

On the analytic structure of three-point functions from contour deformations

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Nonperturbative QFT in the complex momentum space
Maynooth, Ireland, June 14, 2023

YM propagators:

[Christian S. Fischer, MQH, Phys.Rev.D 102 \(2020\) 9, 094005, 2007.11505](#)

3-point functions:

[MQH, Wolfgang J. Kern, Reinhard Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 107 \(2023\) 7, 074026, 2212.02515](#)

3-point functions (short):

[MQH, Wolfgang J. Kern, Reinhard Alkofer, Symmetry 15 \(2023\) 2, 414, 2302.01350](#)

Bound states

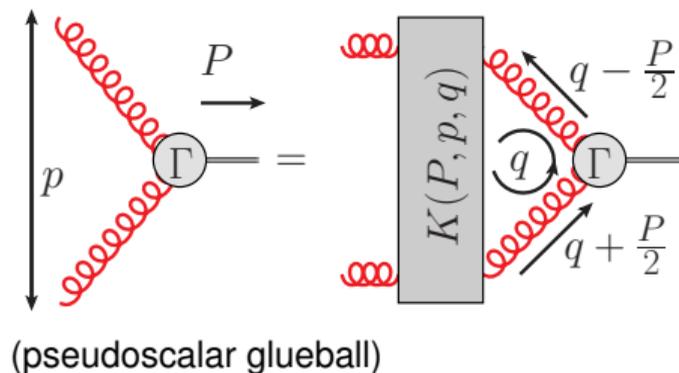
- Calculation of bound states from different methods with individual challenges
- Bound state equations (Bethe-Salpeter, Faddeev, ...):
Require nonperturbative correlation functions as input
 - What input?
 - How to get it?

Hadron properties

Hadron spectrum: Examples here.

Hadron structure → tomorrow's talks.

Correlation functions for complex momenta

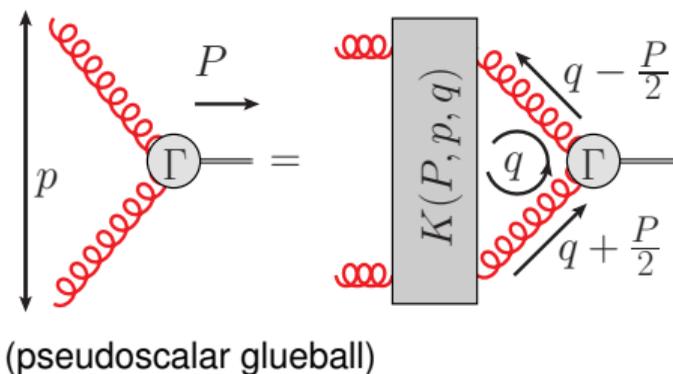


$$\lambda(\mathbf{P})\Gamma(\mathbf{P}) = \mathcal{K} \cdot \Gamma(\mathbf{P})$$

→ Eigenvalue problem for $\Gamma(\mathbf{P})$:

- 1 Solve for $\lambda(\mathbf{P})$.
- 2 Find \mathbf{P} with $\lambda(\mathbf{P}) = 1$.
 $\Rightarrow M^2 = -\mathbf{P}^2$

Correlation functions for complex momenta



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→ Eigenvalue problem for $\Gamma(P)$:

- 1 Solve for $\lambda(P)$.
- 2 Find P with $\lambda(P) = 1$.
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However:

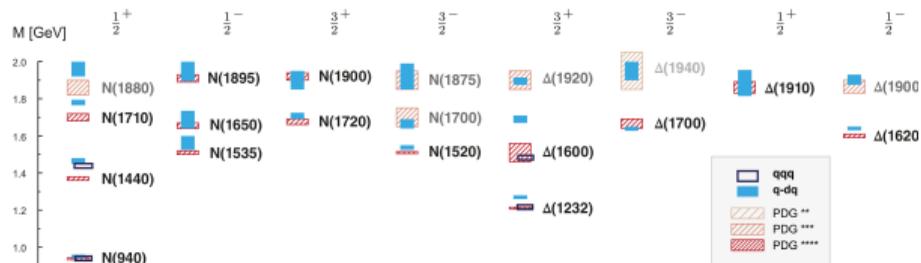
Propagators are probed at $\left(q \pm \frac{P}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{P^2}{4} + q^2 \pm \sqrt{P^2 q^2} \cos \theta = -\frac{M^2}{4} + q^2 \pm i M \sqrt{q^2} \cos \theta$

→ Complex for $P^2 < 0!$

Time-like quantities ($P^2 < 0$) → Correlation functions for complex arguments.

Functional spectrum calculations

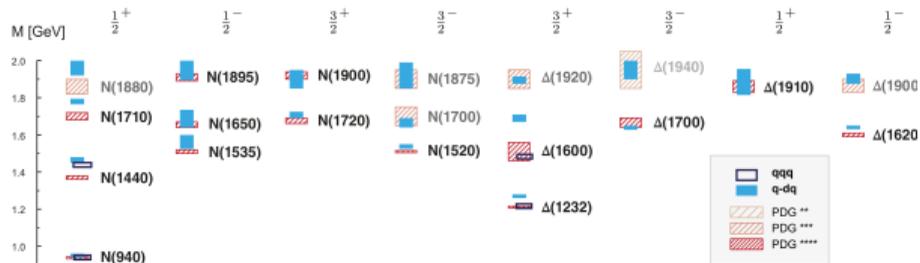
Functional methods successful in describing many aspects of the hadron spectrum qualitatively and quantitatively!



[Eichmann, Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, Alkofer, Fischer, Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 91 (2016); Eichmann, Few Body Syst. 63 (2022)]

Functional spectrum calculations

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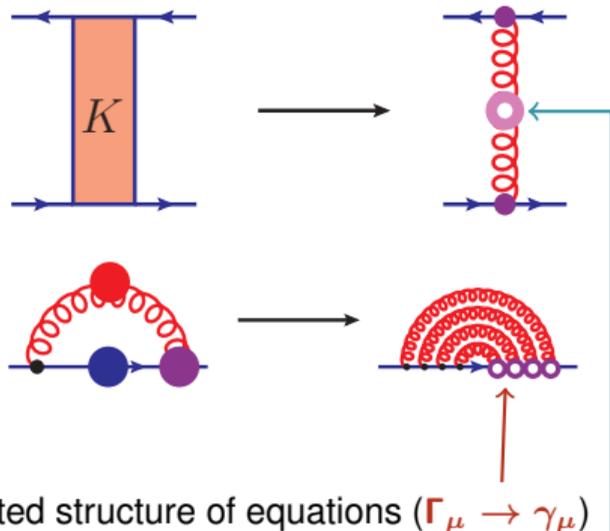


[Eichmann, Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, Alkofer, Fischer, Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 91 (2016); Eichmann, Few Body Syst. 63 (2022)]

Workhorse for more than 20 years: **Rainbow-ladder** truncation with an effective interaction, e.g., **Maris-Tandy** (or similar) which depends only **one scale!**

restricted structure of equations ($\Gamma_\mu \rightarrow \gamma_\mu$)

IR strength + perturbative UV



Results for mesons beyond rainbow-ladder, e.g., [Williams, Fischer, Heupel, Phys.Rev.D 93 (2016)].

Kernels

Systematic derivation from 3PI eff. action: [Berges, Phys. Rev. D 70 (2004); Carrington, Gao, Phys. Rev. D 83 (2011)]
 Need propagators and vertices!

$$K = \text{I} + \frac{1}{2} \text{X} + \frac{1}{2} \text{X} - \text{X} + \text{V} + \text{V} + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}$$

$$K = \text{I} + \frac{1}{2} \text{X} + \frac{1}{2} \text{X}$$

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[Fukuda, Prog. Theor. Phys 78 (1987); McKay, Munczek, Phys. Rev. D 40 (1989); Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, J. Phys: Conf. Ser. 631 (2015); MQH, Fischer, Sanchis-Alepuz, Eur.Phys.J.C80 (2020)]

Correlation functions of quarks and gluons

Equations of motion: 3-loop 3PI effective action

→ [Review: MQH, Phys.Rept. 879 (2020)]

$$\text{Gluon self-energy}^{-1} = \text{Gluon line}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} - \frac{1}{6} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Quark self-energy}^{-1} = \text{Quark line}^{-1} - \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Ghost self-energy}^{-1} = \text{Ghost line}^{-1} - \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Ghost self-energy}^{-1} = \text{Ghost line}^{-1} - 2 \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} - 2 \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

$$\text{Ghost-gluon vertex}^{-1} = \text{Ghost-gluon vertex}^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

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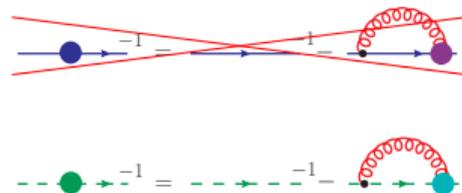
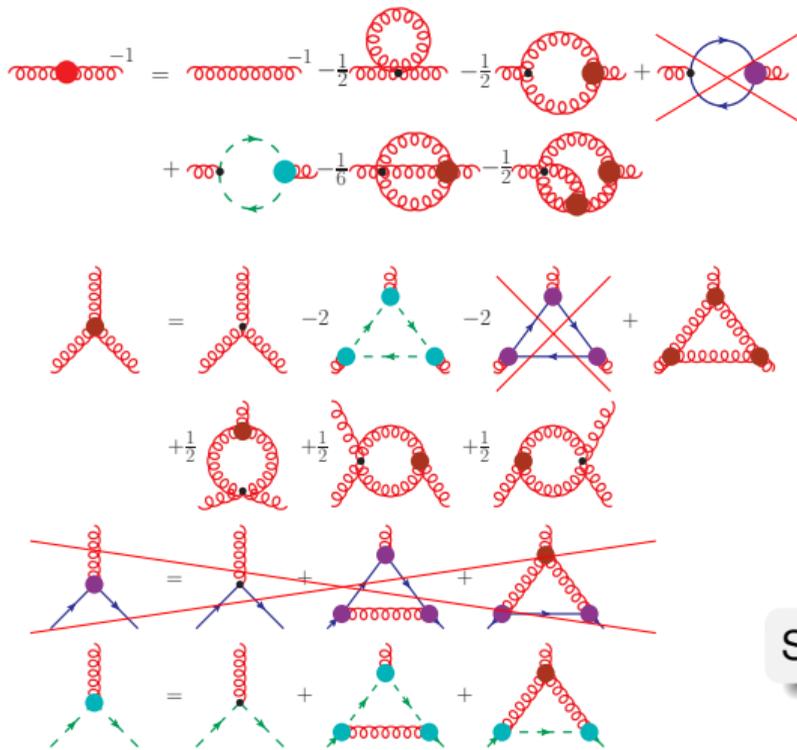
$$\text{Ghost-gluon vertex}^{-1} = \text{Ghost-gluon vertex}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1} + \text{Gluon loop}^{-1}$$

- Conceptual and technical challenges: nonperturbative renormalization, two-loop diagrams, convergence, size of kernels, ...
- Self-contained: Only parameters are the **strong coupling and the quark masses!**
- Long way, e.g., ghost-gluon vertex, three-gluon vertex, four-gluon vertex, ...
- → MQH, Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020)

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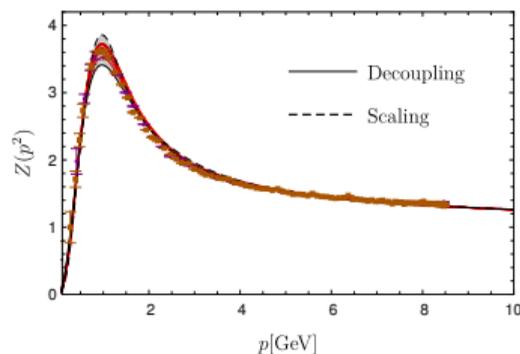
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Start with **pure gauge theory**.

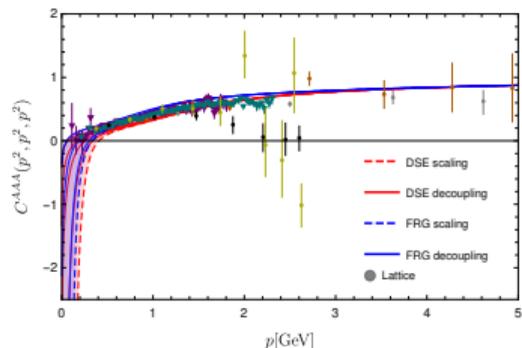
Landau gauge correlation functions

Self-contained: Only external input is the coupling!

Gluon dressing function:



Three-gluon vertex:

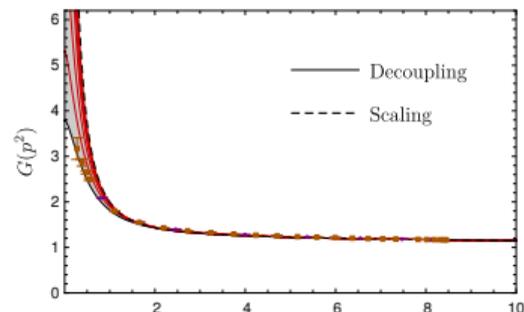


[lattice: Sternbeck, hep-lat/0609016;
Cucchieri, Maas, Mendes, Phys.Rev.D77
(2008); Sternbeck et al.,
Proc.Sci.LATTICE2016 (2017); FRG: Cyrol et
al., Phys.Rev.D 94 (2016); DSE: MQH,
Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020)]

Family of solutions [von Smekal, Alkofer, Hauck,
PRL79 (1997); Aguilar, Binosi, Papavassiliou,
Phys.Rev.D 78 (2008); Boucaud et al., JHEP06 (2008);
Fischer, Maas, Pawłowski, Ann.Phys. 324 (2008);
Alkofer, MQH, Schwenzer, Phys. Rev. D 81 (2010)]

Nonperturbative completions of Landau
gauge [Maas, Phys. Lett. B 689 (2010)]?

Ghost dressing function:



Glueballs as bound states of gluons

Use results for glueball calculations?

All results for spacelike momenta. \rightarrow Not directly.

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Glueballs as bound states of gluons

Use results for glueball calculations?

All results for spacelike momenta. → Not directly.

- Reconstruction from Euclidean results to get correlation functions for complex arguments.
- Extrapolation of the eigenvalue curve. → More stable and tests possible.

Extrapolation of $\lambda(P^2)$

Extrapolation method

- Extrapolation to time-like P^2 using Schlessinger's continued fraction method (proven superior to default Padé approximants) [Schlessinger, Phys.Rev.167 (1968)]
- Average over extrapolations using subsets of points for error estimate

$$f(x) = \frac{f(x_1)}{1 + \frac{a_1(x-x_1)}{1 + \frac{a_2(x-x_2)}{1 + \frac{a_3(x-x_3)}{\dots}}}}$$

Coefficients a_i can
determined such that
 $f(x)$ exact at x_j .

Extrapolation of $\lambda(P^2)$

Extrapolation method

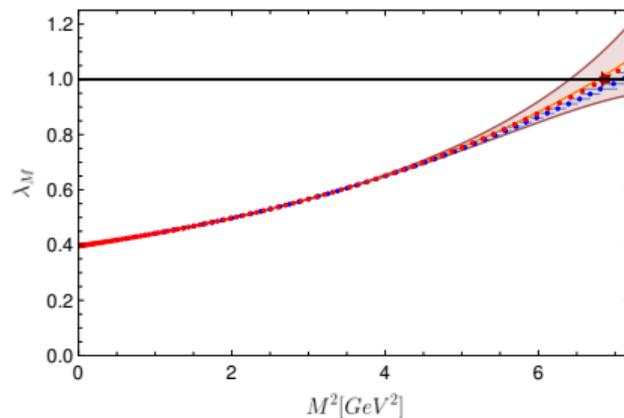
- Extrapolation to time-like P^2 using Schlessinger's continued fraction method (proven superior to default Padé approximants) [Schlessinger, Phys.Rev.167 (1968)]
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Test extrapolation for solvable system:

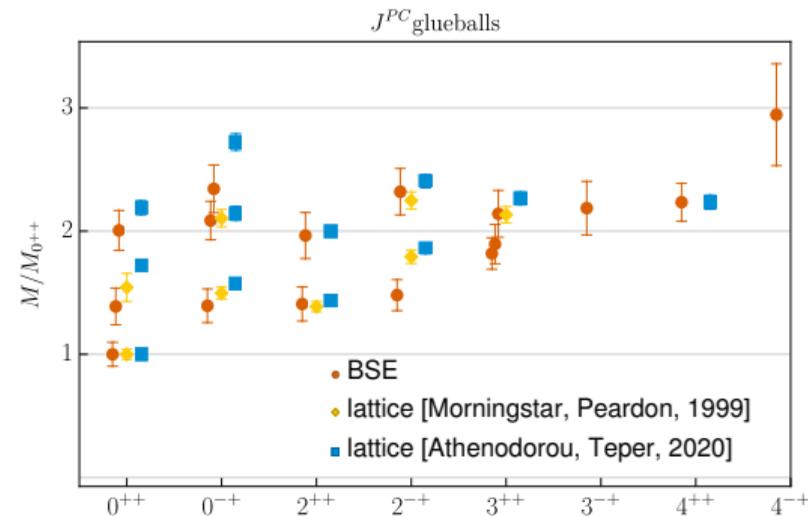
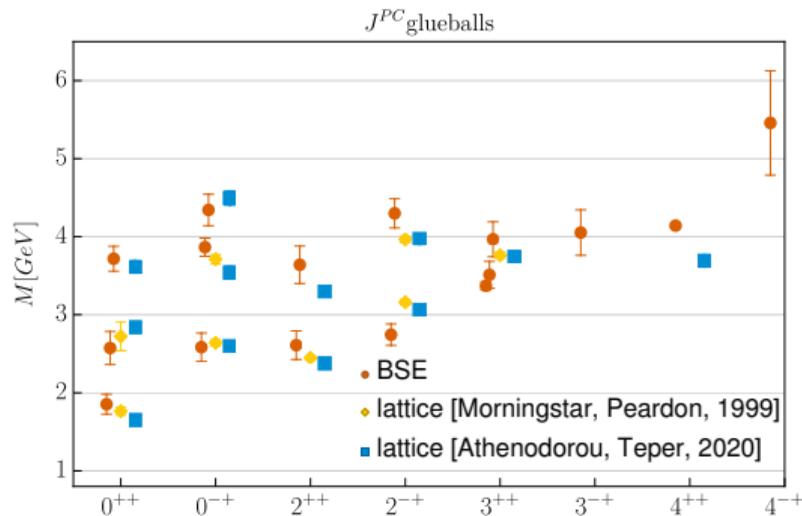
Heavy meson [MQH, Sanchis-Alepuz, Fischer, Eur.Phys.J.C 80 (2020)]

$$f(x) = \frac{f(x_1)}{1 + \frac{a_1(x-x_1)}{1 + \frac{a_2(x-x_2)}{1 + \frac{a_3(x-x_3)}{\dots}}}}$$

Coefficients a_i can be determined such that $f(x)$ is exact at x_j .



Glueball results



[MQH, Fischer, Sanchis-Alepuz, Eur.Phys.J.C81 (2021)]

- Agreement with lattice results
- New states: 0^{**++} , $0^{** -+}$, 3^{-+} , 4^{-+}

All results for $r_0 = 1/418(5)$ MeV.

Correlation functions in the complex plane

Standard integration techniques fail. ⚡

$$\int d^4 q \rightarrow \int_{\Lambda_{\text{IR}}^2}^{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2} dq^2 \int d\theta_1$$

Consider example integral:

$$I_2(p^2) = \int dq^2 J(q^2, p^2), \quad J(p^2, q^2) = \int d\theta \sin^2 \theta_1 \frac{1}{q^2 + p^2 + \sqrt{p^2} \sqrt{q^2} \cos \theta_1 + m^2} \frac{1}{q^2 + m^2}$$

Correlation functions in the complex plane

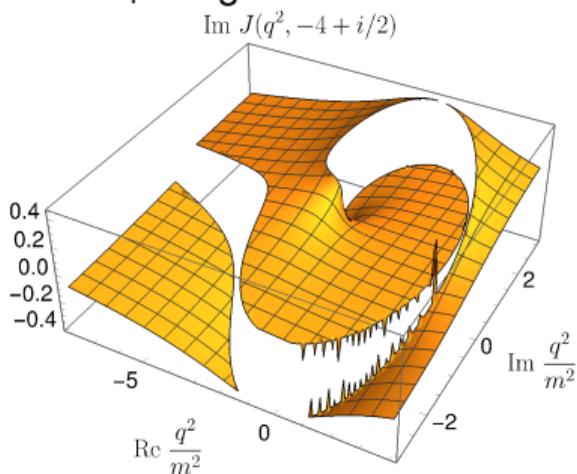
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After θ_1 integration:



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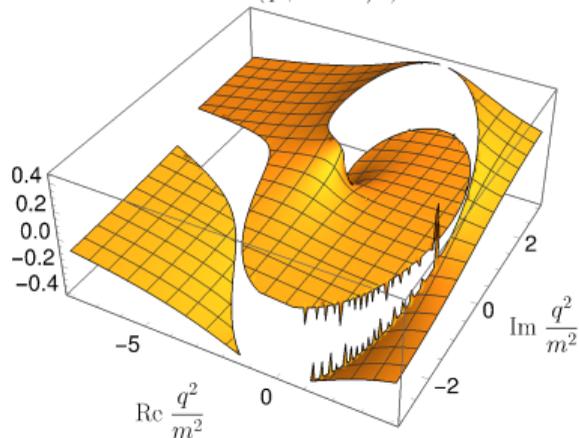
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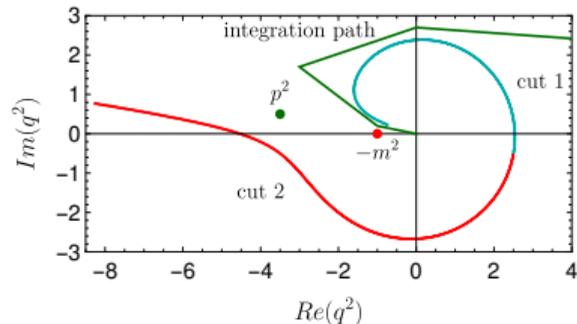
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After θ_1 integration:

$$\text{Im } J(q^2, -4 + i/2)$$

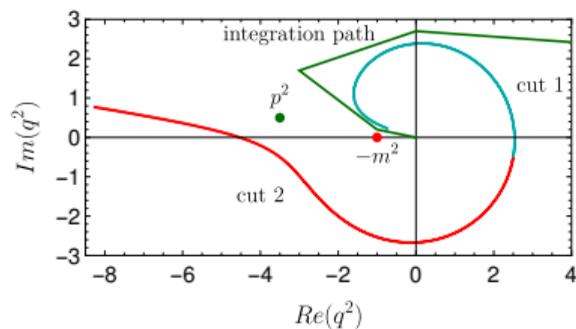


Integration path $\Lambda_{\text{IR}}^2 \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2$ on real line forbidden. \rightarrow Take a detour.



Contour deformation method (CDM)

Originally used for QED: [Maris, Phys.Rev.D52, (1995)]



Recent resurgence: massive propagators, three-point functions, e.g.: [Alkofer et al., Phys.Rev.D 70 (2004); Eichmann, Krassnigg, Schwinger, Alkofer, Ann.Phys. 323 (2008); Strauss, Fischer, Kellermann, Phys.Rev.Lett. 109 (2012); Windisch, MQH, Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 87 (2013), Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 6 (2013); Strodthoff, Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017); Weil, Eichmann, Fischer, Williams, Phys.Rev.D 96 (2017); Pawłowski, Strodthoff, Wink, Phys.Rev.D 98 (2018); Williams, Phys.Lett.B 798 (2019); Miramontes, Sanchis-Alepuz, Eur.Phys.J.A 55 (2019); Eichmann, Duarte, Pena, Stadler, Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019); Fischer, MQH, Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020); Miramontes, Sanchis-Alepuz, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021); Eichmann, Ferreira, Stadler, Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022); Miramontes, Alkofer, Fischer, Sanchis-Alepuz, Phys.Lett.B 833 (2022); MQH, Kern, Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023); ...]

Landau conditions: When do singularities arise in external momenta [Landau, Sov. Phys. JETP 10 (1959)]?

Directly reflected in possible contours [Windisch, MQH, Alkofer, Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 6 (2013); MQH, Kern, Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023)].

Landau gauge propagators in the complex plane

Simpler truncation:

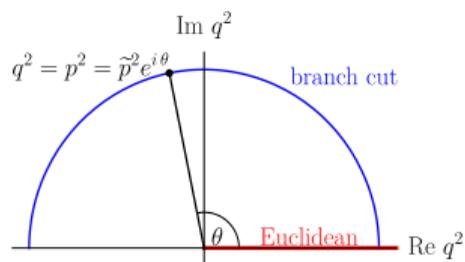
$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}^{-1}$$

Landau gauge propagators in the complex plane

Simpler truncation:

$$\text{---}^{-1} = \text{---}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---}$$

$m = 0$: Branch cuts are circles with one opening.



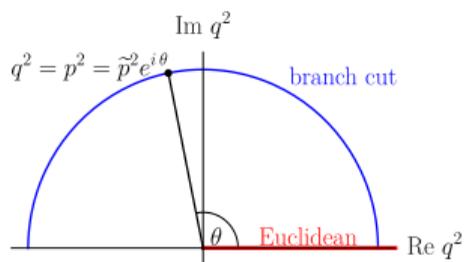
→ Opening at $q^2 = p^2$.

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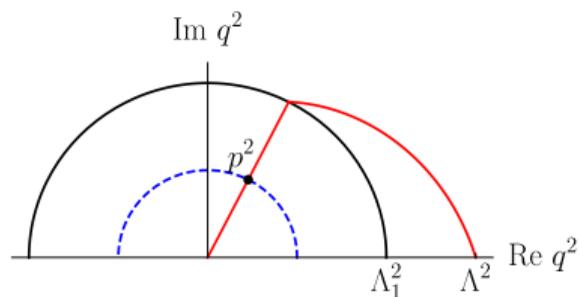
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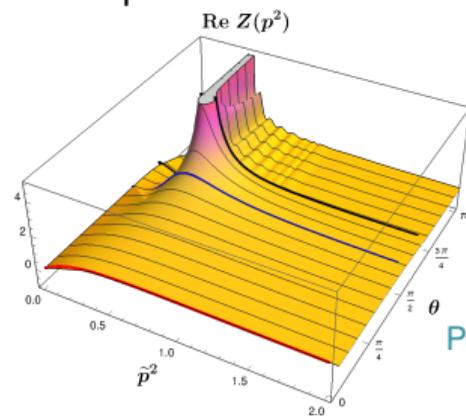


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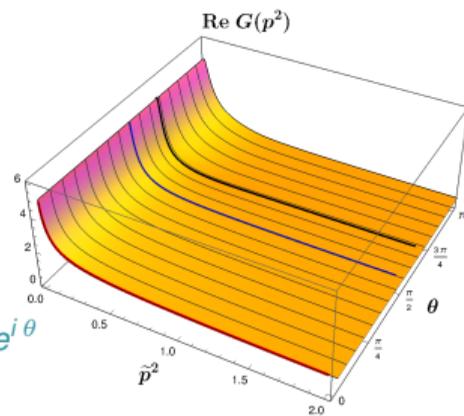


Landau gauge propagators in the complex plane

Ray technique for self-consistent solution of a DSE:



Polar coordinates: $p^2 = \tilde{p}^2 e^{i\theta}$



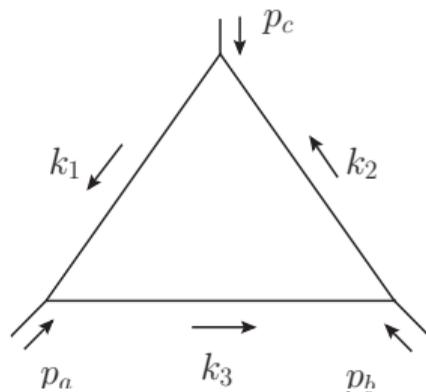
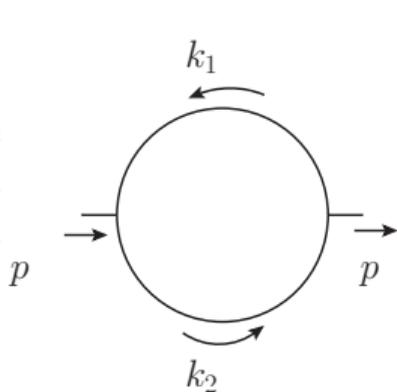
- Current truncation leads to a pole-like structure in the gluon propagator.
- Analyticity up to 'pole' confirmed by various tests (Cauchy-Riemann, Schlessinger, reconstruction)
- Effect of dynamic three-point functions?

→ Talk by Wink.

[Fischer, MQH, Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020)]

Kinematics

	2-point I_2	3-point I_3
indep. momenta	1	2
Lorentz inv.	1	3
nontrivial integr.	2	3



$$I_2(\mathbf{p}^2) = \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2 + m^2} \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2 + \mathbf{p}^2 - 2\sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2}\sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2} \cos \theta_1 + m^2}$$

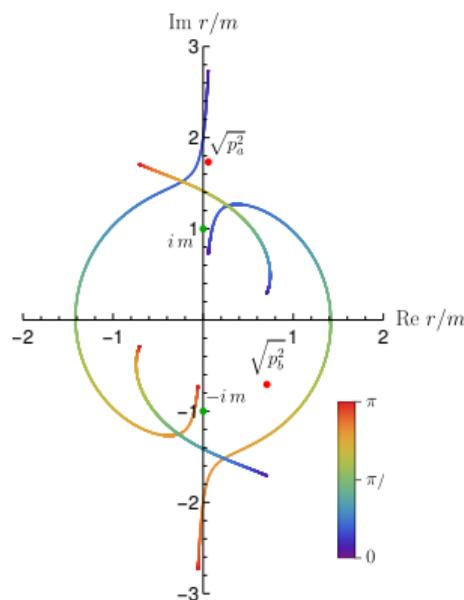
$$I_3(\mathbf{p}_a, \mathbf{p}_b, \mathbf{p}_c) = \int dr r^3 \int (\sin \theta_1)^2 d\theta_1 \int \sin \theta_2 d\theta_2 \frac{1}{r^2 + m^2} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}_a)^2 + m^2} \frac{1}{(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{p}_b)^2 + m^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\mathbf{q}^2}$$

Singularities in the integrand

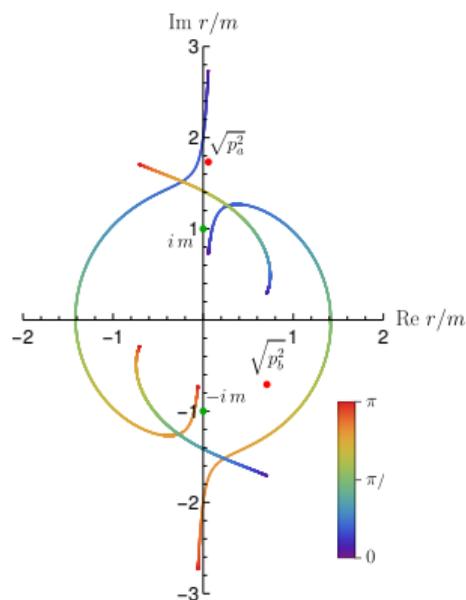
Integration over θ_1 and θ_2 creates branch cuts. \rightarrow One generic form ($z_1 = \cos \theta_1$):

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_{\pm}(z_1; p^2, m^2) &= \sqrt{p^2} z_1 \pm i\sqrt{m^2 + p^2(1 - z_1^2)} \\ &= \sqrt{p^2} \cos \theta_1 \pm i\sqrt{m^2 + p^2 \sin^2 \theta_1}\end{aligned}$$



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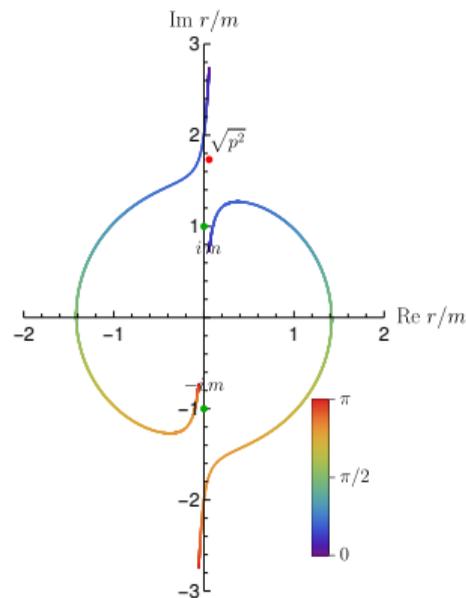
3-point

$$\begin{aligned}k_a &\rightarrow \gamma_{a\pm}(z_1; p_a^2, m^2) = \gamma_{\pm}(z_1; p_a^2, m^2), \\ k_b &\rightarrow \gamma_{b\pm}(\tilde{z}; p_b^2, m^2) = \gamma_{\pm}(-\tilde{z}; p_b^2, m^2)\end{aligned}$$

$$\tilde{z} = \cos \tilde{\theta} = \cos \theta \cos \theta_1 + \sin \theta \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2.$$

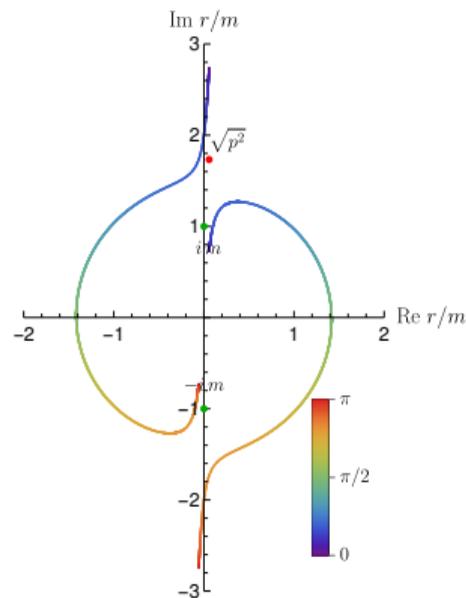
Creation of branch points in external momentum (2-point)

$$p^2 = (-3 + 0.2i)m^2:$$



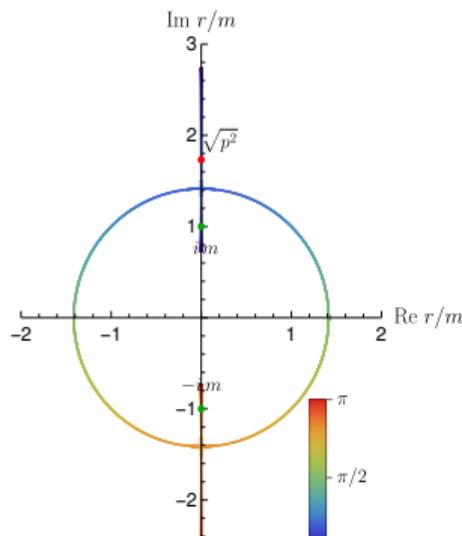
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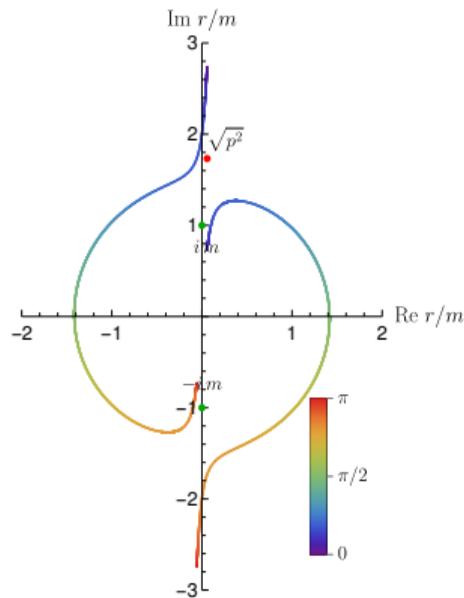
$$p^2 = -3m^2:$$

- Cuts touch!
- Cut is on imaginary axis and runs over im (pole of propagator).

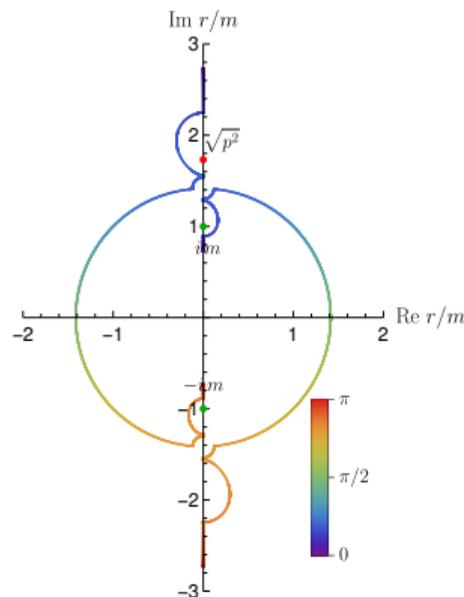


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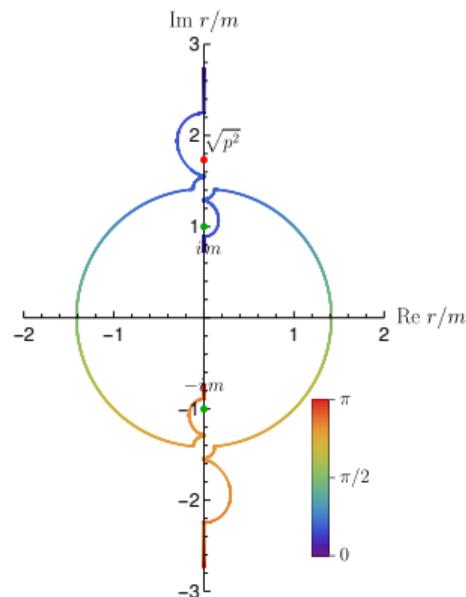


$$p^2 = -3m^2 + \text{deformation of } \theta_1 \text{ integration: } \checkmark$$



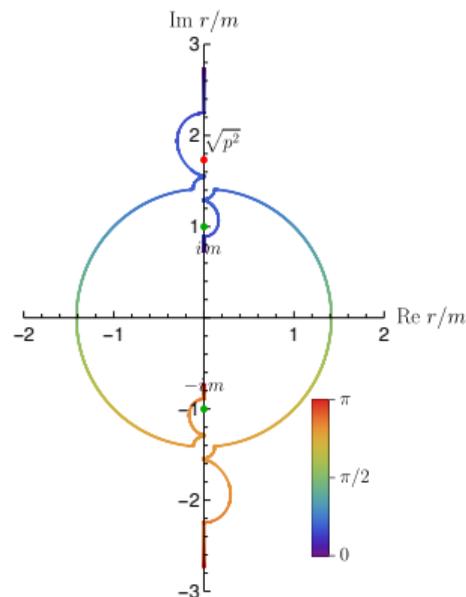
Creation of branch points in external momentum (2-point)

A branch point arises in the external momenta if the integration contour cannot be deformed.



Creation of branch points in external momentum (2-point)

A branch point arises in the external momenta if the integration contour cannot be deformed.



Increasing p^2 until $i m$ is at the **end point** of the branch cut. \rightarrow Contour deformation no longer possible and branch point is created.

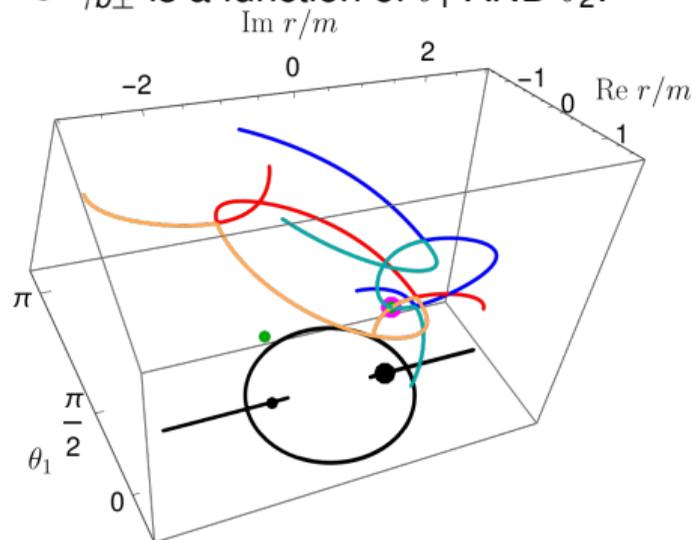
- Analytical determination of branch points possible from contour deformations [Windisch, MQH, Alkofer, Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 6 (2013)]
- \rightarrow Landau conditions [Landau, Sov.Phys.JETP10 (1959)]:

$$p_B^2 = -(m_1 + m_2)^2$$

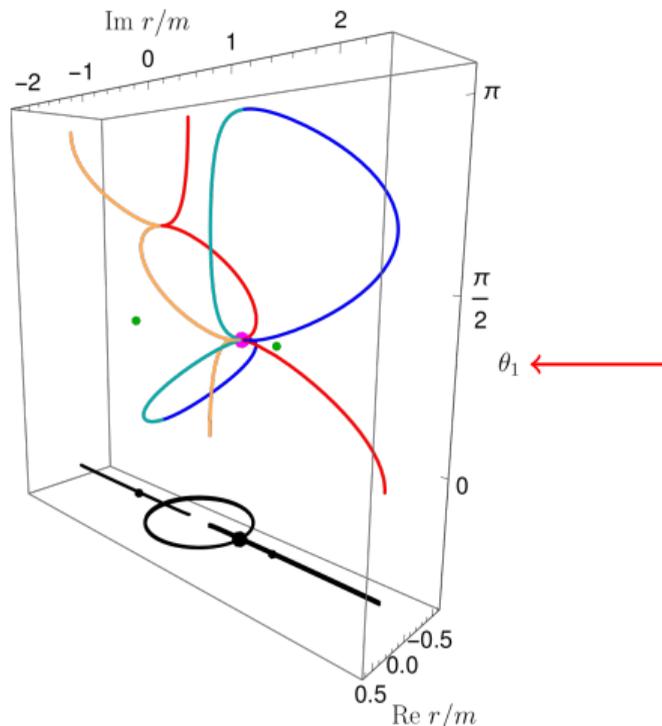
3-point for $p_a^2 = p_b^2 = p^2$

Branch cuts on top of each other:

- $\gamma_{a\pm}$ as for 2-point integral.
- $\gamma_{b\pm}$ is a function of θ_1 AND θ_2 .



$p^2 = -3m^2, \theta = 2\pi/3, \theta_2 = \pi$:
two cuts cross at $i m$



$p^2 = -4m^2/3, \theta = \pi/3, \theta_2 = \pi$:
four cuts touch at $-m^2/3$

Creation of branch points (3-point)

2-point

Match a pole and the end points of the branch cuts ($\theta_1 = 0, \pi$).

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3-point: End point in θ_2 !

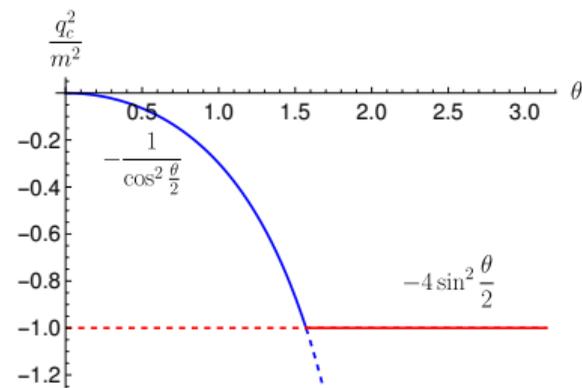
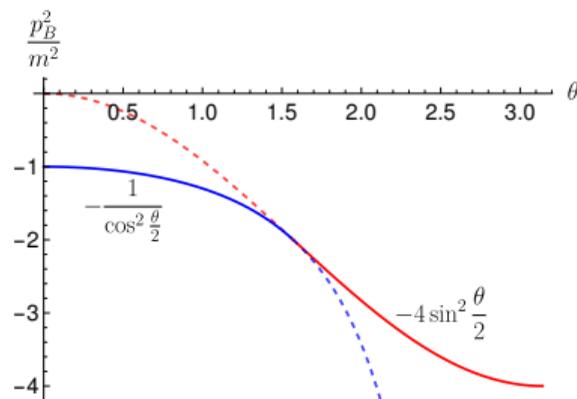
- Two cuts cross for same θ_1 at pole.
or
- Two cuts meet for θ_1 'inside' of circle.

$$p_{B,1}^2 = -4m^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$p_{B,2}^2 = -\frac{m^2}{\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}$$

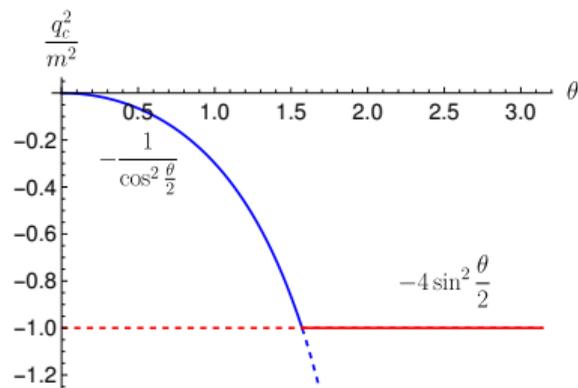
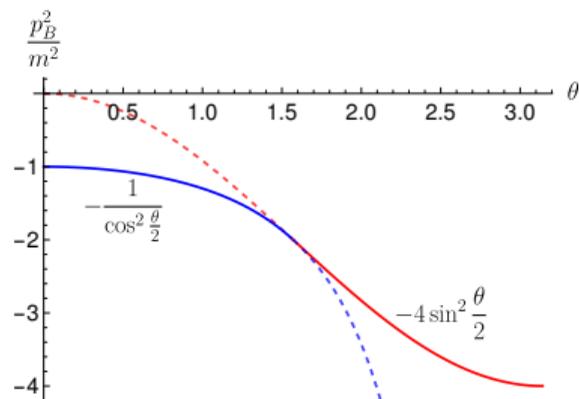
Critical points

2 solutions: Relevant one is that with the critical point in the r plane closer to the origin.



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Corresponds to Landau solution:

$$p_B^2 = \begin{cases} -4m^2 \sin^2 \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right) & \frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \pi \\ \frac{-m^2}{\cos^2 \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right)} & 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases}$$

General kinematics for 3-point integral

Similar analysis:

- Identify case where all three propagators agree.

$$\rightarrow p_a^2 p_b^2 p_c^2 = m^2(p_a^4 + p_b^4 + p_c^4 - 2(p_a^2 p_b^2 + p_a^2 p_c^2 + p_b^2 p_c^2))$$

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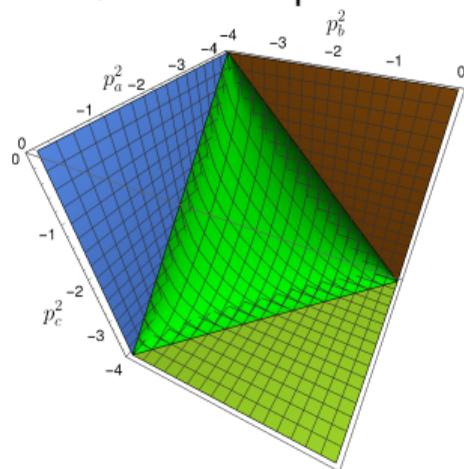
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Landau condition

$$p_c^2 = \frac{2m^2(p_a^2 + p_b^2) + p_a^2 p_b^2 + \sqrt{p_a^2(4m^2 + p_a^2)} \sqrt{p_b^2(4m^2 + p_b^2)}}{2m^2}$$

$$\text{for } -4m^2 \leq p_a^2, p_b^2 \leq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad p_a^2 + p_b^2 \leq -4m^2$$

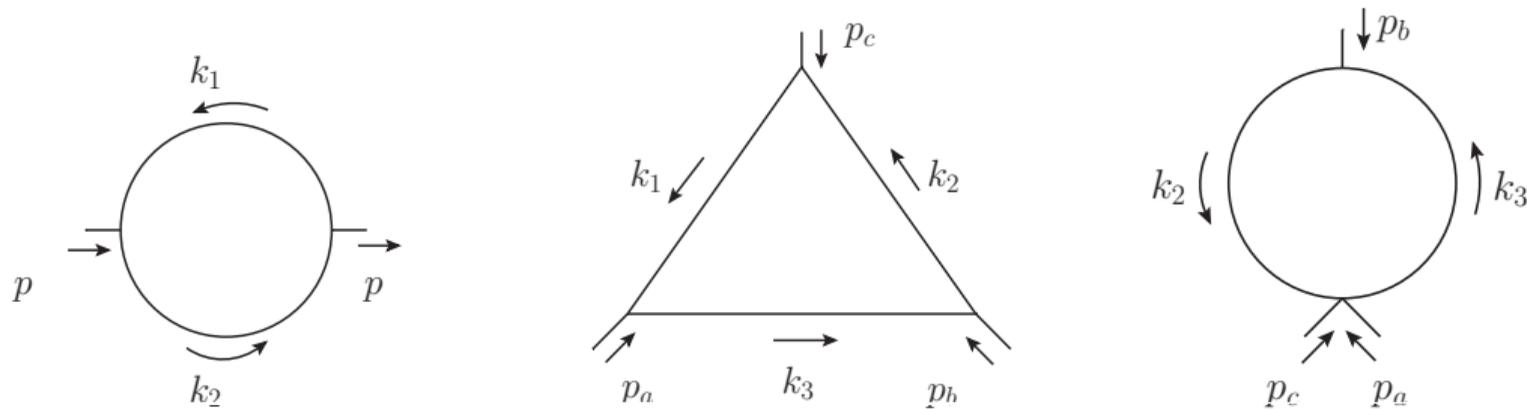
$$p_a^2 = p_b^2 = p_c^2 = -4m^2 \quad \text{else.}$$

ϕ^3 theory

Simple scalar theory with cubic interaction:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu\phi)\partial^\mu\phi - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \frac{g}{3!}\phi^3$$

→ Technical testbed for QCD: 2-point, triangle, swordfish integrals



(Ignoring instability of theory.)

Nonperturbative equations

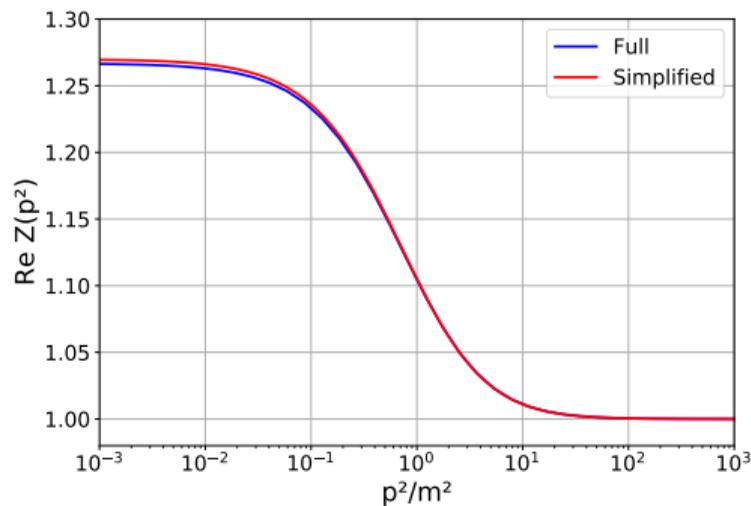
3PI effective action truncated at 3 loops [Berges, Phys. Rev. D 70 (2004); Carrington, Gao, Phys. Rev. D 83 (2011)]

Equations of motion:

$$\text{---}\bullet\text{---}^{-1} = \text{---}\bullet\text{---}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---}\bullet\text{---} \text{---}\bullet\text{---}$$

$$\text{---}\bullet\text{---} = \text{---}\bullet\text{---} + \text{---}\bullet\text{---}$$

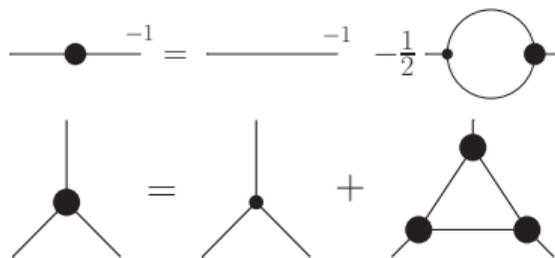
Simplified kinematics: $p_a^2 = p_b^2 = p^2$



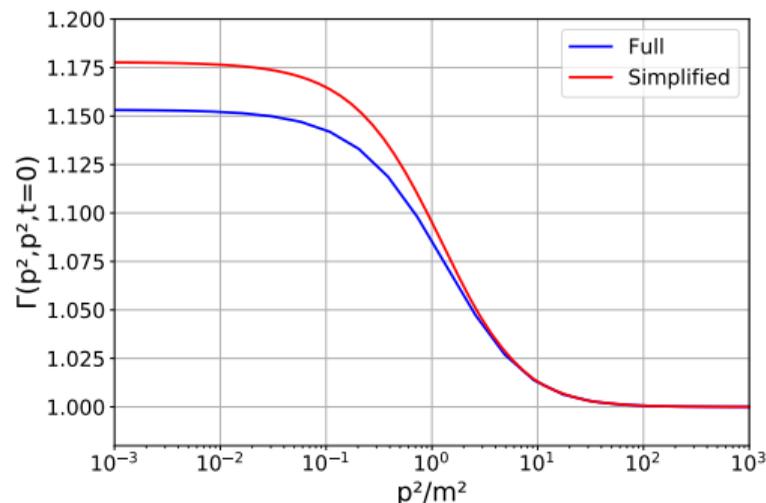
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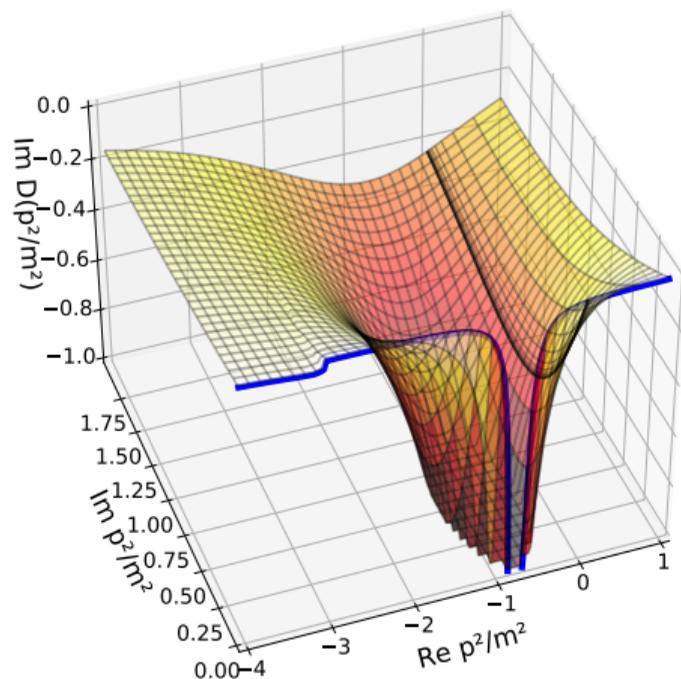
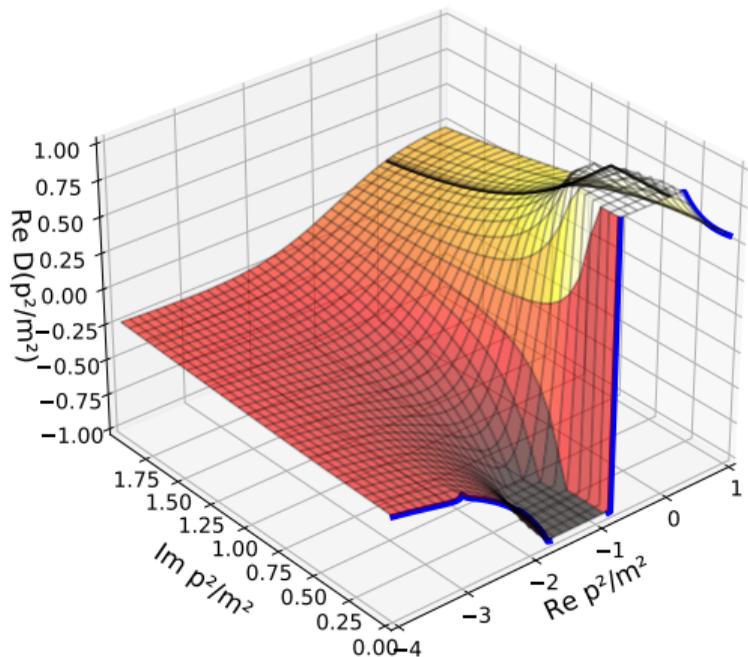
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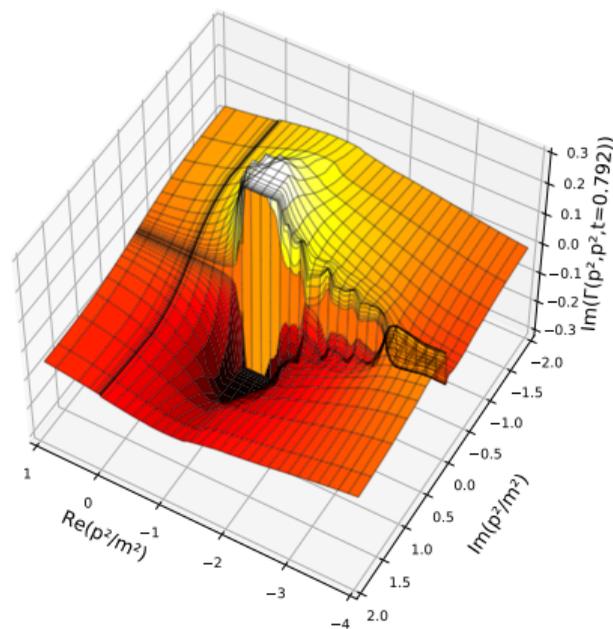
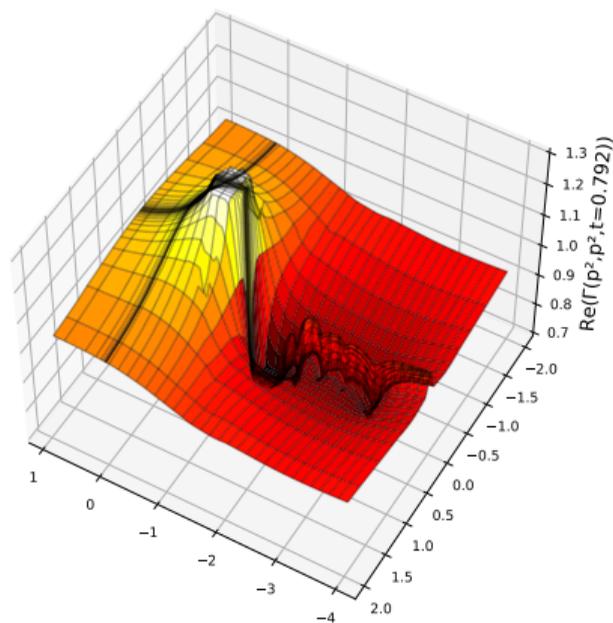


Propagator



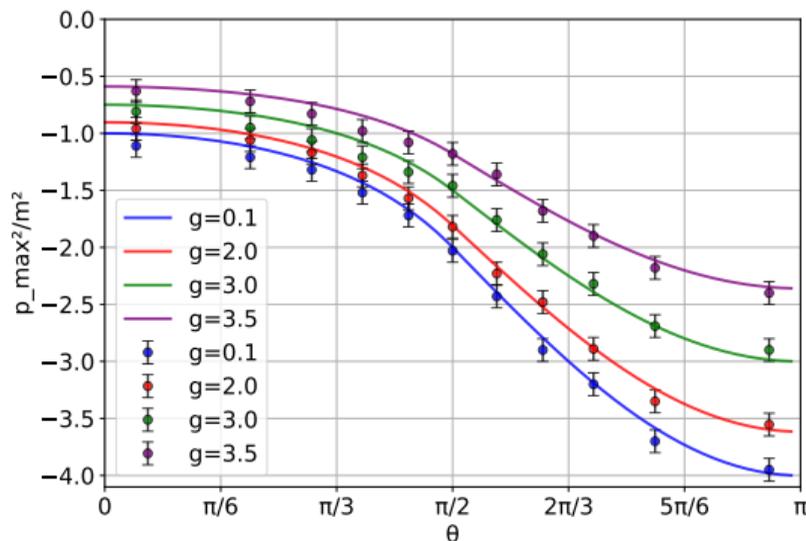
- Nonperturbative pole at $p^2 = -0.75m^2 = -m_r^2$
- A branch cut starting at $-3m^2 = -4m_r^2$ ✓

Vertex



- Numerically more demanding due to calculations close to cuts.

Vertex



- Numerically more demanding due to calculations close to cuts.
- Branch cuts start close to the predicted value ✓

Generalizations

[MQH, Kern, Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023)]

- Nonperturbative masses ✓

Generalizations

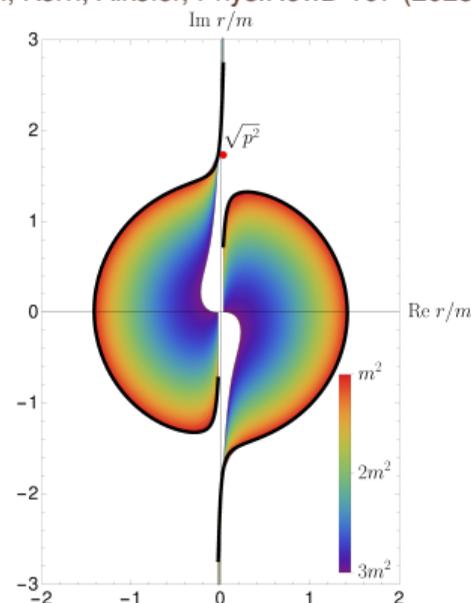
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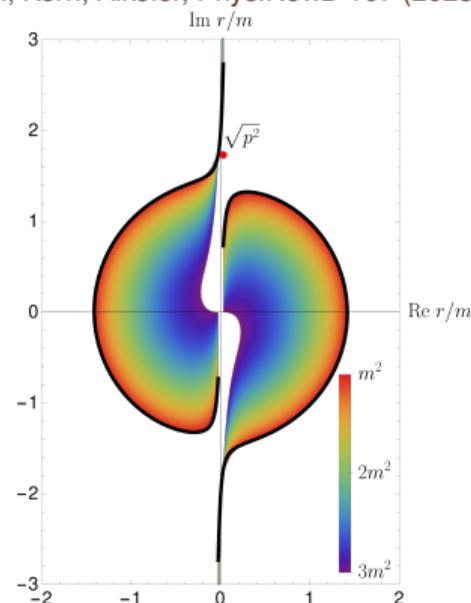
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Generalizations

- Nonperturbative masses ✓
- Up to 3 different masses ✓
- Cuts instead of poles
 \rightsquigarrow continuum of singular points \rightarrow Forbidden area, but deformation doable.
- Nonperturbative vertices with singularities in dressings:
 similar branch cuts in integrands as from propagators.

[MQH, Kern, Alkofer, Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023)]



Summary and outlook

- Propagators and vertices at complex momenta for bound state studies needed.
→ resonances, decays
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 - QCD and its three-point functions for bound state studies.

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Thank you for your attention.

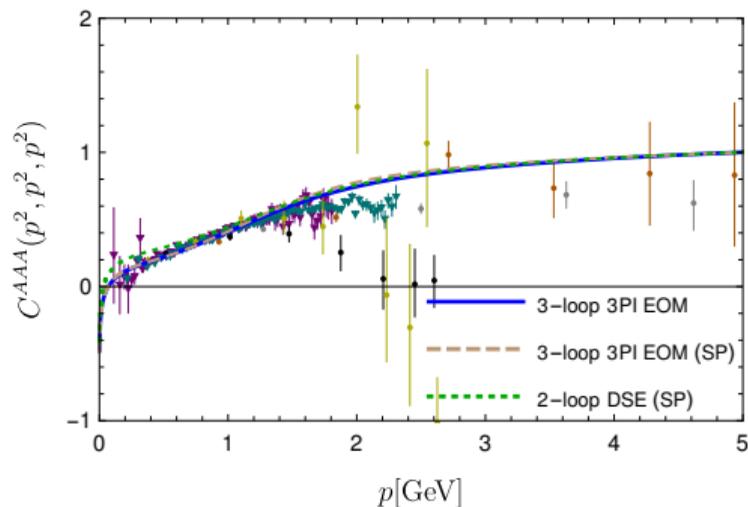
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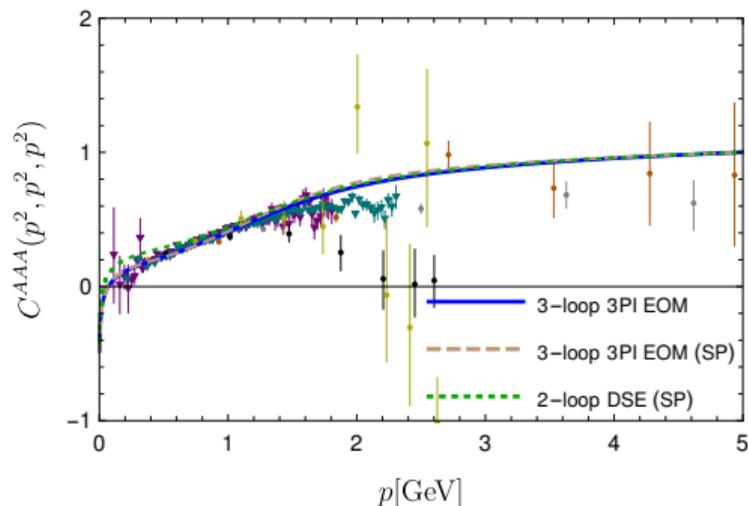
3PI vs. 2-loop DSE:



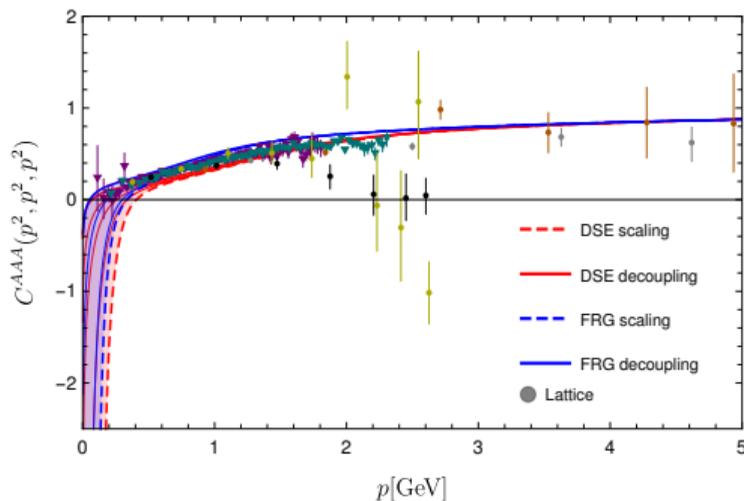
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DSE vs. FRG:



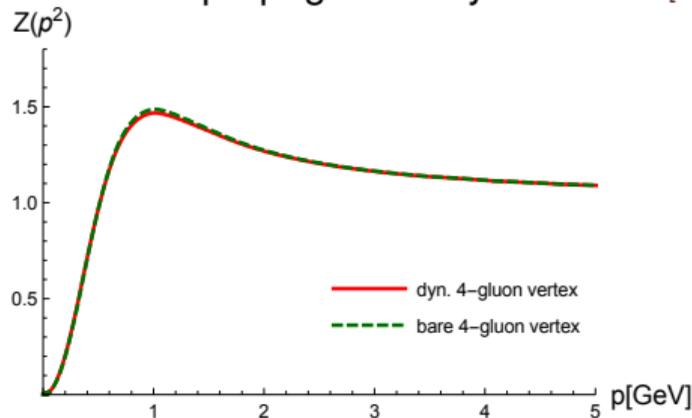
[Cucchieri, Maas, Mendes, Phys.Rev.D77 (2008); Sternbeck et al., Proc.Sci. LATTICE2016 (2017); Cyrol et al., Phys.Rev.D 94 (2016); MQH, Phys.Ref.D101 (2020)]

Stability of the solution: Extensions

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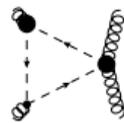
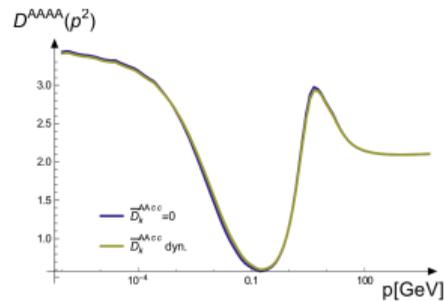
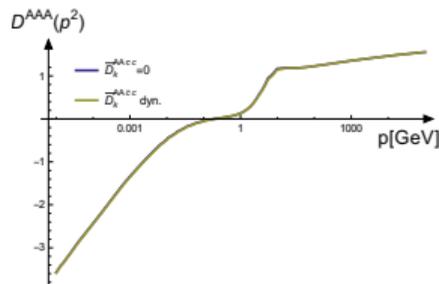
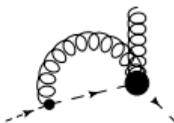
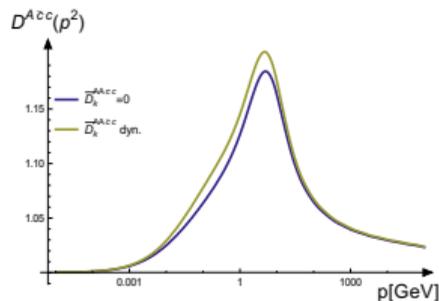
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- Two-ghost-two-gluon vertex [MQH, Eur. Phys.J.C77 (2017)]: ✓
(FRG: [Corell, SciPost Phys. 5 (2018)])



Branch points for general kinematics (3-point)

Exclusion of one solution of the quadratic equation for p_C^2 :

