

Celebrating Half a Century of QCD



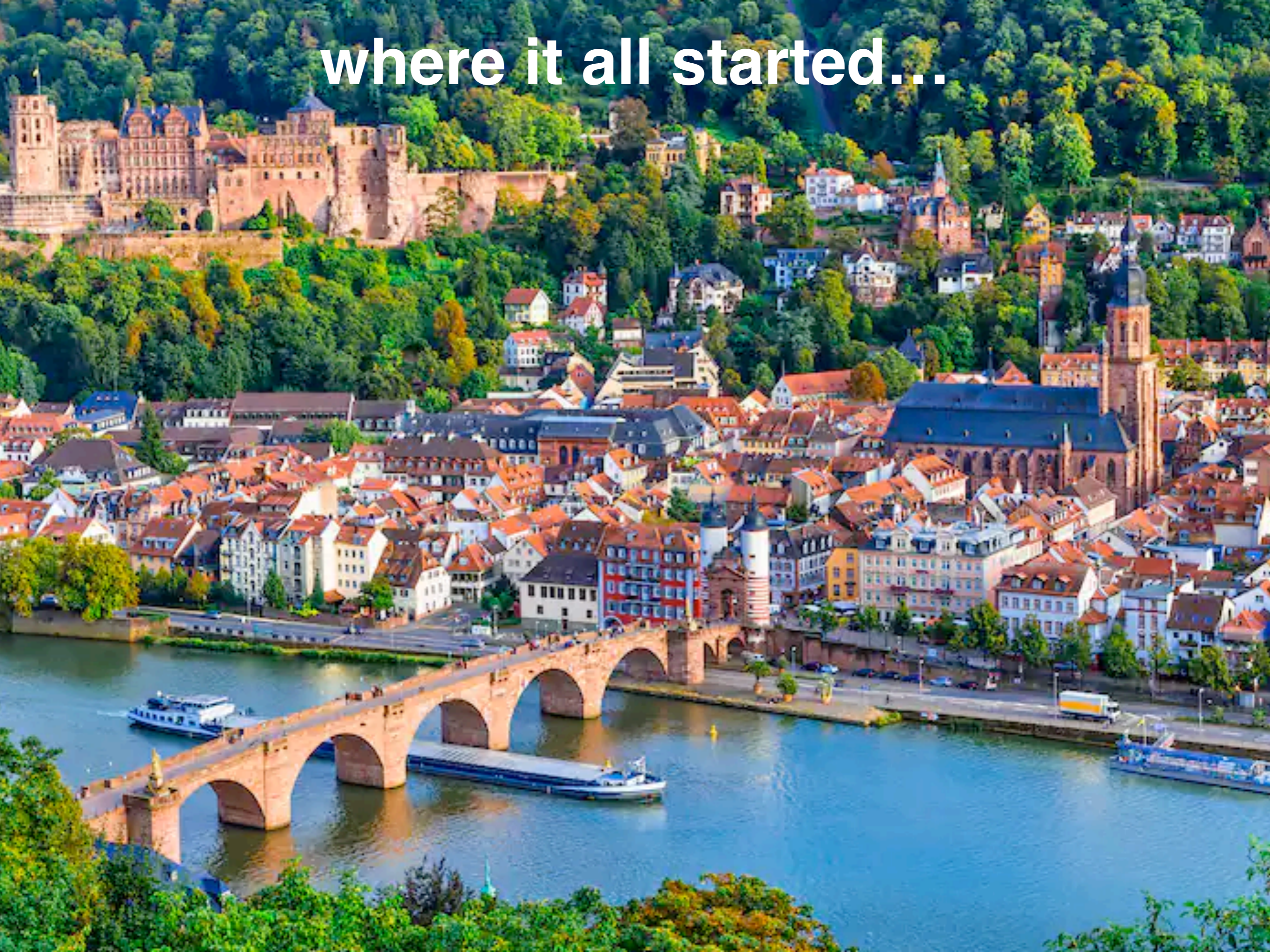
EN MEMORIA DE

Axel Weber

1963 - 2023

**Memorial to
Axel Weber**

where it all started...



how it all started...



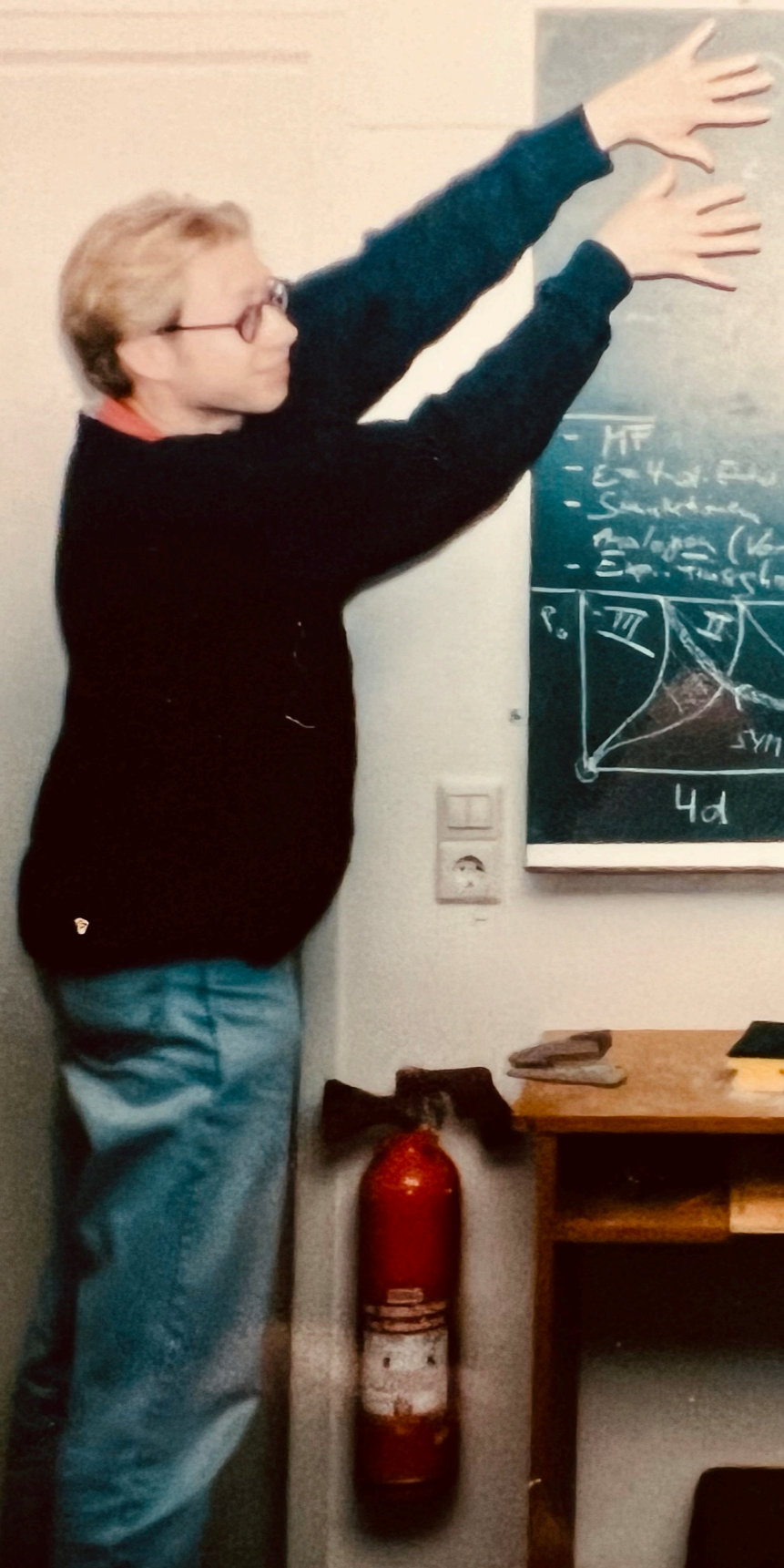
QCD headquarter



QCD requires
heavy lifting



a day in the office...



als ein Hypermotiv + Tü im Supraleiter

$\psi \leftrightarrow e \uparrow e \downarrow$ Zustand (BCS) $(d=3!)$
mikroskopisches Modell

makroskop. Physik \leftarrow \rightarrow $T_{k=0}$

Potential $V(r) = \dots$ IR-Divergenz \rightarrow MWW-1
Thyloging f. Potential:
 $k \partial_k U(r) = \dots$
GLOBAL: \rightarrow V_p LOCAL: um E_0

4d



ice cream always works!



time for play





hiding in plain sight



who else was there?





Rauchen
verboten!

May 1995

LPTHE Orsay 95–39

**FLOW EQUATIONS FOR THE RELEVANT PART
OF THE PURE YANG–MILLS ACTION**

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FLOW EQUATIONS FOR THE RELEVANT PART OF THE PURE YANG–MILLS ACTION

Abstract

Wilson's exact renormalization group equations are derived and integrated for the relevant part of the pure Yang–Mills action. We discuss in detail how modified Slavnov–Taylor identities control the breaking of BRST invariance in the presence of a finite infrared cutoff k through relations among different parameters in the effective action. In particular they imply a nonvanishing gluon mass term for nonvanishing k . The requirement of consistency between the renormalization group flow and the modified Slavnov–Taylor identities allows to control the self-consistency of truncations of the effective action.

FLOW EQUATIONS OF THE

The Heavy Quark Potential from
Wilson's Exact Renormalization Group

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J. Taylor

infrared cutoff

action. In particular they

ing k . The requirement of consistency

the modified Slavnov-Taylor identities allows

truncations of the effective action.

ic
k t
imp
betwe
to cont.

16611997
28v2 24 Feb 1997

FLOW EQUATIONS OF THE

The Heavy Quark Potential from Wilson's Exact Renormalization Group

Abstract

We perform a calculation of the full momentum dependence of the gluon and ghost propagators in pure SU(3) Yang-Mills theory by integrating Wilson's exact renormalization group equations with respect to an infrared cutoff k . The heavy quark potential in the quenched approximation can be expressed in terms of these propagators. Our results strongly indicate a $1/p^4$ -behaviour of the heavy quark potential for $p^2 \rightarrow 0$. We show in general, that effective actions which satisfy Schwinger-Dyson equations, correspond to (quasi-) fixed points of Wilson's exact renormalization group equations.

ic
k t
imp
betwe
to cont.

1997
24 Feb
1997

requirement of consistency
particular they
Slavnov-Taylor identities allows
of the effective action.



Epsilon expansion for infrared Yang-Mills theory in Landau gauge

Axel Weber

Instituto de Física y Matemáticas, Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo,

Edificio C-3, Ciudad Universitaria,

A. Postal 2-82, 58040 Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico

(Dated: November 19, 2018)

The study of the Dyson-Schwinger equations of Landau gauge Yang-Mills theory has revealed two types of solutions for the gluon and ghost propagators, with a scaling and a massive (decoupling) behavior in the extreme infrared, respectively. We show that both types of solutions are quantitatively reproduced by applying renormalization group equations of Callan-Symanzik type in an epsilon expansion to the infrared limit of Landau gauge Yang-Mills theory when a mass term for the gluons is added to the action. Only the decoupling solution corresponds to an infrared-stable fixed point in three and four space-time dimensions and is hence expected to be physically realized, in agreement with the results of recent lattice calculations.

Epsilon expansion for infrared Yang-Mills theory in Landau gauge

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Instituto de Física y Matemáticas, Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo,

$$\beta(\bar{g}_R) = \mu^2 \frac{d}{d\mu^2} \bar{g}_R = \frac{1}{2} \bar{g}_R \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{N \bar{g}_R^2}{4\pi} \right)$$

The study revealed two types of solutions for the gluon and ghost propagators, with a scaling and a massive (decoupling) behavior in the extreme infrared, respectively. We show that both types of solutions are quantitatively reproduced by applying renormalization group equations of Callan-Symanzik type in an epsilon expansion to the infrared limit of Landau gauge Yang-Mills theory when a mass term for the gluons is added to the action. Only the decoupling solution corresponds to an infrared-stable fixed point in three and four space-time dimensions and is hence expected to be physically realized, in agreement with the results of recent lattice calculations.

weakly-coupled fixed points in QCD-like theories

Daniel F Litim

US

University of Sussex

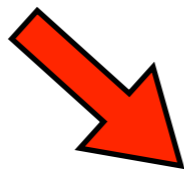
running couplings

quantum fluctuations modify interactions
couplings depend on energy

$$\mu \frac{d\alpha}{d\mu} = \beta(\alpha)$$

fluctuations	\hbar
energy scale	μ
couplings	$\alpha(\mu)$

QFT provides
us with



predictions into regions where we
cannot (yet) make measurements

running couplings

quantum fluctuations modify interactions
couplings depend on energy

$$\mu \frac{d\alpha}{d\mu} = 0$$



fluctuations	\hbar
energy scale	μ
couplings	$\alpha(\mu)$

weakly coupled **fixed points**
provide us with



(unitary) **conformal field theories**

Polchinski '88
Luty, Polchinski, Rattazzi, '12

4d QFTs

fields

vectors A_μ^a , **fermions** ψ_I , **scalars** ϕ^A

path integral

$$Z[J] = \exp -i \int d^4x (L + L_{\text{gf}} + L_{\text{gh}} + J^i \Phi_i)$$

action

$$L = \frac{1}{4g_a^2} \text{Tr} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} + i\psi_I \not{D}\psi_I + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi^A)^2 \\ + \frac{1}{2} Y^A_{IJ} \phi^A \psi_I \xi \psi_J + \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_{ABCD} \phi^A \phi^B \phi^C \phi^D$$

4d QFTs

fields

vectors A_μ^a , **fermions** ψ_I , **scalars** ϕ^A

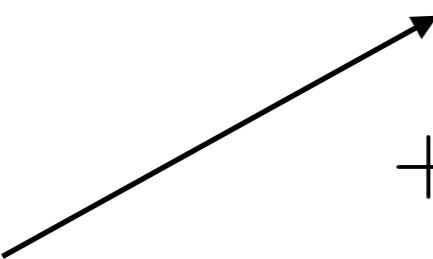
path integral

$$Z[J] = \exp -i \int d^4x (L + L_{\text{gf}} + L_{\text{gh}} + J^i \Phi_i)$$

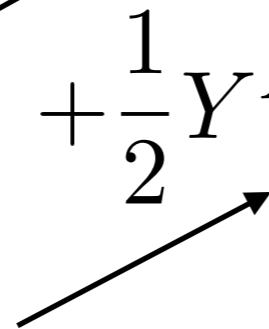
action

$$L = \frac{1}{4g_a^2} \text{Tr} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} + i\psi_I \not{D}\psi_I + \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi^A)^2$$

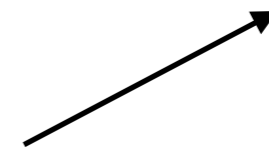
gauge



Yukawa



quartics



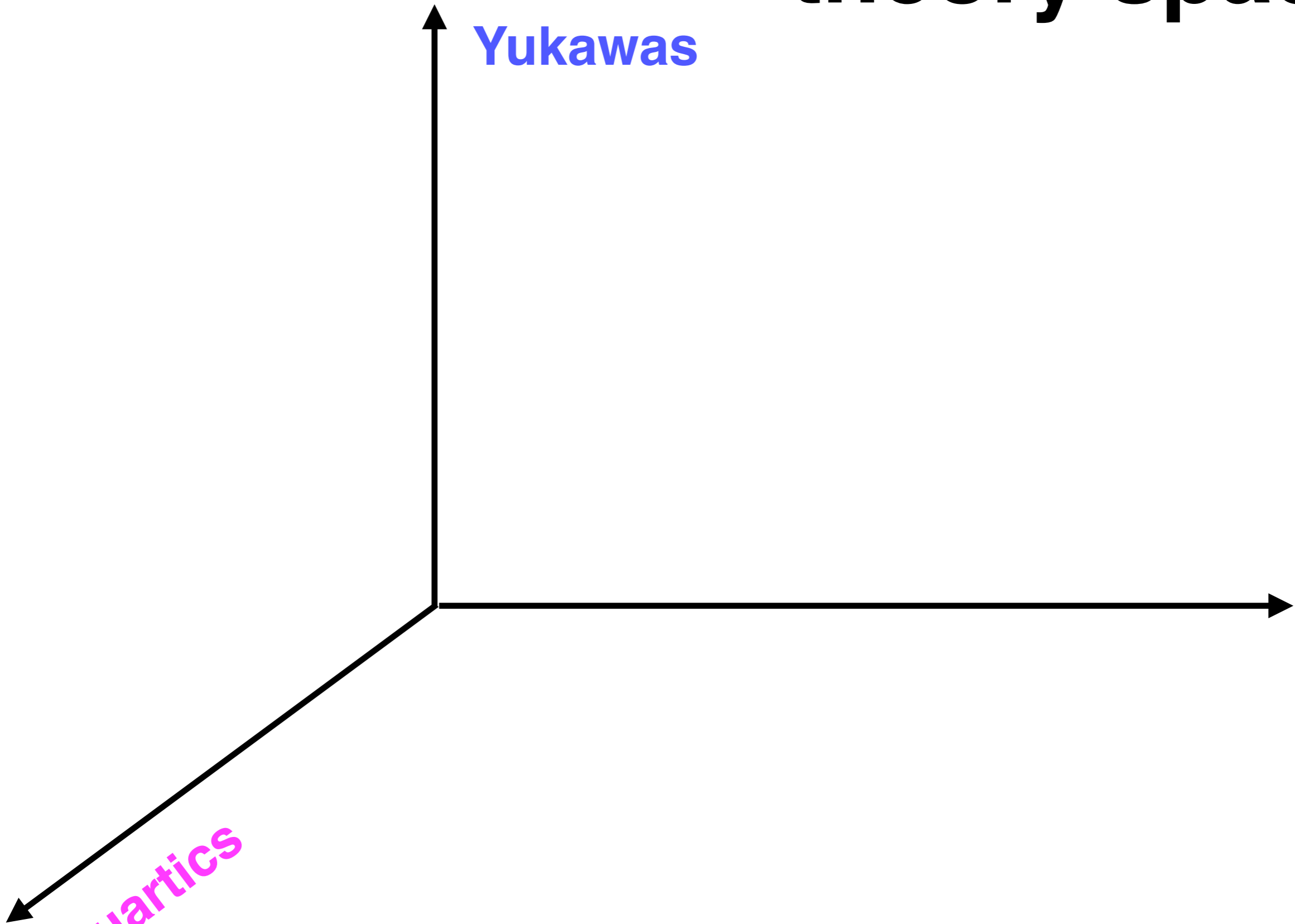
$$+ \frac{1}{2} Y^A_{IJ} \phi^A \psi_I \xi \psi_J + \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_{ABCD} \phi^A \phi^B \phi^C \phi^D$$

“theory space”

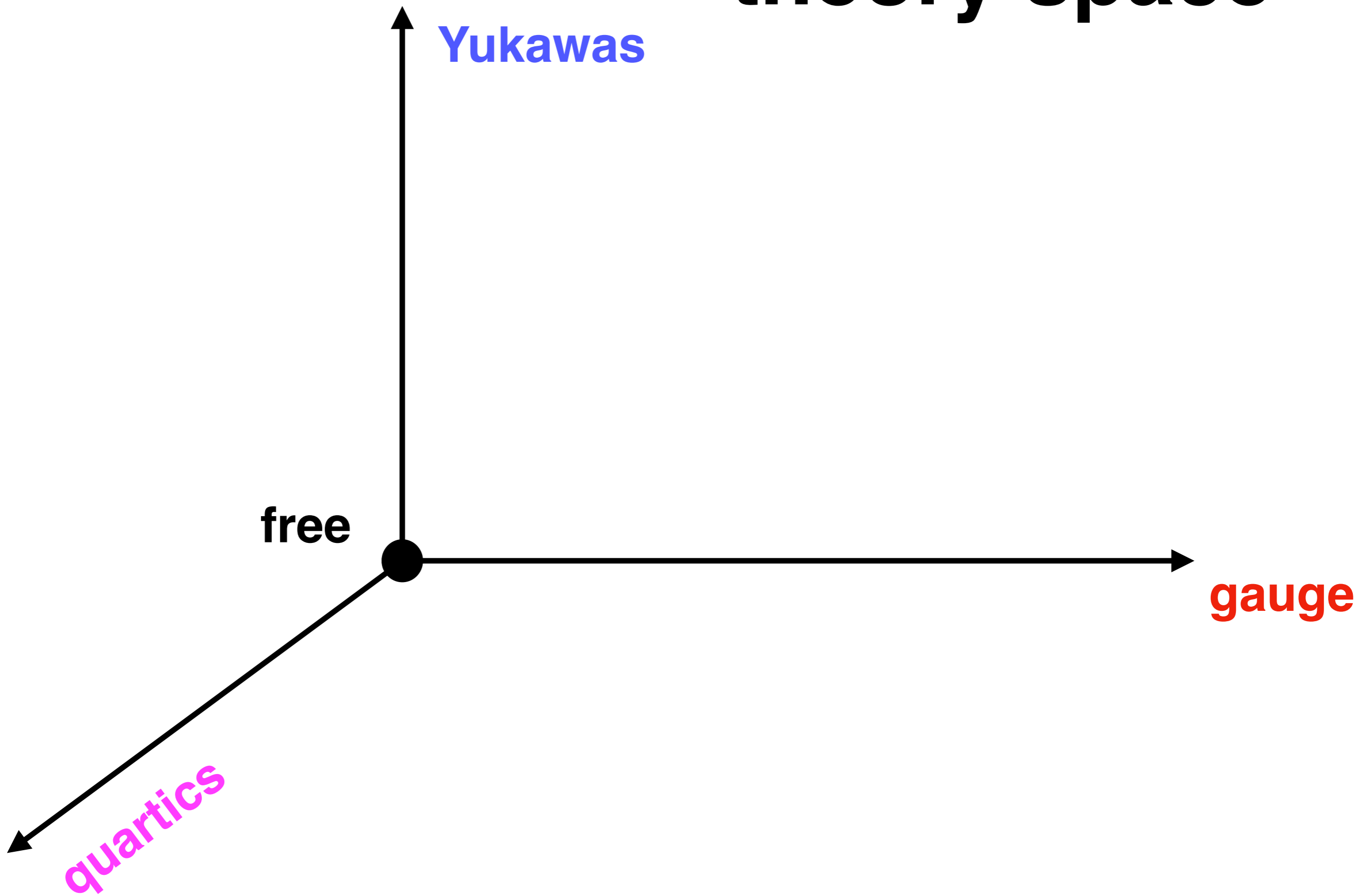
Yukawas

gauge

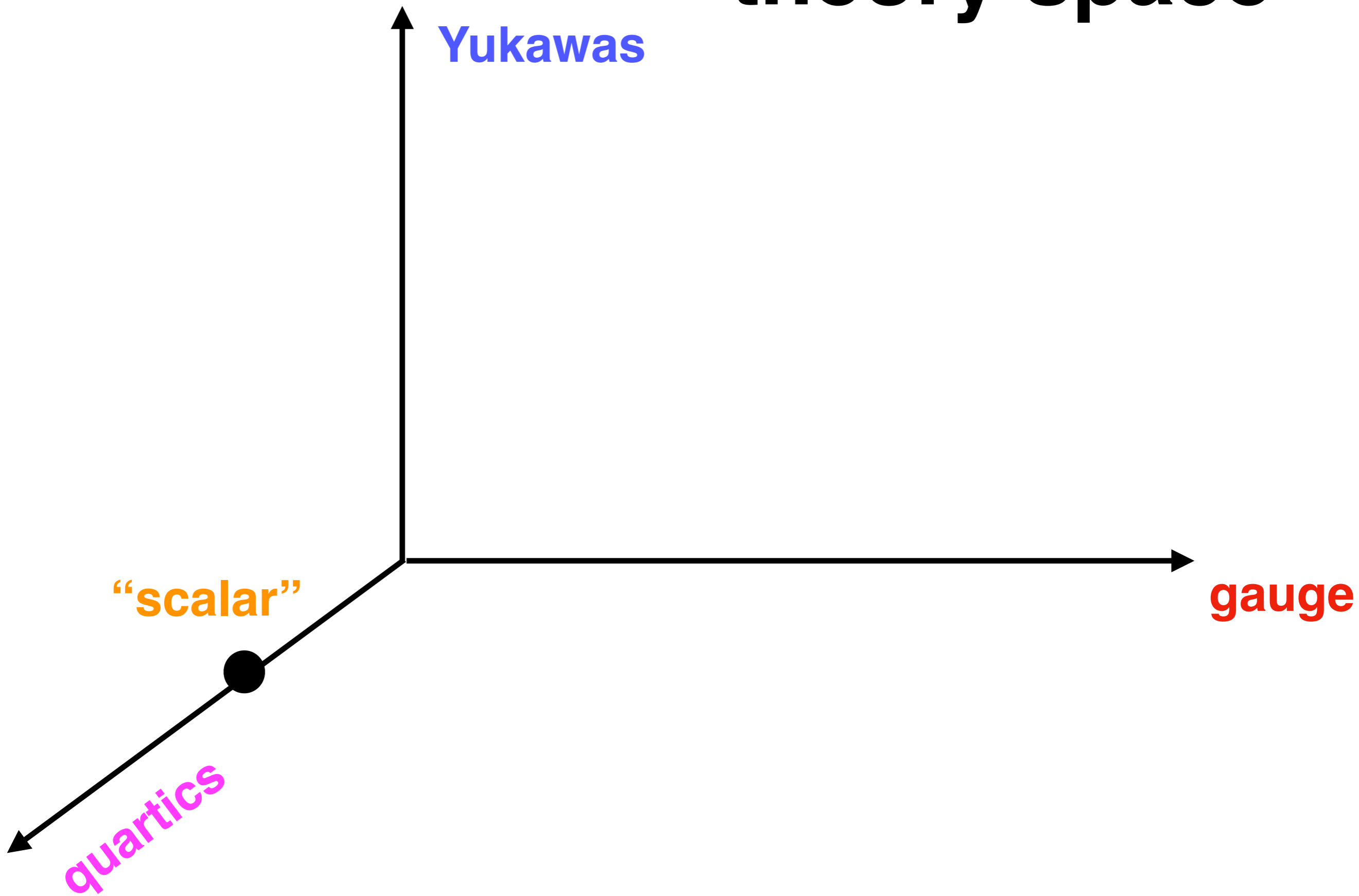
quartics



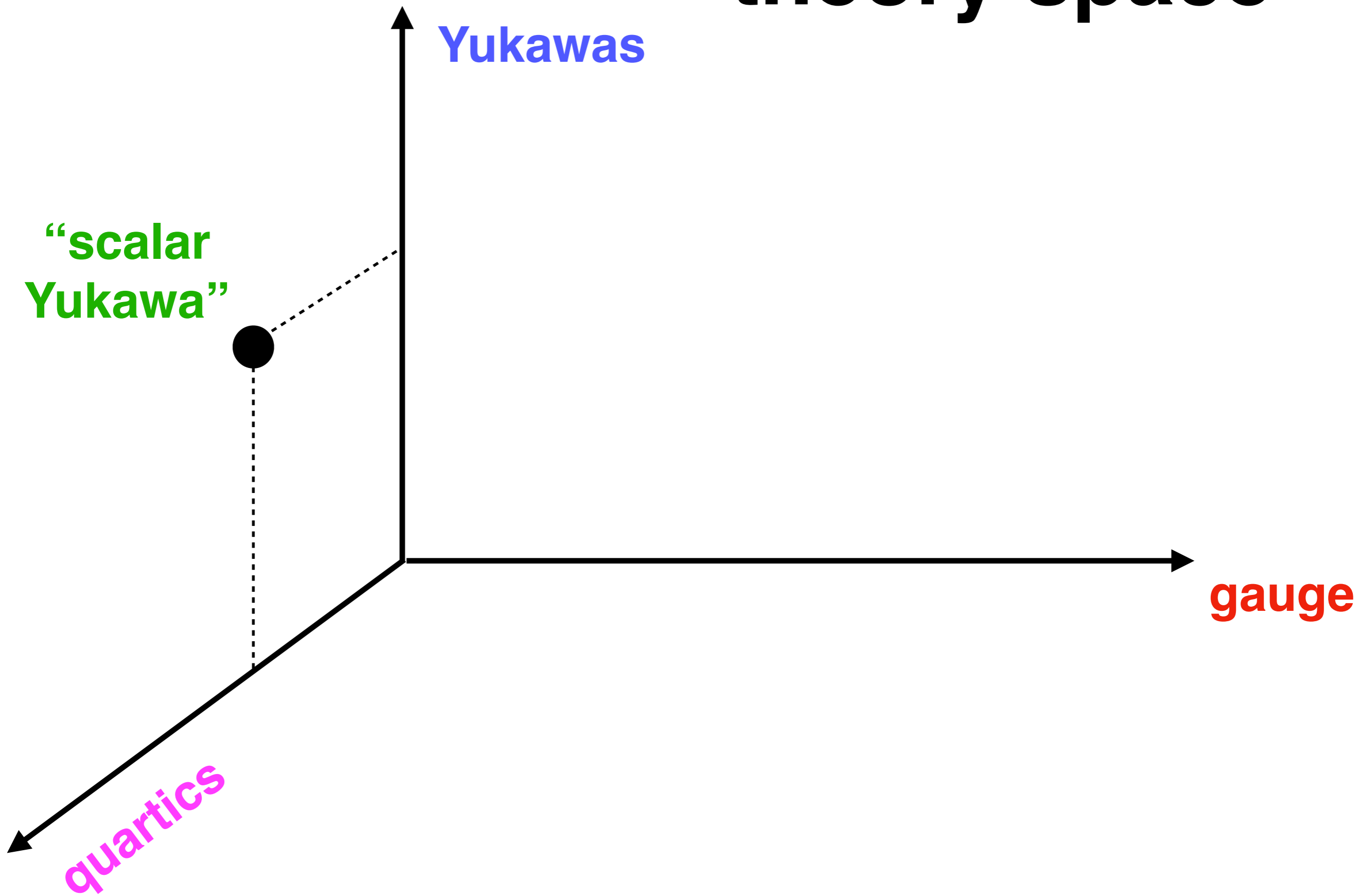
“theory space”



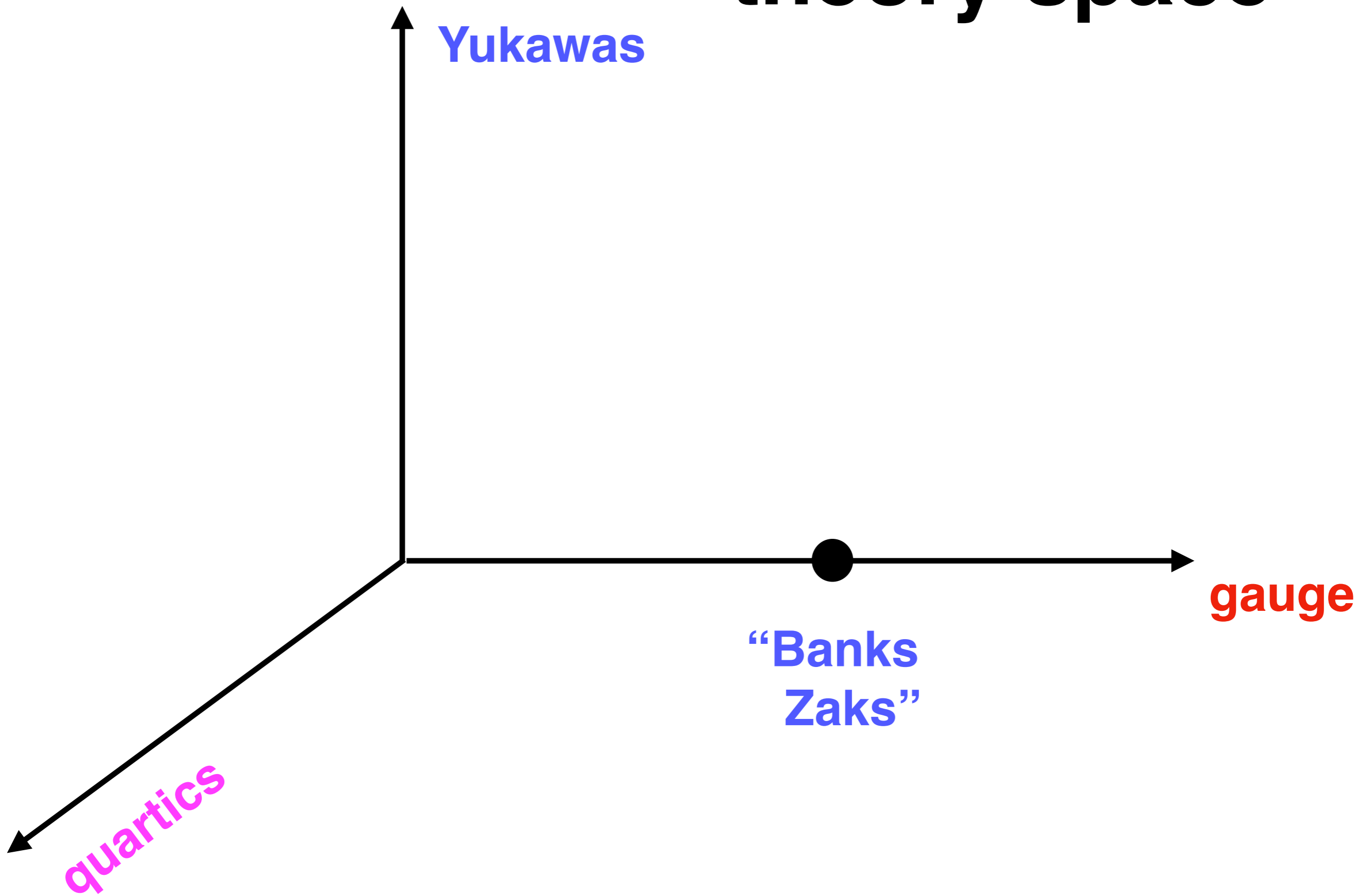
“theory space”



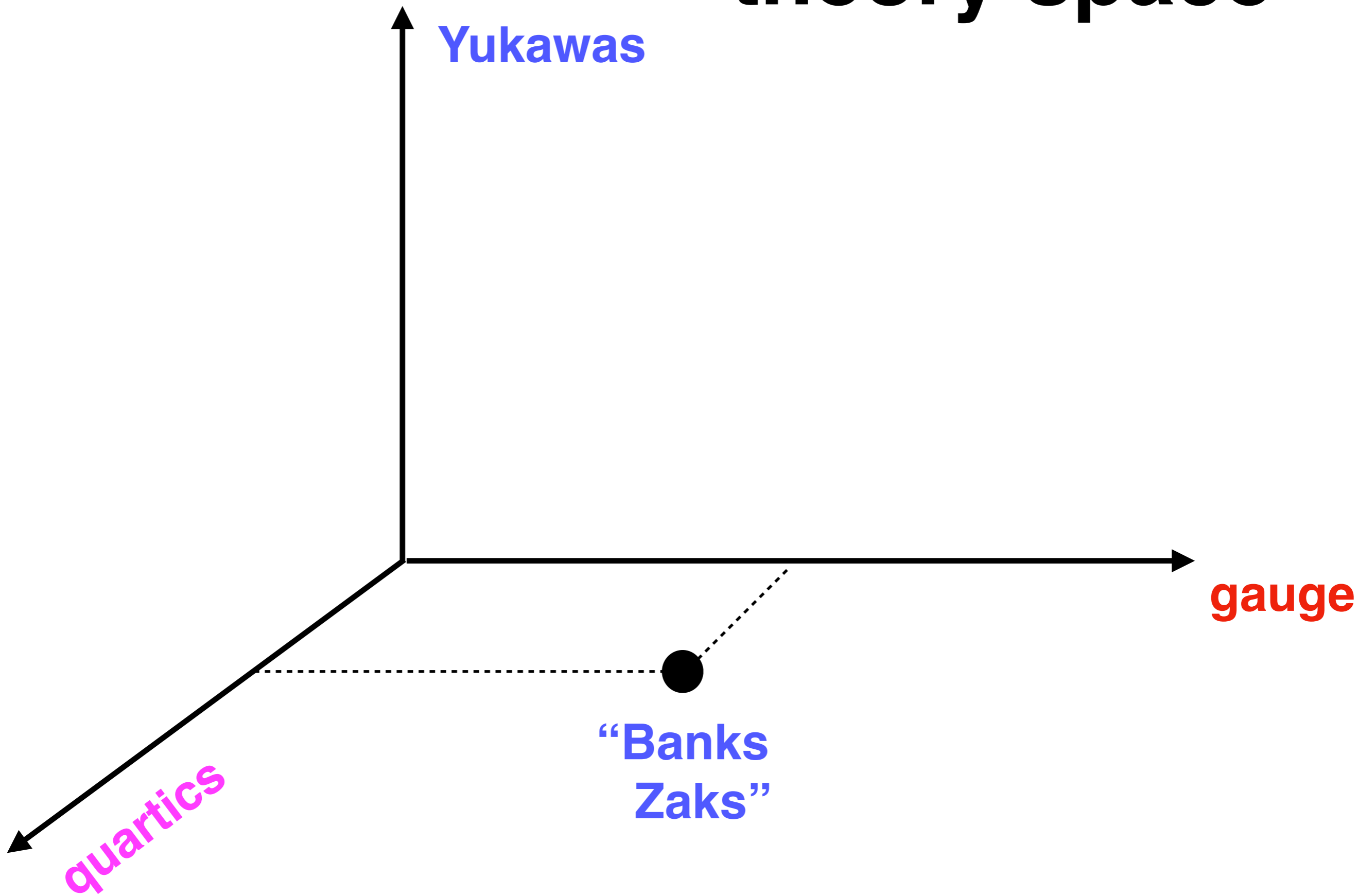
“theory space”



“theory space”



“theory space”



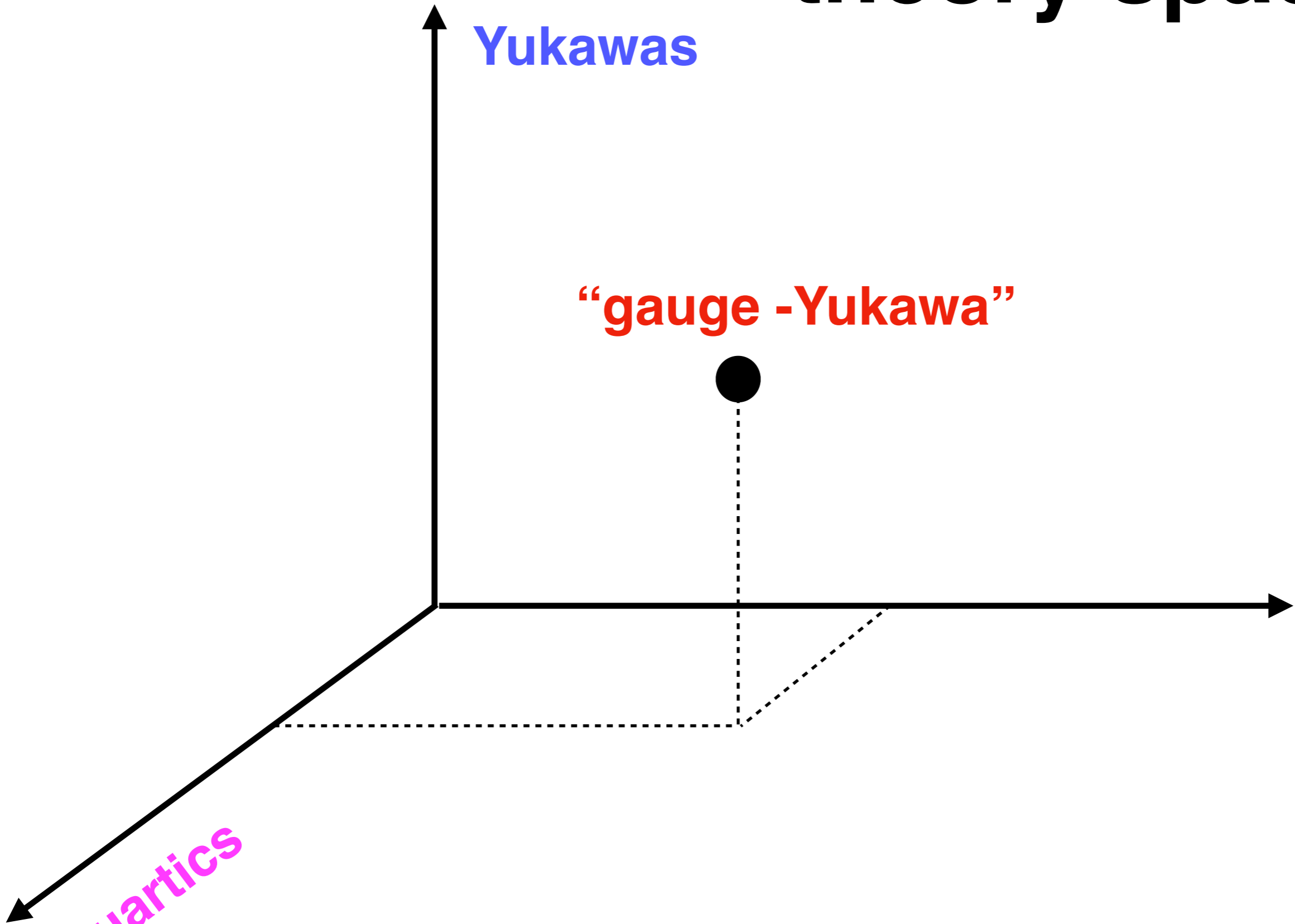
“theory space”

Yukawas

“gauge - Yukawa”

gauge

quartics



“theory space”

couplings

interacting fixed points

gauge

Y Y Y N N

Yukawas

N N Y N Y

quartics

N Y Y Y Y

**“Banks
Zaks”**

**“gauge
Yukawa”**

“scalar”

**“scalar
Yukawa”**



“theory space”

couplings

interacting fixed points

gauge

Y Y Y N N

Yukawas

N N Y N Y

quartics

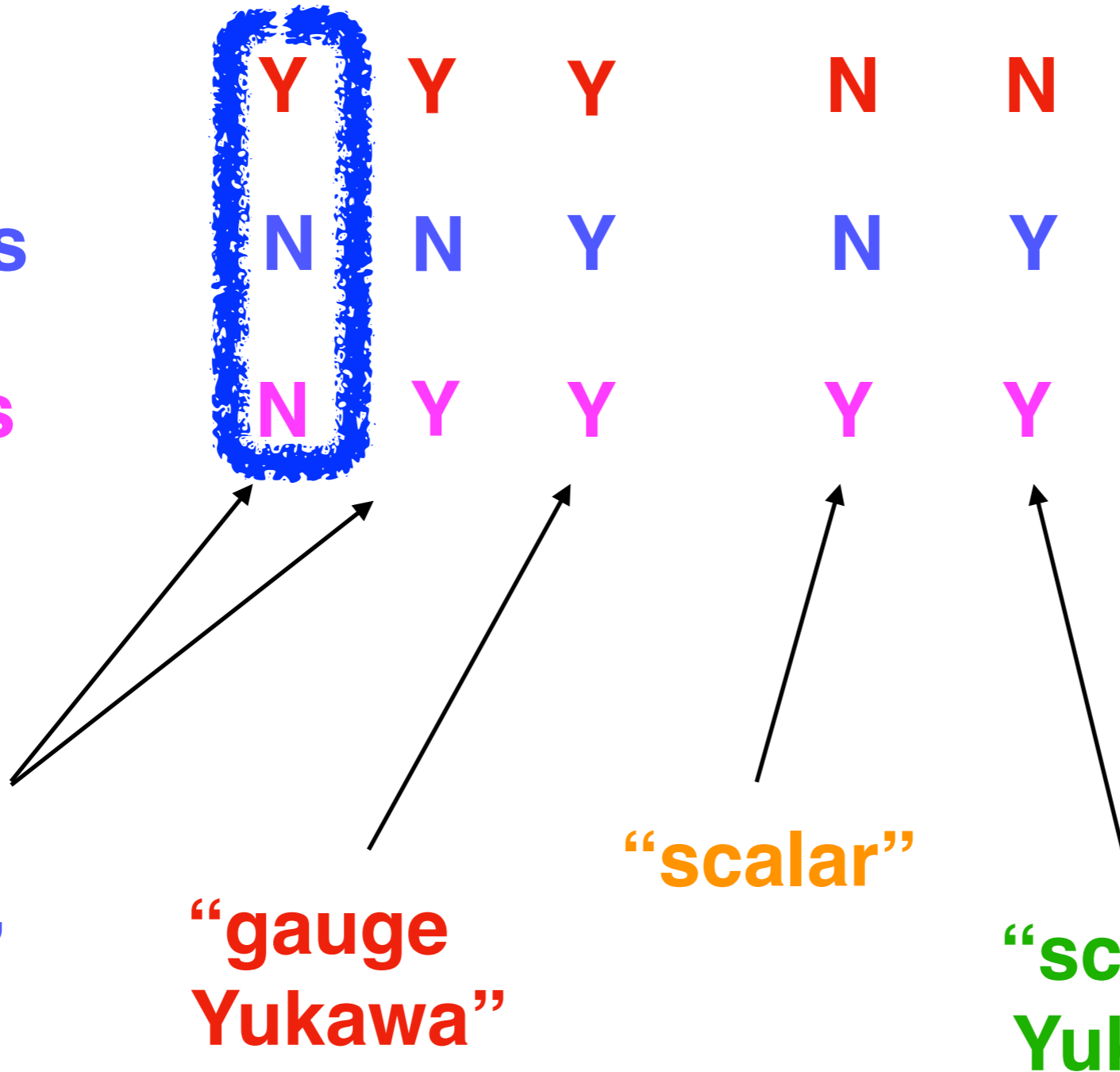
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**“Banks
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“theory space”

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Y Y Y N N

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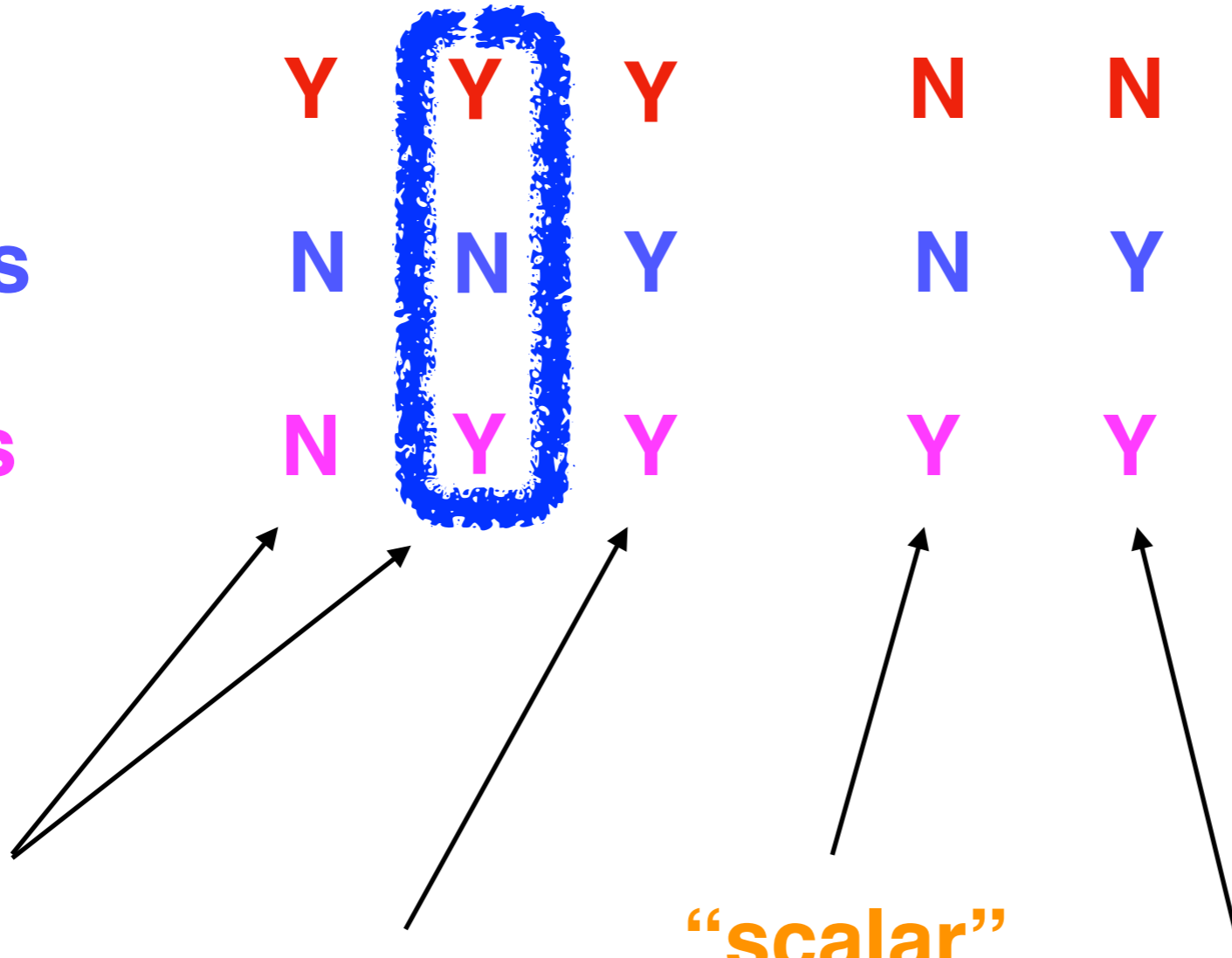
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N Y Y Y Y

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“scalar
Yukawa”



4d critical points

	YES			NO				
couplings	non-abelian			abelian				
gauge	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Yukawas	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
quartics	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
weak FPs	IR	IR	IR	no	no	no	no	no
			UV					

Banks Zaks	gauge Yukawa	scalar	scalar Yukawa	Banks Zaks	gauge Yukawa
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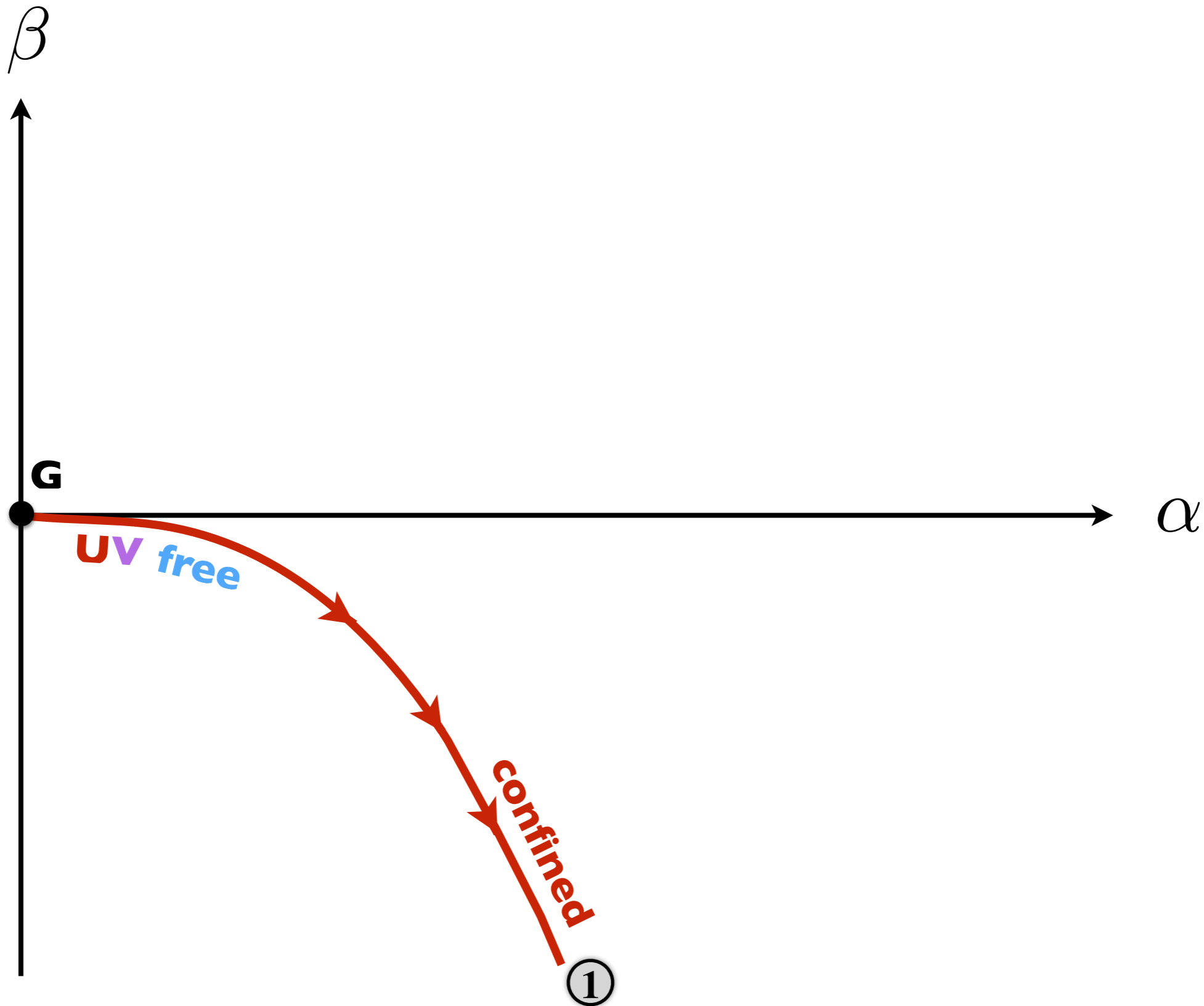
4d critical points

	YES			NO				
couplings	non-abelian			abelian				
gauge	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Yukawas	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
quartics	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
weak FPs	IR	IR	IR	no	no	no	no	no
			UV					
Banks Zaks							Banks Zaks	
	gauge Yukawa			scalar		scalar Yukawa		gauge Yukawa

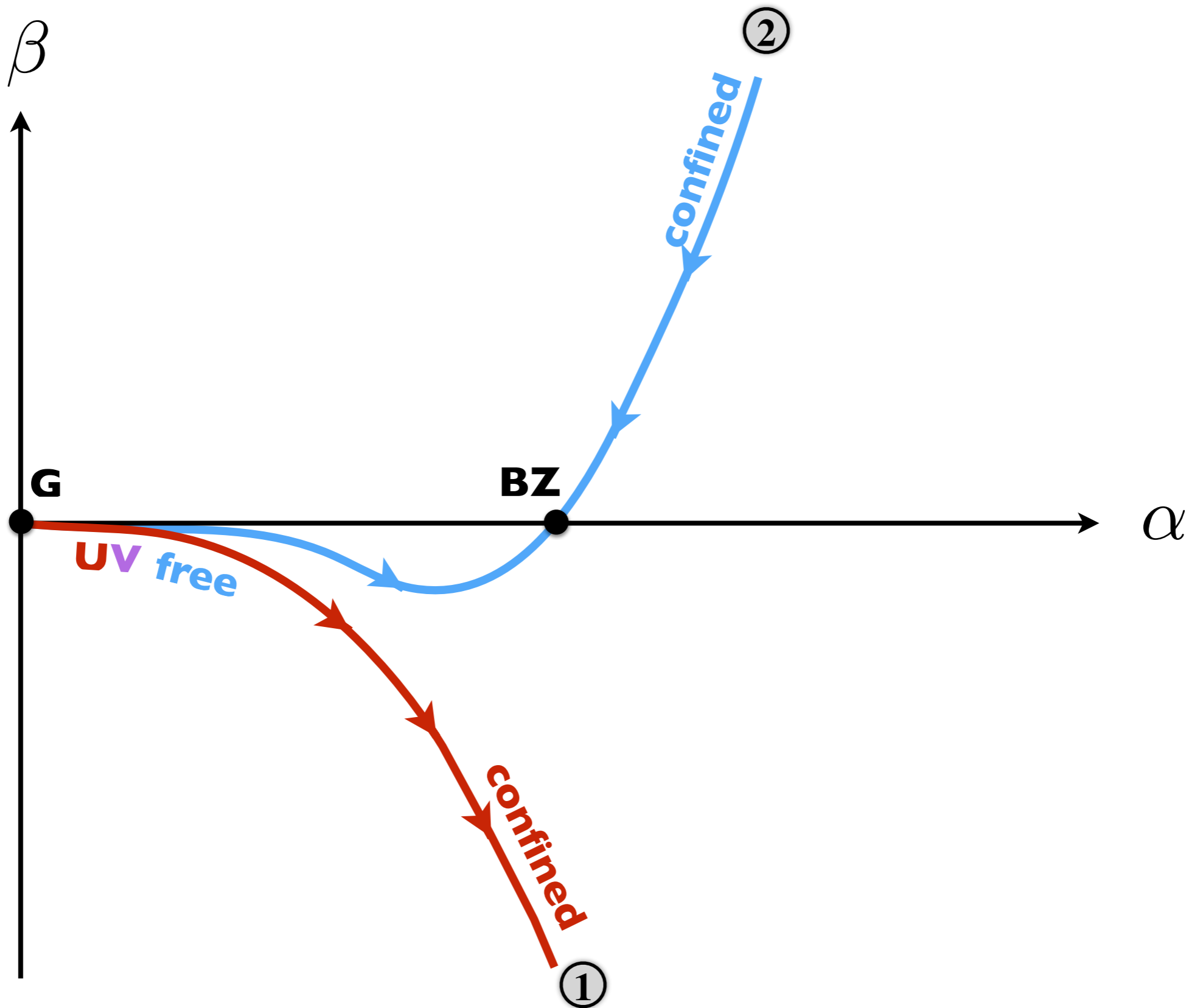
4d critical points

	YES			NO				
couplings	non-abelian			abelian				
gauge	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Yukawas	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
quartics	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
weak FPs	IR	IR	IR UV	no	no	no	no	no
Banks Zaks	gauge Yukawa			scalar	scalar Yukawa	Banks Zaks		gauge Yukawa

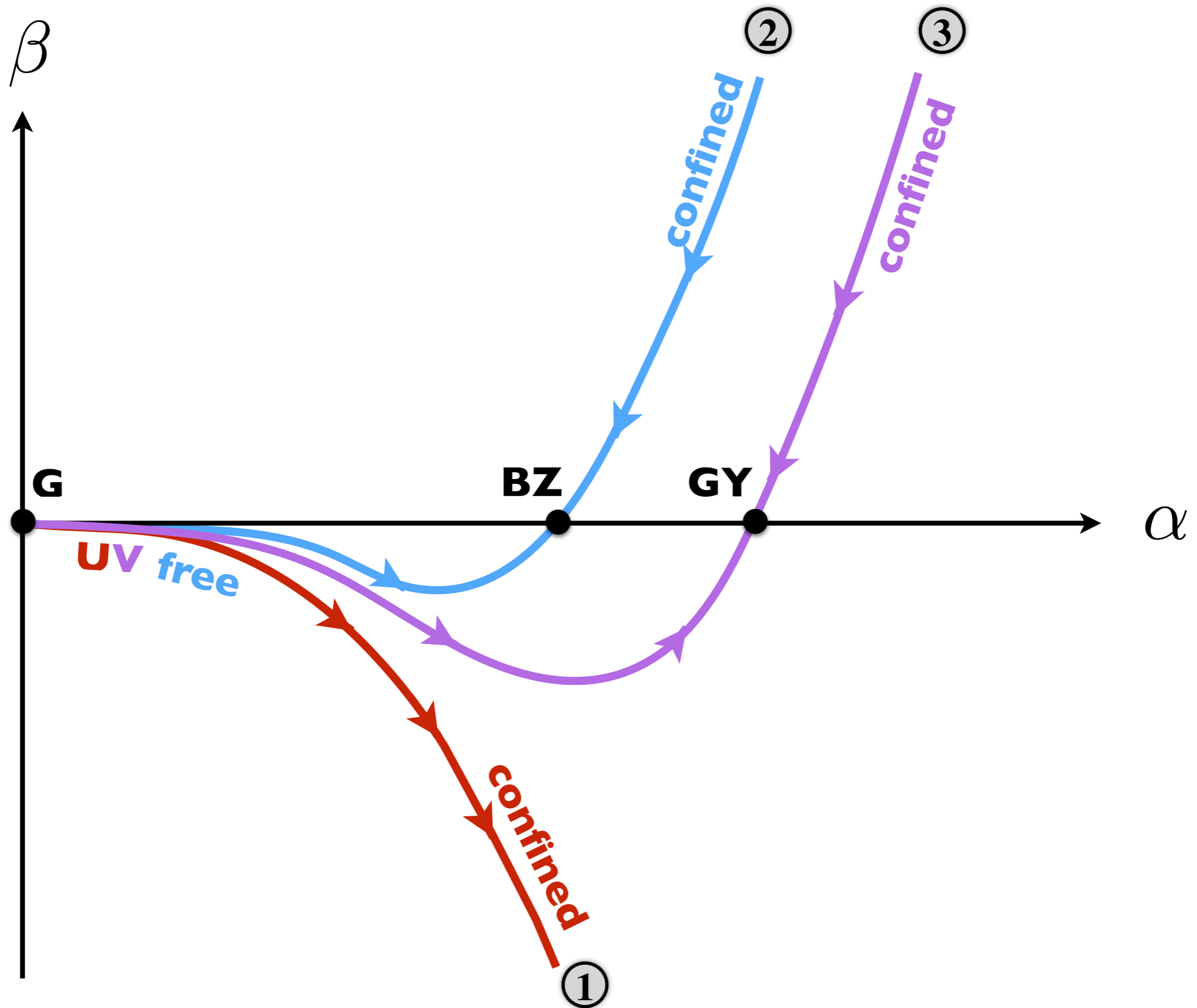
renormalisation group



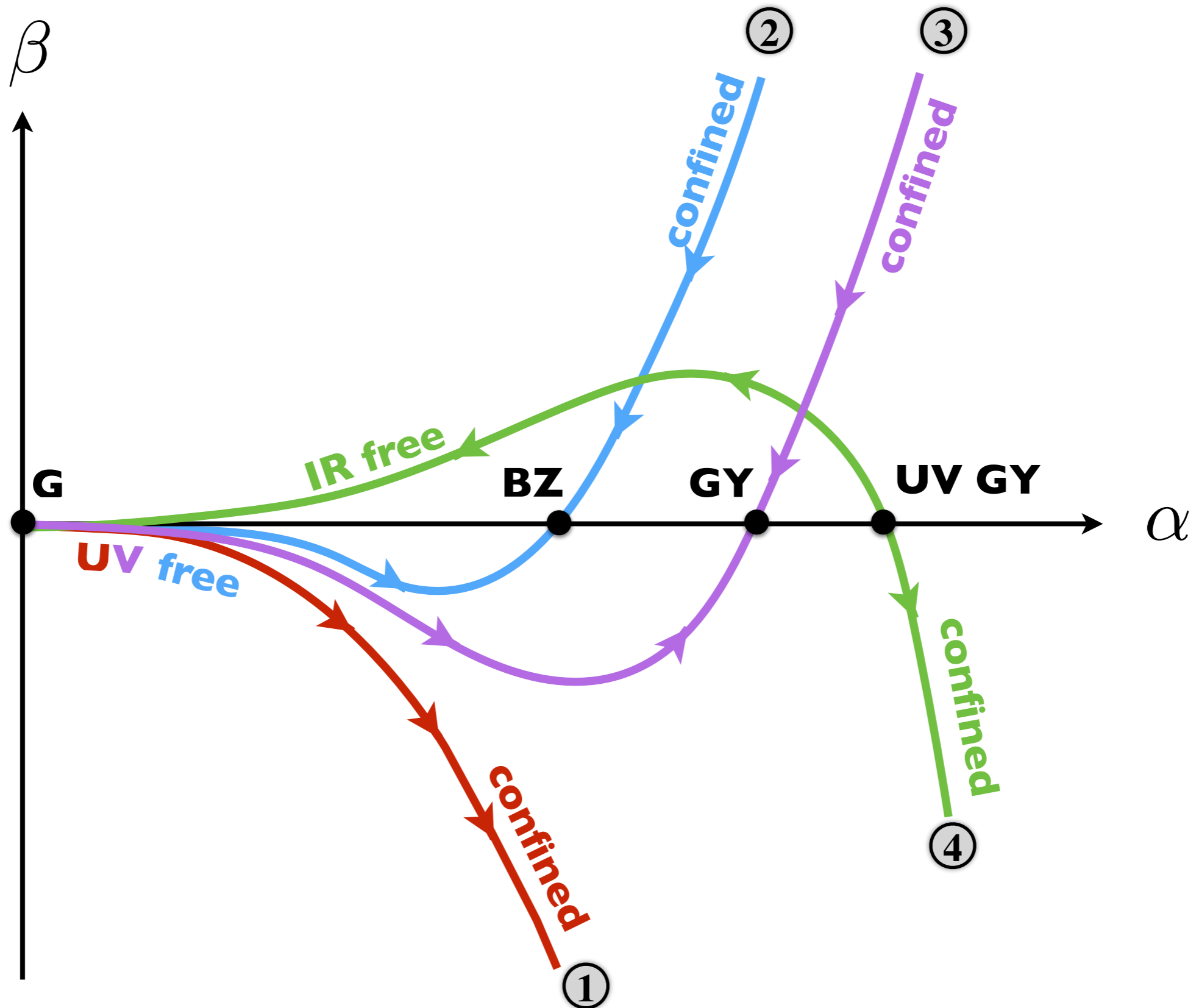
renormalisation group



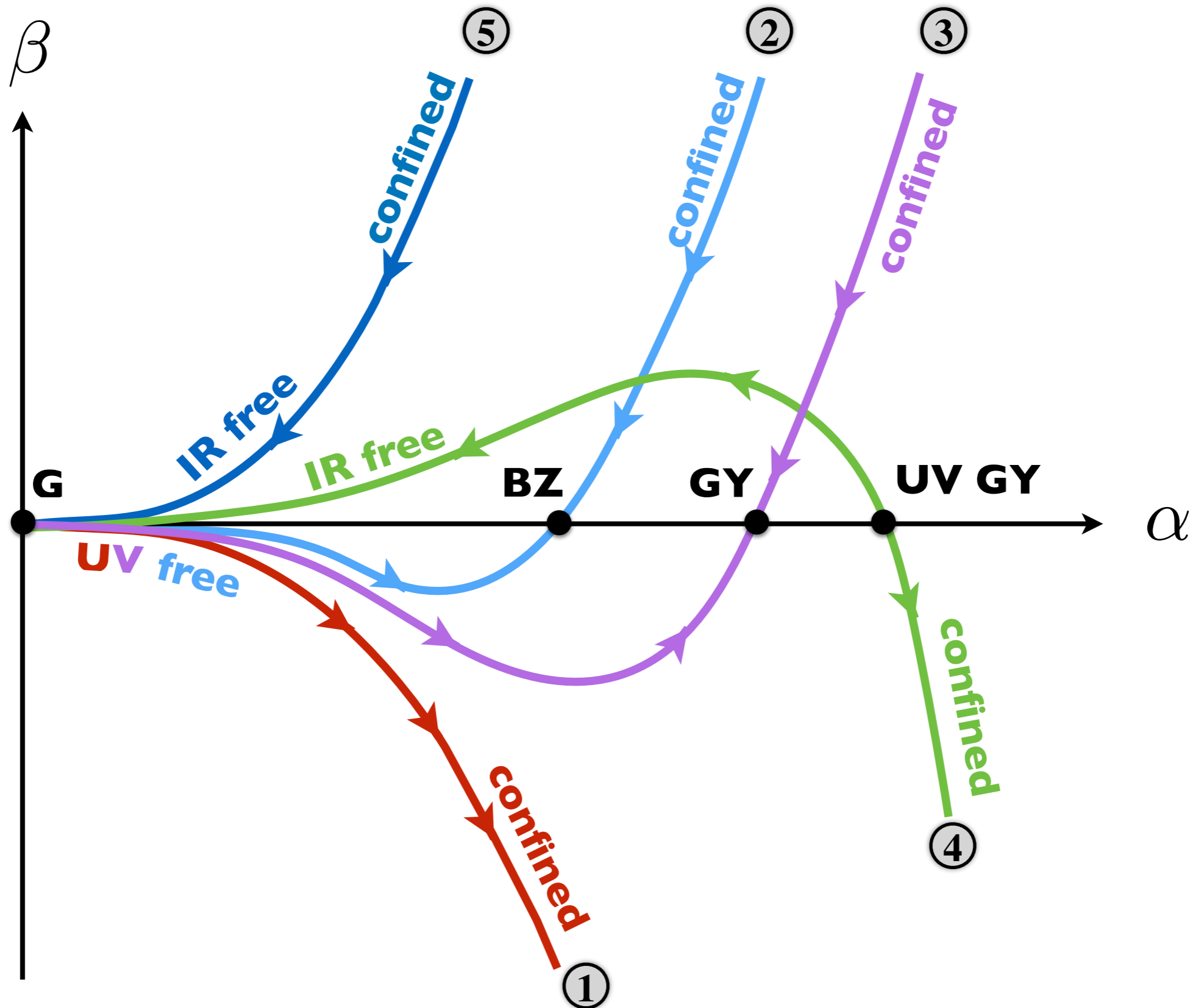
renormalisation group



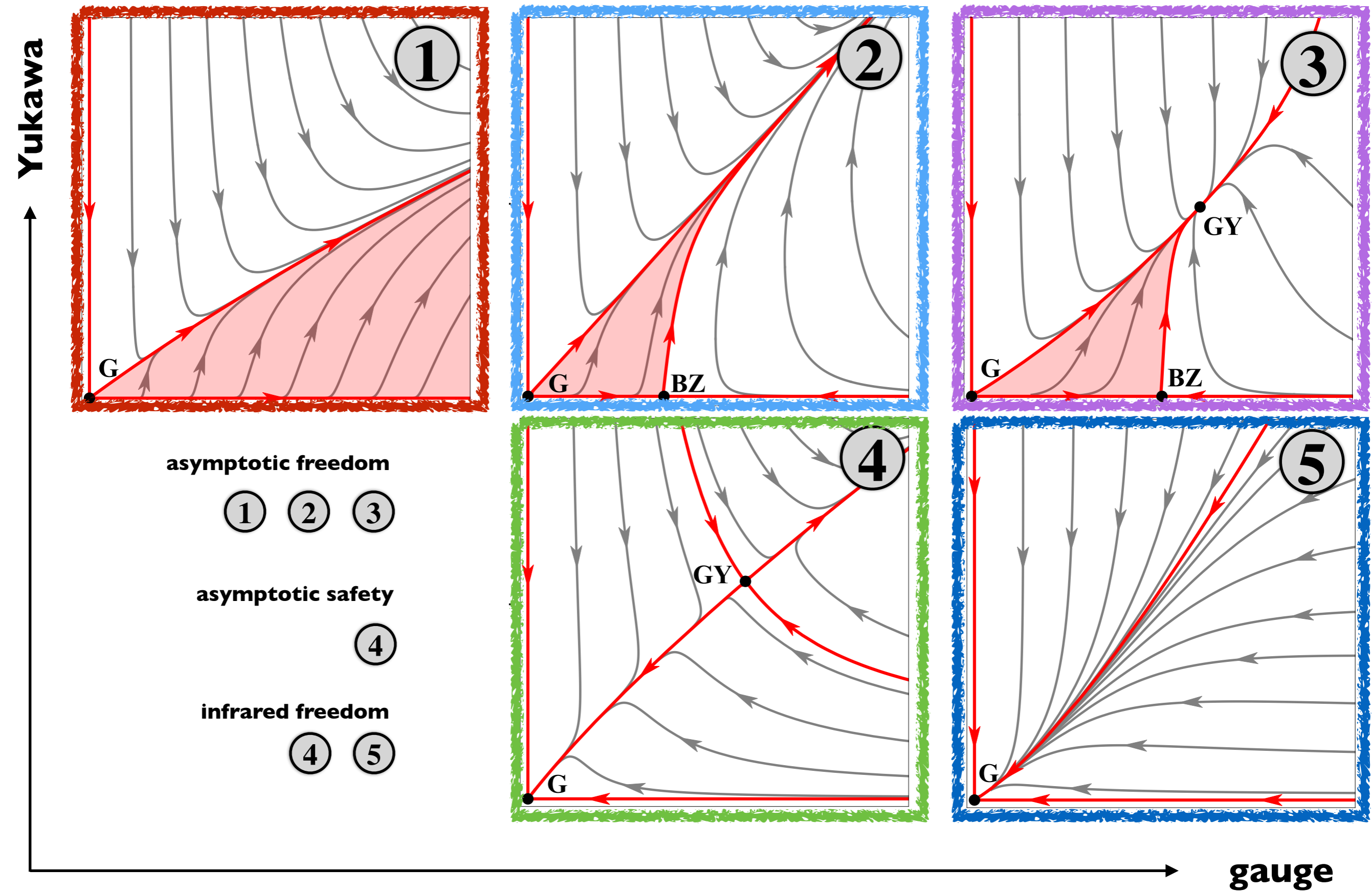
renormalisation group



renormalisation group



phase diagrams



some refs

general **theorems** for fixed points

AD Bond, DF Litim, **Theorems for Asymptotic Safety of Gauge Theories**, 1608.00519 (EPJC)

AD Bond, DF Litim, **Price of Asymptotic Safety**, 1801.08527 (PRL)

simple gauge theories with matter

DF Litim, F Sannino, **Asymptotic Safety Guaranteed**, 1406.2337 (JHEP)

AD Bond, DF Litim, G Medina Vazquez, T Steudtner, **Conformal window for asymptotic safety**, 1710.07615 (PRD)

AD Bond, DF Litim, T Steudtner, **Asymptotic safety with Majorana fermions and new large N equivalences** 1911.11168

semi-simple gauge theories with matter

AD Bond, DF Litim, **More Asymptotic Safety Guaranteed**, 1707.04217 (PRD)

supersymmetric gauge theories with matter

AD Bond, DF Litim, **Asymptotic Safety Guaranteed in Supersymmetry**, 1709.06953 (PRL)

higher order interactions in gauge theories with matter

T Buyukbese, DF Litim, **Asymptotic Safety Beyond Marginal Interactions**, PoS LATTICE2016 (2017) 233

phenomenology and models beyond BSM

A Bond, G Hiller, K Kowalska, DF Litim, **Directions for model building from asymptotic safety**, JHEP1708 (2017) 004

G Hiller, C Hermigos-Feliu, DF Litim, T Steudtner, **Asymptotically safe extensions of the Standard Model and their flavour phenomenology** 1905.11020, **Anomalous magnetic moments from asymptotic safety** 1910.14062

Model building from asymptotic safety with Higgs and flavour portals 2008.08606

4d critical points

	YES			NO				
couplings	non-abelian			abelian				
gauge	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Yukawas	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
quartics	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
weak FPs	IR	IR	IR	no	no	no	no	no
			UV					

Banks Zaks	gauge Yukawa	scalar	scalar Yukawa	Banks Zaks	gauge Yukawa
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Caswell—Banks-Zaks

gauge coupling

$$\alpha = \frac{g^2}{(4\pi)^2}$$

$$\beta = -B \alpha^2 + C \alpha^3 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$$

1-loop

2-loop

weakly coupled IR fixed point $0 < \alpha^* = B/C \ll 1$

competition between **matter** and **gauge fields**

Caswell '74
Banks, Zaks, '82

Can this be UV?

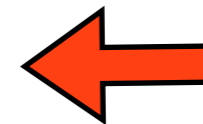
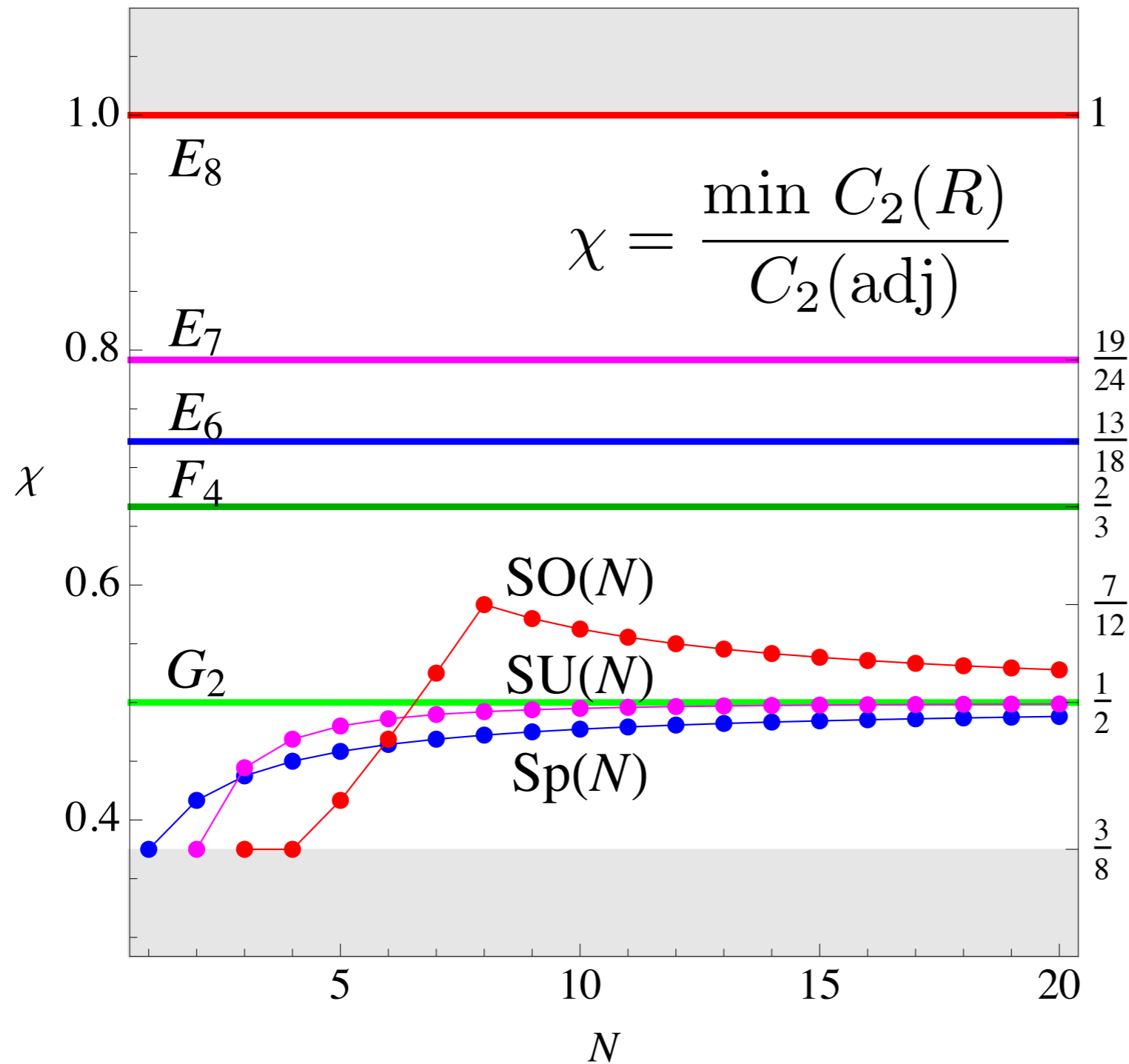
$$B < 0, C < 0$$

necessary
condition

$$\chi = \frac{\min C_2(R)}{C_2(\text{adj})} < \frac{1}{11}$$

No.

here's why.



can other couplings help?

more gauge couplings

No (same sign)

scalar self-couplings

No (start at 3- or 4-loop)

Yukawa couplings

Yes! (start at 2-loop)

why Yukawas?

$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3 - D \alpha_g^2 \alpha_y$$

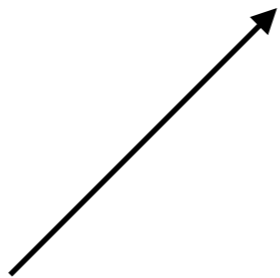
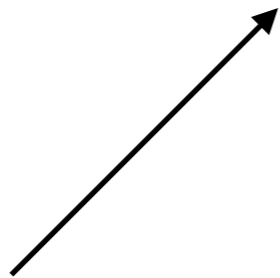
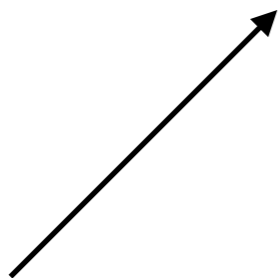
$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

one loop

gauge

Yukawa



here's why.



$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3 - D \alpha_g^2 \alpha_y$$

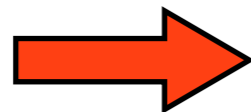
$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$

one loop

gauge

Yukawa



Yukawas *uniquely* slow down the running of gauge couplings

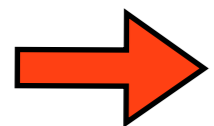
here's why.

$$\partial_t \alpha_g = -B \alpha_g^2 + C \alpha_g^3 - D \alpha_g^2 \alpha_y$$

$$t = \ln \mu / \Lambda$$

$$\partial_t \alpha_y = E \alpha_y^2 - F \alpha_g \alpha_y$$

$$\alpha_* \ll 1$$



interacting UV fixed point provided that

$$C' = C - \frac{DF}{E} < 0$$

$$B < 0$$

template

Lagrangian

Fields

Interactions

$$L_{\text{YM}} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

gauge

gauge

$$L_F = \text{Tr} (\bar{Q} i \not{D} Q)$$

fermions

$$L_Y = y \text{Tr} (\bar{Q} H Q)$$

Yukawas

$$L_H = \text{Tr} (\partial_\mu H^\dagger \partial^\mu H)$$

scalars

$$L_U = -u \text{Tr} (H^\dagger H)^2$$

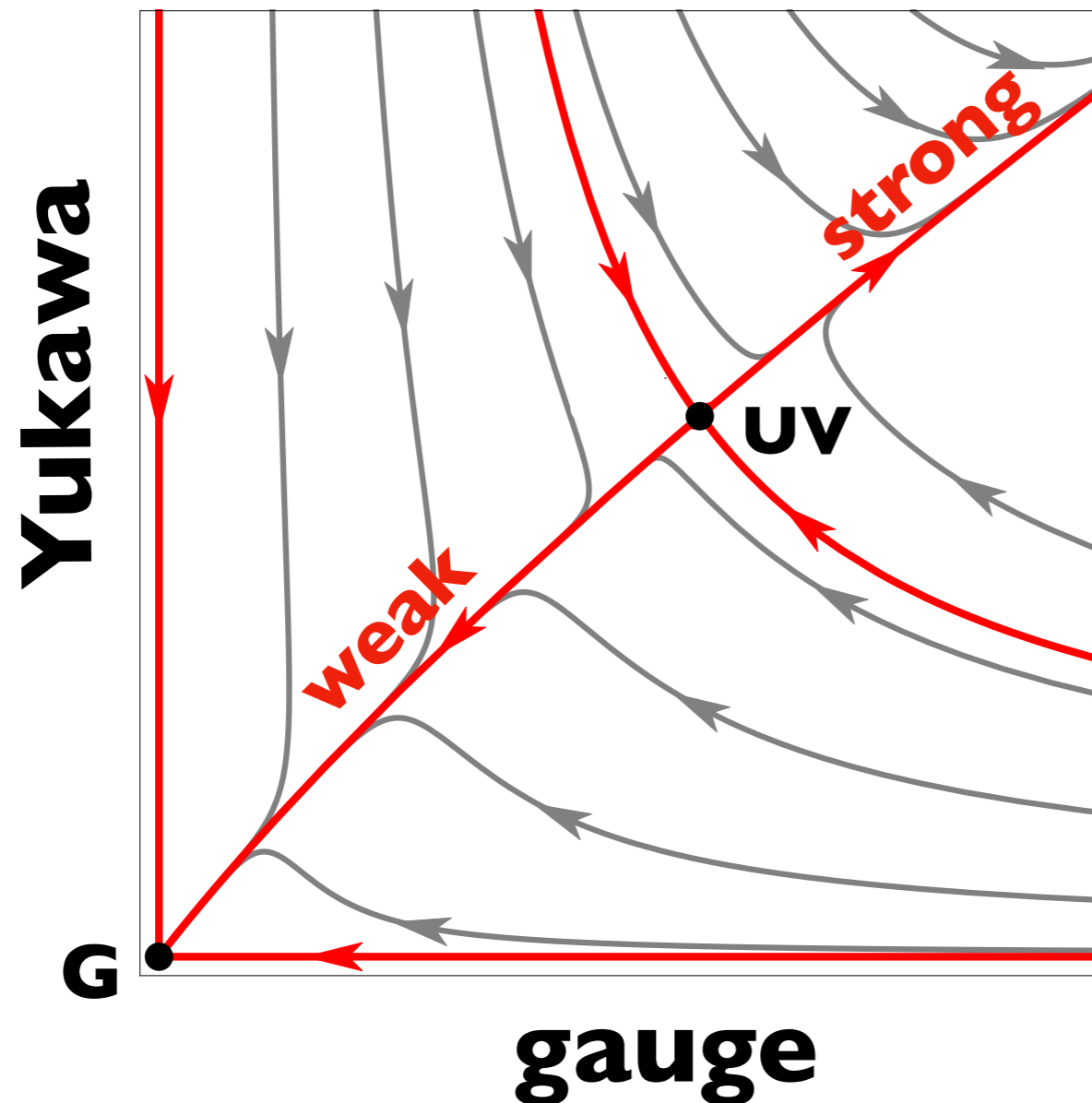
quartics

$$L_V = -v (\text{Tr} H^\dagger H)^2 .$$

scalars are “meson-like”

Can do all types of UV and IR fixed points

templates with SU/SO/Sp



SU(N) + Diracs
+ mesons

SO(N) + Majoranas
+ mesons

Sp(N) + Majoranas
+ mesons

DF Litim, F Sannino, **Asymptotic safety guaranteed**, 1406.2337

AD Bond, DF Litim, G Medina Vazquez, T Steudtner, **Conformal window for asymptotic safety**, 1710.07615

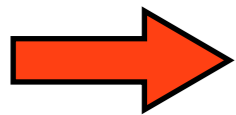
AD Bond, DF Litim, T Steudtner, **Asymptotic safety with Majorana fermions and new large N equivalences** 1911.11168

4d critical points

Case	Condition	Fixed Point
<i>i)</i>	$g_i = \mathbf{Y}_{JK}^A = \lambda_{ABCD} = 0$	Gaussian
<i>ii)</i>	some $g_i \neq 0$, all $\mathbf{Y}_{JK}^A = 0$	Banks-Zaks
<i>iii)</i>	some $g_i \neq 0$, some $\mathbf{Y}_{JK}^A \neq 0$	gauge-Yukawa

implications

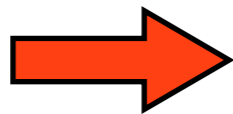
- particle physics: **UV complete 4D theories** (free or safe) require non-abelian gauge fields



asymptotic **freedom** and asymptotic **safety**
are **two sides of one and the same medal**

implications

- particle physics: **UV complete 4D theories** (free or safe) require non-abelian gauge fields
- statistical physics: **universality class** of any weakly coupled 4D critical point contains non-abelian gauge fields



systematic classification of weak critical points in 4D

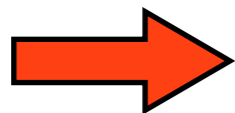
implications

- particle physics: **UV complete 4D theories** (free or safe) require non-abelian gauge fields
- statistical physics: **universality class** of any weakly coupled 4D critical point contains non-abelian gauge fields
- conformal field theory: **any** weakly-coupled **4D CFT** contains non-abelian gauge fields

“any QFT under perturbative control in the deep UV or IR asymptotes to a conformal field theory”

implications

- particle physics: **UV complete 4D theories** (free or safe) require non-abelian gauge fields
- statistical physics: **universality class** of any weakly coupled 4D critical point contains non-abelian gauge fields
- conformal field theory: **any** weakly-coupled **4D CFT** contains non-abelian gauge fields



infinitely many 4D CFTs
access to CFT data
complementary to bootstrap

outlook: strong coupling

supersymmetry

N=1: fixed points exist non-perturbatively

Bond, DL '22

general particle theories

fixed points at strong coupling?

chiral symmetry breaking?

scaling vs decoupling?

confinement?

Celebrating Half a Century of QCD



EN MEMORIA DE

Axel Weber

1963 - 2023

**Memorial to
Axel Weber**