

# Hot QCD and QCD-like theories on the lattice

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*"The Second Conference on Heavy Ion Collisions in the LHC Era and Beyond"*

Quy Nhơn, Việt Nam, 26-31 July 2015



# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Generalities about lattice gauge theory
- 3 Results from lattice QCD at finite temperature
- 4 Results from QCD-like theories at finite temperature



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## Why do we need to study QCD and QCD-like theories on the lattice?

- We need *ab initio* theoretical predictions for QCD under the conditions probed in heavy-ion collisions
- Weak-coupling expansions in thermal QCD become accurate only at high temperatures, ...
- ... cannot capture the physics of long-wavelength modes [A. Linde, 1980] ...
- ... nor the dynamics in the hadronic phase
- The lattice regularization [K. G. Wilson, 1974] provides *the* only known mathematically well-defined, non-perturbative formulation of QCD
- Thanks to steady theoretical, algorithmic and computer-power progress, lattice QCD computations are now producing accurate predictions
- Furthermore, the lattice investigation of QCD-like theories (possibly combined with different theoretical approaches: weak- or strong-coupling calculations, effective theories, phenomenological models, ...) can provide **analytical** understanding of the physics, too



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## Basic ideas

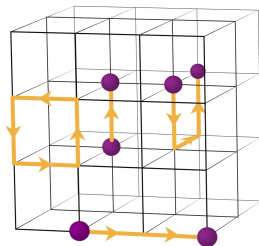
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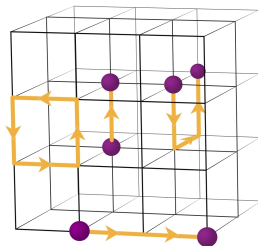
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$U_\mu(x) = \exp[i g a A_\mu(x)]$   
GAUGE FIELDS ON LINKS



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## Basic ideas

Regularize the path integrals by discretizing the theory on a Euclidean lattice of spacing  $a$  [K. G. Wilson, 1974]

Define gauge and matter fields on lattice elements, build a gauge-invariant lattice action and observables

$$S = -\frac{1}{g^2} \sum_{\square} \text{Tr}(U_{\square} + U_{\square}^{\dagger}) + \sum_{x,y,f} a^4 \bar{\psi}_f(x) M_{x,y}^f \psi_f(y)$$

$$M_{x,y}^f = m\delta_{x,y} - \frac{1}{2a} \sum_{\mu} \left[ (r - \gamma_{\mu}) U_{\mu}(x) \delta_{x+a\hat{\mu},y} + (r + \gamma_{\mu}) U_{\mu}^{\dagger}(y) \delta_{x-a\hat{\mu},y} \right]$$



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$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{\int \prod d\psi(x) d\bar{\psi}(x) \prod dU_\mu(x) \mathcal{O} \exp(-S)}{\int \prod d\psi(x) d\bar{\psi}(x) \prod dU_\mu(x) \exp(-S)}$$



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- Importance sampling made possible by *real positive* statistical weight
- Natural interpretation as a *thermal* QFT at equilibrium



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## Debunking some common misconceptions

- "Lattice QCD is only *an approximation* of QCD"
- "The results depend on the *details* of your discretization"
- "You can never recover the correct rotational and translational *symmetries* of the original continuum theory"
- "You always have undesired additional quark species (*doublers*)"
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# Debunking some common misconceptions

- “Lattice QCD is only *an approximation* of QCD”— **False**
  - In the physical, large-volume and continuum limits, it is *the* mathematically rigorous non-perturbative definition of QCD
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  - The *intermediate* results do depend on the discretization details, those extrapolated to the *continuum limit* do not
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  - They are easily removed e.g. by adding a Wilson term (or in more sophisticated ways)
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- “It only works / it is only defined at *strong* coupling”— *False*
  - It is defined at any value of the coupling; the continuum limit  $a \rightarrow 0$  is taken at *weak* coupling
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- “It is numerically untractable: you can never be able to deal with those large Dirac operators / you are bound to neglect quark dynamics (*quenched approximation*)”— *False*
  - Moore’s law and algorithmic progress came to the rescue: for standard lattice QCD computations, quenched calculations are now *obsolete*



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# Equilibrium properties

- Chiral symmetry restoration and deconfinement
- Equation of state in QCD (see also talk by C. Ratti on Friday at 11:00)



## Equilibrium properties

- Chiral symmetry restoration and deconfinement
  - ① Chiral symmetry restoration (at  $\mu = 0$ ) is a *crossover* taking place at  $T_c \simeq 155$  MeV [S. Borsányi et al., 2010] [A. Bazavov et al., 2011]
  - ② Disconnected chiral susceptibilities of the form
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show that  $SU_A(n_f)$  is restored,  $U_A(1)$  remains broken [M. I. Buchoff et al., 2013] [T. Bhattacharya et al., 2014]
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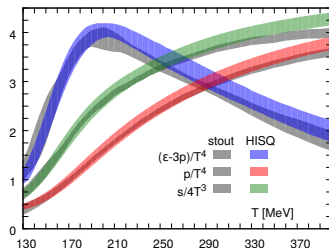
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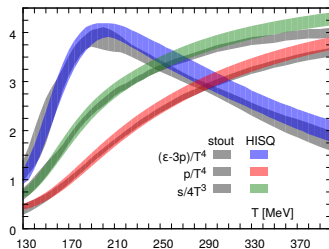
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- 1 Confined phase: Consistency with hadron-resonance-gas model
- 2 Abrupt increase in thermodynamic potentials signals the “liberation” of colored degrees of freedom around  $T \simeq 160$  MeV
- 3 Just above deconfinement: Significant deviations from conformality, interactions not quite “small”
- 4 Deconfined phase: Slow approach to hard-thermal-loop resummed perturbation theory predictions



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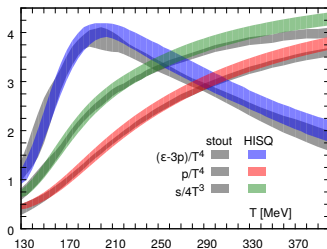
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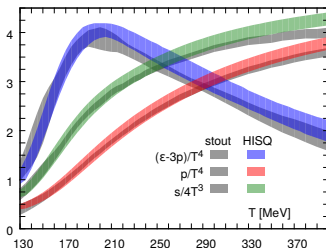
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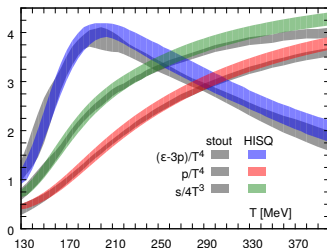
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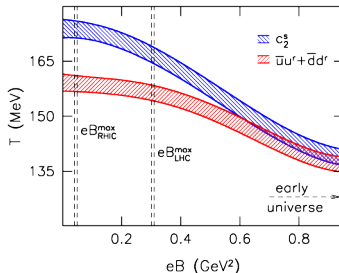
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- Equation of state in QCD (see also talk by C. Ratti on Friday at 11:00)
- Strong (electro)magnetic fields induce a slight decrease in  $T_c$
- Freeze-out conditions from fluctuations of conserved charges (baryon number  $B$ , electric charge  $Q$ , strangeness  $S$ ) [F. Karsch, 2012]

$$T_{\text{fr}} = 144(10) \text{ MeV}, \mu_{\text{fr}}^B = 102(6) \text{ MeV at RHIC (STAR, } \sqrt{s} = 39 \text{ GeV)}$$

[S. Borsányi et al., 2011] [A. Bazavov et al., 2012] [S. Borsányi et al., 2014]



## Quarkonium melting

The sequential disappearance of more and more strongly bound quarkonium states was proposed long ago as a possible QGP “thermometer” [T. Matsui and H. Satz, 1986]



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General strategy of the lattice computation:

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$$G_E(\tau) \simeq \int_{-2M}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \exp(-\omega\tau) \rho(\omega)$$

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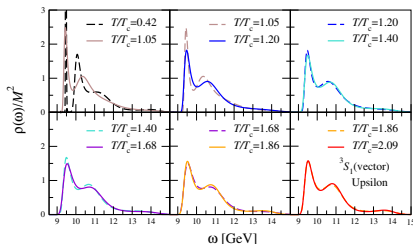
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Bottomonium excitation melting [G. Aarts et al., 2011]



# Transport coefficients

Describe QGP response to long-wavelength / low-frequency perturbations in energy and momentum density and other conserved charges [H. B. Meyer, 2011]



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Example: Shear ( $\eta$ ) and bulk ( $\zeta$ ) viscosities

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\epsilon + p)u^\mu u^\nu + pg^{\mu\nu} - \mathbb{P}^{\mu i} \mathbb{P}^{\nu j} \left[ \eta \left( \partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i - \frac{2}{3} g_{ij} \partial_k u^k \right) + \zeta g_{ij} \partial_k u^k \right]$$



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Difficult to access on a Euclidean lattice  $\Rightarrow$  Indirectly reconstructed from Kubo formulæ



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Example: Shear viscosity

$$\eta = \pi \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \lim_{\mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0} \frac{\rho(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega}$$

with  $\rho$  the spectral function, related to a suitable (e.g.  $T^{\mu\nu}$ ) Euclidean correlator via

$$G_E(t, \mathbf{k}) = \int_0^\infty d\omega \rho(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \frac{\cosh \left[ \omega \left( t - \frac{1}{2T} \right) \right]}{\sinh \left( \frac{\omega}{2T} \right)}$$

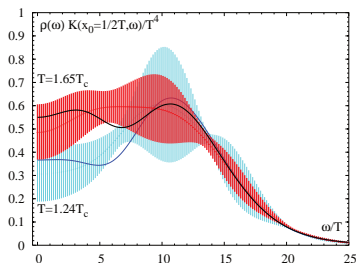


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Typically, numerically very challenging



[H. B. Meyer, 2007]

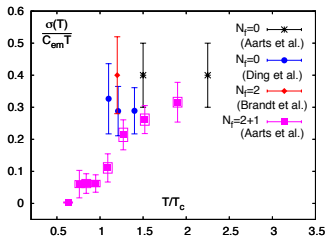


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Another example: Electric conductivity



[H.-T. Ding, F. Karsch and S. Mukherjee, 2015], with results from  
 [G. Aarts et al., 2007] [H.-T. Ding et al., 2010] [B. B. Brandt et al., 2012] [G. Aarts et al., 2014]



# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Generalities about lattice gauge theory
- 3 Results from lattice QCD at finite temperature
- 4 Results from QCD-like theories at finite temperature



# Equation of state for different gauge groups

Insight from the comparison of different  $SU(N)$  gauge groups



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## Why QCD at large $N$ ?

The large- $N$  limit of QCD (at fixed  $\lambda = g^2 N$ ) has interesting phenomenological implications [G. 't Hooft, 1974]

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Important applications at finite temperature [J. Casalderrey-Solana et al., 2014] (see also talk by W. van der Schee on Thursday at 11:30)

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$$\lambda = \frac{R^4}{l_s^4} \qquad \frac{\lambda}{N} = 4\pi g_s$$

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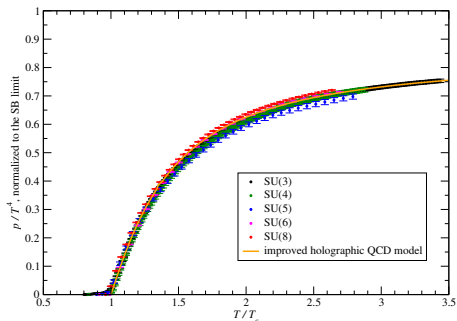
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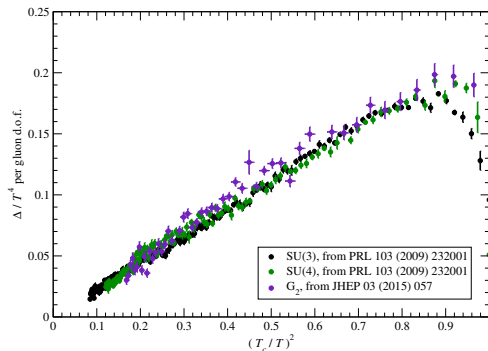
[M. P., 2009], with a comparison with the holographic model from [U. Gürsoy et al., 2008]

See also [B. Lucini, M. Teper and U. Wenger, 2003] [B. Bringoltz and M. Teper, 2005]  
[S. Datta and S. Gupta, 2010] [A. Mykkänen, K. Rummukainen and M. P., 2012]



## Equation of state for different gauge groups

Comparison of different gauge groups:  $SU(N)$  versus  $G_2$  [M. Bruno et al., 2014]



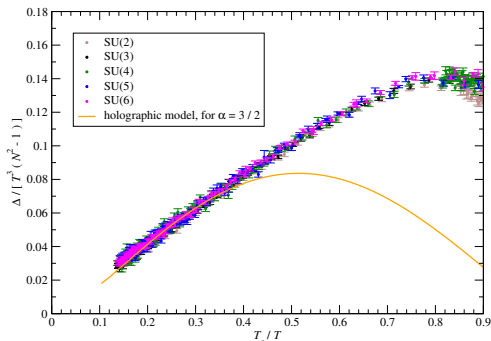
See also [M. Pepe and U.-J. Wiese, 2006] [G. Cossu et al., 2007] [C. Bonati, 2015]



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$T^2$ -dependence in the trace of the energy-momentum tensor

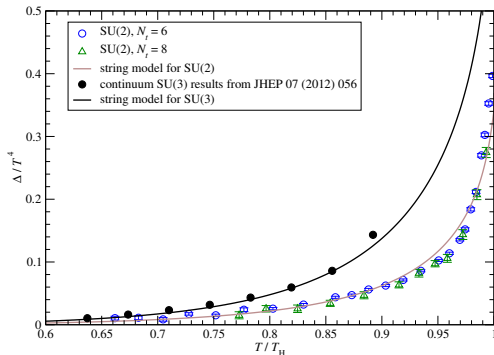


Analogous results in  $D = 2 + 1$  spacetime dimensions [M. Caselle et al., 2011]



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Hadron resonance gas and a string model for glueballs [M. Caselle et al., 2015]

See also [H. B. Meyer, 2009] [M. Caselle et al., 2011] [S. Borsányi et al., 2012] and talk by H. Stöcker on Monday at 11:00



## Transport and real-time phenomena from effective field theories

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- Using heavy-quark effective theory, the heavy quark momentum diffusion coefficient  $\kappa$  can be extracted from the spectral function  $\rho_E(\omega)$  associated with the correlator of “chromoelectric field insertions” onto a Polyakov loop  
[S. Caron-Huot, M. Laine and G. D. Moore, 2009]

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Results indicate  $\kappa/T^3 \simeq 2.5$  for  $T_c \lesssim T \lesssim 2T_c$  [D. Banerjee et al., 2011]

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$$\hat{q} = \frac{\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle}{L} = \int \frac{d^2 p_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} p_{\perp}^2 C(p_{\perp})$$



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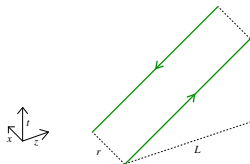
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$C(p_{\perp})$ , the differential parton-plasma constituents collision rate, is related to two-point correlator of *light-cone Wilson lines*

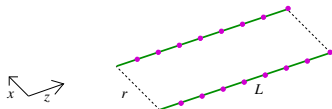


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## The numerical sign problem in QCD at large density

At finite quark chemical potential  $\mu$ , the determinant of the Dirac operator in lattice QCD is generally *complex*



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**Thanks for your attention!**

