

# Quark Masses and the Strong Coupling

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Virtual Tribute to Quark Confinement and the Hadron Spectrum  
gather.town & zoom | August 2–6, 2021

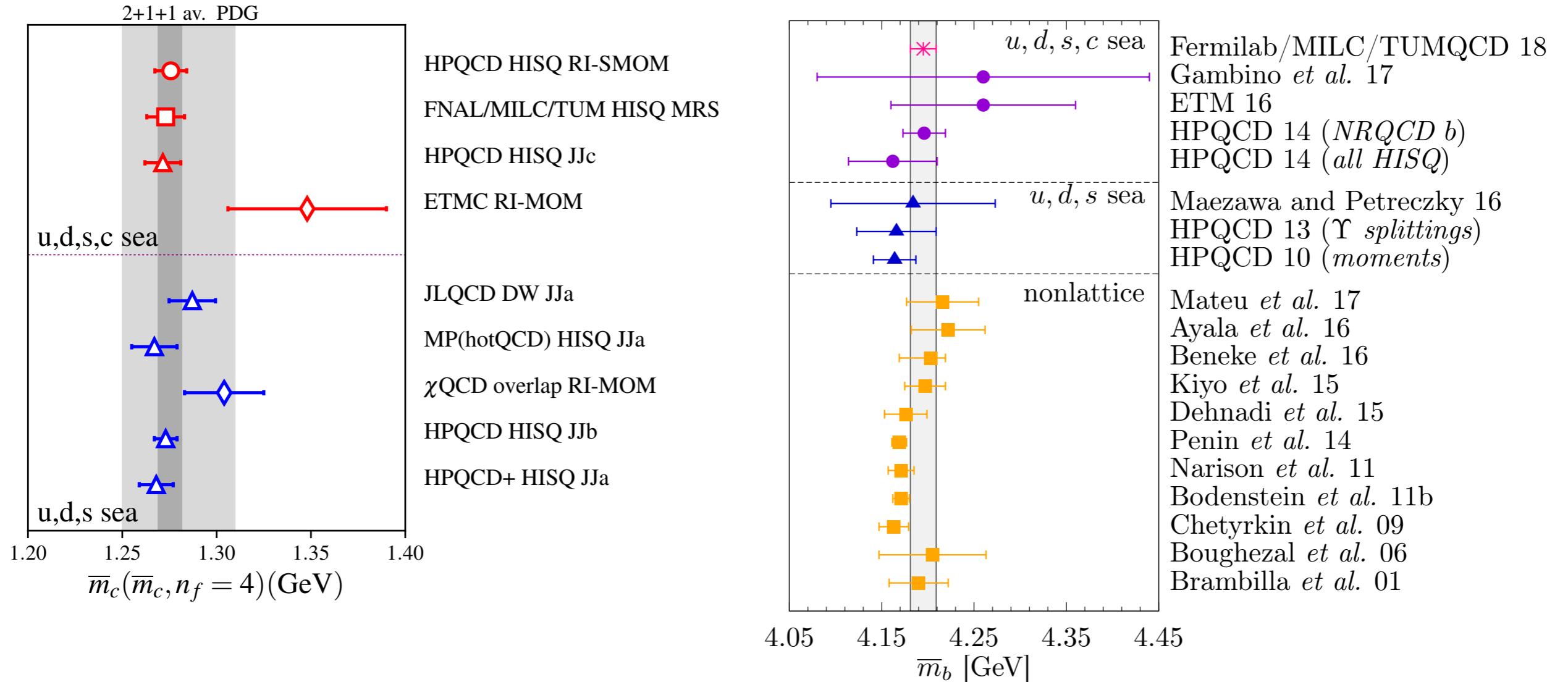


# QCD Parameters

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- $1 + n_f + 1$  free parameters, which must be fixed from experiment:
  - $\alpha_s, \{m_q\}, \theta -$
  - in Standard Model,  $m_q = y_q v / \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\bar{\theta} = \theta - \arg \det \mathbf{y}$
- Strong CP problem: why is  $\bar{\theta}$  so small?
  - Limit on  $\bar{\theta}$  via  $d_n = F_n(0) \bar{\theta}$  marred by all *ab initio* calculations  $F_n(0)$  being consistent with 0.
- Because of confinement, all parameters deduced from properties of hadrons!

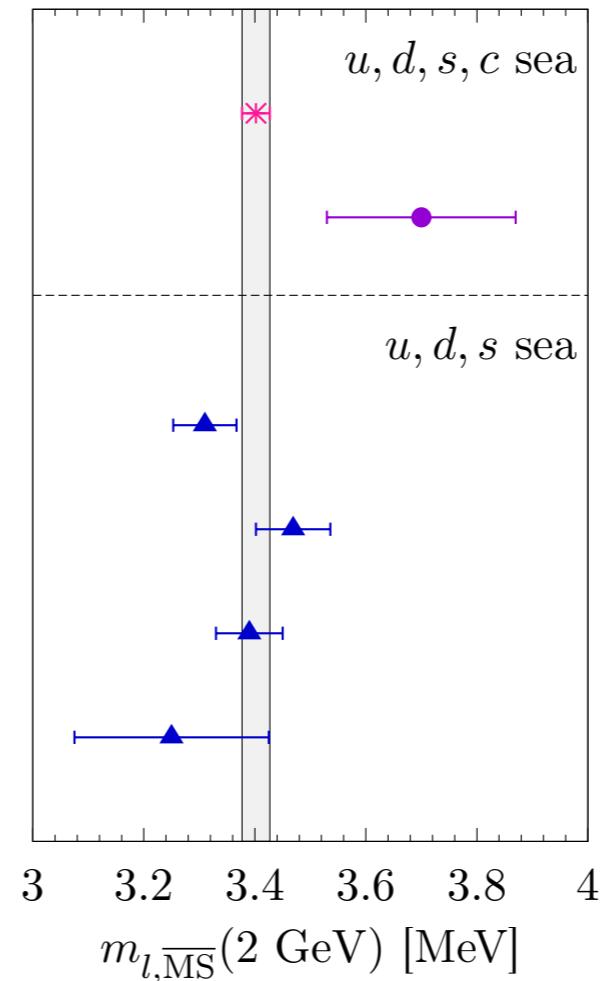
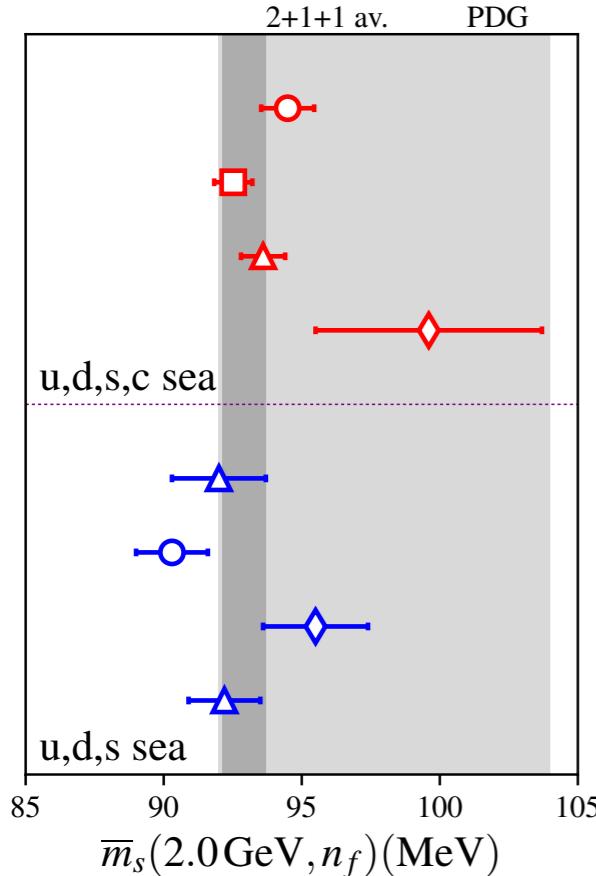
# Heavy Comparisons



- Precision: 0.3% for bottom to 0.5% for charm.

plots from [arXiv:1802.04248](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.04248), [arXiv:1805.06225](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.06225)

# Light Comparisons



- 0.75% for strange quark.
- 2% for up quark.

plots from [arXiv:1802.04248](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.04248), [arXiv:1805.06225](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.06225)

# Precise Results from Lattice QCD

- Numerical results [quoting [arXiv:1802.04248](#)]:
  - Masses: $m_{l,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 3.404(14)_{\text{stat}}(08)_{\text{syst}}(19)\alpha_s(04)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$  $m_{u,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 2.118(17)_{\text{stat}}(32)_{\text{syst}}(12)\alpha_s(03)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$  $m_{d,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 4.690(30)_{\text{stat}}(36)_{\text{syst}}(26)\alpha_s(06)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$  $m_{s,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 92.52(40)_{\text{stat}}(18)_{\text{syst}}(52)\alpha_s(12)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$  $m_{c,\overline{\text{MS}}}(3 \text{ GeV}) = 984.3(4.2)_{\text{stat}}(1.6)_{\text{syst}}(3.2)\alpha_s(0.6)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$  $m_{b,\overline{\text{MS}}}(m_{b,\overline{\text{MS}}}) = 4203(12)_{\text{stat}}(1)_{\text{syst}}(8)\alpha_s(1)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$
  - Mass ratios: $m_c/m_s = 11.784(11)_{\text{stat}}(17)_{\text{syst}}(00)\alpha_s(08)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$  $m_b/m_s = 53.93(7)_{\text{stat}}(8)_{\text{syst}}(1)\alpha_s(5)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$  $m_b/m_c = 4.577(5)_{\text{stat}}(7)_{\text{syst}}(0)\alpha_s(1)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$

$\alpha_s$  parametric not  
PT truncation

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# Synopsis

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- Precise results for all quarks but top (use pQCD + Tevatron, LHC, ILC).
- Good agreement—plots not from FLAG 2019, but results shown are all highly rated.
- Several different methods: RI-SMOM, correlator moments, HQET+MRS.
- Common features:
  - adjust bare lattice mass until chosen hadron mass agrees with PDG;
  - compute a regulator-independent renormalized mass;
  - convert this mass to  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  with (multi-loop) perturbation theory.
- Precise results for charm & bottom  $\Rightarrow$  light-quark masses via mass ratios.

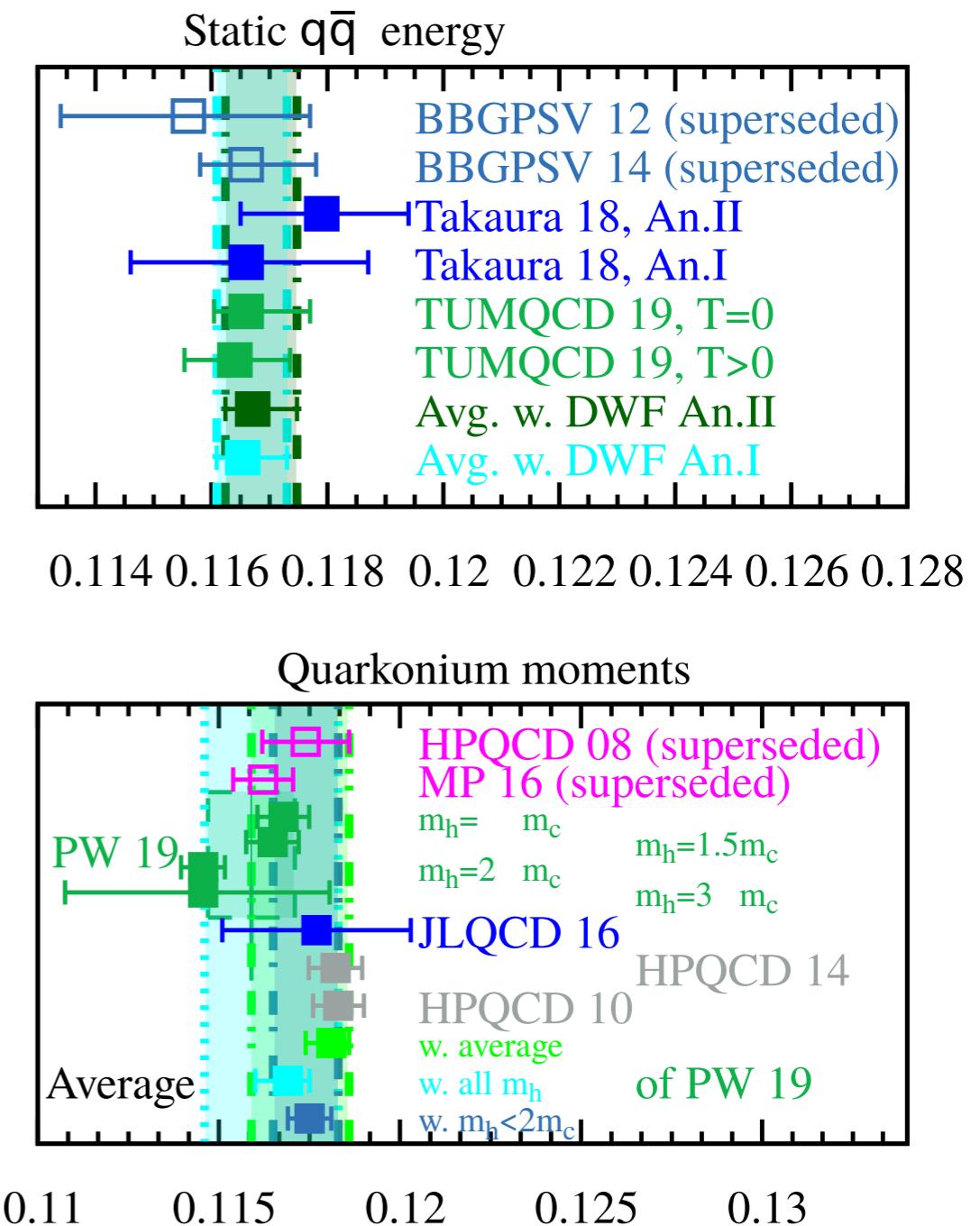
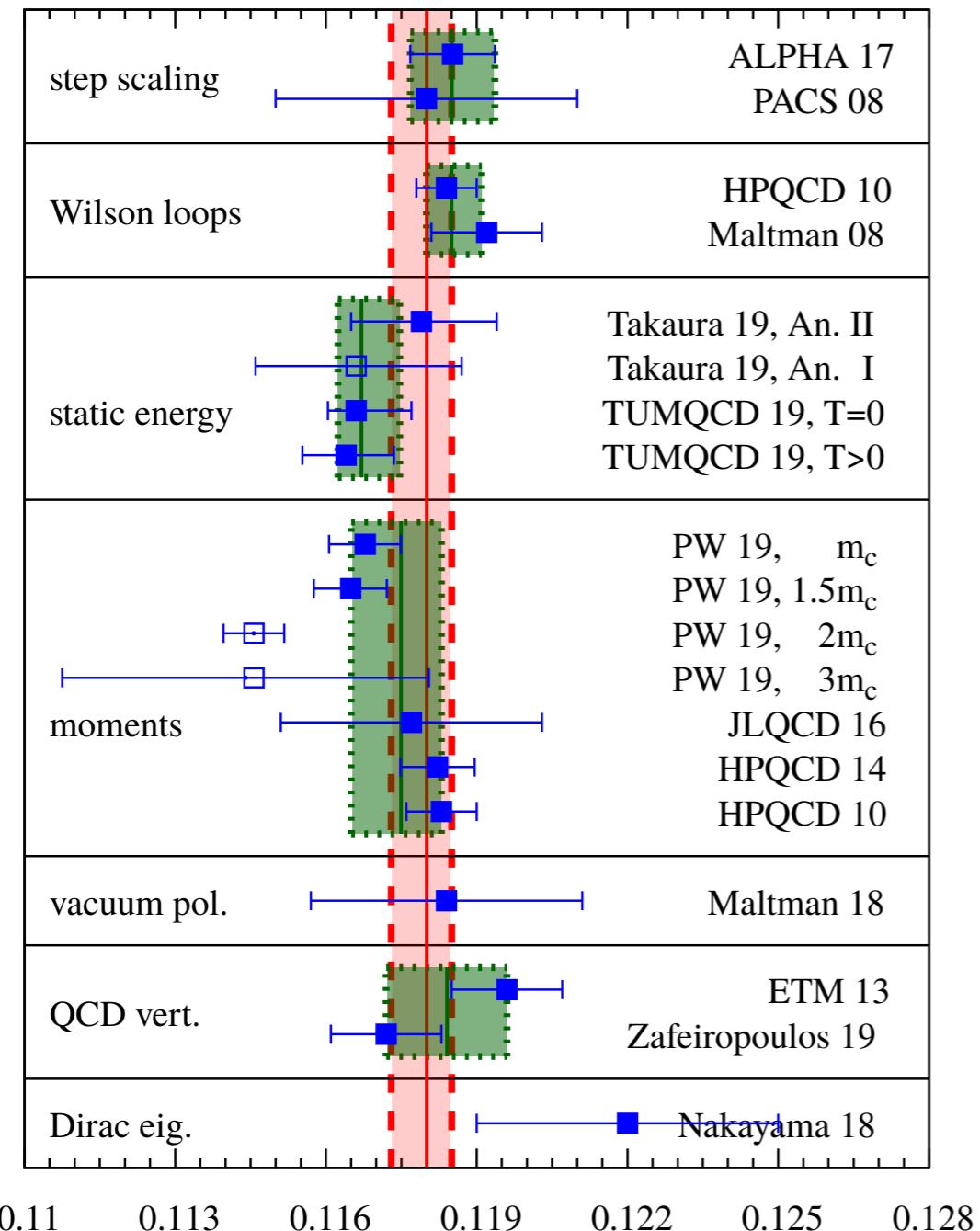
# What's the Strong Coupling?

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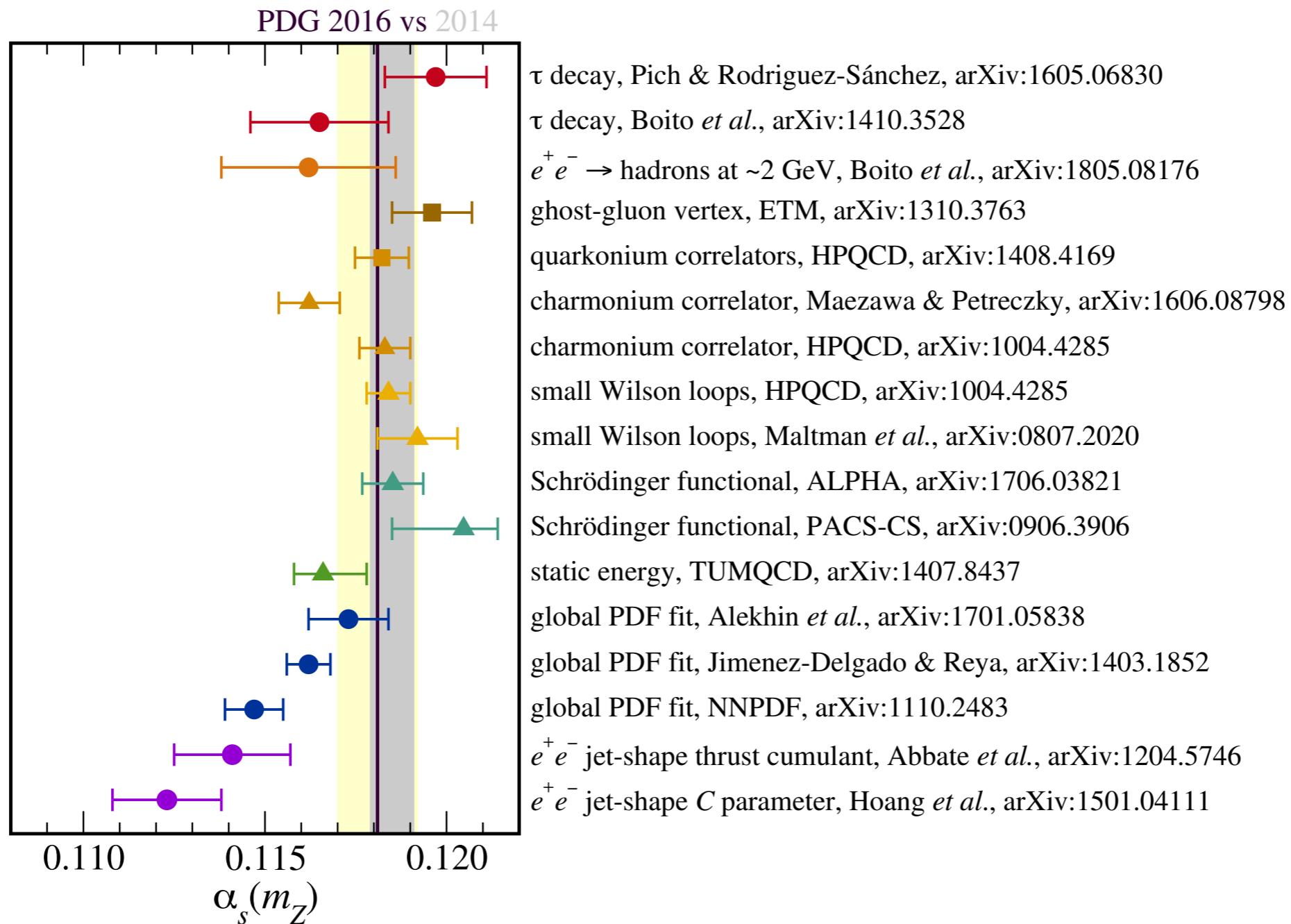
- You can't scatter quark off antiquarks and measure the cross section.
- Need definition, preferably regularization-independent, in QFT.
- Natural candidates stem from energy between static quark and static antiquark:
  - gauge invariant;
  - related to a scattering amplitude.
- Alas, ambiguous in coordinate space:  $V(r)$  has a renormalon (continuum) or linear UV divergence (lattice):
  - canceled by quark-antiquark self-energy.

# Lattice Comparisons

plots from Komijani, Petreczky, Weber [arXiv:2003.11703]



# Scattering, Decay, and Lattice Comparisons



# Outline

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- Introduction: precise results for all quarks but top.
- What's a quark mass?
- What does it mean that the quoted up-quark mass has a 2% uncertainty?  
Or what does “50 sigma from zero” say about the strong CP problem?
  - Requires discussion of renormalization:
    - most of which you know;
    - pay attention to additional additive effects lying beyond perturbation theory.

# What's a Quark Mass?

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- You can't put a quark on a scale and weigh it.
- Need definition, preferably regularization-independent, in QFT.
- Natural candidate is the “perturbative pole mass.” Alas, ambiguous:
  - physics— infrared gluons need to find a sink;
  - mathematics—obstruction to Borel summation of perturbative series;
  - numbers:  $m_{b,\text{pole}}/\bar{m}_b = (1, 1.093, 1.143, 1.183, 1.224)$ ,  
 $\bar{m}_h \equiv m_{h,\overline{\text{MS}}}(\bar{m}_h)$ ;
  - nonsense: pole mass makes little sense for a light quark,  $m_l$ , because the natural scale for self-energy contributions is  $m_l$  itself.

# Unambiguous Definitions

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- All come from quantum field theory:
  - bare mass of a cutoff Lagrangian, e.g., lattice gauge theory;
  - renormalized masses—
    - based on a simple physical observable, e.g., correlator moment, quarkonium mass as computed in perturbation theory, ...;
    - Ward identities;
    - regulator-independent via momentum-space subtraction;
    - computationally simple, e.g., (modified) minimal subtraction in dimensional regularization.

# Unambiguous Definitions

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- All come from quantum field theory:
  - bare mass of a cutoff Lagrangian, e.g., lattice gauge theory;
  - renormalized masses—
    - bare mass of a renormalized Lagrangian at a particular momentum, quark mass, etc.;  
**unambiguous but not unique**
    - Ward identities,
  - regulator-independent via momentum-space subtraction;
  - computationally simple, e.g., (modified) minimal subtraction in dimensional regularization.

# Quark Propagator

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- Consider quark propagator  $\text{FT}[q(x)\bar{q}(0)]$ .
- The quark field is a **3**, so have to choose a (covariant) gauge. Then,

$$\text{FT}[q(x)\bar{q}(0)] = \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_0 - \Sigma(p^2; m_0)}$$

$$\Sigma(p^2; m_0) = \not{p}A(p^2; m_0) - C(p^2; m_0)$$

where  $m_0$  is chosen to absorb UV divergences not compensated w/  $Z_q$ .

- The second term could have additive renormalization:

$$C(p^2; m_0) = m_0^* + (m_0 - m_0^*)B(p^2; m_0) + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}) + \mathcal{O}(m_d m_s / \Lambda_{\text{QCD}})$$

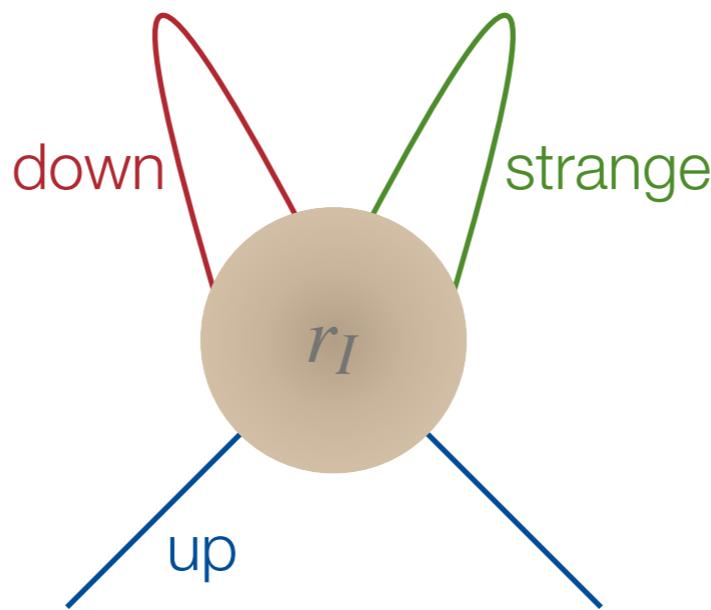
linear UV

condensates, renormalons

instantons

# Instantons?

- Here “instanton” is any gauge-field configuration with nonzero topological charge  $Q$ .



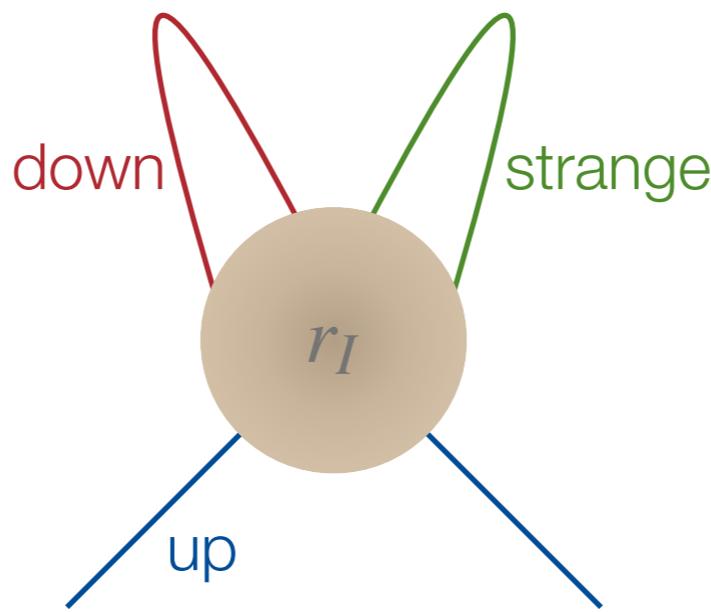
- Consider  $Q = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Zero mode: } (\text{Det} \times S_{\text{up}}) r_I e^{-S_I} &= \frac{(m_u + \lambda)(m_d + \lambda)(m_s + \lambda)}{(m_u + \lambda)} r_I e^{-S_I} \\ &= \frac{m_u m_d m_s}{m_u} r_I \exp \left[ -\frac{2\pi}{\alpha_s(1/r_I)} \right] \\ &\sim \frac{m_d m_s}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}} \quad \text{when } r_I \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim 1 \end{aligned}$$

Georgi, McArthur (1981)  
Choi, Kim, Sze  
Kaplan, Manohar  
Banks, Nir, Seiberg  
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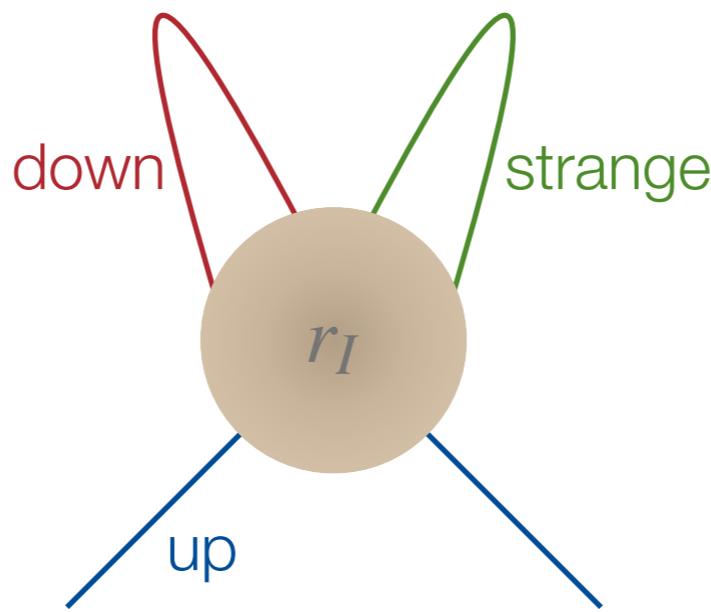
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2 MeV?

# Pole Mass

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- The pole mass is defined via

$$m_{\text{pole}} = \lim_{p^2 \rightarrow m_{\text{pole}}^2} \frac{m_0 - C(p^2; m_0)}{1 - A(p^2; m_0)}$$

- If we “knew”  $m_{\text{pole}}$ ,  $m_0$  would be chosen to absorb UV divergences and any additive terms.
- Perturbation theory with a chirally symmetric UV regulator:
  - $C(p^2; m_0) = m_0 B(p^2; m_0)$  and the “nonperturbative” terms are lost;
  - develop asymptotic expansion in  $\alpha_s$  for  $A$  &  $B$  and obtain  $m_{\text{pole}}$  order-by-order using iteration;
  - infrared finite & gauge independent at every order of perturbation theory.

# Pole Mass II

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- The natural scale for perturbation theory is of order  $m_{\text{pole}}$ :
  - fine for heavy quarks with  $m \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , modulo renormalons;
  - for light quarks with  $m \lesssim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , even the perturbative loops are long-distance contributions.
- Self energy could be calculated in lattice gauge theory (Landau gauge), establishing a curve on the  $(m_{\text{pole}}, m_0)$  plane, but with no prospect of converting  $m_{\text{pole}}$  to anything useful.
- Renormalization is not just supposed to make quantities UV finite:
  - to gain the full power of the renormalization group, one wants to separate long- and short-distance quantities.

# Mass-independent Renormalization

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- For light quarks, the conceptually (and computationally) cleanest schemes are mass independent.
- (Modified) minimal subtraction MS ( $\overline{\text{MS}}$ ) is the best known example; limited to dimensional regularization and, thus, perturbation theory.
- Regulator-independent momentum-subtraction:

$$m(\mu) = \frac{m_0 - C(-\mu^2; m_0)}{1 - A(-\mu^2; m_0)} \quad Z_q(\mu) = 1 - A(-\mu^2)$$

- Renormalized mass  $m(\mu)$  vanishes when the numerator vanishes, *i.e.*, at the self-consistent of  $m_0^*(\mu) = C(-\mu^2; m_0^*(\mu))$ .
- Additive contribution to  $C$  (at  $p^2 = -\mu^2$ ) is absorbed into  $m_0^*(\mu)$ !?

# Additive Corrections

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- With a large, space-like momentum routed through the quark, only short-distance contributions matter:
  - renormalons disappear;
  - instanton effects now of order  $m_d m_s \Lambda^{18} \mu^{-19}$ ;
  - but now the OPE tells us that condensates appear [Politzer, 1976; Pascual, de Rafael, 1982], e.g.,  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle / \mu^2 -$ 
    - because of gauge fixing, icky condensates like  $\langle A^2 \rangle$  can also arise.
- It makes more sense to omit these contributions from the renormalized mass: then a purely perturbative conversion to MS is well-defined.

# Mass Ratios

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- In particular, removing (i.e., fitting away) the condensates means

$$\frac{m_{Rb}(\mu_R)}{m_{Rc}(\mu_R)} = \frac{m_{\overline{\text{MS}}b}(\mu_{\overline{\text{MS}}})}{m_{\overline{\text{MS}}c}(\mu_{\overline{\text{MS}}})} = \frac{m_{0b}}{m_{0c}} + \mathcal{O}(a^2)$$

i.e., “mass independent” schemes.

- Last equality holds if the lattice fermions have some chiral symmetry (staggered, overlap)—
  - more work for other lattice fermions (Wilson, domain wall) needed.
  - The precise results use staggered fermions.
  - Perturbative conversion under best control for heavy quarks; use the ratios to get the up, down, and strange masses.

# Methods for Heavy Quarks

# RI/SMOM

[hep-lat/9411010](#), [arXiv:0712.1061](#), [arXiv:1306.3881](#), [arXiv:1805.06225](#)

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- Here, the bare charm mass is fixed to a meson mass.
- The renormalization constant is computed via  $Z_m Z_S = 1$ , renormalizing the scalar density in a scheme similar to that outlined above:
  - fit away (milder) condensates by varying  $\mu$ ;
  - extrapolating valence mass to zero to make  $Z_m$  mass independent;
  - convert to  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  with perturbation theory at  $\sim 5$  GeV.
- Adjust light bare masses to further meson masses (one-to-one).
- Use ratios of bare masses to obtain light  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  masses.

# Quarkonium Moments

[hep-lat/9505025](#), [arXiv:0805.2999](#), [arXiv:1408.4169](#), [arXiv:1901.06424](#)

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- Here, the bare charm (bottom) mass is fixed to a meson mass.
- A physical renormalized charm mass is defined via time moments of the Euclidean correlation function:
  - natural scale is  $2m_c$  ( $2m_b$ ), so perturbation theory should work;
  - fit away (mild) condensates by varying  $m_h$  in  $m_c < m_h < m_b$ ;
  - analyze moments with  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  perturbation theory at  $\sim 3\text{--}10 \text{ GeV}$ .
- Adjust light bare masses to further meson masses (one-to-one).
- Use ratios of bare masses to obtain light  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  masses.

# HQET $\oplus$ MRS

[arXiv:1701.00347](https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.00347), [arXiv:1712.04983](https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.04983), [arXiv:1802.04248](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.04248)

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- Here, the bare charm (bottom) mass is fixed to a heavy-light meson mass.
- The leading renormalon is removed from the pole mass, called minimal renormalon subtraction (MRS):

$$m_{\text{MRS}} \equiv \bar{m} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [r_n - R_n] \alpha_g^{n+1}(\bar{m}) \right) + \mathcal{J}_{\text{MRS}}(\bar{m})$$

- the  $r_n - R_n$  are very small;  $\mathcal{J}_{\text{MRS}}(\bar{m})$  is known exactly and can be computed via a convergent series in  $1/\alpha_s(\bar{m})$ .
- fit the binding energy away by varying  $m_h$  in  $m_c < m_h < m_b$ :

$$M = m_{\text{MRS}} + \bar{\Lambda} + \frac{\mu_\pi^2 - \mu_G^2(\bar{m})}{2m_{\text{MRS}}} + \dots$$

- Use ratios of bare masses to obtain light  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  masses.

# Summary, Outlook

# Summary

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- Precise bottom and charm masses are determined via three distinct methods with very different systematics:
  - heavy-quark scale makes a clean separation of short- and long-distance contributions possible (OPE, EFT);
  - nonperturbative short-distance contributions are fit away or tiny;
  - tests of reliability of conversion to  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ .
- Precise light masses are obtained from these via mass ratios that are the same in all mass-independent schemes.
- Precise results from MILC's 2+1+1 HISQ (or 2+1 asqtad) ensembles, *i.e.*, with staggered quarks.

# HISQ Ensembles: 2+1+1

MILC, [arXiv:1212.4768](https://arxiv.org/abs/1212.4768), [arXiv:1712.09262](https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.09262)

$a$ (fm)	size	$am_l'/am_s'/am_c'$	# confs	# sources	notes
$\approx 0.15$	$16^3 \times 48$	0.0130/0.065/0.838	1020	4	
$\approx 0.15$	$24^3 \times 48$	0.0064/0.064/0.828	1000	4	
$\approx 0.15$	$32^3 \times 48$	0.00235/0.0647/0.831	1000	4	physical
$\approx 0.12$	$24^3 \times 64$	0.0102/0.0509/0.635	1040	4	
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.00507/0.0507/0.628	1020	4	also $24^3, 40^3$
$\approx 0.12$	$48^3 \times 64$	0.00184/0.0507/0.628	999	4	physical
$\approx 0.12$	$24^3 \times 64$	0.0102/0.03054/0.635	1020	4	$m_s' < m_s$
$\approx 0.12$	$24^3 \times 64$	0.01275/0.01275/0.640	1020	4	$m_s' = m_l'$
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.00507/0.0304/0.628	1020	4	$m_s' < m_s$
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.00507/0.022815/0.628	1020	4	$m_s' < m_s$
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.00507/0.012675/0.628	1020	4	$m_s' \ll m_s$
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.00507/0.00507/0.628	1020	4	$m_s' = m_l'$
$\approx 0.12$	$32^3 \times 64$	0.0088725/0.022815/0.628	1020	4	$m_s' < m_s$
$\approx 0.09$	$32^3 \times 96$	0.0074/0.037/0.440	1005	4	
$\approx 0.09$	$48^3 \times 96$	0.00363/0.0363/0.430	999	4	
$\approx 0.09$	$64^3 \times 96$	0.0012/0.0363/0.432	484	4	physical
$\approx 0.06$	$48^3 \times 144$	0.0048/0.024/0.286	1016	4	
$\approx 0.06$	$64^3 \times 144$	0.0024/0.024/0.286	572	4	
$\approx 0.06$	$96^3 \times 192$	0.0008/0.022/0.260	842	6	physical
$\approx 0.042$	$64^3 \times 192$	0.00316/0.0158/0.188	1167	6	
$\approx 0.042$	$144^3 \times 288$	0.000569/0.01555/0.1827	429	6	physical
$\approx 0.03$	$96^3 \times 288$	0.00223/0.01115/0.1316	724	4	

# Remark

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- Idea that  $m_u = 2 \text{ MeV}$  could come from instantons seems implausible:
  - such contributions to the self energy enter into pole mass of light quarks, which is not portable;
  - thus, not what lattice QCD does;
  - in RI/(S)MOM scheme this contribution is clearly tiny;
  - similarly for the bare lattice mass, which probably somehow includes effects for  $r_I$  in  $(250 \text{ GeV})^{-1} \ll r_I < a$ ;
  - starting from heavy-quark masses, large instantons are not probed.
- Hence,  $m_u = 2 \text{ MeV}$  stems from Yukawa coupling at 250 GeV.