

do interacting UV fixed points exist fundamentally, and if so: what can we do with them?

Daniel F Litim



University of Sussex

standard model

local QFT for fundamental interactions

strong nuclear force

weak force

electromagnetic force

degrees of freedom

spin 0 (the **Higgs** has finally arrived)

spin 1/2 (quite a few)

spin 1

perturbatively renormalisable & **predictive**

standard model

local QFT for fundamental interactions

strong nuclear force

weak force

electromagnetic force

challenges

Higgs, QED: maximum UV extension?
how does quantum gravity fit in?

...

interacting UV fixed points

UV fixed points



ERG2014

7th International Conference on the Exact Renormalization Group

perturbation theory

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = -B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

free fixed point


$$\alpha_* = 0$$

perturbation theory

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = -B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

free fixed point

QED, Higgs

$$B < 0$$


$$\alpha_* = 0$$

IR fixed point

predictive up to maximal UV extension

asymptotic freedom

theory with coupling α :

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$$\partial_t \alpha = -B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

free fixed point


$$\alpha_* = 0$$

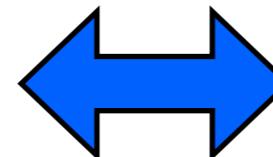
QCD

$$B > 0$$

UV fixed point

perturbative renormalisability & asymptotic freedom
predictive up to highest energies

fundamental
definition of QFT



UV fixed point

Wilson '71

interacting fixed point

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = A \alpha - B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

perturbative non-renormalisability: $A > 0$

interacting fixed point

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = A \alpha - B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

fixed points

$$\alpha_* = 0$$



$$\alpha_* = A/B$$

interacting fixed point

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = A \alpha - B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



fixed points

if $A > 0, B > 0$:

$$\alpha_* = 0$$

IR

$$\alpha_* = A/B$$

UV

interacting fixed point

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = A \alpha - B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



fixed points

$$\alpha_* = 0$$

$$\alpha_* = A/B$$

epsilon expansion:

$$\epsilon = D - D_c$$

large-N expansion:

many fields

perturbation theory

theory with coupling α :

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha = A \alpha - B \alpha^2$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

gravitons

$$D = 2 + \epsilon : \quad \alpha = G_N(\mu) \mu^{D-2}$$

Gastmans et al '78
Weinberg '79
Kawai et al '90

fermions

$$D = 2 + \epsilon : \quad \alpha = g_{\text{GN}}(\mu) \mu^{2-D}$$

Gawedzki, Kupiainen '85
de Calan et al '91

gluons

$$D = 4 + \epsilon : \quad \alpha = g_{\text{YM}}^2(\mu) \mu^{4-D}$$

Peskin '80
Morris '04

non-perturbative
renormalisability

$$A = \epsilon \ll 1, \quad B = \mathcal{O}(1) > 0$$

exact interacting UV fixed points in 4D quantum gauge theories

with F Sannino
1406.2337

ERG2014

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gauge theory with fermions

SU(NC) YM with NF fermions:

$$\alpha_g = \frac{g^2 N_c}{(4\pi)^2}$$

$$t = \ln \mu/\Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



$$\alpha_* = 0$$

$$\alpha_g^* = B/C$$

gauge theory with fermions

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$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



$$\alpha_* = 0 \quad \alpha_g^* = B/C$$

large-NF,NC (Veneziano) limit:
 ϵ continuous

$$\epsilon = \frac{N_f}{N_c} - \frac{11}{2}$$

gauge theory with fermions

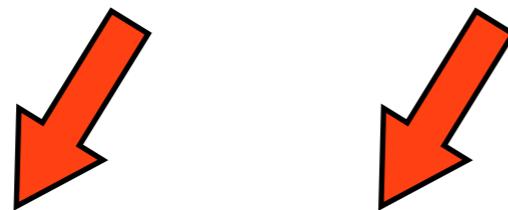
SU(NC) YM with **NF** fermions:

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$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



$$\alpha_* = 0$$

$$\alpha_g^* = B/C$$

interacting fixed points:

$B < 0 \text{ } \& \text{ } C < 0$: **UV fixed point**
no asymptotic freedom

$B > 0 \text{ } \& \text{ } C > 0$: **Caswell-Banks-Zaks**
IR fixed point

gauge theory with fermions

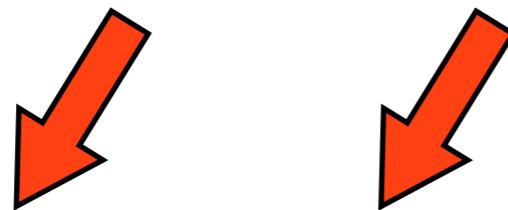
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$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



$$\alpha_* = 0$$

$$\alpha_g^* = B/C$$

here:

$$B = -\frac{4\epsilon}{3} < 0 \quad \& \quad C > 0$$

no physical fixed point

gauge theory with fermions

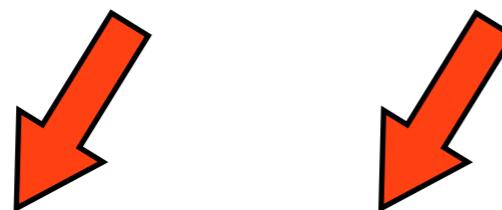
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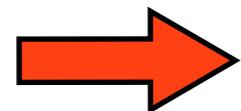
$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



$$\alpha_* = 0$$

$$\alpha_g^* = B/C$$



scalar fields & Yukawa couplings required

gauge-Yukawa theory

Lagrangean

$$L_{\text{YM}} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

$$L_F = \text{Tr} (\bar{Q} i \not{D} Q)$$

$$L_Y = y \text{Tr} (\bar{Q} H Q)$$

$$L_H = \text{Tr} (\partial_\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H)$$

$$L_U = -u \text{Tr} (H^\dagger H)^2$$

$$L_V = -v (\text{Tr} H^\dagger H)^2.$$

small parameter

couplings

$$\alpha_g = \frac{g^2 N_C}{(4\pi)^2}, \quad \alpha_y = \frac{y^2 N_C}{(4\pi)^2}$$

$$\alpha_h = \frac{u N_F}{(4\pi)^2}, \quad \alpha_v = \frac{v N_F^2}{(4\pi)^2}.$$

no asymptotic freedom

$$0 < \epsilon \ll 1 \quad \epsilon = \frac{N_f}{N_c} - \frac{11}{2}$$

gauge-Yukawa theory

$$\beta_g = \alpha_g^2 \left\{ \frac{4}{3}\epsilon + \left(25 + \frac{26}{3}\epsilon \right) \alpha_g - 2 \left(\frac{11}{2} + \epsilon \right)^2 \alpha_y \right\}$$

$$\beta_y = \alpha_y \left\{ (13 + 2\epsilon) \alpha_y - 6 \alpha_g \right\} .$$

$$\beta_h = -(11 + 2\epsilon) \alpha_y^2 + 4\alpha_h(\alpha_y + 2\alpha_h)$$

$$\beta_v = 12\alpha_h^2 + 4\alpha_v (\alpha_v + 4\alpha_h + \alpha_y) .$$

gauge-Yukawa theory

$$\beta_g = \alpha_g^2 \left\{ \frac{4}{3}\epsilon + \left(25 + \frac{26}{3}\epsilon \right) \alpha_g - 2 \left(\frac{11}{2} + \epsilon \right)^2 \alpha_y \right\}$$

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$$\beta_v = 12\alpha_h^2 + 4\alpha_v (\alpha_v + 4\alpha_h + \alpha_y).$$

results

UV fixed point

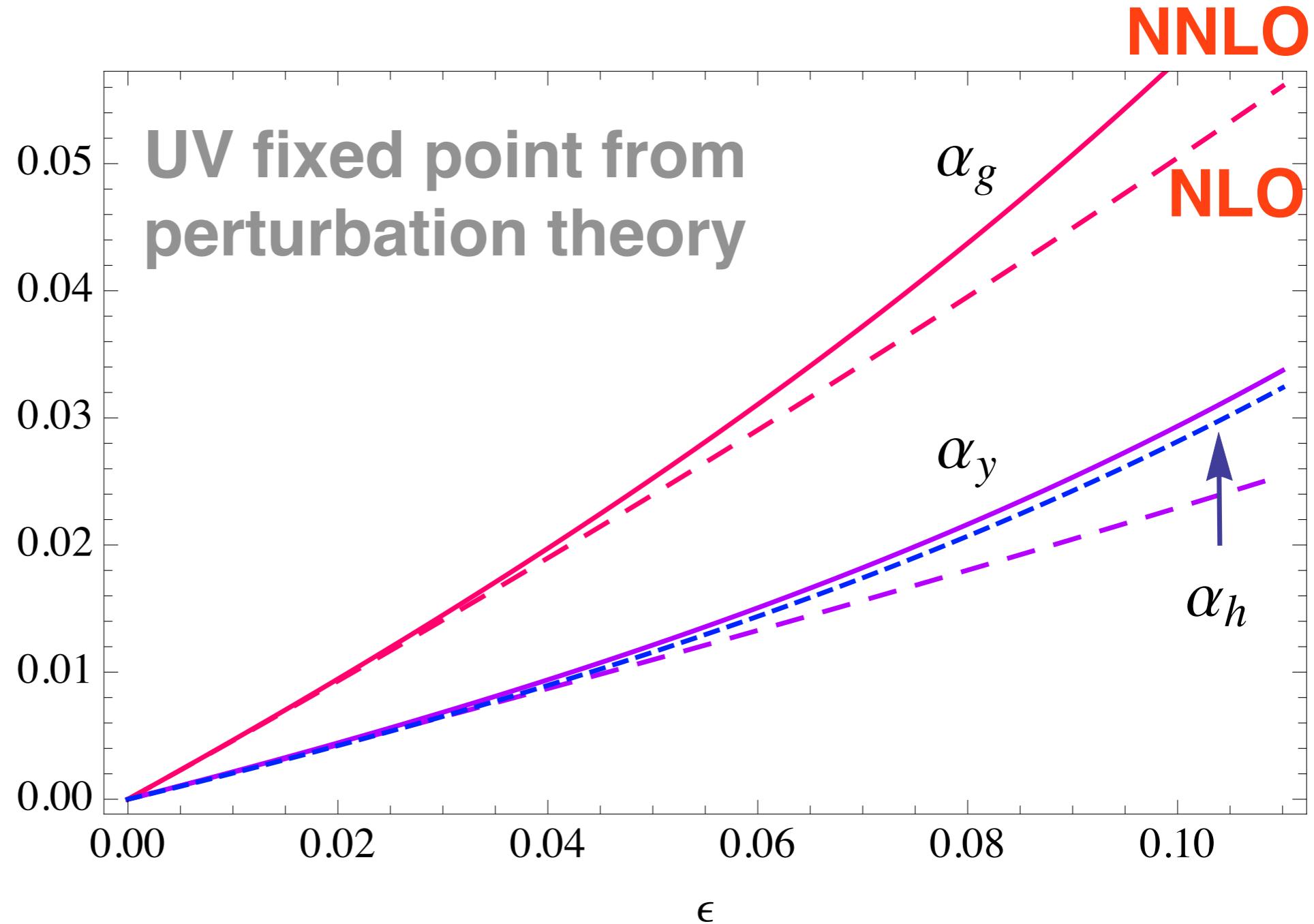
	NLO	NNLO	NNNLO
α_g^*	$0.4561 \epsilon + 0.7808 \epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$		
α_y^*	$0.2105 \epsilon + 0.5082 \epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$		
α_h^*	$0.1998 \epsilon + 0.5042 \epsilon^2 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$		

vacuum stability

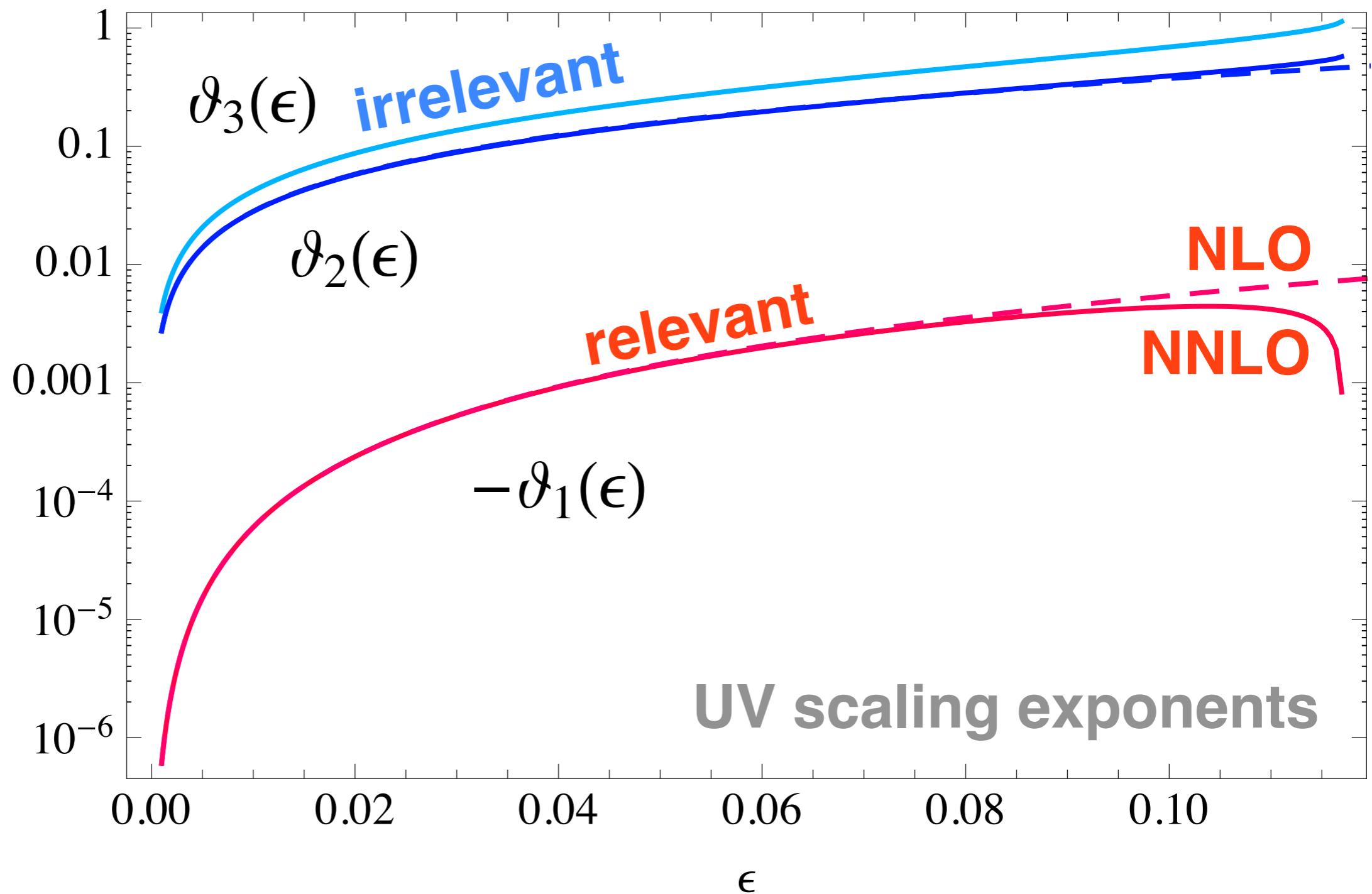
$$\alpha_h^* + \alpha_{v2}^* < 0 < \alpha_h^* + \alpha_{v1}^*$$

coupling	order in perturbation theory		
α_g	1	2	3
α_y	0	1	2
α_h	0	0	1
α_v	0	0	1
approximation level	LO	NLO	NNLO

results



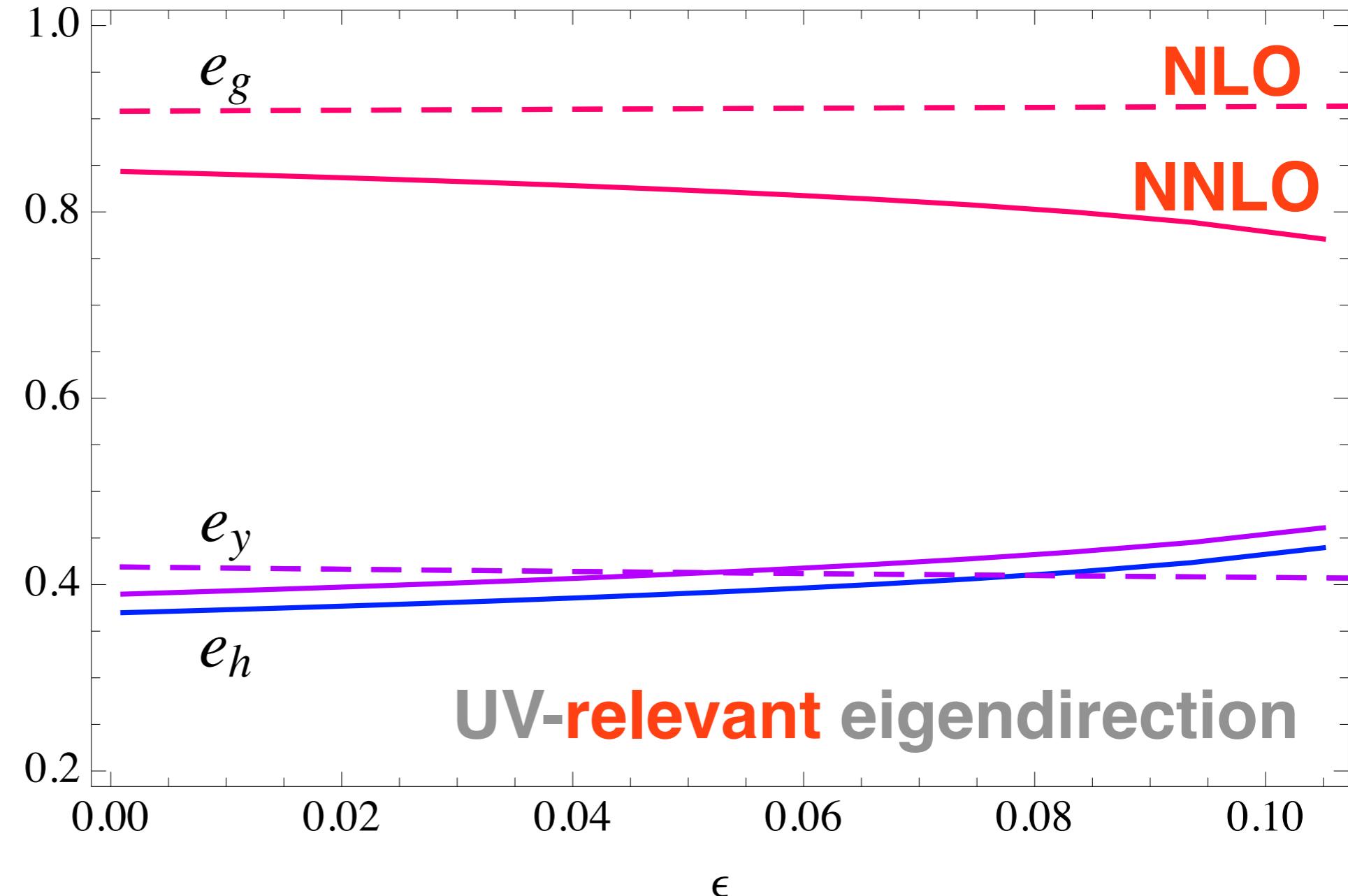
results



results

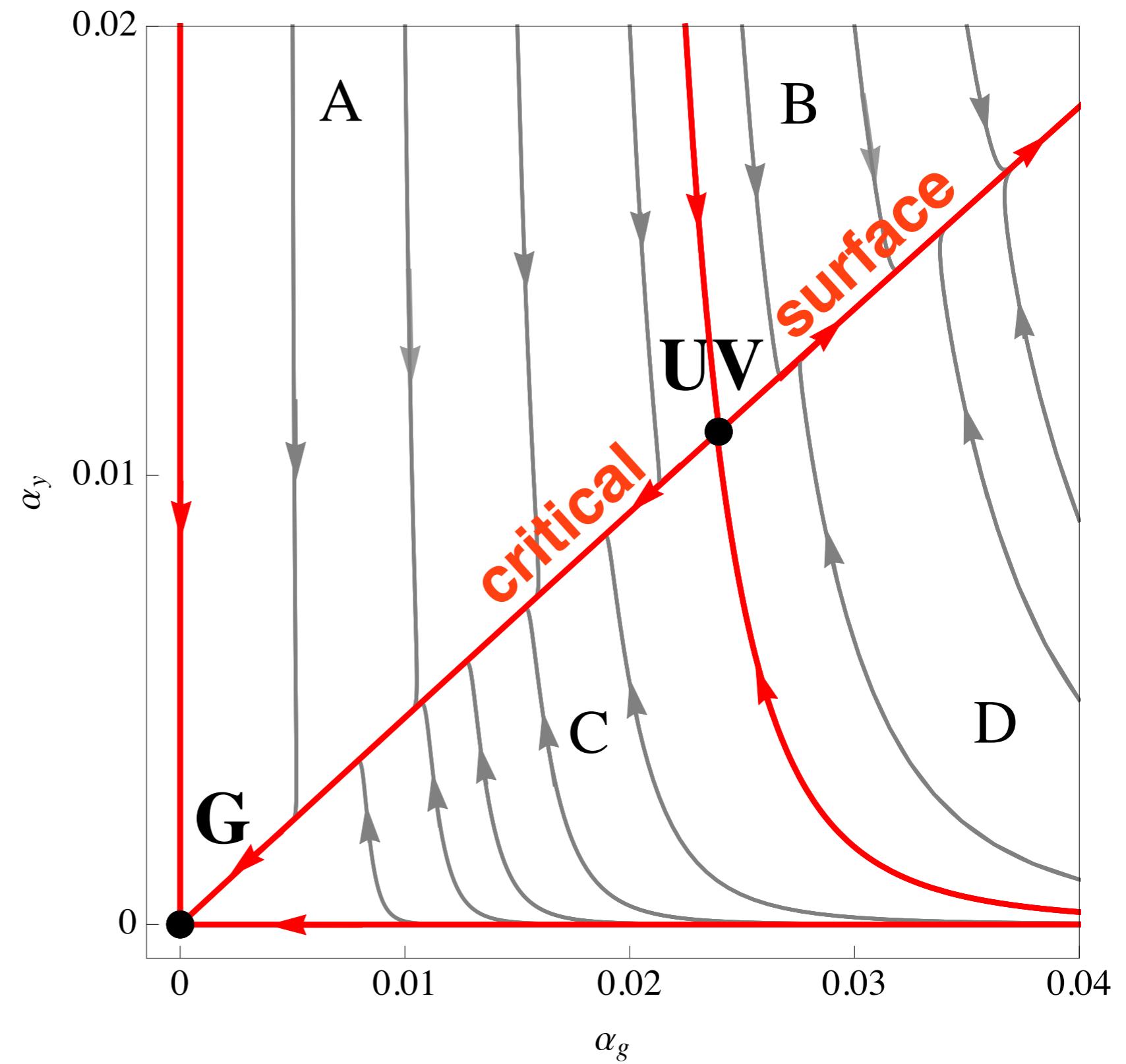
gauge

Yukawa
Higgs

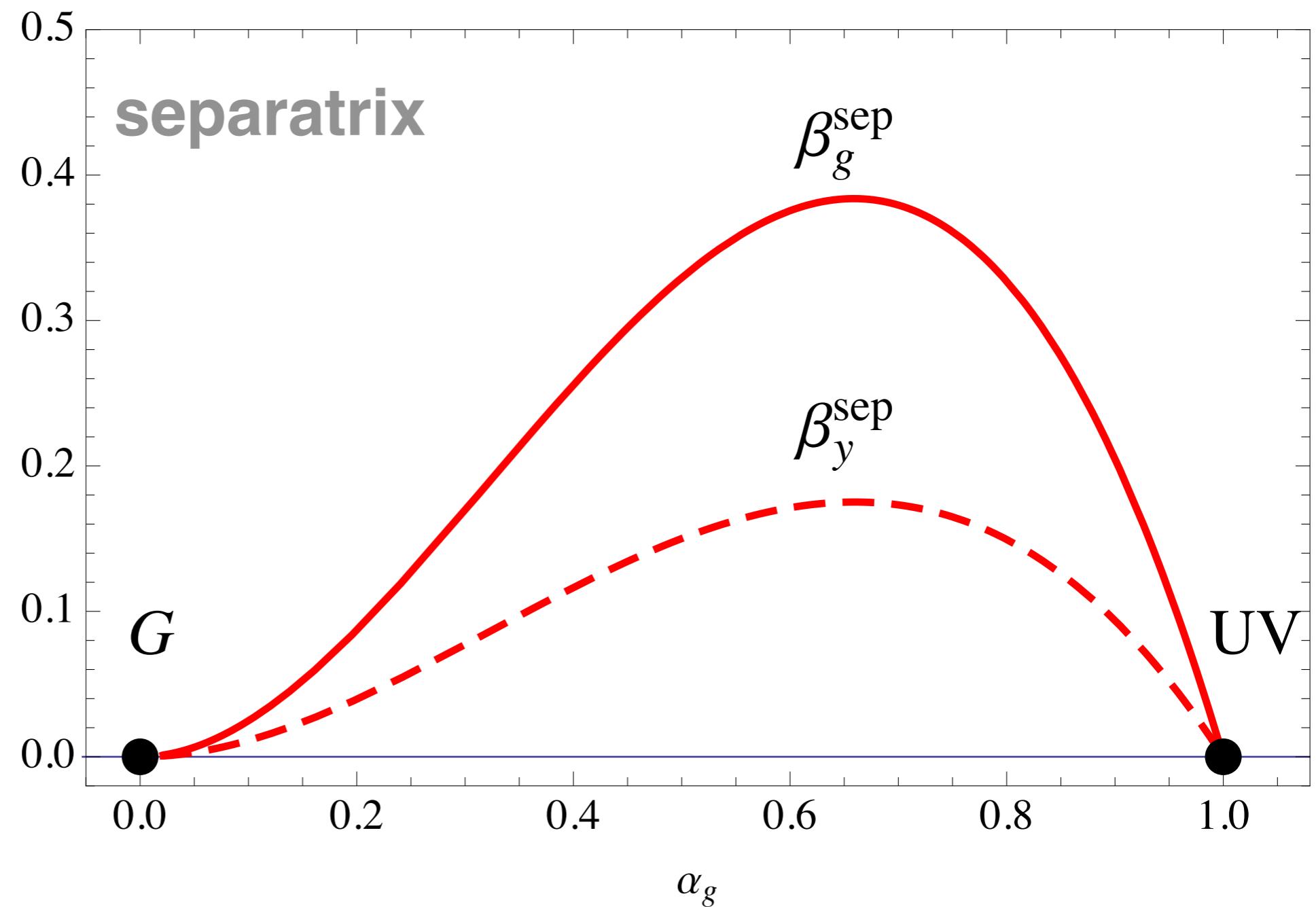


results

phase diagram



results



results

asymptotic safety at small epsilon

unitarity

non-triviality and elementary scalars

asymptotic safety at large epsilon

what can we do with it?

interacting UV fixed points in 4D

cooperation decisive

generic, largely independent of gauge group, representation & gauge charges

exploit ideas from AdS/CFT & holography

Seiberg duality - without supersymmetry?

what can we do with it?

interacting UV fixed points in 4D

UV-complete extensions of the Standard Model

applicable for finite N e.g. (NC,NF) = (5,28)

new handle on

(i) **hierarchy problem**

(ii) (non-)triviality of scalar sector in 4D

scalars elementary

what can we do with it?

interacting UV fixed points in 4D

UV-complete extensions of the Standard Model

helps with canonical quantisation of gravity

conformal matter + conformal mode

('t Hooft)

asymptotically safe gravity with matter

UV fixed points in 4D quantum gravity

with K Falls, DL, K Nikolopoulos & C Rahmede
1301.4191 and forthcoming

evidence for UV fixed point

overviews: DL 0810.3675 and 1102.4624

gravitation

Einstein-Hilbert

(Souma '99, Reuter, Lauscher '01, DL '03)

higher dimensions, dimensional reduction (DL '03, Fischer, DL '05)

f(R), polynomials in R

(Lauscher, Reuter, '02, Codello, Percacci, Rahmede '08, Machado, Saueressig '09
Benedetti, Caravelli '12, Dietz, Morris '12, Falls, DL, Nikolopoulos, Rahmede '13)

local potential approximation

(Benedetti, Caravelli '12, Dietz, Morris, '12, Demmel, Saueressig,
Zanusso '12, Falls, DL, Nikolopoulos, Rahmede '13,
Benedetti '13, Benedetti, Guarnieri '13)

higher-derivative gravity

(Codello, Percacci '05)

(Benedetti, Saueressig, Machado '09, Niedermaier '09)

(DL, Rahmede, in prep.)

(Reuter, Weyer '09, Machado, Percacci '10, DL, Satz '12)

Holst action + Immirzi parameter (Daum, Reuter '10, Benedetti, Speiale '11)

signature effects (Manrique, Rechenberger, Saueressig '11)

gravitation + matter

matter

(Percacci '05, Perini, Percacci '05, Narain, Percacci '09, Narain, Rahmede '09,
Codello '11, Eichhorn et al '13)

Yang-Mills gravity

1-loop: (Robinson, Wilczek '05, Pietrokowski, '06, Toms '07, Ebett, Plefka, Rodigast '08)

beyond: (Manrique, Reuter, Saueressig '09, Folkerts, DL, Pawłowski, II, Harst, Reuter '11)

quantum gravity

running coupling

$$g(k) = G_N(k)k^{D-2}$$

$$\partial_t g = (D - 2 + \eta_N) g$$

$$t = \ln k / \Lambda_c$$



$$g_* \neq 0$$

UV



$$g_* = 0$$

IR

fixed points

large anomalous dimension

$$\eta_N = \eta_N(g, \text{all other couplings})$$

large UV scaling exponents

$$\vartheta \approx \mathcal{O}(1)$$

strong coupling effects

$$g_* \approx \mathcal{O}(1)$$

relevant vs **irrelevant**
invariants not known a priori

asymptotic freedom

vs

asymptotic safety

$$g_* = 0$$

anomalous dimensions

$$\eta_A = 0$$

canonical power counting

$\{\vartheta_{G,n}\}$ are known

F^{256} irrelevant !

$$g_* \neq 0$$

anomalous dimensions

$$\eta_N \neq 0$$

non-canonical power counting

$\{\vartheta_n\}$ are **not** known

$$R^{256}$$

relevant
marginal
irrelevant ?

bootstrap

hypothesis ordering follows canonical dimension
strategy

- Step 1** retain invariants up to mass dimension D
- Step 2** compute $\{\vartheta_n\}$ (eg. RG, lattice, holography)
- Step 3** enhance D, and iterate

convergence (no convergence) of the iteration:

hypothesis supported (refuted)

f(R)

$$\Gamma_k \propto f(R)$$

$$\Gamma_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \lambda_n k^{d_n} \int d^4x \sqrt{g} R^n$$

invariants up to $D = 2(N - 1)$

functional renormalisation:

$$k \frac{d\Gamma_k}{dk} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[\left(\frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi \delta \phi} + \color{red}R_k\right)^{-1} k \frac{d\color{red}R_k}{dk} \right] = \frac{1}{2} \circlearrowleft$$

here:

M Reuter hep-th/9605030

Falls, DL, Nikolopoulos, Rahmede

[1301.4191.pdf](#)

DL [hep-th/0103195](#)
[hep-th/0312114](#)

A Codella, R Percacci, C Rahmede 0705.1769, 0805.2909
 P Machado, F Saueressig 0712.0445

f(R)

recursive solution

$$\lambda_n(\lambda_0, \lambda_1) = \frac{P_n(\lambda_0, \lambda_1)}{Q_n(\lambda_0, \lambda_1)}$$

boundary condition

$$\lambda_N = 0 \quad \& \quad \lambda_{N+1} = 0$$

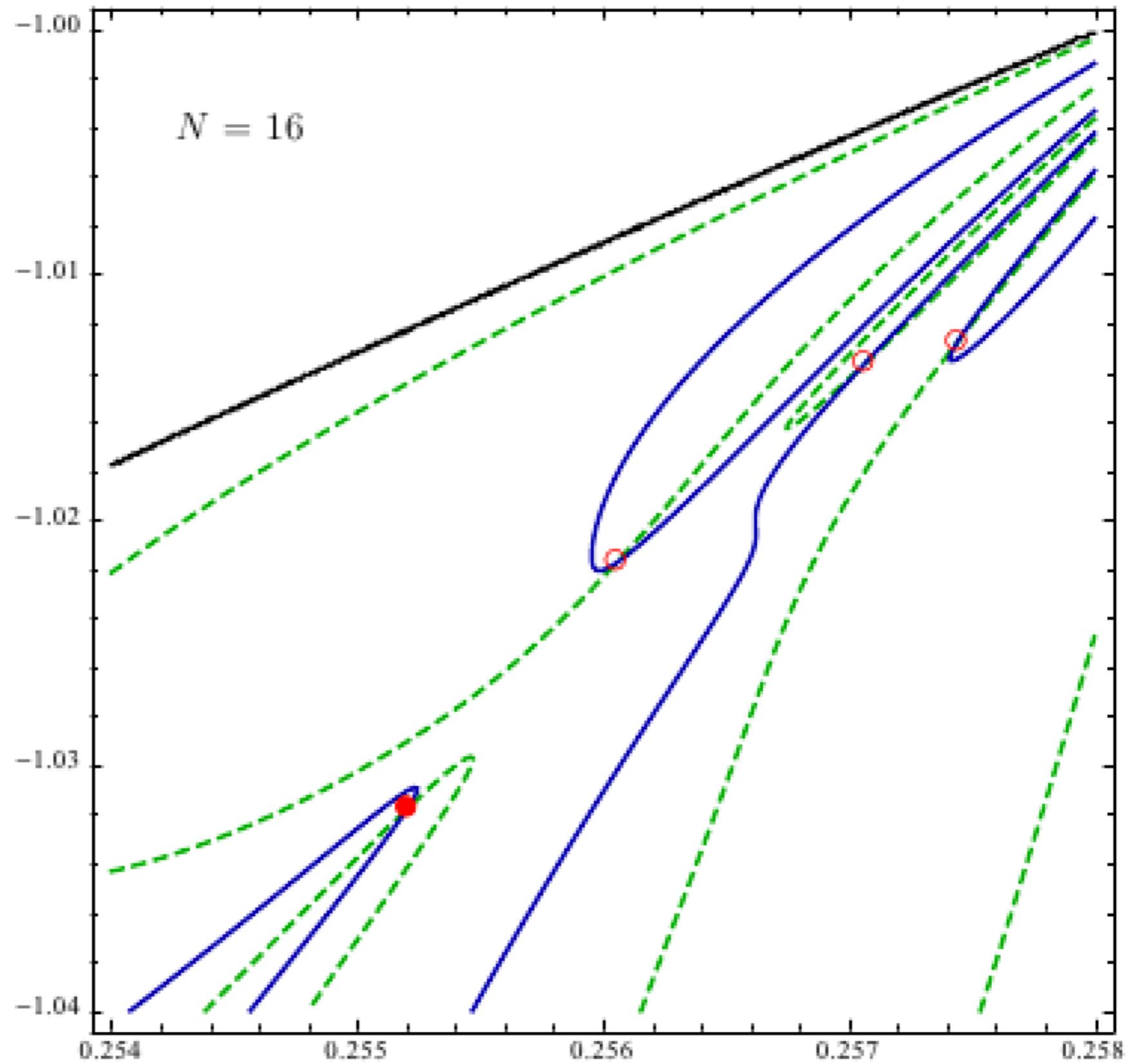
polynomials grow large, eg.

$P_{35} \approx 45.000$ terms

$f(R)$

boundary condition

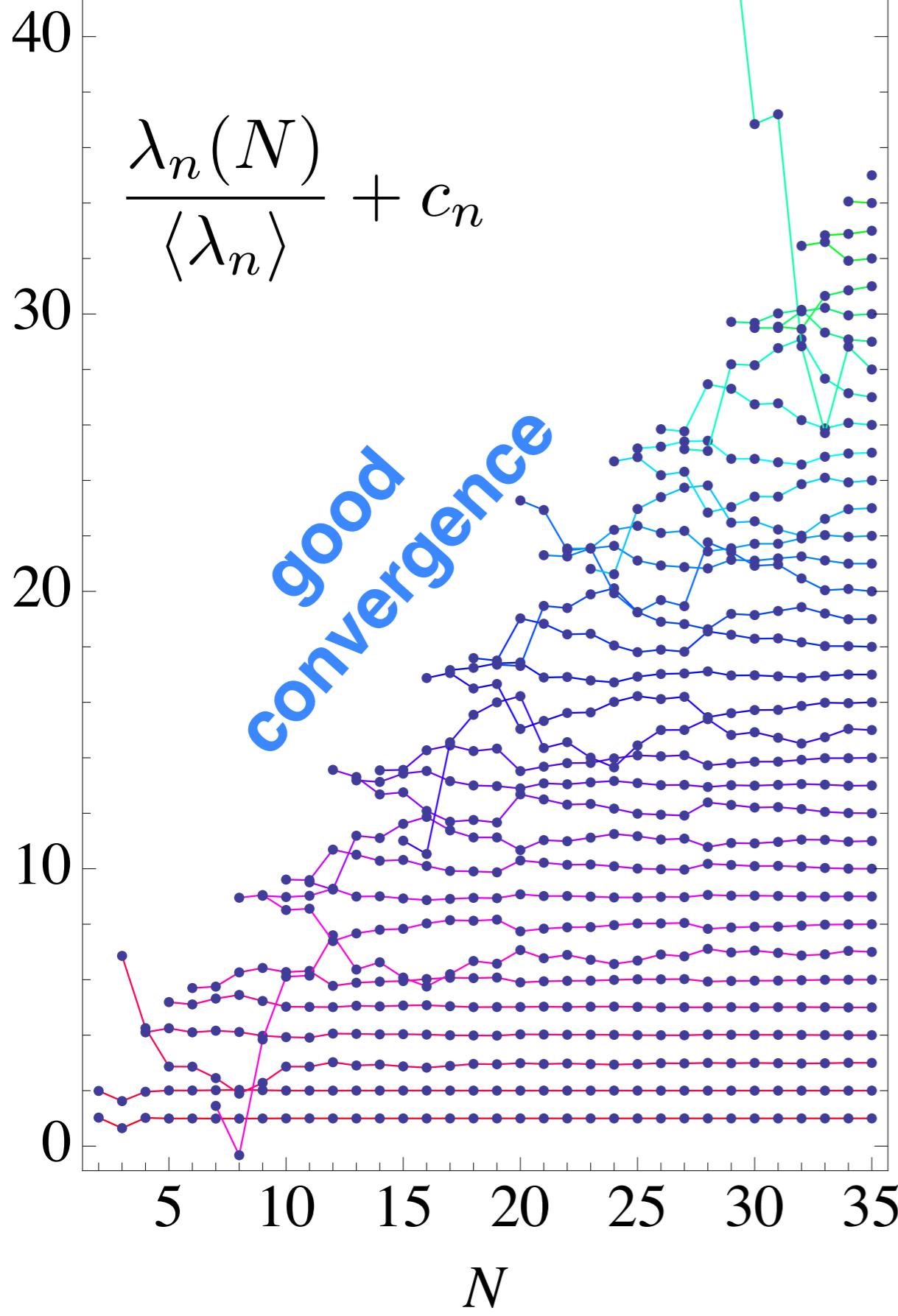
$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_N &= 0 \\ \lambda_{N+1} &= 0\end{aligned}$$



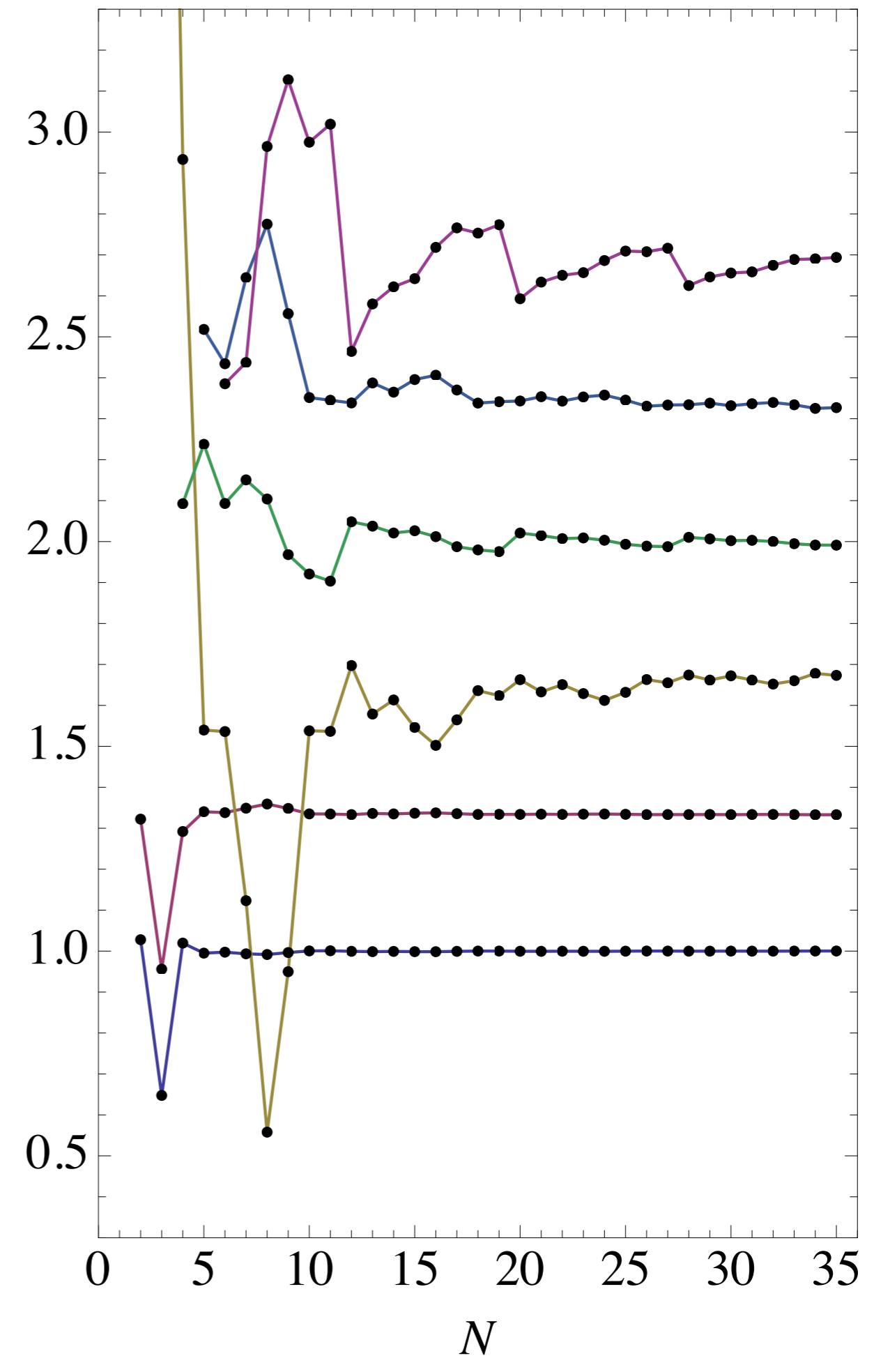
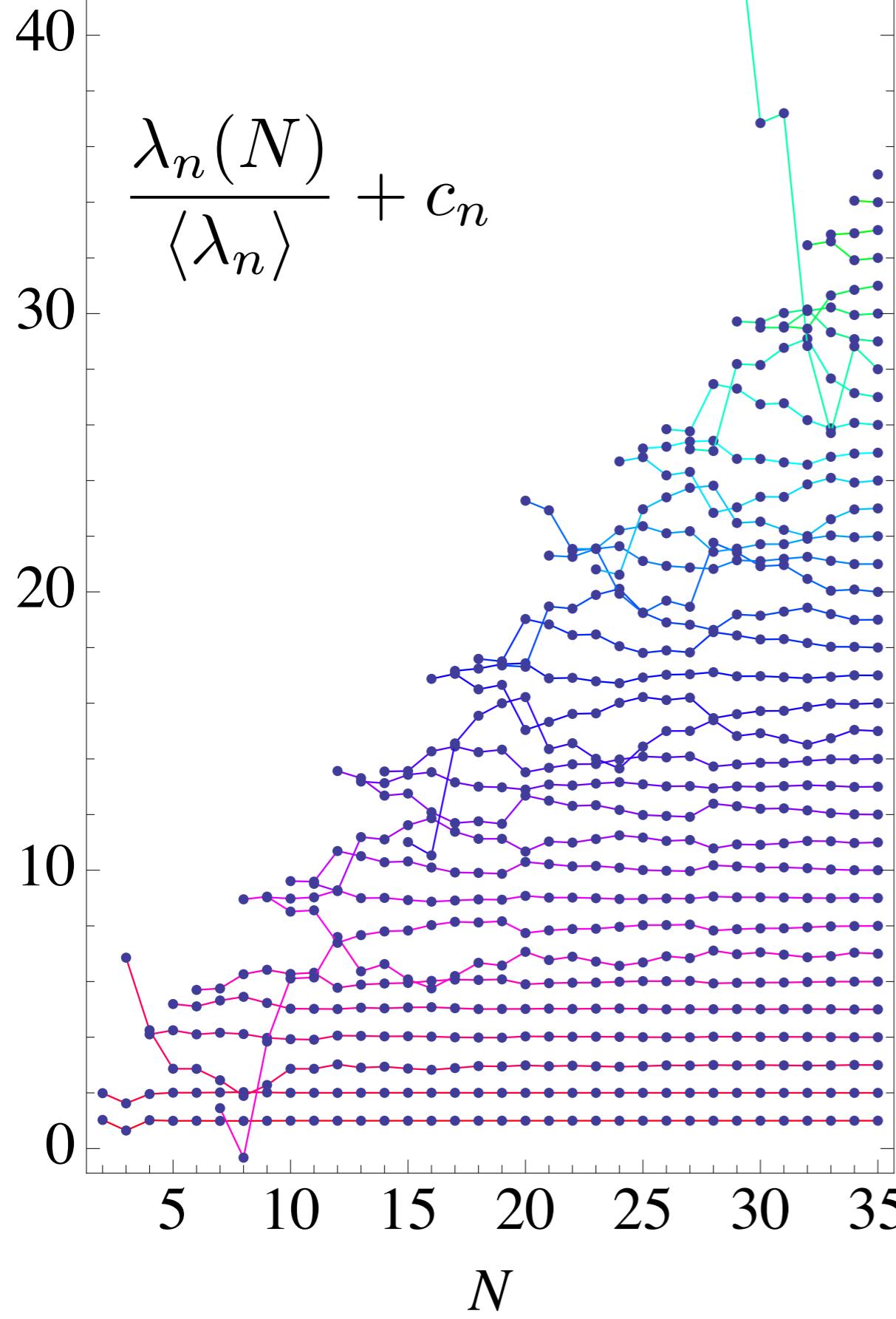
UV fixed point

$$\frac{\lambda_n(N)}{\langle \lambda_n \rangle} + c_n$$

good convergence

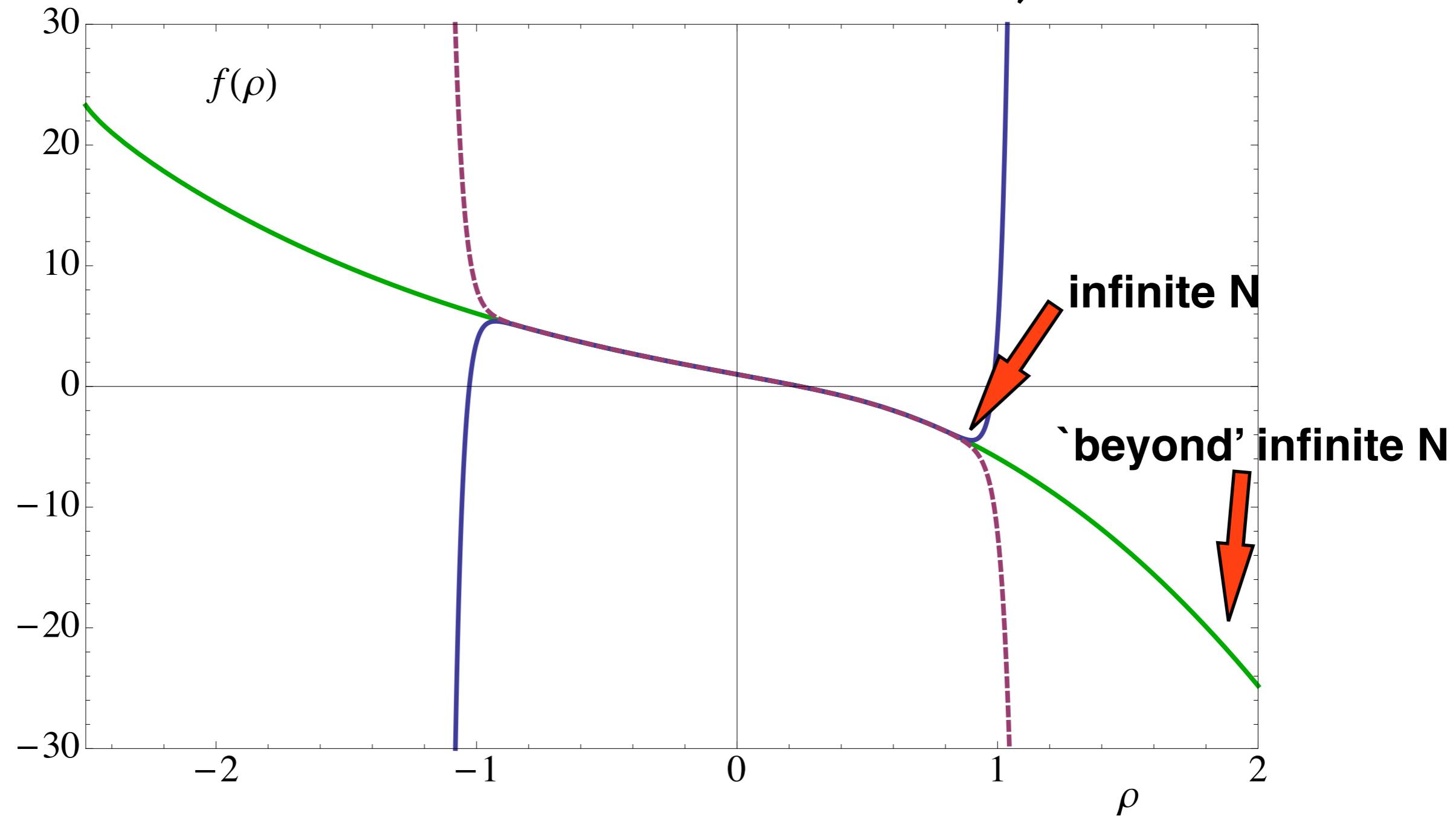


UV fixed point



$f(R)$ quantum gravity

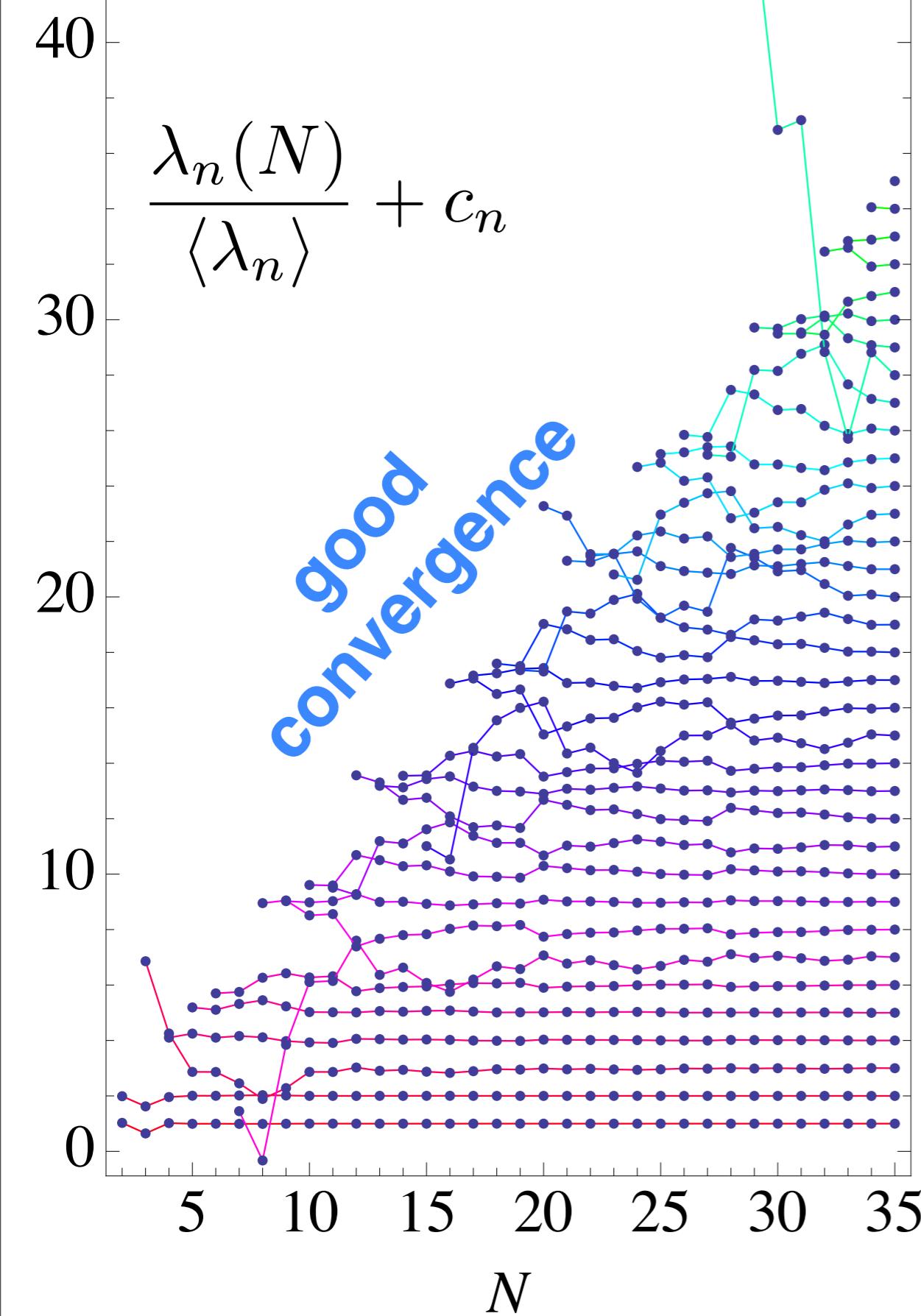
UV scaling solution



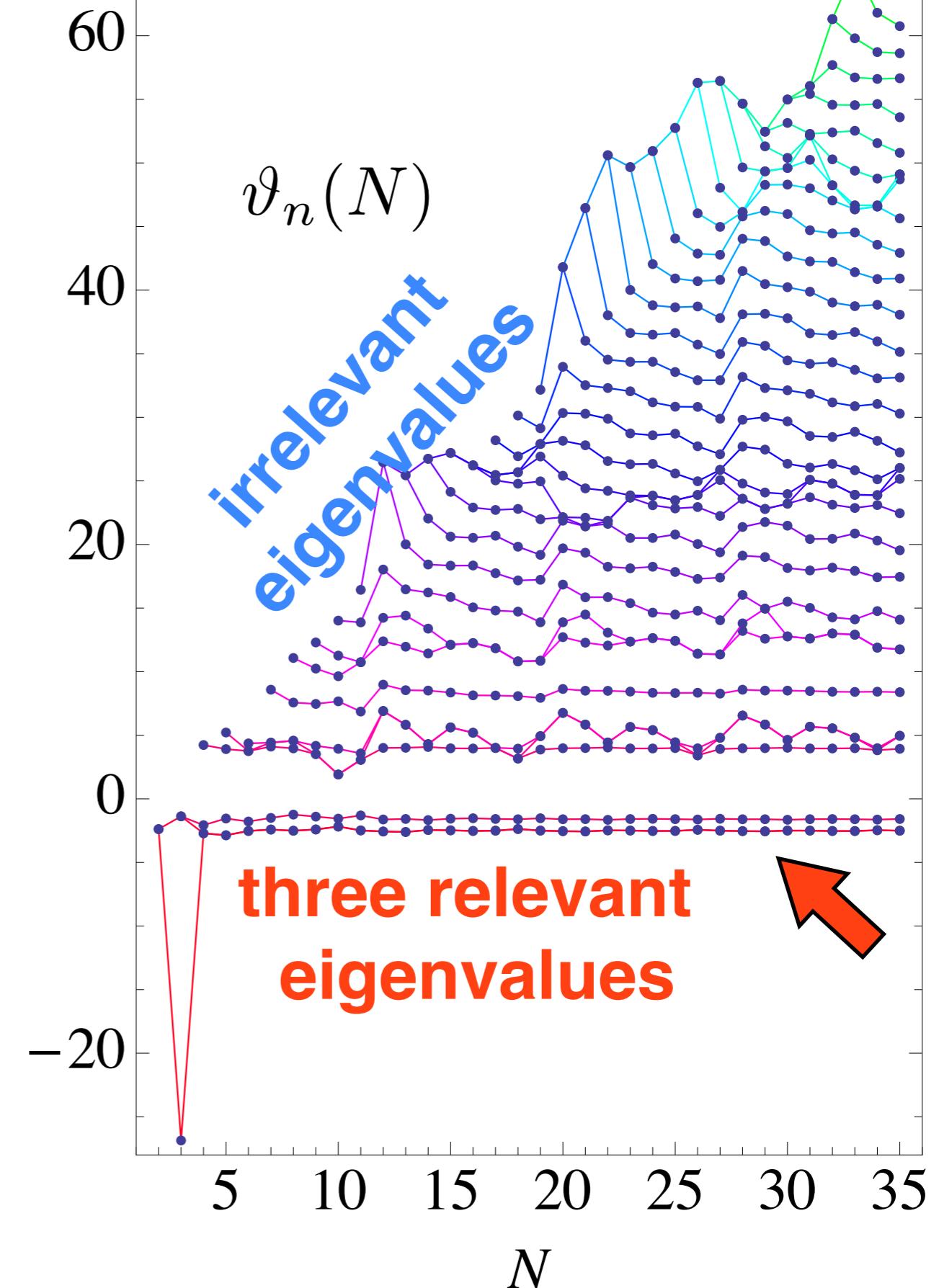
radius of convergence

$$\rho_c \approx 0.82 \pm 5\%$$

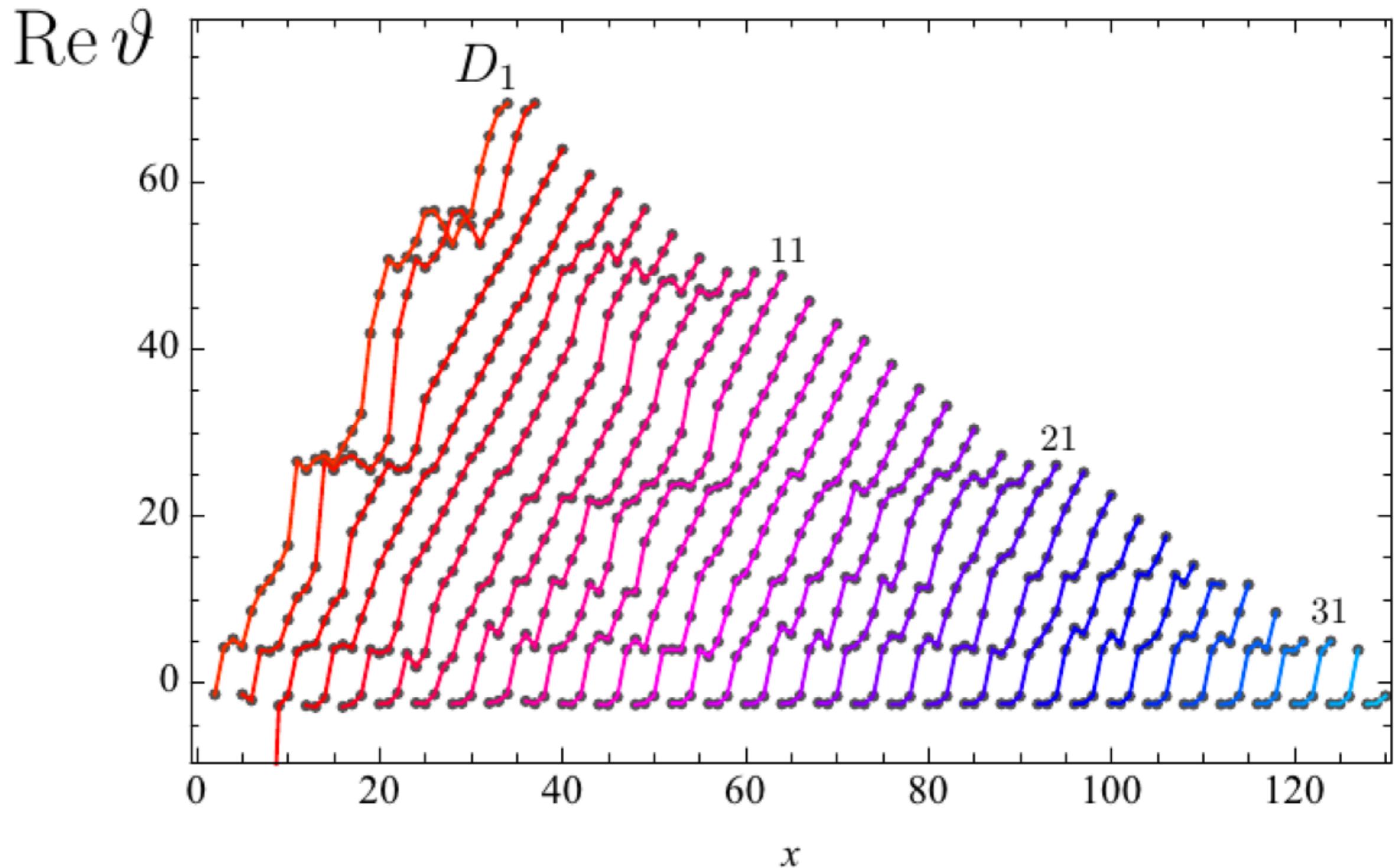
UV fixed point



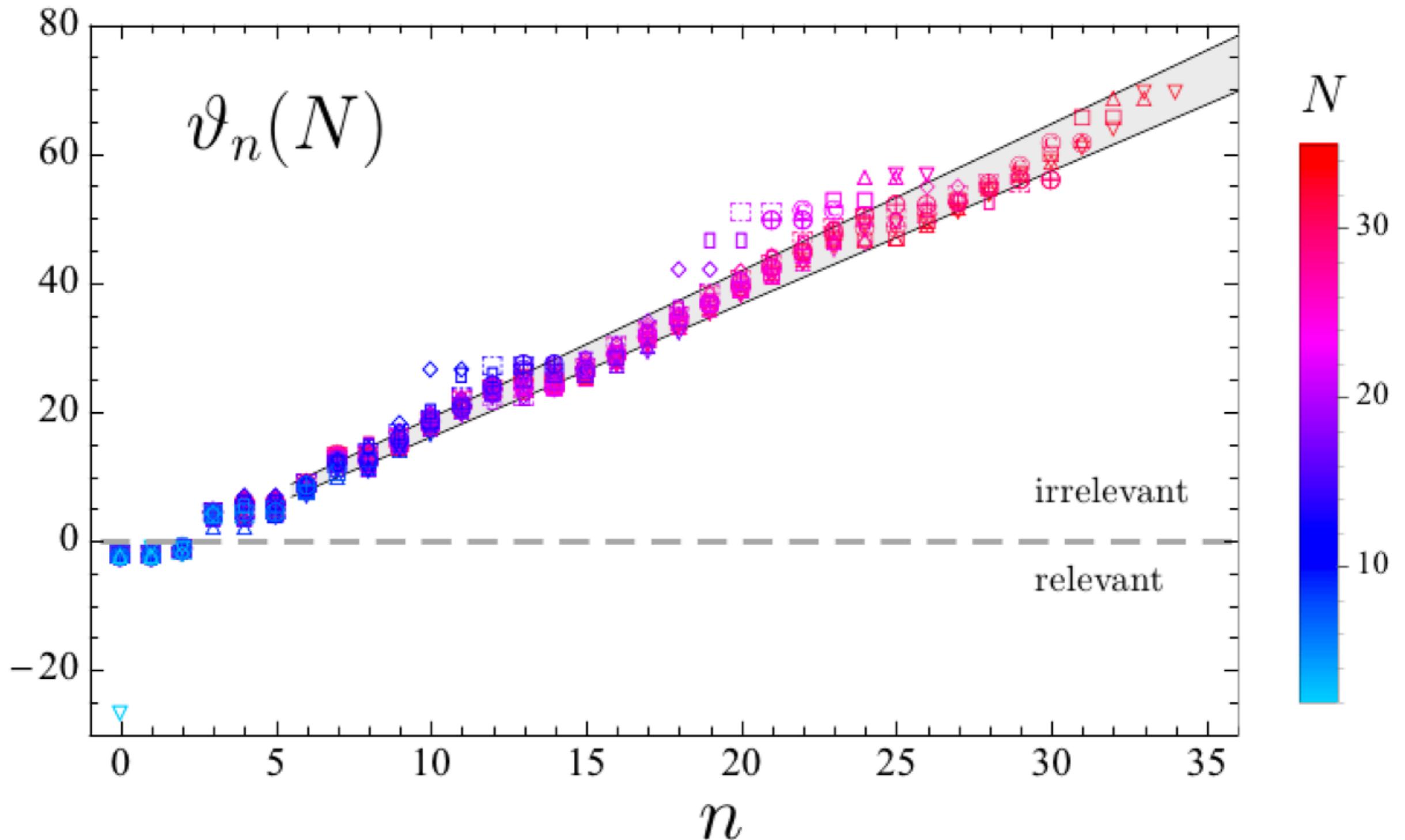
UV eigenvalues



bootstrap test



near-Gaussian



f(Ricci)

$$\Gamma_k \propto \int d^d x \sqrt{g} [f_k(R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu}) + R \cdot z_k(R_{\mu\nu}R^{\mu\nu})]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \Gamma[\bar{g}, \bar{g}] = & \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{(2T)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{h^T h^T}}{\Gamma_{h^T h^T}^{(2)}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}'_{(1T)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\xi\xi}}{\Gamma_{\xi\xi}^{(2)}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}''_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\sigma\sigma}}{\Gamma_{\sigma\sigma}^{(2)}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{hh}}{\Gamma_{hh}^{(2)}} \right] \\ & + \text{Tr}''_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\sigma h}}{\Gamma_{\sigma h}^{(2)}} \right] - \text{Tr}_{(1T)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\bar{C}^T C^T}}{\Gamma_{\bar{C}^T C^T}^{(2)}} \right] - \text{Tr}_{(0)'} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\bar{\eta}\eta}}{\Gamma_{\bar{\eta}\eta}^{(2)}} \right] - \text{Tr}''_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\bar{\lambda}\lambda}}{\Gamma_{\bar{\lambda}\lambda}^{(2)}} \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}''_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\omega\omega}}{\Gamma_{\omega\omega}^{(2)}} \right] - \text{Tr}'_{(1T)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\bar{c}^T c^T}}{\Gamma_{\bar{c}^T c^T}^{(2)}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}'_{(1T)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\zeta^T \zeta^T}}{\Gamma_{\zeta^T \zeta^T}^{(2)}} \right] + \text{Tr}'_{(0)} \left[\frac{\partial_t \mathcal{R}_k^{\bar{s}s}}{\Gamma_{\bar{s}s}^{(2)}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

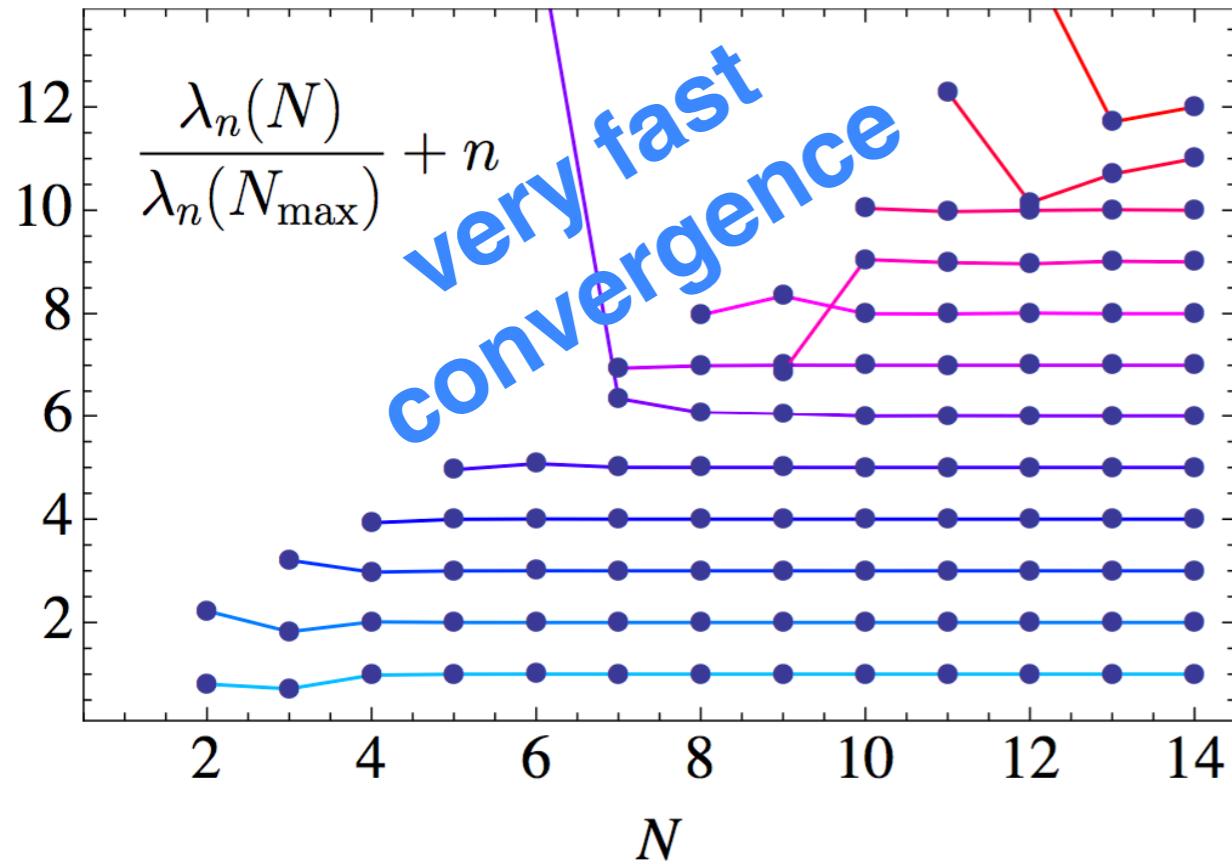
K Falls, DL, K Nikolopoulos & C Rahmede, (to appear)

f(Ricci)

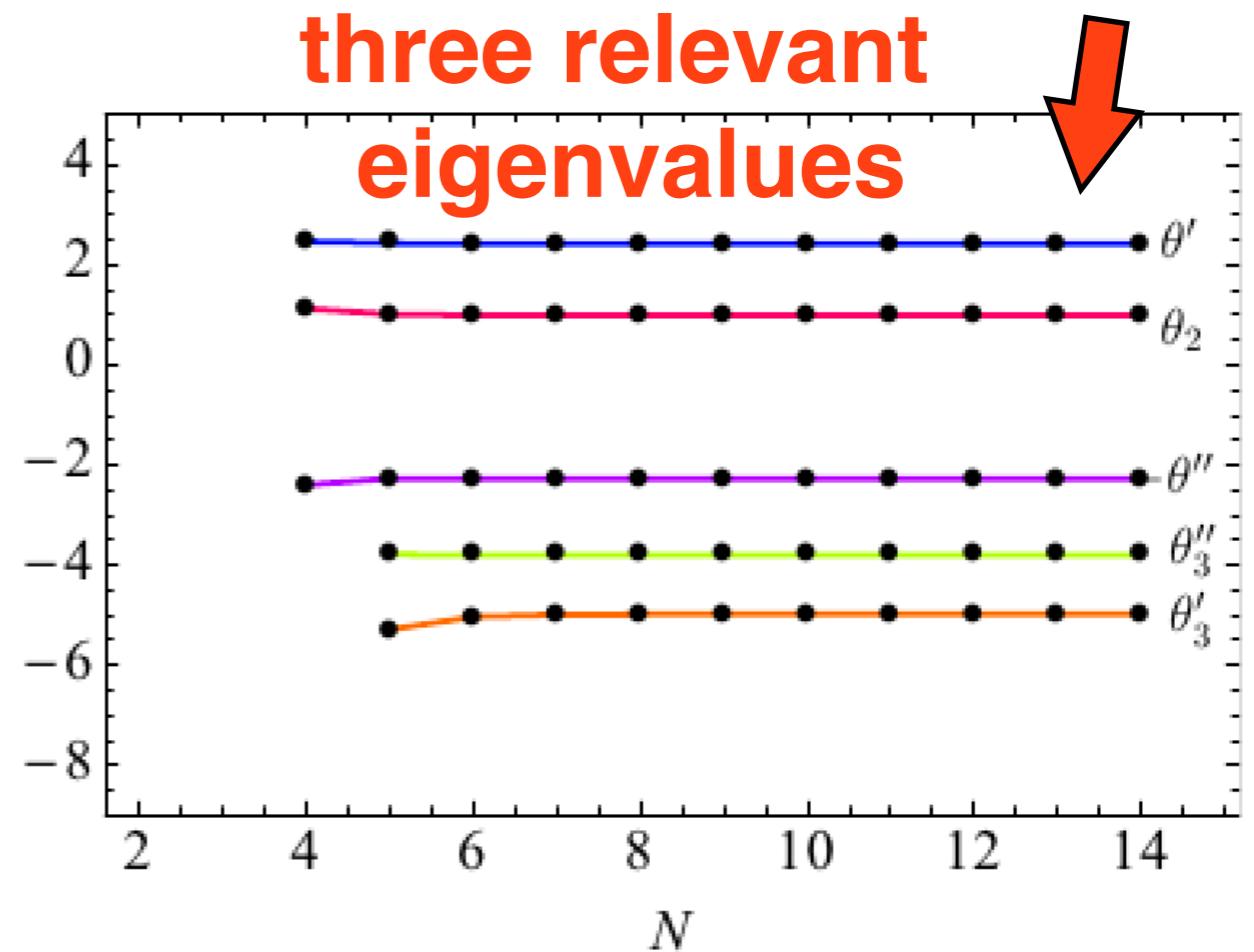
K Falls, DL, K Nikolakopoulos & C Rahmede, (to appear)

$$\Gamma_k \propto \int d^d x \sqrt{g} [f_k(R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu}) + R \cdot z_k(R_{\mu\nu} R^{\mu\nu})]$$

fixed point



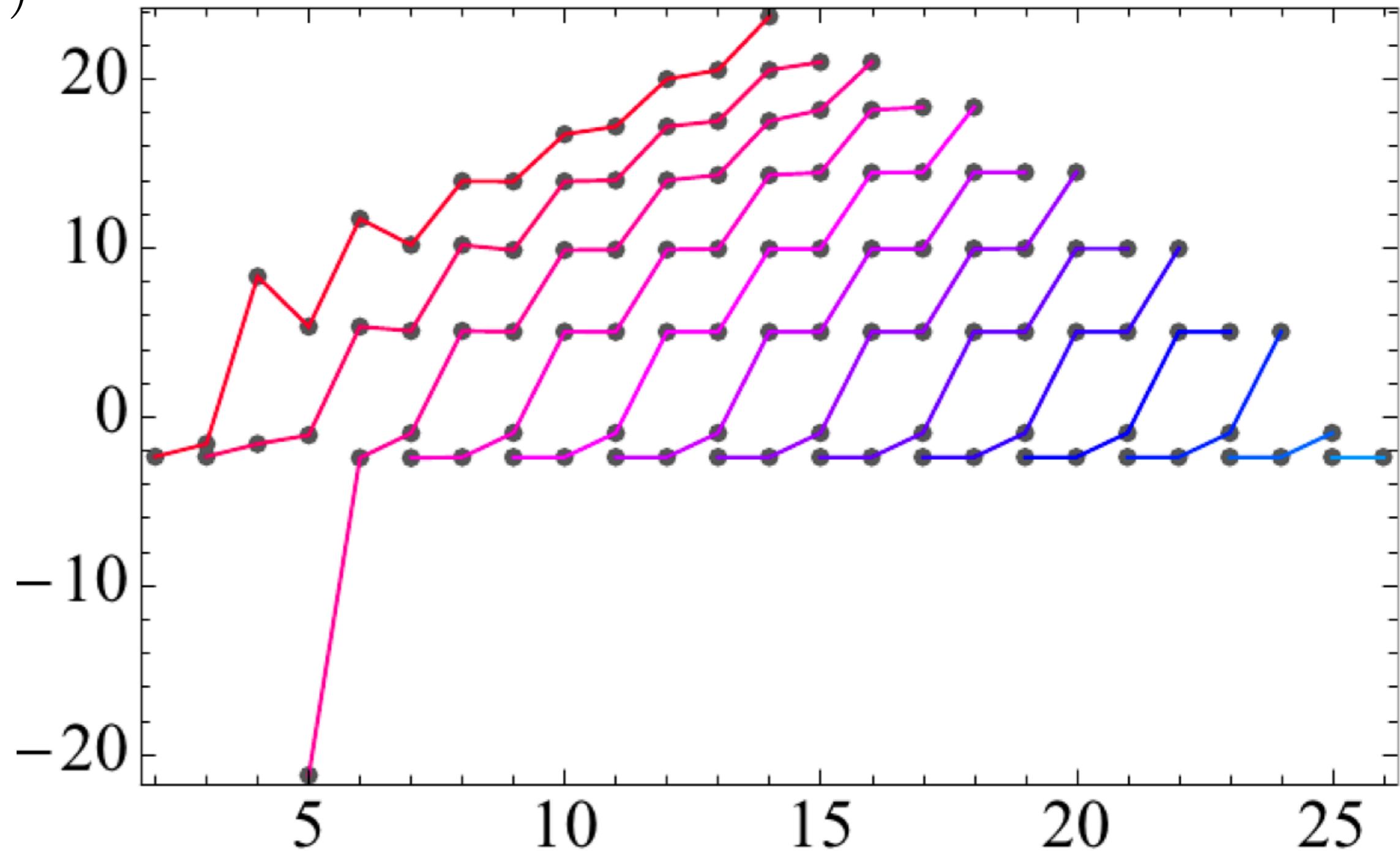
three relevant eigenvalues



bootstrap test

K Falls, DL, K Nikolakopoulos, C Rahmede (to appear, 2014)

$\vartheta_n(N)$



UV fixed points and black hole thermodynamics

with K Falls, K Nikolopoulos & A Raghuraman

1002.0260 (IJMPA)

1212.1821 (PRD)

1308.5630 (JHEP)

black hole thermodynamics

entropy = horizon area

temperature = surface gravity

Bekenstein '73

Bardeen, Carter, Hawking '73

Gibbons, Hawking '77

...

Jacobson '95

...

black hole thermodynamics

input:

saddle point of effective action

Gibbons, Hawking '77

$$S \approx \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_{\mu\nu}} \left[\frac{1}{8\pi G_0} R + \frac{1}{4\alpha_0} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right] + S_m$$

central building block

IR limit

$$G_0 \approx 6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N (m/kg)}^2$$

$$\alpha_0 \approx 1/137$$

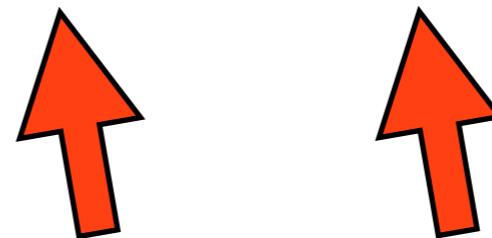
renormalisation group

**new input:
scale-dependent effective action**

Falls & DL, 1212.8121 (PRD)

$$\Gamma_k \approx \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det g_{\mu\nu}} \left[\frac{1}{8\pi G_k} R + \frac{1}{4\alpha_k} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right] + S_m$$

running couplings



family of Kerr-Newman BH solutions

$$A = A(M, J, q; \textcolor{red}{k})$$

$$S = \frac{A}{4G_{\textcolor{red}{k}}}$$

choice of RG scale

determined by physical parameters of the BH: $k = k_{\text{opt}}(M, J, q)$

renormalisation group

Bekenstein's thought experiment
infinitesimal amount of matter crossing the horizon, with heat flow

$$\frac{\delta Q}{T} = \frac{\delta A}{4G_k}$$

BH settles in a new state

$$\begin{aligned} M &\rightarrow M + \delta M & J &\rightarrow J + \delta J \\ q &\rightarrow q + \delta q & k_{\text{opt}} &\rightarrow k_{\text{opt}} + \delta k_{\text{opt}} \end{aligned}$$

total change of horizon area

$$\left(1 - \frac{2\pi}{\kappa} T\right) \delta A = \frac{\partial A(M, J, q; k)}{\partial \ln k} \Bigg|_{k=k_{\text{opt}}} \frac{\delta k_{\text{opt}}}{k_{\text{opt}}}$$

renormalisation group

results

RG scale

$$k_{\text{opt}}^2(M, J, q) \equiv k_{\text{opt}}^2(A) = \frac{4\pi\xi^2}{A}$$

state function

$$M^2 = \frac{4\pi}{A} \left[\left(\frac{A + 4\pi G(A)e^2(A)q^2}{8\pi G(A)} \right)^2 + J^2 \right]$$

temperature

$$T = 4G(A) \frac{\partial M}{\partial A}$$

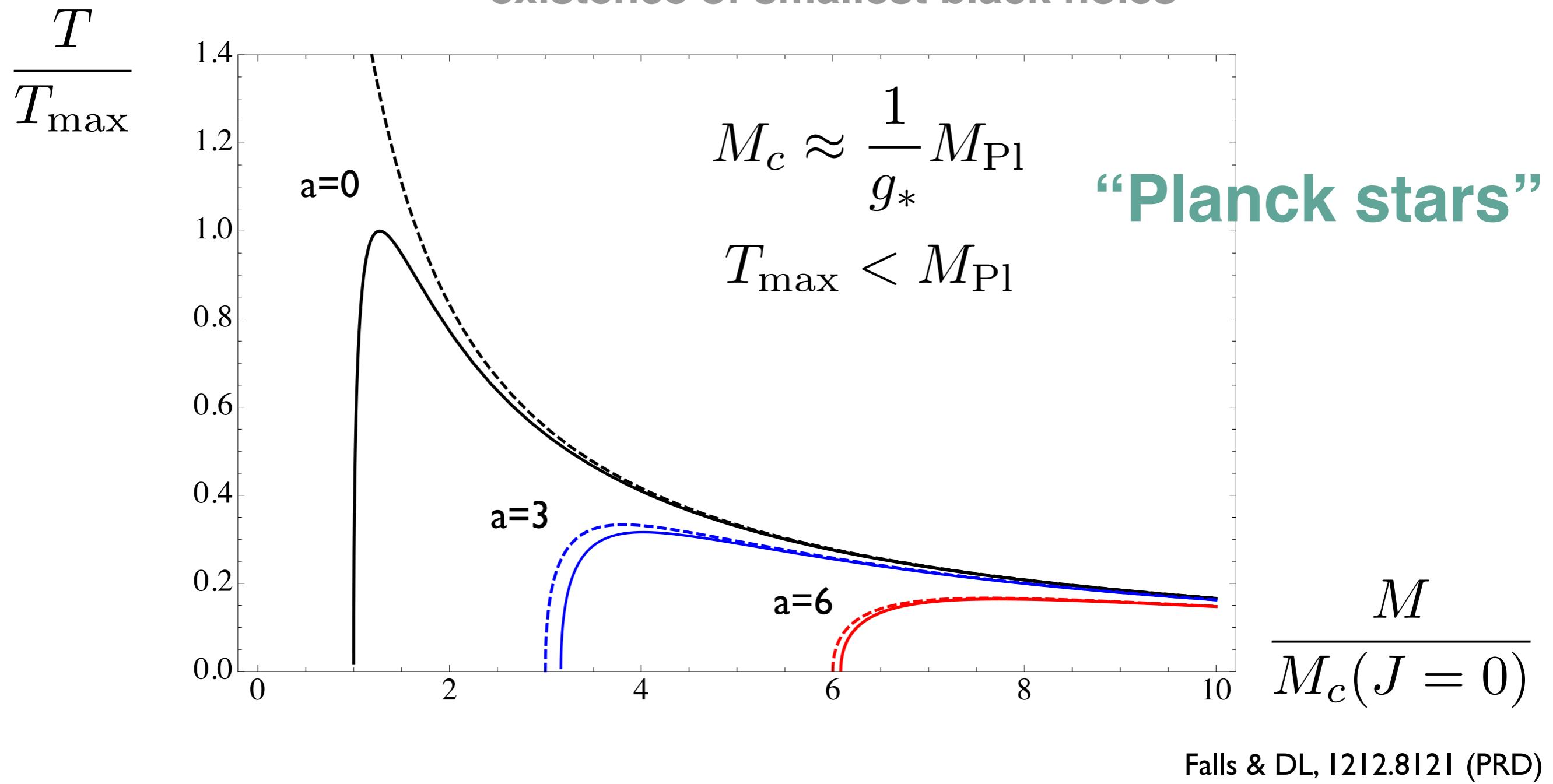
entropy

$$S = \frac{A}{4G_k} \quad \text{with} \quad k = k_{\text{opt}}$$

asymptotic safety

prediction I: temperature & mass

finite maximum temperature
existence of smallest black holes



Falls & DL, 1212.8121 (PRD)

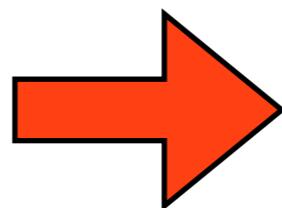
conformal scaling

Aharony, Banks '98, Shomer '07

conformal scaling in QFT

$$S \sim (RT)^{d-1}, \quad E \sim R^{d-1}T^d$$

$$S \sim E^\nu$$

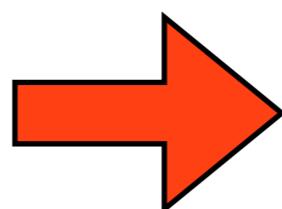


$$\nu_{\text{CFT}} = \frac{d-1}{d}$$

Schwarzschild BH scaling

$$S \sim R^{d-2}/G_N \quad E \sim R^{d-3}/G_N$$

$$S \sim E^\nu$$



$$\nu_{\text{BH}} = \frac{d-2}{d-3}$$

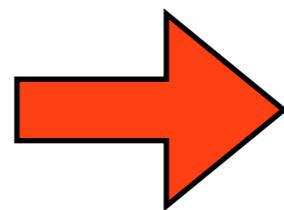
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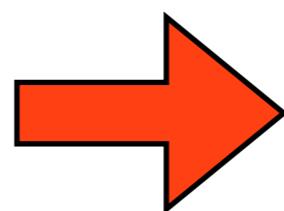


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$$S \sim E^\nu$$



$$\nu_{\text{BH}} = \frac{d-2}{d-3}$$

$$\nu_{\text{BH}} \neq \nu_{\text{CFT}}$$

except for $d = \frac{3}{2}$

conformal scaling

Falls, Litim '12

conformal scaling in QFT

$$S \sim (RT)^{d-1}, \quad E \sim R^{d-1}T^d$$

$$\frac{S}{R^{d-1}} \sim \left(\frac{E}{R^{d-1}} \right)^\nu \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu_{\text{CFT}} = \frac{d-1}{d}$$

Schwarzschild BH scaling

$$S \sim R^{d-2}/G_N \quad E \sim R^{d-3}/G_N$$

$$\frac{S}{R^{d-1}} \sim \left(\frac{E}{R^{d-1}} \right)^\nu \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu_{\text{BH}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

conformal scaling

Falls, Litim '12

conformal scaling in QFT

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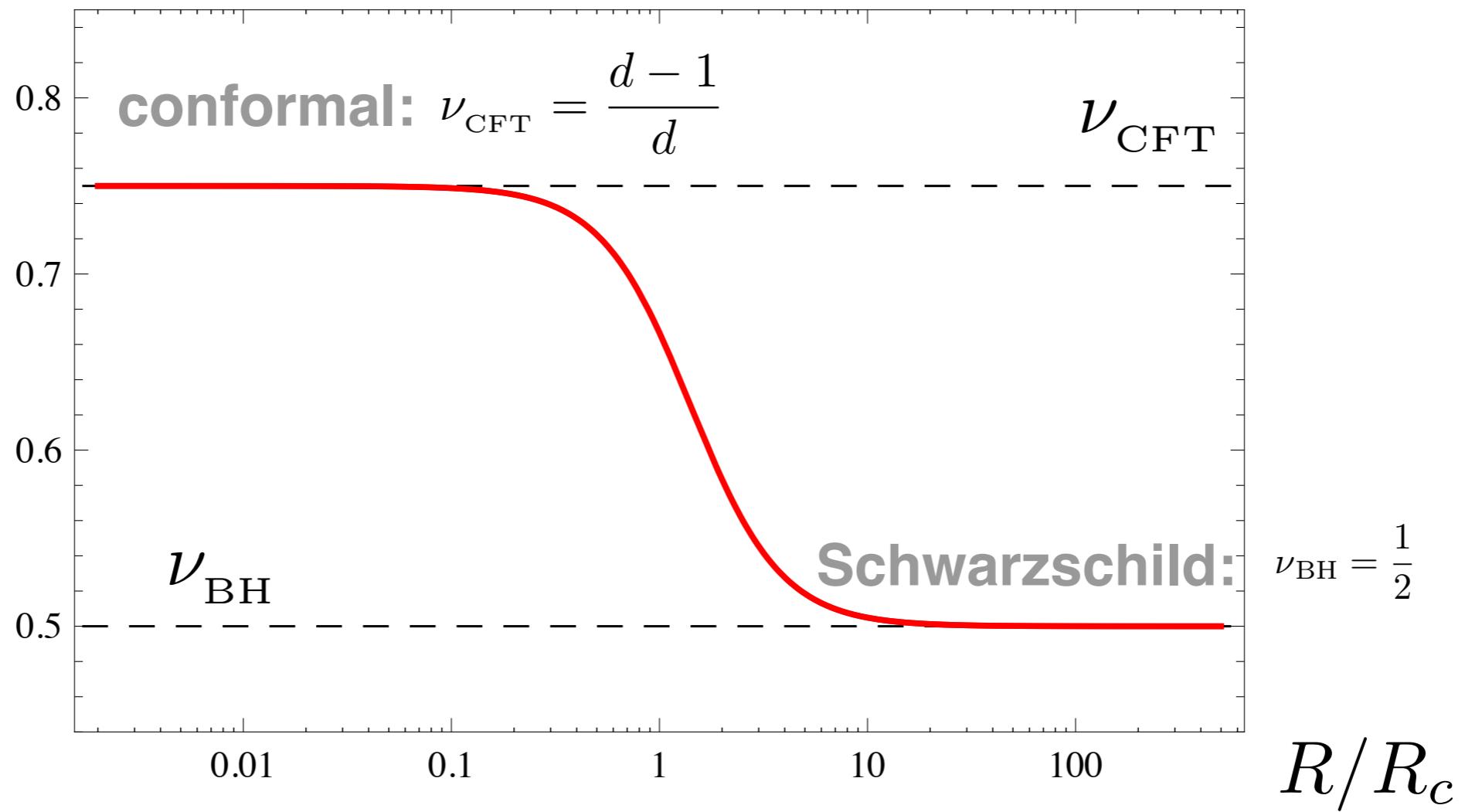
$$\frac{S}{R^{d-1}} \sim \left(\frac{E}{R^{d-1}} \right)^\nu \quad \rightarrow \quad \nu_{\text{BH}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\nu_{\text{BH}} \neq \nu_{\text{CFT}}$$

except for $d = 2$

asymptotic safety

prediction II: conformal scaling from AS black holes



Falls & DL, I212.8121 (PRD)

asymptotic safety

prediction III: entropy

thermodynamical
entropy

$$S = \frac{A}{4G(A)} = \frac{A}{4G_N} + \frac{\pi}{g_*}$$

Clausius' entropy

$$S = \int \frac{dA}{4G(A)} = \frac{A}{4G_N} + \frac{\pi}{g_*} \left(1 + \ln \frac{A}{A_c} \right)$$

statistical entropy

$$F = M - S T$$

valid for all RG scales

[using “off-shell” conical singularity method] (Soludkhin ’96)

conclusions

- UV fixed points offer maximal predictivity for QFTs including gravity, no artificial UV cutoff

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- black hole thermodynamics: conformal scaling, entropy