

Nonperturbative renormalization in large- N QCD-like theories and topological strings

Marco Bochicchio

INFN at Rome I University

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Talk mainly based on:

M. B. An asymptotic solution of large- N QCD for the glueball and meson spectrum and the collinear S matrix
HADRON 2015, AIP Conference Proceedings 1735(2016) 1,
030004

M. B. The large- N Yang-Mills S matrix is ultraviolet finite,
but the large- N QCD S matrix is only renormalizable,
Phys. Rev. D 95 (2017) 054010, arXiv:1701.07833 [hep-th]

M. B. Renormalization in large- N QCD is incompatible with
open/closed string duality, Phys. Lett. B 783 (2018) 341,
arXiv:1703.10176 [hep-th]

and to appear in arXiv ...

Plan of the talk

(1) We work out the nonperturbative renormalization properties of large- N QCD-like theories

(2) On the basis of the aforementioned renormalization properties, we demonstrate two versions of a no-go theorem for the existence of a canonical string solution - matching the topology of the 't Hooft large- N expansion and conformal invariant on the world sheet - of large- N QCD and $n=1$ SUSY QCD

(3) We define a new class of noncanonical string theories that may evade the no-go theorem, and we investigate their generic spectral and UV properties

Main results

(I) The large- N S matrix in pure YM theory is **UV finite nonperturbatively** once it is expressed in term of the planar RG invariant, which is the planar version of:

$$\Lambda_{RG} = \text{const } \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0 g^2}\right) (\beta_0 g^2)^{-\frac{\beta_1}{2\beta_0^2}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1} c_n g^{2n}\right)$$

while **the large- N S matrix of massless QCD is only renormalizable**

Analogous results hold for $n=1$ SUSY YM, and massive QCD and $n=1$ SUSY QCD, respectively

(2) Implications for a canonical string solution

By definition, a canonical string solution for the large- N S matrix of a massless QCD-like theory should match the topology of the 't Hooft large- N expansion by a string that is conformal invariant on the world sheet, with the string scale T coinciding with the square of the planar RG invariant in some scheme

The UV finiteness of large- N YM matches the universal belief that consistent closed string theory are UV finite, and thus it is compatible with the existence of a canonical string solution, but the nonperturbative renormalization of large- N massless QCD is incompatible with the open/closed string duality of the would-be canonical string solution that, therefore, does not exist. Similar results hold for large- N $n=1$ SUSY YM, and massive QCD and $n=1$ SUSY QCD, respectively

(3) In order to evade the no-go theorem for large- N QCD, we propose new versions of the open-string topological A model (on noncommutative twistor space) coupled to D branes. The effective action is 4d complex Chern-Simons coupled to D branes. For YM theory, it has the structure:

$$S(B) = i \frac{k\sqrt{T}}{8\pi} \text{Tr}(BdB + \frac{2}{3}B^3) - \log \text{Det}\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} + B_\lambda\right) + h.c.$$

The interesting part is the log of the functional determinant that arises from (glueball) branes, which should be related to the generating functional of the glueball one-loop effective action in a certain sector. This theory is noncanonical in many ways: Glueball are open strings (and by consistency also closed strings), and the A-model does not need to be conformal invariant on the world sheet!

Mesons are coupled to glueballs in the open-string sector by means of another set of D branes (meson branes)

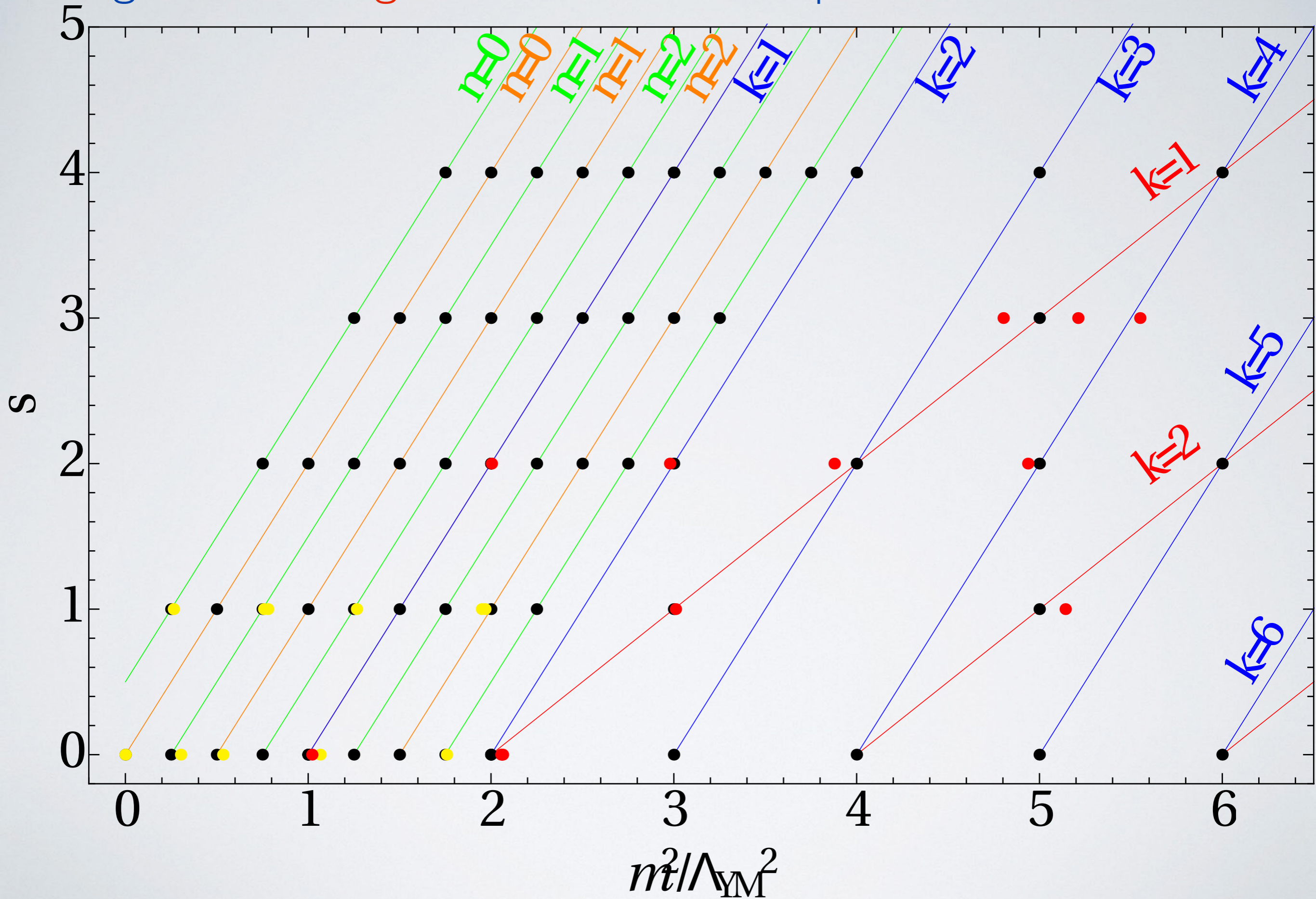
$$\log \text{Det}_R \left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} + B_\lambda \right) + h.c.$$

Generic prediction of the new models: **Glueball and meson Regge trajectories are linear in the spin as a function of the mass squared.** The glueball Regge trajectories have two slopes, differing by a factor of 2, arising from the open and closed sectors respectively

Moreover, the glueball Regge trajectories in the open string sector have the same slope as the meson Regge trajectories, because both belong to the open sector !

This looks as heresy, but here it is the comparison with the glueball and meson spectrum computed by lattice gauge theories at large-N

Large-N lattice glueball and meson spectrum versus TTST



The spectrum of the twistorial topological string theory (TTST) in the plot is:

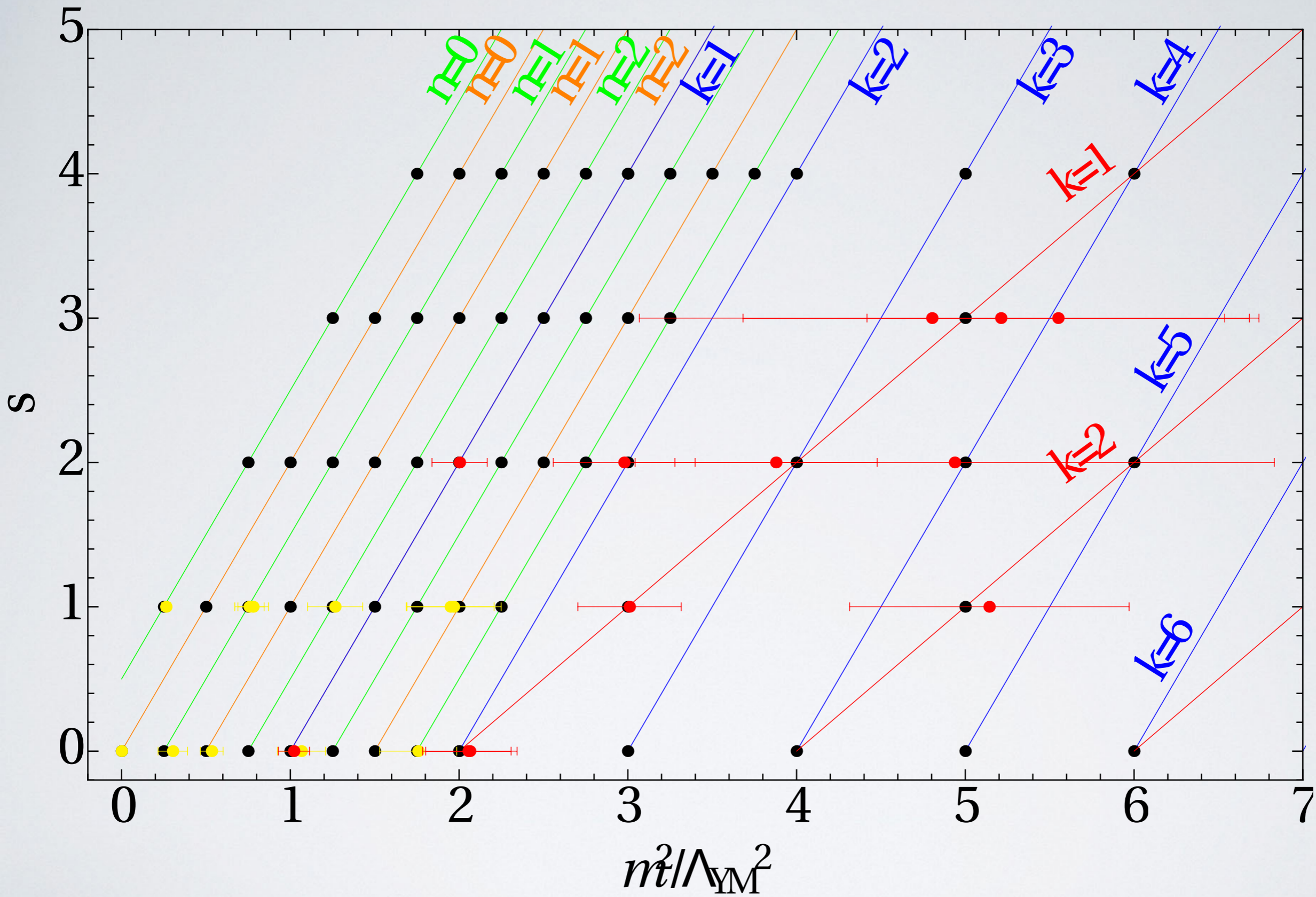
$$m_k^{(s)2} = \left(k + \frac{s}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s \text{ even}; k = 1, 2, \dots \text{ for glueballs}$$

$$m_k^{(s)2} = 2\left(k + \frac{s}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s \text{ odd}; k = 1, 2, \dots \text{ for glueballs}$$

$$m_k^{(s)2} - m_{PGB}^2 = \frac{1}{2}(k + s) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s = 0, 1, \dots ; k = 0, 1, \dots \text{ for mesons}$$

$$m_k^{(s)2} - m_{PGB}^2 = \frac{1}{2}\left(k + s - \frac{1}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s = 1, \dots ; k = 0, 1, \dots \text{ for mesons}$$

with $m_{PGB} = 0$



Part I

The first aim of this talk is to answer the following fundamental question that, surprisingly, has not been asked for more than 40 years

We know that YM theory and QCD are not UV finite, but only renormalizable, in perturbation theory

Yet, we may ask which are the renormalization properties of the YM theory and QCD (with massless quarks at first, for simplicity) nonperturbatively in the large- N 't Hooft expansion

We recall that the large- N 't Hooft limit of $SU(N)$ QCD (with N_f massless quarks):

$$Z = \int \delta A \delta \psi \delta \bar{\psi} \exp\left(-\frac{N}{g^2} \int \text{Tr} F^2 + \sum_{N_f} \bar{\psi}_f \gamma_\alpha D_\alpha \psi_f\right)$$

is a free theory of glueballs and mesons to leading $1/N$ order, which become weakly coupled to the next order with couplings $O(1/N)$ and $O(1/\sqrt{N})$ respectively (the leading nontrivial $1/N$ order is 't Hooft planar theory)

In the glueball sector: (G.'t Hooft 1974)

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \mathcal{O}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \rangle_{\text{conn}} \sim N^{2-n}$$

In the meson sector:

$$\langle \mathcal{M}_1(x_1) \mathcal{M}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{M}_k(x_k) \rangle_{\text{conn}} \sim N^{1-\frac{k}{2}}$$

In the meson/glueball sector:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \mathcal{O}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \mathcal{M}_1(x_1) \mathcal{M}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{M}_k(x_k) \rangle_{\text{conn}} \sim N^{1-n-\frac{k}{2}}$$

Indeed, to the leading $1/N$ order,
because of the vanishing of the
interaction associated to 3 and multi-
point correlators,

the connected two-point correlators, **by assuming confinement**, are an infinite sum of free propagators satisfying the the Kallen-Lehmann representation
(A. Migdal, 1977):

$$\int \langle \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(x) \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(0) \rangle_{conn} e^{-ip \cdot x} d^4x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m_n^{(s)}} \right) \frac{|\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(0) | p, n, s \rangle'|^2}{p^2 + m_n^{(s)2}}$$

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(0) | p, n, s, j \rangle = e_j^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m} \right) \langle 0 | \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(0) | p, n, s \rangle'$$

$$\sum_j e_j^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m} \right) \overline{e_j^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m} \right)} = P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m} \right)$$

Moreover, the residues of the poles of the propagators

contain the scheme-independent information on the anomalous dimensions and the beta function of the theory,

as the following asymptotic theorem shows

M.B. Glueball and meson propagators of any spin in large- N QCD

M. B. Nucl. Phys. B 875 (2013) 621 [hep-th/1305.0273]

Asymptotic Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \langle \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(x) \mathcal{O}^{(s)}(0) \rangle_{conn} e^{-ip \cdot x} d^4x &\sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{m_n^{(s)}} \right) \frac{m_n^{(s)2D-4} Z_n^{(s)2} \rho_s^{-1}(m_n^{(s)2})}{p^2 + m_n^{(s)2}} \\
 &= P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{p} \right) p^{2D-4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Z_n^{(s)2} \rho_s^{-1}(m_n^{(s)2})}{p^2 + m_n^{(s)2}} + \dots \\
 &\sim P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{p} \right) p^{2D-4} \int_{m_1^{(s)2}}^{\infty} \frac{Z^{(s)2}(m)}{p^2 + m^2} dm^2 + \dots \\
 &\sim P^{(s)} \left(\frac{p_\alpha}{p} \right) p^{2D-4} \left[\frac{1}{\beta_0 \log\left(\frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0^2} \frac{\log \log\left(\frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log\left(\frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)}\right) \right) \right]^{\frac{\gamma_0}{\beta_0} - 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(m_n^{(s)2}) \sim \int_1^{\infty} f(m_n^{(s)2}) dn = \int_{m_1^{(s)2}}^{\infty} f(m^2) \rho_s(m^2) dm^2$$

$$Z_n^{(s)} \equiv Z^{(s)}(m_n^{(s)}) = \exp \int_{g(\mu)}^{g(m_n^{(s)})} \frac{\gamma_{\mathcal{O}^{(s)}}(g)}{\beta(g)} dg$$

$$Z_n^{(s)2} \sim \left[\frac{1}{\beta_0 \log \frac{m_n^{(s)2}}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0^2} \frac{\log \log \frac{m_n^{(s)2}}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}}{\log \frac{m_n^{(s)2}}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log \frac{m_n^{(s)2}}{\Lambda_{QCD}^2}}\right) \right) \right]^{\frac{\gamma_0}{\beta_0}}$$

Hence, the large- N nonperturbative solution would replace
QCD

viewed as a theory of
gluons and quarks that is strongly coupled in the infrared in
perturbation theory,

with a theory of **glueballs and mesons**
that is weakly coupled at all energy scales

S-matrix renormalization

Nonperturbatively, the S matrix in YM and massless QCD only depends on the RG-invariant scale:

$$\Lambda_{RG} = \text{const } \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0 g^2}\right) (\beta_0 g^2)^{-\frac{\beta_1}{2\beta_0^2}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1} c_n g^{2n}\right)$$

because the S matrix cannot depend on the anomalous dimensions of the gauge-invariant operators that create the asymptotic states (indeed, the aforementioned residues of the poles cancel in the LSZ formulas)

Of course, the finiteness of Λ_{RG} as the cutoff diverges is equivalent to the gauge coupling renormalization

Therefore, the UV finiteness of the S matrix is equivalent to the UV finiteness of 1/N expansion of the RG invariant scale in terms of the planar RG invariant

In large-N YM the first-two coefficients of the beta function are only planar without 1/N corrections

$$\beta_0 = \beta_0^P = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{11}{3}$$
$$\beta_1 = \beta_1^P = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^4} \frac{34}{3}$$

Hence, the further 1/N corrections contribute at most only a finite change of renormalization scheme:

$$\Lambda_{YM} \sim \text{const} \Lambda_{YM}^P \left(1 + \sum_{n=1} c_n O\left(\frac{1}{\log^n\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{YM}^P}\right)}\right) \right)$$

Thus, all glueball loops are UV finite in the YM S matrix since,
if they were not, they would imply a divergent
renormalization of the planar RG invariant scale,
which is the only parameter in the S matrix,
contrary to what we have just proved

Hence, the $1/N$ expansion of the YM S matrix is UV finite,
and the UV finiteness is a consequence of the RG group and
asymptotic freedom (AF) of the YM planar theory

Instead, in large- N QCD the first-two coefficients of the beta function get corrections to the order of N_f/N

$$\beta_0 = \beta_0^P + \beta_0^{NP} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{11}{3} - \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{2}{3} \frac{N_f}{N}$$

$$\beta_1 = \beta_1^P + \beta_1^{NP} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^4} \frac{34}{3} - \frac{1}{(4\pi)^4} \left(\frac{13}{3} - \frac{1}{N^2} \right) \frac{N_f}{N}$$

Thus, in large- N QCD the planar RG invariant gets a log-divergent renormalization starting from the order of N_f/N :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sqrt{T} &= \Lambda_{QCD} \sim \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0 g^2}\right) \\
 &= \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0^P \left(1 + \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P}\right) g^2}\right) \\
 &\sim \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{\left(1 - \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P}\right)}{2\beta_0^P g^2}\right) \\
 &\sim \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0^P g^2}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P}}{2\beta_0^P g^2}\right) \\
 &\sim \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0^P g^2}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P}}{2\beta_0^P g^2} + \dots\right) \\
 &\sim \Lambda \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\beta_0^P g^2}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) + \dots\right) \\
 &= \Lambda_{QCD}^P \left(1 + \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) + \dots\right) \\
 &= \sqrt{T^P} \left(1 + \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{T^P}}\right) + \dots\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Lambda_{QCD} \sim \Lambda_{QCD}^P \left[1 + \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) + \frac{\beta_1^P}{2\beta_0^{P2}} \log \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) \left(\frac{\beta_1^{NP}}{\beta_1^P} - \frac{\beta_0^{NP}}{\beta_0^P}\right) + \dots \right]$$

Hence, since the glueball and meson masses are proportional to the RG invariant scale, glueball and meson self-energies are log divergent in large- N QCD starting from the order of N_f/N .

The log divergence arises because of the asymptotic freedom (AF) of the planar theory, i.e. of the YM theory,

and of the change of the beta function to the order of N_f/N due to the quark loops

Part 2

The second aim of this talk is to work out the implications of these seemingly innocuous renormalization properties

for the existence of a would-be canonical string solution

of large- N YM and QCD

Indeed,

the large-N limit of SU(N) QCD (with massless quarks):

$$Z = \int \delta A \delta \psi \delta \bar{\psi} \exp\left(-\frac{N}{g^2} \int \text{Tr} F^2 + \sum_{N_f} \bar{\psi}_f \gamma_\alpha D_\alpha \psi_f\right)$$

(G. 't Hooft 1974)

is universally believed to be solved by a yet-to-be-found string theory, of closed strings in the glueball sector, and of open strings in the meson sector

The main evidence is the large-N counting of Feynman diagrams

In the glueball sector:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \mathcal{O}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \rangle_{conn} \sim N^{2-n}$$

In the meson sector:

$$\langle \mathcal{M}_1(x_1) \mathcal{M}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{M}_k(x_k) \rangle_{conn} \sim N^{1-\frac{k}{2}}$$

In the meson/glueball sector:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(x_1) \mathcal{O}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{O}_n(x_n) \mathcal{M}_1(x_1) \mathcal{M}_2(x_2) \cdots \mathcal{M}_k(x_k) \rangle_{conn} \sim N^{1-n-\frac{k}{2}}$$

This is exactly the canonical counting that we would get from a string theory with string coupling: $g_s = 1/N$
of closed strings in the glueball sector:
a sphere with n punctures
of open strings in the meson sector:
a disk with k punctures on the boundary
and of open/closed strings in the meson/glueball sector:
a disk with k punctures on the boundary and n in the interior

This is the 't Hooft planar theory, that describes tree amplitudes

Then, **unitarization** introduces higher-genus contributions, matching the topology of the 't Hooft expansion as well, that correct the planar theory by string diagrams with a weight that is

$1/N$ to a power equal to minus the Euler characteristic

Physically, this is the standard picture of confinement
where

mesons are bound states of quarks linked by a
chromo-electric flux tube and

glueballs are rings of chromo-electric flux

with the string world-sheet identified with the flux tube

Yet, this physical interpretation is not necessary in the
canonical string framework. You may consider an arbitrary
string background (higher dimensions, curvature, D-branes,
RR sectors...) provided that it leads to a conformal-invariant
string theory on the world sheet.

Now, the UV finiteness of the large- N YM theory, due to AF and RG, which we have just found out on the gauge side, is

compatible

with the universally believed UV finiteness of (consistent) closed-string theories (due to the underlying modular invariance on the closed-string side)

Thus, a canonical string solution of the pure large- N YM theory may exist

But, contrary to the universal belief,
we prove in the present talk a first NO-GO THEOREM that
the aforementioned renormalization properties in large-N

QCD +

the existence of the glueball mass gap at the lowest $1/N$
order, i.e. in the planar theory

+

UV finiteness of closed string trees

are incompatible with the open/closed duality of a would-be
canonical string solution (canonical means that matches
topologically 't Hooft expansion)

As a consequence, the long sought-after canonical string
solution of large-N QCD does not actually exist.

Open/closed string duality in a nutshell

annulus = one-loop in the open-string sector

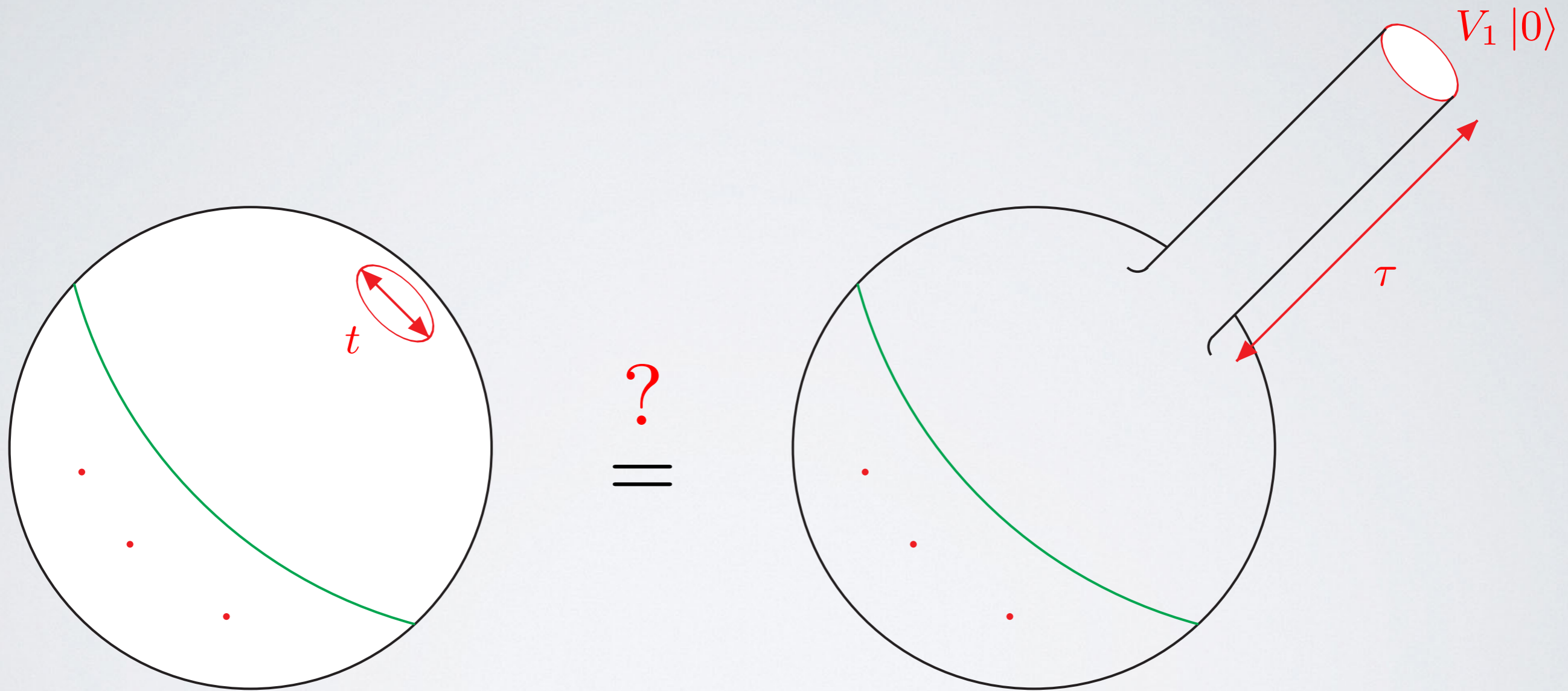
is topologically the same as the

cylinder = tree amplitude in the closed-string sector

Moreover, there is a conformal map that exchanges the world-sheet UV with the IR, under which the annulus, i.e. a disk with a small hole, is mapped into a long cylinder and vice versa.

Thus, if conformal symmetry on the world-sheet is not anomalous, i.e. the string theory really exists, the annulus and the cylinder are identical.

An example of open/closed string duality



Thus, open/closed string duality implies in large-N QCD:

$$\langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle_{\text{conn}}^{1\text{-OpenStringLoop}} = \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 V_1 \rangle_{\text{conn}}^{\text{TreeClosedString}}$$

and the stronger equation, which is the equality of the open- and closed-string integrands before integrating on the world-sheet moduli:

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle D_k(m_i) | \text{Annulus}(t) \rangle dm_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dm_i \wedge \frac{dt}{t} \\ &= \langle D_k(m_i) | \exp(-\tau H_{\text{Closed}}) V_1 | 0 \rangle dm_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dm_i \wedge d\tau \end{aligned}$$

In the 4d QCD S matrix there is no ambiguity in classifying UV and IR divergences.

Therefore, when we say that a corresponding string diagram is UV or IR divergent we mean,

as the canonical string is supposed to solve for the QCD S matrix,

that it is so the corresponding S matrix amplitude in QCD as a field theory

Now, we have just proved that in the large- N 4d QCD S matrix the one-loop graph on the left-hand side, which lives in the mixed glueball-meson sector, must be UV log divergent as the hole shrinks to a point

But, by open/closed duality, it may diverge only if the conformally equivalent tree glueball diagram in the 4d S matrix on the right-hand side, which naively cannot be UV divergent because it is both a closed and a tree string diagram, has an infrared divergence

corresponding to a scalar massless glueball propagating in the infinitely long cylinder on the right-hand side

But such a massless scalar glueball does not exist in the glueball sector of planar large- N QCD. Hence, open/closed duality cannot hold, and the canonical string solution does not exist !

In fact, a second stronger version of the NO-GO THEOREM holds (M. B. Phys. Lett. B 783 (2018) 341)

that does assume

neither the existence of the glueball mass gap

nor the UV finiteness of the tree closed-string diagram on the right-hand side,

but it only follows

from the renormalization properties of large- N QCD

and from a low-energy theorem of NSVZ type proved in M.B. Phys. Rev. D 95 054010

An NSVZ low-energy theorem in QCD-like theories

$$\langle O_1 \dots O_i \rangle = Z^{-1} \int O_1 \dots O_i e^{-\frac{N}{2g^2} \int \text{Tr} F^2(x) d^4x} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial \langle O_1 \dots O_i \rangle}{\partial \log g} \\ &= \frac{N}{g^2} \int \langle O_1 \dots O_i \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle - \langle O_1 \dots O_i \rangle \langle \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle d^4x \end{aligned}$$

Open/closed duality is compatible with the NSVZ low-energy theorem supposing that an open-string theory solves a QCD-like theory perturbatively, as explicitly known from many examples, i.e. $g_s = g_{YM} (F^2 \equiv 2 Tr F^2)$

$$\frac{\partial \langle F^2(z) F^2(0) \rangle}{\partial \log g_{YM}} = \int \langle F^2(z) F^2(0) Tr F^2(x) \rangle - \langle F^2(z) F^2(0) \rangle \langle Tr F^2(x) \rangle d^4x$$

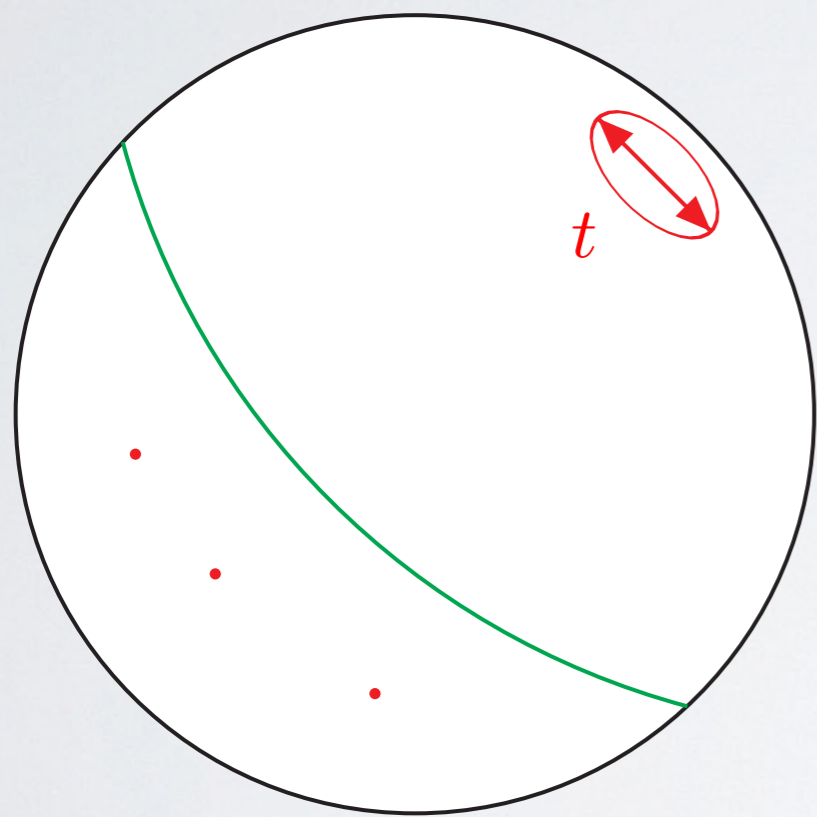
Employing the perturbative OPE at lowest order:

$$F^2(z) F^2(0) \sim \frac{N^2 - 1}{z^8} \frac{48}{\pi^4} \left(1 - 4\beta_0 g_{YM}^2 \left(\log \frac{1}{|z|\mu} - \log \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \right) \right) + \dots \right) + \frac{1}{z^4} \frac{4\beta_0}{\pi^2} g_{YM}^2 F^2(0)$$

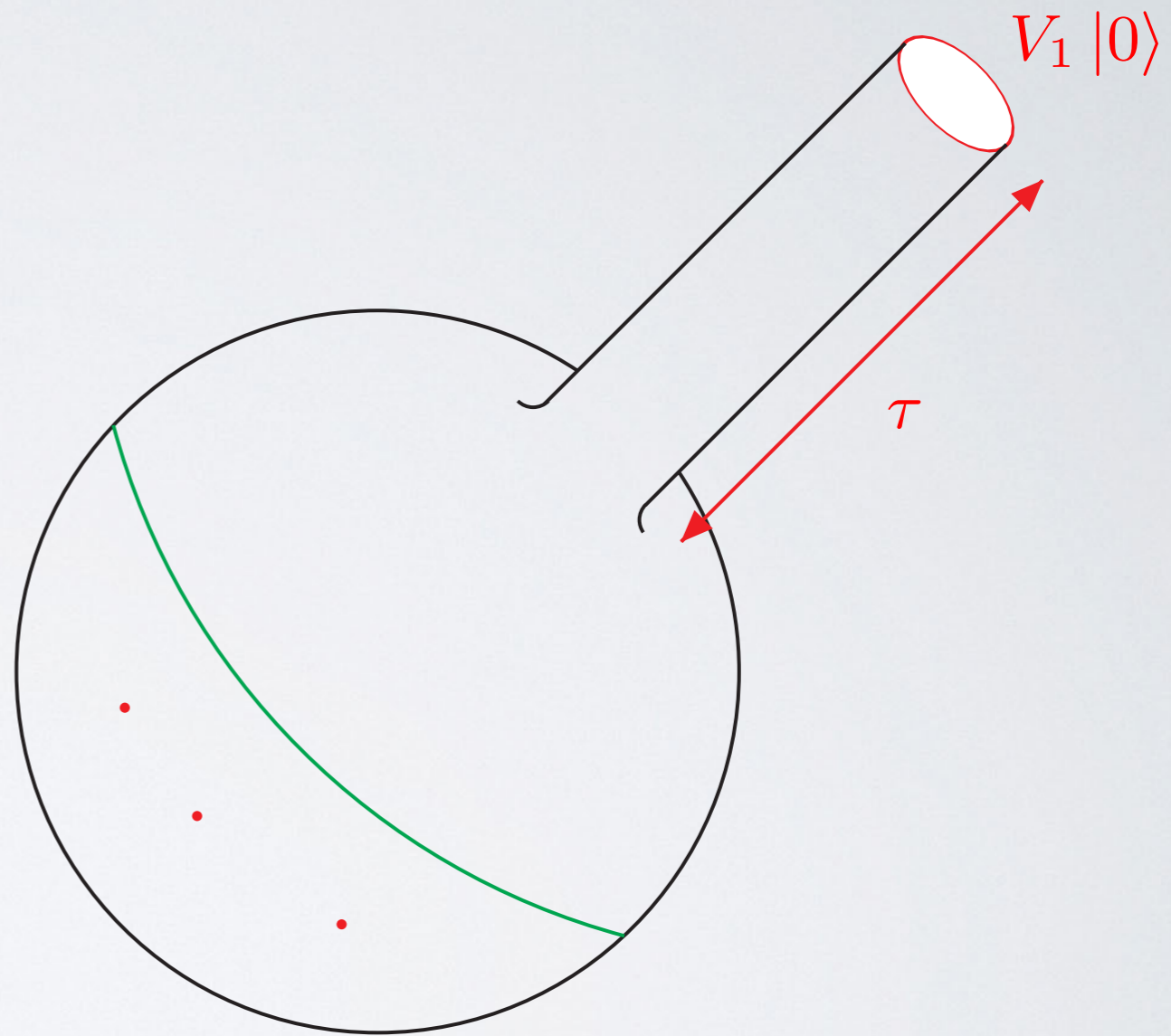
the low-energy theorem reads:

$$2 \left(\langle F^2(z) F^2(0) \rangle \right)^{1-Loop} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left(\langle F^2(z) F^2(0) F^2(x) \rangle \right)^{Order\ of\ g_{YM}^2} d^4x$$

as predicted by open/closed string duality:



$=$
?



Indeed, the left-hand side (open string) is UV divergent because of the (anomalous dimension of F^2) = $2\beta_0$, and the right-hand side (closed string) is both UV and IR divergent because of the conformal symmetry of lowest-order OPE. Moreover, in the closed-string interpretation the IR divergence is due to a massless dilaton:

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2\left(\frac{N^2 - 1}{z^8} \frac{48}{\pi^4} 4\beta_0 g_{YM}^2 (\log(|z|\mu) + \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}\right) + \dots)\right)_{div} \\
&= 2\frac{1}{2} \int \langle F^2(z) \frac{1}{x^4} \frac{4\beta_0}{\pi^2} g_{YM}^2 F^2(0) \rangle^{Tree} d^4x \\
&= \langle F^2(z) F^2(0) \rangle^{Tree} \int \frac{4\beta_0}{\pi^2} g_{YM}^2 \frac{1}{x^4} d^4x \\
&= \frac{N^2 - 1}{z^8} \frac{48}{\pi^4} 8\beta_0 g_{YM}^2 \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

Nonperturbative version of the low-energy theorem:
 trade g for Λ_{QCD} in AF QCD-like theories

$$\frac{\partial \langle O_1 \dots O_i \rangle}{\partial \log \Lambda_{QCD}} = -\frac{N\beta(g)}{g^3} \int \langle O_1 \dots O_i \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle - \langle O_1 \dots O_i \rangle \langle \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle d^4x$$

and employ lowest-order large- N renormalization:

$$\left(\langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle^{NP} \right)_{div} = \frac{\partial \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle^P}{\partial \Lambda_{QCD}} \Lambda_{QCD}^{NP}$$

with:

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\beta_0^P N \Lambda_{QCD}^{NP}}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P} &= -N\beta_0^{NP} \left(\log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) + \frac{1}{2\beta_0^P} \left(\beta_1^{NP} - \beta_0^{NP} \frac{\beta_1^P}{\beta_0^P} \right) \log \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{2}{3} N_f \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}\right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The new low-energy theorem follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle^{NP} \right)_{div} \\
 &= \frac{N \beta^P(g) \Lambda_{QCD}^{NP}}{g^3 \Lambda_{QCD}^P} \int \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle^P \langle \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle^P - \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \text{Tr} F^2(x) \rangle^P d^4x \\
 &\equiv \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 (V_1^P)_{div} \rangle^P - \langle \text{Tr} F^2 \dots \text{Tr} F^2 \rangle^P \langle (V_1^P)_{div} \rangle^P
 \end{aligned}$$

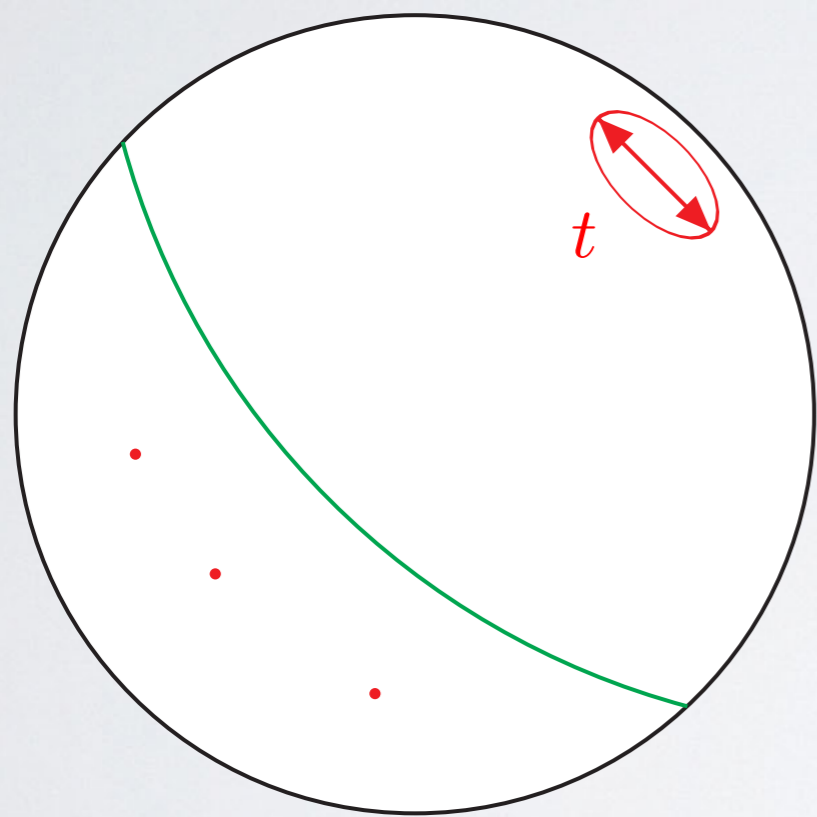
with:

$$(V_1^P)_{div} = - \frac{N \Lambda_{QCD}^{NP} \beta^P(g)}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P g^3} \int \text{Tr} F^2 d^4x = N (\beta_0^{NP} \log(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}) + \dots) \int \text{Tr} F^2 d^4x$$

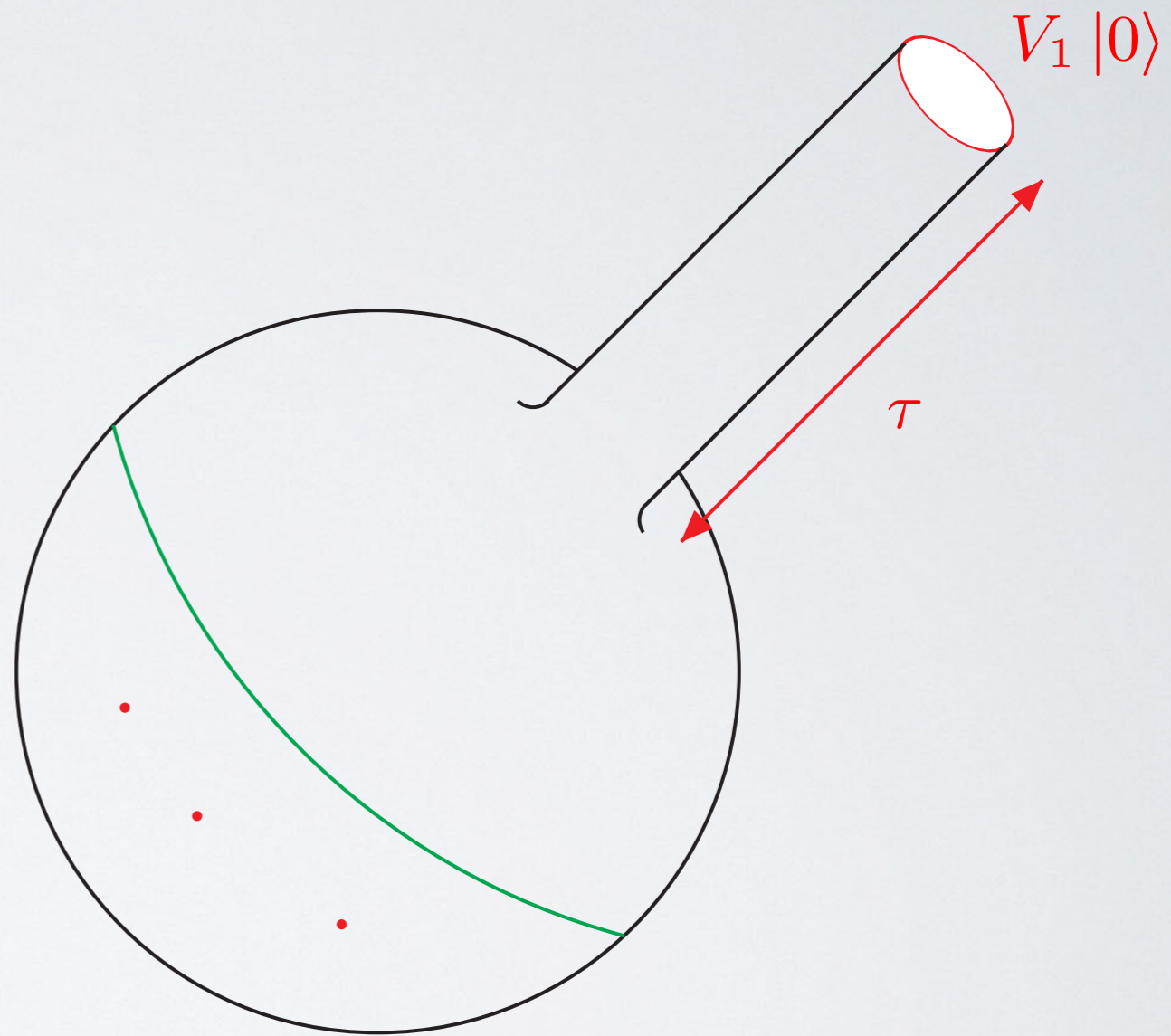
As an independent check, by direct QCD computation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_1 &= N_f \text{Tr} \log \frac{\gamma_\alpha D_\alpha(A) + Z_m^P m^P}{\gamma_\alpha D_\alpha(0) + Z_m^P m^P} \\
 &= N \beta_0^{NP} \log(\frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{QCD}^P}) \int \text{Tr} F^2 d^4x + \text{nonlocal} - UV - \text{finite} - \text{terms}
 \end{aligned}$$

Again, both sides may admit a string interpretation:



$=$
?



But now, as opposed to perturbation theory,

the new low-energy theorem in large- N QCD is
incompatible with open/closed string duality

Proof

To say it in a nutshell, in the string interpretation the left-hand side is log UV divergent because of the integration on the modular parameter, t , of the annulus

By open/closed duality, the right-hand side must be log divergent because of the integration on the dual modular parameter, τ , of the cylinder

On the contrary, the new low-energy theorem in large- N QCD implies that the τ integration is, in fact, log UV finite, because of the extra $1/\log^2$ factor in the planar OPE with respect to perturbation theory:

$$\beta_0 F^2(z) \beta_0 F^2(0) \sim \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2}\right) \frac{1}{z^8} \frac{48\beta_0^2}{\pi^4} \left(\frac{1}{\beta_0 \log\left(\frac{1}{z^2 \Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{z^4} \frac{4\beta_0^2}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\beta_0 \log\left(\frac{1}{z^2 \Lambda_{QCD}^2}\right)}\right)^2 \frac{\beta_0}{N} F^2(0)$$

while the boundary state $V_{||} |0\rangle$

is log UV divergent before integrating on τ because it is a log UV-divergent counterterm due to the quark loops

COMMENTS

1) The NO-GO theorem extends easily to large- N QCD with massive quarks and to a vast class of confining QCD-like AF theories including $n=1$ SUSY QCD

2) The no-go theorem does not depend on the detailed realization of the would-be open/closed string (string target space, extra dimensions, branes and so on ...),

but only on the
2d conformal symmetry on the world-sheet and its topology
i.e.

there is no way to evade it
in the canonical string framework

Comments

3) The easy way-out to the NO-GO THEOREM is to give up AF, and to declare that the string is an effective description only in the IR. For example, there is Luscher computation of the universality class of Wilson loops in IR

4) Another way-out, again at the price of the AF, is to modify an AF QCD-like theory in the UV in such a way that the planar theory is not AF but UV finite, i.e. $\beta(g)=0$, in order for the string description to possibly hold. For example, we may embed $n=1$ SU(N) SUSY QCD into an UV finite $n=2$ theory in the Veneziano limit (Polchinski-Strassler model), but it is impossible in 't Hooft limit, and practically it is pointless because the leading order of the Veneziano limit is not a free theory, and thus it is very likely unsolvable

Comments

5) The NO-GO THEOREM is not an obstruction for solving in principle large- N YM or $n=1$ SUSY YM by closed strings alone, and therefore by means of some version of gauge/gravity duality

Comments

5) Yet, presently there is no model of gauge/gravity duality that is confining and AF, because there is no such a model that is in fact AF, i.e. that reproduces the asymptotics of the 2-point correlator of the YM action density in an AF theory, according to the asymptotic theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \left\langle \frac{\beta(g)}{gN} \text{tr} \left(\sum_{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta}^2(x) \right) \frac{\beta(g)}{gN} \text{tr} \left(\sum_{\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta}^2(0) \right) \right\rangle_{\text{conn}} e^{ip \cdot x} d^4x \\ &= C_{Sp^4} \left[\frac{1}{\beta_0 \log \frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{MS}^2}} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0^2} \frac{\log \log \frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{MS}^2}}{\log \frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{MS}^2}} \right) + O \left(\frac{1}{\log^2 \frac{p^2}{\Lambda_{MS}^2}} \right) \right] \\ &= p^4 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{g^4(m_k^2) \rho_0^{-1}(m_k^2)}{p^2 + m_k^2} \end{aligned}$$

M.B., Nucl. Phys. B 875 (2013) 621 [hep-th/1305.0273]

M.B., S. Muscinelli, JHEP 08 (2013) 064

Indeed, all the present proposals for the correlators in QCD-like theories based on the the gauge/gravity duality

(Witten, Klebanov-Strassler, Maldacena-Nunez, Polchinski-Strassler, and many followers ...)

disagree with the fundamental principles of asymptotic
freedom

perhaps as expected, because the gauge/gravity models in the
supergravity approximation
are in fact strongly coupled in the UV

Migdal (1977)

Polchinski-Strassler (Hard Wall) (2001)

$$\int \langle \text{tr} F^2(x) \text{tr} F^2(0) \rangle_{\text{conn}} e^{-ip \cdot x} d^4x \sim p^4 \left[2 \frac{K_1\left(\frac{p}{\mu}\right)}{I_1\left(\frac{p}{\mu}\right)} - \log p \right] \sim -p^4 \left[\log p + O\left(e^{-2\frac{p}{\mu}}\right) \right]$$

Soft Wall (Karch, Katz, Son, Stephanov)(2006)

$$\int \langle \text{tr} F^2(x) \text{tr} F^2(0) \rangle_{\text{conn}} e^{-ip \cdot x} d^4x \sim -p^4 \left[\log p + O\left(\frac{\mu^2}{p^2}\right) \right]$$

Klebanov-Strassler (the most interesting and remarkable !):
approximately $n=1$ cascading SUSY QCD (2000)

At the end of the cascade:

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial \log \Lambda} = - \frac{\frac{3}{(4\pi)^2} g^3}{1 - \frac{2}{(4\pi)^2} g^2}$$
$$\int \langle \text{tr} F^2(x) \text{tr} F^2(0) \rangle_{\text{conn}} e^{-ip \cdot x} d^4x \sim p^4 \log^3 \frac{p^2}{\mu^2} \quad \text{Krasnitz (2002)}$$

All the previous results, disagree with asymptotic freedom
and RG by powers of logarithms

By the asymptotic theorem, it follows that the would-be
glueball propagators differ from the correct answer in pure
YM or in $n=1$ SUSY YM theory for an infinite number of
poles and/or residues

Part 3

Is there a - necessarily noncanonical - way-out
to evade the no-go theorem ?

Yes, by giving up conformal symmetry and/or the matching
with the topology of the 't Hooft expansion !

This sounds as heresy, since without conformal symmetry
there seems to be no consistent string theory ...

Not quite !

The topological A-model can be given a meaning without conformal symmetry, i.e. without the Calabi-Yau constraint
(Witten 1992)

The easiest way to introduce it in the framework of large-N
QCD is by a powerful analogy:

M. B. Hadron 2015, AIP Conf. Proc. 1735 (2016) 030004

Firstly, we observe that the large- N QCD IPI effective action in the glueball sector can be resummed into the log of functional determinant, according to the existence of the 't Hooft planar 3-point glueball vertex:

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \int \Phi(-\Delta + M^2) \Phi d^4x + g_s \int \Phi * \Phi * \Phi d^4x$$

After (one-loop) quantization:

$$S_{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \int \Phi(-\Delta + M^2) \Phi d^4x + g_s \int \Phi * \Phi * \Phi d^4x + \frac{1}{2} \log \text{Det}(-\Delta + M^2 + g_s \Phi *)$$

Secondly, we point out the following analogy:

Holomorphic Chern-Simons on twistor space
= B model topological string of n=4 SUSY YM **Witten (2004)**

massless particles = Dolbeault
cohomology thanks to Penrose construction
Nair (1987) Boels, Mason, Skinner (2006)

$$S(A) = \int \Omega \wedge \text{Tr}_f(A \bar{\partial} A + \frac{2}{3} A^3) - \int d^4 x d^8 \theta \log \text{Det}_f(\bar{\partial} + A) |_{L_{x,\theta}}$$

$\int d^4 x d^8 \theta \log \text{Det}_f(\bar{\partial} + A) |_{L_{x,\theta}}$ is Nair determinant
= **generating functional of maximally helicity-violating
amplitudes** for a certain choice of
the interpolating field A

Neitzke-Vafa (2004), M.B. (2008)

M.B. HADRON2015: Analogously, we conjecture that 4d complex Chern-Simons on Lagrangian submanifolds of non-commutative twistor space coupled to D-branes describes the string of large- N YM in a certain sector
Massive glueball Regge trajectories = infinite nonabelian noncommutative Hodge structure

$$S(B) = i \frac{k\sqrt{T}}{8\pi} \text{Tr}(BdB + \frac{2}{3}B^3) - \log \text{Det}\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} + B_\lambda\right) + h.c.$$

We conjecture that $\Gamma = \log \text{Det}\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda} + \tilde{B}_\lambda + \delta B_\lambda\right) + h.c$

is closely related to the generating functional of correlators of twist-2 operators with maximal spin projection for a certain choice of the interpolating field

δB_λ , with \tilde{B}_λ a certain solution of the EOM

Indeed, by setting $\lambda = \frac{P_z}{T}$ and $\bar{\lambda} = \frac{P_{\bar{z}}}{T}$
 from the EOM, after analytic continuation to Minkowskian
 space-time, we get:

$$\tilde{B}_{p^+} = -P_- + \frac{(\frac{1}{2}T)^{-1}P_u P_{\bar{u}} - P_- \frac{d}{dP_-} + Q}{\frac{P_+}{\frac{1}{2}T}}$$

and

$$\Gamma = \log \text{Det} \left(P_+ P_- - P_u P_{\bar{u}} - \frac{1}{2}T \left(P_+ \frac{d}{dP_+} - P_- \frac{d}{dP_-} + Q \right) + \delta B'_{p^+} \right) + \text{const}$$

with the mass spectrum determined by the eigenvalues of
 the spin operator $P_+ \frac{d}{dP_+} - P_- \frac{d}{dP_-}$
 and of Q , that is (semi-)integer valued, since it has a
 cohomological origin, arising from the infinite
 noncommutative Hodge structure underlying the TTST

Outlook: a problem for the future

Can we verify in principle whether the aforementioned glueball LPI effective action, for a clever choice of the interpolating fields, actually matches the generating functional of the correlators of twist-2 operators with maximal spin in the YM theory?

Yes, in principle !

Given the candidate S-matrix, since we know the spectrum from the S-matrix amplitudes,

by working out the LSZ formulae the other way around,

we can attach the propagators, reinsert the square root of the residues given by the asymptotic theorem, and analytically continue back to Euclidean space-time

in order to reconstruct the Euclidean asymptotic correlators

Remarkably, we have already realized one half of this program, since we have computed the UV asymptotics of the generating functional of leading-order nonplanar correlators of twist-2 operators with maximal-spin projection in $SU(N)$ YM theory

M.B., M. Papinutto, F. Scardino, n-point correlators of twist-2 operators in $SU(N)$ YM theory to the lowest order,
JHEP08(2021)142

and to appear

and we have found that it has, indeed, the structure of the log of a functional determinant ! :

$$\Gamma_{Torus\ asym}^E[j_{\mathbb{O}'E}, \lambda] = \log \det \left(\delta_{s_1 k_1, s_2 k_2} \delta^{(4)}(x - y) + \frac{1}{N} \frac{Z_{\mathbb{O}'s_2}^{univ}(\lambda)}{\lambda^{2+s_1-k_1+k_2}} \mathcal{D}_{E\ s_1 k_1, s_2 k_2}^{-1}(x - y) j_{\mathbb{O}'s_2 k_2}^E(y) \right)$$

with

$$\mathcal{D}_{E\ s_1 k_1, s_2 k_2}^{-1}(x - y) = - \frac{(-i)^{-k_1+k_2}}{8\pi^2} \frac{\Gamma(3)\Gamma(s_1 + 3)}{\Gamma(5)\Gamma(s_1 + 1)} \binom{s_1}{k_1} \binom{s_2}{k_2 + 2} \partial_z^{s_1-k_1+k_2} \frac{1}{(x - y)^2}$$

The other half of the program consists in finding a one-globally effective action in the class of string models considered in the present talk that is exactly asymptotic in the UV to the generating functional above

It would be a candidate for a partial string solution, limited to the sector above, of large-N YM, and, eventually, of QCD

Of course, knowing already the asymptotic answer is a powerful guide ...

Additional slides

The aforementioned models have generically a spectrum of exactly linear Regge trajectories in the planar limit that we may compare with lattice gauge theories in the IR or even with the real world, i.e. SU(3) QCD.

In the simplest version the spectrum is:

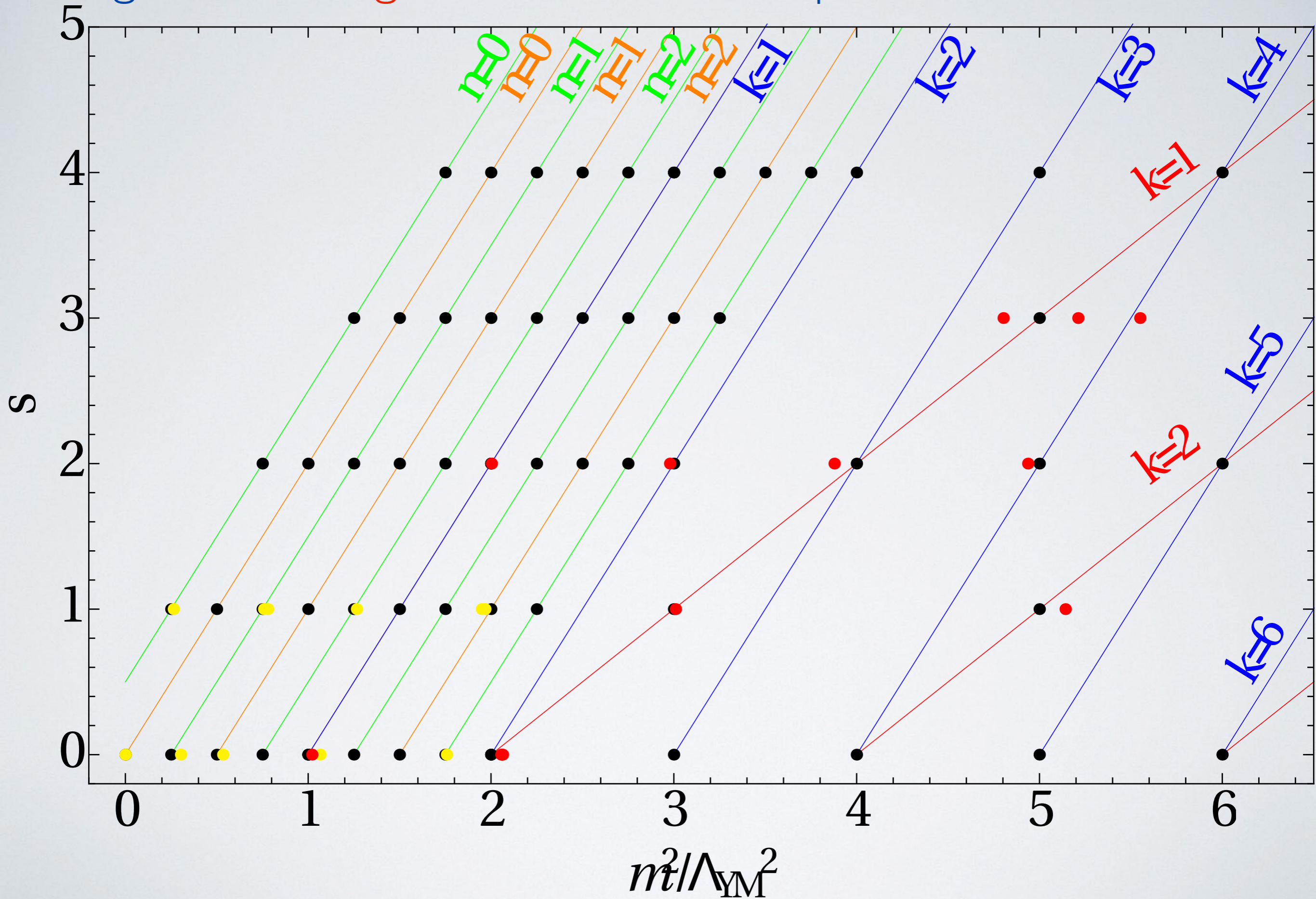
$$m_k^{(s)2} = \left(k + \frac{s}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s \text{ even}; k = 1, 2, \dots \text{ for glueballs}$$

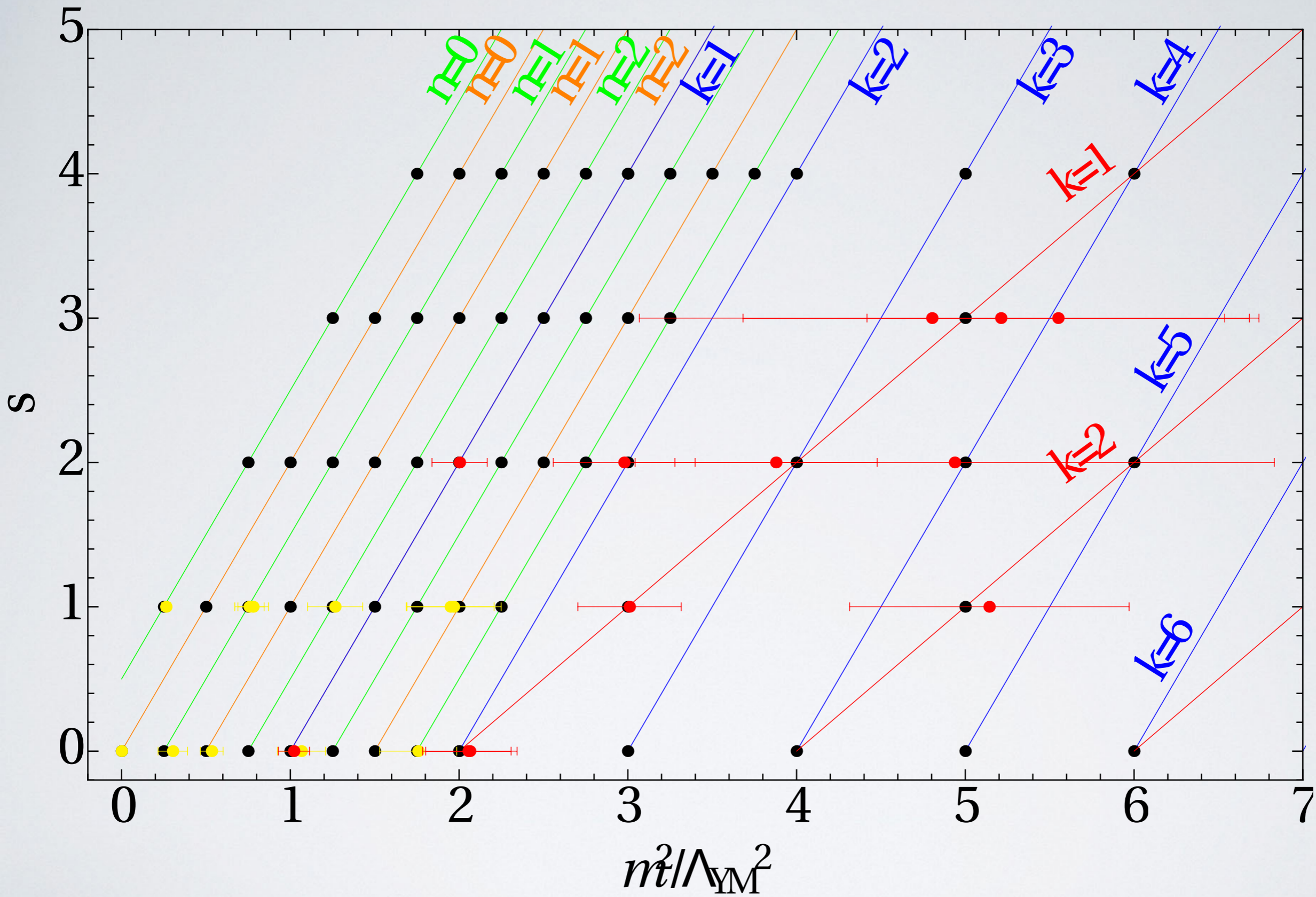
$$m_k^{(s)2} = 2\left(k + \frac{s}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s \text{ odd}; k = 1, 2, \dots \text{ for glueballs}$$

$$m_k^{(s)2} - m_{PGB}^2 = \frac{1}{2}(k + s) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s = 0, 1, \dots ; k = 0, 1, \dots \text{ for mesons}$$

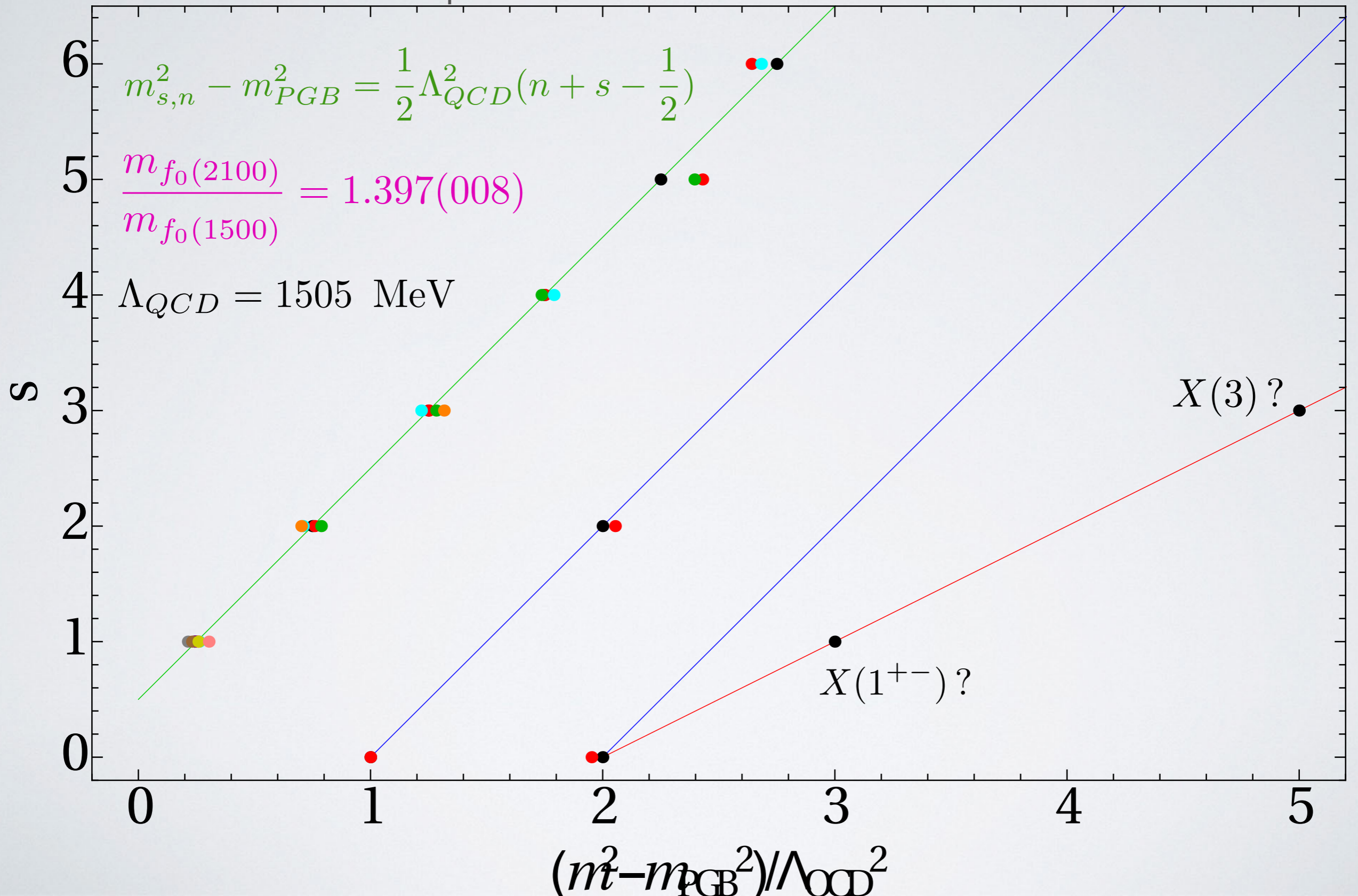
$$m_k^{(s)2} - m_{PGB}^2 = \frac{1}{2}\left(k + s - \frac{1}{2}\right) \Lambda_{QCD}^2 ; s = 1, \dots ; k = 0, 1, \dots \text{ for mesons}$$

Large-N lattice glueball and meson spectrum versus TTST



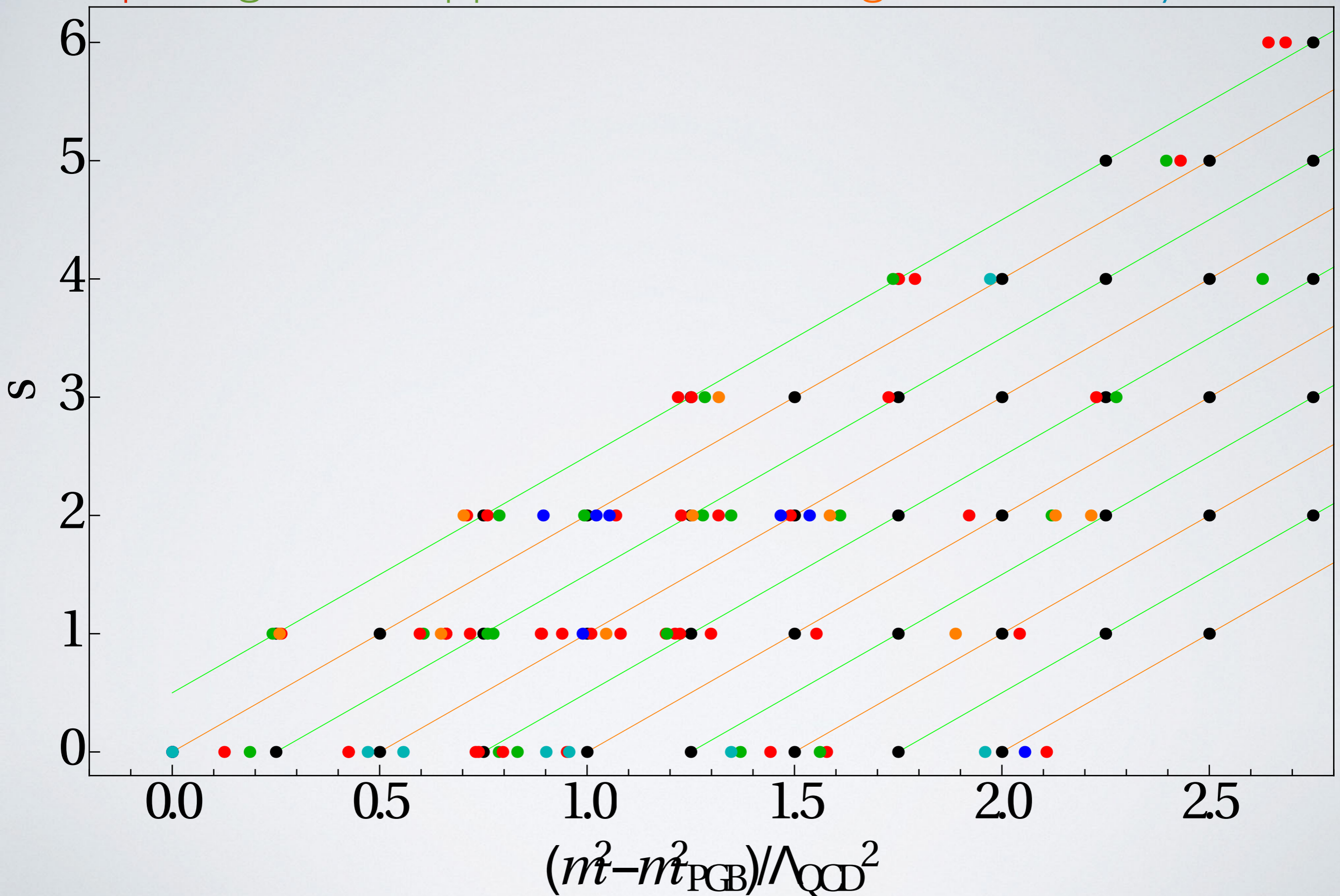


The actual glueball (purple and blue) and meson leading Regge trajectories for any flavor (other colors) implied by Particle Data Group and BES collaboration versus the TTST



PDG (2015) versus the TTST

red=pion, green=kappa, blue=eta, orange=eta+eta', cyan=eta'



The TTST is related to a TFT underlying pure large-N YM
 (we set $\sqrt{T} = 1$)

Twistor Wilson loops are first defined in $U(N)$ YM on non-commutative space-time, for large noncommutativity:

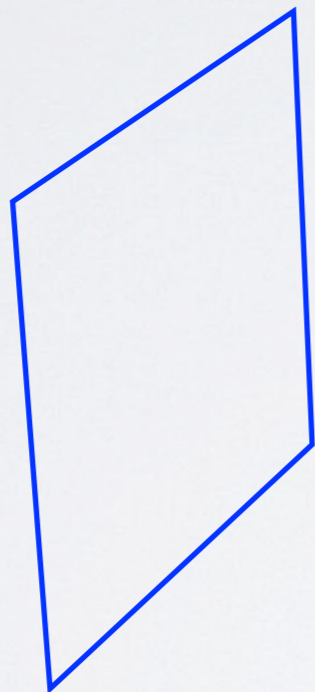
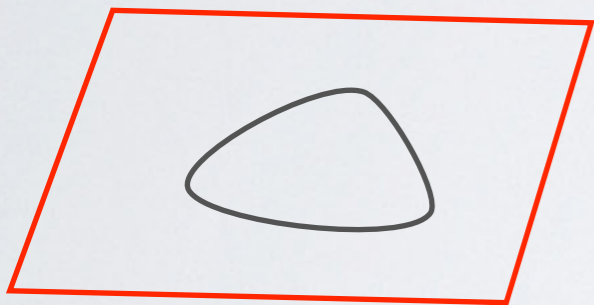
$$B = B_z dz + B_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z} + B_\lambda d\lambda$$

$$B_z = A_z + \lambda D_u$$

$$B_{\bar{z}} = A_{\bar{z}} + \lambda^{-1} D_{\bar{u}}$$

$$\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \Psi(\hat{B}_\lambda; L_{ww}) =$$

$$\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} P \exp i \int_{L_{ww}} (\hat{A}_z + \lambda \hat{D}_u) dz + (\hat{A}_{\bar{z}} + \lambda^{-1} \hat{D}_{\bar{u}}) d\bar{z}$$



$$z = x_0 + ix_1$$

$$\bar{z} = x_0 - ix_1$$

$$\hat{u} = \hat{x}_2 + i\hat{x}_3$$

$$\hat{\bar{u}} = \hat{x}_2 - i\hat{x}_3$$

$$\hat{D}_u = \hat{\partial}_u + i\hat{A}_u$$

$$[\hat{\partial}_u, \hat{\partial}_{\bar{u}}] = \theta^{-1} 1$$

$$[\hat{u}, \hat{\bar{u}}] = \theta 1$$

NC YM in the limit of large noncommutativity is equivalent to $SU(N)$ YM in large N limit on commutative space-time

V.e.v. of twistor Wilson loops is trivial

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \Psi(\hat{B}_\lambda; L_{ww}) \rangle &= \langle \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \Psi(\hat{B}_1; L_{ww}) \rangle \\ \lim_{\theta \rightarrow \infty} \langle \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \Psi(\hat{B}_\lambda; L_{ww}) \rangle &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hint: at lowest order in perturbation theory

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \left(\int_{L_{ww}} (\hat{A}_z + \lambda \hat{D}_u) dz + (\hat{A}_{\bar{z}} + \lambda^{-1} \hat{D}_{\bar{u}}) d\bar{z} \int_{L_{ww}} (\hat{A}_z + \lambda \hat{D}_u) dz + (\hat{A}_{\bar{z}} + \lambda^{-1} \hat{D}_{\bar{u}}) d\bar{z} \right) \rangle \\ &= 2 \int_{L_{ww}} dz \int_{L_{ww}} d\bar{z} (\langle \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}}(\hat{A}_z \hat{A}_{\bar{z}}) \rangle + i^2 \langle \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}}(\hat{A}_u \hat{A}_{\bar{u}}) \rangle) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

NC twistor loops are gauge equivalent for large theta to the following loops of the large-N commutative gauge theory

$$\langle \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{N}} \exp i \int_{L_{ww}} (A_z(z, \bar{z}, i\lambda z, i\lambda^{-1} \bar{z}) + i\lambda A_u(z, \bar{z}, i\lambda z, i\lambda^{-1} \bar{z})) dz + (A_z(z, \bar{z}, i\lambda z, i\lambda^{-1} \bar{z}) + i\lambda^{-1} A_u(z, \bar{z}, i\lambda z, i\lambda^{-1} \bar{z})) d\bar{z} \rangle$$

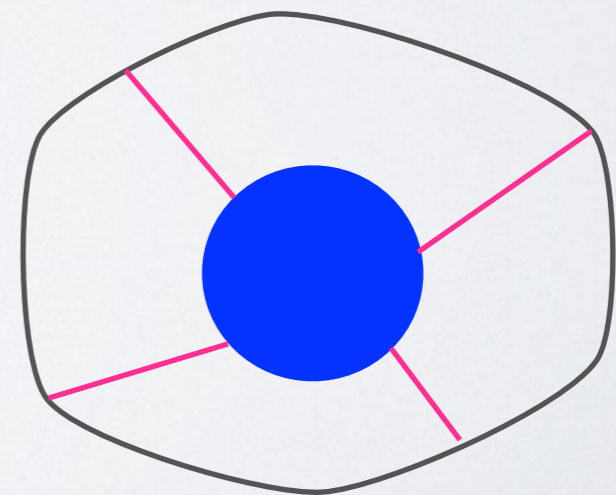
Thus they are supported on Lagrangian submanifolds of twistor space of complexification of Euclidean space-time

Triviality proof is based on vanishing of coefficients of propagators:

$$\dot{z}\dot{\bar{z}} + i^2 \lambda \dot{z} \lambda^{-1} \dot{\bar{z}} = 0$$

$$\dot{z}\bar{z} + i^2 \lambda \dot{z} \lambda^{-1} \dot{\bar{z}} = 0$$

$$z\dot{\bar{z}} + i^2 \lambda z \lambda^{-1} \dot{\bar{z}} = 0$$



Wilson loop in NCYM theory, translations can be reabsorbed by gauge transformations = modern Eguchi-Kawai reduction

$$\frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \text{tr}_N \text{Tr}_{\hat{N}} \Psi(\hat{A}; L_{ww}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \text{tr}_N \text{Tr}_{\hat{N}} P \exp \int_{L_{ww}} (\hat{\partial}_\alpha + i\hat{A}_\alpha) dx_\alpha$$

$$\hat{U}(x) = e^{x_\alpha \hat{\partial}_\alpha}$$

$$\hat{A}_\alpha^{\hat{U}} = \hat{U}(x) \hat{A}_\alpha \hat{U}(x)^{-1} + i\partial_\alpha \hat{U}(x) \hat{U}(x)^{-1}$$

$$\hat{\partial}_\alpha^{\hat{U}} = \hat{U}(x) \hat{\partial}_\alpha \hat{U}(x)^{-1}$$

$$\Psi(\hat{A}; L_{yz}) = P \exp i \int_{L_{yz}} (-i\hat{\partial}_\alpha + \hat{A}_\alpha) dx_\alpha$$

$$\hat{U}(y) \Psi(\hat{A}; L_{yz}) \hat{U}(z)^{-1}$$

$$= P \exp i \int_{L_{yz}} (-i\hat{\partial}_\alpha^U + \hat{A}_\alpha^U) dx_\alpha$$

$$= P \exp i \int_{L_{yz}} (\hat{U}(x) \hat{A}_\alpha \hat{U}(x)^{-1} - i\hat{U}(x) \hat{\partial}_\alpha \hat{U}(x)^{-1} + i\partial_\alpha \hat{U}(x) \hat{U}(x)^{-1}) dx_\alpha$$

$$= P \exp i \int_{L_{yz}} \hat{U}(x) \hat{A}_\alpha \hat{U}(x)^{-1} dx_\alpha$$

$$= P_\star \exp i \int_{L_{yz}} A_\alpha(x) dx_\alpha$$

NC EGUCHI-KAWAI REDUCTION

Eguchi-Kawai reduction (1982), Gonzalez Arroyo - Korthals Altes (1983), Minwalla-Ramsdonk-Seiberg (1999), Makeenko (2000), Szabo (2001), Douglas-Nekrasov (2001), Dhar-Kitazawa (2001), Alvarez-Gaume'-Barbon (2002)... **NCYM is equivalent to a matrix model with rescaled action, because translations can be absorbed into gauge transformations**

Operator/function correspondence:

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\hat{x}^\alpha, \hat{x}^\beta] &= i\theta^{\alpha\beta} 1 & e^{a\hat{\partial}} \hat{\Delta}(x) e^{-a\hat{\partial}} &= \hat{\Delta}(x+a) \\
 \hat{\Delta}(x) &= \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} e^{ik\hat{x}} e^{-ikx} & \hat{\partial}^i(\hat{x}^j) &= \delta^{ij} 1 \\
 \hat{f} &= \int d^d x f(x) \hat{\Delta}(x) & (2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta) \hat{T} r \hat{f} &= \int d^d x f(x) \\
 \hat{f} \hat{g} &= f \star g & (2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta) \hat{T} r (\hat{\Delta}(x) \hat{\Delta}(y)) &= \delta^d(x-y) \\
 (f \star g)(x) &= f(x) \exp\left(\frac{i}{2} \partial_x^\alpha \theta^{\alpha\beta} \partial_y^\beta\right) g(y) \Big|_{y=x} & \int d^d x (f \star g)(x) &= \int d^d x f(x) g(x) \\
 f_1(x_1) \star \dots \star f_n(x_n) &= \prod_{i < k} \exp\left(\frac{i}{2} \partial_{x_i}^\alpha \theta^{\alpha\beta} \partial_{x_k}^\beta\right) f_1(x_1) \dots f_n(x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$[\hat{\partial}_\alpha, \hat{\partial}_\beta] = i\theta_{\alpha\beta}^{-1} 1$$

$$e^{a\hat{\partial}} \hat{\Delta}(x) e^{-a\hat{\partial}} = \hat{\Delta}(x + a)$$

$$\hat{\partial}^i (\hat{x}^j) = \delta^{ij} \mathbf{1}$$

$$(2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta) \hat{T} r \hat{f} = \int d^d x f(x)$$

$$(2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta) \hat{T} r (\hat{\Delta}(x) \hat{\Delta}(y)) = \delta^d(x - y)$$

$$\int d^d x (f \star g)(x) = \int d^d x f(x) g(x)$$

$$\frac{N}{2g^2} \int d^d x \text{tr}_N (F_{\alpha\beta} \star F_{\alpha\beta})(x)$$

$$= \frac{N}{2g^2} (2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta) \text{tr}_N \hat{T} r (-i[\hat{\partial}_\alpha + i\hat{A}_\alpha, \hat{\partial}_\beta + i\hat{A}_\beta] + \theta_{\alpha\beta}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2$$

$$= \frac{N}{2g^2} \hat{N} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\Lambda}\right)^d \text{tr}_N \text{Tr}_{\hat{N}} (-i[\hat{\partial}_\alpha + i\hat{A}_\alpha, \hat{\partial}_\beta + i\hat{A}_\beta] + \theta_{\alpha\beta}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2$$

$$\hat{N} \left(\frac{2\pi}{\Lambda}\right)^d = (2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} P f(\theta)$$