

# The quenched glueball spectrum from smeared spectral densities

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in collaboration with

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Hadronic physics and heavy quarks on the lattice

Trinity College Dublin

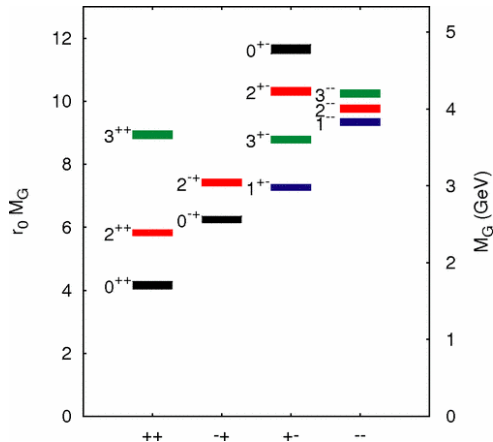
7th of June 2024



Swansea University  
Prifysgol Abertawe

# Glueball spectrum in pure $SU(3)$ Yang-Mills

- Glueballs are quarkless bound states predicted by QCD
- Conclusive experimental detection of glueballs is still missing
- Theory calculations heavily rely on lattice studies (quenched/unquenched)



[Y. Chen *et al.*, **PRD**, hep-lat/0510074]

## News from experiment

BES III announced the determination of  $X(2370)$  with  $J^{PC} = 0^{-+}$ .

Is it the pseudoscalar glueball?

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **132**, 181901 (2024)

Editors' Suggestion

### Determination of Spin-Parity Quantum Numbers of $X(2370)$ as $0^{-+}$ from $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma K_S^0 K_S^0 \eta'$

M. Ablikim *et al.*<sup>\*</sup>  
(BESIII Collaboration)

📧 (Received 8 December 2023; revised 5 March 2024; accepted 28 March 2024; published 2 May 2024)

Based on  $(10087 \pm 44) \times 10^6$   $J/\psi$  events collected with the BESIII detector, a partial wave analysis of the decay  $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma K_S^0 K_S^0 \eta'$  is performed. The mass and width of the  $X(2370)$  are measured to be  $2395 \pm 11(\text{stat})_{-26}^{+26}(\text{syst})$  MeV/ $c^2$  and  $188_{-17}^{+18}(\text{stat})_{-33}^{+124}(\text{syst})$  MeV, respectively. The corresponding product branching fraction is  $\mathcal{B}[J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma X(2370)] \times \mathcal{B}[X(2370) \rightarrow f_0(980)\eta'] \times \mathcal{B}[f_0(980) \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0] = (1.31 \pm 0.22(\text{stat})_{-0.84}^{+2.85}(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-5}$ . The statistical significance of the  $X(2370)$  is greater than  $11.7\sigma$  and the spin parity is determined to be  $0^{-+}$  for the first time. The measured mass and spin parity of the  $X(2370)$  are consistent with the predictions of the lightest pseudoscalar glueball.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.132.181901

## What do we know?

- Experimental result is in good agreement with quenched lattice result ( $m_G \approx 2.4\text{GeV}$ ).
- Unquenched lattice results tend to be in agreement with quenched results at least for pseudoscalar and tensor channels. However no conclusive statement exist on this matter.
- No continuum extrapolation results exist for unquenched lattice studies. However, dependence on the lattice spacing seems weak.

## What we don't know (yet)

- Mixing with  $q\bar{q}$  states in unquenched setting.
- Unquenching suppression effects especially in the scalar channel.
- Systematic effects due to choice of operators in variational basis.
- The production rate of glueball states (a quenched results exists for the  $0^{-+}$  channel [Gui L.C. *et. al.*, [PRD,1906.03666](#)]).

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→ **Further work needed to improve lattice QCD calculations of the glueball spectrum**

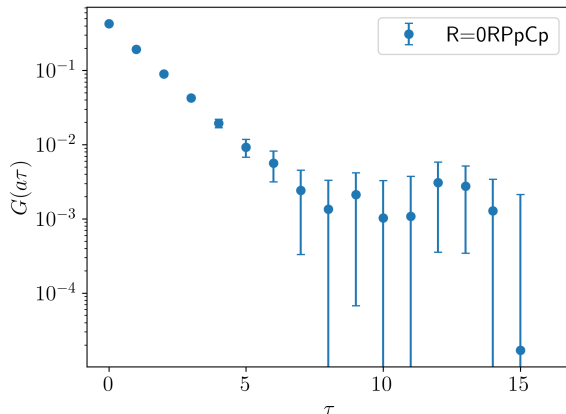
# Glueballs on the lattice

Glueballs masses can be extracted from lattice correlation functions

$$G(a\tau) = \langle \Phi(a\tau)\Phi(0) \rangle_{\text{conn.}} = \sum_n |A_n|^2 e^{-a\tau\omega_n}$$

$$A_n = \langle n | \Phi(0) | 0 \rangle \rightarrow \text{energy state overlap}$$

**Bad signal/noise ratio**



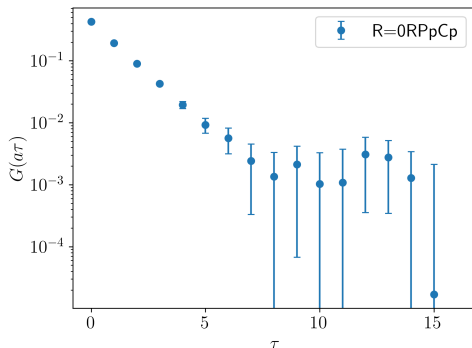
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“We face an impasse: if  $t$  is small the estimated mass is not the true mass and if  $t$  is large the statistical error may be so large that nothing may be measured” [G. Parisi](#)



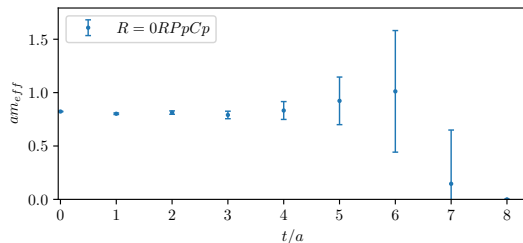
# Variational method

The situation is improved considering a large set of operators with different smearing/blocking

$$\sum_j C_{ij}(t_0)v_j = \sum_j \lambda_j(t_0)C_{ij}(0)v_j$$

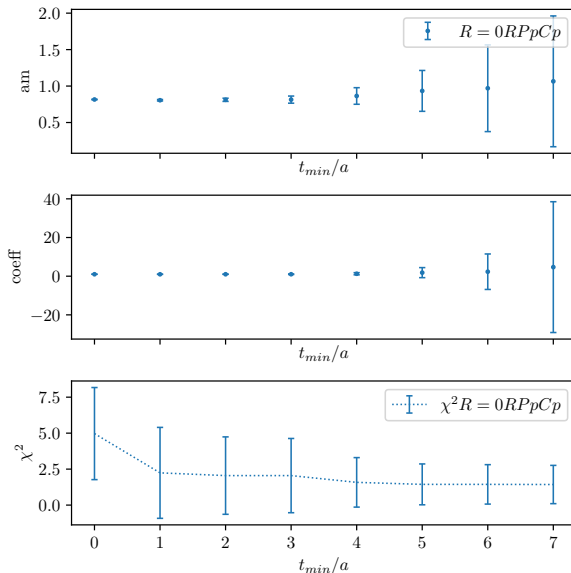
$$am_{eff}(t_0) = \ln \left( \frac{v_i C_{ij}(t)v_j}{v_i C_{ij}(t-1)v_j} \right)$$

$$C_{ii}(a\tau) = |A_n|^2 \cosh(am_i\tau - \frac{N_L}{2})$$





- The “standard” method led to impressive results over the years
- Variational method help disentangle states
- Practically can only use few lattice times



## Can we use spectral functions?

Writing the Euclidean correlator in the Källén-Lehmann representation

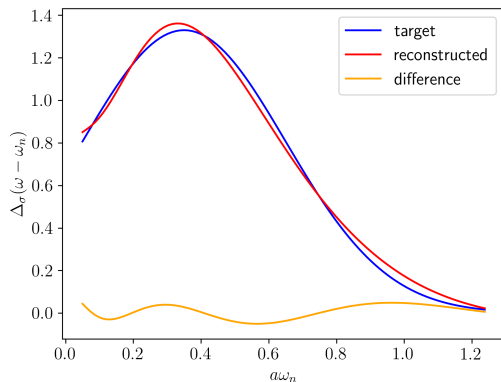
$$G(a\tau) = \int_{\omega_{\min}}^{\infty} d\omega \rho(\omega) e^{-a\omega\tau}$$

- For lattice correlators this leads to a **ill-posed inverse problem**
- Need a method to regularise the problem. Also, finite volume ( $L$ ) means

$$\rho_L(\omega_n) = \sum_n \frac{|\langle n | \Phi(0) | 0 \rangle|^2}{2\omega_n} \delta(\omega - \omega_n).$$

We can use Backus-Gilbert regularisation to extract **smear**ed spectral function from the lattice correlation function

$$\Delta_\sigma(\omega; \mathbf{g}) = \sum_{\tau=1}^{\tau_{\max}} g_\tau(\sigma, \omega_n) e^{-a\tau\omega}$$



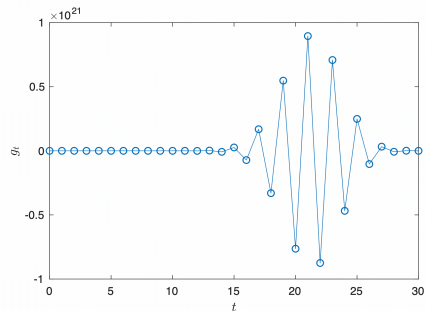
$$\sigma/a = 0.3, a\omega_n = 0.35$$

$$\rho_L^\sigma(\omega_n) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \rho_L(\omega) \Delta_\sigma(\omega - \omega_n) \simeq \sum_{\tau=1}^{\tau_{\max}} g_\tau(\sigma, \omega_n) G(a\tau).$$

# Backus-Gilbert regularisation

Hansen, Lupo, Tantalo, [PRD](#), 1903.06476

$$A_n[\mathbf{g}] = \int_{\omega_0}^{\infty} d\omega w_n(\omega) |\overline{\Delta}_\sigma(\omega; \mathbf{g}) - \Delta_\sigma(\omega - \omega_n)|^2.$$



[Hansen, Lupo, Tantalo, [PRD](#), 1903.06476]

# Backus-Gilbert regularisation

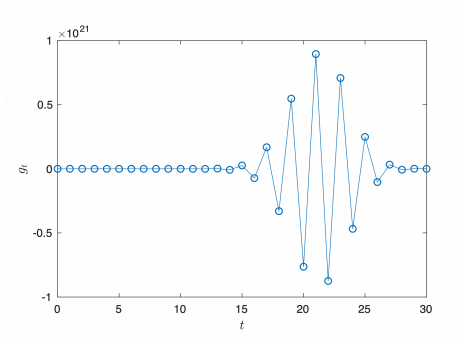
Hansen, Lupo, Tantalo [PRD, 1903.06476](#)

$$W_n[\mathbf{g}] = \frac{A_n[\mathbf{g}]}{A_n[\mathbf{0}]} + \lambda \frac{B[\mathbf{g}]}{B_{\text{norm}}}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial W_n[\mathbf{g}]}{\partial g_\tau} \right|_{g_\tau = g_\tau^*} = 0$$

$$A_n[\mathbf{g}] = \int_{\omega_0}^{\infty} d\omega w_n(\omega) |\bar{\Delta}_\sigma(\omega; \mathbf{g}) - \Delta_\sigma(\omega - \omega_n)|^2.$$

$$B[\mathbf{g}] = \sum_{\tau_1, \tau_2=1}^{\tau_{\max}} g_{\tau_1} g_{\tau_2} \text{Cov}(\tau_1, \tau_2),$$

$$\mathbf{p} = (\alpha, \lambda, \omega_{\min}, \tau_{\max}, )$$



[[Hansen, Lupo, Tantalo, PRD, 1903.06476](#)]

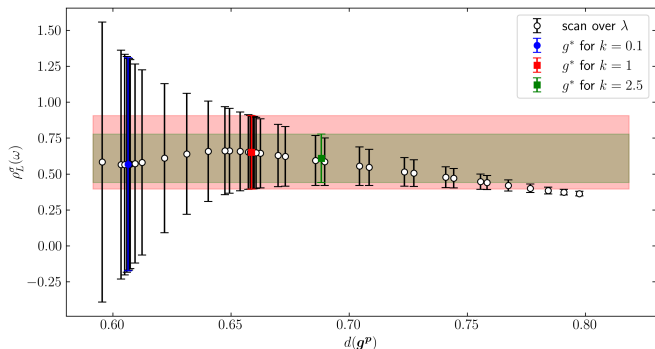
# Stability analysis

- Method introduced in [\[Bulava et al., JHEP, 2111.12774\]](#)
- Choose final result in statistically dominated region

$$\frac{A[\mathbf{g}^*]}{A[0]} = kB[\mathbf{g}^*]$$

- Final results need to be extrapolated

$$\rho(\omega) = \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \rho_L^\sigma(\omega)$$



$$d(\mathbf{g}^P) = \sqrt{A[\mathbf{g}]/A[0]}$$

## Ensembles details

We are currently at a very preliminary stage and plan to soon include more values of  $\beta$  and other representations  $A_1^{-+}, E^{++}, \dots$

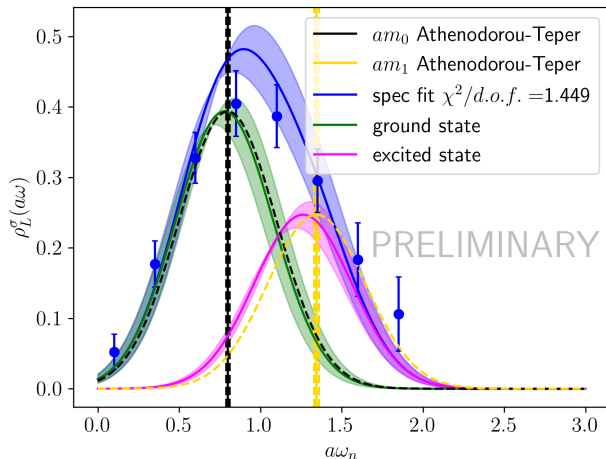
$J^{PC}$	$\beta$	$L^3 \times T$	$N_{cnfg}$
$A_1^{++}$	5.8941	$32^3 \times 32$	15000
$A_1^{++}$	6.0625	$32^3 \times 32$	15000

# Fit of smeared spectral functions

[Athenodorou, Teper, 2007.06422, JHEP]

- Introduced in [Del Debbio, *et al.*, 2211.09581, *Eur.Phys.J.C.*]
- We can perform fit of spectral functions rather than correlators
- Minimise  $\chi^2$  function defined in terms of  $\text{Cov}[\rho^\sigma]$

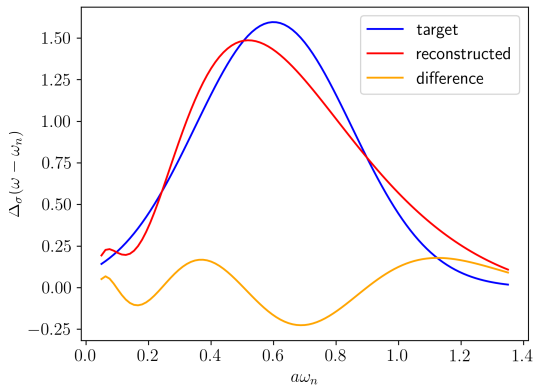
$$f_k^\sigma(\omega) = \sum_k a_k e^{-\frac{(\omega-\omega_k)^2}{2\sigma^2}},$$



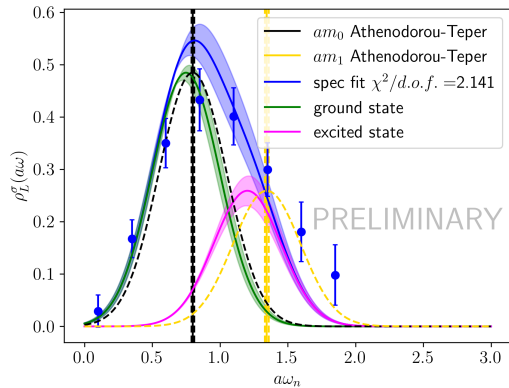
$$\beta = 5.89, \sigma = 0.3/a, \chi_{red}^2 = 1.45$$



# Reducing $\sigma$ is challenging

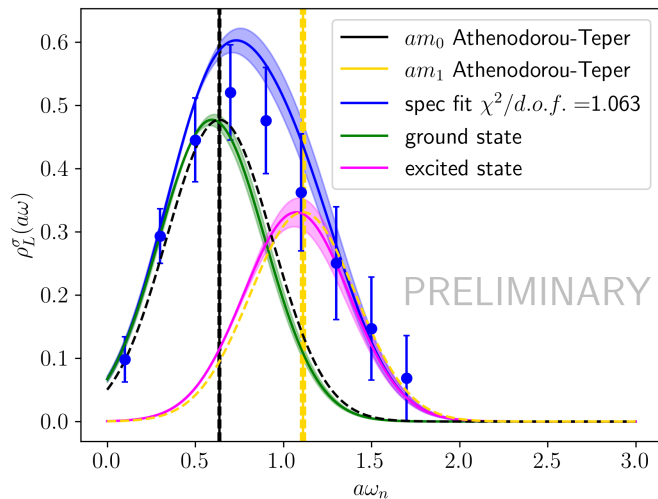


$$\beta = 5.89, \sigma = 0.25/a, a\omega_n = 0.6$$



$$\beta = 5.89, \sigma = 0.25/a, \chi_{red}^2 = 2.14$$

# Reducing the lattice spacing



$$\beta = 6.0625, \sigma = 0.3/a, \chi_{red}^2 = 1.06$$

## Preliminary results

	$\beta$	spectral fit	effective mass
$am_0$	5.89	0.779(58)	0.799(10)
$am_1$	5.89	1.262(43)	1.345(14)
$am_0$	6.0625	0.595(13)	0.6365(43)
$am_1$	6.0625	1.074(14)	1.111(11)

Effective mass results taken from [\[Athenodorou, Teper, 2007.06422, JHEP\]](#)

## What's next

- Accuracy of final results depends on correlator's precision:
  - Increase statistics to match literature standard
  - Use multi-level (?)
- Extend analysis to other representations  $A_1^{-+}, E^{++}, \dots$  and different volumes.
- Perform continuum limit  $a \rightarrow 0$ .
- Repeat study in un-quenched setting where glueballs are allowed to decay:
  - We want to study how the spectral density  $\rho(\omega)$  changes as we change  $am_\pi$ , effectively going from a nearly quenched set-up to the physical scenario.
  - Here the double limit  $L \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$  will be a crucial step.

## Take home points

- The standard method of extracting glueball masses is particularly challenging.
- The investigation of the glueball spectrum using spectral densities gives an additional tool to determine the glueball energy states
- The limited precision of glueball correlators is a problem also in the spectral density picture.
- The preliminary results are encouraging and a full systematic study will appear (hopefully) soon!

## BACKUP SLIDES

## $\sigma$ expansion of $\rho_\sigma(\omega)$

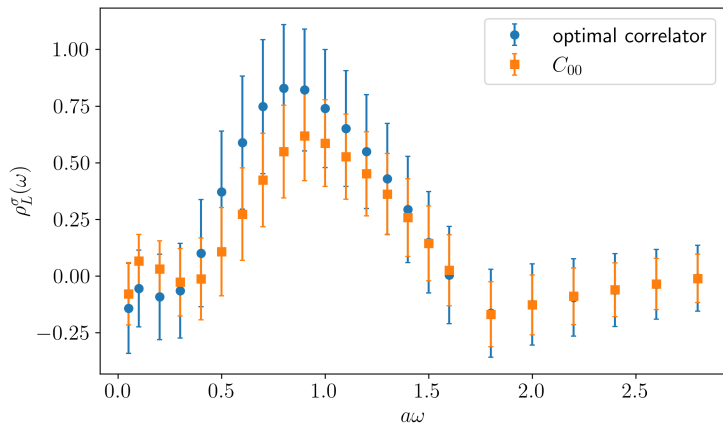
The  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$  extrapolation is done following an expansion of  $\rho(\omega)$  for small  $\sigma$ . Following [Bulava *et al.*, 2111.12774, JHEP]

$$\rho(\omega)_\sigma = \pi\rho(\omega) + \sigma^2 \frac{\pi}{2} \rho^{(2)}(\omega) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx x^{2n+2} \Delta(x) + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^{2n+2}) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

where  $\Delta(x) = \frac{\exp(\frac{-x^2}{2})}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ ,  $x = \omega - \omega_n$  and  $\rho(\omega)^{(2)}$  is the second derivative w.r.t.  $\sigma$

## Glueball smeared spectral functions

Studying the spectral functions allows to check contributions to the optimal correlators in the variational method



$$\beta = 5.8941, \sigma = 0.15/a$$