

A close-up photograph of a typewriter keyboard. The focus is on a nameplate that reads 'Litho' in a stylized, gothic font. The keyboard keys are visible in the foreground and background, some with yellow and red markings. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the metal and plastic.

Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking in the $U(2)$ Planar Thirring Model?

Simon Hands

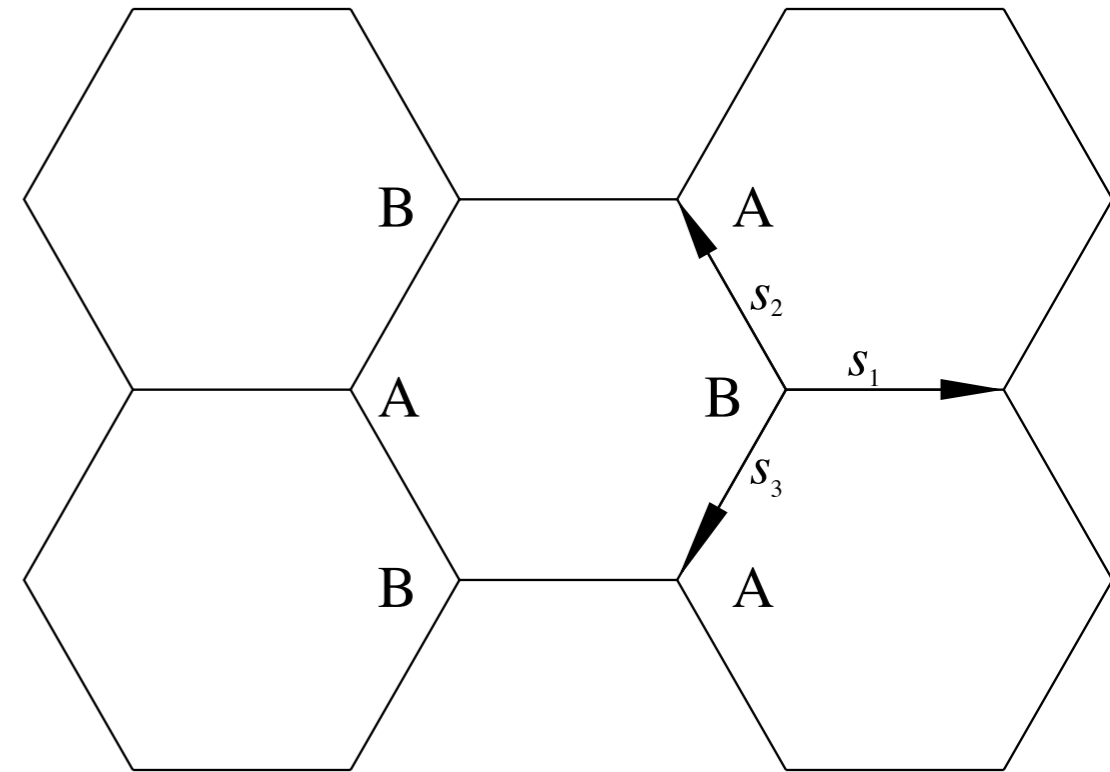
Quark Confinement and the Hadron Spectrum, Maynooth 2nd August 2018

In this talk I will

- discuss quantum field theories of relativistic fermions in 2+1d focussing on the $U(2N)$ -invariant Thirring model
- review critically old simulation results for QCPs obtained with staggered lattice fermions
- show that domain wall fermions capture the relevant global symmetries more accurately
- present simulation results showing that DWF tell a very different story to staggered

Relativistic Fermions in 2+1d

Several applications
in condensed matter physics



- Nodal fermions in *d*-wave superconductors
- Spin liquids in Heisenberg AFM
- surface states of topological insulators
-and graphene

Free reducible fermions in 3 spacetime dimensions

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^3x \bar{\Psi}(\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu)\Psi + m\bar{\Psi}\Psi$$
$$\mu = 0, 1, 2$$
$$\{\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu\} = 2\delta_{\mu\nu}$$
$$\text{tr}(\gamma_\mu \gamma_\mu) = 4$$

For $m=0$ \mathcal{S} is invariant under global $U(2N)$ symmetry generated by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad \Psi &\mapsto e^{i\alpha}\Psi; & \bar{\Psi} &\mapsto \bar{\Psi}e^{-i\alpha}, & \text{(ii)} \quad \Psi &\mapsto e^{i\alpha\gamma_5}\Psi; & \bar{\Psi} &\mapsto \bar{\Psi}e^{i\alpha\gamma_5} \\ \text{(iii)} \quad \Psi &\mapsto e^{\alpha\gamma_3\gamma_5}\Psi; & \bar{\Psi} &\mapsto \bar{\Psi}e^{-\alpha\gamma_3\gamma_5}, & \text{(iv)} \quad \Psi &\mapsto e^{i\alpha\gamma_3}\Psi; & \bar{\Psi} &\mapsto \bar{\Psi}e^{i\alpha\gamma_3} \end{aligned}$$

For $m \neq 0$ γ_3 and γ_5 rotations no longer symmetries

$$\Rightarrow U(2N) \rightarrow U(N) \otimes U(N)$$

Mass term $m\bar{\Psi}\Psi$ is hermitian & invariant under parity $x_\mu \mapsto -x_\mu$

Two physically equivalent antihermitian “twisted” or “Kekulé” mass terms:

$$im_3\bar{\Psi}\gamma_3\Psi; \quad im_5\bar{\Psi}\gamma_5\Psi$$

The “Haldane” mass $m_{35}\bar{\Psi}\gamma_3\gamma_5\Psi$ is not parity-invariant

The Thirring Model in 2+1d

four-fermi form

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_i(\not{\partial} + m)\psi_i + \frac{g^2}{2N_f}(\bar{\psi}_i\gamma_\mu\psi_i)^2$$

bosonised form

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_i(\not{\partial} + i\frac{g}{\sqrt{N_f}}A_\mu\gamma_\mu + m)\psi_i + \frac{1}{2}A_\mu A_\mu$$

- Interacting QFT
- expansion in g^2 non-renormalisable
- Hidden Local Symmetry $\psi \mapsto e^{i\alpha}\psi$; $A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu + \partial_\mu\alpha$; $\varphi \mapsto \varphi + \alpha$
if Stückelberg scalar field φ introduced
- expansion in $1/N_f$ exactly renormalisable for $2 < d < 4$
 $\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle \propto \delta_{\mu\nu}/k^{d-2}$ in “Feynman gauge” SJH PRD51 (1995) 5816
- dynamical chiral symmetry breaking for $g^2 > g_c^2$; $N_f < N_{fc}$?
- Quantum Critical Point at $g_c^2(N < N_{fc})$?

Determination of N_{fc} is a non-perturbative problem in QFT

eg. $N_{fc}=4.32$ strong coupling Schwinger-Dyson
(ladder approximation)

Itoh, Kim, Sugiura & Yamawaki
Prog. Theor. Phys. **93** (1995) 417

Numerical Lattice Approach

Del Debbio, SJH, Mehegan
NPB502 (1997) 269; B552 (1999) 339

Early work used staggered fermions

$$S_{latt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x\mu i} \bar{\chi}_x^i \eta_{\mu x} (1 + iA_{\mu x}) \chi_{x+\hat{\mu}}^i - \bar{\chi}_x^i \eta_{\mu x} (1 - iA_{\mu x-\hat{\mu}}) \chi_{x-\hat{\mu}}^i$$
$$+ m \sum_{xi} \bar{\chi}_x^i \chi_x^i + \frac{N}{4g^2} \sum_{x\mu} A_{\mu x}^2$$

auxiliary boson
couples linearly

resembles abelian gauge theory, but link field is **NOT** unit modulus!

$A_{\mu x}$ auxiliary vector field
defined on link between x and $x+\mu$

$$\eta_{\mu x} \equiv (-1)^{x_0+\dots+x_{\mu-1}} \Rightarrow \prod_{\square} \eta\eta\eta\eta = -1$$

π -flux

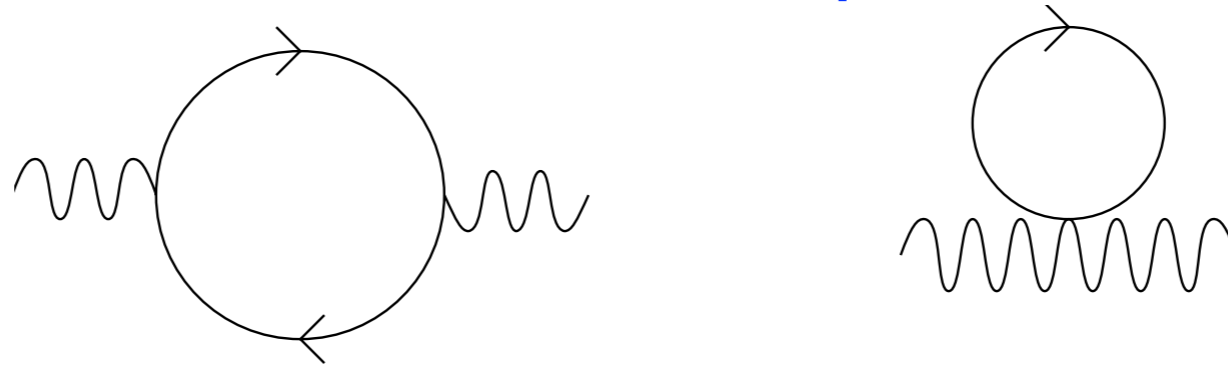
Chiral symmetry: $U(N) \otimes U(N) \rightarrow U(N)$ (if $m, \Sigma \neq 0$)

In weak coupling continuum limit

$U(2N_f)$ symmetry is recovered, with $N_f = 2N$

Strong coupling limit $g^2 \rightarrow \infty$

The lattice regularisation does *not* respect current conservation



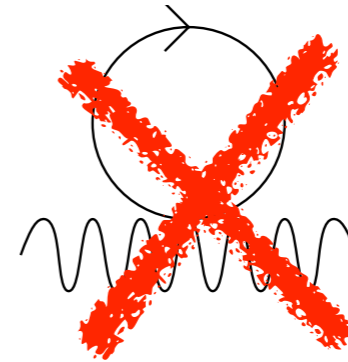
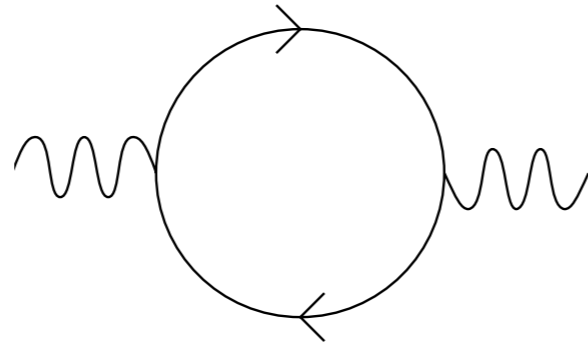
Both diagrams needed to ensure transversality,
(ie. WT identity $\sum_{\mu} [\Pi_{\mu\nu}(x) - \Pi_{\mu\nu}(x - \hat{\mu})] = 0$) in lattice QED

\Rightarrow $1/N_f$ expansion yields additive renormalisation of g^{-2} $g_R^2 = \frac{g^2}{1 - g^2/g_{\text{lim}}^2}$

\Rightarrow lattice strong coupling limit as $g^2 \rightarrow g_{\text{lim}}^2(N_f)$

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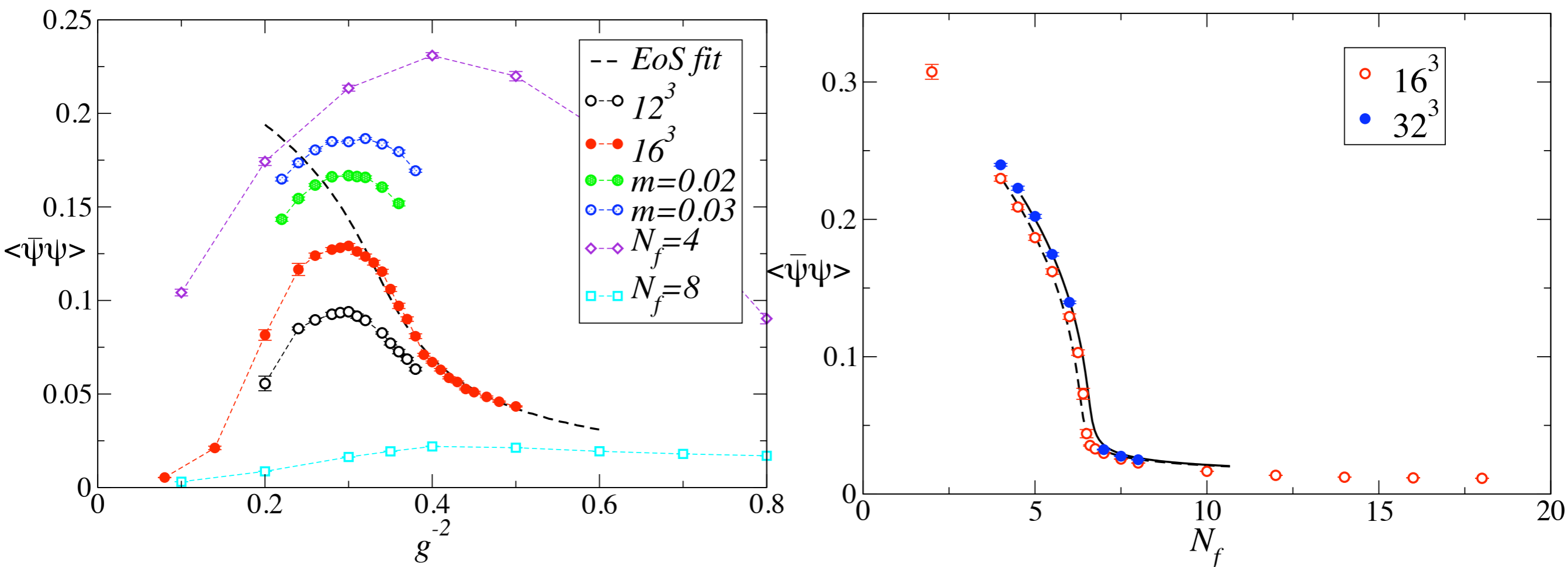
Only the left hand diagram is present for the
lattice Thirring model with linear coupling to auxiliary

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Results in effective strong-coupling limit

Christofi, SJH, Strouthos, PRD75 (2007) 101701



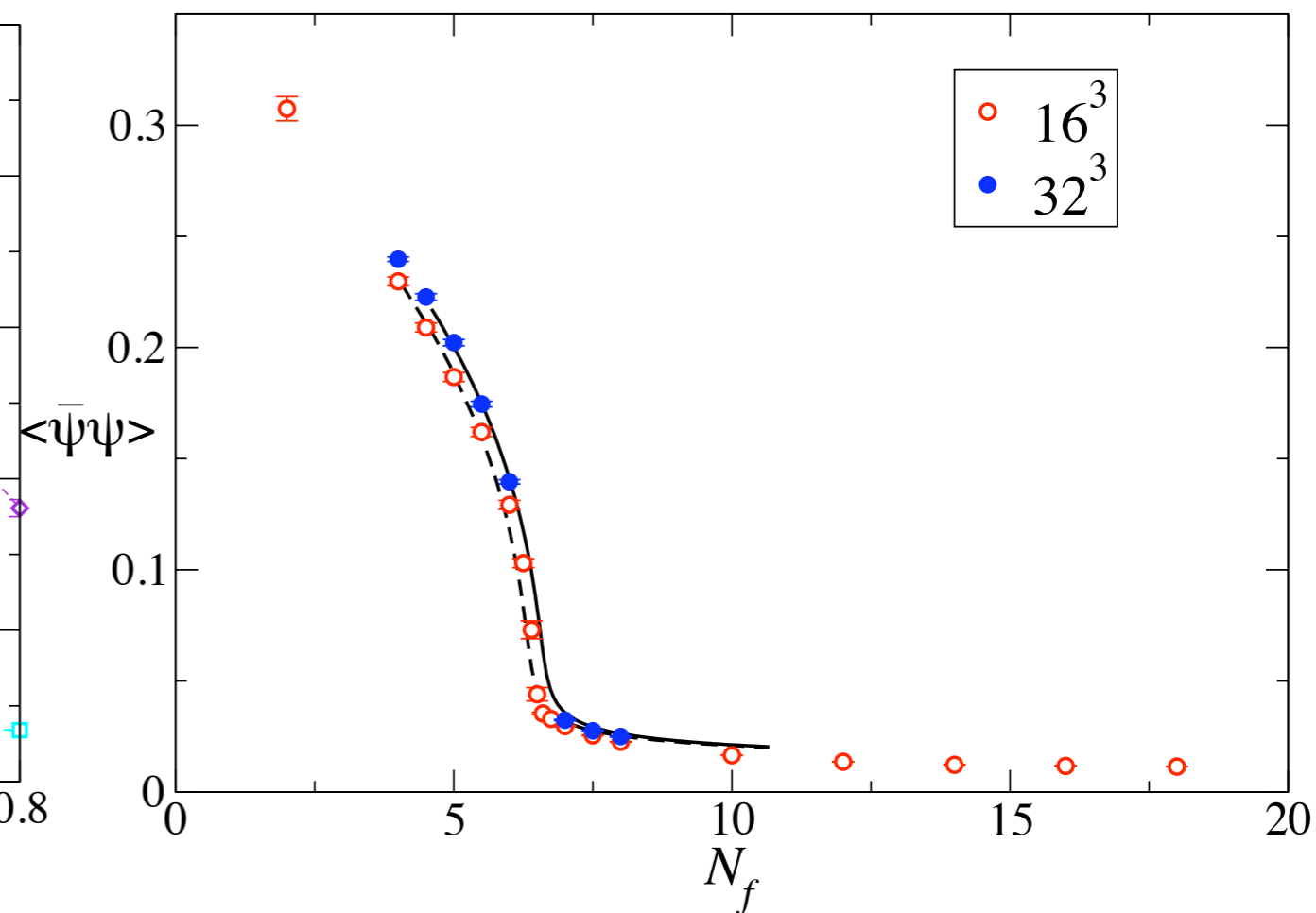
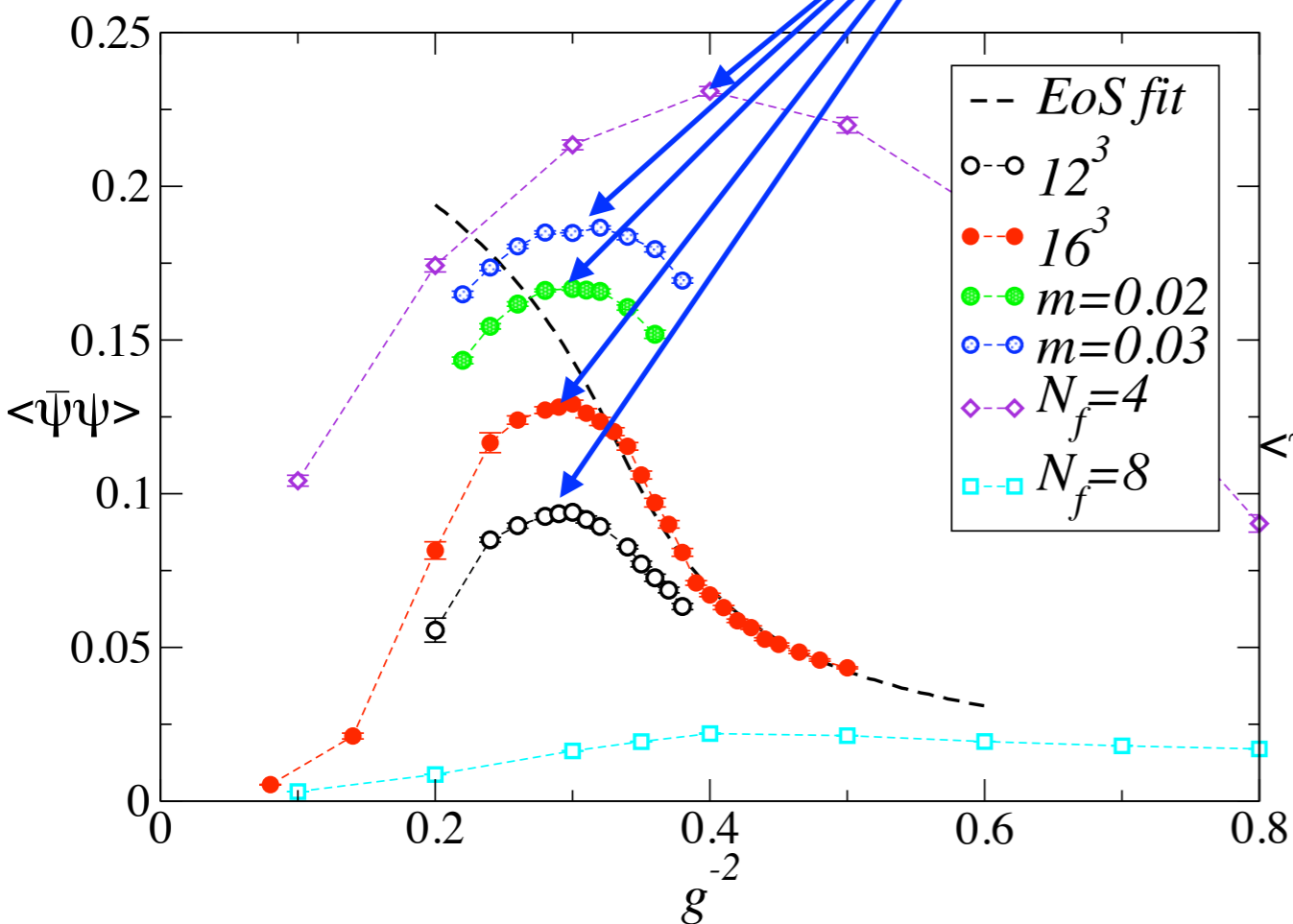
$$N_{fc} = 6.6(1), \quad \delta(N_{fc}) = 6.90(3)$$

Chiral symmetry unbroken for all g^2 for $N_f > N_{fc}$

Cf. SDE: $N_{fc} = 4.32, \quad \delta(N_{fc}) = 1$
“conformal phase transition”

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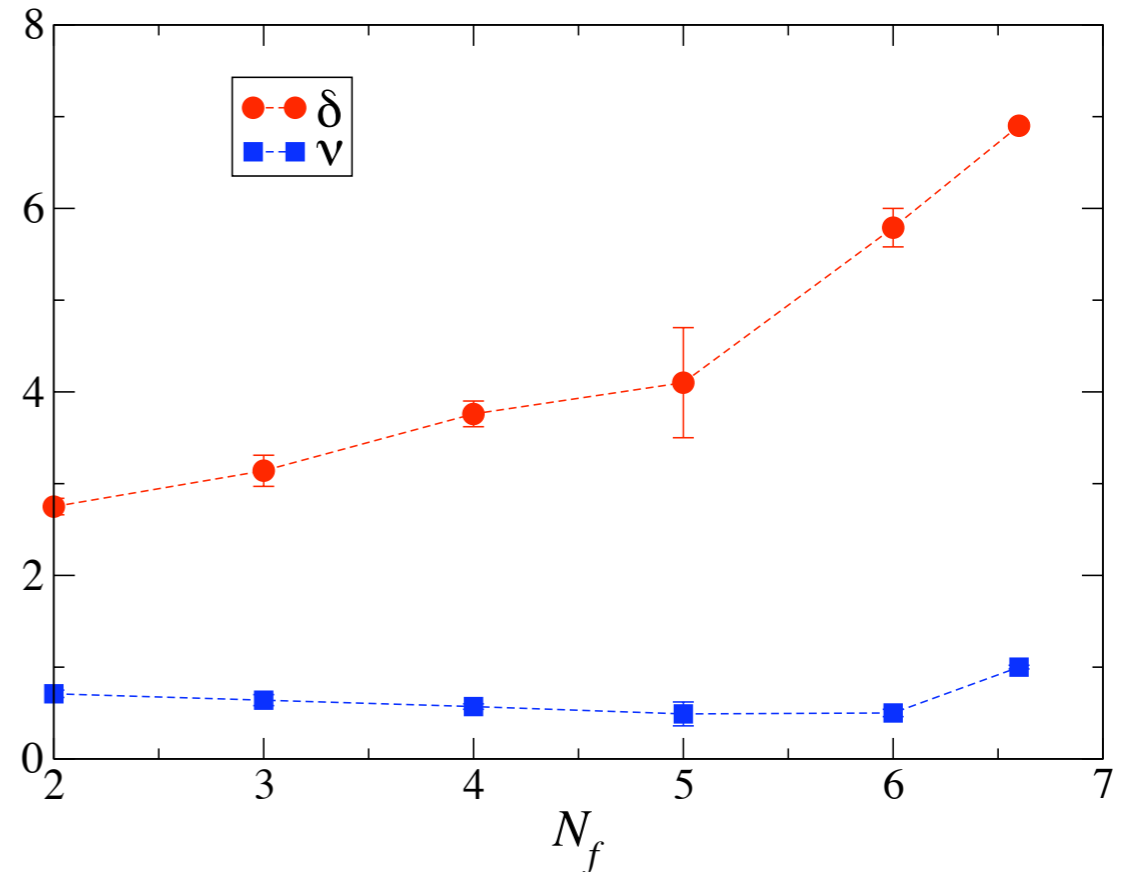
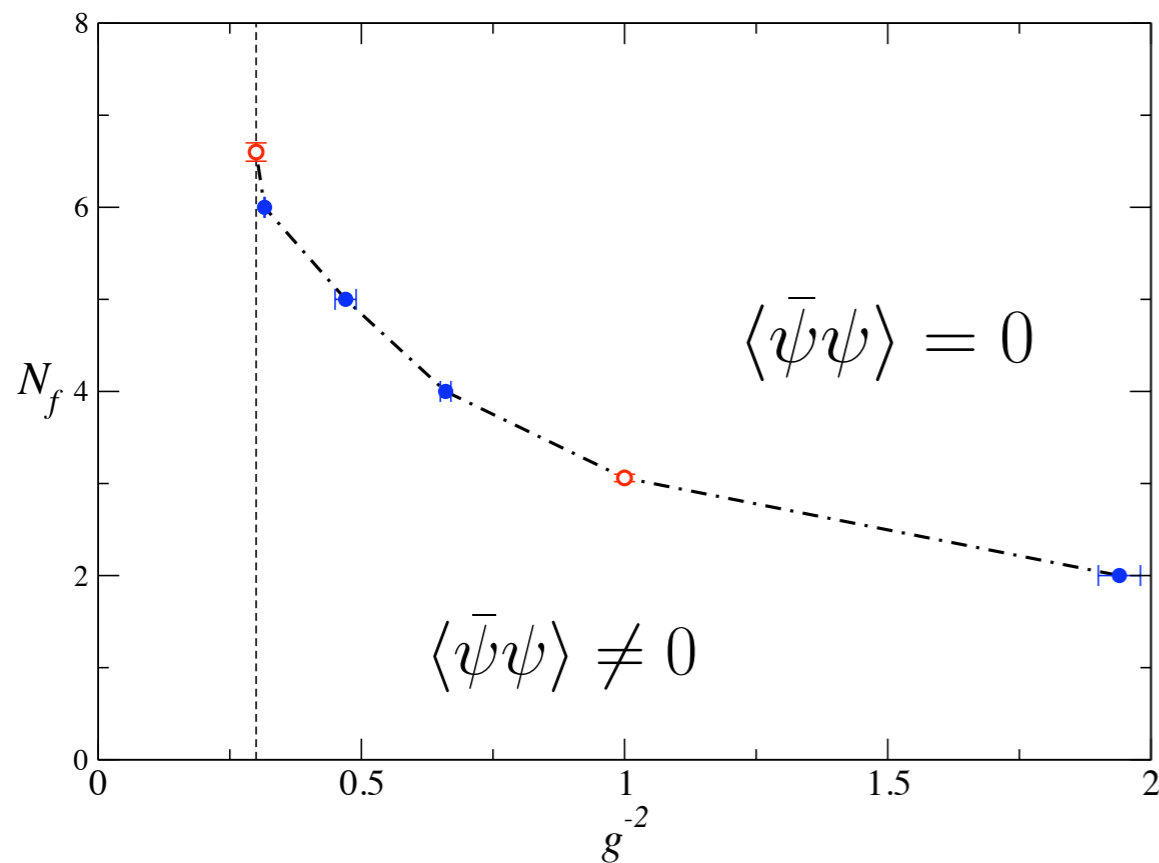
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Staggered Thirring Summary

SJH, Lucini, PLB461 (1999) 263

Christofi, SJH, Strouthos, PRD75 (2007) 101701



- Chiral symmetry broken for small N_f , large g^2
- Each point (for N_f integer) defines a UV fixed point of RG
- Distinct critical exponents \Leftrightarrow distinct interacting QFT
- δ increases with N_f , $\delta(N_{fc}) \approx 7$
- Non-covariant form used as EFT for graphene $\Rightarrow N_{fc} \approx 5$

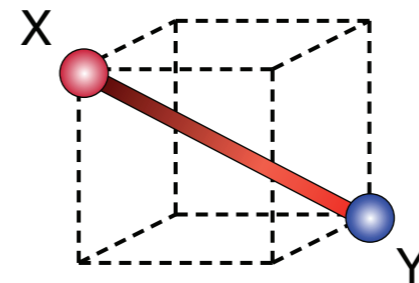
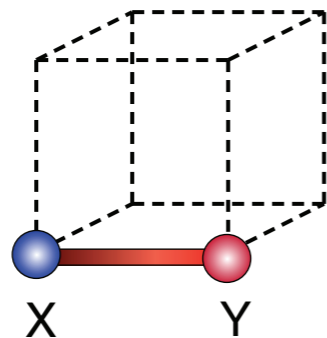
SJH, Strouthos, PRB78 (2008)165423; Armour, SJH, Strouthos, PRB81 (2010)125105

Fermion Bag Algorithm with minimal $N_f=2$

Chandrasekharan & Li, PRL 108 (2012) 140404; PRD88 (2013) 021701

Thirring Model: $v=0.85(1)$, $\eta=0.65(1)$, $\eta_\psi=0.37(1)$ ($N_f < N_{fc} \approx 7$)

U(1) GN Model: $v=0.849(8)$, $\eta=0.633(8)$, $\eta_\psi=0.373(3)$ ($N_f \rightarrow \infty$: $v=\eta=1$)



Interactions between staggered fields $\chi, \bar{\chi}$ spread over elementary cubes.
Only difference between Thirring & GN is body-diagonal term

Staggered fermions not reproducing expected distinction
between models a near strongly-coupled fixed point...

see also SLAC
fermion approach

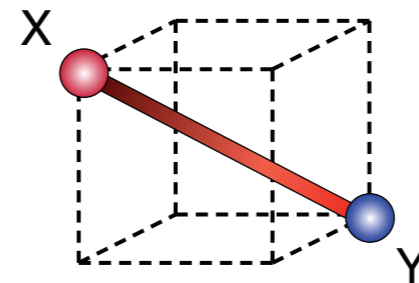
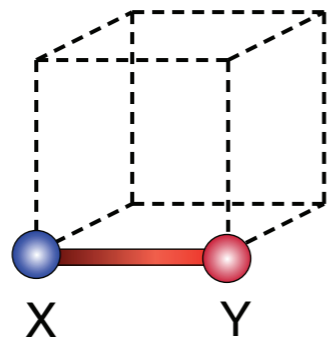
Schmidt, Wellegehausen & Wipf, PoS LATTICE2015 (2016) 050
PRD96 (2017) 094504

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Staggered fermions not reproducing expected distinction
between models a near strongly-coupled fixed point...

... so we need better lattice fermions

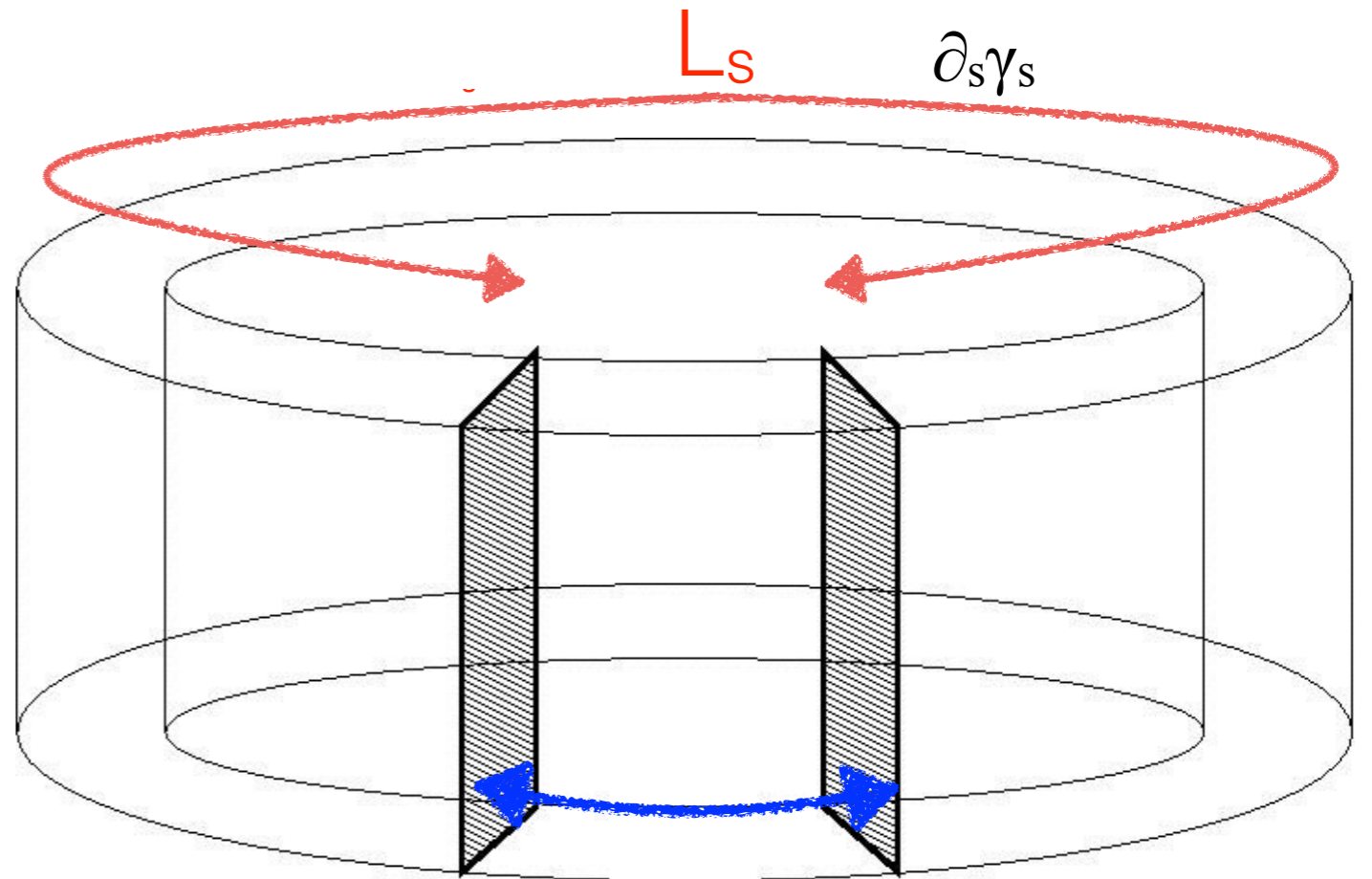
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Schmidt, Wellegehausen & Wipf, PoS LATTICE2015 (2016) 050
PRD96 (2017) 094504

Domain Wall Fermions



Fermions propagate freely along a fictitious third direction of extent L_s with open boundaries



coupling between the walls proportional to explicit massgap m

Basic idea as $L_s \rightarrow \infty$:

- zero-modes of D_{DWF} localised on walls are \pm eigenmodes of γ_s
- Modes propagating in bulk can be decoupled (with cunning)

“Physical” fields

in 2+1d target space

$$\psi(x) = P_- \Psi(x, 1) + P_+ \Psi(x, L_s);$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x) = \bar{\Psi}(x, L_s) P_- + \bar{\Psi}(x, 1) P_+, \quad \text{with } P_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \gamma_s)$$

Bottom Up View...

in DWF approach we simulate
 $2+1+1d$ fermions



Desiderata...

- Modes localised on walls carry $U(2N)$ -invariant physics
- Fermion doublers don't contribute to normalisable modes
- Bulk modes can be made to decouple

Claim...

It appears to work for....

- carefully-chosen domain wall height M
- smooth gauge field background

Are DWF in 2+1+1d U(2N) symmetric?

Issue: wall modes are eigenstates of γ_3 as $L_s \rightarrow \infty$,

but: U(2N) symmetry demands equivalence under rotations generated by both γ_3 and γ_5

ie. $U(2N) \rightarrow U(N) \otimes U(N)$ symmetry-breaking mass terms

$$m_h \bar{\psi} \psi \quad i m_3 \bar{\psi} \gamma_3 \psi \quad : \quad i m_5 \bar{\psi} \gamma_5 \psi$$

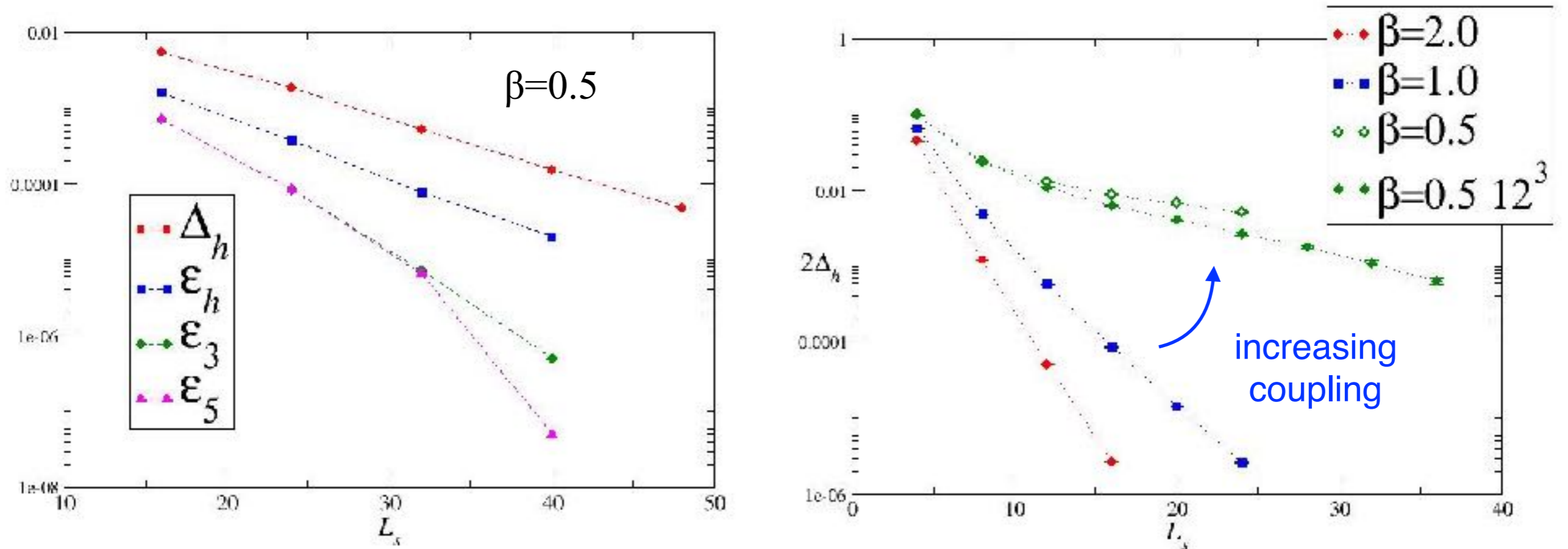
should yield identical physics as $L_s \rightarrow \infty$

Non-trivial requirement

since m_h, m_3 couple $\Psi, \bar{\Psi}$ on *opposite* walls

while m_5 couples modes on *same* wall

Bilinear Condensates in Quenched QED₃ on 24³×L_s...



Define main *residual*: $i\langle\bar{\Psi}(1)\gamma_3\Psi(L_s)\rangle = \frac{i}{2}\langle\bar{\psi}\gamma_3\psi\rangle_{L_s} + i\Delta_h(L_s)$
real imaginary

$$\frac{1}{2}\langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle_{L_s} = \frac{i}{2}\langle\bar{\psi}\gamma_3\psi\rangle_{L_s\rightarrow\infty} + \Delta_h(L_s) + \epsilon_h(L_s);$$

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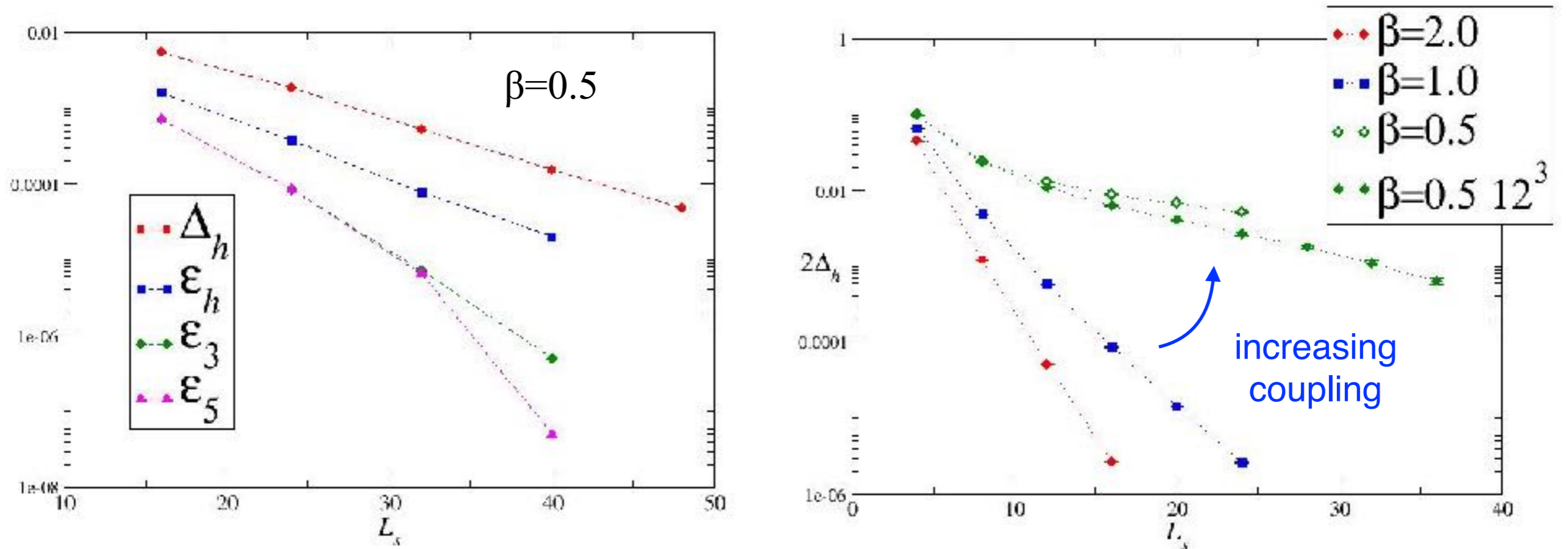
U(2) symmetry restored

$$\Leftrightarrow \Delta_h \rightarrow 0$$

SJH JHEP 09(2015)047,
PLB 754 (2016) 264

- exponentially suppressed as $L_s \rightarrow \infty$
- hierarchy: $\Delta_h > \epsilon_h > \epsilon_3 \equiv \epsilon_5$

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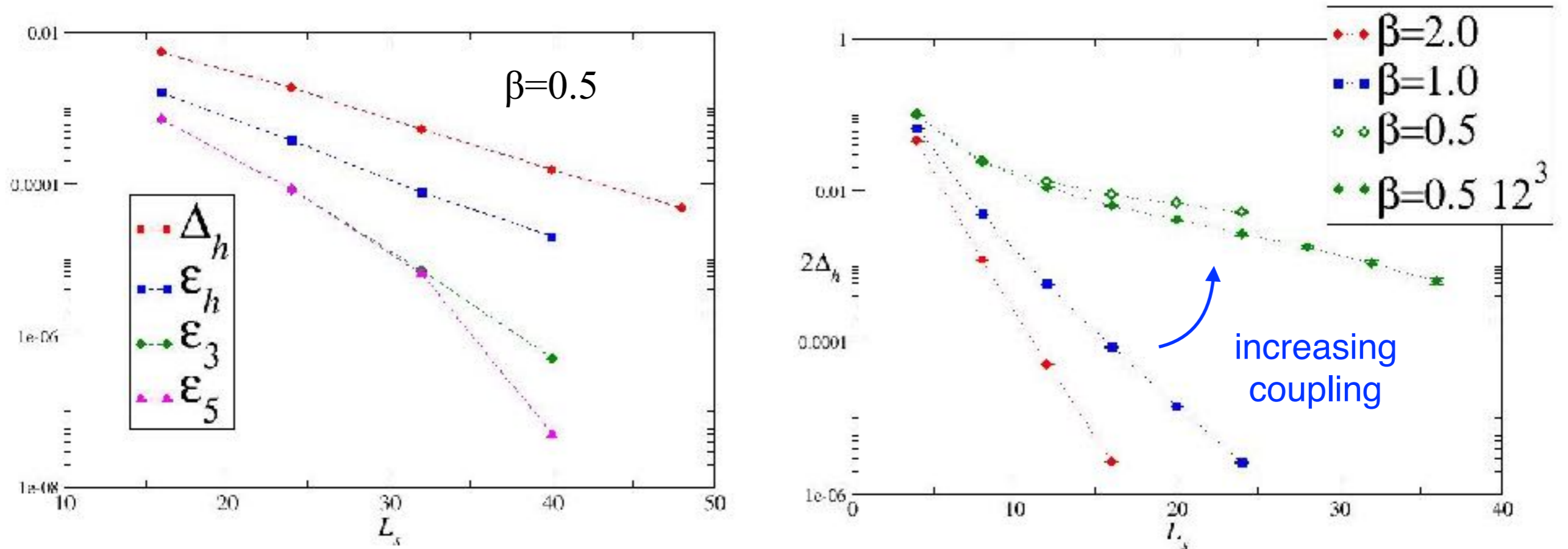
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Top Down View...

The closest approach to continuum symmetries is expressed by **Ginsparg-Wilson** relations

$$\{\gamma_5, D\} = 2D\gamma_5D$$



RHS is $O(aD)$, so $U(2N)$ recovered in long-wavelength limit if D local

By construction GW is satisfied by the 2+1d *overlap* operator

$$D_{ov} = \frac{1}{2} \left[(1 + m_h) + (1 - m_h) \frac{A}{\sqrt{A^\dagger A}} \right] \quad \text{with} \quad \gamma_3 A \gamma_3 = \gamma_5 A \gamma_5 = A^\dagger$$

$A \equiv [2 + (D_W - M)]^{-1} [D_W - M]$; D_W local; $Ma = O(1)$ **D_{ov} not manifestly local**

DWF provide a regularisation of overlap with a *local* kernel in 2+1+1d

$$\frac{\det D_{\text{DWF}}(m_i)}{\det D_{\text{DWF}}(m_h = 1)} = \det D_{L_s}(m_i)$$

$$\lim_{L_s \rightarrow \infty} D_{L_s} = D_{ov}$$

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Formulation issues for the Thirring Model with DWF

- (a) Formulate interaction terms in terms of vector auxiliary $A_\mu(\mathbf{x})$ defined just on walls at $x_3 = 1, L_s$: **“Surface”**

Technical/cost advantage: no Pauli-Villars determinant needed to cancel bulk modes

P. Vranas, I. Tziligakis and J.B. Kogut, Phys. Rev. D 62 (2000) 054507

- (b) By analogy with QCD, formulate with $A_\mu(\mathbf{x})$ throughout bulk which are “static” ie. $\partial_3 A_\mu = 0$: **“Bulk”**

$$\mathcal{S} = \bar{\Psi} \mathcal{D} \Psi = \bar{\Psi} D_W \Psi + \bar{\Psi} D_3 \Psi + m_i S_i \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{aligned} D_W &= \gamma_\mu D_\mu - (\hat{D}^2 + M); \\ D_3 &= \gamma_3 \partial_3 - \hat{\partial}_3^2, \end{aligned}$$

Recall link field **not** unit modulus

Bulk formulation

$$[\partial_3, D_\mu] = [\partial_3, \hat{D}^2] = 0$$

but $[\partial_3, \hat{\partial}_3^2] \neq 0$ **on walls**

obstruction to proving $\det \mathcal{D} > 0$ **for N=1**

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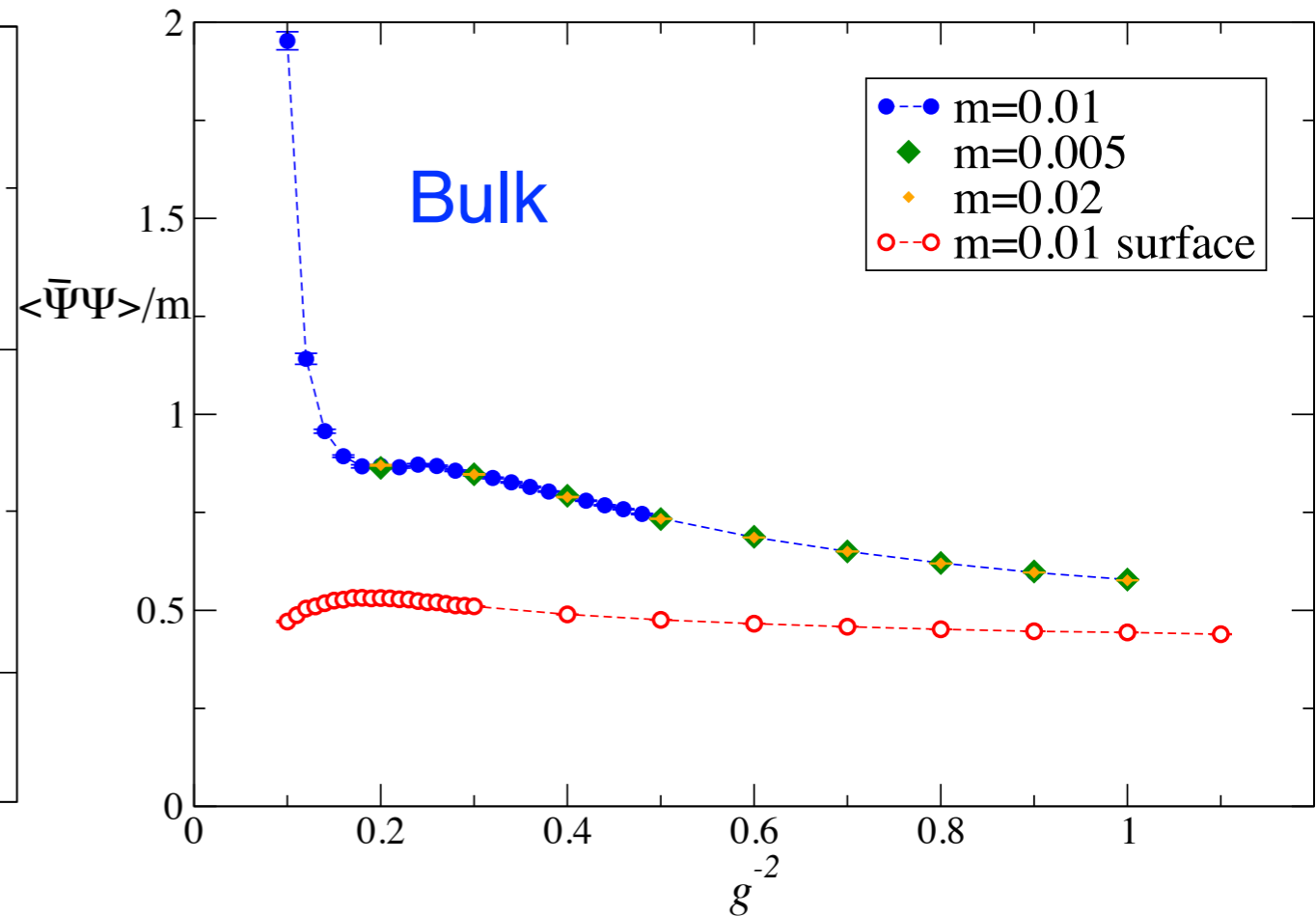
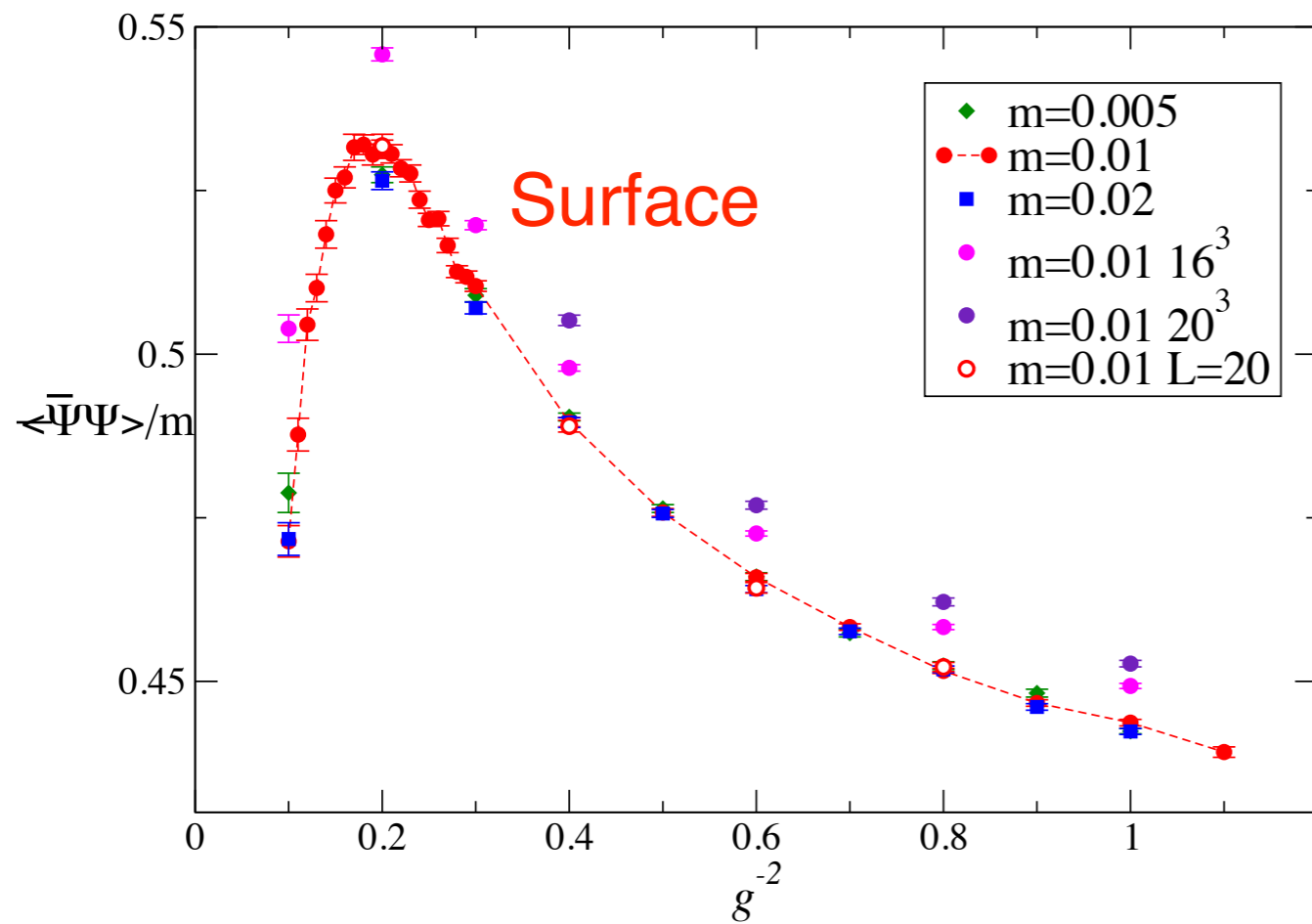
**Bulk
formulation**

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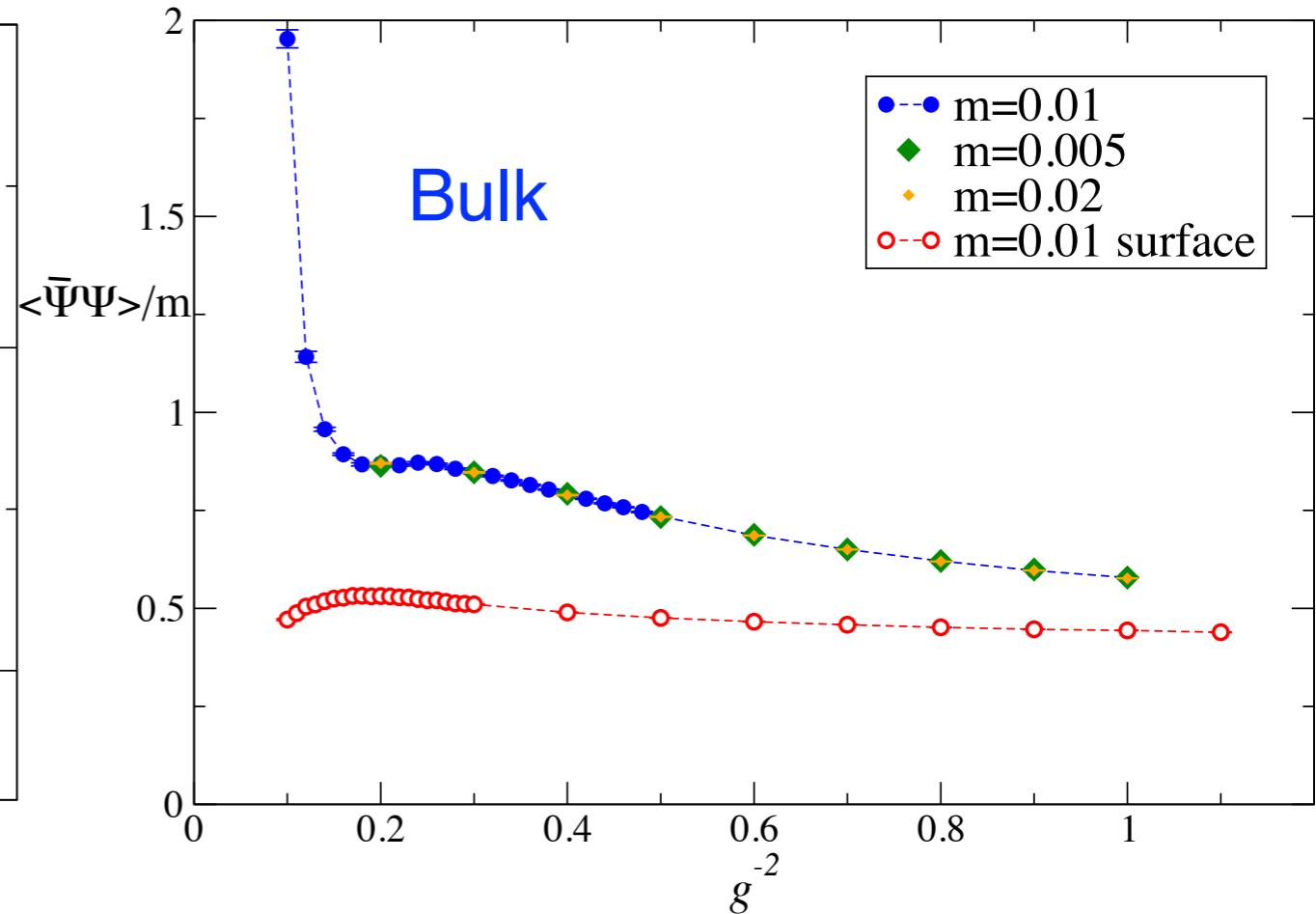
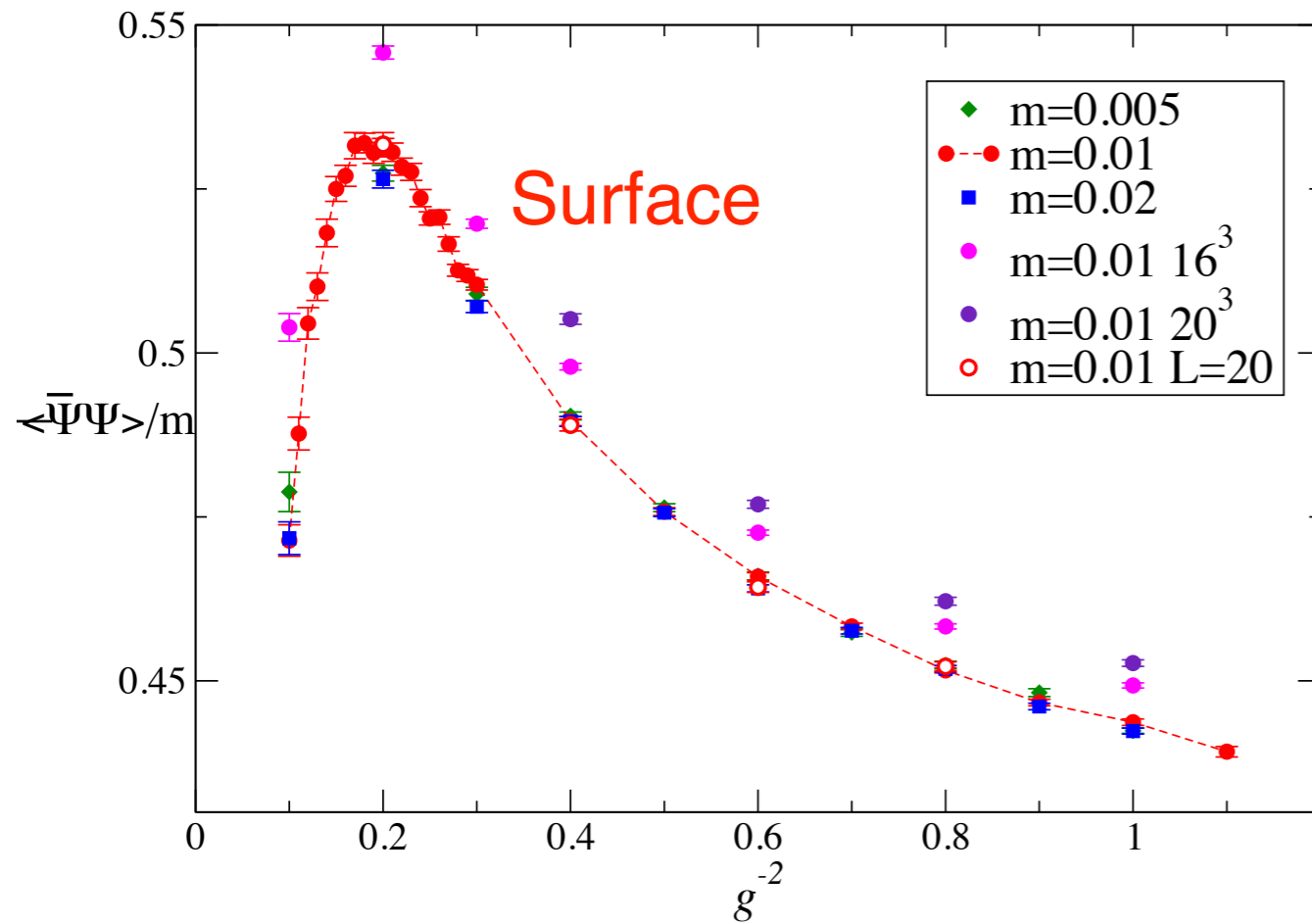
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obstruction to proving $\det \mathcal{D} > 0$ for $N=1$

\Rightarrow **need RHMC algorithm for $N=1$**



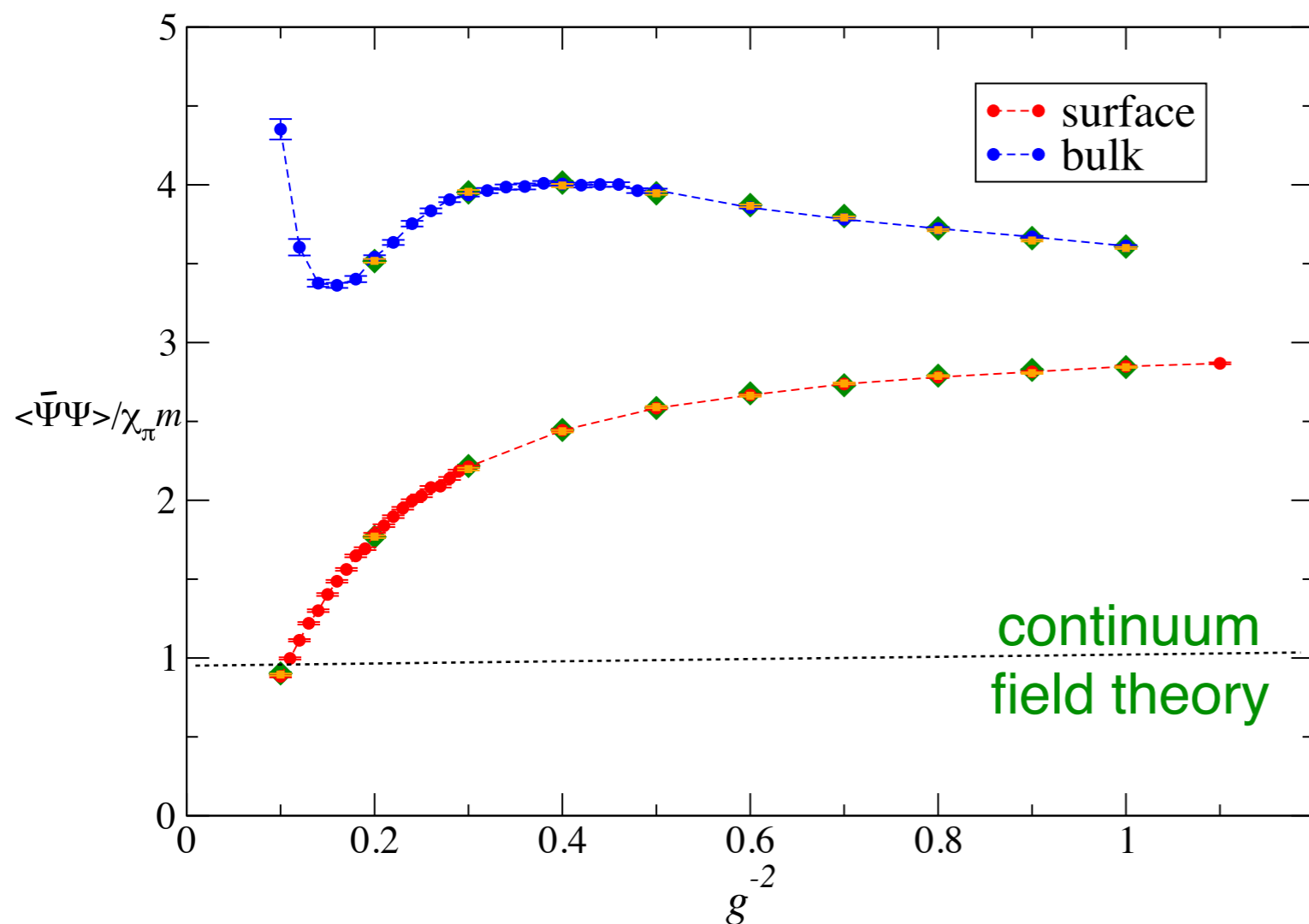
- Breakdown of reflection positivity for strong coupling $ag^{-2} \approx 0.2$?
- Strong volume dependence for surface model
- Results at $L_s=16$ and $L_s=20$ are consistent
- **No evidence of spontaneous symmetry breaking anywhere along g^{-2} axis**



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big disparity with
previous staggered results

Axial Ward Identity



Ratio of order parameter to susceptibility is predicted constant by WI

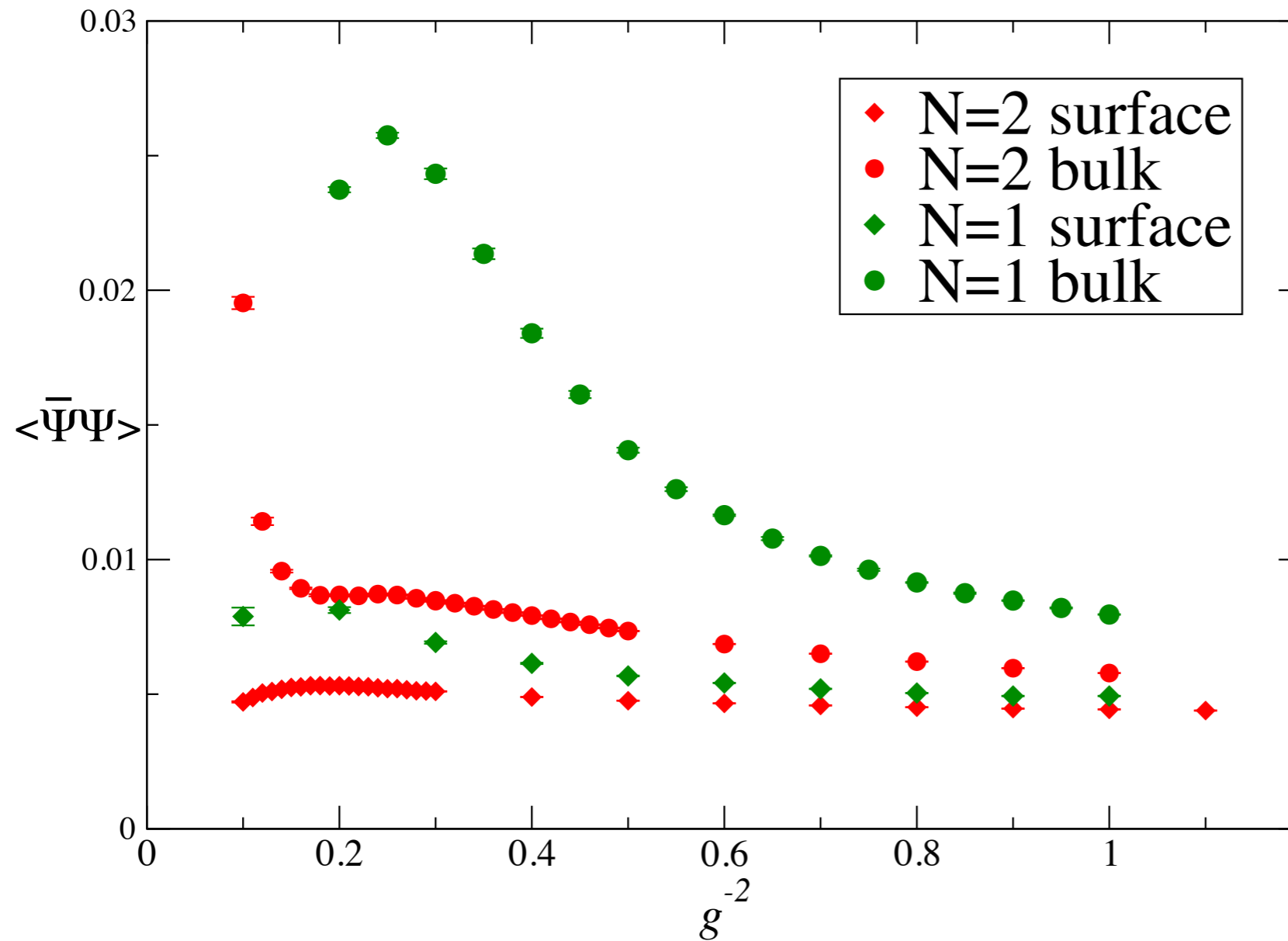
$$\frac{\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle}{m} = \sum_x \langle \bar{\psi}\gamma_3\psi(0)\bar{\psi}\gamma_3\psi(x) \rangle$$

Strong-coupling behaviour suggests
neither **Surface** nor **Bulk** model optimal:
work still needed to specify 2+1d states ψ with control over normalisation

Cf. 2+1d Gross-Neveu model, where Ward Identity is respected, spectroscopy under control...

RHMC Results for N=1 (12³x8)

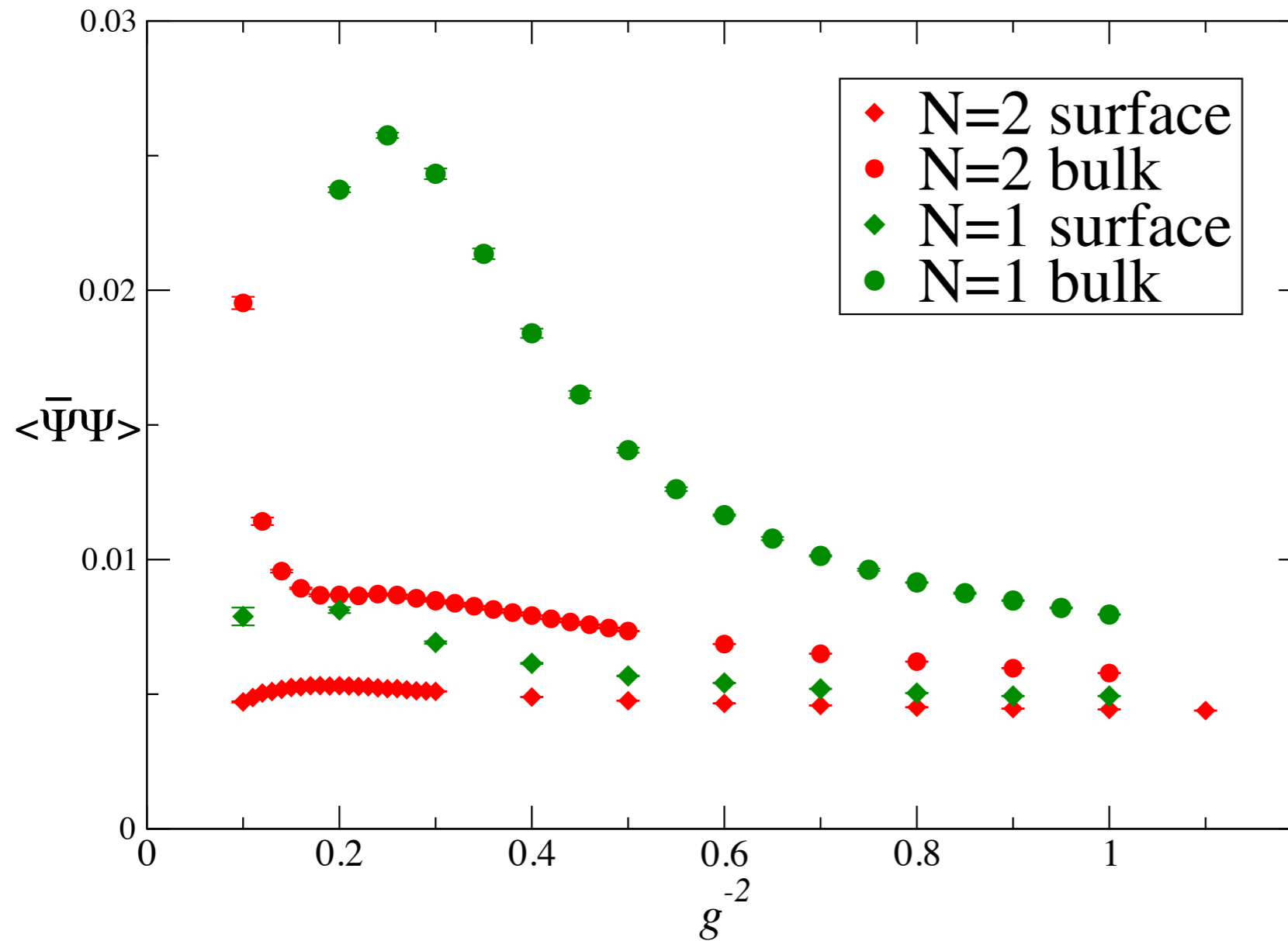
arXiv:1708.07686



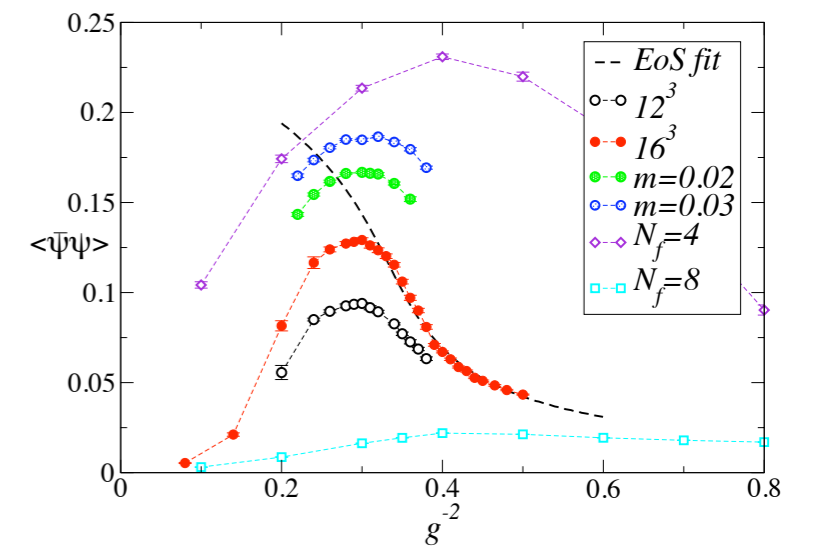
N=1 simulations performed with weight $\det(M^\dagger M)^{1/2}$ using RHMC algorithm with 25 partial fractions

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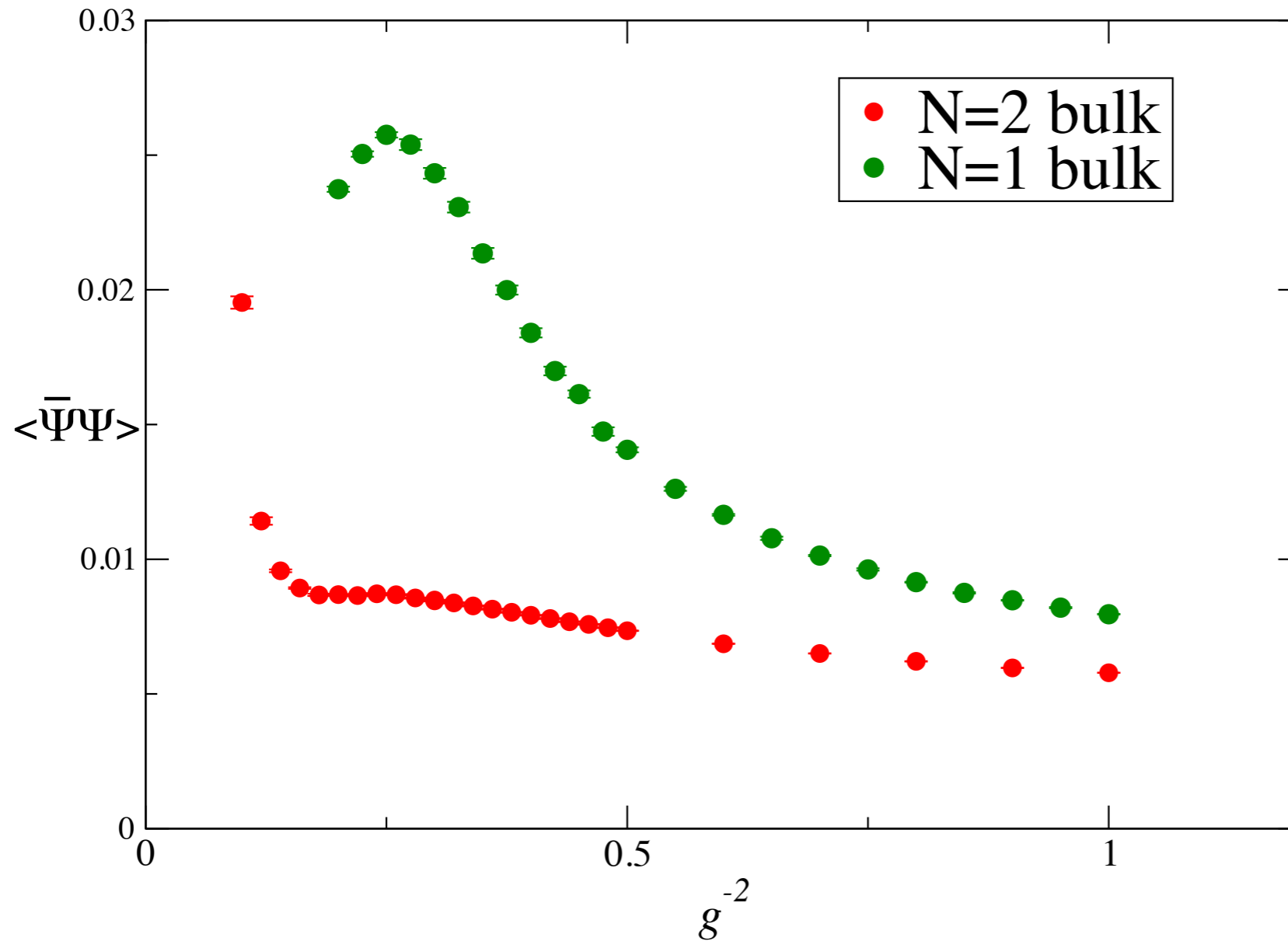


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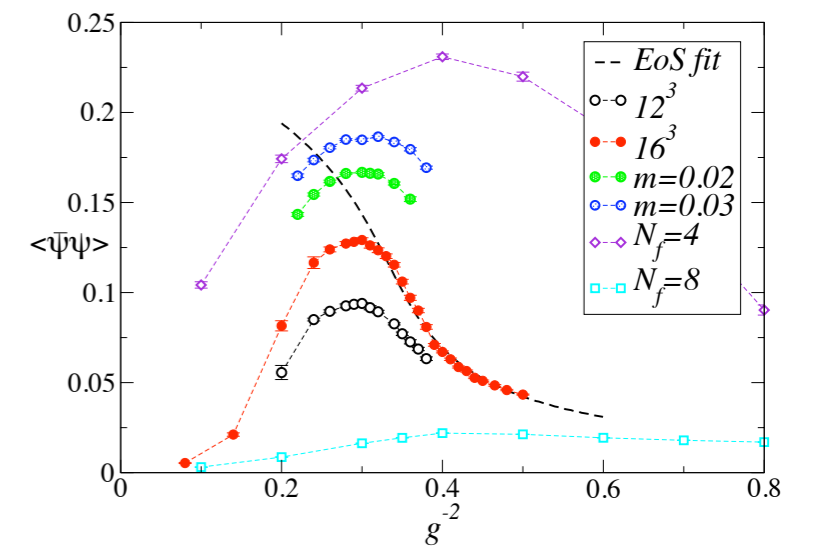


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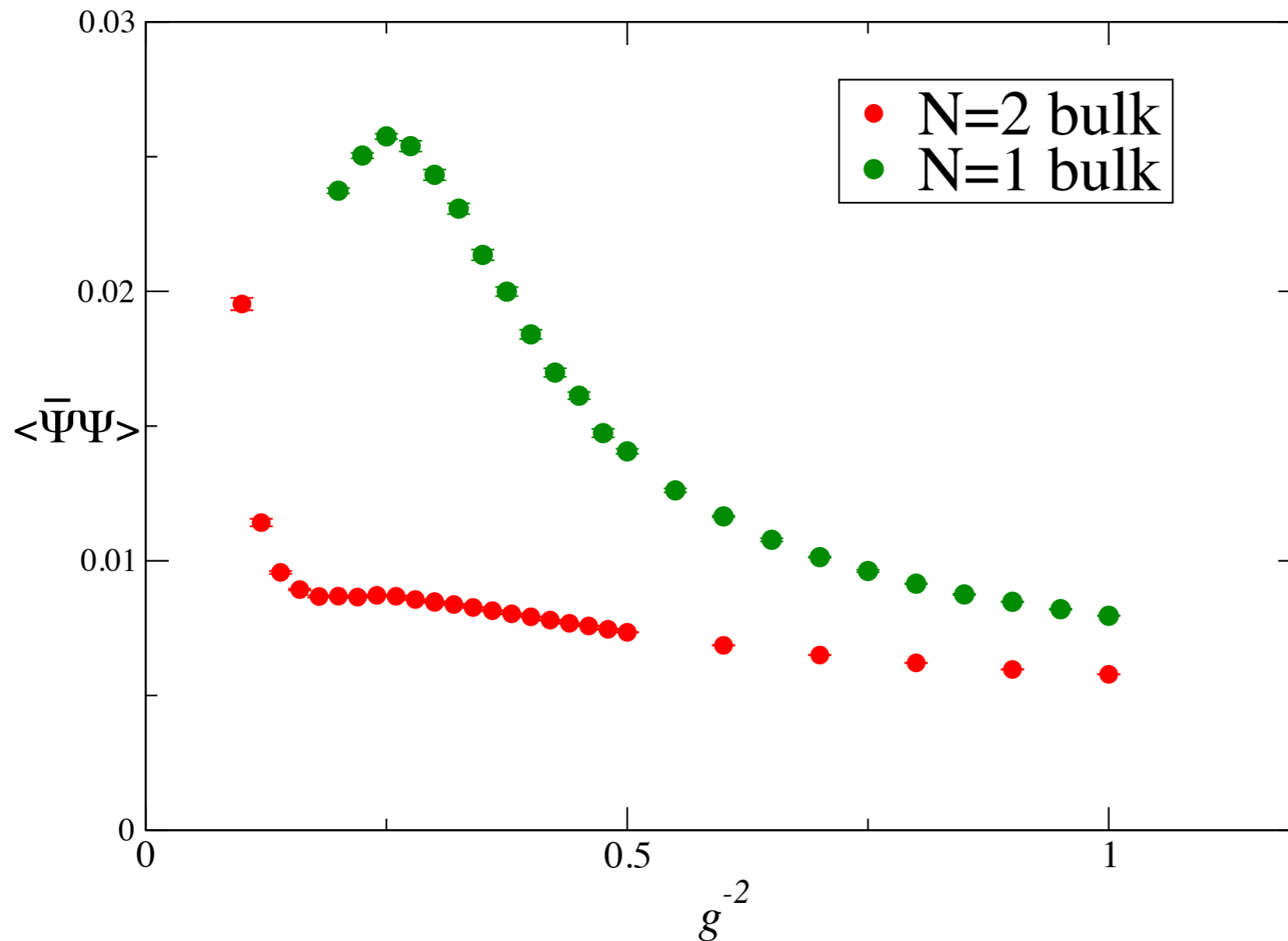


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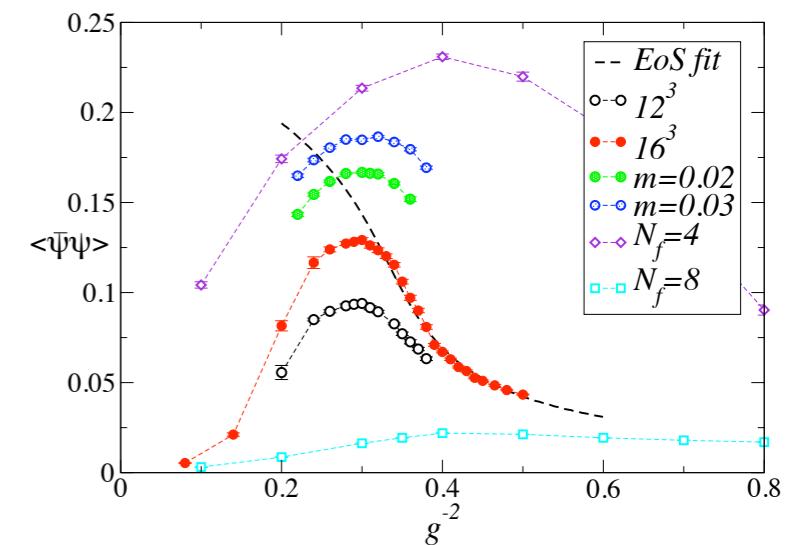


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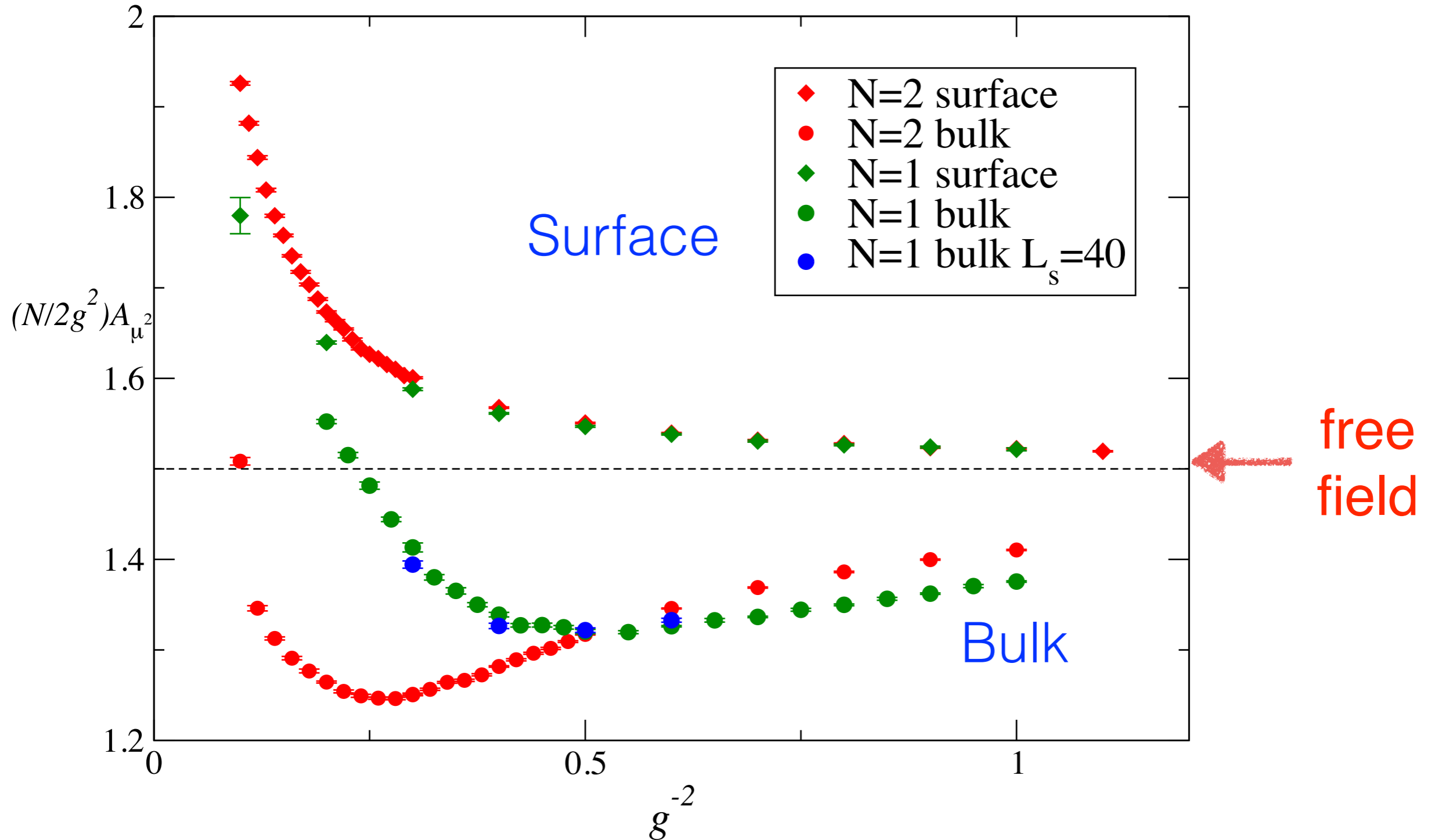


Henceforth focus on **bulk**

Evidence for enhanced pairing for N=1 and $ag^{-2} < 0.5$?

Boson Action

an interesting diagnostic

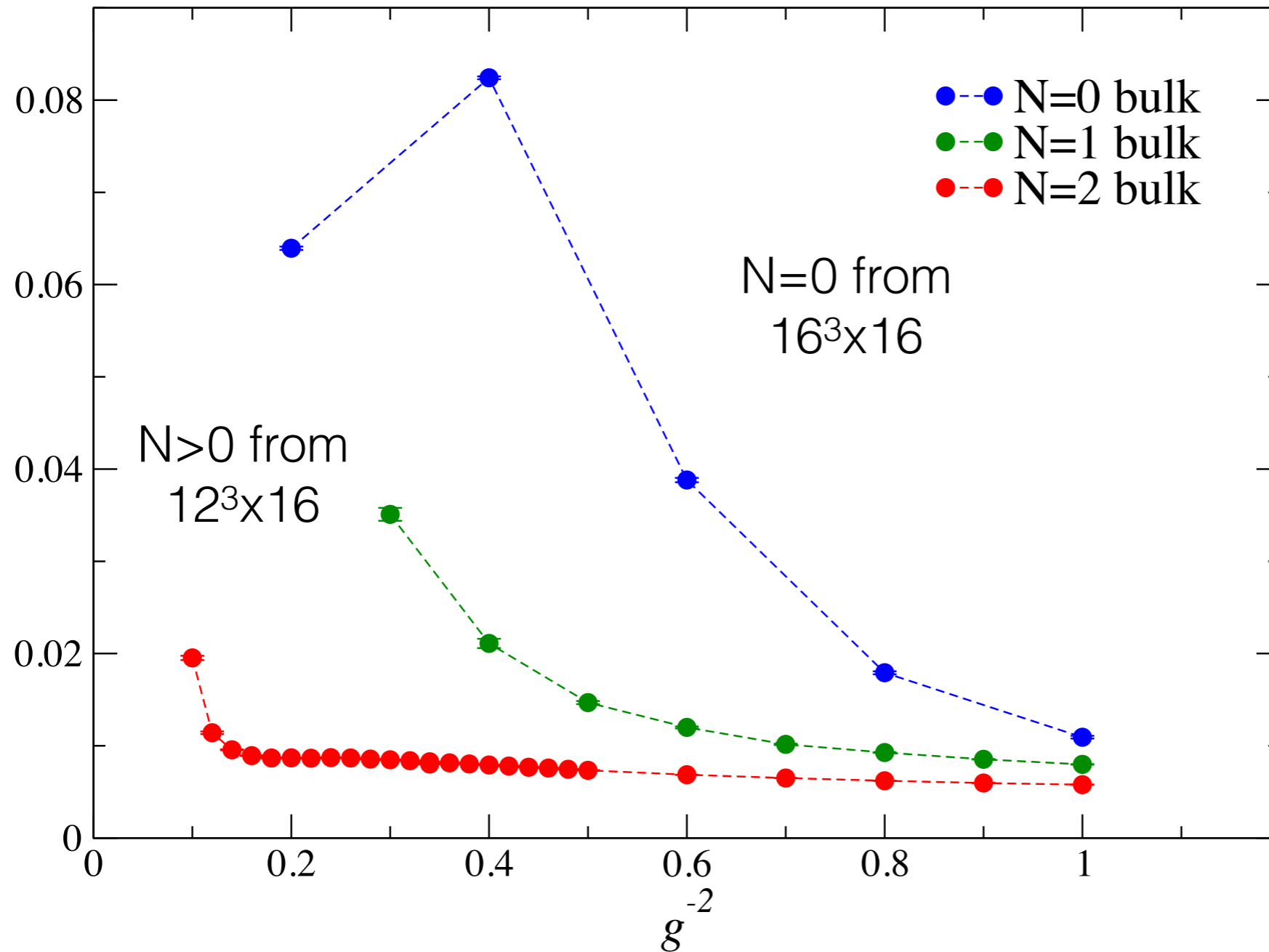


Surface and Bulk models show different behaviour

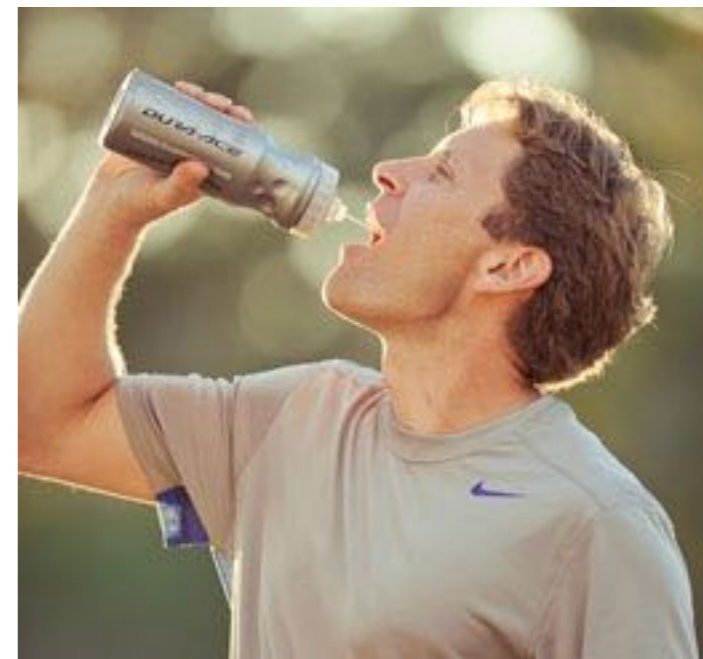
N=1: change of behaviour for $ag^{-2} < 0.5$?

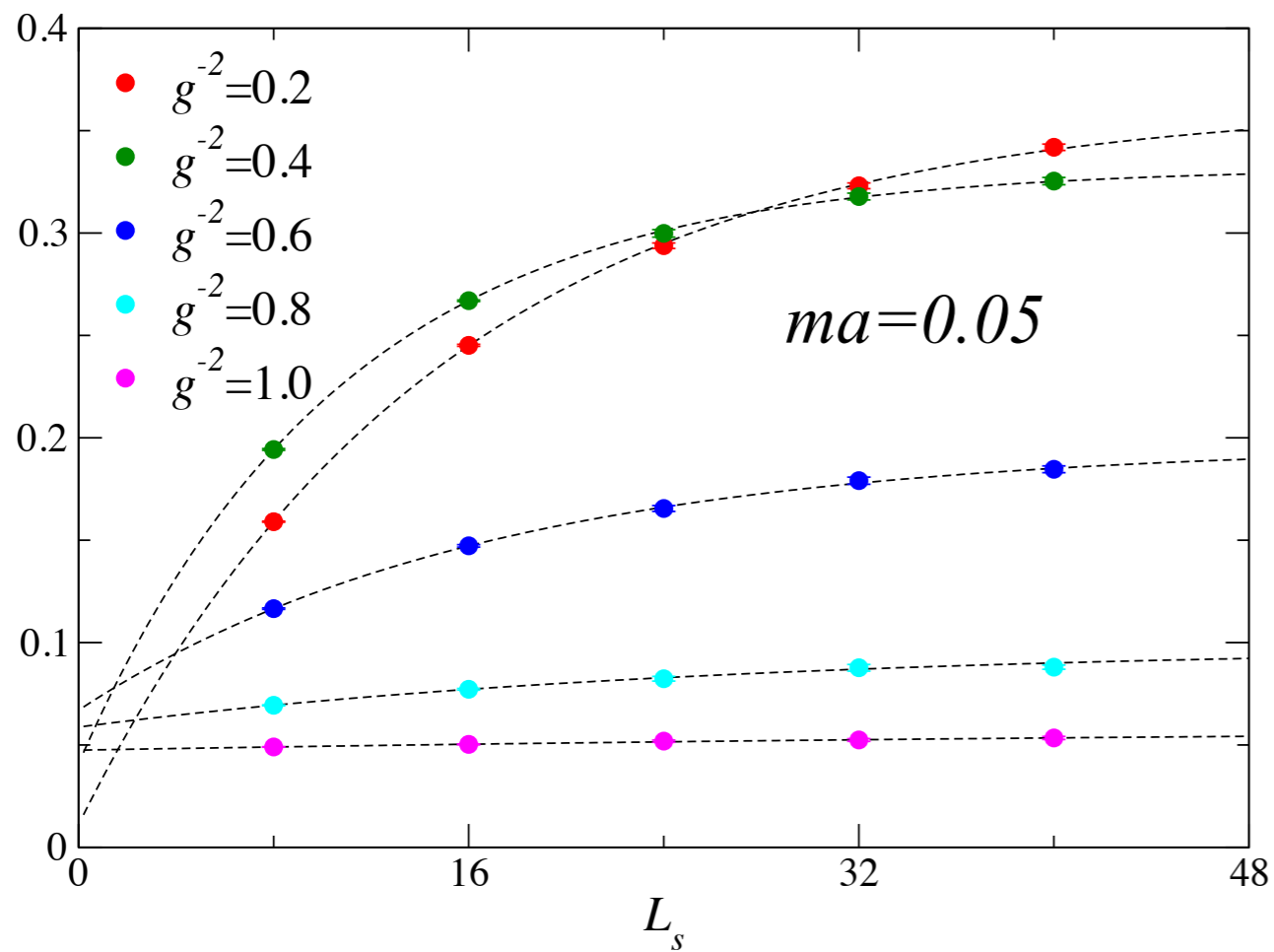
Quenched Interlude

what does $U(2N)$ symmetry-breaking look like with DWF?



comparison of **bulk** models with $N=0,1,2$ with $L_s=16$, $ma=0.01$

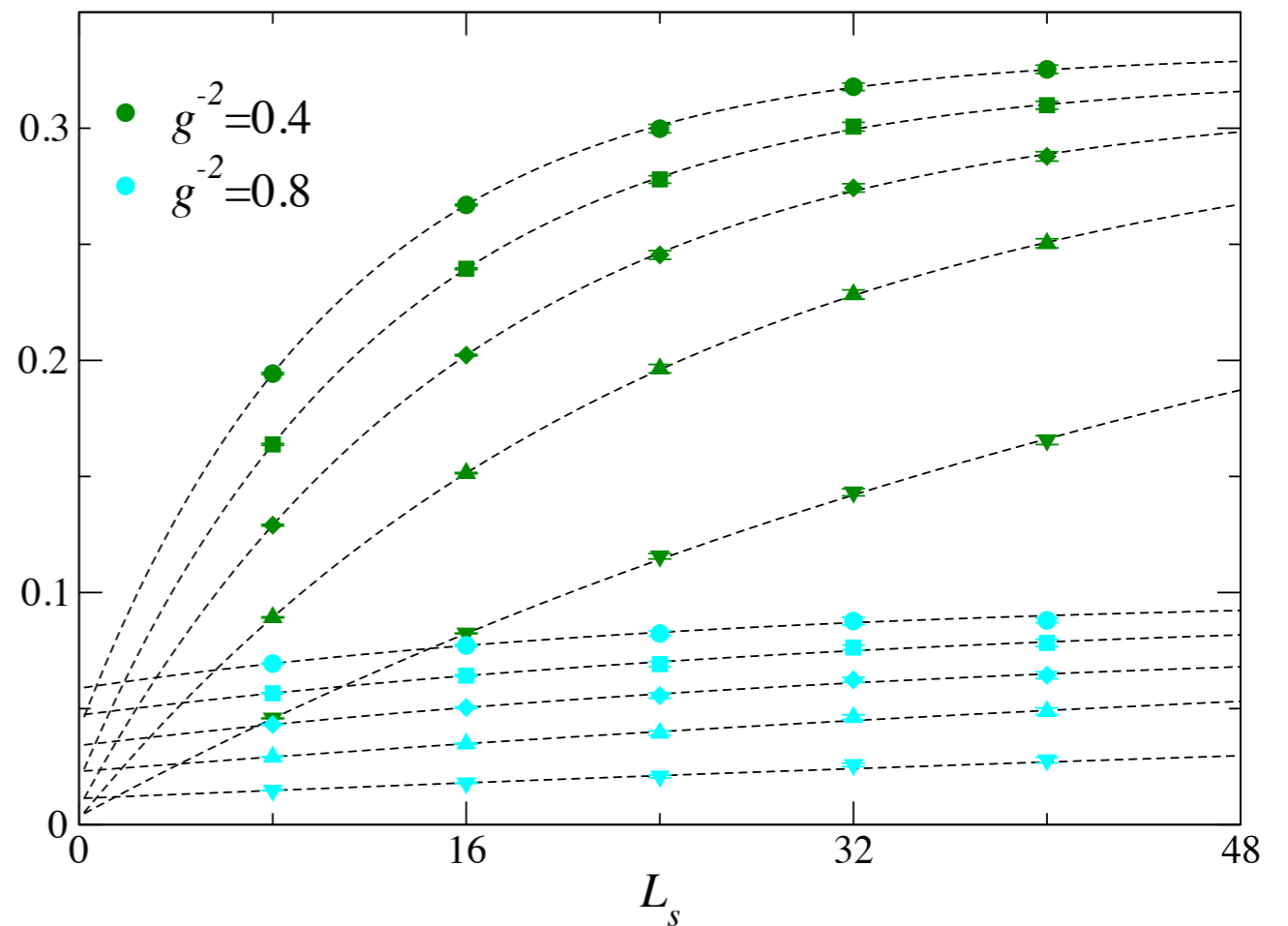




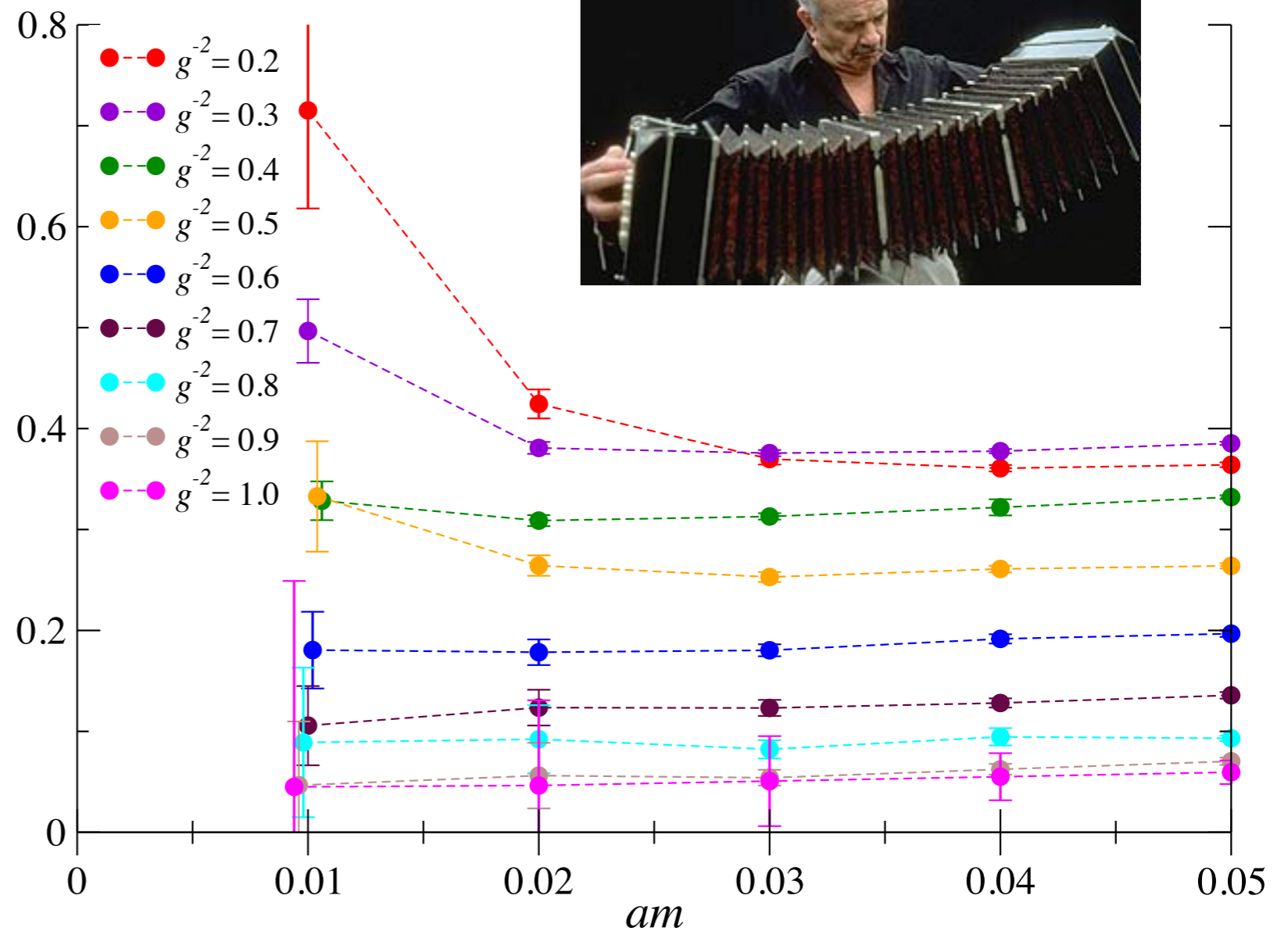
Finite- L_s corrections
much more significant
 in quenched simulations

$$\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_{L_s} = \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_{\infty} - A(m, g^2)e^{-\Delta(m, g^2)L_s}$$

Amplitude A &
 decay constant Δ
 both increase with
 size of signal



$L_s \rightarrow \infty$
for quenched
theory



$ag^{-2} \approx 0.2$

strong coupling lattice artefacts?

$ag^{-2} \gtrsim 0.8$

$m \rightarrow 0$ limit hard to extract, consistent with zero

$ag^{-2} \in (0.3, 0.7)$ $m \rightarrow 0$ **has non-vanishing intercept consistent with symmetry breaking**

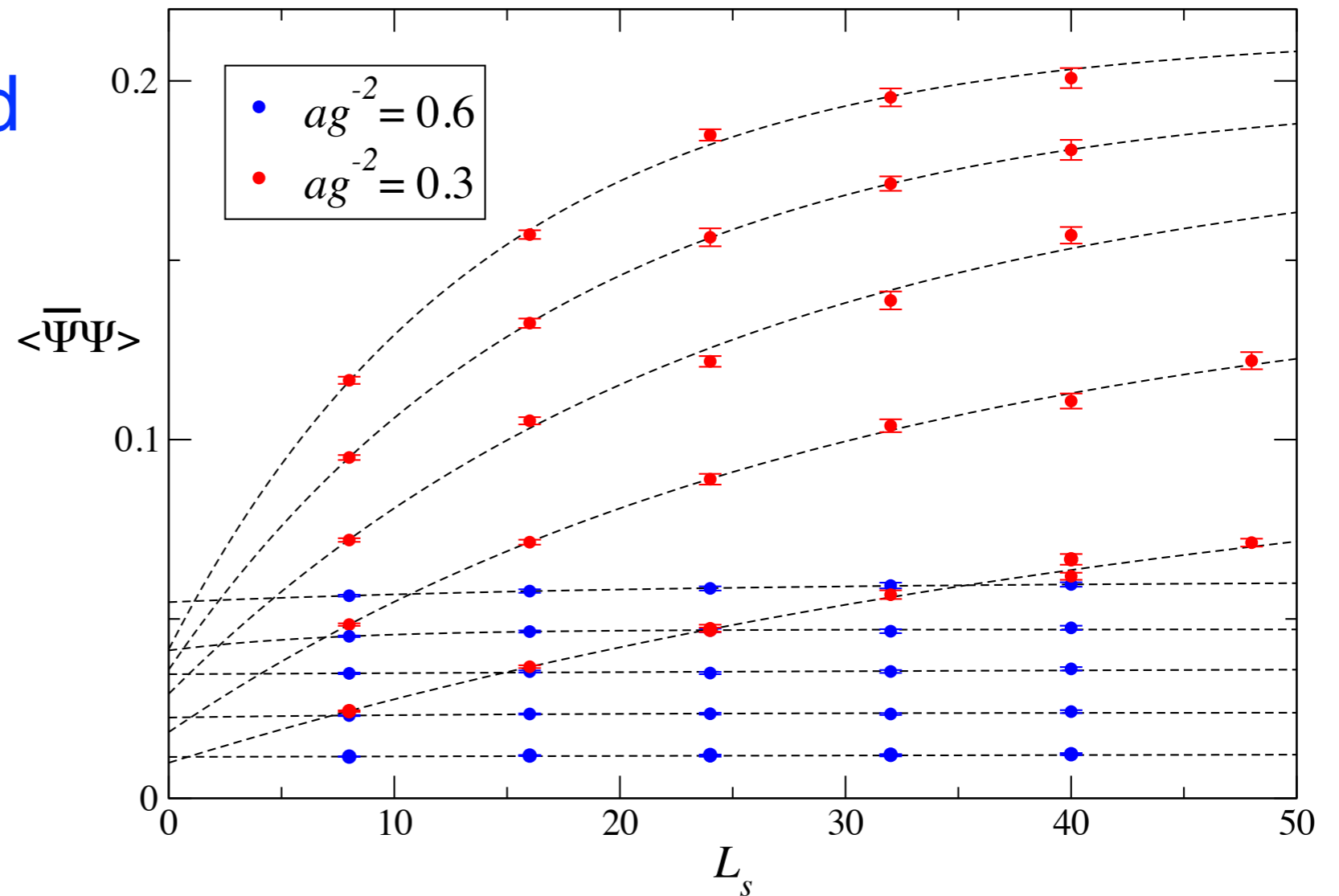
Cf. quenched QED₄ in the old days....

$\Rightarrow N_c > 0?$

Kocić, SJH, Kogut, Dagotto, NPB 347(1990)217

Have now repeated
analysis for
 $N=1,12^3 \times L_s$

lines are exponential
extrapolations $L_s \rightarrow \infty$



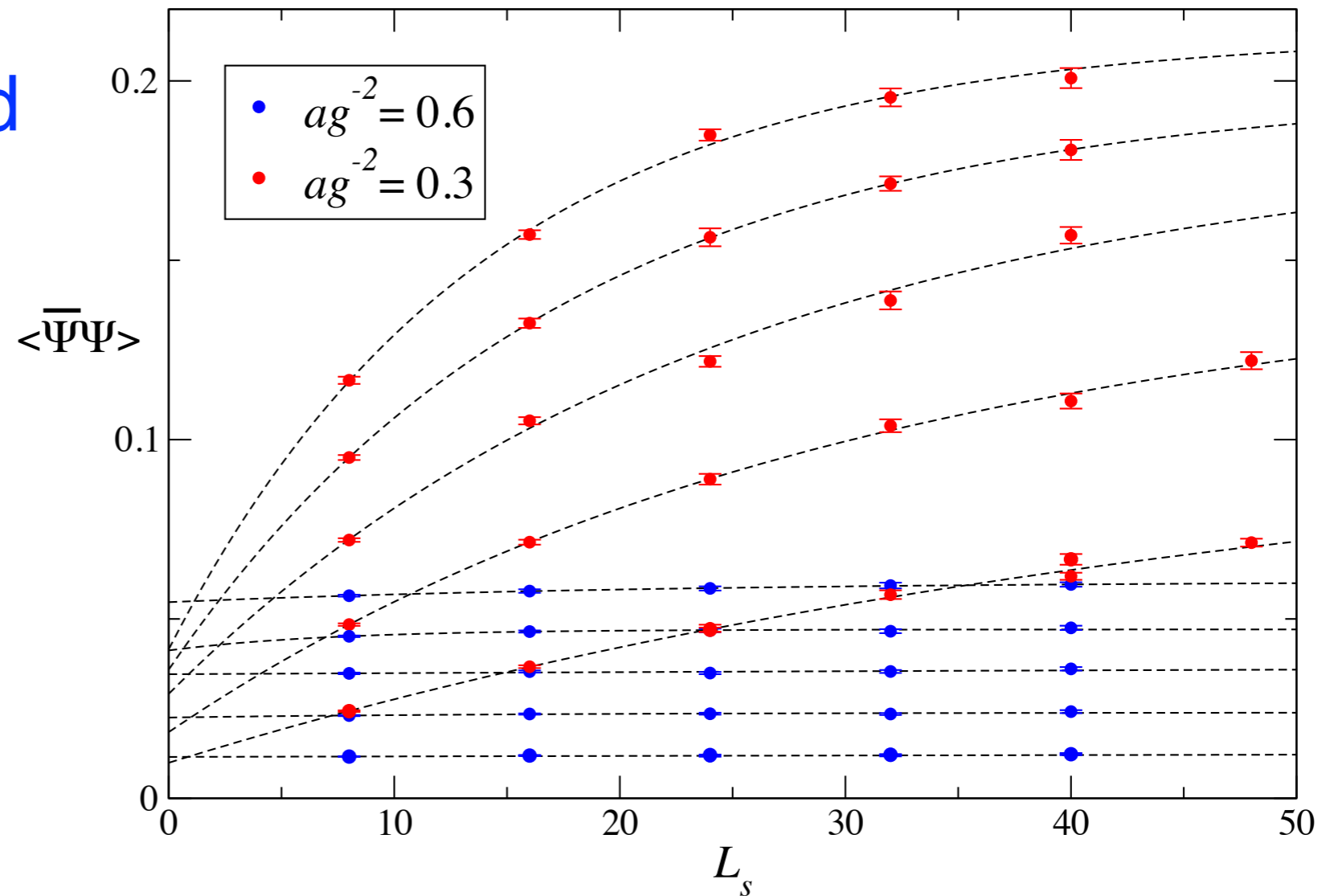
Again, a big contrast
weak $ag^{-2}=0.6$ vs. **strong** $ag^{-2}=0.3$

$L_s=48$, $am=0.01$, $ag^{-2}=0.3$:

RHMC Hamiltonian step requires ~ 9500 QMR iterations

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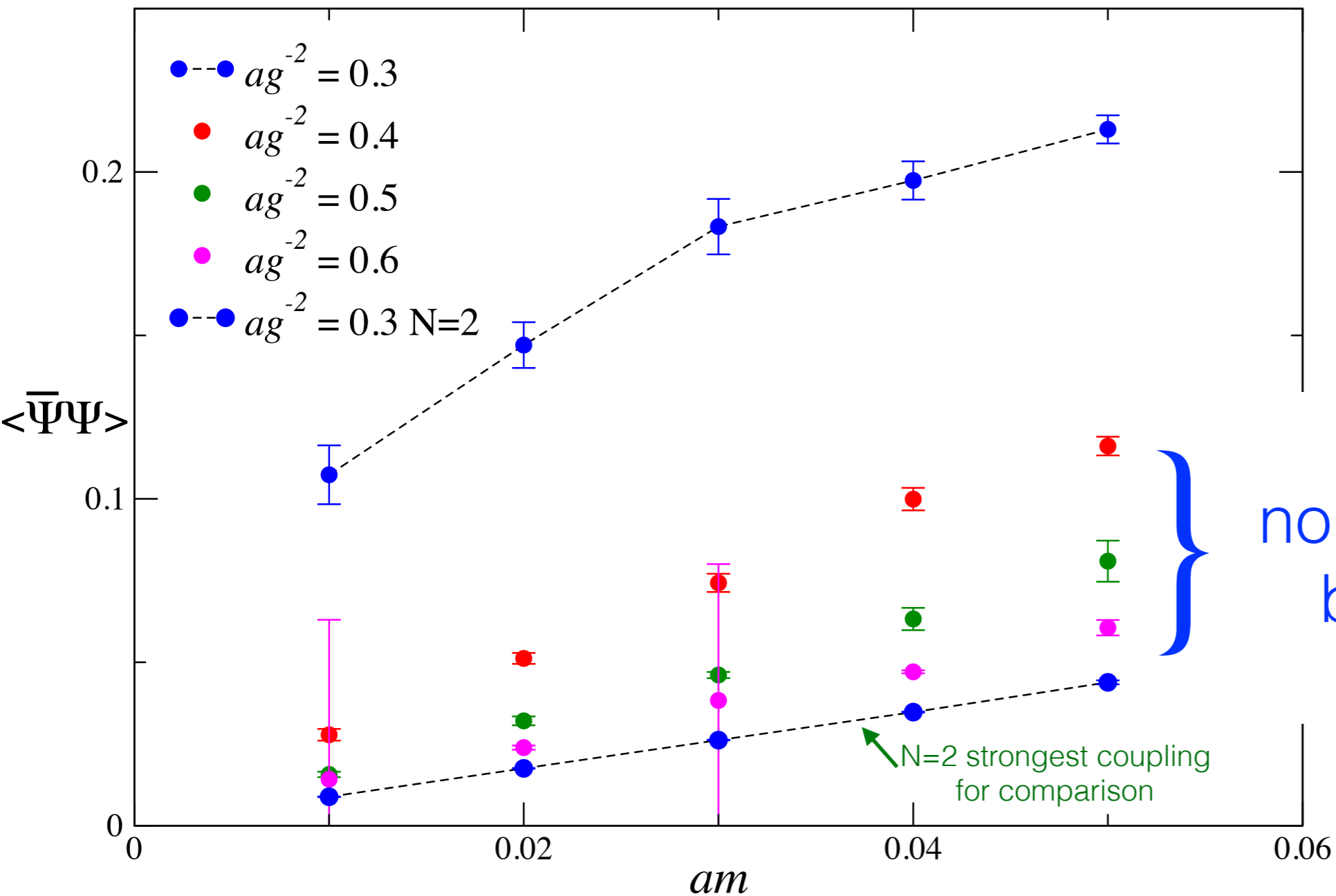
No-one said strong coupling would be easy....



$N=1$ $L_s \rightarrow \infty$

$12^3 \times L_s$, $L_s=8, \dots, 40(48)$; $ag^{-2}=0.6, 5, 4, 3$;
 $ma = 0.01, 2, 3, 4, 5 \Leftrightarrow$

$O(6 \text{ months})$ on cluster, 4 cores per run

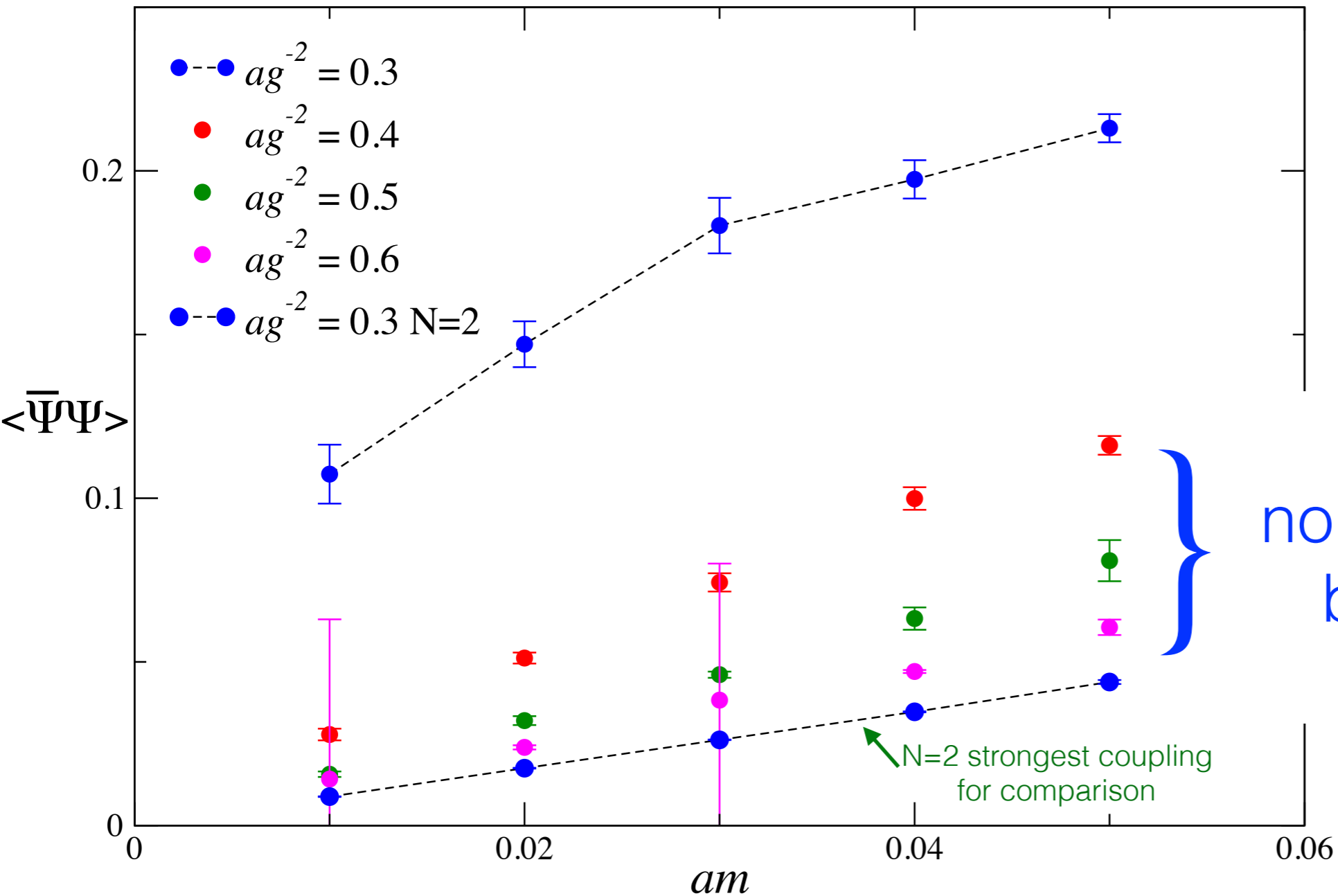


$\Rightarrow 1 < N_c < 2 ? \quad 0.3 < ag_c^{-2} < 0.4 ??$

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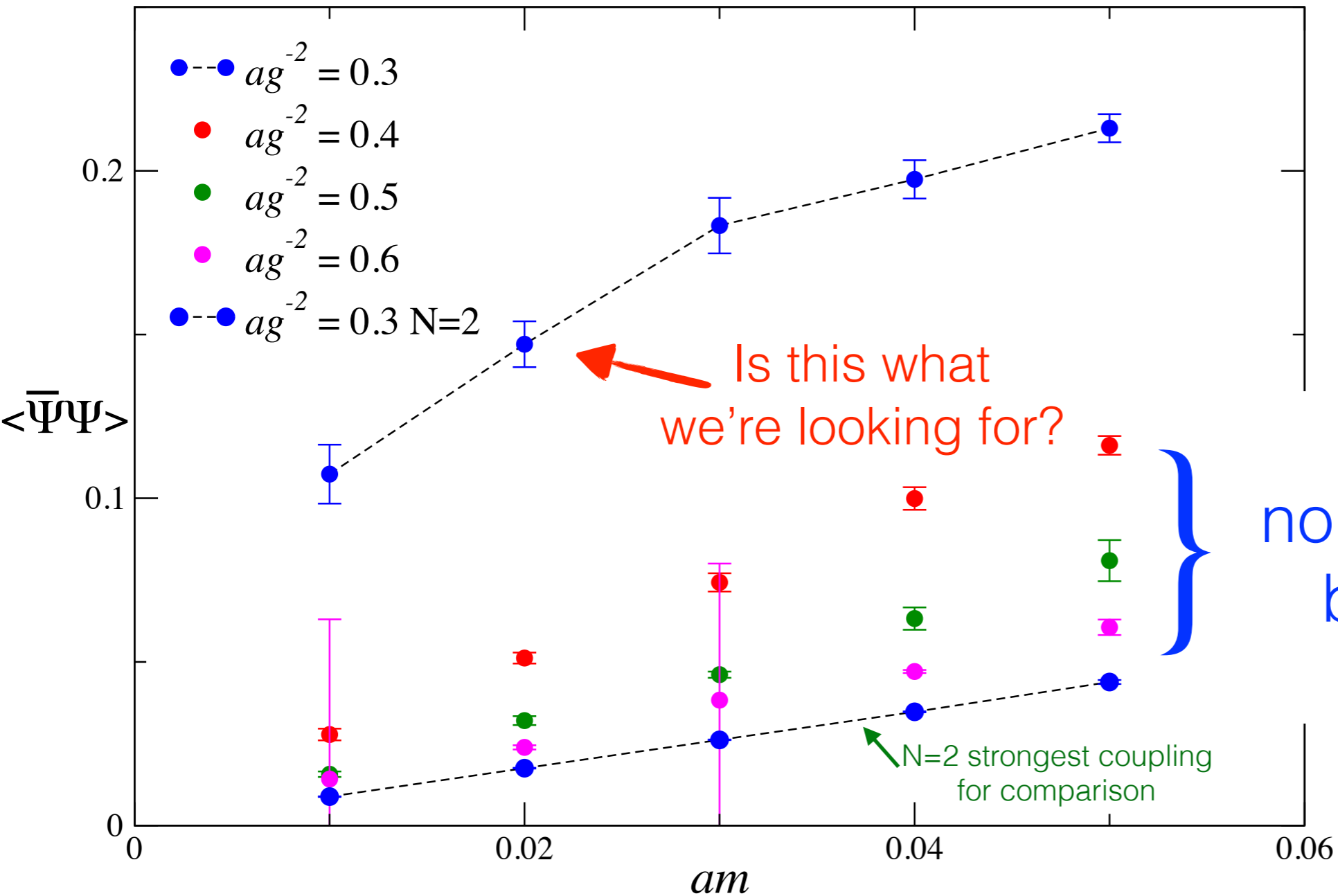


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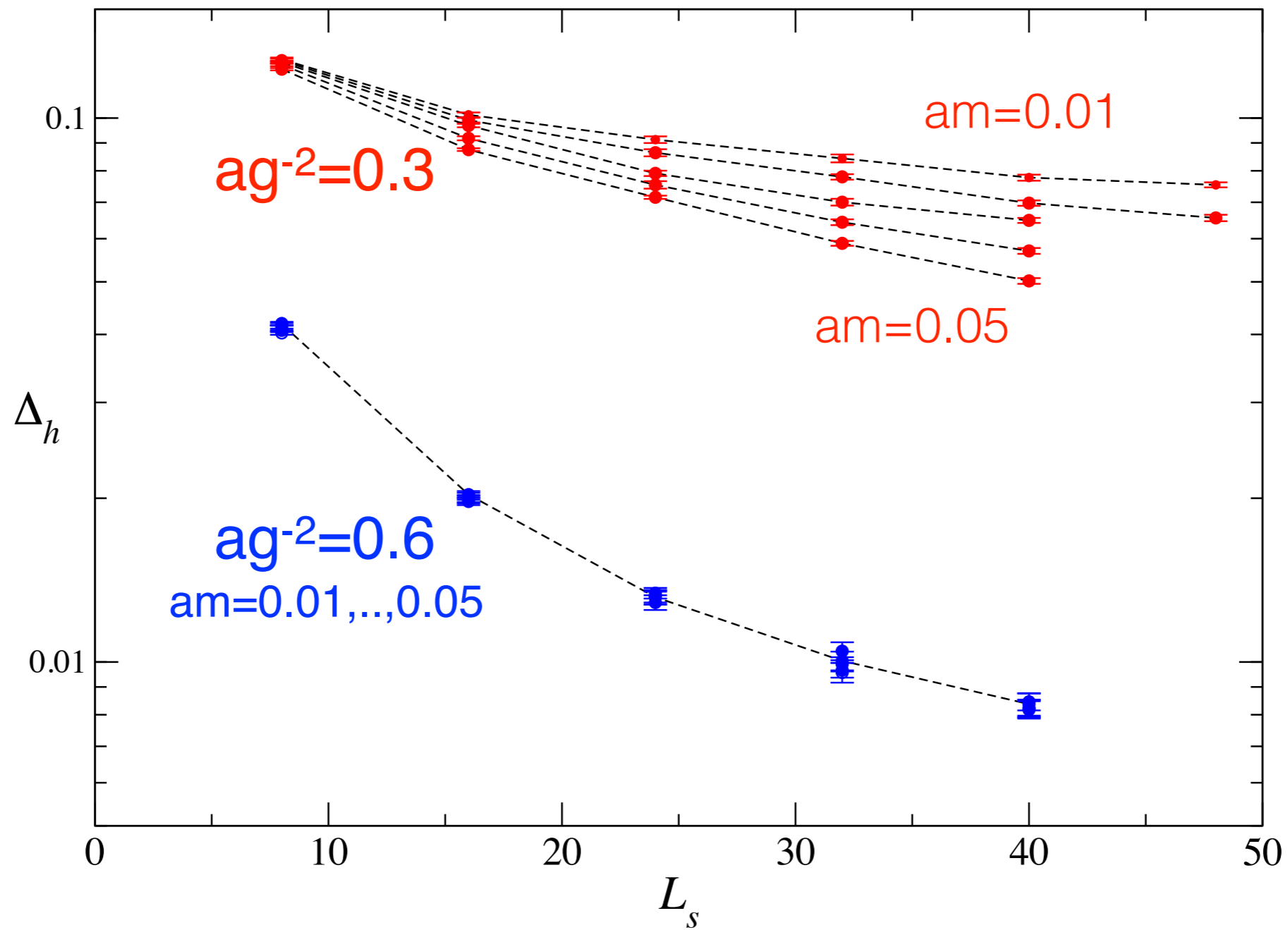
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Qualitative
difference in $\langle \bar{\Psi}\Psi(m) \rangle$
at the strongest
coupling examined
 $ag^{-2} = 0.3$

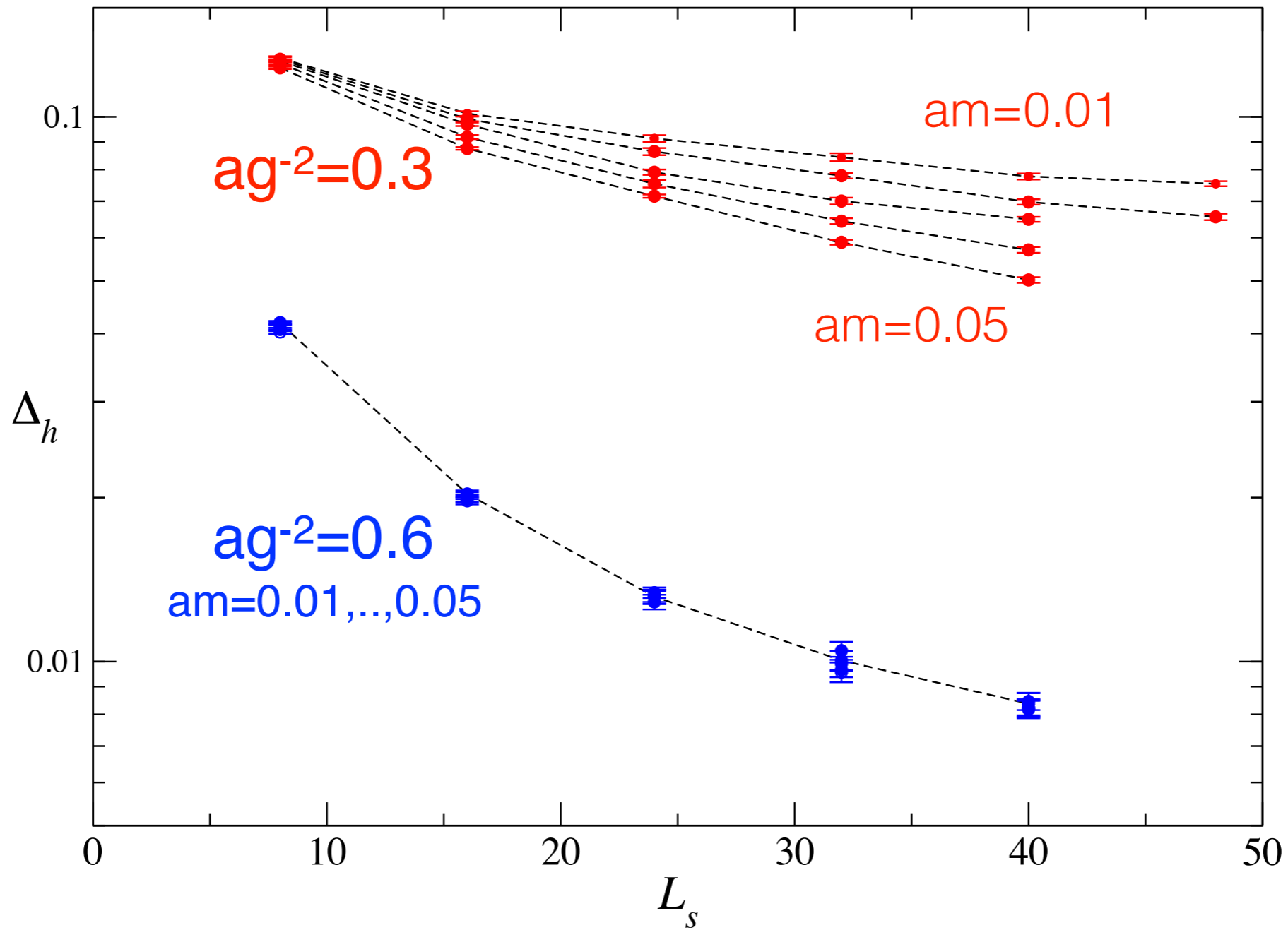
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U(2) symmetry restoration as $L_s \rightarrow \infty$



Qualitatively different at strong and weak coupling,
and *slow*...

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Summary & Outlook



- No obstruction found to simulating $U(2N)$ fermions
- "twisted mass" $im_3\bar{\psi}\gamma_3\psi$ optimises $L_s \rightarrow \infty$
- Robust conclusion: $N_{fc} < 2$ for both bulk and surface
- Tentative evidence for SSB for $N=1$ at strong coupling

Cf. QED_3 $N_{fc} < 1$ Karthik & Narayanan PRD93 045020, D94 065026 (2016)

- Staggered Thirring Model shouldn't be forgotten — very non-trivial sensitivity to N
- Need to check $V \rightarrow \infty$, the effect of varying M_{wall}
- Try Haldane mass $m_{35} \neq 0$?
- Need to examine locality of corresponding D_{ov}
- Analysis of critical scaling at QCP requires improved code!



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