

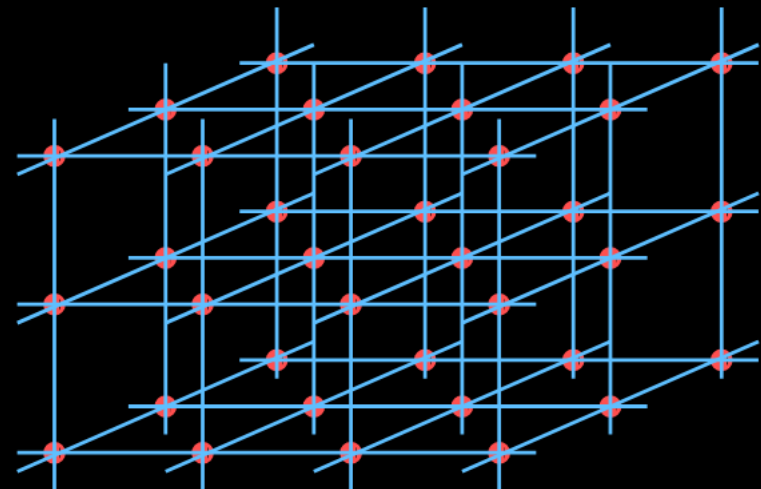
LATTICE QCD OVERVIEW

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QUARK MATTER 2023, HOUSTON

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Why is there a lattice plenary at QM?

FULLY NON-PERTURBATIVE RESULTS IN FULL QCD ARE VALUABLE



The lattice formulation of QCD

Finite space-time lattice: $N_s^3 N_t \Rightarrow$ finite dimensional integrals

Equilibrium physics: $T = \frac{1}{N_t a}$

1. Continuum limit:

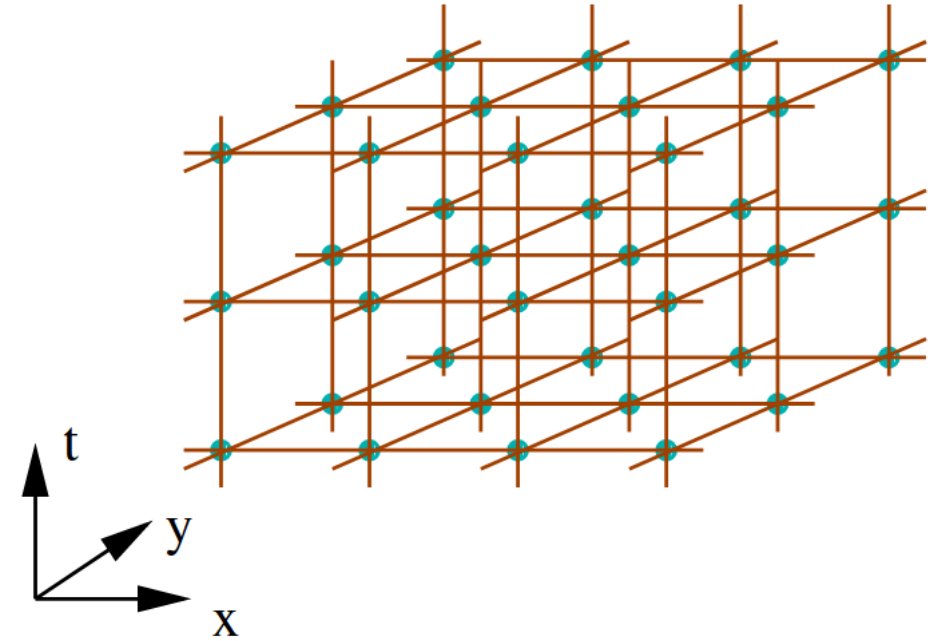
For fixed temperature $a \rightarrow 0 \Leftrightarrow N_t \rightarrow \infty$

2. Thermodynamic limit:

Size is often measured in units of $1/T$

Aspect ratio: $LT = N_s/N_t$

Infinite volume limit: $LT \rightarrow \infty$



QCD in a small box is physics, a coarse lattice in a large box is not!

Outline

Two very difficult use cases of lattice QCD that are relevant for heavy ion physics.

1) Nonzero baryochemical potential (main focus of the talk)

- 1. a) The phase diagram and search for criticality
- 1. b) The equation of state of a hot-and-dense quark gluon plasma

2) Real time (will be briefly mentioned)

- 2. a) Real-time properties of heavy quarks at high T

QCD in the grand canonical ensemble

$$\hat{p} := \frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{(LT)^3} \log \text{Tr}(e^{-(H - \mu_B B - \mu_S S)/T}) \quad (\text{dimensionless pressure})$$

$$\chi_{ij}^{BS} = \frac{\partial^{i+j} \hat{p}}{\partial \hat{\mu}_B^i \partial \hat{\mu}_S^j} \quad \left(\hat{\mu}_B := \frac{\mu_B}{T} \right) \quad (\text{generalized susceptibilities})$$

DERIVATIVES \Leftrightarrow FLUCTUATIONS/CORRELATIONS:

$$\chi_1^B \propto \langle B \rangle \propto n_B; \quad \chi_2^B \propto \langle B^2 \rangle - \langle B \rangle^2; \quad \chi_{11}^{BS} \propto \langle BS \rangle - \langle B \rangle \langle S \rangle$$

Lattice QCD at nonzero baryon density

Analytic continuation (ver. 1): Imaginary chemical potential method

Calculate $\langle O \rangle$ at $\text{Im}\mu_B$ ($\mu_B^2 < 0$), extrapolate to $\mu_B^2 > 0$

Analytic continuation (ver. 2): Taylor method

Calculate $\frac{\partial^n}{\partial \mu_B^n} \langle O \rangle$ at $\mu_B = 0$, extrapolate

Reweighting:

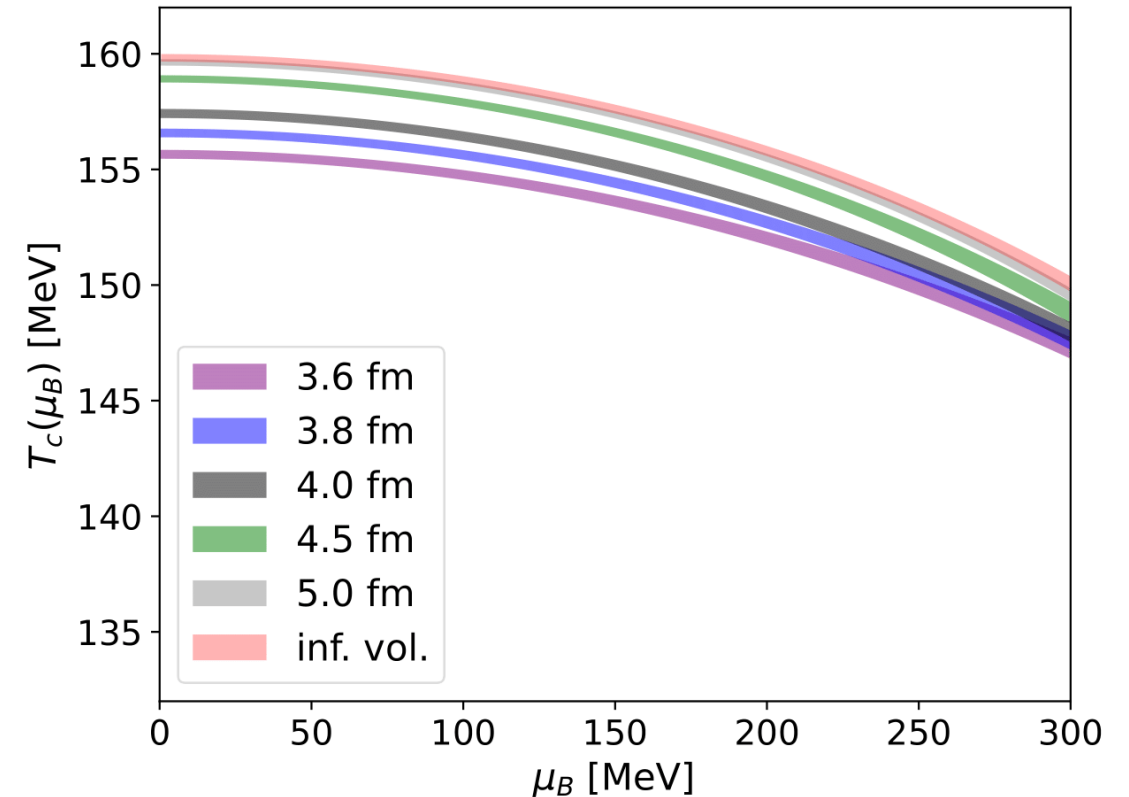
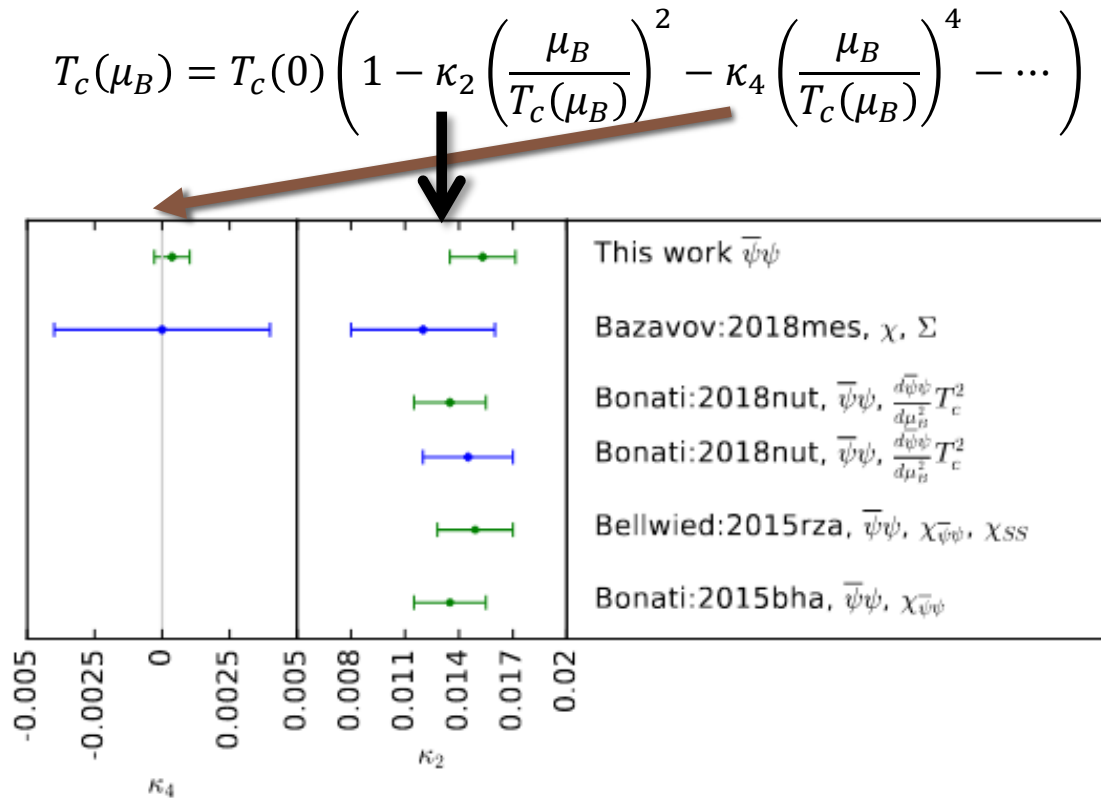
Simulate a different theory, correct the Boltzmann weight in the observable

C
O
S
T

While cut-off and volume effects are important for every lattice result, for $\mu_B > 0$ the way we extrapolate is also an important point of quality control



The phase diagram



[\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRL125 \(2020\)\]](#)

Continuum, $\langle S \rangle = 0$, $LT = 4$

$\mu_B > 0$ quantity with good quality control!

[R. Kara, We 14:20, QCD at finite T and μ]

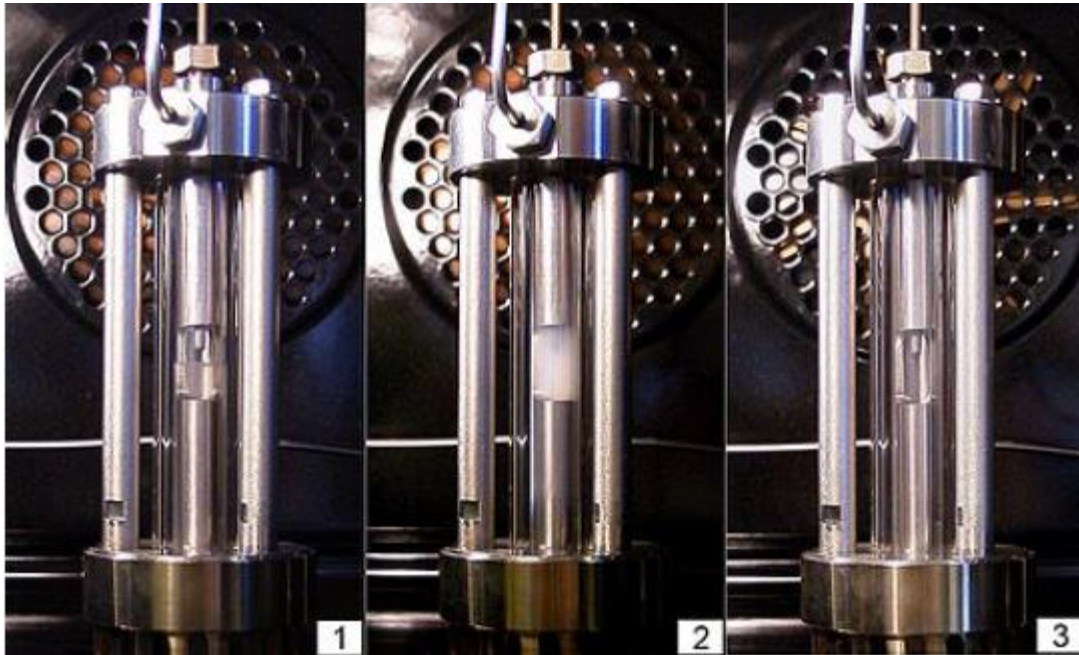
$N_t = 12$, $\langle S \rangle = 0$, L from small to ∞

Benchmark for effective/functional approaches

These curves contain no info on the order of the transition! How do we search for criticality?

One way: fluctuations

Experiment: tune to criticality



$T < T_c$

$T \approx T_c$

$T > T_c$

HEAT THE SYSTEM

Picture from [Wikipedia](#)

Lattice/Taylor: try to see it from far away

$$\chi_n^B = \left(\frac{\partial^n \hat{p}}{\partial \hat{\mu}_B^n} \right)_{\mu_B=0}$$

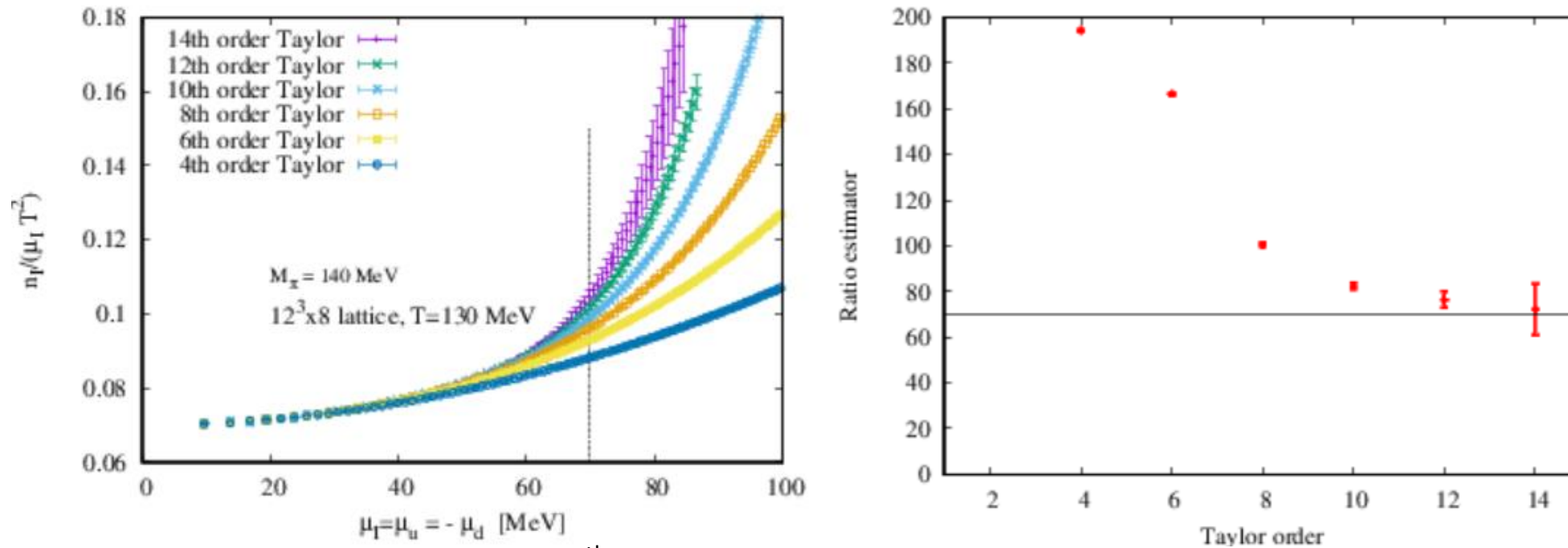
To as large n as possible...

To hopefully see a divergence...

Is this even possible?

A case study: pion condensation [\[Wuppertal-Budapest, 2308.06105\]](#)

- Instead of μ_B , introduce μ_I (prefers π^+ over π^-)
- Second order transition at low T and $\mu_I \approx m_\pi/2 \approx 70\text{MeV}$ [\[Son&Stephanov, PRL \(2001\)\]](#) [\[Brandt&Endrődi,](#)



Eventually finds the correct value. 6th order gives $170\text{MeV} \gg 70\text{MeV}$

No high orders in μ_B : analysis of the radius of convergence from Taylor data is premature

Warning: the ratio estimator is not always applicable [\[Giordano & Pásztor, PRD99\(2019\)\]](#) (here: OK)

More on radius of convergence and analytic structure: [\[G. Basar, Tue 16:30\]](#) [\[J. Goshwami, We 15:20\]](#)

The HRG as a non-critical baseline

Hadron resonance gas (HRG) model

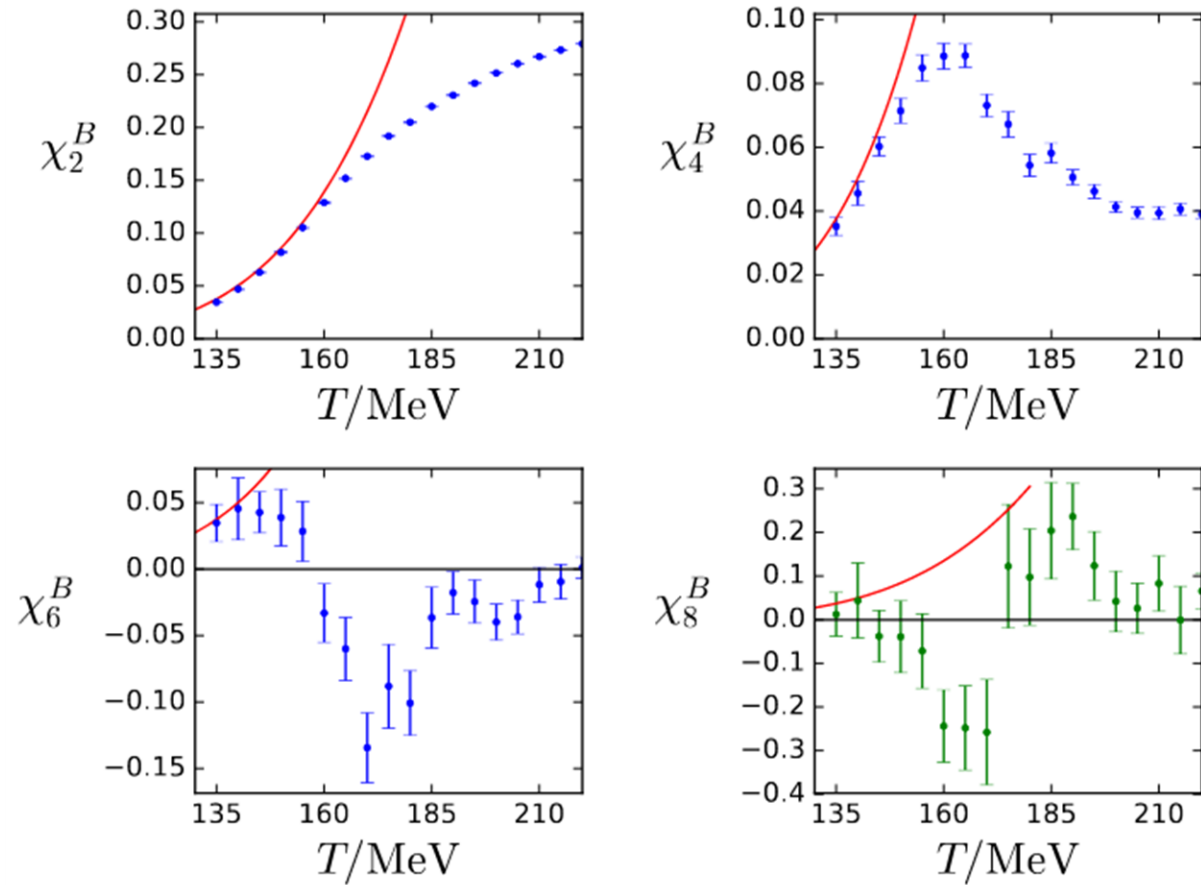
$$p_{QCD} \approx \sum_H p_H^{free}$$

- sum over stable hadrons and resonances
- heavy ion phenomenology uses the HRG as a non-critical baseline
(non-trivial: see, e.g., [\[Braun-Munzinger et al, NPA1008\(2021\)\]](#))
- in lattice QCD: can use grand canonical ensemble
- minimum goal: establish deviations from HRG (with good quality control!)

SO, DOES THE HRG DESCRIBE LATTICE DATA ?

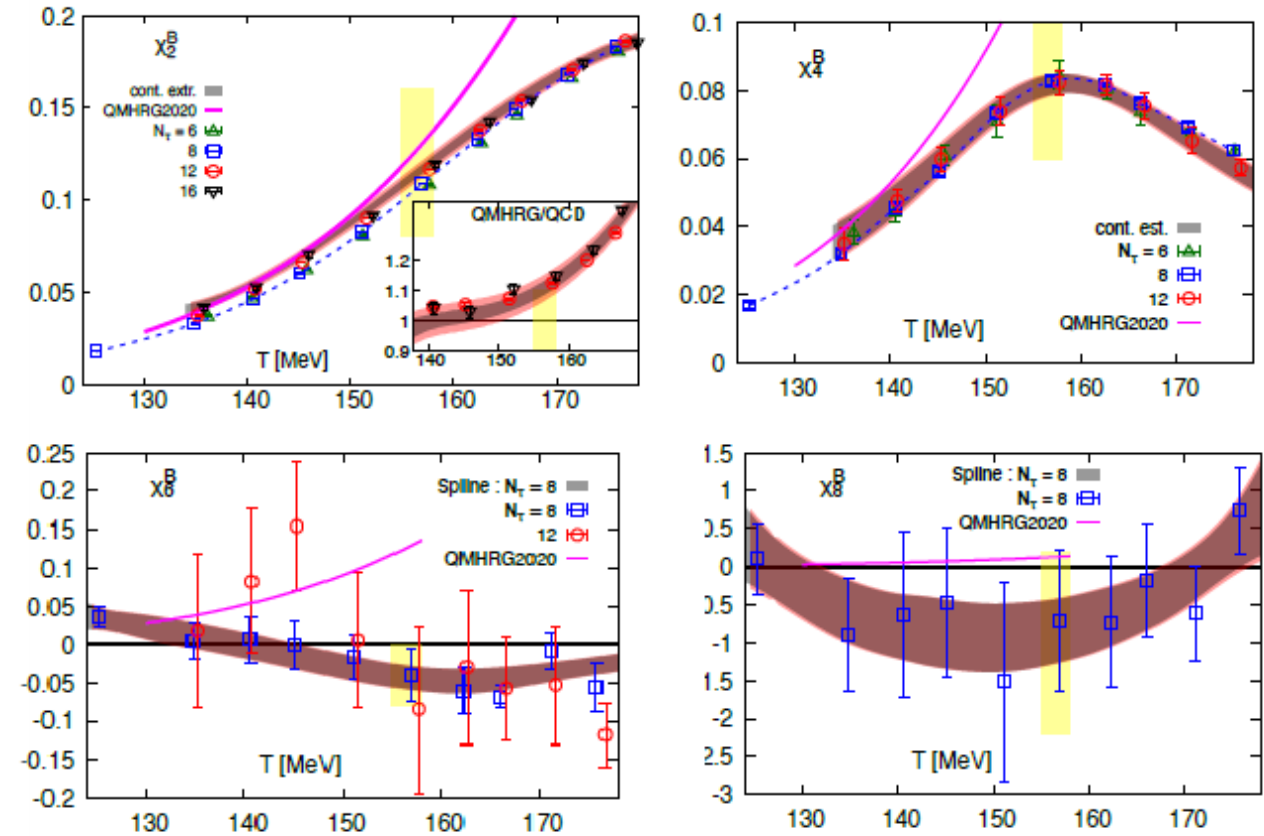
Taylor coefficients of the pressure

From imaginary chemical potential



[Wuppertal-Budapest, JHEP (2018)] (LT=4, $N_t=12$)

From zero chemical potential

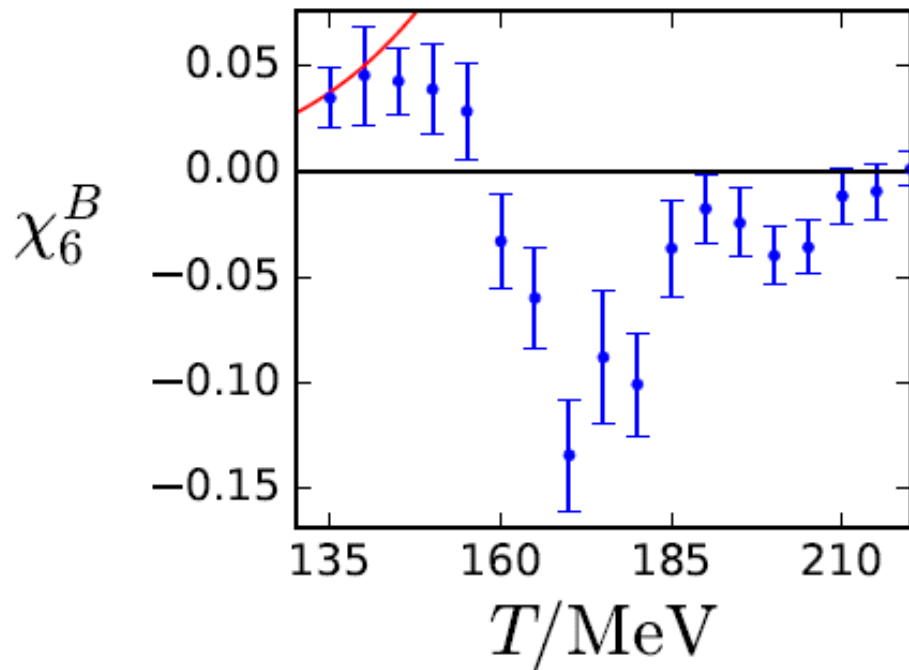


[HotQCD, PRD105 (2022)] (LT=4, $N_t=6,8,(12)$)

[D. Clarke, We 14:40]

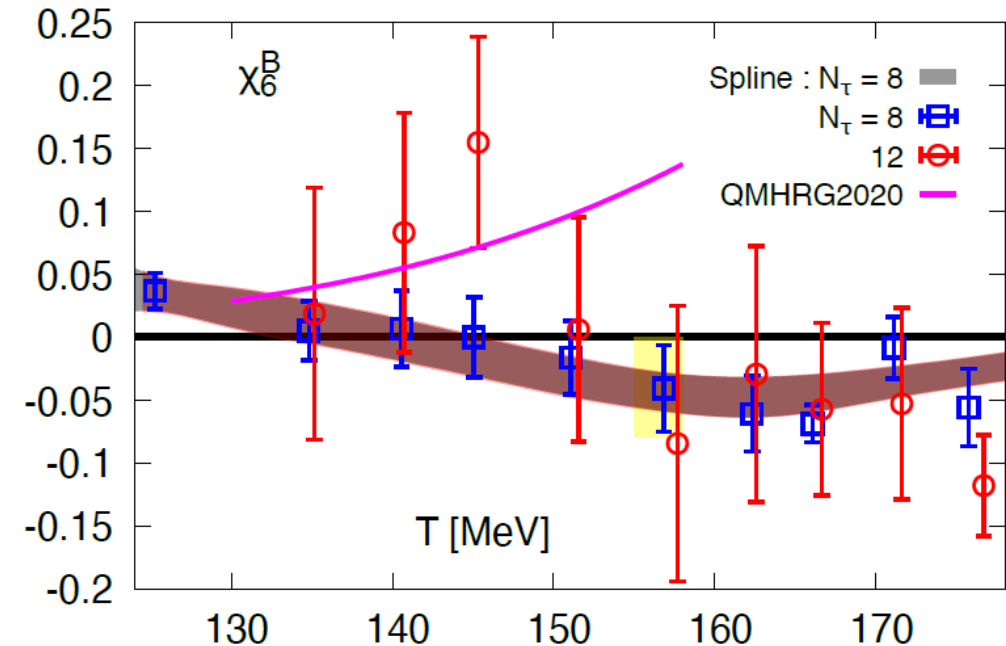
6th order: zoom in to see discrepancies

From imaginary chemical potential



[\[Wuppertal-Budapest, JHEP \(2018\)\]](#) (LT=4, $N_t=12$)

From zero chemical potential

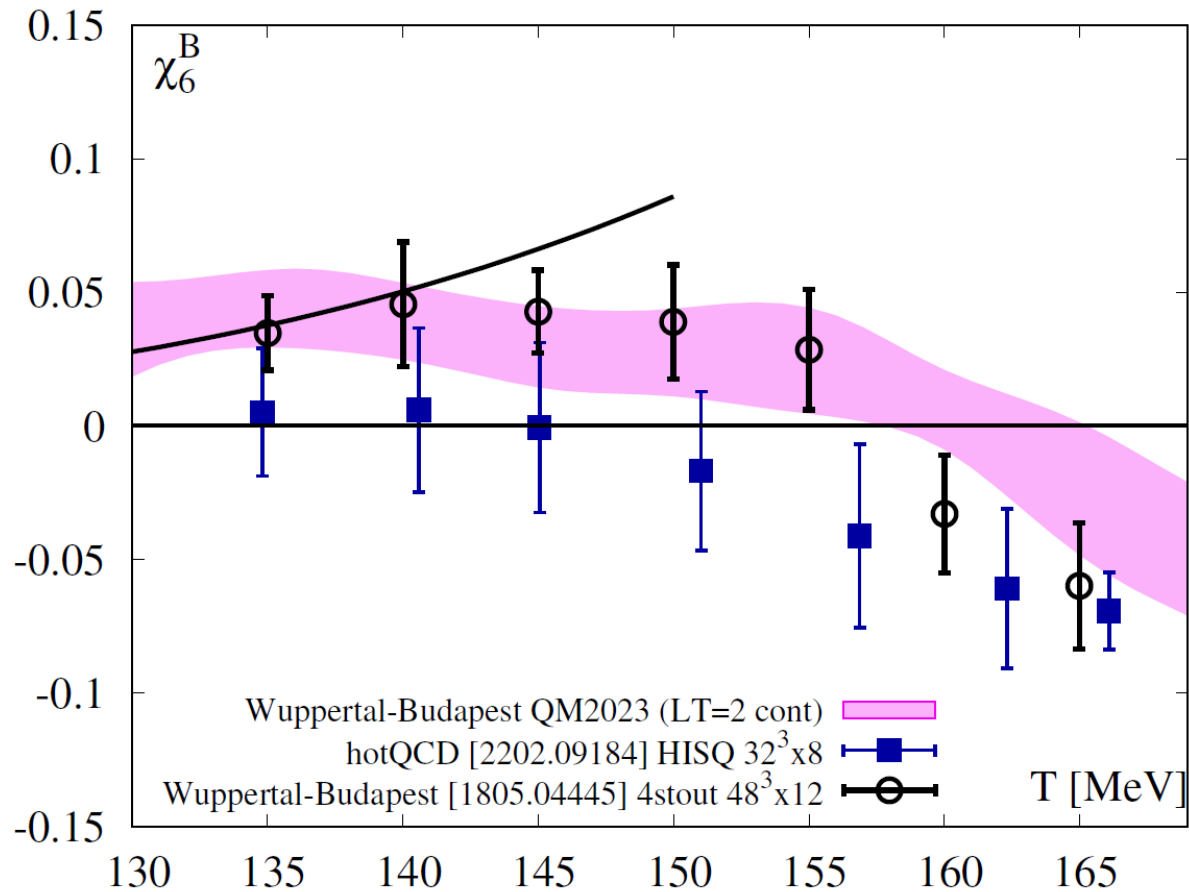


[\[HotQCD, PRD105 \(2022\)\]](#) (LT=4, $N_t=8,(12)$)

[\[D. Clarke, We 14:40\]](#)

- $N_t=12$ (left, WB) agrees with the HRG (value and slope) better than $N_t=8$ (right, HotQCD) at low T
- $T=145\text{-}155\text{MeV}$: $N_t=12>0$ and $N_t=8<0$

6th order: new dataset



[Sz. Borsányi, Tue 14:50, QCD at finite T and μ]

New dataset:

Taylor, LT=2, continuum (new discretization)

Lower T : cut-off effects dominate

Smaller T means larger a for fixed N_t

5 points at least 1σ below: $\left(\frac{1-0.68}{2}\right)^5 \approx 10^{-4}$

Higher T : finite volume effects dominate

T_c depends on L

$T > 145 \text{ MeV}$: HRG \neq LATTICE

$T < 145 \text{ MeV}$: HRG = LATTICE

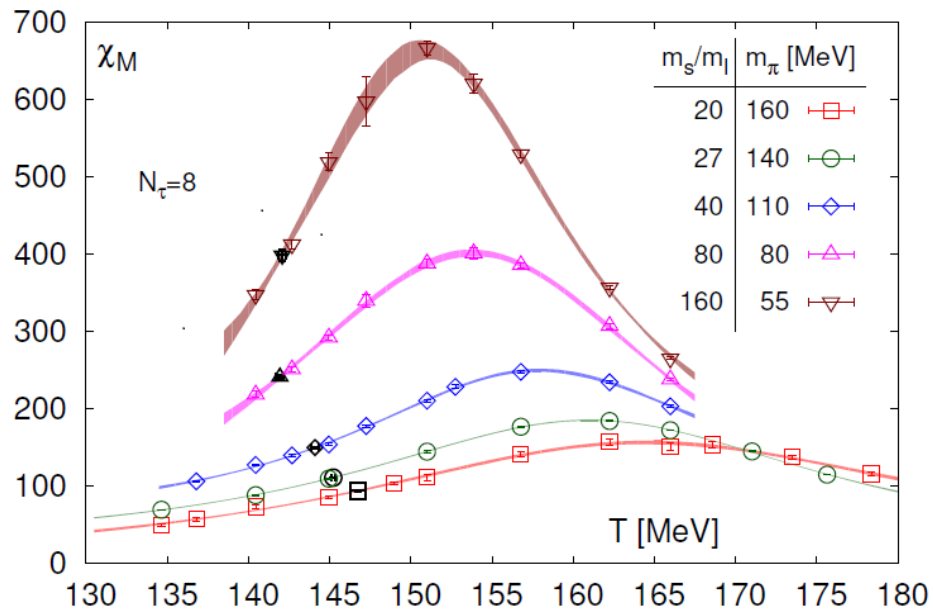
(within errors)

No sign of a CEP in the Taylor coefficients up to 6th order

Chiral criticality and the equation of state

Smaller-than-physical quark mass @ $\mu_B = 0$

[\[HotQCD, PRL123 \(2019\)\]](#)

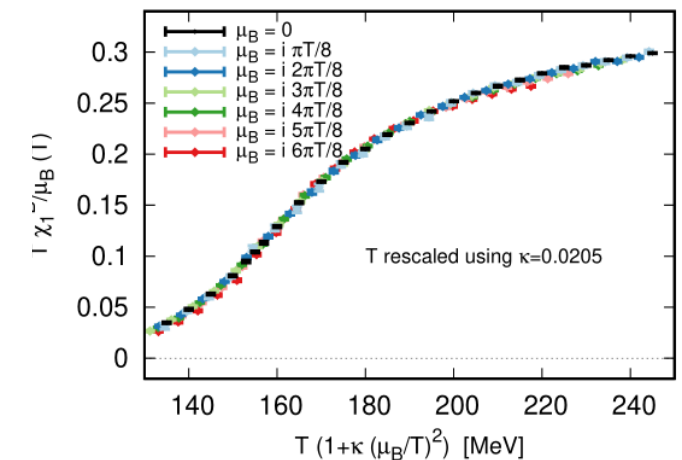
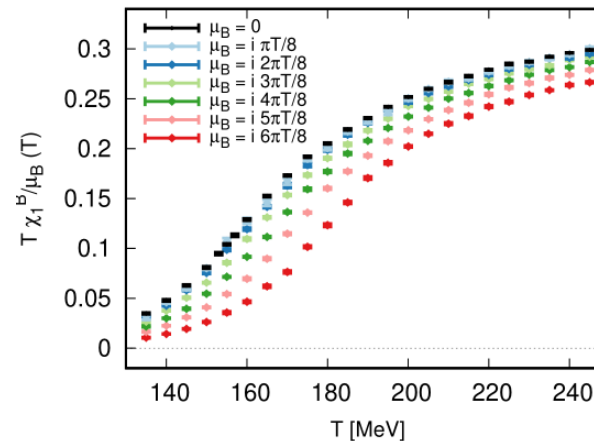


See also [\[Kotov, Lombardo, Trunin, PLB823 \(2021\)\]](#):
scaling for heavier-than-physical quark masses

See also [P. Petreczky, We 17:10, QCD at finite T and μ]

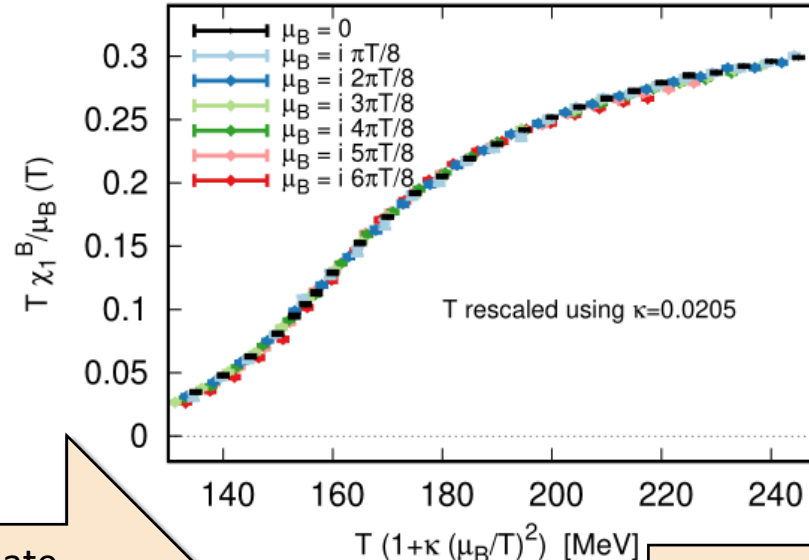
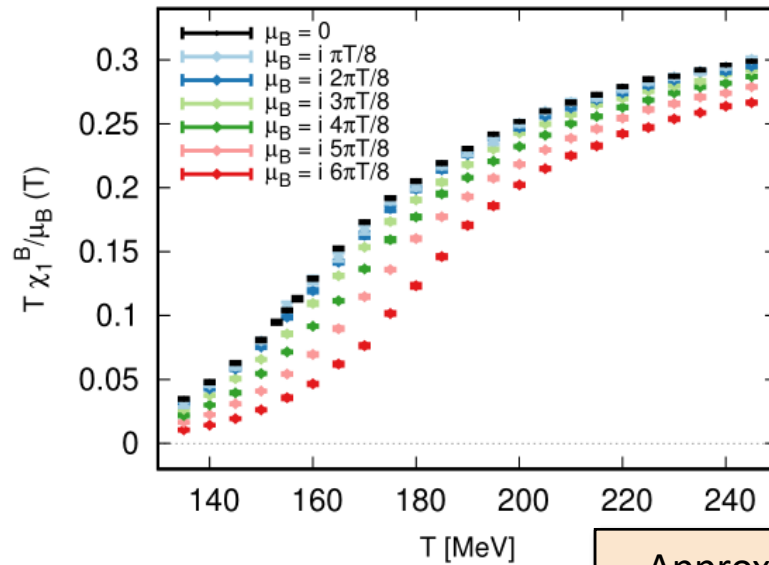
T and μ_B dependence with physical masses

- Empirically: approximate scaling variable $T(1 + \kappa_2 \hat{\mu}_B^2)$
⇒ transition not sharpening for small $\hat{\mu}_B^2$
- Collapse predicted by chiral scaling (⇒ backup)



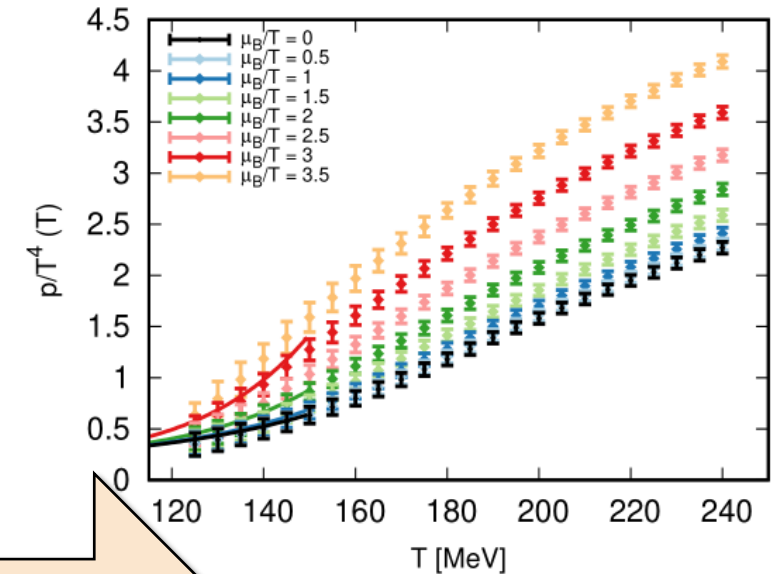
[\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRL126 \(2021\)\]](#)

Alternative expansion scheme



Approximate collapse in the $\text{Im}(\mu_B)$ data

Account for small deviations systematically, extrapolate to real μ_B

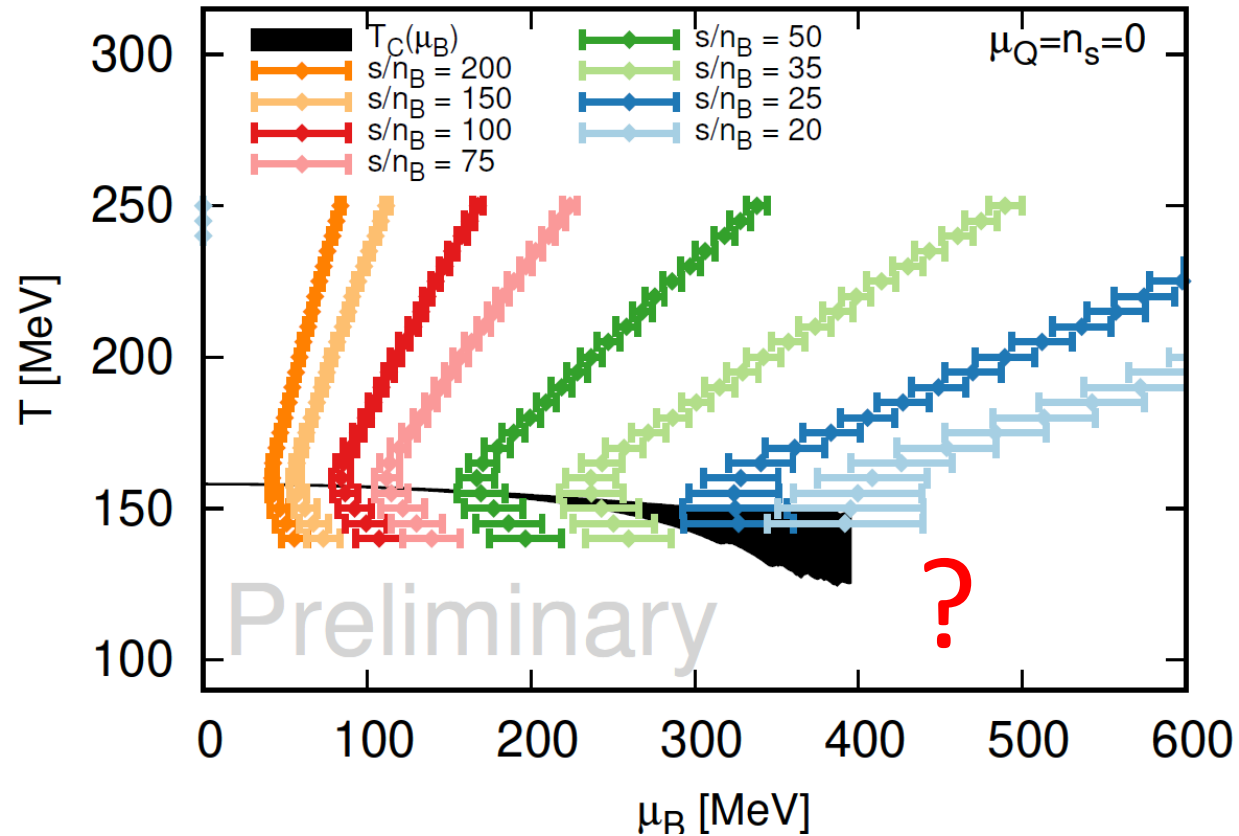


continuum, $LT = 4$, $\mu_S = 0$: [\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRL126 \(2021\)\]](#)
 continuum, $LT = 4$, $n_S = 0$: [\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRD105 \(2022\)\]](#)

Also, small nonzero n_S

Precise EoS from extrapolations

Isentropes (resummation)



RHIC freeze-out [\[STAR, PRC96 \(2017\)\]](#)

$$\sqrt{s} = 19.6 \text{ GeV} \leftrightarrow \mu_B \approx 200 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\sqrt{s} = 11.5 \text{ GeV} \leftrightarrow \mu_B \approx 300 \text{ MeV}$$

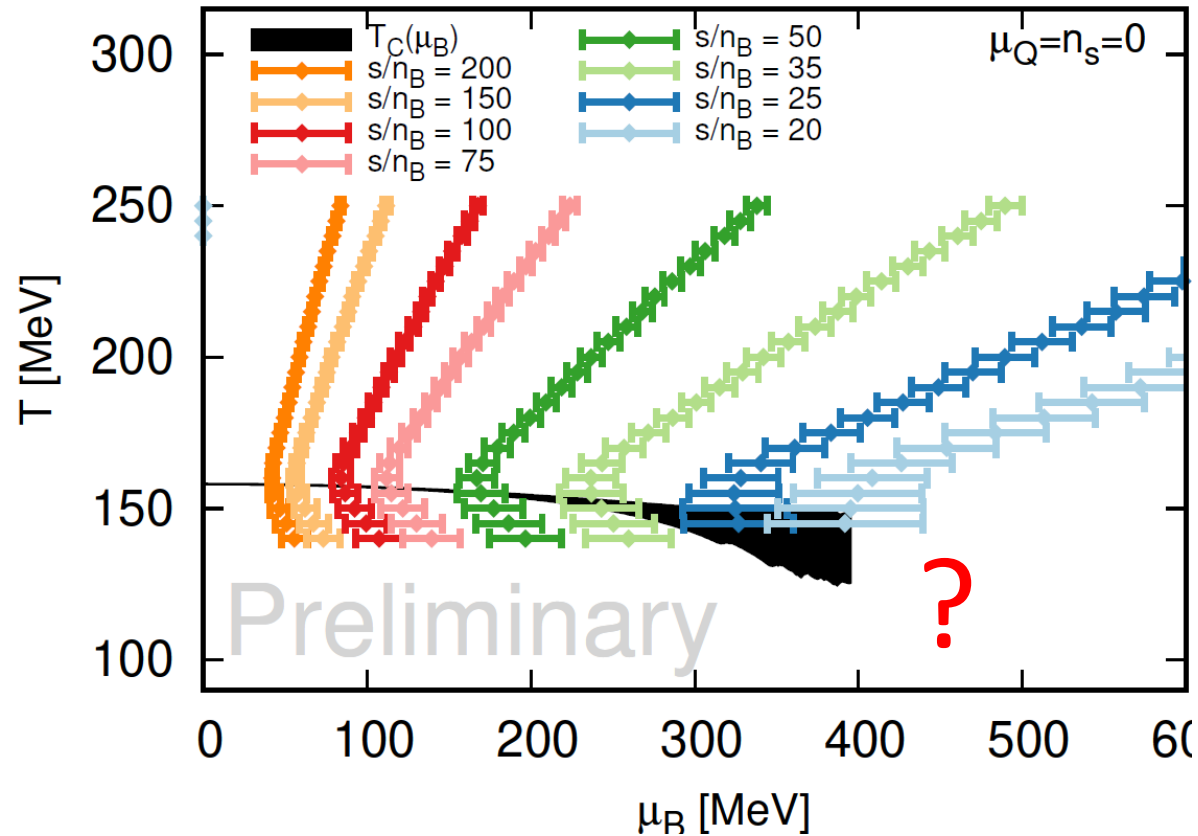
$$\sqrt{s} = 7.7 \text{ GeV} \leftrightarrow \mu_B \approx 400 \text{ MeV}$$

No sign of critical lensing within errors

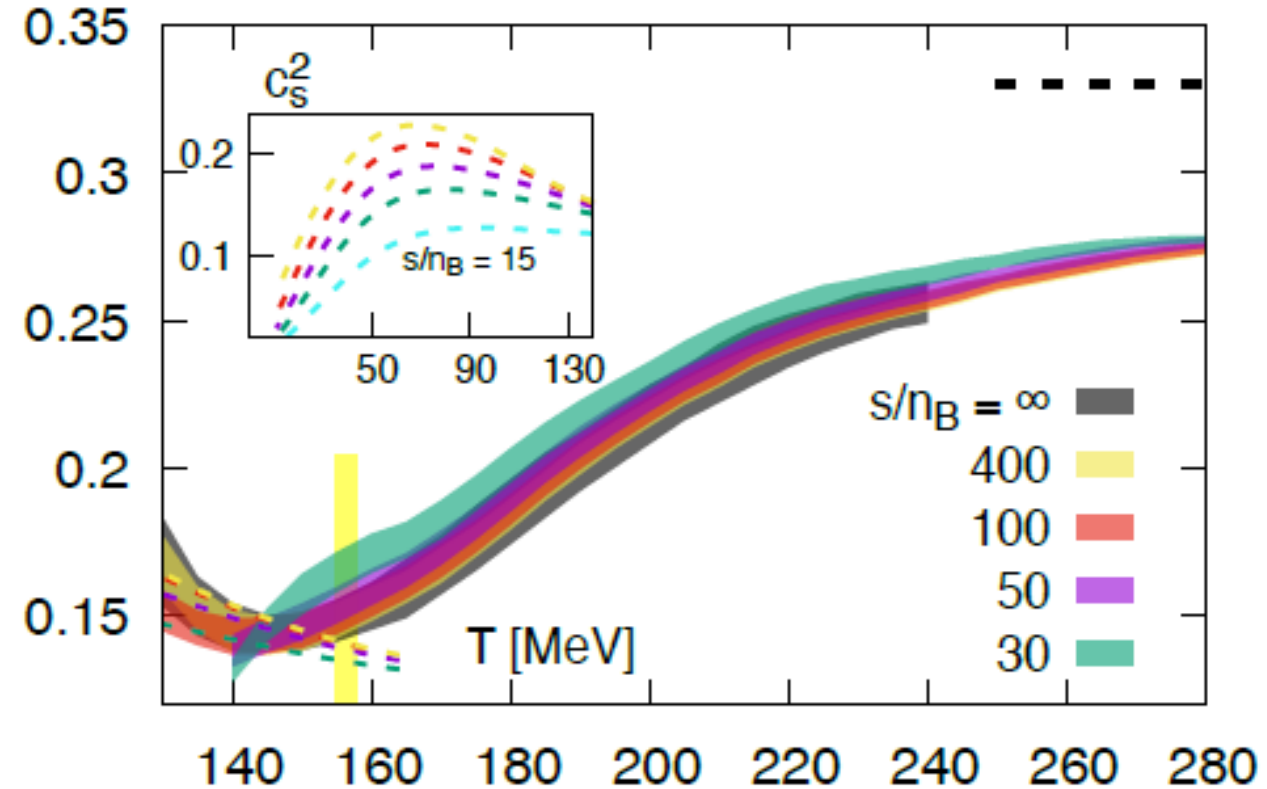
[P. Parotto, Tue 16:30 , QCD at finite T and μ]

Precise EoS from extrapolations

Isentropes (resummation)



Speed of sound on the isentropes (Taylor)



[[HotQCD, PRD108 \(2023\)](#)]

[D. Clarke, We 14:40, QCD at finite T and μ]

More direct methods

Freely tune T and μ_B on the lattice?

Desirable:

No ill-posed analytic continuation
Data closer to conjectured CEP

Common lore:

Impossible

Truth:

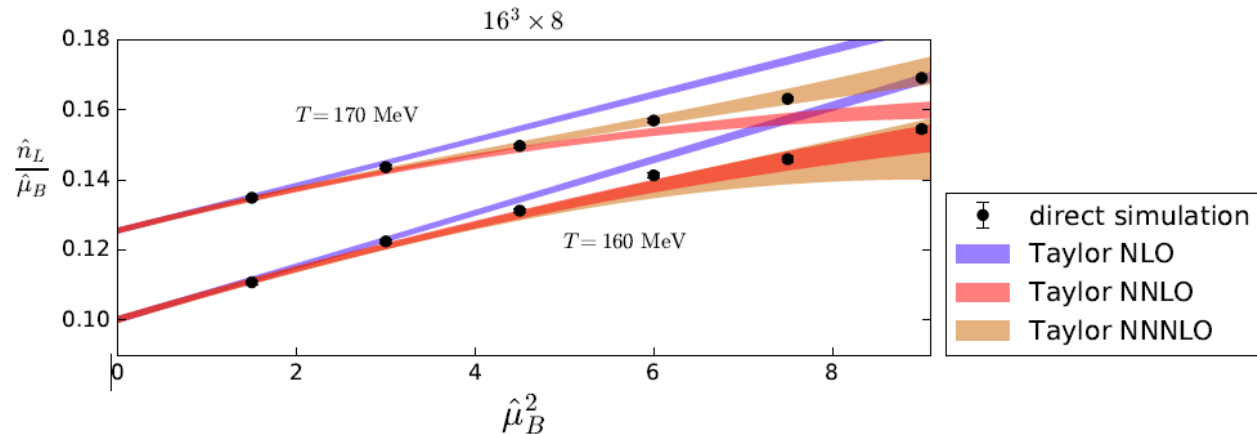
Possible (with reweighting), but expensive
Increasingly more feasible

Technical developments:

[\[JHEP05 \(2020\)\]](#) [\[PRD105 \(2022\)\]](#)

[\[PRD107 \(2023\)\]](#) [\[2308.06105\]](#)

One application: cross-check QGP EoS



[\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRD 107 \(2023\)\]](#)

[\[C.H. Wong, Tue 16:10, QCD at finite \$T\$ and \$\mu\$ \]](#)

For $T \geq 145$ MeV:

4th order Taylor accurate up to $\mu_B = 2T$

Alternative expansion at least up to $\mu_B = 3T$

Future: scan low T and larger μ_B in small volume

Summary on nonzero μ_B

QGP equation of state ☒

- $\mu_B/T < 2$ from 4th order Taylor expansion (continuum)
- $\mu_B/T < 3-3.5$ from alternative expansion scheme (continuum)
- Direct simulations agree with extrapolations, provided that the order of expansion is high enough

Search for the CEP ☐

- No solid demonstration of any deviations from the HRG for $T < 145 \text{ MeV}$ in cumulants up to 6th order
- No sign of critical lensing in the QGP EoS

Real-time physics

I only have time to advertise two recent papers. Both are about heavy quark physics.

Like at $\mu_B > 0$, there is also an analytic continuation problem here. Transport is the most difficult, since it is related to the low frequency (large real-time) behavior

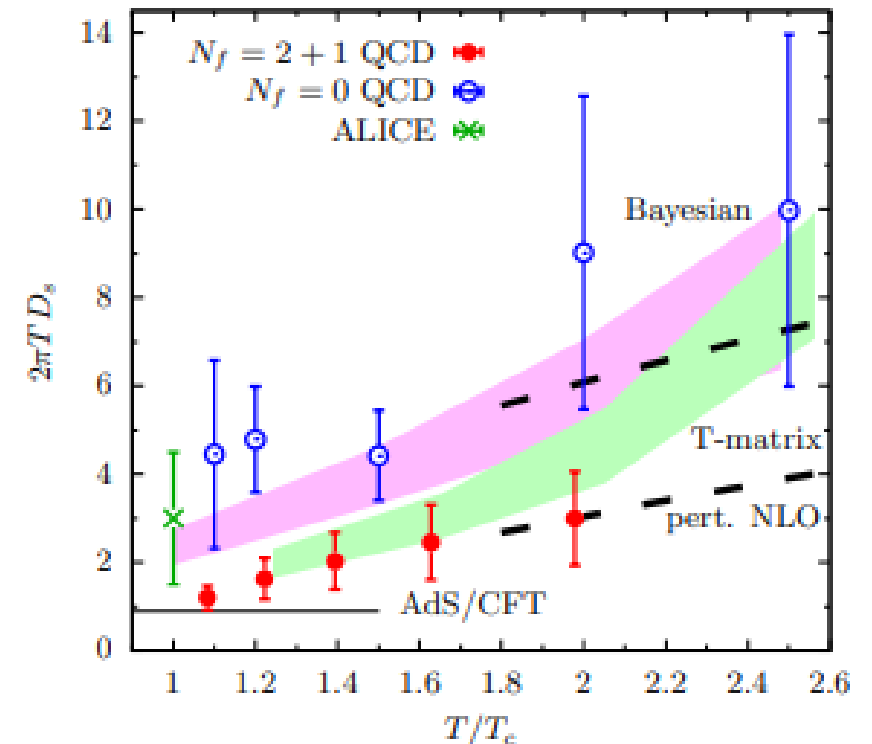


Heavy quark diffusion

- Previously only available on a pure gluon background
 - Now also with dynamical light quarks ($m_\pi = 320 \text{ MeV}$)
- [\[Altenkort et al, PRL130 \(2023\)\]](#)
- Small value \Rightarrow fast thermalization

[H.T. Shu, Tue 16:50, QCD at finite T and μ]

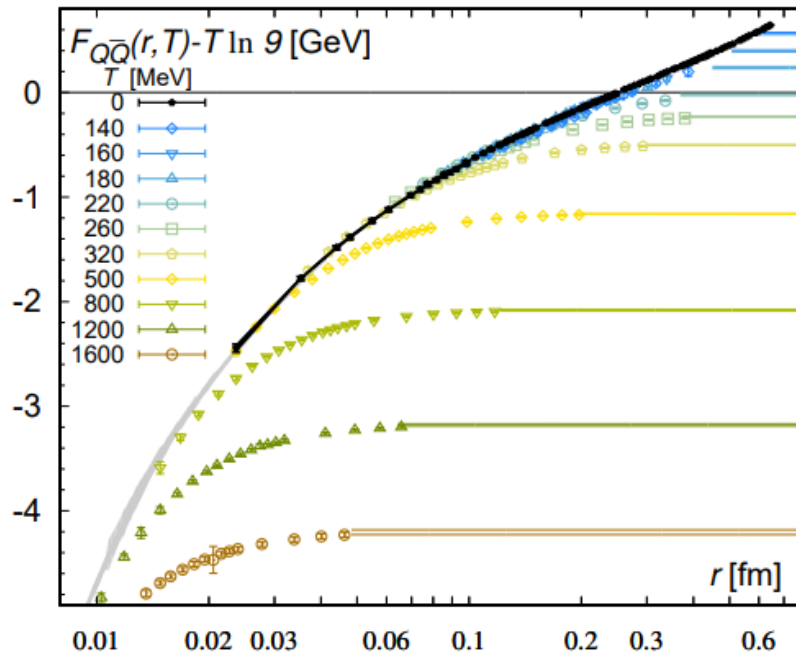
+ new preliminary results: $1/m_Q$ corrections



Real-time potential

Static $Q\bar{Q}$ free energy (Euclidean)

[Bazavov et al, PRD 98 (2018)]

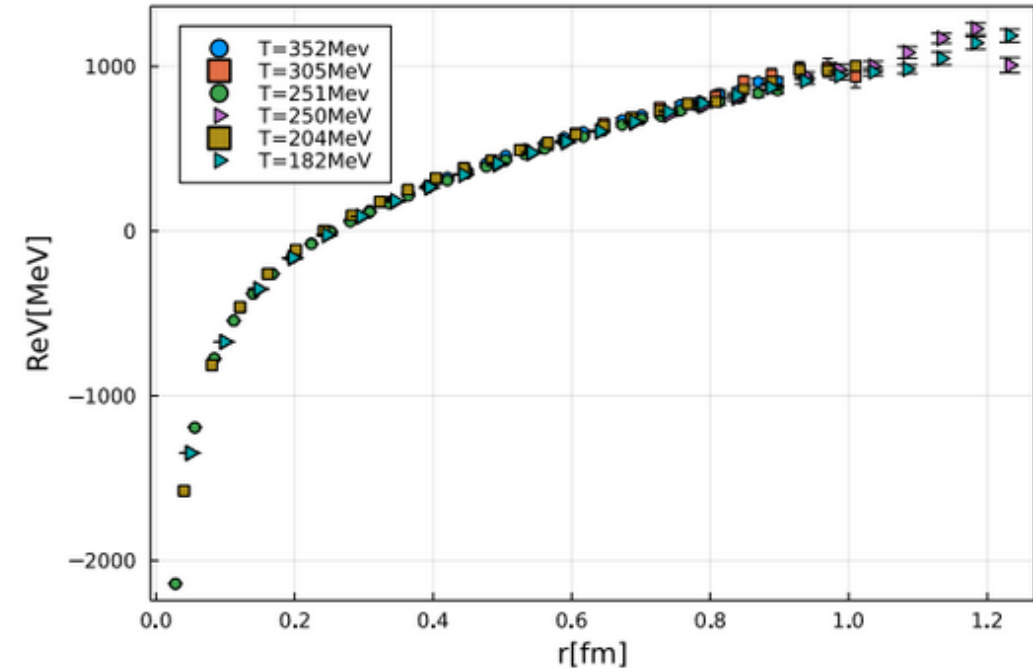


SCREENED, REAL

Recent review: [Bazavov & Weber (2021)]
See also [Wuppertal-Budapest, JHEP04 (2015)]

Real-time $Q\bar{Q}$ potential

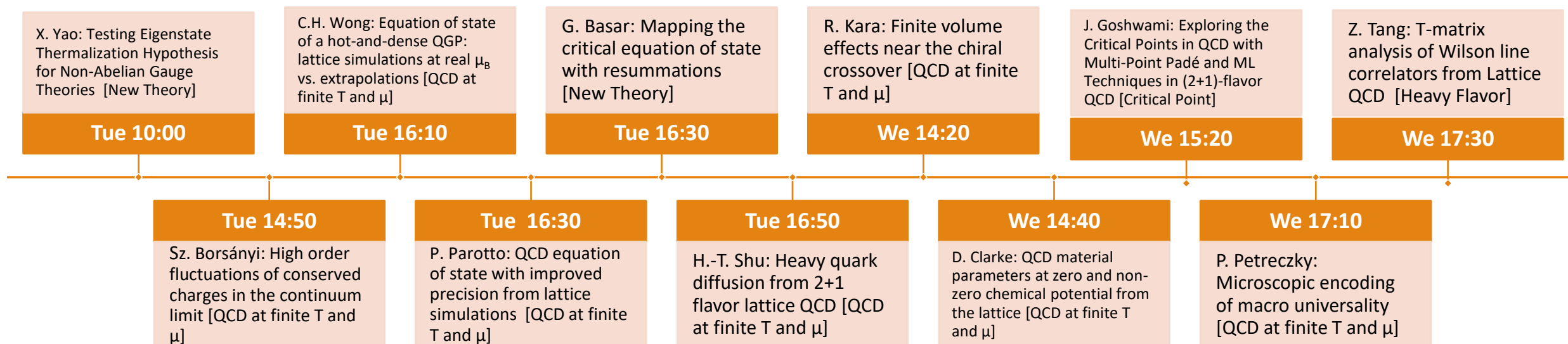
[Bazavov et al, 2308.16587]



NOT SCREENED, COMPLEX

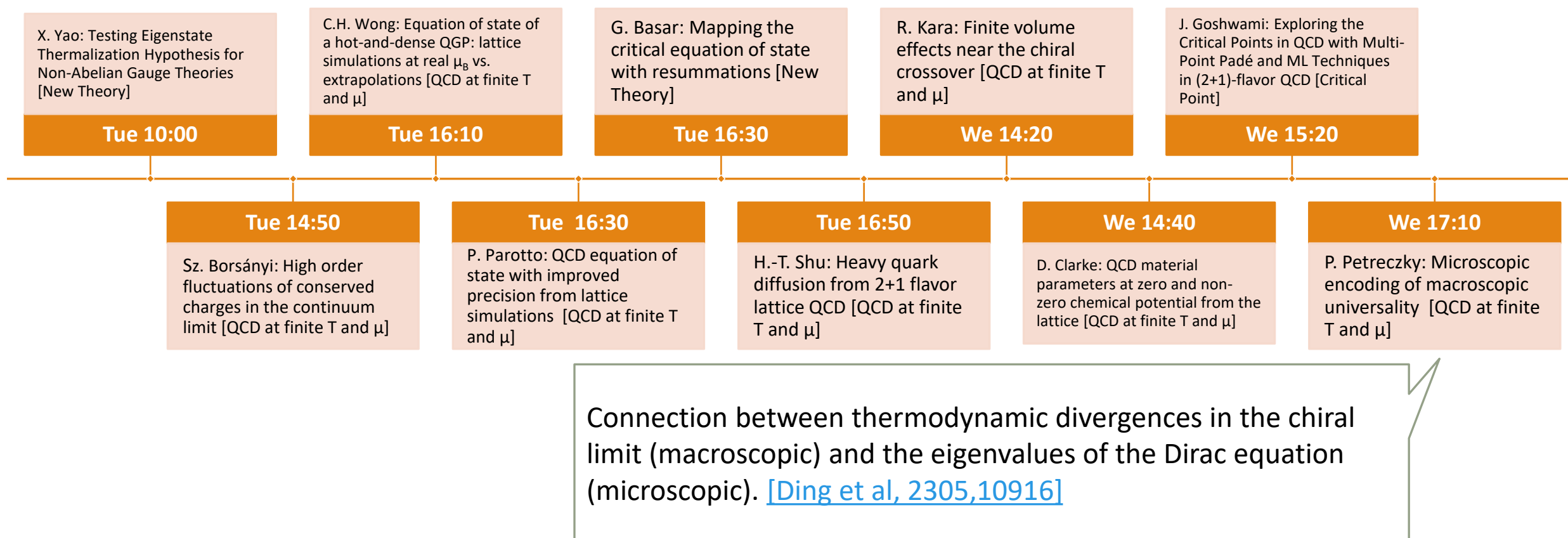
See also [Z. Tang, We 17:30, Heavy flavor]

LATTICE TALKS @ QM 2023

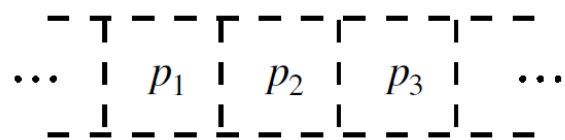


BACKUP

LATTICE TALKS @ QM 2023 – THE CHIRAL LIMIT



LATTICE TALKS @ QM 2023 – REAL TIME PHYSICS



Thermalization of a chain of plaquettes

[\[X. Yao, PRD128 \(2023\)\]](#)

X. Yao: Testing Eigenstate Thermalization Hypothesis for Non-Abelian Gauge Theories [New Theory]

Tue 10:00

C.H. Wong: Equation of state of a hot-and-dense QGP: lattice simulations at real μ_B vs. extrapolations [QCD at finite T and μ]

Tue 16:10

G. Basar: Mapping the critical equation of state with resummations [New Theory]

Tue 16:30

R. Kara: Finite volume effects near the chiral crossover [QCD at finite T and μ]

We 14:20

J. Goshwami: Exploring the Critical Points in QCD with Multi-Point Padé and ML Techniques in (2+1)-flavor QCD [Critical Point]

We 15:20

Tue 14:50

Sz. Borsányi: High order fluctuations of conserved charges in the continuum limit [QCD at finite T and μ]

Tue 16:30

P. Parotto: QCD equation of state with improved precision from lattice simulations [QCD at finite T and μ]

Tue 16:50

H.-T. Shu: Heavy quark diffusion from 2+1 flavor lattice QCD [QCD at finite T and μ]

We 14:40

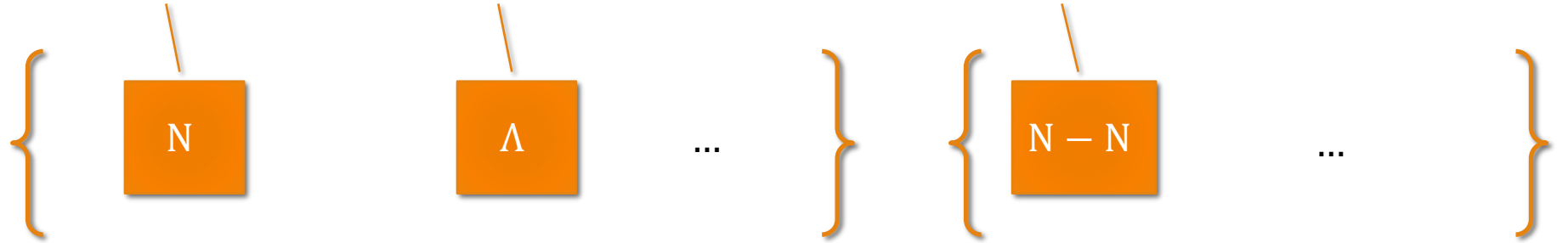
D. Clarke: QCD material parameters at zero and non-zero chemical potential from the lattice [QCD at finite T and μ]

We 17:10

P. Petreczky: Microscopic encoding of macroscopic universality [QCD at finite T and μ]

Beyond the hadron resonance gas

$$\chi_1^B(T, \mu_B, \mu_S) = P_{10}^{BS}(T) \sinh(\hat{\mu}_B) + P_{11}^{BS}(T) \sinh(\hat{\mu}_B - \hat{\mu}_S) + \dots + 2P_{20}^{BS}(T) \sinh(2\hat{\mu}_B) + \dots$$



S-matrix formalism:

[\[Dashen et al, PR187 \(1969\)\]](#)

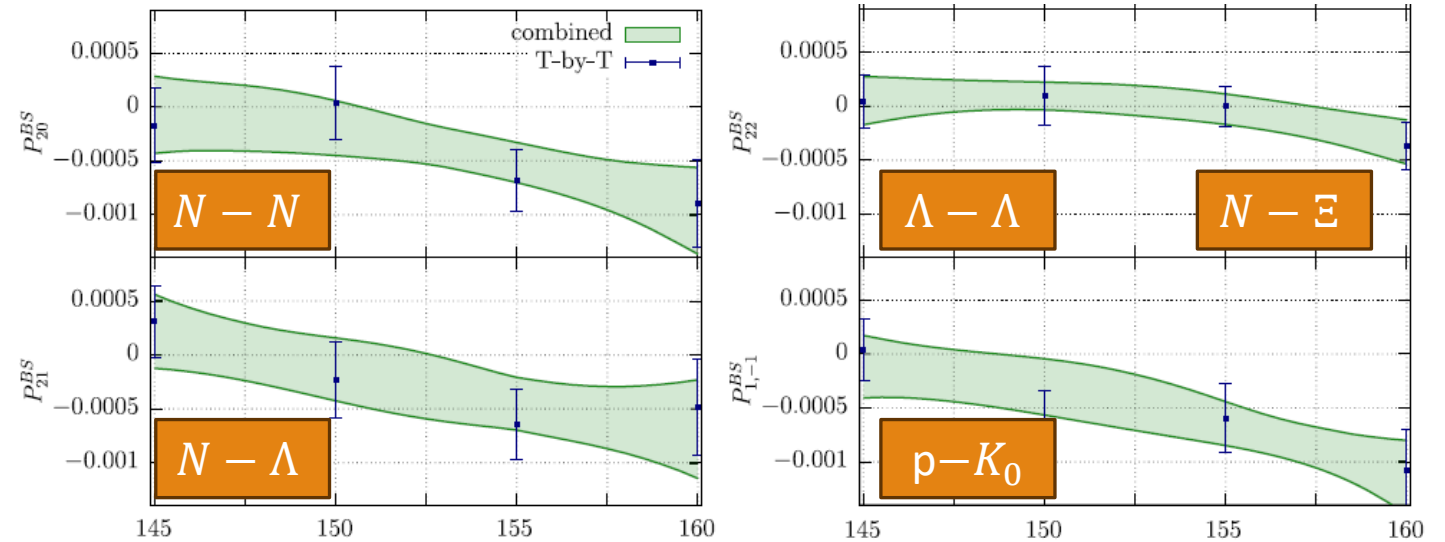
Repulsive interactions \Rightarrow negative sector

Attractive interactions \Rightarrow negative sector

Lattice data vs repulsive extensions of HRG:

[\[Huovinen, Petreczky PLB777 \(2017\)\]](#)

[\[Vovchenko, Pásztor et al, PLB 775 \(2017\)\]](#)

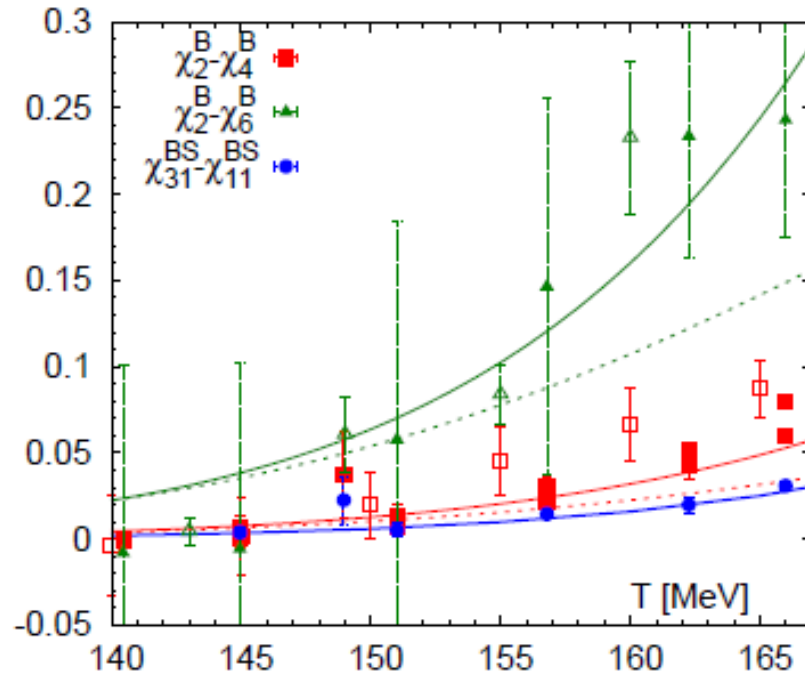


[\[Wuppertal-Budapest, PRD104\(2021\)\]](#)

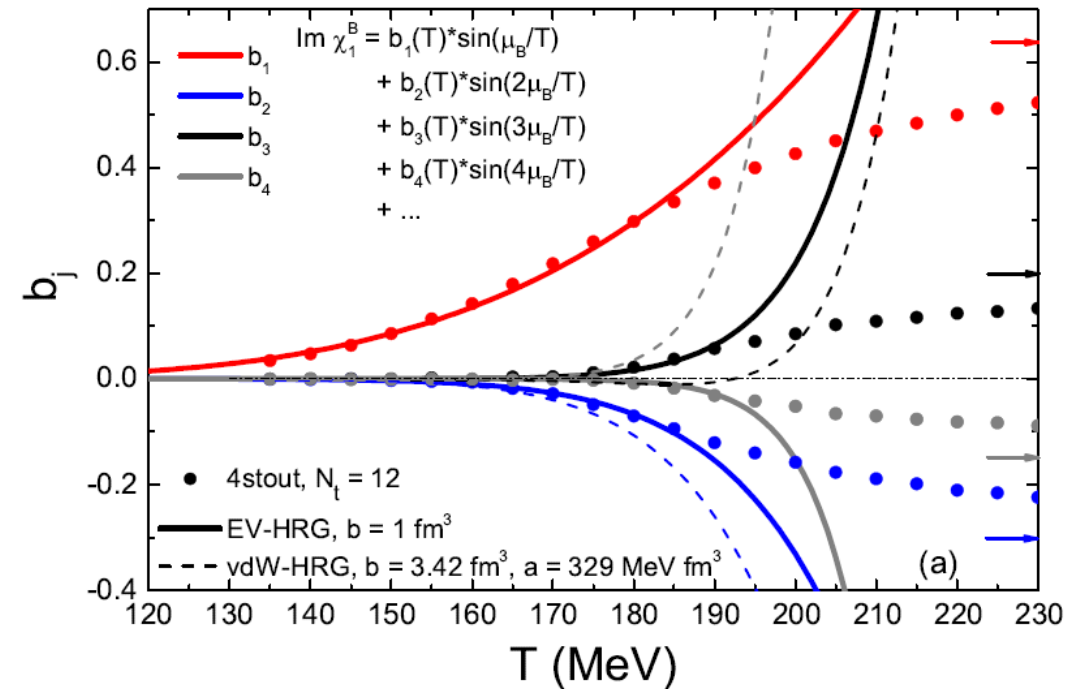
Repulsive hadronic models vs lattice data

Repulsive core of NN interactions is very well established, and the HRG model does not take it into account at all!

[Huovinen, Petreczky PLB777 (2017)]



[Vovchenko, Pásztor et al, PLB 775 (2017)]



LT=4, $N_t=8$, Taylor VS repulsive mean field

LT=4, $N_t=12$, $\text{Im } \mu_B$ VS excluded volume or VdW HRG

See also [Bellwied et al, PRD 104 (2021)] for a systematic study

O(4) scaling and resummation

Empirical observations from imaginary μ_B data:

- Σ/f_π^4 collapses as a function of $T \left(1 + \kappa \left(\frac{\mu_B}{T}\right)^2\right)$ but Σ/T^4 does not
- $\chi_1^B/(\mu_B/T)$ collapses as a function of $T \left(1 + \kappa \left(\frac{\mu_B}{T}\right)^2\right)$ but χ_2^B does not

BUT WHY?

One possible explanation is scaling near the chiral limit:

$$p_{QCD}(T, \mu_B, m) - p_{QCD}(0, 0, m) \sim f_{sing}(h, t) \sim t^{2-\alpha} F\left(\frac{h}{t^{\beta\delta}}\right) \text{ where } h \sim m \text{ and } t \sim T - T_{ch}(1 - \kappa(\mu_B/T_{ch})^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Sigma_{sing} = m \frac{\partial}{\partial m} f_{sing} = t^{2-\alpha} \frac{h}{t^{\beta\delta}} F'\left(\frac{h}{t^{\beta\delta}}\right)$$

\Rightarrow near T_{ch} near the chiral limit, Σ/f_π^4 is a function of the scaling variables h and t only, while Σ/T^4 is no

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(\mu_B/T_{ch})} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\mu_B/T_{ch})} f_{sing} = (2-\alpha)t^{1-\alpha} F\left(\frac{h}{t^{\beta\delta}}\right) (2\kappa) + t^{1-\alpha-\beta\delta} F'\left(\frac{h}{t^{\beta\delta}}\right) (-\beta\delta)(2\kappa) := (2\kappa)G(h, t)$$

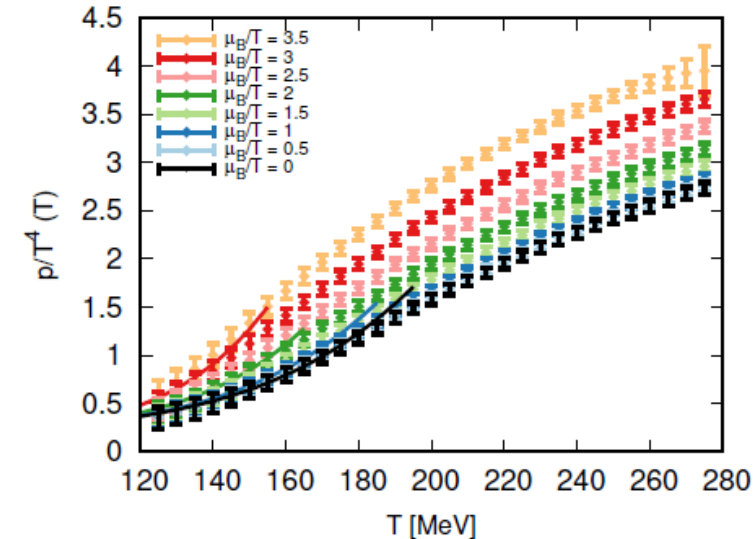
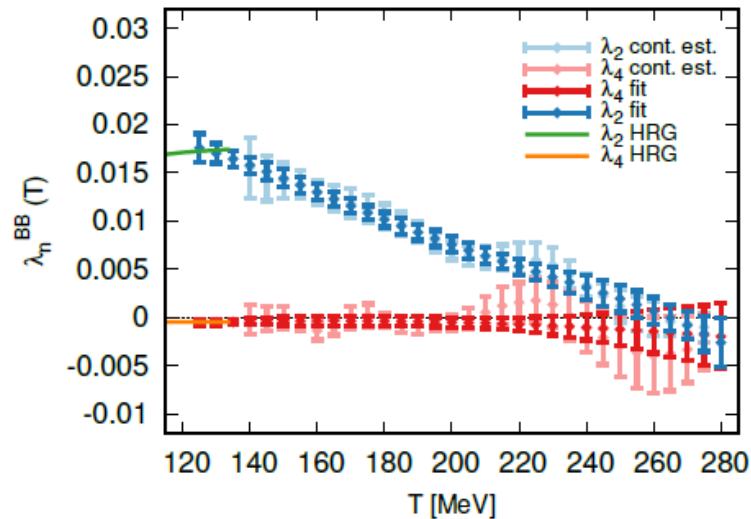
\Rightarrow again, a function of h and t only, while

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial(\mu_B/T_{ch})^2} f_{sing} = (2\kappa)G(h, t) + \left(\frac{(2\kappa)\mu_B}{T_{ch}}\right)^2 \frac{\partial G}{\partial t}$$

\Rightarrow not a function of h and t only

Resummed EoS: some details

- Systematically improvable ansatz: $F(T, \mu_B) = F(T', 0)$ $T' = T(1 - \lambda_2(T)\hat{\mu}_B^2 - \lambda_4(T)\hat{\mu}_B^4 - \dots)$
- This ansatz together with a choice of the observable F defines an extrapolation scheme (resummation)
- A good choice for $\langle S \rangle = 0$ is $F = \frac{c_1^B(T, \hat{\mu}_B)}{c_1^B(T \rightarrow \infty, \hat{\mu}_B)}$ where $c_1^B := \left(\frac{d\hat{p}}{d\hat{\mu}_B} \right)_{\langle S \rangle=0}$
- The normalization makes sure the infinite temperature behavior is correct
- The ansatz itself exploits the existence of the approximate scaling variable
- Already the leading order, with λ_2 only generates terms to all orders in the Taylor expansion of \hat{p}
- Analysis is like the extrapolation of $T_c(\hat{\mu}_B)$
- Result: λ_4 is very small, while λ_2 has a very simple temperature dependence



Equation of state (summary)

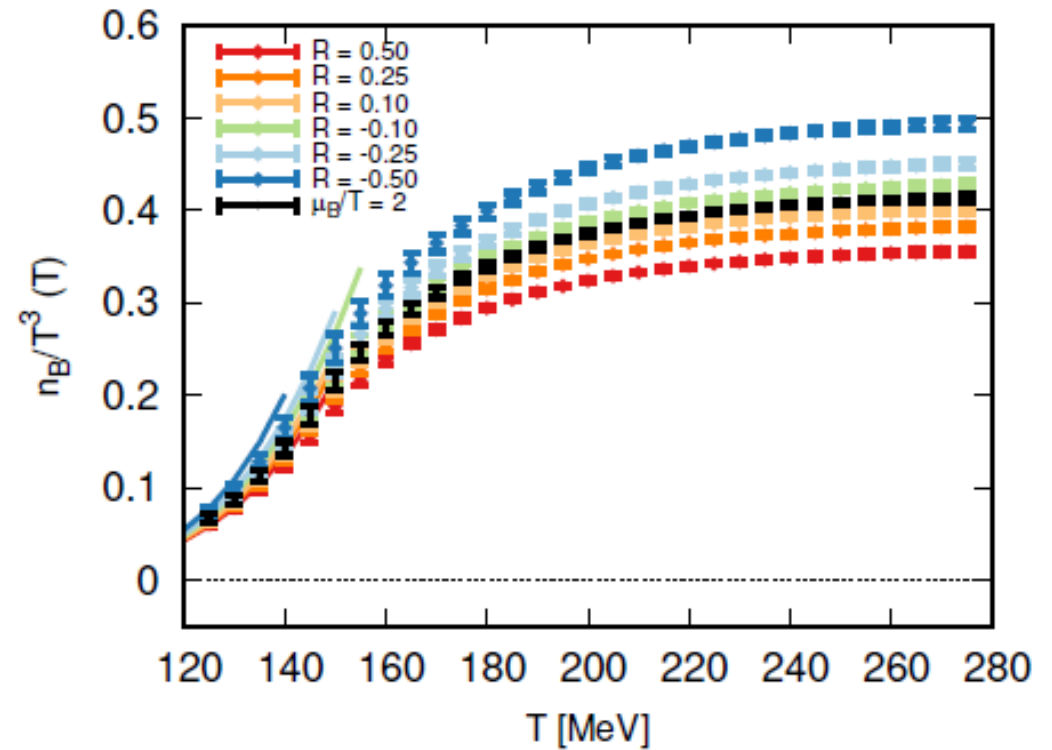
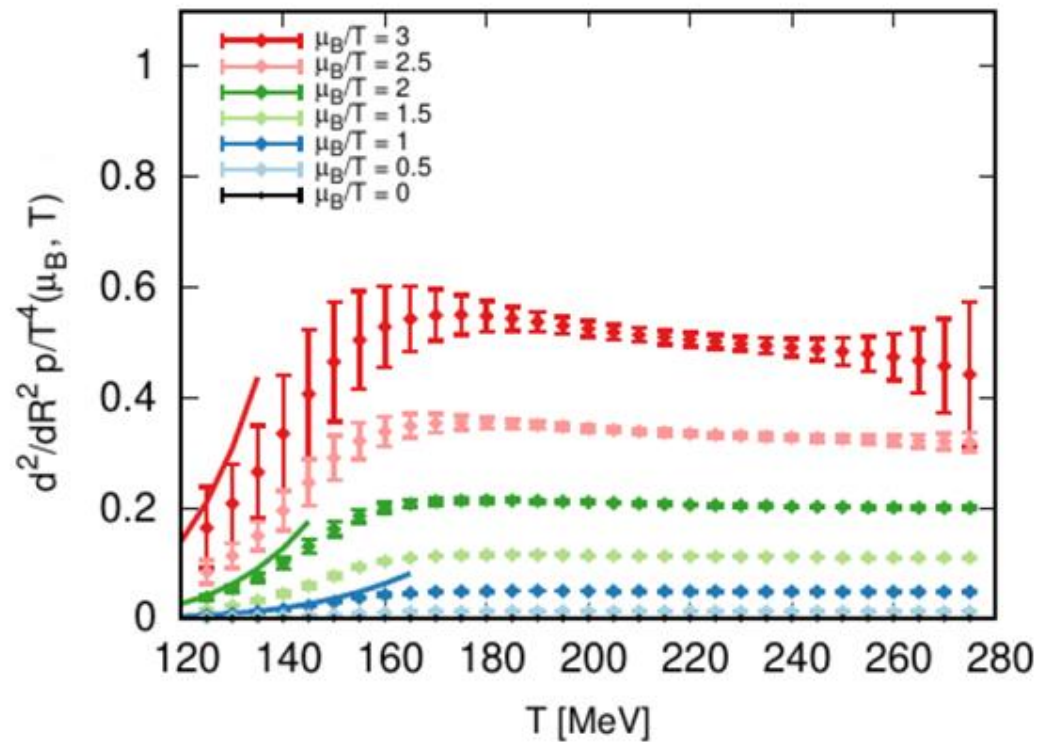
1. Realize the existence of the approximate scaling variable
2. Turn it into a systematically improvable extrapolation ansatz [\[Borsányi et al, PRL126 \(2021\)\]](#)
3. Validate the scheme by comparison with direct simulation results at non-zero density on finite (but reasonable) lattices [\[Borsányi et al, PRD107 \(2023\)\]](#)
4. Calculate the coefficients of the validated extrapolation scheme in the continuum in conditions relevant for heavy ion phenomenology. [\[Borsányi et al, PRD105\(2022\)\]](#)
5. Realize that the finite μ_B part is so precise that the errors are dominated by $\mu_B=0$, so make the $\mu_B=0$ equation of state more precise. [\[P. Parotto, Tue 16:30 , QCD at finite T and \$\mu\$ \]](#)

⇒ A PRECISE EQUATION OF STATE FOR THE RHIC BES RANGE

Beyond strangeness neutrality

Makes it possible to take small local fluctuations of strangeness into account in hydrodynamics:

$$\hat{p}(T, \mu_B, R) \approx \hat{p}(T, \mu_B, 0) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 \hat{p}}{dR^2} R^2 \quad \text{where} \quad R = \frac{n_S}{n_B}$$



[\[Borsányi et al, PRD105 \(2022\)\]](#)

Reweighting

Fields: ϕ Target theory: $Z_t = \int D\phi w_t(\phi)$ Simulated theory: $Z_s = \int D\phi w_s(\phi)$

$$\langle O \rangle_t = \frac{\int D\phi w_t(\phi) O(\phi)}{\int D\phi w_t(\phi)} = \frac{\int D\phi \frac{w_t(\phi)}{w_s(\phi)} w_s(\phi) O(\phi)}{\int D\phi \frac{w_t(\phi)}{w_s(\phi)} w_s(\phi)} = \frac{\langle \frac{w_t}{w_s} O \rangle_s}{\langle \frac{w_t}{w_s} \rangle_s} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{Z_t}{Z_s} = \left\langle \frac{w_t}{w_s} \right\rangle_s$$

Two problems (usually exponentially hard in the volume) can arise:

- sign problem: $\frac{w_t}{w_s} \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$ large signal to noise ratios
- overlap problem: tails of $P\left(\frac{w_t}{w_s}\right)$ do not decay fast enough \Rightarrow potentially incorrect results

Two choice of w_s that eliminate this overlap problem:

- phase reweighting: $w_s = e^{-S_{YM}} |\det M| \Rightarrow \frac{Z_t}{Z_s} = \langle e^{i\theta} \rangle_s$
- sign reweighting: $w_s = e^{-S_{YM}} |\operatorname{Re} \det M| \Rightarrow \frac{Z_t}{Z_s} = \langle \pm \rangle_s$

Staggered rooting and low T difficulties

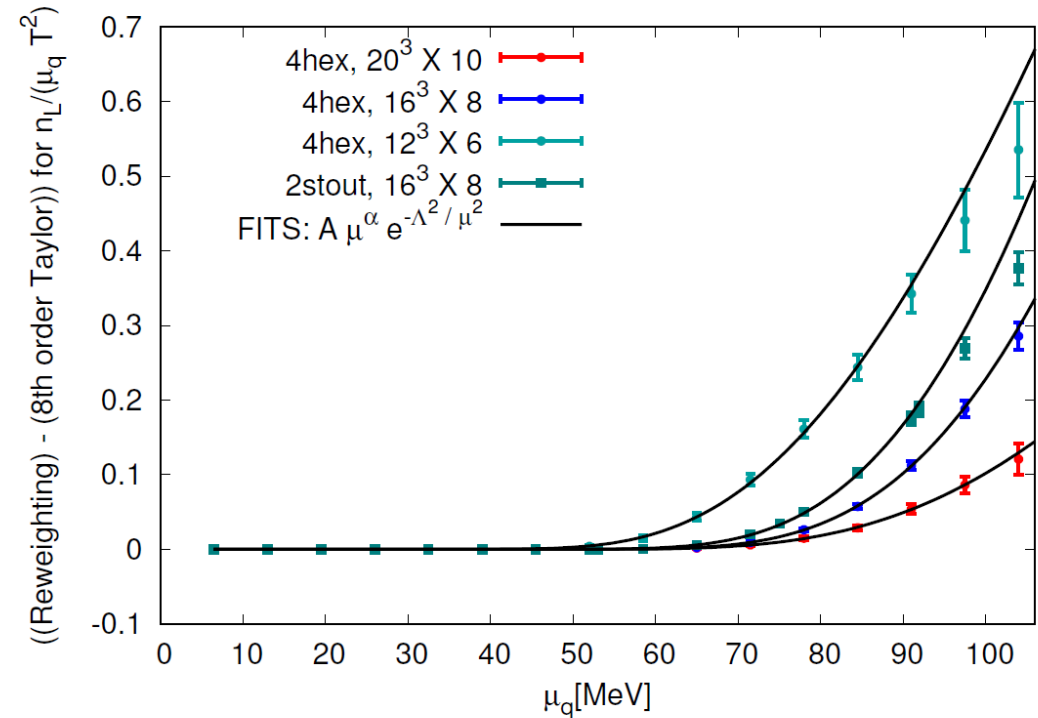
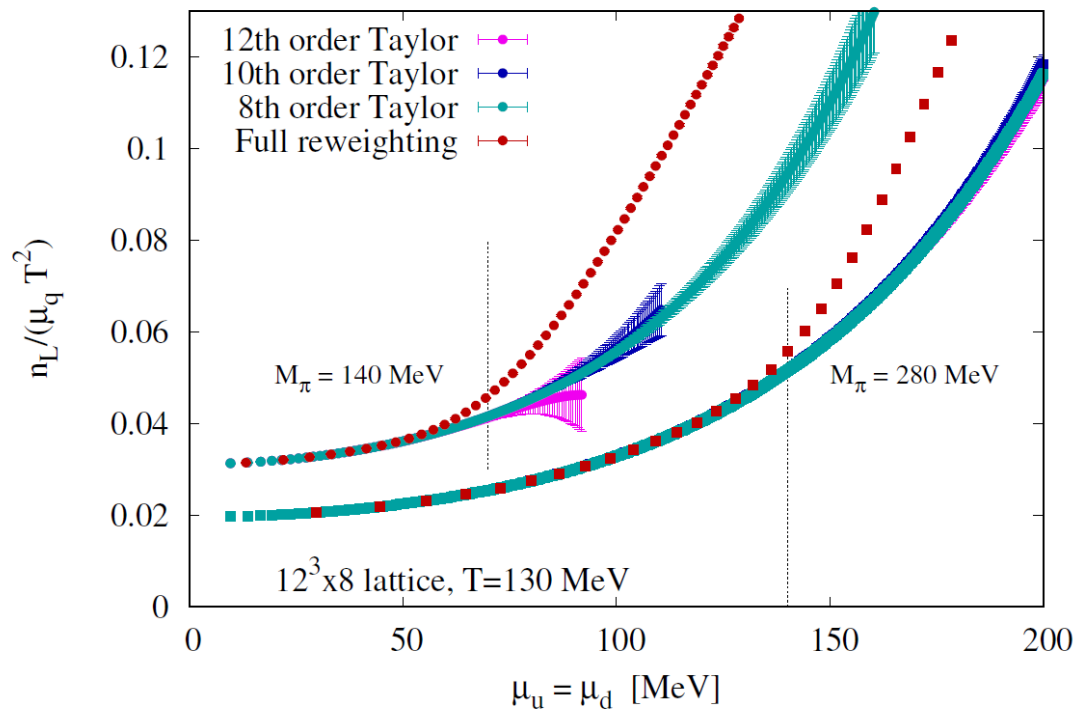
Say I want $N_f=2+1$ with staggered: $Z = \int DU (\det M_{ud}(U, \mu))^{\frac{1}{2}} (\det M_s(U))^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-S_{YM}(U)}$

Determinant complex, so sqrt ambiguous. Standard choice: continuously connect to the positive root at $\mu=0$

We empirically observe that this leads to non-analytic behavior (essential singularity) at $\mu=0$

The non-analytic part is suppressed for $\mu < m_\pi$

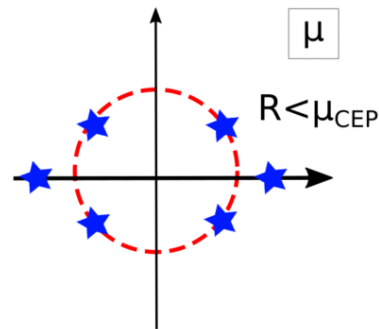
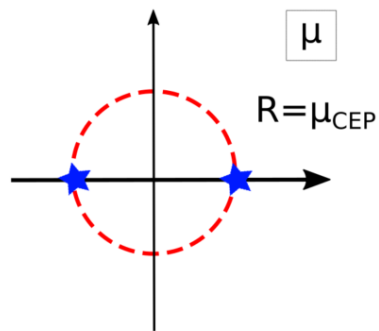
The amplitude of the non-analytic part decreases with the lattice spacing



Radius of convergence

$$\hat{p} = \hat{p}(T, \mu_B = 0) + \frac{1}{2} \chi_2^B \hat{\mu}_B^2 + \frac{1}{4!} \chi_4^B \hat{\mu}_B^4 + \dots \text{ converges for } |\hat{\mu}_B| < R = ?$$

Motivation: Inside the radius of convergence of the Taylor expansion there can be no singularities in the complex μ_B plane, and thus also no CEP on the real μ_B line

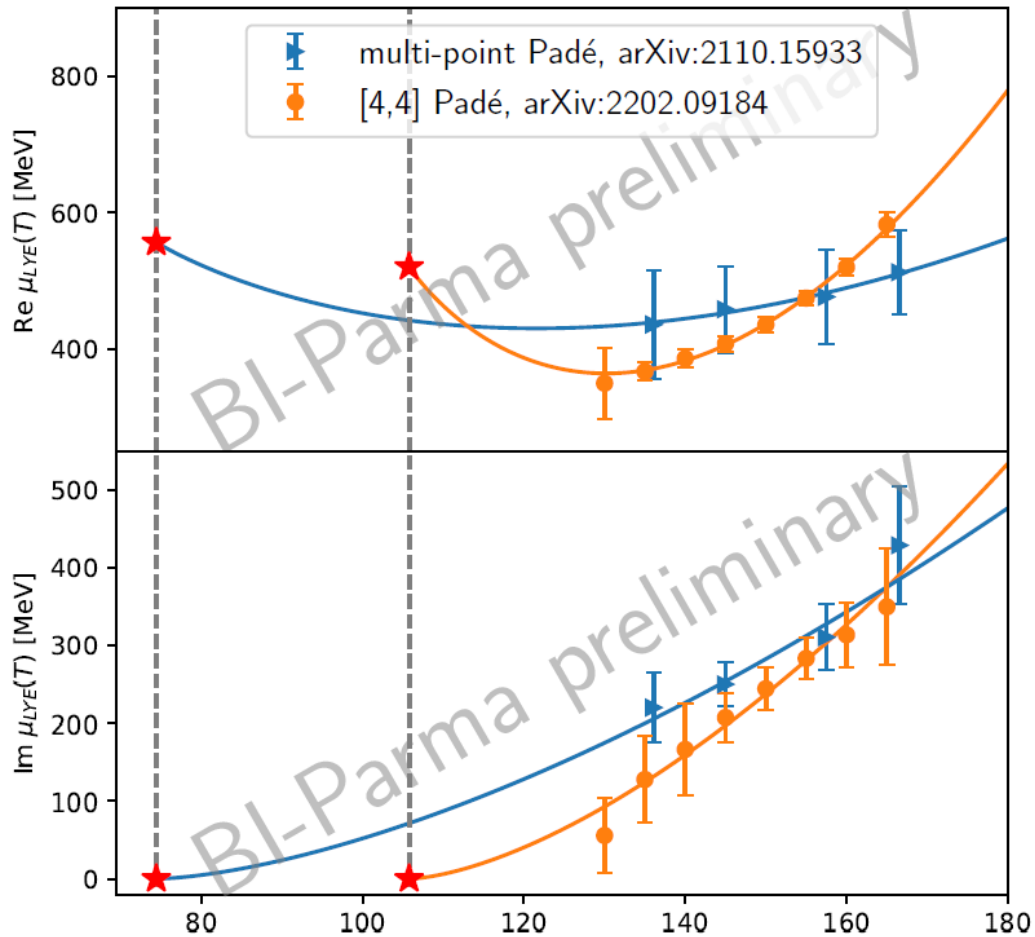


- For a long time (≈ 15 years) ratio estimators were used
- For complex singularities (expected, e.g., for $T \approx T_{\text{crossover}}$) doesn't converge
[\[Vovchenko et al, PRD97 \(2018\)\]](#) [\[Giordano & Pásztor, PRD99\(2019\)\]](#)
- There are also possible issues with lattice artefacts
[\[Giordano et al, PRD101 \(2020\)\]](#) [\[Borsányi et al, 2308.06105\]](#)
- For reliable estimation, needs many more orders
- Higher orders not available in the continuum
- Can be phenomenologically estimated from $O(4)$ scaling + other assumptions
[\[Mukherjee & Skokov, PRD103 \(2021\)\]](#)

\Rightarrow All current lattice estimates of R should be considered preliminary/exploratory estimates, with inadequate quality control (\Rightarrow MORE WORK)

CEP at nonzero μ_B ? (Parma-Bielefeld)

[J. Goshwami, We 15:20]



The basic idea

- crossover \Leftrightarrow critical point at complex $\mu_B = \mu_{LYE}$ (Lee-Yang edge)
- near CEP: μ_{LYE} moves to the real line
- find μ_{LYE} by analytic continuation, extrapolate T dependence

Datasets

Blue: $N_t=6$, imaginary μ_B Orange: $N_t=8$, Taylor

- Extends the Z_2 scaling near CEP all the way to $T_c(\mu_B=0)$, where $O(4)$ chiral scaling is likely relevant
- Radius of convergence @ crossover is likely almost T indep.
 - Method without truncation errors on a coarse lattice: [\[Giordano et al, PRD101 \(2020\)\]](#)
 - Phenomenological analysis assuming $O(4)$ scaling: [\[Mukherjee & Skokov, PRD103 \(2021\)\]](#)
- Puzzle: as data becomes more like HRG (low T), the system looks more critical (smaller $\text{Im}\mu_{LYE}$)?
- Deviations from the HRG are probably cut-off effects
- Systematics of the blue and orange points?