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QED Corrections to Hadronic Processes in Lattice QCD

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We review the method proposed in [1] to compute electromagnetic effects in hadronic processes, such as decays, using lattice simulations. The method can be applied, for example, to the leptonic and semileptonic decays of light or heavy pseudoscalar mesons. For these quantities the presence of infrared divergences in intermediate stages of the calculation makes the procedure much more complicated than is the case for the hadronic spectrum, for which calculations already exist. In order to compute the physical widths, diagrams with virtual photons must be combined with those corresponding to the emission of real photons. Only in this way do the infrared divergences cancel as rst understood by Bloch and Nordsieck in 1937. We present a detailed analysis of the method for the leptonic decays of a pseudoscalar meson and also review the status of exploratory numerical studies.

[1] N. Carrasco, V. Lubicz, G. Martinelli, C. T. Sachrajda, N. Tantalo, C. Tarantino and M. Testa, "QED Corrections to Hadronic Processes in Lattice QCD," Phys. Rev. D 91 (2015) 7, 074506 [arXiv:1502.00257 [hep-lat]].

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