An aerial photograph of a coastal town with a large pier structure extending into the sea. The pier is a long, narrow structure with several buildings and a large, complex structure at the end. The sea is dark blue, and the town is built on a hillside. The text is overlaid on a white, semi-transparent rectangular area in the upper center of the image.

# The fixed point structure of the 3d $O(N)$ model in the large $N$ limit

Daniel F. Litim, Edouard Marchais, Peter Mati

**US**  
University of Sussex

# Contents

## Introduction

- FRG
- Phase transitions (SSB)

## $O(N)$ model in the large $N$ limit

- Flow equation

## Solving the flow equation

- Local flow
- Exact solution

## Universality & BMB

- Eigenperturbation, critical exponents
- Bardeen-Moshe-Bander phenomenon

## Conclusion

# Introduction

Euclidean QFT  $n$ -point function

$$\langle \varphi(x_1) \dots \varphi(x_n) \rangle := \mathcal{N} \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \varphi(x_1) \dots \varphi(x_n) e^{-S[\varphi]}$$

... can be produced from the generating functional

$$Z[J] \equiv e^{W[J]} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] + \int J\varphi} \longrightarrow \langle \varphi(x_1) \dots \varphi(x_n) \rangle = \frac{1}{Z[0]} \left( \frac{\delta^n Z[J]}{\delta J(x_1) \dots \delta J(x_n)} \right)_{J=0}$$

The effective action (by Legendre trf.)

$$\Gamma[\phi] = \sup_J \left( \int J\phi - W[J] \right)$$

$$\phi = \frac{\delta W[J]}{\delta J} = \frac{1}{Z[J]} \frac{\delta Z[J]}{\delta J} = \langle \varphi \rangle_J$$

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = J(x)$$

Q-EOM:

*Describes the dynamics of the VEV + quantum fluc. included*

# Introduction

Wilsonian idea: instead PT, we integrate out *momentum shell by momentum shell*

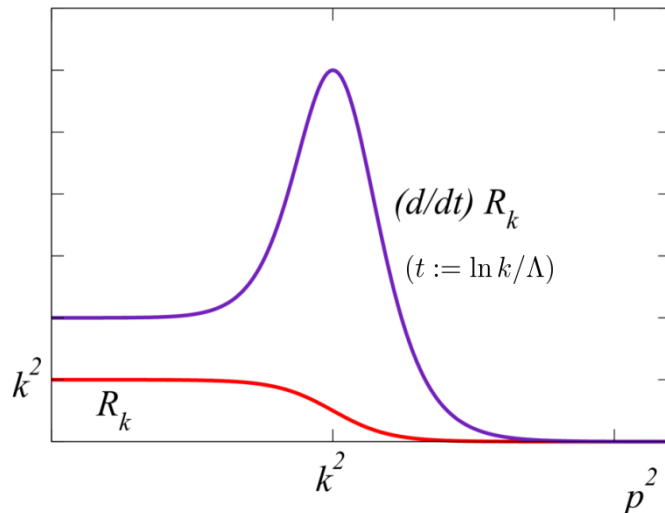
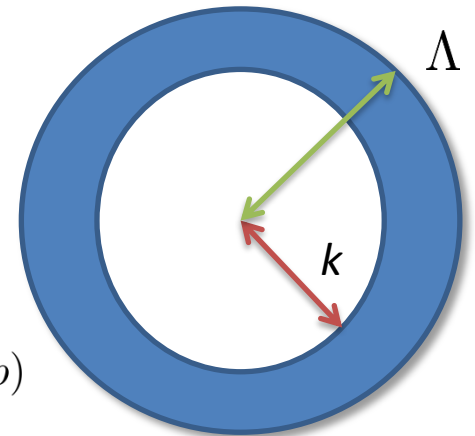


Effective average action:  $\Gamma_{k \rightarrow \Lambda} \simeq S_{\text{bare}}, \quad \Gamma_{k \rightarrow 0} = \Gamma$

How?

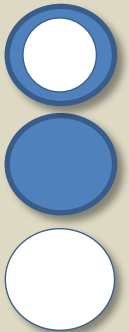
$$Z_k[J] := \int \mathcal{D}\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] - \Delta S_k[\varphi] + \int J\varphi}$$

Momentum-dependent mass term  $\Delta S_k[\varphi] := \frac{1}{2} \int_p \varphi(p) R_k(p) \varphi(-p)$



$R_k$ : regulator function

- $\lim_{p^2/k^2 \rightarrow 0} R_k(p) > 0$  IR regulator
- $\lim_{k^2/p^2 \rightarrow 0} R_k(p) = 0$  original theory
- $\lim_{k^2 \rightarrow \Lambda \rightarrow \infty} R_k(p) = \infty$  classical theory



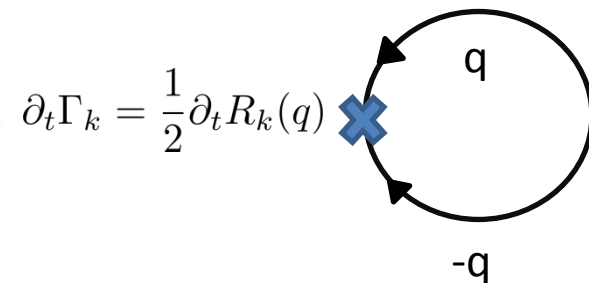
# Introduction

We apply the same routine for our new theory

- The "average" effective action  $\Gamma_k[\phi] = \sup_J \left( \int J\phi - W_k[J] \right) - \Delta S_k[\phi]$
- The VEV  $\phi(x) = \langle \varphi(x) \rangle_J = \frac{\delta W_k[J]}{\delta J(x)}$
- Q-EOM  $\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} + (R_k \phi)(x) = J(x)$

The scale dependence of the average effective action: **the flow eq.**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^D q}{(2\pi)^D} \left( \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi(q) \delta \phi(-q)} + R_k(q) \right)^{-1} \partial_t R_k(q)$$



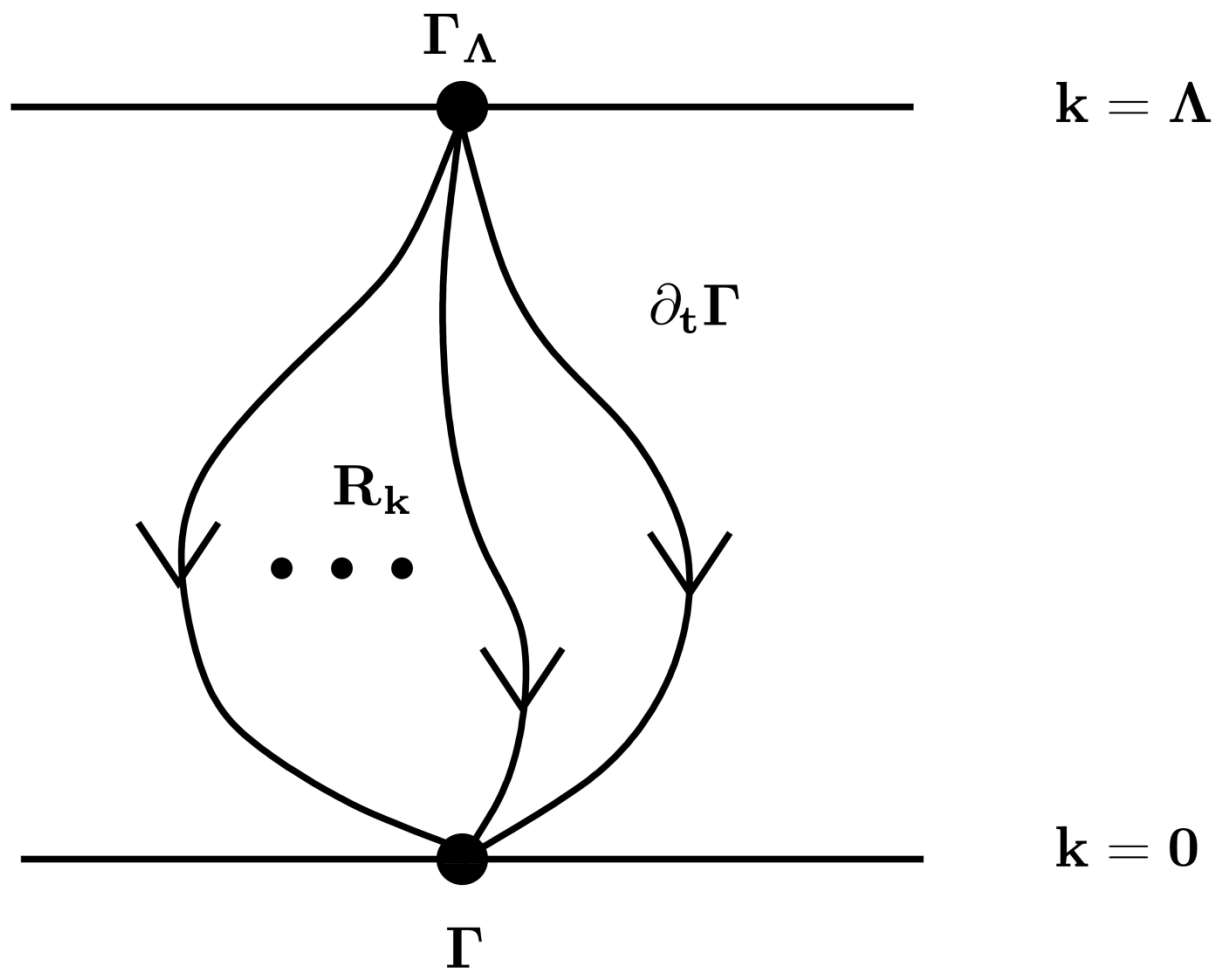
- No func. int.
- IR & UV regulator
- We can choose regulator

$\equiv G_k$  "full propagator"

- One-loop structure
- PT expansion can be recovered  
( $t := \ln k/\Lambda$ )

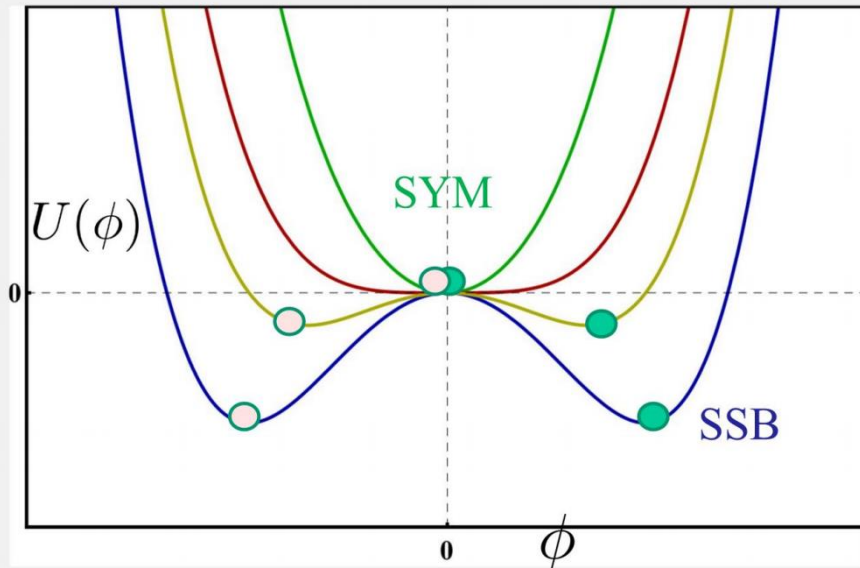
# Introduction

FRG



# Introduction

Second order (continuous)

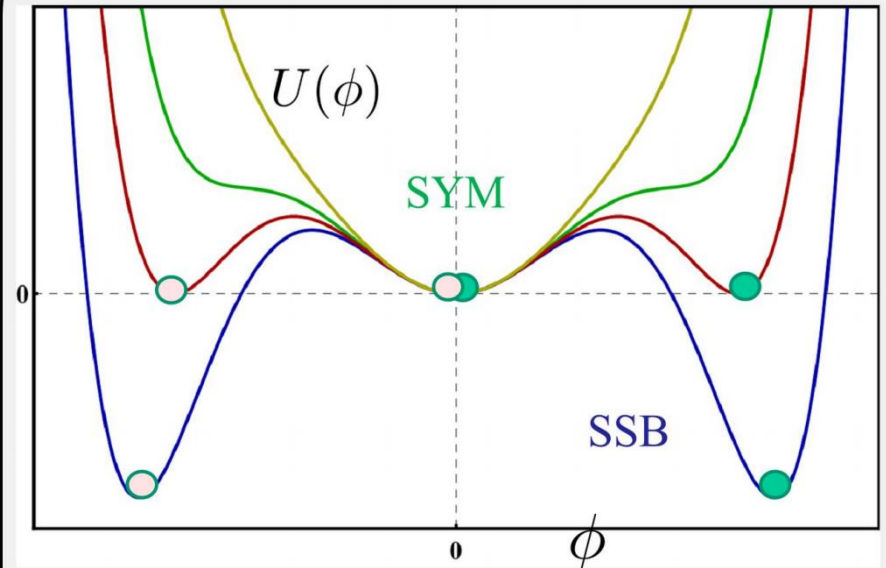


$$U(\phi) = \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}(\phi^2)^2$$

Field VEV  $\rightarrow 0$  continuously

Universality

First order (discontinuous)



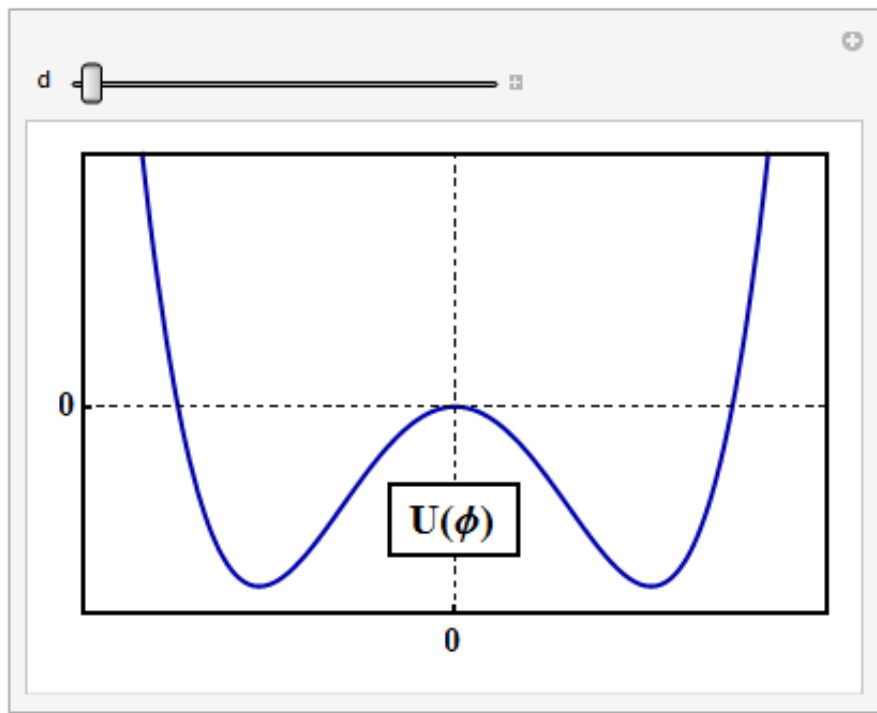
$$U(\phi) = \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4}(\phi^2)^2 + \frac{\tau}{6}(\phi^2)^3$$

Field VEV  $\rightarrow 0$  discontinuously

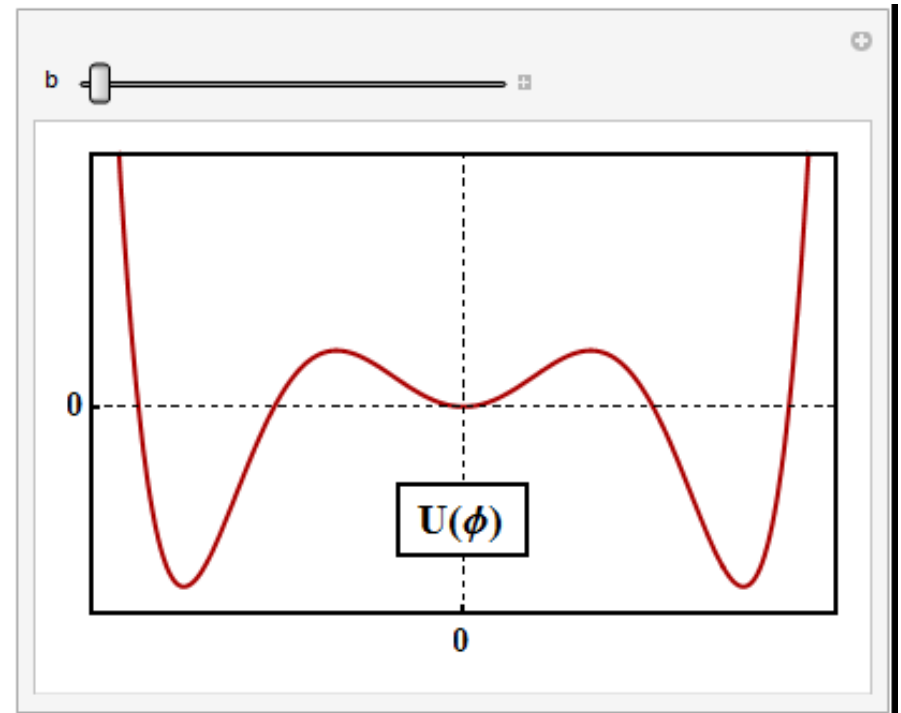
Non-universality

# Introduction

Second order phase transition



First order phase transition






# Introduction

To solve the RG flow: an ansatz for the effective action is needed

"Slowly varying fields"

Derivative Expansion/  
Local Potential Approximation (LPA)

The  $O(N)$  symm. effective action  $\Gamma_k = \int d^D x \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 + U_k(\phi^a \phi_a) \right]$   $Z \equiv 1$   
 $\bar{\rho} := \phi_a \phi^a / 2$   
 $D = 3$

 Plugging into the flow

Flow of effective potential  $\partial_t U_k = \frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^{-3} \int_q \partial_t R_k \left( \frac{N-1}{M_0} + \frac{1}{M_1} \right)$   $M_0 := q^2 + R_k + U'_k$   
 $M_1 := q^2 + R_k + U'_k + 2\rho U''_k$   
 $(\cdot)' := \frac{\delta}{\delta\rho}$

- Using the **optimized regulator**:  $R_k = (k^2 - q^2)\theta(k^2 - q^2)$  the loop integral is analytic
- Taking the large  $N$ -limit (the universality class of the ideal Bose gas)

The flow for the **dimensionless** effective potential

$$\partial_t u' = -2u' + \rho u'' - \frac{u''}{(1 + u')^2}$$

Dimensionless quantities

$$u' \equiv U' / k^2$$

$$u'' \equiv U'' / k$$

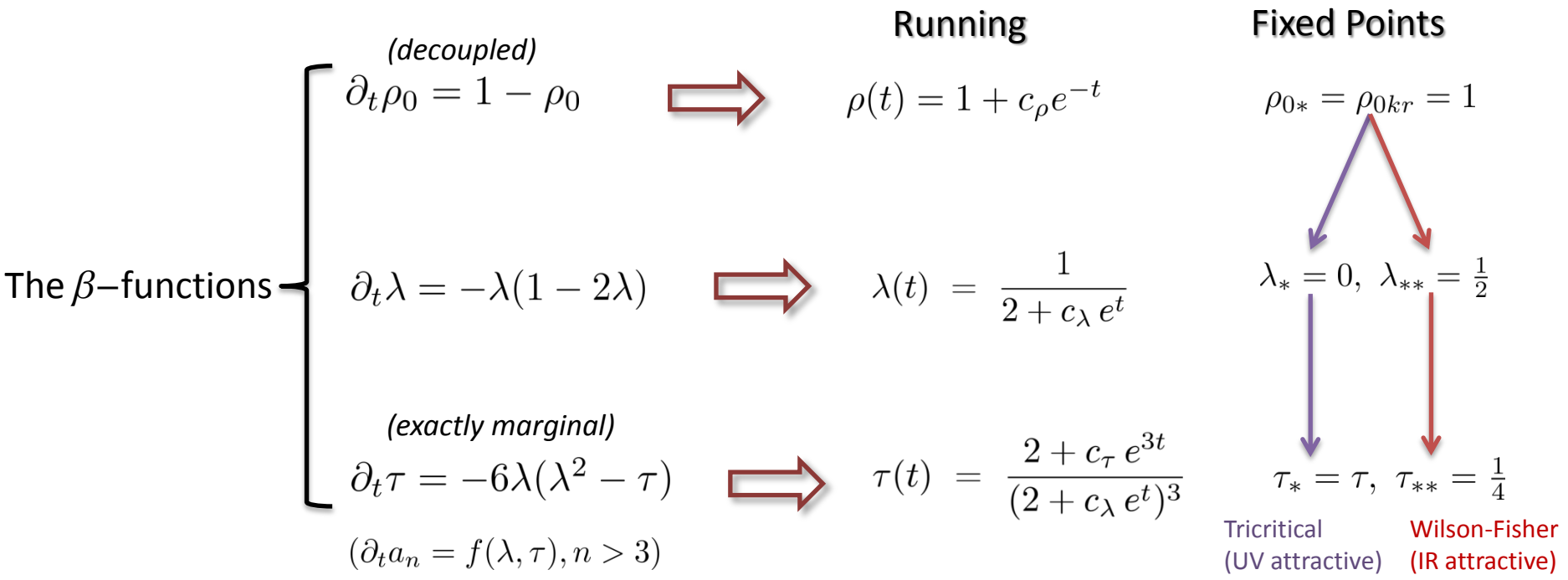
$$\rho \equiv \bar{\rho} / k$$

# Solving the flow eq.

Expanding the potential in terms of polynomial couplings

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{n_{trunc}} \frac{a_n}{n!} (\rho - \rho_0)^n$$

$$u'(\rho_0) = 0 \quad \lambda \equiv a_2 \quad \tau \equiv a_3$$



Constants from initial value  $c_\rho = \rho_{0,\Lambda} - 1, c_\lambda = 1/\lambda_\Lambda - 2, c_\tau = \tau_\Lambda/\lambda_\Lambda^3 - 2$

# Solving the flow eq.

The flow equation can be solved **analytically** in the large N (*by method of characteristics*)

$$\partial_t u' = -2u' + \rho u'' - \frac{u''}{(1+u')^2}$$

$$\frac{\rho - 1}{\sqrt{u'}} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{u'}}{1 + u'} - \frac{3}{2} \arctan \sqrt{u'} = G(u' e^{2t})$$

$u' \geq 0$

$$\frac{\rho - 1}{\sqrt{-u'}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{-u'}}{1 + u'} - \frac{3}{4} \ln \frac{1 - \sqrt{-u'}}{1 + \sqrt{-u'}} = \bar{G}(u' e^{2t})$$

$u' \leq 0$

*analytic continuation \**

\*  $\frac{1}{i} \arctan ix = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{1+x}{1-x} \right)$

# Solving the flow eq.

$$\partial_t u' = -2u' + \rho u'' - \frac{u''}{(1+u')^2}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\rho-1}{\sqrt{u'}} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{u'}}{1+u'} - \frac{3}{2} \arctan \sqrt{u'} = G(u'e^{2t}) & u' \geq 0 \\ \frac{\rho-1}{\sqrt{-u'}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{-u'}}{1+u'} - \frac{3}{4} \ln \frac{1-\sqrt{-u'}}{1+\sqrt{-u'}} = \bar{G}(u'e^{2t}) & u' \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Fixed points are described by scaling solutions

$$G(u'e^{2t}) \rightarrow c$$

$$\bar{G}(u'e^{2t}) \rightarrow \bar{c}$$

0

$$\rho(u') = 1 + c \sqrt{u'} + H(u') \quad u' \geq 0$$

$$\rho(u') = 1 + \bar{c} \sqrt{-u'} + \bar{H}(u') \quad u' \leq 0$$

...it turns out:  $c = \bar{c}$

$$H(u') := \frac{1}{2} \frac{u'}{1+u'} + \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{u'} \arctan \sqrt{u'}$$

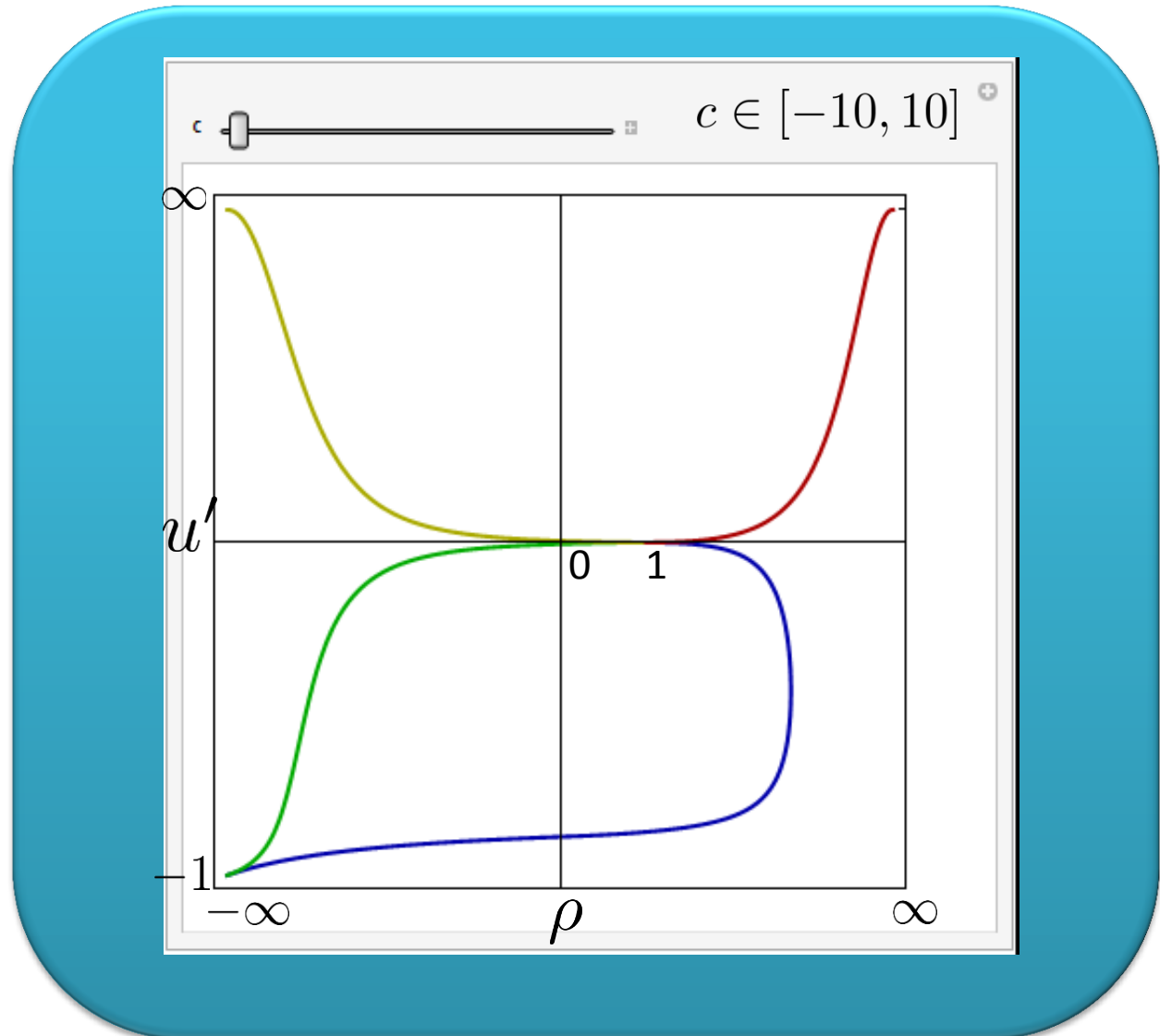
$$\bar{H}(u') := \frac{1}{2} \frac{u'}{1+u'} + \frac{3}{4} \sqrt{-u'} \ln \frac{1-\sqrt{-u'}}{1+\sqrt{-u'}}$$

# Solving the flow eq.

Four branches describe the solution depending on the sign of  $c$  and  $u'$

## Issues

1. Branch continuation
2. Turning points



# Solving the flow eq.

## 1. Branch continuation

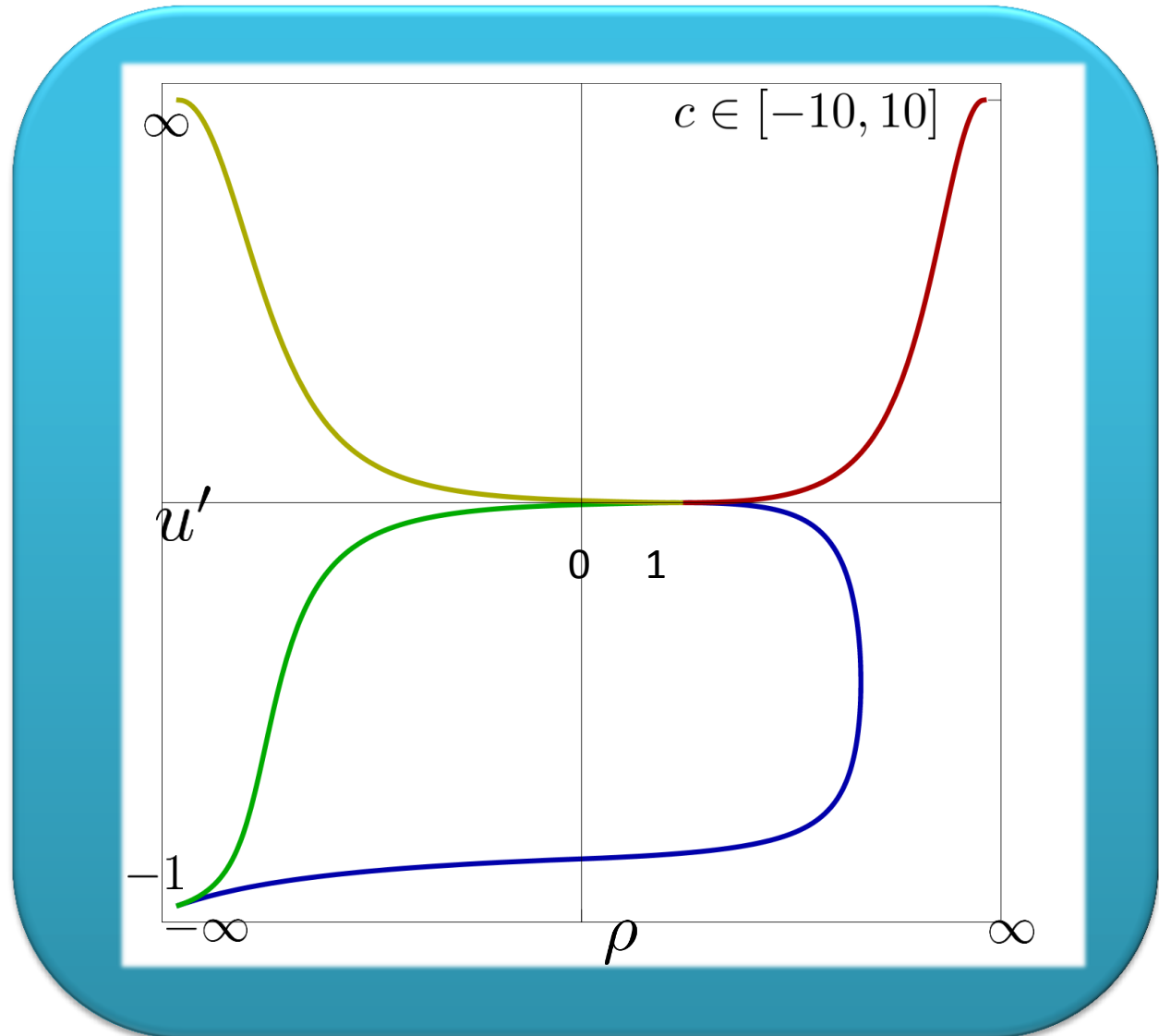
$$u'_+(1) = u'_-(1) = 0,$$

$$u''_+(1) = u''_-(1) = 0,$$

$$u'''_+(1) = \frac{2}{c^2} \neq u'''_-(1) = -\frac{2}{c^2}$$



*Continuation from positive to negative branch is not smooth enough*



# Solving the flow eq.

## 1. Branch continuation

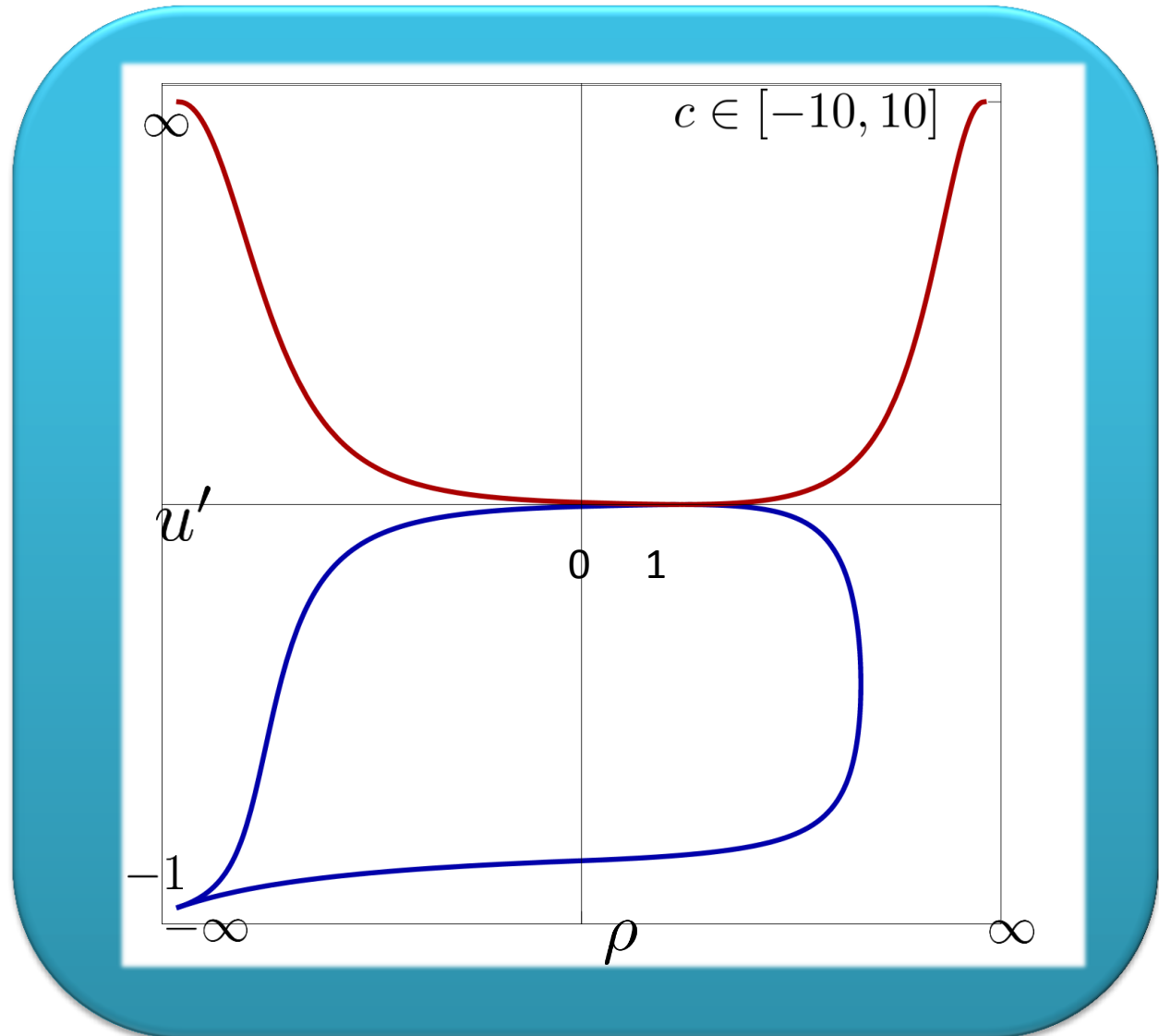
$$u'_+(1) = u'_-(1) = 0,$$

$$u''_+(1) = u''_-(1) = 0,$$

$$u'''_+(1) = \frac{2}{c^2} \neq u'''_-(1) = -\frac{2}{c^2}$$



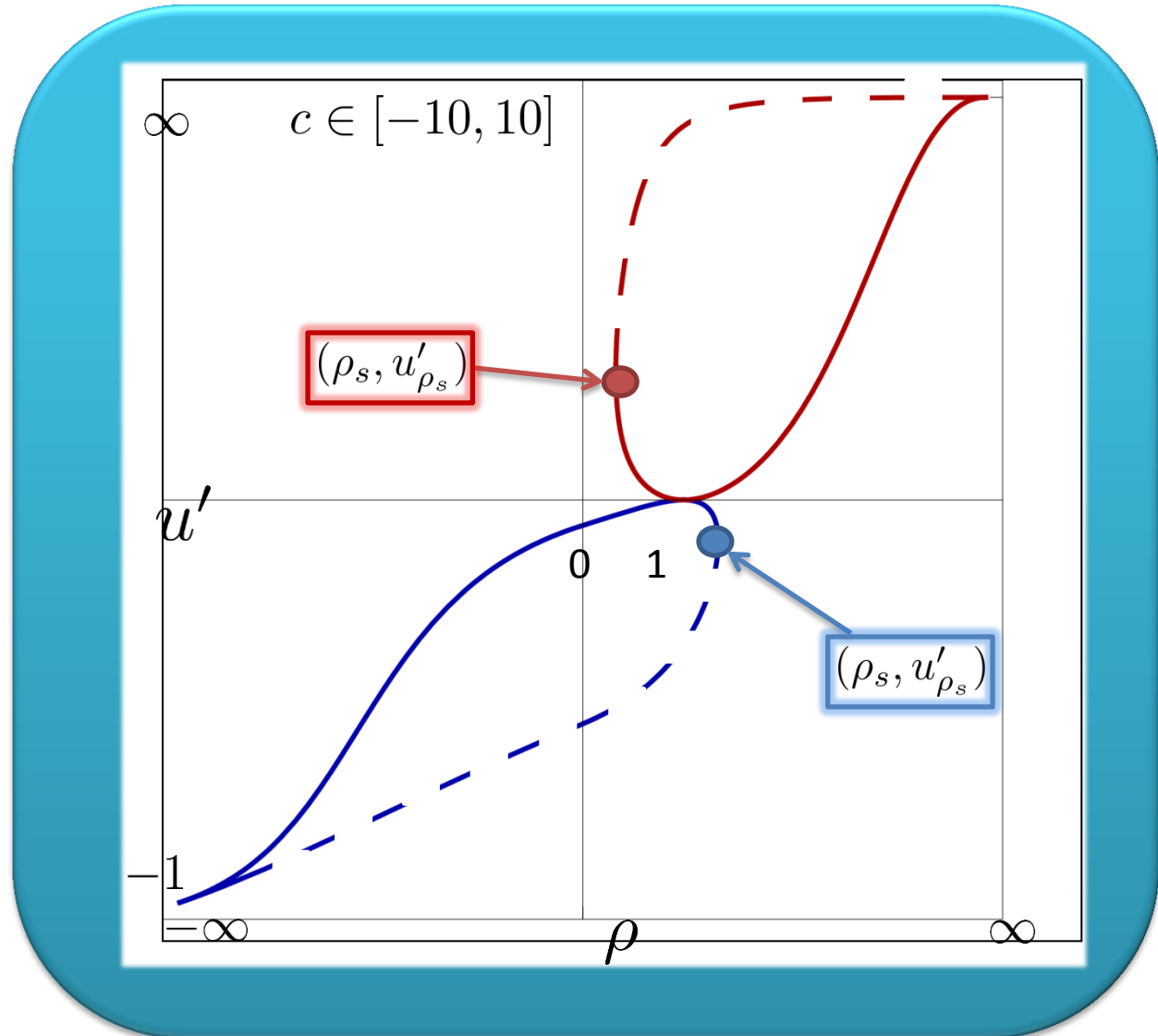
*Continuation from positive to negative branch is not smooth enough*



# Solving the flow eq.

## 2. Turning points

In this regime we have to choose either the dashed or the full line: "strong coupling"





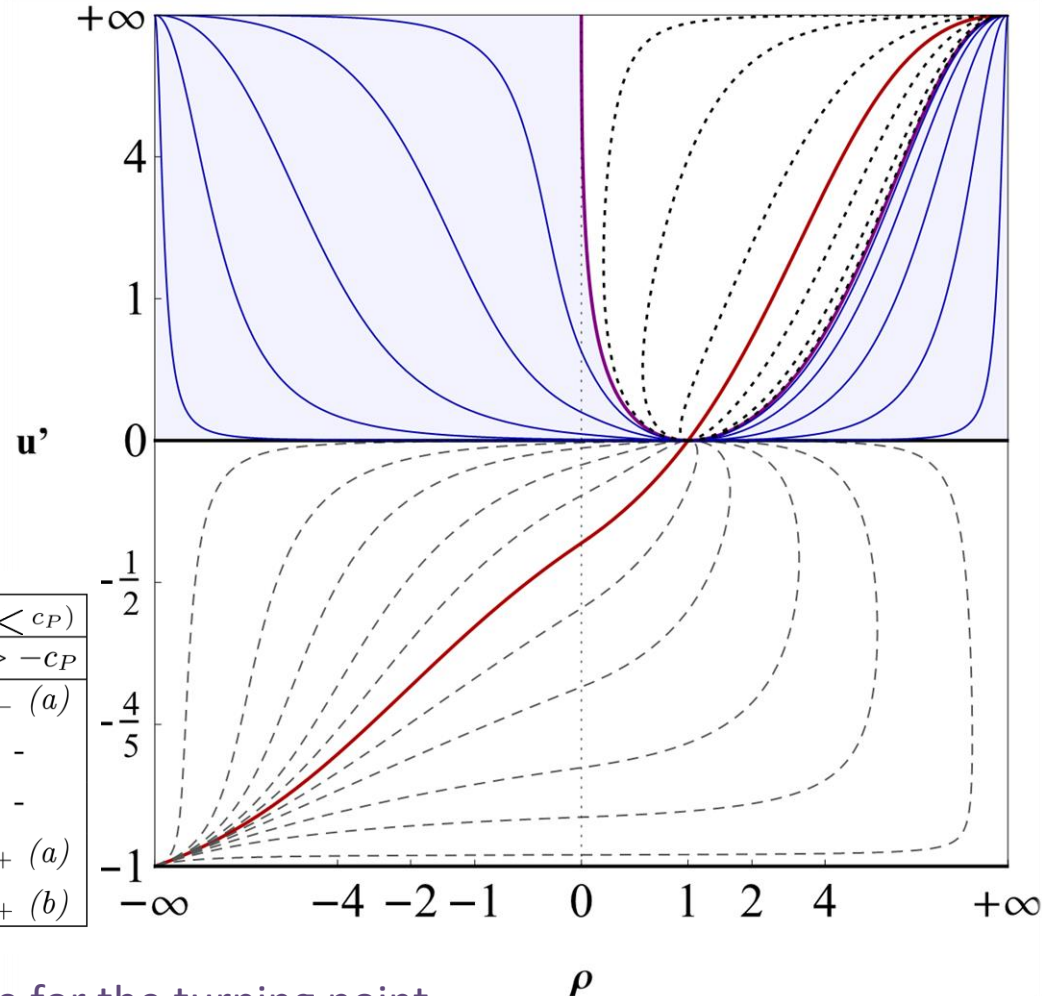
# The fixed point structure

The proper definition of the function:

We consider only  $u' \geq 0$

$$B_+(u') \equiv 1 + c\sqrt{u'} + H(u')$$

$$B_-(u') \equiv 1 - c\sqrt{u'} + H(u')$$



Domain	Weak ( $ c  > c_P$ )		Critical ( $ c  = c_P$ )		Strong ( $ c  < c_P$ )	
	$c > c_P$	$c < -c_P$	$c = c_P$	$c = -c_P$	$c < c_P$	$c > -c_P$
$\rho \geq 1$	$B_+$	$B_-$	$B_+$	$B_-$	$B_+ (a)$	$B_- (a)$
$\rho \leq 1$	$B_-$	$B_+$	-	-	-	-
$0 < \rho \leq 1$	-	-	$B_-$	$B_+$	-	-
$\rho_s \geq \rho \leq 1$	-	-	-	-	$B_- (a)$	$B_+ (a)$
$\rho \geq \rho_s$	-	-	-	-	$B_- (b)$	$B_+ (b)$

$$c_P = 3\pi/4$$

The treshold value for the turning point

$\rho$

# The fixed point structure

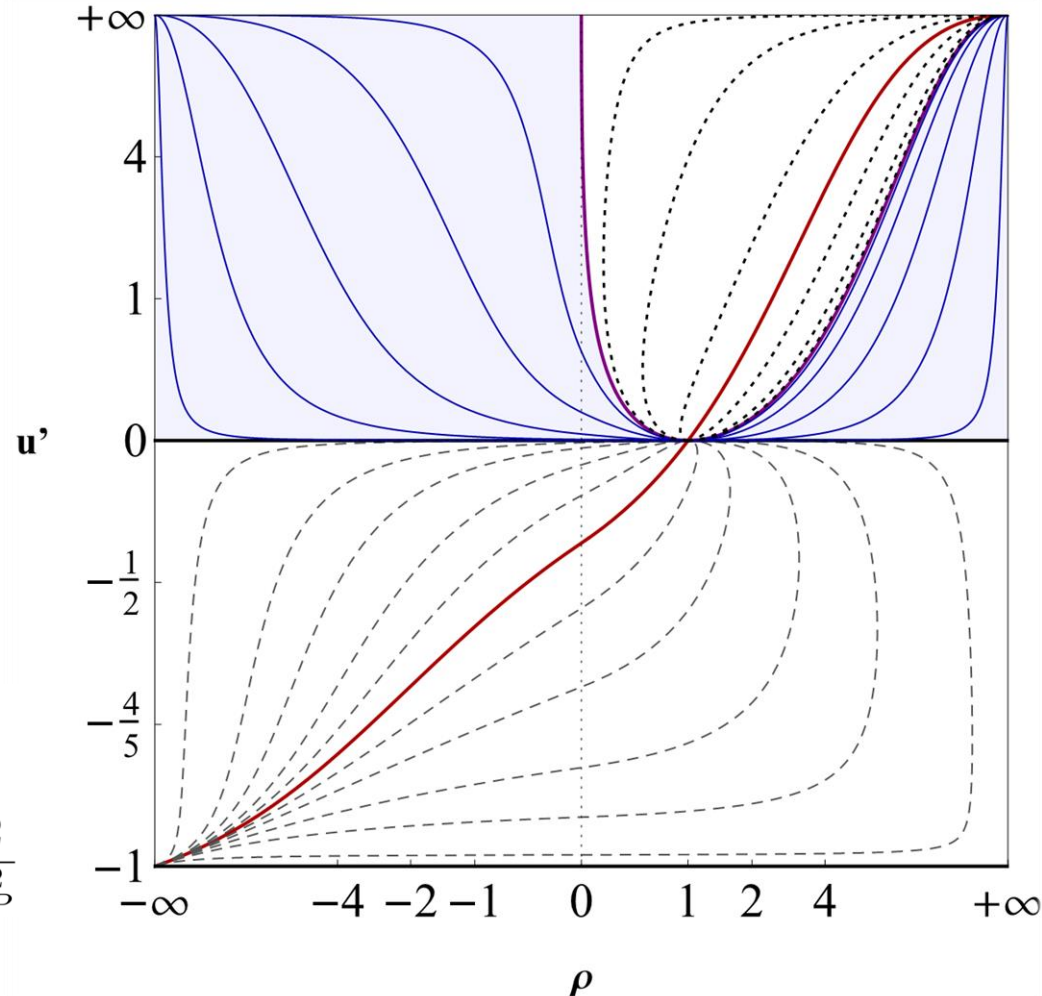
Using polynomial expansion we can identify the couplings as

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{n_{trunc}} \frac{a_n}{n!} (\rho - \rho_0)^n$$

$$\lambda \equiv u''(\rho_0) \quad \tau \equiv u'''(\rho_0)$$

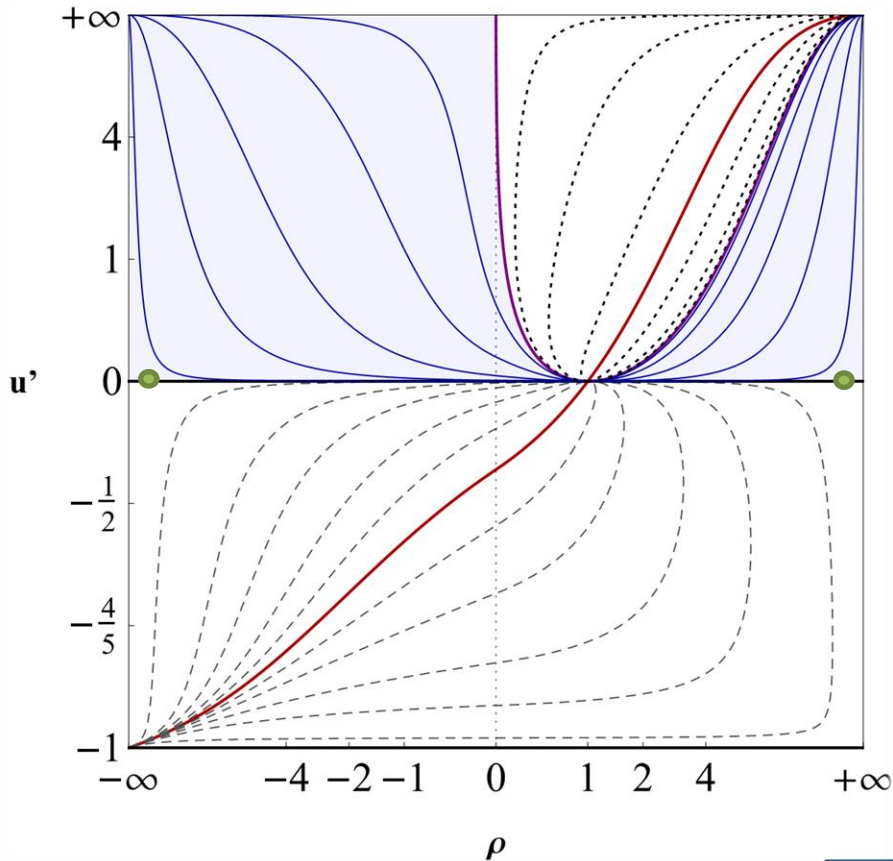
Thus if we tune the VEV to its critical value we can distinguish different type of fixed point solutions

Gauss	Wilson-Fisher	Tricritical	BMB
$\rho_0^* = 1$	$\rho_0^* = 1$	$\rho_0^* = 1$	$\rho_0^* = 1$
$\lambda_* = 0$	$\lambda_* = \frac{1}{2}$	$\lambda_* = 0$	$\lambda_* = 0$
$\tau_* = 0$	$\tau_* = \frac{1}{4}$	$\tau_* = \frac{2}{c^2}$	$\tau_* = \frac{2}{c_P^2}$

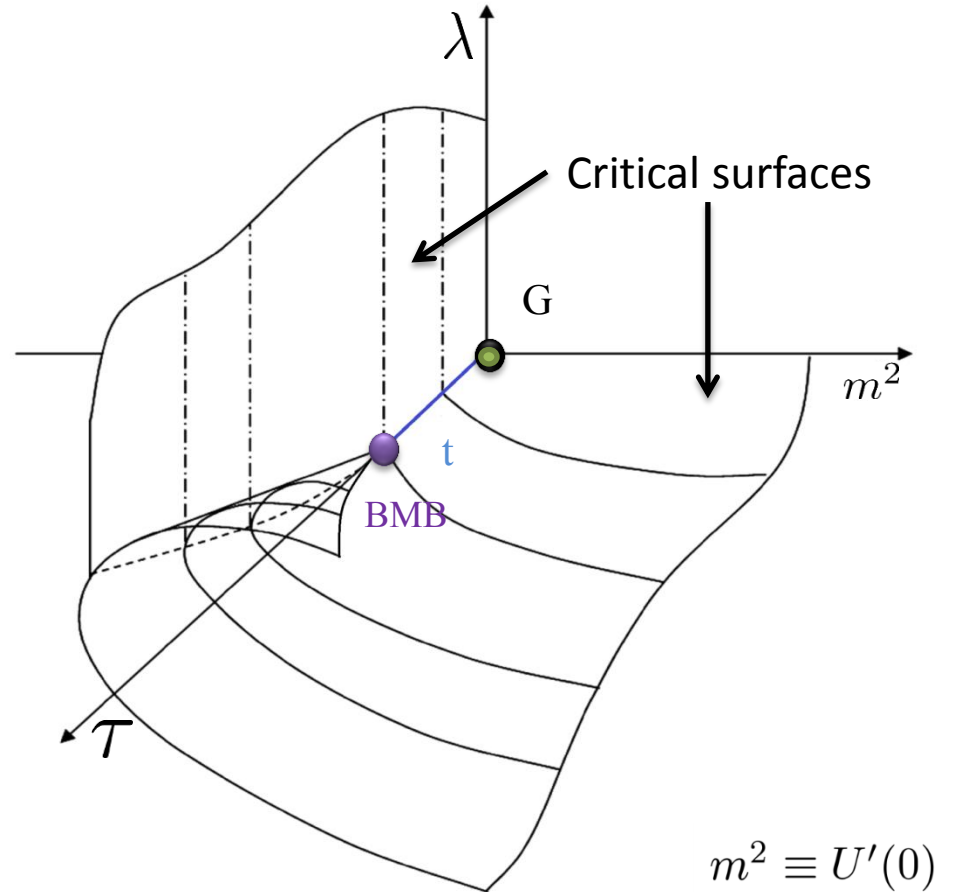


# The fixed point structure

Fixed point solutions



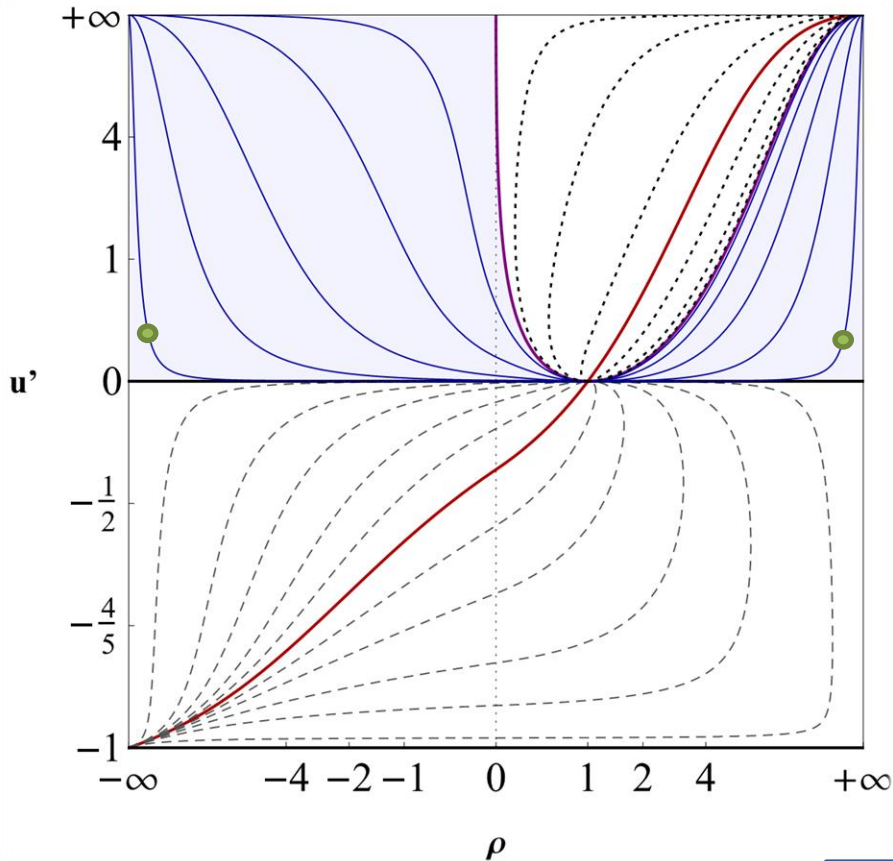
Topology of the parameter space



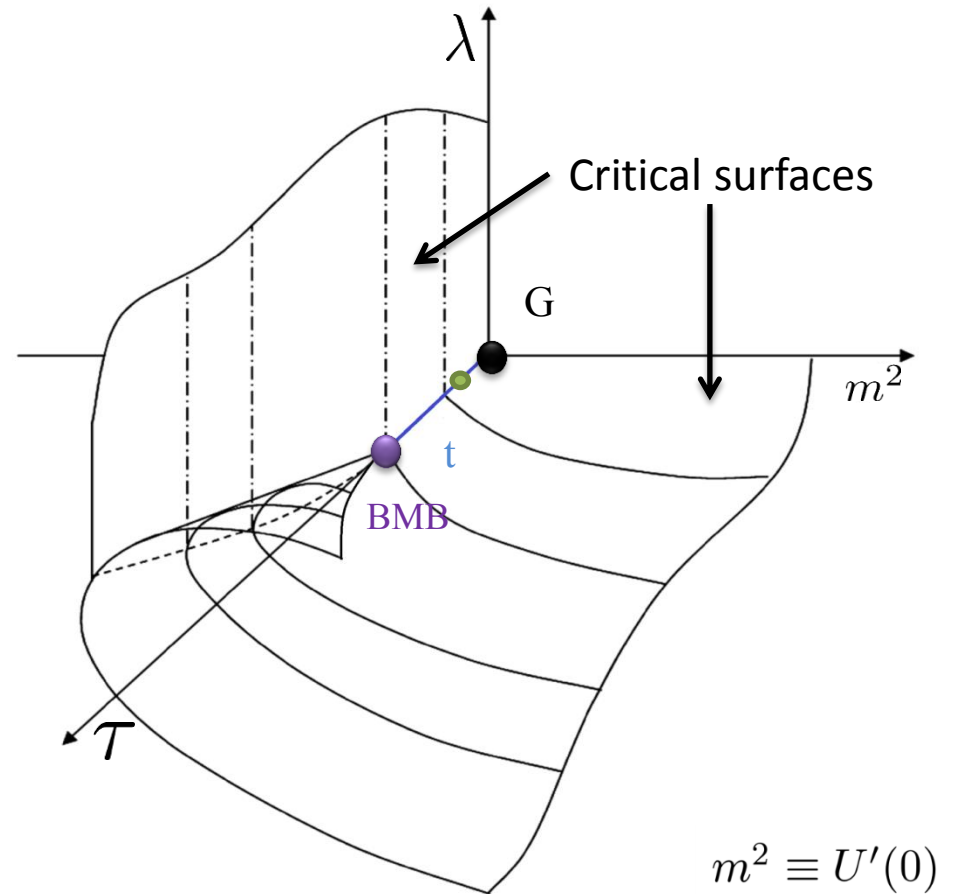
$$\tau = \frac{2}{c^2}$$

# The fixed point structure

Fixed point solutions



Topology of the parameter space

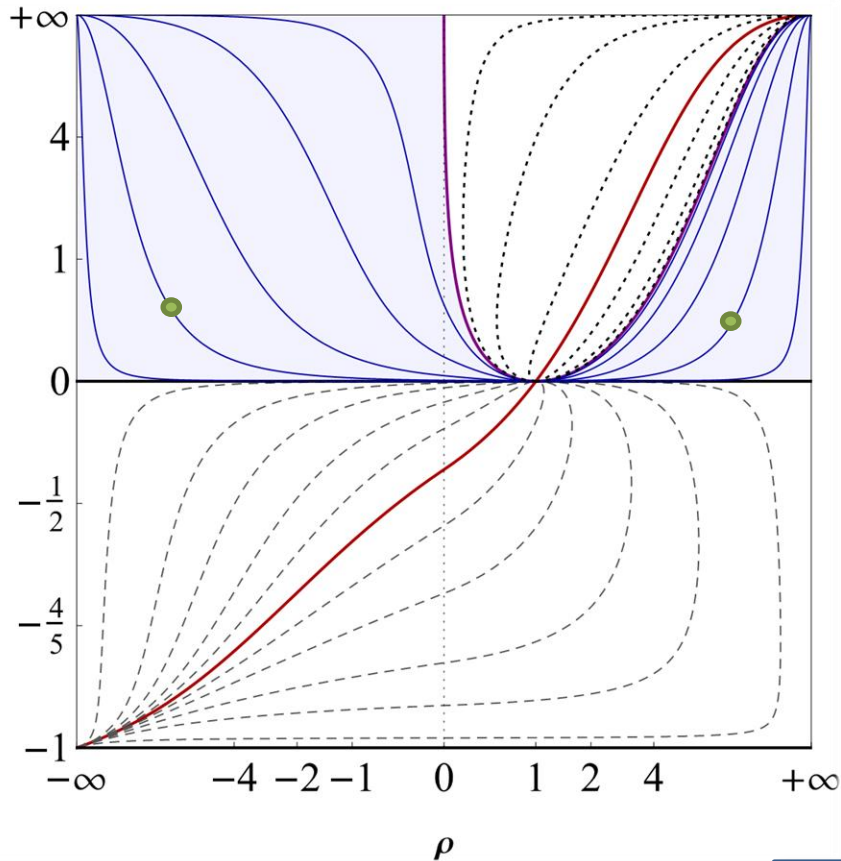


$$m^2 \equiv U'(0)$$

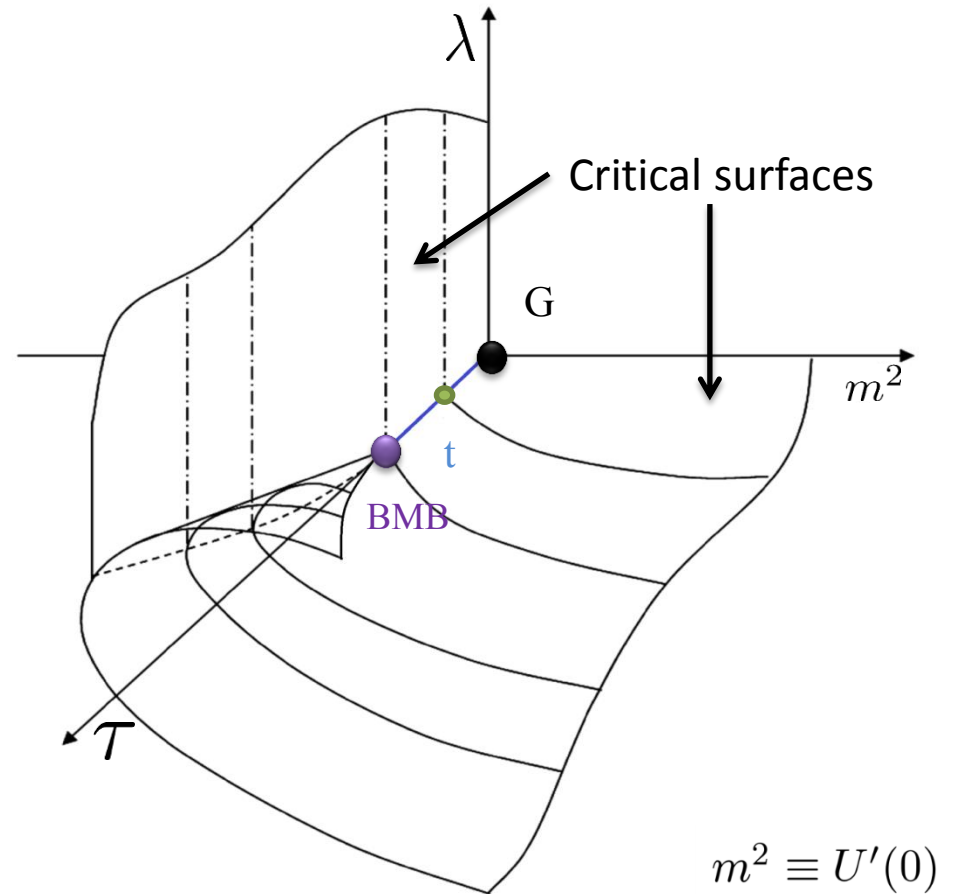
$$\tau = \frac{2}{c^2}$$

# The fixed point structure

Fixed point solutions



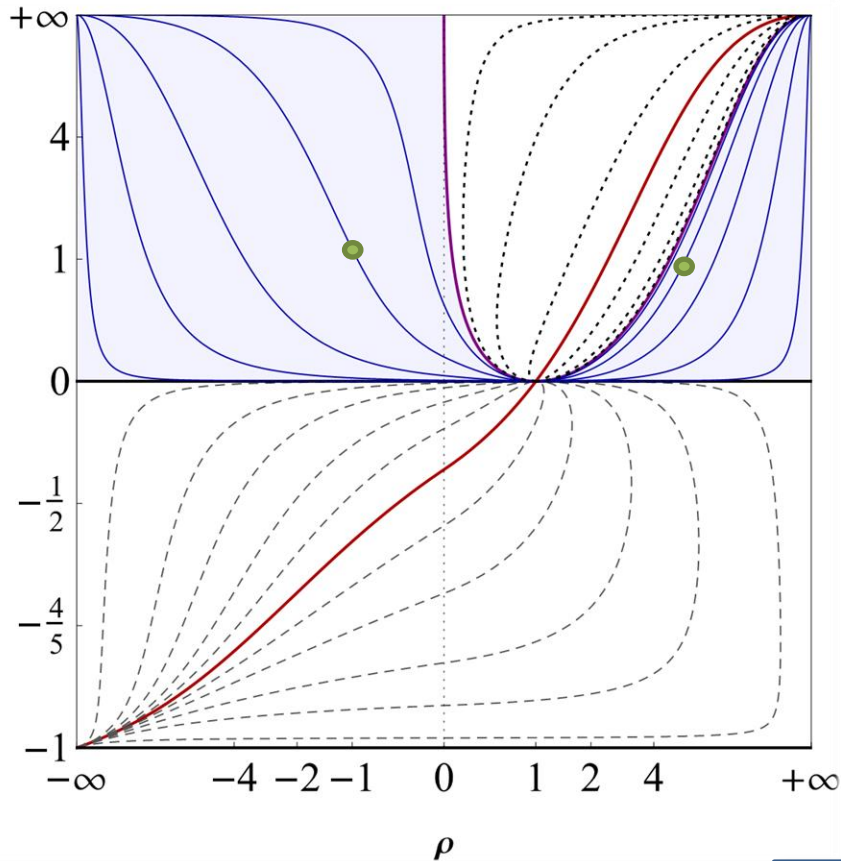
Topology of the parameter space



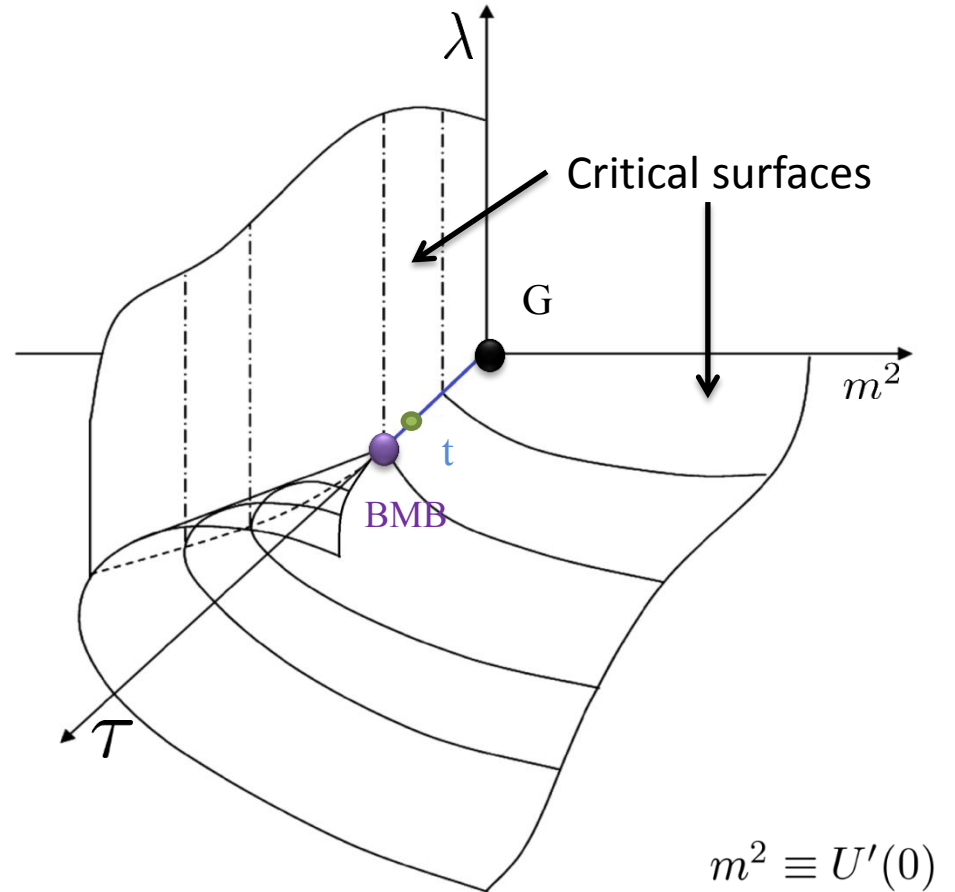
$$\tau = \frac{2}{c^2}$$

# The fixed point structure

Fixed point solutions



Topology of the parameter space

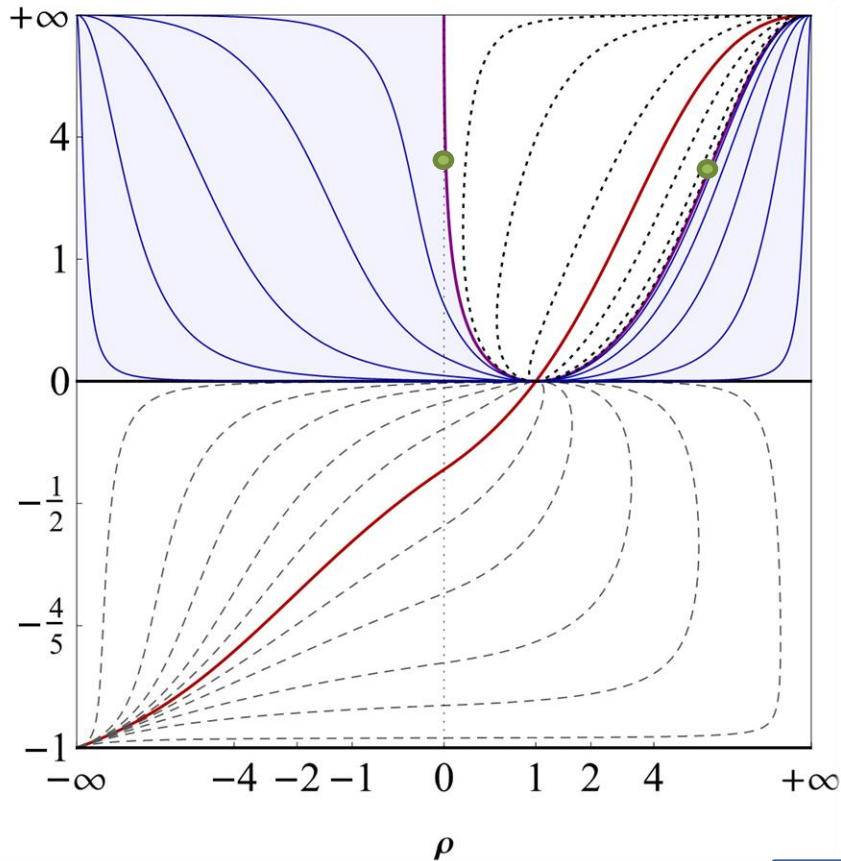


$$m^2 \equiv U'(0)$$

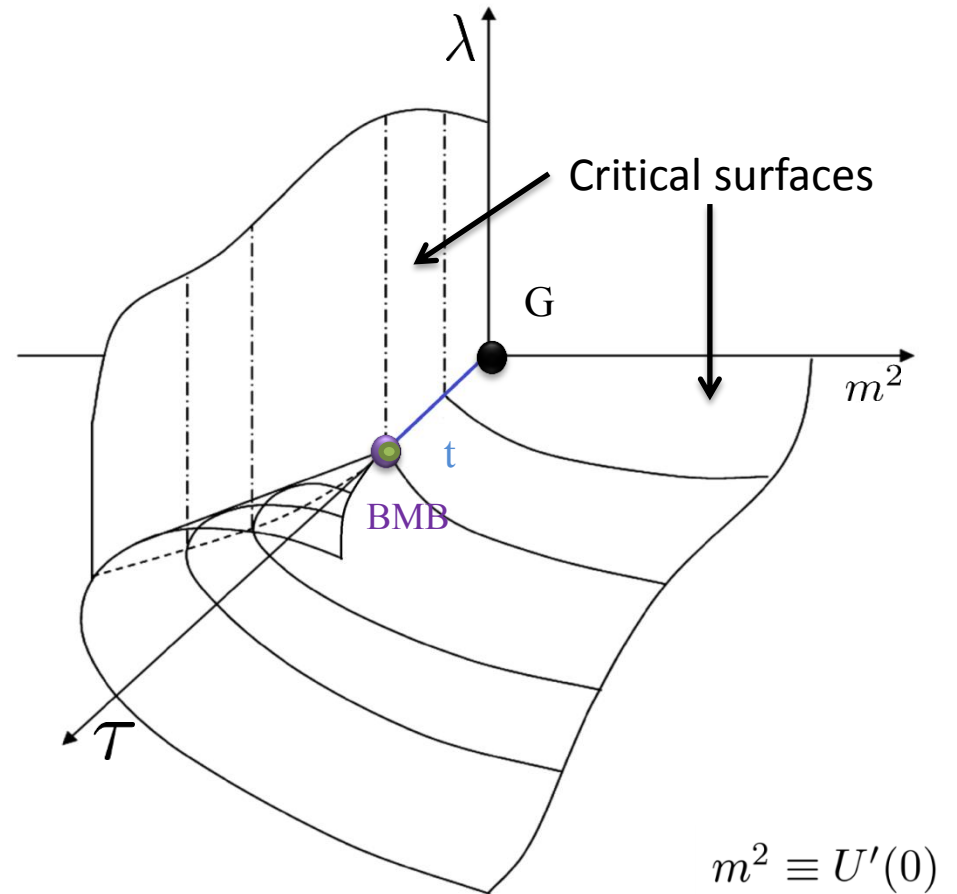
$$\tau = \frac{2}{c^2}$$

# The fixed point structure

Fixed point solutions



Topology of the parameter space

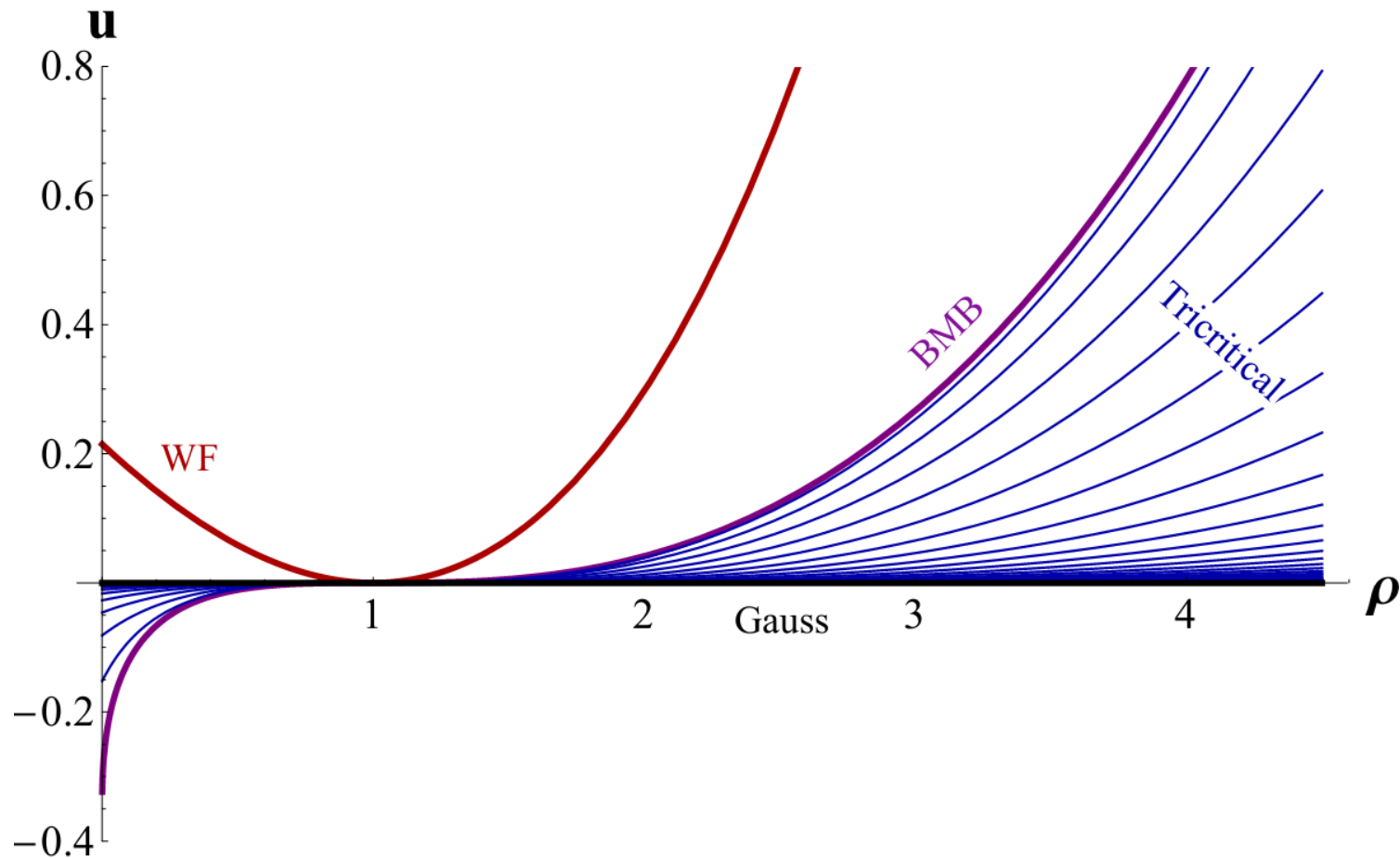


$$m^2 \equiv U'(0)$$

$$\tau = \frac{2}{c^2}$$

# The fixed point structure

Integrating  $u'$  respect to  $\rho$





# The fixed point structure

The idea: perturbing around the scaling solution  $u'(t, \rho, \epsilon) = u'_*(\rho) + \delta u'(t, \rho, \epsilon)$

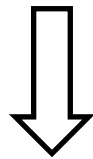
Inserting it into the flow equation we obtain the **fluctuation equation**

$$\partial_t \delta u' = 2 \frac{u'}{u''} \left( \partial_\rho + \frac{(u' u'')'}{u' u''} \right) \delta u'$$

Solving it by separation of variables gives:  $\delta u'(t, \rho, \epsilon) = \epsilon e^{\theta t} (u'_*)^{\frac{1}{2}(1+\theta)} u''_*$

The eigenperturbation equation reads:  $\partial_t \delta u' = \theta \delta u'$

**ANALITICITY CONDITION:** the perturbation must be analytic



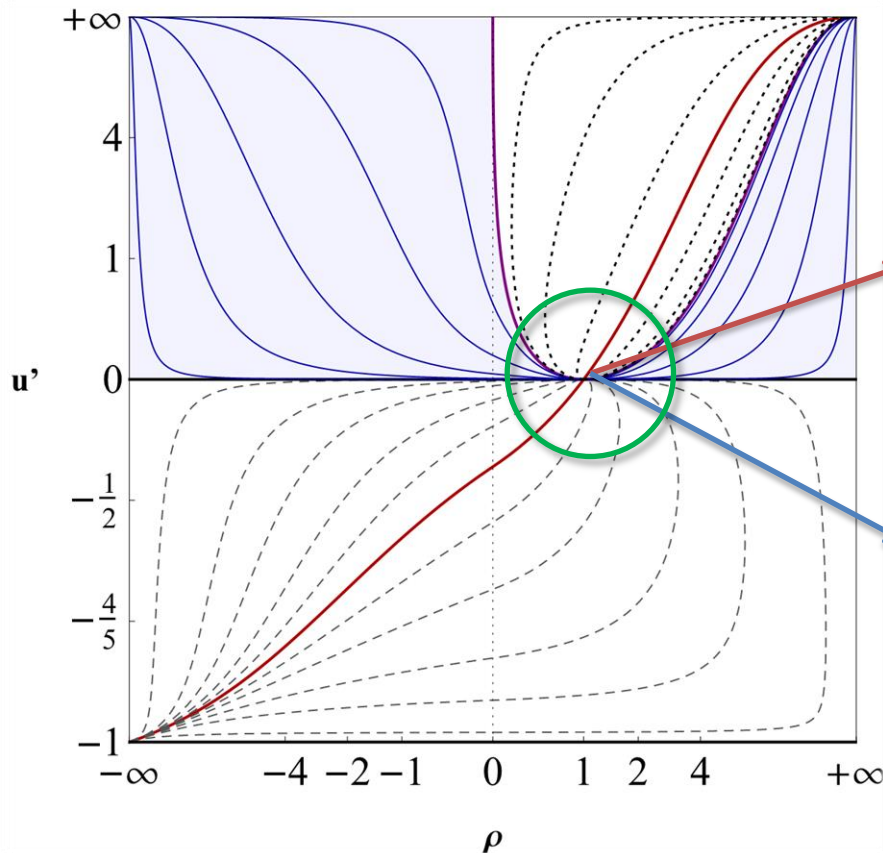
Restriction on  $\theta$

Remark:  $\xi^{-1} = m \propto |\bar{\rho}_0|^\nu$   
 $\nu = -1/\theta$

# The fixed point structure

$$\delta u'(t, \rho, \epsilon) = \epsilon e^{\theta t} (u'_*)^{\frac{1}{2}(1+\theta)} u''$$

$$\nu = -1/\theta$$



## Wilson-Fisher

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u'_* &\propto \frac{1}{2}(\rho - 1) \quad \text{for } \rho \rightarrow 1^\pm \\ u''_* &= \text{const.} \\ \theta &\in \{-1, 1, 3, \dots\} \end{aligned} \right\} \delta u' \propto \epsilon e^{\theta t} (\rho - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}(1+\theta)}$$

$$\nu = 1$$

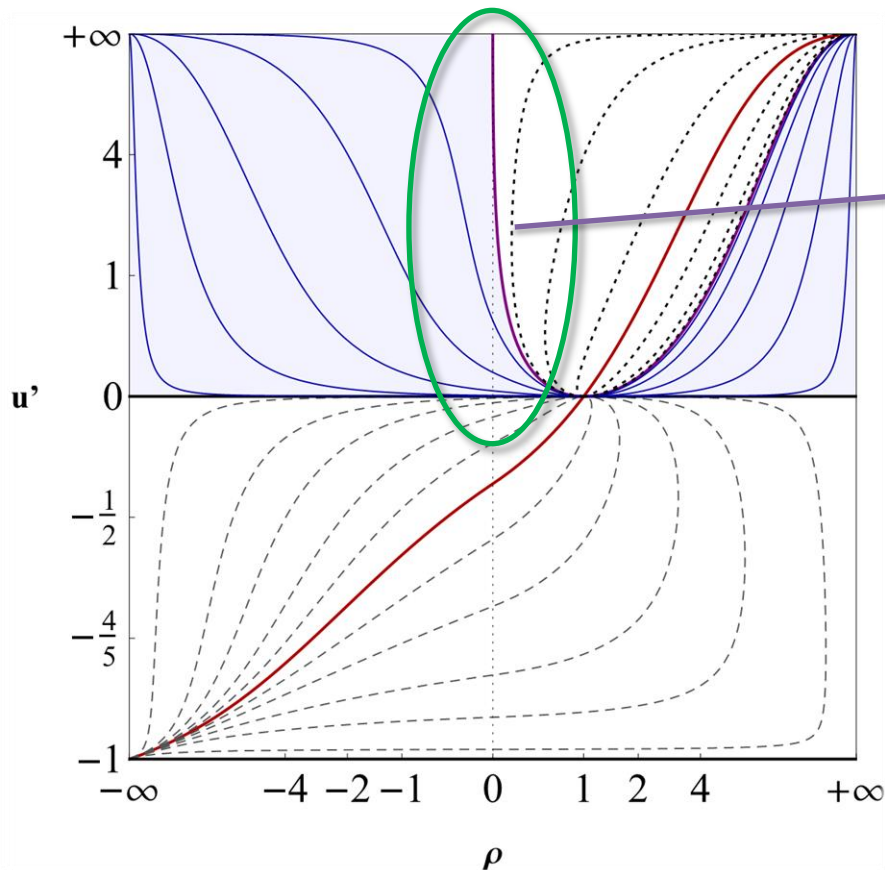
## Tricritical

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u'_* &\propto \frac{1}{c^2}(\rho - 1)^2 \quad \text{for } \rho \rightarrow 1^\pm \\ u''_* &\propto \rho \\ \theta &\in \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \end{aligned} \right\} \delta u' \propto \epsilon e^{\theta t} \rho^{\theta+2}$$

$$\nu = 1/2 \quad (\text{mean-field})$$

# The fixed point structure

The BMB fixed point solution has a singularity at 0  $\longrightarrow$  demanding analyticity is useless



BMB fixed point

$$u'_* \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \quad \text{for } \rho \rightarrow 0$$

$$\frac{U'_*}{k^2} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{\bar{\rho}}} \xrightarrow{m^2 \equiv U'_*(0)} \frac{m^2}{k^2} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{\bar{\rho}}}$$

$$(\bar{\rho})^{1/2} \propto \frac{k^{5/2}}{m^2} \longrightarrow \text{Arbitrarily large mass}$$

**Breaking of scale invariance!**

# Conclusion

Non-perturbative solution to a 3d,  $O(N)$  symmetric quantum field theory in the large  $N$  limit

Study of the fixed point solutions and phase transitions (WF, Tricrit., BMB)

Critical exponents recovered

BMB: UV fixed point with breaking of the scale invariance

## LITERATURE

- [1] Bardeen-Moshe-Bander, *Fixed Point and the Ultraviolet Triviality of  $(\Phi^2)_3$* , [10.1103/PhysRevLett.53.2071](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.1103/PhysRevLett.53.2071)
- [2] D. F. Litim, *Optimisation of the exact renormalisation group*, *Phys. Lett. B* 486(2000) 92, [[hep-th/0005245](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0005245)]
- [3] Edouard Marchais, *PhD Thesis*
- [4] M. Heilmann, D. F. Litim, F. Synatschke-Czerwonka and A. Wipf, *Critical behavior of supersymmetric  $O(N)$  models in the large- $N$  limit*, [10.1103/PhysRevD.86.105006](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.1103/PhysRevD.86.105006)
- [5] Daniel F. Litim, Marianne C. Mastaler, Franziska Synatschke-Czerwonka, Andreas Wipf, *Critical behavior of supersymmetric  $O(N)$  models in the large- $N$  limit*
- [6] H. Gies, *Introduction to the functional RG and applications to gauge theories*, [arXiv:hep-ph/0611146v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0611146v1)

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION.

