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# Pseudo scalar contributions to light-by-light correction of muon g - 2 in AdS/QCD

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#### ARTICLE INFO

#### ABSTRACT

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We have performed a holographic calculation of the hadronic contributions to the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon, using the gauge/gravity duality. As a gravity dual model of QCD with three light flavors, we study a  $U(3)_L \times U(3)_R$  flavor gauge theory in the five-dimensional AdS background with a hard-wall cutoff. The anomalous (electromagnetic) form factors for the pseudo scalars,  $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ , are obtained from the 5D Chern–Simons term of the gravity dual, which correctly reproduce the asymptotic behavior of the form factor, dictated by QCD. We find the total light-by-light contributions of pseudo scalars to the muon anomalous magnetic moment,  $a_{\mu}^{PS} = 10.7 \times 10^{-10}$ , which is consistent with previous estimates, based on other approaches.

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## 1. Introduction

One of most stringent tests of the standard model (SM) is provided by the measurement of the muon anomalous magnetic moment,  $a_{\mu}$ , whose current precision is better than parts per million (ppm). Recent measurement of the (g - 2) value of the muon [1], performed at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL),

$$a_{\mu} = 11659208.0(5.4)(3.3) \times 10^{-10},\tag{1}$$

deviates by 2.2–2.7 $\sigma$  above the current SM estimate, based on  $e^+e^-$  hadronic cross sections. An improved muon (g-2) experiment has been proposed to achieve a precision of 0.1 ppm [2]. The discrepancy between the SM estimate and the experimental value, if persists, might hint a new physics beyond the standard model.

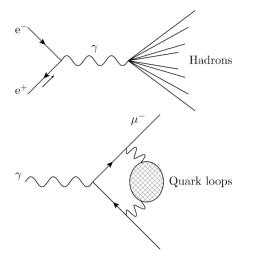
While the electroweak corrections can be calculated very precisely [3], most uncertainties in the SM estimate of (g - 2) are coming from the hadronic corrections, which are essentially nonperturbative. The strong interaction contributions to the lepton magnetic moment consist of three pieces, the hadronic vacuum polarization, the higher-order hadronic vacuum-polarization effect, and the hadronic light-by-light (LBL) scattering. The contribution of the hadronic vacuum polarization is the leading  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$  correction of strong interactions to  $a_{\mu}$  and has been recently calculated in lattice [4], but its present uncertainty is about 10 times larger than that of the current experiment. Fortunately, however, one can bypass the calculation of the hadronic-leading-order (HLO) correction [5] and use the experimental result of  $e^+e^- \rightarrow$  (hadrons) (Fig. 1), which is related to the hadronic vacuum polarization by the unitarity and analyticity of the diagrams. The higher-order hadronic vacuum polarization effect can be calculated quite accurately, once the hadronic vacuum polarization is obtained. It is found to be  $\delta a_{\mu} = -101(6) \times 10^{-11}$  [6]. Finally the hadronic light-by-light scattering correction (Fig. 2) is the next-to-leading  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^3)$  effect, but it is expected to be sizable to the current experimental accuracy,  $6.3 \times 10^{-10}$ . It is therefore absolutely needed to estimate its effect accurately to assess the SM deviation of the muon (g - 2).

There have been several attempts to estimate the hadronic light-by-light scattering corrections, based on hadronic models or large  $N_c$  approximations [7,8]. For last two decades much improvement has been made in the LBL calculations despite a sign confusion [9]. Currently the positive sign is widely quoted for the pion-pole or pion-exchange contributions to the hadronic LBL correction [10,11], which is dominant in the large  $N_c$  limit. Recently, however, a mistake related to the momentum conservation, which has not been considered seriously before, has been pointed out [12] in the treatment of the  $\pi^0 \gamma^* \gamma^*$  form factor and is corrected properly [13].

The loop calculation of the LBL correction is logarithmically divergent in a hadronic model, where a constant vertex is used instead of full three-point form factors. This implies that the LBL correction is sensitive to the choice of the regulator or the cutoff  $\Lambda$  when we compare the model calculations with the data. In a model where the vector meson dominance (VMD) is adapted, however, the mass of vector meson naturally regulates the ultraviolet (UV) divergences. Among some models that regularize the hadronic uncertainty, the most popular ones are the meson domi-

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**Fig. 1.** HLO correction (bottom) essentially involves a dressed propagator of the photon, which is related to the process (top) of annihilation into hadrons by unitarity and analyticity.

inance models like the VMD, the lowest meson dominance (LMD) and the LMD+V and so on, which fit among others the coefficient of OCD axial anomaly for the low energy on-shell photon [14–16].

In this work we study the hadronic LBL contributions in holographic models of QCD, which naturally incorporate the vector meson dominance. Holographic models have been proposed recently for QCD [17,18], inspired by the gauge/gravity duality, found in the string theory [19].

Several physical quantities of mesons and baryons such as their masses, couplings, and decay constants are calculated in holographic models of QCD and found to be in a good agreement with the experimental data [17,18,20,21]. Encouraged by the success of holographic QCD, we attempt to calculate the hadronic LBL contributions to the muon (g - 2). We consider in particular a hard-wall model of AdS/QCD, defined in a slice of five-dimensional anti-de Sitter (AdS) space-time, but our calculation can be easily applied to other holographic models of QCD.

#### 2. AdS/QCD and light-by-light scattering

Solving QCD is very difficult, partly because at low energy hadrons, rather than quarks and gluons, are relevant degrees of freedom. Holographic QCD is to describe QCD directly with hadrons but in higher dimensions, prescribed by the gauge/gravity duality. The extra dimension is related to the energy scale of QCD, the boundary theory. In the gauge/gravity duality, the global symmetries associated with conserved currents of the boundary gauge theory become the gauge symmetries in the bulk, while the gaugeinvariant boundary operators are mapped to bulk fields.

For a holographic model of QCD with three light flavors (up, down, and strange quarks) we consider a 5D  $U(3)_L \times U(3)_R$  gauge theory in a slice of 5D AdS space–time, whose metric is given as, taking the AdS radius R = 1,

$$ds^{2} = \frac{1}{z^{2}} \left( dx^{\mu} dx_{\mu} - dz^{2} \right), \quad \epsilon \leqslant z \leqslant z_{m},$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

where the ultraviolet (UV) regulator  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  and an infrared (IR) brane is introduced at  $z_m$  to implement the confinement of QCD [18]. The model, known as AdS/QCD, is described by an action

$$S = \int d^5 x \sqrt{g} \operatorname{Tr} \left\{ |DX|^2 + 3|X|^2 - \frac{1}{4g_5^2} (F_L^2 + F_R^2) \right\} + S_Y + S_{\text{CS}},$$
(3)

where *F* is the field strength tensor of bulk gauge fields, *A*, dual of the QCD flavor currents, and the 5D gauge coupling,  $g_5^2 = 12\pi^2/N_c$  ( $N_c$  is the number of colors). The bulk scalar *X*, which is bi-fundamental under the gauge group, is dual to the chiral-symmetry-breaking order parameter,  $\bar{q}_L q_R$  at the boundary, and its 5D mass,  $m^2 = \Delta(\Delta - 4)$ , is related to the scaling dimension ( $\Delta = 3$ ) of the boundary dual operator. The covariant derivative is defined by  $D_M X = \partial_M X - iA_{LM} X + iXA_{RM}$ , where  $A_{L(R)}$  denotes the U(3)<sub>*L*(*R*)</sub> gauge fields. To correctly reproduce QCD flavor anomalies, one has to introduce a Chern–Simons term [22],<sup>1</sup> given as

$$S_{\rm CS} = \frac{N_c}{24\pi^2} \int \left[ \omega_5(A_L) - \omega_5(A_R) \right],$$
 (4)

where  $d\omega_5(A) = \text{Tr } F^3$ . Finally, for the anomalous  $U(1)_A$  we introduce the bulk singlet *Y*, dual to  $G^2_{\mu\nu}$  ( $G\tilde{G}$ ) of gluon fields [24], described by

$$S_{Y} = \int d^{5}x \sqrt{g} \left[ \frac{1}{2} |DY|^{2} - \frac{\kappa}{2} \left( Y^{N_{f}} \det(X) + \text{h.c.} \right) \right],$$
(5)

where the singlet *Y* has no mass term, since it is the dual of dimension 4 operators, and  $\kappa$  is a parameter to be fixed to give a correct mixing between  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ . The bulk fields *A*, *X* and *Y*, that we introduced, are related to towers of (axial) vector mesons [18] and (pseudo) scalar mesons [25], respectively, upon Kaluza–Klein reduction. There are also higher-dimensional operators like  $F^4$  or  $F^2|X|^2$  in the bulk action, but they are suppressed at low energy. (One could also introduce additional bulk fields to describe higher-spin states, but they are irrelevant to our discussion.)

According to the gauge/gravity duality, the classical bulk action becomes the generating functional for the one-particle irreducible (1PI) functions of the boundary gauge theory, once the source is identified as the bulk fields at the UV boundary. Therefore the hadronic LBL diagram, which is a four-point correlation function of the electromagnetic currents of quarks, can be easily calculated in holographic models of QCD, following the gauge/gravity correspondence. Since the quartic coupling for the bulk vectorial  $U(1)_{Q_{em}}$  gauge fields,  $V_{Q_{em}}$  ( $Q_{em} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{1} + I_3$ ), dual to the electromagnetic current of quarks, are absent in the bulk action (3), there are no 1PI four-point correlators for the electromagnetic currents. Therefore in AdS/QCD, where  $F^4$  terms are suppressed, the LBL diagram is just given as a sum of 1PI three-point functions, connected by intermediate states (Fig. 2). The 1PI three-point functions consist of three different types; the vector-vector-scalar correlators, the vector-vector-pseudo scalar correlators, and the vector-vectoraxial vector correlators. Among them the vector-vector-scalar correlators are suppressed since they come from the higher-order terms like  $F^2|X|^2$ , while the vector-vector-pseudo scalar (axial vector) correlators are not suppressed as they are given by the bulk Chern–Simons (CS) term, Eq. (4).

Once the LBL diagram is calculated, it is straightforward to evaluate the LBL corrections to the muon (g - 2). Our calculation is similar to that of Nyffeler [13] (see also [15]), where the pion contribution to the LBL correction was calculated most consistently. The only difference is that the full off-shell anomalous form-factors for pseudo scalars are derived from AdS/QCD rather than constructed to satisfy the QCD constraints. As we will see later, our

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Chern–Simons term is gauge-invariant up to a total divergent term. Its gauge-variation therefore gives a UV term, corresponding to the QCD flavor anomaly, and also an IR term [23]. Since the IR term corresponds to gauge anomaly, one should add a (non-local) counter term at the IR brane or bulk fermions as in [20] to cancel the gauge anomaly. However, such additional terms do not affect our calculations.

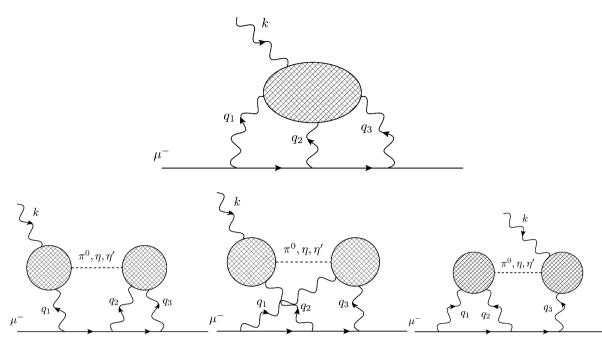


Fig. 2. Light-by-light correction (top) is supposed to be dominated by the diagrams, mediated by the pseudo scalar mesons (bottom).

form-factor derived from AdS/QCD does satisfy the asymptotic behavior for large and equal space-like photon momenta, obtained from perturbative QCD (pQCD), and also other asymptotic behavior derived from the operator-product expansion (OPE).

#### 3. $\pi^0$ , $\eta$ and $\eta'$ form factor calculation in AdS/QCD

We consider the anomalous pion form-factor first. Since the pions are decoupled from the strangeness flavor, we need to consider up and down flavors only, assuming equal mass. The vacuum solution of the bulk scalar field X is then written as  $\langle X \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(m_q z + \sigma z^3)\mathbf{1}_{2\times 2}$ , where  $m_q$  and  $\sigma$  correspond to the current quark mass and  $\langle \bar{q}_L q_R \rangle$ , respectively. To analyze the correlation functions, we introduce the vector and axial-vector gauge fields  $V = (A_L + A_R)/2$  and  $A = (A_L - A_R)/2$  and write  $X = \langle X \rangle \exp(2i\pi^{\hat{a}}t^{\hat{a}})$ , where  $\hat{a} = S$  denotes the abelian part, while  $\hat{a} = a$  (= 1, 2, 3) are the SU(2) indices. (The generators  $t^S = \mathbf{1}_{2\times 2}/2$  and  $t^a = \sigma^a/2$ ,  $\sigma^a$  denoting Pauli matrices.) Since the abelian component  $\pi^S$  is a part of  $\eta$ , it will be neglected for the discussion of the pion form-factor.

In the axial gauge,  $V_5 = 0 = A_5$ , the equations of motion for the transversal gauge fields are given as

$$\left[\partial_z \left(\frac{1}{z} \partial_z V^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q, z)\right) + \frac{q^2}{z} V^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q, z)\right]_{\perp} = 0, \tag{6}$$

$$\left[\partial_{z}\left(\frac{1}{z}\partial_{z}A_{\mu}^{\hat{a}}\right) + \frac{q^{2}}{z}A_{\mu}^{\hat{a}} - \frac{g_{5}^{2}v^{2}}{z^{3}}A_{\mu}^{\hat{a}}\right]_{\perp} = 0,$$
(7)

where  $v(z) = m_q z + \sigma z^3$  and  $V^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q, z) = V^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q)V(q, z)$  and  $A^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q, z) = A^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}(q)A(q, z)$  are the 4D Fourier-transform of vector and axial vector gauge fields, respectively. The normalizable solutions to Eqs. (6) and (7) will correspond to the vector and axial vector mesons, respectively, satisfying the boundary conditions  $V(q, \epsilon) = \partial_z V(q, z)|_{z_m} = 0$  (same for the axial vectors). The boundary conditions for the source fields (the non-normalizable modes) are on the other hand given as  $V(q, \epsilon) = 1$  and  $\partial_z V(q, z)|_{z_m} = 0$  and same for A(q, z). The pion fields come from both  $\pi^a$  and the longitudinal components of the axial gauge fields,  $A^a_{\mu\parallel} = \partial_{\mu}\phi^a$ , which are related by equations of motion as, subjecting to boundary conditions  $\phi^a(q, \epsilon) = \partial_z \phi^a(q, z)|_{z_m} = 0 = \pi^a(q, \epsilon)$ ,

$$\partial_z \left(\frac{1}{z} \partial_z \phi^a\right) + \frac{g_5^2 v^2}{z^3} \left(\pi^a - \phi^a\right) = 0, \tag{8}$$

$$-q^{2}\partial_{z}\phi^{a} + \frac{g_{5}^{2}v^{2}}{z^{2}}\partial_{z}\pi^{a} = 0.$$
 (9)

We can easily read off the anomalous pion form-factor from the gravity dual, by taking the functional derivation of the bulk Chern–Simons action, Eq. (4), with the source field at the UV boundary,  $V_{Q_{\rm em}}(q, \epsilon)$ . For arbitrary external photon momenta  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ , the pion momentum being  $Q_1 + Q_2$ , the form factor is found to be

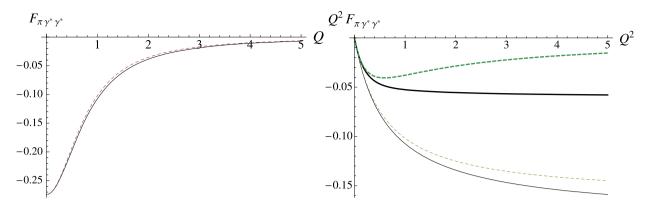
$$F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = \frac{N_c}{12\pi^2} \bigg[ \psi(z_m) J(Q_1, z_m) J(Q_2, z_m) \\ - \int dz \,\partial_z \psi(z) J(Q_1, z) J(Q_2, z) \bigg],$$
(10)

where  $\psi(z)$ , the wavefunction difference between  $\phi^a$  and  $\pi^a$ , is the wavefunction of non-normalizable pion mode with boundary conditions,  $\psi(\epsilon) = 1$  and  $\partial_z \psi(z)|_{z_m} = 0$  and J(Q, z) is the Wickrotated expression of the solution V(q, z) defined below Eq. (7). The anomalous pion form-factor is shown in Fig. 3 for various kinematic regions. As argued in [26], we find the pion form factor in AdS/QCD is in good agreement with the Brodsky–Lepage behavior, as shown in Fig. 3, and also with the asymptotic behavior of pQCD for large space-like momenta of two photon legs, shown in the right panel of Fig. 3. We also note that our pion form-factor gives approximately the same magnetic susceptibility of quark condensate, obtained by OPE [27].

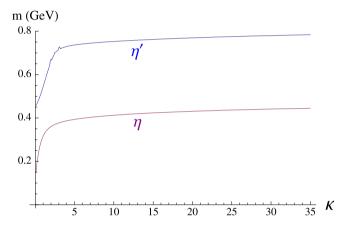
To calculate the anomalous form-factors for  $\eta$ ,  $\eta'$ , we need to consider the three-flavor case  $(N_f = 3)$  and introduce the term, needed for the U(1)<sub>A</sub> anomaly, included in the bulk action of flavor-singlet *Y* field,  $S_Y$ , as  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  have mixing. The bulk gauge fields are now generalized to U(3)<sub>L</sub> × U(3)<sub>R</sub> and  $\langle X \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(Mz + \Sigma z^3)$  with

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m_q & 0 & 0\\ 0 & m_q & 0\\ 0 & 0 & m_s \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma = \sigma \times \mathbf{1}_{3 \times 3}, \tag{11}$$

satisfying similar equations to Eqs. (6) and (7) except that now v(z)/2 is replaced by the three-flavor vacuum solution  $\langle X \rangle$ .



**Fig. 3.** The anomalous pion form-factors  $F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, 0)$  from AdS/QCD (solid) and VMD model (dashed) are presented in the left panel. The right panel displays both  $F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, 0)$  (lower two) and  $F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, Q)$  (upper two) for both models. Notice that  $F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, Q)$  grows as  $\sim 1/Q^2$  asymptotically.



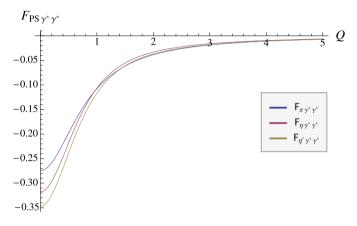
**Fig. 4.** The set of  $(m, \kappa)$  which gives the canonical four-dimensional kinetic term of the  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  fields. Several masses are found for each  $\kappa$  as a tower of the bound state of  $I^G(J^{PC}) = 0^+(0^{-+})$ , but only ground states are shown here.

By solving the equations of motion for the pseudo scalars in the axial gauge, which are the phase fluctuations of bulk scalars, X and Y, and the longitudinal components of the axial gauge fields, the wavefunctions of  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ , that give the canonical kinetic terms for  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ , can be found for an appropriate choice of  $(m_{\eta}, \kappa)$  (Fig. 4) [24]. Once the correct wavefunctions are found, not only the amplitude for  $\eta, \eta' \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$  processes, but the whole momentum structure of the form factors can be surveyed through the same method used above to deduce the anomalous pion formfactor. Namely, the form factors are given similarly to Eq. (10) except that the non-normalizable pion wavefunction  $\psi(z)$  is replaced by those non-normalizable wavefunctions of  $\eta$ ,  $\eta'$  with different overall coefficients. As shown in Fig. 5, their profiles are quite similar to those of pions. (Note also the anomalous form factors are correctly normalized to be consistent with the QCD anomalies.) Combining all these, we can now calculate the pseudo scalar contributions to the LBL corrections for the muon (g - 2), following the recent work by Jegerlehner and Nyffeler [8].

## 4. Results and discussion

Numerical calculations in Table 1 has been performed with *Mathematica* 6.0, using the adaptive Monte Carlo scheme. To utilize the method used in Refs. [8,13] for our calculation of meson exchange contributions, we have decomposed the source field of the vector gauge fields as follows [28]:

$$J(-iQ, z) = V(q, z) = \sum_{\rho} \frac{-g_5 f_{\rho} \psi_{\rho}(z)}{q^2 - m_{\rho}^2 + i\epsilon},$$
(12)



**Fig. 5.** Pseudo scalar form factors  $F_{PS\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, 0)$  from the AdS/QCD are plotted. *Q* is a Euclidean momentum. Note that for Q = 0 their offset values are well matched to the experiments [29].

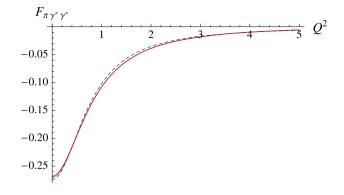
Table 1

Muon g - 2 results from the AdS/QCD. ( $10^{-10}$  factor should be multiplied to each number for  $a_{\mu}$ .)

Vector modes	$a_{\mu}^{\pi^{0}}$	$a_{\mu}^{\eta}$	$a_{\mu}^{\eta'}$	$a_{\mu}^{ m PS}$
4	7.5	2.1	1.0	10.6
6	7.1	2.5	0.9	10.5
8	6.9	2.7	1.1	10.7

where  $\psi_{\rho}(z)$  are the normalizable modes, corresponding to the (excited) rho mesons, with the boundary condition  $\psi_{\rho}(\epsilon) = 0$  and  $\partial_z \psi_{\rho}(z)|_{z_m} = 0$  and  $f_{\rho}$  are their decay constants. Similarly we have expanded the bulk axial gauge fields A(q, z) for U(3) in terms of normalizable modes, which contain  $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\eta'$  and  $a_1(1230)$ , and towers of excited axial vector mesons. For our calculations we have set the parameters by  $z_m = 1/0.323$ ,  $m_q = 0.00222$ ,  $m_s = 0.04$ ,  $\sigma = 0.333^3$  and  $\kappa = 35$  where the energy scale is in GeV units. We truncate for each photon-line the number of vector mesons in Eq. (12) up to 4, 6, and 8 for our calculations. Beyond 8th modes, the form factor changes very little, as shown in Fig. 6. We have shown our results in Table 1, which are close to the recently revised value,  $a_{\mu}^{\rm PS} = 9.9 \times 10^{-10}$  in the LMD+V model by Nyffeler [13], which correctly took into account of momentum conservation.

To conclude, we have calculated the pseudo scalar contributions to the LBL corrections to the muon (g - 2) in an AdS/QCD model with three light flavors. Our holographic estimate gives results consistent with the recent estimate [13], based LMD+V model. Our



**Fig. 6.** Decomposing the source terms of vector gauge fields into the normalizable modes affects  $F_{\pi\gamma^*\gamma^*}(Q, 0)$  very little. The form-factor from VMD curve is dashed; yellow curve for 20 modes, blue for 60, and red for 150, respectively. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

approach has a few parameters, which are highly constrained by low energy data of QCD, and is based on a principle, known as gauge/gravity duality, which is conjectured to hold in the large  $N_c$  and large 't Hooft coupling ( $\lambda$ ) limit. Our result is therefore subject to  $1/N_c$  and  $1/\lambda$  corrections, which are believed to be at most 30%.

The holographic models of QCD generically show that the LBL diagram is given by a sum of 1Pl three-point functions, connected by intermediate states of pseudo scalars and axial vectors. For the LBL corrections, we have considered light pseudo scalars ( $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$ , and  $\eta'$ ) only, since the axial vector meson,  $a_1(1230)$ , and its excited states are expected to be less important than light pseudo scalars. (A related work is in progress.) Finally we have calculated the full off-shell anomalous form-factors of light pseudo scalars and found that they show the correct asymptotic behavior at large photon virtuality, given by pQCD.

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