

# Single flavor staggered fermions

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New types of Fermions Workshop  
YITP, Feb. 9, 2012

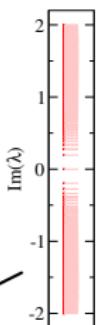
[Phys. Lett. B696 \(2011\) 422](#)



- 1 Introduction
- 2 Staggered Wilson
- 3 Symmetries
- 4 Free operators
- 5 Tests in 2D
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- 7 Outlook

# Lattice fermions

remove 4-fold degeneracy

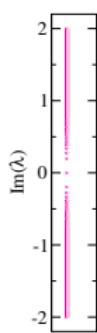


Naive fermions

$$D_N = \gamma_\mu D_\mu$$

16 species

add Wilson term



Staggered fermions

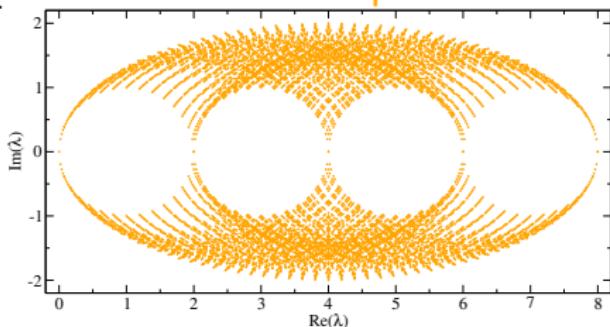
$$D_{st} = \eta_\mu D_\mu$$

4 species

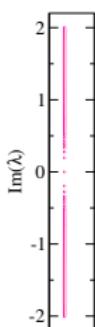
Wilson fermions

$$D_W = \gamma_\mu D_\mu + rW$$

1+4+6+4+1 species



# Chiral symmetry



Staggered fermions

$$D_{\text{st}} = \eta_\mu D_\mu$$

4 species, no anomaly

$$U(1)_\epsilon : \{D_{\text{st}}, \epsilon\} = 0$$

$$\epsilon = (-1)^{x_1+x_2+x_3+x_4}$$

$$\sim (\gamma_5 \otimes \xi_5)$$

Wilson fermions  $D_W$   
1+4+6+4+1 species

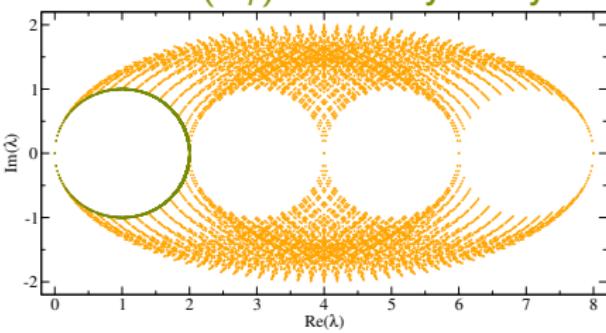


Overlap fermions

$$D_{\text{ov}} = \rho (1 + \gamma_5 \text{sign}(\gamma_5 (D_W - \rho)))$$

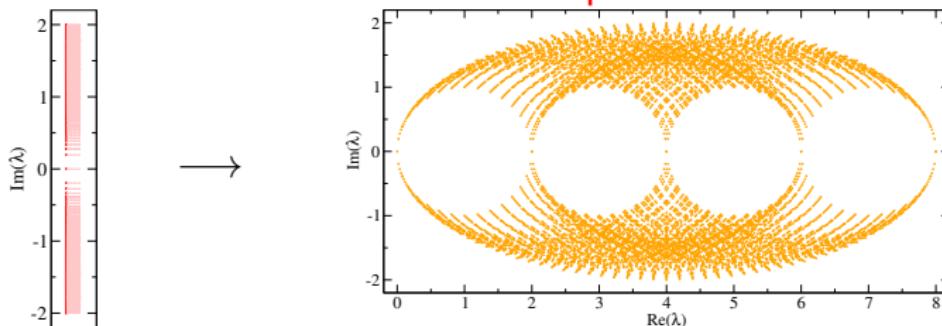
1 species, correct anomaly

Full  $SU(N_f)$  chiral Symmetry



# Wilson term

Add a Wilson term to naive operator:



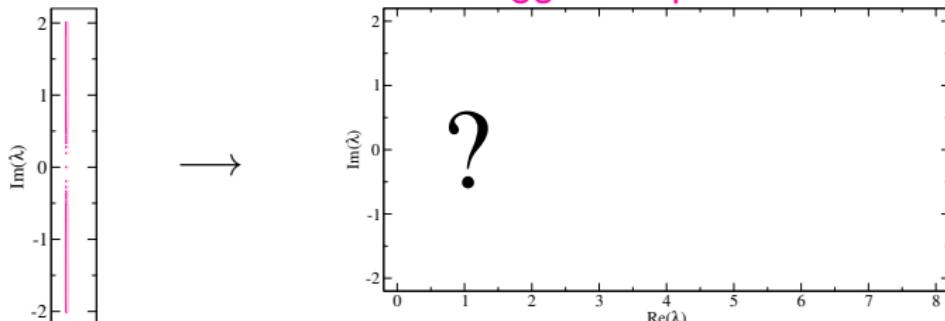
Momentum dependent mass (remove doublers)

Positivity of  $\det(D_W)$ :

- Naive operator: antihermitean,  $\{D_N, \gamma_5\} = 0$
- Wilson term  $W$ : hermitean,  $[W, \gamma_5] = 0$
- $D_W \gamma_5 = \gamma_5 D_W^\dagger$
- eigenvalues real or in complex conjugate pairs  $\lambda_i = \lambda_{i^*}^*$

# Staggered Wilson term

Add a Wilson term to staggered operator:



Momentum (taste) dependent mass (remove doublers)

Positivity of  $\det(D_A)$ :

- Staggered operator: antihermitean,  $\{D_N, \epsilon\} = 0$
- Wilson term  $A$ : hermitean,  $[A, \epsilon] = 0$
- $D_A \epsilon = \epsilon D_A^\dagger$
- eigenvalues real or in complex conjugate pairs  $\lambda_i = \lambda_{i^*}^*$

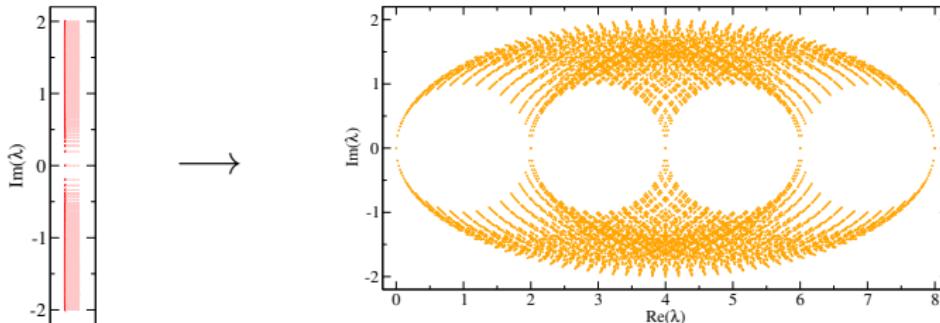
# Wilson term construction

Usual Wilson term:

$$W = \sum_{\mu} (C_{\mu} + 1)$$

$$C_{\mu} := \frac{1}{2} (V_{\mu} + V_{\mu}^{\dagger}) \quad (V_{\mu})_{xy} := U_{\mu}(x) \delta_{x+\hat{\mu},y}$$

$$W^{\dagger} = W \checkmark \quad [W, \gamma_5] = 0 \checkmark$$



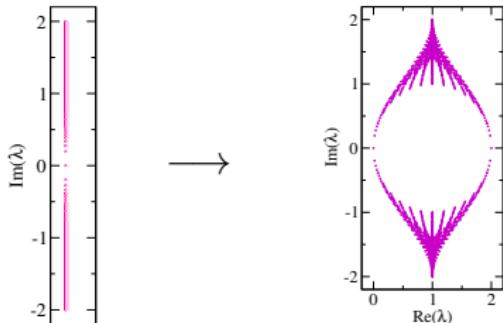
# Staggered Wilson term construction

Staggered Wilson term: (Adams, 2010)

$$A = \epsilon \eta_5 (C_1 C_2 C_3 C_4)_{\text{sym}}$$

$$C_\mu := \frac{1}{2} (V_\mu + V_\mu^\dagger) \quad (V_\mu)_{xy} := U_\mu(x) \delta_{x+\hat{\mu},y}$$

$$A^\dagger = A \checkmark \quad [A, \epsilon] = 0 \checkmark$$



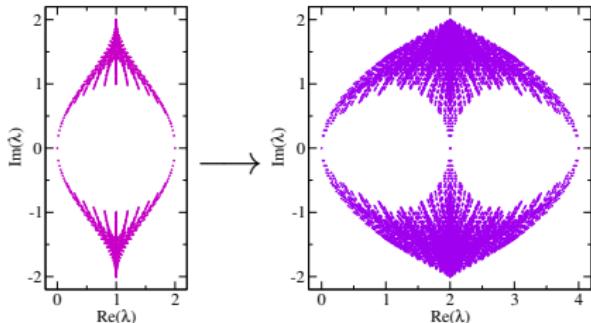
- $\eta_5 = \eta_1 \eta_2 \eta_3 \eta_4 = (-1)^{x_1+x_3}$
- $\eta_\mu = (-1)^{\sum_{\nu < \mu} x_\nu} \sim (\gamma_\mu \otimes 1)$
- $\epsilon = (-1)^{x_1+x_2+x_3+x_4} \sim (\gamma_5 \otimes \xi_5)$
- $\{C_\mu, \epsilon\} = 0$
- $A \sim (1 \otimes \xi_5) + O(a)$

# Remnant flavor degeneracy

- Staggered flavor basis:  $A \sim \xi_5 = \text{diag}(1, 1, -1, -1)$
- Twofold degeneracy left!
- Let us take

$$M_{\mu\nu} = i\epsilon_{\mu\nu}\eta_\mu\eta_\nu (C_\mu C_\nu)_{\text{sym}}$$

$$M_{\mu\nu}^\dagger = M_{\mu\nu} \checkmark \quad [M_{\mu\nu}, \epsilon] = 0 \checkmark$$



- $\epsilon_{\mu\nu} = -\epsilon_{\nu\mu} = (-1)^{x_\mu + x_\nu}$ ,  $\mu < \nu$
- $\eta_\mu = (-1)^{\sum_{\nu < \mu} x_\nu}$
- $M_{\mu\nu} \sim (1 \otimes \sigma_{\nu\mu}) + O(a)$
- $\sigma_{\nu\mu} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, 1)$

# Discrete staggered symmetries

Remnants of Poincare symmetry:

|                     | $D_{\text{st}}$ | $A$ | $M_{\mu\nu}$      |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------------|
| shift (translation) | +               | -   | $\pm$             |
| axis reversal       | +               | -   | $\pm$             |
| rotation            | +               | +   | $M_{\alpha\beta}$ |

- Preserved by staggered operator
- Preserved up to a sign flip by  $A$
- Rotation introduces new terms for  $M_{\mu\nu}$
- Bad: new counterterms
- ! Search for more symmetric construction

# Symmetrized staggered Wilson

$$M_s = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} ( s_{12} ( s_1 s_2 M_{12} + s_3 s_4 M_{34} ) \\ + s_{13} ( s_1 s_3 M_{13} + s_4 s_2 M_{42} ) \\ + s_{14} ( s_1 s_4 M_{14} + s_2 s_3 M_{23} ) )$$

- Shift or axis reversal in  $\rho$ :  $s_\rho \rightarrow -s_\rho$

| rotation $(\rho, \sigma)$ |       |       |       | sign flip                    |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| (1,4)                     | (2,3) | (3,1) | (2,4) | $s_{12} \rightarrow -s_{12}$ |
| (1,2)                     | (3,4) | (4,1) | (3,2) | $s_{13} \rightarrow -s_{13}$ |
| (1,3)                     | (4,2) | (2,1) | (4,3) | $s_{14} \rightarrow -s_{14}$ |

- $M_s \sim (1 \otimes \xi^{(s)}) + O(a)$        $\xi^{(s)} = \text{diag}(0, 0, 2, -2)$

# New symmetries

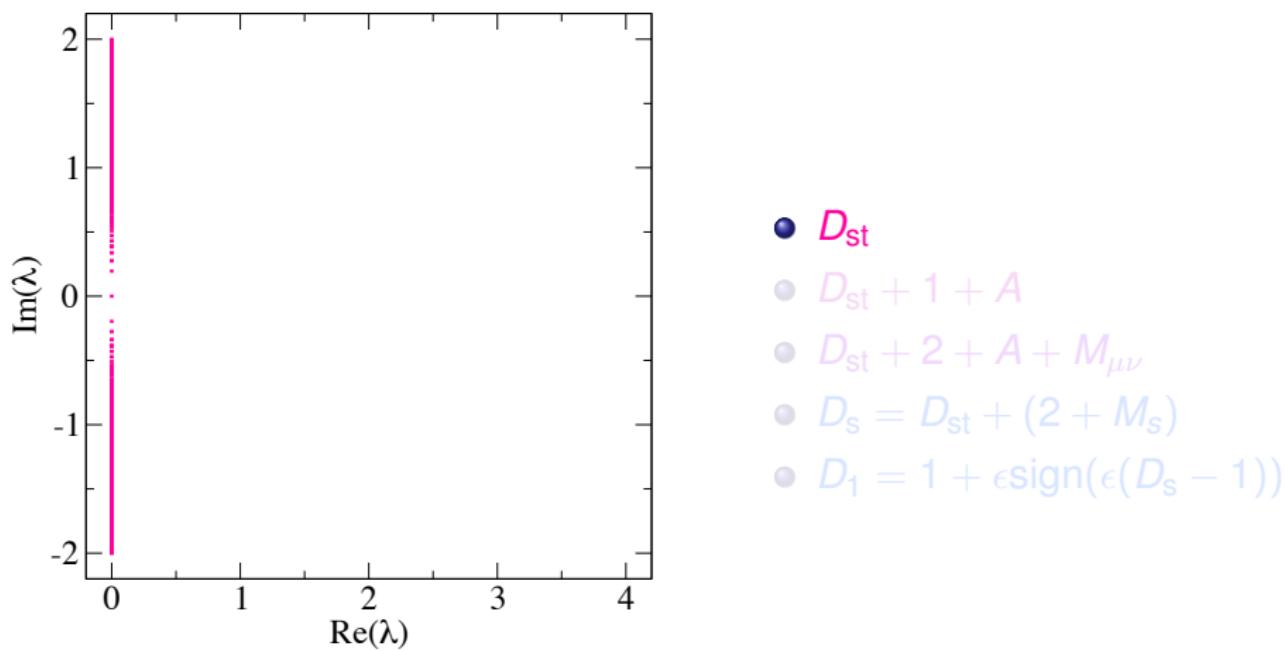
- Symmetries of the action:

| $D_{st}$                       | $A$   | $M_S$   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| $x \rightarrow x + \hat{\mu}$  | $x \rightarrow x + \hat{\mu} \pm \hat{\nu}$ | $x \rightarrow x + \hat{1} \pm \hat{2} \pm \hat{3} \pm \hat{4}$ |
| $x_\mu \rightarrow -x_\mu$     | $x_\mu \rightarrow -x_\mu + 1$              | $x_\mu \rightarrow -x_\mu + 1$                                  |
| $x \rightarrow R^{(\mu\nu)} x$ | $x \rightarrow R^{(\mu\nu)} x$              | $x \rightarrow R^{(\mu\nu)} R^{(\sigma\tau)} x$                 |

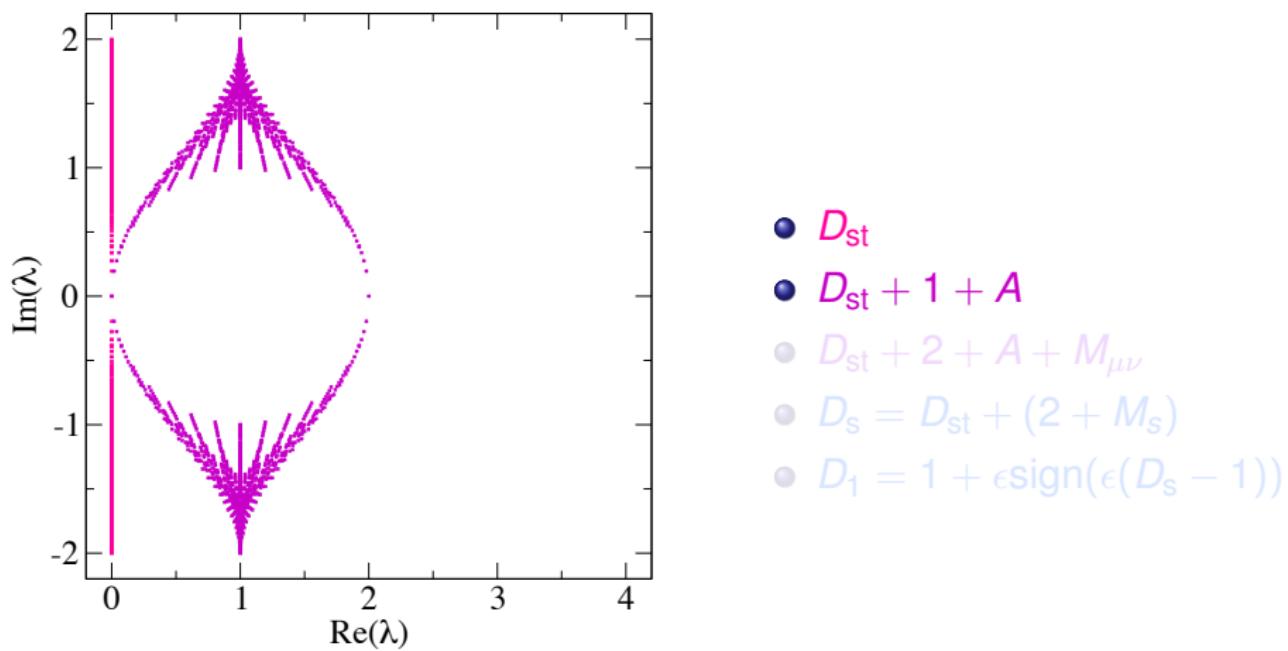
Leading ( $a^3$ ) terms:

- Staggered symmetries:none
- 2-flavor symmetries: $A$
- 1-flavor symmetries: $A$  and all  $M_S$ 
  - ✗ Loop corrections renormalize flavor structure
  - ✓ Flavor assignment is arbitrary → no problem?

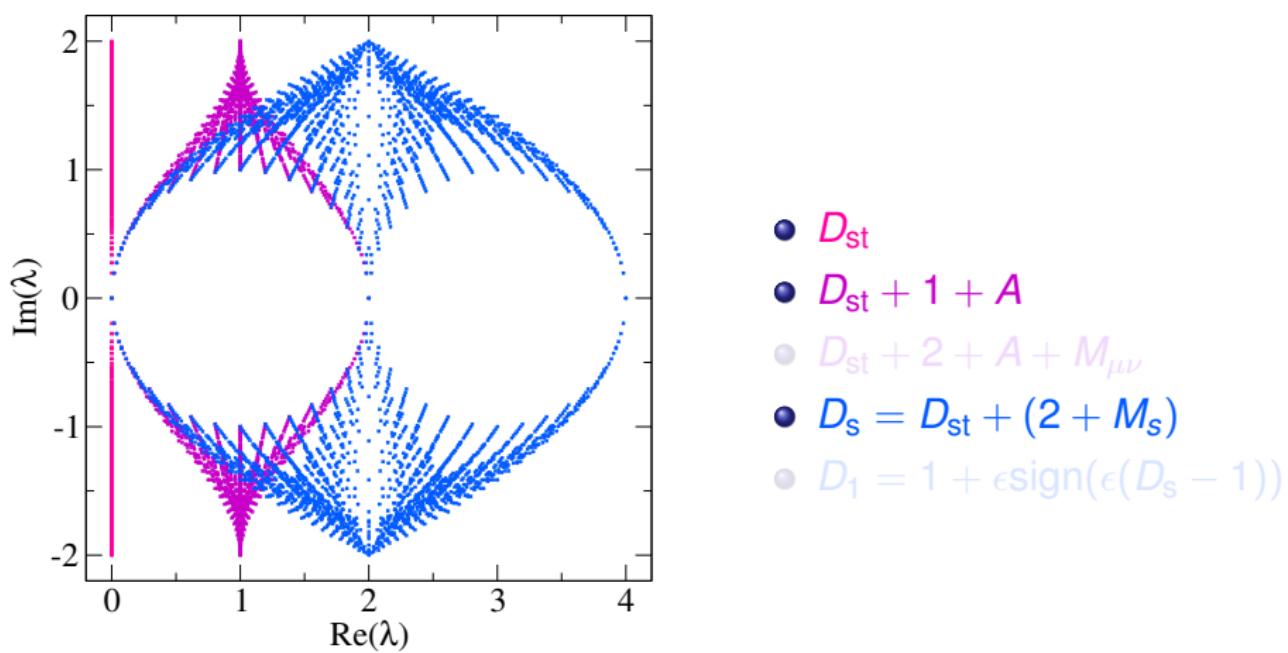
# Single flavor staggered operator



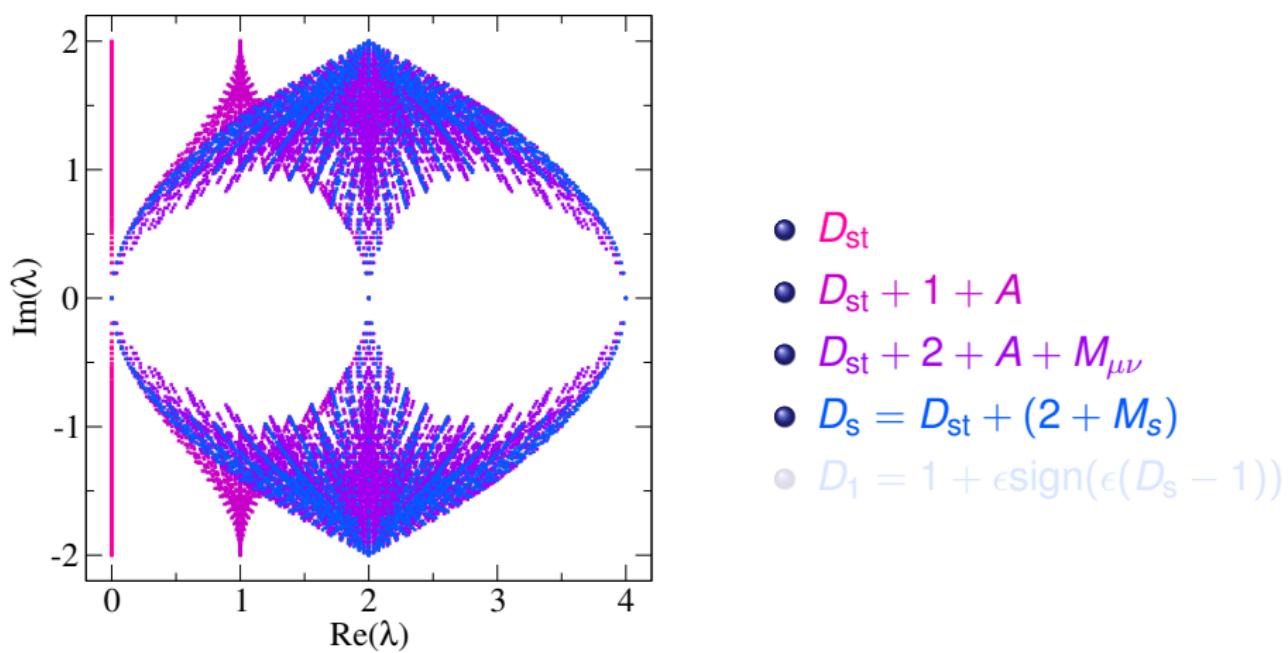
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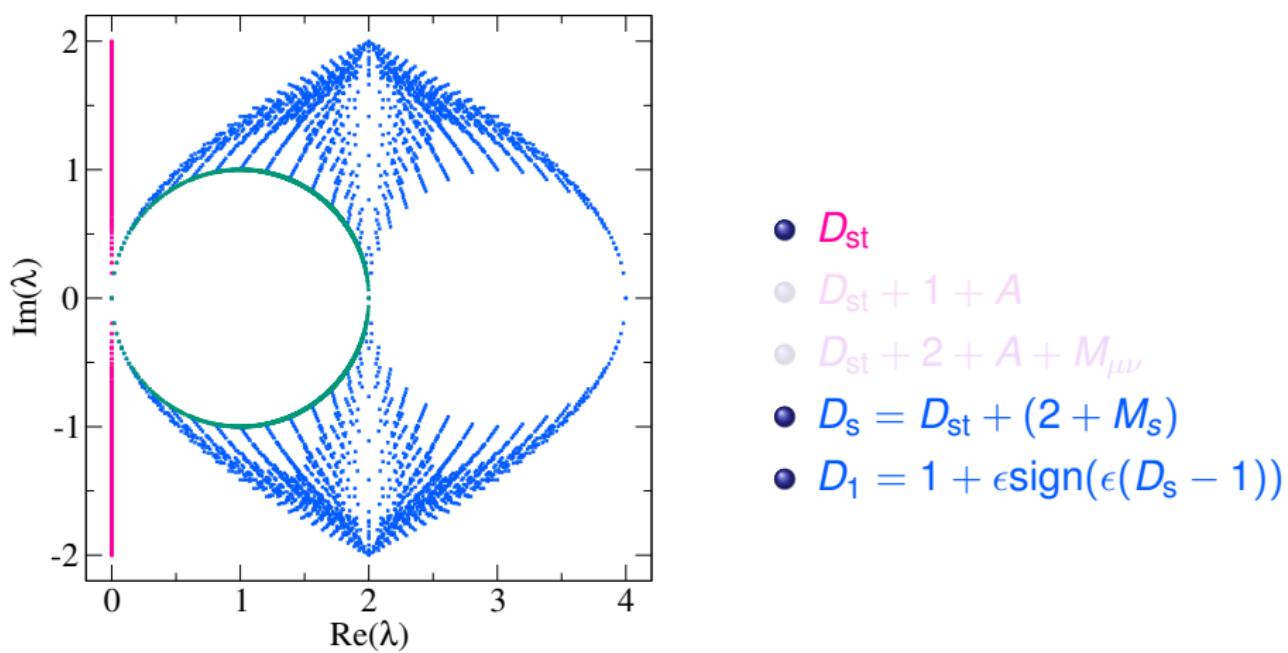
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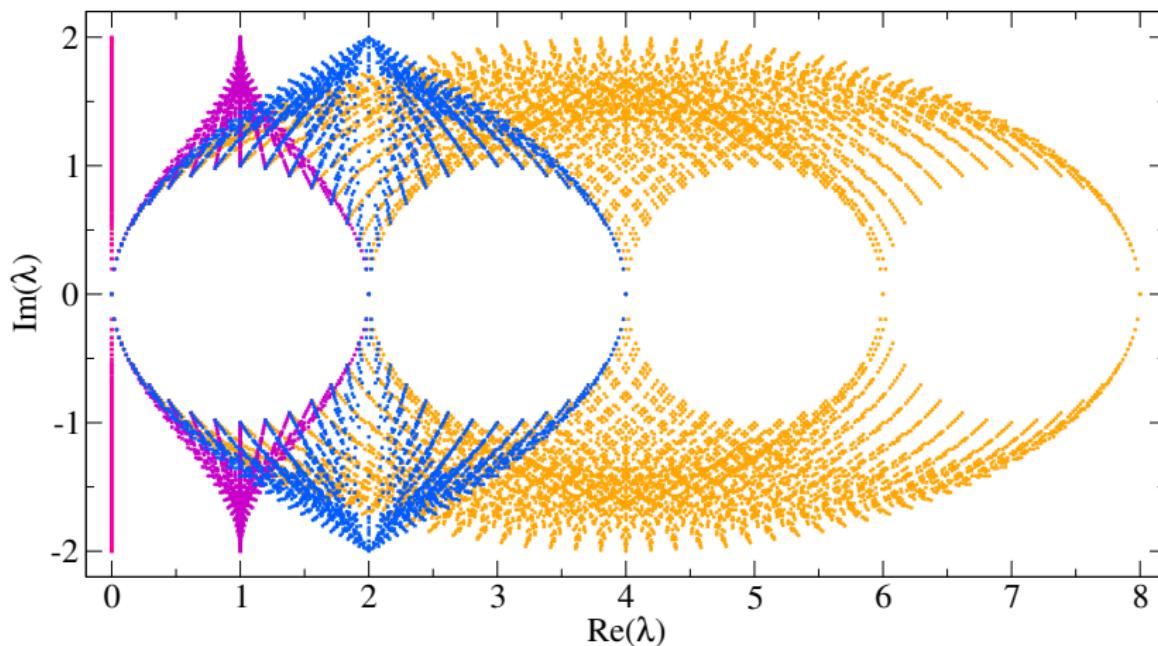
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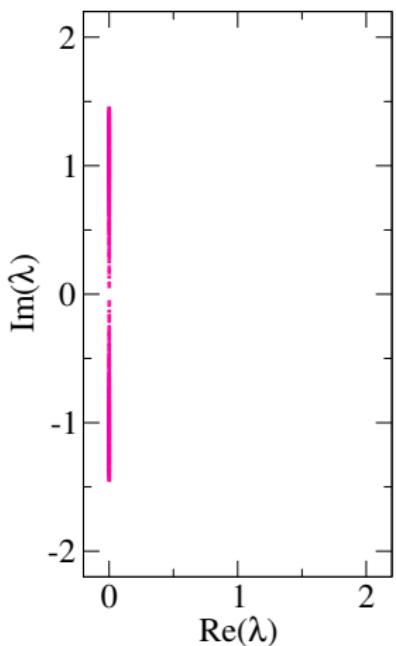
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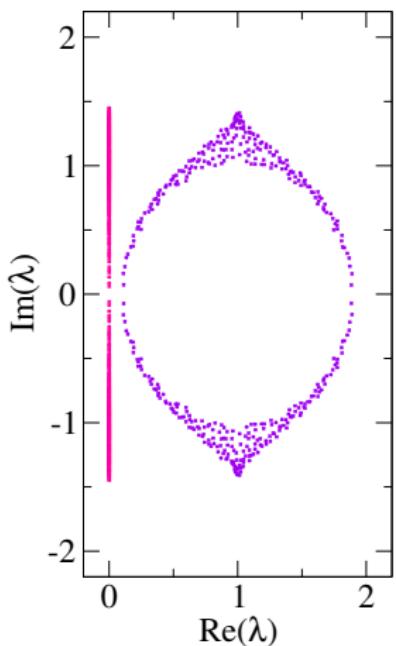


# Some tests in 2D



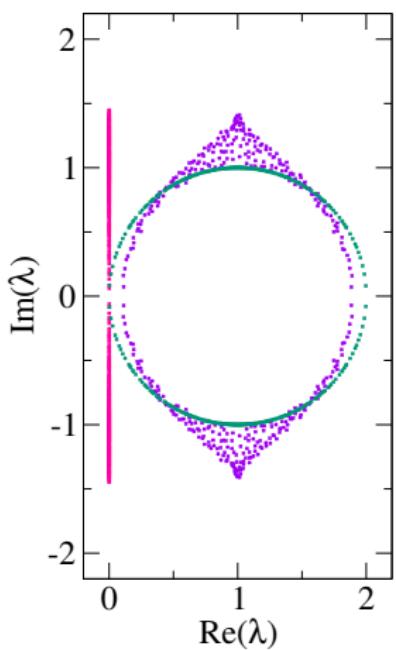
- Only 2-fold degeneracy in 2D
- $M_{12}$  uniquely lifts this degeneracy
- $D_{st}$
- $D_{st} + 1 + M_{12} \quad Q = 0$
- $1 + \epsilon \text{sign}(\epsilon(D_{st} + M_{12}))$

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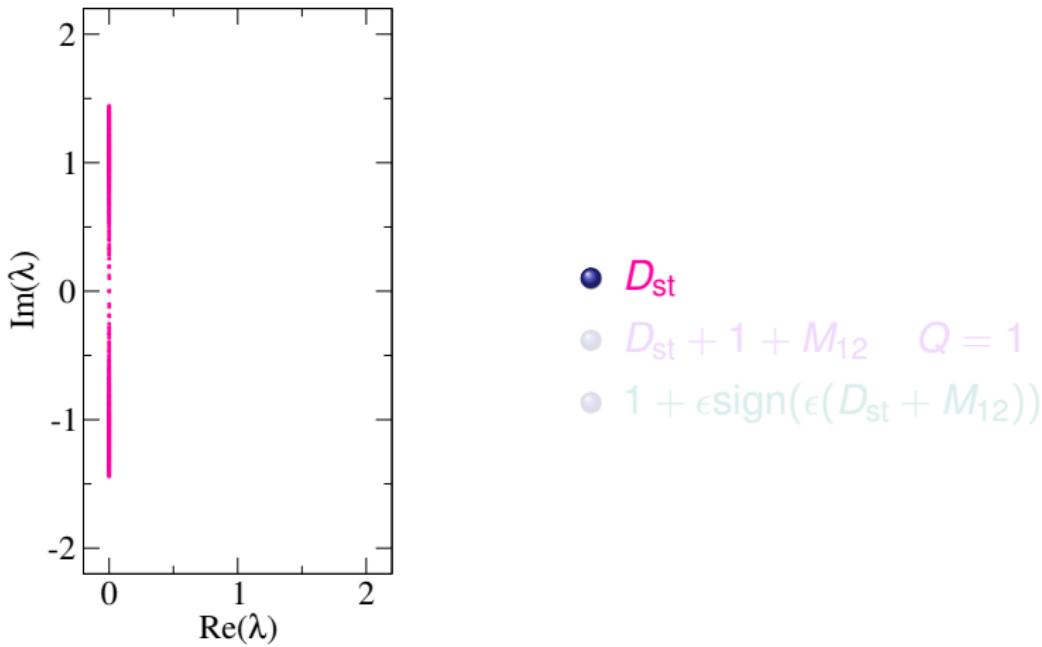
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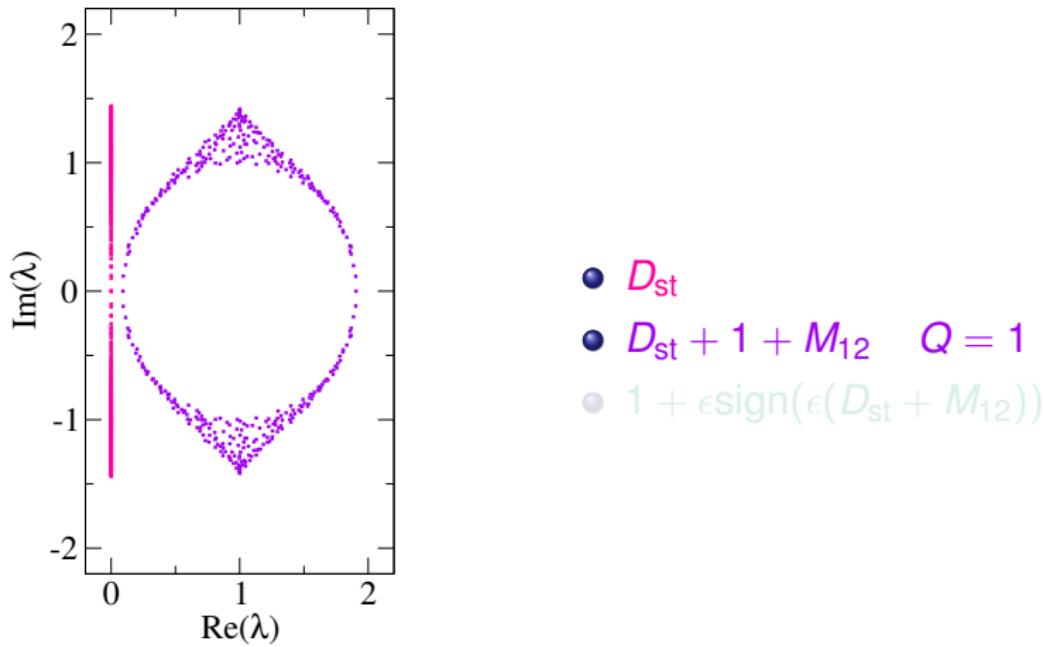


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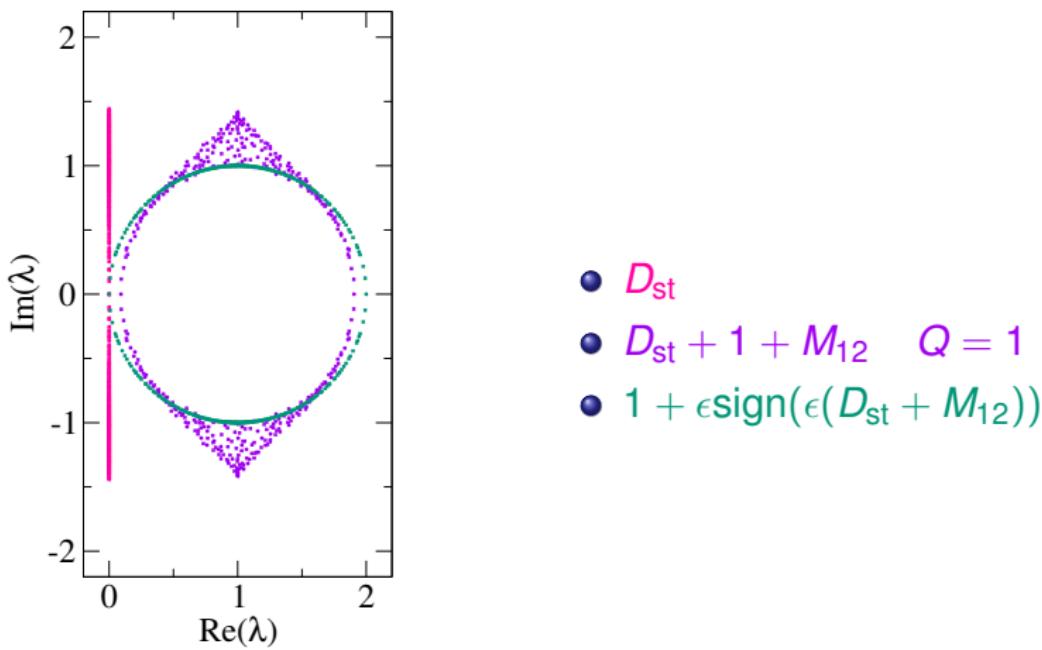
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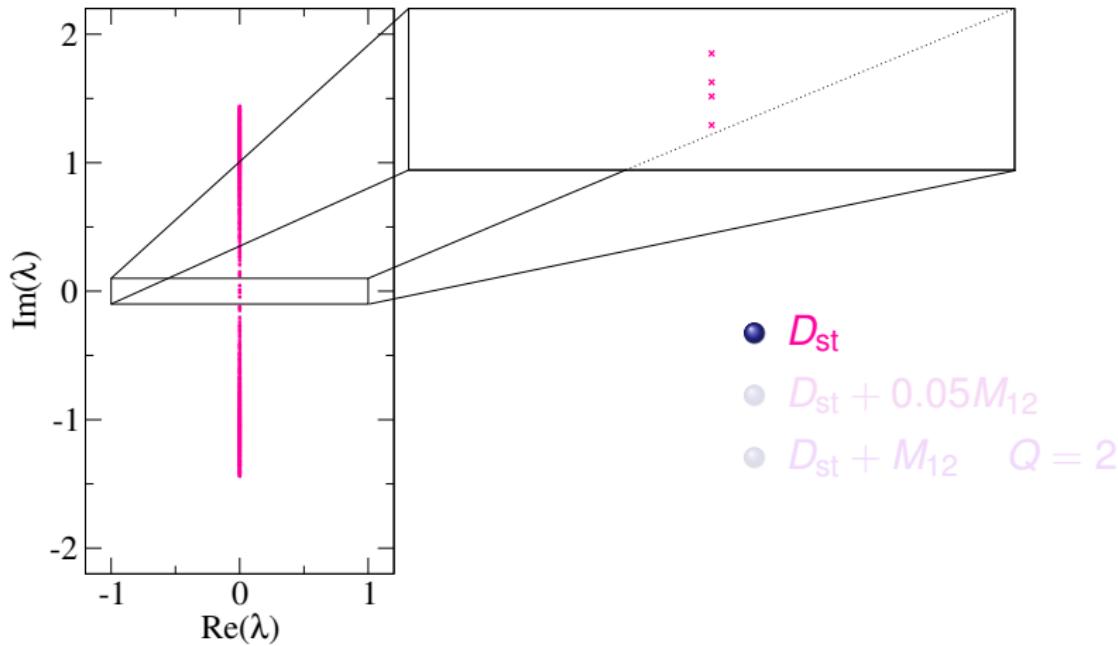
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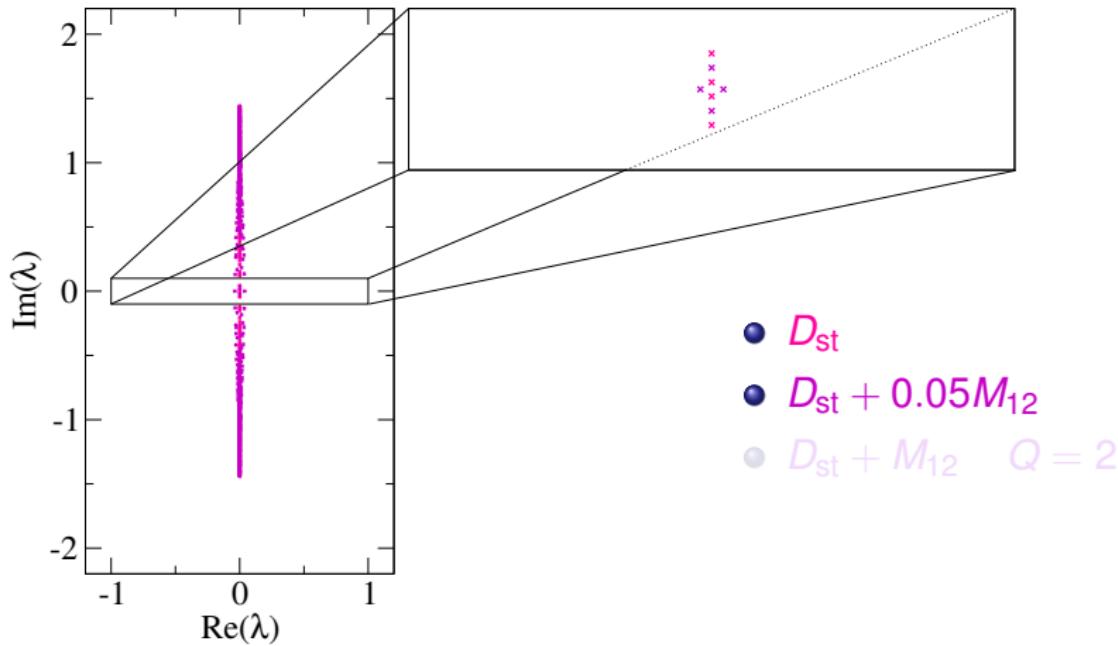
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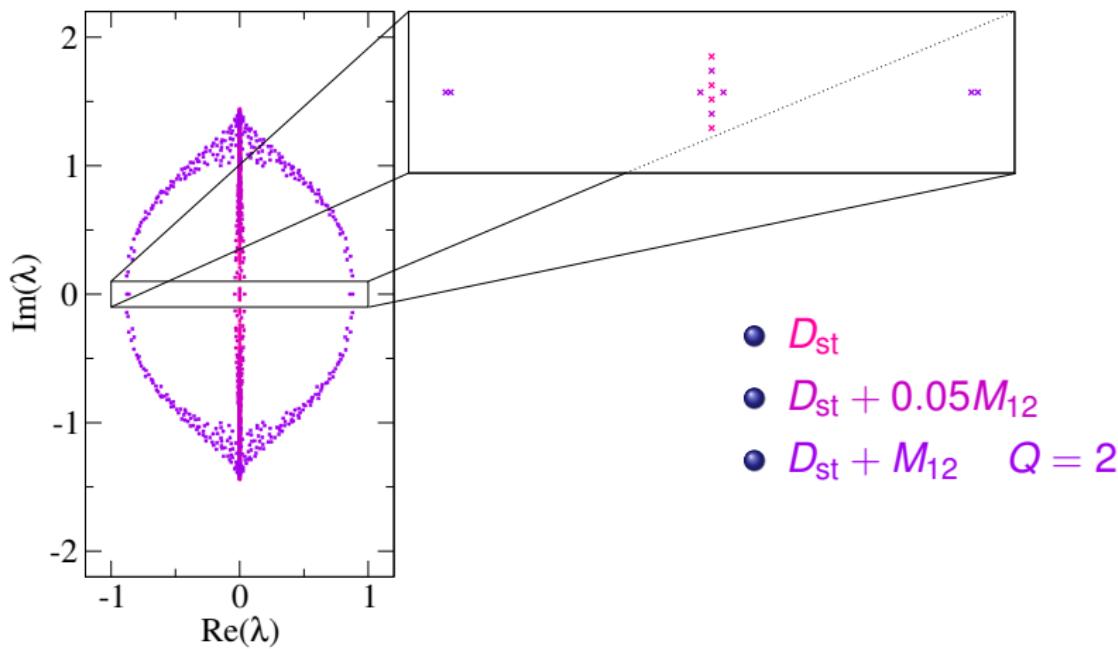
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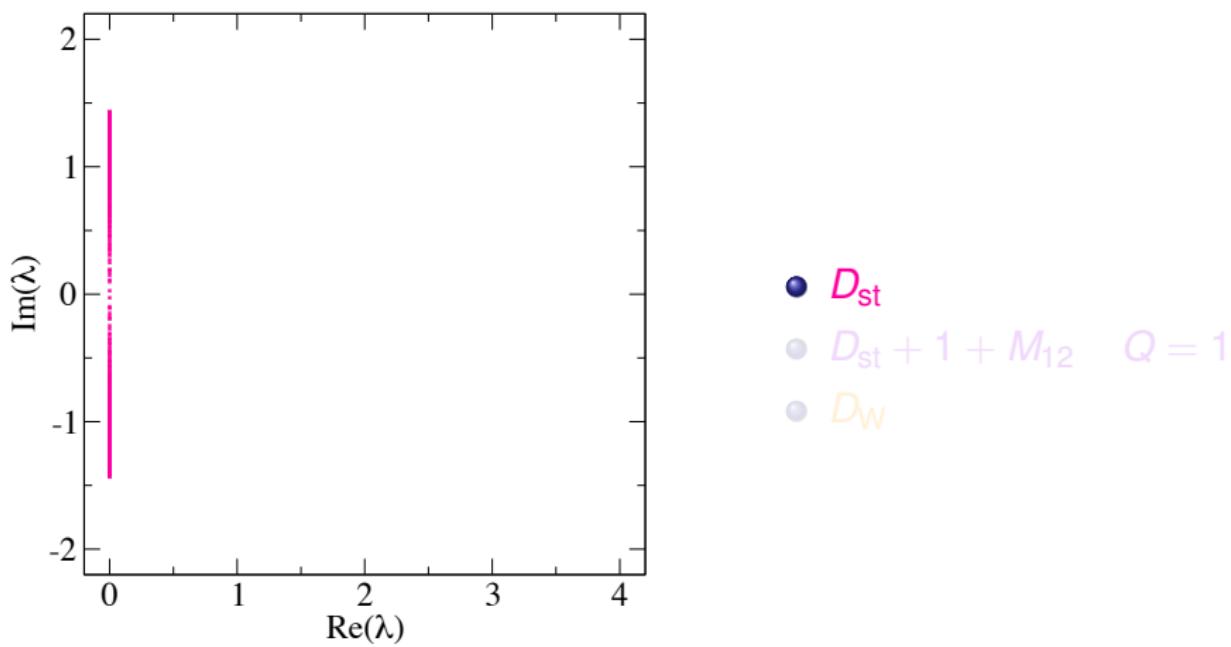
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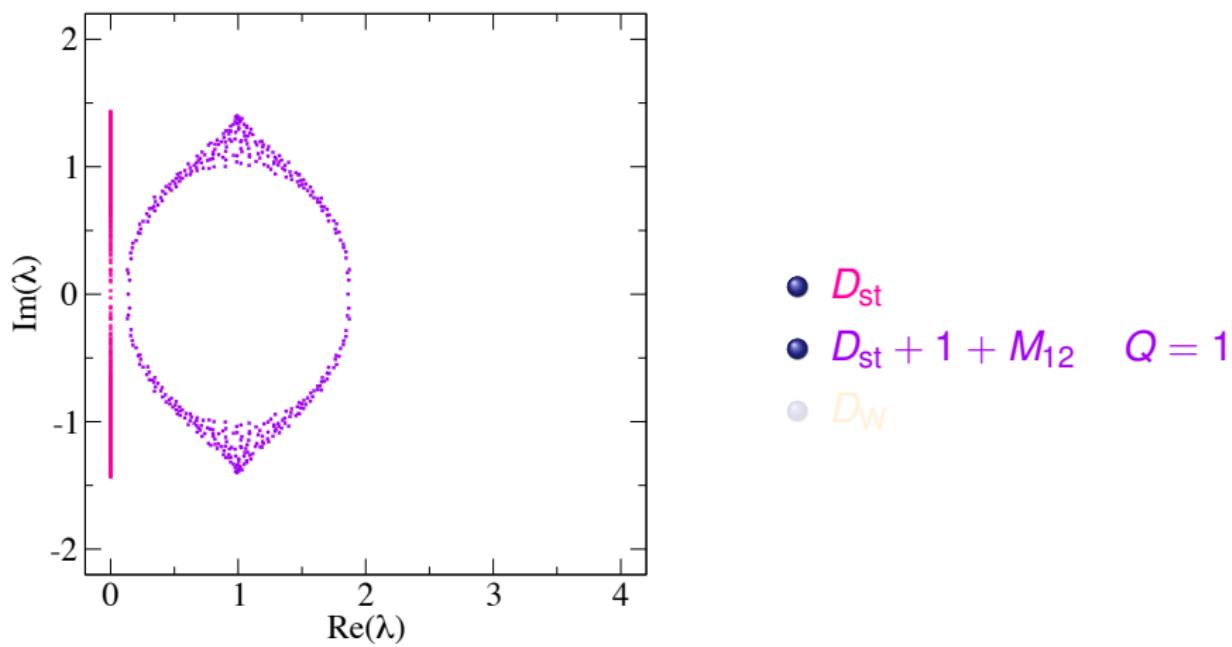
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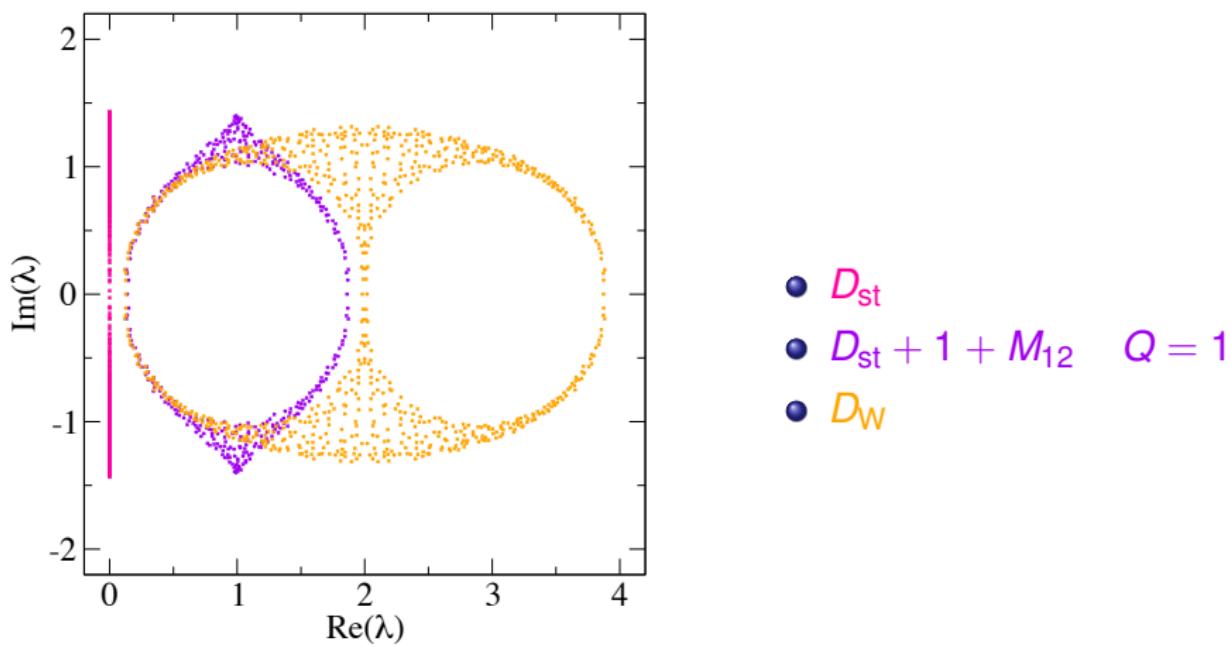
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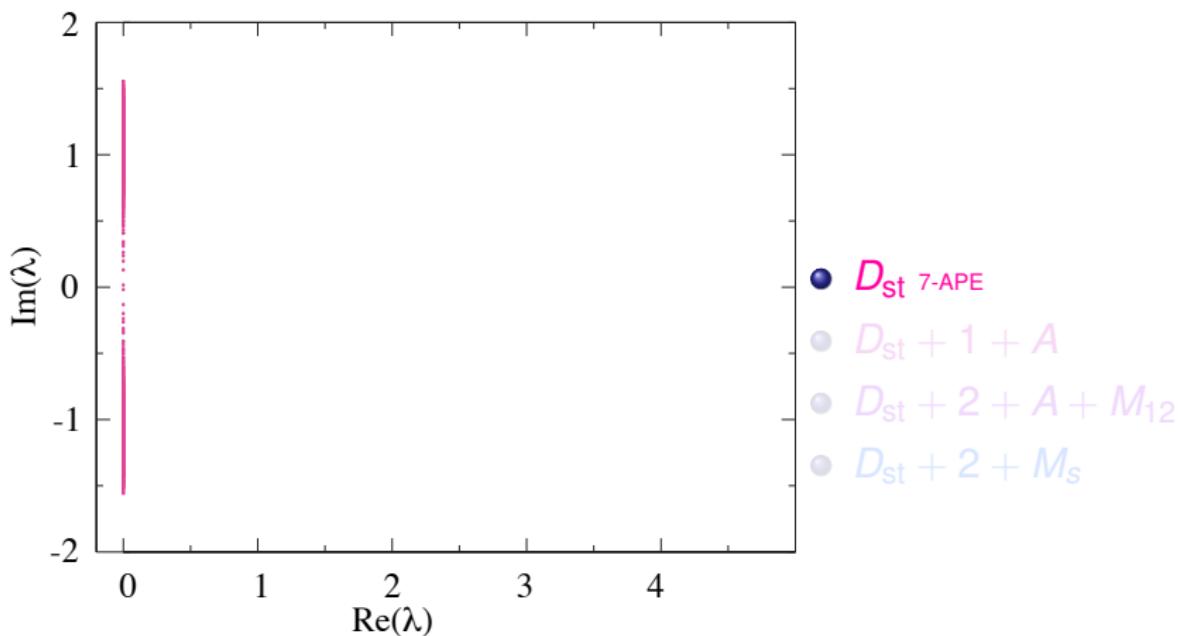
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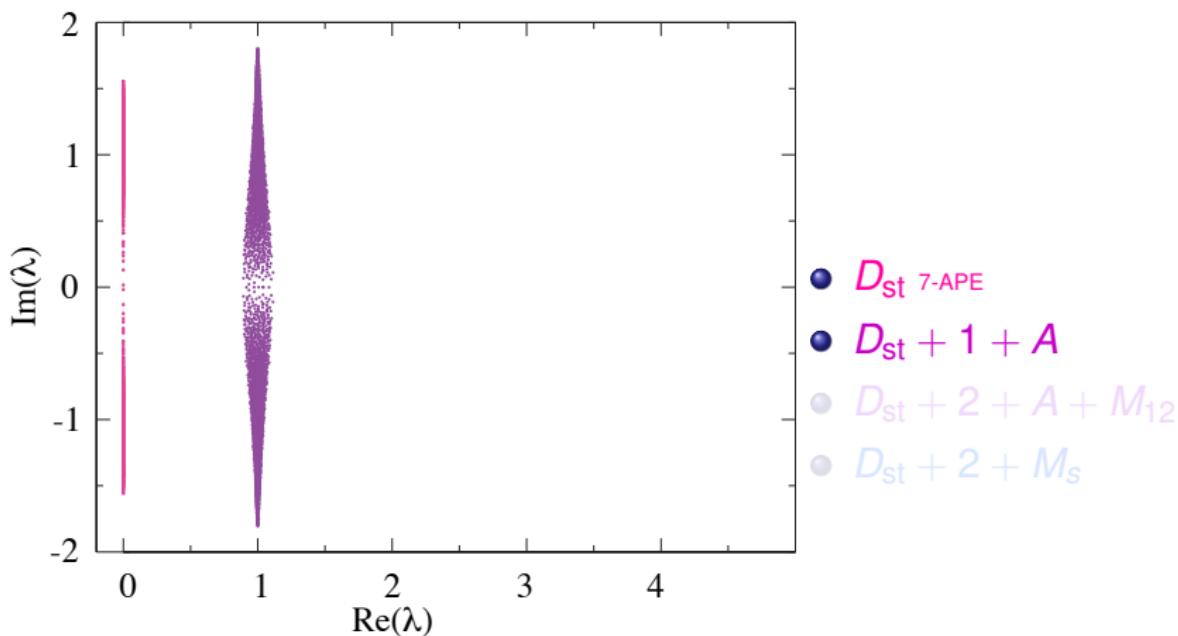


# Spectrum $6^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$



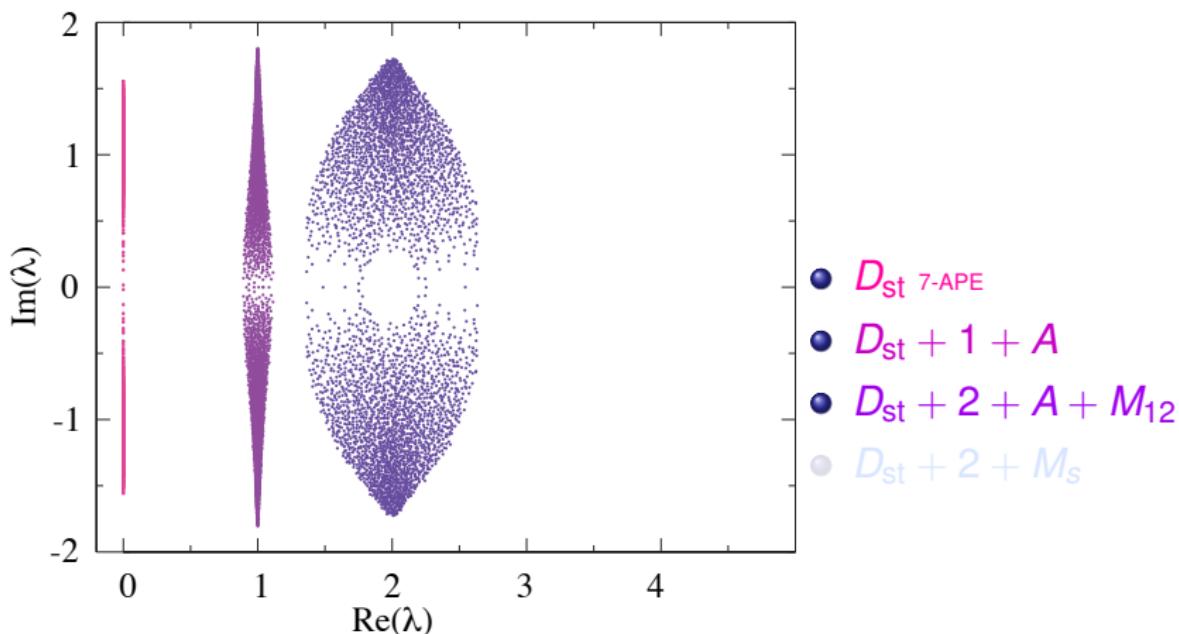
(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

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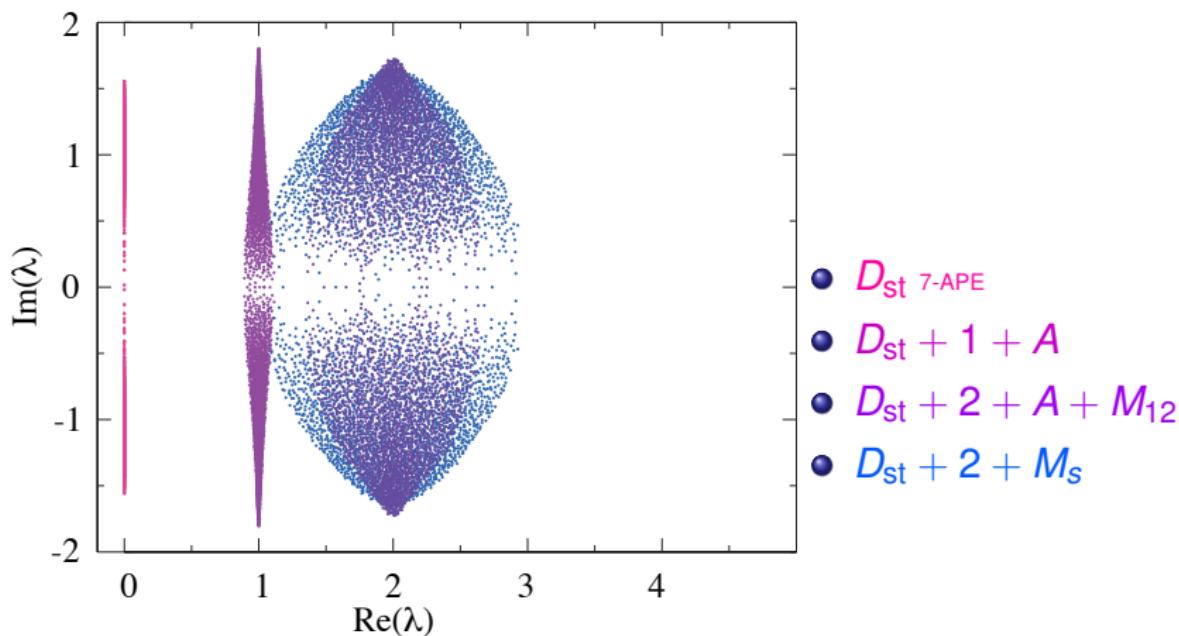
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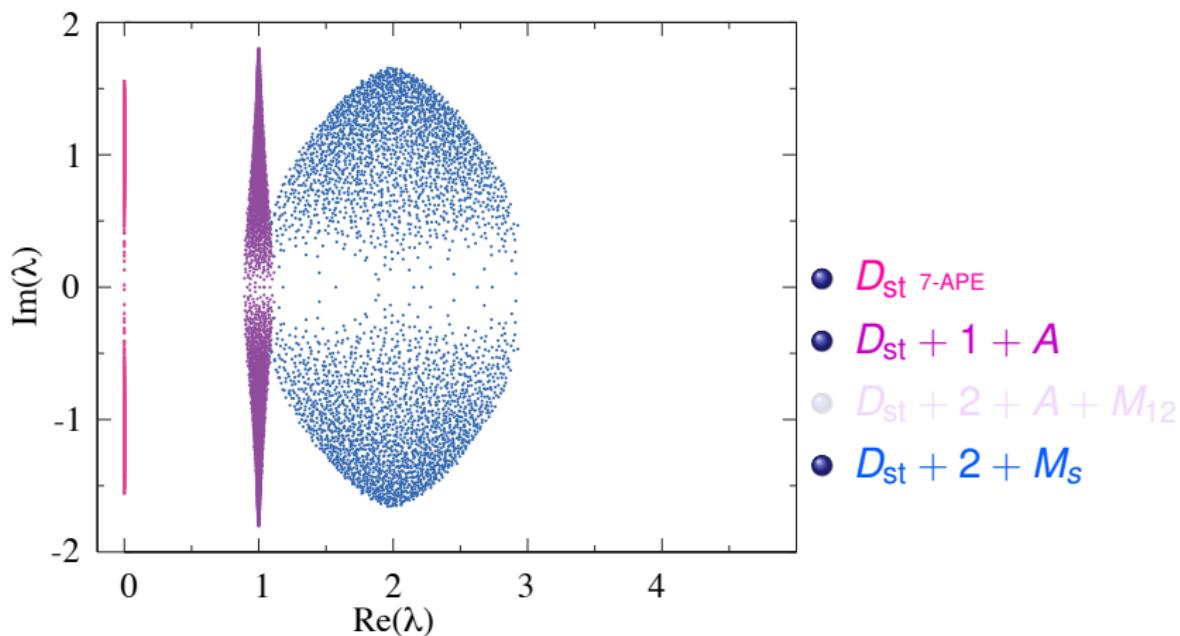
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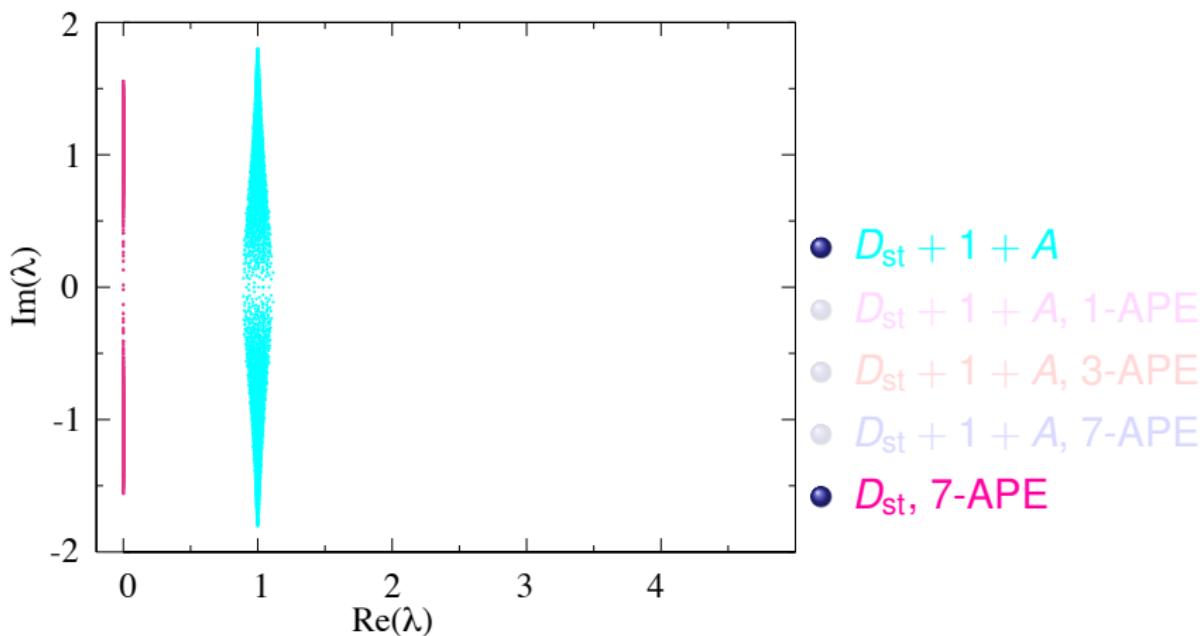
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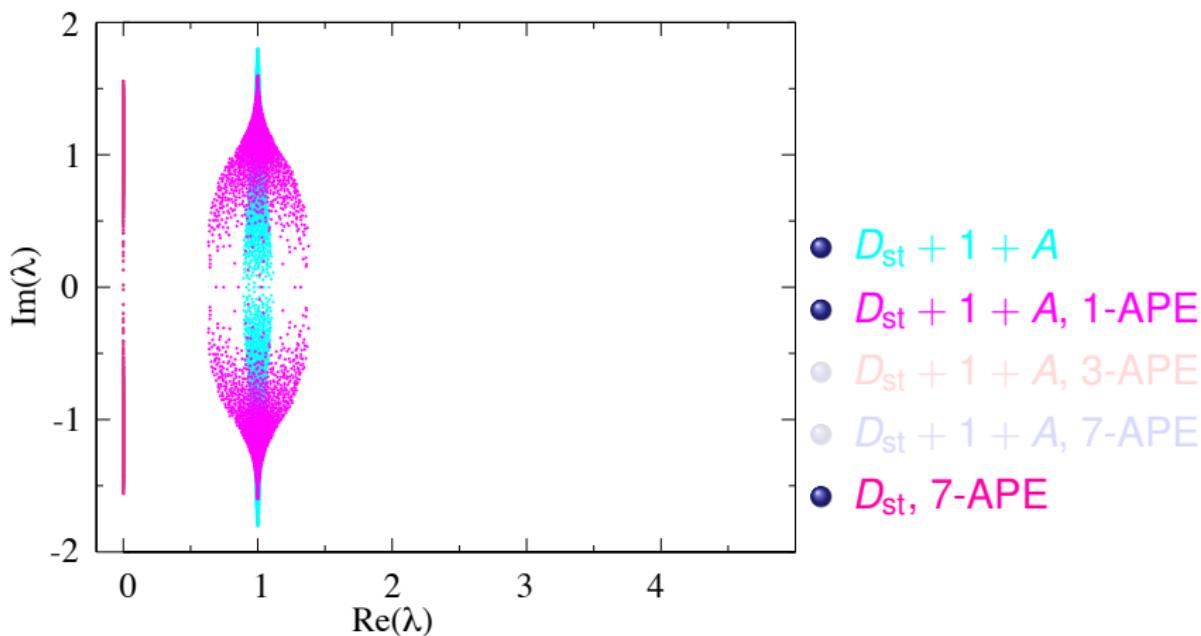
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# Adams operator $6^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$



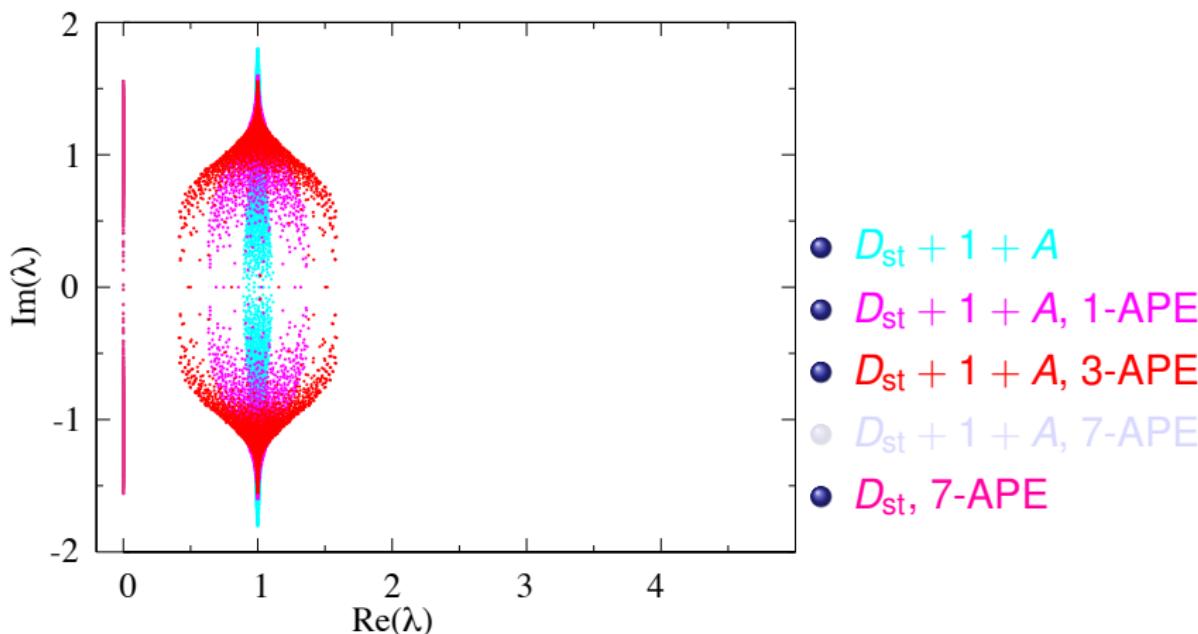
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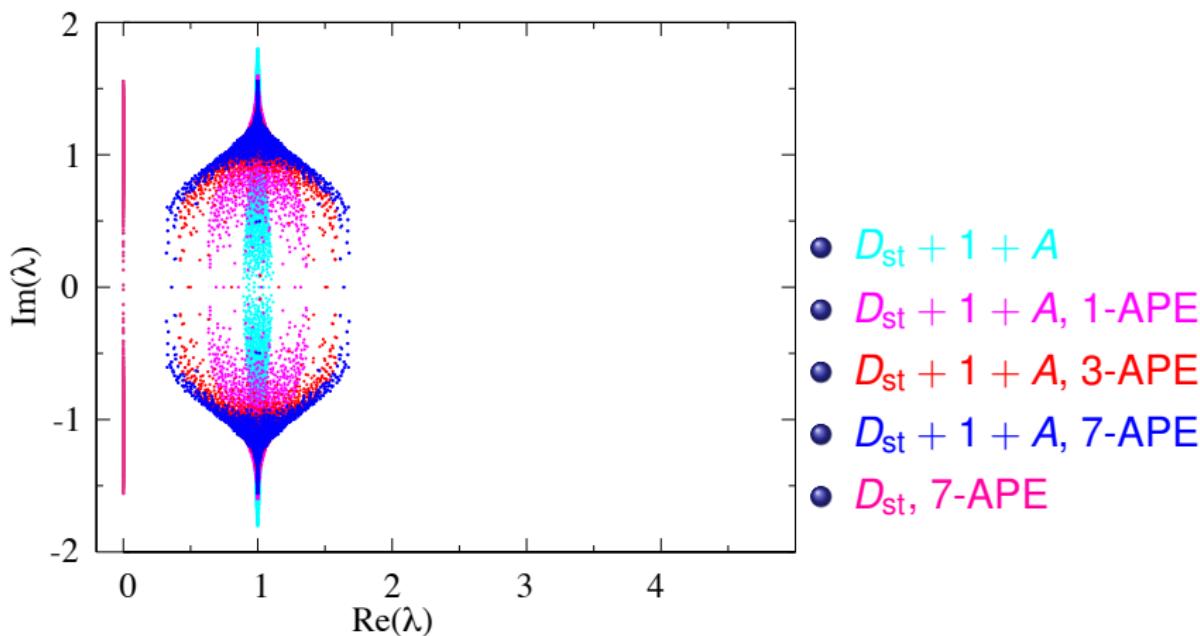
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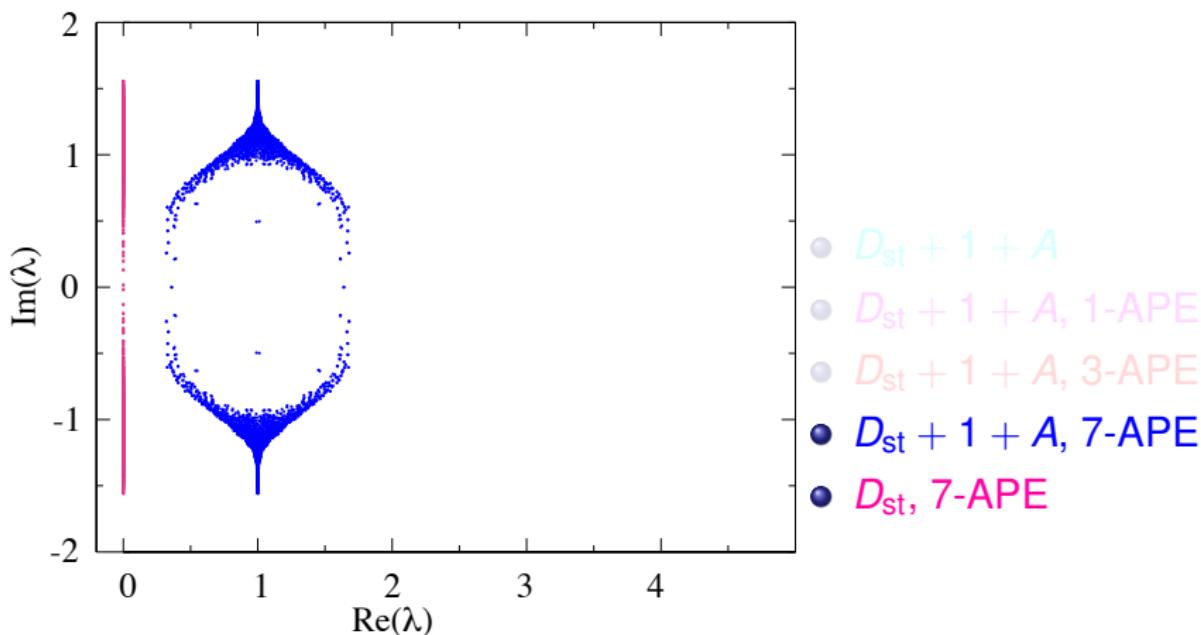
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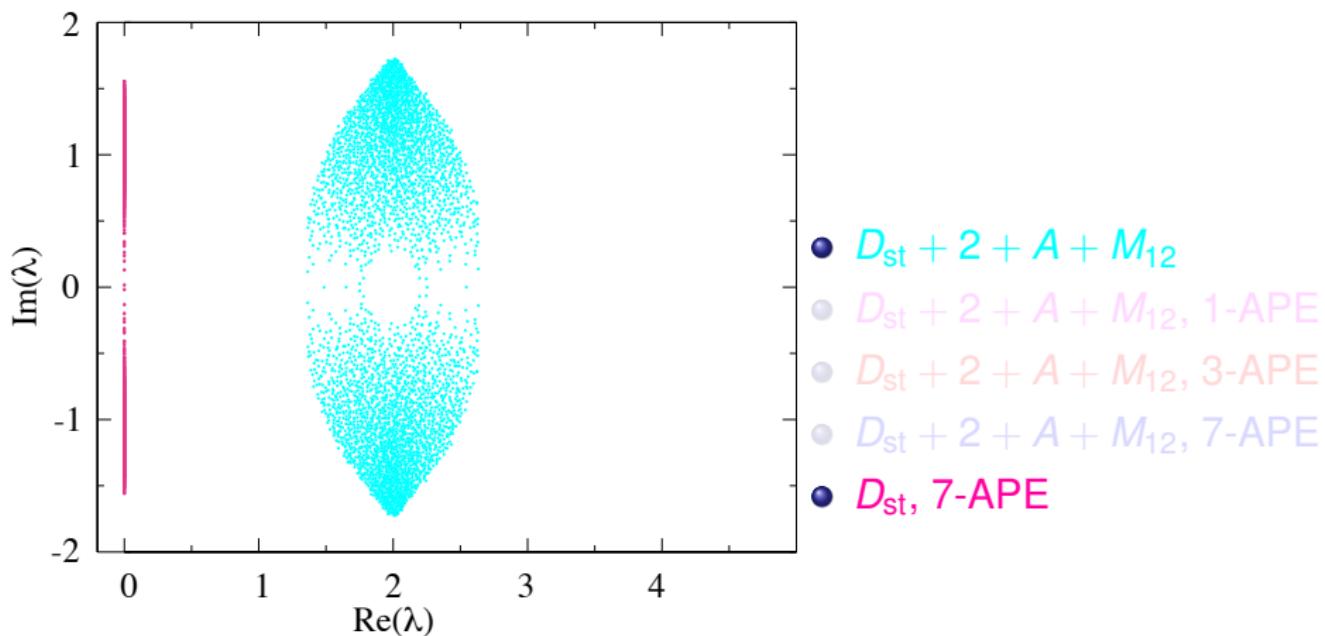
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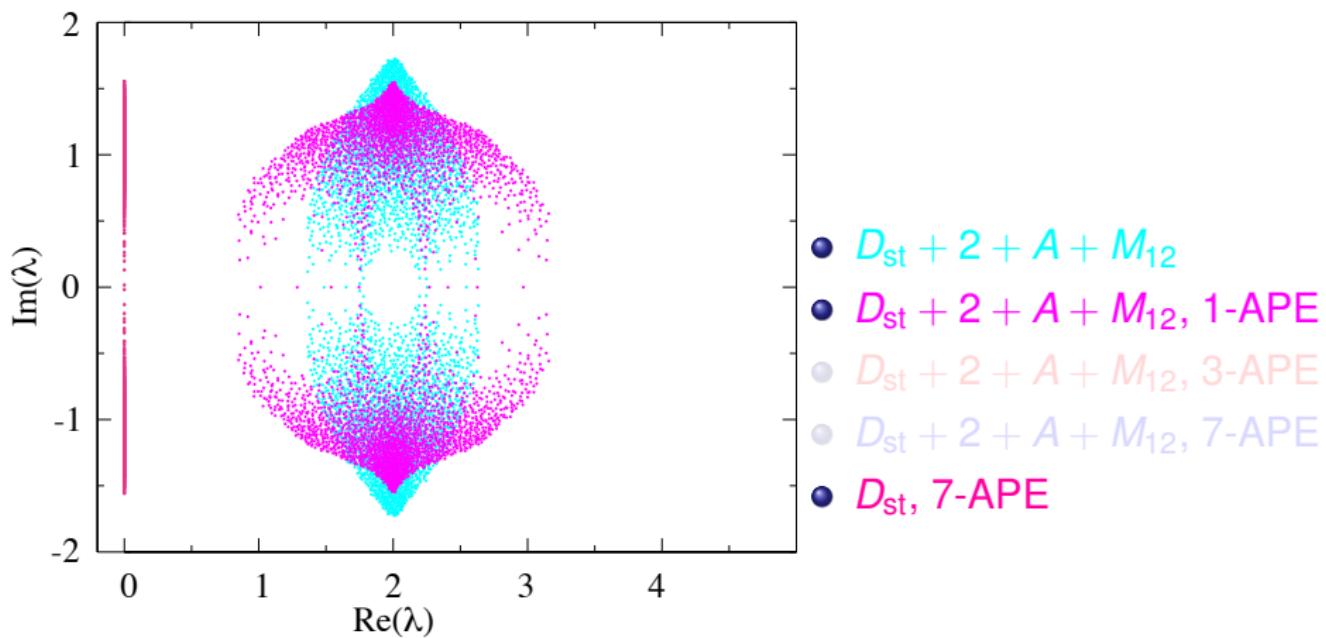
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# Unsymmetrized operator $6^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$



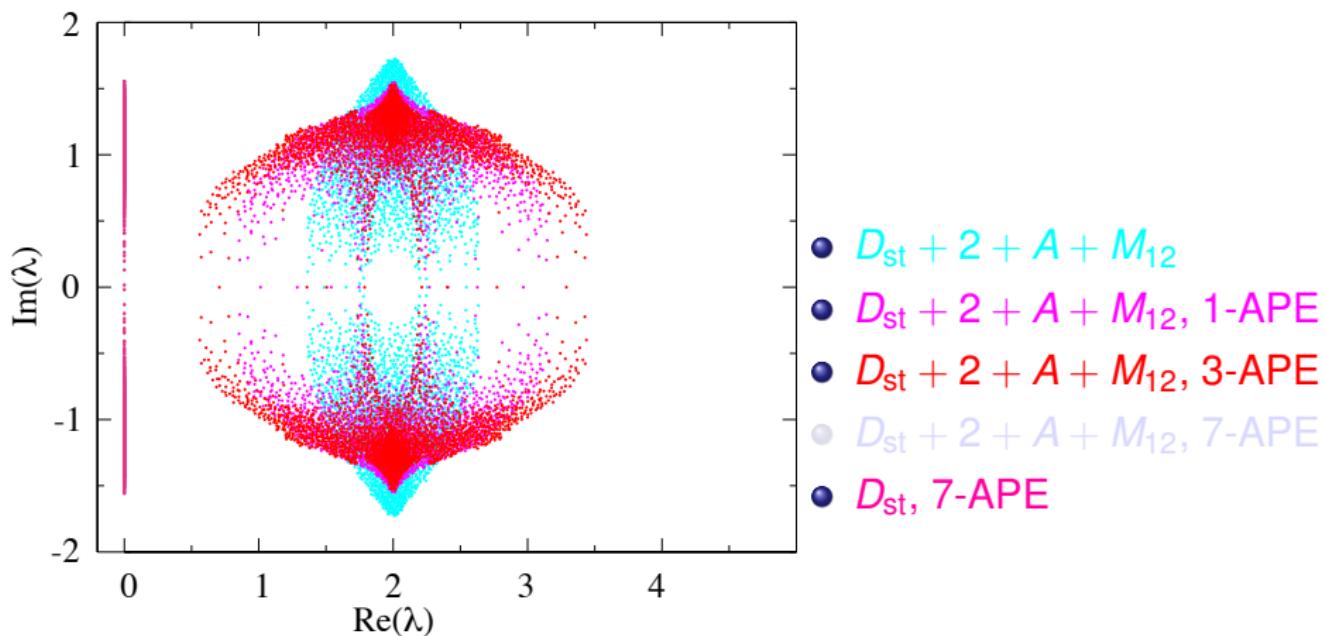
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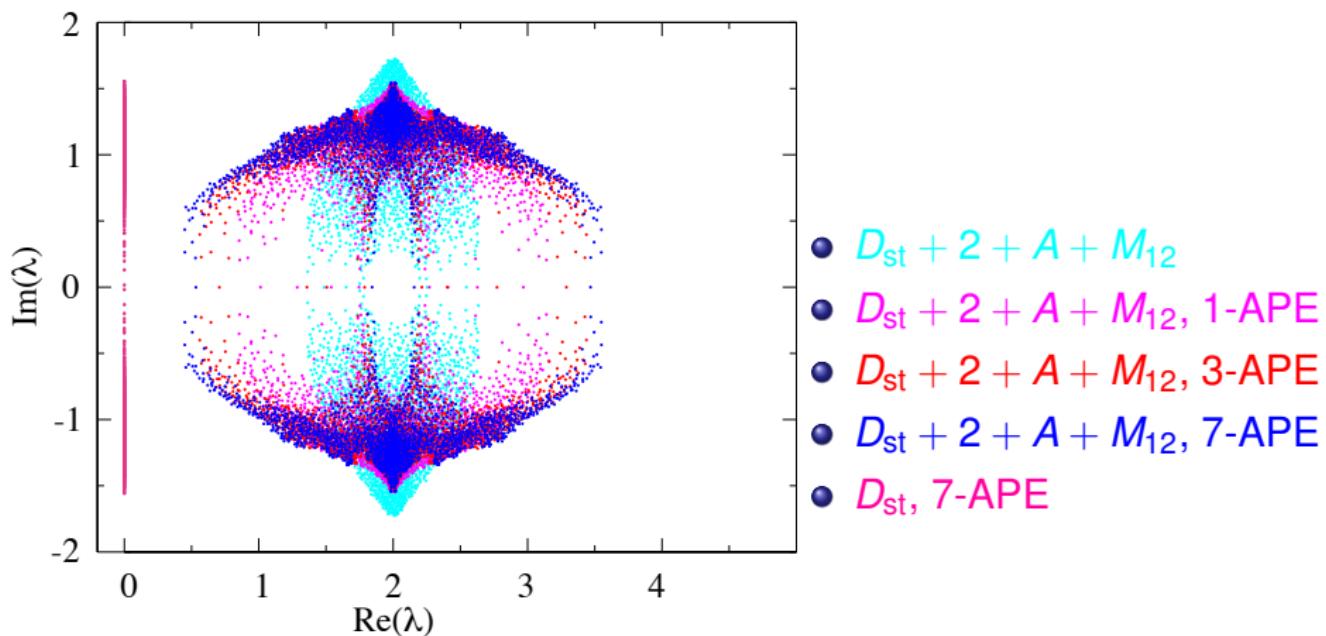
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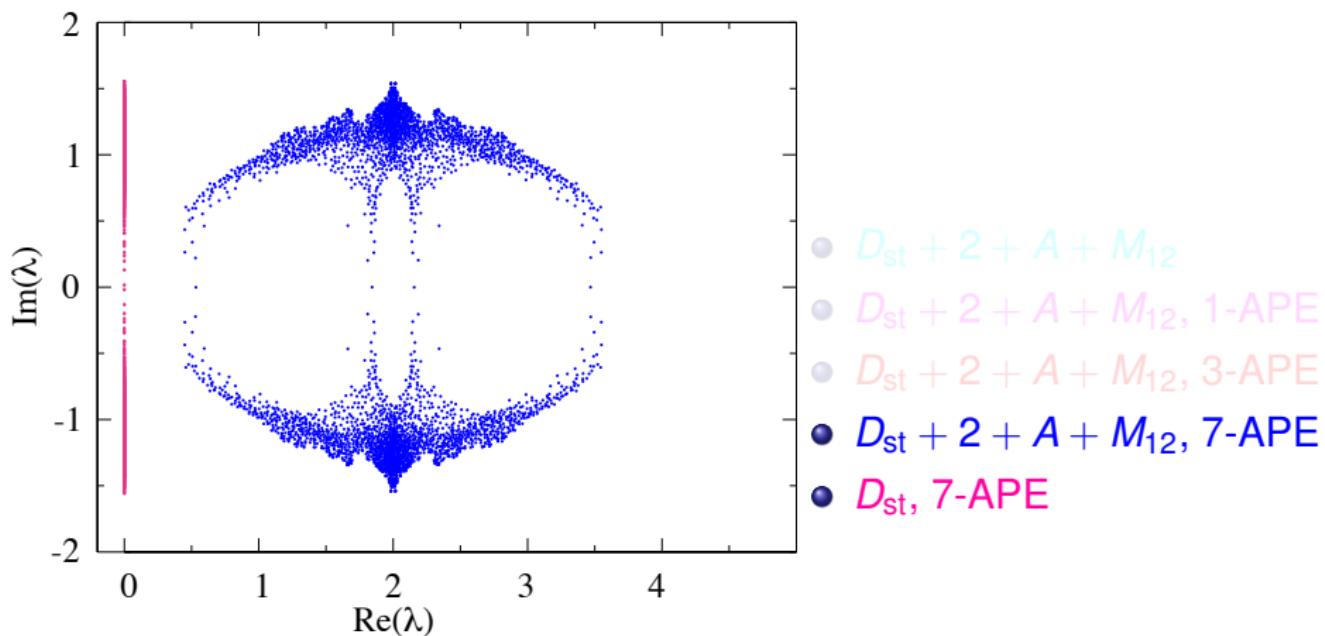
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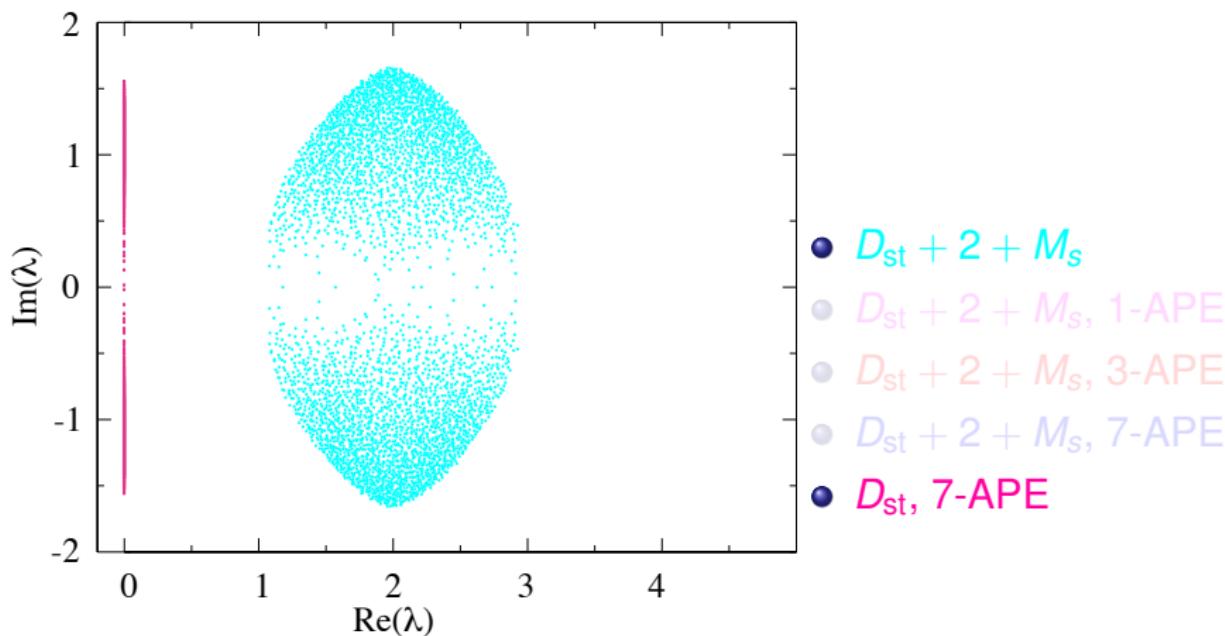
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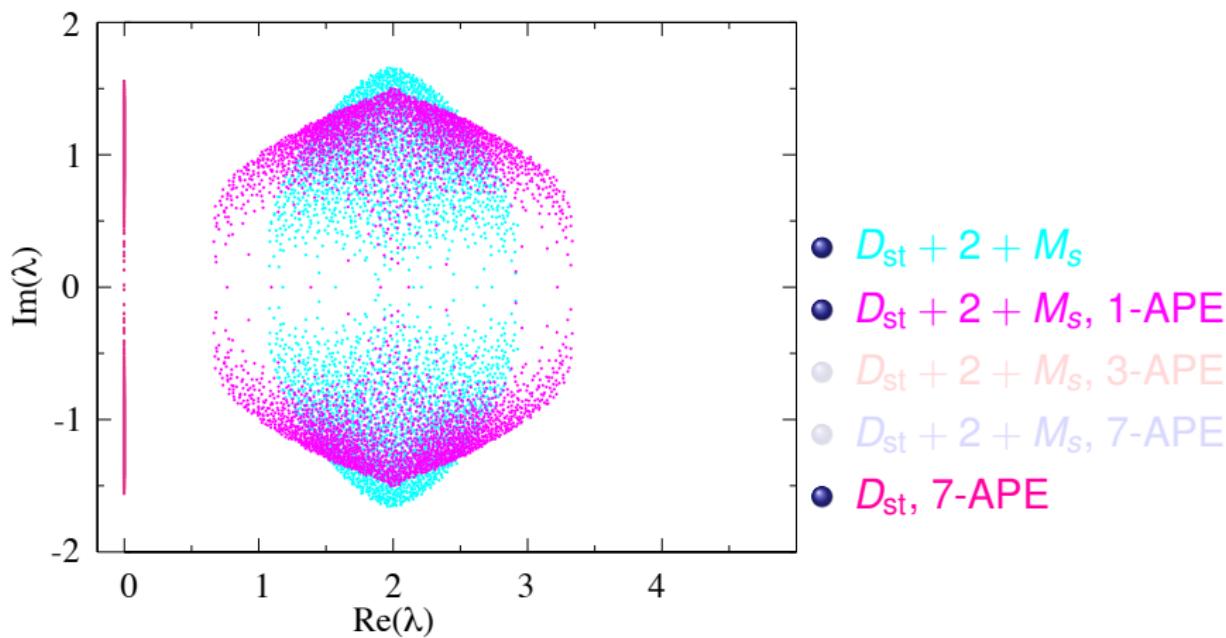
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# Symmetrized operator $6^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$



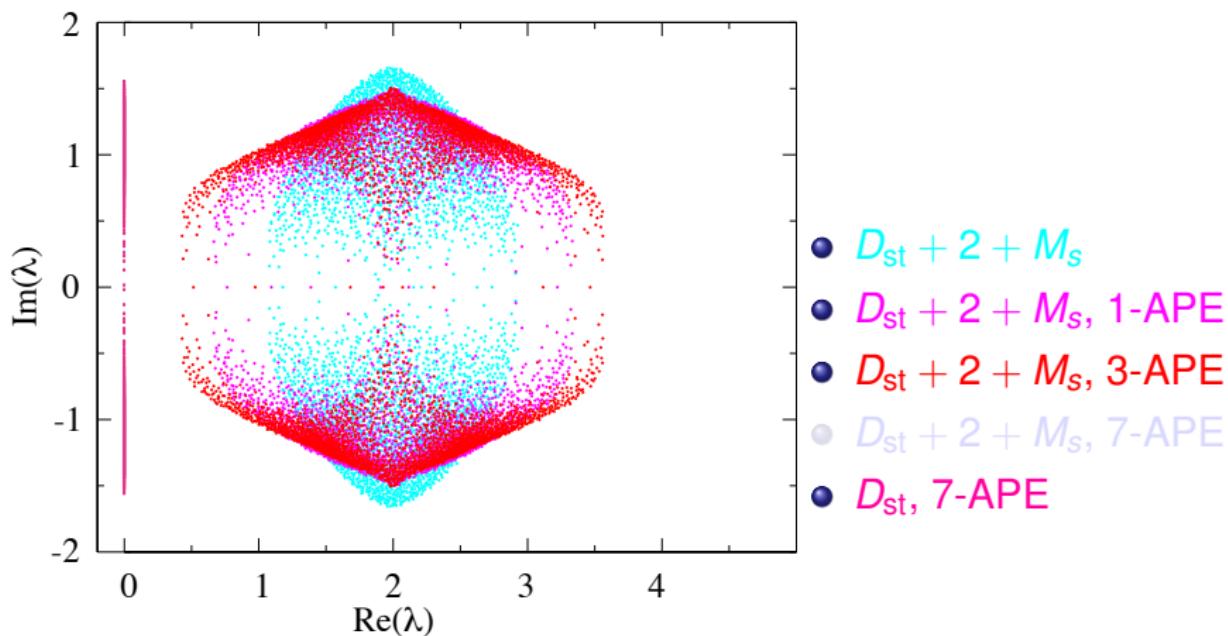
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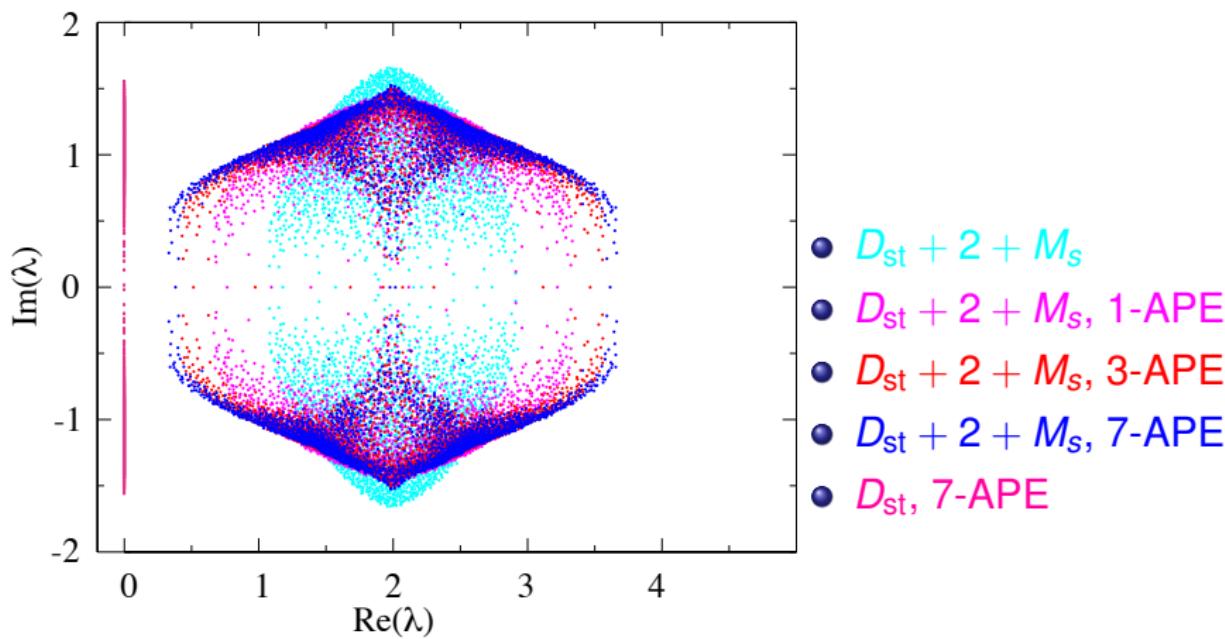
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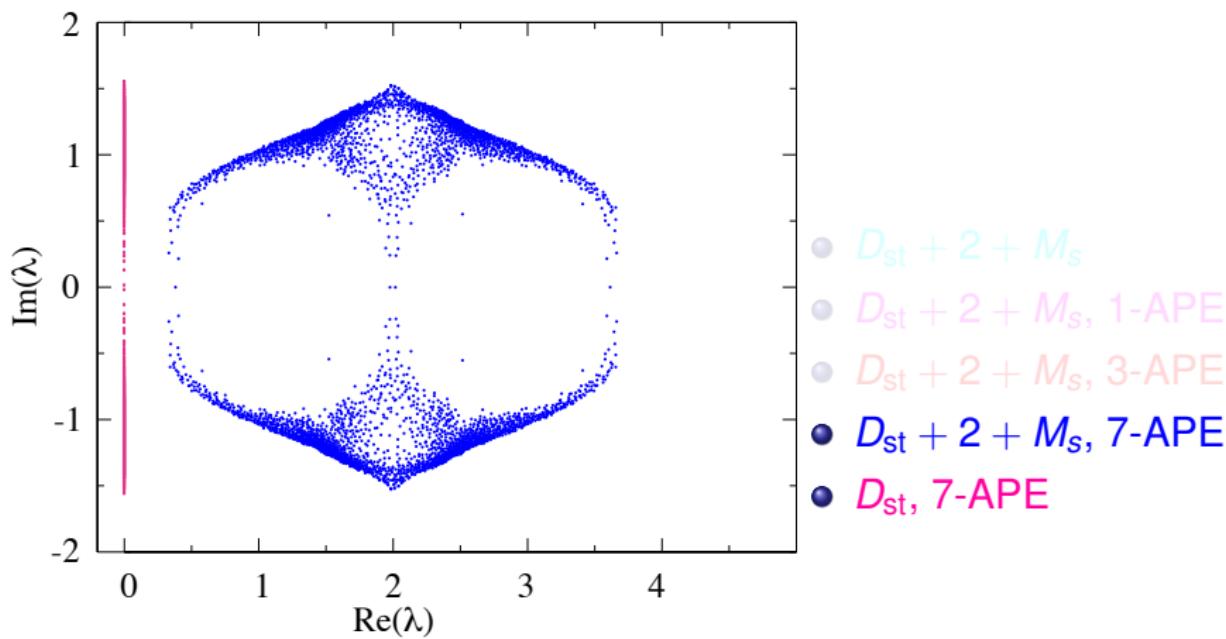
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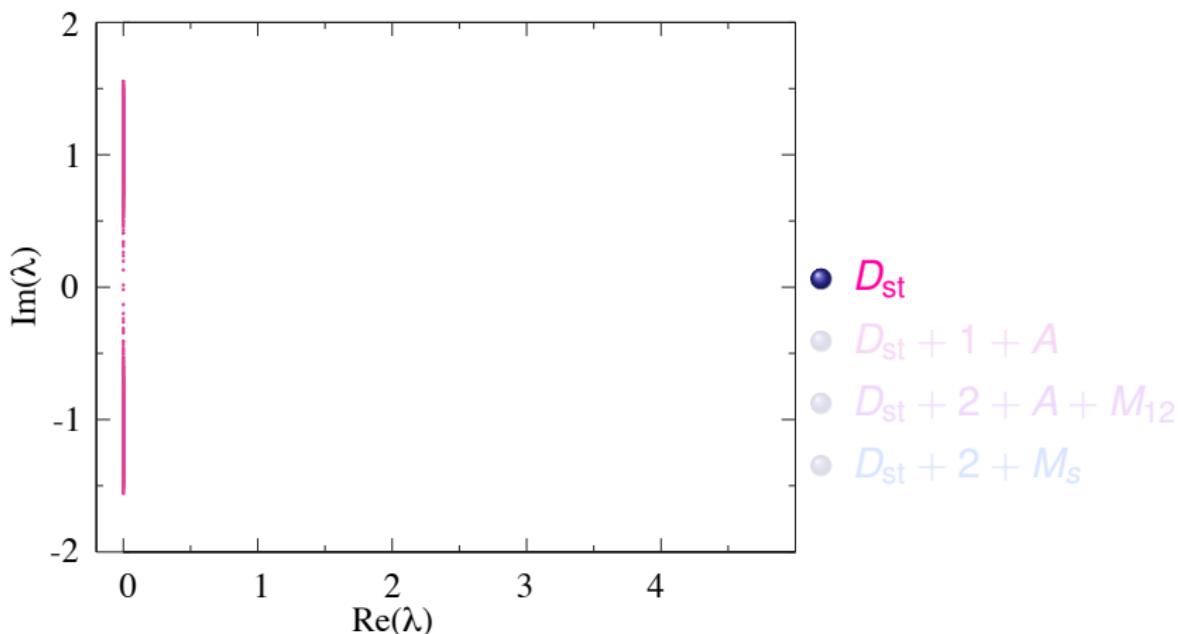
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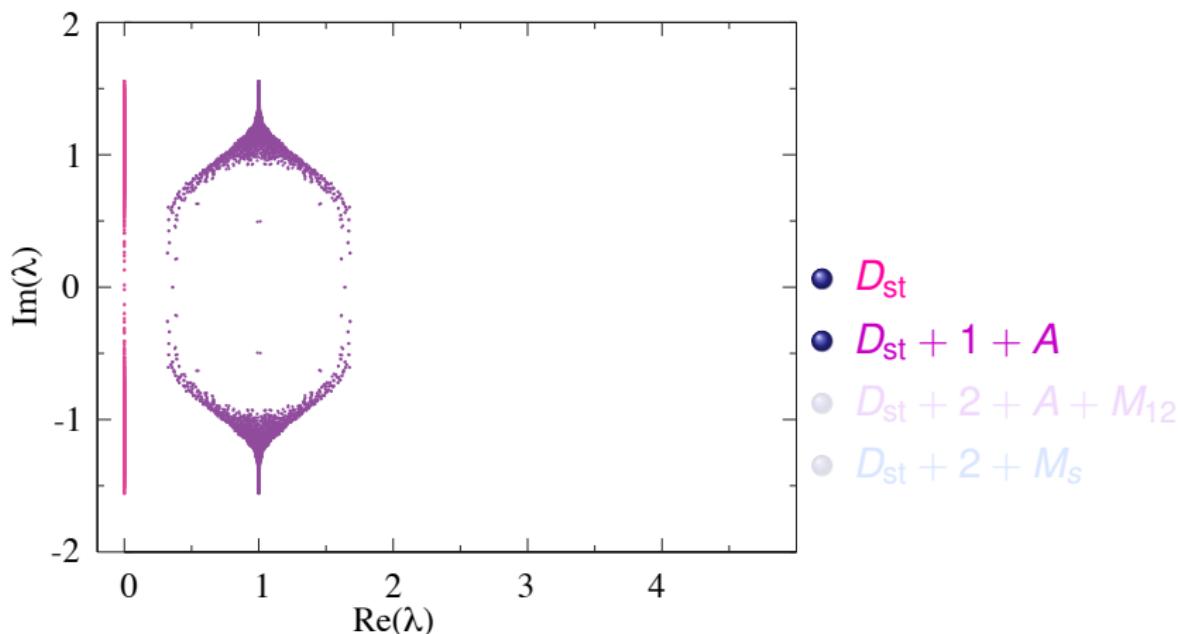
(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Spectrum $6^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$ , 7-APE smeared



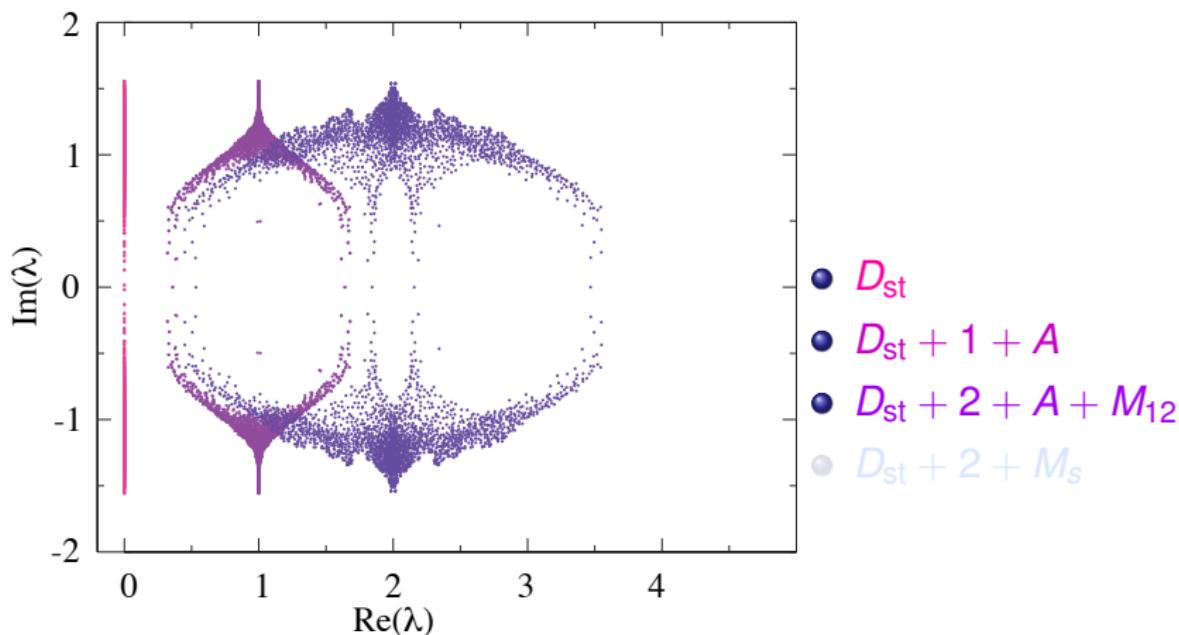
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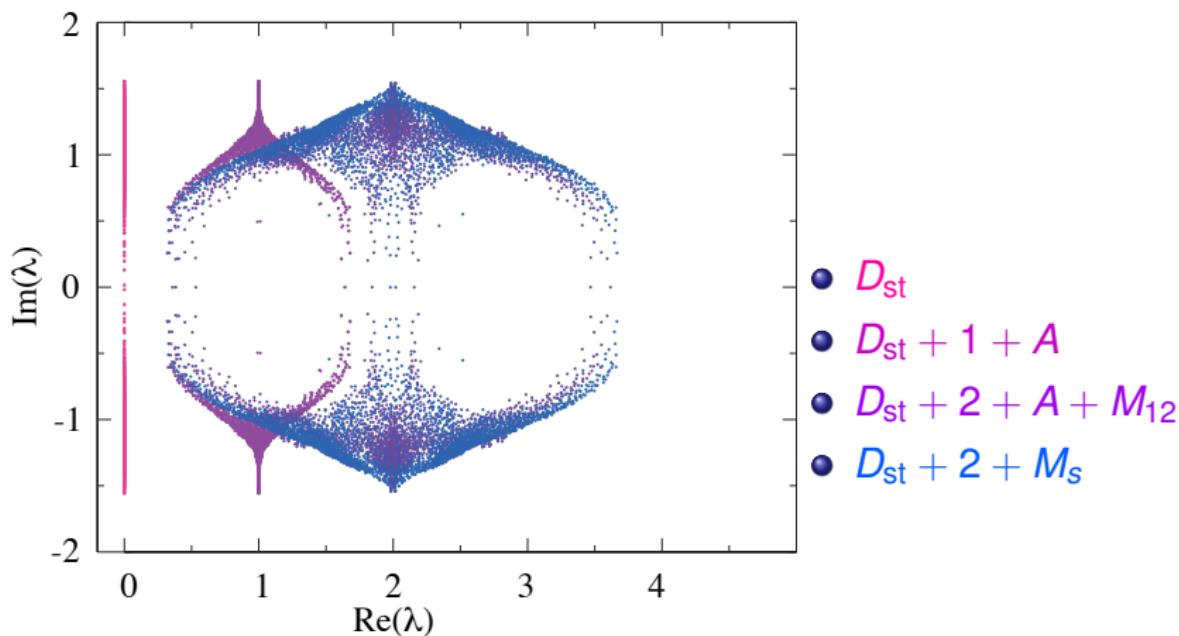
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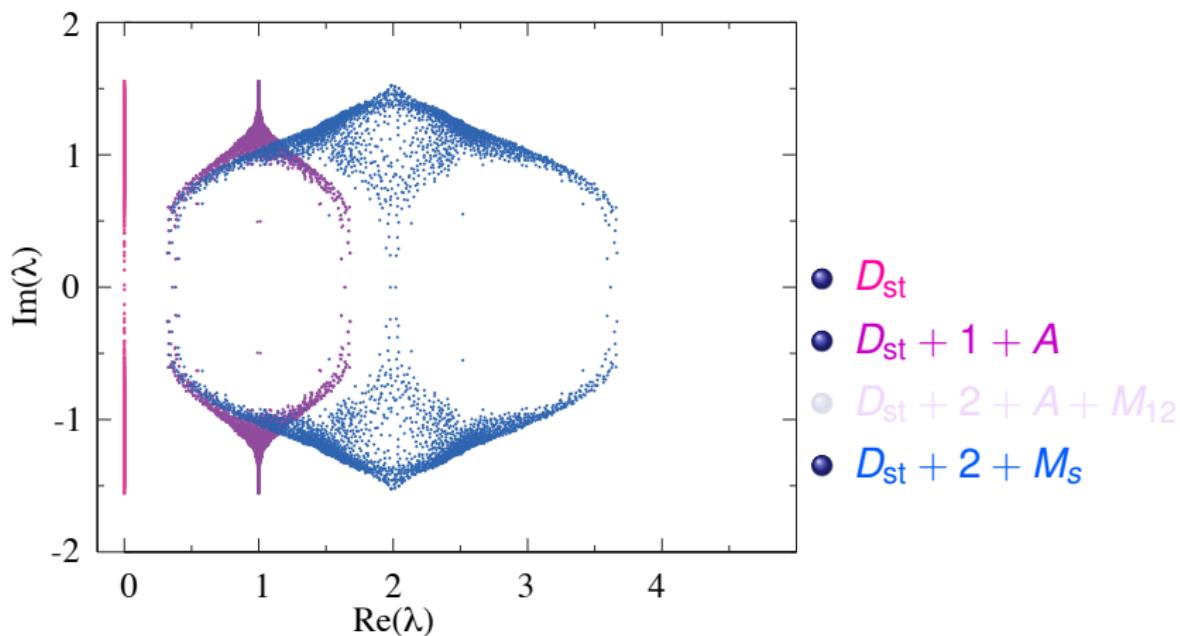
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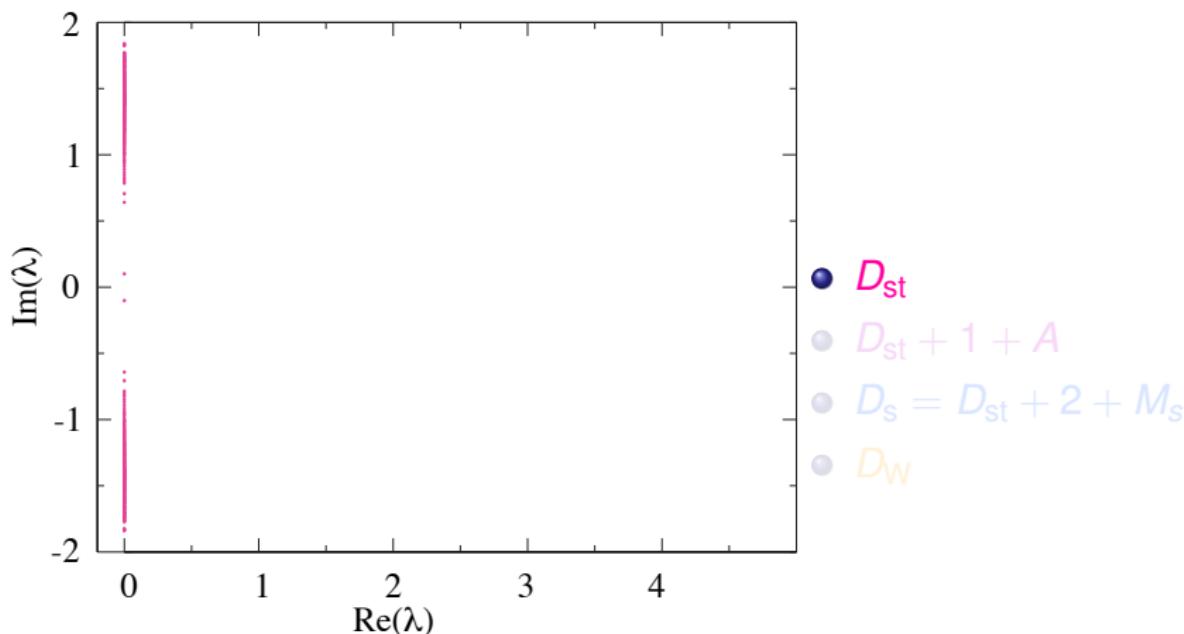
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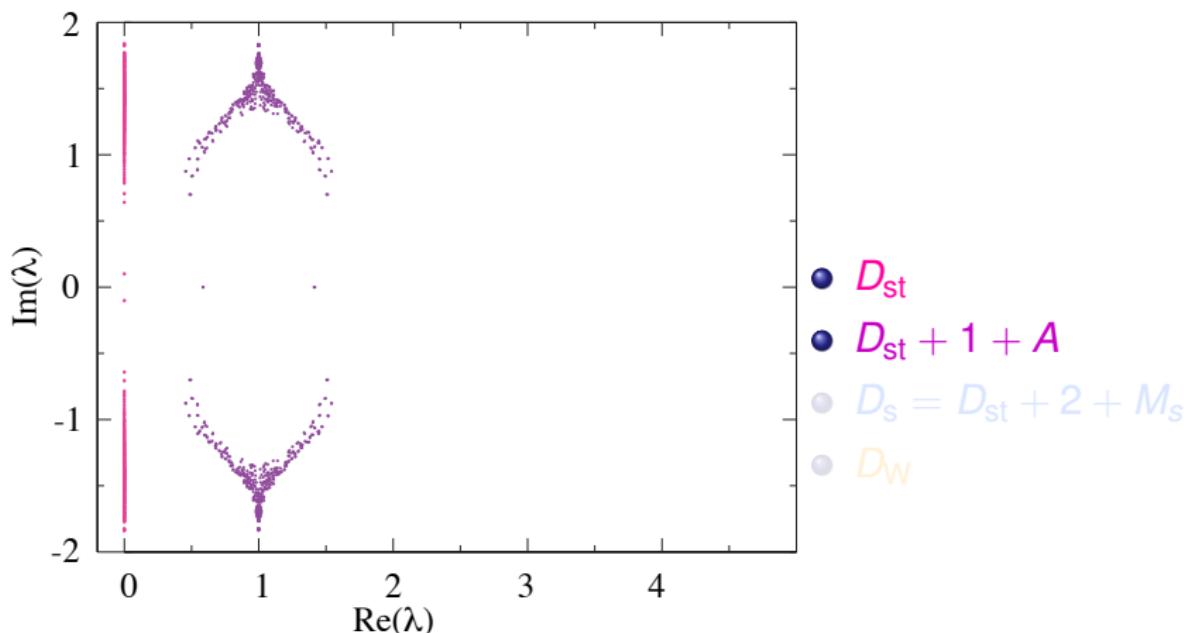
(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Spectrum $4^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$ , 7-APE smeared



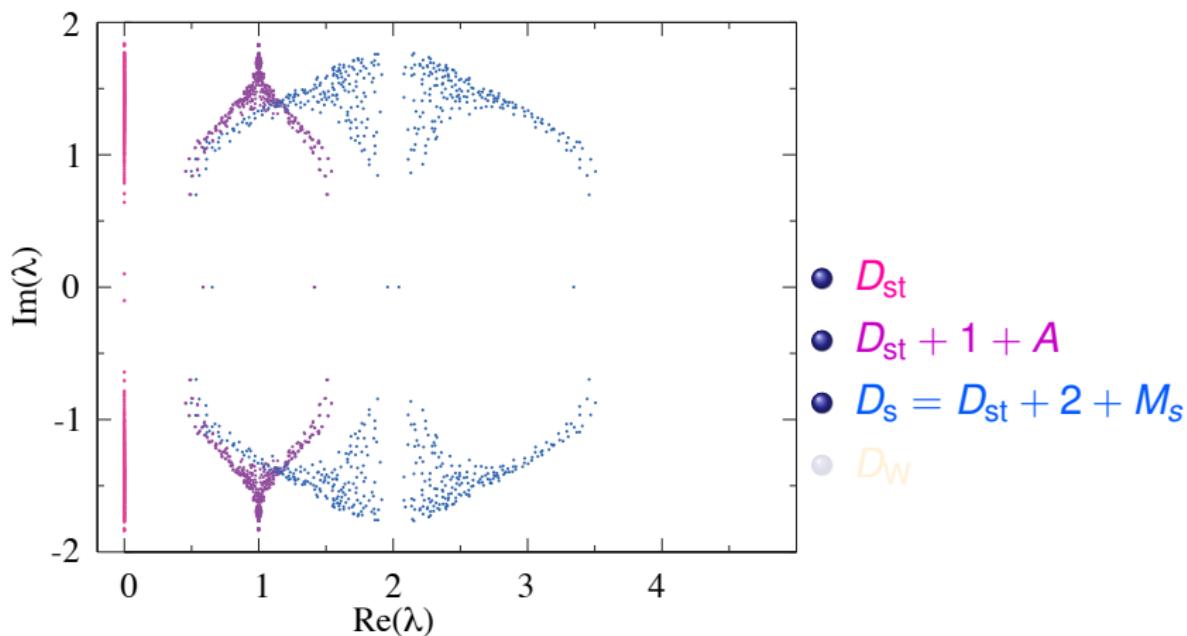
(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Spectrum $4^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$ , 7-APE smeared



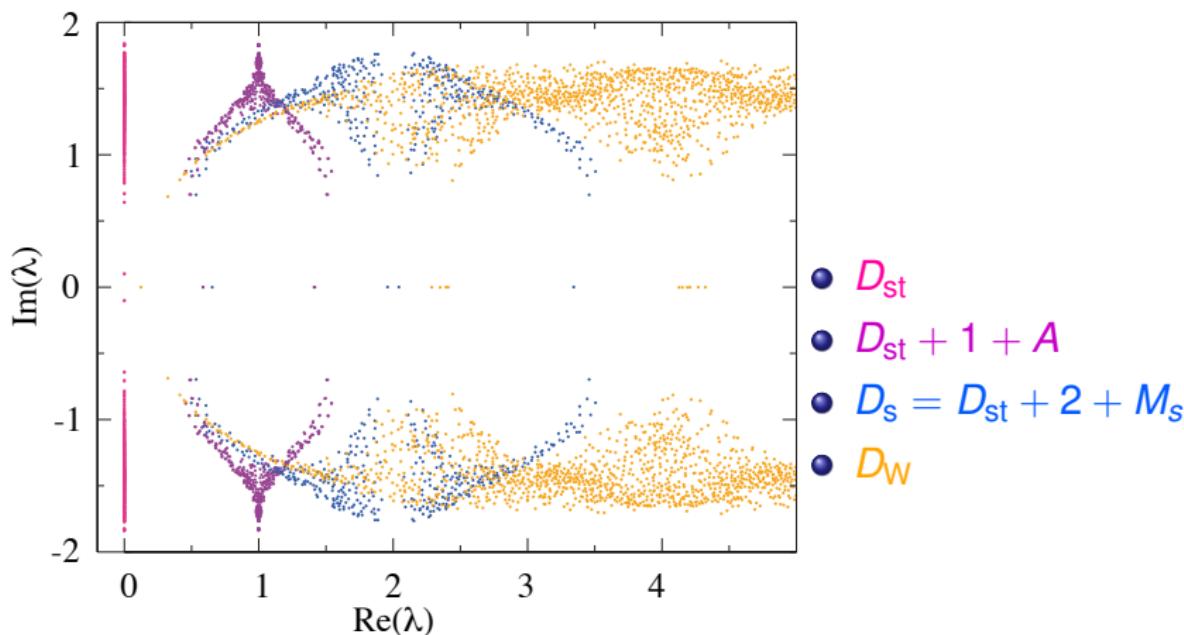
(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Spectrum $4^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$ , 7-APE smeared



(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Spectrum $4^4$ , $\beta = 5.6$ , 7-APE smeared



(Data courtesy S. Dürr)

# Conclusion

Single flavor staggered operator is possible

Wilson fermions without remnants of spurious naive degeneracy exist

But is it useful?

- ✓ Better condition number
- ✓ Smaller matrix
- ✗ Staggered spinor structure
- ✗ 2-hop Wilson term

Essential: Check renormalization, exceptionals, scaling

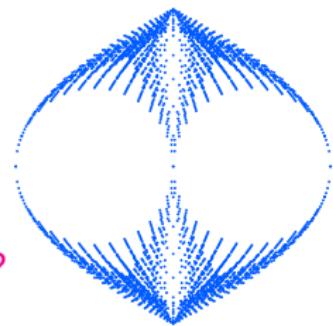
Similar construction: (De Forcrand, Kurkela, Panero)

Flavored mass term for naive fermions: (Creutz, Kimura, Misumi)

# Staggered Wilson

To do list:

- Find counterterm structure
- Construct mesons, baryons
- $O(a)$  improvement
  - Clover “for free” due to 2-hop Wilson term?  
(some CPU, but no additional bandwidth)
- Optimize algorithms for the structure
- Check flavor breaking
- Study scaling
- Apply to real problem
  - Insensitive to flavor breaking
  - Ground states, bulk properties, spectral quantities
  - Hadron/quark masses? Thermodynamics?



# Staggered overlap

To do list:

- Find counterterm structure
- Check locality
- Check flavor breaking
- Study scaling
- Apply to real problem
  - Insensitive to flavor breaking
  - Chiral symmetry essential
  - Spectral quantities?

