

# Emergence of macroscopic laws with Functional Renormalization

# Macroscopic understanding does not need all details of underlying microscopic physics

1) motion of planets :  $\mathbf{m}_i$

Newtonian mechanics of point particles

probabilistic atoms  $\rightarrow$  deterministic planets

2) thermodynamics :  $T, \mu$ , Gibbs free energy  $J(T, \mu)$

3) antiferromagnetic waves for correlated electrons

$\Gamma[\mathbf{s}_i(\mathbf{x})]$

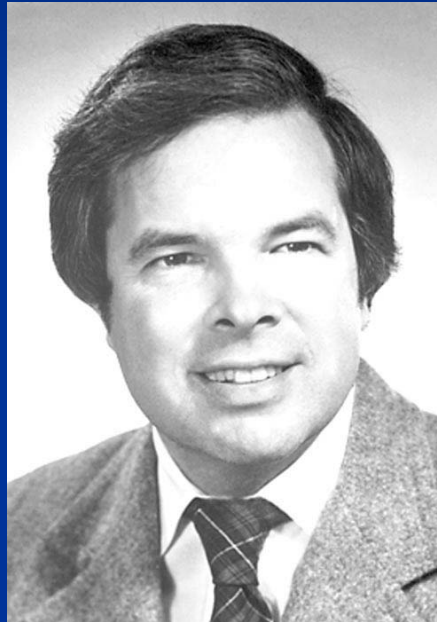
# How to get from microphysics to macrophysics ?

- 1) motion of planets :  $\mathbf{m}_i$   
compute or measure mass of objects  
( second order more complicated : tides etc. )
- 2) thermodynamics :  $J( T, \mu )$   
integrate out degrees of freedom
- 3) antiferromagnetic waves for correlated electrons  
 $\Gamma[ \mathbf{s}_i(\mathbf{x}) ]$  change degrees of freedom

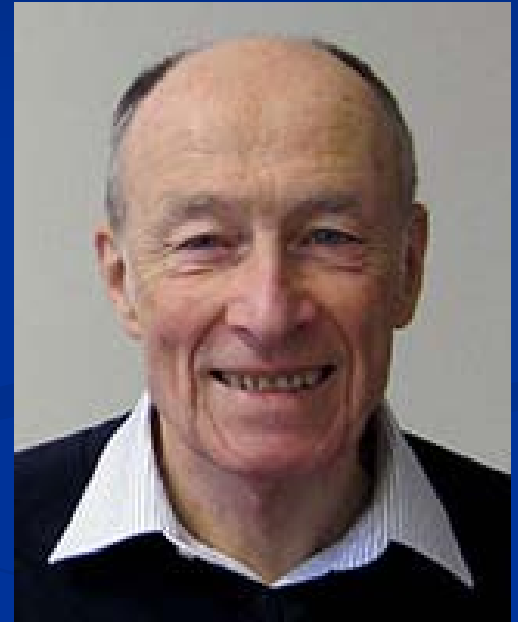
# Do it stepwise : functional renormalization



Leo Kadanoff



Kenneth Wilson



Franz Wegner

# Exact renormalization group equation

Exact flow equation

for scale dependence of average action

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\varphi] + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k \right\}$$

'92

$$\left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} \right)_{ab}(q, q') = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \varphi_a(-q) \delta \varphi_b(q')}$$

$$\text{Tr} : \sum_a \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d}$$

(fermions : STr)



From

**Microscopic Laws**  
(Interactions, classical action)

to

Fluctuations!



**Macroscopic Observation**  
(Free energy functional,  
effective action)

# different laws at different scales

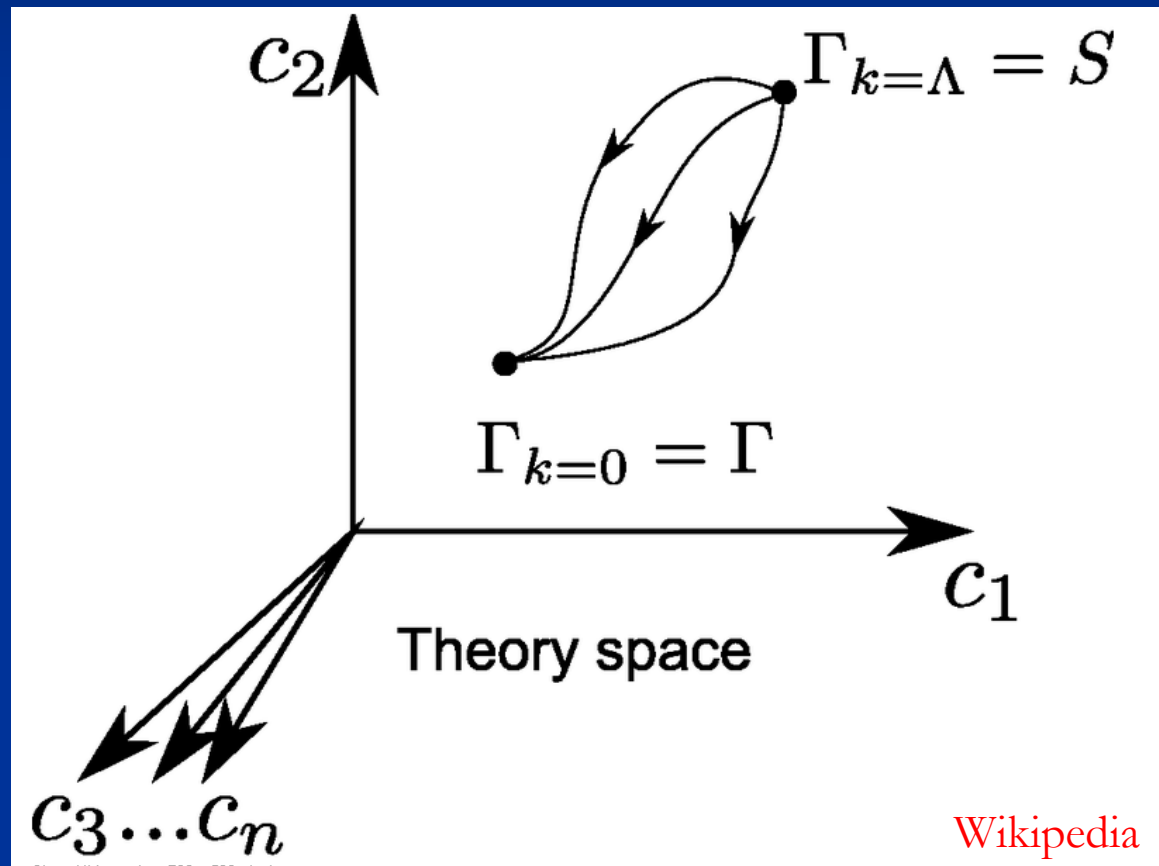
- fluctuations wash out many details of microscopic laws
- new structures as bound states or collective phenomena emerge
- elementary particles – earth – Universe :  
key problem in Physics !

# scale dependent laws

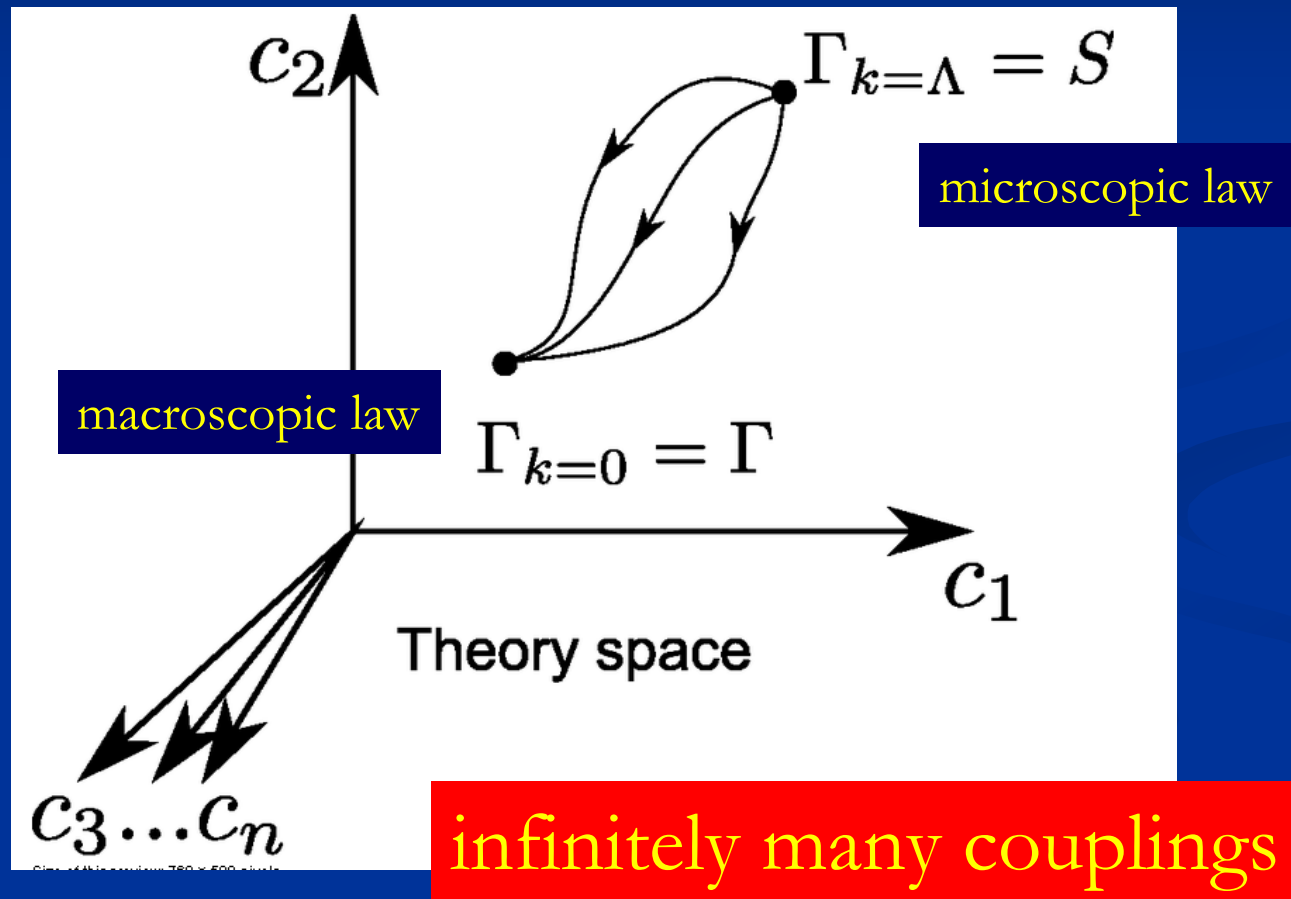
- scale dependent ( running or flowing ) couplings
- flowing functions
- flowing functionals



# flowing action



# flowing action



# flow of functions



# Effective potential includes **all** fluctuations

Average potential  $U_k$

$\equiv$  scale dependent effective potential

$\equiv$  coarse grained free energy

Only fluctuations with  
momenta  $q^2 > k^2$  included

$k$ : infrared cutoff for fluctuations, "average scale"

$\Lambda$ : characteristic scale for microphysics

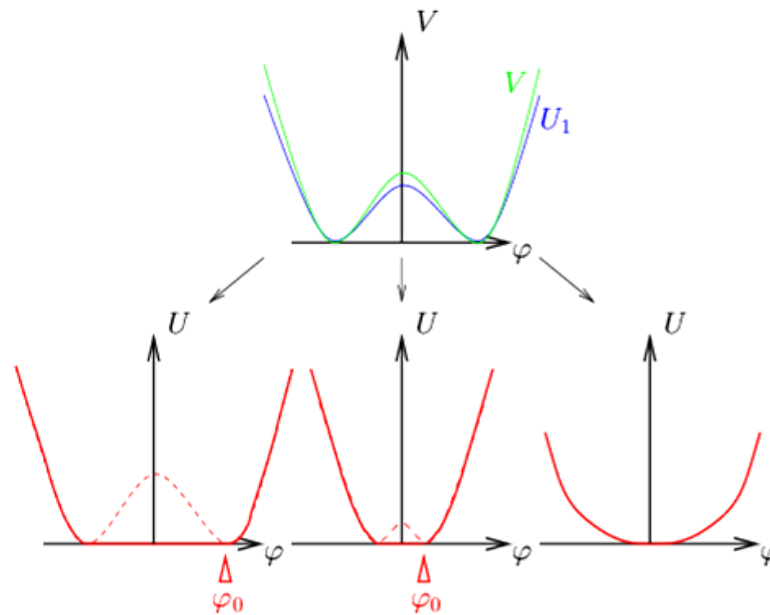
$$U_\Lambda \approx S \rightarrow U_0 \equiv U$$

# Scalar field theory

$\varphi_a(x)$ : magnetization, density, chemical concentration, Higgs field, meson field, inflaton, cosmon

$O(N)$ -symmetry:

$$S = \int d^d x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi_a \partial_\mu \varphi_a + V(\rho) \right\}; \quad \rho = \frac{1}{2} \varphi_a \varphi_a$$



# Flow equation for average potential

$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

**cutoff**

**propagator  
with cutoff**

$$\bar{M}_{k,ab}^2 = \frac{\partial^2 U_k}{\partial \varphi_a \partial \varphi_b} \quad : \quad \text{Mass matrix}$$

$$\bar{M}_{k,i}^2 \quad : \quad \text{Eigenvalues of mass matrix}$$

$R_k$  : IR-cutoff

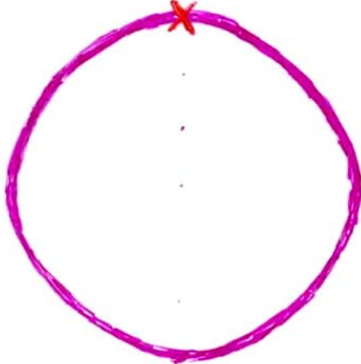
e.g.  $R_k = \frac{Z_k q^2}{e^{q^2/k^2} - 1}$

or  $R_k = Z_k(k^2 - q^2)\Theta(k^2 - q^2)$  (Litim)

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} R_k = 0$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} R_k \rightarrow \infty$$

Simple one loop structure –  
nevertheless (almost) exact

$$\partial_k U_k = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + M_k^2 + R_k(q^2)}$$


$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

# Simple differential equation for O(N) – models , dimension d

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u|_{\tilde{\rho}} = & -d u + (d - 2 + \eta) \tilde{\rho} u' \\ & + 2v_d \{ l_0^d(u' + 2\tilde{\rho} u''; \eta) \\ & + (N - 1) l_0^d(u'; \eta) \}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}u &= \frac{U_k}{k^d} \\ \tilde{\rho} &= Z_k k^{2-d} \rho \\ u' &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tilde{\rho}} \quad \text{etc.}\end{aligned}$$

linear cutoff:

$$l_0^d(w; \eta) = \frac{2}{d} \left( 1 - \frac{\eta}{d+2} \right) \frac{1}{1+w}$$

$$v_d^{-1} = 2^{d+1} \pi^{d/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)$$

$$t = \ln(k)$$



# Wave function renormalization and anomalous dimension

$Z_k$ : wave function renormalization

$$k \partial_k Z_k = -\eta_k Z_k$$

$\eta_k$ : anomalous dimension

$$t = \ln(k/\Lambda)$$

$$\partial_t \ln Z = -\eta$$

for  $Z_k(\varphi, q^2)$  : flow equation is **exact** !

# Scaling form of evolution equation

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{U_k}{k^d} \\ \tilde{\rho} &= Z_k k^{2-d} \rho \\ u' &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tilde{\rho}} \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u|_{\tilde{\rho}} &= -\textcolor{red}{d}u + (\textcolor{red}{d} - 2 + \eta) \tilde{\rho} u' \\ &\quad + 2v_{\textcolor{red}{d}} \{ l_0^{\textcolor{red}{d}}(u' + 2\tilde{\rho} u''; \eta) \\ &\quad + (\textcolor{violet}{N} - 1) l_0^{\textcolor{red}{d}}(u'; \eta) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$v_d^{-1} = 2^{d+1} \pi^{d/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)$$

linear cutoff:

$$l_0^d(w; \eta) = \frac{2}{d} \left( 1 - \frac{\eta}{d+2} \right) \frac{1}{1+w}$$

On r.h.s. :  
neither the scale  $k$   
nor the wave function  
renormalization  $Z$   
appear explicitly.

Scaling solution:  
no dependence on  $t$ ;  
corresponds  
to second order  
phase transition.

Tetradis ...

# unified approach

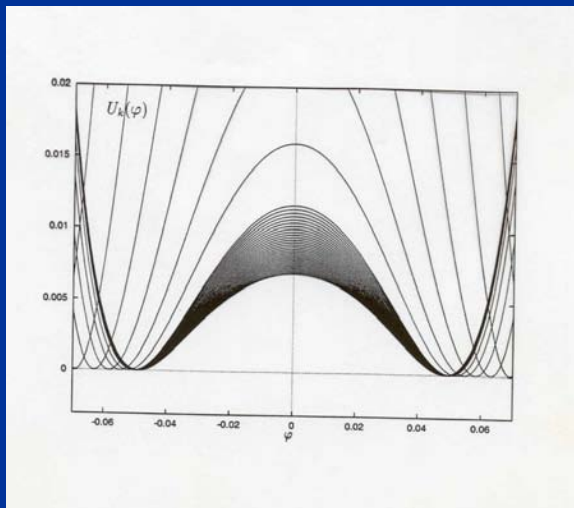
- choose  $N$
- choose  $d$
- choose initial form of potential
- run !

( quantitative results : systematic derivative expansion in second order in derivatives )

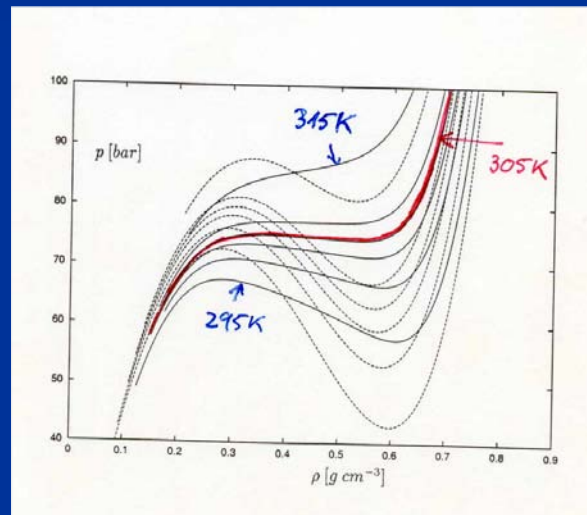
**unified description of  
scalar models for all  $d$  and  $N$**

# Flow of effective potential

## Ising model



## CO<sub>2</sub>



## Critical exponents

$d = 3$

Critical exponents  $\nu$  and  $\eta$

$N$	$\nu$		$\eta$	
0	0.590	0.5878	0.039	0.0292
1	0.6307	0.6308	0.0467	0.0356
2	0.666	0.6714	0.049	0.0385
3	0.704	0.7102	0.049	0.0380
4	0.739	0.7474	0.047	0.0363
10	0.881	0.886	0.028	0.025
100	0.990	0.980	0.0030	0.003

“average” of other methods  
(typically  $\pm(0.0010 - 0.0020)$ )

Experiment :

$$T_* = 304.15 \text{ K}$$

$$p_* = 73.8 \text{ bar}$$

$$\rho_* = 0.442 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

S.Seide ...

# Critical exponents , $d=3$

$N$
0
1
2
3
4
10
100

$\nu$
0.590
0.6307
0.666
0.704
0.739
0.881
0.990

ERGE world

$\eta$
0.039
0.0467
0.049
0.049
0.047
0.028
0.0030

ERGE world

“average” of other methods  
(typically  $\pm(0.0010 - 0.0020)$ )

# critical exponents , BMW approximation

$N$	$\eta$	$\eta$ (other)	$\nu$	$\nu$ (other)	$\omega$ (prelim.)	$\omega$ (other)
0	0.033(3)	0.028(3) [1]	0.588	0.588(1) [1]	0.80	
1	0.039(3)	0.0364(2) [2] 0.0368(2) [3] 0.033(3) [1]	0.6298(4)	0.6301(2) [2] 0.6302(1) [3] 0.630(1) [1]	0.78	0.79(1) [1]
2	0.041(3)	0.0381(2) [4] 0.035(3) [1]	0.6719(4)	0.6717(1) [4] 0.670(2) [1]	0.78	0.79(1) [1]
3	0.040(3)	0.0375(5) [5] 0.036(3) [1]	0.709	0.7112(5) [5] 0.707(4) [1]	0.73	
4	0.038(3)	0.035(5)[1] 0.037(1) [6]	0.738	0.741(6) [1] 0.749(2) [6]	0.74	0.77(2) [1]
5	0.035(3)	0.031(3) [8] 0.034(1) [7]	0.768	0.764(4) [8] 0.779(3) [7]	0.73	0.77(2) [1]
10	0.022(2)	0.024 [9]	0.860	0.859 [9]	0.81	
20	0.012(1)	0.014 [9]	0.929	0.930 [9]	0.94	
100	0.0023(2)	0.0027 [10]		0.989 [10]	0.99	

- [1] R. Guida and J. Zinn-Justin '98. [2] M. Campostrini, A. Pelissetto, P. Rossi, E. Vicari '02.  
 [3] Y. Deng and H. W. J. Blote '03. [4] M. Campostrini, M. Hasenbusch, A. Pelissetto, E. Vicari '06.  
 [5] M. Campostrini, M. Hasenbusch, A. Pelissetto, P. Rossi, E. Vicari '02. [6] M. Hasenbusch '01.  
 [7] M. Hasenbusch, A. Pelissetto, E. Vicari '05. [8] A. Butti and F. Parisen Toldin '05.  
 [9] S. A. Antonenko and A. I. Sokolov '95. [10] M. Moshe and J. Zinn-Justin '03.

Blaizot, Benitez , ... , Wschebor

# Solution of partial differential equation :

yields highly nontrivial non-perturbative results despite the one loop structure !

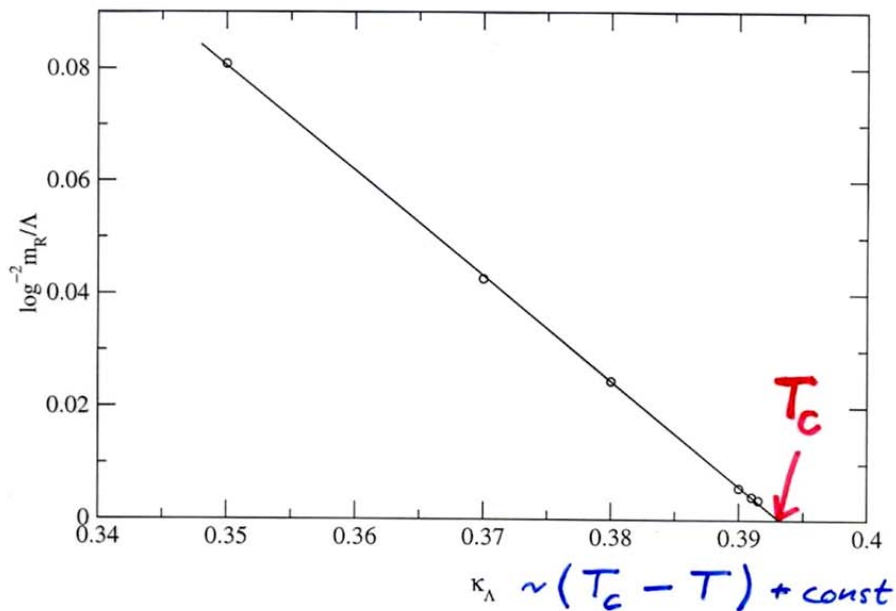
Example:

Kosterlitz-Thouless phase transition



# Essential scaling : $d=2, N=2$

$$m_R \sim \exp \left\{ - \frac{b}{(T - T_c)^{1/2}} \right\}, \quad T > T_c$$



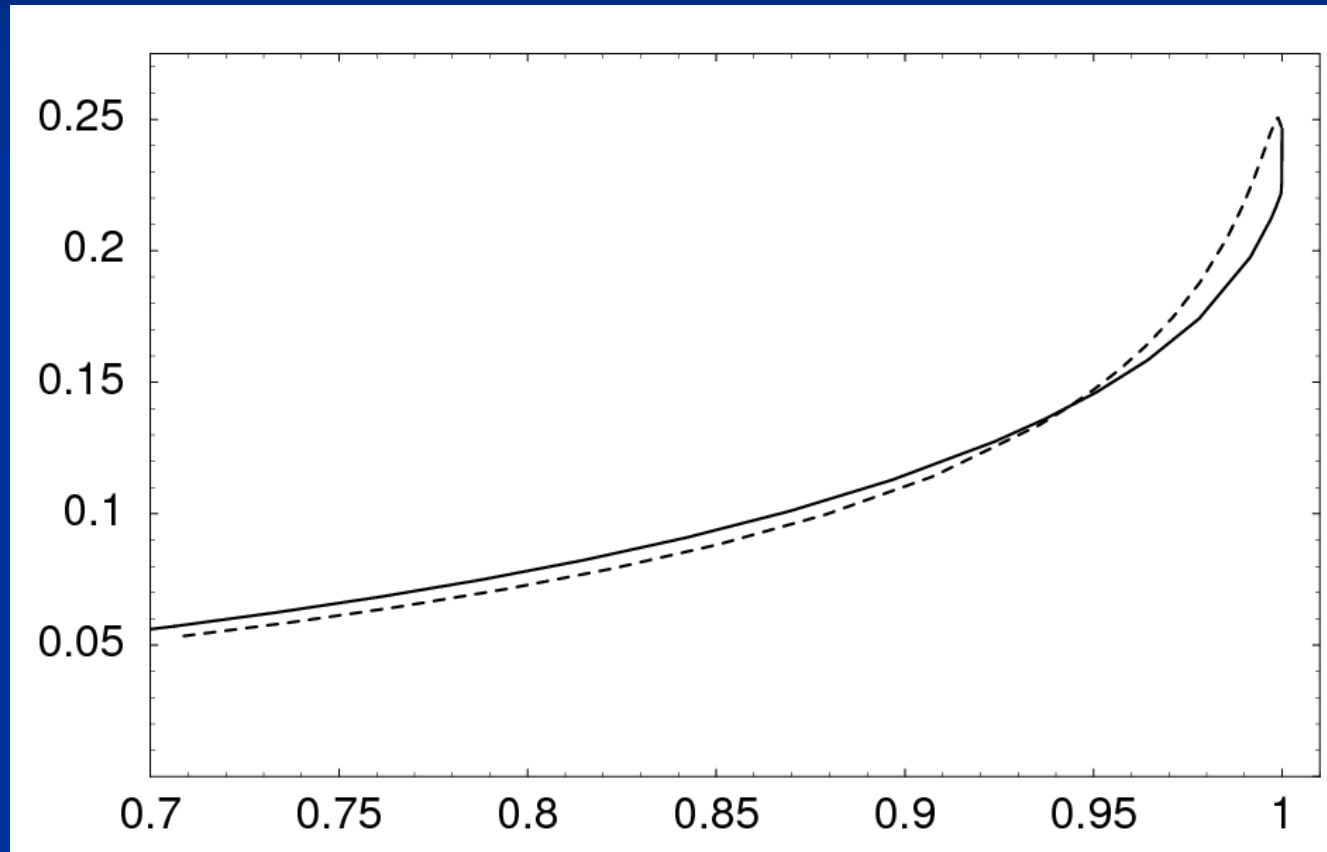
- Flow equation contains correctly the non-perturbative information !
- (essential scaling usually described by vortices)

# Kosterlitz-Thouless phase transition ( $d=2, N=2$ )

Correct description of phase with  
Goldstone boson  
( infinite correlation length )  
for  $T < T_c$

# Temperature dependent anomalous dimension $\eta$

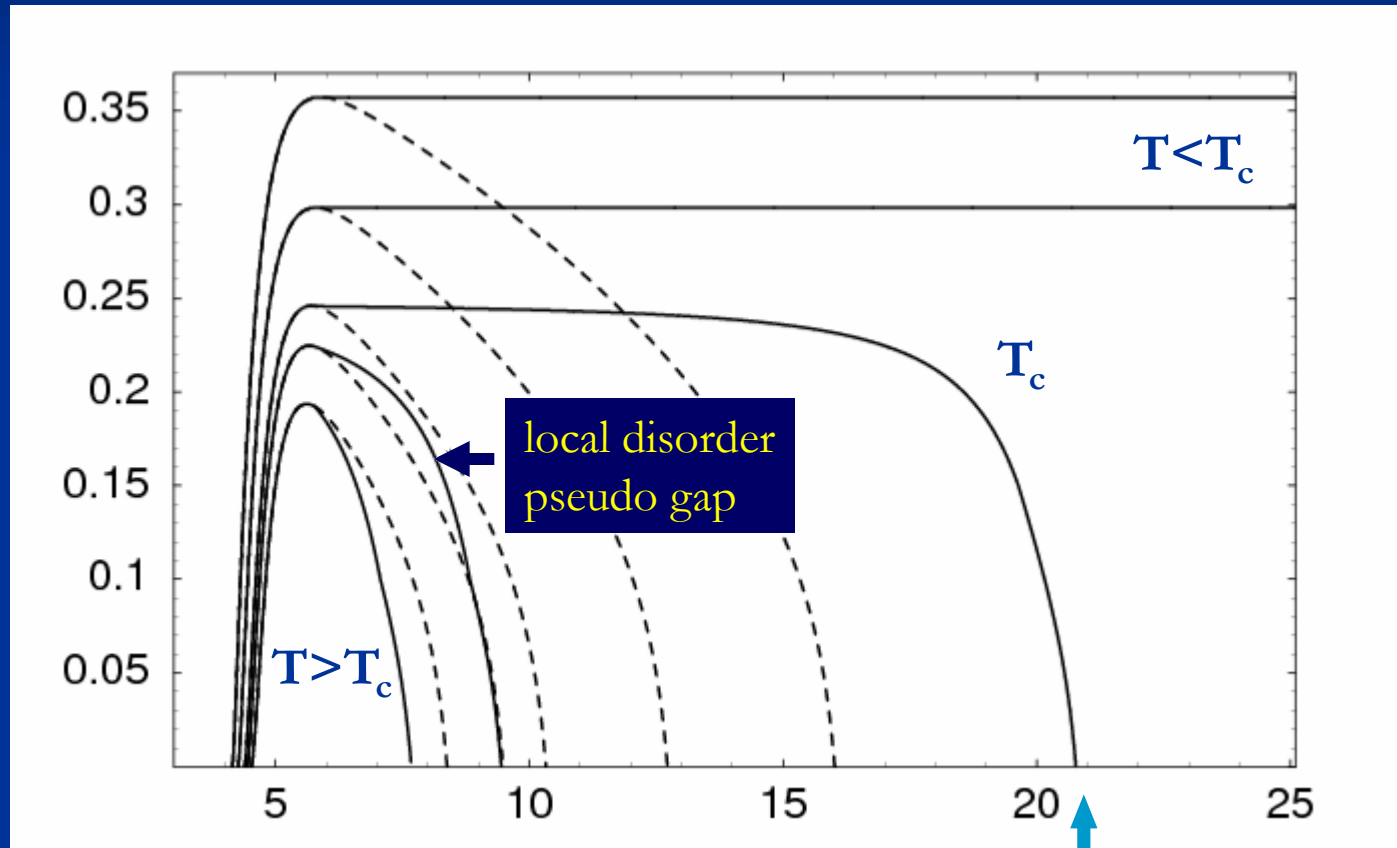
$\eta$



$T/T_c$

# Running renormalized d-wave superconducting order parameter $\kappa$ in doped Hubbard (-type) model

$\kappa$   
location  
of  
minimum  
of  $u$

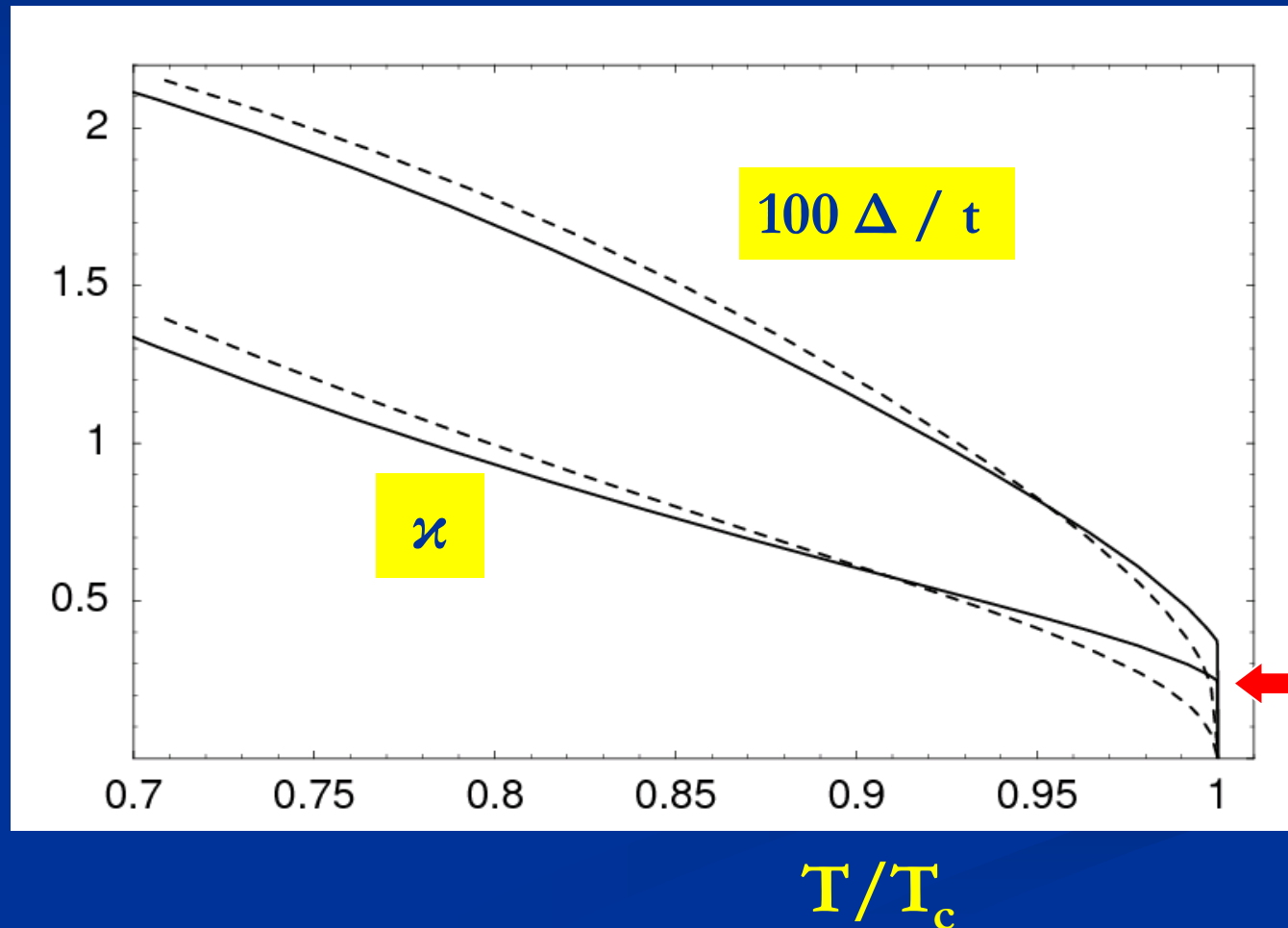


C.Krahl,...

$-\ln(k/\Lambda)$

macroscopic scale 1 cm

# Renormalized order parameter $\kappa$ and gap in electron propagator $\Delta$ in doped Hubbard model



# unification

abstract laws

quantum	gravity
grand	unification
standard	model
electro-	magnetism
gravity	

Landau  
theory

universal  
critical physics

functional  
renormalization

complexity

# unification: functional integral / flow equation

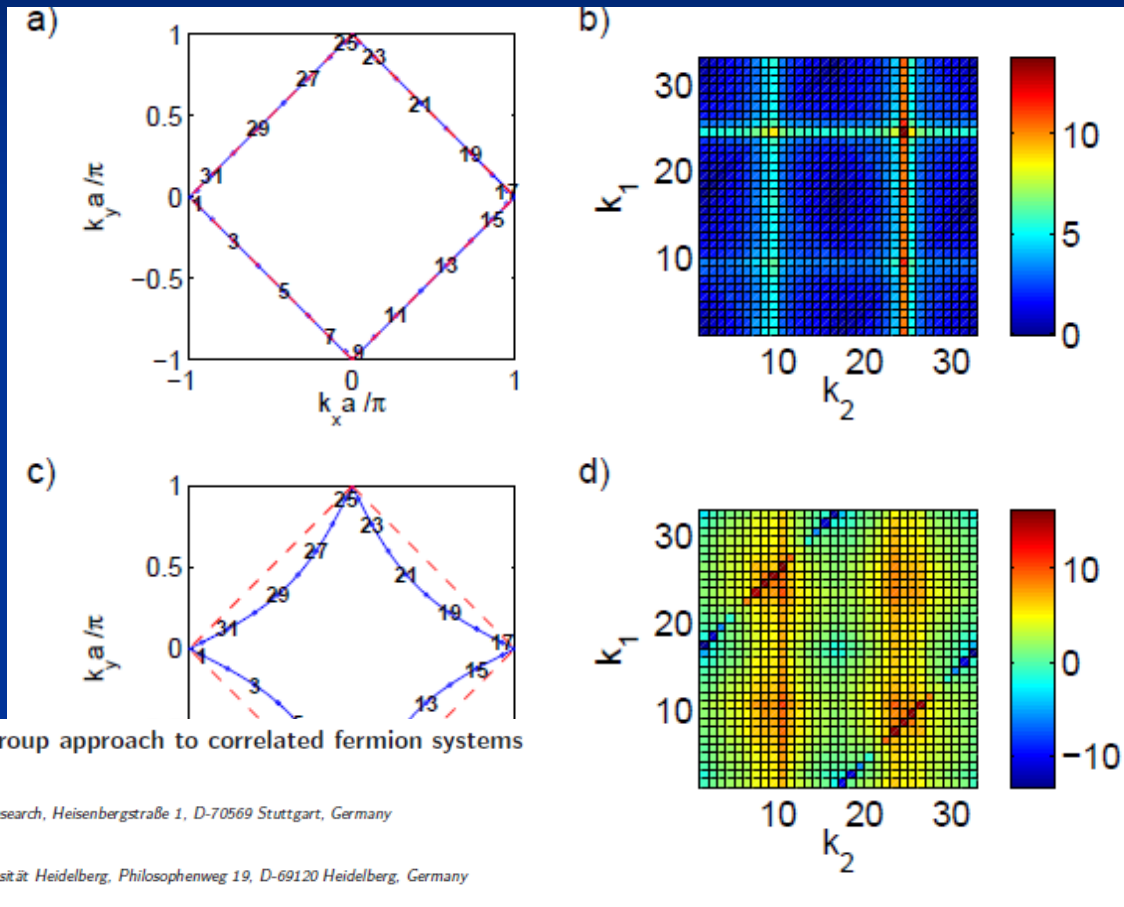
- simplicity of average action
- explicit presence of scale
- differentiating is easier than integrating...

# Unification from Functional Renormalization

- fluctuations in  $d=0,1,2,3,\dots$
- linear and non-linear sigma models
- vortices and perturbation theory
- bosonic and fermionic models
- relativistic and non-relativistic physics
- classical and quantum statistics
- non-universal and universal aspects
- homogenous systems and local disorder
- equilibrium and out of equilibrium



# Flow of four point function Hubbard model



Functional renormalization group approach to correlated fermion systems

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# FRG for disordered systems



# flow of functionals

$$f(\varphi) \longrightarrow f[\varphi(x)]$$

# Exact renormalization group equation

Exact flow equation

for scale dependence of average action

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\varphi] + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k \right\}$$

'92

$$\left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} \right)_{ab}(q, q') = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \varphi_a(-q) \delta \varphi_b(q')}$$

$$\text{Tr} : \sum_a \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d}$$

(fermions : STr)

exact inverse propagator,  
depends on  
field configuration  
 $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$  or  $\varphi(\mathbf{q})$

# some history ... ( the parents )

- **exact RG equations :**

Symanzik eq. , Wilson eq. , Wegner-Houghton eq. , Polchinski eq. ,  
mathematical physics

- **1PI :** RG for 1PI-four-point function and hierarchy

Weinberg

formal Legendre transform of Wilson eq.

Nicoll, Chang

- **non-perturbative flow :**

$d=3$  : sharp cutoff ,

no wave function renormalization or momentum dependence

Hasenfratz<sup>2</sup>

# functional renormalization

- transition from microscopic to effective theory is made continuous
- effective laws depend on scale  $k$
- flow in space of theories
- flow from simplicity to complexity if theory is simple for large  $k$
- or opposite , if theory gets simple for small  $k$

# Truncation

- equation is exact

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\varphi] + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k \right\}$$

- solution needs truncation
- systematic expansions sometimes , not always possible
- that's where experience , knowledge or intuition enter
- not a black box !

QCD :

Short and long distance  
degrees of freedom are different !

Short distances : quarks and gluons

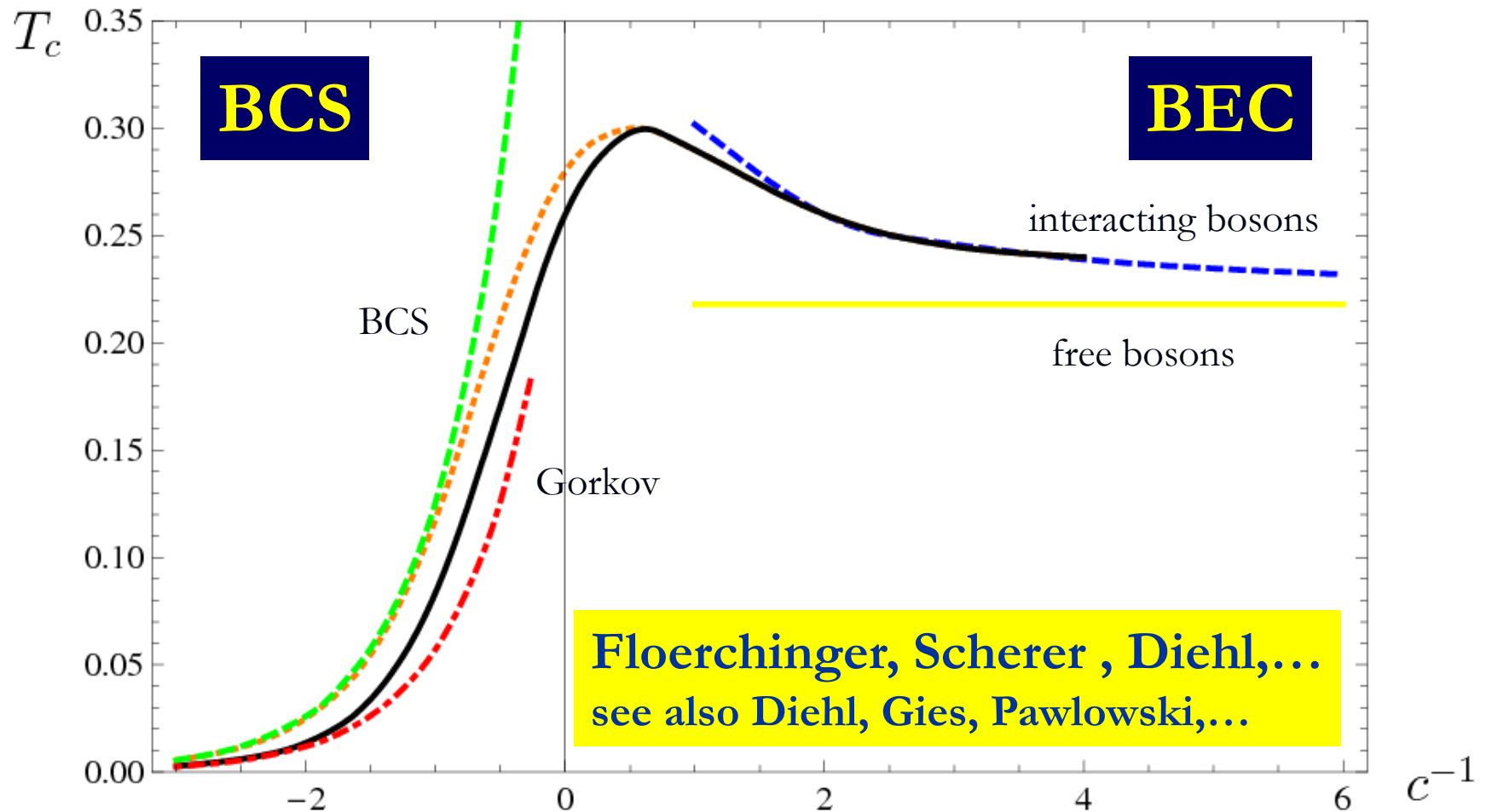
Long distances : baryons and mesons

How to make the transition?

confinement/chiral symmetry breaking



# BCS – BEC crossover in ultracold Fermi gases



*how to change continuously  
degrees of freedom ?*

*add in and remove !*

# Anti-ferromagnetic order in the Hubbard model

A functional renormalization group study

T.Baier, E.Bick, ...

C.Krahl, J.Mueller, S.Friederich

# Fermion bilinears

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\rho}(X) &= \hat{\psi}^\dagger(X)\hat{\psi}(X), \\ \vec{\tilde{m}}(X) &= \hat{\psi}^\dagger(X)\vec{\sigma}\hat{\psi}(X)\end{aligned}$$

are described by “ composite “ bosons

*fermion interactions can be  
partially accounted for  
by exchange of  
( composite ) bosons*

# Initial fermion – boson action

fermion kinetic term + local interaction  $\sim U$

$$S_{F,\text{kin}} = \sum_Q \hat{\psi}^\dagger(Q) (i\omega_F - \mu - 2t(\cos q_1 + \cos q_2)) \hat{\psi}(Q),$$

boson quadratic term ( “classical propagator” )

$$S_B = \frac{1}{2} \sum_Q \left( U_\rho \hat{\rho}(Q) \hat{\rho}(-Q) + U_m \hat{m}(Q) \hat{m}(-Q) \right)$$

Yukawa coupling

$$S_Y = - \sum_{QQ'Q''} \delta(Q - Q' + Q'') \times \\ (U_\rho \hat{\rho}(Q) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(Q') \hat{\psi}(Q'') + U_m \hat{m}(Q) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(Q') \vec{\sigma} \hat{\psi}(Q''))$$

no boson dynamics  
in absence of  
Yukawa coupling ,  
typical initial  
situation ,  
bosons only  
auxiliary fields

# Flowing fermion – boson action

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_k[\psi, \psi^*, \phi] = & \sum_Q \psi^*(Q) P_{\psi,k} \psi(Q) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_Q \phi(-Q) P_{\phi,k}(Q) \phi(Q) \\ & - \sum_Q h_k(Q) \phi(Q) \tilde{\phi}(-Q) \\ & + \sum_Q \lambda_{\psi,k}(Q) \tilde{\phi}(Q) \tilde{\phi}(-Q)\end{aligned}$$

what generates Yukawa coupling ?

# Flowing bosonisation

k-dependent  
field redefinition  
( variable change )

$$\phi_k(Q) = \phi_{\bar{k}}(Q) + \Delta\alpha_k(Q)\tilde{\phi}(Q)$$

$$\partial_k\phi_k(Q) = -\partial_k\alpha_k(Q)\tilde{\phi}(Q)$$

shuffles parts of four – fermion interaction  
generated by the flow into  
boson exchange interaction  
exact formalism !

H.Gies , ...




# Flowing bosonisation

Evolution with  
k-dependent  
field variables

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_k \Gamma_k[\psi, \psi^*, \phi_k] &= \partial_k \Gamma_k[\psi, \psi^*, \phi_k]|_{\phi_k} \\ &\quad + \sum_Q \left( \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi_k} \Gamma[\psi, \psi^*, \phi_k] \right) \partial_k \phi_k \\ &= \partial_k \Gamma_k[\psi, \psi^*, \phi_k]|_{\phi_k} \\ &\quad + \sum_Q \left( -\partial_k \alpha_k(Q) P_{\phi,k}(Q) \phi_k(Q) \tilde{\phi}(-Q) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + h_k(Q) \partial_k \alpha_k(Q) \tilde{\phi}(Q) \tilde{\phi}(-Q) \right)\end{aligned}$$

modified flow of couplings

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_k h_k(Q) &= \partial_k h_k(Q)|_{\phi_k} + \partial_k \alpha_k(Q) P_{\phi,k}(Q), \\ \partial_k \lambda_{\psi,k}(Q) &= \partial_k \lambda_{\psi,k}(Q)|_{\phi_k} + h_k(Q) \partial_k \alpha_k(Q).\end{aligned}$$

Choose  $\alpha_k$  in order to  
absorb the four fermion  
coupling in corresponding  
channel 

$$\partial_k h_k(Q) = \partial_k h_k(Q)|_{\phi_k} - \frac{P_{\phi,k}(Q)}{h_k(Q)} \partial_k \lambda_{\psi,k}(Q)|_{\phi_k}$$

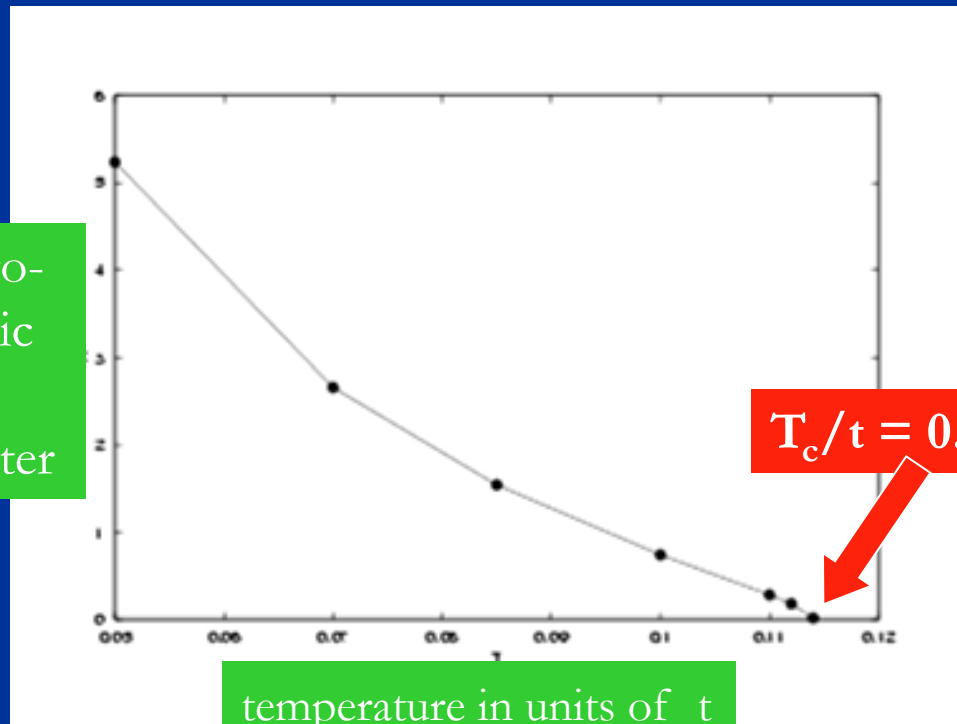
*variable change  
exploits the  
freedom of functionals*

# Below the critical temperature :

Infinite-volume-correlation-length becomes larger than sample size

finite sample  $\approx$  finite  $k$  : order remains effectively

antiferro-  
magnetic  
order  
parameter

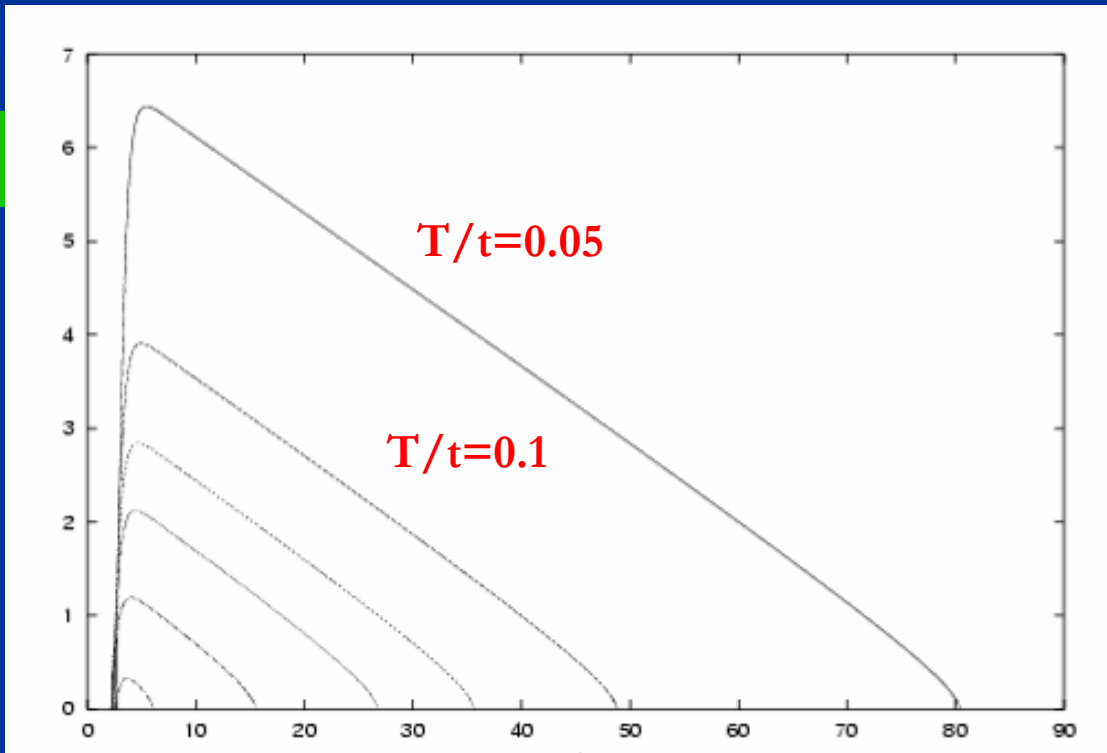


temperature in units of  $t$

# Critical temperature

For  $T < T_c$  :  $\kappa$  remains positive for  $k/t > 10^{-9}$   
size of probe  $> 1$  cm

$\kappa$



$$\kappa_a = \frac{Z_a t^2}{T} \alpha_0$$

local disorder  
pseudo gap

SSB

$-\ln(k/t)$

$T_c = 0.115$

# Pseudo-critical temperature $T_{pc}$

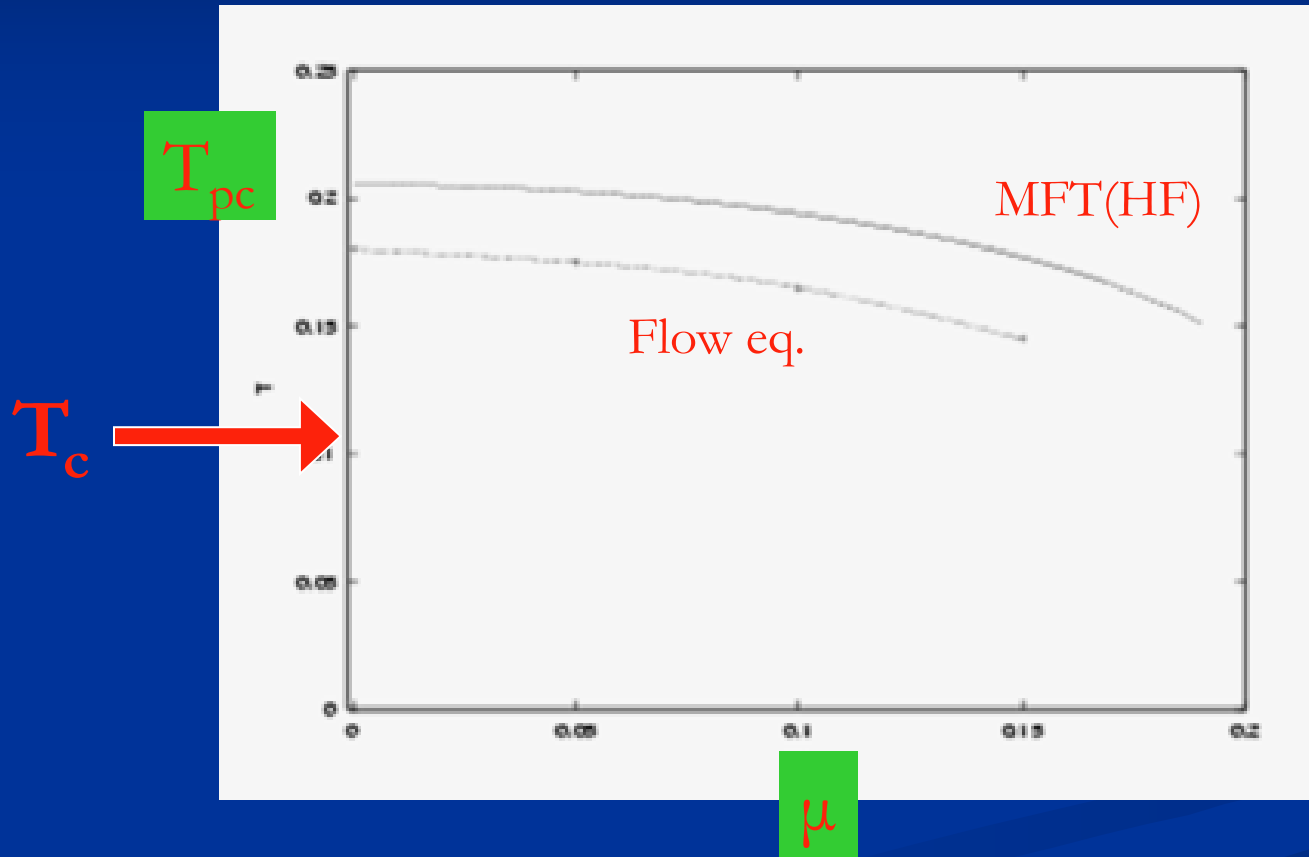
Limiting temperature at which bosonic mass term vanishes ( $\kappa$  becomes nonvanishing )

It corresponds to a diverging four-fermion coupling

This is the “critical temperature” computed in MFT !

Pseudo-gap behavior below this temperature

# Pseudocritical temperature



Below the pseudocritical temperature

the reign of the  
goldstone bosons

effective nonlinear  $O(3) - \sigma$  - model

# critical behavior

for interval  $T_c < T < T_{pc}$   
evolution as for classical Heisenberg model

cf. Chakravarty, Halperin, Nelson

$$k\partial_k\kappa = \frac{1}{4\pi} + \frac{1}{16\pi^2\kappa} + O(\kappa^{-2})$$



# critical correlation length

$$\xi t = c(T) \exp \left\{ 20.7 \beta(T) \frac{T_c}{T} \right\}$$

$c, \beta$  : slowly varying functions

exponential growth of correlation length  
compatible with observation !

at  $T_c$  : correlation length reaches sample size !

# Mermin-Wagner theorem ?

No spontaneous symmetry breaking  
of continuous symmetry in  $d=2$  !

not valid in practice !

*change of degrees of freedom  
is crucial for  
simple picture*

qualitative changes that make  
non-perturbative physics accessible :

**( 1 ) basic object is simple**

average action  $\sim$  classical action

$\sim$  generalized Landau theory

direct connection to thermodynamics

(coarse grained free energy )

qualitative changes that make  
non-perturbative physics accessible :

**( 2 ) Infrared scale  $k$**

**instead of Ultraviolet cutoff  $\Lambda$**

short distance memory not lost

no modes are integrated out , but only part of the  
fluctuations is included

simple one-loop form of flow

simple comparison with perturbation theory

# infrared cutoff $k$

cutoff on momentum resolution  
or frequency resolution

e.g. distance from pure anti-ferromagnetic momentum or  
from Fermi surface

intuitive interpretation of  $k$  by association with  
physical IR-cutoff , i.e. finite size of system :  
arbitrarily small momentum differences cannot  
be resolved !

qualitative changes that make  
non-perturbative physics accessible :

**( 3 ) only physics in small momentum  
range around  $k$  matters for the flow**

ERGE regularization

simple implementation on lattice

artificial non-analyticities can be avoided

qualitative changes that make  
non-perturbative physics accessible :

## ( 4 ) flexibility

change of fields

microscopic or composite variables

simple description of collective degrees of freedom and bound  
states

many possible choices of “cutoffs”

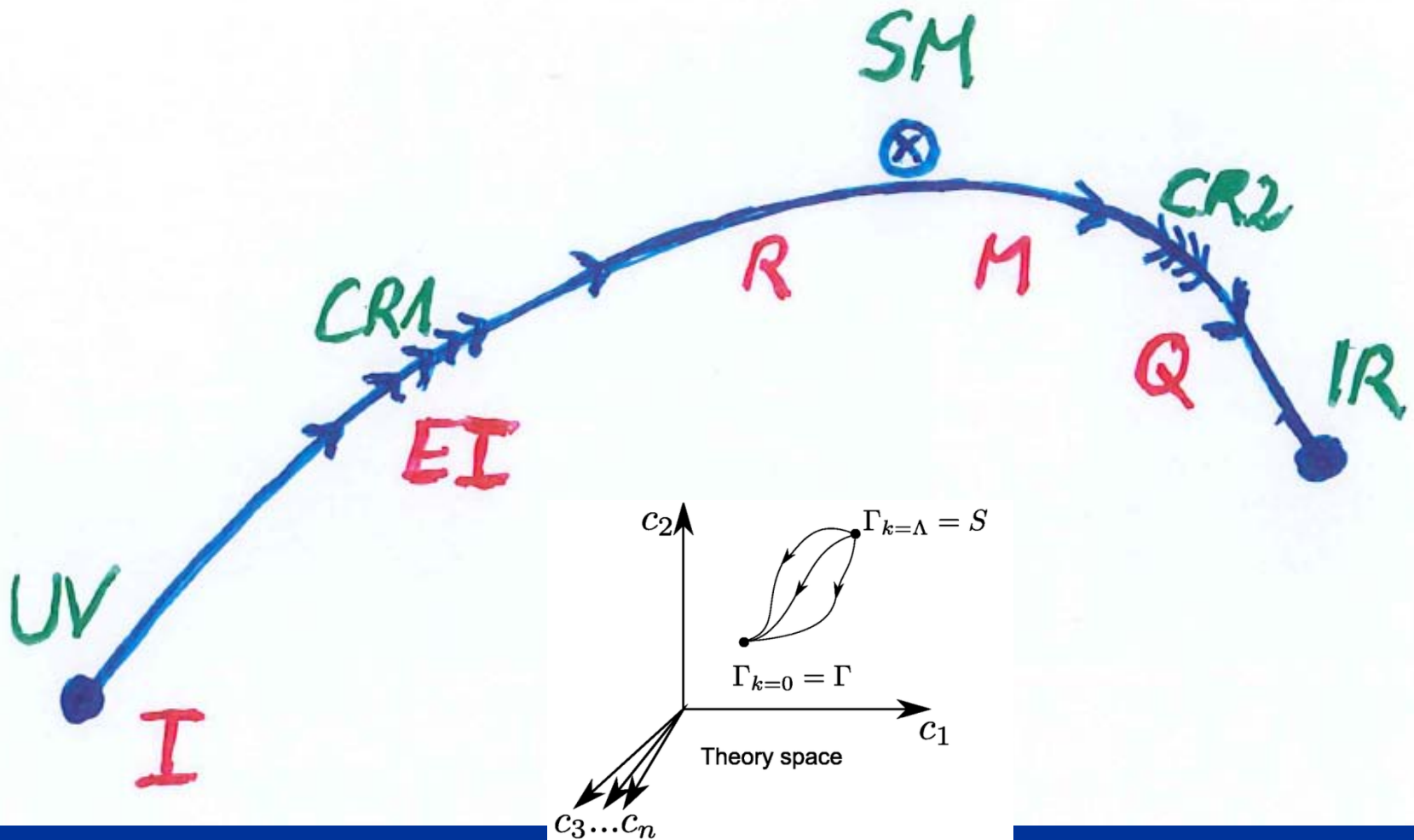


# The more you want , the more complicated it gets

- works well and conceptually simple for scalars and fermions, including chiral fermions, in equilibrium
- more complex for local gauge theories, gravity
- non- equilibrium : first successes
- disorder : a challenge
- biology, finance ....?



# Crossover in quantum gravity



# Variable Gravity

$$\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \chi^2 R + \mu^2 \chi^2 + \frac{1}{2} (B(\chi/\mu) - 6) \partial^\mu \chi \partial_\mu \chi \right\}$$

quantum effective action,  
variation yields field equations

Einstein gravity :  $\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} M^2 R \right\}$

# Variable Gravity

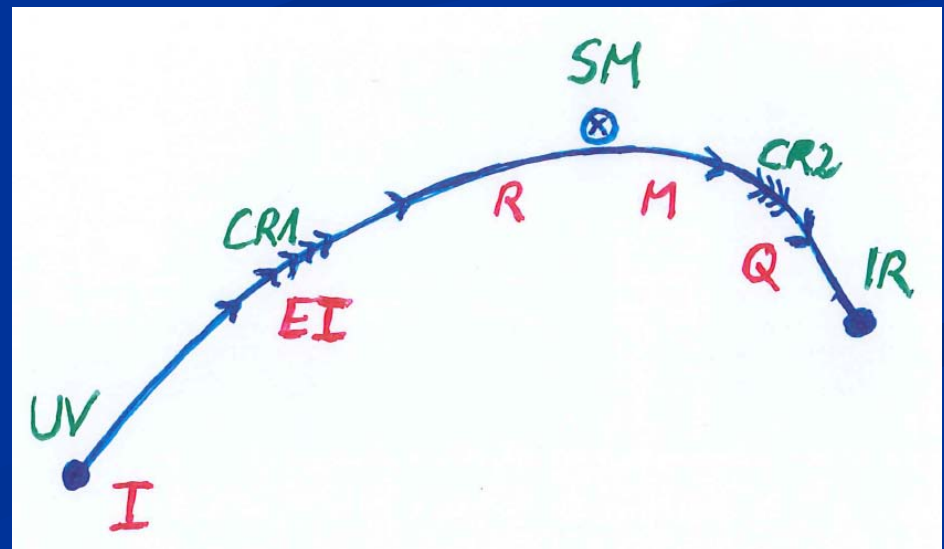
- Scalar field coupled to gravity
- Effective Planck mass depends on scalar field
- Simple quadratic scalar potential involves intrinsic mass  $\mu$
- Nucleon and electron mass proportional to dynamical Planck mass

$$\Gamma = \int_x \sqrt{g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}\chi^2 R + \mu^2 \chi^2 + \frac{1}{2}(B(\chi/\mu) - 6)\partial^\mu \chi \partial_\mu \chi \right\}$$

# Cosmological solution : crossover from UV to IR fixed point

- Dimensionless functions as  $B$  depend only on ratio  $\mu/\chi$ .
- IR:  $\mu \rightarrow 0$  ,  $\chi \rightarrow \infty$
- UV:  $\mu \rightarrow \infty$  ,  $\chi \rightarrow 0$

**Cosmology makes  
crossover between  
fixed points by  
variation of  $\chi$  .**



# renormalization flow and cosmological evolution

- renormalization flow as function of  $\mu$

is mapped by dimensionless functions to

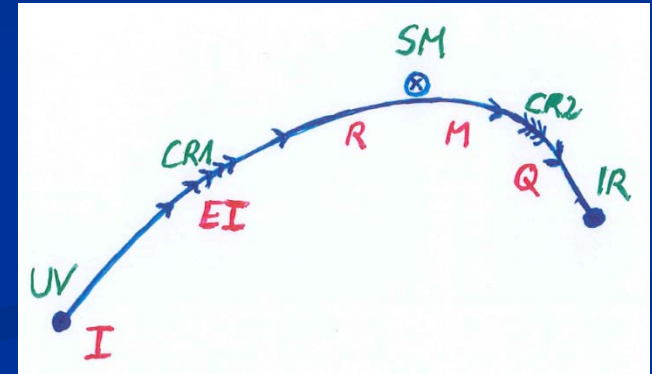
- field dependence of effective action on scalar field  $\chi$

translates by solution of field equation to

- dependence of cosmology on time  $t$  or  $\eta$

# Origin of mass

- UV fixed point : scale symmetry unbroken  
all particles are massless
- IR fixed point :  
scale symmetry spontaneously broken,  
massive particles , massless dilaton
- crossover : explicit mass scale  $\mu$  important
- approximate SM fixed point : approximate scale symmetry  
spontaneously broken, massive particles , almost massless  
cosmon, tiny cosmon potential



# Spontaneous breaking of scale symmetry

- expectation value of scalar field breaks scale symmetry spontaneously
- massive particles are compatible with scale symmetry
- in presence of massive particles : sign of exact scale symmetry is exactly **massless Goldstone boson** – the dilaton



# Approximate scale symmetry near fixed points

- UV : approximate scale invariance of primordial fluctuation spectrum from inflation
- IR : cosmon is pseudo Goldstone boson of spontaneously broken scale symmetry, tiny mass, responsible for dynamical Dark Energy

# Simplicity

simple description of **all** cosmological epochs

natural incorporation of Dark Energy :

- inflation
- Early Dark Energy
- present Dark Energy dominated epoch

# Asymptotic safety

if UV fixed point exists :

*quantum gravity is  
non-perturbatively renormalizable !*

S. Weinberg , M. Reuter

# Fundamental setting

several relevant directions at UV – fixed point  
crossover to IR fixed points in several steps

- 1) decoupling of gravity , end of inflation
- 2) Fermi scale , decoupling of weak interactions
- 3) QCD- scale , decoupling of hadrons
- 4) Beyond standard model physics :  
crossover in neutrino sector →  
onset of dark energy domination

