

NANJING  
UNIVERSITY



Mauricio N. Ferreira

Non-perturbative methods and their application to high energy physics

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – USTC, Hefei, China

Grants 12135007  
and W2433021



国家自然科学基金委员会  
National Natural Science  
Foundation of China



*Emergent gluon mass:  
Foundations and lattice signals*

# Dynamical mass generation in QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi}_f^i (i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m_f)_{ij} \psi_f^j + \frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial^\mu A_\mu^a)^2 - \bar{c}^a \partial^\mu D_\mu^{ab} c^b$$

- At the level of the Lagrangian:
  - **Gluons** are massless;
  - **Quarks** have **current masses**, but **far smaller than the hadrons they constitute**
- Vast majority of the observable mass is **generated by the nonperturbative QCD dynamics**.
- Perturbation theory cannot generate mass at any finite order
- To study **dynamical mass generation**, we look at the behavior of the nonperturbative QCD Schwinger functions (propagators and vertices):

M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, *Particles* **6**, no.1, 312-363 (2023).  
M. Ding, C. D. Roberts and S. M. Schmidt, *Particles* **6**, 57-120 (2023).  
J. Papavassiliou, *Chin. Phys. C* **46**, no.11, 112001 (2022).

Mass generation leaves **distinctive signals in the infrared** momentum region of the Schwinger functions.

# Gluon propagator and its mass gap

Gluon self-interaction can dynamically generate a mass gap.

J. M. Cornwall, Phys. Rev. D26, 1453 (1982).

Lattice QCD: The Landau gauge gluon propagator saturates at the origin.

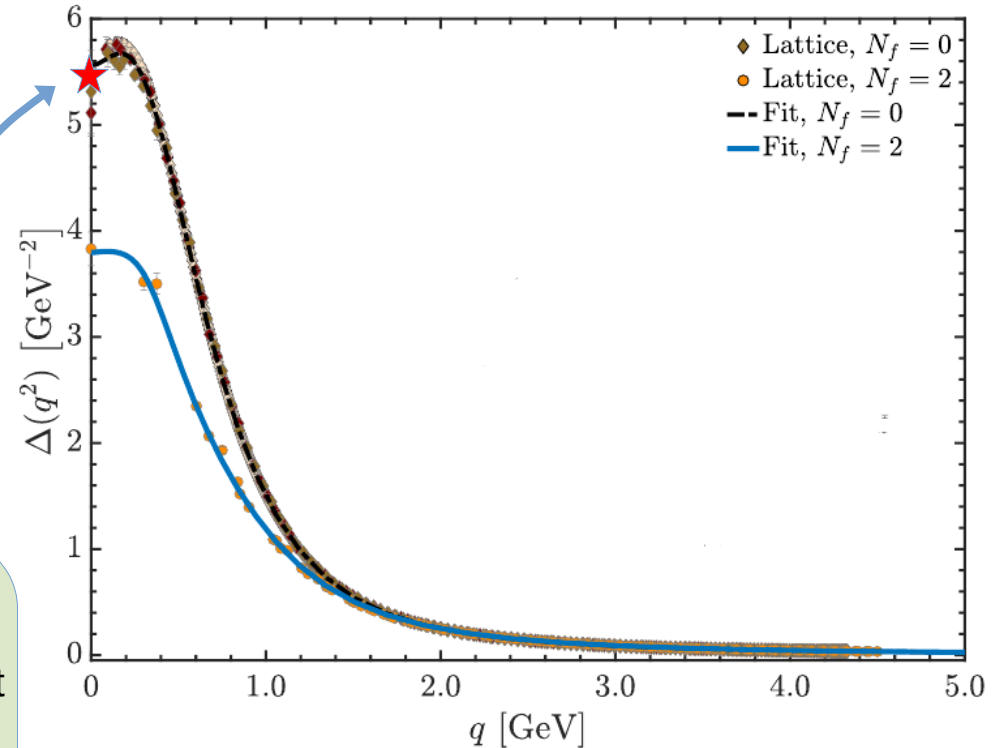
A. Cucchieri and T. Mendes, PoS LATTICE2007, 297 (2007).

I. L. Bogolubsky, et al, Phys. Lett. B 676, 69-73 (2009).

O. Oliveira and P. J. Silva, Phys. Rev. D 86, 114513 (2012).

A. C. Aguilar, C. O. Ambrósio, F. De Soto, M. N. F., B. M. Oliveira, J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D 104, no.5, 054028 (2021).

- **Unequivocal signal of gluon mass scale generation.**
- **Eliminates many infrared divergences** that are present at the perturbative level;
- Makes QCD a well-defined theory in the infrared;
- One of the pillars of Emergent Hadron Mass.



M. Ding, C. D. Roberts and S. M. Schmidt, Particles 6, 57-120 (2023).  
J. Papavassiliou, Chin. Phys. C 46, no.11, 112001 (2022).  
C. D. Roberts, Symmetry 12, no.9, 1468 (2020).  
M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Particles 6, no.1, 312-363 (2023).

# Gluon propagator and its mass gap

Gluon self-interaction can dynamically generate a mass gap.

J. M. Cornwall, Phys. Rev. D26, 1453 (1982).

Lattice QCD: The Landau gauge gluon propagator saturates at the origin.

A. Cucchieri and T. Mendes, PoS LATTICE2007, 297 (2007).

I. L. Bogolubsky, et al, Phys. Lett. B 676, 69-73 (2009).

O. Oliveira and P. J. Silva, Phys. Rev. D 86, 114513 (2012).

A. C. Aguilar, C. O. Ambrósio, F. De Soto, M. N. F., B. M. Oliveira, J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D 104, no.5, 054028 (2021).

- Seen with or without quarks

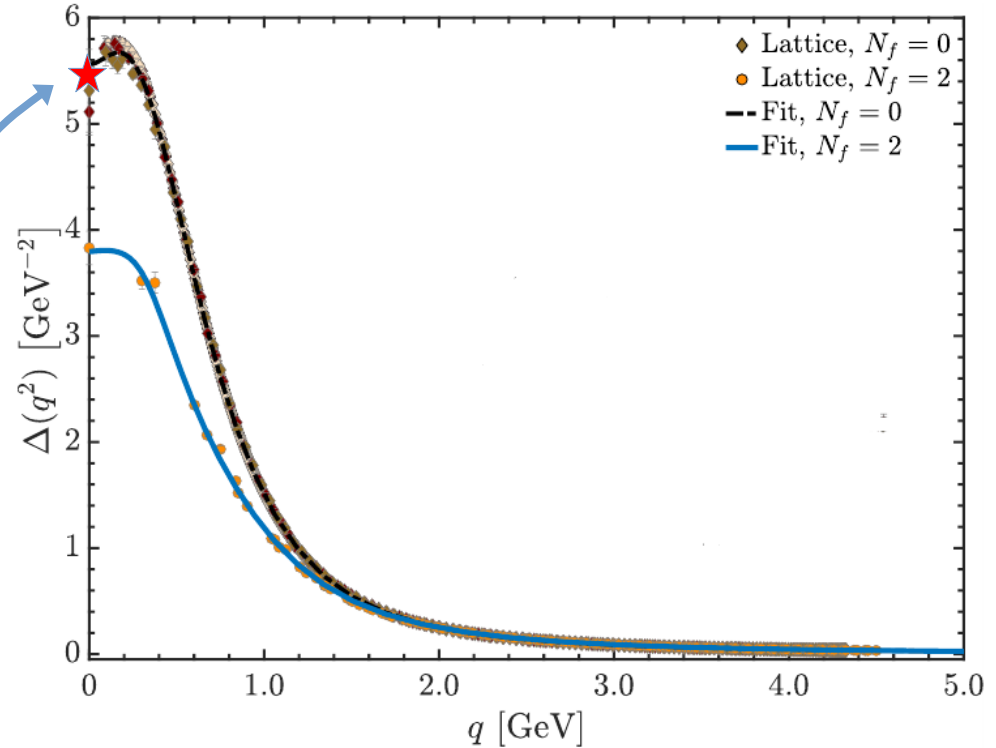
A. Ayala, A. Bashir, D. Binosi, M. Cristoforetti and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D 86, 074512 (2012).

D. Binosi, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D 95, no.11, 114009 (2017).

A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, J. Rodríguez-Quintero and S. Zafeiropoulos, Eur. Phys. J. C 80, no.2, 154 (2020).

Gluon mass generation mechanism must be driven by gauge sector dynamics: truly, mass from nothing

We can focus on pure Yang-Mills theory



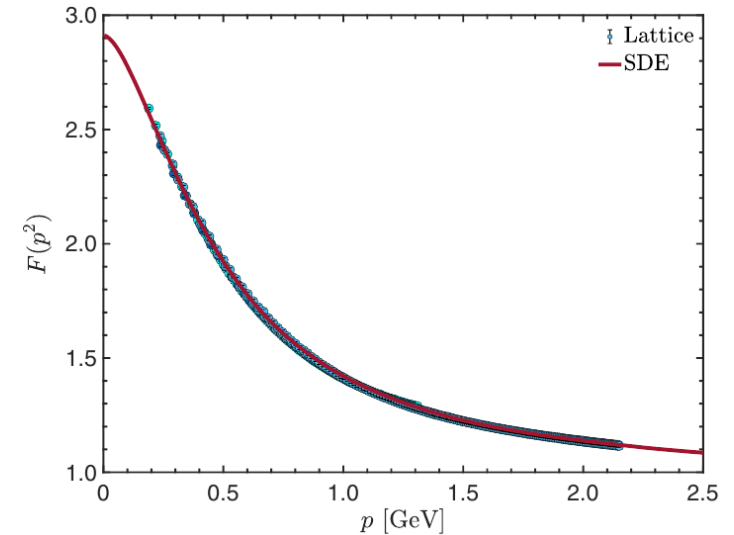
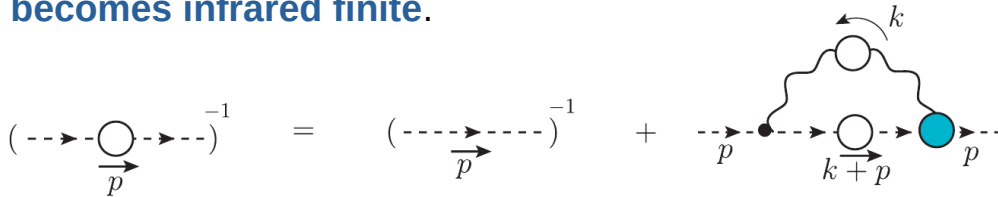
# Implications: Infrared finite ghost dressing function

The generation of a gluon mass gap leaves distinctive imprints in other Schwinger functions. For example:

- The **ghost propagator**,  $D(q^2)$ , **remains massless**.
- But its **dressing function**,  $F(q^2)$ , given by

$$D(q^2) = \frac{iF(q^2)}{q^2}$$

becomes infrared finite.



A. Cucchieri and T. Mendes, PoS **LATTICE2007**, 297 (2007).

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **78**, 025010 (2008).

P. Boucaud, J. P. Leroy, A. Le Yaouanc, J. Micheli, O. Pene and J. Rodriguez-Quintero, JHEP **06**, 099 (2008).

I. L. Bogolubsky, E. M. Ilgenfritz, M. Muller-Preussker and A. Sternbeck, Phys. Lett. B **676**, 69-73 (2009).

A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 054005 (2016).

M. Q. Huber, Phys. Rept. **879**, 1-92 (2020).

A. C. Aguilar, C. O. Ambrosio, F. De Soto, M. N. F., B. M. Oliveira, J. Papavassiliou, J. Rodriguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D **104** no.5, 054028, (2021).

# Implications: No Landau pole in QCD

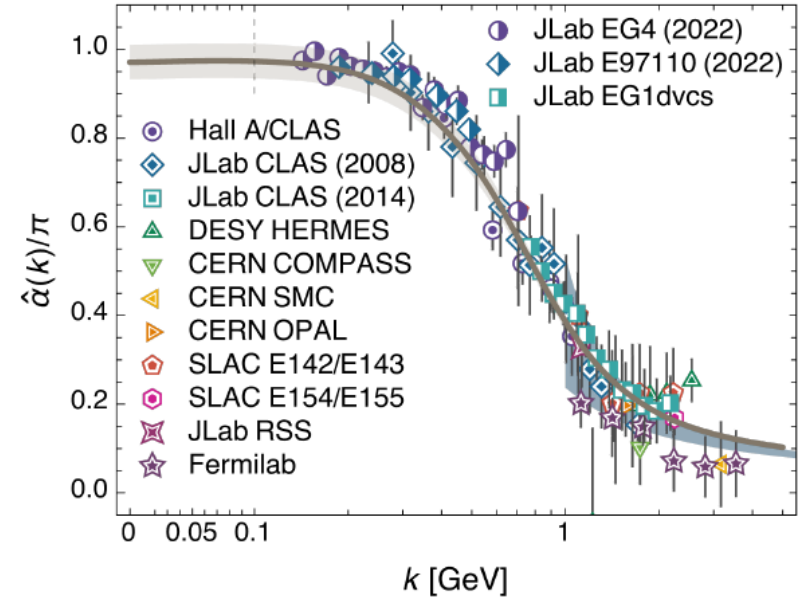
Together, the infrared finiteness of  $\Delta(q^2)$  and  $F(q^2)$  imply that:

- There is **no Landau pole in QCD**;
- QCD is a well-defined theory in the infrared.
- Leads to the construction of a **Renormalization Group Invariant** and **Process Independent effective charge**,  $\hat{\alpha}(q^2)$ , analogous to the Gell-Mann Low charge of QED.

D. Binosi, C. Mezrag, J. Papavassiliou, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D **96**, no.5, 054026 (2017).  
Z. F. Cui, et al, Chin. Phys. C **44**, no.8, 083102 (2020).

- $\hat{\alpha}(q^2)$  is a key ingredient in various studies of the hadron structure.

M. Ding, C. D. Roberts and S. M. Schmidt, Particles **6**, 57-120 (2023).

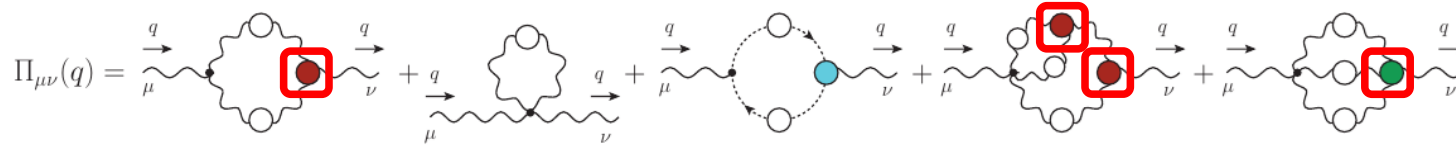




# Implications: effects on the gluonic vertices

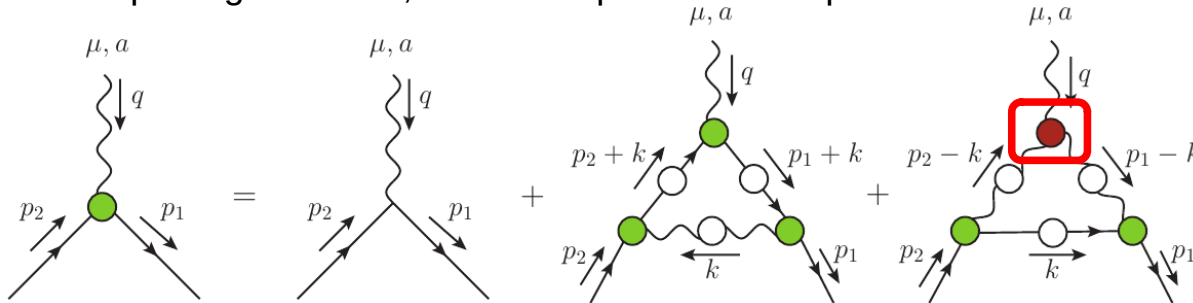
The generation of a gluon mass gap also has important implications for the **three- and four-gluon vertices**. These:

1) **Appear as ingredients in DSEs**, such as the gluon propagator. Necessary for a self consistent treatment.



2) **Important phenomenologically:**

- Affect the quark-gluon vertex, a key ingredient in Chiral Symmetry Breaking. Indeed, the three-gluon vertex appears in the quark-gluon DSE, where its quantitative impact must be taken into account:

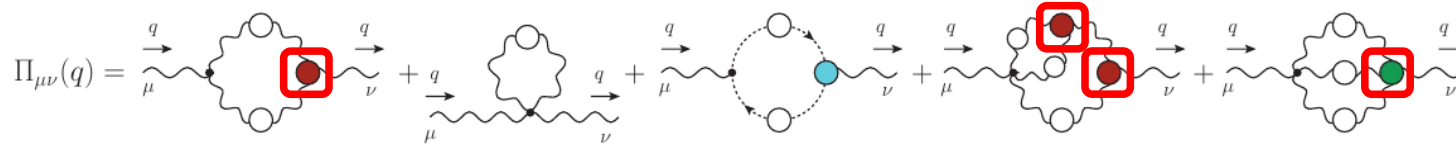


A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., G. T. Linares, B. M. Oliveira and J. Papavassiliou, arXiv:2408.15370.  
 F. Gao, J. Papavassiliou and J. M. Pawłowski, Phys. Rev. D 103, no.9, 094013 (2021).  
 A. K. Cyrol, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski and N. Strodthoff, Phys. Rev. D 97, no.5, 054006 (2018).  
 A. L. Blum, R. Alkofer, M. Q. Huber and A. Windisch, EPJ Web Conf. 137, 03001 (2017).

# Implications: effects on the gluonic vertices

The generation of a gluon mass gap also has important implications for the **three- and four-gluon vertices**. These:

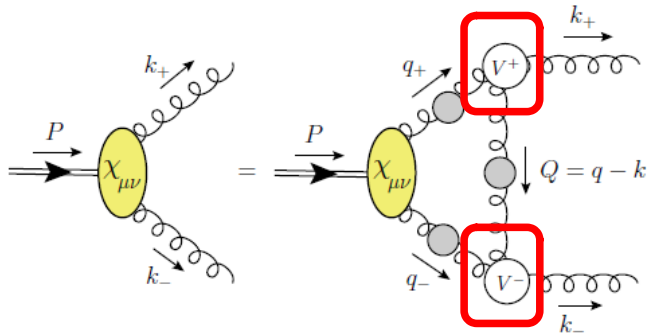
1) **Appear as ingredients in DSEs**, such as the gluon propagator. Necessary for a self consistent treatment.



2) **Important phenomenologically:**

- Also, key ingredients for continuum studies of glueballs and hybrids.

Example, the  $0^+$  glueball Bethe-Salpeter equation:



J. Meyers and E. S. Swanson, Phys. Rev. D **87**, no.3, 036009 (2013).

S. S. Xu, Z. F. Cui, L. Chang, J. Papavassiliou, C. D. Roberts and H. S. Zong, Eur. Phys. J. A **55**, no.7, 113 (2019).

E. V. Souza, M. N. F., A. C. Aguilar, J. Papavassiliou, C. D. Roberts, S.-S. Xu, Eur. Phys. J. A **56**, no.1, 25 (2020).

M. Q. Huber, C. S. Fischer and H. Sanchis-Alepuz, Eur. Phys. J. C **80**, no.11, 1077 (2020).

J. M. Pawłowski, C. S. Schneider, J. Turnwald, J. M. Urban and N. Wink, Phys. Rev. D **108**, no.7, 076018 (2023).



# Implications: effects on the gluonic vertices

The generation of a gluon mass gap also has important implications for the **three- and four-gluon vertices**.

The study of these vertices has been difficult in the past due to:

- 1) Complicated tensor structures;
- 2) Depend on many variables;
- 3) Need for high statistics (in the case of lattice studies).

In recent years, continuum and lattice studies have overcome these issues, delivering a clear picture of the gauge sector in Landau gauge.

# Transversely projected three- and four-gluon vertices

We focus on the **Landau gauge**, where, due to the transversality of the gluon propagator,

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}(q) = P_{\mu\nu}(q)\Delta(q),$$

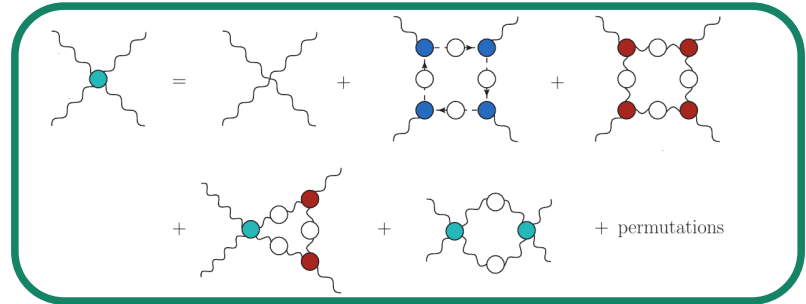
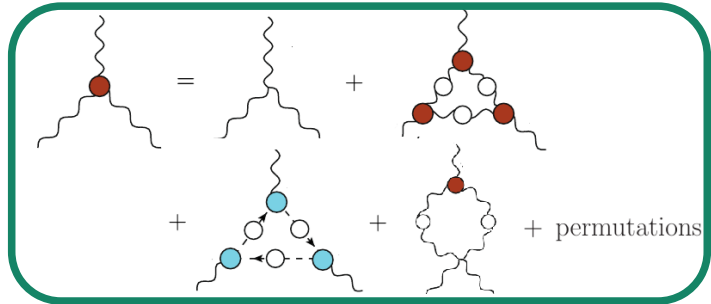
$$P_{\mu\nu}(q) = g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2},$$

most quantities depend only on the transversely projected vertices,

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) := P_\alpha^{\alpha'}(q)P_\mu^{\mu'}(r)P_\nu^{\nu'}(p)\Gamma_{\alpha'\mu'\nu'}(q, p, r)$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu\rho}^{abcd}(q, r, p, u) := P_\alpha^{\alpha'}(q)P_\mu^{\mu'}(r)P_\nu^{\nu'}(p)P_\rho^{\rho'}(u)\Gamma_{\alpha'\mu'\nu'\rho'}^{abcd}(q, p, r, u)$$

- This already **provides some simplification of the tensor structures.**
- Later we will see that **longitudinal tensor structures are important for the gluon mass gap.**
- Then, we compute the transverse three- and four-gluon vertices, through lattice as well as DSEs.



# Transversely projected three- and four-gluon vertices

1) Complicated tensor structures;

Solution: Classical form factor is completely dominant.

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}^0(q, r, p)\Gamma_1(q, r, p)$$

G. Eichmann, R. Williams, R. Alkofer, M. Vujanovic, Phys. Rev. D **89**, 105014 (2014).

R. Williams, C. S. Fischer, and W. Heupel, Phys. Rev. D **93**, no. 3, 034026 (2016).

A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **818**, 136352 (2021).

2) Depend on many variables;

Solution: **Planar degeneracy**, form factors are accurately approximated as functions of a single Bose-symmetric variable,

$$\Gamma_1(q, r, p) \approx L_{sg}(s) \quad s^2 = (q^2 + r^2 + p^2)/2$$

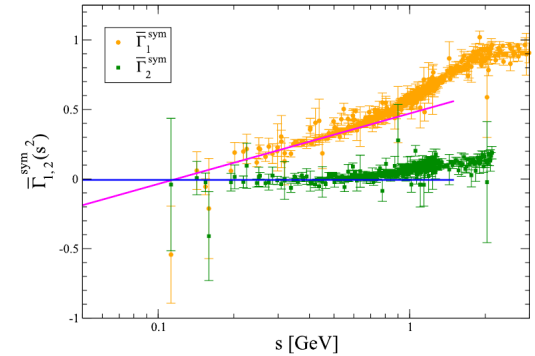
G. Eichmann, R. Williams, R. Alkofer, M. Vujanovic, Phys. Rev. D **89**, 105014 (2014).

F. Pinto-Gómez, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **838**, 137737 (2023).

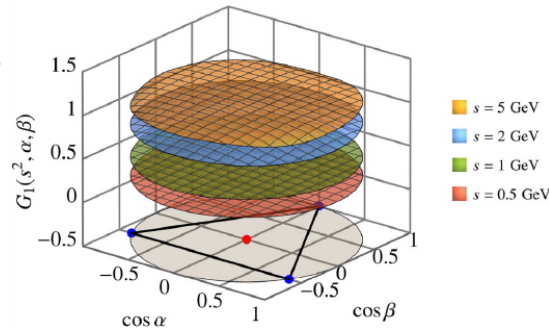
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and L. R. Santos, Eur. Phys. J. C **83**, no.6, 549 (2023).

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and L. R. Santos, Eur. Phys. J. C **84**, no.7, 676 (2024).

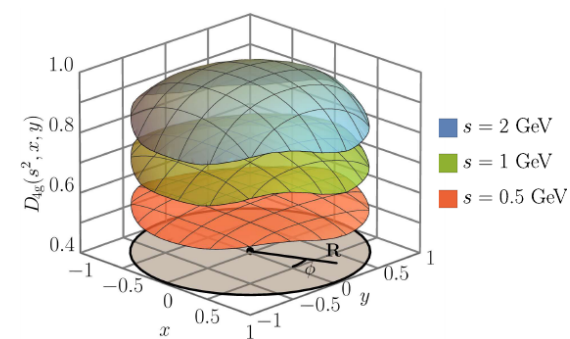
F. Pinto-Gómez, F. De Soto and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D **110**, no.1, 014005 (2024)



three-gluon



four-gluon



3) Need for high statistics (in the case of lattice studies).

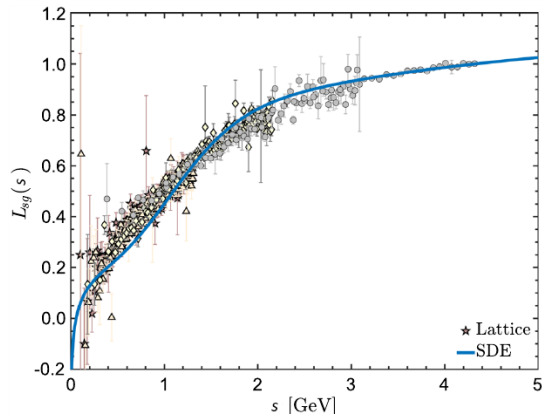
Solution: exploit planar degeneracy, average over the same  $s^2$

A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, J. Rodríguez-Quintero and L. R. Santos, arXiv:2408.06135.

# Transversely projected three- and four-gluon vertices

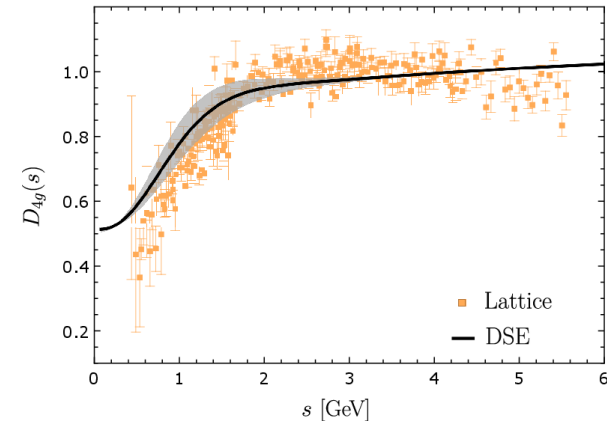
As a result, we now have a compact and accurate description of the three- and four-gluon vertices, which are characterized by two single-variable functions:

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}^0(q, r, p) L_{sg}(s)$$



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and L. R. Santos, Eur. Phys. J. C **84**, no.7, 676 (2024).

$$\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu\rho}^{abcd}(q, r, p, u) \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu\rho}^{0abcd}(q, r, p, u) D_{4g}(s)$$



A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, J. Rodríguez-Quintero and L. R. Santos, arXiv:2408.06135.

- Both are considerably **suppressed in the infrared**;
- **Gluon mass gap** makes the **four-gluon classical form factor infrared finite**;
- For the **three-gluon**, **massless ghosts** cause a **logarithmic divergence at the origin**.

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, D. Ibañez, J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **89**, no. 8, 085008 (2014).

$$\sim \ln \left( \frac{r^2}{\mu^2} \right)$$

# Origin of the gluon mass gap

Together, these results for the gauge sector Schwinger functions provide a solid framework for practical calculations. But this leaves us with a **question**:

How can the gluon acquire a mass gap?

- Gauge symmetry must be explicitly preserved;
- No associated mass term,  $m^2 A^2$ , in Lagrangian;
- No elementary scalar field for a Higgs mechanism.

**Answer:**

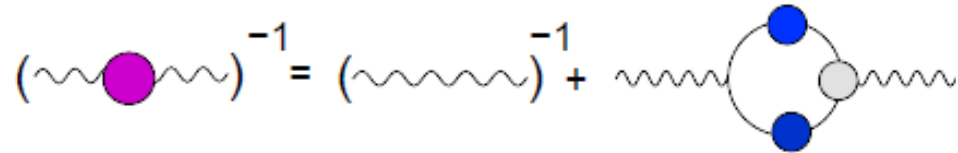
Through the Schwinger mechanism

# Schwinger mechanism

"A gauge boson may acquire mass, dynamically and without violating gauge symmetry if its vacuum polarization function develops a pole at zero momentum transfer."

J. S. Schwinger, Phys. Rev. **125**, 397 (1962); Phys. Rev. **128**, 2425 (1962).

Dyson-Schwinger equation for gauge boson propagator


$$(\text{wavy line with pink circle})^{-1} = (\text{wavy line})^{-1} + \text{wavy line} \text{ loop with blue and grey circles}$$

$$\Delta^{-1}(q^2) = q^2 [1 + \Pi(q^2)]$$

If, for some reason

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \Pi(q^2) = \frac{c}{q^2}, \quad c > 0$$

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = c > 0$$

**But how can the vacuum polarization acquire such a pole?**



# Vertex irregularities

From the gluon Schwinger-Dyson equation,

$$\Pi_{\mu\nu}(q) = \text{[Diagram 1]} + \text{[Diagram 2]} + \text{[Diagram 3]} + \text{[Diagram 4]} + \text{[Diagram 5]}$$

it has been shown in numerous works that:

**Pole in the vacuum polarization hinges on the presence of vertex irregularities**

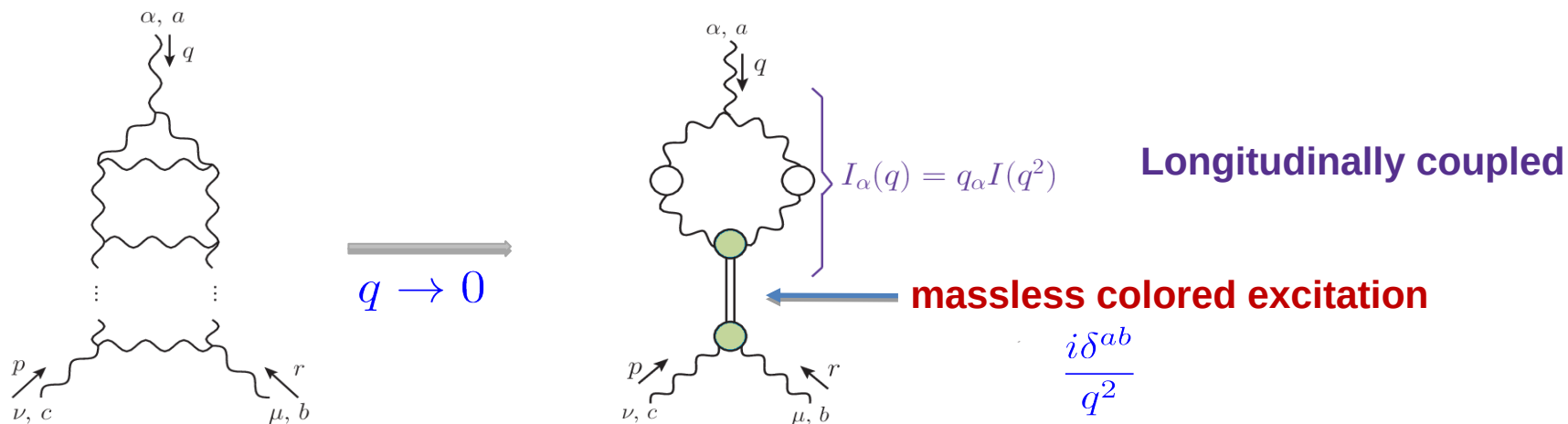
- A. C. Aguilar and J. Papavassiliou, JHEP **12**, 012 (2006).
- A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu, and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **85**, 014018 (2012).
- A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 054005 (2016).
- A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **94**, no.4, 045002 (2016)
- G. Eichmann, J. M. Pawłowski and J. M. Silva, Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.11, 114016 (2021).

- Usual logarithmic divergences of perturbative QCD are not enough. Instead:

**Vertices can develop poles** at zero momentum through the formation of **massless bound states**.

# Massless bound state formalism

If the interaction is sufficiently strong  $\longrightarrow$  formation of **massless bound states**



Vertices of the theory acquire **longitudinally coupled poles at zero gluon momentum, e.g.:**

$$\Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) = \underbrace{\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k)}_{\text{pole-free}} + \underbrace{\frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} 2(q \cdot r) \mathbb{C}(r^2)}_{\text{Schwinger pole}} + \dots$$

**Residue functions**

E. Eichten and F. Feinberg, Phys. Rev. D **10**, 3254-3279 (1974).

J. Smit, Phys. Rev. D **10**, 2473 (1974).

A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu, and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **85**, 014018 (2012).

M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **84**, no.8, 835 (2024).

Mauricio N. Ferreira ... mnferreira@nju.edu.cn ... 19/09/24 ... "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

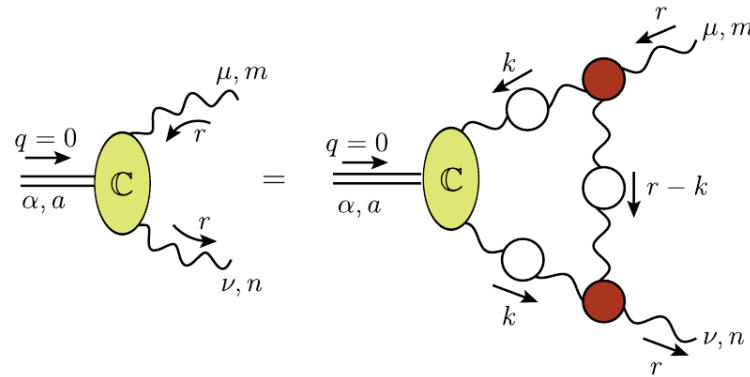
# Bethe-Salpeter equation

The formation of a massless bound state is **dynamical and governed by a Bethe-Salpeter equation**.

Recalling:

$$\mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) = \Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) + \frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} 2(q \cdot r) \mathbb{C}(r^2) + \dots$$

The function  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  satisfies the equation



**BS amplitude**

A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **85**, 014018 (2012).

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

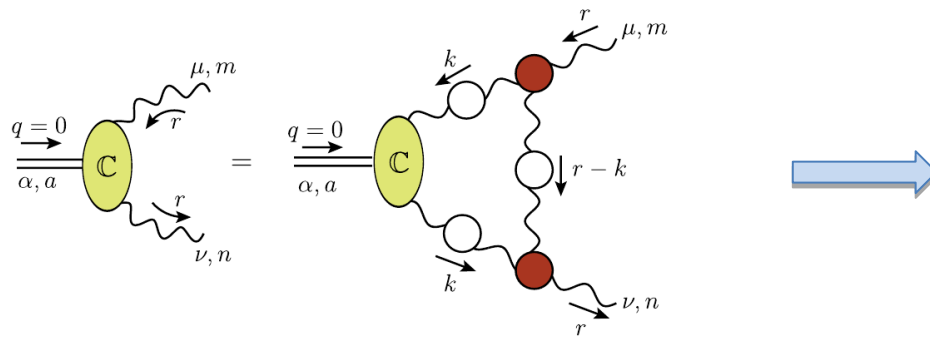
Mauricio N. Ferreira ... mnferreira@nju.edu.cn ... 19/09/24 ... "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

# Bethe-Salpeter equation

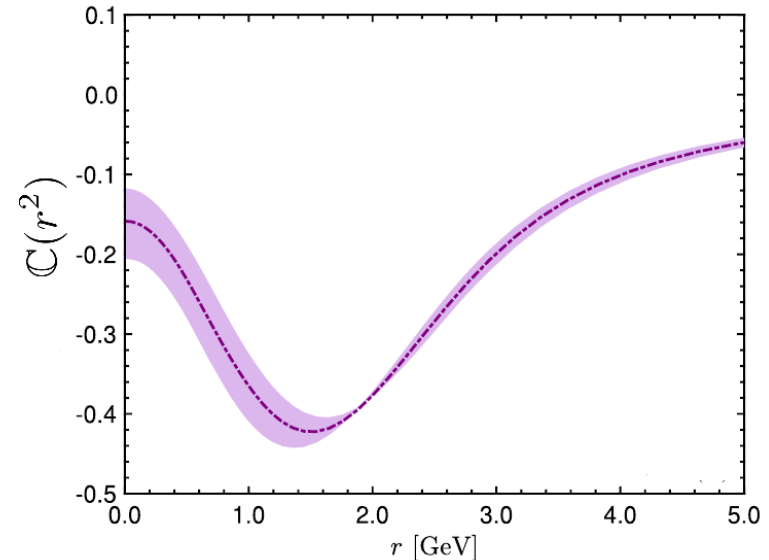
The Bethe-Salpeter equation admits **nontrivial solutions compatible with lattice ingredients** for the:

- Propagator;
- Vertex;
- and, value of the coupling  $\alpha_s \approx 0.3$  @  $\mu = 4.3$  GeV

A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **85**, 014018 (2012).  
 D. Binosi and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **97**, no.5, 054029 (2018).  
 A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **78**, no.3, 181 (2018).  
 M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **84**, no.8, 835 (2024).



**BS amplitude**



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

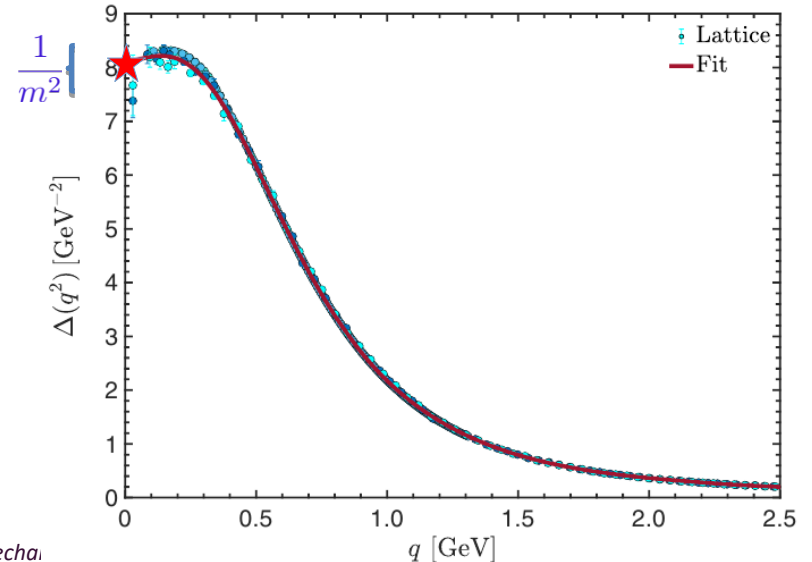
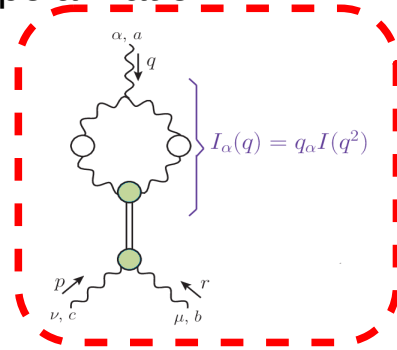
# Massless bound state formalism

Massless poles in the three-gluon vertex lead to pole in the gluon vacuum polarization:

$$\Delta^{-1}(q^2) = q^2 + \mu, a \xrightarrow{q} \text{loop} \xrightarrow{q} \nu, b + \dots$$

$q \rightarrow 0$

$$m^2 = \underbrace{\mu, a \xrightarrow{q} \text{loop}}_{I_\mu(q)} \frac{i}{q^2} \underbrace{\text{loop} \xrightarrow{q} \nu, b}_{I_\nu(-q)}$$



After careful renormalization, agreement with lattice saturation value.

M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **84**, no.8, 835 (2024).

# Schwinger poles in lattice results?

Now, the **lattice can also compute the three-gluon vertex**. Can we see longitudinal poles in it?

Unfortunately, no!

The Schwinger **poles are longitudinally coupled**

$$\mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) = \underbrace{\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k)}_{\text{pole-free}} + \underbrace{\frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} 2(q \cdot r) \mathbb{C}(r^2)}_{\text{Schwinger pole}} + \dots$$

But **lattice simulations only access transverse tensor structures**.



Lattice extracts the pole-free part of the vertex.



## A smoking gun signal?

### Question:

Is there a smoking-gun signal of the massless bound state poles, which can be tested with lattice inputs?

### Answer:

**Yes, the displacement of the Ward identities** satisfied by the vertices.

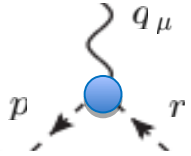
- The key observation is that the **Schwinger mechanism preserves the gauge symmetry**.
- If there is a massless bound state pole, the **propagators and pole-free parts of the vertices must change in shape to accommodate the pole contribution to the Ward identities**.

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **841**, 137906 (2023).

# A toy example: scalar QED

Schwinger mechanism **off**



Ward-Takahashi identity

$$q^\mu \Gamma_\mu(q, r, p) = D^{-1}(p^2) - D^{-1}(r^2)$$

pole-free

$q \rightarrow 0$   
 $p \rightarrow -r$  Taylor expansion

Textbook Ward identity

$$\Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r) = \frac{\partial D^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^\mu}$$

Schwinger mechanism **on**

$$\mathbb{\Gamma}_\mu(q, r, p) = \underbrace{\Gamma_\mu(q, r, p)}_{\text{pole-free}} + \frac{q^\mu}{q^2} C(q, r, p)$$

The Ward-Takahashi identity does **not** change

$$q^\mu \mathbb{\Gamma}_\mu(q, r, p) = q^\mu \Gamma_\mu(q, r, p) + C(q, r, p) = D^{-1}(p^2) - D^{-1}(r^2)$$

$q \rightarrow 0$  Taylor expansion

Displaced Ward identity

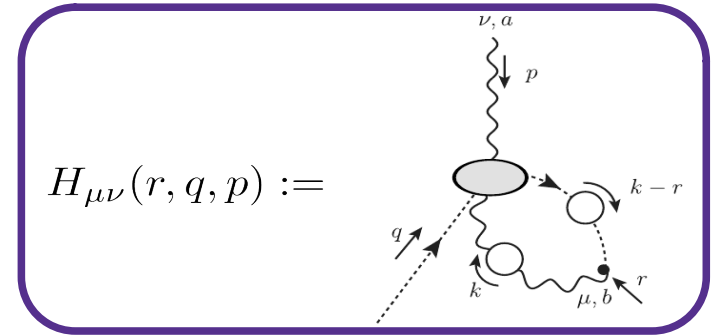
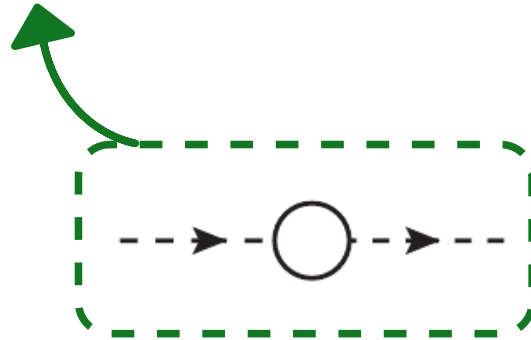
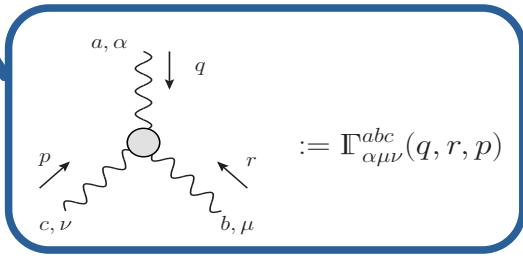
$$\underbrace{\Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r)}_{\text{pole-free}} = \frac{\partial D^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^\mu} - 2r_\mu \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\partial C(q, r, p)}{\partial p^2} \right]_{q=0}}_{C(r^2)}$$

**Displacement = BS amplitude**

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

The **same idea applies to QCD**, just more complicated due to **non-Abelian Slavnov-Taylor identities**:

$$q^\alpha \mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$




Then, assume the three-gluon vertex has a massless bound state pole:

$$\mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) = \Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, k) + \frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} 2(q \cdot r) \mathbb{C}(r^2) + \dots$$

And expand around  $q = 0$

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure

Ward identity

$$L_{\text{sg}}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$

**Displacement = BS amplitude**


- ★ **Ingredients can (mostly) be computed with lattice simulations.**
- ★ **Combine ingredients and determine if there is a nontrivial displacement.**

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

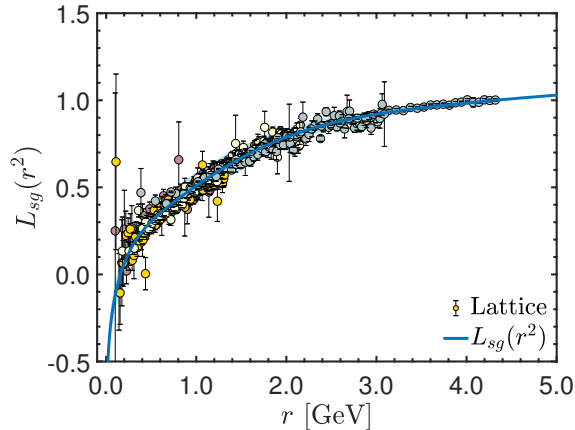
A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **841**, 137906 (2023).

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$L_{sg}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$



## Soft-gluon form factor of the three-gluon vertex


$$P_\mu^{\mu'}(r) P_\nu^{\nu'}(r) \Pi_{\alpha\mu'\nu'}(0, r, -r) = 2L_{sg}(r^2) r_\alpha P_{\mu\nu}(r)$$

$$P_{\mu\nu}(q) := g_{\mu\nu} - q_\mu q_\nu / q^2$$

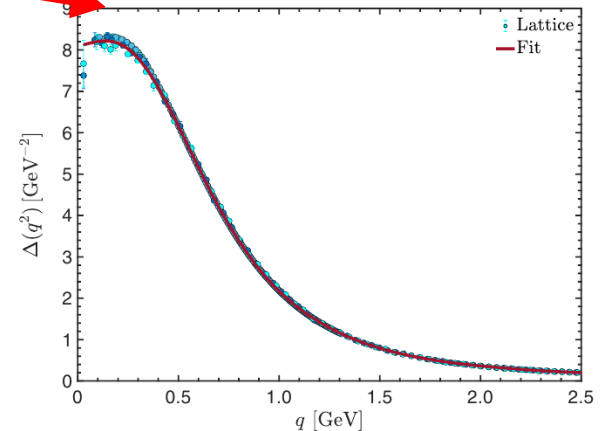
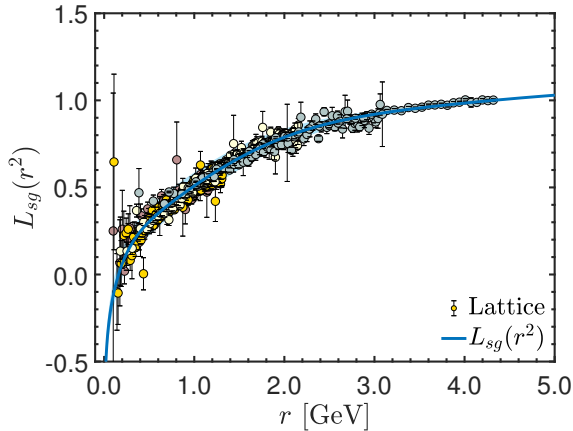
A. C. Aguilar, C. O. Ambrosio, F. De Soto, M.N. F., B. M. Oliveira, J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodriguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D 104 no.5, 054028, (2021).

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity


$$L_{sg}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$



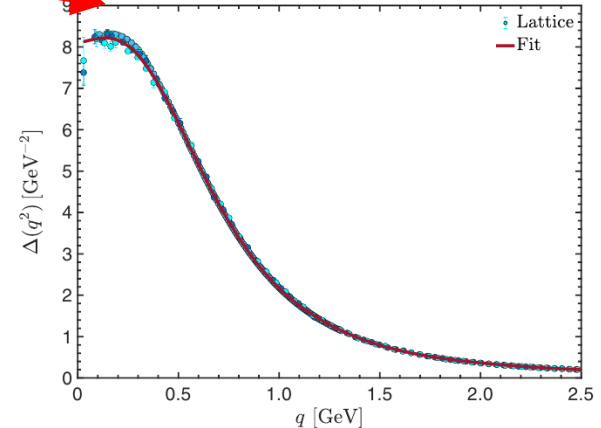
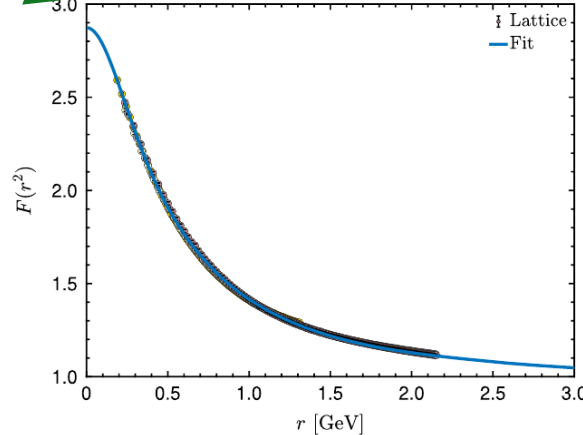
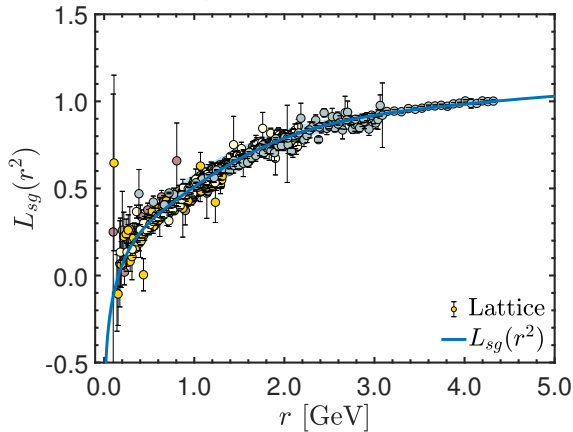


# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$


$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$L_{sg}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$



## Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$


$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$L_{\text{sg}}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$

★ Only one ingredient not yet determined directly by lattice simulations.

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$L_{\text{sg}}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$

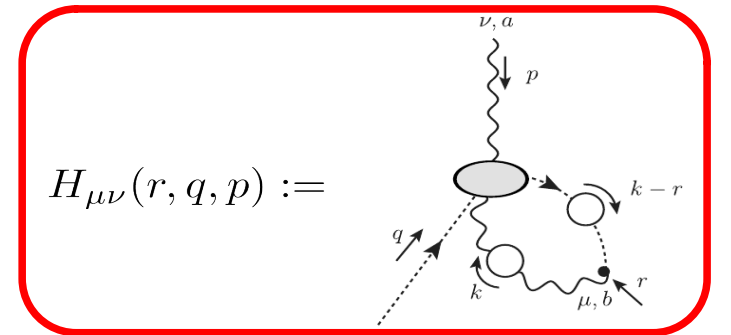
Partial derivative of the ghost-gluon kernel:

$$\mathcal{W}(r^2) = -\frac{1}{3} r^\alpha P^{\mu\nu}(r) \left[ \frac{\partial H_{\nu\mu}(r, q, p)}{\partial q^\alpha} \right]_{q=0}$$

- **In principle, computable on the lattice, but not currently available.**

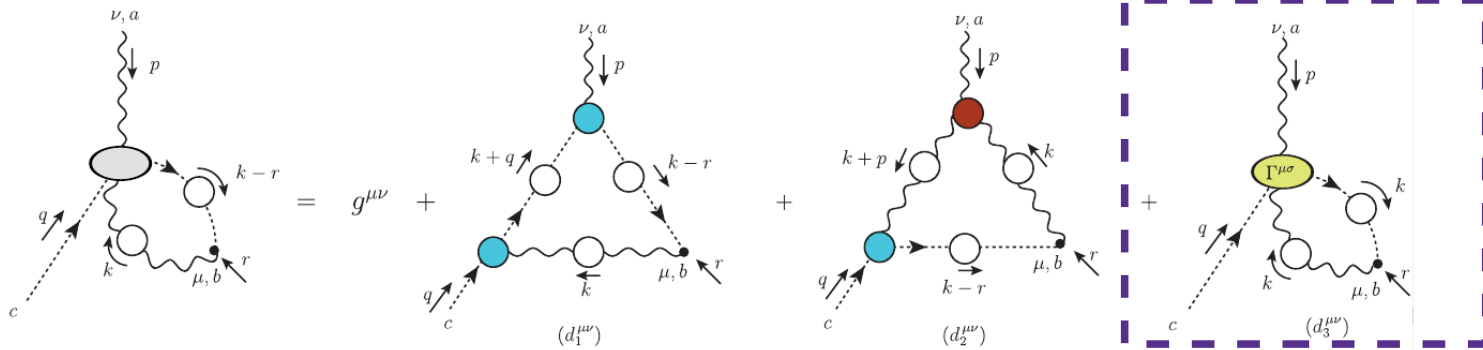
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **81**, no.1, 54 (2021).

- **Resort to a lattice-driven SDE analysis.**



# Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculation

The  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  can be obtained from the Schwinger-Dyson equation for the **ghost-gluon scattering kernel**



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

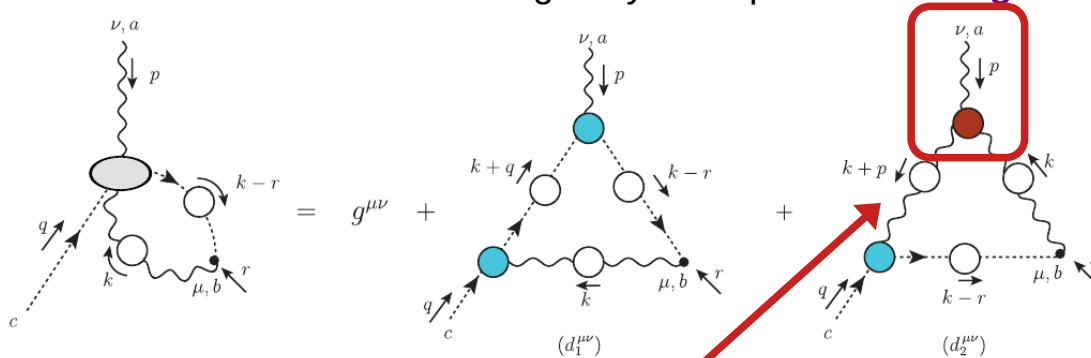
Depends on:

- 1) **Gluon and ghost propagators.**
- 2) **Four-point function probably subleading. Will be omitted.**

(2% effect). M. Q. Huber, Eur. Phys. J. C **77**, 733 (2017).

# Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculation

The  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  can be obtained from the Schwinger-Dyson equation for the **ghost-gluon scattering kernel**



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Depends on:

- 1) **Gluon and ghost propagators.**
- 2) **Four-point function probably subleading. Will be omitted.**
- 3) **General kinematics three-gluon vertex.**

By now well-determined by continuum and lattice studies.

G. Eichmann, R. Williams, R. Alkofer, M. Vujanovic, Phys. Rev. D **89**, 105014 (2014).

A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 054005 (2016).

M. Q. Huber, Phys. Rev. D **101**, 114009 (2020).

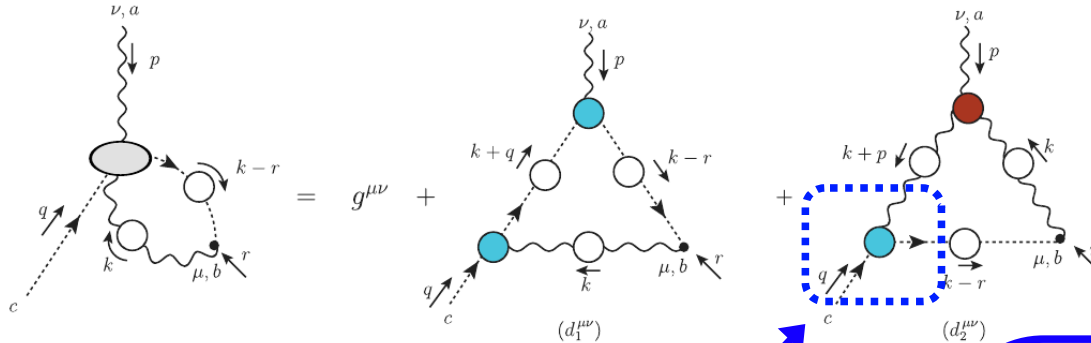
F. Pinto-Gómez, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **838**, 137737 (2023).

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou and L. R. Santos, Eur. Phys. J. C **83**, no.6, 549 (2023).

F. Pinto-Gómez, F. De Soto and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Rev. D **110**, no.1, 014005 (2024).

# Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculation

The  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  can be obtained from the Schwinger-Dyson equation for the **ghost-gluon scattering kernel**



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Depends on:

- 1) **Gluon and ghost propagators.**
- 2) **Four-point function probably subleading. Will be omitted.**
- 3) **General kinematics three-gluon vertex.**
- 4) **General kinematics ghost-gluon vertex;**

Determined self-consistently through same SDE plus STI:

$$\Pi_\nu(r, q, p) = r^\mu H_{\mu\nu}(r, q, p)$$

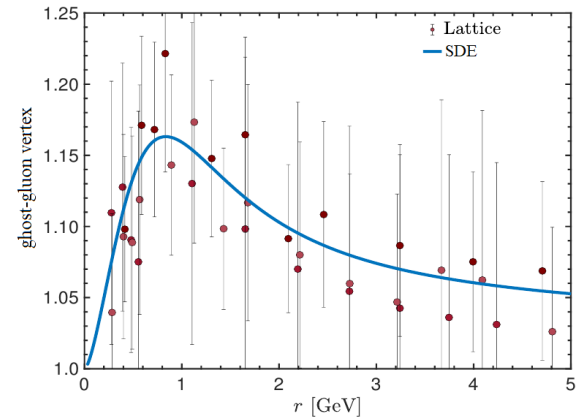
M. Q. Huber and L. von Smekal, JHEP 04, 149 (2013).

A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, et al. Phys. Rev. D 94, 054005 (2016).

A. C. Aguilar, C. O. Ambrósio, F. De Soto, M. N. F., et. al. Phys. Rev. D 104, no.5, 054028 (2021).

Reproduces available SU(3) lattice results:

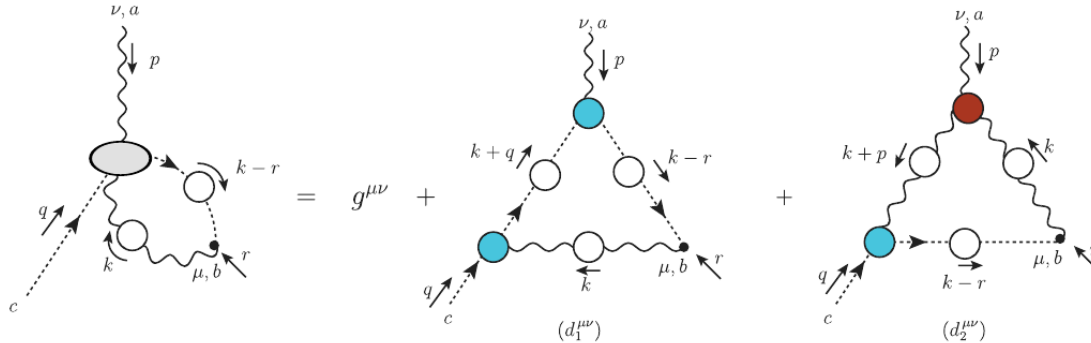
E. -M. Ilgenfritz, M. Muller-Preussker, A. Sternbeck, et al. Braz. J. Phys. 37, 193 (2007).





# Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculation

The  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  can be obtained from the Schwinger-Dyson equation for the **ghost-gluon scattering kernel**



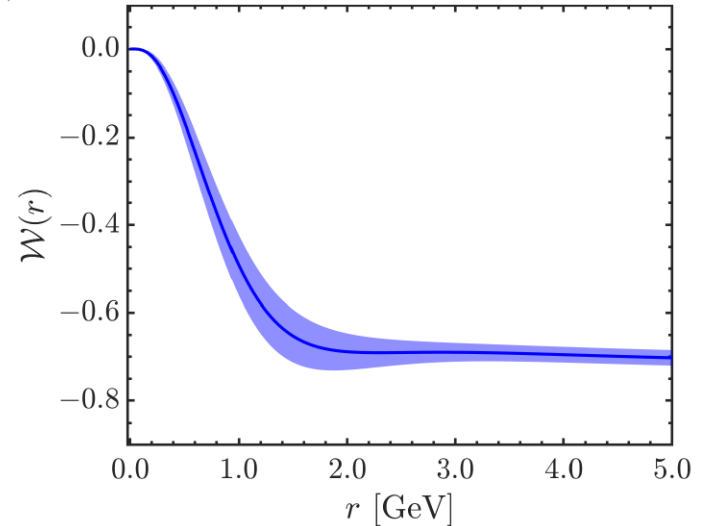
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Depends on:

- 1) **Gluon and ghost propagators.**
- 2) **Four-point function probably subleading. Will be omitted.**
- 3) **General kinematics three-gluon vertex.**
- 4) **General kinematics ghost-gluon vertex;**

With these ingredients at hand, we compute  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$

A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **841**, 137906 (2023).

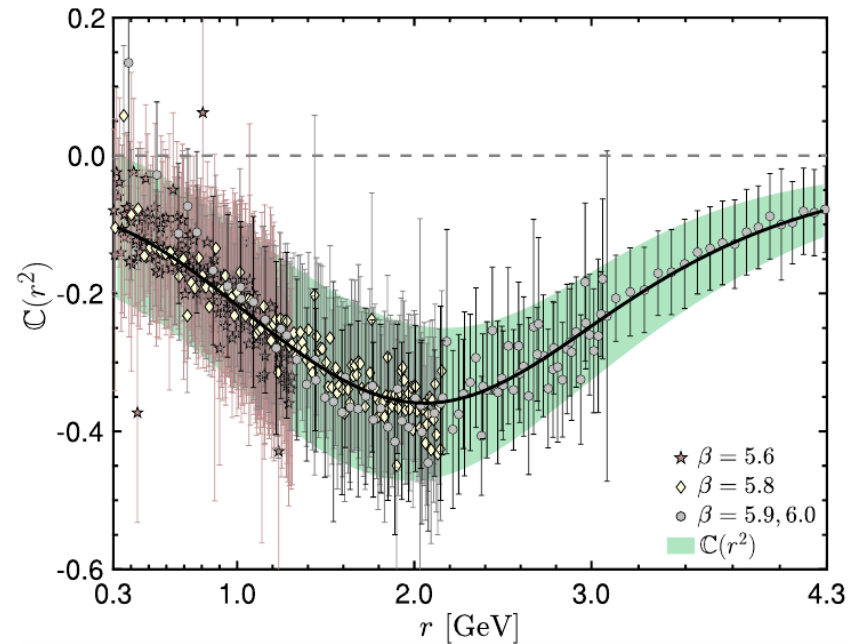
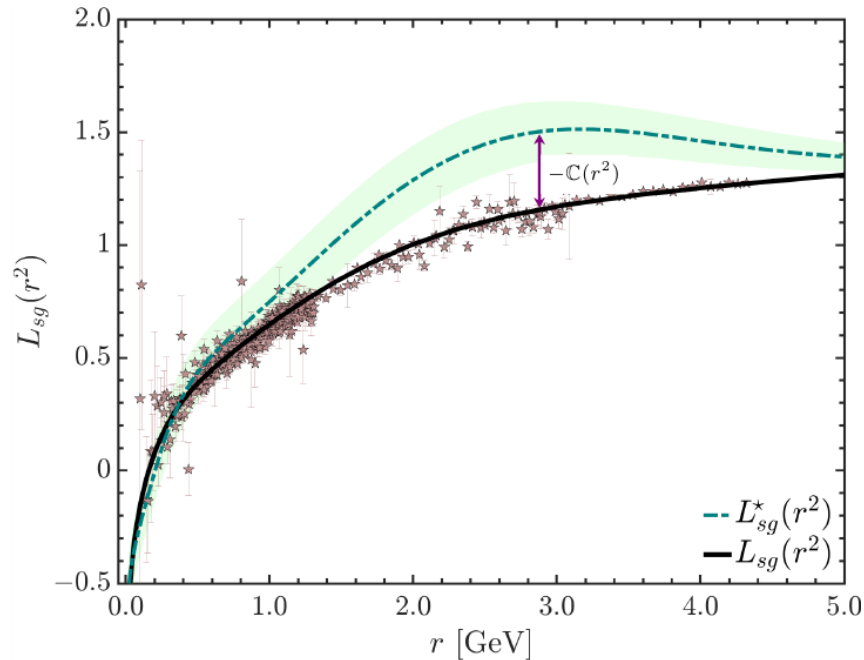


# Results for $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$

With  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  at hand, we can compute  $L_{sg}^*(r^2)$  and determine  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  as a **WI displacement**

$$L_{sg}^*(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{d\Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{dr^2} \right]$$

$$\mathbb{C}(r^2) = L_{sg}(r^2) - L_{sg}^*(r^2)$$



A. C. Aguilar, F. De Soto, M. N. F., J. Papavassiliou, F. Pinto-Gómez, C. D. Roberts and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, *Phys. Lett. B* **841**, 137906 (2023).

Mauricio N. Ferreira ... mnferreira@nju.edu.cn ... 19/09/24 ... "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

# Results for $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$

With  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  at hand, we can compute  $L_{sg}^*(r^2)$  and determine  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  as a **WI displacement**

$$L_{sg}^*(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{d\Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{dr^2} \right]$$

$$\mathbb{C}(r^2) = L_{sg}(r^2) - L_{sg}^*(r^2)$$

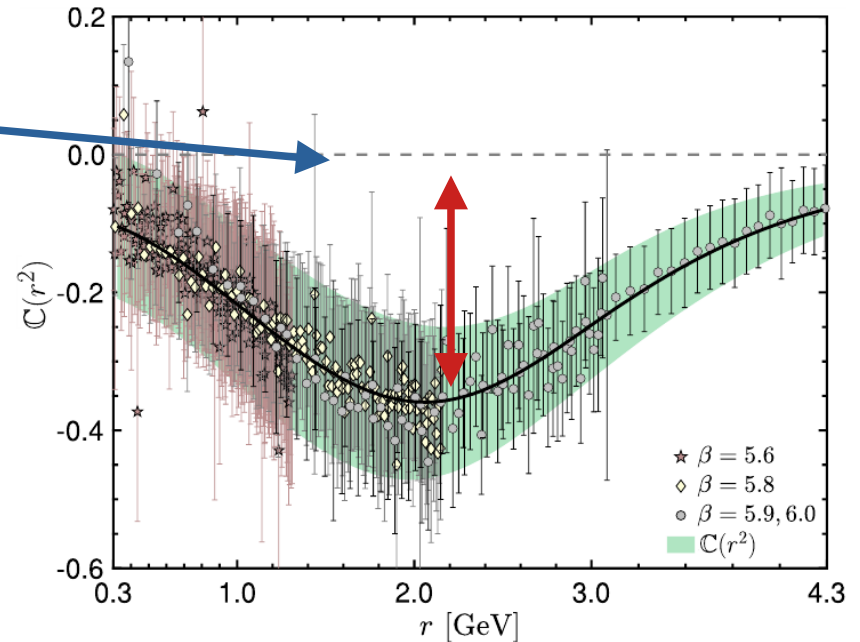
- $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  obtained is clearly nonzero.
- Define the **null hypothesis**,

$$\mathbb{C}(r^2) = \mathbb{C}_0 := 0$$

**p-value of null hypothesis is tiny:**

$$P_{\mathbb{C}_0} = \int_{\chi^2=2630}^{\infty} \chi_{\text{PDF}}^2(515, x) dx = 7.3 \times 10^{-280}$$

- Even if the errors were doubled, the null hypothesis would still be discarded at the  $5\sigma$  level.



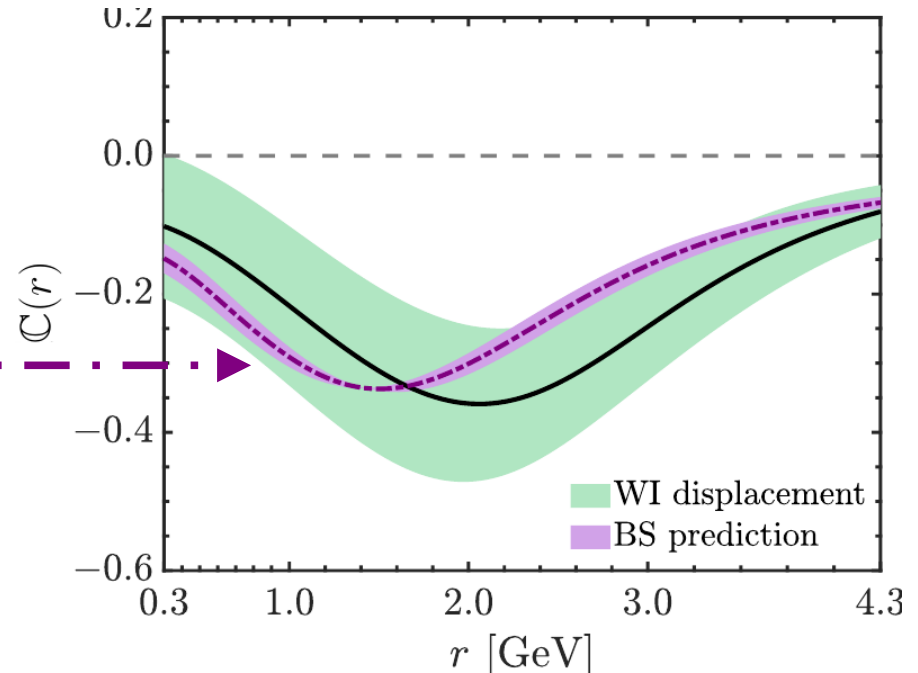
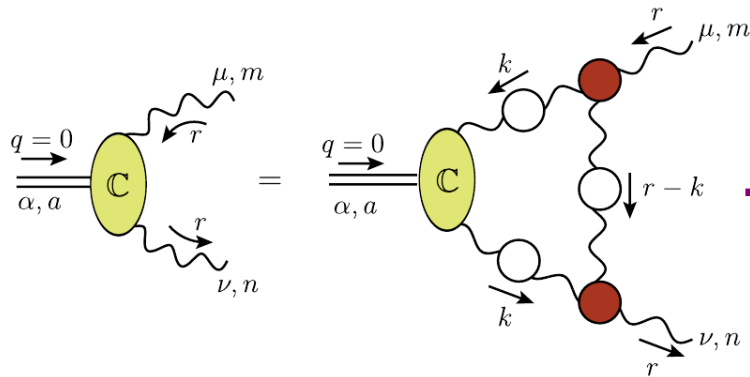
# Results for $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$

With  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  at hand, we can compute  $L_{sg}^*(r^2)$  and determine  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  as a **WI displacement**

$$L_{sg}^*(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{d\Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{dr^2} \right]$$

$$\mathbb{C}(r^2) = L_{sg}(r^2) - L_{sg}^*(r^2)$$

- Moreover, we find good agreement with the BSE prediction.



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).  
 M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Particles **6**, no.1, 312-363 (2023).

# Conclusions

- **Gluon self-interactions** generate a **gluon mass gap** through the **Schwinger mechanism**, manifest by the **saturation of the gluon propagator at the origin**.
- **Eliminates several infrared divergences**, most notably the Landau pole of perturbative QCD.
- **Schwinger mechanism** is triggered by the formation of **massless bound state poles in the three-gluon vertex**.
- Leads to **displacement of the Ward identity**, whose amplitude coincides with **BS amplitude of the massless bound state**.
- The **occurrence of this displacement is confirmed**, by combining state-of-the-art **lattice and Dyson-Schwinger results** for the propagators and vertices.
- **We obtain a clear displacement which agrees with the Bethe-Salpeter prediction**.
- **In the future**, understand role of **poles in other vertices** and **truncation error** in the analysis.

## Backup slides

# Massless bound state formalism

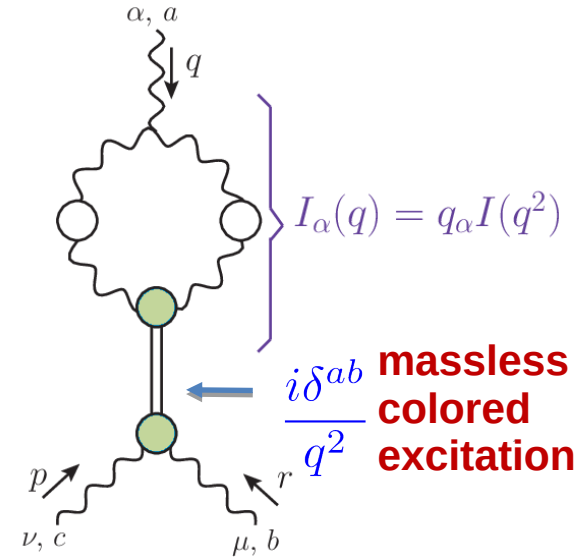
**Important: These bound states are not *glueballs*!**

## Glueballs:

- Color singlets.
- Massive.
- Appear in the spectrum.

## Schwinger mechanism poles:

- Colored states.
- Massless.
- Do not appear in the spectrum (would-be Goldstone boson, eaten to generate the gluon mass)




V. Mathieu, N. Kochelev and V. Vento,  
Int. J. Mod. Phys. E 18, 1-49 (2009).

J. Smit, Phys. Rev. D 10, 2473 (1974).  
E. Eichten and F. Feinberg, Phys. Rev. D 10, 3254-3279 (1974).  
A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu, and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D 85, 014018 (2012).

# Ward identity displacement in QCD

$$q^\alpha \mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$L_{\text{sg}}(r^2) = F(0) \left[ \frac{\mathcal{W}(r^2)}{r^2} \Delta^{-1}(r^2) + \frac{\partial \Delta^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} \right] + \mathbb{C}(r^2)$$

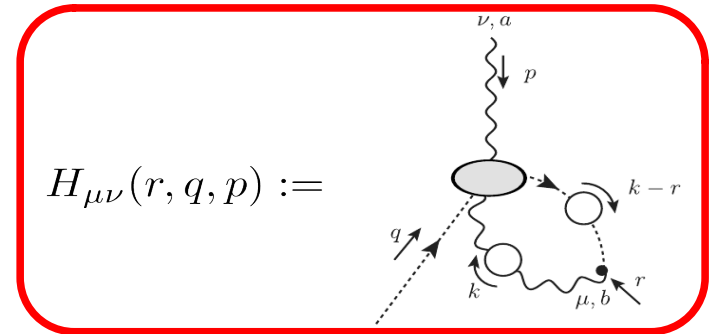
Partial derivative of the ghost-gluon kernel:

$$\mathcal{W}(r^2) = -\frac{1}{3} r^\alpha P^{\mu\nu}(r) \left[ \frac{\partial H_{\nu\mu}(r, q, p)}{\partial q^\alpha} \right]_{q=0}$$

- **In principle, computable on the lattice, but not currently available.**

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **81**, no.1, 54 (2021).

- **Resort to a lattice-driven SDE analysis.**





# Schwinger mechanism poles do not show in lattice results

A typical vertex form factor on the lattice is given by:

$$\mathcal{A}(q, r, p) = \frac{\Gamma_0^{\alpha' \mu' \nu'}(q, r, p) P_{\alpha' \alpha}(q) P_{\mu' \mu}(r) P_{\nu' \nu}(p) \mathbb{\Gamma}^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}{\Gamma_0^{\alpha' \mu' \nu'}(q, r, p) P_{\alpha' \alpha}(q) P_{\mu' \mu}(r) P_{\nu' \nu}(p) \Gamma_0^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}$$

with  $P_{\mu\nu}(q) := g_{\mu\nu} - q_\mu q_\nu / q^2$

$$\mathbb{\Gamma}^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p) = \underbrace{\Gamma^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}_{\text{pole-free}} + \underbrace{V^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}_{\text{poles}}$$

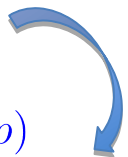
Given that the poles are **longitudinally coupled**:

$$P_{\alpha\alpha'}(q) P_{\mu\mu'}(r) P_{\nu\nu'}(p) V^{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = 0$$

$$\mathcal{A}(q, r, p) = \frac{\Gamma_0^{\alpha' \mu' \nu'}(q, r, p) P_{\alpha' \alpha}(q) P_{\mu' \mu}(r) P_{\nu' \nu}(p) \Gamma^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}{\Gamma_0^{\alpha' \mu' \nu'}(q, r, p) P_{\alpha' \alpha}(q) P_{\mu' \mu}(r) P_{\nu' \nu}(p) \Gamma_0^{\alpha \mu \nu}(q, r, p)}$$



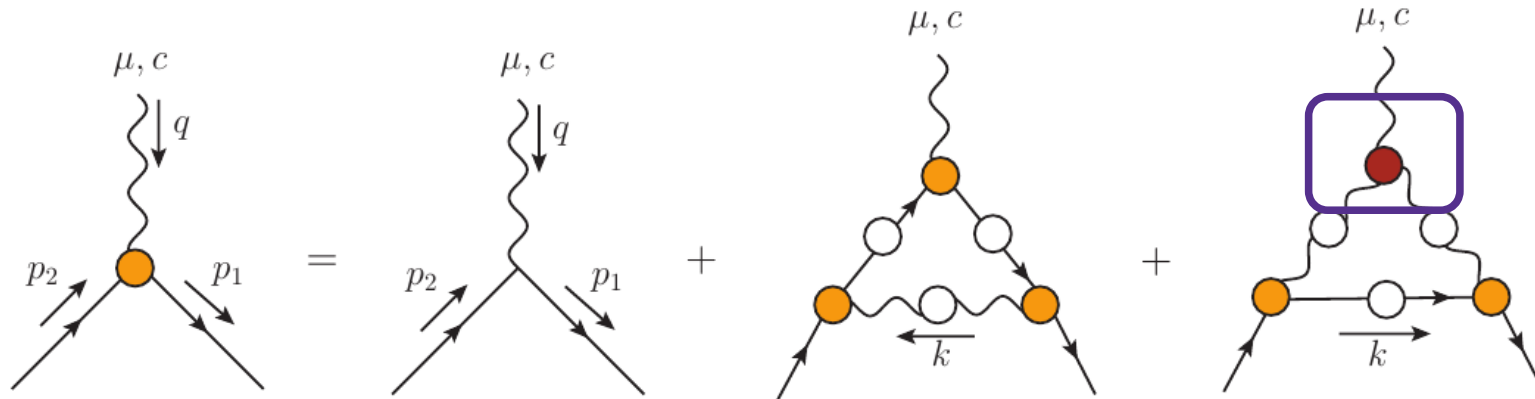
**Lattice extracts the pole-free part of the vertex.**



# Poles in other vertices: including dynamical quarks

The Dyson-Schwinger equations couple vertices of different species and number of external legs.

- If a **longitudinally coupled pole** is generated **in the three-gluon vertex**, it tends to **spread out to other vertices** as well.
- In particular, the **quark-gluon vertex picks up a longitudinally coupled pole**:



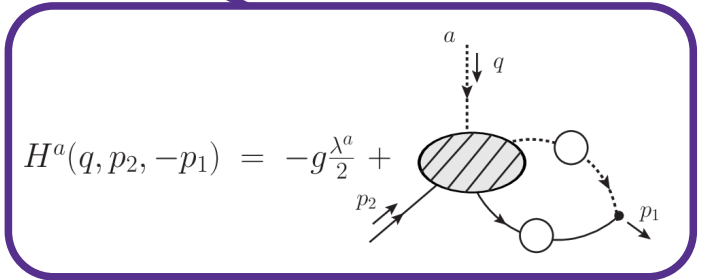
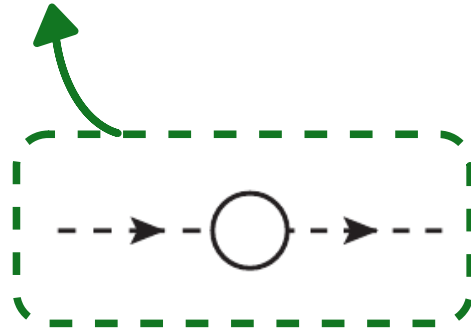
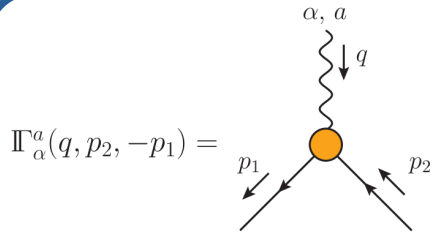
**This allows additional tests of the Schwinger mechanism, and studying the role of dynamical quarks.**

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., D. Ibañez and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C 83, no.10, 967 (2023).

# Ward identity displacement of the quark-gluon vertex

The same idea of Ward identity displacement applies to the quark-gluon vertex. We start with the STI

$$q^\alpha \Pi_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) = F(q^2) [S^{-1}(p_1) H(q, p_2, -p_1) - \overline{H}(-q, p_1, -p_2) S^{-1}(p_2)]$$



Again, assume that the vertex has a massless bound state pole:


$$\Pi_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) = \Gamma_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) + \frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} \left[ Q_3(p_2^2) + \dots \right]$$

And expand around  $q = 0$

**BS amplitude**

# Ward identity displacement of the quark-gluon vertex

$$q^\alpha \Pi_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) = F(q^2) [S^{-1}(p_1) H(q, p_2, -p_1) - \overline{H}(-q, p_1, -p_2) S^{-1}(p_2)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure

Ward identity

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, D. Ibañez and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **90**, no.6, 065027 (2014).

$$\lambda_1(p^2) = F(0) A(p^2) \{ [1 + 4p^2 K_4(p^2)] - 2K_1(p^2) \mathcal{M}(p^2) \} - Q_3(p^2)$$

$$\lambda_1^*(p^2)$$

Displacement = BS amplitude

★ **Ingredients can be computed using lattice results.**

O. Oliveira, P. J. Silva, J. I. Skullerud and A. Sternbeck, Phys. Rev. D **99**, no.9, 094506 (2019).

A. Kizilersü, O. Oliveira, P. J. Silva, J. I. Skullerud and A. Sternbeck, Phys. Rev. D **103**, no.11, 114515 (2021).

★ **Combine ingredients and determine if there is a nontrivial displacement.**

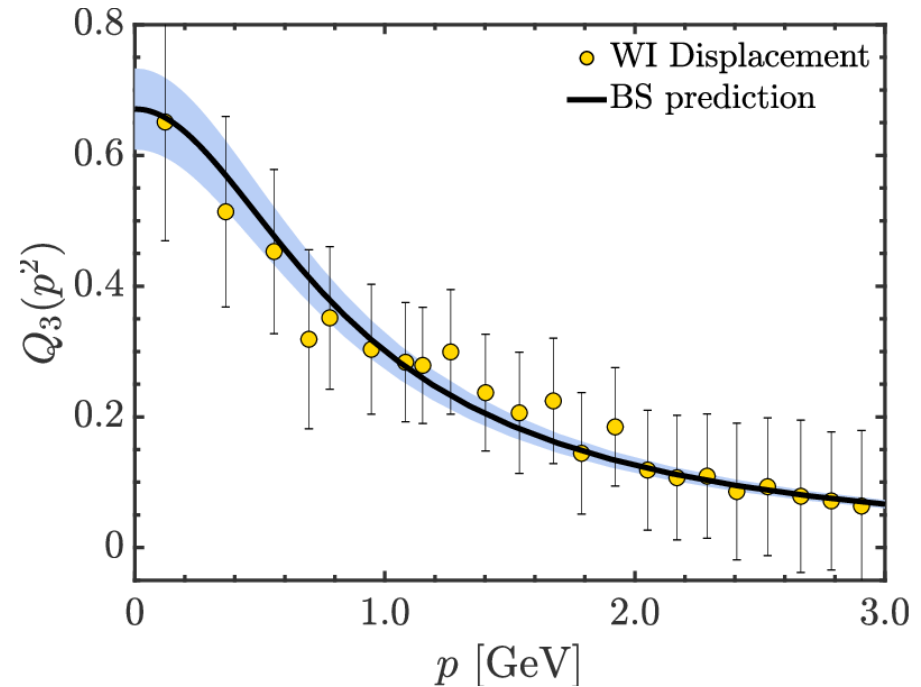
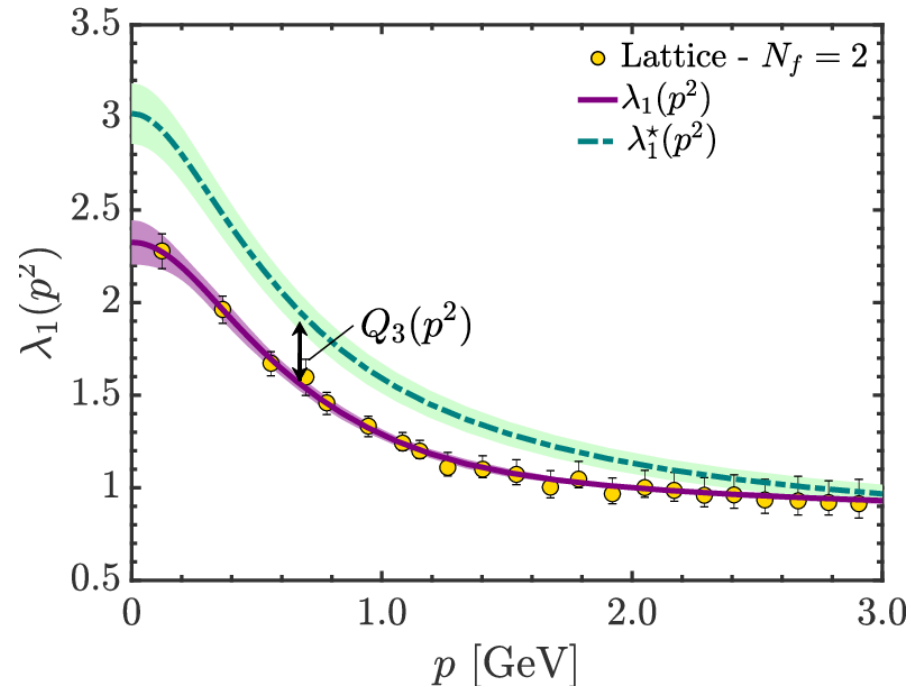
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., D. Ibañez and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C **83**, no.10, 967 (2023).

# Results for $Q_3(p^2)$

We are in position to compute  $\lambda_1^*(p^2)$  and then obtain  $Q_3(p^2)$  from the **WI displacement**

$$\lambda_1^*(p^2) = F(0)A(p^2) \left\{ \left[ 1 + 4p^2 K_4(p^2) \right] - 2K_1(p^2)\mathcal{M}(p^2) \right\}$$

$$Q_3(p^2) = \lambda_1^*(p^2) - \lambda_1(p^2)$$



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., D. Ibañez and J. Papavassiliou, Eur. Phys. J. C 83, no.10, 967 (2023).

Mauricio N. Ferreira ... mnferreira@nju.edu.cn ... 19/09/24 ... "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

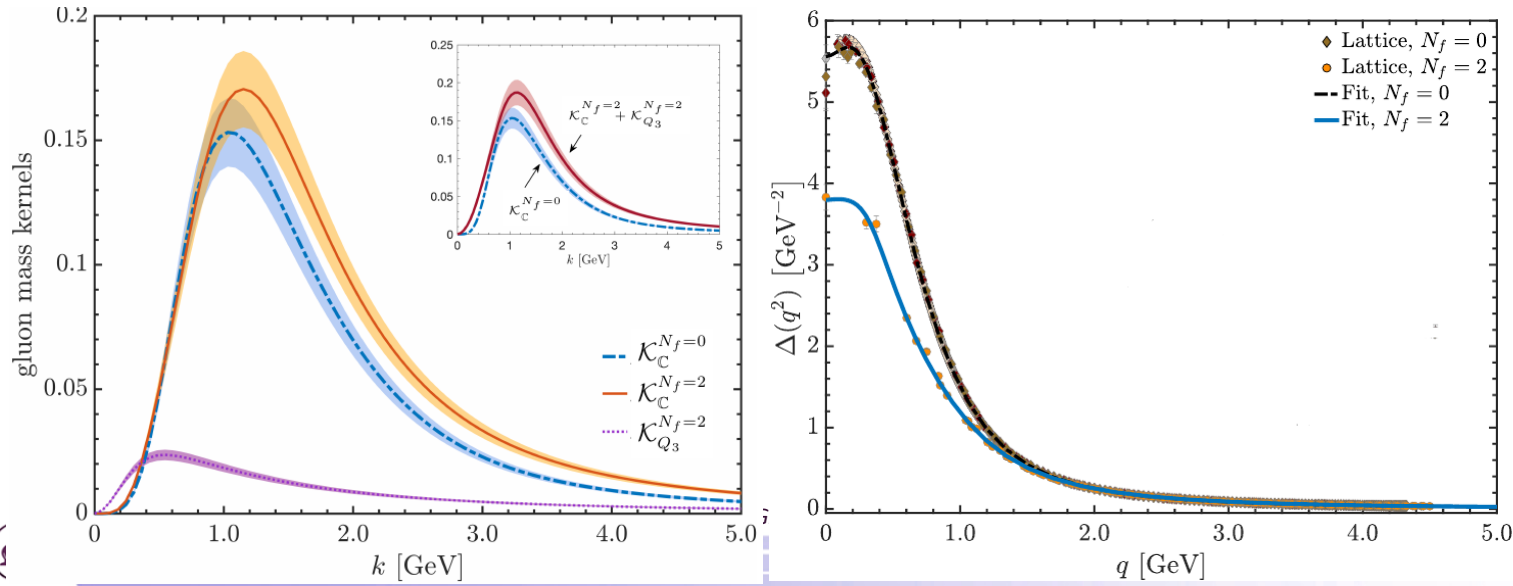
# Gluon self-interaction is dominant in generation of gluon mass gap

From the gluon SDE:

$$\left( \text{gluon line} \right)^{-1} = \left( \text{free gluon line} \right)^{-1} + \text{diagram } d_1 + \text{diagram } d_2 + \dots$$

one finds an expression for the mass gap in terms of  $\mathbb{C}(p^2)$  and  $Q_3(p^2)$ :

$$m^2 = \int_0^\infty dy \underbrace{\mathcal{K}_{\mathbb{C}}^{N_f}(y)}_{\text{three-gluon}} + \int_0^\infty dy \underbrace{\mathcal{K}_{Q_3}^{N_f}(y)}_{\text{quark-gluon}}$$



- ✓ Unquenched gluon mass gap is larger, in agreement with lattice.
- ✓ Three-gluon is the biggest contribution.
- ✓ Gluon self-interaction drives the Schwinger mechanism in QCD.

# Results for $Q_3(p^2)$

We are in position to compute  $\lambda_1^*(p^2)$  and then obtain  $Q_3(p^2)$  from the **WI displacement**

$$\lambda_1^*(p^2) = F(0)A(p^2) \{ [1 + 4p^2 K_4(p^2)] - 2K_1(p^2)\mathcal{M}(p^2) \}$$

$$Q_3(p^2) = \lambda_1^*(p^2) - \lambda_1(p^2)$$

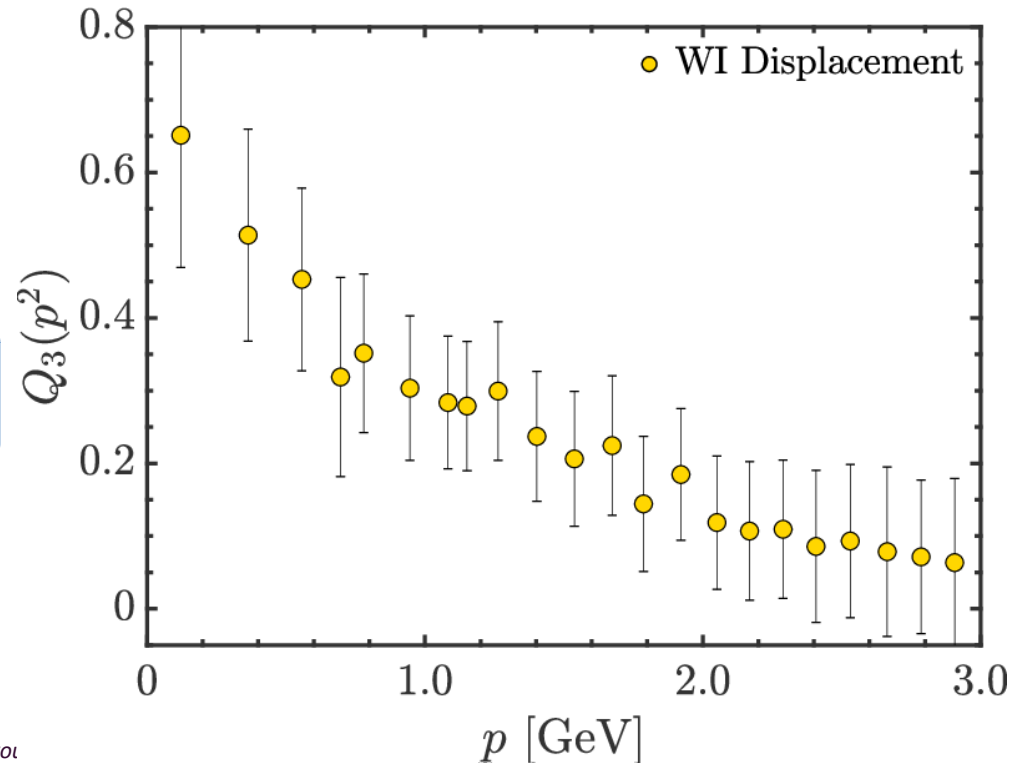
- $Q_3(p^2)$  obtained is clearly nonzero.
- Define the **null hypothesis**,

$$Q_3(p^2) = Q_3^0(p^2) := 0$$

**p-value of null hypothesis is very small:**

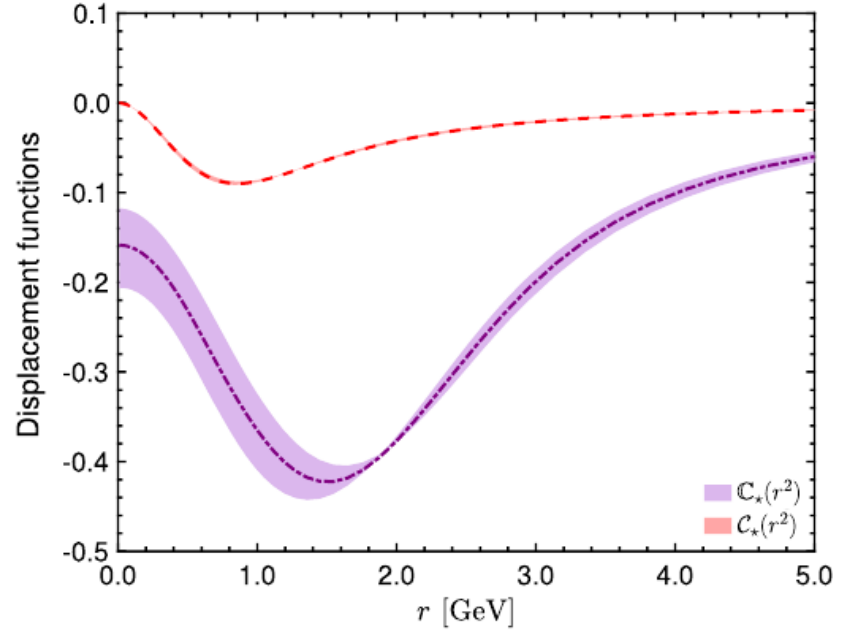
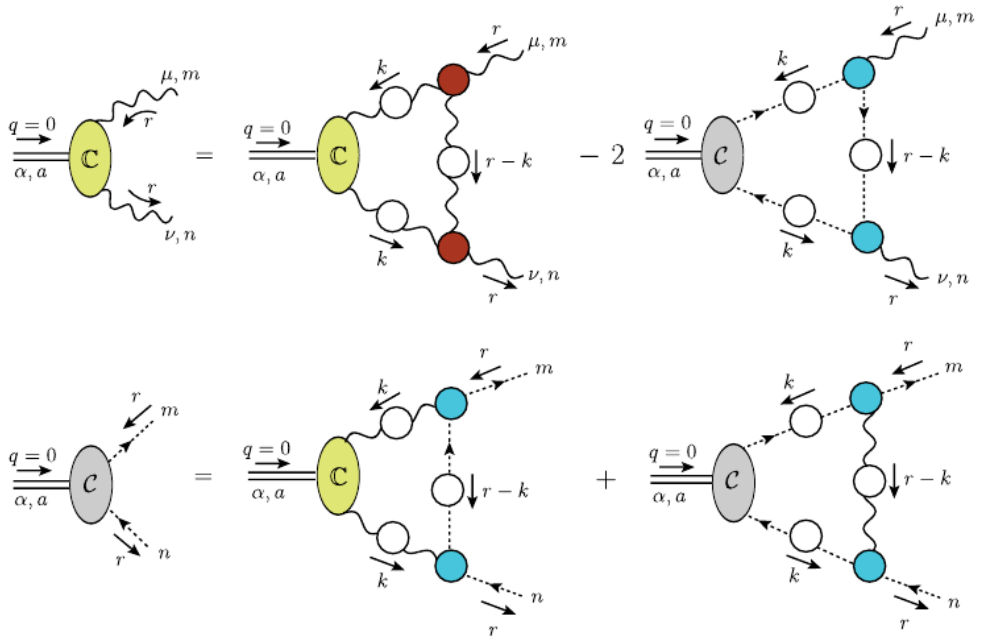
$$P_{Q_3^0} = \int_{\chi^2=119}^{\infty} \chi_{\text{PDF}}^2(18, x) dx = 6.5 \times 10^{-17}$$

- Excludes the null hypothesis at the  $8\sigma$  level.



# Pole of the ghost-gluon vertex

The Dyson-Schwinger equation for the displacement amplitude  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  can be coupled to a pole also in **ghost-gluon vertex**



Effect on  $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$  is negligible because ghost-gluon pole amplitude,  $\mathcal{C}(r^2)$ , is subleading.

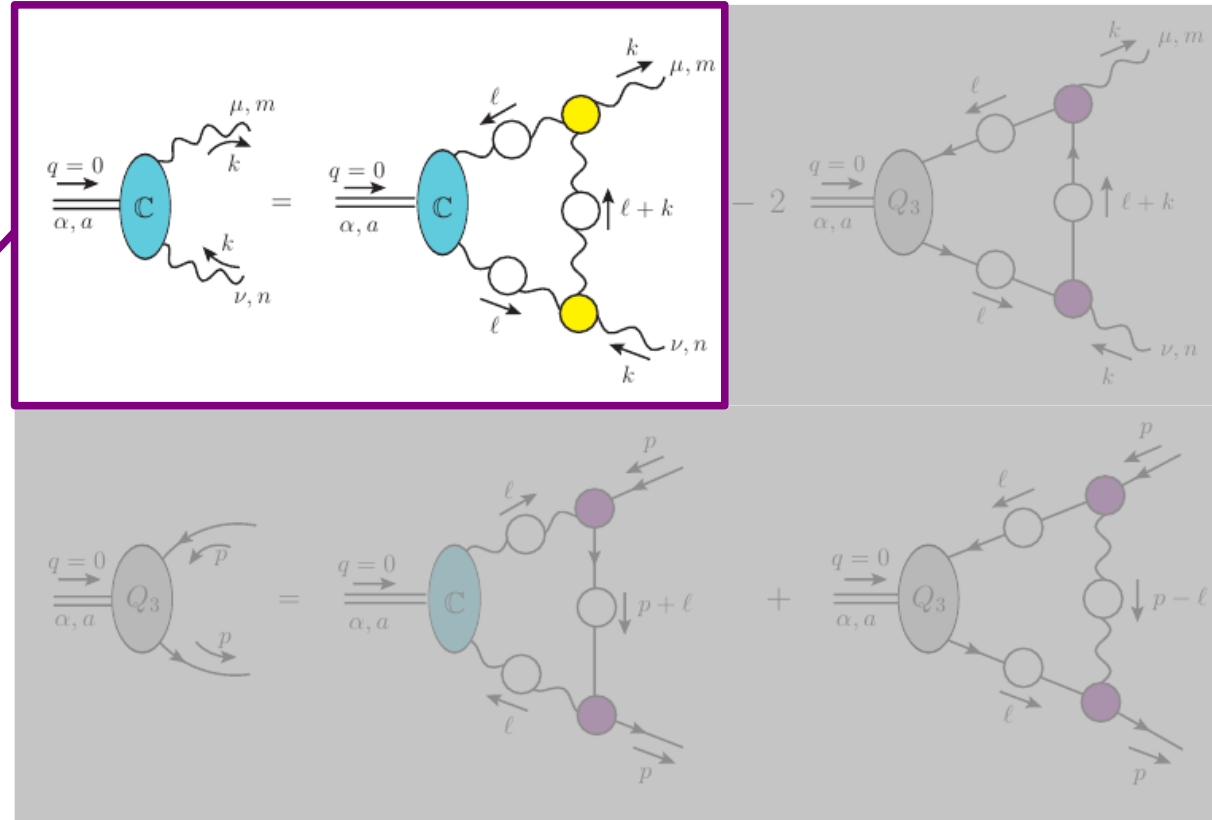
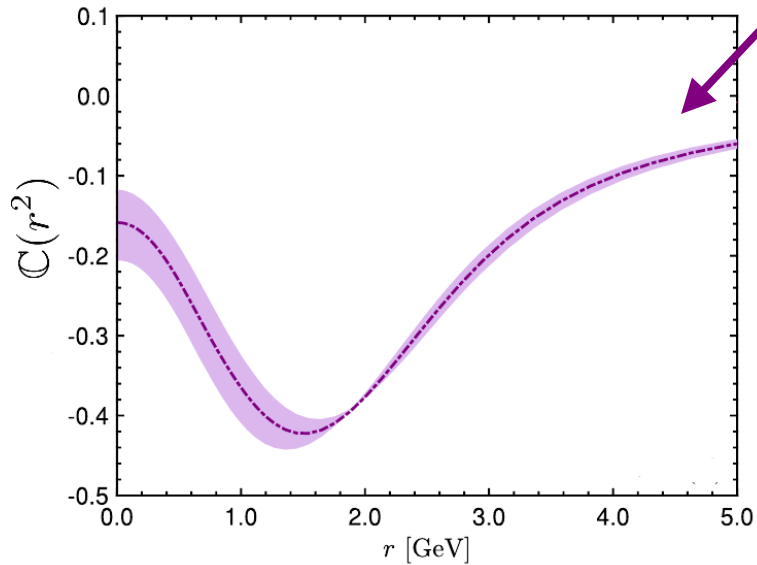
A. C. Aguilar, et al, Eur. Phys. J. C **78**, no.3, 181 (2018).

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).



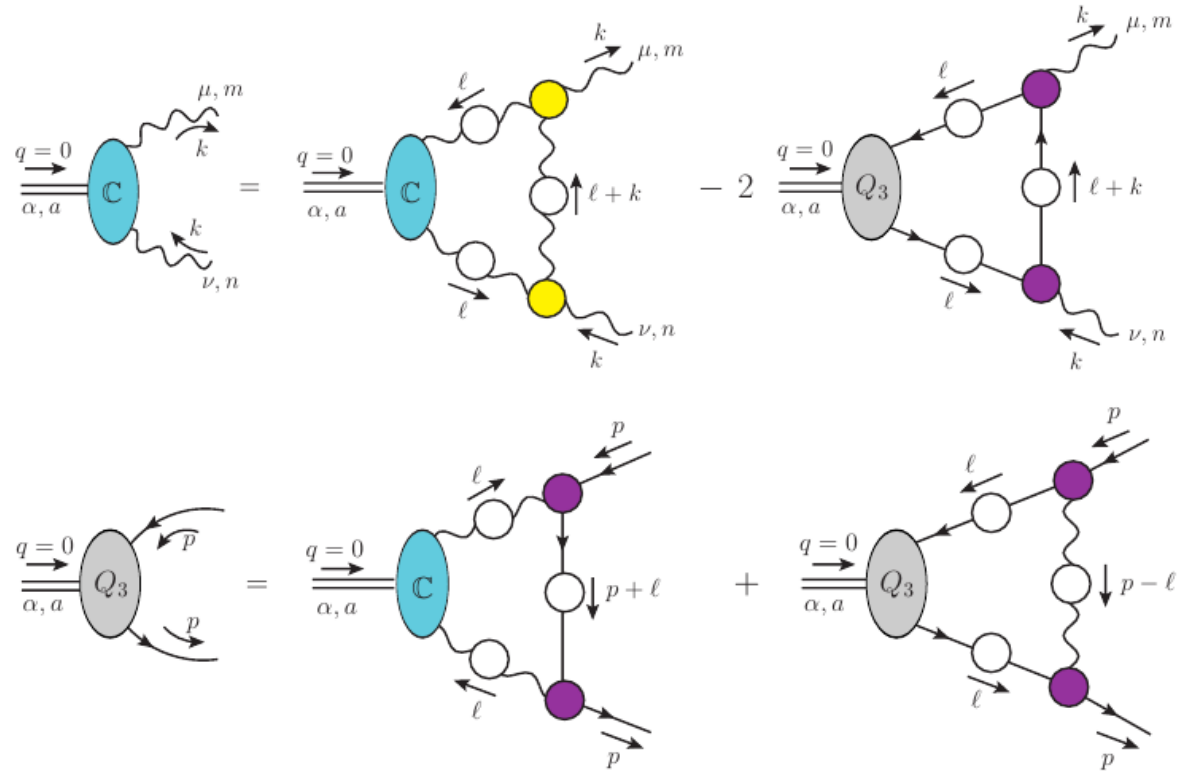
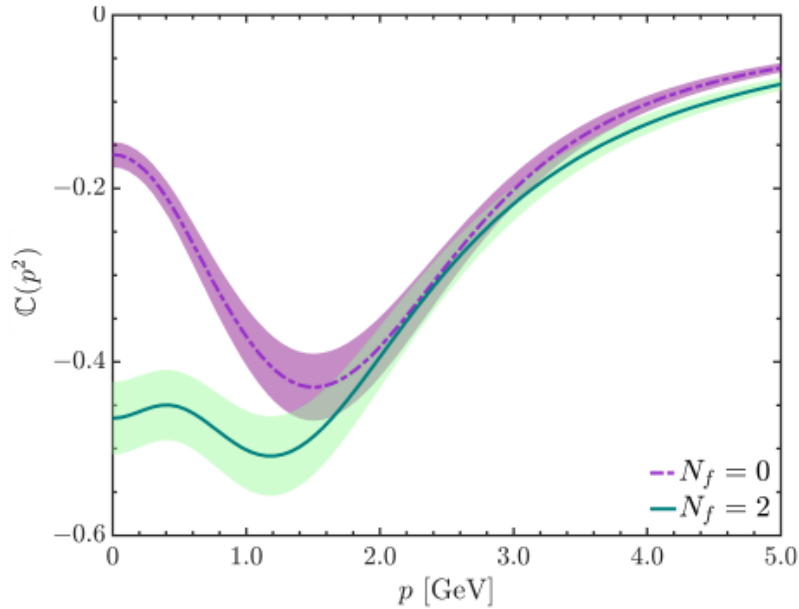
# Schwinger mechanism with dynamical quarks

- The three-gluon pole BSE has solutions even if quarks are neglected.



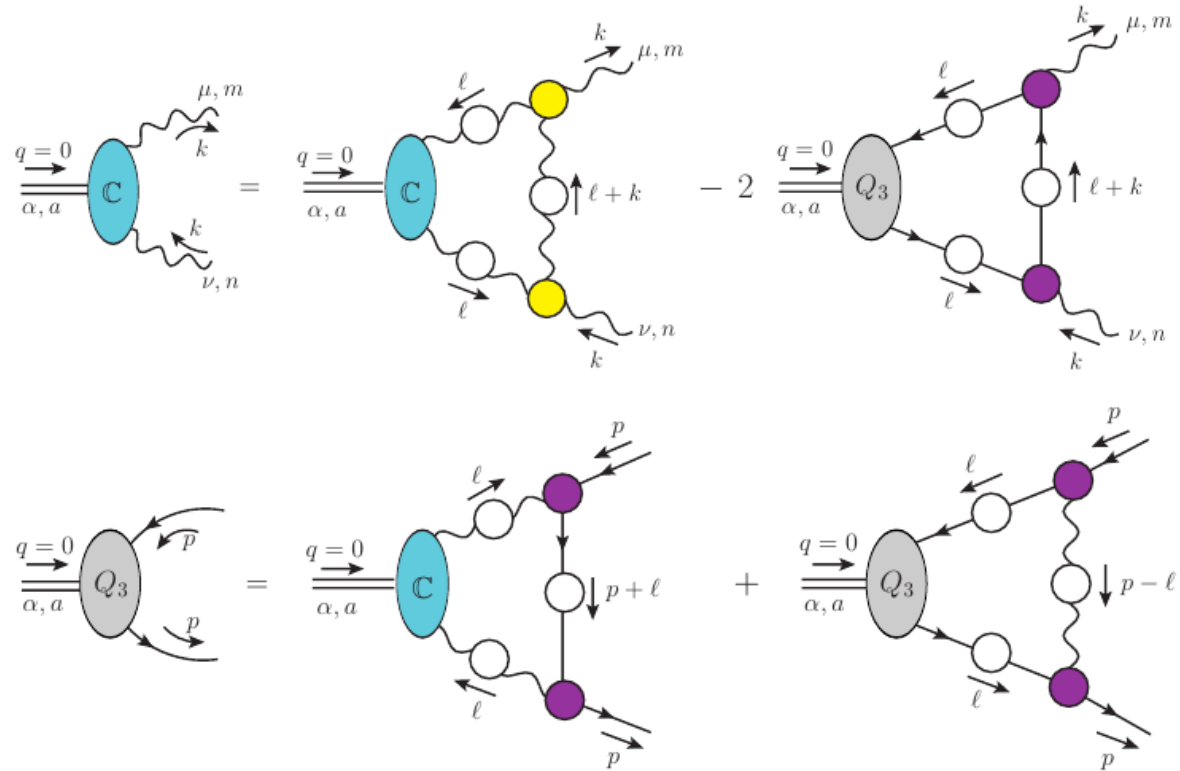
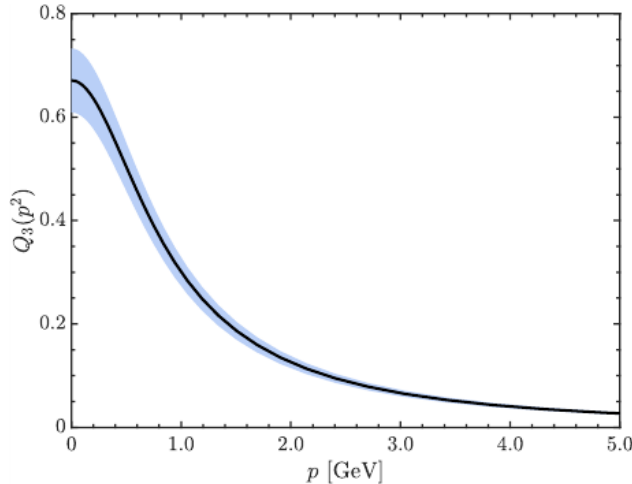
# Schwinger mechanism with dynamical quarks

- The three-gluon pole BSE has solutions even if quarks are neglected.
- Turning on quarks, changes the three-gluon BSE amplitude only in the deep IR.



# Schwinger mechanism with dynamical quarks

- The three-gluon pole BSE has solutions even if quarks are neglected.
- Turning on quarks, changes the three-gluon BSE amplitude only in the deep IR.
- But also generates a **pole in the quark-gluon vertex**, with amplitude  $Q_3(p^2)$ .

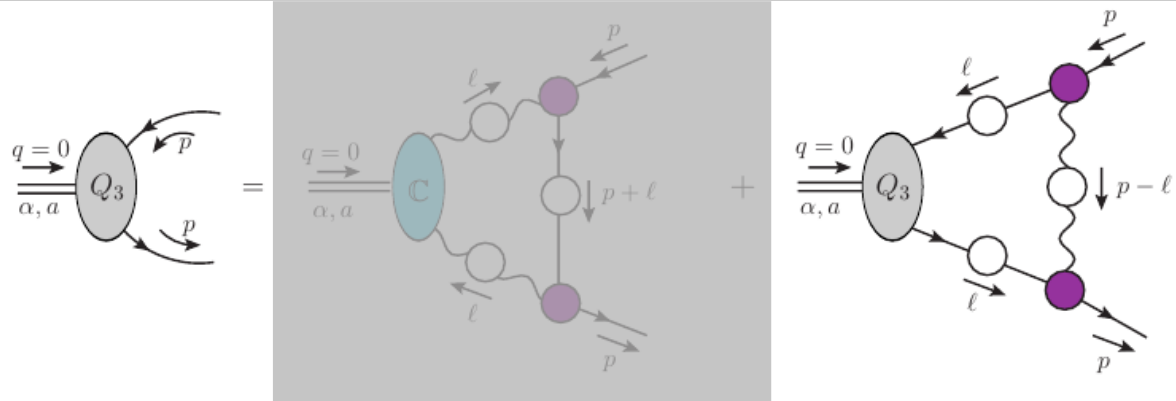
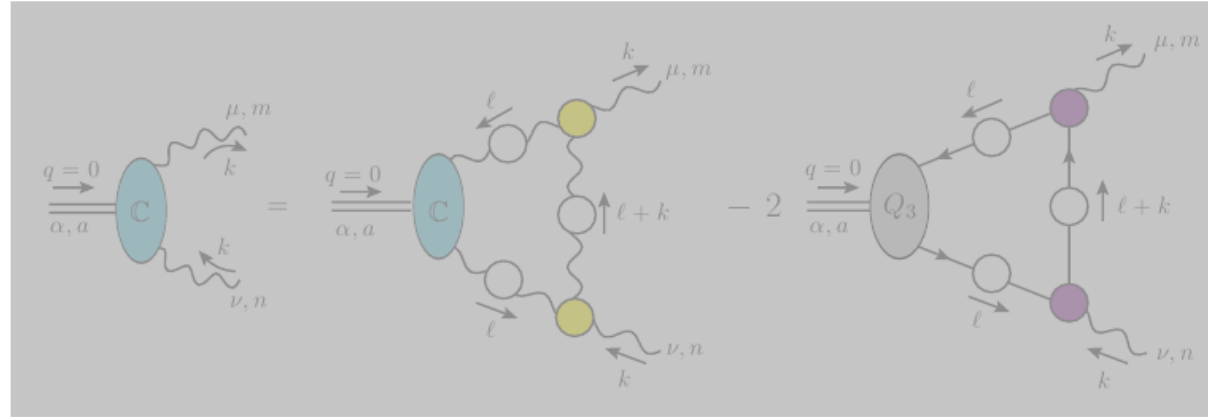


# Gluon self-interaction is dominant in generation of gluon mass gap

- The three-gluon pole BSE has solutions even if quarks are neglected.
- Turning on quarks, changes the three-gluon BSE amplitude only in the deep IR.
- But also generates a **pole in the quark-gluon vertex**, with amplitude  $Q_3(p^2)$ .
- But turning off the three-gluon pole, no solution is found!




Gluon self-interaction drives gluon mass generation



# Ward identity displacement of the quark-gluon vertex

$$q^\alpha \Pi_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) = F(q^2) [S^{-1}(p_1) H(q, p_2, -p_1) - \overline{H}(-q, p_1, -p_2) S^{-1}(p_2)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
 Ward identity


$$\lambda_1(p^2) = F(0) A(p^2) \{ [1 + 4p^\mu \boxed{K_4(p^2)} - 2\boxed{K_1(p^2)}] \mathcal{M}(p^2) \} - Q_3(p^2)$$

Partial derivative of the quark-ghost kernel

$$\left. \frac{\partial H(q, p, -q - p)}{\partial q^\mu} \right|_{q=0} = \gamma_\mu K_1(p^2) + 4p_\mu \not{p} K_2(p^2) + 2p_\mu K_3(p^2) + 2\tilde{\sigma}_{\mu\nu} p^\nu K_4(p^2)$$

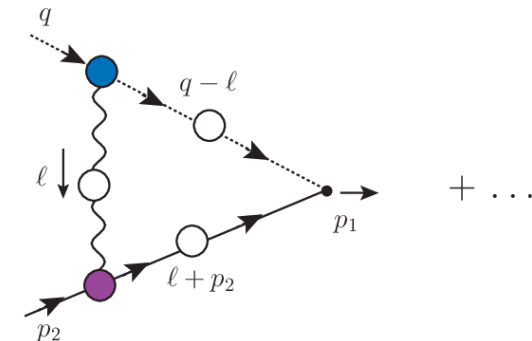
# Ward identity displacement of the quark-gluon vertex

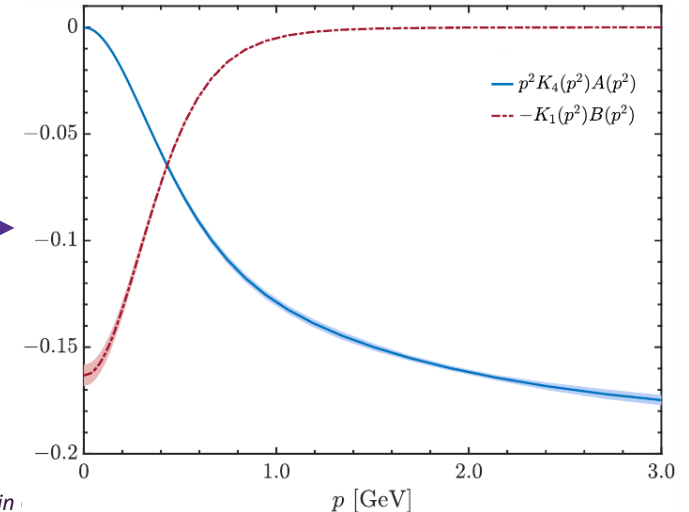
$$q^\alpha \Pi_\alpha(q, p_2, -p_1) = F(q^2) [S^{-1}(p_1) H(q, p_2, -p_1) - \overline{H}(-q, p_1, -p_2) S^{-1}(p_2)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$   Isolate classical tensor structure  
Ward identity

$$\lambda_1(p^2) = F(0) A(p^2) \{ [1 + 4p^2 K_4(p^2)] - 2K_1(p^2) \mathcal{M}(p^2) \} - Q_3(p^2)$$

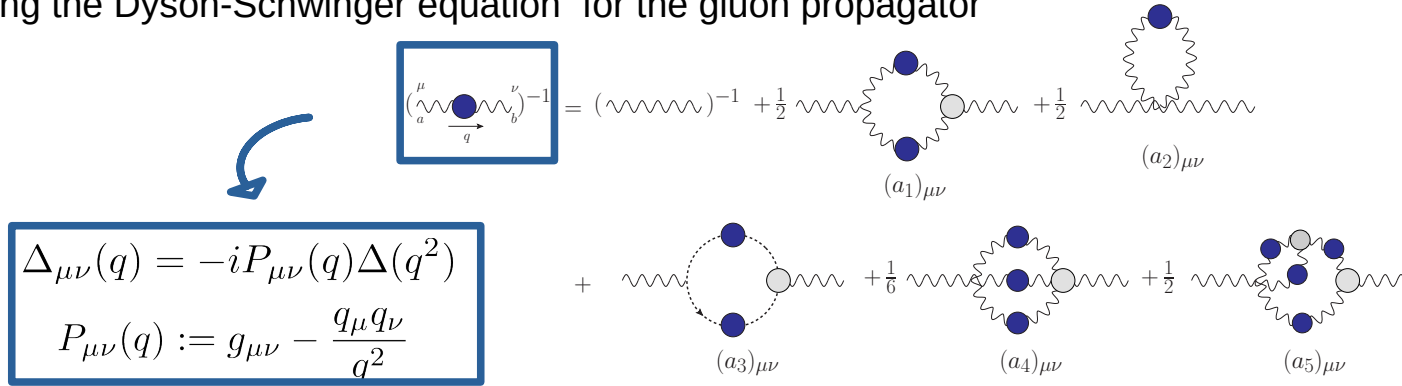
Computed through a lattice driven Dyson-Schwinger analysis

$$H^a(q, p_2, -p_1) = -g \frac{\lambda^a}{2} +$$




# Seagull cancellation

- The **gluon mass gap generation must occur without violating gauge symmetry.**
- Recalling the Dyson-Schwinger equation for the gluon propagator



It can be shown that

**Gauge symmetry + Regular vertices at  $q^2 = 0 \implies \Delta^{-1}(0) = 0$**

★ **The key to generate gluon mass gap is to have massless poles, longitudinally coupled to the gluon momenta, in the vertices of QCD.**

A. C. Aguilar and J. Papavassiliou, JHEP **12**, 012 (2006).  
 A. C. Aguilar, D. Ibanez, V. Mathieu and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **85**, 014018 (2012).  
 A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **94**, no.4, 045002 (2016).  
 A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi and J. Papavassiliou, Front. Phys. (Beijing) **11**, no.2, 11203 (2016).  
 M. Eichmann, J. M. Pawłowski and J. M. Silva, Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.11, 114016 (2021).  
 Mauricio N. Ferreira, mferreira@nuj.edu.cn, 19/09/24, "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

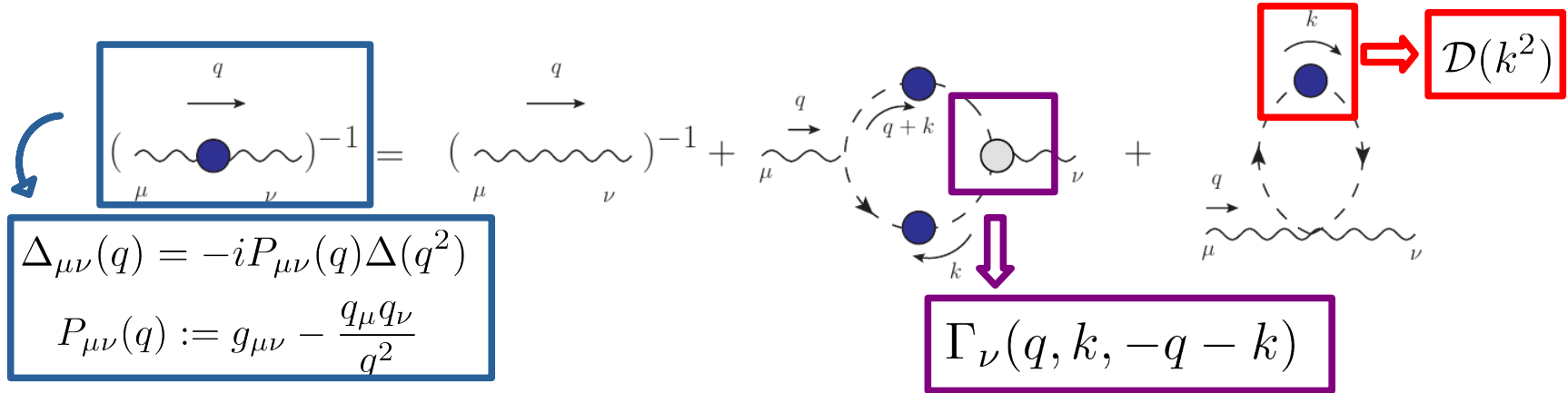
# Seagull cancellation

To understand **how gauge fields can become massive by the Schwinger mechanism**, let us first recall how gauge symmetry **usually** implies their masslessness.

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **94**, no.4, 045002 (2016).

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi and J. Papavassiliou, Front. Phys. (Beijing) **11**, no.2, 111203 (2016).

To this end, consider the **Dyson-Schwinger equation** for the scalar QED **photon propagator**



At  $q = 0$ , we obtain:

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = \frac{2ie^2}{d} \int_k \mathcal{D}^2(k^2) k^\mu \Gamma_\mu(0, k, -k) - 2ie^2 \int_k \mathcal{D}(k^2)$$



# Seagull cancellation

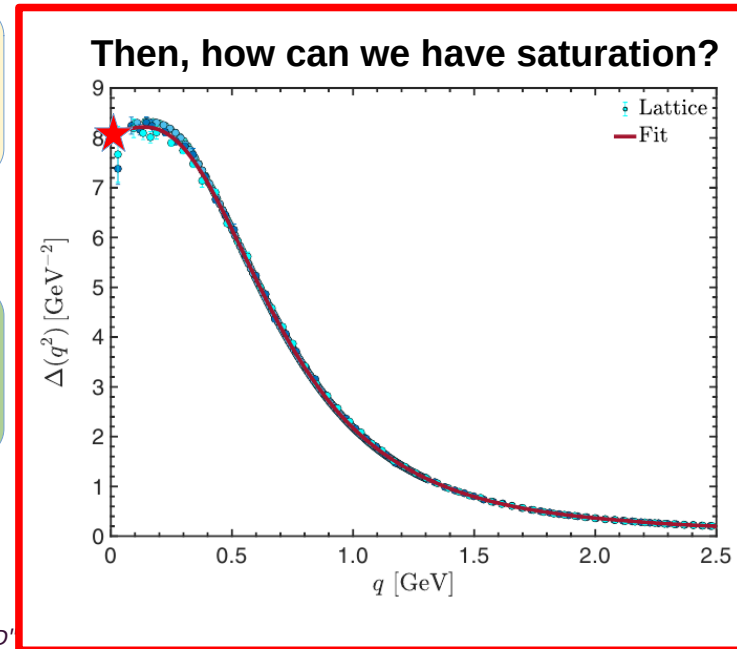
Now, **gauge symmetry** implies the **Ward identity**:

$$q^\mu \Gamma_\mu(q, r, p) = \mathcal{D}^{-1}(p^2) - \mathcal{D}^{-1}(r^2) \quad \xrightarrow{q=0} \quad \Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^\mu}$$

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = \frac{2ie^2}{d} \int_k \mathcal{D}^2(k^2) k^\mu \Gamma_\mu(0, k, -k) - 2ie^2 \int_k \mathcal{D}(k^2)$$

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = -\frac{4ie^2}{d} \left[ \int_k k^2 \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}^{-1}(k^2)}{\partial k^2} + \frac{d}{2} \int_k \mathcal{D}(k^2) \right] = 0$$

Seagull identity (integration by parts in  $d$  dimensions).



A. C. Aguilar and J. Papavassiliou, JHEP **12**, 012 (2006).

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **94**, no. 4, 045002 (2016)

Mauricio N. Ferreira et al., mferreira@nju.edu.cn, 19/09/24, Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD

A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi and J. Papavassiliou, Front. Phys. (Beijing) **11**, no.2, 111203 (2016).

# Evading the seagull cancellation

Suppose the vertex has a **pole at  $q=0$ , coupled longitudinally to  $q$** , i.e.

A. C. Aguilar and J. Papavassiliou, JHEP **12**, 012 (2006).  
 A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **94**, no.4, 045002 (2016).

$$\Gamma_\mu(q, r, p) \rightarrow \Pi_\mu(q, r, p) = \boxed{\frac{q_\mu}{q^2} C(q, r, p)} + \Gamma_\mu(q, r, p)$$

Does not contribute explicitly to  $\Delta(q^2)$  because it is longitudinal.

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = \frac{2ie^2}{d} \int_k \mathcal{D}^2(k^2) k^\mu \Gamma_\mu(0, k, -k) - 2ie^2 \int_k \mathcal{D}(k^2)$$

However, now the regular part satisfies a “displaced” Ward identity:

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

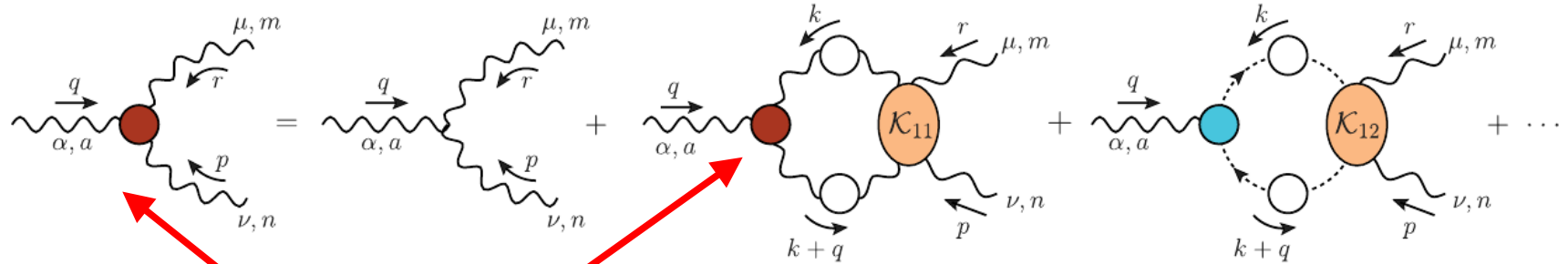
$$\Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}^{-1}(k^2)}{\partial k^\mu} - 2r_\mu \mathcal{C}(r^2)$$

$$\mathcal{C}(r^2) := \left[ \frac{\partial C(q, r, p)}{\partial p^2} \right]_{q=0} \quad \text{Displacement amplitude}$$

$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = -\frac{4ie^2}{d} \int_k k^2 \mathcal{D}^2(k^2) \mathcal{C}(k^2)$$

# Derivation of the Schwinger pole Bethe-Salpeter equation

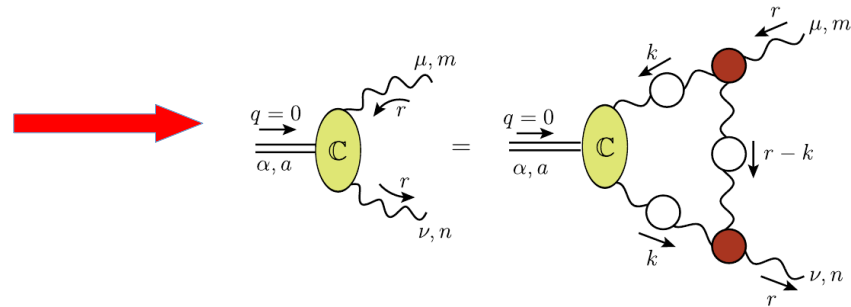
We start with the Dyson-Schwinger (or more generally nPI) equation for the vertex and assume the presence of a massless pole:



$$\mathbb{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = \Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) + \frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} C_1(q, r, p) + \dots$$

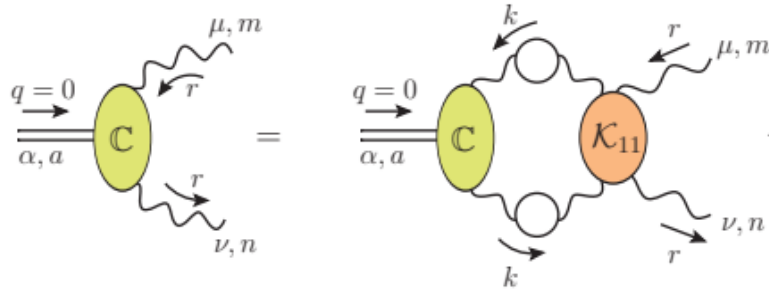
Now multiply by  $q^2$  and take  $q = 0$ . Only terms containing poles remain:

- Inhomogeneous Dyson-Schwinger equation becomes a Homogeneous Bethe-Salpeter equation.

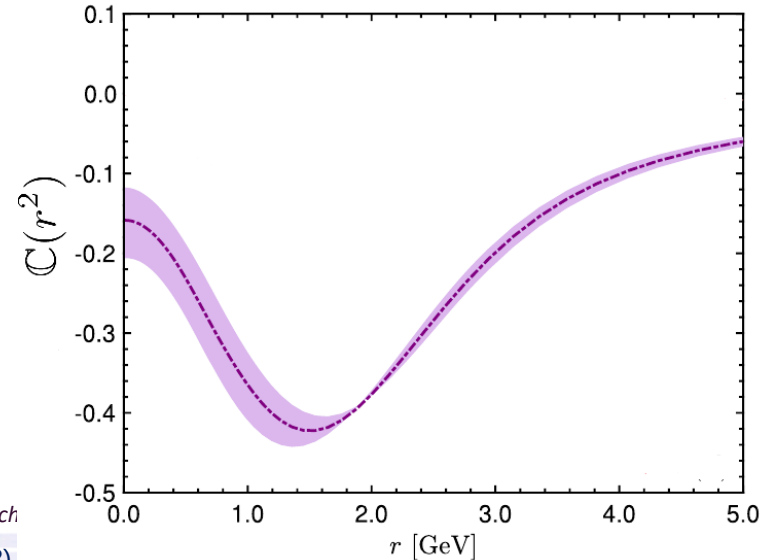
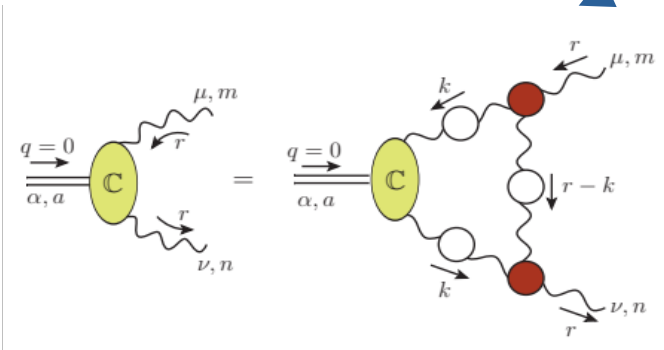
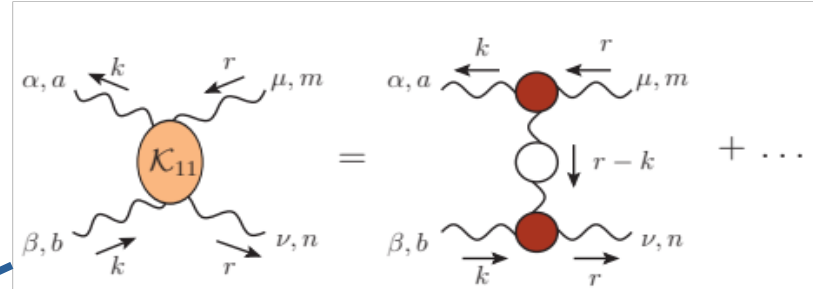


# One-gluon exchange approximation

From the Bethe-Salpeter equation, we can



Truncation



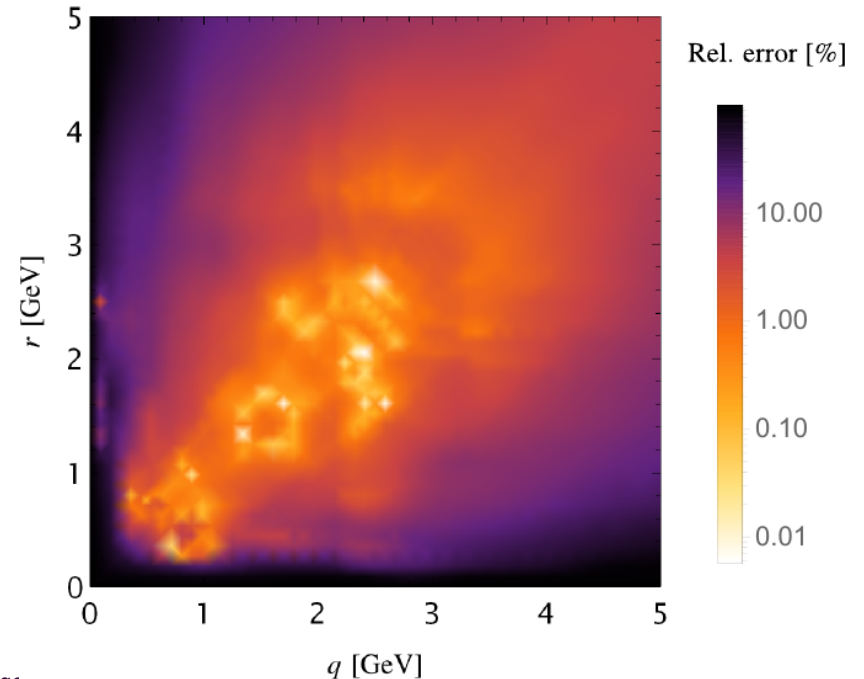
## Method 2): Planar degeneracy

To quantify the accuracy of the approximation it is convenient to define

$$\bar{\mathcal{I}}_{\mathcal{W}}(q^2, r^2, p^2) := \frac{\bar{\mathcal{I}}_{\mathcal{W}}(q^2, r^2, p^2)}{\bar{\mathcal{I}}_{\mathcal{W}}^0(q^2, r^2, p^2)} \xrightarrow{\text{Planar degeneracy}} \bar{\mathcal{I}}_{\mathcal{W}}(q^2, r^2, p^2) \approx L_{\text{sg}}(s^2)$$

Then we can measure the relative difference between  $L_{\text{sg}}(s^2)$  and  $\bar{\mathcal{I}}_{\mathcal{W}}(q^2, r^2, p^2)$

- Approximation is accurate to within 1% near the diagonal.
- And within 10% for most of the kinematics.
- The measured error can then be propagated to the  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$



# Results for $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$

We use the **planar degeneracy approximation** to obtain the **central curve**.

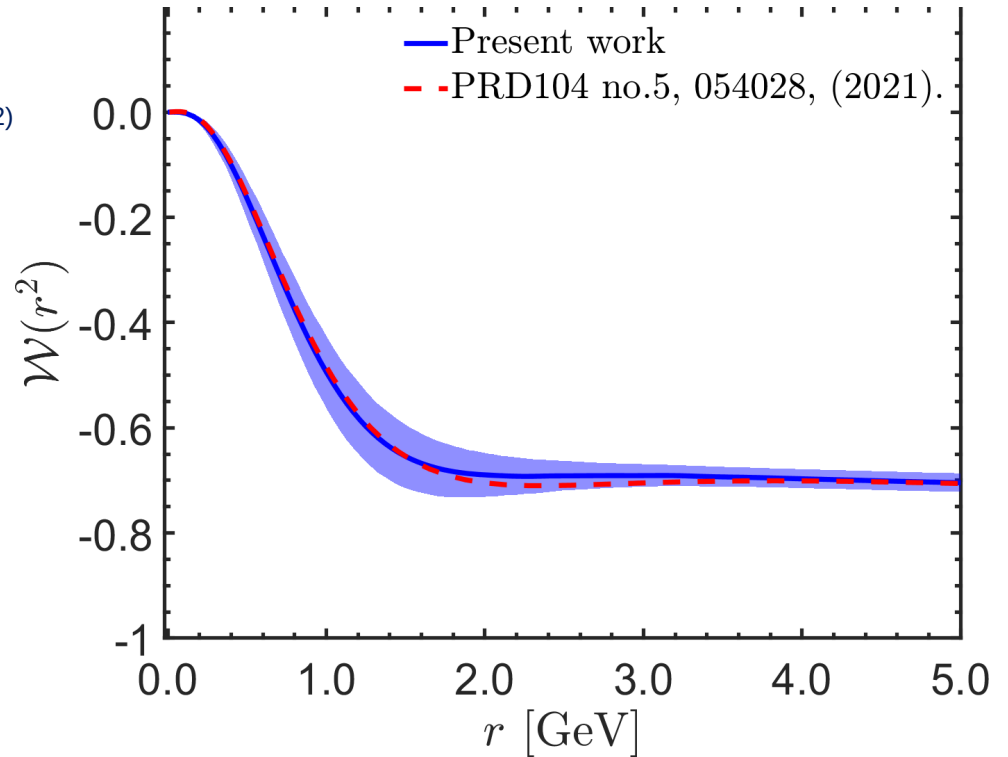
**Errors are propagated from known error of the planar degeneracy approximation.**

- **Result agrees well with previous calculation**

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D 105, no.1, 014030 (2022)

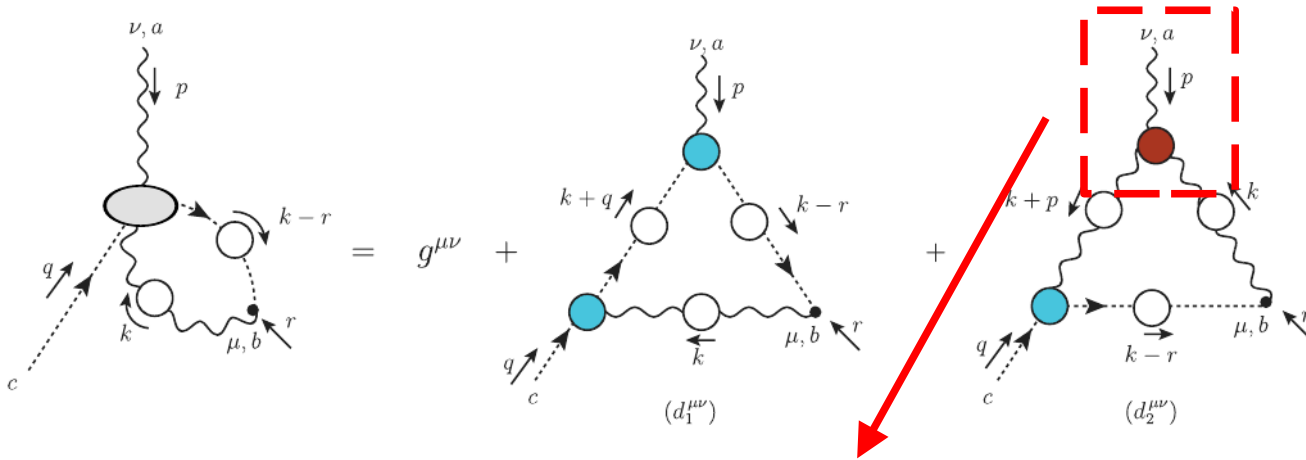
- Previous result employed a particular *Ansatz* for three-gluon vertex.
- **New result stringently constrained by lattice simulation of the three-gluon vertex.**

**Impact of three-gluon vertex  
under control**



# Truncation error

The full Dyson-Schwinger equation for  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  is



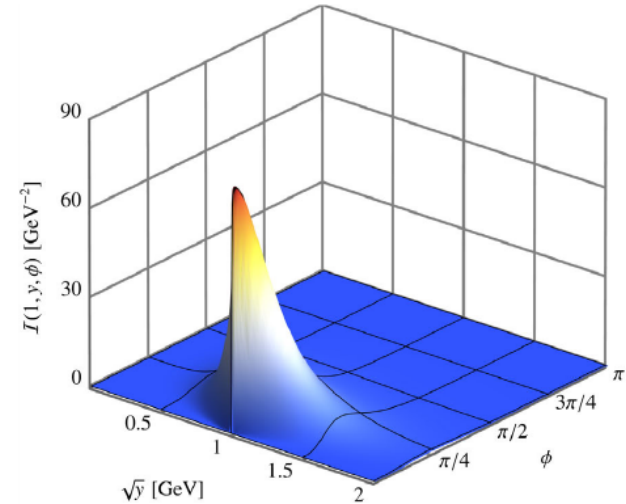
- Three-gluon vertex is a complicated object, with 14 tensor structures.

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, *Phys. Rev. D* **99**, no.9, 094010 (2019).

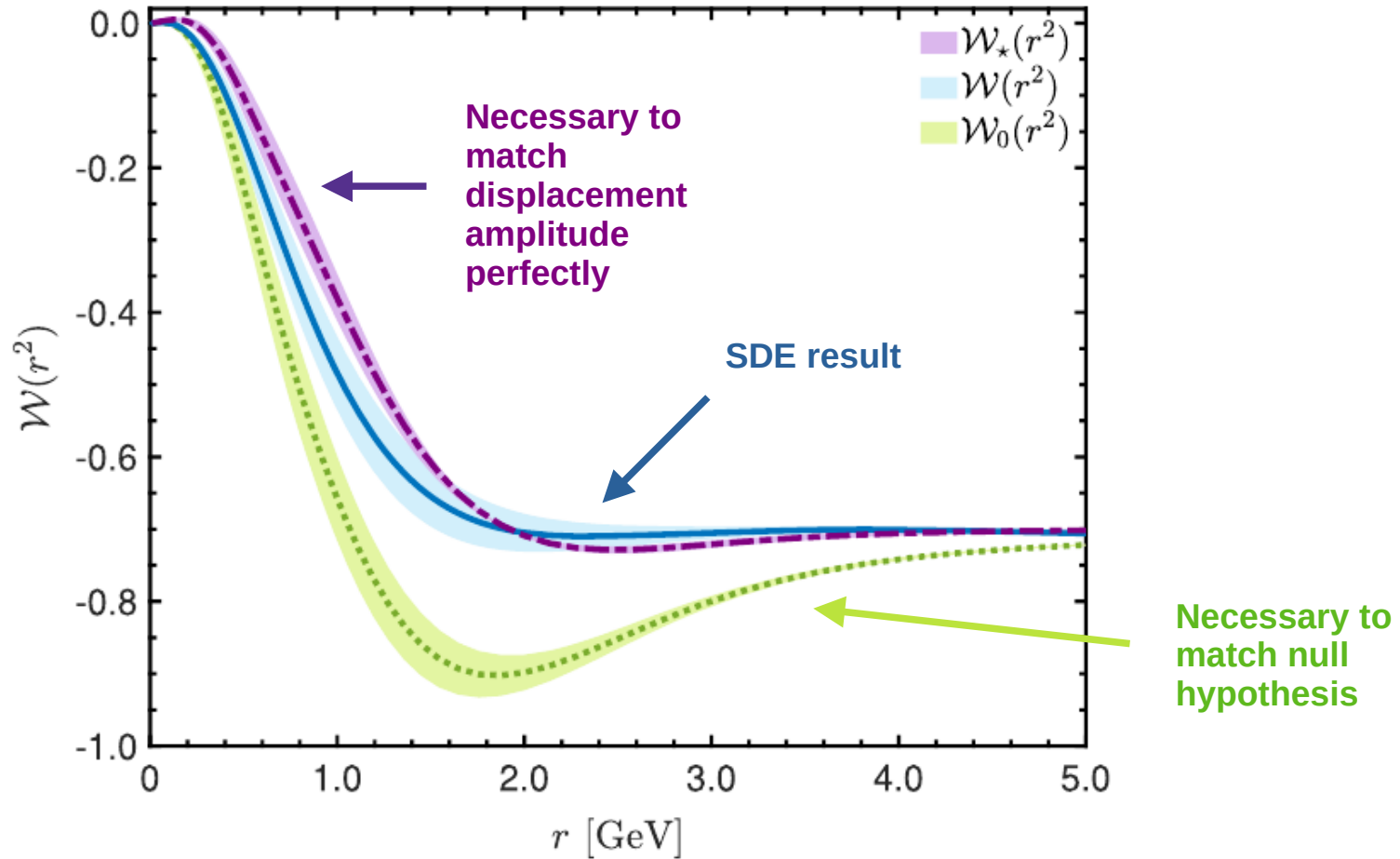
J. S. Ball and T. W. Chiu, *Phys. Rev. D* **22**, 2550 (1980). [erratum: *Phys. Rev. D* **23**, 3085 (1981)].

- But  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$  integrand is sharply peaked, and is sensitive only to the particular projection  $L_{\text{sg}}(r^2)$  which is well determined by **lattice simulations**.

A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, *Phys. Rev. D* **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).



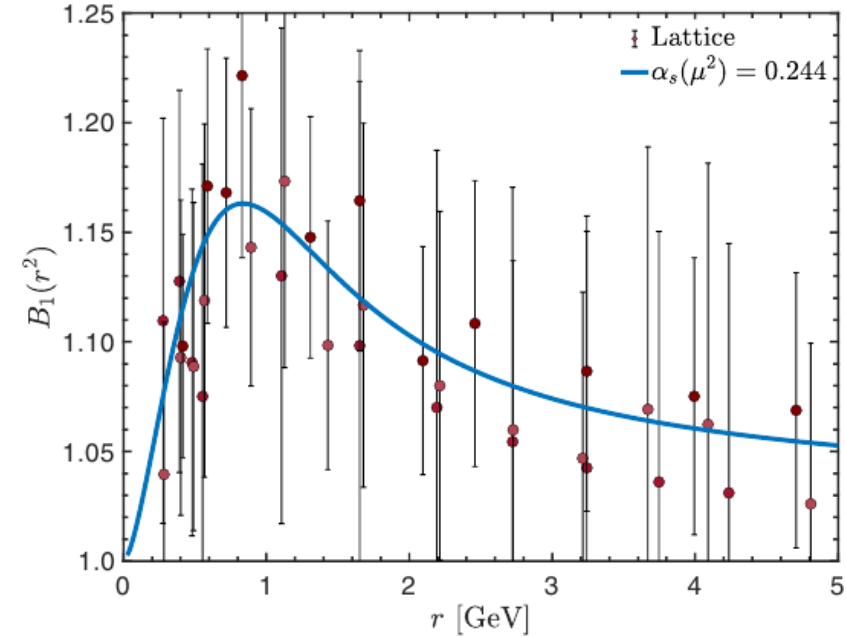
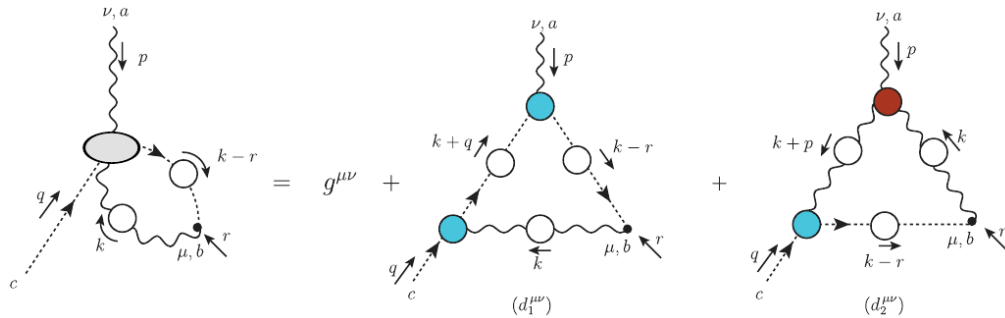
# Truncation error





# Truncation error

The same truncation used to determine  $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$ , reproduces the available lattice data for the ghost-gluon vertex:



A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Lattice data from: A. C. Aguilar, et al Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.5, 054028 (2021).  
 Maurício N. Ferreira ... mnferreira@nju.edu.cn ... 19/09/24 ... "Gluon mass gap through the Schwinger mechanism in QCD"

# Inputs

The parametrizations to lattice data used were of the form:

$$\Delta^{-1}(r^2) = r^2 \left[ \frac{d}{1 + (r^2/\kappa^2)} \ln \left( \frac{r^2}{\mu^2} \right) + A^\delta(r^2) \right] + \nu^2 R(r^2),$$

$$F^{-1}(r^2) = A^\gamma(r^2) + R(r^2),$$

where

$$A(r^2) := 1 + \omega \ln \left( \frac{r^2 + \eta^2(r^2)}{\mu^2 + \eta^2(r^2)} \right),$$

$$\eta^2(r^2) = \frac{\eta_1^2}{1 + r^2/\eta_2^2},$$

$$R(r^2) = \frac{b_0 + b_1^2 r^2}{1 + (r^2/b_2^2) + (r^2/b_3^2)^2} - \frac{b_0 + b_1^2 \mu^2}{1 + (\mu^2/b_2^2) + (r^2/b_3^2)^2}.$$