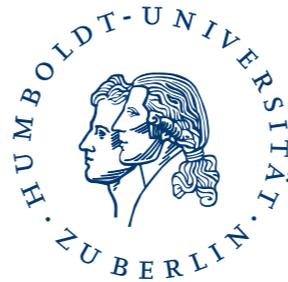


# Strings on the lattice, and AdS/CFT

Valentina Forini

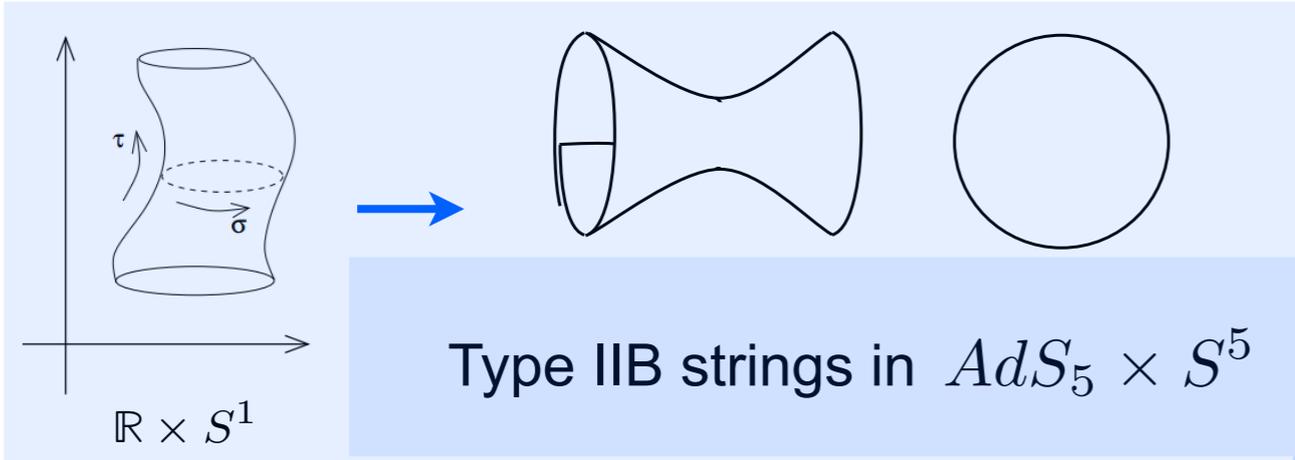


**Humboldt University Berlin**  
**Emmy Noether Research Group**

based on 1601.04670, 1605.01726  
with L. Bianchi, M. S. Bianchi, B. Leder, E. Vescovi + P. Töpfer

**LATTICE 2016, Southampton**

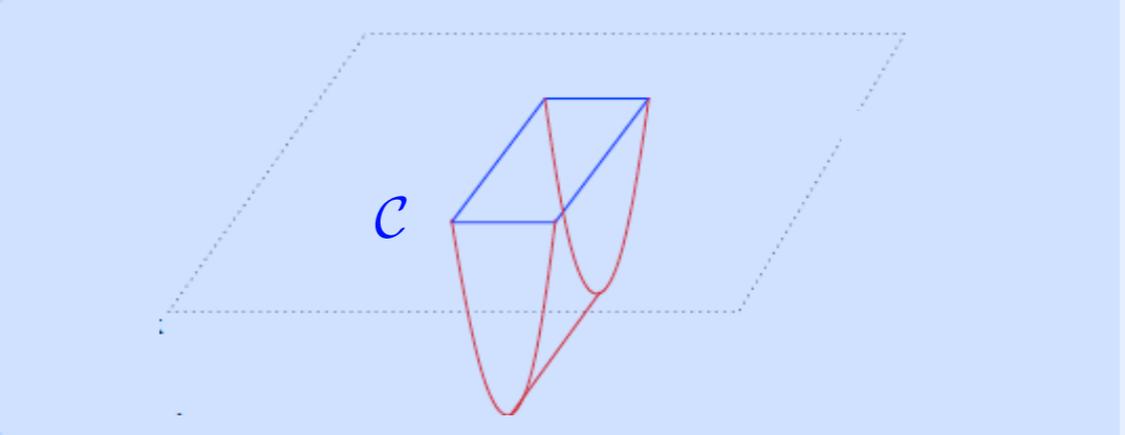
# Gauge/string correspondence



“Quark-antiquark” potential

$$Z_{\text{string}}|_c = \int \mathcal{D}X e^{-S_{\text{string}}} \sim e^{-\text{Area}}$$

AdS/CFT

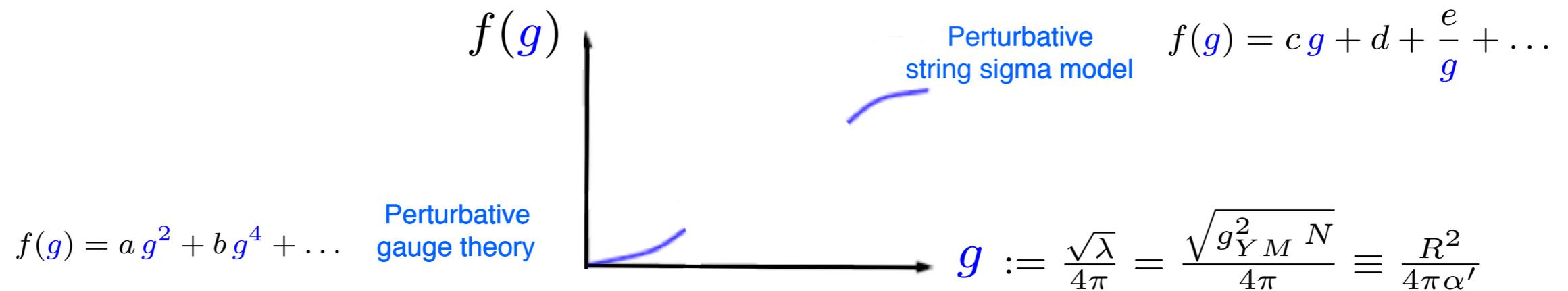


$\mathcal{N} = 4$  super Yang-Mills in 4d

$$\langle W[C] \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} \mathcal{P} e^{\int (iA_\mu \dot{x}^\mu + \Phi_i \dot{y}^i) ds}$$

# Motivation

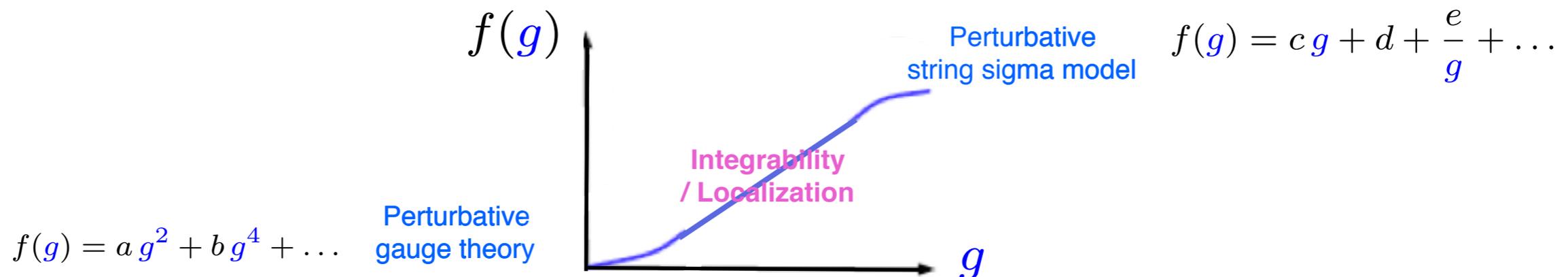
Main merit: allows studying regimes not accessible via standard analytical tools.



# Motivation

Beautiful progress in obtaining **exact results** within AdS/CFT

- ▶ from integrability (**assumed**)
- ▶ from supersymmetric localization (**BPS observable**)



Superstrings in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$  with RR fluxes: complicated interacting 2d field theory

$$S_{\text{IIB}} = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi} \int d\tau d\sigma \left[ \partial_a X \partial^a X + \bar{\theta} \Gamma^a (D + F_5) \theta \partial_a X + \bar{\theta} \theta \bar{\theta} \theta \partial_a X \partial^a X + \dots \right]$$

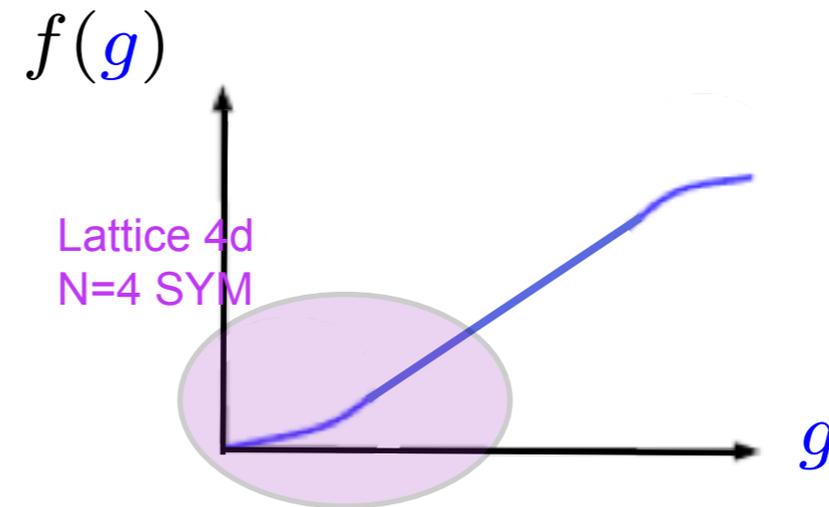
under control perturbatively (and with some caveats).

Need of **genuine 2d QFT** to cover the **finite-coupling region**.

# Motivation

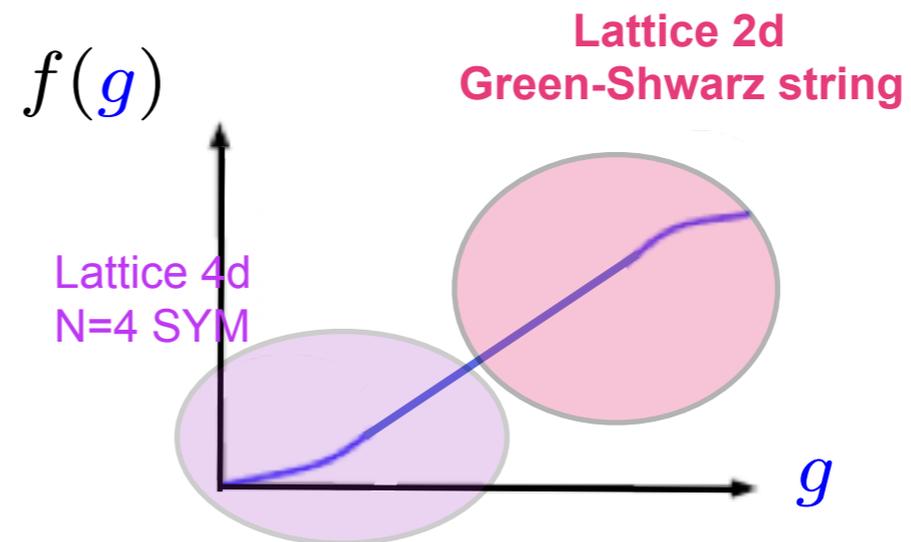
Lattice techniques in AdS/CFT:  
(next talk! Berkowitz)  
exciting program on the 4d susy CFT side,  
subtleties with supersymmetry.

Talks by Shaich, Giedt, Anosh



# Motivation

Lattice for superstring world-sheet  
in  $AdS_5 \times S^5$



[previous study: Roiban McKeown 2013]

Features:

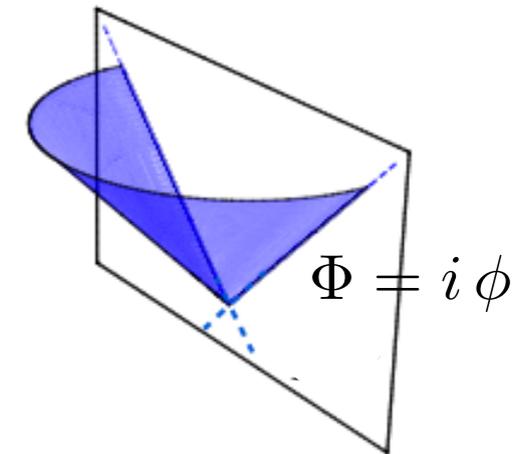
- ▶ **2d**: computationally **cheap**
- ▶ **no supersymmetry** (only as flavour symmetry, Green-Schwarz)
- ▶ **all gauge symmetries are fixed** (no formulation à la Wilson), only **scalar** fields (some of which anti-commuting)

Non-trivial 2d qft with strong coupling analytically known,  
finite-coupling (numerical) prediction.

# The cusp anomaly of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM from string theory

Completely solved via integrability. [Beisert Eden Staudacher 2006]

Expectation value of a light-like cusped Wilson loop



$$\langle W[C_{\text{cusp}}] \rangle \sim e^{-f(g) \phi \ln \frac{L_{\text{IR}}}{\epsilon_{\text{UV}}}}$$

AdS/CFT

$$Z_{\text{cusp}} = \int [D\delta X][D\delta\theta] e^{-S_{\text{IIB}}(X_{\text{cusp}} + \delta X, \delta\theta)} = e^{-\Gamma_{\text{eff}}} \equiv e^{-f(g) V_2}$$

String partition function with “cusp” boundary conditions, evaluated perturbatively

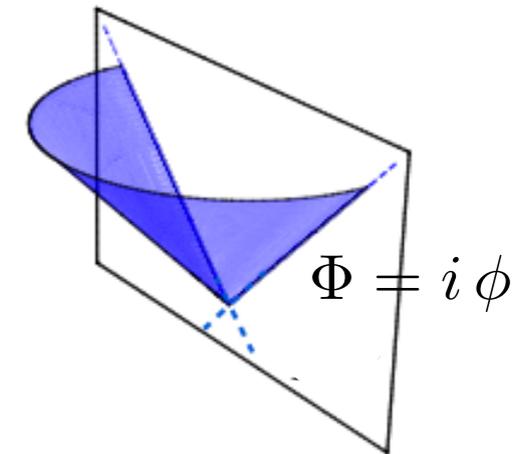
$$f(g)|_{g \rightarrow 0} = 8g^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{\pi^2}{3} g^2 + \frac{11\pi^4}{45} g^4 - \left( \frac{73}{315} + 8\zeta_3 \right) g^6 + \dots \right] \quad [\text{Bern et al. 2006}]$$

$$f(g)|_{g \rightarrow \infty} = 4g \left[ 1 - \frac{3 \ln 2}{4\pi} \frac{1}{g} - \frac{K}{16\pi^2} \frac{1}{g^2} + \dots \right] \quad [\text{Giombi et al. 2009}]$$

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A lattice approach prefers **expectation values**

$$\langle S_{\text{cusp}} \rangle = \frac{\int [D\delta X][D\delta\Psi] S_{\text{cusp}} e^{-S_{\text{cusp}}}}{\int [D\delta X][D\delta\Psi] e^{-S_{\text{cusp}}}} = -g \frac{d \ln Z_{\text{cusp}}}{dg} \equiv g \frac{V_2}{8} f'(g)$$

# Linearization

The relevant (gauge-fixed) action has **quartic** fermionic interactions

$$S_{\text{cusp}} = g \int dt ds \mathcal{L}_{\text{cusp}}$$

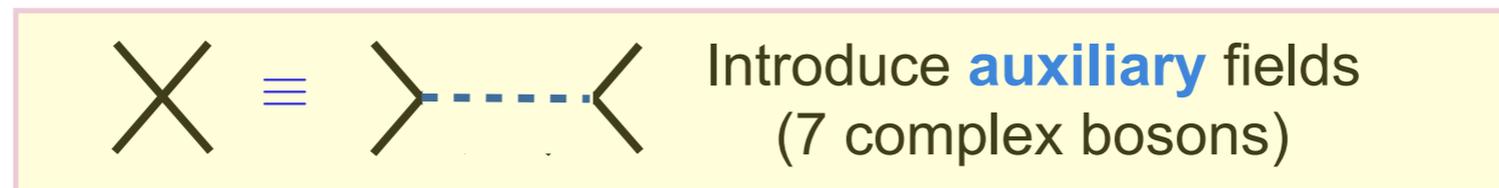
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{cusp}} = |\partial_t x + \frac{1}{2}x|^2 + \frac{1}{z^4} |\partial_s x - \frac{1}{2}x|^2 + \left( \partial_t z^M + \frac{1}{2}z^M + \frac{i}{z^2} z_N \eta_i (\rho^{MN})^i_j \eta^j \right)^2 + \frac{1}{z^4} (\partial_s z^M - \frac{1}{2}z^M)^2$$

$$+ i (\theta^i \partial_t \theta_i + \eta^i \partial_t \eta_i + \theta_i \partial_t \theta^i + \eta_i \partial_t \eta^i) - \frac{1}{z^2} (\eta^i \eta_i)^2$$

$$+ 2i \left[ \frac{1}{z^3} z^M \eta^i (\rho^M)_{ij} (\partial_s \theta^j - \frac{1}{2}\theta^j - \frac{i}{z} \eta^j (\partial_s x - \frac{1}{2}x)) + \frac{1}{z^3} z^M \eta_i (\rho_M^\dagger)^{ij} (\partial_s \theta_j - \frac{1}{2}\theta_j + \frac{i}{z} \eta_j (\partial_s x - \frac{1}{2}x)^*) \right]$$

To formally integrate out Grassmann-odd fields,  $P[\Phi_i] = \frac{e^{-S_E[\Phi_i]} \det \mathcal{O}_F}{Z}$

linearize



and enforce definite positive weight

$$\det \mathcal{O}_F \longrightarrow \sqrt{\det(\mathcal{O}_F \mathcal{O}_F^\dagger)} = \int D\zeta D\bar{\zeta} e^{-\int d^2\xi \bar{\zeta} (\mathcal{O}_F \mathcal{O}_F^\dagger)^{-\frac{1}{4}} \zeta}$$

# Green-Schwarz string in the null cusp background

After linearization the Lagrangian reads ( $m \sim P_+$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{cusp}} &= \left| \partial_t x + \frac{m}{2} x \right|^2 + \frac{1}{z^4} \left| \partial_s x - \frac{m}{2} x \right|^2 + (\partial_t z^M + \frac{m}{2} z^M)^2 + \frac{1}{z^4} (\partial_s z^M - \frac{m}{2} z^M)^2 \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \phi^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\phi_M)^2 + \psi^T O_F \psi , \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ 8 bosonic coordinates:  $x, x^*, z^M$  ( $M = 1, \dots, 6$ ),  $z = \sqrt{z_M z^M}$ ;
- ▶ 7 auxiliary fields  $\phi, \phi^M$  ( $M = 1, \dots, 6$ );
- ▶ 8 fermionic variables,  $\psi \equiv (\theta^i, \theta_i, \eta^i, \eta_i)$ , and  $\theta^i = (\theta_i)^\dagger, \eta^i = (\eta_i)^\dagger, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  transforming in the fundamental of  $SU(4)$

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$$O_F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i\partial_t & -i\rho^M (\partial_s + \frac{m}{2}) \frac{z^M}{z^3} & 0 \\ i\partial_t & 0 & 0 & -i\rho_M^\dagger (\partial_s + \frac{m}{2}) \frac{z^M}{z^3} \\ i\frac{z^M}{z^3} \rho^M (\partial_s - \frac{m}{2}) & 0 & 2\frac{z^M}{z^4} \rho^M (\partial_s x - m\frac{x}{2}) & i\partial_t - A^T \\ 0 & i\frac{z^M}{z^3} \rho_M^\dagger (\partial_s - \frac{m}{2}) & i\partial_t + A & -2\frac{z^M}{z^4} \rho_M^\dagger (\partial_s x^* - m\frac{x^*}{2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}z^2} \phi_M \rho^{MN} z_N - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}z} \phi + i \frac{z_N}{z^2} \rho^{MN} \partial_t z^M$$

and  $\rho^M$  are off-diagonal blocks of  $SO(6)$  Dirac matrices  $\gamma^M \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \rho_M^\dagger \\ \rho^M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Manifest global symmetry is  $SO(6) \times SO(2)$ .

# Discretization

Suppress fermion doublers with the Wilson-like discretization

$$K_F^W = \begin{pmatrix} W_+ & -\mathring{p}_0 \mathbb{1} & (\mathring{p}_1 - i\frac{m}{2})\rho^M u_M & 0 \\ -\mathring{p}_0 \mathbb{1} & -W_+^\dagger & 0 & (\mathring{p}_1 - i\frac{m}{2})\rho_M^\dagger u^M \\ -(\mathring{p}_1 + i\frac{m}{2})\rho^M u_M & 0 & W_- & -\mathring{p}_0 \mathbb{1} \\ 0 & -(\mathring{p}_1 + i\frac{m}{2})\rho_M^\dagger u^M & -\mathring{p}_0 \mathbb{1} & -W_-^\dagger \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $W_\pm = \frac{r}{2} (\hat{p}_0^2 \pm i\hat{p}_1^2) \rho^M u_M$ ,  $|r| = 1$ , and  $\hat{p}_\mu \equiv \frac{2}{a} \sin \frac{p_\mu a}{2}$ . It leads to

$$\Gamma_{\text{LAT}}^{(1)} = \frac{V_2}{2a^2} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \frac{d^2 p}{(2\pi)^2} \ln \left[ \frac{4^8 (\sin^2 \frac{p_0}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{p_1}{2})^5 (\sin^2 \frac{p_0}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{p_1}{2} + \frac{M^2}{8})^2 (\sin^2 \frac{p_0}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{p_1}{2} + \frac{M^2}{4})}{(\sin^2 p_0 + \sin^2 p_1 + \frac{M^2}{4} + 4 \sin^4 \frac{p_0}{2} + 4 \sin^4 \frac{p_1}{2})^8} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{a \rightarrow 0} -\frac{3 \ln 2}{8\pi} V_2 m^2, \quad \text{cusp anomaly at strong coupling} \quad (|r| = 1, M = m a.)$$

- Does not induce (additional) complex phases:

$$(O_F^W)^\dagger = \Gamma_5 O_F^W \Gamma_5 \quad \text{and} \quad (O_F^W)^T = -O_F^W$$

with  $\Gamma_5^\dagger \Gamma_5 = \mathbb{1}$ ,  $\Gamma_5^\dagger = -\Gamma_5$  ensures  $\det O_F^W$  to be real and non-negative.

- It **preserves** the **SO(6)** global symmetry, breaks the SO(2).

# The simulation: parameter space

- ▶ In the continuum model there are two parameters,  $g = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi}$  and  $m \sim P_+$ . In perturbation theory divergences cancel, dimensionless quantities are pure functions of the (bare) coupling

$$F = F(g)$$

- ▶ Our discretization cancels (1-loop) divergences, and reproduces the 1-loop cusp anomaly. Assume it is true nonperturbatively, for lattice regularization. Only additional scale: lattice spacing  $a$ .

Three dimensionless (input) parameters:

$$g, \quad N \equiv \frac{L}{a}, \quad M \equiv m a$$

Therefore

$$F_{\text{LAT}} = F_{\text{LAT}}(g, N, M)$$

# Line of constant physics

In the continuum, “effective” masses undergo a *finite* renormalization

$$m_x^2(g) = \frac{m^2}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{8g} + \mathcal{O}(g^{-2}) \right) \quad (\star)$$

The dimensionless physical quantity to keep **constant when  $a \rightarrow 0$**  is

$$L^2 m_x^2 = \text{const}, \quad \text{leading to} \quad (L m)^2 \equiv (N M)^2 = \text{const},$$

if  $(\star)$  is still true on the lattice and  $g$  is not (infinitely) renormalized.

# Continuum limit $a \rightarrow 0$

We assume that, on the lattice, no further scale but  $a$  is present.

A generic observable

$$F_{\text{LAT}} = F_{\text{LAT}}(g, N, M) = F(g) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-MN}\right)$$

where

$$g = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{4\pi}, \quad N = \frac{L}{a}, \quad M = a m.$$

Recipe:

- ▶ fix  $g$
- ▶ fix  $MN$ , large enough so to keep small finite volume effects
- ▶ evaluate  $F_{\text{LAT}}$  for  $N = 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, \dots$
- ▶ obtain  $F(g)$  extrapolating to  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

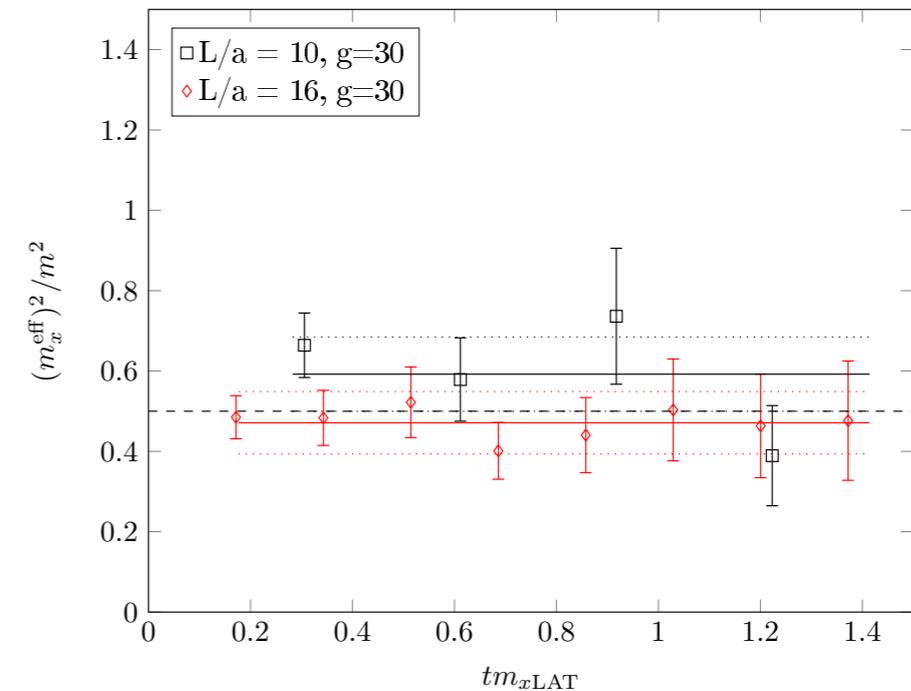
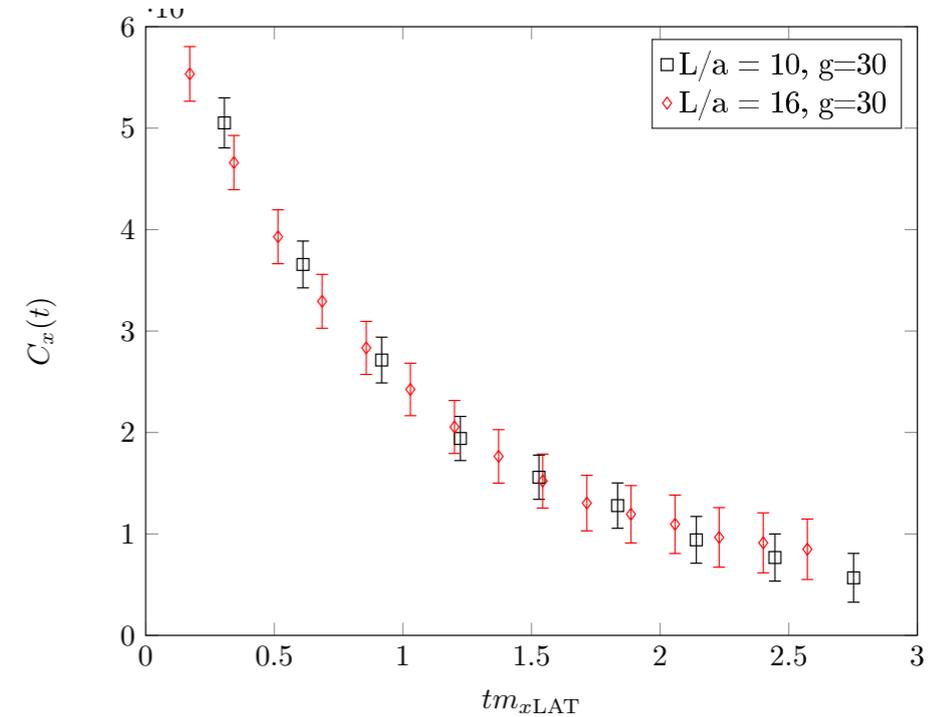
# Measure I: mass of $x$ boson

From the correlator of the  $x$  fields

$$\begin{aligned} C_x(t) &= \sum_{s_1, s_2} \langle x(t, s_1) x^*(0, s_2) \rangle \\ &= c_0 e^{-t m_{x\text{LAT}}} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

extract the  $x$ -mass

$$\begin{aligned} m_{x\text{LAT}} &= \lim_{T, t \rightarrow \infty} m^{\text{eff}_x} \\ &\equiv \lim_{T, t \rightarrow \infty, a} \frac{1}{a} \log \frac{C_x(t; 0)}{C_x(t+a; 0)} \end{aligned}$$



No infinite renormalization occurring, **no need of tuning  $m$**  to adjust for it.  
This corroborates our choice of line of constant physics.

## Measure II: the cusp action

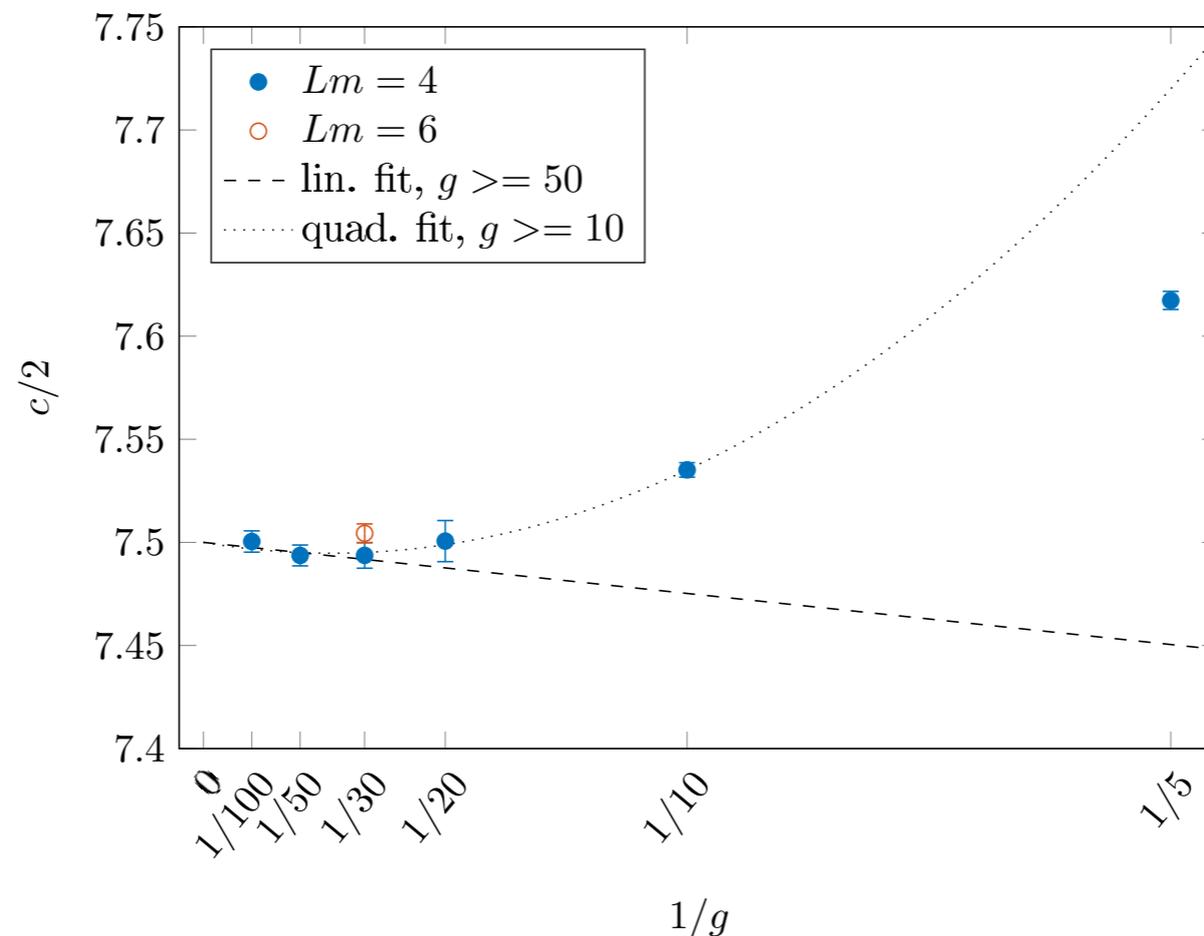
In measuring  $\langle S_{\text{cusp}} \rangle \equiv g \frac{V_2 m^2}{8} f'(g)$  quadratic divergences appear.

At large  $g$ ,

$$\langle S_{\text{LAT}} \rangle \equiv g \frac{N^2 M^2}{4} 4 + \frac{c}{2} (2N^2)$$

where  $c = n_{\text{bos}}$ . This is because  $S = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \ln g}$  and  $Z \sim \Pi_{n_{\text{bos}}} (\det g \mathcal{O})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Here,  $n_{\text{bos}}^{\text{phys}} + n_{\text{bos}}^{\text{aux}} = 8 + 7 = 15$ .

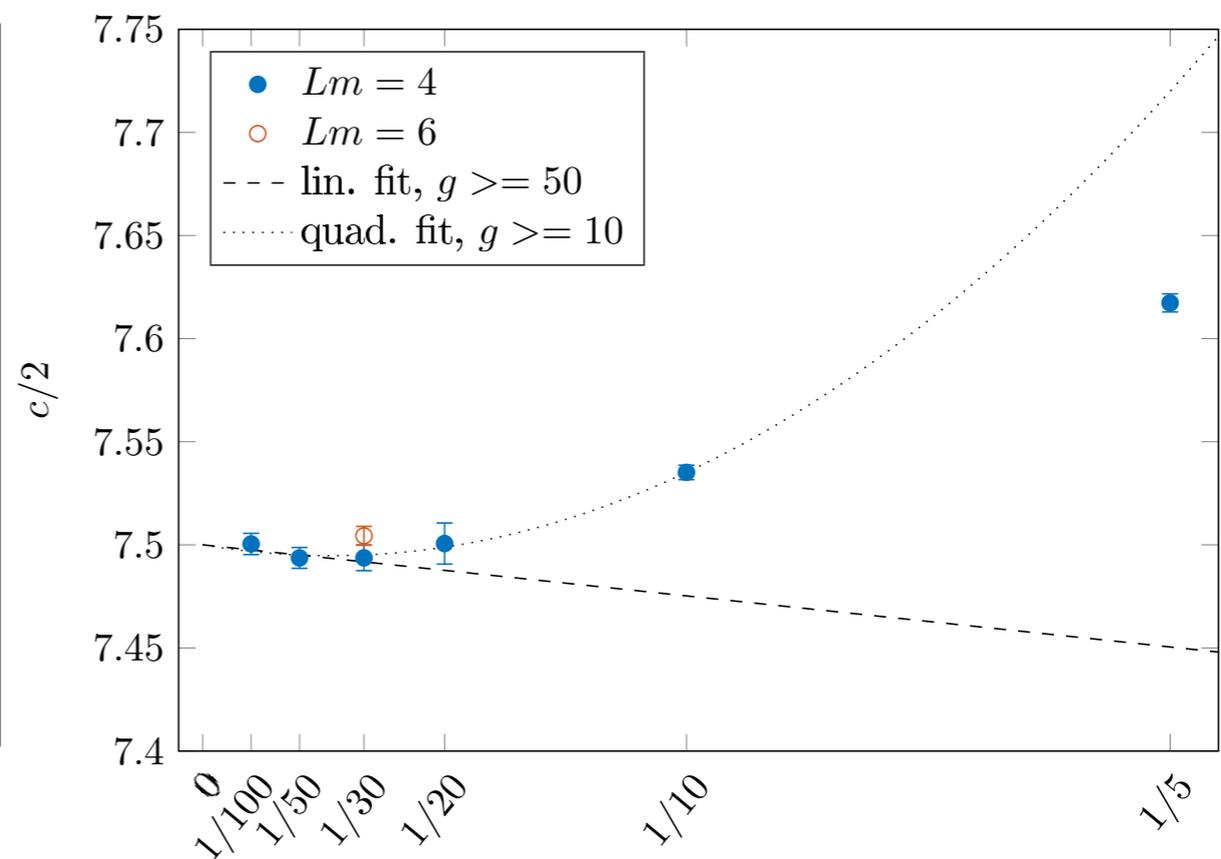
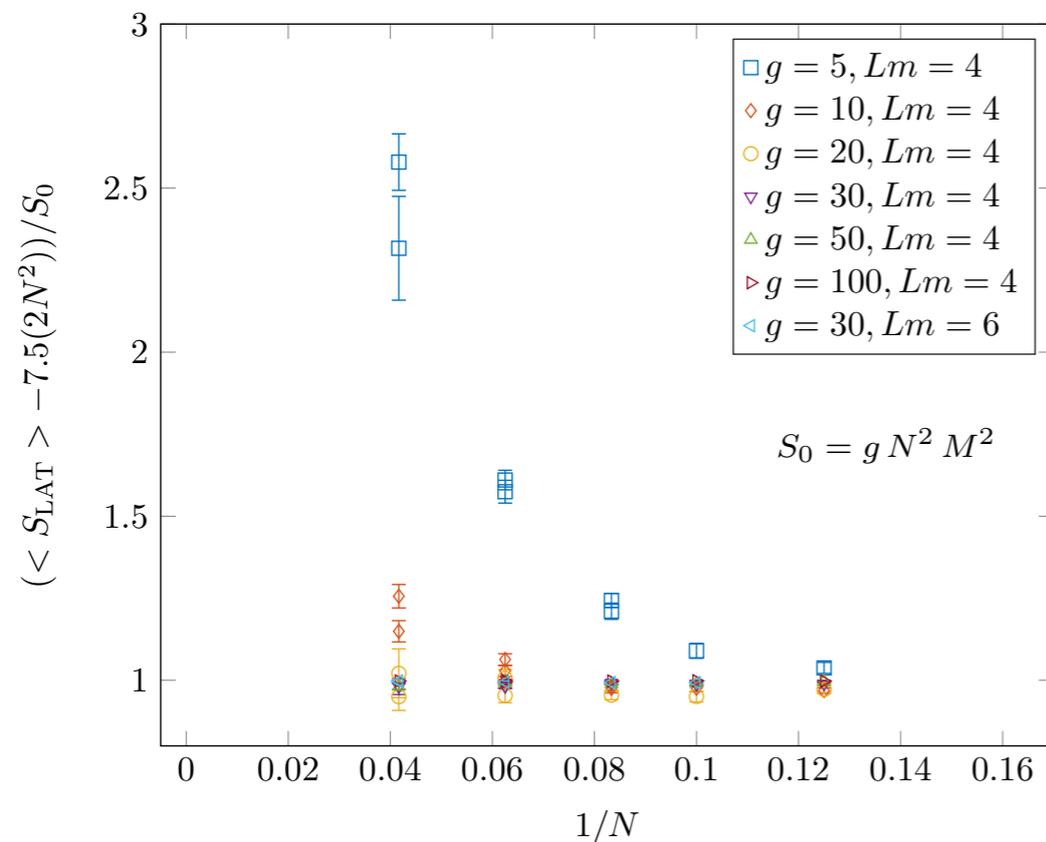


# Measure II: the cusp action

In measuring  $\langle S_{\text{cusp}} \rangle \equiv g \frac{V_2 m^2}{8} f'(g)$  quadratic divergences appear.

They appear also at finite  $g$ ,

$$\langle S_{\text{LAT}} \rangle \equiv g \frac{N^2 M^2}{4} f'(g)_{\text{LAT}} + \frac{c(g)}{2} (2N^2)$$



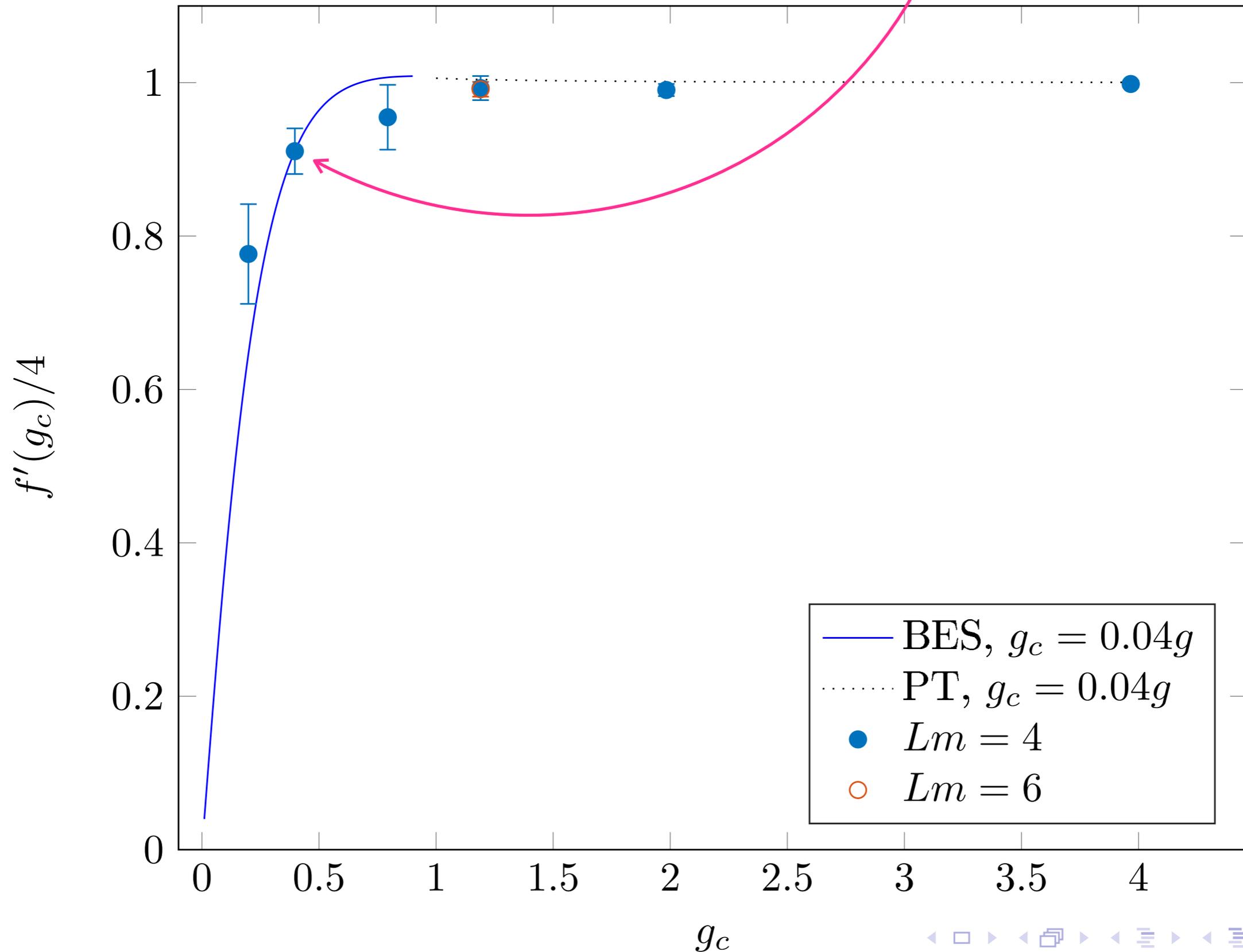
In continuum perturbation theory dim. reg. set them to zero.

Here, expected mixing of the Lagrangian with lower dimension operator

$$\mathcal{O}(\phi(s))_r = \sum_{\alpha: [\mathcal{O}_\alpha] \leq D} Z_\alpha \mathcal{O}_\alpha(\phi(x)), \quad Z_\alpha \sim \Lambda^{(D - [\mathcal{O}_\alpha])} \sim a^{-(D - [\mathcal{O}_\alpha])}$$

# Cusp on the lattice vs cusp in the continuum

Subtract divergences, assume  $g = \alpha g_c$ , from  $f'(g) = f'(g_c)_c$  get  $g_c = 0.04g$ .



# The phase

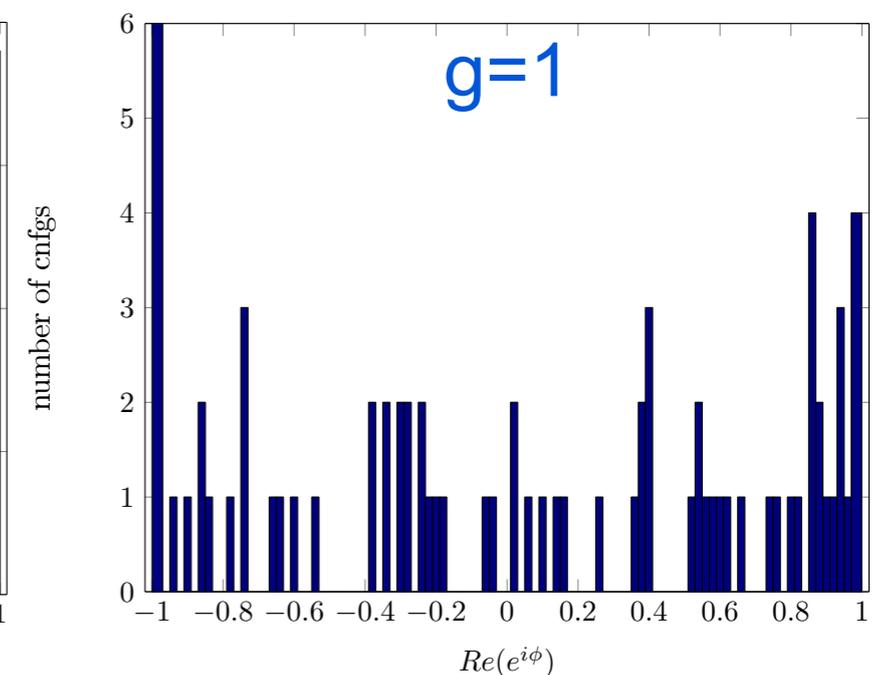
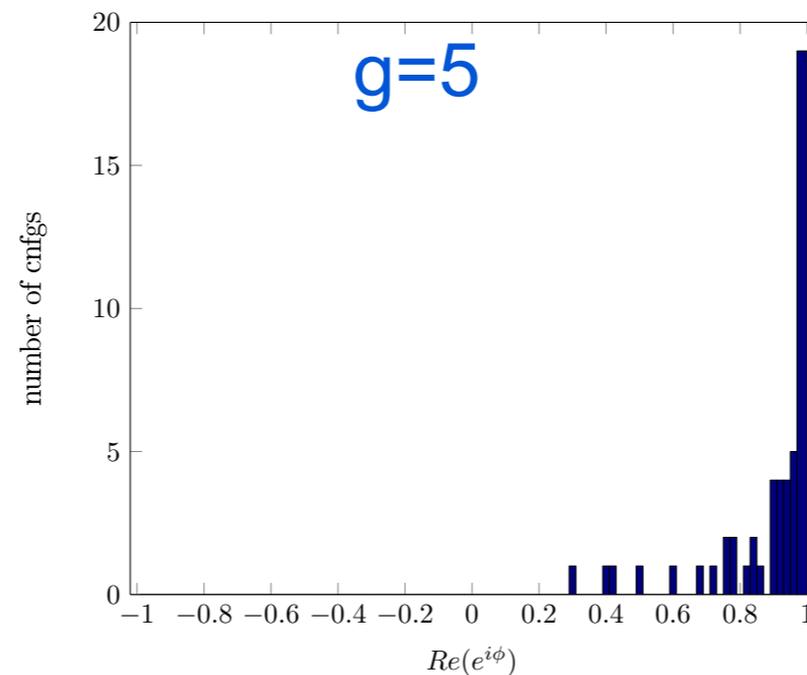
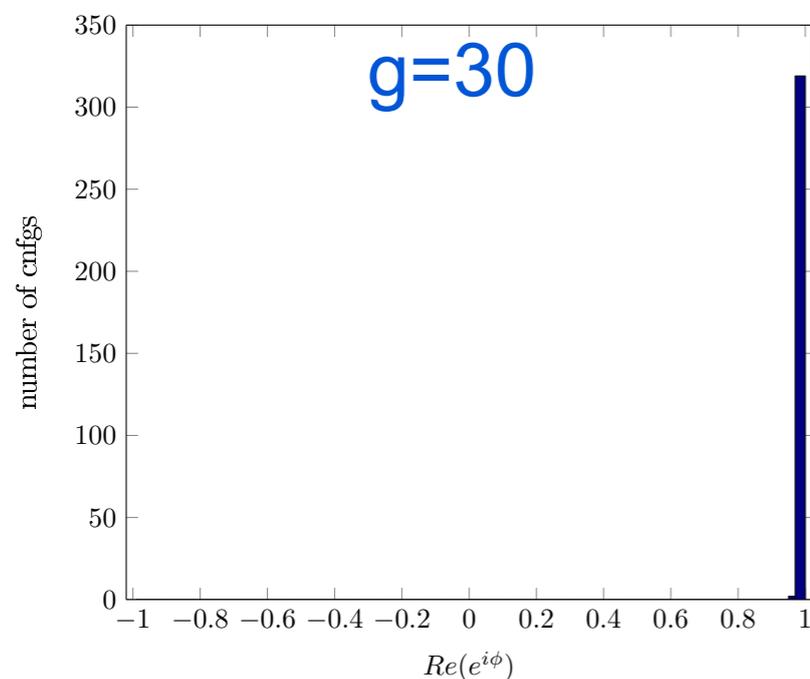
After linearization  $\mathcal{L}_F = \psi^T \mathcal{O}_F \psi$ , integrating fermions leads to a **complex** Pfaffian  $\text{Pf } O_F = |(\det O_F)^{\frac{1}{2}}| e^{i\theta}$ .

The phase is encoded in the linearization: we deal with a fermion hermitian bilinear  $b \sim \eta^2$  whose corresponding quartic interaction

$$e^{-\mathcal{L}_4^{\text{ferm}}} = e^{-\frac{b^2}{4a}} = \int dx e^{-ax^2 + ibx}$$

comes in the exponential as a “repulsive” potential.

In the interesting ( $g = 1$ ) region the real part of the phase has a **flat** distribution,



and reweighting  $\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_{\text{reweight}} = \frac{\langle \mathcal{O} e^{i\theta} \rangle_{\theta=0}}{\langle e^{i\theta} \rangle_{\theta=0}}$  breaks down.

# Alternative linearization

Exploit the Grassmann nature of fermions

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{F4} &= -\frac{1}{z^2}(\eta^2)^2 + \frac{1}{z^2}(i\eta_i(\rho^{MN})^i{}_j n^N \eta^j)^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{z^2}(\eta^2)^2 \mp 2(\eta^2)^2 \mp \Sigma_{\pm i}^j \Sigma_{\pm j}^i\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Sigma_{\pm i}^j = \Sigma_i^j \pm \tilde{\Sigma}_i^j$  and

$$\Sigma_i^j = \eta_i \eta^j \quad \tilde{\Sigma}_j^i = (\rho^N)^{ik} n_N (\rho^L)_{jl} n_L \eta_k \eta^l$$

Choose the **good** sign ( $-$ ). This ensure a Pfaffian real, but not definite positive ( $\text{Pf } O_F = \pm(\det O_F)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ ).

Simulations for the new Yukawa terms (now 1 + 16 real auxiliary fields)

$$\mathcal{L}_{F4} \longrightarrow \frac{12}{z}\eta^2\phi + 6\phi^2 + \frac{2}{z}\Sigma_{\pm i}^j\phi_i^j + \phi_j^i\phi_i^j$$

are ongoing, reweighting seems problematic.

However, similar Lagrangean rearrangement **do** eliminate the sign problem in other models with quartic fermionic interactions.

[Catterall 2015, Wipf et al. unpublished]

# Conclusions

Solving a non-trivial 4d QFT is hard  $\longrightarrow$  reduce the problem via AdS/CFT:  
**solve a non-trivial 2d QFT.**

Lattice simulation of **gauge-fixed** Green-Schwarz string, Wilson-like fermion discretizations, standard methods (Rational Hybrid Monte Carlo).

- ▶ Results seems not to be sensitive to the discretization adopted
- ▶ Observables measured are in **good agreement** with expectation **at large  $g$**
- ▶ **At small  $g$** , complex phase and sign problem.  
Qualitative agreement with nonperturbative expectation from AdS/CFT

Comparison assumes **trivial** relation between  $g$  and  $g_c$  - if **not**, no **predictivity**.

Then continuum prediction is the point where to study the theory, lattice bare coupling tuned accordingly and used for fully predictive measurements of e.g. masses.

# Outlook

- ▶ Simulations with phase-free linearization
- ▶ Further observables, different backgrounds (e.g.  $\text{AdS}_4/\text{CFT}_3$ )
- ▶ Correlators of string vertex operators (gauge theory 3-point functions)
- ▶ ...
- ▶ ...

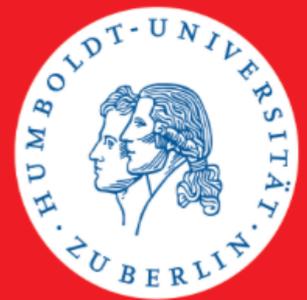
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- ▶ ...

Thanks for your attention.

# Integrability in Gauge and String Theory 2016

22-26 August Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
Campus Adlershof



## Speakers include:

Nima Arkani-Hamed  
Inês Aniceto  
Zoltan Bajnok  
Benjamin Basso  
Burkhard Eden  
Valentina Forini  
Victor Gorbenko  
Nikolay Gromov  
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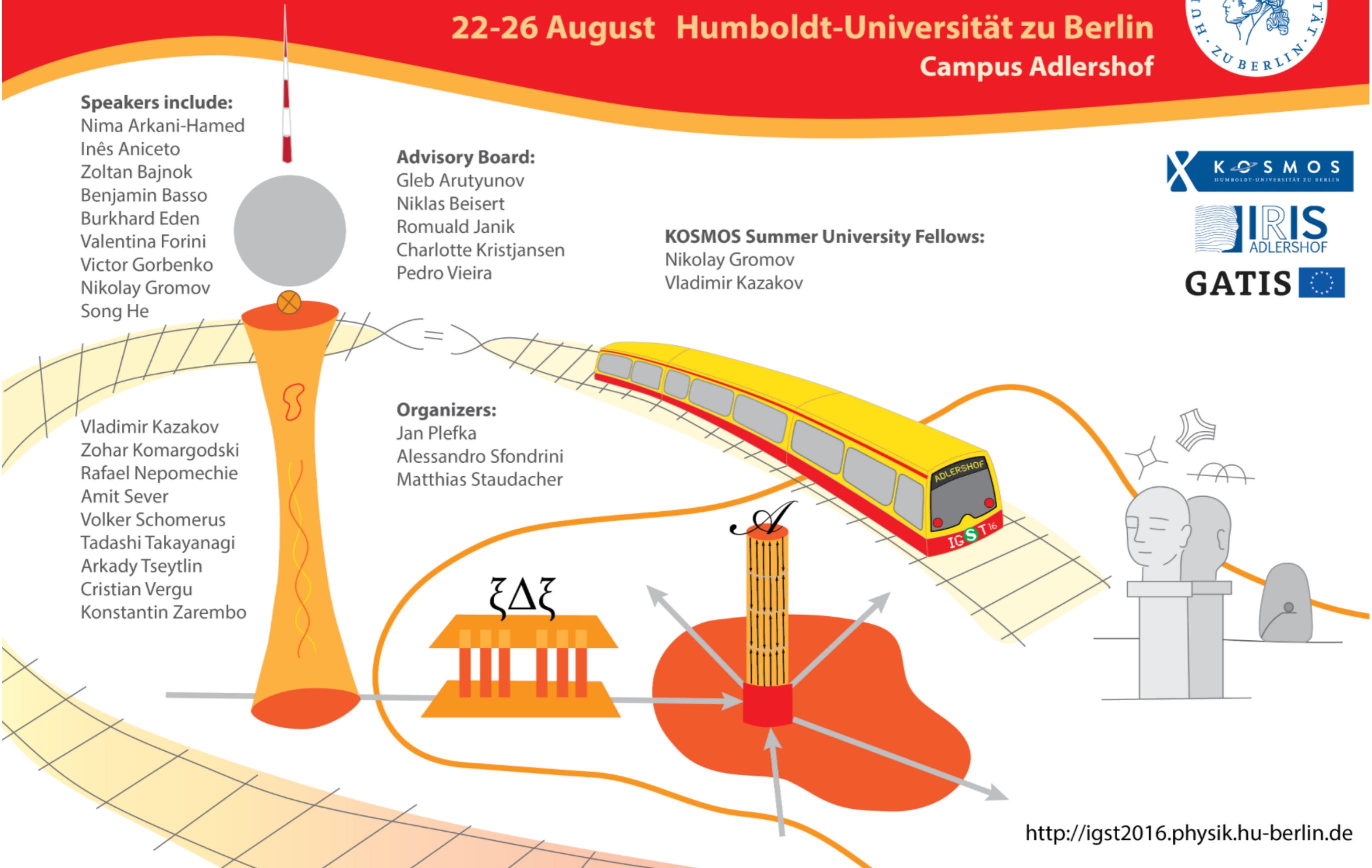
Nikolay Gromov  
Vladimir Kazakov



Vladimir Kazakov  
Zohar Komargodski  
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# Parameters of the simulations

$g$	$T/a \times L/a$	$Lm$	$am$	$\tau_{\text{int}}^S$	$\tau_{\text{int}}^{m_x}$	statistics [MDU]
5	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	0.8	2.2	900
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	0.9	2.6	900
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	0.7	4.6	900,1000
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	0.7	4.4	850,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	1.1	3.0	92,265
10	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	0.9	2.1	1000
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	0.9	2.1	1000
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	1.0	2.5	1000,1000
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	1.0	2.7	900,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	1.1	3.9	594,564
20	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	5.4	1.9	1000
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	9.9	1.8	1000
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	4.4	2.0	850
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	7.4	2.3	850,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	8.4	3.6	264,580
30	$20 \times 10$	6	0.60000	1.3	2.9	950
	$24 \times 12$	6	0.50000	1.3	2.4	950
	$32 \times 16$	6	0.37500	1.7	2.3	975
	$48 \times 24$	6	0.25000	1.5	2.3	533,652
	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	1.4	1.9	1000
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	1.2	2.7	950
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	1.2	2.1	900
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	1.3	1.8	900,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	1.3	4.3	150
50	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	1.1	1.8	1000
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	1.2	1.8	1000
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	0.8	2.0	1000
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	1.3	2.0	900,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	1.2	2.3	412
100	$16 \times 8$	4	0.50000	1.4	2.7	1000
	$20 \times 10$	4	0.40000	1.4	4.2	1000
	$24 \times 12$	4	0.33333	1.3	1.8	1000
	$32 \times 16$	4	0.25000	1.3	2.0	950,1000
	$48 \times 24$	4	0.16667	1.4	2.4	541

Table 1: Parameters of the simulations: the coupling  $g$ , the temporal ( $T$ ) and spatial ( $L$ ) extent of the lattice in units of the lattice spacing  $a$ , the line of constant physics fixed by  $Lm$  and the mass parameter  $M = am$ . The size of the statistics after thermalization is given in the last column in terms of Molecular Dynamic Units (MDU), which equals an HMC trajectory of length one. In the case of multiple replica the statistics for each replica is given separately. The auto-correlation times  $\tau$  of our main observables  $m_x$  and  $S$  are also given in the same units.