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Towards the Unitarity Limit in EFTs with Pions





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ing Nuclear Matter - Quark?

- Emergent Phenomena in Nuclear Physics: "Order From Chaos"
- What Is The Unitarity Limit? And Why Should I Care?
- Output State St
- Concluding Conjecture and Questions



How to root Nuclear Physics in QCD? What is the underlying principle that makes simple structures emerge from complex nuclear dynamics?

König/hg/Hammer/van Kolck: *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **118** (2017) 202501 [1607.04623 [nucl-th]] Teng/hg: MSc Thesis GW 2023 and [2410.09653 [nucl-th]]



1. Emergent Phenomena in Nuclear Physics: "Order From Chaos"



1.1

2. What Is The Unitarity Limit? And Why Should I Care?



(a) Use Unitarity Expansion Only for Channels with Large NN Phase Shifts!



(b) Symmetries in the Unitarity Limit



χEFT cannot explain anomalous scatt. lengths/shallow binding: Worlds with $a \lesssim \frac{1}{m_{\pi}}$!

Noether Theorem 1918 [physics/0503066]:

Symmetries and their breaking result in conserved quantities.



(1) Amplitude saturated at Unitarity Limit: $\sigma = \frac{4\pi}{k^2}$ maximal (probability conservation).

(2) Scale Invariance: $\vec{k} \rightarrow e^{\lambda} \vec{k}$. actually nonrel. Conformal/Schrödinger Symmetry. Mehen/Stewart/Wise 2000

Nishida/Son 2007

(3) Wigner-SU(4) Symmetry of combined spin-isospin rotations $\begin{pmatrix} P \\ p \downarrow \\ n \uparrow \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow U \begin{pmatrix} P \\ p \downarrow \\ n \uparrow \end{pmatrix}$ Wigner, Hund 1937 for heavy nuclei n \uparrow of heavy nuclei 1939 cf. Mehen/Stewart/Wise 1999

In NN:
$$= \frac{4\pi}{M} \frac{1}{-\frac{1}{a} - ik} = A_{NN}({}^{3}S_{1}) = A_{NN}({}^{1}S_{0}) \text{ if } a({}^{3}S_{1}) = a({}^{1}S_{0}).$$

Theorists love Unitarity Limit as Nontrivial Fixed Point characterised by high symmetry: Wigner-SU(4) + scale-invariance close to FP protected in renormalisation.

What About Nature?

(c) Unitarity Expansion in EFT(*t*)

König/hg/Hammer/van Kolck: PRL 2017 [1607.04623] reviews: van Kolck [2003.09974]; Kievsky/... [2102.13504]



LO: No NN scale. \implies Nuclear Physics correlated to just one 3N RG scale fixed by B_3 via Efimov effect. PARADIGM SHIFT: Unitarity de-emphasises details of NN & pions, emphasises 3N scale & Universality. Information Theory in EFT: lossless compression into smallest number of parameters at given accuracy.

 \implies Explore Sweet Spot for patterns, unique signals of QCD:

bound weakly enough to be insensitive to interaction details ($\frac{kr}{2} \ll 1$),

but strongly enough to be insensitive to exact large system size ($ka \gg 1$).



(d) χ EFT Should Work In the Unitarity Expansion!



Explore transition "no \rightarrow nonperturbative pions" via Perturbative ("KSW") Pions (only undisputedly consistent χ EFT).

⇒ Clash of symmetries: Wigner/Unitarity vs. Chiral??



3. Unitarity Expansion With Perturbative Pions in NN

based on Rupak/Shoresh [nucl-th/9902077] (¹S₀), (a) $\chi \text{EFT}(\mathbf{p}\pi)_{\text{UE}}$ at N²LO with $Q \sim \frac{1}{ka}, \frac{kr}{2}, \frac{k.m\pi}{\Lambda_{\text{NN}}} \ll 1$ Fleming/Mehen/Stewart [nucl-th/9911001] (¹S₀, ³S₁) mod, for unitarity Teng/hg MSc thesis GW 2023, [2410.09653] $\mathcal{O}(Q^{-1})$ (LO): Nonperturbative; no scale, perfect Wigner, pure S wave. from structureless contacts $C (N^{\dagger}N)^2$ $\mathcal{O}(Q^0)$ (NLO): Scaling and Wigner broken by contacts determined to reproduce PWA values of a, r. Non-iterated OPE: central only, does not break Wigner but scaling; first non-analyticity: branch point $\pm i \frac{m\pi}{2}$. $A_0^{(S)} = \left(\underbrace{-}_{a} + \underbrace{-}_{a} \right) \otimes \left(\underbrace{-}_{a} + \underbrace{-}_{a} \right) \otimes \left(\underbrace{-}_{a} + \underbrace{-}_{a} \right)$ LOS wave LOS wave \implies Unitarity, Wigner-SU(4) spin-isospin symmetry align naturally for Perturbative Pions at NLO. $\mathcal{O}(Q^1)$ (N²LO): Contacts adjusted to keep a, r at PWA values; multiplied with non-iterated OPE (central only). Once-iterated OPE added: first and second non-analyticity: branch points $\pm i \frac{m_{\pi}}{2}, \pm i m_{\pi}$. $A_{1\text{sym}}$: Central $S \to S \to S$ does not break Wigner but scaling: identical in ${}^{1}S_{0}$ and ${}^{3}S_{1}$. A_{1} break: Tensor $S \rightarrow D \rightarrow S$ breaks Wigner and scaling: only in ${}^{3}S_{1}$. $A_{1}^{(S)} = \left(\underbrace{-+}_{a,r}^{a,r} + \underbrace{-}_{a,r}^{a,r} + \underbrace{-}_{a,r}^{$ LO S wave LOS wave \implies Is breaking of Wigner-SU(4) spin-isospin symmetry for Perturbative Pions at N²LO indeed small? ・ロト ・同ト ・ヨト ・ヨト ヨヨ のへで

(b) Perturbative Pions at N²LO: ${}^{1}S_{0}$

perturbative pions to N²LO: Rupak/Shoresh 2000, Fleming/Mehen/Stewart 2000 unitarity for them: Teng/hg MSc Thesis GW 2023, [2410.09653]



Agrees within uncertainties with PWA for $\leq 250 \text{MeV}$ (even outside Unitarity Window).

Compare to EFT(π): minuscule impact of π .

(c) Perturbative Pions at N²LO: ${}^{3}S_{1}$

perturbative pions to N²LO: Fleming/Mehen/Stewart 2000 unitarity for them: Teng/hg MSc Thesis GW 2023, [2410.09653]



Compare to EFT(t): huge impact of pion.

Source of discrepancy: tensor int. (via SD). (central is identical in ${}^{3}S_{1}\&^{1}S_{0}$)

(c) Perturbative Pions at N²LO: ${}^{3}S_{1}$

perturbative pions to N²LO: Fleming/Mehen/Stewart 2000 unitarity for them: Teng/hg MSc Thesis GW 2023, [2410.09653]



Agrees within uncertainties with PWA for

 \geq 300 MeV (even outside Unitarity Window).

Compare to EFT(t): tiny impact of pion.

 \implies All very similar to ${}^{1}S_{0}$.

(d) Convergence to Data

Landau/Páez/Bordeianu: Comp. Phys., Lepage 1997 Teng/hg [2410.09653]



4. Concluding Conjecture and Questions

 χ EFT with Perturbative Pions in Unitarity Expansion $Q \sim \frac{1}{ka}, \frac{kr}{2}, \frac{m_{\pi}}{\overline{\Lambda}_{NN}} \ll 1$: needs $\delta \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \Longrightarrow {}^{1}S_{0}, {}^{3}S_{1}$ only! **Chiral Physics:** $m_{\pi}, f_{\pi}, (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q})(\tau_1 \cdot \tau_2)$ seem opposed to Wigner, but NN/few-N projection forces into it. Conjecture (at least for Perturbative Pions): Tensor/Wigner-SU(4) symmetry-breaking part of One-Pion Exchange is *super-perturbative* in few-N systems, i.e. does *not enter before* N³LO. \iff *Persistence:* Footprint of Symmetries in Unitarity Limit extends far into $p_{typ} \gtrsim m_{\pi}$, more relevant than γ iral symmetry in few-N?! \iff Better lossless compression of Information! **Evidence:** NN S-waves at N²LO converge order-by-order and to PWA inside all of Unitarity Window 30 MeV $\leq k \leq \overline{\Lambda}_{NN} \approx 300$ MeV. Successful extension of EFT(t) to pions. +xsym equall important nontrivial FP Appeal: Fine-Tuning \implies High Symmetry at Nontrivial Fixed Point: perfect scaling+Wigne Universality/scaling + Wigner-SU(4) Wigner-sym protected in renormalisation at FP \implies weakly broken in vicinity. dominates γ iral symmetry not explicit at FP: less protected? \implies Quantify! No Wigner in meson/1N sector \implies no change to χ PT, HB χ PT PC. "Coincidence": N²LO Perturbative Pions overpredict ${}^{3}SD_{1}$ mixing, ${}^{3}D_{1} \implies$ Zero without tensor int. at N²LO. Some Crucial Tests: If either fails without good reason, Conjecture falsified. N³LO cf. Beane Nonperturbative Pions to N²LO in $d\pi \rightarrow d\pi, \gamma d \rightarrow \pi d$ Nd scattering Kaplan/Vuorinen cf. Borasoy/hg 2003 cf. Bedague/hg 2000 strict perturbation LO: hg 2023 9 Kaplan 2020 イロト イヨト イヨト イヨト ヨヨー のへで

Need expansion parameter related to Wigner-SU(4) to characterise tensor suppression near Fixed Point.

Entanglement Power \mathcal{E} : Deviation of QM states from direct product position \otimes spin \otimes isospin \implies operators! classical 1.0 Σ : phase avg. Δ : phase diff. $S = e^{2i\Sigma} \left[\mathbb{1} \cos \Delta + i \, \text{SWAP}_{\sigma} \, \sin \Delta \right],$ entanglement (normalised) 0.8 spin swap : SWAP_{σ} := $\frac{1}{2}(1 + \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) = \begin{cases} +1: {}^{3}S_1 \\ -1: {}^{1}S_2 \end{cases}$ 0.6 Unitarity: $S = e^{2i(\Sigma = \frac{\pi}{2}, \Delta = 0)} = -1 \implies \mathcal{E} = 0$: classical 0.4 How to Define Entanglement Power \mathcal{E} of *Operator*?: 0.2 Rényi entropy of 1N density matrix $\mathcal{E}_{BKKS} = \sin^2[2\Delta]$ of avg. over direct-product $|in\rangle$ 0.0 Beane/Kaplan/Klco/Savage 2019 150 $\mathcal{E}_{\text{Miller}} = H\left[\frac{\cos^2\Delta\left(\cos\Delta - \cos 2\Sigma\right)^2}{(1 - \cos\Delta\cos 2\Sigma)^2}\right] \text{ von Neumann}_{\text{entropy Miller 2023}}$ 120 Nijmegen Σ (avg δ) Niimegen PWA $H[f] = -x \ln x - (1-x) \ln(1-x), x = \frac{1}{2}(1+\sqrt{f})$ S [°] 90 relative von Neumann entropy $\mathcal{E}_{ad hoc} = H[\sin^2 \Delta]$ SWAP vs total hgrie 2024 60 In Unitarity Window, $\mathcal{E} \in [0, 1]$, saturates at $k \approx \frac{m_{\pi}}{2}$. 30 → Relevance of Entanglement in Unitarity Window?? 50 100 0 150 200 250 300 How to find \mathcal{E} before computation?? $k_{\rm cm}$ [MeV]

Need expansion parameter related to Wigner-SU(4) to characterise tensor suppression near Fixed Point.

Candidate Expansion of QCD for a large number $N_C \rightarrow \infty$ of colours:

Kaplan/Savage [hep-ph/9509371] Kaplan/Manohar [nucl-th/9612021] Calle Cordón/Ruiz Arriola [0807.2918]

Predicts that all V_{NN} in S waves are suppressed against central (Wigner-SU(4)) – except tensor 2.

Way out?: Wigner-SU(4) only realised in long-range parts, strongly broken in short-range?? Calle Cordón/Ruiz Arriola Here: Wigner-SU(4) breaking only in LECs: short-range – long-range ($k \rightarrow 0$) still Wigner-SU(4) symmetric.

Way out?!: $1/N_c$ expansion assumes that coefficients "of natural size".

Wigner-SU(4)/proximity to Unitarity forces leading- $1/N_c$ coefficient of tensor- $V_{\rm NN}$ to be exact zero.

Advantage: Guaranteed to survive renormalisation by Unitarity FP symmetry.

(c) Nonperturbative Pions at LO: Maybe Not Hopeless

hg 2023 Carter/Thiem/hg in preparation



Unitarity & KSW, ECT* Universality 45+15', 12.06.2028

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4. Concluding Conjecture and Questions



You have much skill in expressing yourself to be effective.



(b) Whence the Hockey Stick in ${}^{3}S_{1}$?



(c) Convergence to Data

Landau/Páez/Bordeianu: Comp. Phys., Lepage 1997 Teng/hg [2410.09653]



(d) NLO & N²LO Bayesian Truncation Uncertainties

hg/...[1203.6834], Cacciari/Houdeau [1105.5152] BUQEYE [1506.01343], hg/... [1511.01952] Teng/hg [2410.09653]



Bayesian N²LO truncation uncertainty at k: $\pm Q^3 \max\left\{\frac{\cot\delta_0(k) - \cot\delta_0(0)}{O}; \frac{\cot\delta_1(k)}{O^2}\right\}$ with $Q = \frac{\max\{k; m_{\pi}\}}{\overline{\Lambda}_{NN} \sim 300 \text{ MeV}}$

assuming uniform&log-uniform prior.

Only Wigner-symmetric forms have N²LO uncertainties consistent with NLO. and NLO&N²LO consistent with PWA.

(e) Different Ways To Extract Phase Shifts at NLO and N²LO

Teng/hg [2410.09653]



(f) Different Renormalisation/Parameter-Determination Points

Teng/hg [2410.09653]



(g) Virtual/Real Bound-State Pole Positions and Residues

Teng/hg [2410.09653]



(h) ³SD₁ Mixing: Full vs. Wigner





(a) Two Identical Bosons in Resummed-Range EFT

follow Habashi/Sen/Fleming/van Kolck [2007.07360], [2012.14995], [2209.08432]



(b) Three Identical Bosons in Resummed-Range EFT

hg/van Kolck [2308.01394]

Faddeev integral equation for half off-shell S-wave amplitude $T(\mu^2; K, Q)$, total cm energy μ^2 , rescaled by $M^m |r_0^{-1}|^n$. with $V_{\text{S-ex}}(\mu^2; P, Q) = \frac{1}{PO} \ln \frac{P^2 + Q^2 + PQ - \mu^2}{O^2 + O^2 - PO - \mu^2}$ kernel $\mathcal{K}(\mu^2; P, Q)$ $T(\mu^{2};K,P) = 4\pi V_{\text{S-ex}}(\mu^{2};P,K) + \frac{4}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} dQ Q^{2} \frac{V_{\text{S-ex}}(\mu^{2};P,Q)}{\xi + \frac{3Q^{2} - 4\mu^{2}}{\xi} + \sqrt{3Q^{2} - 4\mu^{2}}} T(\mu^{2};K,Q)$ $\frac{1}{\xi + \frac{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}{4} + \sqrt{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}}$ **3B Binding Expectations** from (BB) propagator ($\mu^2 = -\kappa_3^2$) eff. range effect $\implies \rightarrow \frac{1}{Q^2}$ tames UV, no divergence \implies no 3BI \implies no limit cycle. $O \gg \kappa_3, \xi$ $\frac{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}{4} \gg \sqrt{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2} \gtrsim 4 \implies \text{Quick convergence - can bound state be supported?}$ $\frac{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}{4} \gtrsim 4 \gtrsim \sqrt{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2} \implies \text{All of similar size.} \implies \kappa_3 \lesssim 2 \text{ likely, effective-range effects large.}$ $\frac{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}{4} \ll \sqrt{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2} \lesssim 4 \implies \rightarrow \frac{1}{\xi + \sqrt{3Q^2 + 4\kappa_3^2}} \approx \text{Effective range perturbative.} \implies \text{Efimov'ish.}$

(c) 3B Bound States in Resummed Range EFT

Renormalisable at LO without 3B Interaction. \implies Stable ground state, no (new) 3B parameter.

Meets expectations: $\kappa_3^{(0)} \le 2.1 \leftrightarrow \le 2$; no state for large $|\kappa_2^-|$; Efimov's Discrete Scale Invariance approximate.



[&]amp; KSW, EC1* Universality 45+15', 12.06.2025

mmer, INS@GWU

(d) Are Trajectories Self-Similar?: Lay On Top Of Each Other!



(e) Short-Range EFT as Low-Energy Re Σ RangeEFT: Fixing Efimov's Tower



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	zero binding	quasi-unitarity	threshold
state	$\kappa_2^-(\kappa_3=0) [r_0^{-1}]$	$\kappa_3(\kappa_2^-=0)[r_0^{-1}]$	$\kappa_3 \stackrel{!}{=} \kappa_2^- \left[r_0^{-1} \right]$
ground	$-2.04318(6) \cdot 10^{-1}$	$2.35412(3) \cdot 10^{-1}$	2.11862(2)
1st exc.	$-6.9517(5) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.03030(5) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.25108(1) \cdot 10^{-1}$
2nd exc.	$-3.0144(1) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$4.53987(1) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$6.320(1) \cdot 10^{-3}$
3rd exc.	$-1.3269(2) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.00039(5) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.810(3) \cdot 10^{-4}$
$j \rightarrow \infty$	$-0.1551(1) e^{-j\frac{\pi}{s_0}}$	$0.23381(8) e^{-j\frac{\pi}{s_0}}$	$3.31(2) e^{-j\frac{\pi}{s_0}}$



$Re\SigmaRangeEFT$ for $\xi\to 0$ encompass	es SREFT. \Longrightarrow
Match Efimov scale Λ_{\ast} of 3BI in "hard	cutoff regularisation"
$H_0(\Lambda) \simeq -A \frac{\sin[s_0 \ln \frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_*} - a]}{\sin[s_0 \ln \frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_*} + a]}$	rccot s_0]Bedaque/ Hammer/ van Kolck [nucl-th/9809025]
to Re∑RangeEFT at same 2B binding	$\kappa_{2}^{-}(\xi=0)$ per state.

state	Efimov's $\Lambda_{*}\left[r_{0}^{-1} ight]$	amplitude A		
ground	0.614379(2)	0.87866(2)		
1st excited	0.610223(1)	0.87866(1)		
2nd excited	0.610206(1)	0.87866(1)		
3rd excited	0.610206(1)	0.87866(1)		
$j \rightarrow \infty$	0.610206(1)	0.87866(1)		

A: cf. Braaten/Kang/Platter[1101.2854]: 3 SigFig, no uncertainy

2. Quick Look At Scattering in Resummed-Range EFT

(a) Scattering B on Bound (BB) at cm Momentum *K*, Energy $\frac{3K^2}{4} - (\kappa_2^-)^2$



ho/van Kolck