

# Effective string excitation energies

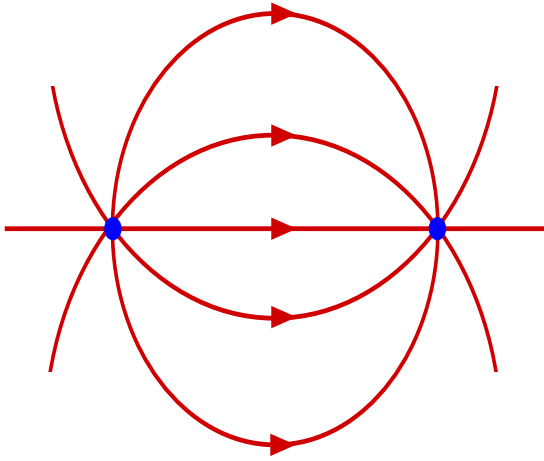
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- Effective string model
- Polyakov loop correlation function
- Old results
- “New” results; Martin Lüscher, P.W, JHEP 0407 (2004) 014

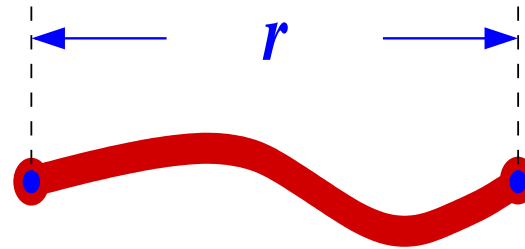
# Pure $SU(N)$ gauge theories

## Flux distribution in the presence of static color sources



$r < 0.1 \text{ fm}$

perturbative regime



$r \gg 1 \text{ fm}$

static confinement

In presence of dynamical quarks “the string breaks” due to pair production (not considered in this talk)

**static potential**  $V(r)$ : minimum energy of a static  $q - \bar{q}$  pair separated by a distance  $r$

$$V(r) = -\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \ln w(\mathcal{C}_{rt}), \quad \mathcal{C}_{rt}: \text{planar } r \times t \text{ loop}$$

**Wilson loop:**  $w(\mathcal{C}) = \langle \text{tr} P \exp \int_{\mathcal{C}} dx_{\mu} A_{\mu}(x) \rangle$

Pert. Thy:  $w(\mathcal{C})$  is multiplicatively renormalizable (Brandt, Ng):

$$w_{\text{ren}}(\mathcal{C}) = \lim_{\Lambda \rightarrow \infty} e^{-P(\mathcal{C})\Lambda F(g)} w(\mathcal{C})$$

$P(\mathcal{C})$ : perimeter of (smooth)  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\Lambda$ : UV cutoff

**force:**  $F(r) = \frac{dV}{dr} = C_F \frac{\alpha_{q\bar{q}}(r)}{r^2}$  is RG invariant

**running coupling:**  $\alpha_{q\bar{q}}(r) \sim \frac{c}{-\ln r}$  for  $r \rightarrow 0$ , (Asympt. Freedom)

For large  $r$  need non-perturbative methods:

★ Lattice gauge theory (LGT)

★ Loop wave equations

LGT with positive transfer matrix  $\Rightarrow$

$V(\mathbf{r})$  along the axis  $\mathbf{r} = (r, 0, 0)$  (in infinite volume)  
is monotonic and concave (Seiler, Bachas 1986)

$\Rightarrow$  Force between opposite charges is always attractive,  
and at large  $r$ ,  $V(\mathbf{r})$  cannot rise faster than linear.

strong coupling coupling:  $V(r) \sim \sigma r$ , (Wilson)

$\Rightarrow w(\mathcal{C}) \sim \exp(-\sigma \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{C}))$  for large minimal area  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{C})$

$\sigma$ : string tension:

String wave equations (Polyakov, Migdal, Nambu):

$$\frac{\delta^2 w(\mathcal{C})}{\delta x_\mu(\sigma) \delta x_\mu(\sigma)} = \langle \text{tr} [(x'_\rho F_{\mu\rho})^2(\sigma) U_{\mathcal{C}}(x(\sigma), x(\sigma))] \rangle + \dots$$

*assume* finite thickness  $\rightarrow (x'_\rho F_{\mu\rho})^2 \sim$  electric flux through the tube  
independent of posn. along the loop

$\Rightarrow$  **free loop equation (for large smooth  $\mathcal{C}$ )**

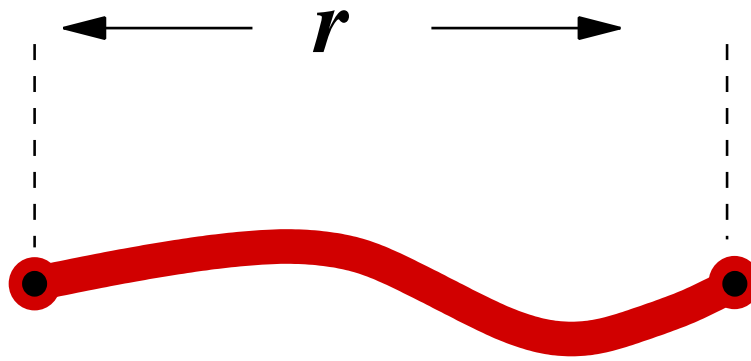
$$\left[ -\frac{\delta^2}{\delta x(\sigma)^2} + M^4 x'(\sigma)^2 \right] w(\mathcal{C}) = 0$$

**wave functions:**  $w(\mathcal{C}) \sim M^p e^{-M^2 \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{C})} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} M^{-2\nu} w_\nu(\mathcal{C})$

which are *reparametrization invariant*  $x'(\sigma) \frac{\delta}{\delta x(\sigma)} w(\mathcal{C}) = 0$ ,  
and satisfy a (complicated) local regularized loop equation  
(Lüscher, Symanzik, P.W. (1980))

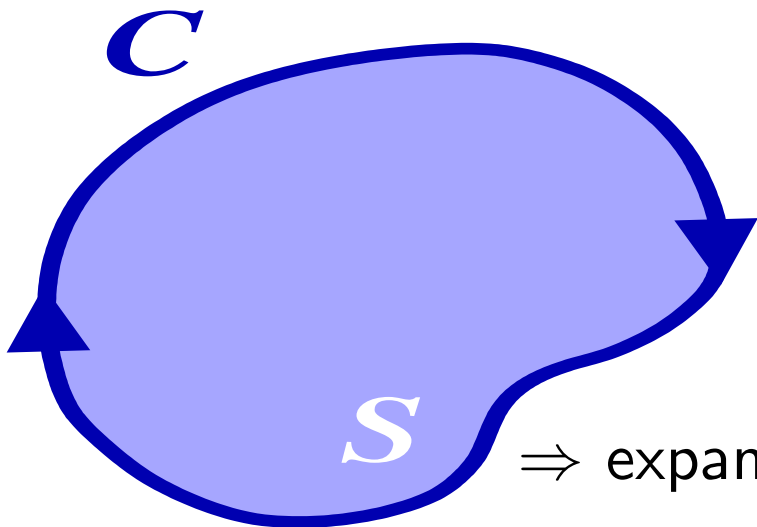
$\rightarrow$  hope Nambu-Goto string theory can be quantized  
without violating “fundamental principles” (Pohlmeyer)

tube formed by fluctuating string of thickness  $\frac{1}{m_{\text{Glueball}}}$



$$r \gg 1 \text{ fm}$$

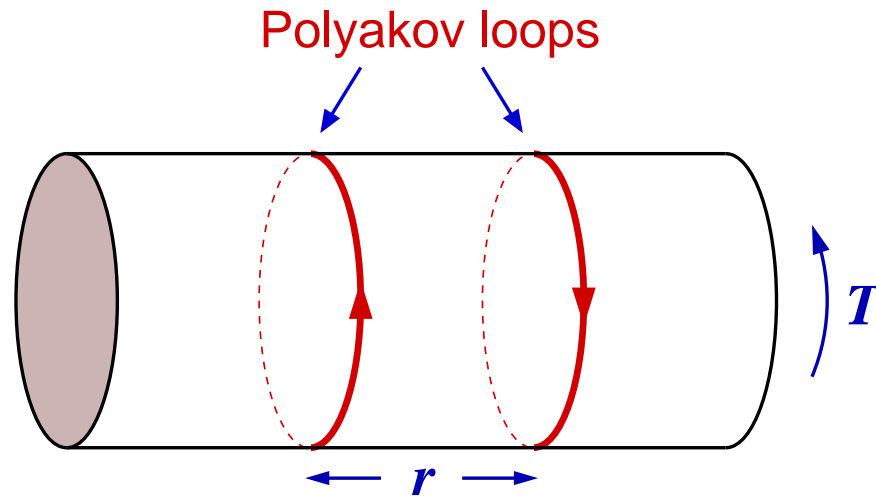
Long distance (low energy) effective string theory



$$w(\mathcal{C}) \simeq \int_{\text{surfaces}} e^{-\sigma A(S)} \text{ for } \mathcal{C} \text{ large}$$

$\Rightarrow$  expansion in powers of  $\sigma^{-1/2}$  about  $S = S_{\text{min}}$

# Polyakov loop correlation function



In gauge theories with compact gauge group,

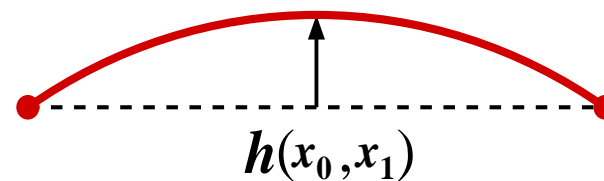
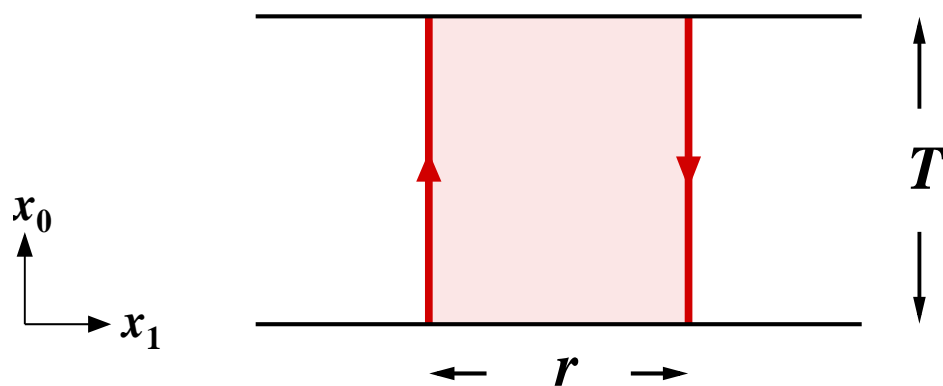
$$\langle P(r, x_{\perp})^* P(0, x_{\perp}) \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} w_n e^{-E_n(r)T}$$

static quark potential:  $E_0(r) \equiv V(r)$ ,  $w_0 = 1$

excited states:  $E_n(r)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ ,  $w_n \in \mathbb{N}$

in the effective string theory:

$$\langle P(r)^* P(0) \rangle \approx \mathcal{P}(r, T) = e^{-\sigma r T - \mu T} \times \int_{\text{fluctuations } h} e^{-S_{\text{eff}}}$$



$h_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, d - 2$   
 $d$ : space-time dimension



effective action has an expansion:

$$S_{\text{eff}} = S_0 + S_1 + S_2 + \dots$$

where  $S_v$  has couplings of dimension  $[\text{length}]^v$

Free string approximation:  $S_{\text{eff}} = S_0 + S_1$

$$S_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_0^r dx_0 dx_1 (\partial_a h)^2$$

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{4} b \int_0^T dx_0 \{ (\partial_1 h \partial_1 h)_{x_1=0} + (\partial_1 h \partial_1 h)_{x_1=r} \}$$

⇒ correlation function of required form:

$$\mathcal{P}(r, T)|_{b=0} = e^{-\sigma r T - \mu T} [\det(-\Delta)]^{-\frac{1}{2}(d-2)}$$

$$[\det(-\Delta)]^{\frac{1}{2}} = q^{\frac{1}{24}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n), \quad q = e^{-\pi T/r}$$

energy spectrum:

$$E_0 = \sigma r + \mu - \frac{\pi}{24r} (d-2) (1 + b/r + \dots)$$

$$\Delta E_n = E_n - E_0 = \frac{n\pi}{r} (1 + b/r + \dots)$$

degeneracies:  $w_0 = 1, w_1 = d - 2, \dots$

leading terms are universal! Lüscher '81, Lüscher & P.W. '02

another prediction of the effective theory concerns the “tube width”

Lüscher, Münster, P.W. (1981)

$$\lambda^2(r) \equiv \frac{\int d^2x_{\perp} x_{\perp}^2 \mathcal{E}(x)}{\int d^2x_{\perp} \mathcal{E}(x)} \sim \ln(r), \quad \text{for } r \rightarrow \infty$$

$\mathcal{E}(x)$ : chromo-electric field energy density distribution

$$\mathcal{E}(x) \propto \langle q\bar{q} | \text{tr} \mathbf{E}^2(x) | q\bar{q} \rangle - \langle q\bar{q} | q\bar{q} \rangle \langle \Omega | \text{tr} \mathbf{E}^2(x) | \Omega \rangle$$

in strong coupling limit the string is rigid ( $\lambda(\infty)$  finite),  
expect “roughening transition” as  $g_0$  decreases

But [Bokko, Gubarev & Morozov \(arXiv:0704.1203\)](#)

claim  $\lambda(r) \rightarrow 0$  as  $a \rightarrow 0$  !!

Naive model: doesn't take decay of higher excitations  
→ lower states + glueballs into account

But is it basically correct? If so . . .

- Exactly which string theory?

- ◇ Alternative string actions (“rigid” string, etc.)

- Polyakov '86, Savvidy & Savvidy '93

- ◇ String theories with fermionic modes

- Ramond '71, Neveu & Schwartz '71

- At which distances does string behavior set in?

⇒ **lattice gauge theory**

# Studying string behavior in LGT

## ★ Ground state energy

$$V'(r) = \sigma + O(r^{-2})$$

$$V''(r) = \frac{\pi}{12r^3} (d - 2) + O(r^{-4})$$

Lucini & Teper '01, Necco & Sommer '02

## ★ Low-lying excited states

$$\Delta E = \frac{\pi}{r} + O(r^{-2})$$

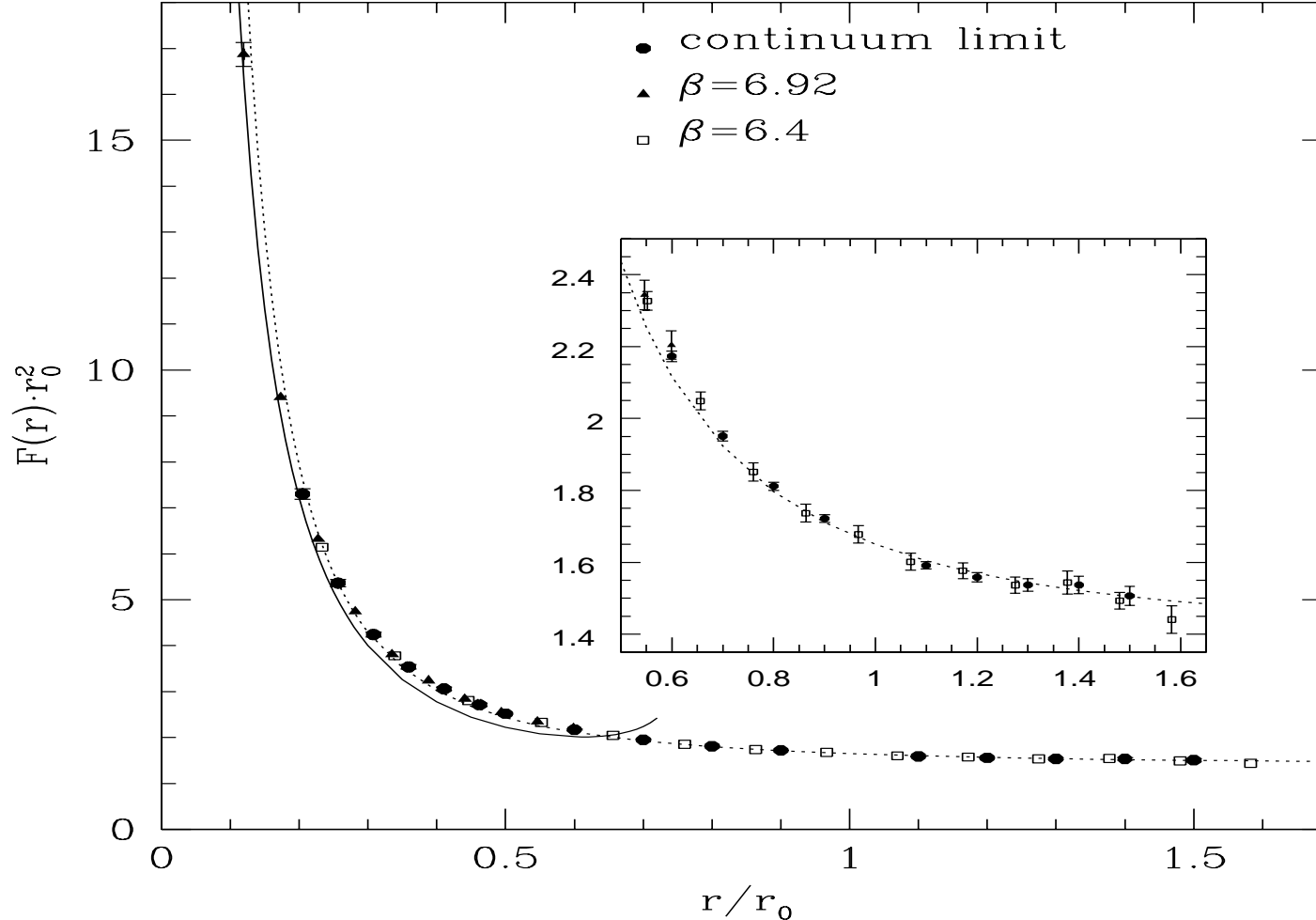
Michael & Perantonis '90; Juge, Kuti & Morningstar '98ff, Majumdar '03ff

## ★ Wilson loop expectation values

Caselle et al. '97ff, Caselle, Hasenbusch & Panero '02ff

# Force between static quark sources in pure SU(3) Yang-Mills

Necco, Sommer (2001)



\* Sommer's scale:  $r_0^2 F(r_0) = 1.65$ ,  $\Rightarrow r_0 \sim 0.5\text{fm}$

\* full line: **PT** with  $\Lambda_{\overline{\text{MS}}} r_0 = 0.602$

\* dashed line: **bosonic string model**:  $F(r) = \sigma + \frac{\pi}{12r^2}$

The principal difficulties measuring such correlation fns. accurately:

!The signal  $\langle PP \rangle \propto e^{-\sigma r T}$   
decreases exponentially ( $\sim 10^{-25}$  at  $a = 0.1$  fm,  $rT = 5$  fm<sup>2</sup>)

!The significance loss in  $-\frac{1}{2}r^3 V''(r) = \frac{\pi}{24} (d - 2) + \dots$   
grows proportionally to  $\sigma r^4 / a^2$

## The multilevel algorithm

achieves exponential reduction of the statistical errors!

(M.Lüscher. & P.W '01, P.Majumdar '03)

## Systematic errors

- Excited states contributions

$$V(r) = -\frac{1}{T} \ln \langle P^* P \rangle + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \simeq \frac{\omega_1}{T} e^{-(E_1 - E_0)T}$$

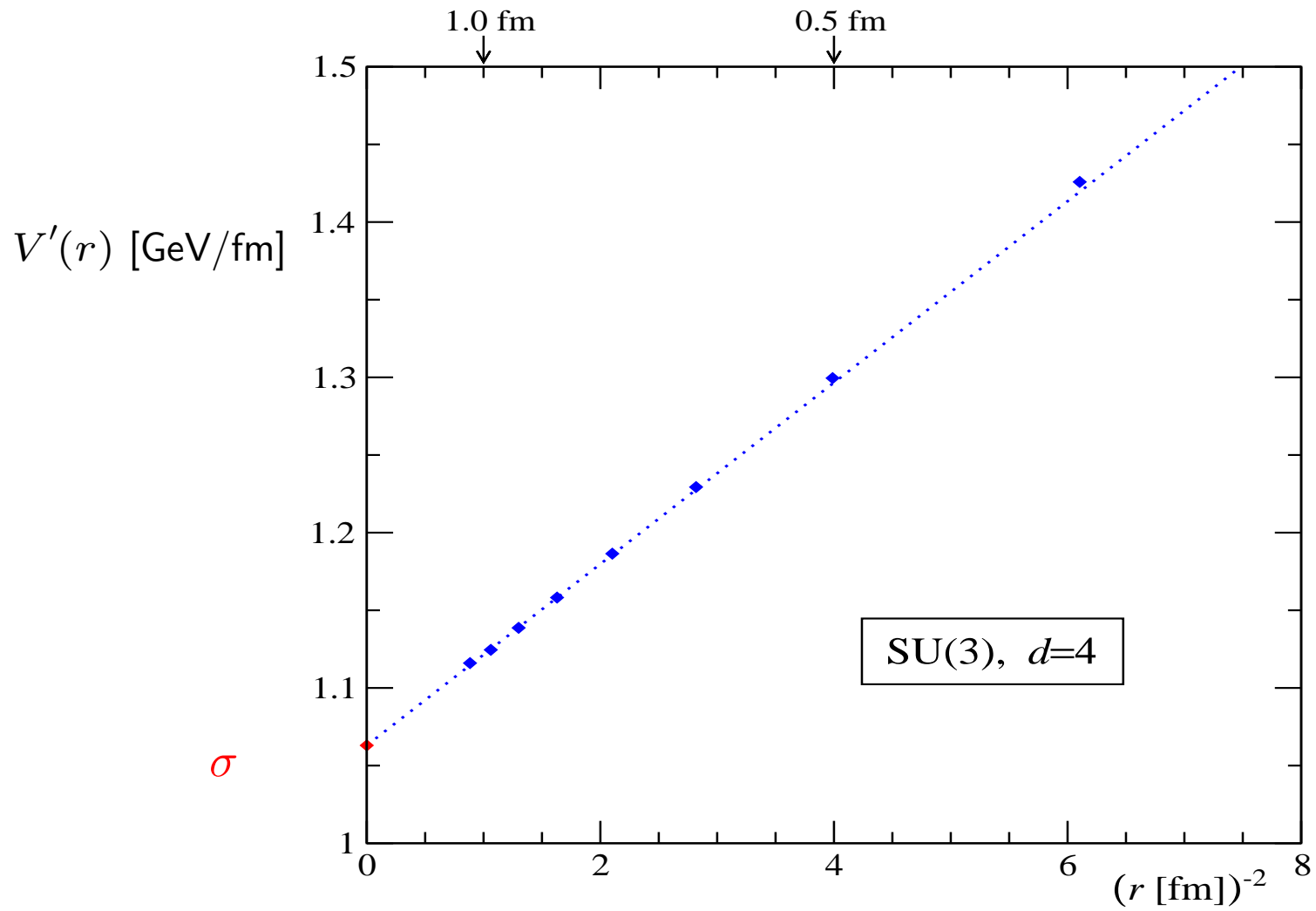
should check if negligible

- Lattice spacing effects

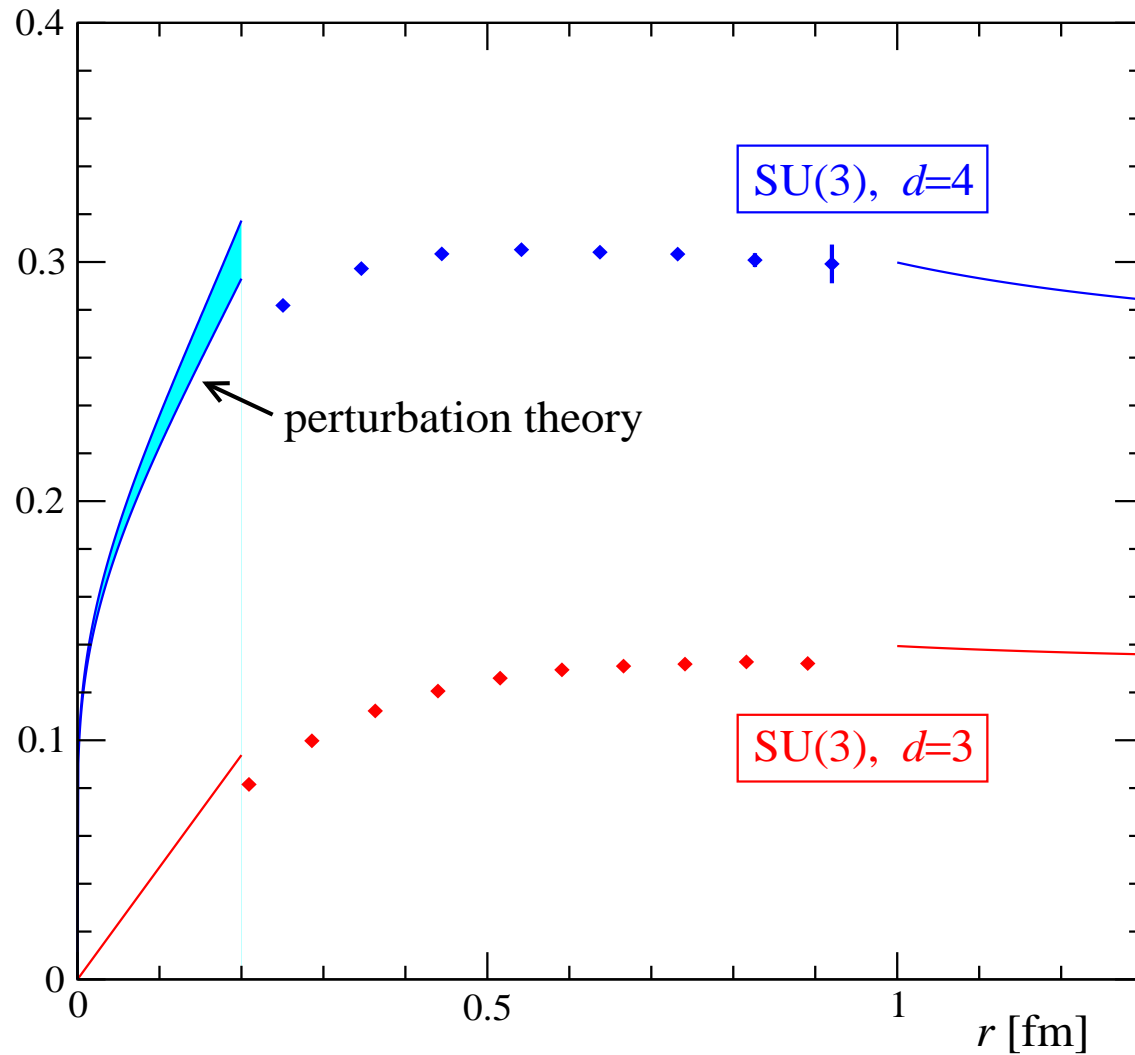
Are of order  $a^2$ , already small at  $a = 0.1$  fm

- Finite-volume effects “around the world”
- Autocorrelations
- Statistical correlations



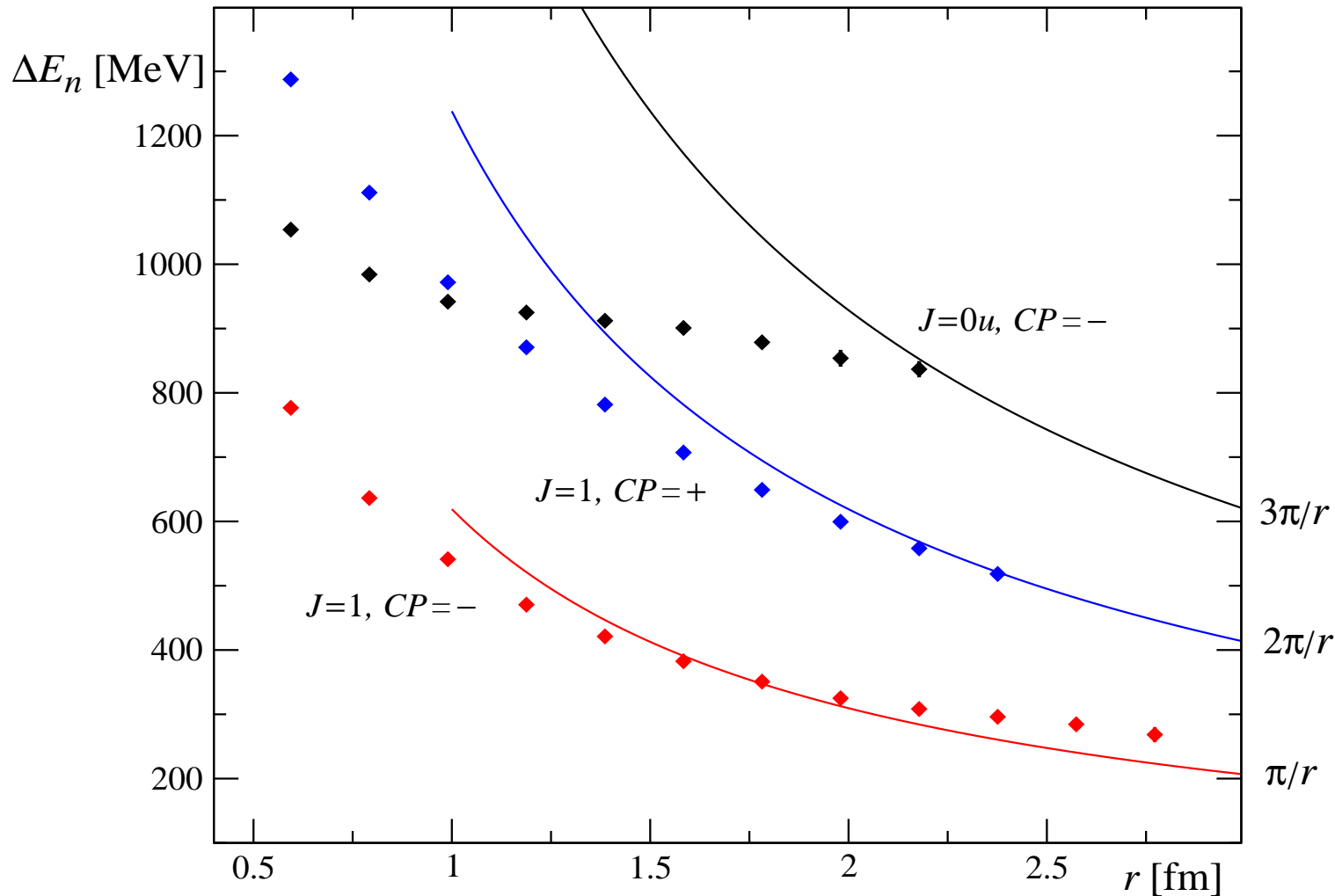


$$c(r) \equiv -\frac{1}{2} r^3 V''(r) \quad (\text{Lüscher. \& P.W '02})$$



\* careful continuum limit extrapolation still required!

# Excited states [SU(3), $d = 4$ ] (Juge, Kuti & Morningstar '02)



Precise studies of 3-d gauge theory: SU(2): (Majumdar '03)

$\mathbb{Z}_2$ : (Caselle, Fiore, Gliozzi, Hasenbusch, Panero, Pepe, Provero, Rago '97ff)

## String self-interaction effects

Classical Nambu–Goto Model:

$$S = \int dx_0 dx_1 \sqrt{1 + \partial_a h \cdot \partial_a h + (\partial_0 h \cdot \partial_0 h)(\partial_1 h \cdot \partial_1 h) - (\partial_0 h \cdot \partial_1 h)^2}$$

Arvis '83: Energy levels are given by

$$E_n(r) = \sigma r \sqrt{1 + \frac{2\pi}{\sigma r^2} \left[ n - \frac{d-2}{24} \right]}$$

status?? Result for all  $d$  but quantum theory claimed consistent only for  $d = 26$

see Polchinski & Strominger '91

## Effective string interactions with coupling dimension [length]<sup>2</sup>:

$$S_2 = \frac{1}{4} \int dx_0 dx_1 \left\{ c_2 (\partial_a h \partial_a h) (\partial_b h \partial_b h) + c_3 (\partial_a h \partial_b h) (\partial_a h \partial_b h) \right\}$$

- contributions to the partition function (Dietz and Filk '83)
- effect on energy levels computed for all states  $n \leq 3$   
(M.Lüscher & P.W '04)

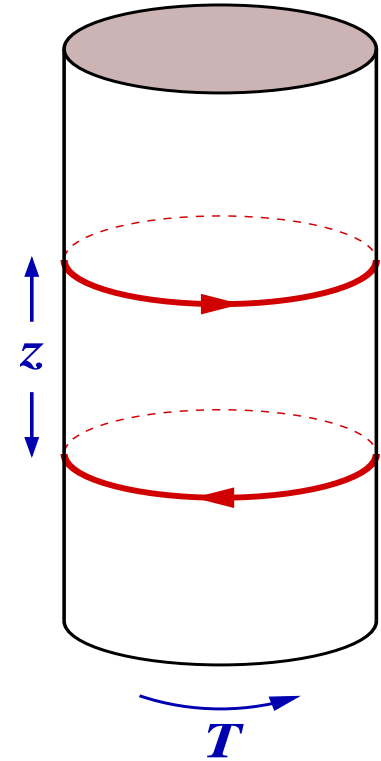
states classified by  $O(d-2)$  axial symmetry

e.g. level  $n = 3$  has: 1 scalar, 2 vectors, 1 symmetric 2-tensor,

1 antisymmetric 2-tensor, symmetric 3-tensor

- states for  $n$  fixed are degenerate (only) for  $c_3 = -2c_2$  for all  $d$   
( $\sim$  classical Nambu–Goto case)

## “Open-closed string duality”



The Polyakov loop correlation function satisfies

$$\int_{\substack{x_0=0 \\ x_1=z}} d^{d-2}x_{\perp} \langle P(x)^* P(0) \rangle = \sum_{n \geq 0} |c_n|^2 e^{-\tilde{E}_n z}$$

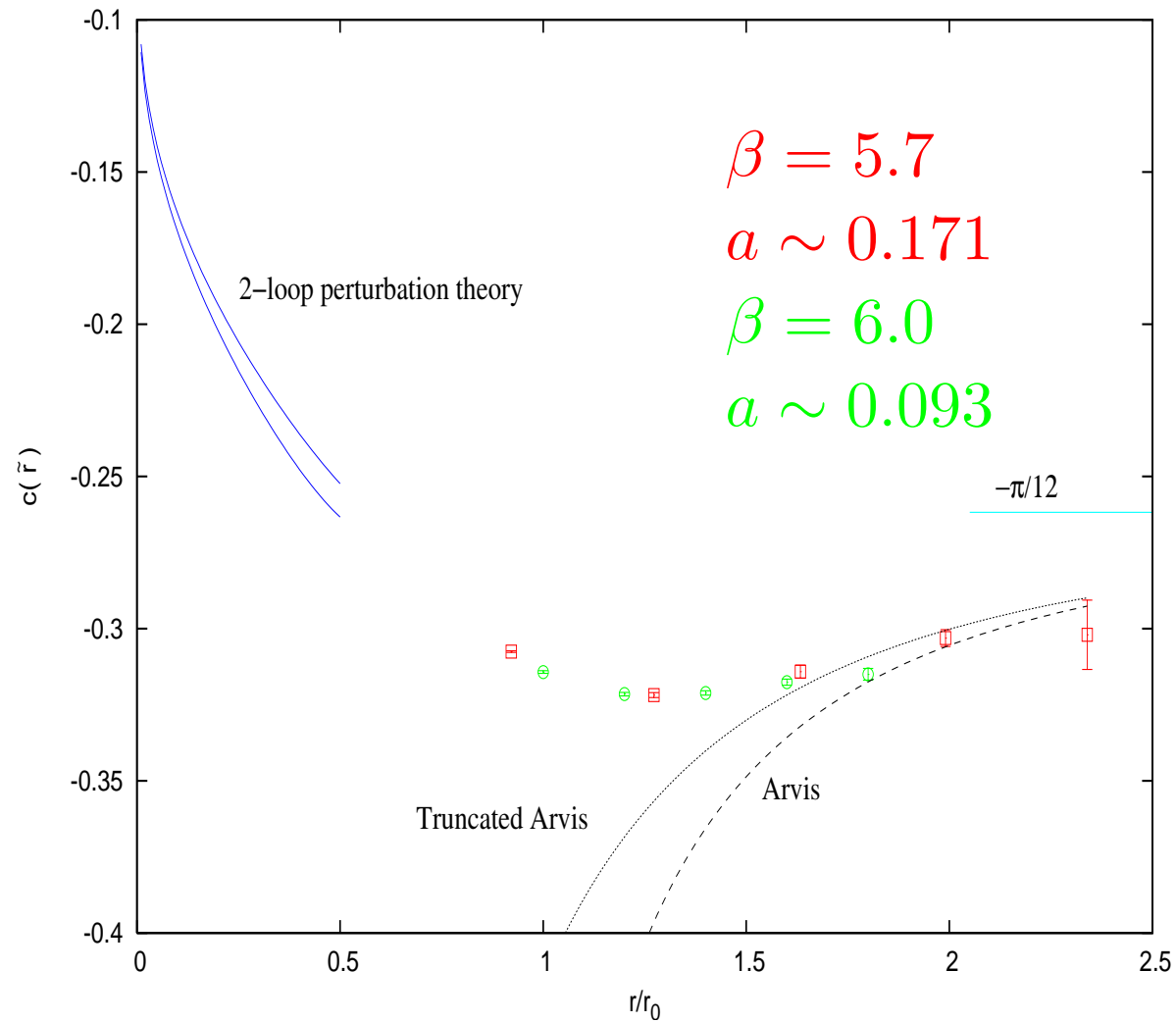
should also be so in the effective theory

$$\Rightarrow b = 0, \quad (d-2)c_2 + c_3 = (d-4)/(2\sigma)$$

- only one parameter left for  $d > 3$ ; none for  $d = 3$ !

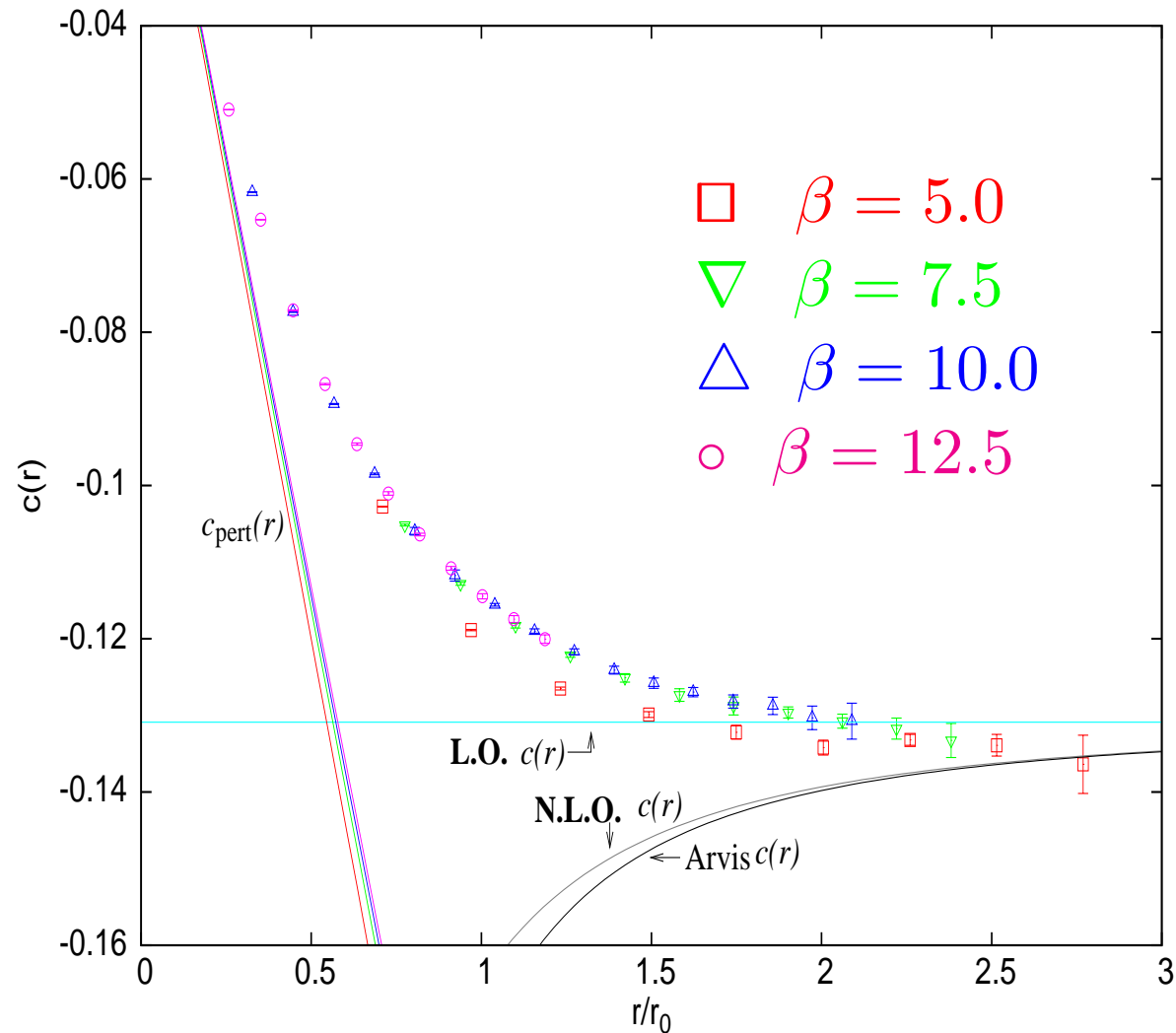
# $c(r)$ in 4-d SU(3) Yang-Mills theory

(Majumdar, Hari Dass '06)



# $c(r)$ in 3-d SU(2) Yang-Mills theory

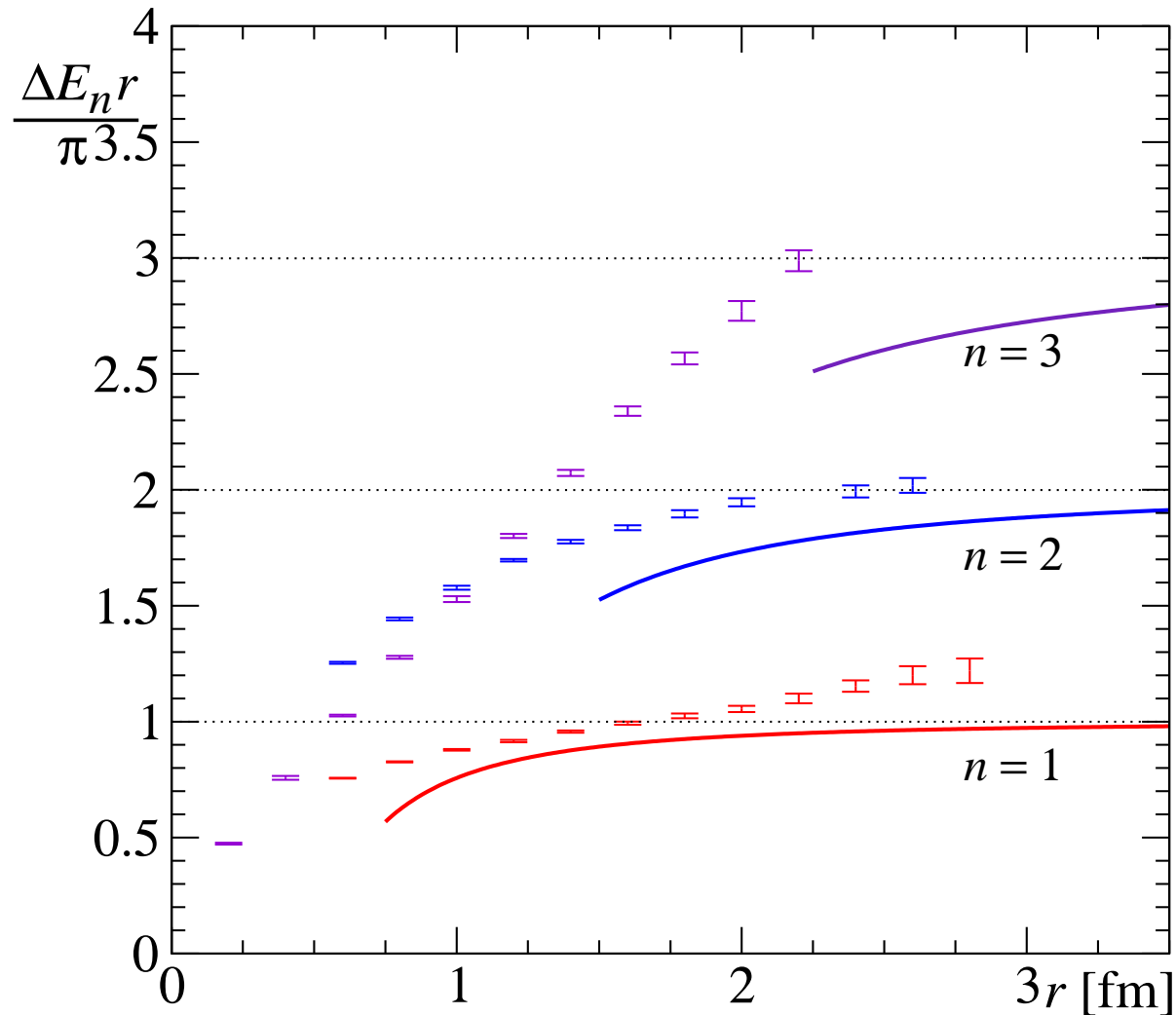
(Majumdar, Hari Dass '07)





case  $d = 4$ : O-C string duality  $\Rightarrow c_3 = -2c_2$   
 $\Rightarrow$  accidental degeneracies not lifted to this order

curves with  $c_2 = (2\sigma)^{-1} \simeq 0.093\text{fm}^2$



## Concluding remarks:

small coefficients of  $1/r^3$  term in  $V$ ; e.g. for  $d = 4$

$$V = \sigma r + \mu - \frac{\pi}{12r} - \frac{\pi^2 c_2}{144r^3} + \mathcal{O}(1/r^4),$$

$$\Delta E_1 = \frac{\pi}{r} - \frac{5\pi^2 c_2}{6r^3} + \mathcal{O}(1/r^4),$$

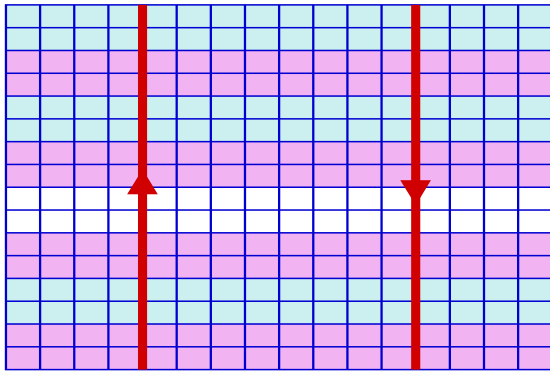
~ string description for  $V$  sets in at relatively short distances where low-lying levels not string-like?

- whether low-lying energy values in gauge theory matched by an effective string theory not yet confirmed.

For detailed comparison need  $\mathcal{O}(1/r^3)$  terms and dedicated lattice simulations taking account of systematic error sources

- does the degeneracy for  $c_3 = -2c_2$  indicate a (hidden) symmetry?
- Drummond and Haria Dass & Matlock claim that imposing Poincare invariance on the spectrum obtained from the Polchinski-Strominger action fixes the  $O(r^{-3})$  terms (??)

# Multilevel algorithm



First average  $U^* \otimes U$  here for fixed b.c. and then take product

$$\langle P(r)^* P(0) \rangle = \langle \text{tr} \{ [U^* \otimes U] [U^* \otimes U] \dots [U^* \otimes U] \} \rangle$$

↑

$$\sim e^{-2\sigma r a}$$

⇒ exponential reduction of the statistical errors!

(M.Lüscher. & P.W '01, P.Majumdar '03)

$$\int_{\substack{x_0=0 \\ x_1=z}} d^{d-2}x_{\perp} \langle P(x)^* P(0) \rangle = \sum_{n \geq 0} |c_n|^2 e^{-\tilde{E}_n z}$$

the lhs is a **Radon transformation**; inverting yields

$$\langle P(x)^* P(0) \rangle = \sum_{n \geq 0} |c_n|^2 2r \left( \frac{\tilde{E}_n}{2\pi r} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}(d-1)} K_{\frac{1}{2}(d-3)}(\tilde{E}_n r),$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2}$$