On the speed of sound in dense two colour QCD A Quick Update

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2 Scale Setting

- 3 Lattice Action
- 4 Why Two Colour QCD (QC_2D)?
- 5 Thermodynamic Results
- 6 Neutron Star Speed of Sound



"Standard" Model Recap ●00

QCD

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Thermodynamics

C₅²

Conclusion 0



"Of these four forces, there's one we don't really understand." "Is it the weak force or the strong—" "It's gravity."

¹https://xkcd.com/1489/

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Thermodynamics

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Euclidean QCD Lagrangian given by

$$\mathscr{L}_{QCD} = \frac{1}{4} \operatorname{Tr} \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi} \left[\gamma_{\mu} \left(\partial_{\mu} + i g_{\mathsf{s}} \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \right) + \mathbf{m} \right] \psi \tag{1}$$

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• $\psi_{f,\alpha,c}$ is the quark field with flavour index f, Dirac index α and colour index c.

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- $\psi_{f,\alpha,c}$ is the quark field with flavour index f, Dirac index α and colour index c.
- $A_{\mu} = A_{\mu}^{a} T^{a}$ is the gluon field
- Field strength $G_{\mu\nu} = G^a_{\mu\nu}T^a$, where

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- For $g_{\rm s} \ll 1$ can use perturbation theory (very high temperature/very short distances)
- For $g_{\rm s} \sim 1$ or non-perturbative phenomena must use non-perturbative approach

"Standard" Model Recap ○○●

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A sketch of the QCD Phase Diagram

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Want to solve the path integral

$$\langle \mathscr{O}
angle = rac{1}{Z} \int \mathscr{D}[\Phi] \mathscr{O}[\Phi] e^{-\mathsf{S}[\Phi]}$$

(2)

- Space-time itself is discretised
- 4-Dimensional Lattice with periodic boundary conditions.
- Fermions lie on vertices, gauge bosons on the links

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Gluon fields:

| $A_{\mu}(x)$ | \in | $\mathfrak{su}(N)$ | (3) |
|--------------|-------|--------------------|-----|
| $U_{\mu}(n)$ | \in | SU(N) | (4) |

Gauge Action:

$$S_{g}[A] = -\frac{1}{2g^{2}} \int d^{4}x G^{a}_{\mu\nu} G^{a}_{\mu\nu}$$
(5)
$$S_{g}[U] = -\frac{a^{4}}{2g^{2}} \sum_{n \in \Lambda} \operatorname{Tr} G_{\mu\nu}(n) G^{\mu\nu}(n)$$
(6)

This discretisation is not unique

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Fermion Action:

$$S_{F}\left[\psi,\bar{\psi},A\right] = \sum_{f=1}^{N_{f}} \int d^{4}x \bar{\psi}^{(f)}(x) \left(\gamma_{\mu} \left(\partial_{\mu} + iA_{\mu}(x)\right) + m^{(f)}\right) \psi^{(f)}(x)$$
(7)

$$S_{F}[\psi,\bar{\psi},U] = a^{4} \sum_{n\in\Lambda} \sum_{f=1}^{N_{f}} \bar{\psi}^{(f)}(n) \left(\sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \gamma_{\mu} \frac{U_{\mu}(n)\psi_{\mu}^{(f)}(n+\hat{\mu}) - U_{\mu}^{\dagger}(n-\hat{\mu})\psi^{(f)}(n-\hat{\mu})}{2a} + m\psi^{(f)}(n) \right)$$
(8)

| Model | |
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Lattice OCD

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- Bosonic observables represented by closed loop on the lattice (Wilson loop)
- Closed loop in temporal extent (Polyakov loop) is order parameter for deconfinement
- Simplest closed loop is a 1×1 square called a *plaquette*

 $U_{\mu\nu}(n) =$ $U_{\mu}(n)U_{\nu}(n+\hat{\mu})U_{-\mu}(n+\hat{\mu}+\hat{\nu})U_{-\nu}(n+\hat{\nu}) =$ $U_{\mu}(n)U_{\nu}(n+\hat{\mu})U_{\mu}^{\dagger}(n+\hat{\nu})U_{\nu}^{\dagger}(n) \quad (9)$



Gauge configurations produced with probability weight

$$e^{-S[U]} = \det M[U]e^{-S_g[U]}$$
 (10)

using Hybrid Monte Carlo (HMC). *M* [*U*] fermion matrix.

- Metropolis algorithm is inefficient. Updates one site per step.
- updating all sites naïvely gives very large changes to action
- HMC involves a global update in a fictitious time τ defined by *Hamiltonian* instead.

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| Generating Configurations | | | | | | |

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2 Use gauge configuration U to generate conjugate momentum field P according to the Gaussian Distribution exp (- Tr P²)



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- **4** Accept or reject the new configuration using the acceptance probability $\min(1, \exp(-\delta H))$

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Fun Fact!

For an exact calculation, $\delta H = 0$ due to energy conservation so all fields would be accepted.

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- Observables on the lattice are dimensionless, must set the scale to give a physical meaning.
- Choose an observable and use it to fix scale.
- We use string tension $\sigma = (440 \text{ MeV})^2$ and compare using static quark potential.

| Ensemble | β | κ | <i>a</i> (fm) | $\frac{m_{\pi}}{m_{ ho}}$ | m_{π} (MeV) |
|------------|---------|----------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| V. Coarse | 1.7 | 0.178 | 0.233 | 0.779(4) | 688(11) |
| Coarse | 1.9 | 0.1680 | 0.178(6) | 0.805(9) | 717(25) |
| Light | 1.7 | 0.1810 | 0.189(4) | 0.61(5) | 638(33) |
| Fine | 2.1 | 0.1577 | 0.138(6) | 0.810(7) | 637(28) |
| Light-Fine | | | | | |

Table: Table of lattice parameters, lattice spacings and pion masses

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Figure: Static Quark Potential for $\beta = 2.0$, $\kappa = 0.1642$ on a $16^3 \times 32$ lattice.

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Table: Table of lattice parameters, lattice spacings and pion masses

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- **1** Produce gauge configs for chose of β and κ .
- 2 Calculate pseudoscalar/vector correlators and extract mass ratio.
- Evaluate Wilson Loops/Lines numerically
- 4 Fit Wilson lines to form

$$W(r,\tau) = Ae^{-V(r)\tau}$$
(11)

with fit parameters A and V(r)

5 Fit *V*(*r*) to the Cornell Form in lattice units

$$aV(r) = aV_0 + \frac{\alpha}{\left(\frac{r}{a}\right)} + a^2\sigma\frac{r}{a}$$
(12)

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Momentum Space Massless Free Fermion Propagator

$$\tilde{D}(p)^{-1}\Big|_{m=0} = \frac{i\sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \gamma_{\mu} p_{\mu}}{p^{2}}$$
(13)
$$\tilde{D}(p)^{-1}\Big|_{m=0} = \frac{ia^{-1}\sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \gamma_{\mu} \sin(p_{\mu}a)}{a^{-2}\sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \sin^{2}(p_{\mu}a)}$$
(14)

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• Continuum has pole at $p = 0 \Rightarrow$ a fermion!

²Nielsen and Ninomiya 1981.

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- Continuum has pole at $p = 0 \Rightarrow$ a fermion!
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- Who ordered those!?! This is the infamous fermion doubling problem. Techniques for removing these doublers include
 - Wilson Fermions (increase mass of doublers so they decouple from the theory)
 - (Rooted) Staggered Fermions (mixes Dirac and space-time indices)
 - Domain Wall Fermions (construct chiral fermions on a 4D interface of a 5D lattice)

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- This work uses Wilson Fermions, which explicitly break chiral symmetry.

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| Wilson Fermions | | | | | | |

- Want to distinguish between the real $p_{\mu} = 0$ pole and the $p_{\mu} = \frac{\pi}{a}$ poles
- Add term to momentum space Dirac operator that is

1 0 if
$$p_{\mu} = 0$$

2 Non-zero if
$$p_{\mu} = \frac{1}{c}$$

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Naïve Dirac operator given by

$$\tilde{D}(p) = m + \frac{i}{a} \sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \gamma_{\mu} \sin(p_{\mu}a)$$
(15)

Instead consider

$$\tilde{D}(p) = m + \frac{i}{a} \sum_{\mu=1}^{4} \gamma_{\mu} \sin(p_{\mu}a) + \frac{1}{a} \sum_{\mu=1}^{4} (1 - \cos(p_{\mu}a))$$
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- For $p_{\mu} = \frac{\pi}{a}$, we get an additional "mass" of $\frac{2(d-1)}{a}$
- In $a \rightarrow 0$ limit these extra masses are infinite so decouple
- Chiral symmetry is *explicitly* broken by the Wilson term
- Get order $\mathscr{O}(a)$ discretisation errors

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- But we can do better!!!
- Let

$$Q_{\mu\nu} = U_{\mu,\nu}(n) + U_{\mu,-\nu}(n) + U_{-\mu,-\nu}(n) + U_{-\mu,\nu}(n)$$
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• Then the Symanzik Improved action of the form

$$S_{I} = S_{\text{Wilson}} + c_{\text{sw}} a^{5} \sum_{n \in \Lambda} \sum_{\mu < \nu} \psi(\bar{n}) \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \left(\frac{i}{8a^{2}} \left(Q_{\mu\nu}(n) - Q_{\nu\mu}(n) \right) \right) \psi(n) \quad (18)$$

has discritisation errors of $\mathscr{O}(a^2)$

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This is a work in progress

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| Justifying my Existence | | | | | | |

- Want to study QCD at non-zero density (RHIC, Neutron Stars etc.)
- Add chemical potential $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ to action?

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Complex probability density...

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- Complex probability density...
- Solutions?
 - Use $\theta = i\mu$ instead
 - Complex Langevin
 - Lefschetz thimbles
 - Taylor expand in μ around $\mu = 0$

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 - Use $\theta = i\mu$ instead
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 - Cheat?

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| QC_2D | | | | | | |

• Use SU(2) instead of SU(3)?

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- Use SU(2) instead of SU(3)?
- Then for N_f even

 $\det M[U]e^{-S_g[U]} \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$

so can use HMC

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 Theory is *qualitatively similar* showing QCD properties such as deconfinement and chiral symmetry breaking.

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DISCLAIMER!!!!

We are NOT claiming that the strong force actually follows SU(2) instead of SU(3).
 We are merely using SU(2) to probe an otherwise inaccessible régime using

lattice techniques, much like running 2-d instead of 3-d simulations.

• The individual quarks are still fermionic.

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| Justifying my Existence | | | | | | |

Things to keep in mind

• Lattice coupling $\beta = \frac{2N_c}{g^2}$ will have smaller value than seen in real QCD.

³This makes people *really* uncomfortable

| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD | Scale Setting | Action | QC2D | Thermodynamics | Conclusion |
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Things to keep in mind

- Lattice coupling $\beta = \frac{2N_c}{\sigma^2}$ will have smaller value than seen in real QCD.
- Max 10 flavours to have asymptotic freedom (vs up-to 16 in three-colour QCD)

³This makes people *really* uncomfortable

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| Justifying my Existence | | | | | | |

Things to keep in mind

- Lattice coupling $\beta = \frac{2N_c}{g^2}$ will have smaller value than seen in real QCD.
- Max 10 flavours to have asymptotic freedom (vs up-to 16 in three-colour QCD)
- Baryons are now quark-quark pairs (diquarks), so follow Bose-Einstein Statistics³
- BEC phase appears at high density
- Now get 5 massless Goldstone bosons in the chiral limit.

³This makes people *really* uncomfortable

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- These results were first presented at XQCD 2022 and XV QCHS Conference⁴
- Using a spatial extent $N_s = 24$
- Conducted a temperature scan on coarse lattice at $a\mu = 0.400$
- Temperature is given by

$$T = \frac{1}{a_{\tau} N_{\tau}} \tag{19}$$

 Varying the number of sites along the time direction allows us to complete a temperature scan

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Phase diagram of QC₂D for $\frac{m_{\pi}}{m_{\rho}} = 0.80(1)$.

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| Superfluid Transition | | | | | | |

- Molecular dynamics requires inverting a large sparse matrix via conjugate gradient. ^α
- At non-zero baryon density, fermion matrix acquires non-zero density of very small eigenvalues, slowing down the computation
- Diquark source *j* lifts these eigenvalues, with "physical" results recovered by extrapolation of *j* to zero.



Diquark condensate vs Diquark Source

^{*a*}i.e. make supercomputer go brrr

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Superfluid Transition



- The superfluid phase transition occurs around T ~ 100 MeV.
- This indicates that the superfluid phase transition is indeed distinct from the deconfinement crossover.

Diquark condensate vs Temperature

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| Bosonic Observables | | | | | | |



Renormalised Polyakov loop with two renormalisation schemes. These results are also compatible with earlier results on smaller volumes.

A: $L_R(N_\tau = 4, \mu = 0) = 0.5$ B: $L_R(N_\tau = 4, \mu = 0) = 1.0$



Unrenormalised but subtracted chiral condensate

The change in behaviour from constant to decreasing at $T \sim 150$ MeV suggests that the crossover coincides with the deconfinement crossover, not the superfluid transition.

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Conclusio

Neutron Star (NS)

- Equation of State (EoS) of dense nuclear matter an unanswered question
- NS form natural labs for exploring dense nuclear matter
- Measurements of NS tidal deformabilities using Gravitational Wave (GW) indicates EoS soft at nuclear densities.
- Pulsar observations indicate stiff EoS at $M > 2M_{\odot}$. Non-monotonic C_s ?

| | CEFT | Dense NM | Pert. QM | CFTs |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|------|
| $c_{\rm s}^2$ | $\ll 1$ | [0.8, 1] | $\lesssim 1/3$ | 1/3 |

Table: C_s^2 predictions in four different limits.^{*a*}

^aAnnala et al. 2023.



Table: Radius constraints for neutron stars for $\simeq 1.4 M_{\odot}$ and $\simeq 2.1 M_{\odot}$ NSs. taken from Minamikawa et al. 2023

| | radius [km] | mass [M_{\odot}] |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| GW170817 (primary) | $11.9^{+1.4}_{-1.4}$ | $1.46^{+0.12}_{-0.10}$ |
| GW170817 (second) | $11.9^{+1.4}_{-1.4}$ | $1.27\substack{+0.09\\-0.09}$ |
| J0030+0451 (NICER) | $13.02^{+1.24}_{-1.06}$ | $1.44_{-0.14}^{+0.15}$ |
| J0030+0451 (NICER) | $12.71^{+1.14}_{-1.19}$ | $1.34_{-0.16}^{+0.15}$ |
| PSR J0740+6620 (NICER) | $12.35_{-0.75}^{+0.75}$ | $2.08_{-0.07}^{+0.07}$ |
| PSR J0740+6620 (NICER) | $12.39_{-0.98}^{+1.30}$ | $2.08_{-0.07}^{+0.07}$ |

| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD 000000 | Scale Setting 00 | Action 0000 | QC2D 000 | Thermodynamics 00000 | C_s^2 | Conclusion 0 |
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- Recent results (Kojo and Suenaga 2022) indicate QC₂D is applicable NS studies.
- First principles calculation of C_s^2 using QC₂D
- Coarse lattice parameters. $12^3 \times 24 \Rightarrow T \approx 50 \text{ MeV}$
- Work in progress. No diquark extrapolation

| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD | Scale Setting | Action | QC ₂ D | Thermodynamics | C_s^2 | Conclusion |
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| Pressure | | | | | | | |

 $C_{s}^{2}=rac{dP}{darepsilon}$



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| Pressure | | | | | | | |

$$C_{\rm s}^2 = rac{dP}{darepsilon}$$
 (20)

• Energy Density ε has fermionic and baryonic component

$$\varepsilon_{g} = \frac{3\beta}{N_{c}} \operatorname{Re} \left(\operatorname{Tr} U_{ij} - \operatorname{Tr} U_{i0} \right)$$
(21)
$$\varepsilon_{q} = \kappa \left\langle \bar{\psi} D_{0} \psi \right\rangle$$
(22)

| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD | Scale Setting | Action | QC2D | Thermodynamics | C_s^2 | Conclusion |
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| Pressure | | | | | | | |

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(22)

Two different approaches for pressure

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| Pressure | | | | | | | |

Integral Method

$${\it P}(\mu)=\int\limits_{0}^{\mu}n_{q}(\mu')d\mu'$$



| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD 000000 | Scale Setting 00 | Action 0000 | Thermodynamics 00000 | C_s^2 | Conclusion O |
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| Pressure | | | | | | |

Integral Method

$${\it P}(\mu)=\int\limits_{0}^{\mu}n_{q}(\mu')d\mu$$

(23)

- $n_q(\mu)$ has form of cubic polynomial
- Fit $n_q(\mu)$, extract coefficients and integrate analytically.
- Currently use polynomial interpolation, cubic spline on the cards.

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| Pressure | | | | | | | |

Integral Method



Figure: Quark and Energy Number Densities

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Conformal Anomaly

$$T_{\mu\mu} = \varepsilon - 3\rho \tag{23}$$

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| $T_{\mu\mu}$ | | | | | | | |

Conformal Anomaly

$$T_{\mu\mu} = \varepsilon - 3p$$
 (23)

• Can find P from conformal anomaly

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Conformal Anomaly

$$T_{\mu\mu} = \varepsilon - 3p \tag{23}$$

Can find P from conformal anomaly

• Calculate gluonic and fermionic components separately.

$$T^{g}_{\mu\mu} = -\frac{3a}{N_{c}}\frac{\partial\beta}{\partial a}\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{Tr}U_{ij} + \operatorname{Tr}U_{i0}\right)$$
(24)
$$T^{q}_{\mu\mu} = -a\frac{\partial\kappa}{\partial a}\kappa^{-1}\left(4N_{f}N_{c} - \langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle\right)$$
(25)

| "Standard" Model Recap | Lattice QCD 000000 | Scale Setting 00 | Action 0000 | QC_2D | Thermodynamics 00000 | C_s^2 | Conclusion O |
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Conformal Anomaly

$$T_{\mu\mu} = \varepsilon - 3p$$
 (23)

Can find P from conformal anomaly

• Calculate gluonic and fermionic components separately.

$$\Gamma^{g}_{\mu\mu} = -\frac{3a}{N_{c}}\frac{\partial\beta}{\partial a}\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{Tr}U_{ij} + \operatorname{Tr}U_{i0}\right) \quad (24)$$

$$\Gamma^{q}_{\mu\mu} = -a\frac{\partial\kappa}{\partial a}\kappa^{-1}\left(4N_{f}N_{c} - \langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle\right) \quad (25)$$

- Needs fewer configurations
- Karsch Coefficients need different lattice spacings.

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Conclusion

$T_{\mu\mu}$



Figure: Unrenormalised Conformal Anomaly evaluated using the derivative and integral method, with the gluonic and fermionic components shown for the derivative method.



Figure: Renormalised Conformal Anomaly

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Figure: Speed of sound squared calculated using derivative and integral methods. Calculated using a $12^3 \times 24$ coarse lattice. Results are consistent with Iida and Itou 2022

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Summary and bucket list

- The superfluid phase transition and deconfinement crossover are distinct
- Speed of sound exceeds the conformal limit. EoS stiff at intermediate densities?
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Summary and bucket list

- The superfluid phase transition and deconfinement crossover are distinct
- Speed of sound exceeds the conformal limit. EoS stiff at intermediate densities?
- Work underway to implement a Symanzik improved fermion action
- QC₂D phase diagram for light-fine configuration also on the agenda

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Conclusion

Summary and bucket list

- The superfluid phase transition and deconfinement crossover are distinct
- Speed of sound exceeds the conformal limit. EoS stiff at intermediate densities?
- Work underway to implement a Symanzik improved fermion action
- QC₂D phase diagram for light-fine configuration also on the agenda
- Get the code to actually run correctly on GPUs
- EuroHPC benchmark access just awarded (LUMI-C/Vera).

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QC₂D Two Colour QCD QCD Quantum Chromodynamics HMC Hybrid Monte Carlo RHIC Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions EoS Equation of State NS Neutron Star GW Gravitational Wave