

# Renormalon-chain contributions to two-point correlators of nonlocal quark currents and light-meson distribution amplitudes

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**05/24/2024**  
**QUARKS'24 (Pereslavl-Zalessky)**

Published in

Mikhailov, Volchanskiy,  
JHEP (2019) 202,  
JHEP (2020) 197,  
PRD **108** (2023) 096015

# Outline

Introduction: What are QCD composite vertices and renormalon chains?

The correlator of two composite operators

$(x, \underline{0})$  moment of the correlator and mesonic distribution amplitudes

Renormalon chains in light-meson distribution amplitudes (DA)

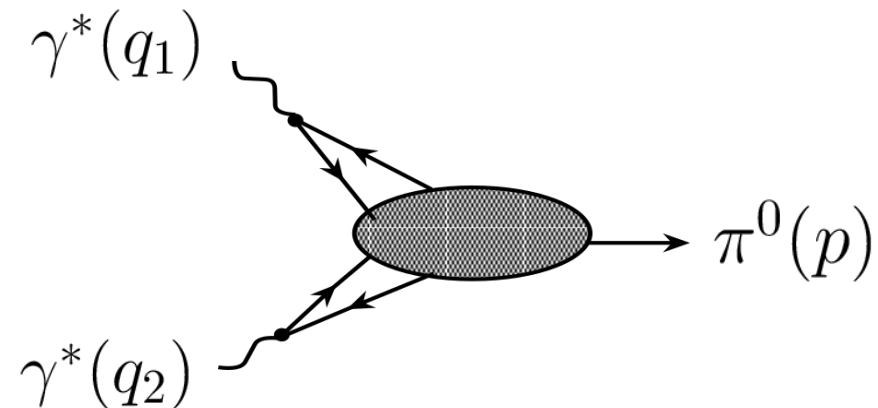
Summary

# Nonlocal composite vertices in QCD

Q: In what physical setting do the **composite vertices** emerge?

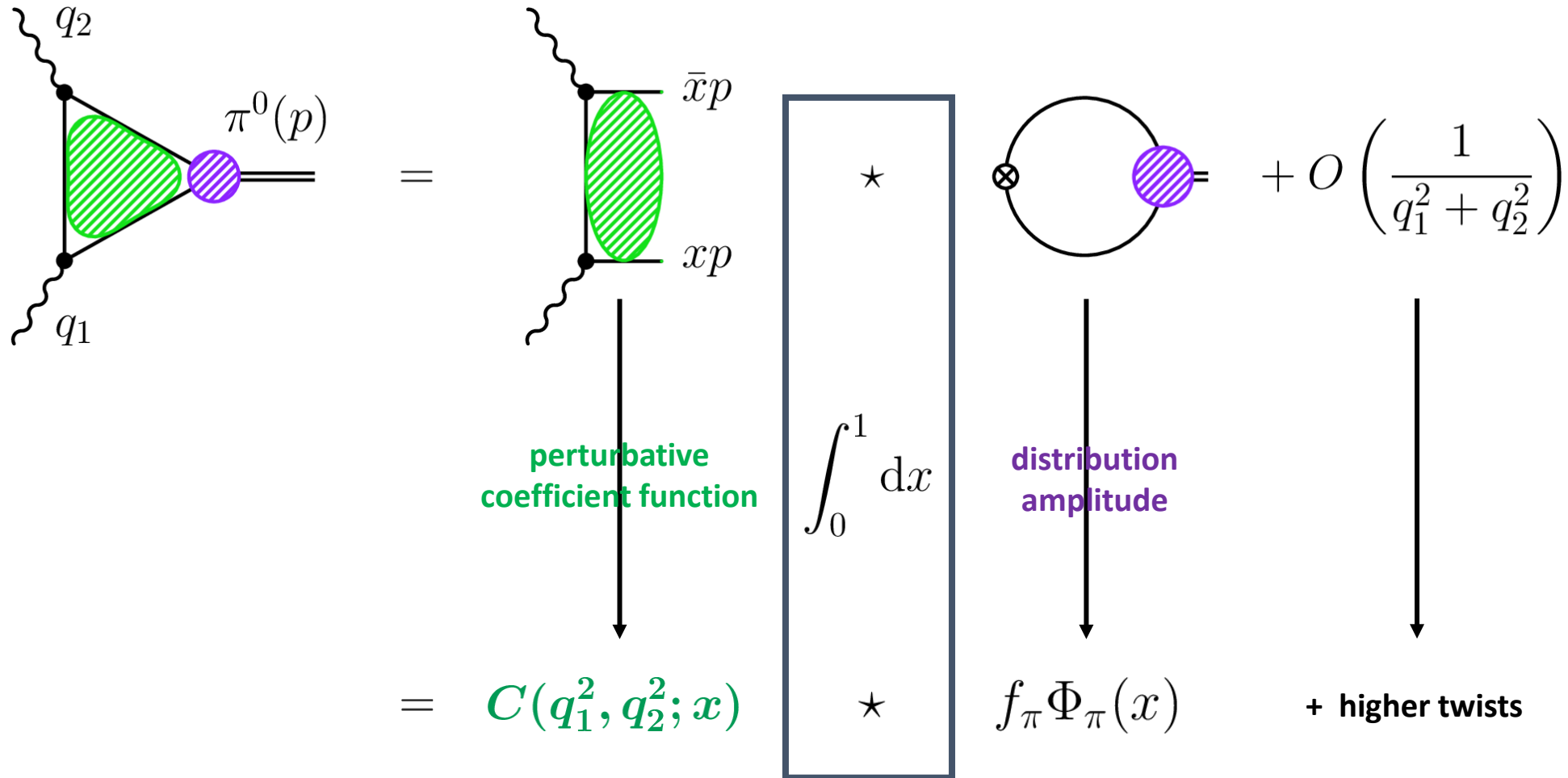
A: When the **QCD FACTORIZATION** of large and small scales is observed in a hard process

Example:  $\gamma^*(q_1)\gamma^*(q_2) \rightarrow \pi^0(p)$   
with  $-q_1^2, -q_2^2 \gg 1 \text{ GeV}^2$   
and  $p^2$  is at the hadron scale



$$\begin{aligned}\langle 0 | \mathbf{T} [V_\mu(q_1) V_\nu(q_2)] | \pi(p) \rangle &\equiv i \int d^4z e^{iq_1z} \langle 0 | \mathbf{T} [j_\mu(z) j_\nu(0)] | \pi(p) \rangle \\ &= e_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} q_1^\lambda q_2^\sigma \mathbf{F}^{\gamma^*\gamma^*\pi}(q_1^2, q_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

# Nonlocal composite vertices in QCD



# Nonlocal composite vertices in QCD

**Meson distribution amplitude (DA)**

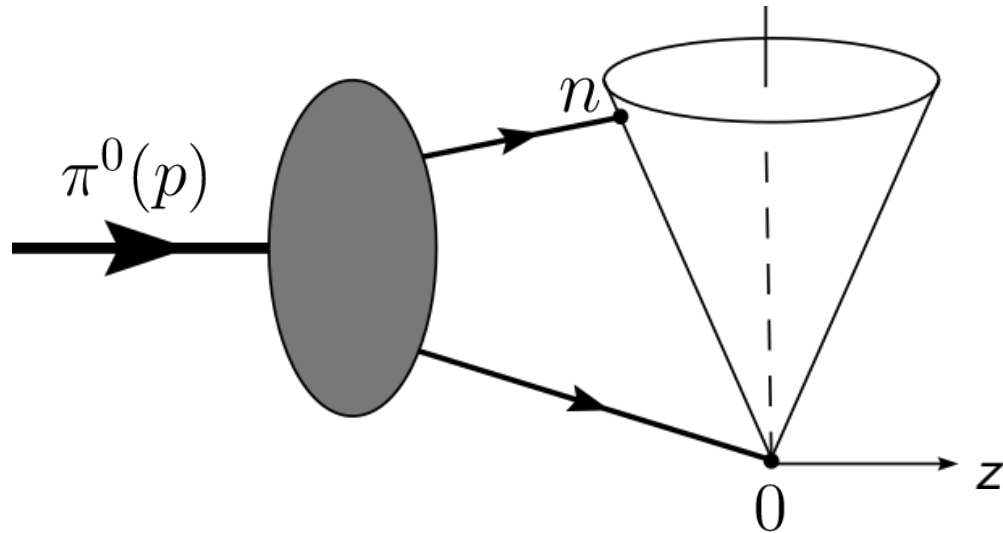
$$f_\pi \int_0^1 dx e^{i(np)x} \Phi_\pi(\mathbf{x}) = \langle 0 | \boxed{\bar{d}(n) \frac{\hat{\Gamma}}{(np)} [n, 0] u(0)} | \pi(p) \rangle$$

**Bilocal current  
(on the light cone)**

**Fourier transform**


$$\boxed{\hat{O}(x, 0)}$$

**Composite operator**



$$[n, 0] = \text{P exp} \left[ i g t_a \int_0^n dz^\mu A_\mu^a(\mathbf{z}) \right]$$

# Correlators of composite vertices in QCD


$$x \quad y = \Pi(x, y; p^2) = \int d^D z e^{ipz} \langle 0 | T [\hat{O}(x; 0) \hat{O}(y; z)] | 0 \rangle$$

The correlator of composite operators describes the perturbative content of DAs

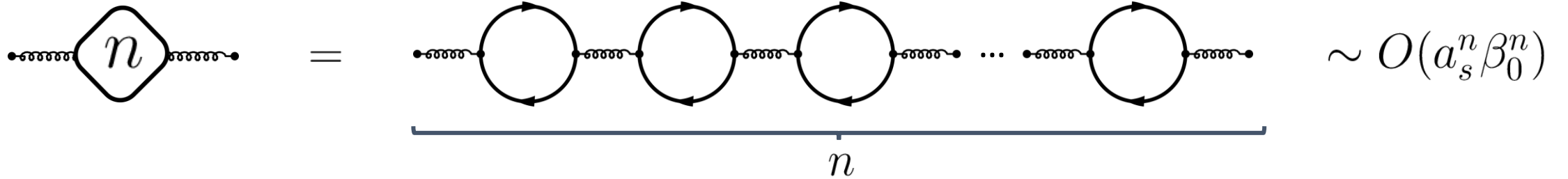
**QCD SR**

$$\Phi_{\text{meson}}(x) \sim \text{Borel transform}_{-p^2 \rightarrow M^2} \left[ \int_0^1 dy \Pi(x, y; p^2) \right]$$

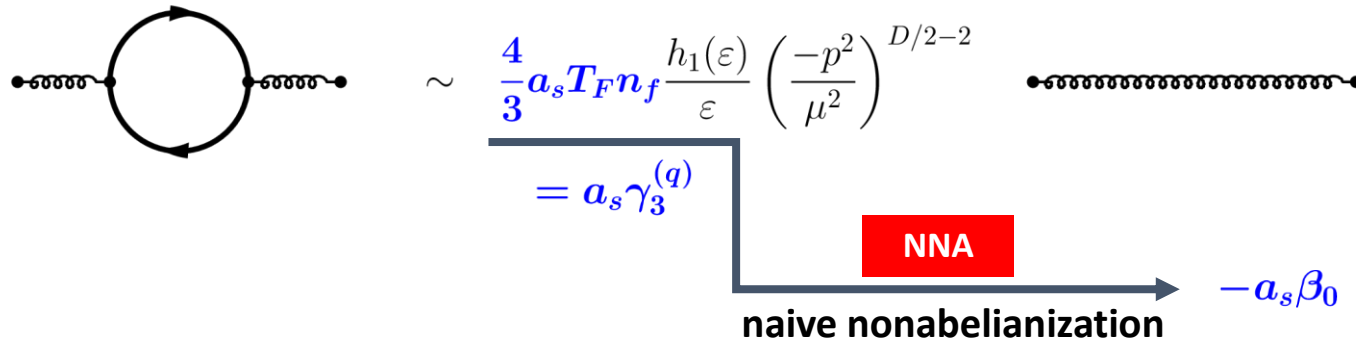
Feynman integrals in QCD after factorization:

$$f_1(x) \star \Pi(x, y; p^2) \star f_2(y) \quad f_1(x) \star f_2(x) = \int_0^1 dx f_1(x) f_2(x)$$

# Renormalon-chain correlators



$$\text{Diagram with } n \text{ in a diamond} = \underbrace{\text{Chain of } n \text{ loops}}_n \sim O(a_s^n \beta_0^n)$$



$$\text{Loop} \sim \frac{4}{3} a_s T_F n_f \frac{h_1(\epsilon)}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{-p^2}{\mu^2} \right)^{D/2-2}$$

$= a_s \gamma_3^{(q)}$

**NNA**  $\rightarrow -a_s \beta_0$

**naive nonabelianization**

$$n_f = 3, \quad \beta_0 = \frac{11}{3} C_A - \frac{4}{3} T_F n_f = 9$$

$$h_1(\epsilon) = \frac{(1-\epsilon)\Gamma(1+\epsilon)\Gamma^3(1-\epsilon)}{(1-2\epsilon/3)(1-2\epsilon)\Gamma(1-2\epsilon)}$$

$$h_1(0) = 1, \quad h_1'(0) = -C = -\frac{5}{3}$$

# The correlator $\Pi_n(x, y)$

$$-i \frac{a_s}{\pi^2} N_c C_F A^n \Pi_n(x, y; L) =$$

$$L = \ln \frac{-p^2}{\mu^2}$$

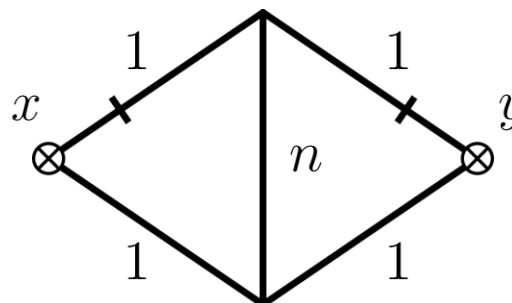
$$a_s = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi}$$

$$A = a_s \gamma_3^{(q)} = \frac{4}{3} a_s T_F n_f \quad \text{or} \quad -a_s \beta_0$$



# Two-loop master integral

$\tilde{n}$  is a lightlike vector,  $\tilde{n}^2 = 0, \tilde{n}p = 1$

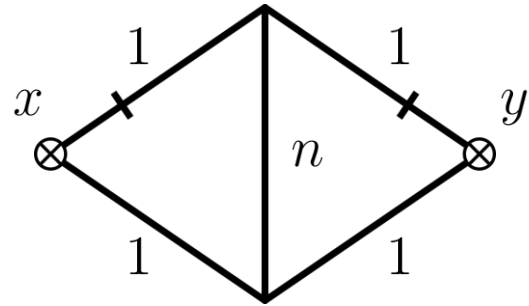


$$= \int \frac{d^D k_1 d^D k_2 \delta(x - \tilde{n}k_1) \delta(y - \tilde{n}k_2)}{k_1^2 k_2^2 (k_1 - p)^2 (k_2 - p)^2 [(k_1 - k_2)^2]^n}$$

$$= (-)^{n+1} \pi^D (-p^2)^{\omega/2} G(1, 1, 1, 1, n; x, y; D)$$

$-\omega/2 = 4 + n - D$

# Two-loop master integral



$$= (-)^{n+1} \pi^D (-p^2)^{\omega/2} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{S}} f(n; \mathbf{z}; D)}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^{-\omega/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \frac{\bar{x}y}{x\bar{y}} \text{ is the conformal ratio}$$

This special case of the kite integral and its Mellin moments can be expressed in terms of generalized hypergeometric functions not higher than  ${}_3f_2$ .

$$f(n; z; D) = \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} 2 + \ddot{n}, \dot{n}, 1 - \dot{n} \\ n, \lambda \end{matrix} \right] z^{\lambda-1} \bar{z}^{2-\lambda} \theta(\bar{z}) \times \left[ {}_3f_2 \left( \begin{matrix} 1, 1, \lambda \\ 1 - \dot{n}, \dot{n} + 2 \end{matrix} \middle| \bar{z} \right) - \bar{z}^{\dot{n}} {}_2f_1 \left( \begin{matrix} n, \dot{n} + 1 \\ 2(\dot{n} + 1) \end{matrix} \middle| \bar{z} \right) \right]$$

$$\text{where } \lambda = \frac{D}{2} - 1, \quad \dot{n} = n - \lambda, \quad \ddot{n} = n - 2\lambda$$

$$\Gamma_r \left[ \begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_p \\ b_1, \dots, b_q \end{matrix} \right] = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^p \Gamma(a_i + r)}{\prod_{i=1}^q \Gamma(b_i + r)}, \quad \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \right] = \Gamma_0 \left[ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \right]$$

$${}_p f_q \left( \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \middle| z \right) = \Gamma \left[ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \right] {}_p F_q \left( \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \middle| z \right) = \sum_{r \geq 0} \Gamma_r \left[ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{matrix} \right] \frac{z^r}{r!}$$

# $(x, \underline{0})$ moment of the correlator

$$\dot{\Pi}_n(x, \underline{0}; L) = \int_0^1 dy \dot{\Pi}_n(x, y; L) = \overset{\text{purely finite part}}{\dot{\Pi}'_n(x, \underline{0}; L)} + \overset{\text{from counterterms to the nonlocal vertices}}{\dot{\Pi}''_n(x, \underline{0}; L)}$$

**Exponential generating function:**

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{A^n}{n!} \dot{\Pi}'_n(x, \underline{0}; L) = \hat{S} \left\{ \frac{e^{A(L-5/3)} x^A}{A^2(1+A)(2+A)} \left[ -\bar{x}(A+4x) + 2x\bar{x} \frac{(\pi A)^2 \cot(\pi A)}{x^A \sin(\pi A)} + Ax(2\bar{x}+A) B_{\bar{x}}(A, 1-A) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \frac{2x^2 \bar{x} A^2}{(1+A)^2} {}_3F_2 \left( \begin{matrix} 1, 1, 1+A \\ 2+A, 2+A \end{matrix} \middle| x \right) \right] \right\}$$

**Ordinary generating function:**

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} A^n \dot{\Pi}''_n(x, \underline{0}; L) = -\frac{1}{2A} \int_0^A ds \int_0^1 dy \frac{y\bar{y}V(x, y; s)_{+(x)}}{sh_1(s)}$$

**Mellin moments**  $f(\underline{a}) = \int_0^1 dx x^a f(x)$

**generalized ERBL evolution kernel**

$$V(x, y; \varepsilon) = 2 \hat{S} \left[ \theta(y-x) \left( \frac{x}{y} \right)^{1-\varepsilon} \left( 1 - \varepsilon + \frac{1}{y-x} \right) \right]$$

# Generalized hypergeometric function

The epsilon-expansion of the hypergeometric function can be written in terms of HPLs as

$${}_pF_{p-1} \left( \begin{matrix} \mathbf{a}\varepsilon \\ 1 + \mathbf{b}\varepsilon \end{matrix} \middle| z \right) = 1 + \hat{\omega}_0^{p-1} \frac{\varepsilon^p e_p^a}{1 - \sum_{n=1}^p \varepsilon^n [(e_n^a - e_n^b) \hat{\omega}_1 - e_n^b \hat{\omega}_0] \hat{\omega}_0^{n-1}} \hat{\omega}_1 1$$

The elementary symmetric polynomials are defined as  $e_n^a = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_n \leq p} \prod_{k=1}^n a_{j_k}$

The harmonic polylogarithms (HPLs) are  $H_{\mathbf{k}}(z) = \hat{\omega}_0^{|k_1|-1} \hat{\omega}_{\pm 1} \cdots \hat{\omega}_0^{|k_n|-1} \hat{\omega}_{\pm 1} 1$ ,

where  $\hat{\omega}_0 = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{t}$  and  $\hat{\omega}_1 = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{\bar{t}} = \int_0^z \frac{dt}{1-t}$

Remiddi, Vermaseren, IJMPA 15 (2000) 725

# $(x, \underline{0})$ moment of the correlator

$$\dot{\Pi}_n(x, \underline{0}; L) = \frac{d}{dL} \Pi_n(x, \underline{0}; L) = (-1)^{n+1} n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-L)^k}{k!} \Pi_n^{k+1}(x, \underline{0})$$

$$\Pi_n^{n+1}(x, \underline{0}) = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{S}}(x \ln x) + \delta_{0,n} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{S}}(x \ln x) + \frac{1}{2} x \bar{x} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 5 - \ln^2 \frac{x}{\bar{x}} \right) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_n^n(x, \underline{0}) = \hat{\mathbf{S}} \left\{ x \bar{x} \left( -3 \mathbf{Li}_3 x + \ln x \mathbf{Li}_2 x + \frac{\pi^2}{6} \ln x \right) - \frac{x}{2} \left( \mathbf{Li}_2 x - \frac{\pi^2}{6} - \frac{1}{2} \ln^2 x + \frac{19}{6} \ln x \right) + \delta_{1,n} \frac{1}{24} x \ln x (7 + 3 \ln x) \right. \\ \left. + \delta_{1,n} \frac{1}{2} x \bar{x} \left[ \mathbf{Li}_3 x - \ln x \mathbf{Li}_2 x + \frac{1}{6} \ln^3 x - \frac{1}{2} \ln x \ln^2 \bar{x} - \frac{5}{6} \ln^2 x - \frac{5}{3} \ln x \ln \bar{x} - \frac{5\pi^2}{36} + \frac{7}{12} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

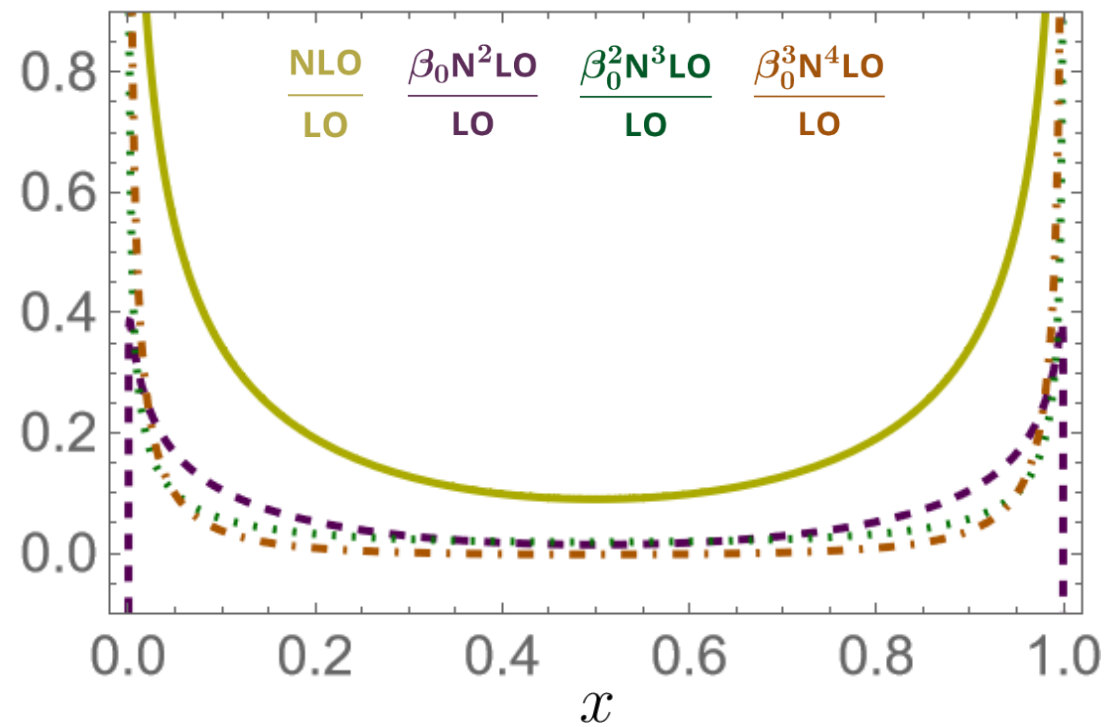
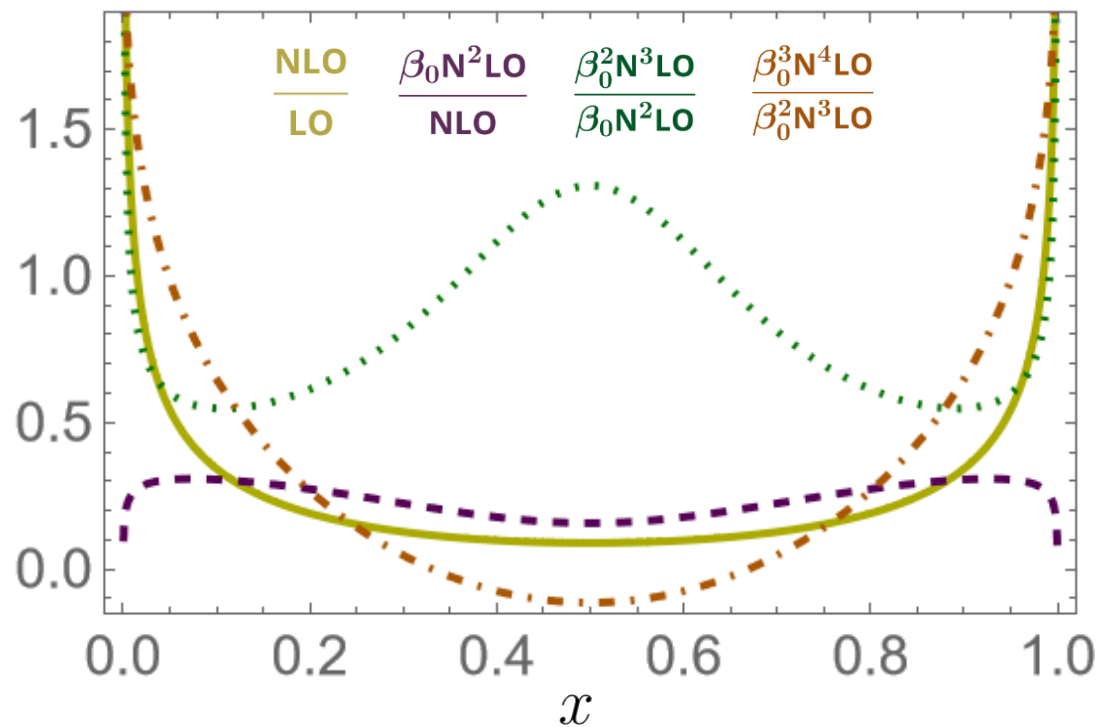
$$\Pi_n^{n-1}(x, \underline{0}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{Li}_4 x$$

$$\Pi_n^{n-2}(x, \underline{0}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{H}_{3,2}(x)$$

$$\Pi_n^{k+1}(x, \underline{0}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{S}} \mathbf{H}_\mu(x), \quad \mu = m_1, \dots, m_r : \sum_{i=1}^r m_i = n - k + 2$$

harmonic polylogarithm

# $(x, \underline{0})$ moment of the correlator



$$a_s = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2)}{4\pi} = \frac{0.494}{4\pi}$$

$$n_f = 3, \quad \beta_0 = \frac{11}{3}C_A - \frac{4}{3}T_F n_f = 9$$

# (-1, 0) moment of the correlator

$$\dot{\Pi}_n(\underline{-1}, \underline{0}; L) = \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} \dot{\Pi}_n(x, \underline{0}; L)$$

**Exponential generating function:**

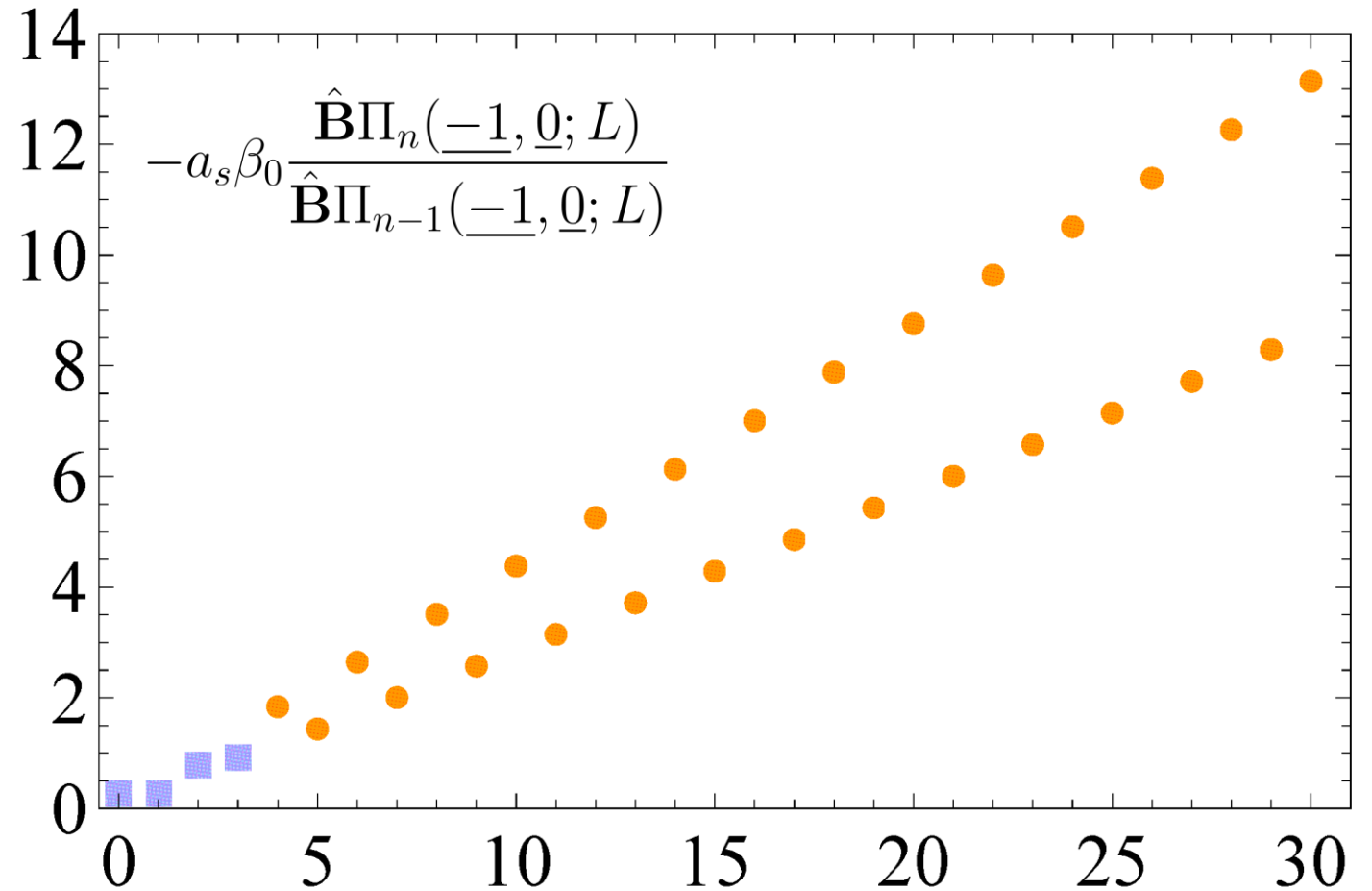
$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{A^n}{n!} \dot{\Pi}'_n(\underline{-1}, \underline{0}; L) = \frac{e^{A(L-5/3)}}{2(1+A)(2+A)} \left[ \psi_1\left(\frac{2-A}{2}\right) - \psi_1\left(\frac{1-A}{2}\right) \right]$$

**Ordinary generating function:**

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} A^n \dot{\Pi}''_n(\underline{-1}, \underline{0}; L) = -\frac{1}{A} \int_0^A \frac{da}{h_1(a)} \left\{ \frac{5+6a-5a^2}{(1-a^2)(4-a^2)} + \frac{(1+2a)[\gamma_{\text{EM}} + \psi(1-a)]}{a(1+a)(2+a)} \right\}$$

# (-1, 0) moment of the correlator

$\frac{\text{NLO}}{\text{LO}}$	26%
$\frac{\beta_0 \text{N}^2 \text{LO}}{\text{LO}}$	7%
$\frac{\beta_0^2 \text{N}^3 \text{LO}}{\text{LO}}$	5%
$\frac{\beta_0^3 \text{N}^4 \text{LO}}{\text{LO}}$	5%
$\frac{\beta_0^4 \text{N}^5 \text{LO}}{\text{LO}}$	9%



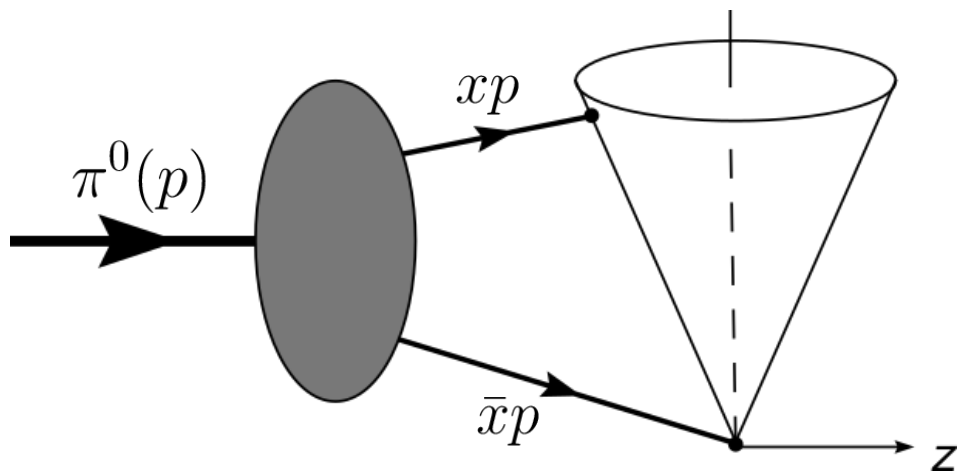


# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

QCD SR

$$\varphi_{\pi}(x) \sim \text{Borel transform}_{P^2 \rightarrow M^2} \left[ \Pi \left( x, \underline{0}; L = \ln \frac{-p^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right]$$

$\varphi_{\text{meson}}$ , meson =  $\pi$ ,  $\rho$  is a distribution amplitude (DA) of twist-2.



DA behavior at endpoints  $x = 0$  and  $1$  is crucially important for

the  $\pi^{\pm}$  electromagnetic FF

and

the  $\pi^0$  transition FF

$$\gamma^*(q)\pi^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm}$$

$$\gamma^*(q)\gamma \rightarrow \pi^0$$

# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

## QCD SR

$$f_{\text{mes}}^2 \varphi_{\text{mes}}(x) e^{-m_{\text{mes}}^2/M^2} = \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{PT}}(x) + \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{NP}}(x), \quad \text{mes} = \rho_L \text{ or } \pi$$

QCD sum rules for DA is an interplay between **perturbative**

$$\Phi^{\text{PT}}(x) \sim \hat{\mathbf{B}} \Pi^{\text{PT}}(x) = \hat{\mathbf{B}} \left[ \text{circle diagram} + \sum_{n=0}^3 \text{diamond diagram} \right]$$

and **nonperturbative** contributions

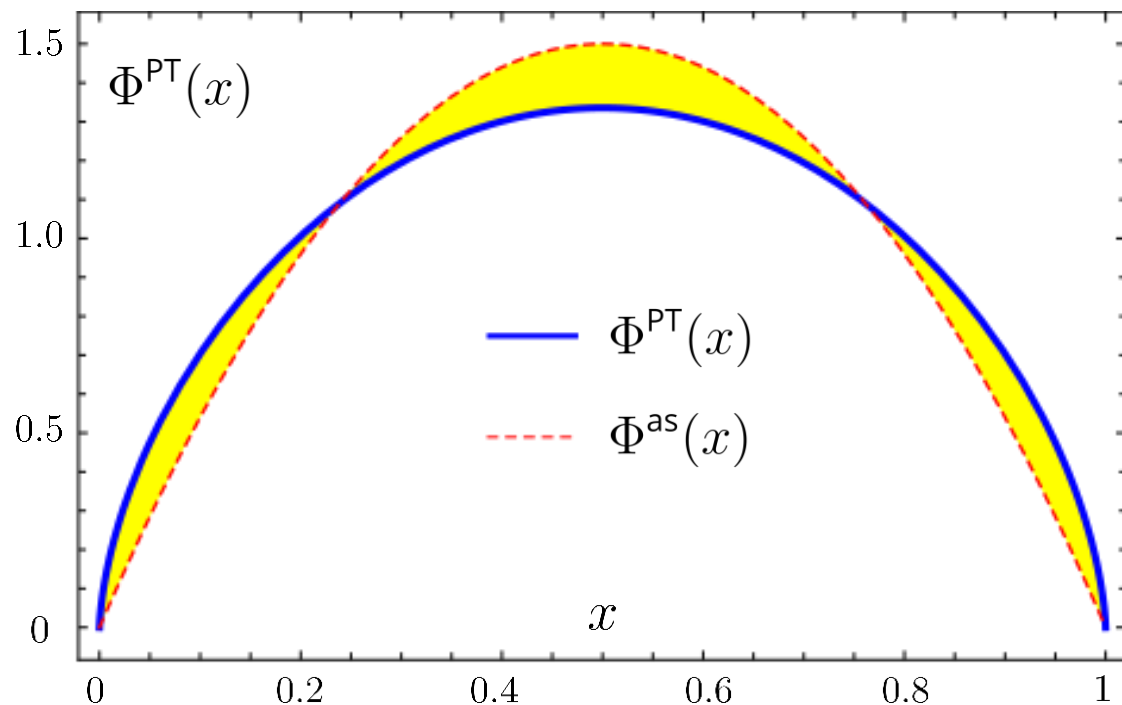
$$\Phi^{\text{NP}}(x) \sim \hat{\mathbf{B}} \Pi^{\text{NP}}(x) = \begin{matrix} \rho_L \\ \pm \\ \pi \end{matrix} \hat{\mathbf{B}} \sum_{n=0}^3 \text{diamond diagram} + \text{other terms (the same for both mesons)}$$

dominant at endpoints
a few %

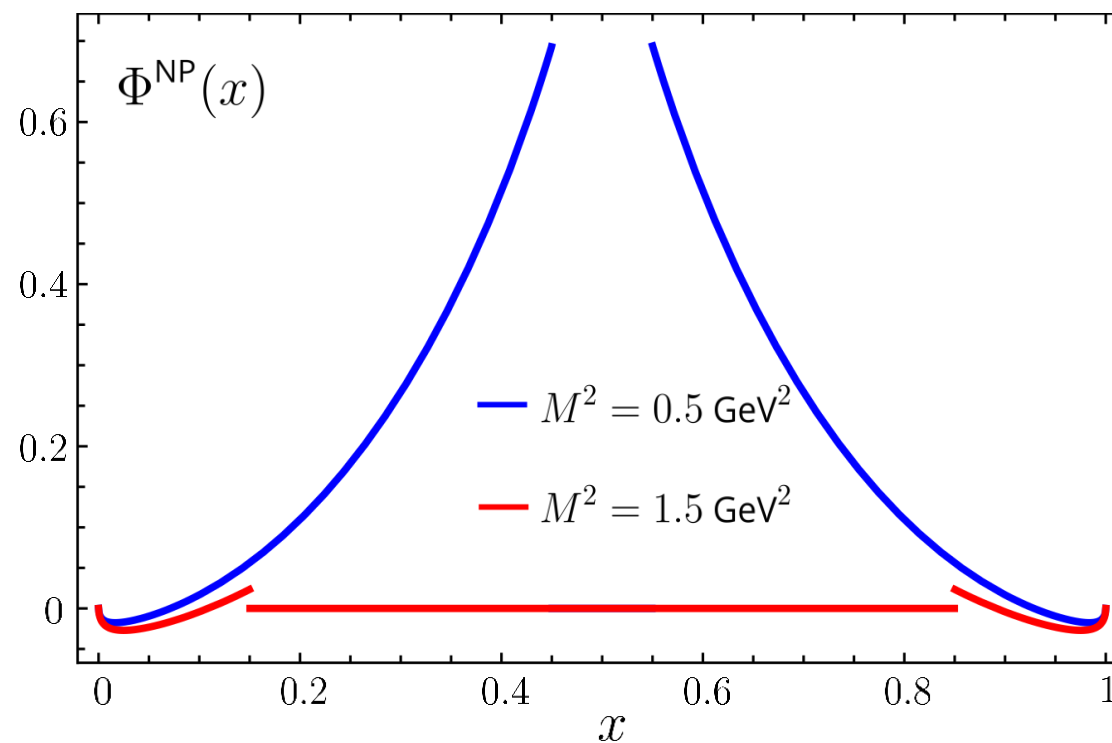
# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

QCD SR

$$f_{\text{mes}}^2 \varphi_{\text{mes}}(x) e^{-m_{\text{mes}}^2/M^2} = \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{PT}}(x) + \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{NP}}(x) \quad \text{mes} = \rho_L \text{ or } \pi$$



perturbative contributions

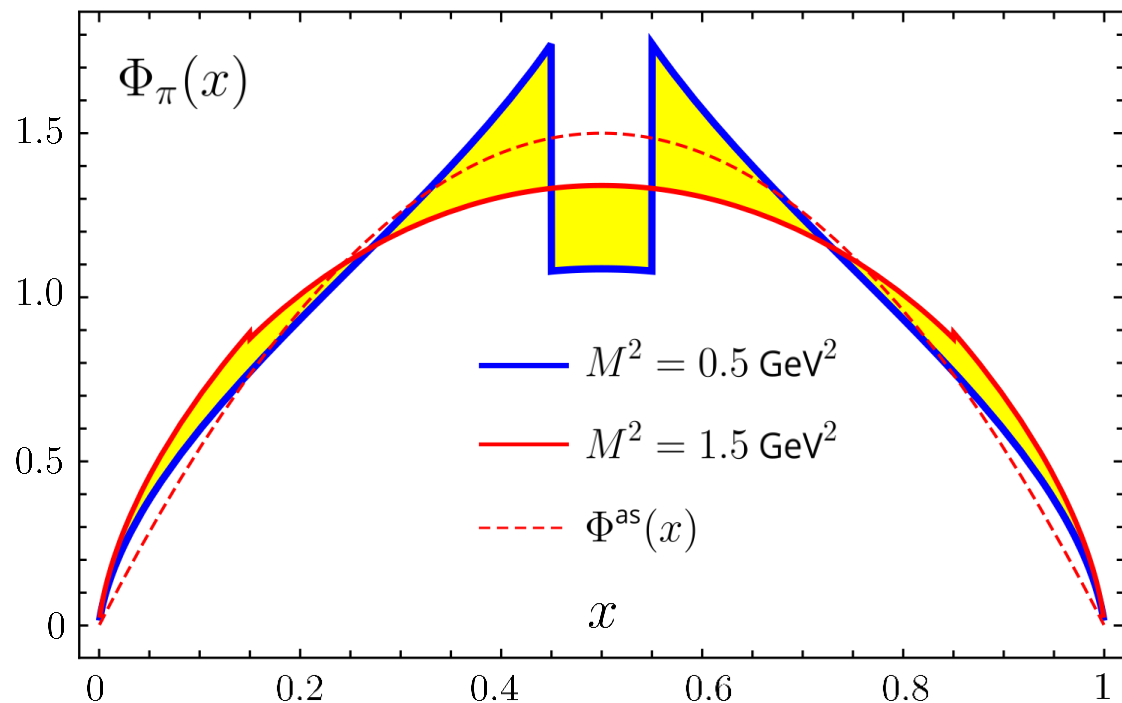


scalar nonlocal vacuum condensate

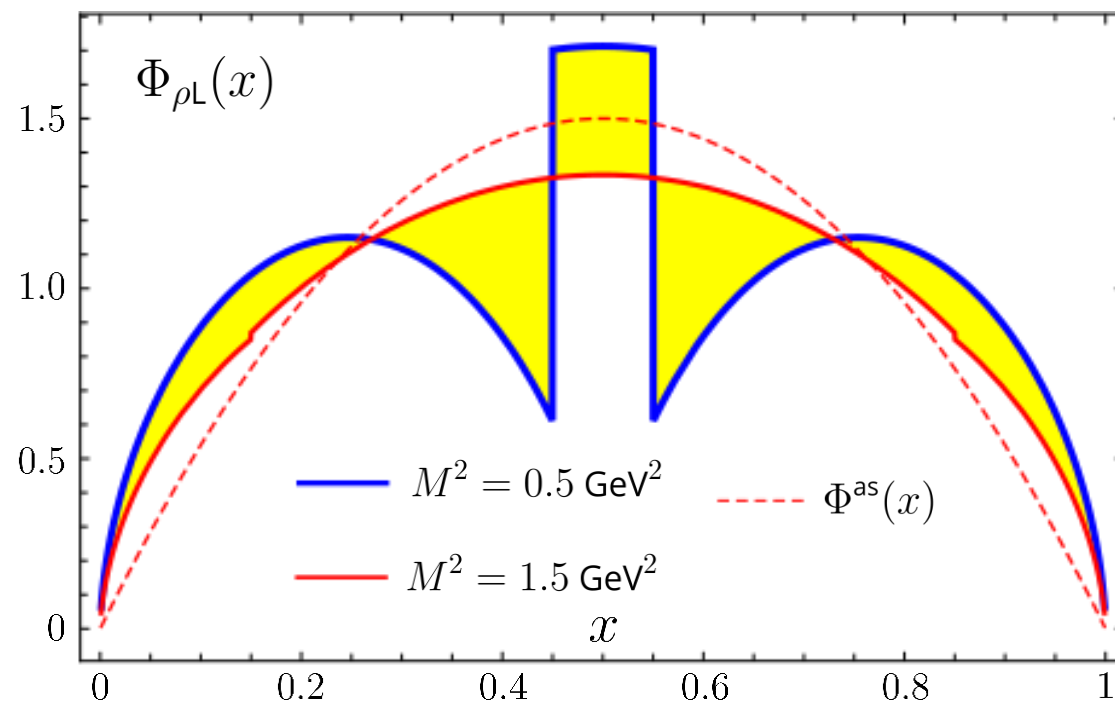
# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

QCD SR

The r.h.s. of SR  $\Phi_{\text{mes}}(x) = \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{PT}}(x) \pm \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{NP}}(x)$  mes =  $\rho_L$  or  $\pi$



pion



longitudinally polarized rho meson

# Renormalon chains in pion DA

The **perturbative** part of the QCD sum rules increases the steepness of DA at the endpoints up to order  $a_s(a_s\beta_0)^3$  (The asymptotic series should be truncated at this order.)

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} \Phi_\pi^{\text{PT}}(x) \approx 3.5 \quad \text{at tension with the experimental data available}$$

The **condensate** contributions compensate the perturbative effect, which eases the tension with the data:

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} [\Phi_\pi^{\text{PT}}(x) + \Phi_\pi^{\text{NP}}(x)] \approx 3.34 \quad \text{The slope is } 6.2 \pm 0.5 \text{ (asymptotic value } -6)$$

The **global fit to the experimental data** is  $\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} \Phi_\pi(x) \approx 3.25 \pm 0.20$  (CELLO, CLEO, BaBar, Belle in LCSR)

Higher-order renormalon corrections do not spoil the agreement with the data and prefer DA of a moderate width.

# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

## QCD SR

$$f_{\text{mes}}^2 \Phi_{\text{mes}}(x) e^{-m_{\text{mes}}^2/M^2} = \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{PT}}(x) + \Phi_{\text{mes}}^{\text{NP}}(x), \quad \text{mes} = \rho L \text{ or } \pi$$

QCD sum rules for DA is an interplay between **perturbative**

$$\Phi^{\text{PT}}(x) \sim \hat{\mathbf{B}} \Pi^{\text{PT}}(x) = \hat{\mathbf{B}} \left[ \text{circle diagram} + \sum_{n=0}^3 \text{diamond diagram} \right]$$

and **nonperturbative** contributions

$$\Phi^{\text{NP}}(x) \sim \hat{\mathbf{B}} \Pi^{\text{NP}}(x) = \underbrace{\begin{matrix} \rho L \\ \pm \\ \pi \end{matrix} \hat{\mathbf{B}} \sum_{n=0}^3 \text{diamond diagram}}_{\text{dominant at endpoints}} + \underbrace{\text{other terms (the same for both mesons)}}_{\text{a few \%}} \begin{matrix} \rho L \\ \pi \end{matrix}$$

# Renormalon chains in light-meson DAs

**QCD SR**

$$\varphi_{\rho L}(x) \approx \left[ \varphi_{\pi}(x) - \frac{2}{f_{\pi}^2} \Phi_{\text{SNLC}}(x, M) + \text{contributions of higher resonances} \right] \frac{f_{\pi}^2}{f_{\rho}^2} e^{m_{\rho}^2/M^2}$$

**(negligible)**

Mikhailov, Stefanis, PRD 104 (2021) 096013

**BEFORE**

**NLO QCD SR**

$$0.032(46) = a_2^{\rho L} < a_2^{\pi} = 0.149_{-0.043}^{+0.052}$$

Mikhailov, Stefanis, PRD 104 (2021) 096013

**lattice QCD**

$$0.132(27) = a_2^{\rho L} > a_2^{\pi} = 0.116(20)$$

Braun et al., JHEP (2017) 082

Bali et al., JHEP (2020) 037

**AFTER**

**large- $\beta_0$  N<sup>4</sup>LO QCD SR**

$$a_2^{\rho L} > a_2^{\pi}$$

Mikhailov, Volchanskiy, PRD 108 (2023) 096015

$$\lambda_q^2 \approx 0.45 \text{ GeV}^2 \quad \mu^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$$

# Summary

We have evaluated correlators  $\Pi(x, y; L)$  of two vector composite quark currents of order  $\beta_0^n N^{n+1}$  LO in QCD,  $n \geq 0$ . The double-zeroth moment as well as some other fixed-order special cases agree with previous calculations in the literature. **Generating functions** for the correlator have been constructed. The correlator  $\Pi_n(x, y)$  and  $\Pi_n(x, \underline{0})$  at any fixed order  $a_s^{n+1} \beta_0^n$  can be expressed in terms of **harmonic polylogarithms** of weight  $n + 2$ .

We have estimated quantitative significance of the lower-order  $a_s^{n+1} \beta_0^n$  contributions to the QCD sum rules for the light-meson distribution amplitudes (pion and longitudinal rho).

Higher-order renormalon corrections **do not spoil the agreement** with the data and prefer pion DA of a moderate width.

Higher-order renormalon corrections **significantly change** the endpoint behavior of longitudinal rho DA reconciling QCD SR with the IQCD results for the hierarchy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Gegenbauer moment  $a_2^{\rho^L} > a_2^{\pi} > 0$



# Borel transform

**QCD SR**

$$\Phi_{\text{meson}}(x) \sim \text{Borel transform}_{-p^2 \rightarrow M^2} \left[ \Pi \left( x, \underline{0}; L = \ln \frac{-p^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\hat{\text{B}} [f(t)] (\mu) = \lim_{\substack{t=n\mu \\ n \rightarrow \infty}} \frac{(-t)^n}{\Gamma(n)} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} f(t),$$

$$\hat{\text{B}} [t^{-a}] (\mu) = \frac{\mu^{-a}}{\Gamma(a)}, \quad a > 0, \quad \hat{\text{B}} [e^{-at}] (\mu) = \delta(1 - \mu a), \quad a > 0.$$

$$\hat{\text{B}} [\ln^m(t)] (\mu) = m(-1)^m \left( \frac{d}{da} \right)^{m-1} \frac{e^{-al}}{\Gamma(1+a)} \Big|_{a=0} = -m! \sum_{s=0}^{m-1} \frac{1}{s!} [\ln(\mu e^{\gamma_E})]^s \sum_{\forall \Pi} \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{(-\zeta_{p_i})^{r_i}}{p_i^{r_i} r_i!}$$

Here,  $\Pi = (p_1^{r_1}, p_2^{r_2}, \dots, p_N^{r_N})$  is a partition of  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

i.e.  $n = \sum_{i=1}^N p_i r_i$ :  $1 < p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_N$  with  $p_i, r_i \in \mathbb{N}$ .