

High-precision calculation of the quark–gluon coupling from lattice QCD

Alberto Ramos <alberto.ramos@ific.uv.es> IFIC (CSIC/UV)

Based on:

- (ALPHA) M. Dalla Brida R. Höllwieser, F. Knechtli, T. Korzec A. Ramos, S. Sint, R. Sommer.
High-precision calculation of the quark–gluon coupling from lattice QCD.
Nature 652 (2026) 8109, 328-334. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-026-10339-4>



FUNDAMENTAL CONSTANTS IN NATURE

Electromagnetism

$$g_e - 2 : \alpha_{em} = 7.297\,352\,5698(24) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\text{recoil} : \alpha_{em} = 7.297\,352\,585(48) \times 10^{-3}$$

Weak force

$$G_F = 1.166\,378\,7(6) \times 10^5$$

Gravity

$$G_N = 6.708\,61(31) \times 10^{-39} \text{GeV}^{-2}$$

Strong force

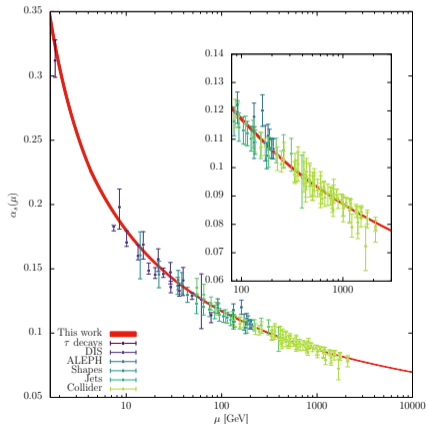
$$\text{PDG Pheno average} : \alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1175(10)$$

$$\text{This talk} : \alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.11876(58)$$

- ▶ This is an important parameter *in practice*:
 - ▶ Key input parameter to understand LHC physics!
 - ▶ Parametric uncertainty of α_s propagates to all new physics searches
 - ▶ Propagation of α_s uncertainty significant in Higgs theoretical cross sections
 - ▶ Vacuum stability, etc...
- ▶ Why is difficult?

THE RUNNING COUPLING: $\alpha_s \equiv \bar{g}^2/(4\pi)$

$$S_{\text{QCD}}[A_\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}] = \int d^4x \frac{1}{4g^2} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_{\mu\nu}^a + \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu + m_q + iA_\mu) \psi_f$$



- ▶ Theory of **quarks** that **interact** by interchanging **gluons**
- ▶ Scale invariance broken at the quantum level
- ▶ Strong coupling depends on energy scale interactions

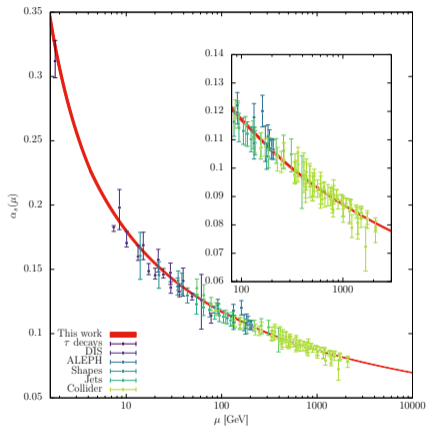
$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} \bar{g}(\mu) = \beta(\bar{g}) < 0$$

- ▶ Asymptotic freedom: $\bar{g}(\mu) \rightarrow 0$ as $\mu \rightarrow \infty$
- ▶ Perturbative behavior known (5-loops in $\overline{\text{MS}}$)

$$\beta(\bar{g}) \stackrel{g \rightarrow 0}{\sim} -g^3 (b_0 + b_1 g^2 + \dots)$$

with first two perturbative coefficients (b_0, b_1) universal

COMPUTING THE STRONG COUPLING



Computing the strength of fundamental interactions

- ▶ Take some experimental observable $O(Q)$.
- ▶ Work hard to get $(\alpha_s \equiv \bar{g}_s^2/(4\pi))$

$$O(Q) \stackrel{Q \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \alpha_s(\mu) + \sum_{n=2}^N c_n(Q/\mu) \alpha_s^n(\mu) + \dots$$

- ▶ Determine $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu)$ by comparing experiment and theory computation

$$\tau : \alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1173(17)$$

$$e^+e^- : \alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1189(37)$$

- ▶ Any observable works?
- ▶ Is the challenge really pushing computations to larger N ?

EXTRACTING α_s FROM EXPERIMENTAL DATA IS HARD

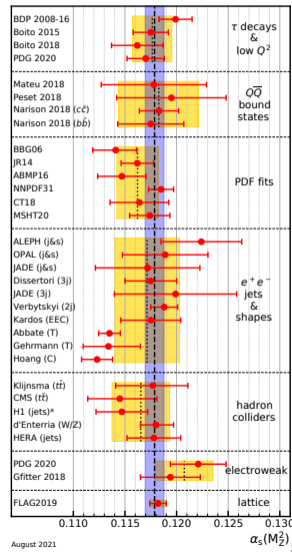
$$O(Q) \stackrel{Q \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \alpha_s(Q) + \sum_{n=2}^N c_n \alpha_s^n(Q) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{N+1}(Q)) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda^p}{Q^p}\right) + \dots$$

Difficulties in extracting α_s

- ▶ Difficult to compute (NP physics is difficult!)
- ▶ Difficult to estimate ($\alpha(Q)$ runs logarithmically)
- ▶ Asymptotic states are not quarks/gluons (hadronization, modeling, etc...)
- ▶ But most precise pheno extraction: τ decays ($m_\tau \approx 1.8$ GeV)
- ▶ Use large $Q \implies$ large uncertainties!

Real challenge: Determine α_s with precision and accuracy

- ▶ Clear meaning of error bars!



THE SCALE OF QCD: Λ -PARAMETER

$$\mu \frac{d}{d\mu} g_s^2(\mu) = \beta_s(g_s) \implies \Lambda_s = \mu \left[b_0 \bar{g}_s^2(\mu) \right]^{\frac{-b_1}{2b_0^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2b_0 \bar{g}_s^2(\mu)}} \underbrace{\exp \left\{ - \int_0^{\bar{g}_s(\mu)} dx \left[\frac{1}{\beta_s(x)} + \frac{1}{b_0 x^3} - \frac{b_1}{b_0 x} \right] \right\}}_{\mathcal{O}(\bar{g}_s^2(\mu))}$$

The intrinsic scale of QCD

- ▶ Λ_s same units as μ
- ▶ Λ_s is RGI: $d\Lambda_s/d\mu = 0$
- ▶ $\bar{g}_s^2(\mu)$ is a function of Λ_s/μ : Λ_s dictates what are “low” and “high” energies.
- ▶ (i.e. $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(M_Z)$ is trivial to compute if one knows $\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(5)}$)
- ▶ Scheme dependent, but

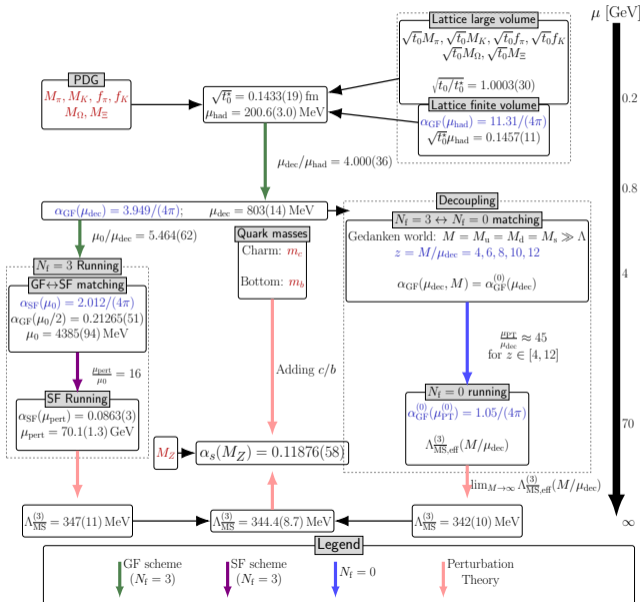
$$\bar{g}_{s'}^2(\mu) \stackrel{\bar{g}_s \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \bar{g}_s^2(\mu) + c_{ss'} \bar{g}_s^4(\mu) + \dots \implies \frac{\Lambda_{s'}}{\Lambda_s} = \exp \left(\frac{-c_{ss'}}{2b_0} \right).$$

- ▶ Defined non-perturbatively (even $\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}$)
- ▶ Computing Λ_s requires PT (i.e. $\int_0 \dots$). Take limit $\bar{g}_s^2(\mu) \rightarrow 0$ (i.e. extrapolation!)

THE STRATEGY

- ▶ Input: Hadron spectrum:
 $M_\pi, M_K, M_\Xi, f_k, f_\pi, M_\Omega, \dots$
- ▶ Technical intermediate scale $\sqrt{t_0^*}$
- ▶ "Solve" $N_f = 3$ QCD non perturbatively
 - ▶ From 200 MeV to EW scale
 - ▶ Match QCD with YM
- ▶ Use PT from EW scale on:
 $\Lambda^{(3)} = 344.4(8.7) \text{ MeV}$
- ▶ Use PT to cross c/b thresholds:
 $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.11876(58)$.
[0.47%] precision

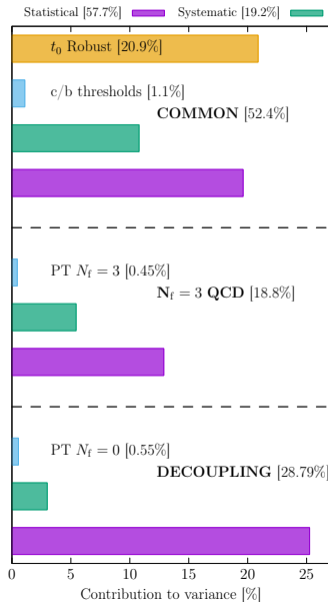
- ▶ Conservative error
- ▶ Statistical errors dominate



THE STRATEGY

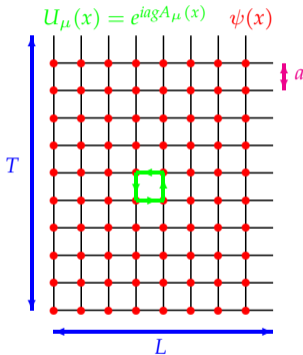
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COMPUTING PATH INTEGRALS: LATTICE FIELD THEORY

Lattice field theory \rightarrow Non Perturbative definition of QFT.



- ▶ Discretize space-time in an hyper-cubic lattice (spacing a)
- ▶ Path integral \rightarrow multiple integral (one variable for each field at each point)
- ▶ Compute the integral numerically \rightarrow Monte Carlo sampling.

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{1}{N_{\text{conf}}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{conf}}} O(U_i) + \mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{N_{\text{conf}}})$$

Observable computed averaging over samples

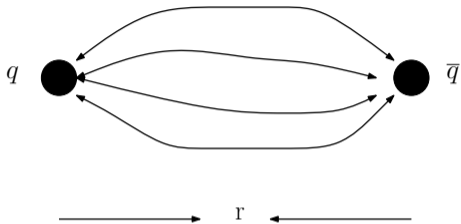
- ▶ This works both in the perturbative and non-perturbative regimes!

$$S_G[U] = \frac{\beta}{6} \sum_{p \in \text{Plaquettes}} \text{Tr}(1 - U_p - U_p^\dagger) \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \text{Tr}(F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu})$$

OUR PARTICLE ACCELERATORS: HLRN CRAY SUPERCOMPUTER



THE STRENGTH OF YM: “PHYSICAL” COUPLING DEFINITIONS



- ▶ Take $O(Q) = \frac{3r^2}{4} F(r) \Big|_{Q=1/r}$
- ▶ This defines the “potential scheme”. Non-perturbative coupling definition.

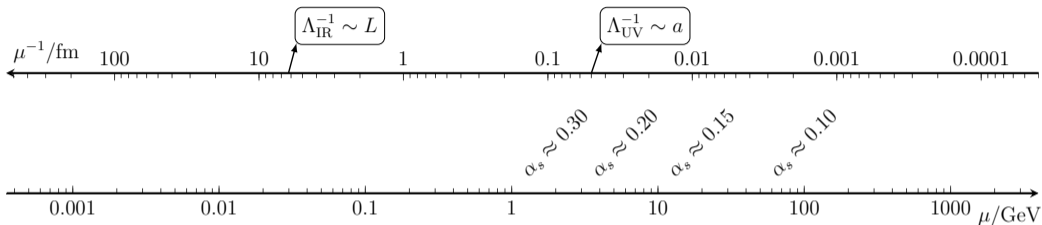
$$\alpha_{qq}(Q) = \frac{3r^2}{4} F(r) \Big|_{Q=1/r}$$

- ▶ ****If**** $\alpha(Q)$ is small (small r), perturbation theory tells

$$\alpha_{qq}(Q) \stackrel{Q \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(Q) + c_1 \alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^2(Q) + \dots$$

- ▶ “Any” observable can be used for a non perturbative definition of the strong coupling, but...
- ▶ We need to evaluate $O(Q)$ non-perturbatively \implies Lattice

LATTICE QCD TYPICAL SCALES

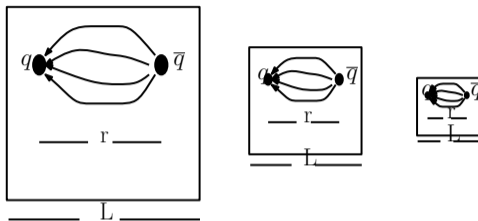


CLS ensembles ($N_f = 3$ QCD) [Bruno et al. '15]

Lattice sp. a	UV cutoff a^{-1}	L^{-1}
0.086 fm	2.3 GeV	35 – 70 MeV
0.064 fm	3.1 GeV	50 – 64 MeV
0.05 fm	3.9 GeV	60 MeV
0.04 fm	4.97 GeV	75 MeV

- ▶ Difficult to have **two relevant scales** (L, Q)
- ▶ Pushing $1/a \rightarrow 100 \text{ GeV} \implies \times 6400000$ in CPU cost (scaling $\propto (L/a)^6$).
- ▶ Reducing α **exponentially** difficult problem!
- ▶ No way to perform a solid extrapolation!

THE SOLUTION: FINITE VOLUME RENORMALIZATION SCHEMES [LÜSCHER, WEISZ, WOLFF '91]



Fix $QL = \text{constant}$

- ▶ Coupling $\alpha(Q)$ depends on no other scale but L
- ▶ Small $L \implies$ small $\alpha(L)$
- ▶ $aQ \ll 1$ easy: $L/a \sim 10 - 40$
- ▶ $1/L$ is a IR cutoff \implies simulate directly $m_q = 0$

Step scaling function

- ▶ How much changes $\alpha(Q)$ if $Q \rightarrow Q/2$?

$$\sigma(u) = \alpha(Q/2) \Big|_{\alpha(Q)=u}$$

- ▶ Simply change $L/a \rightarrow 2L/a!$

We need dedicated simulations of the **femto-universe**

EXAMPLE: MASSLESS RUNNING IN $N_f = 3$ QCD [ALPHA '17]

Gradient flow scheme [ALPHA; Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017)]

- ▶ Determine lattice version of SSF

$$\Sigma(u, L/a) = \alpha(Q/2) \Big|_{\alpha(Q)=u, \text{fixed } L/a}$$

Use $8 \rightarrow 16, 12 \rightarrow 24, 16 \rightarrow 32, (20 \rightarrow 40, 24 \rightarrow 48, 32 \rightarrow 64)$ at fixed (g_0, am_0)

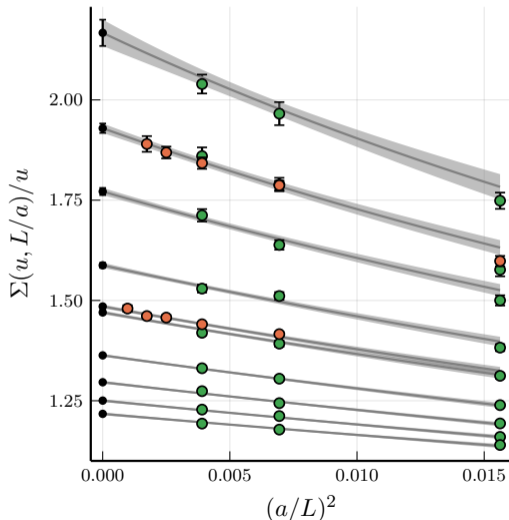
- ▶ Continuum limit

$$\sigma(u) = \lim_{a/L \rightarrow 0} \Sigma(u, L/a).$$

- ▶ Use to determine β -function

$$\log(2) = \int_u^{\sigma(u)} \frac{dx}{\beta(x)}.$$

- ▶ **Continuum limit under control**
- ▶ Cover energy range 200 MeV \rightarrow 4 GeV.



EXAMPLE: MASSLESS RUNNING IN $N_f = 3$ QCD [ALPHA '17]

Gradient flow scheme [ALPHA; Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017)]

► Define

$$\alpha_{\text{GF}}(\mu_{\text{had}}) = 11.31/(4\pi)$$

with

$$\mu_{\text{had}} \times \sqrt{t_0^*} = 0.1457(11)_{\text{stat}}(1)_{\text{sys}}(11)_{\text{tot}}$$

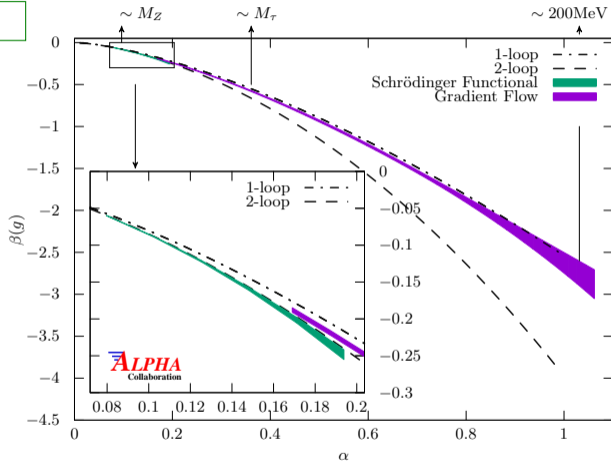
► Using $\alpha_{\text{GF}}(\mu_0/2) = 0.21265(51)$

$$\frac{\mu_0}{\mu_{\text{had}}} = 21.85(30)_{\text{stat}}(17)_{\text{sys}}(34)_{\text{tot}}$$

and

$$\mu_0 = 4385(71)_{\text{stat}}(36)_{\text{sys}}(51)_{\text{robust}}(94)_{\text{tot}} \text{ MeV}.$$

► Reached scale of cutoff of typical lattice simulations with full control over continuum extrapolation!

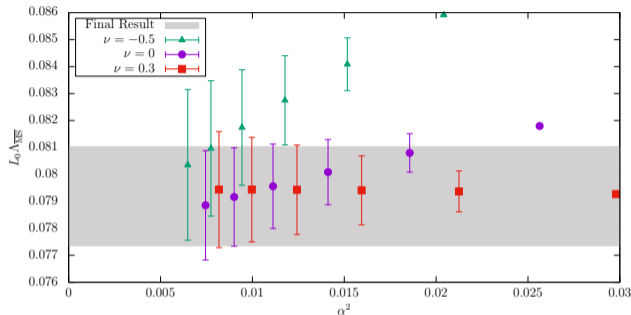


DETERMINATION OF α_s

- ▶ One can use PT directly at $\mu_0 \approx 4$ GeV

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 347.6(6.3) \text{ MeV}$$

- ▶ [0.34%] error in $\alpha_s \dots$
- ▶ ... But what about PT
 - ▶ Missing orders
 - ▶ Power corrections
- ▶ Continue to high energies [ALPHA' 2019]
 - ▶ Improved $\mathcal{O}(a)$



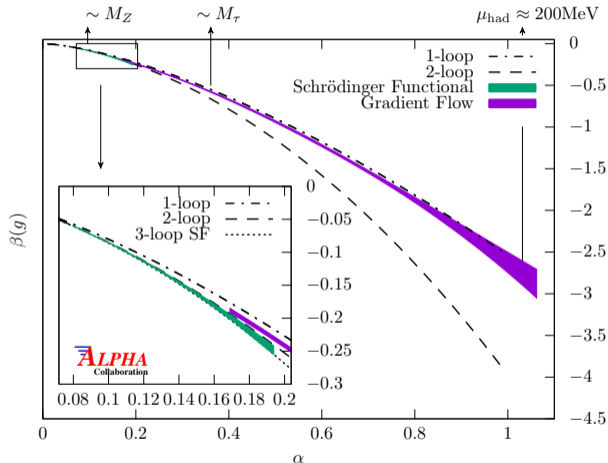
ALPHA approach

Use PT at genuinely high energy: 70 GeV

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 347(11) \text{ MeV}$$

Check with a one-parameter family of observables! ν

EXAMPLE: MASSLESS RUNNING IN $N_f = 3$ QCD [ALPHA '17]



▶ NP determination of the β -function

▶ Large range of energy scales:

$$Q \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV to } 140 \text{ GeV} .$$

▶ Using PT for $Q \in [100 \text{ GeV}, \infty]$, and new data we get

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 347(11), \text{ MeV} .$$

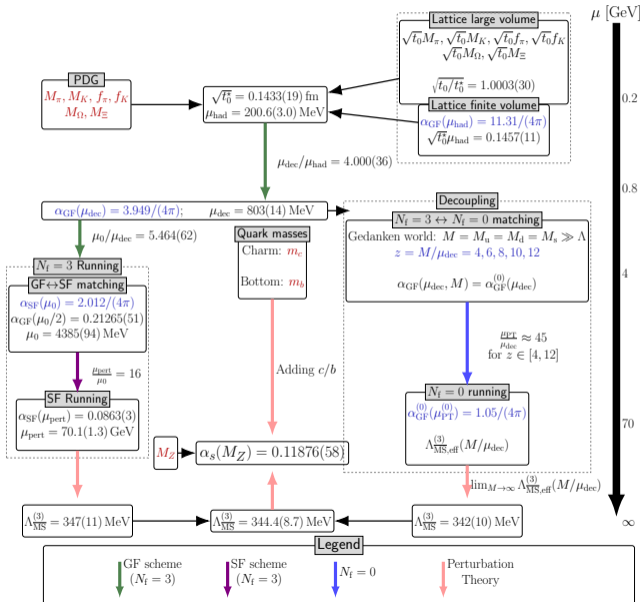
▶ Most of the uncertainty:

NP running from 4 – 100 GeV

CHECKPOINT

- ▶ Input: Hadron spectrum:
 $M_\pi, M_K, M_\Xi, f_k, f_\pi, M_\Omega, \dots$
- ▶ Technical intermediate scale $\sqrt{t_0^*}$
- ▶ "Solve" $N_f = 3$ QCD non perturbatively
 - ▶ From 200 MeV to EW scale
 - ▶ Match QCD with YM
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 $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.11876(58)$.
[0.47%] precision

- ▶ Conservative error
- ▶ Statistical errors dominate



MASSLESS RENORMALIZATION SCHEMES

Computation of observables

$$O(Q) \stackrel{\alpha \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \sum_n c_n(Q/\mu) \alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^n(\mu)$$

- ▶ Coupling $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu)$ defined by: counterterms only include the divergences
- ▶ Divergences do not depend on values of quark masses
- ▶ $\overline{\text{MS}}$ is an example of a massless scheme. High order computations.
- ▶ In LQCD we also prefer massless schemes: Conditions imposed at zero mass
 - ▶ Schrödinger Functional (SF)
 - ▶ (S)RI/MOM
 - ▶ ...

DECOUPLING OF HEAVY QUARKS IN MASSLESS SCHEMES

Matching between theories

- ▶ For $E < Q$ forget about all quarks with $m > Q$
- ▶ “Nice” perturbative expressions if you only use **active** quarks
- ▶ Matching between effective theory (with **active quarks**) and fundamental theory (with **active** and heavy quarks)

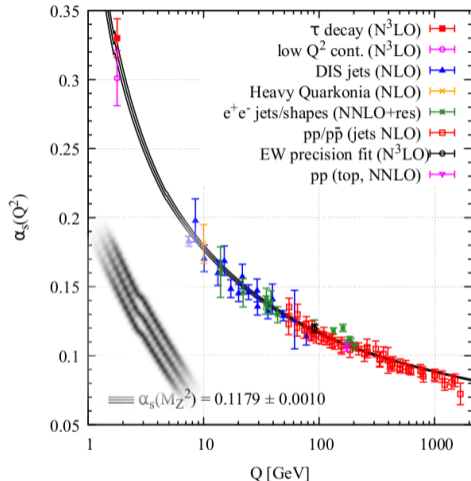
$$\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(N_f-1)}(\mu) = \alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(N_f)}(\mu) \times \left\{ 1 + a_1(m_h/\mu) \alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(N_f)}(\mu) + \dots \right\}$$

- ▶ Also matching between Λ parameters

$$\frac{\Lambda^{(N_f)}}{\Lambda^{(N_f-1)}} = P_{N_f, N_f-1}(\Lambda/M)$$

Abuse of language: A single $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(\mu)$ that “jumps” at quark thresholds

- ▶ $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(4 \text{ GeV})$: This is the four flavor coupling
- ▶ $\alpha_{\overline{\text{MS}}}(M_Z)$: This is the five flavor coupling



3M: A UNIVERSE WITH THREE HEAVY DEGENERATE QUARKS ($M \gg \Lambda$)

Alice uses fundamental theory

$$S_{\text{fund}}[A_\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}] = \int d^4x \left\{ -\frac{1}{2g^2} \text{Tr} (F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{\psi}_i (\gamma_\mu D_\mu + M) \psi_i \right\}$$

Bob uses effective theory

$$S_{\text{eff}}[A_\mu] = -\frac{1}{2g_{\text{eff}}^2} \int d^4x \{ \text{Tr} (F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) \} + \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_k \omega_k \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_k^{(6)} + \dots$$

3M: A UNIVERSE WITH THREE HEAVY DEGENERATE QUARKS ($M \gg \Lambda$)

Alice uses fundamental theory

$$S_{\text{fund}}[A_\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}] = \int d^4x \left\{ -\frac{1}{2g^2} \text{Tr} (F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{\psi}_i (\gamma_\mu D_\mu + M) \psi_i \right\}$$

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Decoupling

- ▶ Dimensionless “low energy quantities” $\sqrt{t_0}/r_0, w_0/\sqrt{8t_0}, r_0/w_0, \dots$ from effective theory

$$\frac{\mu_1^{\text{fund}}(M)}{\mu_2^{\text{fund}}(M)} = \frac{\mu_1^{\text{eff}}}{\mu_2^{\text{eff}}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\mu^2}{M^2}\right)$$

BOB AND ALICE DETERMINATION OF THE STRONG COUPLING

- ▶ Decoupling also allows to compute the strong coupling (Λ). An implicit equation for $\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}/\mu_{\text{dec}}$ (**note:**

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}/M = \Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}/\mu_{\text{dec}} \times \mu_{\text{dec}}/M$$

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}}{\mu_{\text{dec}}} = \frac{\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(0)}}{\mu_{\text{dec}}(M)} \times \frac{1}{P\left(\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}/M\right)} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^4(m^*)) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\mu_{\text{dec}}^2}{M^2}\right)$$

- ▶ Exact relation:

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}}{\mu_{\text{dec}}} = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(0)}}{\mu_{\text{dec}}(M)} \times \frac{1}{P\left(\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)}/M\right)}$$

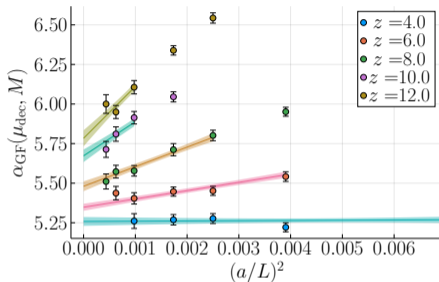
- ▶ We need:

- ▶ Running in pure gauge: $\Lambda^{(0)}/\mu$
- ▶ Matching between a **coupling** $\alpha(\mu_{\text{dec}}, M)$ in a world with degenerate massive quarks:
 $\alpha(\mu_{\text{dec}}(M), M) = \alpha^{(0)}(\mu_{\text{dec}}) \implies \mu_{\text{dec}}(M) \approx \mu_{\text{dec}}$

We do not live in $3M$, but we can simulate it!

$$\mu_{\text{dec}}(M) = \mu_{\text{dec}}^{\text{phys}} \times \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{a\mu_{\text{dec}}(M)}{a\mu_{\text{dec}}^{\text{phys}}}$$

THE CONTINUUM EXTRAPOLATION OF MASSIVE COUPLINGS



Coupling changes with M [ALPHA '23]

► Precise extrapolations

Effective field theory description of cutoff effects+mass dependence

$$\bar{g}^2(z_i, a) = C_i + p_1[\alpha(a^{-1})]^{\hat{\Gamma}} (a\mu_{\text{dec}})^2 + p_2[\alpha(a^{-1})]^{\hat{\Gamma}'} (aM_i)^2.$$

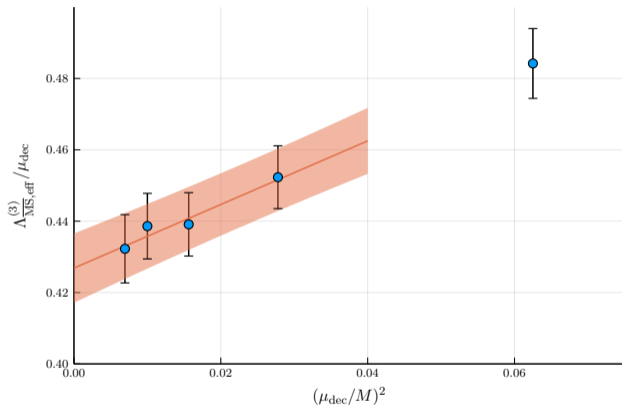
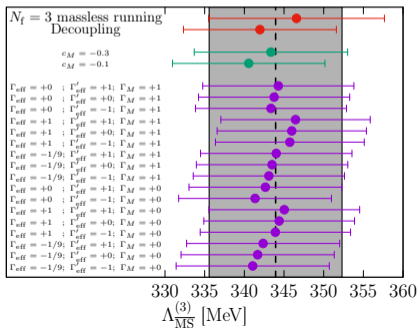
- **Continuum values** (our target quantity)
- **Mass independent cutoff effects**
- **Mass dependent cutoff effects**
- **Loop corrections in effective theory:** $-1 \leq \hat{\Gamma} \leq 1$ and $-1/9 \leq \hat{\Gamma}' \leq 1$

STRONG COUPLING FROM DECOUPLING

- Precise result for α_s

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 342(10) \text{ MeV}.$$

- Different models to extrapolate to continuum
- Different models to extrapolate $M \rightarrow \infty$
- Use of **already existing** pure gauge results



FINAL RESULTS

Final result for α_s

- ▶ Two strategies, consistent results

$$\text{Massless running: } \Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 347(11) \text{ MeV},$$

$$\text{Decoupling: } \Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 342(10) \text{ MeV}.$$

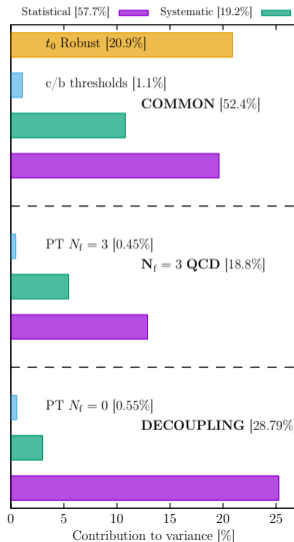
- ▶ Average

$$\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}}^{(3)} = 344.4(8.7) \text{ MeV}.$$

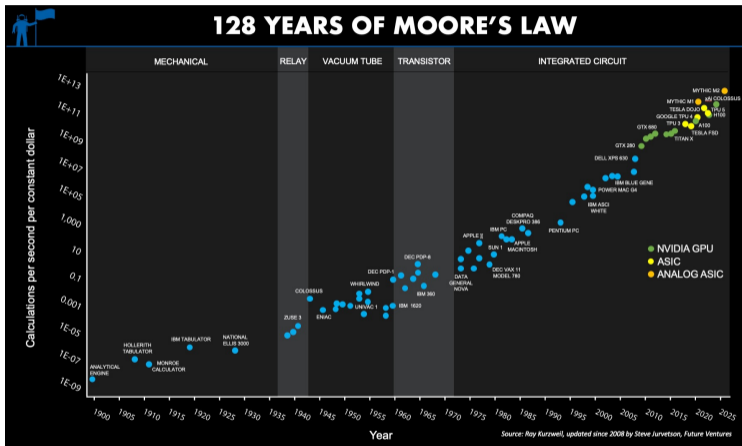
- ▶ "Crossing" c/b thresholds

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.11876(58) \quad [0.46\%].$$

- ▶ Two times more precise than all pheno determinations combined!
- ▶ PT errors negligible
- ▶ Error dominated by statistics



PRECISION LQCD = NEW THEORETICAL APPROACHES + EFFICIENT MACHINES/ALGORITHMS



- ▶ Step Scaling
- ▶ Preconditioning
- ▶ Large Volume simulations
- ▶ SF in QCD
- ▶ High order PT computations
- ▶ Domain decomposition
- ▶ Mass preconditioning
- ▶ ...
- ▶ GF couplings
- ▶ Decoupling

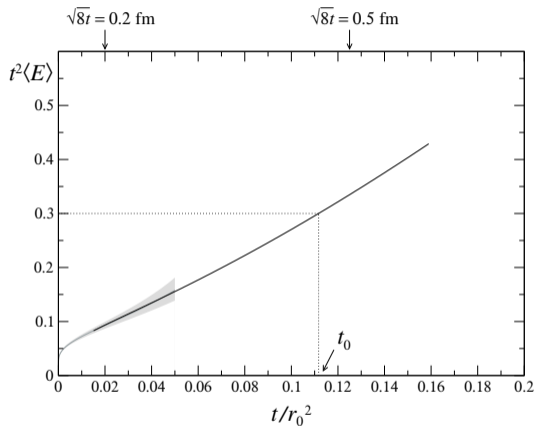
CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Dedicated approaches allow to solve QCD non-perturbatively from hadronic scales to EW scale
- ▶ Finite volume renormalization schemes: key role!
- ▶ New decoupling idea: connect QCD with Yang-Mills
 - ▶ Running in $N_f = 0$ numerically easier
- ▶ Precise result

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.11876(58) \quad [0.46\%].$$

- ▶ 2x more precise than combination of pheno determinations
 - ▶ Negligible PT uncertainties
 - ▶ Uncertainty limited by statistical precision of our simulations
 - ▶ Experimental input: Low energy QCD spectrum (no NP!)
 - ▶ No correlation with LHC data (use for PDFs)
- ▶ Number should be **used as input** in LHC analysis
- ▶ Combined with EIC: unprecedented check of QCD running coupling!

MANY THANKS!

t_0^* AS AN INTERMEDIATE REFERENCE SCALE

Gradient Flow [M. Lüscher '10].

- ▶ Evolve gauge fields along the gradient flow

$$\frac{dB_\mu(x, t)}{dt} = D_\nu G_{\nu\mu}(x, t); \quad \left(\sim -g_0^2 \frac{\delta S_{YM}[B]}{\delta B_\mu} \right)$$

flow time dimensions of $[\text{length}]^2$

- ▶ Finite (renormalized) observables (for $t > 0$)

$$E(x, t) = \frac{1}{4} \langle G_{\mu\nu}(x, t) G_{\mu\nu}(x, t) \rangle$$

- ▶ $t^2 \langle E(t) \rangle$ is dimensionless and depends on scale t
- ▶ It is a renormalized coupling!!

$$g_{\text{GF}, \infty}^2(\mu) \propto t^2 \langle E(t) \rangle \Big|_{\mu=1/\sqrt{8t}}$$

- ▶ Ideal candidate for scale setting: t_0
- ▶ $t_0^{*2} \langle E(t_0^*) \rangle = 0.3$ at $m_\pi = m_K = 420$ MeV

SCALE SETTING: THE CASE WITH SIGNIFICANT SYSTEMATICS

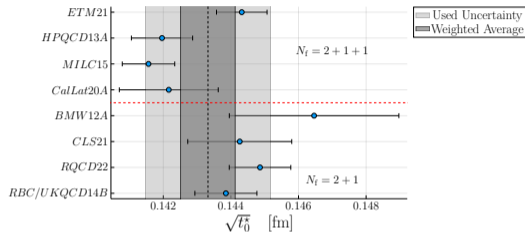
Technical scale t_0^*

- ▶ Different collaborations determine dimensionless:

$$\sqrt{t_0^*} \times (M_\pi, M_K, M_\Xi, M_\Omega, f_\pi, f_K, \dots)$$

- ▶ Use all results entering FLAG average
- ▶ $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 2.8$
- ▶ **Robust** error: all “precise” results covered

$$\sqrt{t_0^*} = 0.1433(7)_{\text{stat}}(4)_{\text{sys}}(17)_{\text{robust}}(19)_{\text{tot}} \text{ fm} .$$



- ▶ Only case of significant systematic in our work
- ▶ **Robust** error band covers all (precise) central values
- ▶ Effect propagated in all quantities.
- ▶ Our error $2.5\times$ larger than “standard” (i.e. FLAG/PDG) error inflation
- ▶ Small effect in final error of α_s : $58 \times 10^{-4} \rightarrow 51 \times 10^{-4}$

FROM $\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}^{(3)}$ TO $\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}^{(5)}$

$$\frac{\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}^{(5)}}{\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}^{(3)}} = P_{3,5}$$

Use RunDec to explore PT corrections in crossing c/b thresholds

loop-orders	$P_{3,4}^{\text{ref}}$	$P_{4,5}^{\text{ref}}$	$P_{3,5}^{\text{ref}}$	$\alpha_s^{\text{ref}}(m_Z)$
5/4	0.87548	0.72143	0.63160	0.11872
loop-orders	$100 \times \delta P_{3,4}$	$100 \times \delta P_{4,5}$	$100 \times \delta P_{3,5}$	$10^5 \times \Delta \alpha_s(m_Z)$
4/3	-0.2536	0.2056	-0.3313	-5.992
3/2	-0.8503	0.5758	-1.2237	-22.20
2/1	-3.8555	1.2228	-6.8235	-126.3
SI, m^*	0.0	0.0		
$SI, 2m^*$	-0.4364	-0.0702		
$SI, m^*/2$		-0.0117		
$\overline{MS}, \mu = \mu_h$	-0.0299	-0.0014		
$\overline{MS}, \mu = 2\mu_h$	-0.1036	-0.0105		
$\overline{MS}, \mu = \mu_h/2$	0.0016	0.0119		

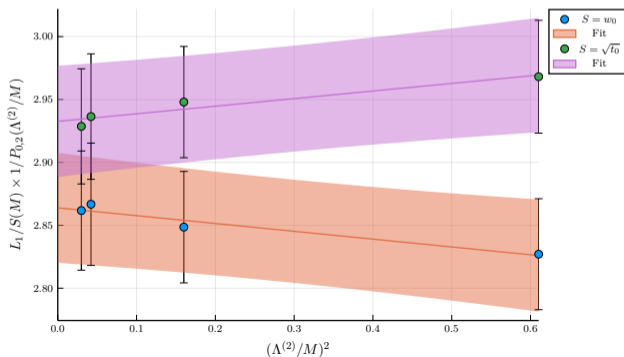
Small corrections

- ▶ PT corrections 0.3%
- ▶ NP corrections 0.1%

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Small corrections

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