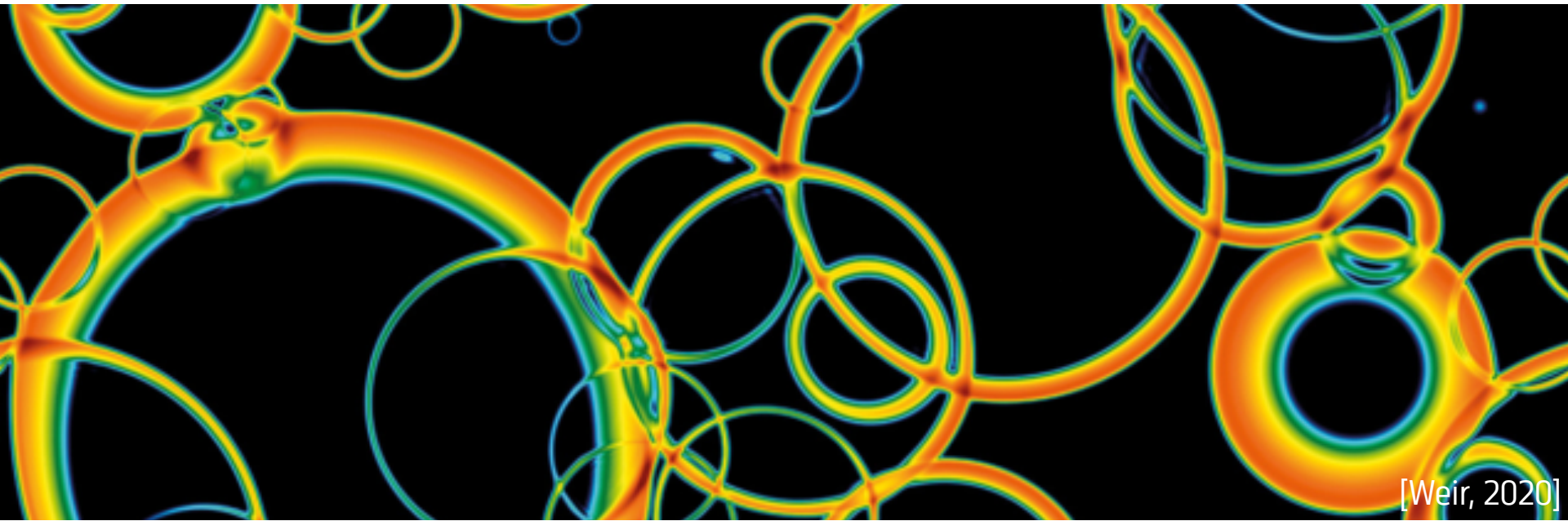


# "Precision Calculations of Effective Potentials and Electroweak Phase Transitions in the Early Universe"



[Weir, 2020]

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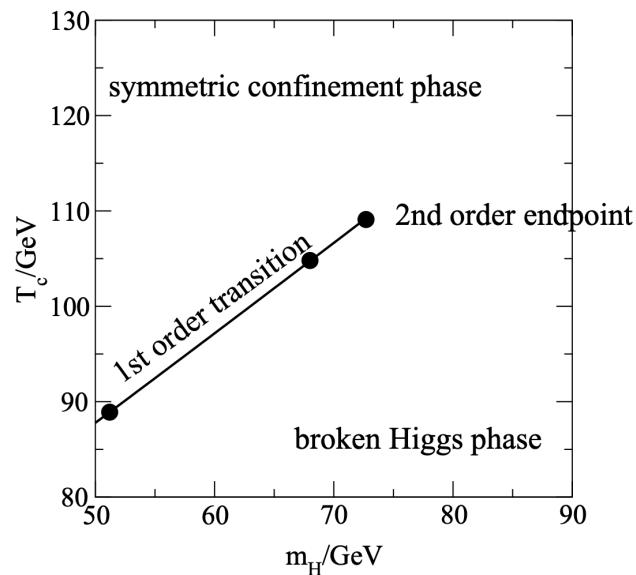
# "Precision Calculations of Effective Potentials and Electroweak Phase Transitions in the Early Universe"

[Lisbon, 2024]



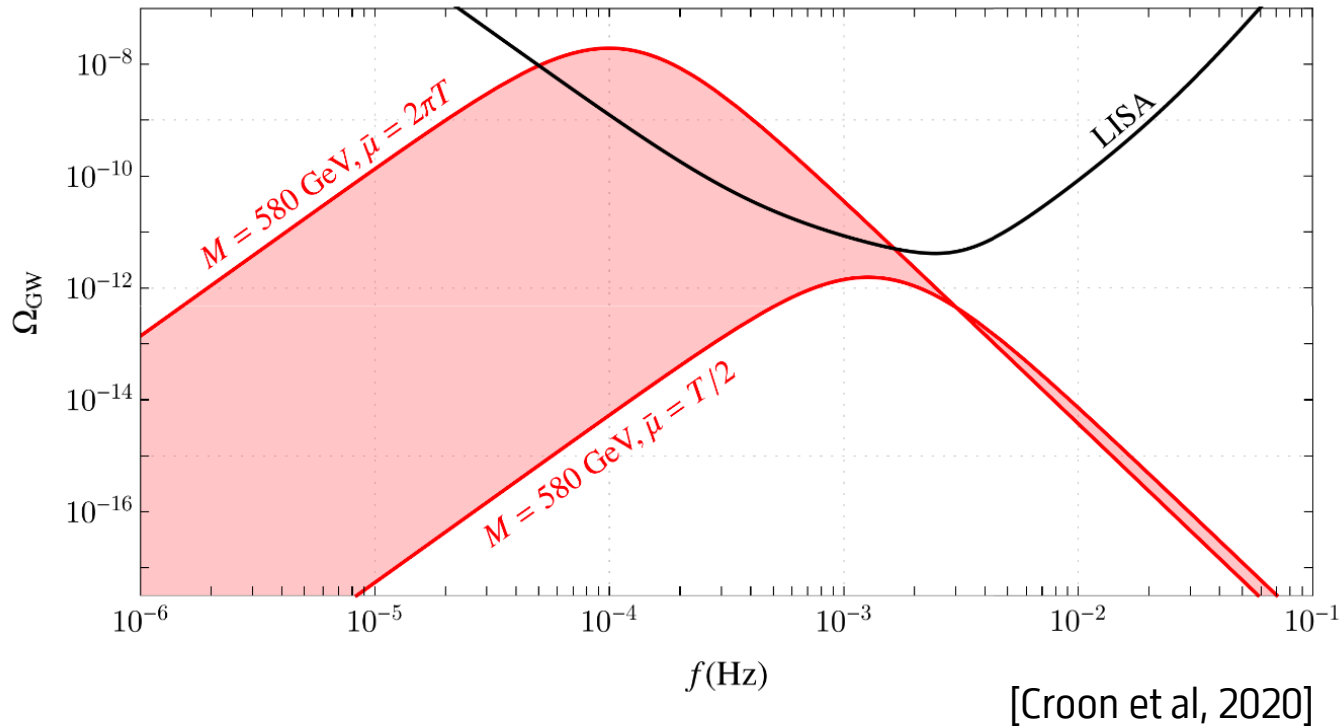
# Motivation: First Order Phase Transition in the Early Universe

- Mechanism to satisfy Sakharov's conditions for generation matter-antimatter asymmetry
- Naturally occurring in most of extensions of Higgs sectors
- Perfect candidate for gravitation wave detection in close future experiments (LISA, etc)

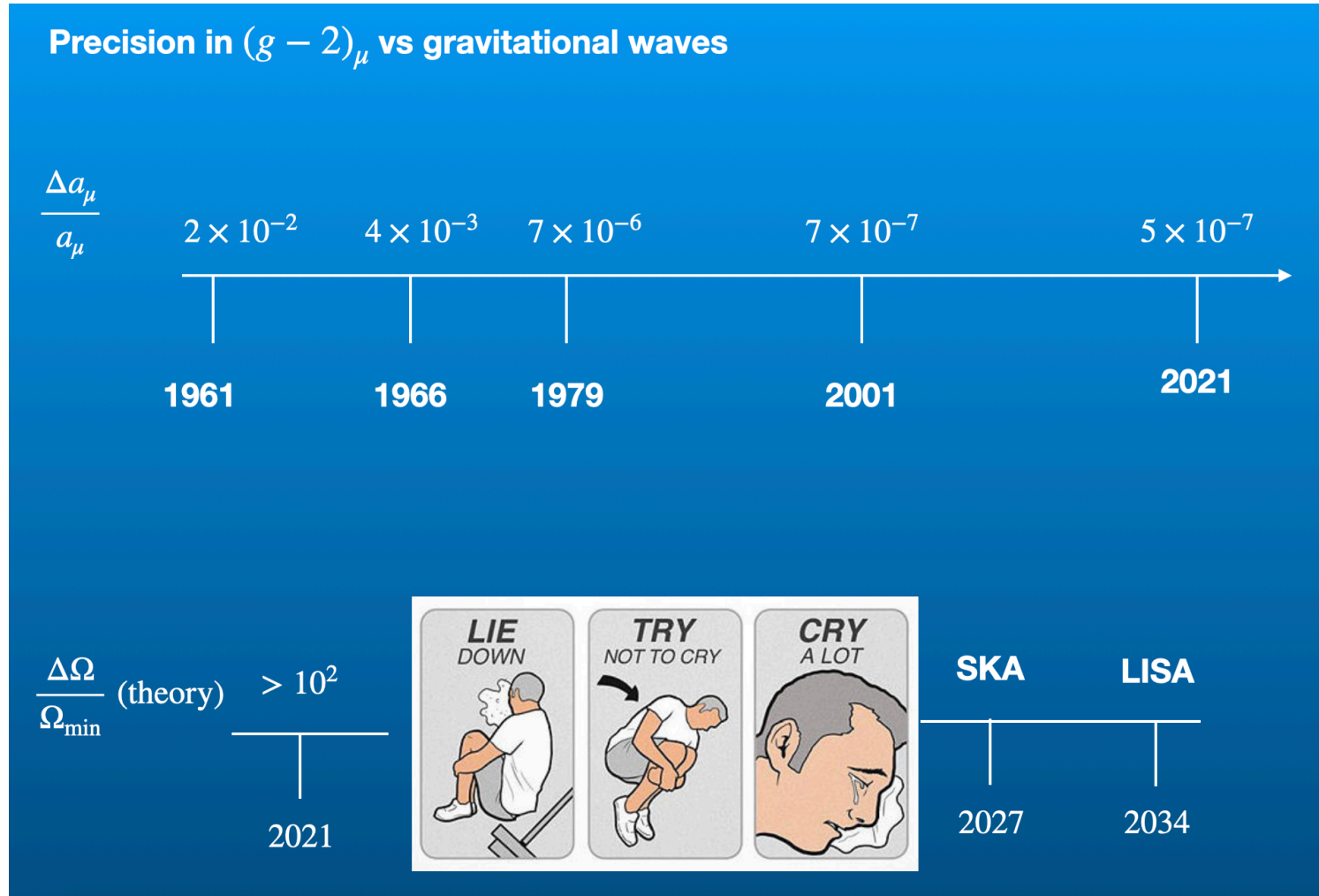


[Laine, 2000]

# Motivation: uncertainties



# Motivation: uncertainties



[White, 2024]

# Effective action/potential

$$\Gamma[\phi] = W[J] - \int d^4x J(x)\phi(x),$$

$$V_{eff}[\phi] = \frac{\Gamma[\phi]}{(vol)}$$



$$V^{eff} = V_{tree} + V_{1-loop} + V_{2-loop} + \dots$$

$$V_{1-loop}^{T=0} = -\frac{i}{2} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \ln(k^2 - m_i^2) = \sum_P \frac{n_i \cdot m_i^4}{64\pi^2} \left( \log\left(\frac{m_i^2}{\mu^2}\right) - C_i \right)$$

MS ↑

$$V_{2-loop}^{T=0} \supset \text{[diagrams: tadpole, sunset, sunset with wavy line]} + \dots$$

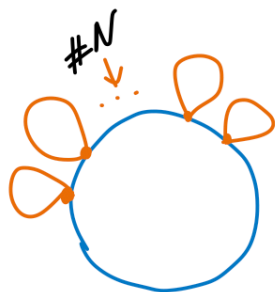
\* full 2-loop result in arbitrary gauge is known

# Renormalization scale & Daisy resummation

- Thermal loop corrections, which are dominant during the phase transition, introduce large renormalization scale dependence.

$$V_{\text{therm}} = \underbrace{V_{\text{tree}} + V_{1\text{-loop}}^{T=0}}_{\mu\text{-inv}} + \underbrace{V_{1\text{-loop}}^{T \neq 0}}_{\mu\text{-non-inv!}}$$

- The presence of hierarchy between hard ( $\sim T$ ) and soft ( $\sim gT$ ) scales requires resummation of the hard modes, which messes up with the loop order



$$\sim m^3 T \left( \frac{gT}{m} \right)^{2N}$$

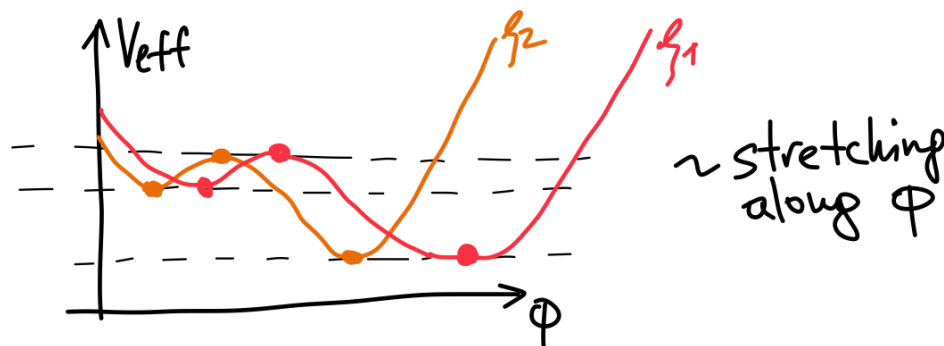


# Gauge dependency

- The effective action itself is an intrinsically gauge dependent quantity, as it's defined for the non-zero source term, and the system has a non-dynamical background change.
- But, it's gauge dependent according to Nielsen identity:

$$\frac{\partial V_{eff}}{\partial \xi} = C_i(\phi, \xi) \frac{\partial V_{eff}}{\partial \phi_i},$$

- $V_{eff}$  is gauge invariant at stationary point (extremums)



- Gauge invariant results can be obtained by systematic  $\hbar$ -expansion [Nielsen, 1975]



# High-T EFT

## Separating logarithms

- Large  $\mu$  - dependence & need for resummations indicate large separation of scales

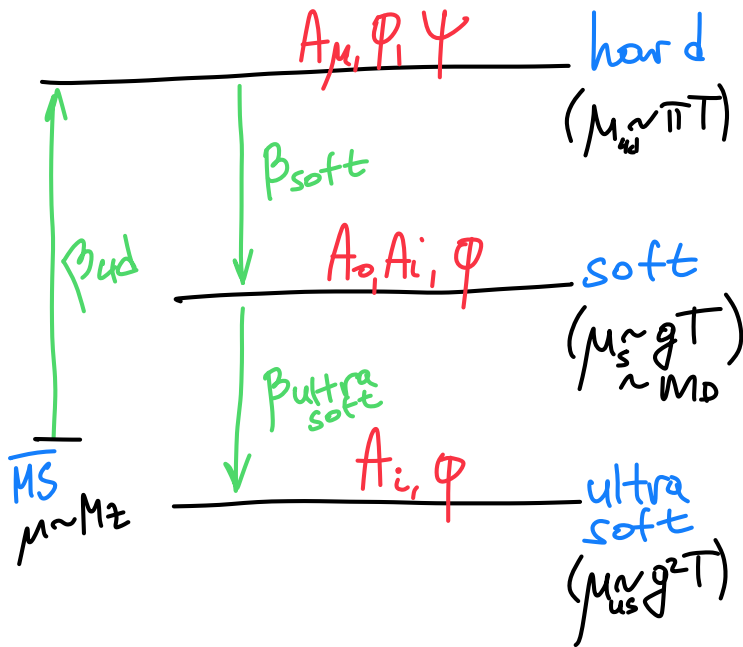
- Relevant scales:

- hard mode  $\sim \pi T$
- soft  $\sim g T \sim m_D$
- ultrasoft  $\sim g^2 T$

- Basically, we have too many logarithms:

$$\log\left(\frac{\pi T}{\mu}\right), \log\left(\frac{g T}{\mu}\right), \log\left(\frac{g^2 T}{\mu}\right)$$

# High-T EFT

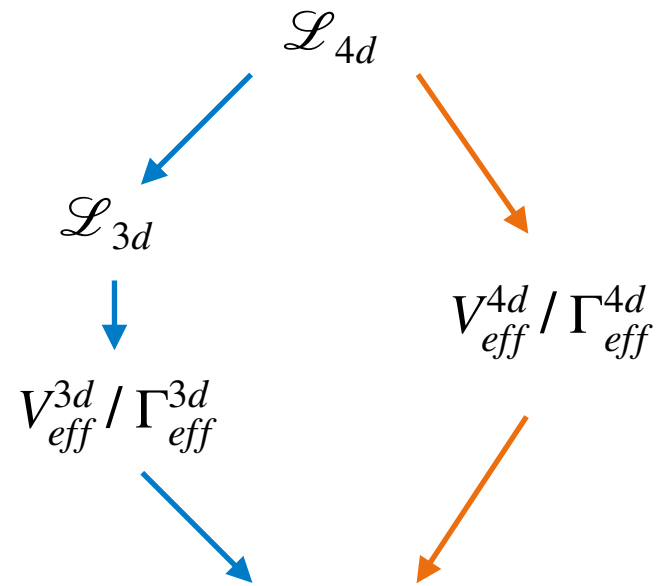


High-T EFT lives in 3D:

- Simpler integrals
- Superrenormalizable theory

Automated matching tool:

**DRalgo** [Ekstedt, et.al. 2022]



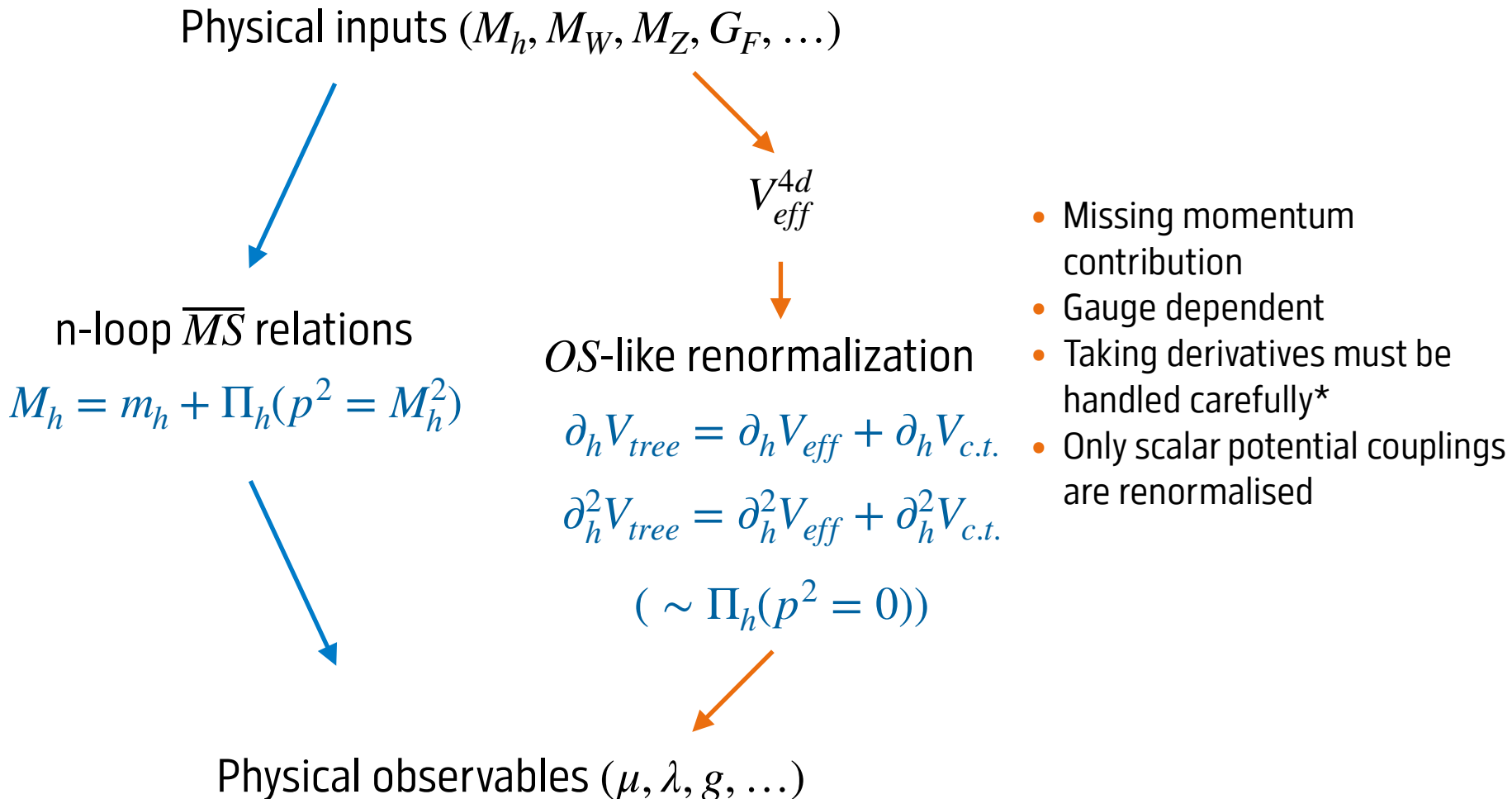
Physical observables ( $T_c, T_n, \Omega_{\text{GW}}, \dots$ )

Temperature is integrated out

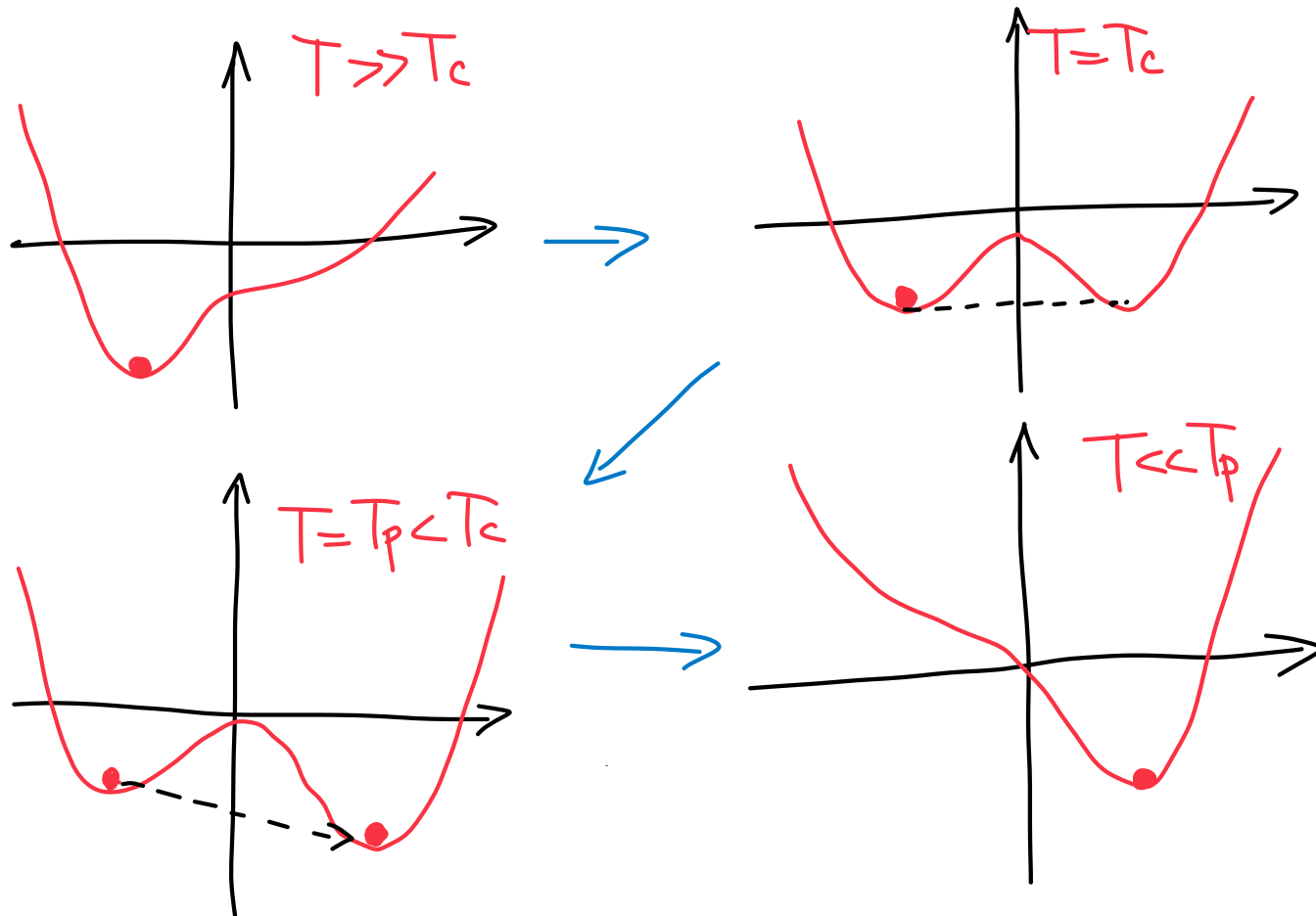
- Use  $T = 0$  QFT framework
- Resummations are already included
- Gauge invariance is straightforward

# Lagrange parameters determination

## Another possible source of uncertainties



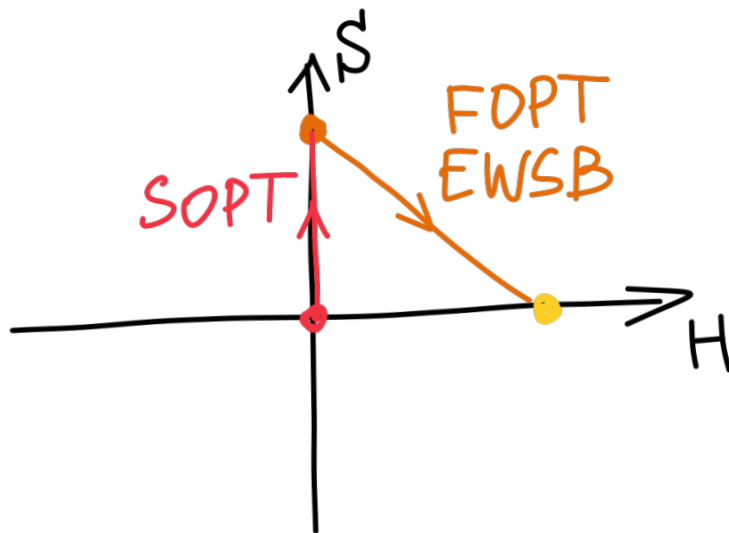
# Thermodynamics of the Phase Transition



\*Tunnelling and Thermal Fluctuations over the barrier

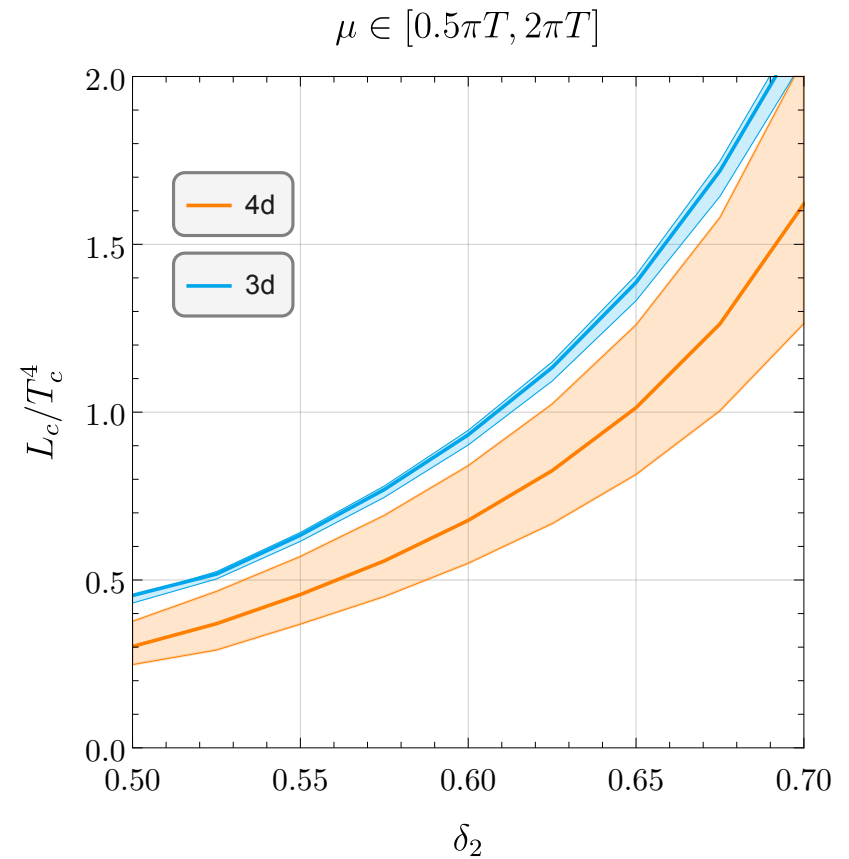
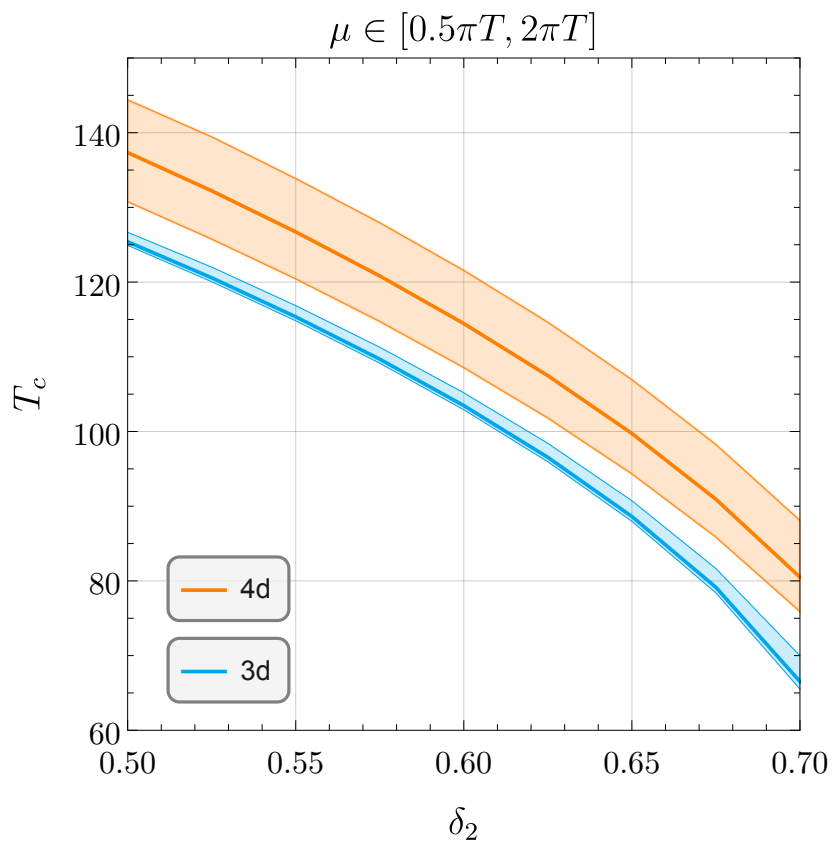
# Benchmark model: cxSM

$$\mathcal{L}_{cxSM} \supset \partial^\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H + \mu_h^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda_h (H^\dagger H)^2 \\ + \frac{1}{2} |\partial^\mu S|^2 + \frac{1}{2} b_2 |S|^2 + d_2 |S|^4 + \frac{1}{2} \delta_2 |S|^2 H^\dagger H$$

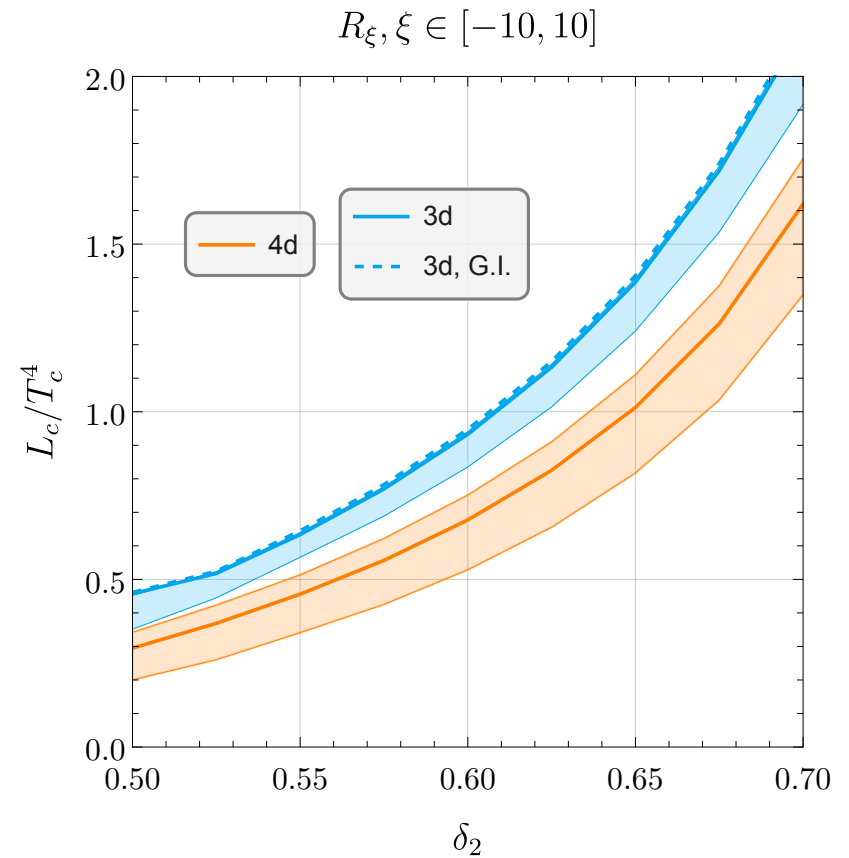
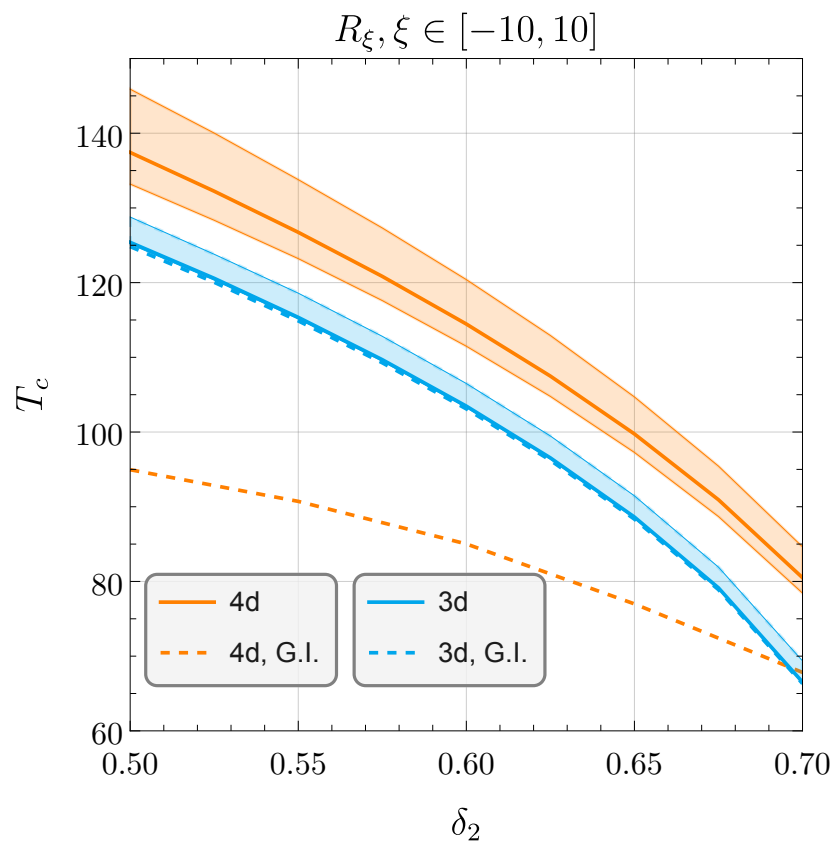


$$m_{H_2} = m_A = 62.5 \text{ GeV}, \\ d_2 = 0.5, \delta_2 = 0.55.$$

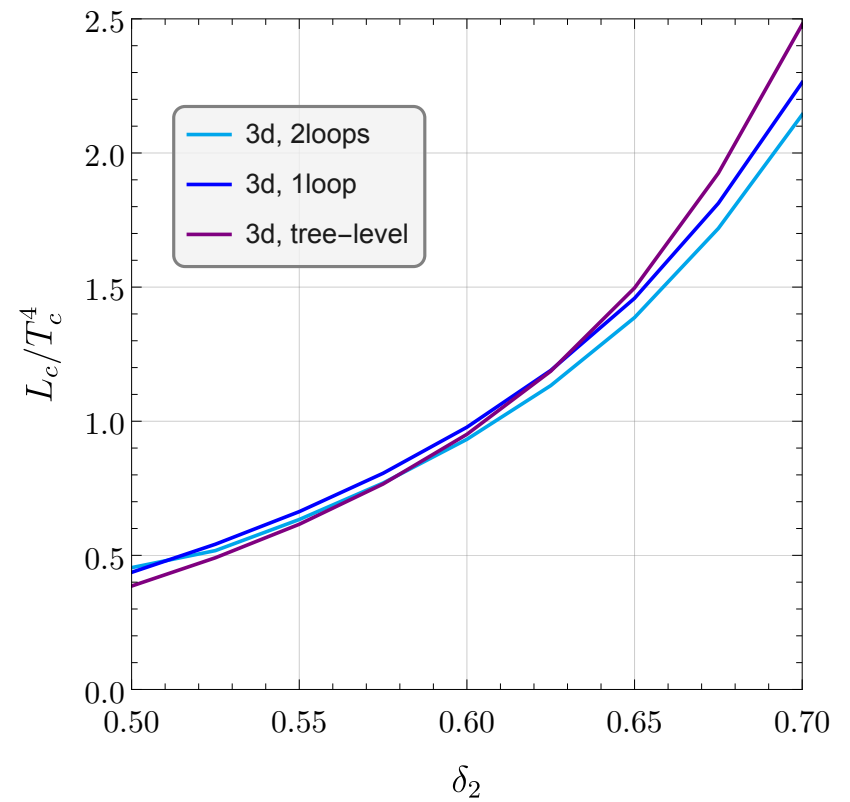
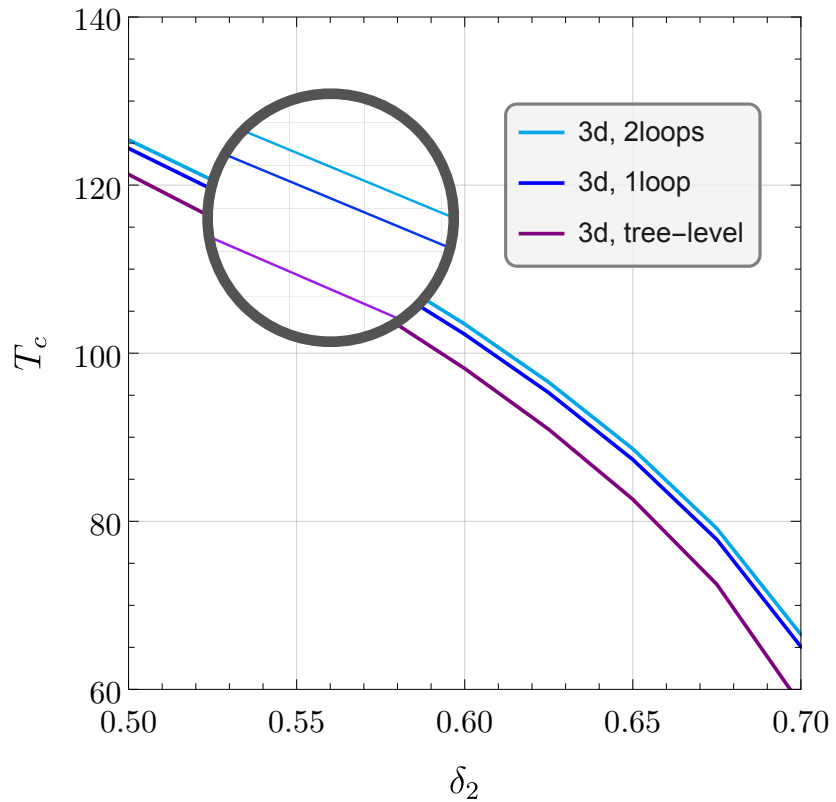
# Results: $\mu$ scale dependence



# Results: gauge (in)variance



# Results: EFT loop convergence



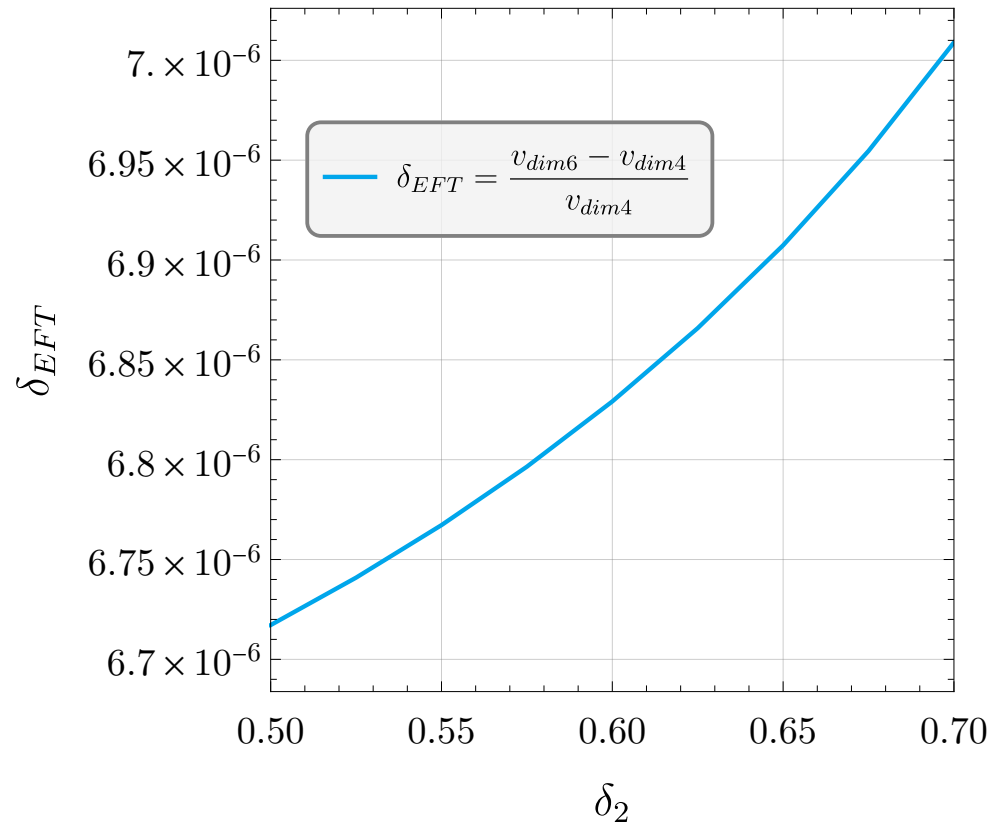


# Results: EFT validity

$\mathcal{L}_{4d}$

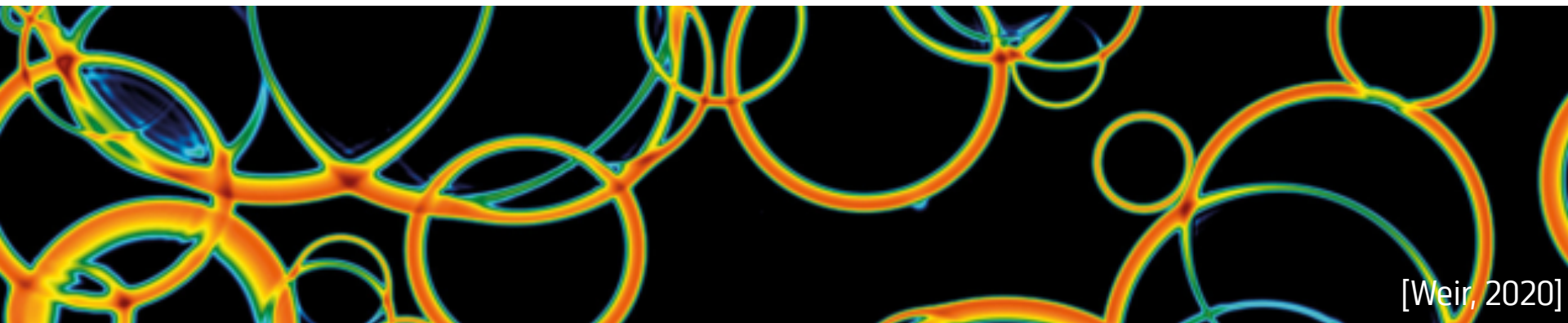


$\mathcal{L}_{3d}$



# Conclusions.

- Thermally driven phase transitions come with uncertainties, which are essential to be accounted for.
- Large scale separations and related resummations can be rigorously taken into account with the help of EFT techniques.
- Phenomenological studies of phase transitions have to go together with the systematic studies of uncertainties, which could shine light on our understanding on physics behind it.



[Weir, 2020]

