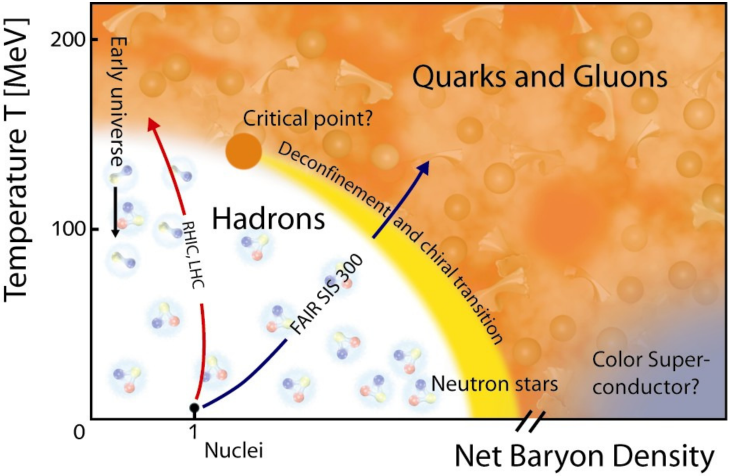
The evolution of the net-proton kurtosis in the QCD critical region

Christoph Herold
with Marlene Nahrgang, Ayut Limphirat, Yupeng Yan, Chinorat Kobdaj

School of Physics, Suranaree University of Technology

SQM, June 28, 2016, Berkeley

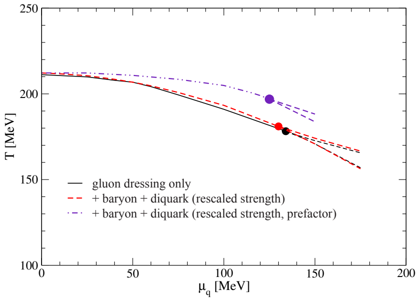
The QCD phase diagram

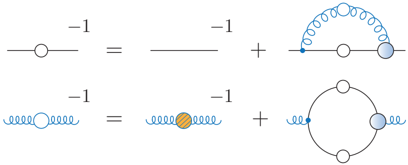


Finding the critical point - I

1. From the QCD Lagrangian

- Solve partition function $\mathcal{Z}$ on a lattice (sign problem for finite μ)
- Solve Dyson-Schwinger equations



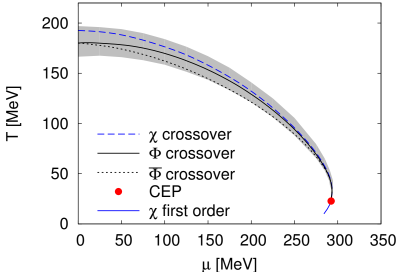


(Eichmann, Fischer, Welzbacher, Phys. Rev. D **93** (2016))

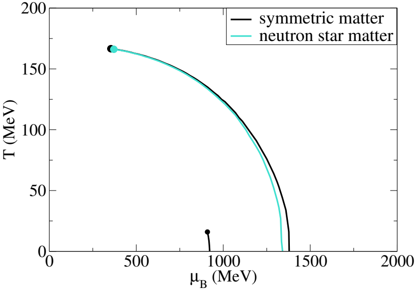
Finding the critical point - II

2. From effective models

- Respect chiral symmetry (Sigma model, NJL model, ...)
- Existence/location of CP not universal!



(Herbst, Pawlowski, Schaefer, Phys. Lett. B **696** (2011) 58-67)



(Dexheimer, Schramm, Phys. Rev. C **81** (2010) 045201)

Finding the critical point - III

3. From experiment

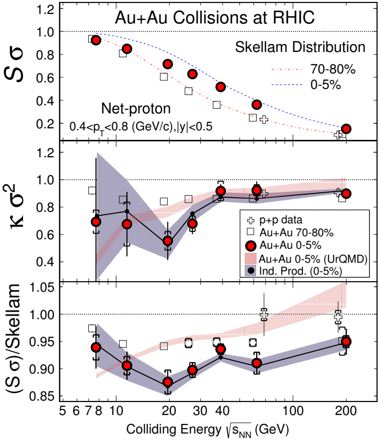
- Fluctuations sensitive to critical region

$$\sigma^2 = \langle \delta N^2 \rangle \sim \xi^2$$

$$S\sigma = \frac{\langle \delta N^3 \rangle}{\langle \delta N^2 \rangle} \sim \xi^{2.5}$$

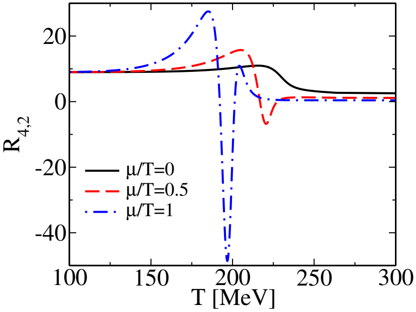
$$\kappa\sigma^2 = \frac{\langle \delta N^4 \rangle}{\langle \delta N^2 \rangle} - 3\langle \delta N^2 \rangle \sim \xi^5$$

(Stephanov, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102** (2009))



(STAR collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. **112** (2014))

From Susceptibilities to cumulants I - Baryon number



(Skokov, Friman, Redlich, Phys. Rev. C. **83** (2011))

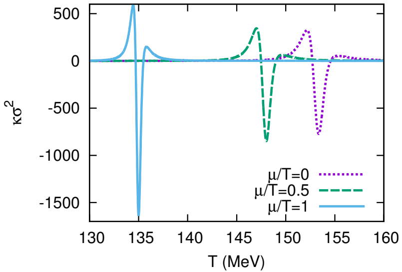
- Generalized quark number susceptibilities:

$$c_2 = \frac{\partial^2 (p/T^4)}{\partial(\mu/T)^2} = \frac{1}{VT^3}\langle \delta N^2 \rangle$$

$$c_4 = \frac{\partial^4 (p/T^4)}{\partial(\mu/T)^4} = \frac{1}{VT^3}\left[\langle \delta N^4 \rangle - 3\langle \delta N^2 \rangle^2\right]$$

$$\kappa\sigma^2 = c_4/c_2 = \frac{\langle \delta N^4 \rangle}{\langle \delta N^2 \rangle} - 3\langle \delta N^2 \rangle$$

From Susceptibilities to cumulants II - Sigma field



- Generalized sigma susceptibilities ($\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma/T$):

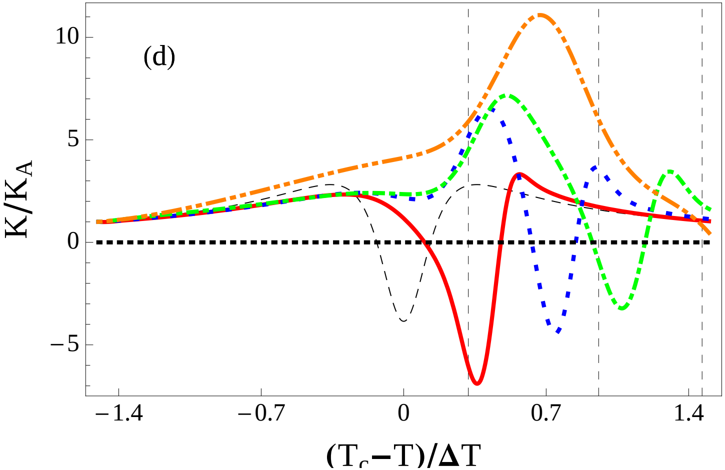
$$c_2 = \left(\frac{\delta^2\Gamma}{\delta\tilde{\sigma}^2}\right)^{-1}$$

$$c_4 = -\frac{\delta^4\Gamma}{\delta\tilde{\sigma}^4}\left(\frac{\delta^2\Gamma}{\delta\tilde{\sigma}^2}\right)^{-1} + 3\left(\frac{\delta^3\Gamma}{\delta\tilde{\sigma}^3}\right)^2\left(\frac{\delta^4\Gamma}{\delta\tilde{\sigma}^4}\right)^{-5}$$

(CH, Nahrgang, *in preparation*)

$$\kappa\sigma^2 = c_4/c_2 = \frac{\langle\delta\tilde{\sigma}^4\rangle}{\langle\delta\tilde{\sigma}^2\rangle} - 3\langle\delta\tilde{\sigma}^2\rangle$$

The kurtosis in heavy-ion collisions II



(Mukherjee, Venugopalan, Yin, Phys. Rev. C **92**, (2015))

The NχFD model - I

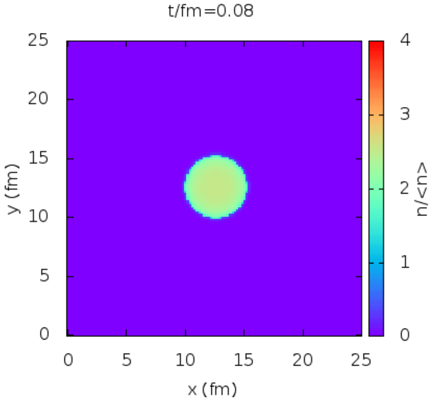
Ingredients for **NχFD** model

- Fluctuations (chiral fields)
- Fluid (quarks)

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \sigma + \eta \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial t} + \frac{\delta \Omega}{\delta \sigma} = \xi$$

$$\partial_\mu T_{\mathrm{q}}^{\mu\nu} = S_\sigma^\nu$$

(Nahrgang, Leupold, CH, Bleicher, Phys. Rev. C 84 (2011))



- Potential Ω and equation of state from effective QCD models
- Successfully describes: critical fluctuations, spinodal decomposition

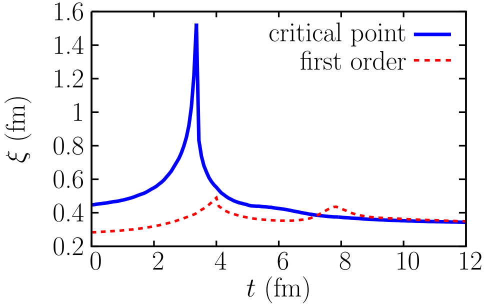
The NχFD model - I

Ingredients for **NχFD** model

- Fluctuations (chiral fields)
- Fluid (quarks)

$$\frac{\partial^2\sigma}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2\sigma + \eta\frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial t} + \frac{\delta\Omega}{\delta\sigma} = \xi$$
$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu}_{\mathrm{q}} = S^\nu_\sigma$$

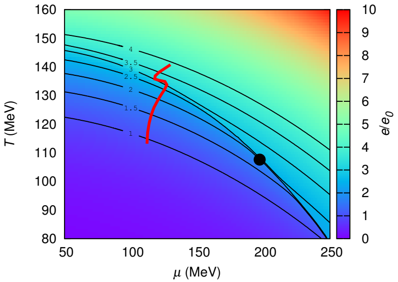
(CH, Nahrgang, Mishustin, Bleicher, Phys. Rev. C 87 (2013))



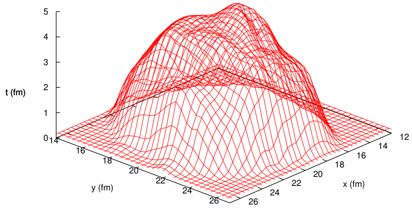
Scope of this study

- Study net-proton kurtosis on crossover side
- Disentangle initial state and critical fluctuations

The kurtosis on different freeze-out surfaces

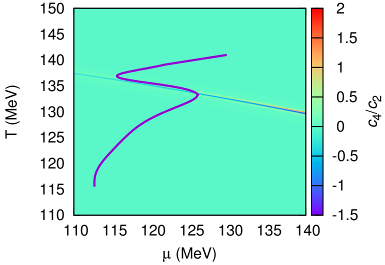


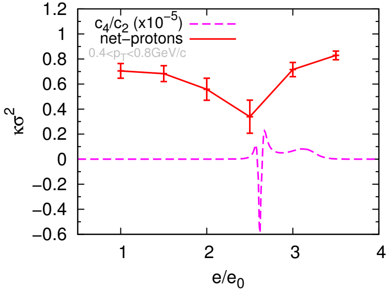
(CH, Nahrgang, Yan, Kobdaj, PRC 93 (2016))



- Study crossover evolution left of CP
- Determine net-proton kurtosis on energy hypersurfaces
- Smooth hypersurfaces at crossover

The kurtosis - net-proton vs. susceptibilities





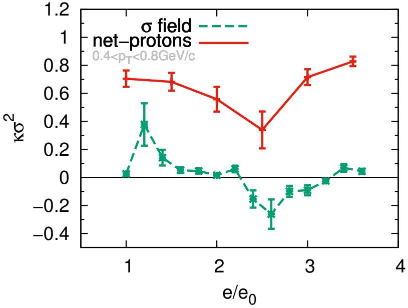
(CH, Nahrgang, Yan, Kobdaj, PRC 93 (2016))

- Comparison of net-proton kurtosis to equilibrium fluctuations
- Characteristic dip imprints signal on net-proton kurtosis

The kurtosis - net-proton vs. sigma

- Net-proton kurtosis follows kurtosis of sigma field

(CH, Nahrgang, Yan, Kobdaj, PRC 93 (2016))



- Net-proton number

$$\kappa\sigma^2 = \frac{\langle \delta N^4 \rangle}{\langle \delta N^2 \rangle} - 3\langle \delta N^2 \rangle$$

- Sigma field

$$\kappa\sigma^2 = \frac{\langle \delta \sigma^4 \rangle}{\langle \delta \sigma^2 \rangle} - 3\langle \delta \sigma^2 \rangle$$

The kurtosis - net-proton dynamical vs. mean-field

- Net-proton kurtosis follows kurtosis of sigma field
- In contrast: Mean-field kurtosis remains flat
- In mean-field (hydro/eos): critical fluctuations do not build up

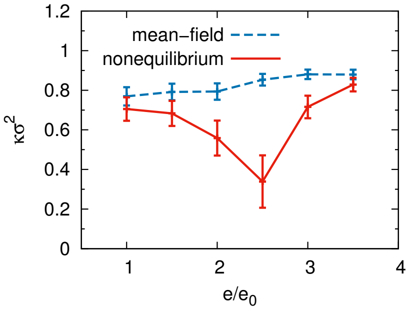
(CH, Nahrgang, Yan, Kobdaj, PRC **93** (2016))

- Mean-field

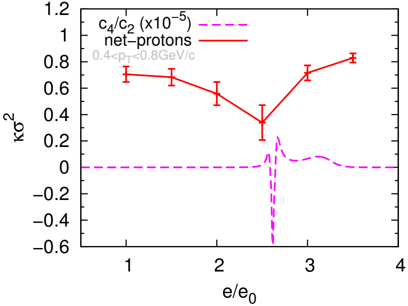
$$\left.\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \sigma}\right|_{\sigma=\langle\sigma\rangle} = 0$$

- Nonequilibrium

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \sigma + \eta \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial t} + \frac{\delta \Omega}{\delta \sigma} = \xi$$



Summary



- Modeling phase transitions in HICs with **NχFD**
- Criticality visible in nonmonotonic net-proton kurtosis
- Hydro plus eos not sufficient

Outlook

- Compare net-proton with net-baryon, acceptance range
- Study beam energy dependence of kurtosis
- Include baryonic degrees of freedom