

A walk through nucleon sigma term

–Dispersive and $B\chi PT$ approaches–

De-Liang Yao, Hunan University

Workshop on Near-threshold J/ψ photoproduction

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Outline

- Introduction
- Basics of nucleon sigma term
- Pion-nucleon sigma term
- Strangeness content of the nucleon
- Summary and outlook

Introduction

Why nucleon sigma term?

- Anatomy of the nucleon mass
 - Trace of the energy-momentum tensor

$$T^\mu_\mu = \left[\frac{\beta_{QCD}}{2g} G^a_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}_a + \sum_q \gamma_m m_q \bar{q}q \right] + \sum_q m_q \bar{q}q$$

- Explicit chiral symmetry breaking term (classical)
 - γ_m anomalous dimension of the mass operator
 - Trace anomaly owing to quantum effects
- Nucleon mass budget

$$m_N = \langle N | \underbrace{\frac{\beta_{QCD}}{2g} G^a_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}_a + \gamma_m \sum_q m_q \bar{q}q}_{\text{Trace anomaly}} + \underbrace{(m_u \bar{u}u + m_d \bar{d}d + m_s \bar{s}s)}_{\text{sigma term}} | N \rangle$$

Various applications of nucleon sigma term

- Dark matter detection [Hill & Solon 2012]
 - scalar coupling of the nucleon

$$\langle N | m_q \bar{q} q | N \rangle = m_N f_q$$

- Dark matter of scalar nature

$$\mathcal{L}_{\chi q} = C \frac{m_q}{\Lambda^4} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{q} q \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_{\chi N} = \frac{m_{\chi N}^2}{\pi \Lambda^6} \left| \sum_q C_q f_q \right|^2$$

- Condensate in nuclear matter [Kaiser 2008]

$$\frac{\langle \Psi | \bar{q} q | \Psi \rangle}{\langle 0 | \bar{q} q | 0 \rangle} = 1 - \frac{\rho}{F_\pi^2} \left\{ \frac{\sigma_{\pi N}}{M_\pi^2} \left[1 - \frac{3k_f^2}{10m_N^2} + \frac{9k_f^4}{56m_N^4} \right] + \dots \right\}$$

Basics of nucleon sigma term

Origin of nucleon sigma term

Originate in the current-algebra study of meson-nucleon scattering

- Meson-nucleon scattering

$$M_a(q) + N(p) \rightarrow M_b(q') + N(p')$$

- Off-mass-shell amplitude Reya 1974

$$T_{ba}(\nu, t, q^2, q'^2) = i \frac{(q^2 - m_a^2)}{m_a^2 f_a} \frac{(q'^2 - m_b^2)}{m_b^2 f_b} \\ \times \int d^4x d^4y e^{iq' \cdot x} e^{-iq \cdot y} \langle p' | T \{ \partial_\mu A_b^\mu(x) \partial_\nu A_a^\nu(y) \} | p \rangle$$

- LSZ reduction formula
- PCAC hypothesis : $\partial_\mu A_a^\mu(x) = m_a^2 f_a \phi_a(x)$
- $\phi_a(x)$: interpolating fields of Nambu-Goldstone bosons

Low-energy theorem

- (Generalized) Ward-Takahashi identity

$$\begin{aligned} & \int d^4x d^4y e^{iq' \cdot x} e^{-iq \cdot y} \langle p' | T \{ \partial_\mu A_b^\mu(x) \partial_\nu A_a^\nu(y) \} | p \rangle \\ &= \int d^4x d^4y e^{iq' \cdot x} e^{-iq \cdot y} \{ q'_\mu q_\nu \langle p' | T \{ A_b^\mu(x) A_a^\nu(y) \} | p \rangle \\ &\quad - i q'_\mu \langle p' | [A_b^\mu(x), A_a^0(y)] | p \rangle \delta(x_0 - y_0) \\ &\quad - \langle p' | [A_b^0(x), \partial_\nu A_a^\nu(y)] | p \rangle \delta(x_0 - y_0) \} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$ meson-nucleon sigma commutator

- Low-energy Theorem

$$T_{ba}(0, 0, 0, 0) = \frac{-1}{f_b f_a} i \int d^4x \langle p' | [A_b^0(x), \partial_\nu A_a^\nu(y)] | p \rangle \delta(x_0) \equiv \frac{-1}{f_b f_a} \sigma_{NN}^{ba}$$

- soft pion limit: $q'_\mu \rightarrow 0$, $q_\nu \rightarrow 0$

Chiral symmetry breaking and sigma term

- Sigma term = Signal of χ SB

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{H}_{\chi SB}$$

- $\mathcal{H}_0$ – chiral symmetry conserving (χ SC) part: $[Q_a^5, \mathcal{H}_0] = 0$
- $\mathcal{H}_{\chi SB}$ – chiral symmetry breaking (χ SB) part: $\partial_\nu A_a^\nu(x) = i[\mathcal{H}_{\chi SB}, Q_a^5]$
- General form of sigma term

$$\sigma_{NN}^{ba} = \langle p' | [Q_b^5(0), [Q_a^5(0), \mathcal{H}_{\chi SB}(0)]] | p \rangle$$

- Sigma term in QCD

$$\mathcal{H}_{\chi SB}^{QCD} = \bar{q} \mathcal{M} q, \quad \mathcal{M} = \text{diag}\{m_u, m_d, m_s\}, \quad q = (u, d, s)^T.$$

$$\sigma_{NN}^{ba} = \langle p' | \bar{q} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_b}{2}, \left\{ \frac{\lambda_a}{2}, \mathcal{M} \right\} \right\} q | p \rangle$$

Pion (Kaon) -nucleon sigma term

- Pion-nucleon sigma term

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{a=1}^3 \sigma_{NN}^{aa} = \hat{m} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d | N \rangle$$

- Kaon-nucleon sigma term

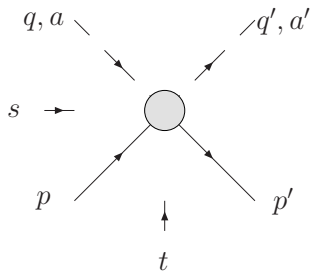
$$\sigma_{KN} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{a=4}^7 \sigma_{NN}^{aa} = \frac{\hat{m} + m_s}{4} \langle N | \bar{u}u + \bar{d}d + 2\bar{s}s | N \rangle$$

- strangeness sigma term: $\sigma_s = m_s \langle N | \bar{s}s | N \rangle$
- relationship: $\sigma_{KN} = \frac{\hat{m} + m_s}{4} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\pi N}}{\hat{m}} + 2 \frac{\sigma_s}{m_s} \right)$

Pion-nucleon sigma term

Pion-nucleon scattering

- Kinematics



$$\nu = \frac{s - u}{2m_N} = \frac{q \cdot (p' + p)}{2m_N}$$

$$\nu_B = \frac{t - 2M_\pi^2}{4m_N} = \frac{-q' \cdot q}{2m_N}$$

- Isospin structure

$$T_{\pi N}^{ba}(\nu, t, q^2, q'^2) = \delta^{ba} T^+ + \frac{1}{2} [\tau^b, \tau^a] T^- ,$$

- Lorentz decomposition ($D^\pm = A^\pm + \nu B^\pm$)

$$T^\pm = \bar{u}' \{ A^\pm + \frac{1}{2} (\not{q}' + \not{q}) B^\pm \} u = \bar{u}' \{ D^\pm - \frac{1}{4m_N} [\not{q}', \not{q}] B^\pm \} u .$$

Pion-nucleon scattering

- Off-mass shell amplitude (WT identity)

$$T_{\pi N}^{ba}(\nu, t, q^2, q'^2) = T_{p\nu}^{ba} + \frac{q^2 + q'^2 - M_\pi^2}{F_\pi^2 M_\pi^2} \sigma(t) \delta^{ba} + \frac{i\epsilon^{bac}}{F_\pi^2} \frac{q'^\mu + q^\mu}{2} V_\mu^c(t) + q'^\mu q^\mu r_{\mu\nu}^{ba}$$

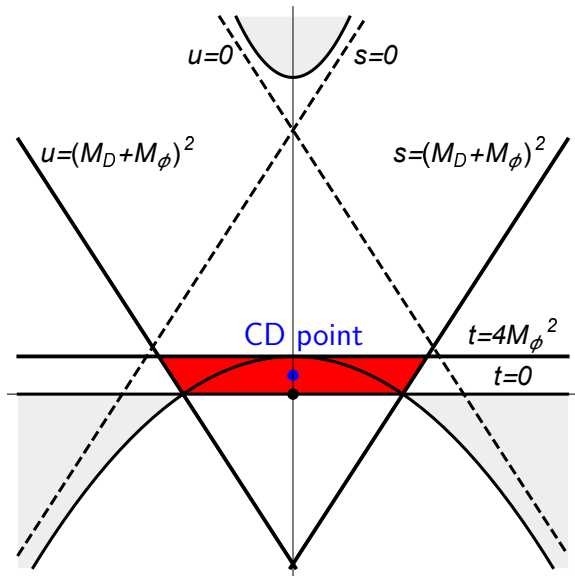
- Pseudovector Born term: $T_{p\nu}^{ba}$
- scalar form factor: $\sigma(t) = \langle N | \hat{m}(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d) | N \rangle$
 - contribute to D^+ only
 - $\sigma_{\pi N} = \sigma(0)$
- Rewind of the low energy theorem:

$$D^+(0, 0, 0, 0) = D_{p\nu}^+(0, 0, 0, 0) - \frac{1}{F_\pi^2} \sigma_{\pi N}$$

⇒ Unphysical pion masses and unphysical scattering region!

Cheng-Dashen point

- CD point: $(\nu = 0, t = M_\pi^2)$
- Adler consistency condition



Cheng-Dashen Theorem

- *Cheng-Dashen theorem* [Cheng, Dashen, 1971], [Brown, Pardee, Peccei, 1971]

$$F_\pi^2 \bar{D}^+(\nu = 0, t = 2M_\pi^2, q^2 = M_\pi^2, q'^2 = M_\pi^2) = \sigma(t = 2M_\pi^2) + \Delta_R$$

- The remainder Δ_R is of order M_π^4
- Sub-threshold expansion:

$$\bar{D}^+(\nu, t) = \bar{d}_{00}^+ + \bar{d}_{10}^+ \nu^2 + \bar{d}_{01}^+ t + \dots$$

Therefore (Δ_D curvature term)

$$F_\pi^2 \bar{D}^+(\nu, 2M_\pi^2) = \bar{d}_{00}^+ + 2\bar{d}_{01}^+ M_\pi^2 + \Delta_D$$

- Scalar form factor: $\sigma(2M_\pi^2) = \sigma(0) + \Delta_\sigma$
- *Sigma term*

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = F_\pi^2 \underbrace{(d_{00}^+ + 2M_\pi^2 d_{01}^+)}_{RS \text{ equation}} + \underbrace{(\Delta_D - \Delta_\sigma)}_{Dis. \text{ Relation}} - \underbrace{\Delta_R}_{B\chi PT}$$

Roy-Steiner equation determination

- Basic formula: $\sigma_{\pi N} = F_{\pi}^2(d_{00}^+ + 2M_{\pi}^2 d_{01}^+) + \Delta_D - \Delta_{\sigma} - \Delta_R$

- Subthreshold parameters output of the RS equations:

$$d_{00}^+ = -1.36(3)M_{\pi}^{-1} \quad [\text{KH: } -1.46(10)M_{\pi}^{-1}]$$

$$d_{01}^+ = 1.16(3)M_{\pi}^{-3} \quad [\text{KH: } 1.14(2)M_{\pi}^{-3}]$$

- $\Delta_D - \Delta_{\sigma} = (1.8 \pm 0.2) \text{ MeV}$ Hoferichter, Ditsche, Kubis, UGM (2012)

- $\Delta_R \lesssim 2 \text{ MeV}$ Bernard, Kaiser, UGM (1996)

- Isospin breaking in the CD theorem shifts $\sigma_{\pi N}$ by $+3.0 \text{ MeV}$

$\Rightarrow$ $\sigma_{\pi N} = (59.1 \pm 1.9_{\text{RS}} \pm 3.0_{\text{LET}}) \text{ MeV} = (59.1 \pm 3.5) \text{ MeV}$

[NB: recover $\sigma_{\pi N} = 45 \text{ MeV}$ if KH80 scattering lengths are used]

χ PT — low-energy EFT of QCD

- Low-energy strong interaction

- Tools: current algebra $\implies$ QCD $\implies \chi$ PT
- Guiding principles: analyticity, unitarity, crossing symmetry, ...

There exists a unique amplitude, no matter which method is employed!

- Baryon chiral perturbation theory ($B\chi$ PT)

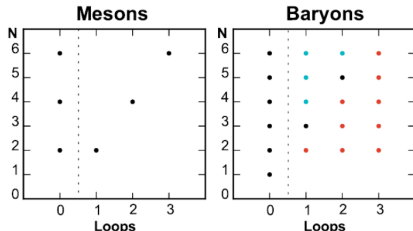
- Power counting breaking (PCB) problem

Feynman Diagram



$\mathcal{O}(p^N)$

How important?

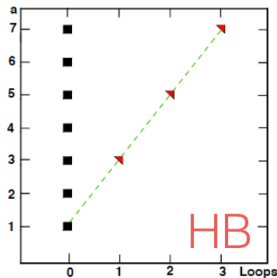
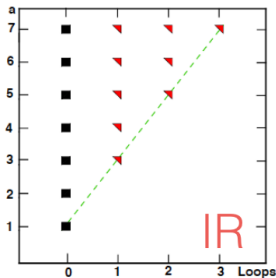
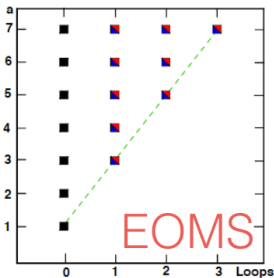
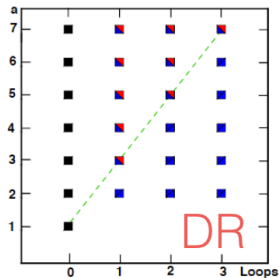


red dots denote possible PCB terms

Chiral order: $N = 4L - 2N_M - N_B + \sum_k k V_k$

- Solutions: HB (Heavy baryon), IR (Infrared Regularization), EOMS (Extended-on-mass-shell), ...

EOMS-B χ PT



- *EOMS scheme is a two-step renormalization approach*

- Merits:

- respect axiomatic S -matrix principles
- inherit underlying symmetries
- possess correct power counting

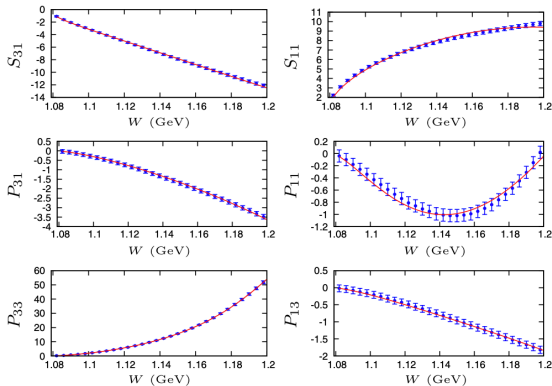
- Experimental data $\Rightarrow$ Low energy constants (LECs) $\Rightarrow$ predictions

EOMS-B χ PT determination: $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$

- EOMS-B χ PT up to $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ [Alarcon, et al, PRD2012]

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = -4c_1 M_\pi^2 - \frac{3g_A^2 M_\pi^3}{16\pi^3 F_\pi^2 m_N} \left[\frac{3m_N^2 - M_\pi^2}{\sqrt{4m_N^2 - M_\pi^2} \arccos \frac{M_\pi}{2m_N}} + M_\pi \log \frac{M_\pi}{m_N} \right]$$

- The only unknown LEC c_1 is common in πN scattering and $\sigma_{\pi N}$
- Experimental πN phase shifts (GW-SAID)
- $\sigma_{\pi N} = 59(7)$ MeV

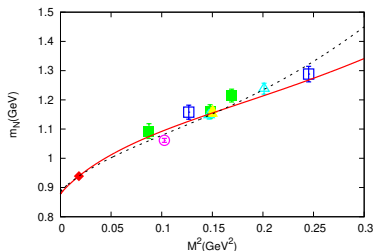
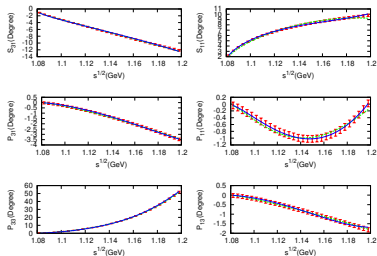


EOMS-B χ PT determination: $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$

- EOMS-B χ PT up to $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ [Chen, DLY and Zheng, PRD2013]

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = -4c_1 M_\pi^2 - \frac{3g_A^2 M_\pi^3}{16\pi^3 F_\pi^2 m_N} \left[\frac{3m_N^2 - M_\pi^2}{\sqrt{4m_N^2 - M_\pi^2} \arccos \frac{M_\pi}{2m_N}} + M_\pi \log \frac{M_\pi}{m_N} \right] \\ + e_1 M_\pi^4 + \mathcal{C}(c_1, c_2, c_3) \times [\mathcal{O}(p^4) \text{ loop}]$$

- e_1 not appear in πN scattering $\Rightarrow$ need extra lattice QCD data

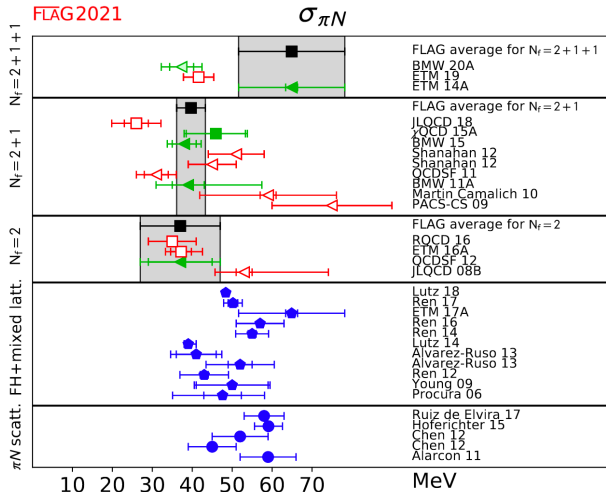


$$\sigma_{\pi N} = 52(7) \text{ MeV} \quad (\Delta\text{-less})$$

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = 45(6) \text{ MeV} \quad (\Delta\text{-full})$$

Comparison

- **FLAG 2021:** in tension with lattice QCD computation, $\sigma_{\pi N}^{IQCD} \sim 45$ MeV



Excited-state contamination?

- **NME21:** [Gupta, et al. PRL127(2021)]

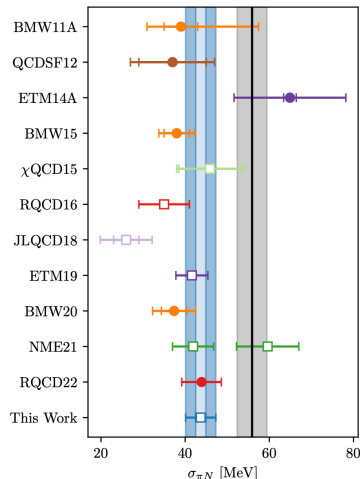
→ πN & $\pi\pi N$ excited states

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = \begin{cases} 41.9(4.9) \text{ MeV} & \text{w/o e. s.} \\ 59.6(7.4) \text{ MeV} & \text{w e. s.} \end{cases}$$

- **Mainz23:** [Agadjanov, et al. PRL131(2023)]

→ *an upward trend for $\sigma_{\pi N}$ when using priors similar to NME21, albeit not as pronounced.*

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = 43.7(3.6) \text{ MeV}$$



Tension between lattice QCD and phenomenology still persists!

Strangeness content of the nucleon

Strangeness content of the nucleon

- Strangeness fraction

$$y = \frac{2\langle N|\bar{s}s|N\rangle}{\langle N|\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d|N\rangle} = \frac{2\hat{m}}{m_s} \frac{\sigma_s}{\sigma_{\pi N}}$$

no strange quark contribution: $y = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sigma_s = 0$

- $\sigma_{\pi N}$ in terms of y and σ_0

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = \frac{\sigma_0}{1 - y}, \quad \sigma_0 \equiv \hat{m}\langle N|\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d - 2\bar{s}s|N\rangle$$

- SU(3) operator with $(I, Y) = (0, 0)$: $\underline{3} \otimes \underline{3}^* = \underline{1} \oplus \underline{8}$

$$\mathcal{H}_m = \sum_{a=1}^3 m_a \bar{q}_a q_a = \frac{m_s + 2\hat{m}}{3}(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d + \bar{s}s) + \frac{\hat{m} - m_s}{3}(\bar{u}u + \bar{d}d - 2\bar{s}s)$$

- 1st term $\rightarrow$ singlet
- 2nd term belongs to octet IR rep. $\rightarrow$ mass splitting
- How to obtain the chiral expression for σ_0 ?

Hellmann-Feynman theorem

- **In QM:** Hamiltonian $H(\lambda)$ depending on external parameter λ

$$H(\lambda)|\psi(\lambda)\rangle = E(\lambda)|\psi(\lambda)\rangle, \quad \langle\psi(\lambda)|\psi(\lambda)\rangle = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dE(\lambda)}{d\lambda} &= \frac{d}{d\lambda} \langle\psi(\lambda)|H(\lambda)|\psi(\lambda)\rangle \\ &= \langle\psi(\lambda)|\frac{dH(\lambda)}{d\lambda}|\psi(\lambda)\rangle\end{aligned}$$

- **In QCD:** identify the quark masses as the external parameter λ

$$\frac{dm_H}{dm_q} = \langle H|\bar{q}q|H\rangle \quad (\text{for hadron state } H)$$

- **Elegant bridge:**

$\implies$ relate nucleon (baryon) sigma terms to nucleon (baryon) mass

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = \hat{m} \frac{\partial m_N}{\partial \hat{m}}, \quad \sigma_s = m_s \frac{\partial m_N}{\partial m_s}.$$

Results for σ_0 and y

- SU(3) EOMS-B χ PT

$$\sigma_{\pi N} = -4(2b_0 + b_D + b_F) \frac{M_\pi^2}{2} + \sigma_{\pi N}^{loops}(octet) + \sigma_{\pi N}^{loops}(decuplet)$$

$$\sigma_s = -4(2b_0 + b_D + b_F) \left[m_K^2 - \frac{M_\pi^2}{2} \right] + \sigma_s^{loops}(octet) + \sigma_s^{loops}(decuplet)$$

- Lowest order estimation: $\sigma_0^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{M_\pi^2}{M_K^2 - M_\pi^2} (m_\Xi + m_\Sigma - 2m_N) \simeq 27 \text{ MeV}$
- Necessity of decuplet: $\sim 10 \text{ MeV}$ Alarcon, et. al. PLB(2014)
- Higher orders: LECs need to be fixed by fitting, e.g.

	$\mathcal{O}(p^3)$ [Yao, et al. JHEP(2016)]	$\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ [Severt, et al. JHEP(2019)]
σ_0 [MeV]	58.4(0.4)(9.0)	61.8(31.4)(9.3)
y [%]	1.2(0.6)(12.1)	~ 0

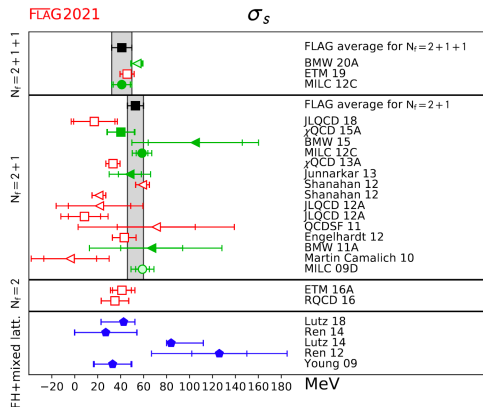
Little strangeness in the nucleon is supported.

Challenge of σ_s

- SU(3) B χ PT: suffering from large theoretical uncertainty [Yao, et al. JHEP(2016)]

$\sigma_s N$	$\sigma_s \Lambda$	$\sigma_s \Sigma$	$\sigma_s \Xi$
8.5(4.4)(86.6)	166.0(3.7)(106.3)	203.6(3.9)(122.3)	342.5(3.4)(133.9)

- Lattice QCD: different collaborations vary in a large range



Summary and outlook

Summary

- Dispersive and $B\chi$ PT analyses of nucleon sigma terms are briefly reviewed
- Tension exists between determinations from lattice QCD (~ 45 MeV) and phenomenology (~ 60 MeV)
- The strangeness content of the nucleon is very small but the uncertainty of σ_s is large.

Outlook

- Isospin violation, Coulomb effect, π -atom spectroscopy, $\dots$
- A two-loop extraction of $\sigma_{\pi N}$ (in progress)
- Constraint from KN scattering for σ_s (in progress)