

Schwinger mechanism in QCD

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From first-principles QCD to experiments
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Dynamical mass generation in QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial^\mu A_\mu^a)^2 - \bar{c}^a \partial^\mu D_\mu^{ab} c^b + \mathcal{L}_{\text{quarks}}$$

- All fundamental **fields are massless** at the level of the QCD Lagrangian
- Perturbation theory cannot generate mass at any finite order

And yet we are brimming with masses!

- 98% of the mass of the hadrons **generated by the nonperturbative QCD dynamics.**
- To study **dynamical mass generation**, we look at the behavior of the nonperturbative QCD Green's function (propagators and vertices).

Mass generation leaves **distinctive signals in the infrared** momentum region of several Green's functions.

Glun mass generation

Glun self-interactions can generate a dynamical mass

J. M. Cornwall, *Phys. Rev. D* **26**, 1453 (1982)

- Lattice QCD: **The glun propagator saturates in the deep infrared**

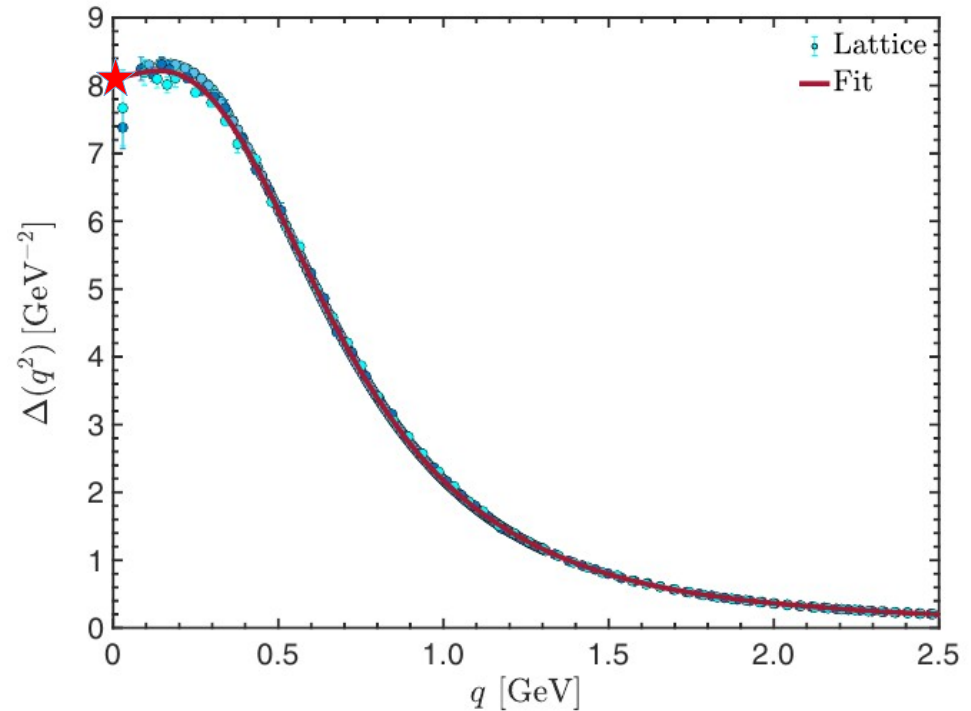
I. L. Bogolubsky, et al, *Phys. Lett. B* **676**, 69-73 (2009).

A. Cucchieri and T. Mendes, *Phys. Rev. D* **81**, 016005 (2010).

P. Bicudo, et al, *Phys. Rev. D* **92**, no.11, 114514 (2015).

A. C. Aguilar, et al, *Eur. Phys. J. C* **80**, no.2, 154 (2020).

- Unequivocal signal of glun mass generation
- All symmetries must be explicitly preserved
- A mass term $m^2 A$ in the Lagrangian is forbidden by gauge invariance.



How can the glun acquire a mass gap?

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)

Schwinger-Dyson equation for gauge boson propagator

$$\left(\text{wavy line} \text{ with } q \right)^{-1} = \left(\text{wavy line} \text{ with } q \right)^{-1} + \text{wavy line} \text{ with } q \text{ loop with } q \text{ wavy line with } q$$



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

If, for some reason

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

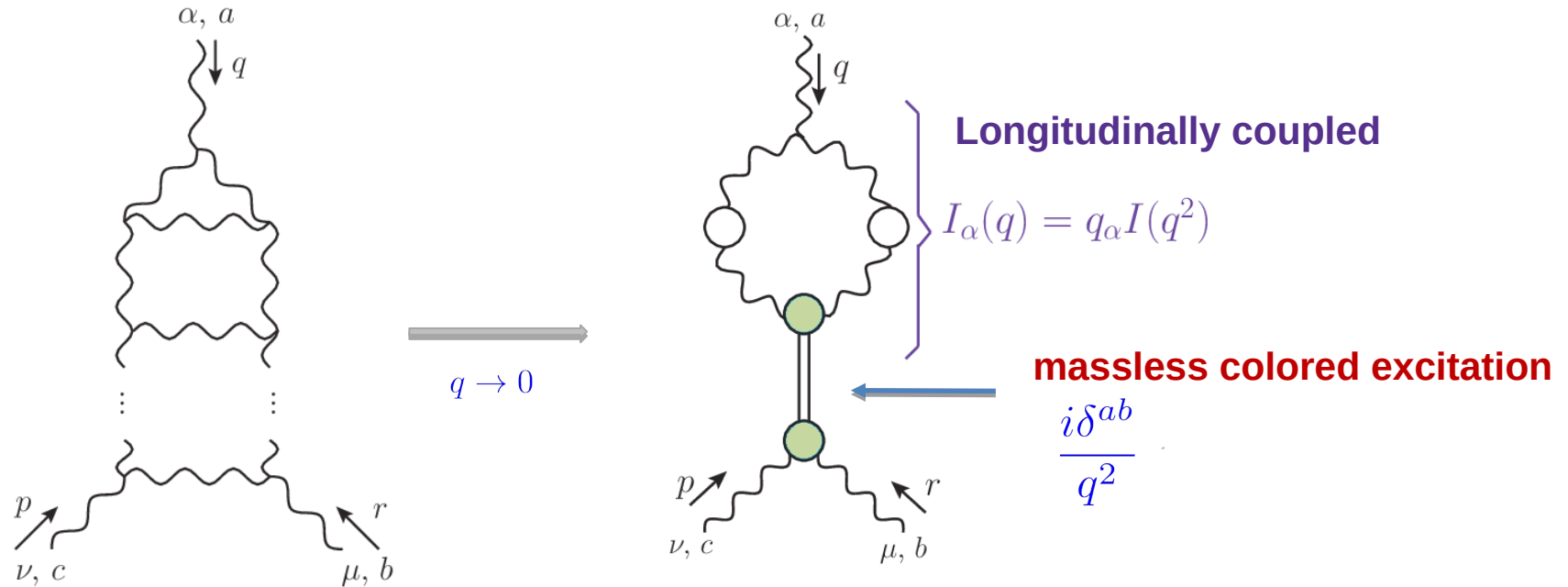


$$\Delta^{-1}(0) = c > 0$$

But how can the vacuum polarization acquire such a pole?

Massless bound state formalism

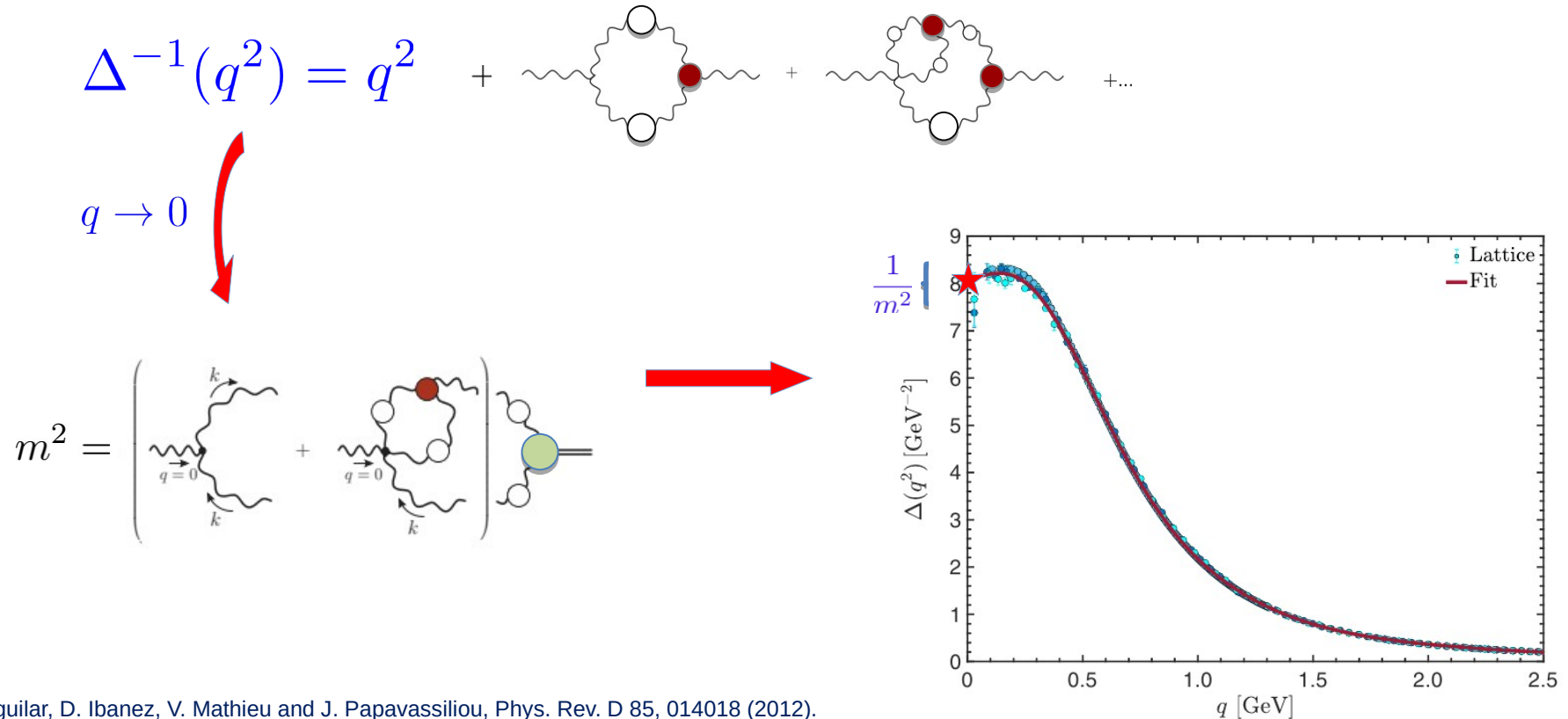
If the interaction is sufficiently strong \longrightarrow formation of **massless bound states**



$$\Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}^{abc}(q, r, p) = \Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}^{abc}(q, r, p) + \left[g f^{abc} \frac{q_\alpha}{q^2} g_{\mu\nu} C_1(q, r, p) \right] + \dots$$

Massless bound state formalism

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



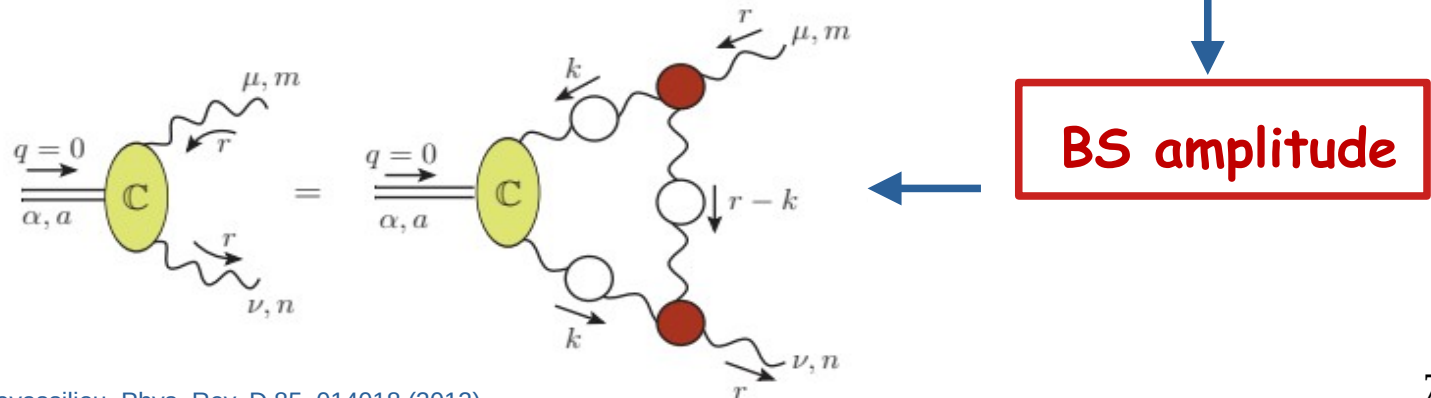
Bethe-Salpeter equation

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

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

Bose symmetry $\implies C_1(0, r, -r) = 0 \implies \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} C_1(q, r, p) = 2(q \cdot r) \underbrace{\left[\frac{\partial C_1(q, r, p)}{\partial p^2} \right]_{q=0}}_{\mathbb{C}(r^2)} + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$

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

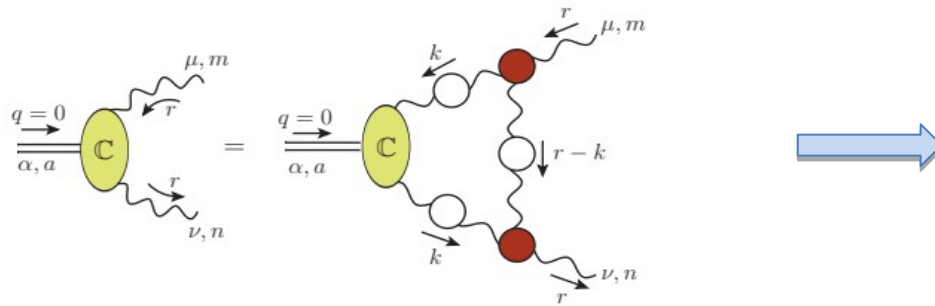


Bethe-Salpeter equation

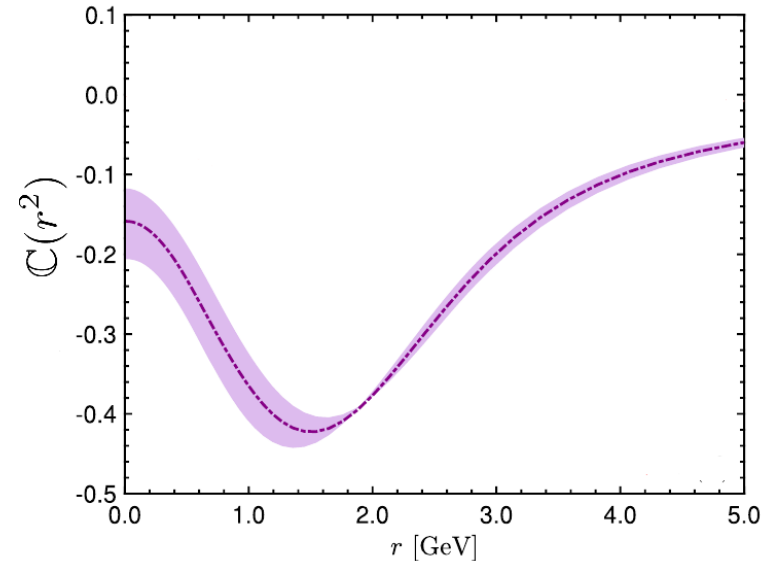
The Bethe-Salpeter equation admits **nontrivial solutions compatible with lattice ingredients** for the:

- 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).



BS amplitude



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

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

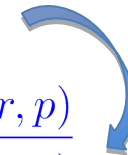
Given that the poles are **longitudinally coupled**:

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

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



Lattice extracts the pole-free part of the vertex.



Testing the Schwinger mechanism with lattice QCD

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 toy example: scalar QED

Schwinger mechanism **off**



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

Ward identity

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

Tensorial decomposition

$$\Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r) = L(r^2) r_\mu$$

$$L(r^2) = 2 \frac{\partial D^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2}$$

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 Takahashi identity does **not** change

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

$q \rightarrow 0$ Taylor expansion

Ward identity

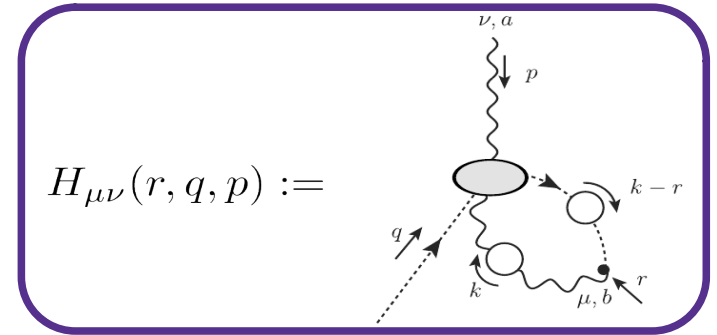
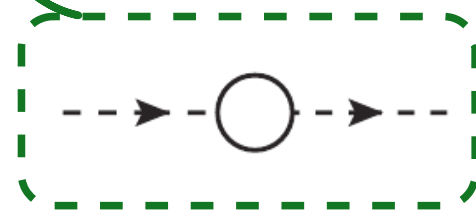
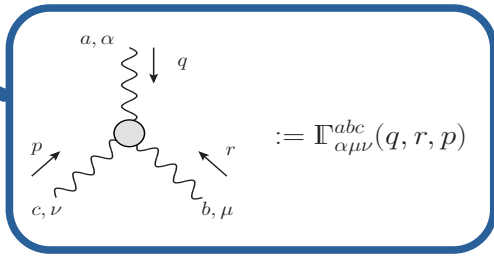
$$\Gamma_\mu(0, r, -r) = \frac{\partial D^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^\mu} - 2r_\mu \underbrace{\left[\frac{\partial C(q, r, p)}{\partial p^2} \right]_{q=0}}_{C(r^2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow L(r^2) = 2 \frac{\partial D^{-1}(r^2)}{\partial r^2} - \underbrace{2 C(r^2)}_{\text{Displacement = BS amplitude}}$$

Ward identity displacement in QCD

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

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




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

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

And expand around $q = 0$

Ward identity displacement in QCD

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

$q \rightarrow 0$ 

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

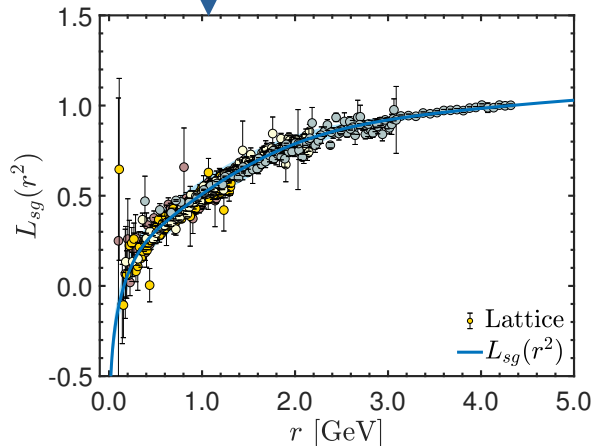
- ★ Ingredients can (mostly) be computed with lattice simulations.
- ★ Combine ingredients and determine if there is a nontrivial displacement.

Ward identity displacement in QCD

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

$q \rightarrow 0$ 
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

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

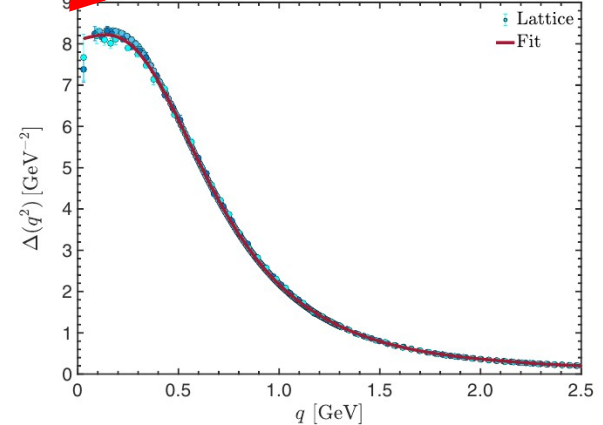
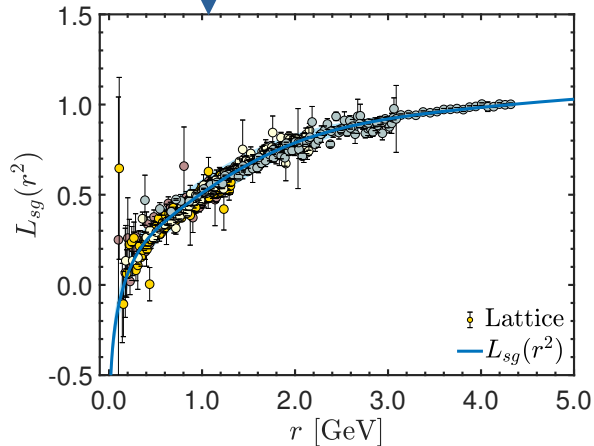
$$P_{\mu\nu}(q) := g_{\mu\nu} - q_\mu q_\nu / q^2$$

Ward identity displacement in QCD

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


$q \rightarrow 0$ 
Ward identity

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

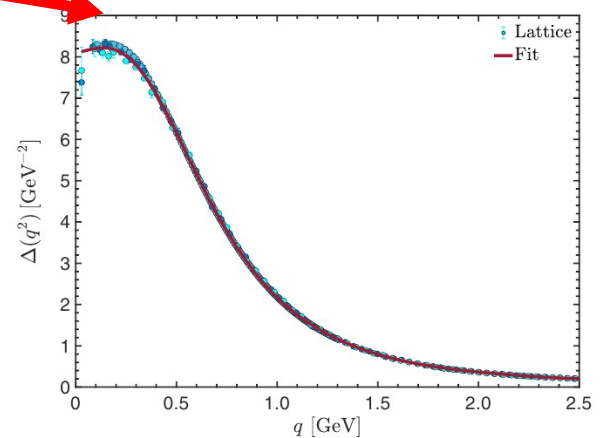
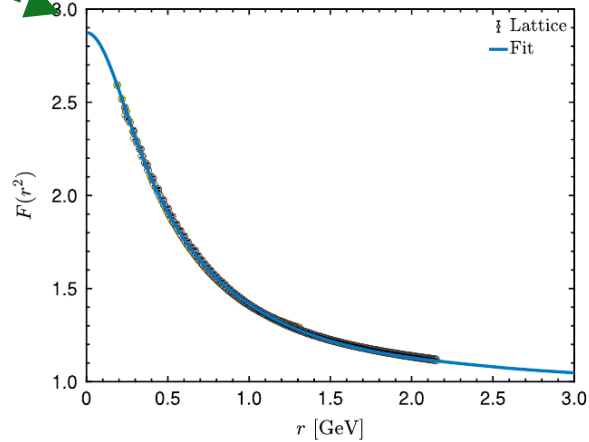
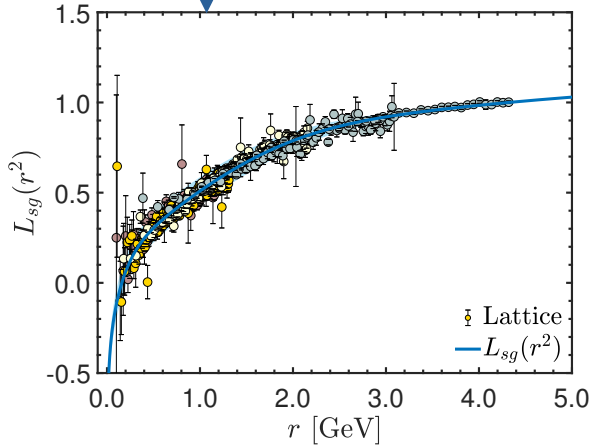


Ward identity displacement in QCD

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

$q \rightarrow 0$ 
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

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

$$q \rightarrow 0 \quad \downarrow$$


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 ingredient not yet determined directly by lattice simulations.

Ward identity displacement in QCD

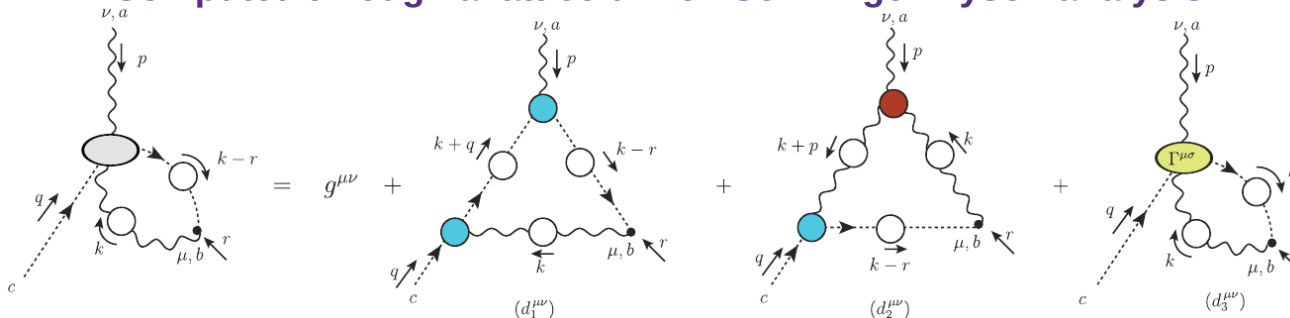
$$q^\alpha \Pi_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) = F(q^2) [\Delta^{-1}(p^2) P_\nu^\sigma(p) H_{\sigma\mu}(p, q, r) - \Delta^{-1}(r^2) P_\mu^\sigma(r) H_{\sigma\nu}(r, q, p)]$$

$q \rightarrow 0$ 
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
Computed through a lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson analysis

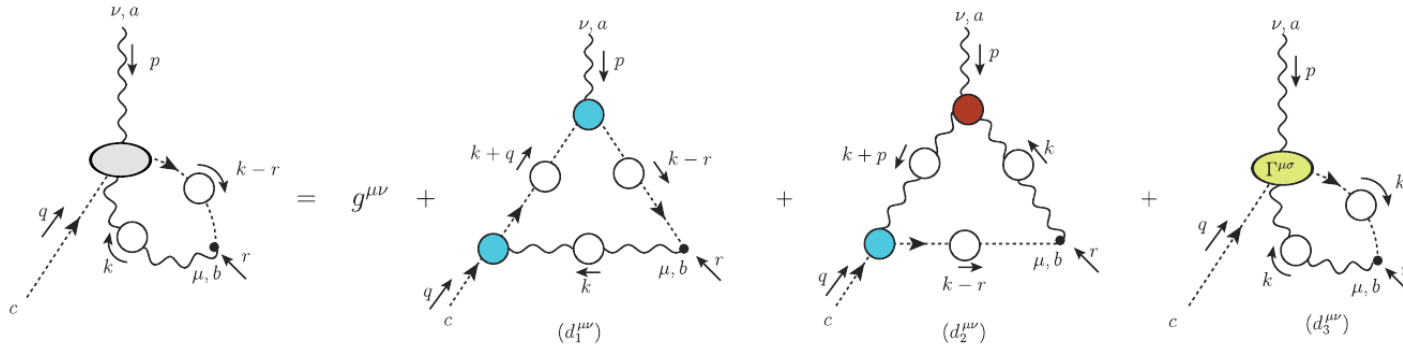


A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D 105, no.1, 014030 (2022).

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

Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculations

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



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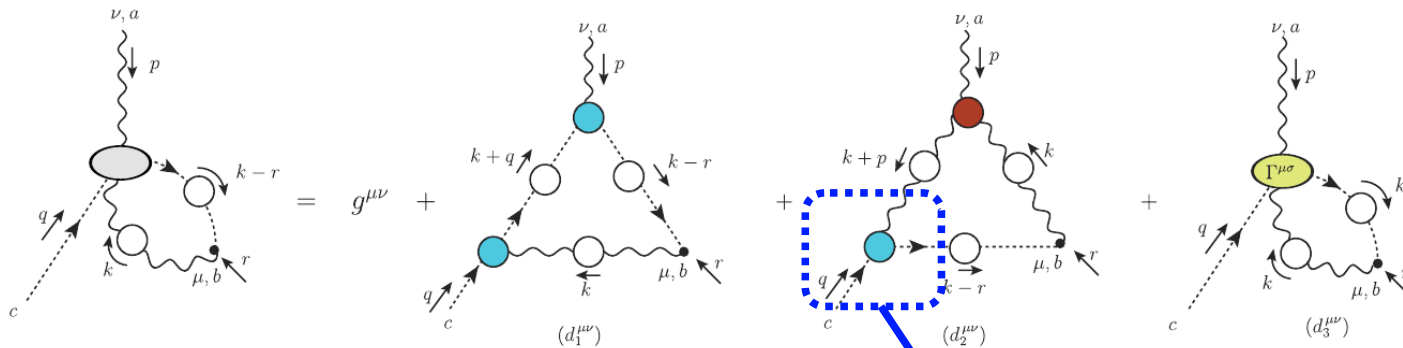
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Depends on 5 ingredients, all of which are now well constrained:

- 1) Ghost propagator;
- 2) Gluon propagator;

Lattice driven Schwinger-Dyson calculations

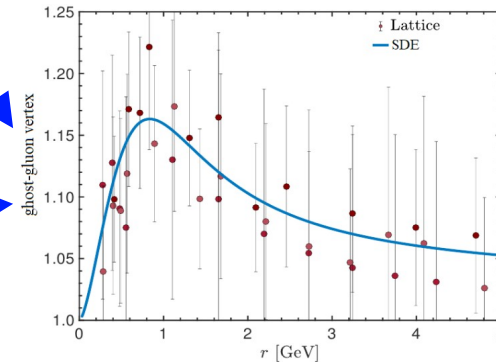
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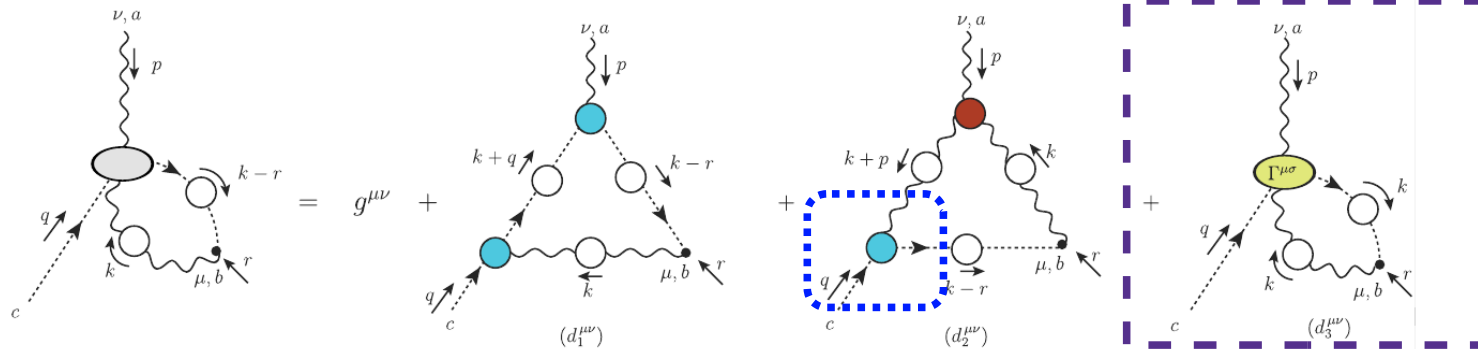
- 1) Ghost propagator;
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- 3) Ghost-gluon vertex;



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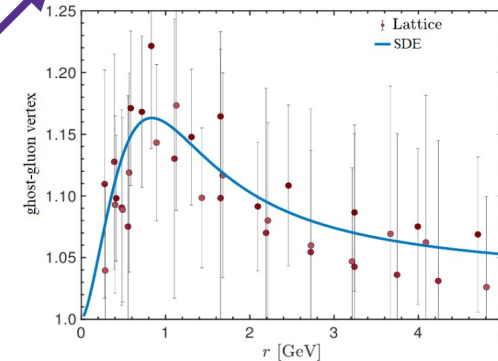


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(2% effect). M. Q. Huber, Eur. Phys. J. C **77**, 733 (2017).

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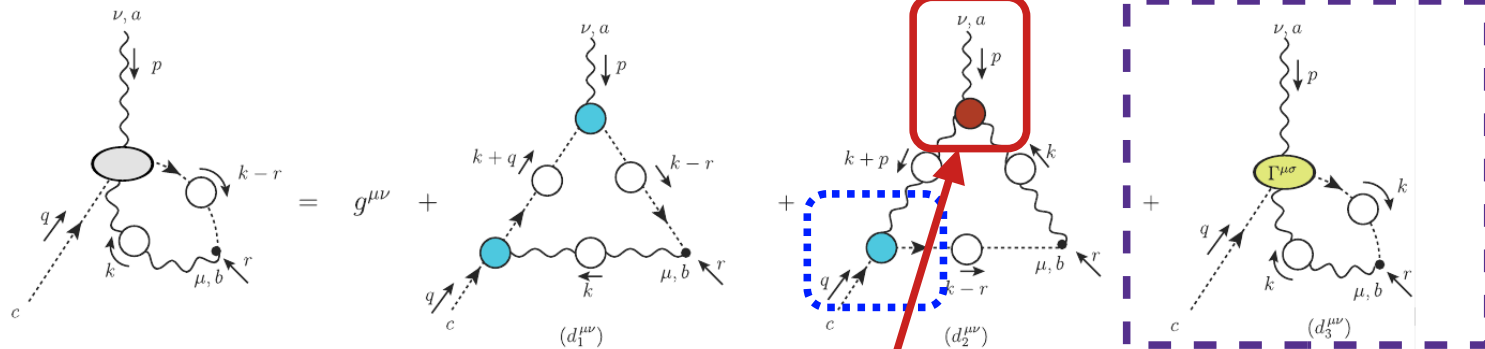
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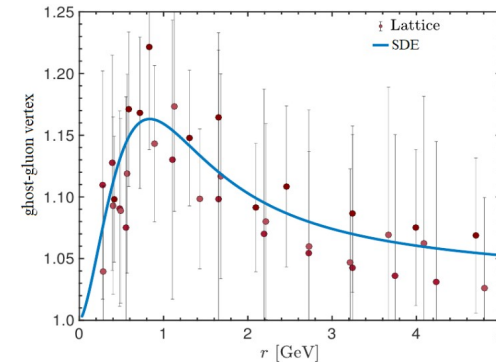


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Depends on 5 ingredients, all of which are now well constrained:

- 1) Ghost propagator;
- 2) Gluon propagator;
- 3) Ghost-gluon vertex;
- 4) The four-point function is expected to be subleading
- 5) The main uncertainty is in the three-gluon vertex



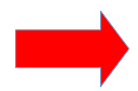
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Three-gluon vertex content

For $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$, only a particular projection contributes:

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{W}}(q^2, r^2, p^2) := \frac{1}{2}(q-r)^\nu \bar{\Pi}_{\mu\nu}^\mu(q, r, p)$$

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

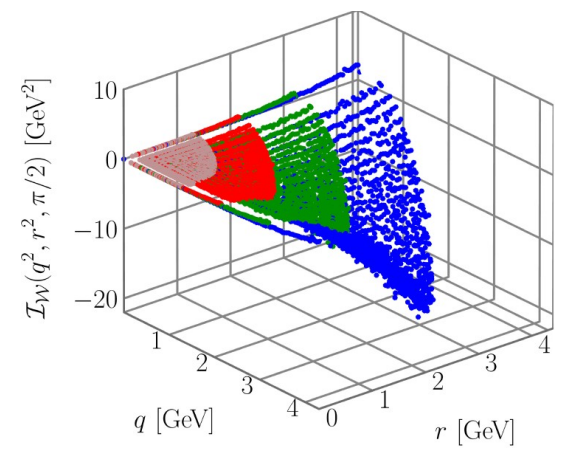


- **Transverse projection of the vertex.**
- **Pole-free**
- **Accessible to lattice simulations.**

The projection $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{W}}$ can be computed by two different methods that rely on lattice results:

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M1) Direct simulation



- No approximation.
- Restricted to momenta < 5 GeV

M2) Planar degeneracy (see F. De Soto's talk)

Lattice and continuum studies have shown the accuracy of the approximation:

$$\bar{\Pi}_{\alpha\mu\nu}(q, r, p) \approx \bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}^0(q, r, p) L_{\text{sg}}(s^2) \quad s^2 := (q^2 + r^2 + p^2)/2$$

where $\bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\mu\nu}^0(q, r, p)$ is the tree-level transverse vertex.

- $L_{\text{sg}}(s^2)$ is accurately known for entire range of momenta.

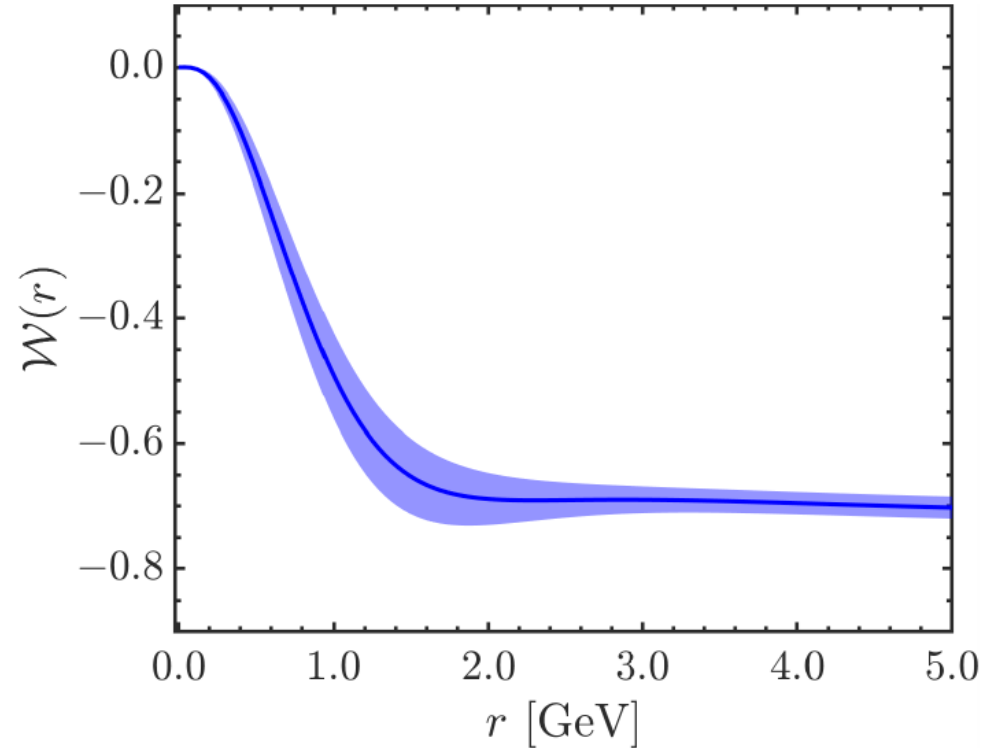
G. Eichmann, R. Williams, R. Alkofer, M. Vujanovic, Phys. Rev. D **89**, 105014 (2014).
 A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 054005 (2016).
 R. Williams, C. S. Fischer, and W. Heupel, Phys. Rev. D **93**, no. 3, 034026 (2016).
 M. Q. Huber, Phys. Rev. D **101**, 114009 (2020).
 F. Pinto-Gómez, F. De Soto, M. N. Ferreira, J. Papavassiliou and J. Rodríguez-Quintero, Phys. Lett. B **838**, 137737 (2023).
 A. C. Aguilar, M. N. Ferreira, J. Papavassiliou and L. R. Santos, arXiv:2305.05704

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.

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



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

With $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$ at hand, we can compute $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$ from the **WI displacement**

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

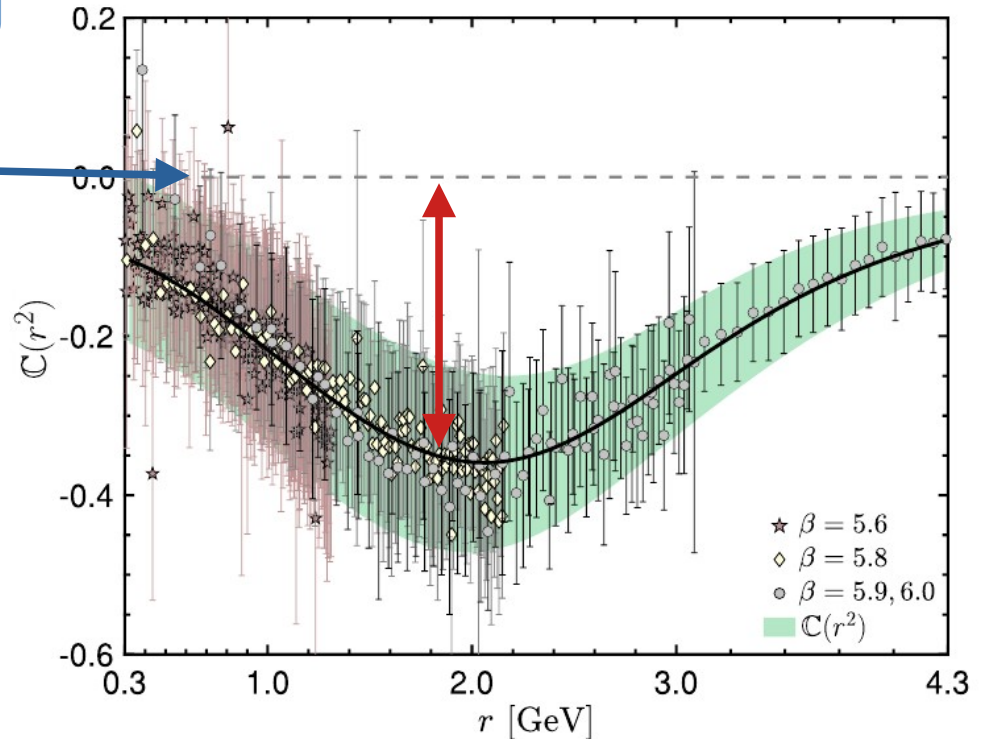
- Clearly nonzero.
- Define the **null hypothesis**,

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

***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 5σ level.

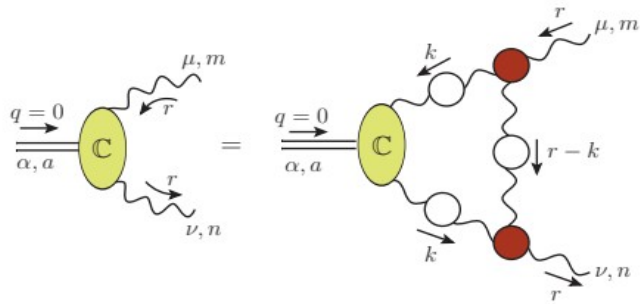


Results for $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$

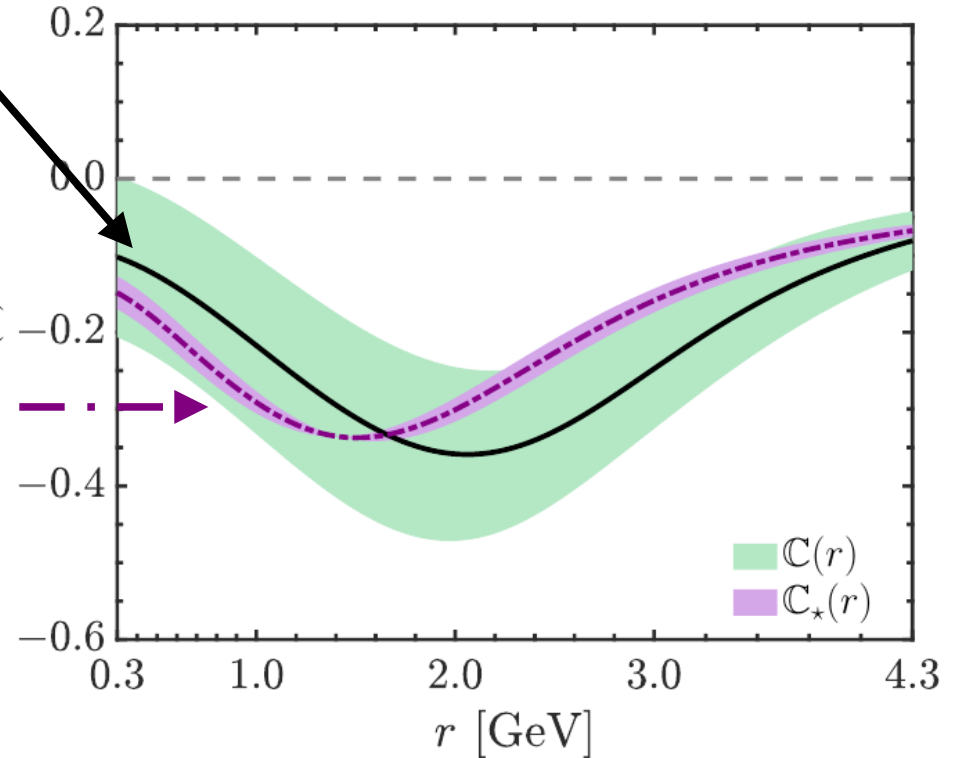
With $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$ at hand, we can compute $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$ from the **WI displacement**

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

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



$\mathbb{C}(r)$



Conclusions and outlook

- The **WI displacement** allows us to determine the amplitude $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$ of the **poles that trigger the Schwinger mechanism** in **QCD**.
- Only one ingredient, $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$, not directly accessed by lattice simulations.
- We capitalize on **general kinematics lattice simulations of the three-gluon vertex to stringently control** $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$.
- Our results show **a nonzero $\mathbb{C}(r^2)$ with probability near unity**.

In the near future we will explore additional predictions of the Schwinger mechanism:

- Indirect signals: value of the Kugo-Ojima function at the origin (see P. J. Silva's talk).
- Schwinger poles are expected to appear in other vertices, e.g.: **quark-gluon** and **four-gluon**, that can also be simulated on the lattice (see O. Oliveira's talk).
- These vertices might exhibit their own WI displacements.

Backup slides

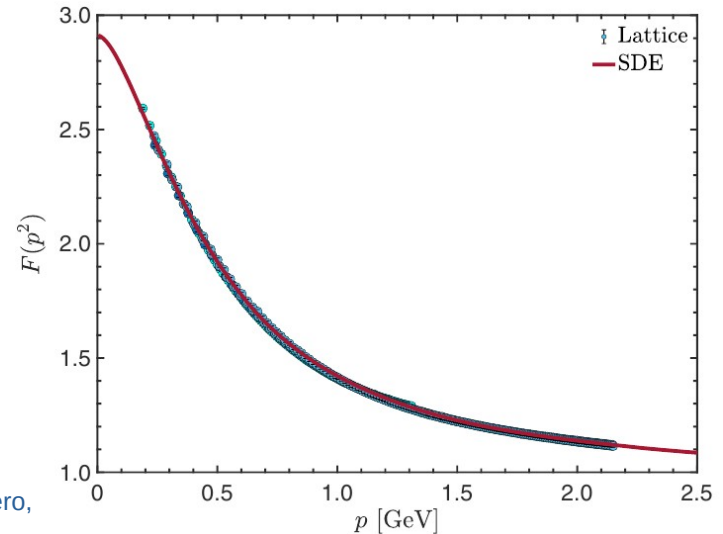
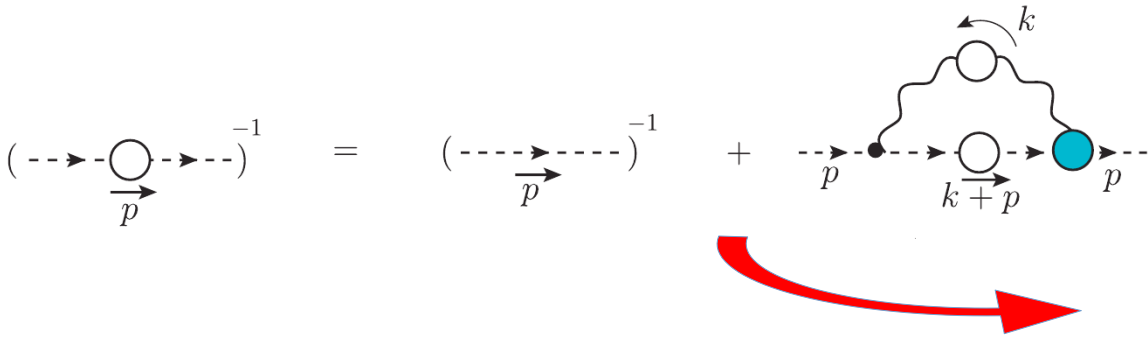
Indirect signals: Finite ghost dressing function

The generation of a gluon mass gap leaves distinctive imprints in other Green's functions.

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

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

becomes IR finite.



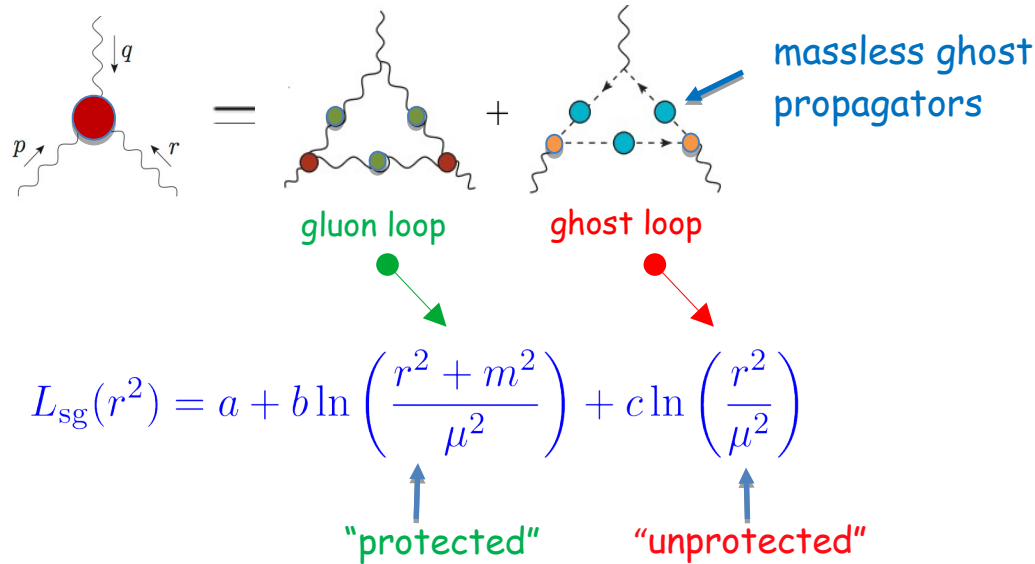
Indirect signals: IR divergence of three-gluon vertex

Three-gluon vertex in the IR exhibits suppression and zero crossing

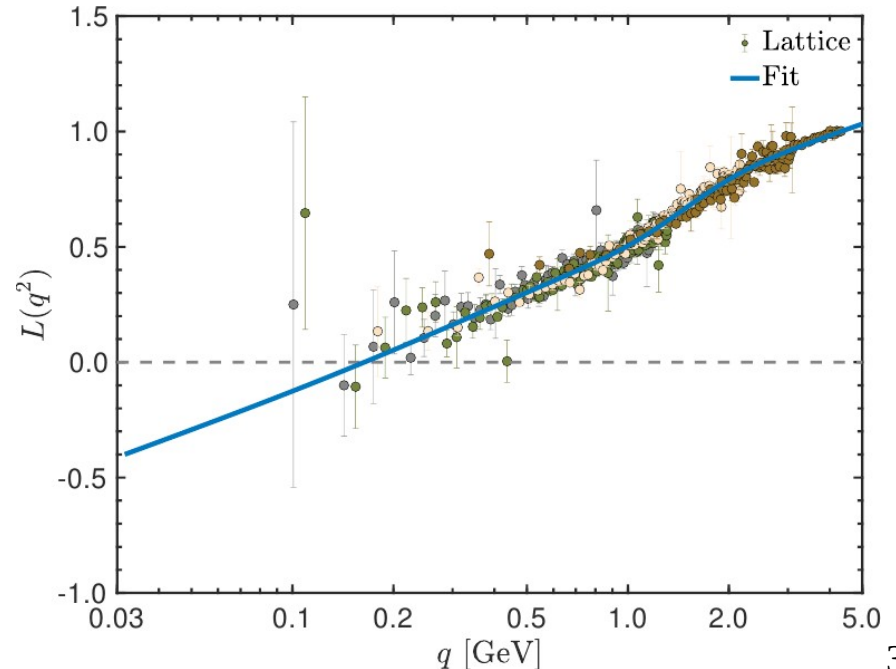
A. C. Aguilar, D. Binosi, D. Ibañez, J. Papavassiliou, *Phys. Rev. D* 89, no. 8, 085008 (2014).
 G. Eichmann, R. Williams, R. Alkofer, M. Vujanovic, *Phys. Rev. D* 89, 105014 (2014).
 A. G. Duarte, O. Oliveira and P. J. Silva, *Phys. Rev. D* 94, no.7, 074502 (2016).

A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff, *Phys. Rev. D* 94, 054005 (2016)
 R. Williams, C. S. Fischer, and W. Heupel, *Phys. Rev. D* 93, no. 3, 034026 (2016)
 M. Q. Huber, *Phys. Rev. D* 101, 114009 (2020).

Within the Schwinger mechanism, the infrared behavior of the classical form factor of the three-gluon vertex is characterized by the interplay between two types of logarithms:



- In the IR, $L_{Sg}(r^2) \rightarrow -\infty$, logarithmically.
- Explains IR suppression and zero-crossing



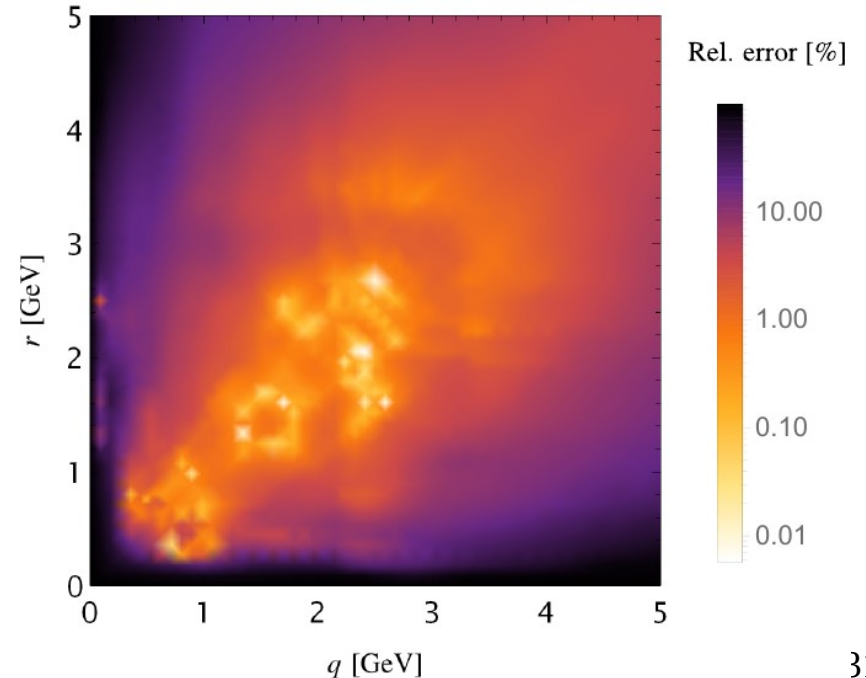
Method 2): Planar degeneracy

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**.

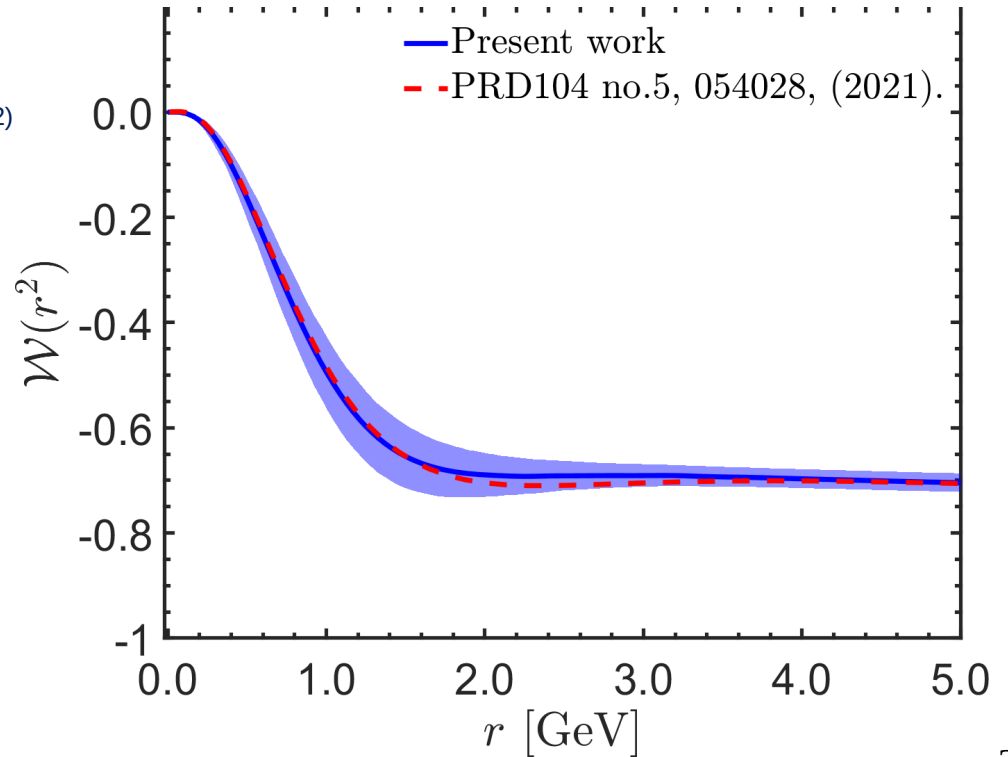
Errors are propagated from known error of the planar degeneracy approximation.

- **Result agrees well with previous calculation**

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

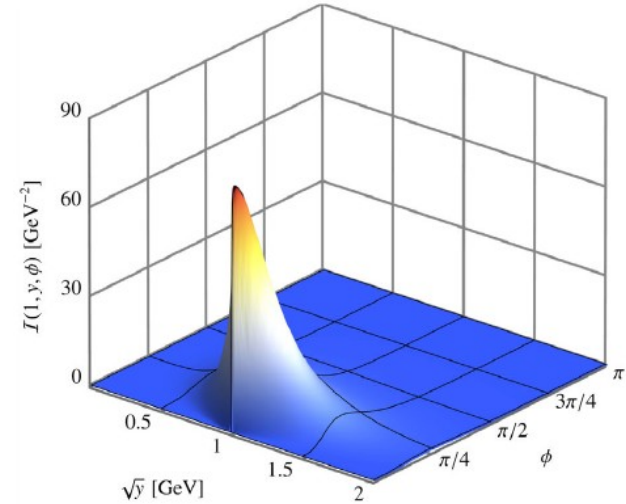
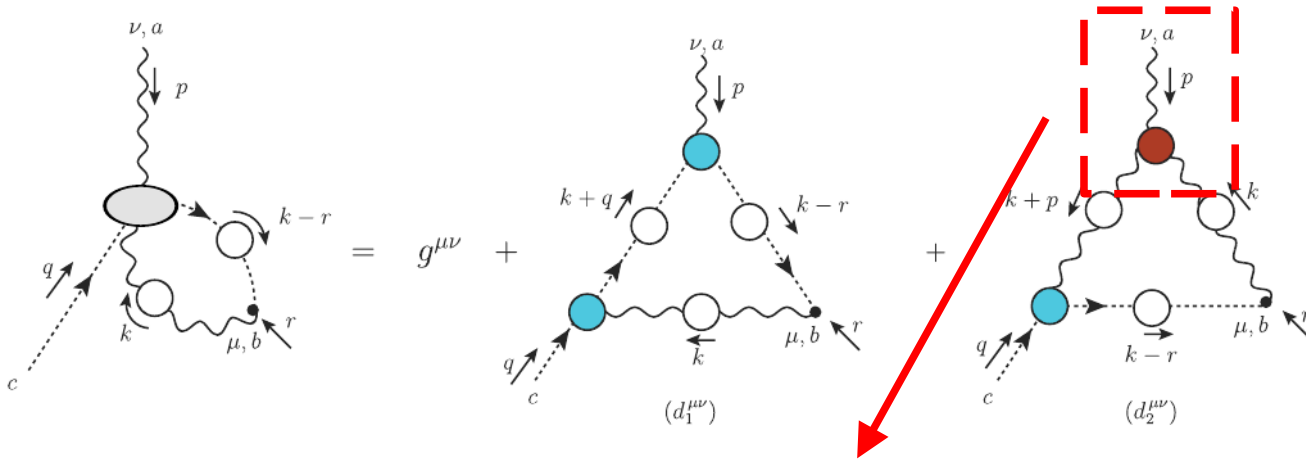
- Previous result employed a particular *Ansatz* for three-gluon vertex.
- **New result stringently constrained by lattice simulation of the three-gluon vertex.**

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



Truncation error

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



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

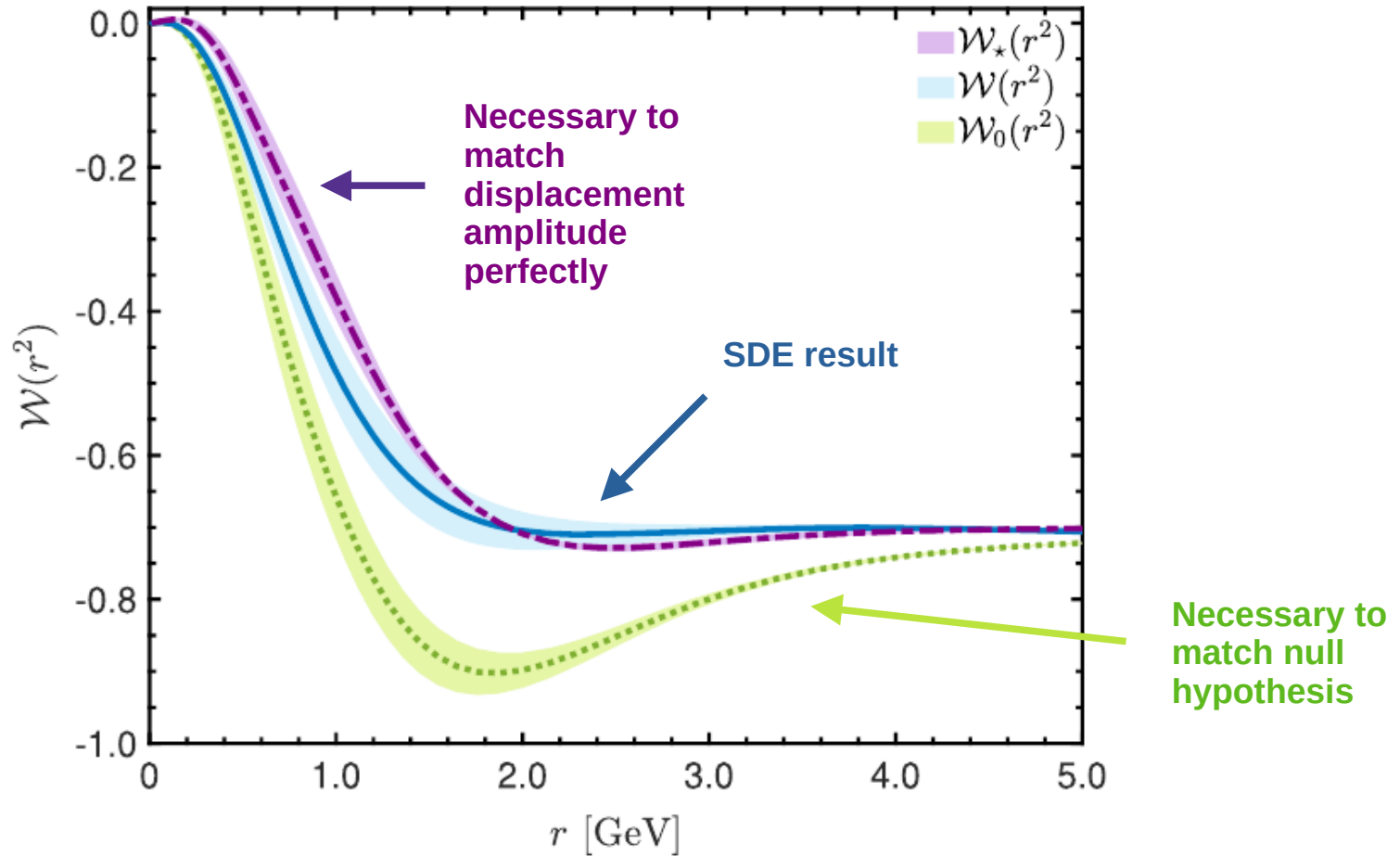
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F., C. T. Figueiredo and J. Papavassiliou, *Phys. Rev. D* **99**, no.9, 094010 (2019).

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**.

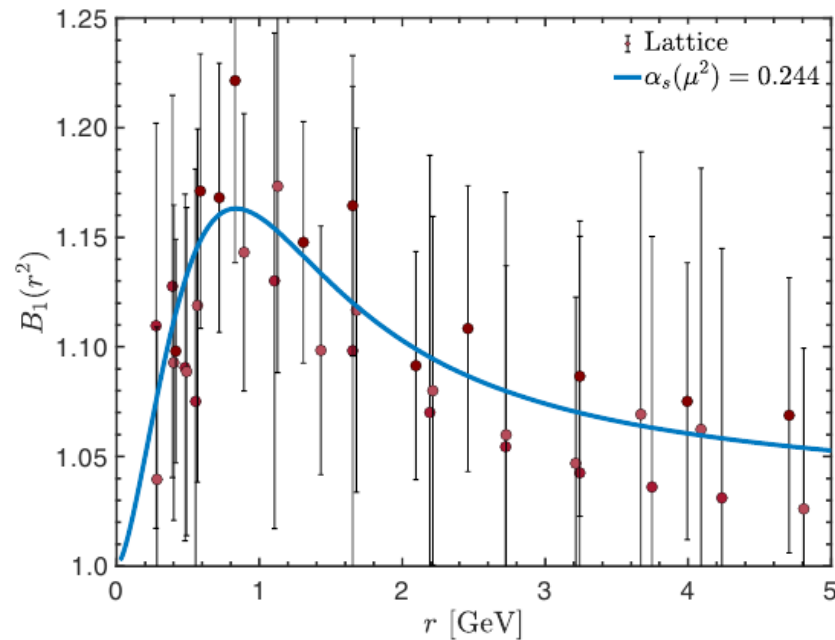
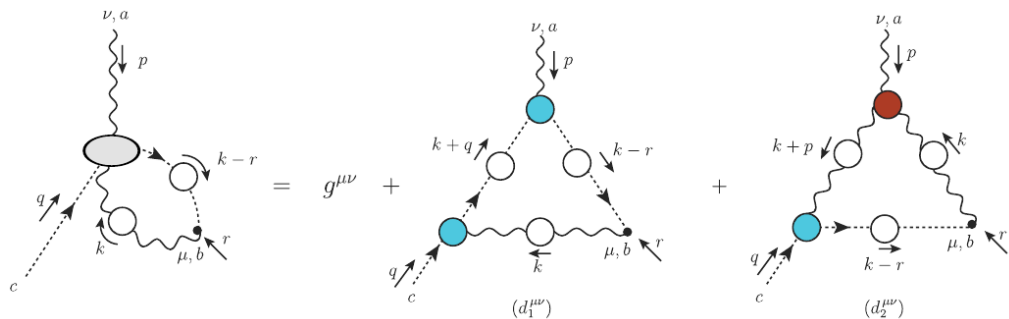
A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, *Phys. Rev. D* **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Truncation error



Truncation error

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

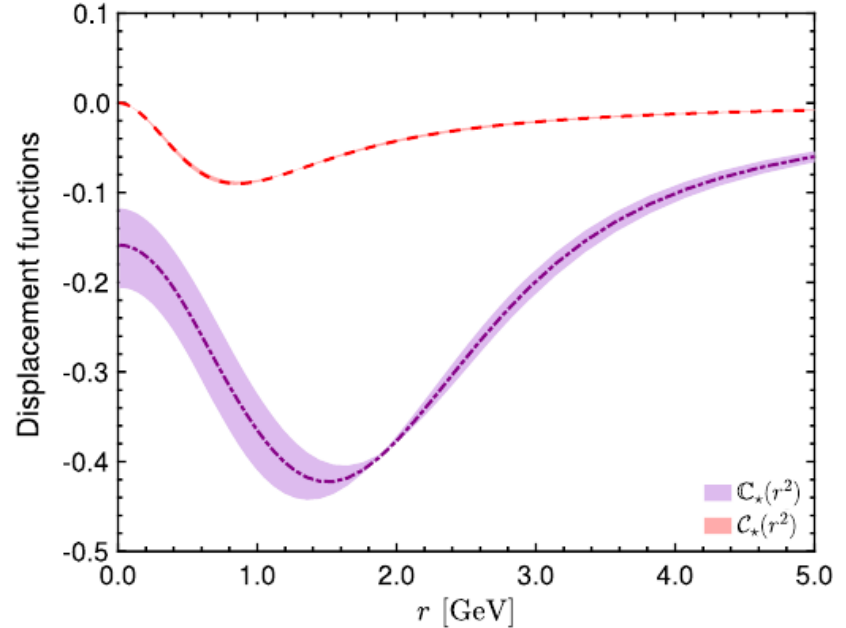
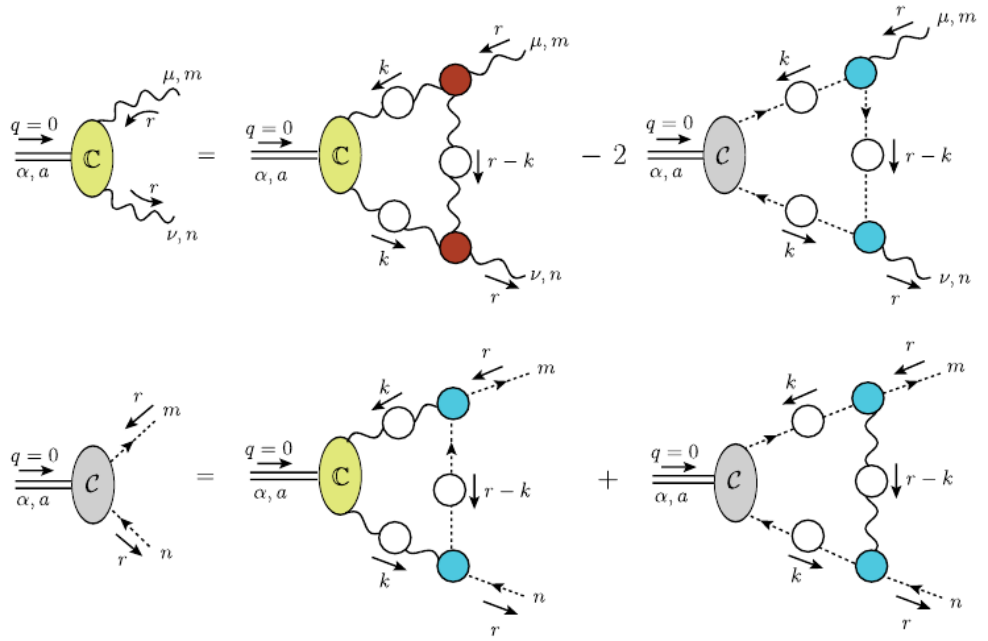


A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 (2022).

Lattice data from: A. C. Aguilar, et al Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.5, 054028 (2021).

Pole of the ghost-gluon vertex

The Schwinger-Dyson 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

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

$$\left(\text{wavy line with vertices } a, b \text{ and momentum } q \right)^{-1} = \left(\text{wavy line} \right)^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (a1) } + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (a2) } + \text{ (a3) } + \frac{1}{6} \text{ (a4) } + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (a5) }$$

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}(q) = -iP_{\mu\nu}(q)\Delta(q^2)$$

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

It can be shown that

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

★ The key to generate gluon mass 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, 111203 (2016).
 G. Eichmann, J. M. Pawłowski and J. M. Silva, Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.11, 114016 (2021).

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 **Schwinger-Dyson equation** for the scalar QED **photon propagator**

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}^{-1}(q) = \left(\text{wavy line with blue circle} \right)^{-1} = \left(\text{wavy line} \right)^{-1} + \text{fermion loop} + \text{ghost loop} \rightarrow D(k^2)$$

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}(q) = -iP_{\mu\nu}(q)\Delta(q^2)$$

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

$$\Gamma_\nu(q, k, -q - k)$$

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

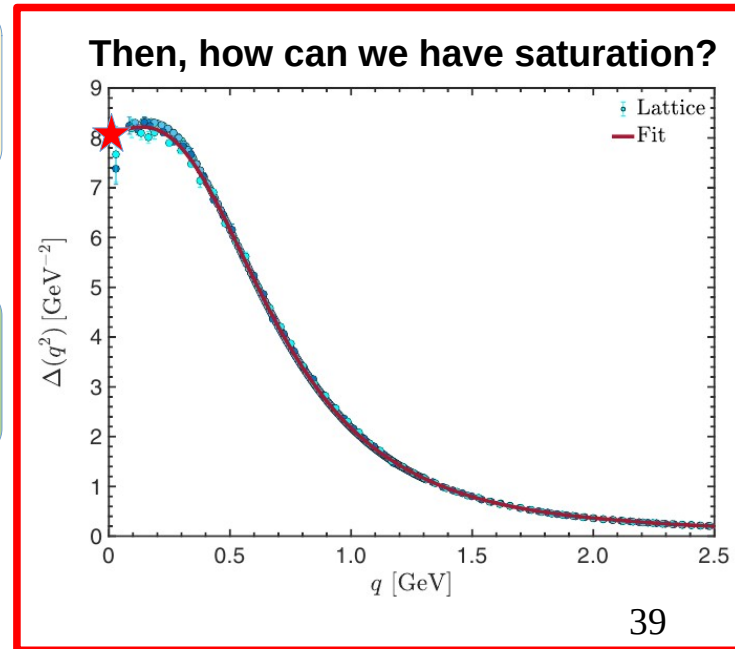
Now, **gauge symmetry** implies the **Ward identity**:

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

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

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

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).
- 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).

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

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

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

Ward identity and its displacement in QCD

In the $q=0$ limit, the regular part has the tensor decomposition

$$\Gamma_{\alpha\mu\nu}(0, r, -r) = 2L_{\text{sg}}(r^2)r_\alpha g_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{A}_2(r^2)(r_\mu g_{\nu\alpha} + r_\nu g_{\mu\alpha}) + \mathcal{A}_3(r^2)r_\alpha r_\mu r_\nu$$

and from the Slavnov-Taylor we obtain [A. C. Aguilar, M. N. F. and J. Papavassiliou, Phys. Rev. D **105**, no.1, 014030 \(2022\).](#)

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

where

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

and

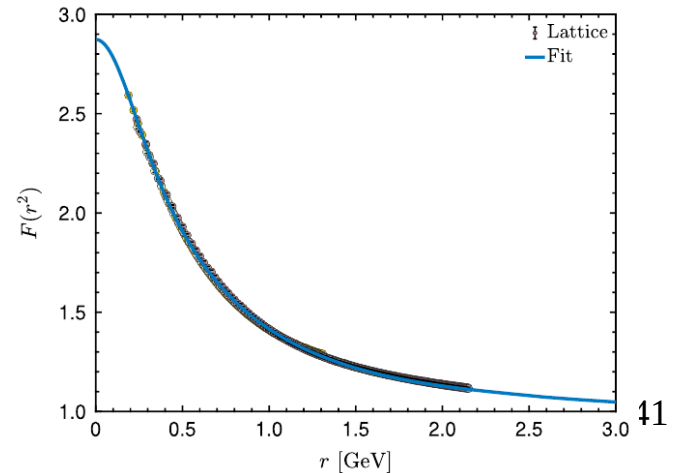
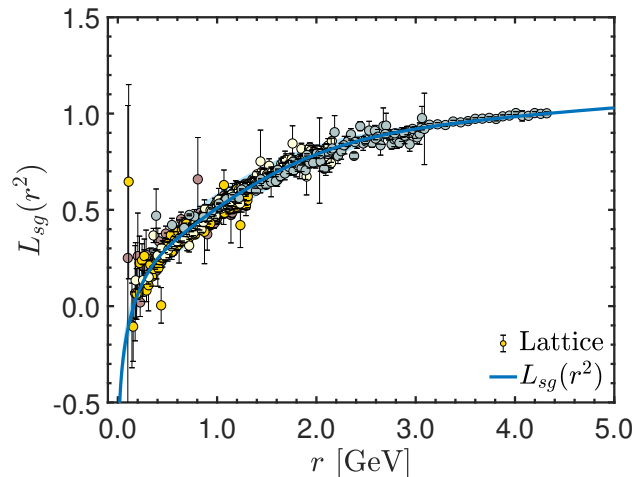
$$\mathbb{C}(r^2) := \left[\frac{\partial C_1(q, r, p)}{\partial p^2} \right]_{q=0}$$

Displacement amplitude; saturates gluon propagator

- $L_{\text{sg}}(r^2)$, $\Delta(q^2)$ and $F(q^2)$ known from lattice simulations.

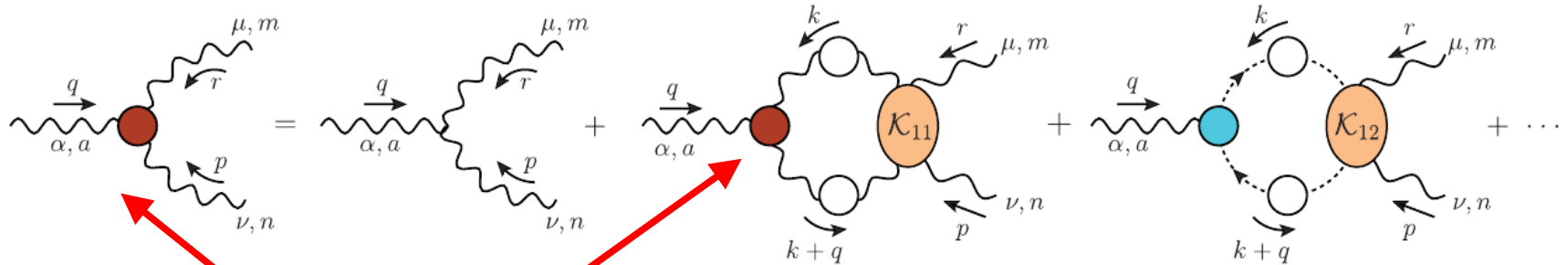
[A. C. Aguilar, et al Phys. Rev. D **104**, no.5, 054028 \(2021\).](#)

- Allows us to test, whether displacement of WI occurs in QCD.
- We only need to compute $\mathcal{W}(r^2)$.



Derivation of the Schwinger pole Bethe-Salpeter equation

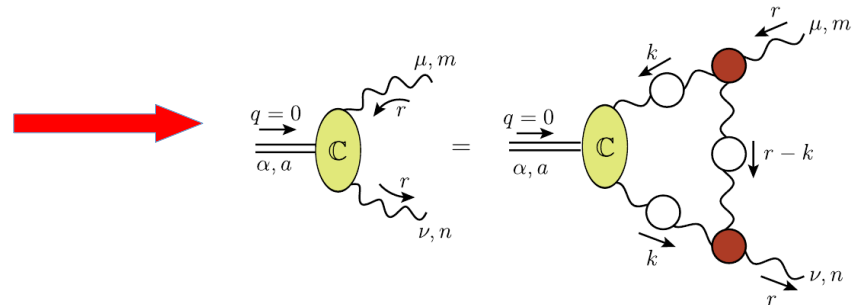
We start with the Schwinger-Dyson (or more generally nPI) equation for the vertex and assume the presence of a massless pole:



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

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

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



One-gluon exchange approximation

From the Bethe-Salpeter equation, we can

