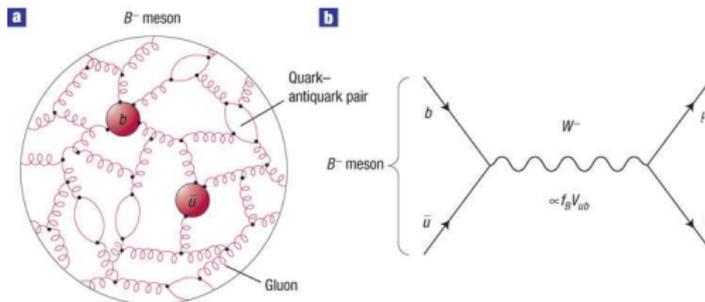
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## Motivation: Precision heavy flavour physics

New Physics effects expected in the quark flavour sector, because most extensions of the Standard Model (SM) contain ...

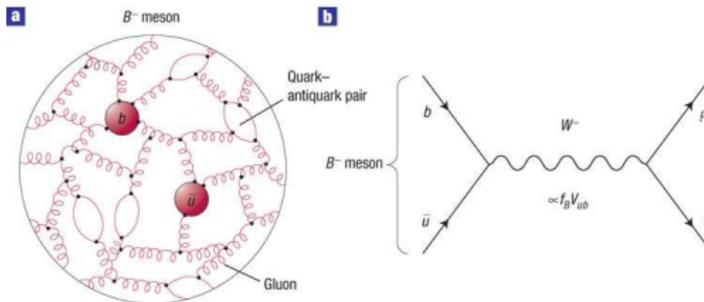
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- ... new quark flavour-changing interactions



- Quark flavour change in hadrons = weak interaction process
- Associated decays exploited in accelerator experiments, however, always involve hadrons as initial states  
 $\Rightarrow$  QCD corrections enter the decay rates & can be significant

In the Standard Model, the couplings of these flavour-changing (weak) interactions are encoded by elements of the **CKM matrix / Unitarity Triangle (UT)**

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{weak int.}} = V_{\text{CKM}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{strong int.}}, \quad V_{\text{CKM}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}_{ud} & \mathbf{V}_{us} & \mathbf{V}_{ub} \\ \pi \rightarrow l\nu & K \rightarrow l & B \rightarrow l\nu \\ & K \rightarrow \pi l\nu & B \rightarrow \pi l\nu \\ \mathbf{V}_{cd} & \mathbf{V}_{cs} & \mathbf{V}_{cb} \\ D \rightarrow l\nu & D_S \rightarrow l\nu & B \rightarrow D l\nu \\ D \rightarrow \pi l\nu & D \rightarrow K l\nu & B \rightarrow D^* l\nu \\ \mathbf{V}_{td} & \mathbf{V}_{ts} & \mathbf{V}_{tb} \\ B_d \leftrightarrow \bar{B}_d & B_s \leftrightarrow \bar{B}_s & \end{pmatrix}$$

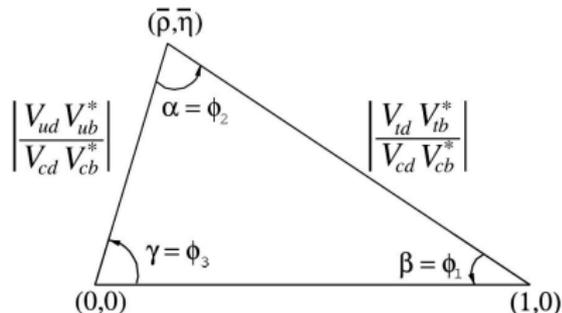
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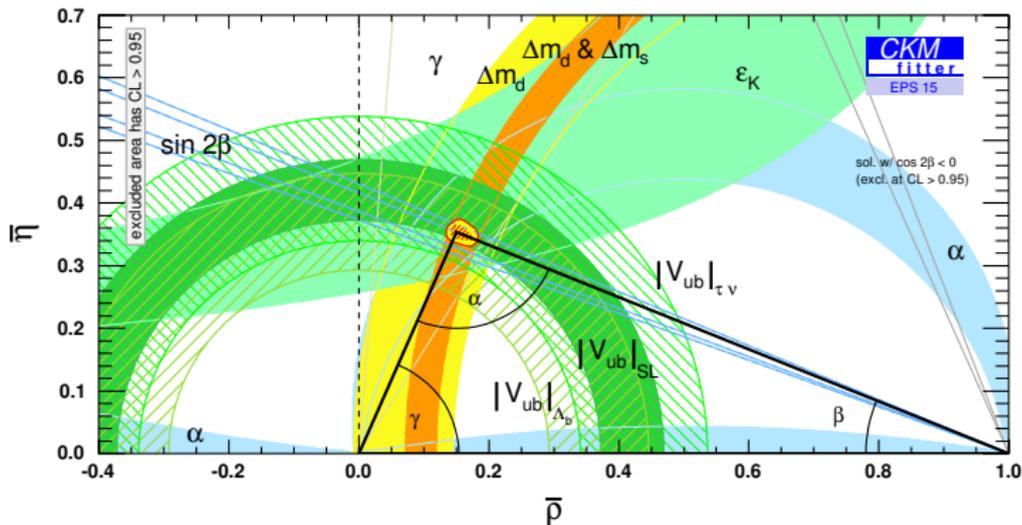
$\begin{matrix} \pi \rightarrow l\nu & K \rightarrow l & B \rightarrow l\nu \\ K \rightarrow \pi l\nu & & B \rightarrow \pi l\nu \\ D \rightarrow l\nu & D_s \rightarrow l\nu & B \rightarrow D l\nu \\ D \rightarrow \pi l\nu & D \rightarrow K l\nu & B \rightarrow D^* l\nu \\ B_d \leftrightarrow \bar{B}_d & B_s \leftrightarrow \bar{B}_s & \end{matrix}$

Unitarity of  $V_{\text{CKM}}$  implies a useful *triangle representation*:

$$V_{\text{CKM}}^\dagger V_{\text{CKM}} = \mathbf{1} \quad \Rightarrow$$



- SM quark flavour dynamics neatly encoded in the CKM matrix
- CKM analyses relevant for phenomenology involve crucial inputs both from *experiment and theory*



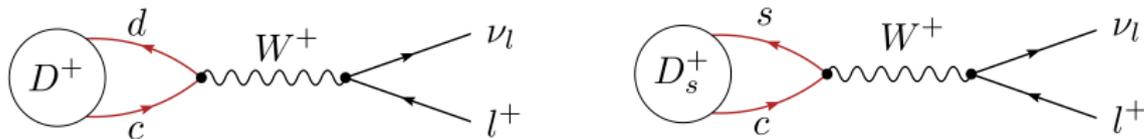
Impact of weak decays of hadrons on CKM analyses is generically based (via the *OPE*) on schematic relations such as

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E.g. for the leptonic decay of  $D_{(s)}$ -mesons of interest here:



Corresponding SM expression for the partial width:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow \ell \nu_\ell) &\hat{=} \mathcal{B}(D_{(s)} \rightarrow \ell \nu_\ell) / \tau_{D_{(s)}} \\
 &= \frac{G_F^2}{8\pi} m_{D_{(s)}} m_\ell^2 \left( 1 - \frac{m_\ell^2}{m_{D_{(s)}}^2} \right) f_{D_{(s)}}^2 |V_{cq}|^2, \quad q = d, s
 \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Required inputs from ...

... Experiment

- Measurement of the decay rate  $\Gamma$

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(note: due to confinement, significant QCD corrections to  $\Gamma$ )

- Computation of the decay constant  $f_{D(s)}$ , which is a hadronic matrix element absorbing the low-energy, *non-perturbative* QCD effects  
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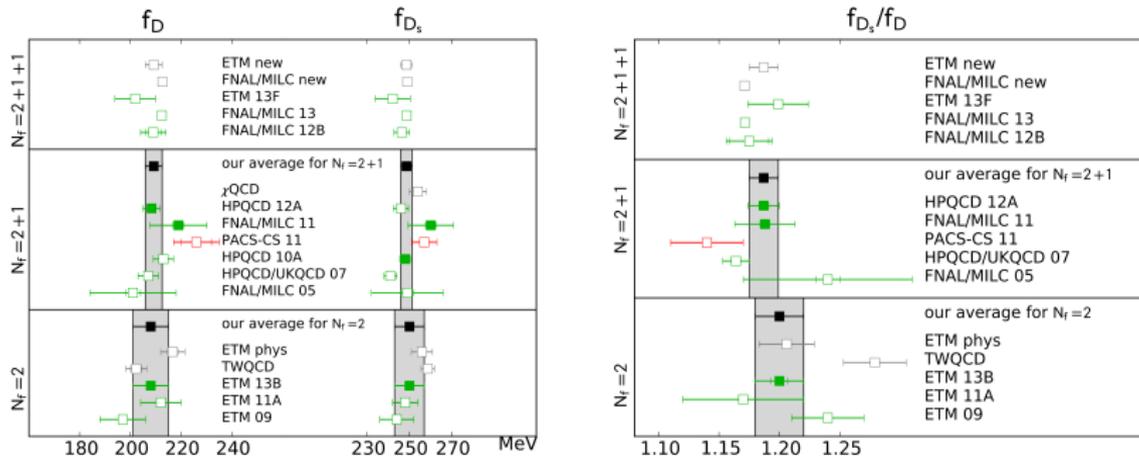
### CKM analysis of $D_{(s)}$ -meson decays allows:

- 1.) determining the CKM matrix element  $|V_{cq}|$  to (over)constrain the UT
- 2.) comparing  $f_{D(s)}|V_{cq}|$  from experiment with LQCD results of  $f_{D(s)}$ , if  $|V_{cq}|$  is known (e.g. via CKM unitarity, semi-leptonic decays)

## Status of results

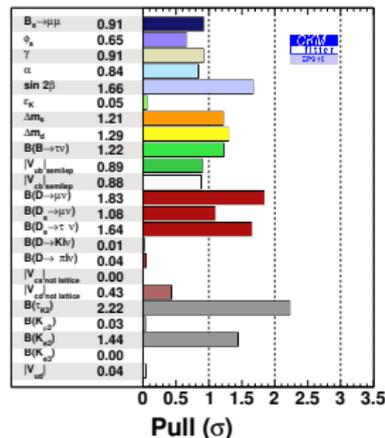
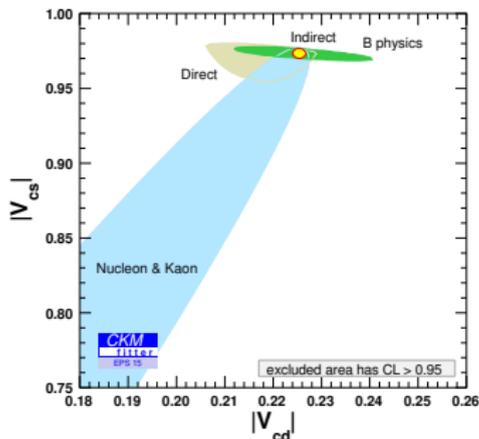
Compilation of lattice results by the ...

- ... *FLAG Working Group* (FLAG-2 2013: Aoki et al., arXiv:1310.8555)
- ... super-imposed with new lattice results

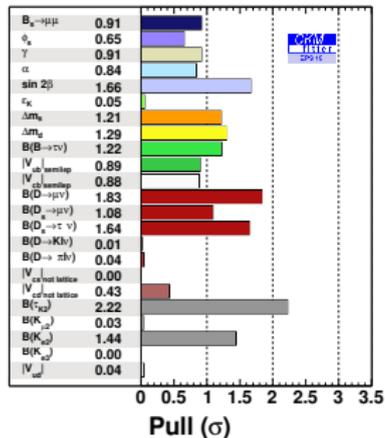
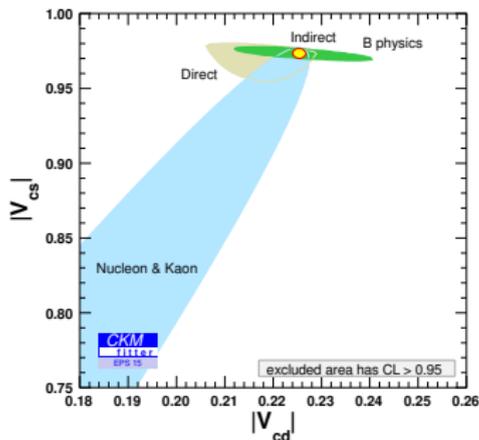


[C. Pena @ Lattice 2015]

- Towards 1% accuracy: “raw” potential of lattice methods
- Experiments: BES-III, CLEO-c, BaBar, Belle; ... PANDA @ FAIR



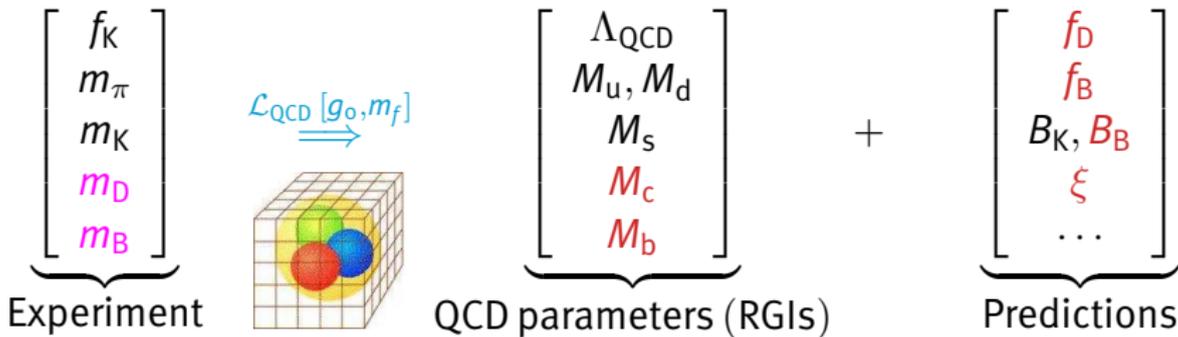
- Stringent tests of self-consistency of the SM & extensions
- Deviation between experimental and lattice results for  $f_{D(s)}$  could hint at New Physics in the quark flavour sector, complementing direct searches



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- Current “tensions”: [Rosner & Stone for PDG 2016, arXiv:1509.02220]
  - $f_{D_s}$  from lattice QCD  $\sim 2\sigma$  below estimate with experim. inputs
  - 2nd row of  $V_{\text{CKM}}$  conflicts 3-generation unitarity at  $2\sigma$  level

# Lattice QCD – ‘Ab initio’ tool based on FIs & MC

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} [g_0, m_f] = -\frac{1}{2g_0^2} \text{Tr} \{F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}\} + \sum_{f=u,d,s,\dots} \bar{\psi}_f \{ \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu + g_0 A_\mu) + m_f \} \psi_f$$

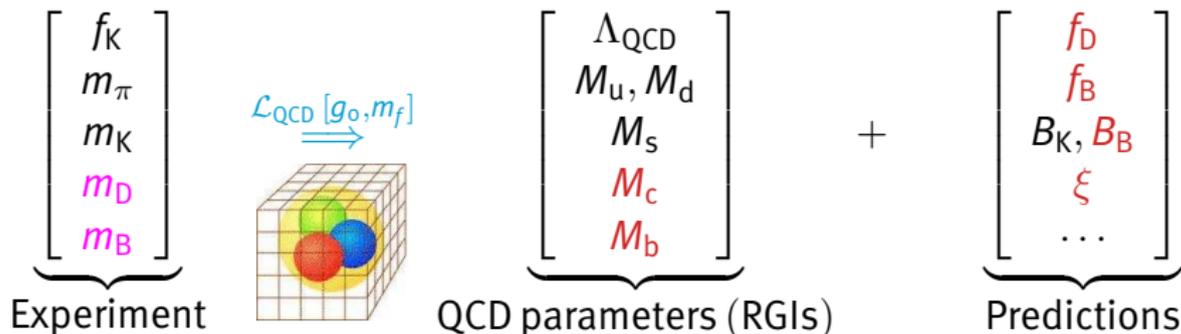


## Main sources of systematic uncertainties in LQCD computations:

- Part of the vacuum polarization effects is missed, as long as u, d, s (and ideally also c) sea quarks are not incorporated  
 → today's LQCD computations use  $N_f = 2, 2 + 1$  and even  $2 + 1 + 1$

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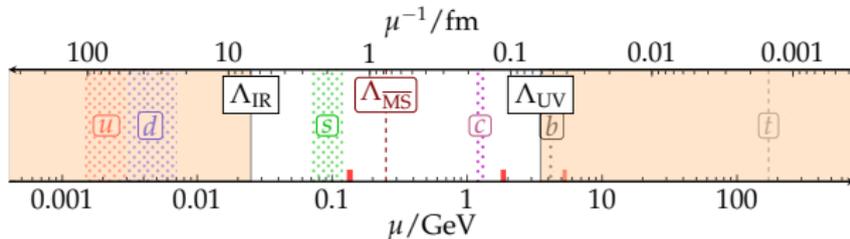
- Extrapolations to  $m_{u,d}$  guided by  $\chi^{\text{PT}}$  to connect to physical world
- Discretization errors, notably from heavy quarks:  $O[(am_Q)^n]$  effects  
 $\rightarrow \# \gtrsim 3$  lattice spacings needed to take continuum limit,  $a \rightarrow 0$
- Perturbative vs. non-perturbative renormalization

# Challenges of treating heavy quarks on the lattice

Predictivity in a quantum field theory relies upon a large scale ratio

interaction range  $\ll$  physical length scales

momentum cutoff  $\gg$  physical mass scales :  $\Lambda_{\text{cut}} \sim a^{-1} \gg E_i, m_j$

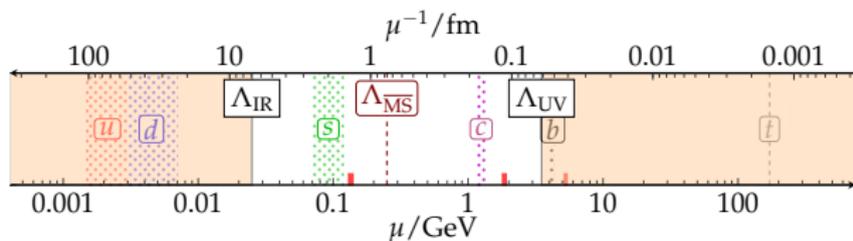


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Hierarchy of disparate physical scales difficult to cover simultaneously:

$$\Lambda_{\text{IR}} = L^{-1} \ll m_\pi, \dots, m_D, m_B \ll a^{-1} = \Lambda_{\text{UV}}$$

$$\downarrow$$

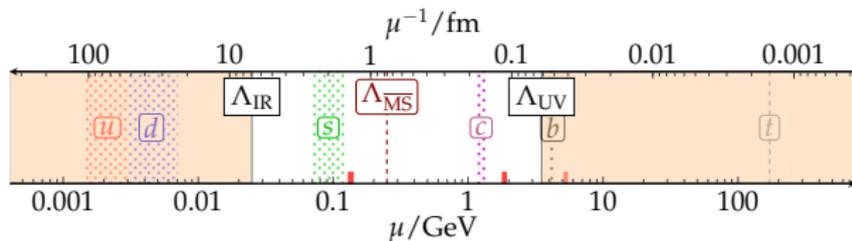
$$\left\{ O(e^{-Lm_\pi}) \Rightarrow L \gtrsim \frac{4}{m_\pi} \sim 6 \text{ fm} \right\} \rightsquigarrow L/a \gtrsim 120 \rightsquigarrow \left\{ am_D \lesssim \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow a \approx 0.05 \text{ fm} \right\}$$

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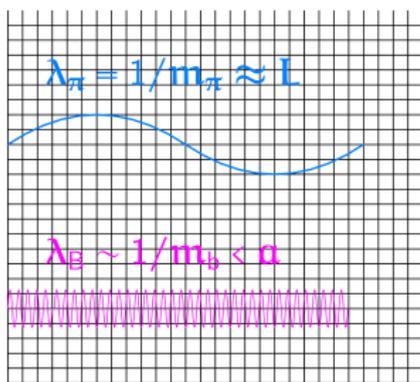
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As a consequence of this *multi-scale problem*, heavy quarks are challenging to simulate

$\Rightarrow$  a proper treatment of the heavy quark with a competitive control on the systematic uncertainties involved is difficult

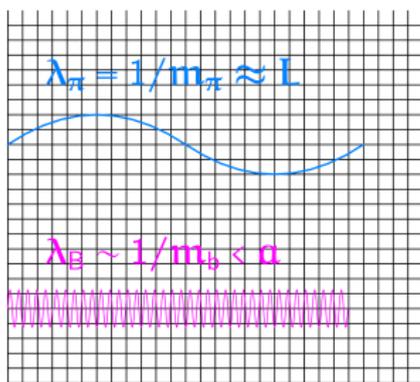


▶ Light quarks: too light

- ▶ Widely spread objects
- ▶ Finite-volume errors via light  $\pi$ 's

▶ b-quark: too heavy

- ▶ Extremely localized object
- ▶ B-mesons with a propagating b need fine resolutions ( $am_b \ll 1$ ):
  - ◊ large discretization errors
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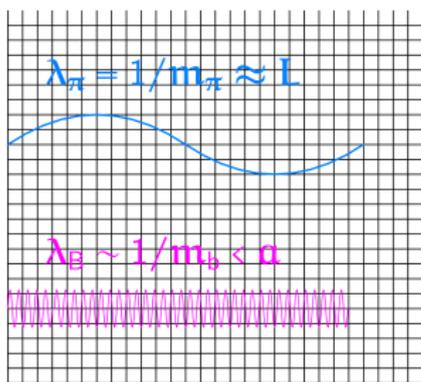
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● Bottom physics (dominated by scales  $\sim m_b$ ):

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- ▶ a fully relativistic b not yet feasible with today's CPU resources  
→ adopt effective field theories: NRQCD, HQET



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● Charm physics (dominated by  $\sim m_c$ ) directly accessible, but ...

- ▶ ... needs  $am_c < 1$  to keep discretization effects under control
- ▶ ... sufficiently large # of sites to minimize finite-volume effects

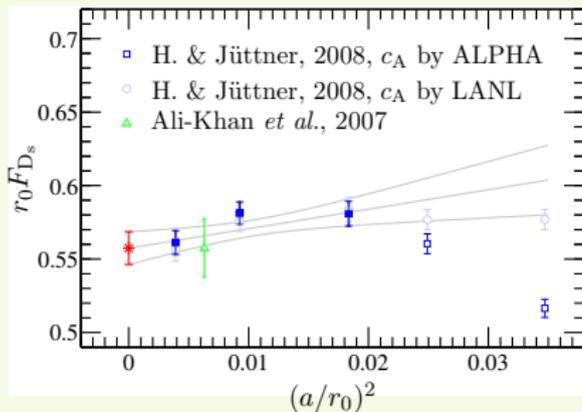
## Illustration: Cutoff effects in the charm sector

High-precision computation of  $F_{D_s}$  in quenched QCD ( $N_f = 0$ )

- Scaling study down to very fine lattices:  $a \approx (0.09 - 0.03)$  fm
- $O(a, am_{q,c})$  cutoff effects relevant & removed NP'ly [ALPHA Collaboration]

Warning: Large lattice artefacts

[H. & Jüttner, JHEP0905(2009)101]



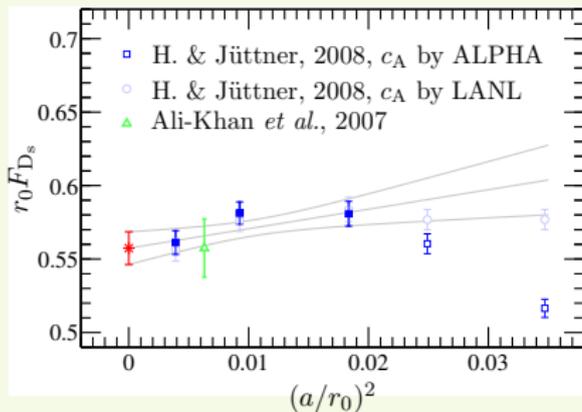
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⇒ Small lattice spacings  $a \lesssim 0.08$  fm seem mandatory to control the continuum limit for charm (note: challenging for  $N_f > 0$ !)

# Leptonic $D_{(s)}$ -meson decay constants from LQCD

Starting point of the lattice QCD computation:

Low-energy  $D_{(s)}$ -meson-to-vacuum QCD matrix elements

$$\langle 0 | A_\mu | D_q(p) \rangle = i f_{D_q} p_\mu$$

$$A_\mu(x) = \bar{q}(x) \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 c(x) \quad : \quad \text{axial vector current (q = d, s)}$$

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Ingredients of the lattice calculation:

- 1.) Extraction of  $f_{D_{(s)}}$  from asymptotics of correlation functions in the pseudoscalar channel at large Euclidean times & PCAC:

$$C(x_0) = a^3 \sum_{\vec{x}} \langle P(x) P(0) \rangle \underset{x_0 \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} p \times e^{-m_{D_{(s)}} x_0}, \quad P(x) = \bar{q} \gamma_5 c$$

$$f_{D_{(s)}} \propto Z_A \sqrt{p} m_{\text{PCAC}} m_{D_{(s)}}^{-3/2}$$

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Ingredients of the lattice calculation:

2.) Amongst others, prior determination of ...

- ▶ ... renormalization factors, such as  $Z_A$
- ▶ ... improvement coefficients, such as  $c_A$ , to remove the leading discretization errors in the lattice axial current (entering  $m_{\text{PCAC}}$ )

## Prerequisites

Computing strategies developed and successfully applied in ...

- ... the quenched approximation ( $N_f = 0$ )
- ... two-flavour QCD ( $N_f = 2$ )



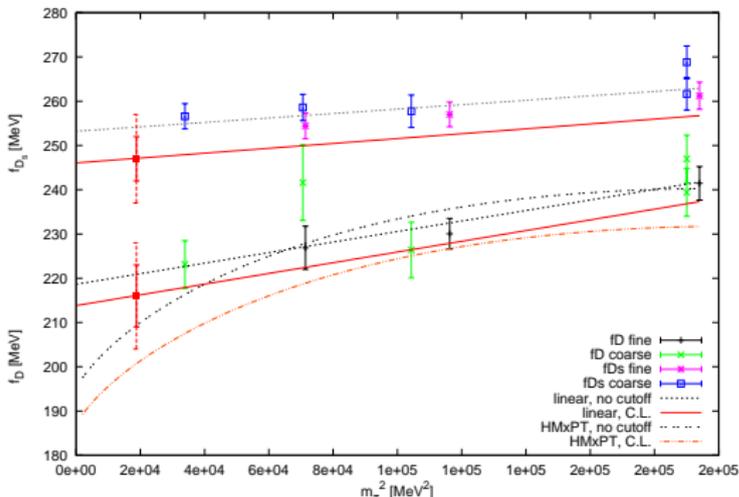
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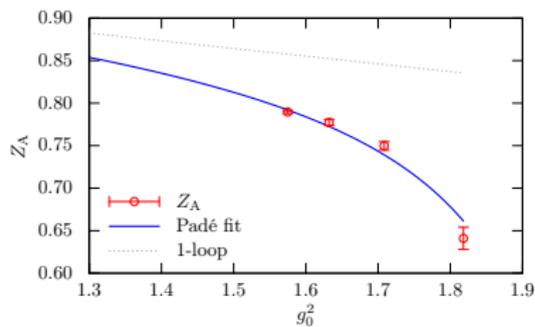
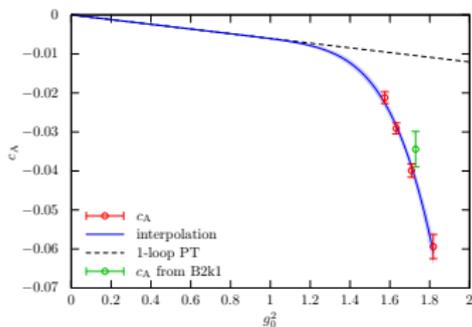


Joint chiral and continuum extrapolations to the physical point of  $f_D$  and  $f_{D_s}$  in  $N_f = 2$  QCD: [H., von Hippel, Schaefer & Virota, arXiv:1312.7693]



## Preliminary work & Configuration ensemble basis

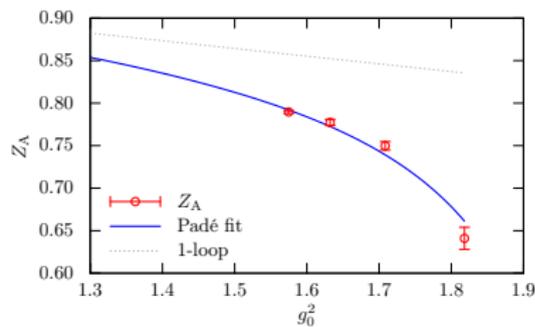
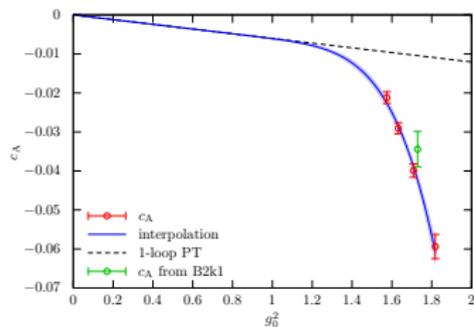
Non-perturbative determination of  $c_A$  and  $Z_A$  in  $N_f = 3$  QCD:



[Bulava, Della Morte, H. & Wittemeier, NPB896 (2015) 555, arXiv:1502.04999; in progress]

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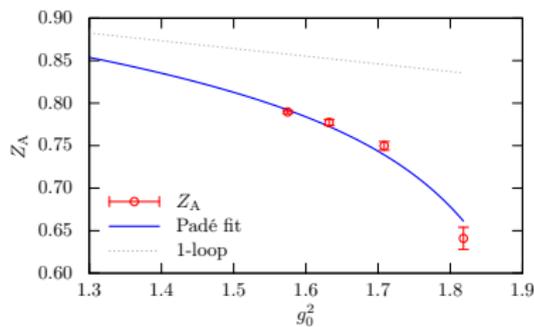
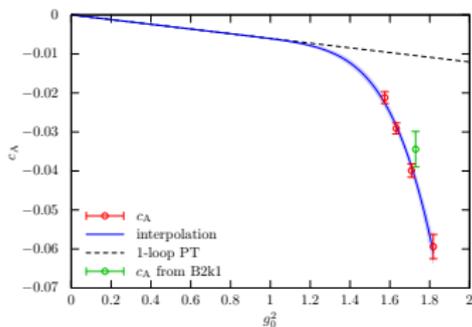


[Bulava, Della Morte, H. & Wittmeier, NPB896 (2015) 555, arXiv:1502.04999; in progress]

- A reliable, accurate evaluation of  $f_{D(s)}$  requires to generate (computationally demanding) large-volume  $N_f = 2 + 1$  QCD configurations at small lattice resolutions and close-to-physical sea quark masses

## Preliminary work & Configuration ensemble basis

Non-perturbative determination of  $c_A$  and  $Z_A$  in  $N_f = 3$  QCD:



[Bulava, Della Morte, H. & Wittmeier, NPB896 (2015) 555, arXiv:1502.04999; in progress]

- A reliable, accurate evaluation of  $f_{D(s)}$  requires to generate (computationally demanding) large-volume  $N_f = 2 + 1$  QCD configurations at small lattice resolutions and close-to-physical sea quark masses

- *Coordinated Lattice Simulations (CLS) team effort:*

( $0.05 \lesssim a \lesssim 0.09$ ) fm,  $m_\pi$ 's  $\gtrsim 140$  MeV → talk by Stefan Schaefer

**CLS**  
based