

# Conformality, Confinement and Chiral Symmetry Breaking

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Universität Heidelberg & ExtreMe Matter Institute

Cairns, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024



STRUCTURES  
CLUSTER OF  
EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386



**Based on**

**Conformality, Confinement & Chiral Symmetry Breaking**

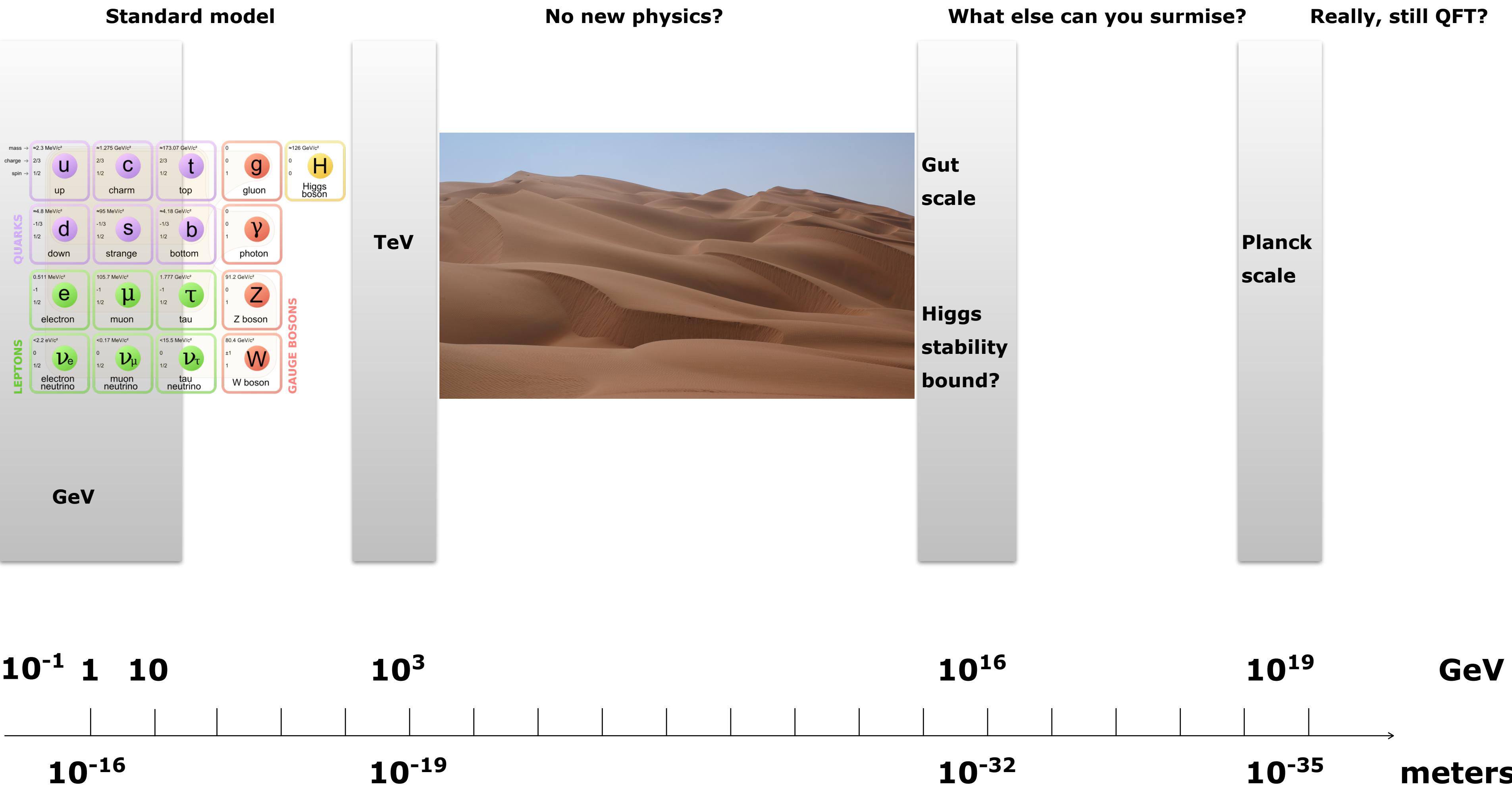
**Florian Goertz, Álvaro Pastor-Gutiérrez, JMP, in preparation**



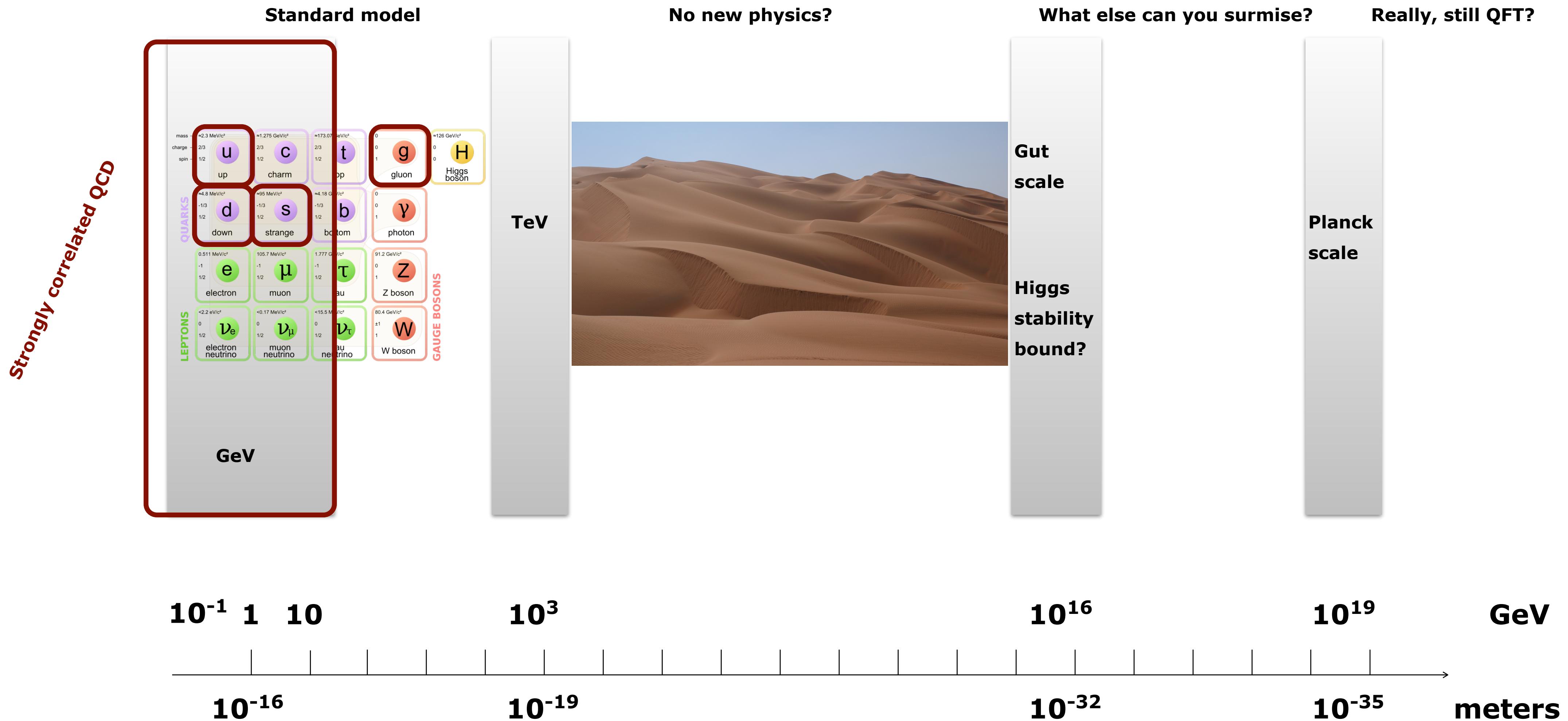
# High energy physics in a nutshell

'Never underestimate the joy people derive from hearing something they already know'

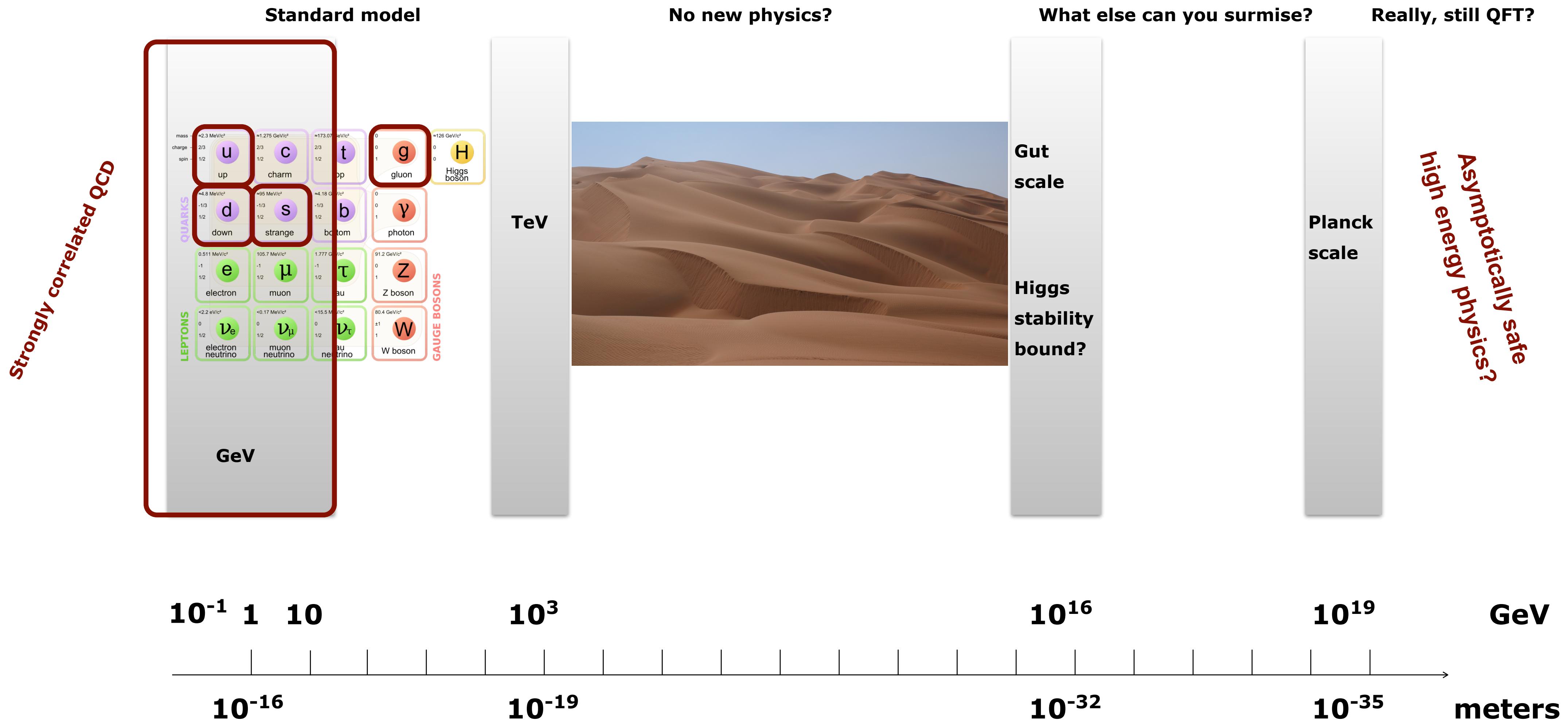
attributed to Fermi



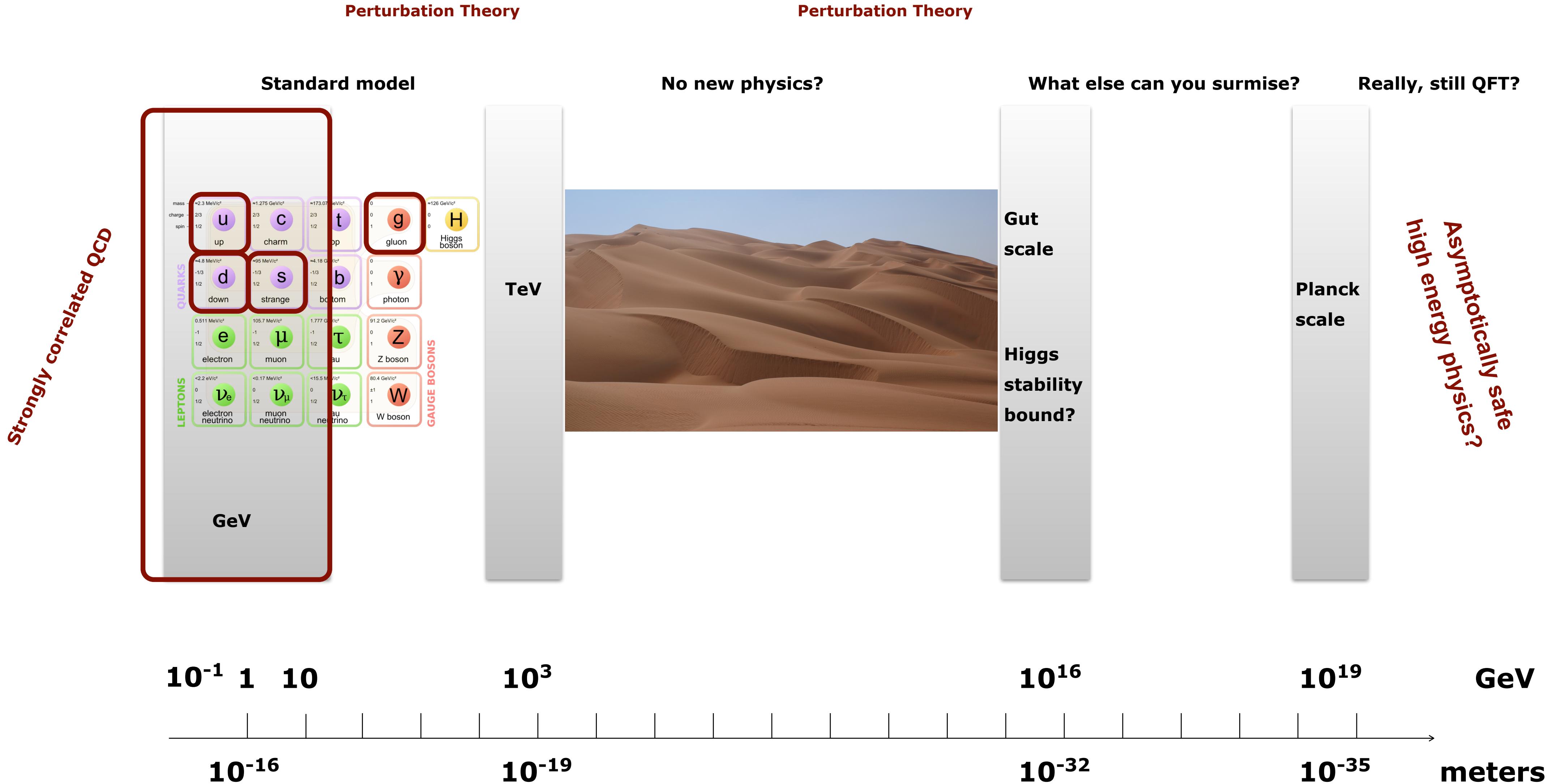
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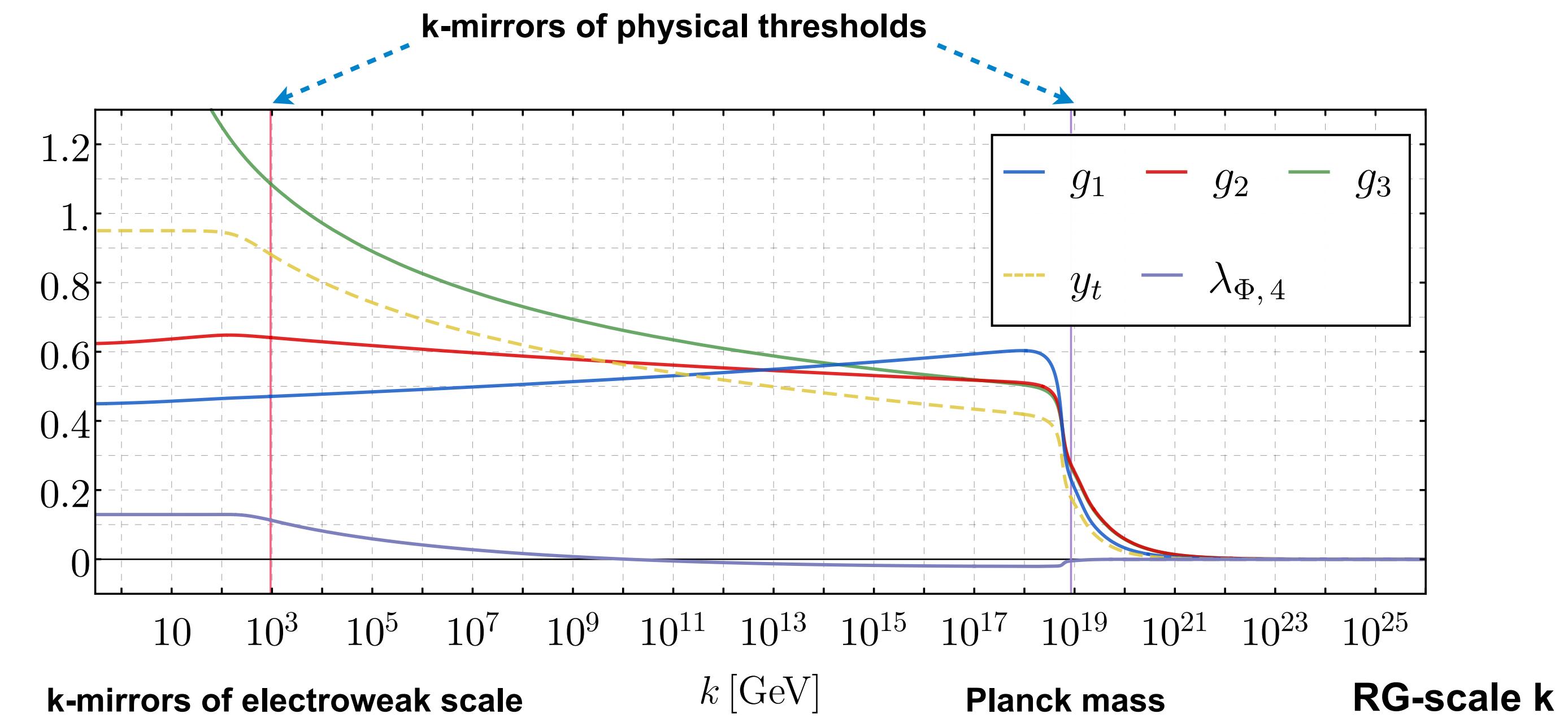
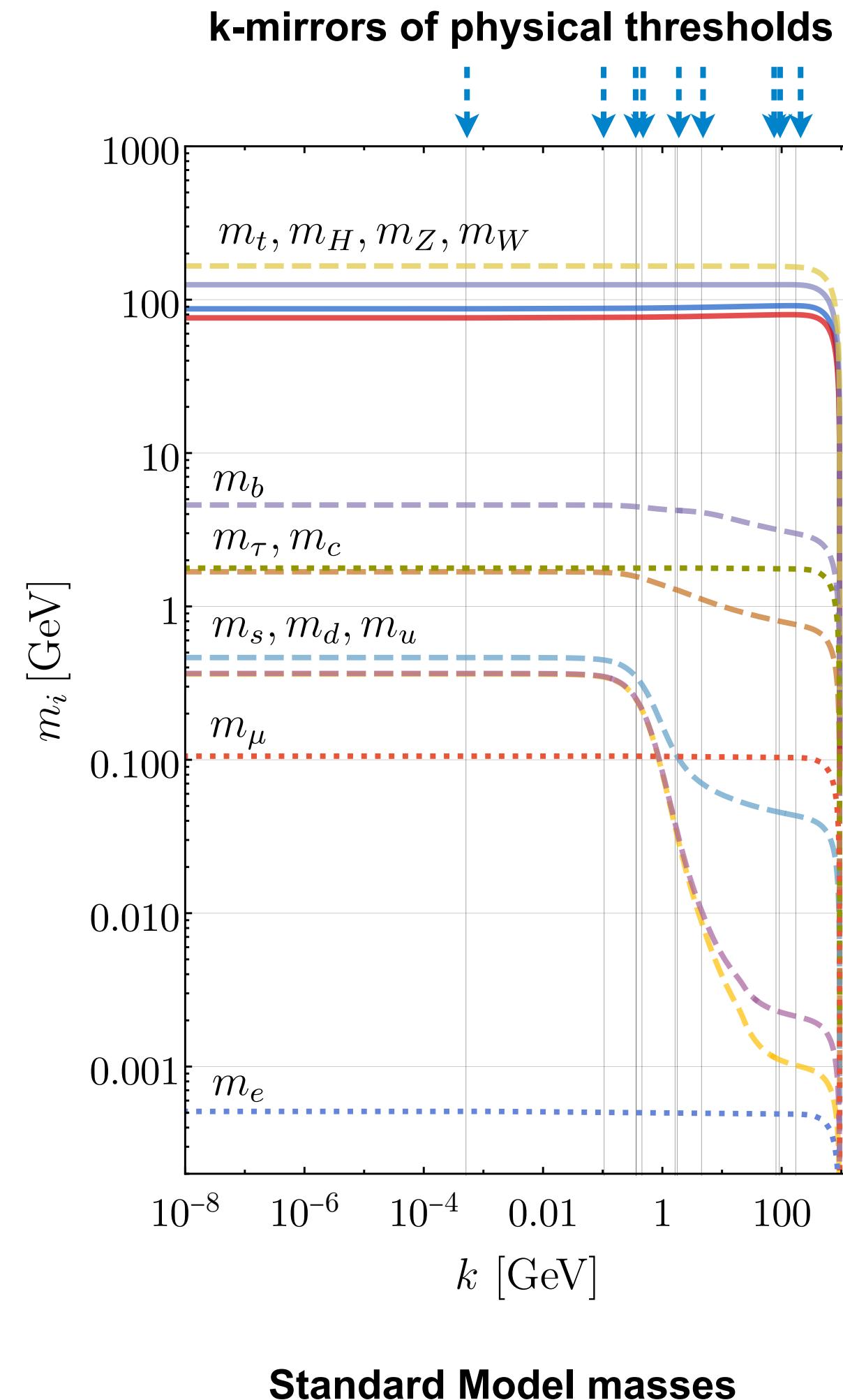


# High energy physics in a nutshell



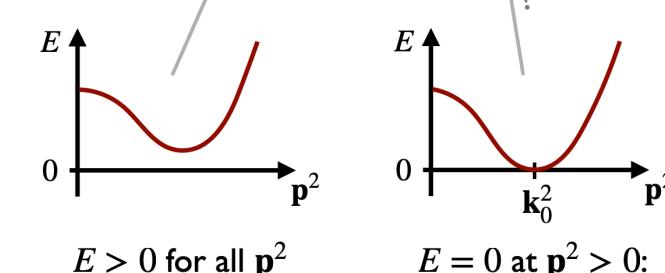
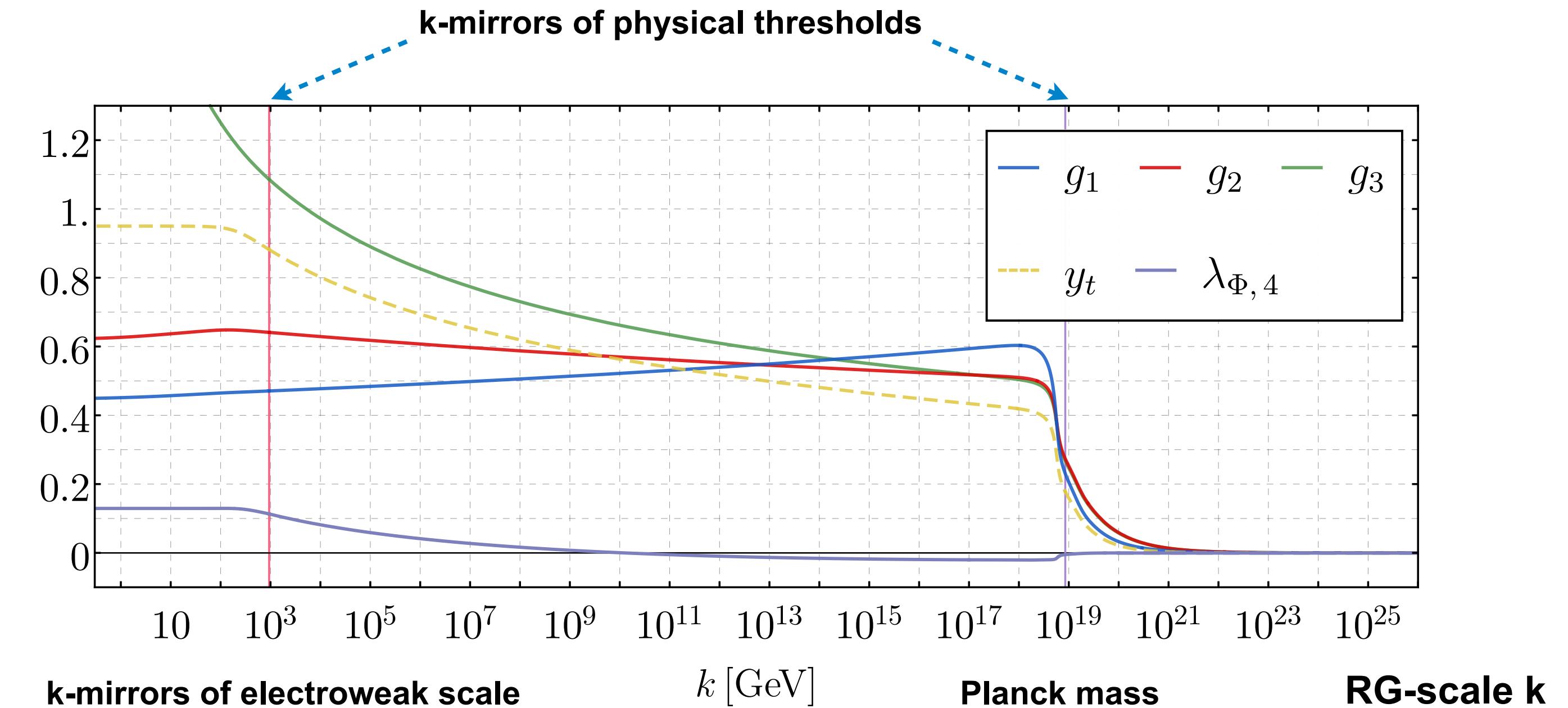
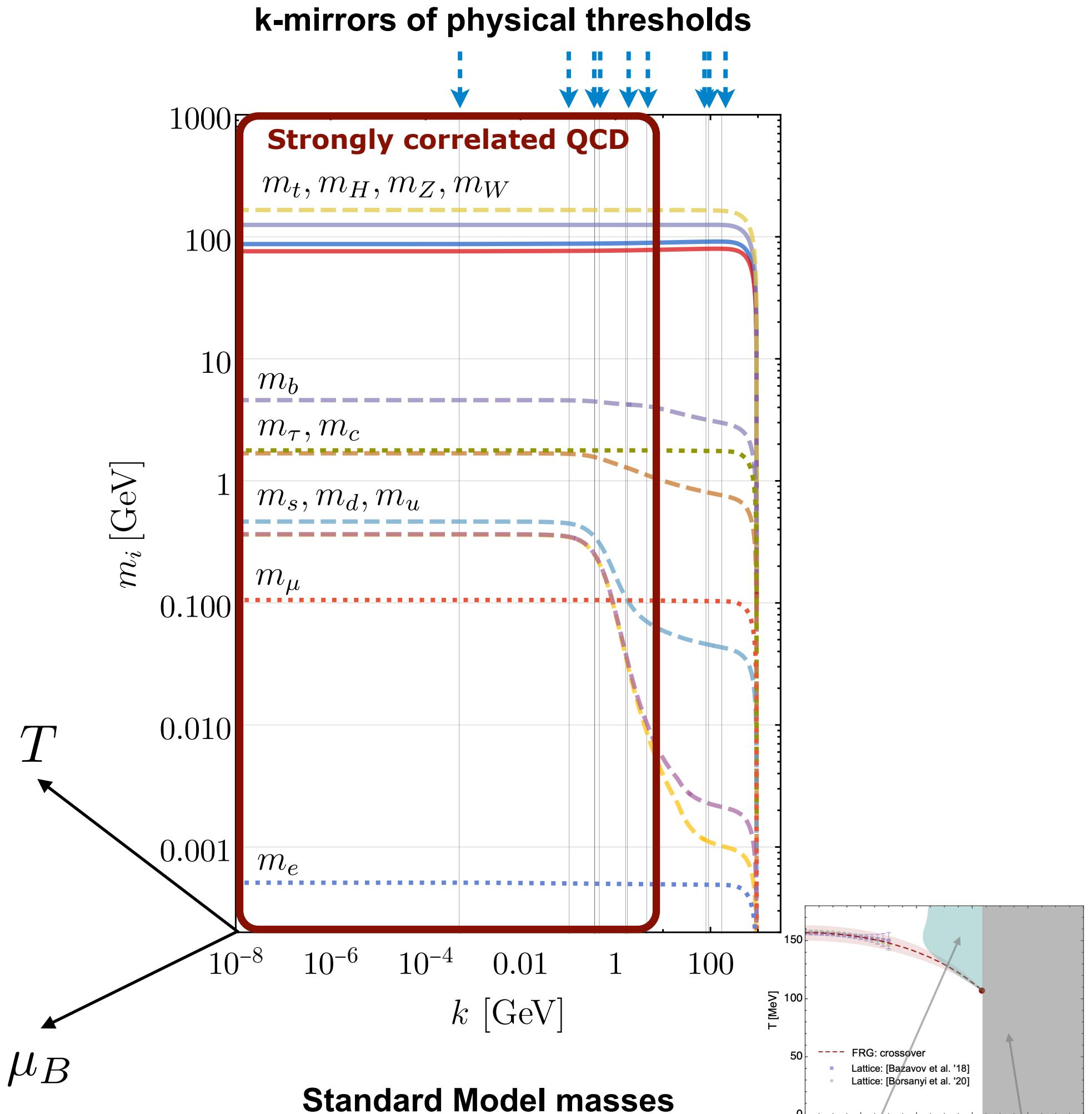
# The physics of thresholds

Example: asymptotically safe Standard Model



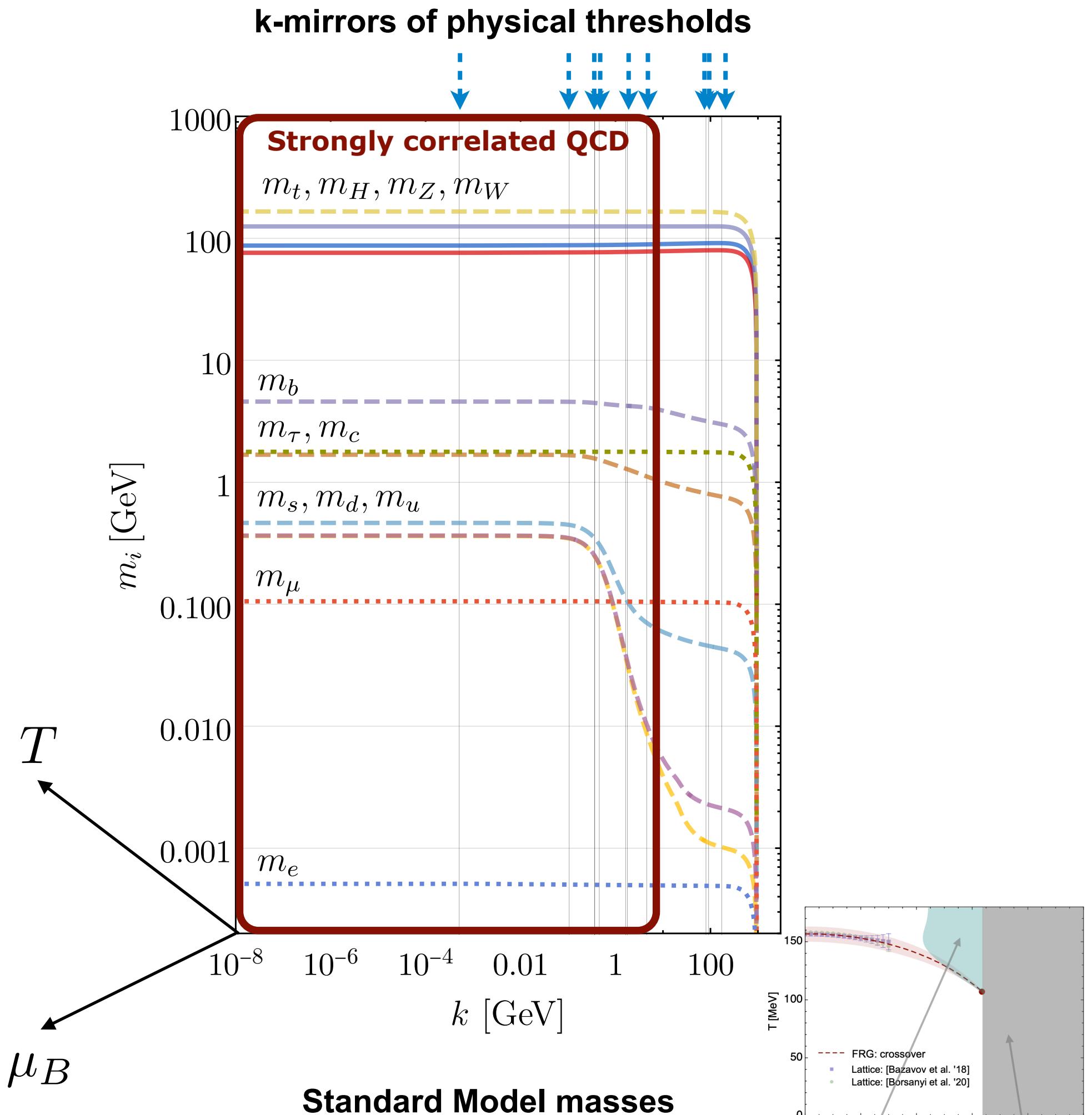
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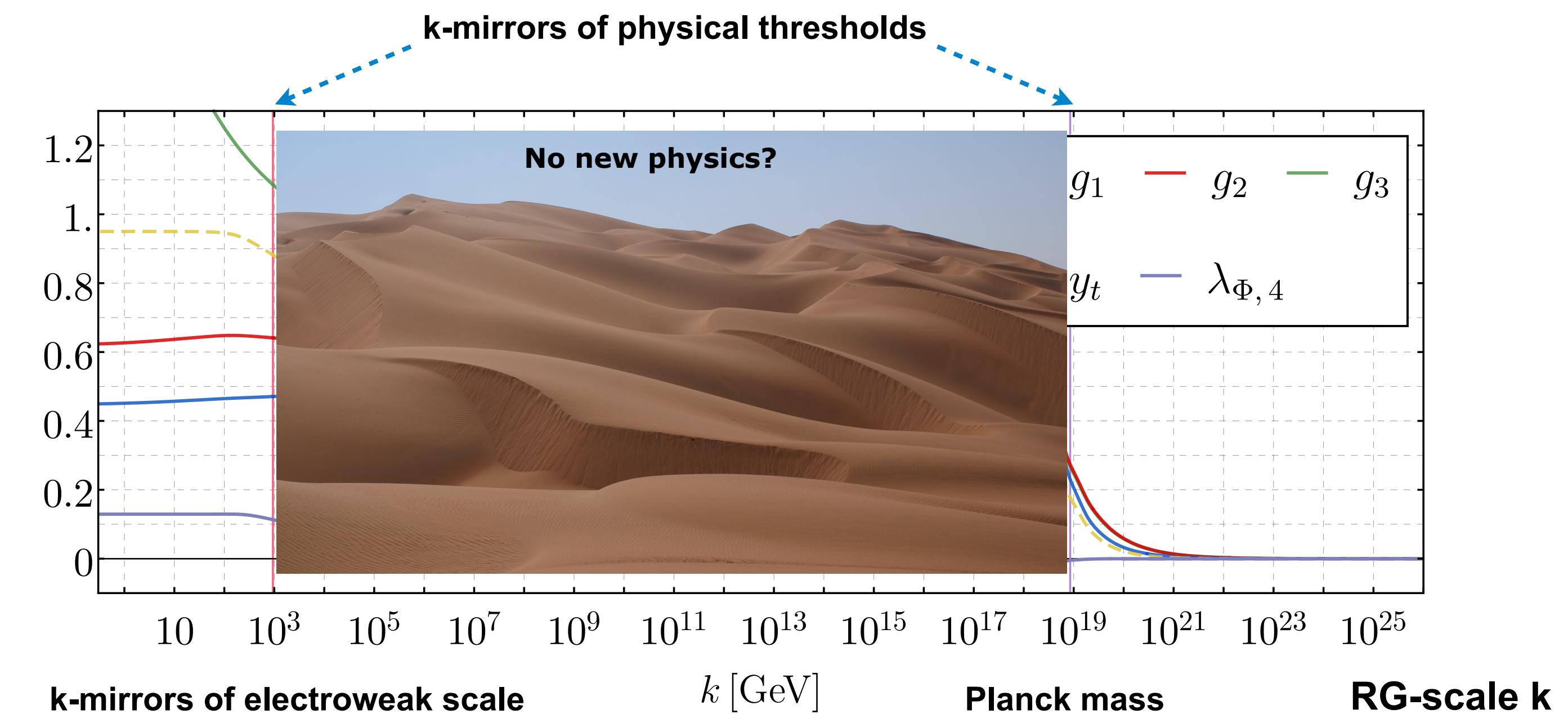
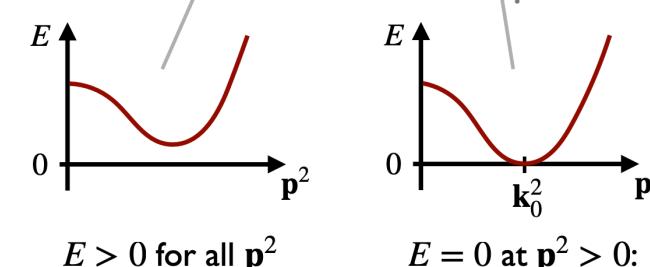


# The physics of thresholds

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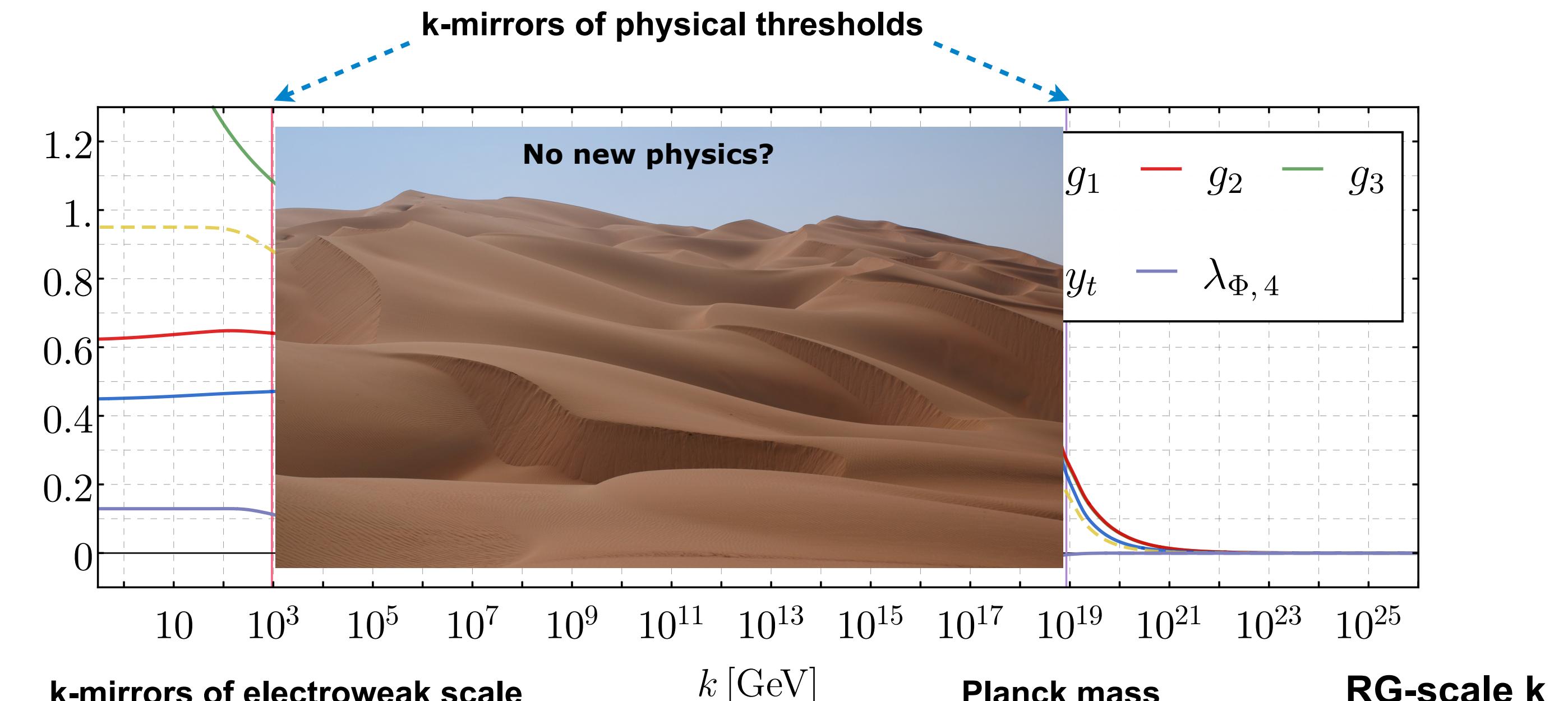
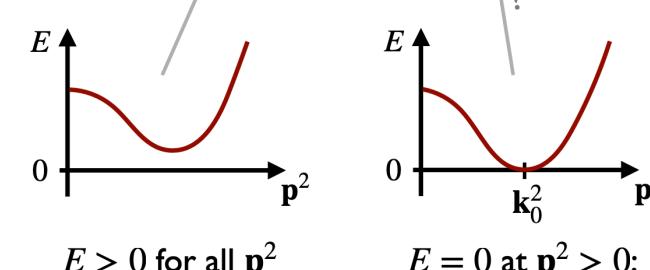
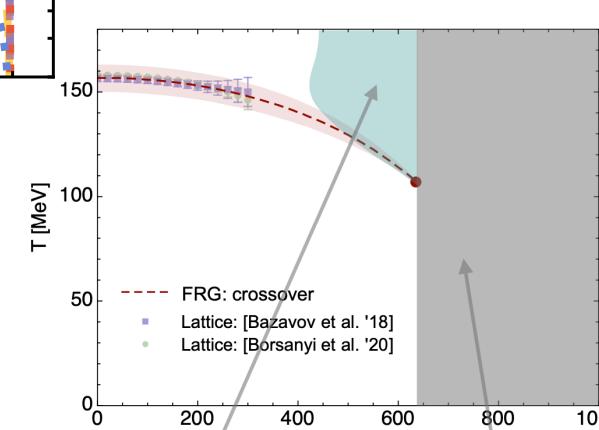
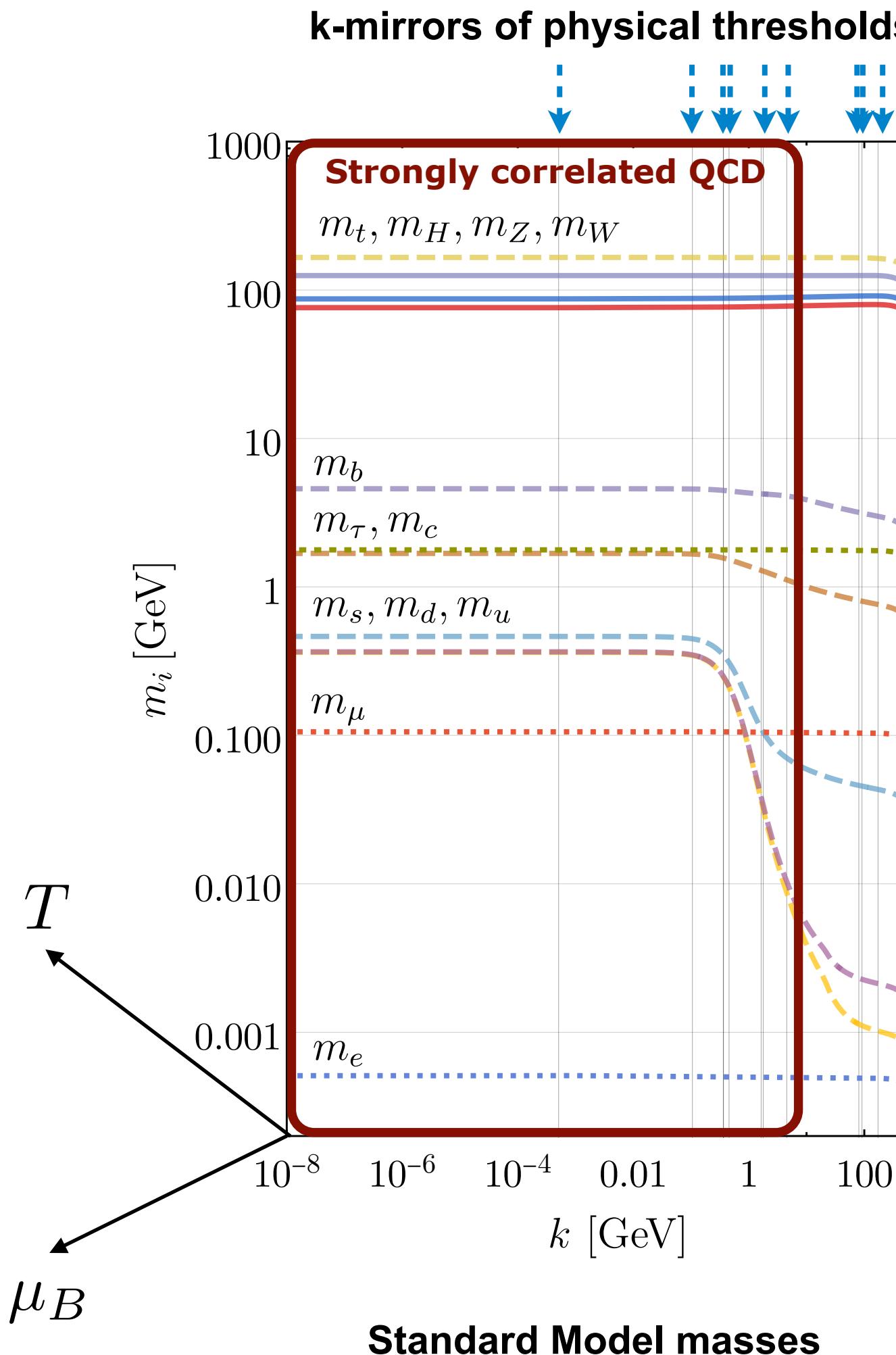


see plenary talk of F. Rennecke (Monday)



# The physics of thresholds

## Example: asymptotically safe Standard Model



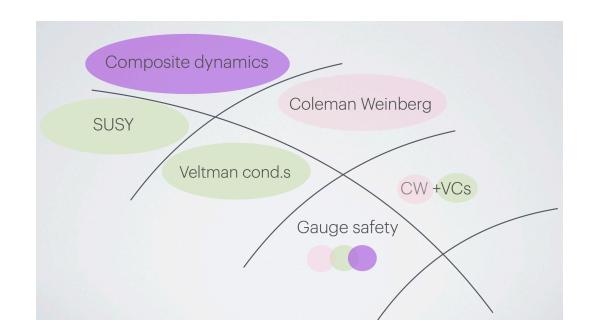
**New physics in the desert?**

**Composite Higgs**

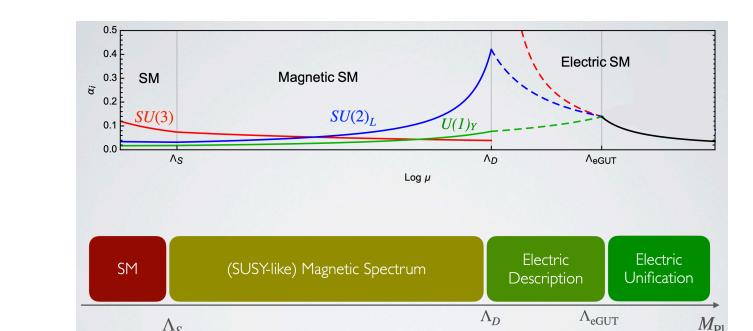
**Strongly correlated gauge theories**

**Conformal, walking regimes**

⋮



**see plenary of talk F. Sannino (Monday)**



# Phase structure of many flavour QCD

**Two-loop beta-function**

$$\beta_g = -\frac{g^3}{(4\pi)^2} \left( \frac{11}{3} C_A - \frac{4}{3} T_F N_f \right) - \frac{g^5}{(4\pi)^4} \left( \frac{34}{3} C_A - 4C_F T_F N_f - \frac{20}{3} C_A T_F N_f \right) + \dots$$

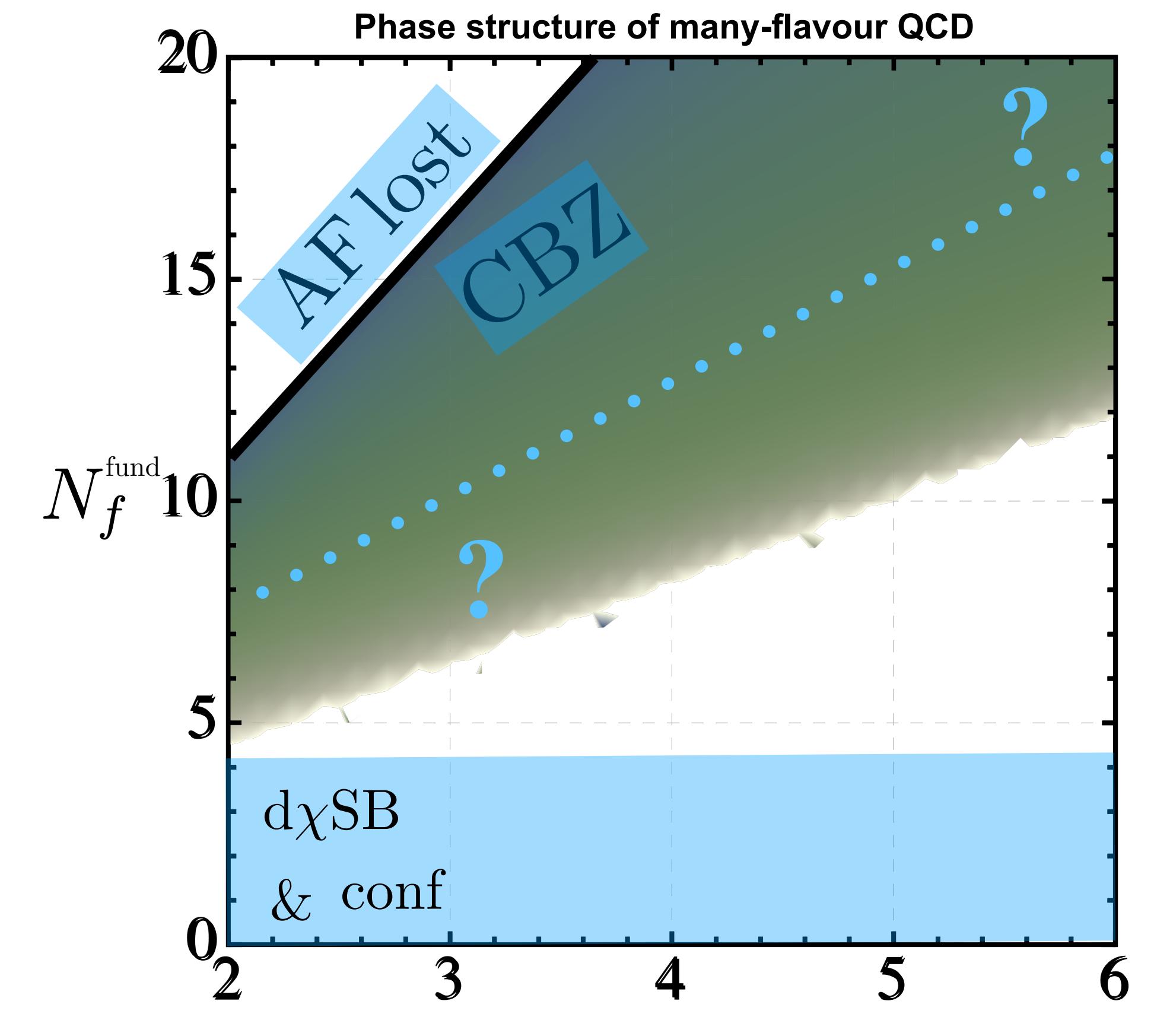
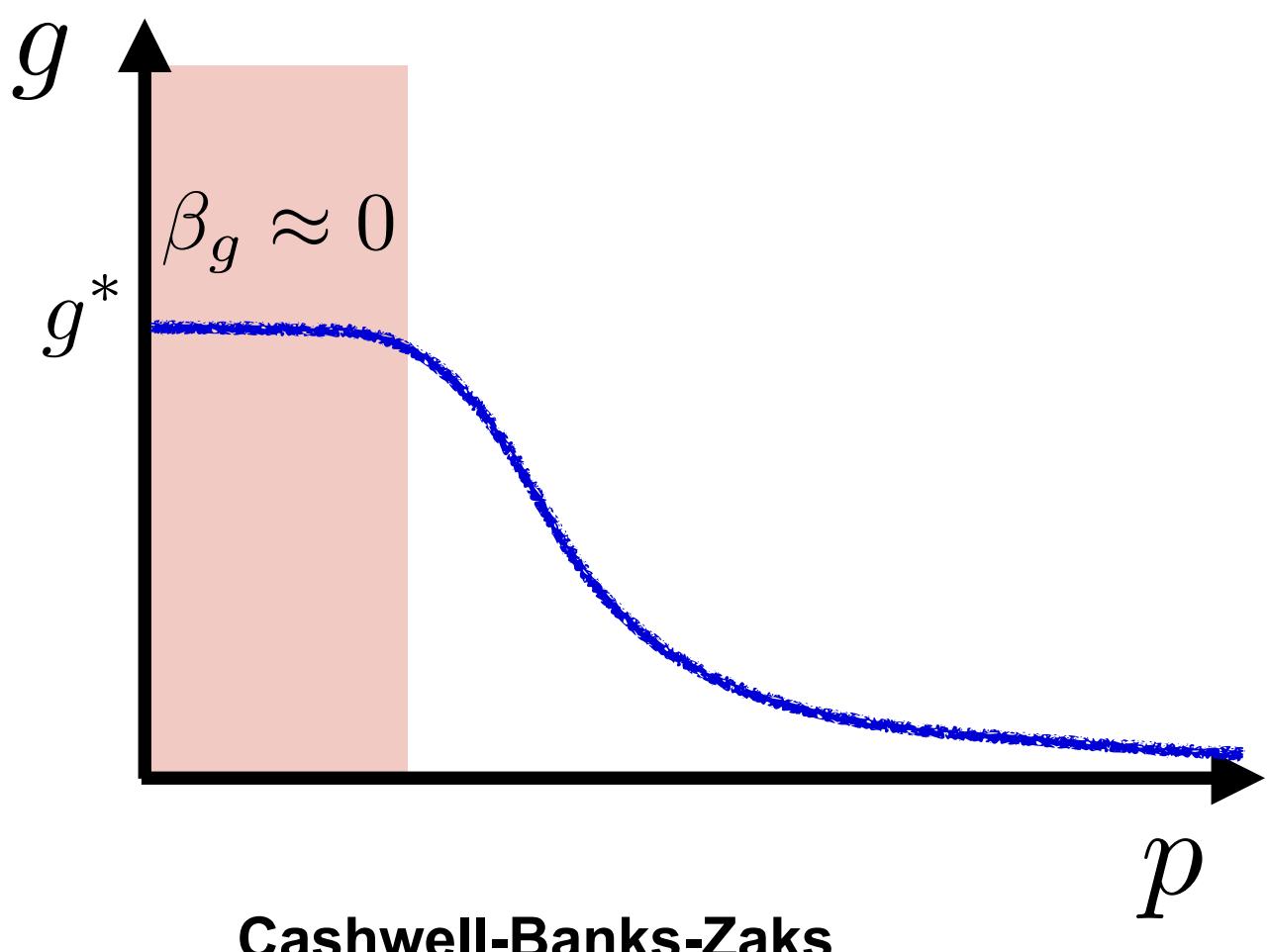

The diagram illustrates the components of the two-loop beta-function. It shows two sets of blue dashed arrows pointing from the labels "Casimirs" and "Dynkin index" to specific terms in the equation. The term  $\frac{11}{3} C_A$  is labeled "Casimirs" and the term  $\frac{20}{3} C_A T_F N_f$  is labeled "Dynkin index".

# Phase structure of many flavour QCD

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Casimirs      Dynkin index



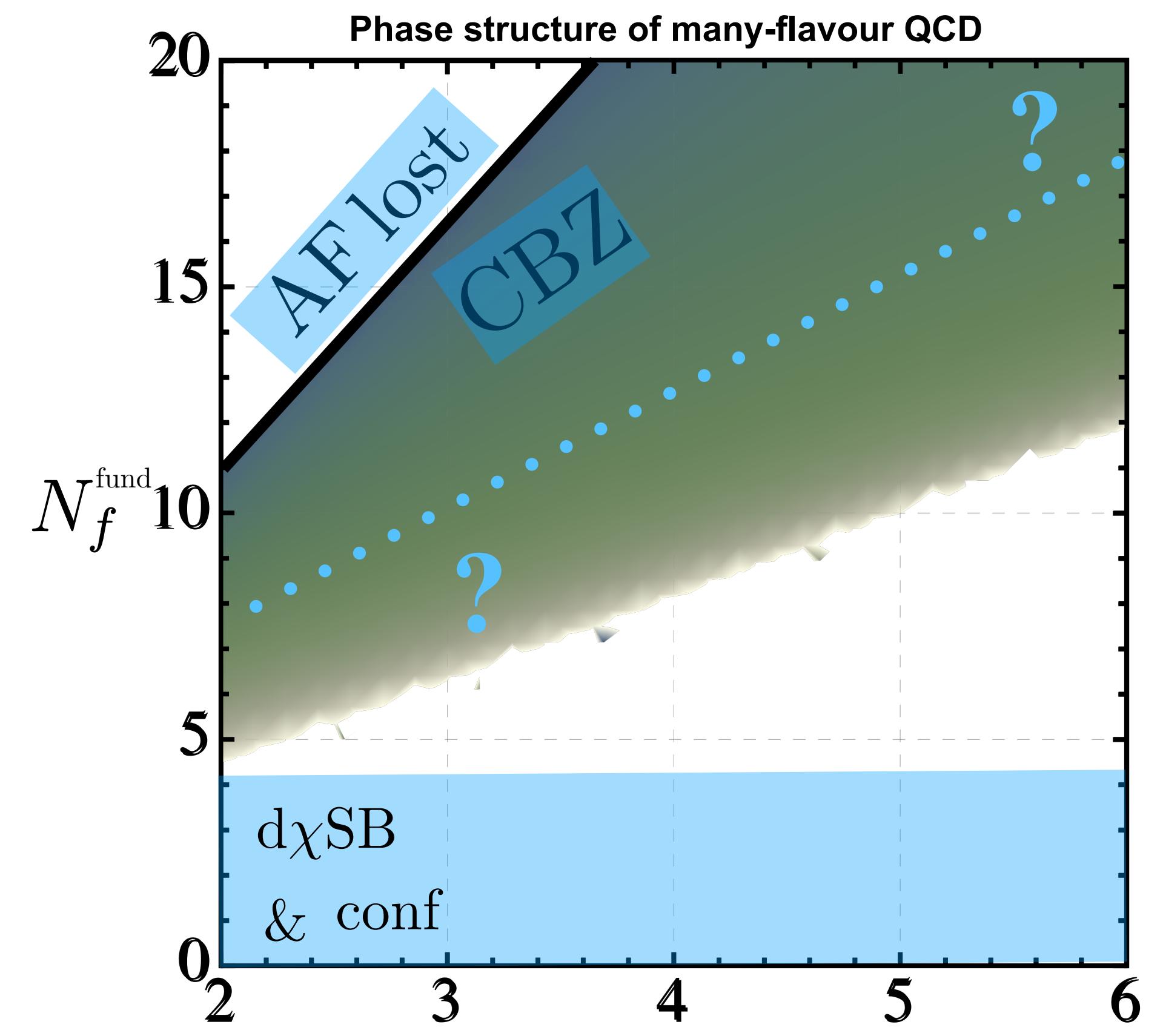
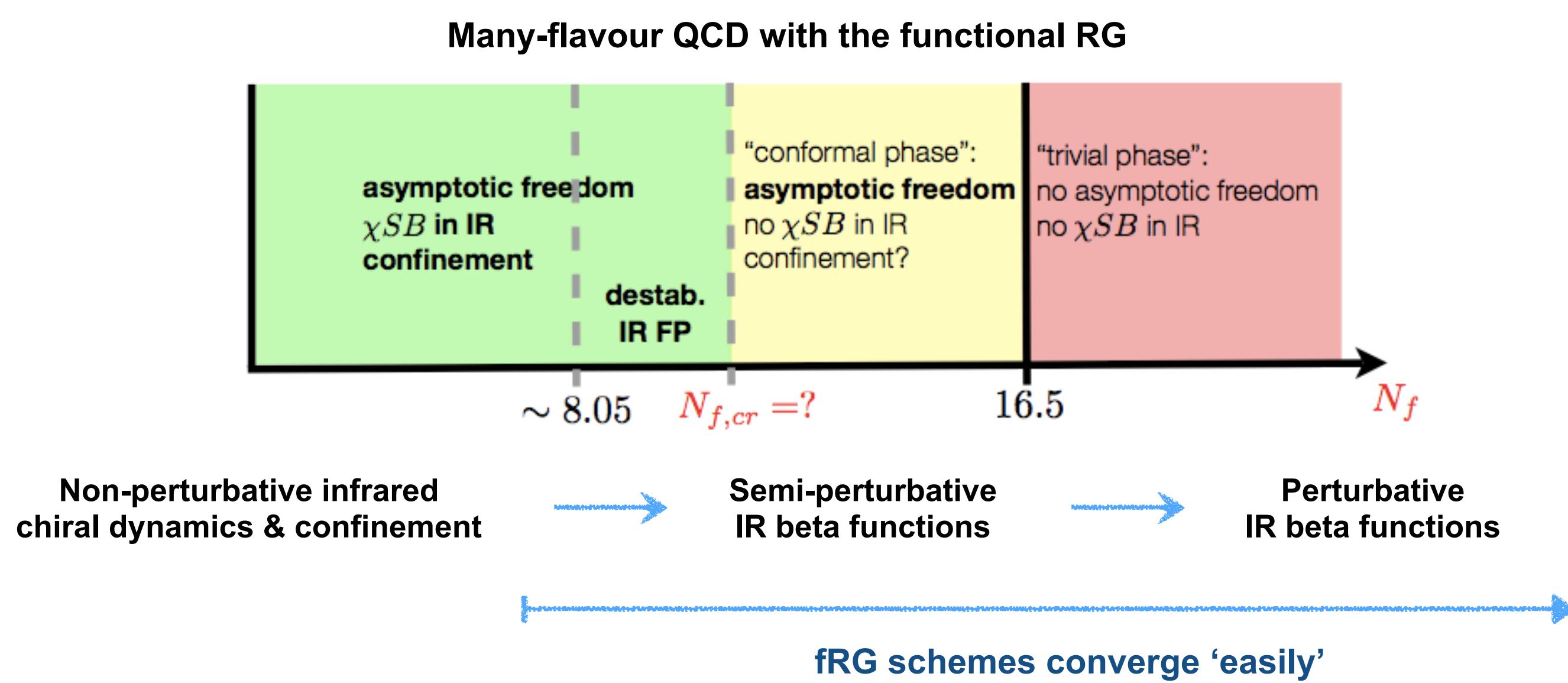
$SU(N_c)$       Courtesy A. Pastor-Gutierrez

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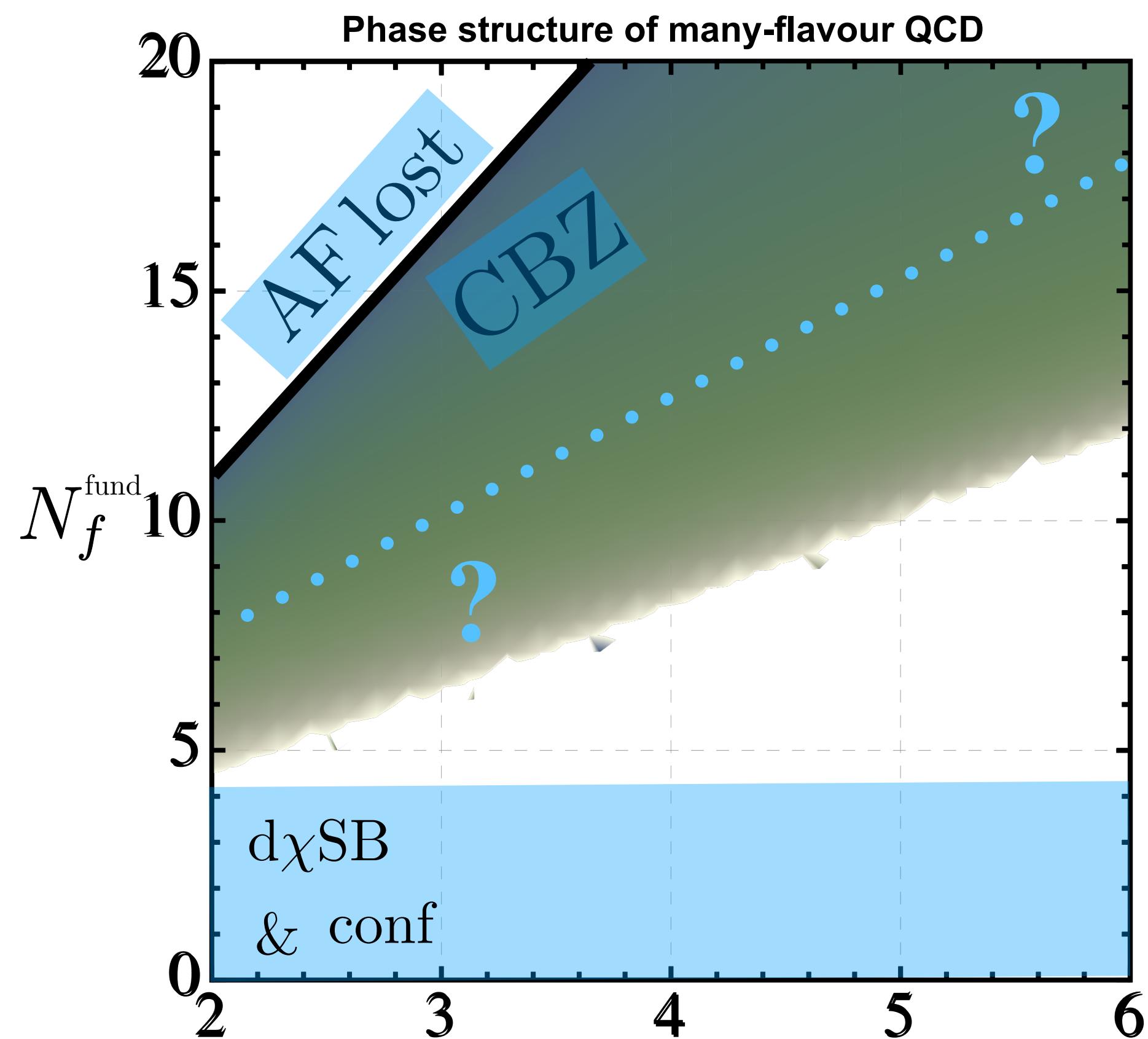
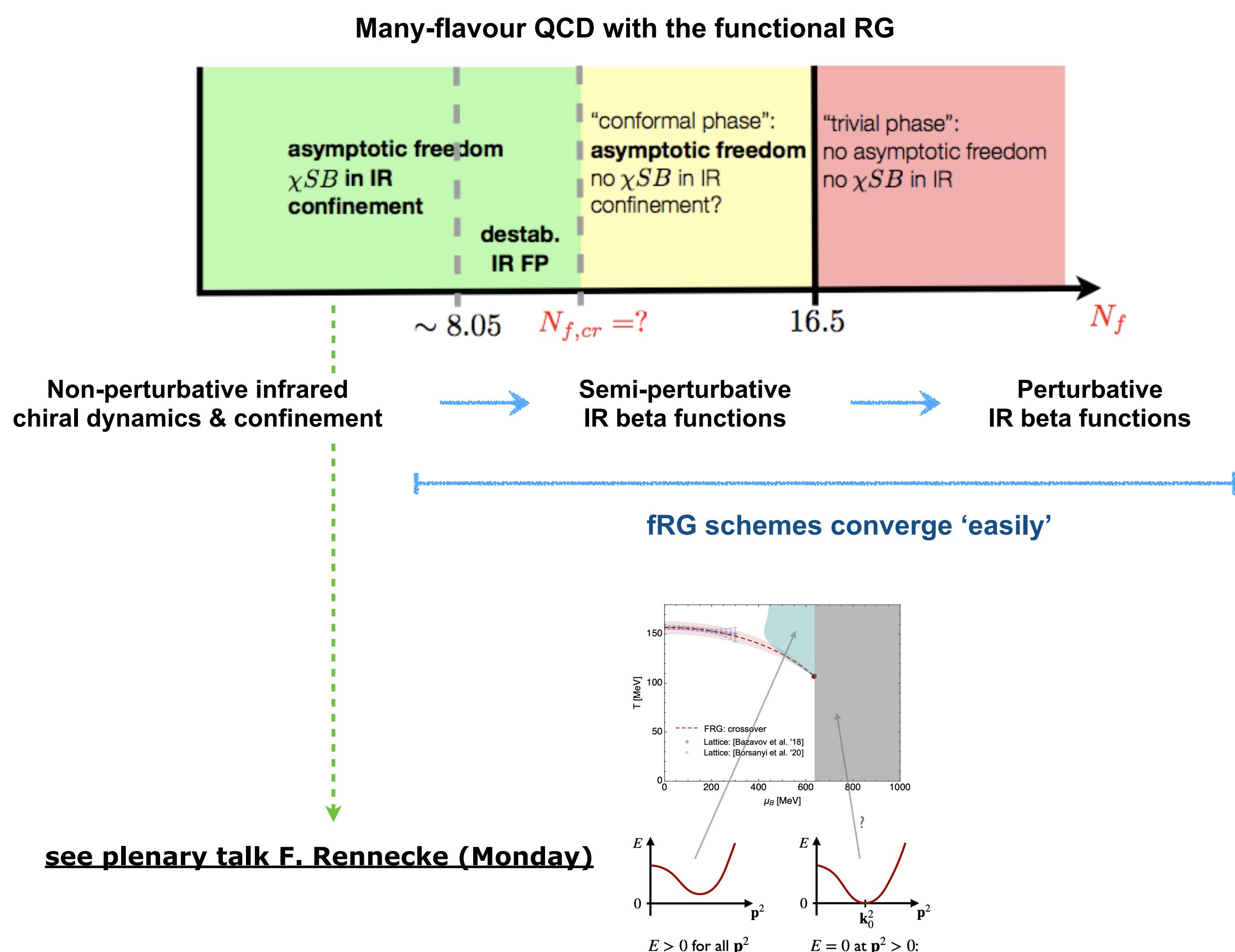
Courtesy A. Pastor-Gutierrez

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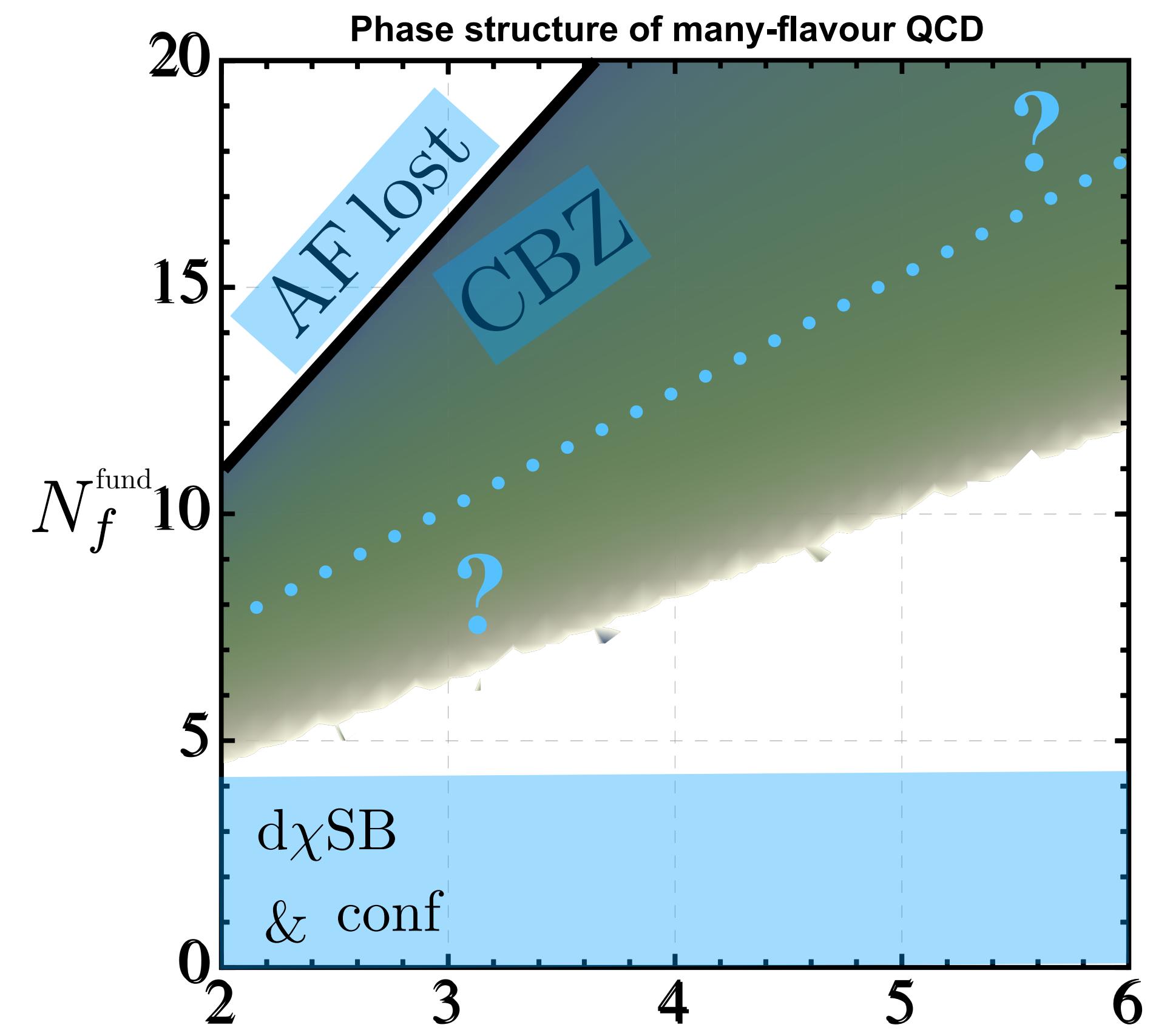
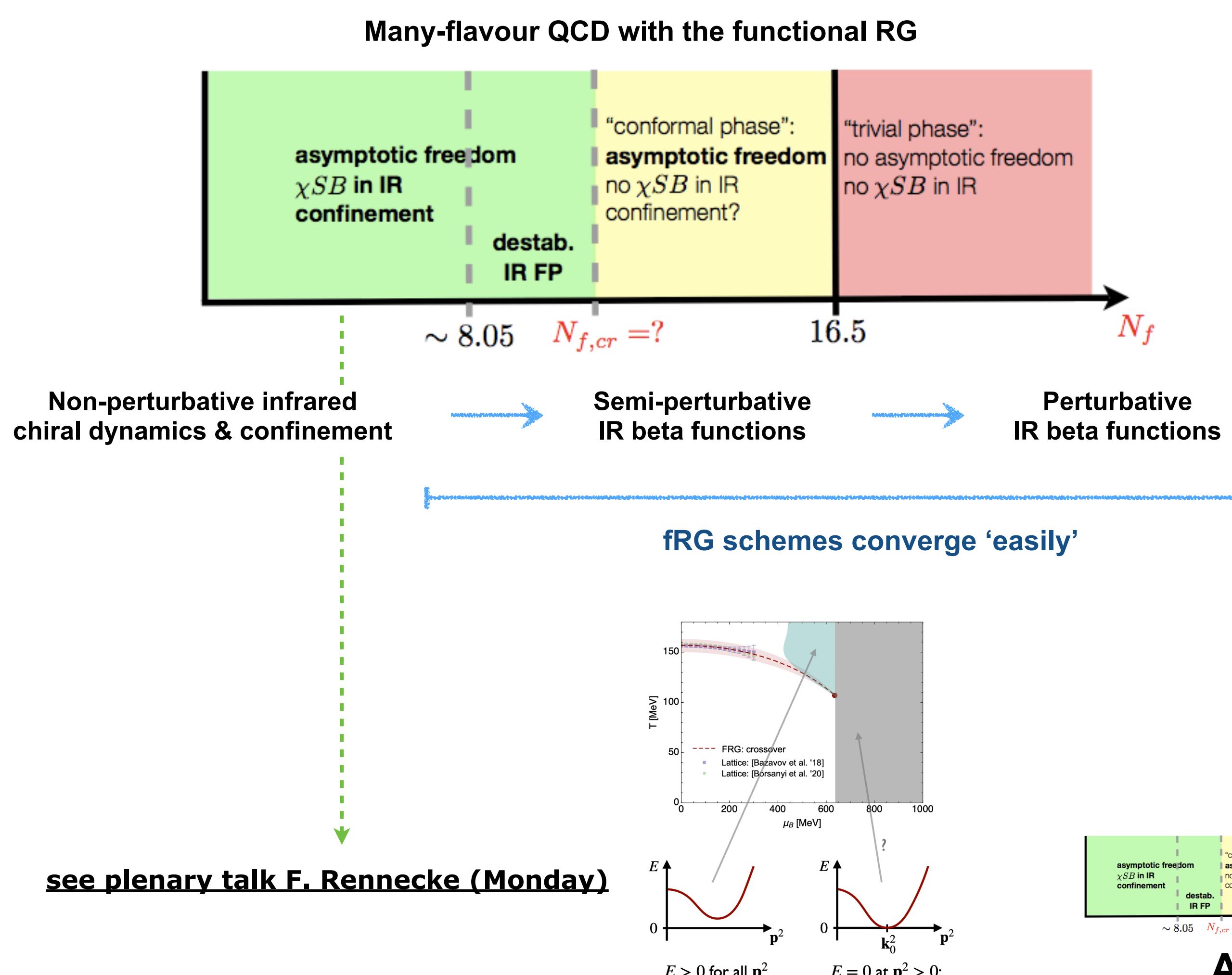
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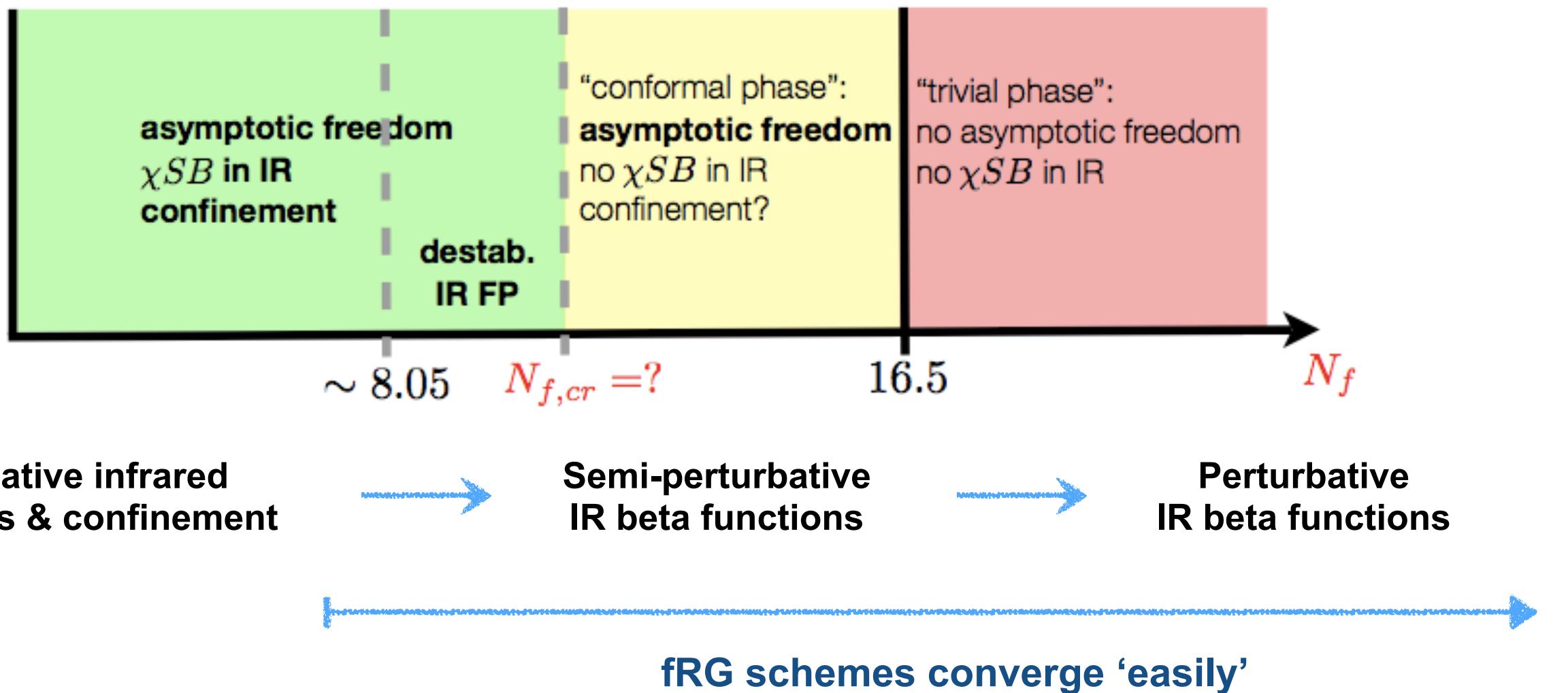


Courtesy A. Pastor-Gutiérrez

All  $N_f$ : Florian Goertz, Álvaro Pastor-Gutiérrez, JMP, in preparation

# Phase structure of many flavour QCD

## Many-flavour QCD with the functional RG



## Critical flavour number

**fRG**

$$10 \lesssim N_{f,cr} \lesssim 12$$

e.g.

fRG: Gies, Jäckel '05, Braun, Gies '05, 06

Conformal expansion: Lee, 103 (2021) 7, 076006

**lattice**

$$9 \lesssim N_{f,cr} \lesssim 13$$

Recent works, e.g.

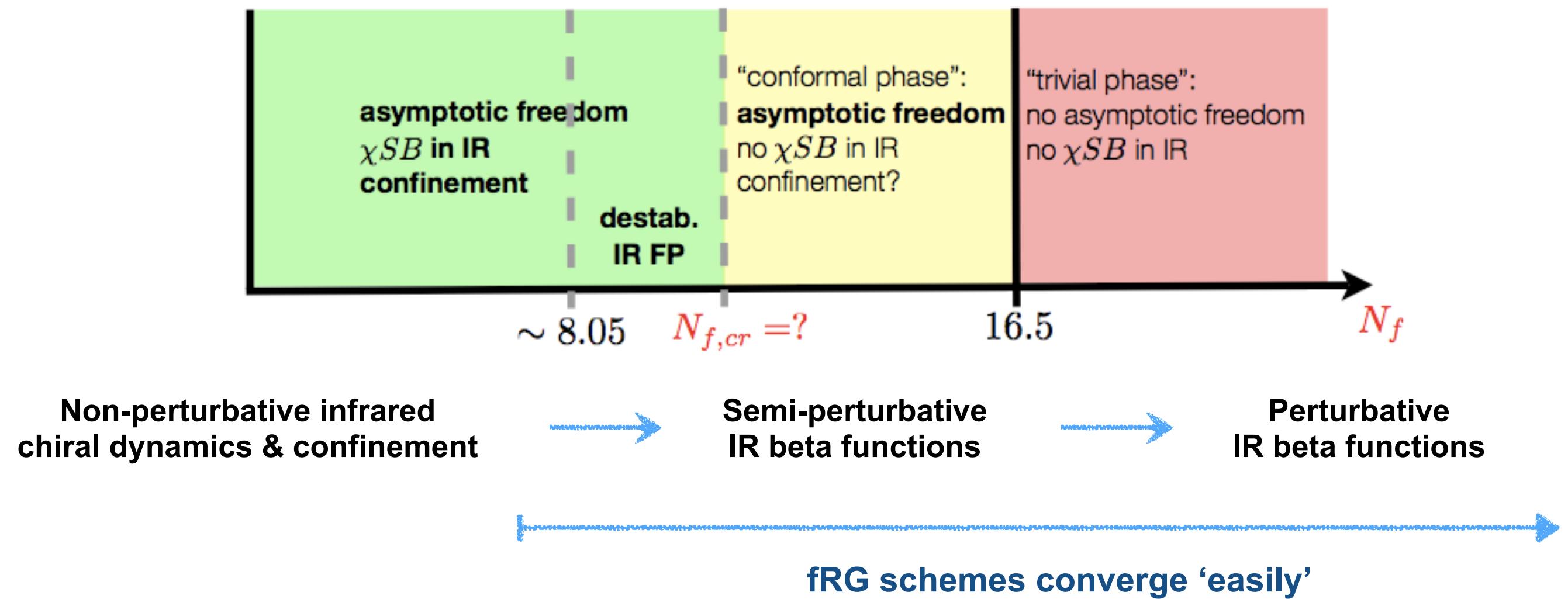
Kotov, Lombardo, Trunin, *Symmetry* 13 (2021) 10, 1833

Kuti, Fodor, Holland, Wong, *PoS LATTICE2021* (2022) 321

Hasenfratz, Neil, Shamir, Svetitsky, Witzel, *PRD* 108 (2023) 7, L071503

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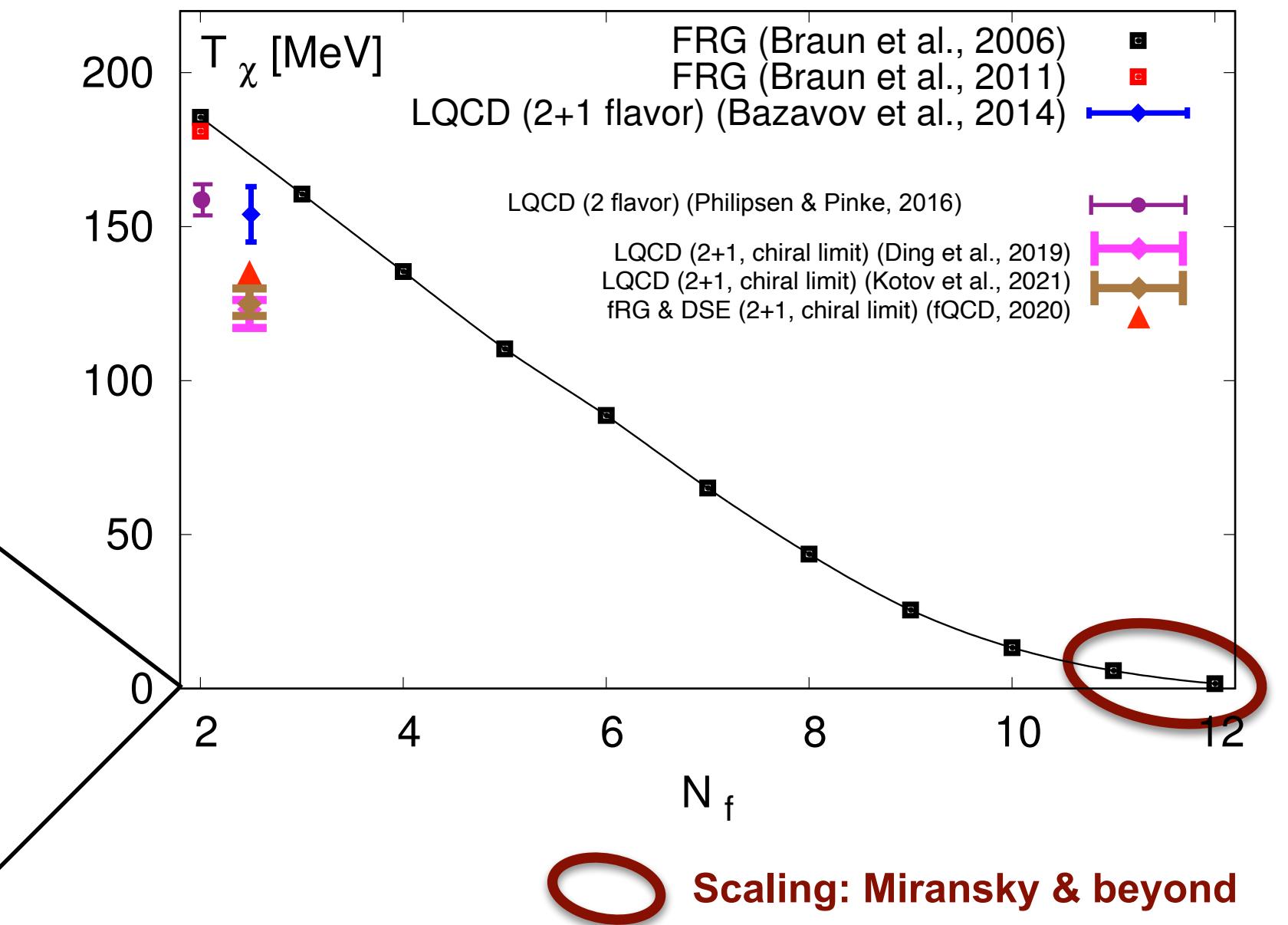
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## General phase structure

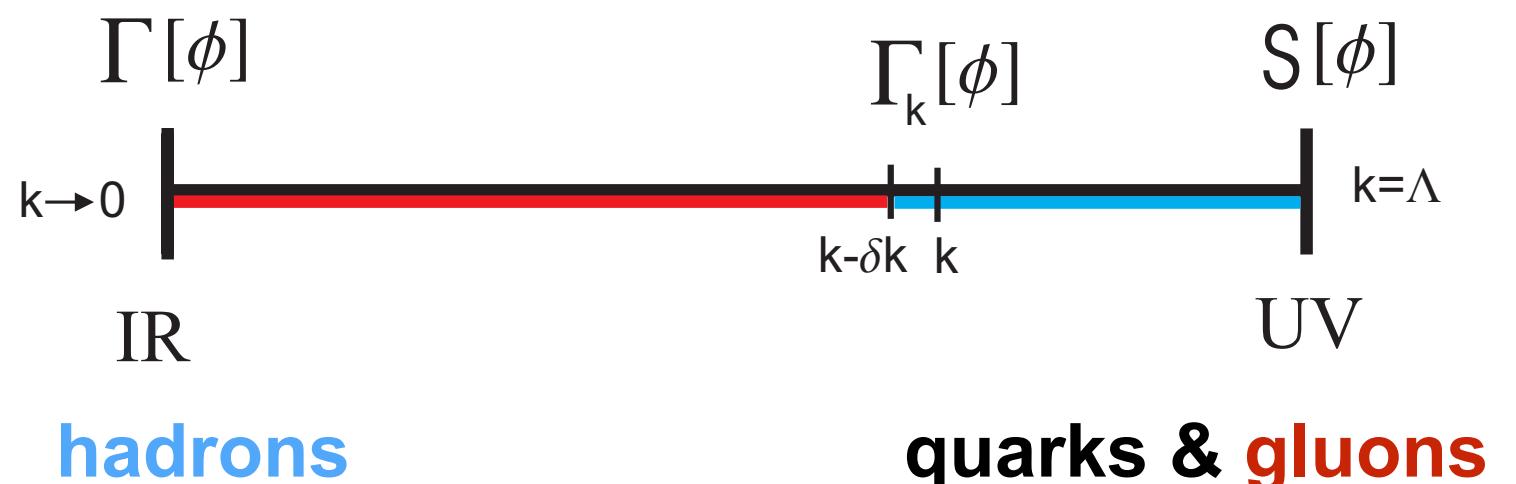


# Functional flows for QCD

Dupuis et al, Phys.Rept. 910 (2021) 1-114

Fu, Commun.Theor.Phys. 74 (2022) 9, 097304

free energy at momentum scale



**ab initio**

**functional RG:**

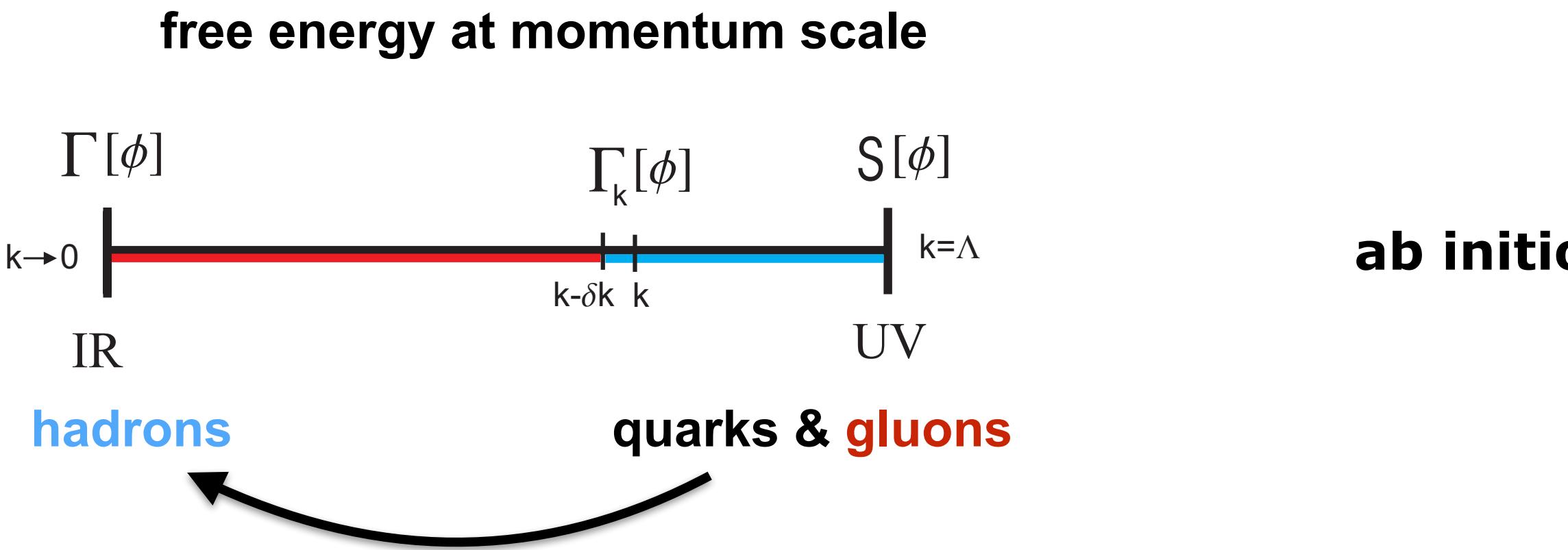
$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{free energy/ grand potential} \right] - \text{glue quantum fluctuations} - \text{quark quantum fluctuations}$$

RG-scale k:  $t = \ln k$

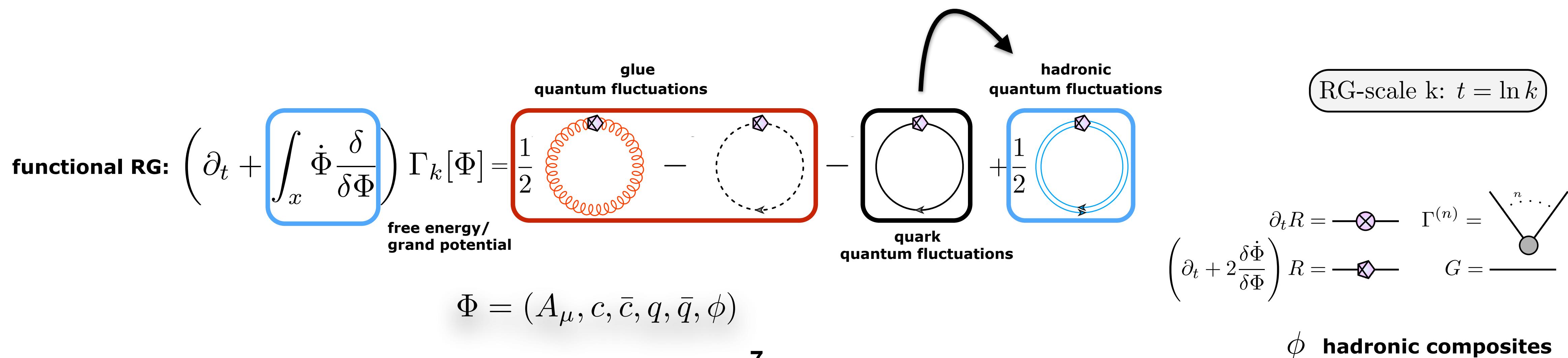
$$\Phi = (A_\mu, c, \bar{c}, q, \bar{q})$$

# Functional flows for QCD

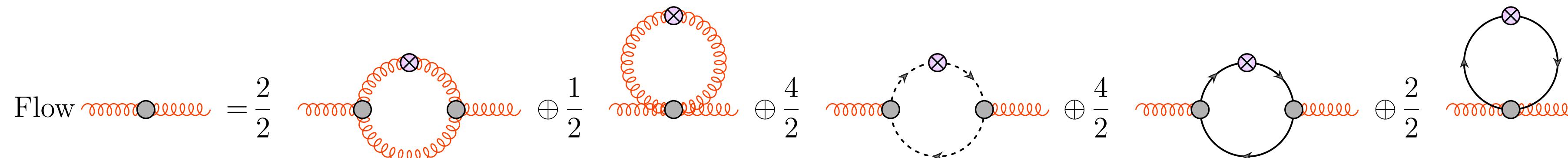
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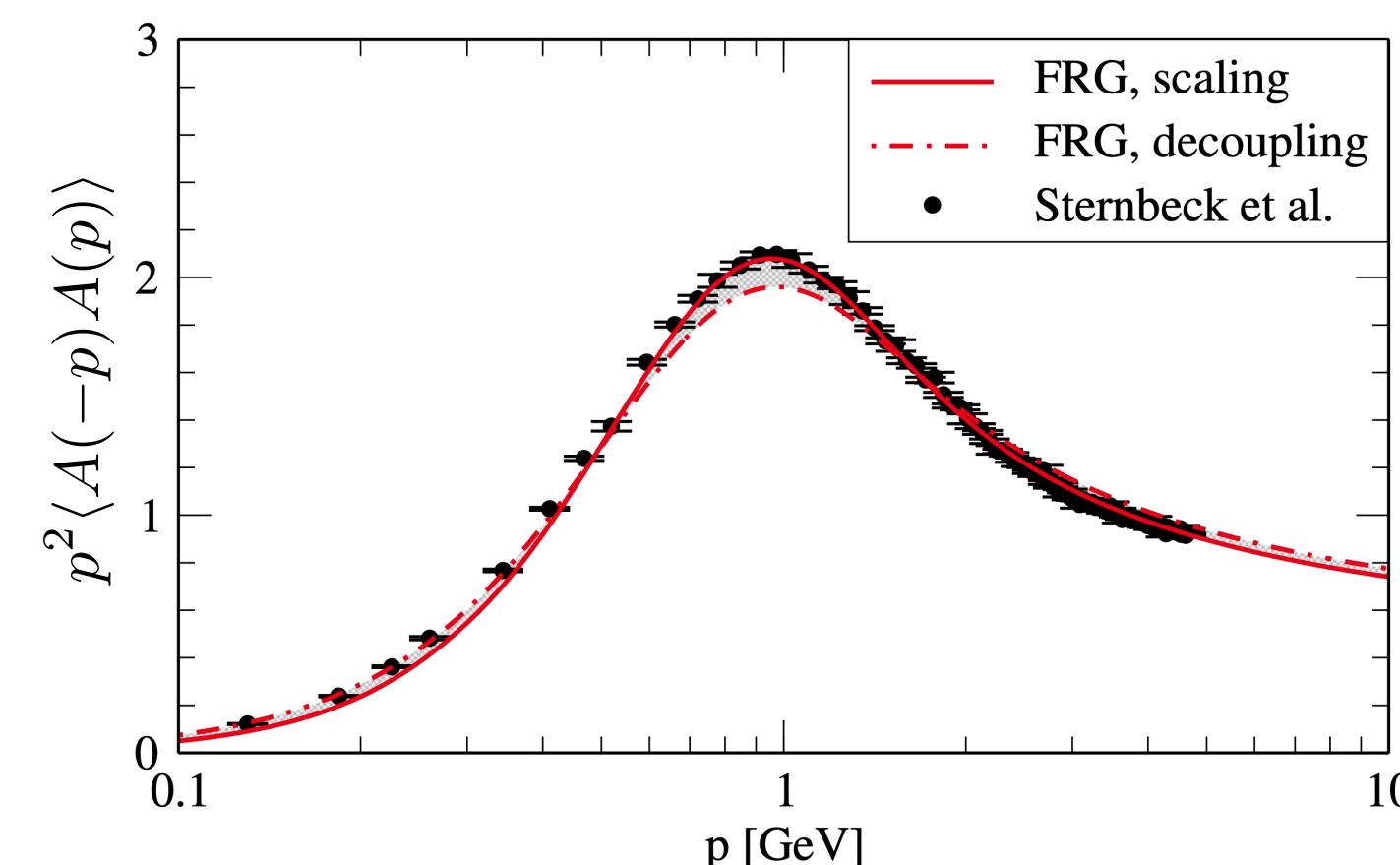
## fRG approach with emergent composites/dynamical hadronisation



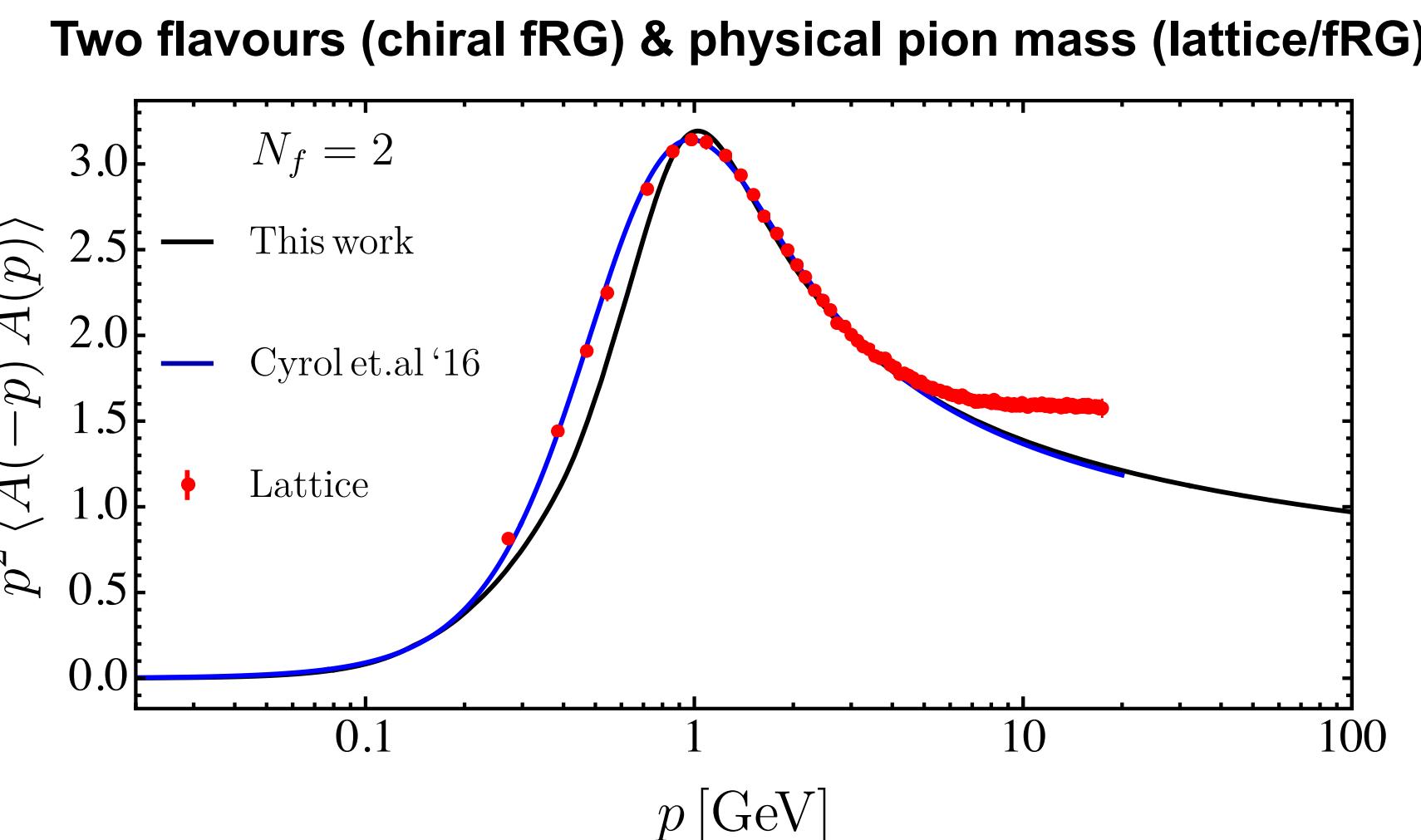
# Getting started: the gluon propagator



**Yang-Mills**



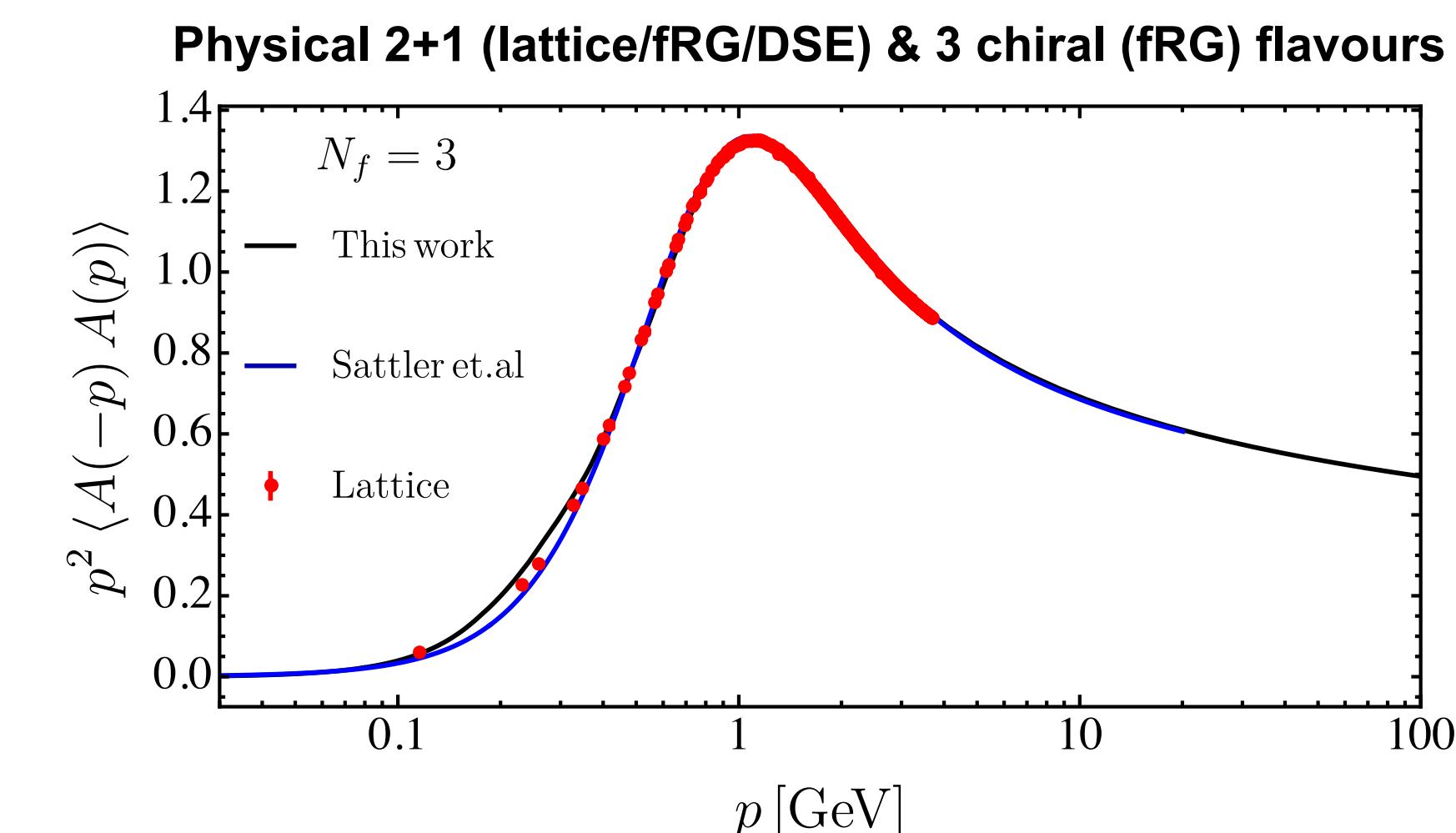
Cyrol, Fister, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 94 (2016) 054005



fRG: Cyrol, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 97 (2018) 054006

Ihsen, JMP, Sattler, Wink, arXiv: 2408.08413

Lattice: Sternbeck et al, PoS LATTICE2016 (2017)



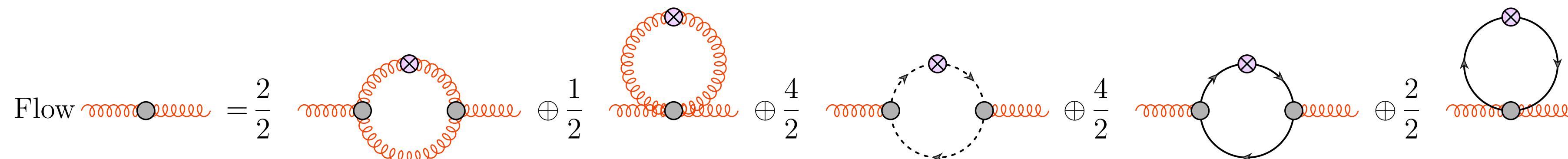
fRG/DSE: Ihsen, JMP, Sattler, Wink, arXiv: 2408.08413

Gao, Papavassiliou, JMP, PRD 103 (2021) 094013

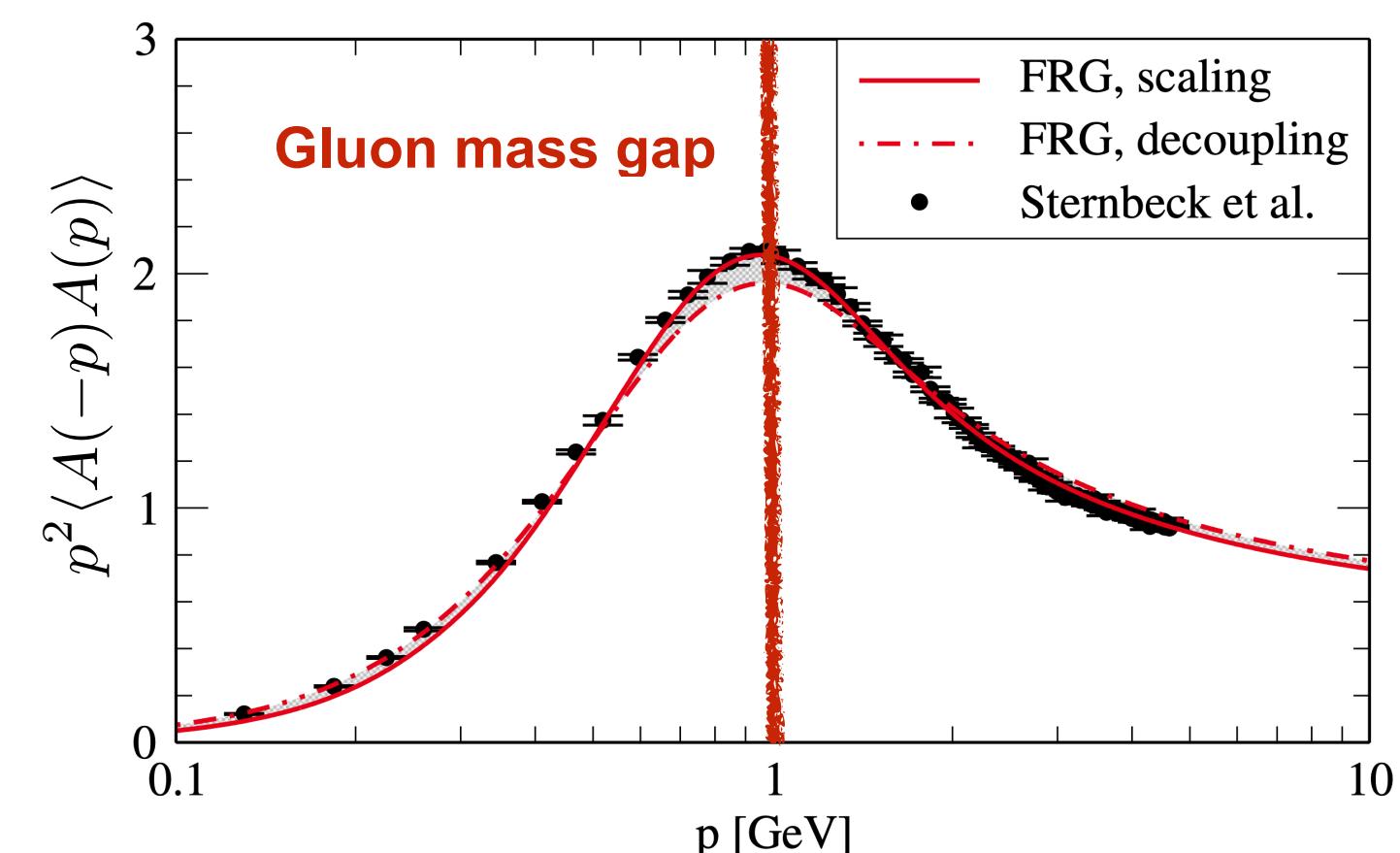
Lattice: Zafeiropoulos et al, PRL 122 (2019) 16, 162002

Cui et al, CPC 44 (2020) 8, 083102

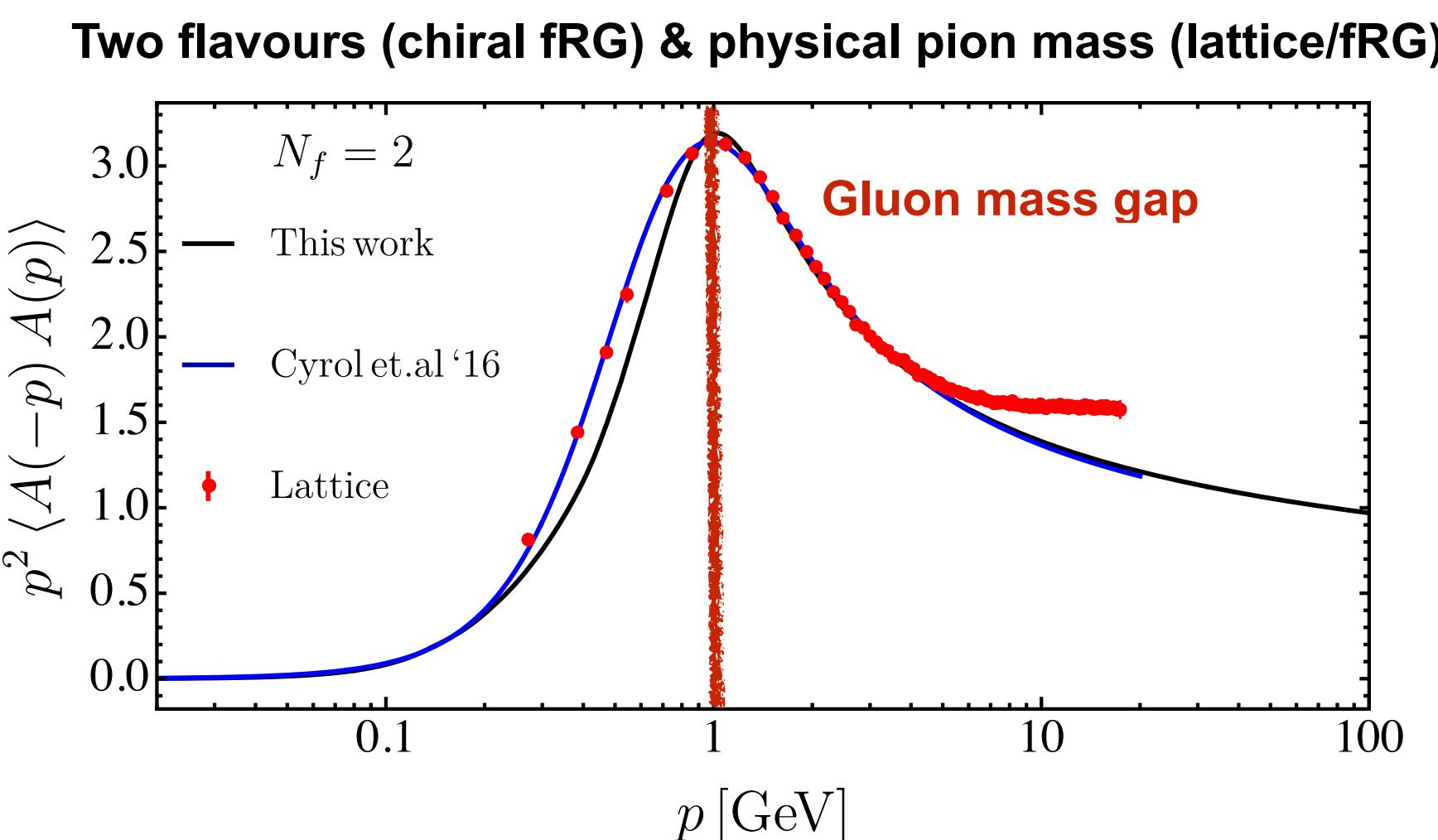
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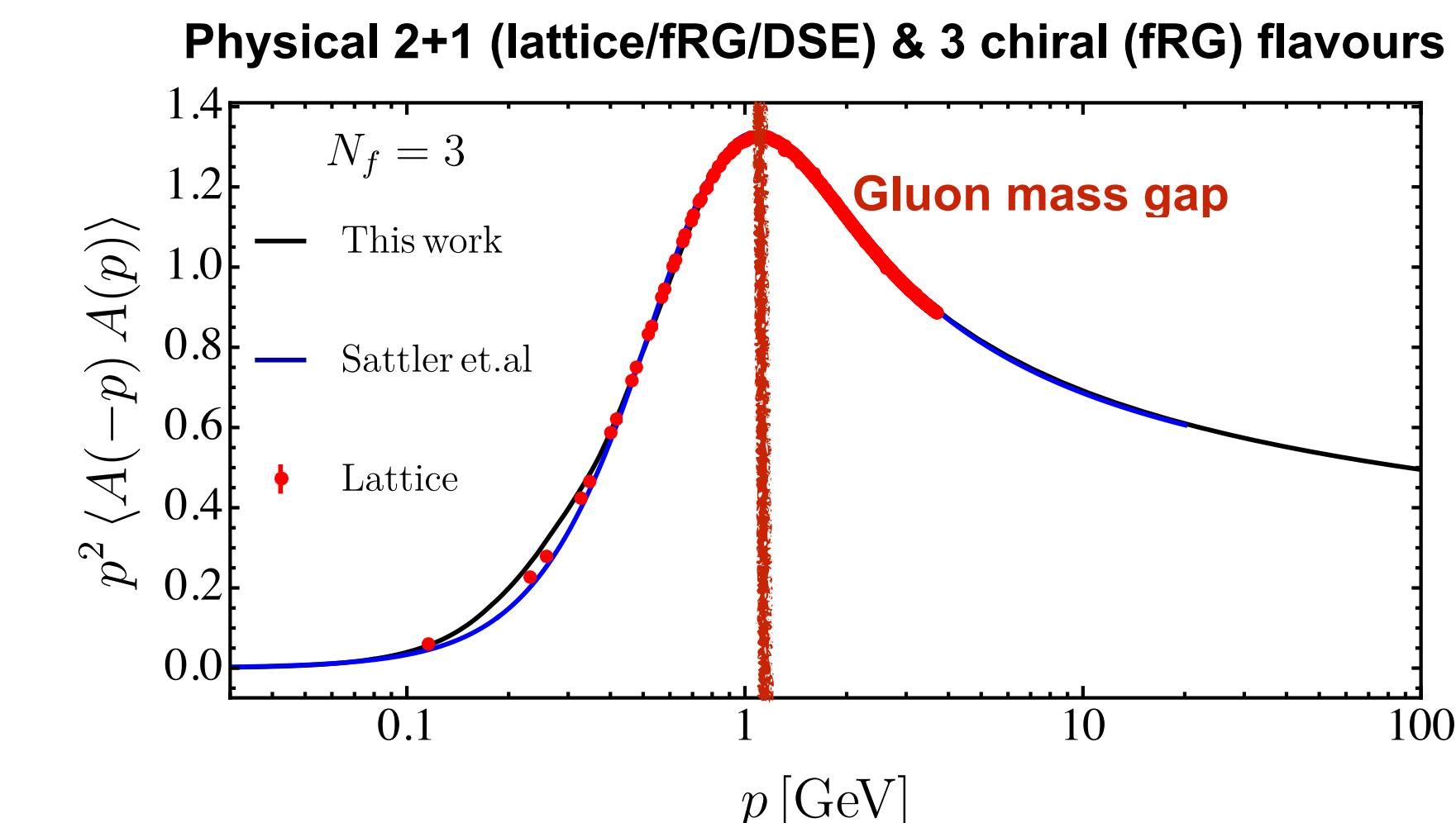
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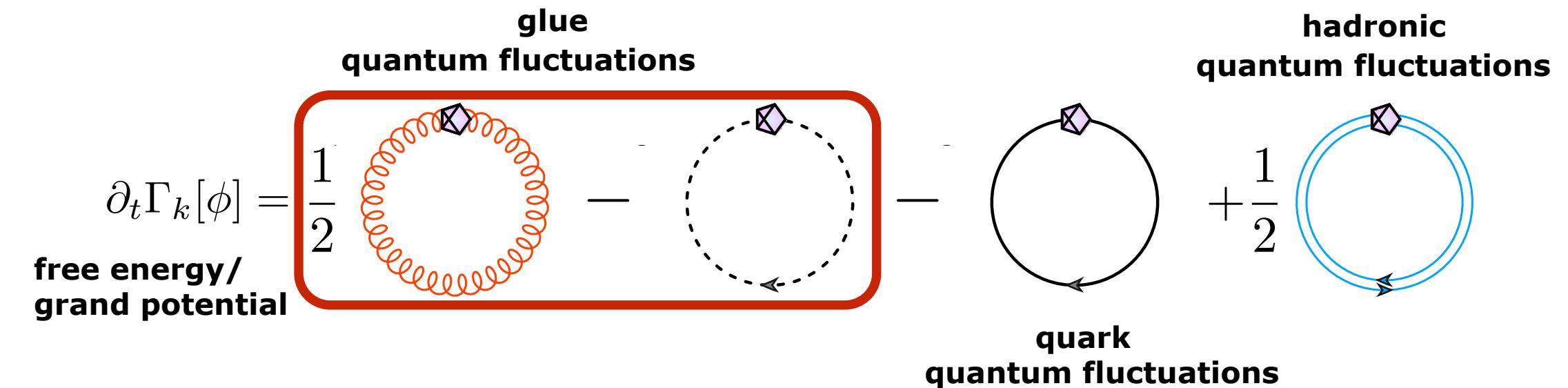
# Confinement in Landau gauge QCD

Gluon mass gap confining

FRG: Braun, Gies, JMP, PLB 684 (2010) 262

FRG, DSE, 2PI: Fister, JMP, PRD 88 (2013) 045010

$$L[A_0] = \frac{1}{N_c} \text{tr } \mathcal{P} e^{i g \int_0^\beta A_0(x)}$$



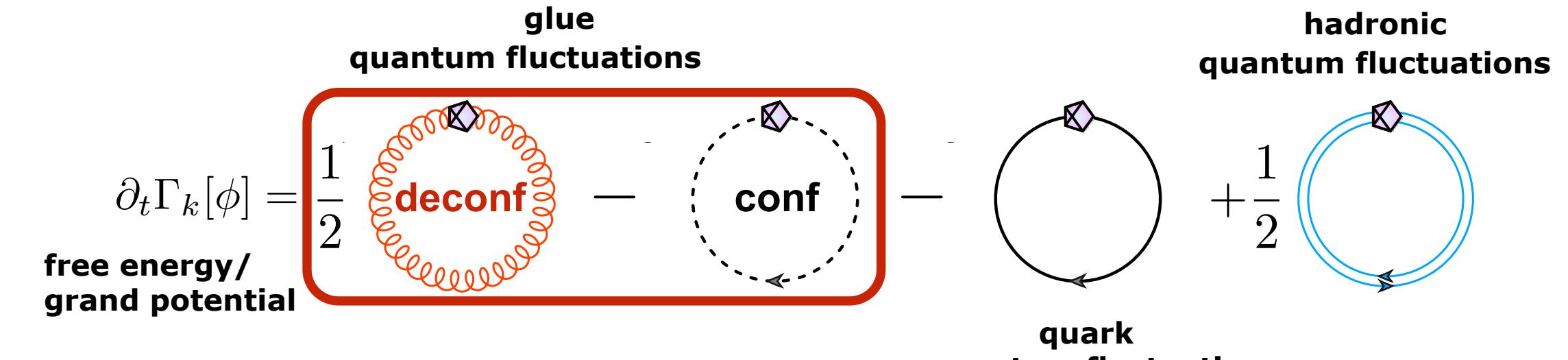
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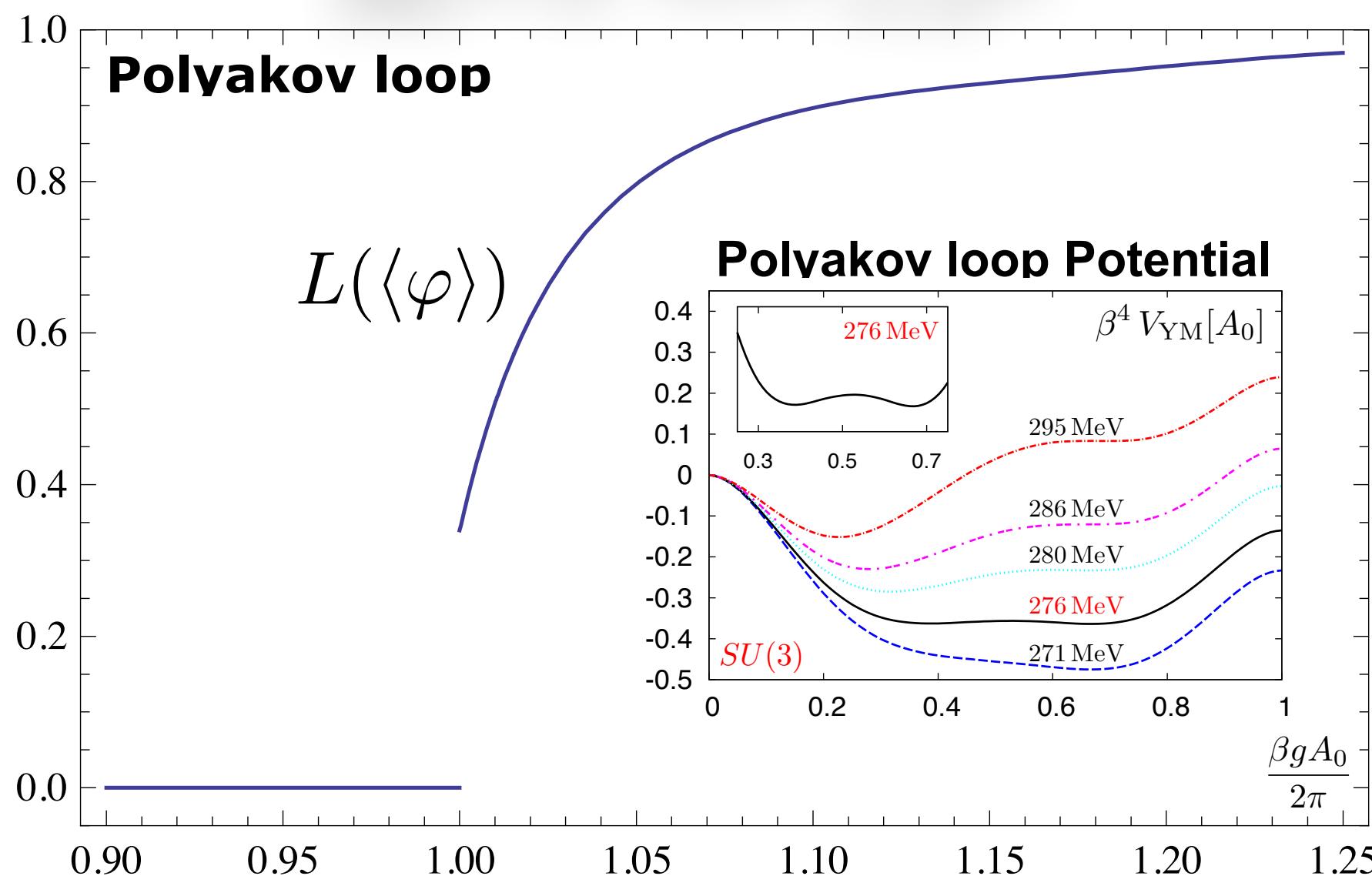
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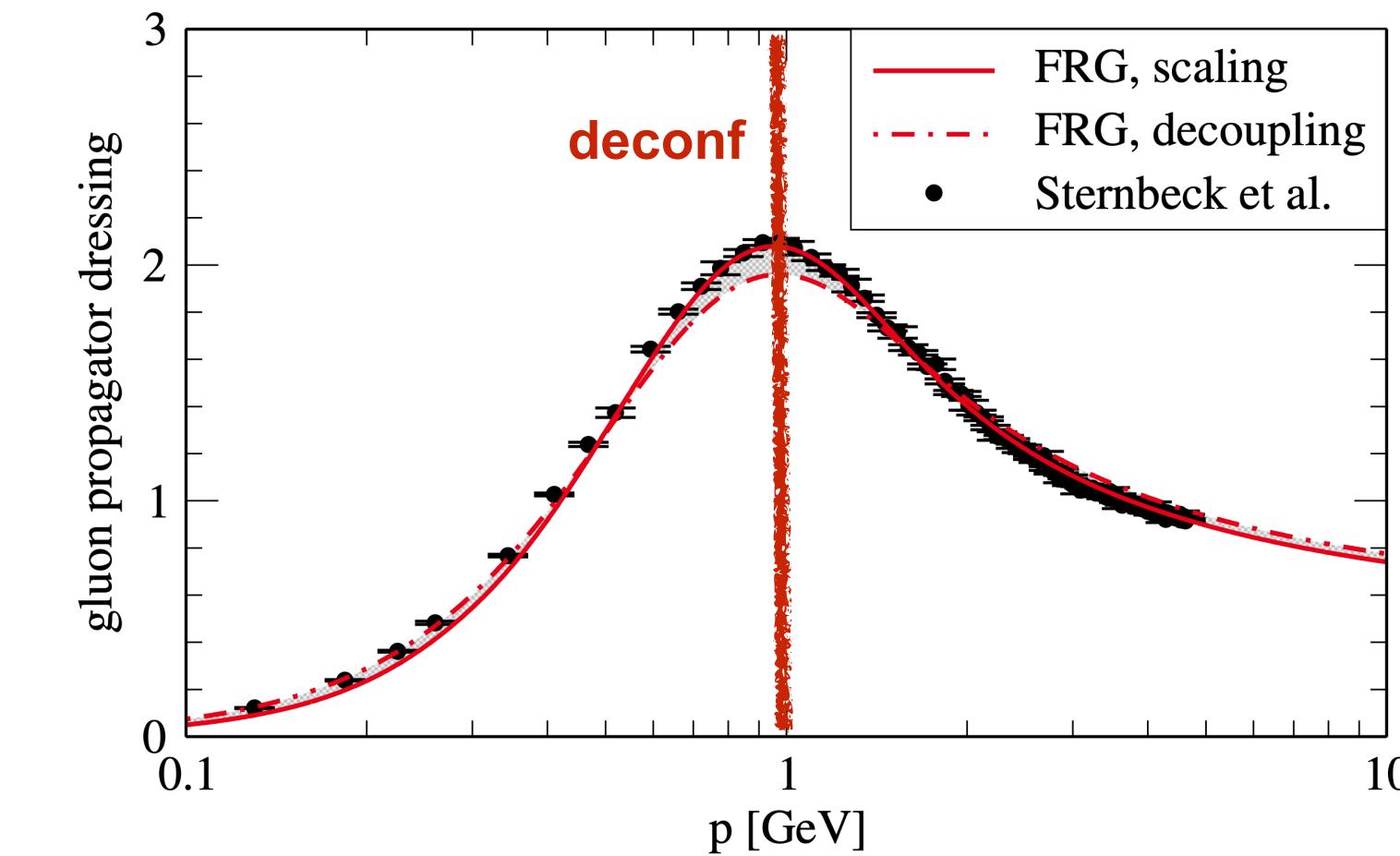


Polyakov loop Potential:  $V_{\text{YM}}[A_0]$

$$\mathcal{P} e^{i g \int_0^\beta A_0(x)} = e^{i\varphi}$$



$T/T_c$



Cyrol, Fister, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 94 (2016) 054005

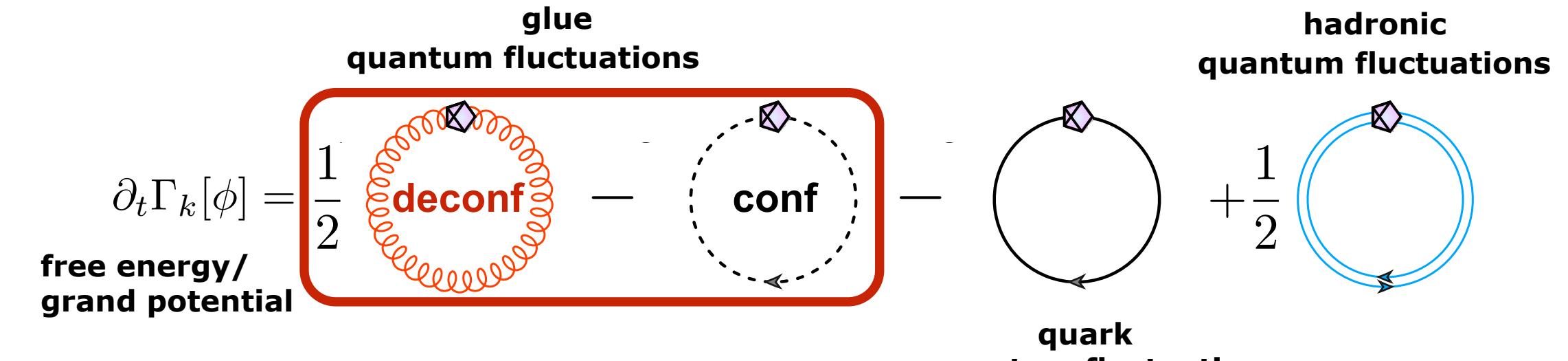
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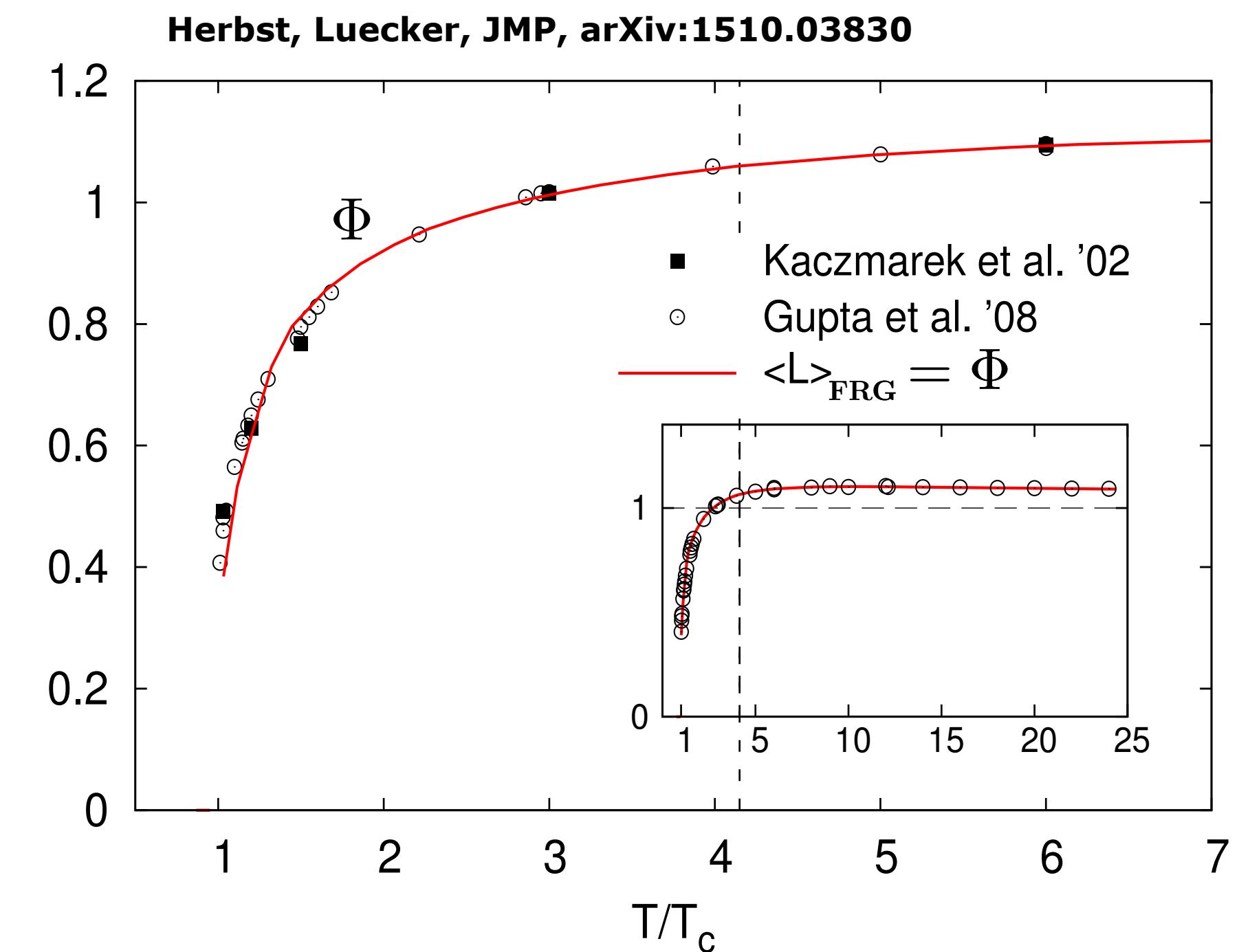
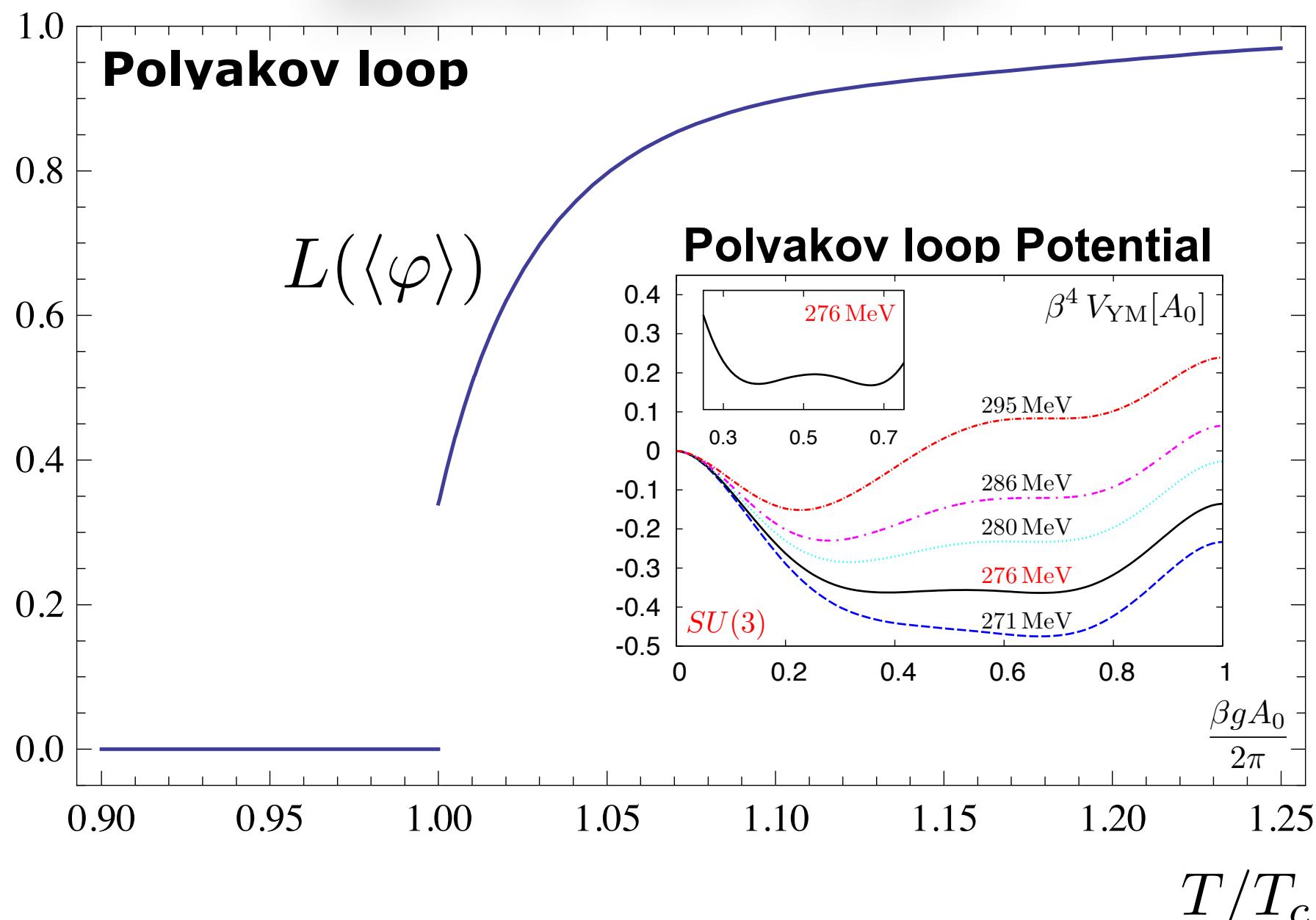
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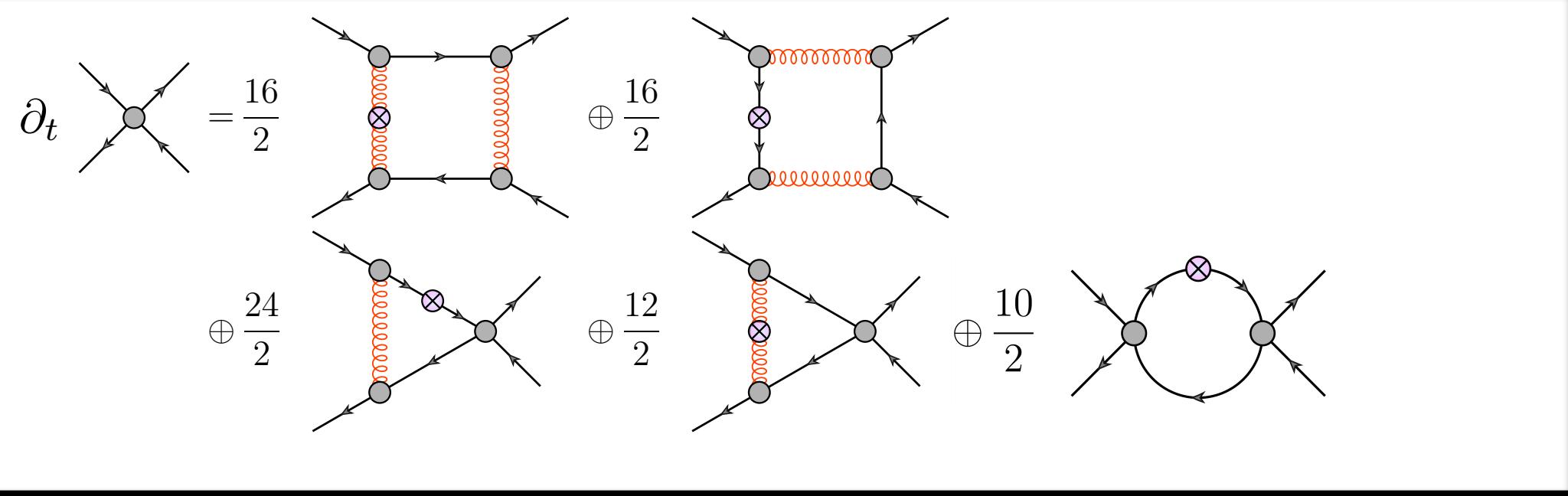
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# Chiral symmetry breaking

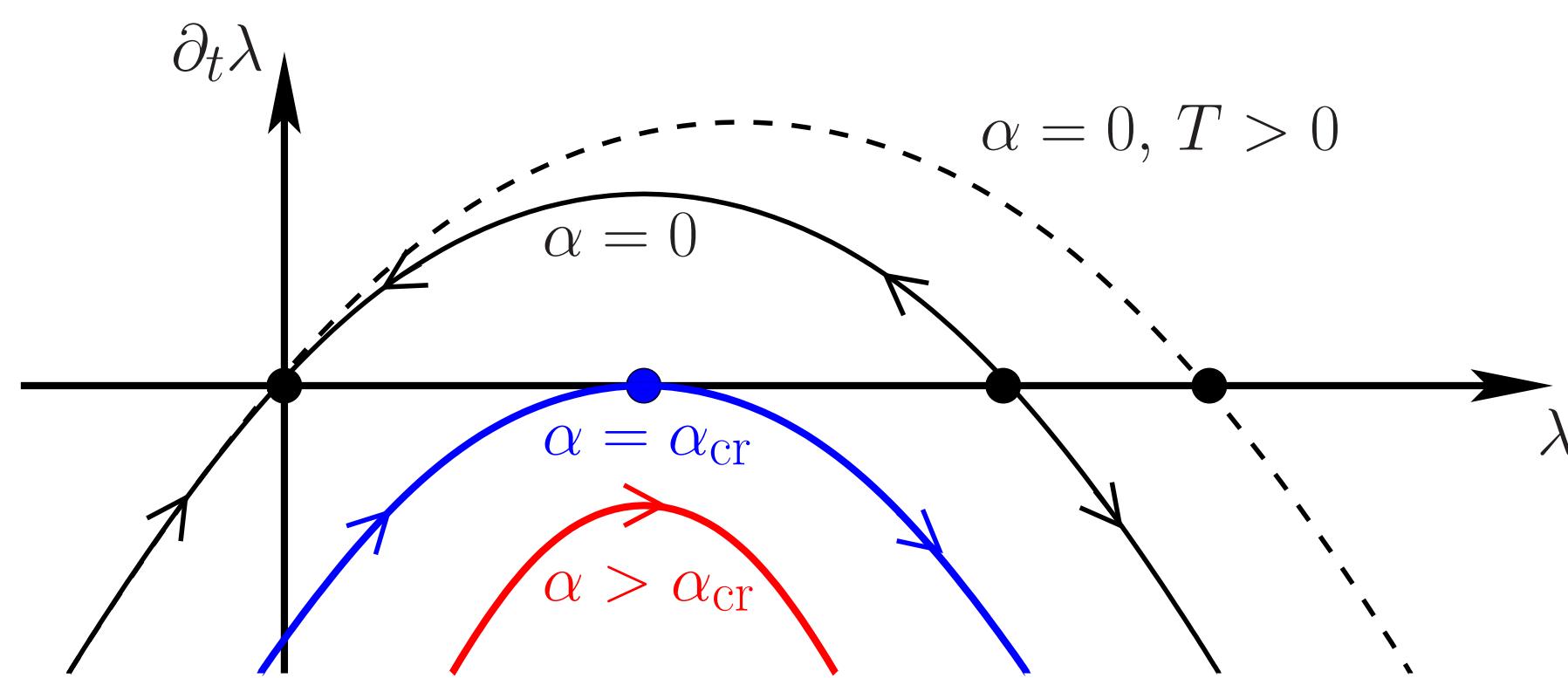
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \lambda_q \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

$|$

$$s - ps$$



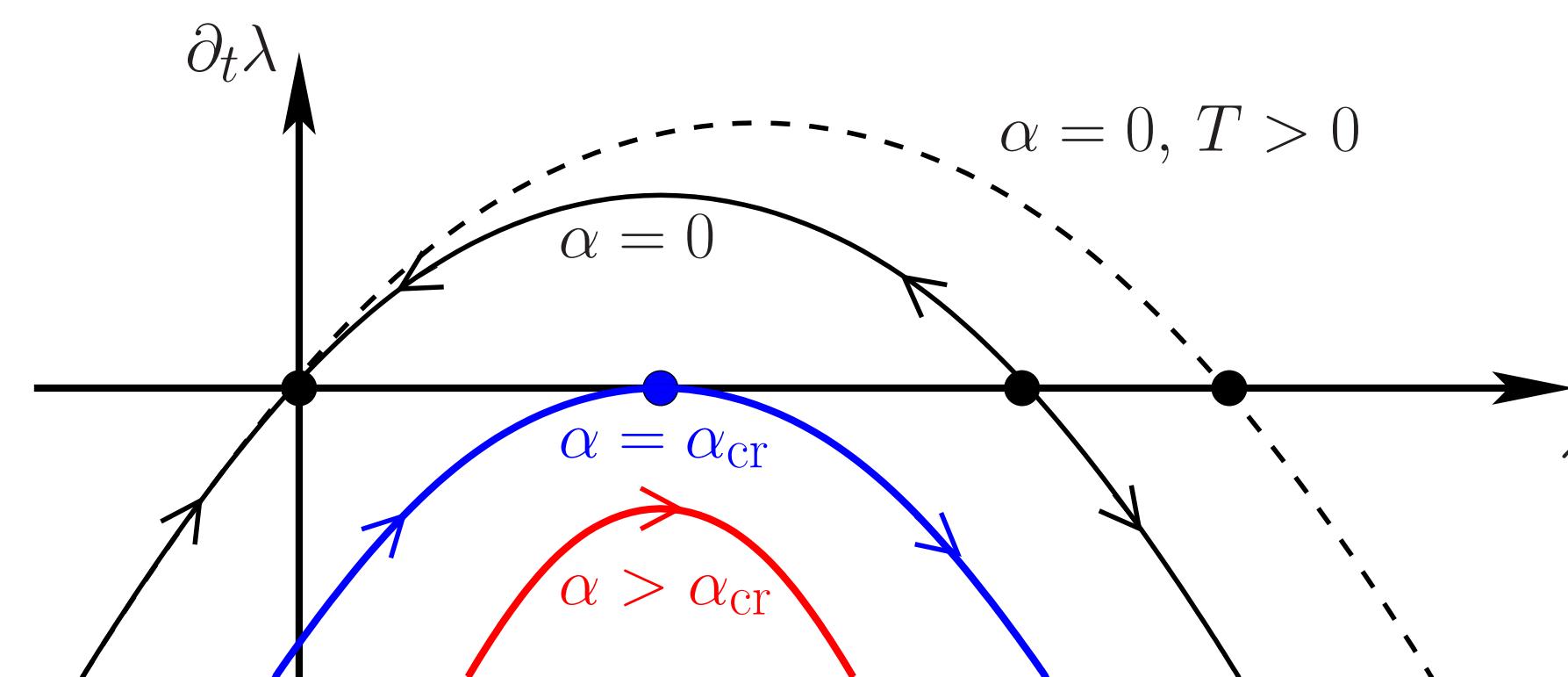
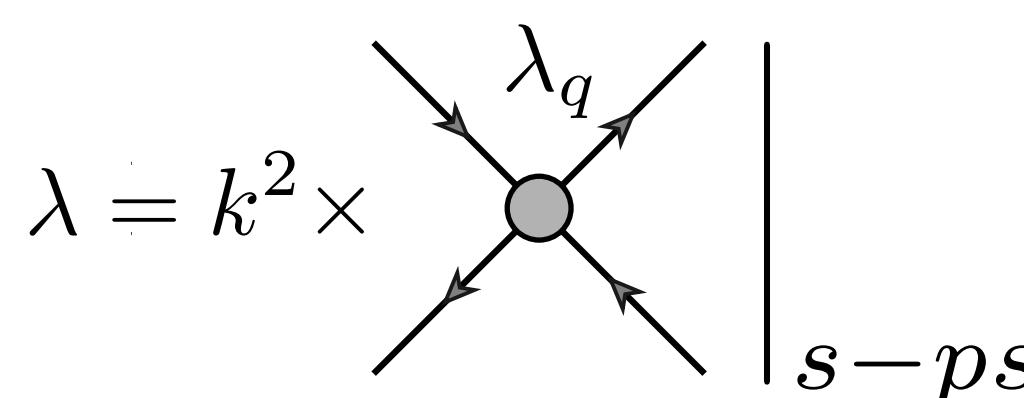
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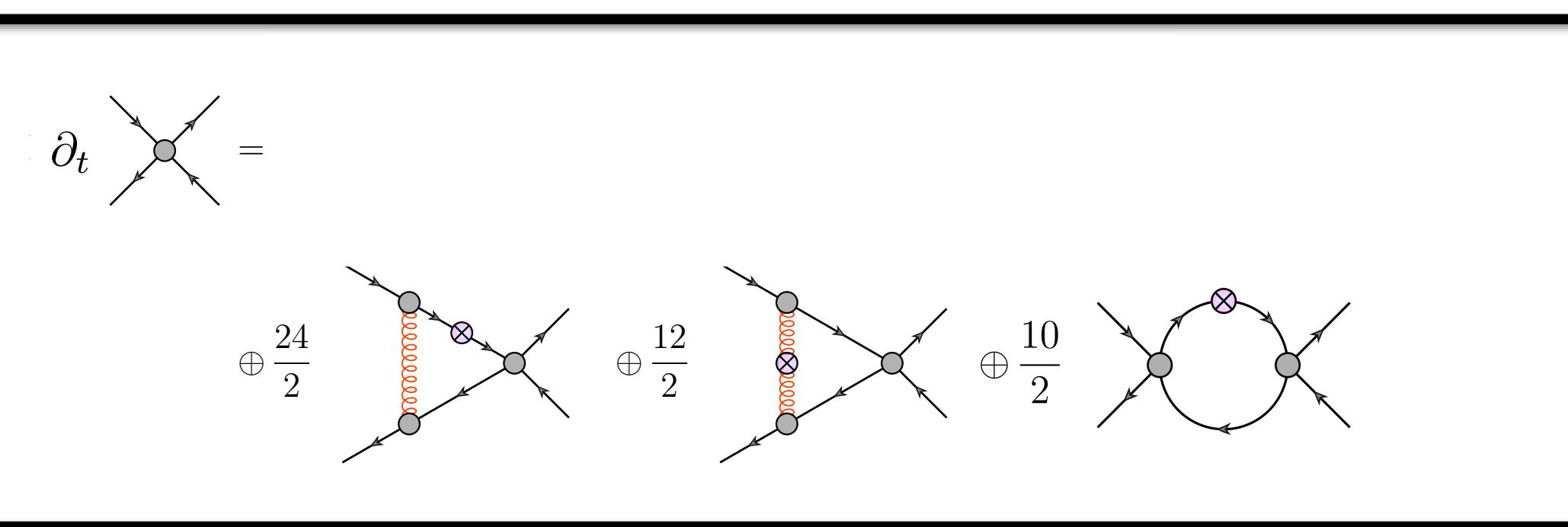
Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

$$\partial_t \lambda = 2\lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking

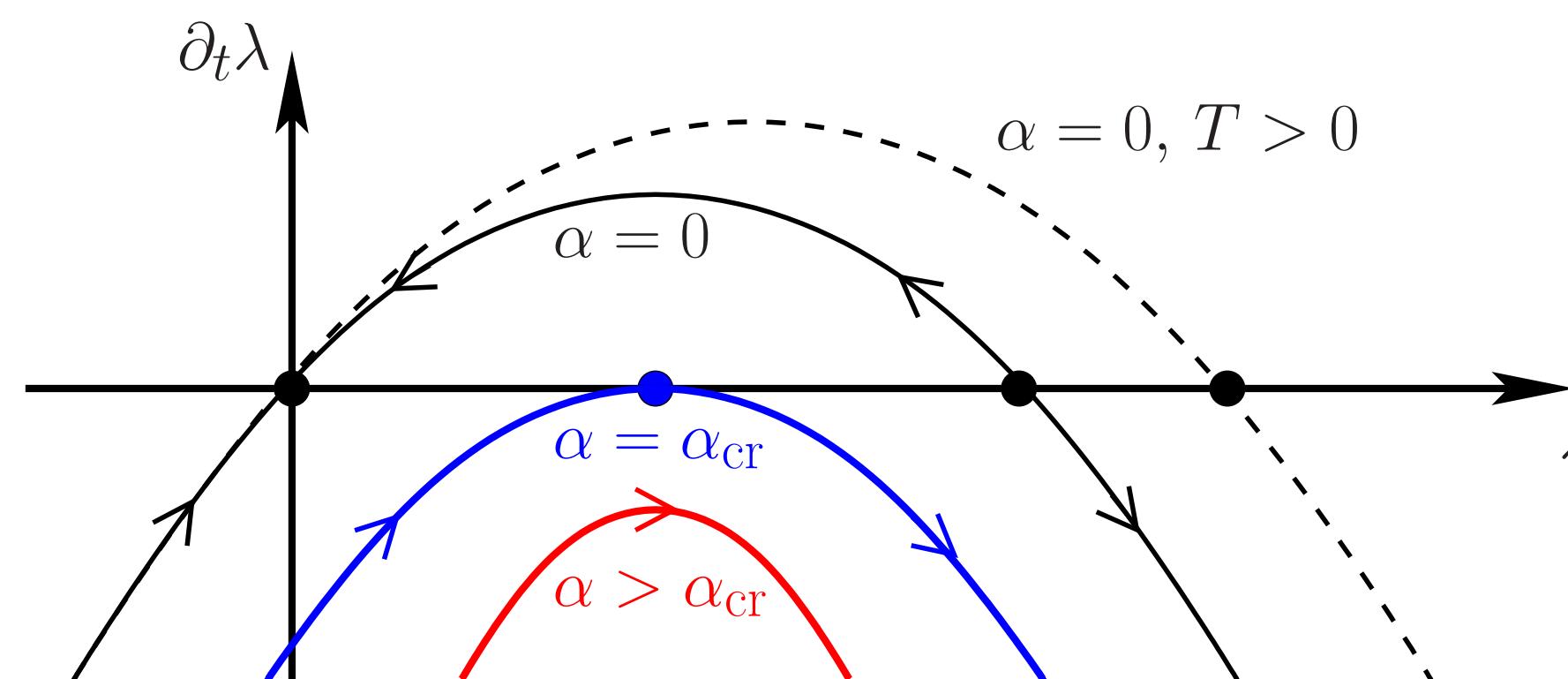
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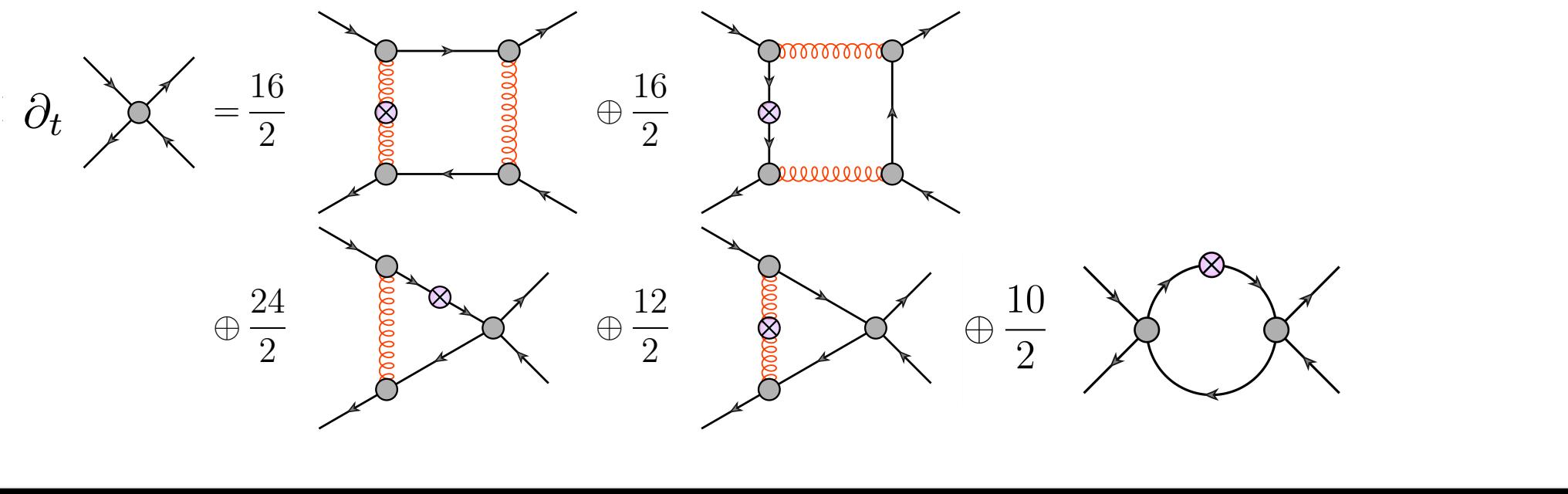
$$\partial_t \lambda = 2\lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \lambda \alpha_s$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times$$
$$s - ps$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking

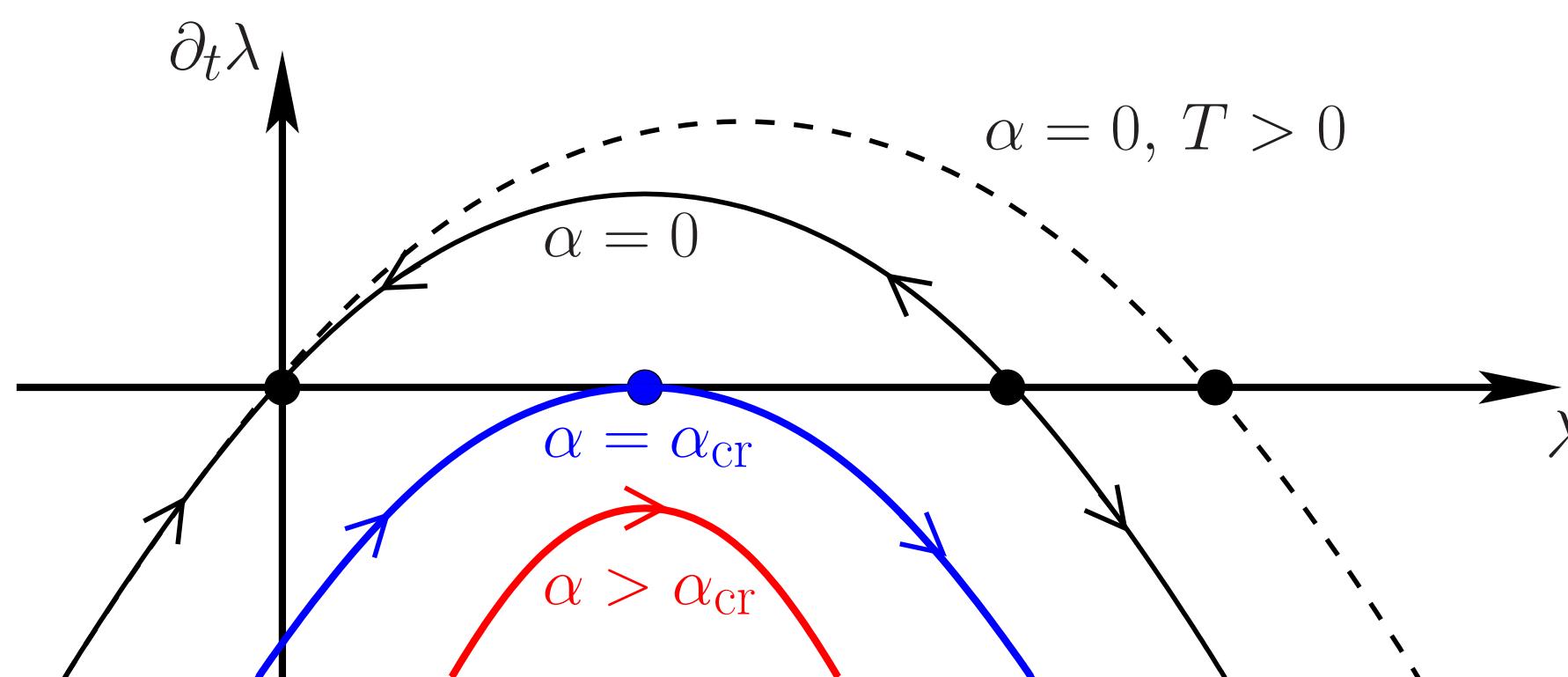
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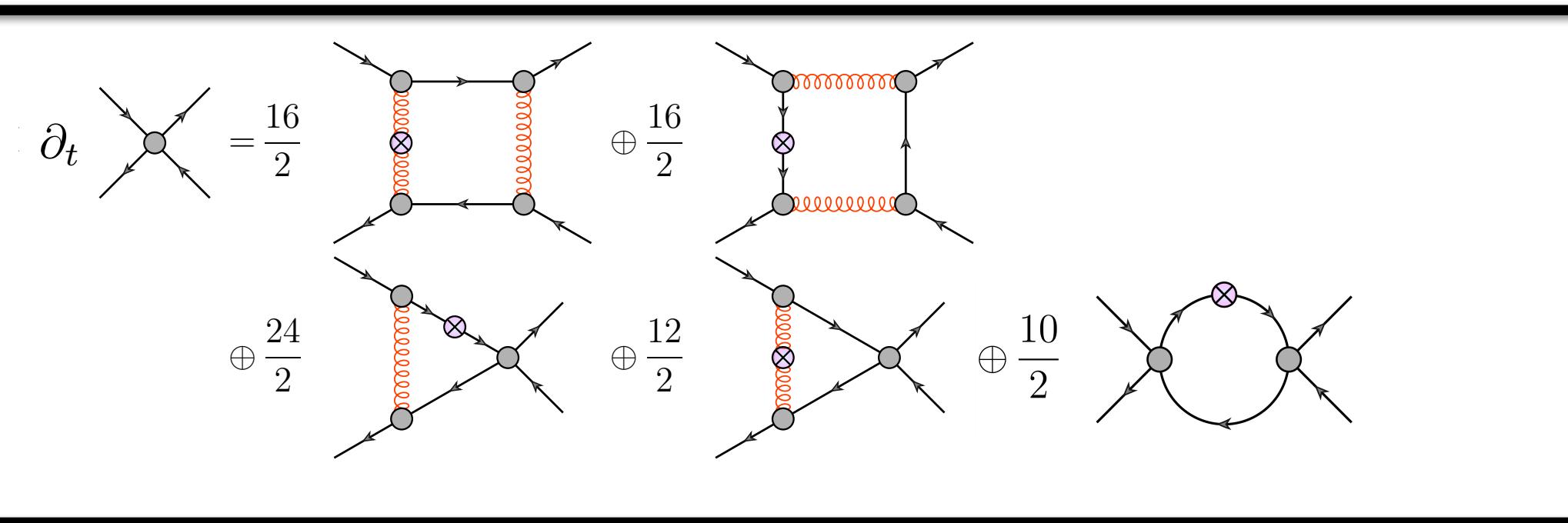
$$\partial_t \lambda = \left[ 2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s \right] \lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - C(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s^2$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad | \quad s-ps$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking

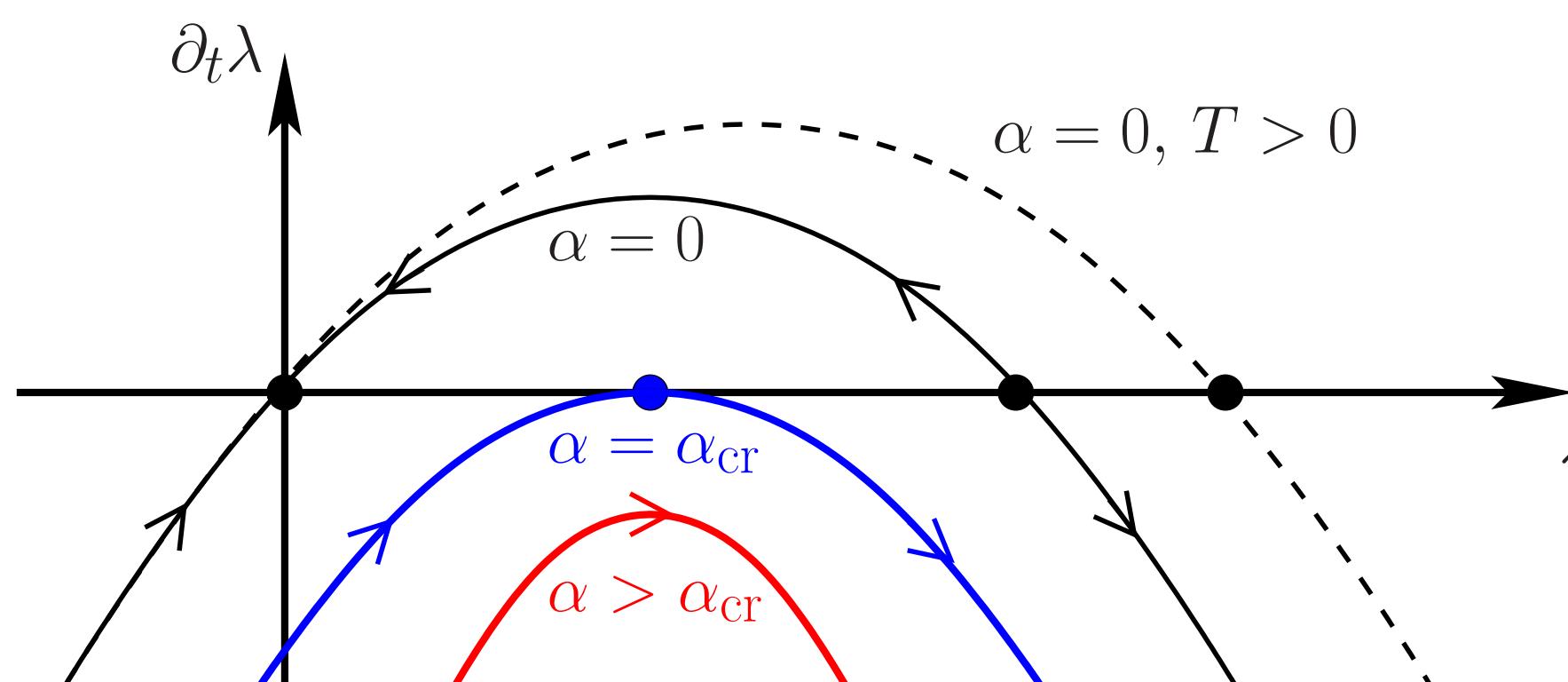
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

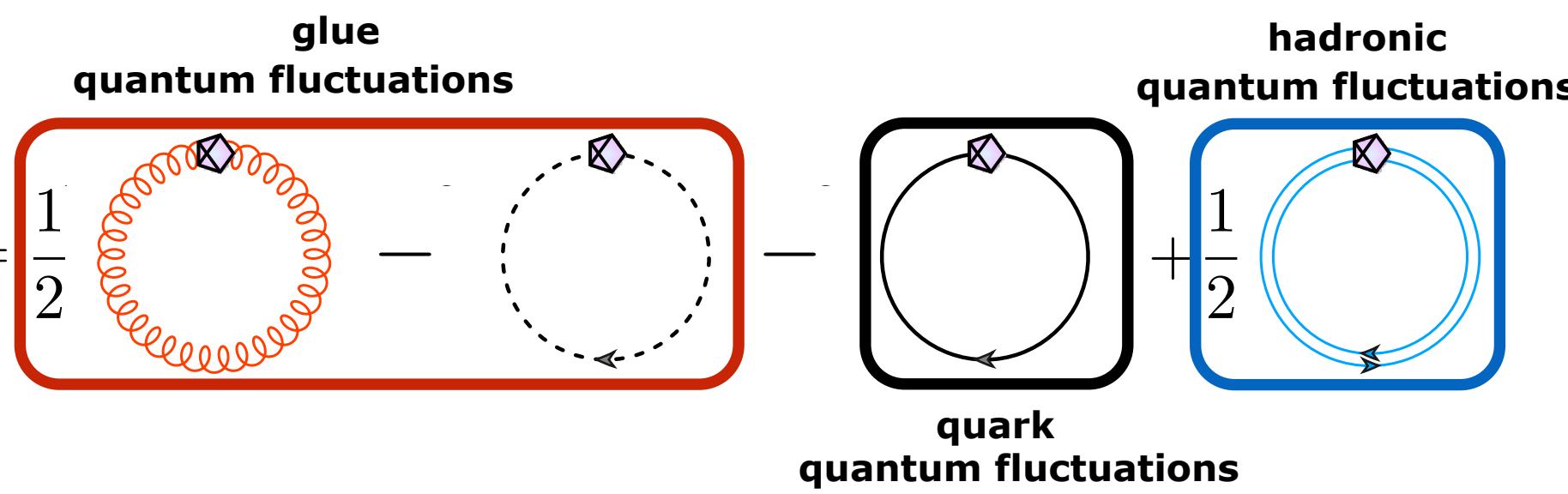
$$\partial_t \lambda = \left[ 2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s \right] \lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - C(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s^2$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \lambda_q \quad | \quad s-ps$$



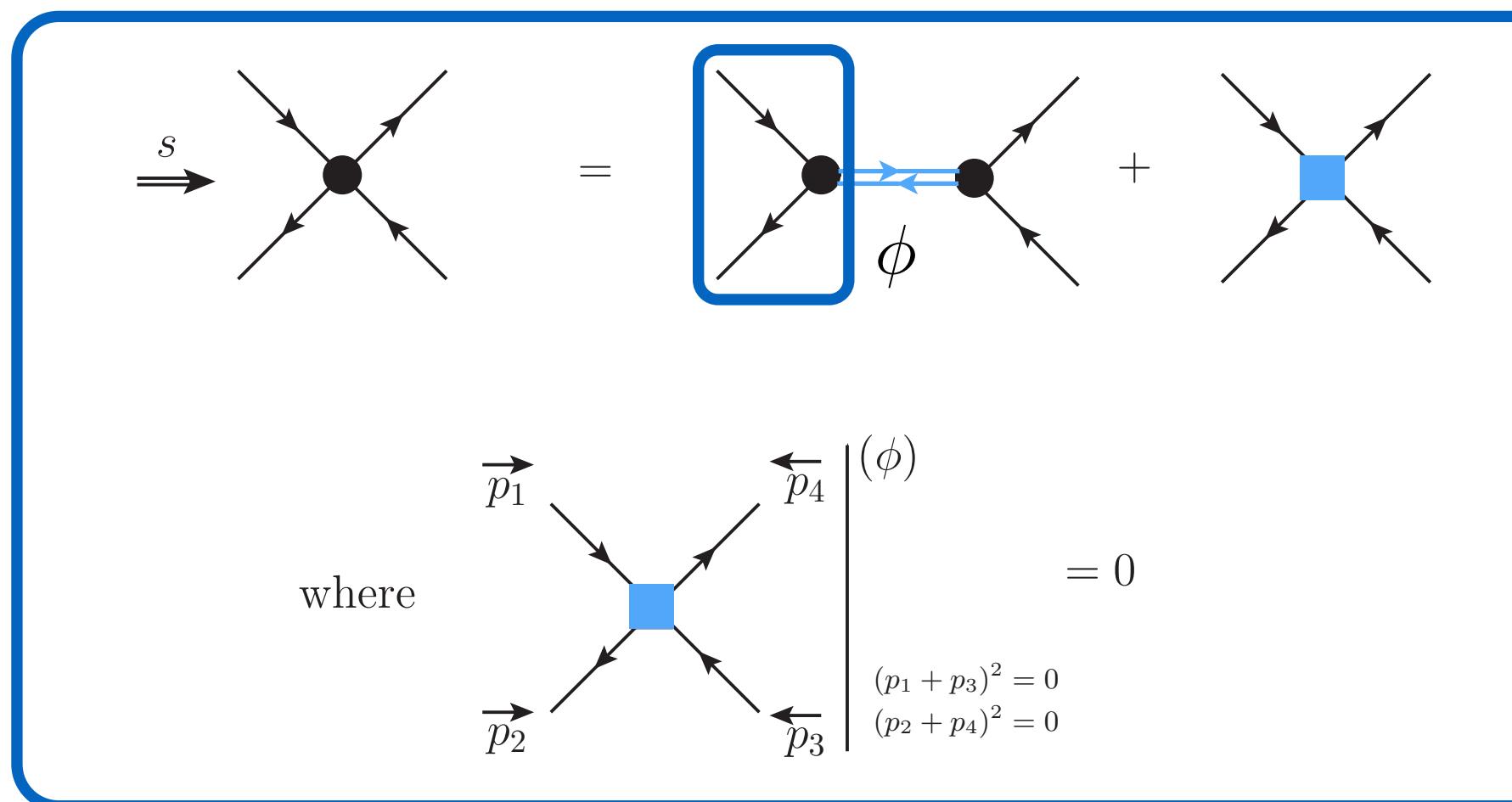
chiral symmetry breaking  $\longleftrightarrow \alpha_s > \alpha_{s,cr}$

# Chiral symmetry breaking and emergent composites

**functional RG:**  $\left( \partial_t + \int_x \dot{\Phi} \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \right) \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2}$  

'DynHad for mesons & diquarks is BSE-DSE for QCD in a 'unified' effective action approach'

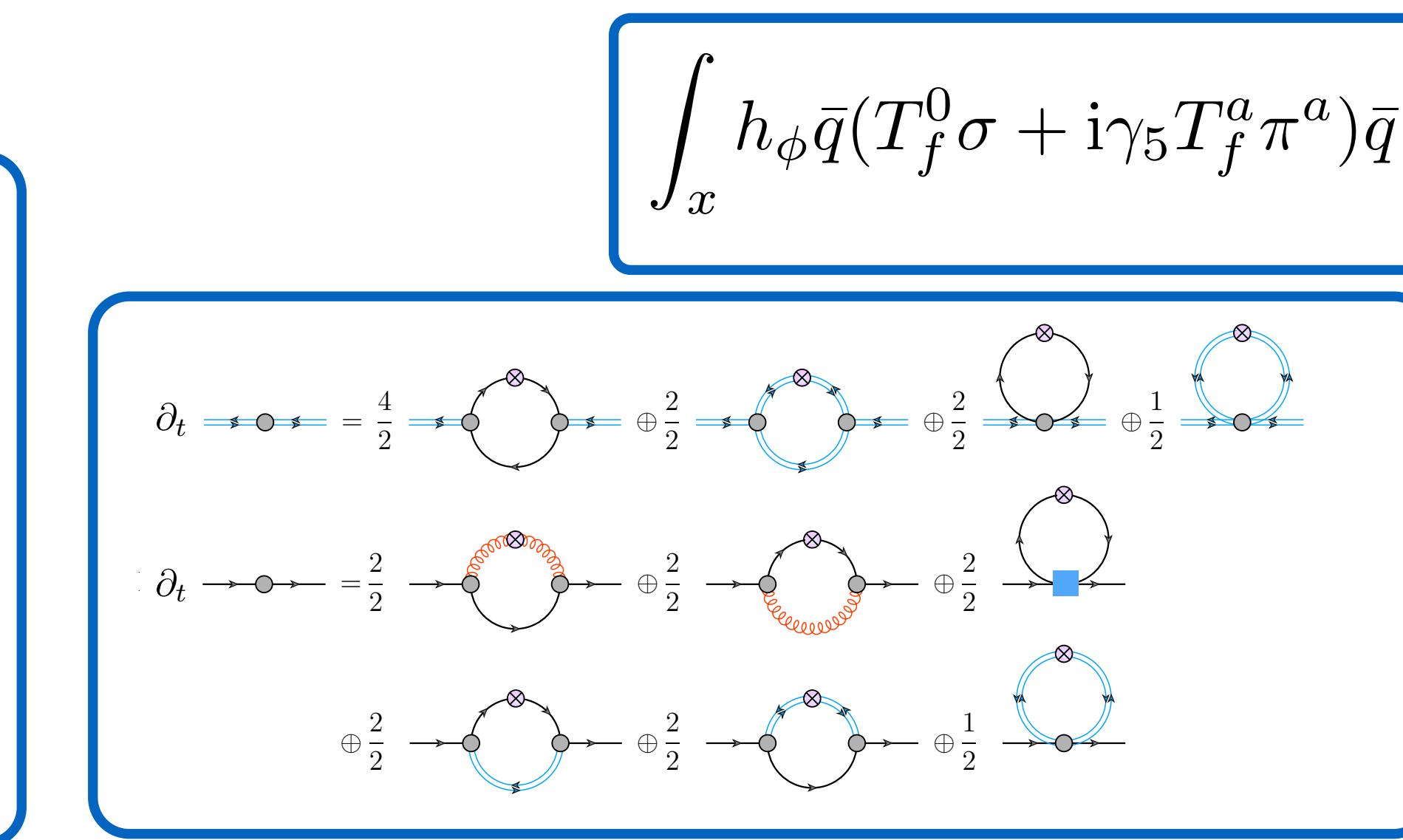
## Dynamical hadronisation



$$\text{bare vertex} = \text{bare vertex} + \text{loop correction}$$

$$\text{where } \begin{array}{c} \text{four-point vertex with } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 \\ \text{and central square } (\phi) \end{array} = 0$$

$$\phi = (\sigma, \pi^a)$$



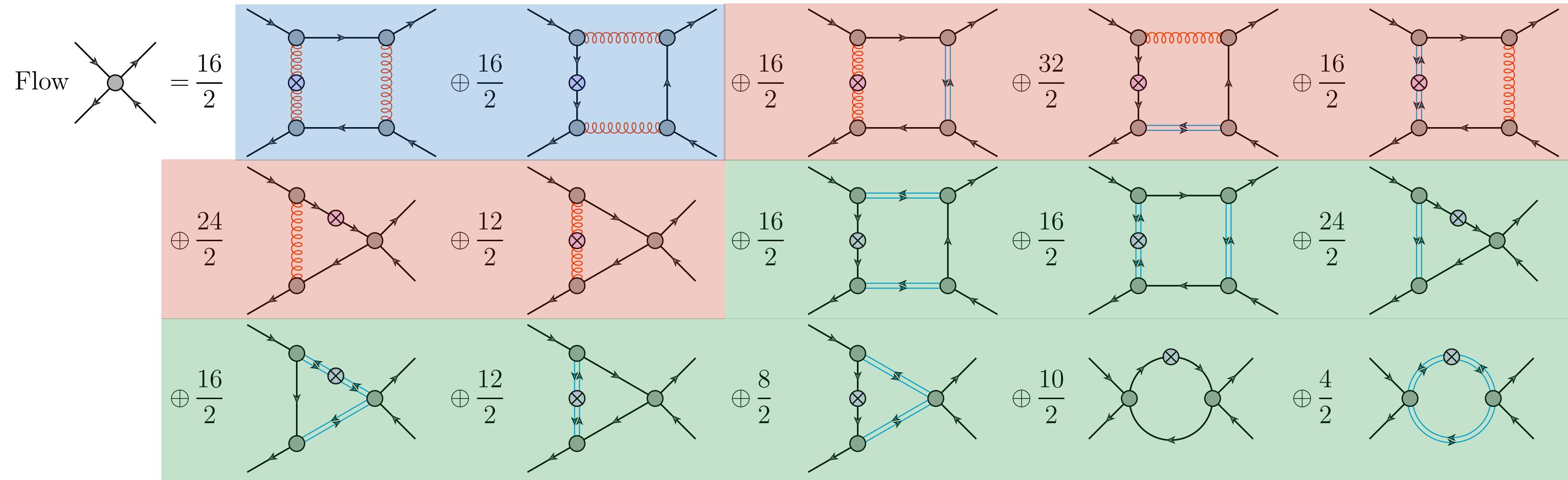
$$\int_x h_\phi \bar{q} (T_f^0 \sigma + i \gamma_5 T_f^a \pi^a) \bar{q}$$

$$\partial_t \text{bare vertex} = \frac{4}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{2}{2} \text{ loop } + \frac{2}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{2}{2} \text{ loop } + \frac{1}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{1}{2} \text{ loop}$$

$$\partial_t \text{bare vertex} = \frac{2}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{2}{2} \text{ loop } + \frac{2}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{2}{2} \text{ loop } + \frac{1}{2} \text{ vertex with } \frac{1}{2} \text{ loop}$$

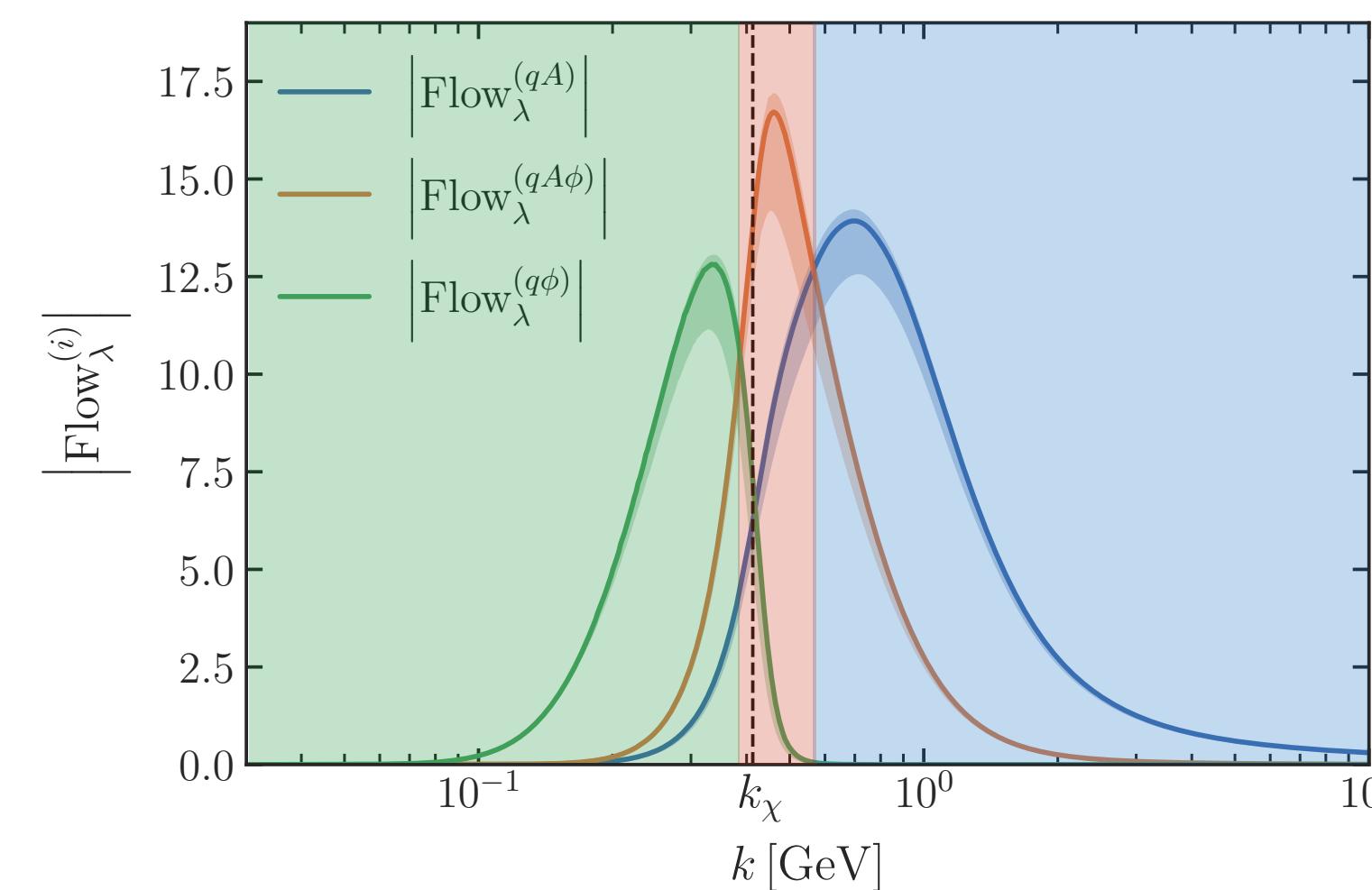


# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



Rapid convergence in QCD → the unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories

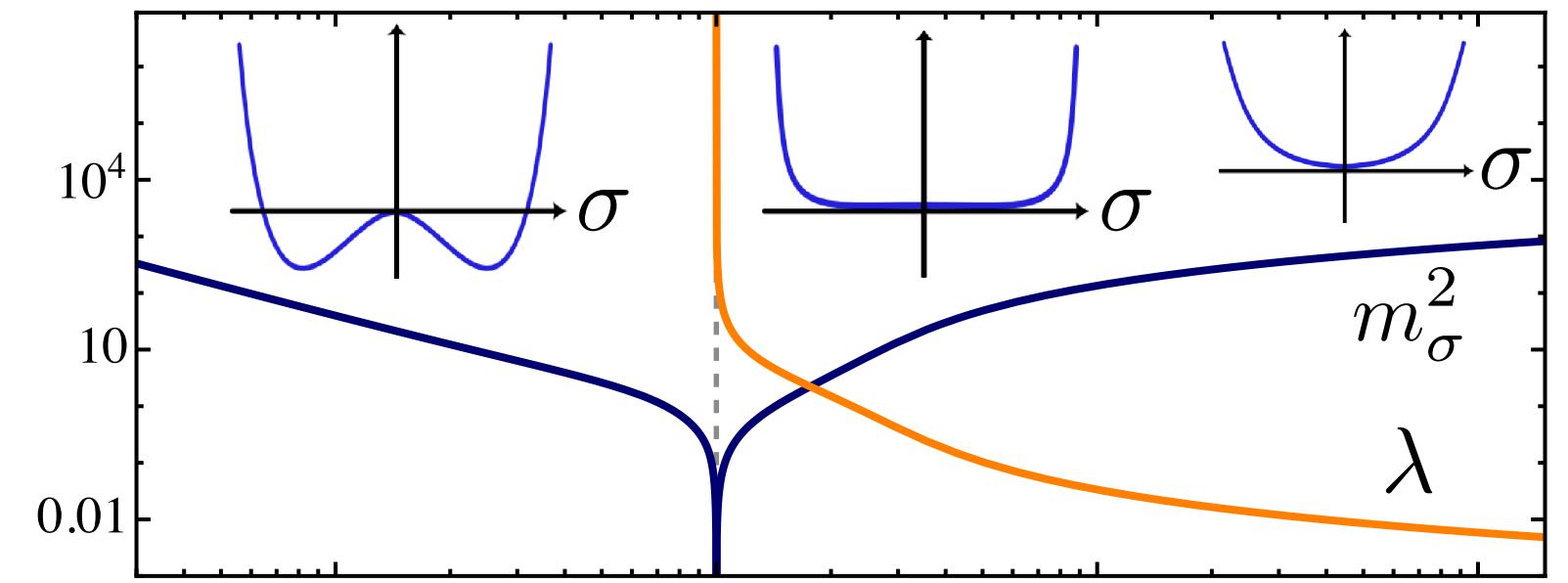
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



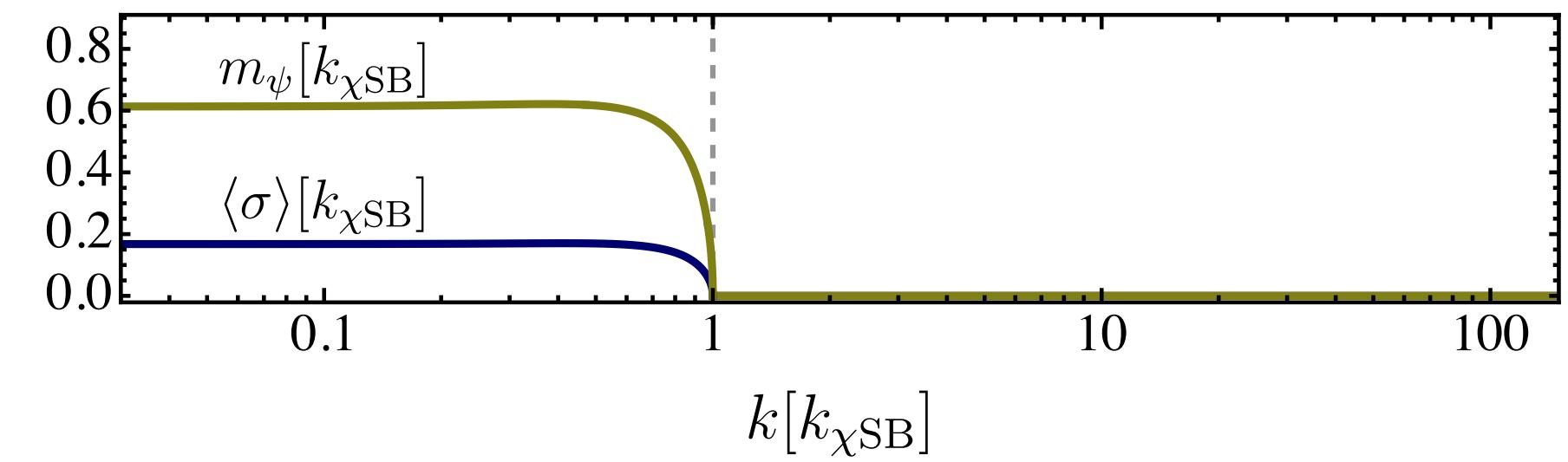
Access and combined use of  
error estimates  
from functional QCD & LEFTs

# Chiral dynamics

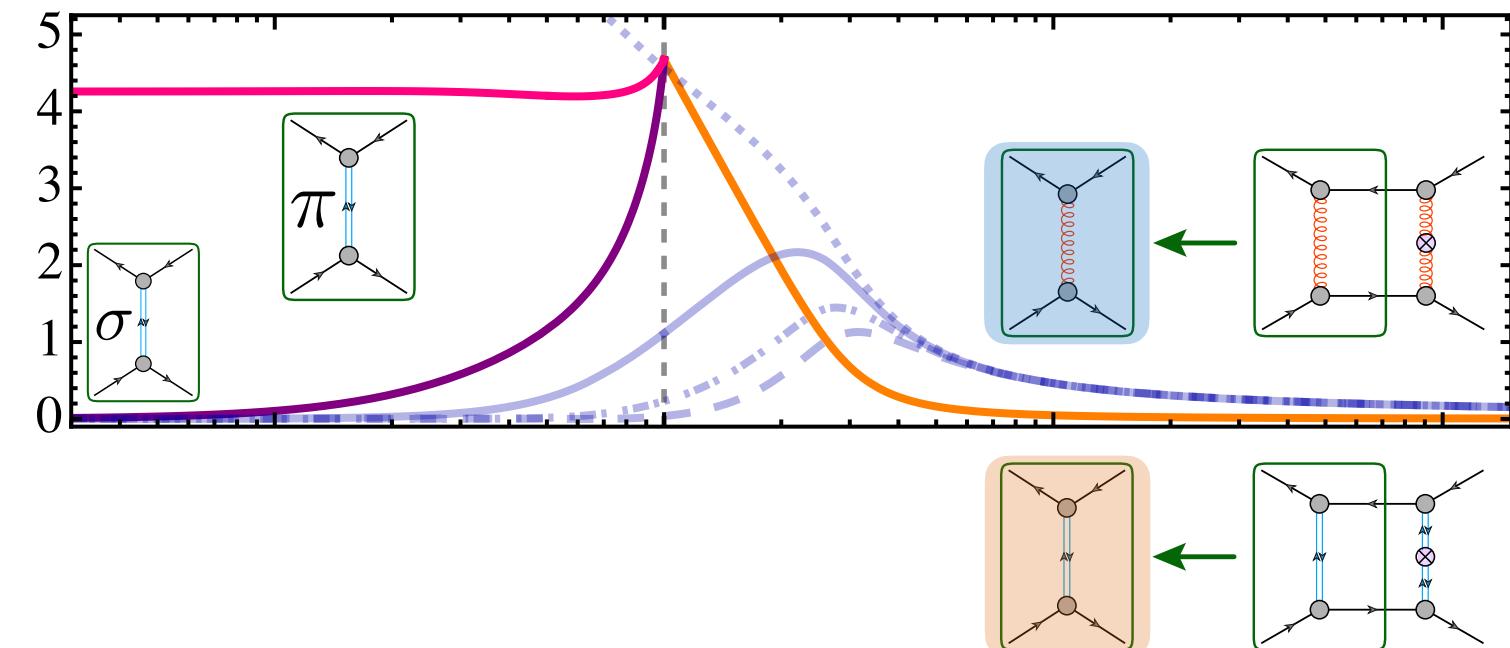
Chiral order parameter potential



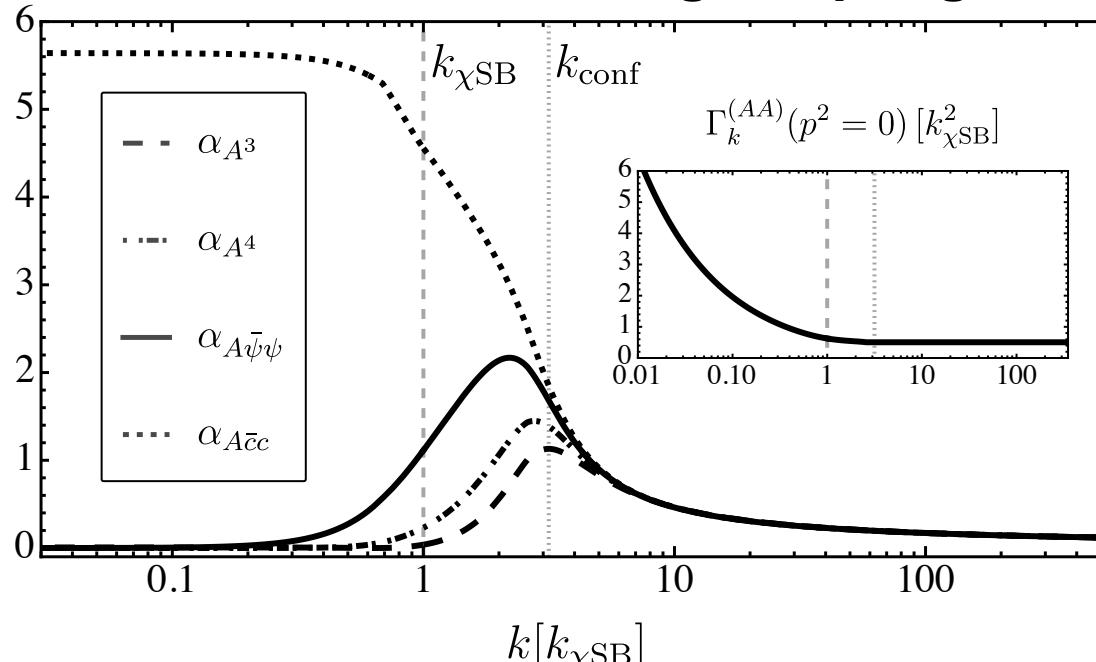
Quark mass function & ‘chiral condensate’



Exchange couplings

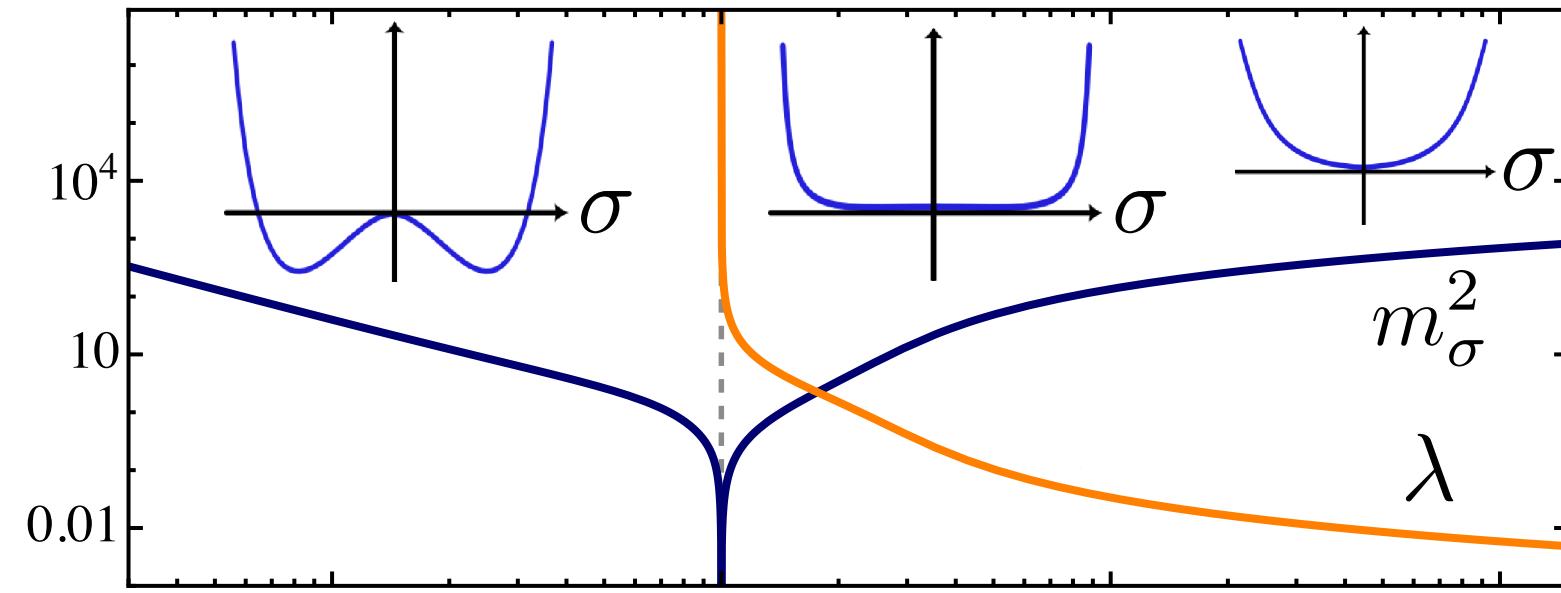


Avatars of the strong coupling

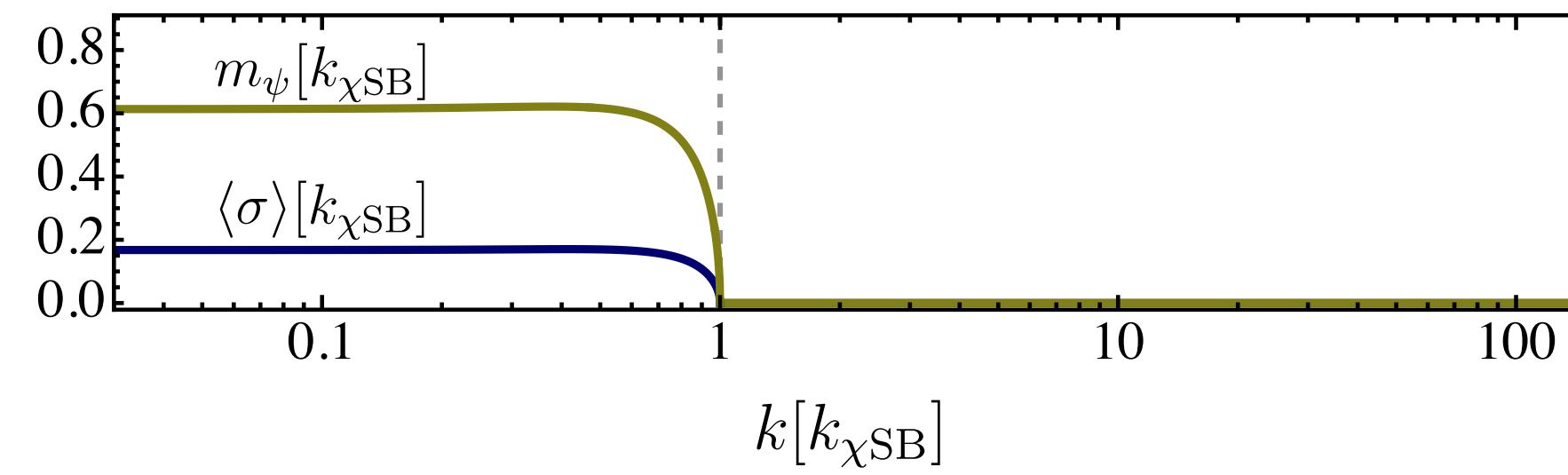


# Chiral dynamics

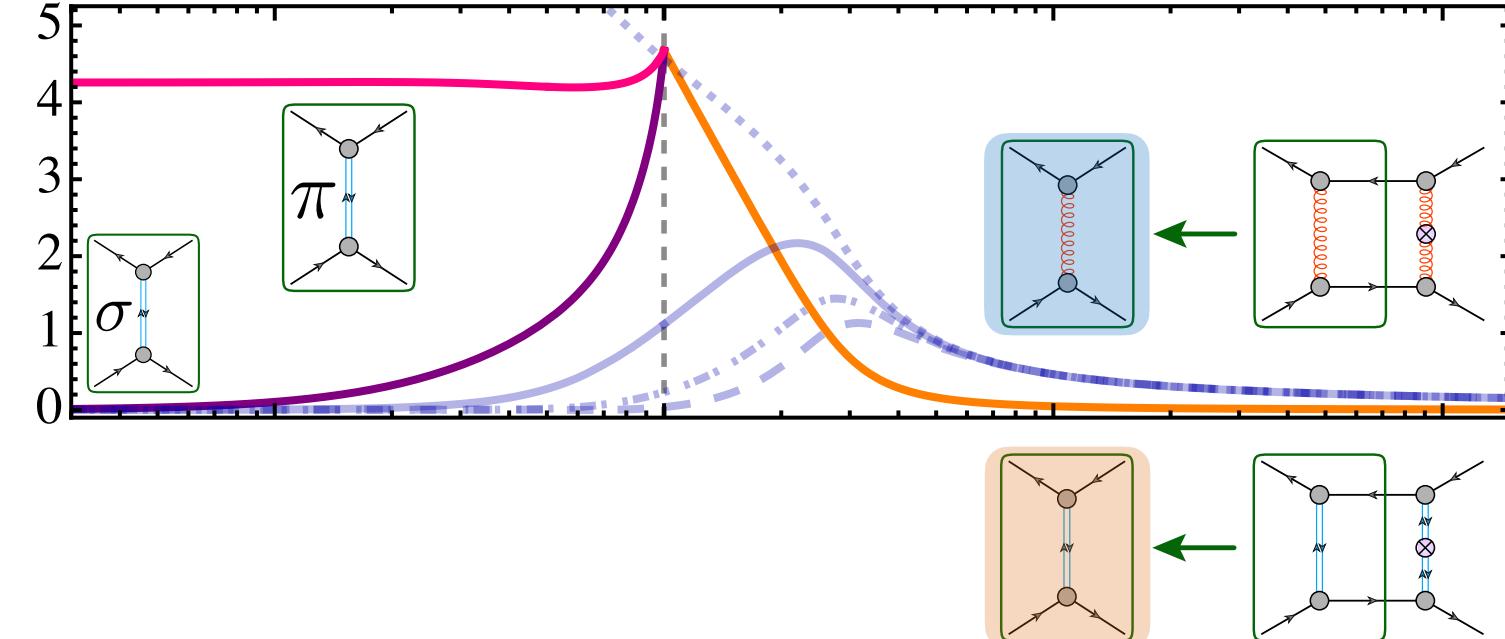
**Chiral order parameter potential**



**Quark mass function & ‘chiral condensate’**

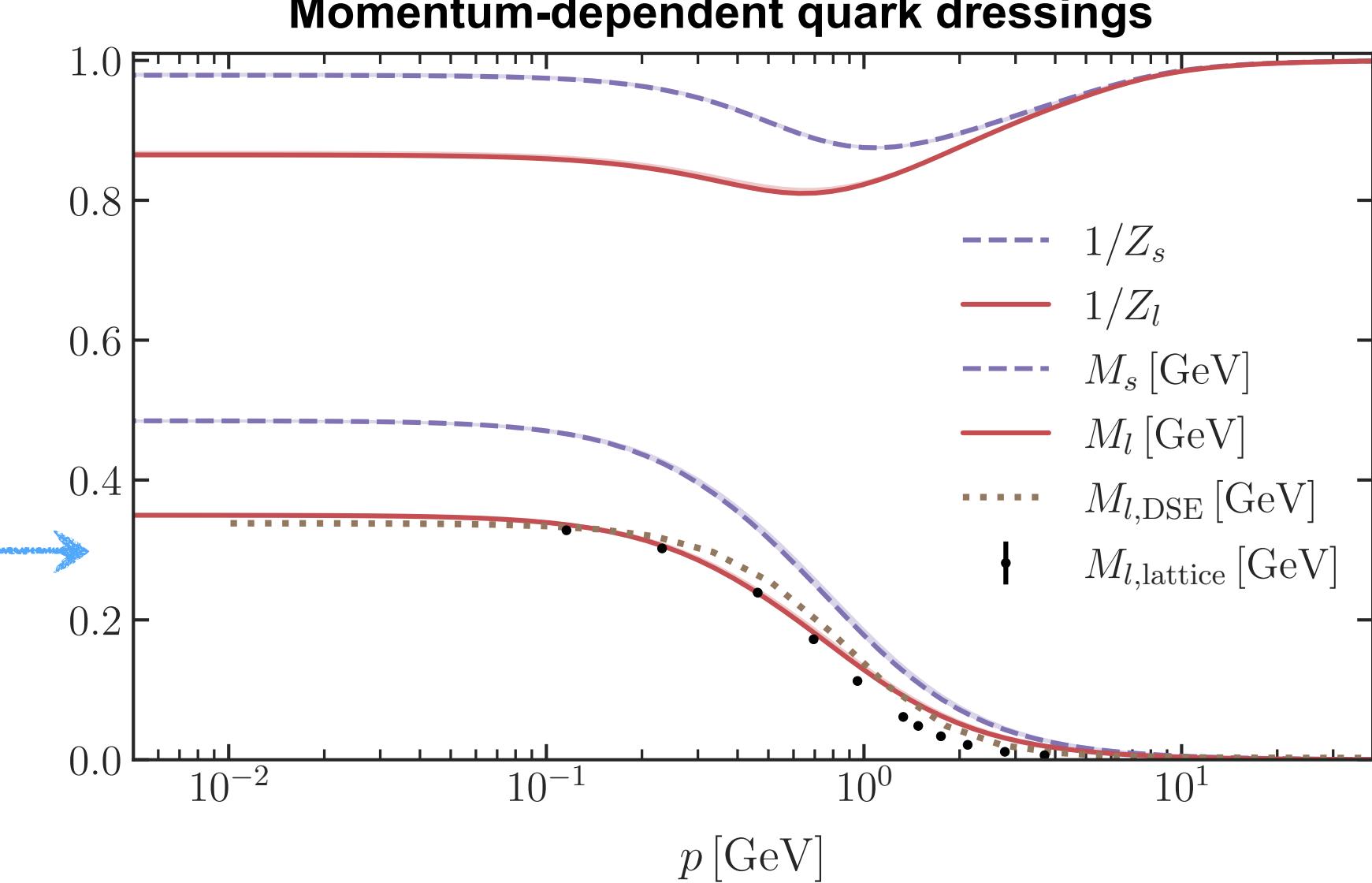


**Exchange couplings**

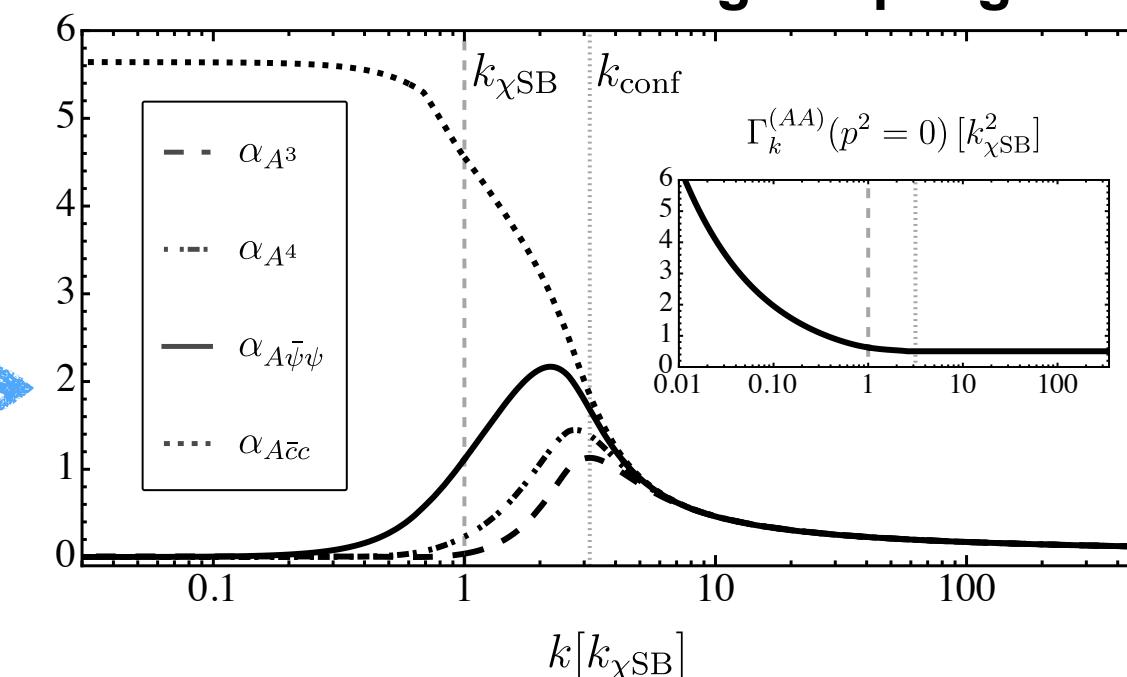


**k-mirrors of momentum dependences**

encode



**Avatars of the strong coupling**



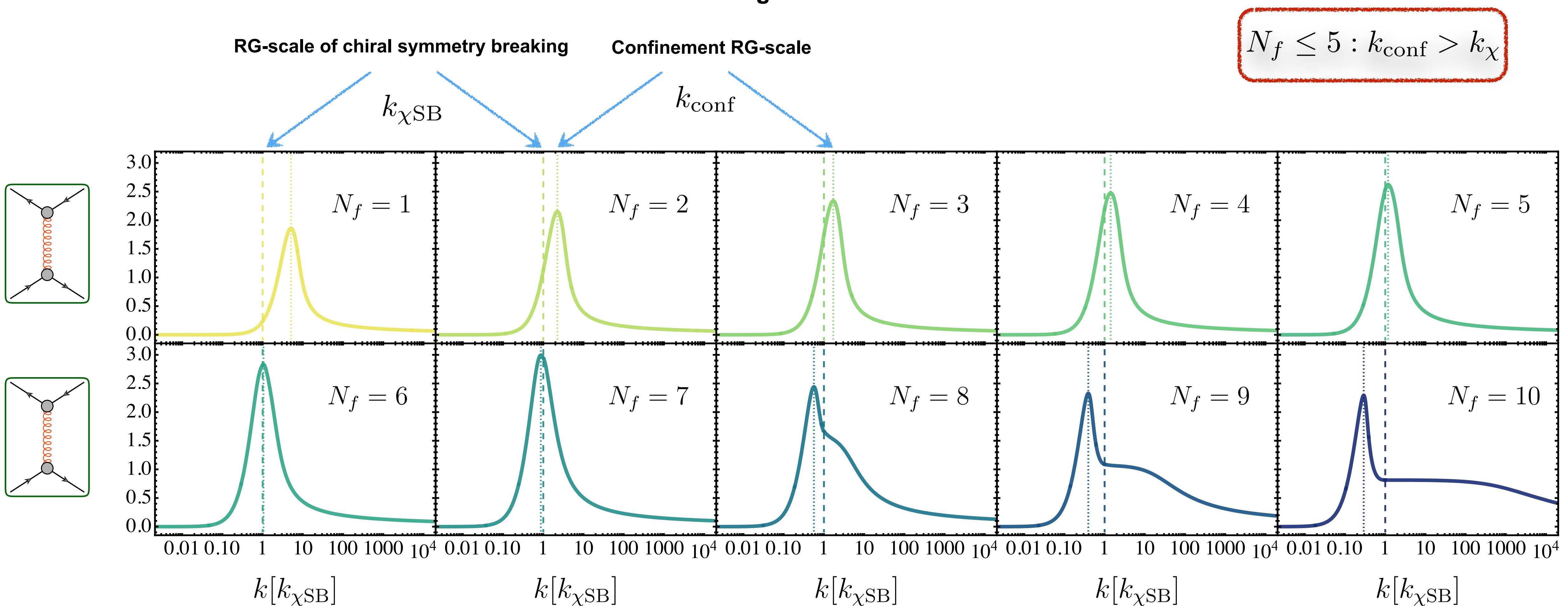
Ihsen, JMP, Sattler, Wink, arXiv: 2408.08413

# **Results on the phase structure of many-flavour QCD**

**Florian Goertz, Álvaro Pastor-Gutiérrez, JMP, in preparation**

# Flavour dependence of gauge dynamics

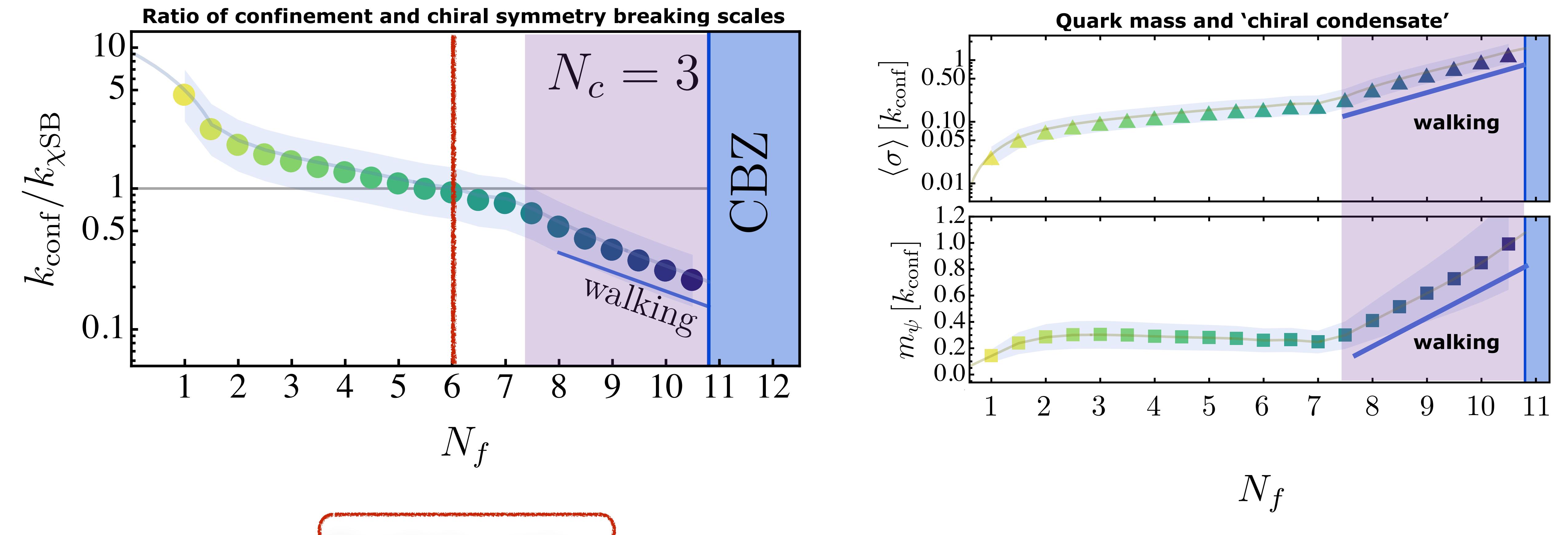
Getting conformal



$N_f = 6 : k_{conf} \approx k_{\chi SB}$

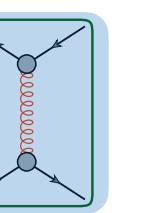
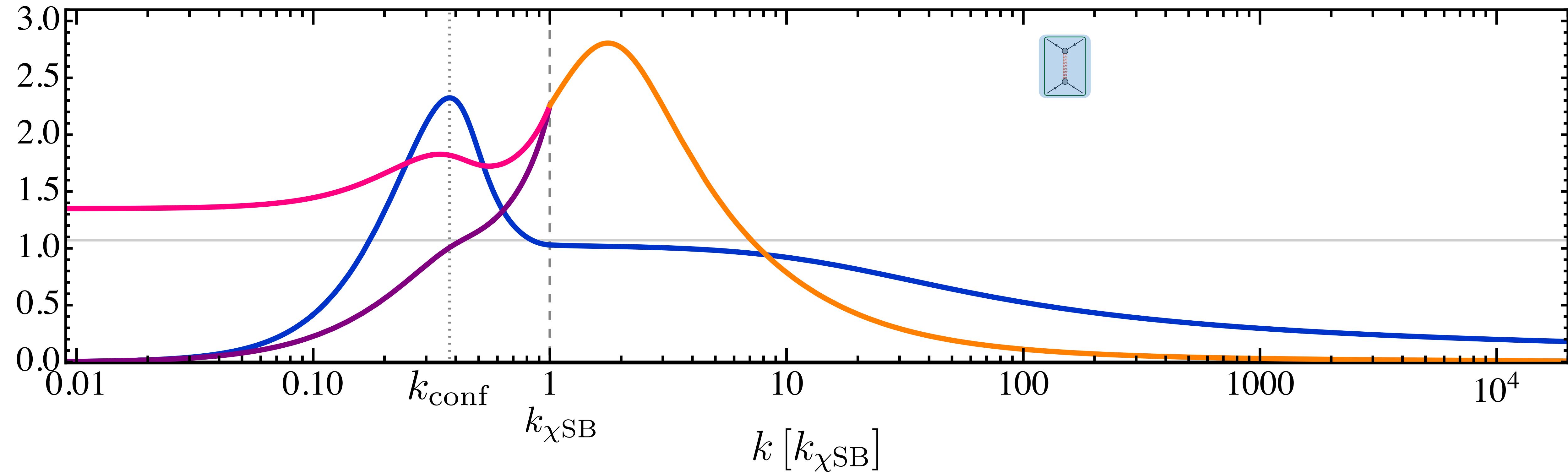
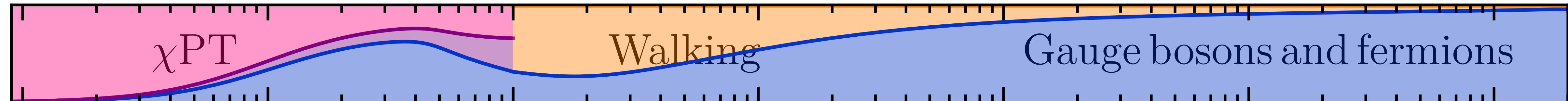
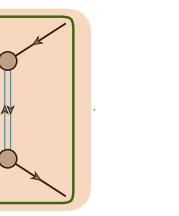
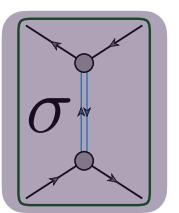
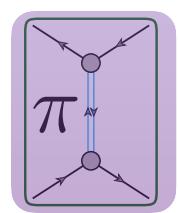
$N_f > 6 : k_{conf} < k_{\chi}$

# Interplay of confinement & chiral symmetry breaking scales



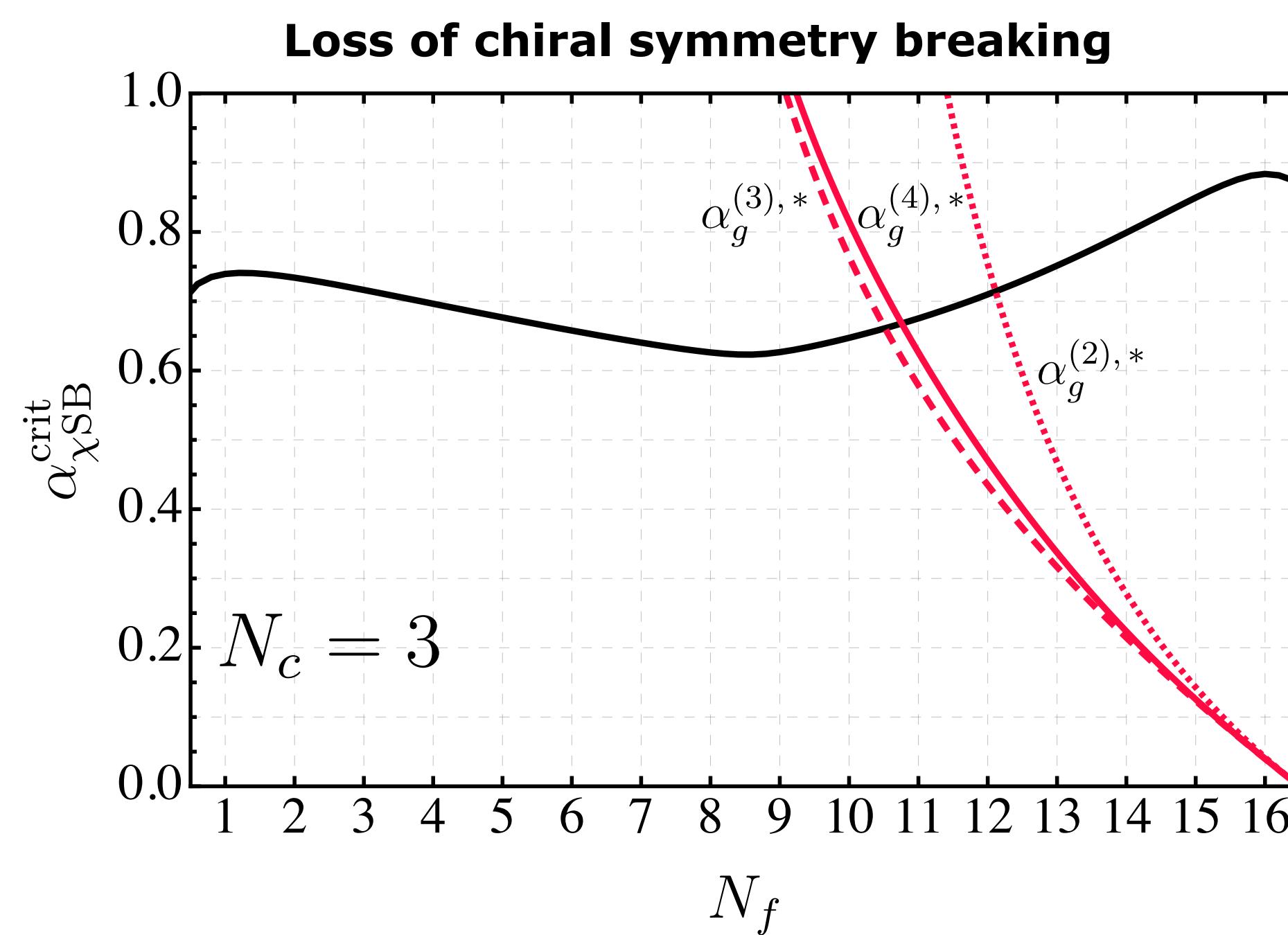
# Walking dynamics

$N_f = 9$

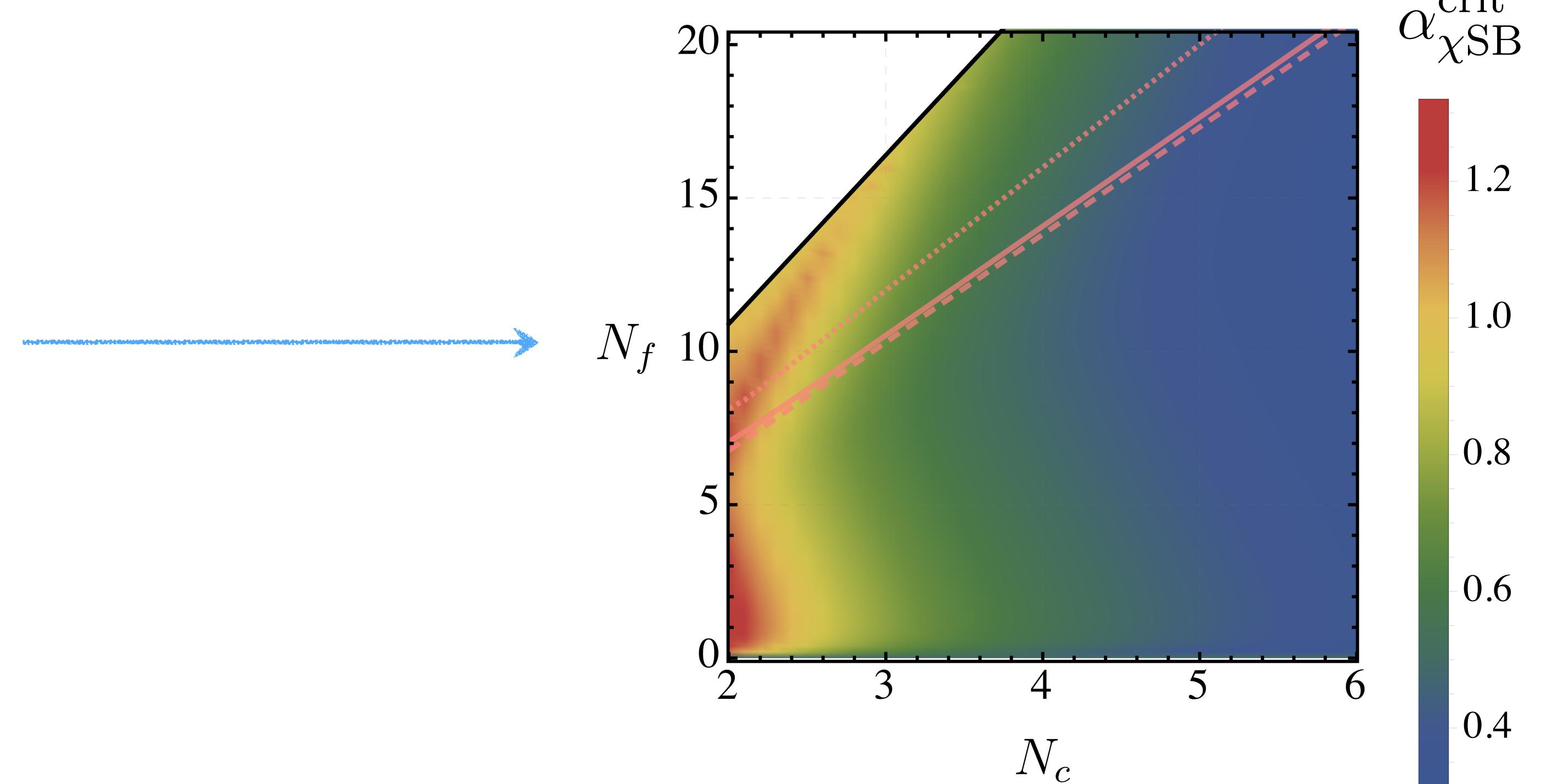


# Lower boundary of the CBZ-window

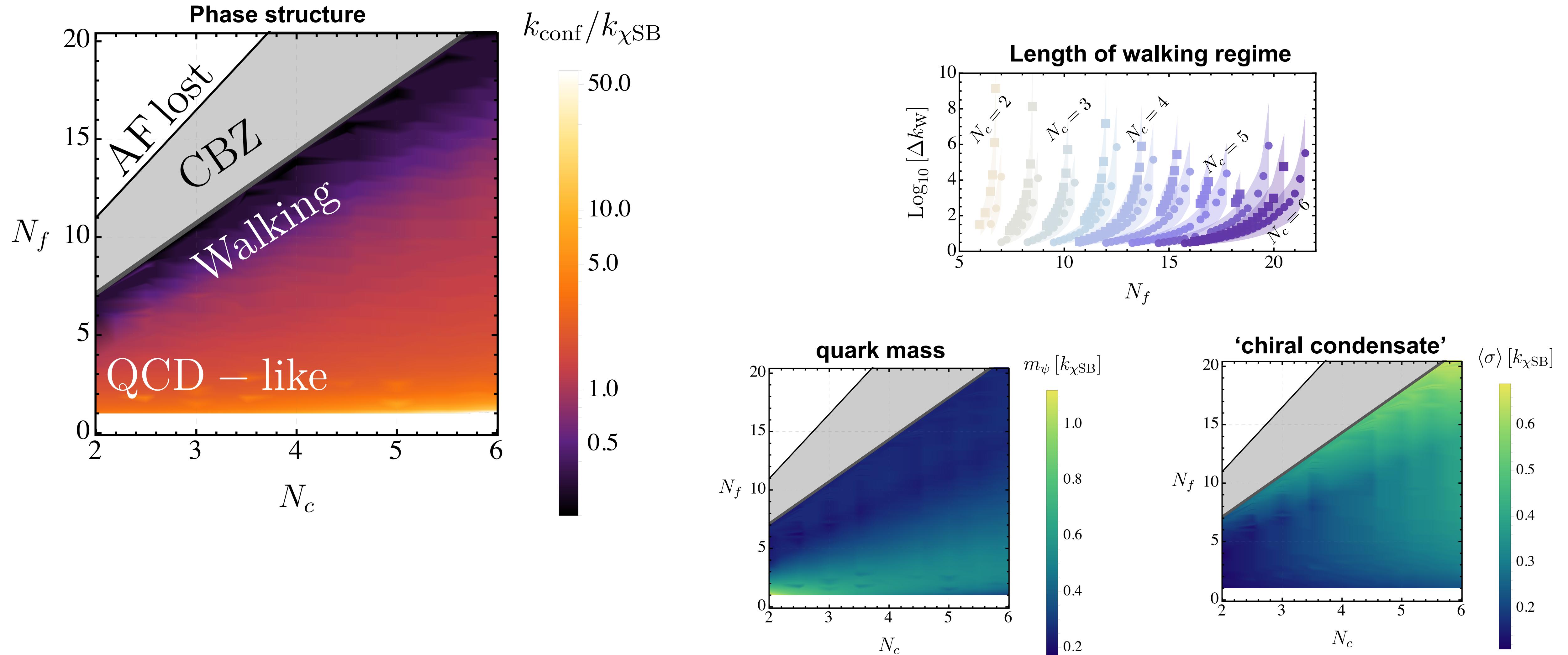
$$\frac{k_{\text{conf}}}{k_{\chi\text{SB}}} \rightarrow 0 \longrightarrow \alpha_{\chi\text{SB}}^{\text{crit}} = \alpha_g^*$$



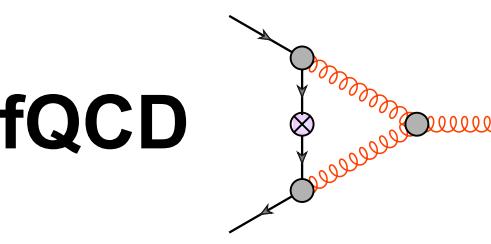
$N_f^{\text{crit}} \approx 10.8$



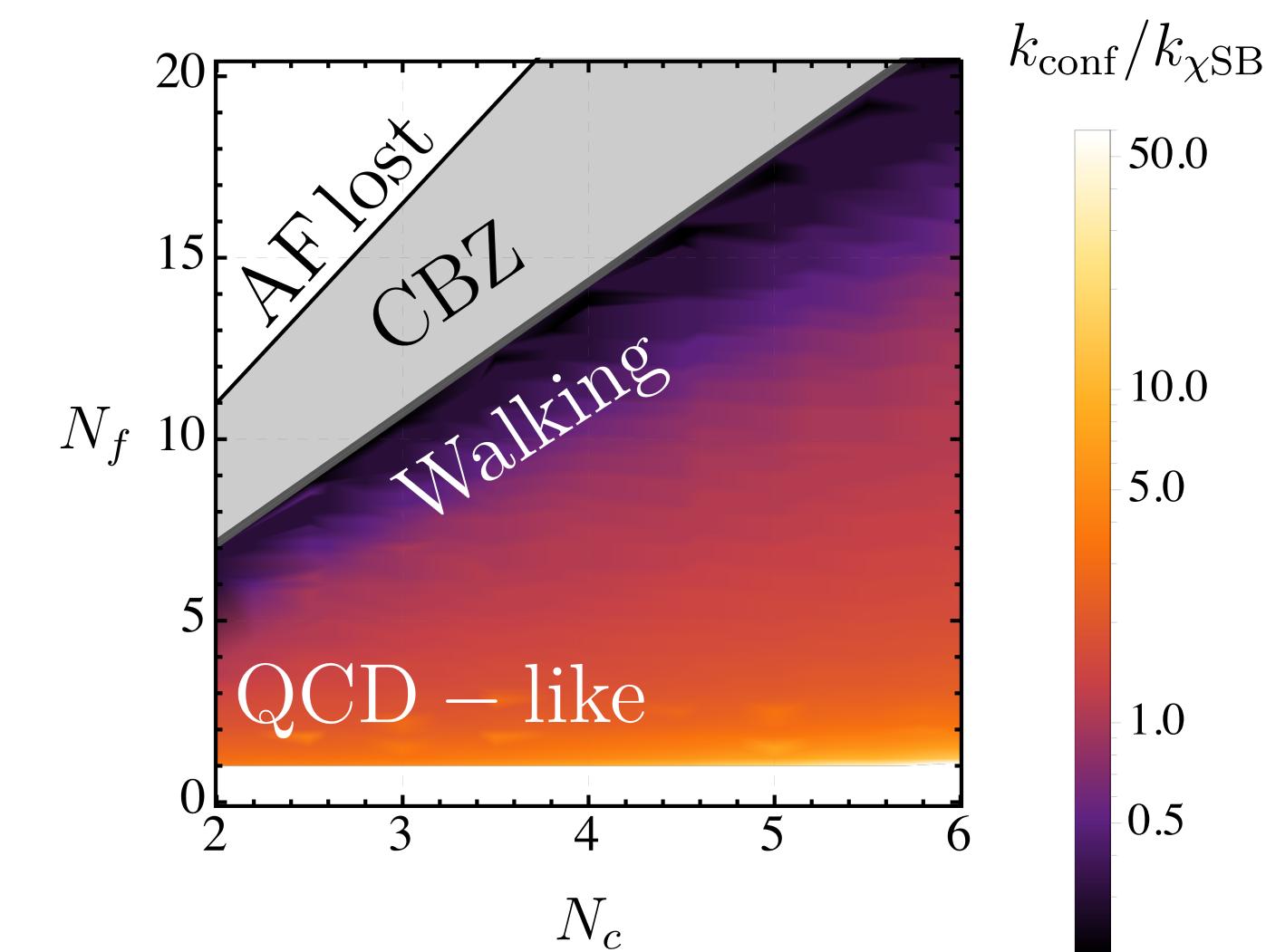
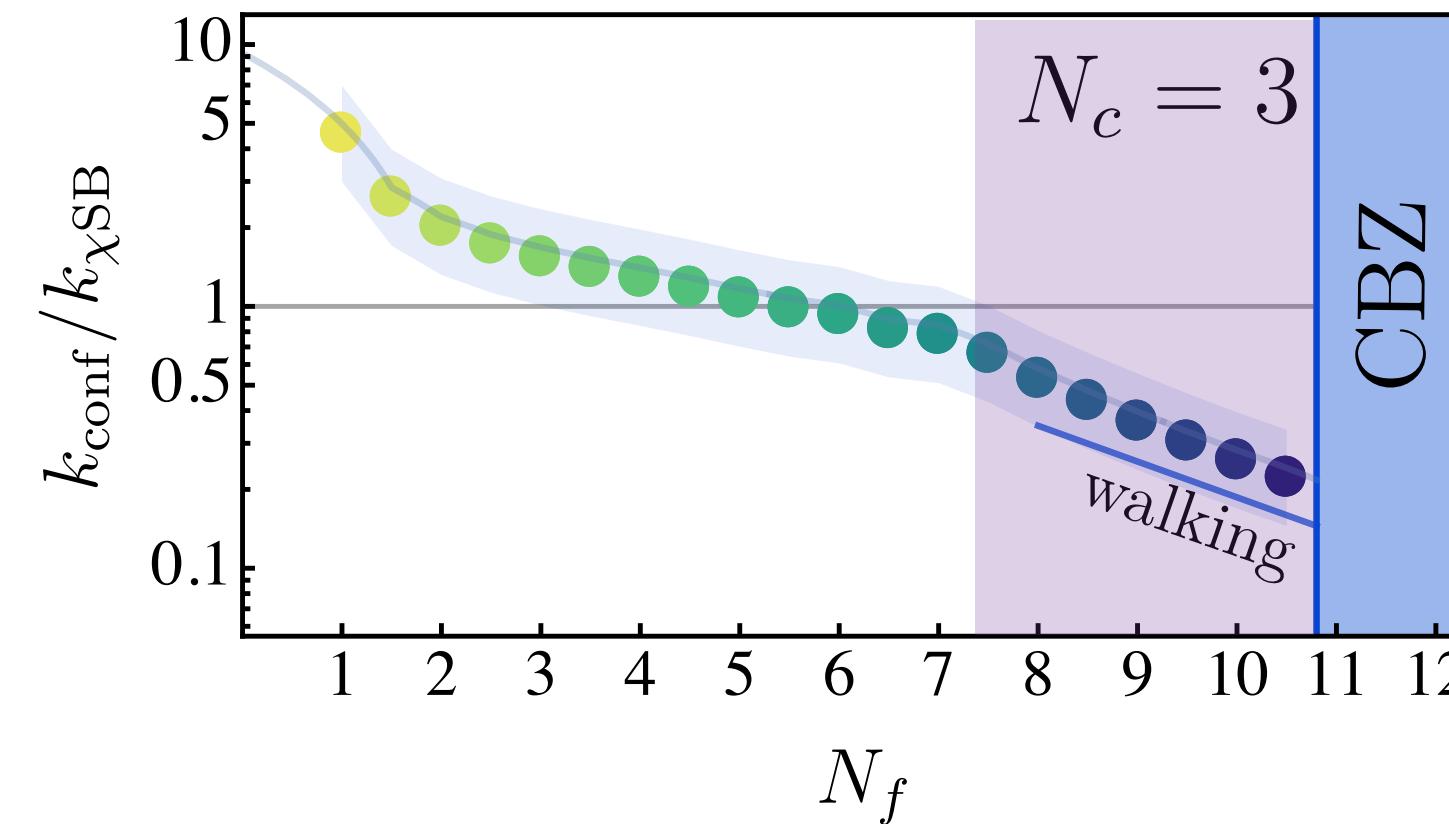
# Phase structure of many flavour QCD



# Summary

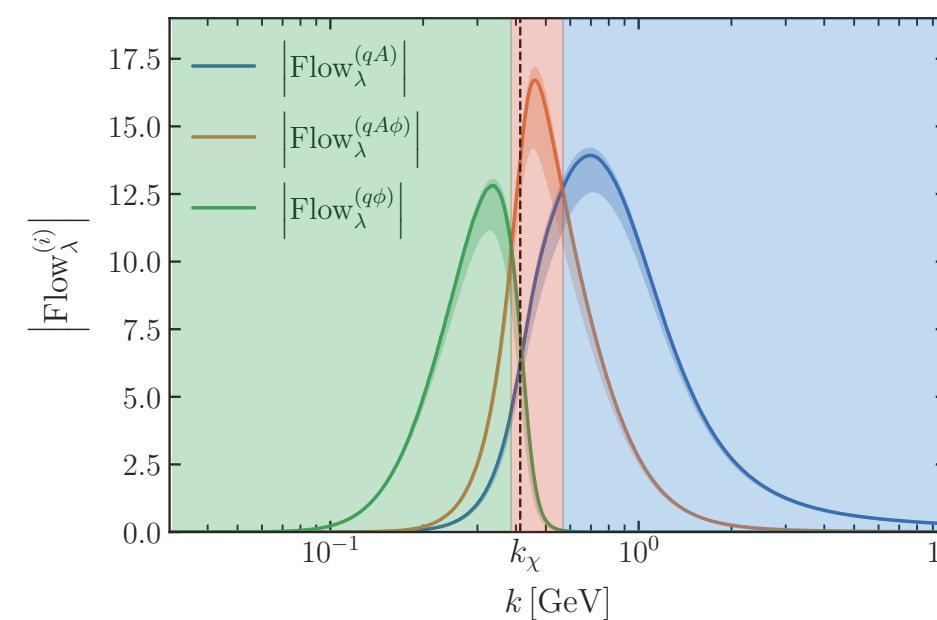


- Functional renormalisation group approach to confining and chiral symmetry breaking dynamics in many-flavour QCD



- Phase structure of many-flavour QCD with full chiral dynamics

- Systematic error estimates with the LEGO® principle



**Stage is set: Stay tuned!**