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# The Holographic Way: String Theory, Gauge Theory and Black Holes

Nordita, 15 October 2012

## *Holographic models for QCD in the Veneziano limit*

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# Bibliography

Based on work with:

Matti Jarvinnen (Crete)

arXiv:1112.1261 [hep-ph]

and ongoing work with:

- T. Alho (Helsinki), M. Jarvinnen (Crete), K. Kajantie (Helsinki), K. Tuominen (Helsinki).
- D. Arean (SISSA) I. Iatrakis, (Crete), M. Jarvinnen (Crete)

# Introduction

- For several phenomena in QCD the presence of quarks is important ( $SU(N_c)$  theory with  $N_f$  quarks).
- Sometimes the relevant physics can be studied in the “Quenched Approximation”: quarks are probes in the glue dynamics.
- For others however, one should include propagating quarks inducing quantum corrections in order to see them. In this second class we can mention:
  - ♠ **The conformal window:** the theory flows to an IR CFT for  $x \equiv \frac{N_f}{N_c} \geq x_c$  if quarks are massless. Chiral symmetry is expected to remain unbroken in this phase. **The conformal window ends at the Banks-Zaks point,  $x = \frac{11}{2}$ .**
  - ♠ The **phase transition at  $x = x_c$**  that is conjectured to be in the BKT class. This type of transition where for  $x < x_c$  there is a condensate is known as a **conformal transition**.

*Miransky, Kaplan+Stephanov+Son*
  - ♠ The region just below  $x_c$  where the theory is expected to exhibit **walking behavior**. This type of behavior is useful for **technicolor models**.

♠ The QCD thermodynamics as a function of  $x$ .

♠ The phase diagram as a function of baryon density. Here we expect a **color superconducting phase**, as well as a **color-flavor locking phase**.

*Alford+Rajagopal+Wilczek*

- All of the phenomena above except the Banks-Zaks region are at strong coupling and therefore hard to analyze.

- Several (uncontrollable) techniques were applied so far for their study: **Truncated Schwinger-Dyson equations**, **lattice calculations**, **guesswork on  $\beta$  functions**, etc. It is with such techniques that some of the expectations above were found.

- The purpose of our effort is to explore the construction of holographic models that exhibit similar phenomena, so that: (a) **Explore the landscape of possibilities** (b) **Construct realistic strong coupling models of QCD in the Veneziano Limit.**

# The Veneziano limit

- The 't Hooft limit

$$N_c \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda = g_{\text{YM}}^2 N_c \rightarrow \text{fixed}$$

always samples the quenched approximation as  $N_f$  is kept fixed as  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$ .

- The proper limit in order to study the previous phenomena in the large  $N_c$  approximation is the limit introduced by Veneziano in (1976)

$$N_c \rightarrow \infty, \quad N_f \rightarrow \infty, \quad \frac{N_f}{N_c} = x_f \rightarrow \text{fixed}, \quad \lambda = g_{\text{YM}}^2 N_c \rightarrow \text{fixed}$$

- In terms of the dual string theory, **the boundaries of diagrams are not suppressed anymore**: surfaces with an arbitrary number of boundaries contribute at the same order (for the flavor singlet sector).

# The Banks-Zaks region

- The QCD  $\beta$  function in the V-limit is

$$\dot{\lambda} = \beta(\lambda) = -b_0\lambda^2 + b_1\lambda^3 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^4) , \quad b_0 = \frac{2(11 - 2x_f)}{3(4\pi)^2} , \quad b_1 = -\frac{2(34 - 13x_f)}{3(4\pi)^4}$$

- The Banks-Zaks region is

$$x_f = \frac{11}{2} - \epsilon \quad \text{with} \quad 0 < \epsilon \ll 1$$

We obtain a fixed point of the  $\beta$ -function at

$$\lambda_* \simeq \frac{(8\pi)^2}{75}\epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$$

which is trustable in perturbation theory, as  $\lambda_*$  can be made arbitrarily small.

- The mass operator,  $\bar{\psi}_L \psi_R$  has now dimension smaller than three, from the perturbative anomalous dimension (in the V-limit)

$$-\frac{d \log m}{d \log \mu} \equiv \gamma = \frac{3}{(4\pi)^2} \lambda + \frac{(203 - 10x_f)}{12(4\pi)^4} \lambda^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3, N_c^{-2})$$

- Extrapolating to lower x we expect the phase diagram





# Walking, Technicolor, S-parameter, dilatons

- Walking dynamics has been advocated as a necessary practical ingredient for technicolor models. This has been associated to a large anomalous dimension for the quark mass operator.

*Holdom, Appelquist+Karabali+Wijewardhana*

- It has been suggested that the **S-parameter** might be small in the walking region.

*Appelquist+Sannino*

- It has also been conjectured that there is a **special scalar state that is hierarchically lighter** than the rest in the walking region, (the “dilaton”) reflecting the nearly broken scale invariance.

*Yamawaki+Bando+Matumoto*

- Such properties have **oscillated between fact and fancy** in the past 30 years. Their status has not been decided yet.

# The strategy

- Construct a (toy) holographic model for QCD in the Veneziano limit.
- Put together two ingredients: the holographic model for glue developed earlier: IHQCD

*Gursoy+E.K+Nitti*

- and the model for flavor based in Sen's tachyon action.

*Casero+E.K.+Paredes, Iatrakis+E.K.+Paredes*

# The holographic models: glue

For YM, **ihQCD** is a well-tested holographic, string-inspired bottom-up model with action

*Gursoy+Kiritsis+Nitti, Gubser+Nelore*

$$\mathcal{S}_g = M^3 N_c^2 \int d^5x \sqrt{g} \left[ R - \frac{4}{3} (\partial\phi)^2 + V_g(\phi) \right]$$

and Poincaré-invariant metric

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(r)} (dr^2 + \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu)$$

- The **potential**  $V_g$   $\leftrightarrow$  **QCD  $\beta$ -function**
- the "scale factor"  $A$   $\leftrightarrow$   **$\log \mu$  energy scale.**
- $e^\phi$   $\leftrightarrow$   **$\lambda$  't Hooft coupling**

In the UV  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  and

$$V_g = V_0 + V_1\lambda + V_2\lambda^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$$

In the IR  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$V_g \sim \lambda^{\frac{4}{3}}\sqrt{\log \lambda} + \dots$$

- With an appropriate tuning of two parameters in  $V_g$  the model describes well both  $T = 0$  properties as well as thermodynamics.

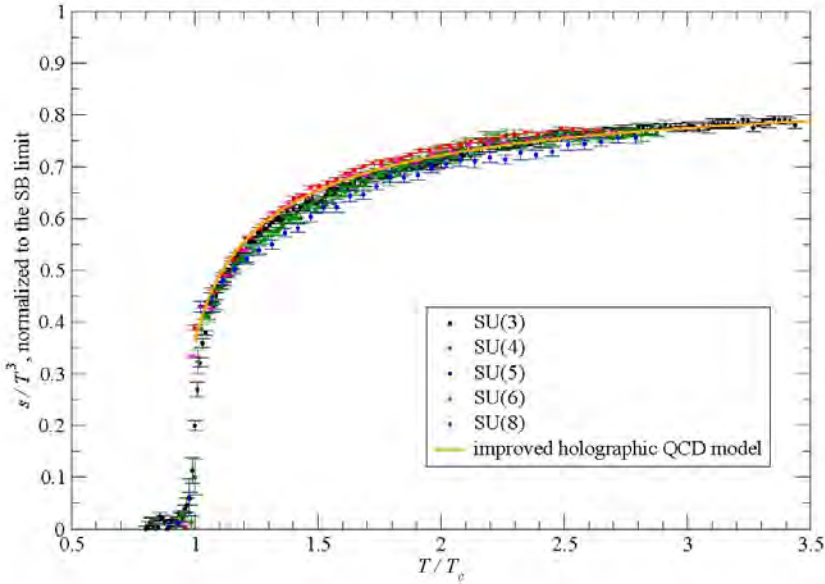


Figure 4: (Color online) Same as in fig. 1, but for the  $s/T^3$  ratio, normalized to the SB limit.

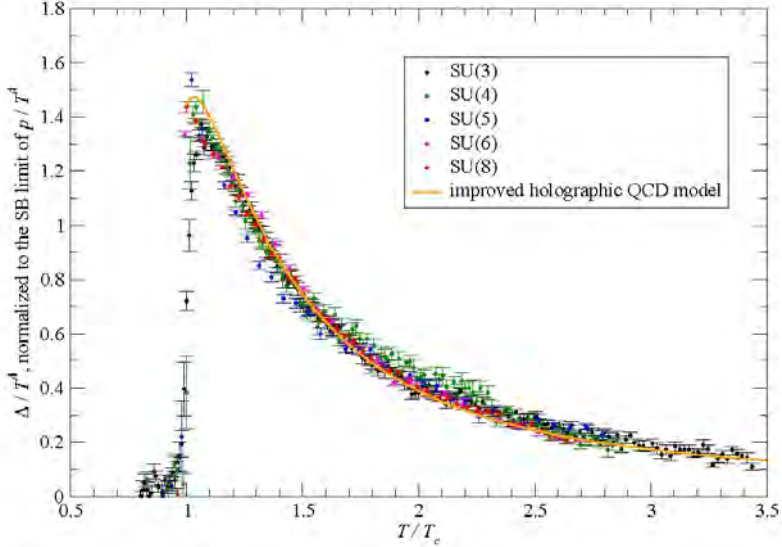


Figure 2: (Color online) Same as in fig. 1, but for the  $\Delta/T^4$  ratio, normalized to the SB limit of  $p/T^4$ .

Panero

V-QCD,

Elias Kiritsis

# The holographic models: flavor

- Fundamental quarks  $\rightarrow$  probe  $D_4$ - $\bar{D}_4$  branes in 5-dimensions.

$$q_L \leftrightarrow D_3 - D_4 \quad , \quad q_R \leftrightarrow D_3 - \bar{D}_4$$

- We have the gauge fields

$$D_4 - D_4 \rightarrow A_L^\mu \leftrightarrow J_L^\mu \simeq \bar{\psi}_L^i \gamma^\mu \psi_L^j \quad , \quad \bar{D}_4 - \bar{D}_4 \rightarrow A_R^\mu \leftrightarrow J_R^\mu \simeq \bar{\psi}_R^i \gamma^\mu \psi_R^j$$

and a bifundamental scalar, the "tachyon"

$$D_4 - \bar{D}_4 \rightarrow T_{ij} \leftrightarrow \bar{\psi}_L^i \psi_R^j$$

- For the vacuum structure only the tachyon is relevant. It is expected that its backreaction on glue will be crucial in shaping the phase diagram,  
*Klebanov+Maldacena, Bigazzi+Casero+Cotrone+Kiritsis+Paredes*

- **An action for the tachyon motivated by the Sen action** has been advocated as the proper dynamics of the chiral, condensate giving in general all the expected features of  $\chi SB$ .

*Casero+Kiritsis+Paredes*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{TDBI}} = -N_f N_c M^3 \int d^5x \, V_f(T) e^{-\phi} \sqrt{-\det(g_{ab} + \partial_a T \partial_b T)}$$

# Fusion

The idea is to put together the two ingredients in order to study the chiral dynamics and its backreaction to glue.

$$\mathcal{S} = N_c^2 M^3 \int d^5x \sqrt{g} \left[ R - \frac{4(\partial\lambda)^2}{3\lambda^2} + V_g(\lambda) \right] - \\ - N_f N_c M^3 \int d^5x V_f(\lambda, T) \sqrt{-\det(g_{ab} + h(\lambda)\partial_a T \partial_b T)}$$

with

$$V_f(\lambda, T) = V_0(\lambda) \exp(-a(\lambda)T^2)$$

- We must choose  $V_0(\lambda), a(\lambda), h(\lambda)$ .
- ♠ The simplest and most reasonable choices, compatible with glue dynamics do the job! The phase structure at  $T = 0$  is robust against many different choices in the IR.

# Parameters

- A theory with a single relevant (or marginally relevant) coupling like YM has no parameters.
- The same applies to QCD with massless quarks.
- QCD with all quarks having mass  $m$  has a single (dimensionless) parameter :  $\frac{m}{\Lambda_{QCD}}$ .
- After various rescalings this single parameter can be mapped to the parameter  $T_0$  that controls the diverging tachyon in the IR.
- There is also  $x_f$  that has become continuous in the large  $N_c$  Veneziano limit.

# The effective potential

For solutions  $T = T_* = \text{constant}$  the relevant non-linear action simplifies

$$\mathcal{S} = M^3 N_c^2 \int d^5x \sqrt{g} \left[ R - \frac{4(\partial\lambda)^2}{3\lambda^2} + V_g(\lambda) - x_f V_f(\lambda, T) \right]$$

$$V_f(\lambda, T) = V_0(\lambda) e^{-a(\lambda)T_*^2}$$

• Minimizing for  $T_*$  we obtain  $T_* = 0$  and  $T_* = \infty$ . The effective potential for  $\lambda$  is

♠  $T_* = 0$ ,  $V_{eff} = V_g(\lambda) - x_f V_0(\lambda)$  with a IR fixed point at  $\lambda = \lambda_*(x_f)$ .

♠  $T_* = \infty$ ,  $V_{eff} = V_g(\lambda)$  with no fixed points.



# Condensate dimension at the IR fixed point

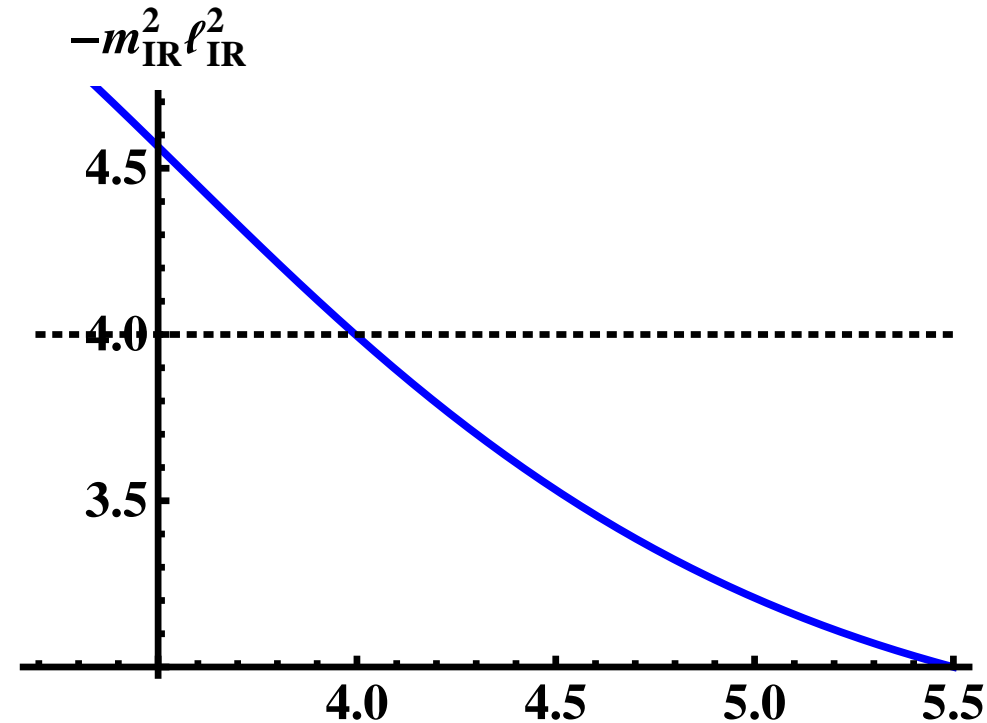
- By expanding the DBI action we obtain the IR tachyon mass at the IR fixed point  $\lambda = \lambda_*$  which gives the chiral condensate dimension:

$$-m_{\text{IR}}^2 \ell_{\text{IR}}^2 = \Delta_{\text{IR}}(4 - \Delta_{\text{IR}}) = \frac{24a(\lambda_*)}{h(\lambda_*)(V_g(\lambda_*) - x_f V_0(\lambda_*))}$$

- Must reach the Breitenlohner-Freedman (BF) bound (horizontal line) at some  $x_c$ .

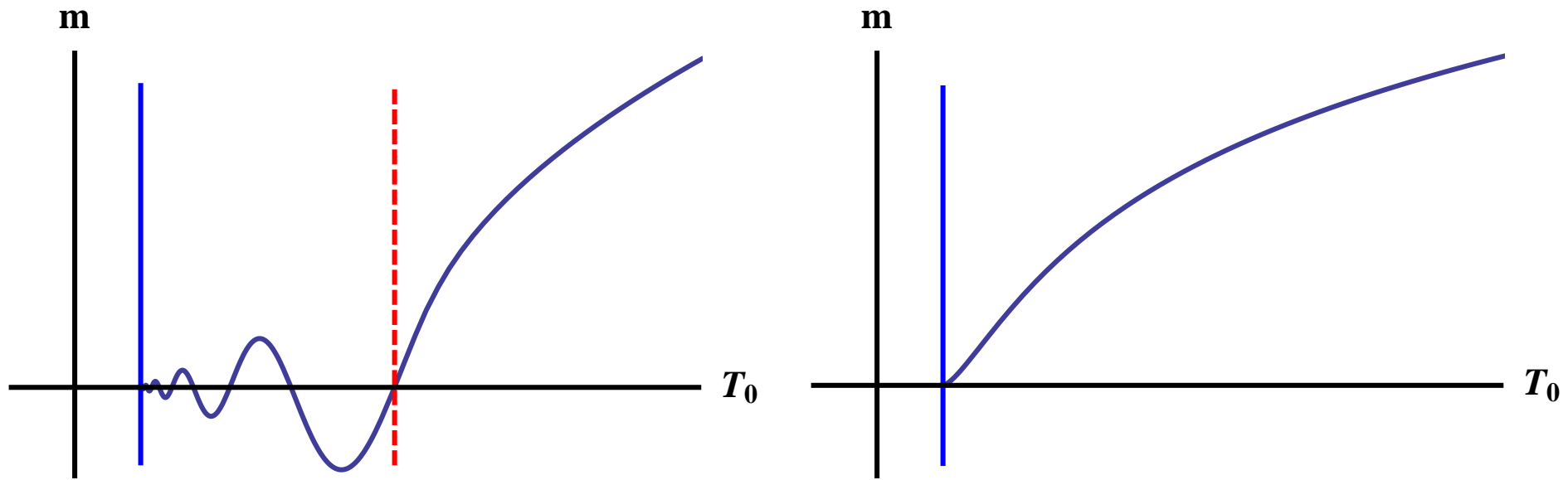
- $x_c$  marks the *conformal phase transition*

*Kaplan+Lee+Son+Stephanov*



We obtain:  $3.7 \lesssim x_c \lesssim 4.2$

# UV mass vs IR parameter



- Left figure: Plot of the UV Mass parameter  $m$ , as a function of the IR  $T_0$  scale, for  $x < x_c$ .
- Right figure: Similar plot for  $x \geq x_c$ .
- Such plots are sketched from the numerics, analytical expansions and some guesses.

- The tachyon starts at the boundary, evolves into the sinusoidal form for a while,  $T \sim r^2 \sin [k \log r + \phi]$ , and then at the end diverges. Similar behavior seen at

*Kutasov+Lin+Parnachev*

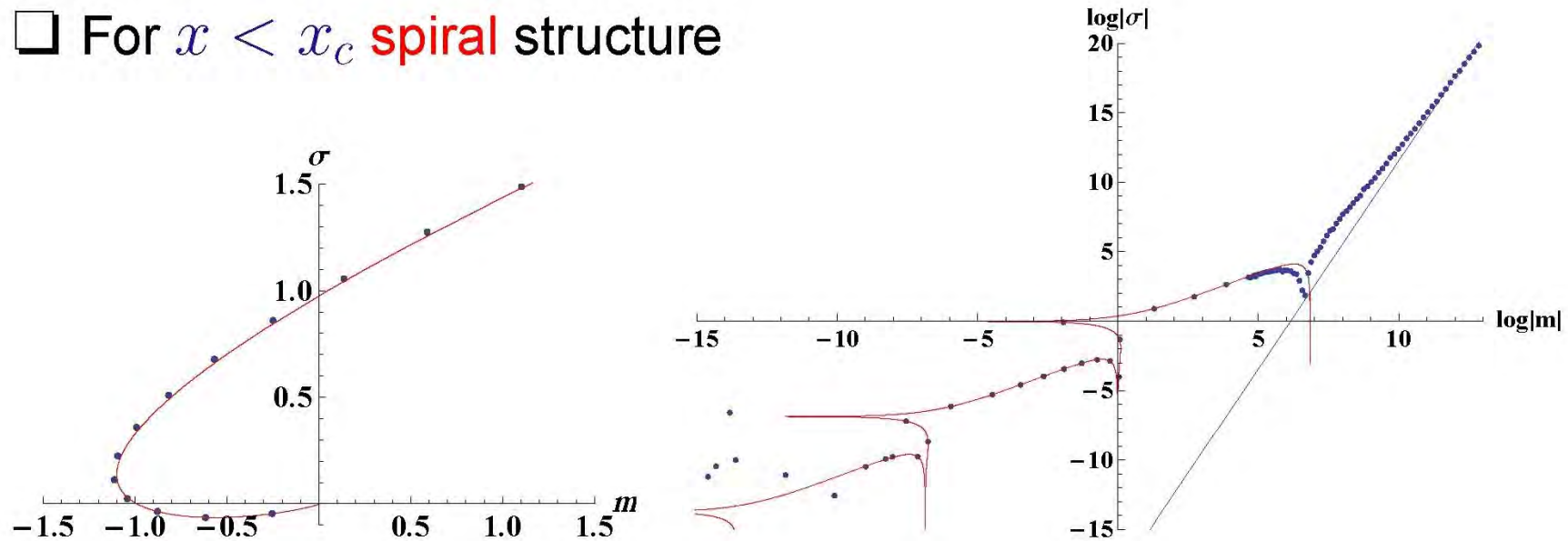
- For the n-th solution, the tachyon changes sign n times before diverging in the IR.
- At  $m = 0$  there is an  $\infty$  number of saddle point solutions (Efimov-like minima)
- The Efimov minima have free energies  $\Delta E_n$  with

$$\Delta E_0 > \Delta E_1 > \Delta E_2 > \dots$$

# Efimov spiral

Ongoing work:  $\sigma(m)$  dependence

□ For  $x < x_c$  **spiral** structure



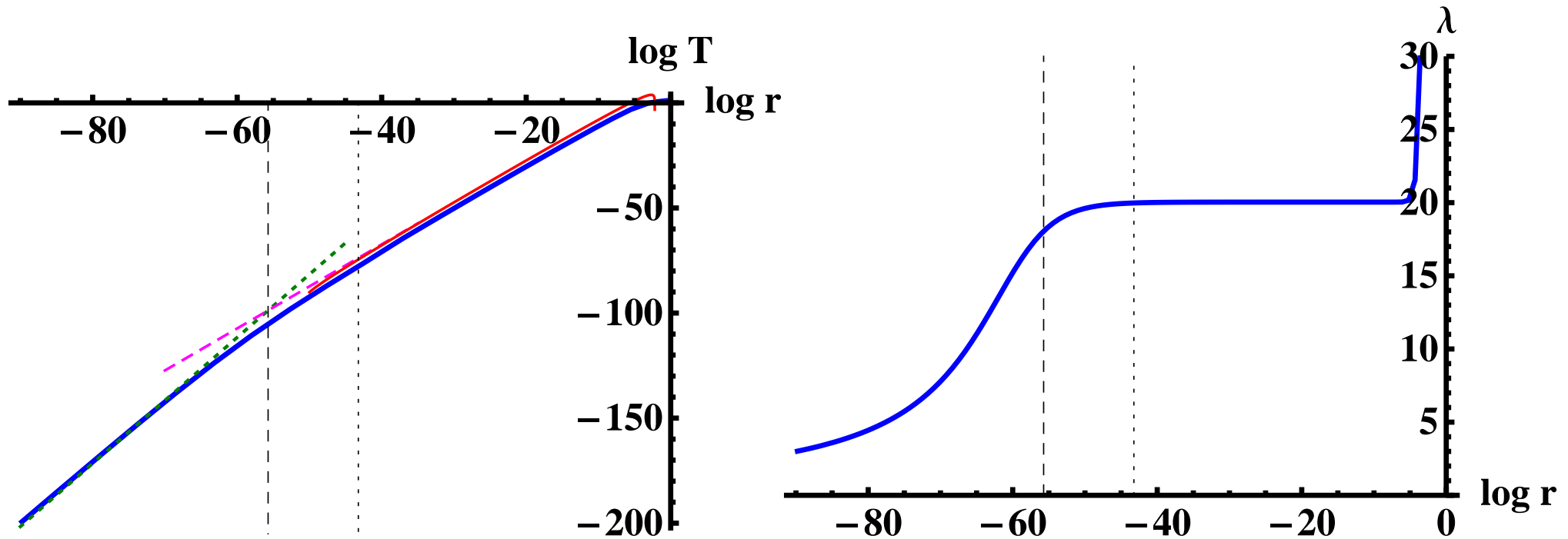
- This suggests that the presence of double trace deformations can alter the ground state of the system and make the second Efimov vacuum be the ground state.

# Recap



- For  $x = 0$ , the theory has a mass gap, and confines.
- $0 < x < x_c \simeq 4$  the theory has chiral symmetry breaking, massless pions, and gapped spectrum otherwise.
- $x_c < x < \frac{11}{2}$  the theory is chirally symmetric, and flows to a non-trivial fixed point in the IR.

# Walking



The tachyon  $\log T$  (left) and the coupling  $\lambda$  (right) as functions of  $\log r$  for an extreme walking background with  $x = 3.992$ . The thin lines on the left hand plot are the approximations used to derive the BKT scaling.

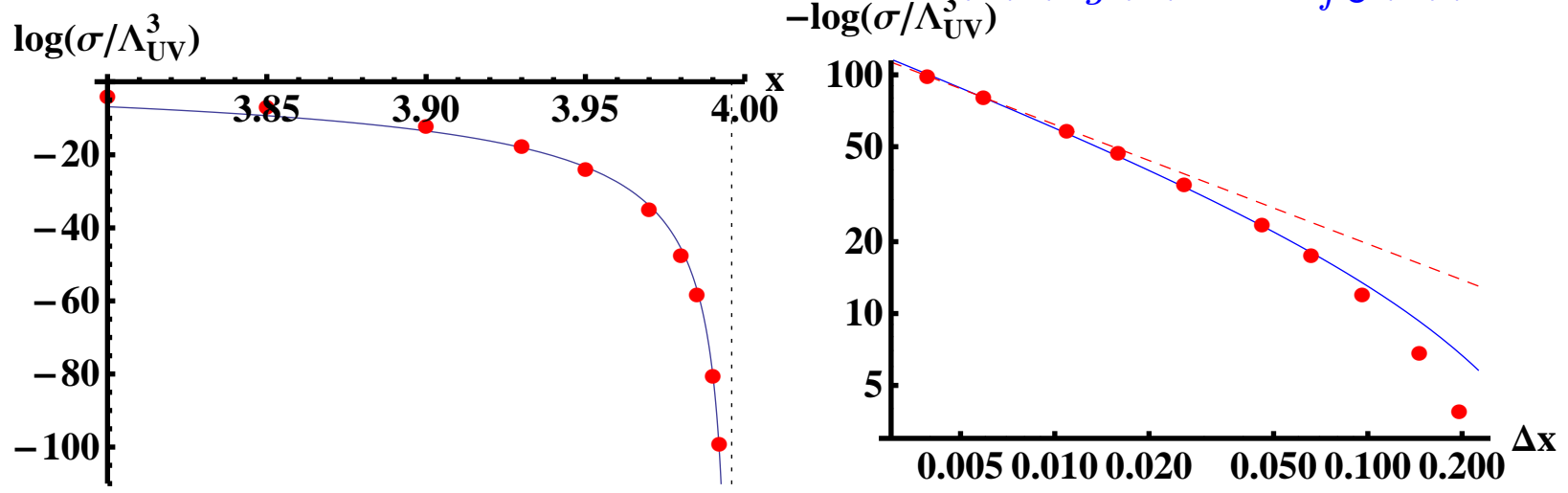
# BKT/Miransky scaling

We obtain BKT-Miransky scaling:

$$\sigma \sim \Lambda_{UV}^3 \exp\left(-\frac{2K}{\sqrt{\lambda_* - \lambda_c}}\right) \sim \Lambda_{UV}^3 \exp\left(-\frac{2\hat{K}}{\sqrt{x_c - x}}\right).$$

and the function that controls  $K, \hat{K}$  is

$$\Delta_{IR}(4 - \Delta_{IR}) = -m_{IR}^2 \ell_{IR}^2 = G(\lambda_*, x) \equiv \frac{24a(\lambda)}{h(\lambda)(V_g(\lambda) - xV_{f0}(\lambda))} \Big|_{\lambda=\lambda_*},$$

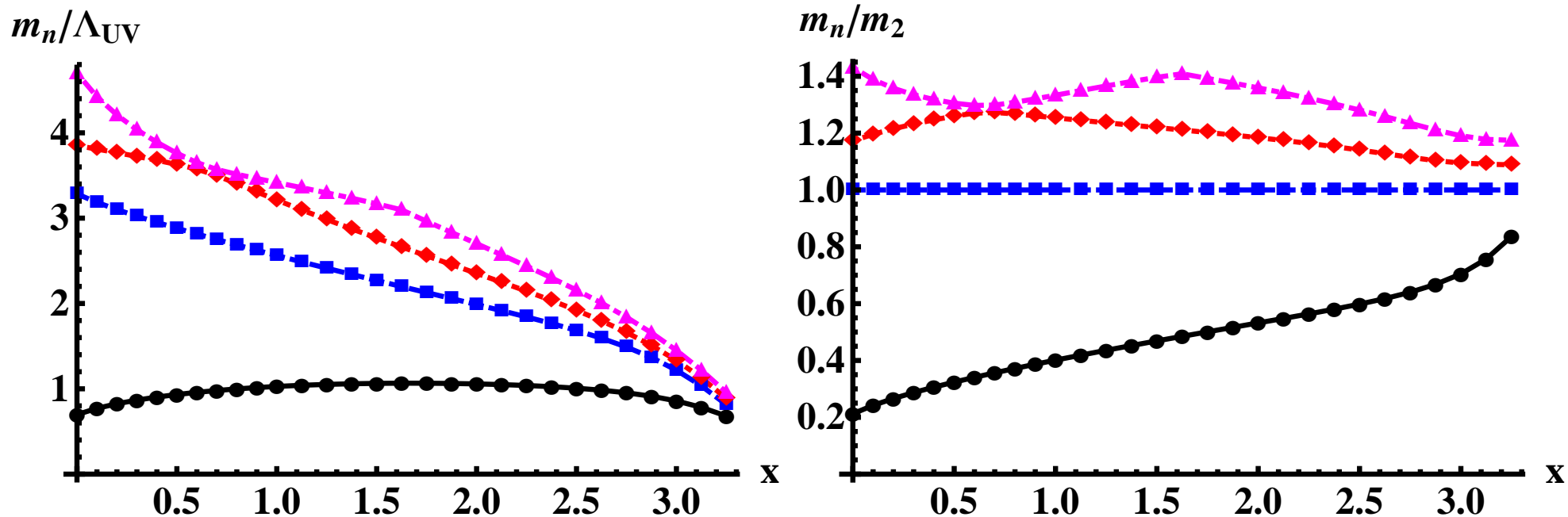


Left:  $\log(\sigma/\Lambda^3)$  as a function of  $x$  (dots), compared to a BKT scaling fit (solid line). The vertical dotted line lies at  $x = x_c$ . Right: the same curve on log-log scale, using  $\Delta x = x_c - x$ .

# Spectra

- The main difference from all previous calculations is that here flavor back reacts on color.
- In the singlet sector the glueballs and mesons mix to leading order and the spectral problem becomes complicated.
- The preliminary conclusions are:
  - ♠ All masses follow Miransky scaling in the walking region.
  - ♠ There is no dilaton
  - ♠ There are several level crossings as  $x_f$  varies but they seem accidental
  - ♠ The situation with the S-parameter is still unclear.





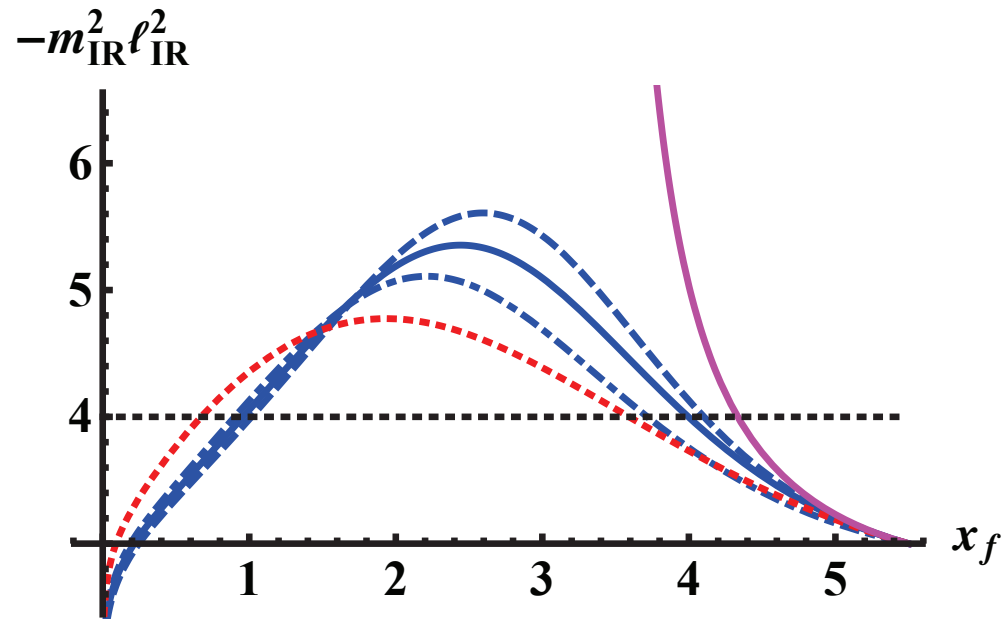
The masses of the first four modes of the scalar mesons of the  $U(1)$  sector for potentials I. Left: the masses in the units of  $\Lambda_{UV}$  as a function of  $x$ . Right: the ratios  $m_n/m_2$  of the masses of the modes. We chose to normalize to the second mode since that makes the  $x$ -dependence of the ratios better visible.

# Finite Temperature

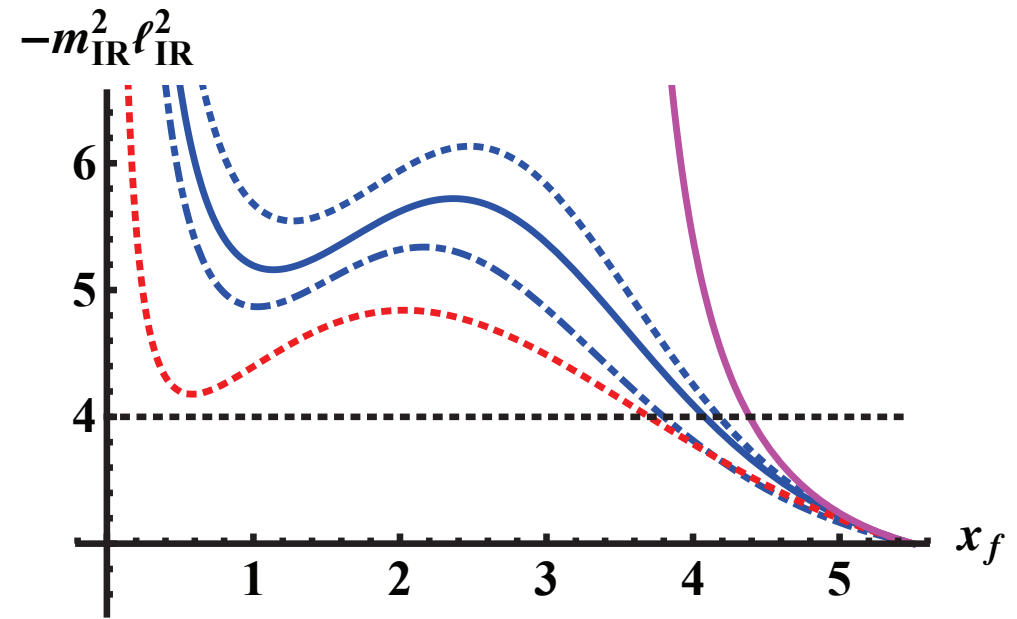
*Alho+Jarvinnen+Kajantie+E.K.+Tuominen*

Choices:

- Potentials I vs II
- Value of  $0 < W_0 < \frac{24}{11}$
- Fixed point exists for all  $x$ , or not

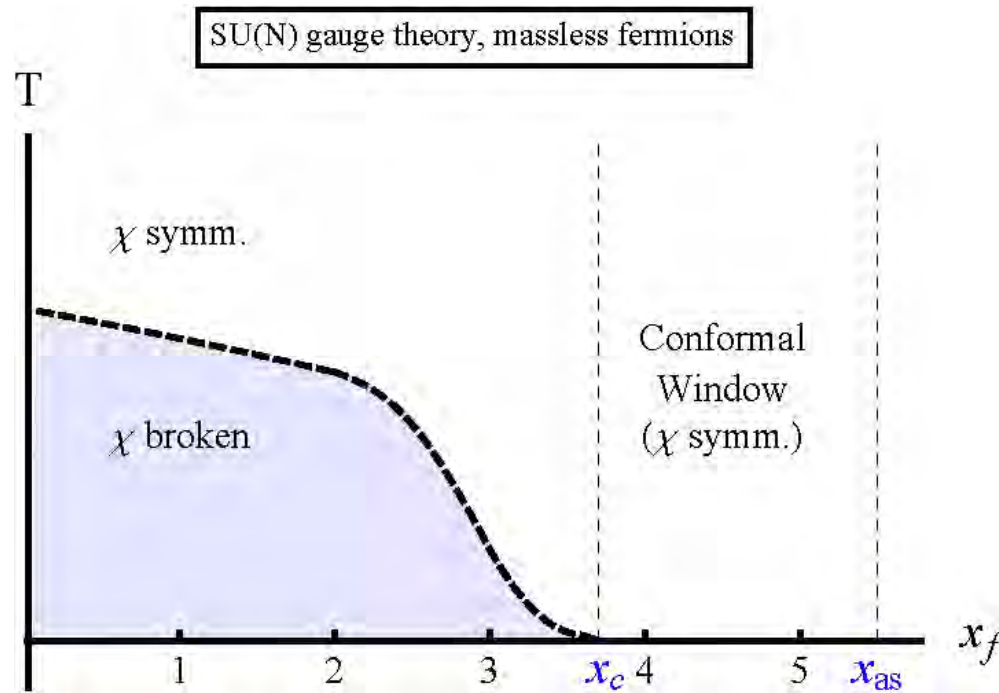


V-QCD,



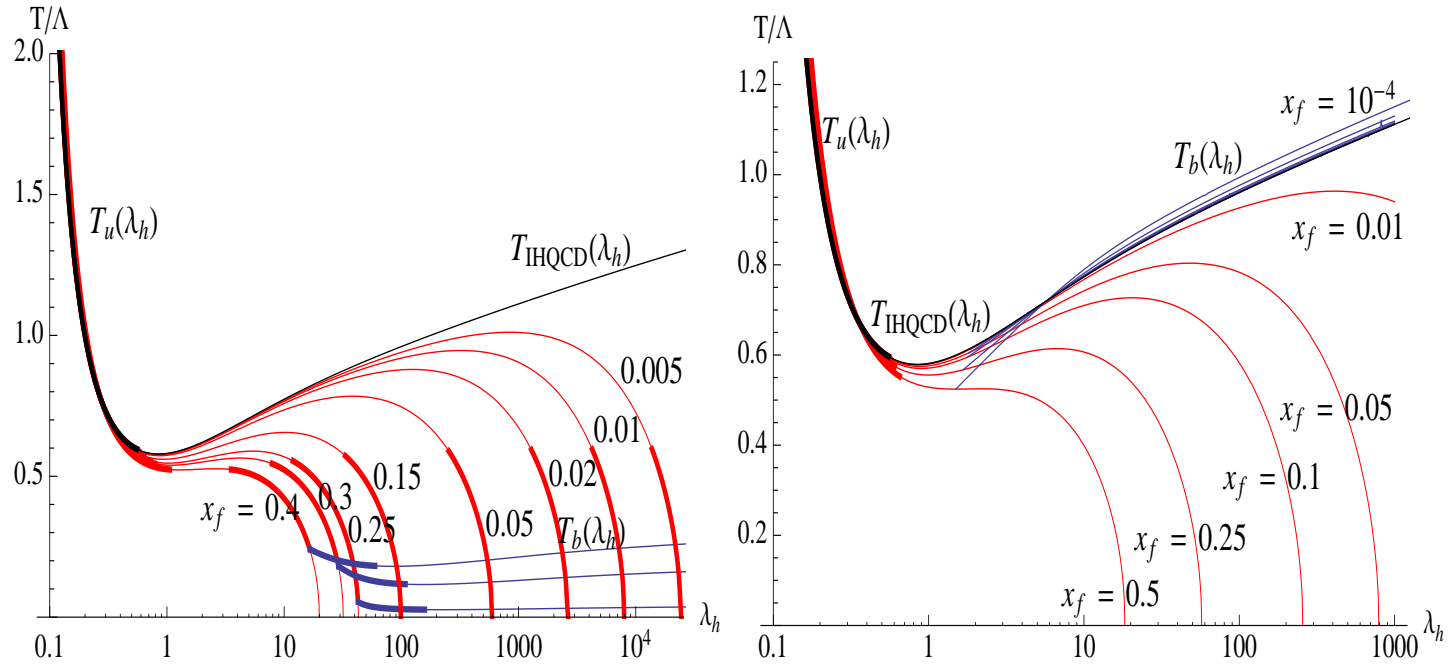
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# Finite Temperature: the generic phase diagram

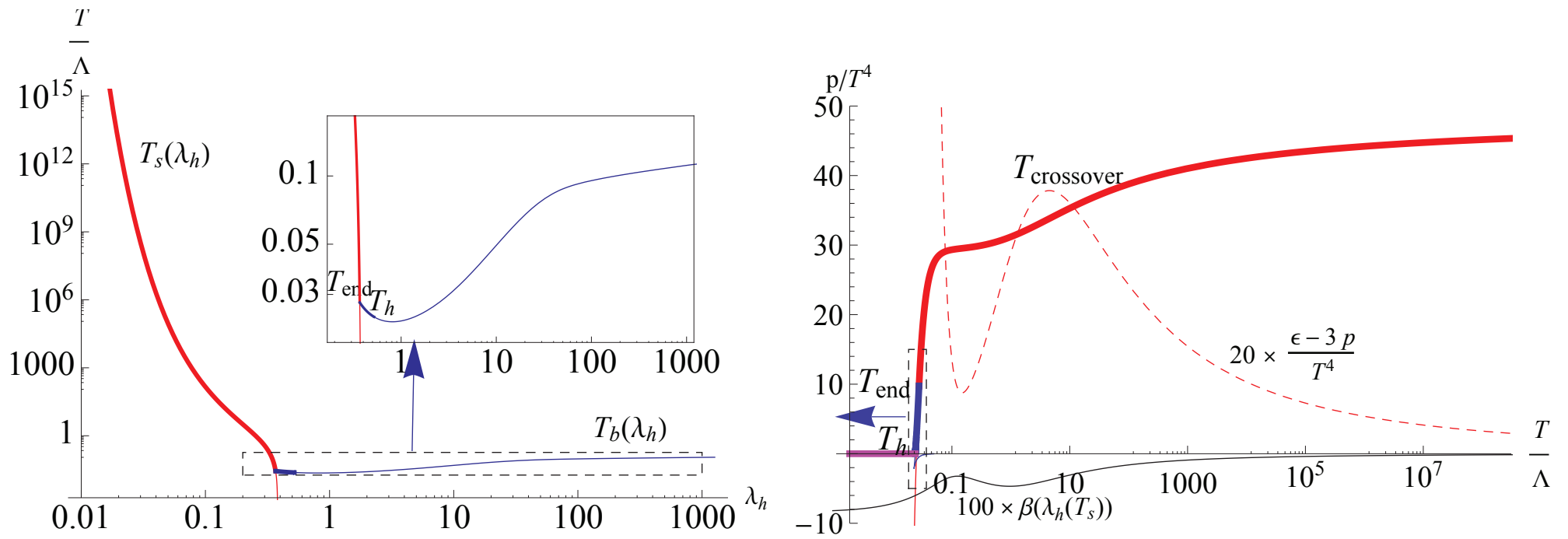


Qualitative behavior of the transition temperature between the low and high  $T$  phases of V-QCD matter.

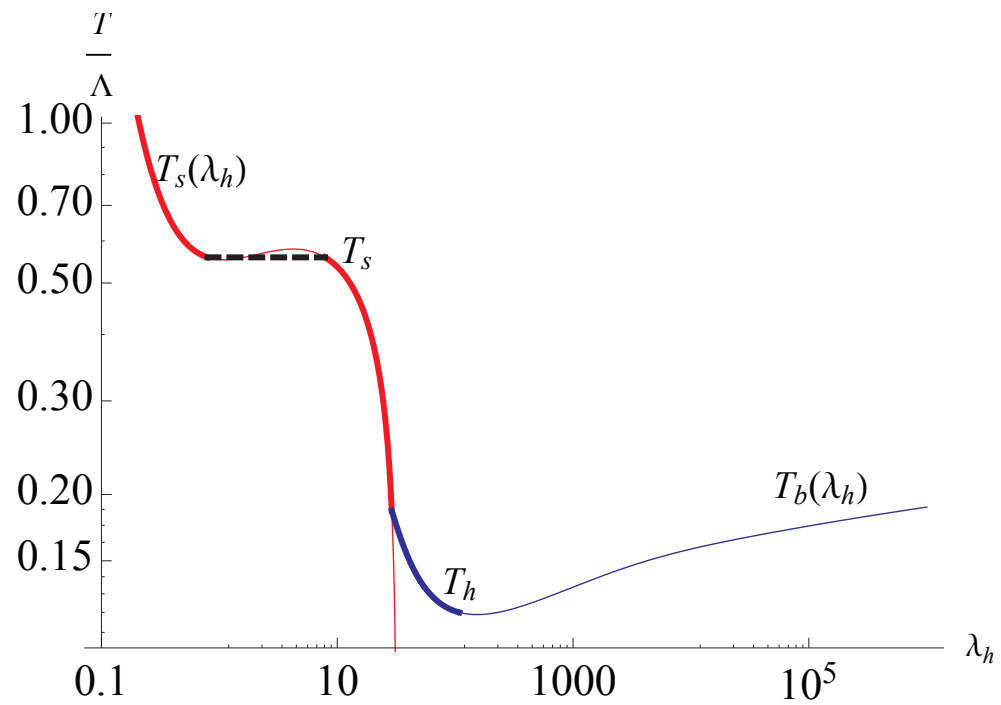
# The different types of blackholes



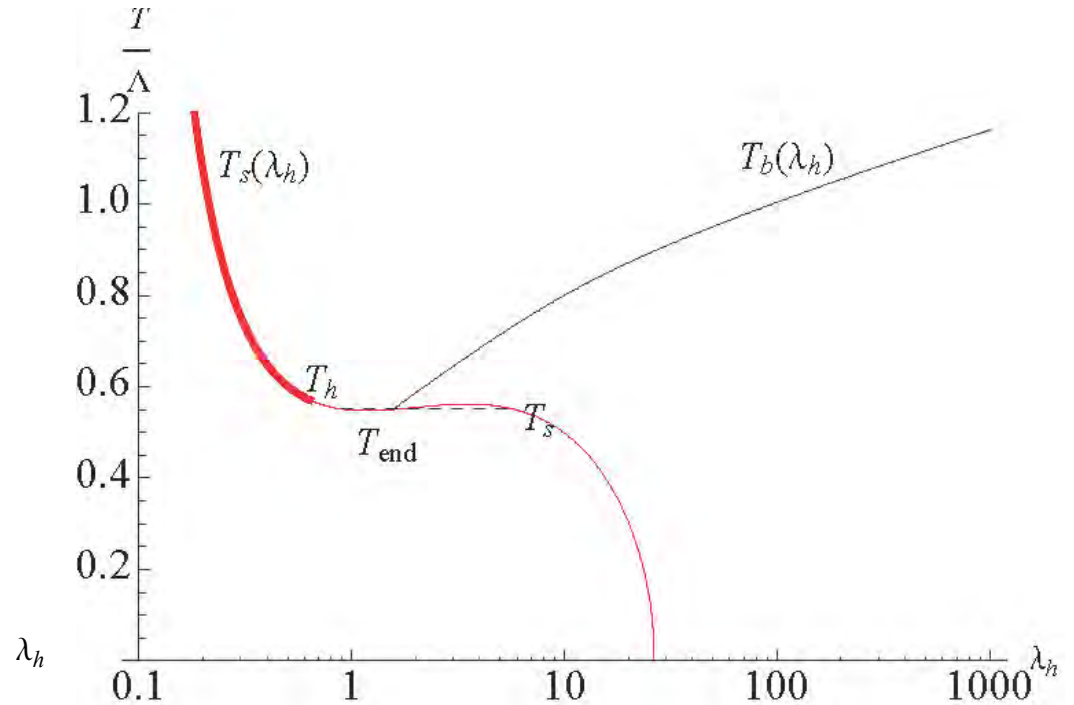
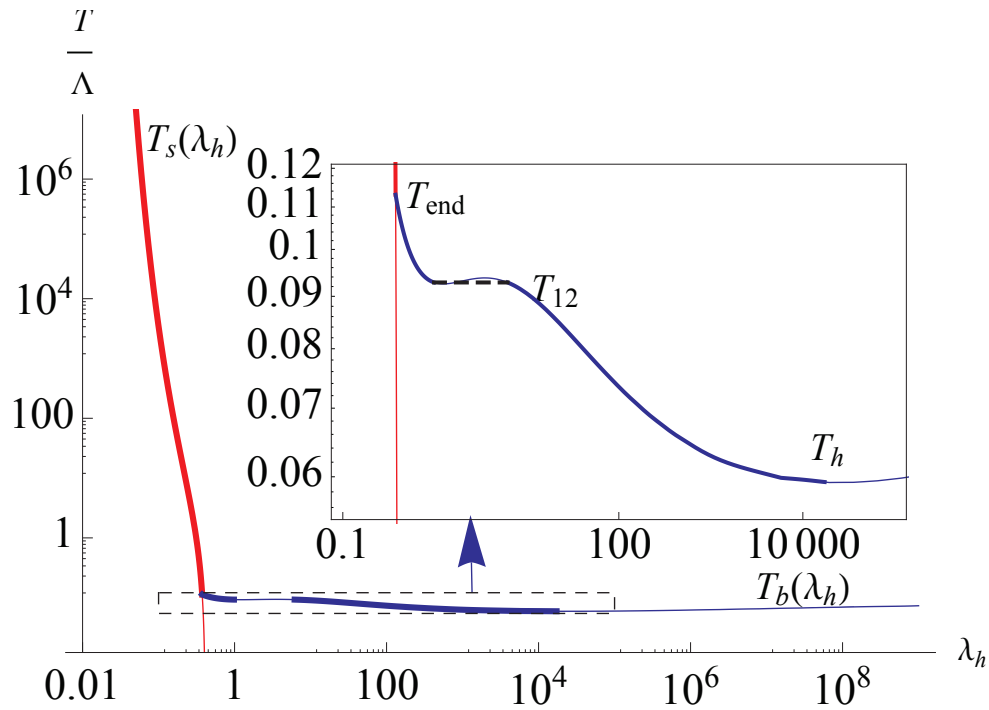
**Figure 22:**  $T(\lambda_h)$  for various small values of  $x_f$  and for potential I,  $W_0 = 24/11$  (Left) or for potential II,  $W_0 = 12/11$  (Right). The black curve is the IHQCD limit. The chirally symmetric  $T_u(\lambda_h) \equiv T(\lambda_h, \tau = 0)$  branch asymptotes to the IHQCD curve as  $x_f \rightarrow 0$ , for both potentials. The chirally broken  $T_b(\lambda_h) \equiv T(\lambda_h, \tau_h(\lambda_h, m_q = 0))$  branches behave very differently for PotI and PotII. For PotI  $T_b$  is absent at such low  $x_f$  and all phases are chirally symmetric (see also Fig. 18). For PotII the curves  $T_b$  follow very closely  $T_s$  and, correspondingly,  $T_h \approx T_s$  (see Fig. 15).



Examples of the  $T_{\text{end}}$ ,  $T_h$  and  $T_{\text{crossover}}$  transitions in potential II with Stefan-Boltzmann -normalization of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{UV}}$  and with  $x_f = 3$ . The curving of  $T_s(\lambda_h)$  at  $\lambda_h \sim 0.2$ ,  $T \sim 2$  is related to the crossover transition. *Right:* an overview of the pressure in the same case, also showing the interaction measure, the peak of which determines the position of  $T_{\text{crossover}}$ . The black curve shows the vacuum beta function, scaled to fit, as a function of temperature in the symmetric phase, so that  $\beta(T) = \beta(\lambda_s(T))$ , where  $\lambda_s(T)$  is the inverse function of  $T_s(\lambda_h)$ . The walking maximum of the beta function clearly coincides with the plateau related to  $T_{\text{crossover}}$ , confirming that the  $p/T^4 \sim \text{constant}$  phase below  $T_{\text{crossover}}$  is indeed the quasi-conformal phase related to walking dynamics.

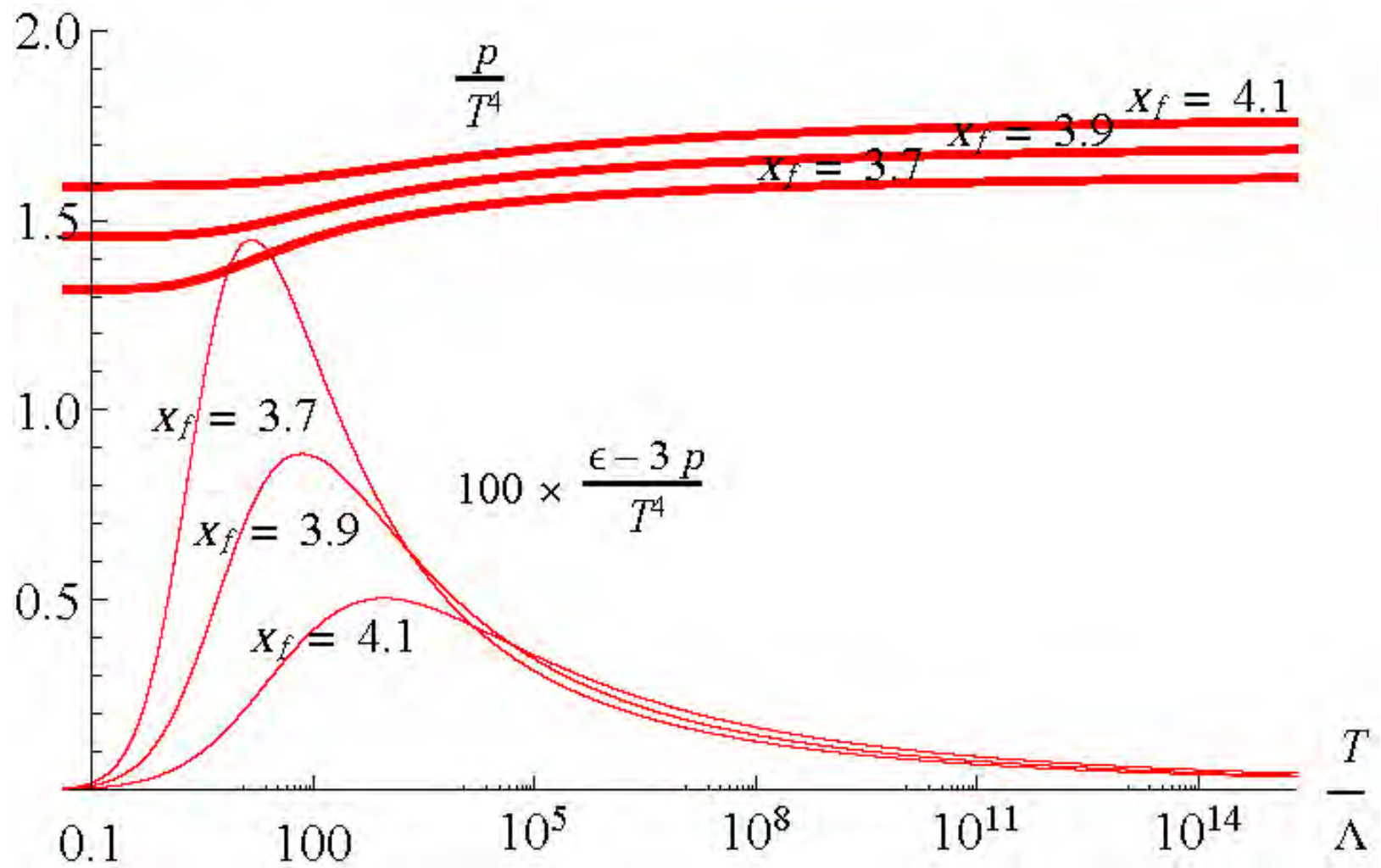


An example of the  $T_S$  transition in potential I with  $W_0 = 24/11$  and with  $x_f = 0.3$ . The local maximum and minimum which generate the 1st order  $T_S$  -transition.



Left: An example of the  $T_{12}$  transition in potential I with  $W_0 = 12/11$  and with  $x_f = 3.5$ . The overall structure of  $T(\lambda_h)$ , with an inset showing the maximum and minimum in more detail.

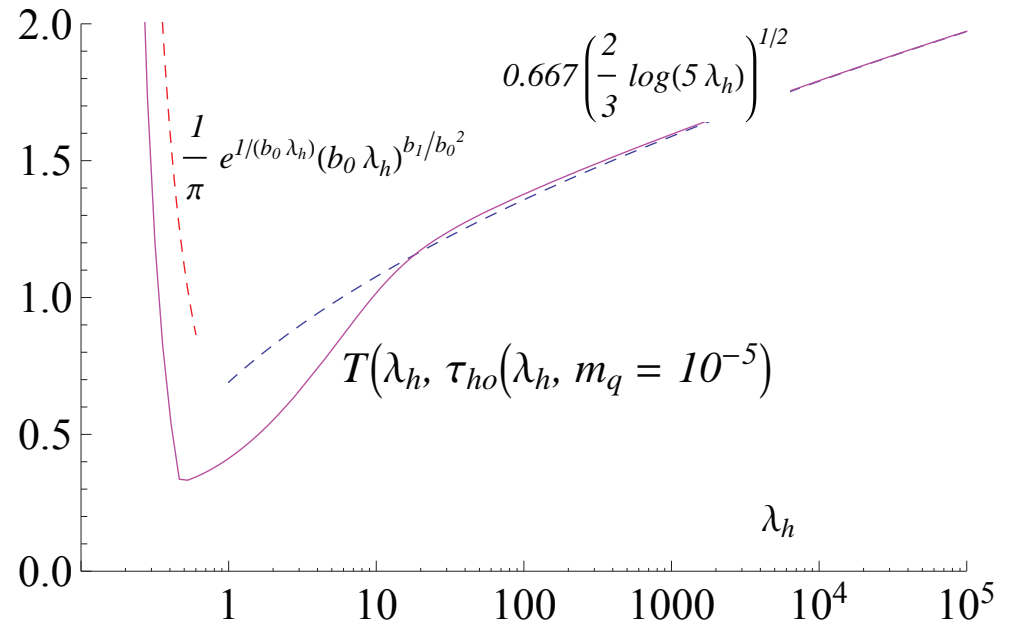
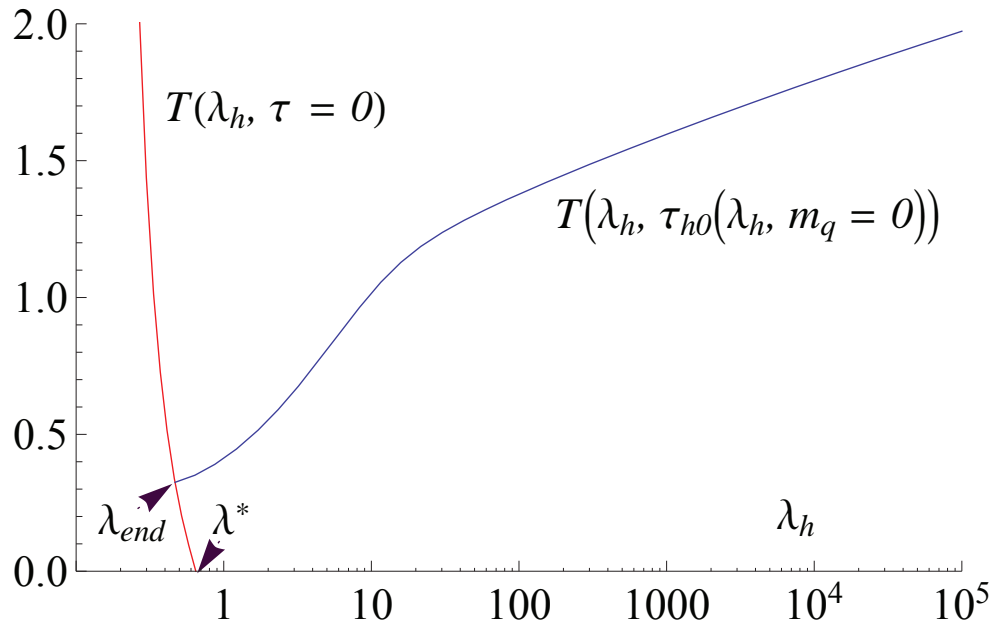
Right: An example of a configuration where all but the crossover and hadronisation transitions  $T_{\text{crossover}}$ ,  $T_h$ , are in the thermodynamically unstable region, in the initial stages of the approach to the IHQCD limit. The potential is II with  $W_0 = 12/11$  and with  $x_f = 0.4$ . Note that everything to the right of the  $T_h$  transition is in the unstable phase.



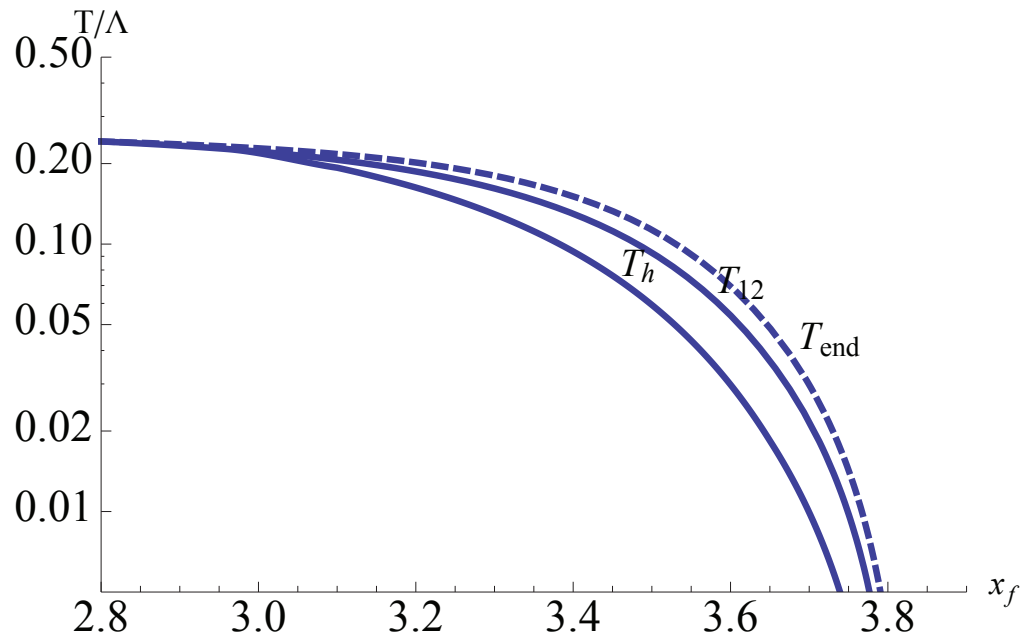
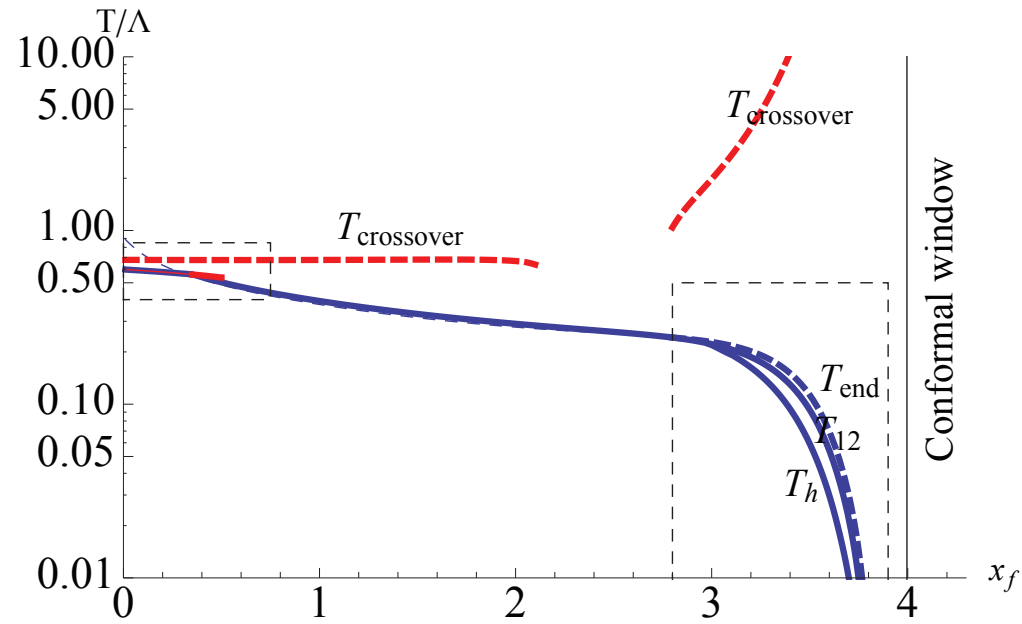
Thermodynamics for some values of  $x_f$  within the conformal window, computed for PotI. Note that in the conformal window always  $\tau = 0$  and the functions  $a(l)$ ,  $\Phi(l)$  do not affect the result.

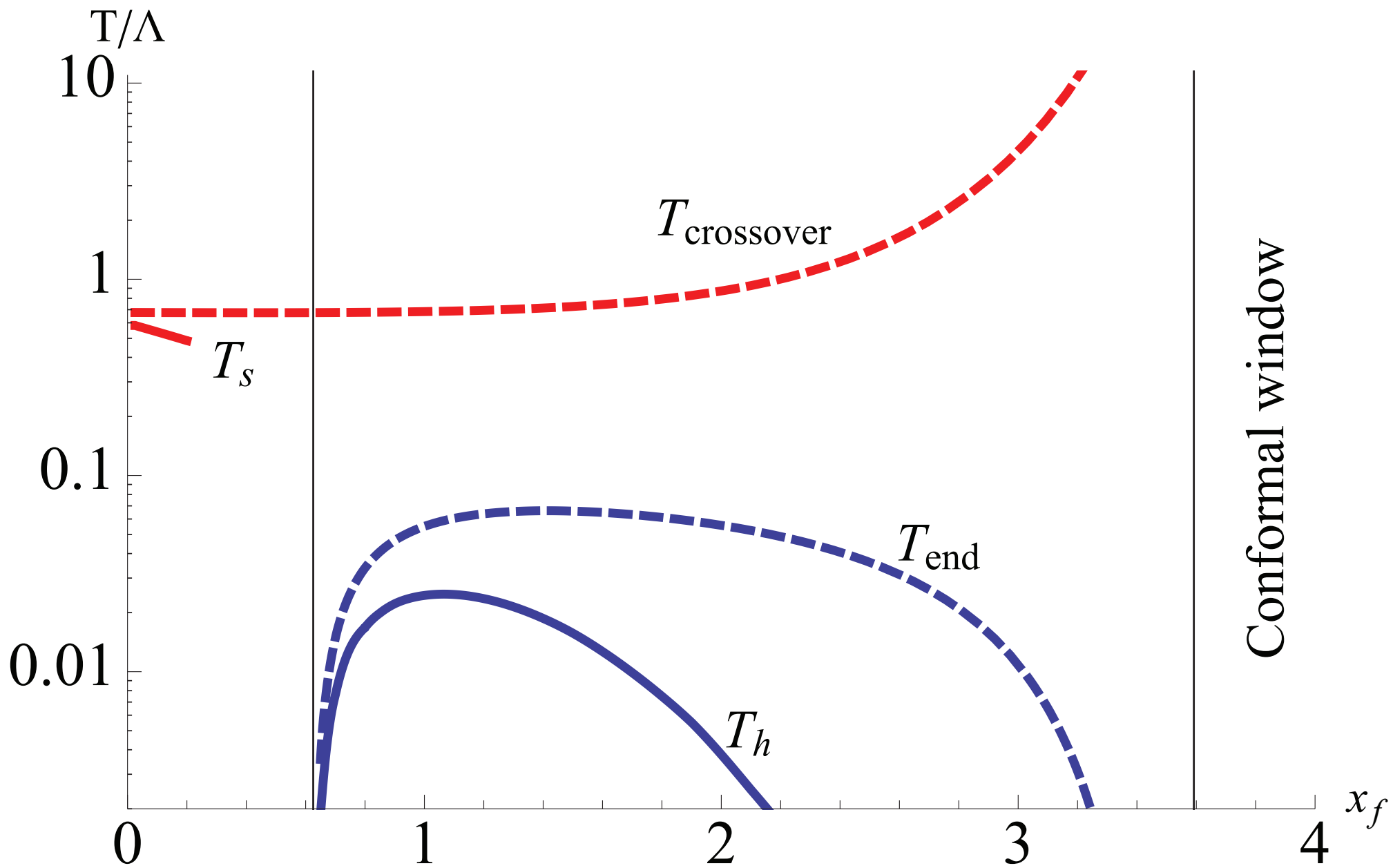


# Finite small mass



# The phase diagrams





# Outlook

There are many directions that need to be explored:

- Further analysis of the meson spectra at  $T = 0$  and their asymptotics at high energy.
- Settle the question of the  $S$  parameter for technicolor applications.
- Study energy loss of quarks in QGP (with full backreaction).
- Study the phase diagram at finite density and applications to CMT.
- Transport and hydrodynamics in the walking region.
- Addition of multi-trace operators of the quark mass operators. These affect the walking region, rearrange the Efimov vacua, and are generated in technicolor setups.
- "Model building": Construction of realistic technicolor models.

Thank you

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# $\mathcal{N}=1$ sQCD

The case of  $\mathcal{N} = 1$   $SU(N_c)$  superQCD with  $N_f$  quark multiplets is known and provides an interesting (although much more complex) example for the non-supersymmetric case.

*Seiberg*

- At  $x = 0$  the theory has confinement, a mass gap and  $N_c$  distinct vacua associated with a spontaneous breaking of the leftover R symmetry  $Z_{N_c}$ .
- At  $0 < x < 1$ , the theory has a runaway ground state.
- At  $x = 1$ , the theory has a quantum moduli space with no singularity. This reflects confinement with  $\chi SB$ .
- At  $x = 1 + \frac{1}{N_c}$ , the moduli space is classical (and singular). The theory confines, but there is no  $\chi SB$ .

- At  $1 + \frac{2}{N_c} < x < \frac{3}{2}$  the theory is in the non-abelian magnetic IR-free phase, with the magnetic gauge group  $SU(N_f - N_c)$  IR free.
- At  $\frac{3}{2} < x < 3$ , the theory flows to a CFT in the IR. (conformal window)

Near  $x = 3$  this is the Banks-Zaks region where the original theory has an IR fixed point at weak coupling. Moving to lower values, the coupling of the IR  $SU(N_c)$  gauge theory grows.

However near  $x = \frac{3}{2}$  the dual magnetic  $SU(N_f - N_c)$  is in its Banks-Zaks region, and provides a weakly coupled description of the IR fixed point theory.

- At  $x > 3$ , the theory is IR free.



# Walking region+Technicolor

- **Technicolor**: EW symmetry breaking is due to a new strong gauge interaction with  $\Lambda_{TC} \sim 1\text{TeV}$ .
- The EW Higgs is scalar TC meson and the vev is due to a condensate of TC fermions  $\langle H \rangle \sim \langle \bar{\psi}_{TC} \psi_{TC} \rangle$  from TC chiral symmetry breaking.
- The Higgs vev is the TC  $f_\pi$  and should be  $\sim 250\text{ GeV}$ .
- The composite Higgs couplings to the SM fermions  $\chi$  are now four-fermi terms,

$$H\bar{\chi}\chi \sim \bar{\psi}_{TC}\psi_{TC} \bar{\chi}\chi$$

and should be generated by a new (ETC) interaction at a higher scale,  $\Lambda_{ETC}$ .

- There are some important problems with this idea:

♠ At the qualitative level: it relies on non-perturbative physics and therefore is not easily controllable/calculable.

♠ There can be important flavor changing processes (that are suppressed in the SM)

♠ To get the correct size for all masses, **the dimension of operators  $\psi_{TC}\psi_{TC}$  must be close to two** (instead of 3 in perturbation theory).

♠ The dimensionless quantity

*Peskin+Takeuchi*

$$S = \frac{d}{dq^2} (\Pi_V(q^2) - \Pi_A(q^2)) \Big|_{q^2=0} \quad , \quad \left( \delta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_\mu q_\nu}{q^2} \right) \Pi_i(q^2) \equiv \langle J_\mu^i(q) J_\nu^i(0) \rangle$$

is  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  in generic theories from the spectral decomposition+sum rules, but EW data imply that it should be  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$ .

♠ It has been argued by many scientists that a way out of the above is a TC theory that is near conformal ("walking") in the TC regime,

*Holdom*

♠ This theory is expected to have a light scalar, "the dilaton", namely the singlet scalar meson ( $\sigma$ -meson), that is important for making the  $S$  parameter small.

*Yamawaki*

♠ Despite a lot of work in the last 15 years, whether such a theory exists, and whether it has the required properties has remained elusive till now, because lattice techniques are hard to apply.

♠ It has been argued recently that strongly coupled ty models based on the hard-wall or soft wall holographic models have  $S \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$

*Rubakov+Levkov+Troitsky+Zenkevich*

## Below the BF bound

- Correlation of the violation of BF bound and the conformal phase transition

- For  $\Delta_{\text{IR}}(4 - \Delta_{\text{IR}}) < 4$

$$T(r) \sim m_q r^{4 - \Delta_{\text{IR}}} + \sigma r^{\Delta_{\text{IR}}}$$

- For  $\Delta_{\text{IR}}(4 - \Delta_{\text{IR}}) > 4$

$$T(r) \sim C r^2 \sin[(\text{Im} \Delta_{\text{IR}}) \log r + \phi]$$

Two possibilities:

- $x > x_c$ : BF bound satisfied at the fixed point  $\Rightarrow$  only trivial massless solution ( $T \equiv 0$ , ChS intact, fixed point hit)
- $x < x_c$ : BF bound violated at the fixed point  $\Rightarrow$  a nontrivial massless solution exists, which drives the system away from the fixed point.

Conclusion: *phase transition at  $x = x_c$*

## Matching to QCD

- $V_g(\lambda)$  is fixed from glue.
- The UV is adjusted to perturbative QCD.

$$V_g \sim V_0 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda) \quad , \quad V_0 \sim W_0 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda)$$

$$V_0 - xW_0 = \frac{12}{\ell_{UV}^2}$$

- $W_0$  is one of the most important parameters of the models.

- There are two classes of tachyon potentials:

- ♠ Type I:  $T \sim e^{Cr}$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

- ♠ Type II  $T \sim \sqrt{r}$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

- In all cases the "regular" IR solution depends on a single undetermined constant (instead on two).

- The phase structure is essentially independent of IR choices.

# Varying the model

“prediction” for  $x_c$

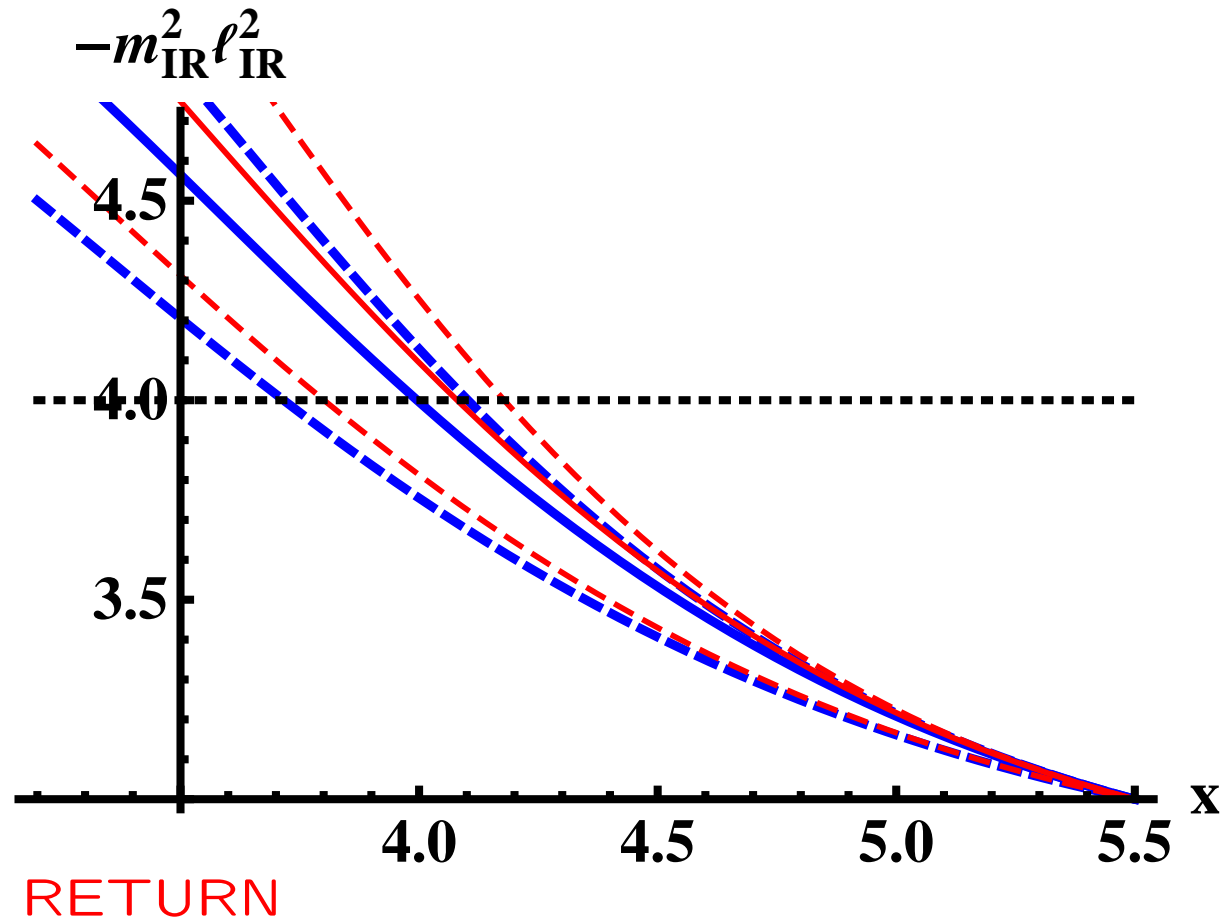
After fixing UV coefficients from QCD, there is still freedom in choosing the leading coefficient of  $V_0$  at  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  and the IR asymptotics of the potentials

Thick blue  $\rightarrow V_I$

Thin red  $\rightarrow V_{II}$

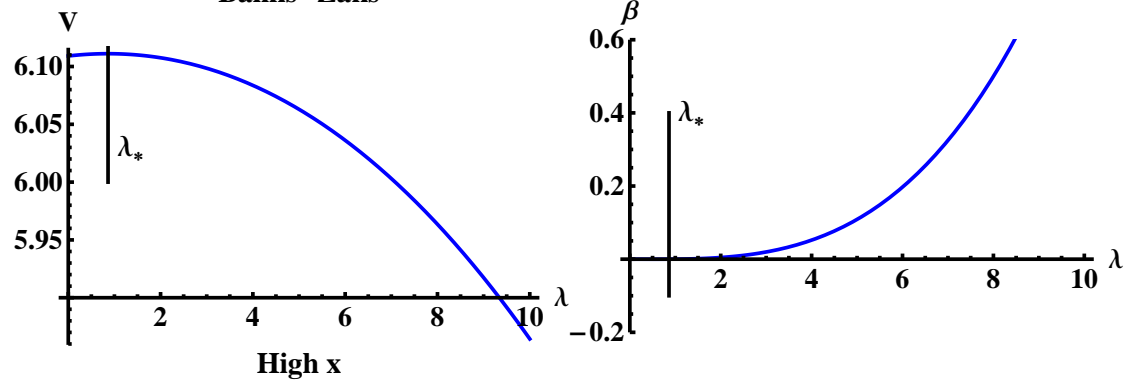
Resulting variation of the edge of conformal window

$$3.7 \lesssim x_c \lesssim 4.2$$

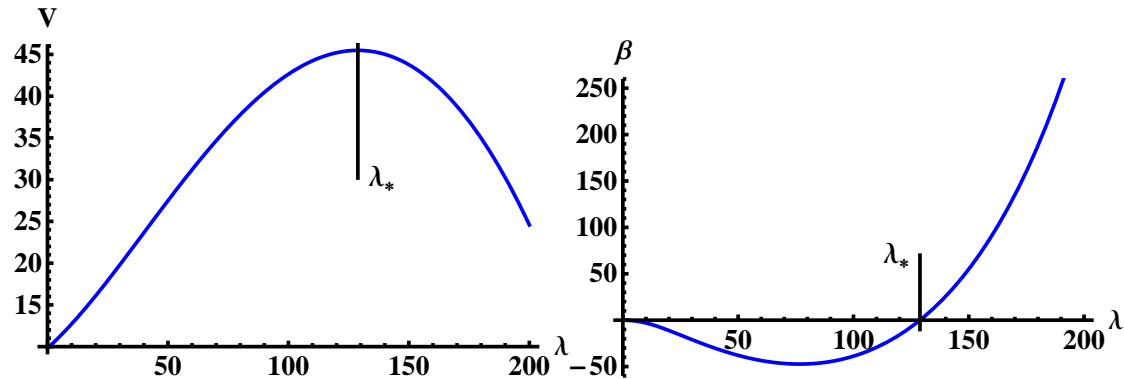
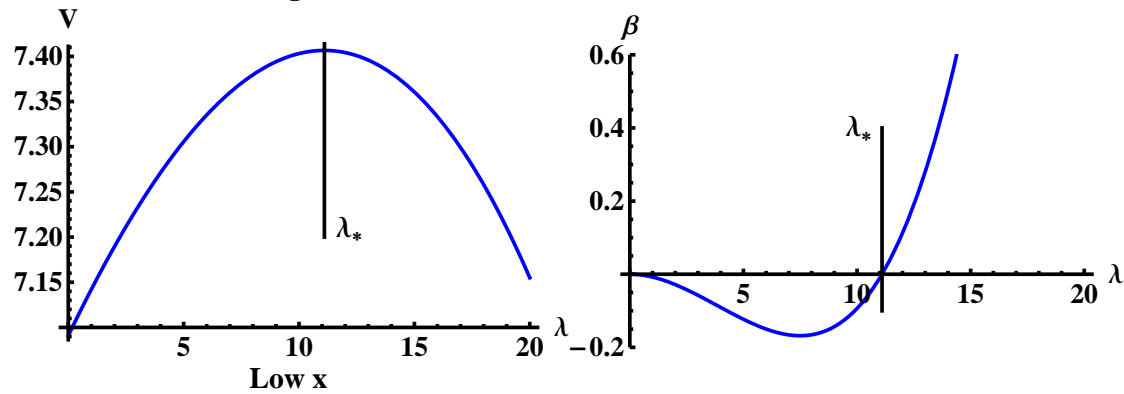


# The IR fixed point

Banks-Zaks



$$V_{\text{eff}}(\lambda) = V_g(\lambda) - xV_0(\lambda)$$



Two possibilities: (a) The maximum exists for all  $x$ . (b) The maximum exists for  $x > x_*$ .



# Matching to QCD: UV

- As  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  we can match:
  - ♠  $V_g(\lambda)$  with (two-loop) Yang-Mills  $\beta$ -function.
  - ♠  $V_g(\lambda) - xV_0(\lambda)$  with QCD  $\beta$ -function.
  - ♠  $a(\lambda)/h(\lambda)$  with anomalous dimension of the quark mass/chiral condensate
- The matching allows to mark the BZ point, that we normalize at  $x = \frac{11}{2}$ .
- After the matching above we are left with a single undetermined parameter in the UV:

$$V_g \sim V_0 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda) \quad , \quad V_0 \sim W_0 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda)$$

$$V_0 - xW_0 = \frac{12}{\ell_{UV}^2}$$

## Matching to QCD: IR

- In the IR, the tachyon has to diverge  $\Rightarrow$  the tachyon action  $\propto e^{-T^2}$  becomes small
- ♠  $V_g(\lambda) \simeq \lambda^{\frac{4}{3}}\sqrt{\lambda}$  chosen as for Yang-Mills, so that a “good” IR singularity exists etc.
- ♠  $V_0(\lambda)$ ,  $a(\lambda)$ , and  $h(\lambda)$  chosen to produce tachyon divergence: there are several possibilities.
- ♠ The phase structure is essentially independent of IR choices.

Choice I, for which in the IR

$$T(r) \sim T_0 \exp \left[ \frac{81 \cdot 3^{5/6} (115 - 16x)^{4/3} (11 - x) r}{812944 \cdot 2^{1/6} R} \right], \quad r \rightarrow \infty$$

$R$  is the IR scale of the solution.  $T_0$  is the control parameter of the UV mass.

Choice II: for which in the IR

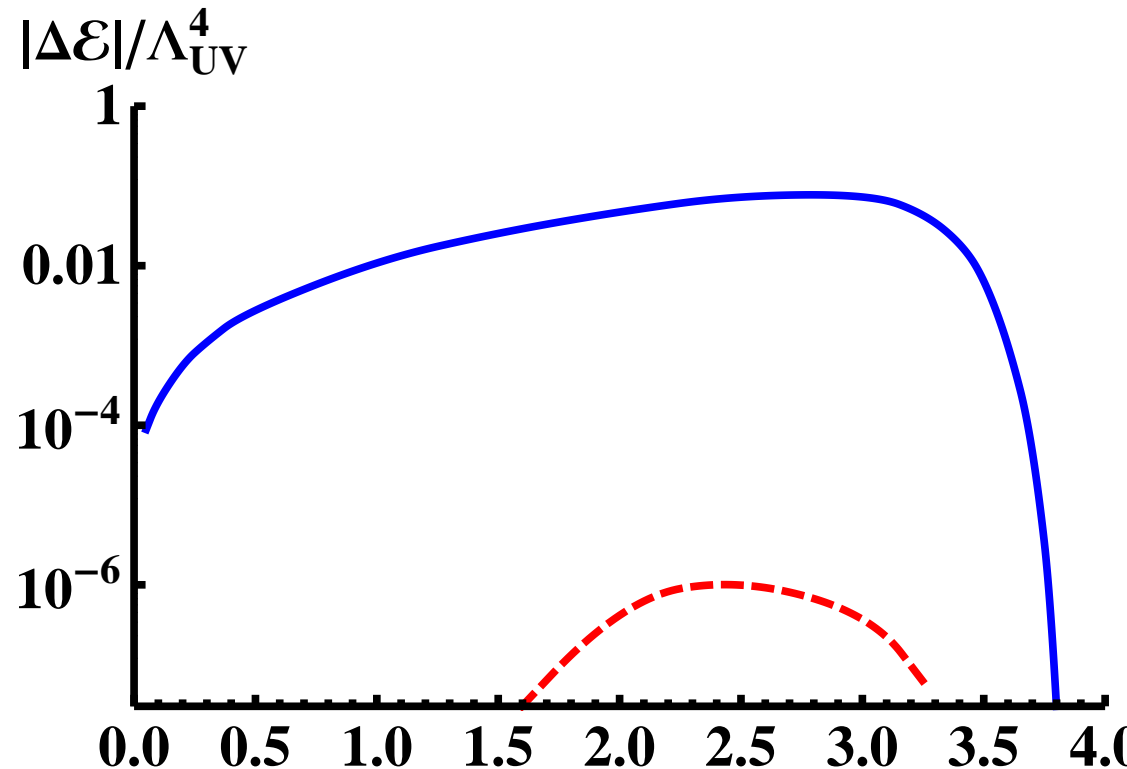
$$T(r) \sim \frac{27 \cdot 2^{3/4} \cdot 3^{1/4}}{\sqrt{4619}} \sqrt{\frac{r - r_1}{R}}, \quad r \rightarrow \infty$$

$R$  is the IR scale of the solution.  $r_1$  is the control parameter of the UV mass.

# The free energy

The free energy difference between the ChS and ChSB  $m_q = 0$  solutions

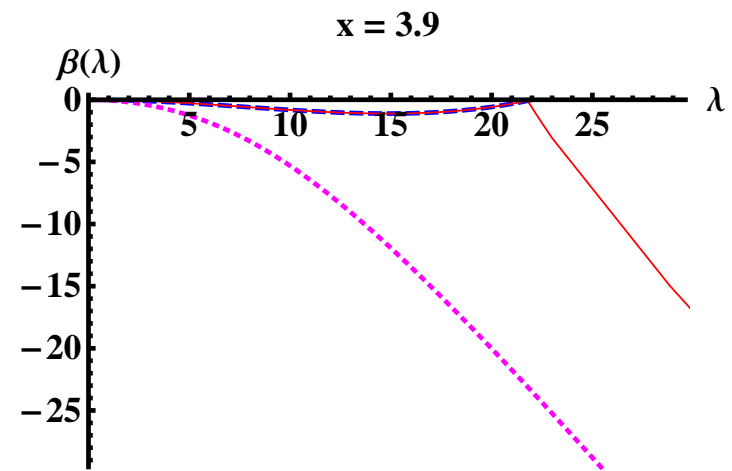
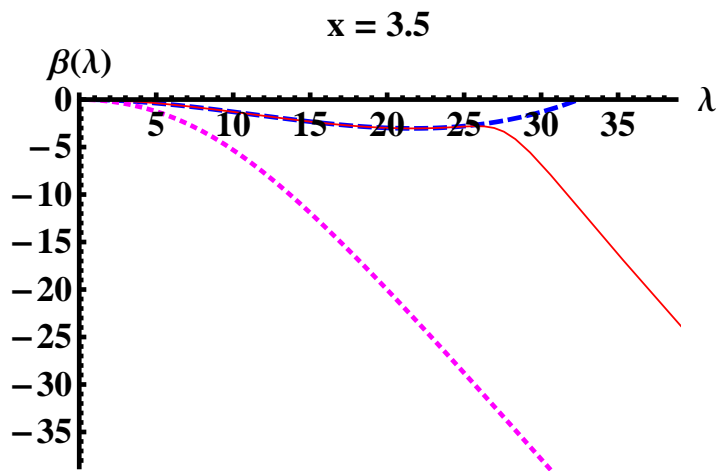
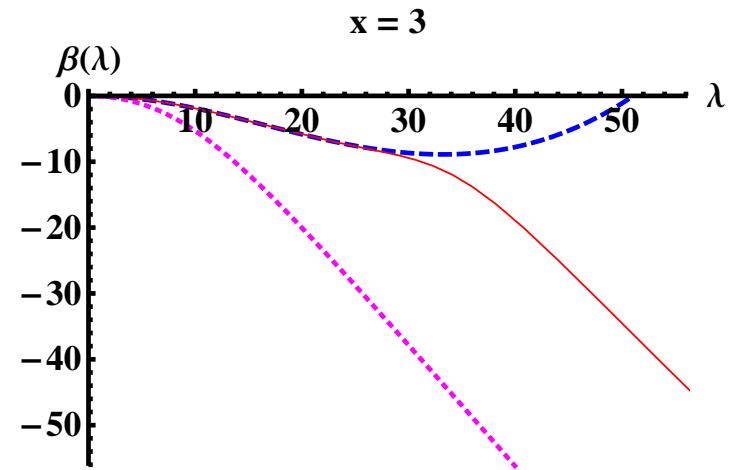
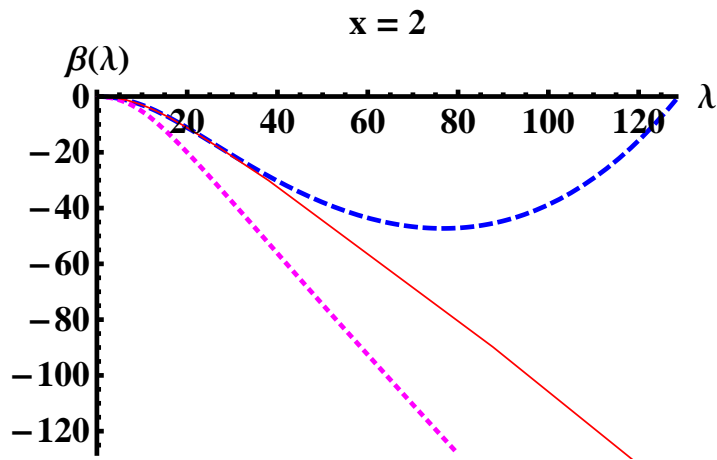
Chiral symmetry breaking solution favored whenever it exists ( $x < x_c$ )



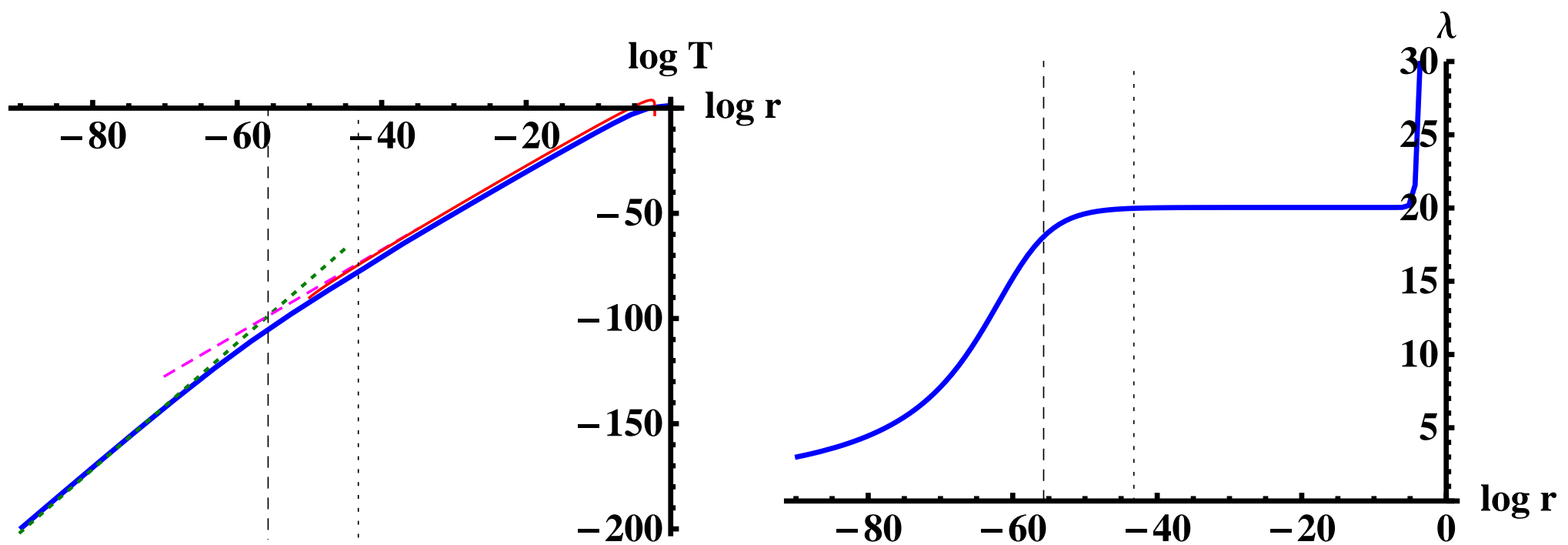
- The Efimov minima have free energies  $\Delta E_n$  with

$$\Delta E_0 > \Delta E_1 > \Delta E_2 > \dots$$

# Walking



The  $\beta$ -functions for vanishing quark mass for various values of  $x$ . The red solid, blue dashed, and magenta dotted curves are the  $\beta$ -functions corresponding to the full numerical solution ( $d\lambda/dA$ ) along the RG flow, the potential  $V_{\text{eff}} = V_g - xV_{f0}$ , and the potential  $V_g$ , respectively.



The tachyon  $\log T$  (left) and the coupling  $\lambda$  (right) as functions of  $\log r$  for an extreme walking background with  $x = 3.992$ . The thin lines on the left hand plot are the approximations used to derive the BKT scaling.

# Holographic $\beta$ -functions

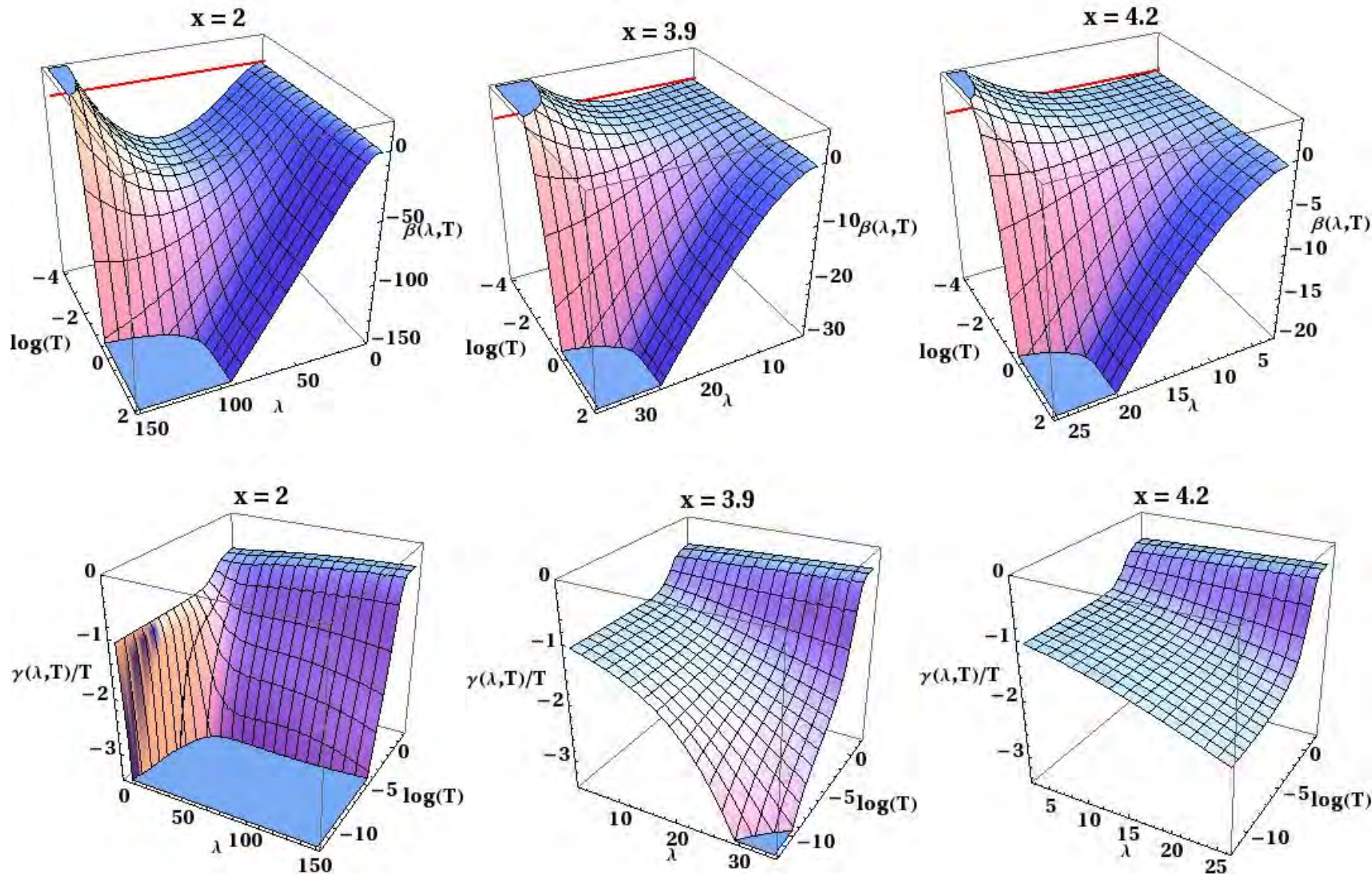
The second order equations for the system of two scalars plus metric can be written as first order equations for the  $\beta$ -functions

*Gursoy+Kiritsis+Nitti*

$$\frac{d\lambda}{dA} = \beta(\lambda, T) \quad , \quad \frac{dT}{dA} = \gamma(\lambda, T)$$

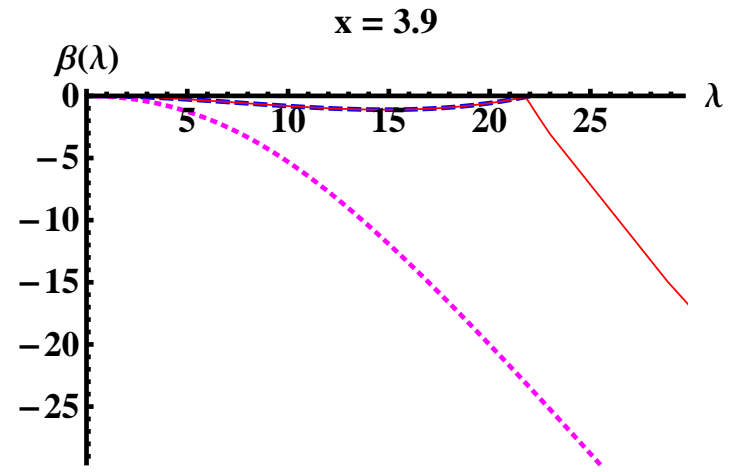
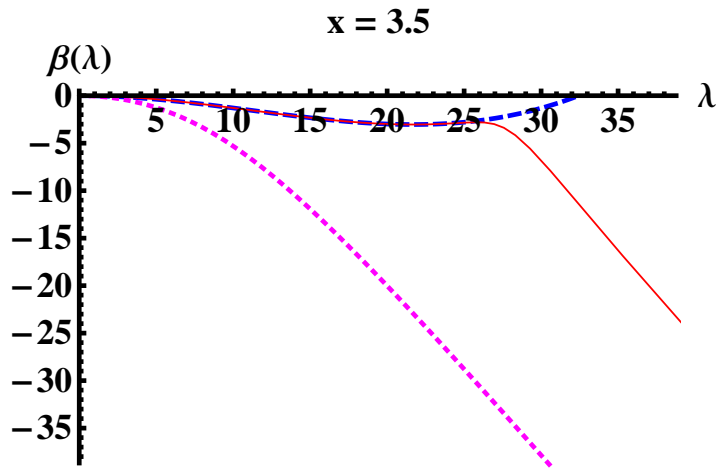
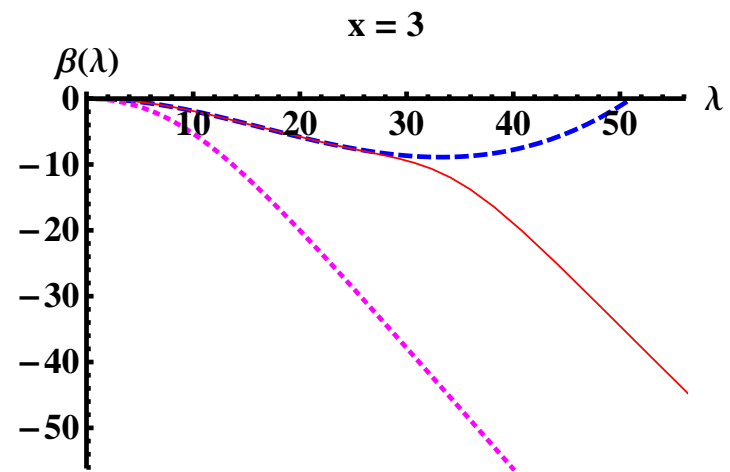
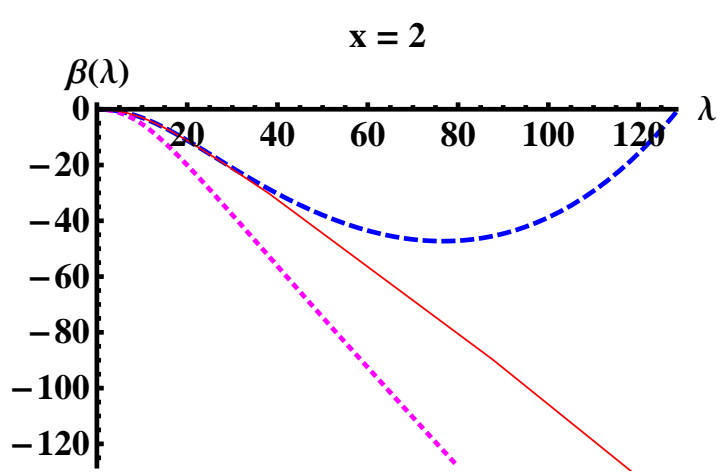
The equations of motion boil down to two partial non-linear differential equations for  $\beta, \gamma$ .

Such equations have also branches as for DBI and non-linear scalar actions the relation of  $e^{-A}A'$  with the potentials is a polynomial equation of degree higher than two.



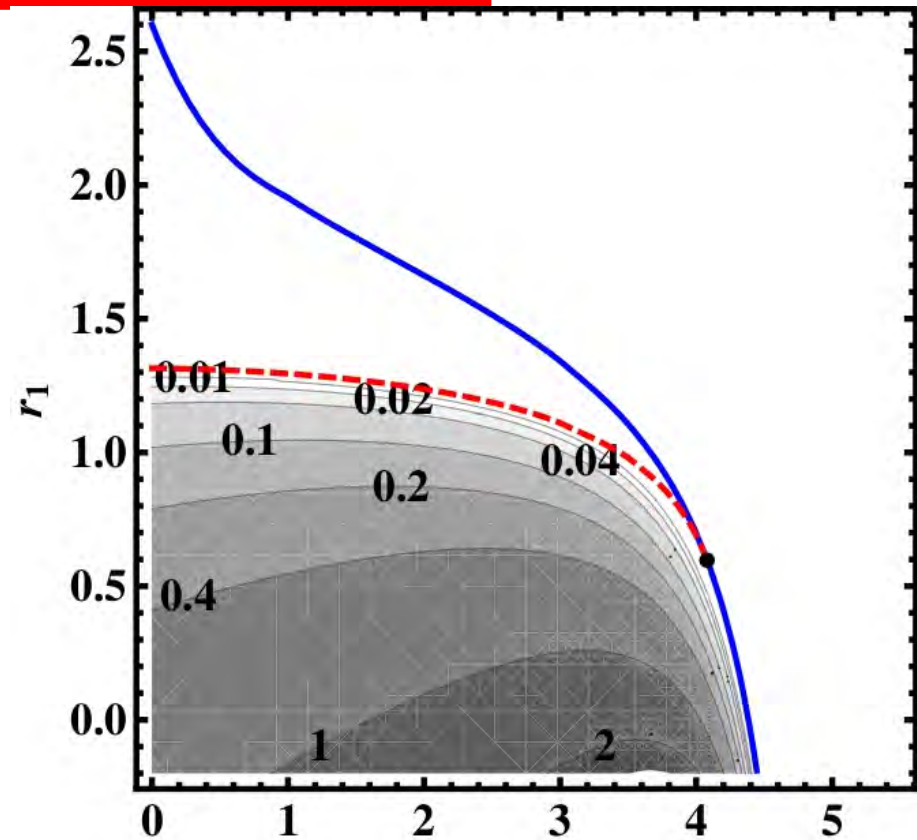
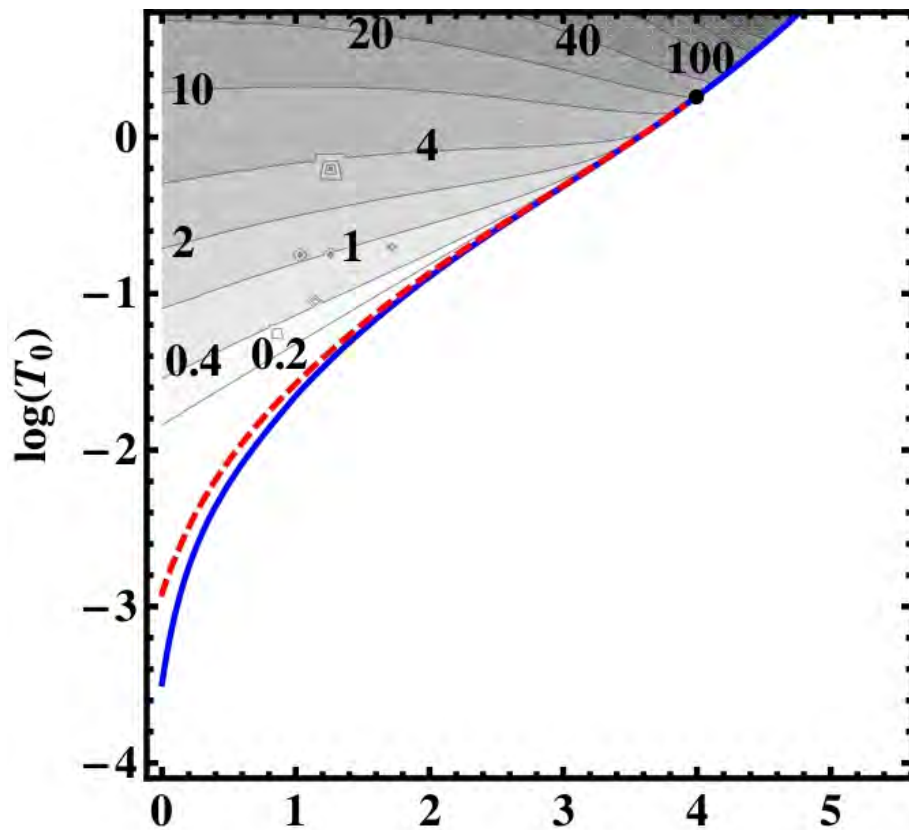
The red lines are added on the top row at  $\beta = 0$  in order to show the location of the fixed point.





The  $\beta$ -functions for vanishing quark mass for various values of  $x$ . The red solid, blue dashed, and magenta dotted curves are the  $\beta$ -functions corresponding to the full numerical solution ( $d\lambda/dA$ ) along the RG flow, the potential  $V_{\text{eff}} = V_g - xV_{f0}$ , and the potential  $V_g$ , respectively.

# UV mass vs $T_0$ and $r_1$



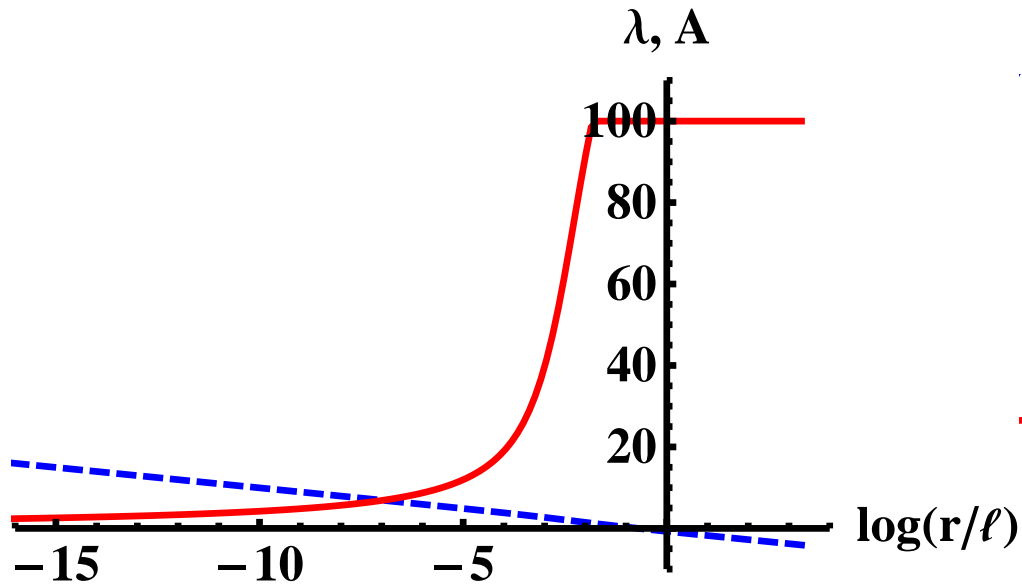
The UV behavior of the background solutions with good IR singularity for the scenario I (left) and parameter  $T_0$  and scenario II (right) and parameter  $r_1$ .

The thick blue curve represents a change in the UV behavior, the red dashed curve has zero quark mass, and the contours give the quark mass. The black dot where the zero mass curve terminates lies at the critical value  $x = x_c$ . For scenario I (II) we have  $x_c \simeq 3.9959$  ( $x_c \simeq 4.0797$ ).

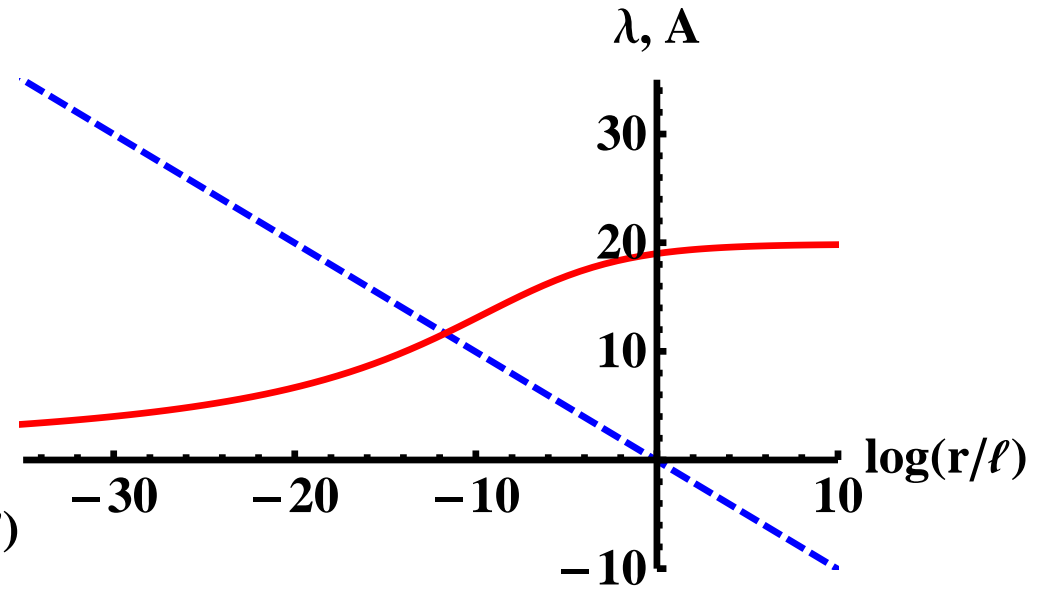
# Numerical solutions: $T = 0$

$T \equiv 0$  backgrounds (color codes  $\lambda$ ,  $A$ )

$x = 2$

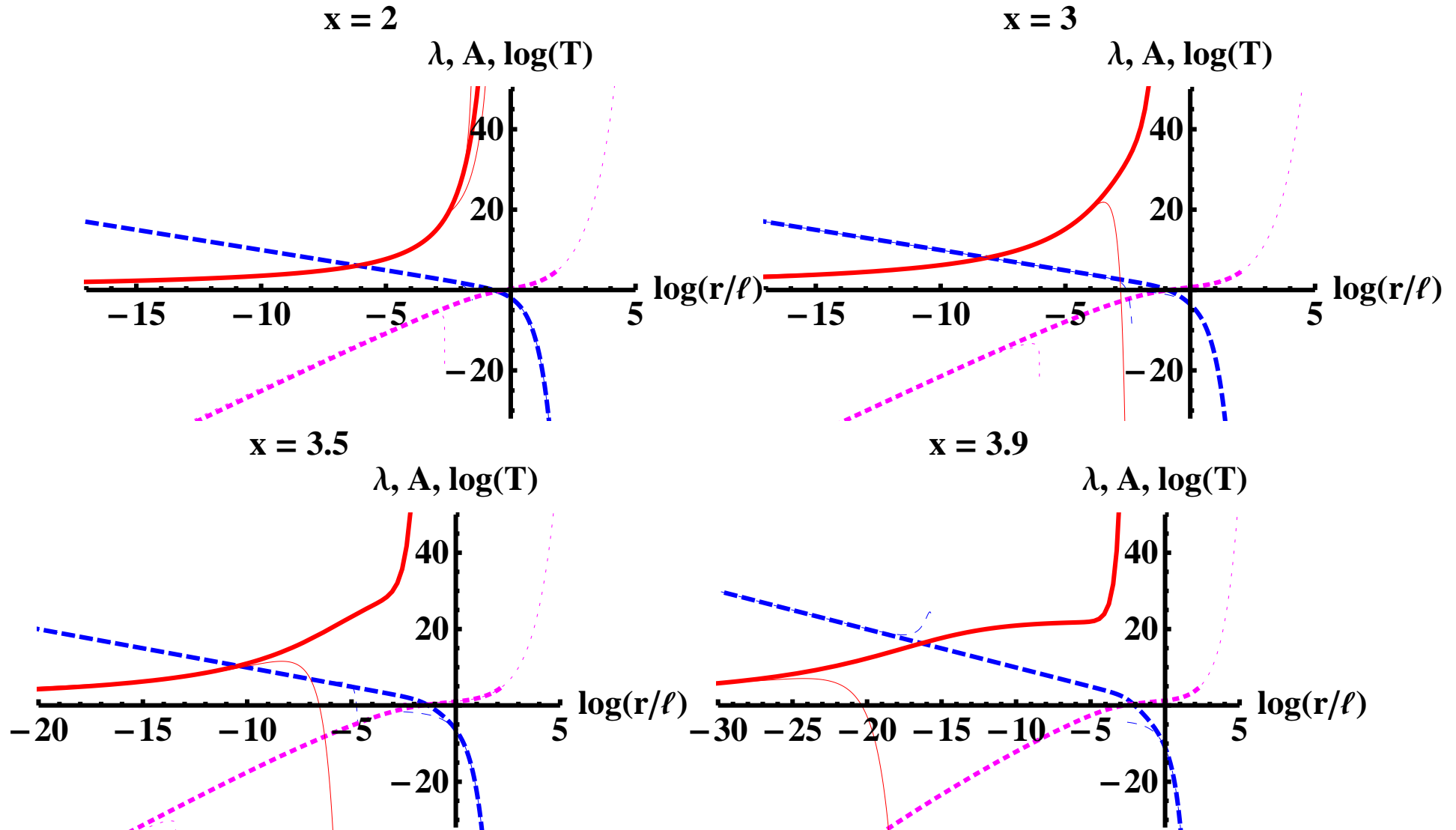


$x = 4$

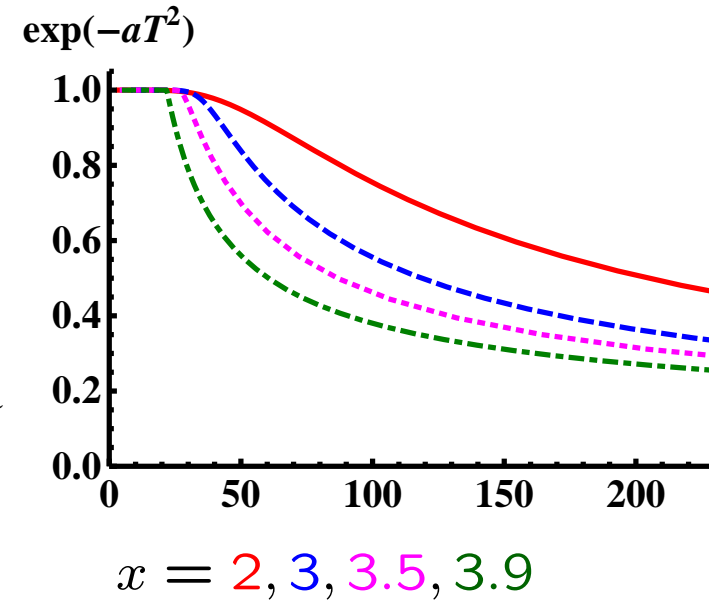
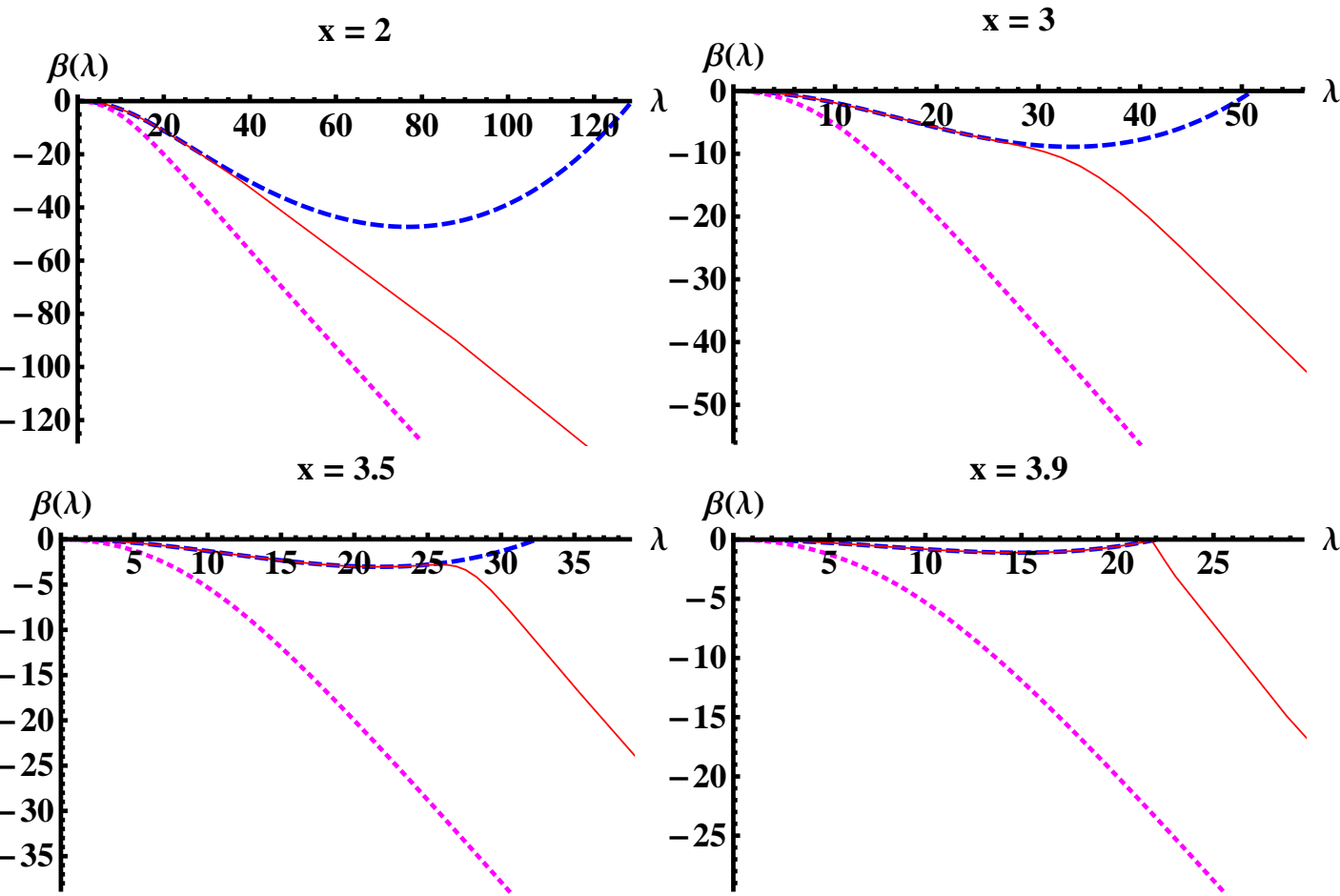


# Numerical solutions: Massless with $x < x_c$

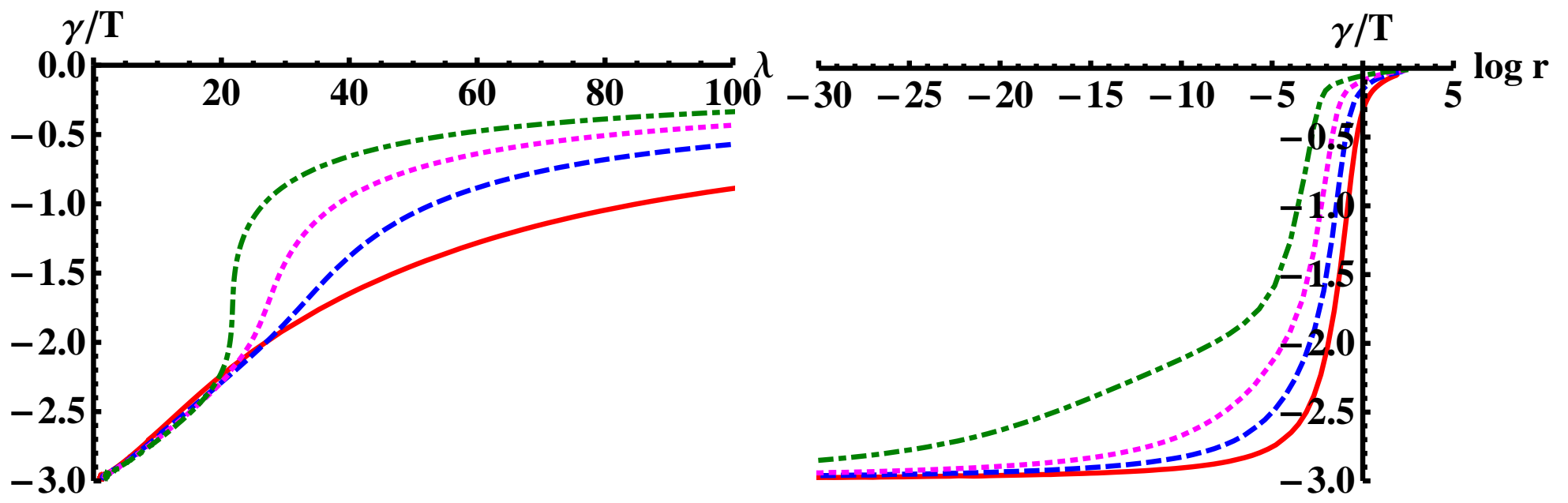
Massless backgrounds with  $x < x_c \simeq 3.9959$  ( $\lambda$ ,  $A$ ,  $T$ )



Massless backgrounds: beta functions  $\beta = \frac{d\lambda}{dA}$ , ( $x_c \simeq 3.9959$ )



Massless backgrounds: gamma functions  $\frac{\gamma}{T} = \frac{d \log T}{dA}$



$$x = 2, 3, 3.5, 3.9$$

## Matching to QCD: IR

- In the IR, the tachyon has to diverge  $\Rightarrow$  the tachyon action  $\propto e^{-T^2}$  becomes small
- ♠  $V_g(\lambda) \simeq \lambda^{\frac{4}{3}}\sqrt{\lambda}$  chosen as for Yang-Mills, so that a “good” IR singularity exists etc.
- ♠  $V_0(\lambda)$ ,  $a(\lambda)$ , and  $h(\lambda)$  chosen to produce tachyon divergence: there are several possibilities.
- ♠ The phase structure is essentially independent of IR choices.

Choice I:

$$V_g(\lambda) = 12 + \frac{44}{9\pi^2}\lambda + \frac{4619}{3888\pi^4} \frac{\lambda^2}{(1 + \lambda/(8\pi^2))^{2/3}} \sqrt{1 + \log(1 + \lambda/(8\pi^2))}$$

$$V_f(\lambda, T) = V_0(\lambda) e^{-a(\lambda)T^2}$$

$$V_0(\lambda) = \frac{12}{11} + \frac{4(33 - 2x)}{99\pi^2}\lambda + \frac{23473 - 2726x + 92x^2}{42768\pi^4}\lambda^2$$

$$a(\lambda) = \frac{3}{22}(11 - x)$$

$$h(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{115 - 16x}{288\pi^2}\lambda\right)^{4/3}}$$

For which in the IR

$$T(r) \sim T_0 \exp \left[ \frac{81}{812944} \frac{3^{5/6} (115 - 16x)^{4/3} (11 - x)}{2^{1/6}} \frac{r}{R} \right], \quad r \rightarrow \infty$$

$R$  is the IR scale of the solution.  $T_0$  is the control parameter of the UV mass.



Choice II:

$$a(\lambda) = \frac{3}{22}(11 - x) \frac{1 + \frac{115-16x}{216\pi^2}\lambda + \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda_0^2}}{(1 + \lambda/\lambda_0)^{4/3}}$$

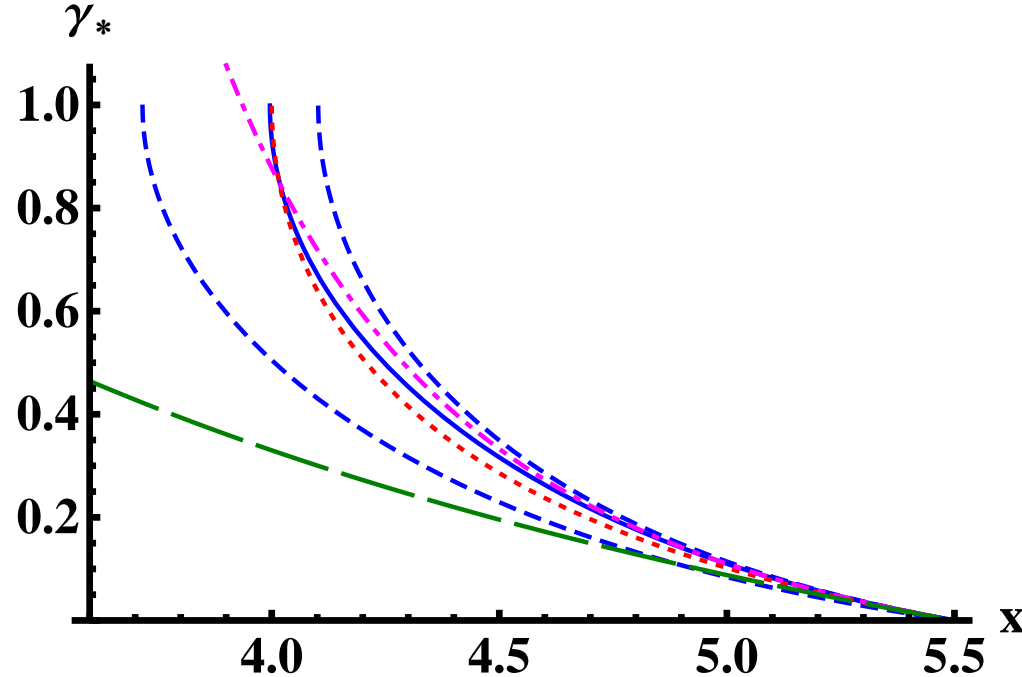
$$h(\lambda) = \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda/\lambda_0)^{4/3}}$$

for which in the IR

$$T(r) \sim \frac{27 \cdot 2^{3/4} 3^{1/4}}{\sqrt{4619}} \sqrt{\frac{r - r_1}{R}}, \quad r \rightarrow \infty$$

$R$  is the IR scale of the solution.  $r_1$  is the control parameter of the UV mass.

# Comparison to previous “guesses”



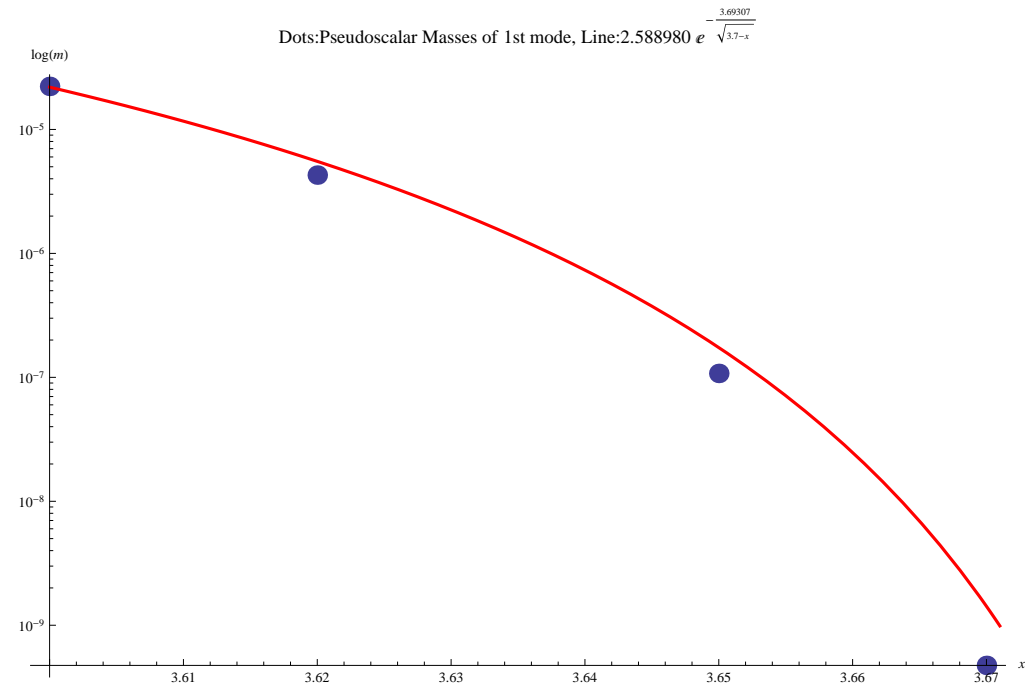
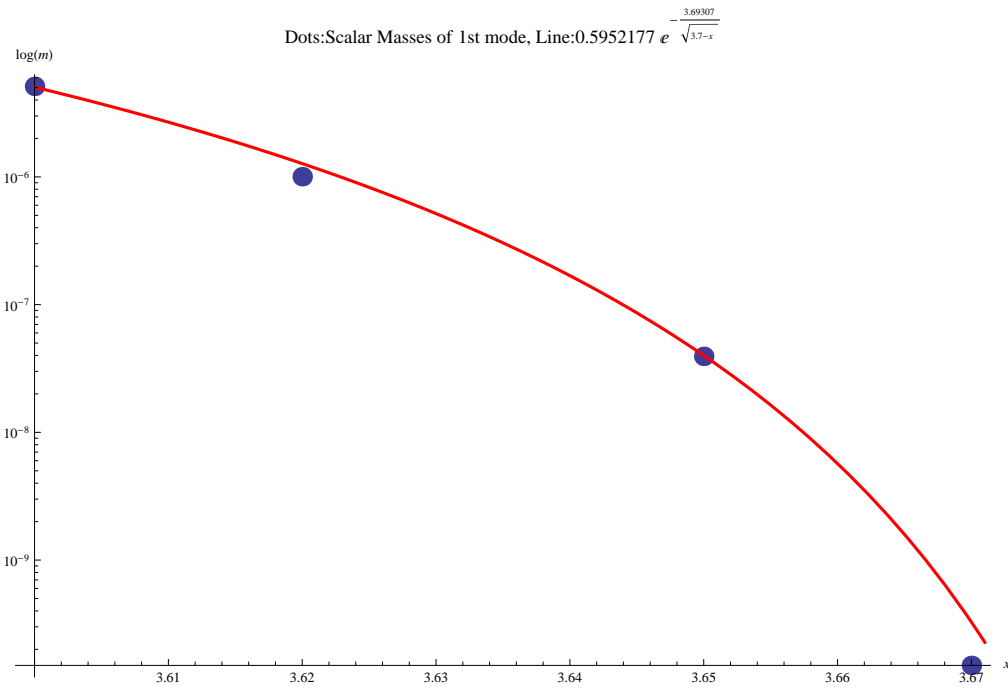
The anomalous dimension of the quark mass at the IR fixed point as a function of  $x$  within the conformal window in various approaches.

The solid blue curve is our result for the potential I.

The dashed blue lines show the maximal change as  $W_0$  is varied from 0 (upper curve) to  $24/11$  (lower curve).

The dotted red curve is the result from a Dyson-Schwinger analysis, the dot-dashed magenta curve is the prediction of two-loop perturbative QCD, and the long-dashed green curve is based on an all-orders  $\beta$ -function.

# Miransky scaling for the masses



The plots depict the scalar and pseudoscalar masses of the first mode close to  $x_c$  fit to the Miransky exponential factor.

RETURN

# The holographic models: flavor

- Fundamental quarks arise from  $D4-\bar{D}4$  branes in 5-dimensions.

$$D4 - D4 \text{ strings} \rightarrow A_\mu^L \leftrightarrow J_\mu^L = \bar{\psi}_L \sigma_\mu \psi_L$$

$$\bar{D}4 - \bar{D}4 \text{ strings} \rightarrow A_\mu^R \leftrightarrow J_\mu^R = \bar{\psi}_R \bar{\sigma}_\mu \psi_R$$

$$D4 - \bar{D}4 \text{ strings} \rightarrow T \leftrightarrow \bar{\psi}_L \psi_R$$

- For the vacuum structure only the tachyon is relevant.
- An action for the tachyon motivated by the Sen action has been advocated as the proper dynamics of the chiral condensate, giving in general all the expected features of  $\chi SB$ .

*Casero+Kiritsis+Paredes*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{TDBI}} = -N_f N_c M^3 \int d^5x V_f(T) e^{-\phi} \sqrt{-\det(g_{ab} + \partial_a T \partial_b T)}$$

- It has been tested in a 6d asymptotically-AdS confining background (with constant dilaton) due to Kuperstein+Sonneschein.

*Iatrakis+Kiritsis+Paredes*

It was shown to have the following properties:

- Confining asymptotics of the geometry trigger chiral symmetry breaking.
- A Gell-Mann-Oakes-Renner relation is generically satisfied.
- The Sen DBI tachyon action with  $V \sim e^{-T^2}$  asymptotics induces linear Regge trajectories for mesons.
- The Wess-Zumino (WZ) terms of the tachyon action, computed in string theory, produce the appropriate flavor anomalies, include the axial  $U(1)$  anomaly and  $\eta'$ -mixing, and implement a holographic version of the Coleman-Witten theorem.
- The dynamics determines the chiral condensate uniquely a function of the bare quark mass.
- The mass of the  $\rho$ -meson grows with increasing quark mass.
- By adjusting the same parameters as in QCD ( $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, m_{ud}$ ) a good fit can be obtained of the light meson masses.

# The chiral vacuum structure

- We take the potential to be the flat space one

$$V = V_0 e^{-T^2}$$

with a maximum at  $T = 0$  and a minimum at  $T = \infty$ .

- Near the boundary  $z = 0$ , the solution can be expanded in terms of two integration constants as:

$$\tau = c_1 z + \frac{\pi}{6} c_1^3 z^3 \log z + c_3 z^3 + \mathcal{O}(z^5)$$

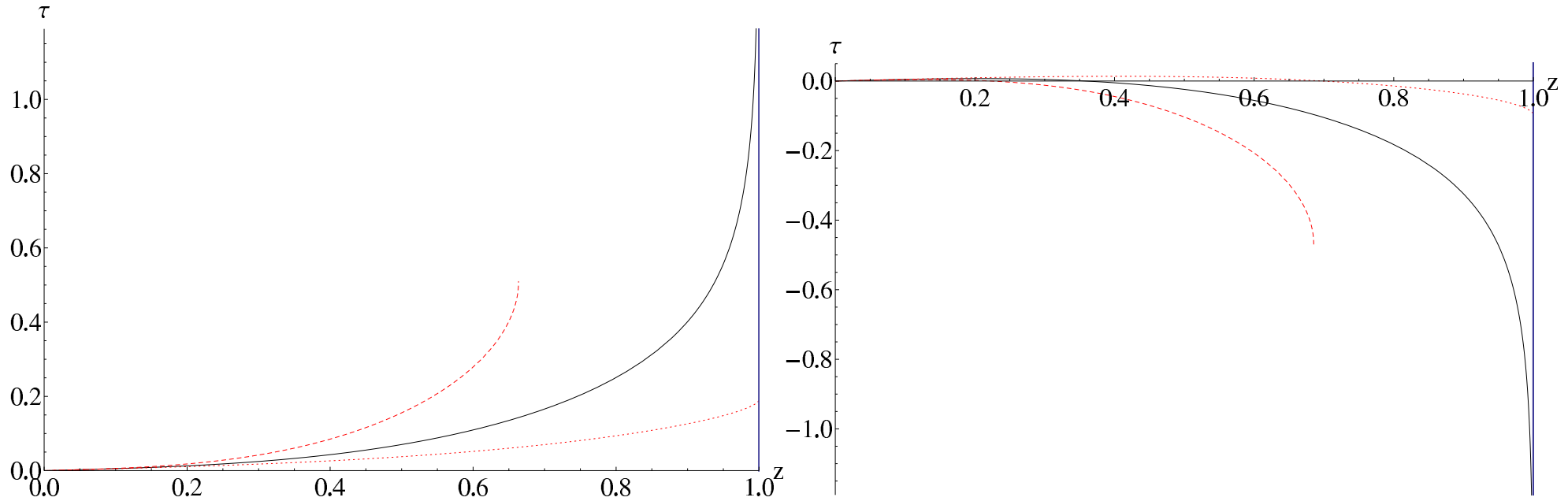
- $c_1, c_3$  are related to the quark mass and condensate.
- At the tip of the cigar, the generic behavior of solutions is

$$\tau \sim \text{constant}_1 + \text{constant}_2 \sqrt{z - z_\Lambda}$$

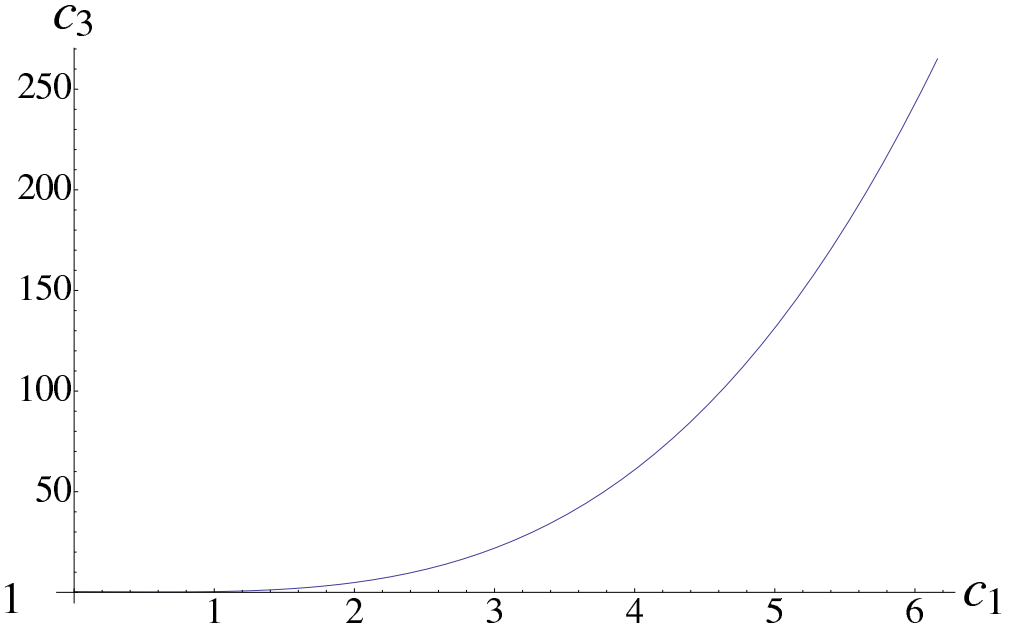
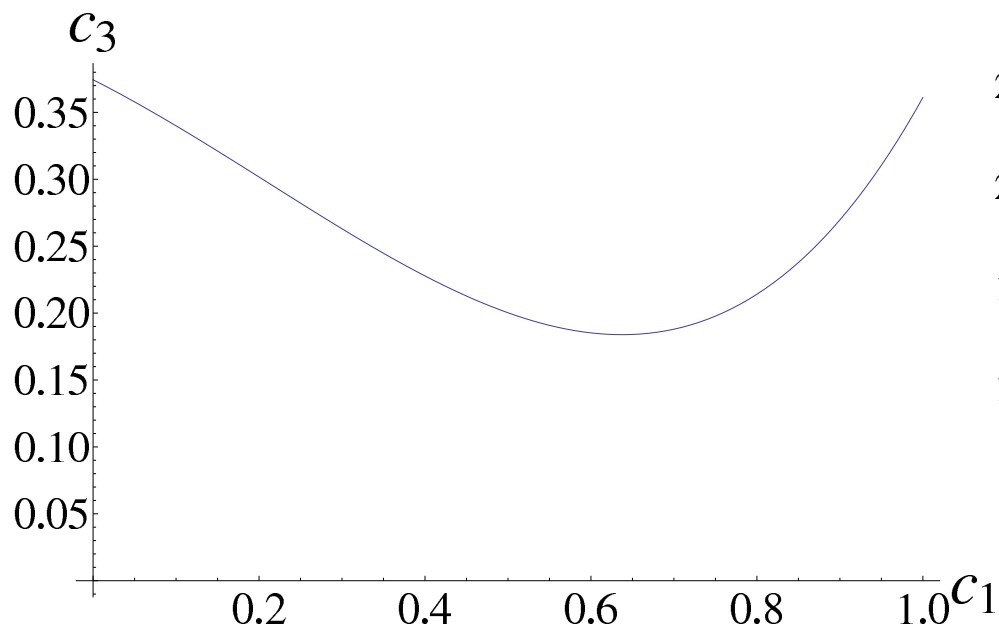
- With special tuned condition there is a one-parameter family of diverging solutions in the IR depending on a single parameter:

$$\tau = \frac{C}{(z_\Lambda - z)^{\frac{3}{20}}} - \frac{13}{6\pi C} (z_\Lambda - z)^{\frac{3}{20}} + \dots$$

- This is the correct “regularity condition” in the IR as  $\tau$  is allowed to diverge only at the tip.



All the graphs are plotted using  $z_\Lambda = 1$ ,  $\mu^2 = \pi$  and  $c_1 = 0.05$ . The tip of the cigar is at  $z = z_\Lambda = 1$ . On the left, the solid black line represents a solution with  $c_3 \approx 0.3579$  for which  $\tau$  diverges at  $z_\Lambda$ . The red dashed line has a too large  $c_3$  ( $c_3 = 1$ ) - such that there is a singularity at  $z = z_s$  where  $\partial_z \tau$  diverges while  $\tau$  stays finite. This is unacceptable since the solution stops at  $z = z_s$  where the energy density of the flavor branes diverges. The red dotted line corresponds to  $c_3 = 0.1$ ; this kind of solution is discarded because the tachyon stays finite everywhere. The plot in the right is done with the same conventions but with negative values of  $c_3 = -0.1, -0.3893, -1$ . For  $c_3 \approx -0.3893$  there is a solution of the differential equation such that  $\tau$  diverges to  $-\infty$ . This solution is unstable.



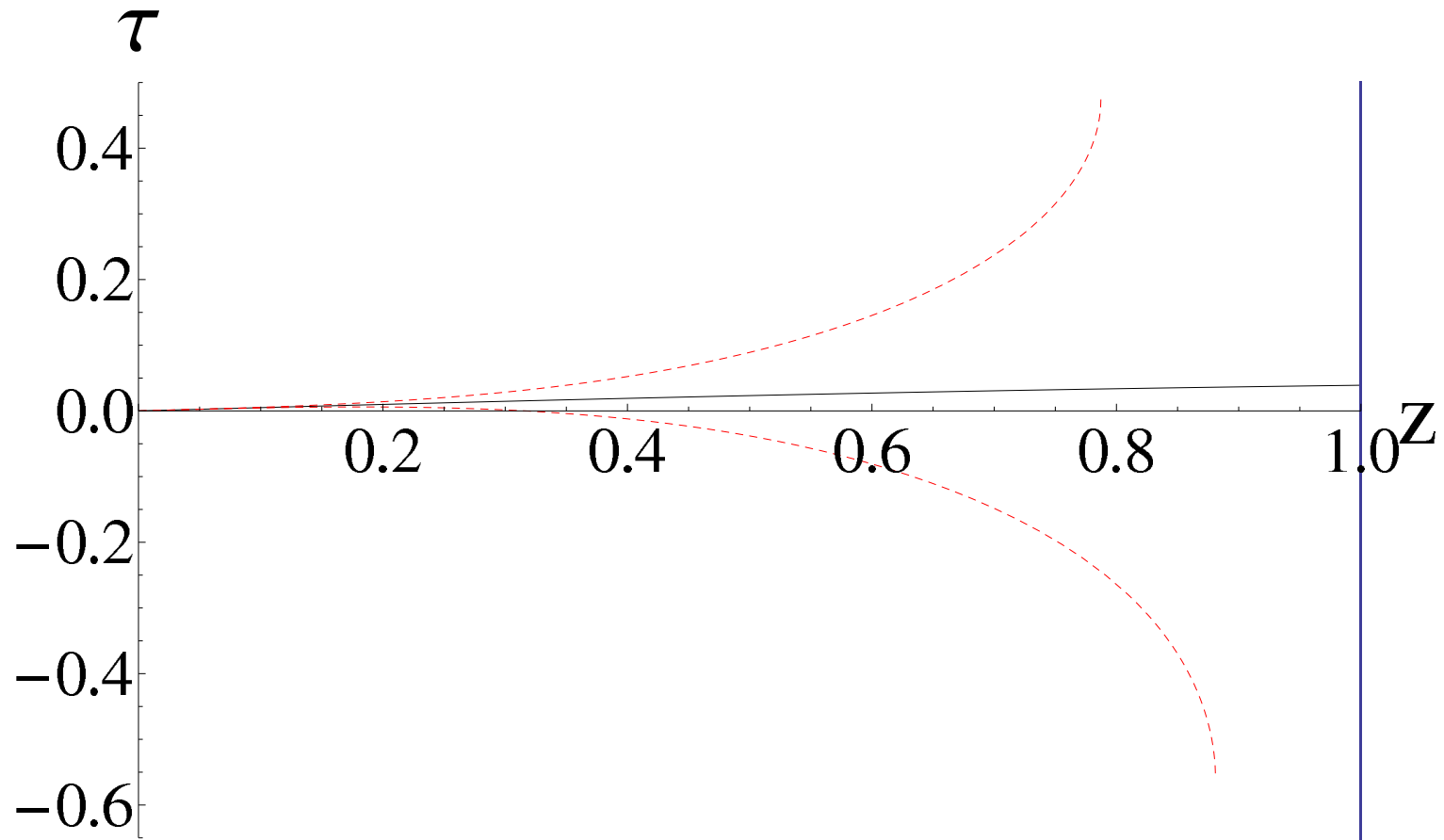
- Chiral symmetry breaking is manifest.



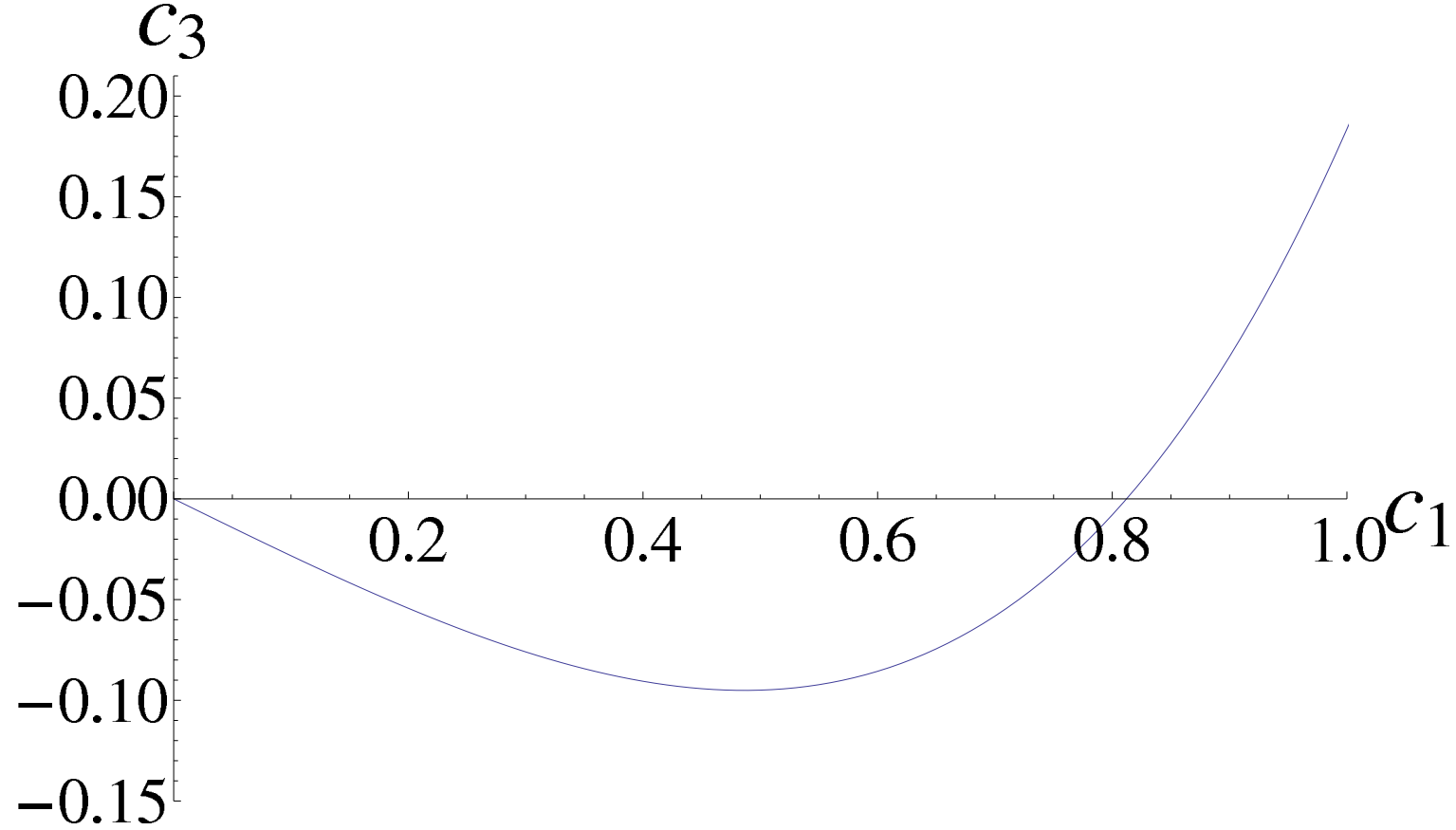
## Chiral restoration at deconfinement

- In the deconfined phase, the bulk metric is that of a bh.
- The branes now are allowed to enter the horizon without recombining.
- To avoid intermediate singularities of the solution the boundary conditions must be tuned so that tachyon is finite at the horizon.
- Near the horizon the correct solution behaves as a one-parameter family

$$\tau = c_T - \frac{3c_T}{5z_T}(z_T - z) - \frac{9c_T}{200z_T}(8 + \mu^2 c_T^2)(z_T - z)^2 + \dots$$



Plots corresponding to the deconfined phase. We have taken  $c_1 = 0.05$ . The solid line displays the physical solution  $c_3 = -0.0143$  whereas the dashed lines ( $c_3 = -0.5$  and  $c_3 = 0.5$ ) are unphysical and end with a behavior of the type  $\tau = k_1 - k_2\sqrt{z_s - z}$ .



These plots give the values of  $c_3$  determined numerically by demanding the correct IR behavior of the solution, as a function of  $c_1$ .

# Jump of the condensate at the phase transition

- From holographic renormalization we obtain

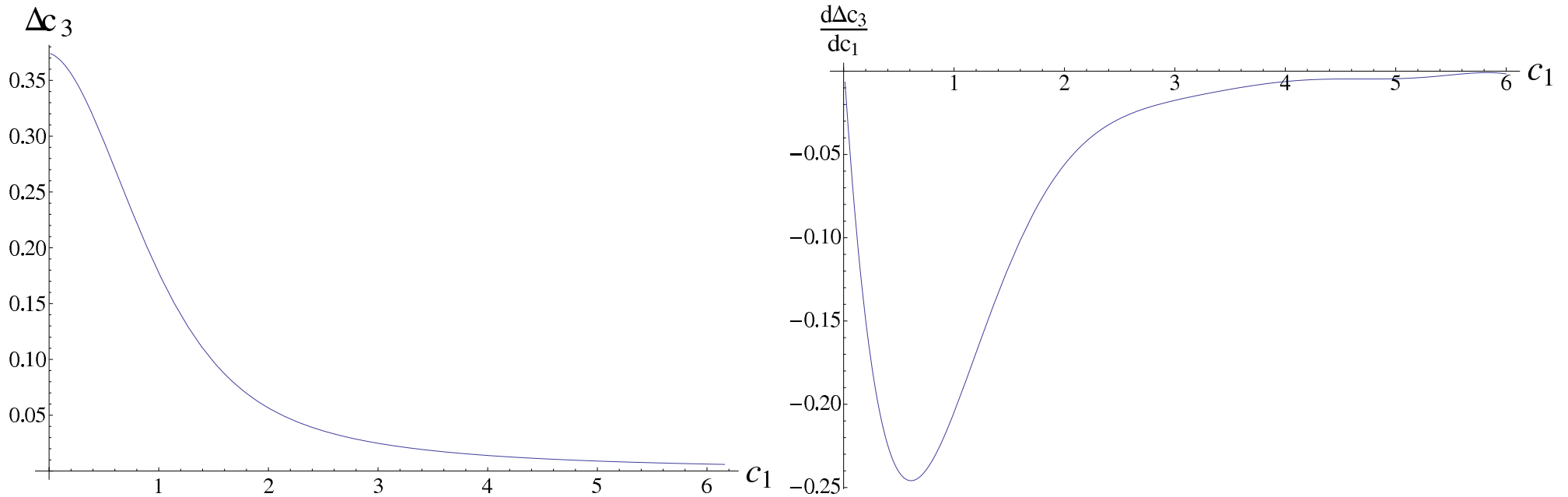
$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta} (2\pi\alpha' \mathcal{K} R^3 \lambda) \left( -4c_3 + \left( \frac{m_q}{\beta} \right)^3 \mu^2 (1 + \alpha) \right) , \quad m_q = \beta c_1$$

- We calculate the jump at the phase transition that is scheme independent for a fixed quark mass.

$$\Delta \langle \bar{q}q \rangle \equiv \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_{conf} - \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_{deconf} = -4 \frac{1}{\beta} (2\pi\alpha' \mathcal{K} R^3 \lambda) \Delta c_3$$

- This is equivalent to  $\Delta c_3$

- We plot it as a function of the quark mass.



The finite jump of the quark condensate and its derivative with respect to  $c_1$  when the confinement-deconfinement transition takes place. **The important features appear when  $m_q \sim \Lambda_{QCD}$**

# Meson spectra

For the vectors

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(1)} = 1.45 + 0.718c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(4)} = 4.13 + 0.578c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(2)} = 2.64 + 0.594c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(5)} = 4.72 + 0.577c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(3)} = 3.45 + 0.581c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_V^{(6)} = 5.25 + 0.576c_1.$$

For the axial vectors:

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(1)} \approx 2.05 + 1.46c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(4)} \approx 5.44 + 1.13c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(2)} \approx 3.47 + 1.24c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(5)} \approx 6.23 + 1.11c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(3)} \approx 4.54 + 1.17c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_A^{(6)} \approx 6.95 + 1.10c_1.$$

For the pseudoscalars:

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(1)} \approx \sqrt{3.53c_1^2 + 6.33c_1},$$

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(4)} \approx 5.04 + 1.21c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(2)} \approx 2.91 + 1.40c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(5)} \approx 5.87 + 1.17c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(3)} \approx 4.07 + 1.27c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_P^{(6)} \approx 6.62 + 1.15c_1.$$

For the scalars:

$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(1)} = 2.47 + 0.683c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(4)} = 4.99 + 0.519c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(2)} = 3.73 + 0.488c_1,$$

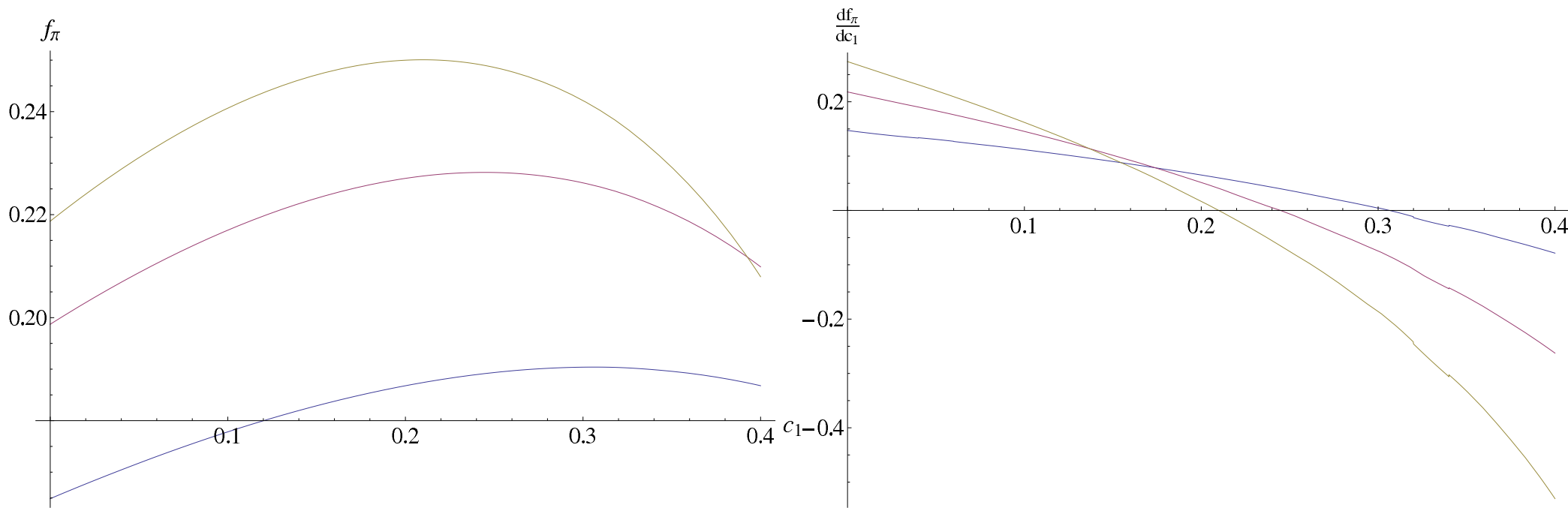
$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(5)} = 5.50 + 0.536c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(3)} = 4.41 + 0.507c_1,$$

$$z_\Lambda m_S^{(6)} = 5.98 + 0.543c_1.$$

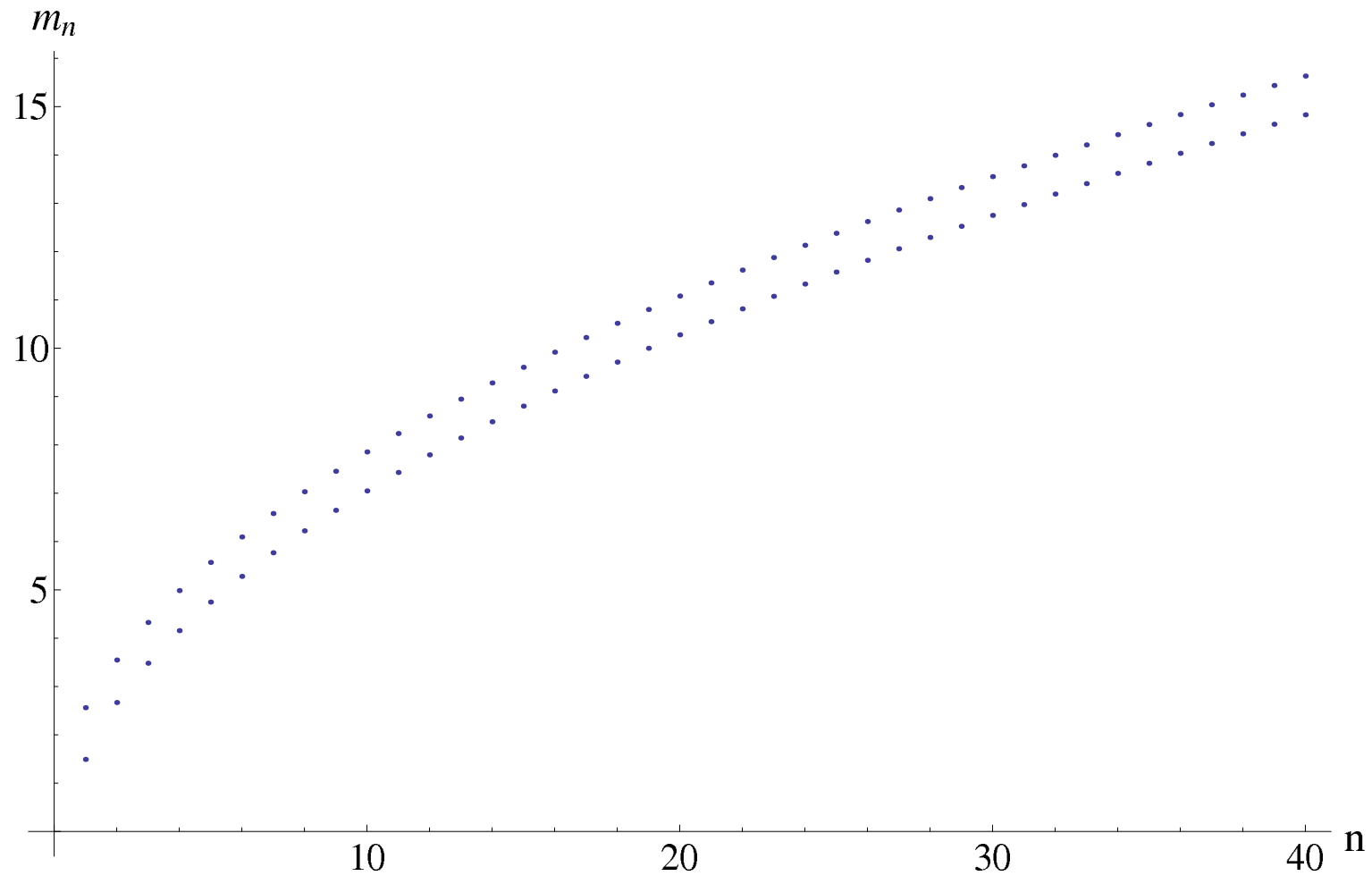
- Valid up to  $c_1 \sim 1$ .
- In qualitative agreement with lattice results  
*Laerman+Schmidt., Del Debbio+Lucini+Patela+Pica, Bali+Bursa*

# Mass dependence of $f_\pi$



The pion decay constant and its derivative as a function of  $c_1$  - the quark mass. The different lines correspond to different values of  $k$ . From bottom to top (on the right plot, from bottom to top in the vertical axis)  $k = \frac{12}{\pi^2}, \frac{24}{\pi^2}, \frac{36}{\pi^2}$ . The pion decay constant comes in units of  $z_\Lambda^{-1}$ .

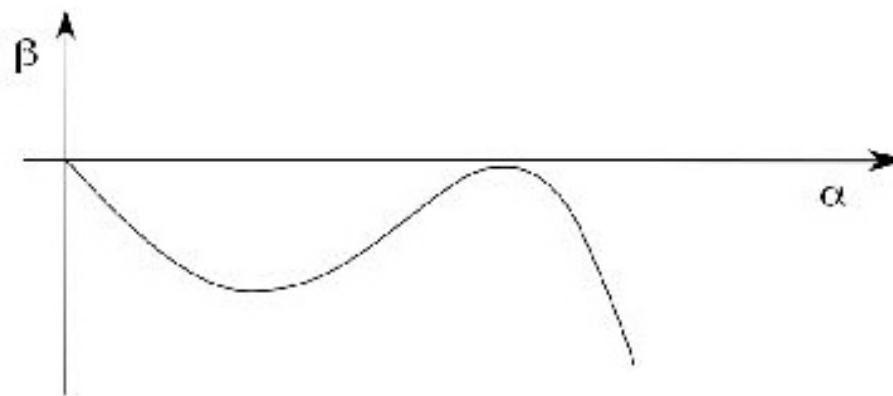
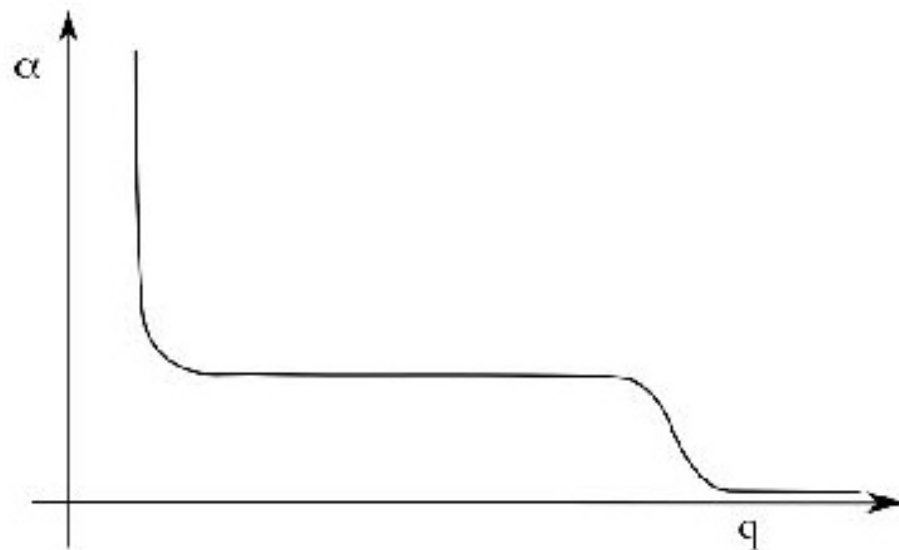
# Linear Regge Trajectories



Results corresponding to the forty lightest vector states with  $c_1 = 0.05$  and  $c_1 = 1.5$ .

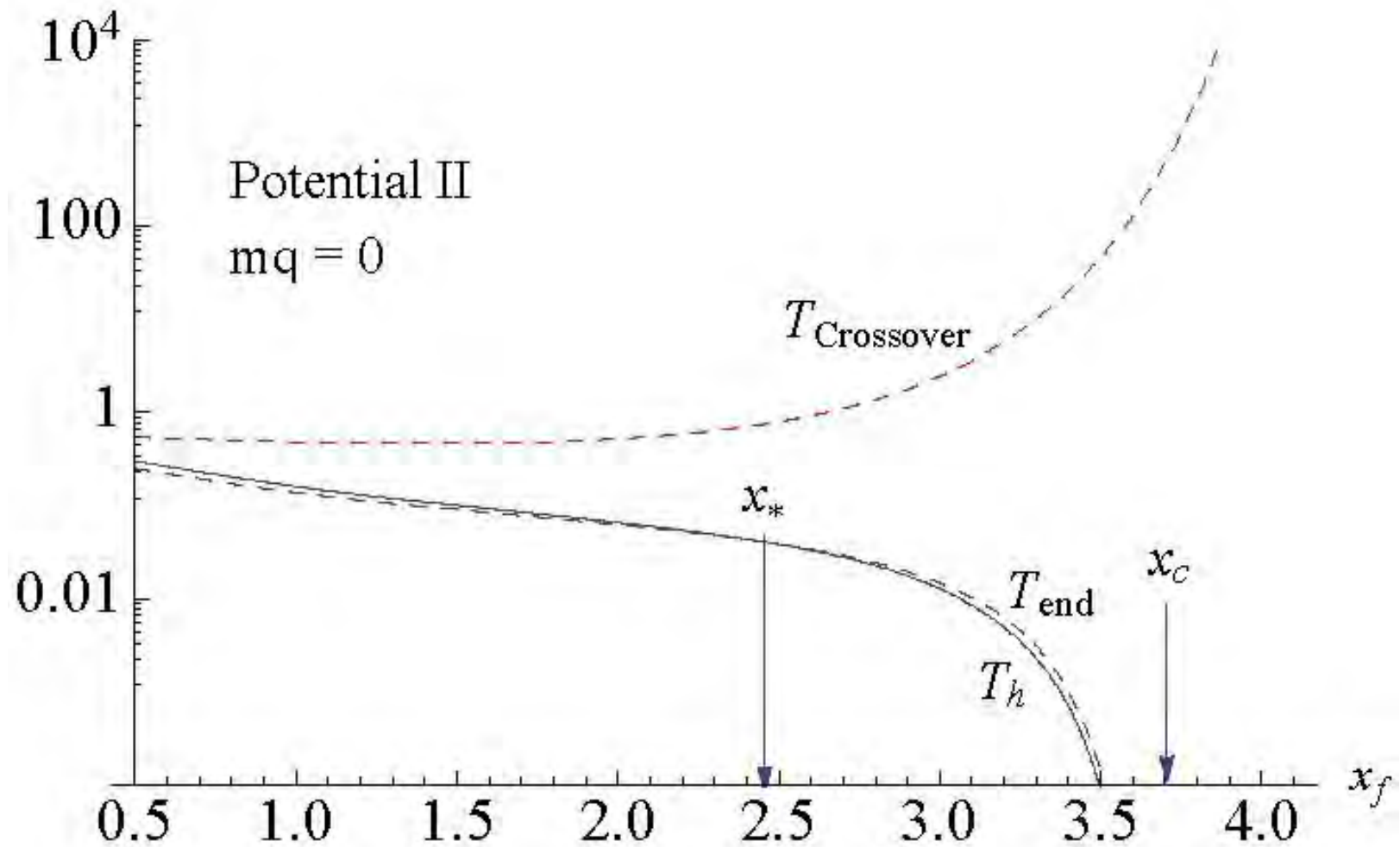


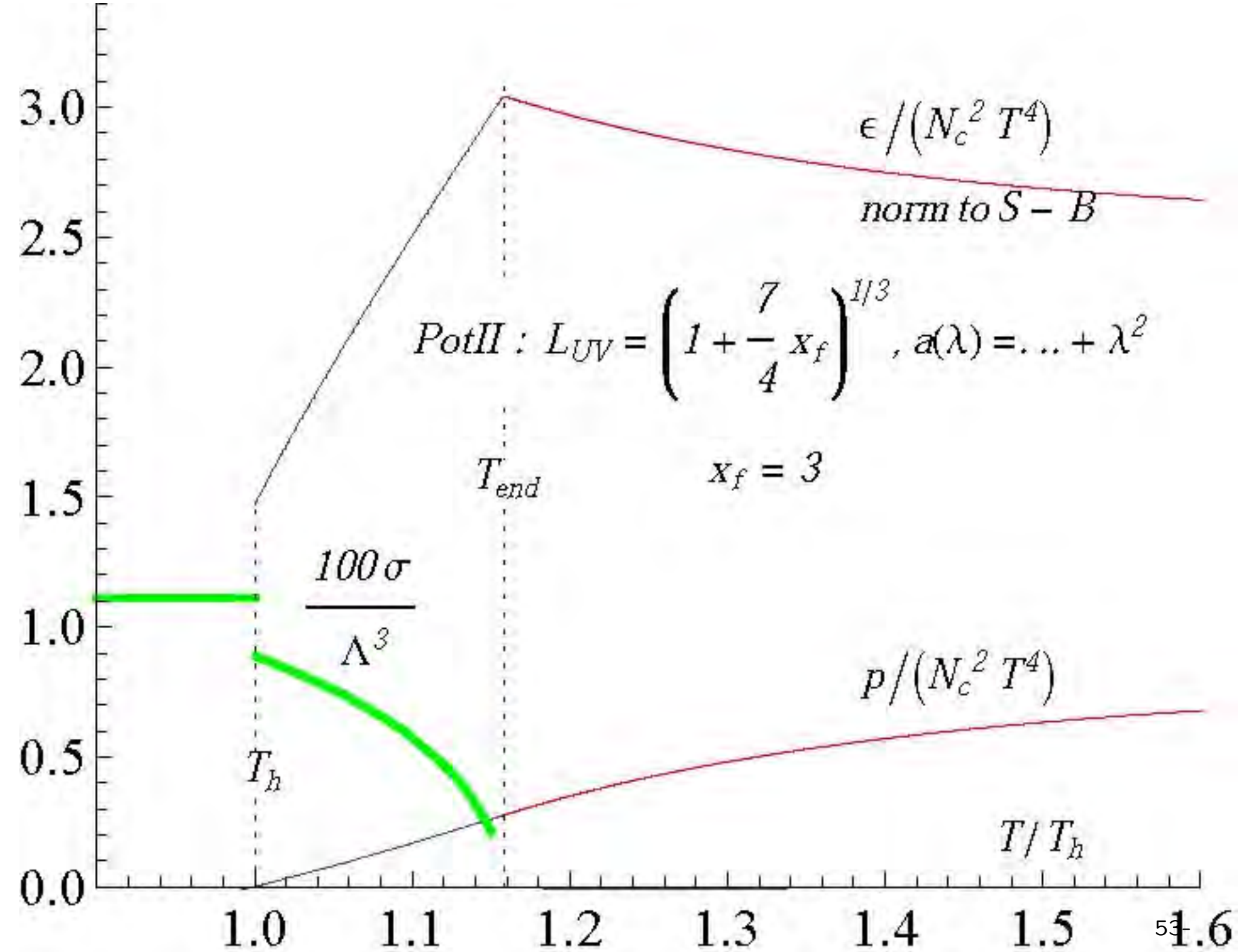
# Walking

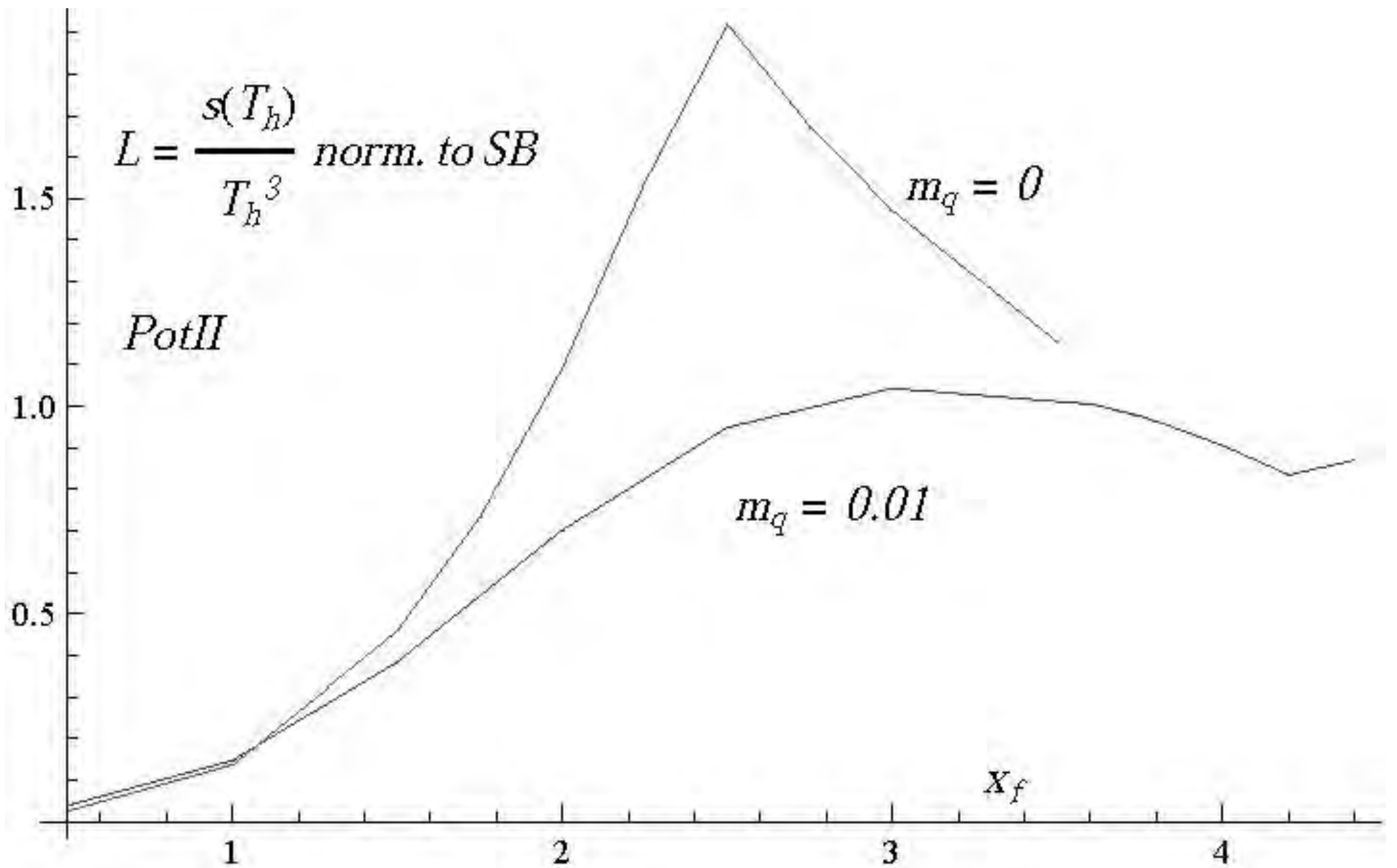


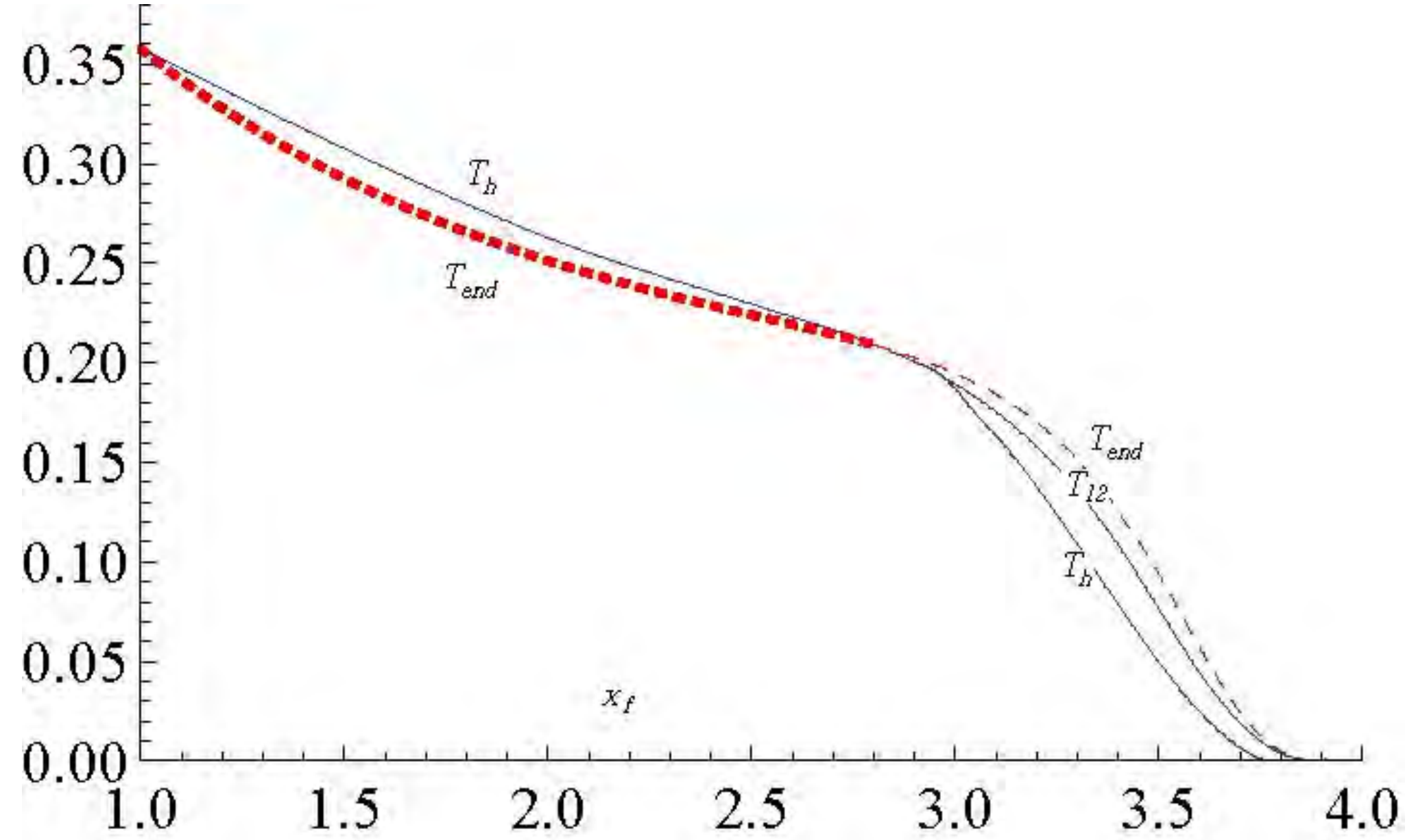
RETURN

# The phase diagram









# Detailed plan of the presentation

- Title page 0 minutes
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- The holographic models:flavor 14 minutes
- Fusion 16 minutes
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- The effective potential 19 minutes
- Condensate dimension at the IR fixed point 21 minutes

- UV mass vs IR parameter 25 minutes
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- Finite Temperature: The generic phase diagram 36 minutes
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- Matching to QCD : IR 71 minutes
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- UV mass vs  $T_0$  and  $r_1$  87 minutes
- Numerical solutions :  $T = 0$  89 minutes
- Numerical solutions: Massless with  $x < x_c$  94 minutes
- Matching to QCD 95 minutes



- Comparison to previous guesses 96 minutes
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