

For instance, imagine the creation of a $q\bar{q}$ pair with invariant mass $Q \simeq L^{-1} \gg L_c^{-1}$ by a time-like virtual photon from e^+e^- annihilation. The insertion of such a localized excitation (“hot spot”) modifies the vacuum and we assume that the corresponding change in the action integral $S \equiv \int d^4r \mathcal{L}[\chi, U, U^\dagger]$ in (6) can be evaluated sufficiently accurately to second order as

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S &= \frac{1}{2} \int d^4r \left\{ \left\langle 0 \left| \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{L}[\chi, U, U^\dagger]}{\delta F_{\mu\nu,a} \delta F_b^{\mu\nu}} \right| 0 \right\rangle F_{\mu\nu,a} F_b^{\mu\nu} \delta_{ab} + \left\langle 0 \left| \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{L}[\chi, U, U^\dagger]}{\delta \psi_i \delta \bar{\psi}_j} \right| 0 \right\rangle \psi_i \bar{\psi}_j \delta_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \int d^4r \left\{ -\frac{\kappa_L(\chi)}{4} F_{\mu\nu,a} F_a^{\mu\nu} - \mu_L(\chi) \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \right\} , \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where κ_L and μ_L refer to the appropriate vev ’s. Note that this change δS in the action preserves local gauge invariance. We also remark that this ansatz implicitly assumes that the elementary gluon ($F_{\mu\nu}$) and quark fields ($\psi, \bar{\psi}$) couple directly only to the scalar field χ , but not to the pseudoscalar field U . The dynamics of U is solely driven by its coupling to χ through the potential $V(\chi, U)$, eq. (11).

On the other hand, we know that the short-range properties at $L \ll L_c$ of our $q\bar{q}$ excitation are not affected by the long-range correlations. Thus, here we can use (5) with perturbative methods, since the quanta are asymptotically free and $\langle \chi \rangle = 0 = \langle U + U^\dagger \rangle$. Thus we can combine (5) and the effect of (13) by adding to $\mathcal{L}[A^\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}]$ and $\mathcal{L}[\chi, U, U^\dagger]$ the following contribution that carries an explicit scale- (L -)dependence:

$$\mathcal{L}_L[A^\mu, \psi, \bar{\psi}, \chi] = \int d^4r \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - \kappa_L(\chi) \right) F_{\mu\nu,a} F_a^{\mu\nu} - \mu_L(\chi) \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i - \left(1 - \kappa_L(\chi) \right) \xi_a(A) \right\} , \quad (14)$$

where the third term in the integrand is necessary to maintain local gauge invariance. It remains to specify the form of the functions $\kappa_L(\chi)$ and $\mu_L(\chi)$. Since κ_L has to satisfy the boundary conditions [15]

$$\kappa_L(0) = 1 , \quad \kappa_L(\chi_0) = 0 , \quad (15)$$

and is constrained to be a Lorentz-invariant color-singlet function of scale dimension zero, a minimal possibility is

$$\kappa_L(\chi) = 1 - \left(\frac{L\chi}{L_0\chi_0} \right)^2 . \quad (16)$$

It turns out that the particular form of $\kappa_L(\chi)$ is not crucial as long as the properties (15) are satisfied [17], because parton-hadron conversion is quite rapid, as we see later, being related