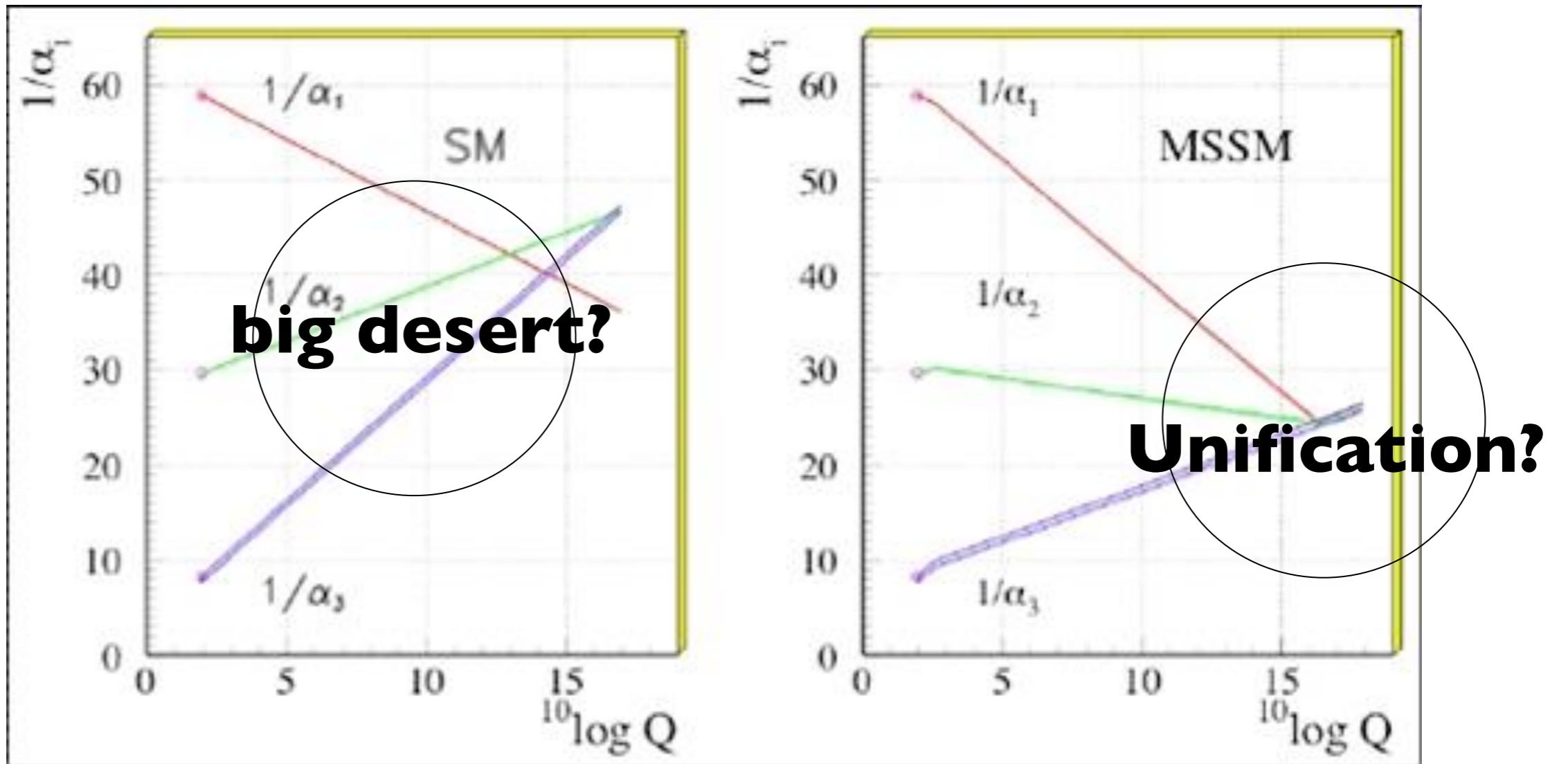


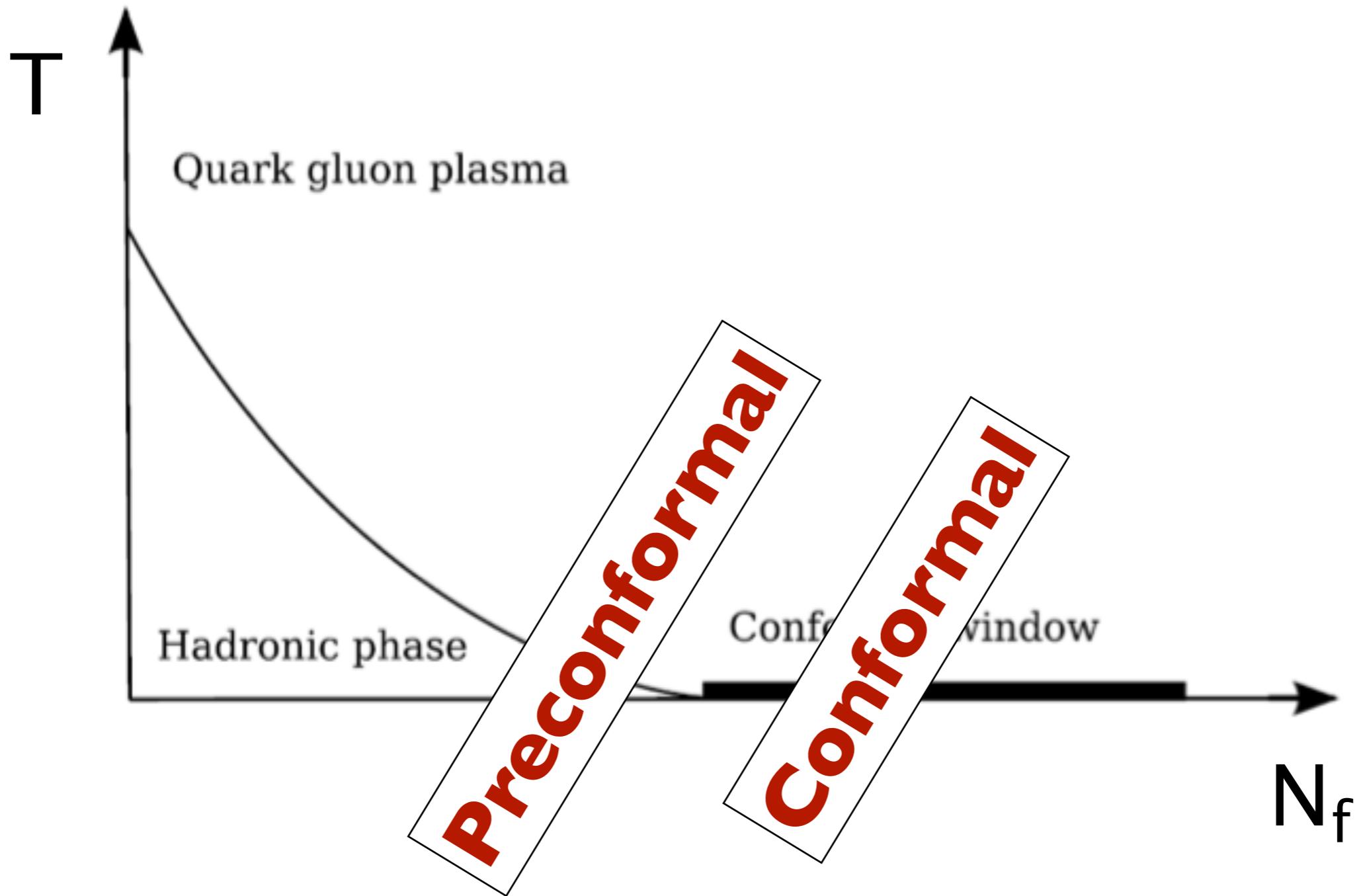
# **Out In & of the Conformal Window**

Based on work with: A. Deuzeman, M.P. Lombardo, K. Miura,  
T. Nunes da Silva (lattice) A. Barranco, J. Russo (AdS/CFT)



Does conformal symmetry play a role well above the EWSB scale?

# The Conformal Window



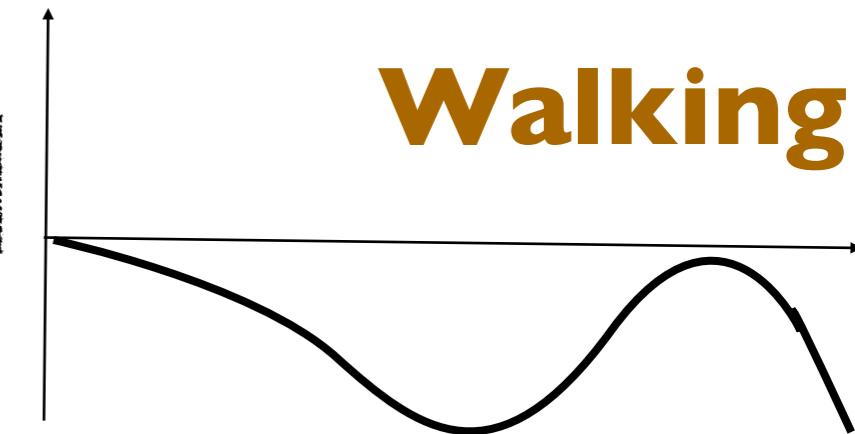
- ✓ quark gluon plasma (QGP): high  $T$  - low  $N_f$
- ✓ preconformal regime ( $T=0$ , low  $T$  - high  $N_f$ )
- ✓ conformal regime ( $T=0$ )

$\beta(g)$ 

$$N_f < N_f^c$$



$$N_f \leq N_f^c$$

**Walking ?**

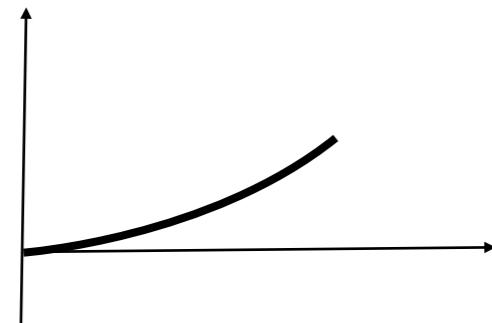
$$N_f^{AF} > N_f > N_f^c$$

**IRFP** $g^*$ 

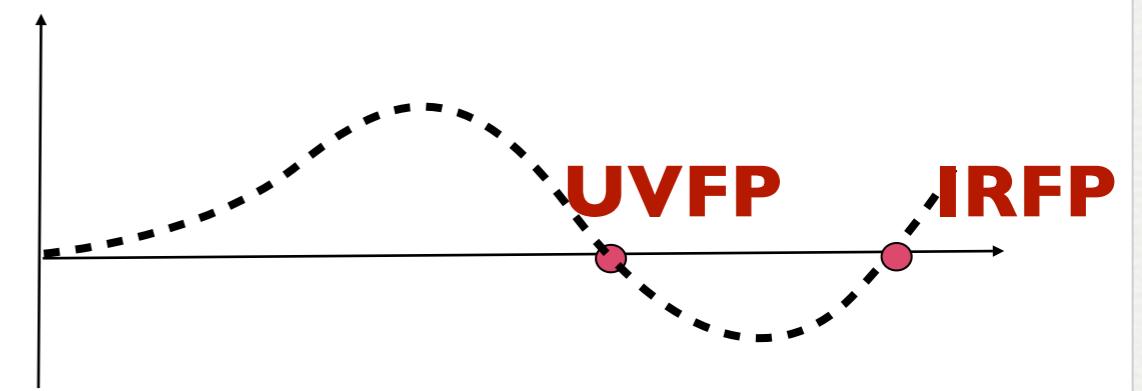
or

**IRFP****UVFP** $g^*$  $g^{**}$ 

$$N_f > N_f^{AF}$$



or

**UVFP****IRFP**

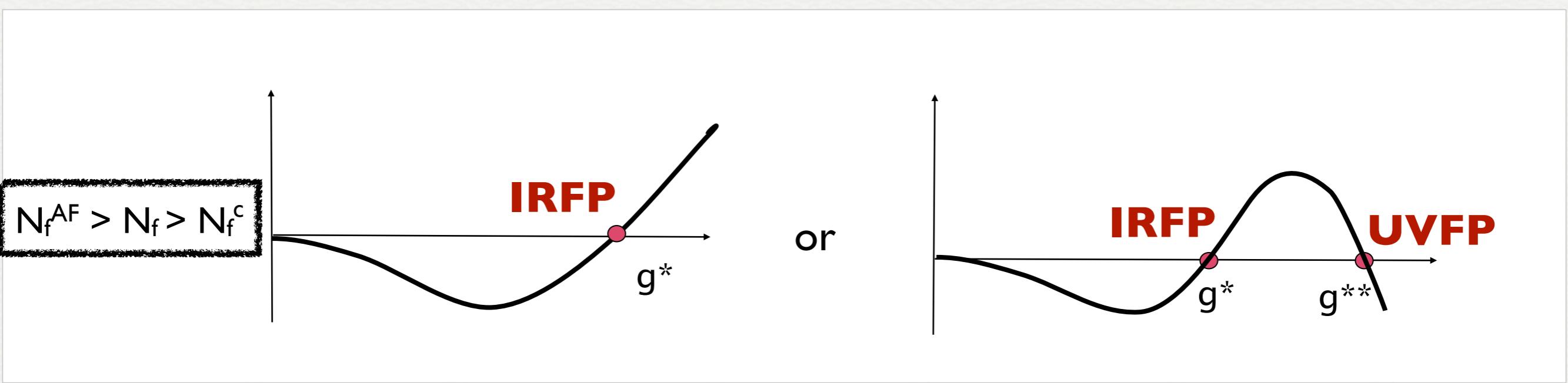
$\beta(g)$ 

Brodsky Schrock '08

$$N_f < N_f^c$$

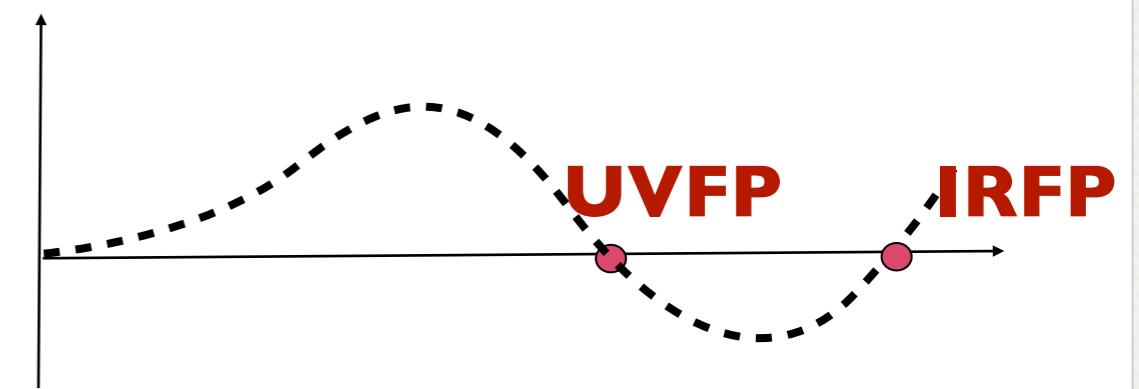
$g^*$   
 $\mu < \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

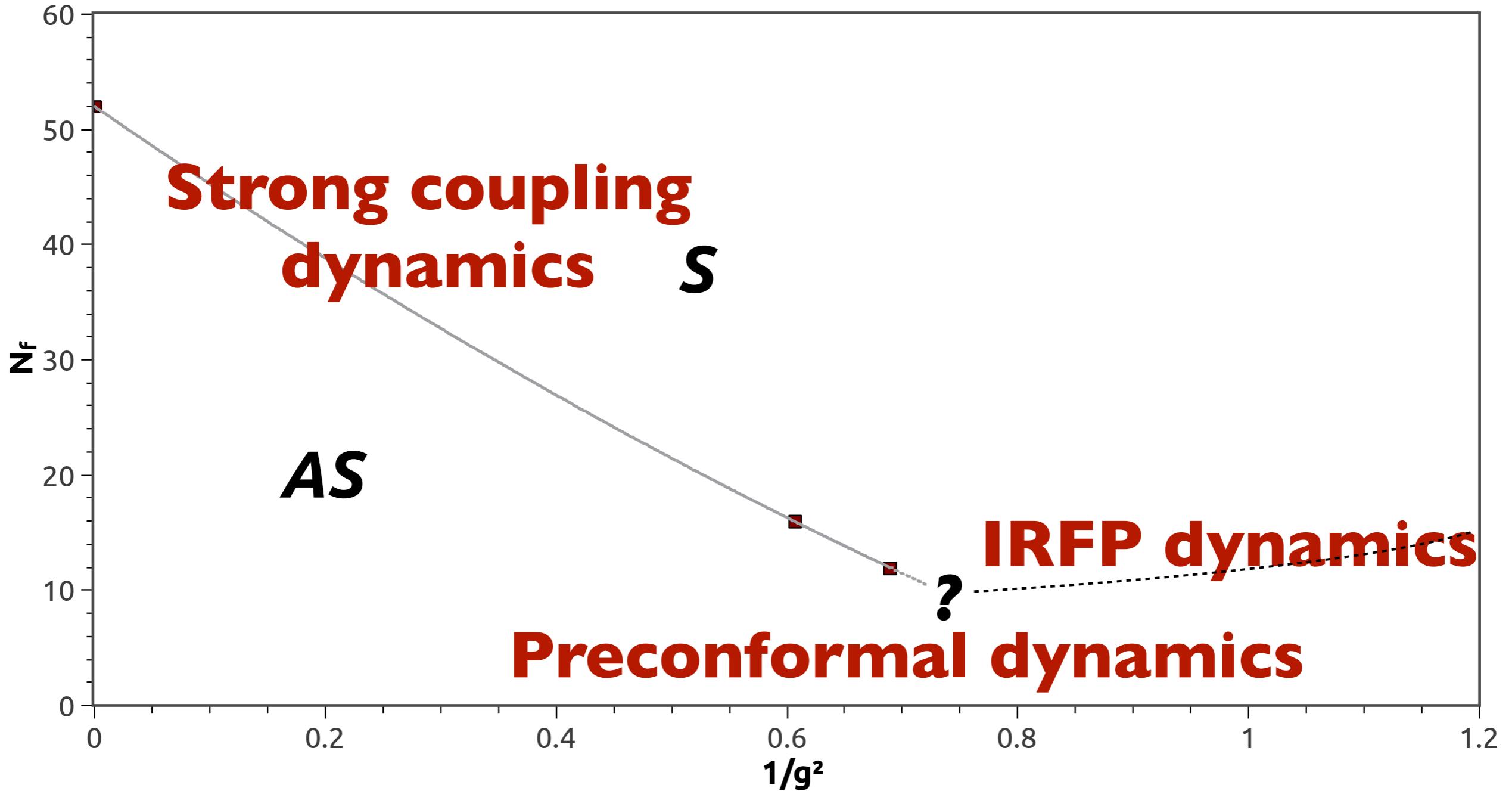
$$N_f \lesssim N_f^c$$

**Walking ?**

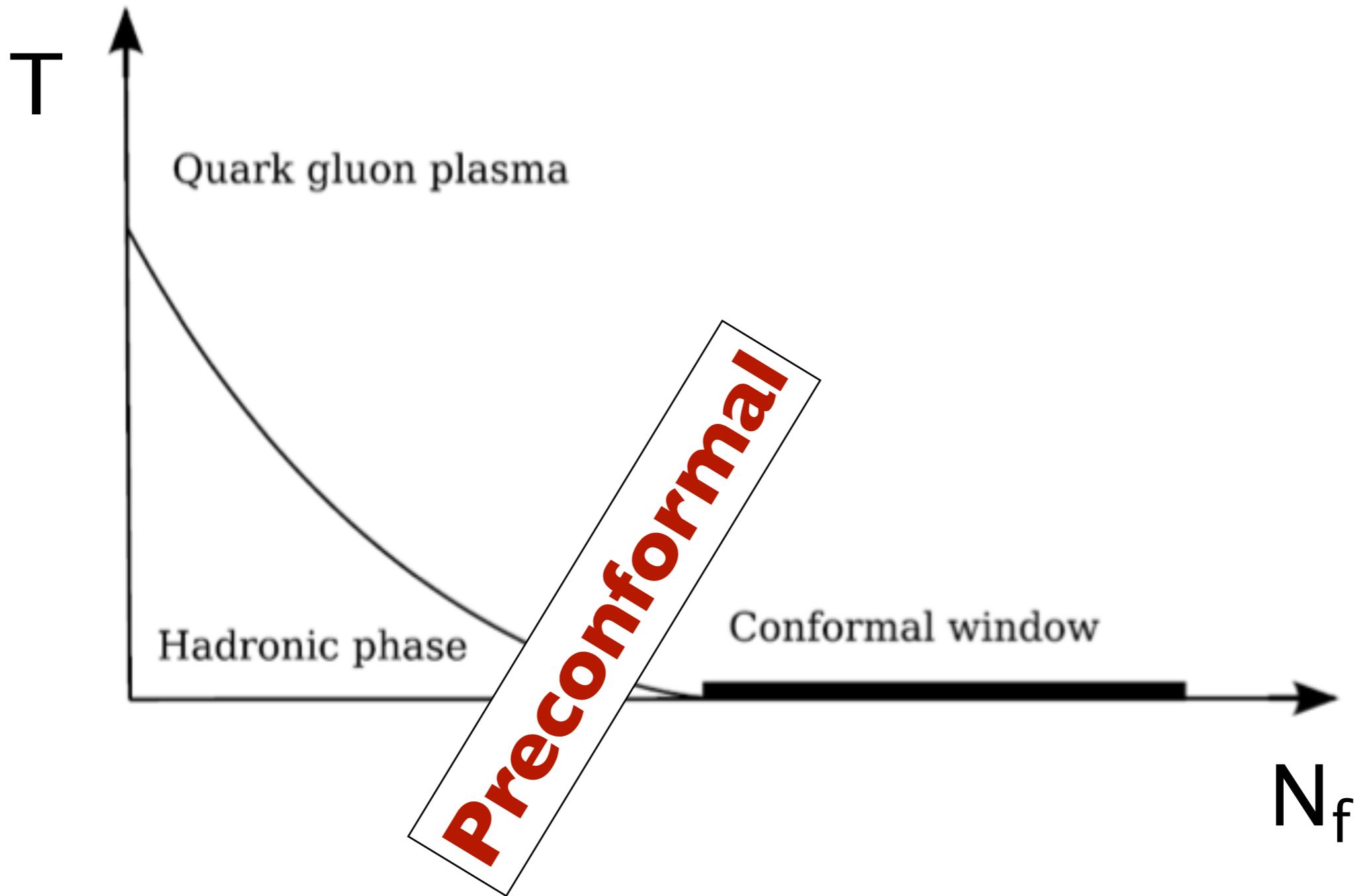
$$N_f > N_f^{\text{AF}}$$

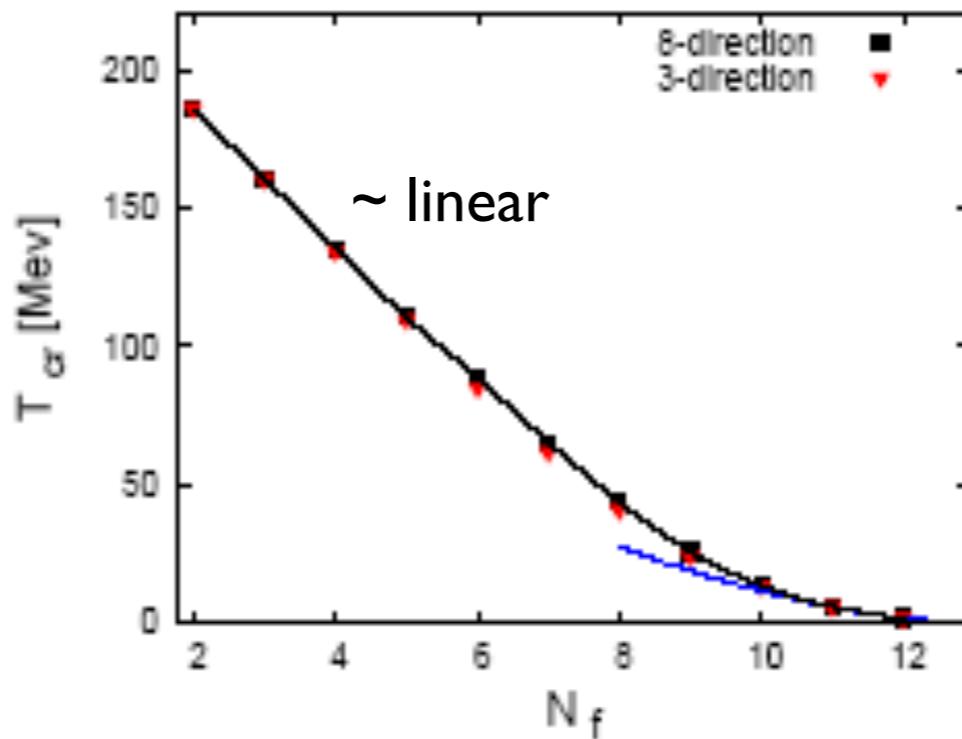
or

**UVFP**      **IRFP**



# Preconformal Dynamics





Braun, Gies '06  
Braun, Fischer, Gies '10

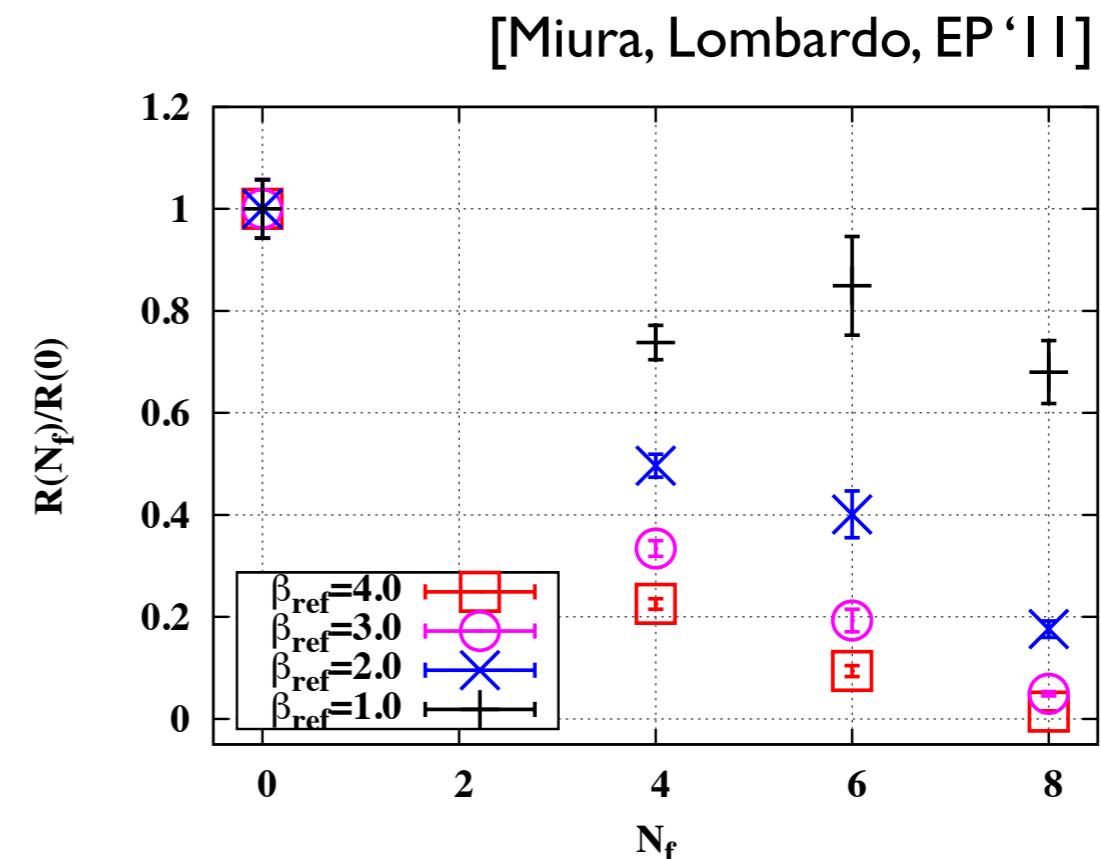
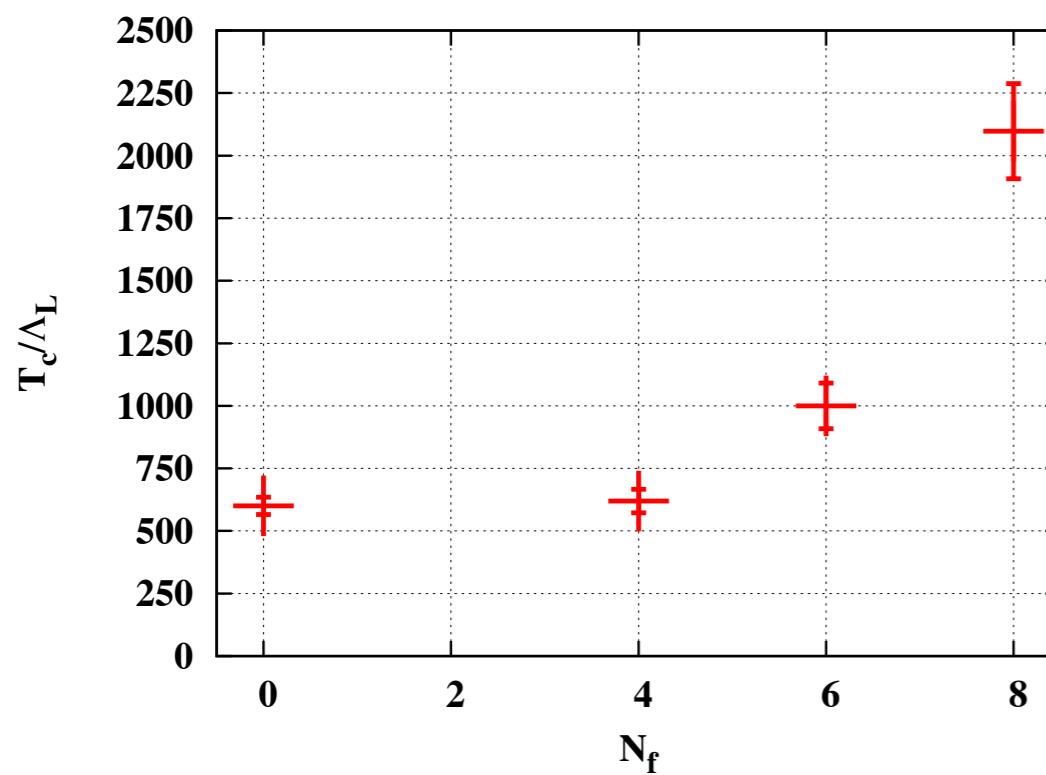
$$k_{\text{SB}} \propto k_0 \theta(N_f^{\text{cr}} - N_f) |N_f^{\text{cr}} - N_f|^{-1/\Theta} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{2\epsilon\sqrt{\alpha|N_f^{\text{cr}} - N_f|}}\right)$$

power-law  
 (due to running coupling)

exponential-law  
 (Miransky-KBT scaling)

$\bar{\psi}\psi, T_c$   
 $\beta(g^2) = -\Theta(g^2 - g_*^2) + \dots \quad \Theta < 0$

# From a IR scale to a UV scale



$$\frac{T_c}{\Lambda_L} \cdot a(\beta_c)\Lambda_L = \frac{1}{N_t}$$

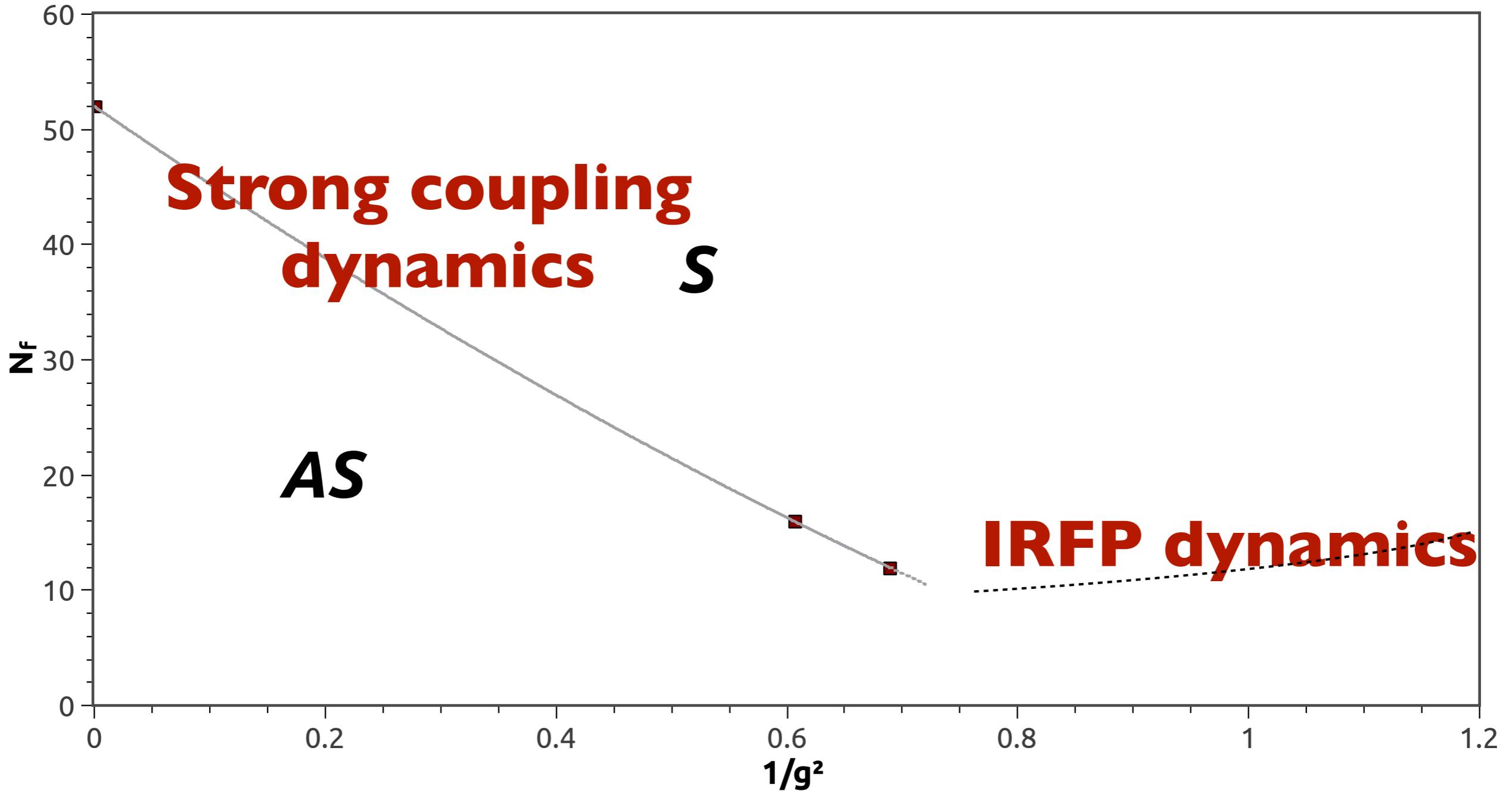
$$\begin{aligned} \text{UV} &\rightarrow \frac{\Lambda_{\text{ref}}}{\Lambda_L} = \exp\left[\frac{\beta_L^{\text{ref}}}{4N_c b_0}\right] \\ \text{IR} &\rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

Very rough extrapolation

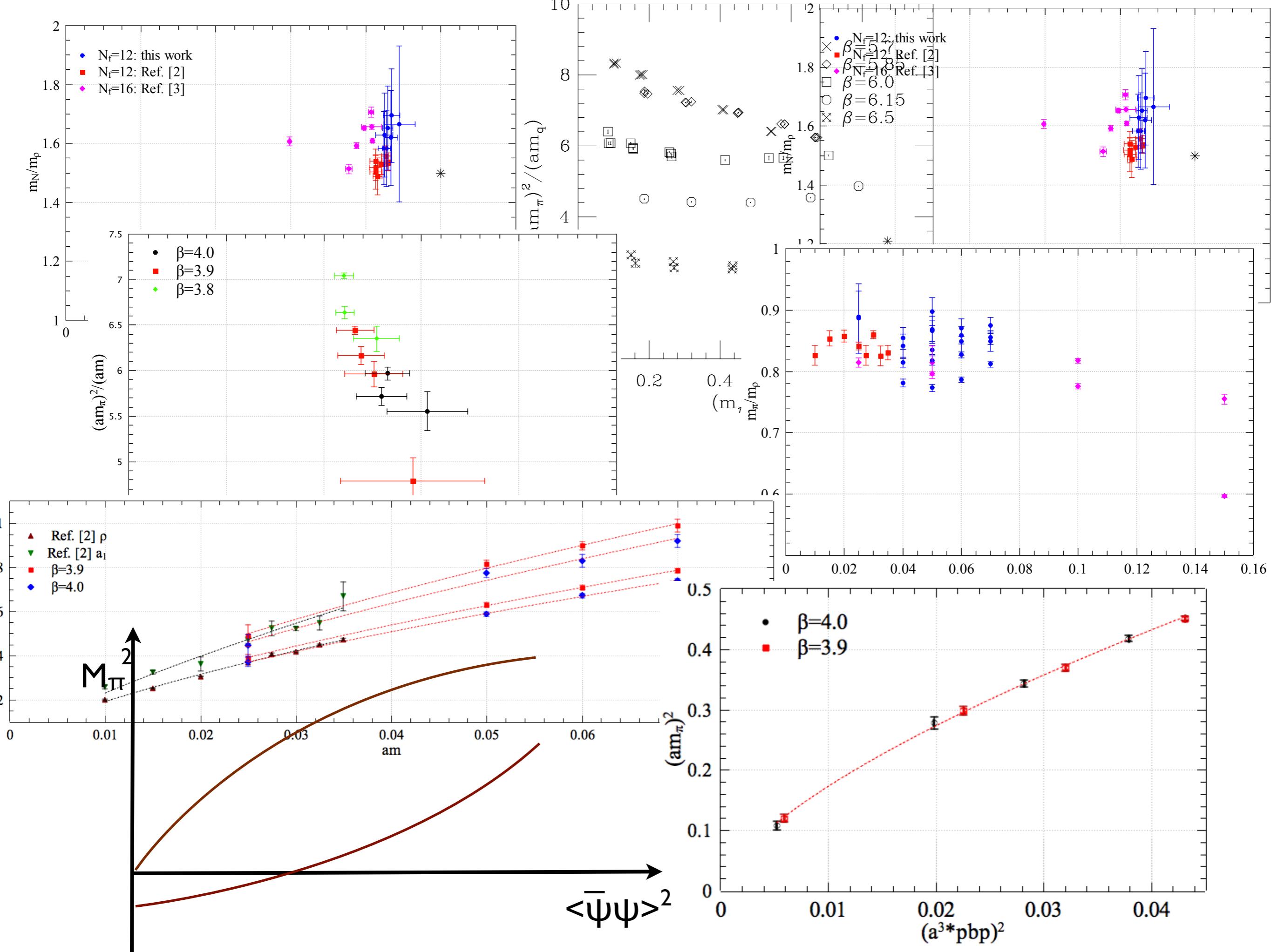
$$N_f^c = 11(2) \text{ for } \beta_L^{\text{ref}} = 2 \quad 1.1 < 1/|\theta| < 2.5$$

$$N_f^c = 9(1) \text{ for } \beta_L^{\text{ref}} = 4.0$$

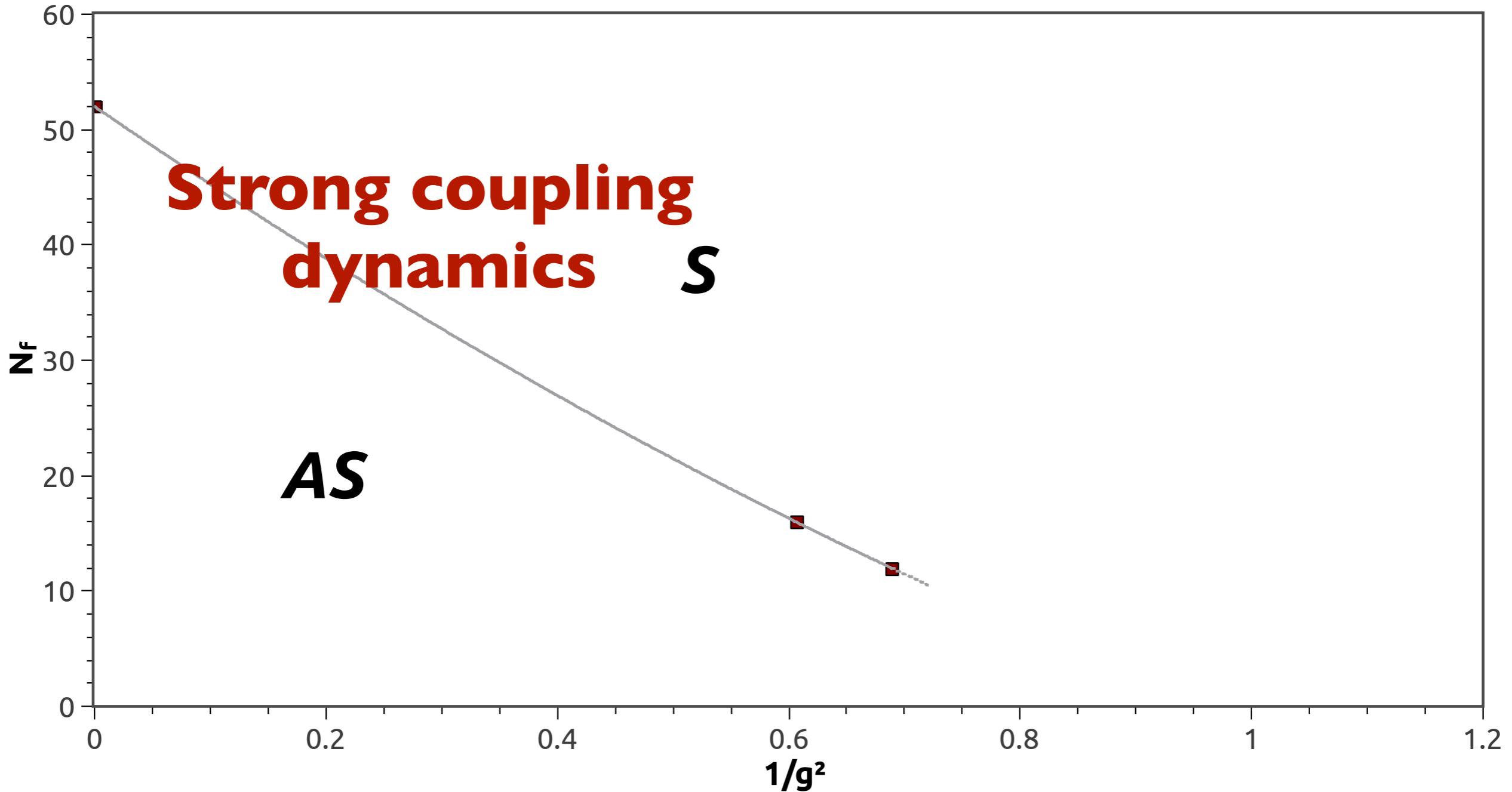
# Inside the Conformal Window



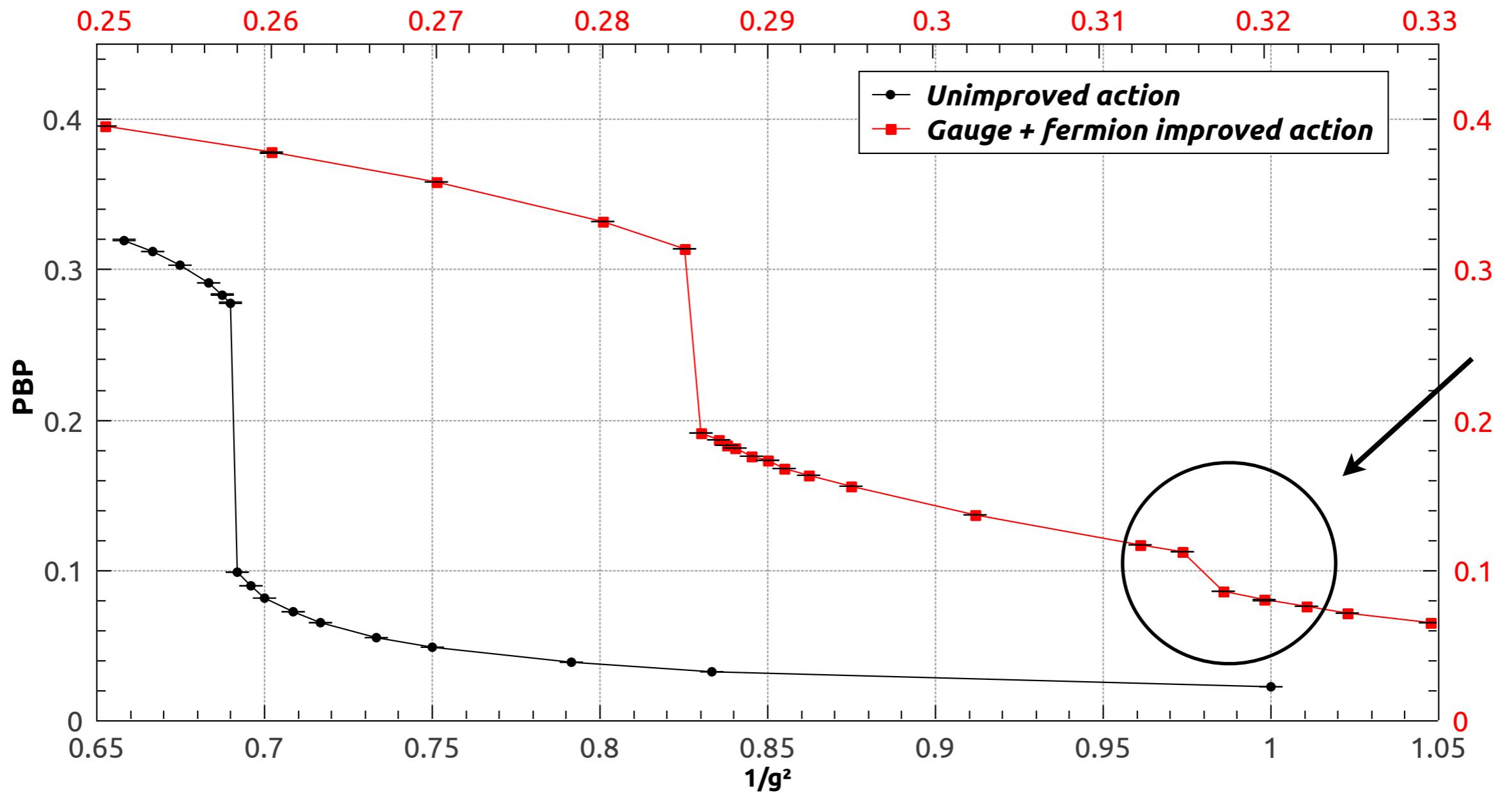
# The Spectrum

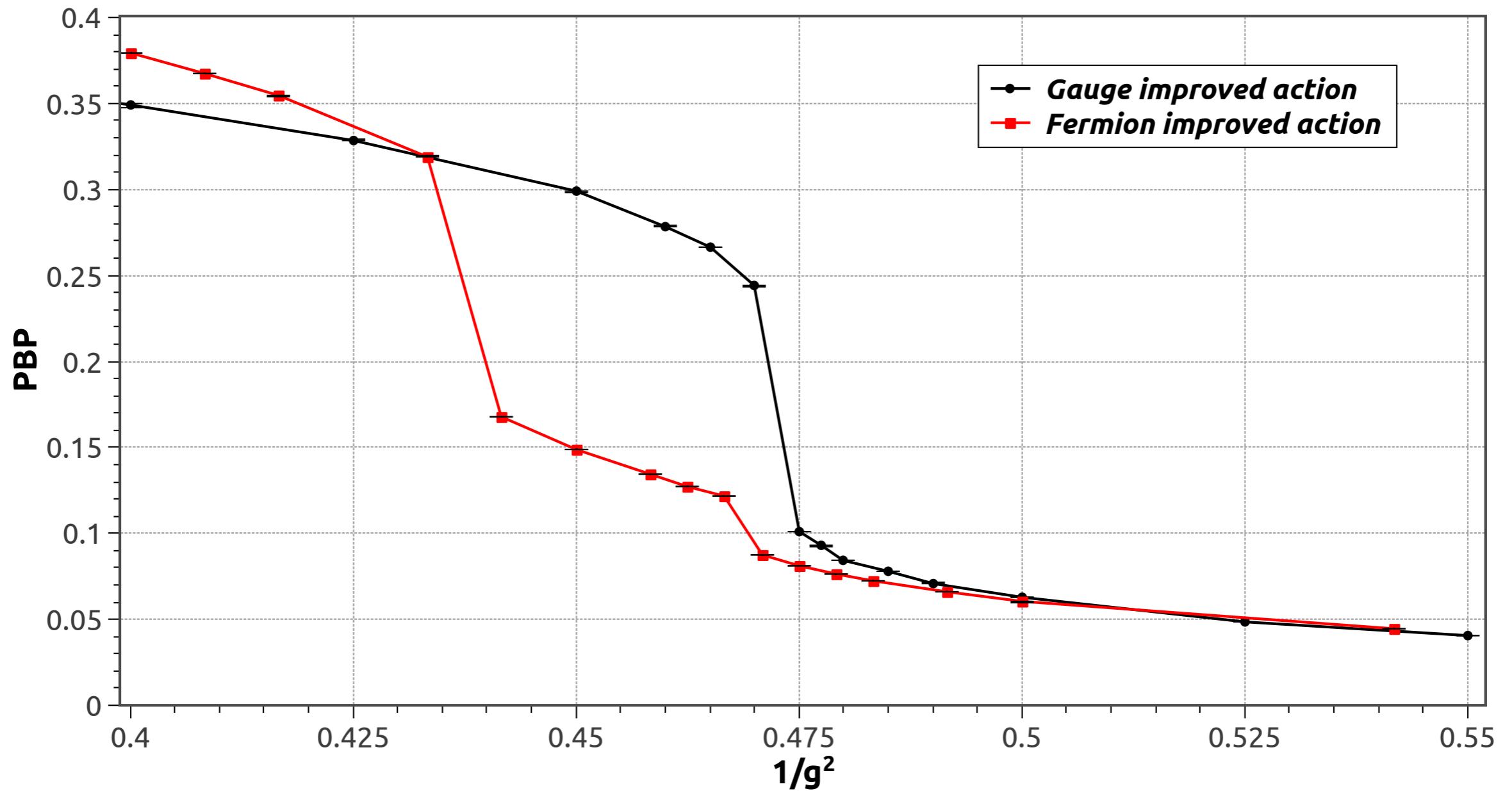


# Strong coupling dynamics and bulk transitions



# The bulk transition(s)





# Sym anzik improvement @ strong coupling

Gauge action:

$$S_G = \underbrace{\beta_0 \operatorname{Re}(1 - U(1 \times 1))}_{\text{nearest neighbor}} + \underbrace{\beta_1 \operatorname{Re}(1 - U(2 \times 1))}_{\text{next-to-nearest neighbor}}$$
$$\beta_0 = \frac{5}{3}\beta, \quad \beta_1 = -\frac{1}{12}\beta \quad \beta = \frac{6}{g^2}$$

---

Fermion action:

$$S_F = a^4 \sum_{x;\mu} \eta_\mu(x) \bar{\chi}(x) \frac{1}{2a} \left\{ c_1 [U_\mu(x)\chi(x+\mu) - U^\dagger(x-\mu)\chi(x-\mu)] \right.$$
$$+ c_2 [U_\mu(x)U_\mu(x+\mu)U_\mu(x+2\mu)\chi(x+3\mu)$$
$$- U_\mu^\dagger(x-\mu)U_\mu^\dagger(x-2\mu)U_\mu^\dagger(x-3\mu)\chi(x-3\mu)] \left. \right\}$$

Naik term  
3rd-nn

$$+ a^4 m \sum_x \bar{\chi}(x)\chi(x)$$

We know that:

Hermiticity of the Transfer matrix is lost (complex energy eigenvalues)

When and how does it manifest?

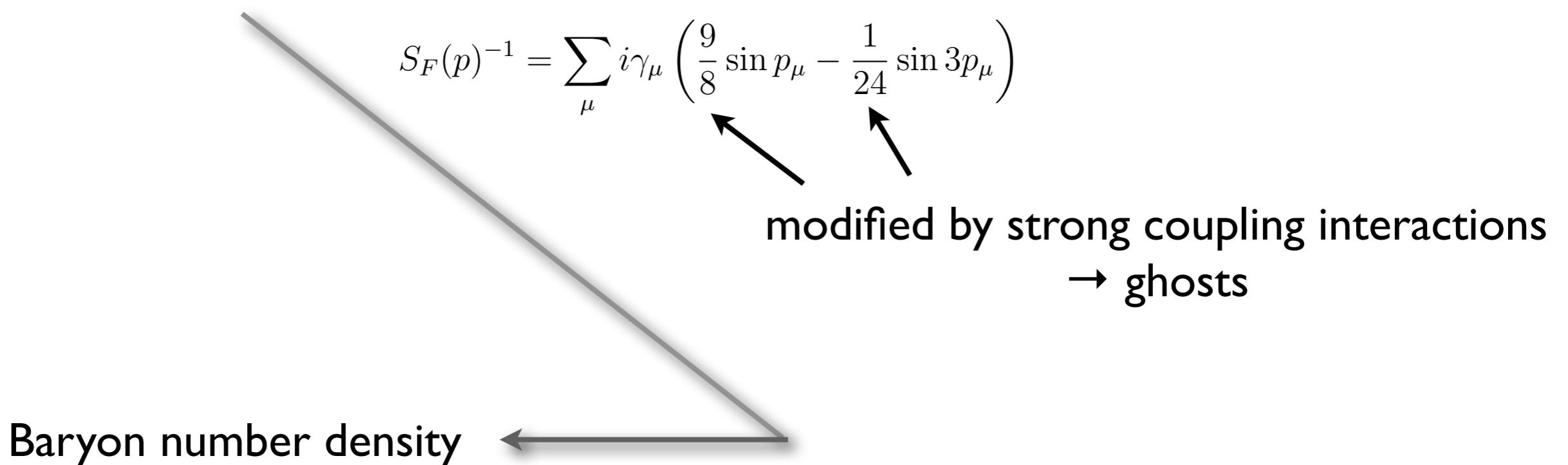
Luscher, Weisz '84

A solvable model: (1d) Ising chain with n-n-n interactions (ANNNI models)

Arisue, Fujiwara '84

This case:

Naik term modifies the free fermion propagator



$$n(\mu) = d/d_{\mu} \log Z(\mu) = n_1(\mu) + n_3(\mu)$$

$$n(\mu = 0) = 0 \quad \text{in two ways: } \begin{cases} n_1 = n_3 = 0 \\ n_1 = -n_3 \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

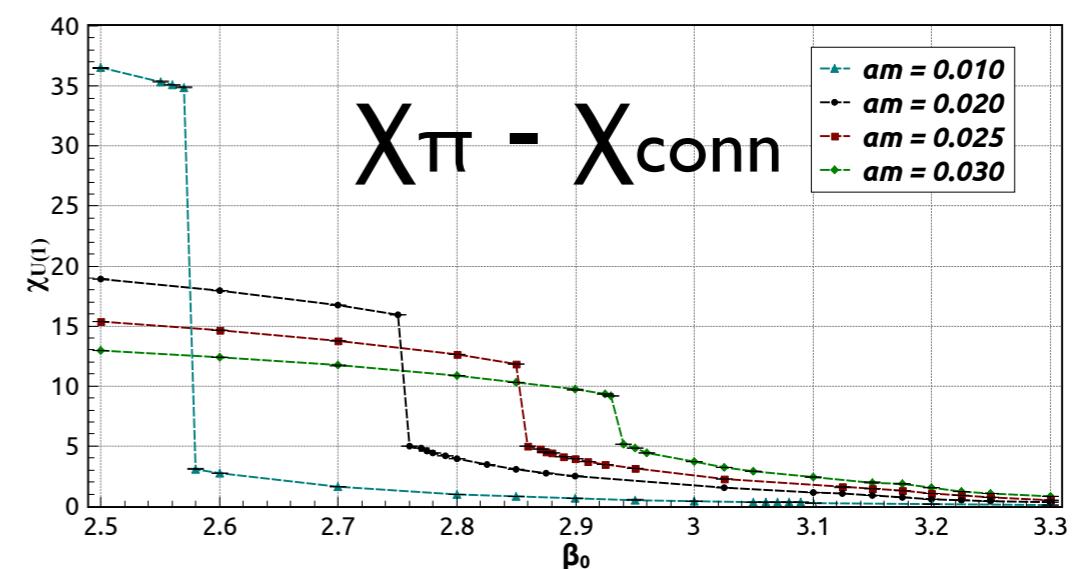
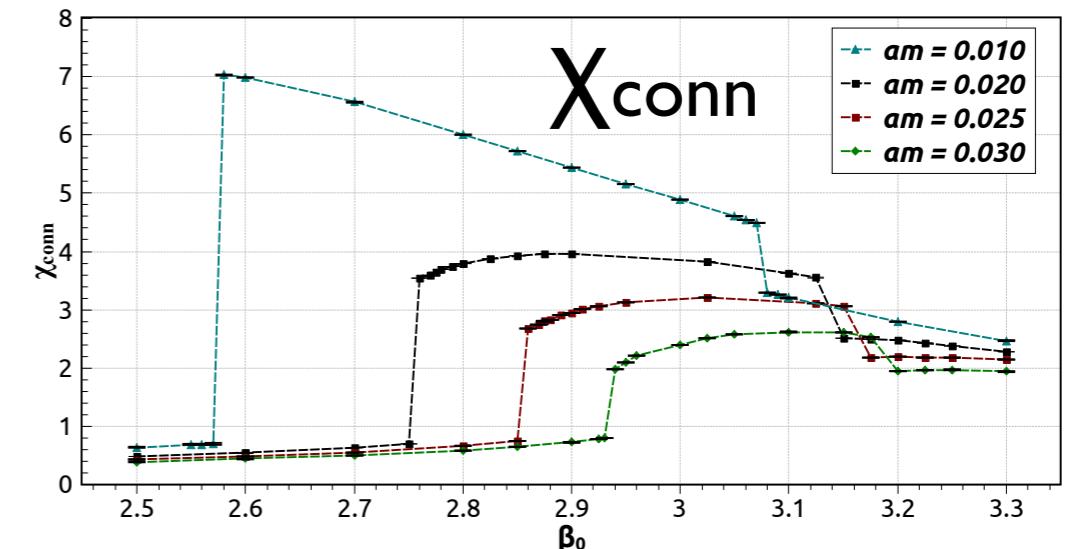
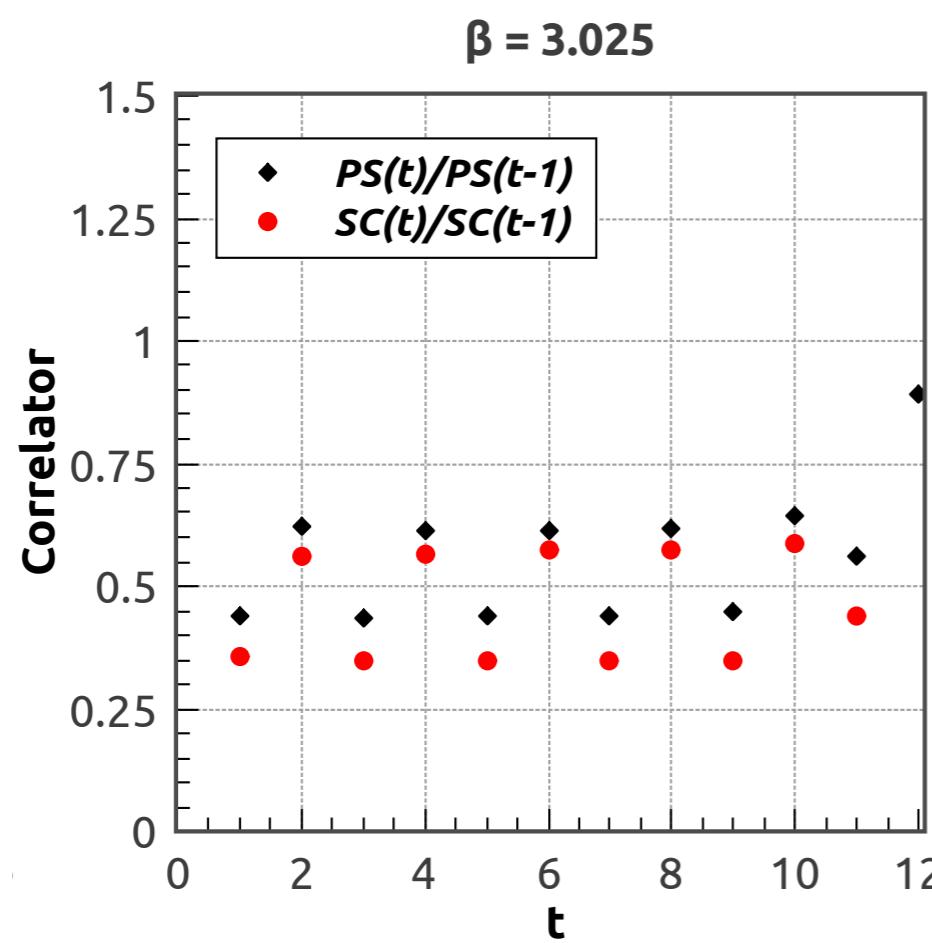
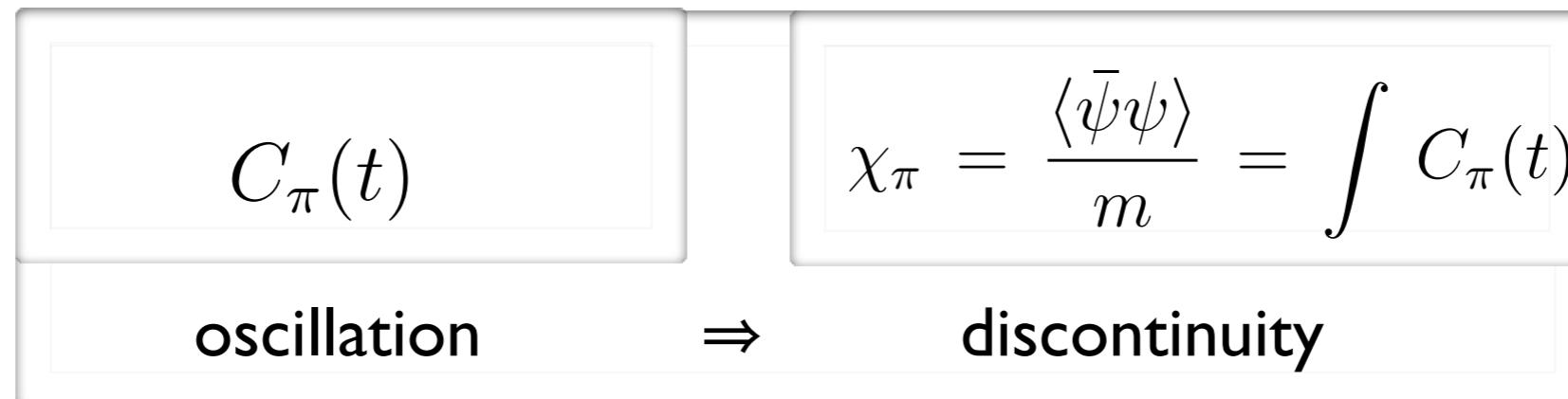
oscillatory component allowed in Goldstone channel  
forward-backward asymmetry allowed

\*Plausibly related to  $S_4$  ( $T=S_4^2$ ) investigated by Cheng, Hasenfratz, Schaich '12

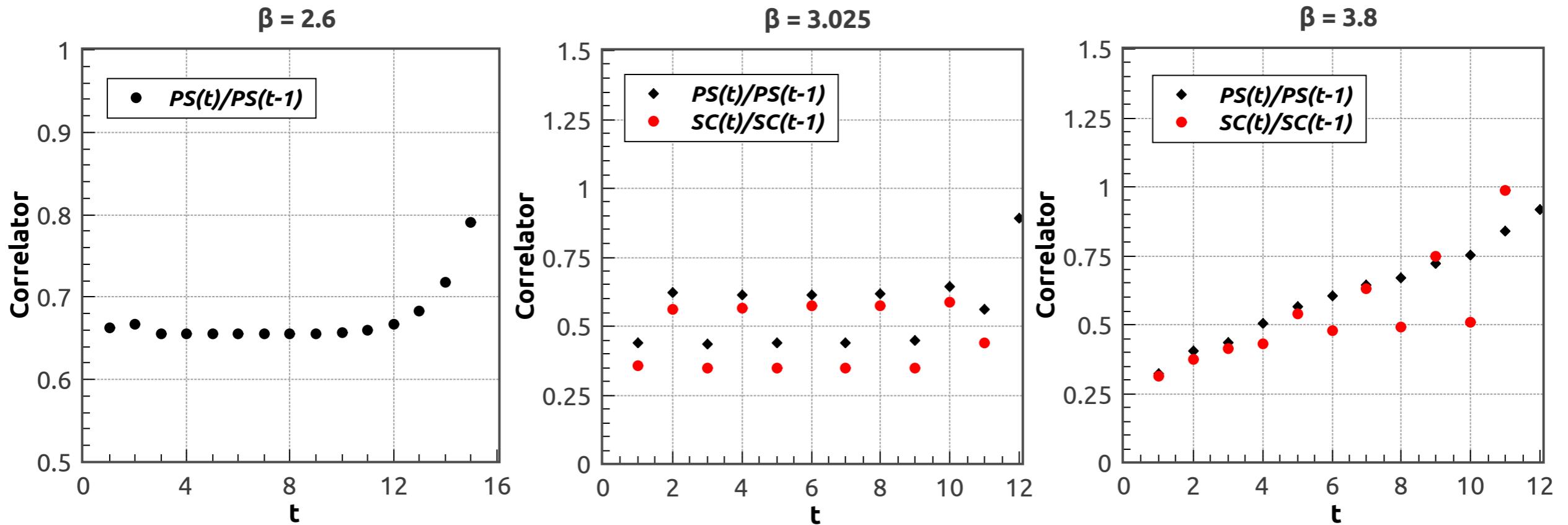
# Signatures

# Propagators

# Susceptibilities

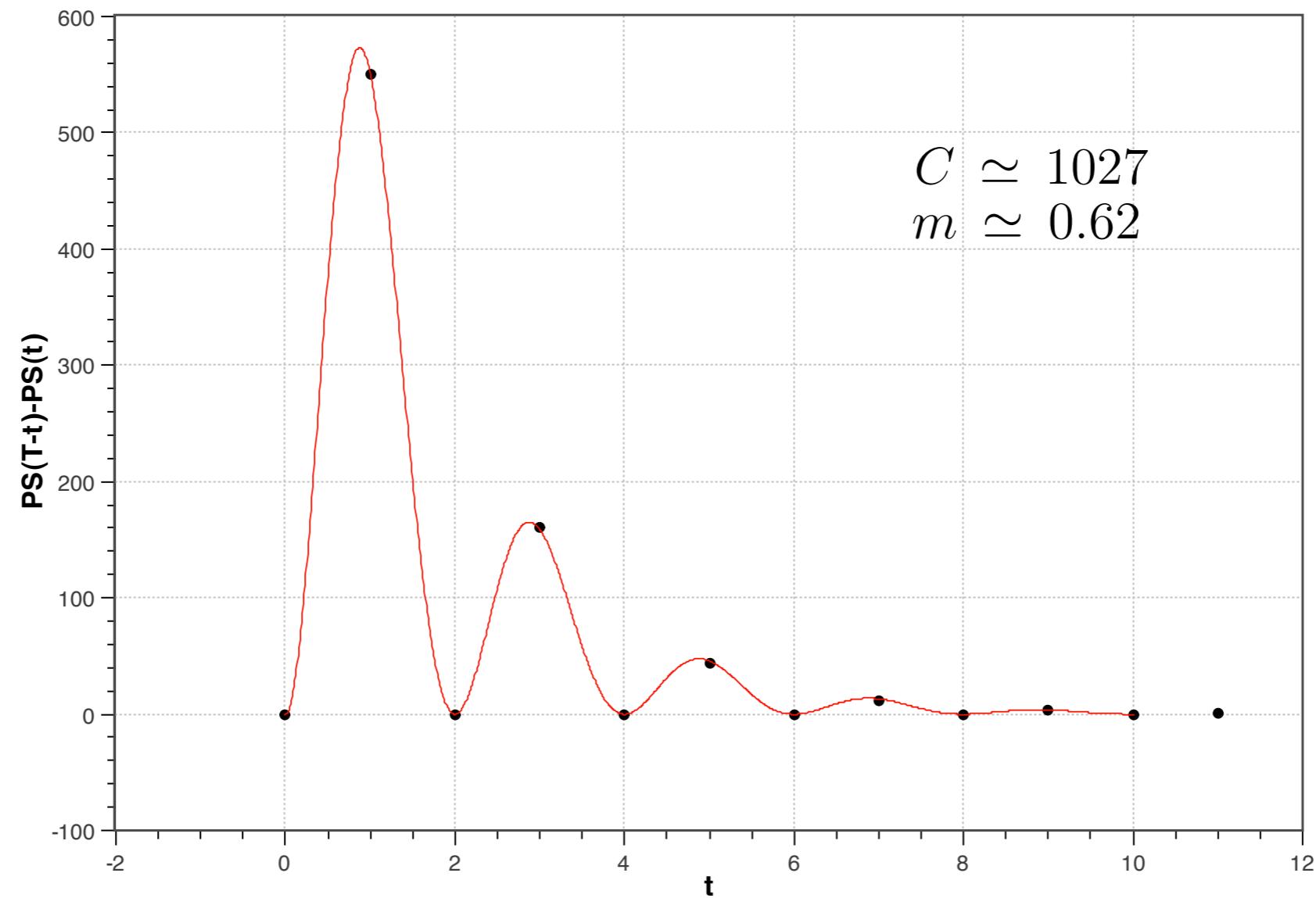


# Degeneracy and chiral symmetry



# The asymmetry

$$A \sim C \left(1 - (-1)^t\right) \left(e^{-mt} - e^{-m(T-t)}\right)$$



## Remarks

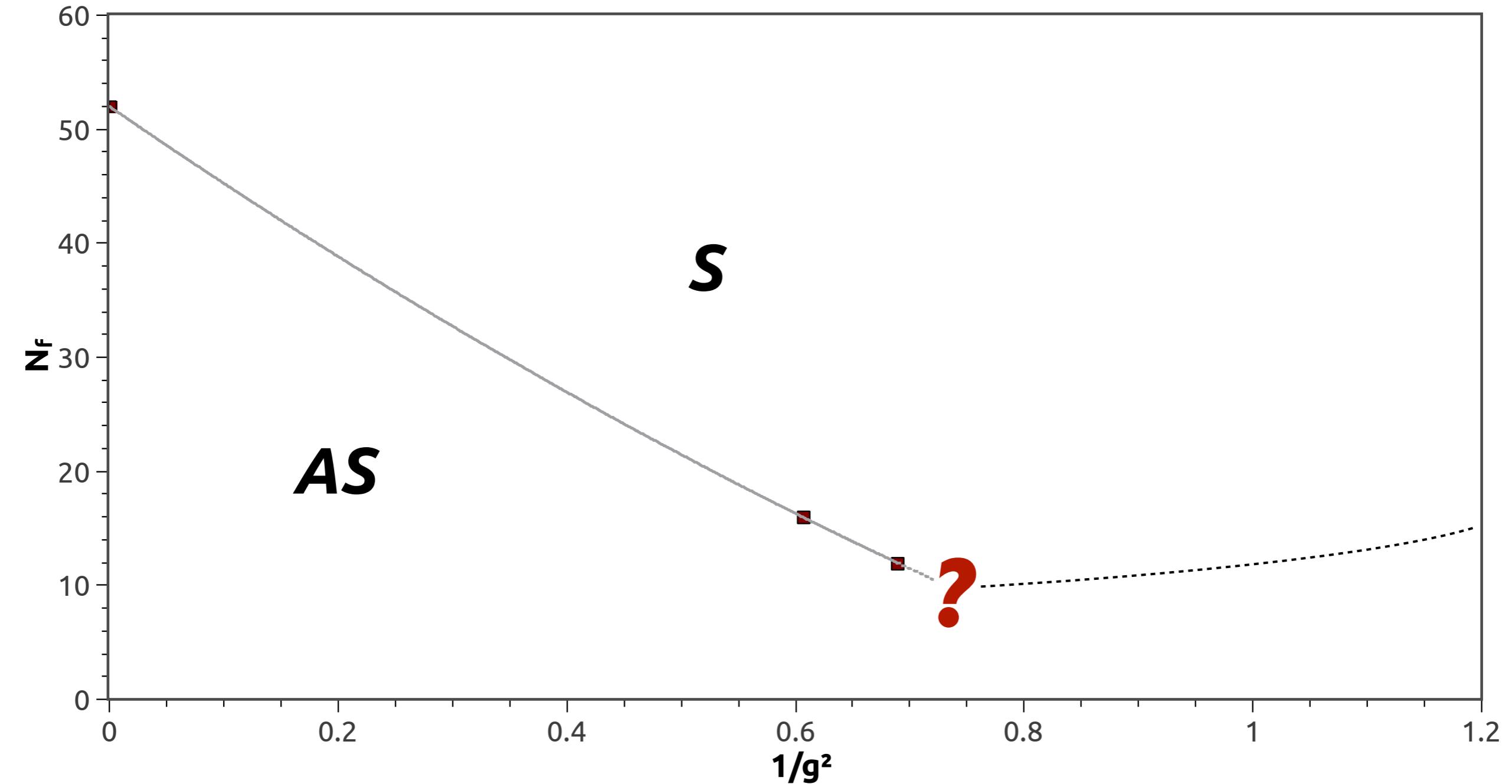
Hermiticity loss of the transfer matrix (complex eigenvalues) is a general property of Symanzik improved gauge theories

We have found an example where the Naik improvement of the staggered fermion action generates a new phase of the system signalled by a discontinuity of the chiral susceptibility (change of mass slope of the chiral condensate)

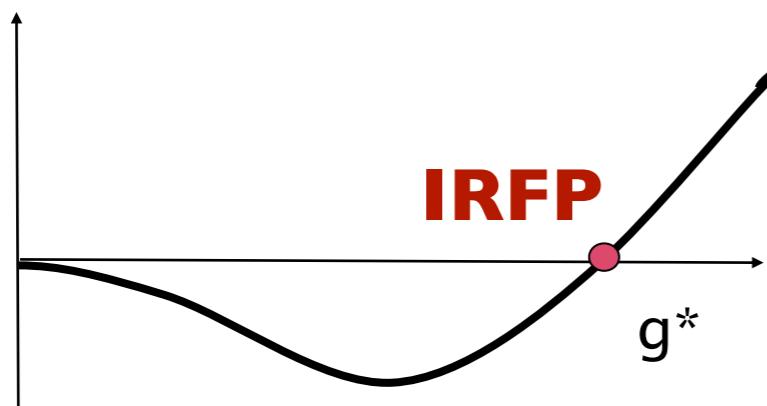
The same theoretical analysis is potentially useful for the lattice formulation of strongly coupled systems such a graphene.

# AdS/CFT

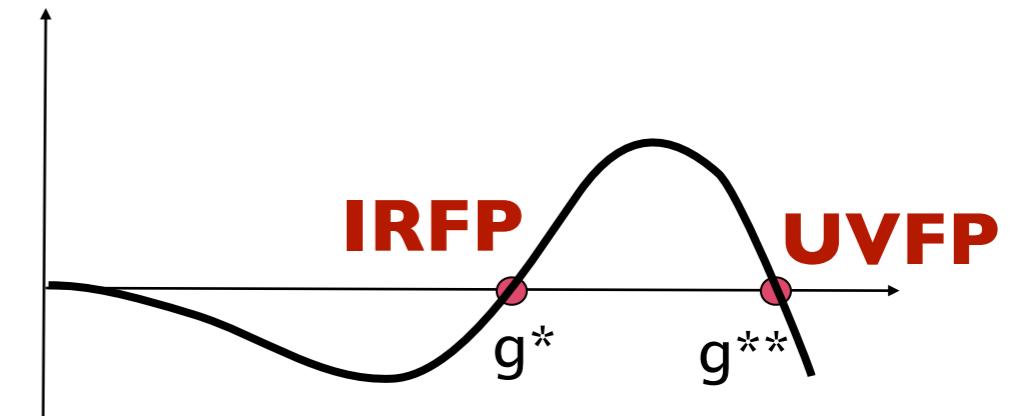
## Disappearance of the CW



# Which scenario is realized ?



SQCD: duality guarantees that the (electric) theory  
is infinitely strongly coupled below the CW



FP pair annihilation  
see Kaplan et al '09

# SQCD and QCD $\beta$ -functions

A conformal window for SQCD exists in the region  $3/2 N_c < N_f < 3N_c$

Seiberg '95

$$\text{SQCD: } \beta_g = -\frac{g^3}{16\pi^2} \frac{3N_c - N_f(1 - \gamma_0)}{1 - \frac{g^2 N_c}{8\pi^2}}$$

NSVZ '83 '86

QCD?: Large N limit

$$\beta(g_c) = \frac{-\beta_0^\infty g_c^3 + \frac{\beta_j}{4} g_c^3 \left( \frac{\partial \log Z}{\partial \log \Lambda} + c_F \frac{g_c^2}{16\pi^2} \right) + c_F \frac{g_c^3}{16\pi^2} (1 + \gamma(g_c^2)/2)}{1 - \beta_j g_c^2}$$

$\neq \text{SYM}$

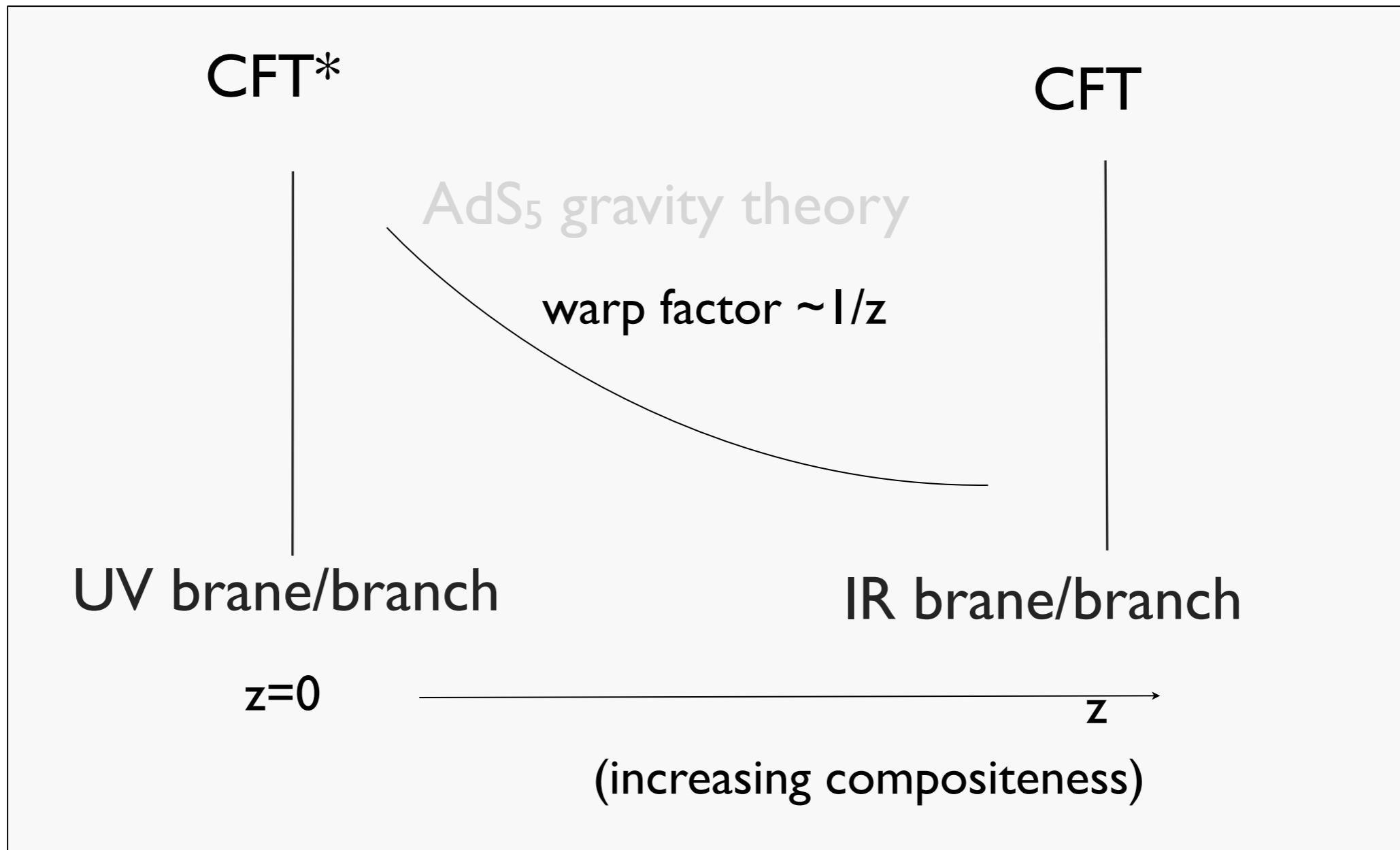
Reproduces 2-loop beta in the (perturbative) Veneziano limit

YM: Bochicchio '08  
(EP '09)

Caveat:  $\exists$  IRFP also for  $N_f=0$  -  $g^*$  is RG scheme dependent

see also Brodsky,  
Schrock '08

# AdS/CFT



“IR/UV correspondence”,  $z \rightarrow 0$  IR gravity  
 $z \rightarrow 0$  UV field theory

# An example of FP merging in “modified” SQCD

Large  $N_f, N_c$ :  $N_f/N_c$  fixed - SUGRA backgrounds

Maldacena, Nunez '04  
Casero Nunez Paredes '08  
Conte Gaillard Ramallo '11



SQCD + quartic operators

Barranco EP Russo '11

$N_f < 2N_c$  UV limit:  $\beta \rightarrow \beta_{\text{NSVZ}}(\gamma_0 = -1/2)$   
IR limit: ordinary confinement

$N_f = 2N_c$  UVFP at strong coupling

$N_f > 2N_c$  Seiberg dual ( $N_c \rightarrow N_f - N_c$ ,  $N_f - 2N_c$  flips sign)

# Summary

Conformal symmetry might play a role in particle physics at or well above the EWSB scale.

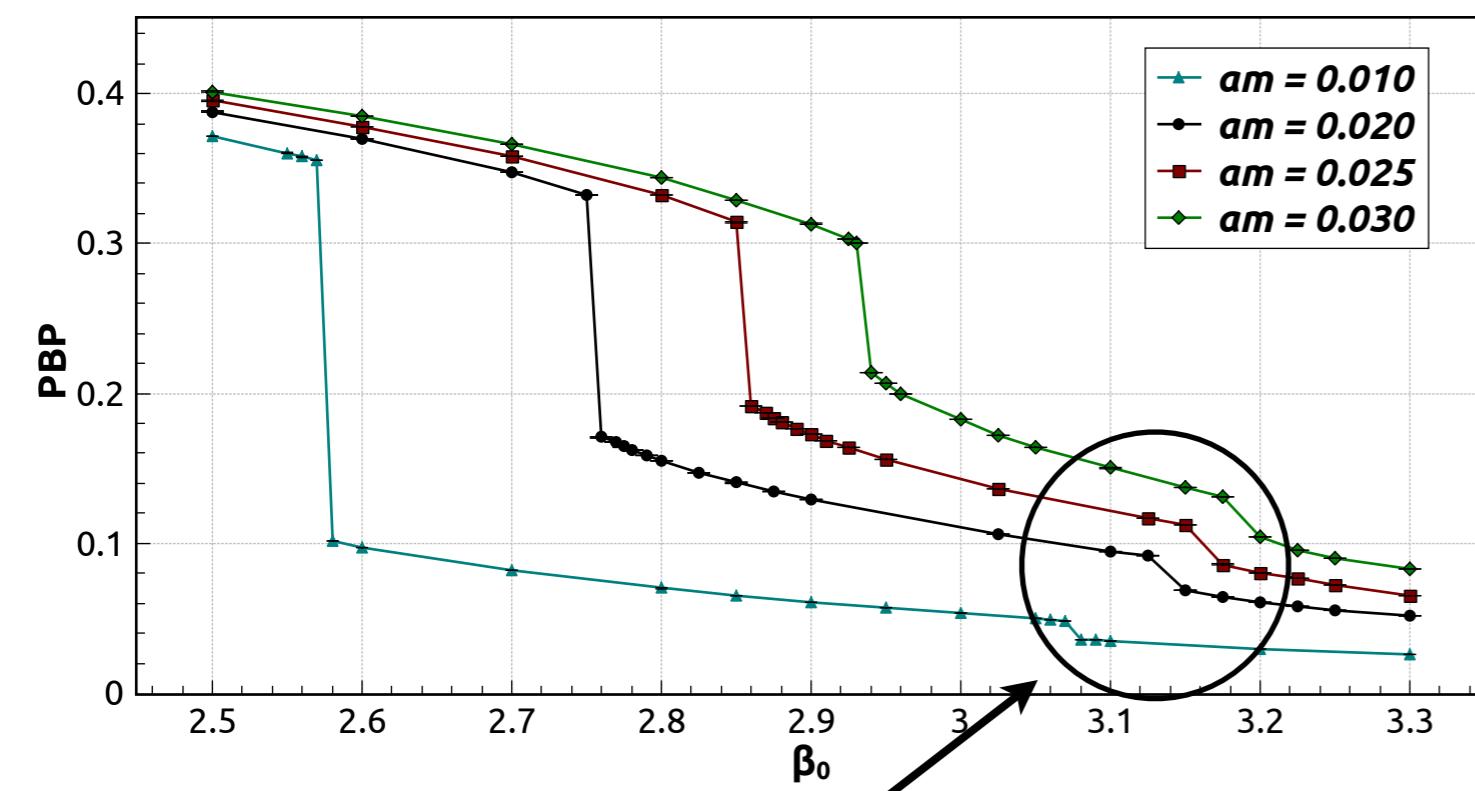
Large- $N_f$  QCD is an instructive theory playground

- ✓ The conformal window opens at around  $N_f \sim 12$
- ✓ The spectrum and the physics of phase transitions provide distinctive signatures of (pre)conformality
- ✓ A preliminary study shows a change of trend of  $T_c$  for  $N_f > 6$

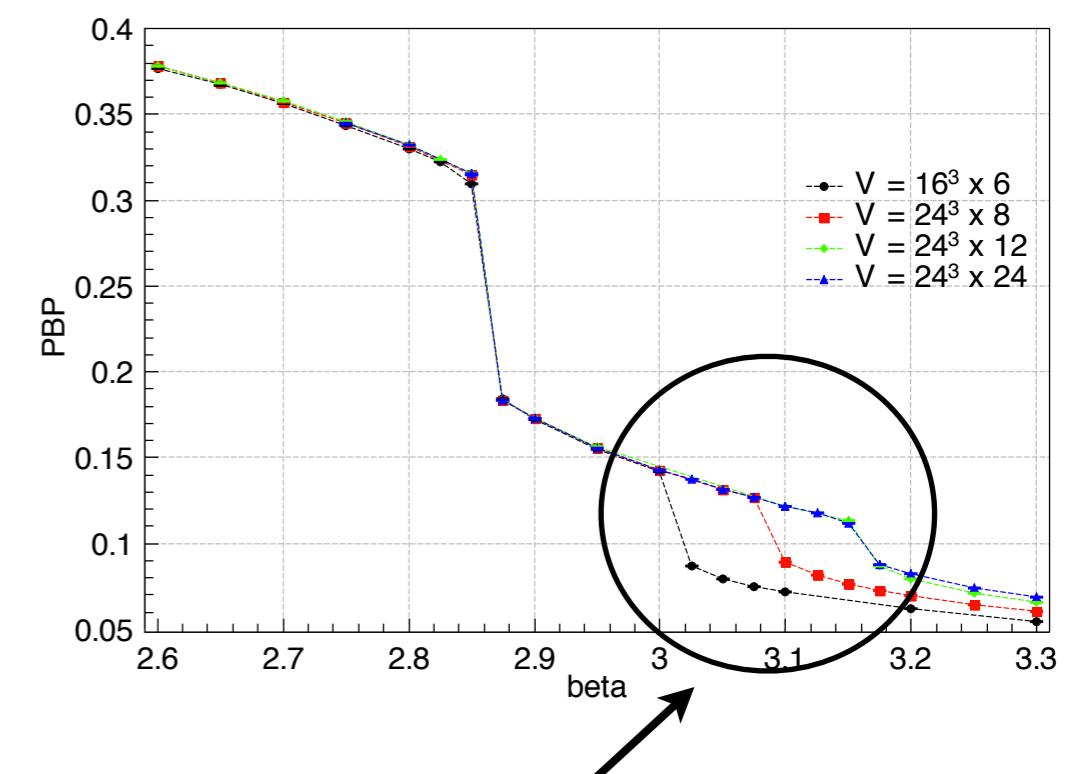
Symanzik Improvement in strongly coupled systems can generate new phases. The same considerations apply to non-abelian gauge theories in the conformal window as well as systems such as graphene.

AdS/CFT is in its infancy, but useful and insightful tool, when trying to make connection with SQCD or QCD.

# The bulk transition(s)

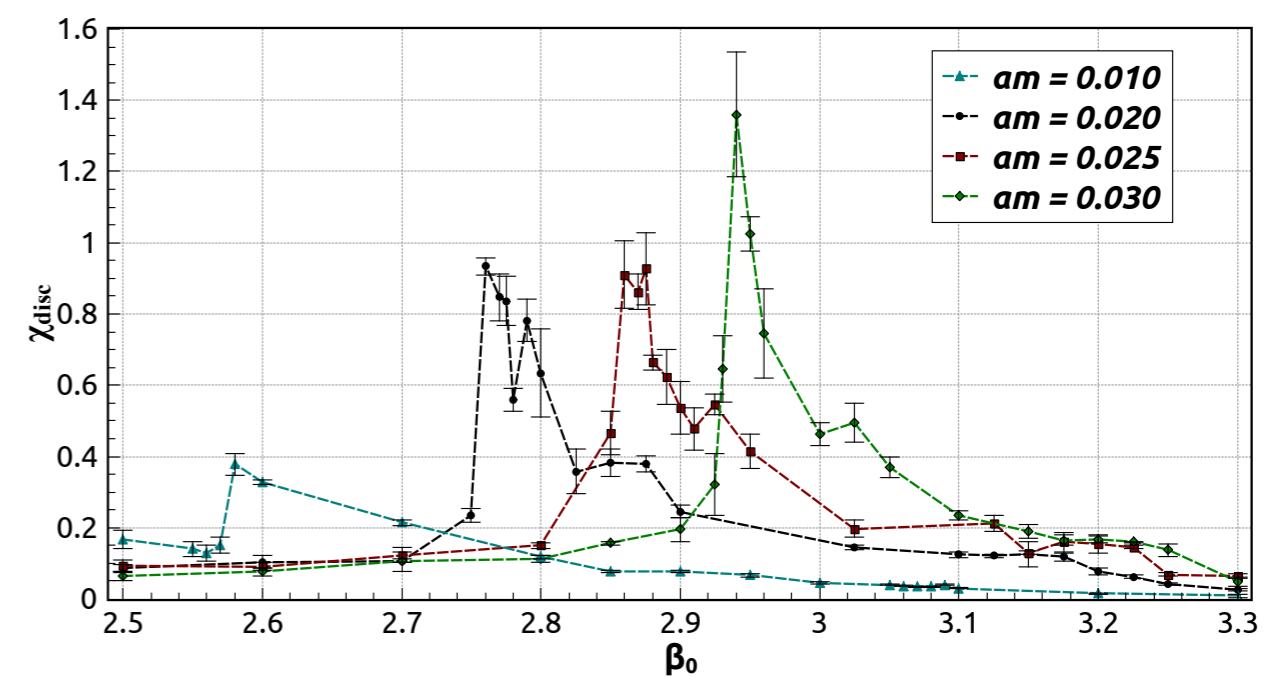
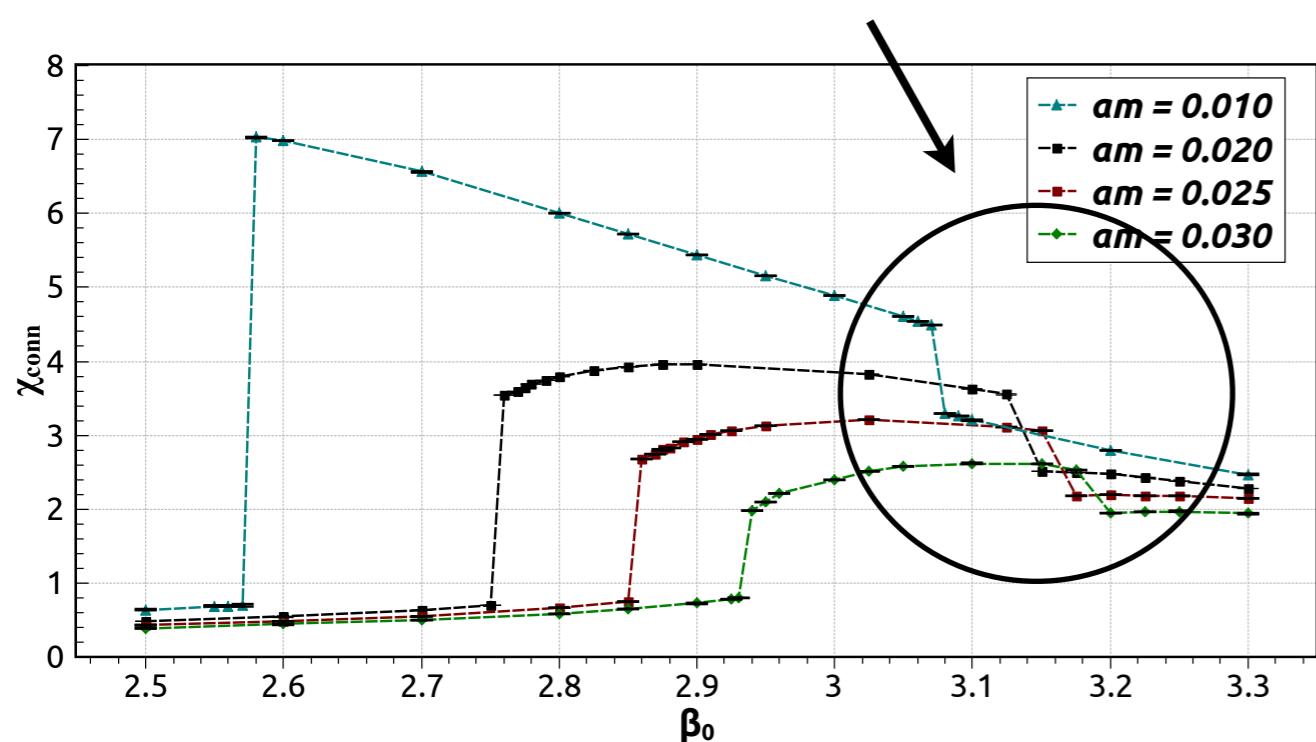


does not increase  
with  $m$  decreasing

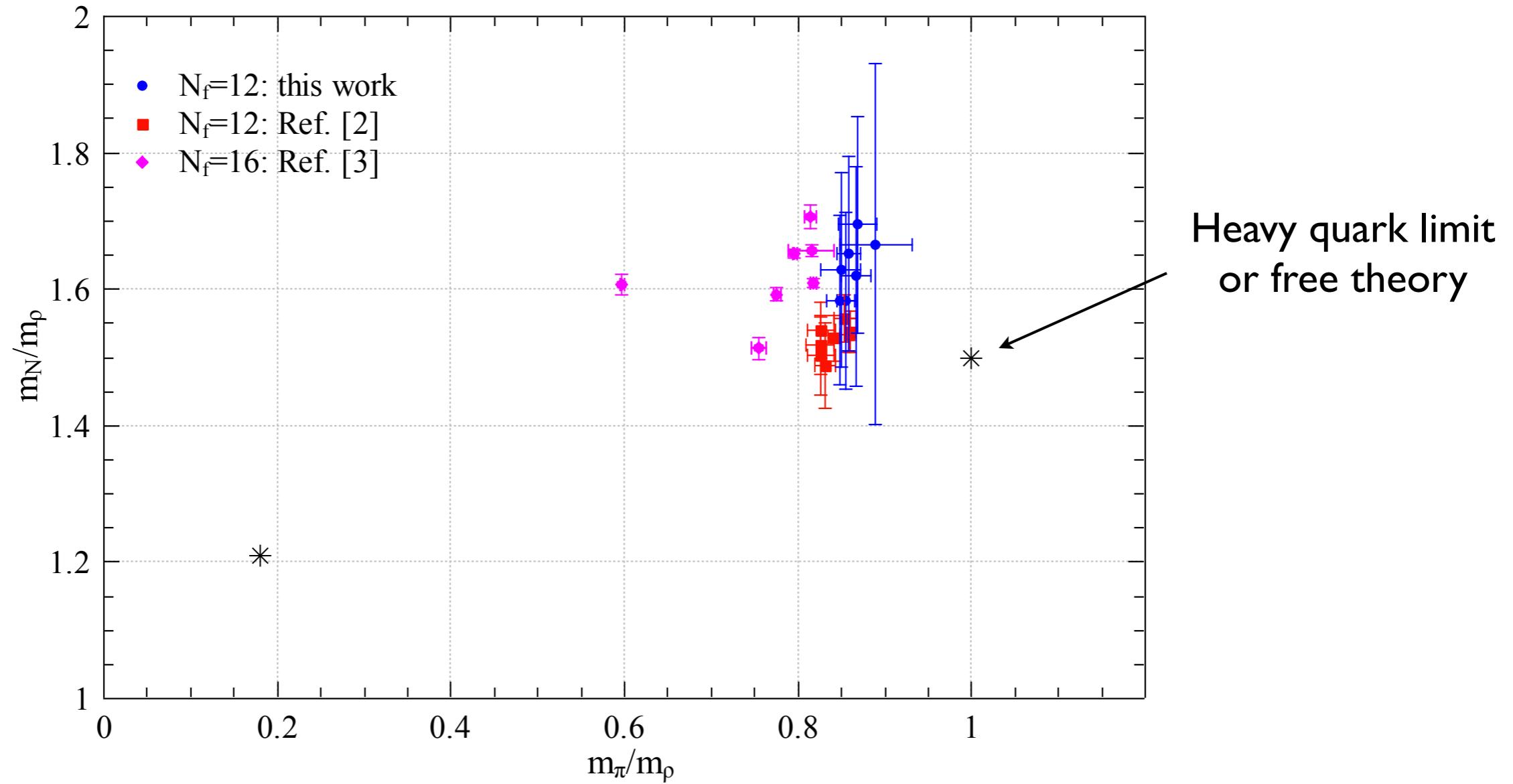


$N_t$  dependence only for  $N_t \leq 12$

# Chiral susceptibilities mass dependence



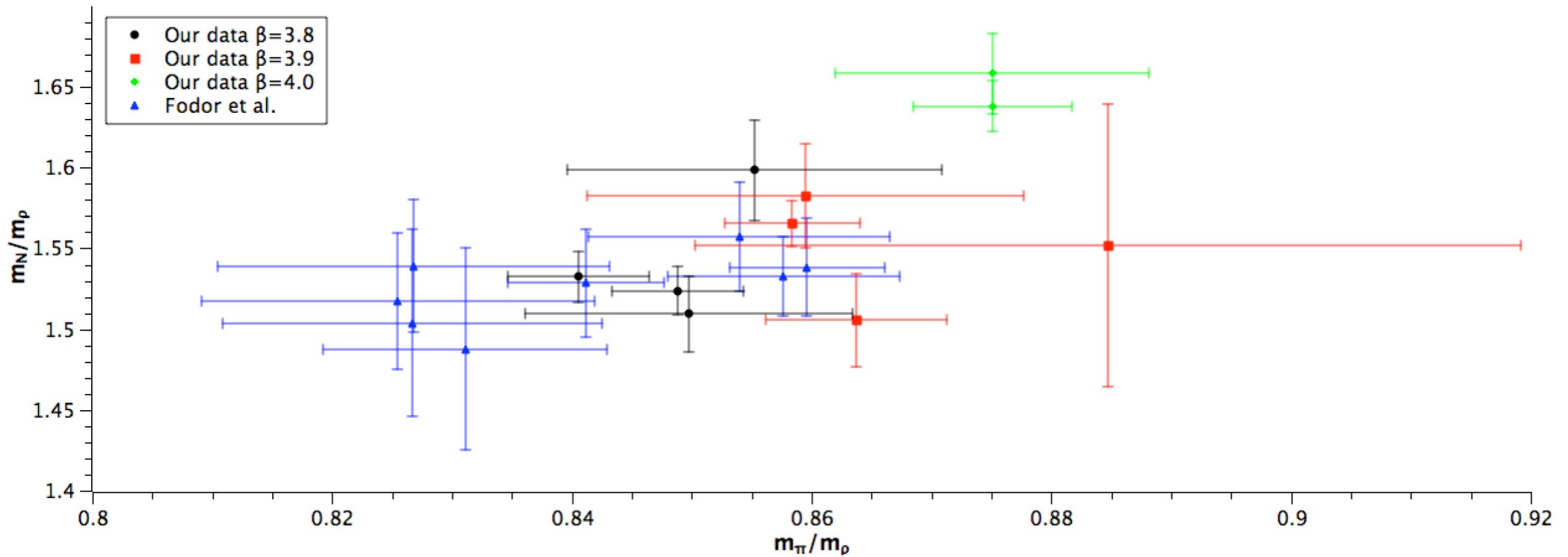
# The Edinburgh Plot of Nf=12 and Nf=16



Bare quark masses span a range 0.01 to 0.07 at various  $\beta$  for Nf=12

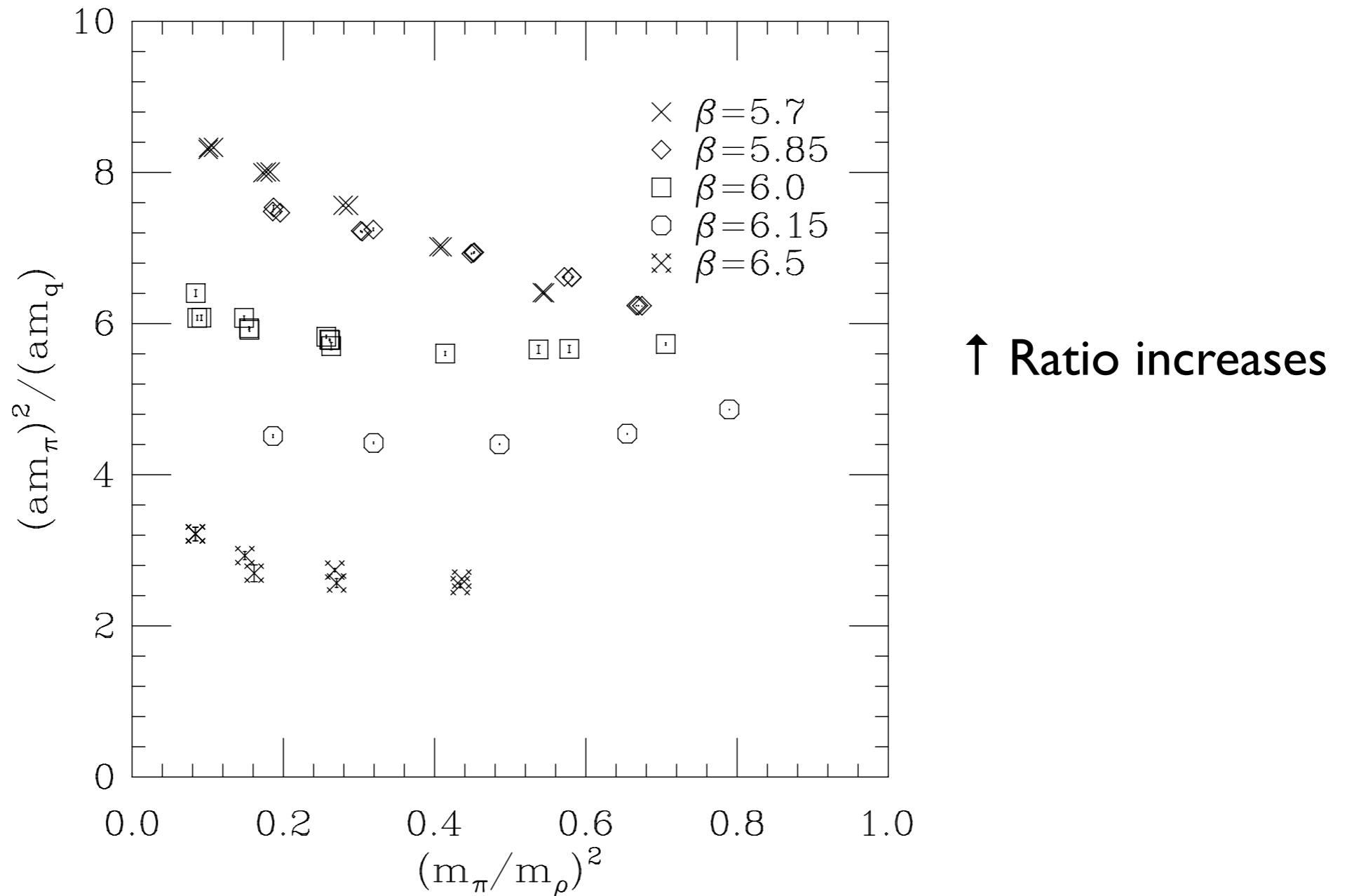
Bare quark masses span a range 0.025 to 0.15 at various  $\beta$  for Nf=16

# Zoom in at Nf=12



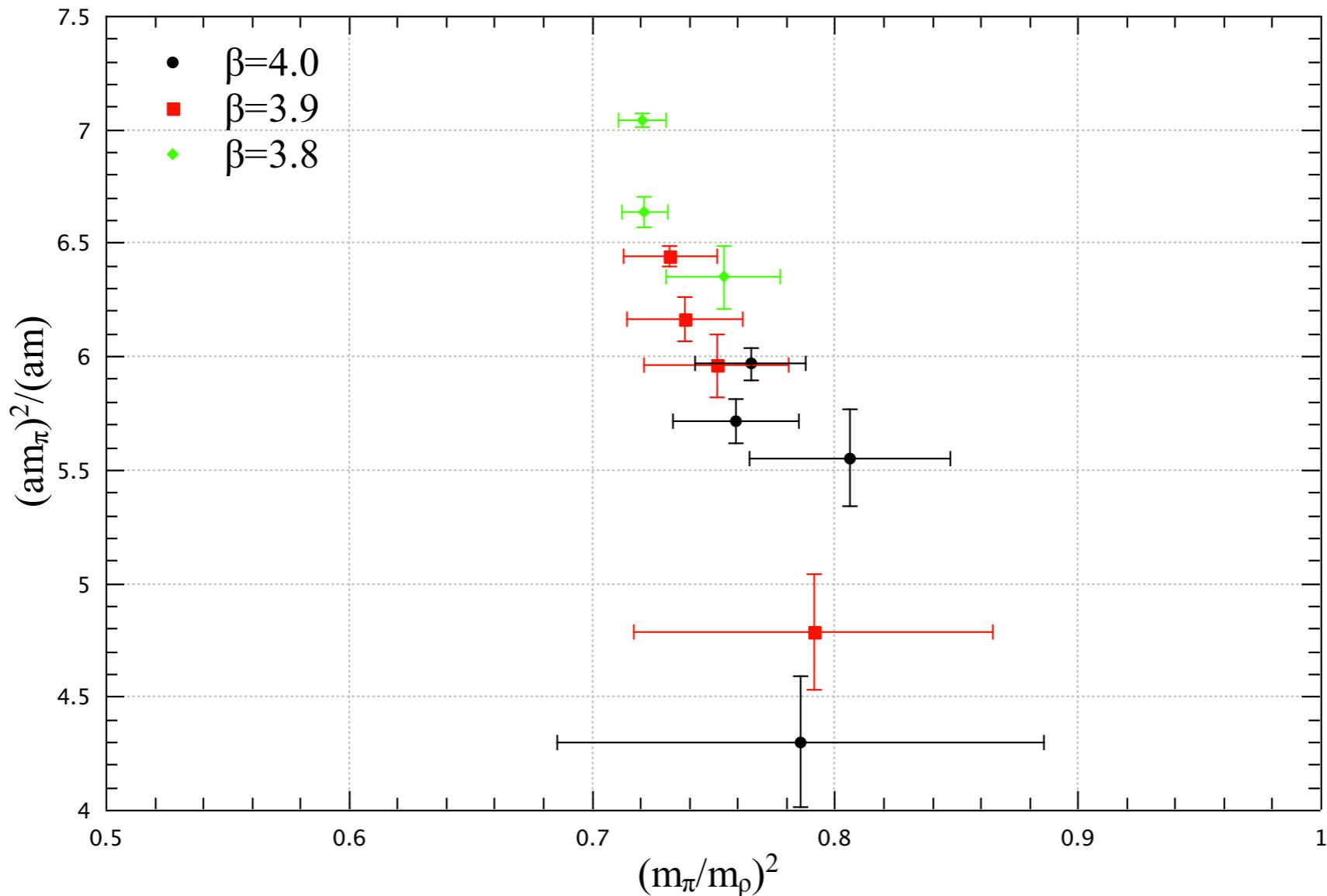
Data cover the same dynamical region

# QCD



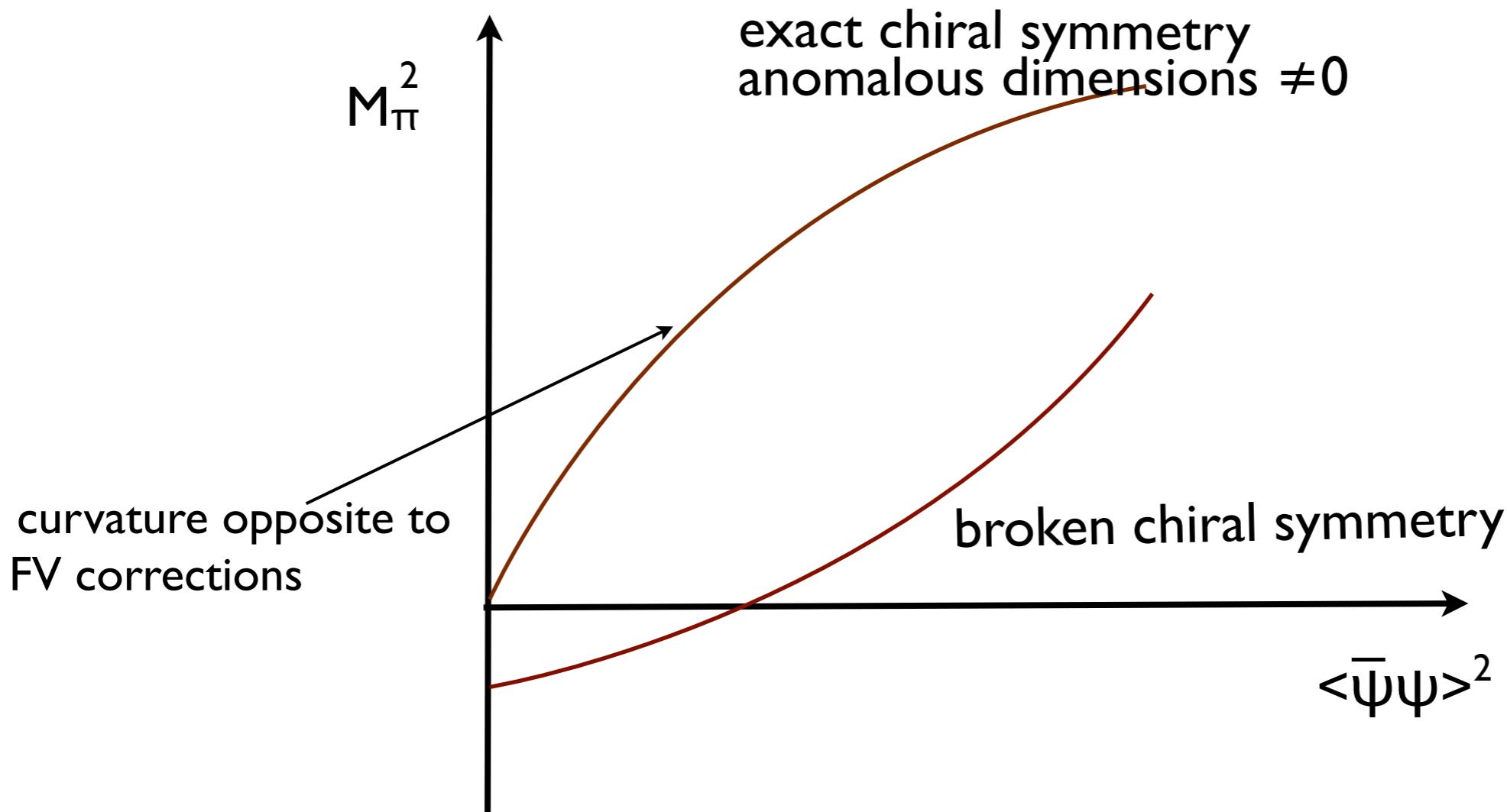
This is compatible with a negative  $\beta$  function

# and non-QCD

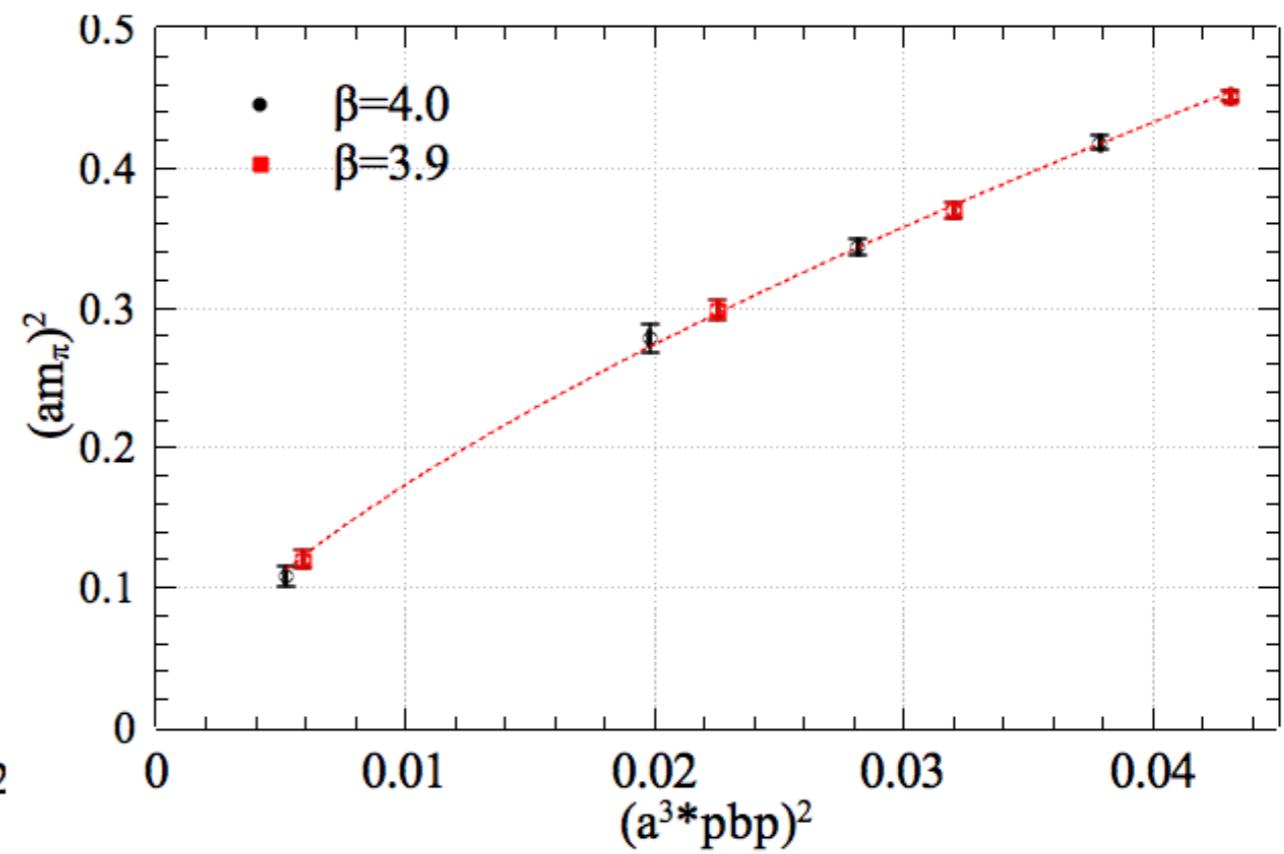
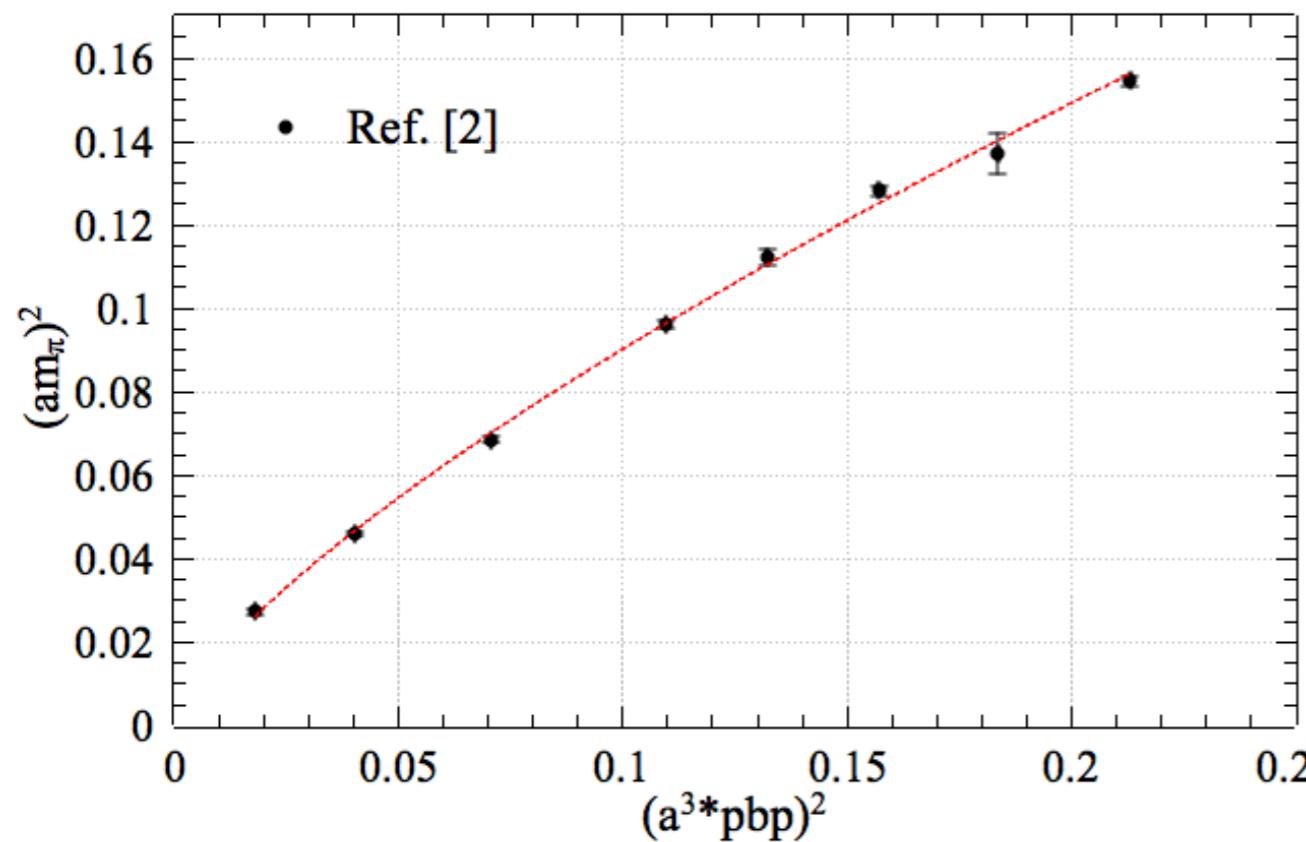


For a fixed  $m_\pi/m_\rho$  the inverted behavior with  $\beta_L$  is compatible with a positive  $\beta$  function

# Pseudo Goldstone mass and chiral condensate



# $N_f=12$ : lattice data



Exact chiral symmetry with non zero anomalous dimensions