Baryon-baryon scattering in SU(3)-flavour-symmetric QCD

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Questions in nuclear physics

NN interaction (and *NNN*) leads to nuclei. How fine tuned is the universe? *NN* interaction (and *NNN*) leads to nuclei. How fine tuned is the universe?

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How strongly does deuteron binding depend on quark masses? Could *pp* or *nn* bind?

Nuclei as tools in experiments

In practice, nuclei instead of free nucleons are often used.

- Argon in neutrino experiments (MicroBooNE, DUNE).
- > Xenon for dark matter direct detection (XENONnT, LUX-ZEPLIN).

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Long-term challenge: neutrinoless double beta decay.

Are neutrinos Majorana?

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I. Vidaña, EPJ Web Conf. 271, 09001 (2022)

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Do hyperon-hyperon (YY) or NNY interactions play a role?

- 1. Methodology and challenges
- 2. NN: old versus new calculations
- **3.** *H* dibaryon at SU(3) symmetric point
- 4. NN at SU(3) symmetric point
- 5. Outlook

Standard approach:

- 1. Compute the finite-volume spectra for various quantum numbers: flavour, total momentum P, little-group irrep Λ .
- 2. Use finite-volume quantization to constrain model for scattering amplitude.
- 3. Find bound-state poles, resonances, etc. in model.

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$$C(t) = \sum_{n} e^{-E_{n}t} \left| \langle n | O^{\dagger} | \Omega \rangle \right|^{2}$$
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Then take the effective mass,

$$m_{\text{eff}}(t) = \frac{1}{\Delta} \log \frac{C(t)}{C(t+\Delta)}$$
$$\longrightarrow E_0 + O(e^{-(E_1 - E_0)t}).$$





$$C_{\text{2pt}}(t) = \left\langle O(t)O^{\dagger}(0) \right\rangle \sim \left\langle \left\langle \Re \left[S(t,0)^3 \right] \right\rangle \right\rangle$$
$$\to e^{-m_N t}$$



$$C_{\text{2pt}}(t) = \left\langle O(t)O^{\dagger}(0) \right\rangle \sim \left\langle \left\langle \mathfrak{R}[S(t,0)^3] \right\rangle \right\rangle$$
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Signal-to-noise ratio:

$$S/N \equiv \frac{C_{2\text{pt}}(t)}{\sigma(C_{2\text{pt}}(t))} \rightarrow e^{-(m_N - \frac{3}{2}m_\pi)t} \text{ single nucleon}$$
$$\rightarrow e^{-2(m_N - \frac{3}{2}m_\pi)t} \text{ two nucleons}$$

Excited-state spectrum (noninteracting)



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Spectroscopy (variational method)

Given a set of N interpolating operators $\{O_i\}$, find optimal linear combination $\tilde{O}_n = v_i^{\dagger}O_i$ for isolating state n.

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$$C(t+\Delta)v_n = \lambda_n C(t)v_n.$$

For each of the lowest N states, this gives an effective mass and an optimized interpolating operator:

$$m_{\mathrm{eff},n} = rac{-1}{\Delta} \log \lambda_n, \qquad ilde{O}_n = v_{ni}^{\dagger} O_i,$$

with faster approach to plateau ~ $e^{-(E_N-E_n)t}$.

Importance of variational method



Variational approach essential for excited states.

Single operators can also fail to obtain ground state.

Typically use "smeared" quark fields with Gaussian-like profile. Simplest choices:

Hexaquark

$$O_H(t, \mathbf{P}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-i\mathbf{P}\cdot\mathbf{x}}(qqqqqq)(t, \mathbf{x})$$

Looks like quark-model state.

Two-baryon

$$O_{BB}(t, \mathbf{P}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} e^{-i\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}} e^{-i(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_1) \cdot \mathbf{y}} (qqq)(t, \mathbf{x})(qqq)(t, \mathbf{y})$$

- Looks like noninteracting baryon-baryon state.
- > Varying p_1 yields many different operators with same total P.

Correlation functions



How to compute?

- Point-source propagator $\rightarrow \langle O_H^{\dagger}(t) O_H^{\dagger}(0) \rangle$ or $\langle O_{BB}^{\dagger}(t) O_H^{\dagger}(0) \rangle$.
- ▶ Nonlocal methods like *distillation* $\rightarrow \langle O_{BB}(t)O_{BB}^{\dagger}(0) \rangle$.

Many early calculations used only $\langle O_{BB}(t) O_{H}^{\dagger}(0) \rangle$ asymmetric correlators.



Decade-long controversy over presence of bound states at heavy quark masses.



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Disagreement about simplest warm-up problem for nuclear physics on the lattice.

Experiment: $B_d \approx 2.2$ MeV known for 90 years. J. Chadwick and M. Goldhaber, Nature 134, 237–238 (1934)



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No calculation performed using more than one lattice spacing.



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All calculations that obtain bound states use $\langle O_{BB}(t)O_{H}^{\dagger}(0)\rangle$ asymmetric correlation functions.
What can go wrong?

T. Iritani *et al.* (HAL QCD), Mirage in temporal correlation functions for baryon-baryon interactions in lattice QCD, JHEP **2016**, 101 (2016) [1607.06371] (CC BY 4.0)



Mock data: effective mass for correlator $C(t) = b_1 + b_2 e^{-\delta E_{el}t} + c_1 e^{-\delta E_{inel}t}$. "elastic" excitation $\delta E_{el} = 50 \text{ MeV}$ "inelastic" excitation $\delta E_{inel} = 500 \text{ MeV}$

Point sources versus variational method with bilocal interpolators



Data extracted from W. Detmold *et al.* (NPLQCD), 2404.12039 M. L. Wagman *et al.* (NPLQCD), PRD 96, 114510 (2017) [1706.06550] $m_{\pi} \approx 800$ MeV. Old calculation: 1S_0 bound state with $B_{nn} \approx 21$ MeV. New calculation consistent with unbound NN.

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New calculation consistent with unbound NN.

Several variational baryon-baryon calculations done:

A. Francis, JRG *et al.*, PRD 99, 074505 (2019) [1805.03966] B. Hörz *et al.* (sLapHnn), PRC 103, 014003 (2021) [2009.11825] JRG *et al.*, PRL 127, 242003 (2021) [2103.01054] S. Amarasinghe *et al.* (NPLQCD), PRD 107, 094508 (2023) [2108.10835] W. Detmold *et al.* (NPLQCD), 2404.12039 Z.-Y. Wang @ Lattice 2024 Y. Geng (CLQCD) @ Lattice 2024 Largely consistent picture: no *NN* bound state at heavy m_{π} .

Calculations at light SU(3)-symmetric point

JRG, A. D. Hanlon, P. M. Junnarkar, H. Wittig: Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 242003 (2021); PoS LATTICE **2021**, 294; PoS LATTICE **2022**, 200; M. Padmanath, J. Bulava, JRG, A. D. Hanlon, B. Hörz, P. Junnarkar, C. Morningstar, S. Paul, H. Wittig, PoS LATTICE **2021**, 459 + ongoing work (BaSc collaboration)



Two octet baryons: $(\mathbf{8} \otimes \mathbf{8})_S = \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{8} \oplus \mathbf{27}$, $(\mathbf{8} \otimes \mathbf{8})_A = \mathbf{8} \oplus \mathbf{10} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{10}}$. *H* dibaryon: 1; *NN*: 27, $\overline{\mathbf{10}}$. VOLUME 38, NUMBER 5 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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Perhaps a Stable Dihyperon*

R. L. Jaffe†

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, and Department of Physics and Laboratory of Nuclear Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 (Roceived 1 November 1976)

In the quark bag model, the same gluon-exchange forces which make the proton lighter than the $\Delta(1236)$ bind six quarks to form a stable, flavor-singlet (with strangeness of -2 $J^{P}=0^{\circ}$ dhyperon ((I) at 2150 MeV. Another isosinglet dhyperon ((II) with $J^{P}=1^{\circ}$ at 2335 MeV should appear as a bump in AA invariant-mass plots. Production and decay systematics of the H are discussed.

TABLE I. Quantum numbers and masses of S-wave

dibaryons.

SU(6) _{cs} representation	C ₆	J	SU(3) _f representation	Mass in the limit m _s =0 (MeV)
490	144	0	1	1760
896	120	1,2	8	1986
280	96	1	10	2165
175	96	1	10*	2165
189	80	0,2	27	2242
35	48	1	35	2507
1	0	0	28	2799

Proposed *uuddss* flavour-singlet dibaryon with $J^P = 0^+$.

Bound state of two Λ hyperons with $B_H \approx 80$ MeV.



H dibaryon: Experimental searches



FIG. 2. Photograph and schematic drawing of NAGARA event. See text for detailed explanation.

H. Takahashi et al., PRL 87, 212502 (2001)

Strongest constraint comes from "Nagara" event from E373 at KEK, which found a $^{6}_{\Lambda\Lambda}$ He double-hypernucleus with $\Lambda\Lambda$ separation energy

$$B_{\Lambda\Lambda}^{\text{Nagara}} = 6.91 \pm 0.16 \text{ MeV}.$$

Absence of strong decay ${}_{\Lambda\Lambda}{}^{6}$ He \rightarrow 4 He + H implies

 $B_H < B_{\Lambda\Lambda}^{Nagara}$.

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A Also studied using "femtoscopy" method at LHC. ALICE, PLB **797**, 134822 (2019)

H dibaryon: spectrum summary



SU(3) singlet.

Trivial (A1g or A1) irreps.

- p^2 is back-to-back scattering momentum: $E_{cm} = 2\sqrt{p^2 + m^2}$ Points: lattice energy levels.
- Red dashed curves: noninteracting levels.
- Blue curves: interacting levels in continuum.

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Strong dependence on a^2 ! Levels lie on left-hand cut!

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Blue curves: interacting levels in continuum.

Quantization condition and continuum limit



Continuum extrapolation: follow blue path, applying continuum quantization condition at nonzero lattice spacing.

Combined fits to multiple lattice spacings: let

$$p \cot \delta(p^2, a) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} c_i(a) p^{2i}, \quad c_i(a) = c_{i0} + c_{i1} a^2.$$

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Recent work on including discretization effects in quantization condition:

M. T. Hansen and T. Peterken, 2408.07062

S-wave quantization condition:

$$p \cot \delta(p) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi L \gamma}} Z_{00}^{PL/(2\pi)} \left(1, \left(\frac{pL}{2\pi} \right)^2 \right)$$

Combined phase shift fits

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Cross check: extrapolate energies at fixed volume.



H dibaryon binding energy versus lattice spacing



Strong dependence on lattice spacing.

H dibaryon binding energy versus lattice spacing



Strong dependence on lattice spacing.

H dibaryon binding energy: comparison with literature



With broken SU(3), *H* dibaryon can couple to three baryon-baryon channels: $\Lambda\Lambda$, $N\Xi$, $\Sigma\Sigma$.

H dibaryon: breaking of SU(3) flavour

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Previous EFT-based extrapolations suggest physical bound state is unlikely.

Symanzik theory: EFT describing lattice QCD at *a* > 0

With O(a) improved action, corrections start at a^2 :

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} + a^2 \sum_i O_i + O(a^3).$$

Dimension-six operators O_i are gluonic, $\bar{q}q$, or $(\bar{q}q)^2$ satisfying symmetries of lattice action:

- Some break O(4) rotational symmetry \rightarrow modified dispersion relations.
- Some break chiral symmetry.

Logarithmic corrections also understood. N. Husung et al., 2022

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We see percent-level effects on baryon-baryon energies but O(100%) effects on scattering observables such as the scattering length.

Can we understand what is causing these large effects? Study using different actions.

Binding energy of H dibaryon: different lattice actions



Three independent $a \rightarrow 0$ extrapolations agree. Size of lattice artifacts varies significantly.

Four categories of partial waves:

- Even ℓ , spin zero \implies I = 1. ${}^{1}S_{0}, {}^{1}D_{2}, {}^{1}G_{4}, \dots$
- Even ℓ , spin one $\implies I = 0$. ${}^{3}S_{1} {}^{3}D_{1}, {}^{3}D_{2}, {}^{3}D_{3} {}^{3}G_{3}, \dots$
- Odd ℓ , spin zero \implies I = 0. ${}^{1}P_{1}, {}^{1}F_{3}, {}^{1}H_{5}, \dots$
- Odd ℓ , spin one $\implies I = 1$. ${}^{3}P_{0}, {}^{3}P_{1}, {}^{3}P_{2} {}^{3}F_{2}, {}^{3}F_{3}, {}^{3}F_{4} {}^{3}H_{4}, \dots$

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Strategy: identify states by coupling to spin zero/one interpolators; analyze separately. Still a work in progress; these results are **PRELIMINARY**.

Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 0 spectrum



Operators constructed with definite spin. Spin-1 states (gray) identified via overlaps. Quantization condition factorizes in spin. Here ${}^{1}P_{1}$ and ${}^{1}F_{3}$ are relevant. Red curves: noninteracting levels.

Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 0 spectrum, example fit 1



$$p^3 \cot \delta_{P_1} = c_1 + c_2 p^2$$
, $p^7 \cot \delta_{P_3} = c_3 + c_4 p^8$

assuming no discretization effects.

Jeremy R. Green | DESY ZPPT | HHIQCD2024 | Page 31

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Antidecuplet (*NN I* = 0): spin 0 spectrum, example fit 2



Fit ansatz: solutions to Lippmann-Schwinger equation for ${}^{1}P_{1}$ and ${}^{1}F_{3}$ with one-pion-exchange potential and contact terms, $\Lambda = 1.5m_{\pi}$, assuming no discretization effects.

Note: spurious solutions to quantization condition near left-hand cut.

Spin 0 phase shifts: *P* and *F* waves (fit 2)



Points: energy levels under single-partial-wave approximation.

Spin 0 phase shifts: *P* and *F* waves (fit 2)



Points: energy levels taking other partial wave into account.

Data lie on single curve. Nontrivial consistency check of spectrum!

Spin 1: coupled partial waves

Use Blatt-Biedenharn decomposition of 2×2 scattering matrix:

$$S_J = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_J & -\sin \epsilon_J \\ \sin \epsilon_J & \cos \epsilon_J \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{2i\delta_{J\alpha}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2i\delta_{J\beta}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_J & \sin \epsilon_J \\ -\sin \epsilon_J & \cos \epsilon_J \end{pmatrix}.$$

Near threshold:

$$\delta_{J\alpha} \sim p^{2J-1}, \qquad \delta_{J\beta} \sim p^{2J+3}, \qquad \epsilon_J \sim p^2,$$

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Below threshold, a (bound or virtual) deuteron pole exists where $p \cot \delta_{1\alpha}(p) = ip$. The deuteron's asymptotic D/S-wave ratio is given by $-\tan \epsilon_1(p)$.

Spin 1: coupled partial waves

Use Blatt-Biedenharn decomposition of 2×2 scattering matrix:

$$S_J = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_J & -\sin \epsilon_J \\ \sin \epsilon_J & \cos \epsilon_J \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{2i\delta_{J\alpha}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2i\delta_{J\beta}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_J & \sin \epsilon_J \\ -\sin \epsilon_J & \cos \epsilon_J \end{pmatrix}.$$

Near threshold:

$$\delta_{J\alpha} \sim p^{2J-1}, \qquad \delta_{J\beta} \sim p^{2J+3}, \qquad \epsilon_J \sim p^2.$$

Below threshold, a (bound or virtual) deuteron pole exists where $p \cot \delta_{1\alpha}(p) = ip$. The deuteron's asymptotic D/S-wave ratio is given by $-\tan \epsilon_1(p)$.

Phenomenology often uses Stapp parametrization:

$$S_J = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\delta_3(J-1)J} & 0\\ 0 & e^{i\delta_3(J+1)J} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\bar{\epsilon}_J & i\sin 2\bar{\epsilon}_J\\ i\sin 2\bar{\epsilon}_J & \cos 2\bar{\epsilon}_J \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\delta_3(J-1)J} & 0\\ 0 & e^{i\delta_3(J+1)J} \end{pmatrix}$$

J = 1 mixing angle

Sign of mixing angle is physical: affects scattering amplitudes. Effect on finite-volume spectrum? Worked out in a decade ago.

R. A. Briceño, Z. Davoudi, T. C. Luu, M. J. Savage, Phys. Rev. D 88, 114507 (2013)

Phase shifts / mixing angles from experiment (input).





Ground states in frame $P = \frac{2\pi}{L}(0, 0, 1)$.

For $J^P = 1^+$: A_2 irrep has helicity 0 E irrep has helicity ±1

If this is correct, at physical point expect $E_{A_2} > E_E$.
Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 1 spectrum (1)



Spin-zero states shown in gray.

Thickness of red curves proportional to degeneracy of noninteracting level. (39 levels) × (8 ensembles) = 312, although some lie above $NN\pi$ threshold. In frame $P = \frac{2\pi}{L}(0, 0, 1)$, get $E_{A_2} < E_E$.

Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 1 spectrum (2)



Spin-zero states shown in gray.

Thickness of red curves proportional to degeneracy of noninteracting level. (39 levels) × (8 ensembles) = 312, although some lie above $NN\pi$ threshold. In frame $P = \frac{2\pi}{L}(0, 0, 1)$, get $E_{A_2} < E_E$.

Nuclear physics convention:

define in position space.

J. M. Blatt and L. C. Biedenharn, Rev. Mod. Phys. 24, 258 (1952)

 $\mathcal{Y}_{Jls}^{M} = \sum_{ml=-l}^{l} \sum_{ms=-s}^{s} (lsm_{l}m_{s} | lsJM) Y_{l,ml}(\theta,\phi) \chi_{s,ms}$

In terms of these definitions, the most general wave function in channel α , *s* with total angular momentum quantum numbers *J*, *M* consists of the superposition of an ingoing and outgoing spherical wave, each with spin-angle-dependence (3.2). At sufficiently large distances, we can write

$$\Psi_{\alpha i}(JM) = \frac{1}{r_{\alpha}(v_{\alpha})^{4}} \Im_{Jis}^{M} \Phi_{\alpha i}$$

$$\times \{A_{\alpha i l}^{JM} \exp[-i(k_{\alpha}r_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2}l\pi)]$$

$$-B_{\alpha i l}^{JM} \exp[-i(k_{\alpha}r_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2}l\pi)]\}. \quad (3.3)$$

The coefficients $A_{\alpha \epsilon i}{}^{JM}$ and $B_{\alpha \epsilon i}{}^{JM}$ are not independent of each other. Rather, if the amplitudes of the ingoing waves are known, the amplitudes of the outgoing waves are determined uniquely by the wave equation. The relation between them defines the scattering matrix:

$$B_{\alpha's'l'}{}^{JM} = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{s} \sum_{l} S_{\alpha's'l';\,\alpha sl}{}^{J}A_{\alpha sl}{}^{JM}.$$
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Finite-volume quantization condition:

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R. A. Briceño, Phys. Rev. D 89, 074507 (2014)

 $\label{eq:alternatively, one can write the scattering amplitude in the <math display="inline">lS$ basis using Eq. 10,

$$\langle \mathbf{q}_{f}^{*}, S' m_{S'} | \mathcal{M} | \mathbf{q}_{i}^{*}, S m_{S} \rangle = 4\pi \sum_{\substack{J, m_{J}, l, l' \\ m_{l}, m_{l'}}} Y_{l' m_{l'}}(\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{f}^{*}) Y_{l m_{l}}^{*}(\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{i}^{*})$$

 $\times \langle lm_l Sm_s | lS, Jm_J \rangle \langle l'm_{l'} S'm_{s'} | l'S', Jm_J \rangle \ [\mathcal{M}]^{Jm_J}_{l'S',lS}, \ (13)$

where $[\mathcal{M}_{l'S',lS}^{]Jm_{j}}$ is the value of the scattering amplitude for an ingoing state with (l, S) and outgoing (l', S') and that has been projected onto total angular momentum (J, m_J) .

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Alternatively, one can write the scattering amplitude in the lS basis using Eq. 10,

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Relate using plane-wave expansion: $e^{i\boldsymbol{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{r}} = 4\pi \sum_{\ell,m} i^{\ell} j_{\ell}(kr) Y_{\ell}^{m}(\hat{k}) Y_{\ell}^{m*}(\hat{r}),$ where $j_{\ell}(z) \sim z^{-1} \sin(z - \ell\pi/2).$

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Analyzing coupled ${}^{3}S_{1}$ and ${}^{3}D_{1}$

Quantization condition: $det(\tilde{K}^{-1} - B) = 0$. Briceño, Davoudi, Luu 2013; Morningstar *et al.* 2017 Blatt-Biedenharn parametrization including $i^{\ell-\ell'}$ due to convention mismatch:

$$\tilde{K}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & p^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_1 & \sin \epsilon_1 \\ -\sin \epsilon_1 & \cos \epsilon_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p \cot \delta_{1\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & p \cot \delta_{1\beta} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \epsilon_1 & -\sin \epsilon_1 \\ \sin \epsilon_1 & \cos \epsilon_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & p^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Each energy level imposes constraint on $(p^{-2} \tan \epsilon_1, p \cot \delta_{1\alpha})$ plane:

$$p \cot \delta_{1\alpha} = \frac{B_{00} - (B_{01} + B_{10})x + B_{11}x^2}{1 + p^4 x^2}, \quad x = p^{-2} \tan \epsilon_1.$$







Assume $\delta_{1\beta} = 0$. Also neglect ${}^{3}D_{2}$, ${}^{3}D_{3}$.





Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 1 spectrum (1), example fit



Antidecuplet (NN I = 0): spin 1 spectrum (2), example fit



Example fitted phase shifts (Blatt-Biedenharn)



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Example fitted phase shifts (Stapp)



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Findings:

- > Variational methods are essential for obtaining correct finite-volume spectrum.
- Contrary to earlier calculations, probably no NN bound state at heavy m_{π} .
- *H* dibaryon is bound by ~ 5 MeV at SU(3)-symmetric point.
- ▶ Discretization effects can be surprisingly important, particularly in *S* waves.

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- Discretization effects can be surprisingly important, particularly in S waves.

Important next steps:

- Better understanding of lattice artifacts.
- Use EFT-inspired models for full set of NN data.
- Inclusion of left-hand cut in finite-volume quantization.
- More detailed cross-checks between collaborations and with HAL QCD.
- Lighter quark masses.

Plateau fits



Distillation

M. Peardon et al. (HadSpec), Phys. Rev. D 80, 054506 (2009)

Define smeared quark fields using projector to lower-dimensional subspace:

$$\psi_{\rm sm}(\boldsymbol{x},t) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}'} P(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{x}';t) \psi(\boldsymbol{x}',t).$$

Standard choice: Laplacian-Heaviside (LapH) smearing. Use N lowest eigenmodes $v_n^{(t)}$ of smeared 3d gauge-covariant Laplacian $\Delta(t)$. Typically scale $N \propto L^3$ to keep smearing radius fixed.

$$P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; t) = I_{\text{spin}} \otimes \sum_{n=1}^{N} v_n^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}) v_n^{(t)\dagger}(\mathbf{x}').$$

Since $N \ll 3(L/a)^3$ it is feasible to compute and save full timeslice-to-all or all-to-all propagator within this subspace: this is the *perambulator*

$$\tau_{n'n}(t',t) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{x}',\mathbf{x}} v_{n'}^{(t')\dagger}(\mathbf{x}') D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}',t';\mathbf{x},t) v_n^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}).$$

Timeslice-to-all requires 4N propagator solves.

Computing hadron correlation functions also requires mode doublets and triplets,

$$\Phi_{n'n}(t, \mathbf{p}) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} v_{n'}^{(t)\dagger}(\mathbf{x}) v_n^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}), \quad T_{n_1 n_2 n_3}(t, \mathbf{p}) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \epsilon_{abc} v_{n_1 a}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}) v_{n_2 b}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}) v_{n_3 c}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x})$$

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Meson correlators involve only rank-2 tensors τ and Φ \rightarrow contraction cost for any number of mesons is $O(N^3)$.

Baryons require rank-3 tensor T. For up to 2 baryons get $O(N^4)$ cost. [3 baryons is $O(N^6)$.]



Baryon-baryon: two classes of Wick contractions.

 $N^4 \propto L^{12}$ scaling is a problem! Try to keep N small but eventually need alternative strategies.