

Classically perfect gradient flows

from machine-learned fixed-point actions

Urs Wenger

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in collaboration with **Kieran Holland** (University of Pacific), **Andreas Ipp** and **David Müller** (TU Wien)

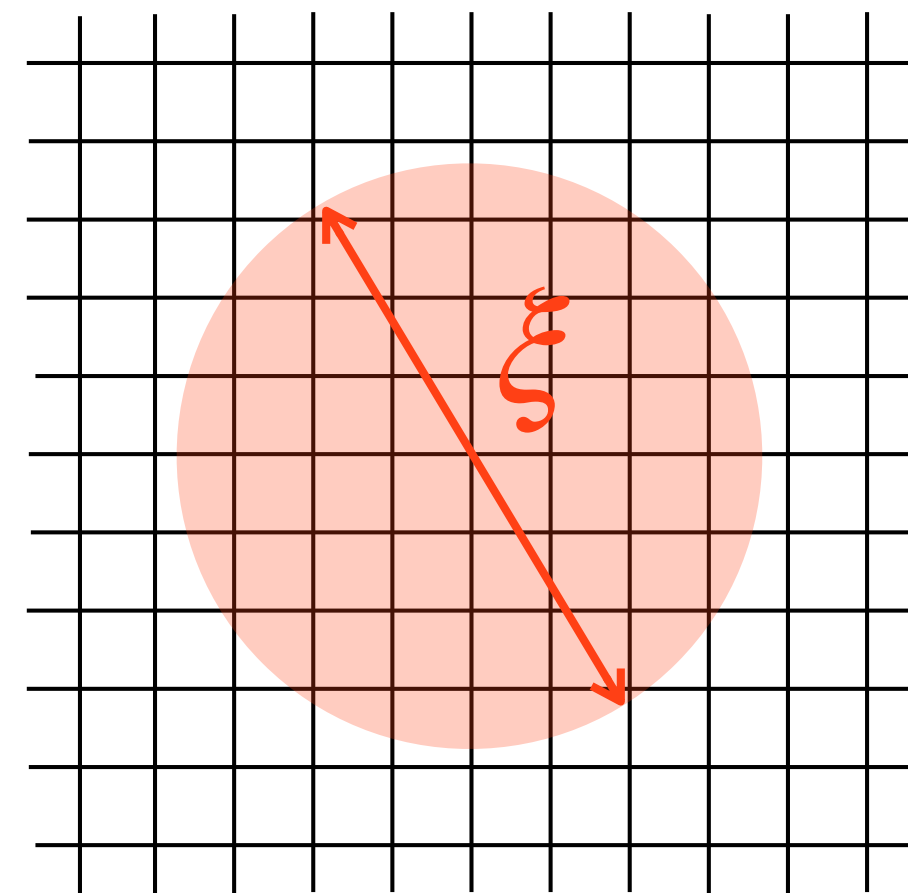
[arXiv:2311.17816 \[hep-lat\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.17816), [arXiv:2401.06481 \[hep-lat\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.06481), [arXiv:2502.03315 \[hep-lat\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.03315)

Gradient Flow Workshop, 13 February 2025 - University of Zurich, Switzerland

Introduction

The lattice spacing a is determined by the gauge coupling: $\beta = \frac{2N_c}{g^2}$

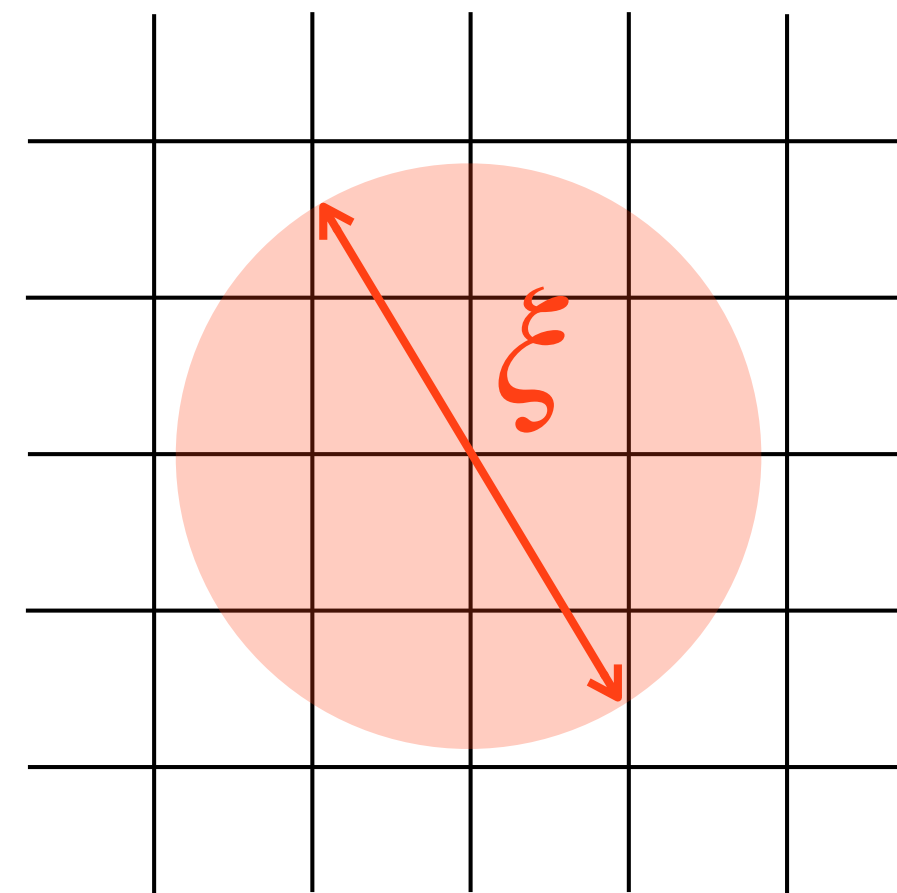
← continuum limit (2nd order phase transition $\xi/a \rightarrow \infty$)



a

g

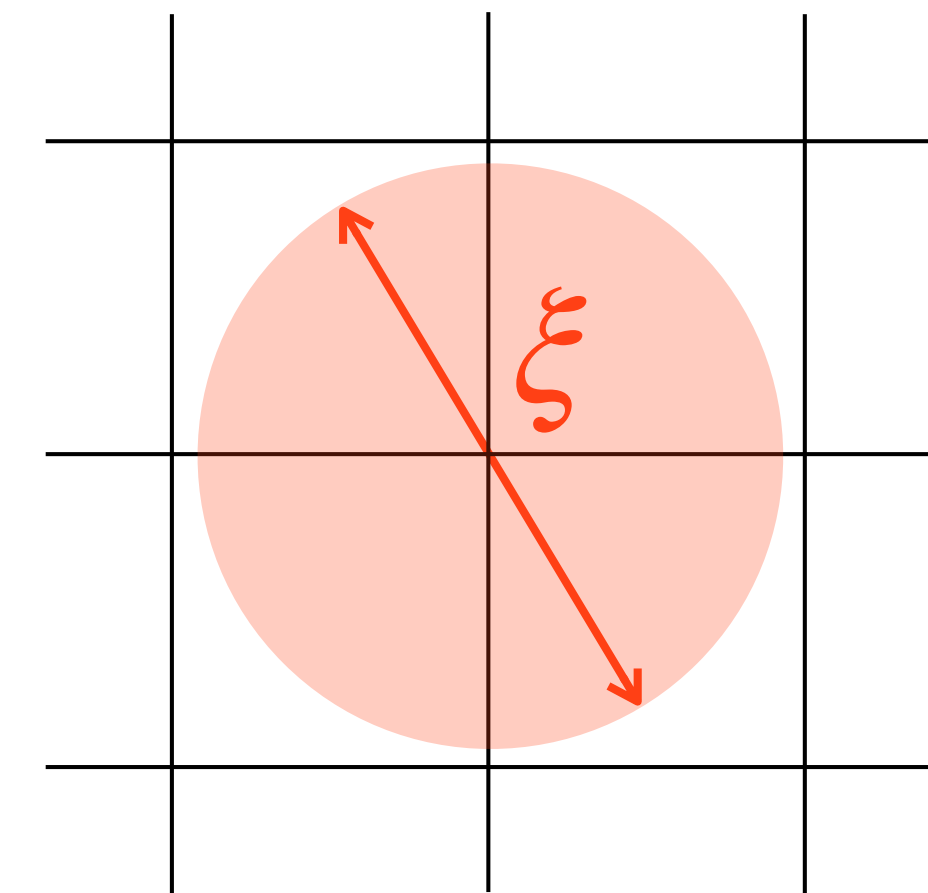
\ll



a'

g'

\ll



a''

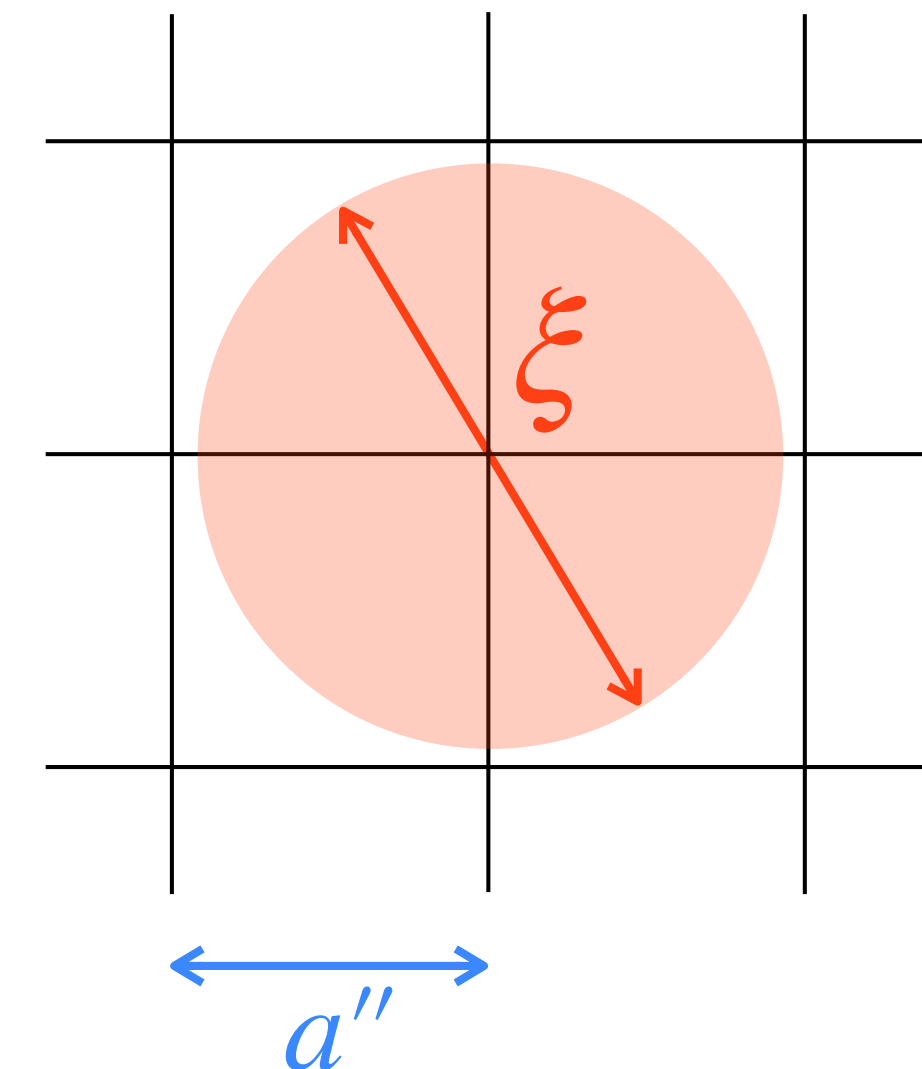
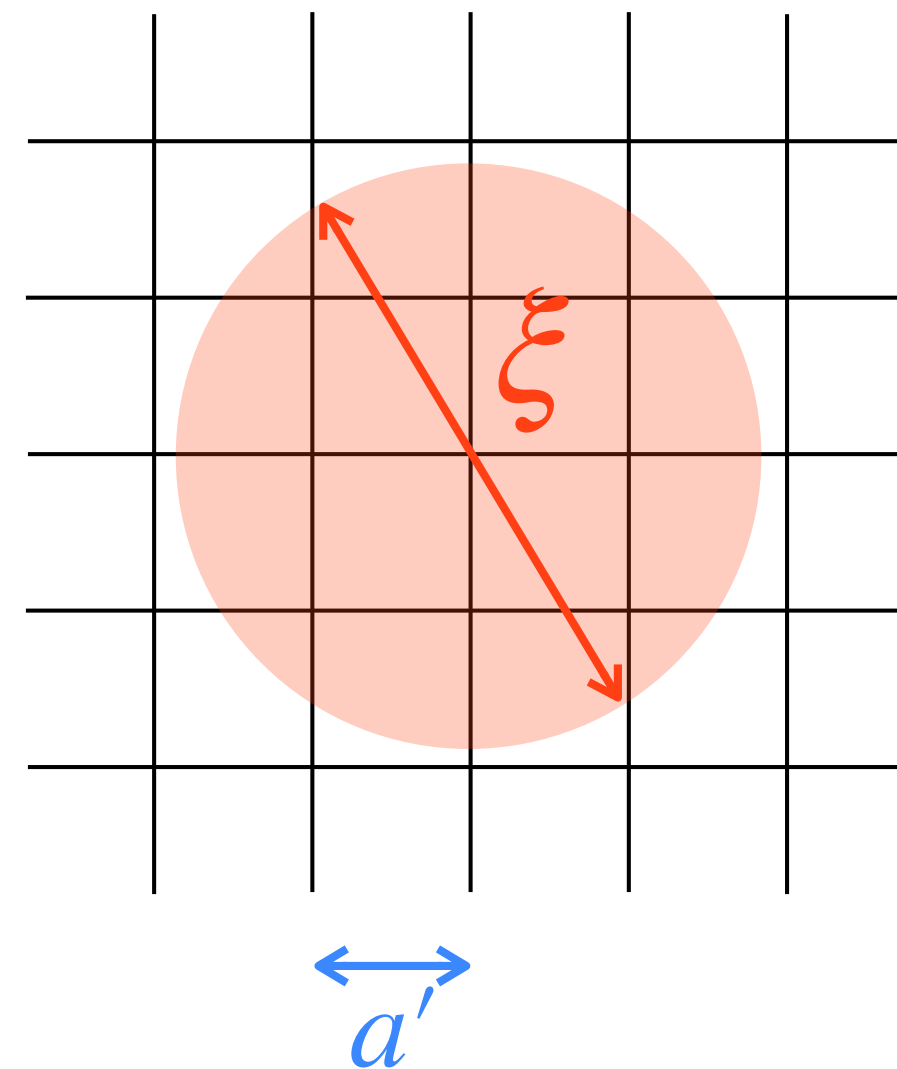
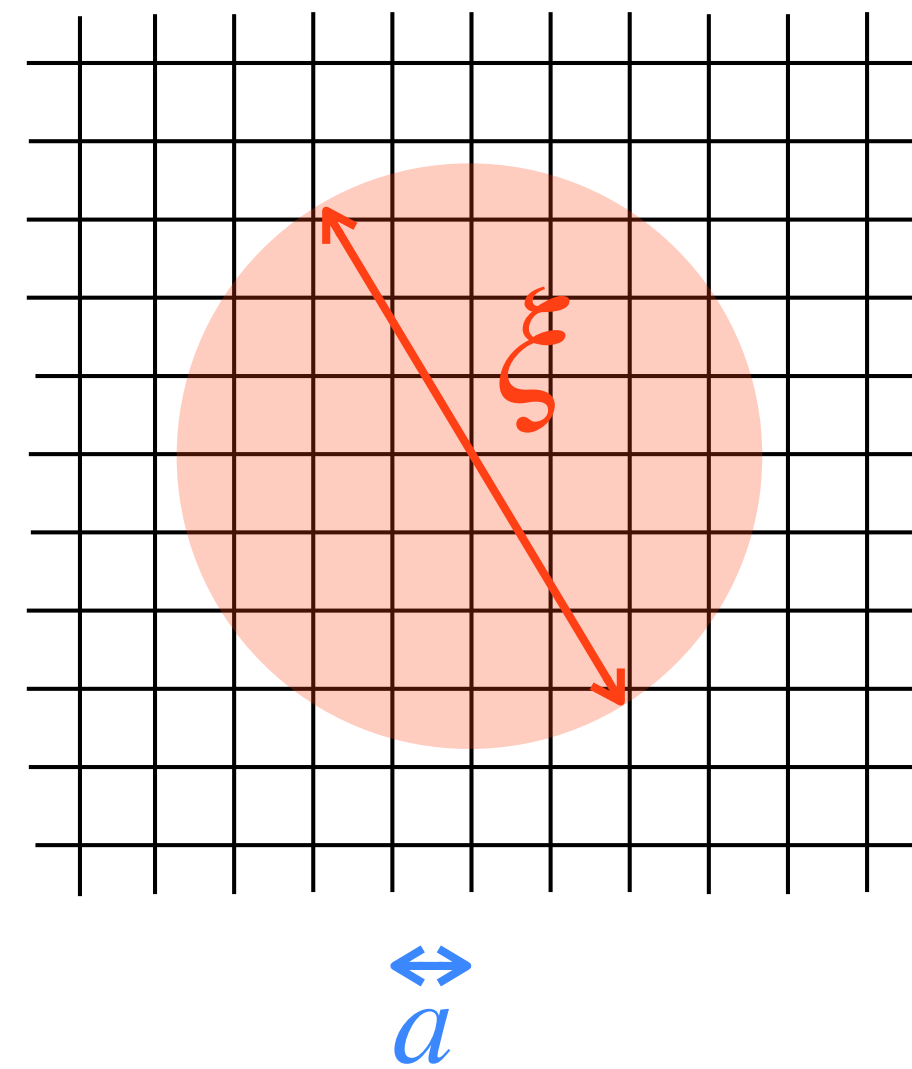
g''

lattice spacing a from dimensionless g : \Rightarrow dimensional transmutation

Introduction

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← continuum limit (2nd order phase transition $\xi/a \rightarrow \infty$)



← critical slowing down (topological freezing) ?

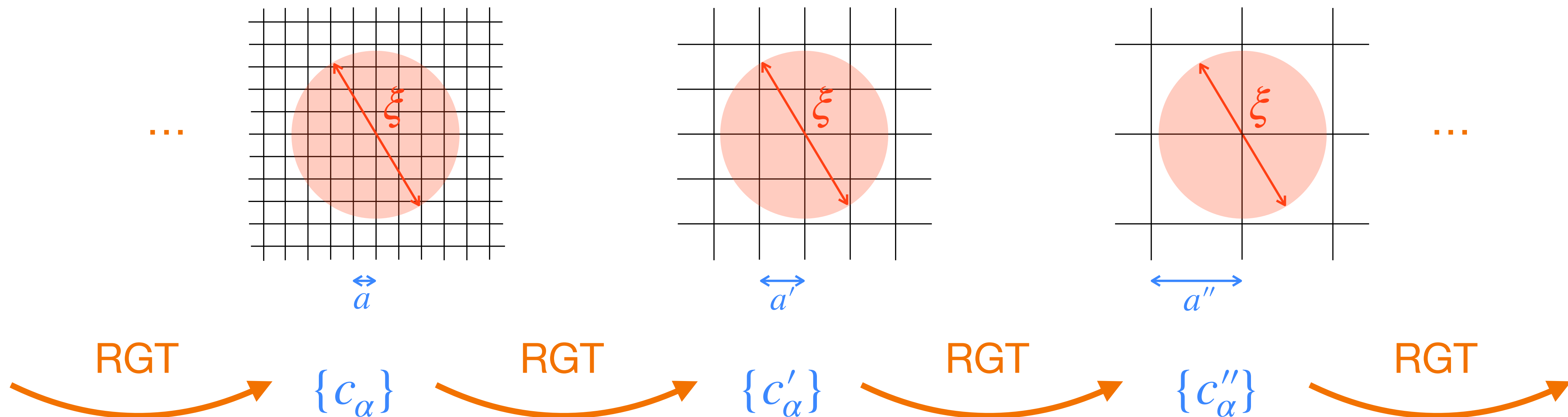
← large lattice artefacts?

Renormalization group transformation

Introduce (coordinate space) renormalization group transformation (RGT):

$$\exp \{ -\beta' A'[V] \} = \int \mathcal{D}U \exp \{ -\beta (A[U] + T[U, V]) \}$$

The effective action $\beta' A'[V]$ is described by infinitely many couplings $\{c'_\alpha\}$:



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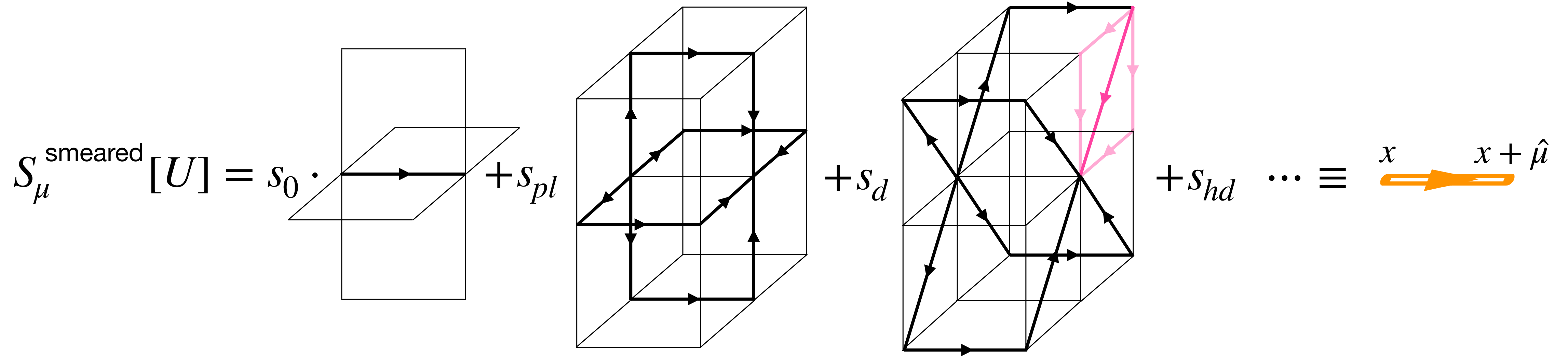
where $T[U, V]$ is a blocking kernel relating the fine gauge links U to the coarse gauge links $V \equiv U'$:

$$T[U, V] = -\frac{\kappa}{N_c} \sum_{x_B, \mu} \left\{ \text{ReTr} \left(V_\mu(x_B) \cdot Q_\mu^\dagger(x_B) \right) - \mathcal{N}_\mu^\beta \right\}$$

(\mathcal{N}_μ^β is a normalization factor guaranteeing $Z(\beta') = Z(\beta)$, i.e., unchanged long distance physics)

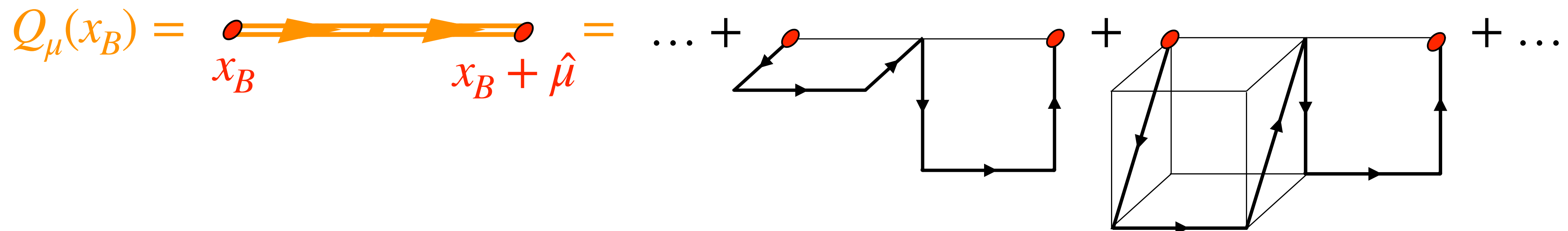
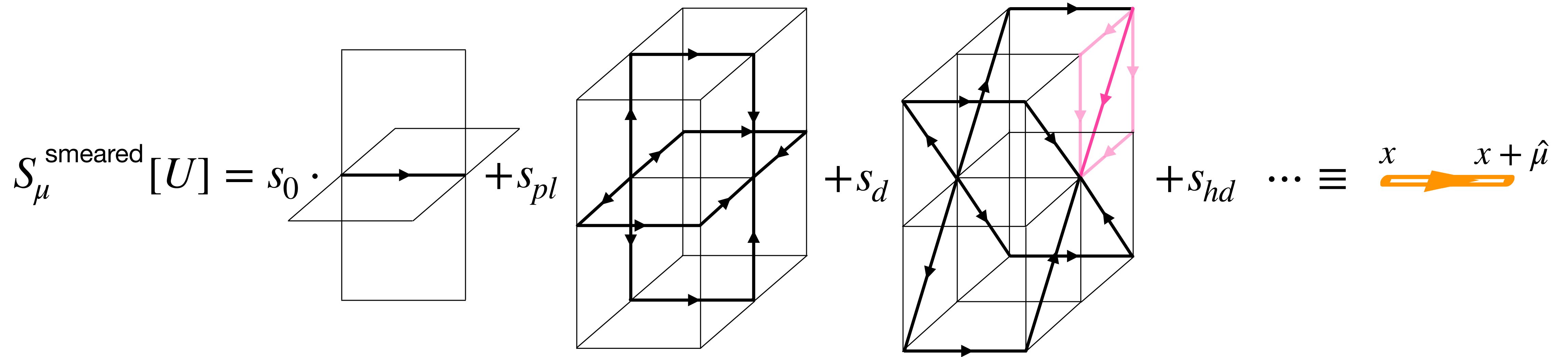
RGT blocking kernel

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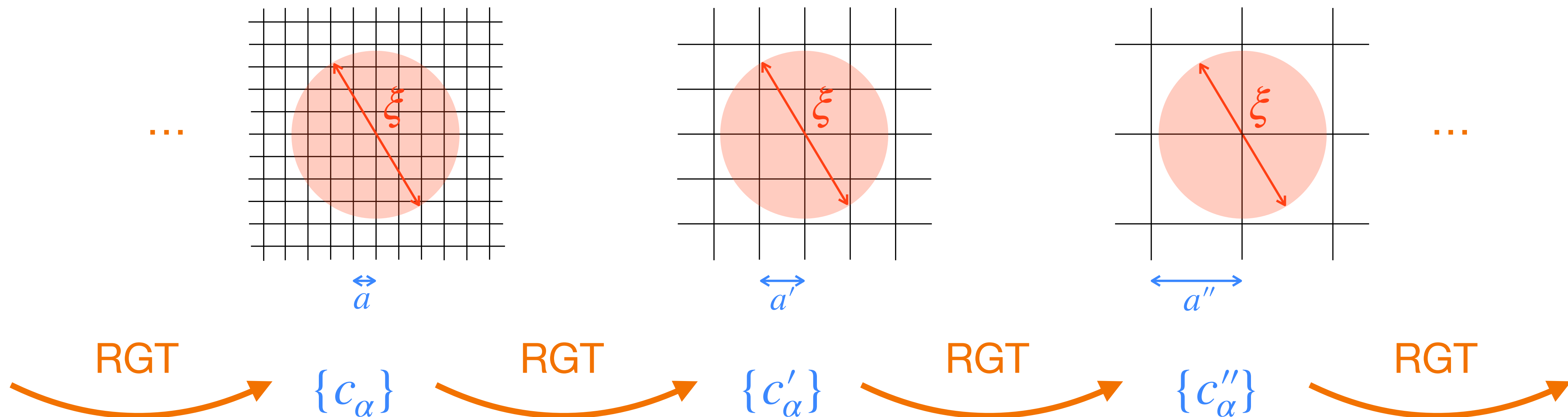


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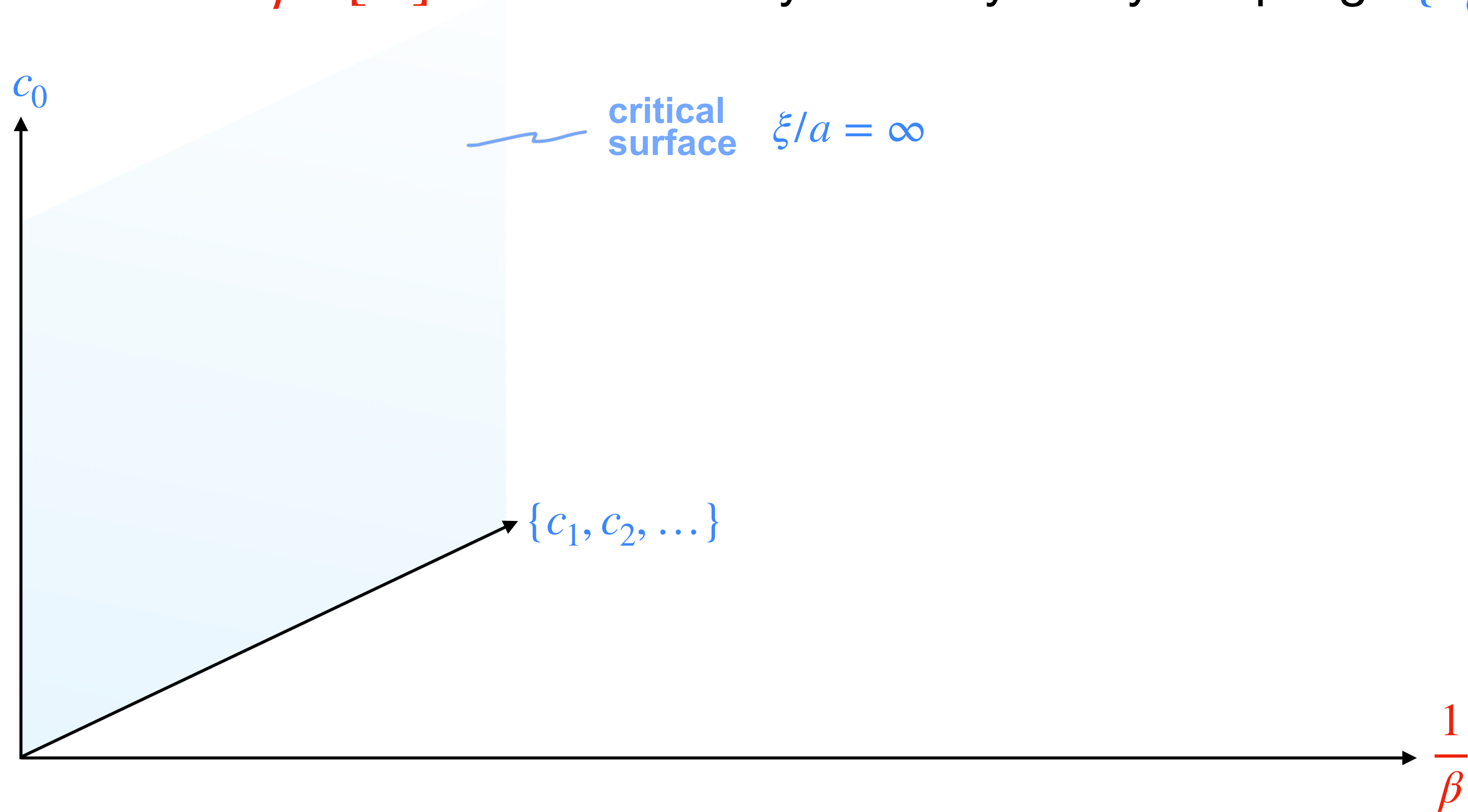
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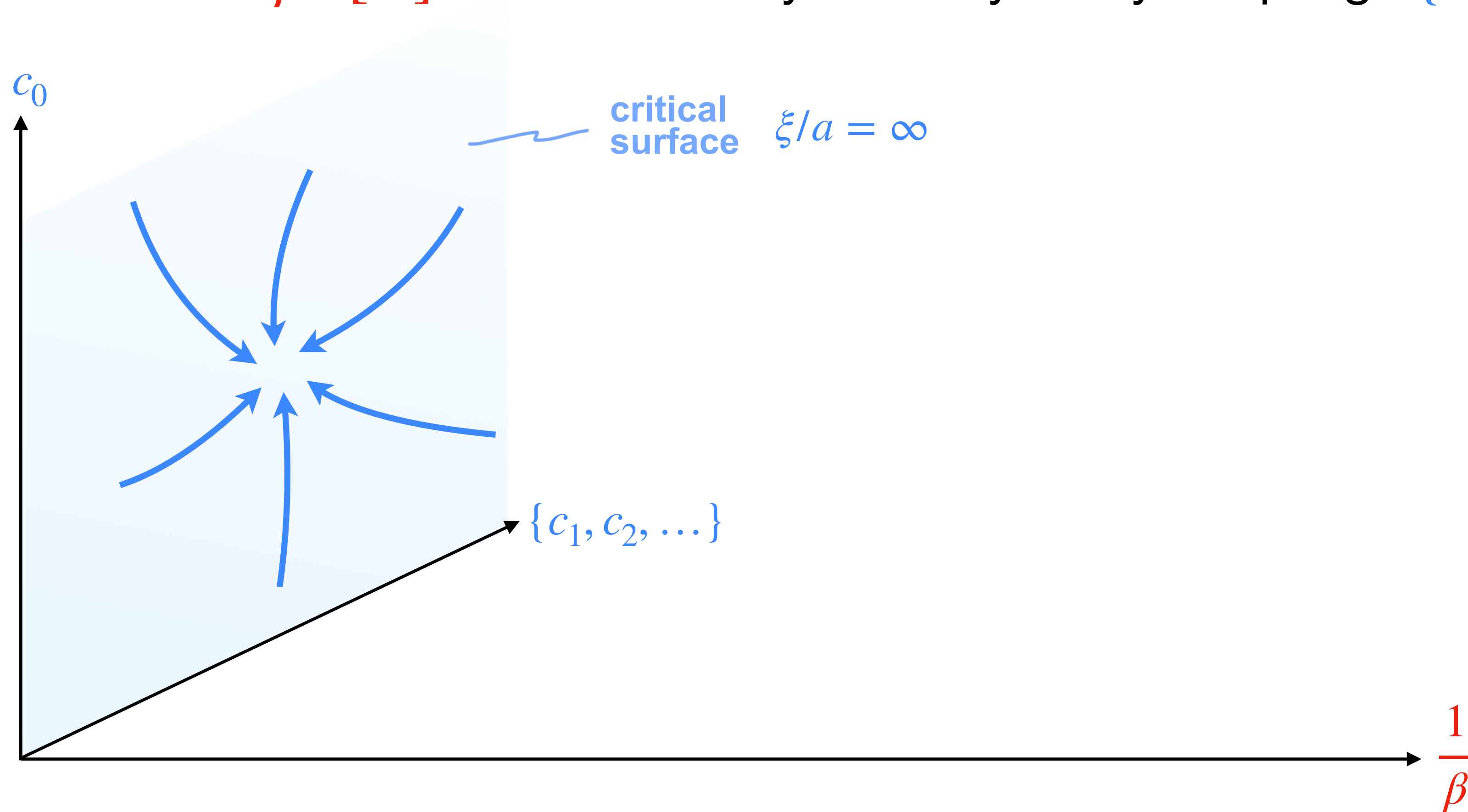
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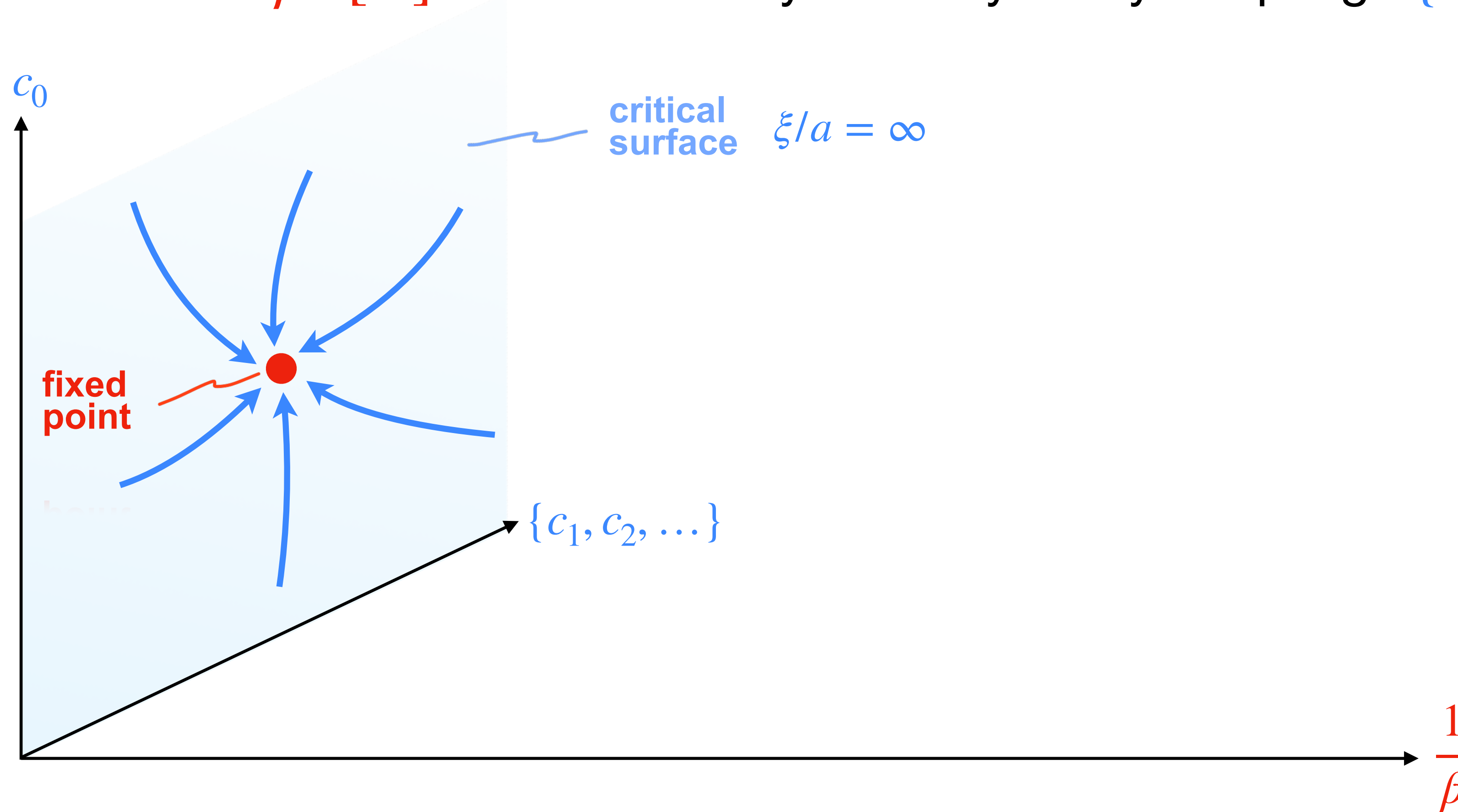
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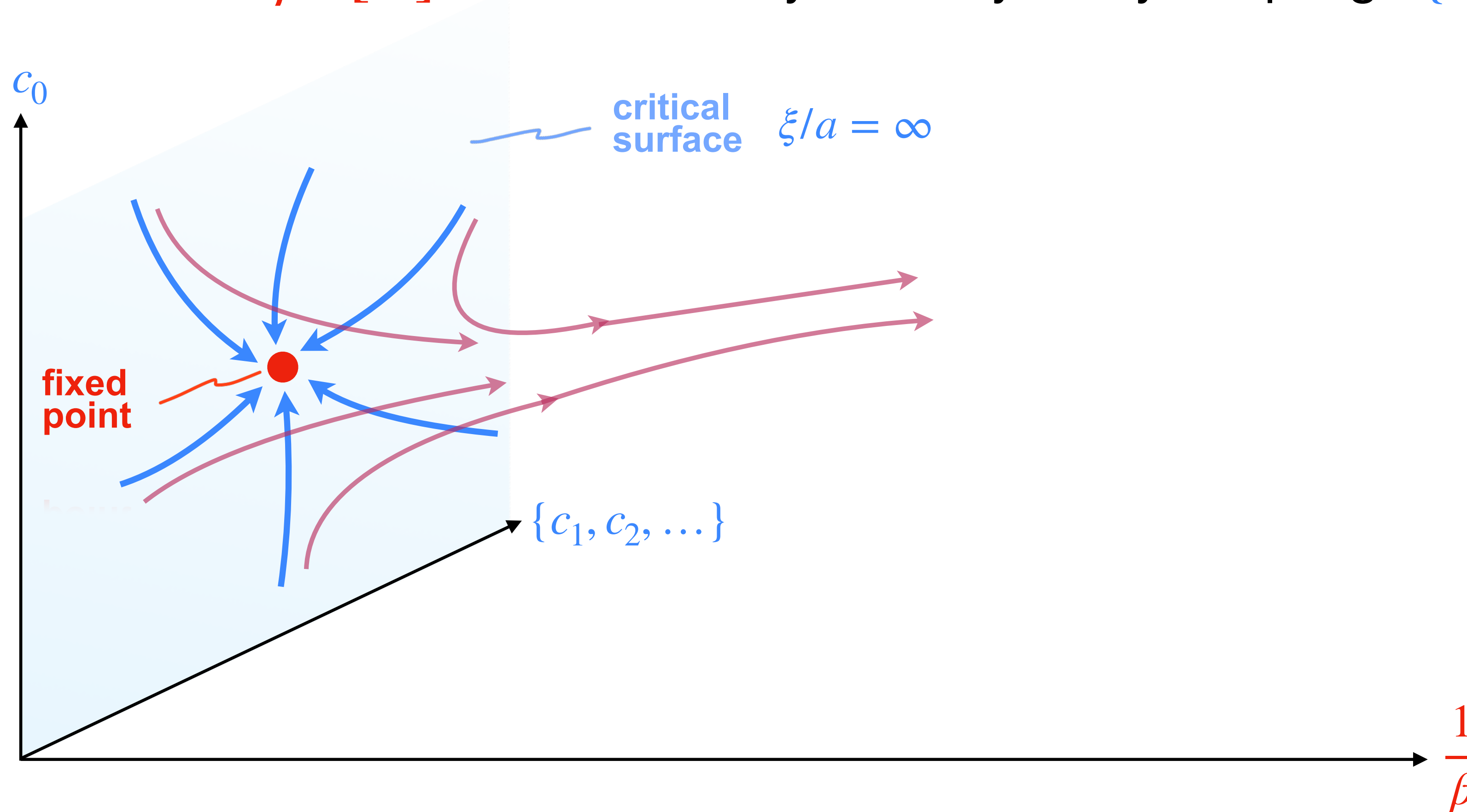
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\Rightarrow **fixed point** of RGT iterations (when $\xi/a \rightarrow \infty$): $\{c_\alpha^{FP}\} \xrightarrow{\text{RGT}} \{c_\alpha^{FP}\}$

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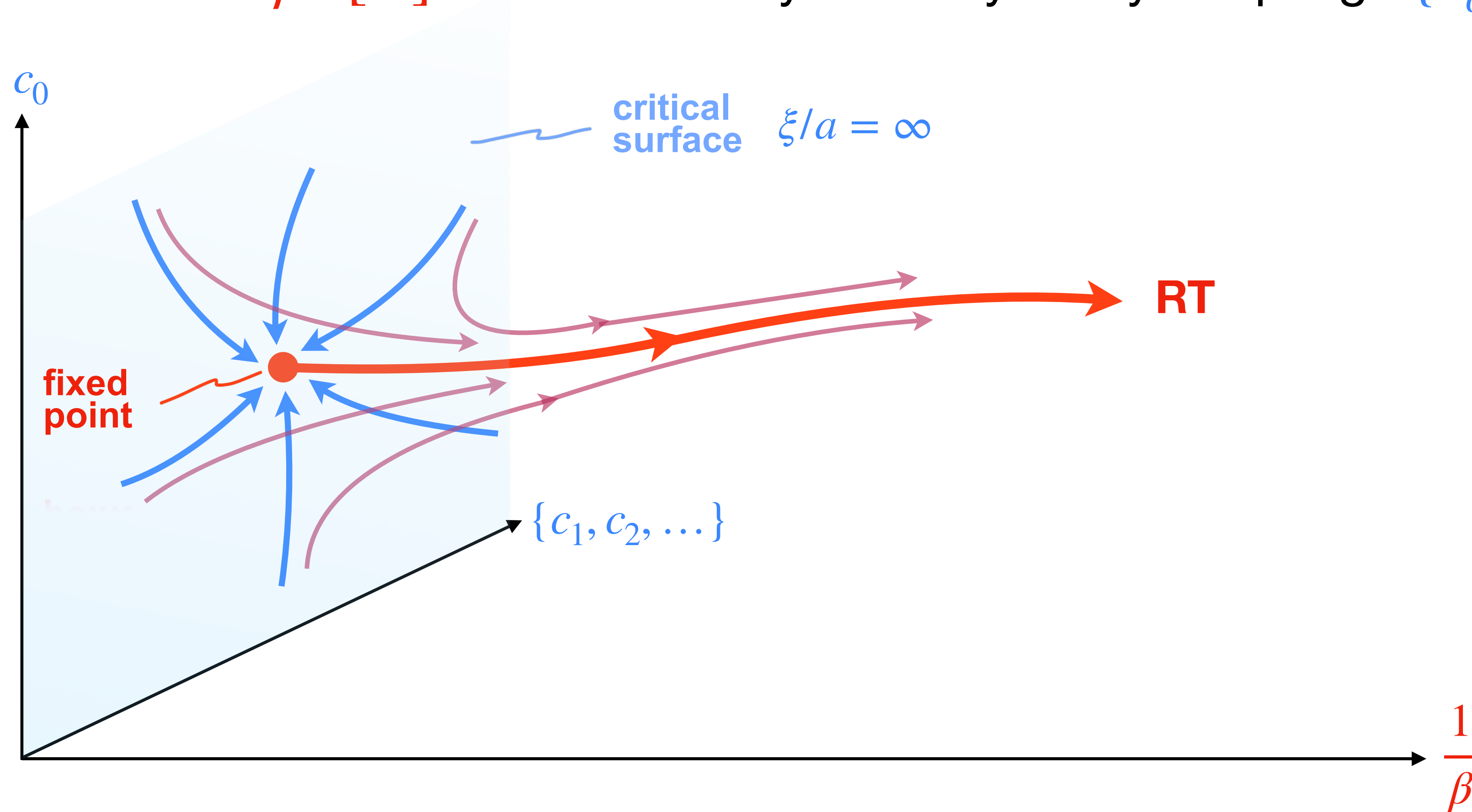
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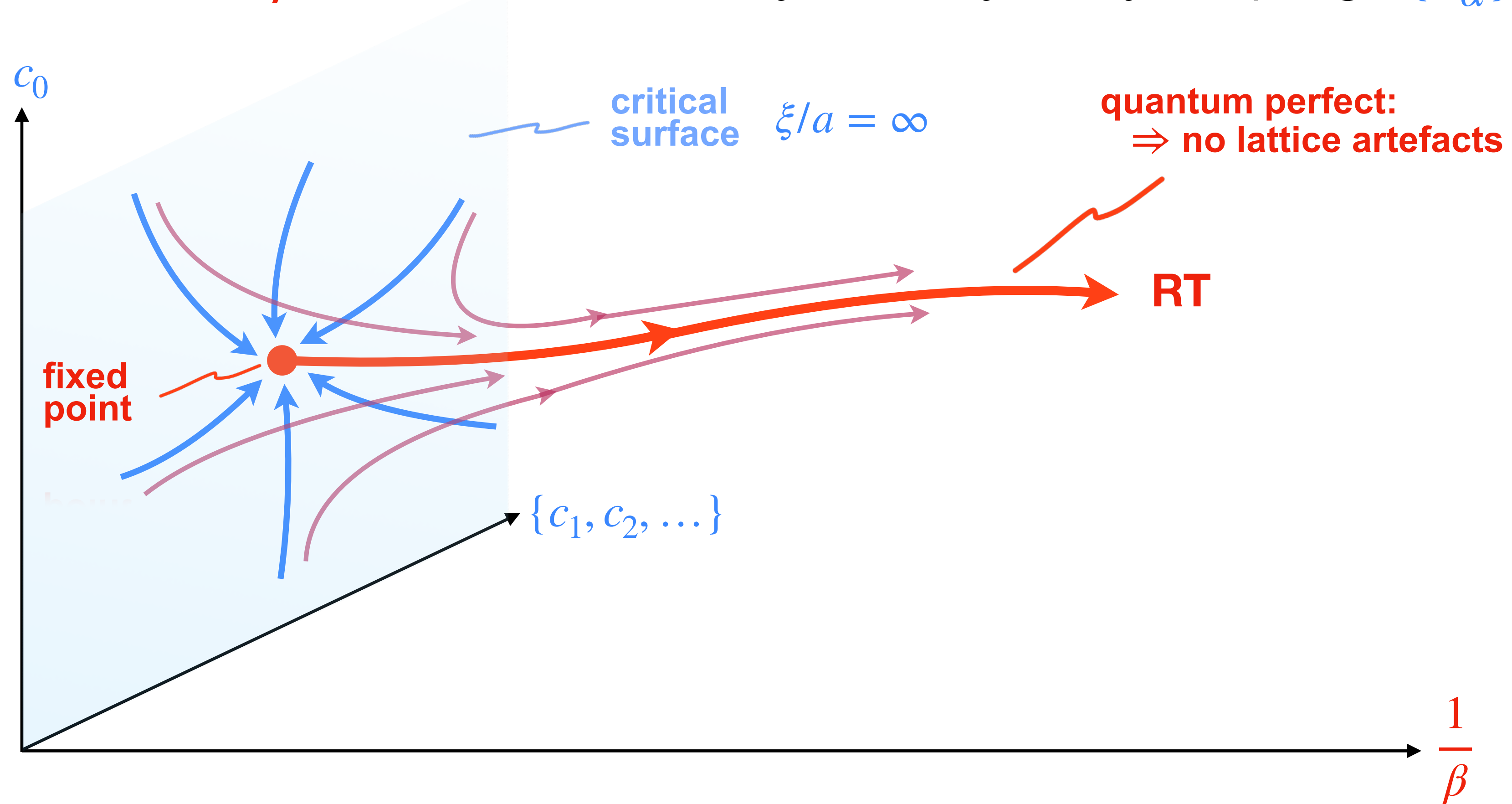
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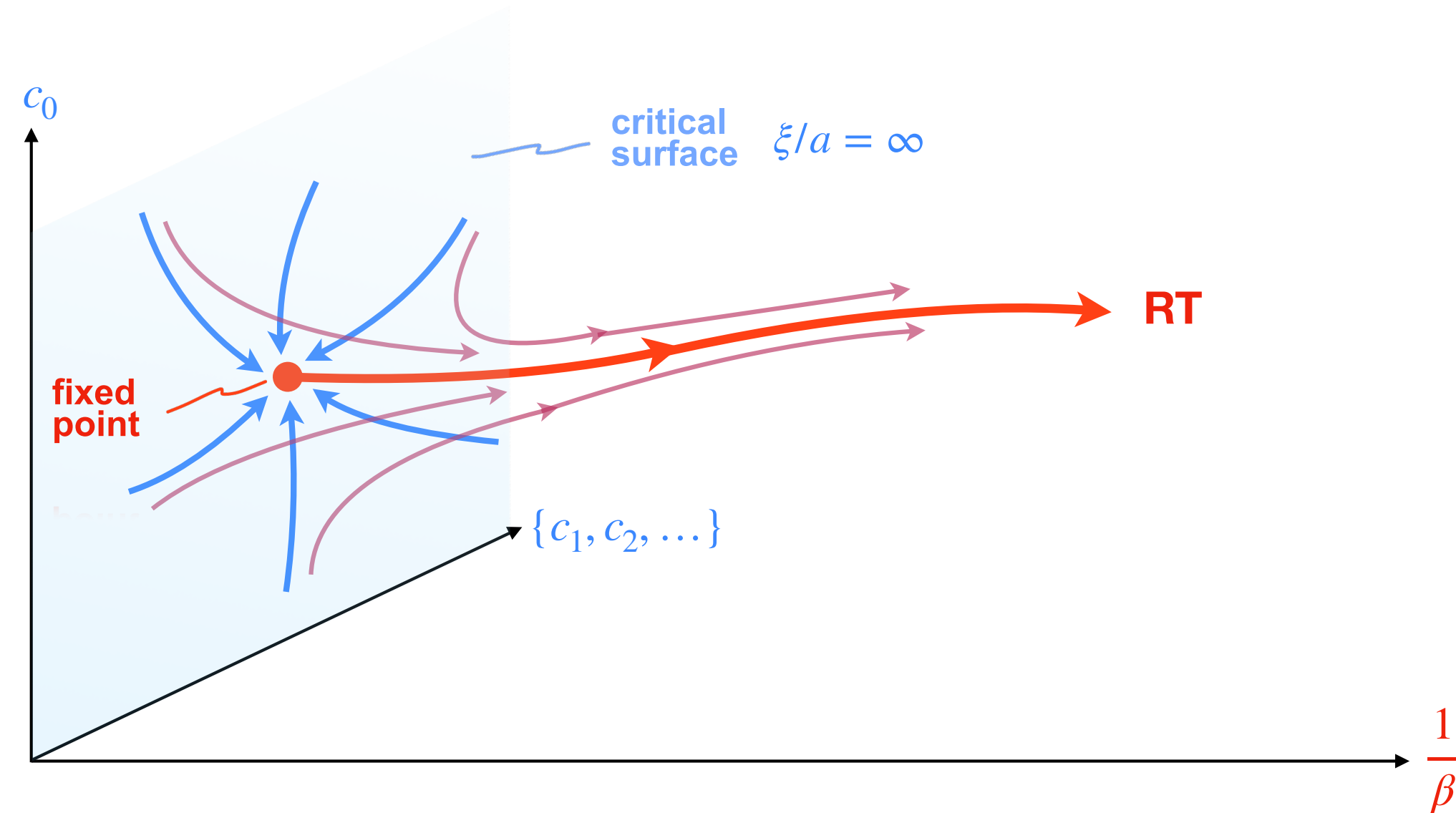
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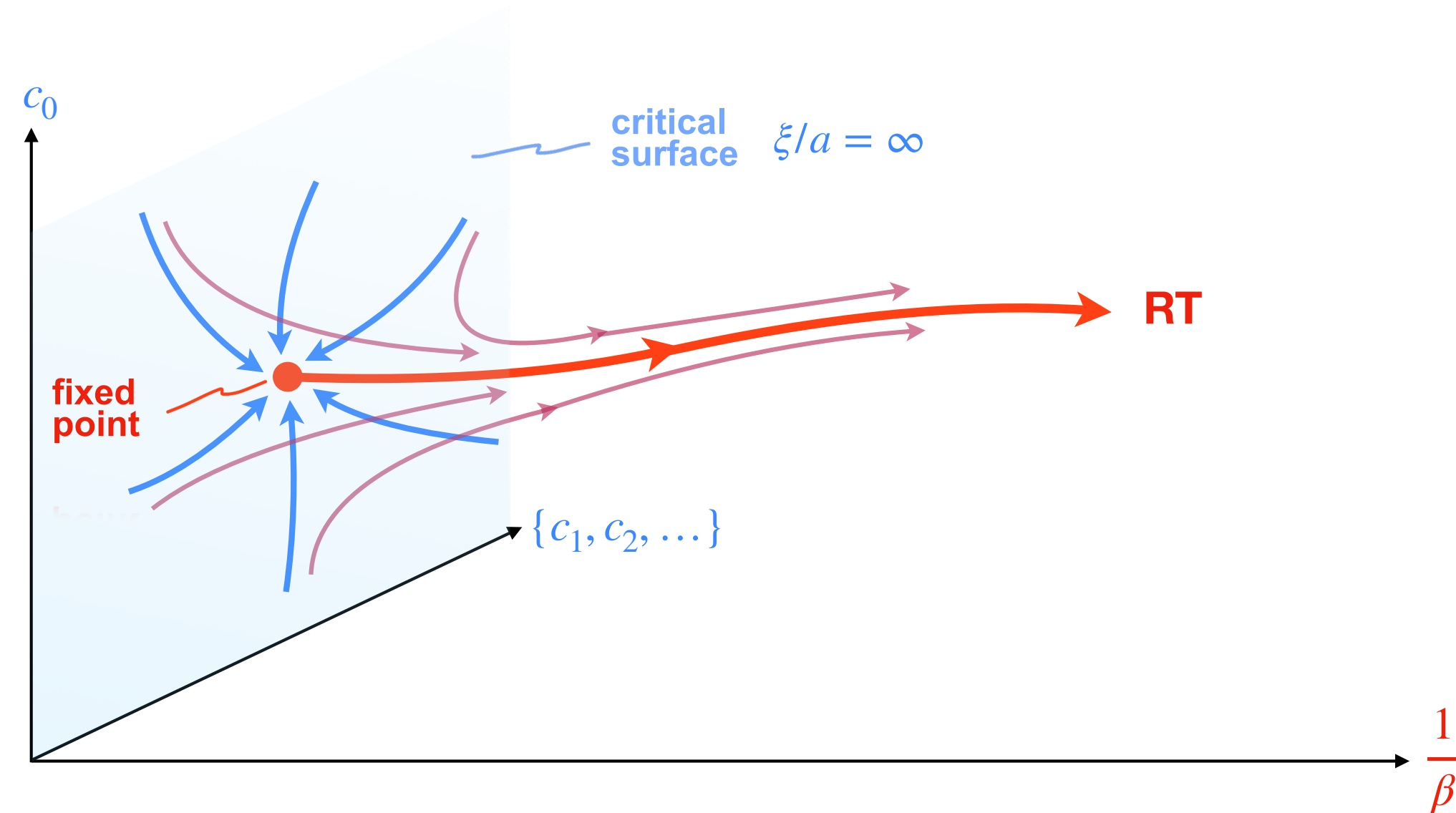
$$\exp \{-\beta' A'[V]\} = \int \mathcal{D}U \exp \{-\beta (A[U] + T[U, V])\}$$

Two practical problems:

- how to parametrize **RT**, i.e., which set $\{c_\alpha\}$?
- how to determine $\{c_\alpha^{\text{RT}}\}$ or $\{c_\alpha^{\text{FP}}\}$?

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P. Hasenfratz, F. Niedermayer [Nucl. Phys. B414 (1994) 785, hep-lat/9308004]

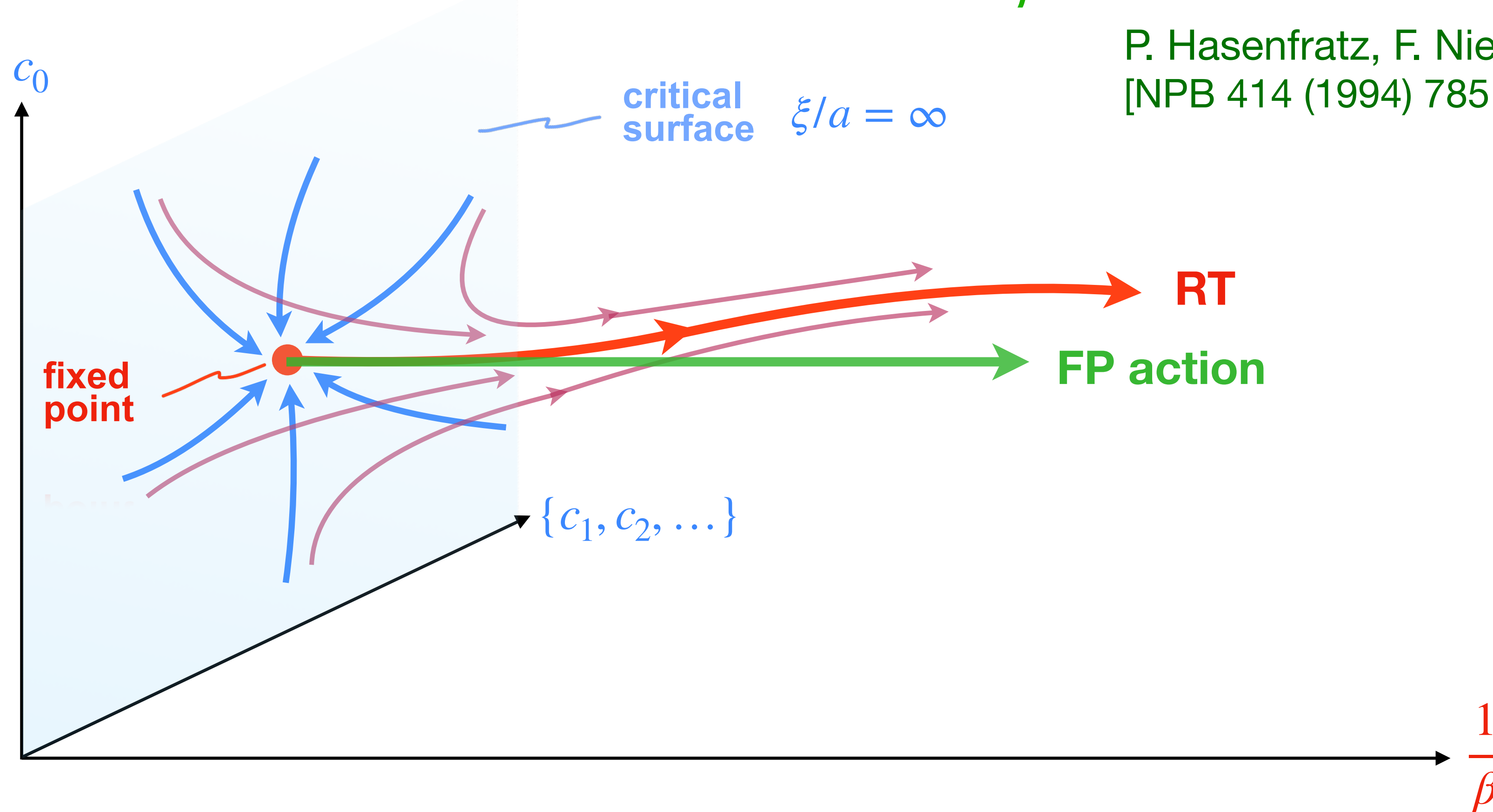
for $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ (on critical surface) the **RGT** becomes a **classical saddle point problem**:

$$A^{\text{FP}}[V] = \min_{\{U\}} \{A^{\text{FP}}[U] + T[U, V]\}$$

Classically perfect FP actions

The classical FP action A^{FP} defines an action for all β :

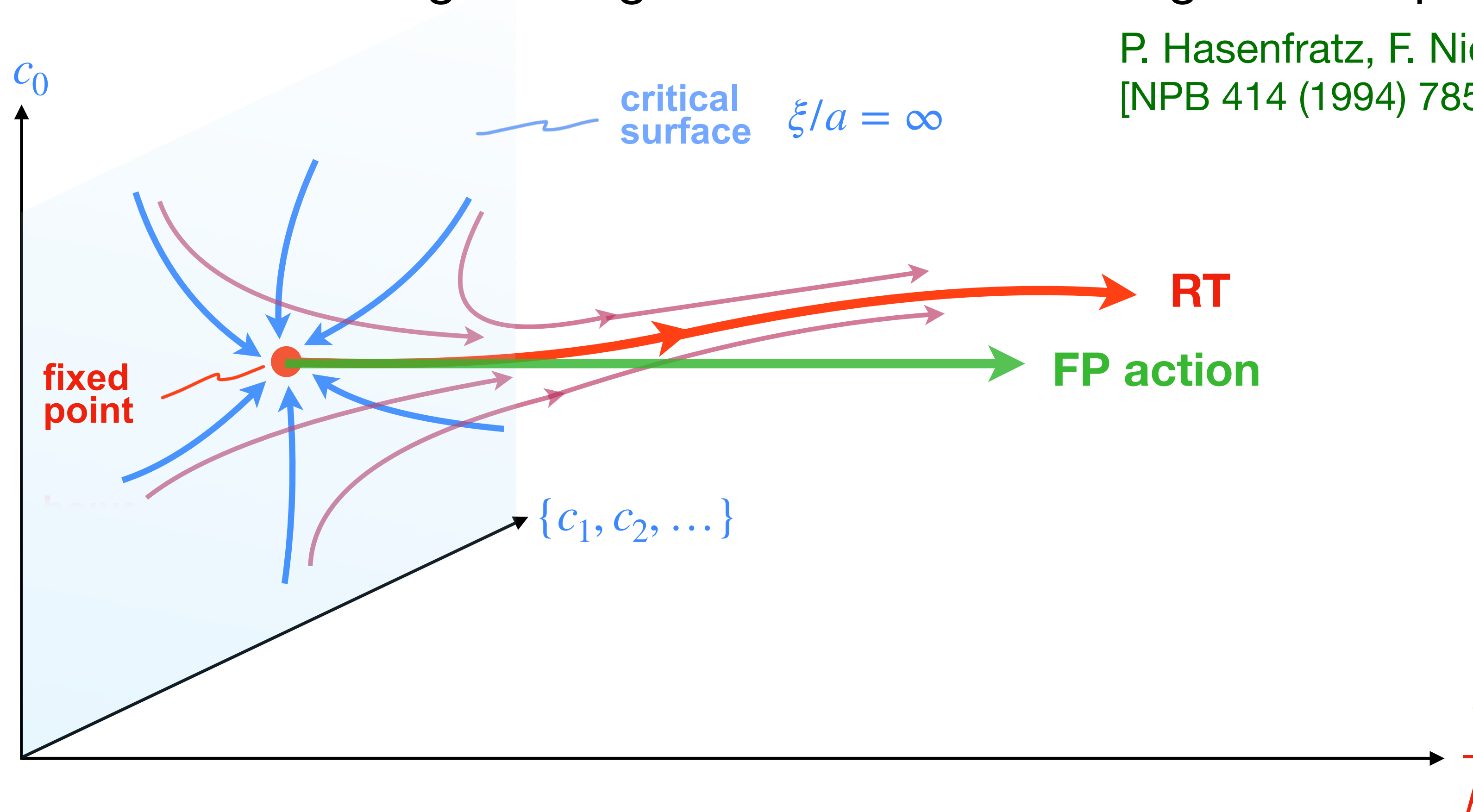
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Classically perfect FP actions

The **FP action** values for rough configurations defined through an inception procedure:

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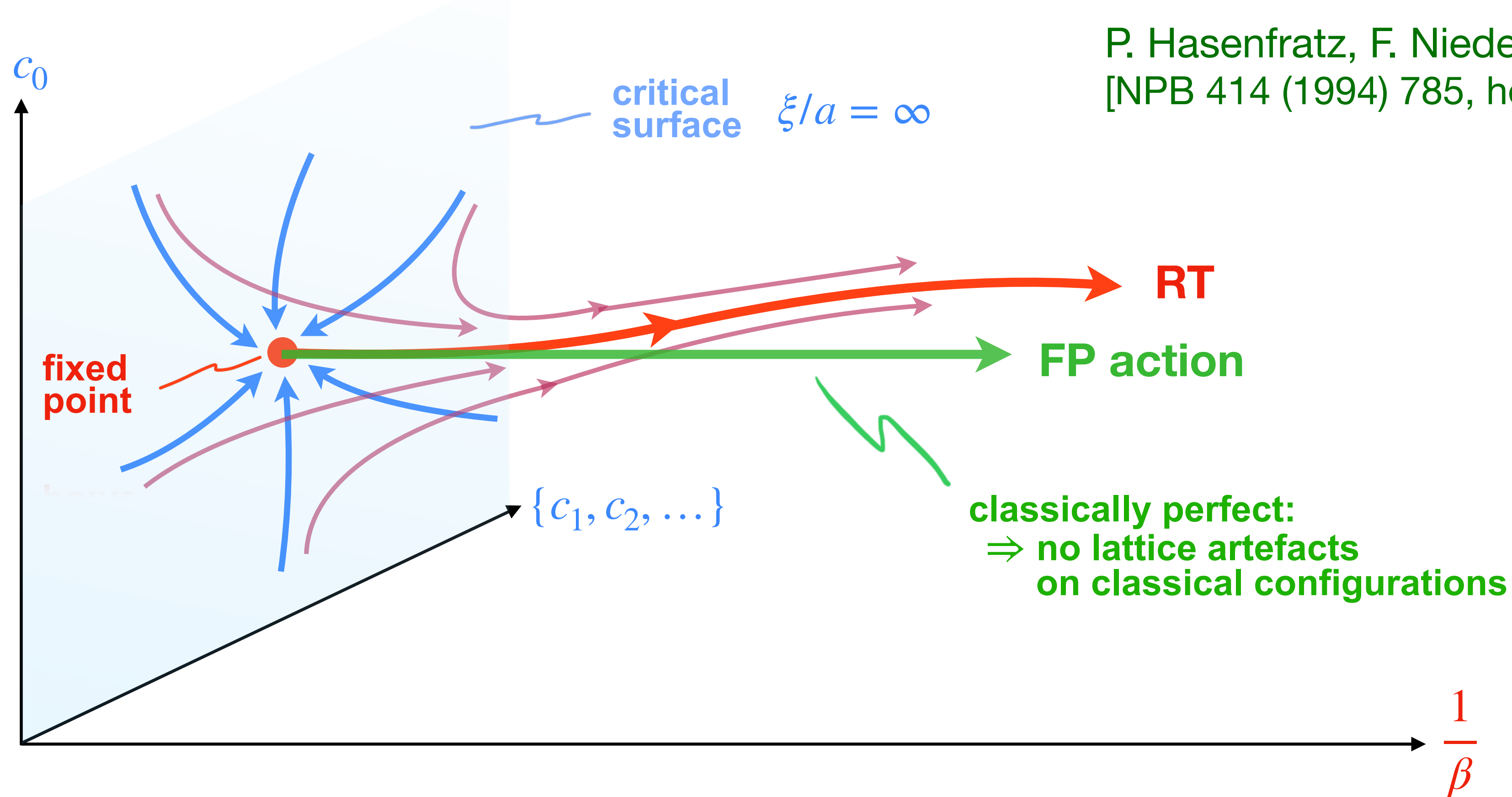


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The classical FP equation can be iterated:

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- There are no lattice artefacts on classical configurations:

$$\frac{\delta A^{\text{FP}}[V]}{\delta V} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\delta A^{\text{FP}}[U]}{\delta U} = 0$$

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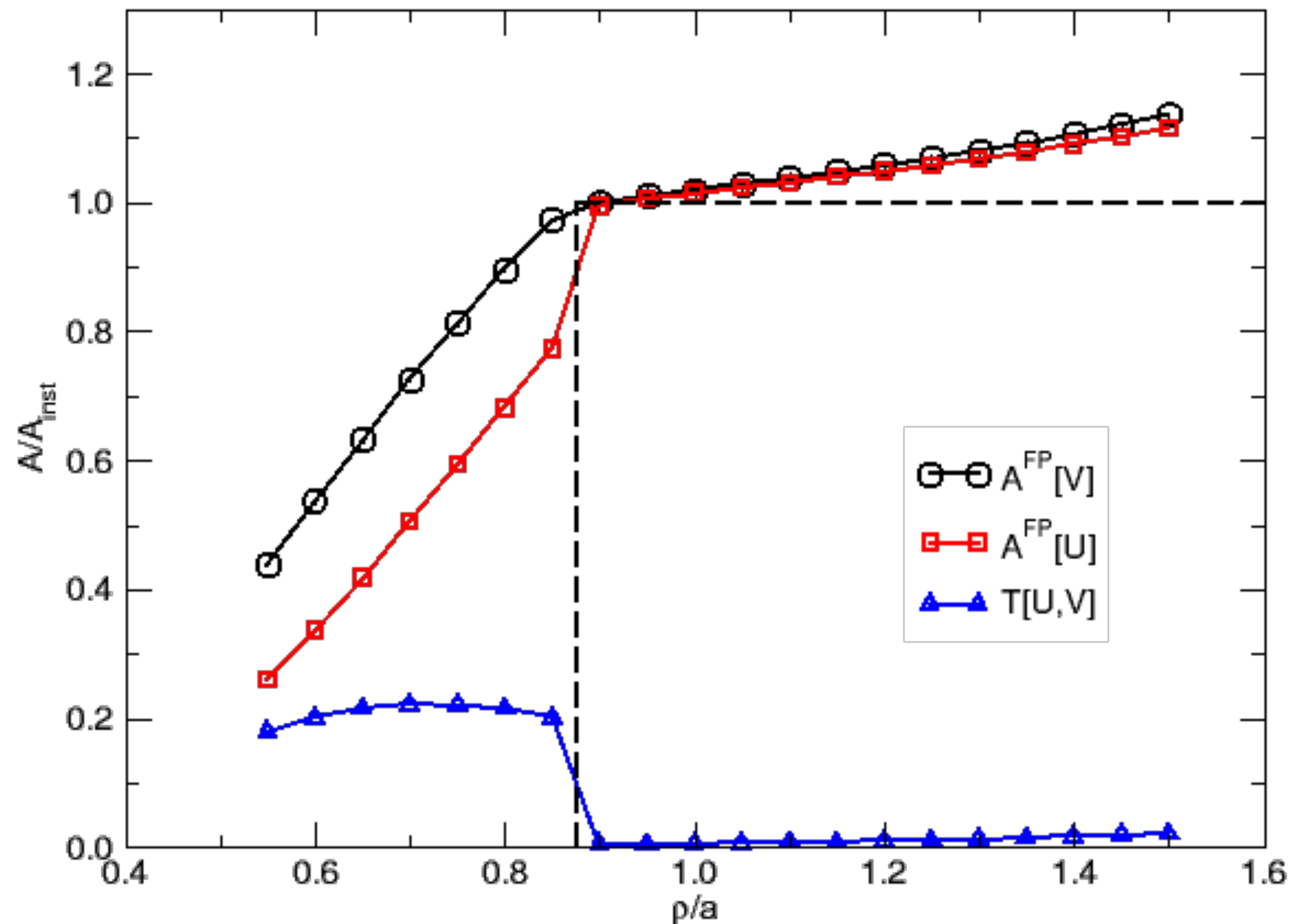
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\Rightarrow lattice artefacts expected to be substantially reduced:

$$\cancel{\mathcal{O}(a^{2n})}, \mathcal{O}(g^2 a^{2n}) \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

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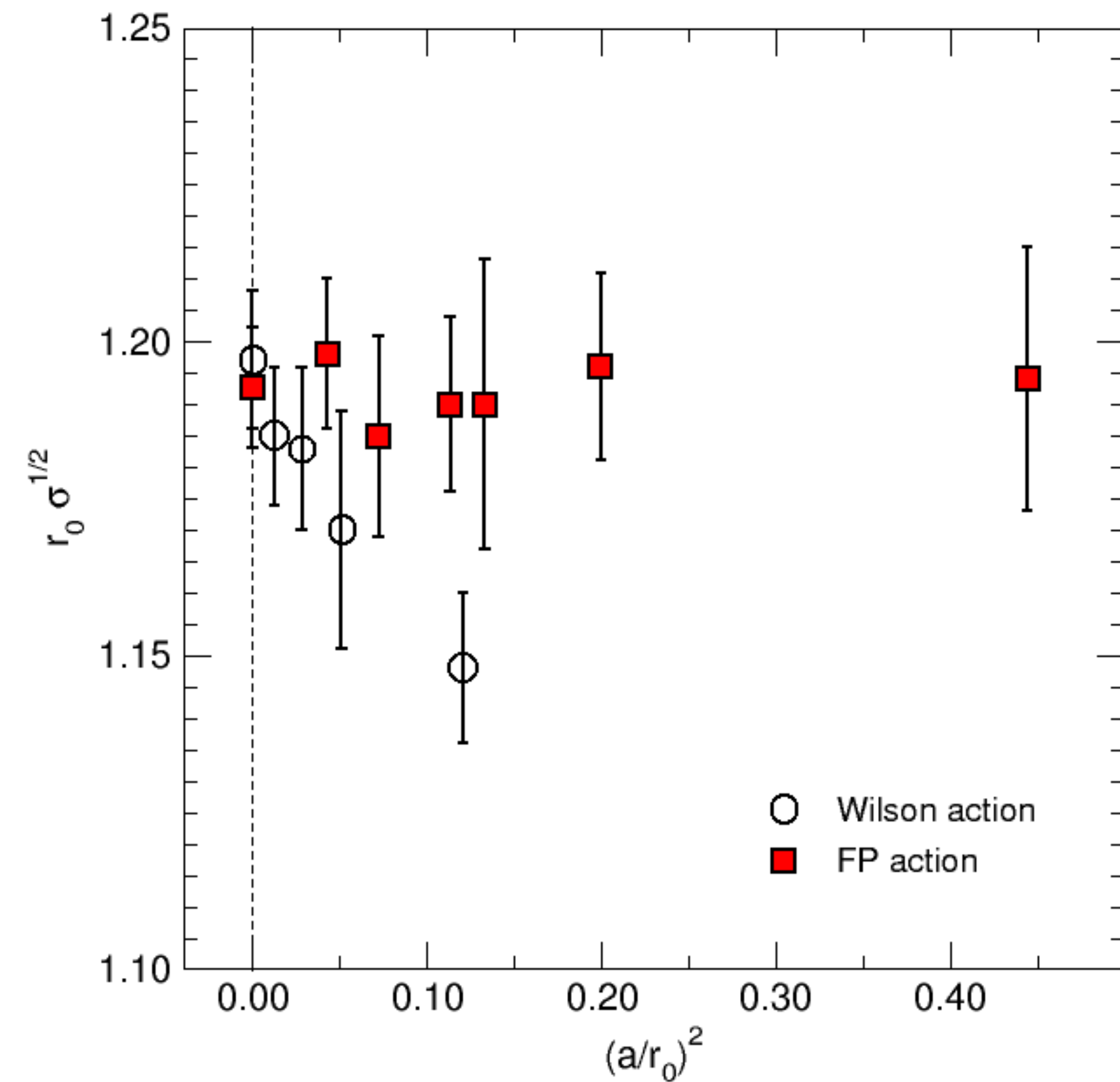
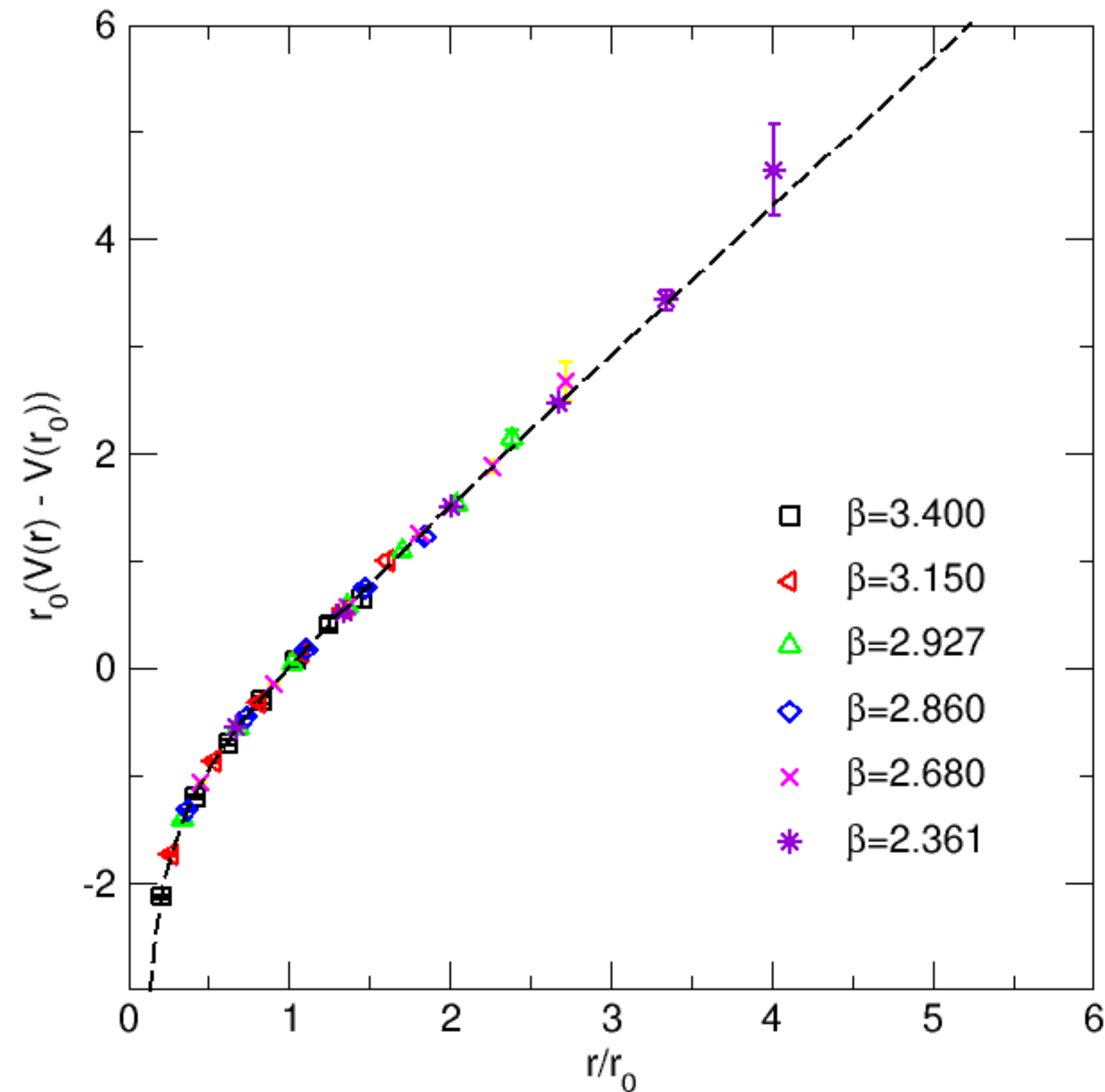
\Rightarrow lattice artefacts expected to be substantially reduced:

$$\cancel{\mathcal{O}(a^{2n})}, \mathcal{O}(g^2 a^{2n}) \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

\Rightarrow initiated a large activity, culminating in the discovery of **GW fermions!**

FP action in action

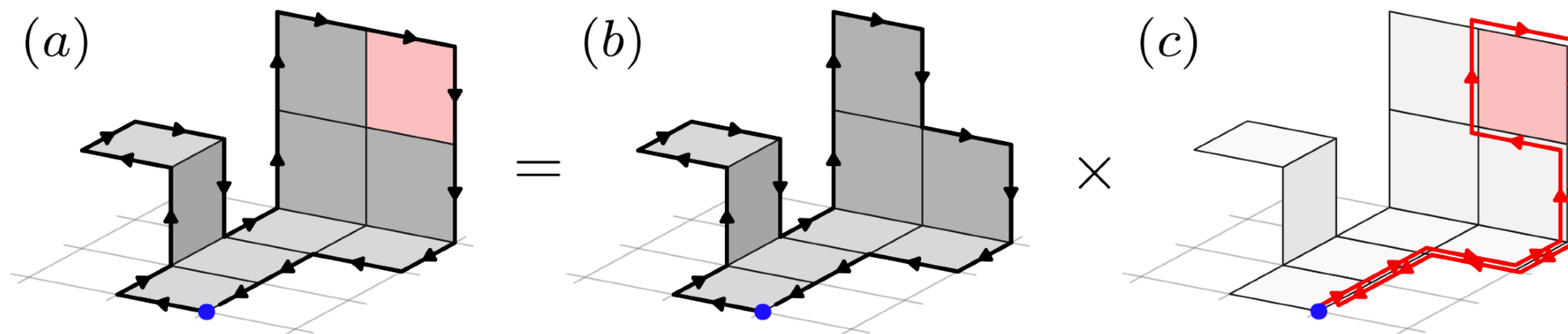
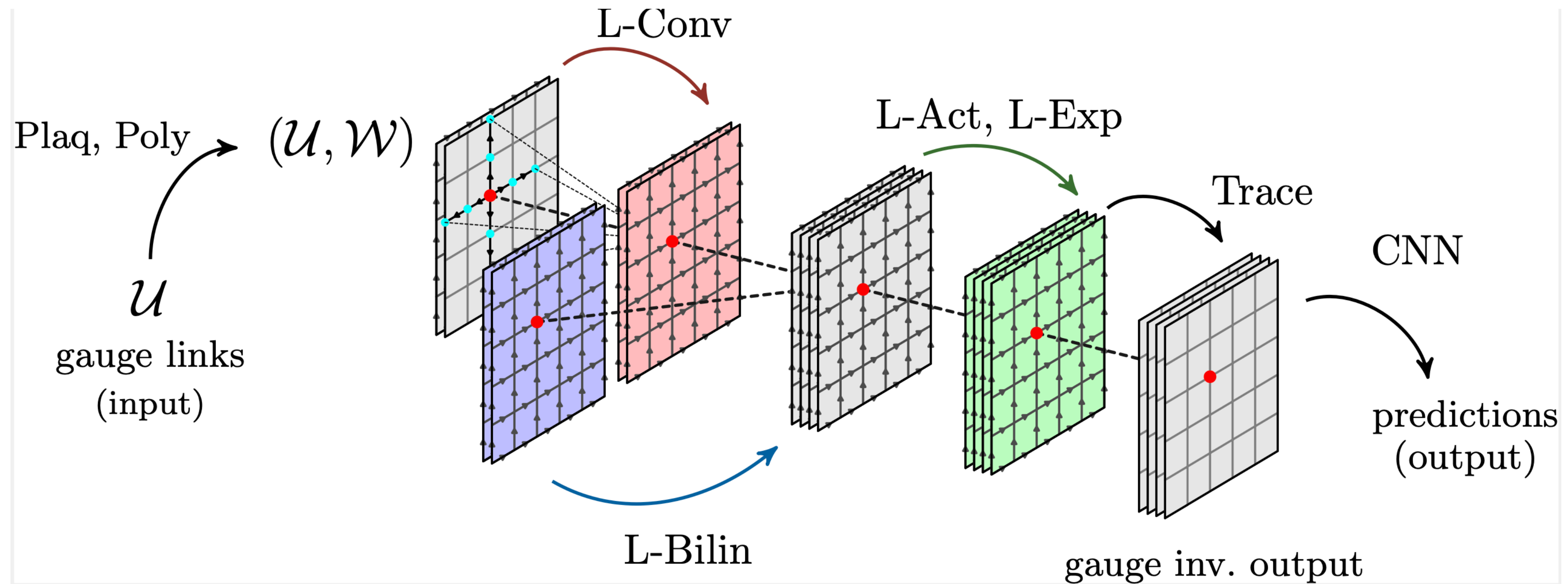
Static quark-antiquark potential, lattice spacings between $a = 0.33$ fm, \dots , 0.10 fm :



Machine learning the FP action

ML architecture: Lattice gauge equivariant Convolutional Neural Network (L-CNN)

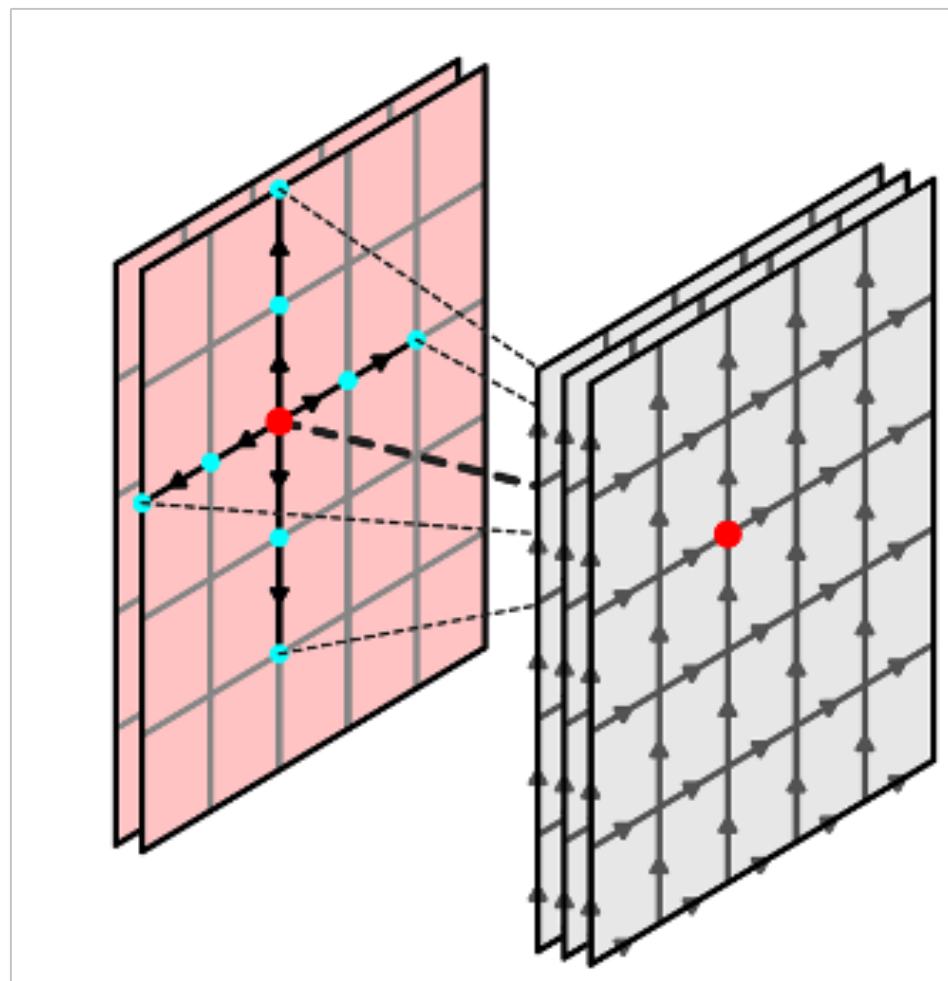
[Favoni, Ipp, Müller, Schuh, PRL 128 (2022) 3, 2012.12901]



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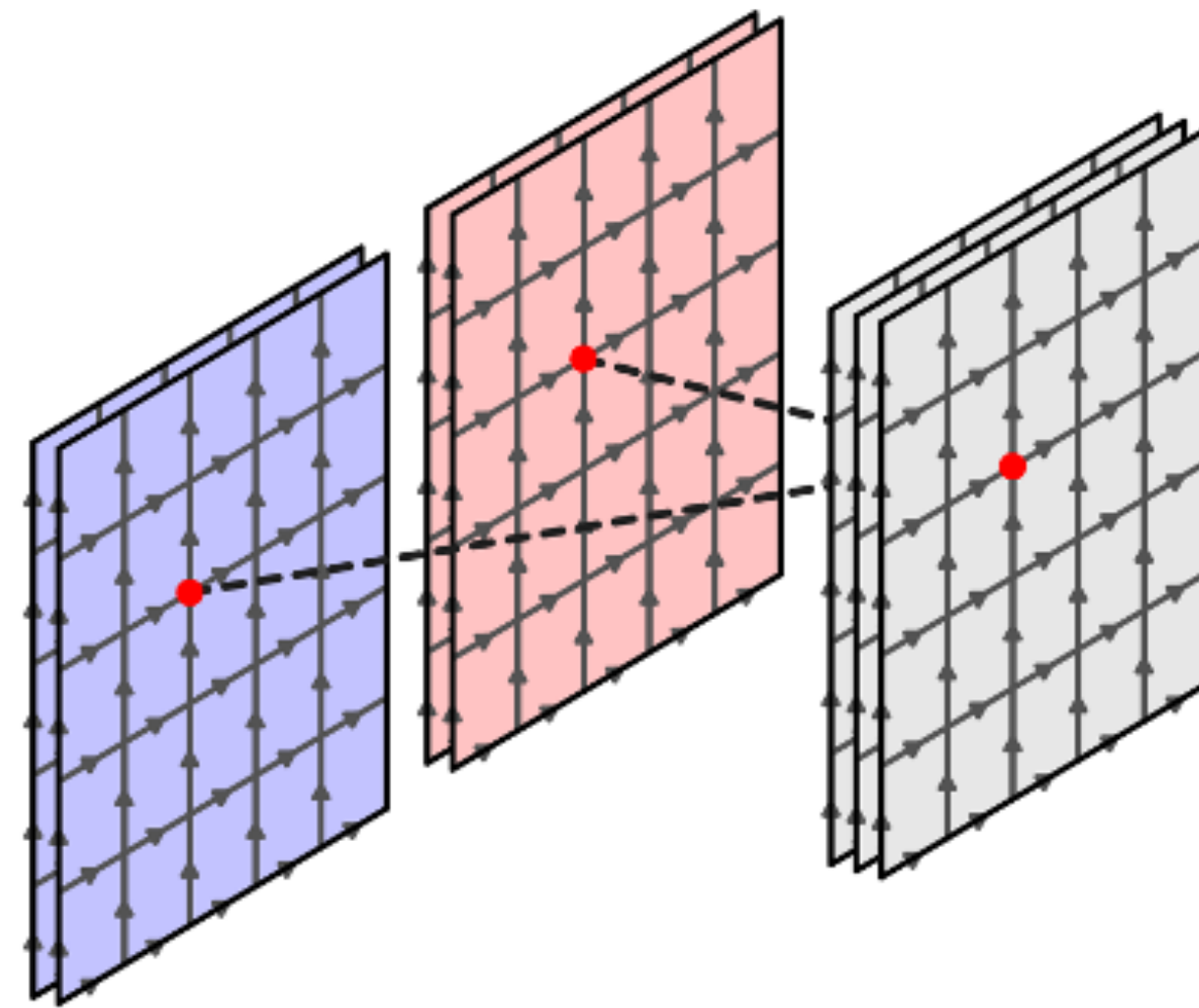
L-Conv:



$$(U, W) \rightarrow (U, W')$$

$$W'_{x+k\cdot\mu, j} = U_{x, k\cdot\mu} W_{x+k\cdot\mu, j} U_{x, k\cdot\mu}^\dagger$$

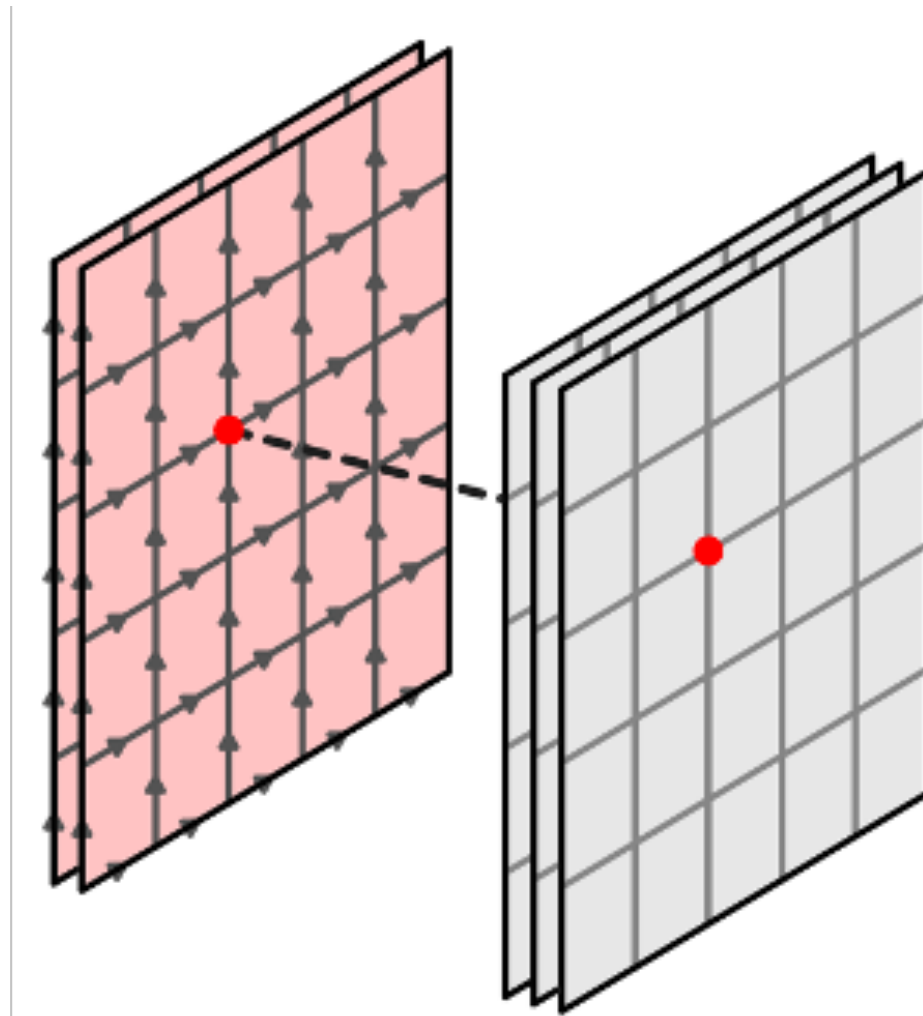
L-Bilin:



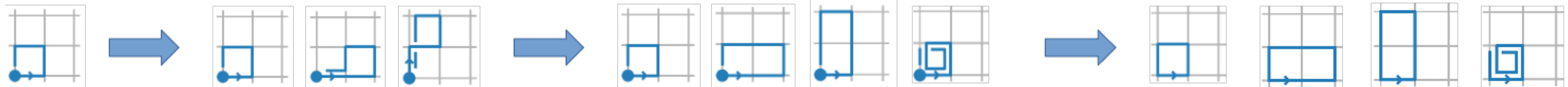
$$(U, W) \times (U, W') \rightarrow (U, W'')$$

$$W_{x, i} \rightarrow \sum_{j, j', k} \alpha_{i, j, j', k} W_{x, j} W'_{x+k\cdot\mu, j'}$$

Trace:



$$w_{\mathbf{x}, i} = \text{Tr } W_{\mathbf{x}, i} \in \mathbb{C}$$



Machine learning the FP action: FP data

Use the exact **FP action values** for training, plus the **derivatives of the FP action**:

$$\frac{\delta A^{FP}[V]}{\delta V_{x,\mu}^a} = \frac{\delta T[U, V]}{\delta V_{x,\mu}^a} = -\kappa \operatorname{Re} \operatorname{Tr}(it^a V_{x,\mu} Q_{x,\mu}^\dagger) \quad Q_{x,\mu}^\dagger = Q_{x,\mu}^\dagger[U]$$

⇒ yields 4 x 8 x Volume (link) (color) (position) data per configuration

Gauge invariance of A^{FP} yields conserved local quantity via Noether's theorem:

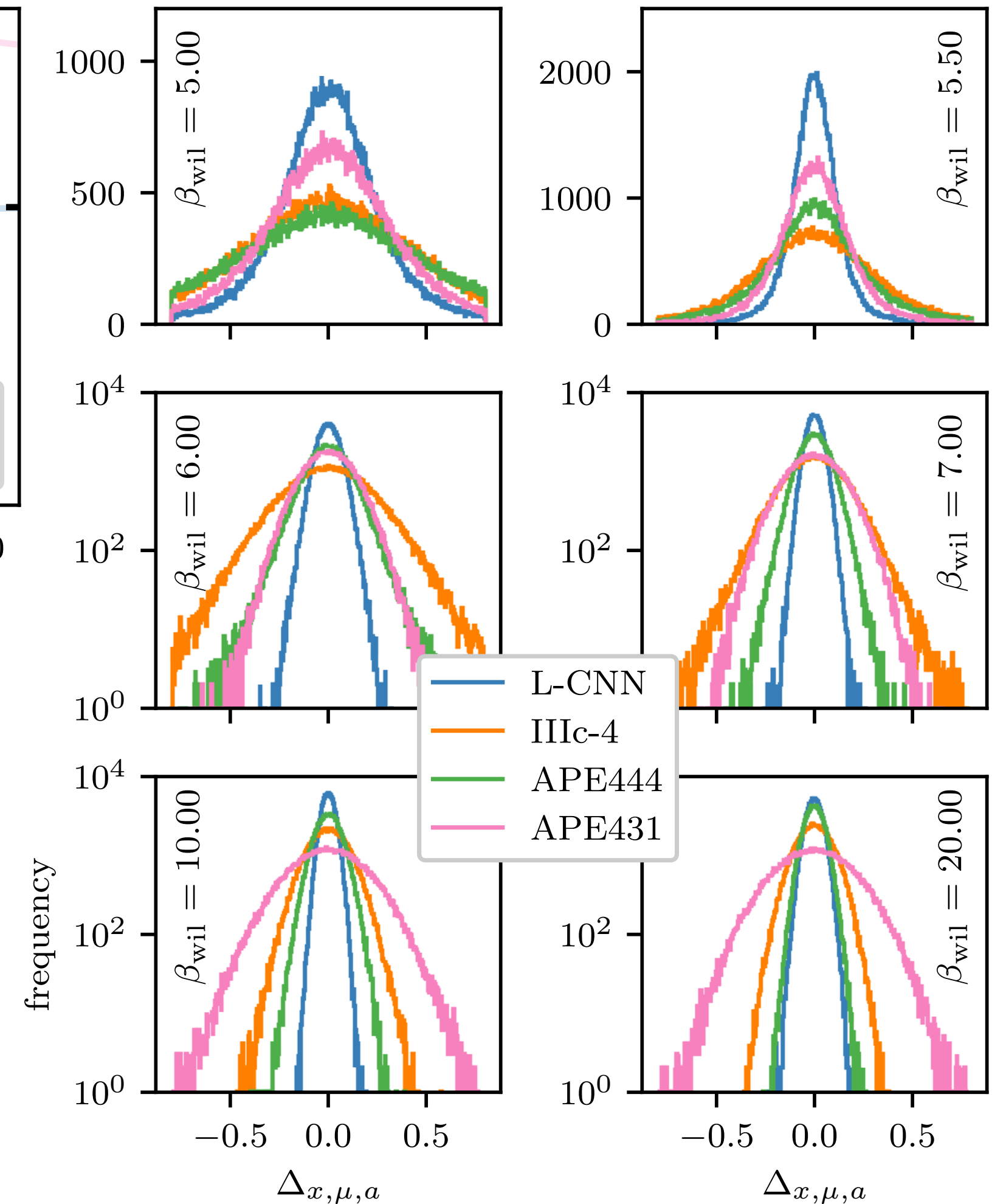
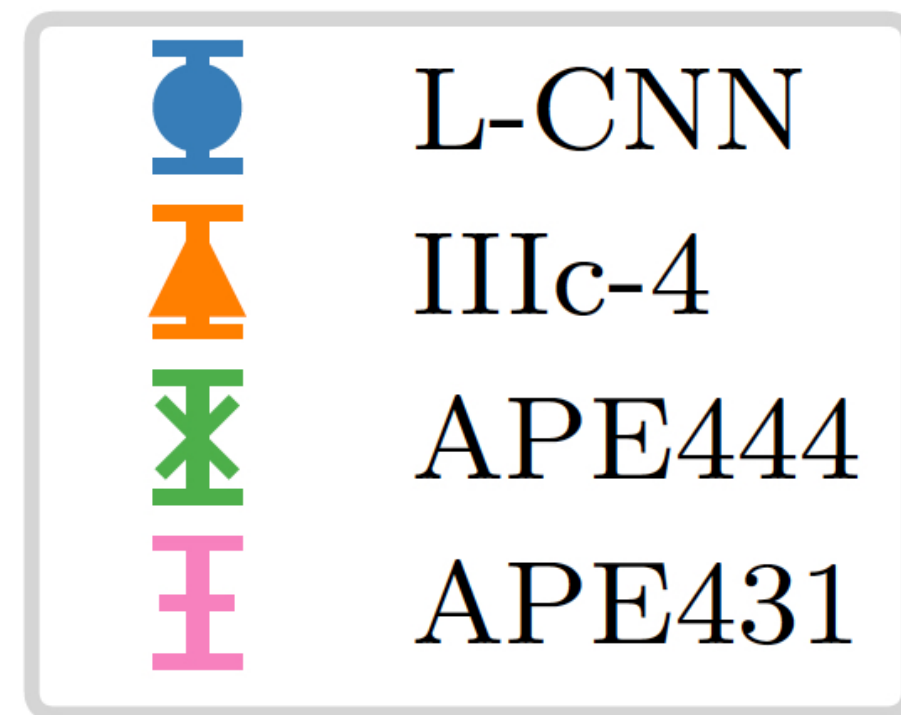
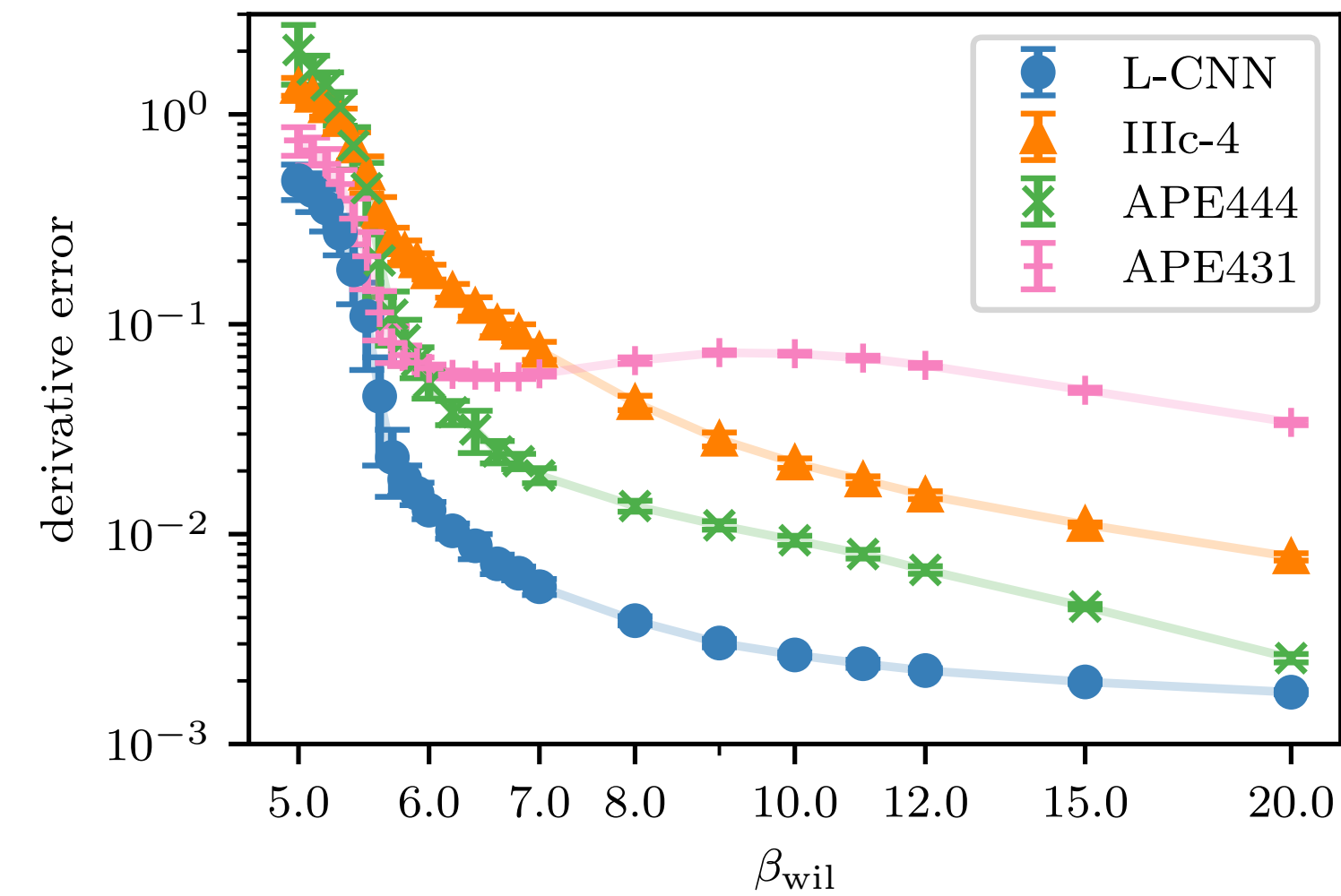
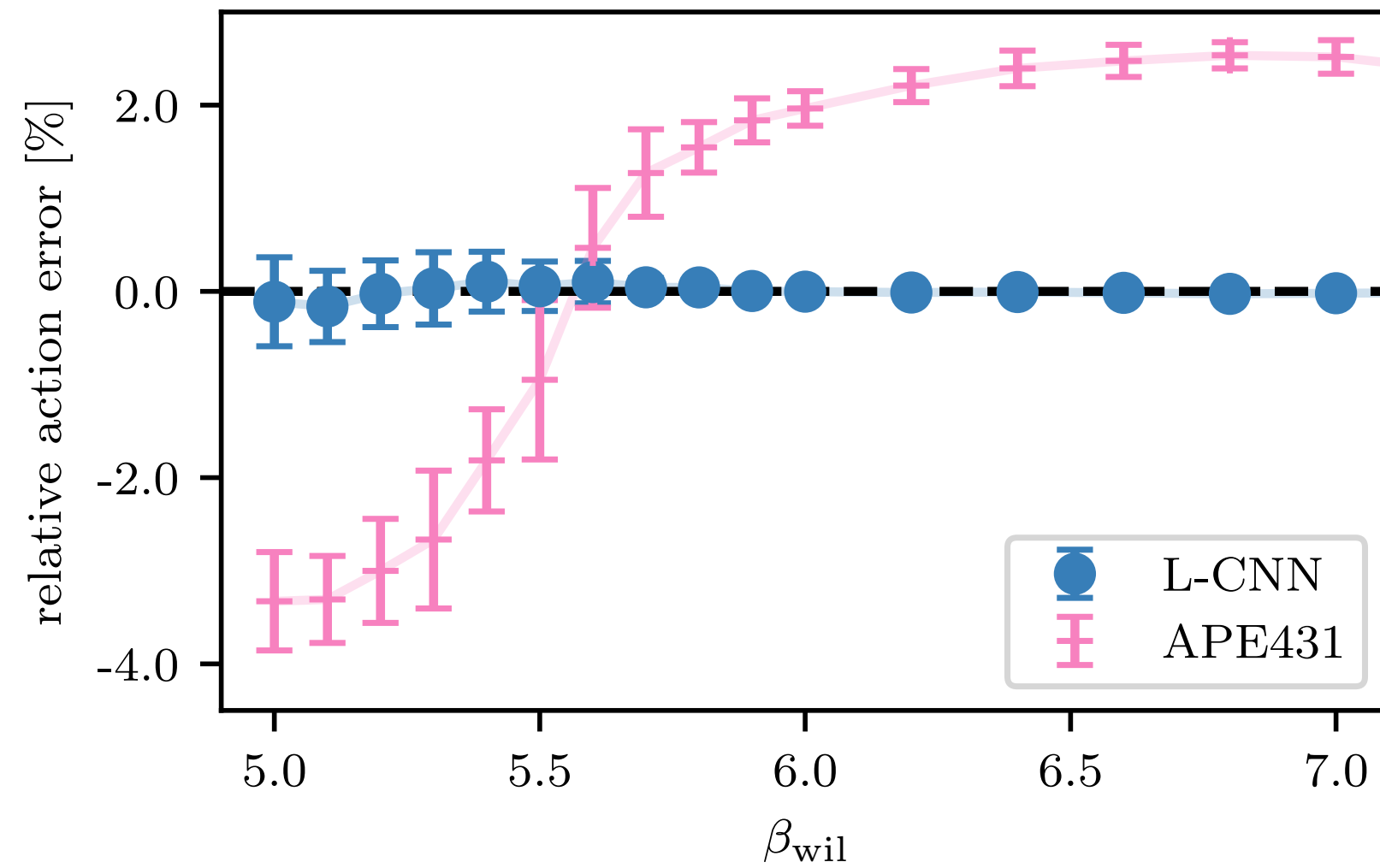
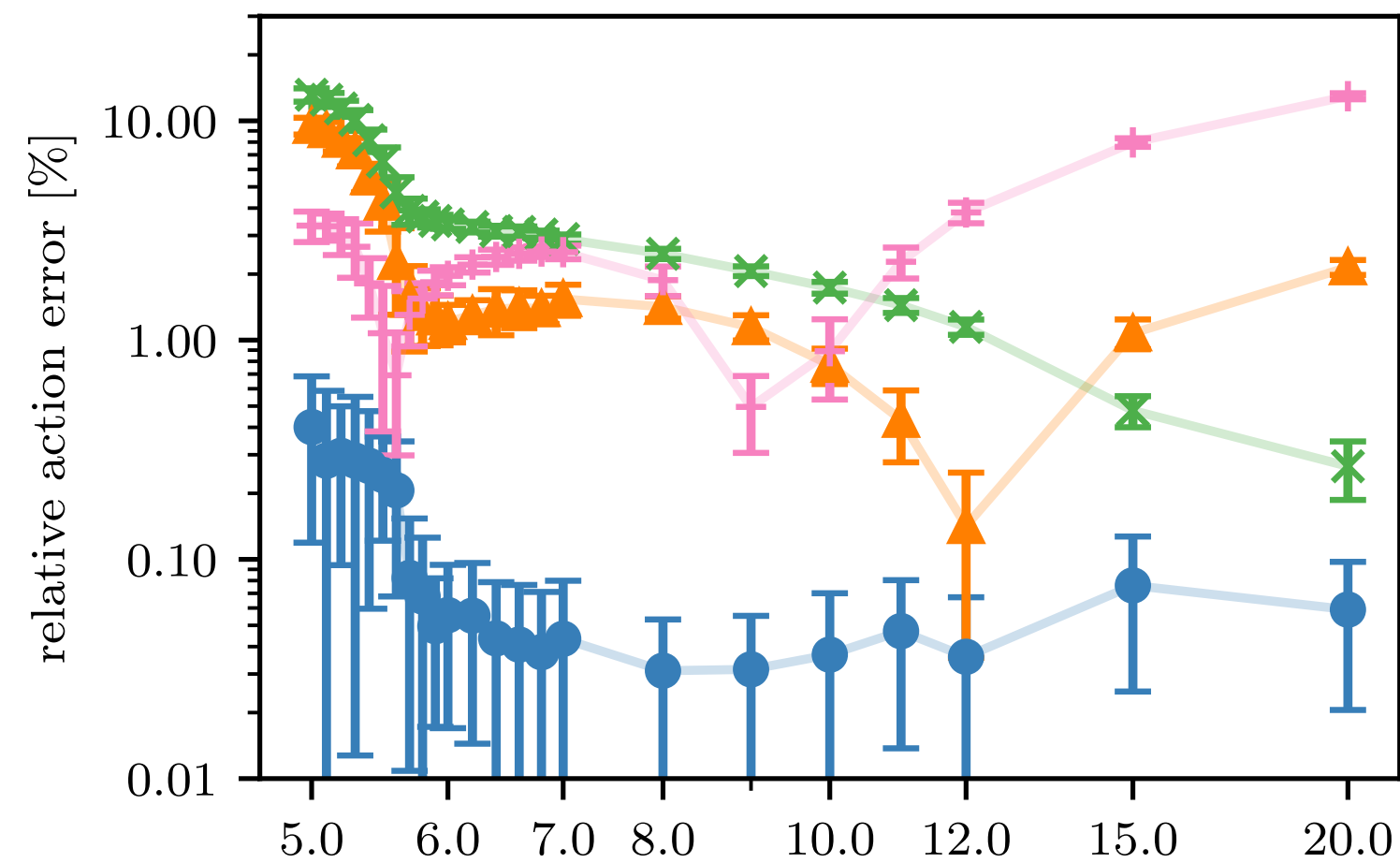
$$D_{x,\mu}^{FP} = \sum_a t^a \frac{\delta A^{FP}[V]}{\delta V_{x,\mu}^a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu^B D_{x,\mu}^{FP}[V] = 0$$

⇒ consistency check satisfied up to the accuracy in minimization

- FP action values
 - FP action derivatives
- } ⇒ data set for supervised ML

Machine learning the FP action: Results

Superiority of L-CNN over old parameterizations of FP action:



Scaling properties of FP actions

Use renormalized GF coupling as scaling quantity:

$$\frac{dA_\mu(t)}{dt} = \frac{\delta S_{YM}}{\delta A_\mu} \quad \langle t^2 E(t) \rangle = \frac{3(N^2 - 1)g^2}{128\pi^2} (1 + O(g^2)) \equiv \frac{3g_{GF}^2(t)}{16\pi^2}$$

where g is the renormalised $\overline{\text{MS}}$ coupling at RG scale $\mu = 1/\sqrt{8t}$, with the corresponding β -function:

$$\mu^2 \frac{dg_{GF}^2}{d(\mu^2)} = -t \frac{dg_{GF}^2}{dt}$$

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⇒ turns out that GF with FP actions is classically perfect!

Gradient flow on the lattice

On the lattice, the flow of the gauge links is with a **lattice flow action** S^f : $\frac{dU_\mu}{dt} = -i \frac{\delta S^f}{\delta U_\mu} U_\mu$

In addition, separate choice of **lattice action** S^e for E and the **simulated gauge action** S^g contributing to lattice artifacts:

$$t^2 \langle E(t) \rangle = \frac{3(N^2 - 1)g_0^2}{128\pi^2} [C(a^2/t) + \mathcal{O}(g_0^2)]$$

$$C(a^2/t) = \frac{64\pi^2 t^2}{3} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} \left[e^{-t(S^f + \mathcal{G})} (S^g + \mathcal{G})^{-1} e^{-t(S^f + \mathcal{G})} S^e \right]$$

where $C(a^2/t) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(a^2/t)$ contains the **tree-level lattice artifacts**.

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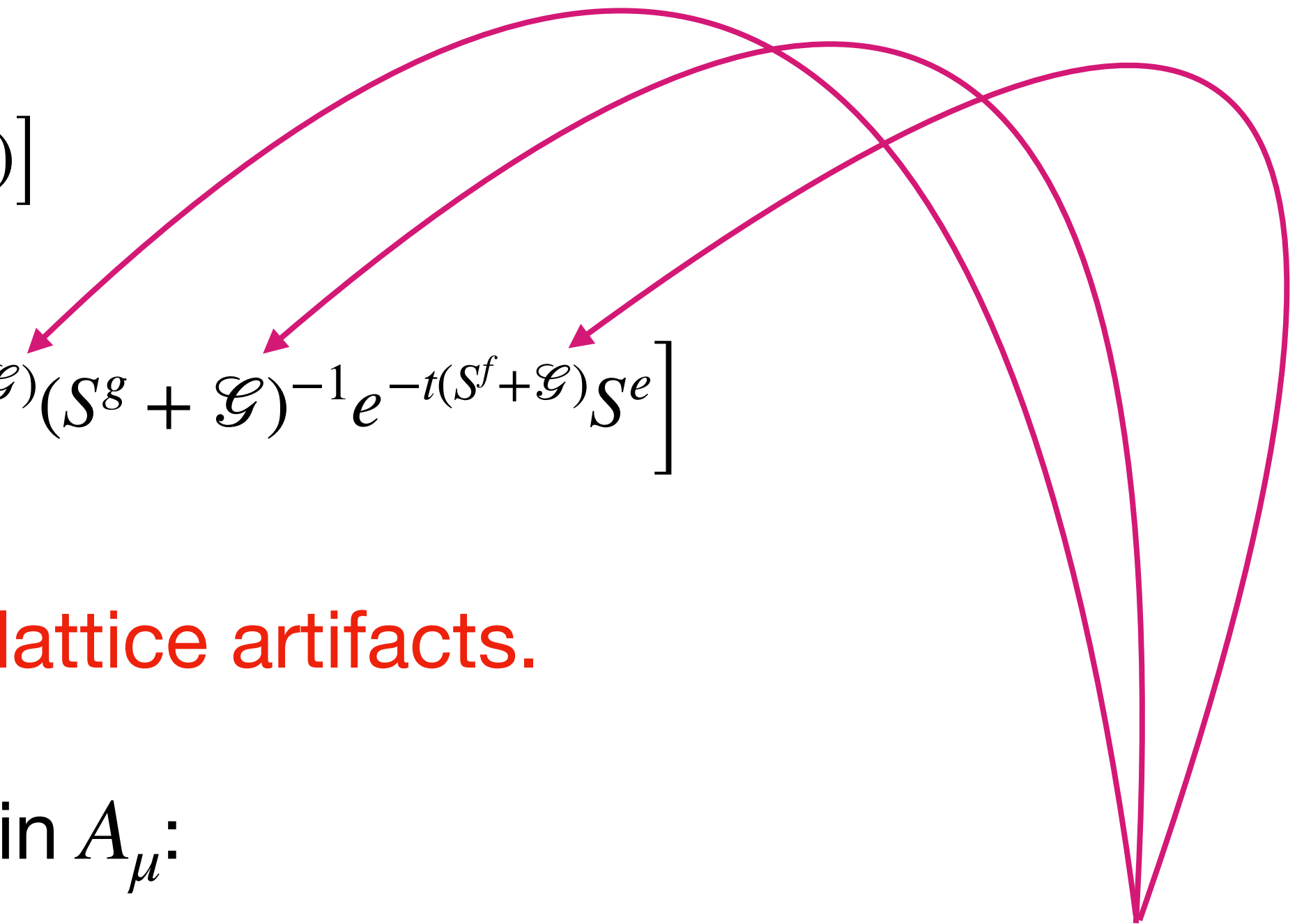
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Calculation in momentum space to quadratic order in A_μ :

$$A_\mu(p) S_{\mu\nu}(p) A_\nu(-p)$$

(with gauge fixing term \mathcal{G})



Gradient flow on the lattice

Choosing the same action for all three $S^f = S^e = S^g = S$:

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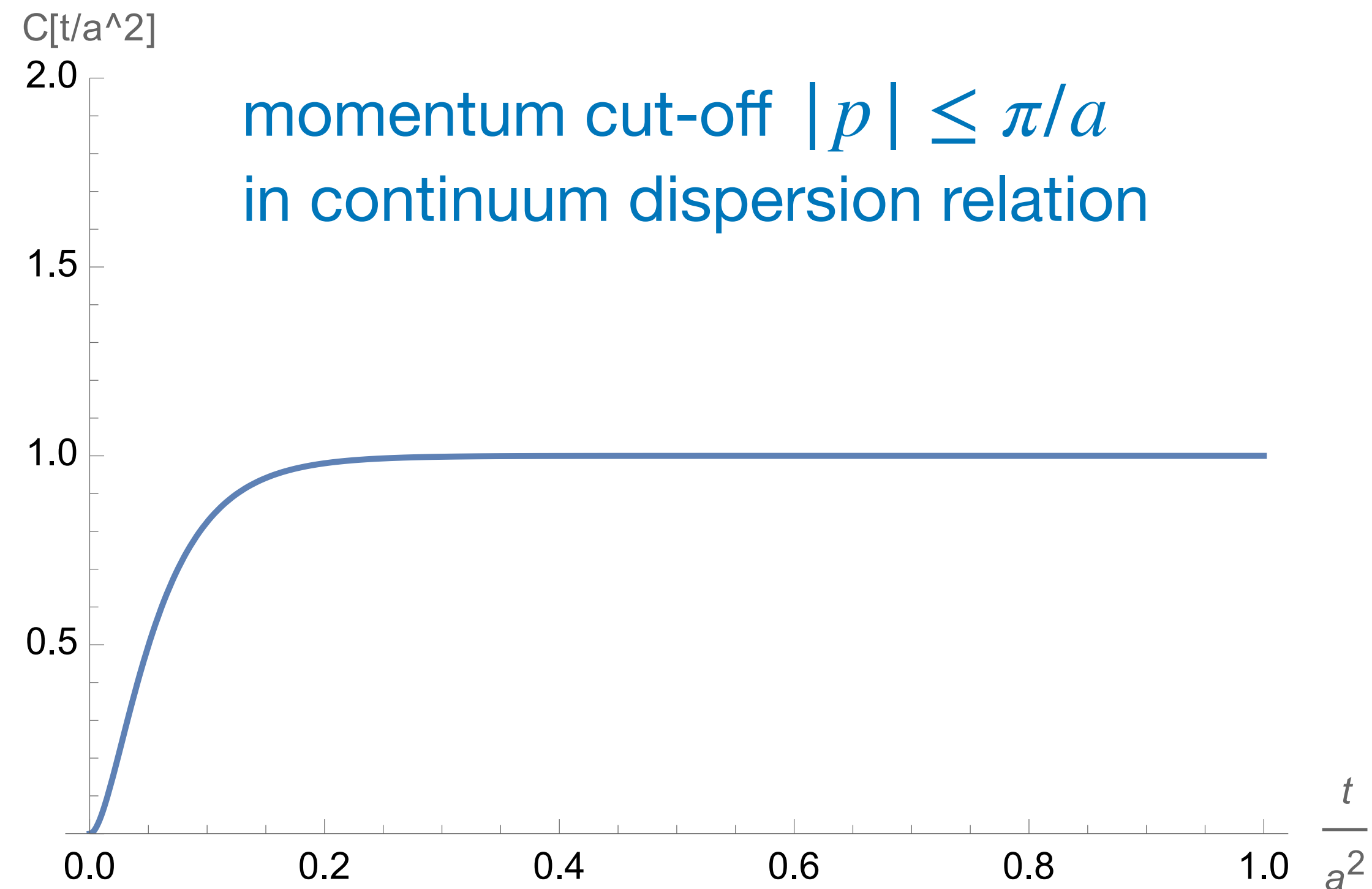
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Choosing the same action for all three $S^f = S^e = S^g = S$:

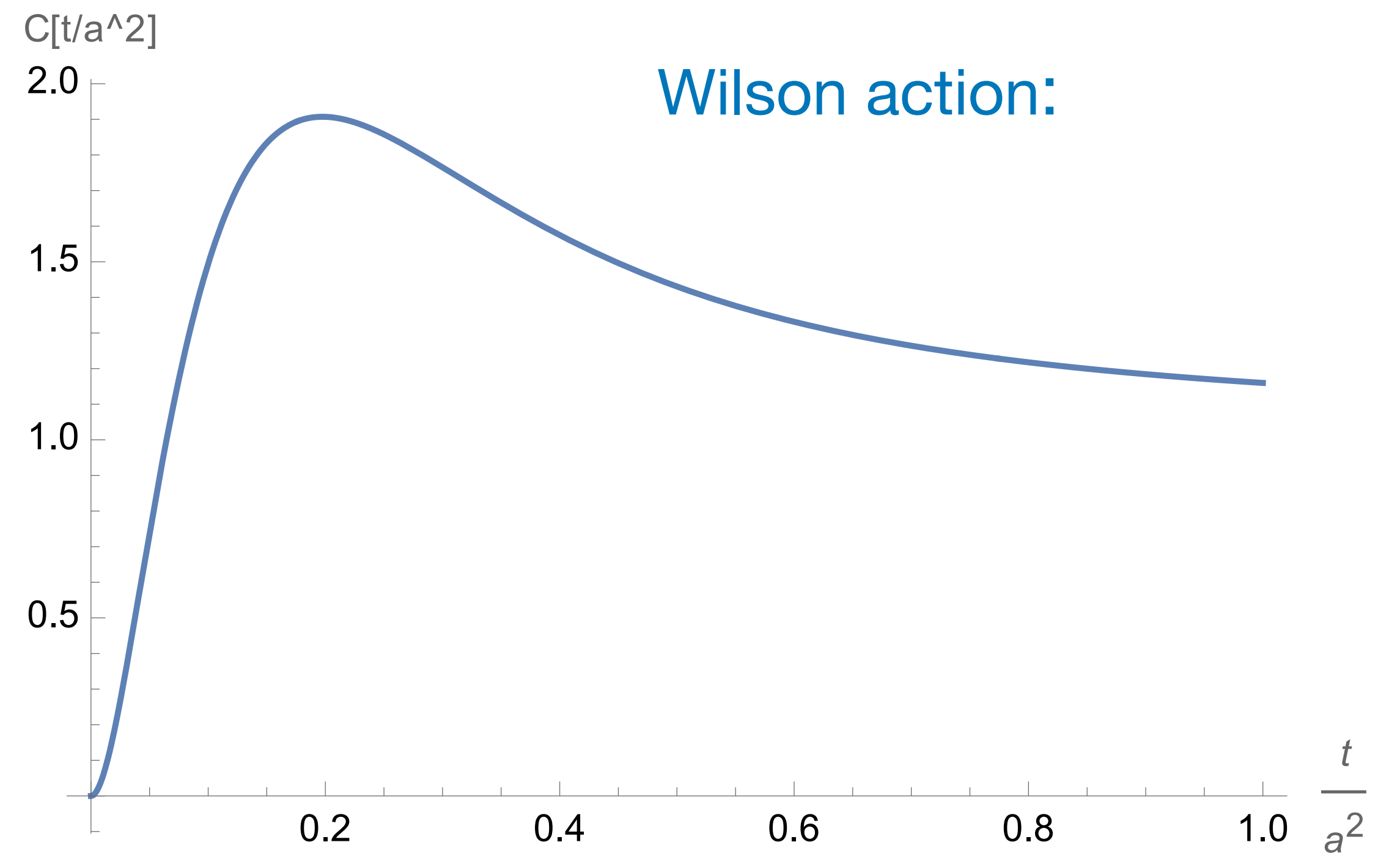
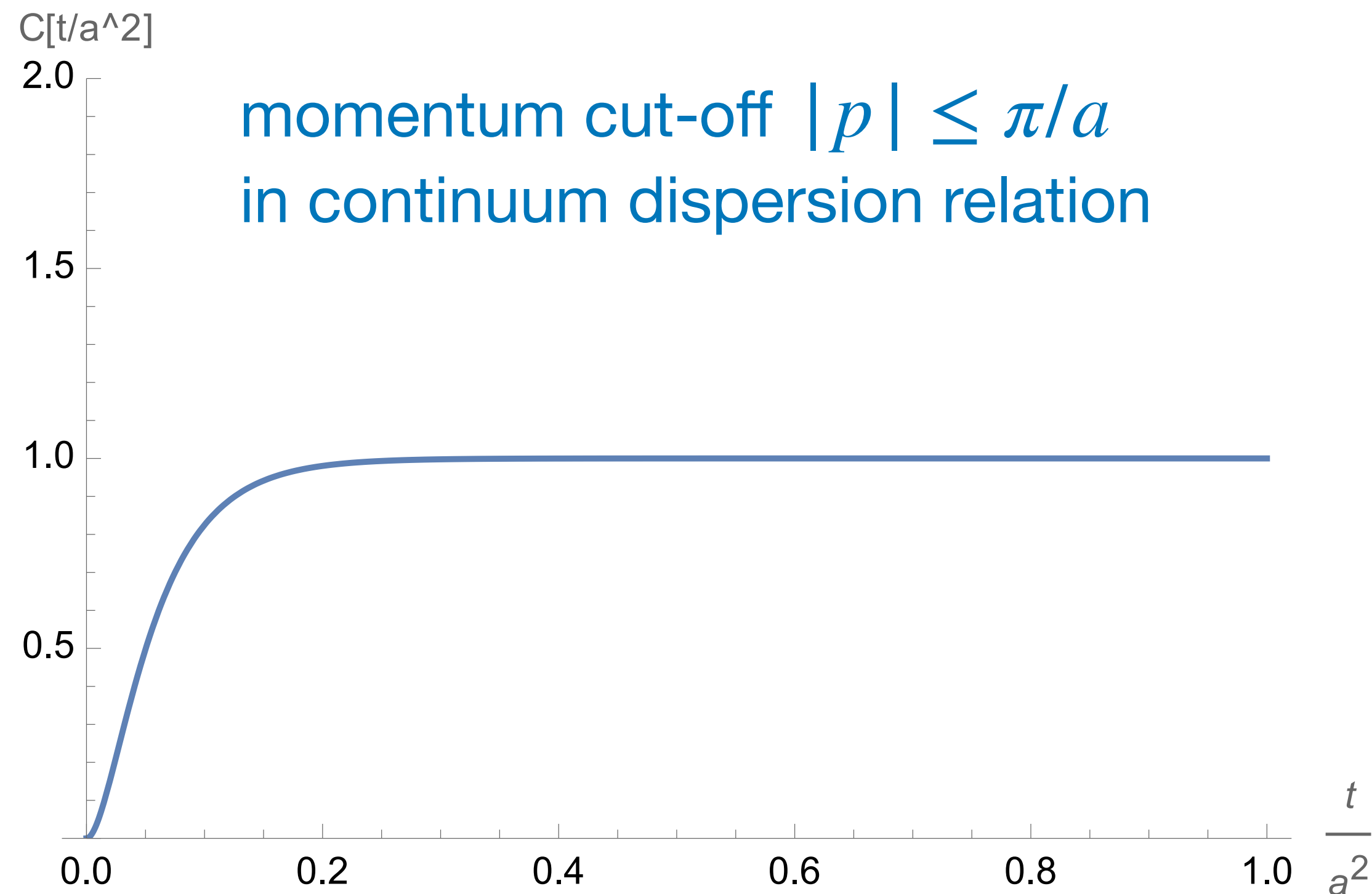
$$C(a^2/t) = \frac{64\pi^2 t^2}{3} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} [e^{-2t(S+\mathcal{G})}]$$



Gradient flow on the lattice

Choosing the same action for all three $S^f = S^e = S^g = S$:

$$C(a^2/t) = \frac{64\pi^2 t^2}{3} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} [e^{-2t(S+\mathcal{G})}]$$



Classically perfect gradient flow:

Lattice momenta restricted as usual: $-\pi/a \leq p_\mu \leq \pi/a$

but iterated RG transformations generate additional poles in the propagator:

$$(p + 2\pi l)^2 \quad \text{for } l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

extending momentum range to $-\infty \leq p_\mu \leq \infty$ and yielding the continuum dispersion relation:

$$C^{FP}(a^2/t) = \frac{64\pi^2 t^2}{3} \cdot 3 \left(\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-2tp^2} \right)^4 = \frac{64\pi^2 t^2}{(\sqrt{8\pi t})^4} = 1$$

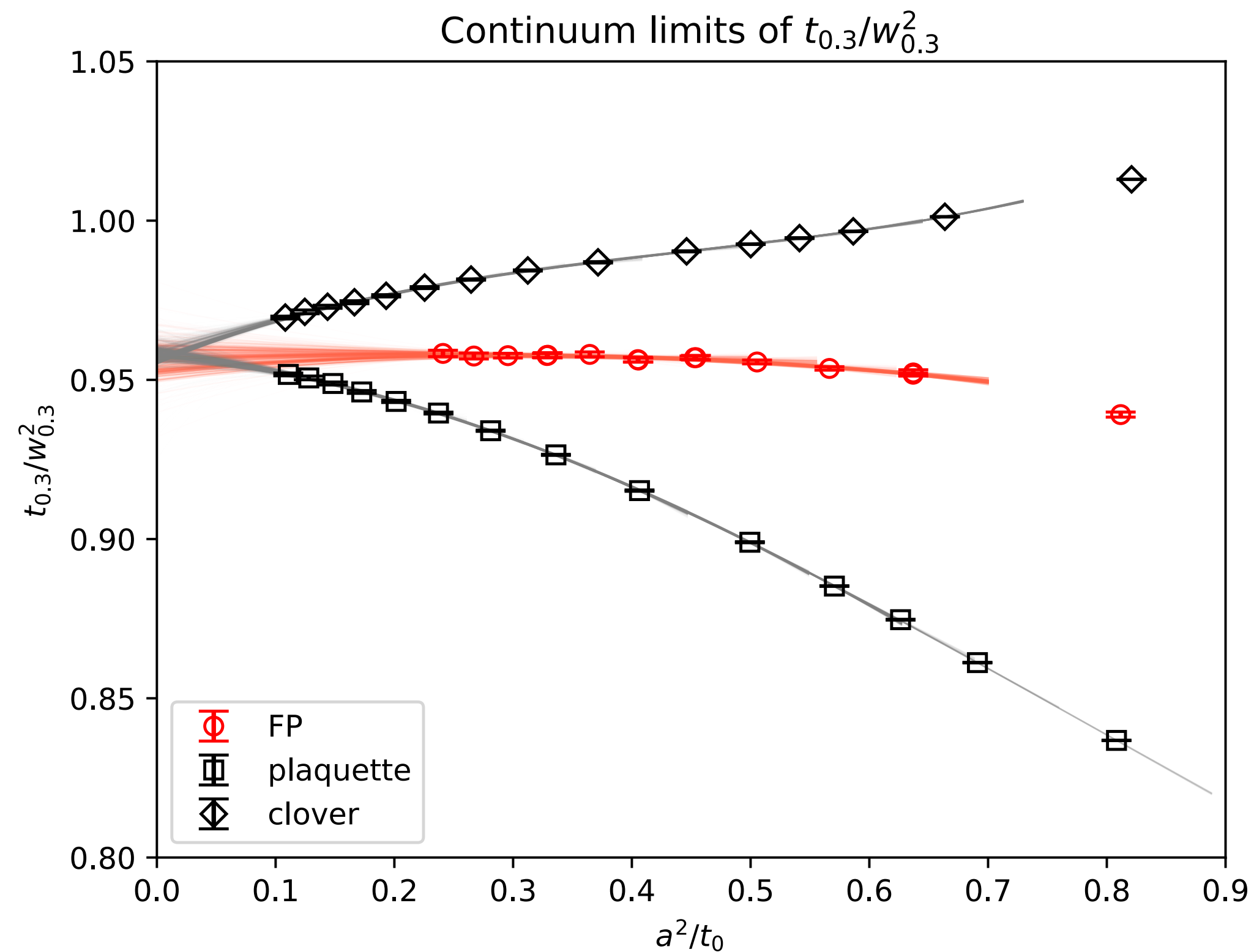
⇒ gradient flow with FP actions is classically perfect!

Scaling of gradient-flow scales

Physical reference scales defined through $t^2 \langle E \rangle |_{t=t_x} = x$, $t \frac{d}{dt} (t^2 \langle E \rangle) \Big|_{t=w_x^2} = x$
yielding dimensionless ratios t_x/w_x^2 as scaling quantities vs. $a^2/t_{0.3}$:

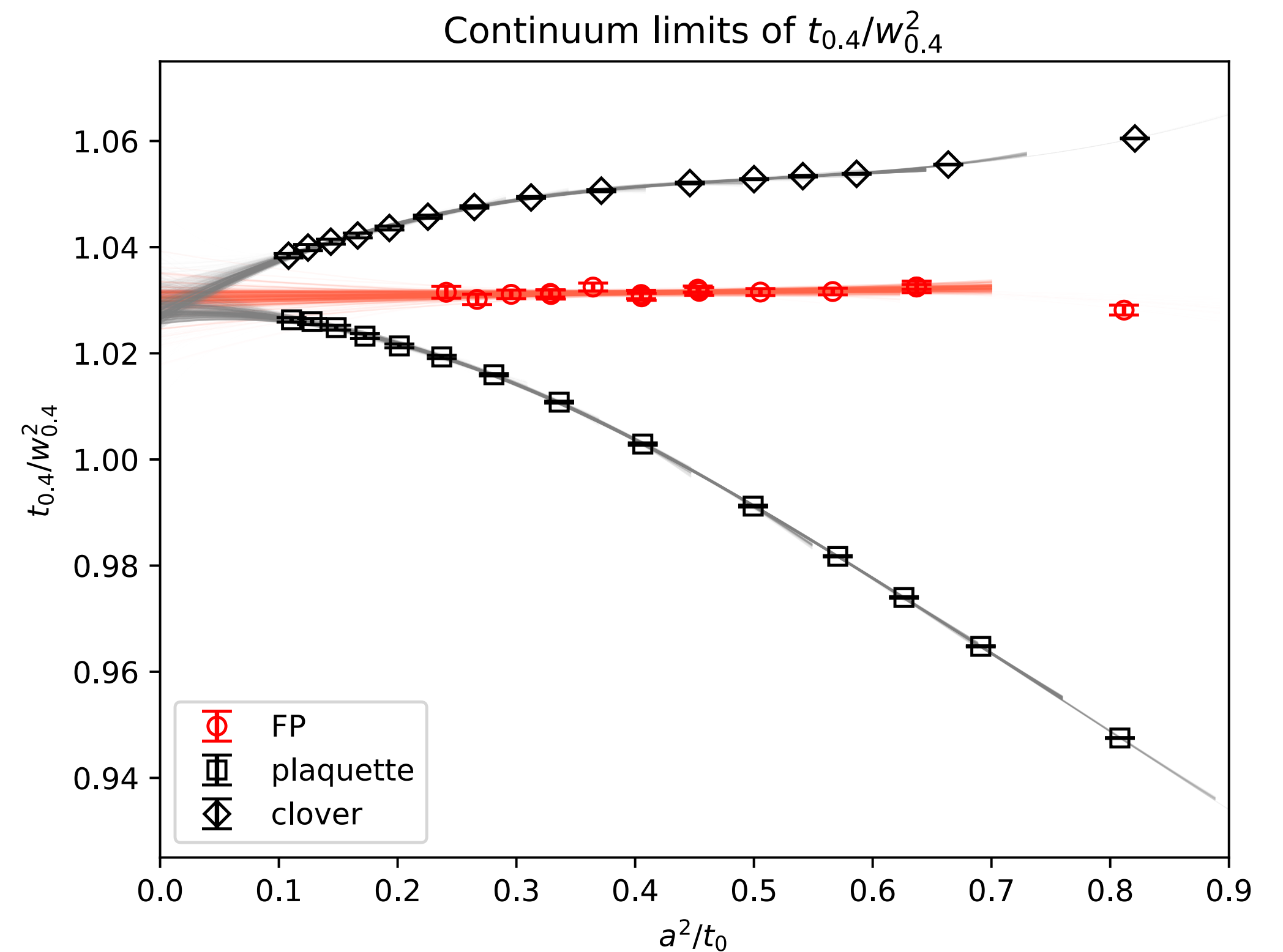
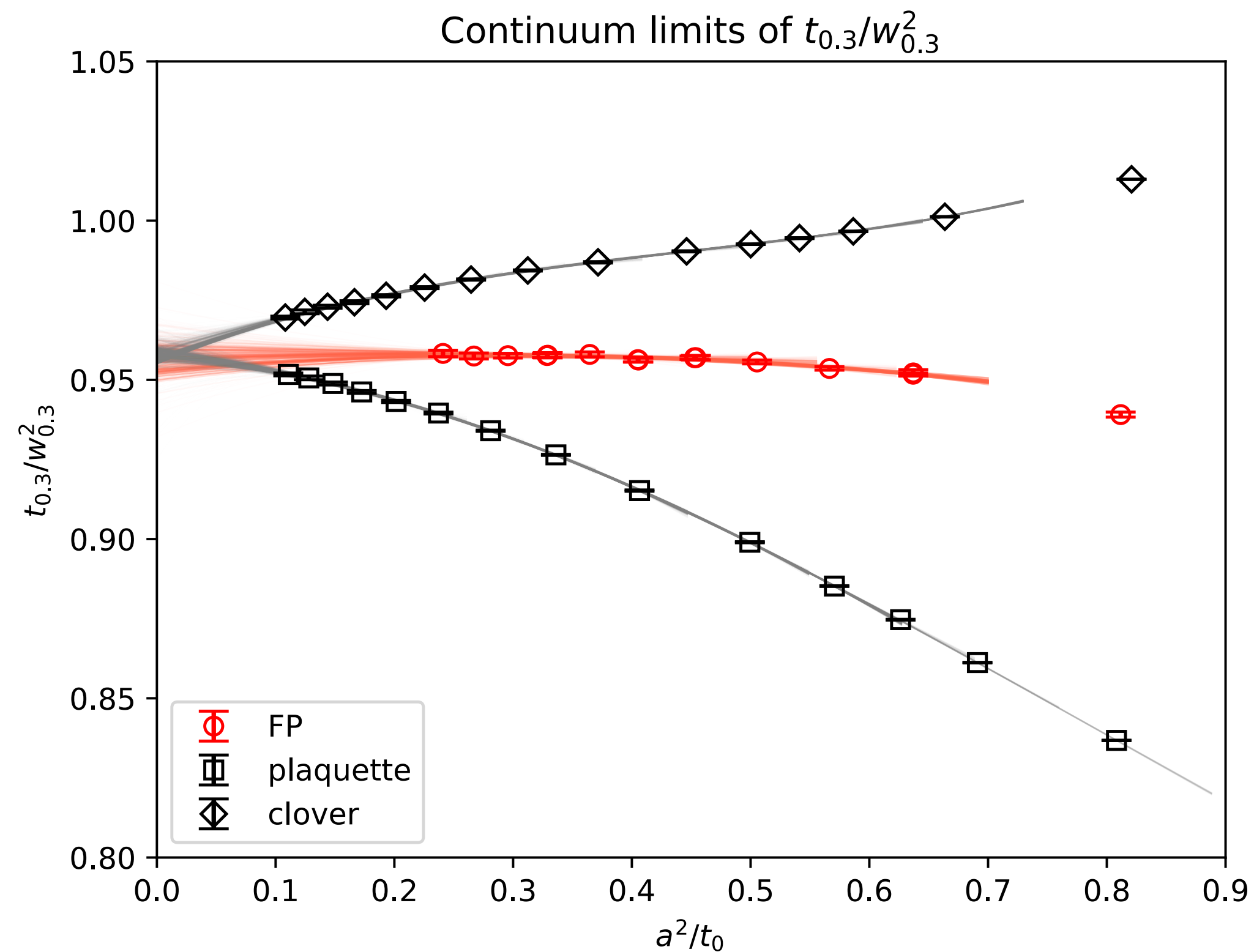
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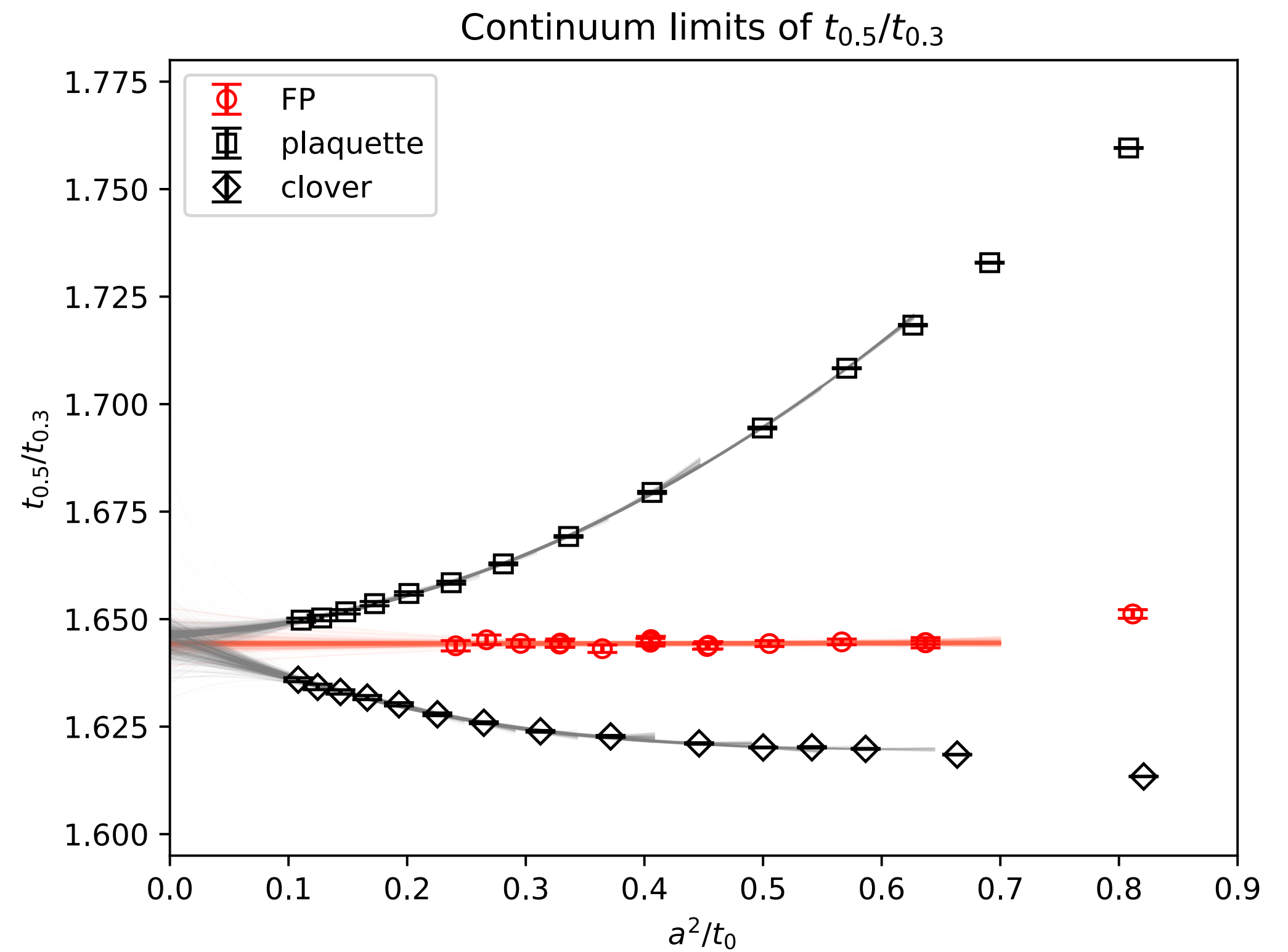
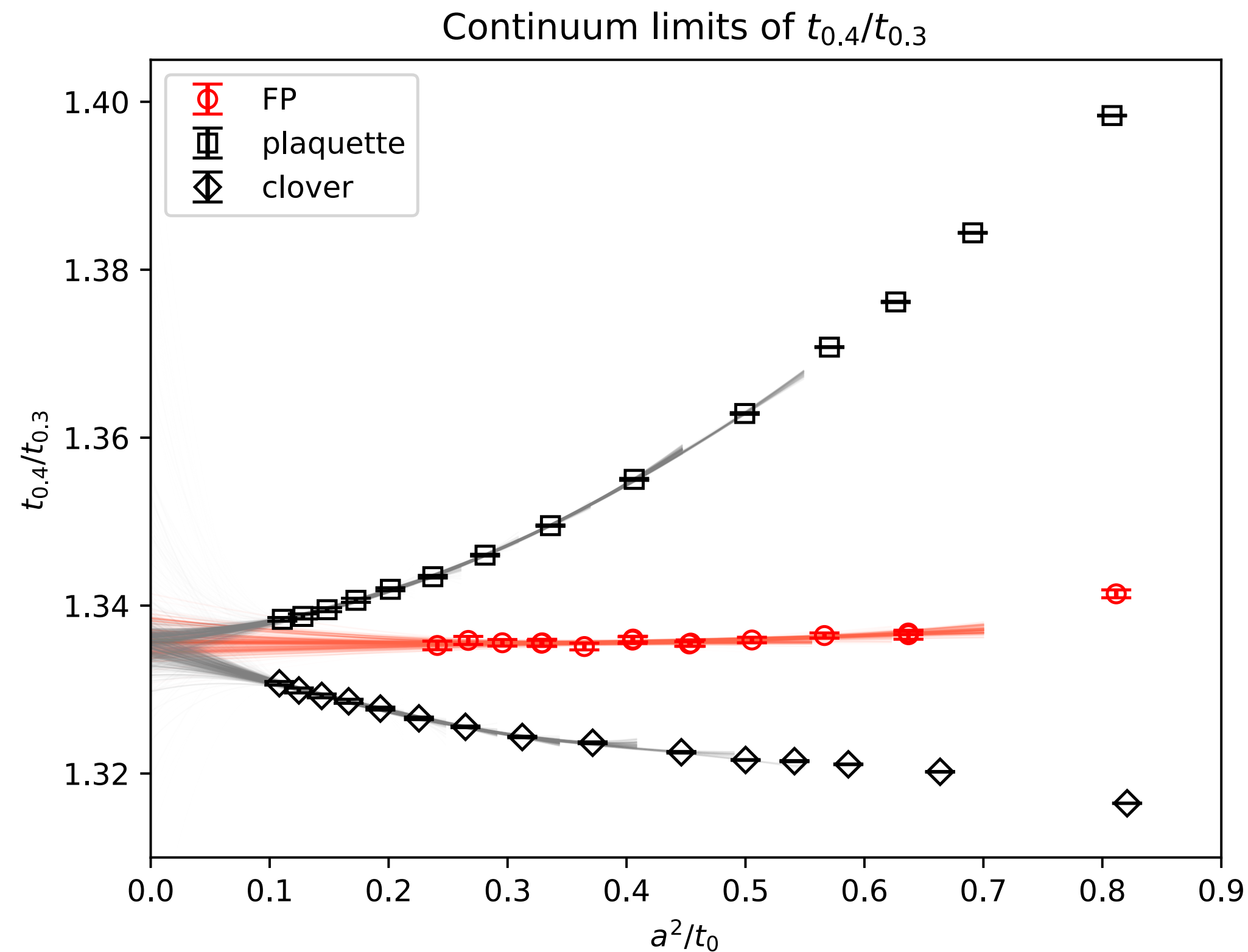
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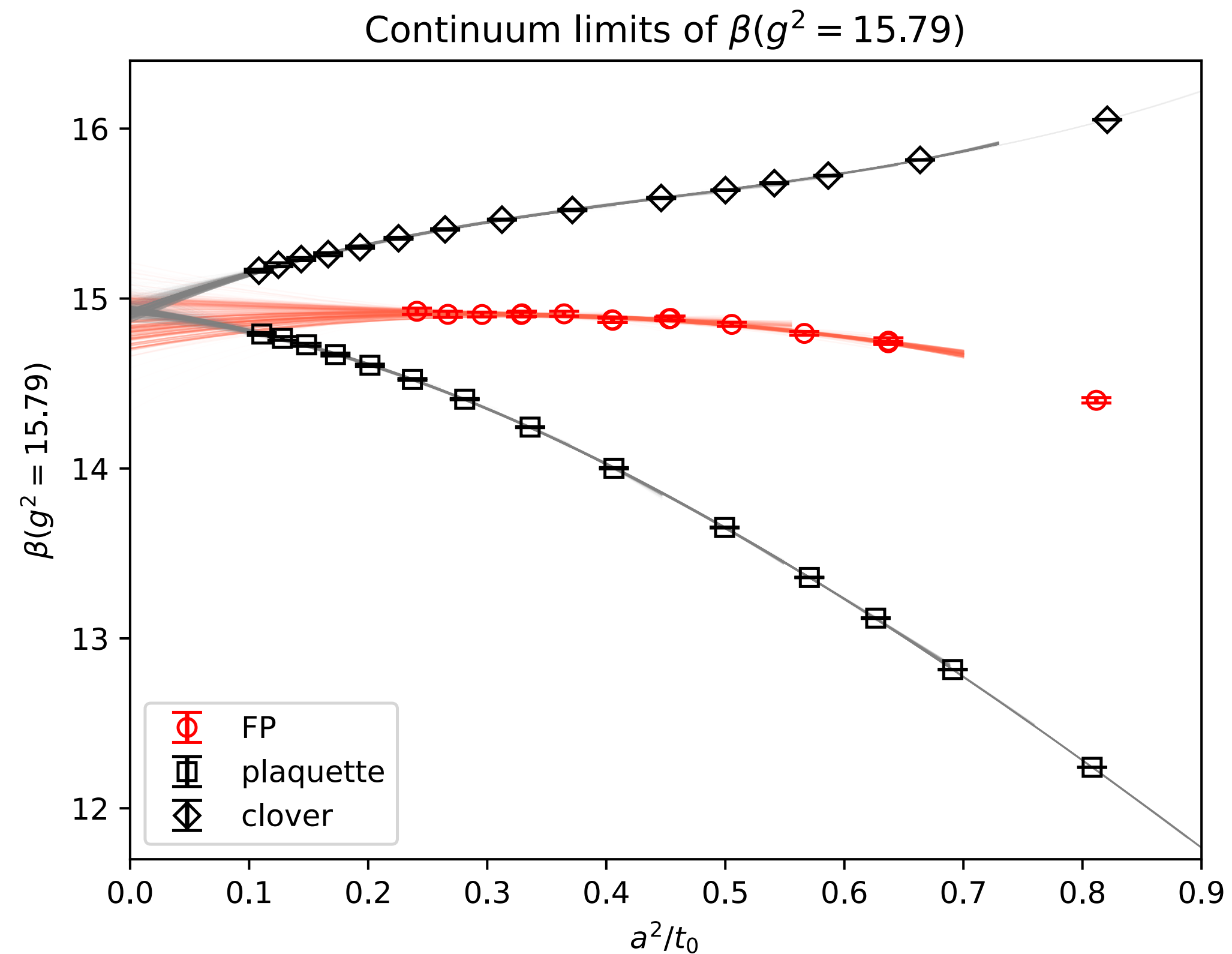
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Scaling of gradient-flow scales

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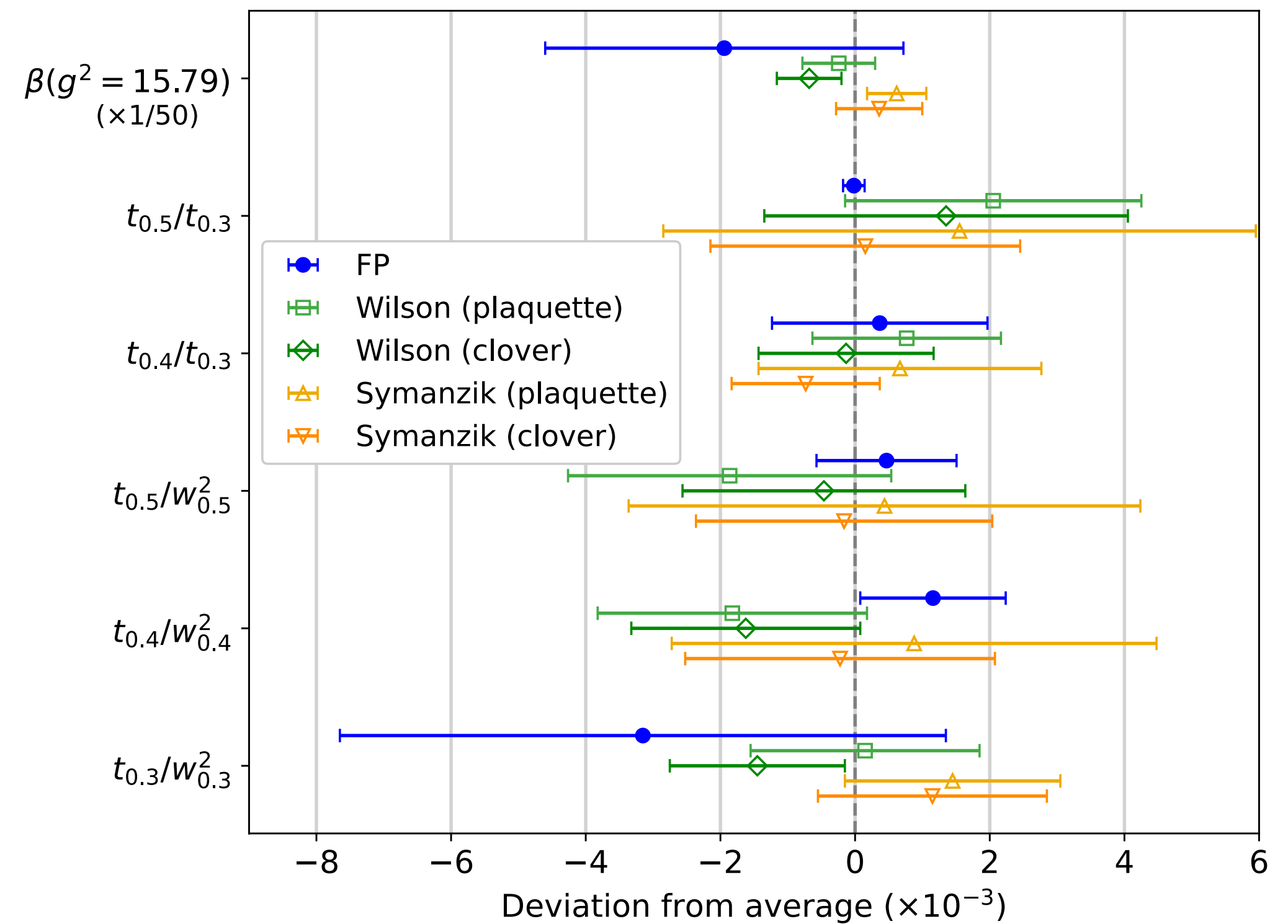
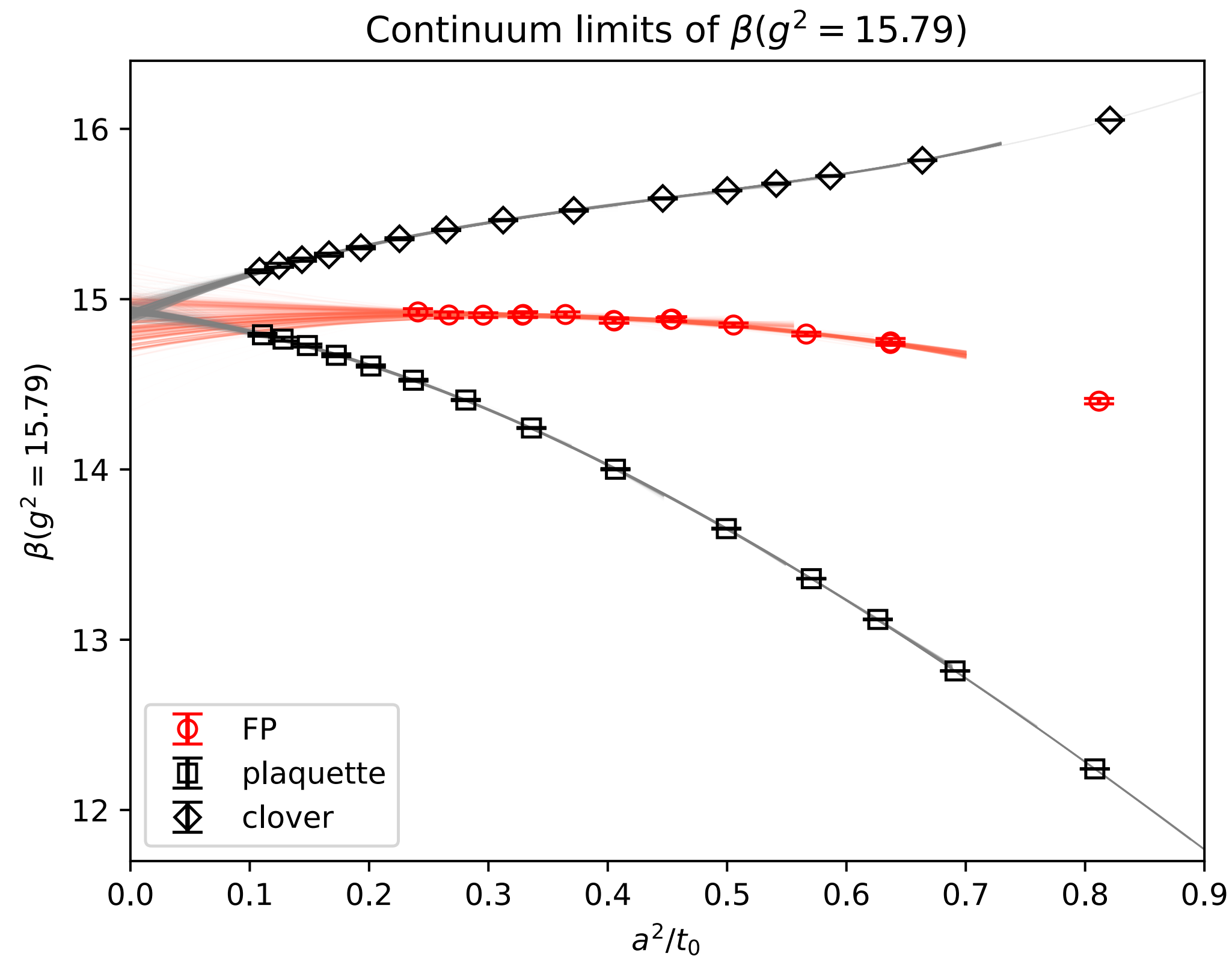
β -function at $g_{GF}^2 = 15.79$:



Scaling of gradient-flow scales

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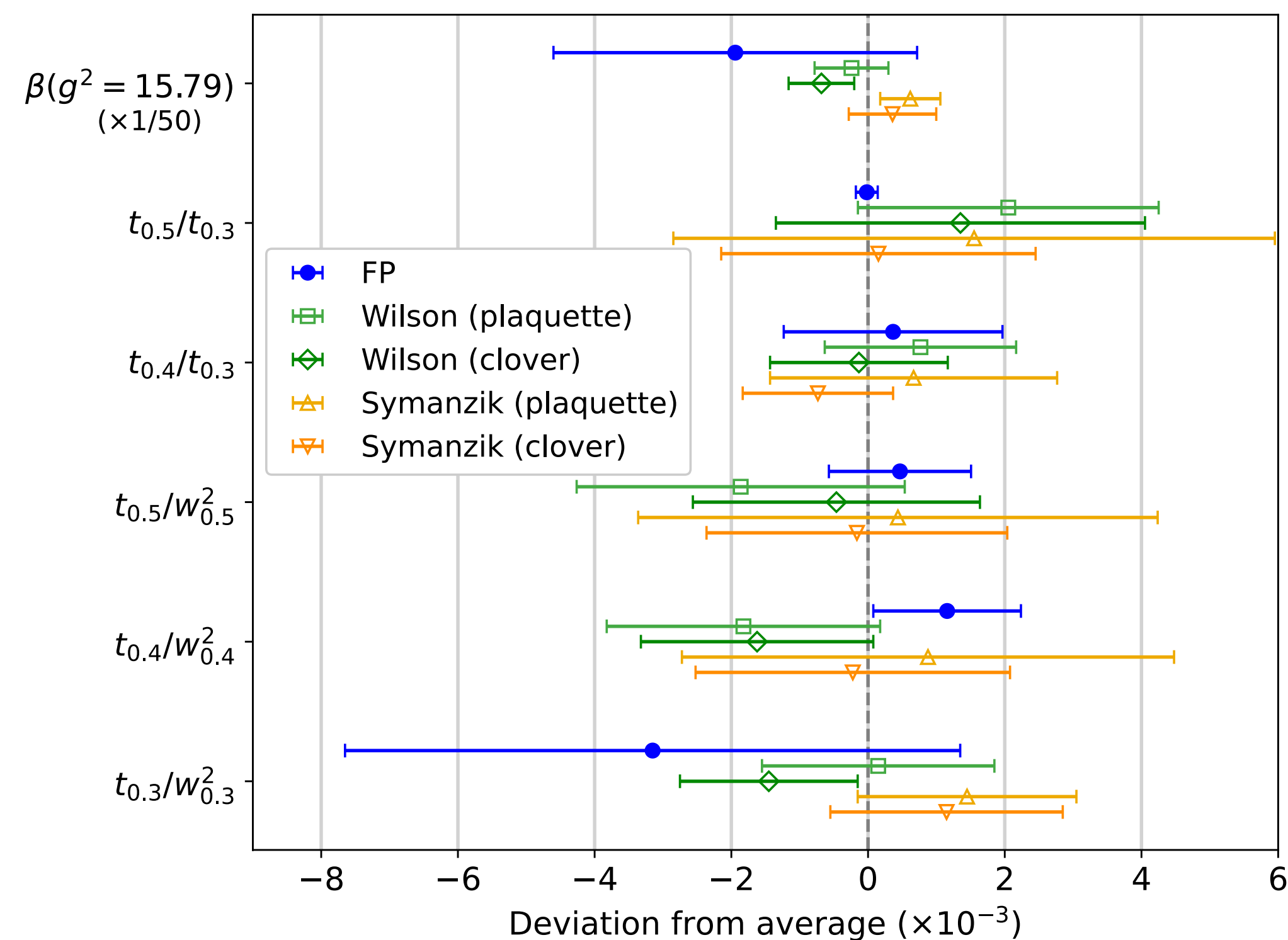
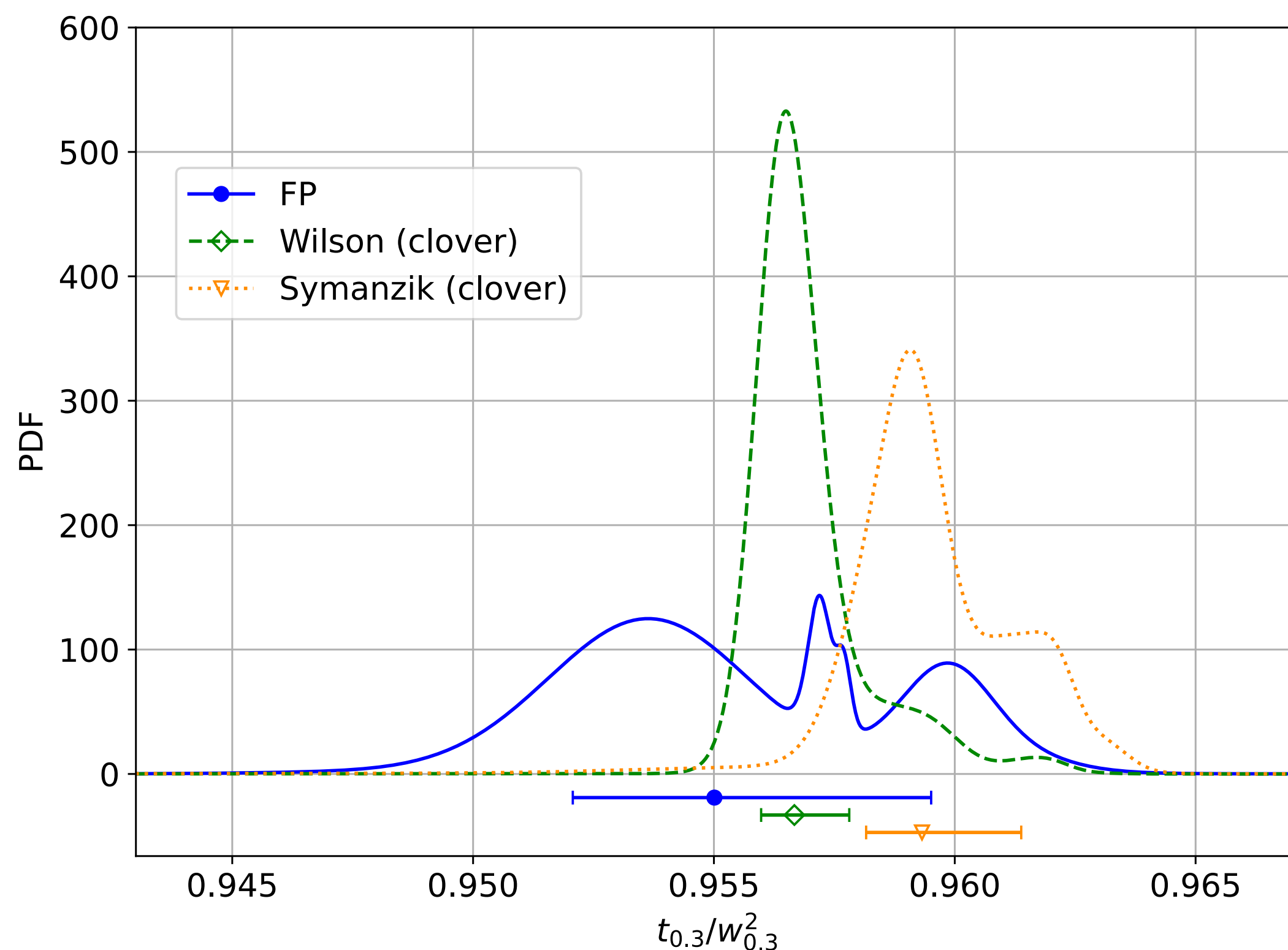
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Scaling of gradient-flow scales

Physical reference scales defined through $t^2 \langle E \rangle |_{t=t_x} = x$, $t \frac{d}{dt} (t^2 \langle E \rangle) \Big|_{t=w_x^2} = x$

FP errors often systematics dominated:



FP action with L-CNN: Conclusions

Three questions were addressed:

- can the FP action be parametrised sufficiently well? ✓
- is the FP action sufficiently local for truncations to work? ✓
- how good are the scaling properties of the L-CNN FP action? ✓

This provides a solution to critical slowing down and topological freezing...

Availability of derivatives from the L-CNN is the stepping stone for:

- HMC, Langevin, gradient flow
- application of exact RGT step(s)

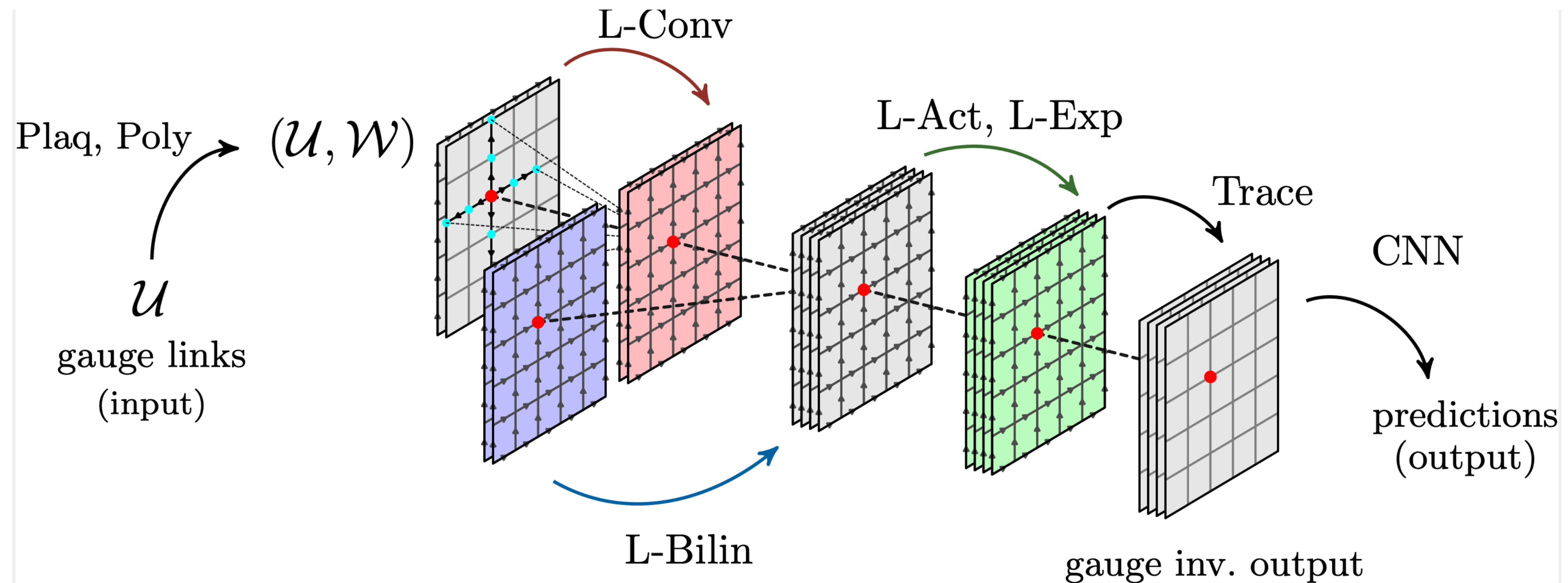
The gradient flow with FP actions is classically perfect!

Backup slides

Machine learning the FP action

ML architecture: Lattice gauge equivariant Convolutional Neural Network (L-CNN)

[Favoni, Ipp, Müller, Schuh, PRL 128 (2022) 3, 2012.12901]



L-Conv:

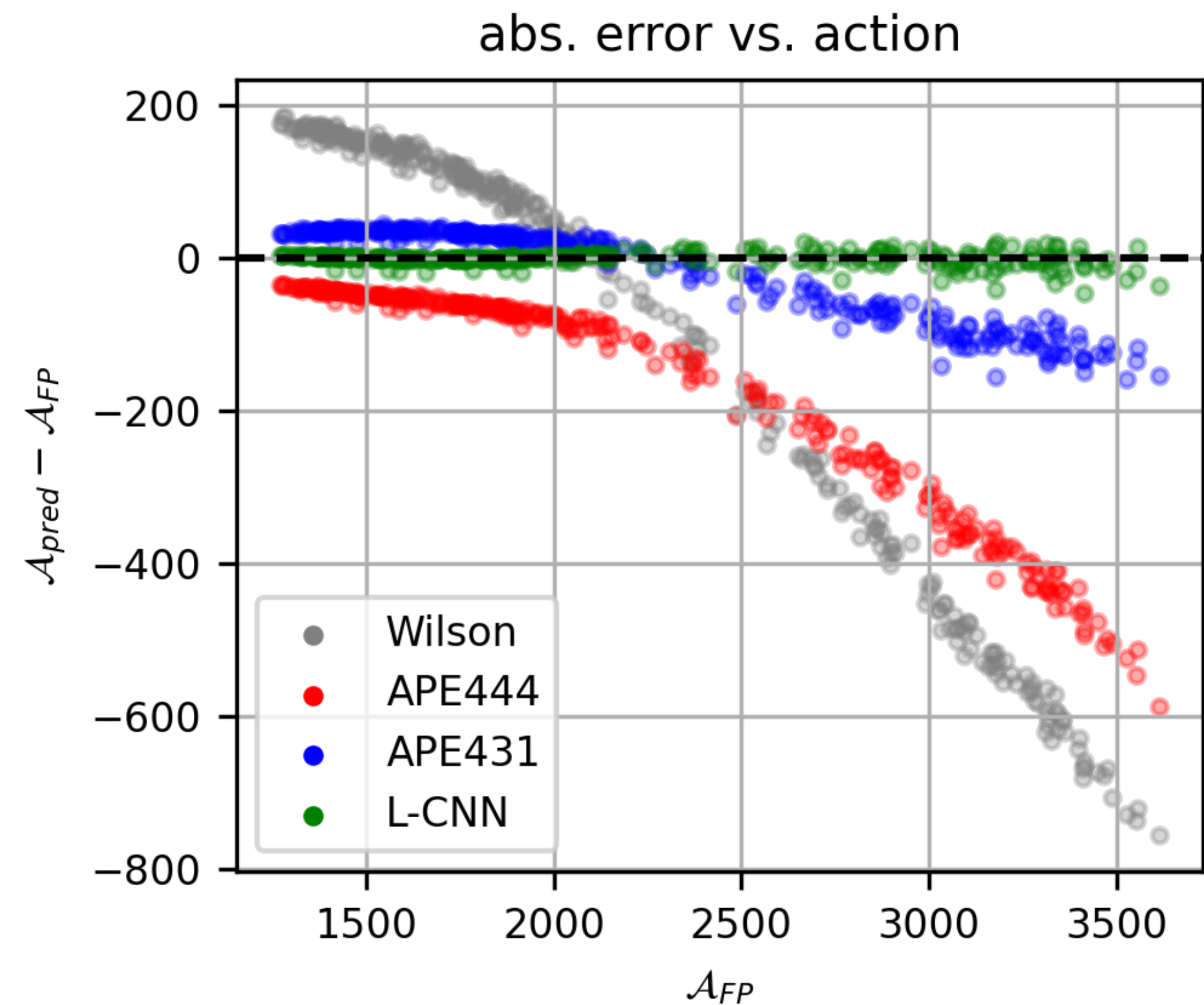
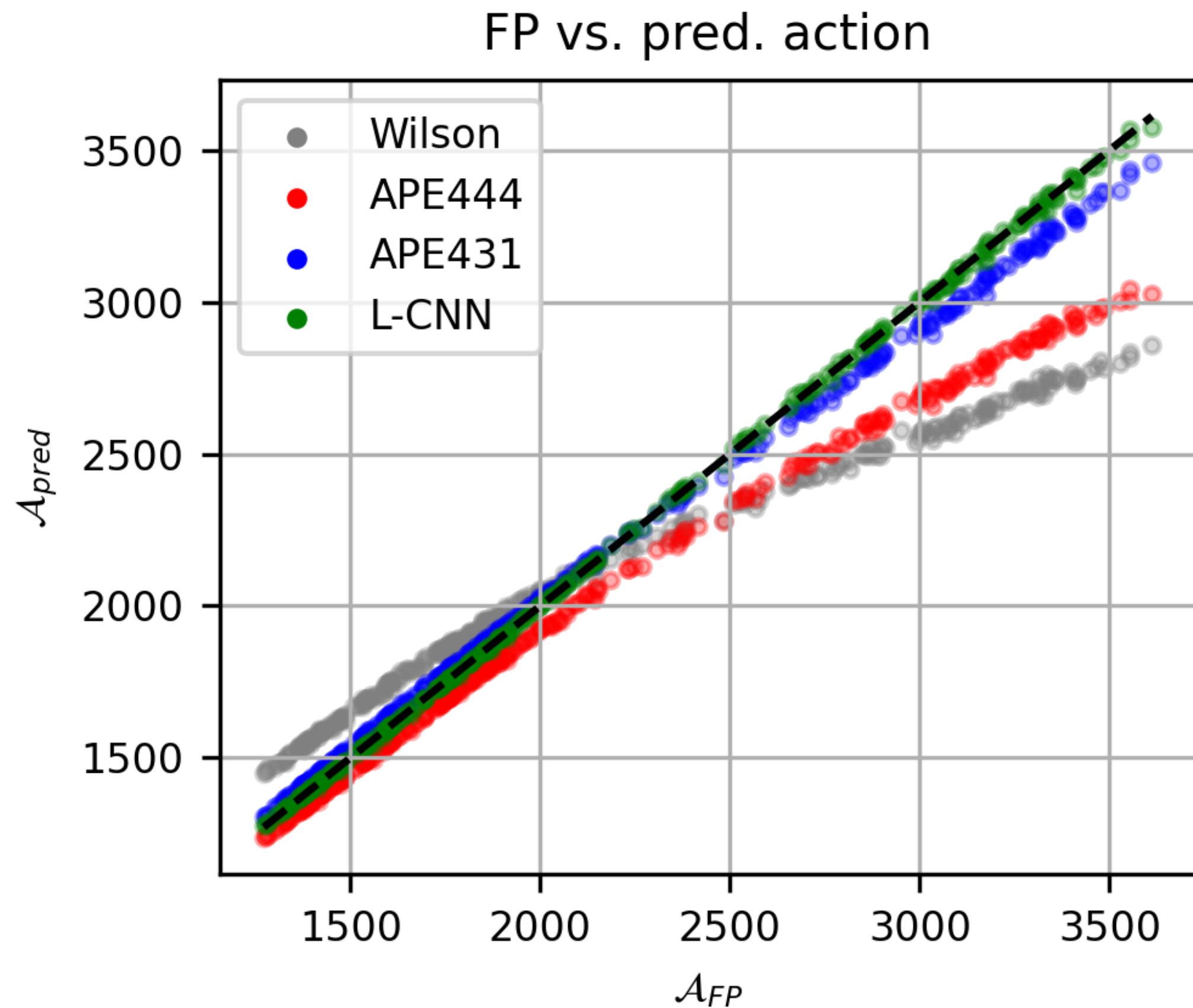
$$W'_{x+k\cdot\mu,j} = U_{x,k\cdot\mu} W_{x+k\cdot\mu,j} U_{x,k\cdot\mu}^\dagger$$

L-Bilin:

$$W_{x,i} \rightarrow \sum_{j,j',k} \alpha_{i,j,j',k} W_{x,j} W'_{x+k\cdot\mu,j'}$$

Machine learning the FP action: Results

Superiority of L-CNN over old parameterization of FP action:



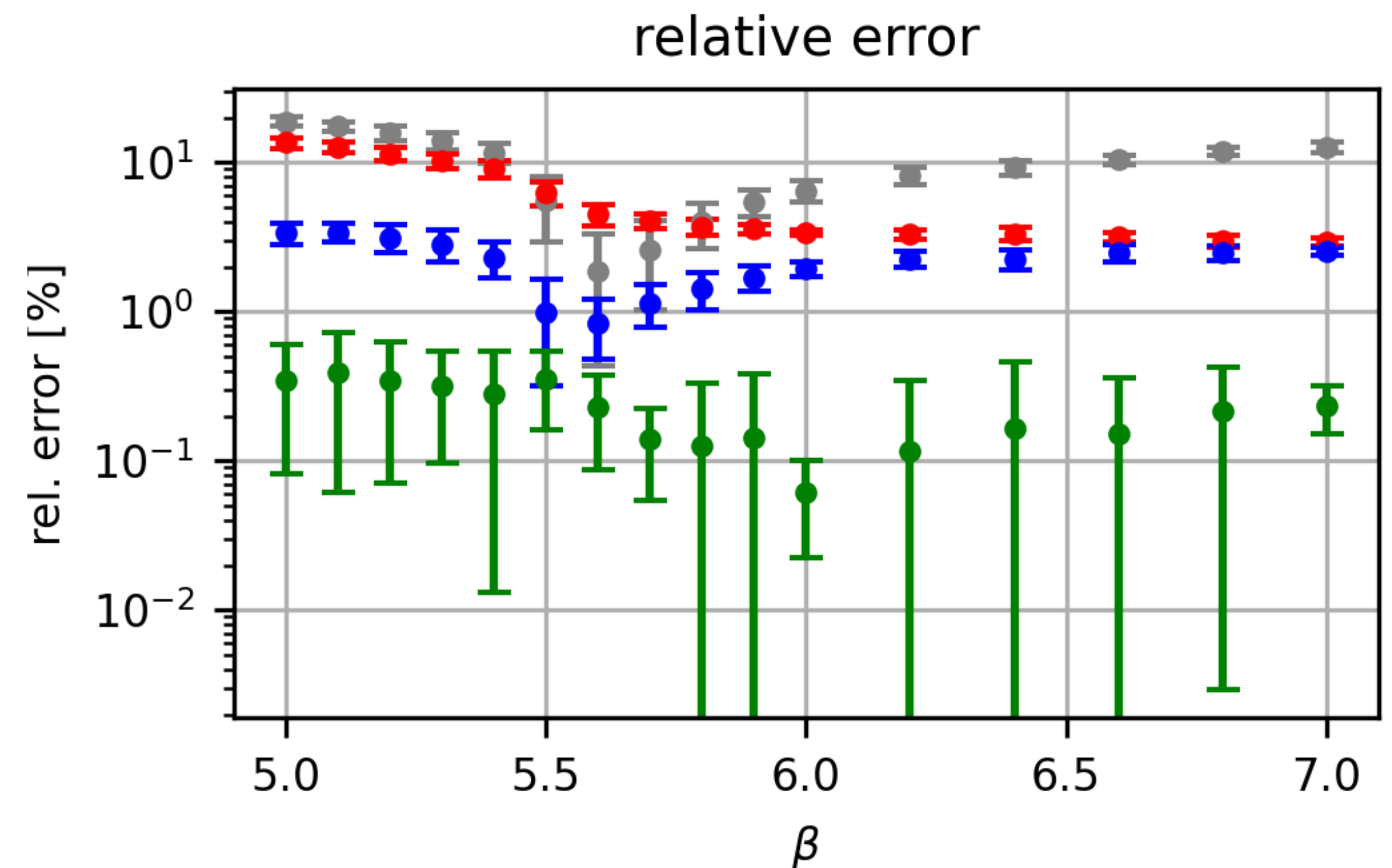
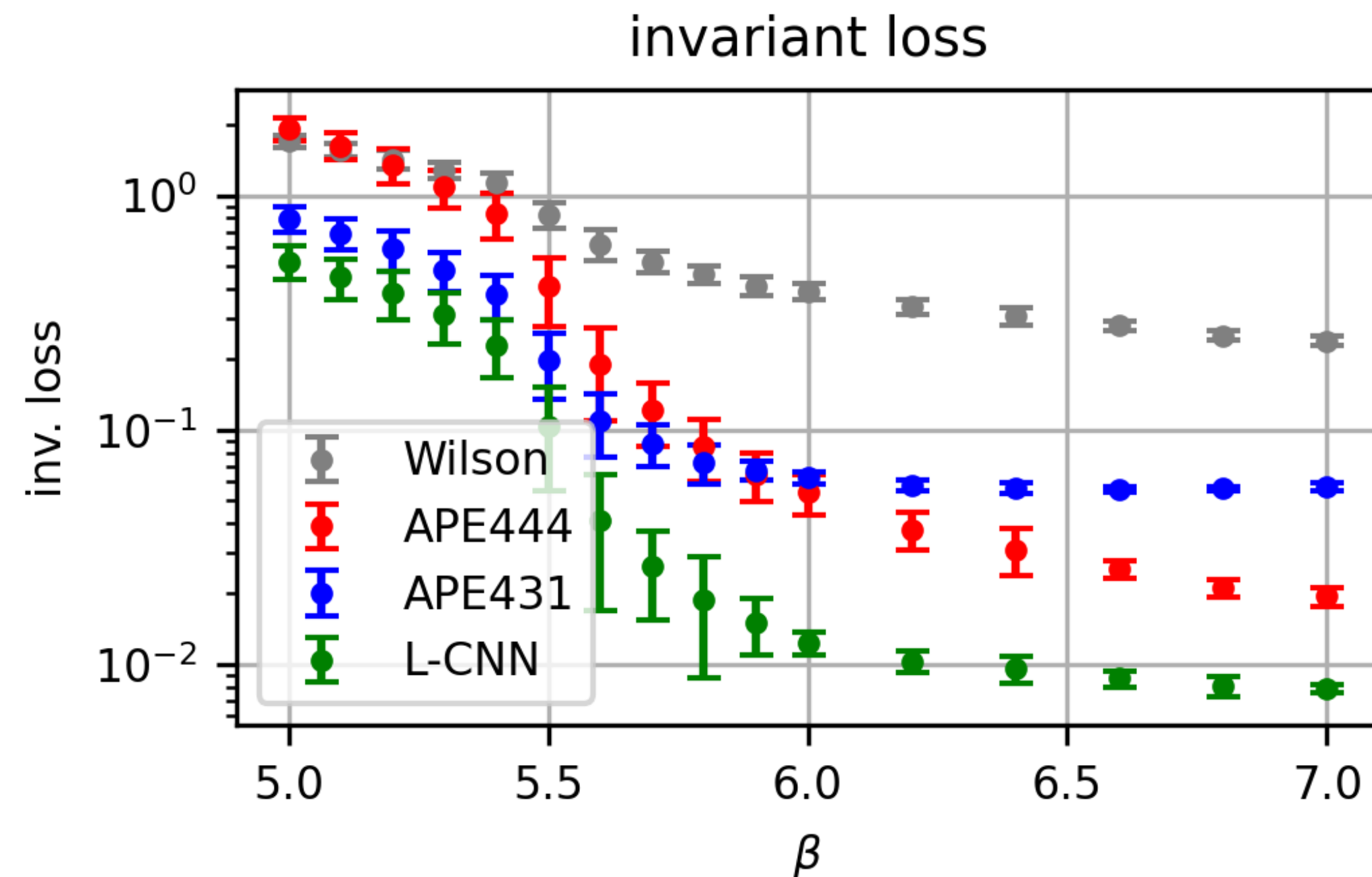
Machine learning the FP action

Training example: L-CNN model with

- 3 layers with 12, 24, 24 channels each
- parallel transport in ± 1 in first 2 layers
- local in 3rd layer

	L-CNN	APE431	APE444	Wilson
L1 (A/V)	0.02148	0.19690	0.62189	0.90898
rel. err.	0.226%	2.1965%	6.1356%	9.7577%
inv. loss (DA)	0.13480	0.23799	0.49264	0.73533

Older parametrizations of FP action as baselines:



Classically perfect gradient flow:

Starting from Wilson propagator: $D_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}(p) = \frac{\delta_{\mu\nu}}{|\hat{p}|^2} + \alpha \frac{\hat{p}_\mu \hat{p}_\nu^*}{|\hat{p}|^4}, \quad \hat{p}_\mu = \frac{2}{a} \sin\left(\frac{ap_\mu}{2}\right)$

the propagator maintains its form after an arbitrary number of RG iterations:

$$D_{\mu\nu}(p) = G_{\mu\nu}(p) + \alpha f(p) \hat{p}_\mu \hat{p}_\nu^*$$

with

$$G'_{\mu\nu}(p_B) = \frac{1}{16} \sum_{l=0}^1 \left[\omega\left(\frac{p_B}{2} + \pi l\right) G\left(\frac{p_B}{2} + \pi l\right) \omega^\dagger\left(\frac{p_B}{2} + \pi l\right) \right]_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{\kappa} \delta_{\mu\nu}$$

and

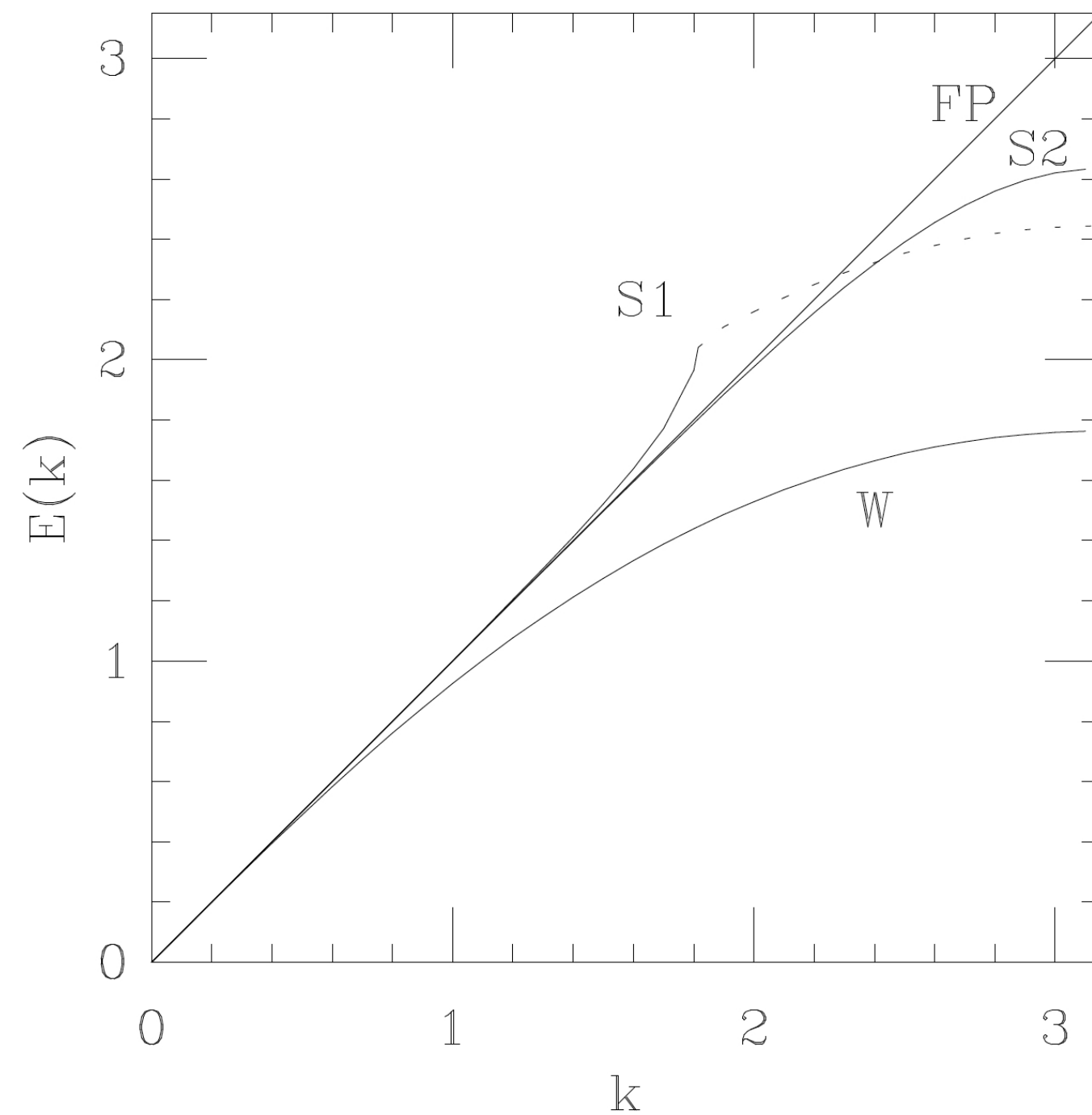
$$f'(p_B) = \frac{1}{16} \sum_{l=0}^1 f\left(\frac{p_B}{2} + \pi l\right)$$

⇒ gradient flow with FP actions is classically perfect!

Classically perfect gradient flow:

After n RGT steps the part $\propto \delta_{\mu\nu}$ reads: $\left[\Omega^{(n)} \left(\frac{p + 2\pi l}{2^n} \right) \Omega^{(n)\dagger} \left(\frac{p + 2\pi l}{2^n} \right) \right]_{\mu\nu} \frac{1}{(p + 2\pi l)^2}$

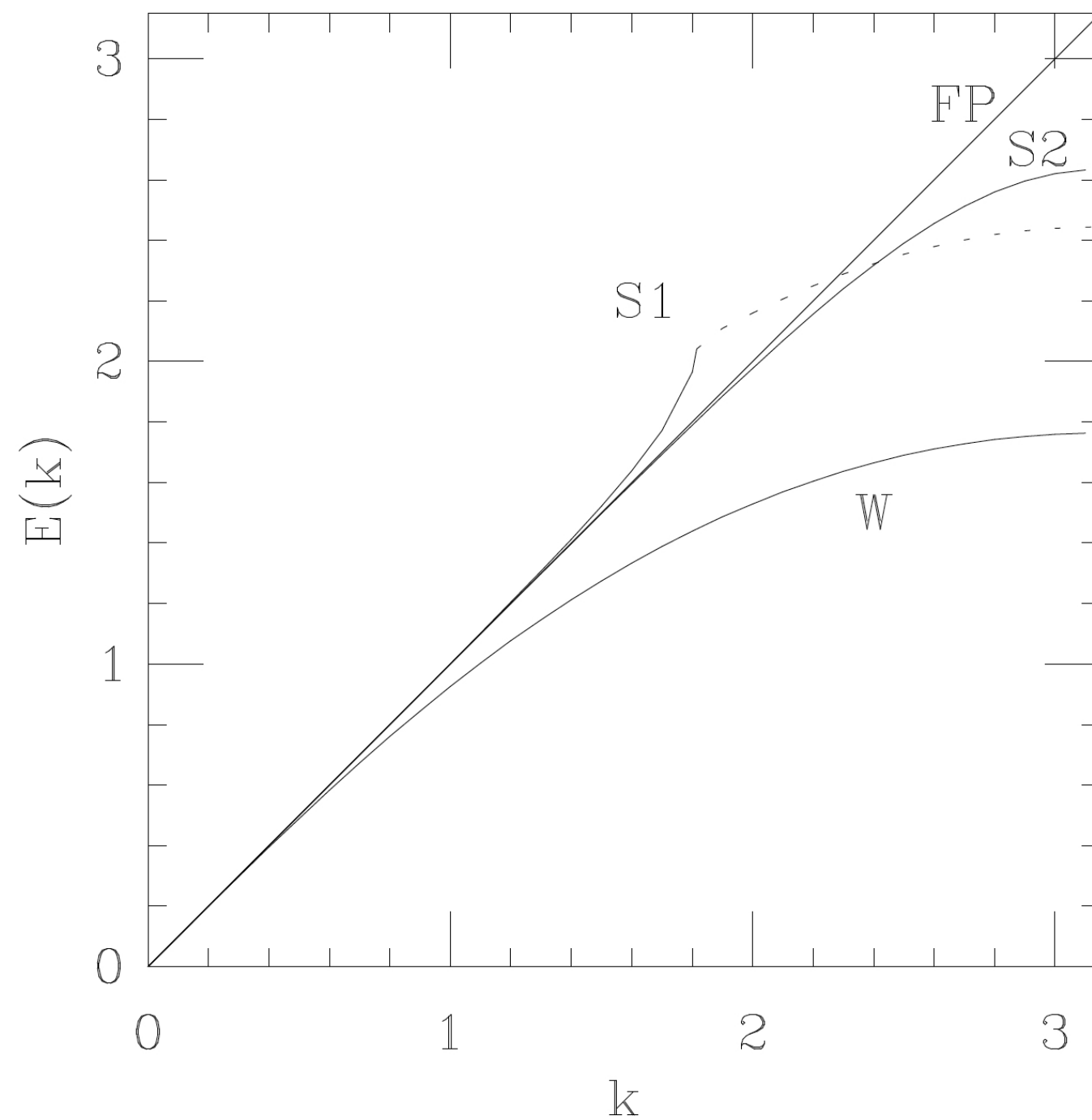
with the dispersion relation from the poles:



Classically perfect gradient flow:

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with the dispersion relation and the momentum range extended to $-\infty \leq p_\mu \leq \infty$:



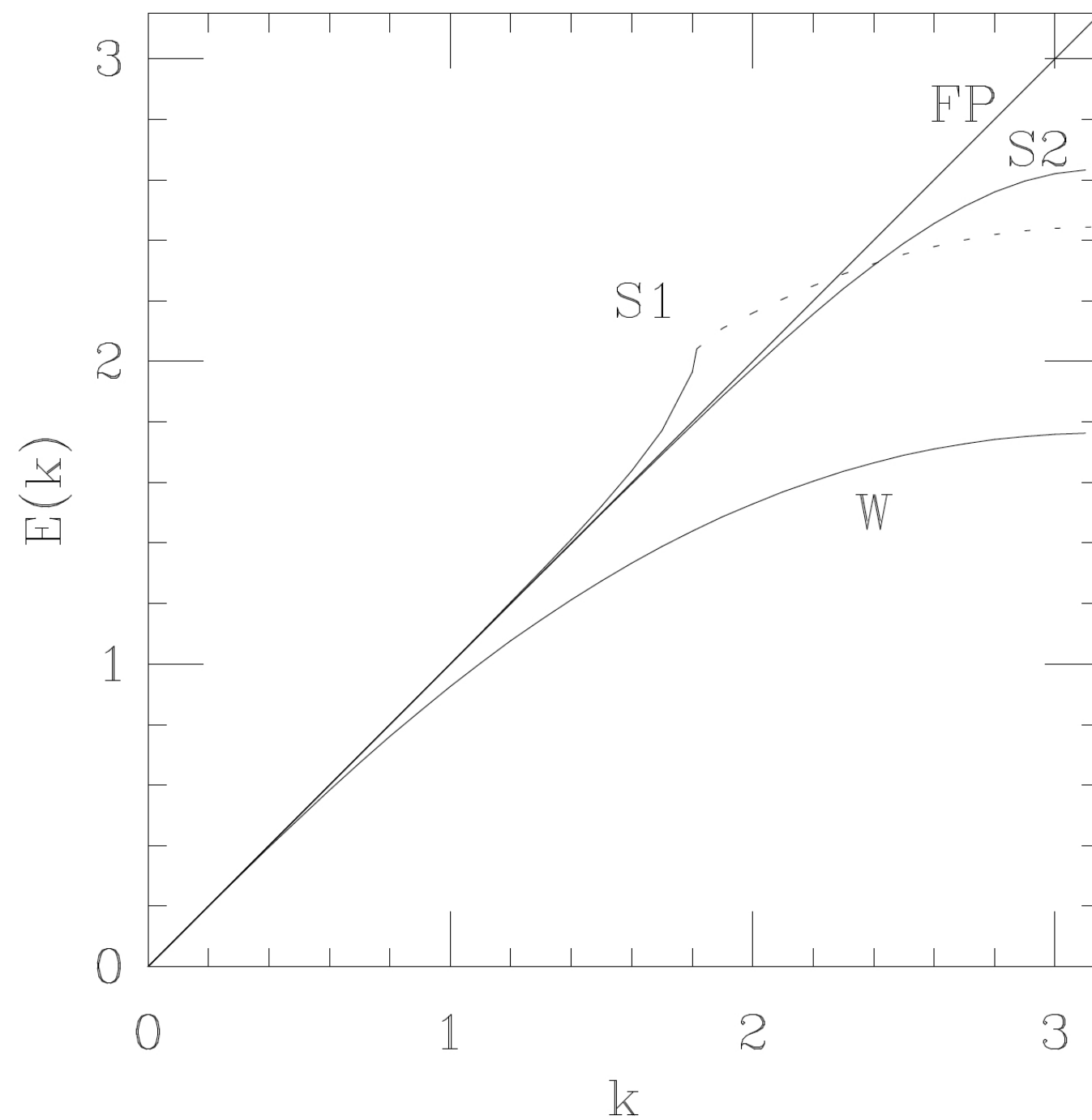
$$(p + 2\pi l)^2 \quad \text{for } l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

through the iterated RGTs.

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