

# String Formation in Gauge Theories

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Modern Challenges for Lattice Field Theory  
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KITP, Santa Barbara

## Collaborators:

Jimmy Juge                    Dublin  
 Francesca Maresca        Utah  
 Colin Morningstar        Carnegie Mellon  
 Mike Peardon              Dublin  
 James Drummond         Dublin

string counselor at UCSD: Ken Intriligator

## Early work:

Polyakov  
 Luscher  
 Polchinski, Strominger  
 Baker et al.  
 Michael  
 Teper  
 Gliozzi et al.  
 Hasenbusch, Pinn  
 JKM (old)  
 Munster  
 ...

**This talk:** review on the excitation spectrum of the Dirichlet string and the closed string with unit winding (*string-soliton*)



## Recent work in QCD and Z(2):

**Juge, JK, Morningstar**  
 HEP-LAT 0207004, PRL 90 (2003) 161601  
**Juge, JK, Maresca, Morningstar, Peardon**  
 HEP-LAT 0309180, Nucl.Phys.Proc.129:703-705,2004  
**Luscher, Weisz**  
 JHEP 0207 (2002) 049, JHEP 0407:014,2004  
**Juge et al. and Caselle et al.**  
 new work (first presented here)

→ fixed end spectrum with fine structure  
 → closed winding string with fine structure  
 → ground state Casimir energy  
 open-closed string duality  
 Z(2) gauge model in 3 dimensions

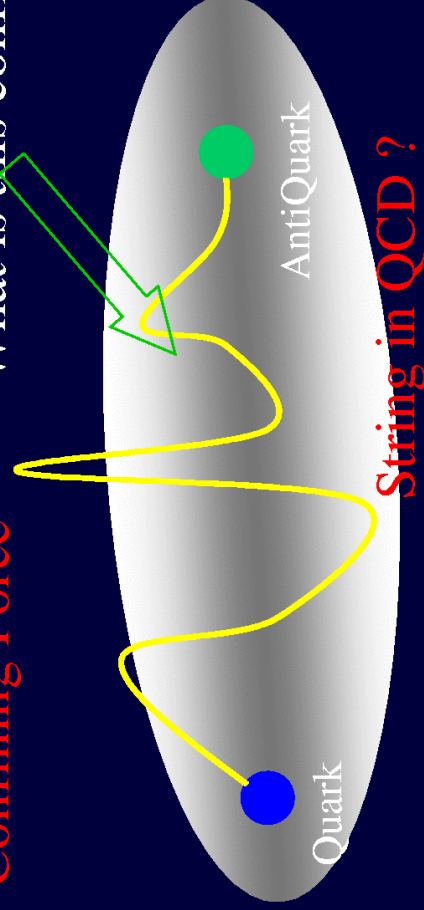
## OUTLINE

1. **String formation in field theory**
  - picture in space and time
  - main physical properties of the string
2. **Dirichlet Strings in D=4 and D=3 dimensions**
  - fixed end D=4 SU(3) QCD string spectrum
  - fixed end D=3 SU(2) QCD string and Z(2) string    new results
3. **Dirichlet Casimir Energy**
  - origin of Casimir energy and effective string description
  - Luscher-Weisz results
  - Z(2)
  - paradox ?
  - 1+1 dimensional toy model    insight from quantum mechanics
4. **Closed String (fibre) with unit winding**
  - D=4 SU(3) QCD spectrum    new results
  - Closed string Casimir energy    new results
  - D=3 Z(2) spectrum    new results
5. **Conclusions**

Will not discuss: high spin Glueball spectrum } Teper and collaborators  
 Casimir scaling of the flux  
 't Hooft flux quantization de Forcrand  
 low precision results on string spectrum

# Confining Force

# What is this confining fuzz?



## String in QCD ?

1. On-lattice QCD string spectrum

2. D=3 Z(2) gauge model

microscopic loop equations (Polyakov)

macroscopic string 3d Ising interface

Casimir energy of ground state

Excitation spectrum

Goldstone modes and collective variables

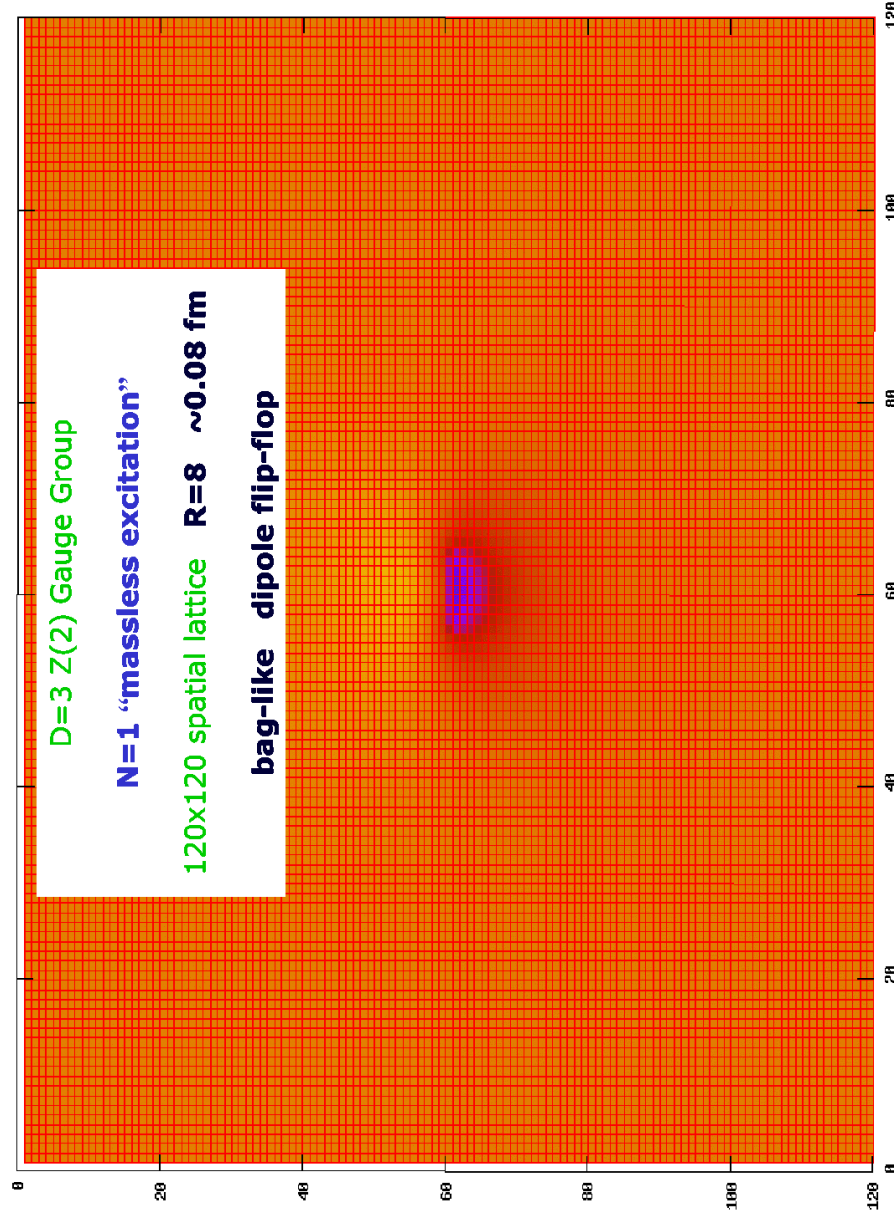
Effective theory?

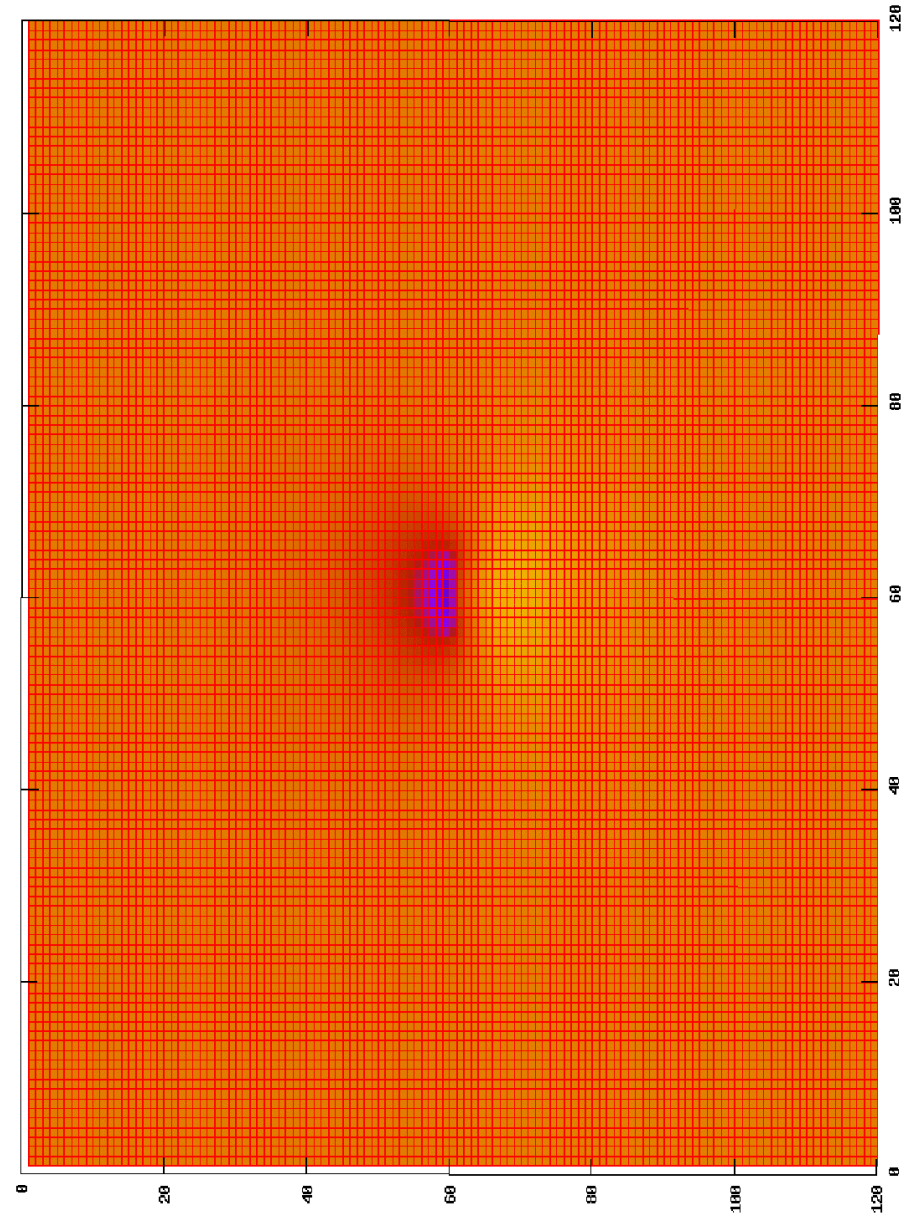
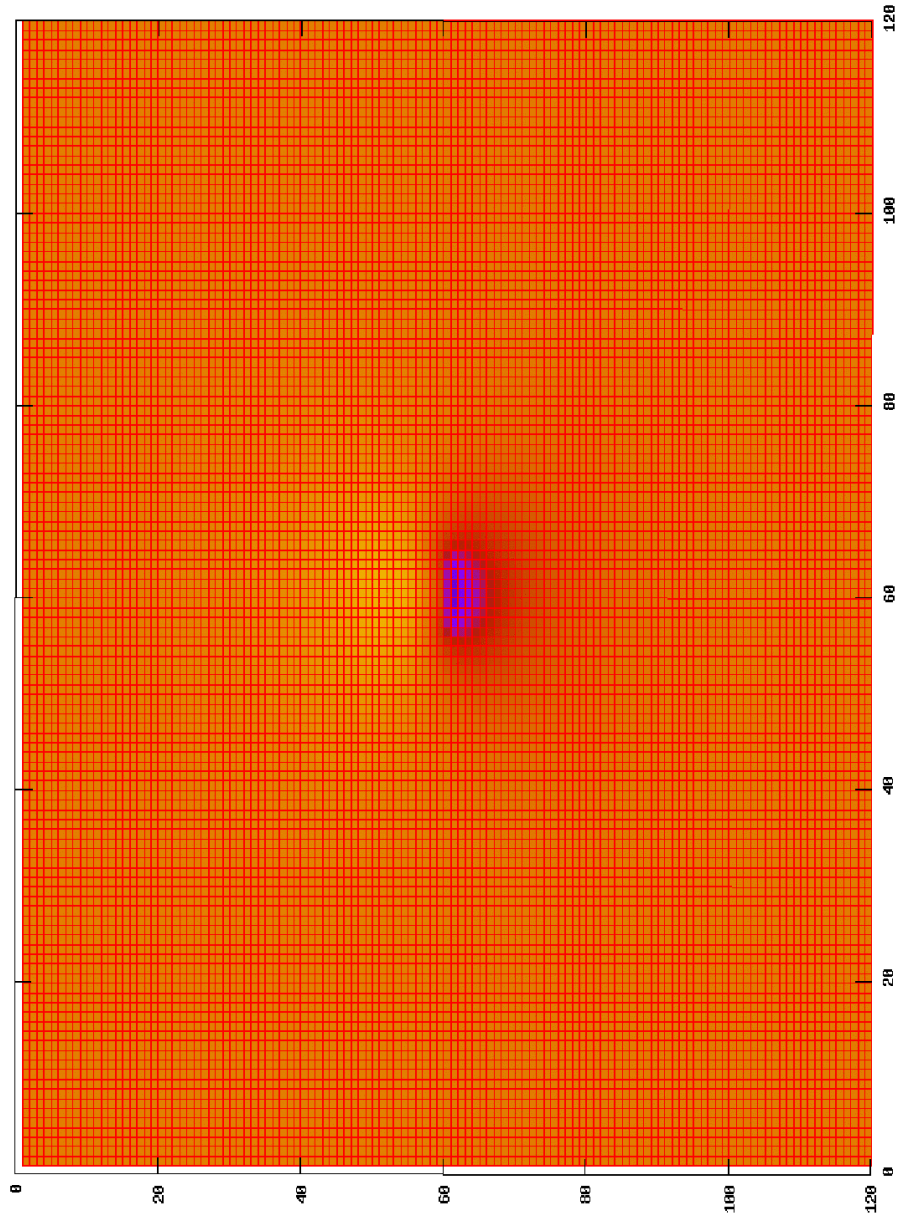
Microscopic variables (loop equation)?

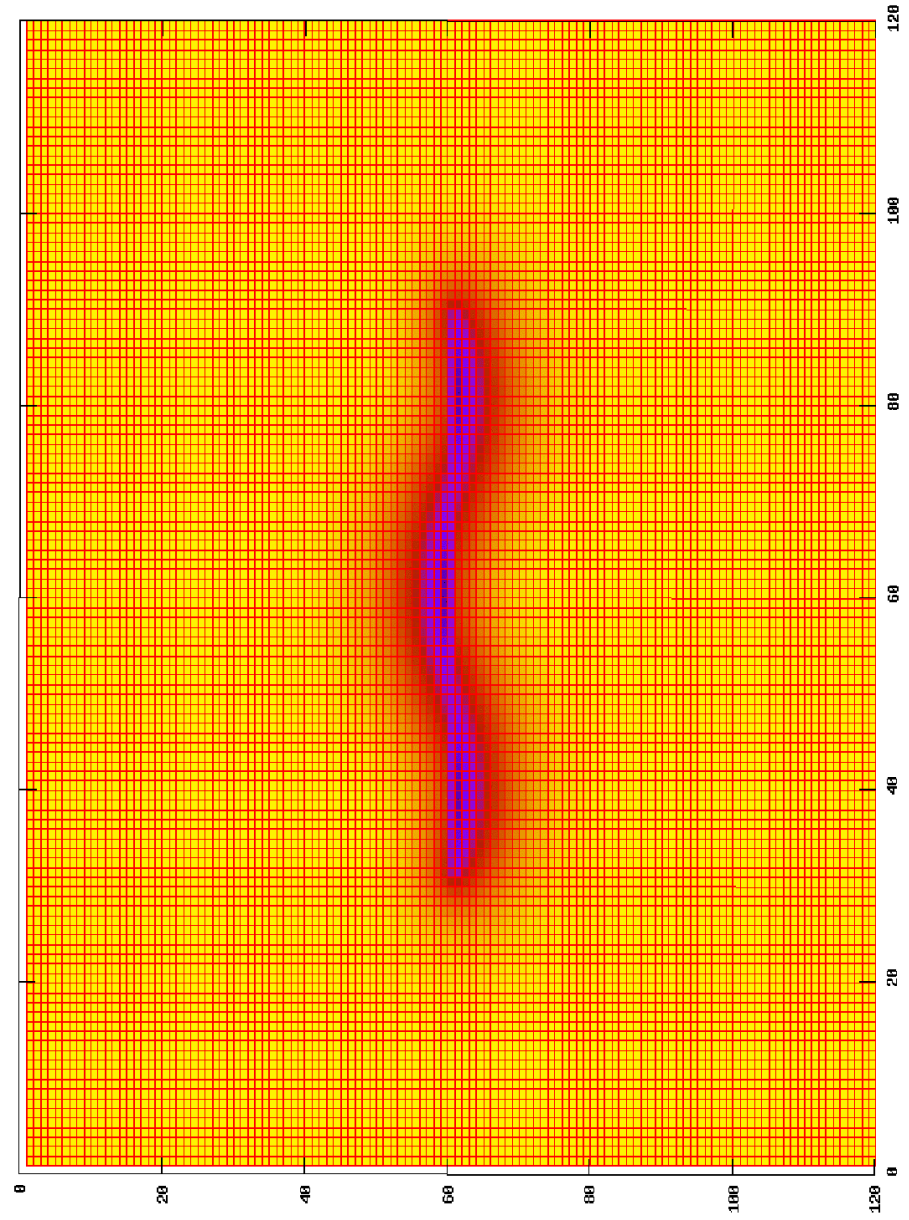
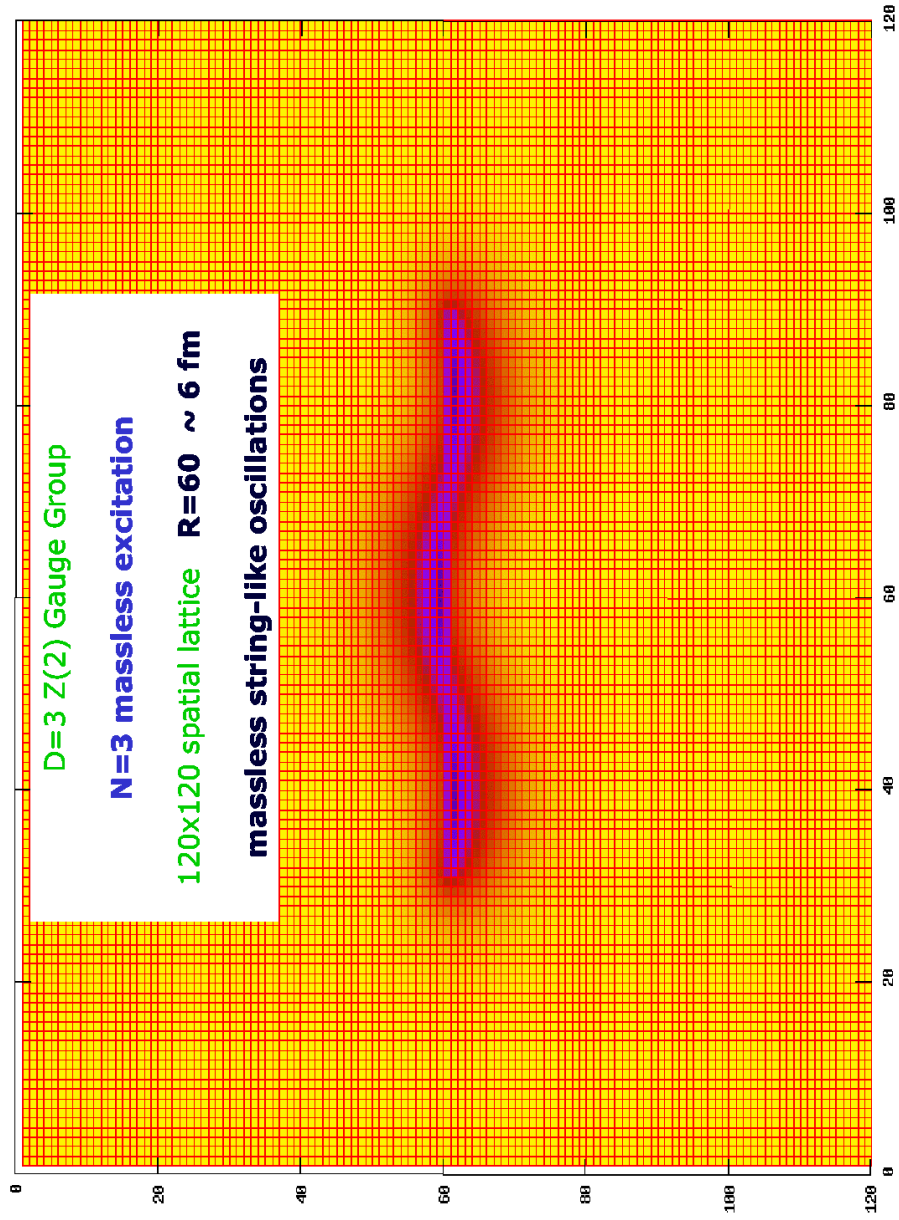
Geometric interpretation?

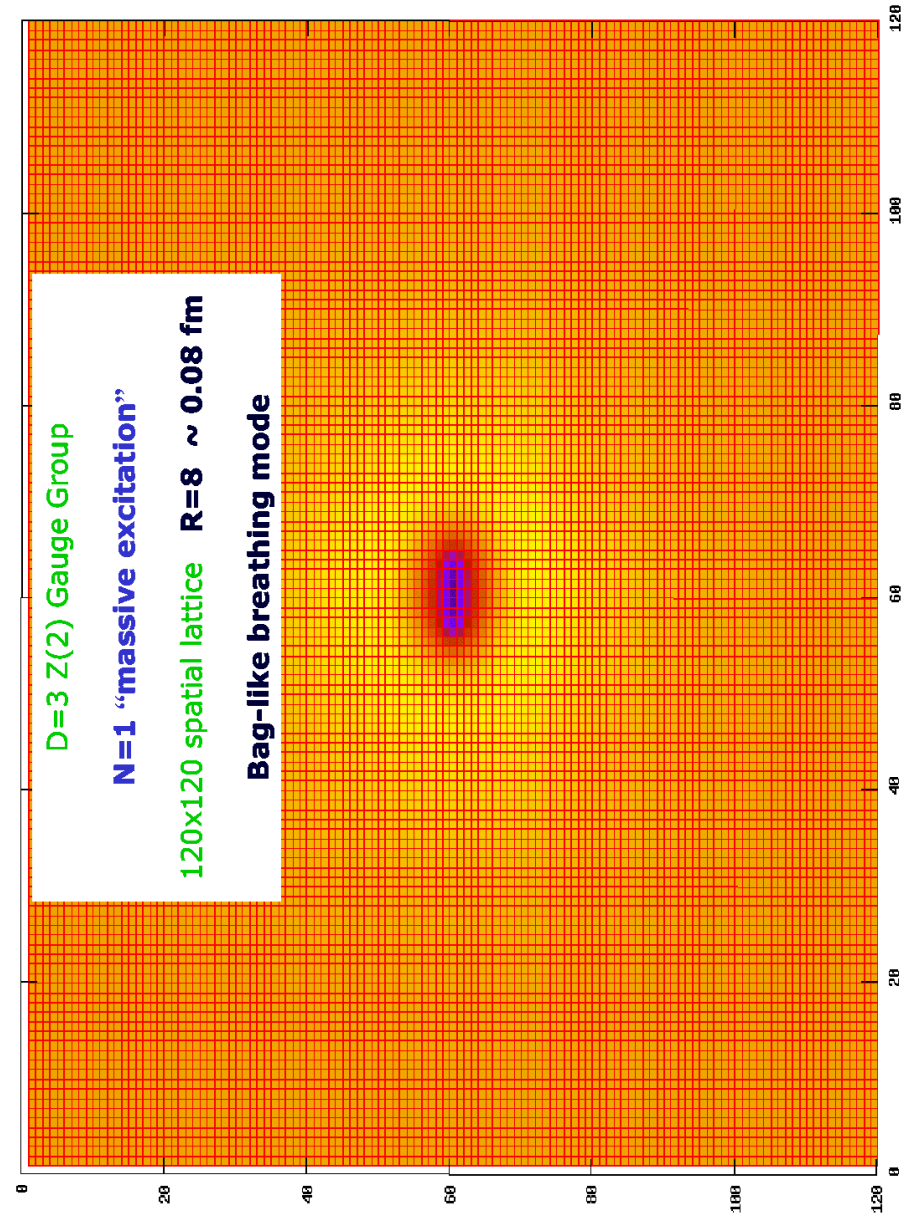
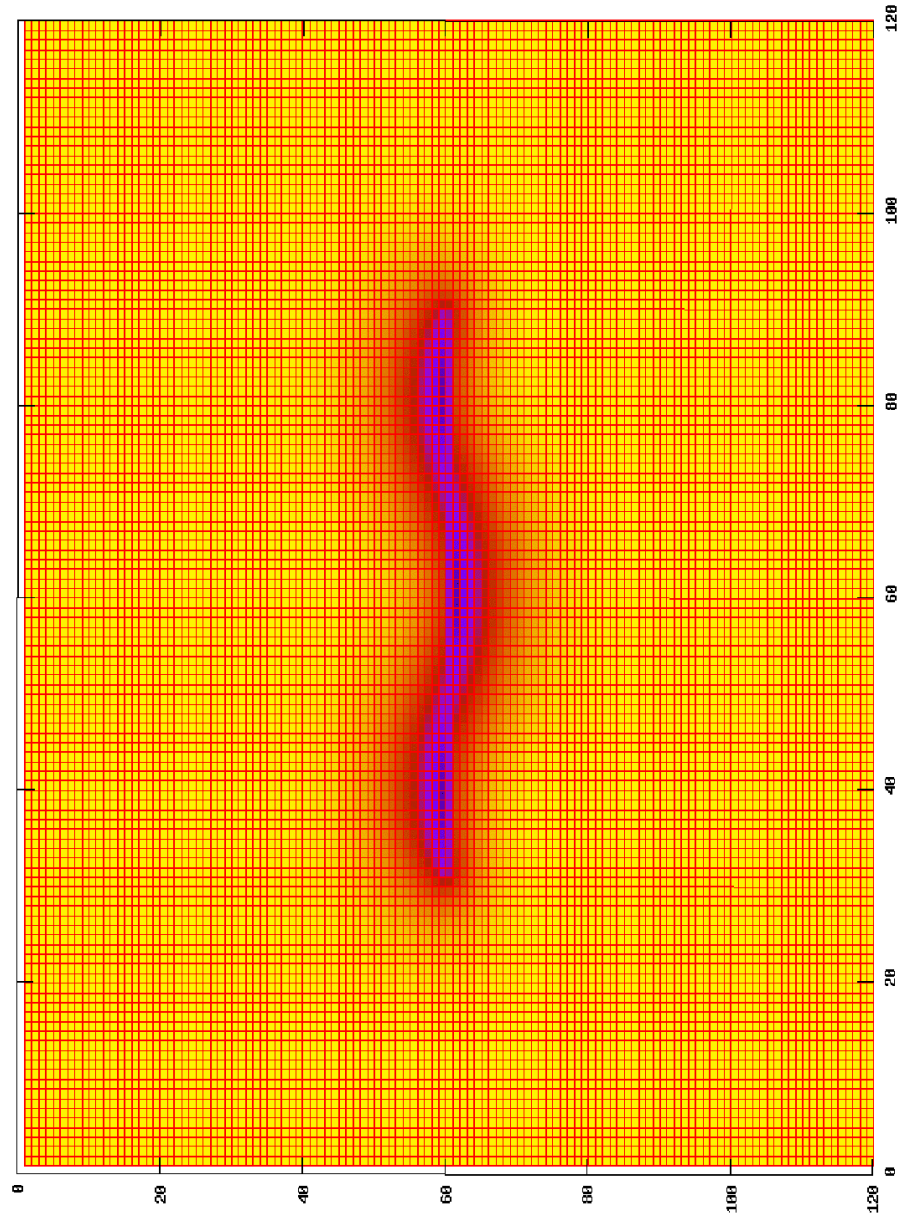
String theorists interested in QCD string problem

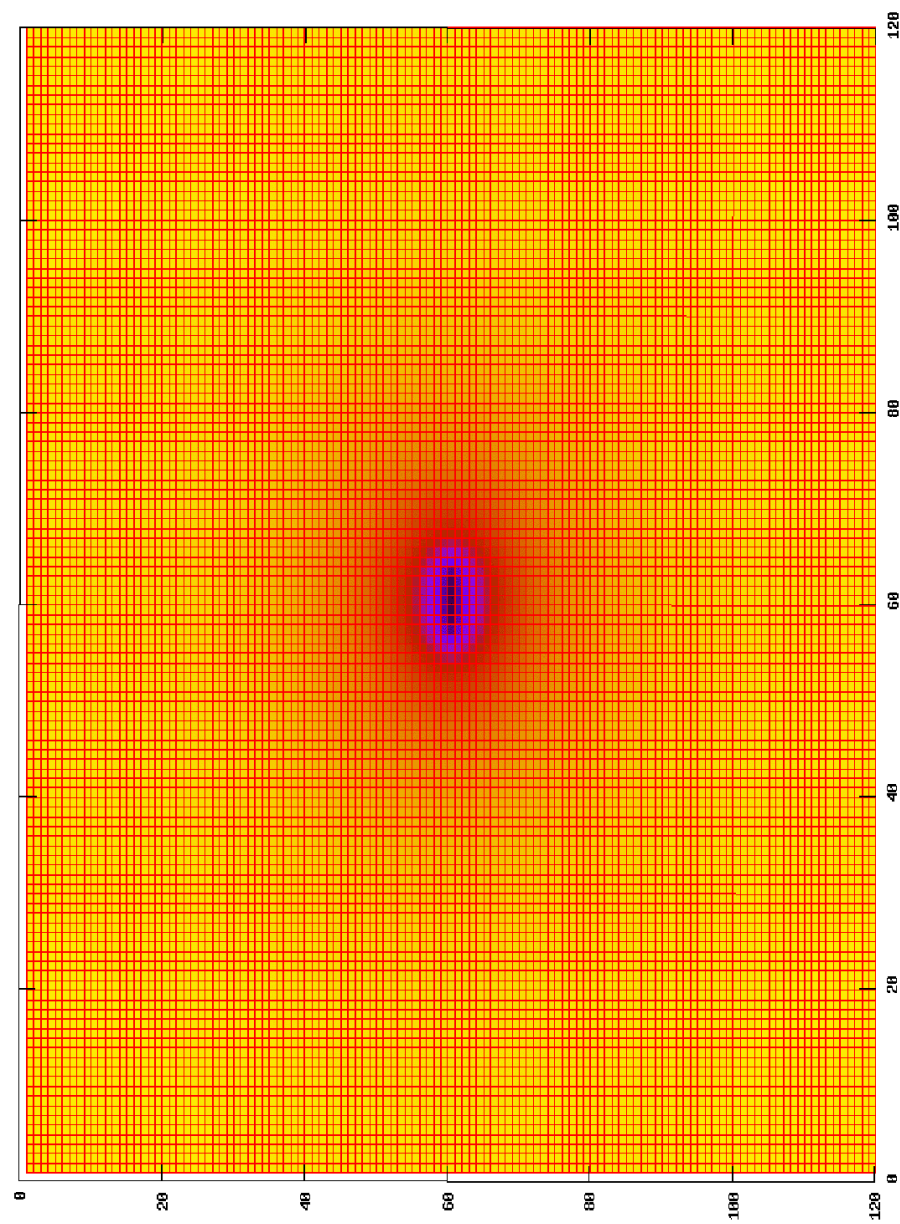
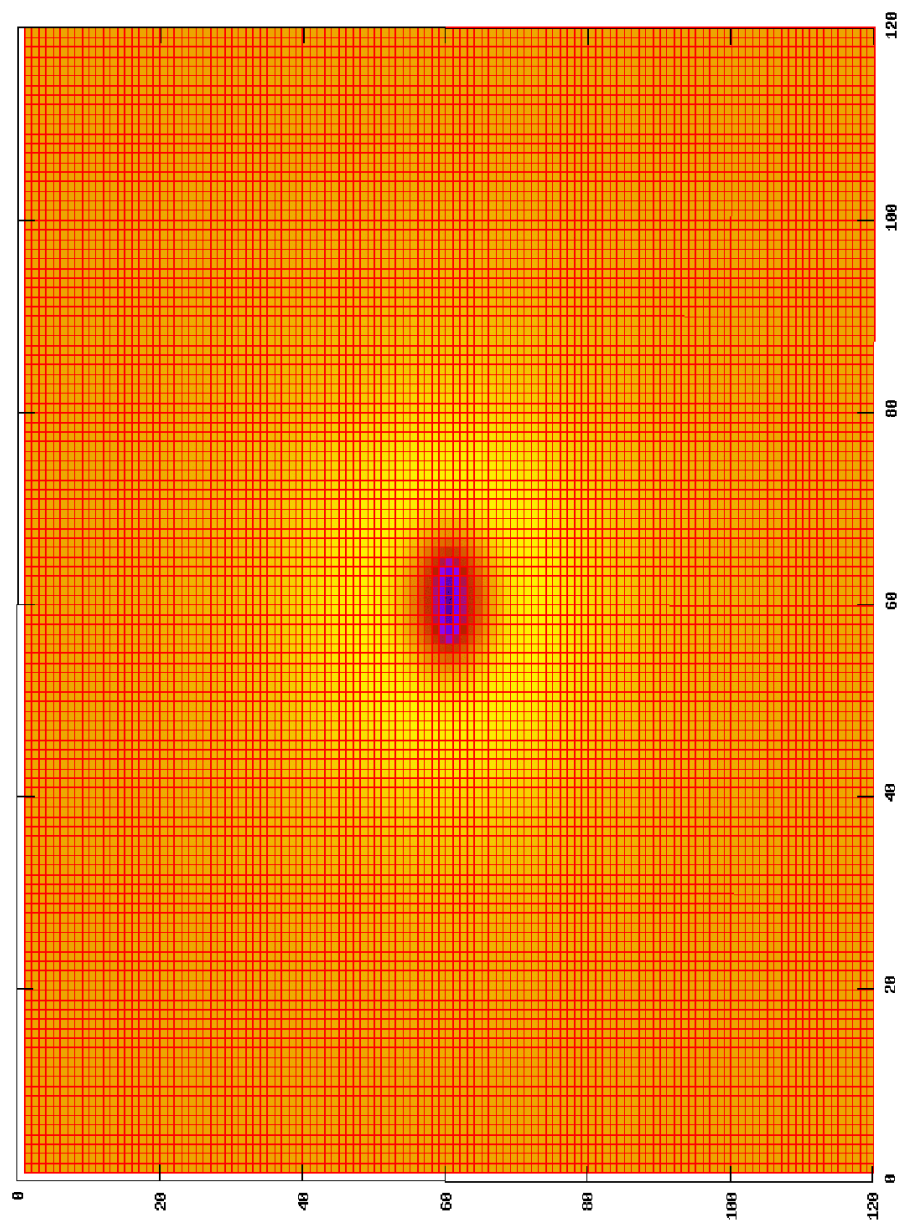
Quenched, but relevant in confinement/string and large N

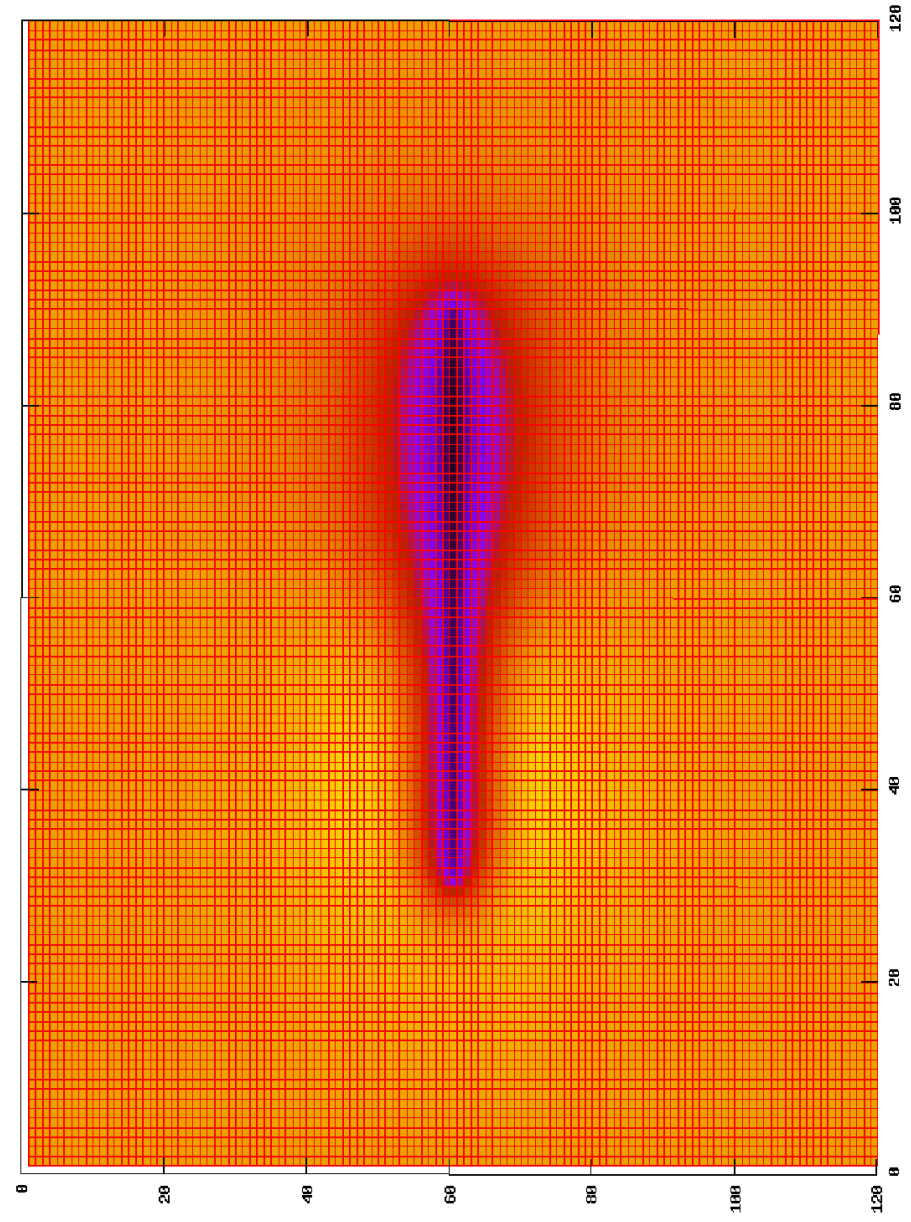
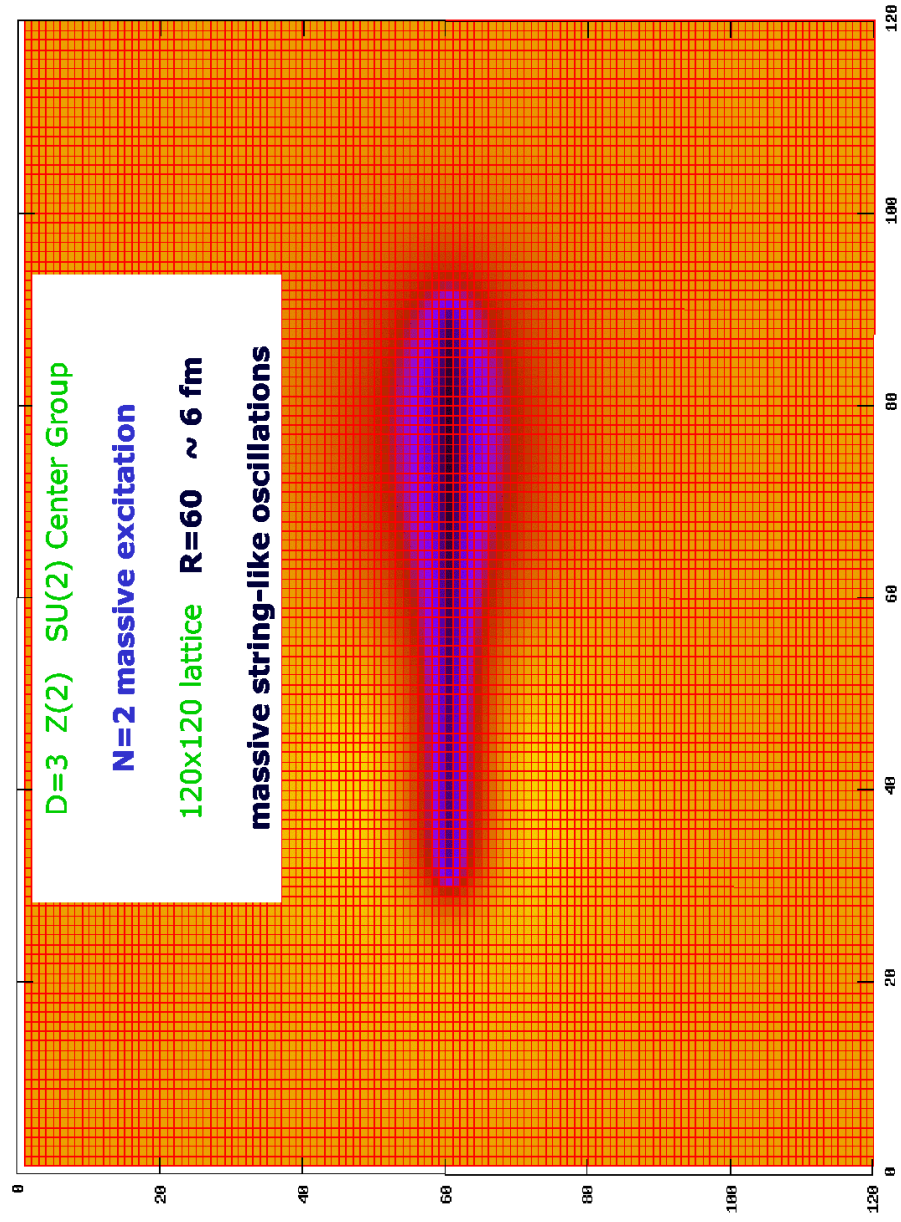




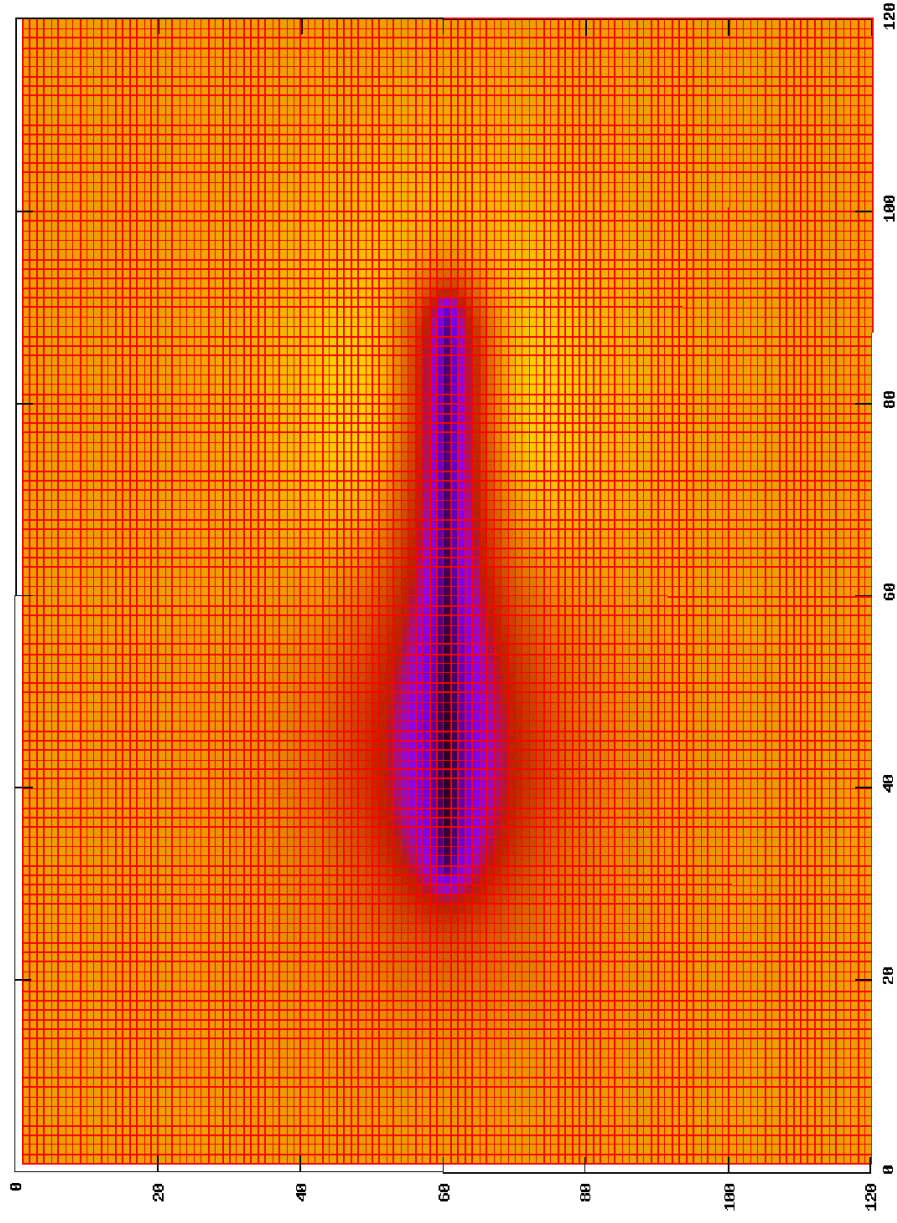








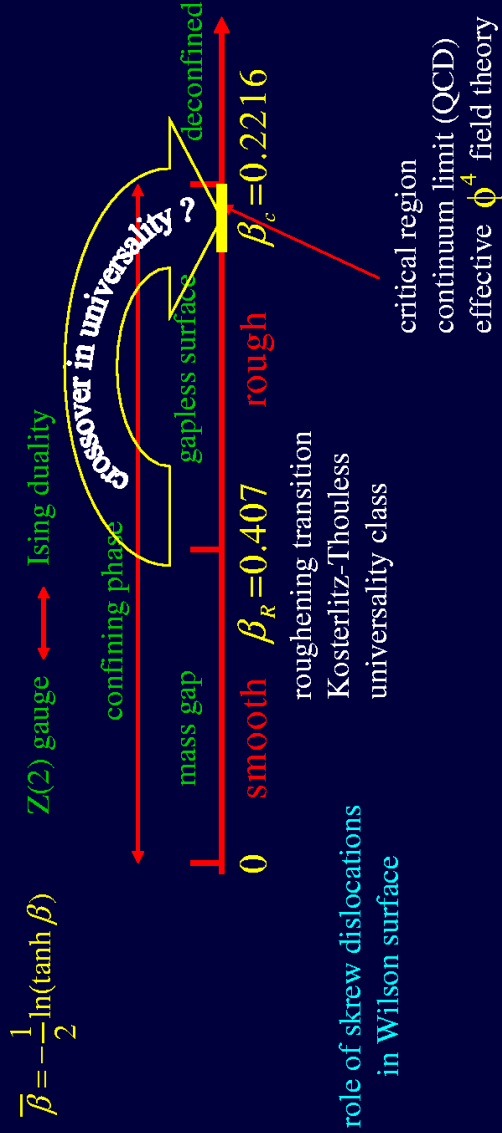




- **Massless Goldstone modes?**
- Local derivative expansion for their interactions?  
*from fine structure in the spectrum*
- **Massive excitations?**
- Breathing modes in effective Lagrangian?
- **String properties ? Bosonic, NG, rigid, ...?**

# Wilson Surface of 3d Z(2) Gauge Model

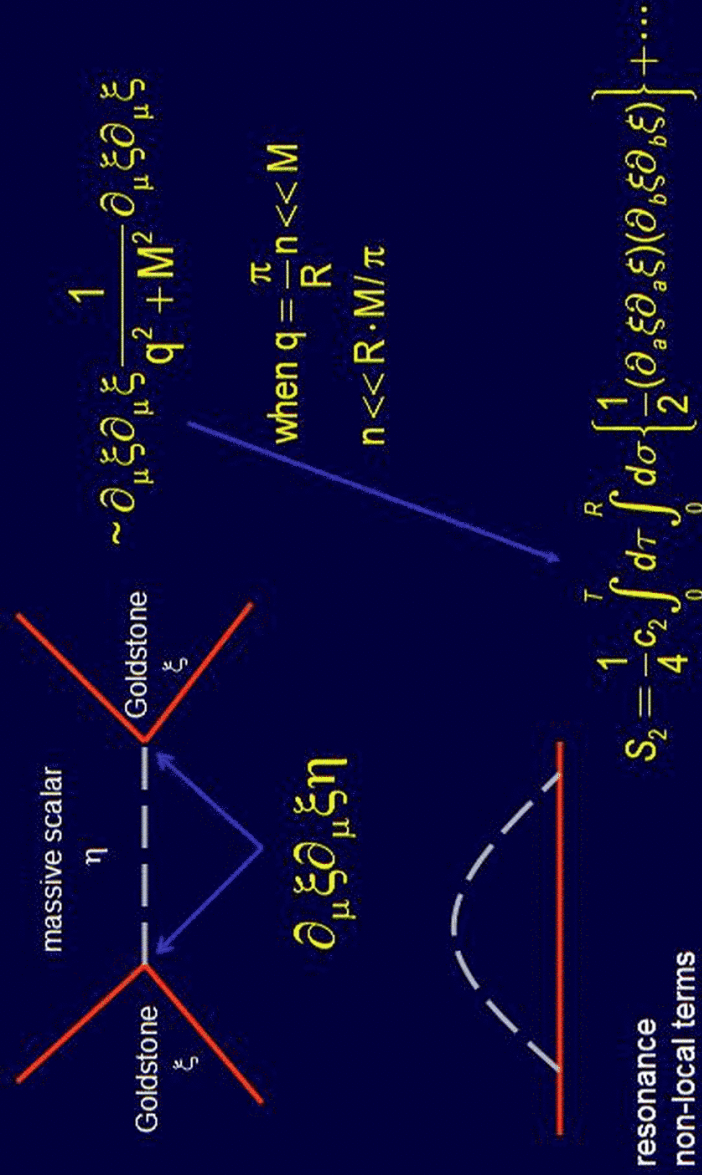
Similar picture expected in QCD



## Semiclassical Loop Expansion Soliton Quantization (string)

### In rough phase (close to bulk critical point)

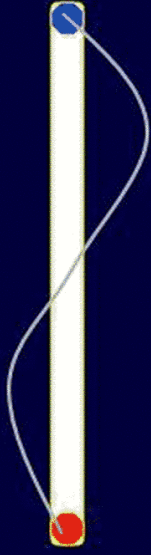
Most important step in deriving correction terms in effective action of Goldstone modes in Z(2) D=3 gauge model:



$$S_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_0^T d\tau \int_0^R d\sigma \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_a \xi \partial_a \xi + \dots \right\}$$

$\xi$  is the D-2 dimensional displacement vector (collective string variables)

Massless Goldstone field  $\leftrightarrow$  collective string coordinate  
 Small wavelengths unstable!  $\Rightarrow$  glueball emission



$$S_1 = \frac{1}{4} b \int_0^T d\tau \left\{ (\partial_1 \xi \partial_1 \xi)_{\sigma=0} + (\partial_1 \xi \partial_1 \xi)_{\sigma=R} \right\}$$

Boundary operators set to zero in open-closed string duality

$$V(R) = \sigma R + \mu - \frac{\pi}{24R} (d-2) \left(1 + \frac{b}{R}\right)$$

$$\Delta E = \frac{\pi}{R} \left(1 + \frac{b}{R}\right)$$

$$S_2 = \int_0^T d\tau \int_0^R d\sigma \left\{ \frac{c_2}{2} (\partial_a \xi \partial_a \xi) (\partial_b \xi \partial_b \xi) + \frac{c_3}{2} (\partial_a \xi \partial_b \xi) (\partial_a \xi \partial_b \xi) + \dots \right\}$$

higher dimensional ops  $O(1/R^3)$   $c_3$  term is not independent in D=3

2. **Dirichlet Strings in D=4 and D=3 dimensions**

- fixed end D=4 SU(3) QCD string spectrum
- fixed end D=3 SU(2) QCD string and Z(2) string new results

3. **Dirichlet Casimir Energy**

- origin of Casimir energy and effective string description
- Luscher-Weisz results
- Z(2)
- paradox ?
- 1+1 dimensional toy model insight from quantum mechanics

4. **Closed String (torelon) with unit winding**

- D=4 SU(3) QCD spectrum new results
- Closed string Casimir energy new results
- D=3 Z(2) spectrum new results

5. **Conclusions**

**SU(3) D=4**

Opposite fixed color source (antiquark)

Fixed color source (quark)

$\Lambda \rightarrow$  angular momentum projected along quark-antiquark axis

$R \rightarrow$  rotation

Three exact quantum numbers characterize gluon excitations:

- $\Lambda^{+-}$  Angular momentum with chirality
- $+-$  Chirality, or reflection symmetry for  $\Lambda = 0$
- CP
  - $g$  (gerade) CP even
  - $u$  (ungerade) CP odd

S states ( $\Lambda = 0$ )  $\Sigma^{+-} g$

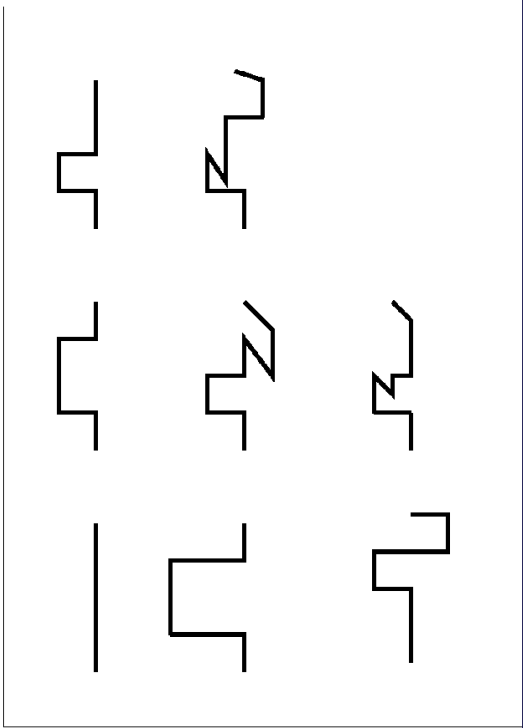
P states ( $\Lambda = 1$ )  $\Pi^{+-}$

D states ( $\Lambda = 2$ )  $\Delta^{+-}$

$\vdots$

Gluon excitations are projected out with generalized Wilson loop operators on time slices

the spatial straight line is replaced by linear combinations of twisted paths

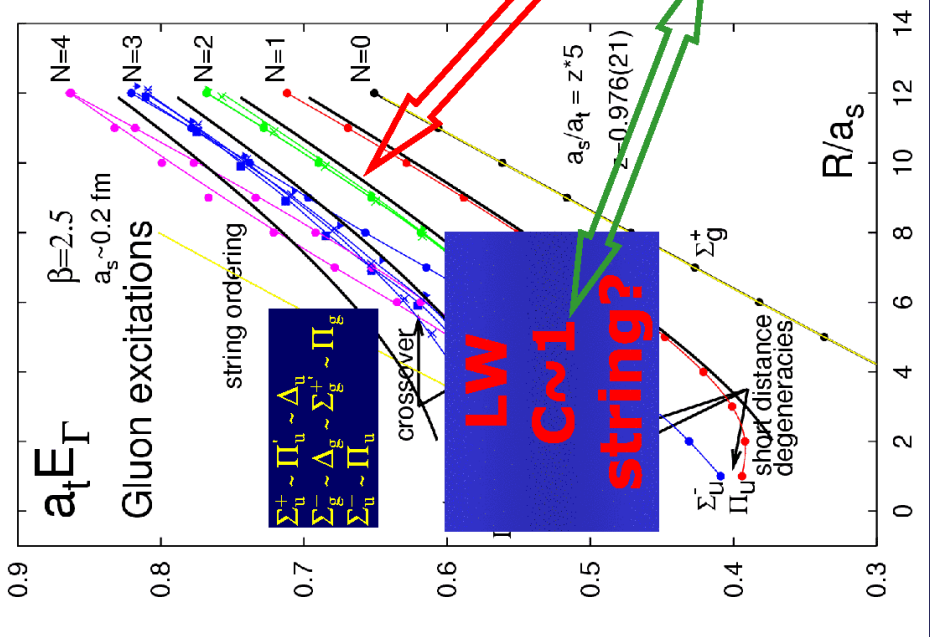


**Three length scales in energy spectrum:**

- $R < 0.5$  fm
- Short distance QCD
- Bag-like nearly spherical symmetry
- OPE (Soto et al.)
- $R \sim 0.5$  fm - 1.5 fm
- Crossover (model sensitive)
- $R \sim 2$  fm - 3 fm
- Onset of string ordering
- Nambu-Goto levels in black  $\rightarrow$  Fine structure
- Casimir energy puzzle: seen around  $R \sim 0.5$  fm ?**

**1. Very few stable modes**

**2. Non string-like distortions**



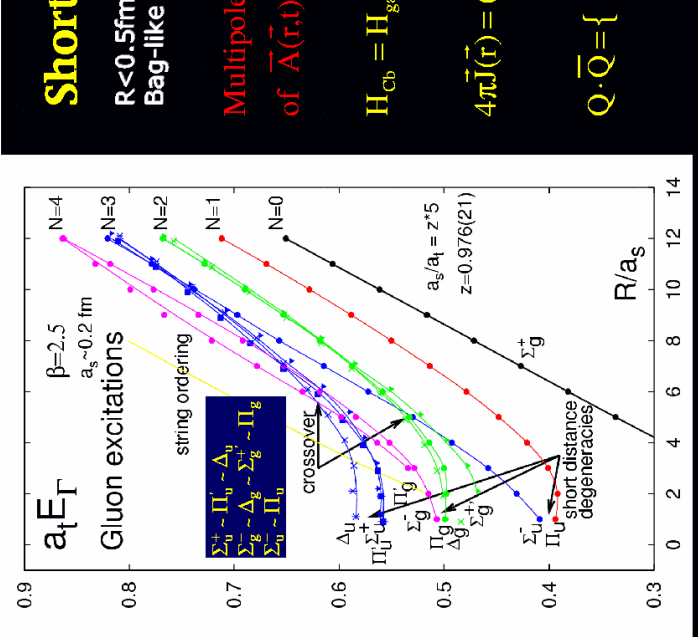
**Short distance region**

$R < 0.5$ fm approximate spherical symmetry  
Bag-like "non-string" picture

Multipole operator product expansion of  $\vec{A}(\vec{r},t)$  and  $\vec{J}(\vec{r},t)$ :

$$H_{Cb} = H_{gauge} + \frac{g^2 \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{Q}}{4\pi |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} - g^3 (\vec{Q} \times \vec{Q})_a \int d^3 \vec{r} \vec{A}_a(\vec{r},t) \vec{J}(\vec{r},t)$$

$$4\pi \vec{J}(\vec{r}) = \left( \frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_1|} - \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} \right) \vec{V} \left( \frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_2|} - \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} \right)$$

$$Q \cdot \vec{Q} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 4 \text{ singlet} \\ 3 \\ +1 \text{ octet} \end{array} \right.$$


**Crossover transition region**  
difficult to interpret  
model dependent

D=3 SU(2) and Z(2) will be presented together

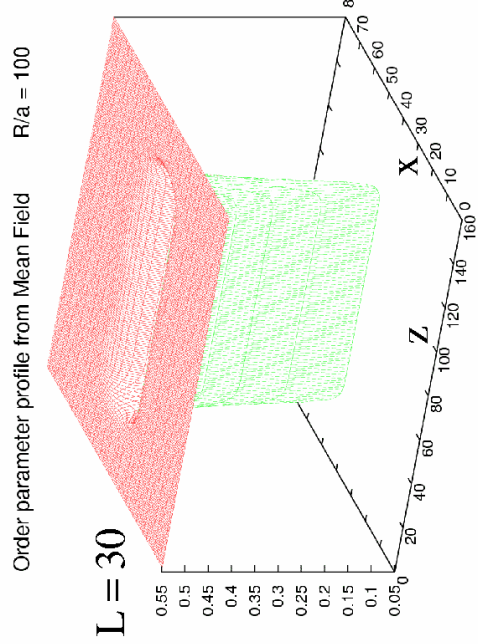
Wilson line of Z(2) gauge group becomes a seam of flipped links in dual (Ising) representation

Multispin coding of Ising bits in Monte Carlo

Parallel \* Parallel

cluster algorithms

Effective Schrodinger equation based on fluctuation matrix of string soliton



$$M = -\nabla^2 + U''(\phi_{\text{soliton}})$$

$V_{\text{eff}}$

- in long flux limit spectrum is expected to factorize
- translational zero mode of soliton
- Goldstone spectrum

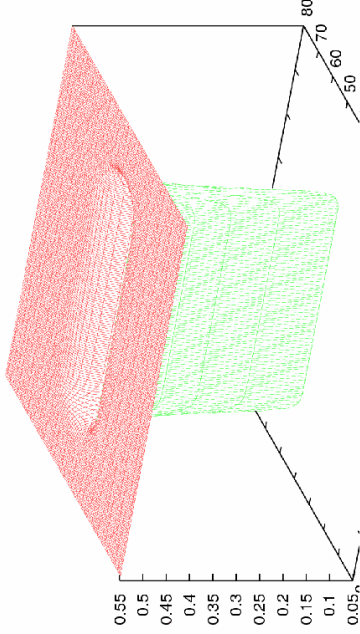
zero energy bound state

$$\phi(z) \cdot \exp(iqx)$$

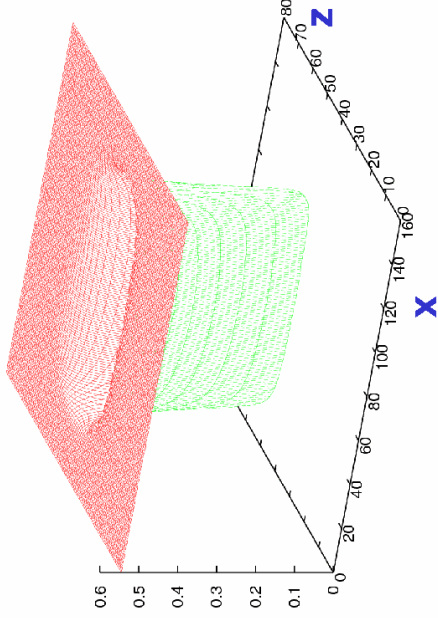
quantized momenta of Goldstone modes in box of length L  $\rightarrow q = \frac{\pi}{L}n, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

shape and end effects distort!

Order parameter profile from Mean Field  $R/a = 100$



Order parameter profile from MC simulation  $R/a = 100$

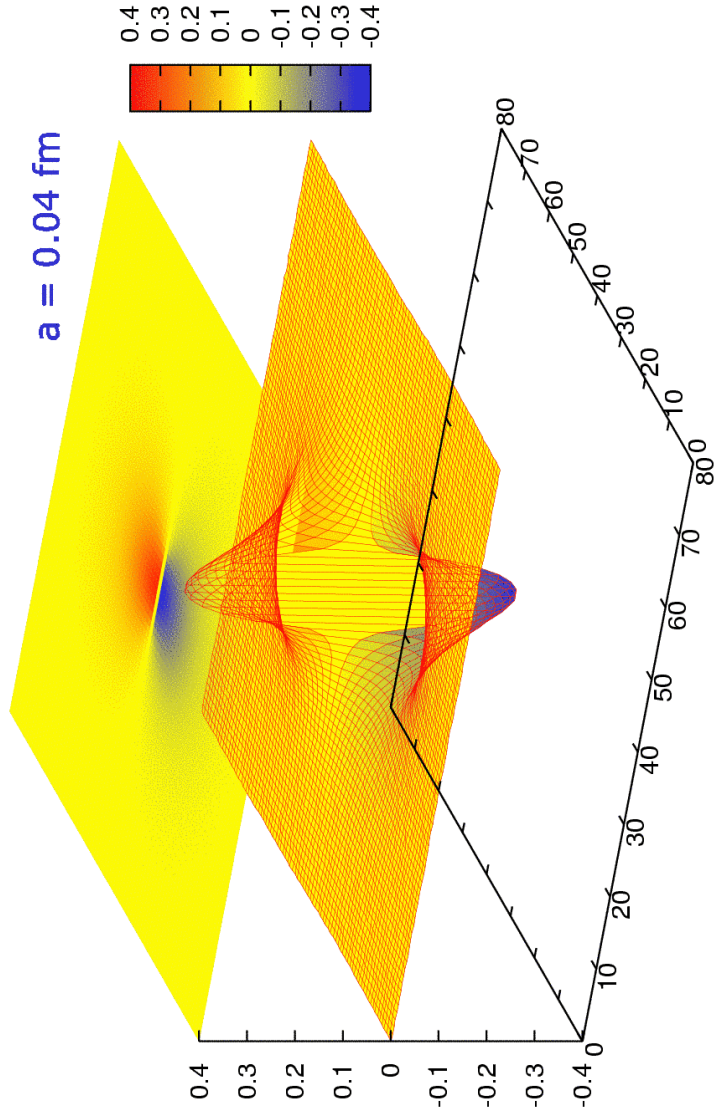


good analytic/numerical  
handle on the  $Z(2)$  model  
in addition to MC

Effective Schrödinger  
potential

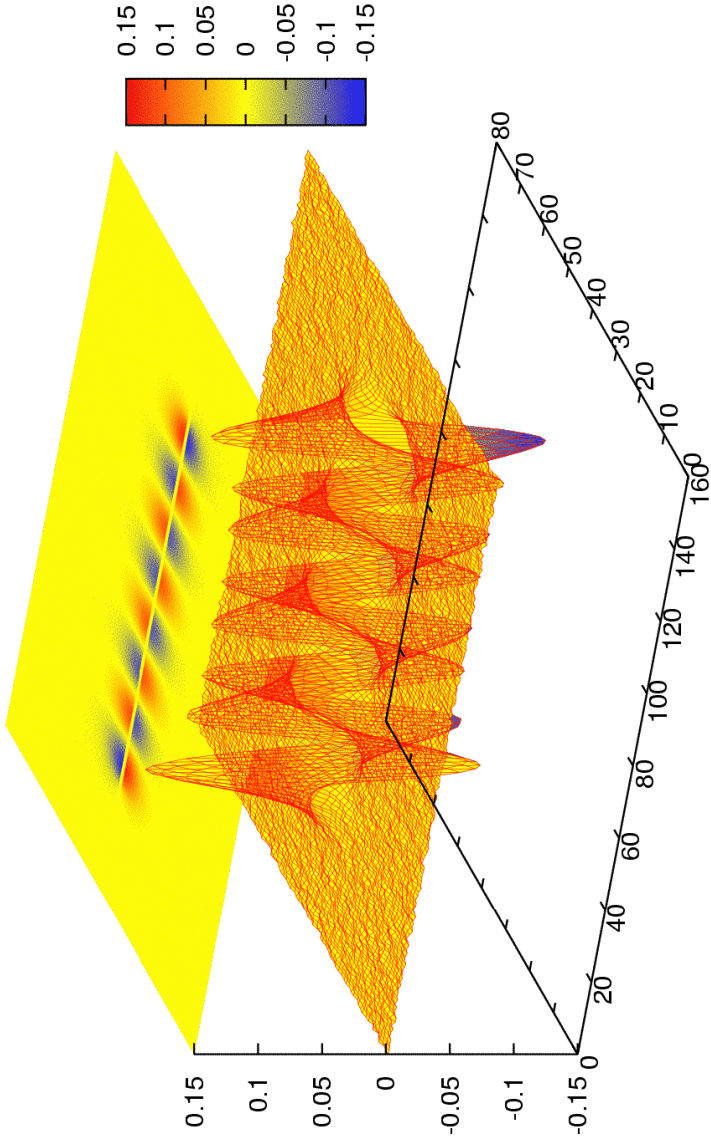
$P_x = +-1$  and  $P_z = +-1$   
two symmetry quantum numbers

$N=1$  "Bag" excitation from MC simulation  $R/a = 10$

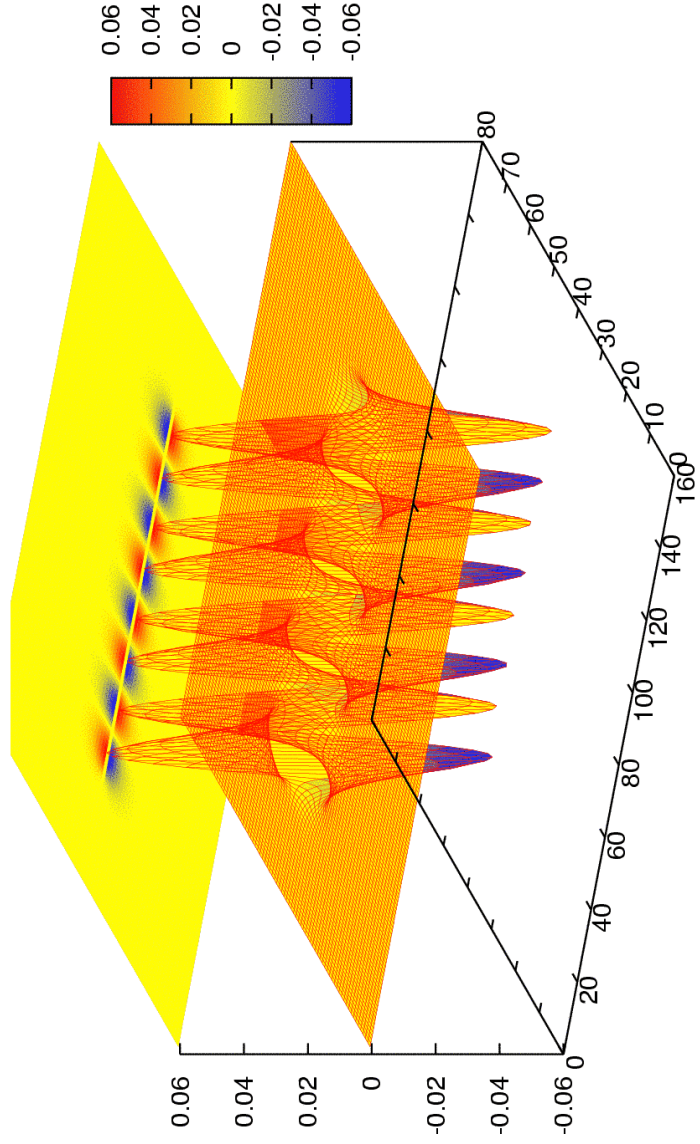


$a = 0.04$  fm

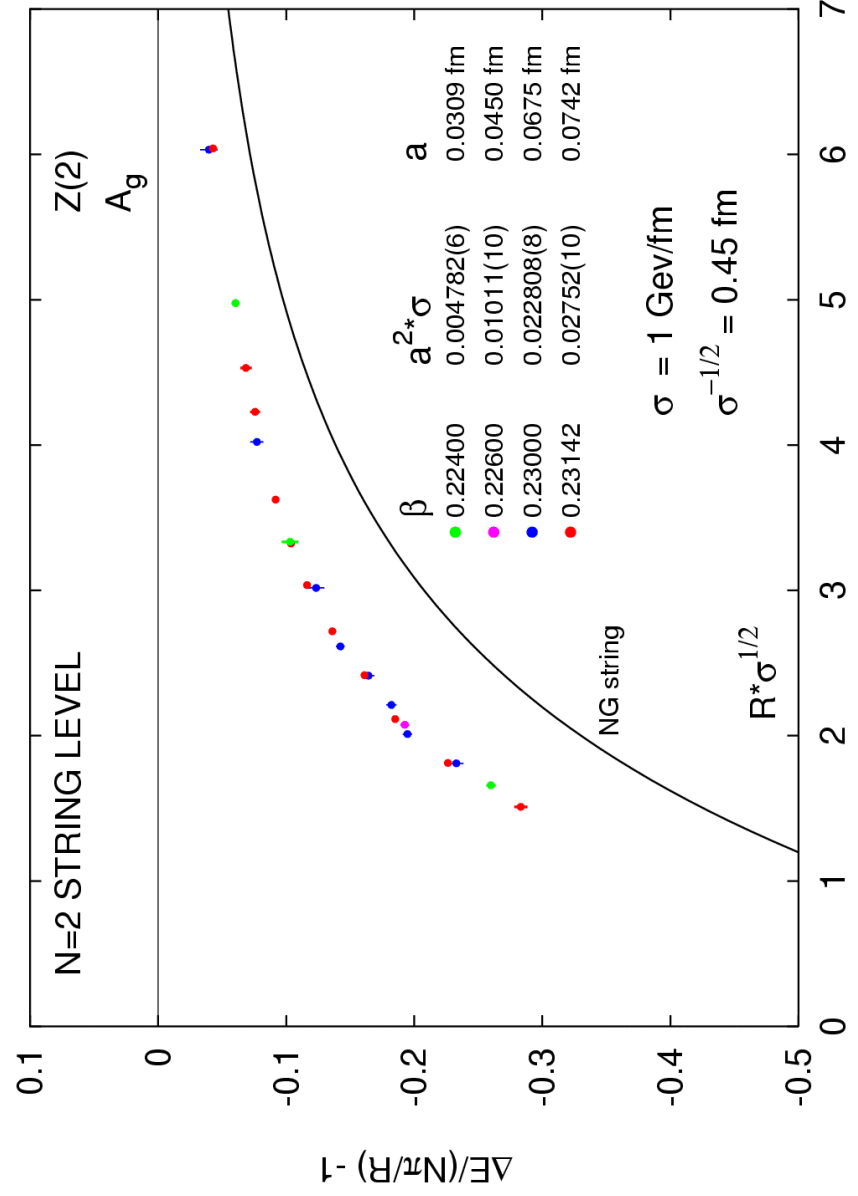
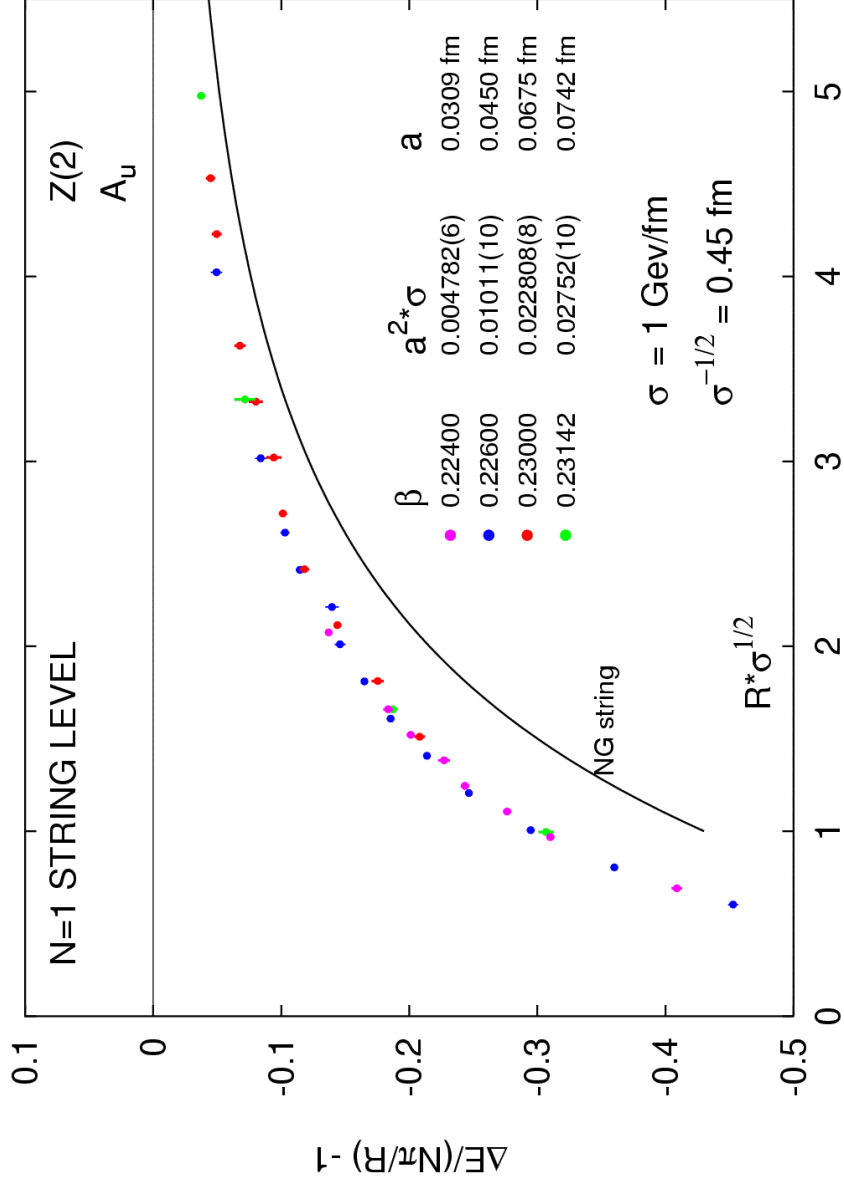
N=8 string excitation from MC simulation  $R/a = 100$



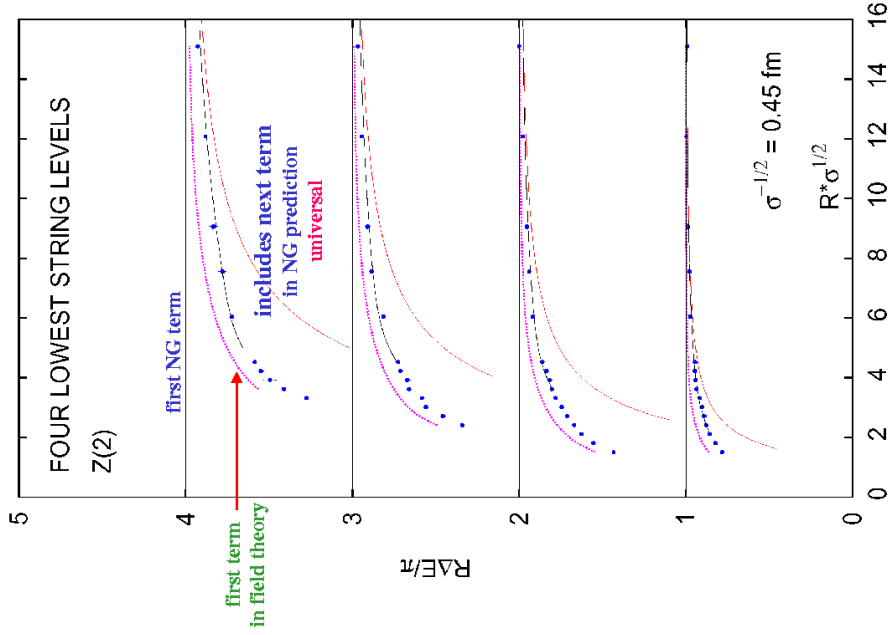
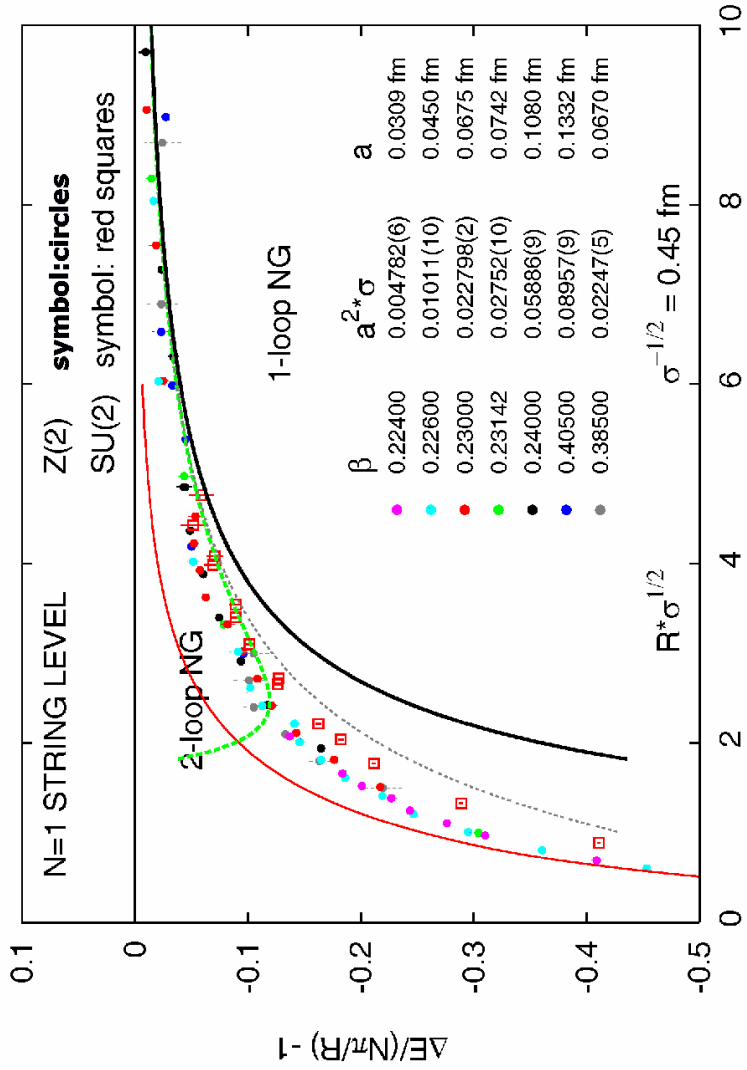
Analytic (soliton quantization and loop expansion)







**SU(2) and center Z(2) exhibit nearly universal behavior**



Summary of main results on the spectrum of the fixed end Z(2) string

$x = \sqrt{\sigma}R$  dimensionless scale variable

$$E_N / \sqrt{\sigma} = x \sqrt{1 - \frac{D-2}{12x^2} \pi + \frac{2\pi N}{x^2}} \quad \text{NG}$$

Expand energy gaps for large x

$$\frac{R(E_N - E_0)}{\pi} = N + \frac{a(N)}{x^2} + \frac{b(N)}{x^4} + \dots$$

First correction to asymptotic spectrum appears to be universal

Higher corrections code new physics like string rigidity, etc.

Similar expansion for string-soliton with unit winding

Data for  $R < 4$  fermi prefers field theory description which incorporates end effects naturally

### 3. Dirichlet Casimir Energy

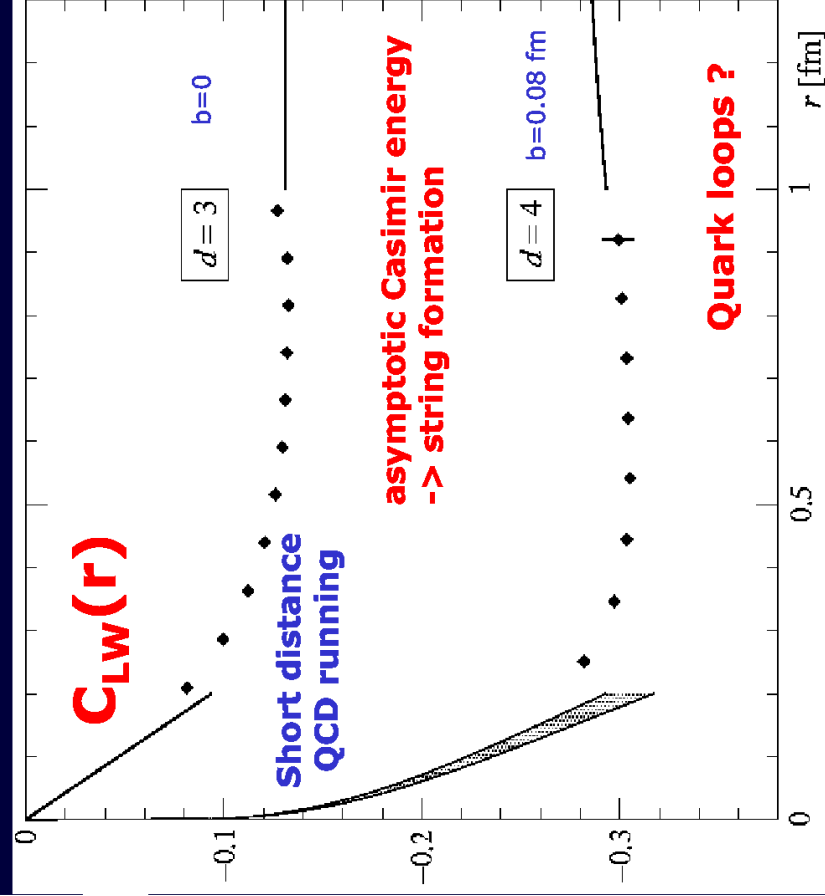
- origin of Casimir energy and effective string description
- Luscher-Weisz results
- Z(2)
- paradox ?
- 1+1 dimensional toy model insight from quantum mechanics

### 4. Closed String (torelon) with unit winding

- D=4 SU(3) QCD spectrum new results
- Closed string Casimir energy new results
- D=3 Z(2) spectrum new results

### 5. Conclusions

## Luscher-Weisz Casimir Energy



SU(3)

$$V(r) = \sigma r + \text{const} - \pi(d-2)/24r$$

$$F(r) = V'(r)$$

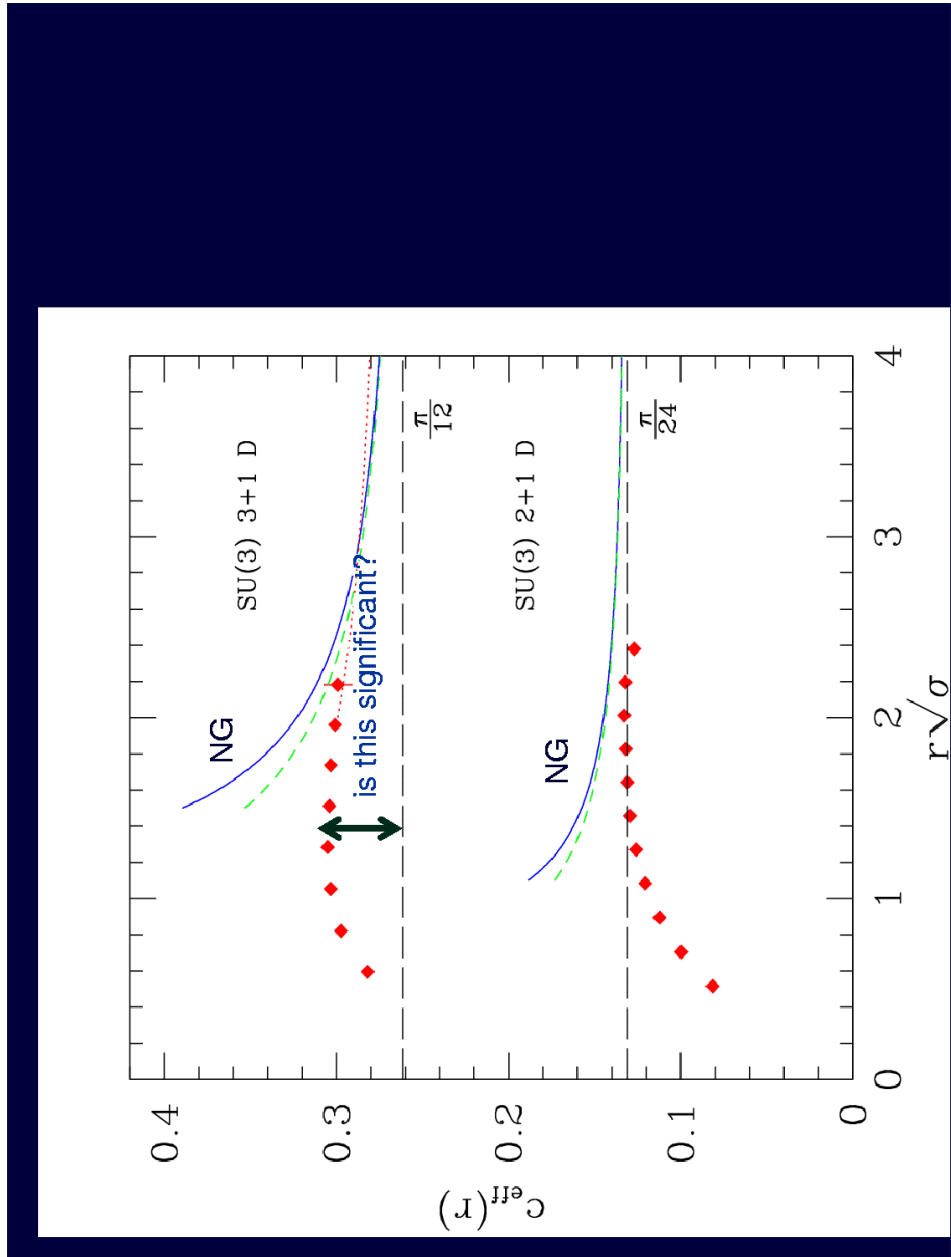
$$C_{LW}(r) = \frac{1}{2} r^3 F'(r)$$

$$-\pi(d-2)/24$$

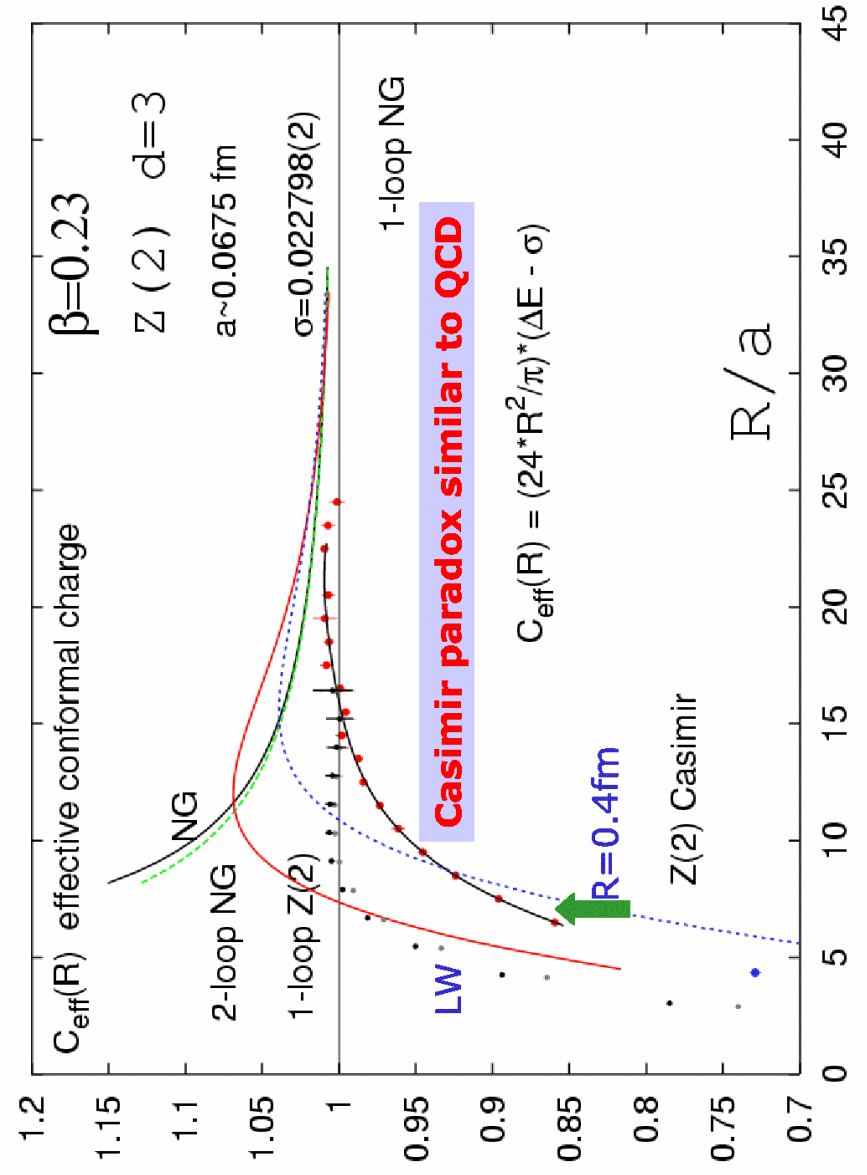
asymptotic  $r \rightarrow \text{infinity}$

Evidence for string formation in QCD?

Loop equations  
ADS string theory



### Z(2) Casimir energy



## Two basic questions:

- Why the precocious onset of  $C_{\text{eff}} \sim 1$ ?
- Where does the central charge  $C=1$  reside?

On a geometric string?

Or distributed between massless Goldstone modes and the bulk?

Answer to second question will determine whether early onset of  $C_{\text{eff}} \sim 1$  is a true signal of string formation, or just an accident

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n = -\frac{\pi}{24}$$

smart enough  
for string theory?



This is NOT a paradox

We turn to the  $D=1+1$  lattice for learning how to do the sum:

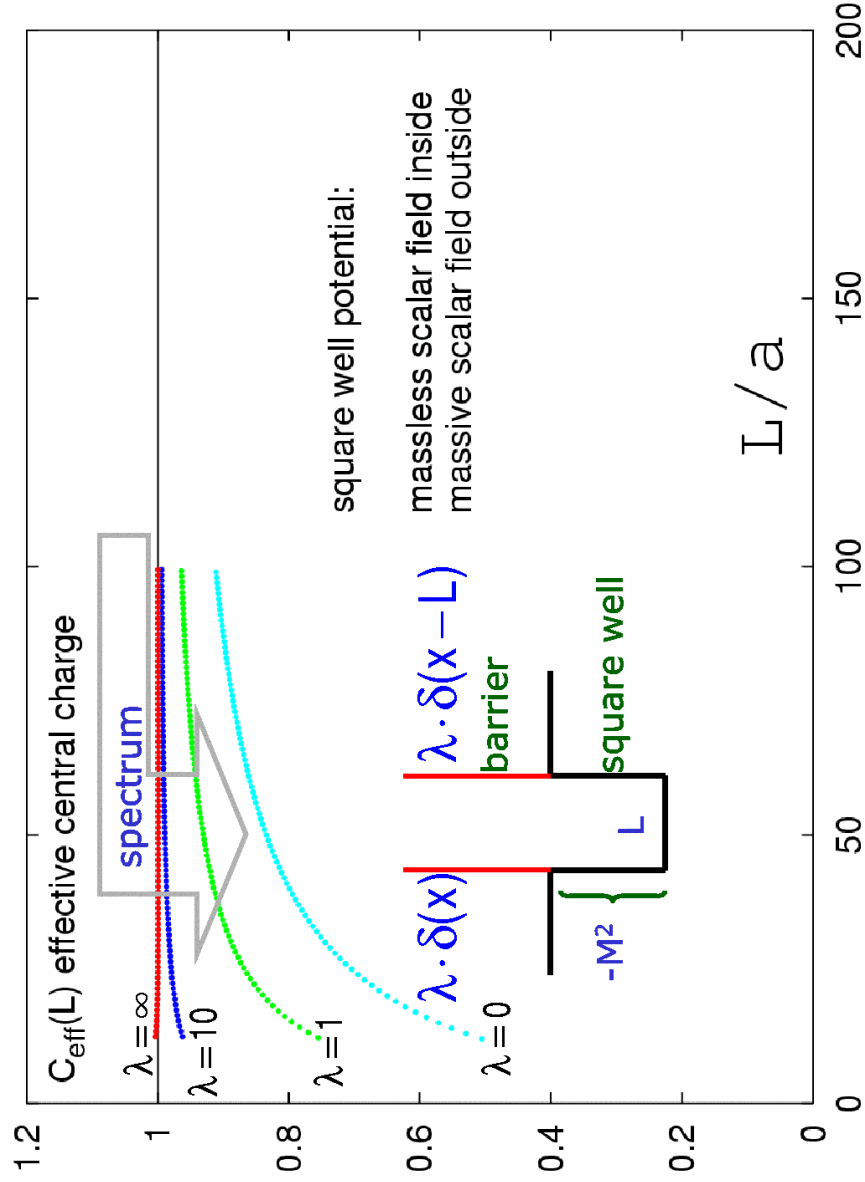
$$E_{\text{reg}}(L, a) = \frac{2L}{\pi a^2} - \frac{1}{2a} \left[ \frac{\pi}{24L} + O(a^2) \right]$$

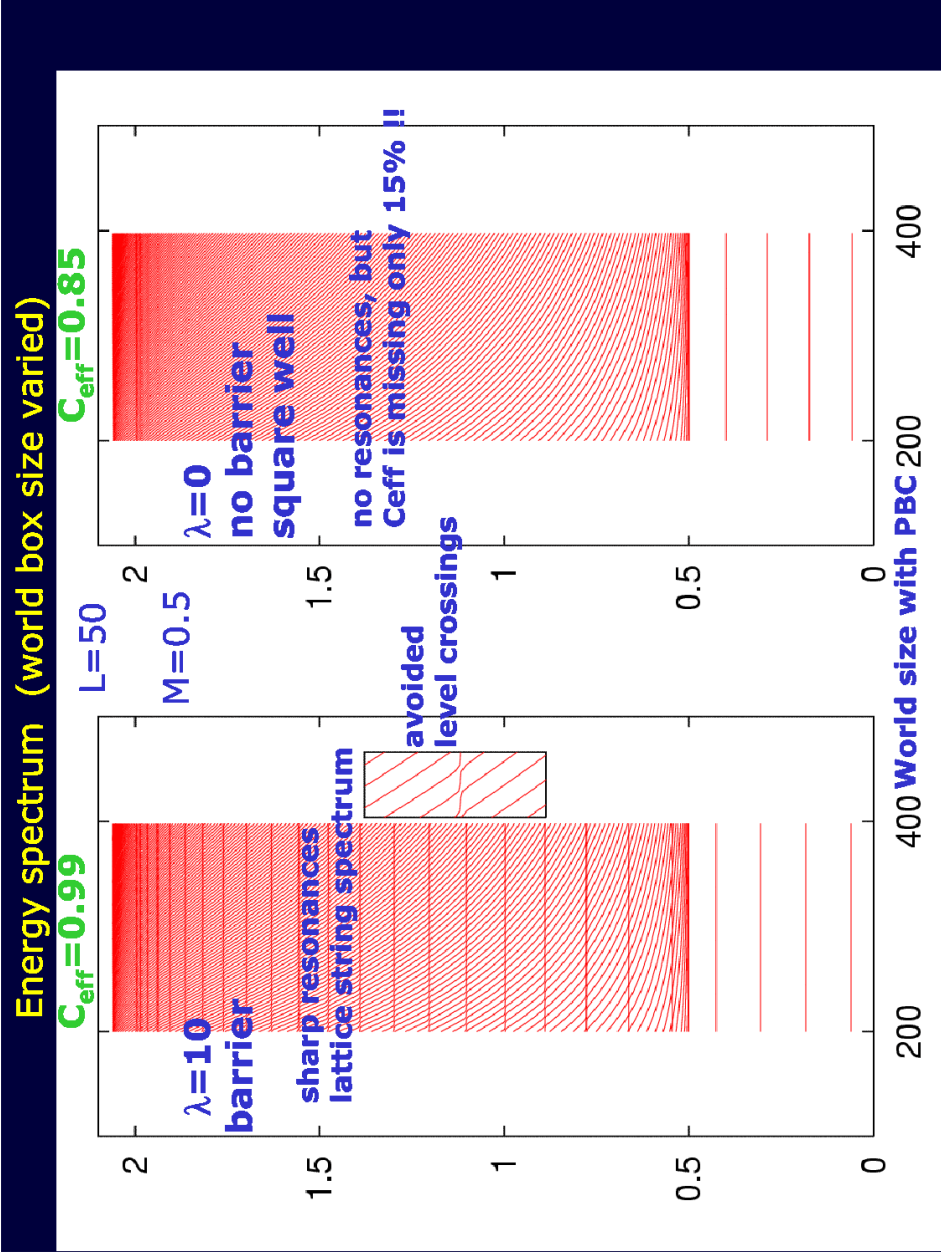
$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^3 \frac{\pi}{24} n = 1$$

This IS a paradox

How to eliminate problematic end effects?

→ string-solitons with unit winding





#### 4. Closed String (torelon) with unit winding

- D=4 SU(3) QCD spectrum      new results
- Closed string Casimir energy      new results
- D=3 Z(2) spectrum      new results

#### 4. Closed String (torelon) with unit winding

- D=4 SU(3) QCD spectrum      new results
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#### 5. Conclusions

Relativistic excitation energies of D=3 string soliton

$$E_{N+\bar{N}}^2 = R^2 \sigma^2 \left\{ 1 - \frac{\pi}{3\sigma R^2} + \frac{4\pi}{\sigma R^2} (N + \bar{N}) + \frac{4\pi^2 n^2}{(\sigma R^2)^2} \right\}$$

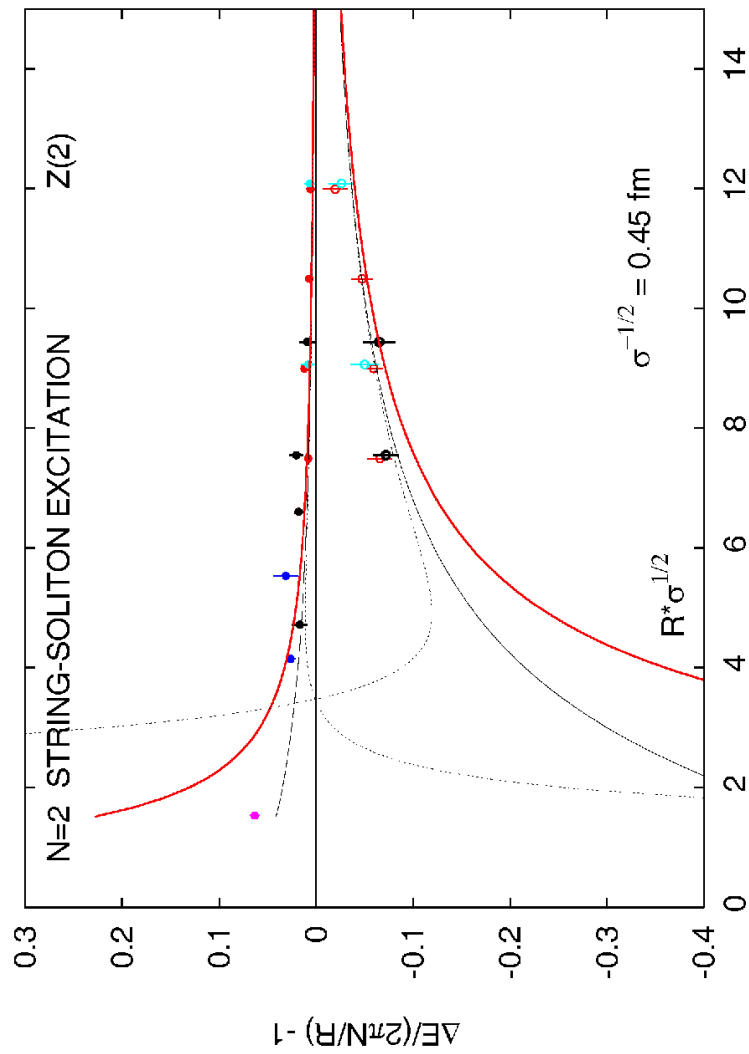
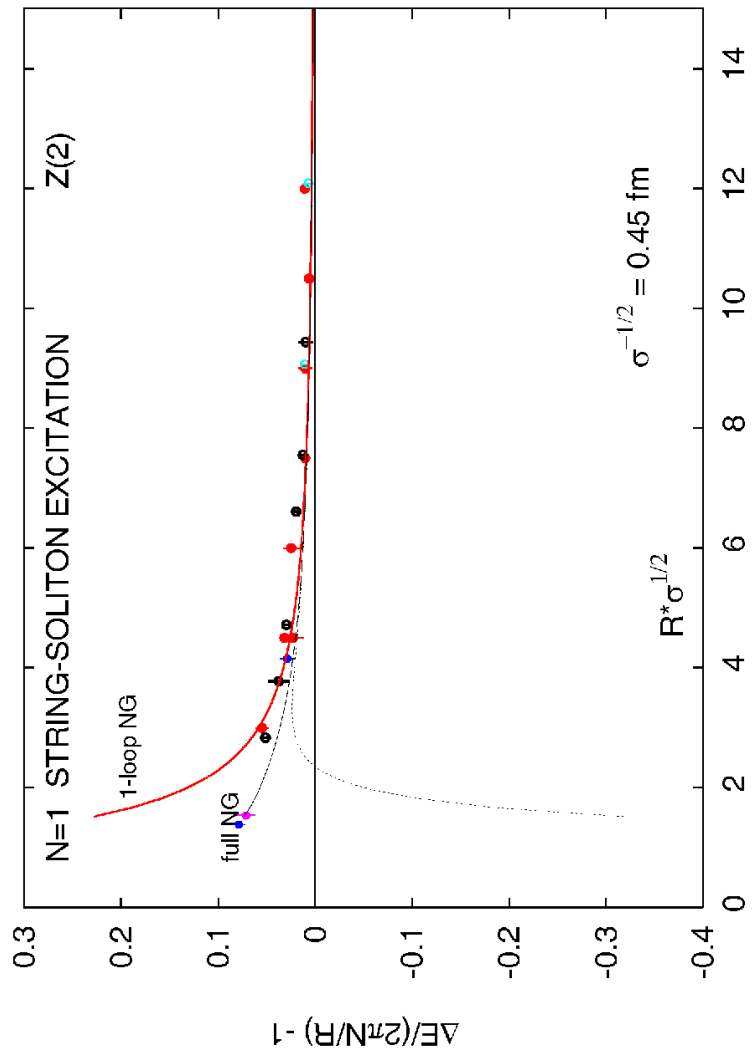
$$n = N - \bar{N}$$

$$p = \frac{2\pi}{R} n$$

Exact in NG

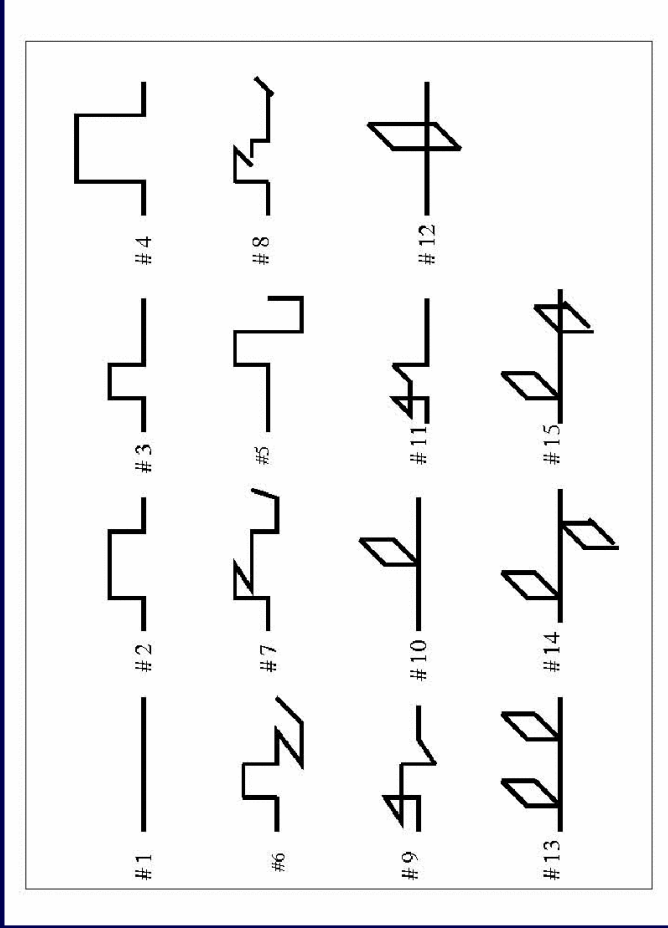
O(R<sup>-4</sup>) corrections in Polchinski-Strominger





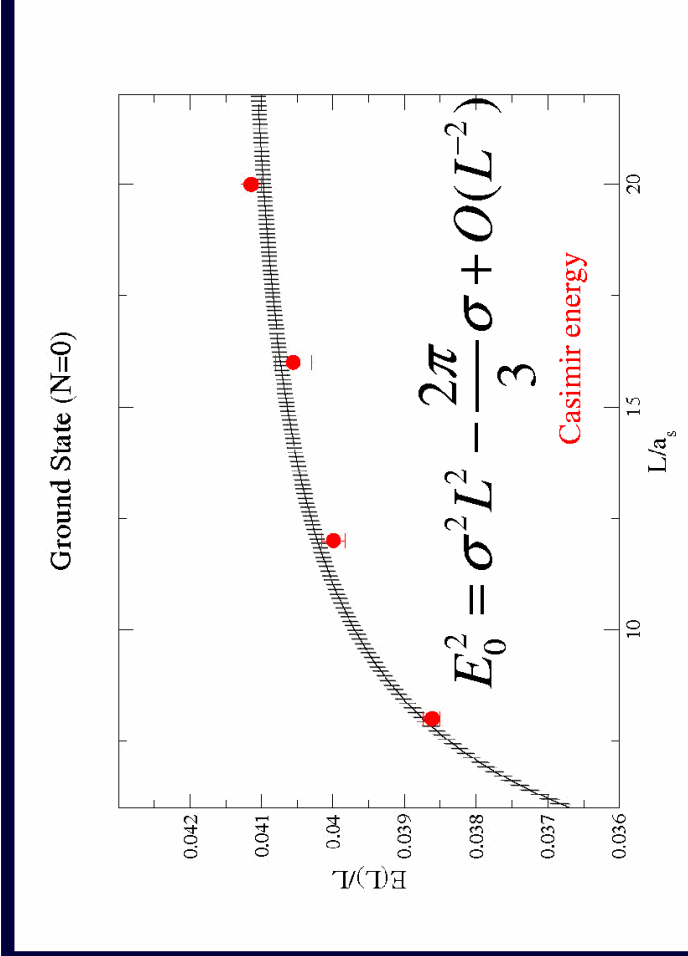
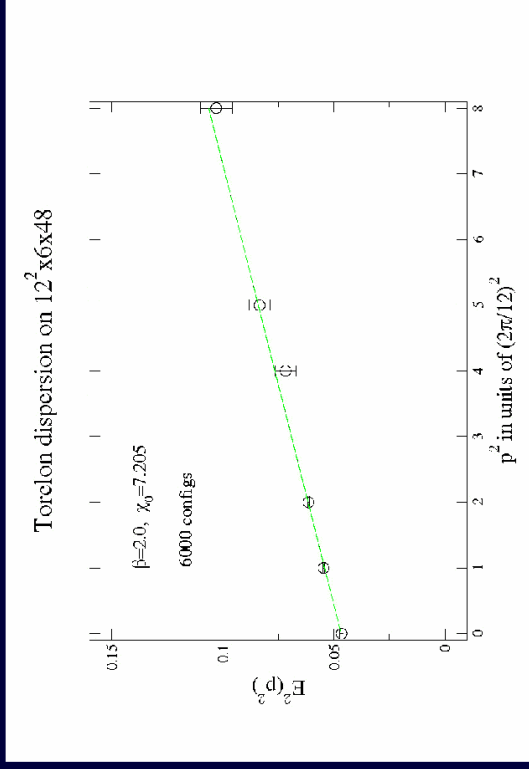
Francesca Maresca, PhD thesis, Dublin, 2004

15 basic forelon operators translated and fuzzed in large correlation matrices



Point group notation for string states

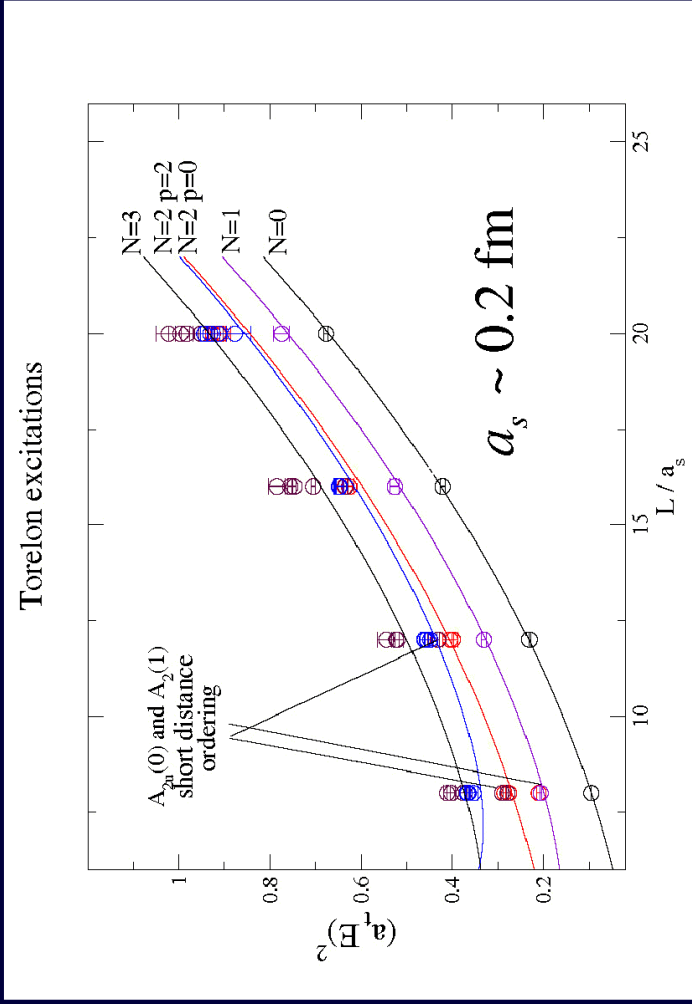
Level	Type	State	QCD $R(p_z)$
E=0	$t_0$	$ 0\rangle$	$A_{1g}(0)$
E=1	$1 \times t_1$	$(a_1^{dt} + a_1^{st}, a_1^{dt} - a_1^{st}) 0\rangle$	$E(1)$
E=2	$2 \times t_1$	$(\tilde{a}_1^{dt} \tilde{a}_1^{dt} + a_1^{st} \tilde{a}_1^{st}) 0\rangle$	$B_{1g}(0)$
		$(\tilde{a}_1^{dt} \tilde{a}_1^{dt} - a_1^{st} \tilde{a}_1^{st}) 0\rangle$	$B_{2g}(0)$
		$(a_1^{st} \tilde{a}_1^{dt} - a_1^{dt} \tilde{a}_1^{st}) 0\rangle$	$A_{2u}(0)$
		$(a_1^{st} \tilde{a}_1^{dt} + a_1^{dt} \tilde{a}_1^{st}) 0\rangle$	$A_{1g}^*(0)$
		$a_1^{st} a_1^{dt}  0\rangle$	$A_1(2)$
E=3 <sup>1</sup>	$1 \times t_1^2$	$((a_1^{dt})^2 + (a_1^{st})^2) 0\rangle$	$B_1(2)$
		$((a_1^{dt})^2 - (a_1^{st})^2) 0\rangle$	$B_2(2)$
E=3 <sup>1</sup>	$1 \times t_2$	$(a_2^{dt} + a_2^{st}, a_2^{dt} - a_2^{st}) 0\rangle$	$E(2)$
		$(\tilde{a}_1^{dt} a_2^{dt} + \tilde{a}_1^{st} a_2^{st}) 0\rangle$	$B_1(1)$
		$(\tilde{a}_1^{dt} a_2^{dt} - \tilde{a}_1^{st} a_2^{st}) 0\rangle$	$B_1(1)$
		$(\tilde{a}_1^{st} a_2^{dt} + \tilde{a}_1^{dt} a_2^{st}) 0\rangle$	$A_1(1)$
		$(\tilde{a}_1^{st} a_2^{dt} - \tilde{a}_1^{dt} a_2^{st}) 0\rangle$	$A_2(1)$



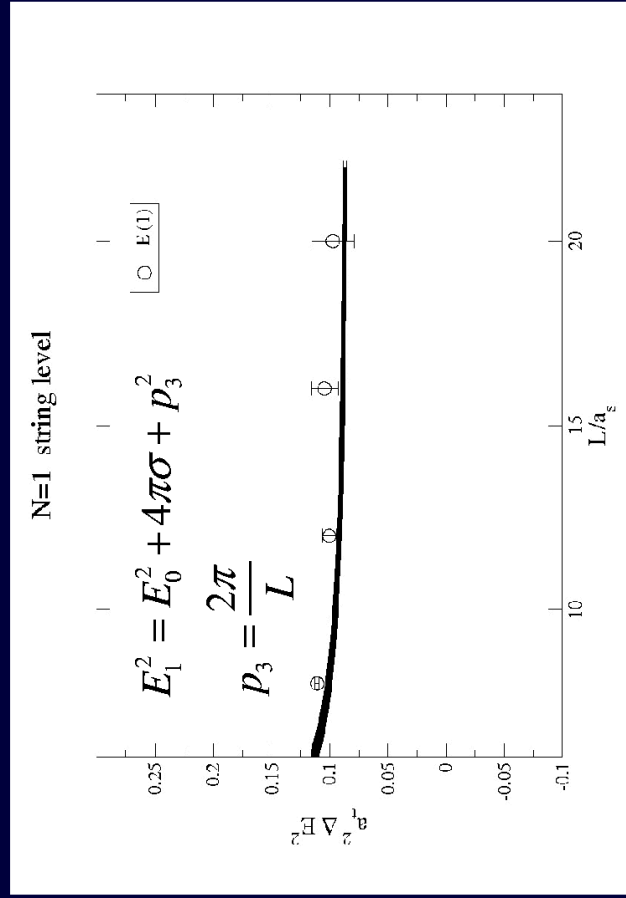
Exact in NG string no  $O(L^{-2})$  correction

Polchinski-Strominger expect corrections even without rigidity term

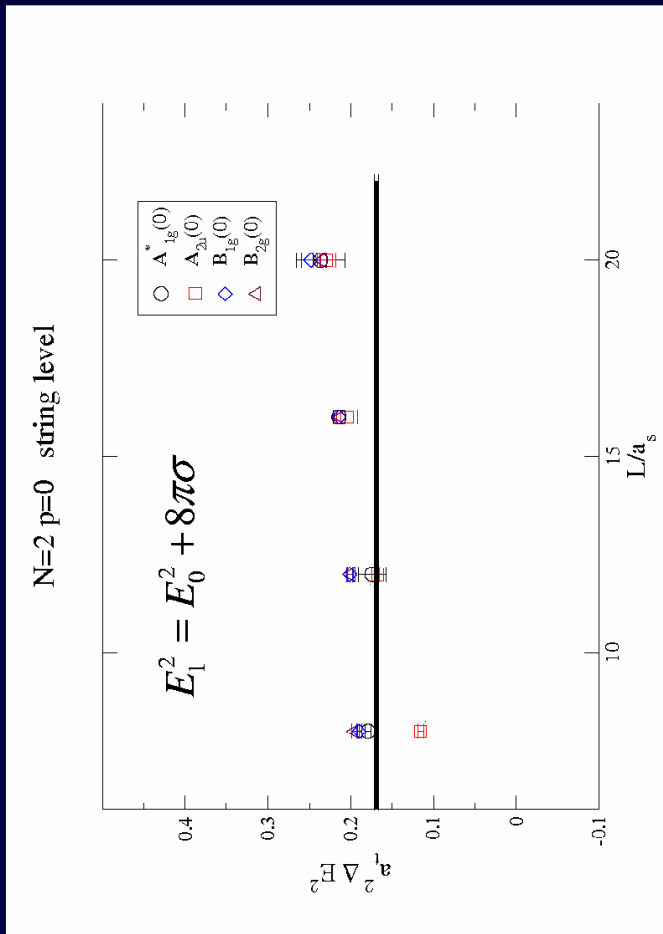
Crossover from short distance behavior to string level ordering



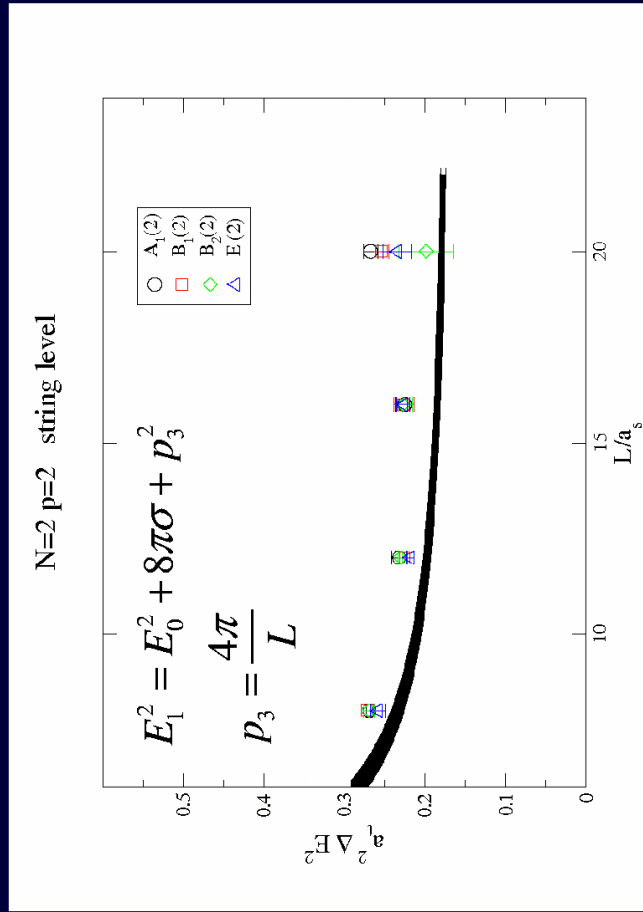
Expected string behavior



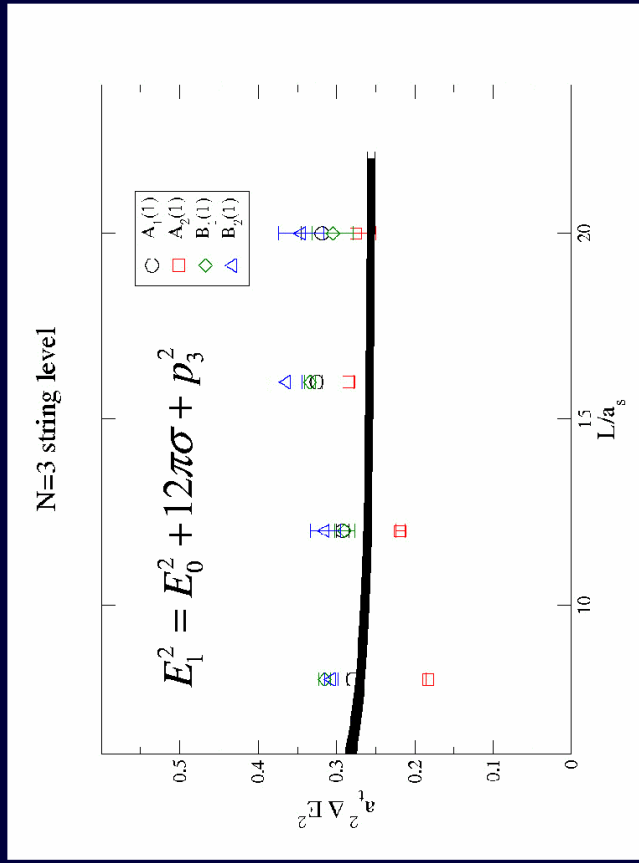
Large L?



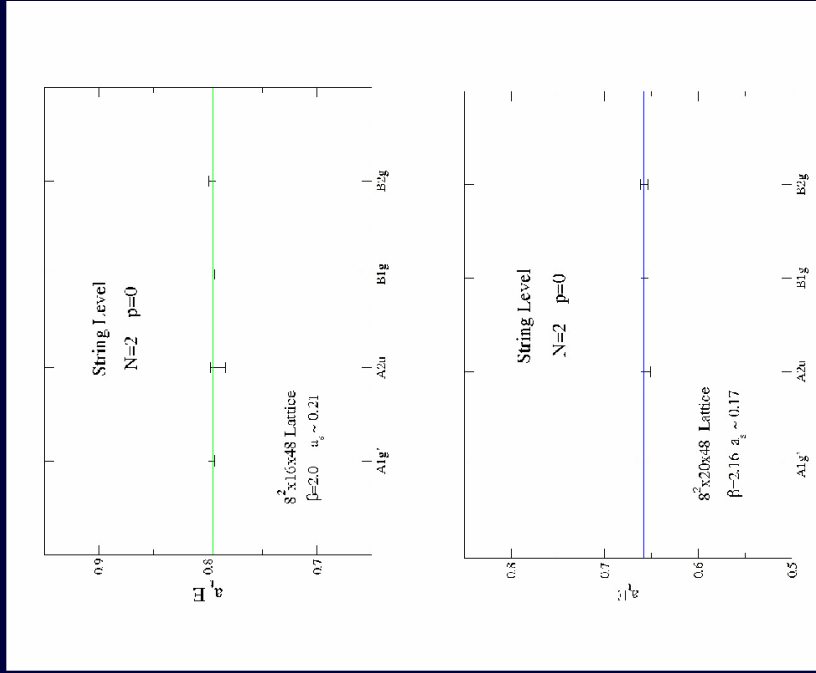
Large L?

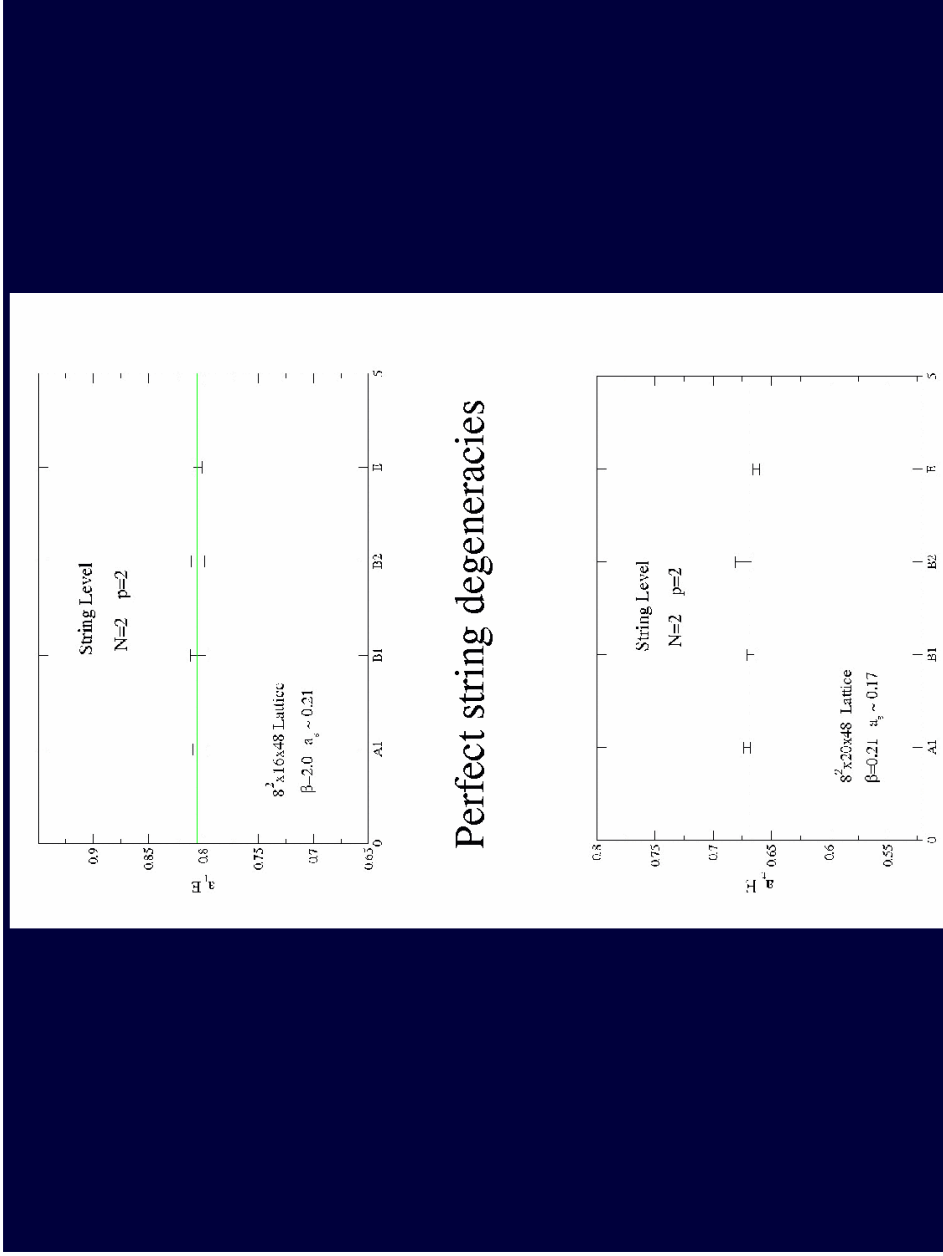


Fine structure not Nambu-Goto Large L?



Perfect string degeneracies





**QCD String check list**

- **Massless Goldstone modes**
- **Local derivative expansion for their interactions ?**  
from fine structure in the spectrum
- **Massive excitations**
- **Breathing modes in effective Lagrangian**
- **String properties ? Bosonic, NG, rigid, ...**

**WITHIN REACH of LATTICE GAUGE THEORY**

## Conclusions:

1. Fine structure in QCD string spectrum  
Progress on string-soliton spectrum
2. Casimir energy paradox: low energy Goldstone modes  $\rightarrow$  geometric string theory?
3. Is bulk behavior and related resonance spectrum the clue? Origin of central charge?
4. Effective low-energy string theory?  
Universality class of QCD string ?

neither was  
seen before

