<u>An effective field theory of thermal QCD</u> with higher dimensional gradient term

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Motivation

- Effective Field theories provide us very powerful ways to organizing the computation of low-energy effects in QFT.
- QCD at low temperature (T) is well described by the dynamics of pions.
- The long distance or low energy physics at very high temperatures are qualitatively well understood by an effective weak coupling expansion.
- This weak coupling expansion relies on the separation of hierarchy of scales as, $T >> gT >> g^2T$, where g is the gauge coupling at momentum scale T.
- This separation of scales break down when T is few hundred MeV, when $g \sim 1$.
- However, this is the range of temperature which is of great physical interest. The transition of a chiral symmetry broken hadronic state to a symmetry restored quark-gluon state occurs here.

Global Symmetries and the EFT

- This temperature range is also seems to be most relevant for experiments using heavy-ion collisions.
- Here we try to propose an Effective Field Theory designed to describe the physics of QCD around Cross-over temperature T_{co}
- We in this case proceed with the global symmetries of the QCD as the guiding principle and arrange the EFT in mass dimension of the relevant terms which obeys this.
- Particularly we use Vector (V) and Axial (A) symmetries of QCD for N_f number of flavours, namely $SU_V(N_f) \times SU_A(N_f)$ symmetry.
- We will also find that as our theory is at finite temperature the Lorentz group after Euclidization will be reduced to a rotation group with time reversal symmetry, i.e. a cylindrical symmetry $O(3) \times Z_2$.
- Discrete symmetries such as Charge conjugation (C), Parity (P) and Time reversal (T) and CPT will also be our guiding principle to construct relevant Lagrangian terms.

Outline of the work

- Taking the global symmetries of QCD as our guiding principle we write here an EFT near cross-over temperature of QCD.
- Up-to dimension-6 apart from having current-current interactions we also include dimension-6 gradient operators in our theory.
- We treat the theory in Mean field Approximation to get free energy and gap equation. We also find a second solution of critical temperature at chiral limit, which can be then used to limit the coupling strength of dimension-6 gradient term.
- We proceed to continue with pionic fluctuations, which after comparing with lattice data fixes all the LECs of EFT.
- We compute the predictions of the EFT after fixing the LECs, the results are found to be pleasing.

Predictions of the EFT

• We at first present the predictions of the EFT here, for f/T of pions,



Predictions of the EFT

• For M_{π}/T of pions the predictions are as follows,



Predictions of the EFT

• For u_f of pions the predictions of EFT are as follows,



The EFT Lagrangian

- We will Work with Euclidean Dirac matrices which are known to be Hermitian such that, $\gamma_4 = -i\gamma_0$ and $\gamma_5 = \gamma_1\gamma_2\gamma_3\gamma_4$ with the generators, $S_{\mu\nu} = -i[\gamma_{\mu}, \gamma_{\nu}]/4$, and $\bar{\psi} = \psi^{\dagger}\gamma_4$.
- The most general Lagrangian which can be written with these symmetries up-to dimesion-6 is,

 $\mathcal{L} = d^3 T_0 \bar{\psi} \psi + \bar{\psi} \partial_4 \psi + d^4 \bar{\psi} \nabla \psi + \mathcal{L}_6$

• Where, $\mathcal{L}_{6} = \mathcal{L}_{6}^{\text{current}} + \mathcal{L}_{6}^{\text{gradient}}$, with , $\mathcal{L}_{6}^{\text{current}} = + \frac{d^{61}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{5}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2}] + \frac{d^{62}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{5}\psi)^{2}] + \frac{d^{63}}{T_{0}^{2}} (\bar{\psi}\gamma_{4}\psi)^{2} + \frac{d^{64}}{T_{0}^{2}} (\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{i}\psi)^{2} + \frac{d^{65}}{T_{0}^{2}} (\bar{\psi}\gamma_{5}\gamma_{4}\psi)^{2} + \frac{d^{66}}{T_{0}^{2}} (\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{5}\gamma_{i}\psi)^{2} + \frac{d^{67}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}\gamma_{4}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}\gamma_{5}\gamma_{4}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2}] + \frac{d^{68}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{i}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}i\gamma_{5}\gamma_{i}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2}] + \frac{d^{69}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}iS_{i4}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}S_{ij}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2}] + \frac{d^{60}}{T_{0}^{2}} [(\bar{\psi}iS_{i4}\tau^{a}\psi)^{2} + (\bar{\psi}S_{ij}\psi)^{2}]$ • And, $\mathcal{L}_{6}^{\text{gradient}} = \frac{\tilde{d}^{6}}{T_{0}^{2}} \bar{\psi} \nabla \nabla \psi$

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Mean Field Theory (MFT)

- We now proceed to obtain a fermionic mean field approximation to evaluate the thermodynamic properties of this EFT.
- We use the operator Identity,

$$\bar{\psi}_{\alpha}\psi_{\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta}\langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle + \left(\bar{\psi}_{\alpha}\psi_{\beta} - \delta_{\alpha\beta}\langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle\right)$$

where α and β represents combined spinor-colour-flavor indices.

- With this identity our current-current operators in the MFT limit becomes, $(\bar{\psi}\Gamma\psi)^2 = 2\langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle [\operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma)(\bar{\psi}\Gamma\psi) (\bar{\psi}\Gamma\Gamma\psi)] \langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle^2 [(\operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma))^2 \operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma\Gamma)]$
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Pionic fluctuations around mean field theory

 The pionic theory can be realized by writing fluctuations about condensate in axial direction as local isospin waves parametrized by,

$$\psi \to e^{i\pi^a \tau^a \gamma_5/(2f)} \psi$$
 , and $\bar{\psi} \to \bar{\psi} e^{i\pi^a \tau^a \gamma_5/(2f)}$

 Integrating out fermions up-to one loop we get the general for of the pionic effective theory to look like,

$$\mathcal{L}_{f}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{2} \left[(\partial_{4}\pi)^{2} + c^{4} (\nabla\pi)^{2} + c^{2} T_{0}^{2} \pi^{2} \right] + \mathcal{L}_{6}^{\pi}$$

 Matching two point functions in the original MFT and pionic theory we get,

$$f^{2} = -\frac{\mathcal{N}}{4}\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1)}(0) = -\frac{\mathcal{N}}{4}\left[\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1,0)}(0)\right]$$

$$c^{2}T_{0}^{2} = -\frac{4\mathcal{I}^{(1)}(0)}{\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1)}(0)} = -4\frac{\mathcal{I}^{(0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}^{(1,0)}(0)}{\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1,0)}(0)}, c^{4} = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{ii}^{(1)}(0)}{\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1)}(0)} = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{ii}^{(0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}_{ii}^{(1,0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}_{ii}^{(0,1)}(0)}{\mathcal{I}_{44}^{(0)}(0) + \Delta \mathcal{I}_{44}^{(1,0)}(0)}$$

Pionic fluctuations around mean field theory

• Where,



Matching with lattice results

- To obtain the predictions from our EFT, we have to fix the LECs of the theory.
- We fix the LECs in our theory by fitting our parameters of pionic theory against the lattice results.
- We particularly use the lattice results of Brandt *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **90** (2014) no.5, 054509.
- Their definitions of pionic theory constants (u_f, f_{π}, m_{π}) are related to our definitions by,

$$u_f=\sqrt{c^4}$$
 , $f_\pi=f\sqrt{c^4}$, $m_\pi=T_0\sqrt{c^2/c^4}$

• We use the lattice data set C1, at T=177 MeV and chi square fit u_f , f_π/T , m_π/T and T_{co} to get the best-fit values of LECs, and then proceed to evaluate the errors associated with both dependent and independent variable using bootstrap method.

Values of LECs and the dependent variables

T _{Lat} (MeV)	$\frac{M}{\pi T_0}$	Т ₀ (MeV)	$\chi^2_{best-fit}$	d ³	d^4	\widetilde{d}^6	λ
177	2	650	5.80×10^{-11}	$0.1940^{+0.0103}_{-0.0169}$	$1.2537^{+0.0778}_{-0.0732}$	$-0.0062^{+0.0768}_{-0.0449}$	465.35 ^{+95.55} -80.68

In the Chiral Limit,

 $T_c(0) =$ Critical temperature, $\kappa_2 =$ curvature of critical line, $\kappa_4 =$ higher order curvature

T _c (0) (MeV)	к ₂	ĸ ₄
$147.19^{+4.64}_{-4.47}$	$0.0169\substack{+0.0004\\-0.0004}$	$0.00014\substack{+0.00001\\-0.00001}$





Free Energy related to MFT

• The Free energy density of this MFT is calculated to be, $\Omega(\Sigma,m,T) = -\mathcal{N}\left[\frac{T_0^2}{4\lambda}\Sigma^2 + I^{\rm tot}(\Sigma,m,T)\right]$

where, $I^{\text{tot}}(\Sigma, m, T) = I(\Sigma, m, T) + I^g(\Sigma, m, T)$



The Gap Equation and Condensate

- The value of the condensate can be obtained as a solution of the Gap equation.
- The Gap Equation correspond to the equation, $\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \Sigma} = 0$
- Hence, written implicitly the gap equation becomes,

$$-\mathcal{N}\left[\frac{T_0^2}{2\lambda}\Sigma + I_1(m,T) + I_1^g(m,T)\right] = 0$$

- Where the subscript 1 in *I* terms, signifies the first derivative with respect to condensate has been taken.
- Hence the condensate turn out to be,

$$\frac{T_0^2}{2\lambda}\Sigma = -\left[I_1(m,T) + I_1^g(m,T)\right]$$

• Explicit expressions of derivatives of `I' s are quite cumbersome and are not provided here for simplicity.

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Critical Temperature at Chiral Limit

- We can also proceed to calculate the Critical Temperature T_c in the chiral limit, i.e. at $d^3 = 0$.
- The expression of critical temperature can be obtained from solving the equation,

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Omega(\Sigma, T_c)}{\partial^2 \Sigma} \bigg|_{d^3 = 0} = 0$$

Which leads to,

$$-\mathcal{N}\left[\frac{T_0^2}{2\lambda} + I_2(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{T_c}) + I_2^g(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{T_c})\right] = 0$$

• And we get the relation,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\lambda} &= -\left[2I_2(0, T_c) + 2I_2^g(0, T_c)\right] \\ &= \frac{T_c^2}{12(d^4)^3 T_0^2} + \frac{7\pi^2 \tilde{d}^6 T_c^4}{24(d^4)^6 T_0^4} = \frac{T_c^2}{12(d^4)^3 T_0^2} \left[1 + \frac{7\pi^2 \tilde{d}^6 T_c^2}{2(d^4)^3 T_0^2}\right] \end{aligned}$$

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<u>Constraint on Gradient Term and Critical</u> <u>Temperature</u>

• Considering only the case when $\lambda > 0$ we obtain,



• Looking carefully at the relation for λ with T_c we obtain two solutions for critical temperature,

$$T_c = T_0 (d^4)^{3/2} \frac{\sqrt{\sqrt{168\pi^2 \tilde{d^6} + \lambda} + \sqrt{\lambda}}}{\sqrt{7}\pi \sqrt{-\tilde{d^6}} \lambda^{1/4}} , \ T_c = T_0 (d^4)^{3/2} \frac{\sqrt{\sqrt{168\pi^2 \tilde{d^6} + \lambda} - \sqrt{\lambda}}}{\sqrt{7}\pi \sqrt{\tilde{d^6}} \lambda^{1/4}}$$

- At, $\tilde{d}^6 > 0$ the solution at LHS is ruled out.
- At $\tilde{d}^6 < 0$ both the solutions can result in real temperature iff, $168\pi^2 \tilde{d}^6 > -\lambda, \implies |\tilde{d}^6| < \frac{\lambda}{168\pi^2}$
- It can be shown that the solution at rhs is the consistent solution for T_c , and the relation at lhs gives rise to a new different solution for critical temperature.

14-12-2022

<u>Constraint on Gradient Term and Critical</u> <u>Temperature</u>

• The second solution for critical temperature is found to be at temperature,

$$\sqrt{-T_c^2 - \frac{2(d^4)^3 T_0^2}{7 \tilde{d}^6 \pi^2}}$$

• This solution tends to infinity as $\tilde{d}^6 \rightarrow 0^-$. As \tilde{d}^6 is decreased from 0^- ,

• At,
$$\tilde{d}^6 = -\frac{(d^4)^3 T_0^2}{7\pi^2 T_c^2}$$
 the second solution coincides with T_c and,

• At,
$$ilde{d}^6 = -rac{2(d^4)^3 T_0^2}{7\pi^2 T_c^2}$$
 the second solution results $T_c = 0$.

We neglect, the Larger solution if

$$0>\tilde{d}^6>-\frac{(d^4)^3T_0^2}{7\pi^2T_c^2}$$

We neglect, the Smaller solution if

 $\frac{(d^4)^3 T_0^2}{7\pi^2 T_c^2} > \tilde{d}^6 > -2 \frac{(d^4)^3 T_0^2}{7\pi^2 T_c^2}$



Curvature coefficients at Chiral limit

 At finite chemical potential we know the curvature coefficients are defined as, [A. Bazzavov *et al*. [HotQCD] Phys. Lett. B 795 (2019)],

$$T_c(\mu_B) = T_c(0) - \kappa_2 \frac{\mu_B^2}{[T_c(0)]} - \kappa_4 \frac{\mu_B^4}{[T_c(0)]^3} + \mathcal{O}(\mu^6)$$

• At, $\mu_B = 3\mu$, we get, $T_c(0) = T_c$

• We find at chiral limit the curvature coefficients at leading order at \tilde{d}^6 is given by following expressions,

$$\kappa_{2} = \left[\frac{1}{6\pi^{2}} - \frac{\tilde{d}^{6}T_{c}(0)^{2}}{3(d^{4})^{3}T_{0}^{2}}\right] = \frac{1}{6\pi^{2}} \left[1 - \frac{2\pi^{2}\tilde{d}^{6}T_{c}(0)^{2}}{(d^{4})^{3}T_{0}^{2}}\right]$$

and,
$$\kappa_{4} = \left[\frac{1}{72\pi^{4}} - \frac{5\tilde{d}^{6}T_{c}(0)^{2}}{54(d^{4})^{3}\pi^{2}T_{0}^{2}}\right] = \frac{1}{72\pi^{4}} \left[1 - \frac{20\pi^{2}\tilde{d}^{6}T_{c}(0)^{2}}{3(d^{4})^{3}T_{0}^{2}}\right]$$

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