Quantum Computing for Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering

Towards Early Fault-Tolerant Implementations of Nuclear EFTs



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Quantum Computing

- Avenue to overcoming computational limitations in Particle Physics
- Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum era: limited system sizes, very prone to errors
- On the path towards Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computing: lower error rates, prevention of cascading errors

Error Correction

Need to address depolarization, dephasing, gate errors



What HEP applications can we look forward to in the early Fault-Tolerant era?

Neutrino Physics

- We're addressing challenges in Neutrino simulations, motivated by :
 - reliance on Event Generators for relating experimentally observed final states and underlying kinematics
 - increased simulation precision required as upcoming large experiments begin operation (Hyper-Kamiokande, DUNE, JUNO)

Neutrino Event Generation

- Simulations need to span wide energy ranges (perturbative, non-perturbative, regions described by different models)
- To increase interaction likelihood, neutrino experiments utilize nuclei, introducing the need to model nuclear physics effects
- Several complex mechanisms at play, e.g. hadronization
- Underlying theoretical models have several limitations, requiring MC builders to construct empirical models and make important approximations
- Sparse data for MC validation and tuning, leading to outputs with large flux uncertainties, often in conflict with each other

Neutrino-Nucleus Interaction

- Nucleon interactions and dynamics can be represented approximately using Nuclear EFTs
 - *Pionless*: Strong interactions mediated by pion exchanges are not included explicitly. Short range interactions
 - One-Pion-Exchange: Long range interactions, truncated as rapidly decaying
 - Dynamical-Pion: Explicit inclusion of bosonic pion field





arXiv:2312.05344

Quantum Simulation

- *Fermionic encoding:* mapping fermionic creation-annihilation operators into qubit operators
- State preparation: The choice of initial state will affect the performance and runtime of many algorithms. We need to implement efficient procedures to construct, for example, energy ground states
- *Time evolution* in accordance with our theory
- Obtaining observables

Algorithmic choices in all steps of the simulation are key to achieving quantum advantage

Our goal is to produce a complete approach to the implementation of Nuclear EFTs in early Fault Tolerant Quantum Computers, with a focus on understanding the costs (gate counts and qubit counts) required to obtain useful and accurate results, as well as scalability

Current work

- Application of initial state preparation techniques suited for the early Fault Tolerant era, for pionless EFT
 - Initial guess using Hartree-Fock method to get good overlap with ground state
 - LT algorithm (Lin and Tong, 2022): strategic sampling to construct Cumulative Distribution Function for Hamiltonian spectra
- Estimating costs for state preparation procedure for example nuclei
- Evaluation of theory implementation choices (e.g. first-quantized vs second-quantized approaches)

Future perspectives

- Gauging time-evolution costs and precision trade-offs
- Considering strategies for obtaining observable measurements, weighing algorithmic constraints and physical interest
- Application of implemented algorithms to more sophisticated Nuclear EFTs