

*Hadronic light-by-light scattering contribution  
to muon anomalous magnetic moment revisited*

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Loopfest III , April 2004

## Outline

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- Status of the muon anomalous magnetic moment
- Hadronic light-by-light scattering contribution:
  - The problem
  - Matching hadronic models to the OPE
  - Pseudoscalar contributions
  - Anatomy of the charged pion contribution
- Conclusions

## Current status

- Results from E821 at BNL are self-consistent:

$$a_{\mu^+} = 116592030(80) \times 10^{-11}$$

$$a_{\mu^-} = 116592140(80)(30) \times 10^{-11}$$

- Current theoretical prediction

$$a_{\mu}^{\text{th}} = \begin{cases} 116591810(80) \times 10^{-11} & e^+e^- \text{ data} \\ 116591960(70) \times 10^{-11} & \tau \text{ data} \end{cases}$$

- Experiment vs. theory:  $70 - 330 \times 10^{-11}$  ( $0 - 3 \sigma$ ).
- The **best understood** contributions: QED, EW.
- Contributions, understood **“in principle”**: hadronic vacuum polarization.
- The **least understood** contribution: hadronic light-by-light.

## Hadronic light-by-light: problem

- The physics of hadronic light-by-light scattering is non-perturbative. *Ab initio* calculations are not possible.
- Numerically small, comparable to the current precision on  $a_\mu$ ; but might be a real bottleneck in the long run.
- Problem: we are uncertain if the physics we put into the calculation is right or if something is missing. No data to compare.
- How to get a reasonable central value and a solid estimate of the theoretical uncertainty?
- Recent results:
  1. Knecht and Nyffeler:  $a_\mu^{\text{lbl}} = 80(40) \times 10^{-11}$ ;
  2. Hayakawa and Kinoshita:  $a_\mu^{\text{lbl}} = 90(15) \times 10^{-11}$ ;
  3. Bijmns, Pallante, Prades  $a_\mu^{\text{lbl}} = 83(32) \times 10^{-11}$ ;
- So is the problem solved?

## Hadronic light-by-light: problem

- A striking feature of existing calculations is that the interplay between the short- and the long-distance contributions to  $a_\mu$  is **not discussed**.

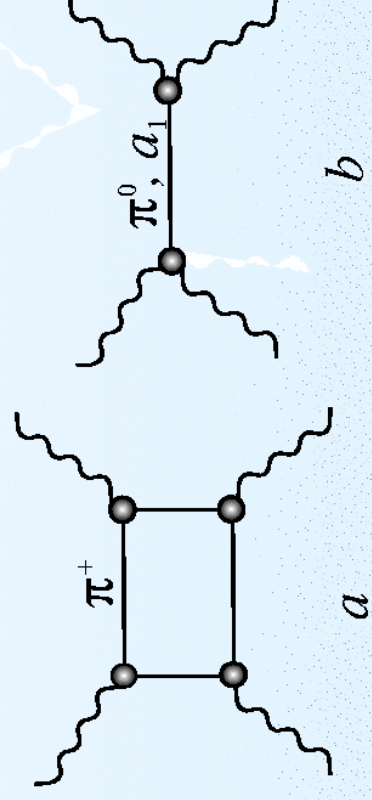
- This seems to be relevant:

$$a_\mu^{\pi^0} \approx 50 \times 10^{-11}, \quad a_\mu^{\text{quark}} \approx 50 \times 10^{-11} \quad (m_q = 300 \text{ MeV}).$$

- Theoretical parameters:

$$m_\mu \sim m_\pi \ll 4\pi f_\pi \sim 1 \text{ GeV}, \quad N_c = 3 \approx \infty.$$

- The  $\pi^\pm$  contribution, **formally chirally enhanced**, is small.
- $N_c$ -enhanced  $\pi_0$  exchange is the largest.

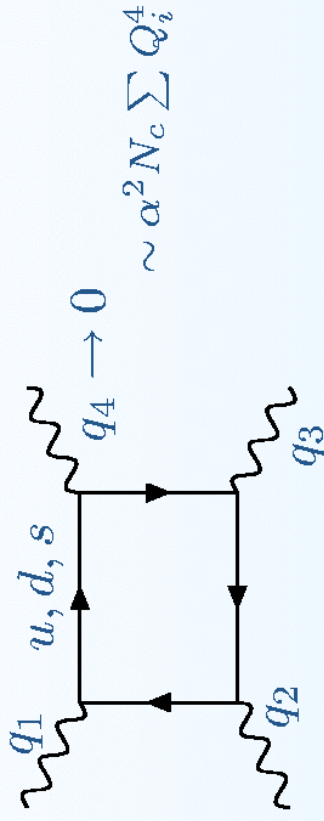


## Hadronic light-by-light: matching hadronic models...

- In the large- $N_c$  limit, QCD is described by an infinite sum of narrow resonances, in any channel, for any observable.
- Leading pQCD contribution to hadronic light-by-light scattering is the quark box diagram, **leading in  $N_c$** .
- Give up on infinite number of resonances; try to match pQCD amplitudes and the large- $N_c$  hadronic amplitudes with **small number of resonances**.
- **Selection criterion:** Acceptable low-energy hadronic models for  $\gamma^*\gamma^*$  scattering must extrapolate to pQCD amplitudes for  $q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$ .
- So we are going to:
  1. compute  $\gamma^*\gamma^*$  scattering through the quark loop in pQCD;
  2. construct the low-energy model, with resonance exchanges, e.g.  $\pi_0, \eta, \eta', \sigma, a_1, f_1, f_1^*$ , etc.;
  3. adjust the model in such a way, that for photons with large virtualities, the pQCD result for each isospin-parity channel is reproduced at a reasonable level.

## Hadronic light-by-light: $\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow \gamma^* \gamma$

- LBL scattering through the quark loop is  $N_c$ -enhanced.

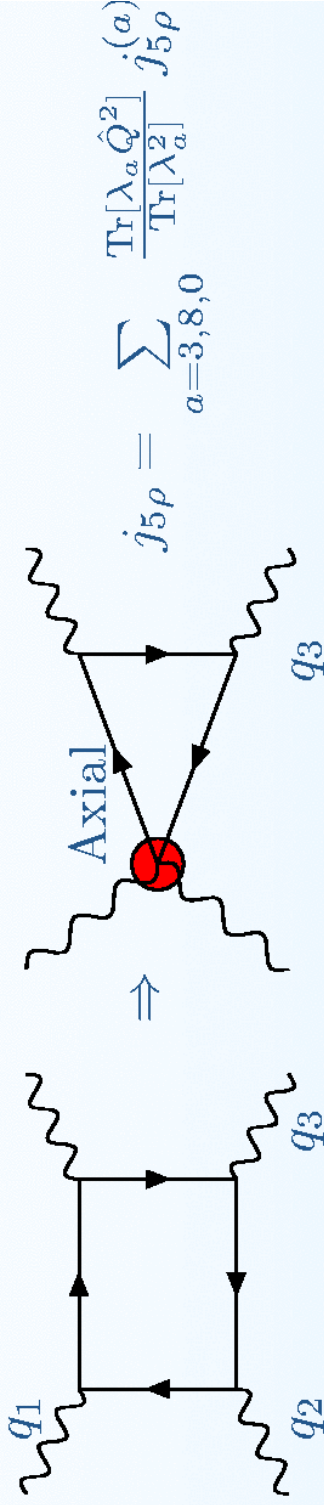


$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} &= \alpha^2 N_c \text{Tr} [\hat{Q}^4] \mathcal{A} = \alpha^2 N_c \text{Tr} [\hat{Q}^4] \mathcal{A}_{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \gamma \delta} \epsilon_1^{\mu_1} \epsilon_2^{\mu_2} \epsilon_3^{\mu_3} f \gamma^\delta \\ &= -e^3 \int d^4 x d^4 y e^{-i q_1 x - i q_2 y} \epsilon_1^{\mu_1} \epsilon_2^{\mu_2} \epsilon_3^{\mu_3} \langle 0 | T \{ j_{\mu_1}(x) j_{\mu_2}(y) j_{\mu_3}(0) \} | \gamma \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

- $q_1 + q_2 + q_3 = 0$ . Choose  $q_i^2$  as three independent variables.
- Complicated function of  $q_i^2$ ; 19 gauge-invariant structures, 7 form factors.
- Two distinct kinematic regimes:  $q_i^2 \ll q_j^2 \ll q_k^2$  and  $q_i^2 \sim q_j^2 \sim q_k^2$ .
- The first one gives an easy connection to “hadronic world”.

# Hadronic light-by-light: the OPE

- Consider  $q_1 \sim q_2 \gg q_3$ .



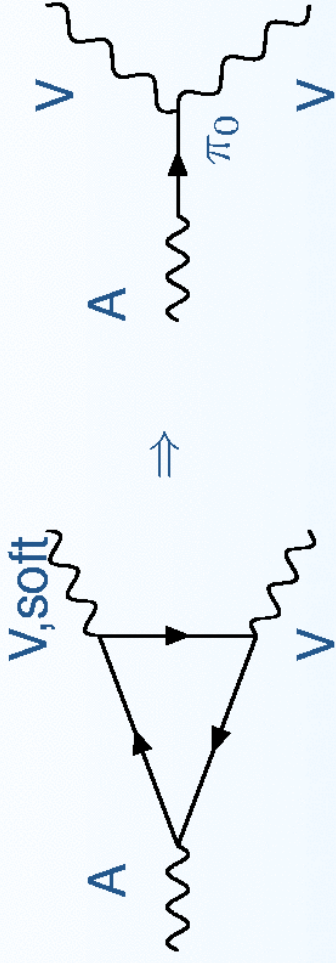
$$i \int d^4x d^4y e^{-iq_1x - iq_2y} T \{ j_{\mu_1}(x), j_{\mu_2}(y) \} = \int d^4z e^{-i(q_1+q_2)z} \frac{2i}{\hat{q}^2} \epsilon_{\mu_1\mu_2\delta\rho} \hat{q}^\delta j_5^\rho(z) + \dots$$

- The remaining calculation of the light-by-light scattering amplitude involves the **triangle VVA diagram with soft vector current**

$$T_{\mu_3\rho}^{(a)} = i \langle 0 | \int d^4z e^{iq_3z} T \{ j_{5\rho}^{(a)}(z) j_{\mu_3}(0) \} | \gamma \rangle.$$



## Hadronic light-by-light: the OPE



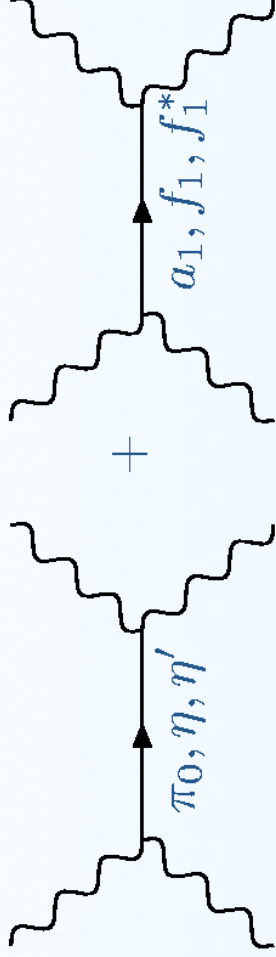
- $T_{\mu_3\rho}^{(a)}$  is expressed through longitudinal and transverse structure functions:

$$T_{\mu_3\rho}^{(a)} = -\frac{ie N_c \text{Tr} [\lambda_a \hat{Q}^2]}{4\pi^2} \left\{ w_L^{(a)}(q_3^2) q_{3\rho} q_3^\sigma \tilde{f}_{\sigma\mu_3} + w_T^{(a)}(q_3^2) (-q_3^2 \tilde{f}_{\mu_3\rho} + q_{3\mu_3} q_3^\sigma \tilde{f}_{\sigma\rho} - q_{3\rho} q_3^\sigma \tilde{f}_{\sigma\mu_3}) \right\}$$

- For massless quarks:  $w_L^{(a)}(q^2) = 2w_T^{(a)}(q^2) = -\frac{2}{q^2}$ .
- $w_L(q^2)$  for non-singlet axial current can be continued to  $q^2 \leq \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$  without modifications if no explicit chiral symmetry breaking is present.
- **Direct connection to  $\pi_0$  and  $\eta$  from pQCD domain.**

## Hadronic light-by-light: The model

- For large  $q^2$ , acceptable hadronic model should match the OPE prediction for the light-by-light scattering amplitude.



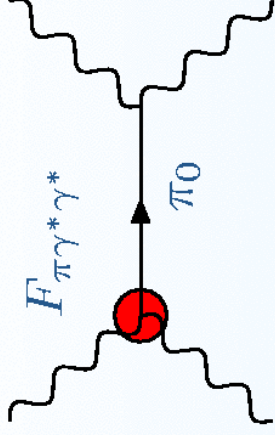
$$A = \mathcal{A}_{PS} + \mathcal{A}_{PV} + \text{permutations}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{PS} = \sum_{\alpha=3,8,0} W^{(\alpha)} \phi_L^{(\alpha)}(q_1^2, q_2^2) w_L^{(\alpha)}(q_3^2) \{f_2 \tilde{f}_1\} \{\tilde{f} f_3\}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{PV} = \sum_{\alpha=3,8,0} W^{(\alpha)} \phi_T^{(\alpha)}(q_1^2, q_2^2) w_T^{(\alpha)}(q_3^2) \left( \{q_2 f_2 \tilde{f}_1 \tilde{f} f_3 q_3\} + \{q_1 f_1 \tilde{f}_2 \tilde{f} f_3 q_3\} + \frac{q_1^2 + q_2^2}{4} \{f_2 \tilde{f}_1\} \right)$$

- Pseudoscalar and pseudovector exchanges are included, to conform with the limit from the OPE. **No scalars and vectors.**

## Hadronic light-by-light: pseudoscalar exchanges



- The  $\pi_0$  exchange is the cleanest example.

$$w_L^{(3)}(q^2) = \frac{2}{q^2 + m_\pi^2}, \quad \phi_L^{(3)}(0,0) = \frac{N_c}{4\pi^2 F_\pi^2},$$

$$A_{\pi_0} = -\frac{N_c W^{(3)}}{2\pi^2 F_\pi^2} \frac{F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(q_1^2, q_2^2)}{q_3^2 + m_\pi^2} \{f_2 \tilde{f}_1\} + \text{permutations}$$

- Comparing  $\mathcal{A}_{\pi_0}$  to  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{OPE}}$  we derive **correct asymptotics for the pion form factor**

$$\lim_{q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2} F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(q^2, q^2) = \frac{8\pi^2 F_\pi^2}{N_c q^2}.$$

## Hadronic light-by-light: pseudoscalar exchanges

- The pion exchange **asymptotically saturates** the OPE light-by-light scattering amplitude in the isotriplet pseudoscalar channel.
- **Form factor for  $\pi_0 \gamma^* \gamma_{\text{soft}}$  vertex is absent. This ensures the correct asymptotic behavior of the light-by-light scattering amplitude at large  $q^2$ .**
- Parameterization of the pion form factor, consistent with OPE constraints:

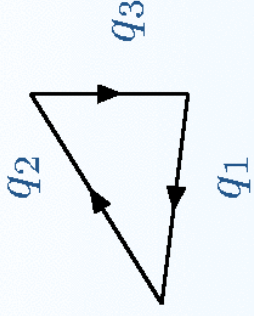
$$F_{\pi \gamma^* \gamma^*}(q_1^2, q_2^2) = \frac{4\pi^2 F_\pi^2}{N_c} \frac{q_1^2 q_2^2 (q_1^2 + q_2^2) - h_2 q_1^2 q_2^2 + h_5 (q_1^2 + q_2^2) + (N_c M_1^4 M_2^4 / 4\pi^2 F_\pi^2)}{(q_1^2 + M_1^2)(q_1^2 + M_2^2)(q_2^2 + M_1^2)(q_2^2 + M_2^2)}$$

- $h_2 \approx -10 \text{ GeV}^2$  instead of  $0 \text{ GeV}^2$ ; from  $\mathcal{O}(q^{-4})$  asymptotics of the pion form factor.
- The result: **the pion pole contribution increases**

$$58 \times 10^{-11} \rightarrow 76.5 \times 10^{-11}, \quad (30\% \text{ increase})$$
- Similar situation occurs for  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  (mixing etc.):

$$\delta a_\mu^\eta = \delta a_\mu^{\eta'} = 18 \times 10^{-11}.$$

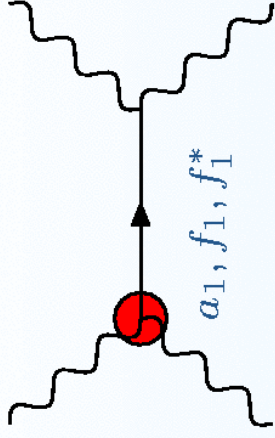
## Hadronic light-by-light: check of the model



- Matching has been performed for “degenerate” triangle:  $q_1 \sim q_2 \gg q_3$ .
- Non-degenerate triangle: take  $q_1 = q_2^2 = q_3^2 = q^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$  and compare with the honest pQCD result – agreement to 30 percent.
- Other problems with the model, like incorrect scaling w.r.t.  $q_{1,2}$  in certain channels can be fixed; changes small.
- Bottom line: **the major effect comes from correct asymptotic behavior:**

$$\frac{1}{q^2} \text{ compared to } \frac{1}{q^4}.$$

## Hadronic light-by-light: pseudovector contribution



$$\sim \phi(q_1, q_2) w_T(q_3)$$

$$m_{a_1} = 1260 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{f_1} = 1285 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{f_1^*} = 1420 \text{ MeV}$$

- For form factors  $\phi(q_1, q_2)$  we use:

$$\phi(q_1, q_2) = -\frac{4}{(q_1^2 + m^2)(q_2^2 + m^2)}, \quad m = m_{\rho, \omega, \phi}$$

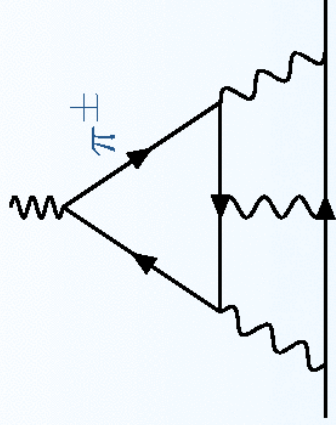
- For spectral densities:  $w_T^{(3)} = \frac{1}{m_{a_1}^2 - m_\rho^2} \left( \frac{m_{a_1}^2 - m_\pi^2}{q^2 + m_\rho^2} - \frac{m_\rho^2 - m_\pi^2}{q^2 + m_{a_1}^2} \right)$ .

- Unclear how to assign isospin numbers to  $f_1, f_1^*$ . But:

$$a_\mu^{\text{PV}} = (5.7 + 15.6 + 0.8) \times 10^{-11} = 22 \times 10^{-11}, \quad (f_1^* \sim s\bar{s})$$

$$a_\mu^{\text{PV}} = (5.7 + 1.9 + 9.7) \times 10^{-11} = 17 \times 10^{-11}. \quad (f_1^* \sim u\bar{u} + d\bar{d} + s\bar{s})$$

## Hadronic light-by-light: anatomy of $\pi^\pm$ box



**Chirally enhanced**

$$\delta a_{\mu}^{\pi^\pm} \sim \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^3 \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_\pi^2} \sim 200 - 700 \times 10^{-11}$$

- But, rather small numerically ( $\sim -50 \times 10^{-11}$ ) in reality and **changes strongly** when large masses (e.g.  $M_\rho$ ) are introduced:
- $$\delta a_{\mu}^{\pi^\pm} = -(4.5 - 19) \times 10^{-11}$$
- Can the diagram converge at larger values of momenta than the pion mass?
  - Check by explicitly constructing an expansion using  $m_\pi \sim m_\mu \ll M_\rho$ .

## Hadronic light-by-light: anatomy of $\pi^\pm$ box

- The result for  $(m_\mu = m_\pi)$

$$a_{\mu}^{\pi} \approx (-69 + 54 + 18 - 8 - 1 + \dots) \times 10^{-11}.$$

- Ansatz:

$$a_{\mu}^{\pi}(m_{\pi} = m_{\mu}) \approx \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^3 \frac{m_{\pi}^2}{\mu^2} \left( c_1 + c_2 \frac{\mu^2}{M_{\rho}^2} + c_3 \frac{\mu^4}{M_{\rho}^4} + \dots \right).$$

- Set  $c_1 = 1$ , determine  $\mu$  and determine  $c_{i>1}$ . If of order unity, then self-consistent.

$$\mu = 4.25 m_{\pi} \sim 500 \text{ MeV} \sim M_{\rho},$$

$$c_1 = 1, \quad c_2 \approx 1.3, \quad c_3 \approx 0.75, \quad c_4 \approx -0.6.$$

- Conclusion:  $\pi^\pm$  contribution is **not chirally enhanced**; just “one of many”  $\mathcal{O}(N_c^{(0)})$  contributions.



## Hadronic light-by-light: conclusions

- Our result for the light-by-light:
 
$$a_{\mu}^{\text{lbl}} = 136(25) \times 10^{-11} \quad \sim 50\% \text{ increase.}$$
- Given the error bars, no **numerical** inconsistency with previous results.
- Better matching between short- and long- distance degrees of freedom.
- Consistency check: fair agreement with  $\pi_0$  + massive quark model.
- **The increase in the central value is “real”**, since it comes from the well-identified effect.
- **No decrease in the uncertainty.** The uncertainty quoted above is subjective.
- Moves the SM result ( $e^+e^-$  data) closer to experimental value:

$$a_{\mu}^{\mu^-} - a_{\mu}^{\text{th}} = 270(113) \times 10^{-11},$$

$$a_{\mu}^{\mu^+} - a_{\mu}^{\text{th}} = 160(113) \times 10^{-11}.$$

With the  $\tau$  data, there is no discrepancy at all.