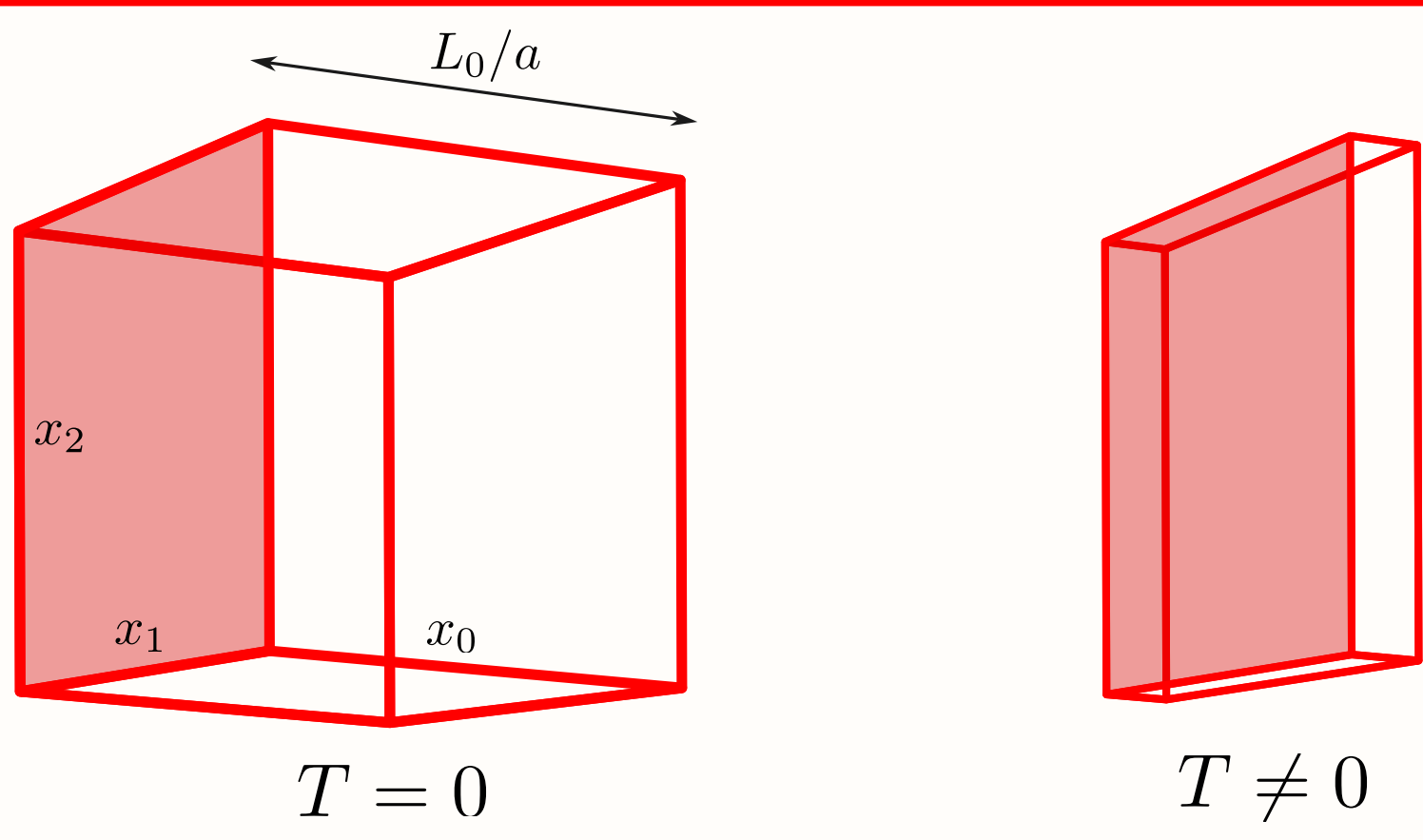


Why are we doing this?

Thermal QCD can be described by 3D effective bosonic theories due to a process of **dimensional reduction** [1]. These effective field theories (EFT) describe the long range dynamics of QCD at temperature T , and the information about the integrated higher energy scales is contained in the **temperature dependent 3D couplings**. The knowledge of such couplings comes from the **matching** of the theories, which is known only perturbatively. We have devised a strategy to perform the **first non-perturbative computation of the matching**, using gradient flow quantities in a finite volume setup, allowing us to keep all lattice systematics under control, and perform the matching over a large range of temperatures with high precision.

Dimensional Reduction

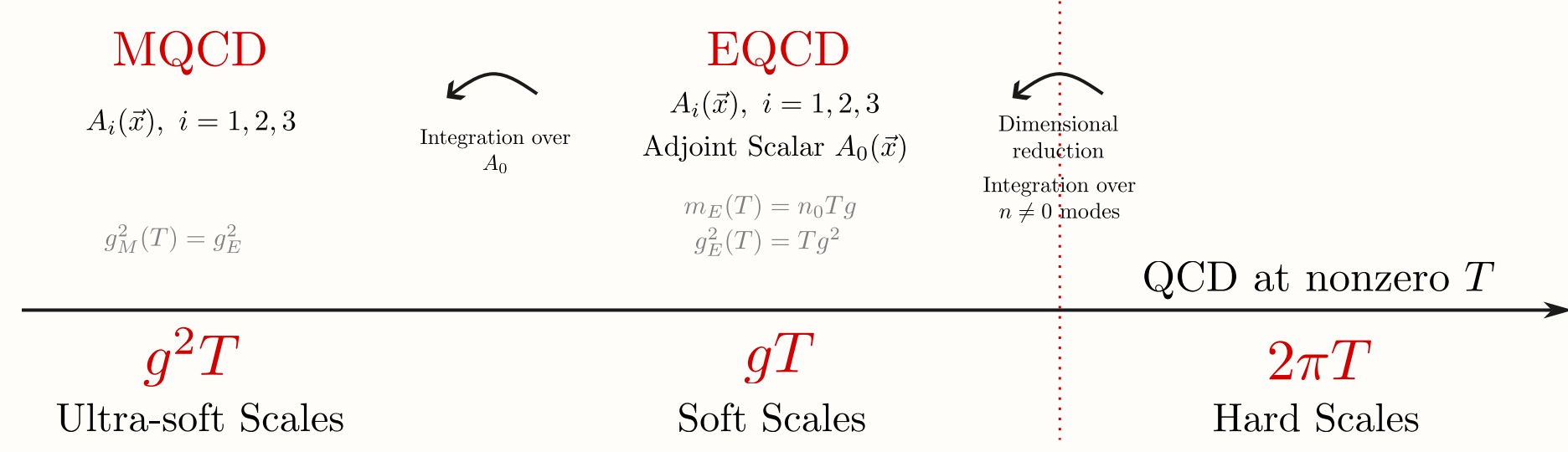


High T leads to the decoupling of the *hard* Matsubara modes, $n \neq 0$:

$$A_\mu(x) = T \sum_n \int_{\vec{p}} e^{i(\omega_n x_0 + \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x})} \tilde{A}_\mu(\omega_n, \vec{p}), \quad \omega_n = 2\pi T n$$

$$S_{\text{YM}}^{\text{free}} = \frac{1}{2g_0^2} T \sum_n \int_{\vec{p}} \tilde{A}_\mu^a(\omega_n, \vec{p}) ((2\pi n T)^2 + \vec{p}^2) \tilde{A}_\mu^a(\omega_n, \vec{p}).$$

- ❖ Infrared modes are captured by 3D bosonic theories



From the effective field theory perspective we build the most general 3D Lagrangian with the $n=0$ d.o.f.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{3D}} = \sum_i c_i(g(T)) f_i(\vec{A}, A_0) \Big|_{n=0},$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_{\text{3D}} = \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_{\text{4D}} + \mathcal{O}(1/T).$$

Magnetostatic QCD (MQCD) consists of a confining 3D pure gauge theory, that captures the *magnetic* d.o.f. of thermal QCD

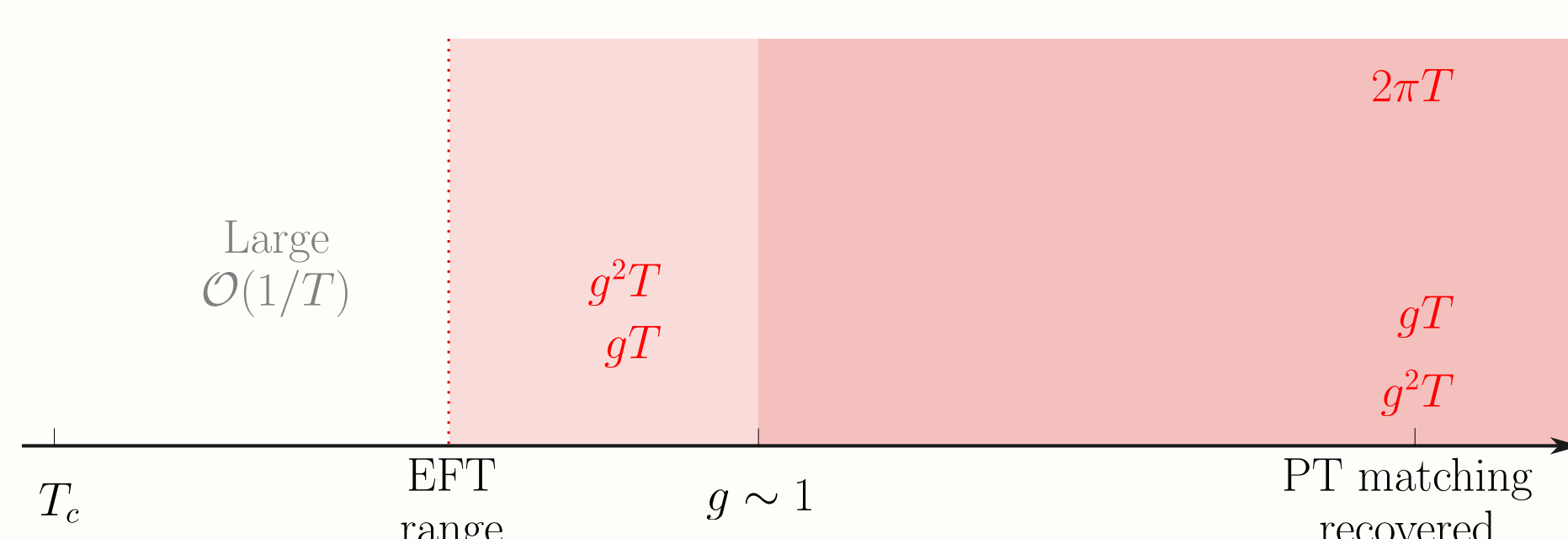
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MQCD}} = -\frac{1}{2g_M^2} \text{Tr}\{F_{ij}F_{ij}\} + \mathcal{O}(1/T).$$

- ❖ $[g_M^2] = 1$: $\Lambda_{\text{MQCD}} \rightarrow g_M^2$, super-renormalizable
- ❖ Lattice: $g_M^2 \rightarrow ag_3^2 = 6/\beta_3$
- ❖ does not run but has known $\mathcal{O}(a)$ cutoff effects [2]

Status of 3D EFT

- ❖ $g_M^2(T)$ known to 2-loops [3] (similarly for g_E^2, λ_E)
- ❖ Infrared perturbative ambiguities & divergent term uncanceled in the 3-loop computation [4, 5]
- ❖ NP contributions to mesonic screening masses [6]
- ❖ Mixed perturbative and non-perturbative (NP) effects
- ❖ **Perturbative range** mixes with the **EFT range of applicability**:

$$\alpha_{\overline{MS}}(2\pi T) \ll 1 \rightarrow T/T_c \gtrsim 10 \dots 20$$



The **non-perturbative matching** answers to:

- ❖ Where do we find **separation of scales**?
 - ❖ $g^2 T \ll g T \ll 2\pi T$
 - ❖ range of validity of the EFT
- ❖ Validity of the **perturbative** matching

Lattice matching strategy

Avoid conventional matching (σ_s , screening masses):

- ❖ Loss of predictability & worsened systematics

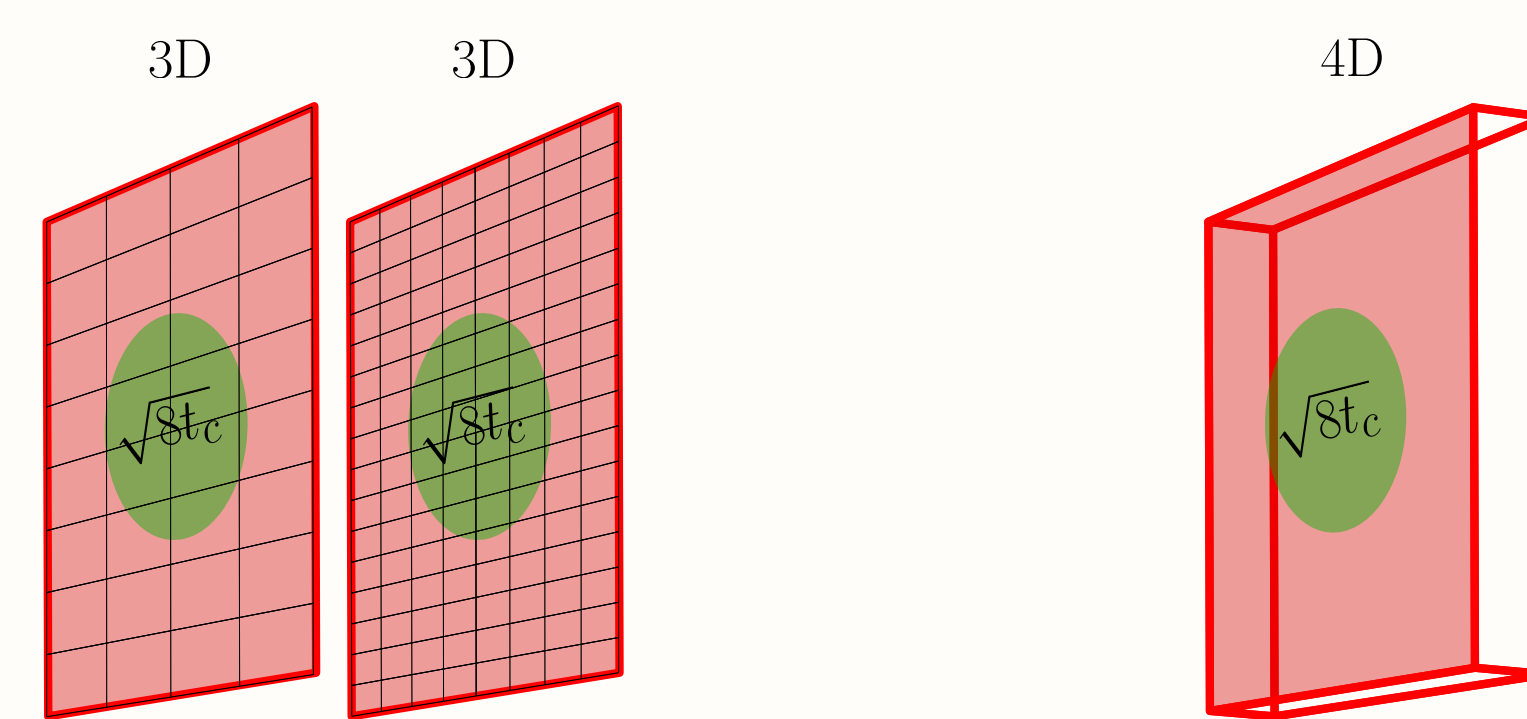
Instead, we use **Gradient flow** quantities [7]

$$\partial_t B_\mu(x, t) = D_\nu G_{\nu\mu}, \quad B_\mu(x, 0) = A_\mu(x)$$

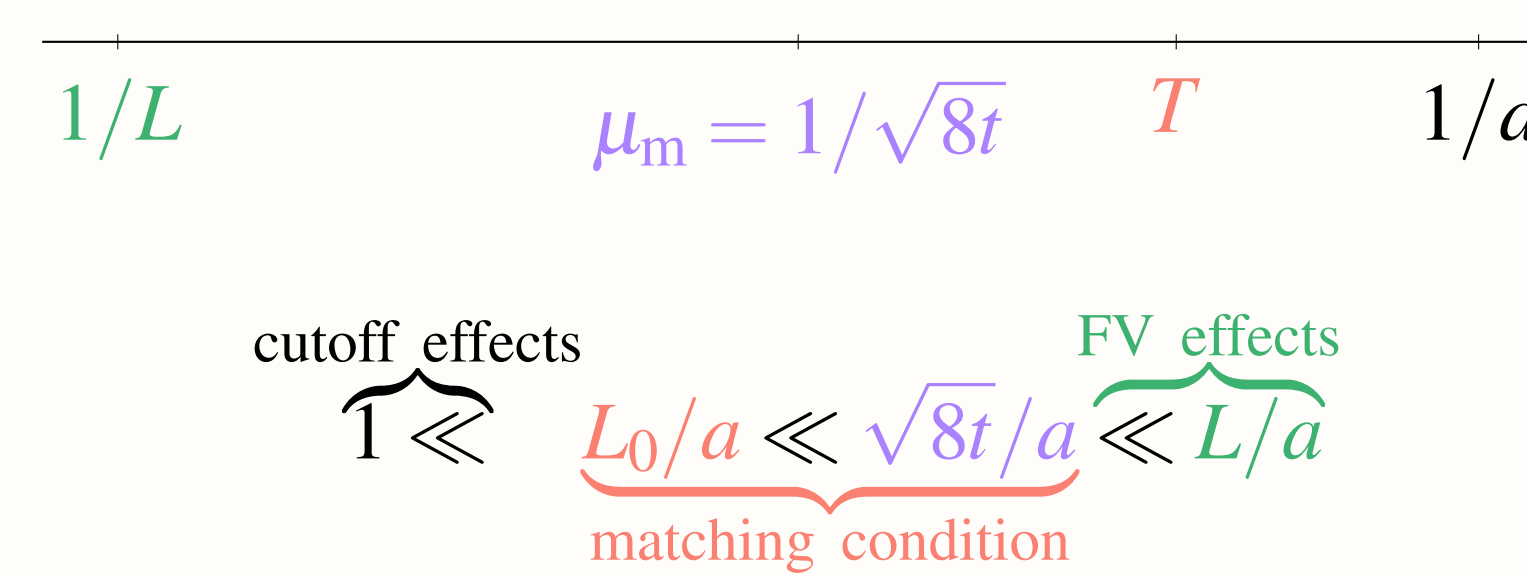
- ❖ Deterministic diffusion equation along t
- ❖ Reduced systematics
- ❖ Simple renormalization [8]
- ❖ Coarse-graining transformation – integrates hard modes

Idea: Match the 3D & 4D flowed **magnetic action density** at the scale $\mu_t = 1/\sqrt{8t}$

$$\langle E_m(t) \rangle = -\frac{1}{4} \langle G_{ij}^a(t) G_{ij}^a(t) \rangle, \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$



Avoid finite volume (FV) effects $\rightarrow$ window problem:



Finite volume matching scheme

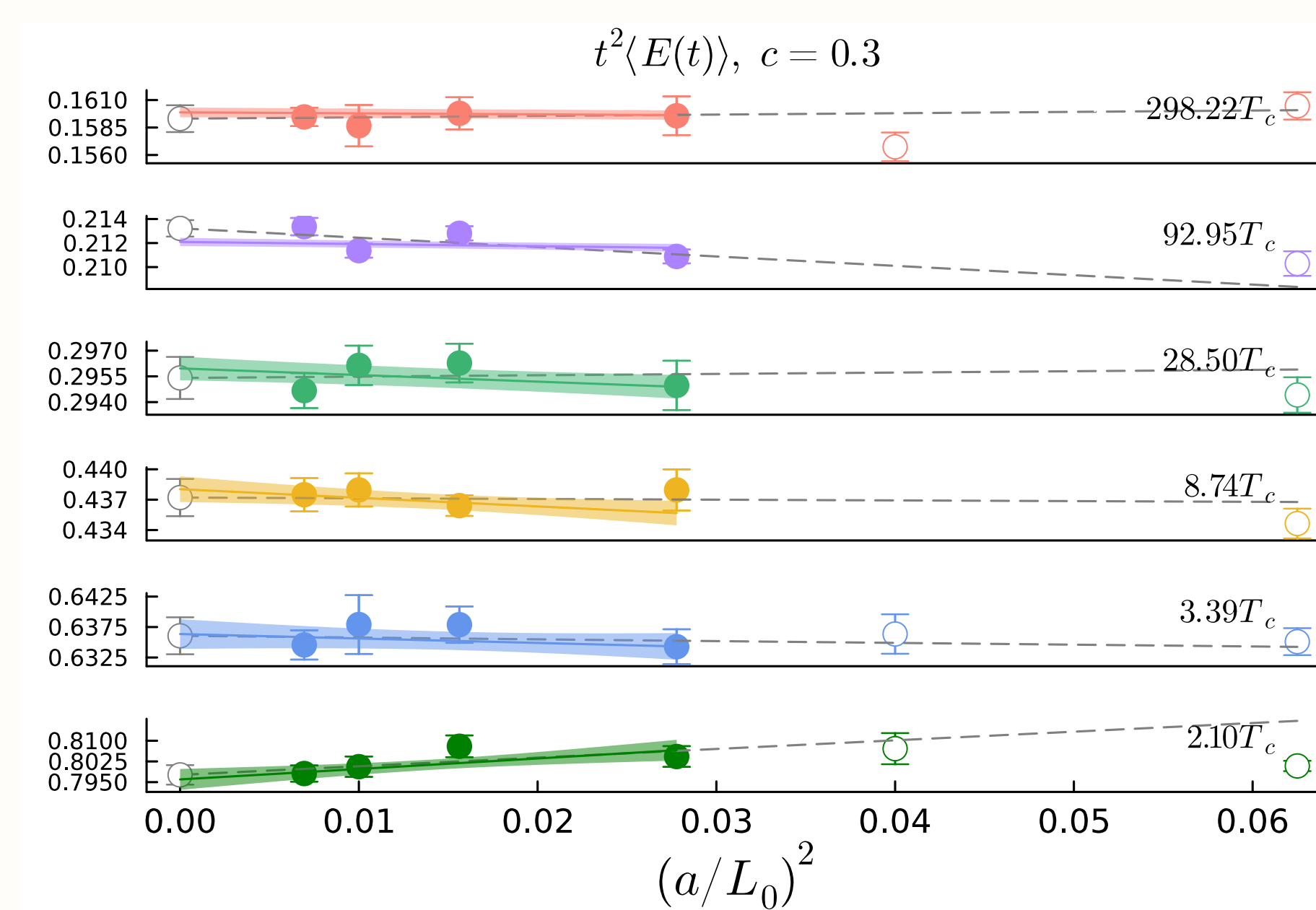
$$\sqrt{8t_c} = cL, \quad c = 0.3, \quad R = L/L_0 = 10$$

$$g_{M,a/L}^2 \text{ such that: } t_c^2 \langle E(t_c) \rangle \Big|_{\text{3D}}^{g_{M,a/L}^2} = t_c^2 \langle E_m(t_c) \rangle \Big|_{\text{4D}}^{T \neq 0}$$

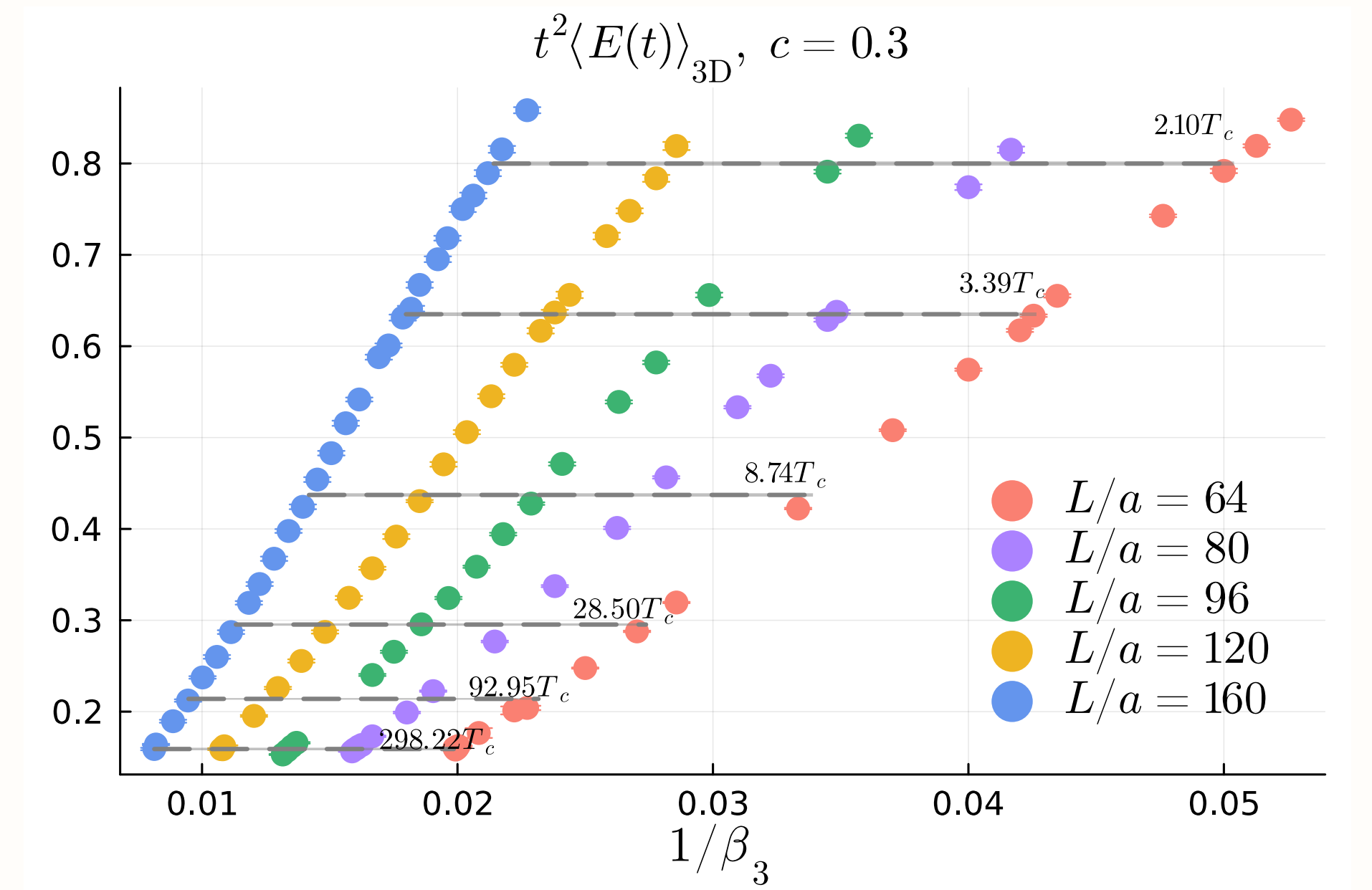
- ❖ Requires a study of systematics $cR \gg 1$
- ❖ Lines of constant physics [9]

$$\{\beta, L'/a\} \text{ tuned from } g_{\text{GF,m}}^2(\beta, L') = \text{const.}$$

- ❖ We take $L_0 = L'/2 \rightarrow L_0/a = 4, \dots, 12$
- ❖ $T/T_c \sim 2, \dots, 300$
- ❖ Controlled 4D continuum extrapolations

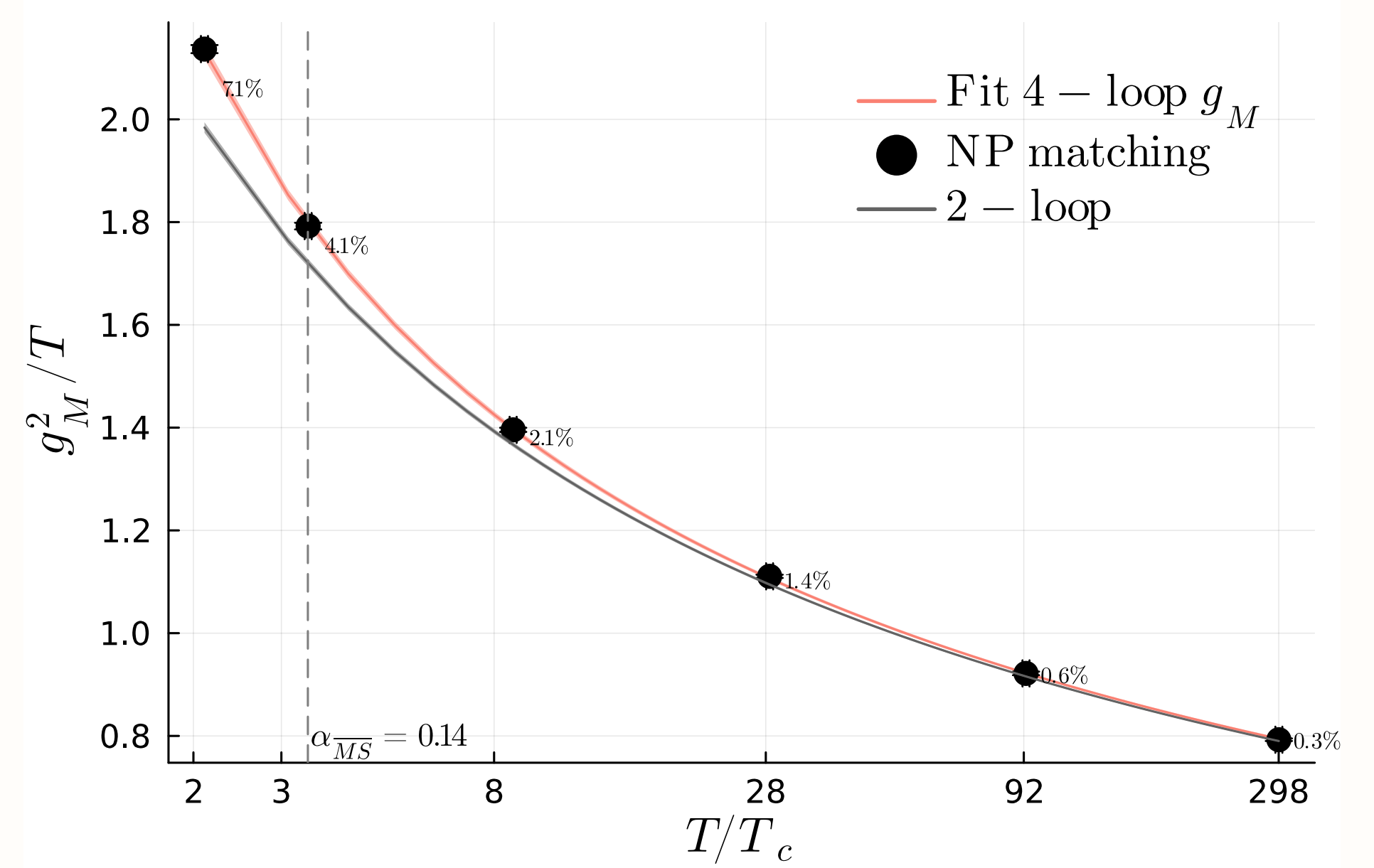


- ❖ Tune 3D ag_3^2 to reproduce 4D at each T



Results

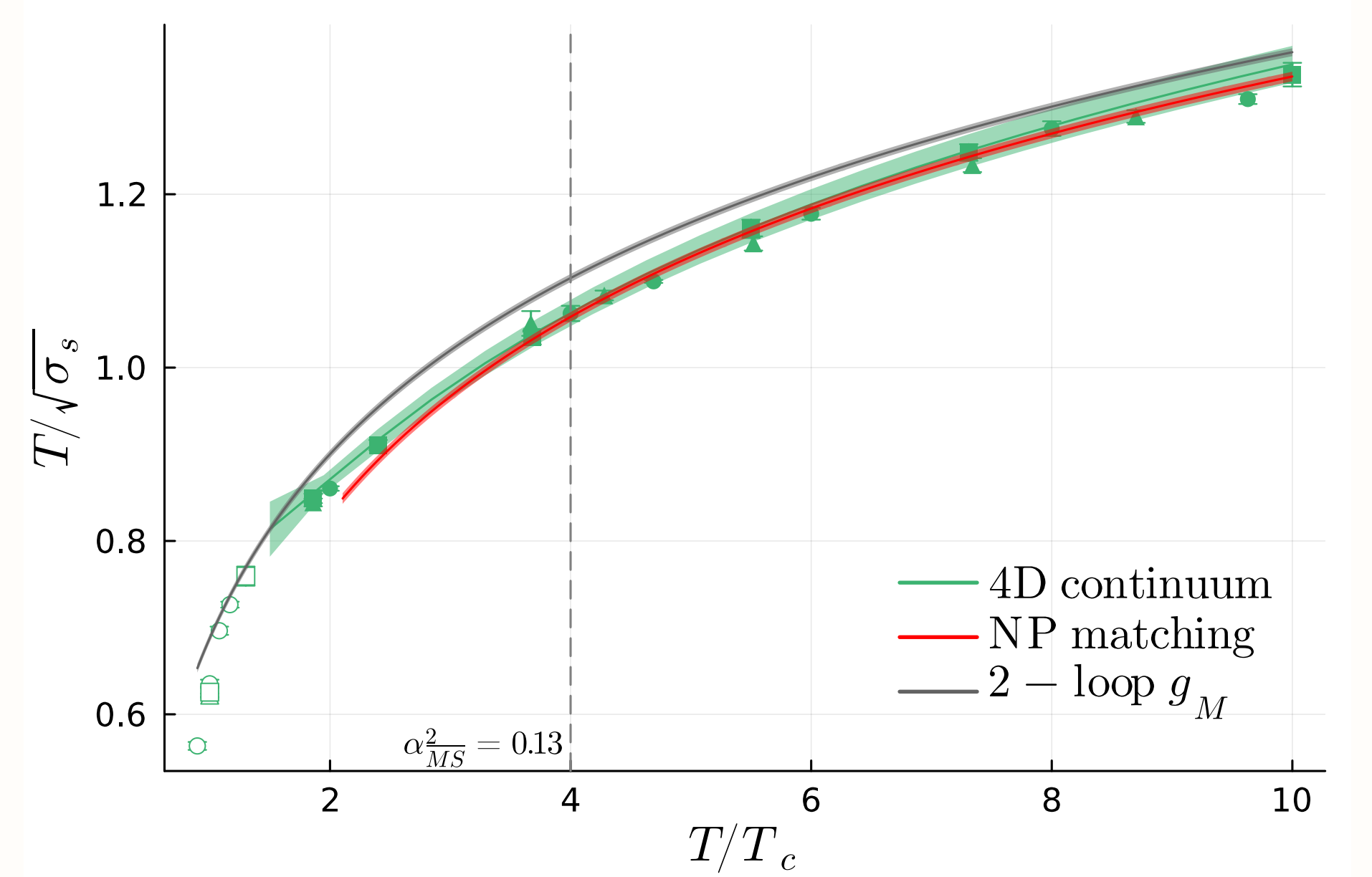
$$\frac{g_M^2(T)}{T} = \frac{1}{R} \lim_{ag_3^2 \rightarrow 0} (L/a) (ag_3^2)$$



Spatial string tension σ_s

$$\frac{\sqrt{\sigma_s}}{T} \Big|_{\text{4D}} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_s}}{g_M^2} \times \frac{g_M^2}{T} + \mathcal{O}(1/T)$$

- ❖ Non-perturbative 3D factor $\sqrt{\sigma_s}/g_M^2$ from [10]
- ❖ Continuum extrapolated 4D data from [11]



Conclusion & Outlook

- ❖ **First Non-Perturbative matching of MQCD**
 - ❖ Gradient Flow + Finite Volume – precise definition of $g_M(T)$
 - ❖ Leading-order MQCD seems to work non-perturbatively $\gtrsim 4T_c$
 - ❖ $T/T_c > 4$ – statistically significant NP effects (**below** $\sim 4\%$)

Future:

- ❖ Study of the systematics (cR , observables)
- ❖ Consider other 4D test observables
- ❖ **Match EQCD & full QCD**

References

- (1) Appelquist, T.; Pisarski, R. D. *Phys. Rev. D* **1981**, 23, 2305.
- (2) D'Onofrio, M. et al. *JHEP* **2014**, 03, 125.
- (3) Giovannangeli, P. *Nucl. Phys. B* **2006**, 738, 23–47.
- (4) Laine, M. et al. *JHEP* **2018**, 05, 037.
- (5) Ghisoiu, I. et al. *JHEP* **2015**, 11, 121.
- (6) Rescigno, P. et al. *JHEP* **2025**, 05, 044.
- (7) Lüscher, M. *JHEP* **2010**, 08, [Erratum: JHEP 03, 092 (2014)], 071.
- (8) Luscher, M.; Weisz, P. *JHEP* **2011**, 02, 051.
- (9) Dalla Brida, M.; Ramos, A. *Eur. Phys. J. C* **2019**, 79, 720.
- (10) Athenodorou, A.; Teper, M. *JHEP* **2017**, 02, 015.
- (11) Bala, D. et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2025**, 135, 012301.