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Z(N) dependence of the pure Yang-Mills gluon propagator in the Landau gauge near T_c

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The $Z(N)$ dependence of the pure Yang-Mills gluon propagator, in the Landau gauge, is investigated at finite temperature for $N=3$. Special attention will be given to the behaviour near the critical temperature T_c . Our simulations show a complex pattern as expected in a first order phase transition. Furthermore, we identify an order parameter directly associated with the breaking of the $SU(3)$ center symmetry.

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