

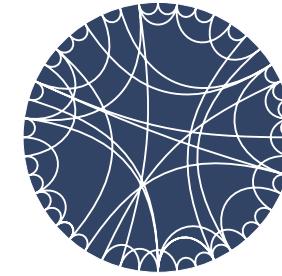
# Functional QCD and the QCD phase structure

PhD School XQCD 2024

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Universität Heidelberg & ExtreMe Matter Institute

Lanzhou, July 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> 2024



STRUCTURES  
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EXCELLENCE



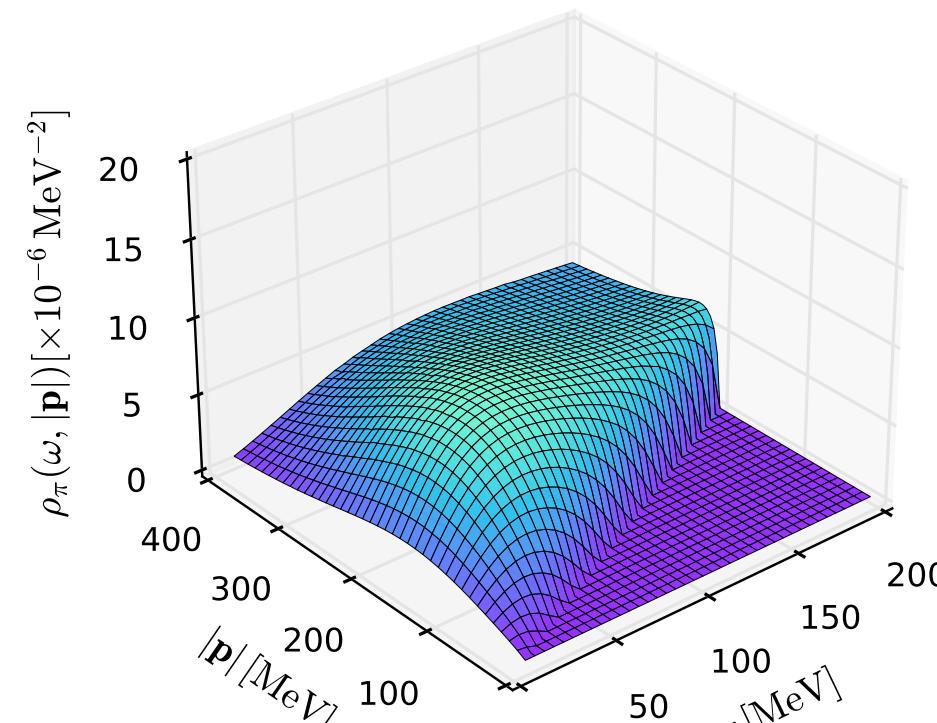
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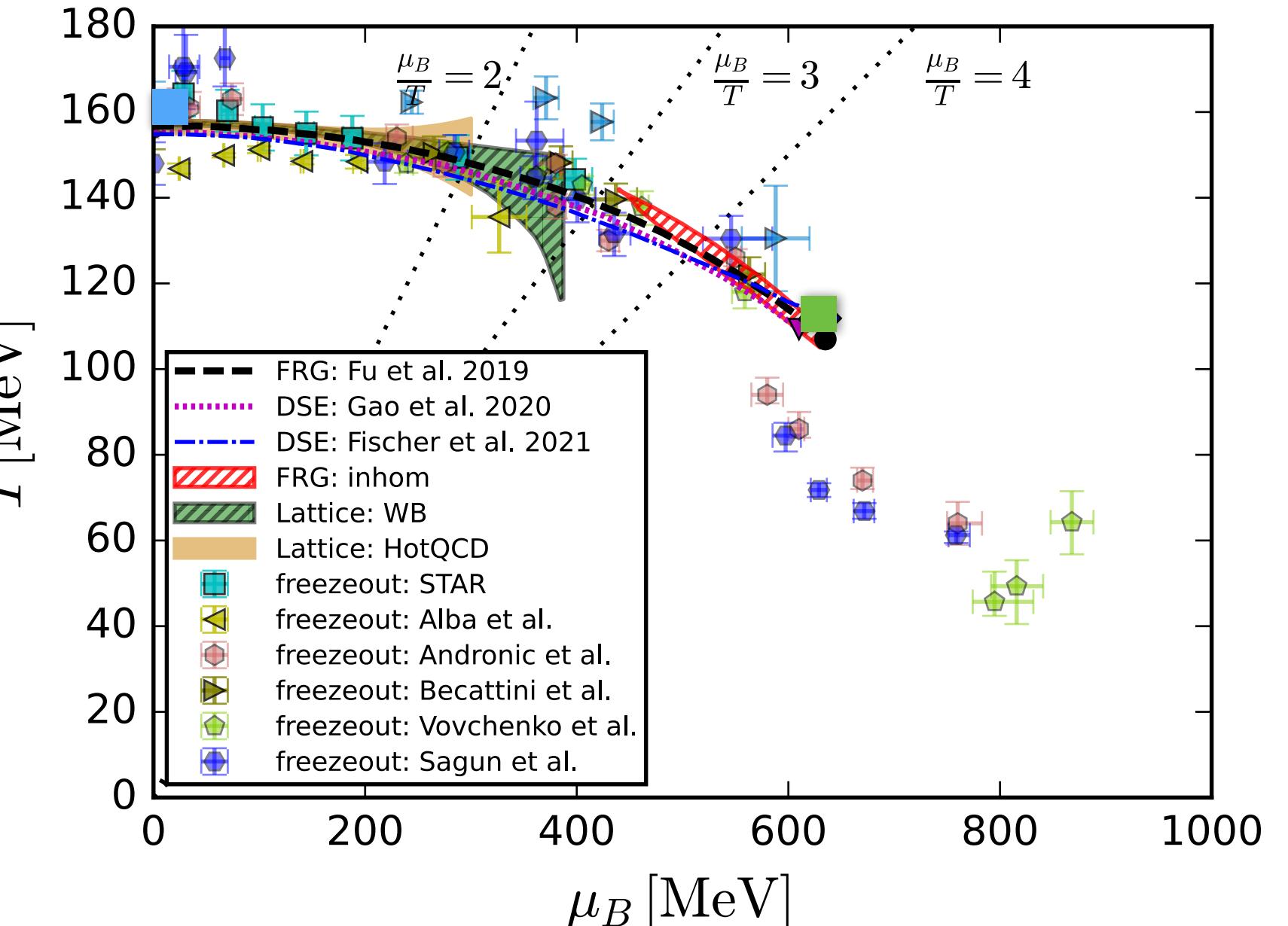
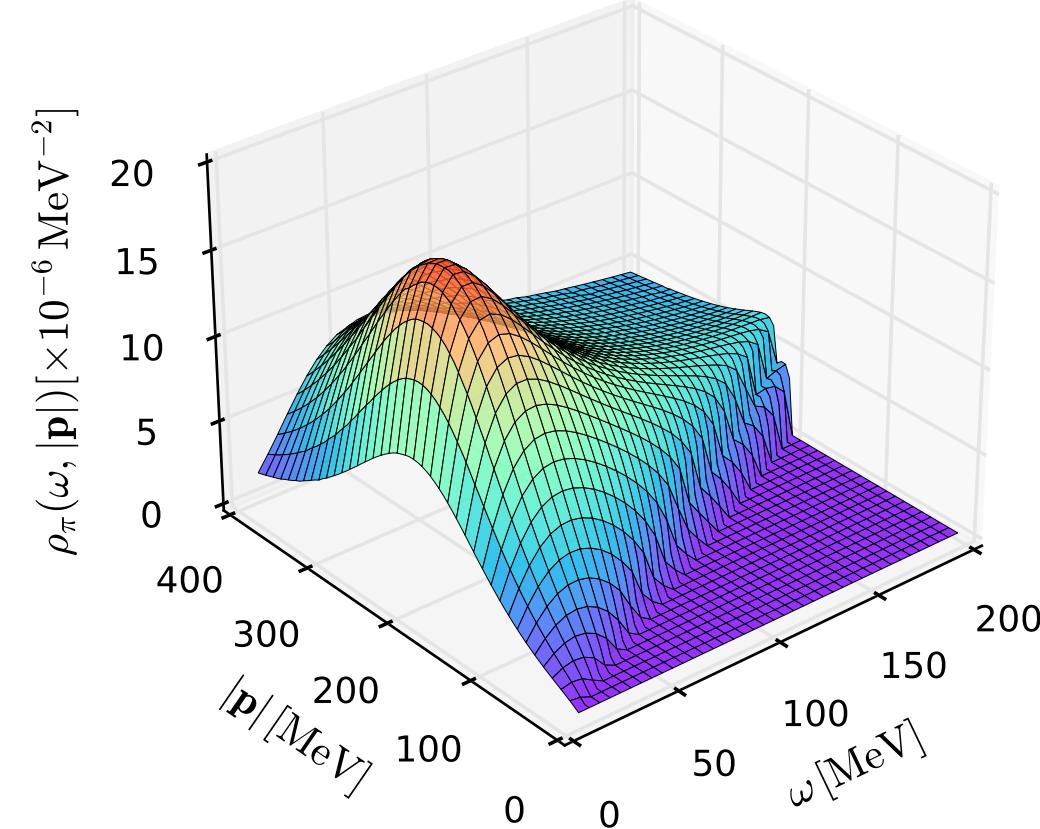
## Phase structure of QCD

### Spectral functions & the moat

$T=160 \text{ MeV}$  &  $\mu_B = 0$

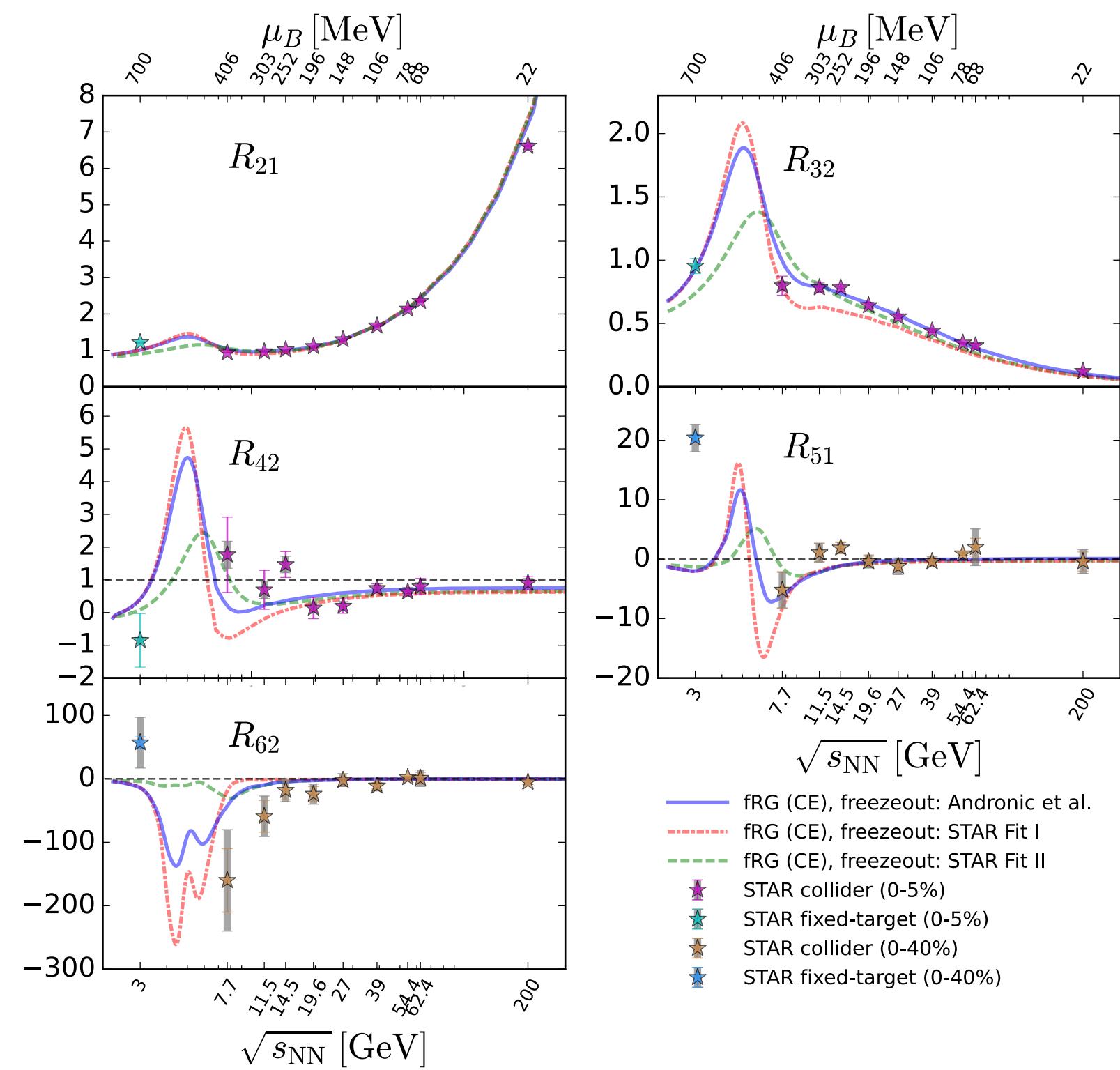


$T=114 \text{ MeV}$  &  $\mu_B = 630 \text{ MeV}$



### Ripples of the critical end point

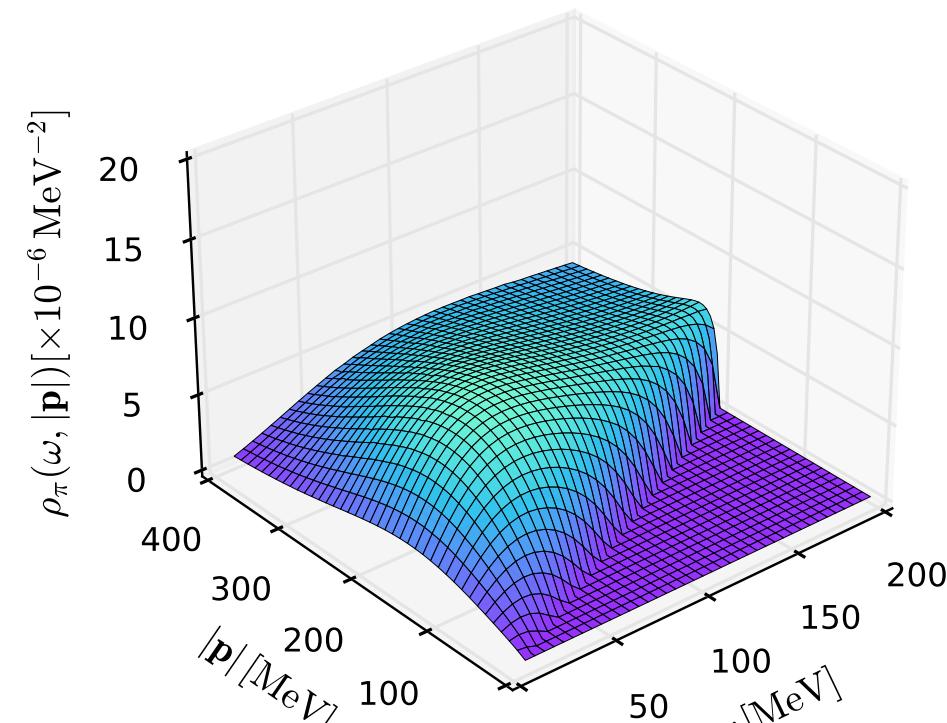
baryon & proton number fluctuations



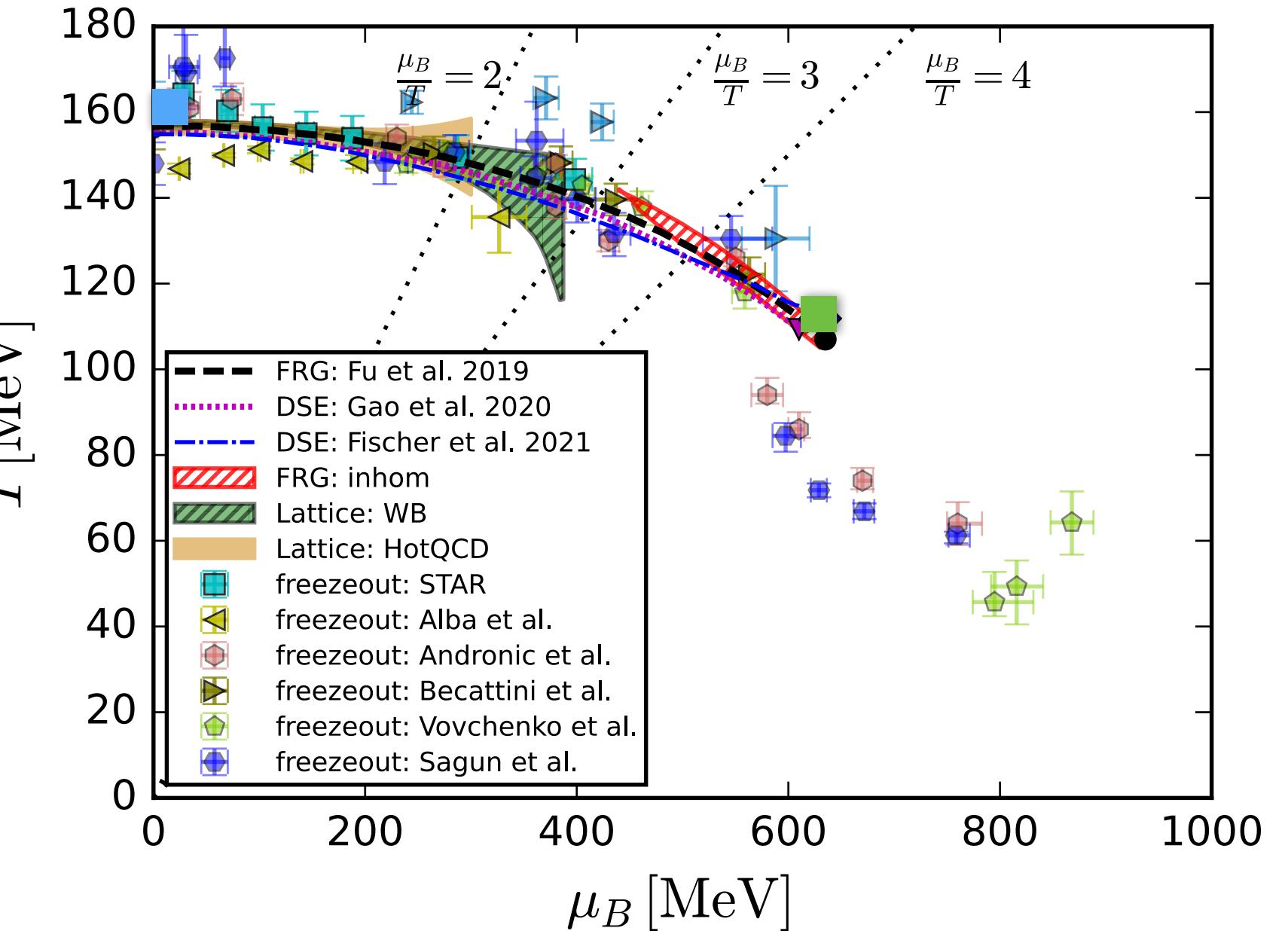
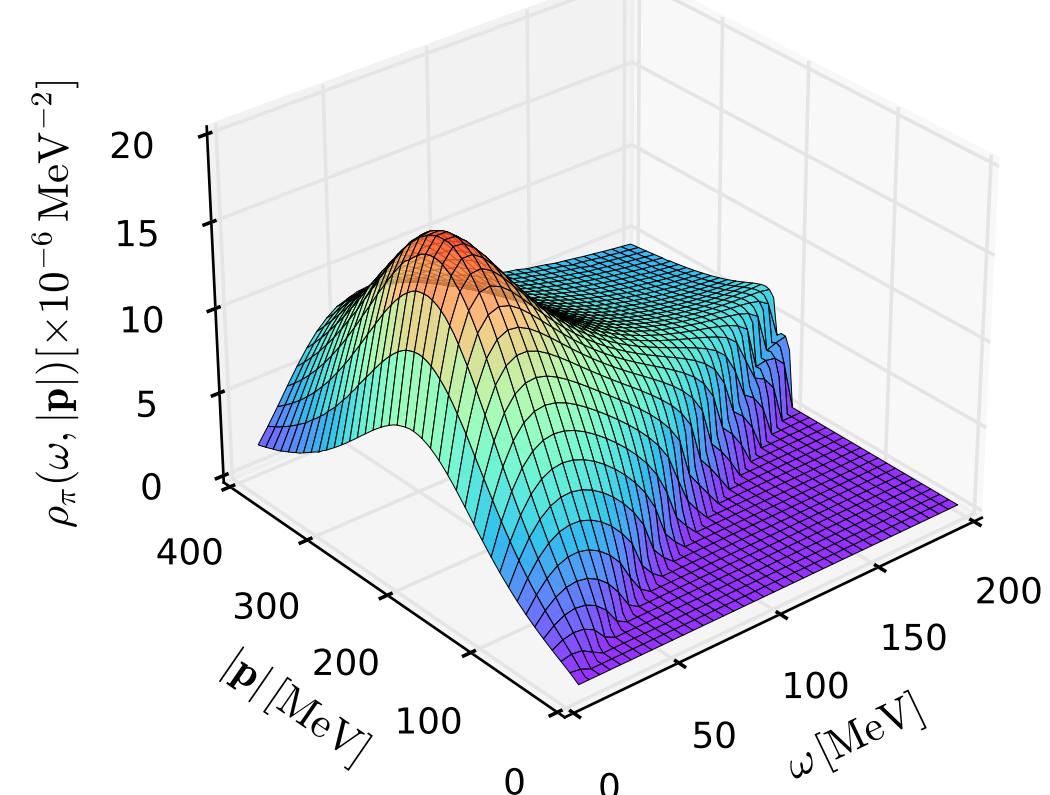
## Phase structure of QCD

### Spectral functions & the moat

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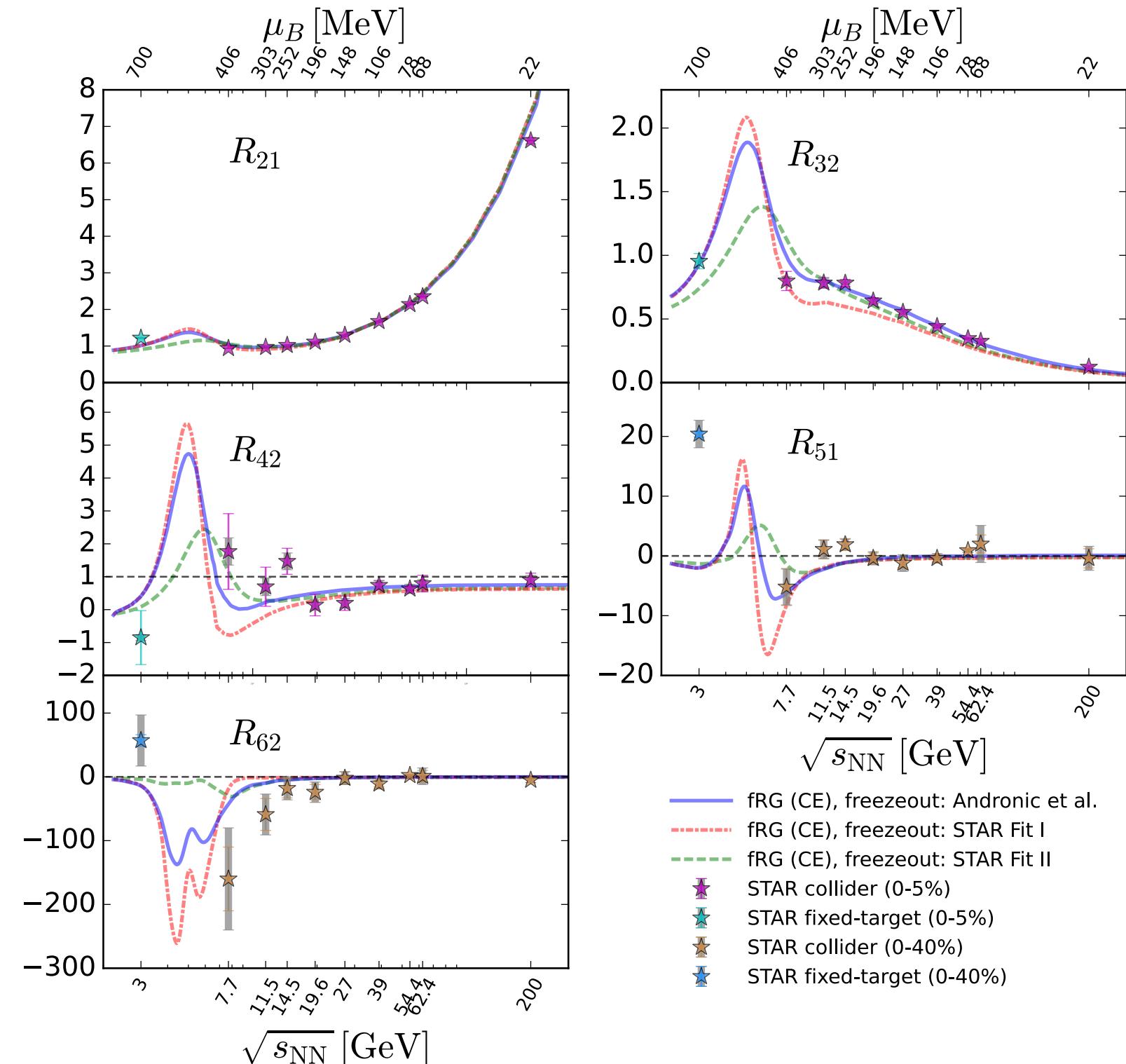
$T=114 \text{ MeV}$  &  $\mu_B = 630 \text{ MeV}$



How to compute  
&  
How to judge

### Ripples of the critical end point

baryon & proton number fluctuations



# Material

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## Topical reviews

**Collection of reviews & lecture notes on the FRG & DSE**

**Structure of the FRG: Aspects of the FRG**

**JMP, Annals Phys. 322 (2007) 2831-2915**

**The nonperturbative functional renormalization group and its applications**

**Dupuis et al, Phys.Rep. 910 (2021) 1-114**

**QCD at finite temperature and density within the fRG approach: An overview**

**Fu, Commun.Theor.Phys. 74 (2022) 9, 097304**

# Outline

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- **(I) Functional Renormalisation group**
- **(II) Functional QCD and the QCD phase structure**

# (I) Functional Renormalisation Group for QCD

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- **Introduction to the functional renormalisation group**
  - Derivation of the flow equation
  - Spontaneous symmetry breaking
  - Systematic error control & optimisation
- **Functional flows for QCD**
  - Flows for correlation functions & chiral symmetry breaking
  - Getting dynamical: emergent hadrons & diquarks
  - Dynamical hadronisation at work

## (II) Functional QCD and the QCD phase structure

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- **QCD at finite temperature and density**
  - Benchmarks in the vacuum
  - Correlation functions at finite temperature
  - Polyakov loop from functional approaches
- **QCD phase structure**
  - Locating the QCD phase boundary and the critical end point
  - Fluctuations of conserved charges: Ripples of the critical end point

# (I) Functional Renormalisation Group for QCD

---

- **Introduction to the functional renormalisation group**
  - Derivation of the flow equation
  - Spontaneous symmetry breaking
  - Systematic error control & optimisation
- **Functional flows for QCD**
  - Flows for correlation functions & chiral symmetry breaking
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  - Dynamical hadronisation at work

# **Introduction to the functional renormalisation group**

# **Derivation of the flow equation**

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Generating functional Z

$$Z[J] = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int d\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] + \int_x J\varphi}$$

partition function

$$\langle \varphi \rangle_J = \phi$$

$$S[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_x \left[ \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\mu \varphi + m^2 \varphi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \varphi^4 \right]$$

classical action

zero-dimensional example: ‘Functional’ flows for integrals

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Generating functional Z

$$Z[J] = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int d\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] + \int_x J\varphi}$$

partition function

$$\langle \varphi \rangle_J = \phi$$

## Effective action $\Gamma$

$$\Gamma[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi] + \int_x \hat{\varphi} \frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi}}$$

free energy

$$\varphi = \hat{\varphi} + \phi$$

$$\langle \hat{\varphi} \rangle_{\frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \phi}} = 0$$

$$J = \frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \phi}$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Generating functional Z

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$$\langle \hat{\varphi} \rangle_{\frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \phi}} = 0$$

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$$\Gamma[\phi] = \sup_J \left( \int_x J \cdot \phi - \log Z[J] \right)$$

Legendre transform

## Generating functional Z

$$Z[J] = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int d\varphi e^{-S[\varphi] + \int_x J\varphi}$$

partition function

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## Dyson-Schwinger equation

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

quantum equation of motion

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Dyson-Schwinger equation

$$\frac{\delta\Gamma[\phi]}{\delta\phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta\phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

## Diagrammatics

$$S[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_x \left[ \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\mu \phi + m^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 \right]$$

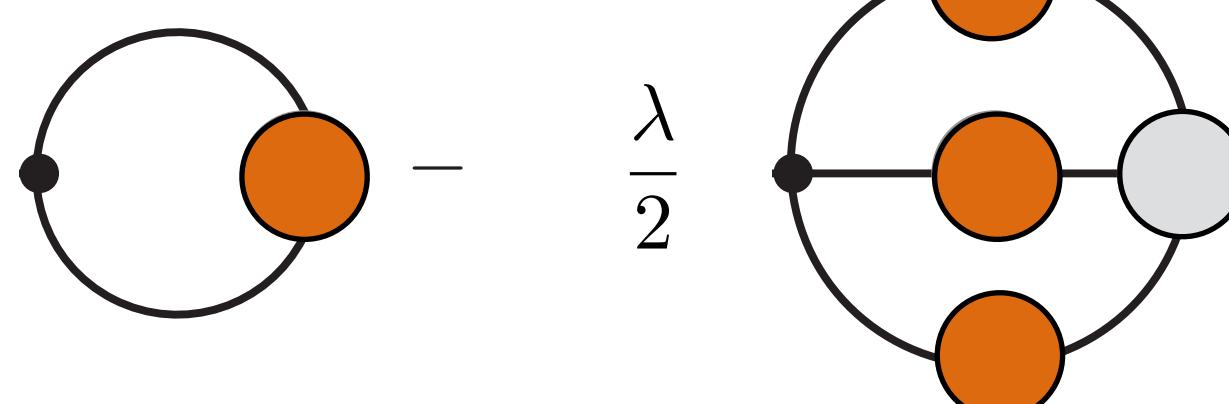
# Functional Renormalisation Group

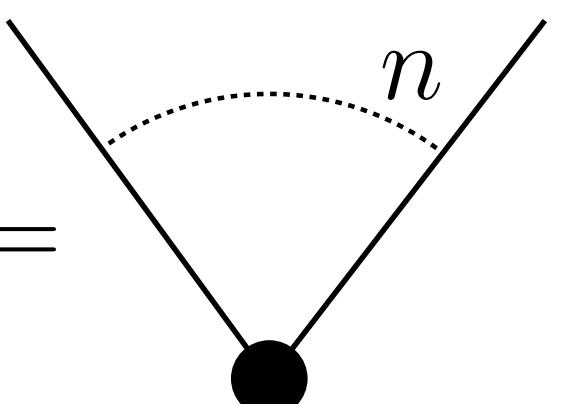
## Dyson-Schwinger equation

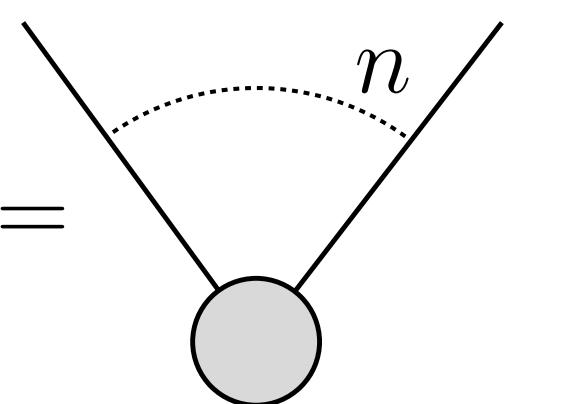
$$\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

## Diagrammatics

$$S[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_x \left[ \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\mu \phi + m^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 \right]$$

$$\frac{\lambda}{2} \langle [\hat{\varphi}(x) + \phi(x)]^3 \rangle = \frac{\lambda}{2} \phi^3(x) + \frac{3\lambda}{2} \phi(x)$$


$$S^{(n)} =$$


$$\Gamma^{(n)} =$$


$$G = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \langle \hat{\varphi}(x) \hat{\varphi}(y) \rangle_c$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Dyson-Schwinger equation

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

## Diagrammatics

$$S[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_x \left[ \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\mu \phi + m^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 \right]$$

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \phi} = \frac{\delta S}{\delta \phi} + \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \circlearrowleft - \frac{1}{6} \text{---} \circlearrowleft \circlearrowright$$

$$S^{(n)} = \text{---} \circlearrowleft \text{---} \quad n$$

$$\Gamma^{(n)} = \text{---} \circlearrowleft \text{---} \quad n$$

$$G = \text{---} \circlearrowleft \text{---} = \langle \hat{\varphi}(x) \hat{\varphi}(y) \rangle_c$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Effective action  $\Gamma$**

$$\Gamma[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi] + \int_x \hat{\varphi} \frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi}}$$

**No quantum fluctuations**

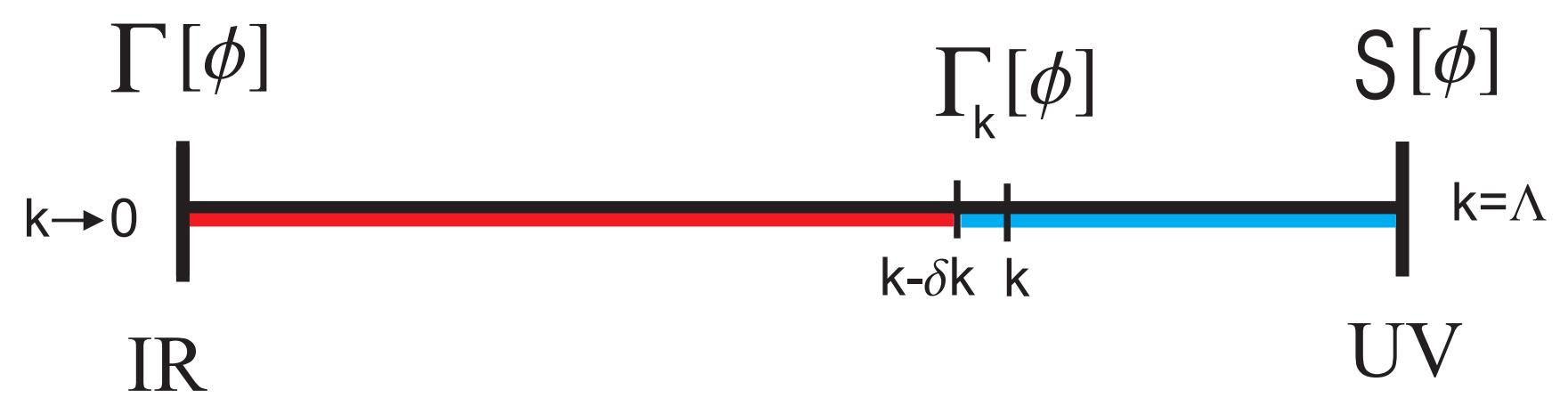
$$\Gamma[\phi] = -\log e^{-S[\phi]} = S[\phi]$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Effective action  $\Gamma$**

$$\Gamma[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi] + \int_x \hat{\varphi} \frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi}}$$

**UV quantum fluctuations up to  $p^2 \approx k^2$**



# Functional Renormalisation Group

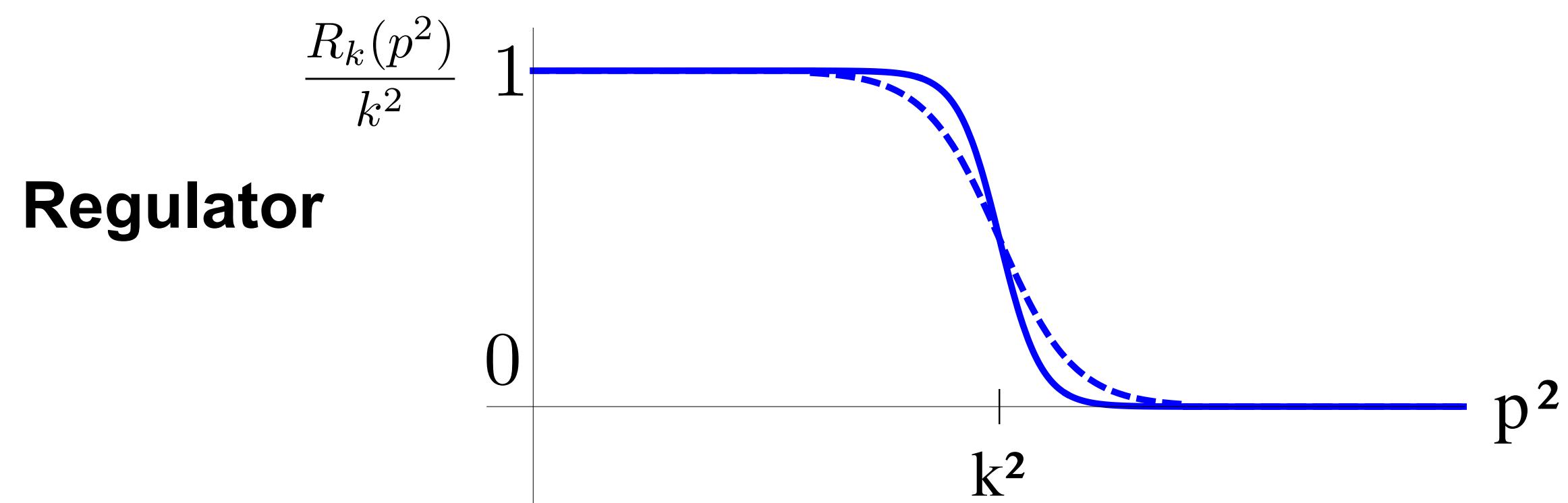
**Effective action  $\Gamma$**

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\phi + \hat{\varphi}] + \frac{1}{2} \int_p \hat{\varphi}(p) R_k(p^2) \hat{\varphi}(-p) + \int_x \hat{\varphi}(x) \frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)}}$$

**DSE**

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

**UV quantum fluctuations up to  $p^2 \approx k^2$**

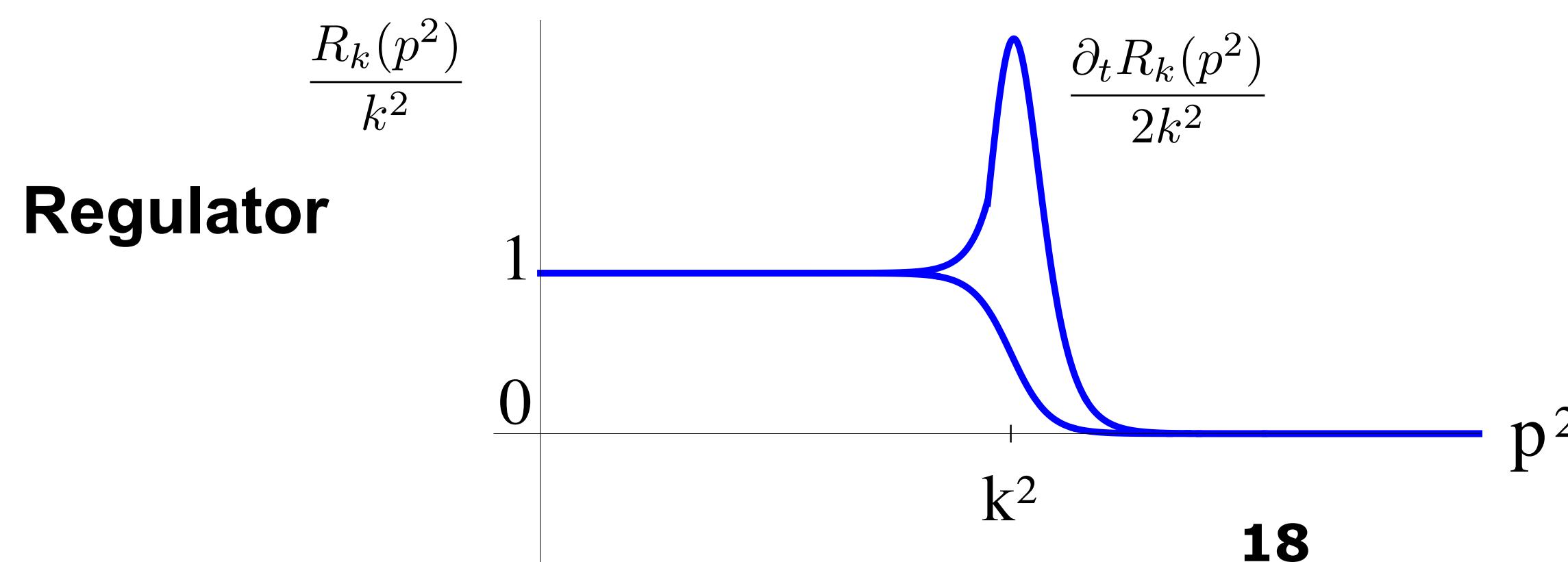


# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Effective action  $\Gamma$**

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\phi+\hat{\varphi}] + \frac{1}{2} \int_p \hat{\varphi}(p) R_k(p^2) \hat{\varphi}(-p) + \int_x \hat{\varphi}(x) \frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)}}$$

**UV quantum fluctuations up to  $p^2 \approx k^2$**



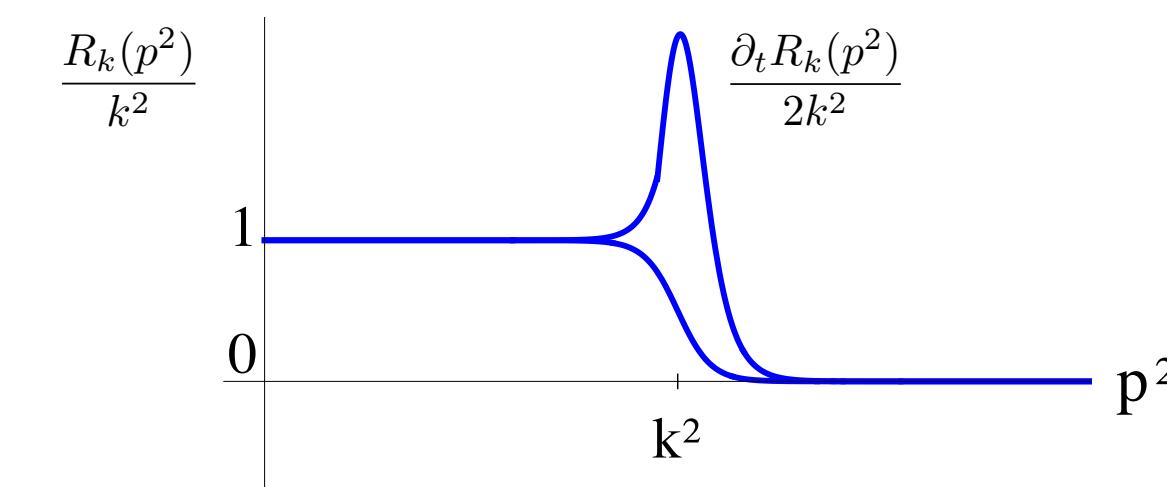
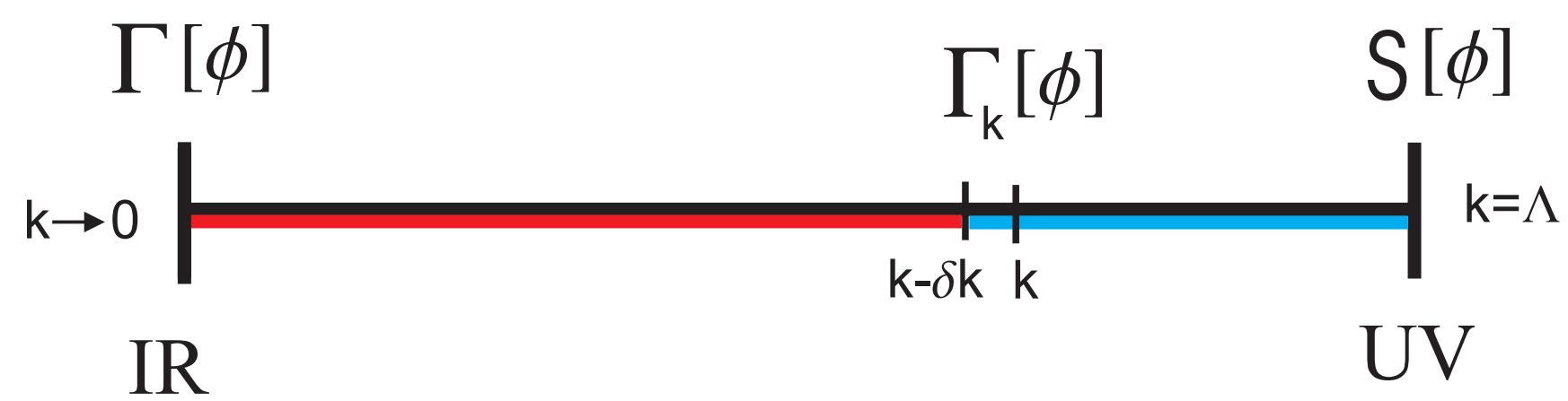
$$t = \log \frac{k}{\Lambda}$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Effective action  $\Gamma$**

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**UV quantum fluctuations up to  $p^2 \approx k^2$**



**Flow**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \langle \hat{\varphi}(p) \hat{\varphi}(-p) \rangle \partial_t R_k(p^2)$$

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# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Flow**

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$$t = \log \frac{k}{\Lambda}$$

**Propagator**

$$G = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \langle \hat{\varphi}(x) \hat{\varphi}(y) \rangle_c$$

$$G^{-1}[\phi] = \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

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**Propagator**

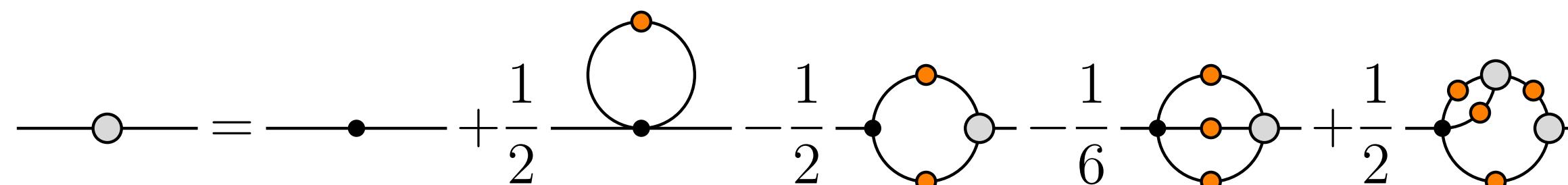
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$$G^{-1}[\phi] = \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k$$

**DSE**

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} = \left\langle \frac{\delta S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi]}{\delta \phi(x)} \right\rangle$$

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = -\log \int d\hat{\varphi} e^{-S[\hat{\varphi} + \phi] + \frac{1}{2} \int_p \hat{\varphi}(p) R_k(p^2) \hat{\varphi}(-p) + \int_x \hat{\varphi} \frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\phi]}{\delta \phi}}$$



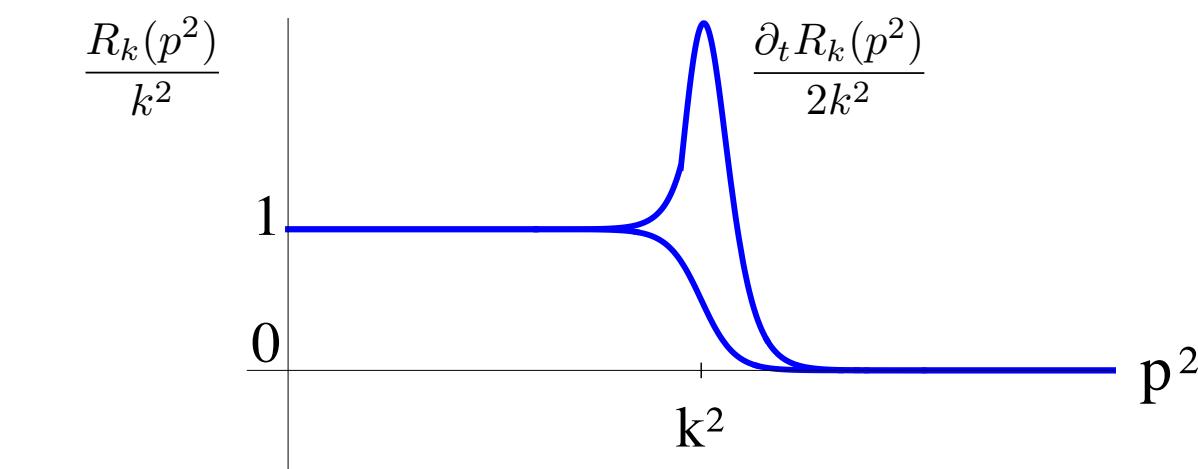
$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi]$$

$$S^{(2)}[\phi]$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

**Flow**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



**Diagrammatics**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

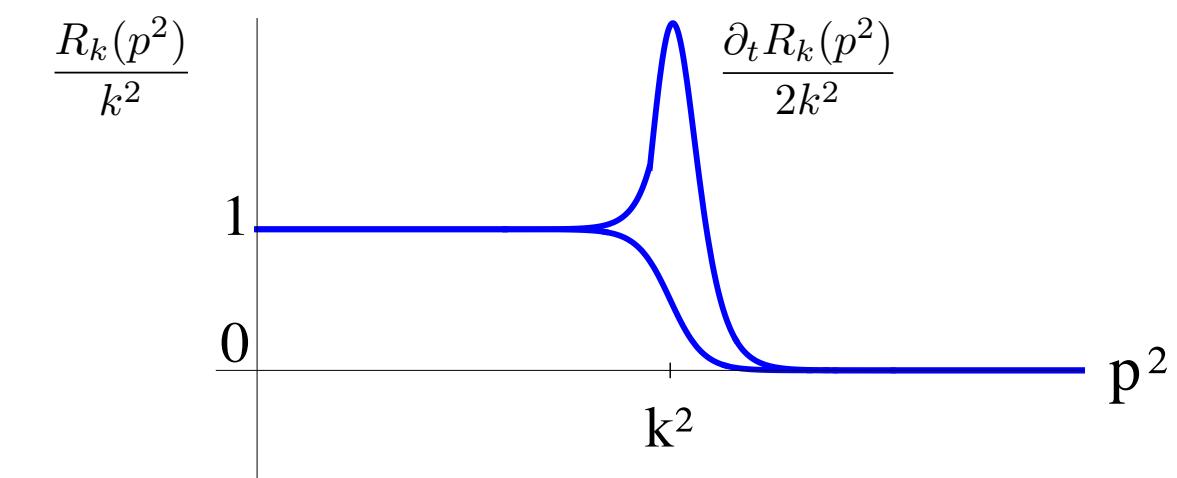
**(Inverse) propagator**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} + \text{higher order terms}$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

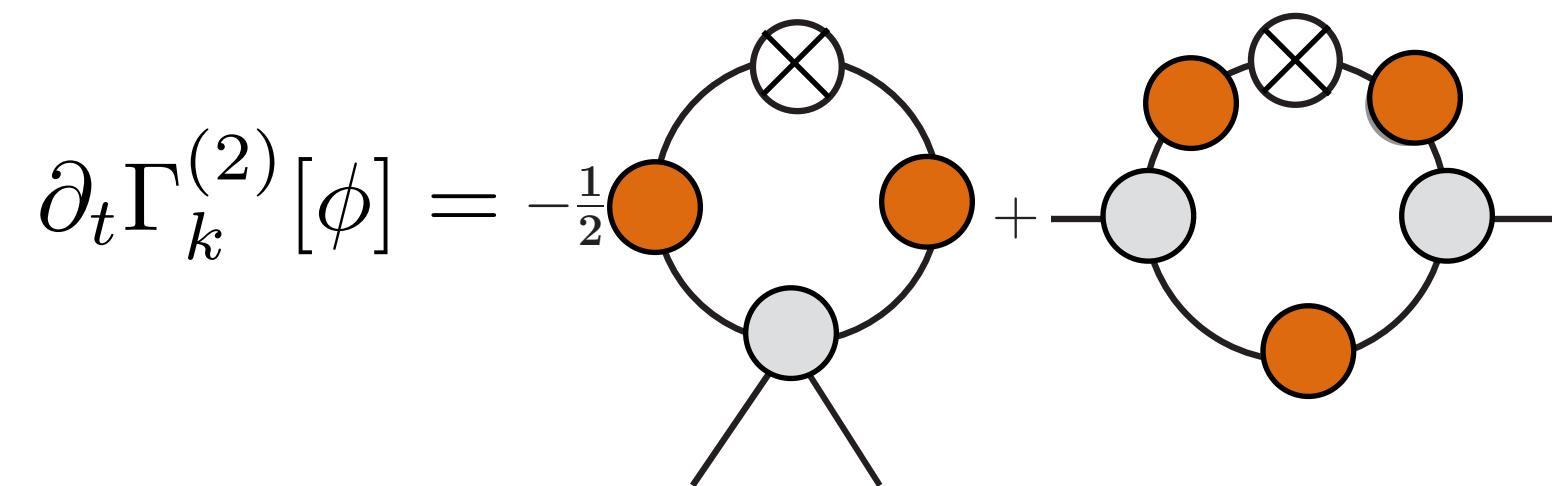
**Flow**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



**(Inverse) propagator**

**fRG**



**DSE**

$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] - S^{(2)}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram}_1 - \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram}_2 - \frac{1}{6} \text{Diagram}_3 + \frac{1}{2} \text{Diagram}_4$$

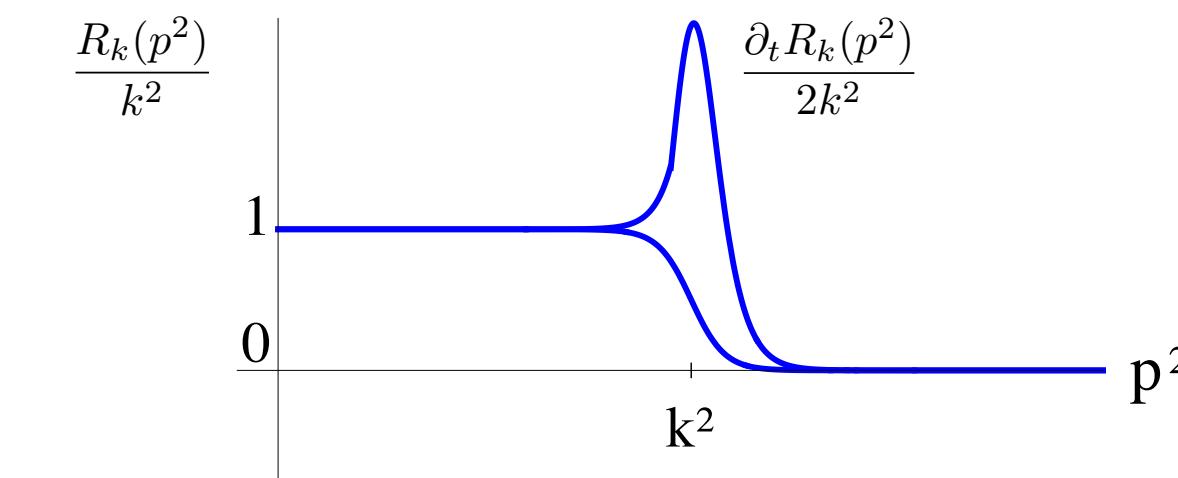
$$\partial_t \Gamma^{(n)} = \text{Flow}_n[\Gamma^{(m)}; m = 2, \dots, n+2]$$

$$\Gamma^{(n)} = \text{DSE}_n[S^{(m)}, \Gamma^{(m)}; m = 2, \dots, n+2]$$

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Flow

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



## Properties

- 1-loop exact
- closed
- RG-scaling
- energy/particle-number conservation

	fRG	DSE	2PI	3PI	4PI
• 1-loop exact	✓	-			
• closed	✓	✓			
• RG-scaling	✓	-	-	-	✓
• energy/particle-number conservation	-	-	✓	✓	✓



automatic

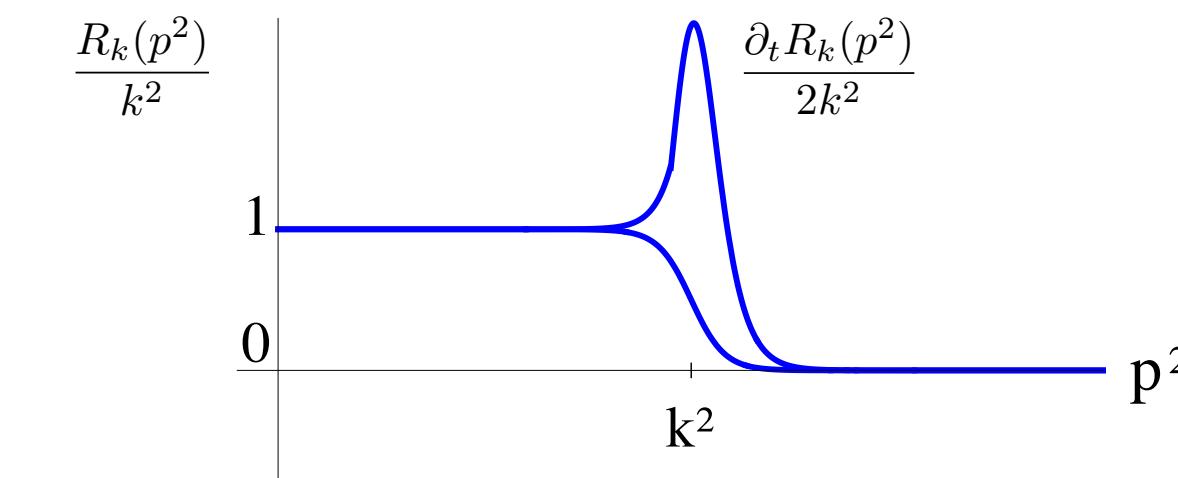


only in specific approximation schemes

# Functional Renormalisation Group

## Flow

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



## Properties

- 1-loop exact
- closed
- RG-scaling
- energy/particle-number conservation

## FunApproaches



automatic



only in specific approximation schemes

# Approximation schemes

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

## Derivative expansion

- Expansion in powers of momenta
- Controlled in the presence of a mass gap  $m_{\text{gap}}$
- Expansion parameter  $\frac{p^2}{\max(k^2, m_{\text{gap}}^2)}$

## Vertex expansion

- Expansion in number  $n$  of external fields
- Controlled in perturbation theory/presence of symmetries
- Expansion parameter  $n$

Mixtures, exact resummation schemes, ....

# Approximation schemes

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

$$\partial_t \Gamma^{(n)} = \text{Flow}_n[\Gamma^{(m)}; m = 2, \dots, n+2]$$

## Derivative expansion

- Expansion in powers of momenta
- Controlled in the presence of a mass gap  $m_{\text{gap}}$
- Expansion parameter  $\frac{p^2}{\max(k^2, m_{\text{gap}}^2)}$

Lowest order: 0th order

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_p \phi p^2 \phi + \int_x V_k(\phi) + O(p^2)$$

$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi](p, q) = (p^2 + V_k''(\phi)) (2\pi)^d \delta(p - q)$$

# Approximation schemes

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

## Derivative expansion

Lowest order: 0th order

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$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi](p, q) = (p^2 + V_k''(\phi)) (2\pi)^d \delta(p - q)$$

$$R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = (k^2 - p^2) \theta(k^2 - p^2)$$

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{1}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^{2+d}}{k^2 + V_k''(\phi)}$$

$$\partial_t R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = 2k^2 \theta(k^2 - p^2)$$

$$\Gamma^{(2)}[\phi](p) + R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = [k^2 + V''(\phi)] \theta(k^2 - p^2) + (p^2 + V''(\phi)) \theta(p^2 - k^2)$$

# Approximation schemes

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

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Flow

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{1}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^{2+d}}{k^2 + V_k''(\phi)}$$

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$$\partial_t R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = 2k^2 \theta(k^2 - p^2)$$

$$\Omega_d = \frac{2\pi^{d/2}}{\Gamma(d/2)}$$

$$\Gamma^{(2)}[\phi](p) + R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = [k^2 + V''(\phi)] \theta(k^2 - p^2) + (p^2 + V''(\phi)) \theta(p^2 - k^2)$$

# Approximation schemes

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

## Derivative expansion

Lowest order: 0th order

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$$\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi](p, q) = (p^2 + V_k''(\phi)) (2\pi)^d \delta(p - q)$$

Flow

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{1}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^{2+d}}{k^2 + V_k''(\phi)}$$

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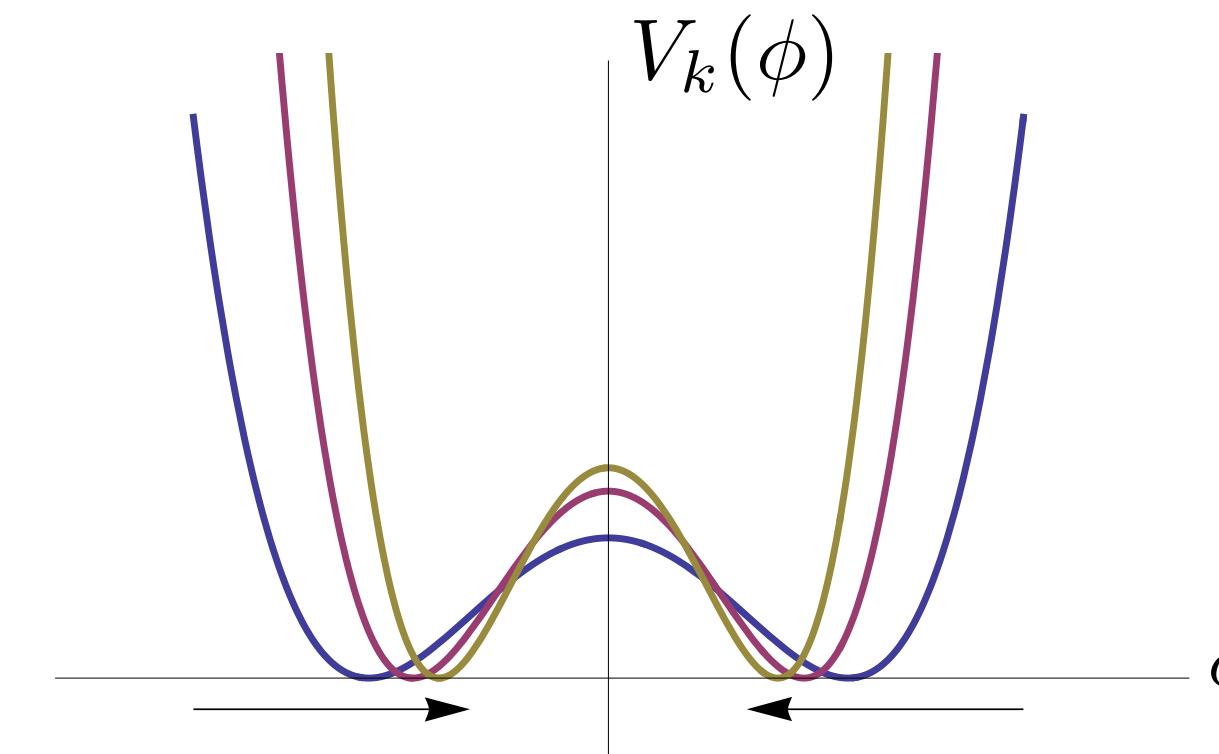
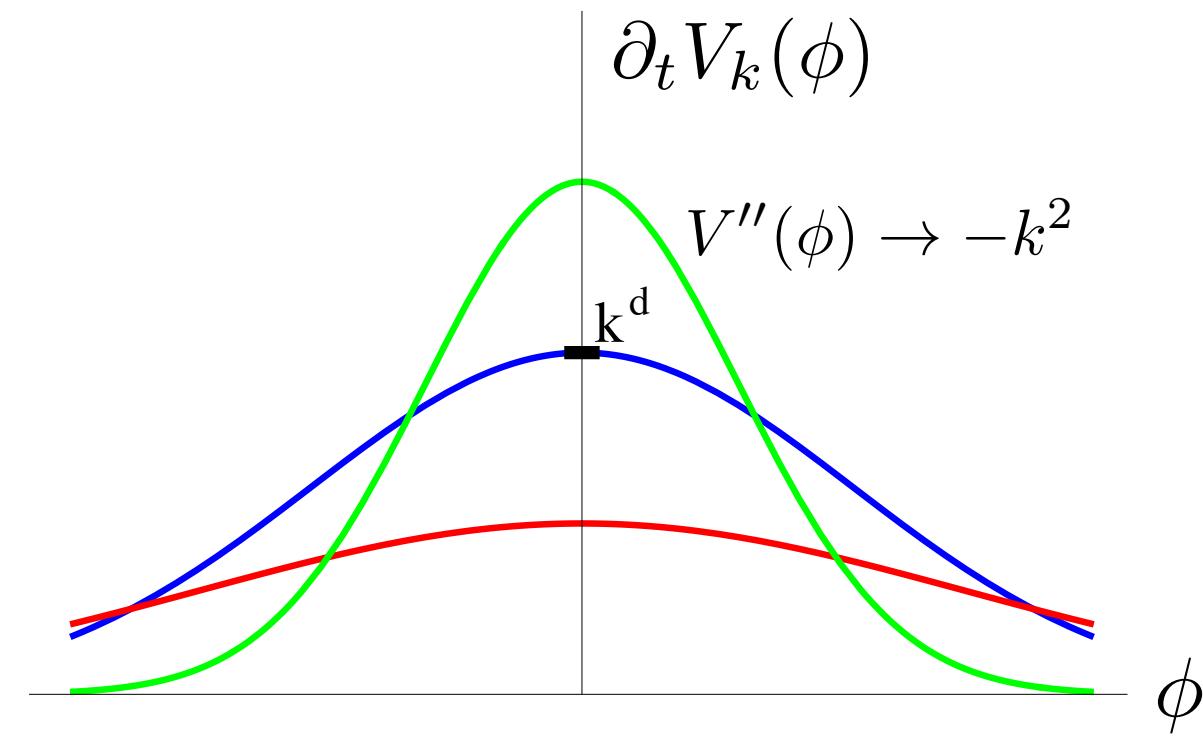
$$\Omega_d = \frac{2\pi^{d/2}}{\Gamma(d/2)}$$

$$\Gamma^{(2)}[\phi](p) + R_{k,\text{opt}}(p^2) = [k^2 + V''(\phi)] \theta(k^2 - p^2) + (p^2 + V''(\phi)) \theta(p^2 - k^2)$$

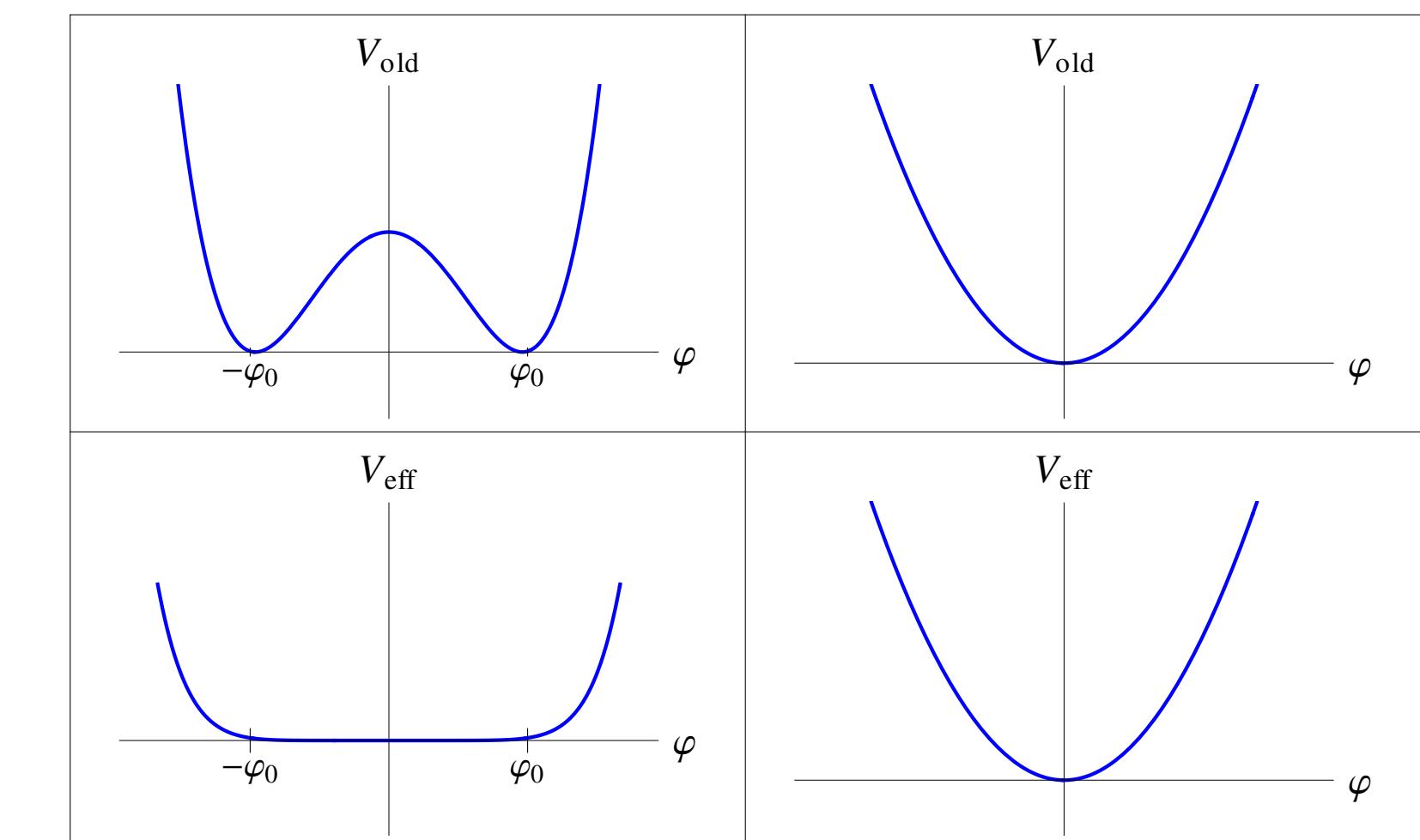
# **Spontaneous symmetry breaking**

# Approximation schemes & phase structure

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{1}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^{2+d}}{k^2 + V''_k(\phi)}$$

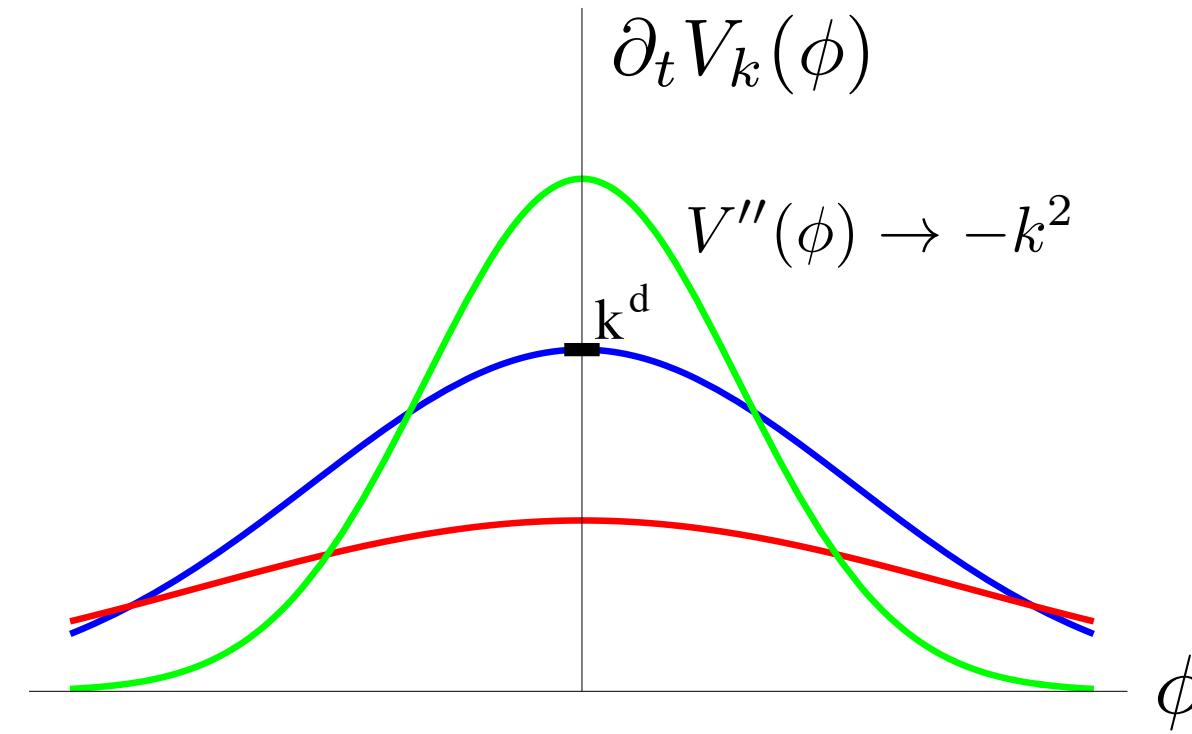


- bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring
- flow guarantees convexity of effective action

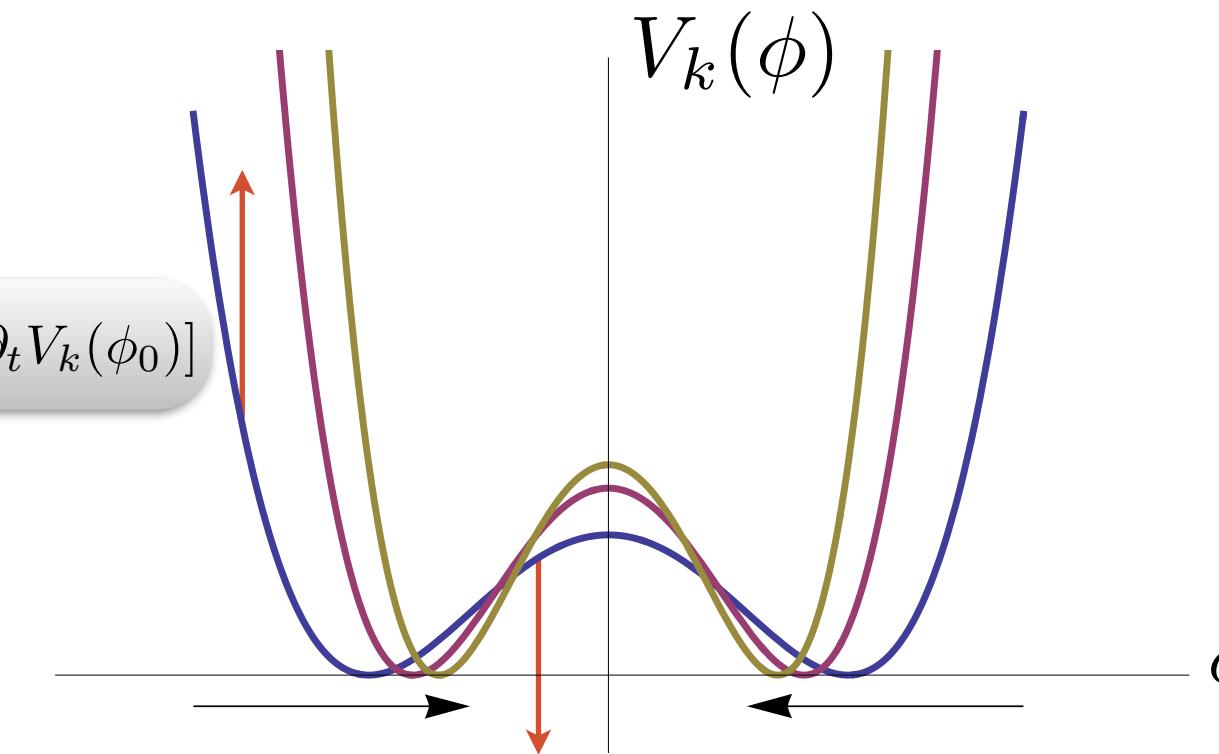


# Approximation schemes & phase structure

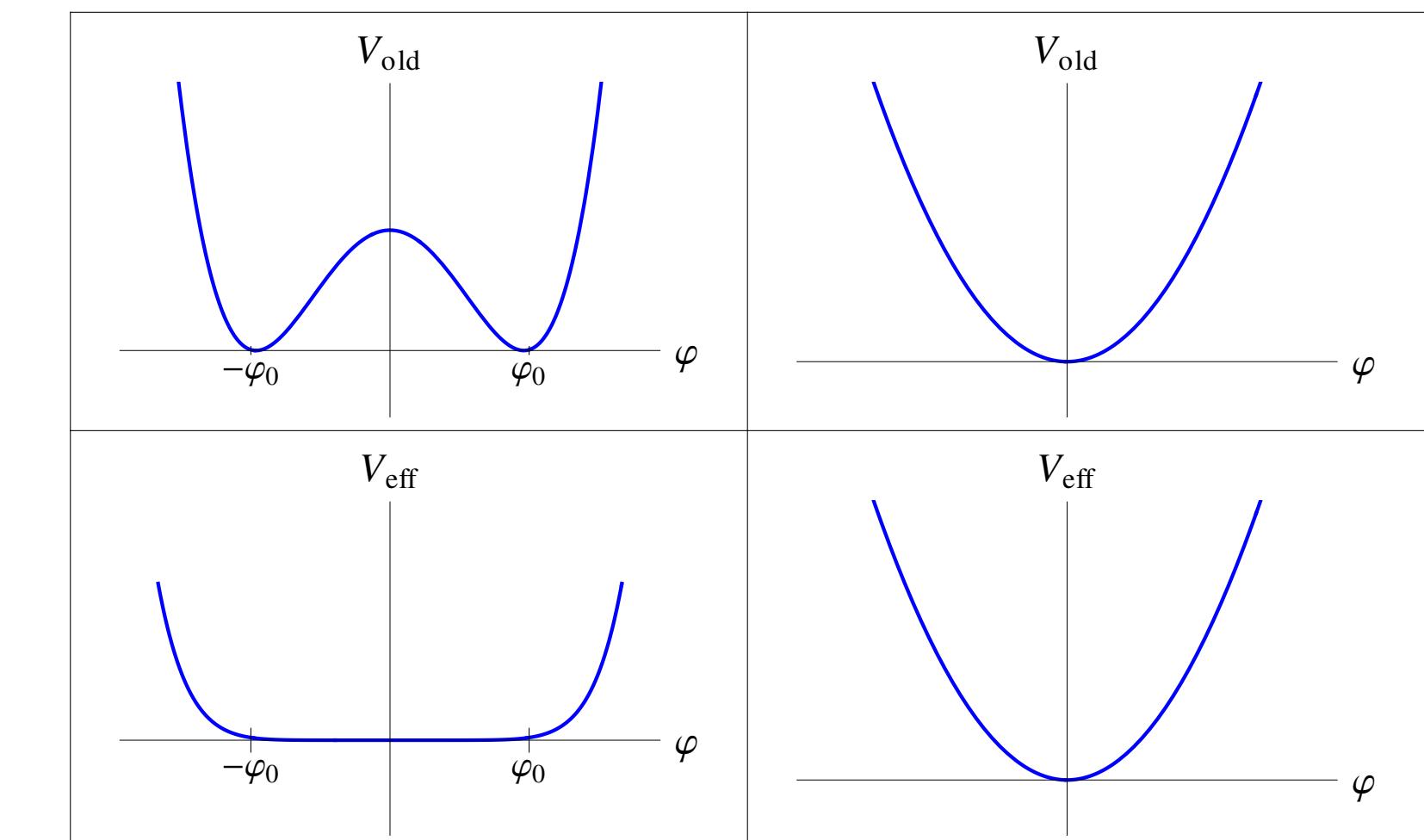
$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{1}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{k^{2+d}}{k^2 + V''_k(\phi)}$$



$$-\frac{\Delta k}{k} [\partial_t V_k(\phi) - \partial_t V_k(\phi_0)]$$



- bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring
- flow guarantees convexity of effective action

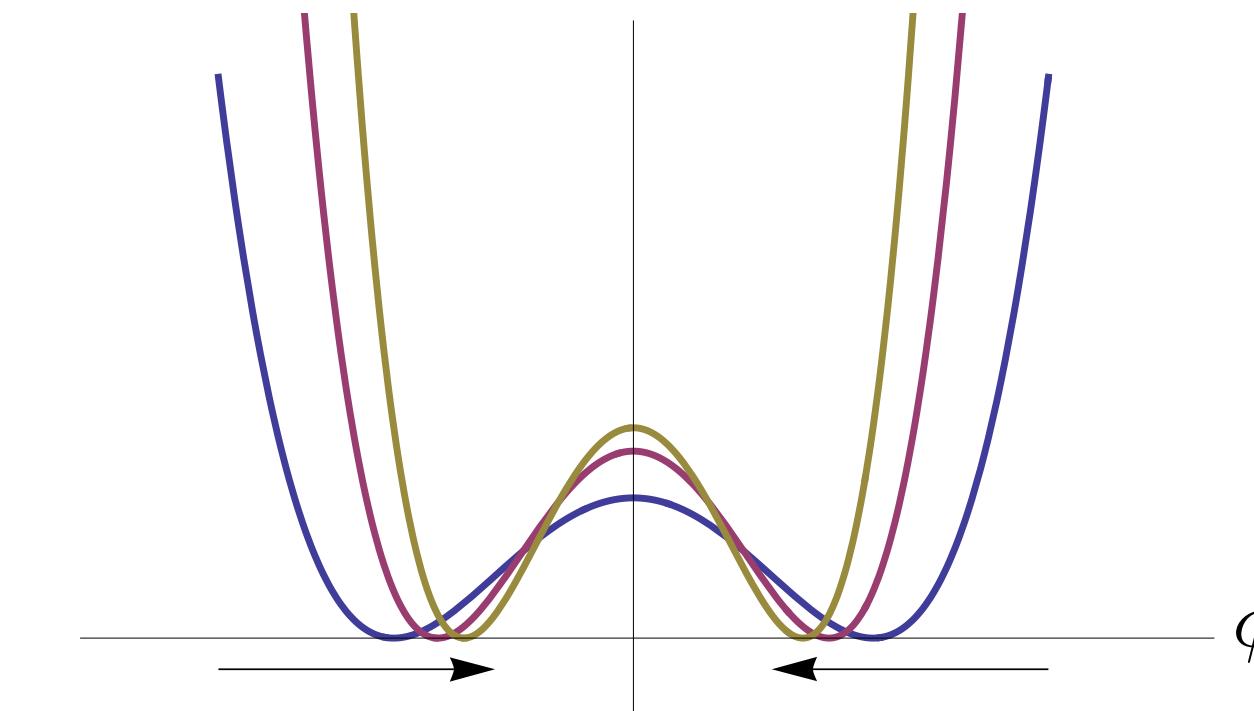
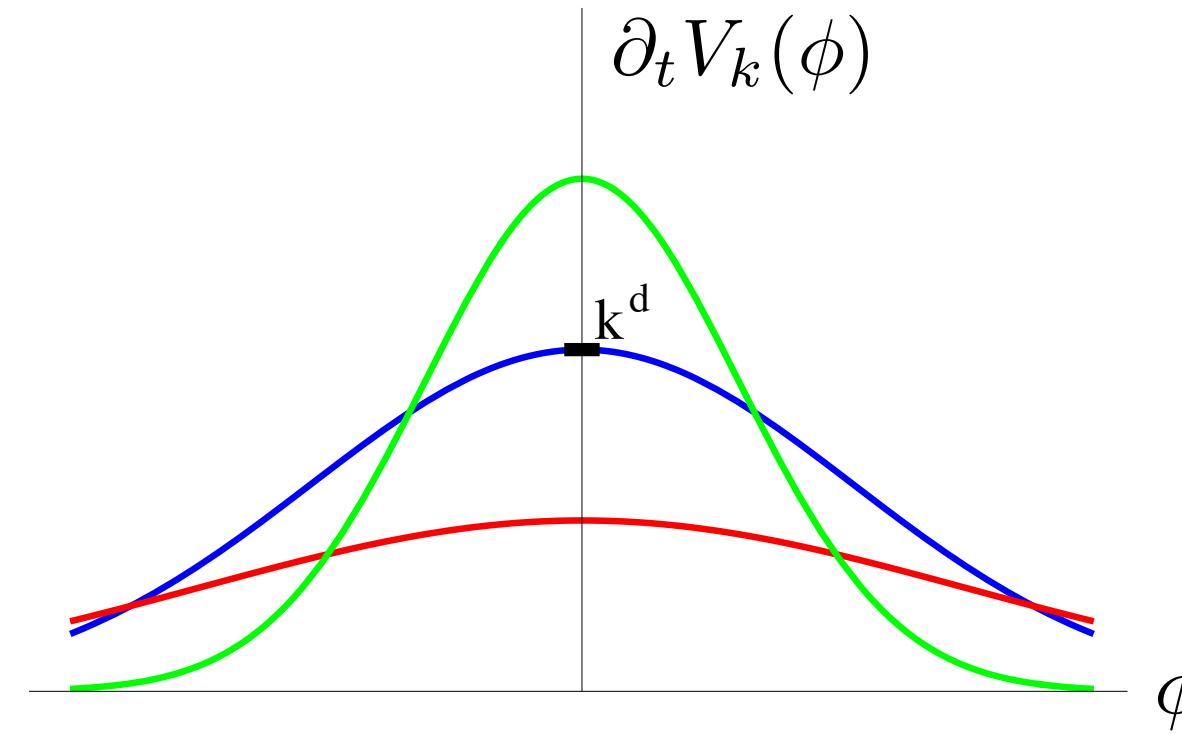


# Approximation schemes & phase structure

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = \frac{k^d}{d} \frac{\Omega_d}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1 - \frac{\eta_\phi}{d+2}}{1 + \frac{V_k''(\phi)}{k^2}}$$

Anomalous dimension

$$\eta_\phi = -\frac{\partial_t Z_\phi}{Z_\phi}$$



- bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring
- flow guarantees convexity of effective action

Litim, JMP, Vergara, hep-th/0602140

## Example: 3d critical exponents with fRG

**Simple approximation: LPA'**

$$\Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_p Z_\phi \phi(p) p^2 \phi(-p) + \int_x V_k(\phi)$$

**Taylor expansion**

$$V_k(\phi) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\max}} \frac{\lambda_n}{n!} (\phi^2 - \phi_{0,k}^2)^n$$

**Ising universality**

$$N = 1 : \nu_{\text{Ising}} = 0.630\dots$$

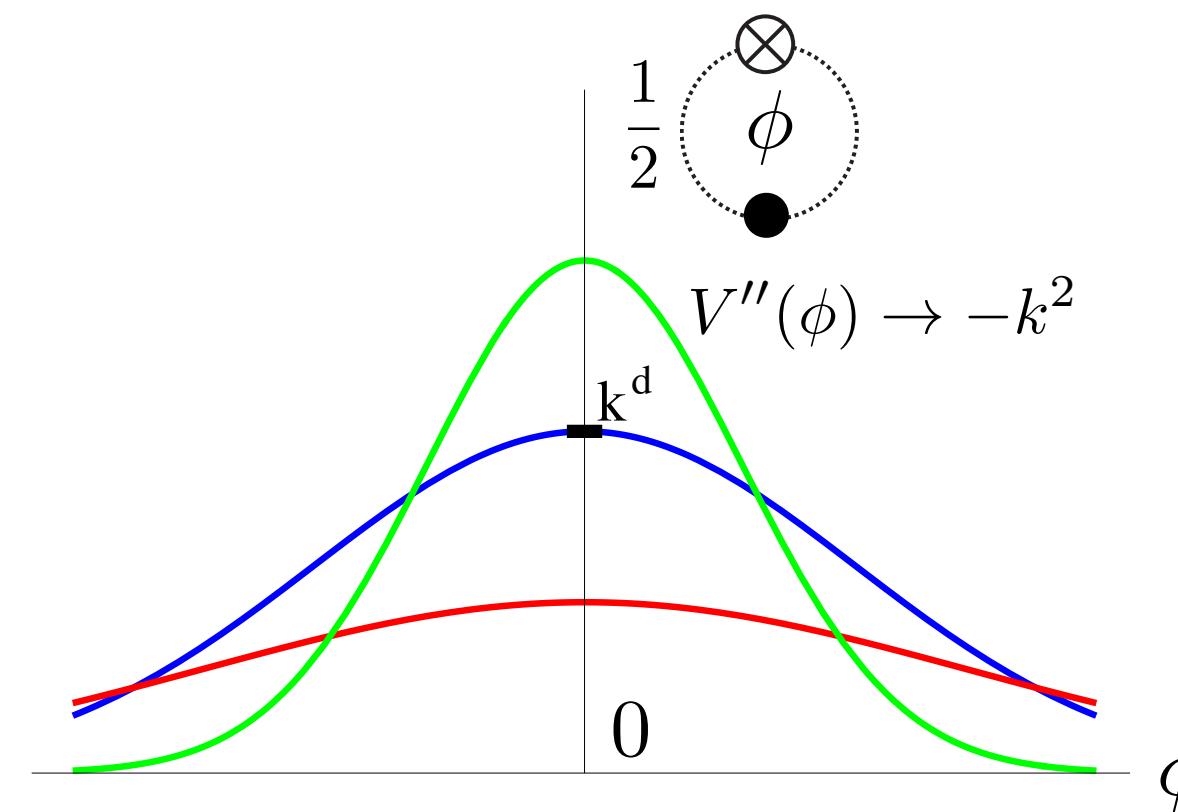
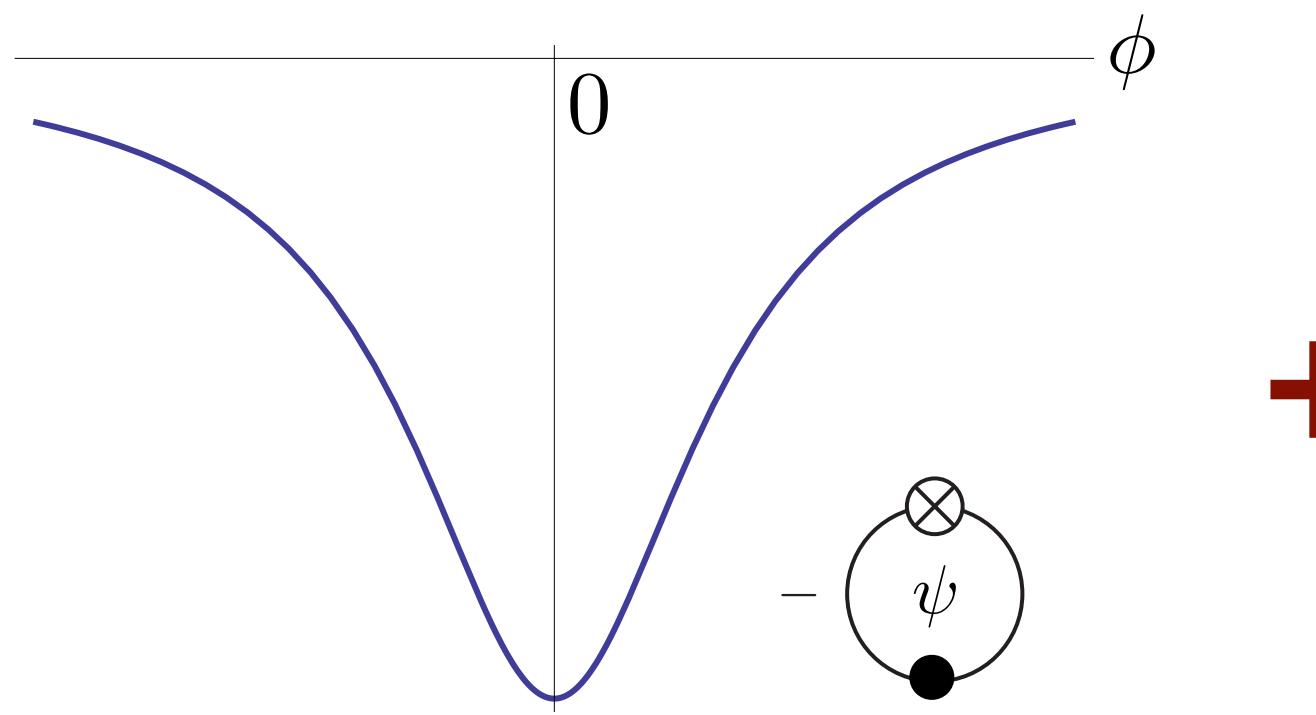
**fRG: LPA'**

$$N = 1 : \nu_{\text{Ising}} = 0.637\dots$$

A simple program to compute critical exponents in O(N)-models with the Wetterich equation

# Spontaneous symmetry breaking

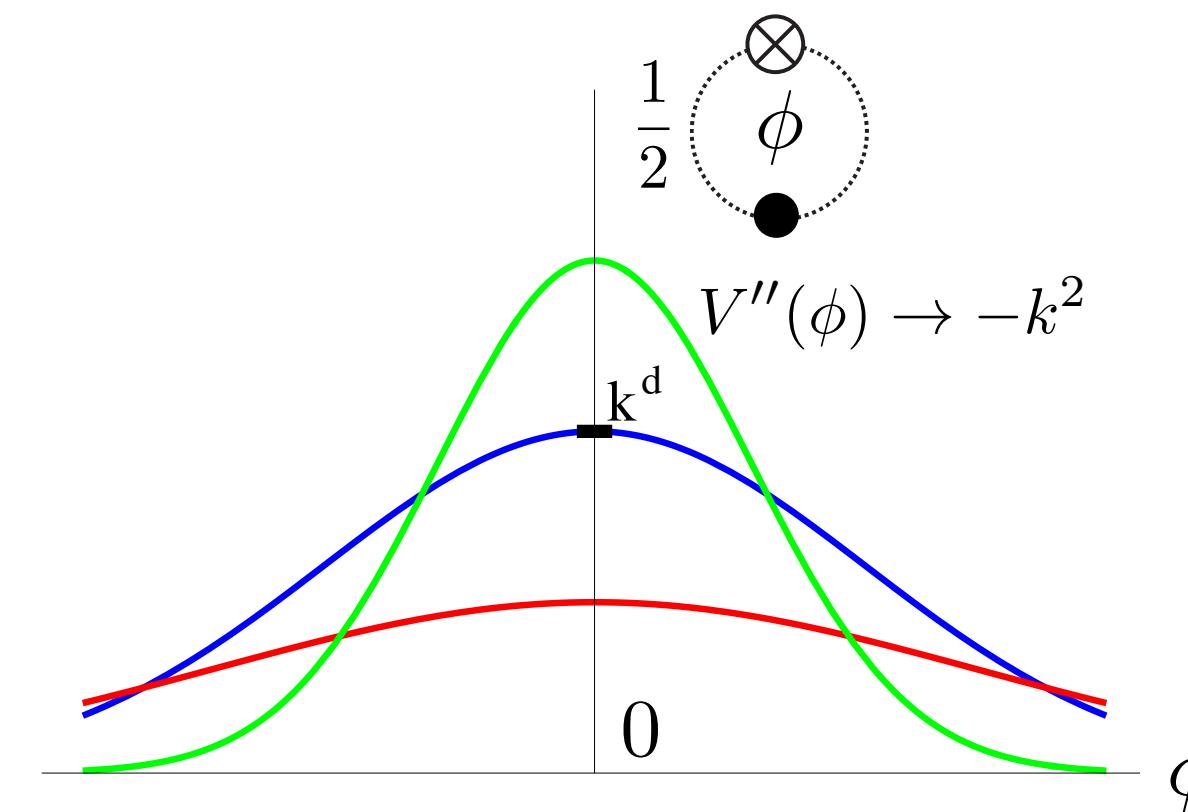
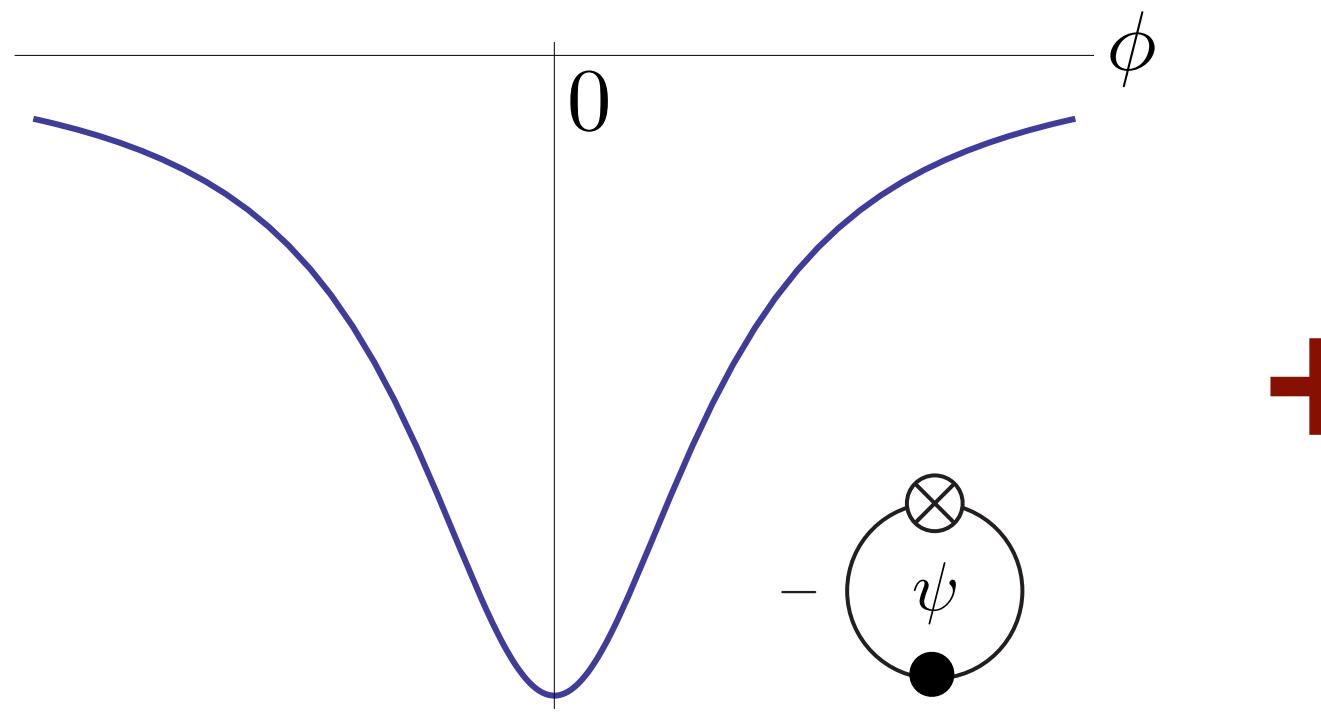
$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = - \text{---} \circlearrowleft \psi + \frac{1}{2} \circlearrowright \phi$$



- **bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring**
- **fermionic flow is symmetry-breaking**
- **competing dynamics decides about fate of symmetries**
- **flow guarantees convexity**

# Spontaneous symmetry breaking

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = - \text{---} \circlearrowleft \psi + \frac{1}{2} \circlearrowright \phi$$

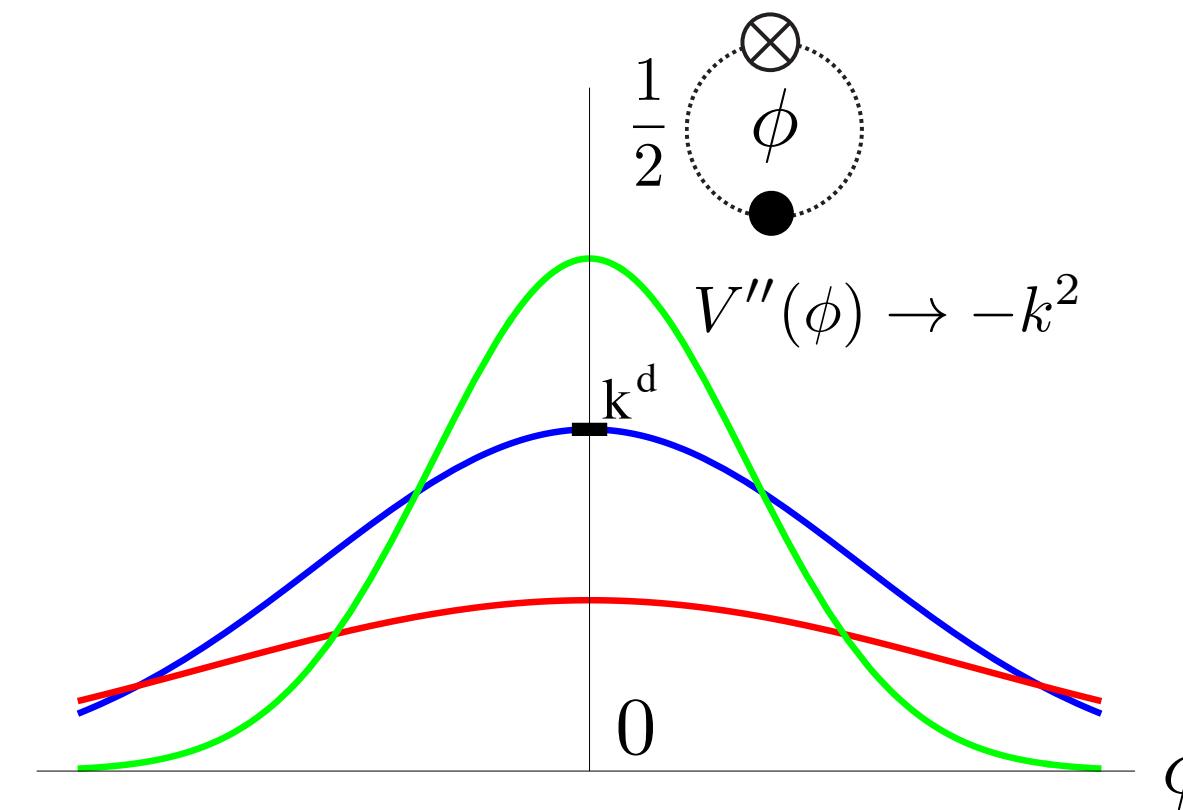
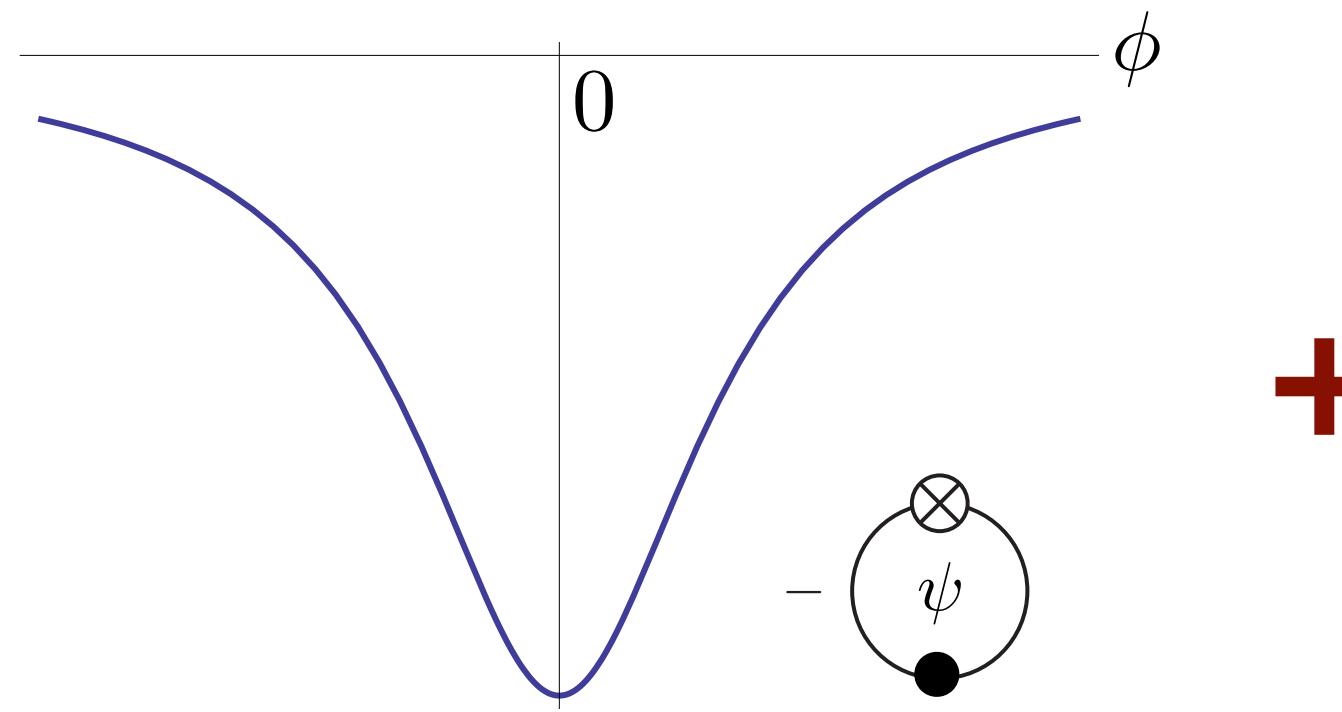


'governs general phase structures'

- **bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring**
- **fermionic flow is symmetry-breaking**
- **competing dynamics decides about fate of symmetries**
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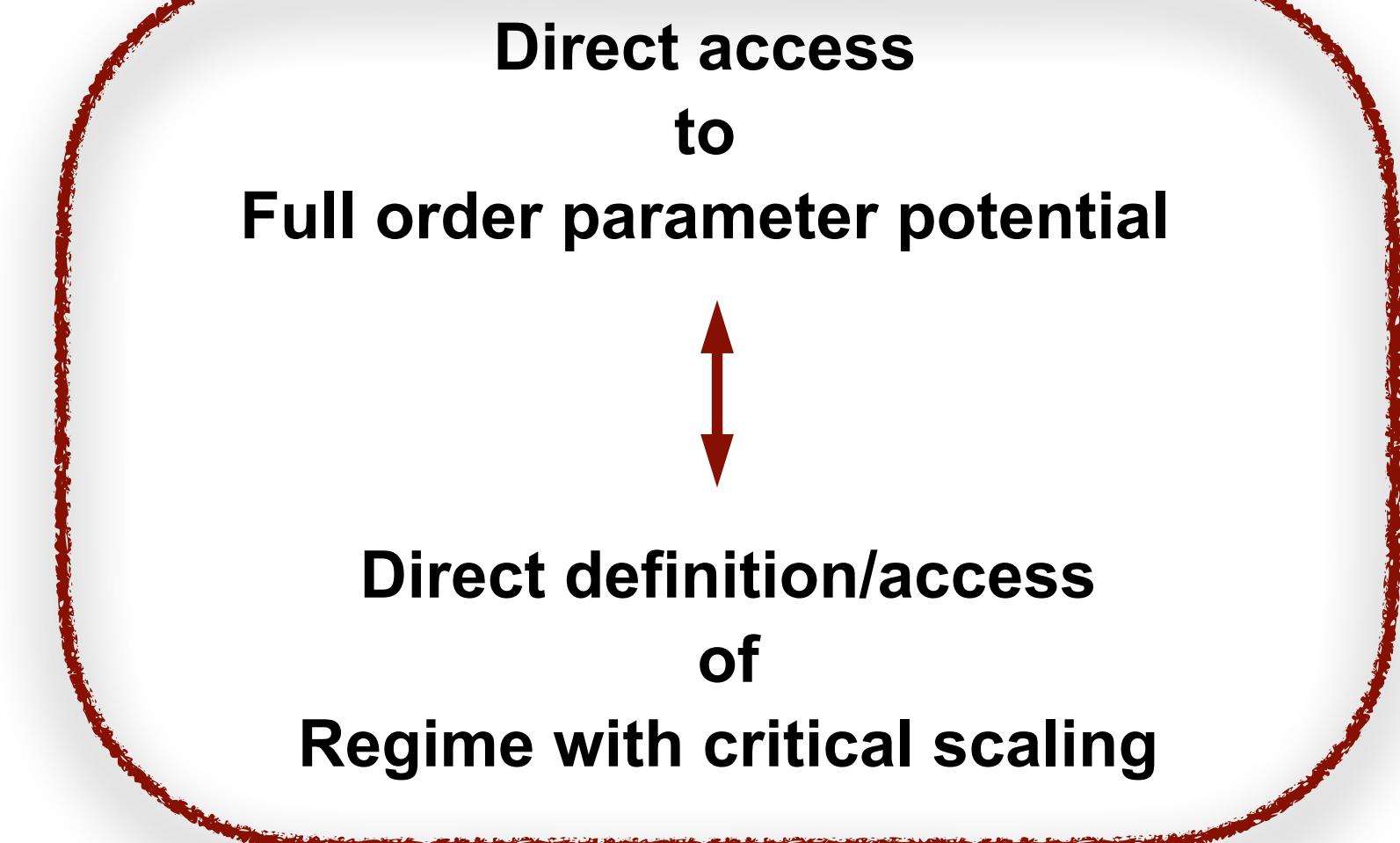
# Spontaneous symmetry breaking

$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = - \psi + \frac{1}{2} \phi$$



'governs general phase structures'

- **bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring**
- **fermionic flow is symmetry-breaking**
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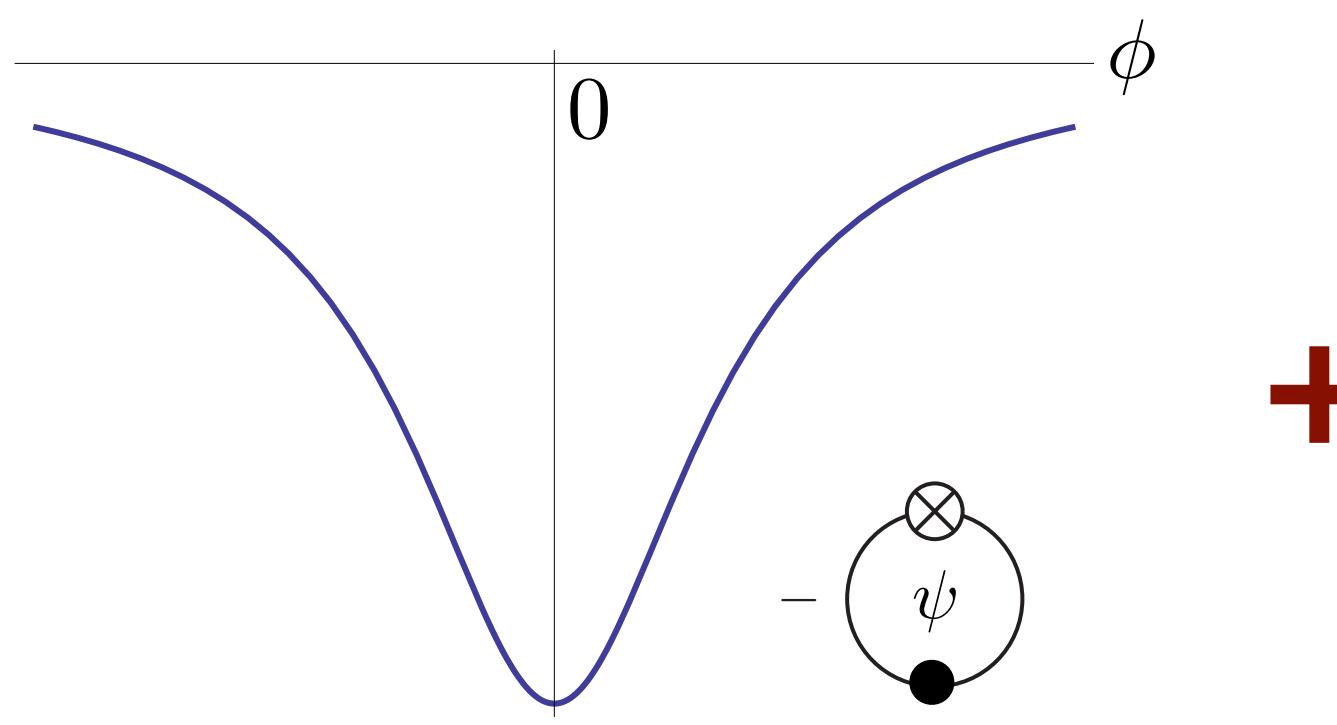
# Spontaneous symmetry breaking

Initiating the hydro era (2019)

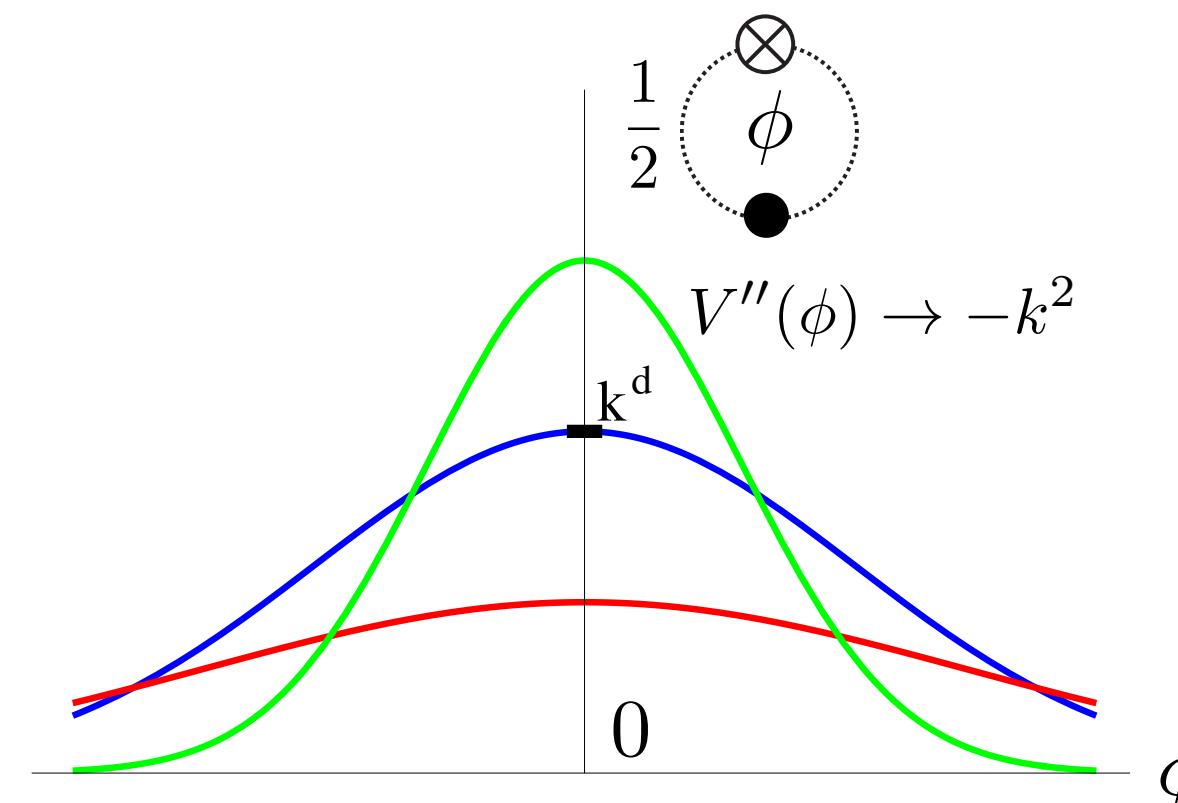
Grossi, Wink, SciPost Phys. Core 6 (2023)

State of the art time steppers

Ihsen, Sattler, Wink, CPC 300 (2024) 109182



$$\partial_t V_k(\phi) = - \text{ (fermion loop)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (boson loop)}$$



'governs general phase structures'

- bosonic flow is symmetry-restoring
- fermionic flow is symmetry-breaking
- competing dynamics decides about fate of symmetries
- flow guarantees convexity

Direct access  
to

Full order parameter potential

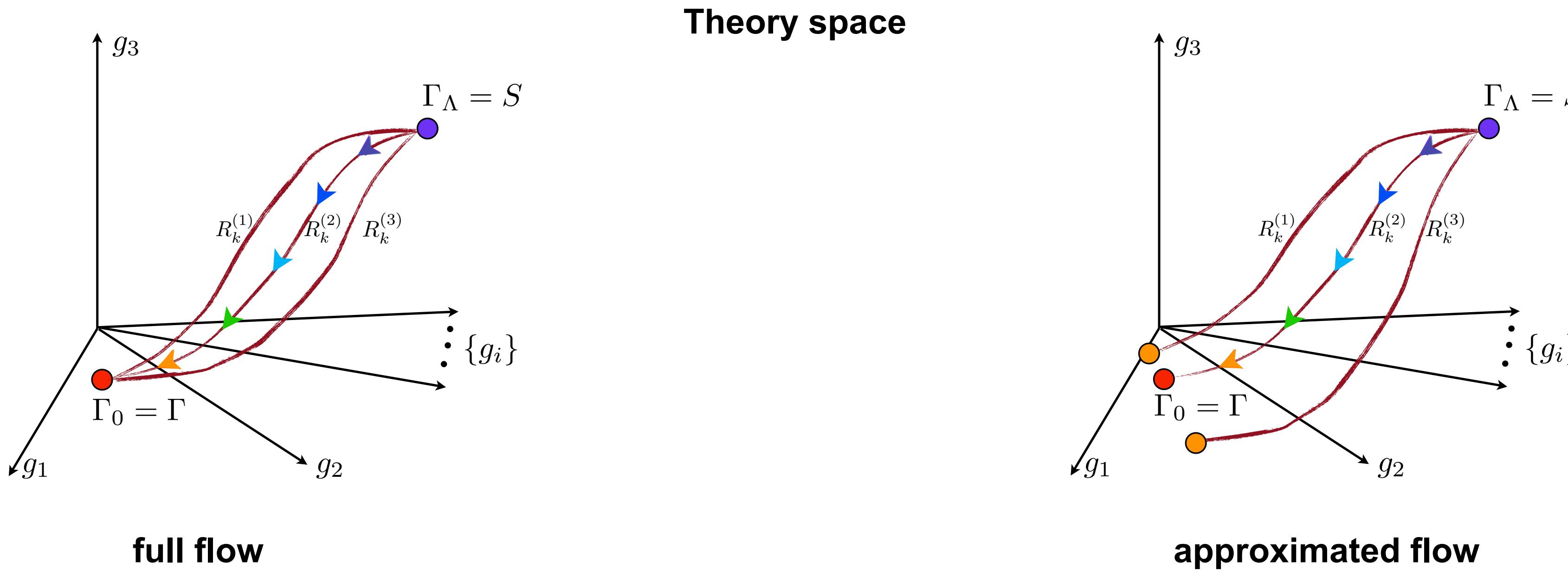


Direct definition/access  
of  
Regime with critical scaling

# **Systematic error control & optimisation**

# Systematic error control & optimisation

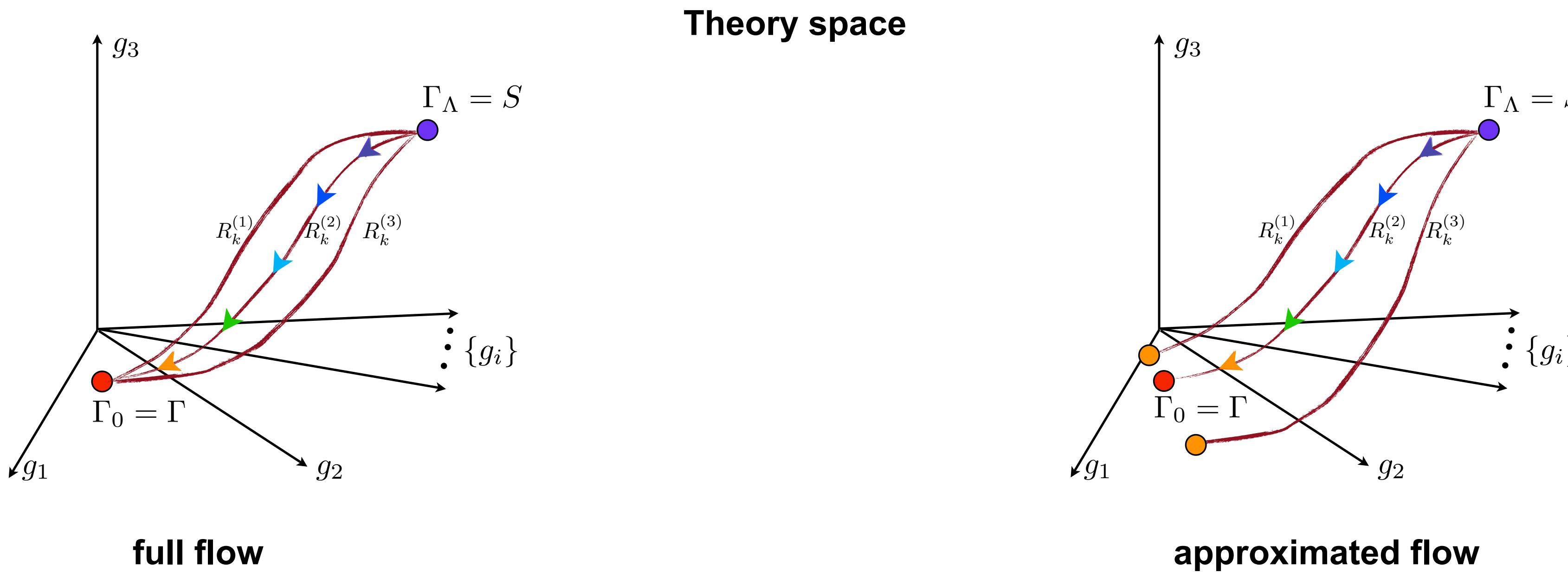
$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



Optimisation: find  $R_k^{(2)}$ !

# Systematic error control & optimisation

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$

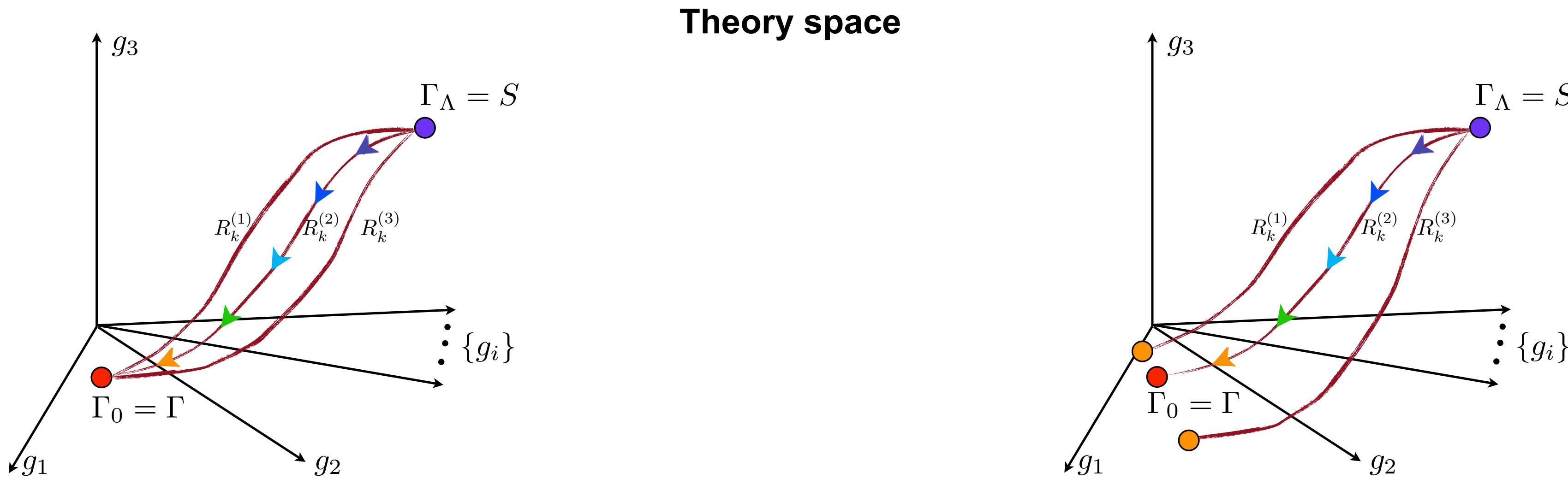


**Principle of minimal sensitivity**

eg. Liao, Polonyi, Strickland, NPB 567 (2000) 493-514  
 Canet, Delamotte, Mouhanna, Vidal, PRD 67 (2003) 065004

# Systematic error control & optimisation

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



Optimisation: find  $R_k^{(2)}$ !

Most rapid convergence at fixed points

Principle of minimal sensitivity

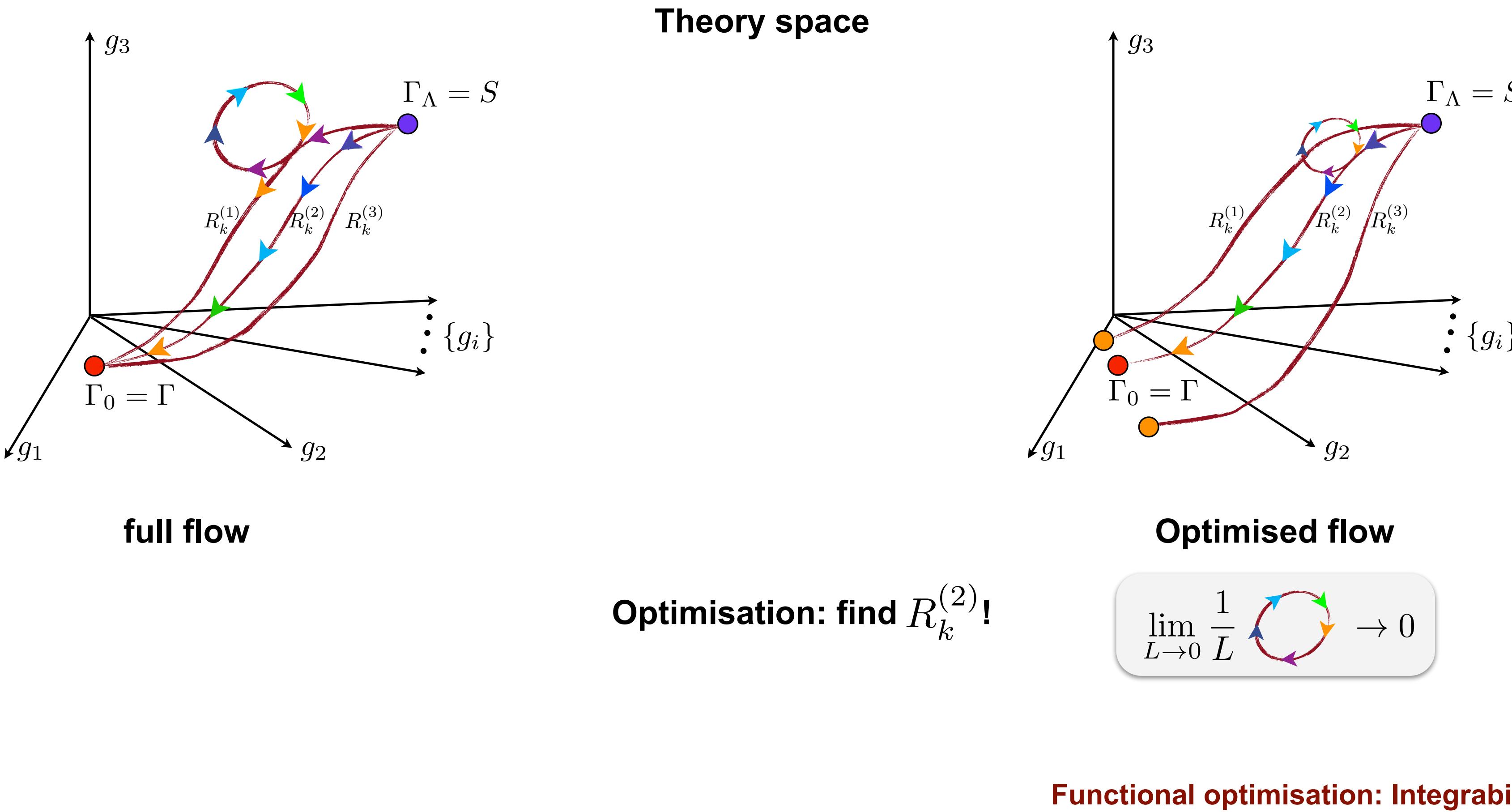
Litim, PLB 486 (2000) 92-99

eg. Liao, Polonyi, Strickland, NPB 567 (2000) 493-514  
Canet, Delamotte, Mouhanna, Vidal, PRD 67 (2003) 065004

Functional optimisation: Integrability

# Systematic error control & optimisation

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)}[\phi] + R_k} \partial_t R_k$$



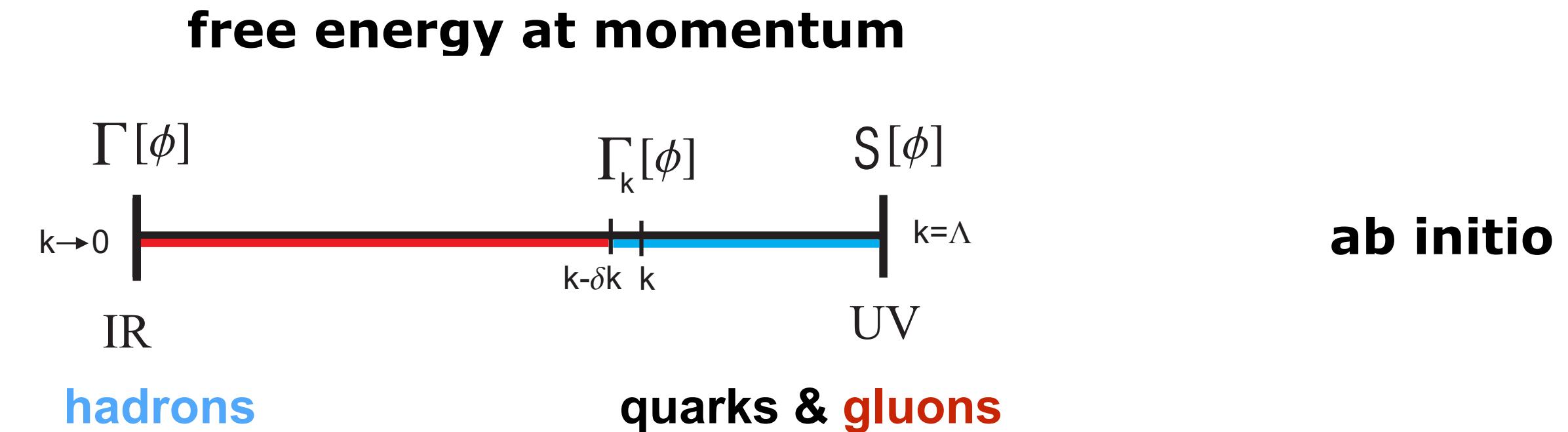
# **Functional flows for QCD**

**Flows for correlation functions  
&  
chiral symmetry breaking**

# Functional flows for QCD

Dupuis et al, Phys.Rept. (2021)

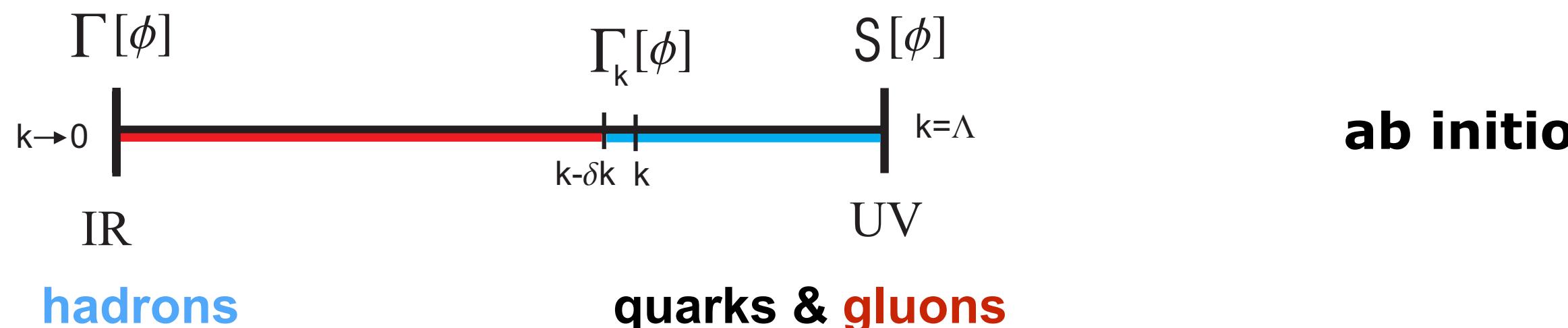
Fu, Commun.Theor.Phys. 74 (2022) 9, 097304



# Functional flows for QCD

Dupuis et al, Phys.Rept. (2021)  
 Fu, Commun.Theor.Phys. 74 (2022) 9, 097304

## free energy at momentum



**functional RG:**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{free energy/ grand potential} \right] - \text{glue quantum fluctuations} - \text{quark quantum fluctuations}$$

The diagram shows the functional derivative of the effective action  $\Gamma_k[\Phi]$  with respect to the coupling constant  $t = \ln k$ . It is represented as the difference between the total free energy/grand potential (red box) and the contributions from glue quantum fluctuations (dashed loop) and quark quantum fluctuations (solid loop).

RG-scale  $k$ :  $t = \ln k$

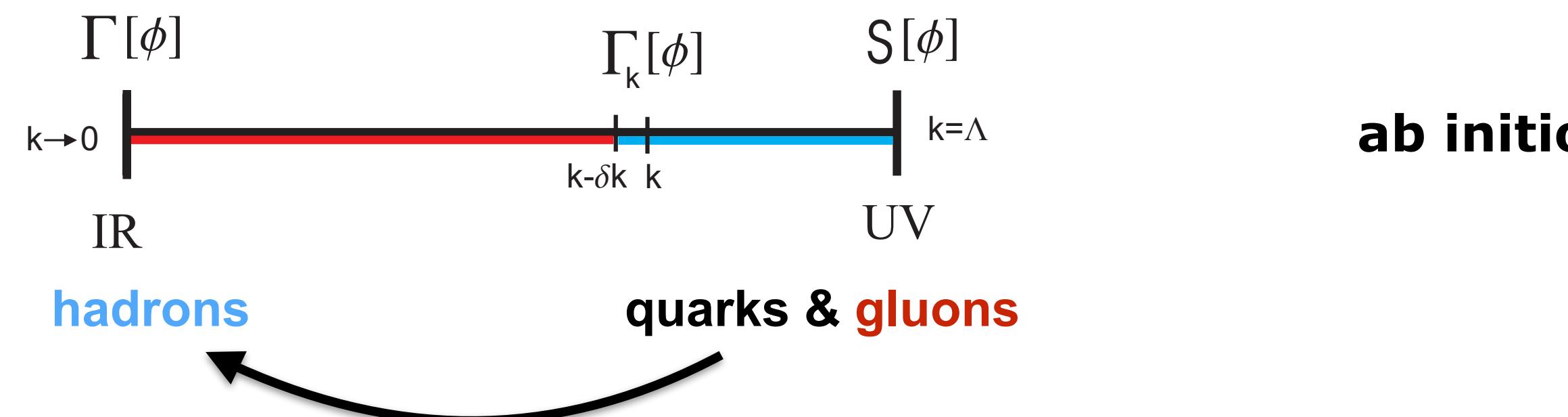
$$\Phi = (A_\mu, c, \bar{c}, q, \bar{q})$$

# Functional flows for QCD

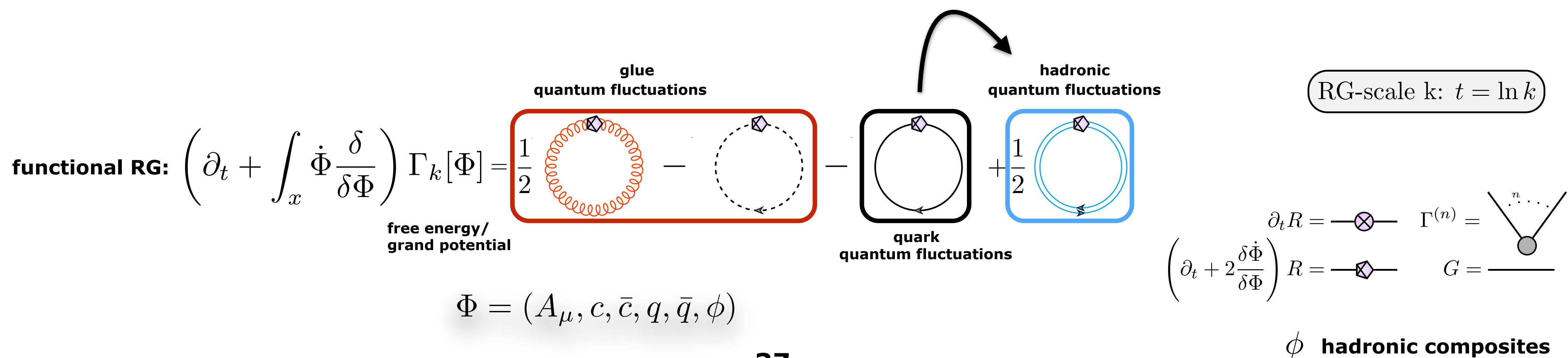
Dupuis et al, Phys.Rept. (2021)

Fu, Commun.Theor.Phys. 74 (2022) 9, 097304

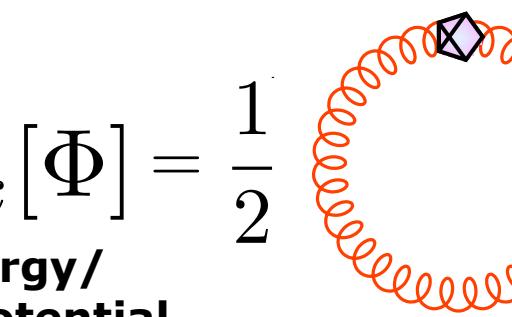
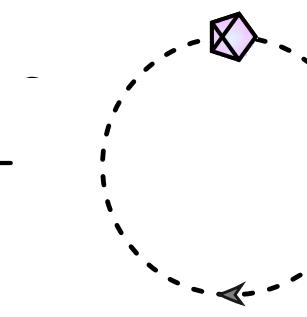
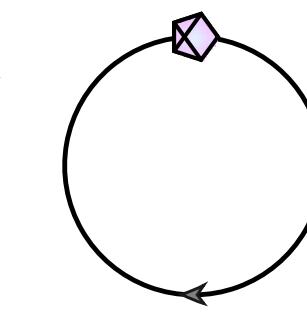
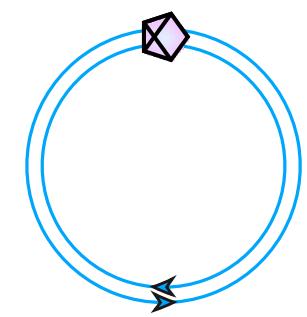
## free energy at momentum



## fRG approach with emergent composites/dynamical hadronisation



# Flows for correlation functions

**functional RG:**  $\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2}$   -  -  +  $\frac{1}{2}$  

free energy/  
grand potential

glue  
quantum fluctuations

quark  
quantum fluctuations

Correlation functions

# Flows for correlation functions

**functional RG:**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{free energy/grand potential} - \boxed{\text{glue quantum fluctuations}} + \frac{1}{2} \text{quark quantum fluctuations}$$

The equation shows the functional renormalization group flow of the effective action  $\Gamma_k[\Phi]$ . It is expressed as the difference between the free energy/grand potential (a solid red circle) and the glue quantum fluctuations (a red box containing a wavy line loop). The result is then split into quark quantum fluctuations (a solid blue circle) and a correction term (a dashed blue circle).

gluon propagator

$$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$$

Pure glue

Correlation functions

# Flows for correlation functions

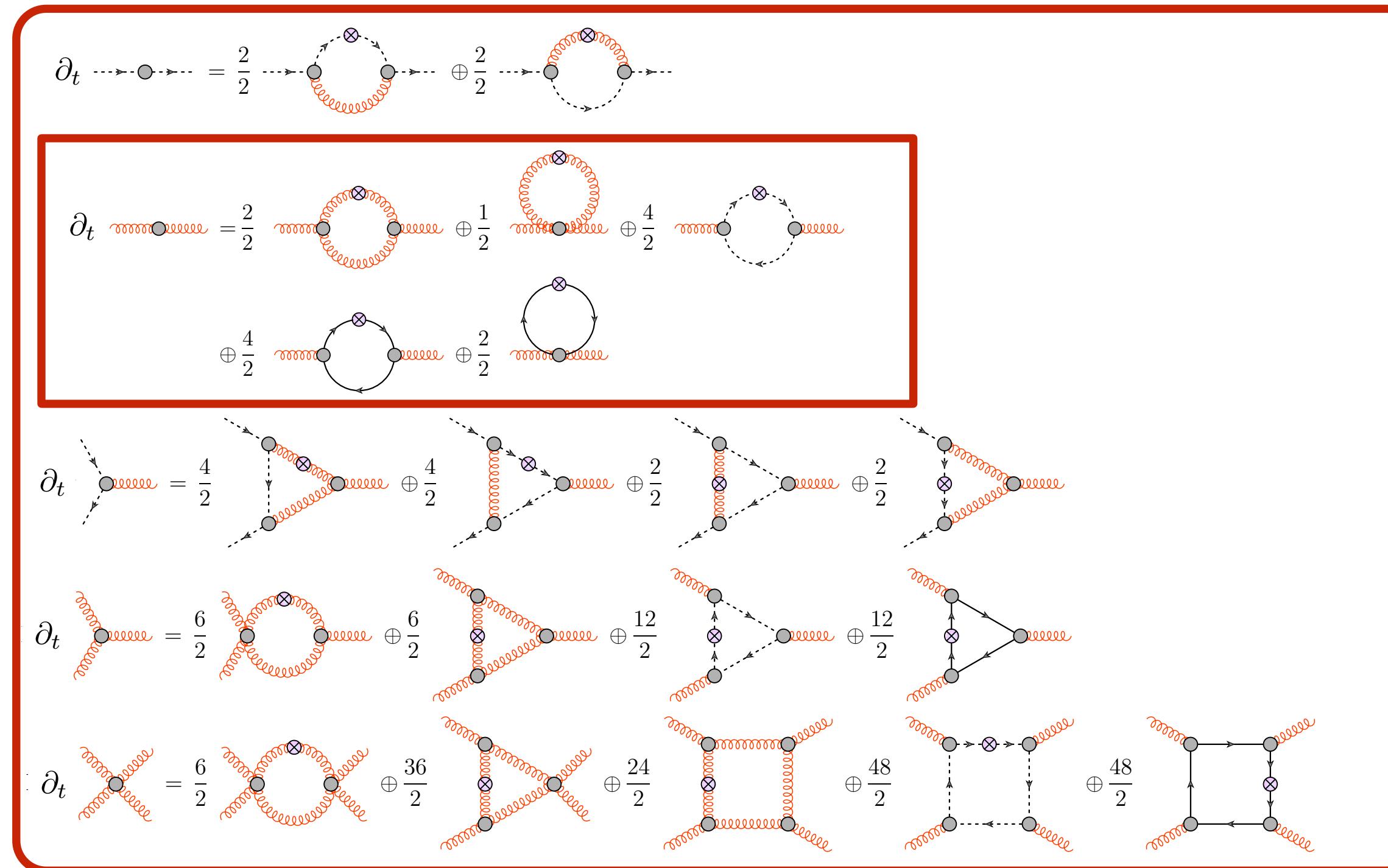
**functional RG:**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{free energy/grand potential} - \boxed{\text{glue quantum fluctuations}} + \frac{1}{2} \text{quark quantum fluctuations}$$

gluon propagator  
 $\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$

Pure glue

Correlation functions

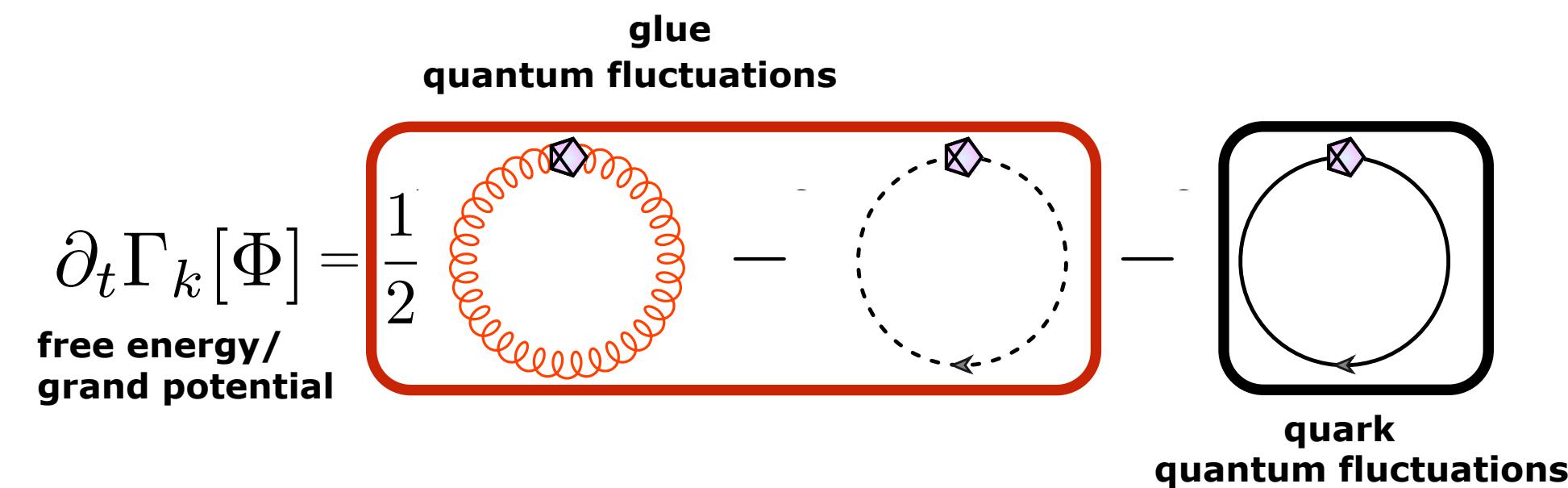


... 1-loop exact

$$\phi = 0$$

# Flows for correlation functions

**functional RG:**



**Correlation functions**

gluon propagator

$$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$$

quark propagator

$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$$

# Flows for correlation functions

## **no hadronic composites**

$$\phi = 0$$

# **functional RG:**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{free energy/grand potential} \right] - \boxed{\text{glue quantum fluctuations}} - \boxed{\text{quark quantum fluctuations}}$$

The diagram illustrates the decomposition of the time derivative of the effective action  $\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi]$  into three components. The first component, enclosed in a red box, represents the free energy or grand potential and is given by  $\frac{1}{2}$ . The second component, enclosed in a black box, represents quark quantum fluctuations and is shown as a circle with a clockwise arrow. The third component, also enclosed in a red box and labeled "glue quantum fluctuations", is shown as a loop of red gluon lines with a crossed-out vertex, indicating it is subtracted from the free energy.

# Correlation functions

# gluon propagator

$$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$$

## quark propagator

$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$$

## quark-gluon vertex

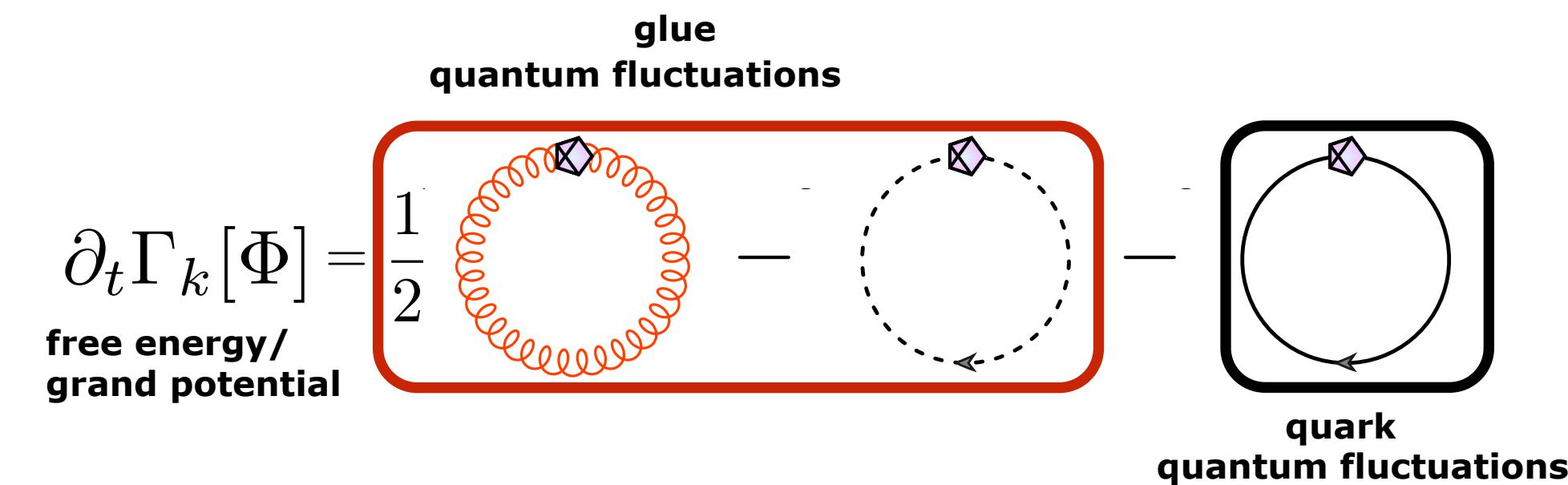
$$\langle q\bar{q}A_\mu \rangle(p_1, p_2)$$

## Eight transverse tensor structures

$$\phi = 0$$

# Flows for correlation functions

**functional RG:**



## Correlation functions

gluon propagator

$$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$$

quark propagator

$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$$

quark-gluon vertex

$$\langle q\bar{q}A_\mu \rangle(p_1, p_2)$$

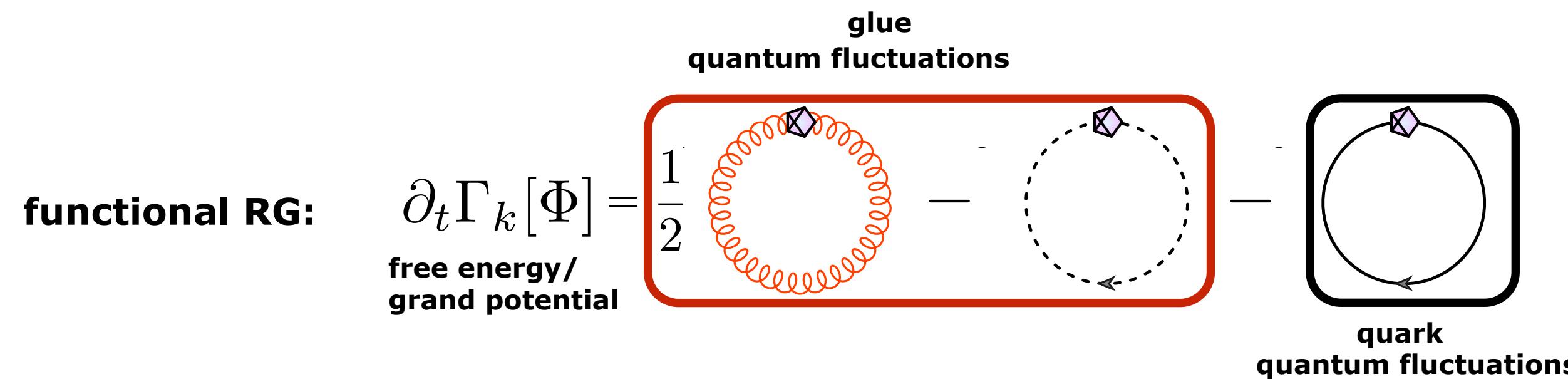
Eight transverse tensor structures

quark—anti-quark scattering

$$\langle q\bar{q}q\bar{q} \rangle(p_1, p_2, p_3)$$

$$\phi = 0$$

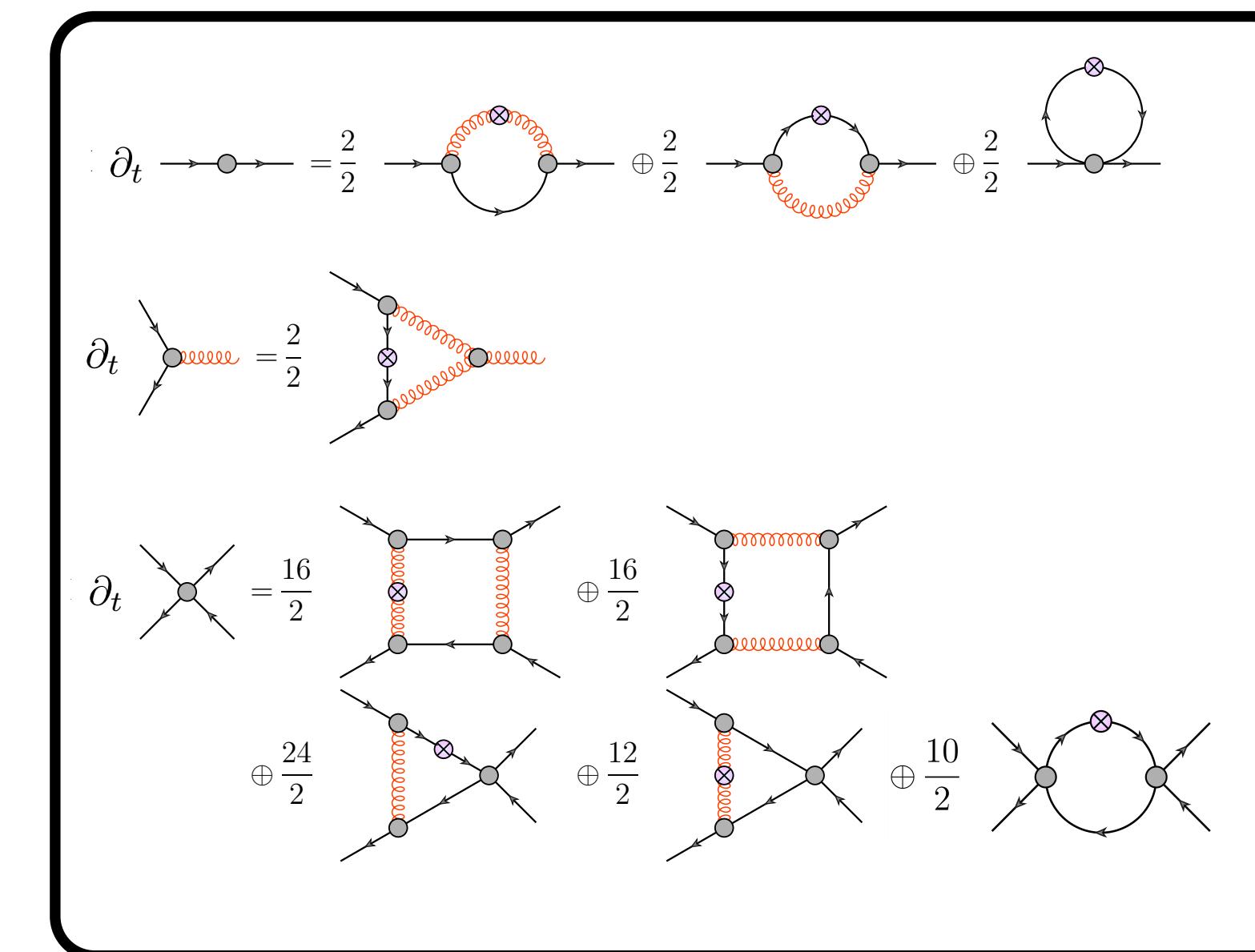
# Flows for correlation functions



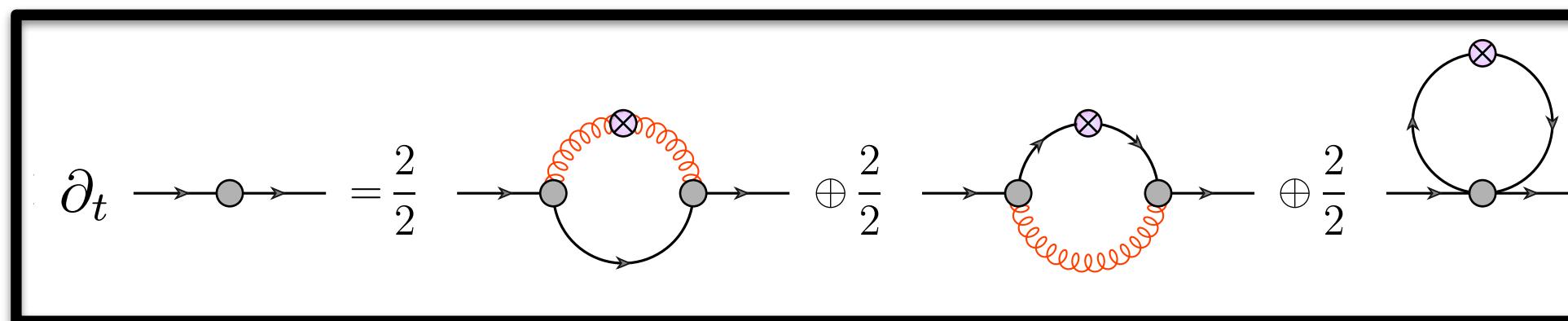
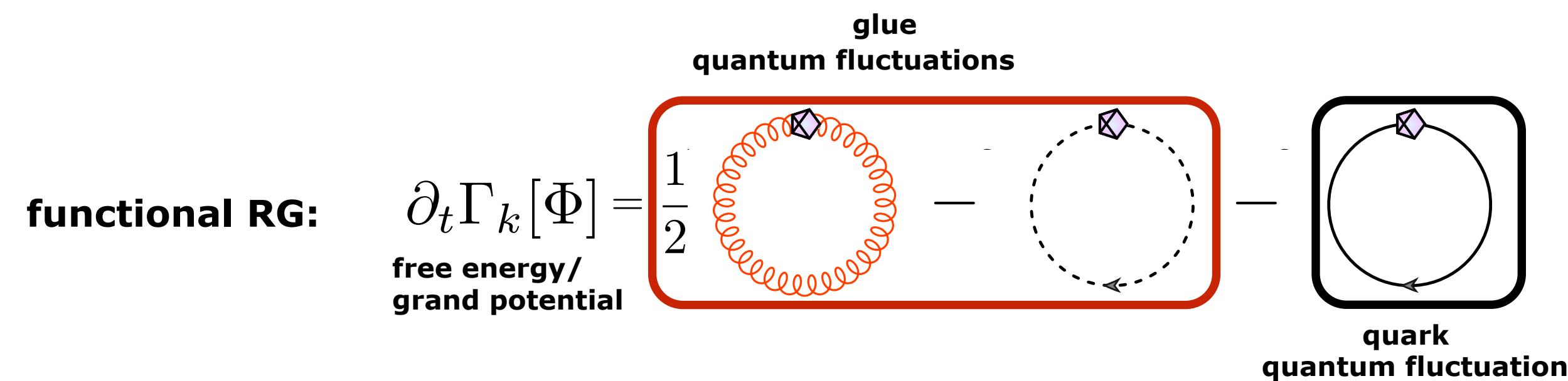
## Correlation functions

gluon propagator	quark propagator	quark-gluon vertex	quark-anti-quark scattering
$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$	$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$	$\langle q\bar{q}A_\mu \rangle(p_1, p_2)$	$\langle q\bar{q}q\bar{q} \rangle(p_1, p_2, p_3)$

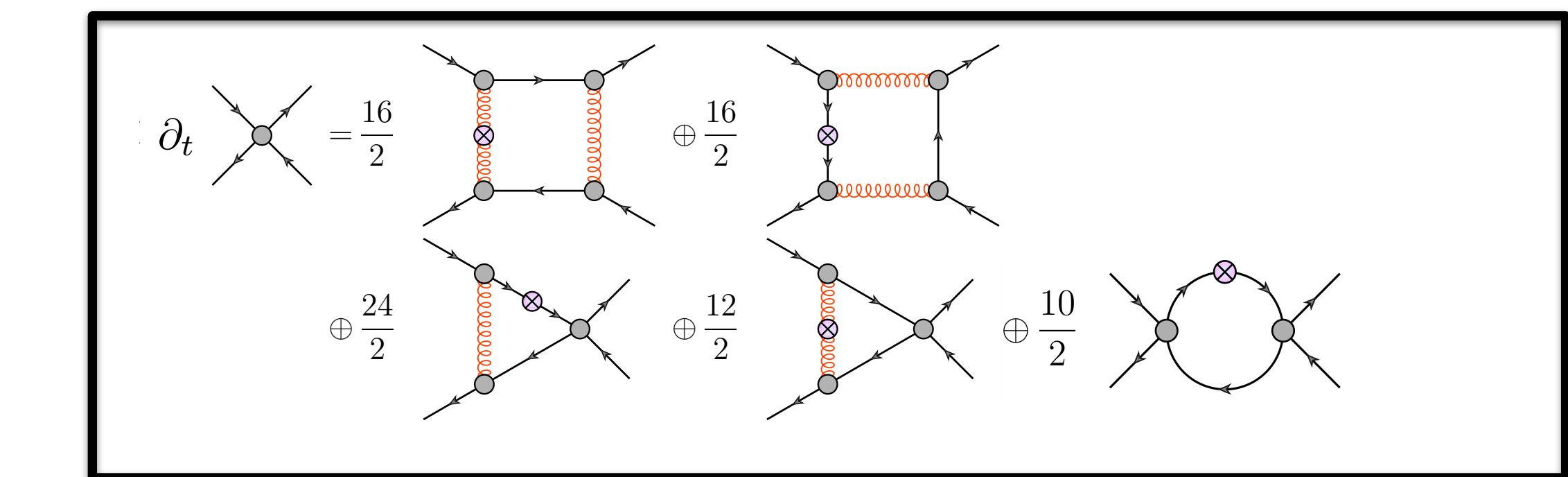
Eight transverse tensor structures



# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons



2 tensor structures

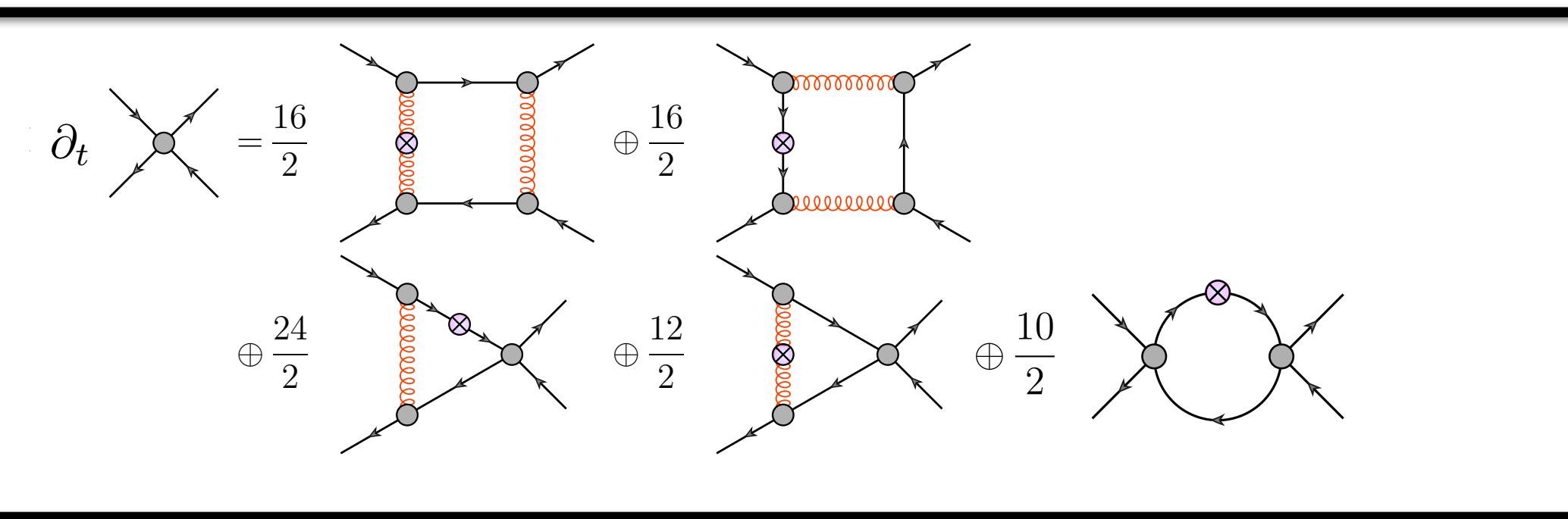


Two flavours: 10 momentum-independent tensor structures

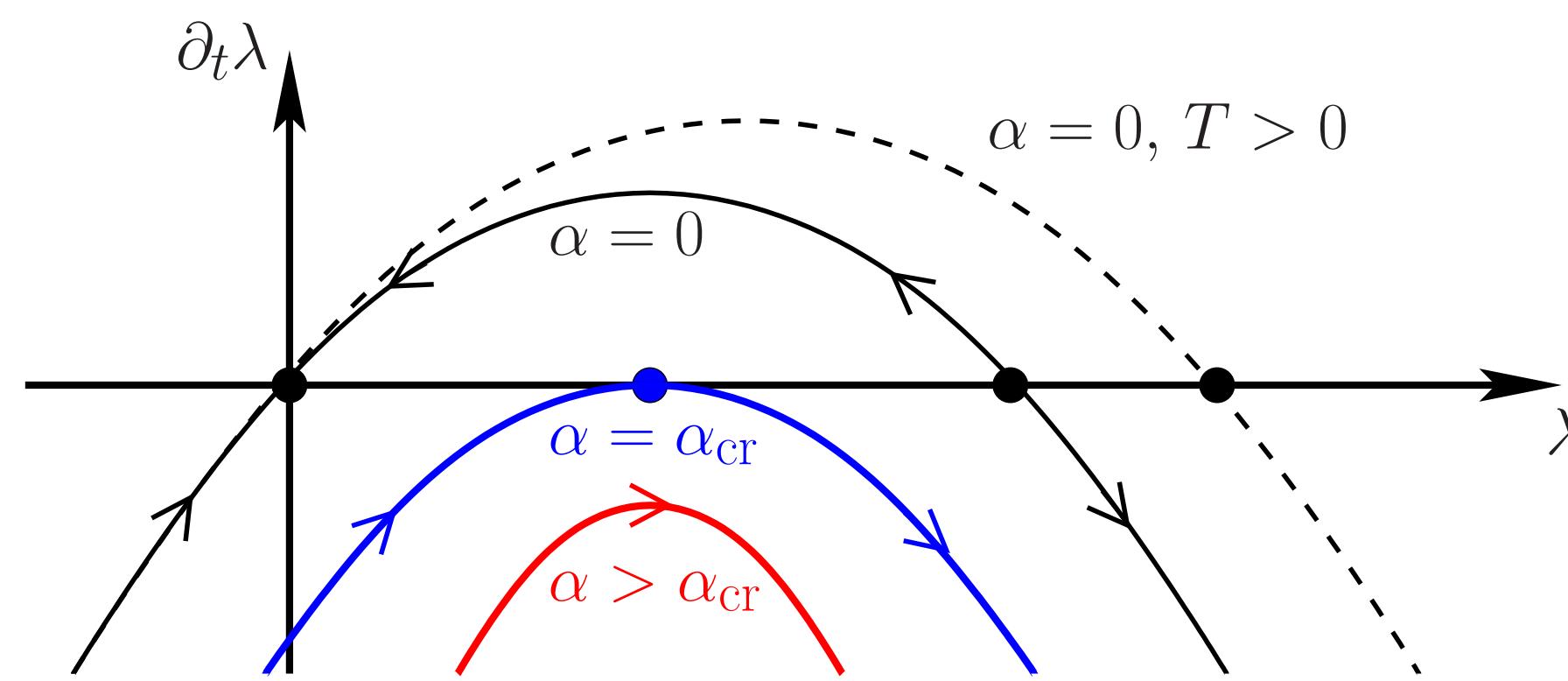
$$\Gamma_{\text{mat}} = \int_p \bar{q}(-p) \left[ Z_q(p) i \not{p} + M_q(p) \right] q(p) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \int_{\mathbf{p}} \lambda_{\bar{q}^2 q^2}^{(i)}(\mathbf{p}) \left( \bar{q}^2 \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}^2 q^2}^{(i)} q^2 \right) (\mathbf{p}) + \dots$$

# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons

## Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagdown \end{array} \quad | \quad s - ps$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons

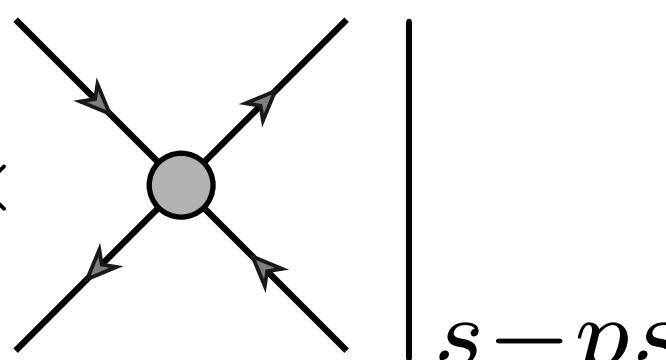
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell

$$\partial_t \times =$$

$$\oplus \frac{10}{2}$$

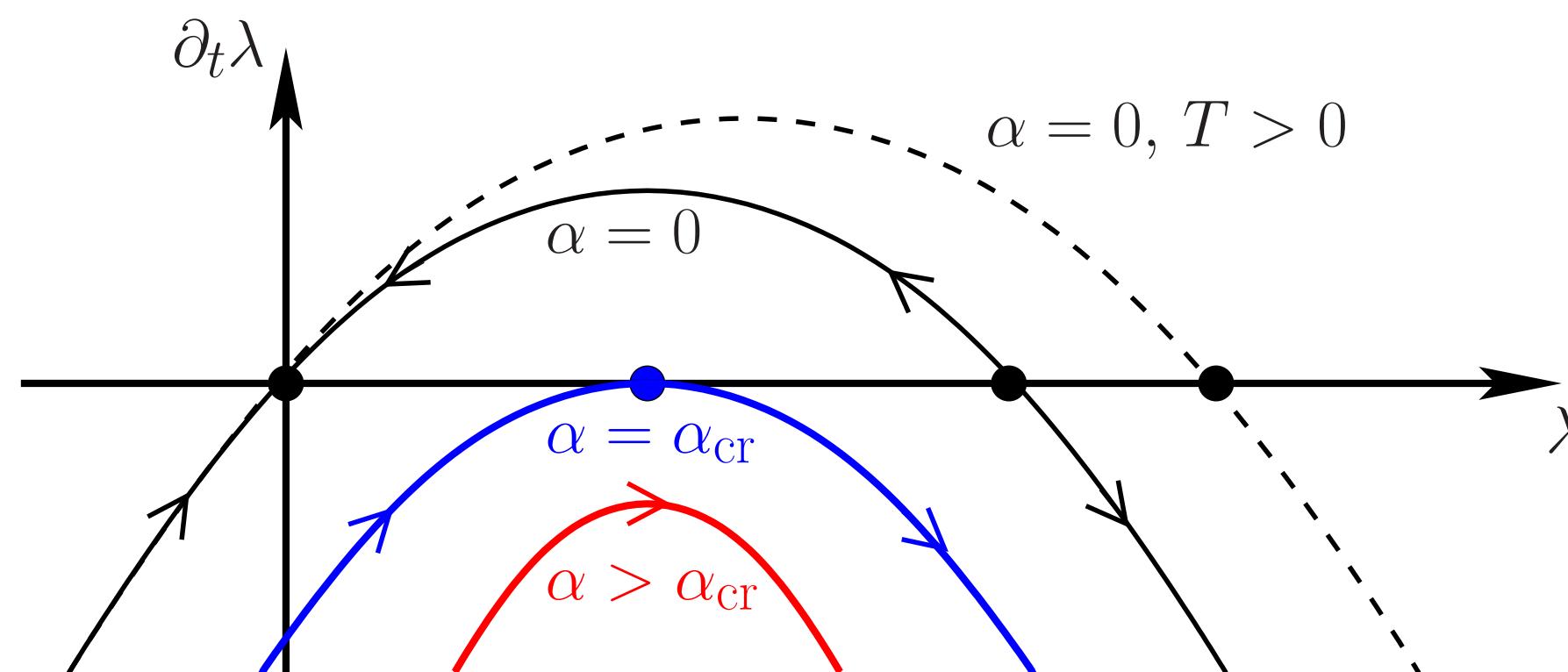
Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

$$\partial_t \lambda = 2\lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times$$


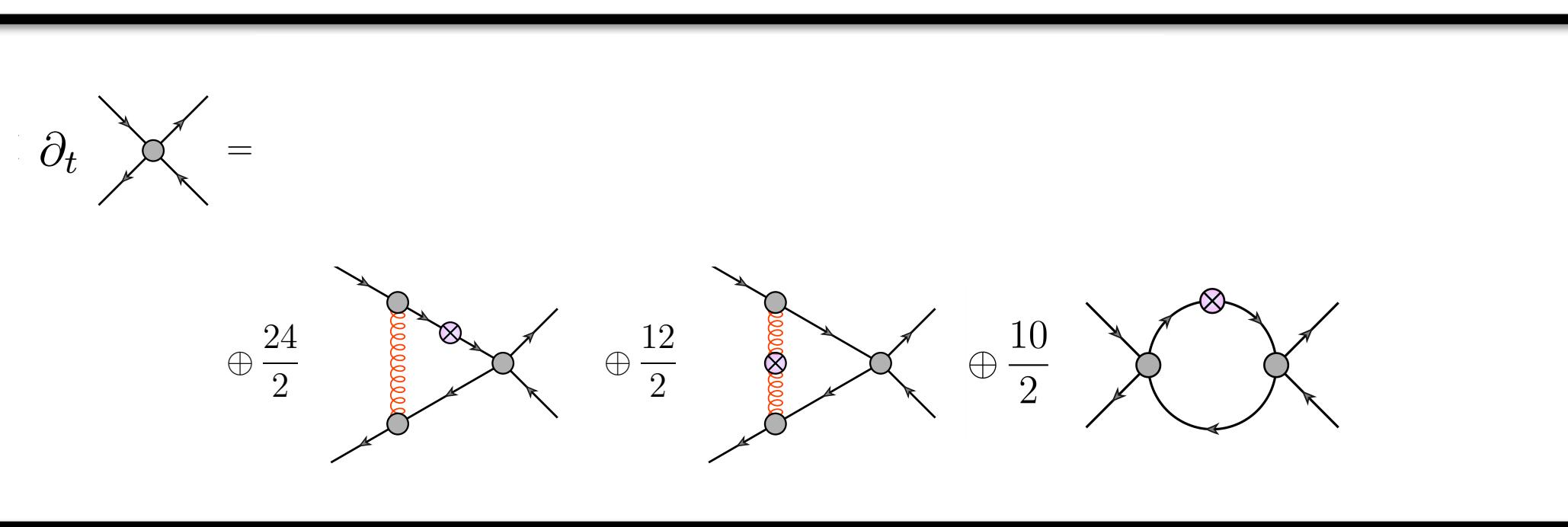
A Feynman diagram showing a central gray circle with four external lines. The top-left line has an arrow pointing away from the circle, while the other three lines have arrows pointing towards it.

$s-ps$



# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons

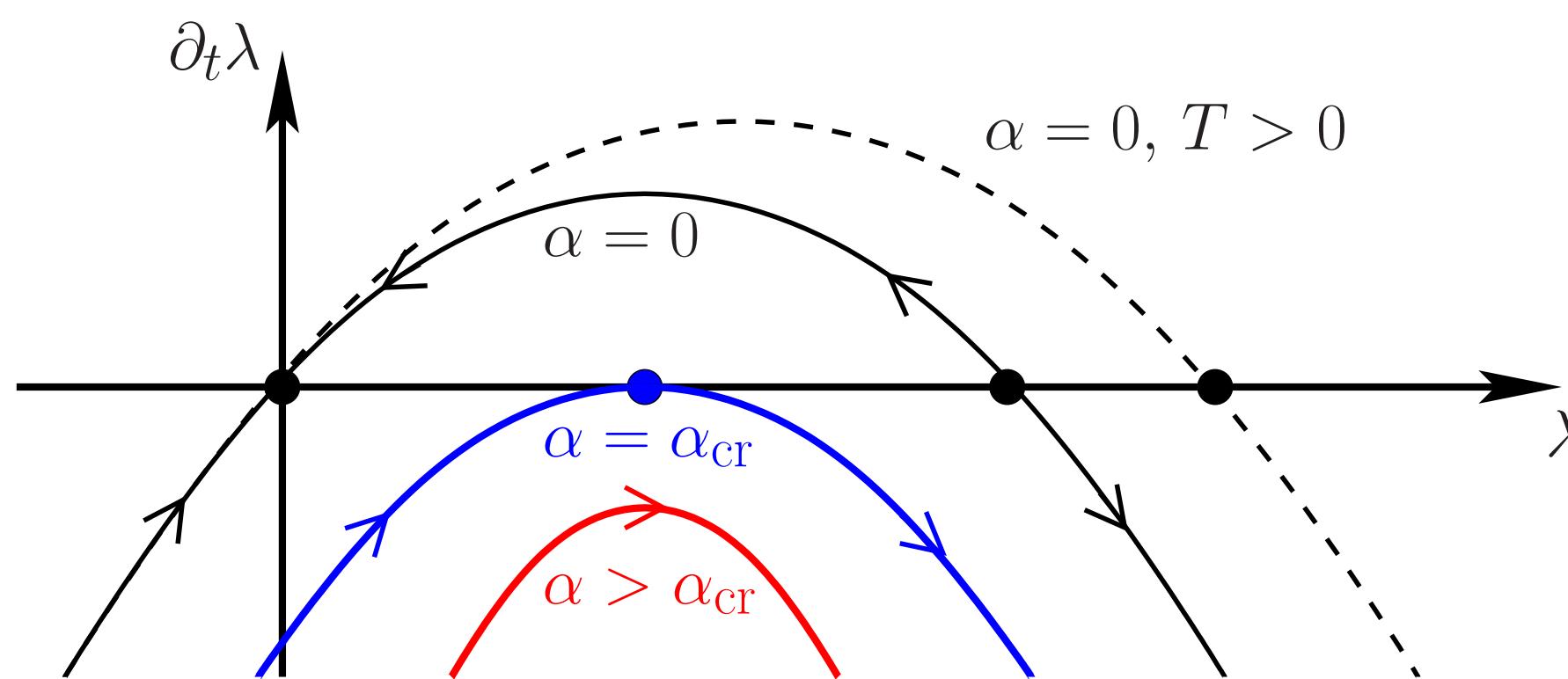
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

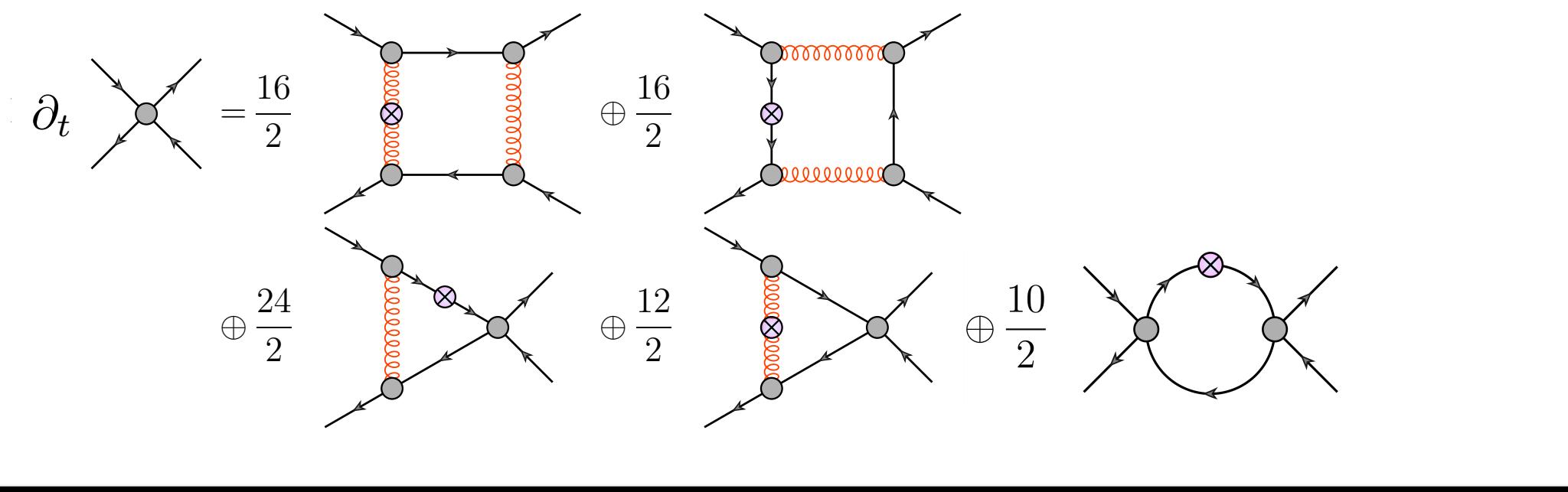
$$\partial_t \lambda = 2\lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \lambda \alpha_s$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} | s-ps$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons

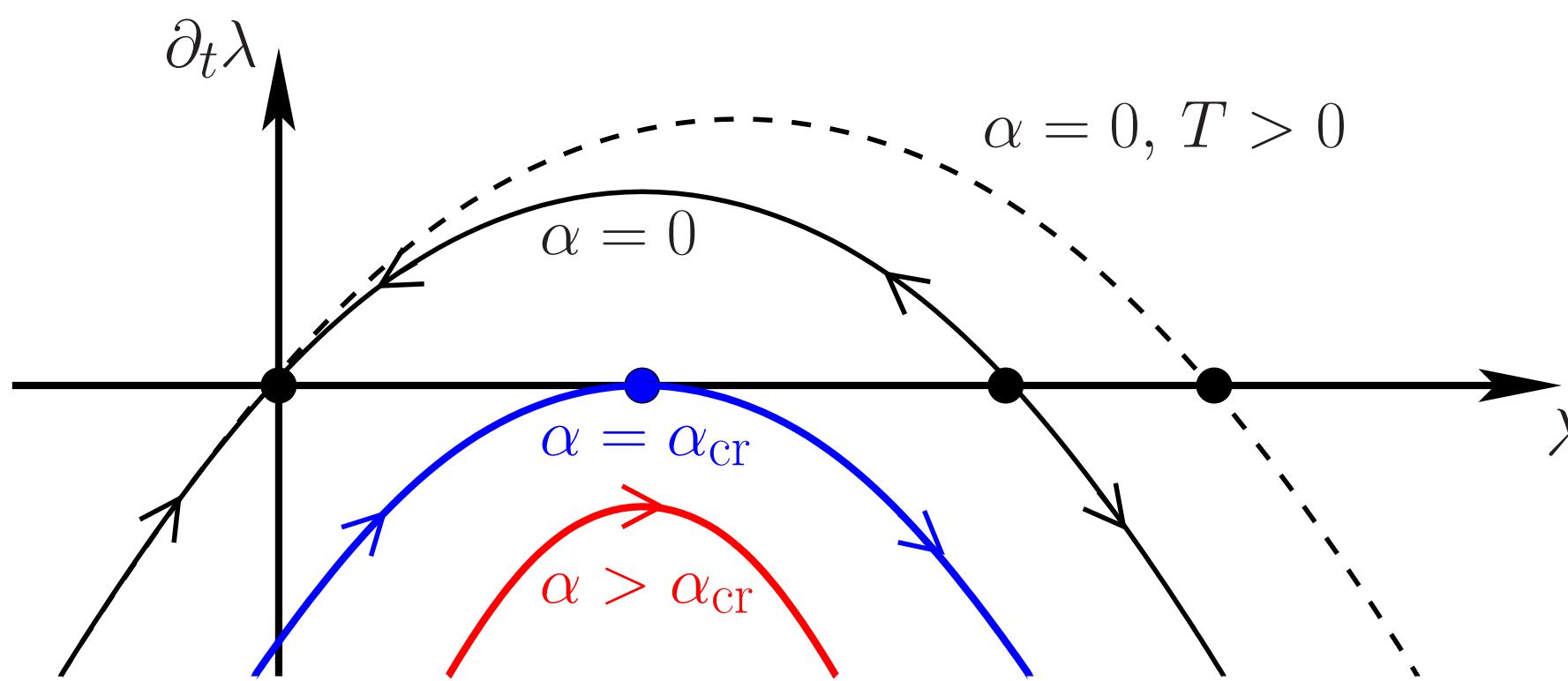
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

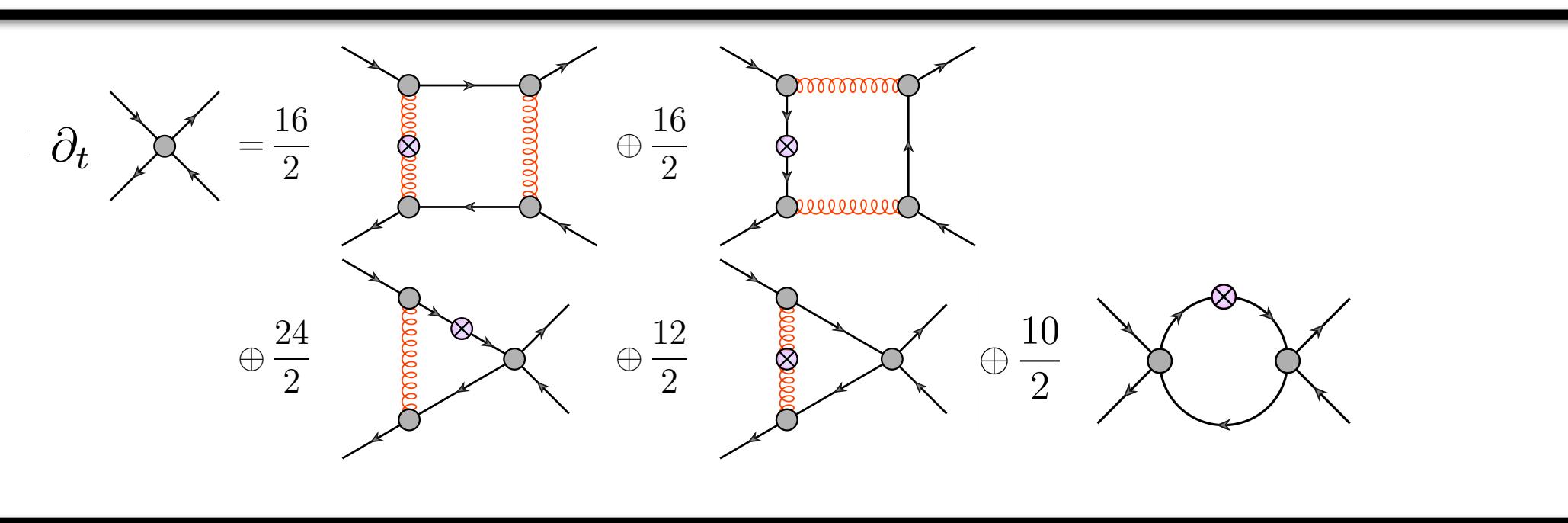
$$\partial_t \lambda = \left[ 2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s \right] \lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - C(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s^2$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad | \quad s-ps$$



# Chiral symmetry breaking & mesons

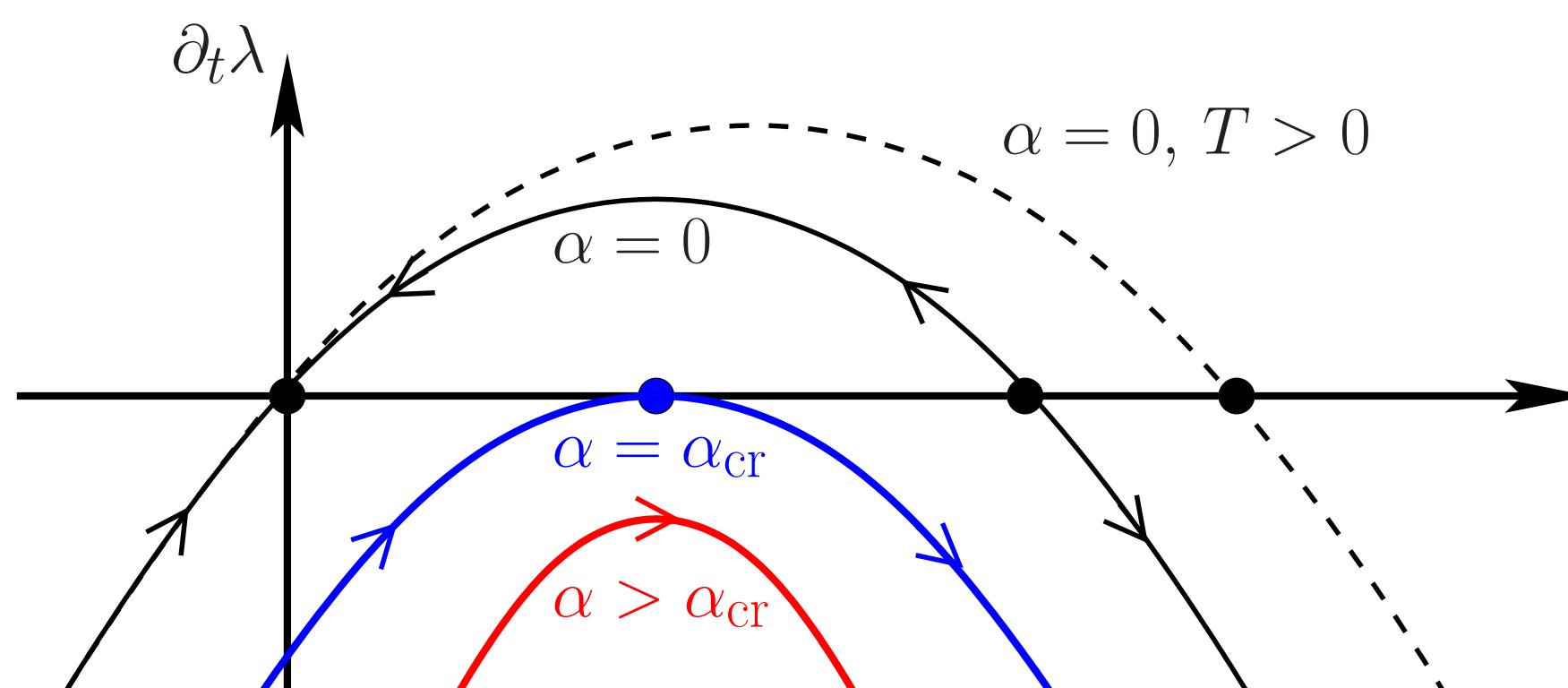
Chiral symmetry breaking in a nutshell



Beta-function of dimensionless scalar-pseudoscalar coupling

$$\partial_t \lambda = \left[ 2 - B(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s \right] \lambda - A(k, M_q) \lambda^2 - C(k, M_q, M_{\text{gap}}) \alpha_s^2$$

$$\lambda = k^2 \times \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \mid \quad s-ps$$



chiral symmetry breaking  $\longleftrightarrow \alpha_s > \alpha_{s,cr}$

# **Getting dynamical: emergent hadrons & diquarks**

**Gies, Wetterich, PRD 65 (2002) 065001  
PRD 69 (2004) 025001**

**JMP, AP 322 (2007) 2831-2915  
Floerchinger, Wetterich, PLB 680 (2009) 371**

**Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101, (2020) 054032  
Fukushima, JMP, Strodthoff, 2103.01129**

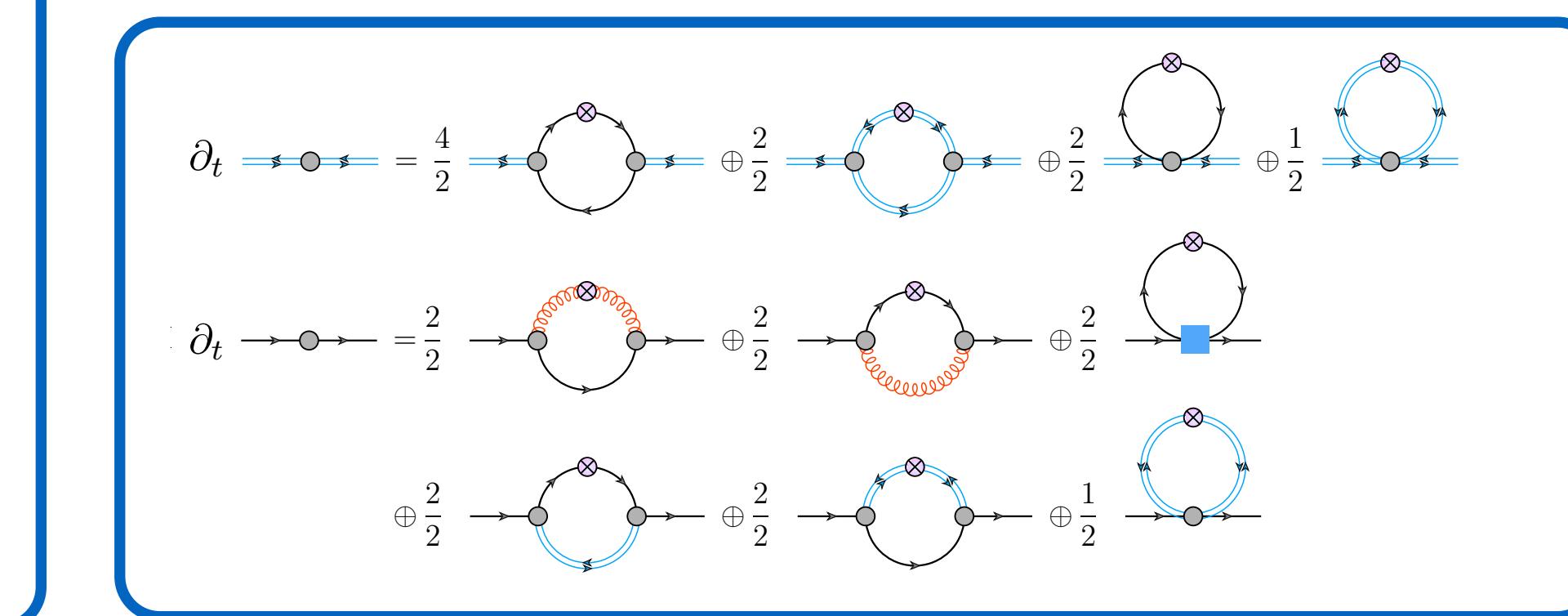
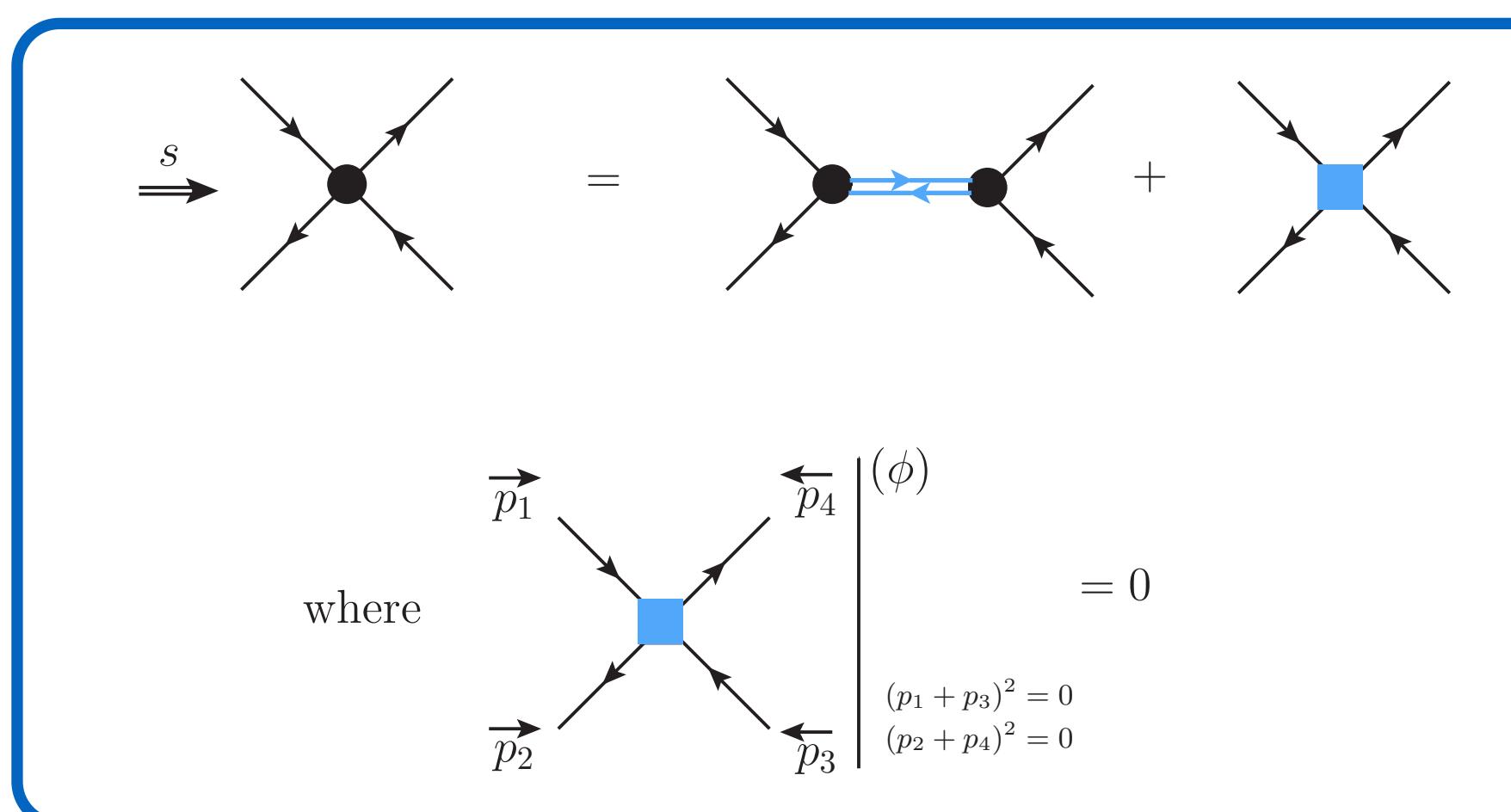
# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

**functional RG:**  $\left( \partial_t + \int_x \dot{\Phi} \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \right) \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2}$

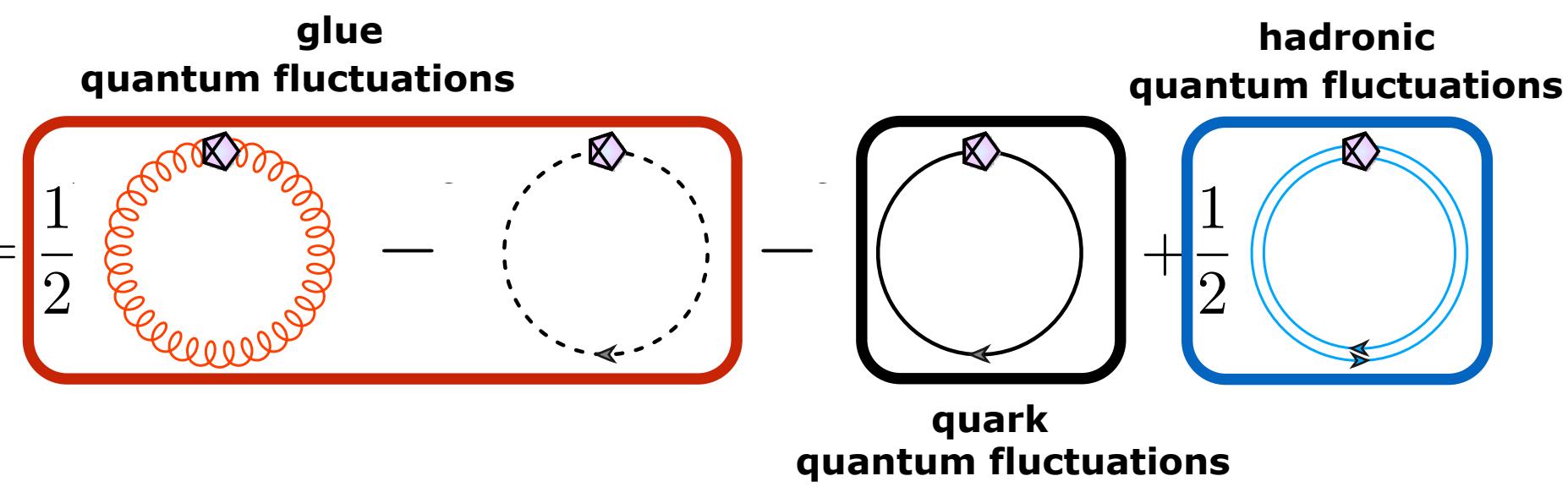
glue quantum fluctuations      hadronic quantum fluctuations  
quark quantum fluctuations

'DynHad for mesons & diquarks is BSE-DSE for QCD in a 'unified' effective action approach'

## Dynamical hadronisation



# Functional flows for QCD

**functional RG:**  $\left( \partial_t + \int_x \dot{\Phi} \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \right) \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2}$  

glue quantum fluctuations ——  
hadronic quantum fluctuations  
quark quantum fluctuations

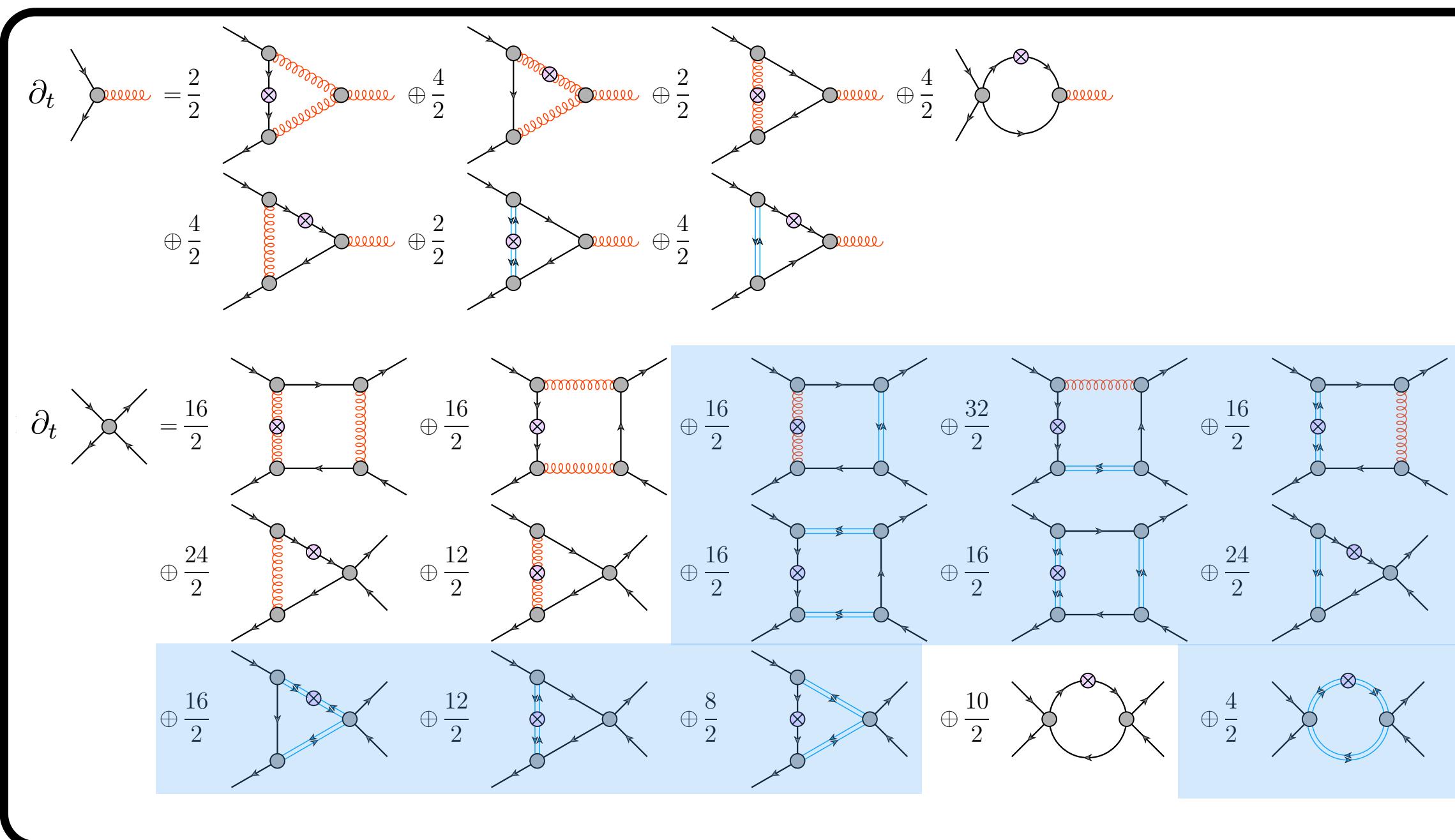
## Correlation functions

gluon propagator  
 $\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$

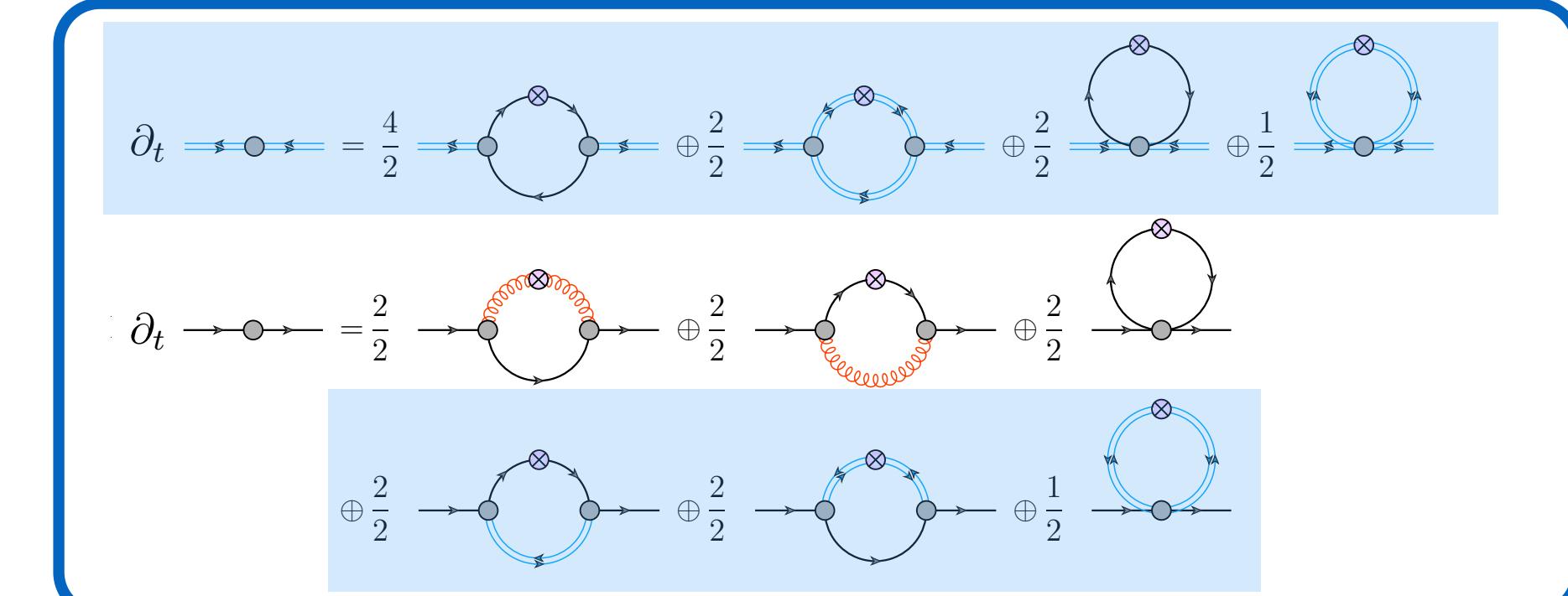
quark propagator  
 $\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$

quark-gluon vertex  
 $\langle q\bar{q}A_\mu \rangle(p_1, p_2)$   
 Eight transverse tensor structures

quark-anti-quark scattering  
 $\langle q\bar{q}q\bar{q} \rangle(p_1, p_2, p_3)$

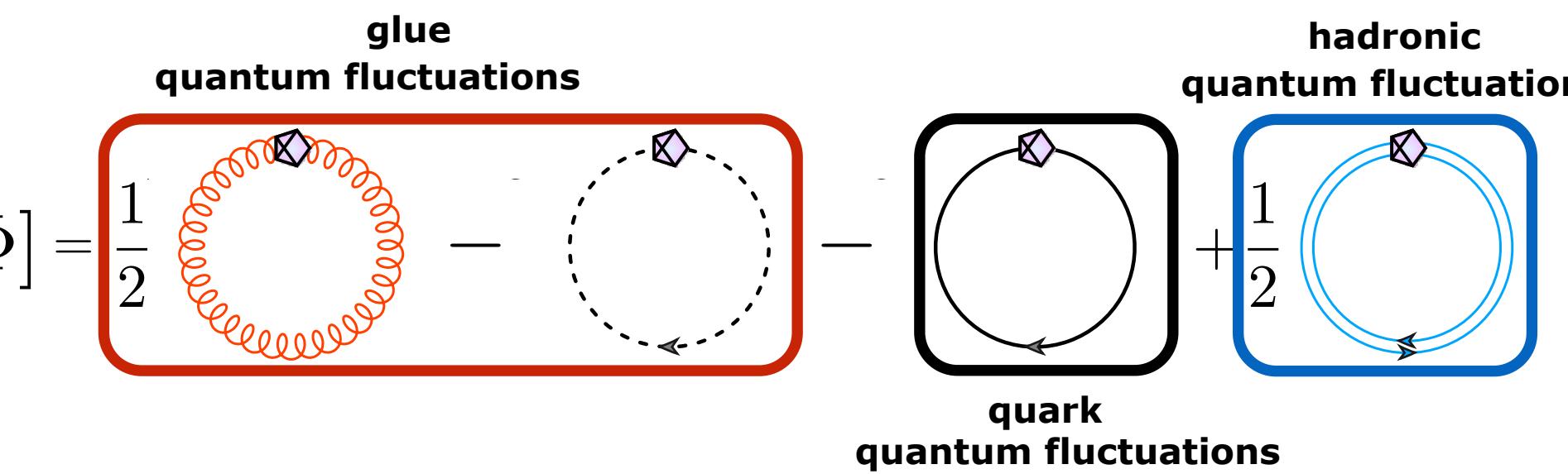


## Dynamical hadronisation



# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:

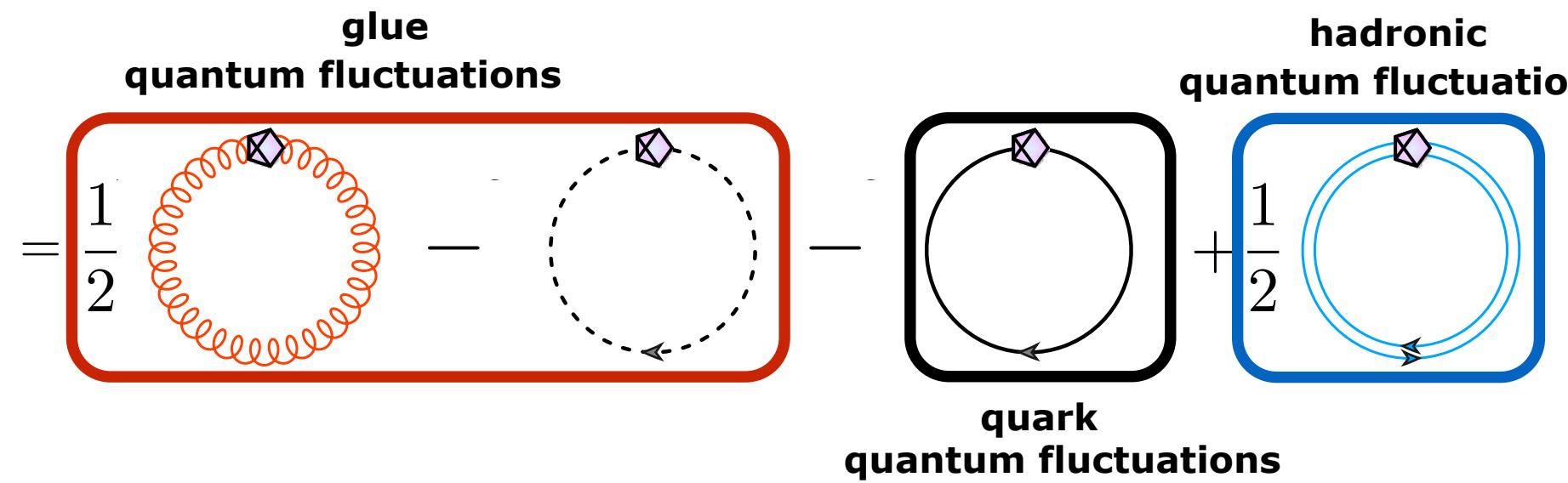
**functional RG:**  $\left( \partial_t + \int_x \dot{\Phi} \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \right) \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2}$  

The diagram illustrates the functional renormalisation group (RG) evolution of the effective action  $\Gamma_k[\Phi]$ . It shows the bare action  $\frac{1}{2}$  (red box) minus the effect of glue quantum fluctuations (orange wavy line loop), minus the effect of quark quantum fluctuations (dashed line loop), plus the effect of hadronic quantum fluctuations (blue wavy line loop). The quark loop is enclosed in a black square.

# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:

**functional RG:**  $\left( \partial_t + \int_x \dot{\Phi} \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi} \right) \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{glue quantum fluctuations} - \text{quark quantum fluctuations} + \frac{1}{2} \text{hadronic quantum fluctuations}$



Consider path integral in the presence of sources for composite operators

JMP, AP 322 (2007) 2831-2915

$$Z[J_q, J_{\bar{q}}, J_{\mathcal{O}}] = \int dq d\bar{q} e^{-S[q, \bar{q}] + \int J_q q - \bar{q} J_{\bar{q}} + \int J_{\mathcal{O}} \mathcal{O}[q, \bar{q}]}$$

# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

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Choose scale-dependent  $\mathcal{O}_k[q, \bar{q}]$  ‘to optimise dynamics’!

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[A_\mu, q, \bar{q}] \longrightarrow \partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] + \partial_t \mathcal{O}_k^{(i)}[\Phi] \frac{\delta \Gamma_k}{\delta \Phi_i}$$

$$\Phi = (A_\mu, q, \bar{q}, \langle \mathcal{O}^{(1)} \rangle, \dots)$$

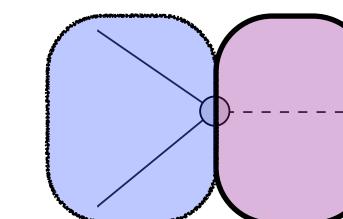
# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:

2001 - : Braun, Flörchinger, Fu Gies, JMP,  
Rennecke, Wetterich, ...

$$\frac{\lambda_\psi}{2} \left[ (\bar{\psi}\psi)^2 - (\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\vec{\tau}\psi)^2 \right] = \left[ i h \bar{\psi}(\tau \cdot \Phi)\psi + \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2 \Phi^2 \right]_{\text{EoM}(\Phi)}$$

$$\lambda_\psi = \frac{h^2}{m_\phi^2}$$



**Hubbard-Stratonovich**

$$\Phi = (\sigma, \vec{\pi})$$

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Common choices

$$T^i = (1, \gamma_5 \vec{\sigma})$$

Scalar-pseudoscalar channel

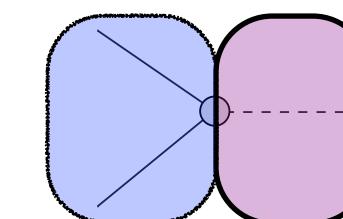
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Scalar-pseudoscalar channel

$$T^i = \gamma_0$$

Density channel  
(part of vector multiplet)

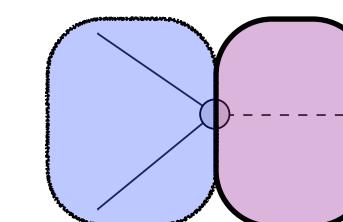
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JMP, AP 322 (2007) 2831-2915

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Scalar-pseudoscalar channel

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Density channel  
(part of vector multiplet)

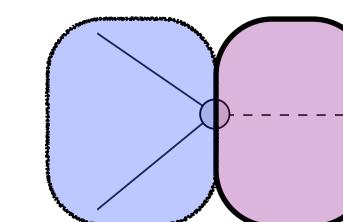
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Density channel  
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$$\psi \tilde{T}^i \psi$$

Diquark channels

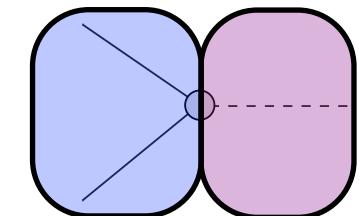
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Diquark channels

**Complete basis**

$$N_f = 2 : 10$$

$$N_f = 3 : 26$$

Momentum-independent  
tensor structures

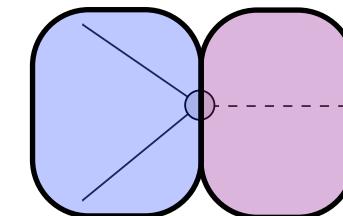
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Diquark channels

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$$\mathbf{N_f} = 2 : 10$$

Momentum-independent  
tensor structures

$$\mathbf{N_f} = 3 : 26$$

All tensor structures for  $\mathbf{N_f} = 2 : 256$

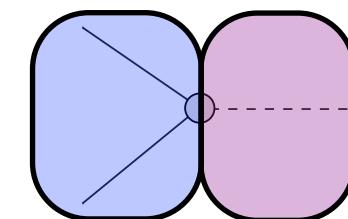
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## General dynamical hadronisation

hadronised Flow

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Big|_\phi \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} G_{k,\phi} \dot{R}_{k,\phi} + R_k G_{k,\phi} \frac{\delta \dot{\phi}}{\delta \phi} - \frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \phi} \dot{\phi}$$

$$\phi = (A_\mu, C, \bar{C}, q, \bar{q}, \Phi, \dots, n, \bar{n}, \dots)$$

mesons baryons

How to fix  $\phi_k$  &  $\dot{\phi}_k$ ?

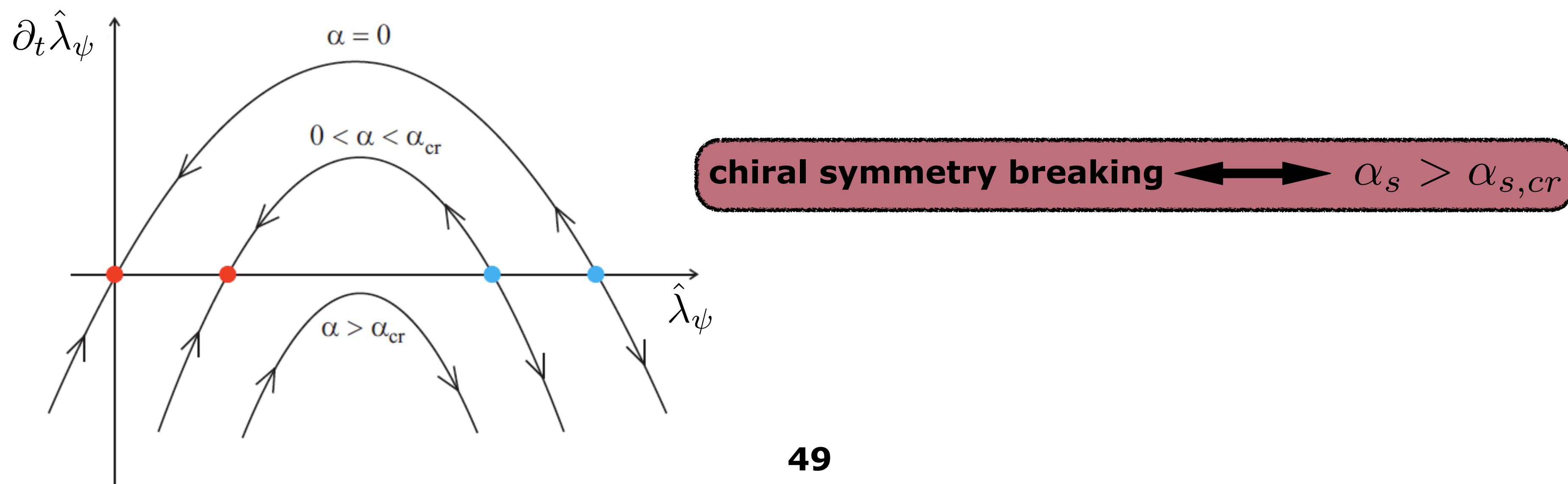
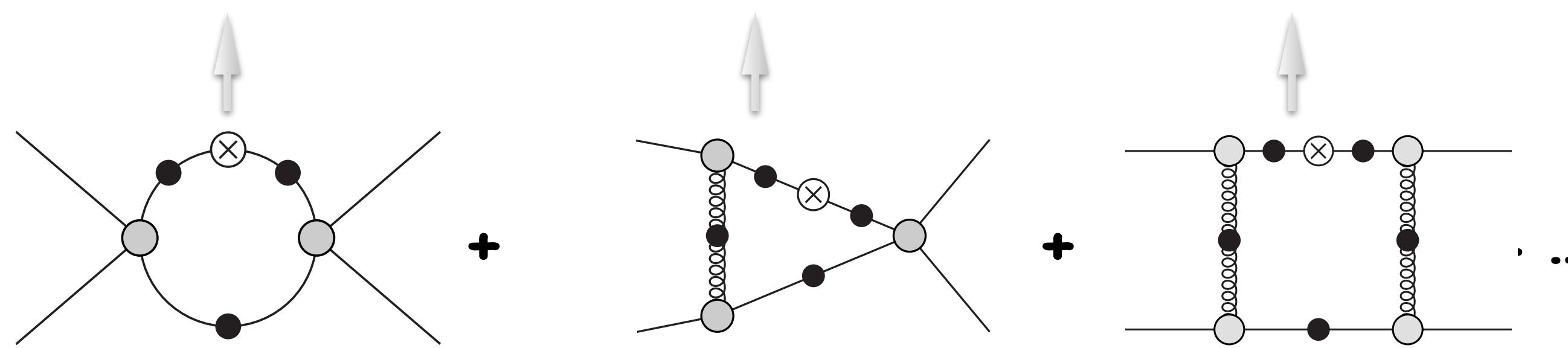
$$\dot{\Phi}_k \simeq \dot{A}_k \bar{\psi} \tau \psi + \dot{B}_k \Phi_k + \dot{C}_k$$

# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:

**Flow for four-fermion coupling**  $\hat{\lambda}_\psi = \lambda_\psi k^2$  with infrared scale  $k$

$$k \partial_k \hat{\lambda}_\psi = 2\hat{\lambda}_\psi + A\left(\frac{T}{k}\right) \hat{\lambda}_\psi^2 + B\left(\frac{T}{k}\right) \hat{\lambda}_\psi \alpha_s + C\left(\frac{T}{k}\right) \alpha_s^2 + \dots$$

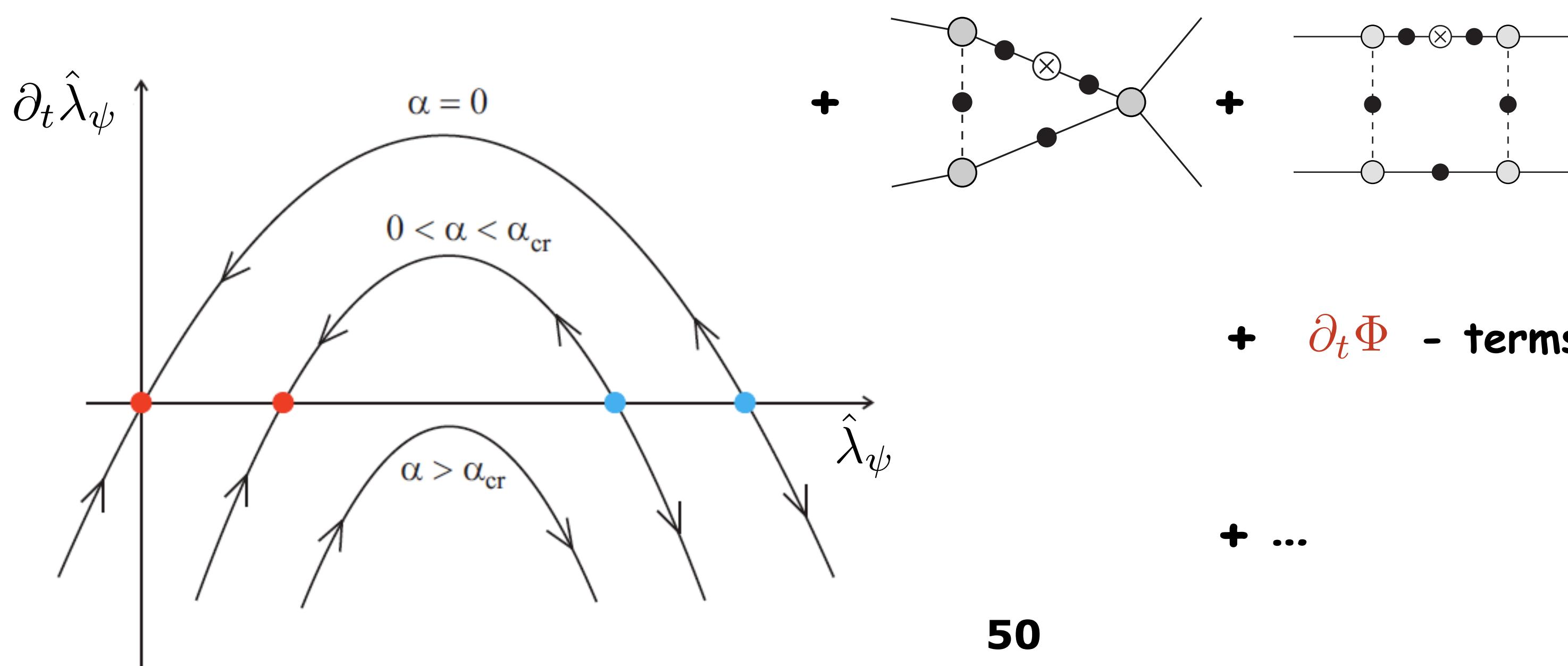


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$$k \partial_k \hat{\lambda}_\psi = 2 \hat{\lambda}_\psi + \text{Diagram 1} + \text{Diagram 2} + \text{Diagram 3}$$

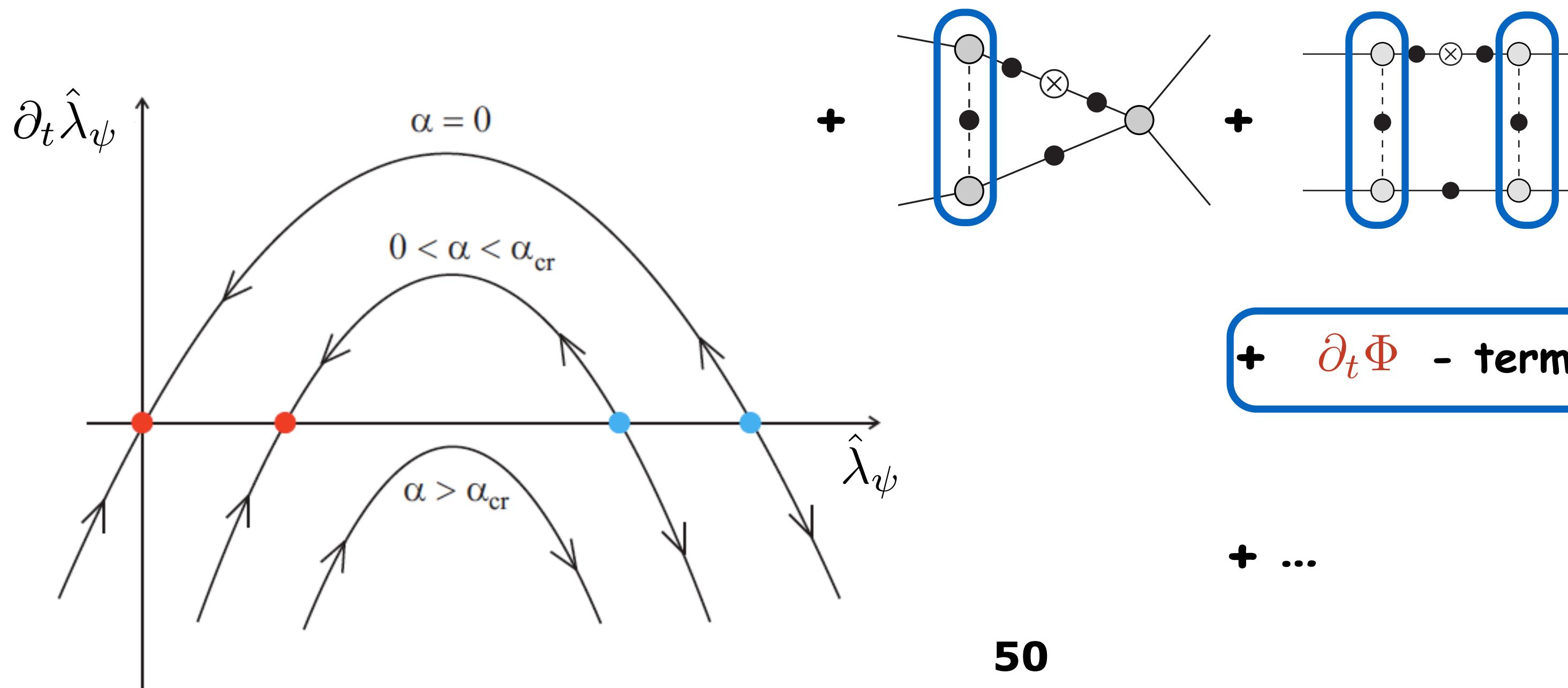


# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:

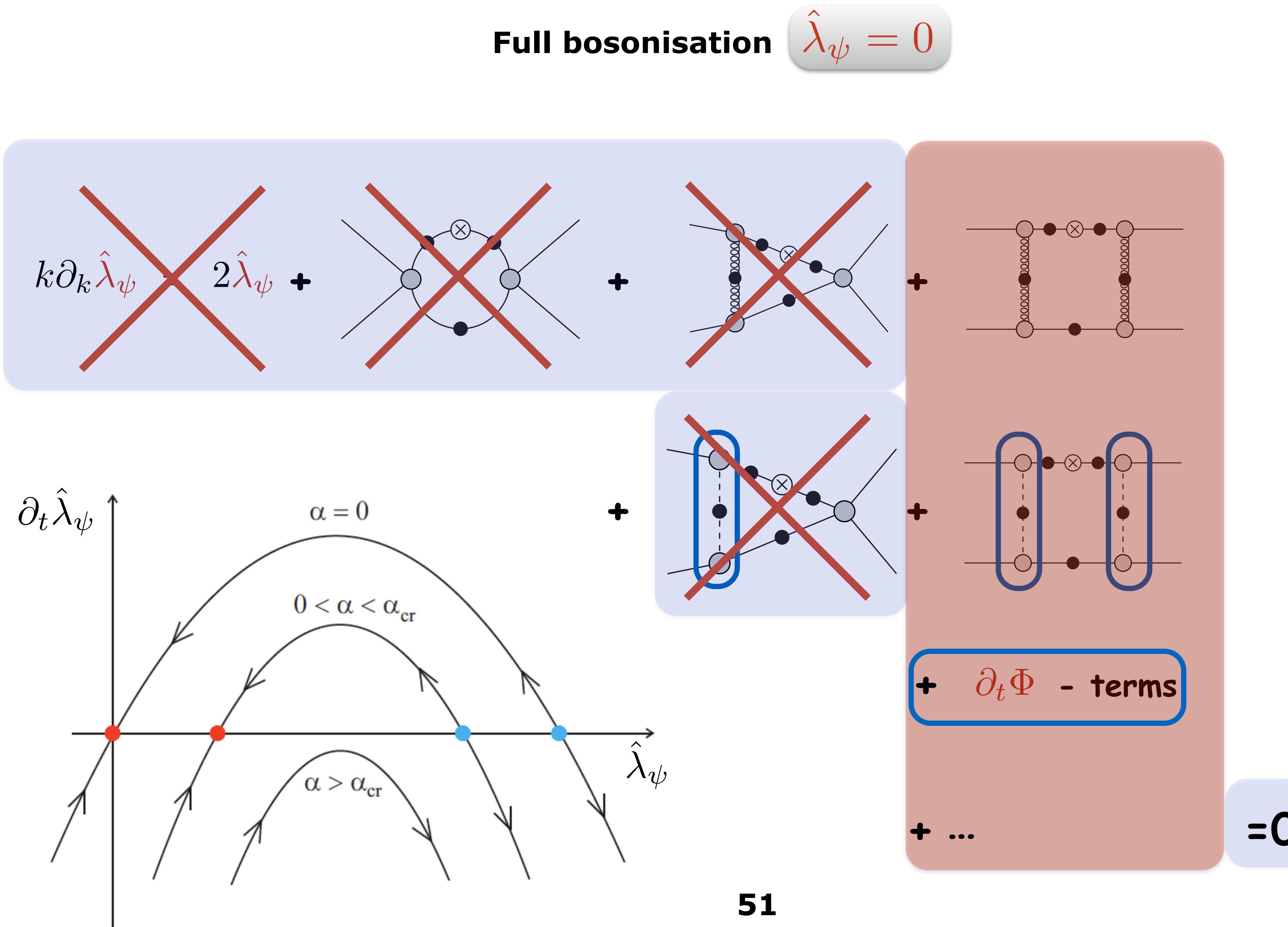
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# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

Implementation:



# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

! Reminder !

Full bosonisation

$$\hat{\lambda}_\psi = 0$$

Really?

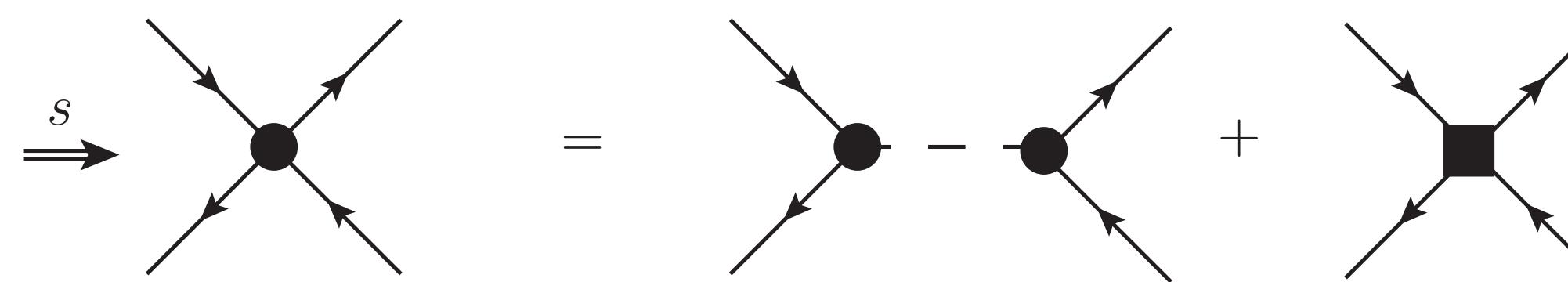
# Dynamical hadronisation: mesons & diquarks

! Reminder !

Full bosonisation

$$\hat{\lambda}_\psi = 0$$

Really?



where

A Feynman diagram for the tensor channel. It shows a central black square representing a tensor vertex with four external gluon lines. Momentum  $\vec{p}_1$  enters from the top-left,  $\vec{p}_2$  from the bottom-left,  $\vec{p}_3$  from the bottom-right, and  $\vec{p}_4$  from the top-right. A vertical line labeled  $(\phi)$  passes through the central square. To the right of the line is the equation  $= 0$ . Below the line are the equations  $(p_1 + p_3)^2 = 0$  and  $(p_2 + p_4)^2 = 0$ .

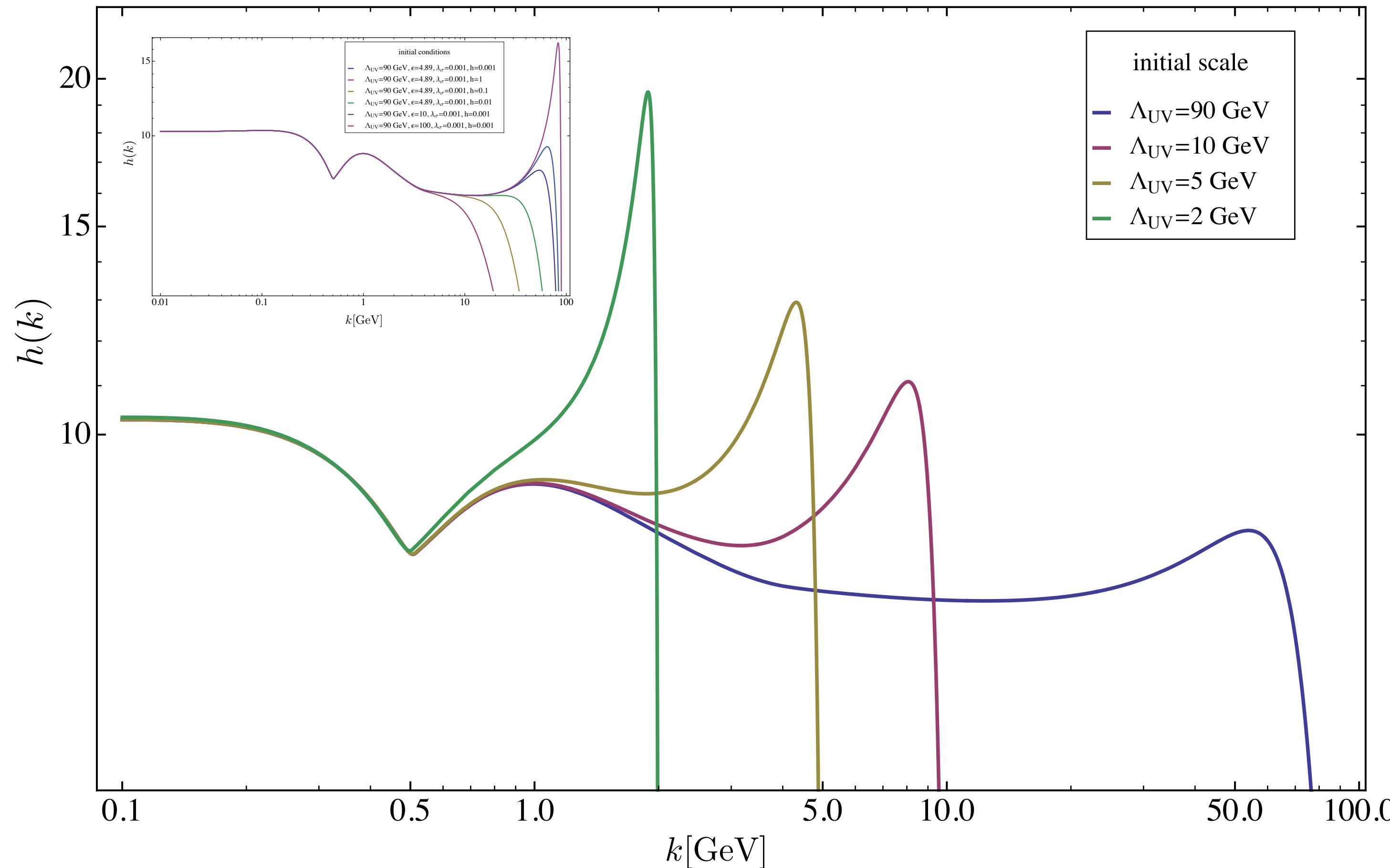
(i) Complete dynamical hadronisation of one tensor channel removes one momentum channel!

(ii) Residual four-quark vertex left!

# **Dynamical hadronisation at work**

# Dynamical hadronisation

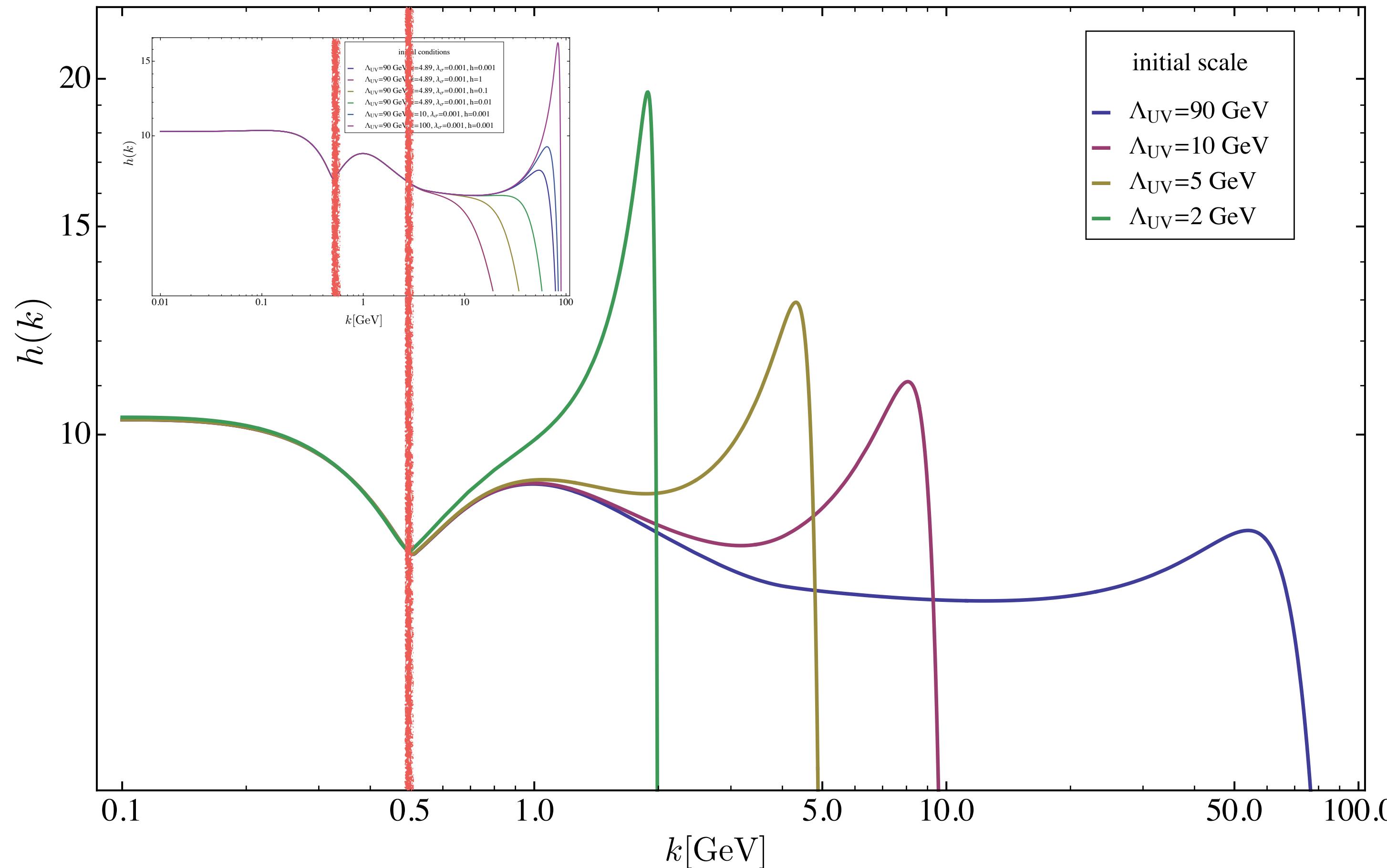
## Stability & decoupling



# Dynamical hadronisation

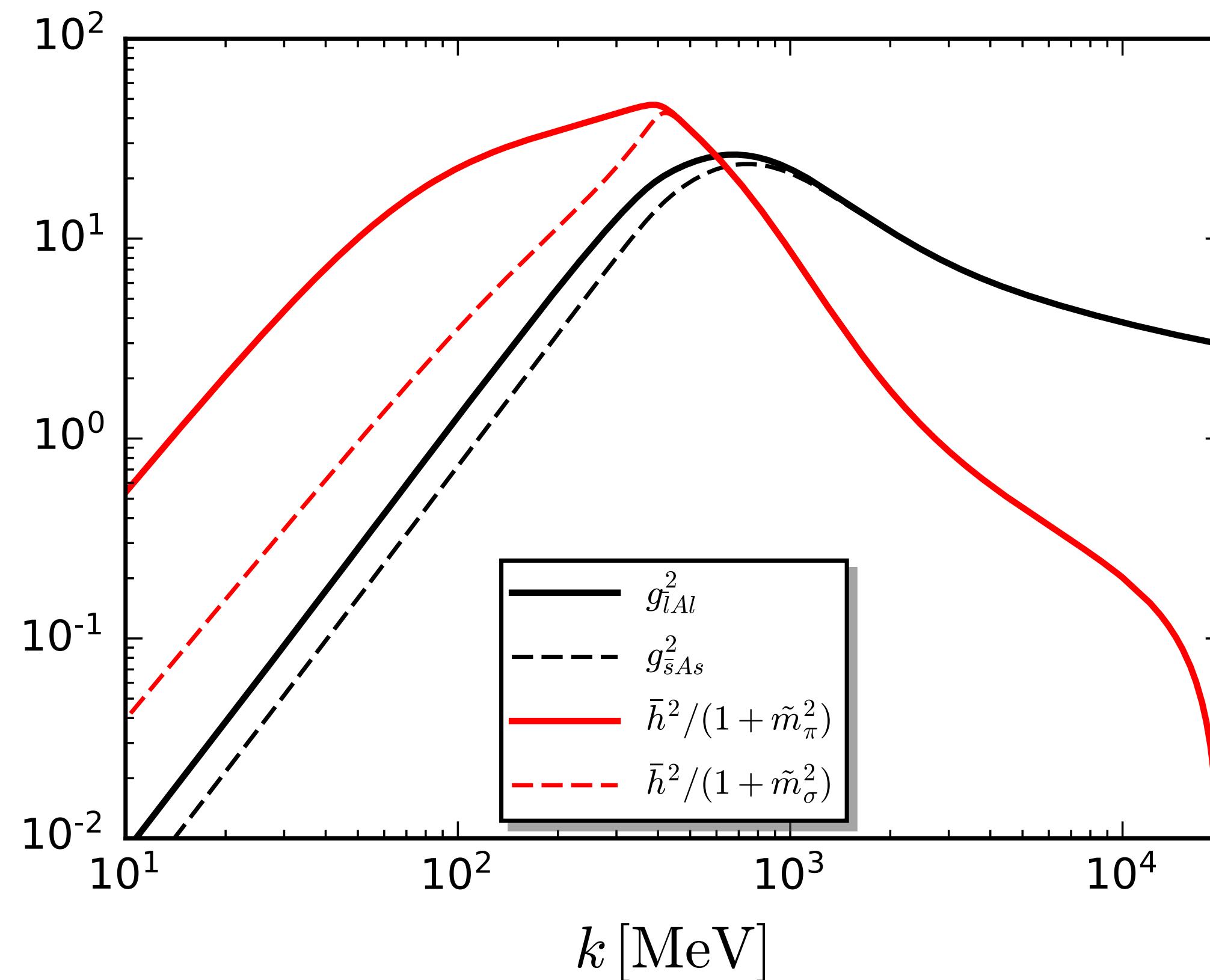
Cutoff scale of dynamical chiral symmetry breaking

Stability & decoupling



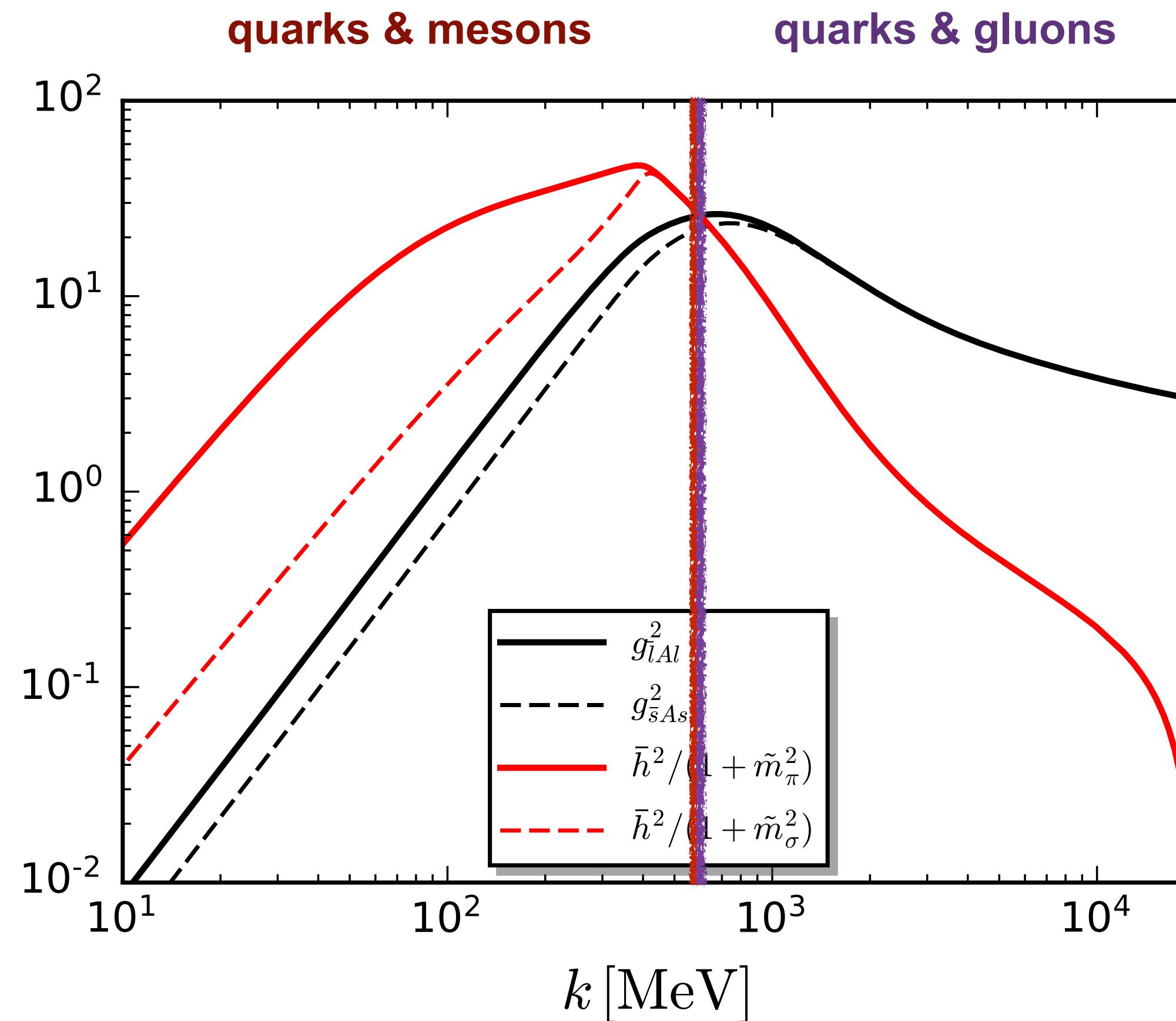
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## Stability & decoupling



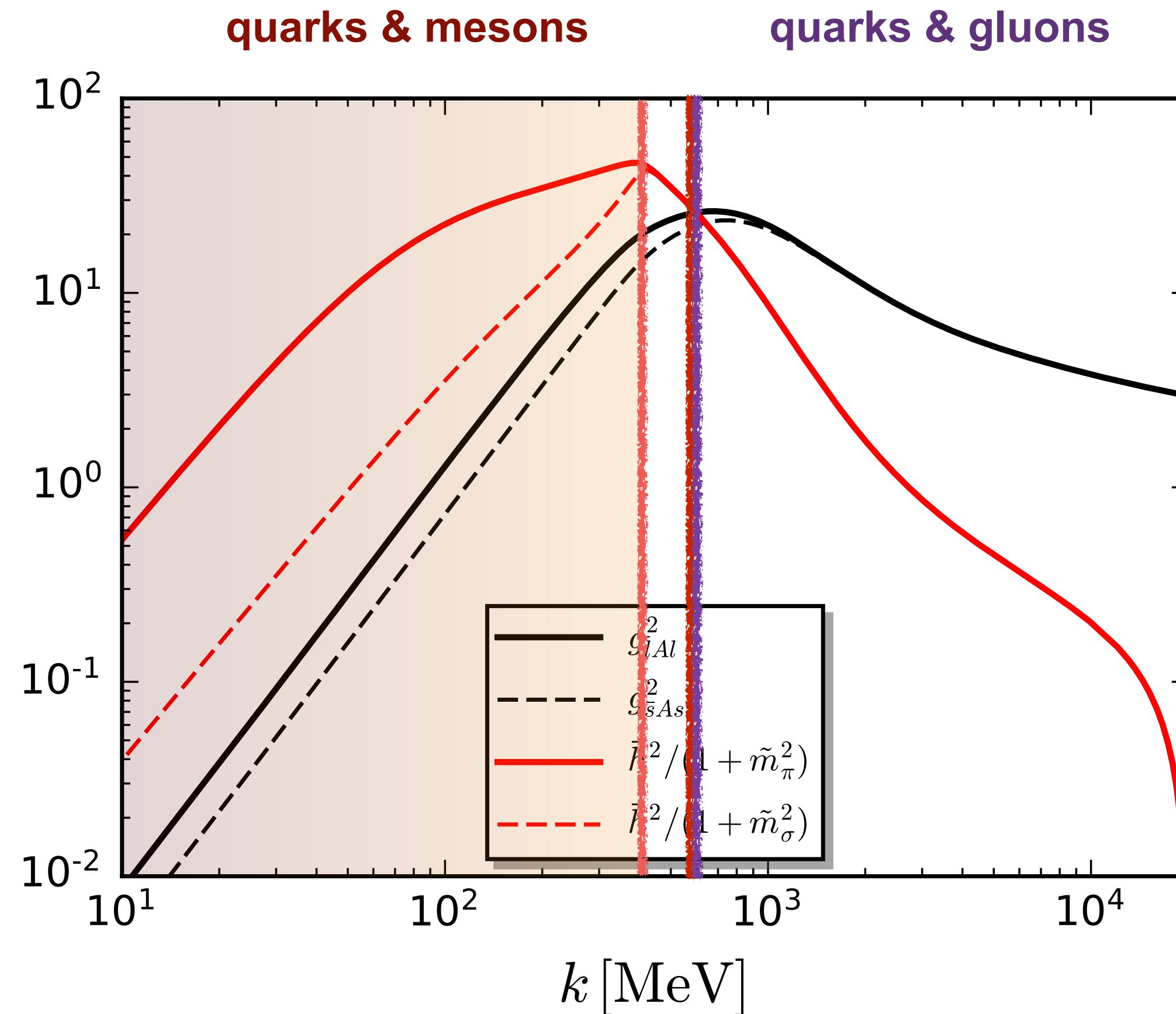
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## Stability & decoupling



# Dynamical hadronisation

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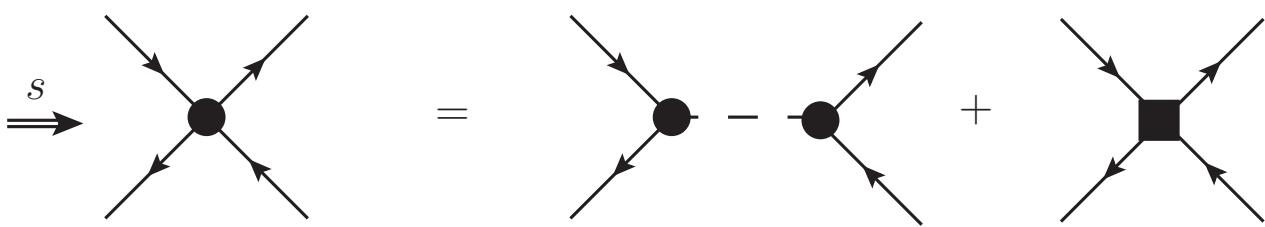


Pions: Chiral perturbation theory

# Dynamical hadronisation at work

Mesons & diquarks:

(i)



where

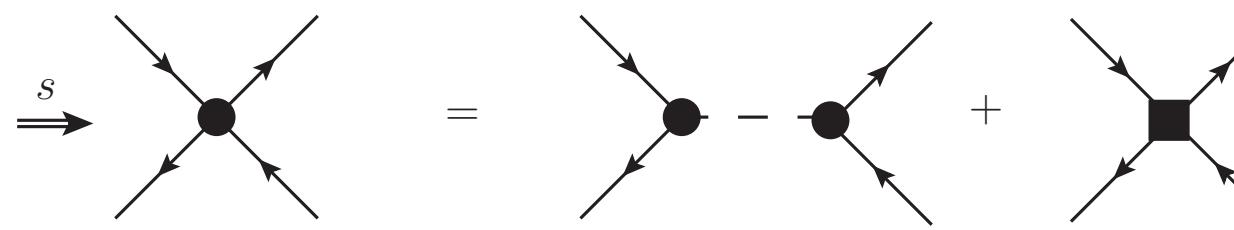
Feynman diagram for the diquark loop equation. It shows a solid black square representing a diquark loop with four external lines. The top-left line is labeled  $\vec{p}_1$ , top-right  $\vec{p}_4$ , bottom-left  $\vec{p}_2$ , and bottom-right  $\vec{p}_3$ . An internal line from the square to the right is labeled  $(\phi)$ . The equation is set equal to zero, subject to the constraints  $(p_1 + p_3)^2 = 0$  and  $(p_2 + p_4)^2 = 0$ .

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_4)^2 = 0 \\ (\vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3)^2 = 0 \end{array} \right| = 0$$

# Dynamical hadronisation at work

Mesons & diquarks:

(i)

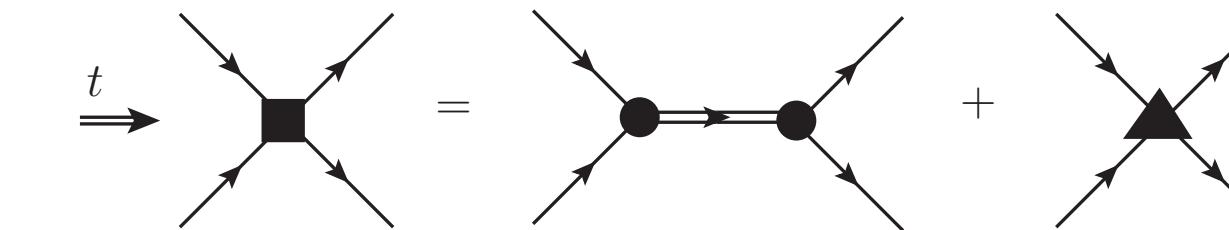


where

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram} \\ \xrightarrow{\vec{p}_1} \quad \xleftarrow{\vec{p}_4} \\ \xrightarrow{\vec{p}_2} \quad \xleftarrow{\vec{p}_3} \end{array} \Bigg|^{(\phi)} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} (p_1 + p_3)^2 &= 0 \\ (p_2 + p_4)^2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(ii)



where

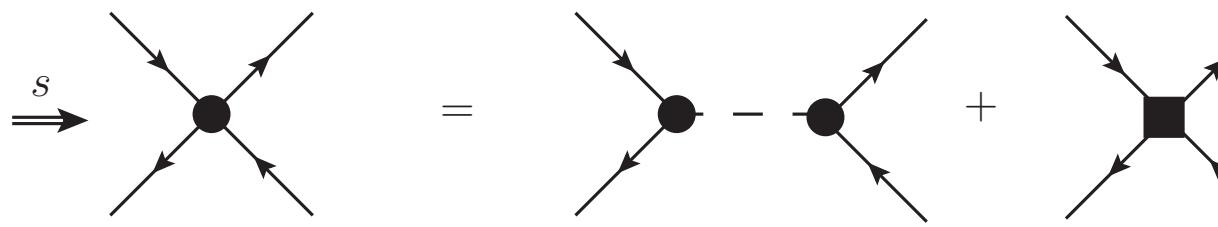
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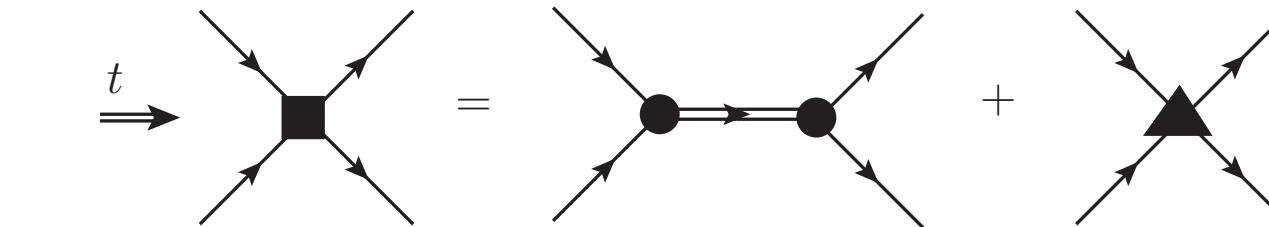
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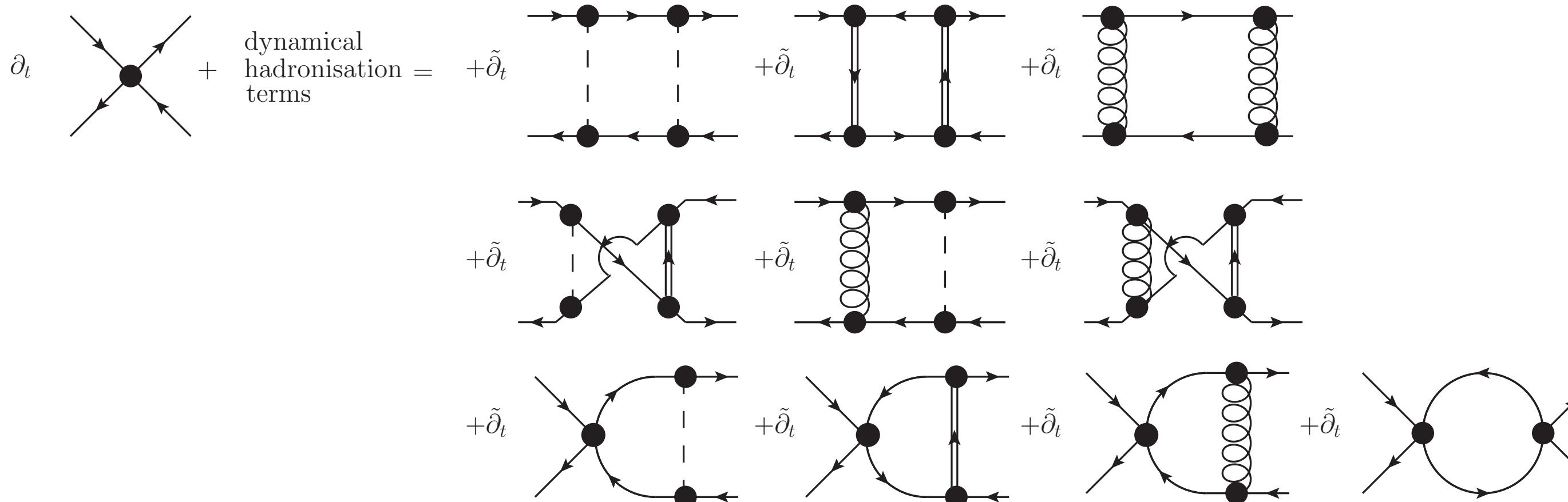
$$\text{where } \left. \begin{array}{c} \overrightarrow{p_1} \\ \overrightarrow{p_2} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} \overleftarrow{p_4} \\ \overleftarrow{p_3} \end{array} \right|^{(\phi)} = 0 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} (p_1 + p_3)^2 = 0 \\ (p_2 + p_4)^2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

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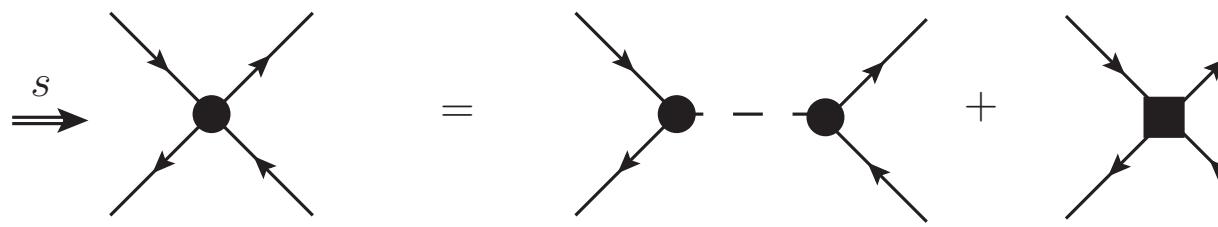
## Schematical flow



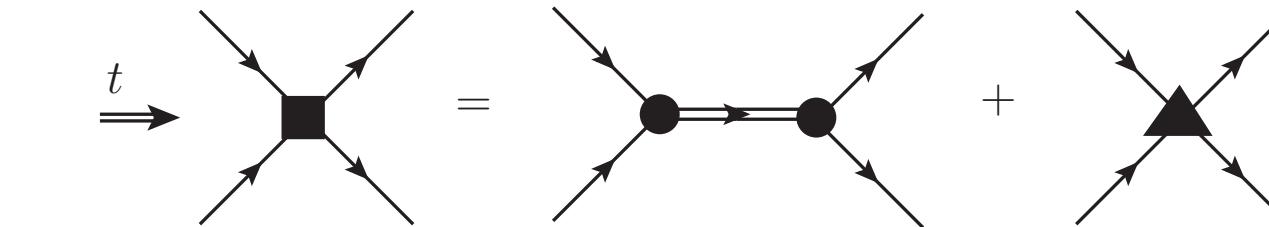
# Dynamical hadronisation at work

Mesons & diquarks:

(i)



(ii)



where

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \text{Feynman diagram for } s\text{-channel exchange} \\ \text{with momenta } p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 \end{array} \right|^{(\phi)} = 0$$

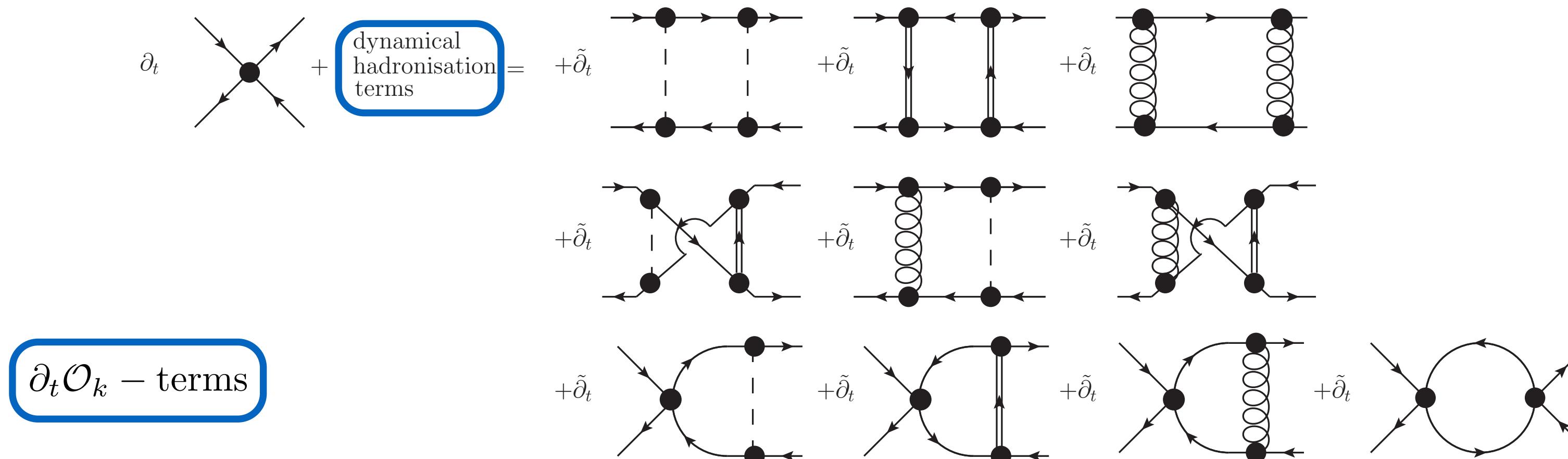
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (p_1 + p_3)^2 = 0 \\ (p_2 + p_4)^2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

where

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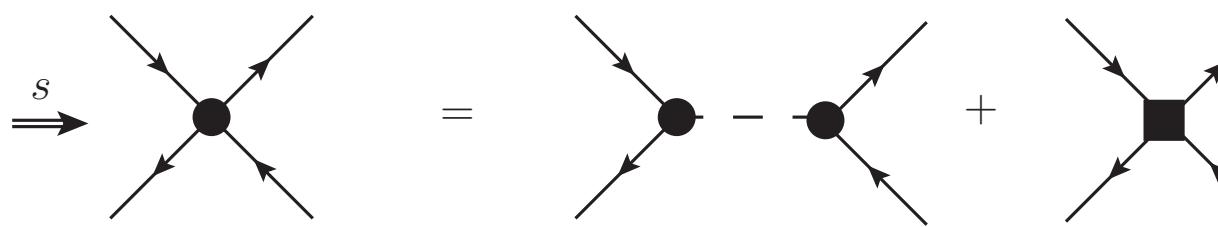
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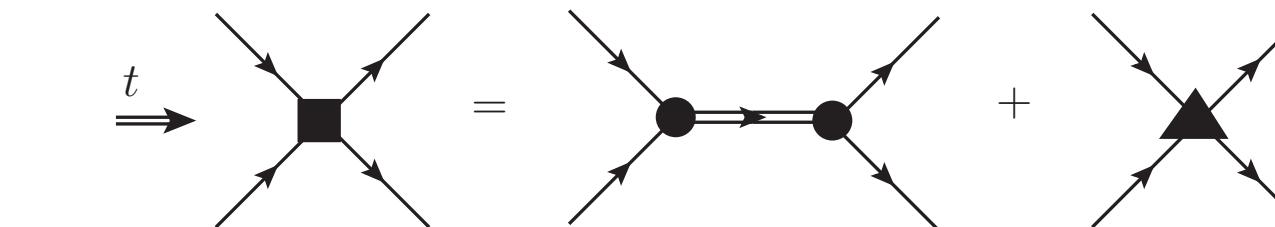
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Mesons & diquarks:

(i)



(ii)



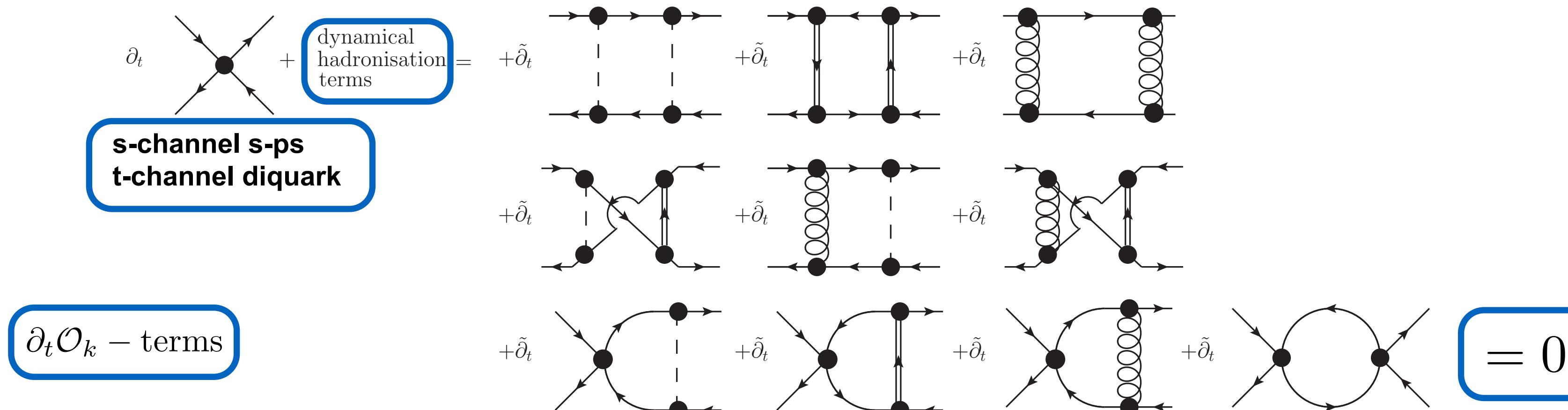
$$\text{where } \left. \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ p_1 \quad \quad \quad \quad p_4 \\ \text{---} \\ p_2 \quad \quad \quad \quad p_3 \end{array} \right|^{(\phi)} = 0$$

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$$\text{where } \left. \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ p_1 \quad \quad \quad \quad p_2 \\ \text{---} \\ p_3 \quad \quad \quad \quad p_4 \end{array} \right|^{(d)} = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (p_1 + p_2)^2 = 0 \\ (p_3 + p_4)^2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

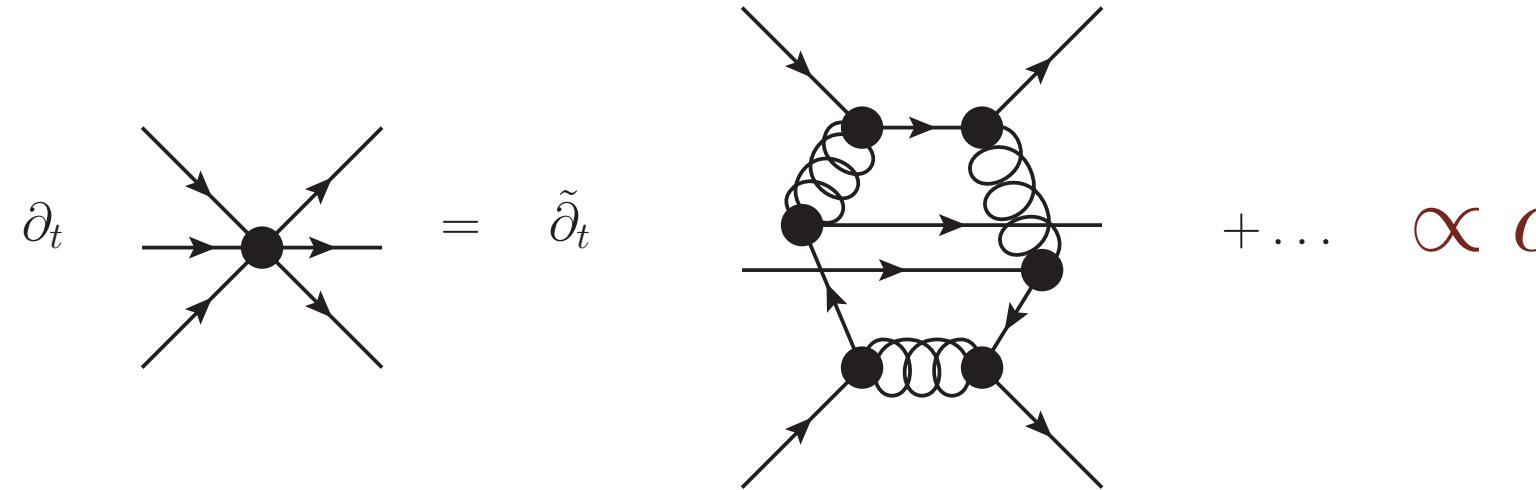
## Schematical flow



# Dynamical hadronisation at work

baryons:

Dominant UV-process:

$$\partial_t \quad \text{---} \quad = \quad \tilde{\partial}_t \quad + \dots \propto \alpha_s^3$$


# Dynamical hadronisation at work

baryons:

**Dominant UV-process:**

$$\partial_t \quad \text{---} \quad = \quad \tilde{\partial}_t \quad \text{---} \quad + \dots \propto \alpha_s^3$$

**UV-subdominant:**

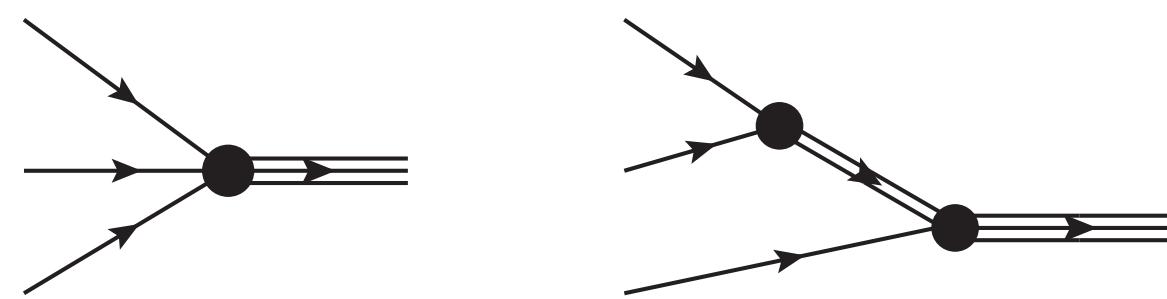
$$\partial_t \quad \text{---} \quad = \quad \tilde{\partial}_t \quad \text{---} \quad + \tilde{\partial}_t \quad \text{---} \quad + \tilde{\partial}_t \quad \text{---} \quad + \dots \propto \alpha_s^6$$

# Dynamical hadronisation at work

baryons:

Baryonisation

Baryon formation processes

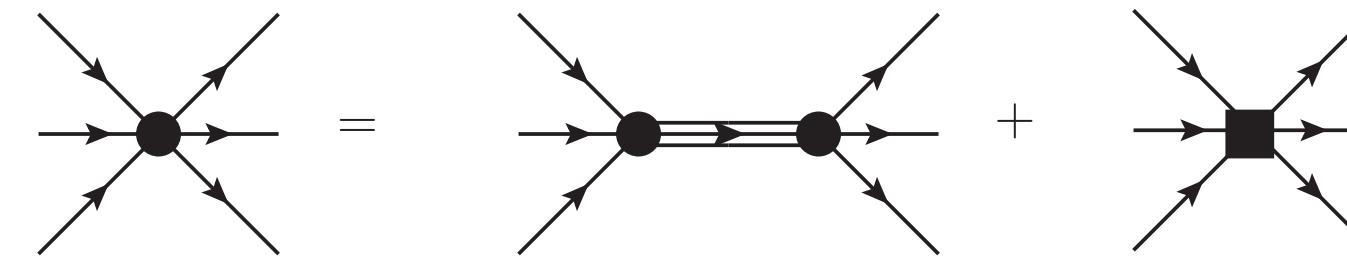


# Dynamical hadronisation at work

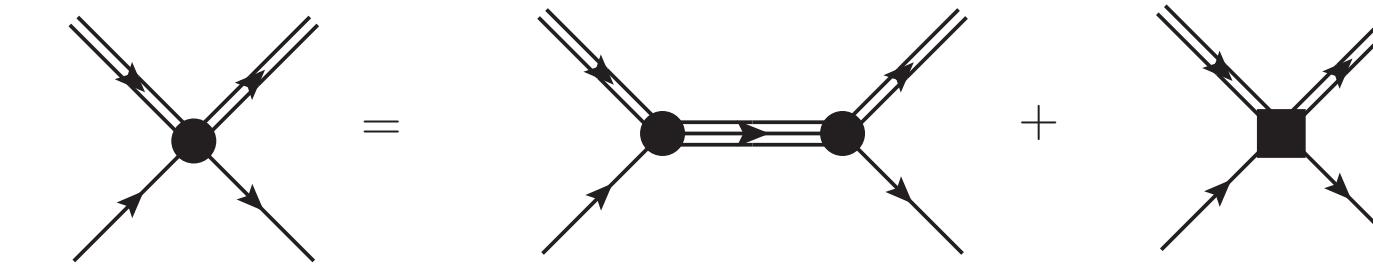
baryons:

Baryonisation

three-quark scattering



quark-diquark scattering

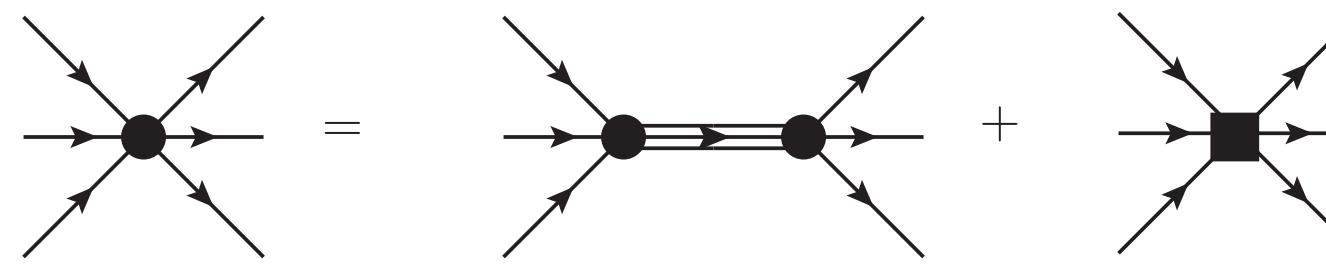


# Dynamical hadronisation at work

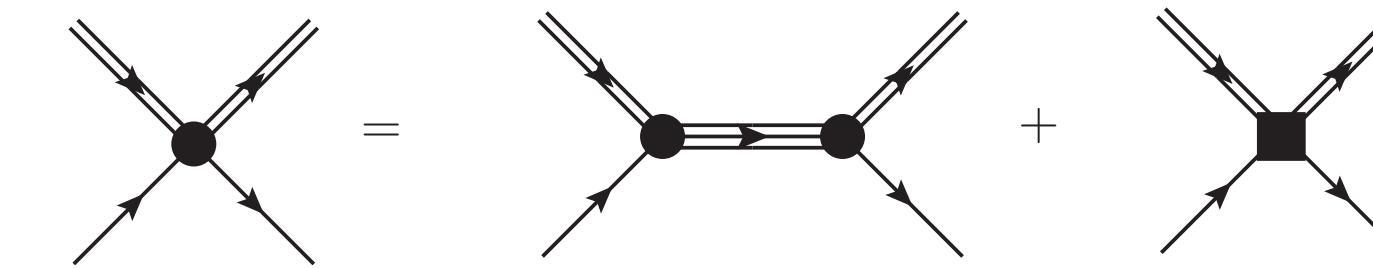
baryons:

## Baryonisation

### three-quark scattering

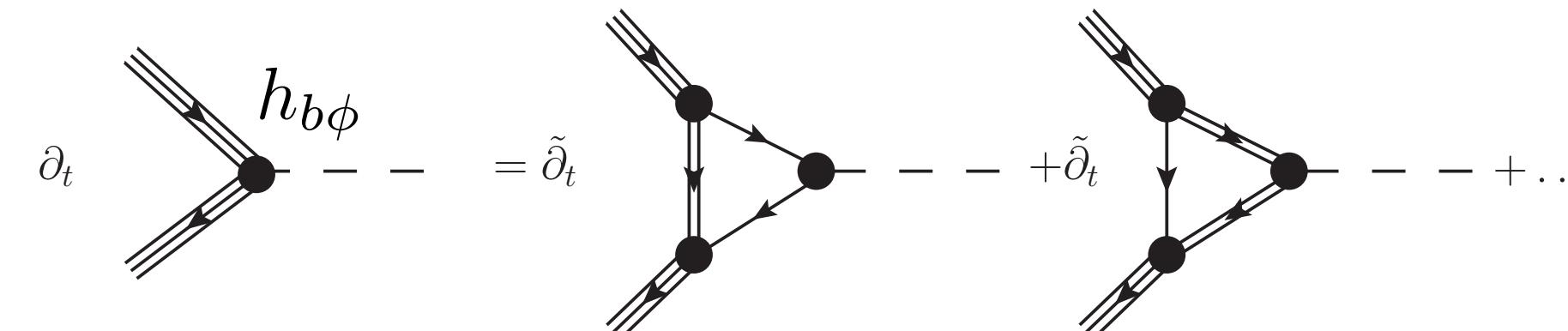


### quark-diquark scattering

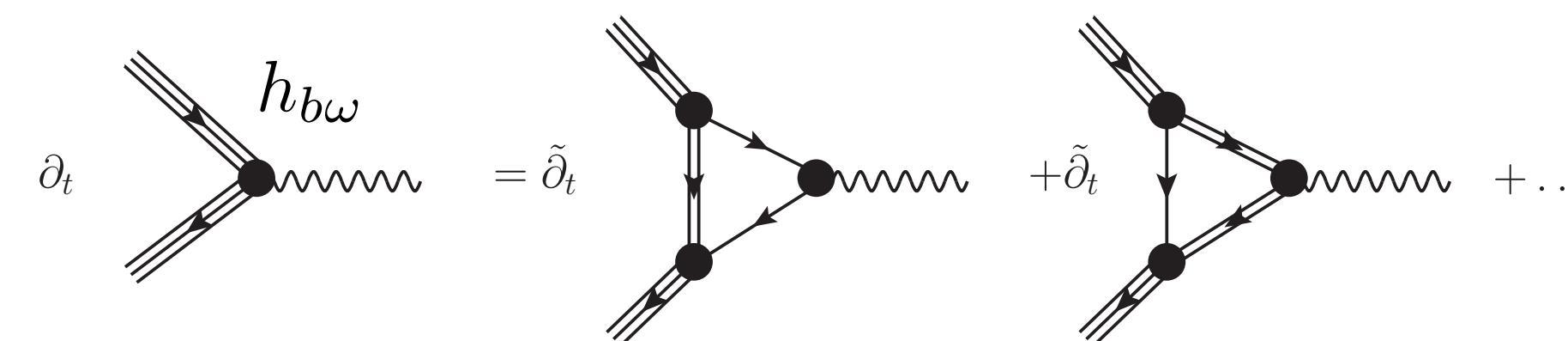


## Yukawa-flows with baryonisation

nucleon-nucleon —  $(\vec{\pi}, \sigma)$  scattering:



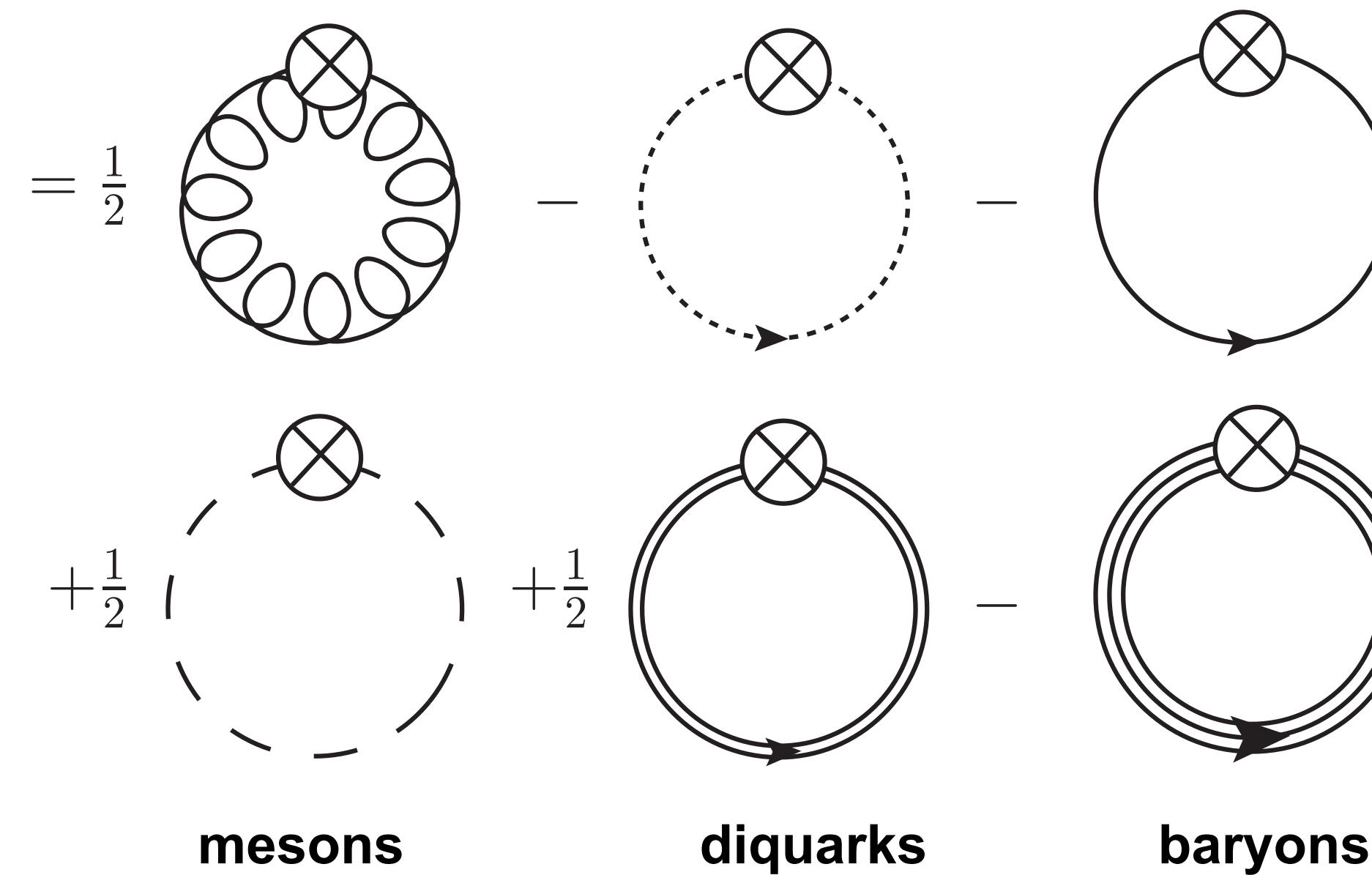
nucleon-nucleon —  $\omega_\mu$  scattering:



# Dynamical hadronisation at work

**‘DynHad for mesons, diquarks & baryons is Faddeev-BSE-DSE for QCD in a ‘unified’ effective action approach’**

$$\left( \partial_t + \partial_t \Phi_{i,k}[\Phi] \frac{\delta}{\delta \Phi_i} \right) (\Gamma_k[\Phi] + c_{\Phi_i} \Phi_i)$$

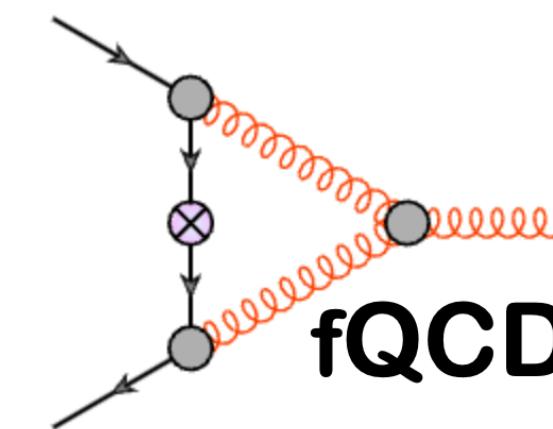


## (II) Functional QCD and the QCD phase structure

---

- **QCD at finite temperature and density**
  - Benchmarks in the vacuum
  - Correlation functions at finite temperature
  - Polyakov loop from functional approaches
- **QCD phase structure**
  - Locating the QCD phase boundary and the critical end point
  - The unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories and how to use them
  - Fluctuations of conserved charges: Ripples of the critical end point

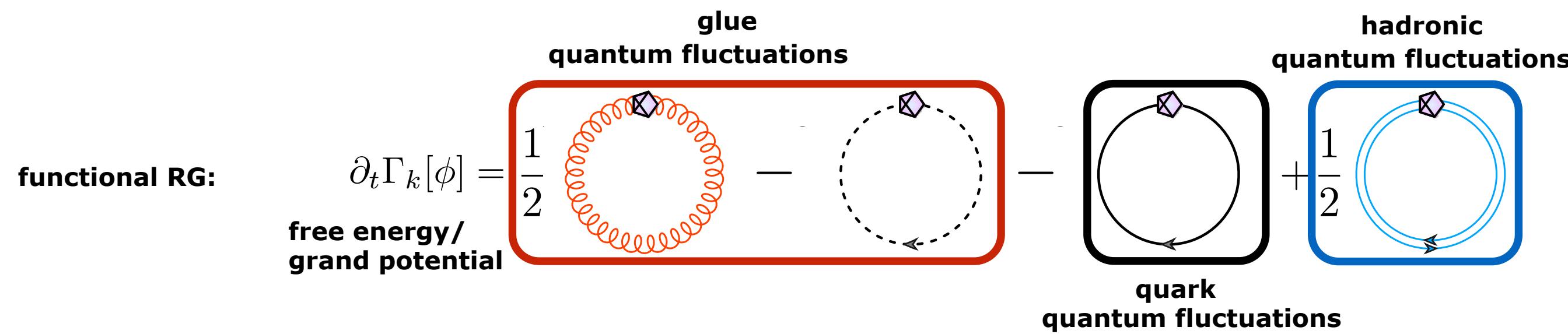
**fQCD collaboration**



**Dalian, Beijing, Darmstadt, Heidelberg, Gießen**

**Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Geissel, Huang, Lu, Ihssen, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Sattler,  
Schallmo, Stoll, Tan, Töpfel, Turnwald, Wessely, Wen, Wink, Yin, Zheng, Zorbach**

# Functional flows for QCD



## Correlation functions

gluon propagator

$$\langle A_\mu A_\nu \rangle(p)$$

quark propagator

$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle(p)$$

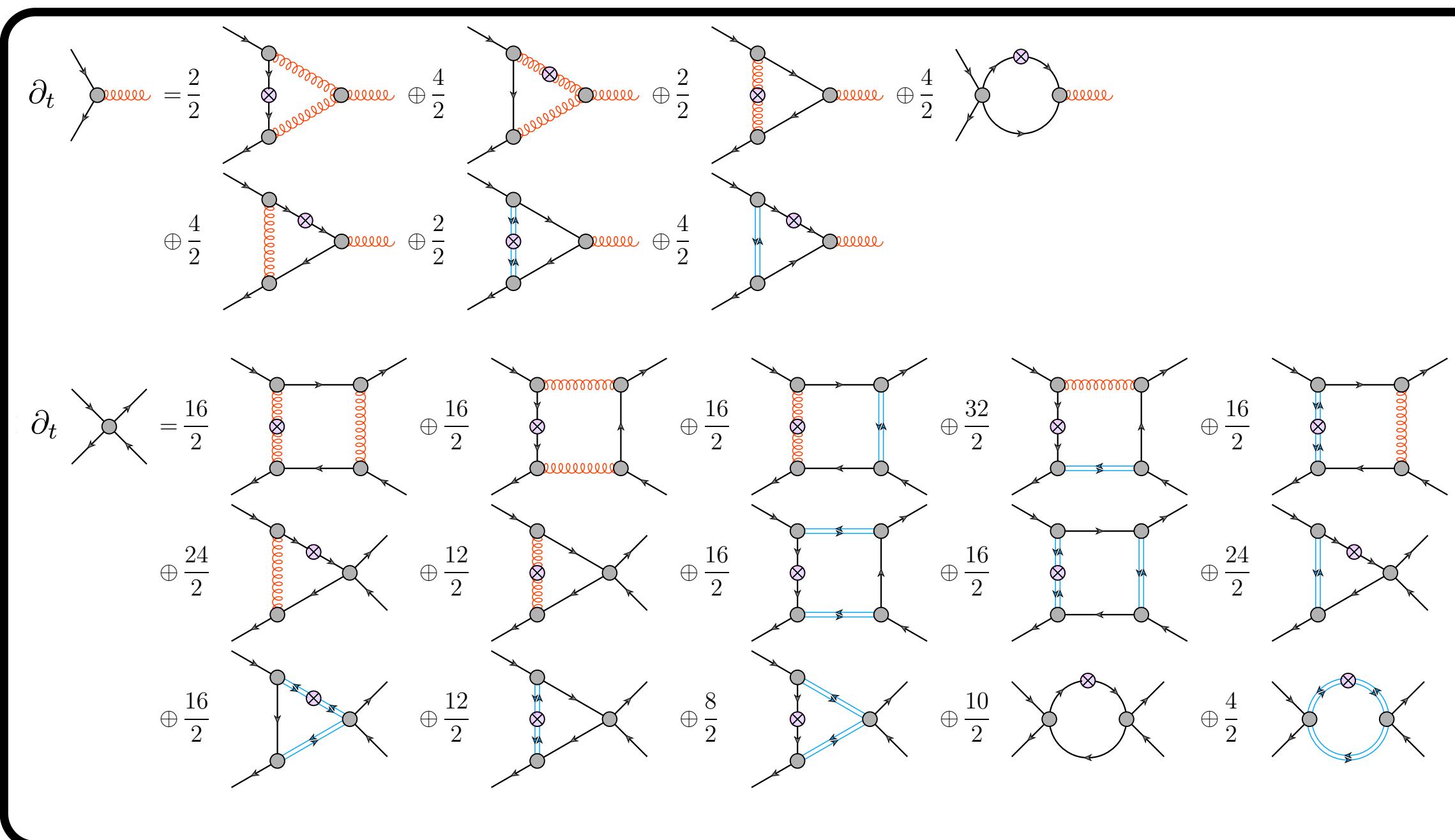
quark-gluon vertex

$$\langle q\bar{q}A_\mu \rangle(p_1, p_2)$$

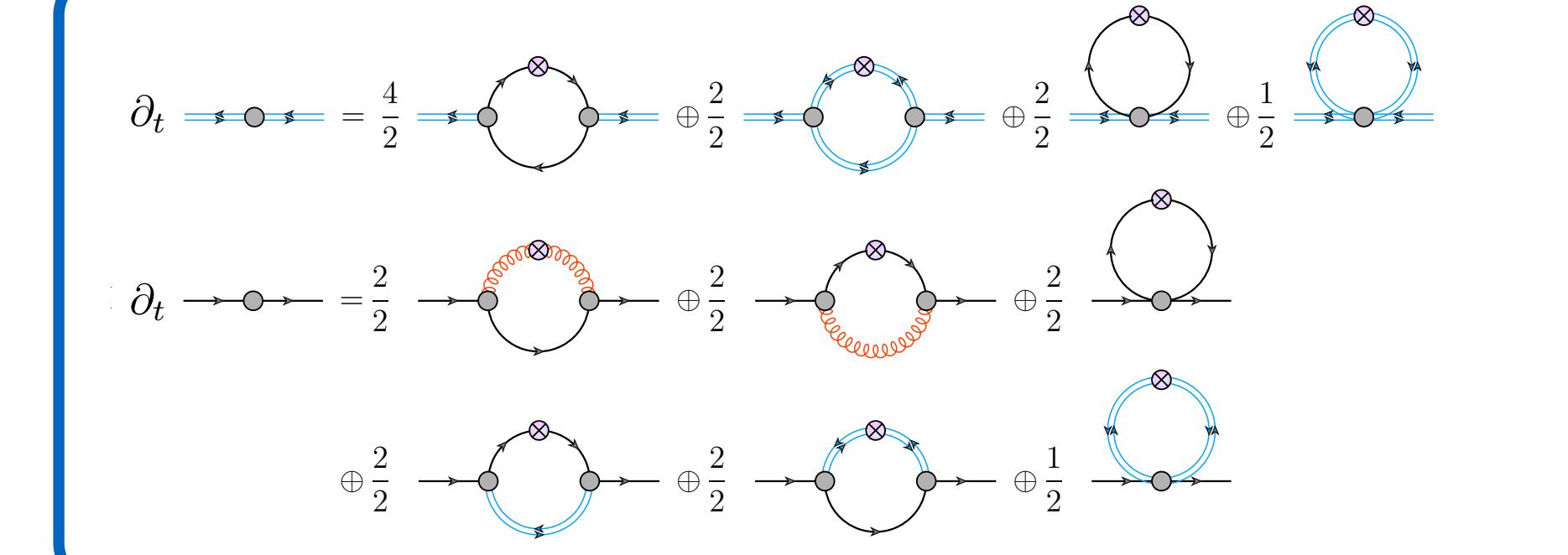
Eight transverse tensor structures

quark-anti-quark scattering

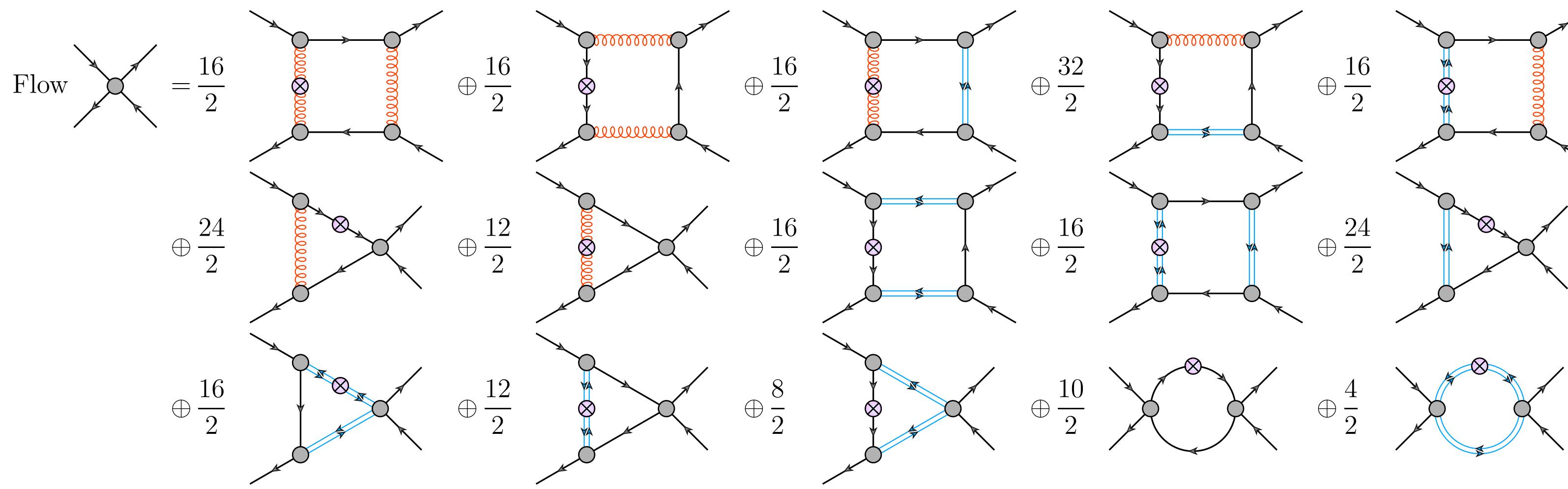
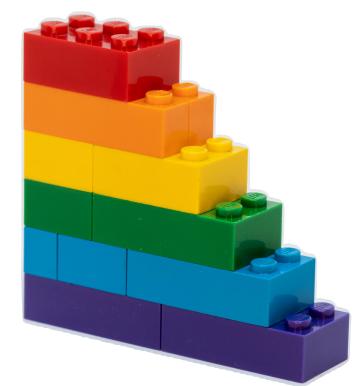
$$\langle q\bar{q}q\bar{q} \rangle(p_1, p_2, p_3)$$



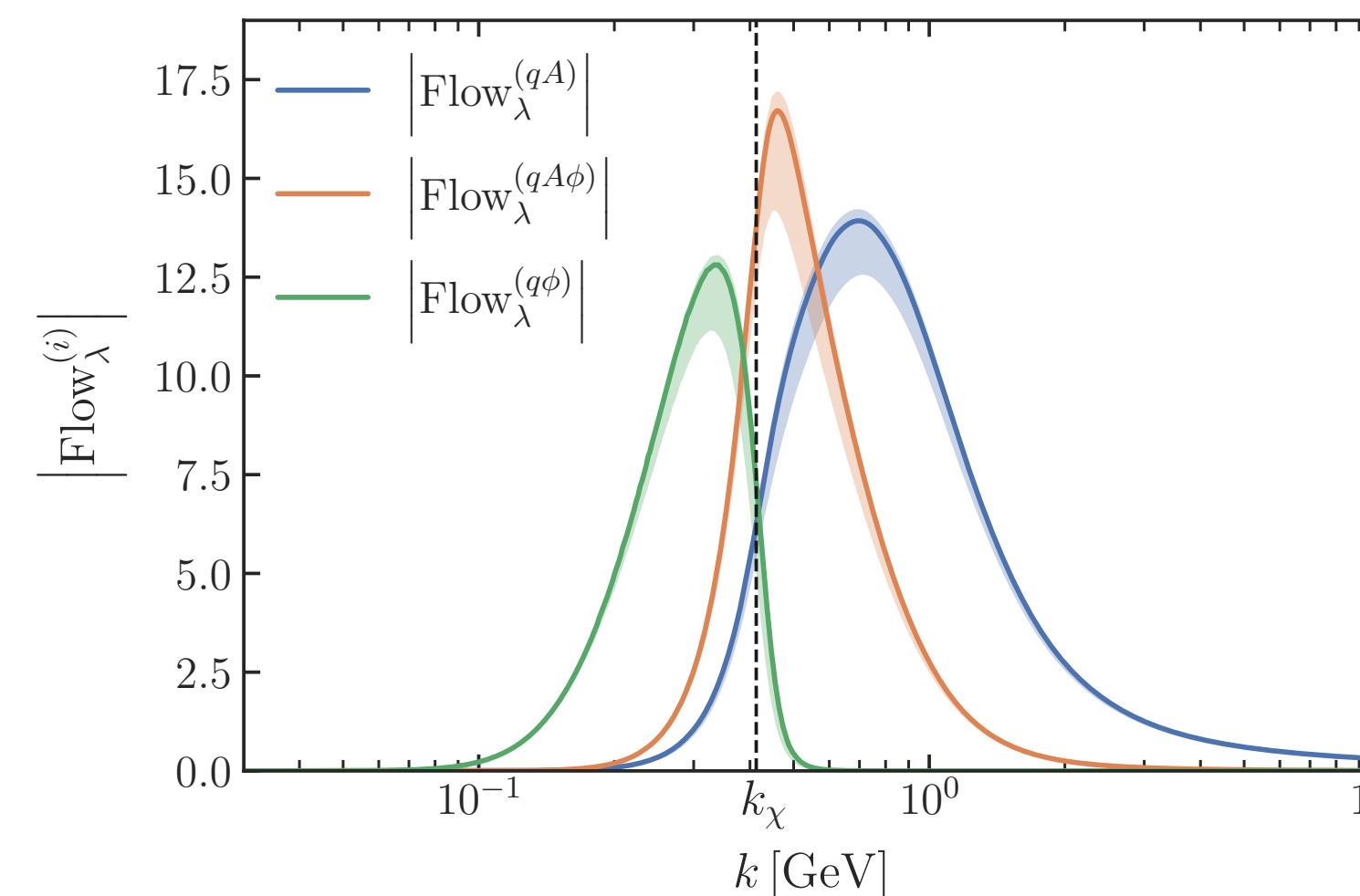
## Dynamical hadronisation



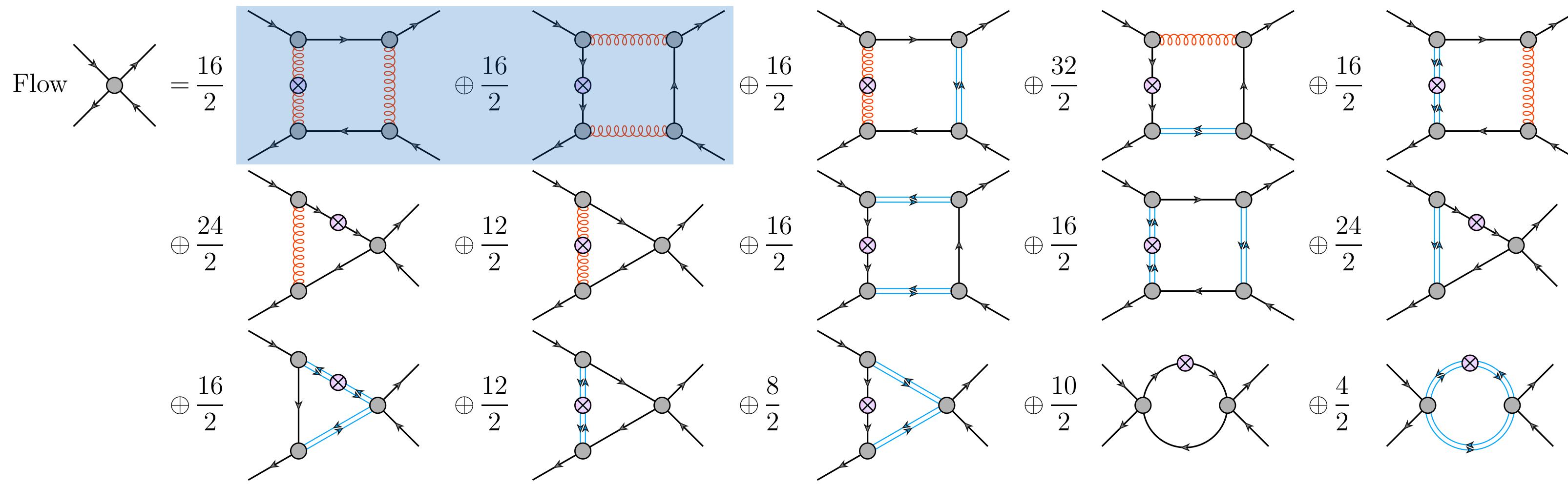
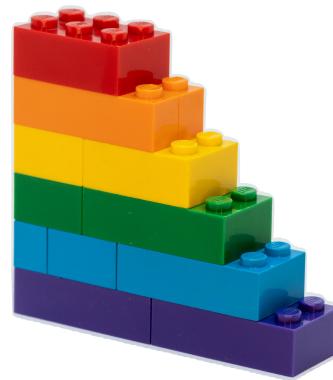
# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



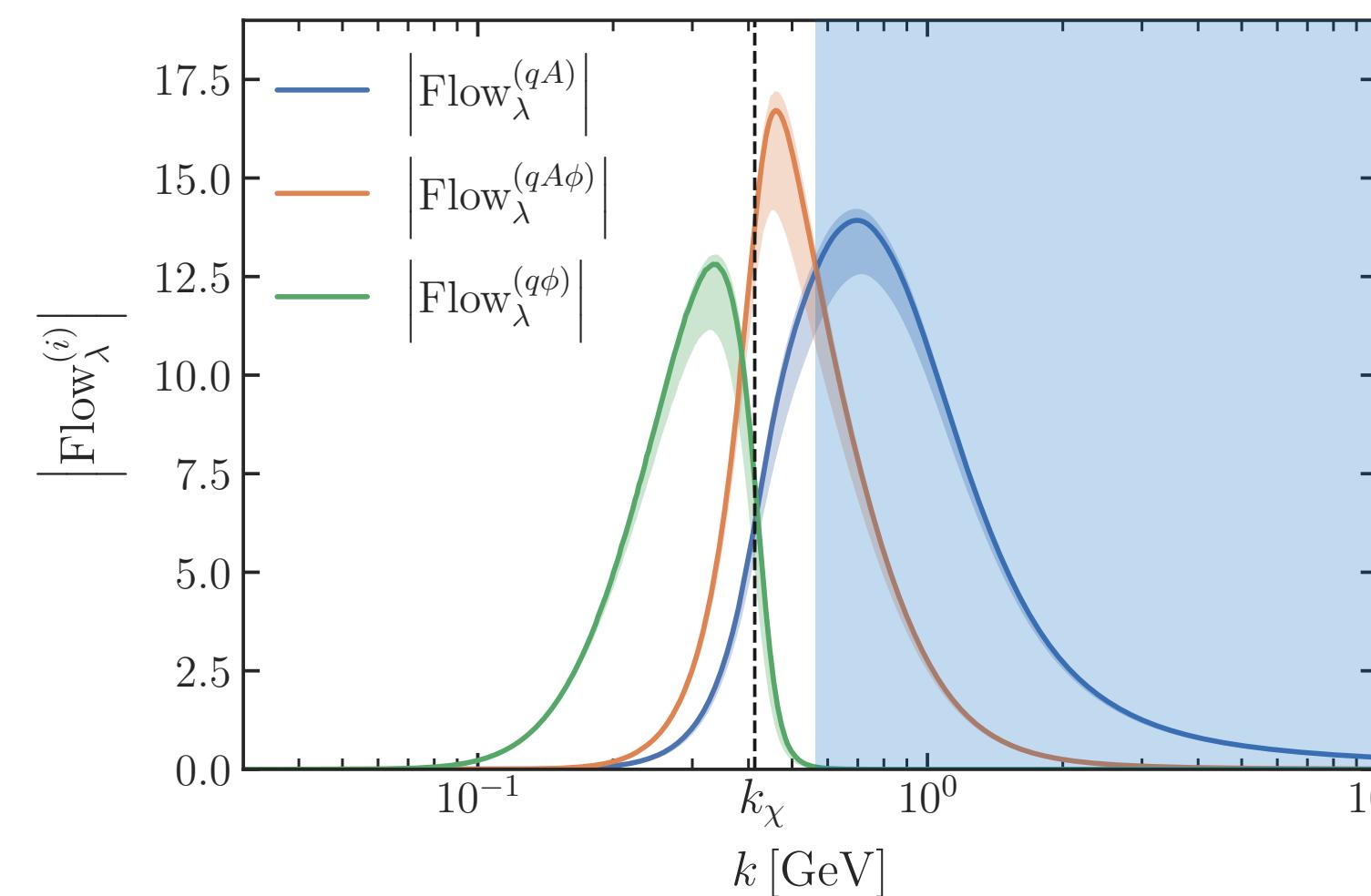
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



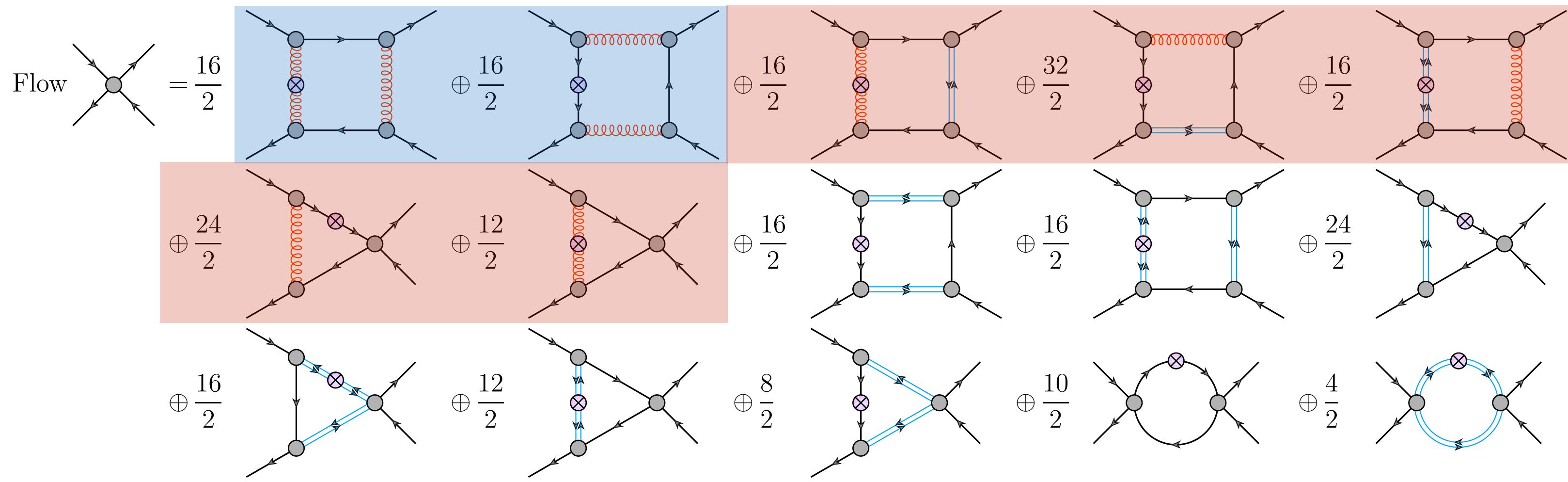
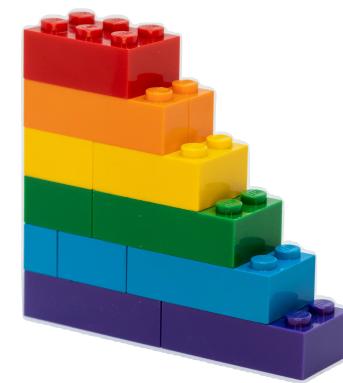
# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



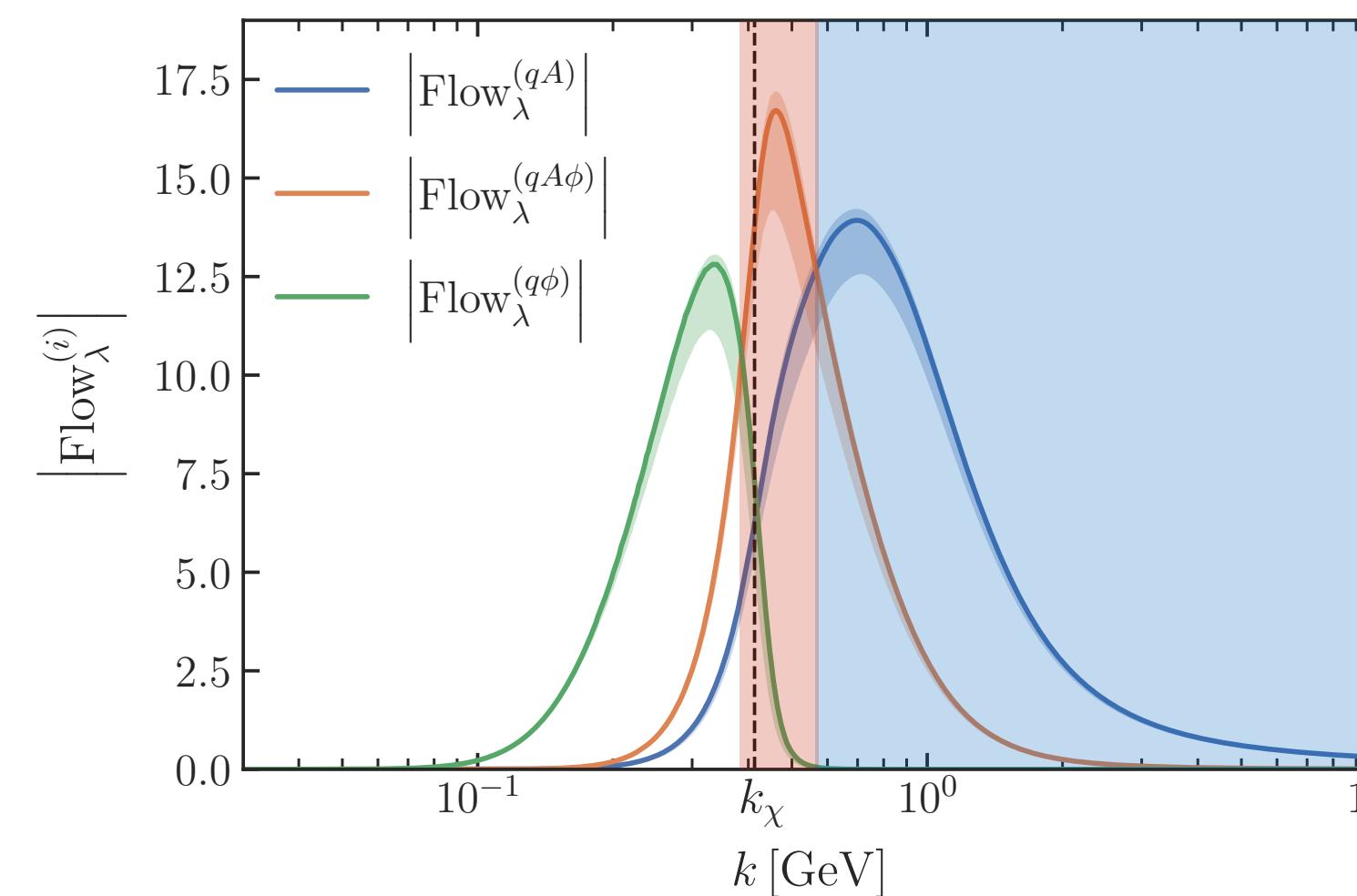
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



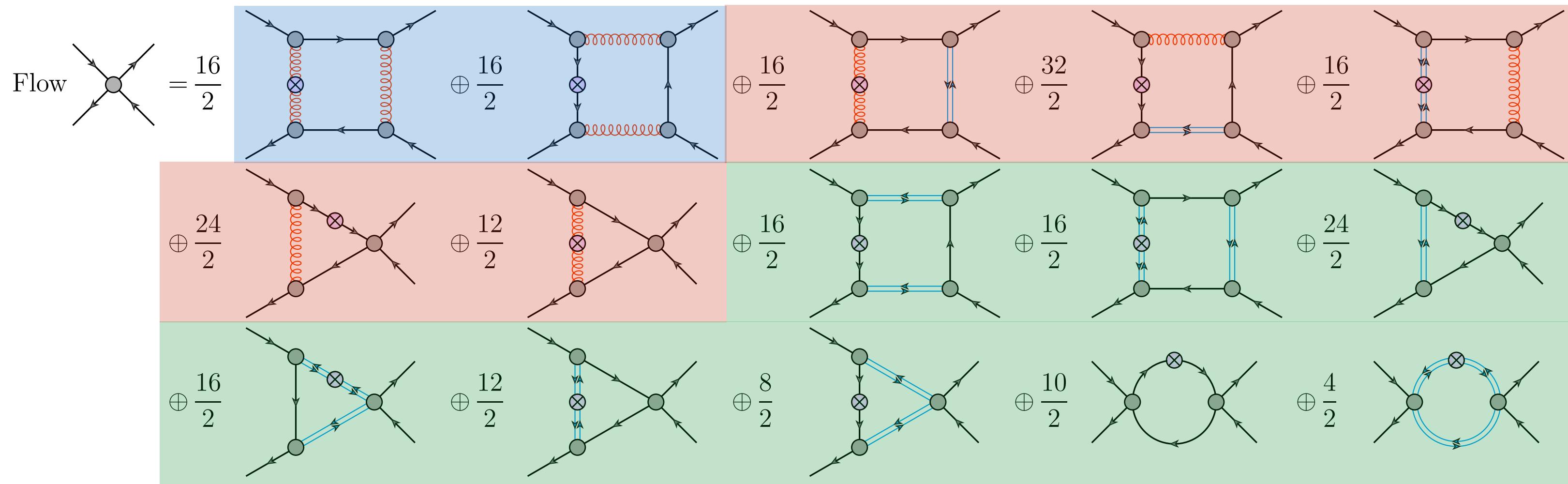
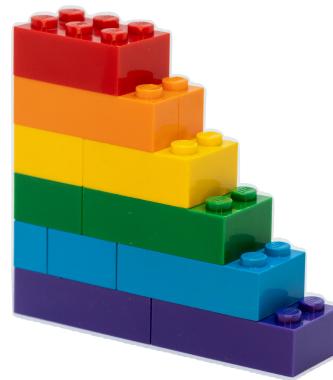
# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



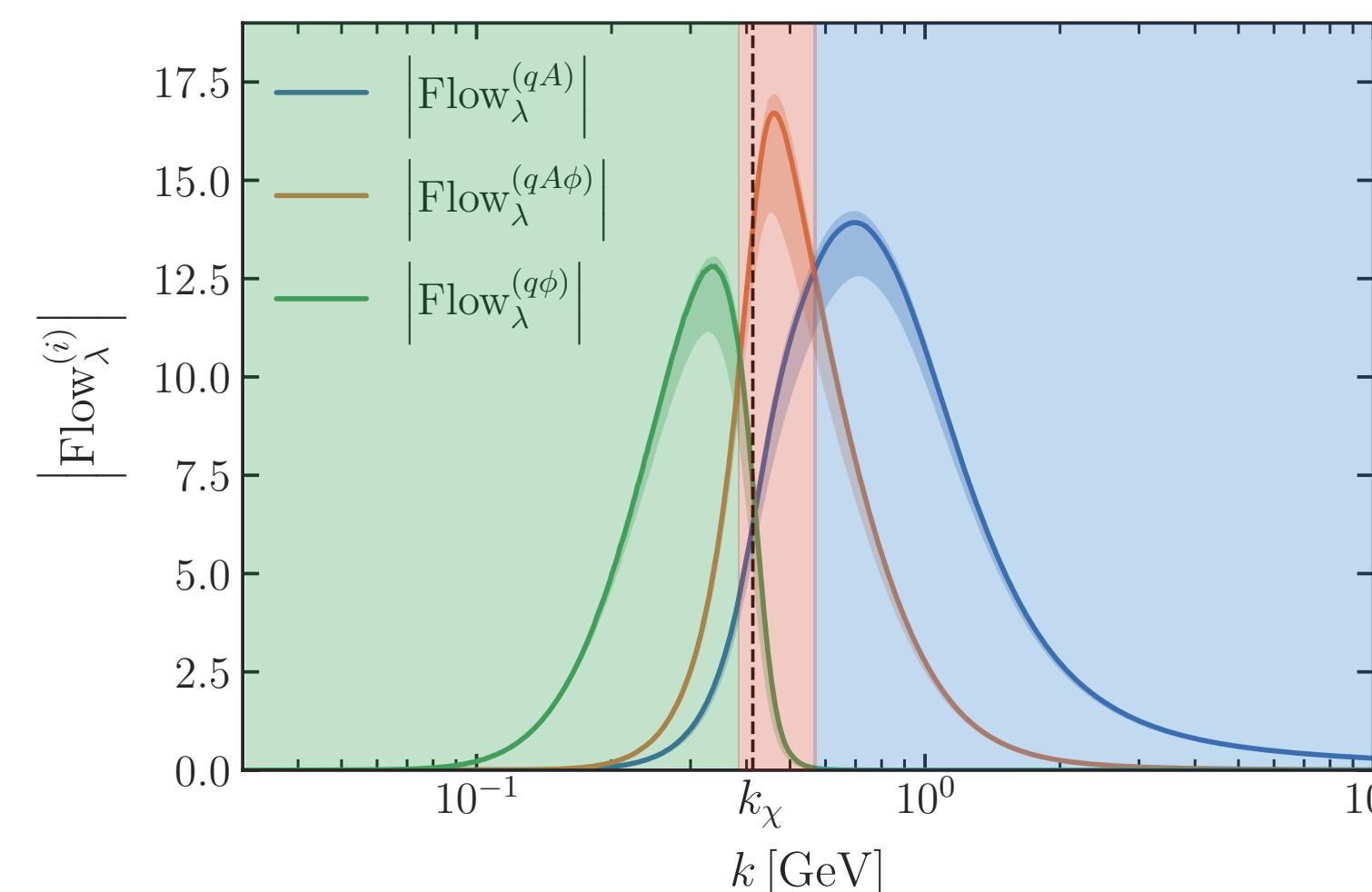
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



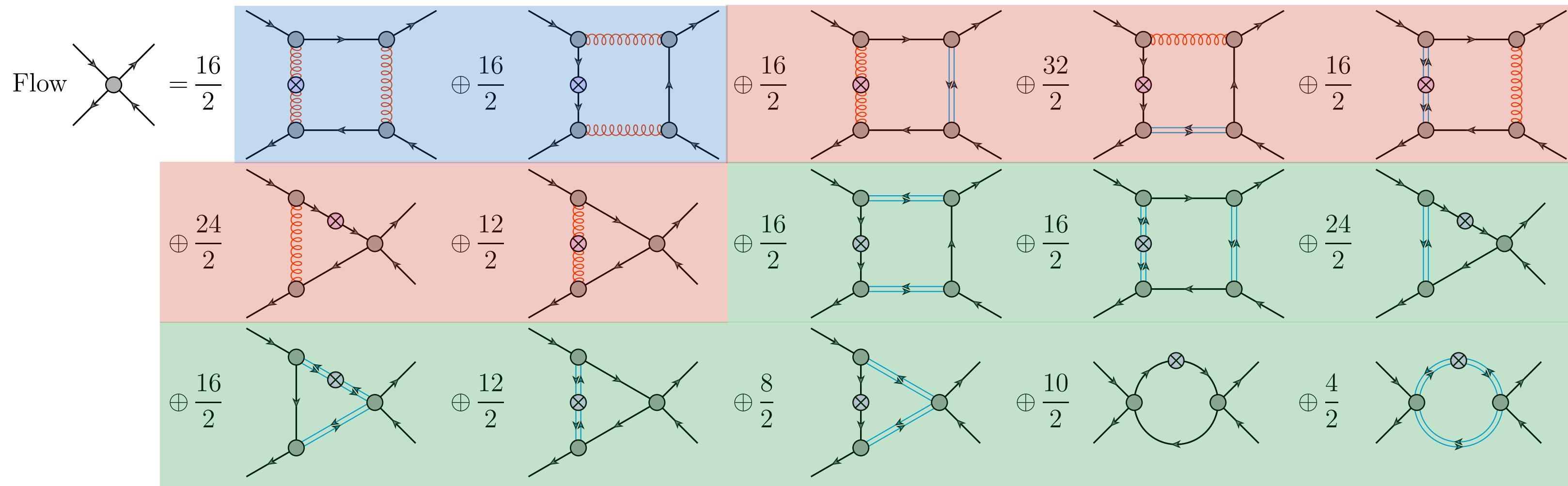
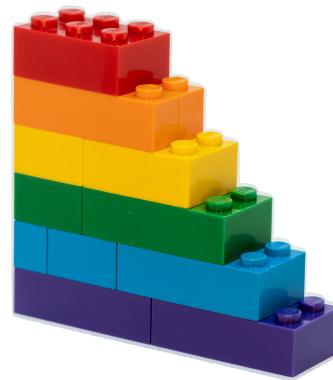
# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



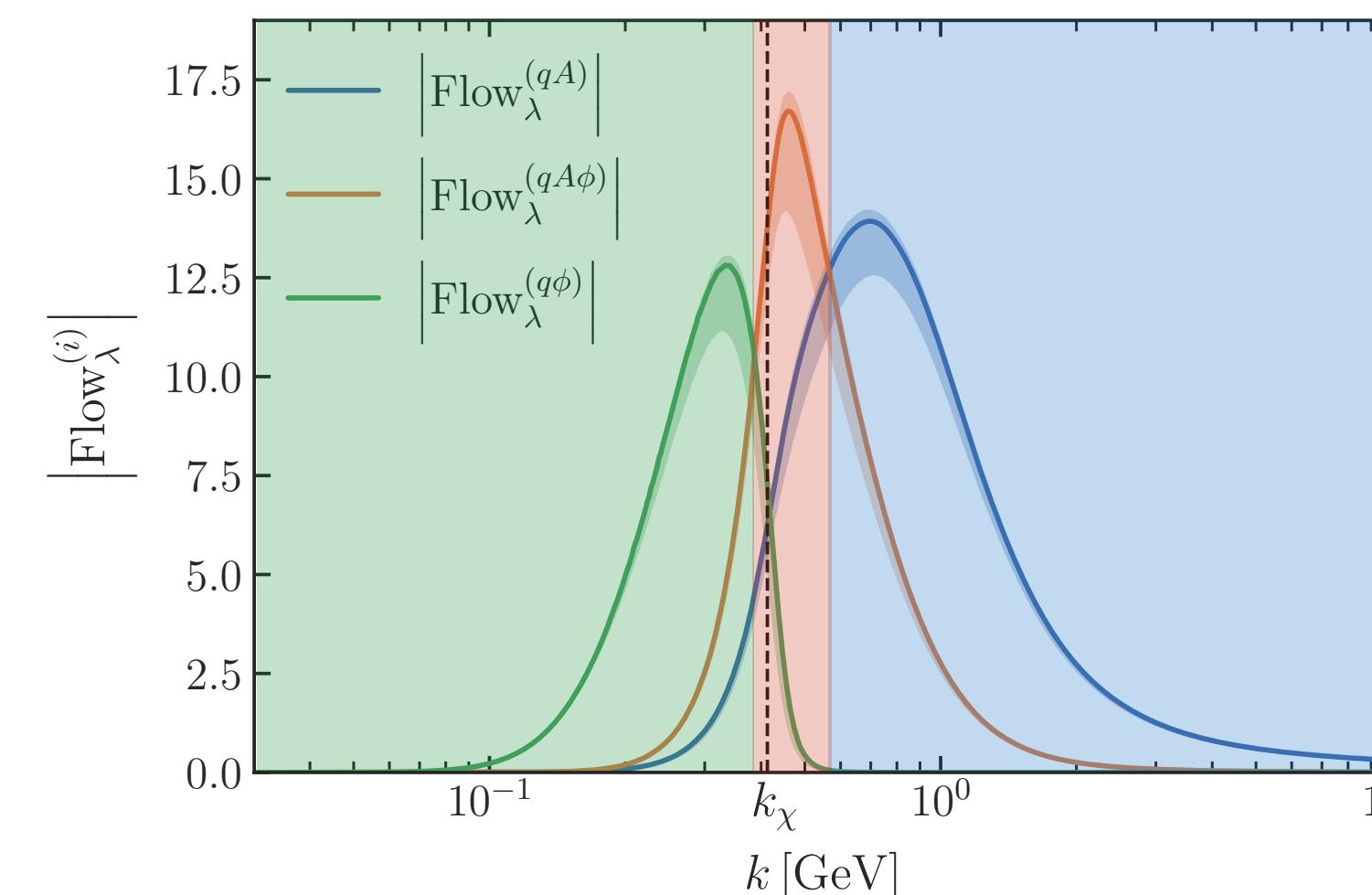
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



# How to: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle

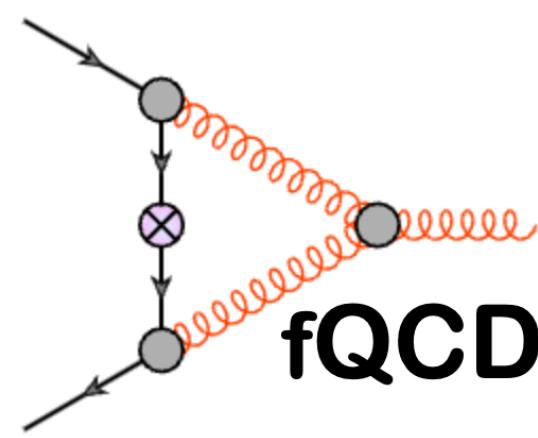


The unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories



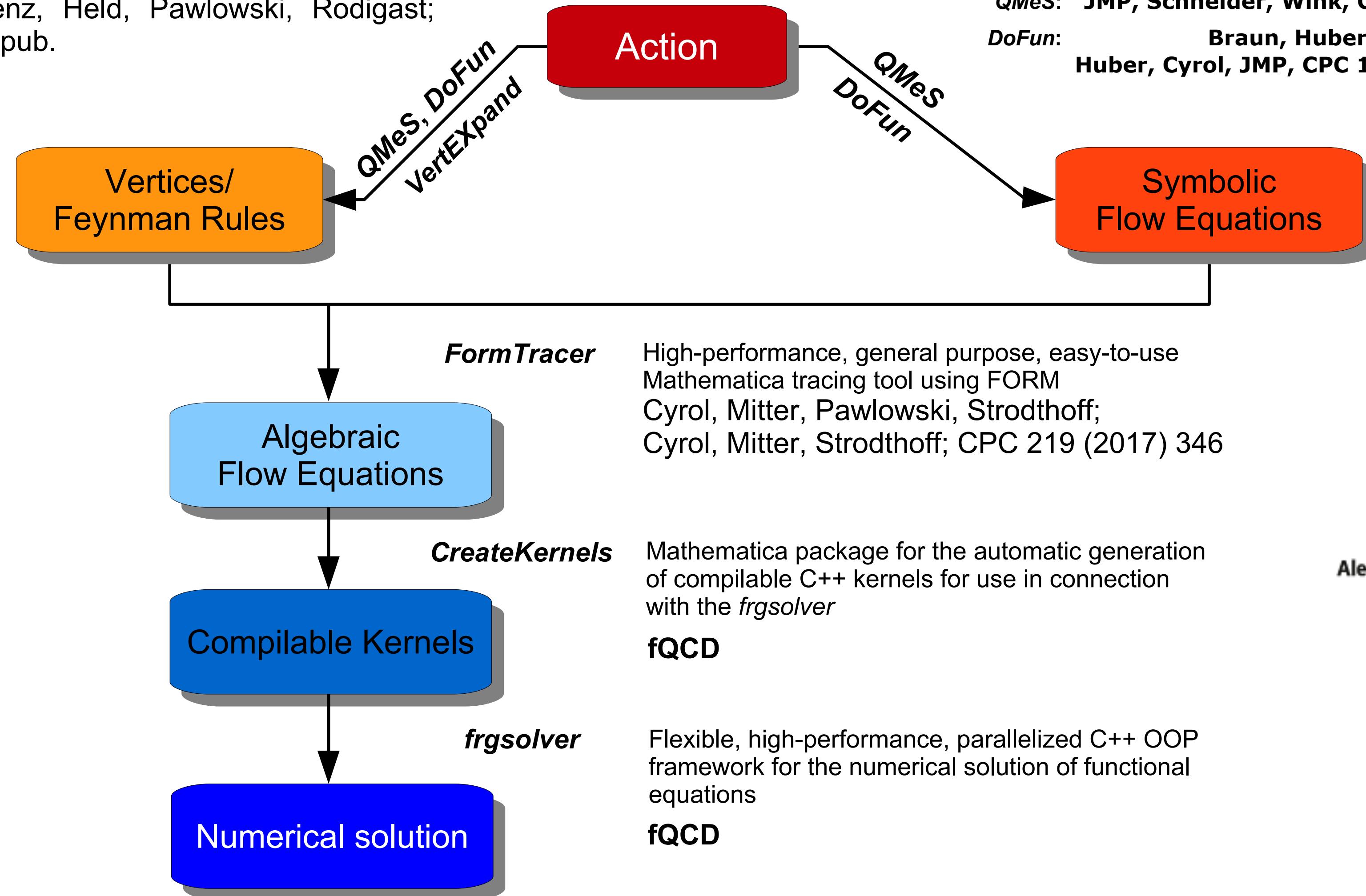
Access and combined use of  
error estimates  
from functional QCD & LEFTs

# fQCD: workflow



## *VertExpand*

Mathematica package for the derivation of vertices from a given action using FORM  
Denz, Held, Pawłowski, Rodigast;  
unpub.



## *QMeS, DoFun*

### Mathematica packages for the derivation of functional equations

*QMeS*: JMP, Schneider, Wink, CPC 287 (2023) 108711

*DoFun*: Braun, Huber, CPC 183 (2012) 1290  
Huber, Cyrol, JMP, CPC 183 248 (2020) 107058

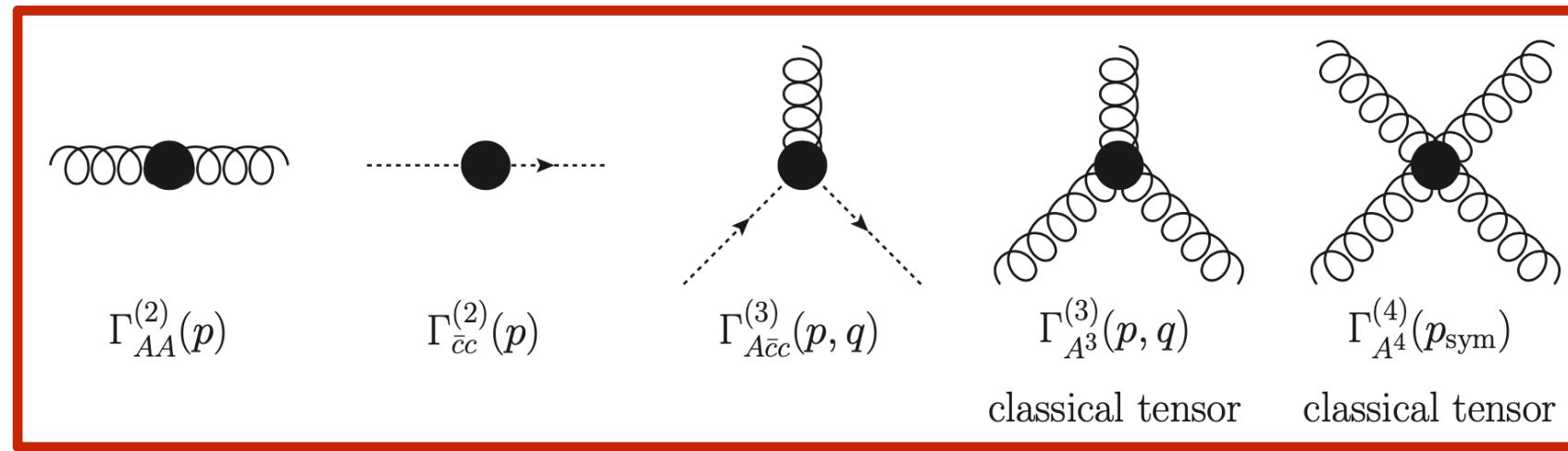
GEFÖRDERT VOM



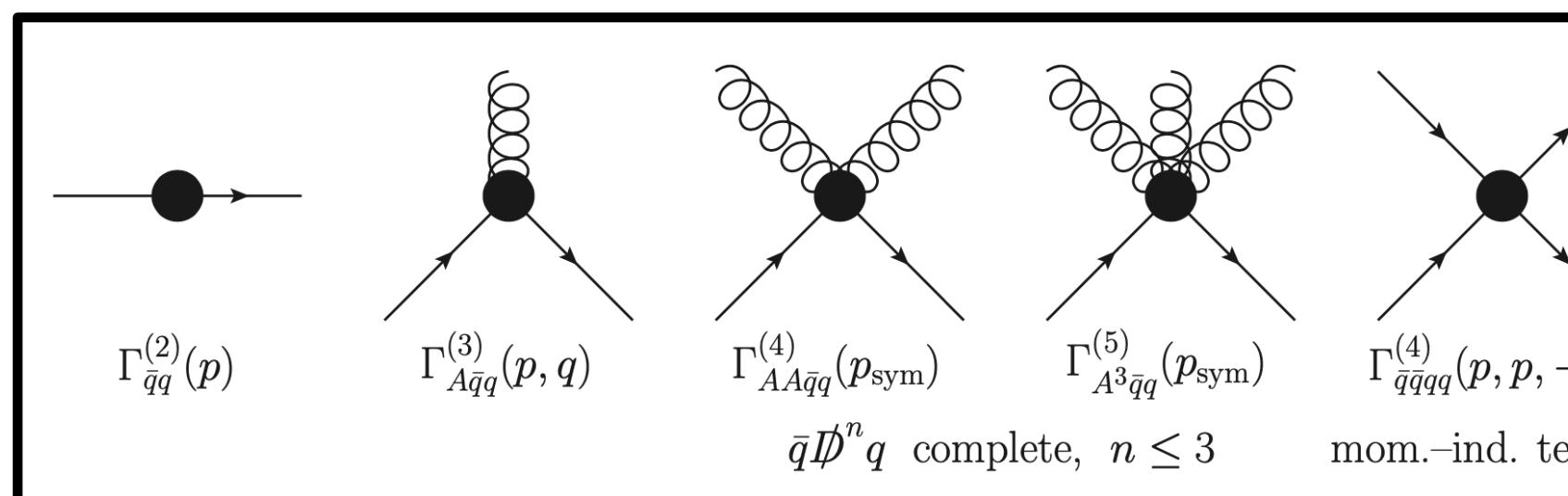
# **QCD at finite temperature and density**

## **Benchmarks in the vacuum**

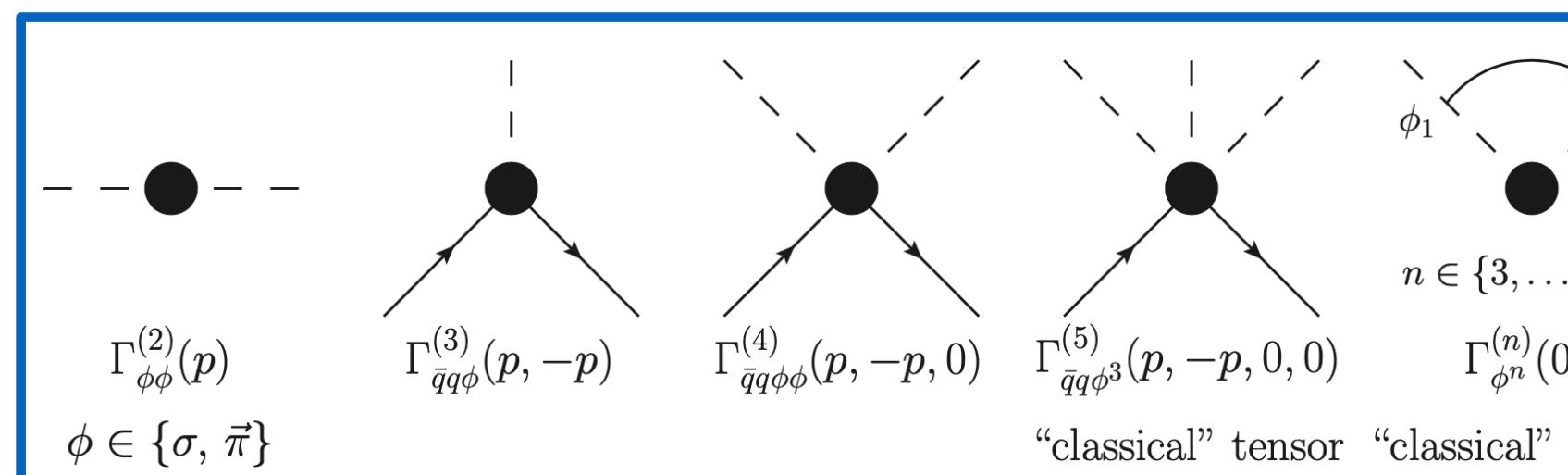
# Current set of correlation functions



glue sector



quark-glue sector

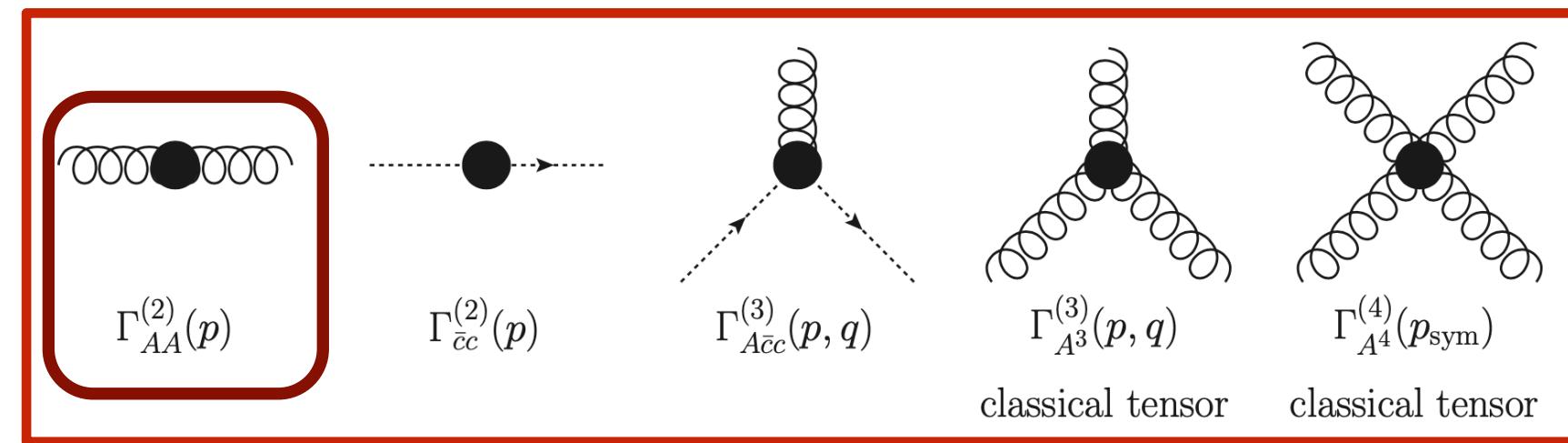


quark-meson sector

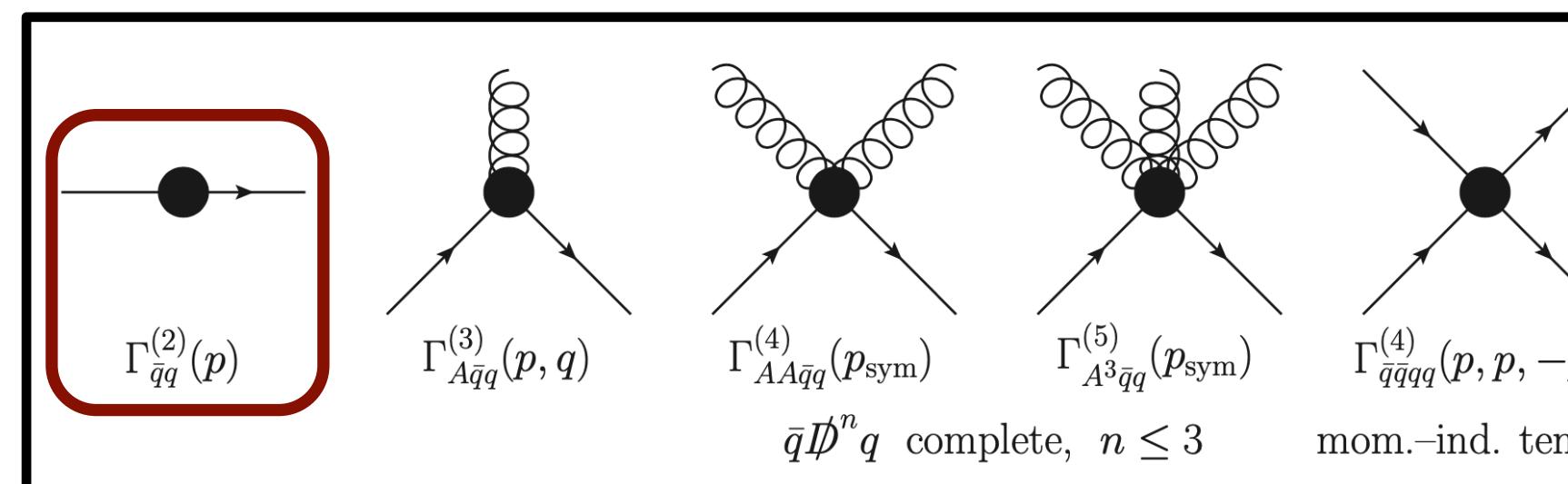
Aiming at apparent convergence

Extension, work in progress:

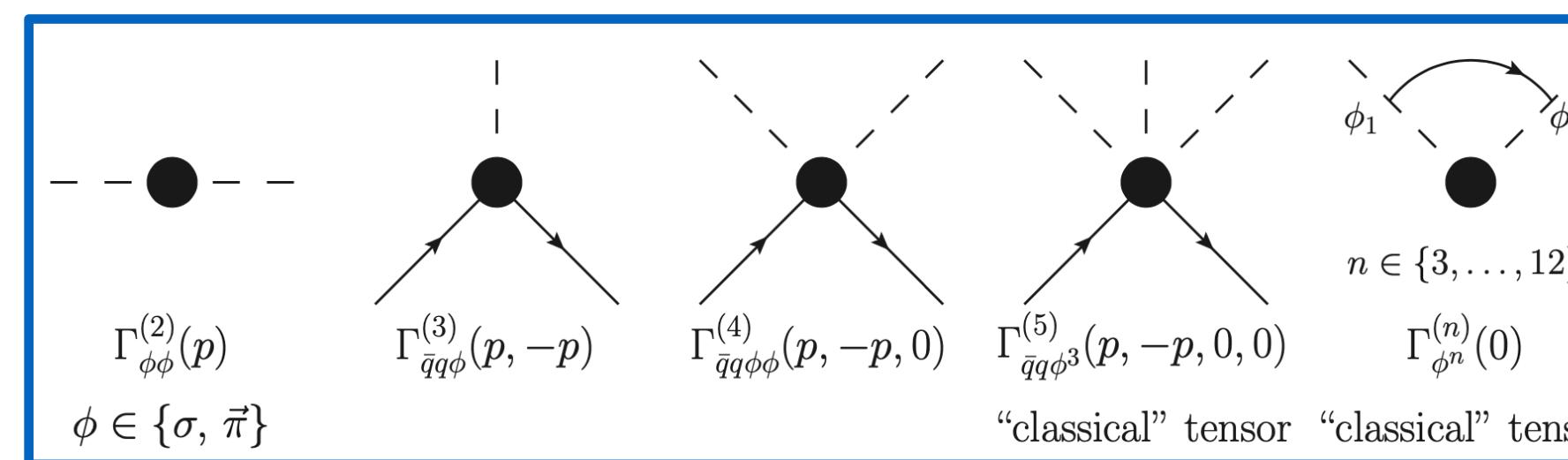
# Current set of correlation functions



glue sector



quark-glue sector



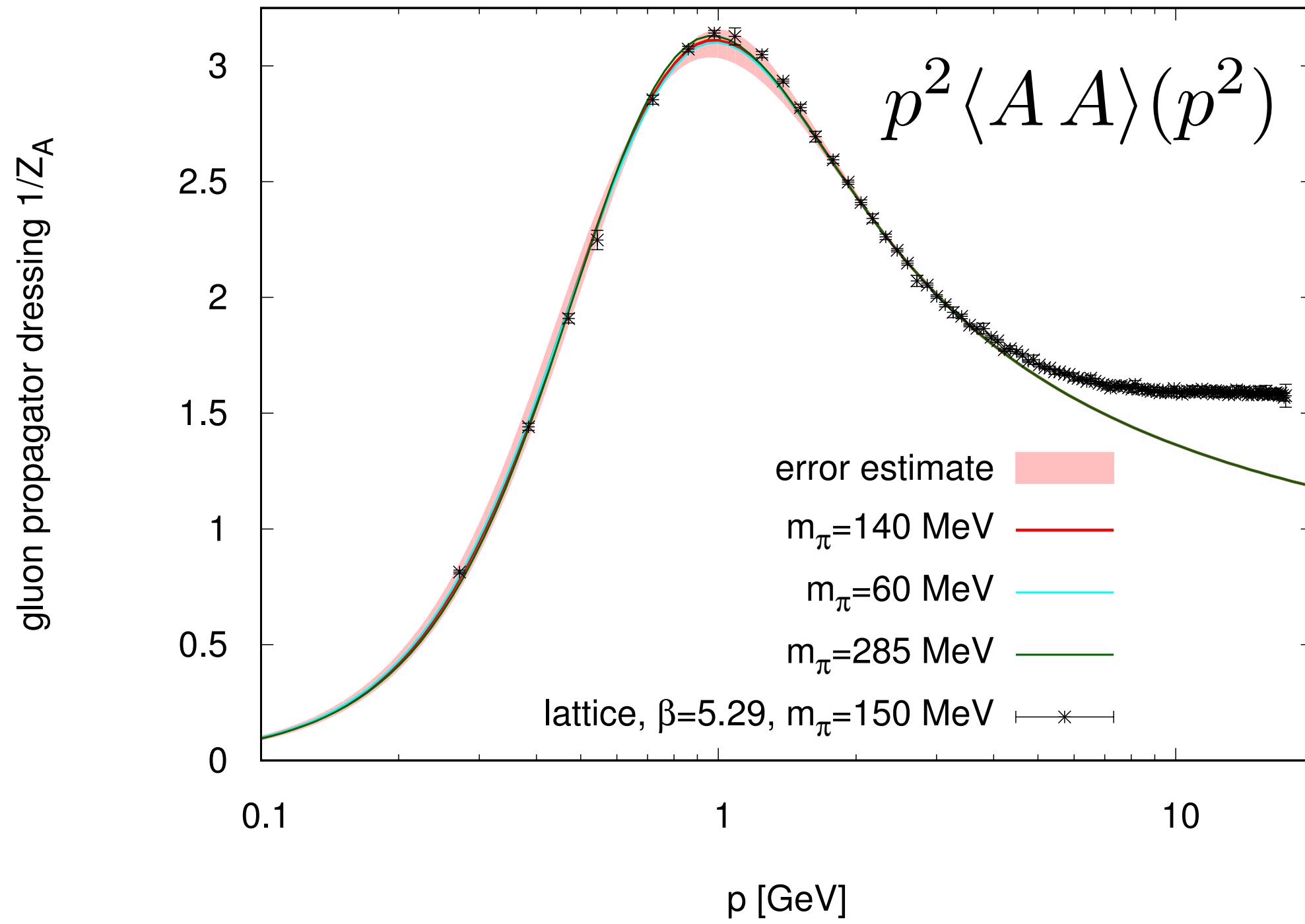
quark-meson sector

Aiming at apparent convergence

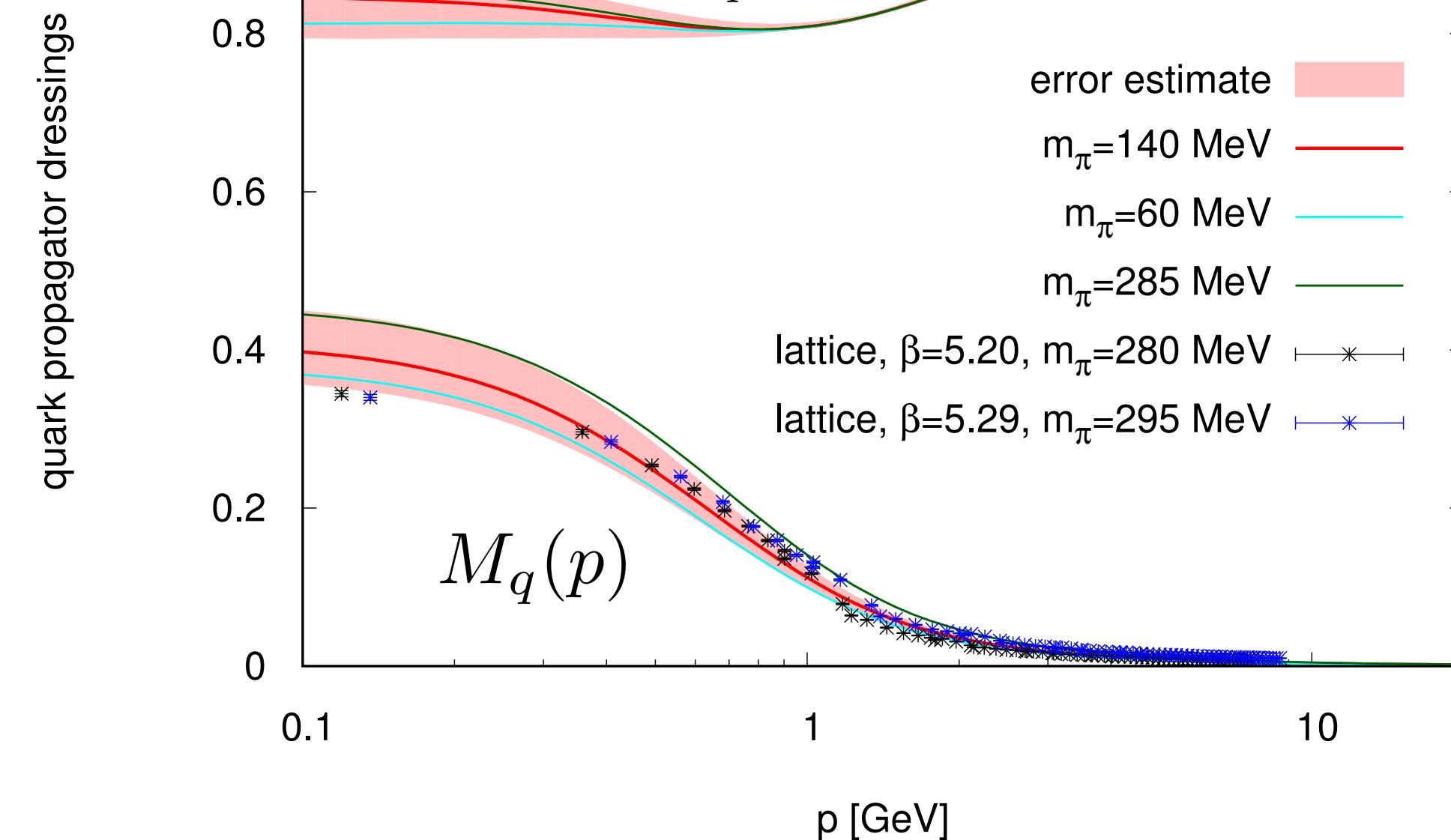
Extension, work in progress:

# Euclidean propagators

## Two-flavour QCD

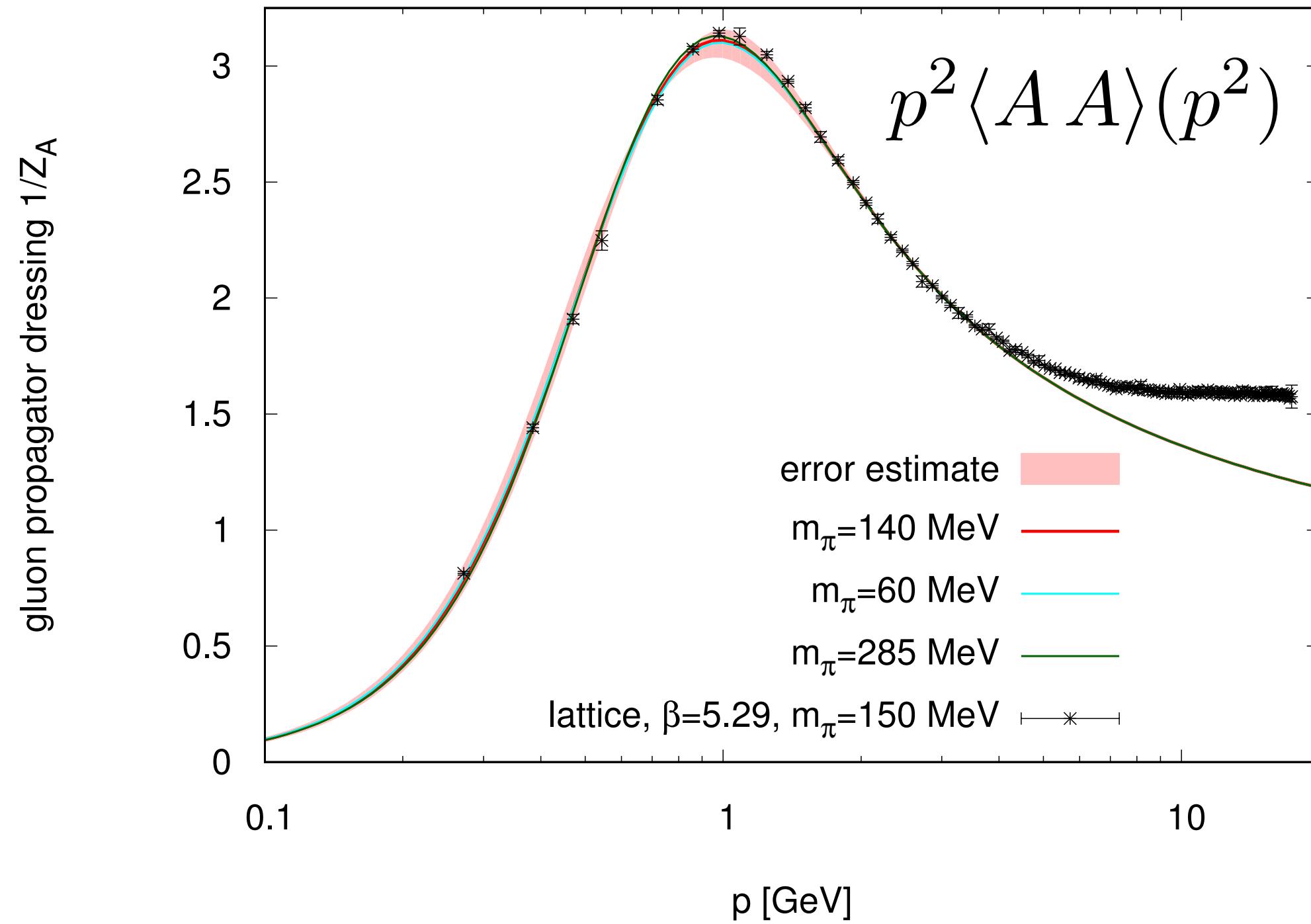


**lattice, e.g.: Oliviera et al, Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 9 (2016) 363  
Sternbeck et al, PoS LATTICE2016 (2017)  
A. Athenodorou et al, PLB 761 (2016) 444**



# Euclidean propagators

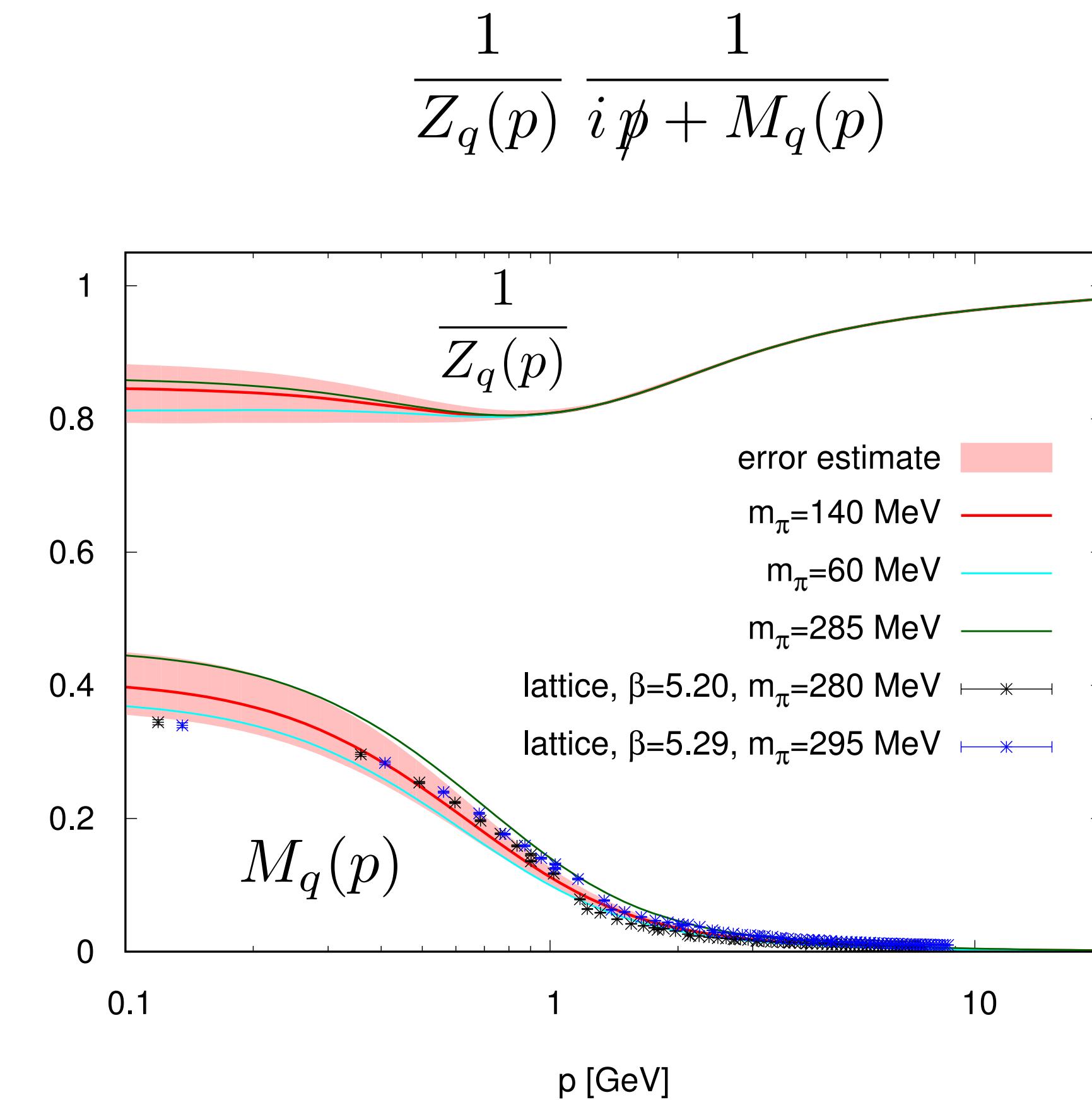
## Two-flavour QCD



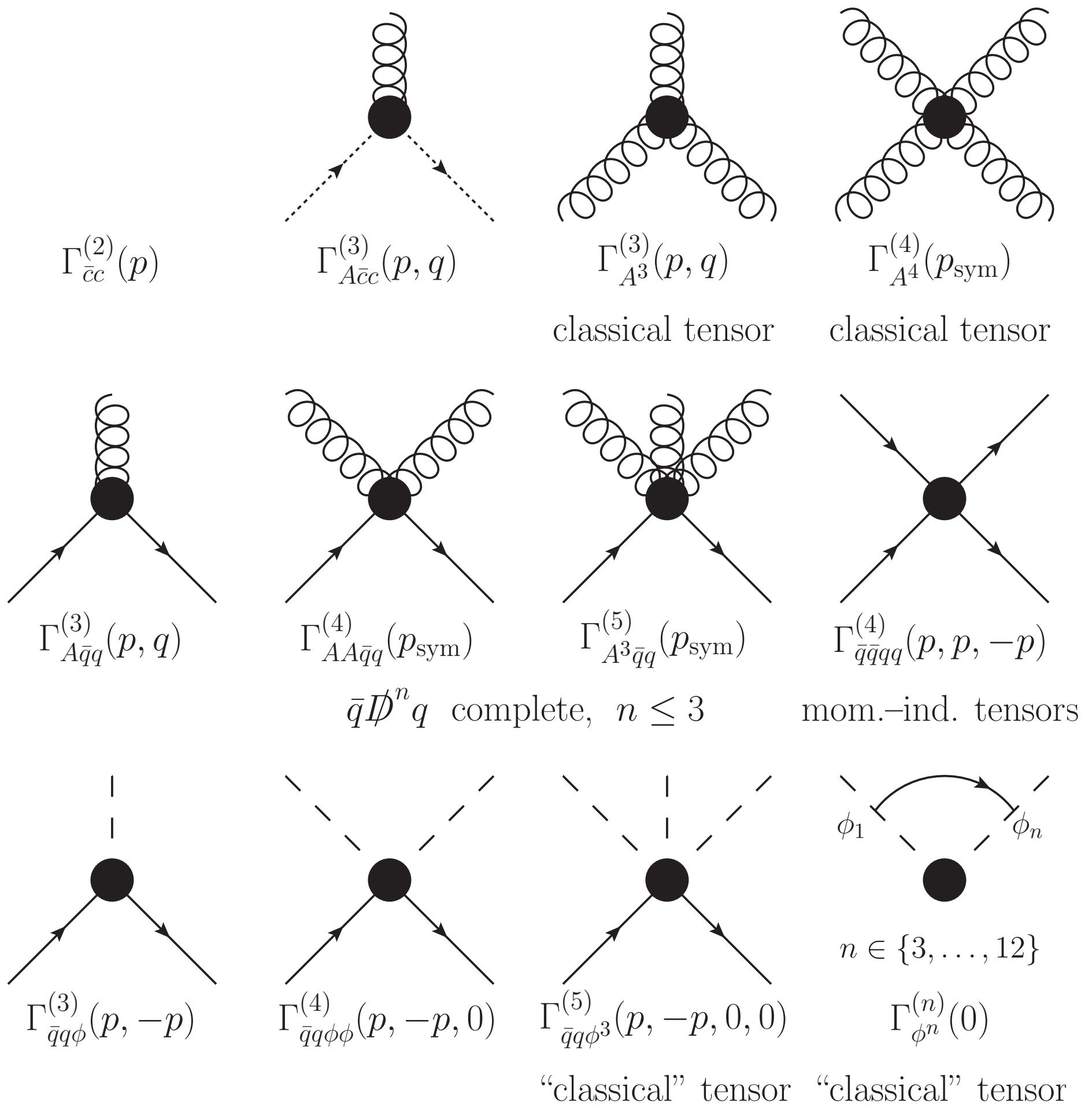
**lattice, e.g.: Oliviera et al, Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 9 (2016) 363  
Sternbeck et al, PoS LATTICE2016 (2017)  
A. Athenodorou et al, PLB 761 (2016) 444**

simple correlations

quark propagator dressings

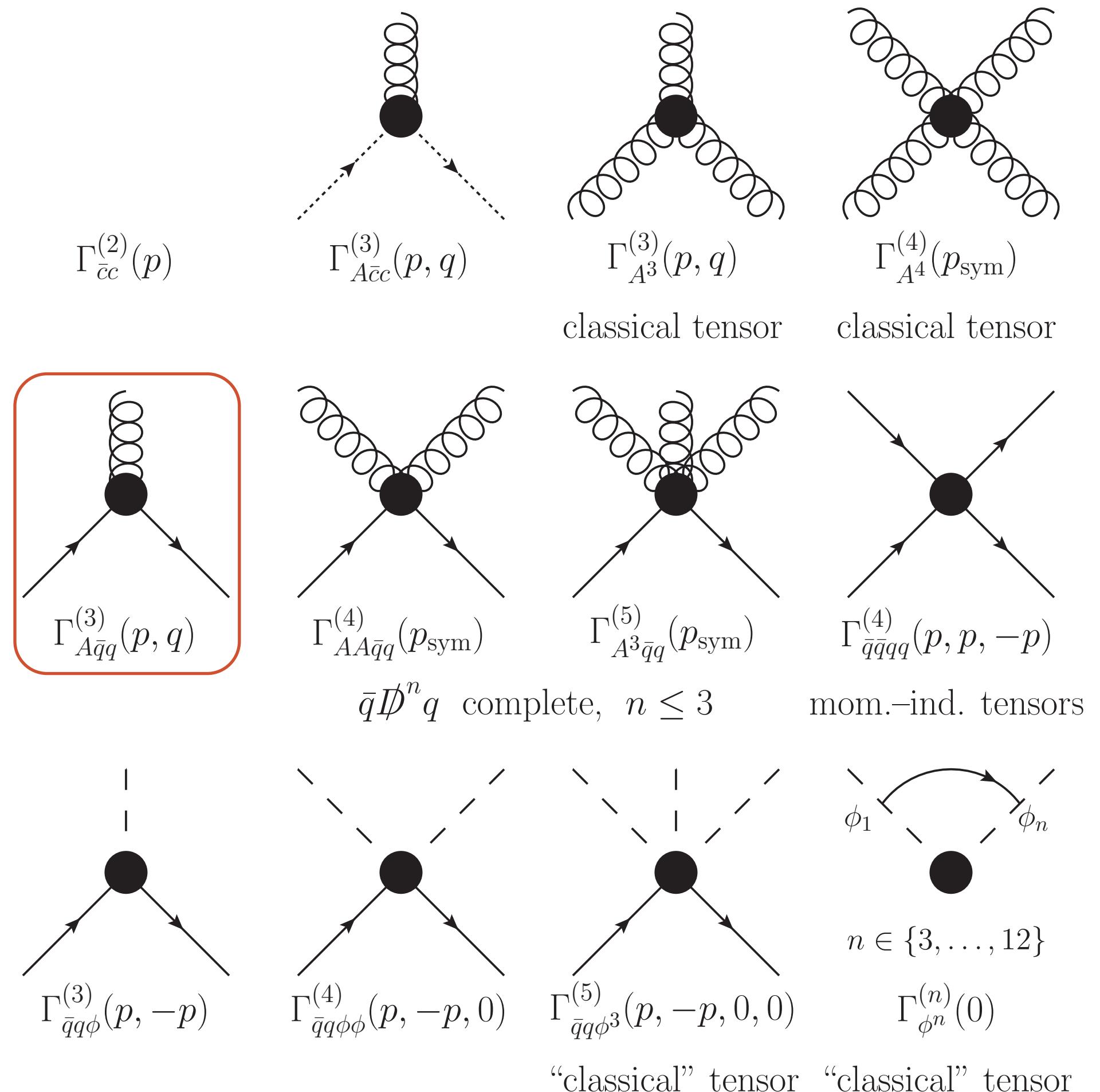


# Vertices



Aiming at apparent convergence

# Vertices



Aiming at apparent convergence

# Quark-gluon vertex

$$\left[ \Gamma_{\bar{q}qA}^{(3)} \right]_\mu^a (p, q) = 1_{2 \times 2}^{\text{flav}} T^a \sum_{i=1}^8 \lambda_i(p, q) \left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(i)} \right]_\mu (p, q)$$

## covariant expansion scheme

$$\bar{q} \not{D} q : \left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(1)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = -i \gamma_\mu$$

$$\bar{q} \not{D}^2 q : \left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(2)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = (p - q)_\mu 1_{4 \times 4}$$

$$\bar{q} \not{D}^3 q : \left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(5)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = i (\not{p} + \not{q})(p - q)_\mu$$

$$\left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(3)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = (\not{p} - \not{q}) \gamma_\mu$$

$$\left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(6)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = i (\not{p} - \not{q})(p - q)_\mu$$

$$\left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(4)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = (\not{p} + \not{q}) \gamma_\mu$$

$$\left[ \mathcal{T}_{\bar{q}qA}^{(7)} \right]_\mu (p, q) = \frac{i}{2} [\not{p}, \not{q}] \gamma_\mu$$

Aiming at apparent convergence

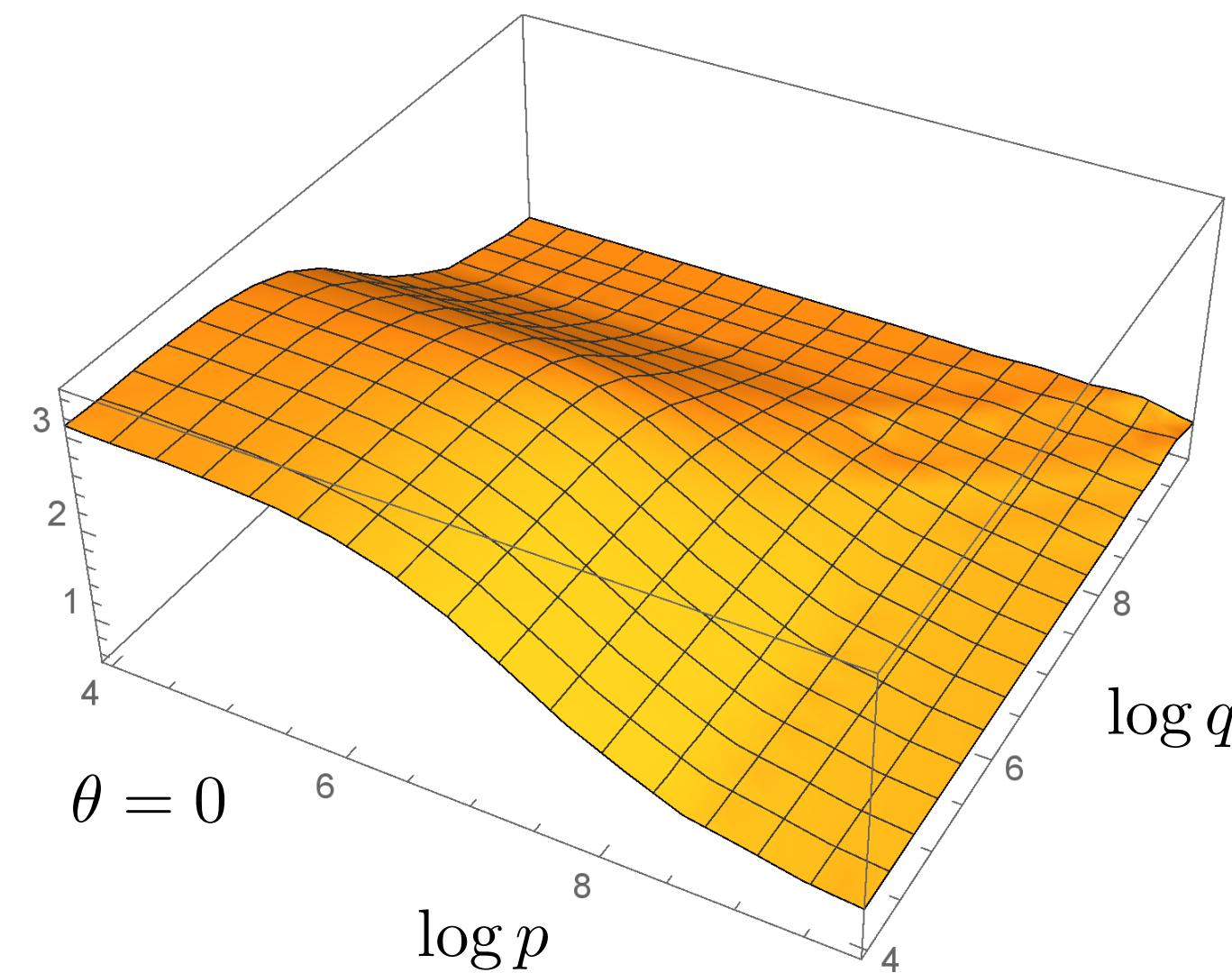
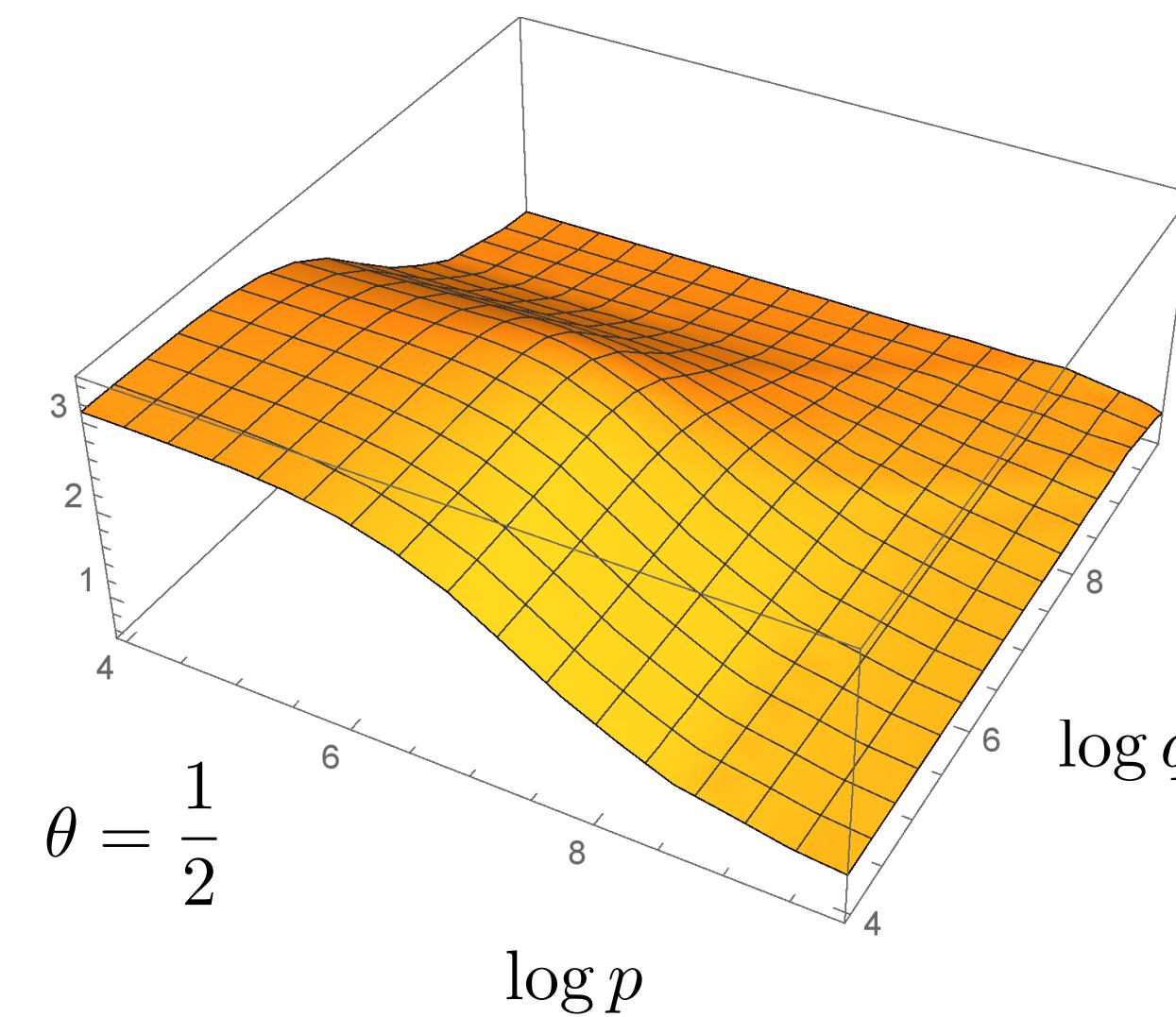
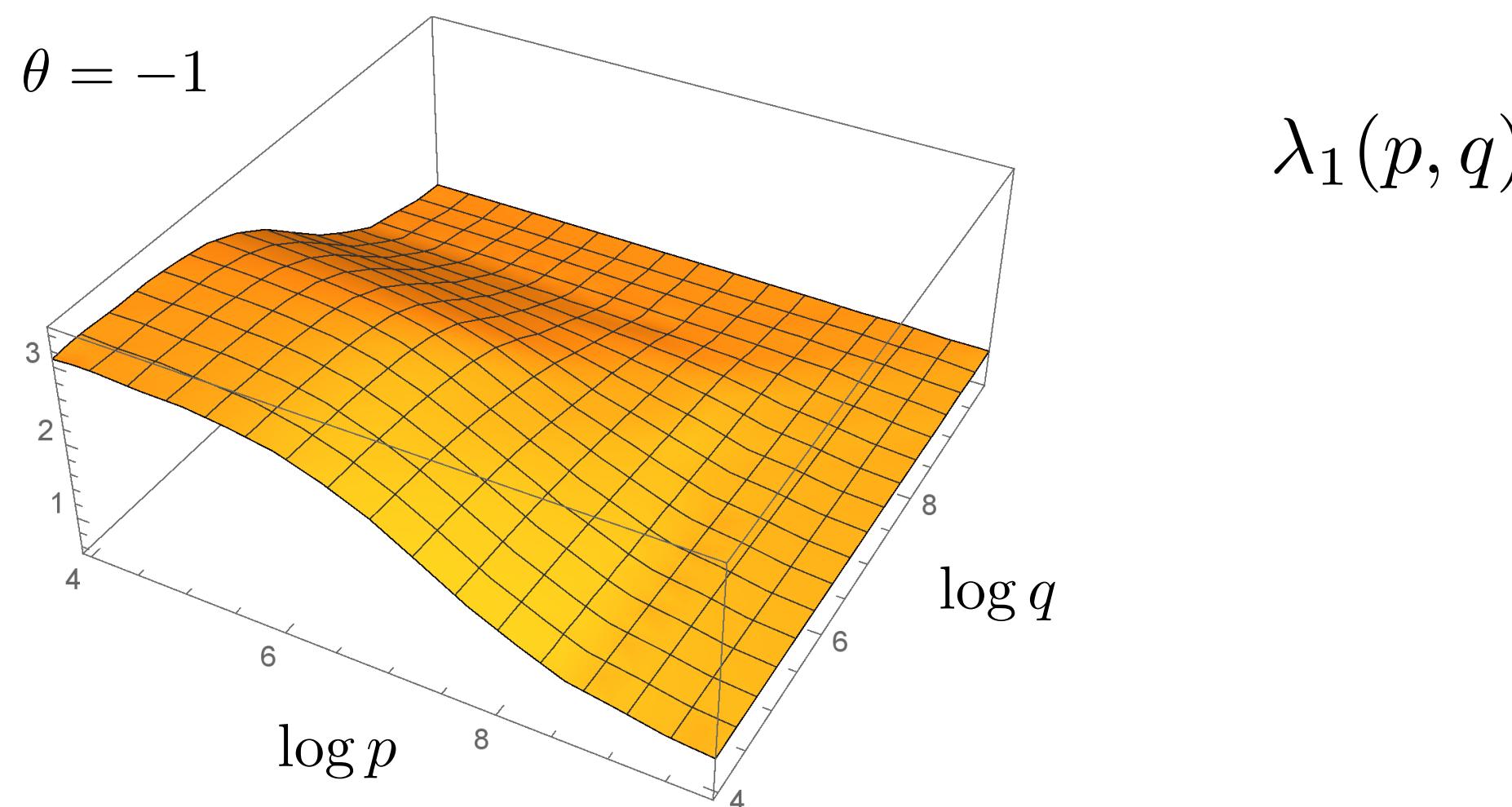
quenched: Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 91 (2015) 054035

70 Cyrol, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 97 (2018) 054006

# Quark-gluon vertex

$$\theta = \frac{p \cdot q}{\sqrt{p^2 q^2}}$$

p,q in MeV



Aiming at apparent convergence

# Quark-gluon vertex

$$\theta = \frac{p \cdot q}{\sqrt{p^2 q^2}}$$

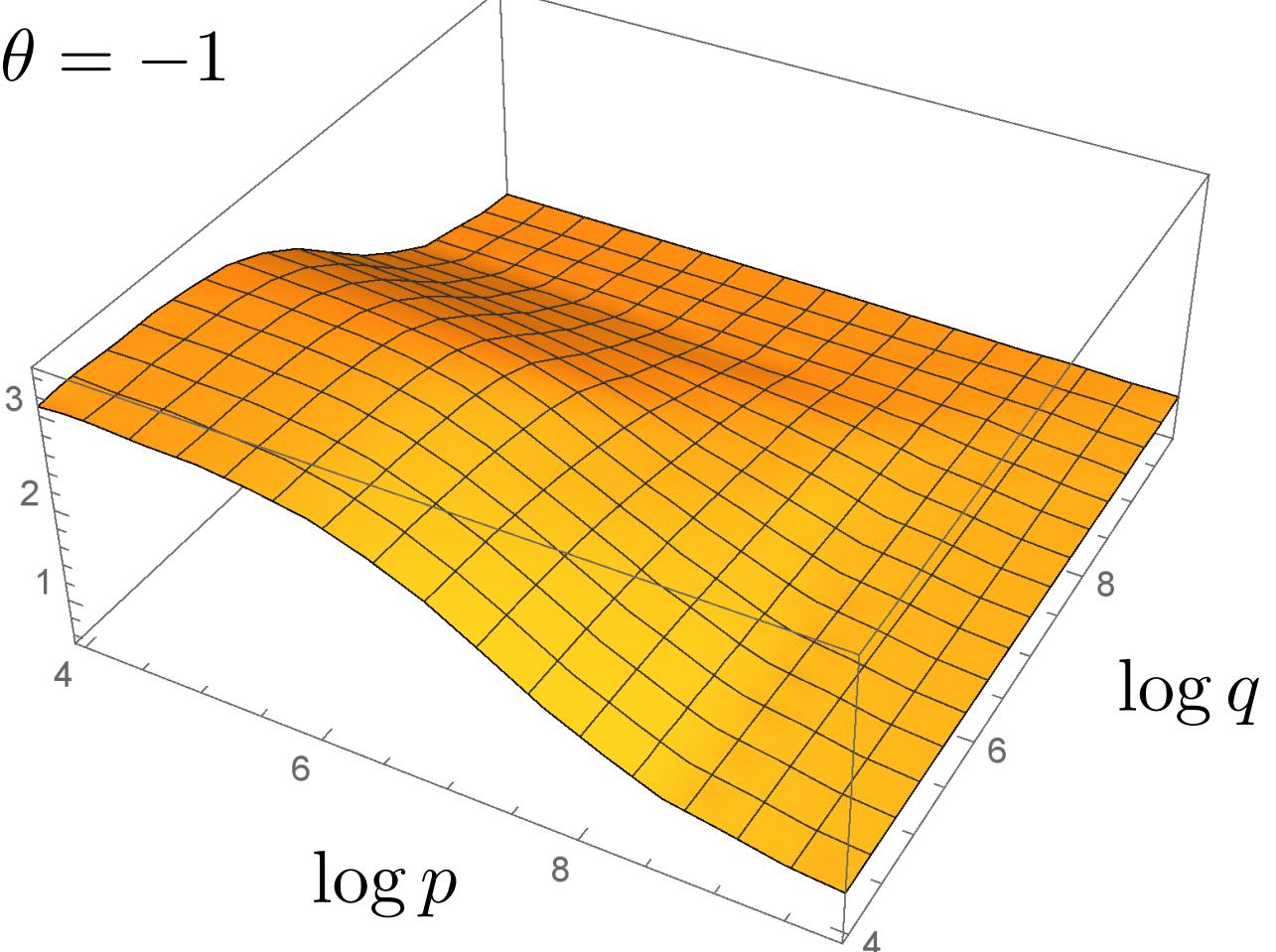
p,q in MeV

$\lambda_4(p, q)$

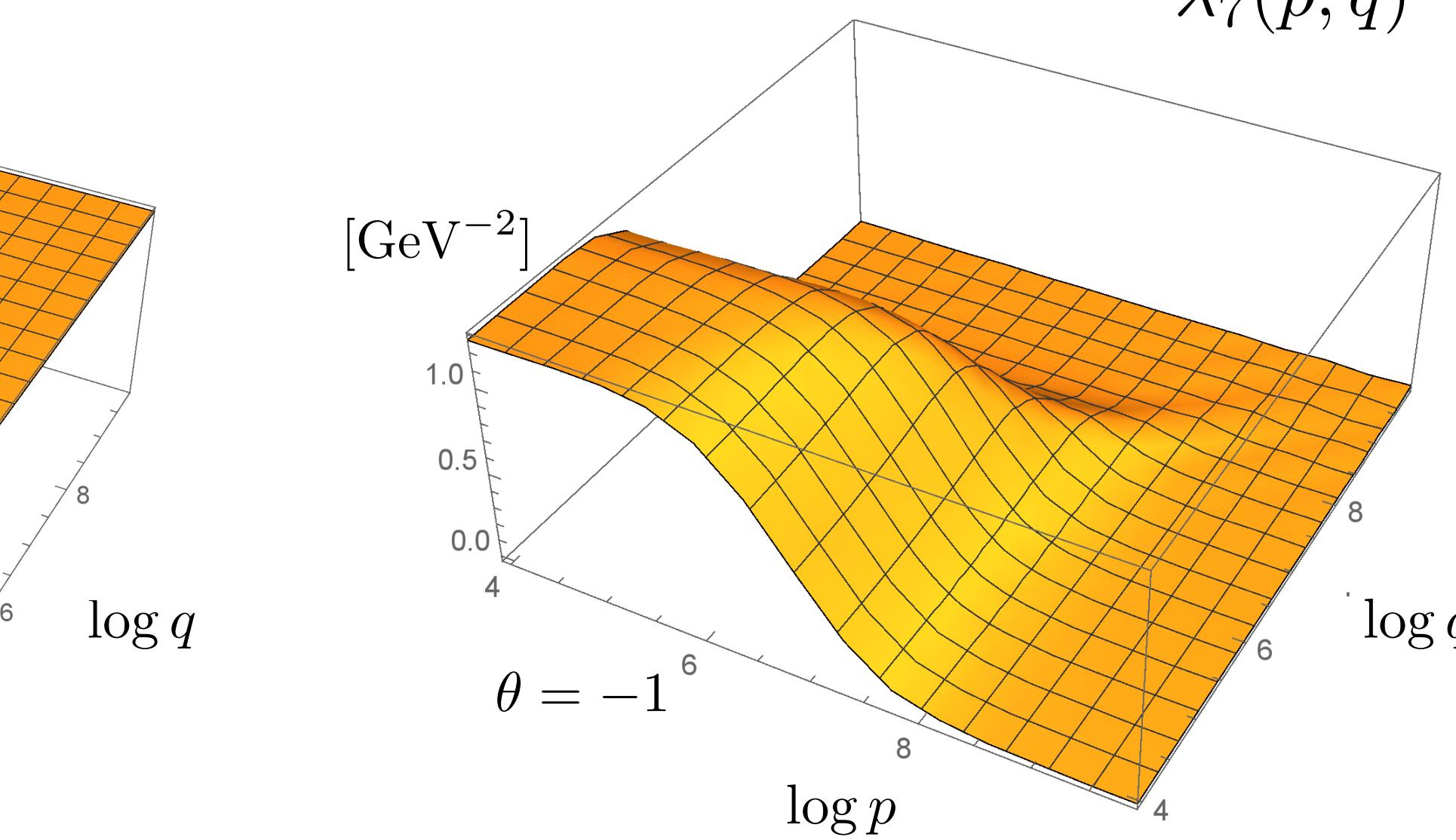
[GeV<sup>-1</sup>]

log p

log q



$\lambda_1(p, q)$



$\lambda_7(p, q)$

Aiming at apparent convergence



# Quark-gluon vertex

$$\theta = \frac{p \cdot q}{\sqrt{p^2 q^2}}$$

**p,q in MeV**

**up-to-date 1st principles works:**

**FunMethods:** Williams, EPJ A51 (2015) 57

Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, PLB 749 (2015) 592

Williams, Fischer, Heupel, PRD 93 (2016) 034026

Aguilar, Binosi, Ibanez, Papavassiliou, PRD 89 (2014) 065027

Binosi, Chang, Papavassiliou, Qin, Roberts, PRD 95 (2017) 031501

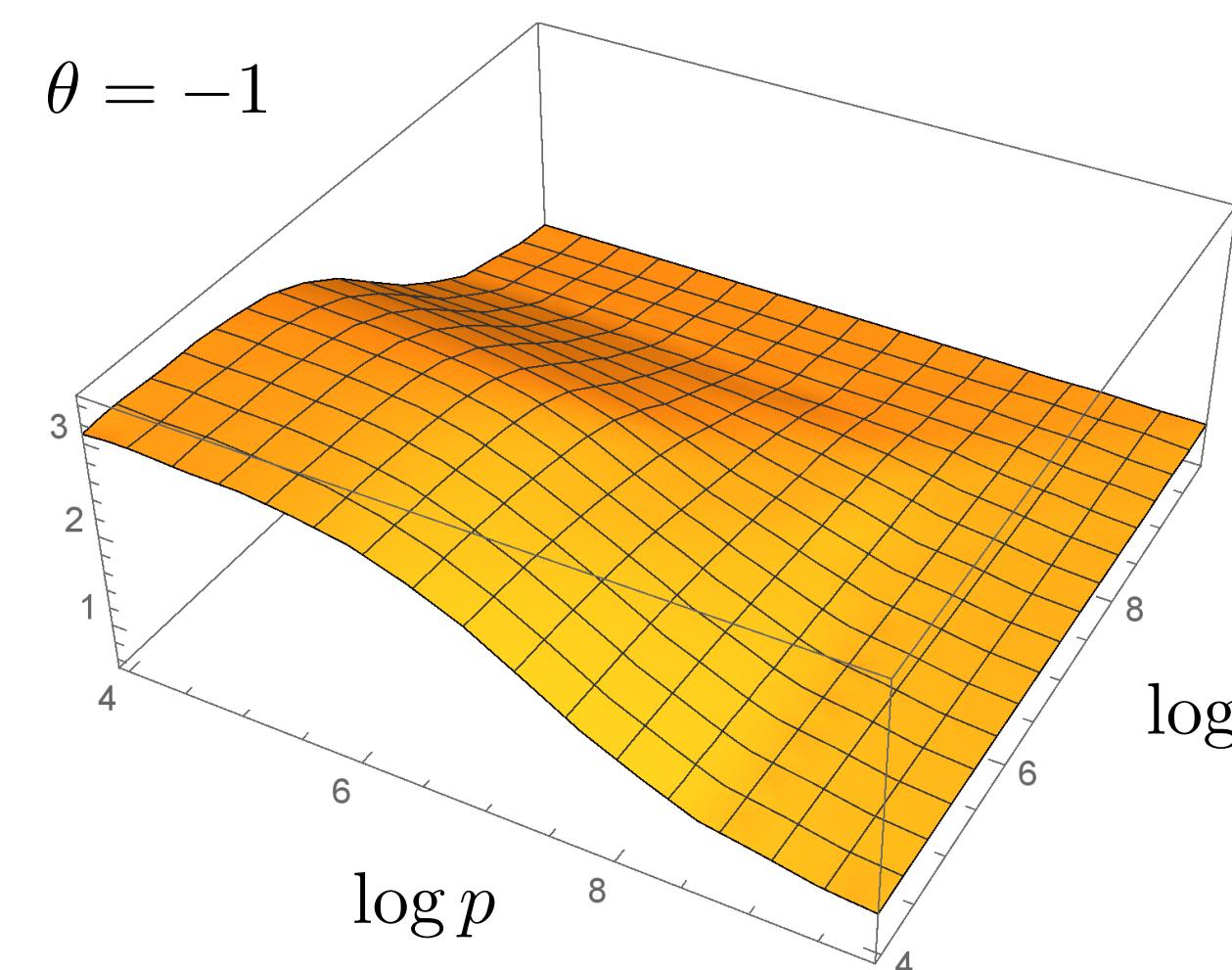
Aguilar, Cardona, Ferreira, Papavassiliou, arXiv:1610.06158

Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 91 (2015) 054035

Pelaez, Tissier, Wschebor, PRD 92 (2015) 045012

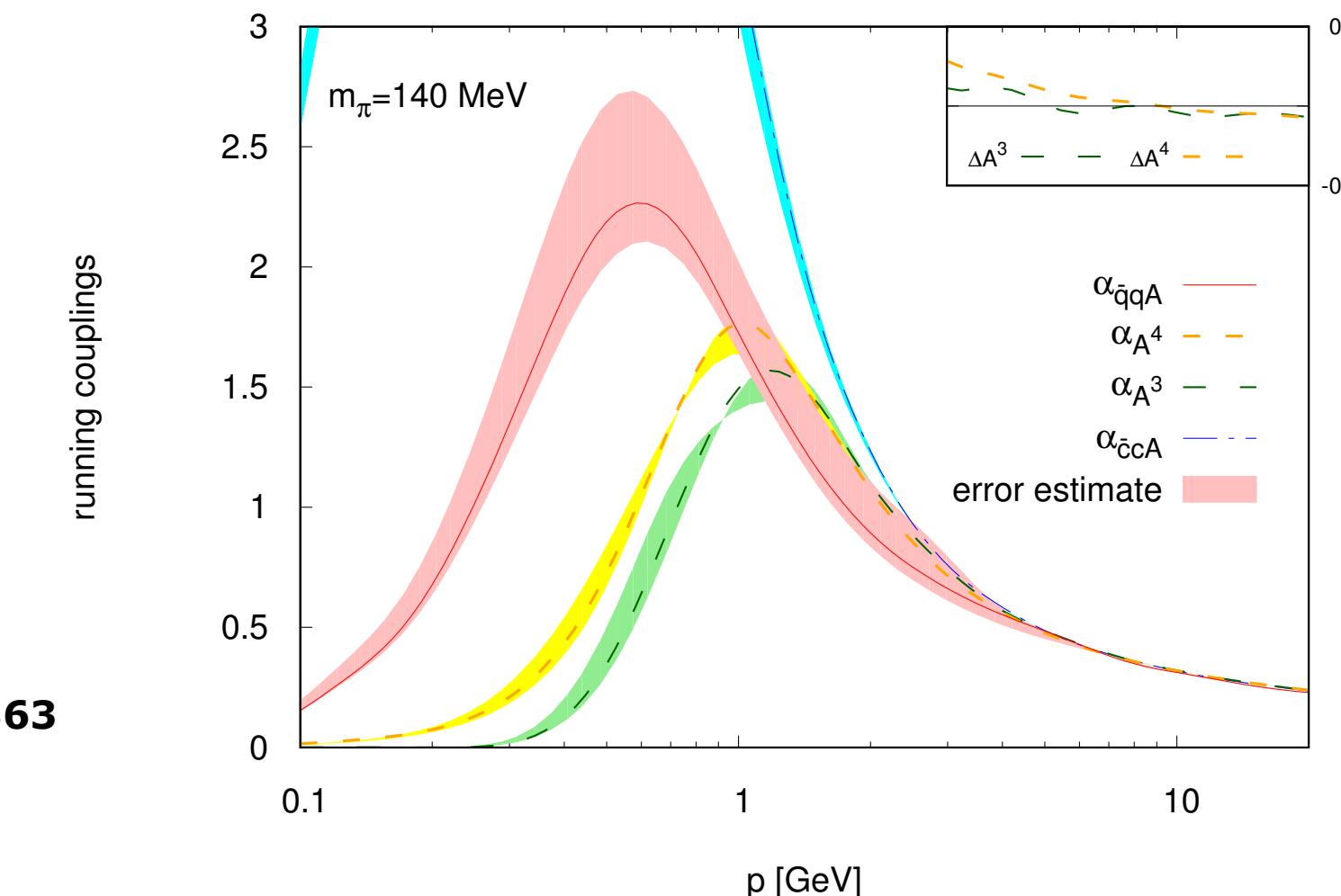
Eichmann, Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, Alkofer, Fischer, PPNP 91 (2016) 1

**lattice:** Oliveira, Kizilersü, Silva, Skullerud, Sternbeck, Williams, APP Suppl. 9 (2016) 363



$\lambda_1(p, q)$

**Beware of BRST**



**Aiming at apparent convergence**

# **fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG**

# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

More generally: X-assisted Y

X=fRG, DSE, nPI,  
lattice, exp. data

Y=fRG, DSE, nPI

# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

Example: use

(a) 2+1 fRG-assisted gluon

(b) optional: two-flavour fRG quark-gluon vertex

More generally: X-assisted Y

X=fRG, DSE, nPI,  
lattice, exp. data

Y=fRG, DSE, nPI

in 2+1 flavour DSE quark gap eq.

# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

Example: use

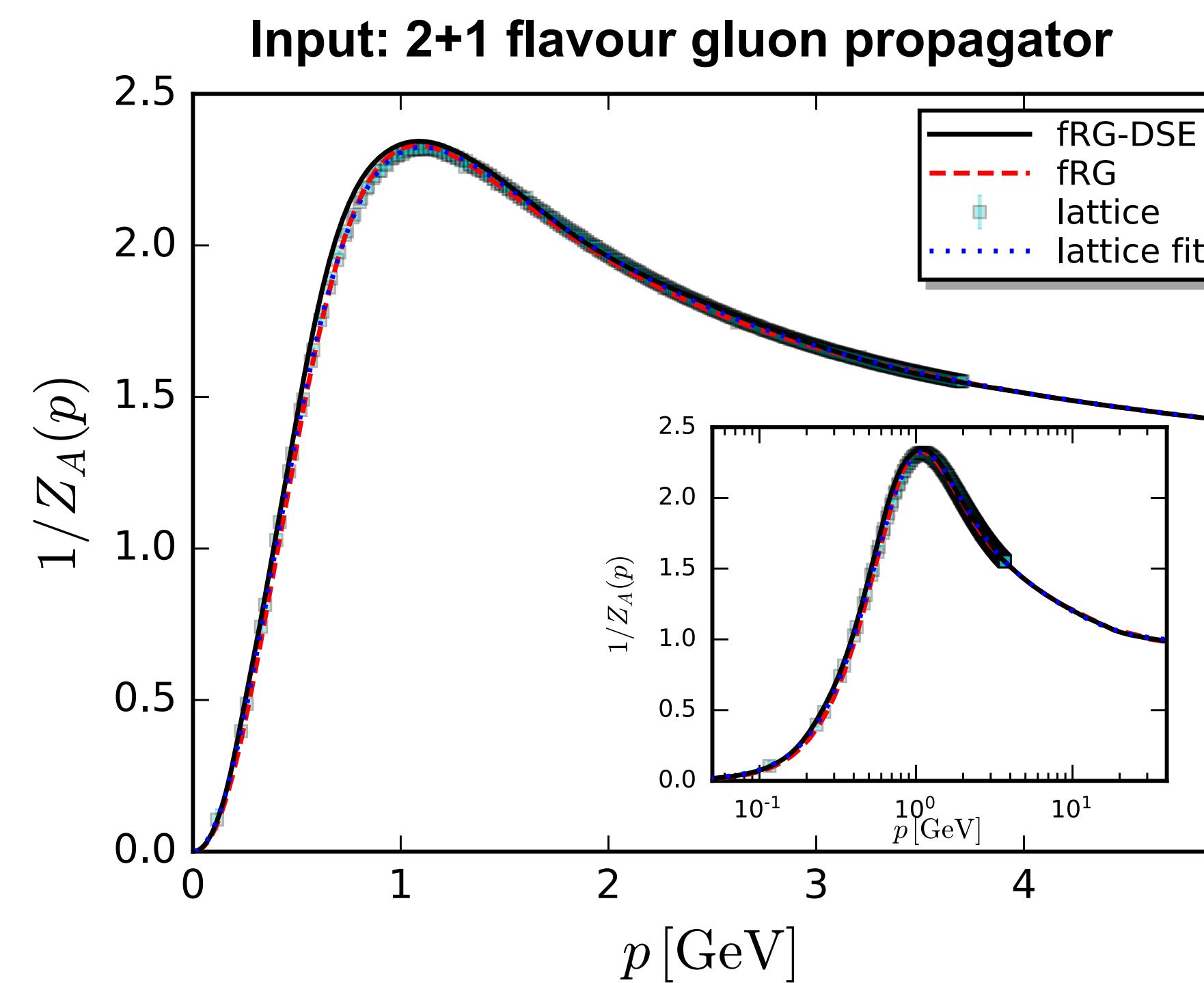
- (a) 2+1 fRG-assisted gluon
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More generally: X-assisted Y

X=fRG, DSE, nPI,  
lattice, exp. data

Y=fRG, DSE, nPI

in 2+1 flavour DSE quark gap eq.



**fRG:** Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 97 (2018) 054006

**fRG-DSE:** Gao, JMP, PLB 820 (2021) 136584  
PRD 102 (2020) 034027

**lattice:** Zafeiropoulos et al, PRL 122 (2019) 16, 162002  
Cui et al, CPC 44 (2020) 8, 083102

**FunResults based on:**

Cyrol, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 97 (2018) 054006

# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

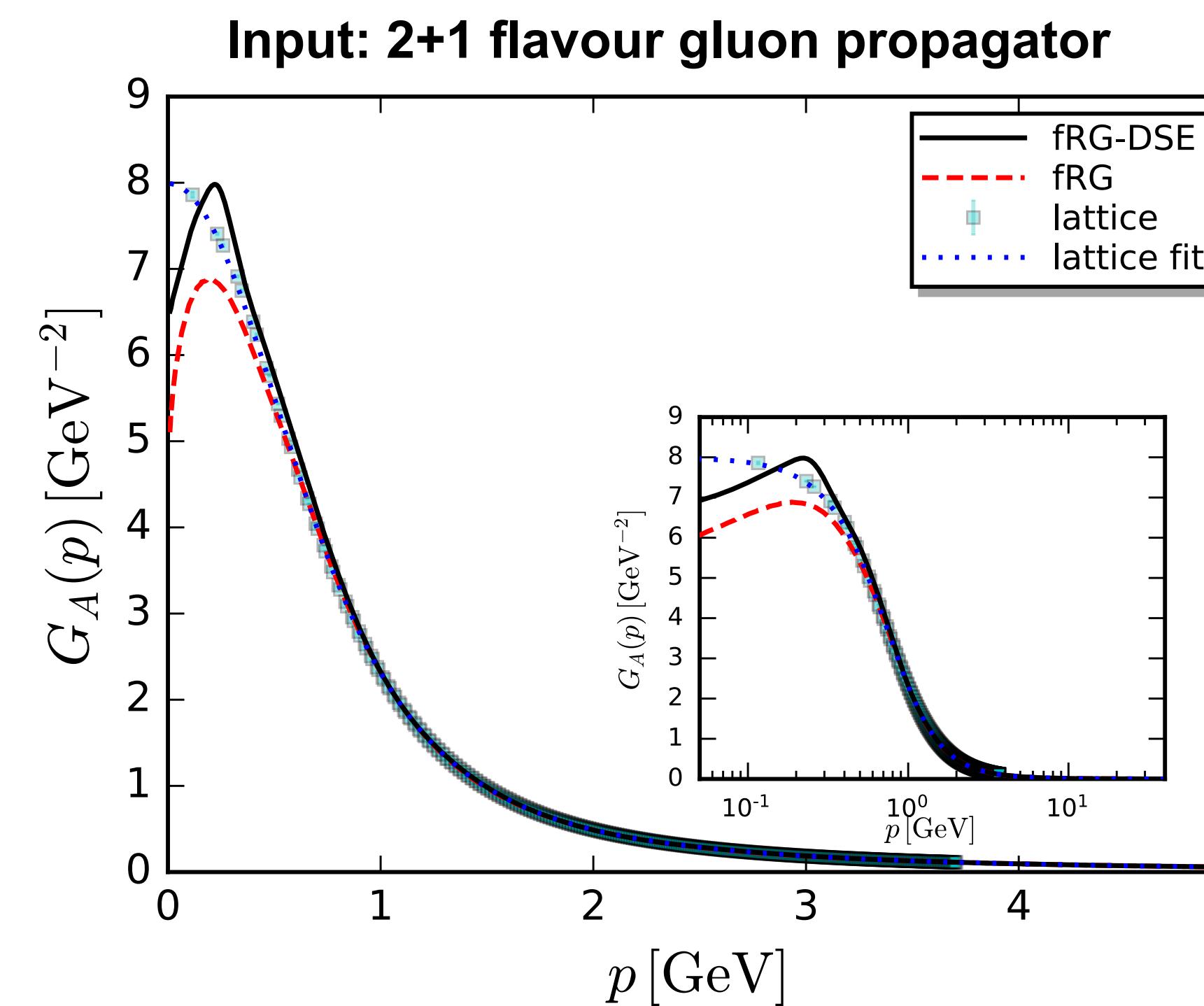
Example: use

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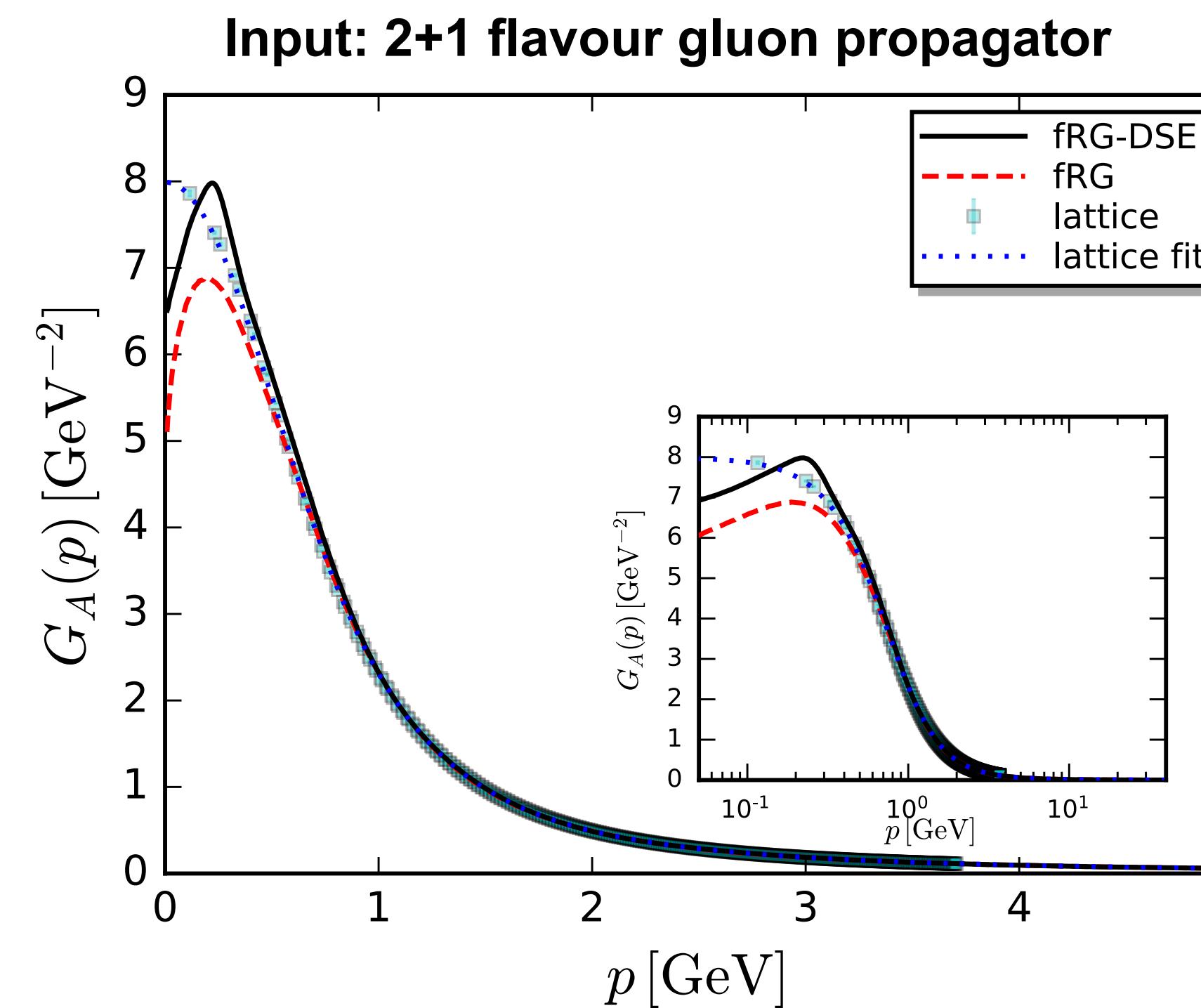
Example: use

- (a) 2+1 fRG-assisted gluon
- (b) optional: two-flavour fRG quark-gluon vertex

More generally: X-assisted Y

X=fRG, DSE, nPI,  
lattice, exp. data  
Y=fRG, DSE, nPI

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Cui et al, CPC 44 (2020) 8, 083102

**FunResults based on:**

Cyrol, Mitter, JMP, Strodthoff, PRD 97 (2018) 054006

Further example, e.g. lattice-assisted 2+1 flavour DSE

Aguilar et al, EPC 80 (2020) 2, 154

# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

Example: use

(a) 2+1 fRG-assisted gluon

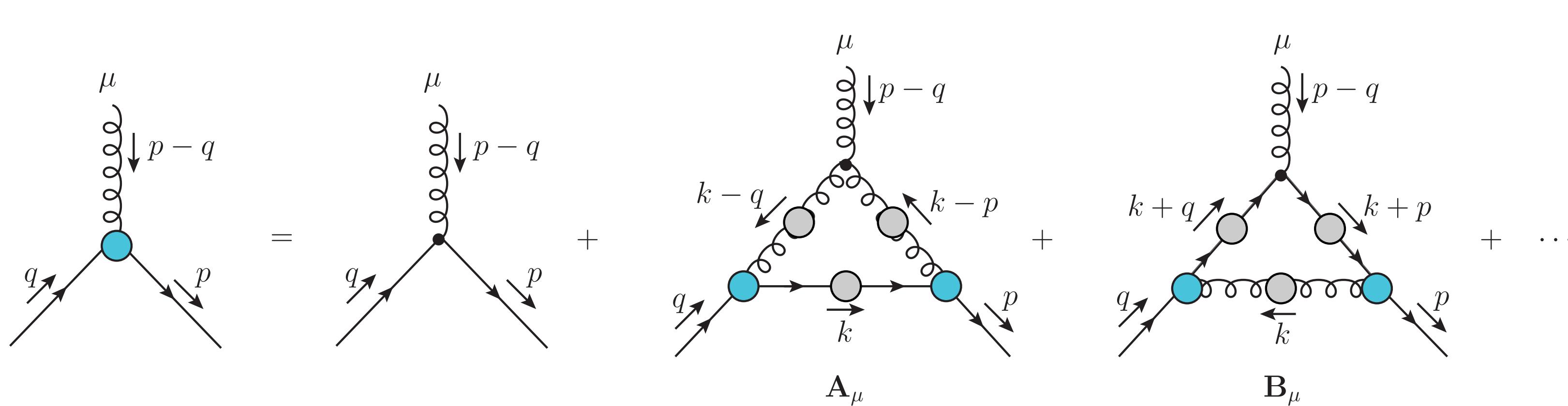
(b) optional: two-flavour fRG quark-gluon vertex

in 2+1 flavour DSE quark gap eq.

**Full quark  
gluon**

$$(\rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft \rightarrow)^{-1} = (\rightarrow \text{---} \rightarrow)^{-1} + \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft \circlearrowright \text{---} \rightarrow$$

$p$      $p$      $p$        $q$        $q - p$



# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

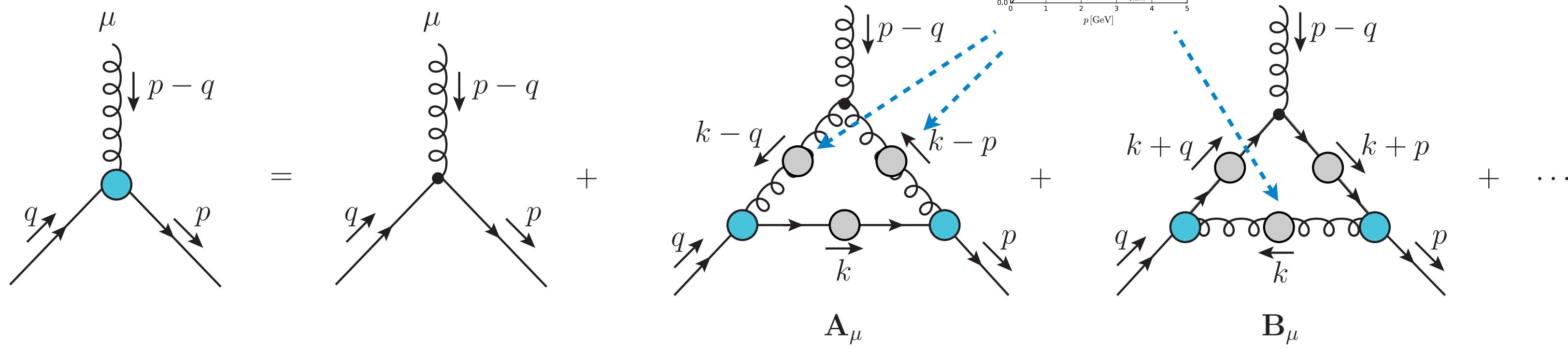
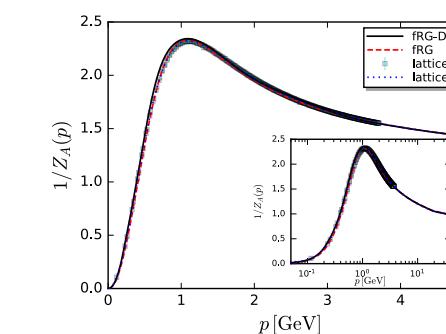
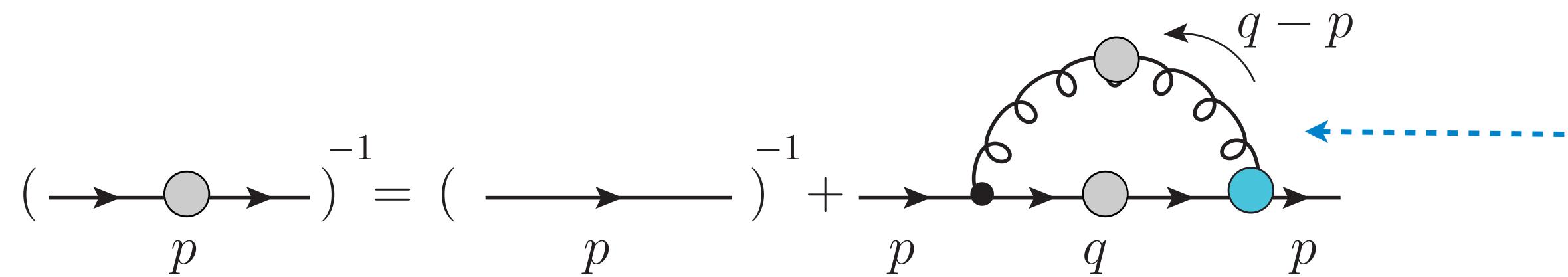
Example: use

(a) 2+1 fRG-assisted gluon

(b) optional: two-flavour fRG quark-gluon vertex

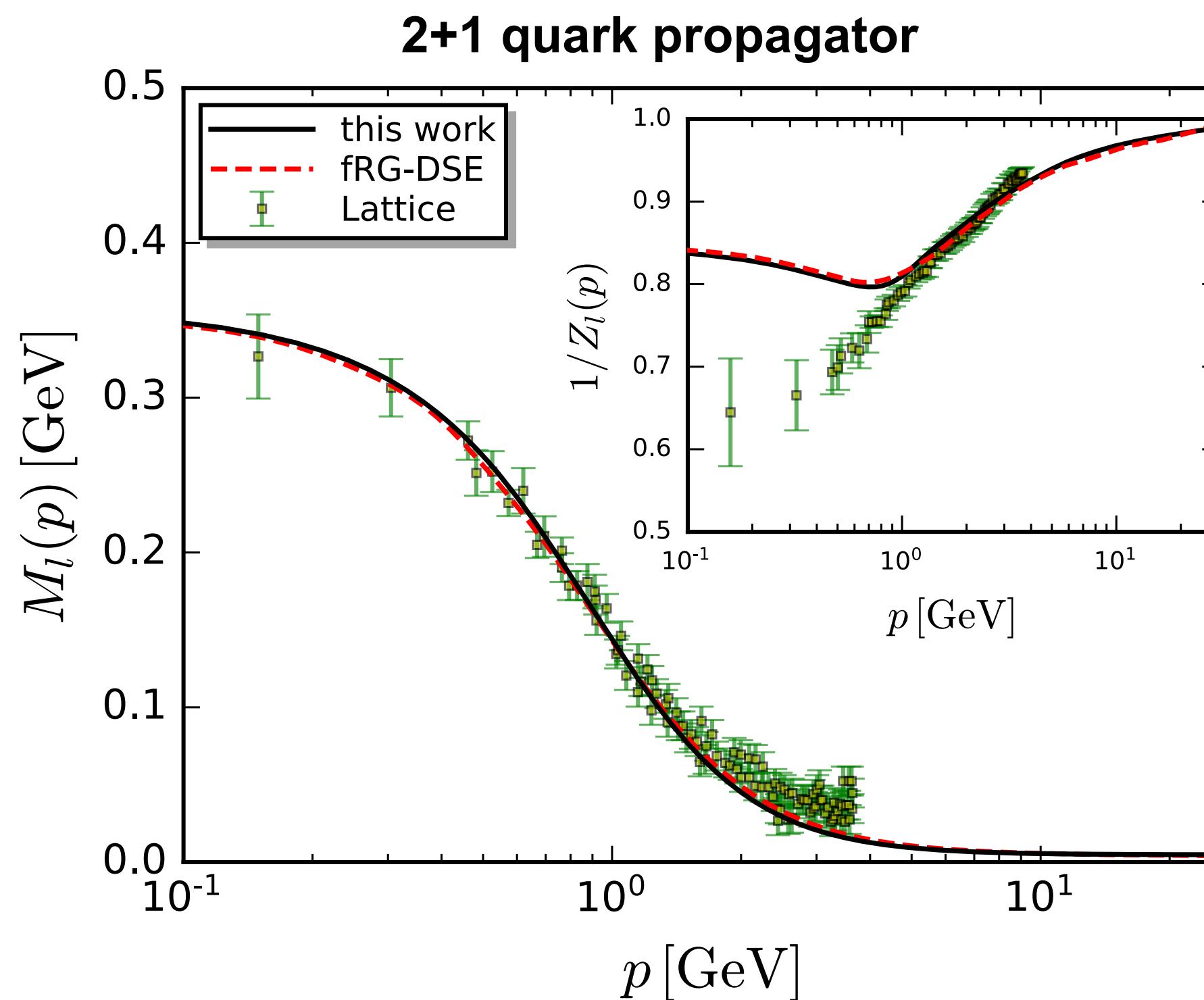
in 2+1 flavour DSE quark gap eq.

**Full quark  
gluon**



# fRG/DSE-assisted DSE/fRG

## Results



**Chiral condensate**

**DSE:**  $\Delta_{l,\chi}(2 \text{ GeV}) = (269.3(7) \text{ MeV})^3$

**Lattice:**  $\Delta_{l,\chi}(2 \text{ GeV}) = (272(5) \text{ MeV})^3$

**FLAG:** Aloki et al, EPJC 80 (2020) 2, 113

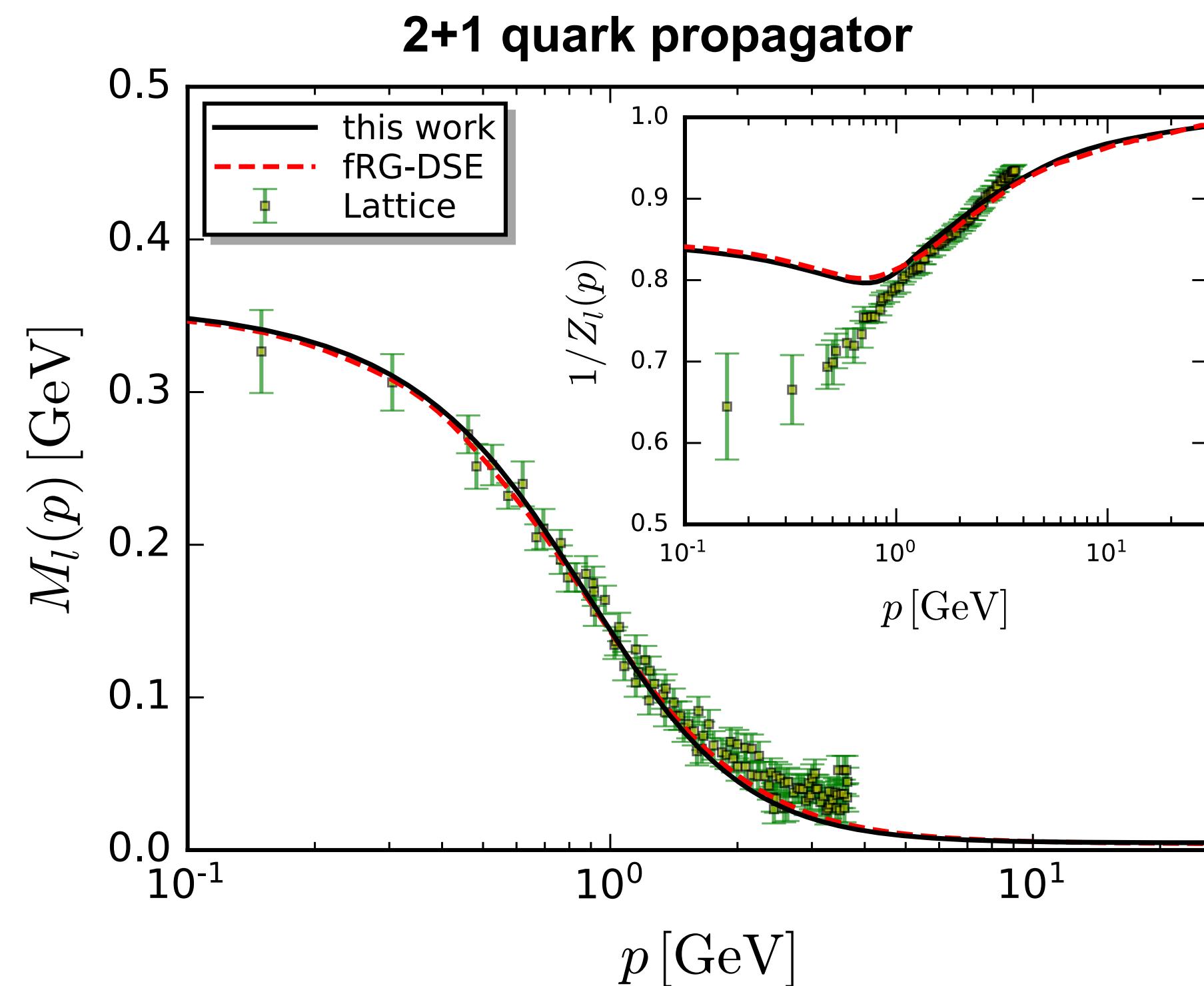
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# **Correlation functions at finite temperature**

# YM-theory: gluonic correlation functions

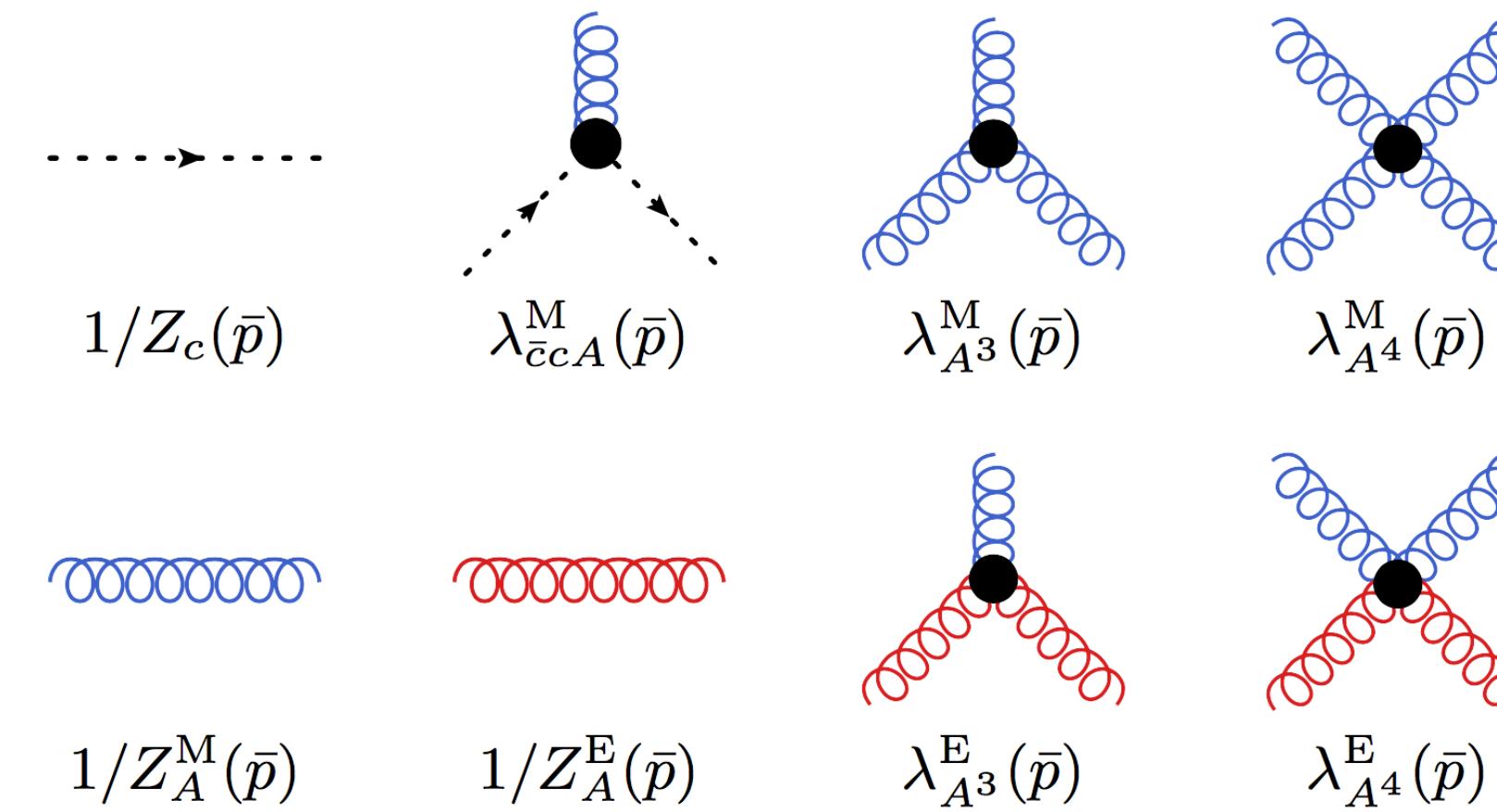
$$\partial_t \dots \overset{-1}{=} \dots \otimes \dots + \dots$$

$$\partial_t \text{ (coil)}^{-1} = \text{ (coil)} - 2 \text{ (coil)} \otimes \text{ (coil)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (coil)}^2$$

$$\partial_t \text{ (coil)} = - \text{ (triangle)} - \text{ (triangle)} \otimes \text{ (triangle)} + \text{ perm.}$$

$$\partial_t \text{ (triangle)} = - \text{ (triangle)} + 2 \text{ (triangle)} \otimes \text{ (triangle)} - \text{ (coil)} + \text{ perm.}$$

$$\partial_t \text{ (cross)} = - \text{ (cross)} - \text{ (square)} + 2 \text{ (square)} \otimes \text{ (square)} - \text{ (cross)} + \text{ perm.}$$



Aiming at apparent convergence

# YM-theory: gluonic correlation functions

$$\partial_t \text{ (horizontal line)}^{-1} = \text{ (two loops with crossed gluons)} + \text{ (two loops with crossed gluons)}$$
  

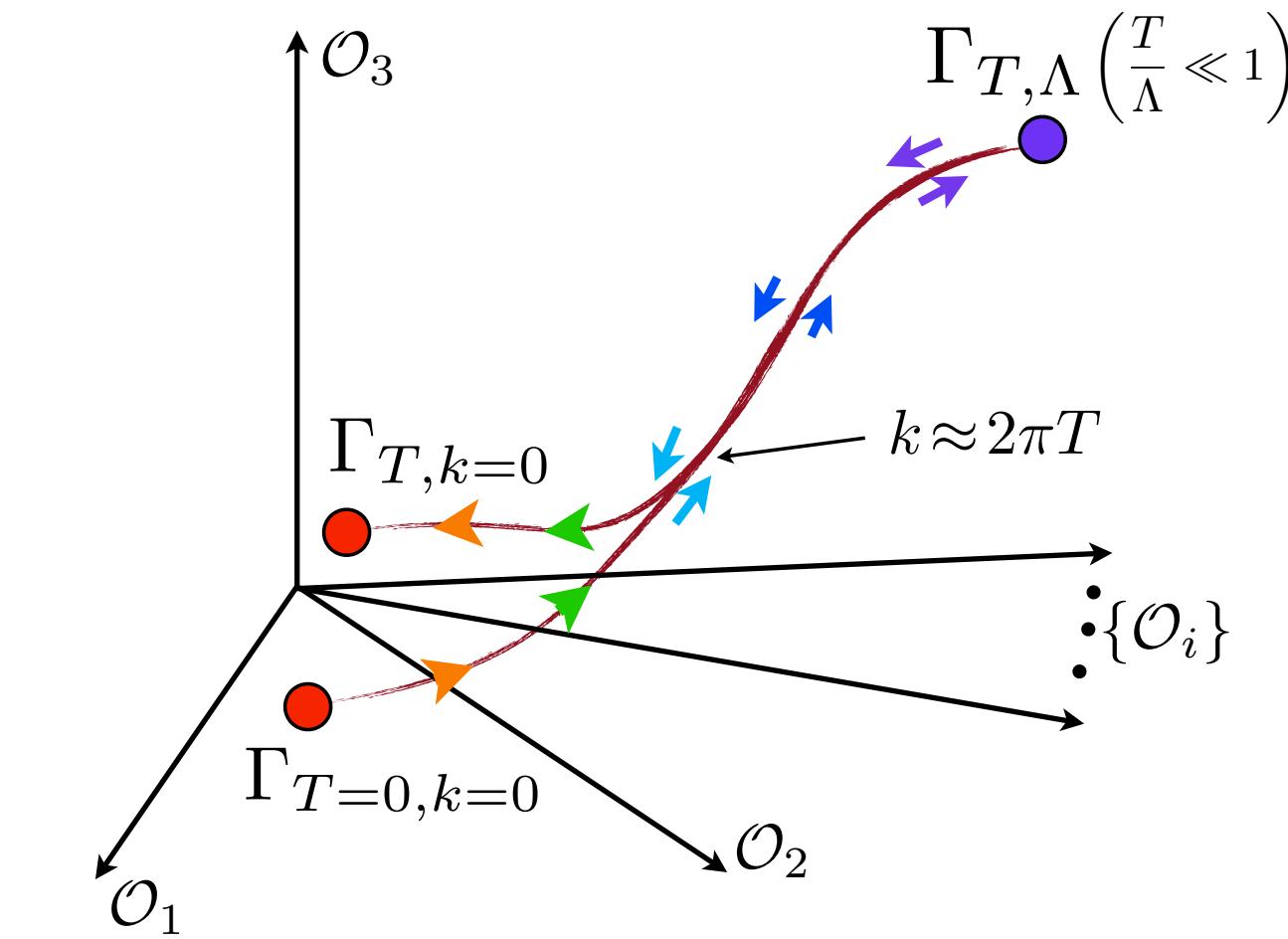
$$\partial_t \text{ (wavy line)}^{-1} = \text{ (one loop with crossed gluons)} - 2 \text{ (one loop with crossed gluons)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (one loop with crossed gluons)}$$
  

$$\partial_t \text{ (line with gluon)} = - \text{ (triangle with gluon)} - \text{ (triangle with gluon)} + \text{ perm.}$$
  

$$\partial_t \text{ (line with gluon)} = - \text{ (triangle with gluon)} + 2 \text{ (triangle with gluon)} - \text{ (triangle with gluon)} + \text{ perm.}$$
  

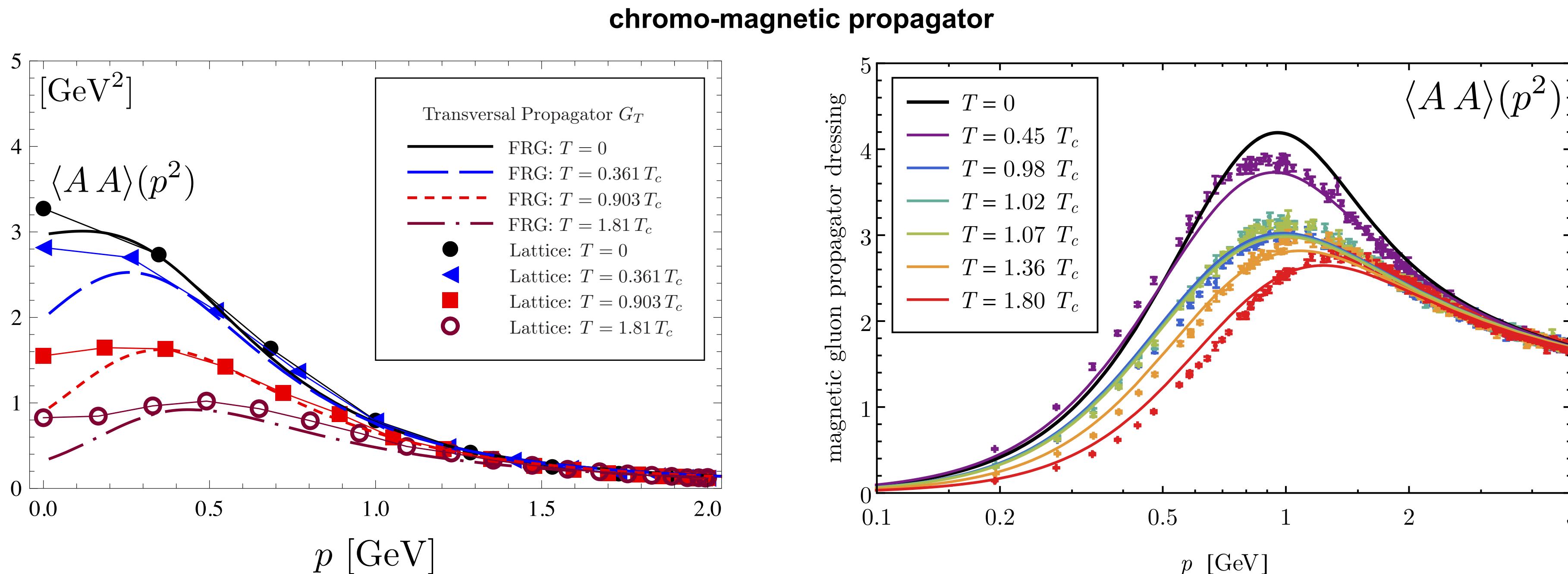
$$\partial_t \text{ (crossed gluons)} = - \text{ (square with gluons)} - \text{ (square with gluons)} + 2 \text{ (square with gluons)} - \text{ (square with gluons)} + \text{ perm.}$$

## Thermal flows



Aiming at apparent convergence

# Euclidean gluon propagator at finite T



Fister, JMP, arXiv:1112.5440

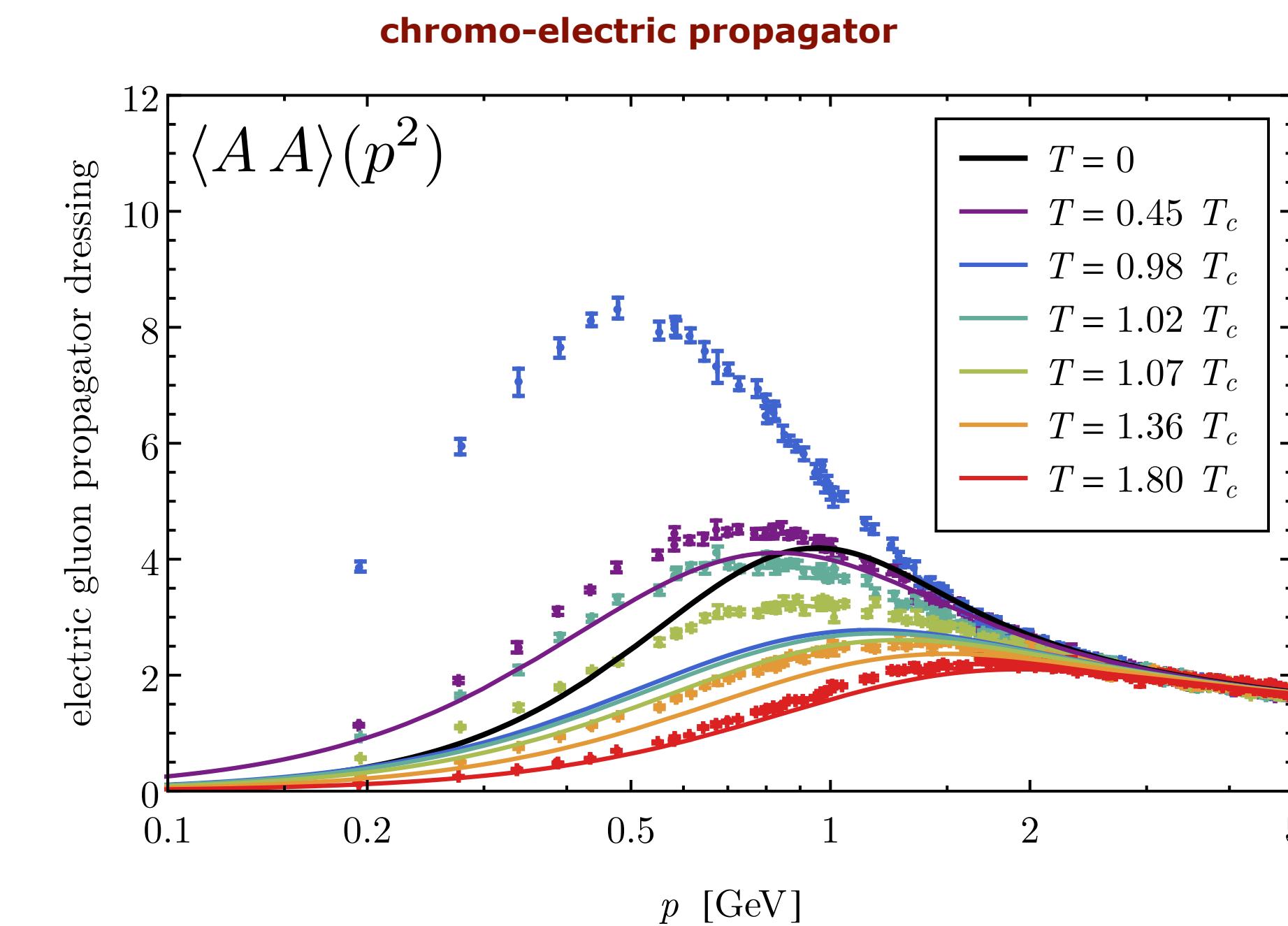
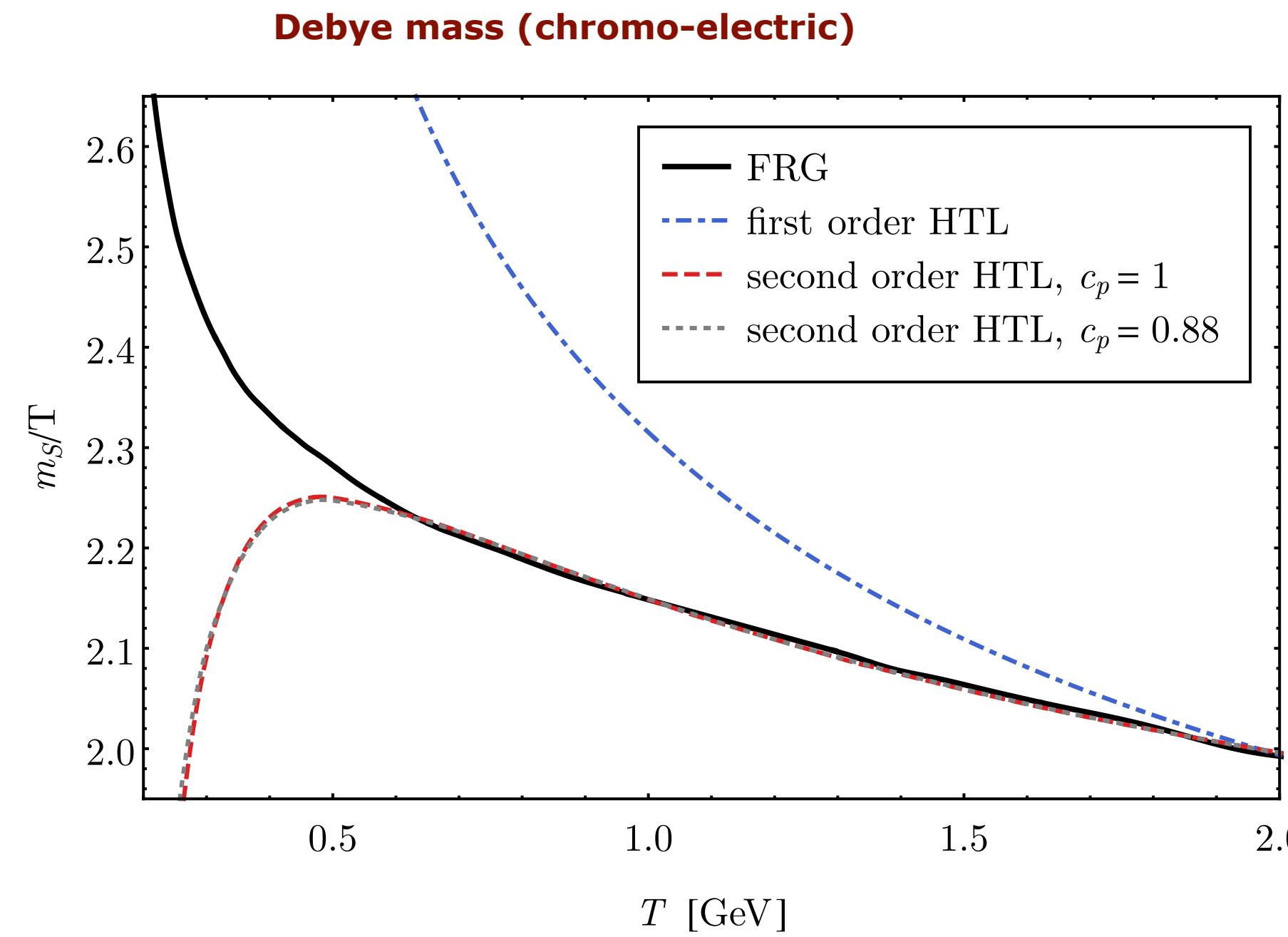
Lattice: Maas, JMP, Smekal, Spielmann, PRD 85 (2012) 034037

CF model: Reinosa, Serreau, Tissier, Tresmontant, PRD 95 (2017) 045014

Lattice: Silva, Oliveira, Bicudo, Cardoso, PRD89 (2014) 7, 074503

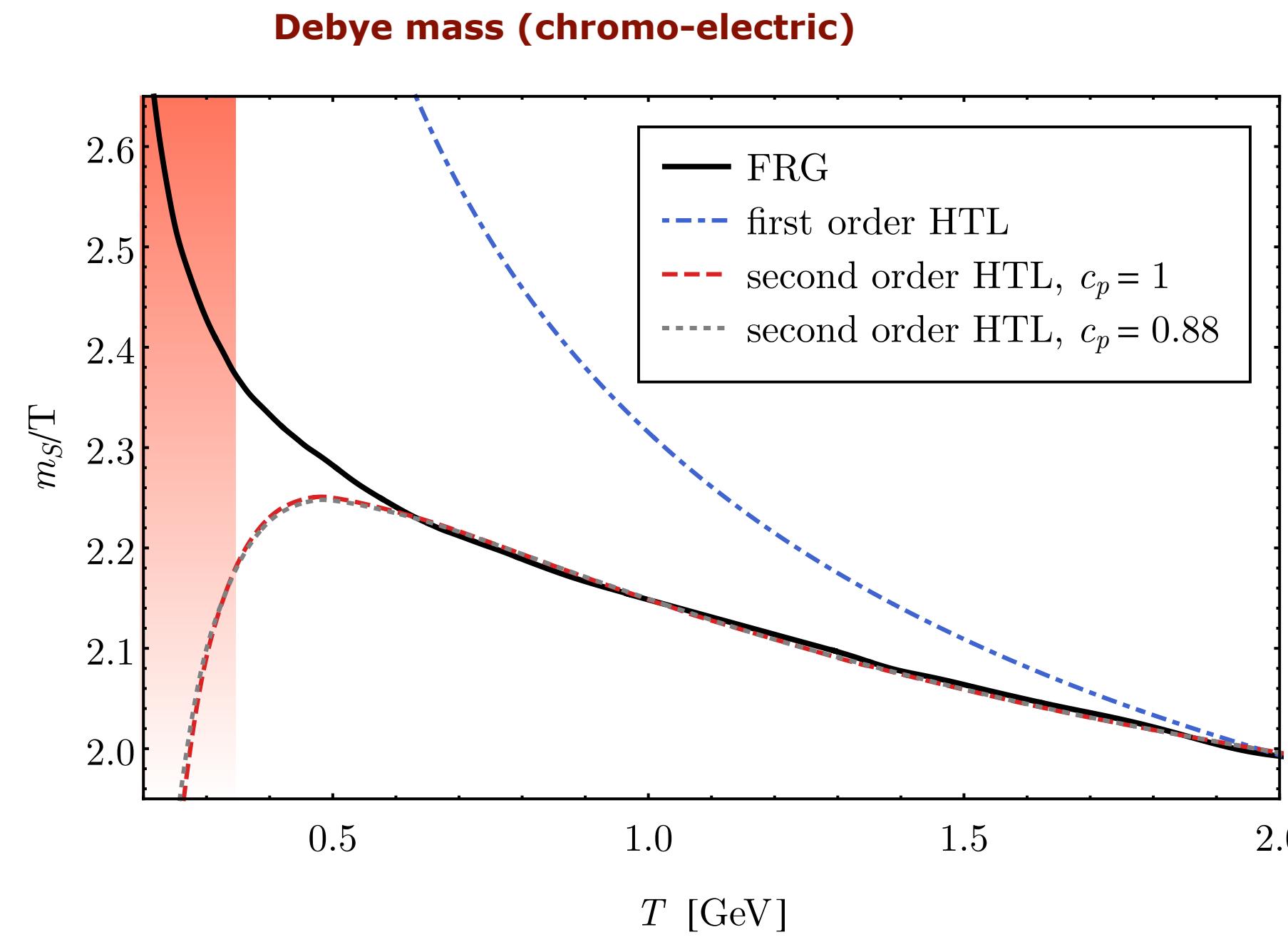
Aiming at apparent convergence

# Euclidean gluon propagator at finite T

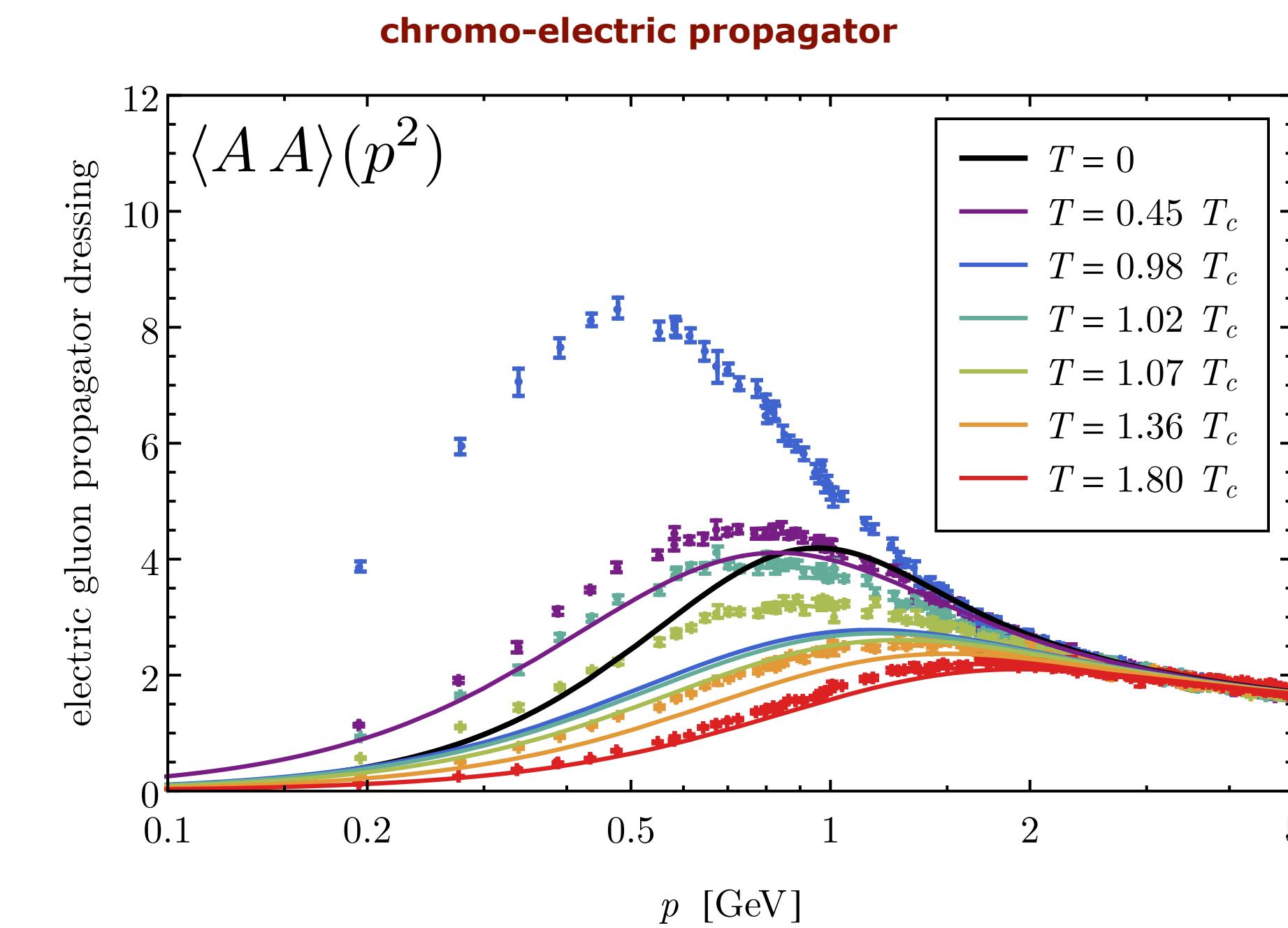


Lattice: Silva, Oliveira, Bicudo, Cardoso, PRD89 (2014) 7, 074503

# Euclidean gluon propagator at finite T



$$\langle A_0 \rangle \neq 0$$



Lattice: Silva, Oliveira, Bicudo, Cardoso, PRD89 (2014) 7, 074503

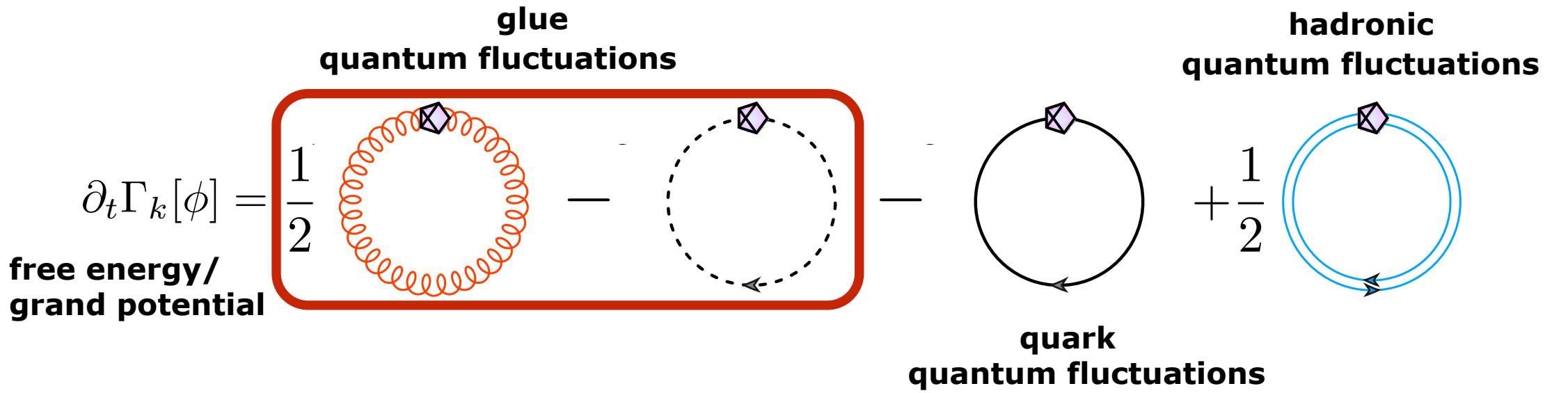
# **Polyakov loop from functional approaches**

# Confinement

FRG: Braun, Gies, JMP, PLB 684 (2010) 262

FRG, DSE, 2PI: Fister, JMP, PRD 88 (2013) 045010

$$L[A_0] = \frac{1}{N_c} \text{tr } \mathcal{P} e^{i g \int_0^\beta A_0(x)}$$

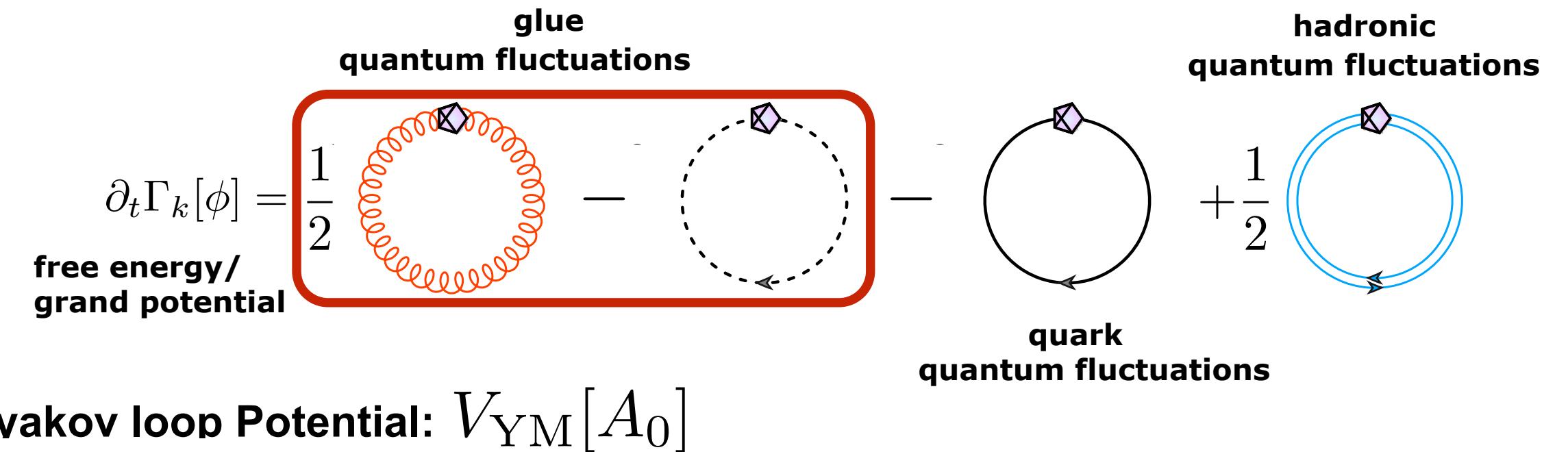


# Confinement

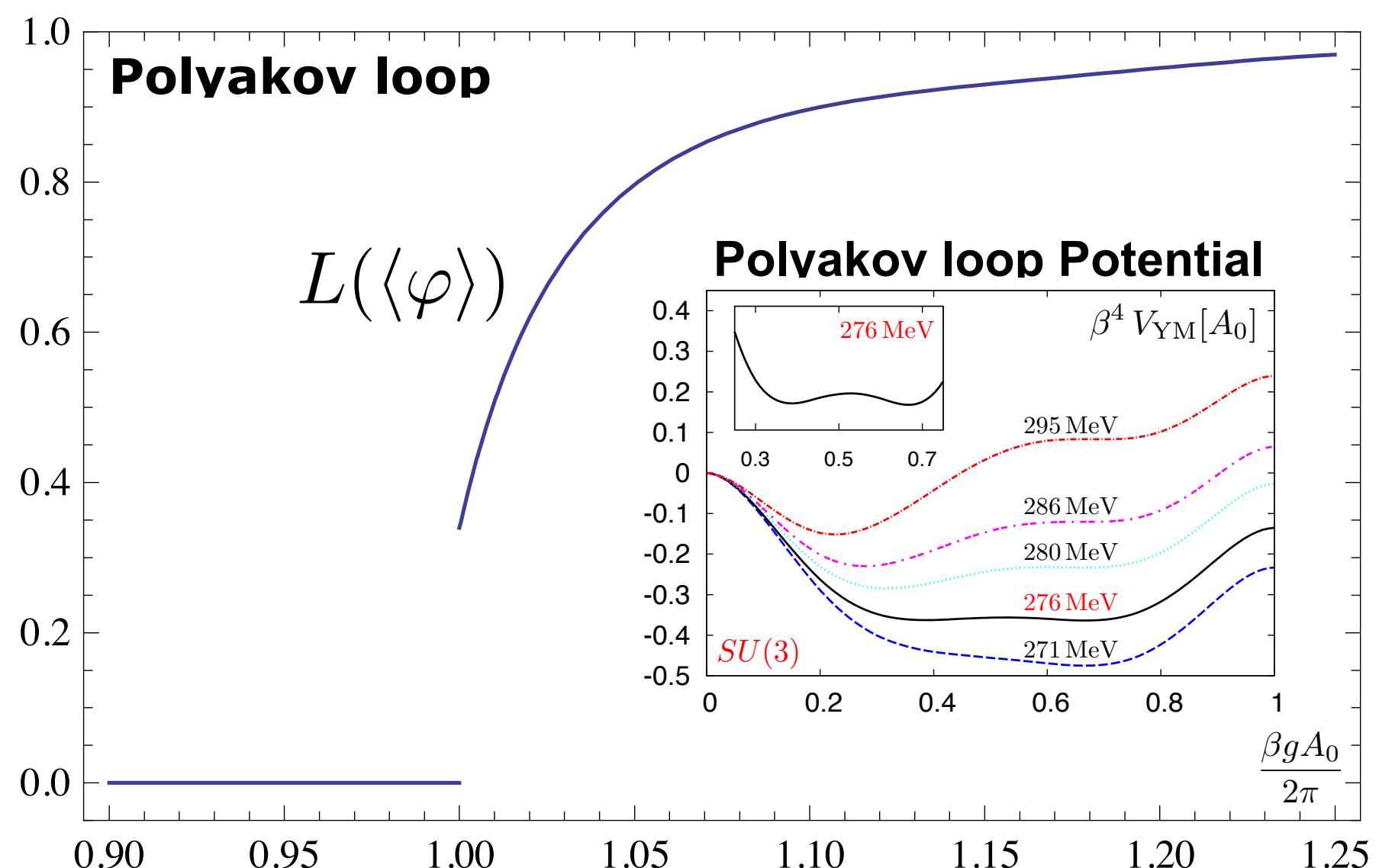
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$$\mathcal{P} e^{i g \int_0^\beta A_0(x)} = e^{i\varphi}$$



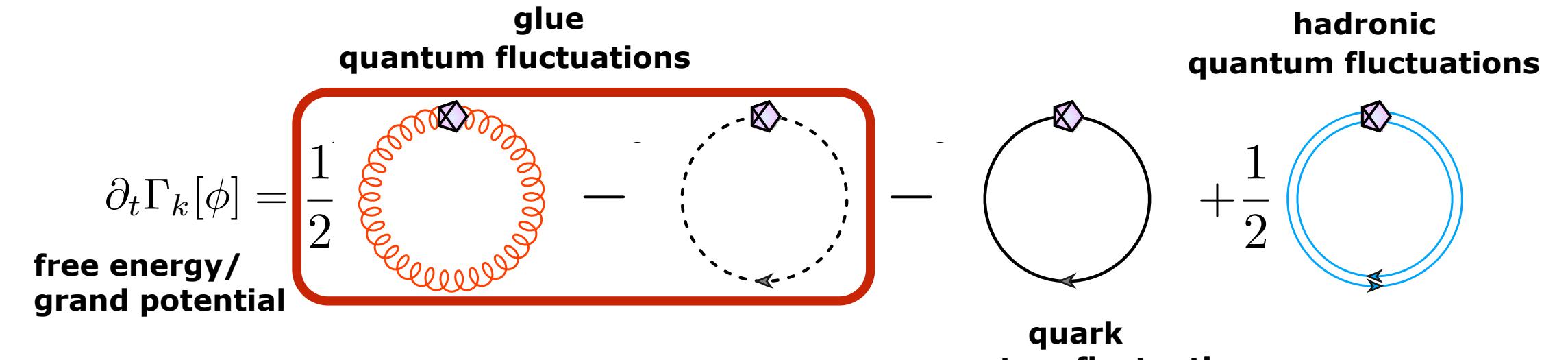
$T/T_c$

# Confinement

FRG: Braun, Gies, JMP, PLB 684 (2010) 262

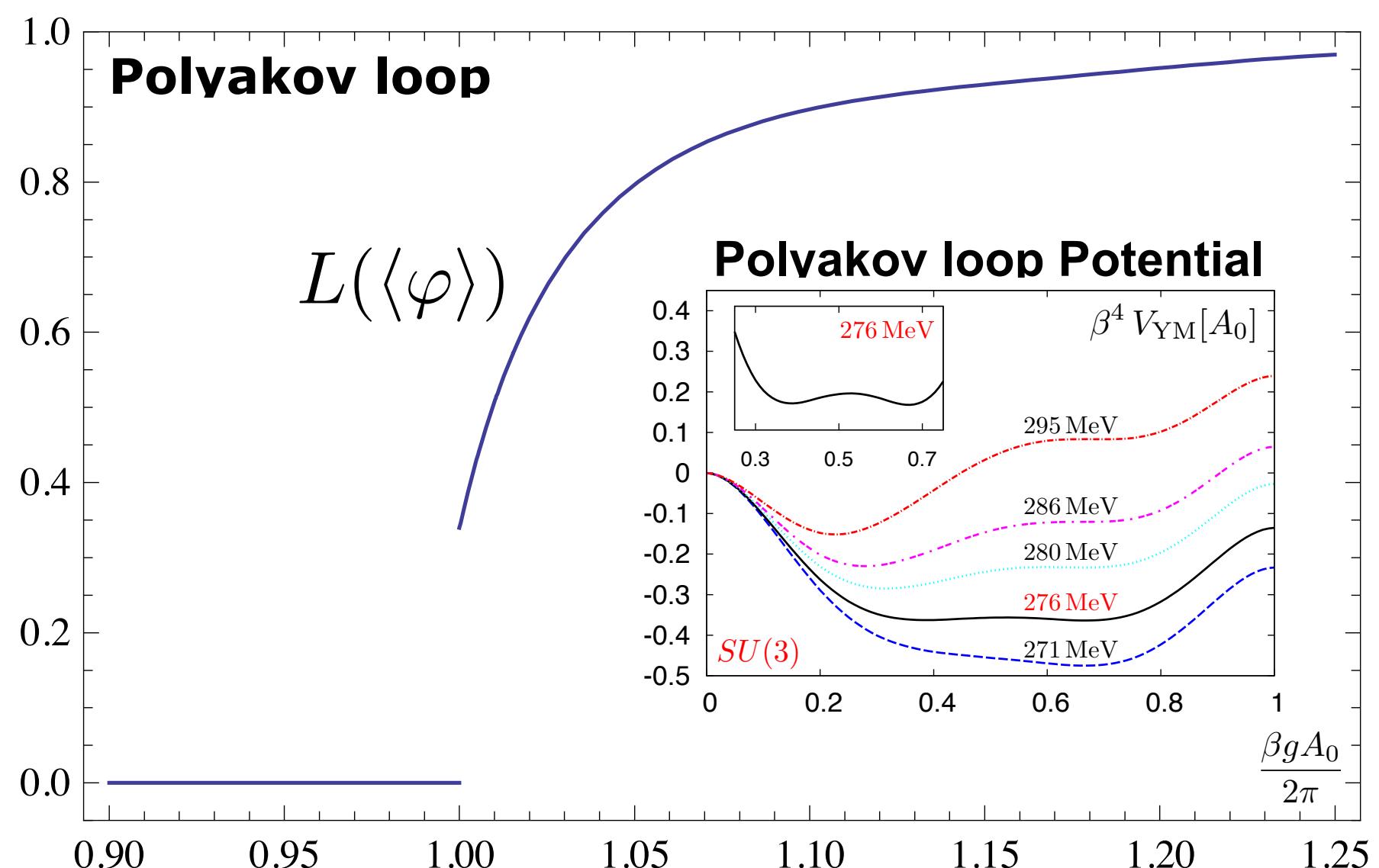
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**Polvakov loop Potential:**  $V_{\text{YM}}[A_0]$

$$\mathcal{P} e^{i g \int_0^\beta A_0(x)} = e^{i\varphi}$$



$$T_c/\sqrt{\sigma} = 0.658 \pm 0.023$$

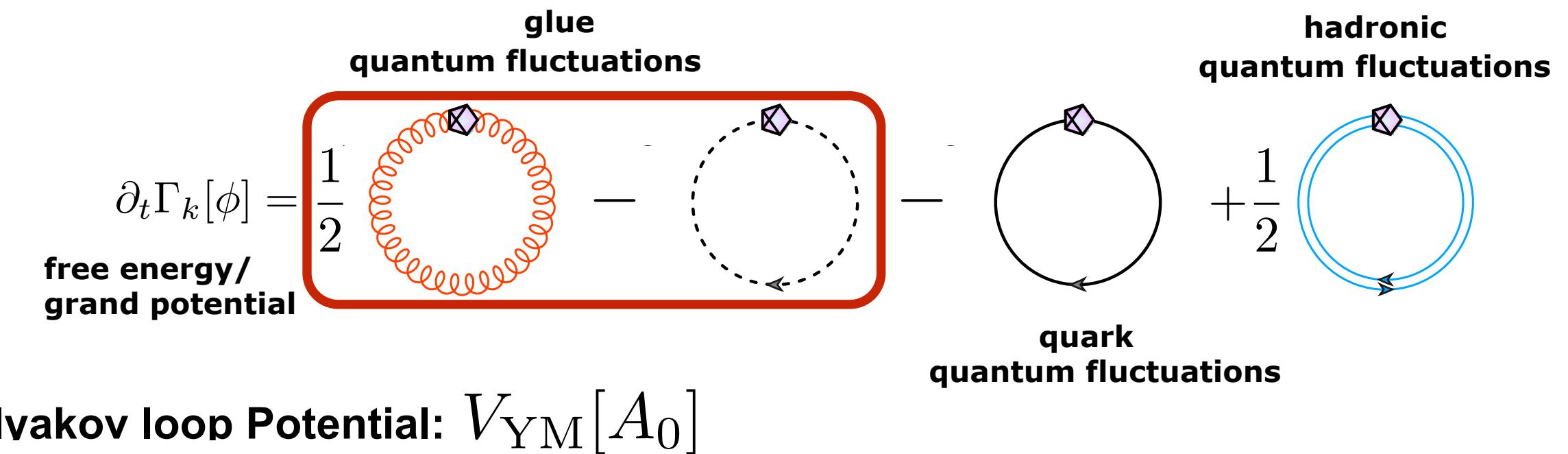
$$\text{lattice : } T_c/\sqrt{\sigma} = 0.646$$

# Confinement

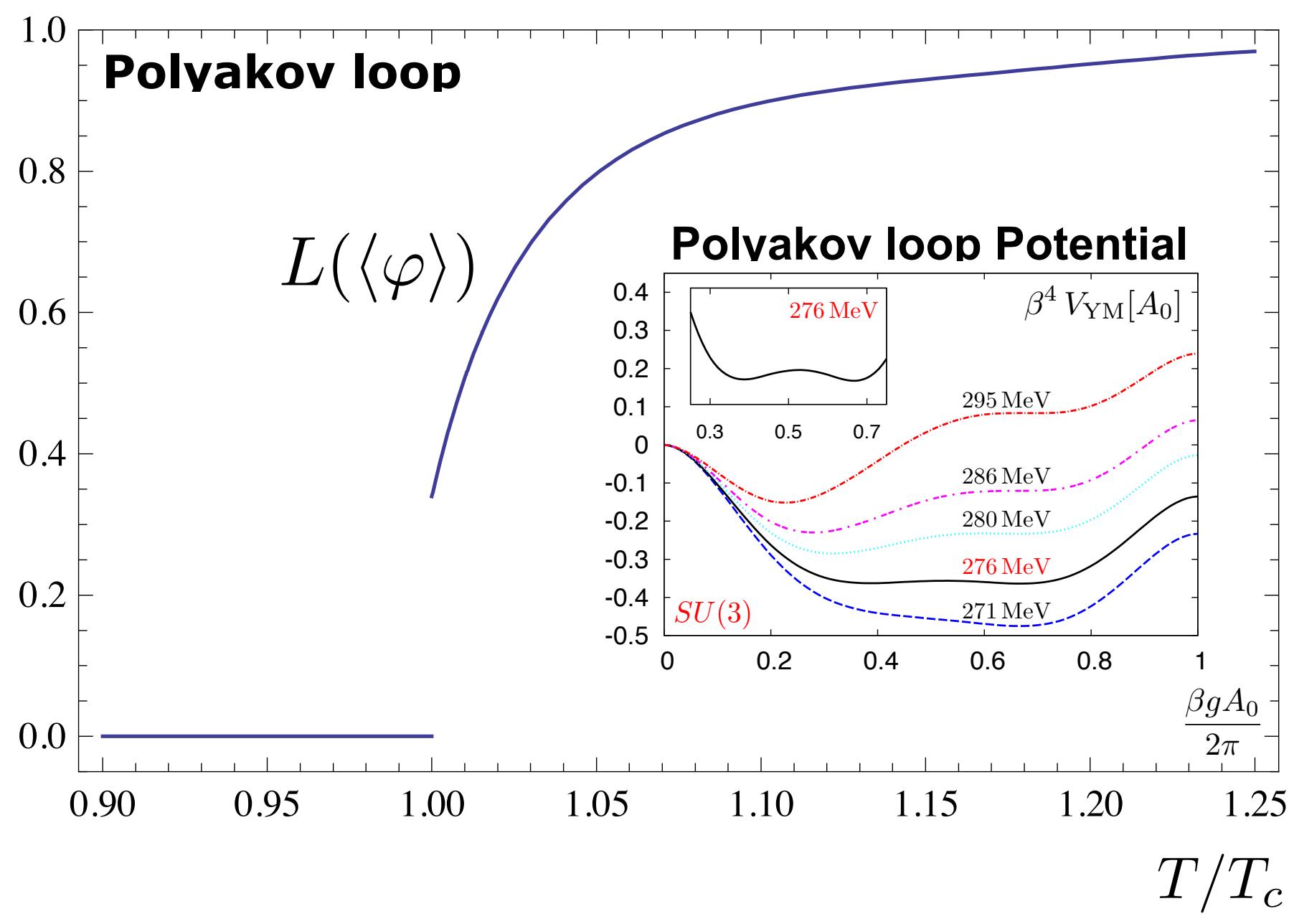
FRG: Braun, Gies, JMP, PLB 684 (2010) 262

FRG, DSE, 2PI: Fister, JMP, PRD 88 (2013) 045010

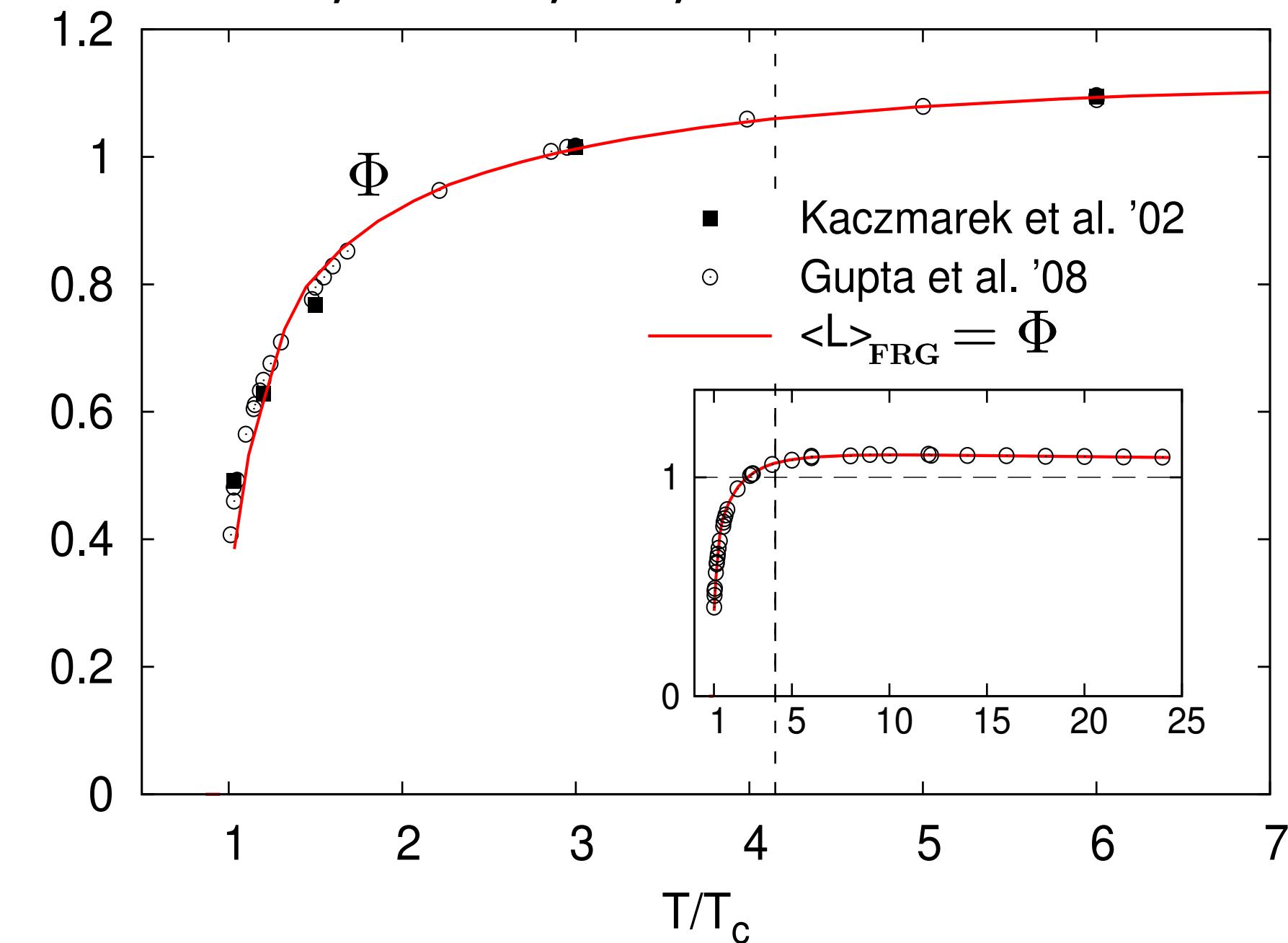
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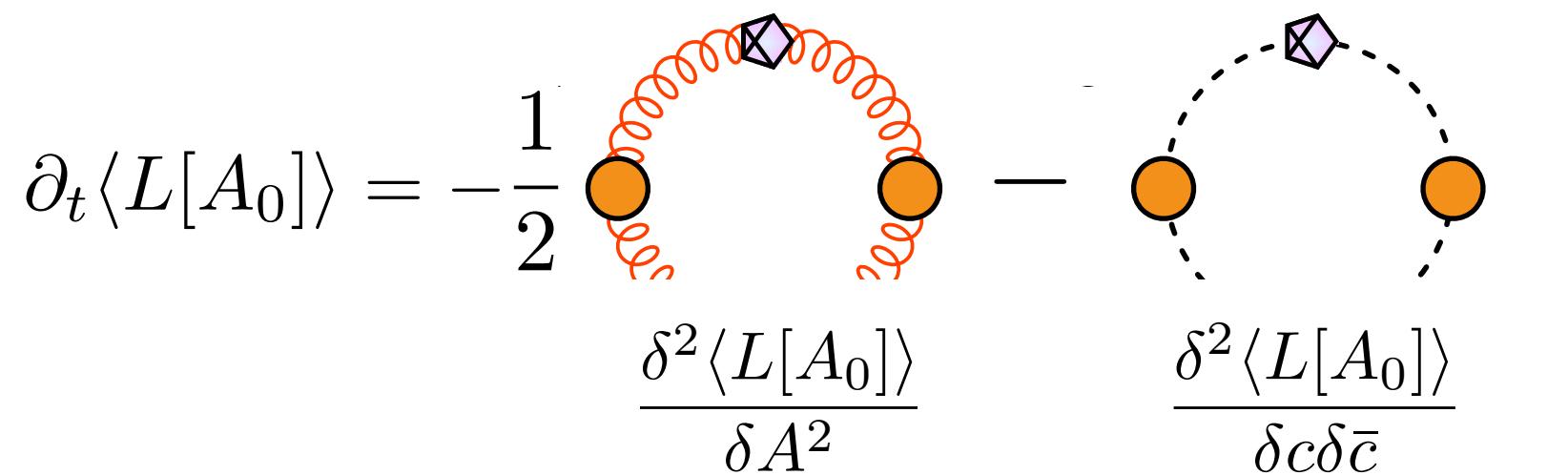
Herbst, Luecker, JMP, arXiv:1510.03830



# Confinement

Herbst, Luecker, JMP, arXiv:1510.03830

**Flow equation for the Polyakov loop expectation value**

$$\partial_t \langle L[A_0] \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta^2 \langle L[A_0] \rangle}{\delta A^2} - \frac{\delta^2 \langle L[A_0] \rangle}{\delta c \delta \bar{c}} \right)$$


**equation for composite operators**

JMP, AP 322 (2007) 2831

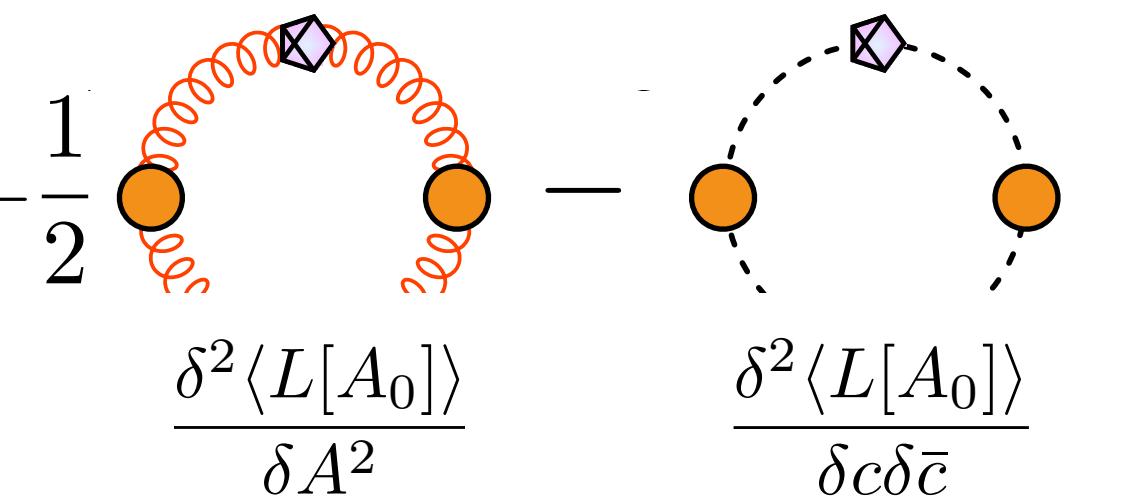
Igarashi, Itoh, Sonoda, PTP Suppl. 181 (2010) 1

Pagani, PRD 94 (2016) 045001

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Igarashi, Itoh, Sonoda, PTP Suppl. 181 (2010) 1

Pagani, PRD 94 (2016) 045001

## Parameterisation

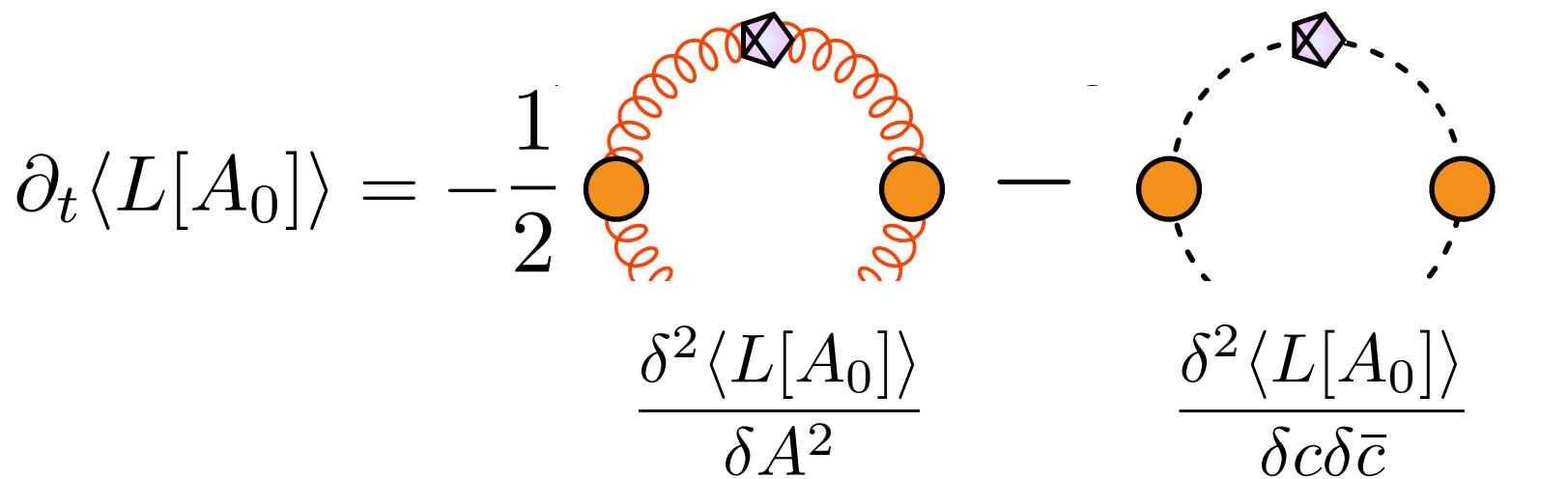
$$\langle L[A_0] \rangle = Z_L[\bar{A}, \phi] \cdot L[A_0]$$

**with**  $\phi = (a_\mu, c, \bar{c})$

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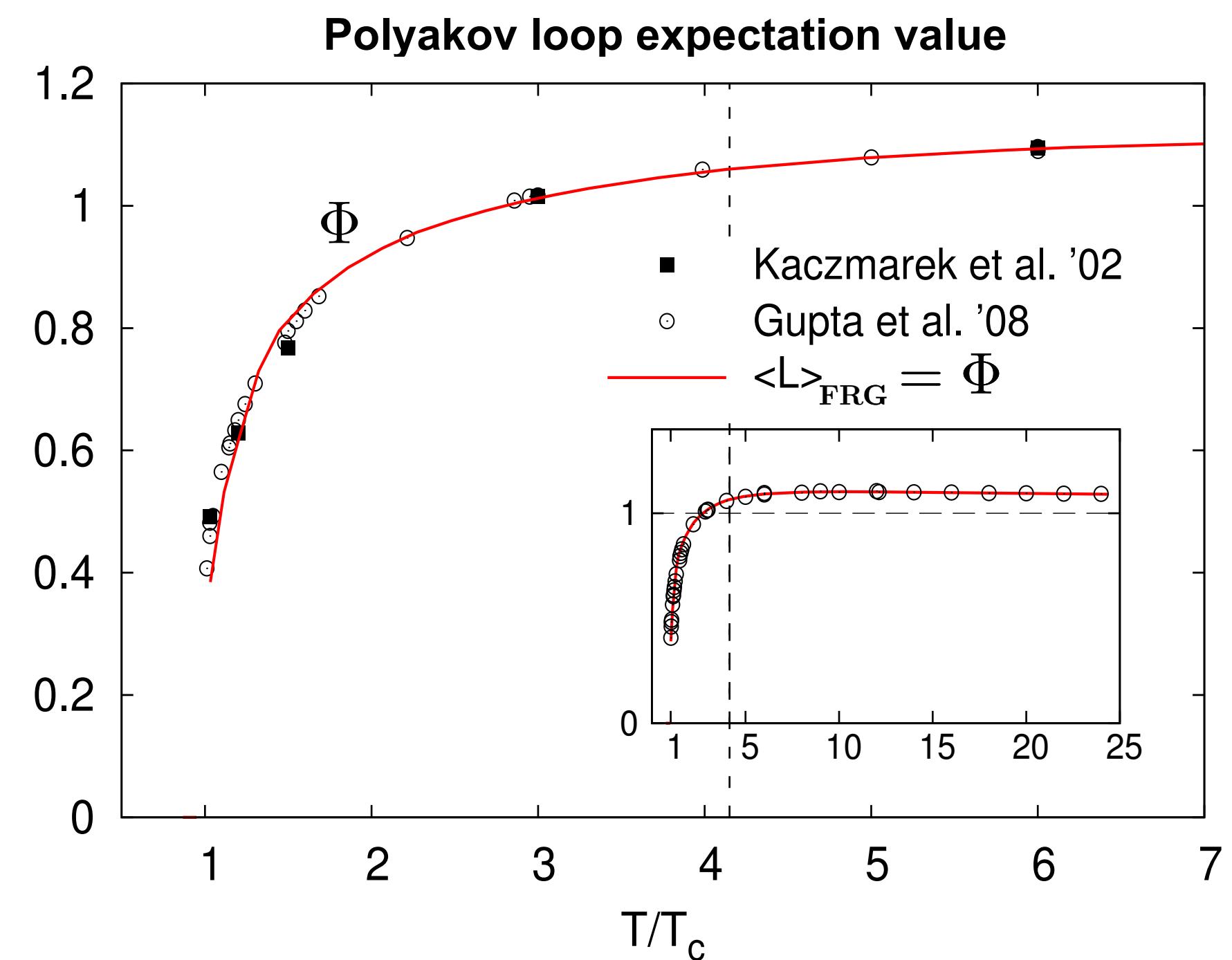
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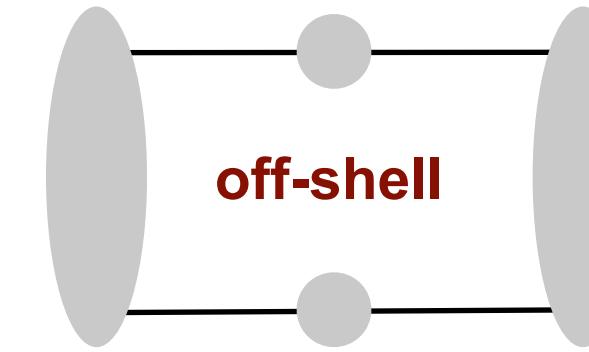
# **QCD phase structure**

# **Locating the QCD phase boundary and the critical end point**

# Three remarks on Functional Approaches for QCD

- off-shell representation of thermodynamic observables

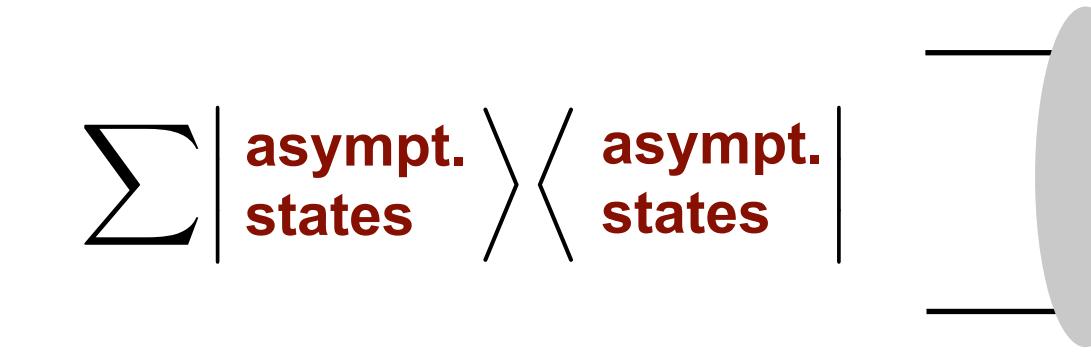
e.g.  $\text{Tr} \langle q(x)\bar{q}(x) \rangle$



pressure, trace anomaly,  
fluctuations, volume flucs., ...



on-shell



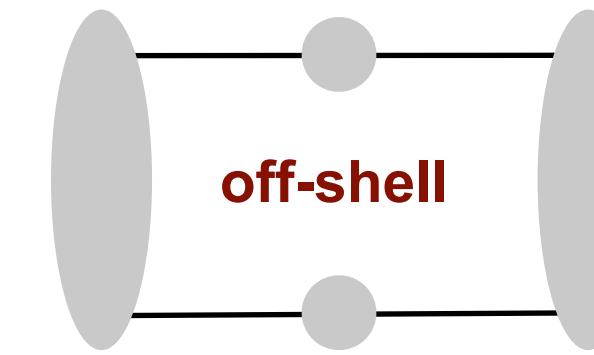
e.g. hadron resonances

'... and now for something  
completely different ...'

# Three remarks on Functional Approaches for QCD

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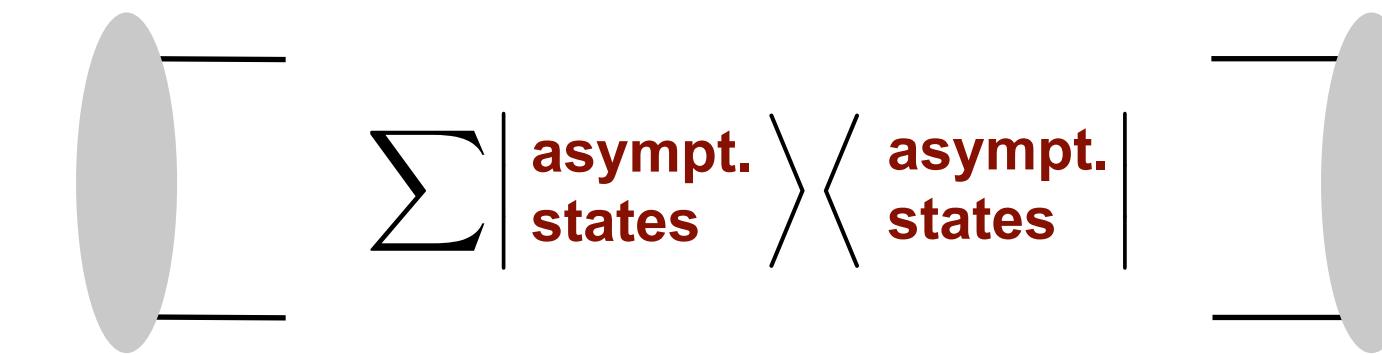
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on-shell



- gauge fixing = parameterisation

$$\langle q(x_1) \cdots \bar{q}(x_{2n}) A_\mu(y_1) \cdots A_\mu(y_m) h(z_1) \cdots h(z_l) \rangle$$

## Consequences

I: simple correlations

II: Difficult access to some observables

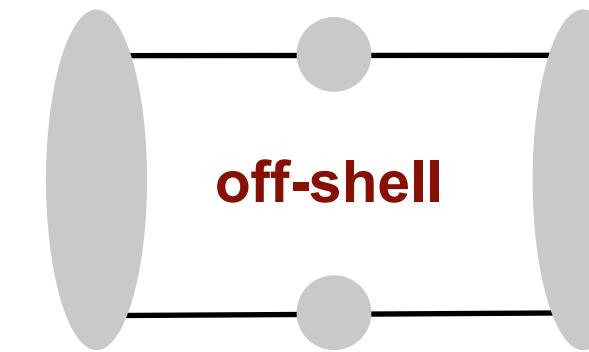
'No free lunch theorem'

'... and now for something  
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# Three remarks on Functional Approaches for QCD

- off-shell representation of thermodynamic observables

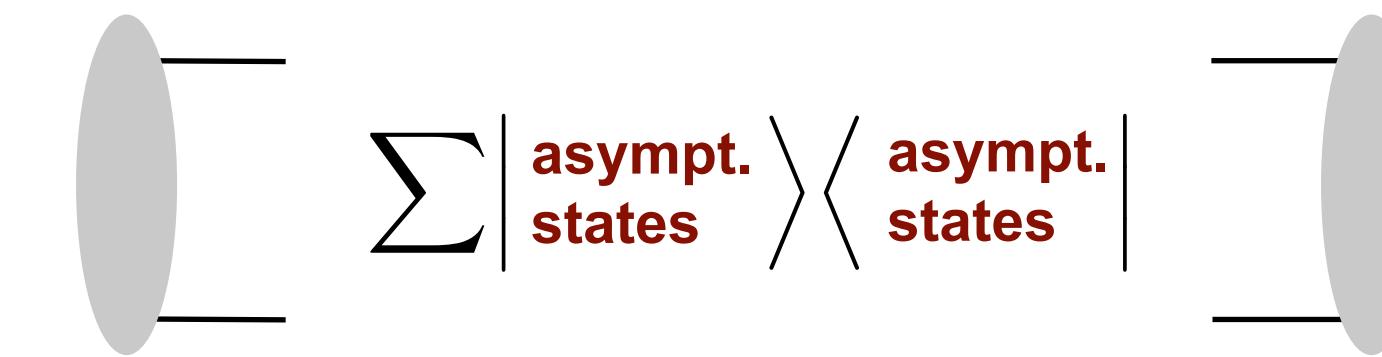
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## Consequences

I: simple correlations

II: Difficult access to some observables

'No free lunch theorem'

- 'Your mean field is not my mean field'

$$\frac{\delta S_{\text{cl}}[\phi]}{\delta \phi} \Big|_{\phi=\bar{\phi}} = 0$$

$$\frac{\delta \Gamma[\phi]}{\delta \phi} \Big|_{\phi=\bar{\phi}_{\text{quant}}} = 0$$

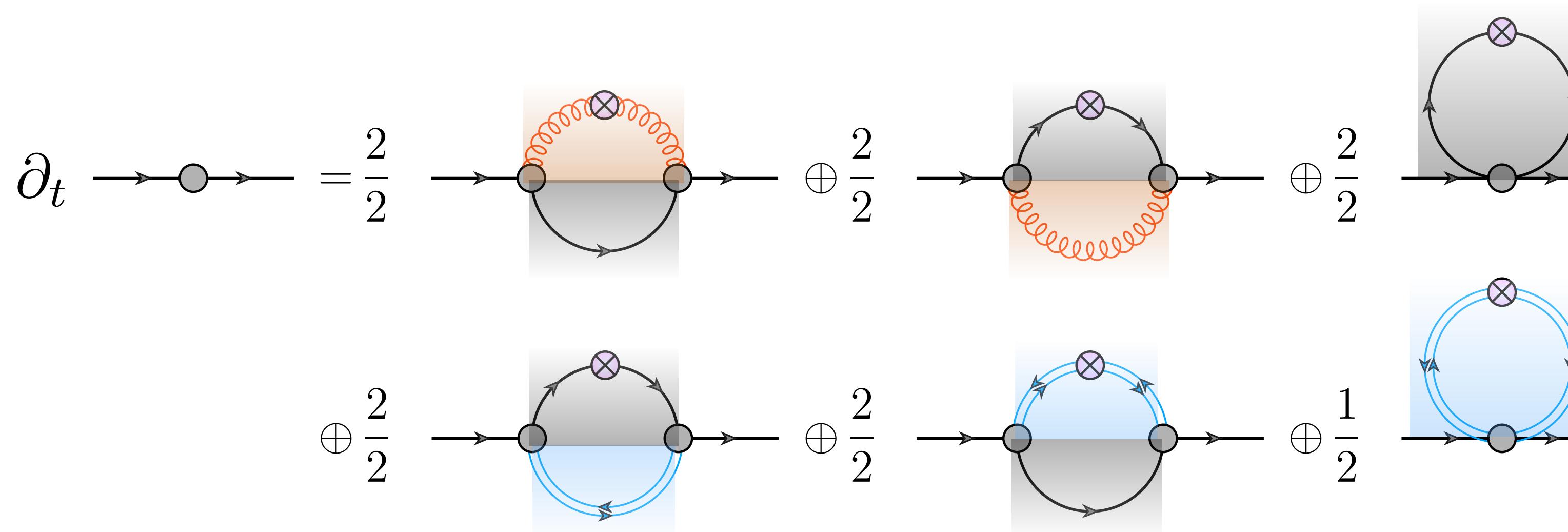
# Correlation functions at finite density from functional QCD

To QCD or not to QCD....a minimal point of view

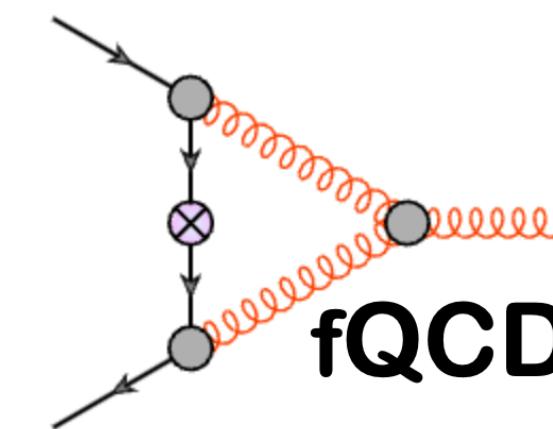
'... and now for something completely different ...'

- Self-consistent truncations to functional relations define analytic functions in  $\underline{\mu_B}$ , eg:

$$\partial_t \left\langle q(x) \bar{q}(y) \right\rangle^{-1}(\underline{\mu_B}) = \text{Loop} \left[ \left\langle q(x) \bar{q}(y) \right\rangle(\underline{\mu_B}), \left\langle q(x) A_\mu(y) \bar{q}(z) \right\rangle(\underline{\mu_B}), \dots; \underline{\mu_B} \right]$$



**fQCD collaboration**

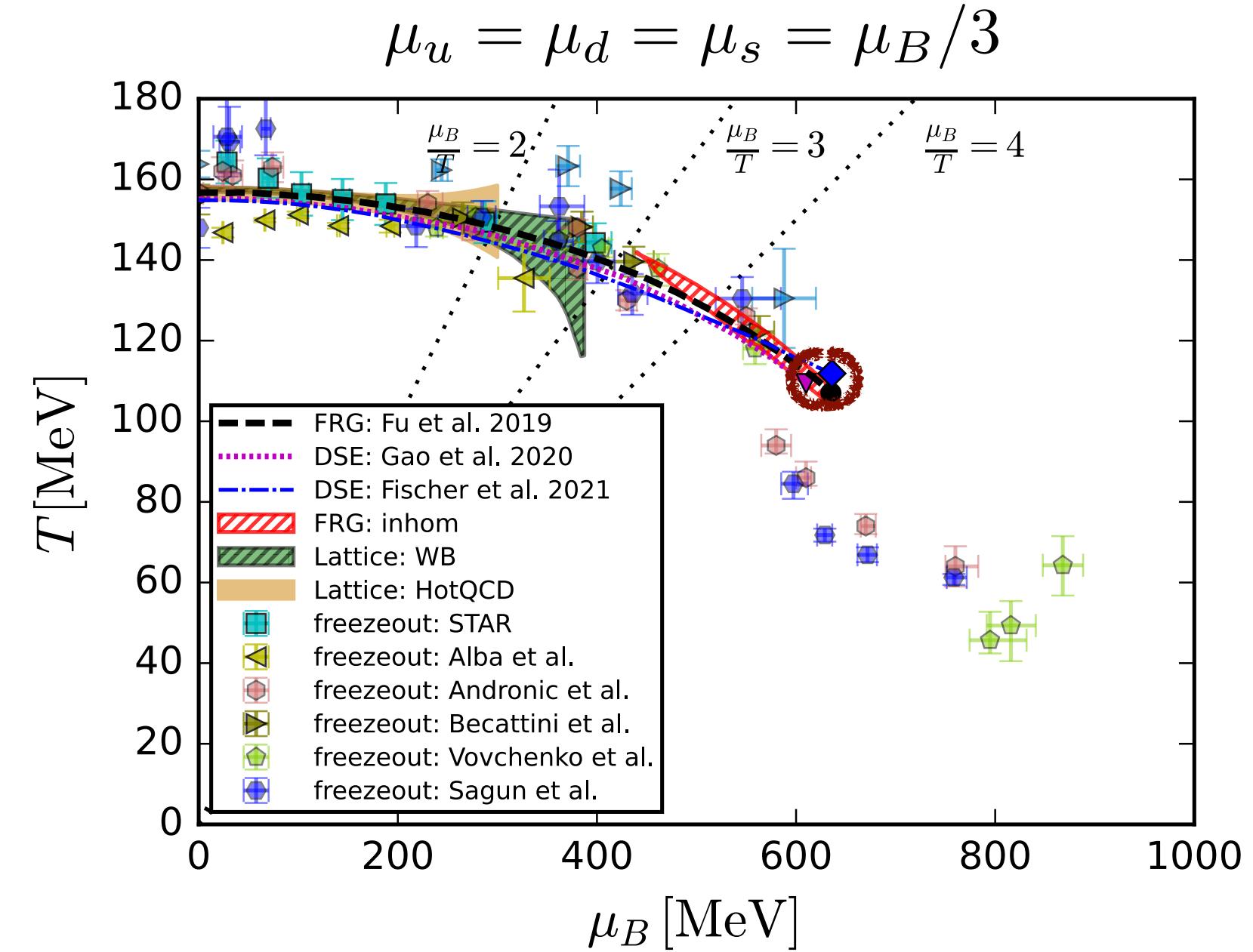


**Dalian, Beijing, Darmstadt, Heidelberg, Gießen**

**Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Geissel, Huang, Lu, Ihssen, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Sattler,  
Schallmo, Stoll, Tan, Töpfel, Turnwald, Wessely, Wen, Wink, Yin, Zheng, Zorbach**

# Phase structure of QCD and the CEP

$$\mu_u = \mu_d = \mu_s = \mu_B/3$$



Functional QCD: CEP estimate

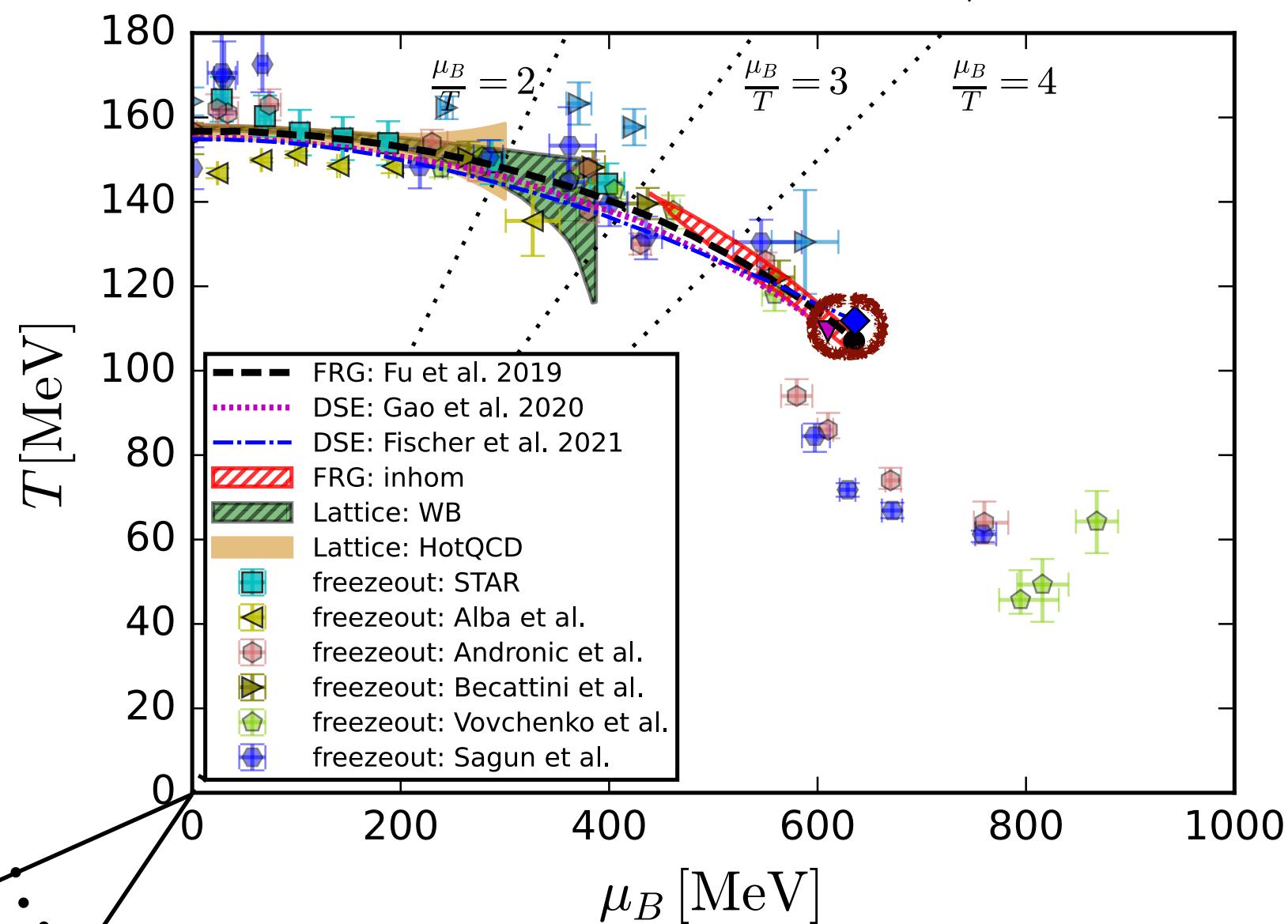
**fRG:** Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032

**DSE:** Gao, JMP, PLB 820 (2021) 136584  
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$(\mu_B, T)_{\text{CEP}} \sim (600 - 650, 105 - 115)$  MeV

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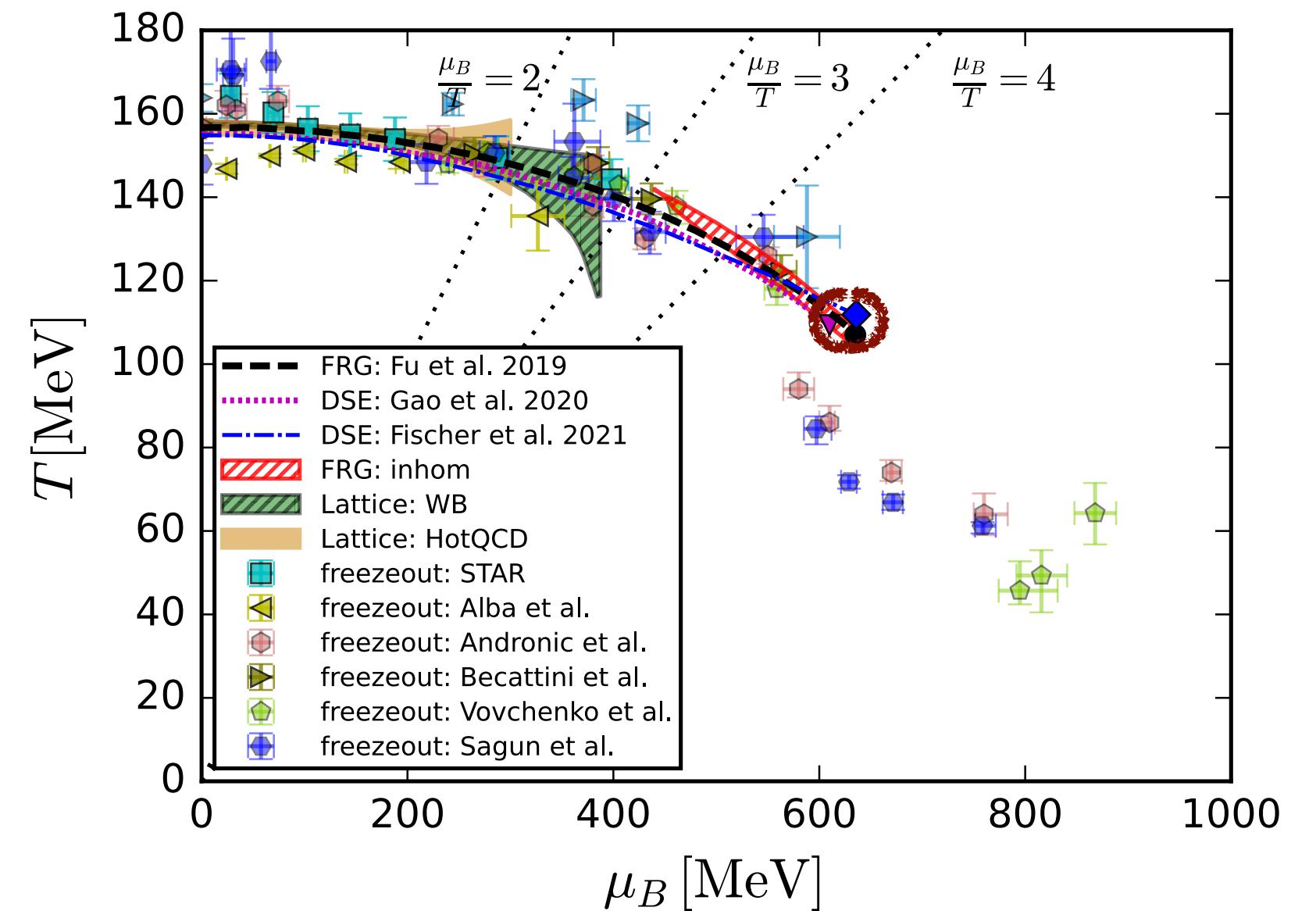
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Collect all possible information/structure  
for  
physics understanding & extrapolations

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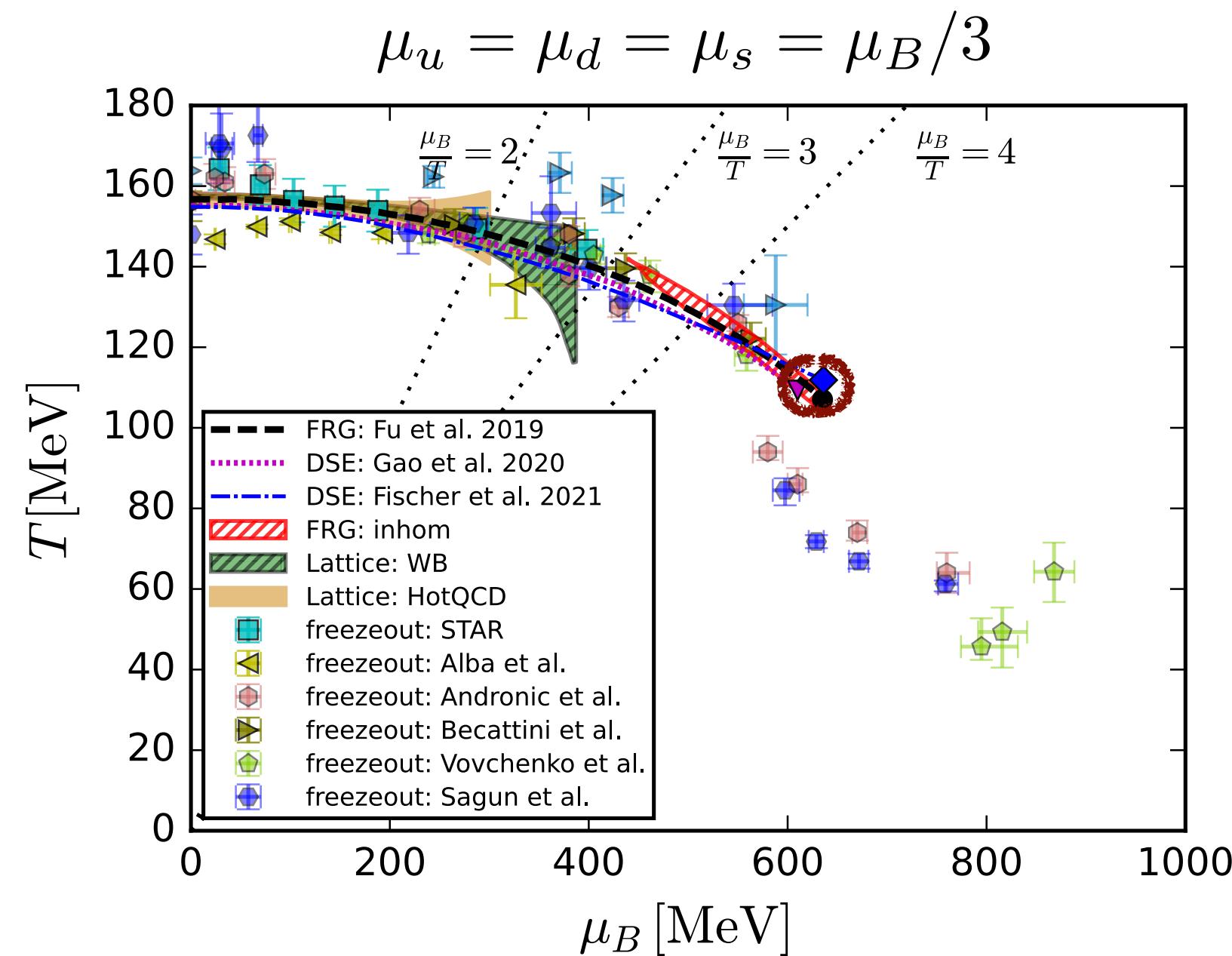
$(\mu_B, T)_{\text{CEP}} \sim (600 - 650, 105 - 115) \text{ MeV}$

Estimates & predictions

Requires computations in 1<sup>st</sup> principle QCD at

$$(\mu_B, T) \sim (\mu_B, T)_{\text{CEP}}$$

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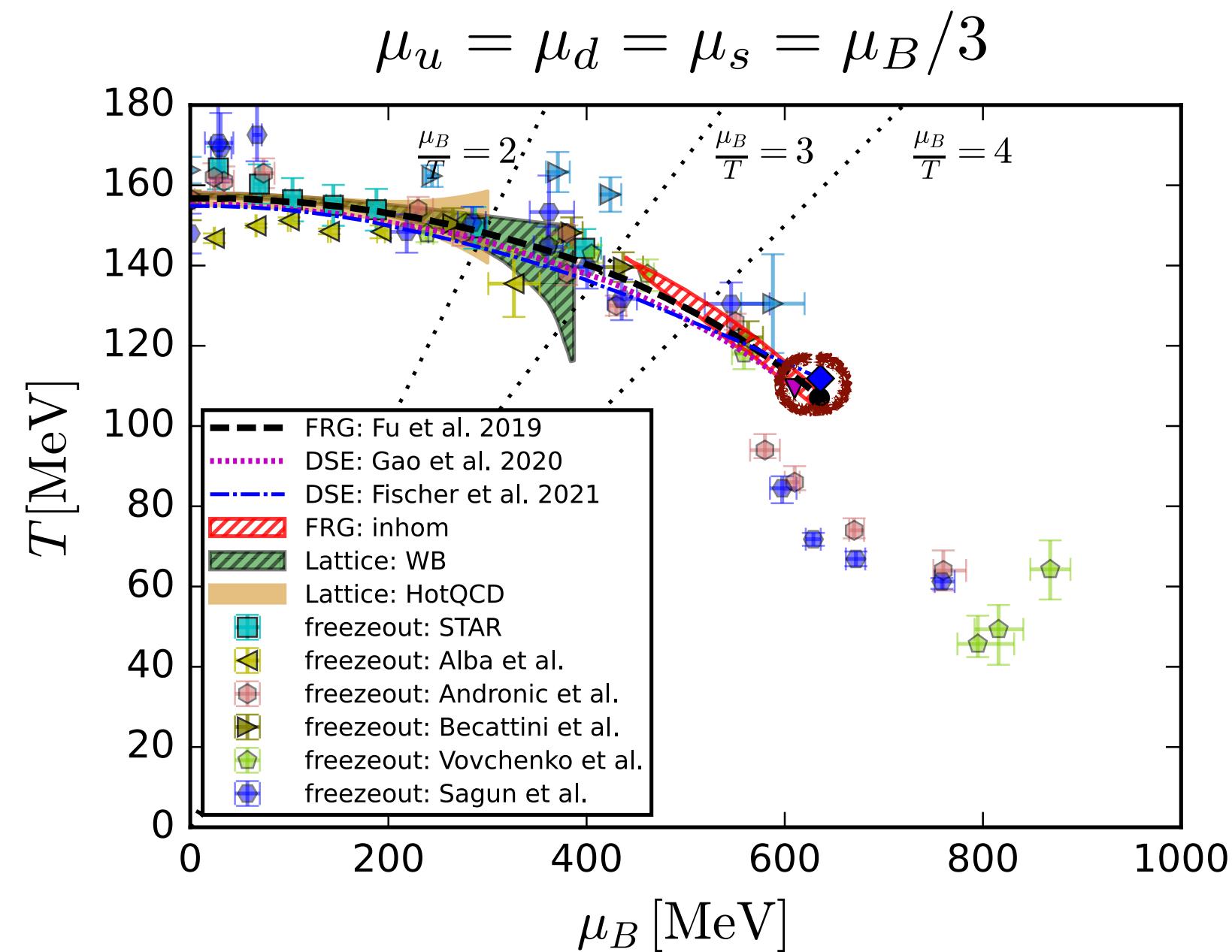
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Extrapolations for Pheno

Requires a discussion of the  
explicit & implicit assumptions

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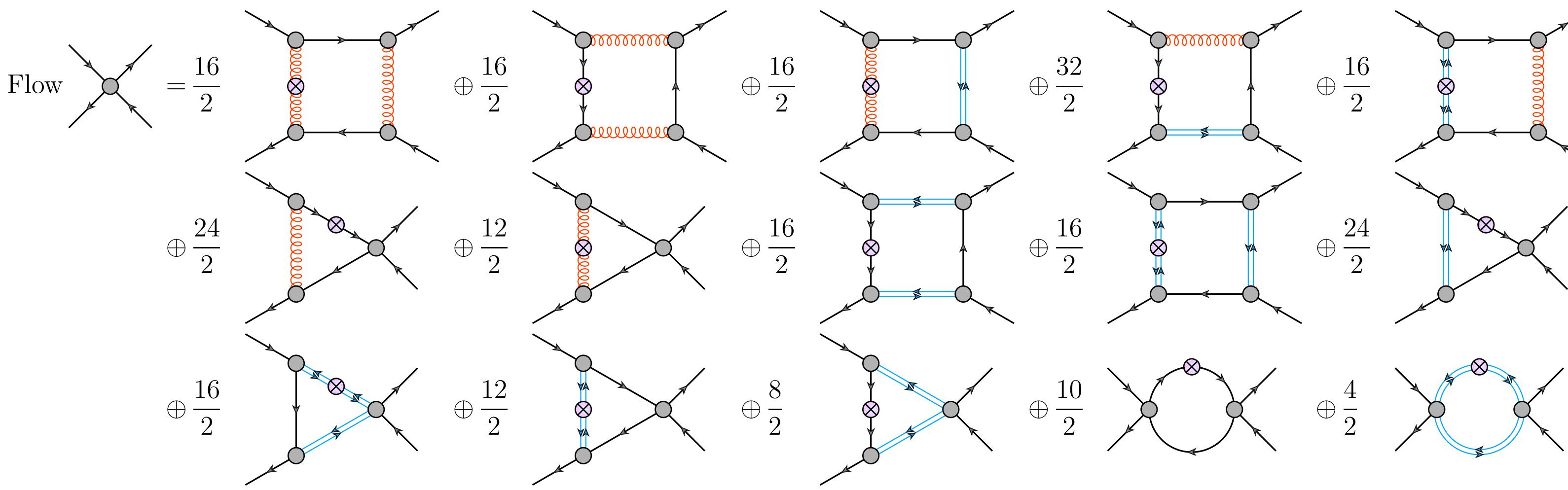
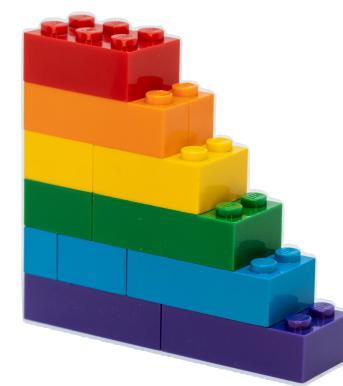
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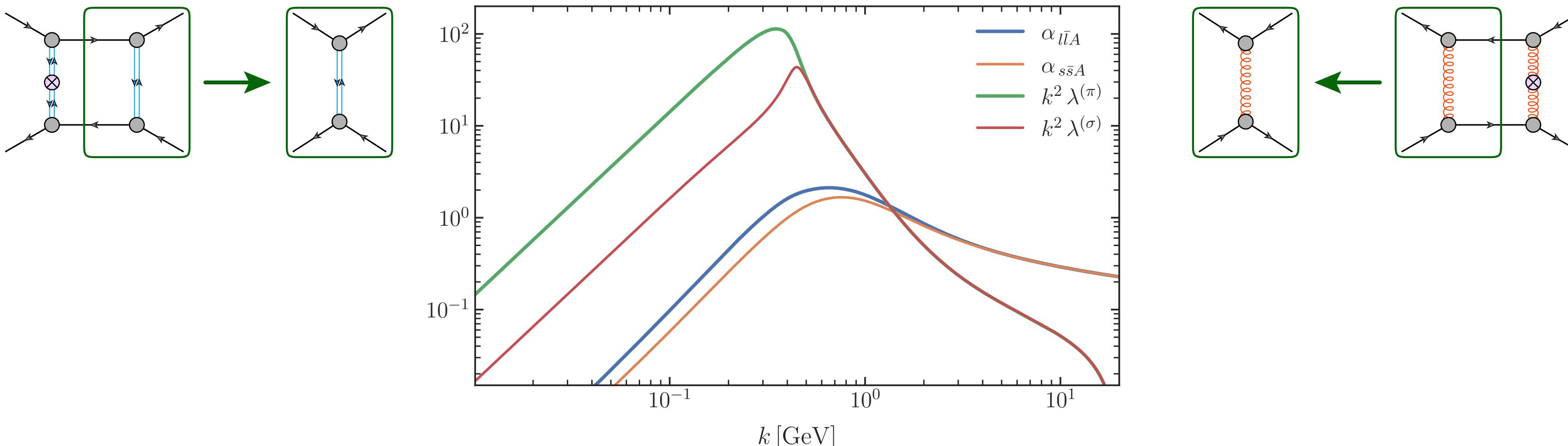
Lattice extrapolations

low energy effective theories:  
QM, NJL, PQM, PNJL, ..., Holography

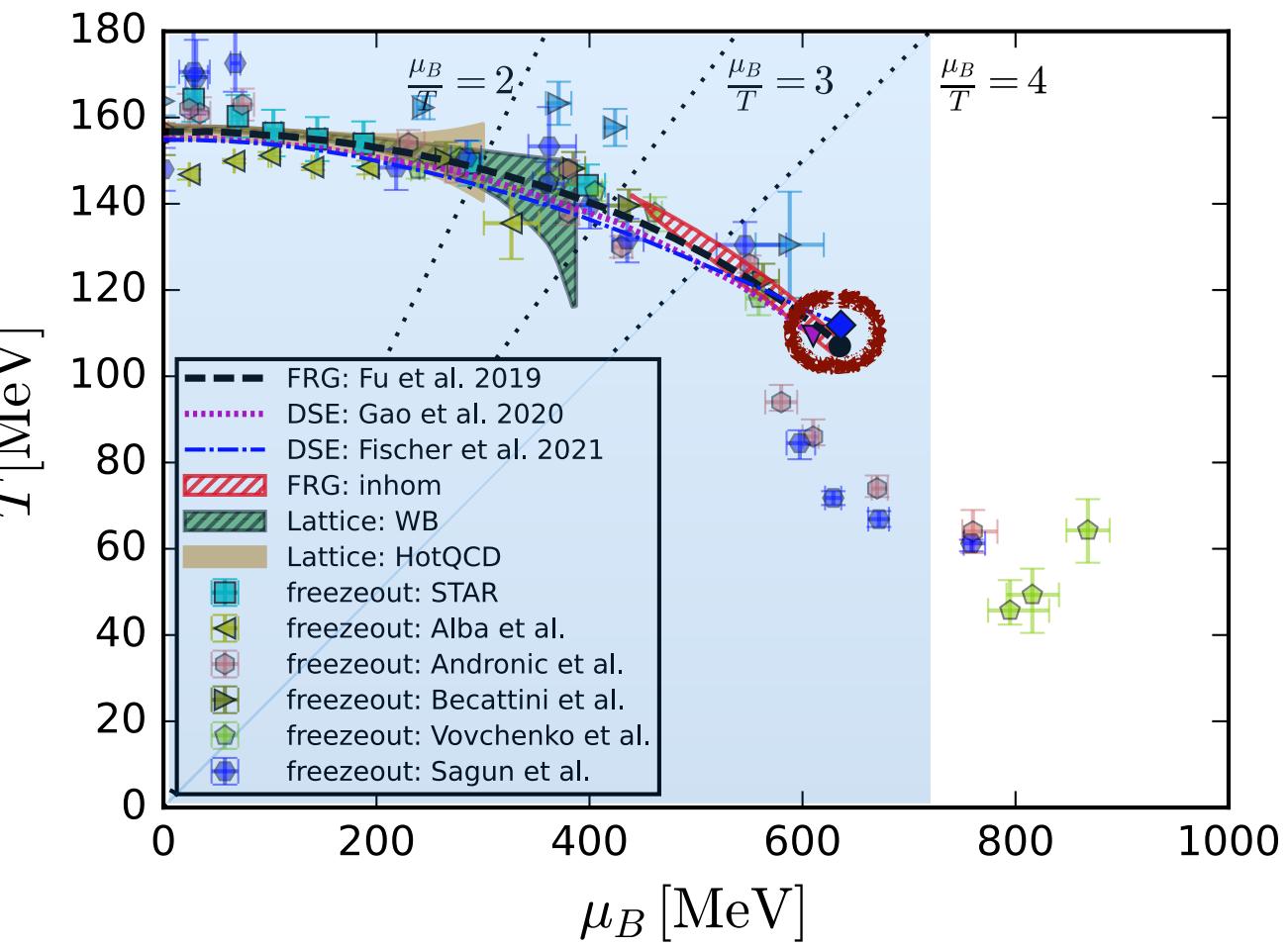
# Functional QCD: systematic error estimates & the LEGO® principle



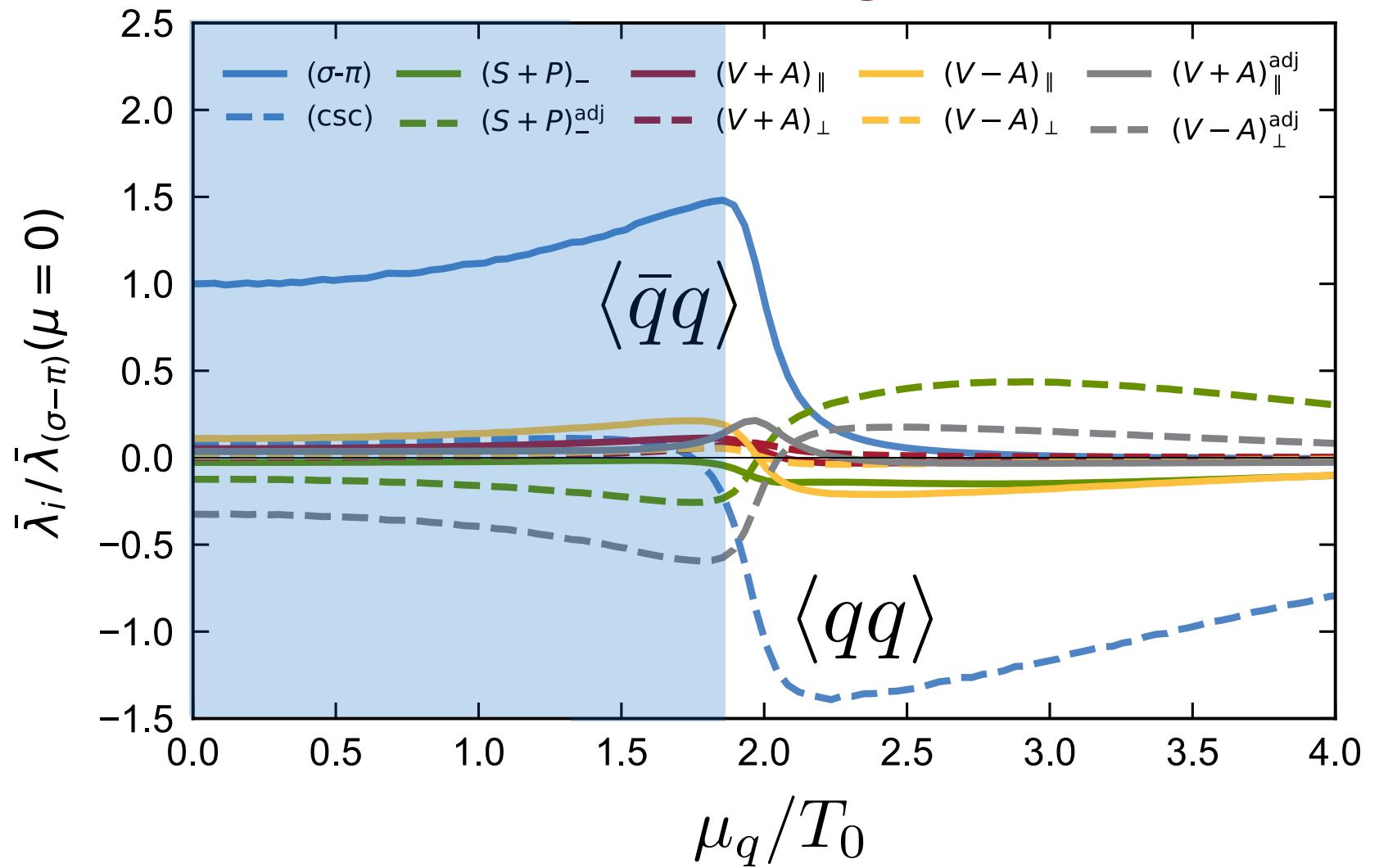
Example: 4-quark scattering vertex



# Predictions & estimates

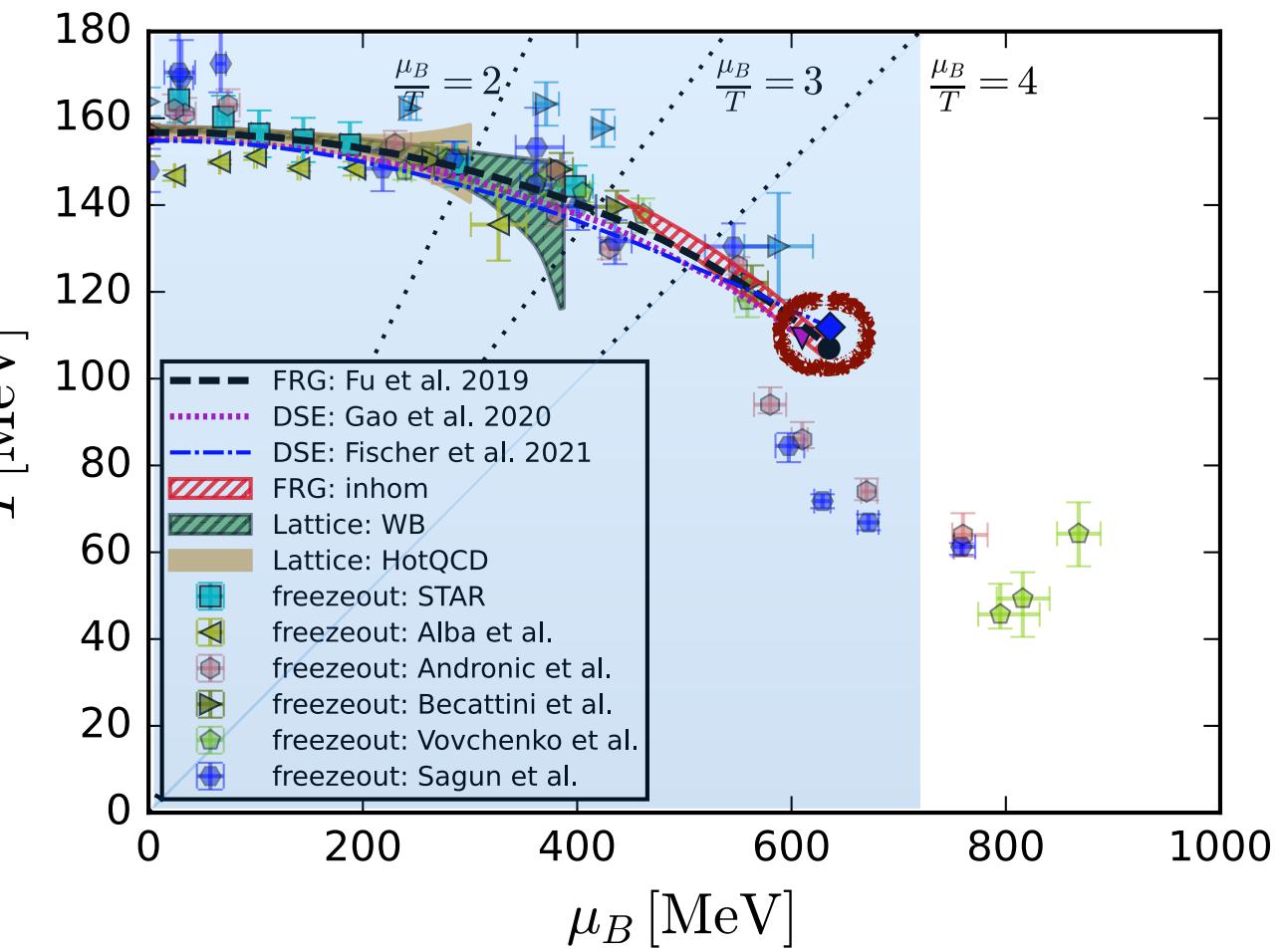


## Four-quark scattering channels



**Dominance of scalar-pseudoscalar fluctuations  
Pions & sigma mode**

# Predictions & estimates



**Full chiral dynamics**

Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032 (fRG)

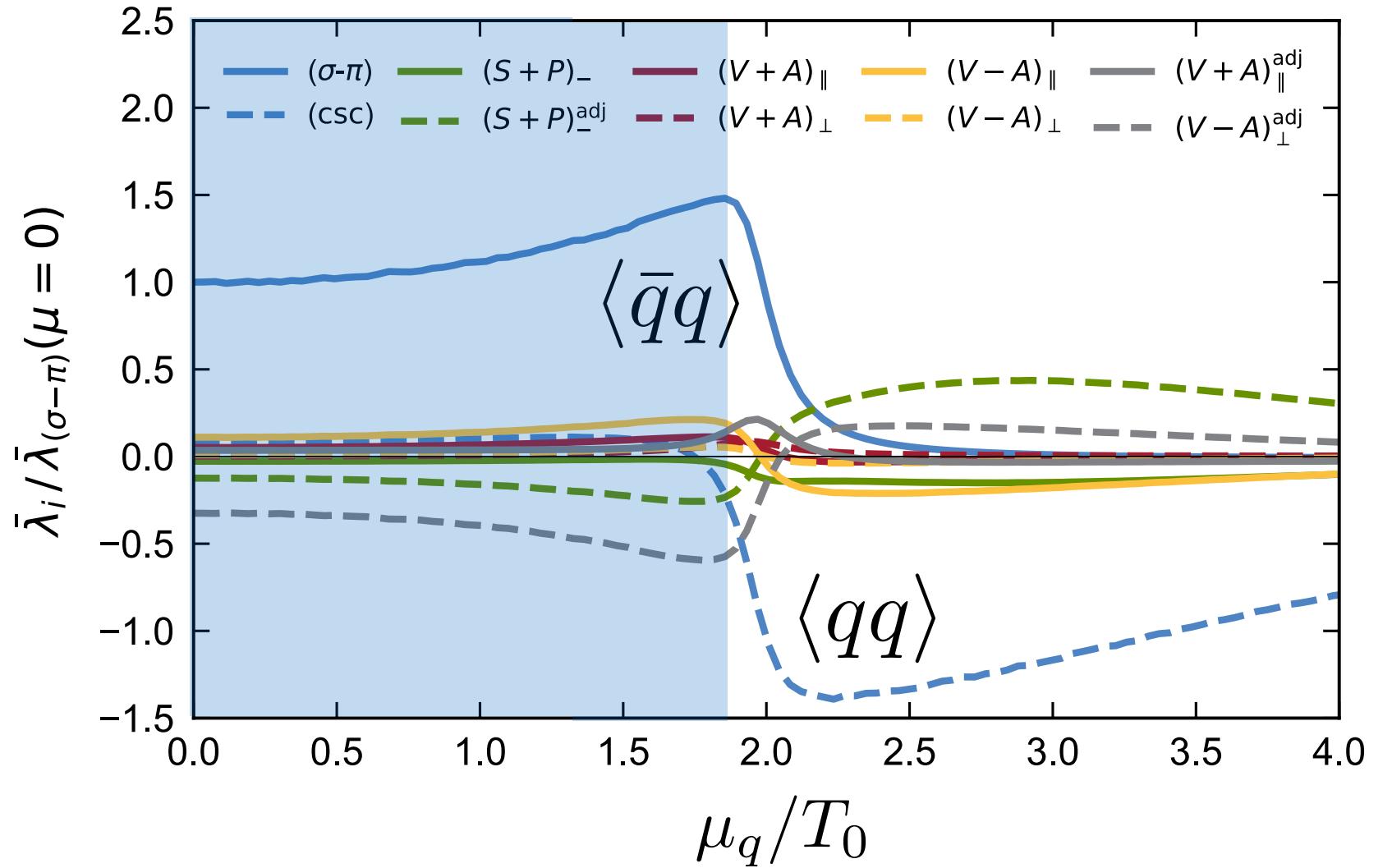
**Dominant chiral dynamics**

Gunkel, Fischer, PRD 104 (2021) 054022 (DSE)

**Full quark-gluon dynamics**

Gao, JMP, PLB 820 (2021) 136584 (DSE)

## Four-quark scattering channels



**Dominance of scalar-pseudoscalar fluctuations**  
**Pions & sigma mode**

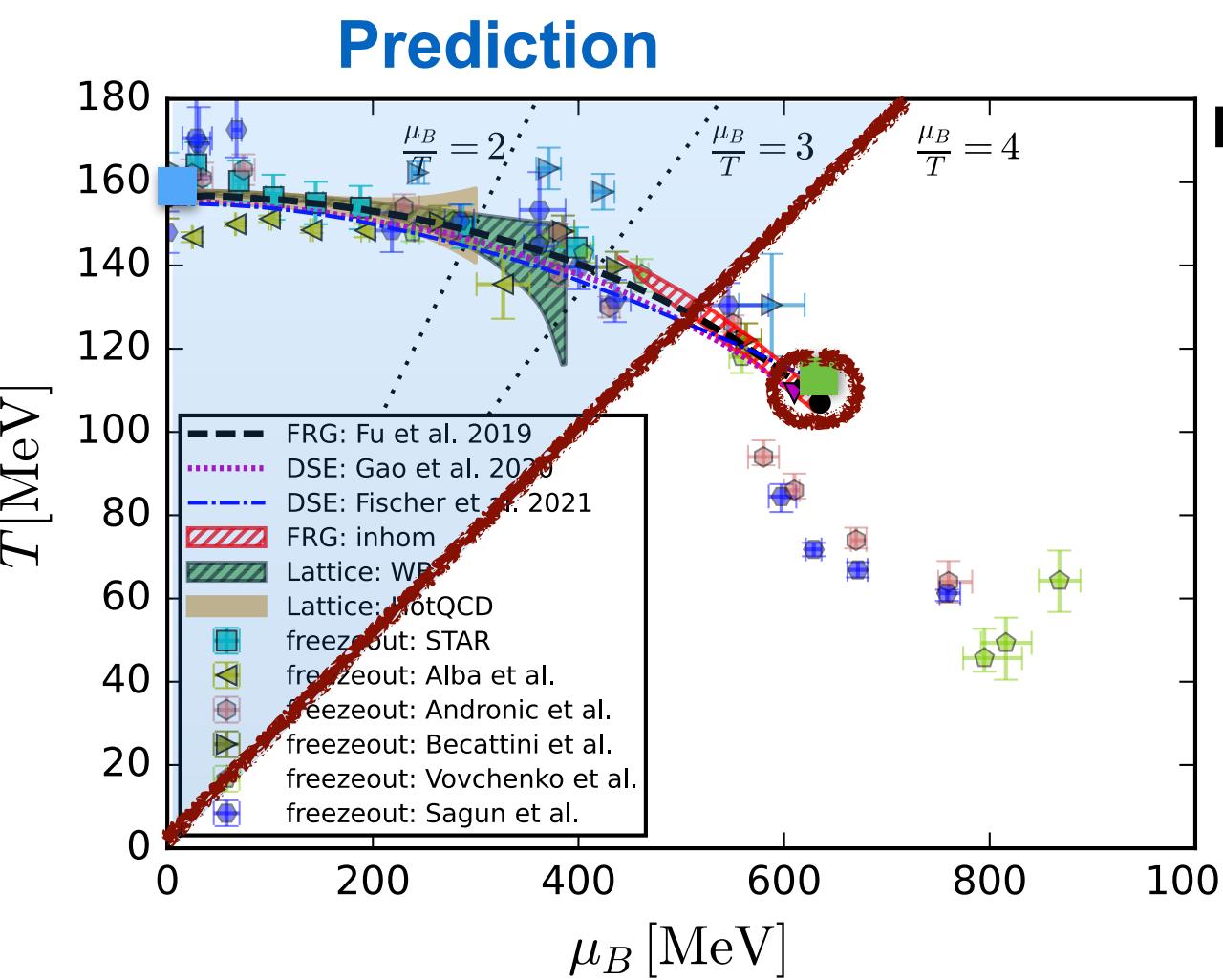
Braun, Leonhardt, Pospiech, PRD 101 (2020) 036004

# Predictions & estimates

**Pisarski, Rennecke, PRL 127 (2021) 152302**

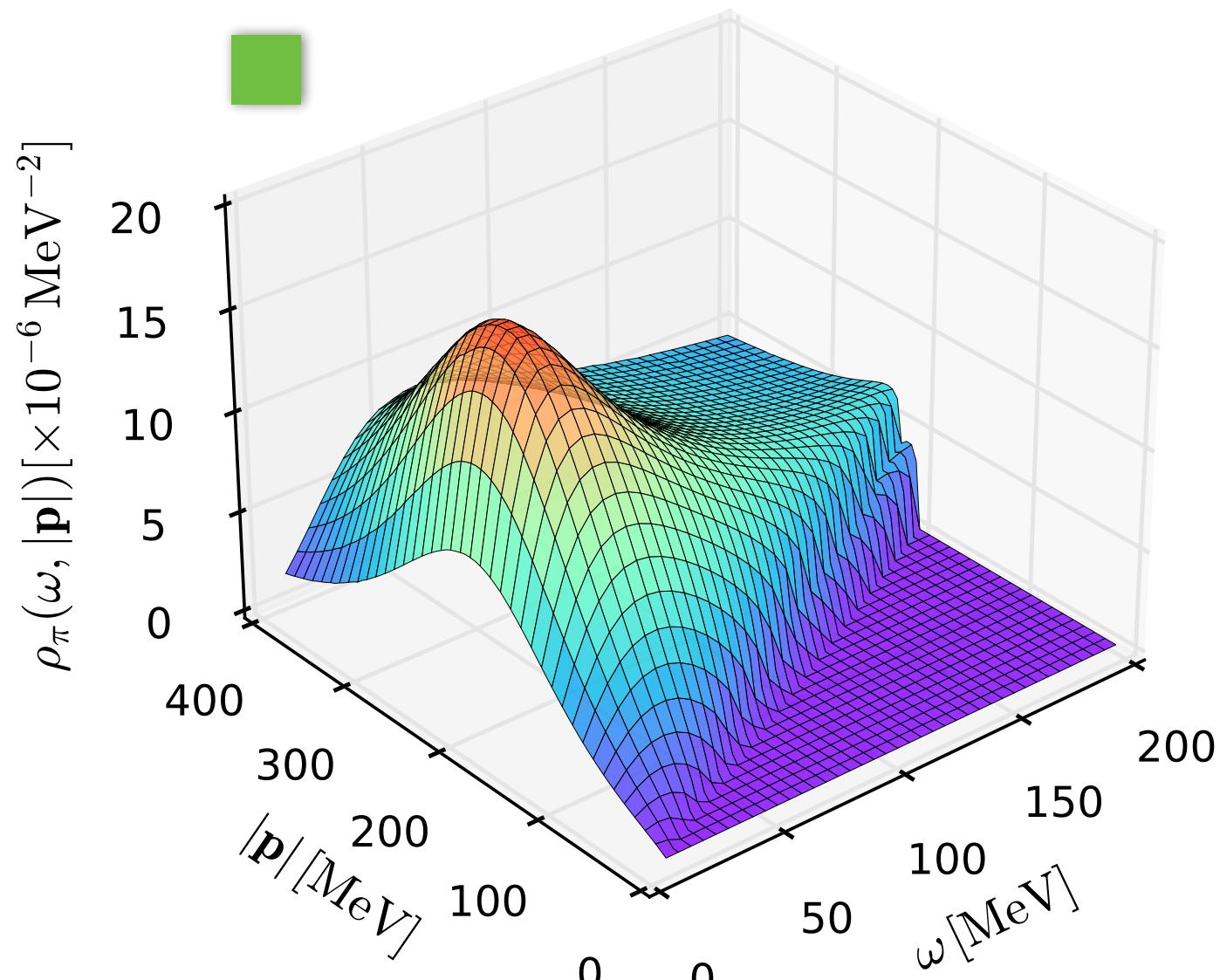
see talk of Fabian Rennecke

**Moat regime**

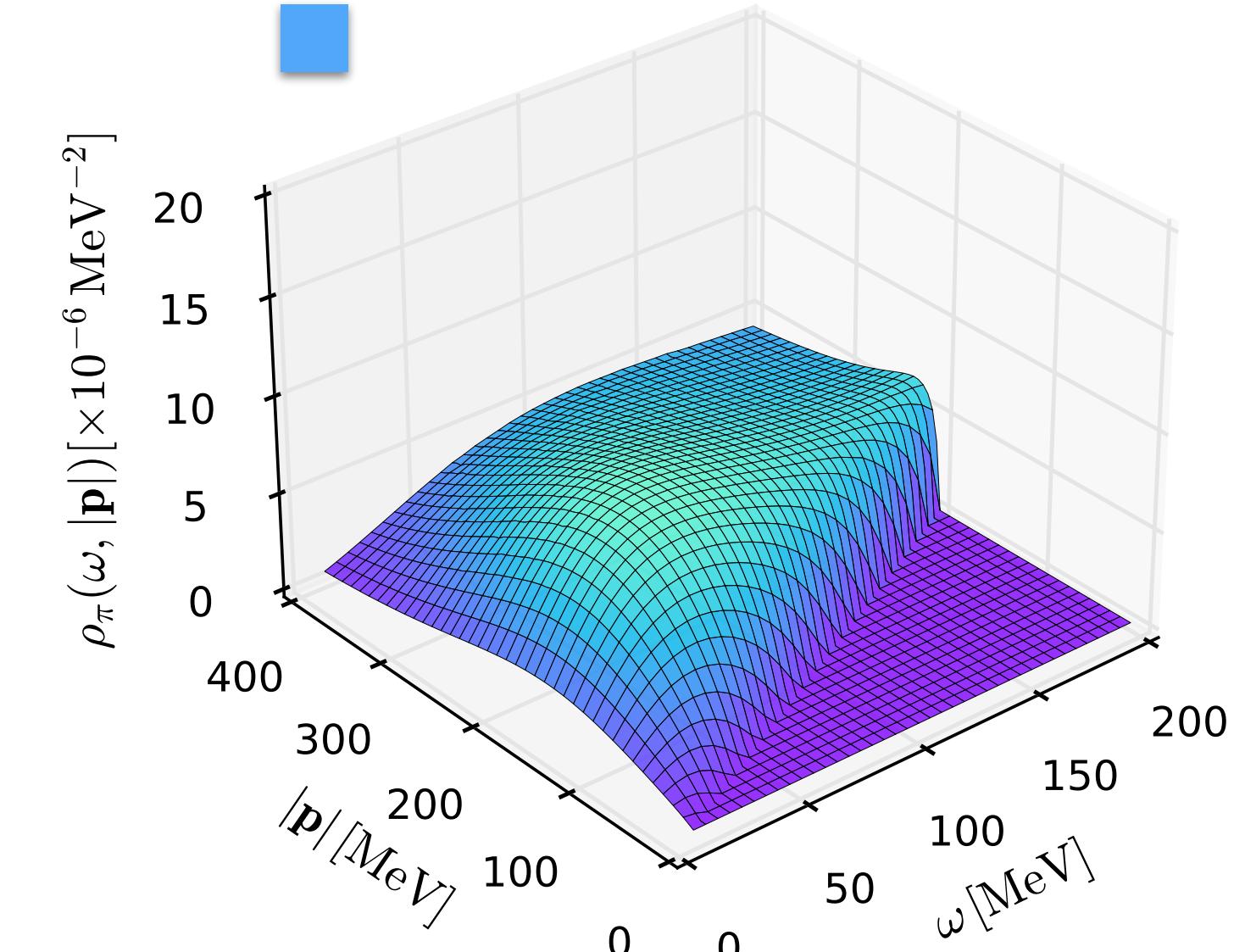


**Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032**

**Regime of quantitative reliability  
of current best truncation**



**Pion spectral functions**  
**Fu, JMP, Pisarski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in prep**



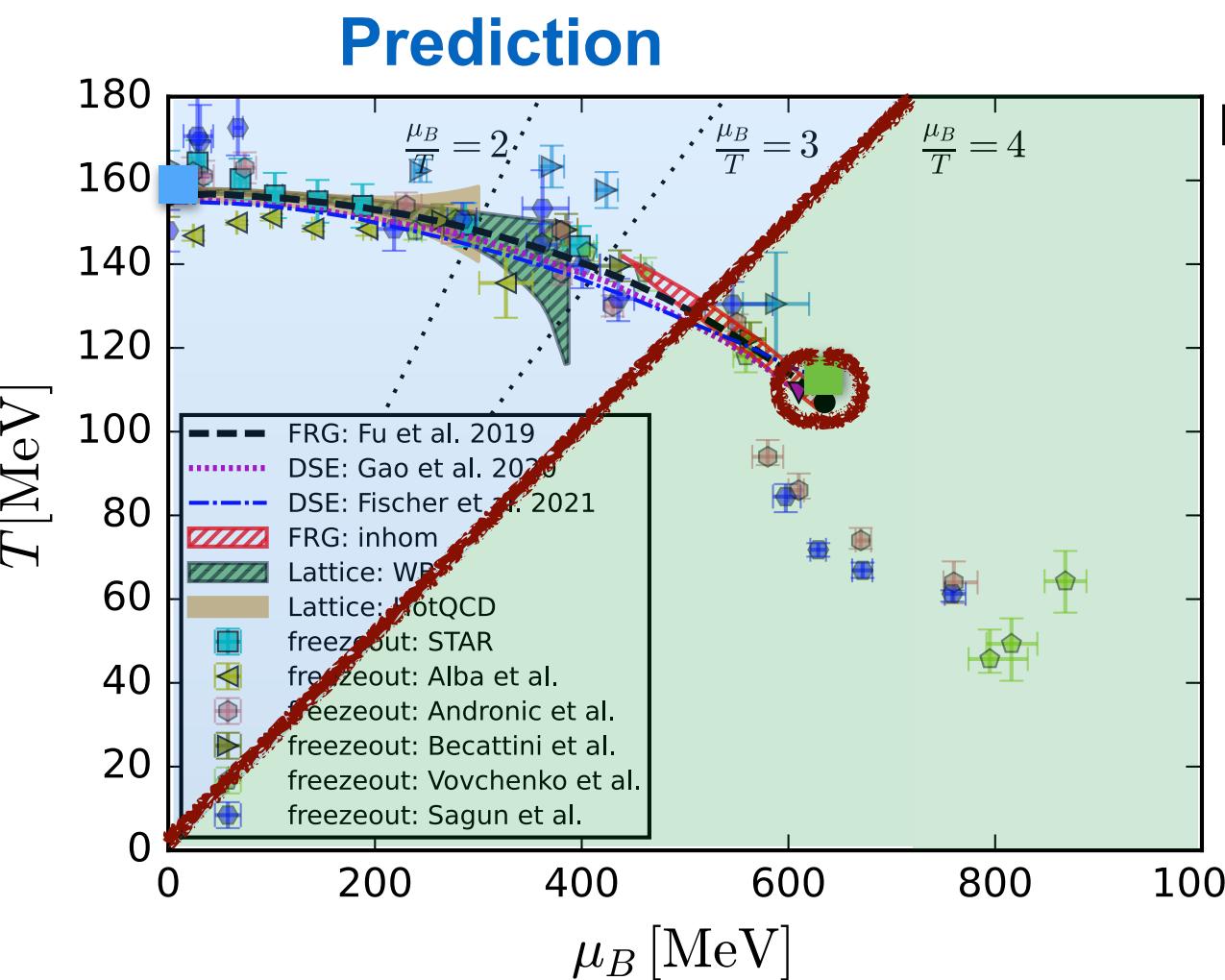
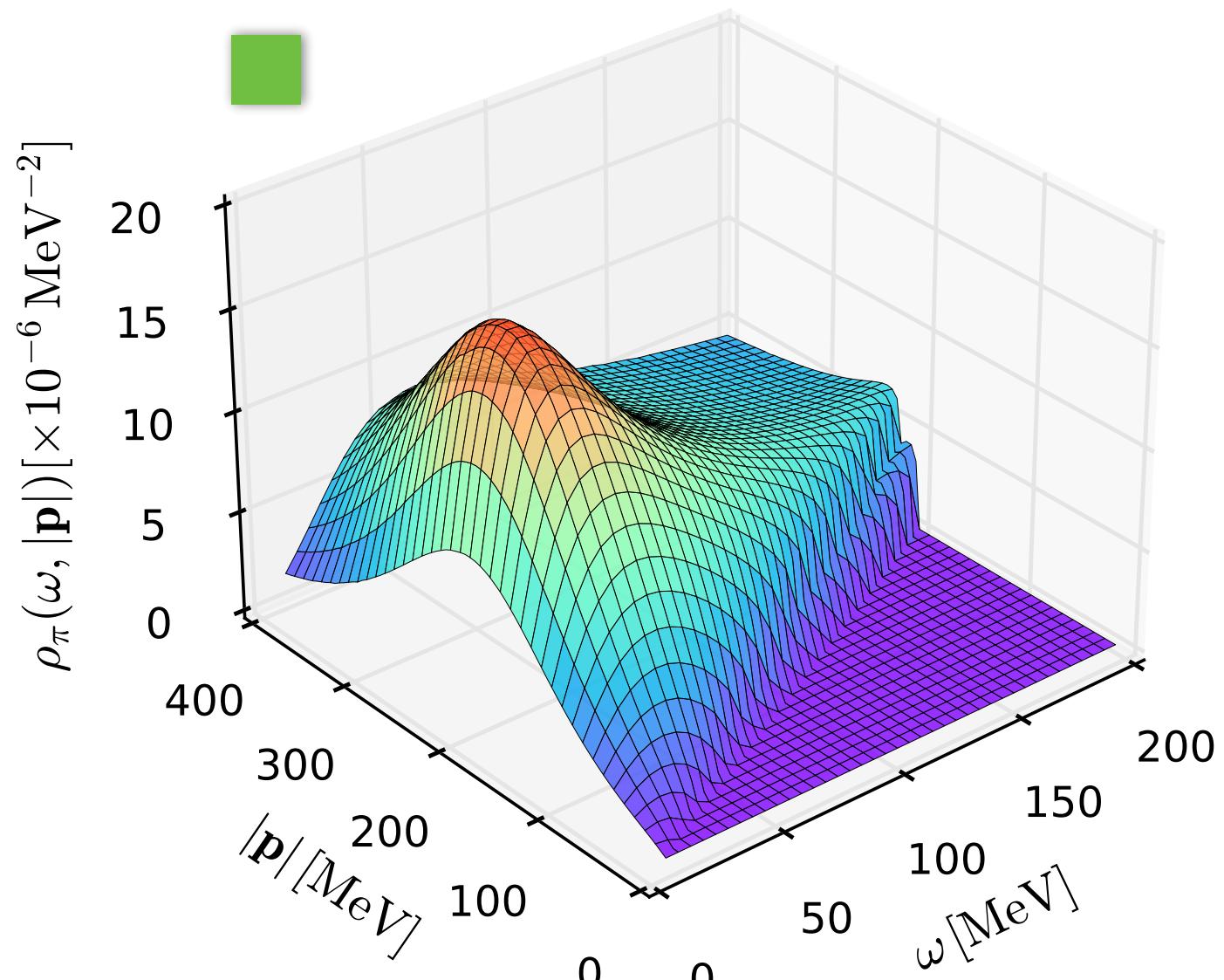
# Predictions & estimates

Pisarski, Rennecke, PRL 127 (2021) 152302

see talk of Fabian Rennecke

Moat regime

$T=114 \text{ MeV}$  &  $\mu_B = 630 \text{ MeV}$



Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032

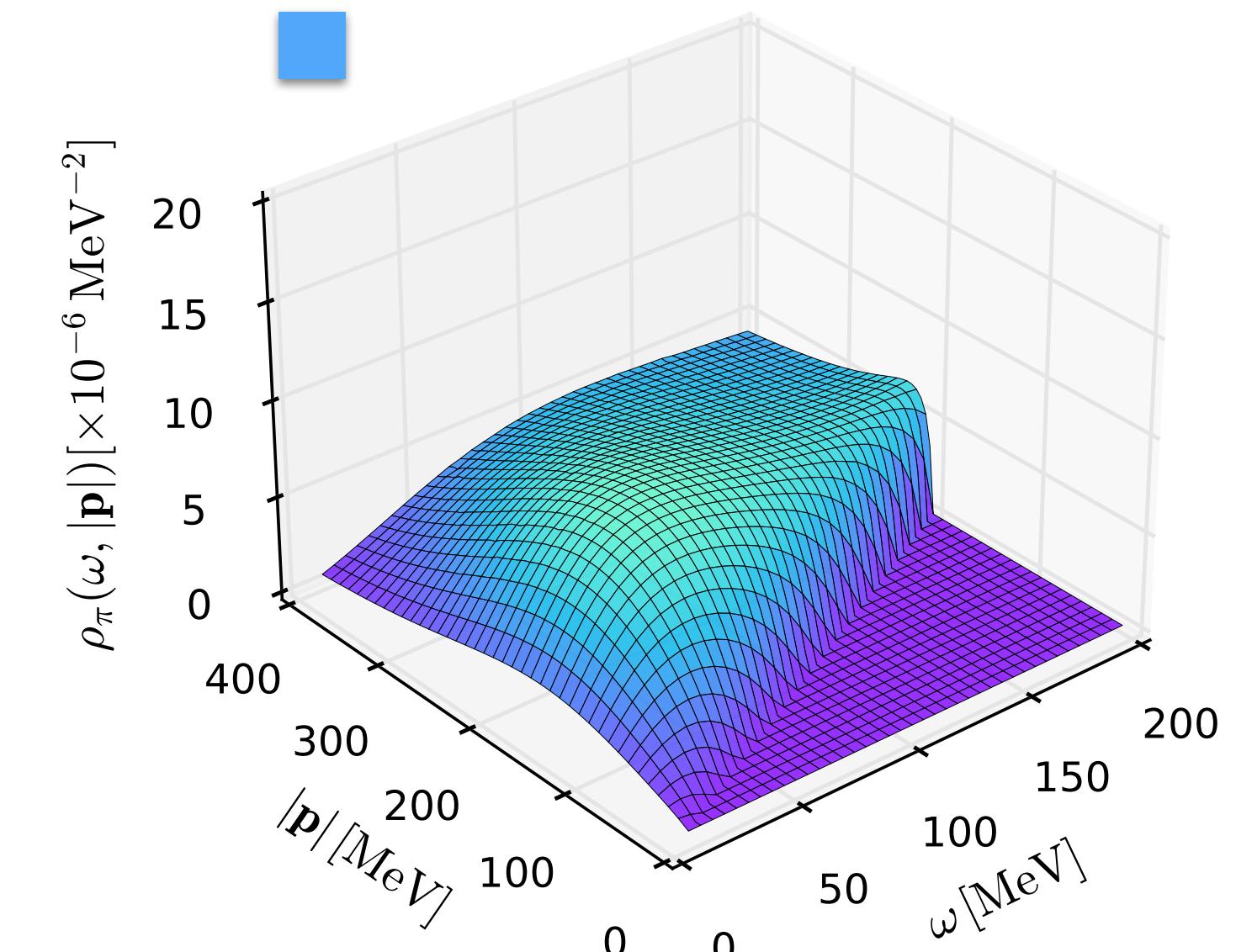
Regime of quantitative reliability  
of  
current best truncation

$T=160 \text{ MeV}$  &  $\mu_B = 0 \text{ MeV}$

**Estimate**

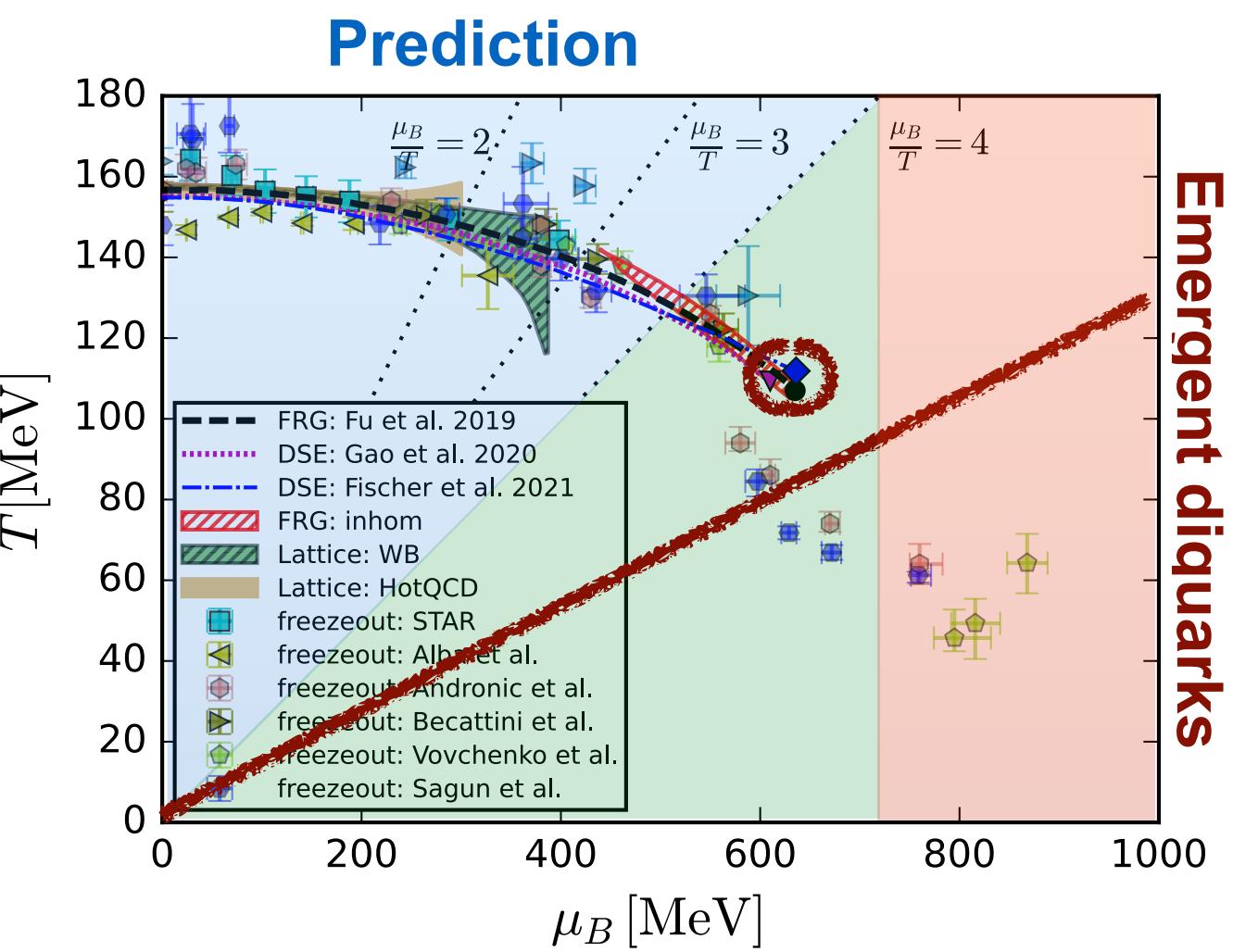
Moat regime is not captured quantitatively

**Pion spectral functions**  
Fu, JMP, Pisarski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in prep



# Predictions & estimates

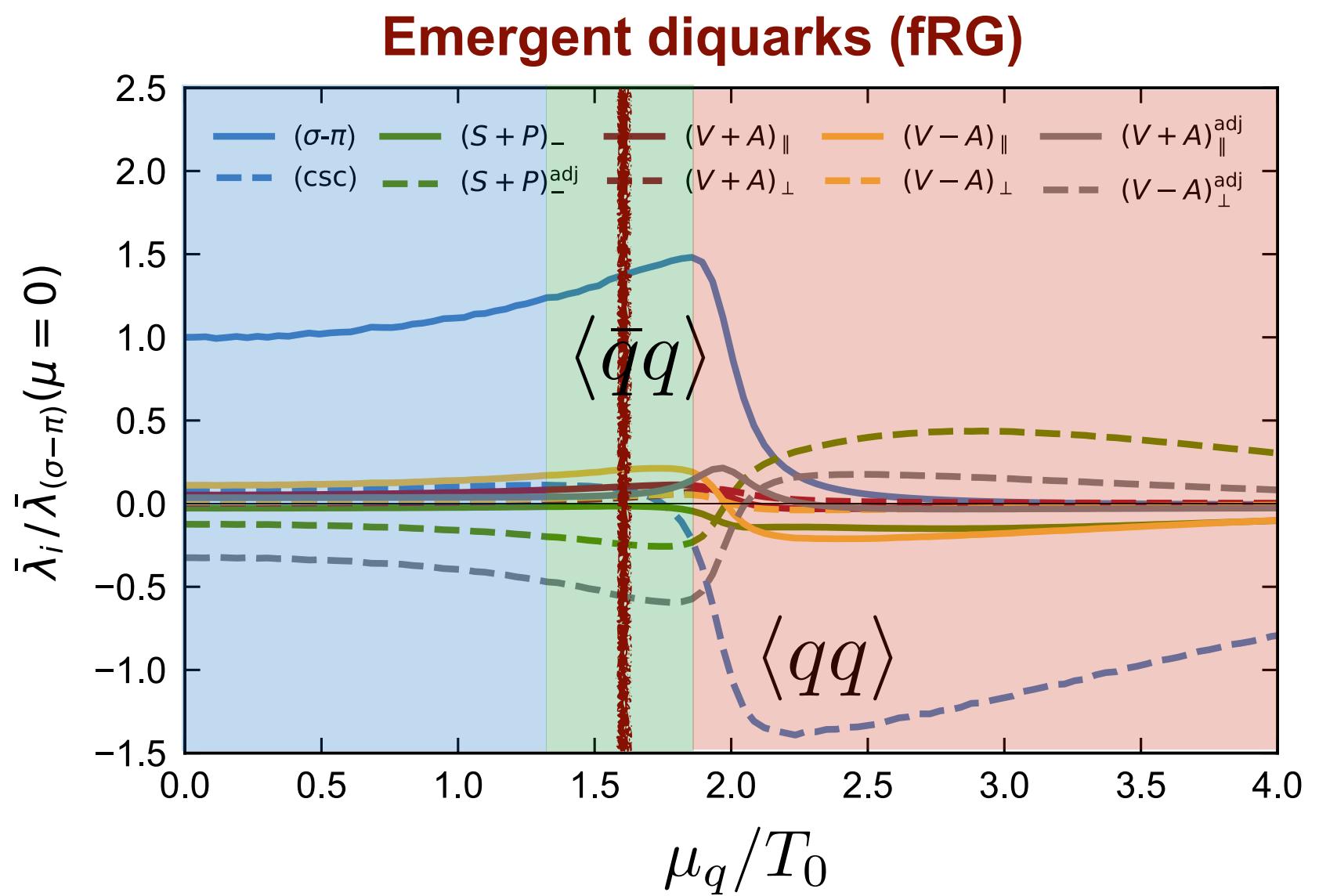
Emergent diquarks



Emergent diquarks

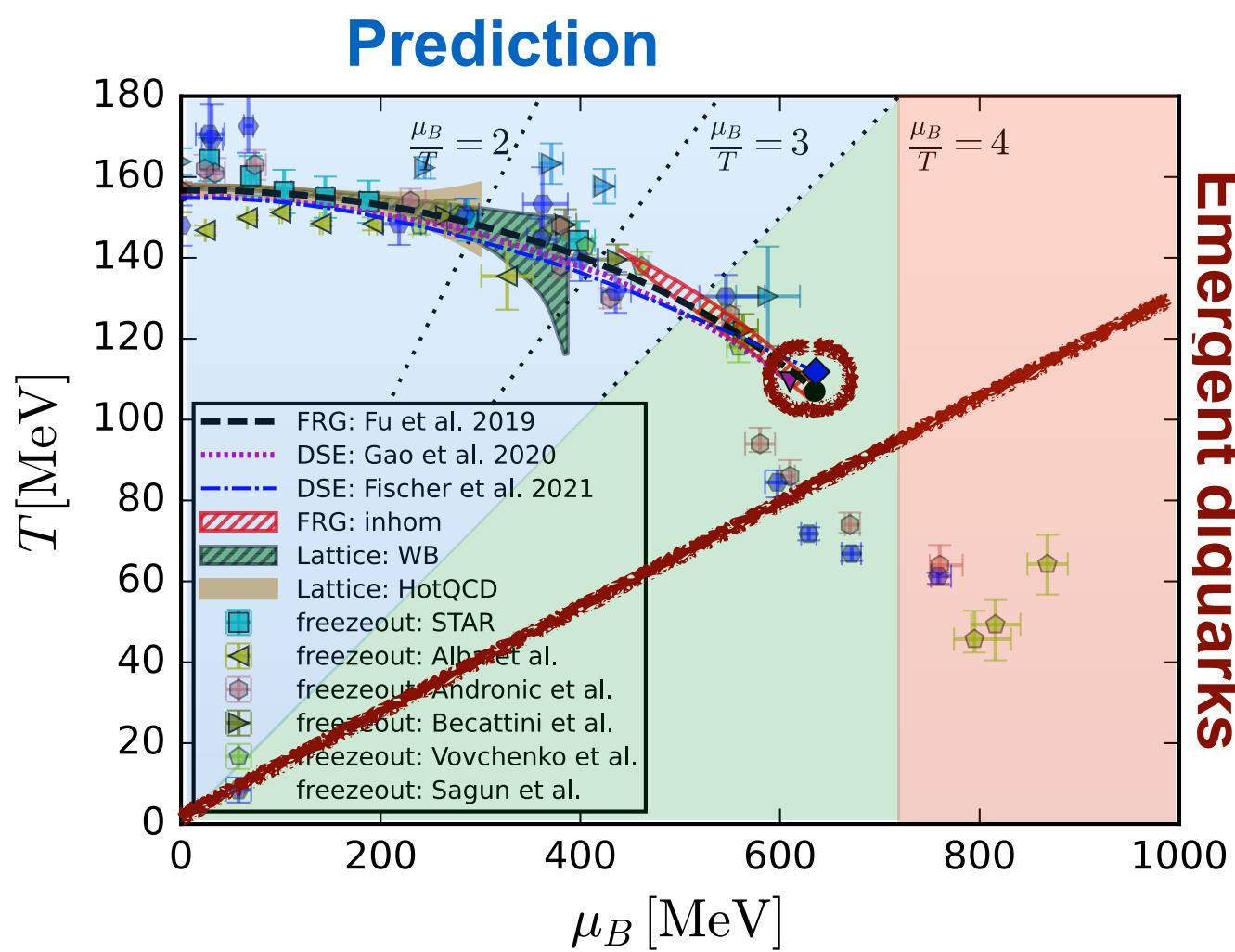
Regime of quantitative reliability  
of  
current best truncation

Estimate



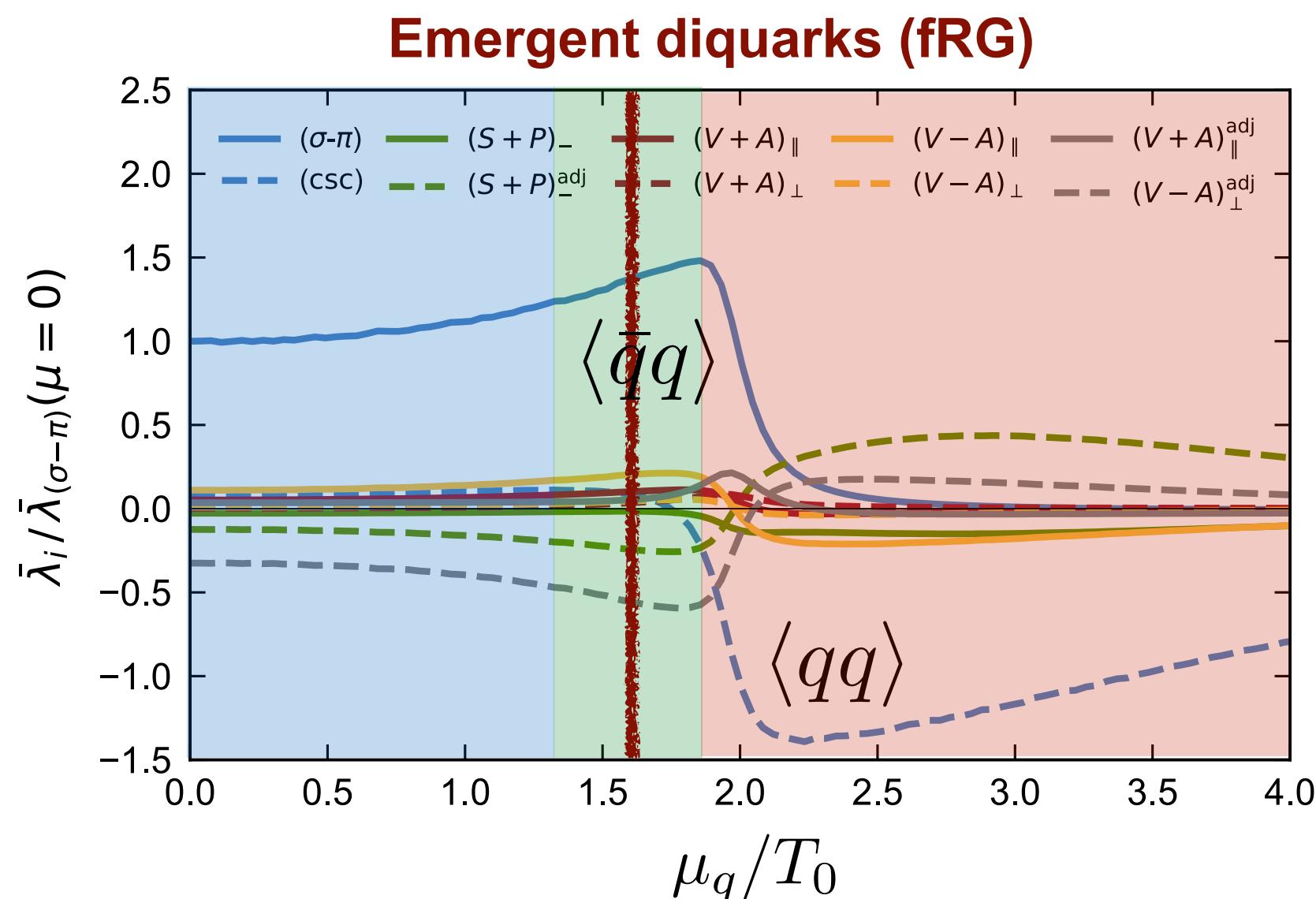
# Predictions & estimates

Emergent diquarks



Regime of quantitative reliability  
of  
current best truncation

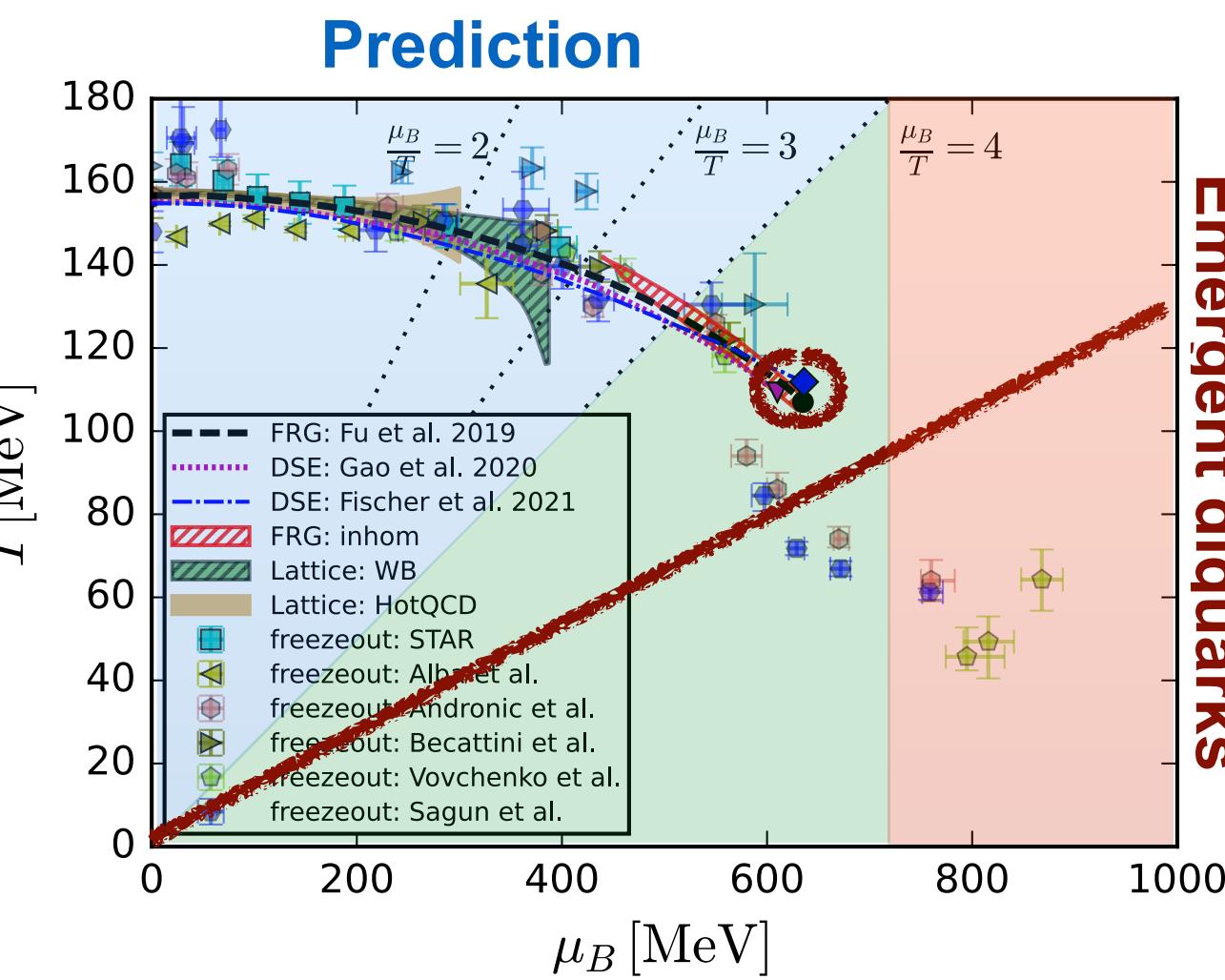
Estimate



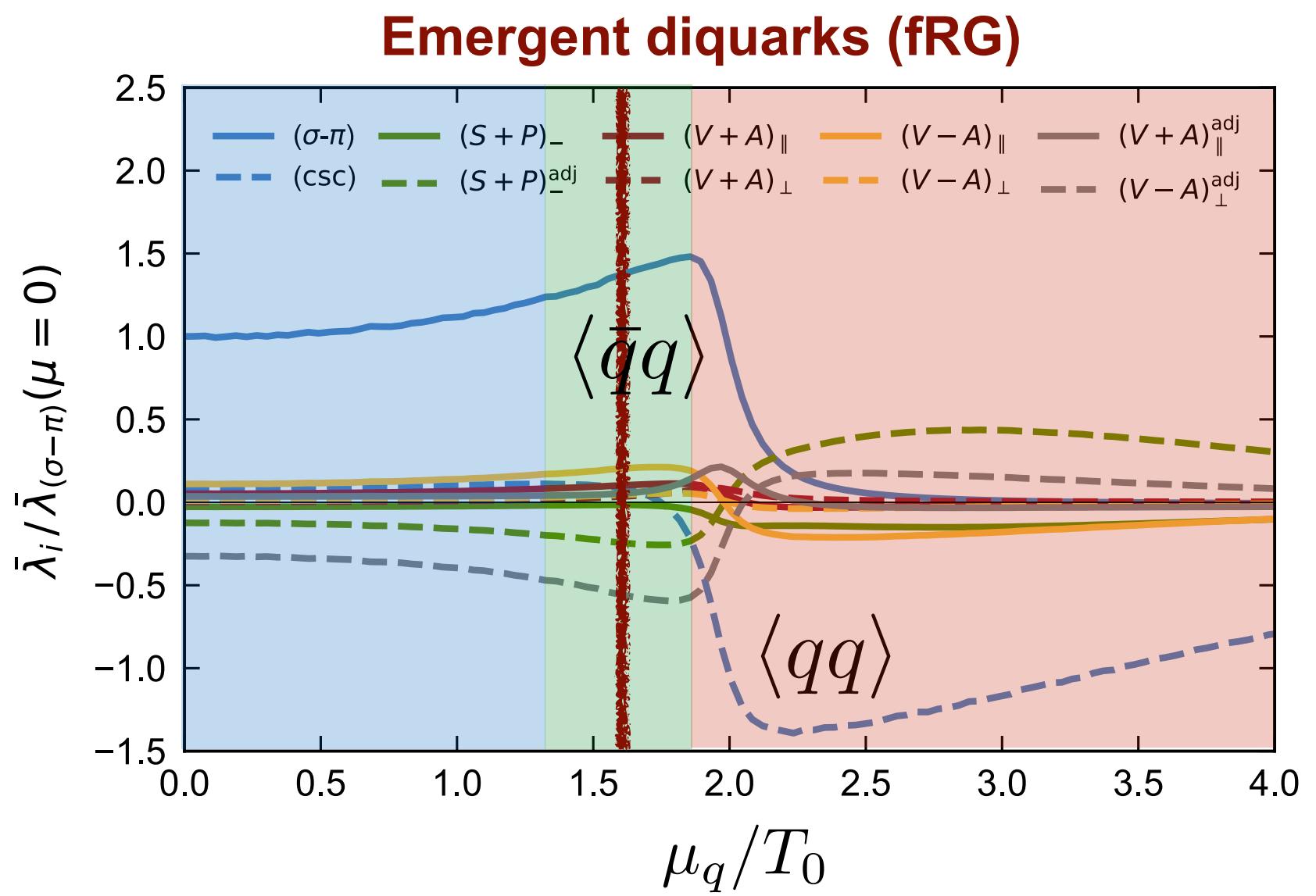
Emergent diquarks are not captured  
by extrapolations

# Predictions & estimates

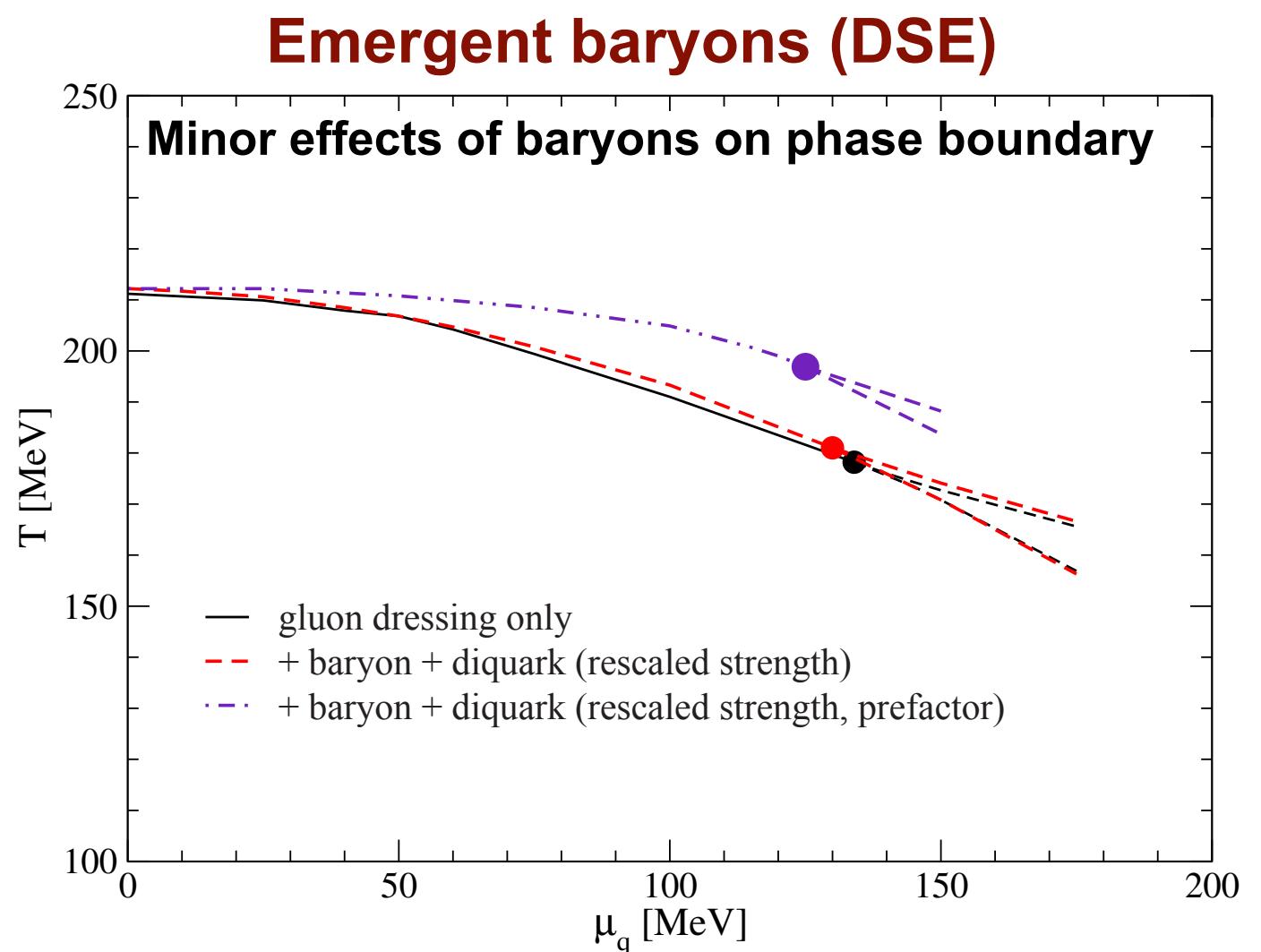
Emergent diquarks



Estimate



Regime of quantitative reliability  
of  
current best truncation

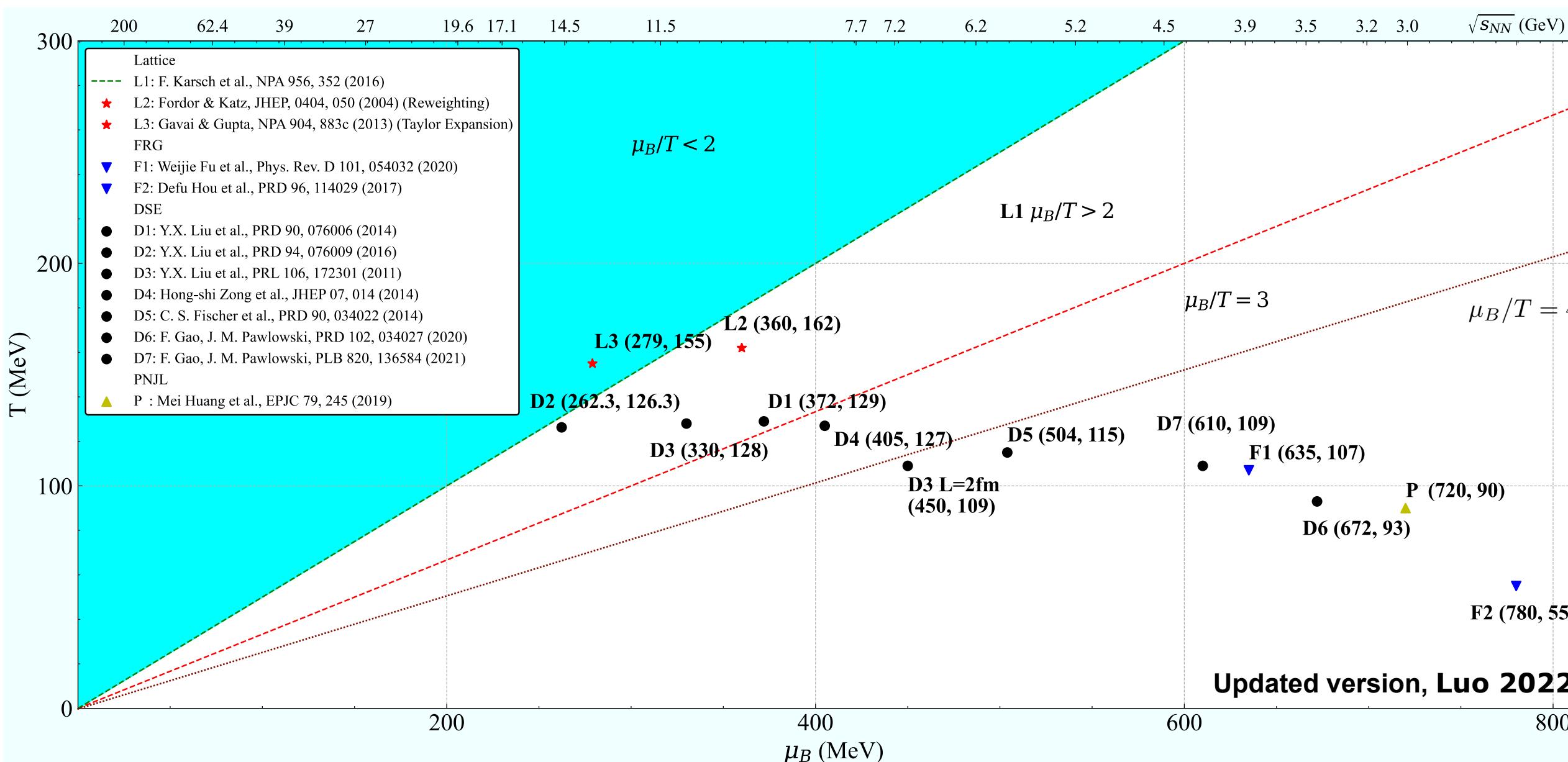


# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to judge them



## Location of CP : Theoretical Prediction

Preliminary collection from Lattice, DSE, FRG and PNJL (2004-2020)



Large uncertainties for the estimation of CP location.

## Disclaimer

Most functional computations (LEFT or QCD) have not been set-up for CEP-predictions!

Lack of predictive power for CEP-predictions is no quality measure!

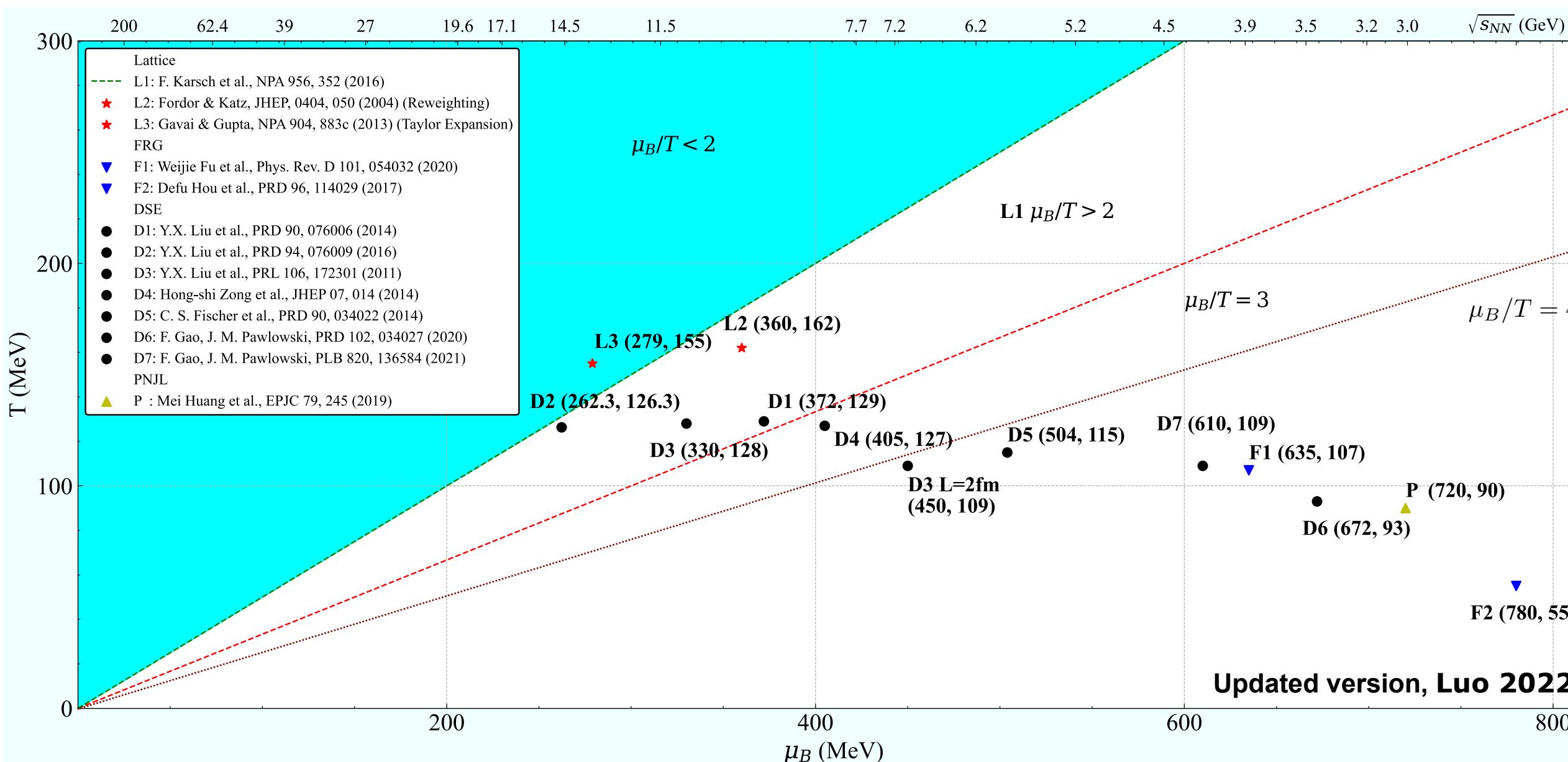
CEP is standing for 'regime with new physics'

# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to judge them



## Location of CP : Theoretical Prediction

Preliminary collection from Lattice, DSE, FRG and PNJL (2004-2020)



Common folklore  
since ~2004

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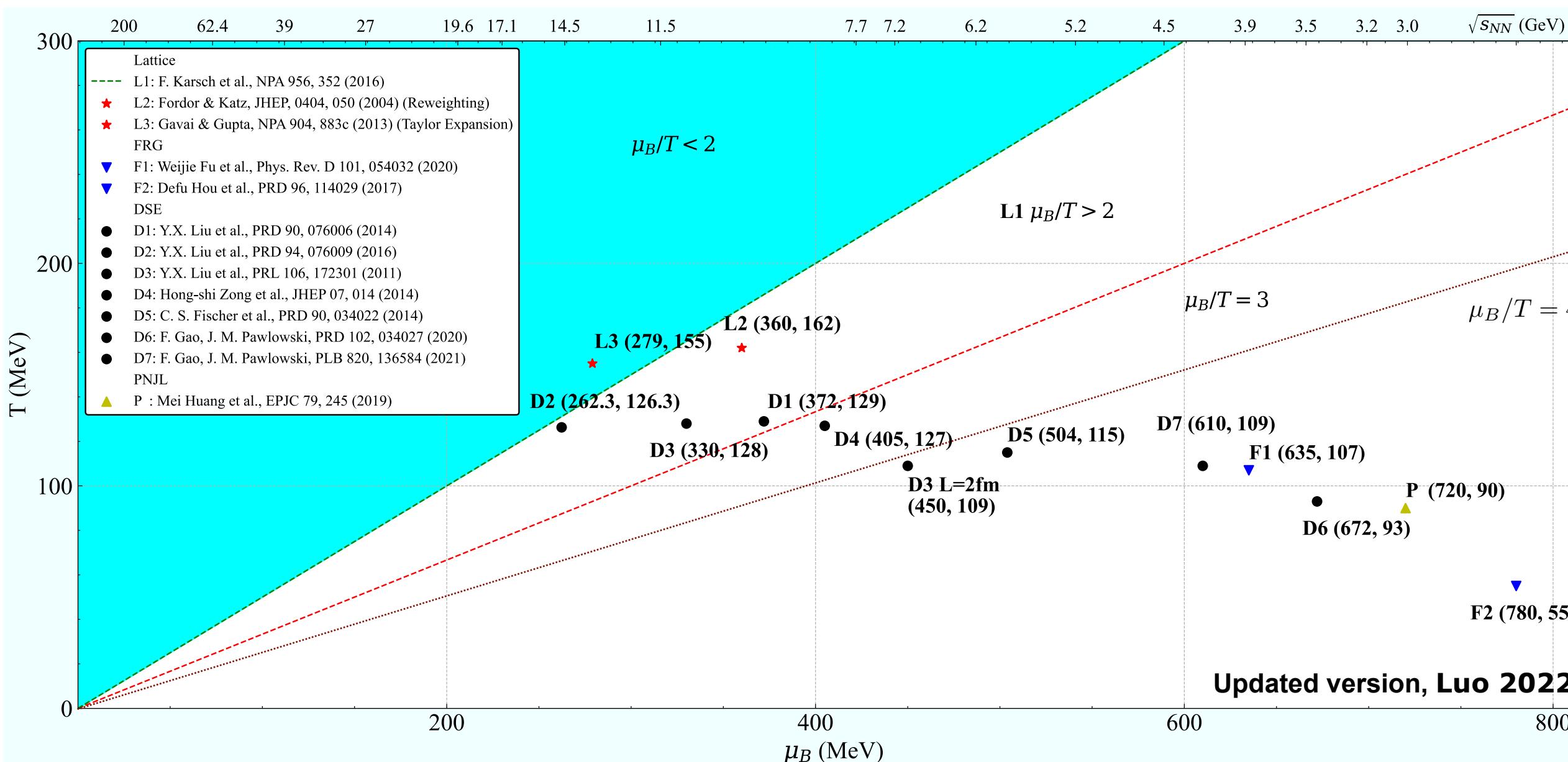
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# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to judge them



# Location of CP : Theoretical Prediction

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# Remove CEP-predictions

(i) ‘old’ CEPs: lattice, Functional QCD approaches, LEFTS (updated computations available)

(ii) LEFTs & Functional Results (qualitative approximations) that miss lattice benchmarks at  $\mu_B = 0$

### (iii) LEFTs with CEPs at large density (missing quark-gluon back reaction)

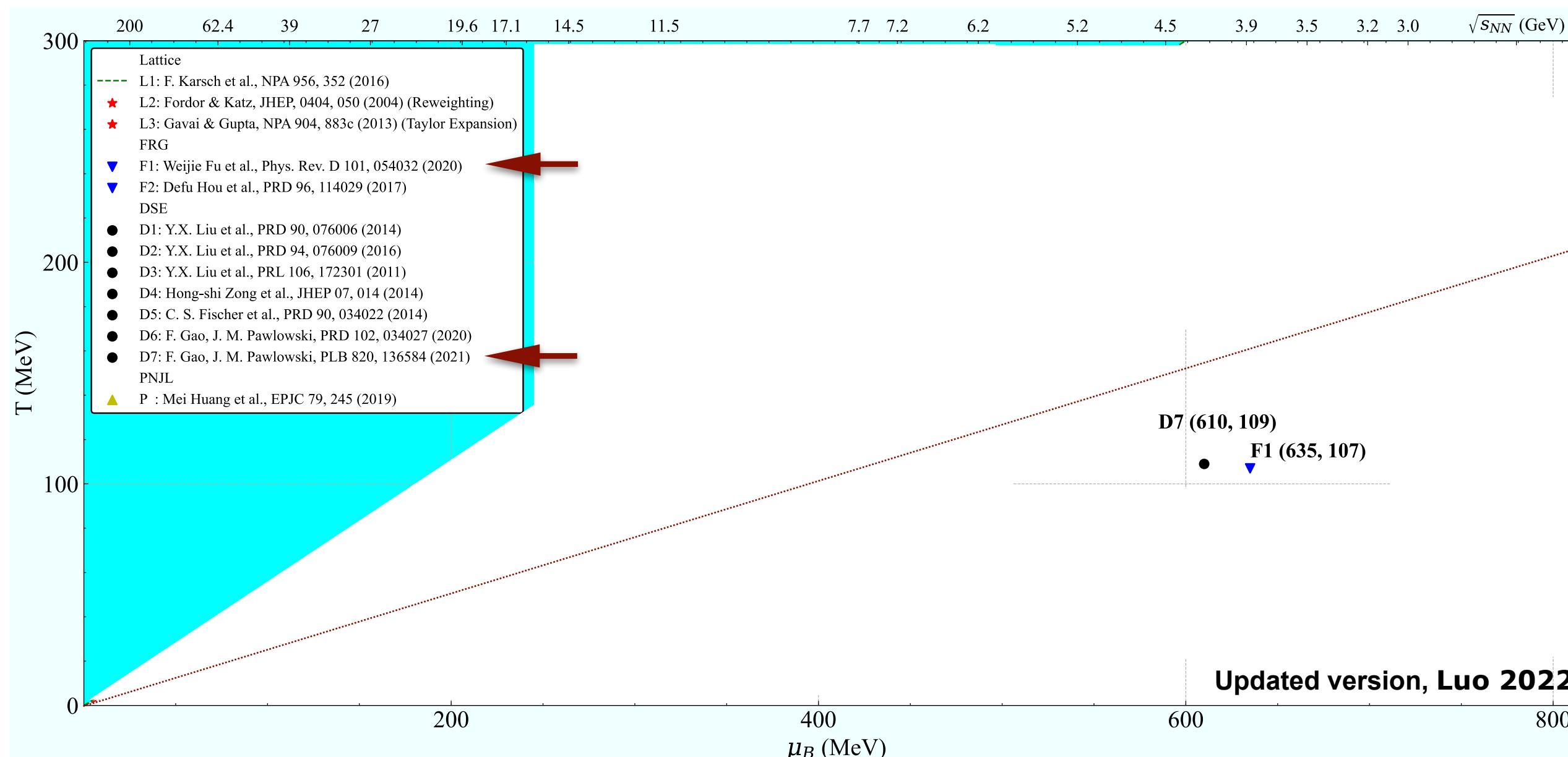
RHIC-BES Seminar Oct. 6th 2020, Xiaofeng Luo

# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to judge them



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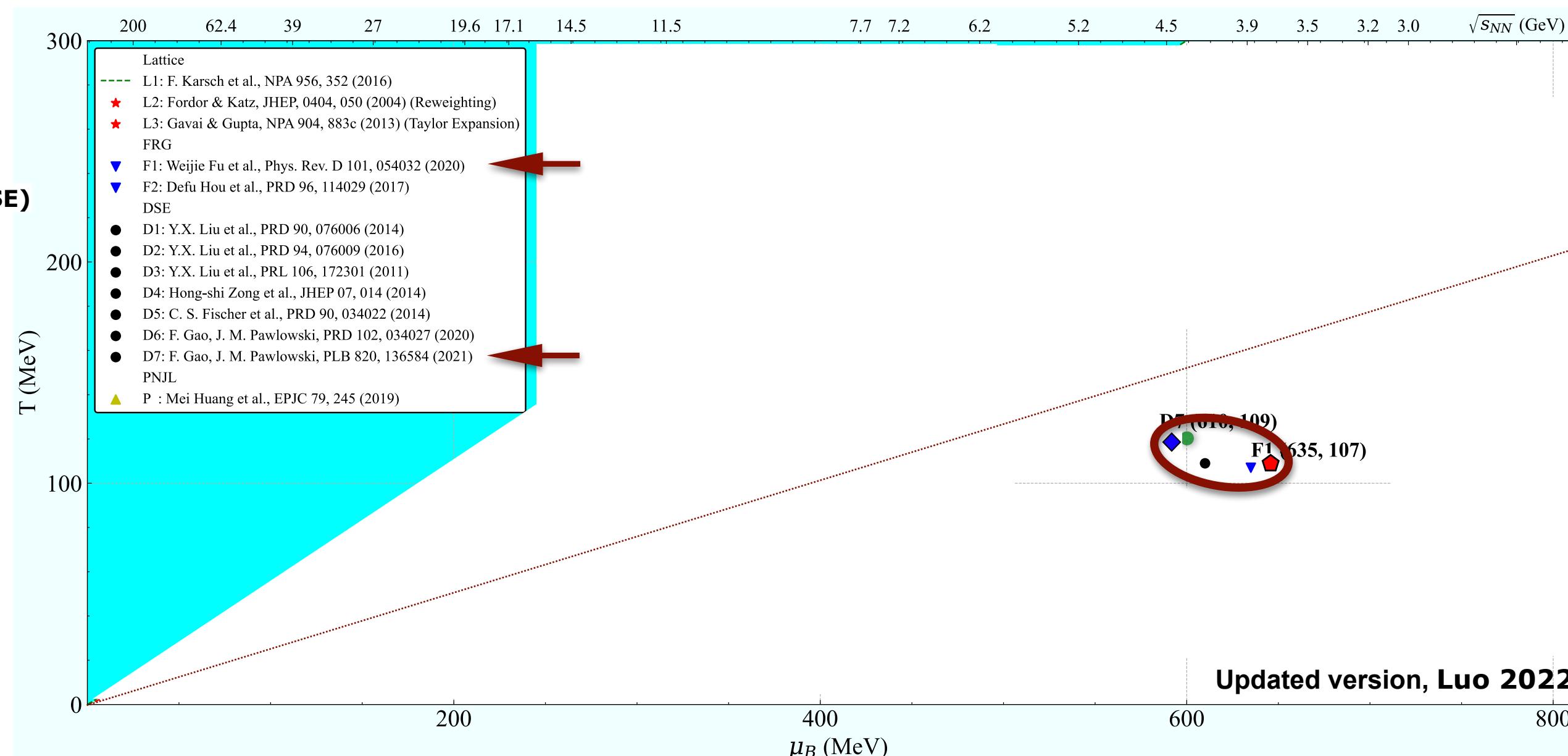
# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to judge them



## Location of CP : Theoretical Prediction

Preliminary collection from Lattice, DSE, FRG and PNJL (2004-2023)

- ◆ Gao, Lu, JMP, Schneider, in prep (DSE)
- ◆ Fu, JMP, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in prep (fRG)
- Gunkel, Fischer, PRD 104 (2021) 054022 (DSE)



Large uncertainties for the estimation of CP location.

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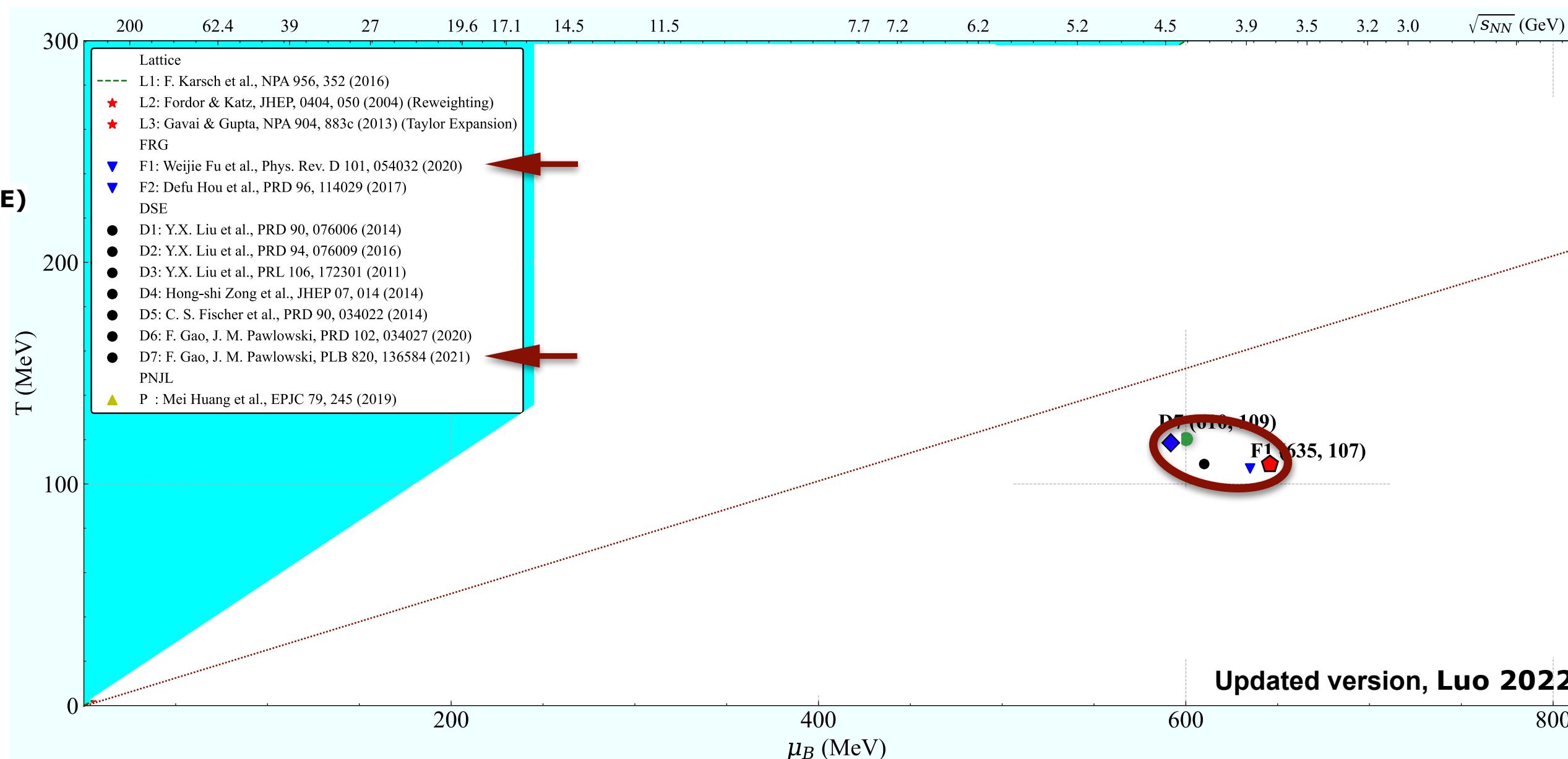
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## Location of CP : Theoretical Prediction

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- Gunkel, Fischer, PRD 104 (2021) 054022 (DSE)



Still uncertainties for the estimation of CP location.

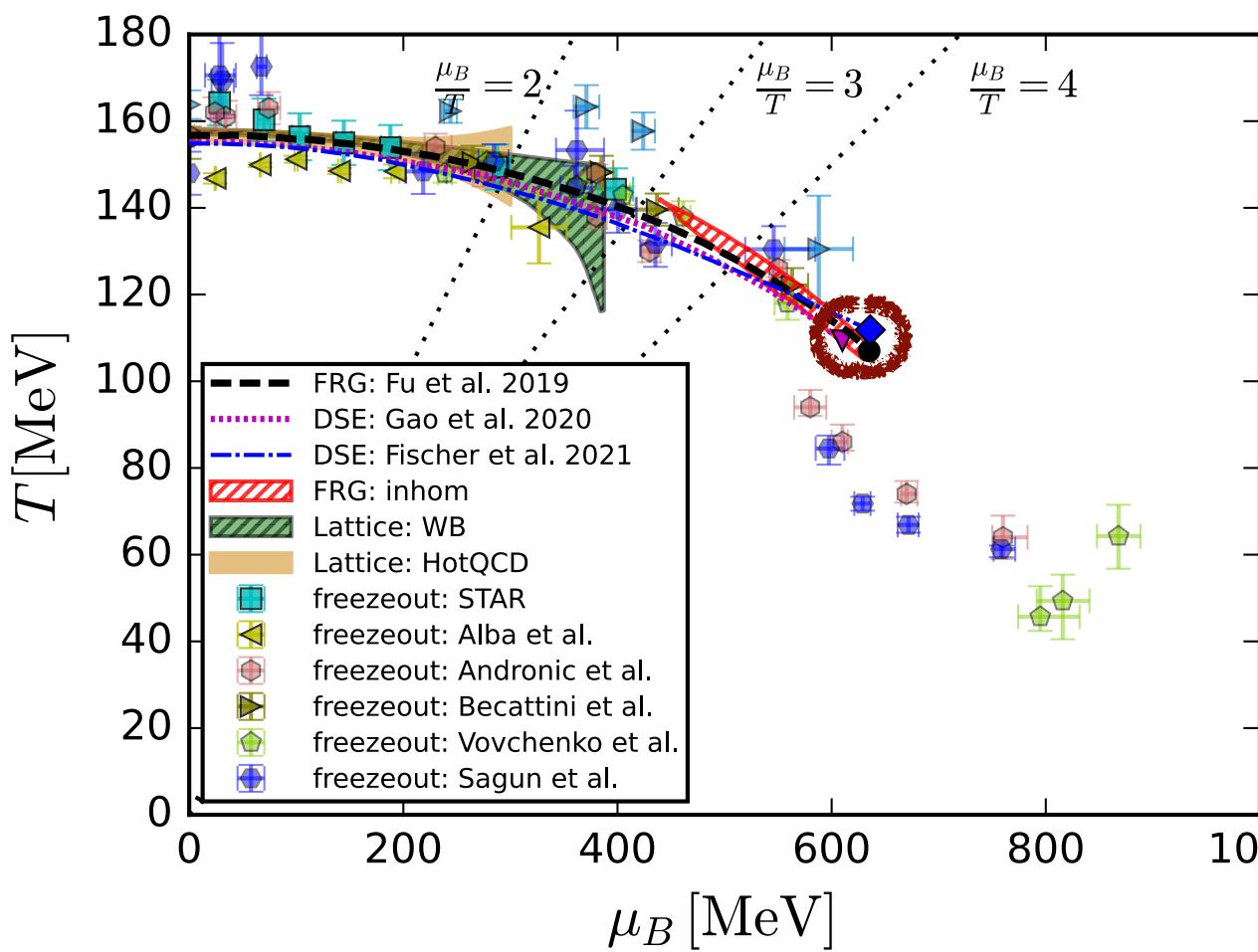
## Remove CEP-predictions

(i) 'old' CEPs: lattice, Functional QCD approaches, LEFTS (updated computations available)

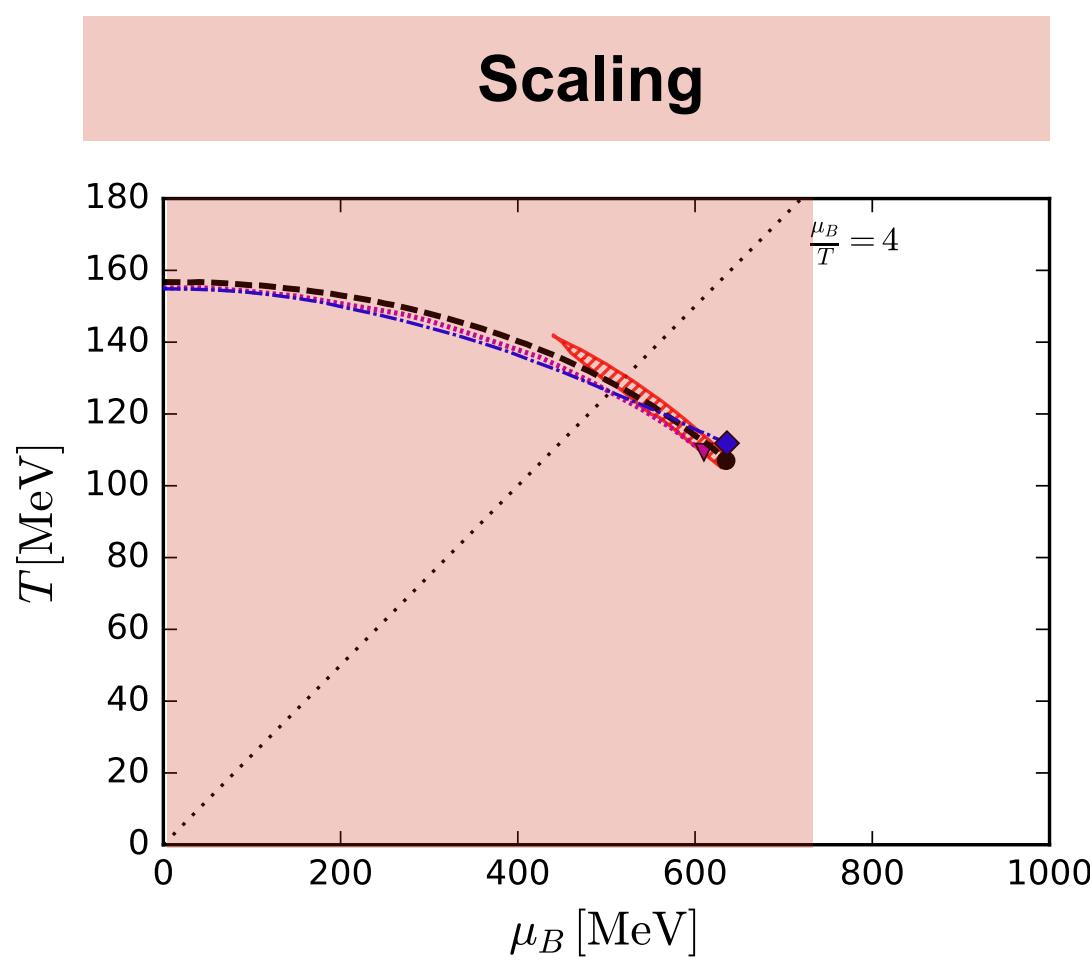
(ii) LEFTs & Functional Results (qualitative approximations) that miss lattice benchmarks at  $\mu_B = 0$

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# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to use them



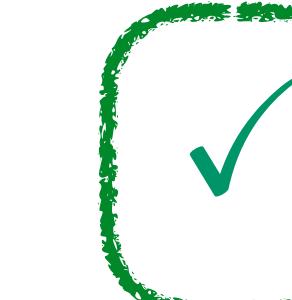
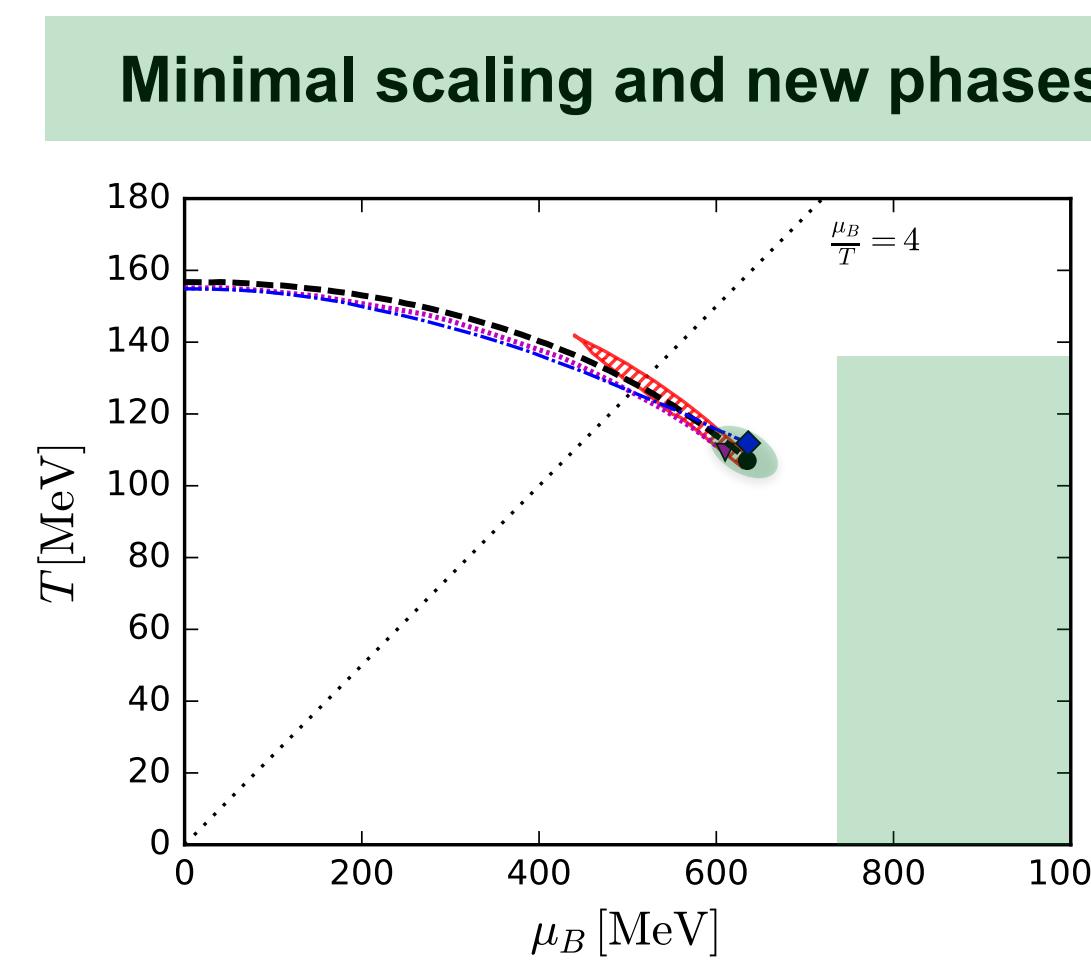
**Scenario I**



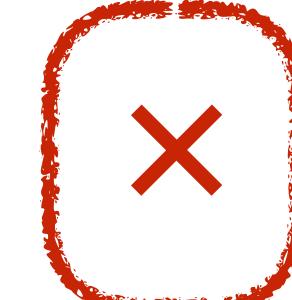
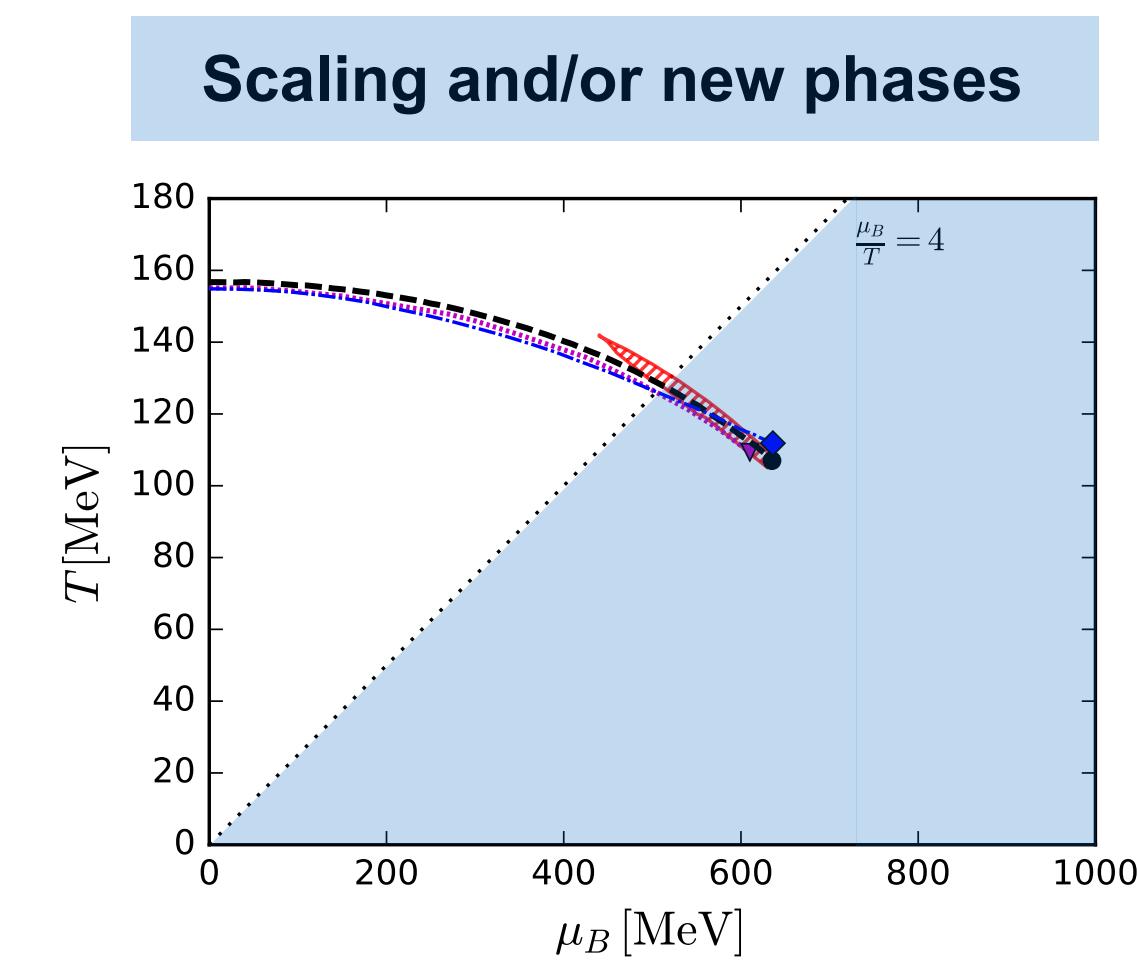
Extrapolations  
for  
Pheno



**Scenario II**



**Scenario III**



# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to use them

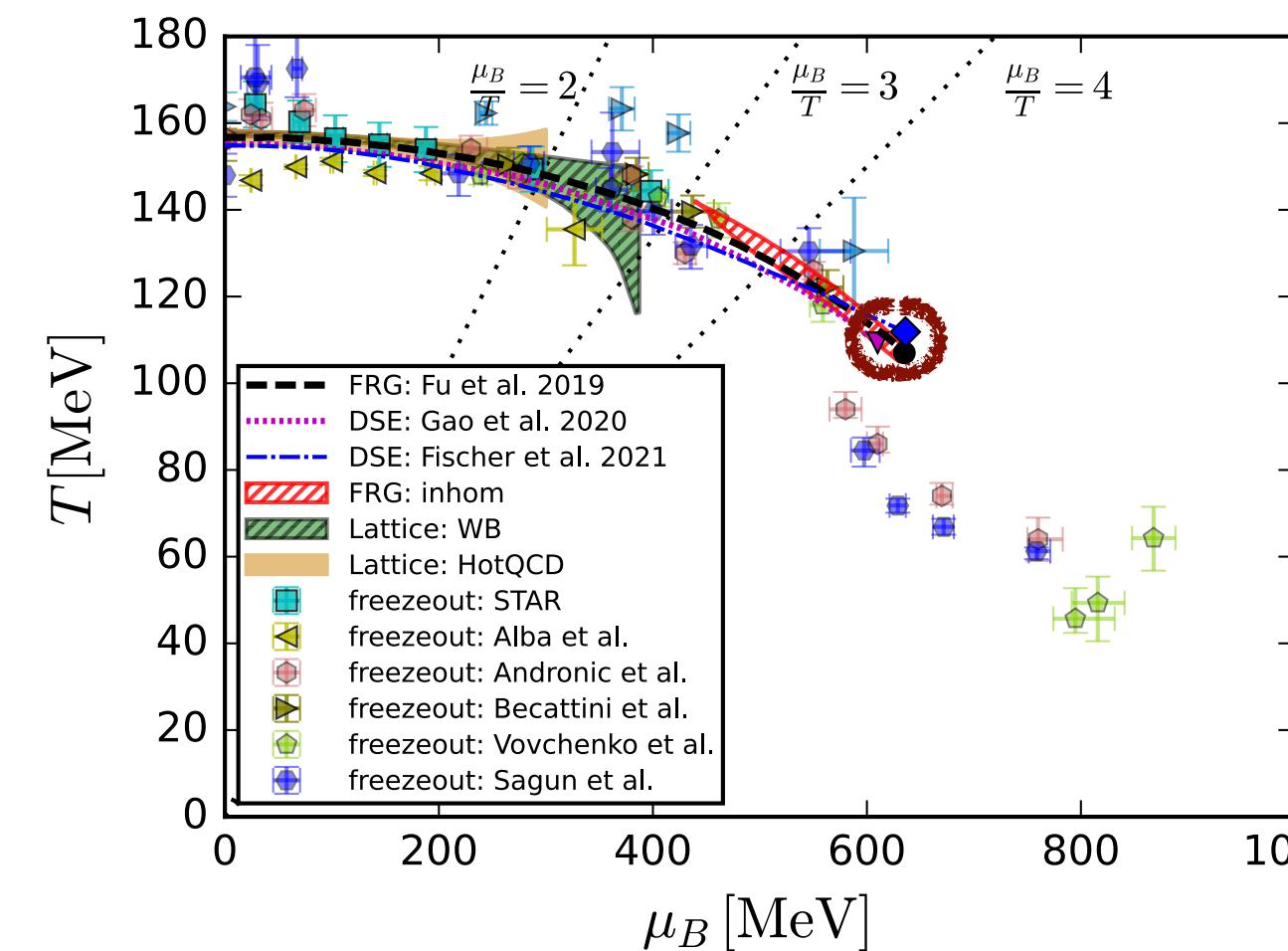
*Out* by the LEGO® principle

Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032  
+

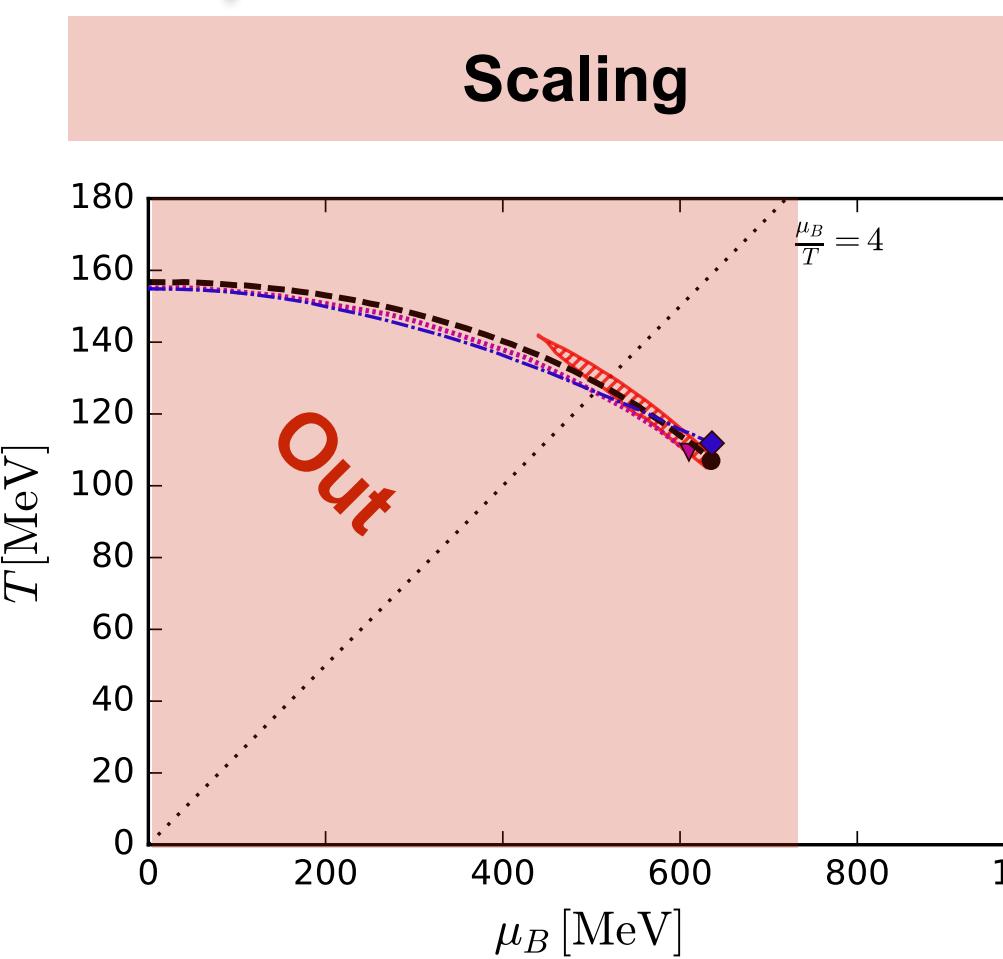
Size of scaling regime in LEFTs

Schaefer, Wambach, PRD 75 (2007) 085015

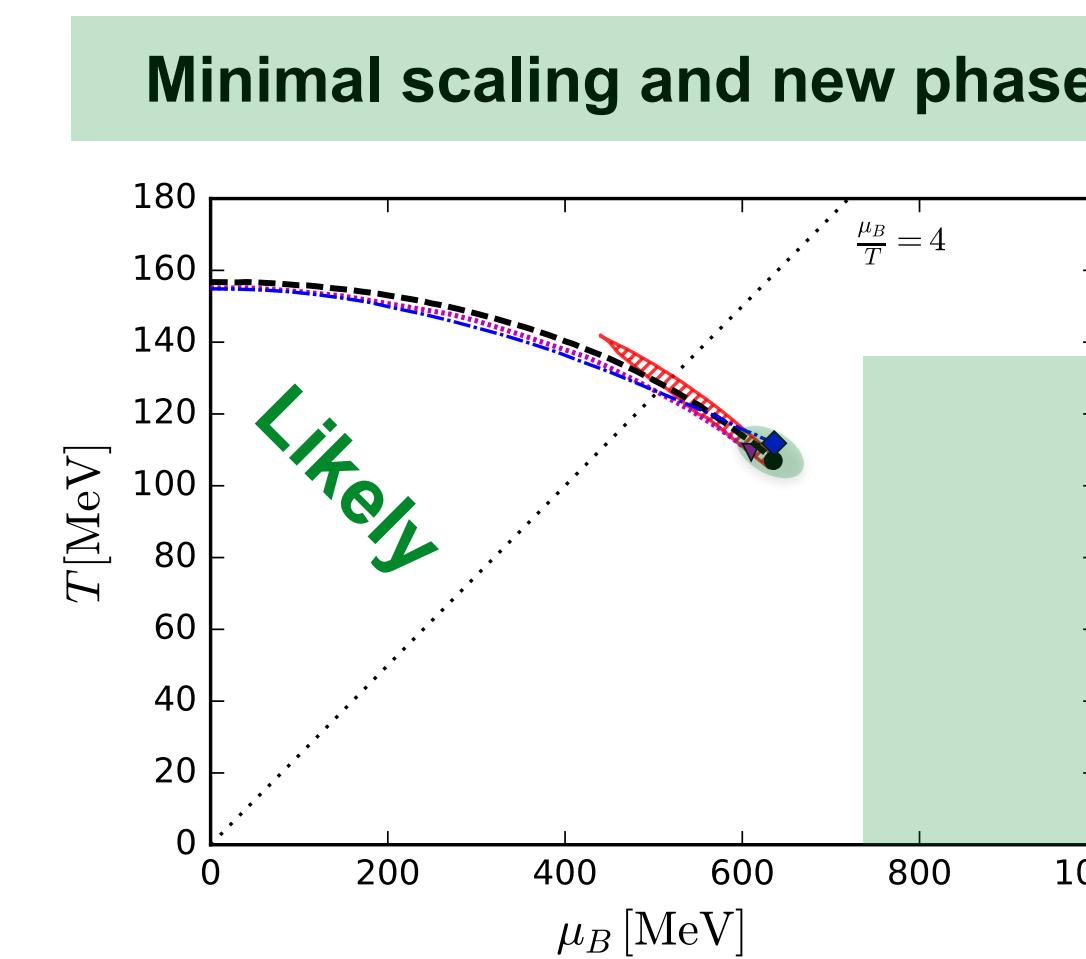
Braun, Klein, Piasecki, EPJC 71 (2011) 1576  
⋮



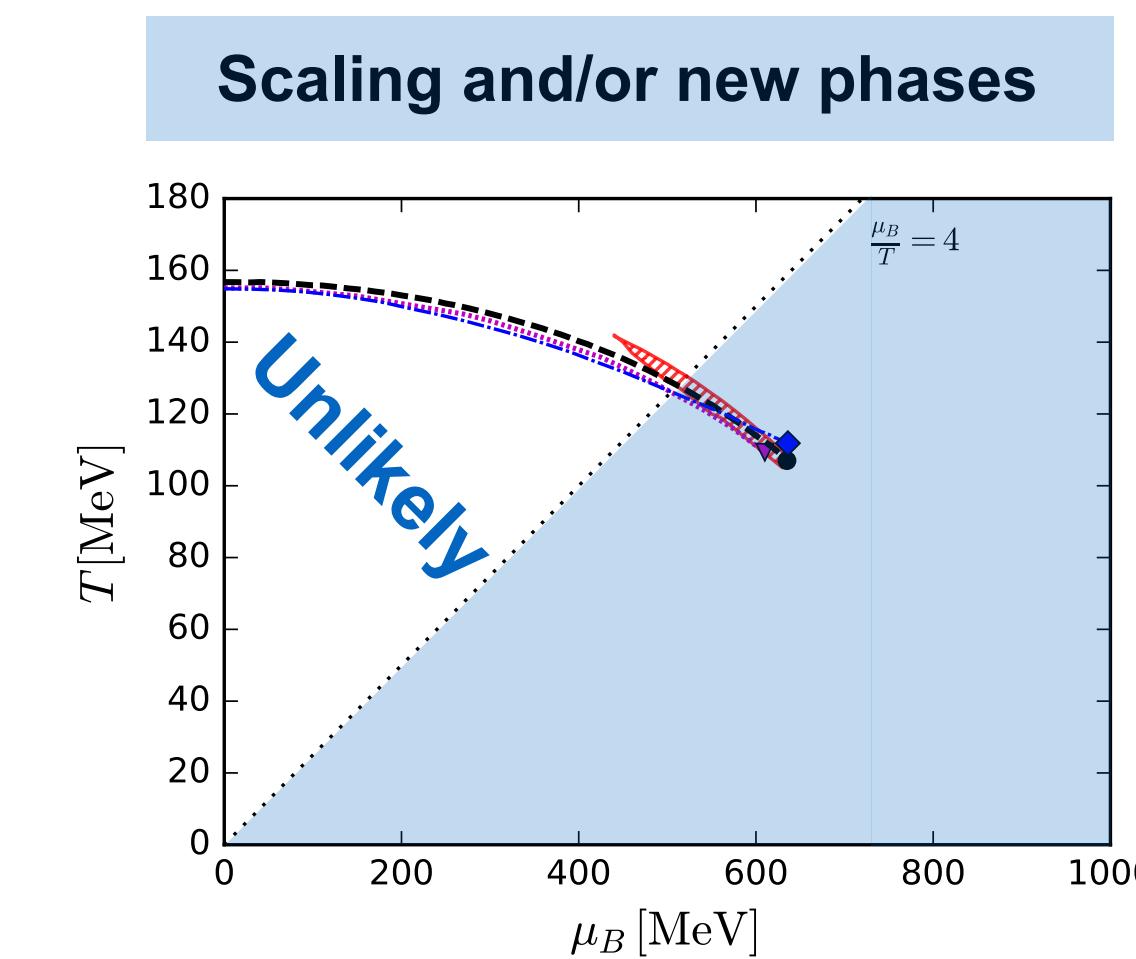
## Scenario I



## Scenario II



## Scenario III



Braun, Fu, JMP, Rennecke, Rosenblüh, Yin, PRD 102 (2020) 056010

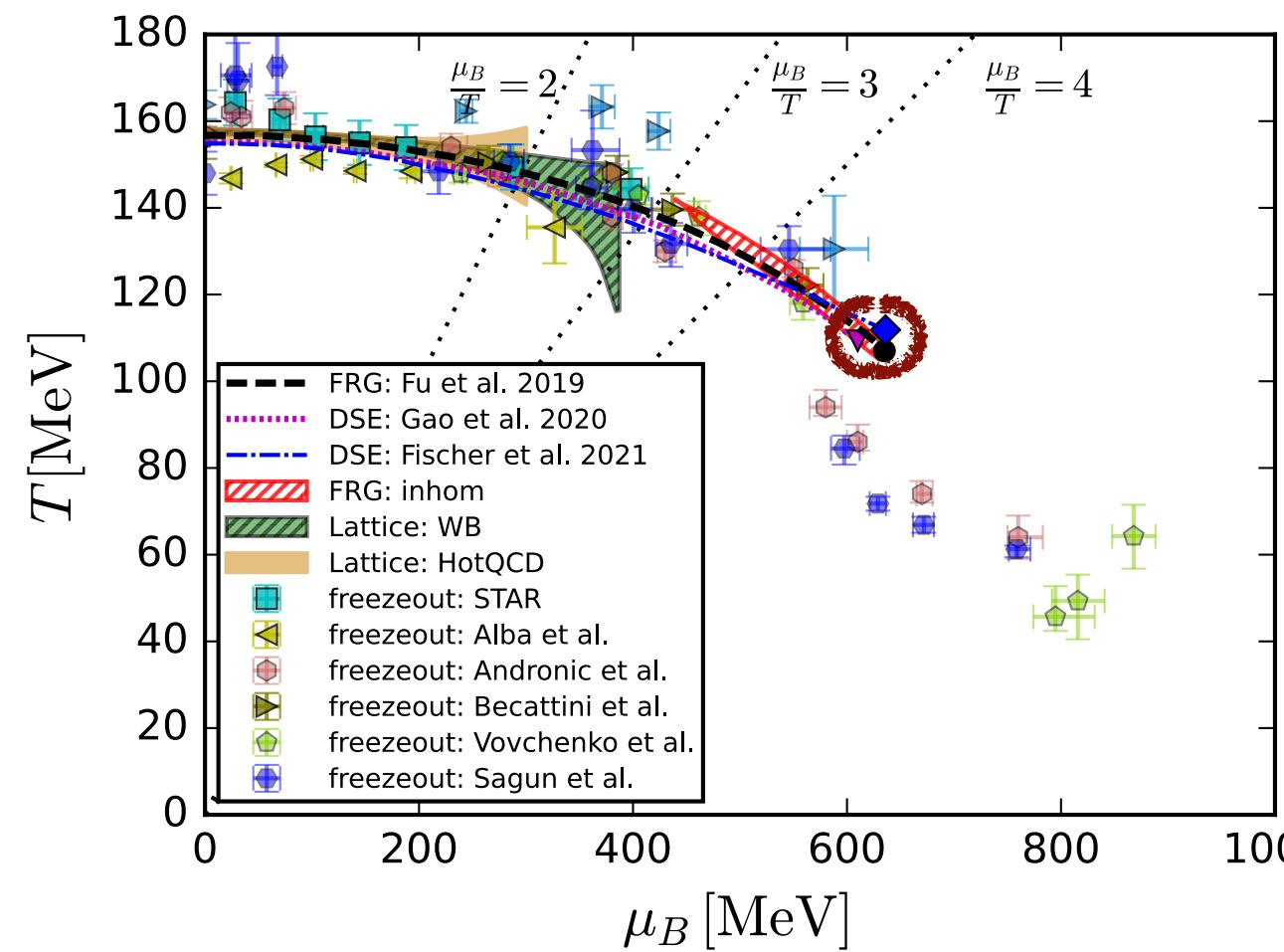
Gao, JMP, PRD 105 (2022) 094020

Soft modes in hot QCD matter: Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Huang, Ihssen, JMP, Rennecke, Sattler, Tan, Wen, Yin, arXiv:2310.19853

+ many results in dynamical low energy effective theories

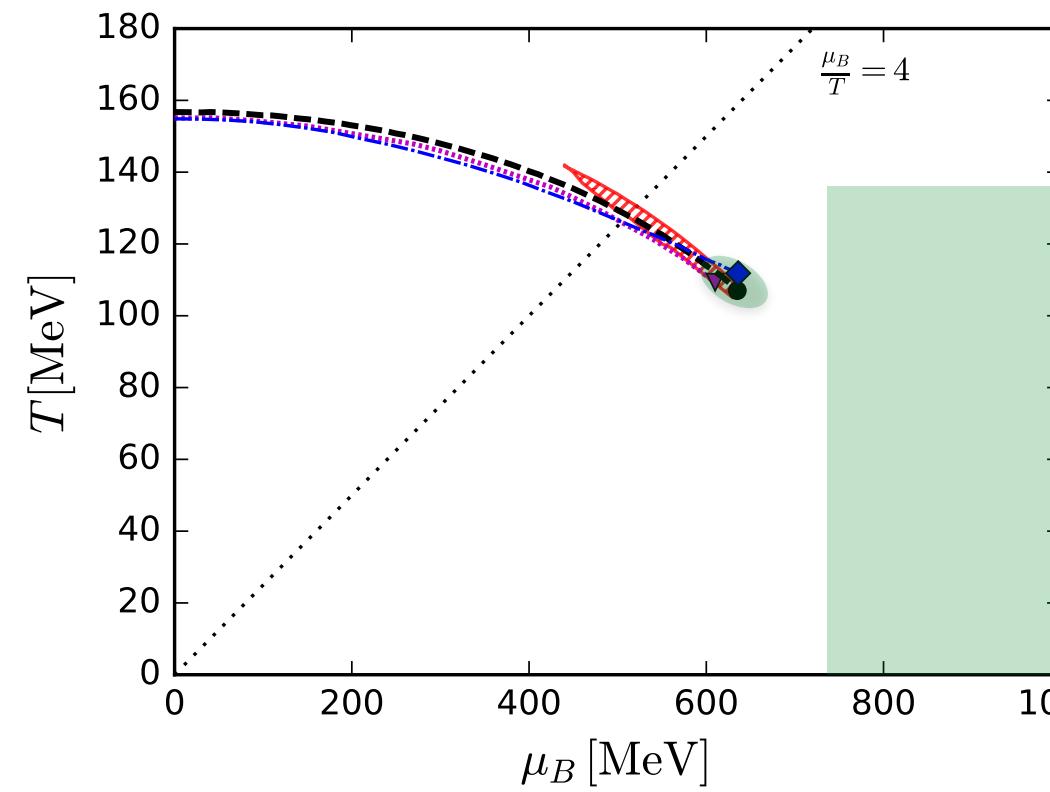
LEGO® principle

# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to use them

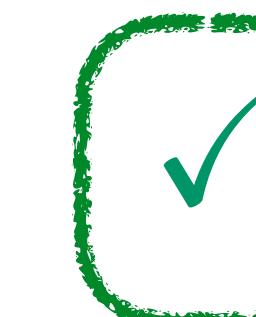


## Scenario II

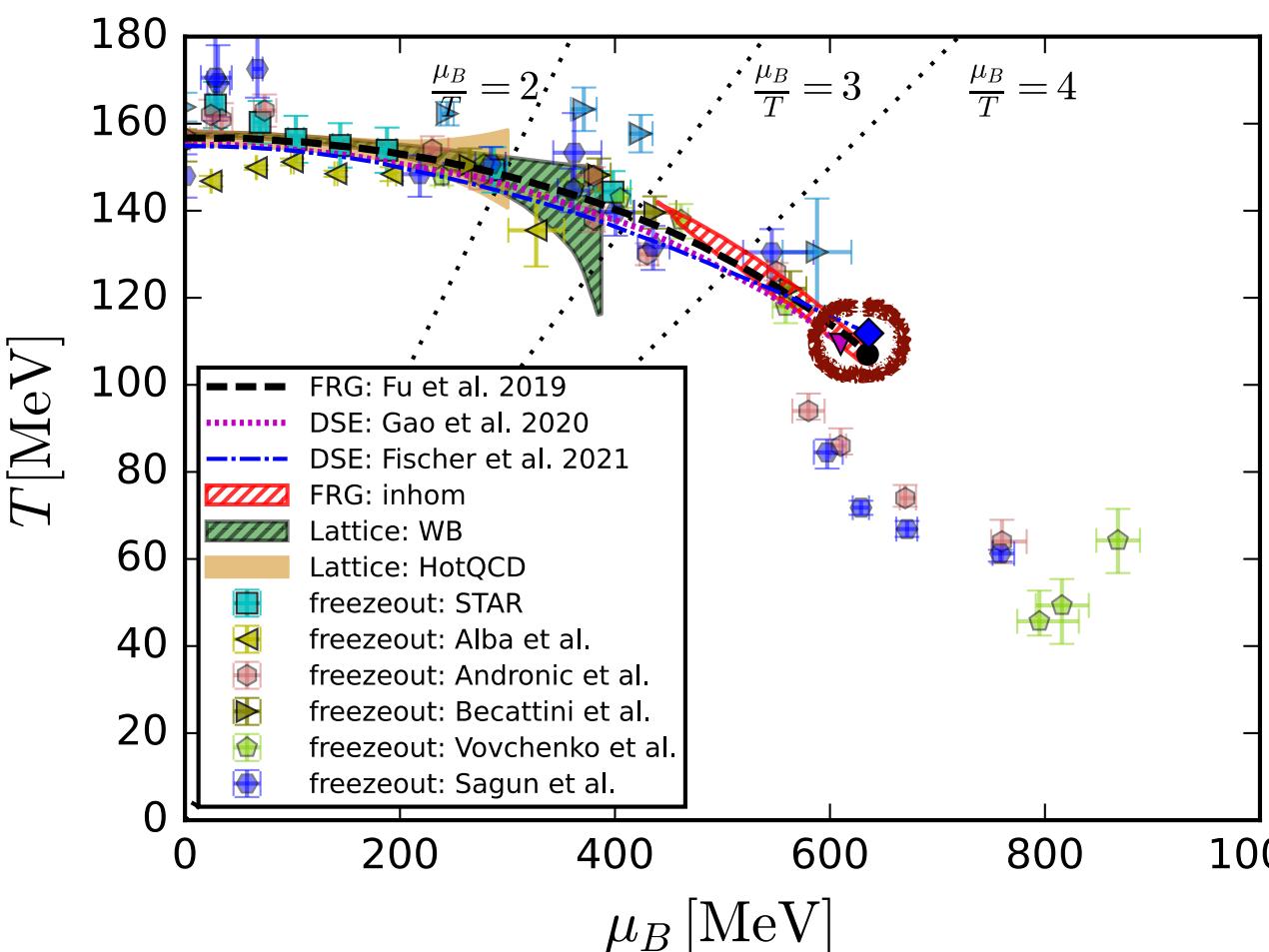
### Minimal scaling and new phases



Extrapolations  
for  
Pheno

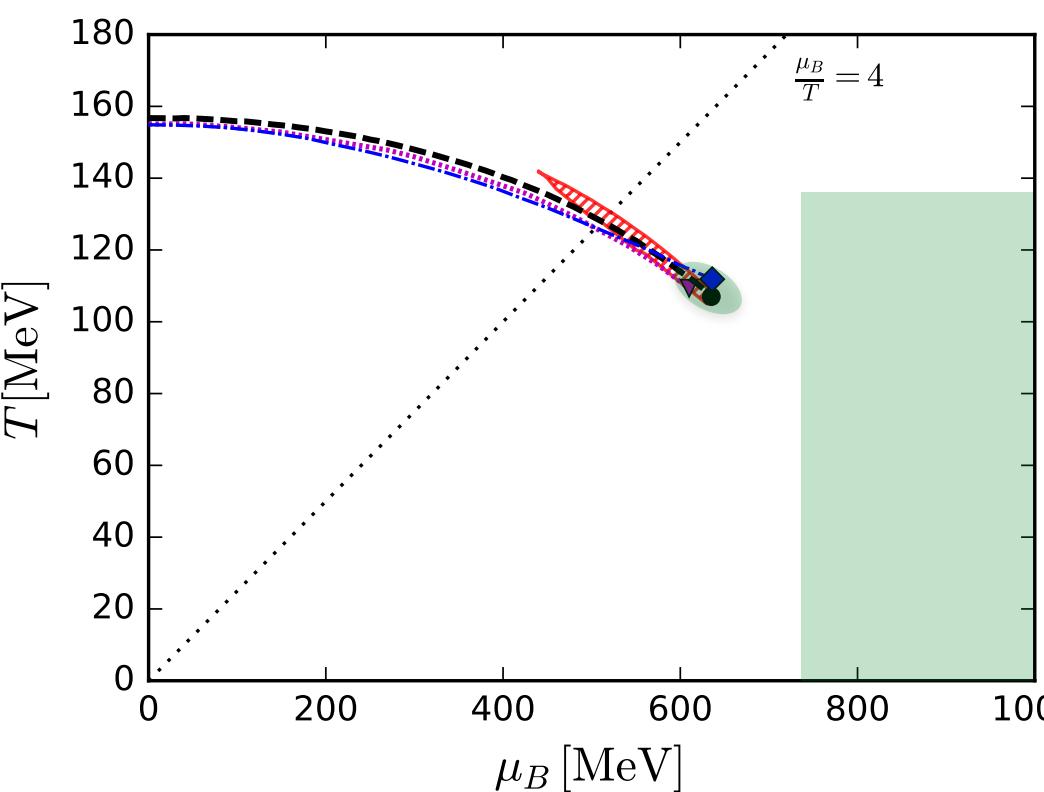


# Predictions, estimates & extrapolations and how to use them



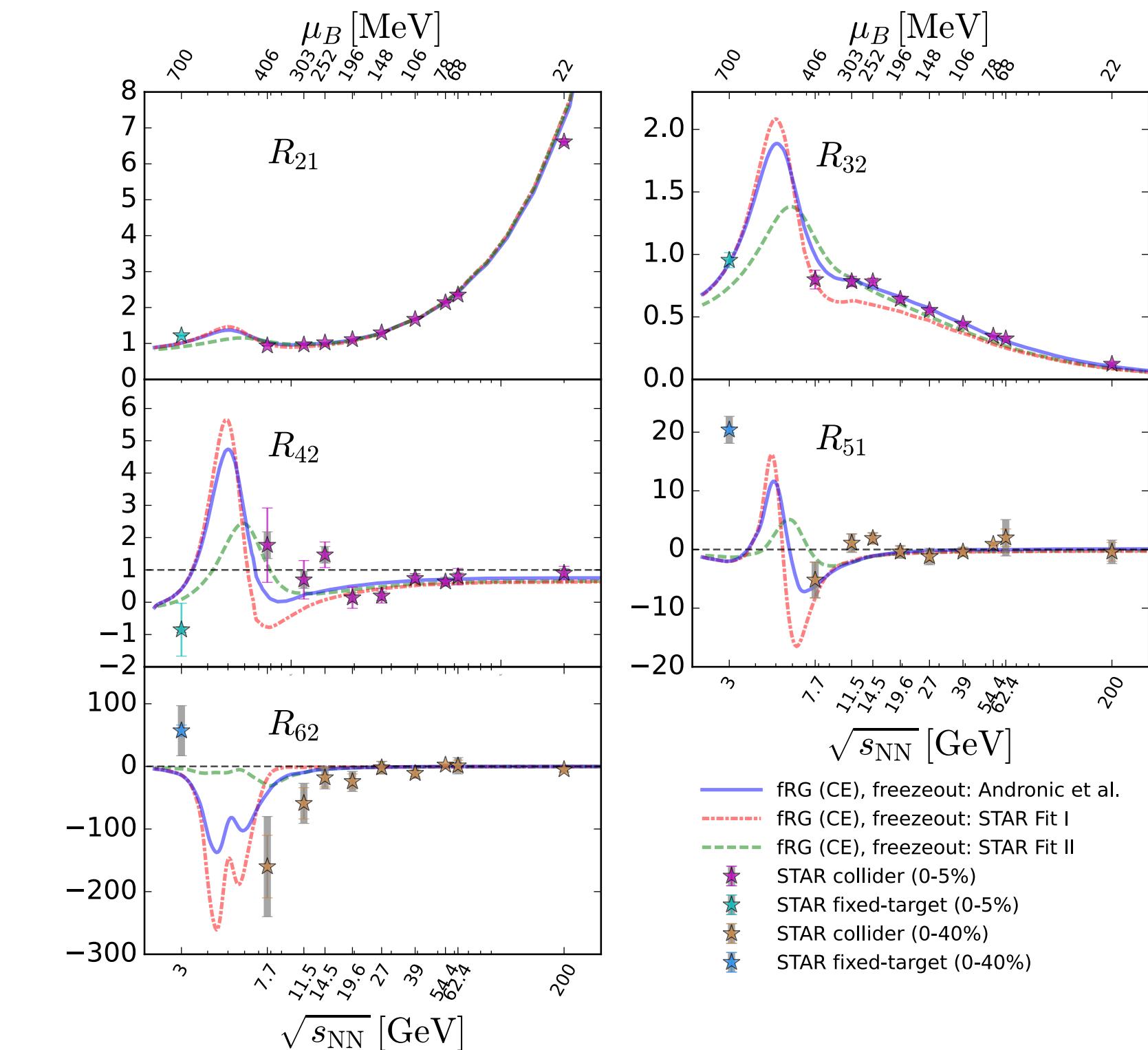
Scenario II

Minimal scaling and new phases



Ripples of the critical end point

baryon & proton number fluctuations



see talk of Wei-jie Fu

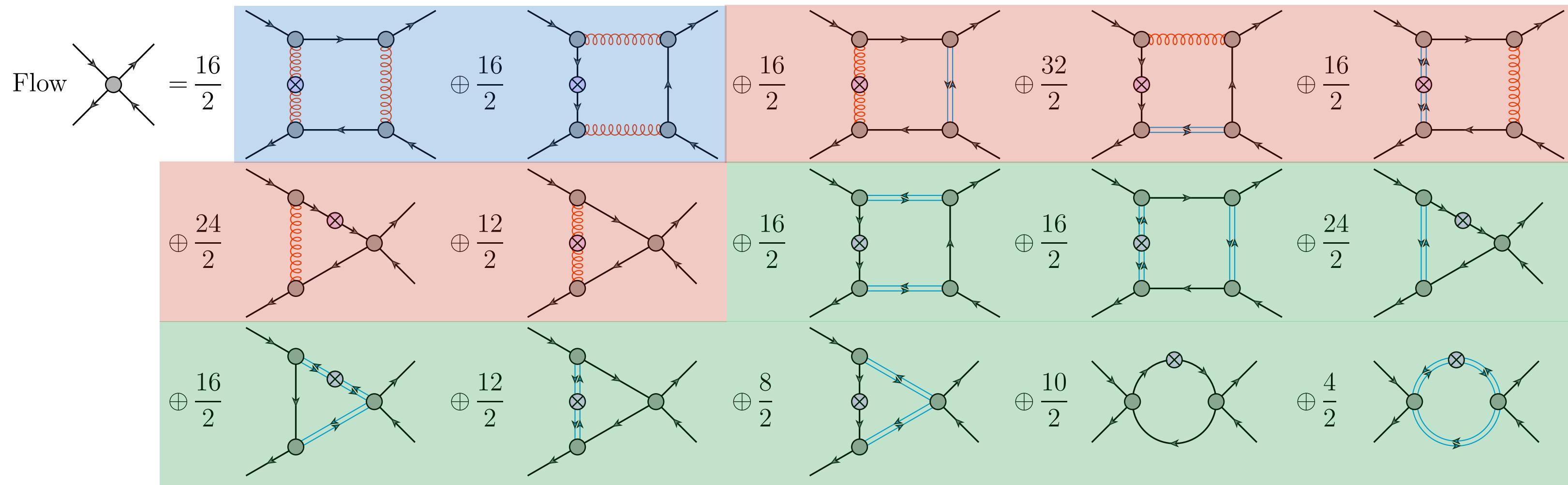
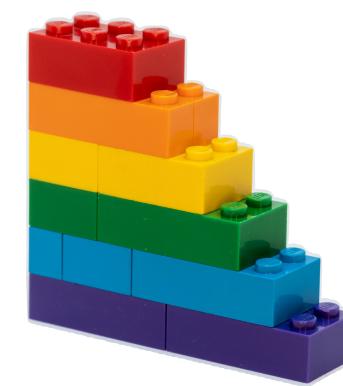
Extrapolations  
for  
Pheno



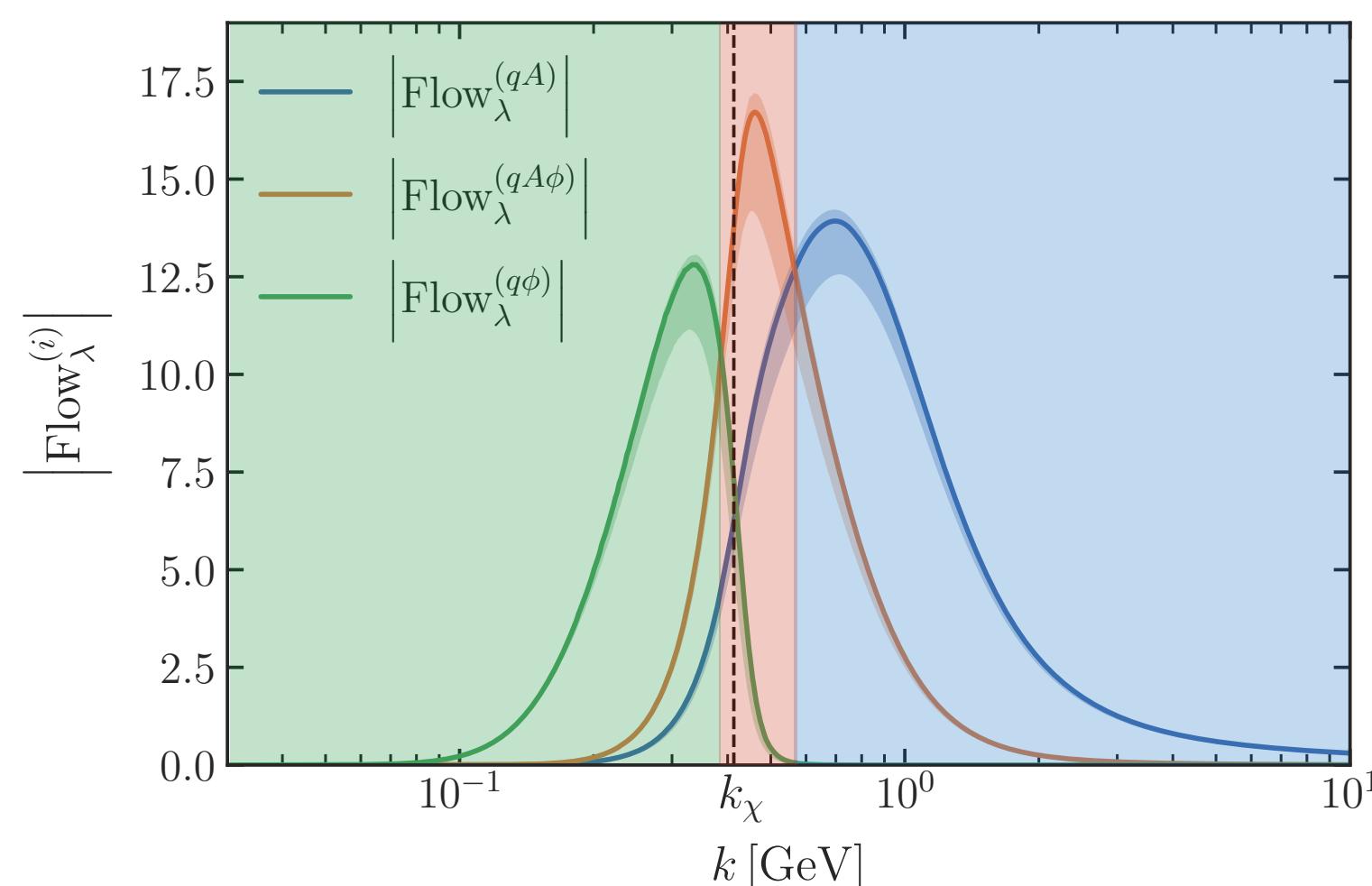
**The unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories**

or  
the LEGO® principle at work

# The LEGO® principle at work



**The unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories**

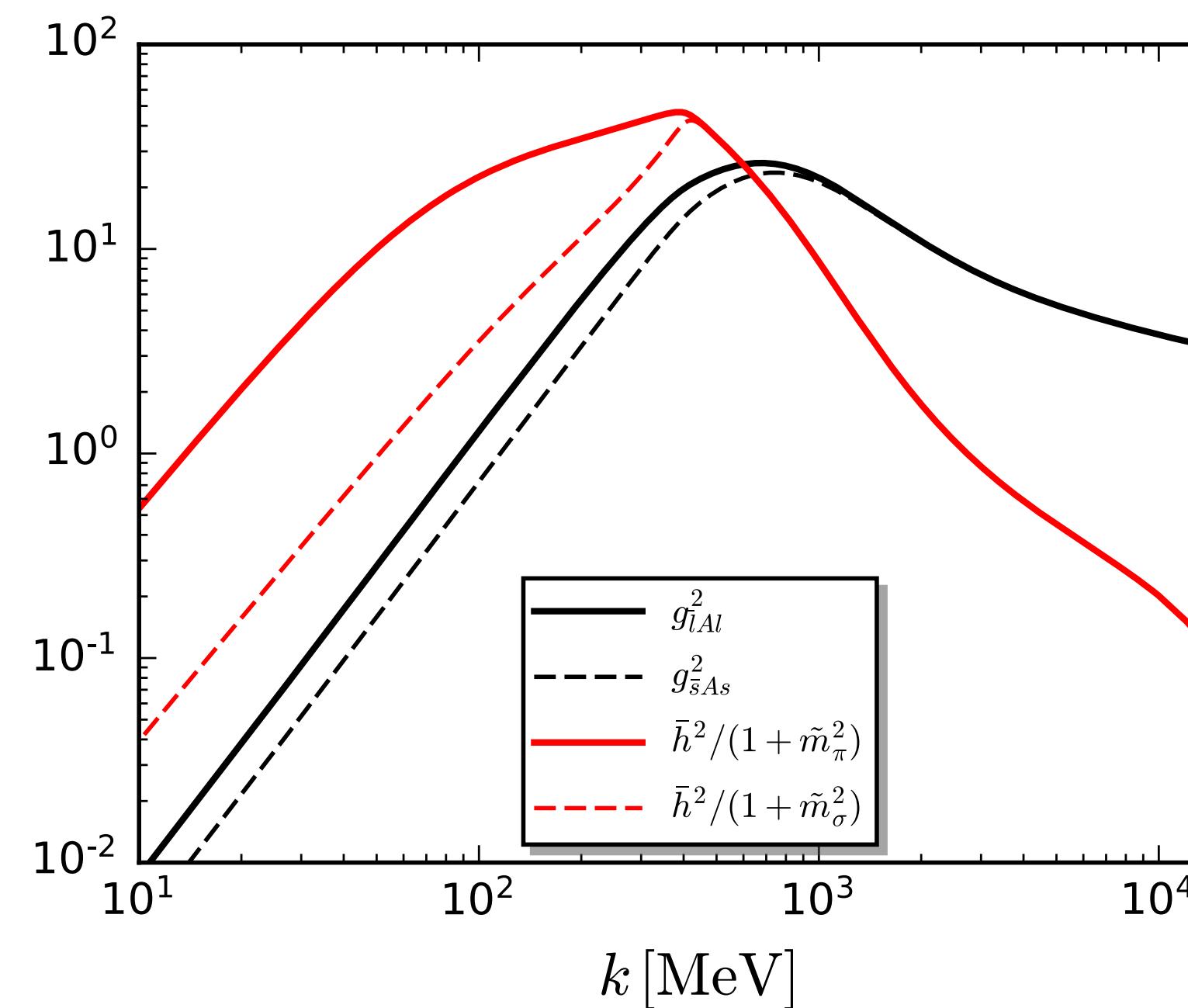


Access and combined use of  
error estimates  
from functional QCD & LEFTs

# On the unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories

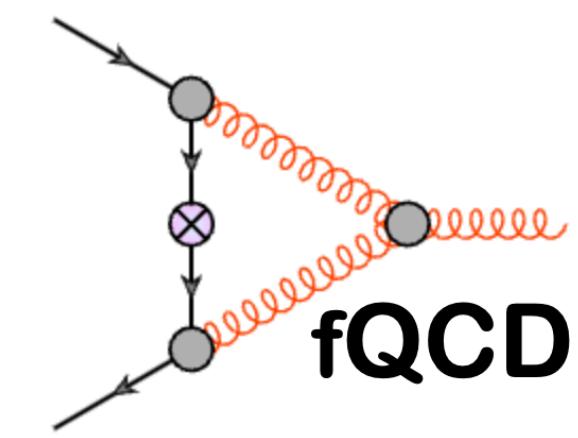
$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (red loop)} - \text{ (dashed loop)} - \text{ (black loop)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (blue loop)}$$

**Sequential decoupling of gluon, quark, sigma, pion fluctuations**



Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101, (2020) 054032

$$\begin{array}{c} g_{lAl}^2 \\ \hline \cdots \cdots \\ g_{sAs}^2 \\ \\ \hline \cdots \cdots \\ \bar{h}^2 / (1 + \bar{m}_\pi^2) \\ \hline \cdots \cdots \\ \bar{h}^2 / (1 + \bar{m}_\sigma^2) \end{array}$$



Based on:

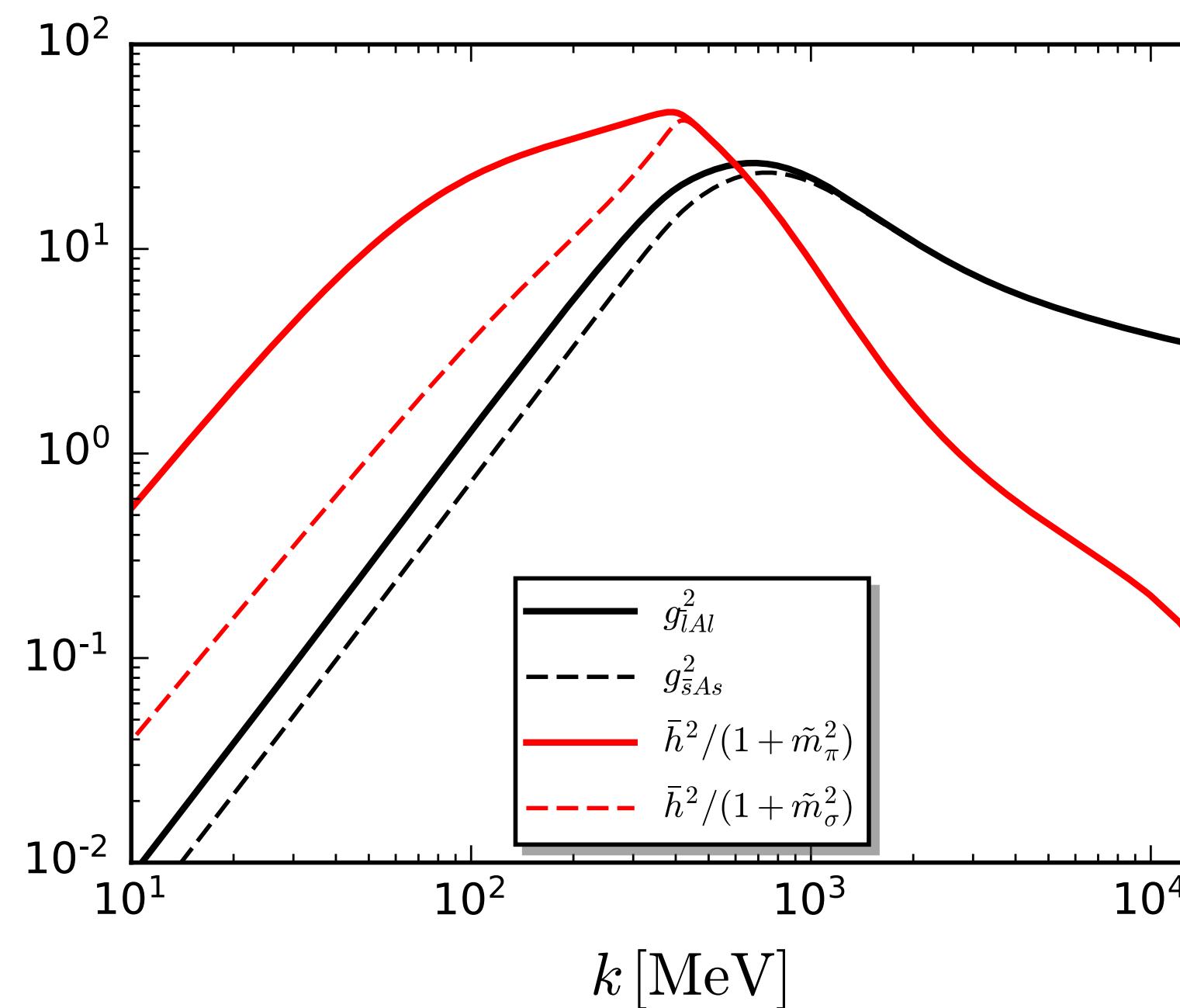
Braun, Fister, Haas, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 94 (2016) 034016

Rennecke, PRD 92 (2015) 076012

# On the unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (red loop)} - \text{ (dashed loop)} - \text{ (black loop)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (blue loop)}$$

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Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101, (2020) 054032

$$\frac{g_{lAl}^2}{g_{sAs}^2}$$

$$\frac{\bar{h}^2}{1+\bar{m}_\pi^2}$$

$$\frac{\bar{h}^2}{1+\bar{m}_\sigma^2}$$

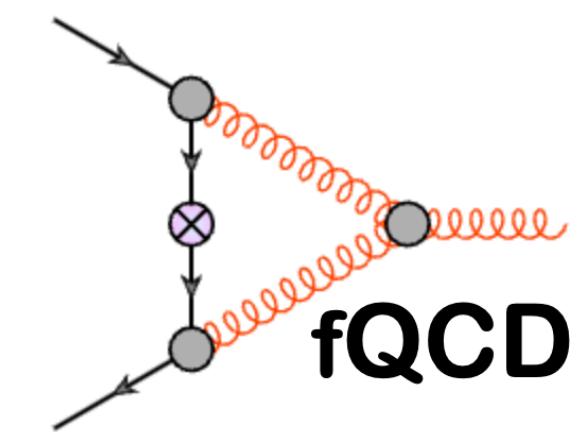
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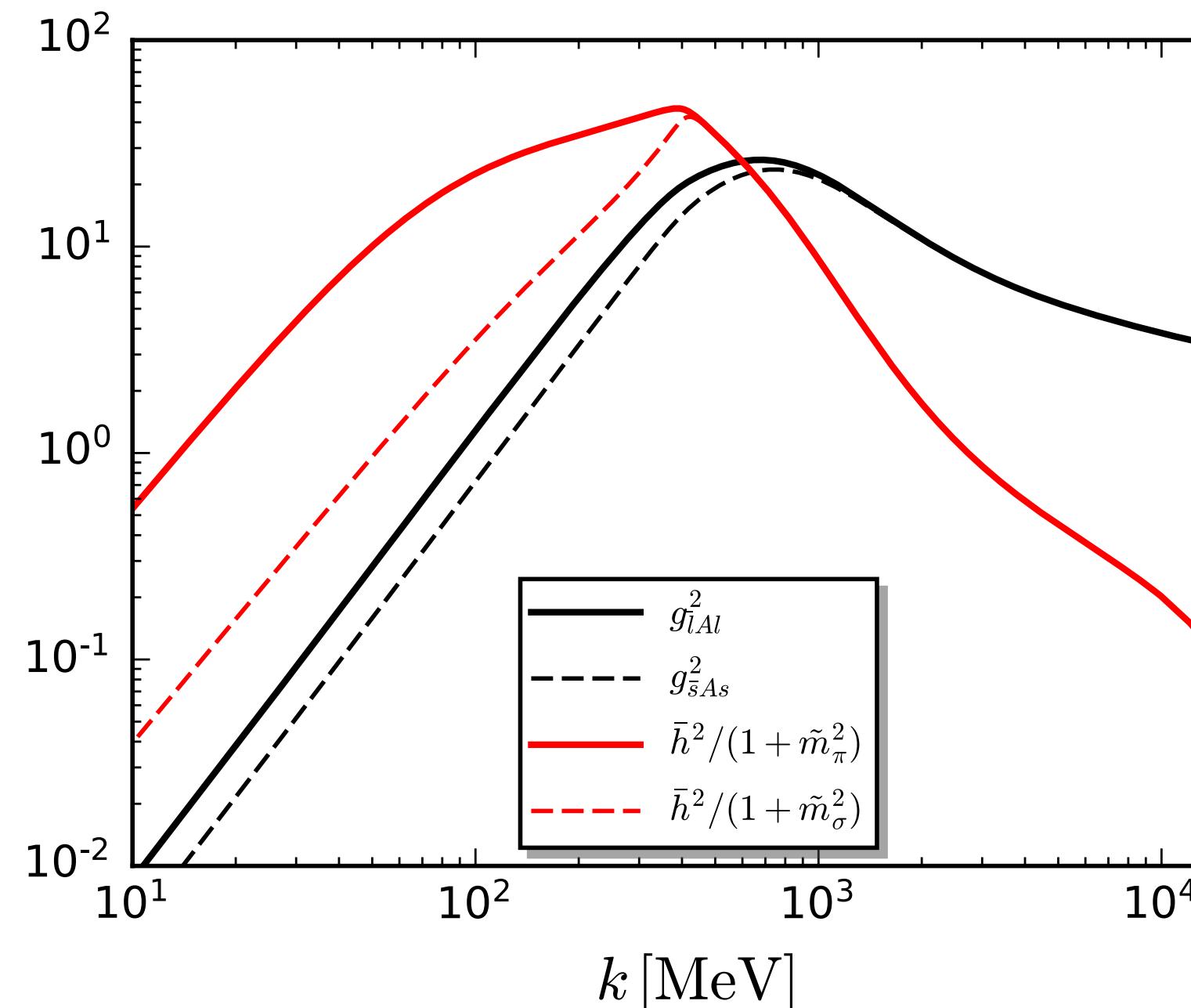
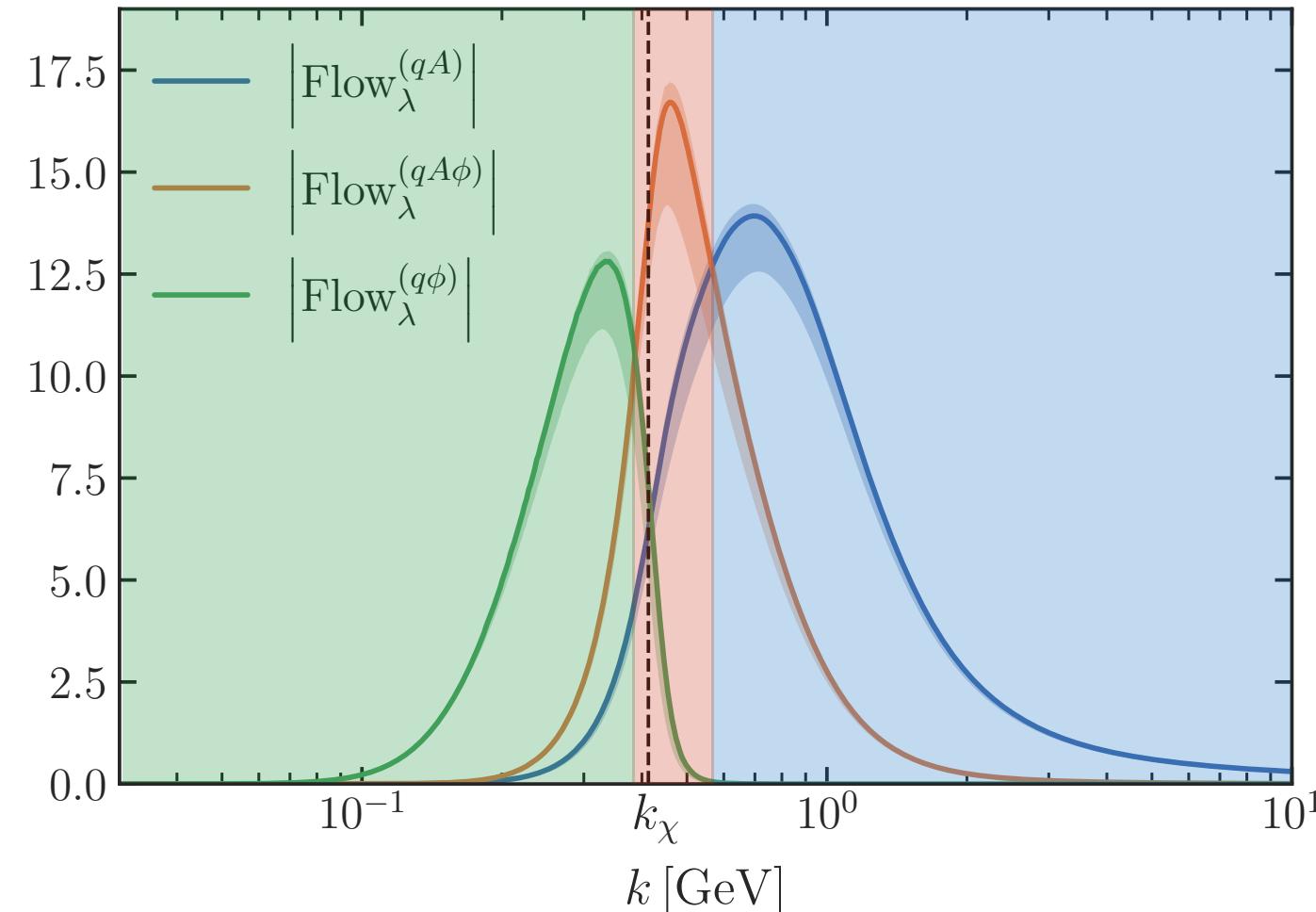
Rennecke, PRD 92 (2015) 076012

# On the unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{red loop} - \text{dashed loop} - \text{black loop} + \frac{1}{2} \text{blue loop} \right)$$



**Sequential decoupling of gluon, quark, sigma, pion fluctuations**

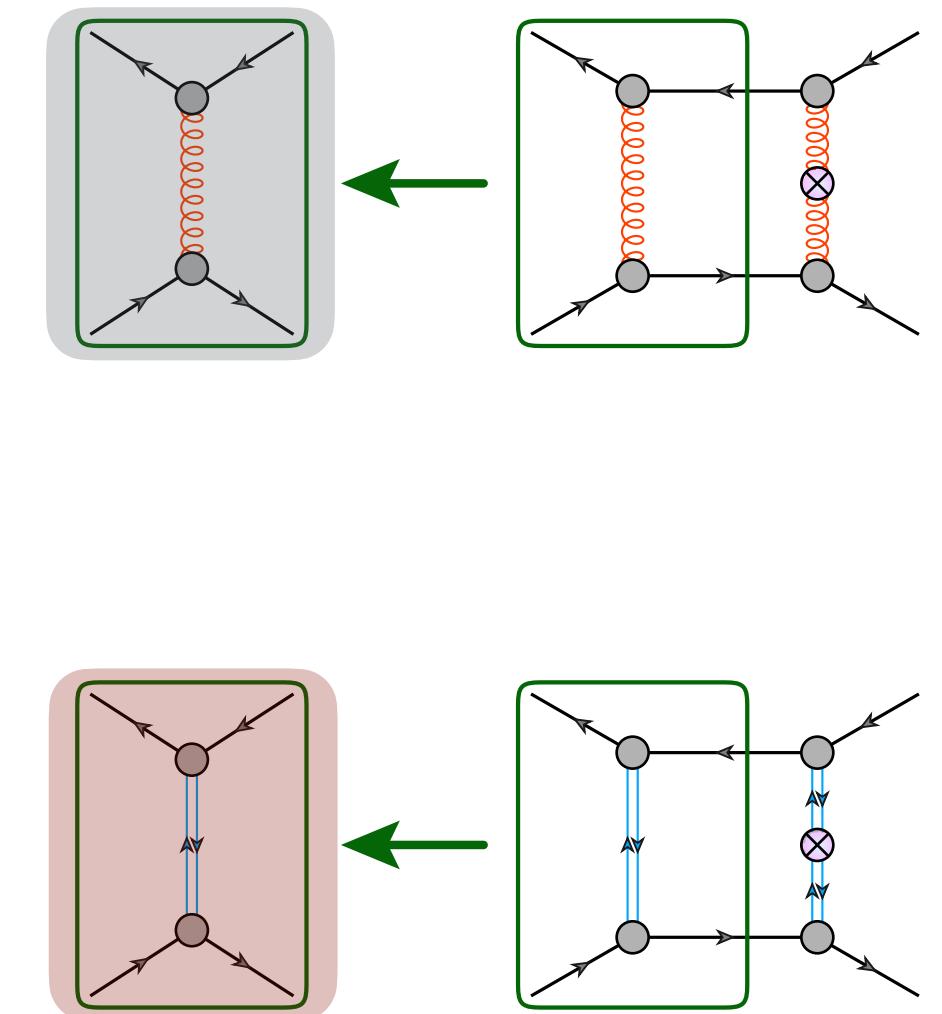


Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101, (2020) 054032

$$\frac{g_{lAl}^2}{g_{sAs}^2}$$
  

$$\frac{\bar{h}^2}{1+\bar{m}_\pi^2}$$
  

$$\frac{\bar{h}^2}{1+\bar{m}_\sigma^2}$$



Based on:

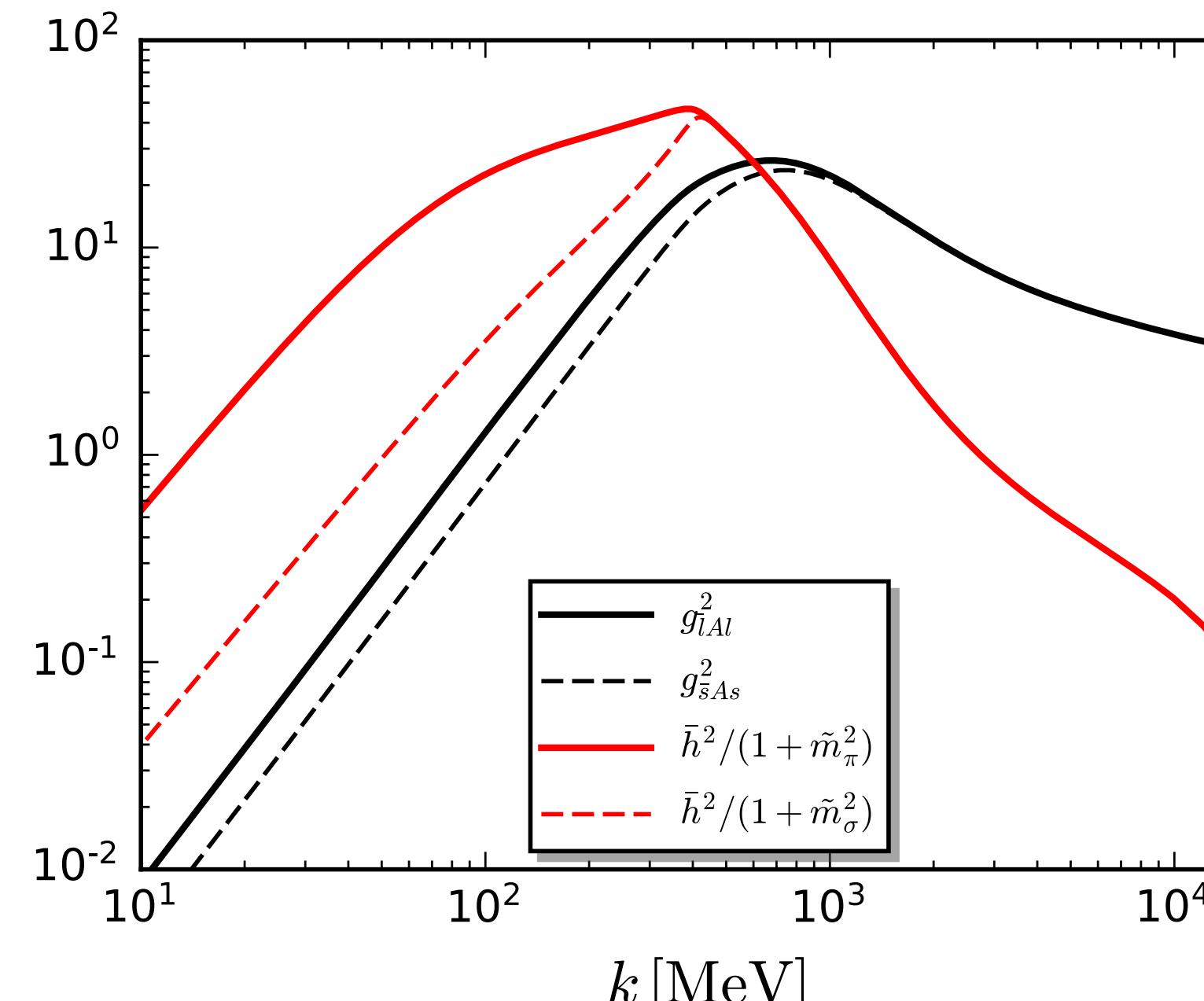
Braun, Fister, Haas, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 94 (2016) 034016

Rennecke, PRD 92 (2015) 076012

# On the unreasonable effectiveness of low energy effective theories

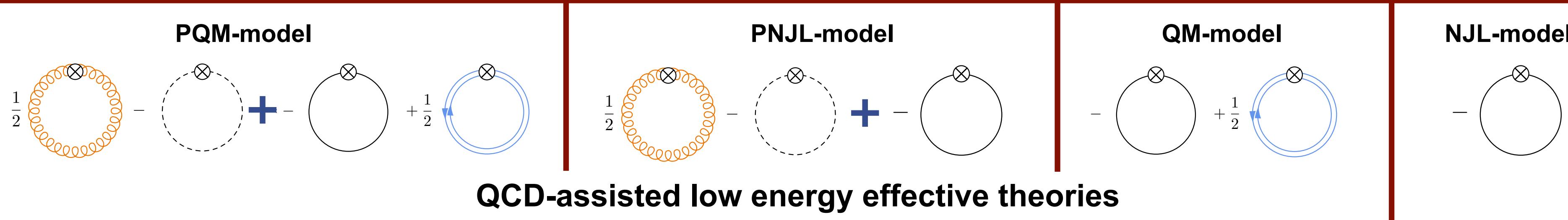
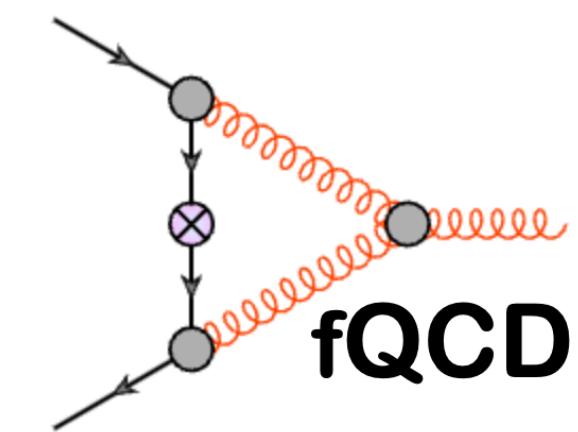
$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (orange loop)} - \text{ (dashed loop)} - \text{ (black loop)} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (blue loop)}$$

**Sequential decoupling of gluon, quark, sigma, pion fluctuations**

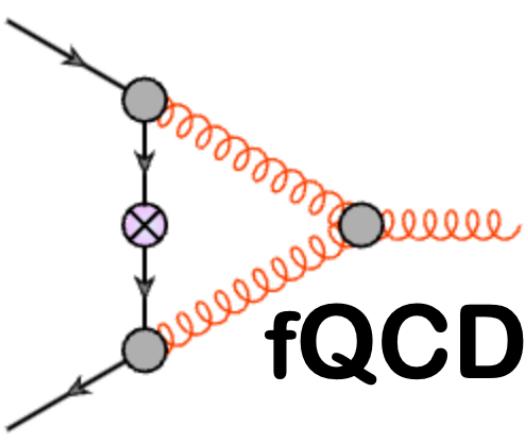


Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101, (2020) 054032

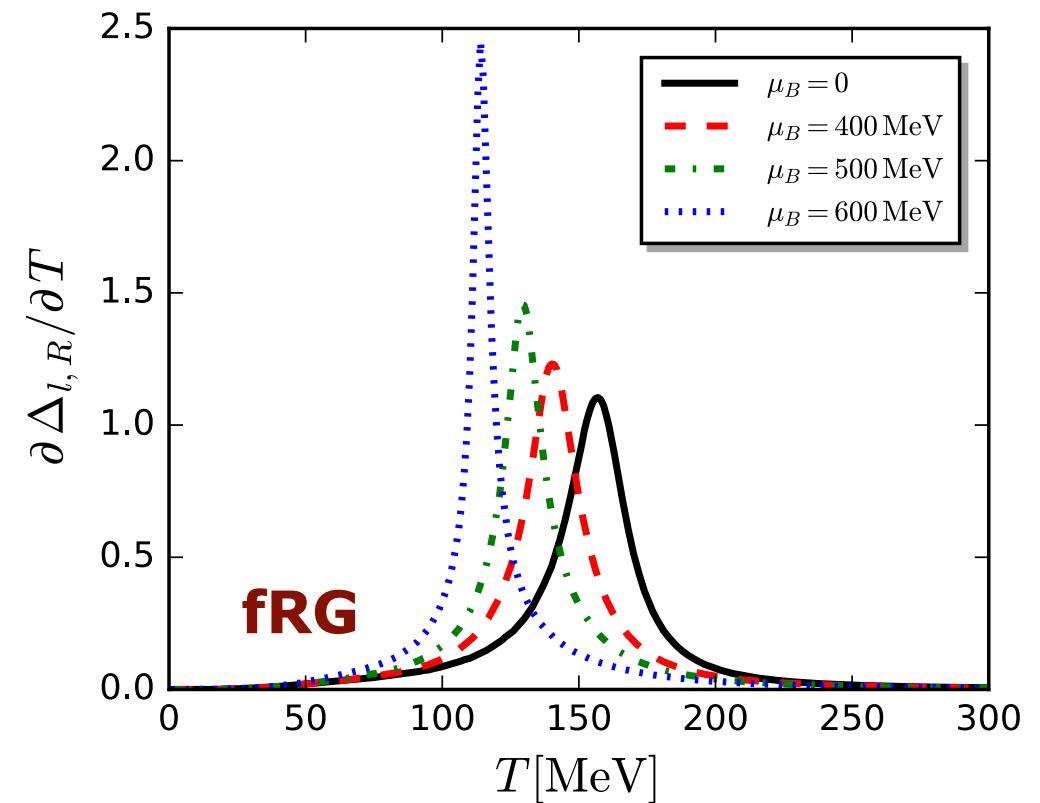
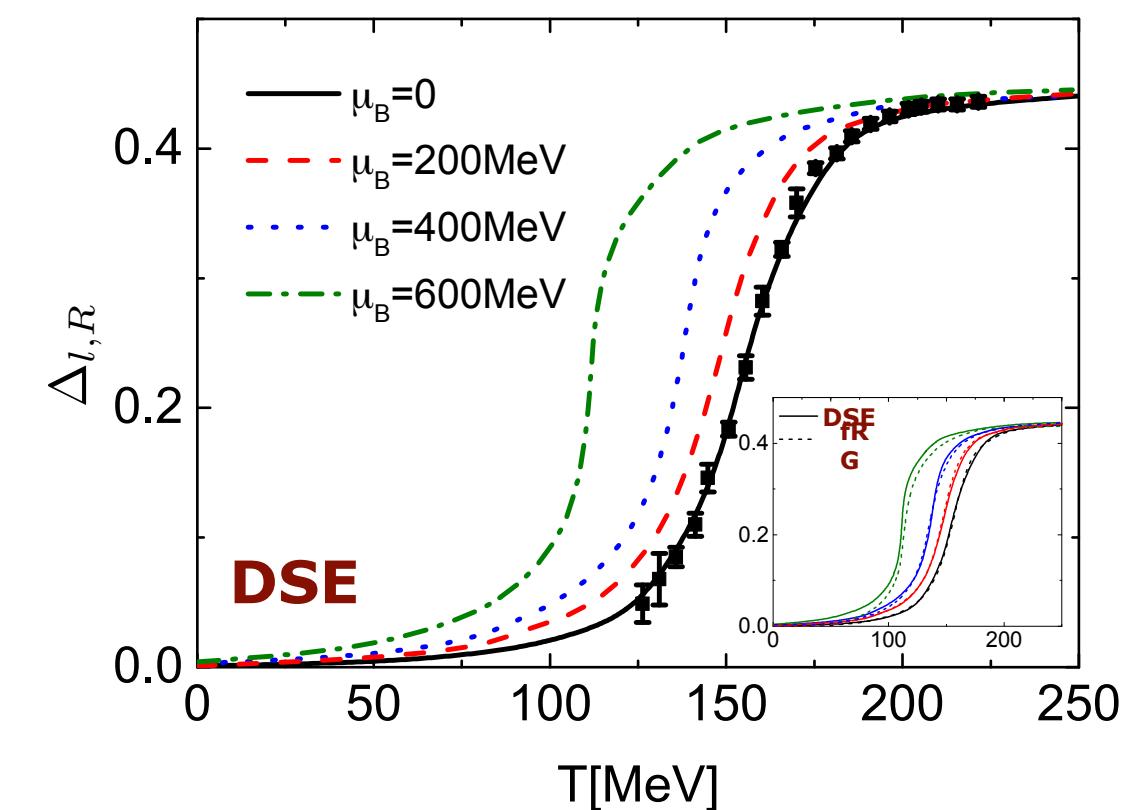
$$\begin{aligned} & g_{lAl}^2 \\ & \cdots \\ & g_{sAs}^2 \\ \\ & \bar{h}^2 / (1 + \bar{m}_\pi^2) \\ & \cdots \\ & \bar{h}^2 / (1 + \bar{m}_\sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$



# Chiral condensates



renormalised condensate



$$\Delta_{l,R}(T, \mu_B) \simeq \Delta_l(T, \mu_B) - \Delta_l(0, 0)$$

$$\Delta_q(T, \mu_B) = \frac{T}{\mathcal{V}} m_q^0 \int_x \langle \bar{q}(x) q(x) \rangle$$

**lattice:** S. Borsanyi, Z. Fodor, C. Hoelbling, S. D. Katz, S. Krieg, C. Ratti, and K. K. Szabo, JHEP 09, 073 (2010)

## DSE: quark condensates

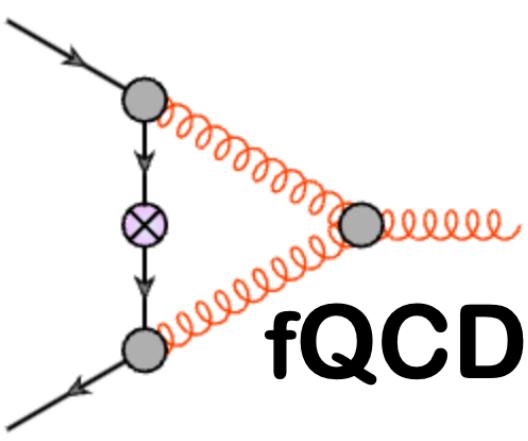
See also

- Fischer, Luecker, PLB 718 (2013) 1036
- Fischer, Luecker, Welzbacher, PRD 90 (2014) 034022
- Isserstedt, Buballa, Fischer, Gunkel, PRD 100 (2019) 074011

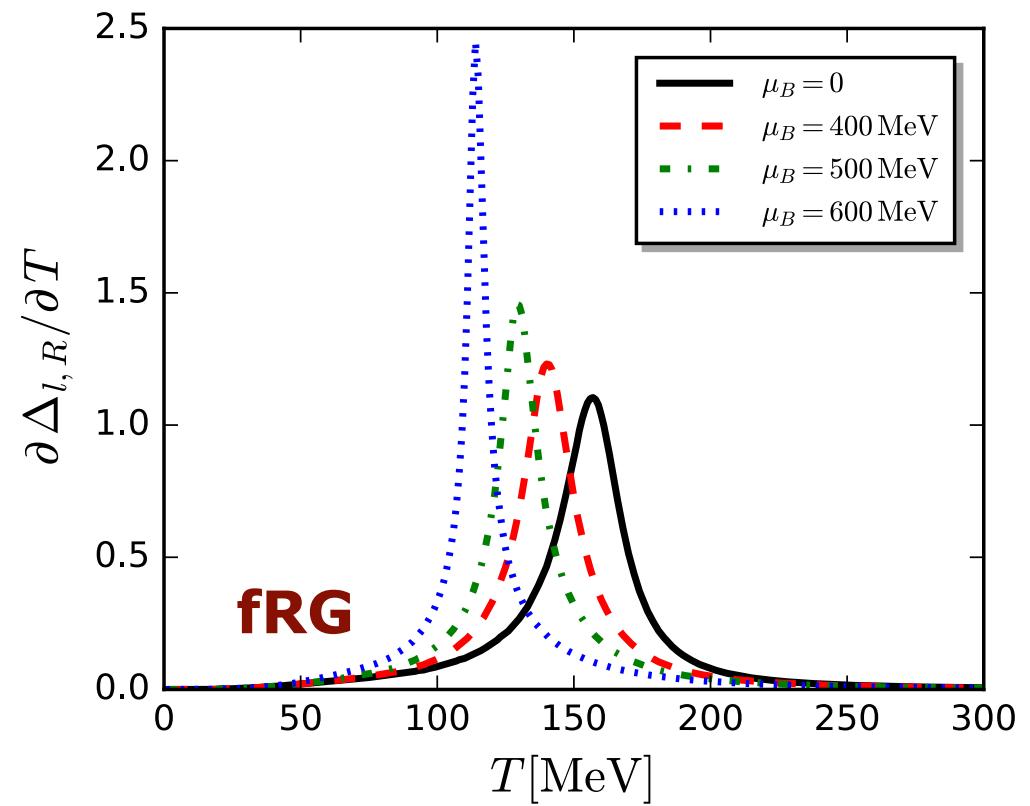
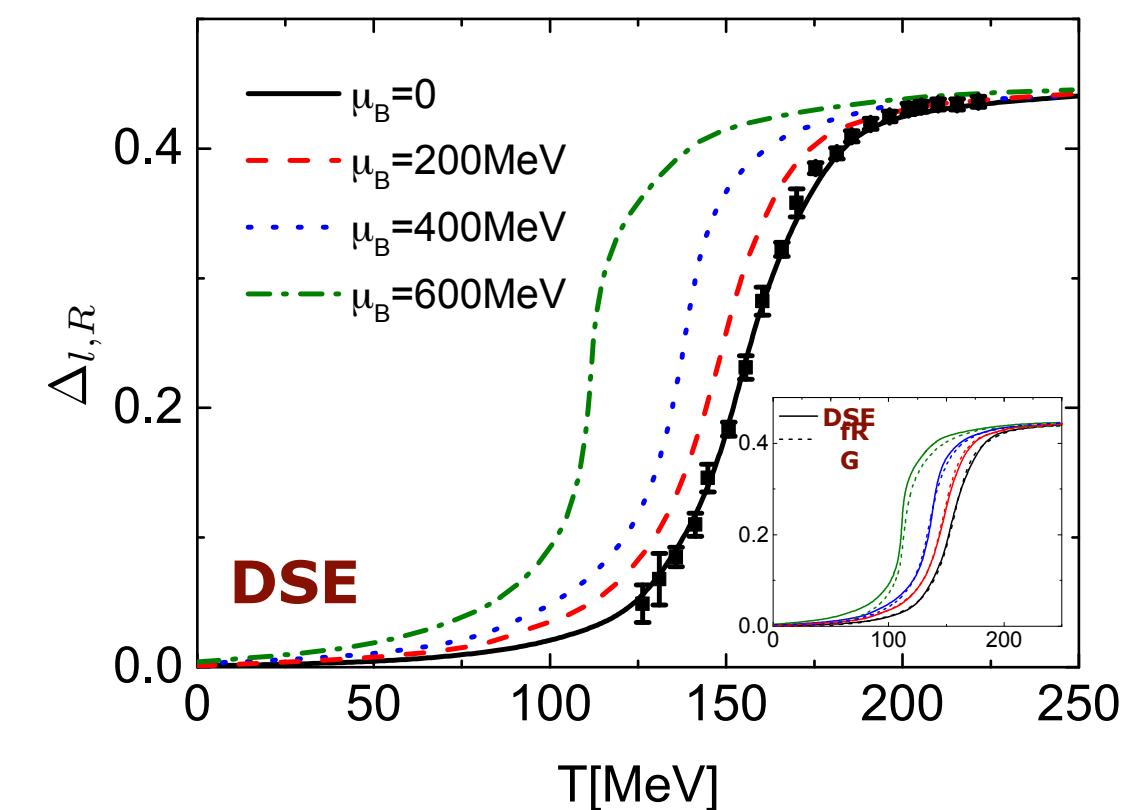
**fRG:** Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032

**DSE:** Gao, JMP, PLB 820 (2021) 136584

# Chiral condensates



renormalised condensate

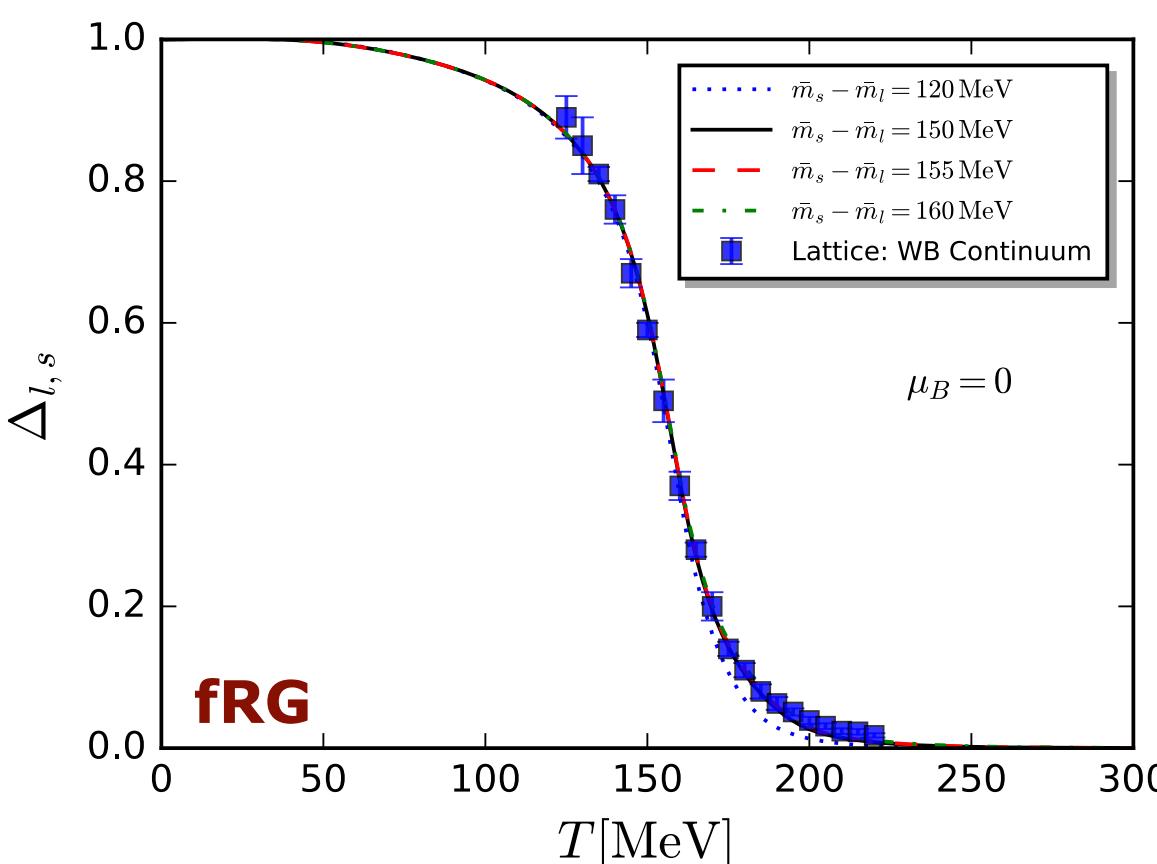


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**lattice:** S. Borsanyi, Z. Fodor, C. Hoelbling, S. D. Katz, S. Krieg, C. Ratti, and K. K. Szabo, JHEP 09, 073 (2010)

reduced condensate



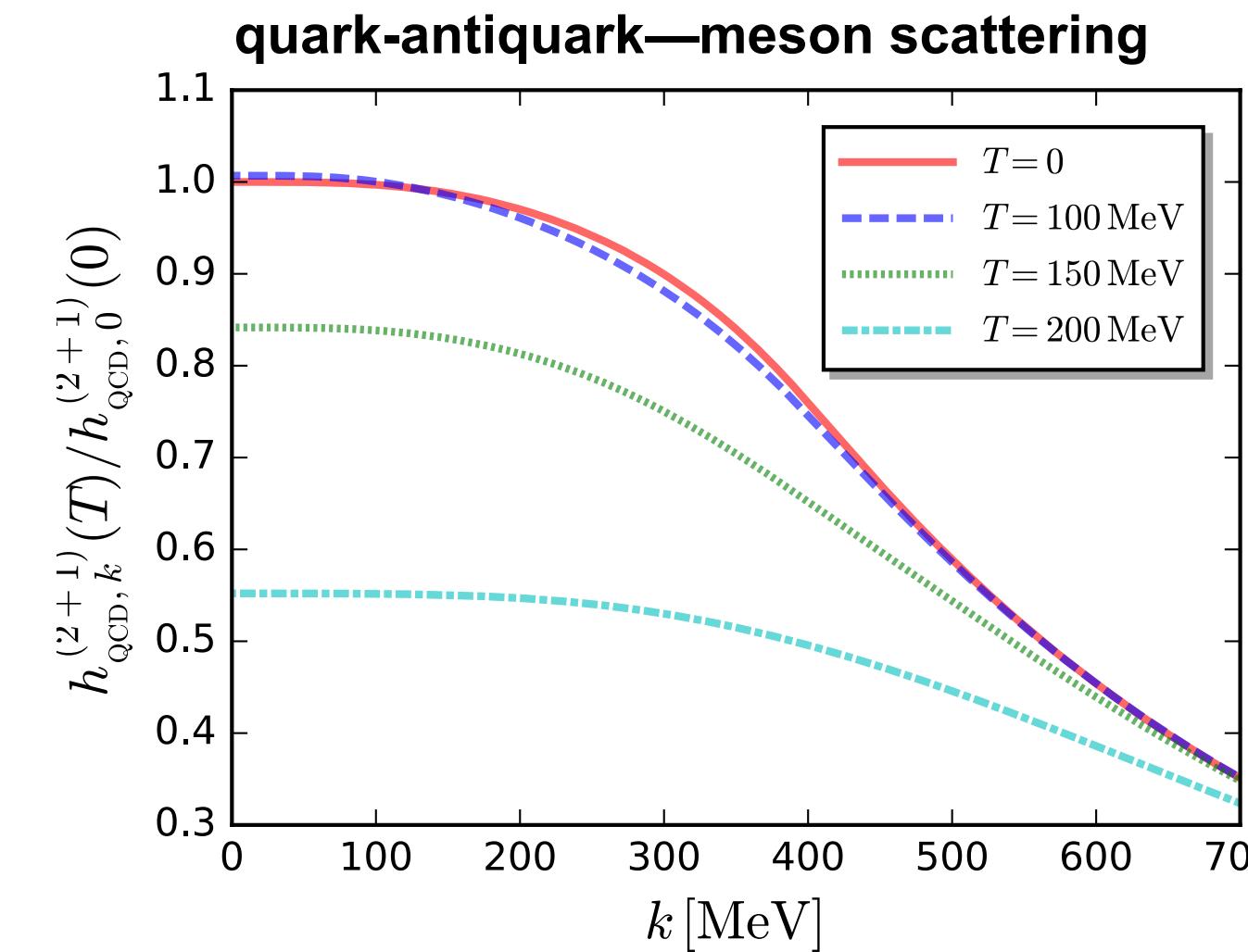
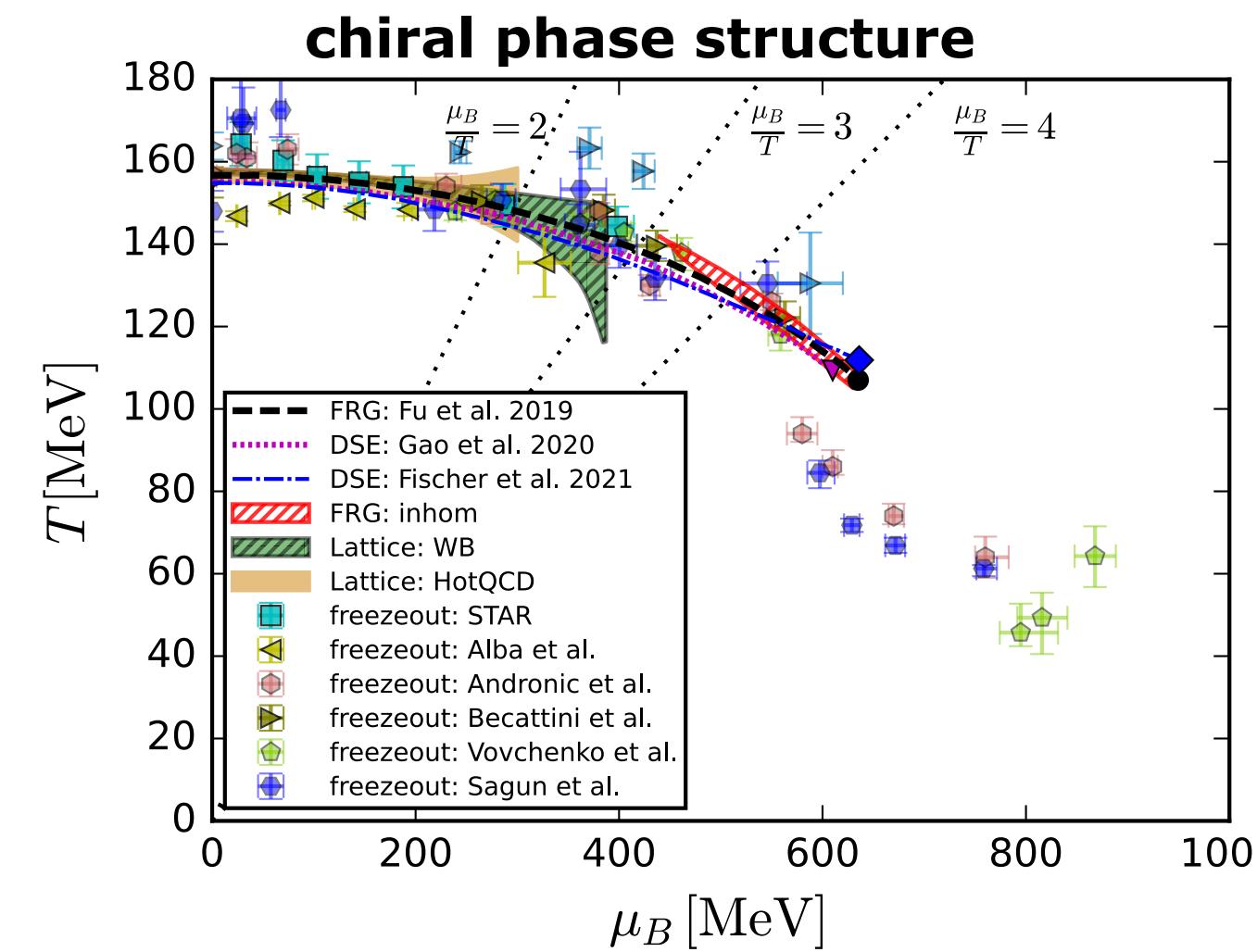
$$\Delta_{l,s}(T, \mu_B) = \frac{\Delta_l(T, \mu_B) - \left(\frac{m_l^0}{m_s^0}\right)^2 \Delta_s(T, \mu_B)}{\Delta_l(0, 0) - \left(\frac{m_l^0}{m_s^0}\right)^2 \Delta_s(0, 0)}$$

**fRG:** Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032

**DSE:** Gao, JMP, PLB 820 (2021) 136584

# QCD-assisted low energy effective theory

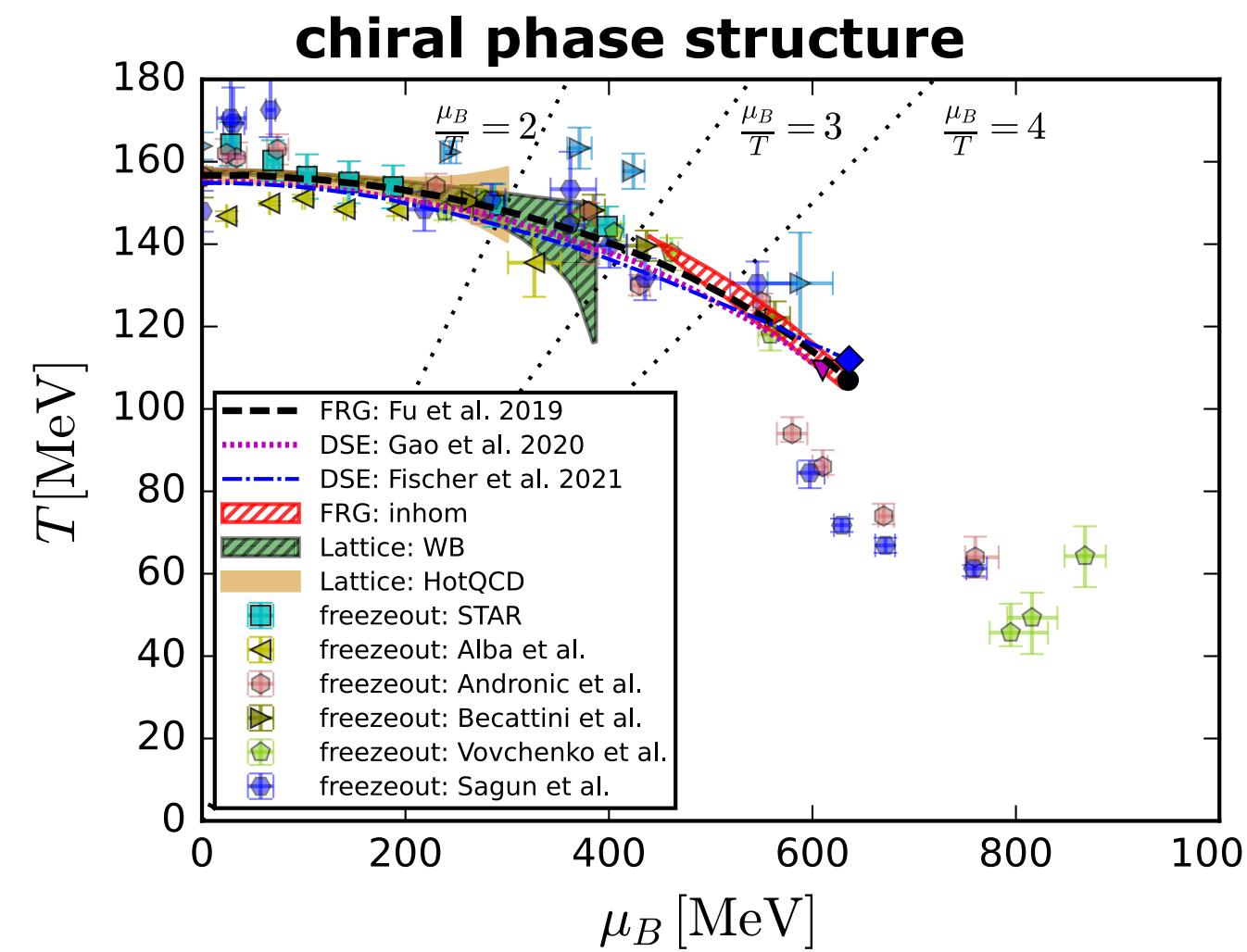
Direct QCD input



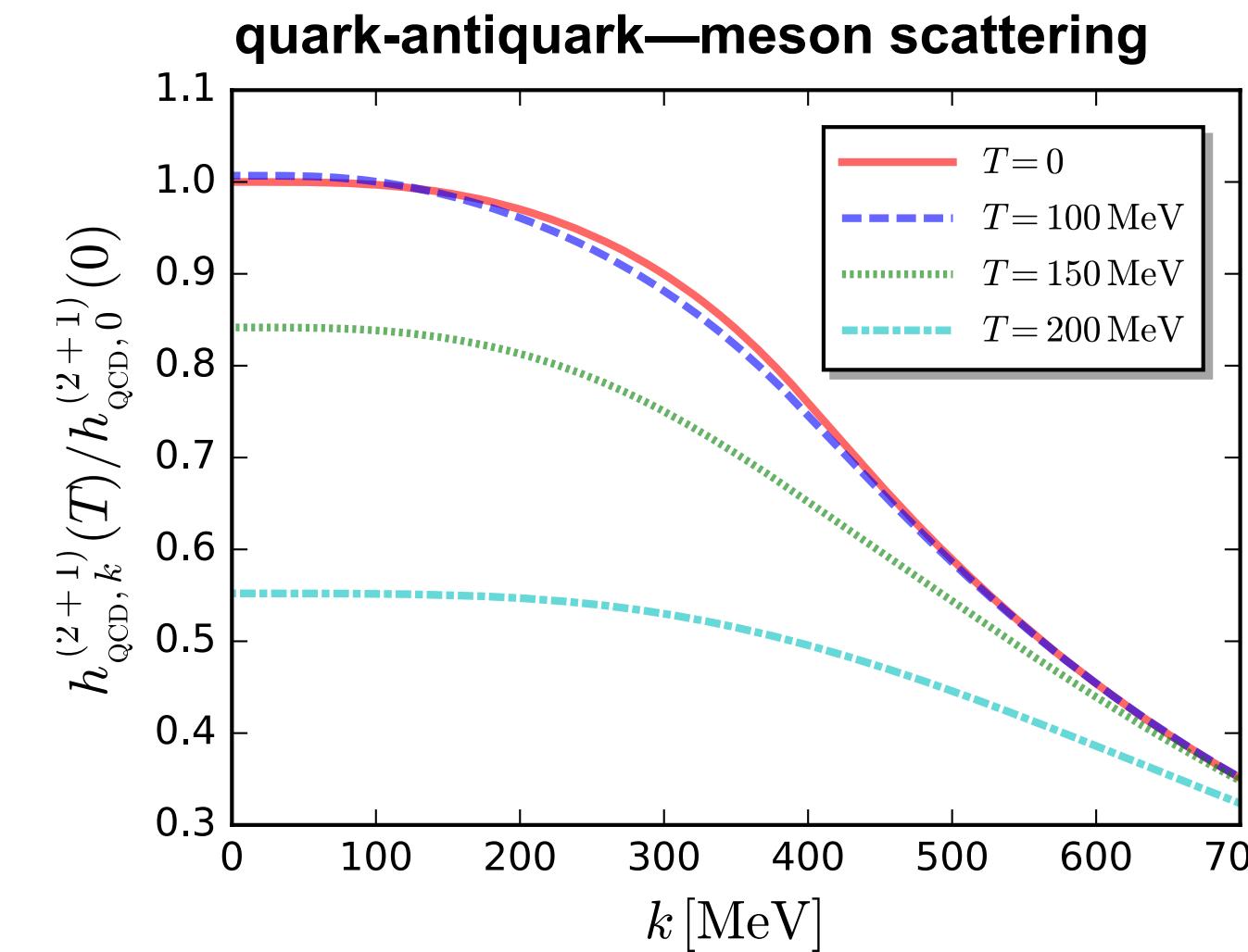
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# QCD-assisted low energy effective theory

Direct QCD input



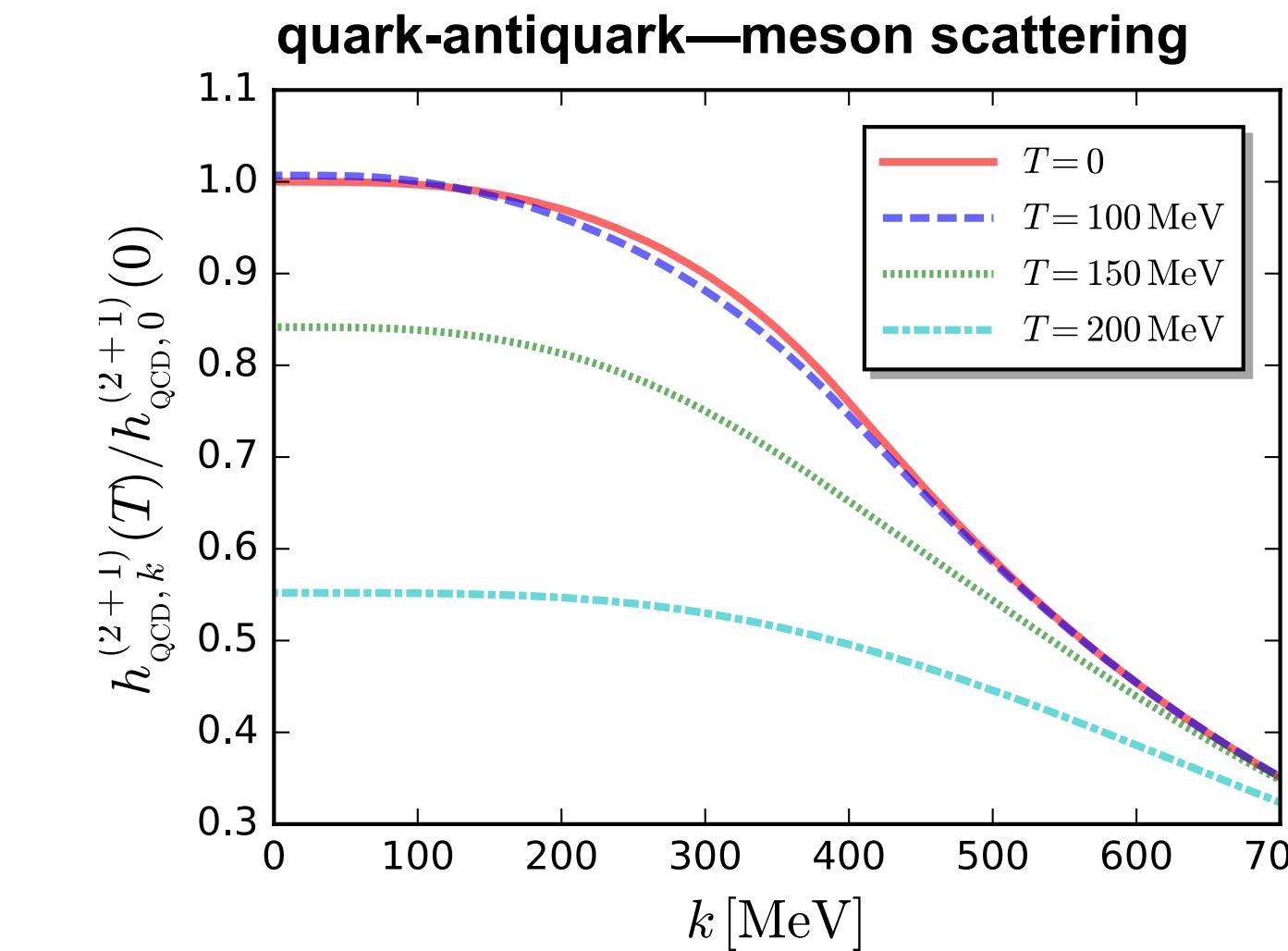
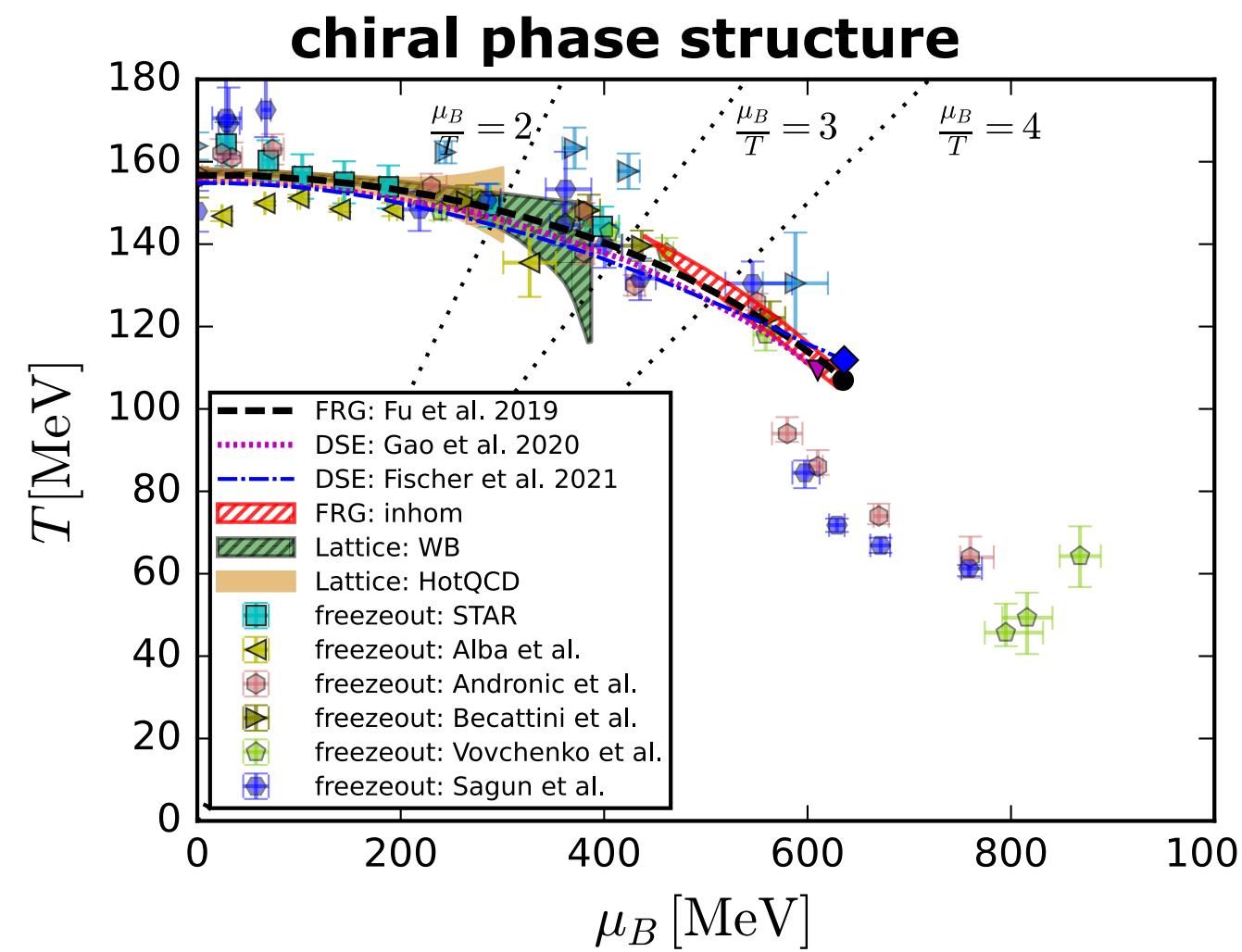
+



Low energy quantum, thermal & density fluctuations via fRG (QCD-assisted PQM model)

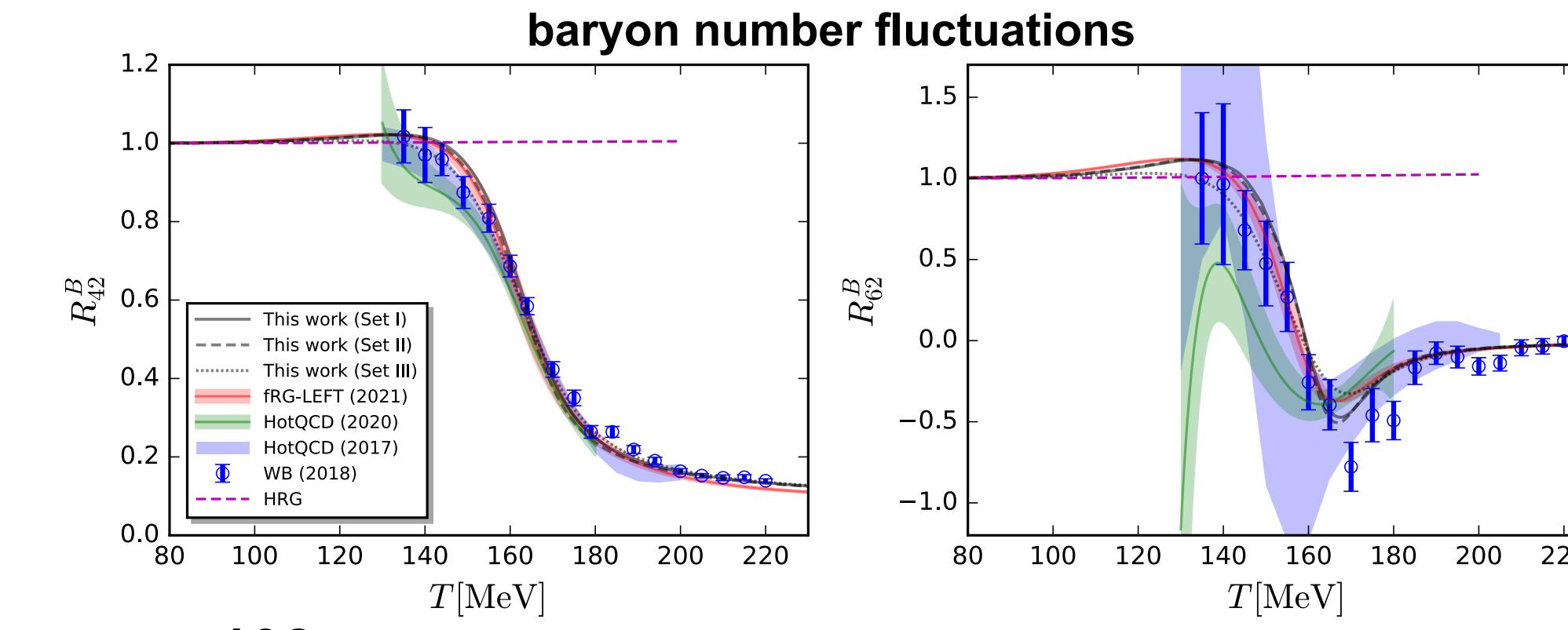
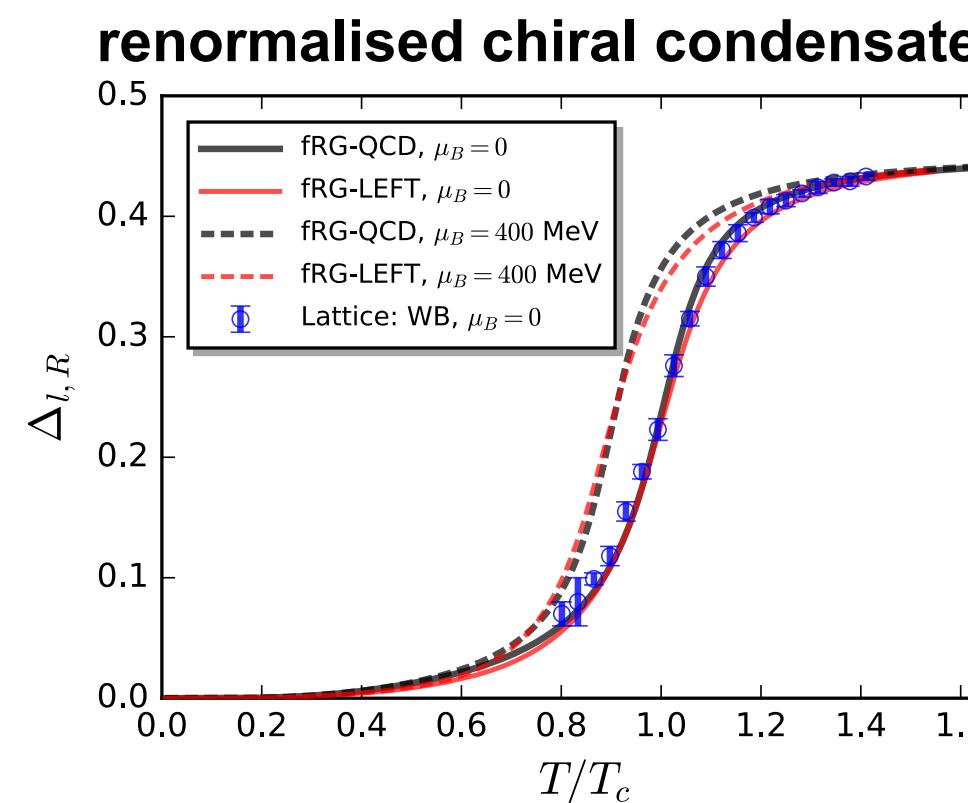
# QCD-assisted low energy effective theory

Direct QCD input



Low energy quantum, thermal & density fluctuations via fRG (QCD-assisted PQM model)

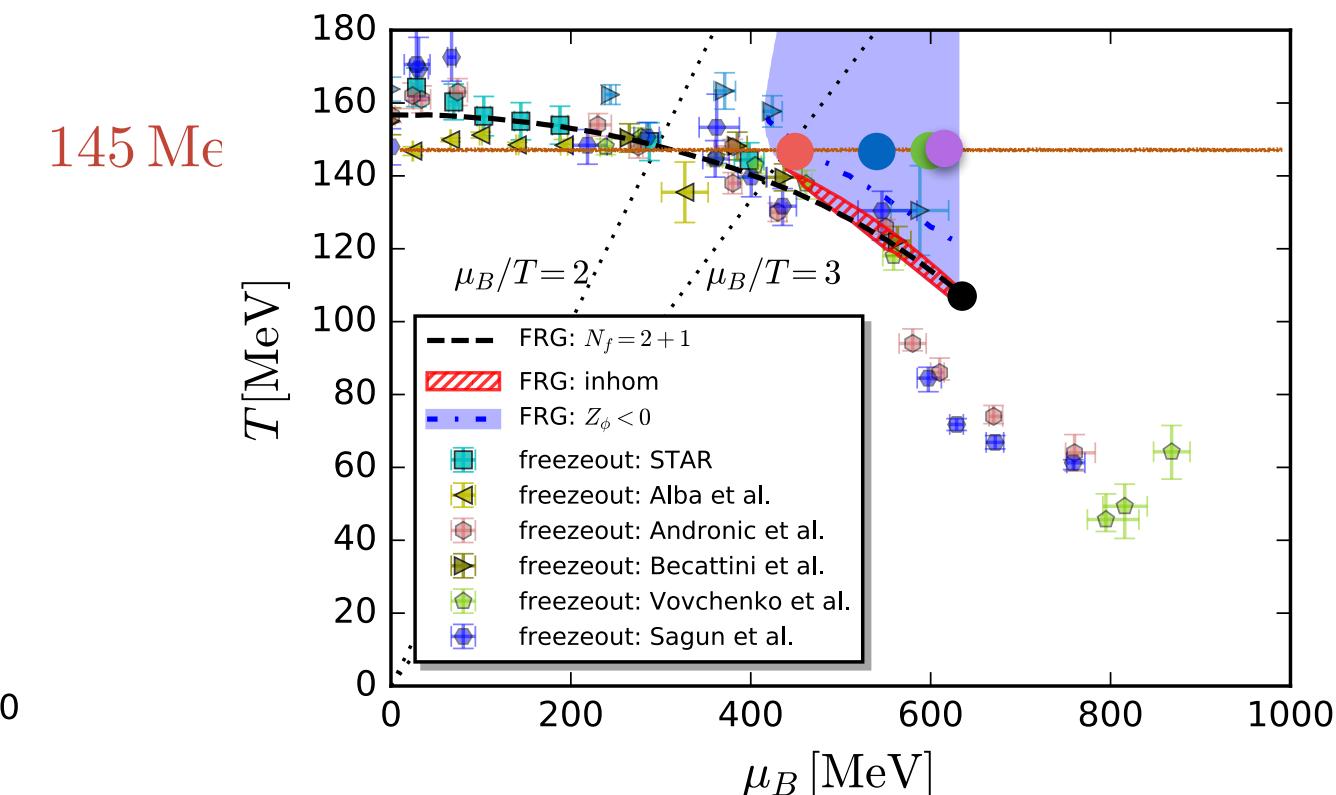
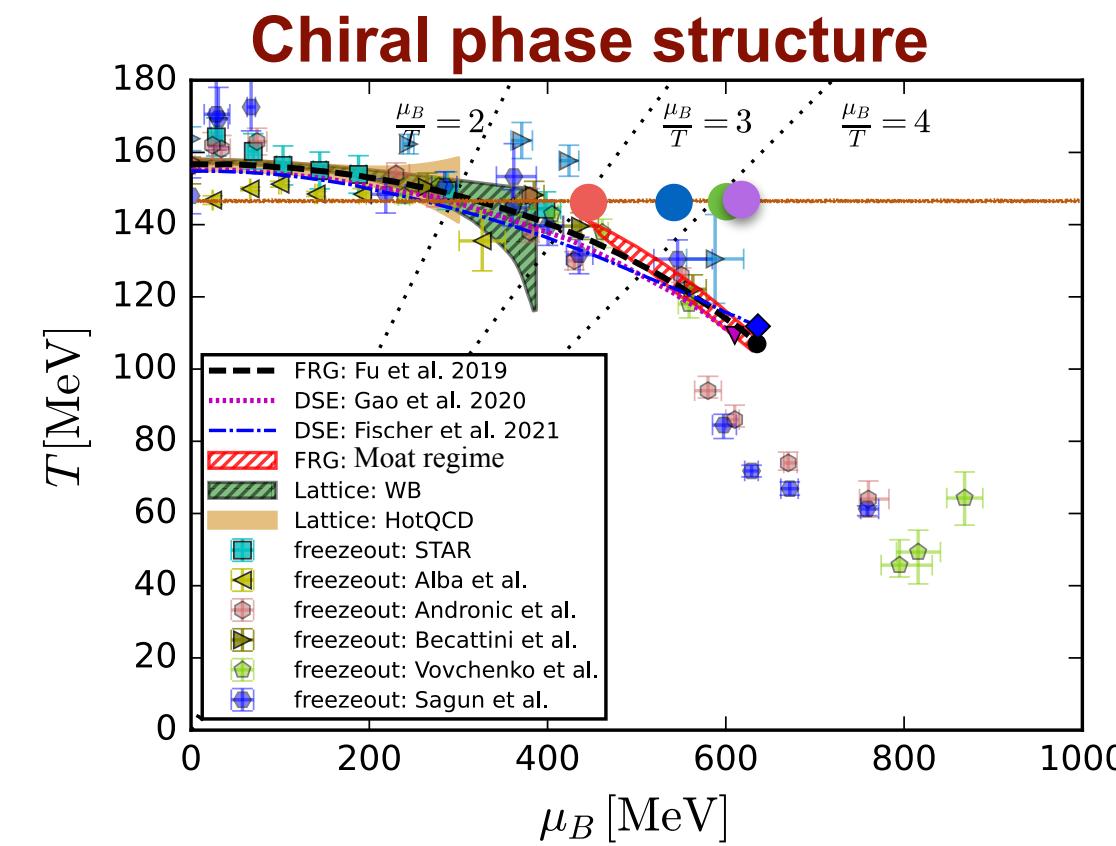
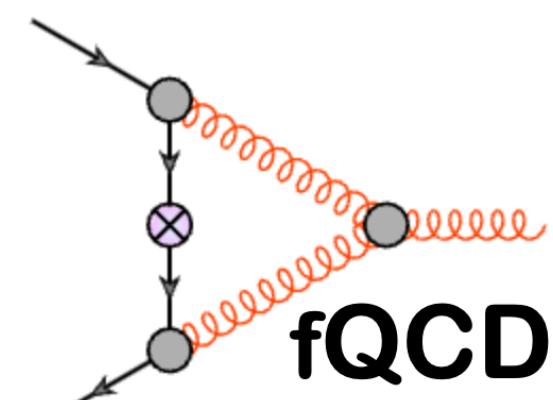
Benchmarks with lattice and fQCD at vanishing density and fQCD at finite density



# **QCD-assisted heavy ion physics: compilation of functional QCD results**

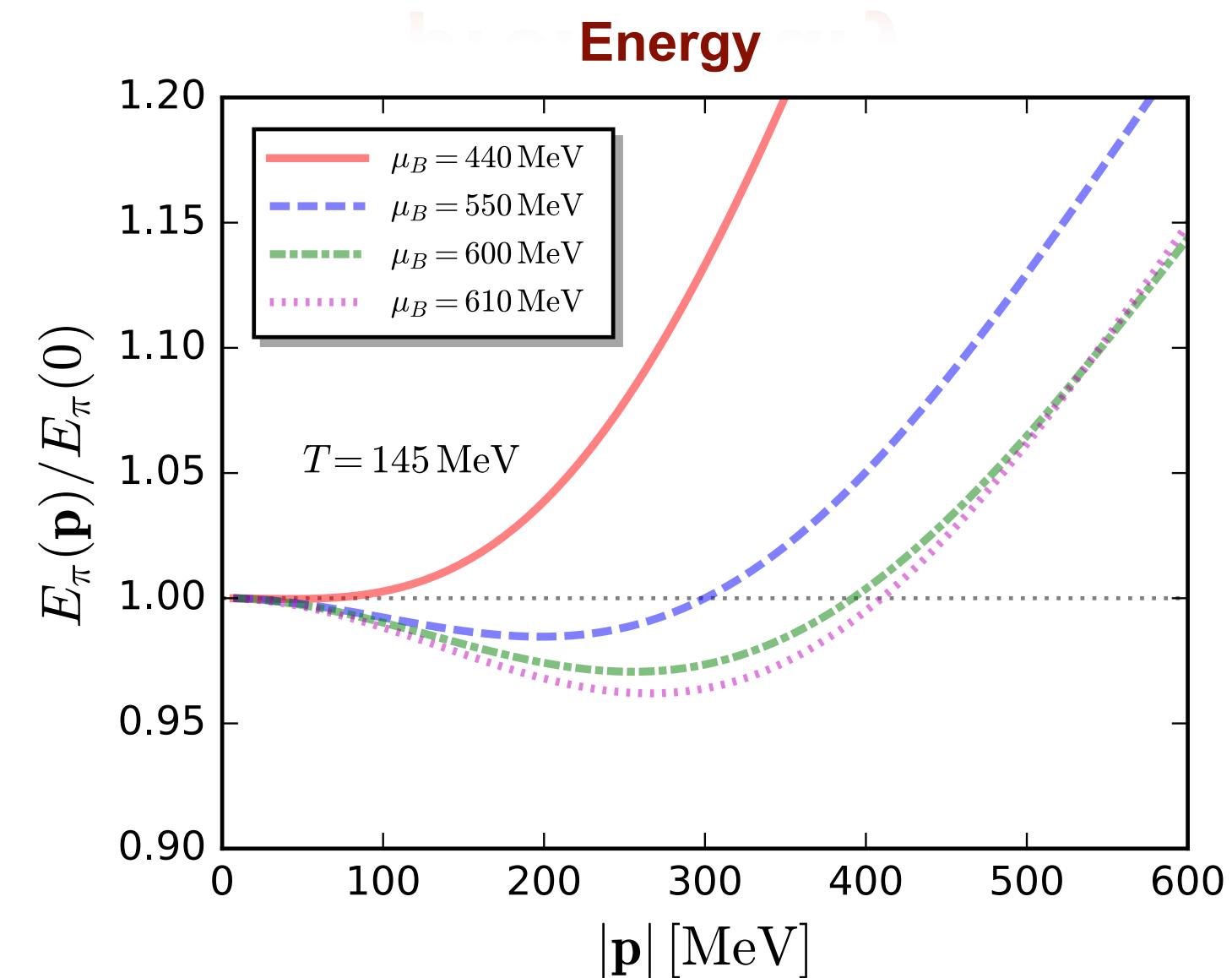
# **Thermodynamics & spectral properties**

# Sneak preview on the QCD moat

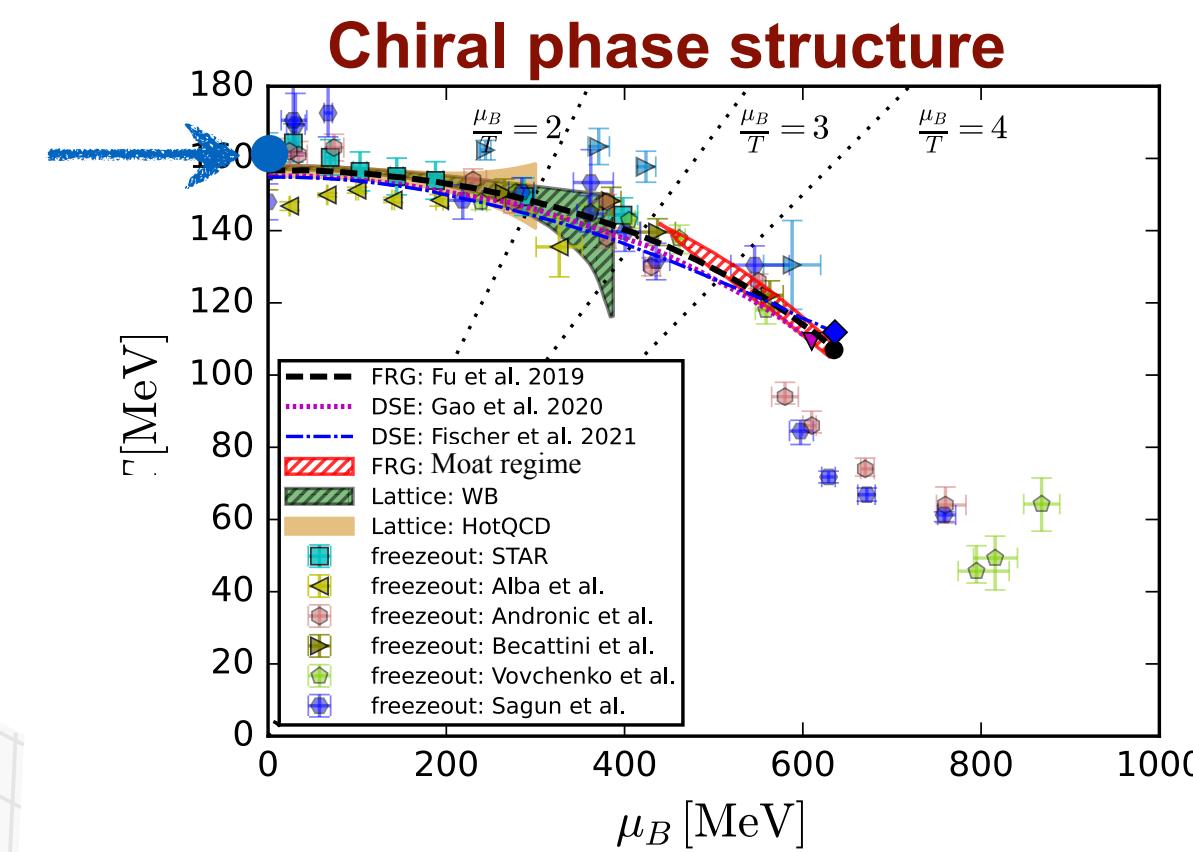
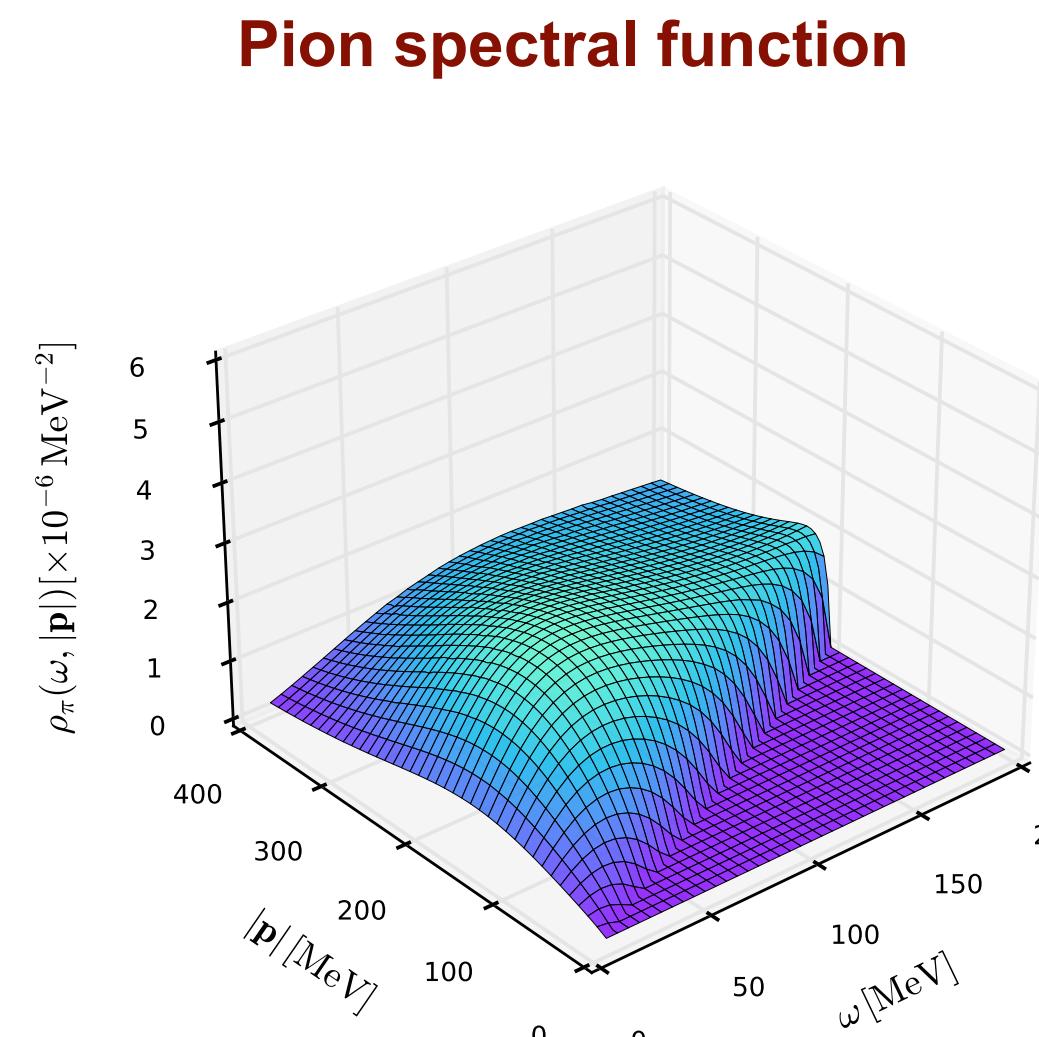
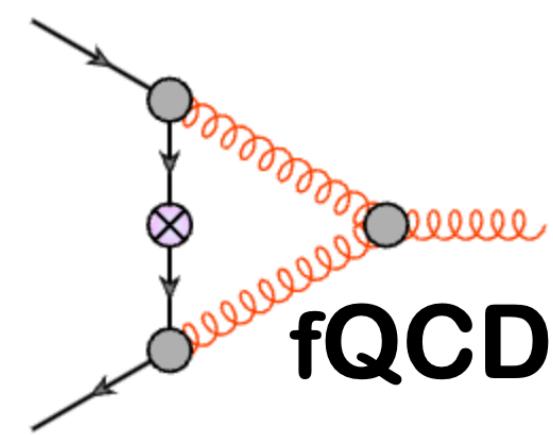


Fu, JMP, Rennecke, PRD 101 (2020) 054032

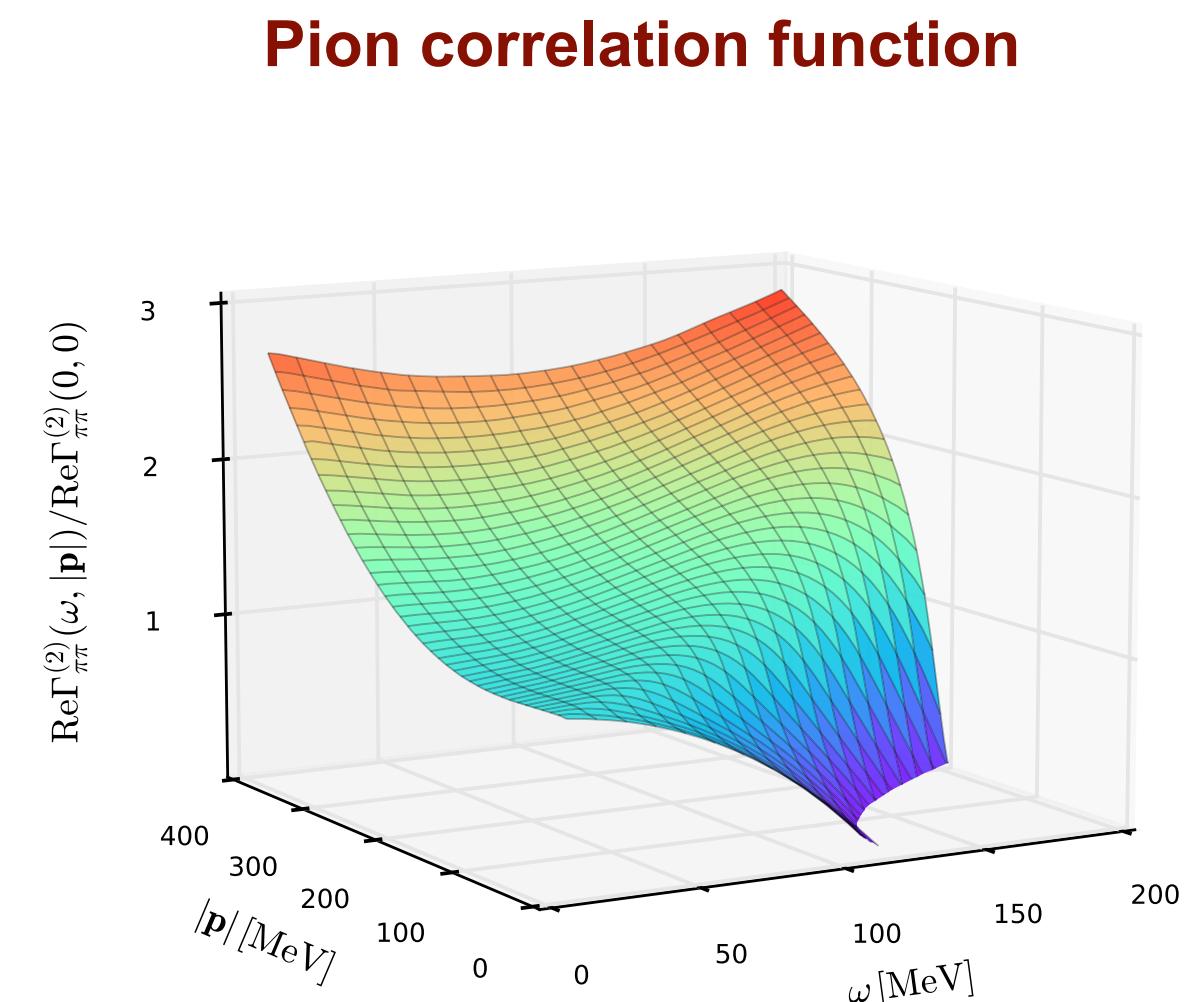
preliminary



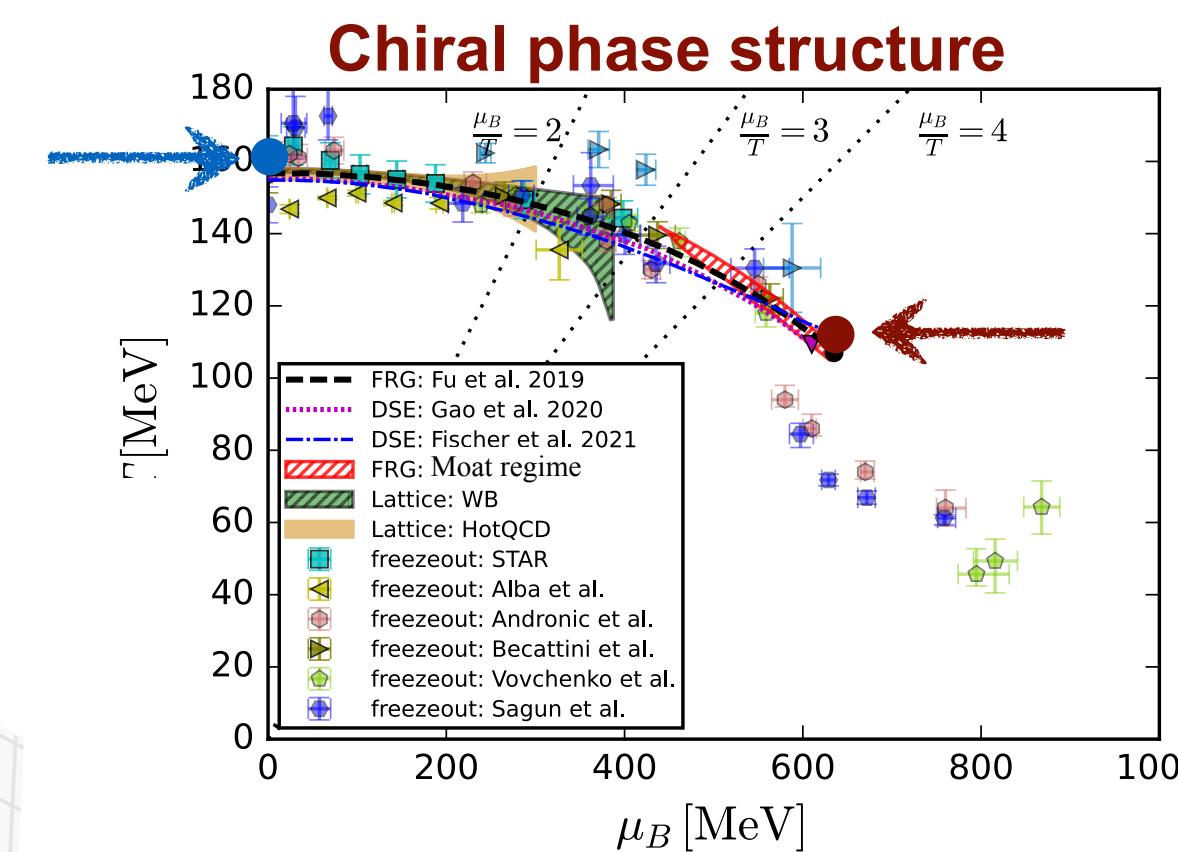
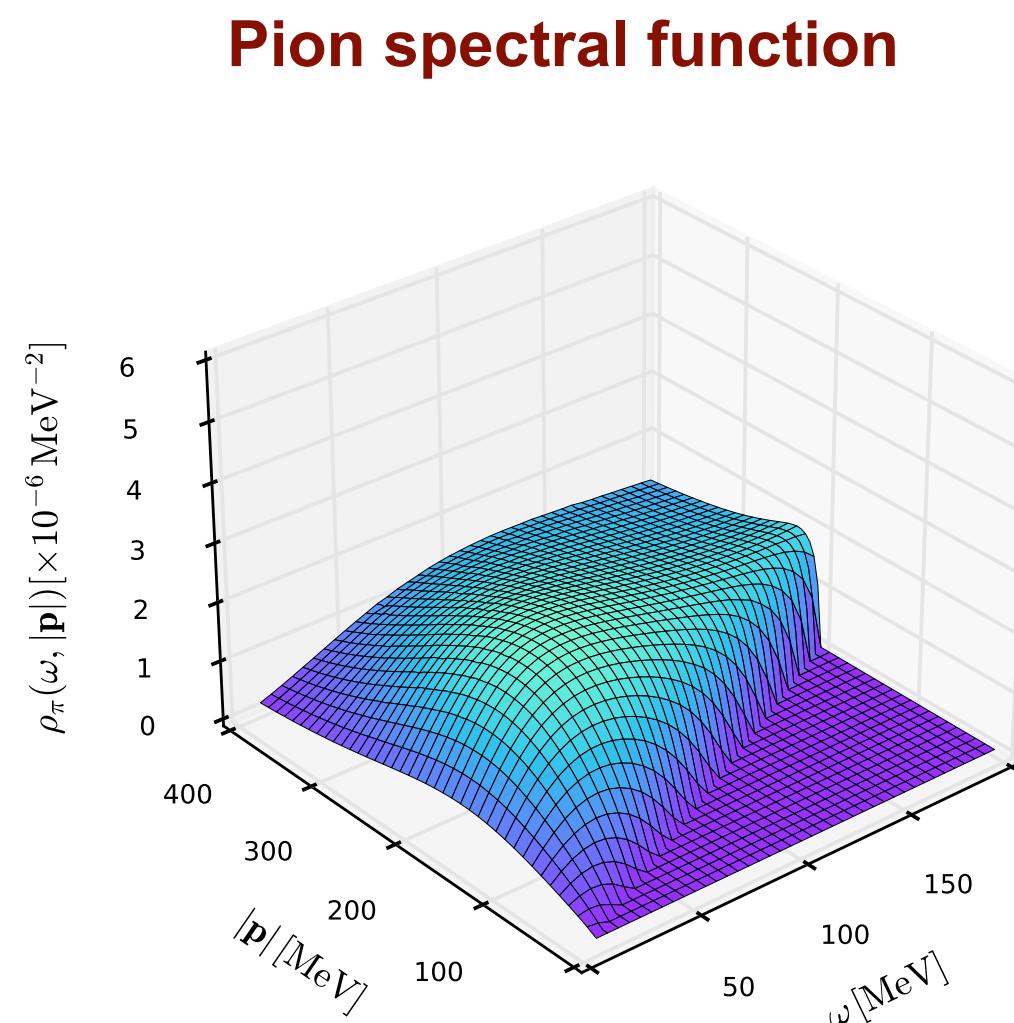
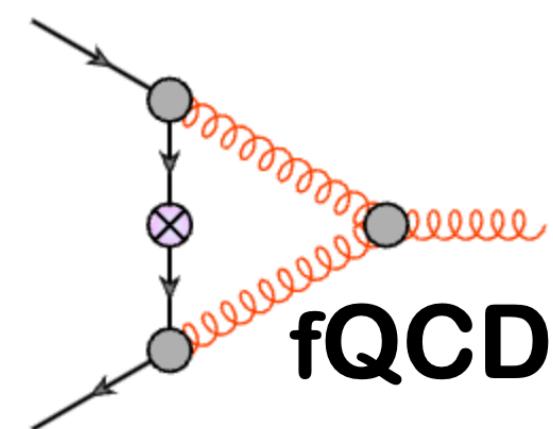
# Sneak preview on the QCD moat



preliminary  
 $(T, \mu_B) = (160 \text{ MeV}, 0)$

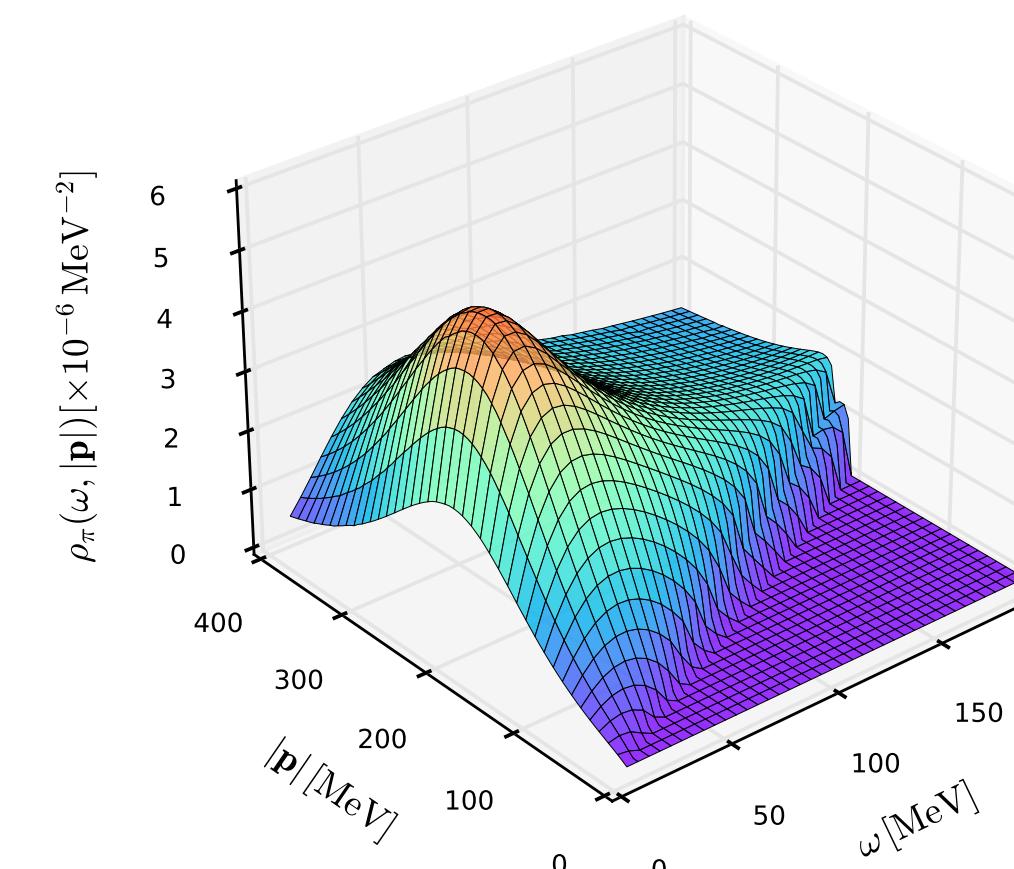


# Sneak preview on the QCD moat



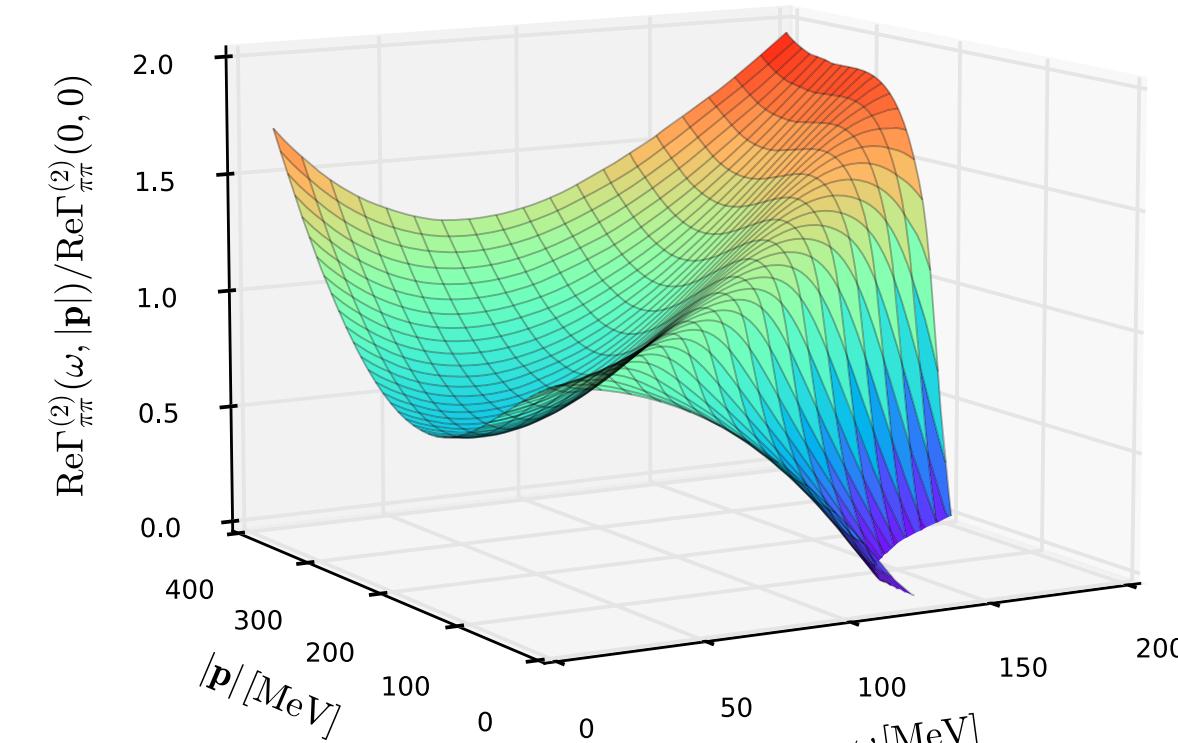
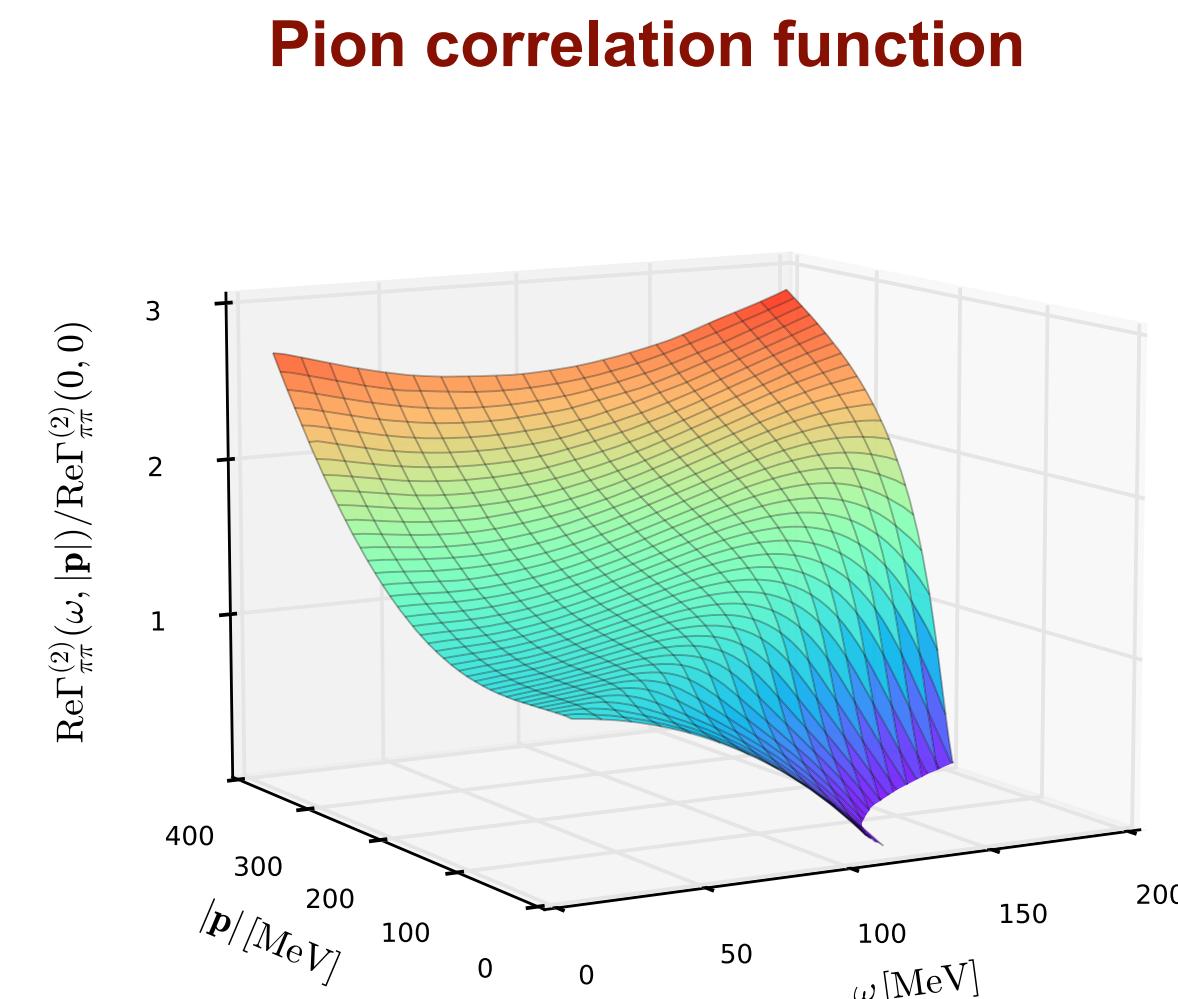
preliminary

$$(T, \mu_B) = (160 \text{ MeV}, 0)$$

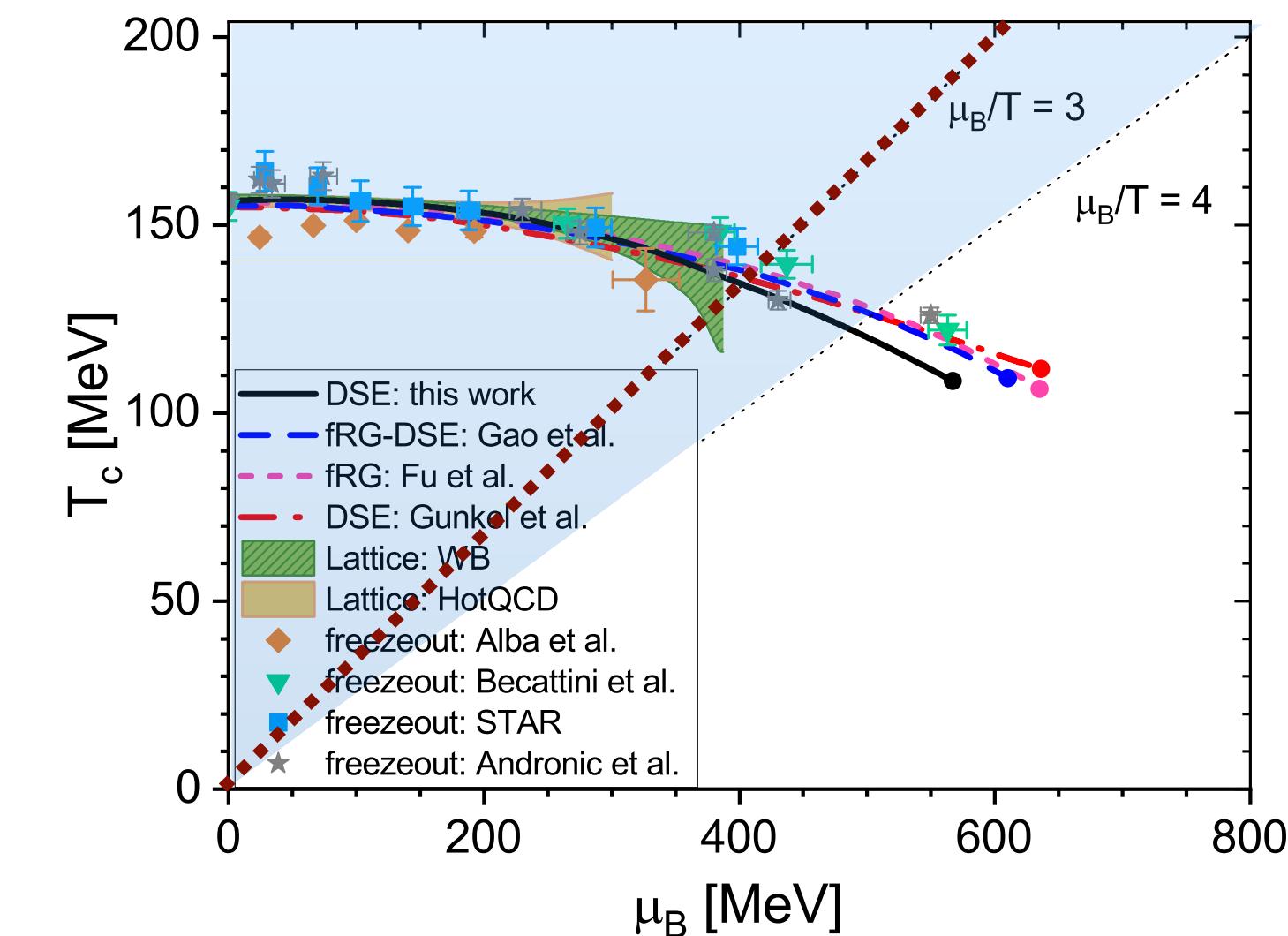
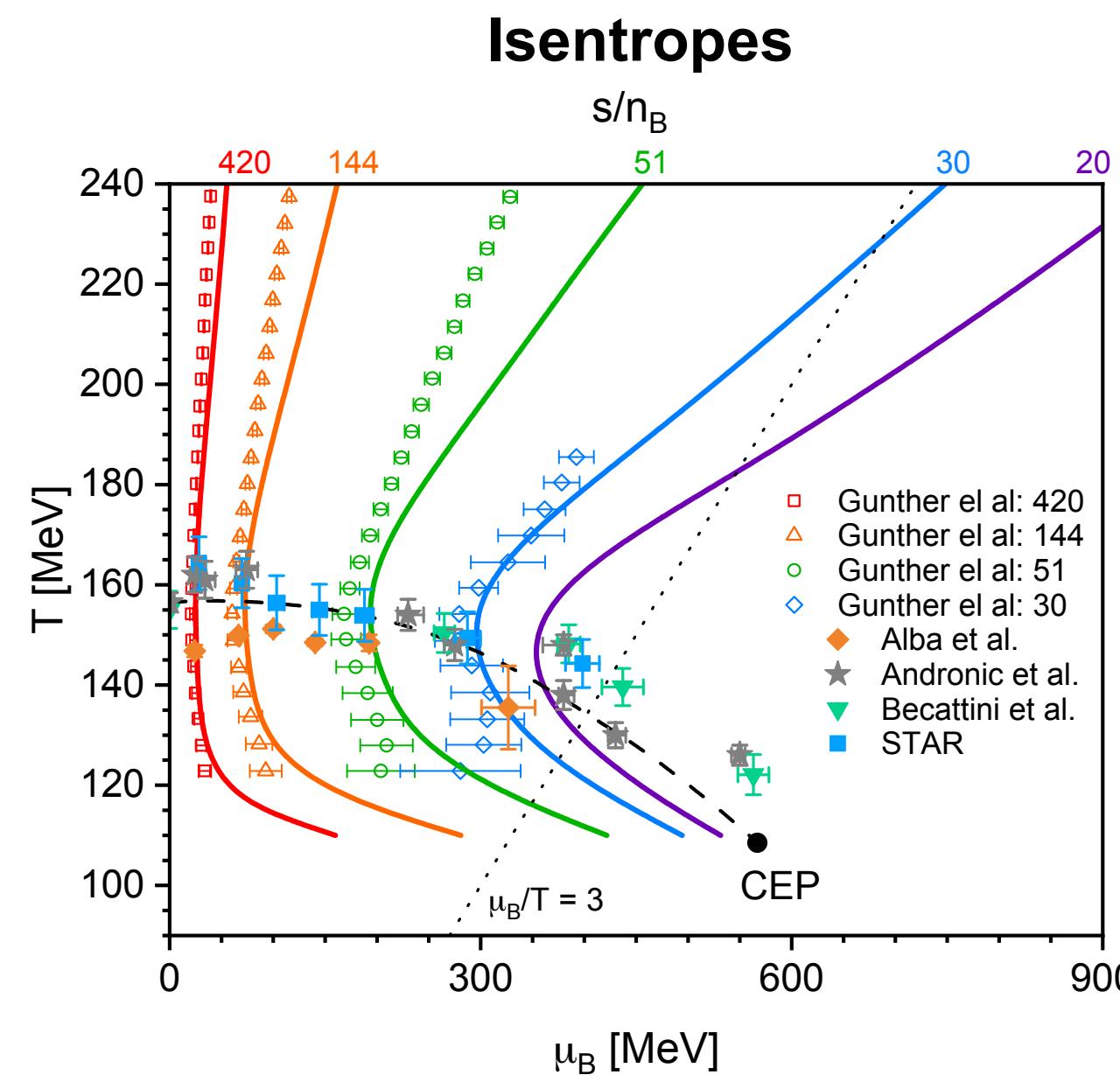
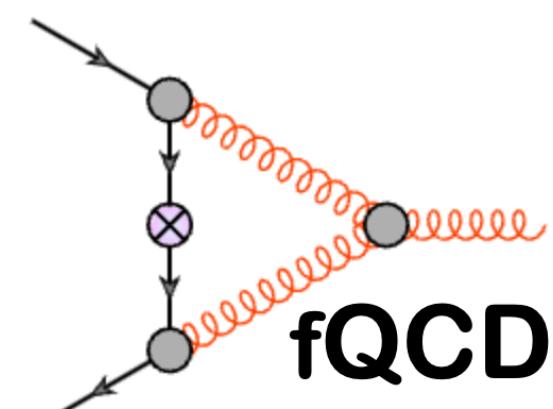


$$(T, \mu_B) = (114 \text{ MeV}, 630 \text{ MeV})$$

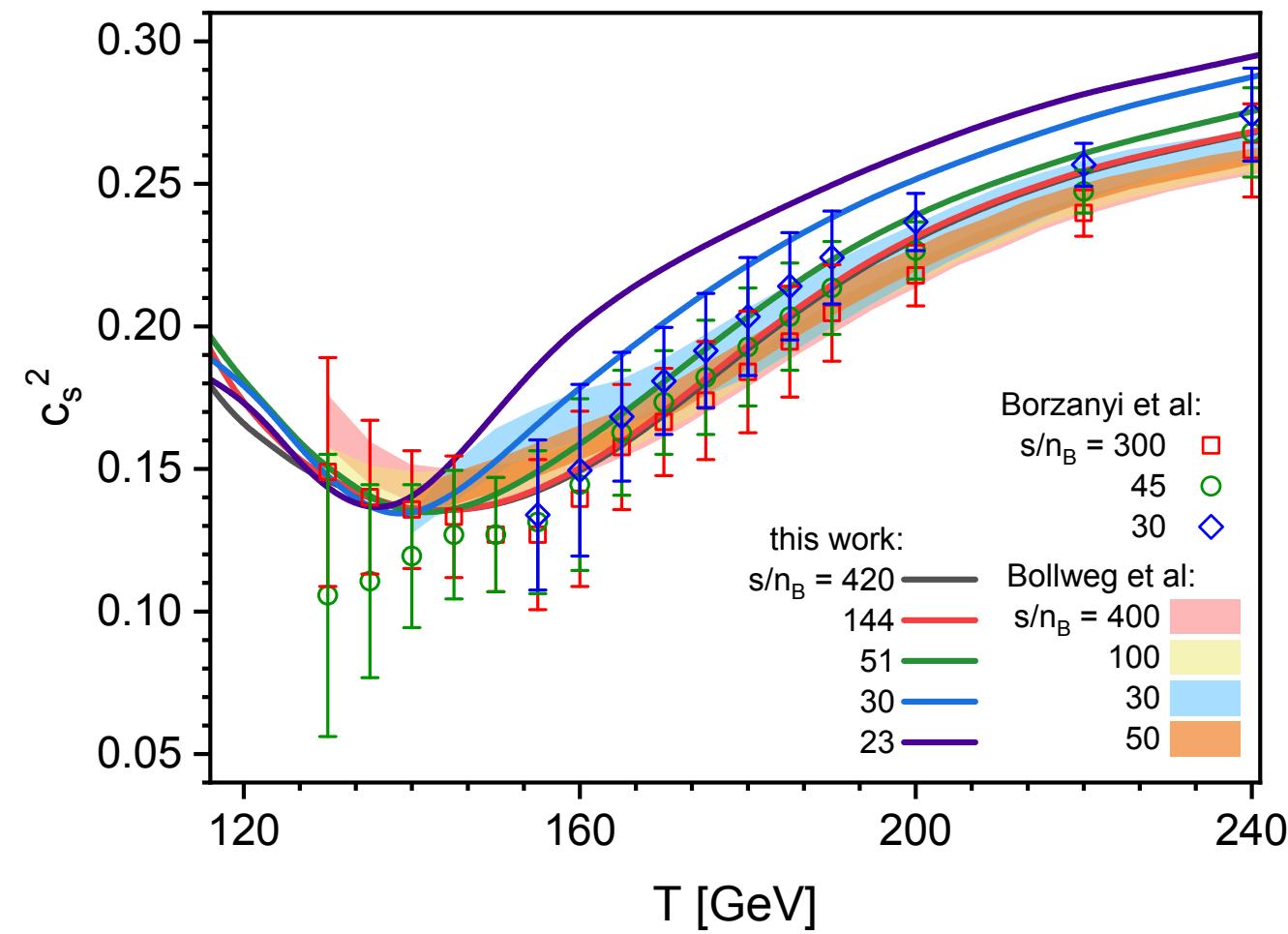
Moat



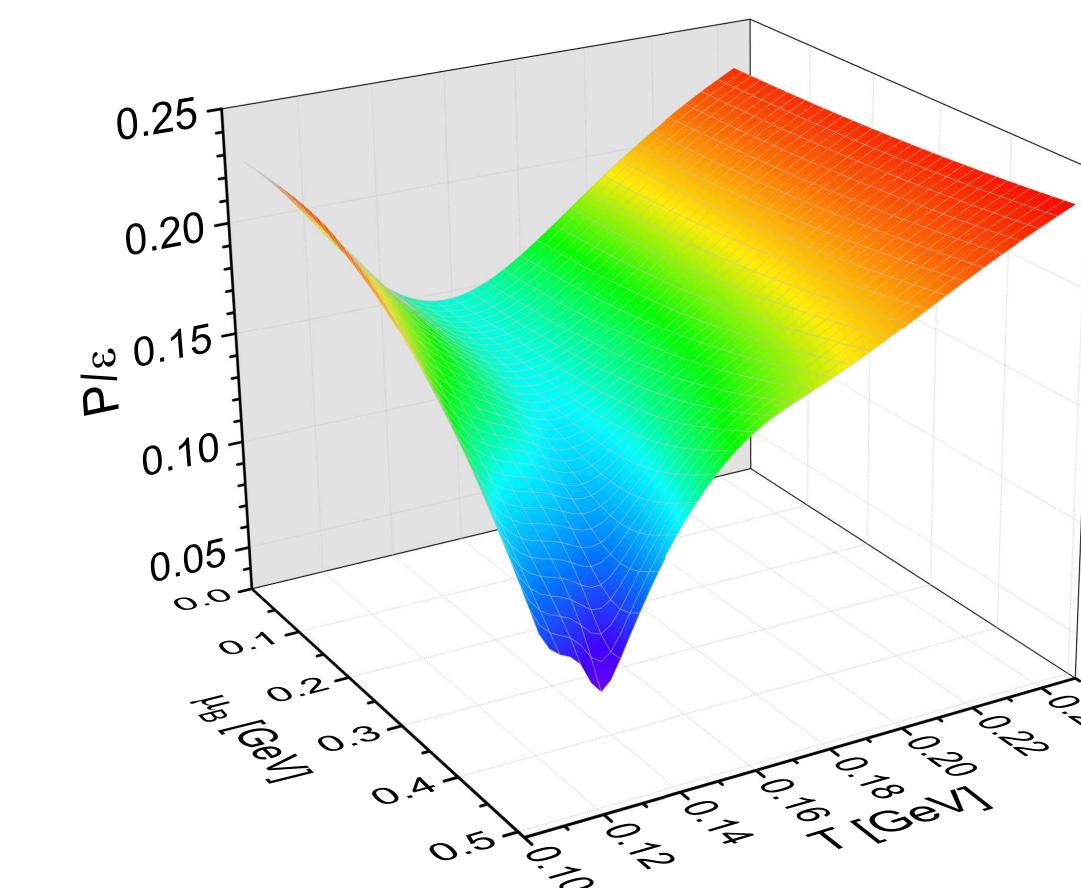
# EoS with the minimal DSE



Speed of sound

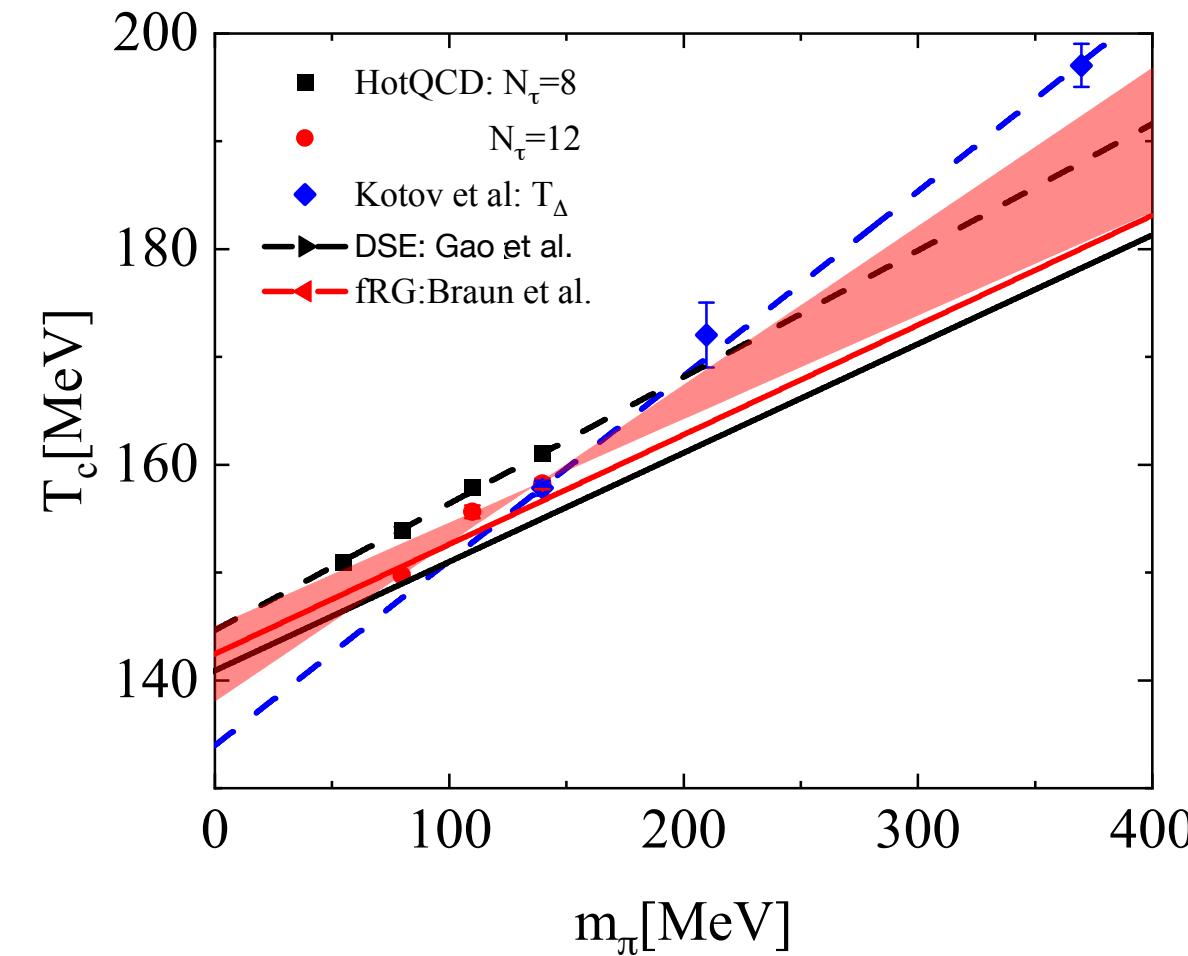
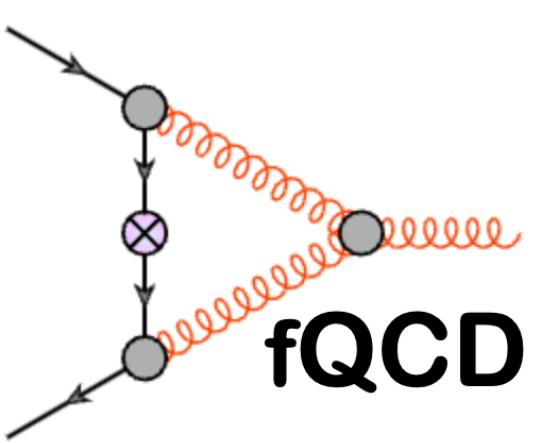


Pressure over energy



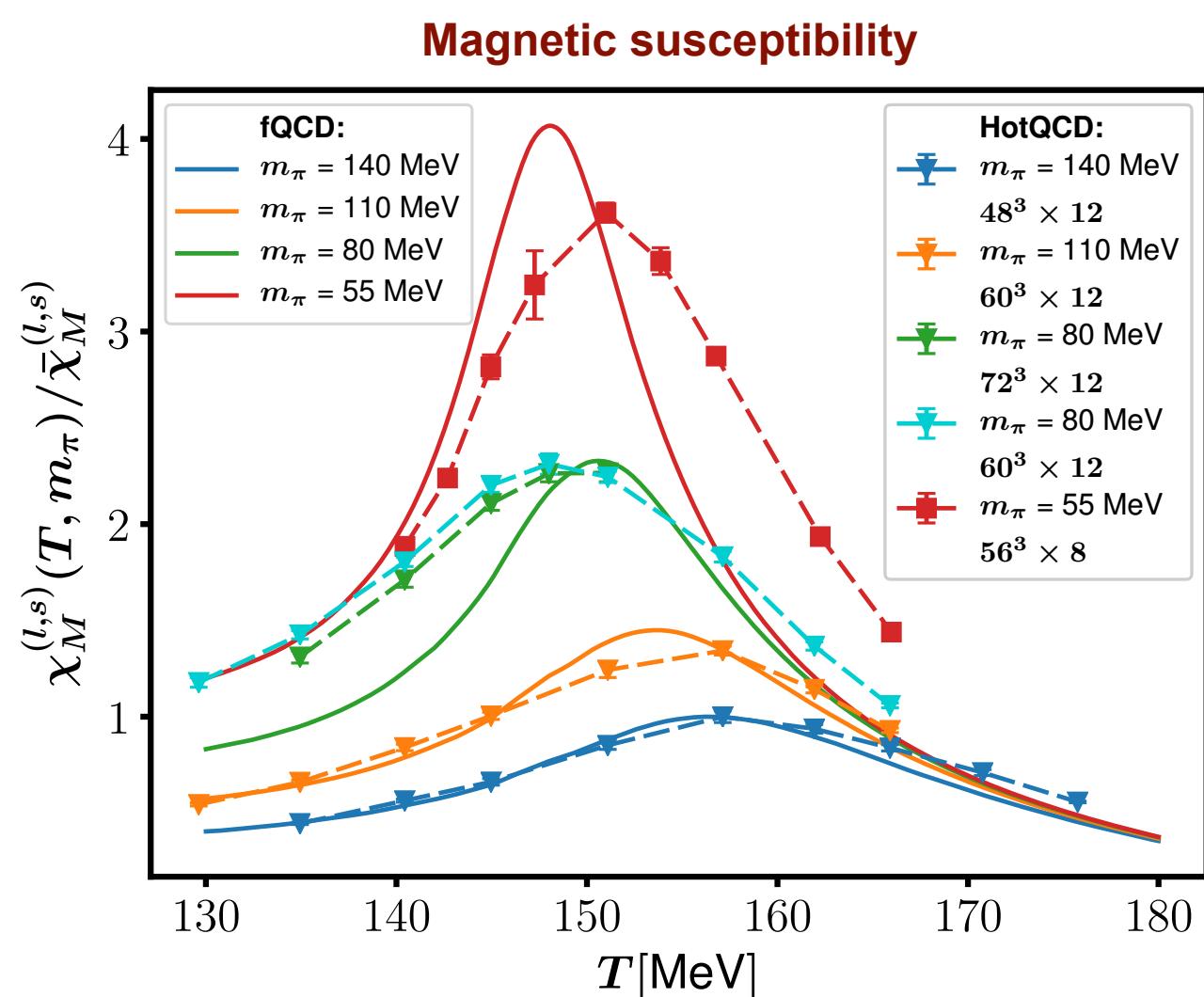
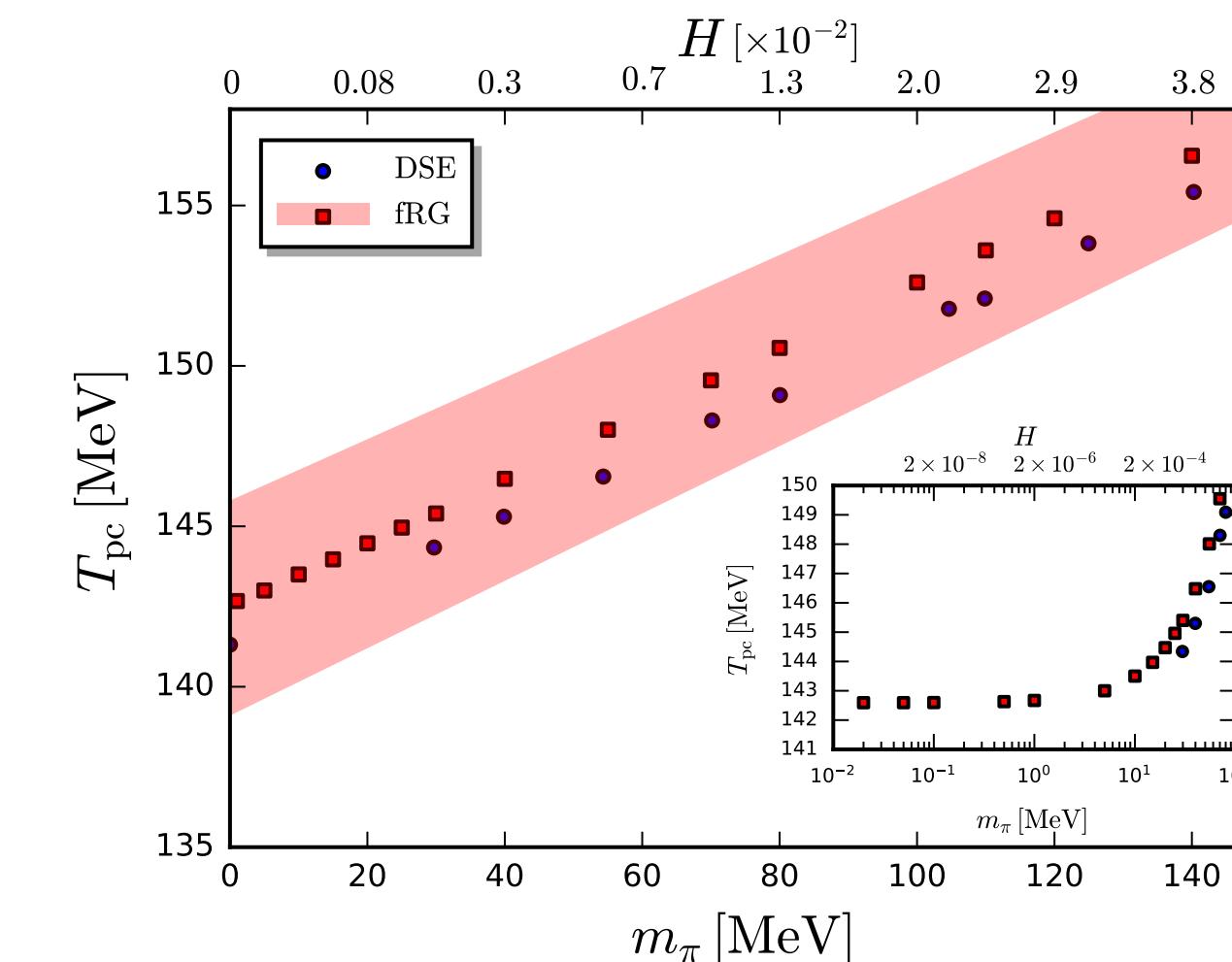
# **Chiral dynamics & soft modes**

# To be (critical) or not (to be)



Chiral transition temperature

$$H = \frac{m_l}{m_s}$$

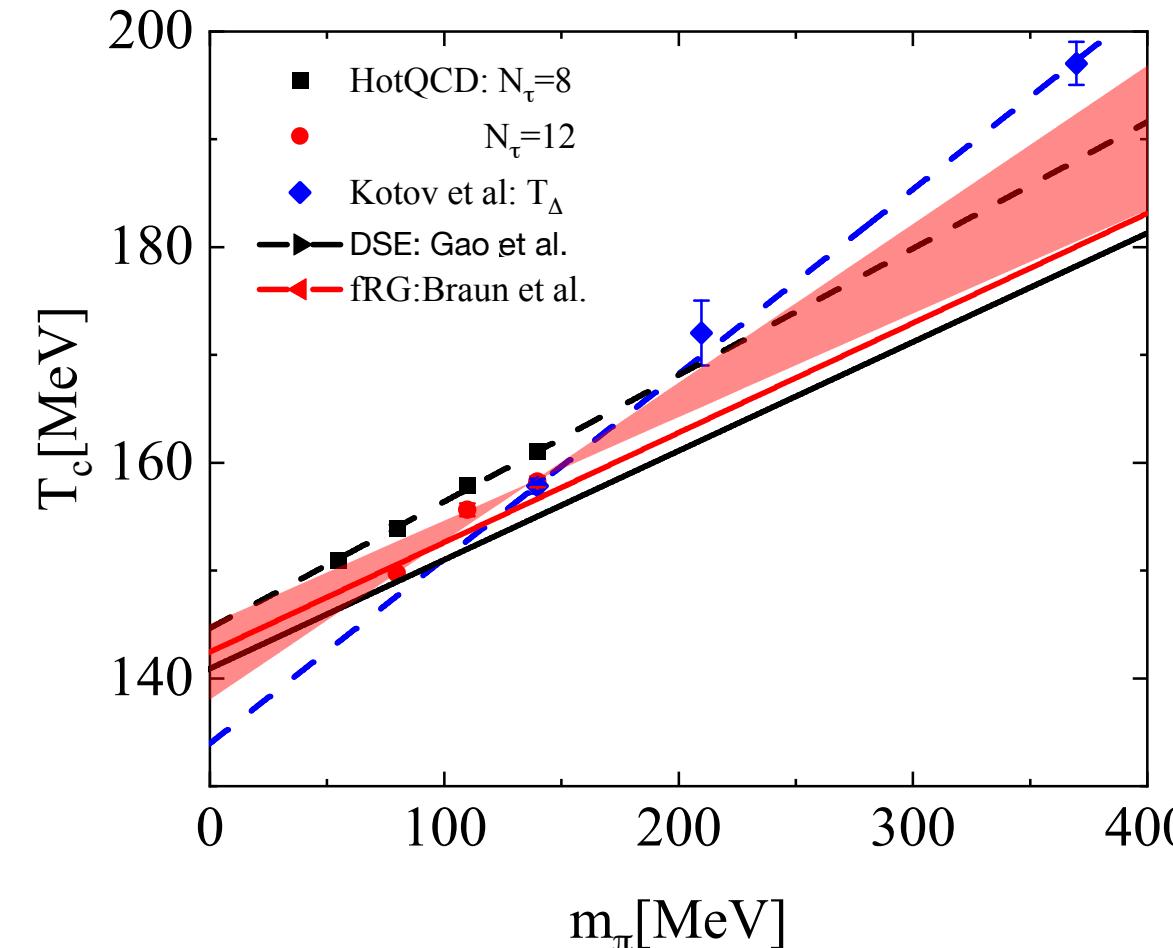
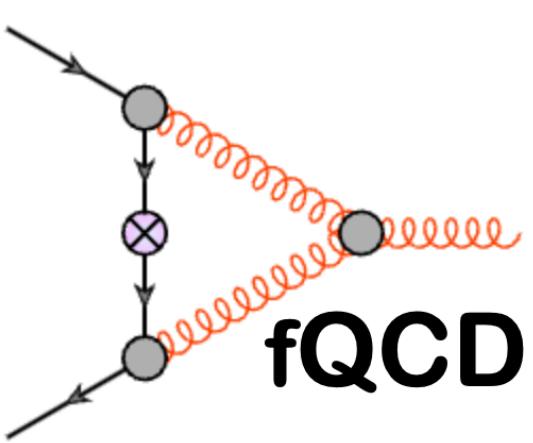


Braun, Fu, JMP, Rennecke, Rosenblüh, Yin, PRD 102 (2020) 056010

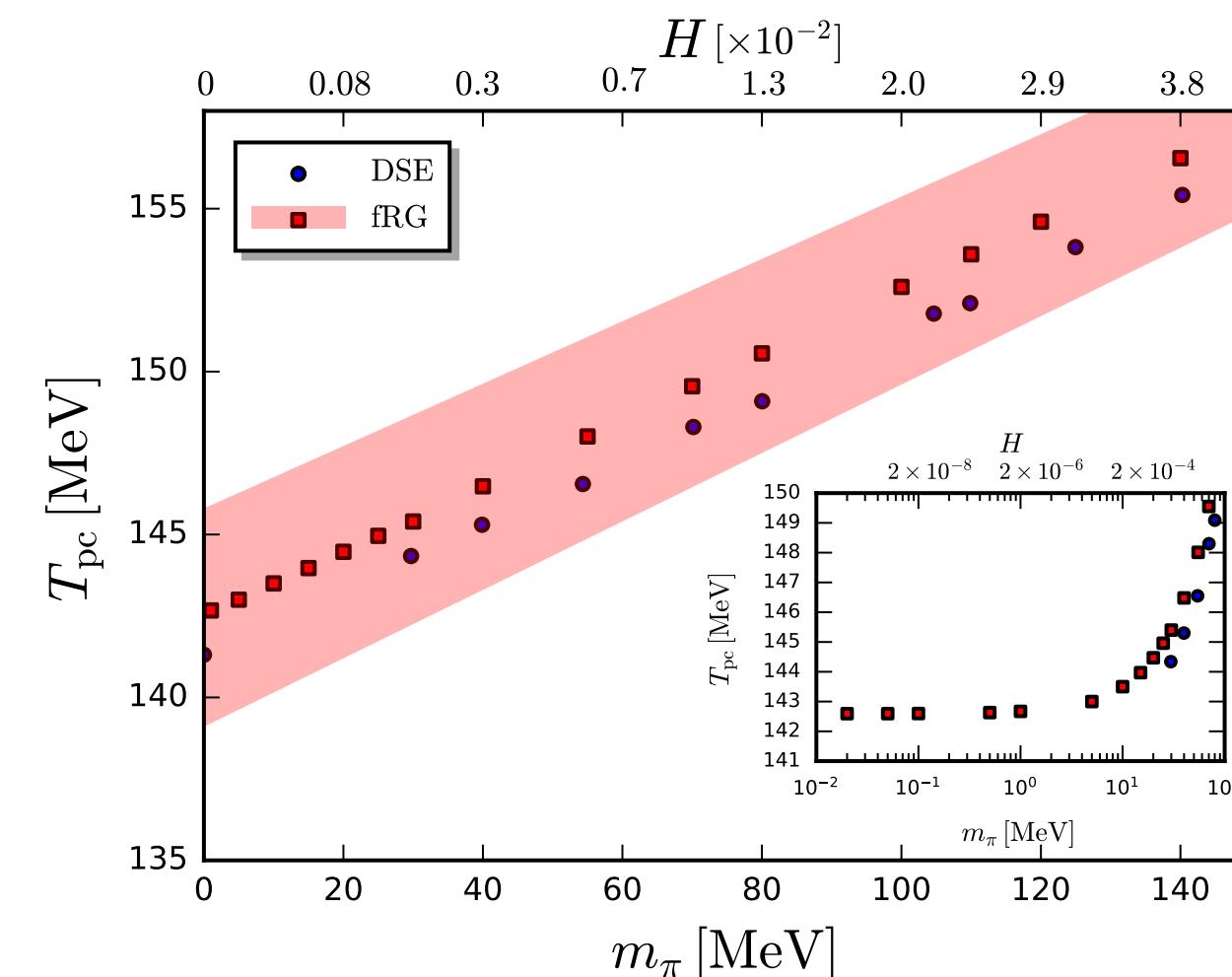
Gao, JMP, PRD 105 (2022) 094020

Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Huang, Ihssen, JMP, Rennecke, Sattler, Tan, Wen, Yin, 2310.19853

# To be (critical) or not (to be)



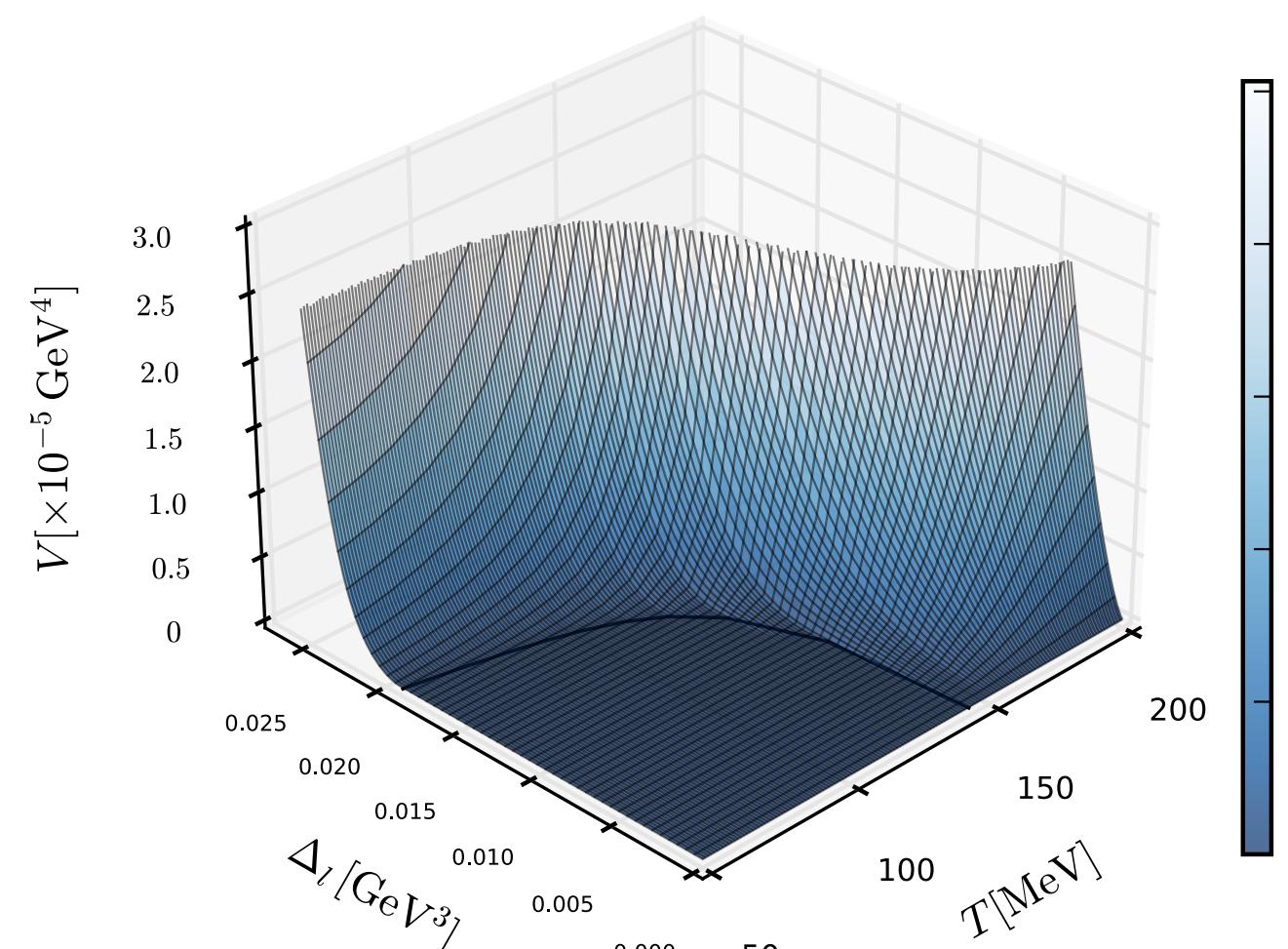
$$H = \frac{m_l}{m_s}$$



## Order parameter potential & scaling

$$V_\chi \approx \Delta_l^n \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \Delta_l(H) \propto H^{\frac{1}{n-1}}$$

$$\text{(Critical) exponent: } \frac{1}{\delta} = \frac{1}{n-1}$$



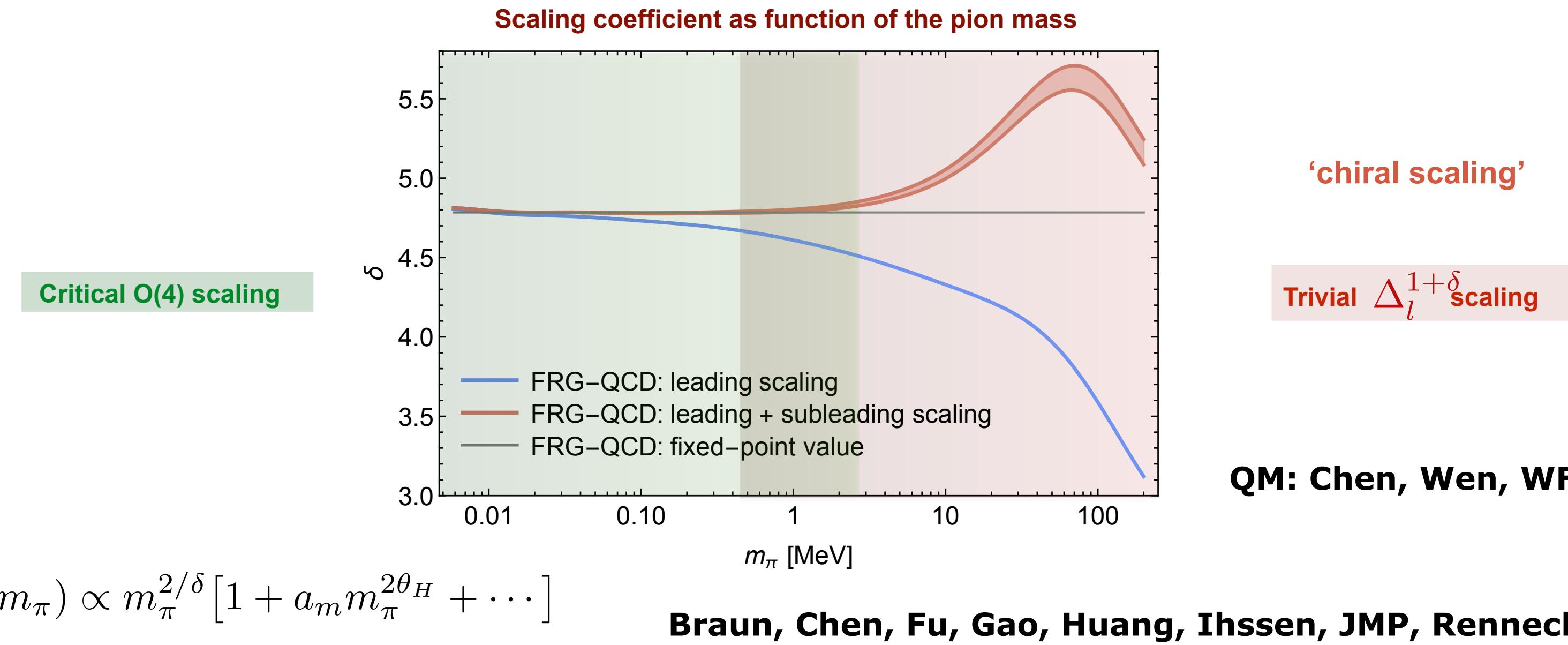
$$V_\chi^{(\text{fRG})} \approx V_\chi^{(\text{DSE})}$$

Braun, Fu, JMP, Rennecke, Rosenblüh, Yin, PRD 102 (2020) 056010

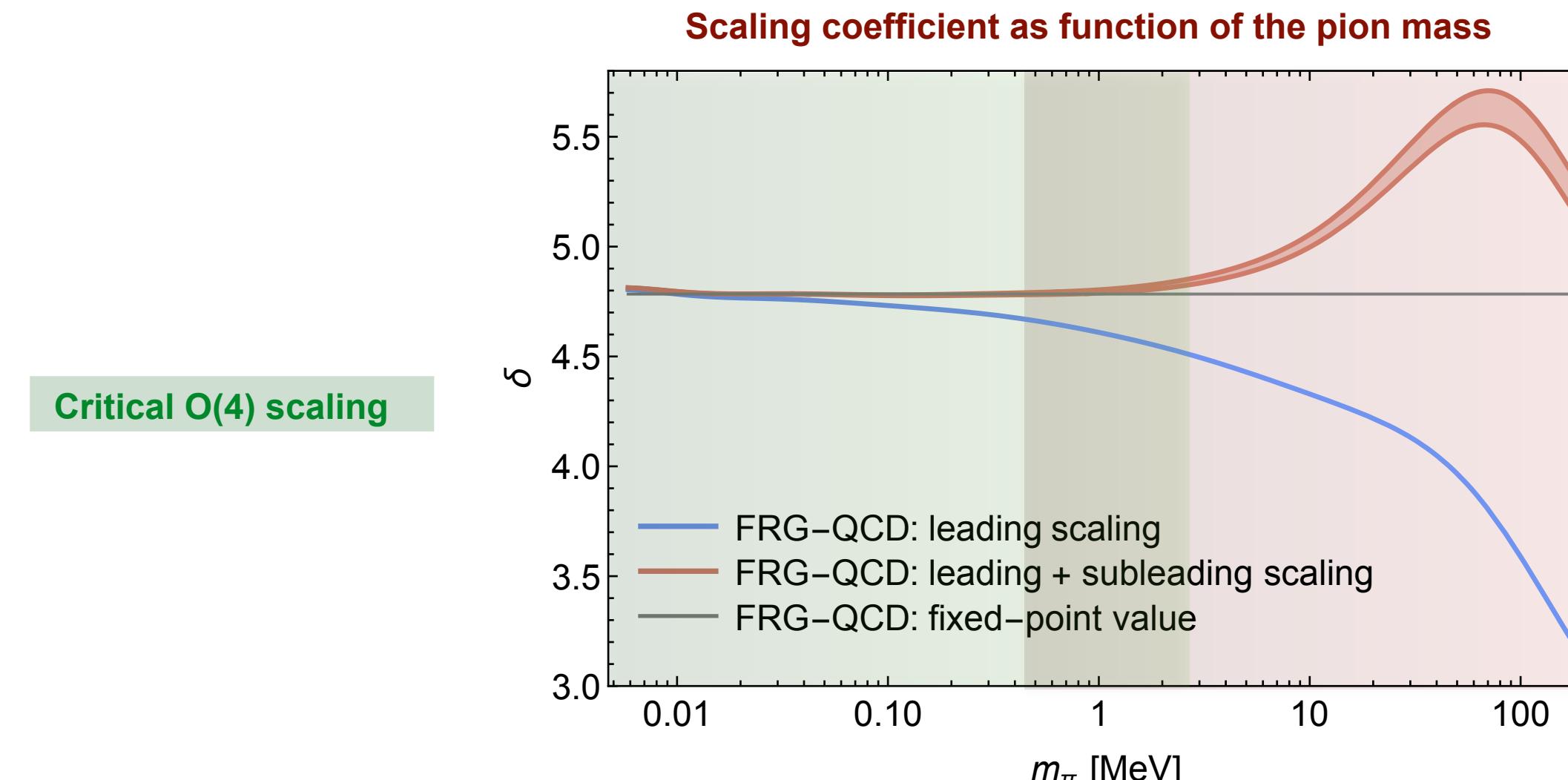
Gao, JMP, PRD 105 (2022) 094020

Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Huang, Ihssen, JMP, Rennecke, Sattler, Tan, Wen, Yin, 2310.19853

# Chiral dynamics & quasi-massless modes



# Chiral dynamics & quasi-massless modes



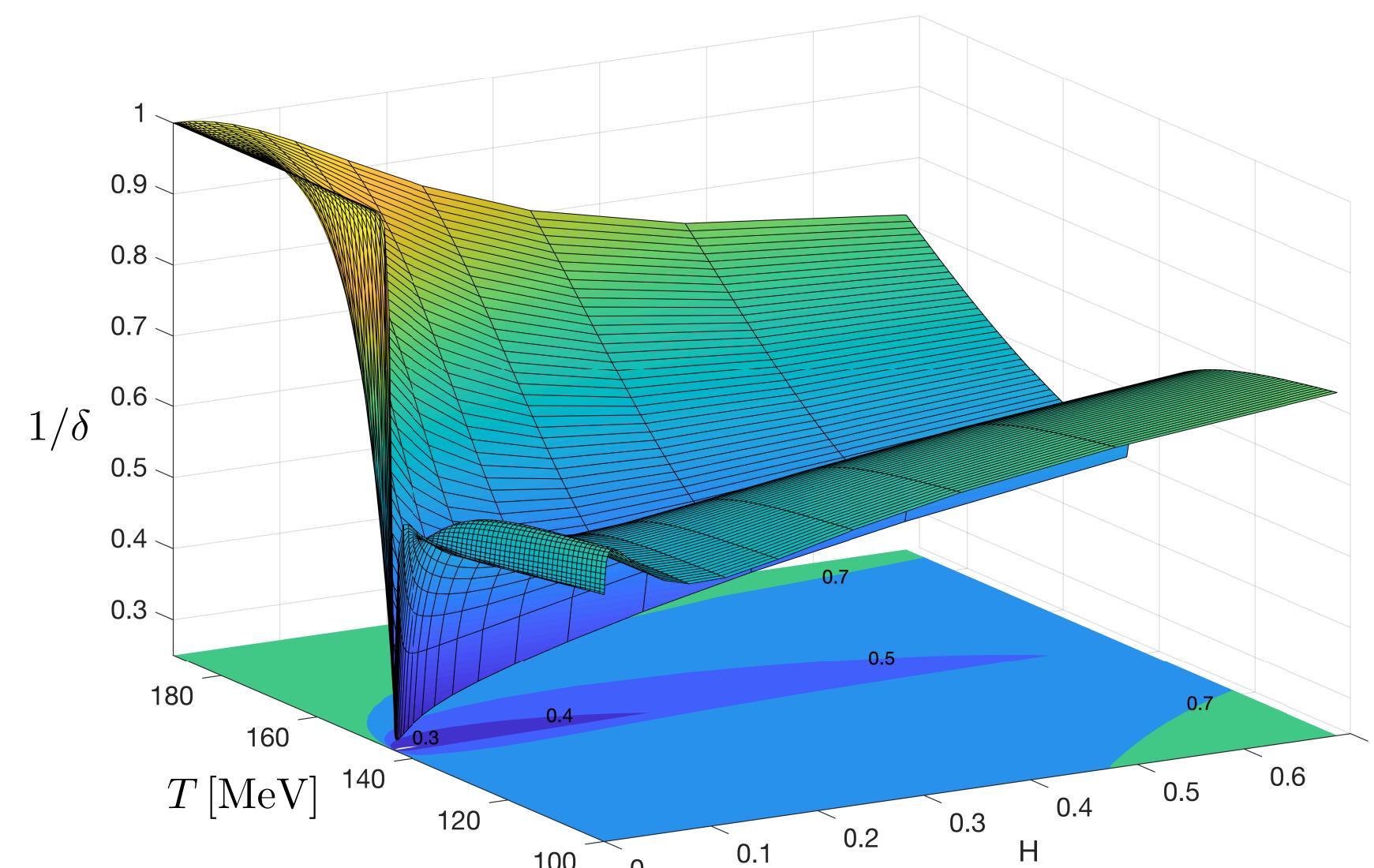
$$\Delta_l(m_\pi) \propto m_\pi^{2/\delta} [1 + a_m m_\pi^{2\theta_H} + \dots]$$

Braun, Chen, Fu, Gao, Huang, Ihssen, JMP, Rennecke, Sattler, Tan, Wen, Yin, 2310.19853

'chiral scaling'

Trivial  $\Delta_l^{1+\delta}$  scaling

QM: Chen, Wen, WF, PRD 104 (2021) 054009

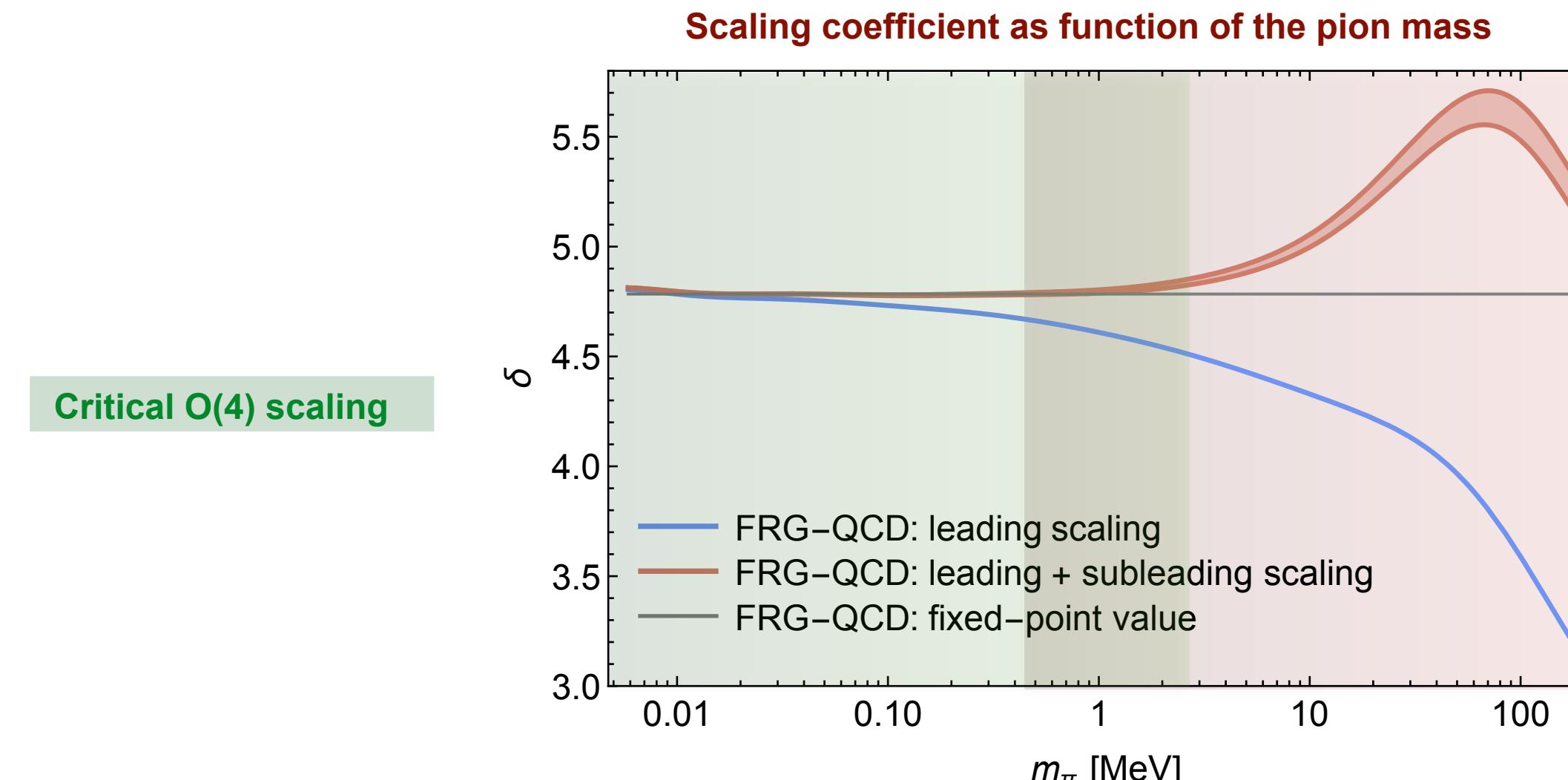


Small chiral scaling regime



Small critical regime around pot. CEP

# Chiral dynamics & quasi-massless modes



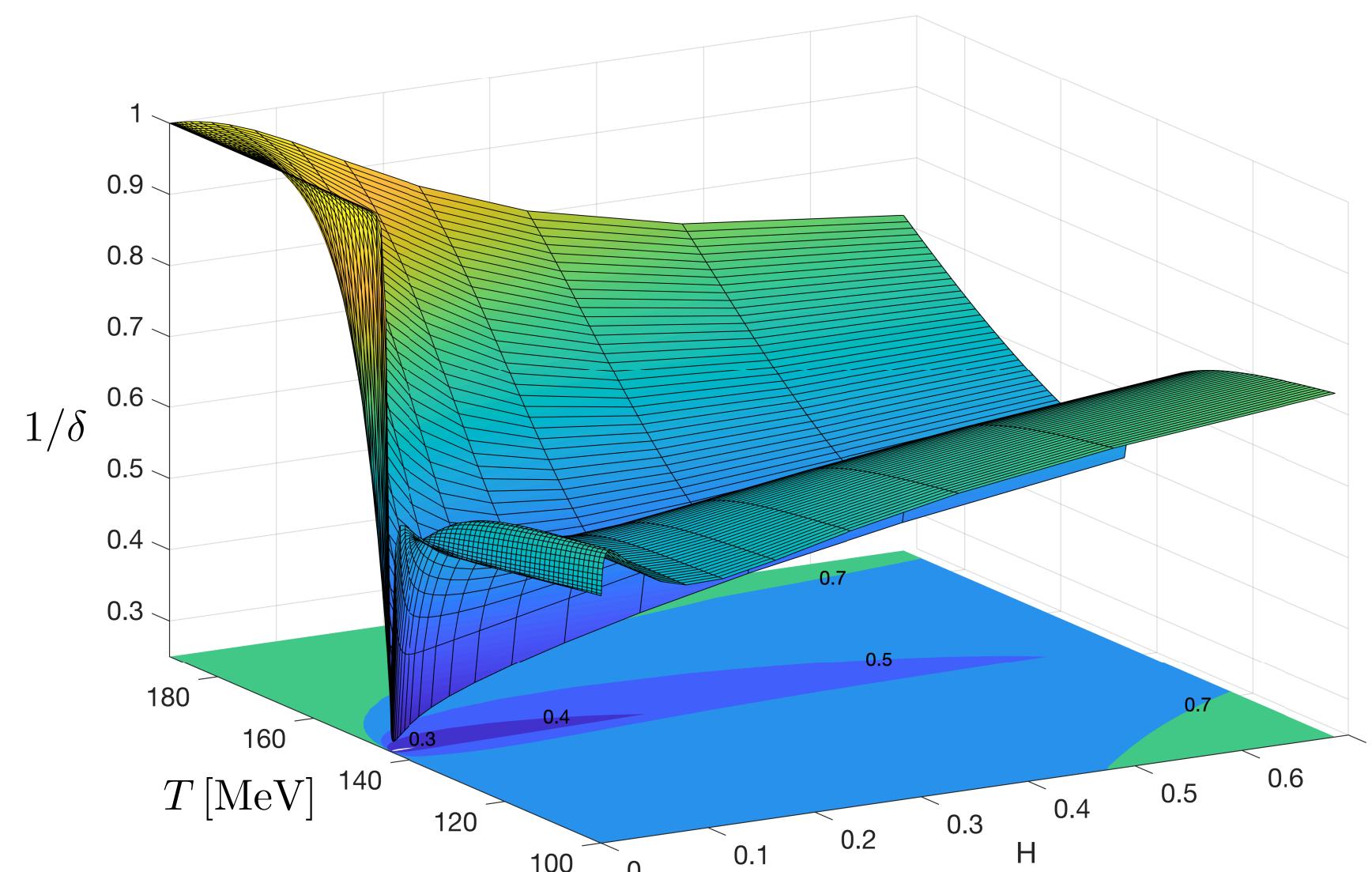
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Small chiral scaling regime

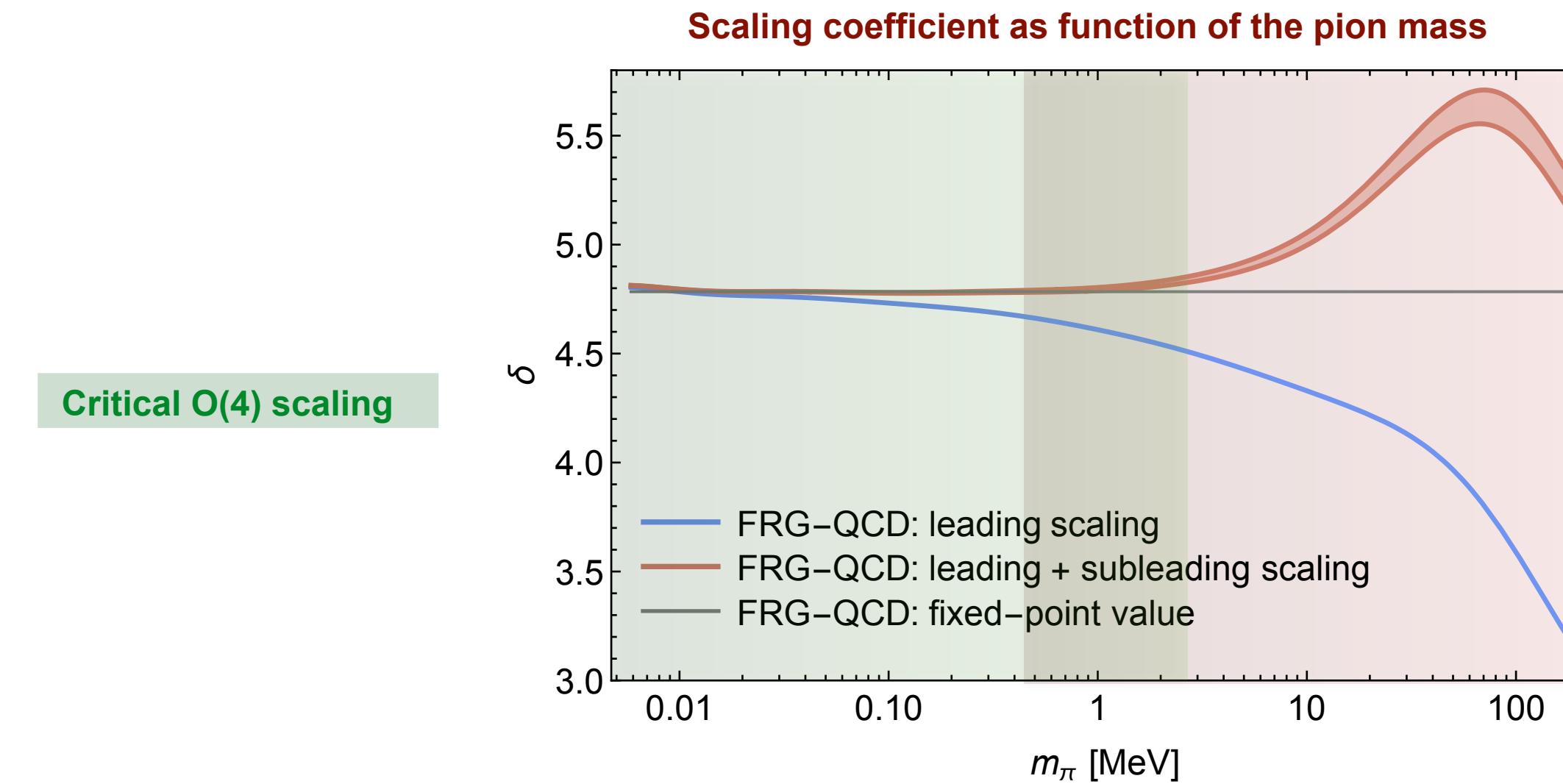
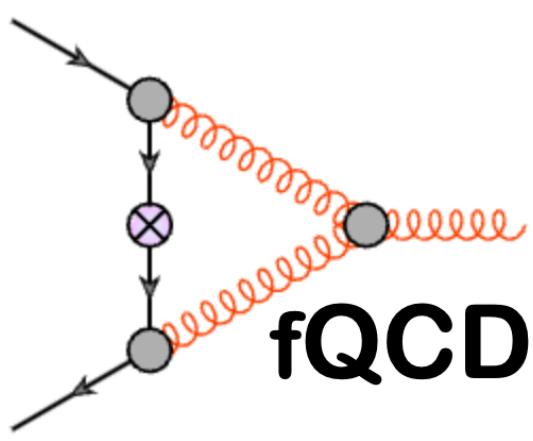


Small critical regime around pot. CEP

!!Great News!!

Location of CEP/New phase accessible via combination  
of precision measurements & computations

# Chiral dynamics & quasi-massless modes

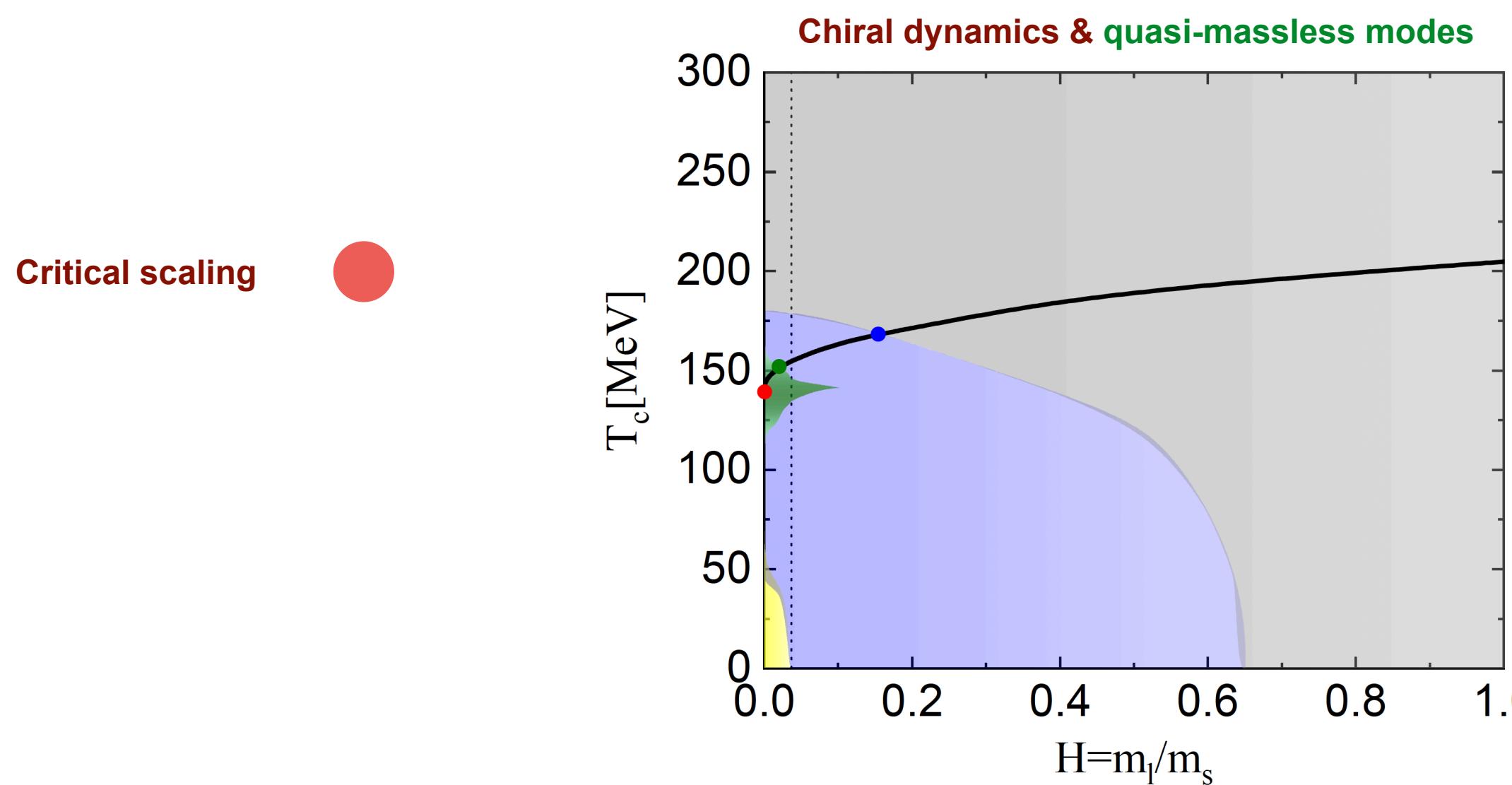


'chiral scaling'

Trivial  $\Delta_l^{1+\delta}$  scaling

fQCD collaboration, in preparation

QM: Chen, Wen, WF, PRD 104 (2021) 054009



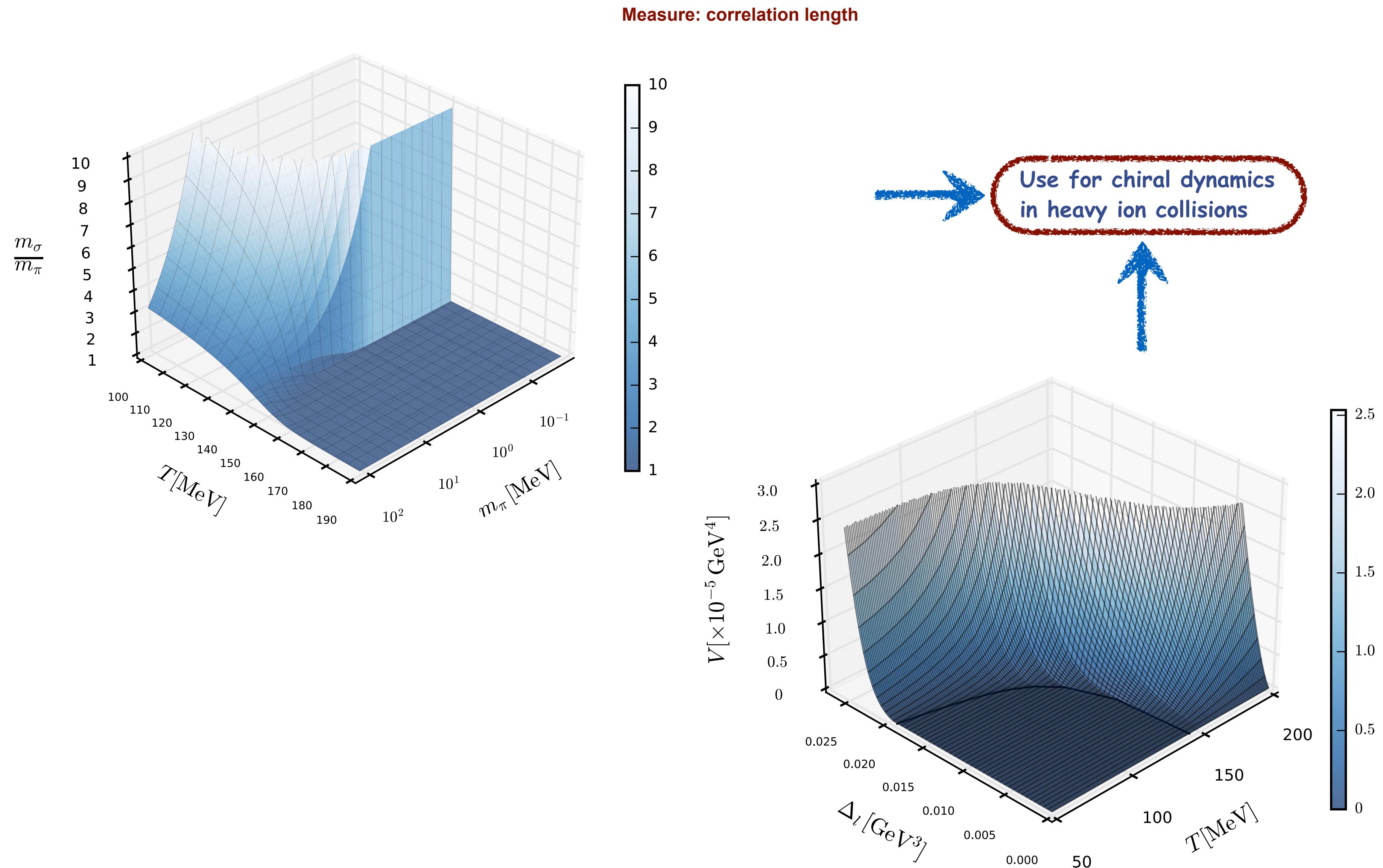
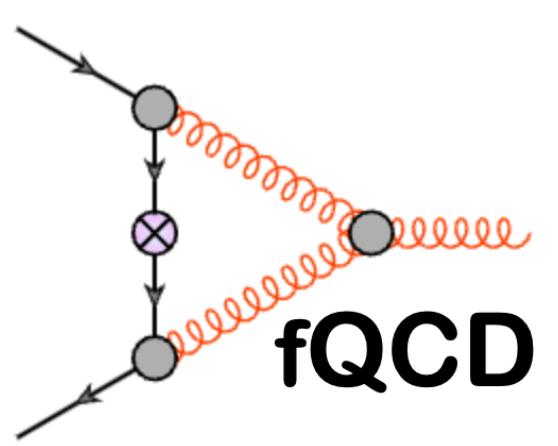
$$V_\chi(\Delta_l) \propto$$

$$\Delta_l^6 \quad \Delta_l^4 \quad \Delta_l^2$$

Far away from the critical regime for  $m_\pi \gtrsim 1$  MeV

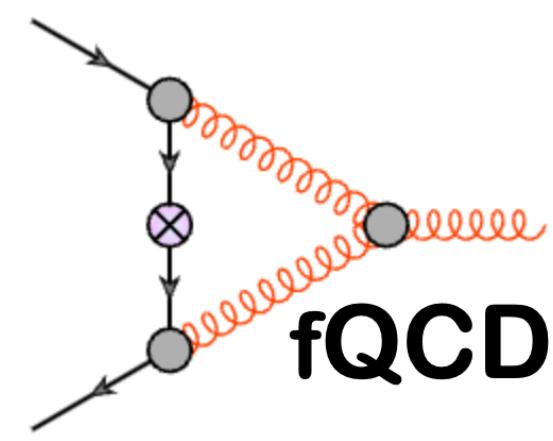
$$\Delta_l(T, H) \approx \Delta_{l,\chi}(0) \left( c_0 + c_{\frac{1}{5}} H^{\frac{1}{5}} + c_{\frac{1}{3}} H^{\frac{1}{3}} + c_1 H \right)$$

# Full order parameter potential

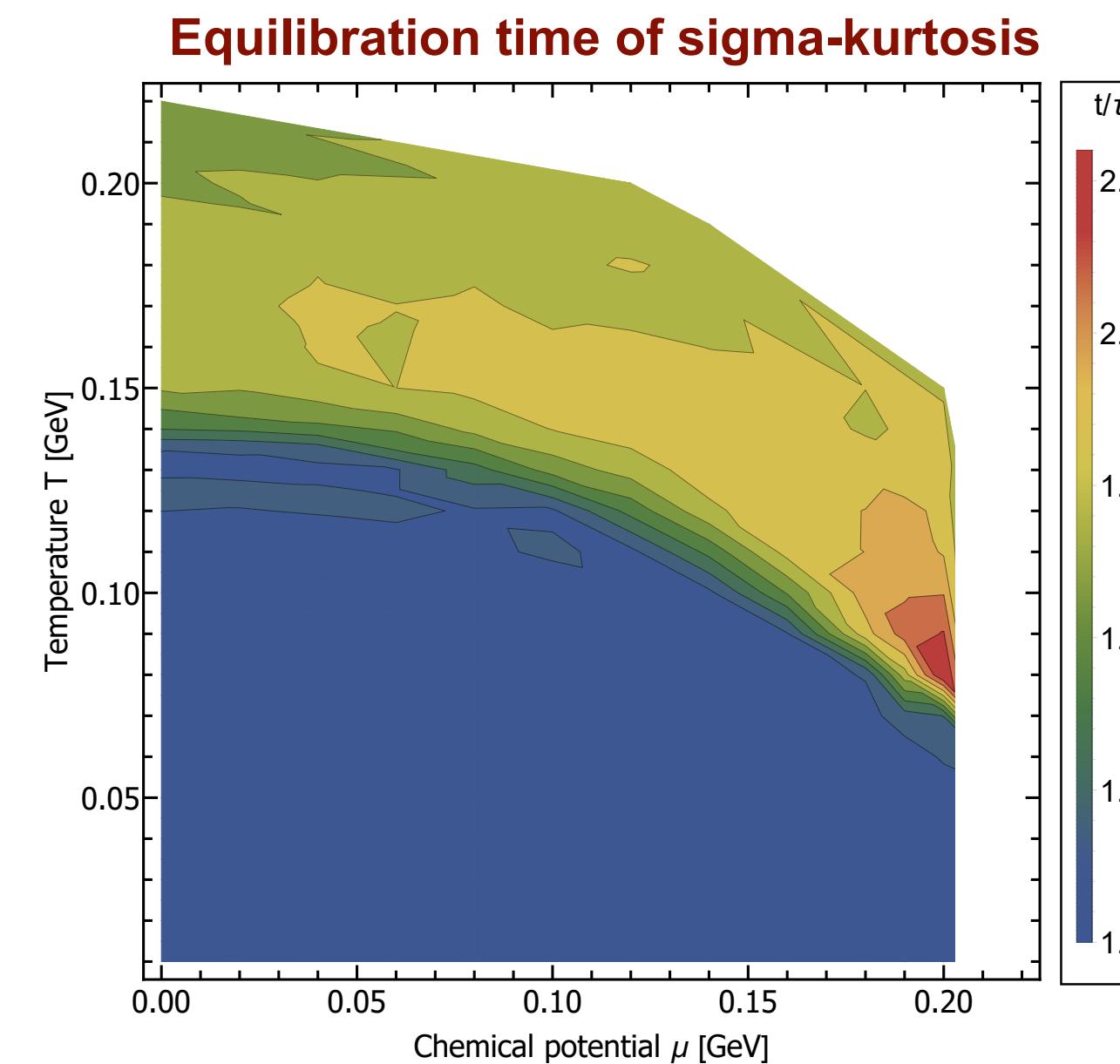


# Dynamics and the size of the critical regime

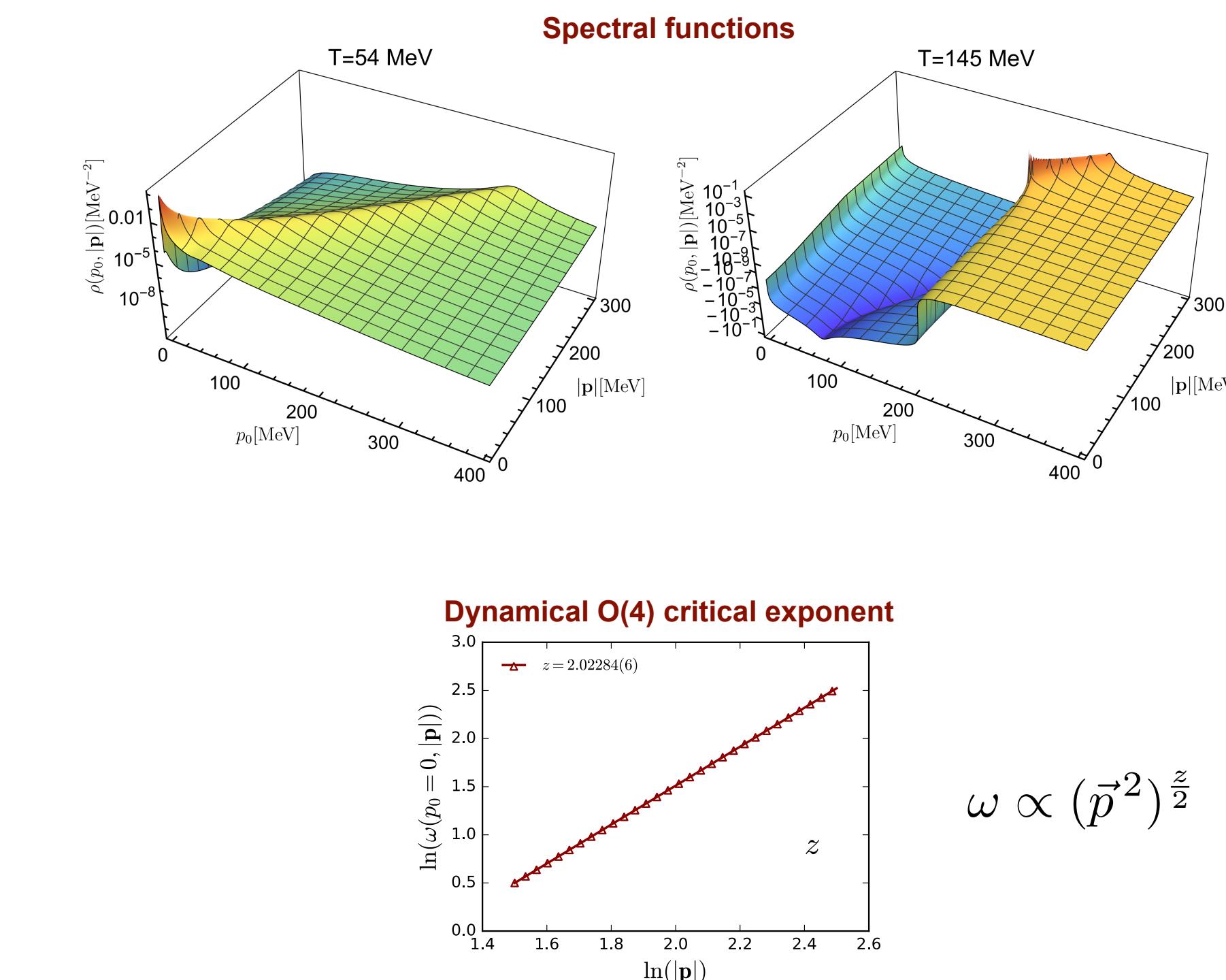
Showcases in linear sigma models



Transport with fRG spectral functions & effective potential



Dynamical universality



Blum, Jiang, Nahrgang, JMP, Rennecke, Wink, NPA 982

Tan, Chen, Fu, SciPost Phys. 12 (2022) 026

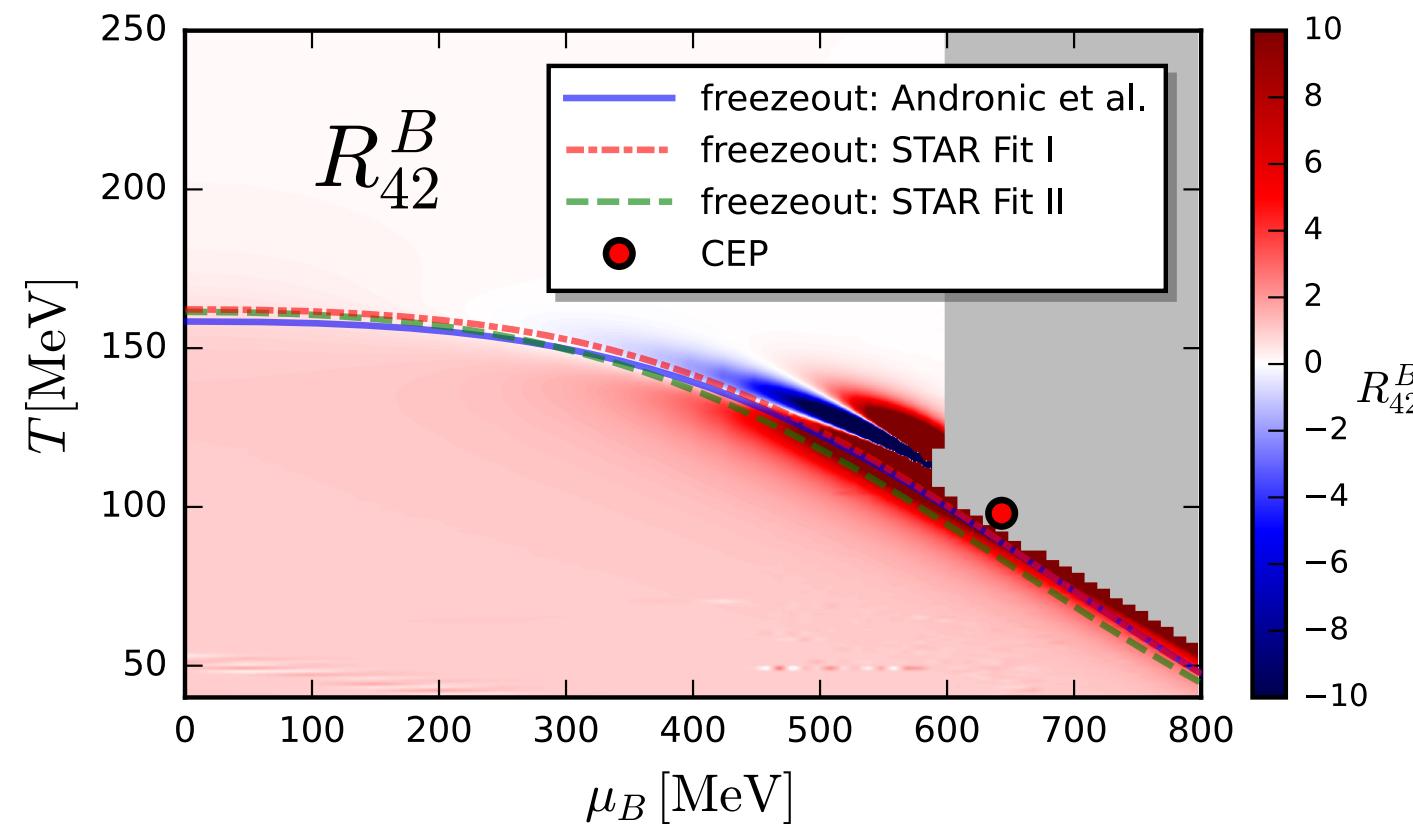
QM: Roth, Schweitzer, Rieke, von Smekal , PRD 105 (2022)

# **Fluctuations of conserved charges: Ripples of the critical end point**

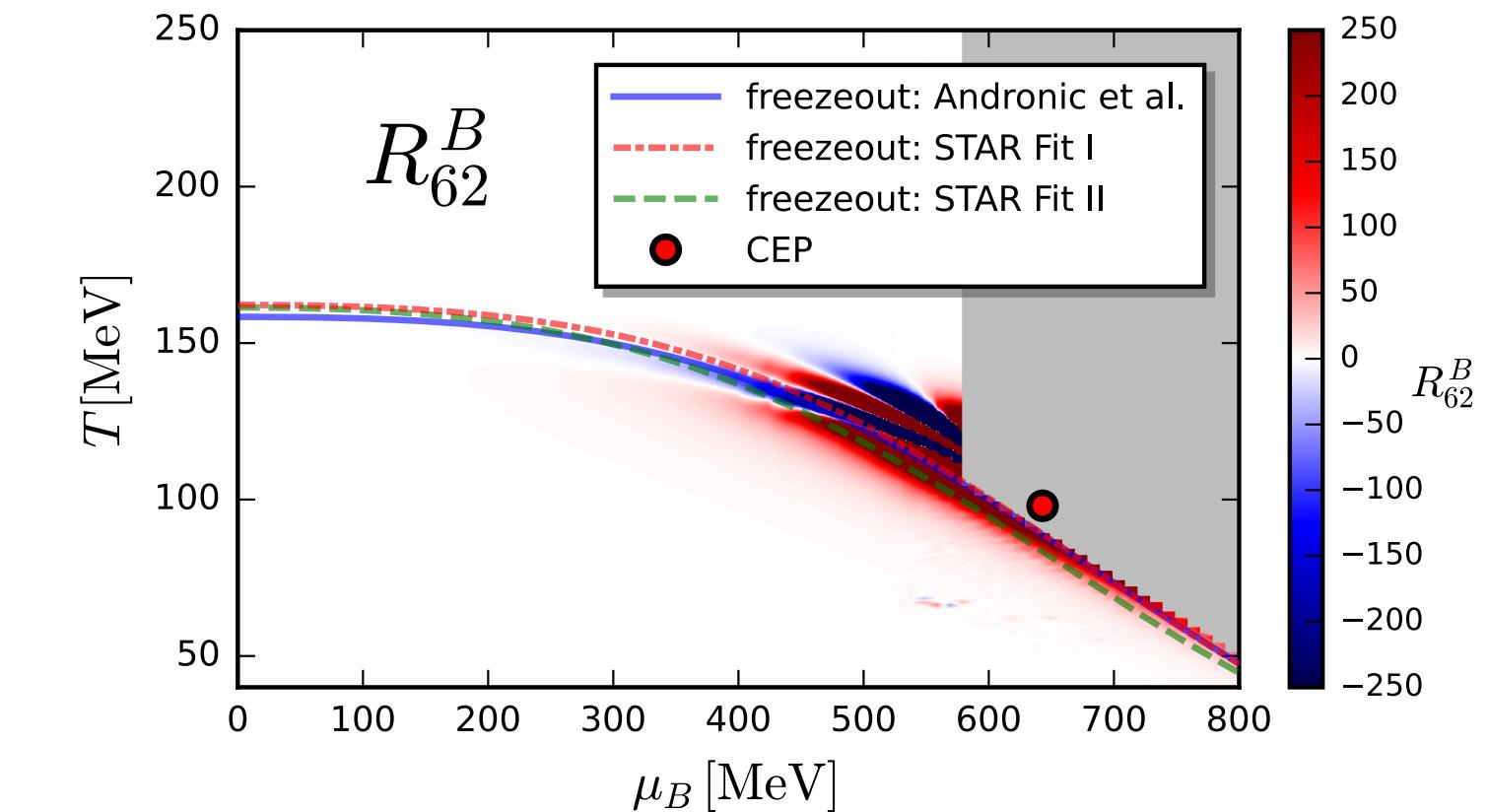
or  
the LEGO® principle at work

# Ripples of the critical point

## Baryon number fluctuations in the phase structure

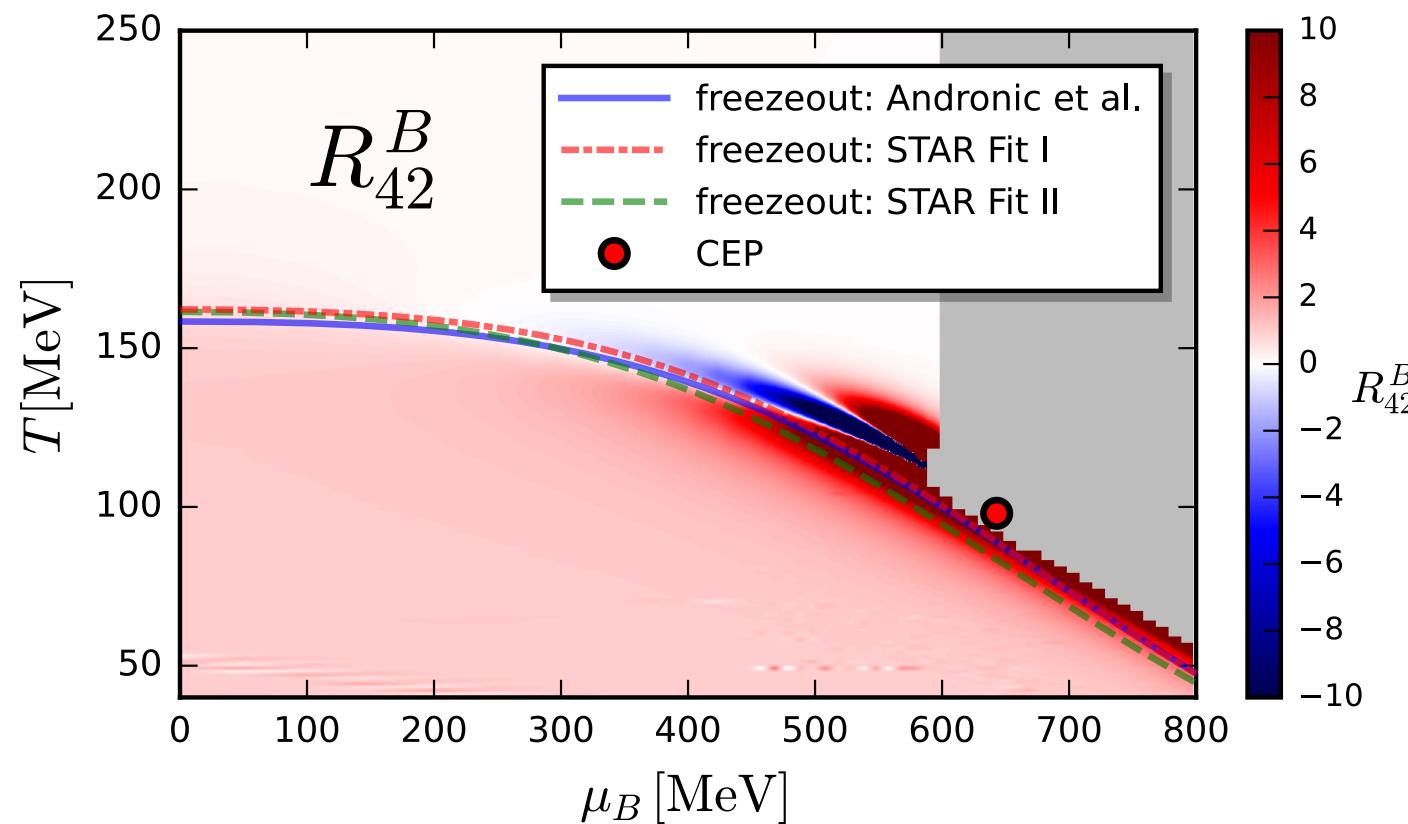


$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}}) = (98, 643) \text{ MeV}$$

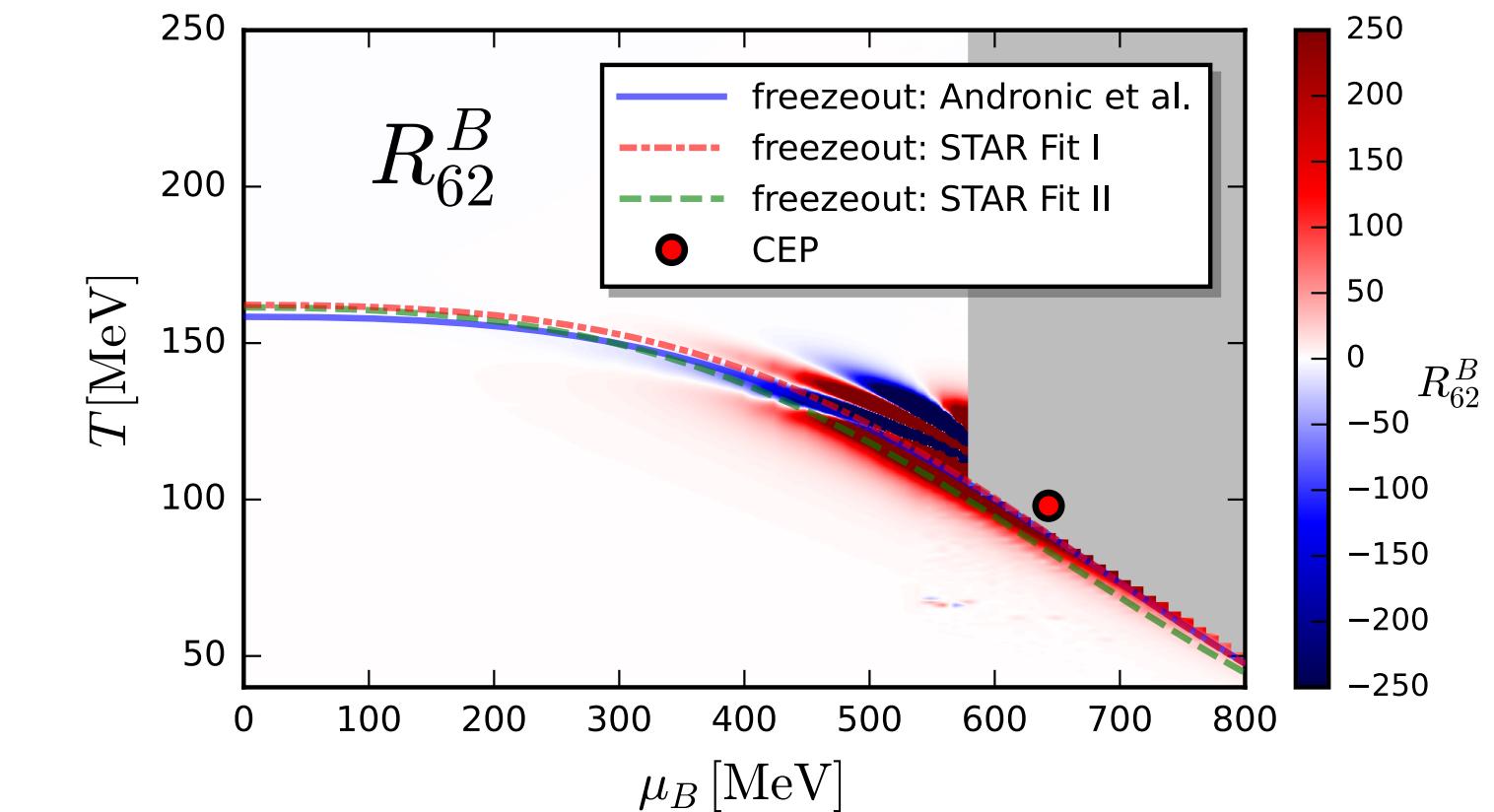


# Ripples of the critical point

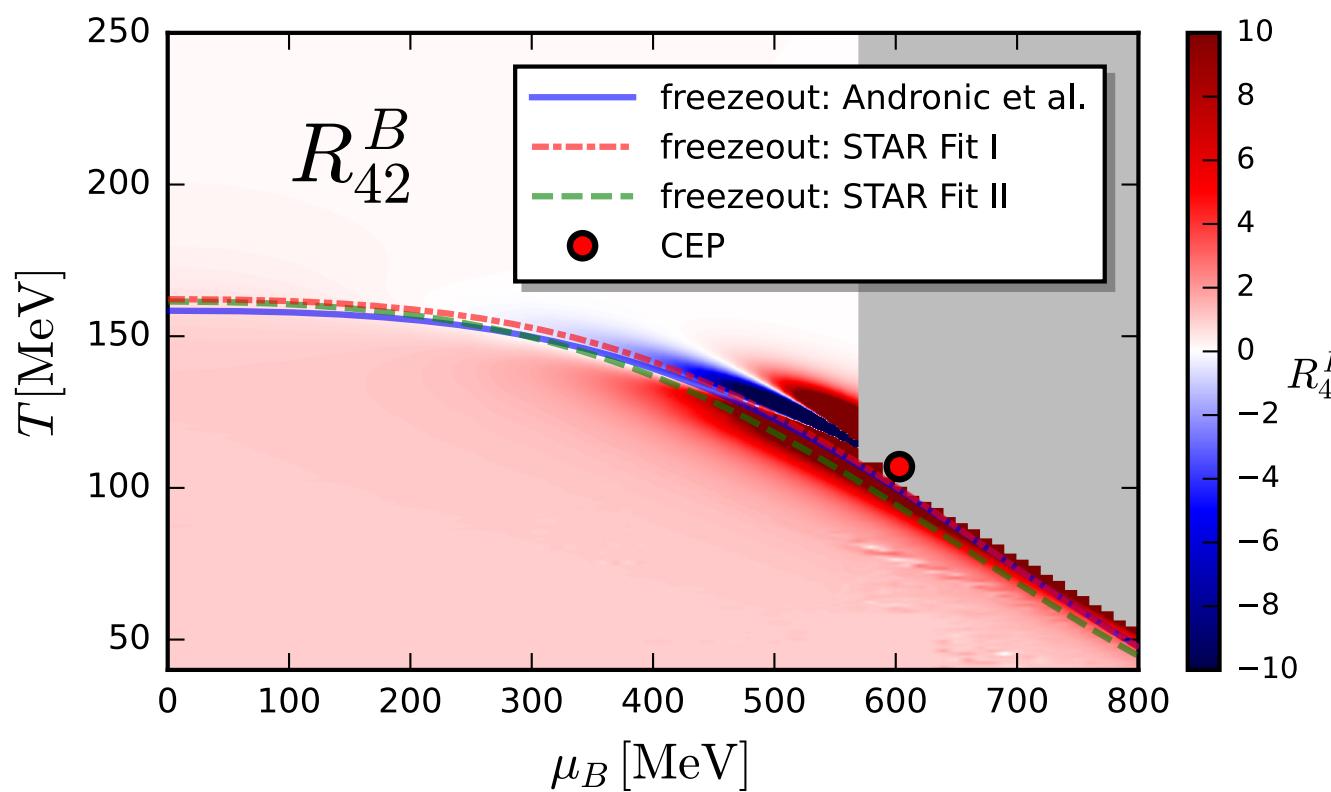
## Baryon number fluctuations in the phase structure



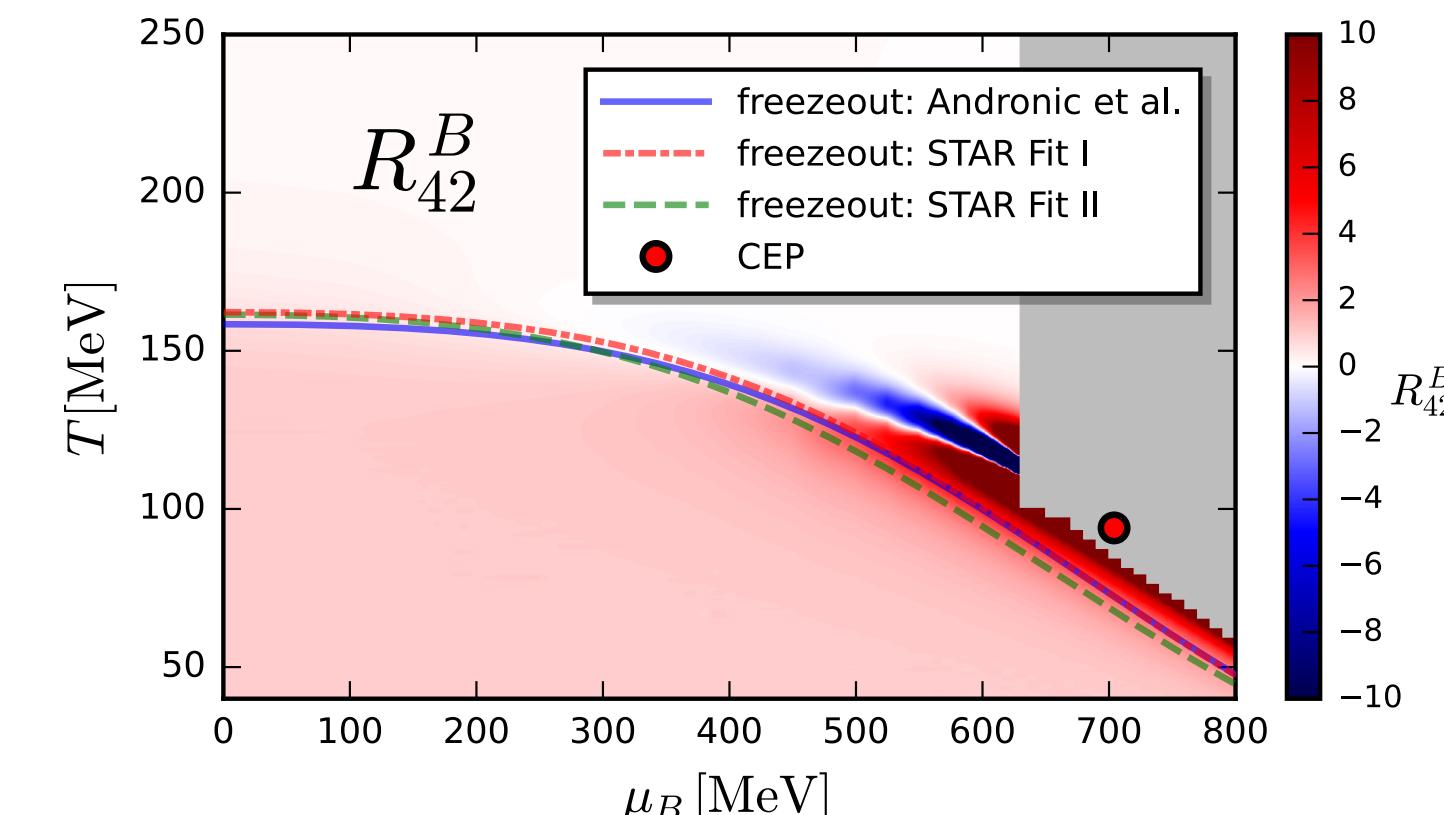
$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}}) = (98, 643) \text{ MeV}$$



## Variations of the CEP



$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}}) = (108, 604) \text{ MeV}$$



$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}}) = (94, 704) \text{ MeV}$$

# Ripples of the critical point

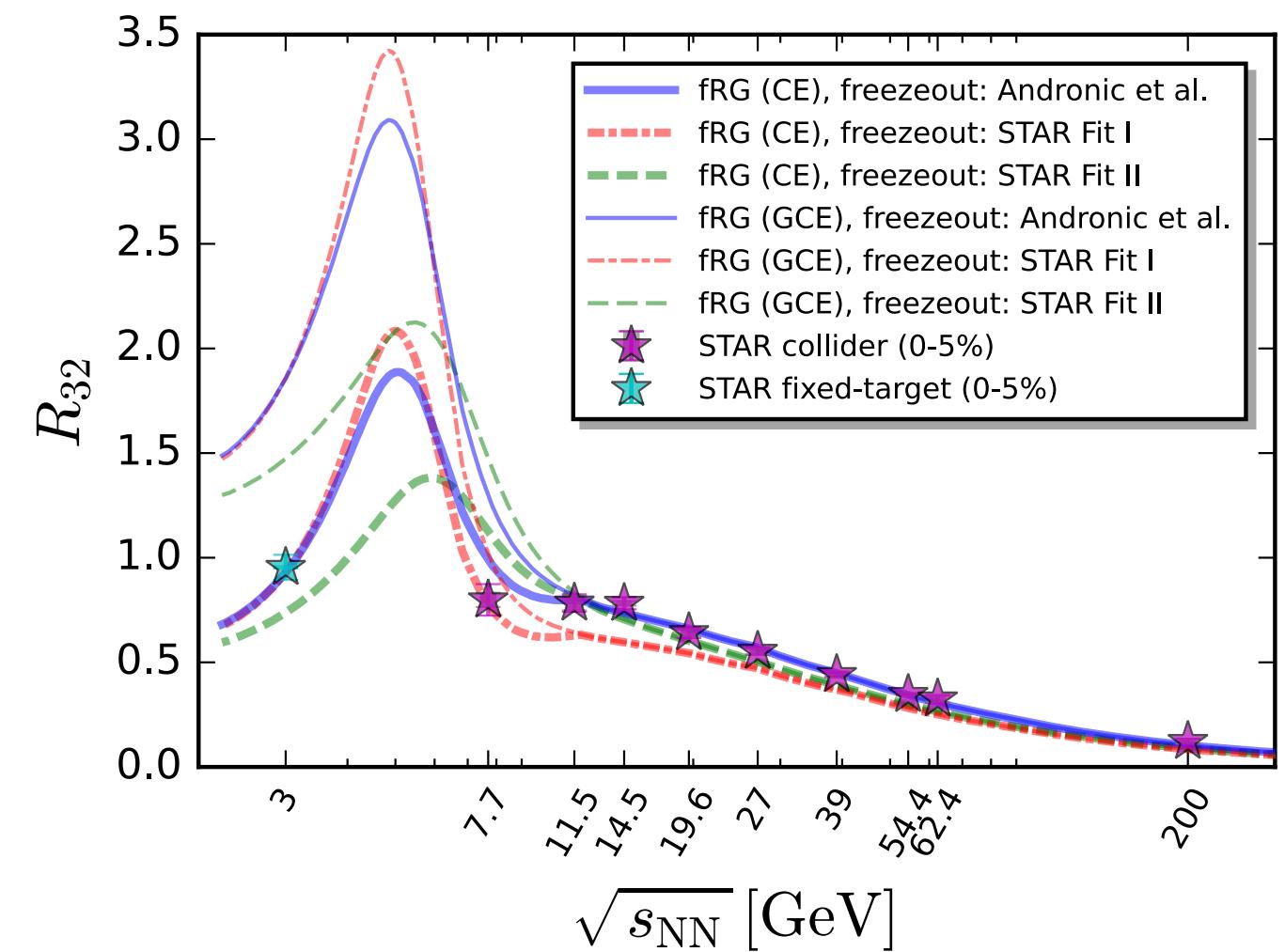
Canonical corrections via subensemble acceptance method

Vovchenko, Savchuk, Poberezhnyuk, Gorenstein, Koch, PLB 811, 135868 (2020)

fixing the subensemble volume

subensemble volume      system volume  
 $V_1 = \alpha V$

$$\bar{R}_{32}^B = (1 - 2\alpha) R_{32}^B$$



# Ripples of the critical point

Canonical corrections via subensemble acceptance method

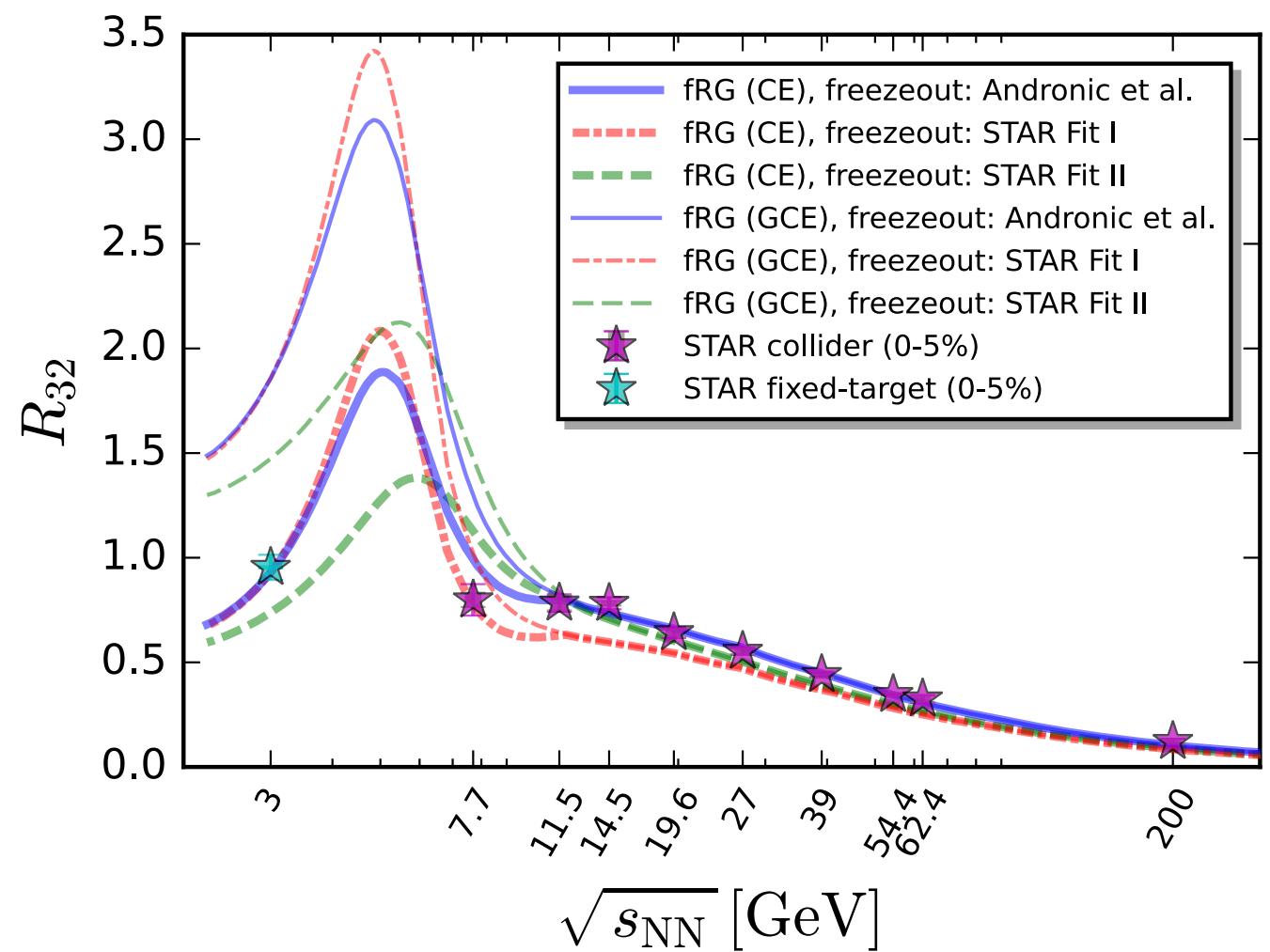
Vovchenko, Savchuk, Poberezhnyuk, Gorenstein, Koch, PLB 811, 135868 (2020)

fixing the subensemble volume

subensemble volume      system volume

$$V_1 = \alpha V$$

$$\bar{R}_{32}^B = (1 - 2\alpha) R_{32}^B$$



qualitative adjustment

$$\alpha(\bar{s}) = a \left(1 - \sqrt{\bar{s}}\right) \theta(1 - \bar{s})$$

$$a = 0.33$$

$$\sqrt{\bar{s}} = \frac{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}{11.9 \text{ GeV}}$$

# Ripples of the critical point

Canonical corrections via subensemble acceptance method

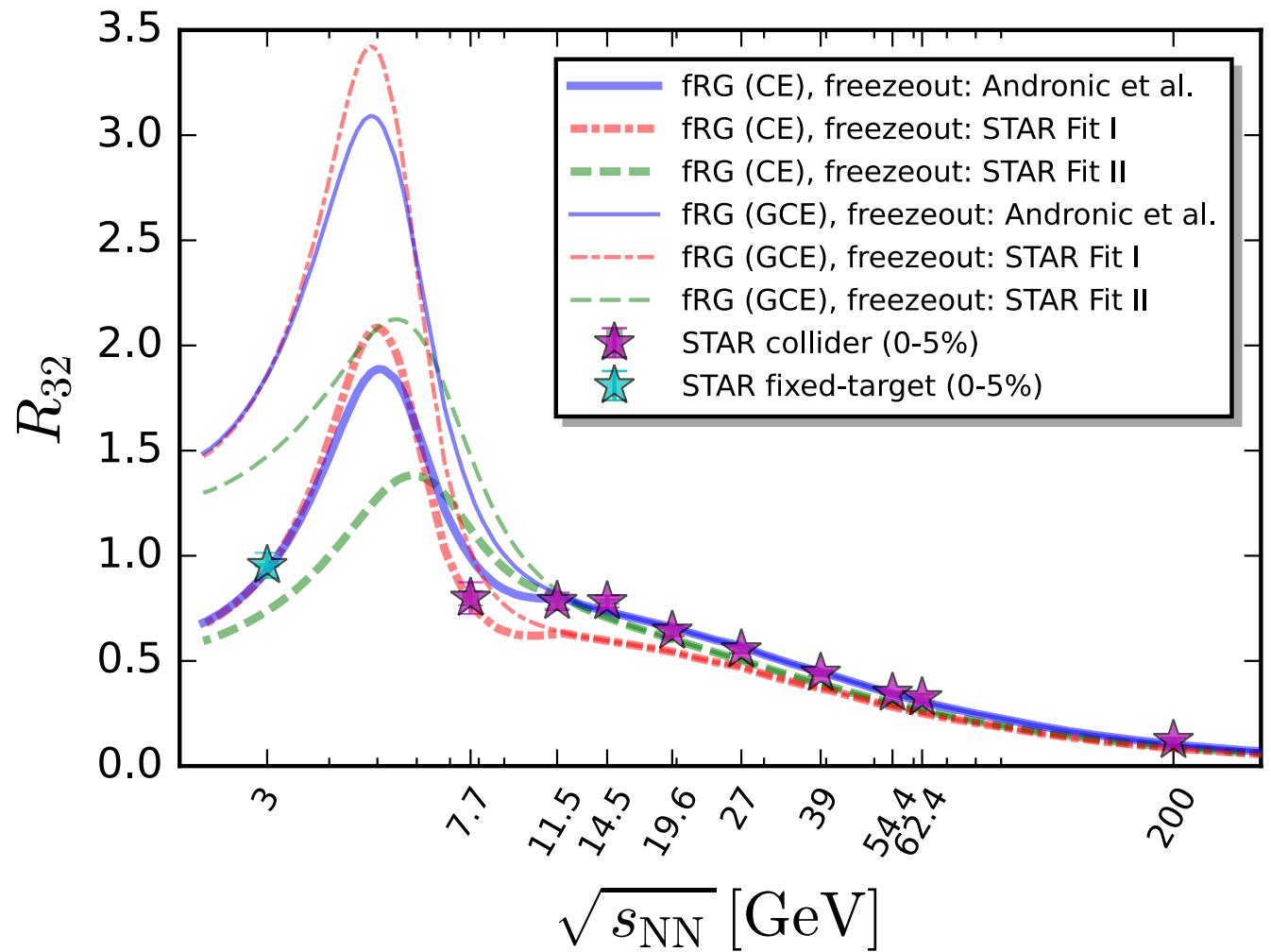
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fixing the subensemble volume

subensemble volume

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system volume

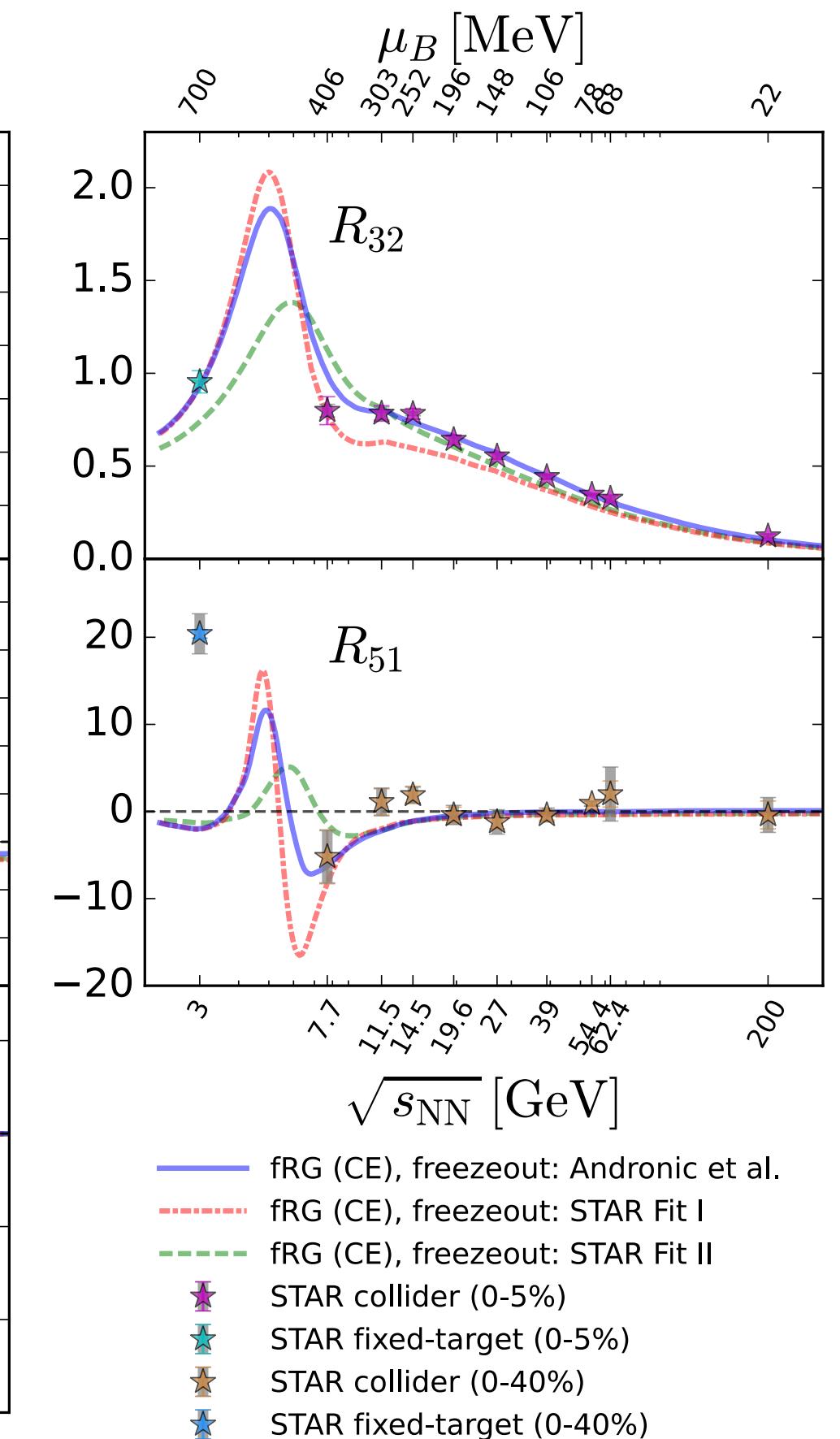
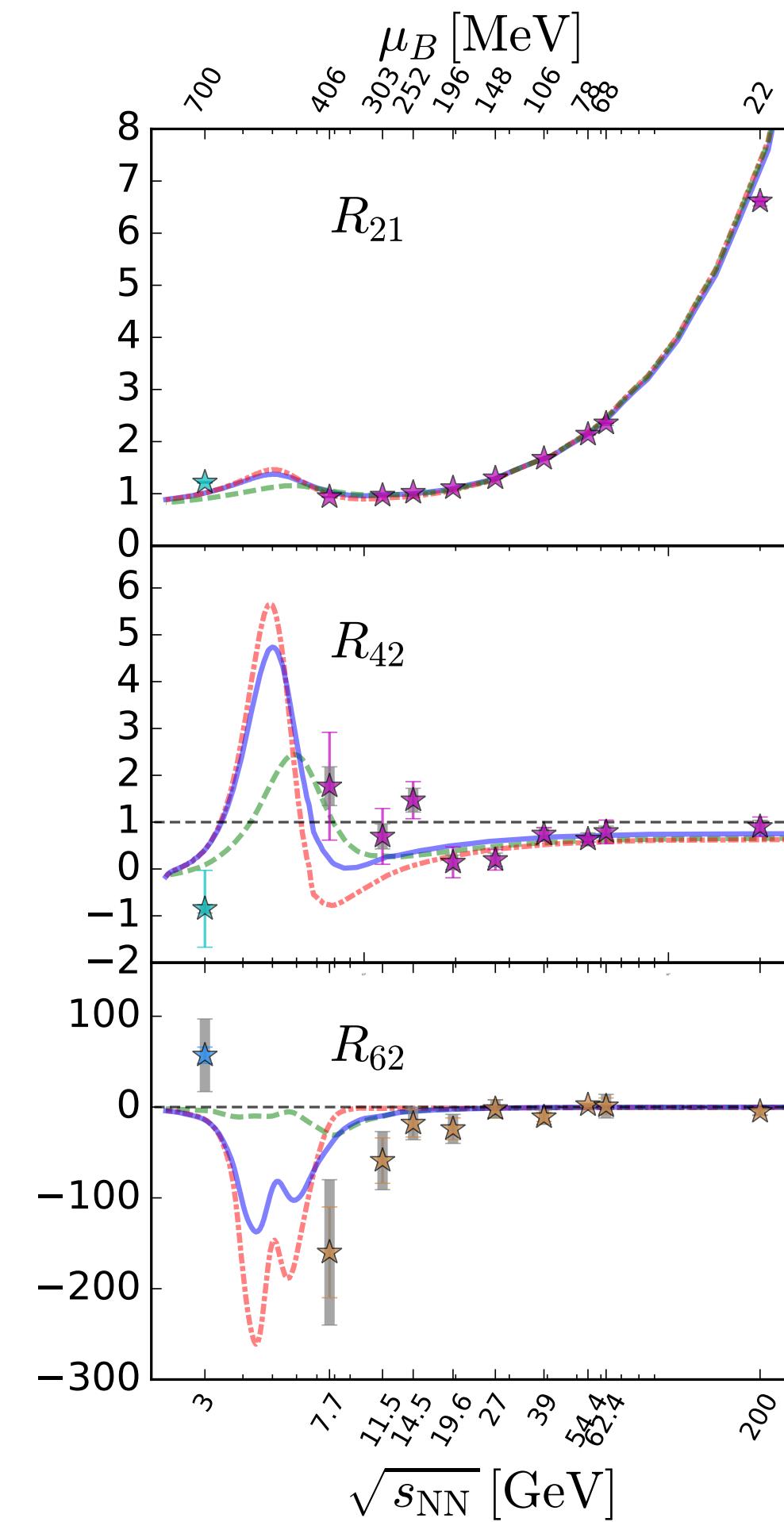
qualitative adjustment

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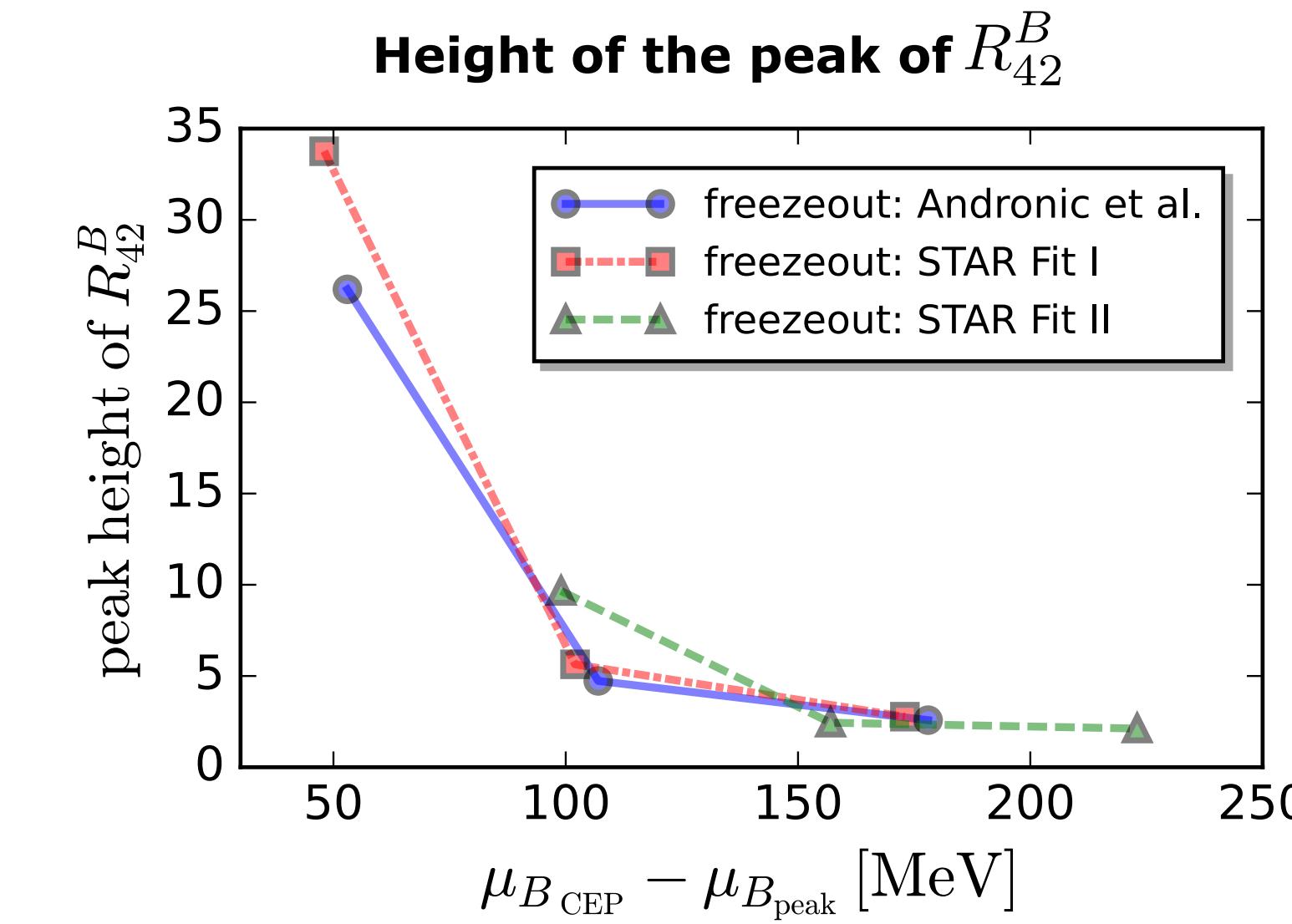
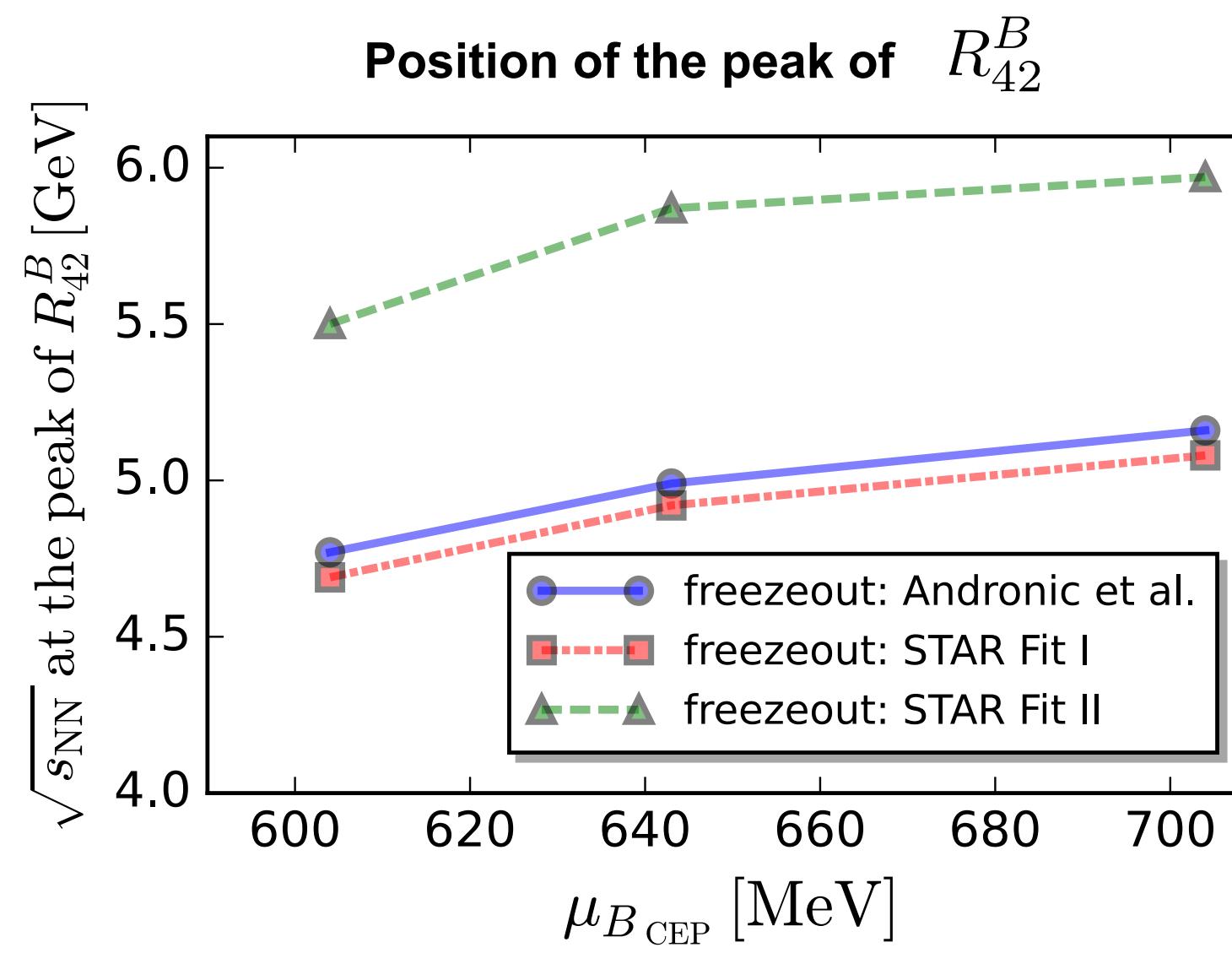
$$\sqrt{\bar{s}} = \frac{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}{11.9 \text{ GeV}}$$

baryon & proton number fluctuations



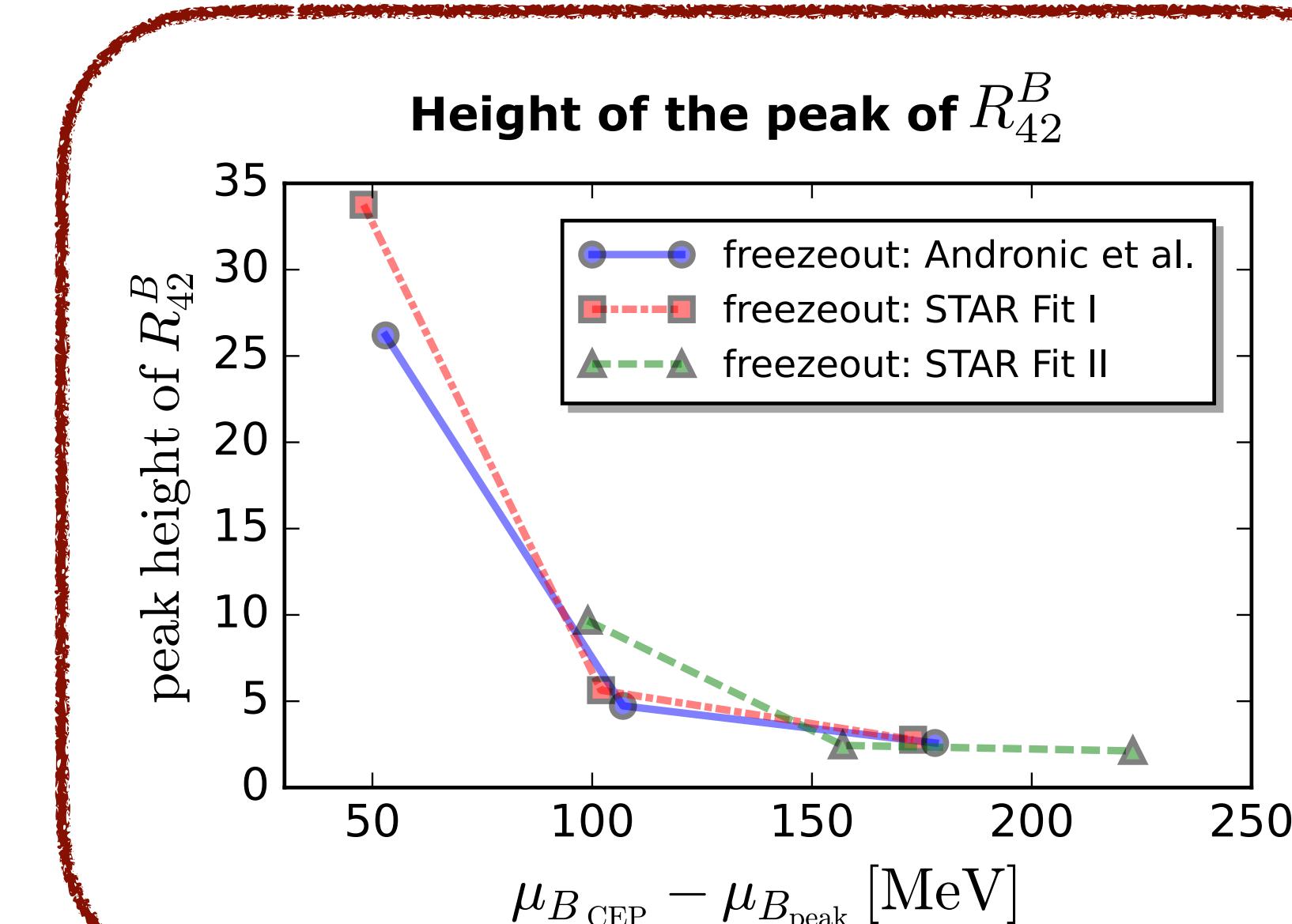
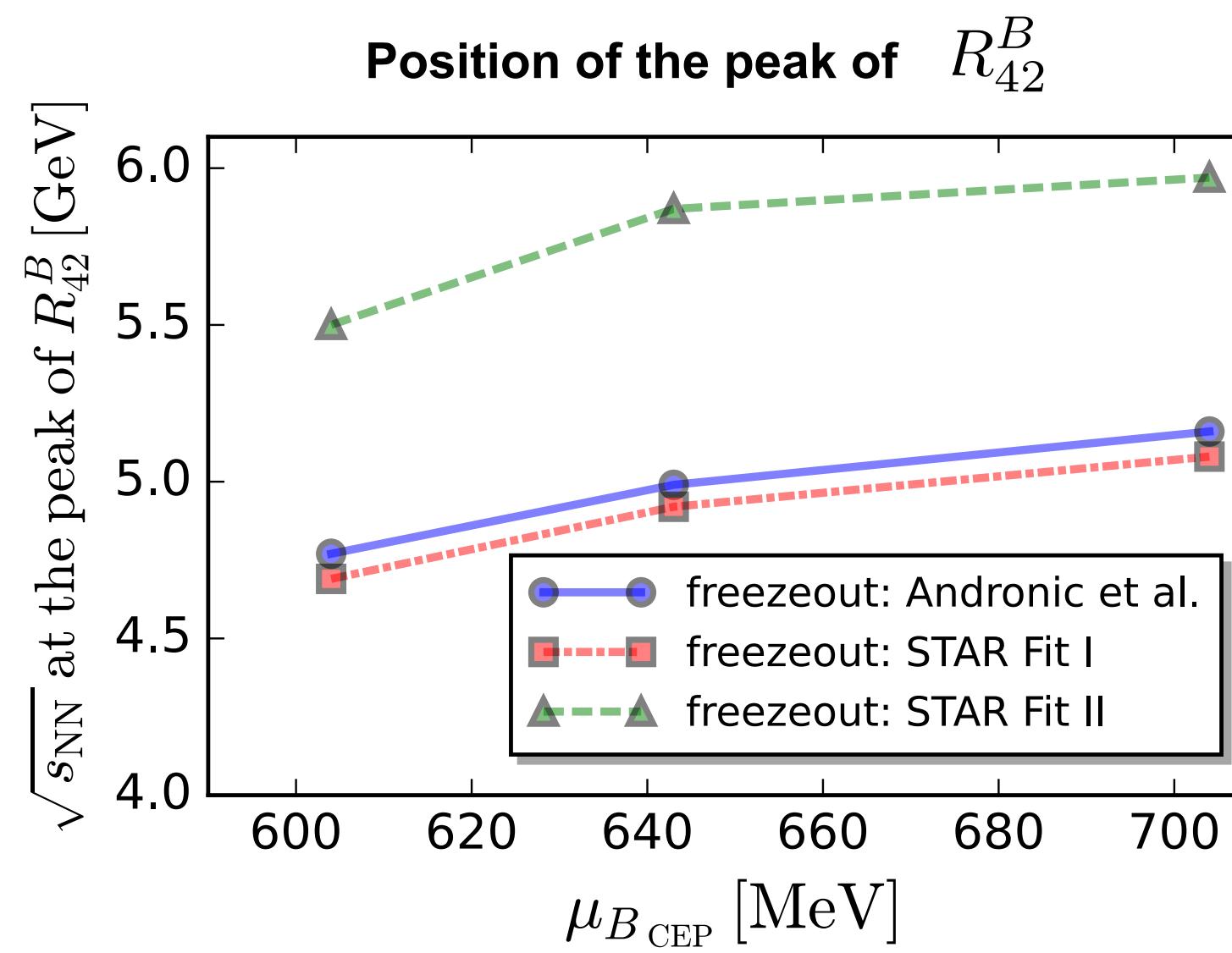
# Ripples of the critical point

## Reconstructing the CEP



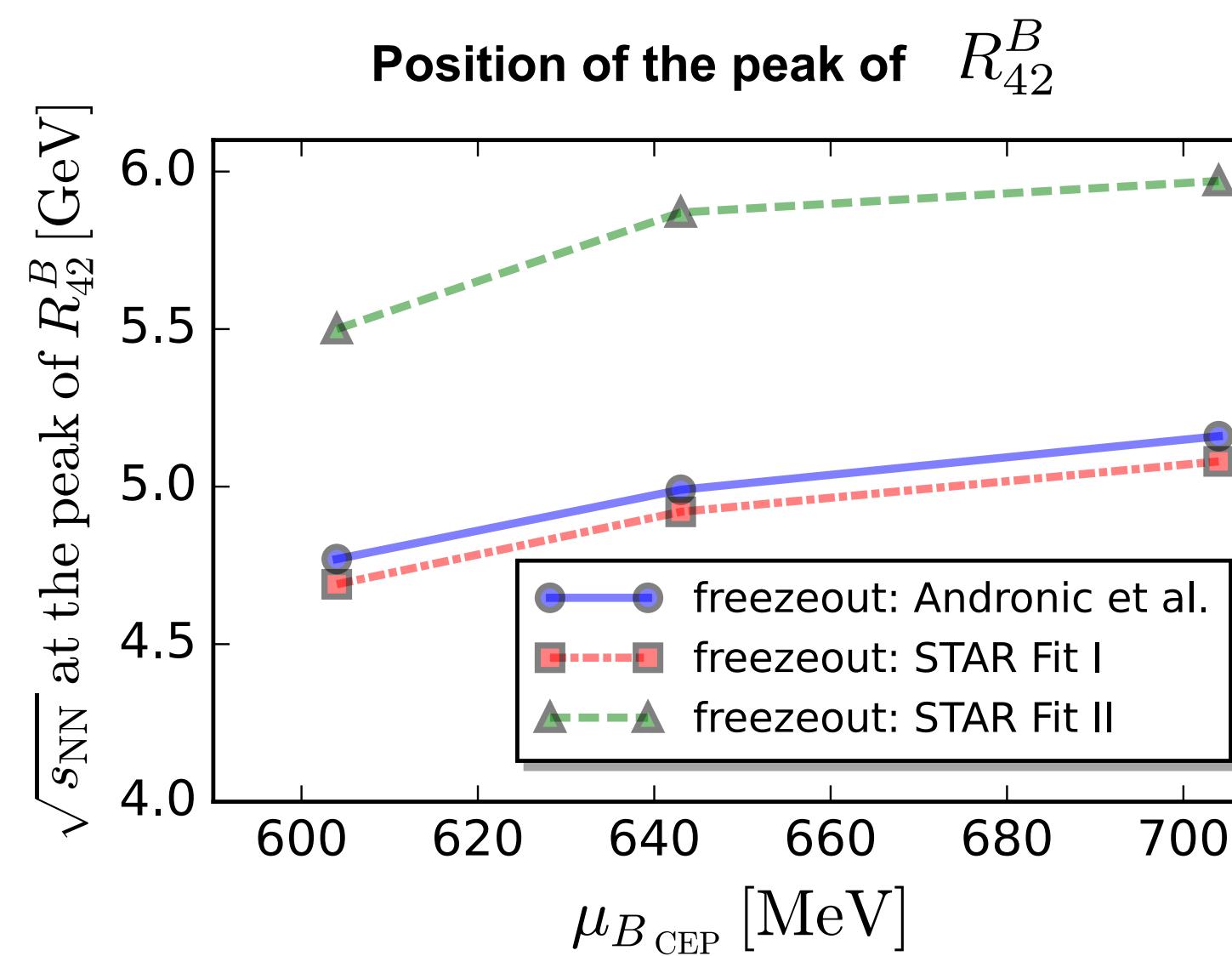
# Ripples of the critical point

Reconstructing the CEP

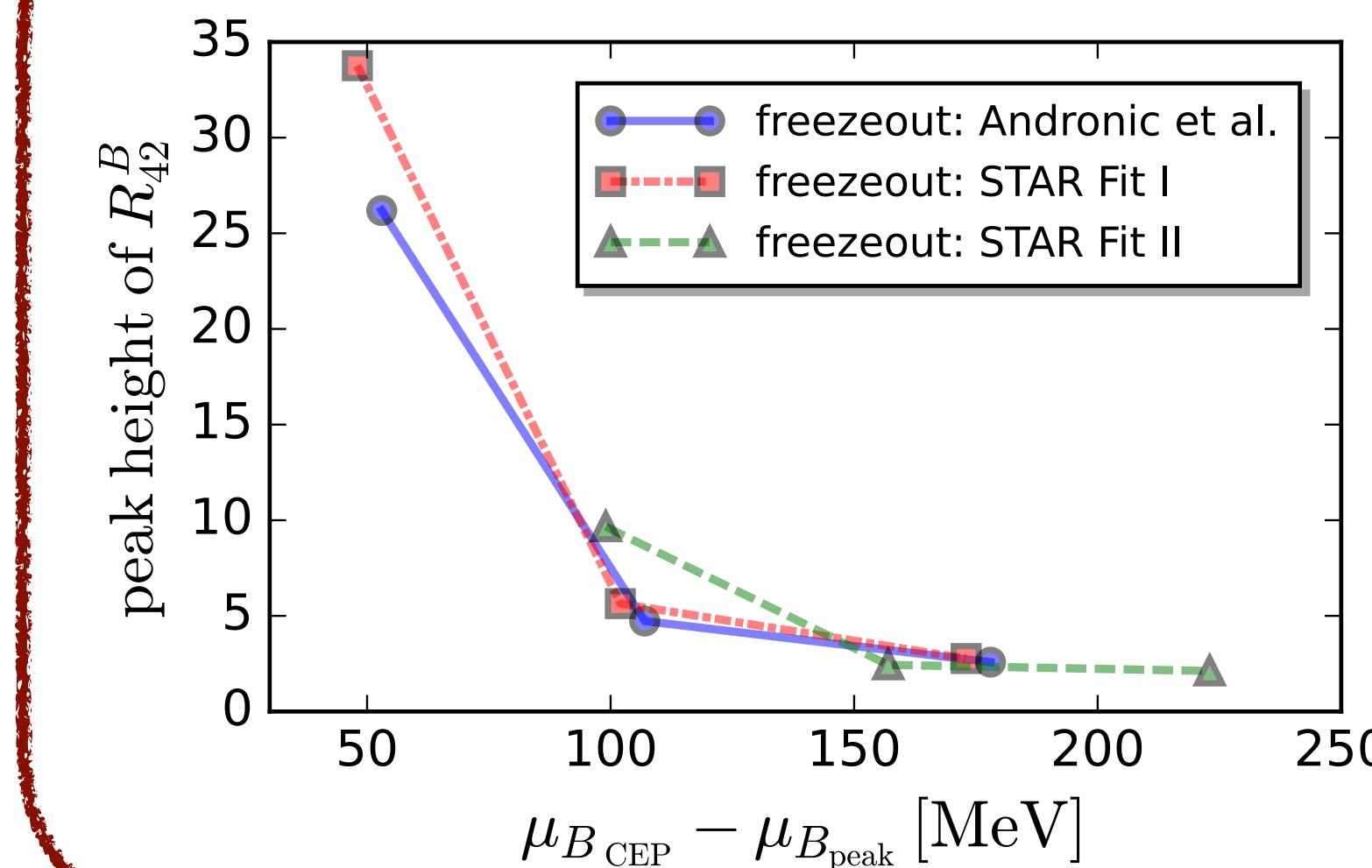


# Ripples of the critical point

Reconstructing the CEP



Height of the peak of  $R_{42}^B$



Unfolding the high density regime with new phases & physics

Great opportunity for a combined high precision analysis of high density QCD (Exp. data + lattice QCD + functional QCD)

# **Summary**

# (I) Functional Renormalisation Group for QCD

---

- The renormalisation group is a one-loop exact functional approach
  - consistent RG-scaling
  - systematic expansion schemes & error control
  - compatibility with other functional approaches
- Resonances via dynamical hadronisation
  - hadrons as exchange fields of quarks scattering vertices
  - BSE wave function  quark-hadron vertex
  - Stable dynamical emergence of low energy effective theories
- Quark-gluon-meson correlation functions
  - Self-consistent results: all correlation functions computed are fed back
  - Dynamical chiral symmetry breaking & confinement
  - Quantitative agreement with lattice results



## (II) Functional QCD and the QCD phase structure

---

- **QCD at finite temperature and density**
  - all available benchmarks in the vacuum passed
  - confinement-deconfinement phase transition
  - compatibility with other functional approaches
- **Locating the QCD phase structure and the critical end point**
  - Quantitative predictions for  $\mu_B/T \lesssim 4$ , estimates for  $\mu_B/T \lesssim 800\text{MeV}$
  - Estimate for the location of the CEP:  $(\mu_B, T)_{\text{CEP}} \sim (600 - 650, 105 - 115) \text{ MeV}$
  - Diquark domination for  $\mu_B/T \gtrsim 8$
- **Fluctuations of conserved charges: Ripples of the critical end point**
  - QCD-assisted low energy effective theory with the phase structure of QCD
  - Quantitative agreement of the fluctuations of conserved charges with lattice results
  - Qualitative accounting for canonical effects with the sub-ensemble method
  - Remarkable compatibility with the new STAR data (baryon vs proton fluctuations, finite volume effects, ...)

