

# $1/N$ expansion: methods and applications

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- QFT and critical phenomena
- $1/N$  expansion:  
self-consistency equations, conformal bootstrap, etc.
- MS like scheme:  
technical details and recent results

- Systems at the phase transition point.

Observables are critical exponents:  $\langle A(x)A(0) \rangle \sim |x|^{-\Delta}$

Universality:  $\{\Delta\}$  depend only on the characteristics of the critical point.

Different physical systems have the same critical behavior

- K. Wilson, 1973 :  $\epsilon$  expansion

QFT in  $d = 4 - 2\epsilon$  dimensions can be used to describe phase transitions.

The coupling constant depends on the scale

$$M \frac{dg}{dM} = \beta(g, \epsilon) \quad \beta(g_*(\epsilon), \epsilon) = 0$$

$g_*(\epsilon)$  is a critical coupling,  $g_* \sim \epsilon \mapsto$  perturbative methods

The critical exponents  $\Delta(\epsilon) = \gamma(g_*(\epsilon), \epsilon)$ .

$$\Delta(\epsilon) = \Delta_0 + \Delta_1\epsilon + \Delta_2\epsilon^2 + \dots \quad \epsilon \mapsto 1/2.$$

Huge progress in the area of multi-loop calculations:

- QCD 5-loops  
[Baikov](#), [Chetyrkin](#), [Kühn](#), [Vermaseren](#), [Herzog](#), [Ruijl](#), ...
- $\varphi^4$  6-loops  
[Kompaniets](#), [Panzer](#), [Batkovich](#), [Chetyrkin](#), ...

There are alternative approaches to calculation of critical indices:

- Numerical methods
- Analytic methods for low dimensional systems /  $2d$  CFT, [Polyakov](#), [Zamolodchikov](#), ...
- Conformal bootstrap methods / [Showk](#), [Paulos](#), [Poland](#), [Rychkov](#), [Simmons-Duffin](#), ...
- $1/N$  expansion

$N$  component  $\varphi^4$  model vs nonlinear  $\sigma$  model:  $\varphi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i^2$

$$S_{\varphi^4}(\varphi) = \int d^D x \left( \frac{1}{2} (\partial\varphi)^2 + \frac{g}{2N} (\varphi^2)^2 \right)$$

critical at

$$u_* = \frac{g_*}{16\pi^2} = \frac{6\epsilon}{N+8} + O(\epsilon).$$

$$S_{\varphi^4}(\varphi) \mapsto S(\varphi, \sigma) = \int d^D x \left( \frac{1}{2} (\partial\varphi)^2 + \sigma ((\varphi)^2) - \frac{N}{2g} \sigma^2 \right)$$

$\sigma$  field propagator: ( $2\mu = D$ )

$$D_\sigma^{-1}(p) \sim N(p^2)^{\mu-2} \left( 1 + p^{2\epsilon}/g \right) \underset{p \rightarrow 0}{\sim} N(p^2)^{\mu-2}$$

Both theories are in the same universality class.

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One can compute the critical indices in 1/N expansion in  $D$  dimensions:

$$\Delta(D) = \Delta_0(D) + \frac{1}{N} \Delta_1(D) + \frac{1}{N^2} \Delta_2(D) + \dots$$

The functions  $\Delta_k(D)$  contain information on contributions  $\epsilon^p/N^k$  in perturbative expansion,  $p$  is arbitrary.

RG functions in the  $MS$  scheme do not depend on dimension  $D$

$$\gamma(g) = M \frac{d}{dM} \ln Z(\epsilon, g) = \sum_k \gamma_k(N) g^k$$

At the critical point

$$\gamma(g) \mapsto \gamma(g_*) = \sum_k \gamma_k(N) g_*^k(\epsilon) \qquad g_*(\epsilon) \sim \epsilon/N + \dots$$

Critical dimension  $\Delta(D) = \Delta_{\text{can}} + \gamma(g_*)$ .

Comparing MS and 1/N

$$\Delta(D) = \sum_k \gamma_k(N) g_*^k(\epsilon) \quad (MS)$$

$$\Delta(D) = \sum_k 1/N^k \Delta_k(\epsilon) \quad (1/N)$$

The expansion coefficients  $\gamma_k(N)$  are polynomials in  $N$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_k(N) &= \gamma_{kk} N^k + \gamma_{kk-1} N^{k-1} + \dots + \gamma_{k1} N + \gamma_{k0} \\ &= N^k \left( \gamma_{kk} + \gamma_{kk-1}/N + \dots + \gamma_{k0}/N^k \right) \end{aligned}$$

Additional check of perturbative calculations.

**Vasil'ev, Pis'mak, Honkonen, 83**,  $\gamma_\varphi$  at  $1/N^3$  in  $\sigma$  model

**Vasil'ev, Derkachov, Kivel, Stepanenko, 93; Gracey 94**,  $\gamma_q$  at  $1/N^3$  in GN model,

Interpolation between  $2 + \epsilon$  and  $4 - \epsilon$ .



- Self-consistency equations

[Schwinger-Dyson equations with dressed propagators]

Vasil'ev, Pis'mak, Honkonen, 83,  $\gamma_\varphi$  at  $1/N^2$ .

J. Gracey, Application to different models (including gauge theories)

- Conformal bootstrap

[Schwinger-Dyson equations with dressed propagators and vertices]

Vasil'ev, Pis'mak, Honkonen, 83,  $\gamma_\varphi$  at  $1/N^3$  in  $\sigma$  model,

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- "MS scheme"

Vasil'ev, Nalimov, 83, Analog of dimensional regularization:  $D_\sigma(p) = 1/p^{2(\mu-2+\Delta)}$ .

Vasil'ev, Stepanenko, 93; Derkachov, A.M, 97

Up to  $1/N^2$  order the critical indices can be calculated via  $Z$  factors.

Schwinger-Dyson equations with dressed propagators:

$$D_\varphi(x) = \frac{A}{x^{2\alpha}}$$

$$D_\sigma(x) = \frac{B}{x^{2\beta}}$$

$$D_\varphi^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

$$D_\sigma^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

$$A^{-1}p(\alpha)x^{-2(D-\alpha)} + ABx^{-2(\alpha+\beta)} = 0 \quad B^{-1}p(\beta)x^{-2(D-\beta)} + NA^2x^{-4\alpha} = 0$$

where

$$p(\alpha) = \pi^{-D} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(D-\alpha)}{\Gamma(D/2-\alpha)\Gamma(\alpha-D/2)}$$

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The amplitudes  $A, B$  can be excluded and one gets equation on indices:

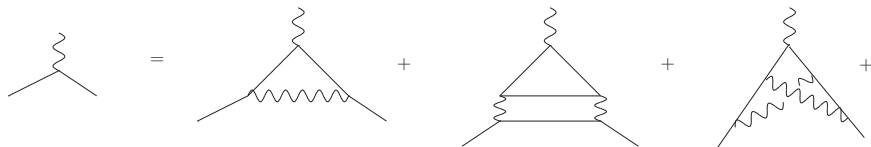
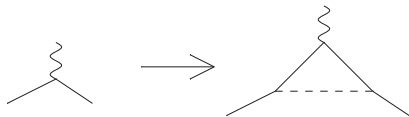
$$p(\alpha) + u = 0 \quad 2p(\beta)/N + u = 0 \quad u = A^2 B \quad 2\alpha + \beta = D \equiv 2\mu$$

$$p(\alpha) = 2p(\beta)/N$$

$$\alpha = \mu - 1 + \eta/2 \text{ and } \beta = 2 - \eta \quad p(\alpha) \sim \eta \dots$$

$$\eta = -\frac{4}{N} \frac{\Gamma(2\mu - 2)}{\Gamma(2 - \mu)\Gamma(\mu - 2)\Gamma(\mu - 1)\Gamma(\mu + 1)}$$

Schwinger-Dyson equations with dressed propagators and vertices: Structure of a three point correlator is fixed by the conformal symmetry



+ six more diagrams (to determine  $\eta$  with  $1/N^3$  accuracy).

Vasil'ev, Pis'mak, Honkonen, 83, index  $\eta$  at  $1/N^3$  in  $\sigma$  model,

Vasil'ev, Derkachov, Kivel, Stepanenko, 93; Gracey 94, index  $\eta$  at  $1/N^3$  in GN model,

Vasil'ev, Stepanenko, 93, index  $1/\nu$  at  $1/N^2$  in GN model,

Pismensky, 2015, index  $\eta$  at  $\epsilon^4$  in  $\varphi^3$  model,

J. Gracey,

Conformal Methods for Massless Feynman Integrals and Large Nf Methods, 17

Large Nf quantum field theory, 13

## Vasil'ev, Nalimov, 83

$$\begin{aligned}
 S(\varphi, \sigma) &= \int Dx \left( \frac{1}{2} (\partial\varphi)^2 + \sigma\varphi^2 \right) \mapsto \\
 &= \int Dx \left( Z_1 \frac{1}{2} (\partial\varphi)^2 + v \frac{1}{2} \sigma(x) \int Dy K_{\Delta}(x-y) \sigma(y) + Z_2 \sigma\varphi^2 - v \frac{1}{2} \sigma(x) \int Dy K(x-y) \sigma(y) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$K_{\Delta}(x) = A/(x^2)^{D-2} (M^2 x^2)^{\Delta}$ .  $K$  cancels the simple loop insertion of  $\varphi$  field in the propagator of  $\sigma$  field.

$$\begin{array}{c} K \\ \text{wavy line with a dot} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{wavy line} \text{---} \text{circle} \text{---} \text{wavy line} \end{array} = 0$$

The model is renormalizable, but not multiplicatively renormalizable,

$$S_R(\varphi, \sigma) \neq S(\varphi_0, \sigma_0)$$

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**Extended model:**  $S(\varphi, \sigma) \mapsto S(\varphi, \sigma, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$      $S(\varphi, \sigma) = S(\varphi, \sigma, \mathbf{u} = 1, \mathbf{v} = 1)$

Divergencies appears as poles in  $\Delta$

**RG equations**

$$\left( M \partial_M + \beta_u \partial_u + \beta_v \partial_v + \gamma_\Gamma \right) \Gamma(u, v, p_i) = 0$$

$$\beta_u = M \frac{du}{dM}, \quad \beta_v = M \frac{dv}{dM}.$$

$$\beta_u = \beta_v = \gamma_\sigma \neq 0$$

$\sigma$  field propagator

$$\begin{aligned} D_\sigma(x) = B/(x^2)^{2-\Delta} &\implies D_\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{u} B/(x^2)^{2-\Delta} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{v-1}{u}\right)^m (x^2)^{-m\Delta} \\ &= \frac{1}{u} B/(x^2)^{2-\Delta} \left(1 + \left(\frac{v-1}{u}\right) x^{-2\Delta} + \dots\right) \end{aligned}$$

RG equation contains  $\Gamma(u, v)$  and the derivative  $(\partial_u + \partial_v)\Gamma(u, v)$ .

$$D_\sigma^{\Delta=0}(x) = \frac{1}{u} \frac{B}{x^4} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{v-1}{u}\right)^m = \frac{B}{x^4} \frac{1}{1+u-v}$$

In  $1/N$  expansion:

$$\Gamma(u, v) = \Gamma_0(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) + \frac{1}{N} \Gamma_1(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) + \dots$$

**Vasil'ev, Nalimov, 83:**  $\Gamma(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \Gamma(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v})$  in the MOM scheme.

$$\left(M\partial_M + \gamma_\Gamma\right)\Gamma(u - v, p_i) = 0 \quad \gamma_\Gamma \text{ is the scaling dimension of the correlator.}$$

In any other scheme

$$\Gamma(u, v, p) = \tilde{Z}(u, v)\Gamma(u - v, p) \quad \beta_u(\partial_u + \partial_v)\Gamma(u, v, p) = \Delta\gamma_\Gamma\Gamma(u, v, p)$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \beta_u(\partial_u + \partial_v) \log \tilde{Z}.$$

Minimal subtraction scheme:  $Z = \sum_n Z_n/\Delta^n$ :  $\Gamma(u, v) \neq \Gamma(u - v)$

$$\gamma_\Gamma \neq \tilde{\gamma}_\Gamma = M \frac{d \log Z}{dM}$$

S. Derkachov, A.M., 98

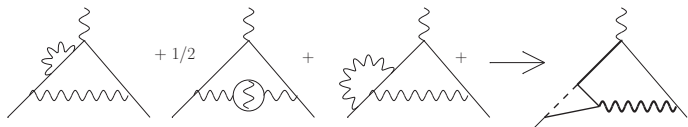
MS scheme

$$\Gamma(u, v) = \Gamma_0(u - v) + \frac{1}{N} \Gamma_1(u - v) + \frac{1}{N^2} \Gamma_2(u, v) + \dots$$

$$\gamma_\Gamma - \tilde{\gamma}_\Gamma = O(1/N^3).$$

$$\tilde{\gamma}_\Gamma = -2 \sum_{\Gamma_i} n_{\sigma, i} \times Z_{i,1} (= \text{simple pole residue})$$

The self-energy and vertex correction diagrams resummation :



The dressed propagators and vertices have the form

$$D_\varphi(x) = \widehat{A}/x^{2\Delta_\varphi},$$

$$D_\sigma(x) = \widehat{B}/x^{2\Delta_\sigma},$$

and

$$\gamma_R(z, x, y) \equiv \Gamma_{\sigma\varphi\varphi}(z, x, y) = \widehat{Z}(z-x)^{-2\alpha}(z-y)^{-2\alpha}(x-y)^{-2\beta}.$$

Here

$$\Delta_\varphi = \mu - 1 + \gamma_\varphi,$$

$$\Delta_\sigma = 2 + \gamma_\sigma,$$

$$\alpha = \mu - 1 - \gamma_\sigma/2,$$

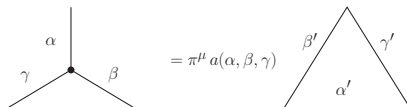
$$\beta = 2 - \gamma_\varphi + \gamma_\sigma/2.$$

Uniqueness condition:

$$\alpha + \beta + \Delta_\varphi = D$$

$$2\alpha + \Delta_\sigma = D$$

Star-triangle relation  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = D \equiv 2\mu$ .



$$\alpha' = \mu - \alpha, \quad a(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = a(\alpha)a(\beta)a(\gamma), \quad a(\alpha) = \Gamma(\mu - \alpha)/\Gamma(\alpha).$$

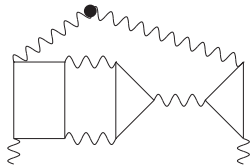
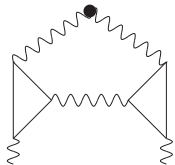
The diagram with the dressed vertices and propagators has only a surface divergence:

$$D = \frac{R}{\Delta} + F$$

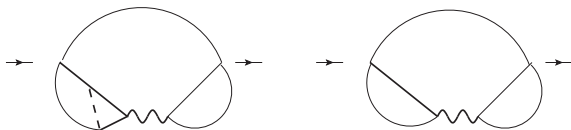
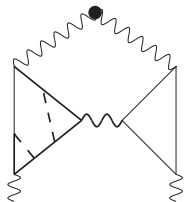
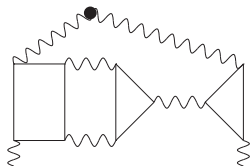
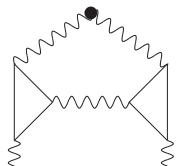
$$\delta\gamma_{SE+V} = \delta\gamma_1/N + \delta\gamma_2/N^2 + \dots = -2R$$

This trick reduces the number of diagrams and greatly simplifies calculations.

Example:  $\sigma^2$  operator:  $D(\Delta) = \frac{1}{\Delta} R + \dots$



Example:  $\sigma^2$  operator:  $D(\Delta) = \frac{1}{\Delta} R + \dots$



- Anomalous dimensions via  $Z$ -factors
- Dressed propagators and vertices (+ star-triangle relation)
  
- Critical dimensions of  $\sigma^\ell$  and non-singlet twist two operators  $\varphi(\otimes\partial)^n\varphi$  in the nonlinear  $\sigma$  model (NSM), **Derkachov, A.M, 98**
- $\gamma_m$  in QCD at  $1/N_f^2$ , **Ciuchini, Derkachov, Gracey, A.M, 99**
- Twist two singlet operators  $\bar{q}(\otimes\partial)^n q$  in the Gross-Neveu model **Skvortsov, A.M, 16**
- Twist two singlet operators  $\varphi(\otimes\partial)^n\varphi$  in the NSM **Skvortsov, Strohmaier, A.M, 17**
- $\sigma^3$  and  $\sigma\partial^2\sigma$  in the GN model, **Strohmaier, A.M, 17**

Zerf, Mihaila, Marquard, Herbut, Scherer, 17

Four-loop critical exponents for the Gross-Neveu-Yukawa models:

two couplings,  $g_1, g_2$ ,  $\beta_k(g_1, g_2)$ ,  $k = 1, 2$ ,  $\omega_{ik} = \partial_{g_i}\beta_k(g_1, g_2)$ .



**Klebanov, Polyakov, 2002** the vector  $O(N)$  model is dual to HST AdS<sub>4</sub>. (Conjecture)

**Leigh, Petkou, 2003** GN model

$$J_s \equiv J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} = \varphi \partial_{\mu_1} \dots \partial_{\mu_s} \varphi + \text{total derivatives} \quad (NLS)$$

$$J_s \equiv J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} = \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu_1} \partial_{\mu_2} \dots \partial_{\mu_s} q + \text{total derivatives} \quad (GN)$$

$$m_s^2 = m_0^2(s) + \delta m_s^2, \quad m_0^2(s) = (d + s - 2)(s - 2) - s, \quad \delta m_s^2 = \gamma_s(d - 4 + 2s + \gamma_s).$$

**Muta and Popovic, 77** (GN-model)

$$\gamma_{n.s}(s) = \frac{1}{n} \eta_{GN} \left( 1 - \frac{\mu(\mu - 1)}{j_s(j_s - 1)} \right),$$

$$\gamma(s) = \frac{1}{n} \eta_{GN} \left( 1 - \frac{\mu(\mu - 1)}{j_s(j_s - 1)} \left( 1 + \frac{\Gamma(2\mu - 1)}{\mu - 1} \frac{\Gamma(j_s - \mu + 2)}{\Gamma(j_s + \mu - 2)} \right) \right)$$

$$j_s = s + \mu - 1.$$

**Lang and Ruhl, 99** (NLS-model) In the leading order in  $1/n$  (up to  $\eta_{GN} \rightarrow \eta_{NSM}$ )

$$\gamma_{NSM}(s) = \gamma_{GN}(s)$$

**Gribov Lipatov reciprocity relation – Large  $j$  asymptotic of anomalous dimensions**  
**Dokshitzer, Marchesini, Salam, 06, Basso, Korchemsky, 07**

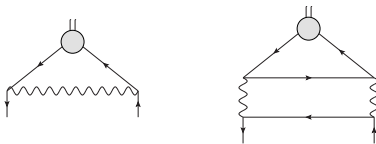
$$\gamma(s) = f\left(j_s + \frac{1}{2}\gamma_s\right) \qquad f(j) \sim \left(j - \frac{1}{2}\right)^{-\Delta_q} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{a_{q,k}}{(j(j-1))^k}.$$

$$\gamma(s) = f_1(j_s) + \frac{1}{2}f_1(j_s)f_1'(j_s) + f_2(j_s) + \dots$$

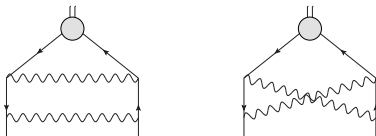
**Alday, Zhiboedov, 17**

Proof based on: conformal bootstrap + crossing symmetry + unitarity

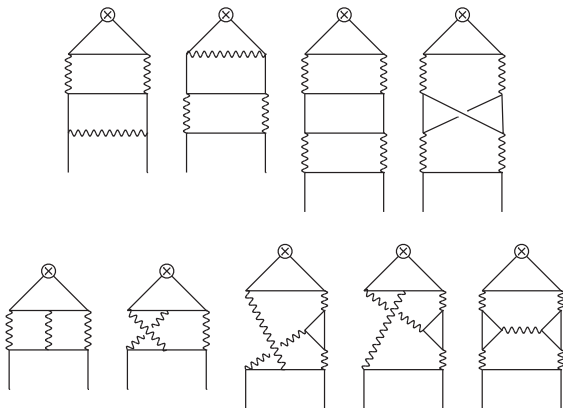
LO diagrams:



NLO non-singlet diagrams



NLO singlet diagrams:



Any diagram without divergent subgraphs has the "reciprocity" property.

$$\gamma(s) = f(j) = \eta \left( 1 + f_1(j) + \Delta f_1(j) \right) + \eta^2 \left( f_2^+(j) + \Delta f_2(j) \right) + O(1/n^3),$$

where  $j = s + \mu - 1 + \gamma(s)/2$

$$\Delta f_1(j) = f_1(j) \frac{\Gamma(2\mu - 1)}{\mu - 1} \frac{\Gamma(j - \mu + 2)}{\Gamma(j + \mu - 2)}.$$

For the function  $\Delta f_2(j)$  we obtained

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta f_2(j) = \Delta f_1(j) & \left\{ - \left[ \psi(j) - \psi(\mu) \right] - \frac{2\mu - 1}{\mu - 1} \left( \Psi(j, \mu) - \Psi(\mu, \mu) \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \psi(2 - \mu) - \psi(\mu) \right) \right. \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{j(j - 1)} + \frac{(2\mu - 3)(3\mu - 1)}{2(\mu - 1)(j - \mu + 1)(j + \mu - 2)} + \frac{1}{(\mu - 1)^2} + \frac{1}{2\mu(\mu - 1)} - 1 \\ & - \frac{1}{2} f_1(j) \left( \psi(1 - \mu) - \psi(\mu - 1) - 2 + \frac{2\mu - 3}{(j - \mu + 1)(j + \mu - 2)} \right) \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \Delta f_1(j) \left( \psi(2 - \mu) - \psi(\mu) - 1 + \frac{1}{(j - \mu + 1)(j + \mu - 2)} \right. \\ & \left. \left. - \frac{j(j - 1)}{(\mu - 1)(j - \mu + 1)(j - 2 + \mu)} \left[ \Psi(j, \mu) + \psi(\mu) - \psi(1) - \Upsilon(j, \mu) \right] \right) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Psi(j, \mu) = \psi(j - 2 + \mu) + \psi(j + 2 - \mu) - 2\psi(j)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon(j, \mu) &= \frac{\Gamma(j)}{\Gamma(\mu - 2)\Gamma(j + 2 - \mu)(j + \mu - 2)} \int_0^1 du u^{\mu-2} \bar{u}^{j-\mu} {}_2F_1\left(\begin{matrix} 1, 1 \\ j + \mu - 1 \end{matrix} \middle| -\frac{u}{\bar{u}}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu - 2)} \frac{\Gamma(j - 2 + \mu)}{\Gamma(j + 2 - \mu)} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} dt \Gamma^2(t + 1)\Gamma(\mu + t)\Gamma(-t) \frac{\Gamma(j - \mu + 1 - t)}{\Gamma(j + \mu - 1 + t)}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\gamma(s) = \frac{\eta_1}{N} \gamma_1(s) + \left(\frac{\eta_1}{N}\right)^2 \gamma_2(s) + \dots$$

In  $D = 3$   $\eta_1 = \frac{8}{3\pi^2}$  and

$$\gamma_1(s) = \frac{2(s-2)}{2s-1},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_2(s) = & \frac{3}{4s^2-1} \left( -\frac{32s^2}{9} - \frac{(13s^2+14s+6)\log(2)}{s} - \frac{3}{2}\pi s + \frac{3}{2}s \left( S_1\left(\frac{s}{2} + \frac{3}{4}\right) - S_1\left(\frac{s}{2} + \frac{1}{4}\right) \right) \right) \\ & + \frac{3(-1-s+s^2)}{s} \left( S_1\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) - S_1\left(\frac{s+1}{2}\right) - S_1(s+1) \right) - \frac{(s+2)(7s+6)}{2s} S_1\left(s + \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ & + \frac{(13s^2+3s+3)}{s} S_1(s) + 13s - \frac{9}{s+1} + \frac{1}{2s-1} - \frac{6}{(2s-1)^2} - \frac{3}{2s+1} + \frac{9}{2s+3} - \frac{9}{s} + \frac{152}{9} \Big). \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta m_s^2 = 2\eta(s-2)(1 + \eta\kappa(s) + \dots).$$

At large spin  $\kappa(s) = \frac{39}{8} \frac{\log s}{s} + \dots$

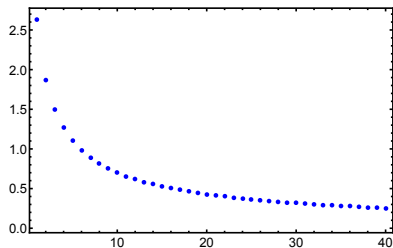


Figure: Function  $\kappa(2k)$ .



- $1/N$  methods provide a nontrivial check of perturbative calculations.
- "MS like scheme" is very effective up to  $1/N^2$  order.