

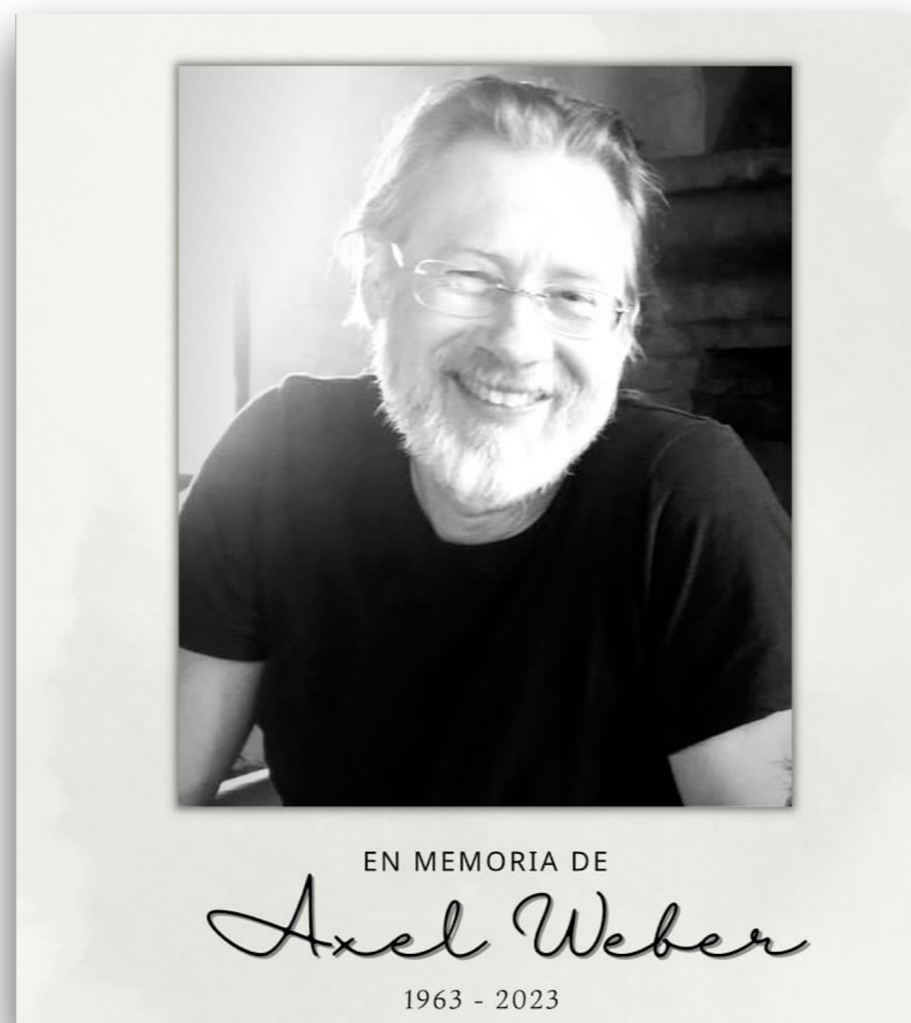
# Confinement & the gluon mass gap

Jan M. Pawłowski

Universität Heidelberg

Morelia, November 22<sup>th</sup> 2023

In memoriam Axel Weber



# Scientific childhood memories

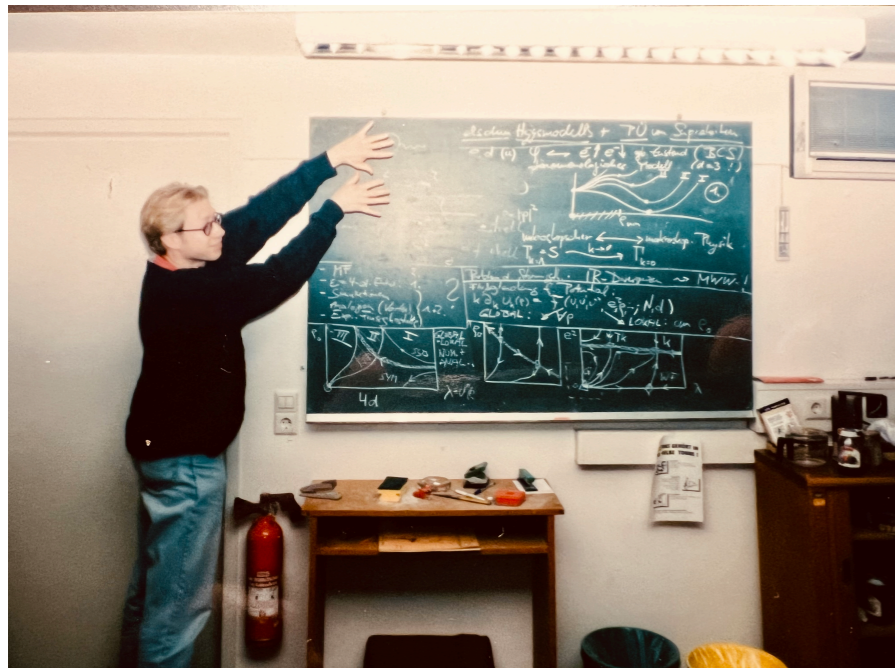
Heidelberg/Paris 1990-95



**Axel Weber '95**



**PhD office ITP Heidelberg**



**Cross-blackboard physics**



**Training for the next 1/4-final loss**



# Scientific childhood memories

Heidelberg/Paris 1990-95

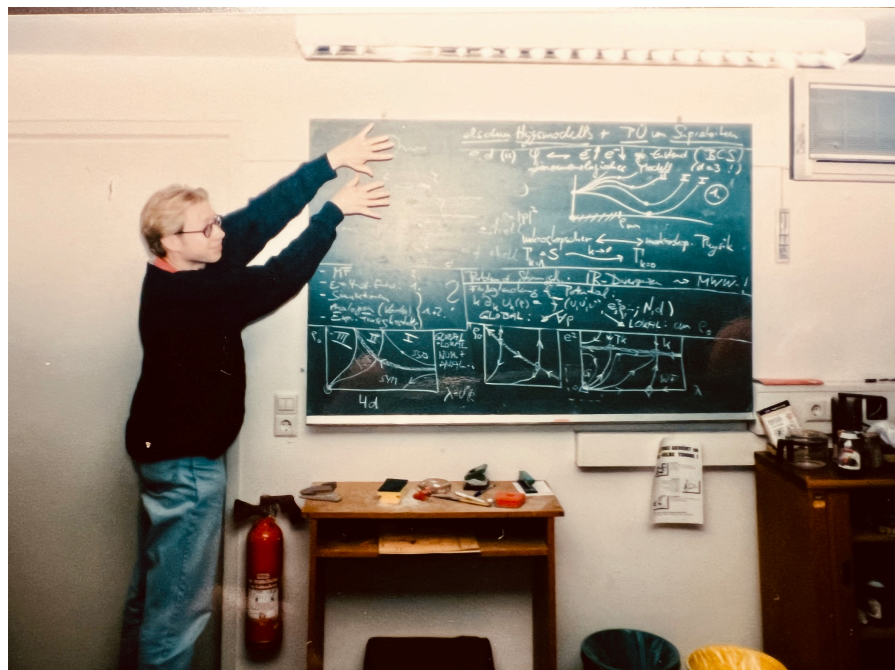


Axel Weber '95

Thanks, Axel and Manfred,  
for convincing me of flow equations  
being a cool approach for doing exciting physics!



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# Outline

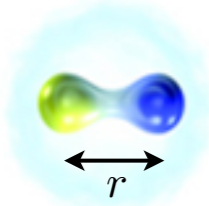
- **Confinement and the QCD mass gap**
- **Gluon mass gap, confinement and QCD mass gap**
- **Gluon condensates & the gluon mass gap**



# Confinement & the QCD mass gap

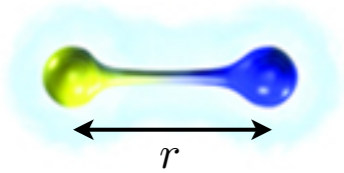
## Confinement

## QCD mass gap



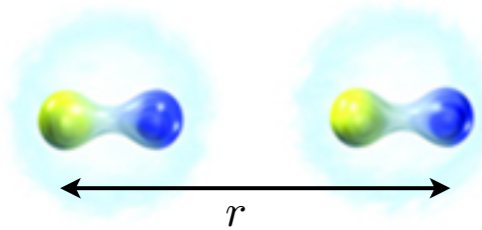
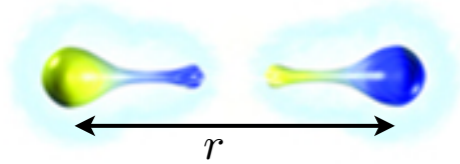
Free energy

$$F_{q\bar{q}} \simeq -\frac{1}{r}$$



$$F_{q\bar{q}} \simeq \sigma r$$

string breaking at  $r \approx 1\text{fm}$



$$F_{q\bar{q}} \simeq \text{const.}$$

# Confinement & the QCD mass gap

## Confinement

## QCD mass gap

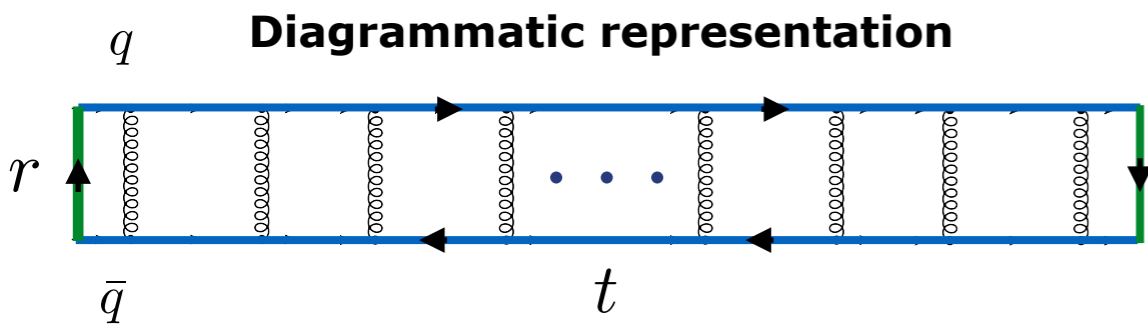
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Wilson loop — Polyakov loop correlation

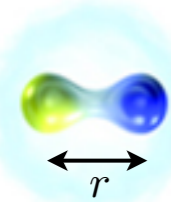


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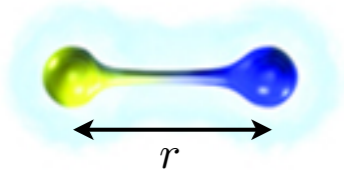
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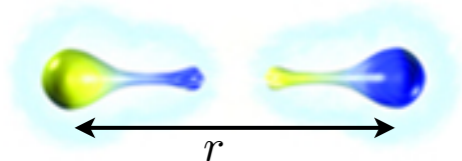
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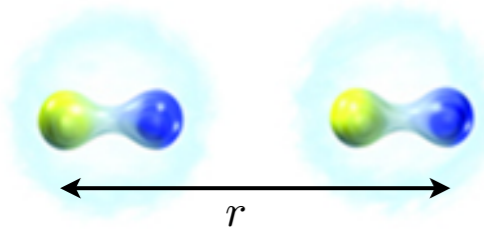
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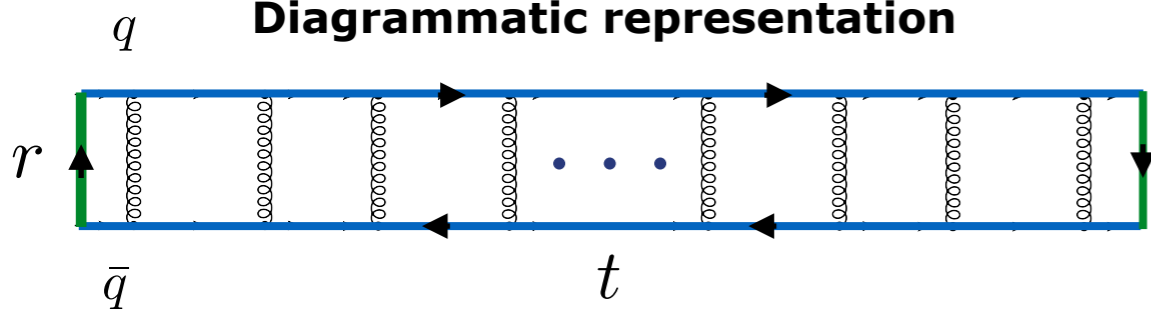


## QCD mass gap

Millenium prize problem

'Show that Yang-Mills theory exists and has a (spectral) mass gap'

## Diagrammatic representation



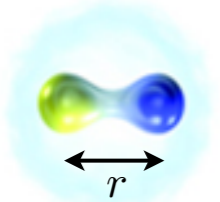
Wilson loop — Polyakov loop correlation

# Confinement & the QCD mass gap

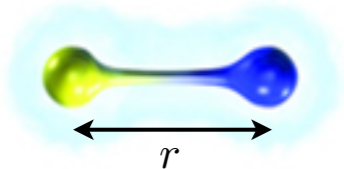
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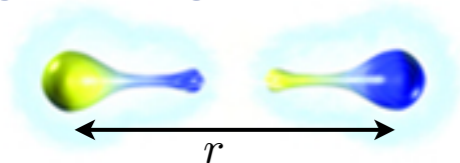
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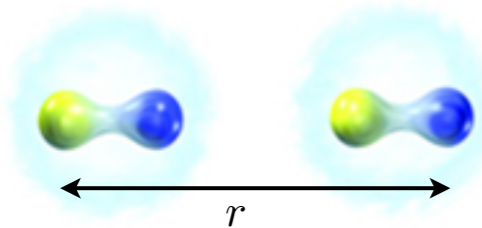
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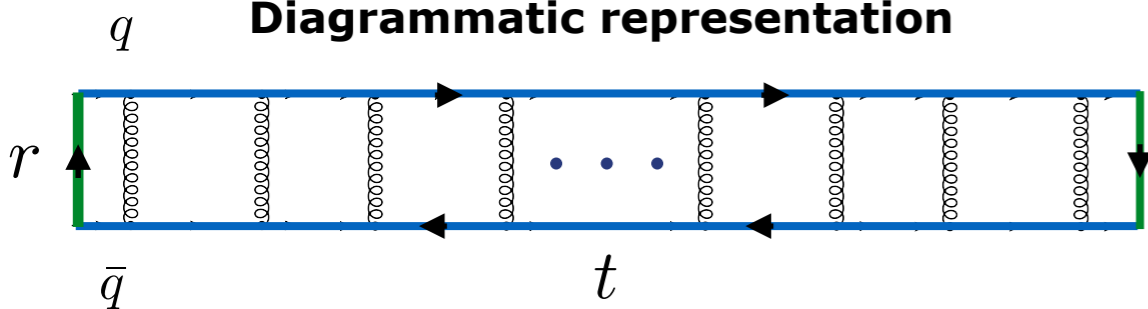
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## Glueball masses in Yang-Mills theory

Glueball	Mass
$J^{PC} \quad 0^{++}$ scalar	$\sim 1800 \text{ MeV}$
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## Diagrammatic representation



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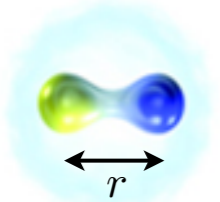


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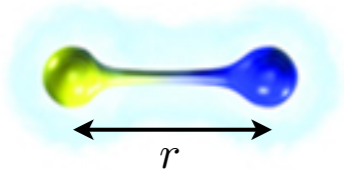
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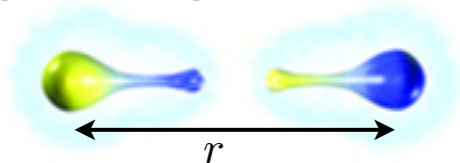
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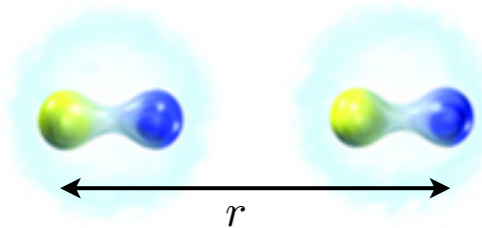
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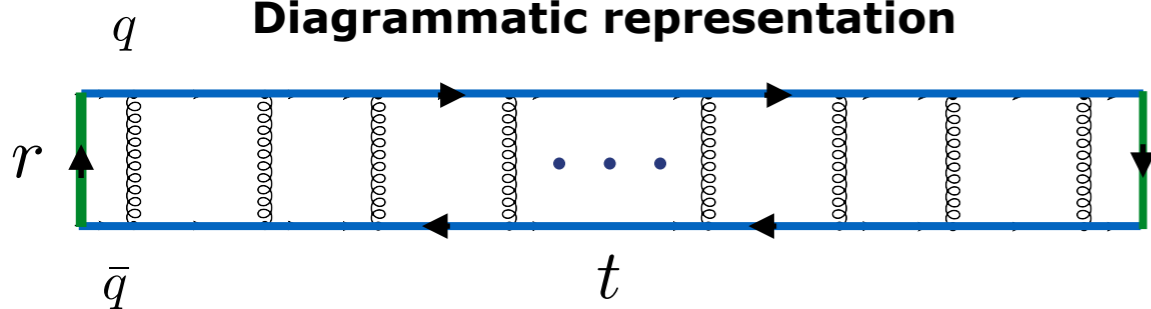
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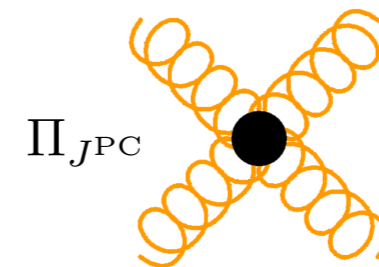
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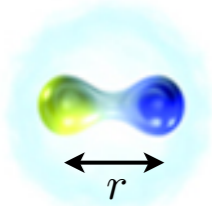


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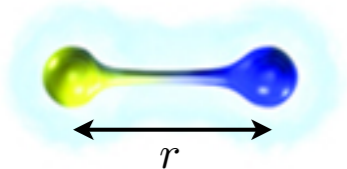
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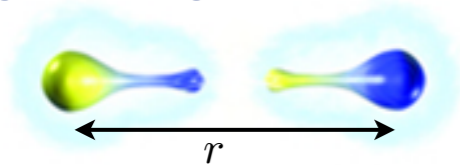
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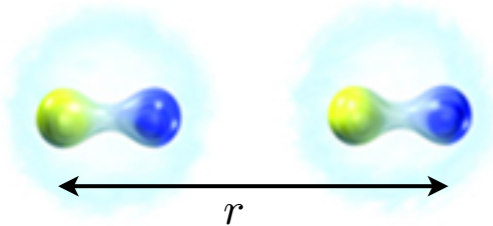
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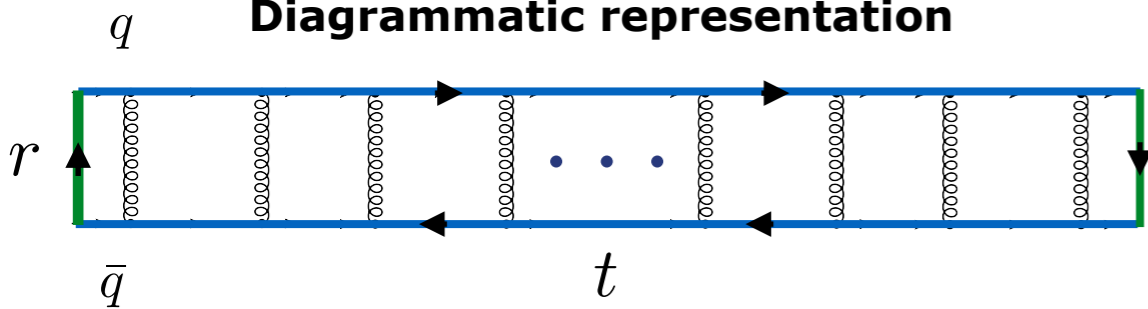
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## Diagrammatic representation



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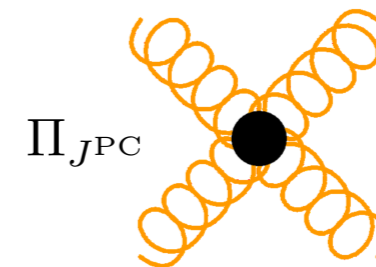
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## Diagrammatic representation



Both properties stem from the gluon mass gap



# Gluon mass gap with the functional renormalisation group

Landau gauge QCD

## Founding fRG papers

Ellwanger, Hirsch, Weber, *Z.Phys.C* 69 (1996) 687-698

*Eur.Phys.J.C* 1 (1998) 563-578



Axel Weber '95

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Landau gauge QCD

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Flow equation for effective action

$$\partial_t \Gamma[A] = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Diagram 1} - \text{Diagram 2} \right)$$

The diagram shows the flow equation for the effective action. On the left is the derivative  $\partial_t \Gamma[A]$ . This is equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$  times the difference between two diagrams. The first diagram is a circle with a wavy orange line and a small circle with an 'X' inside. The second diagram is a dashed circle with a small circle with an 'X' inside.

$$t = \log k/k_{\text{ref}}$$



Axel Weber '95

# Gluon mass gap with the functional renormalisation group

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Axel Weber '95

### Flow equation for effective action

$$\partial_t \Gamma[A] = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Orange loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} \right) - \left( \text{Dashed loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} \right)$$

$$t = \log k/k_{\text{ref}}$$

$$\partial_t \text{dotted line}^{-1} = \text{Loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{Loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices}$$

$$\partial_t \text{wavy line}^{-1} = \text{Loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} - 2 \text{Loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} - \frac{1}{2} \text{Loop with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices}$$

$$\partial_t \text{triangle vertex} = - \text{Triangle with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} - \text{Triangle with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{perm.}$$

$$\partial_t \text{triangle vertex} = - \text{Triangle with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + 2 \text{Triangle with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{Triangle with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{perm.}$$

$$\partial_t \text{cross vertex} = + \text{Cross with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{Square with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} - 2 \text{Square with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} - \text{Cross with } \otimes \text{ and } \ominus \text{ vertices} + \text{perm.}$$



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Smekal, Hauck, Alkofer, *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 79 (1997) 3591-3594

*Annals Phys.* 269 (1998) 182



**Axel Weber '95**



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**fRG-papers with non-trivial implementation of Slavnov-Taylor identities**

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Signature of gluon mass-gap: 'Hirsch-Weber dip'

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Dynamical mass gap: STIs + non-analyticities in vertices



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Papavassiliou et al

'Most serious (advanced)  
contender'



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BRST-quartet

BRST-charge

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Gluon condensates

Topic here



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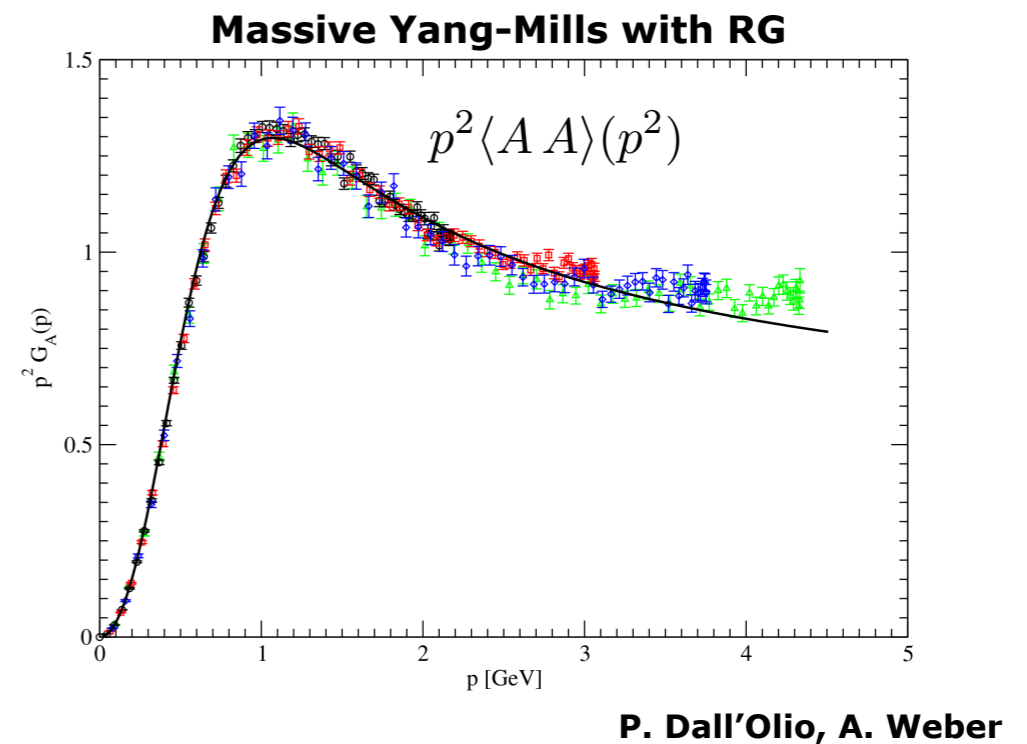
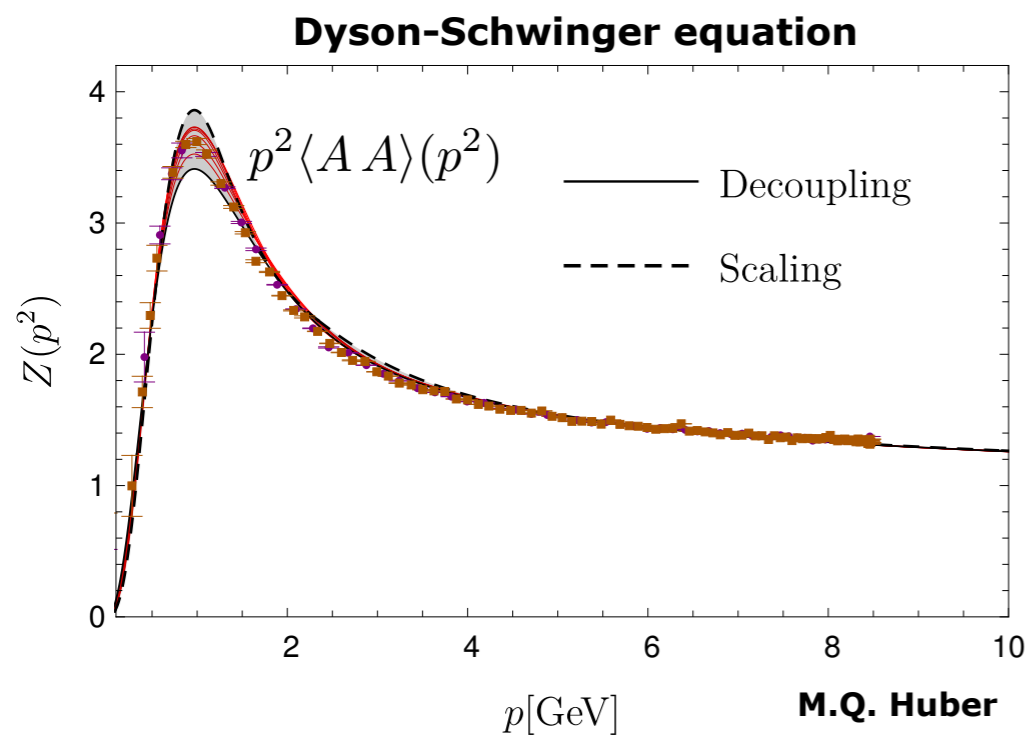
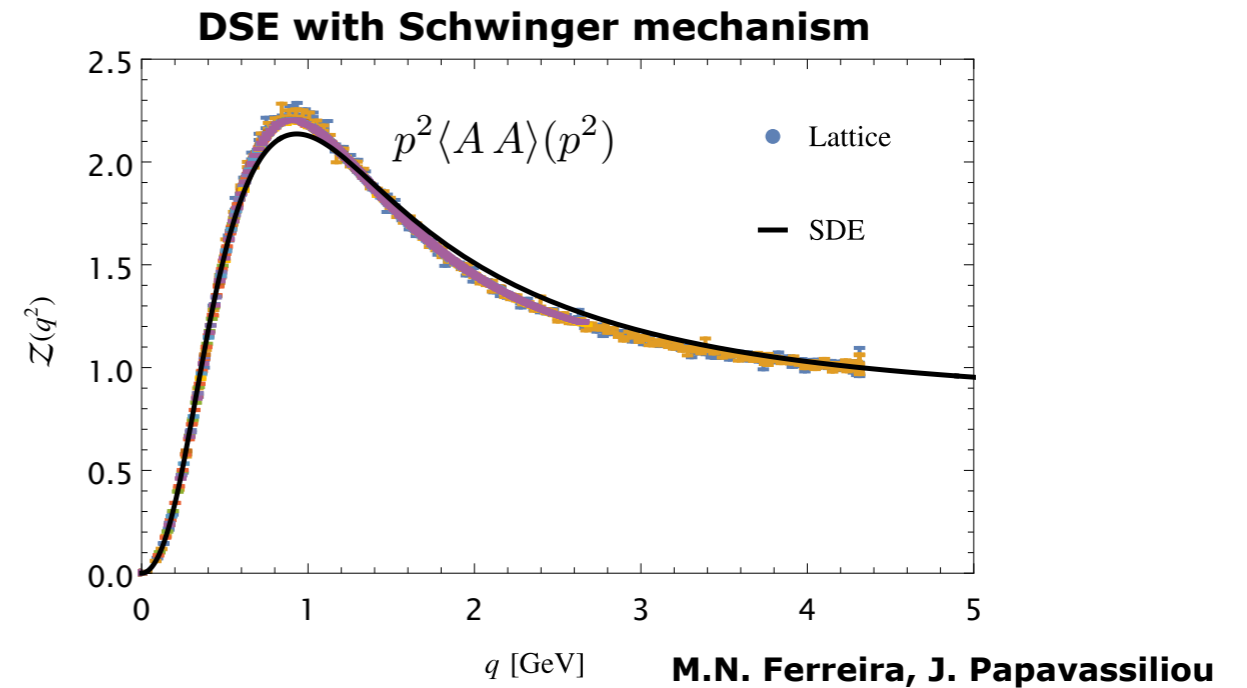
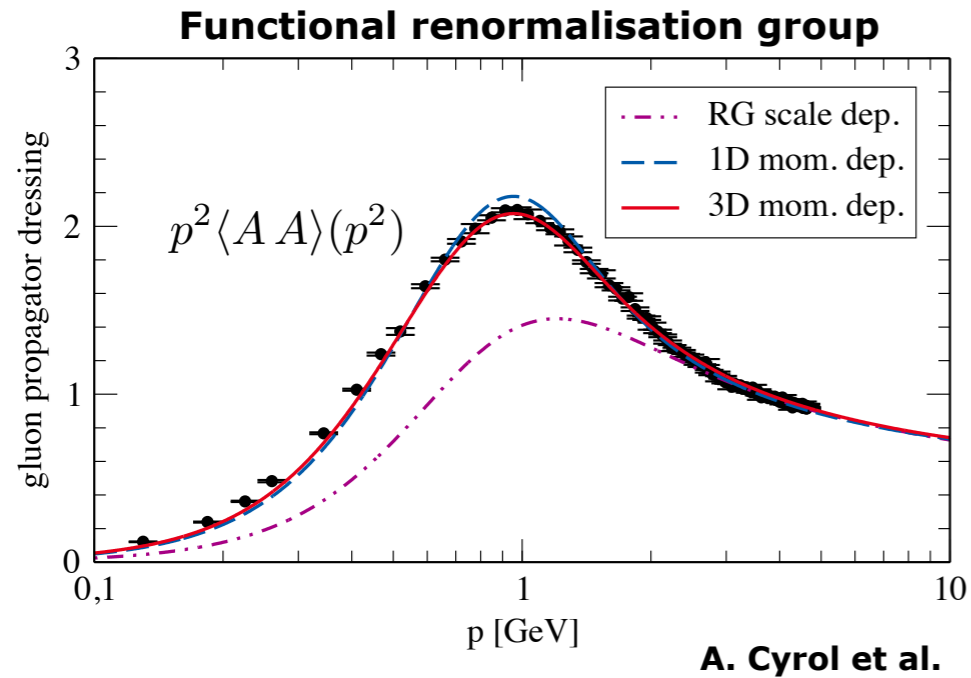
'Most serious (advanced) contender'

Facets of the same confinement dynamics?



# Gluon propagators 'off the shelf'

## Gluon dressing function in the Landau gauge



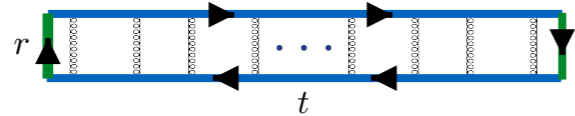
# Gluon mass gap & Confinement

## Screening-mass induced confinement

### Polyakov loop potential

$$\partial_t V(A_0) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Deconfining} - \text{Confining} \right)$$

**Deconfining**      **Confining**



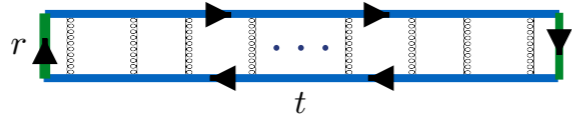
$$\langle L[A_0](\mathbf{x}) L^\dagger[A_0](\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \rangle$$

# Gluon mass gap & Confinement

## Screening-mass induced confinement

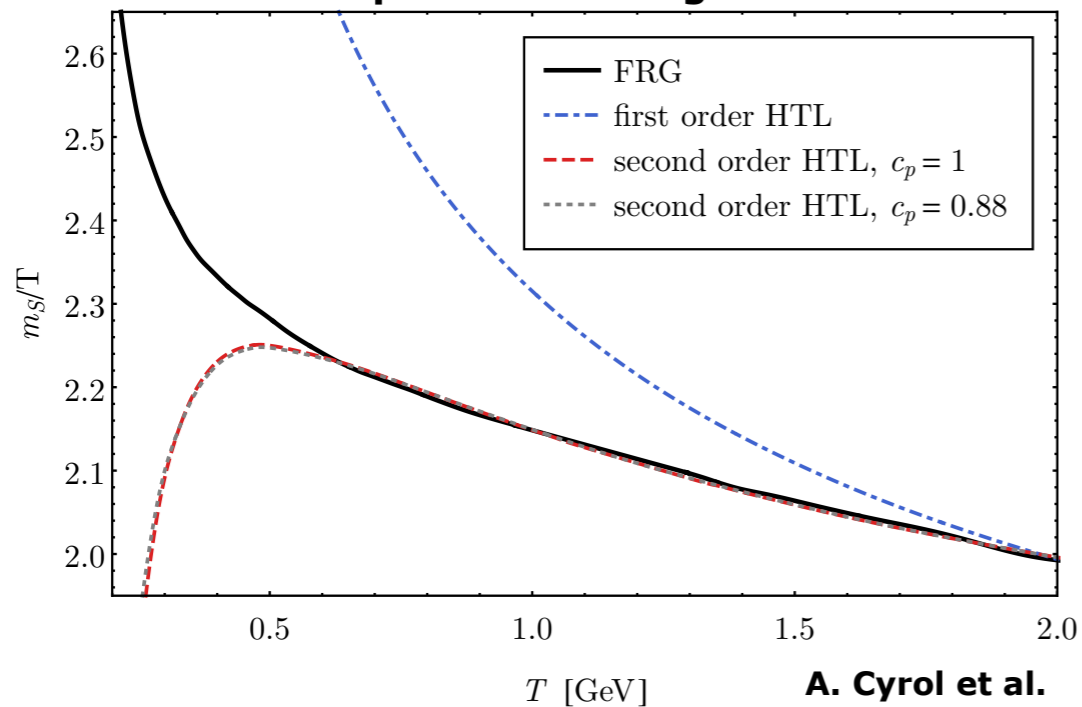
### Polyakov loop potential

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$$\langle L[A_0](\mathbf{x}) L^\dagger[A_0](\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \rangle$$

### Spatial screening mass



$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dp}{2\pi} \langle A_0(\mathbf{p}) A_0(-\mathbf{p}) \rangle e^{i p x} \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \infty} c_e e^{-m_s x}$$

$$p_0 = 0$$

$$p = \|\mathbf{p}\|$$



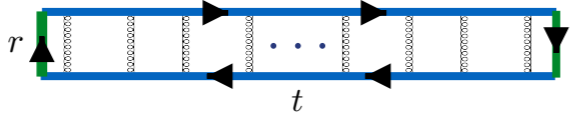
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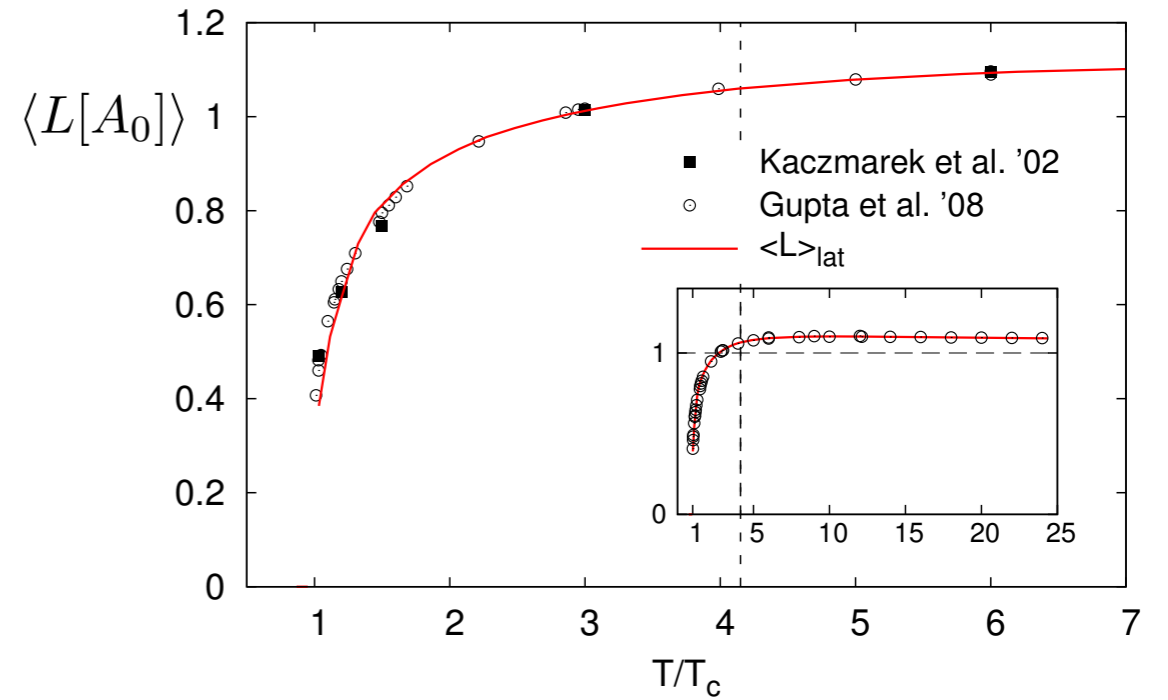
### Polyakov loop potential

$$\partial_t V(A_0) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Deconfining Loop} - \text{Confining Loop} \right)$$

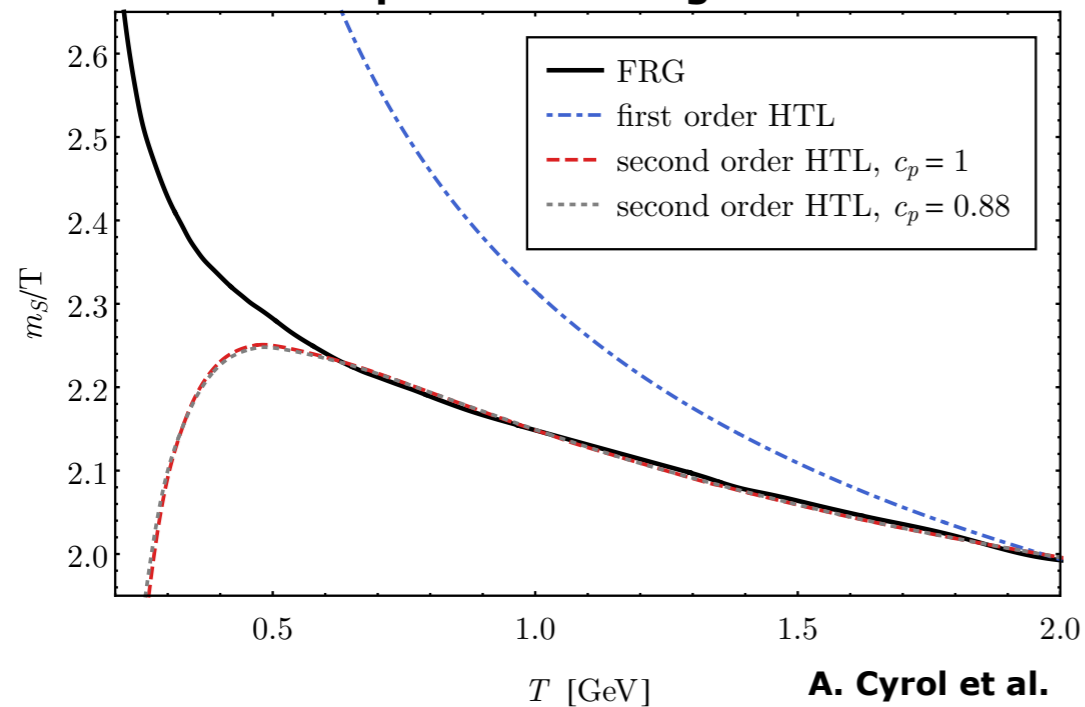
Deconfining      Confining



$$\langle L[A_0](\mathbf{x}) L^\dagger[A_0](\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \rangle$$



### Spatial screening mass



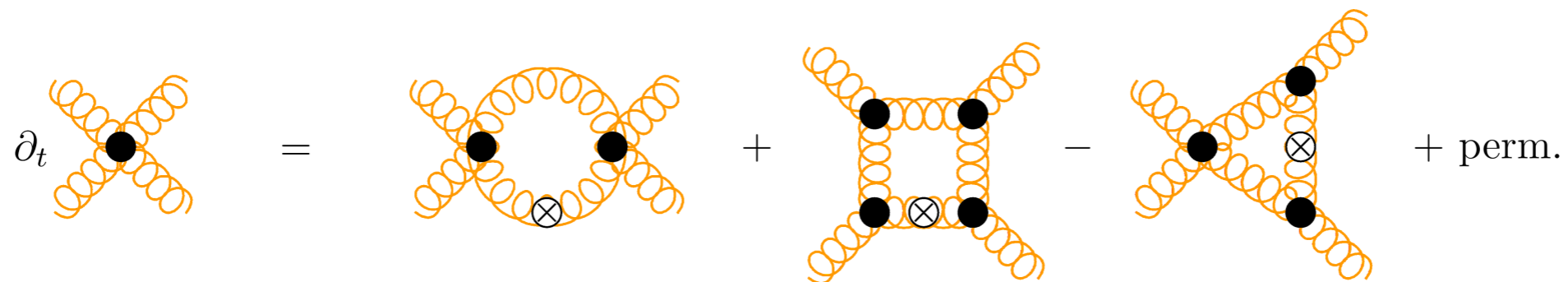
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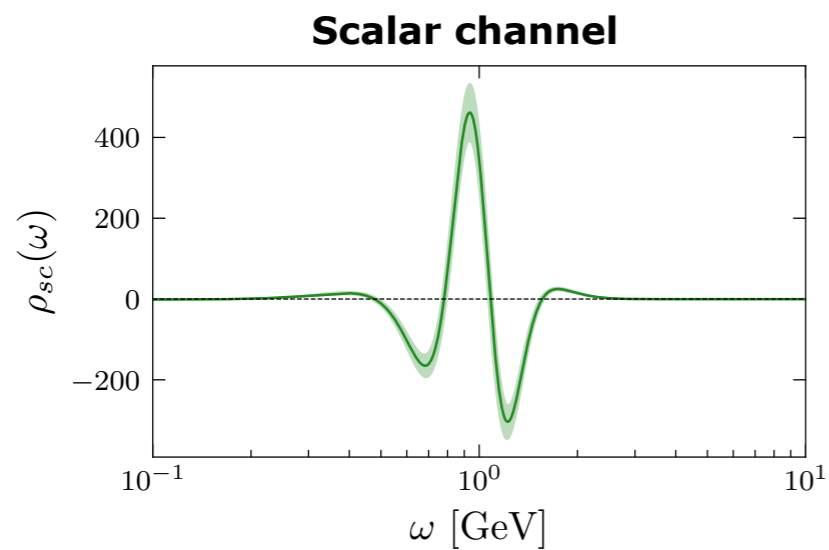
$$p = \|\mathbf{p}\|$$

# Glueball mass gap & spectral mass gap in Yang-Mills

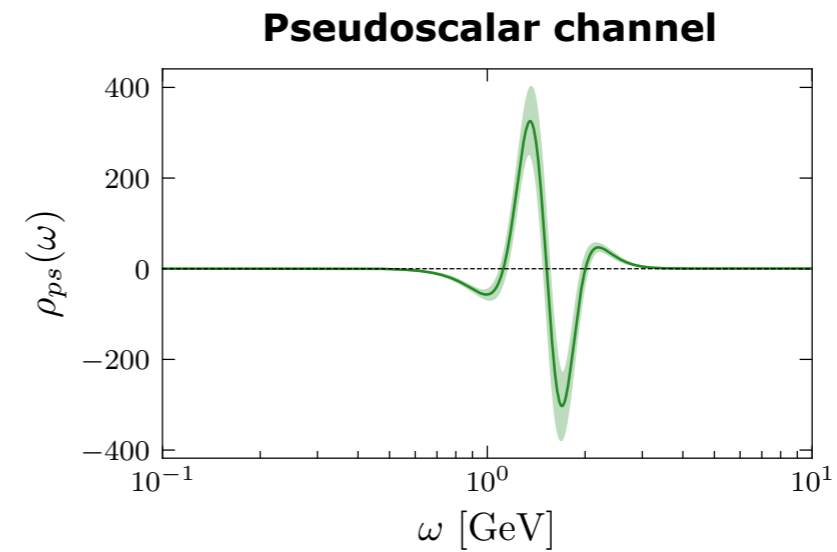
## Bound state masses from screening masses



## Spectral functions of 4-gluon vertex



$$m_{0++} = 1840 \text{ MeV}$$



$$m_{0-+} = 2700 \text{ MeV}$$

Schneider, Turnwald et al.

# Gluon condensate

Worked out during Axel's stay 20/21 as a  
guest professor /EMMI visiting professor  
at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, U Heidelberg

## Color condensate operator

$$\chi^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_{\mu\nu}^b \left( \{t^a, t^b\}^{AB} - \frac{1}{N_c} \delta^{ab} \delta^{AB} \right)$$



# Gluon condensate

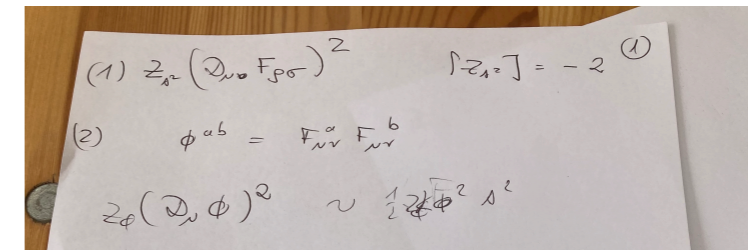
Worked out during Axel's stay 20/21 as a guest professor /EMMI visiting professor at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, U Heidelberg

**Color condensate operator**

$$\chi^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_{\mu\nu}^b \left( \{t^a, t^b\}^{AB} - \frac{1}{N_c} \delta^{ab} \delta^{AB} \right)$$



**During Axel's stay in Heidelberg, summer 2021**



**Notes from 22th October 2020**

# Gluon condensate

Worked out during Axel's stay 20/21 as a  
guest professor /EMMI visiting professor  
at the Institute for Theoretical Physics, U Heidelberg

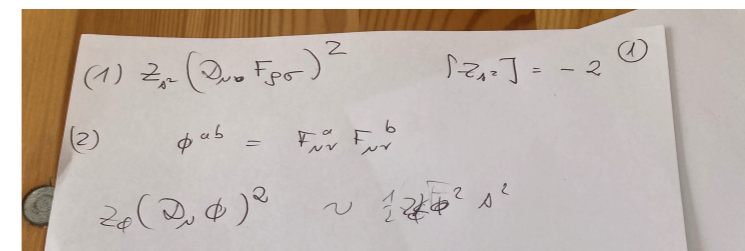
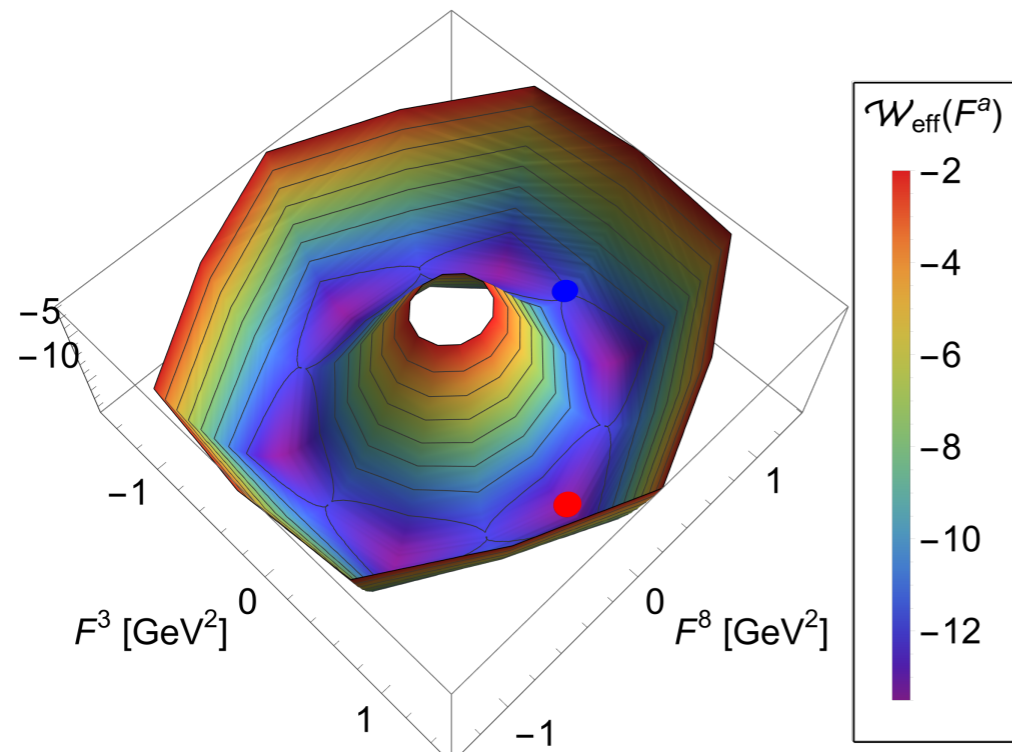
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**During Axel's stay in Heidelberg, summer 2021**

## Effective potential $\mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(F^a)$



**Notes from 22th October 2020**

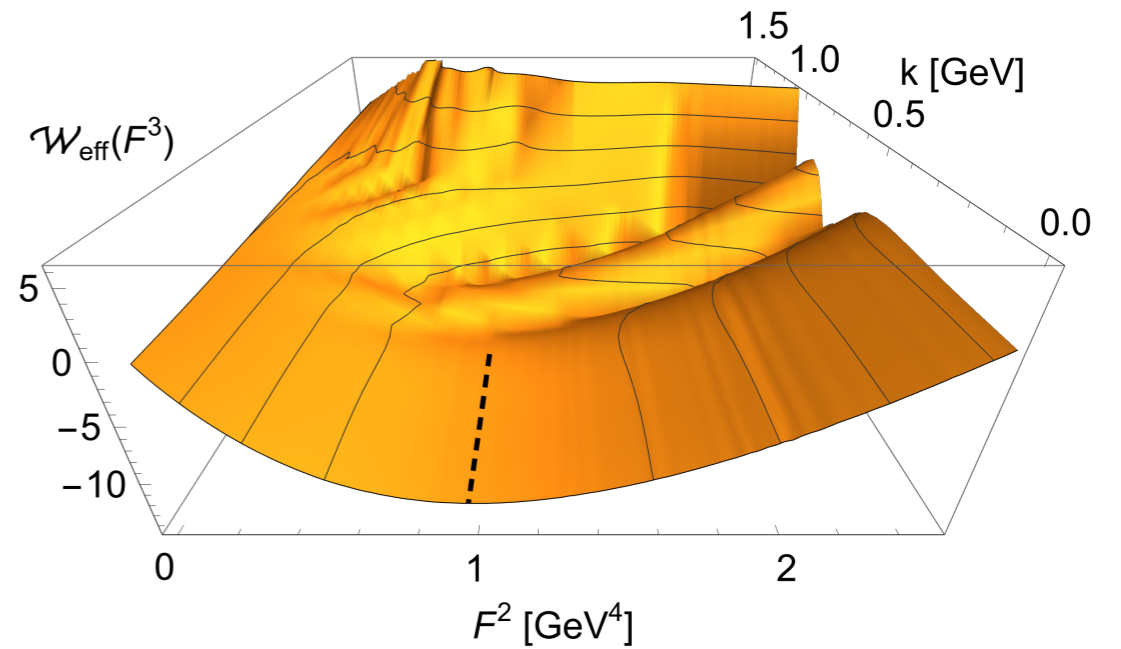


# Gluon condensate

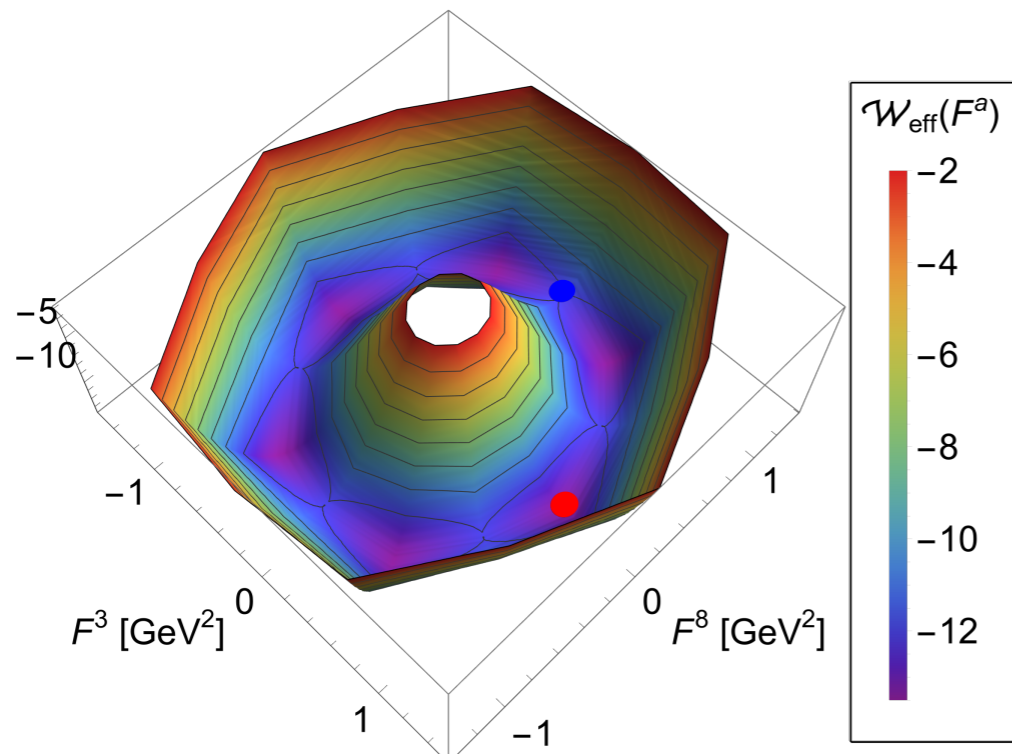
**Flow of effective potential**

$$\partial_t \mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(F) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Gluon Loop} - \text{Ghost Loop} \right)$$

**Scale-dependence of  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(F^a)$**



**Effective potential  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(F^a)$**



**Fieldstrength at minimum**

$$\langle F \rangle_{\lambda_3}^2 = 0.98(11) \text{ GeV}^4$$



# Gluon mass gap

**Expansion of effective action about the color condensate**

$$\Gamma_F[A] = \frac{Z_F}{4} \int_x (D_\mu F_{\nu\rho})^a (D_\mu F_{\nu\rho})^a \quad \rightarrow \quad \Gamma_F[A] \simeq \frac{1}{2} m_3^2 \int_x A_\mu^a A_\mu^a + \dots$$
$$m_3^2 = \frac{Z_F}{8} \langle F \rangle^2$$

# Gluon mass gap

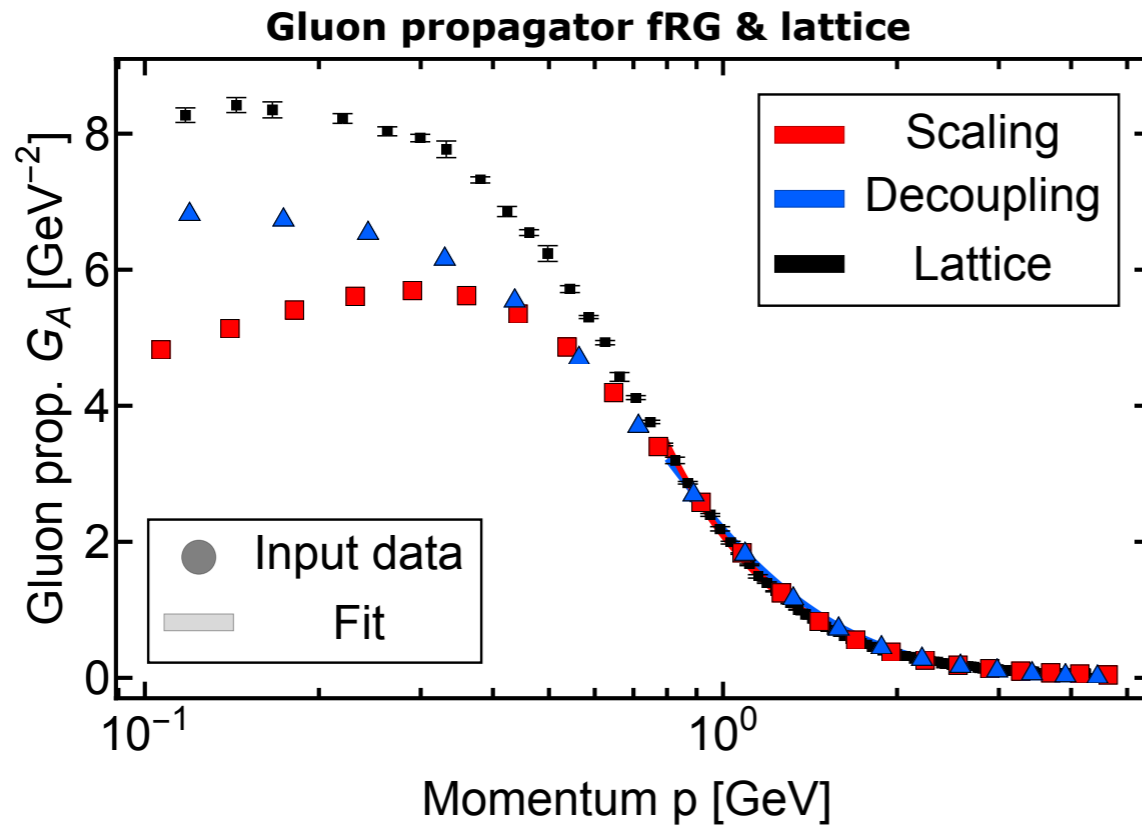
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# Gluon mass gap

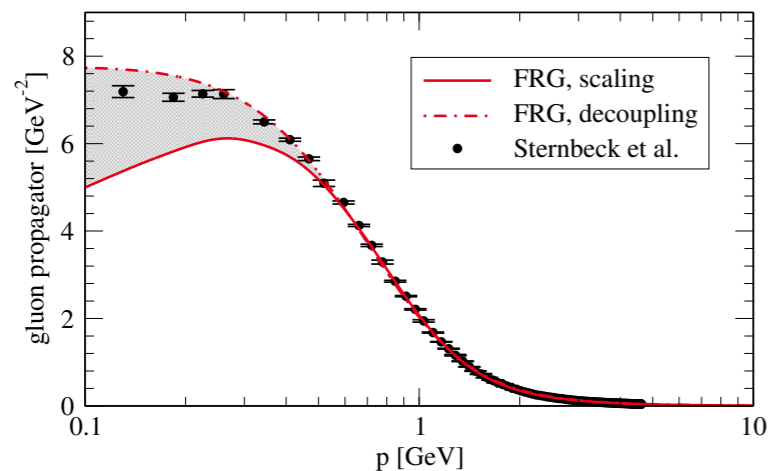
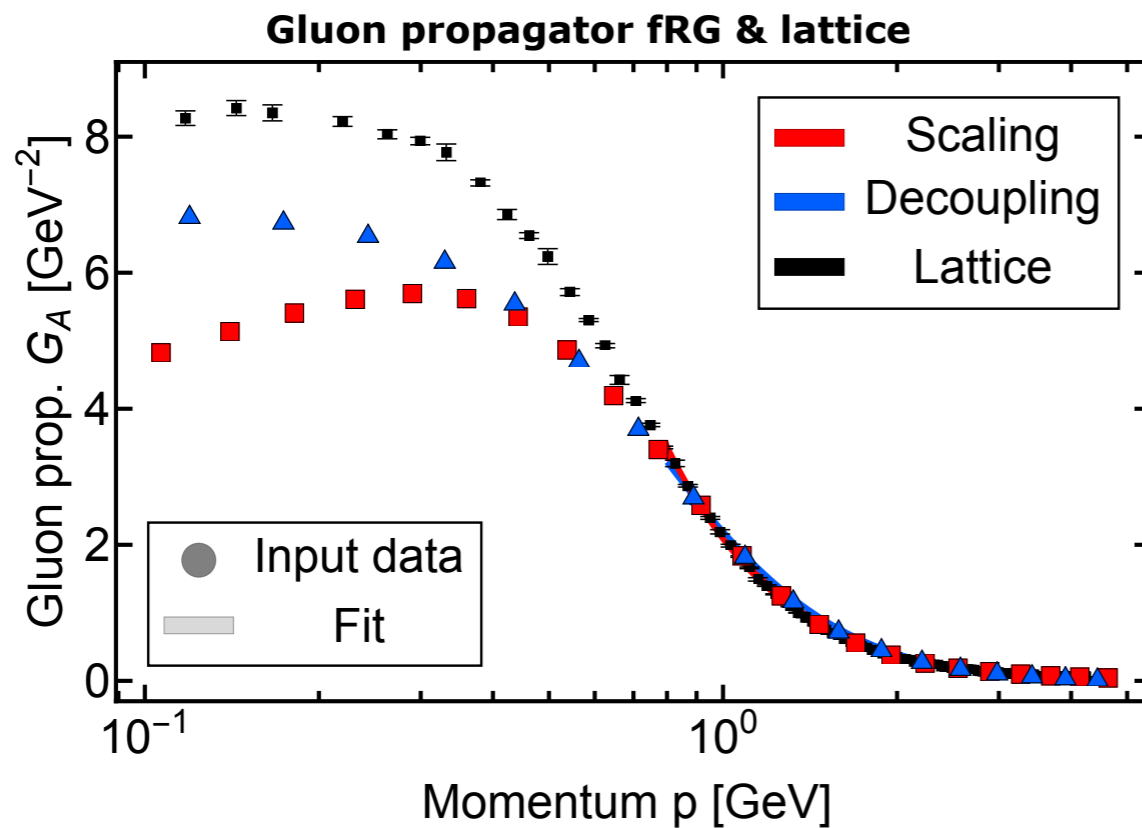
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# Gluon mass gap

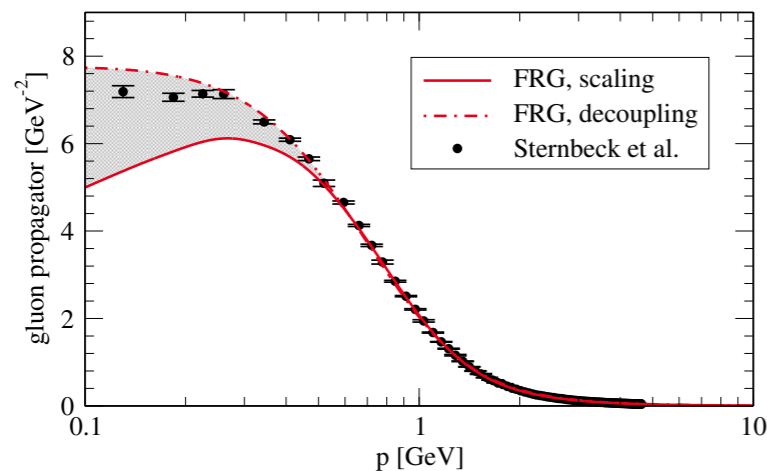
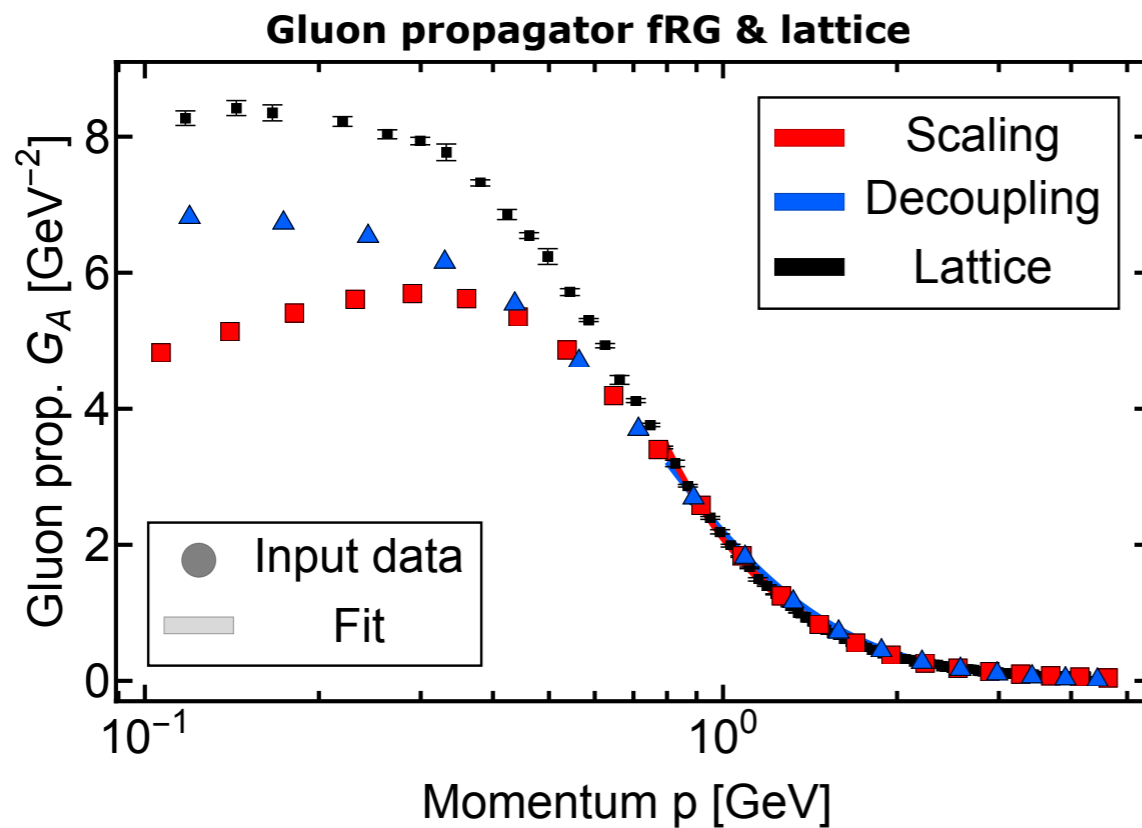
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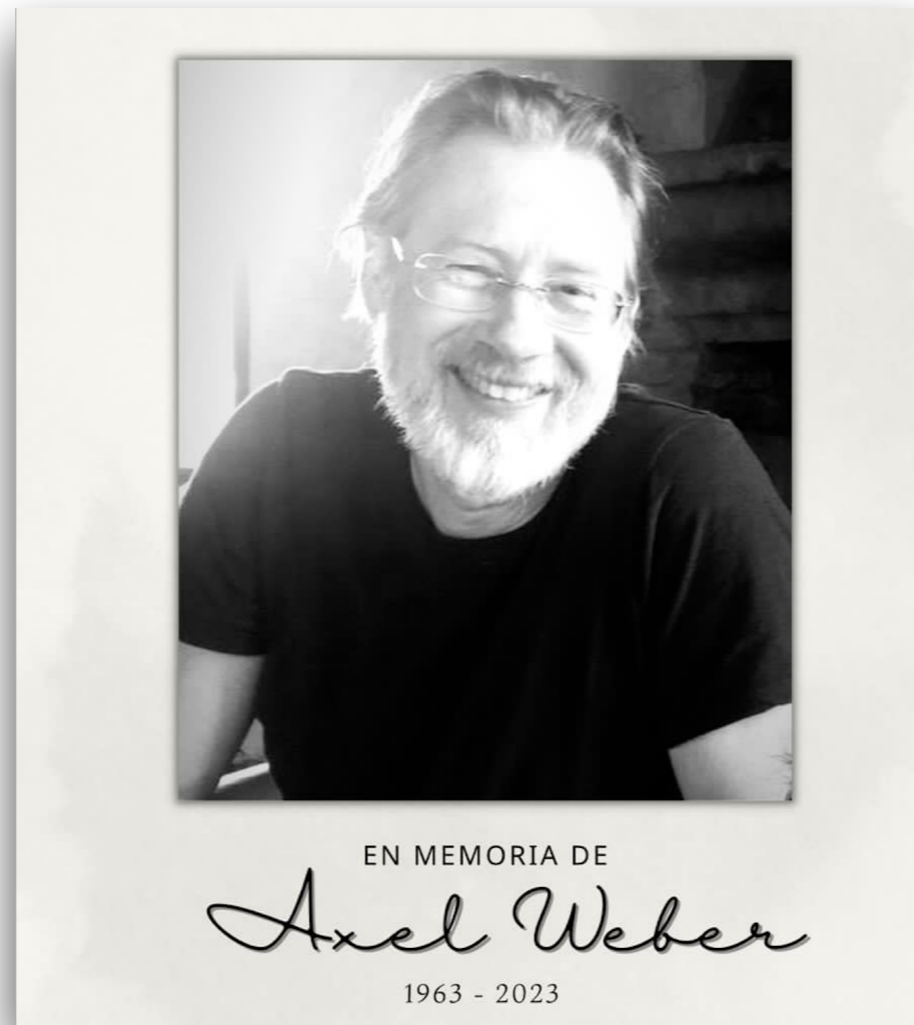
**Condensate-induced mass gap**

$$m_{\text{gap}} = 0.312(27) \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\text{gap}}^{(\text{lattice})} = 0.3536(11) \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\text{gap}}^{(\text{Schwinger})} = 0.320(35) \text{ GeV}$$

**In fond memory of**



**You are dearly missed**