

The Minkowskian Curci-Ferrari infrared-safe model

Marcela Peláez¹, U. Reinosa², Santiago Oribe¹

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Marcela Peláez¹, U. Reinosa², Santiago Oribe¹

Nahuel Barrios¹, Nicolás Wschebor¹, J. Serreau³ and M. Tissier⁴

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¹Instituto de Física, Facultad de Ingeniería, Udelar,
Montevideo, Uruguay,

²Centre de Physique Théorique, École Polytechnique, France,

³APC, Université Paris Diderot, France,

⁴LPTMC, Université de Paris VI, France.

Introduction

Infrared-safe behaviour: Curci-Ferrari model

Minkowskian Curci-Ferrari Model

Analytic (Complex-valued) IR-Safe Flow

Conclusions and Outlook



Introduction

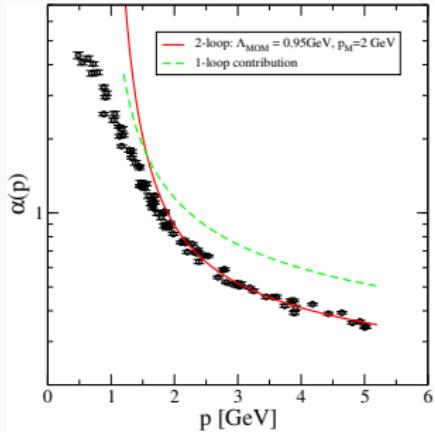
Motivation for studying the Infrared Regime of QCD

- **Quark mass Generation:** The infrared regime is crucial for understanding the mechanism of mass generation for quarks. The spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry, essential for hadron physics, takes place in this regime.
- **Confinement:** Quarks and gluons are never found in isolation.



Challenges in Infrared QCD

- **Non-perturbative regime:** Standard perturbative techniques are not applicable.
- **Complexity:** High computational complexity in dealing with low-energy QCD phenomena.
- **Lattice QCD:** Requires sophisticated numerical methods to study QCD on a discretized space-time lattice.



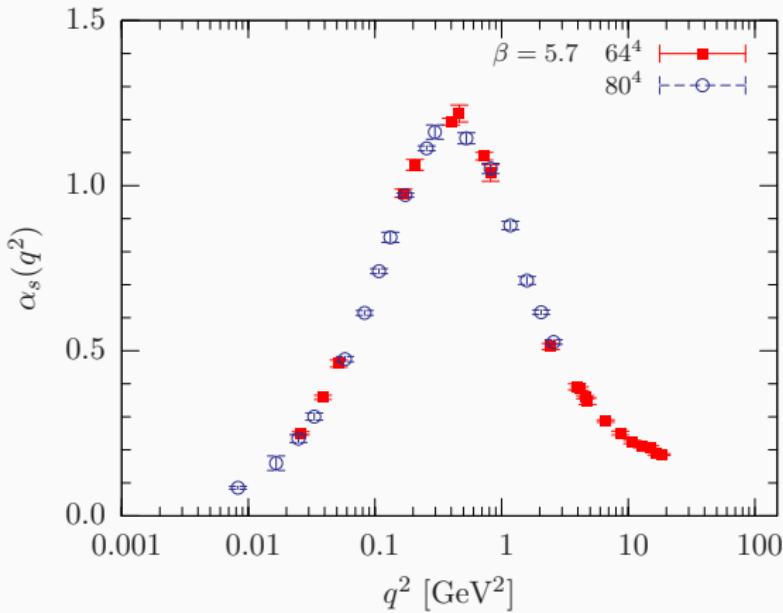
[Bloch *et al*, *Nucl.Phys. B687* (2004)]

Standard perturbative correlation functions diverge in the IR.



What do the numerical simulations observe?

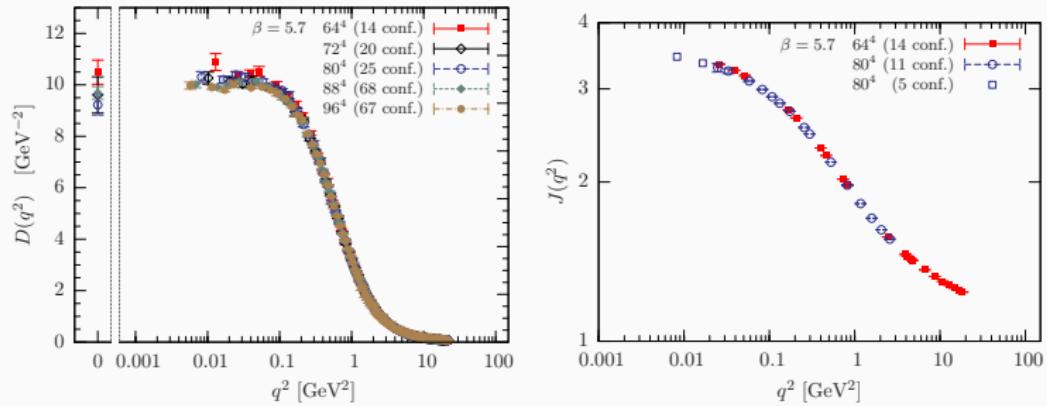
The coupling constant (scheme dependent) has no Landau pole...



[I. L. Bogolubsky et al. Phys.Lett.B 676 (2009)]



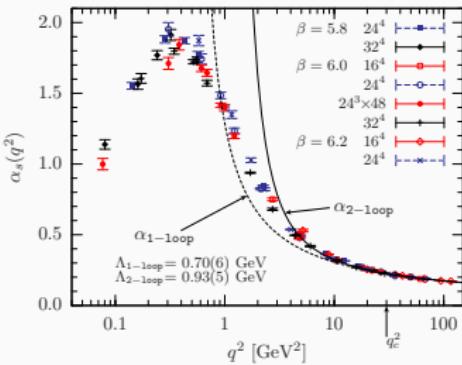
Gluon propagator and ghost dressing function in $SU(3)$.



$SU(3)$ gluon propagator and ghost dressing function from [I. L. Bogolubsky et al. Phys.Lett.B 676 (2009)]



How large is the coupling in infrared regime of QCD?



[A. Sternbeck et al, Nucl.Phys.B Proc.Suppl. 153 (2006) 185-190]

In fact the **expansion parameter**

$$\lambda = \frac{N\alpha}{4\pi} \sim 0.3$$

is **not large!**

Some kind of perturbation theory **should be possible**.



Infrared-safe behaviour: Curci-Ferrari model

The model: Massive gluons (Curci-Ferrari)

Simplest Lagrangian with massive gluon behaviour

- Add a gluon mass term:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{inv}} + ih^a \partial_\mu A_\mu^a + \partial_\mu \bar{c}^a (D_\mu c)^a + \frac{m^2}{2} \mathbf{A}_\mu^a \mathbf{A}_\mu^a$$

[G. Curci and R. Ferrari, Nuovo Cim. A 32, 151 (1976).]

- Cons:
 - We don't know how to generate this Lagrangian.
 - One free parameter to be adjusted.
 - The usual construction of the physical space does not apply.



- Pros:

- It still has a modified-BRST symmetry which allows to prove renormalizability. [G. Curci and R. Ferrari, Nuovo Cim. A 35, 1 (1976)]
- The mass term regularizes the infrared.
- It is possible to use an **infrared safe** renormalization scheme.
- Perturbation theory can be implemented even in the infrared
- Feynman rules are identical to usual ones, except for a massive gluon propagator still transverse in Landau gauge.
- Could be related to de Gribov problem.
- In the last decade perturbative one and two-loop calculation of several correlation functions have been done and **compared successfully with lattice simulations**.



Renormalization Scheme

Infrared safe scheme:

$$\beta_g(g, m^2) = \mu \frac{dg}{d\mu} \Big|_{g_0, m_0^2},$$

$$\Gamma_{AA}^{(2)}(p = \mu, \mu) = \mu^2 + m^2(\mu),$$

$$\Gamma_{C\bar{C}}^{(2)}(p = \mu, \mu) = \mu^2, \quad \beta_{m^2}(g, m^2) = \mu \frac{dm^2}{d\mu} \Big|_{g_0, m_0^2},$$

$$Z_g \sqrt{Z_A} Z_c = 1, \quad \gamma_A(g, m^2) = \mu \frac{d \log Z_A}{d\mu} \Big|_{g_0, m_0^2},$$

$$Z_{m^2} Z_A Z_c = 1$$

$$\gamma_c(g, m^2) = \mu \frac{d \log Z_c}{d\mu} \Big|_{g_0, m_0^2}.$$

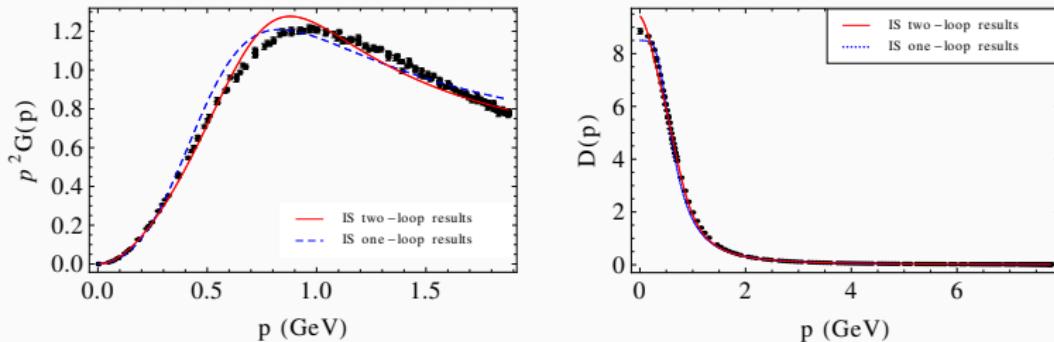


- From the propagators we can compute β –functions.
- In the infrared-safe scheme, the gluon and the ghost propagators are given explicitly in terms of the running parameters.

$$D(p) = \frac{g^2(\mu_0)}{m^4(\mu_0)} \frac{m^4(p)}{g^2(p)} \frac{1}{p^2 + m^2(p)}, \quad J(p) = \frac{m^2(\mu_0)}{g^2(\mu_0)} \frac{g^2(p)}{m^2(p)}$$



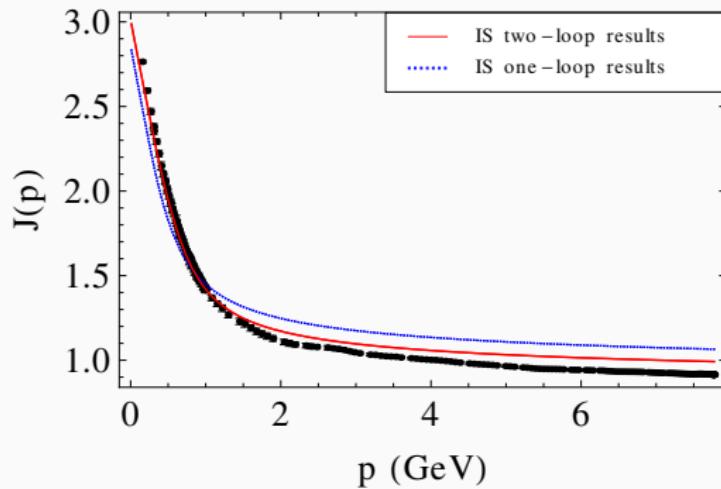
Massive behaviour of the gluon propagator



[Gracey, MP, Reinosa, Tissier Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 3, 034023]



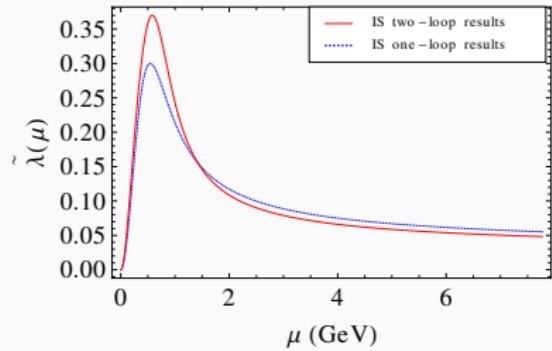
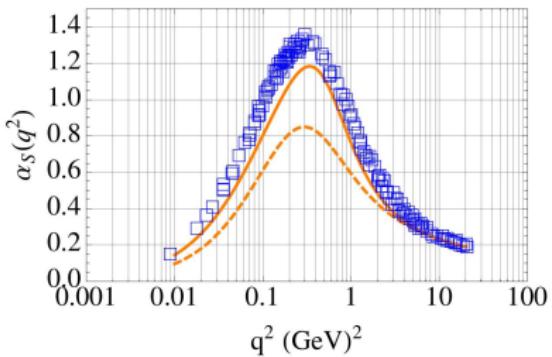
Massless ghosts



[Gracey, MP, Reinosa, Tissier Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 3, 034023]



Moderate coupling constant

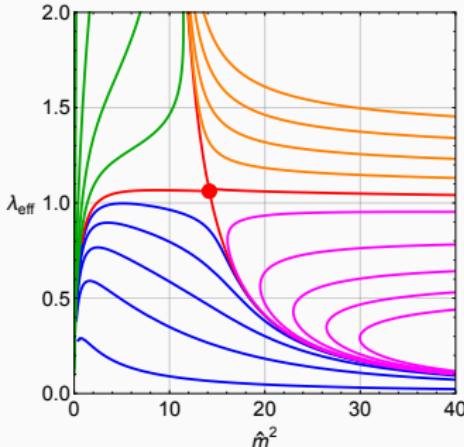
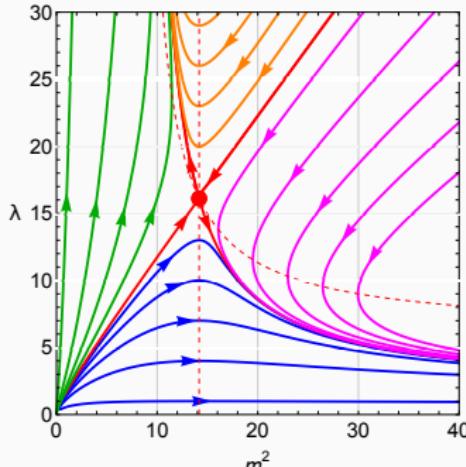


[Gracey, MP, Reinosa, Tissier Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 3, 034023]



Euclidean Model: Effective Coupling

- An effective coupling $\lambda_{\text{eff}} = \lambda/(1 + \tilde{m}^2)$ provides a more sensible measure of perturbative validity.
- The flow diagram in the $(\tilde{m}^2, \lambda_{\text{eff}})$ plane (Figure 2) highlights the behavior of this effective coupling.
- At the non-trivial fixed point, the effective coupling $\lambda_{\text{eff}} \approx 1.06$.



- For the comparison of other correlation functions see Nahuel Barrios's talk.
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- very good description of pure-gauge correlation functions can be obtained at one and two-loops.
- But... All these results are in the Euclidean space, why is this interesting? We have information of the infrared regime from Euclidean lattice simulations.
- Could be possible for us to use this information to explore also the Minkowski region? [S. Oribe, MP, U. Reinosa Phys. Rev. D 112 (2025) 1, 014005]



Minkowskian Curci-Ferrari Model

Minkowskian CF Model: Formulation & Self-Energies

- The Minkowskian model is obtained from the Euclidean version via formal replacements: $x_0 \rightarrow ix^0$, $\partial_0 \rightarrow -i\partial^0$, etc.
- Minkowskian self-energies $\Pi(p^2)$ are obtained by analytic continuation of Euclidean self-energies $\hat{\Pi}(-p^2)$.
- Key relation for any $p^2 \in \mathbb{R}$: $\Pi(p^2) = \hat{\Pi}(z = p^2 + i0^+)$.
- This method bypasses direct Minkowskian calculations.



Minkowskian Model: Real-valued Renormalization Factors

- An IR-safe scheme using real-valued renormalization factors $Z_X(q^2)$ is defined for the Minkowskian model.
- Renormalization conditions:

$$\text{Re } \tilde{G}^{-1}(p^2 = q^2; q^2) = q^2$$

$$\text{Re } \tilde{G}_A^{-1}(p^2 = q^2; q^2) = q^2 - m^2$$

- In the **space-like region** ($q^2 < 0$), the flow is identical to the Euclidean flow, with $Q^2 = -q^2$.
- In the **time-like region** ($q^2 > 0$), a similar but distinct flow is observed.



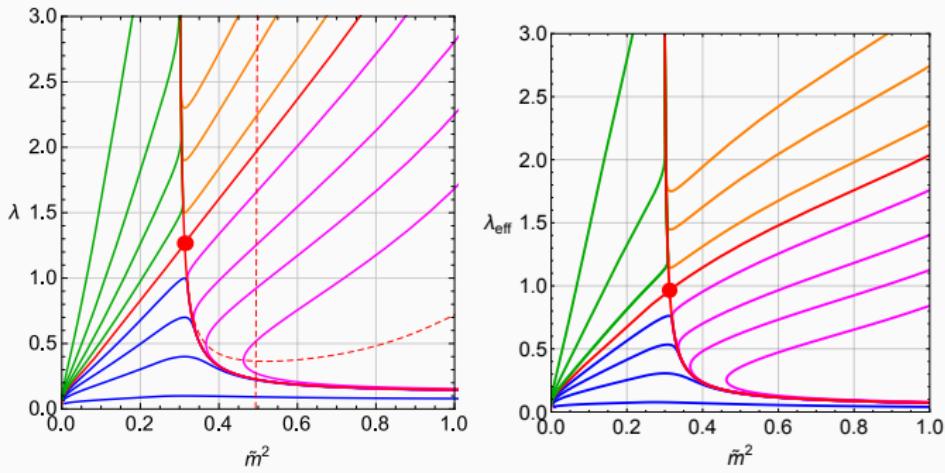


Figure 2: One-loop time-like Minkowskian flow in the real-valued IR-safe scheme, in the plane (\tilde{m}^2, λ) .



Real-valued Renormalization: Time-like Analysis

- The time-like flow also exhibits four types of theories and fixed points, structurally similar to the Euclidean case.
- UV fixed point: $(m^2 = 0, \lambda = 0)$.
- The effective coupling λ_{eff} at the time-like fixed point is ≈ 0.97 .
- **Crucial Limitation:** In this real-valued scheme, the space-like and time-like flows are **not connected**.



Analytic (Complex-valued) IR-Safe Flow

Analytic IR-Safe Flow: Complex-valued Factors

- To connect space-like and time-like flows, we investigate using **complex-valued renormalization factors** $Z_X(\omega)$.
- This implies that the renormalized parameters (g^2, m^2) can become complex.
- The analytic flow is solved by integrating along a slightly imaginary trajectory ($z = q^2 + i0^+$).
- Branchcuts of the beta functions must be managed by adding/subtracting $2\pi i$ to logarithms.



Analytic IR-Safe Flow: Complex Coupling Results

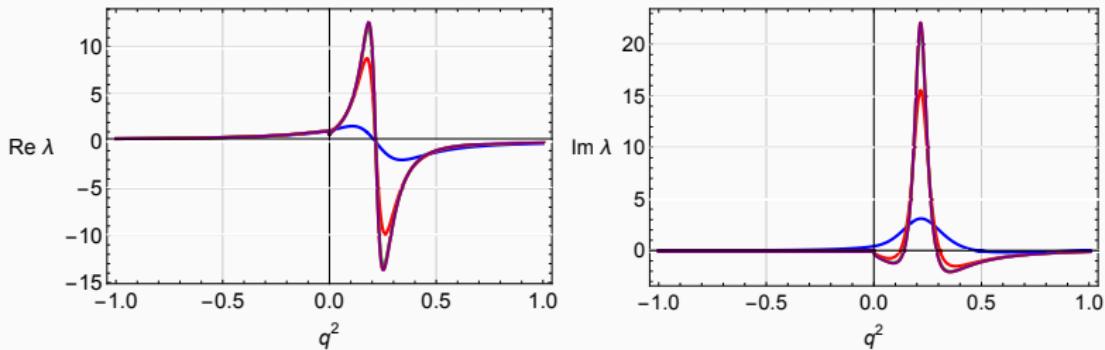


Figure 3: Real and imaginary parts of the coupling from space-like to time-like running scales as one makes the $i0^+$ smaller and smaller: 10^{-1} (blue), 10^{-2} (red), 10^{-3} (green), 10^{-4} (orange), 10^{-5} (purple).



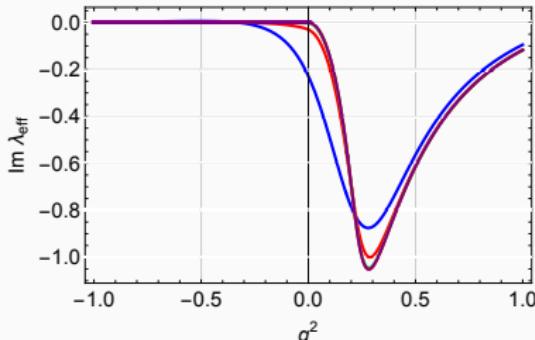
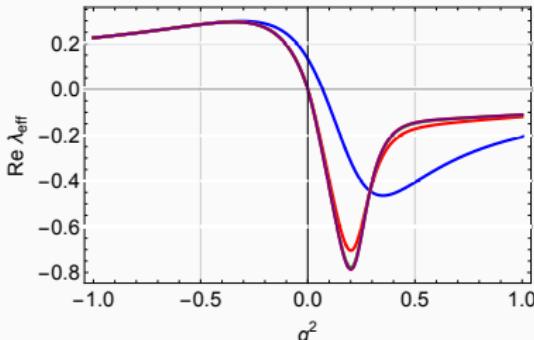
Analytic IR-Safe Flow: Complex Coupling Results

- The coupling is **not symmetric** between space-like and time-like regions.
- Values of λ in the time-like region can be significantly larger, sometimes exceeding the perturbative boundary ($\lambda = 1$).
- The evolution of the complex coupling is tracked across the phase space.



Analytic IR-Safe Flow: Effective Coupling Results

- The effective coupling λ_{eff} in the complex scheme shows different behavior. Real and imaginary parts of λ_{eff} in modulus remain at most slightly above 1, even in the time-like region.
- This suggests that semi-perturbative applications might still be valid.
- This scheme successfully **connects the space-like and time-like regions**, allowing the continuation of Euclidean trajectories.



Conclusions and Outlook

Conclusions and Outlook

- **Real-valued IR-safe scheme:**
 - Euclidean flow matches Minkowskian space-like flow.
 - Time-like flow is distinct but also shows bounded coupling.
 - **Cannot connect** space-like and time-like regions.
- **Complex-valued IR-safe scheme:**
 - Allows analytical connection between space-like and time-like regions.
 - Effective coupling λ_{eff} remains moderate (modulus close to 1).
 - Supports semi-perturbative applications in Minkowskian domain.
- **Future Work:**
 - Detailed study of gluon and ghost two-point correlators in the time-like region.



Thanks

