

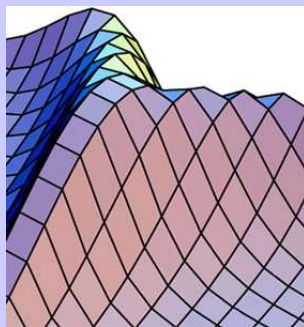
# Towards the continuum limit of the lattice Landau-gauge gluon and ghost propagators

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**Abstract:** We present recent results for the Landau gauge gluon and ghost propagators both in  $SU(2)$  and  $SU(3)$  pure gauge theory for lattice sizes up to  $112^4$  corresponding to physical volumes up to  $(15.8 \text{ fm})^4$ . Considerable attention is paid to finite-volume, finite-size and Gribov copy effects. We employ a gauge-fixing method that combines a simulated annealing algorithm with finalizing overrelaxation. In the infrared region  $q^2 \leq 0.01 \text{ GeV}^2$  we find the gluon propagator to become flat as a function of  $q^2$ . The ghost dressing function seems to tend to a constant value in the deep infrared, while running coupling  $\alpha_s$  goes to zero for  $q^2 \rightarrow 0$ . In  $SU(2)$  case we study transition to continuum limit using sequence of lattices with growing  $L$  keeping physical volume fixed.

# Introduction

- Nonperturbative studies of Landau gauge gluon and ghost propagators

$$D_{\mu\nu}^{ab} = \delta^{ab} \left( \delta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \frac{Z(q^2)}{q^2}, \quad G^{ab} = \delta^{ab} \frac{J(q^2)}{q^2}$$

with continuum Dyson-Schwinger (DS) or Funct. Renorm. Group (FRG) Eqs. and within the lattice approach hopefully will provide consistent results.

- DS and FRG Eqs. have **conformal solution**

[von Smekal, Hauck, Alkofer '98; Zwanziger '02; Lerche, von Smekal '02]

$$J(q^2) \propto (q^2)^{\alpha_{gh}} \quad \text{and} \quad Z(q^2) \propto (q^2)^{\alpha_{gl}}$$

with  $\alpha_{gl} + 2\alpha_{gh} = 0,$

$$D(q^2) = \frac{Zq^2}{q^2} \rightarrow 0, \quad J(q^2) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{for} \quad q^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

It is argued to be unique, when DS combined with FRG Eqs. [Fischer, Pawłowski, '07]

- DS Eqs. provide also a **decoupling solution**

[Boucaud et al. '05 - '07; Aguilar et al. '04 - '08]

- We present some further steps towards IR limit for the Landau gauge gluon and ghost propagators in quenched QCD on very large lattices.

**SU(3)**

## Gauge fixing: standard approach

In order to fix the Landau gauge we apply a gauge transformation  $g(x)$  to link variables  $U_{x,\mu} \in SU(3)$  such that the gauge functional is maximized

$$F_U[g] = \sum_{x,\mu} \frac{1}{3} \Re \text{Tr} \, {}^g U_{x,\mu}.$$

- $\Rightarrow$  For  $A_\mu(x+\hat{\mu}/2) := (1/2ig_0) (U_{x,\mu} - U_{x,\mu}^\dagger)_{\text{traceless}}$   
this is equivalent to  $\Delta_\mu A_\mu = 0$ ,
- $\Rightarrow$  but not unique: **Gribov copies**,
- $\Rightarrow$  search for global maxima -  
**fundamental modular region (FMR)**.

Standard prescription:

- i)  $g(x)$  taken with **periodic b.c.'s**,
- ii) maximize  $F_U[g]$  with **overrelaxation (OR) method**.

Drawbacks of OR:

- i) substantial **slowing down** of OR convergence  
with increasing lattice extension  $L$ ,
- ii) its possibilities to find **global** maximum of  $F_U[g]$   
are **strongly limited**.

## Simulated annealing: the principle

- Simulated annealing (SA) is a “stochastic optimization method” – here with the statistical weight  $W[g] \propto \exp\{F_U[g]/T\}$  – allowing quasi-equilibrium tunnelings through functional barriers, in the course of a “temperature”  $T$  decrease.
  - In principle - with infinitely slow cooling down - it allows to reach **global** extrema (contrary to **OR**, “tied” to the (initially chosen) **local** maximum).
  - Control parameters at hand:
    - i)  $N_{iter}$ ,  $T_{max}$  and  $T_{min}$ ,
    - ii) schedule for temperature steps  
 $T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N_{iter}$  can be optimized.
- ⇒ The larger  $N_{iter}$  the higher the local maxima,  
 $N_{iter} \rightarrow \infty \implies$  **global maximum**.
- ⇒ **Schedule in practice:**  $T_{max} = 0.45$ ,  $T_{min} = 0.01$ ,  
 $N_{iter} = O(5 \cdot 10^3 - 15 \cdot 10^3)$  with tiny (larger)  
 $T$ -steps close to  $T_{max}$  (close to  $T_{min}$ ).

## Lattice Faddeev-Popov operator

Lattice Faddeev-Popov operator can be written in terms of the (gauge-fixed) link variables  $U_{x,\mu}$  as

$$M_{xy}^{ab} = \sum_{\mu} A_{x,\mu}^{ab} \delta_{x,y} - B_{x,\mu}^{ab} \delta_{x+\hat{\mu},y} - C_{x,\mu}^{ab} \delta_{x-\hat{\mu},y}$$

with

$$A_{x,\mu}^{ab} = \Re \text{Tr} [\{T^a, T^b\} (U_{x,\mu} + U_{x-\hat{\mu},\mu})],$$

$$B_{x,\mu}^{ab} = 2 \cdot \Re \text{Tr} [T^b T^a U_{x,\mu}],$$

$$C_{x,\mu}^{ab} = 2 \cdot \Re \text{Tr} [T^a T^b U_{x-\hat{\mu},\mu}]$$

and  $T^a$ ,  $a = 1, \dots, 8$  being the (hermitian) generators of the  $\mathfrak{su}(3)$  Lie algebra satisfying  $\text{Tr} [T^a T^b] = \delta^{ab}/2$ .

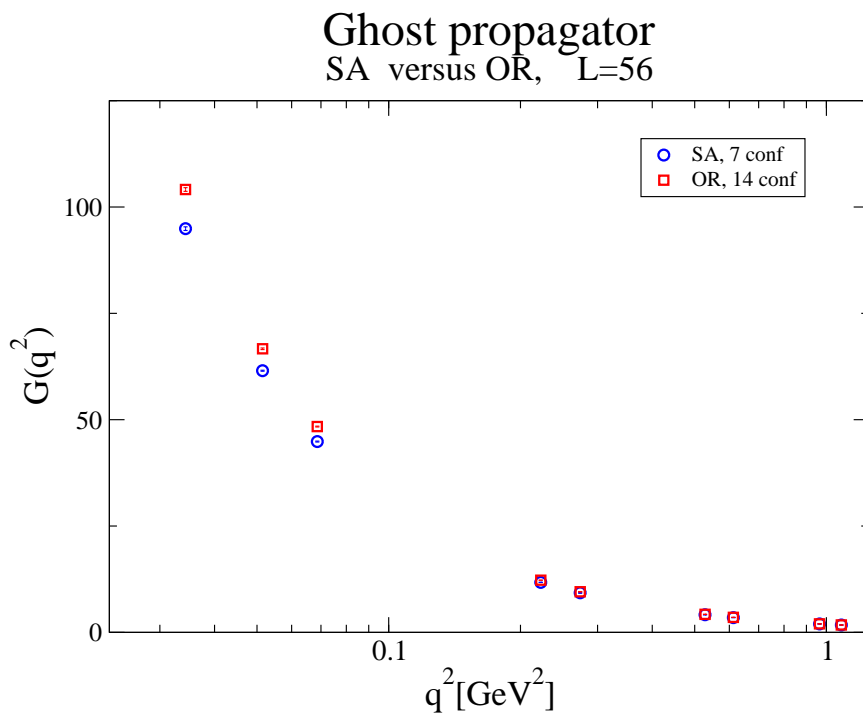
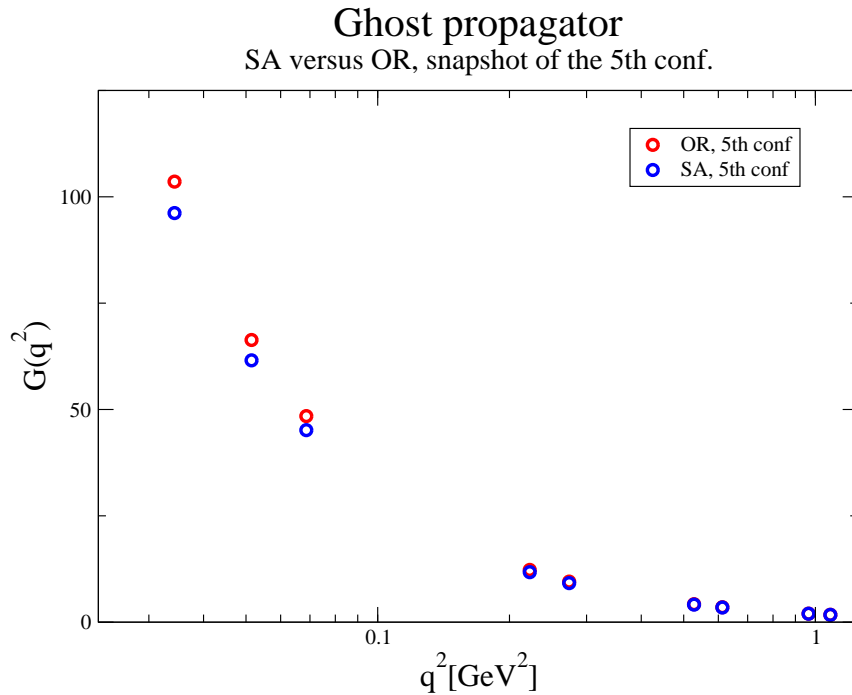
The [ghost propagator](#) is given by

$$G^{ab} = \sum_{x,y} \left\langle e^{-ik \cdot (x-y)} [M^{-1}]_{x,y}^{ab} \right\rangle$$

$M$ -inversion with conjugate gradient method and plane wave sources.

## Gauge fixing: SA vs. OR

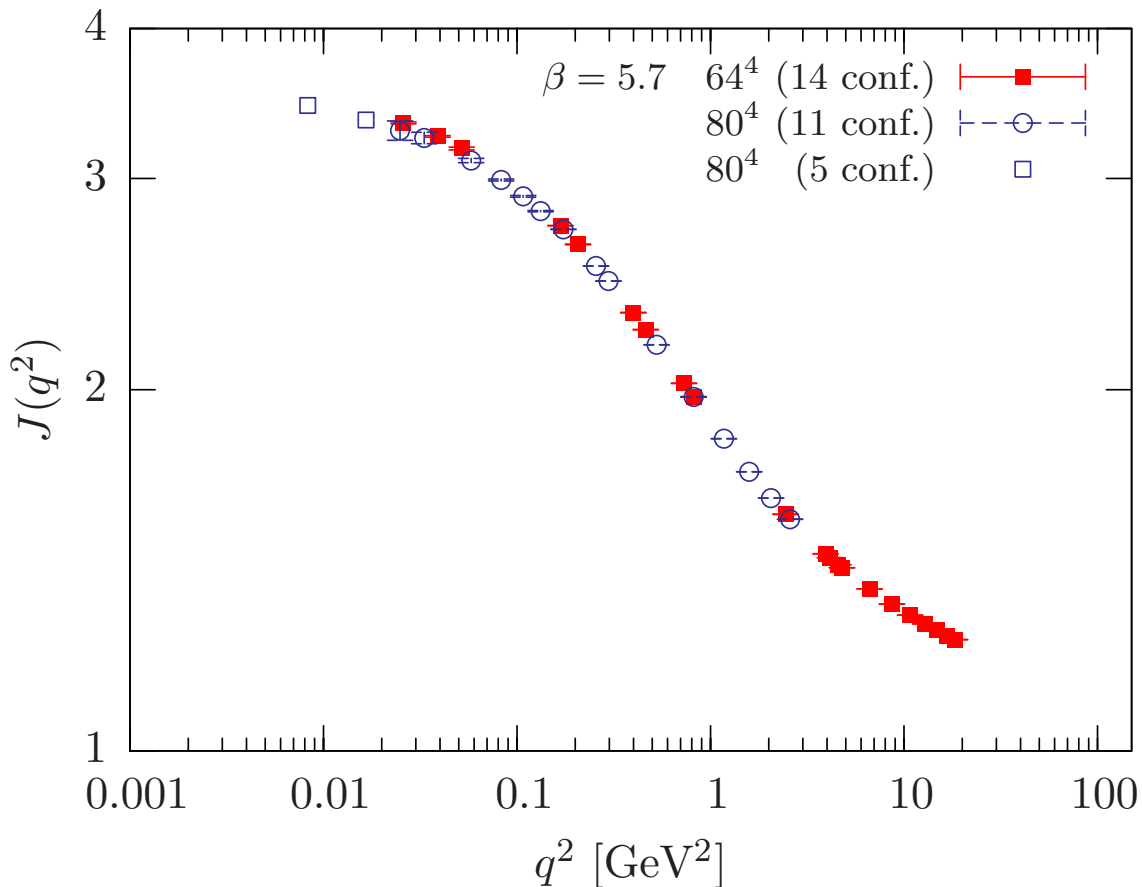
$SU(3)$  ghost propagator for  $\beta = 5.70$ ,  $L = 56$



⇒ Influence of Gribov copies clearly visible, but seems to be moderate

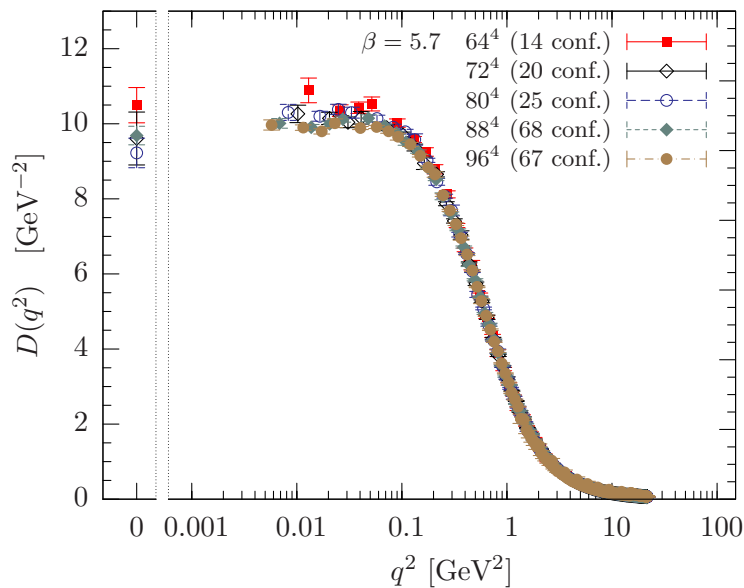


## Ghost : SA results, $\beta = 5.70$

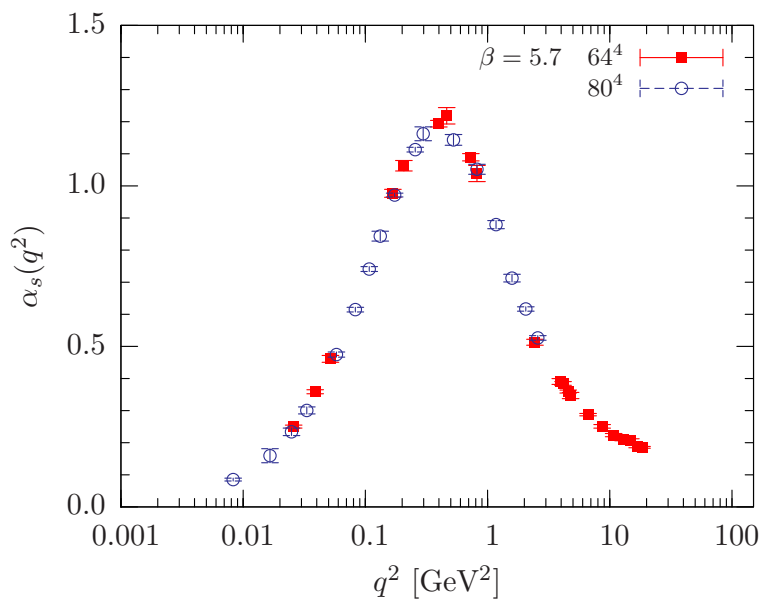


- ⇒ Weak estimator's dependence on MC configuration.
- ⇒ Finite-size effects of ghost propagator are very small and do not agree with finite-volume DS results [Fischer, Pawłowski '07].
- ⇒ No power-like asymptotics visible, i.e. differs from DS conformal solution with  $\alpha_{gh} \approx 0.595$ .
- ⇒ Lattice evidence for IR-regular ghost dressing function in agreement with the regular, *decoupling* DS solutions

# Gluon propagator and running coupling



- ⇒ Flattening is clearly seen.
- ⇒ Results seem to support plateau hypothesis with  $\alpha_{gl} = 1$  and  $\alpha_{gl} + 2\alpha_{gh} \neq 0$ .



- ⇒ No IR fixed point seen for running coupling
- $$\alpha_s(q^2) = \frac{g_0^2}{4\pi} J^2(q^2) Z(q^2).$$

## Conclusions and Questions

- Our lattice results seem **to support the decoupling DS solution** for the Landau gauge gluon and ghost propagators and **to contradict the conformal one**.
- **Gribov copy effects** seem to be moderate, but are still visible for the ghost propagator.  
**Open question:** Influence of enlargement of gauge orbits (e.g. with  $Z(N)$  flips) and its influence on the finite-size behaviour.
- **Weaknesses of the lattice approach:**
  - in the IR the continuum limit not under control,
  - BRST invariance not properly treated
  - choice of the potential  $A_\mu$  not unique,
  - choice of the boundary conditions not unique (here always periodic).
- **Rôle of zero-momentum modes?** Can they be suppressed by proper choice of  $A_{mu}$  and/or boundary conditions with non-periodic gauge transformations as shown in the  $U(1)$  case ?

[Bogolubsky et al., '00]

SU(2)

## SU(2): suppressing artefacts

Sources of distortions are:

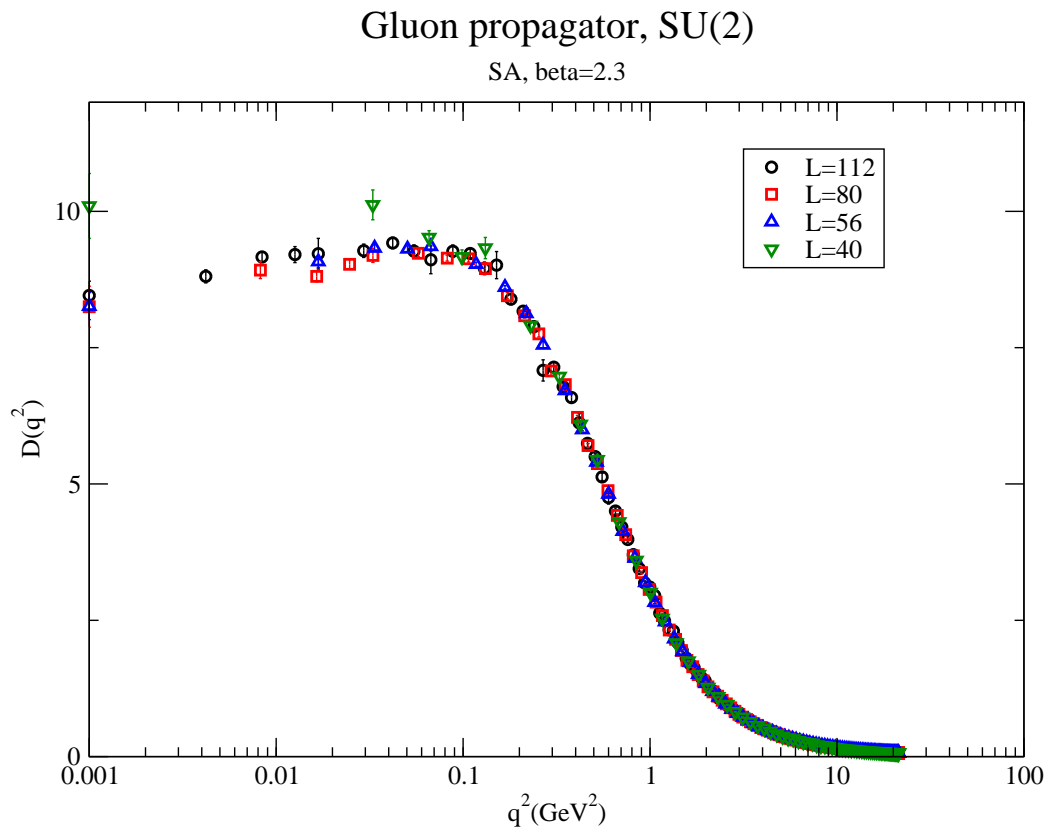
- ⇒ . Finite-volume effects
- ⇒ Finite-size effects
- ⇒ Gribov copy effects.
- ⇒ Zero-momentum modes.

## Simulated annealing: the principle

- Simulated annealing (SA) is a “stochastic optimization method” – here with the statistical weight  $W[g] \propto \exp\{F_U[g]/T\}$  – allowing quasi-equilibrium tunnelings through functional barriers, in the course of a “temperature”  $T$  decrease.
  - In principle - with infinitely slow cooling down - it allows to reach **global** extrema (contrary to **OR**, “tied” to the (initially chosen) **local** maximum).
  - Control parameters at hand:
    - i)  $N_{iter}$ ,  $T_{max}$  and  $T_{min}$ ,
    - ii) schedule for temperature steps  
 $T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N_{iter}$  can be optimized.
- ⇒ The larger  $N_{iter}$  the higher the local maxima,  
 $N_{iter} \rightarrow \infty \implies$  **global maximum**.
- ⇒ **Schedule in practice:**  $T_{max} = 1.1$  for  $SU(2)$ ,  
 $T_{min} = 0.01$ ,  
 $N_{iter} = O(5 \cdot 10^3 - 15 \cdot 10^3)$  with smaller (larger)  
 $T$ -steps close to  $T_{max}$  (close to  $T_{min}$ ).

# $SU(2)$ gluon, nonrenormalised

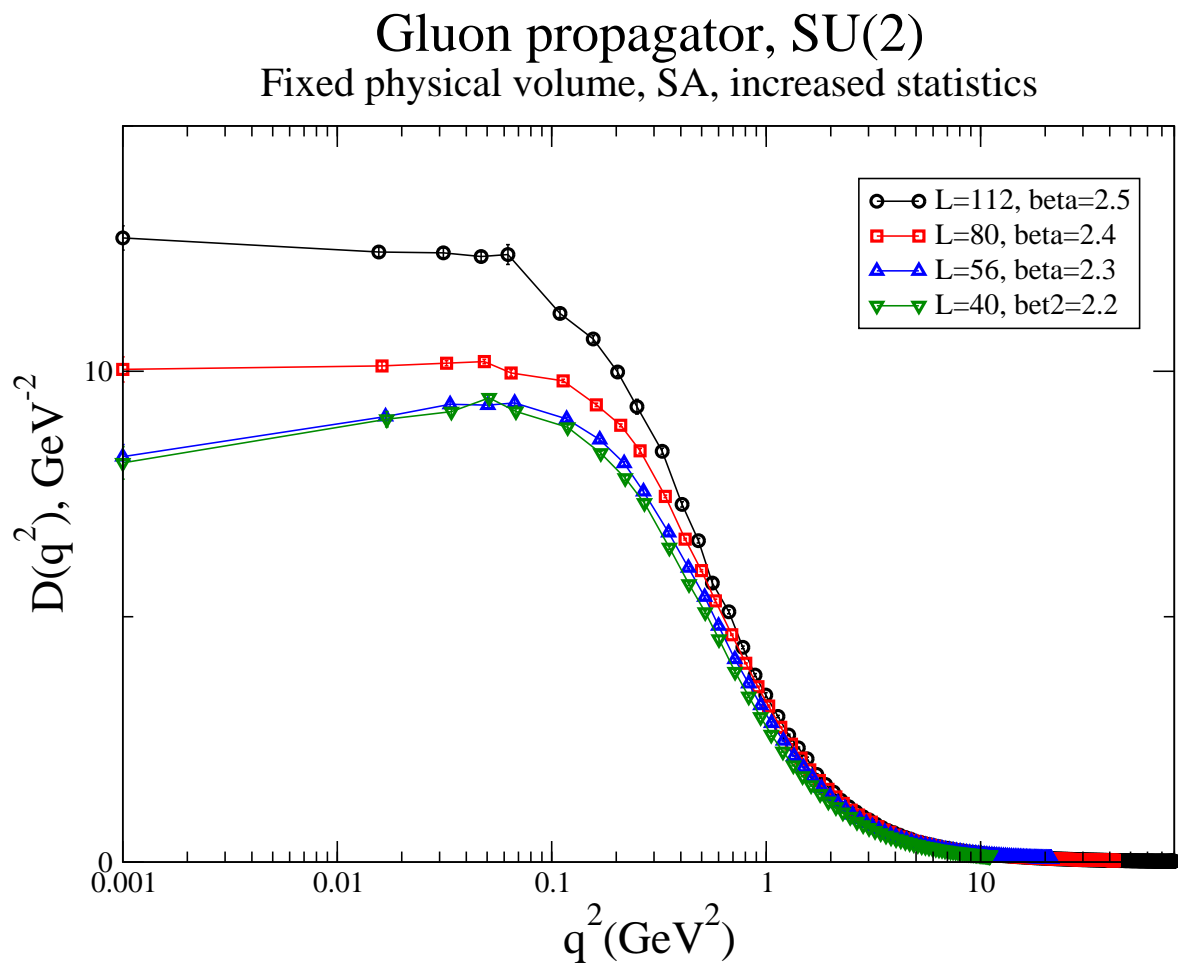
$SU(2)$  gluon propagator for  $L = 40, 56, 80, 112$ ,  
 $\beta = 2.3$



$\Rightarrow$  Finite-volume effects are small for  $L \geq 56$

## $SU(2)$ Gluon propagators

$SU(2)$  nonrenormalized gluon propagator for fixed physical volume, various  $L = 40, 56, 80, 112$



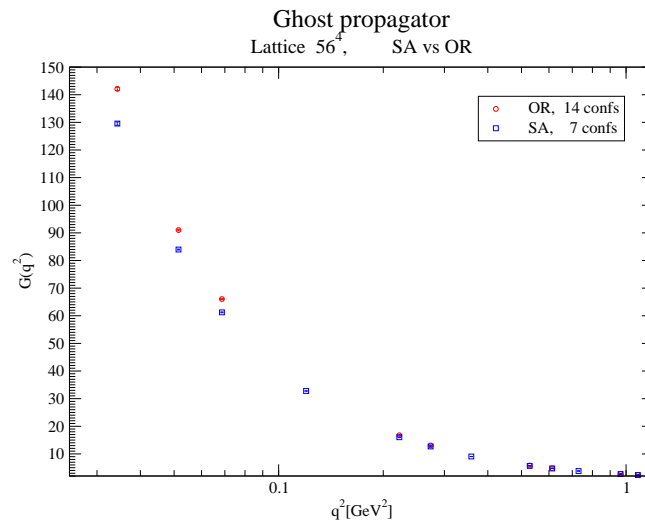
$\Rightarrow$  Finite-size effects are small for  $L \geq 56$  and  $\beta \geq 2.4$

$\Rightarrow$  We are close to continuum limit!

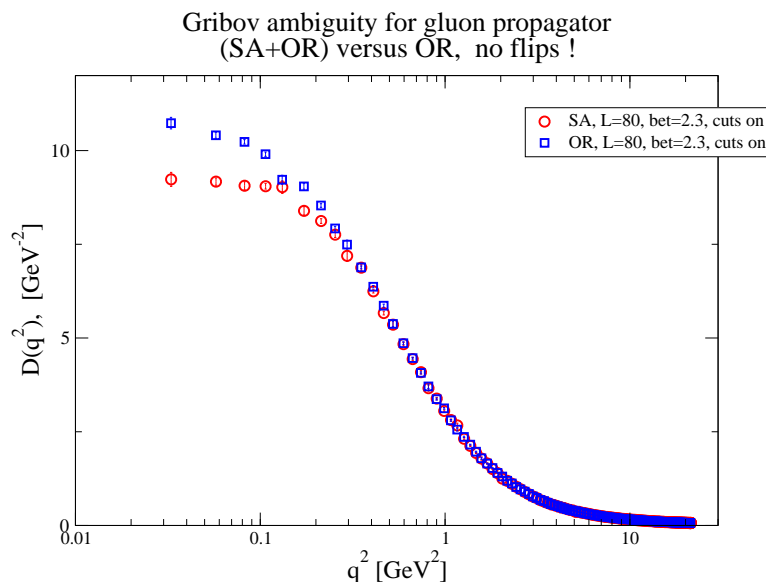


## Gauge fixing: SA vs OR

$SU(3)$  ghost propagator for  $\beta = 5.70$ ,  $L = 56$

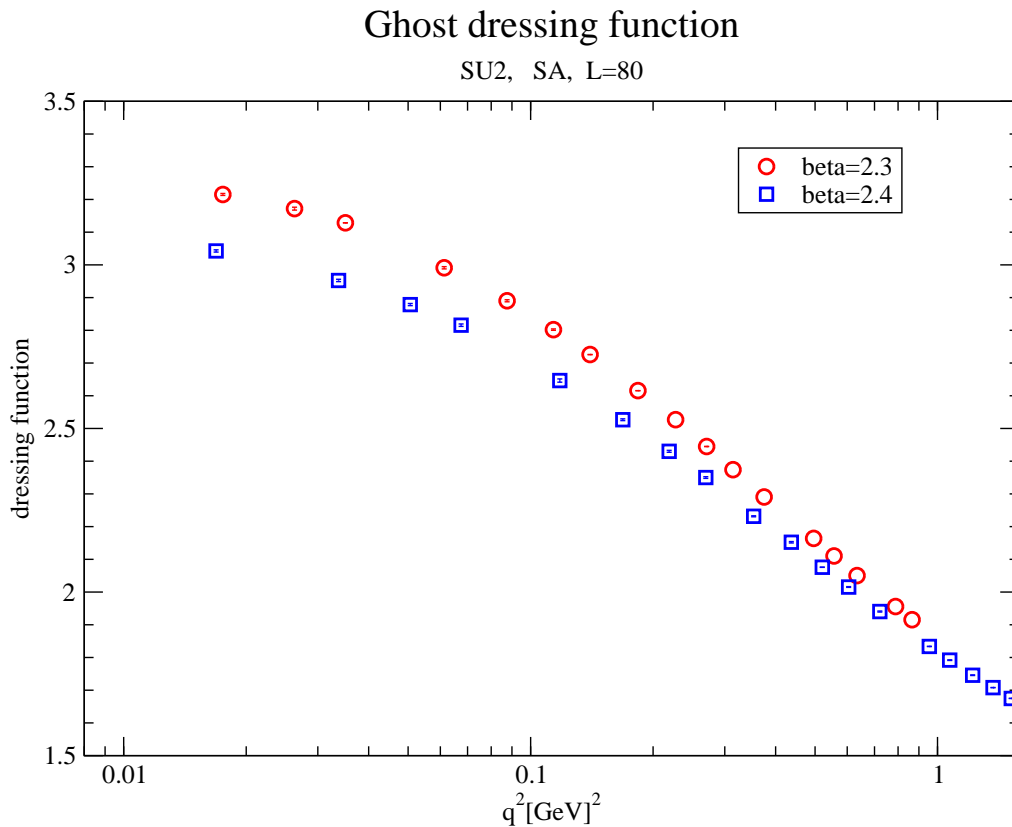


$SU(2)$  gluon propagator for  $\beta = 2.3$ ,  $L = 80$



$\Rightarrow$  Influence of Gribov copies clearly visible,  
**NEW!** : for gluon the effect is already seen when comparing SA vs OR, without applying flip gauge transformation !

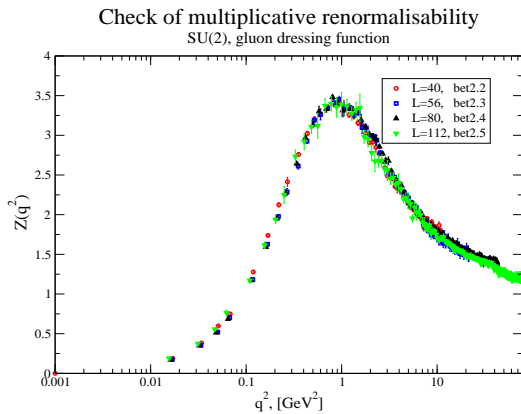
# SU(2) Ghost, L=80



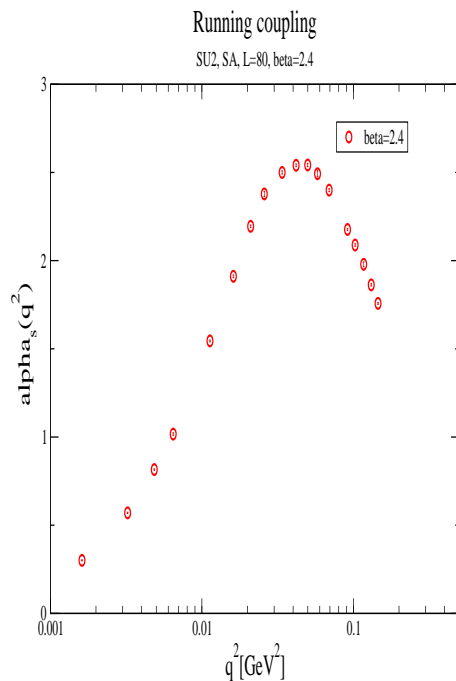
- ⇒ . Finite-size effects for beta=2.4 are small!
- ⇒ Require renormalization !.
- ⇒ Again no power-like asymptotics visible, i.e. differs from DS scaling solution.
- ⇒ Again clearly seen plateau of ghost dressing function in agreement with the decoupling DS solutions

## Gluon dressing function and $\alpha_s(q^2)$

We check for gluon in  $SU(2)$  "multiplicative renormalisation" see [Bloch et al,'03]



⇒ Multiplicative renormalisation seems to hold !



⇒ No IR fixed point seen for  $SU(2)$  running coupling

$$\alpha_s(q^2) = \frac{g_0^2}{4\pi} J^2(q^2) Z(q^2).$$

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