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# QUARK MATTER WITH CHIRAL CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

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### Outline

- Chiral Chemical Potential: motivations
- The Model
- Phase Diagram with a Chiral Chemical Potential
  - .) Chiral Symmetry Restoration
  - .) Deconfinement
  - .) Critical Endpoint
- Conclusions and Outlook



Why am I interested to QCD with a chiral chemical potential?

Chiral density (*chirality*):

$$N_5 = N_R - N_L$$

Imbalance between left- and right-handed quarks

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Integrated Ward Identity: connecting chirality to winding number

$$\Delta N_5 = 2Q_W$$

$$Q_W = \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x \ F^a_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}_a = \Delta N_{CS}$$

Change of chirality due to interaction with nonperturbative gluon configurations with a nonvanishing Winding Number

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Change of chirality due to interaction  $Q_W = \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x \; F^a_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}_a = \Delta N_{CS}$  with nonperturbative gluon configurations with a nonvanishing Winding Number

Moore and Tassler, **JHEP 1102 (2011) 105** 

At high temperature, we expect copious production of *gluon* configurations with nonvanishing winding number (strong –i.e. QCD- sphaleron)



Chirality can be produced in the high temperature phase of QCD

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Change of chirality due to interaction with nonperturbative gluon configurations with a nonvanishing Winding Number

Chirality can be produced in the high temperature phase of QCD

Simplest way to treat quark matter with chirality in effective models:

$$\mu_5 \Leftrightarrow N_5$$

Chiral chemical potential, conjugated to chiral density

$$+ \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

Chiral density operator added to the Lagrangian density

Chiral density (*chirality*):

$$N_5 = N_R - N_L$$

Imbalance between left- and right-handed quarks

Integrated Ward Identity: connecting chirality to winding number

$$\Delta N_5 = 2Q_W$$

$$Q_W = \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x \ F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}_a^{\mu\nu} = \Delta N_{CS}$$

Change of chirality due to interaction with nonperturbative gluon configurations with a nonvanishing Winding Number

Chirality can be produced in the high temperature phase of QCD

$$\mu_5 \Leftrightarrow N_5 + \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q \qquad \qquad \mu \Leftrightarrow N + \mu \bar{q} \gamma^0 q$$

Chiral chemical potential

Baryon chemical potential

Chiral density (*chirality*):

$$N_5 = N_R - N_L$$

Imbalance between left- and right-handed quarks

Integrated Ward Identity: connecting chirality to winding number

$$\Delta N_5 = 2Q_W$$

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Change of chirality due to interaction with nonperturbative gluon configurations with a nonvanishing Winding Number

Chirality can be produced in the high temperature phase of QCD

$$\mu_5 \Leftrightarrow N_5$$
$$+ \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

$$n_5 = \frac{\mu_5^3}{3\pi^2} + \frac{\mu_5 T^2}{3}$$

Chiral chemical potential

K. Fukushima *et al*, **Phys.Rev. D78 (2008) 074033** 

### Remarks

#### Remark 1

We are aware that  $\mu$ 5 is not a true chemical potential: chiral condensate mixes L and R components, thus making N5 a non-conserved quantity.

Treat µ5 as a mere mathematical artifact

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#### Remark 2

Not affected by the sign problem, see for a nice explanation: K. Fukushima *et al*, **Phys.Rev. D78 (2008) 074033** 

Grand Canonical Ensembles with a chiral chemical potential can be simulated on the Lattice with Nc=3, see for example: A. Yamamoto, arXiv:1105.0385 [hep-lat]

Another Motivation

#### Remarks

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#### Remark 3

Relevant for the HICs phenomenology (Chiral Magnetic Effect):

- D. Kharzeev et al., **Nucl.Phys. A803 (2008) 227**
- K. Fukushima *et al*, **Phys.Rev. D78 (2008) 074033**
- M. R. et al., **Phys.Rev. D81 (2010) 114031**

### Some References

#### References

- In **QGP context**, to mimic *chirality change* induced by *instantons* and *strong sphalerons* in Quark-Gluon-Plasma:
- K. Fukushima *et al*, **Phys.Rev. D78 (2008) 074033**
- K. Fukushima, R. Gatto and M. R., **Phys.Rev. D81 (2010) 114031**
- M. Chernodub and A. Nedelin, **Phys.Rev. D83 (2011) 105008**
- M. R., arXiv:1103.6186 [hep-ph]
- A. Yamamoto, arXiv:1105.0385 [hep-lat]
- C. A. Ballon Bayona et al., arXiv:1104.2291[hep-th

#### References

#### In several non-QGP contexts:

- L. D. McLerran *et al*, **Phys.Rev. D43 (1991) 2027**
- Nielsen and Ninomiya, Phys.Lett. B130 (1983) 389
- A. N. Sisakian *et al*, **hep-th/9806047**
- M. Joyce *et al.*, **Phys.Rev. D53 (1996) 2958**

# The Microscopic Model

Description of the model I use in my concrete calculations.

### The Model

Nambu and Jona-Lasinio, Phys. Rev. 122 (1961)
M. Frasca, arXiv:1105.5274 [hep-ph]

NJL Model with the Polyakov Loop

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

$$G = g \left[ 1 - \alpha_1 L L^{\dagger} - \alpha_2 (L^3 + (L^{\dagger})^3) \right]$$

Polyakov Loop: sensitive to confinement – deconfinement transition

In the model:

A<sub>4</sub> is background field

$$L = \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{Tr}_c \exp\left(i\beta \lambda_a A_4^a\right)$$

K. Fukushima, **Phys.Lett. B591 (2004) 277-284** 

W. Weise et al., Phys.Rev. D73 (2006) 014019

M. Yahiro *et al.*, **Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 076003** 

### The Model

NJL Model with the Polyakov Loop

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

Coupling to quarks via:

- .) Coupling constant
- .) Covariant derivative

$$G = g \left[ 1 - \alpha_1 L L^{\dagger} - \alpha_2 (L^3 + (L^{\dagger})^3) \right]$$

Polyakov Loop:

sensitive to confinement – deconfinement transition

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W. Weise *et al.*, **Phys.Rev. D73 (2006) 014019** 

M. Yahiro *et al.*, **Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 076003** 

Coupling dependent on L inspired by:

K. Kondo, Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 065024

### The 1-loop TP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

### The 1-loop TP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} (i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m) q + G \left[ (\bar{q}q)^{2} + (i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \tau q)^{2} \right] + \mu_{5} \bar{q} \gamma^{0} \gamma^{5} q$$

Add a chiral chemical potential

### The 1-loop TP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^2 + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_5 \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^2 \right] + \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

#### One-loop Thermodynamic Potential

$$V = \mathcal{U}(L, L^{\dagger}, T) + \frac{\sigma^2}{G} - N_c N_f \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_s$$
$$-\frac{N_c N_f}{\beta} \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \log (F_+ F_-)$$

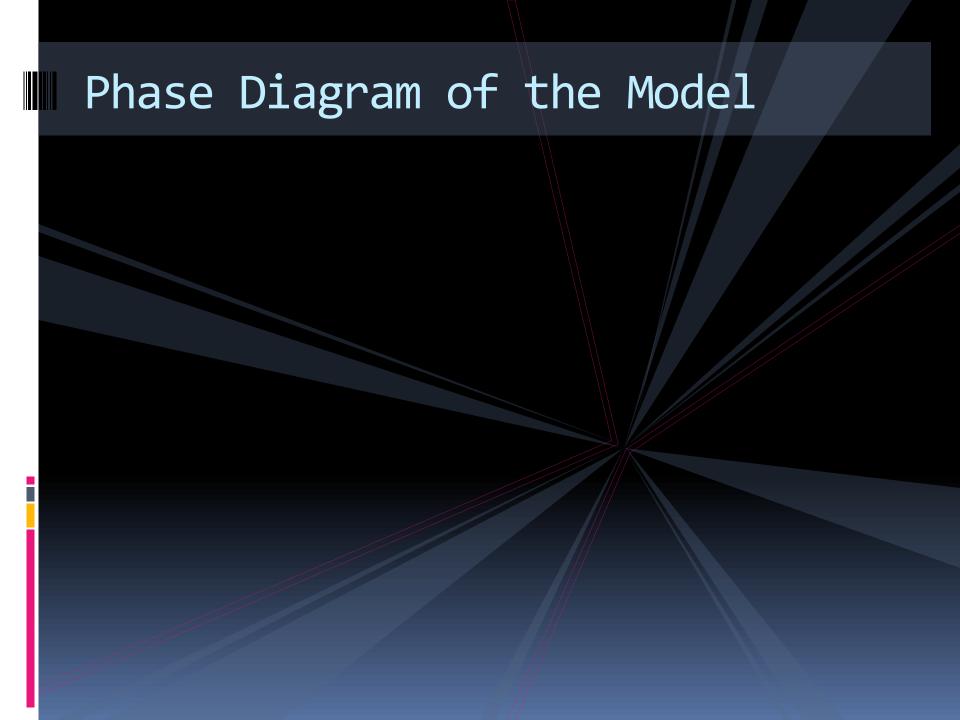
Minimization of V leads to physical values of .) σ (chiral condensate) .) L

$$F_{-} = 1 + 3Le^{-\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-2\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_s - \mu)}$$

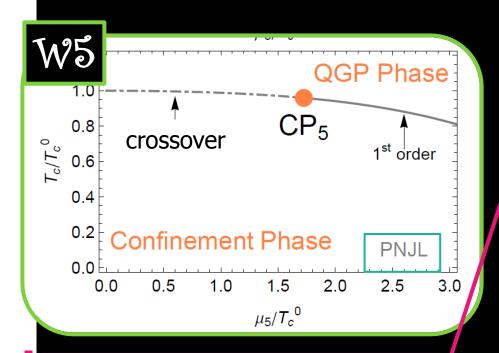
$$F_{+} = 1 + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + 3Le^{-2\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)}$$
 phase

1- and 2-quark states suppression in the confinement phase

Statistically confining distribution functions



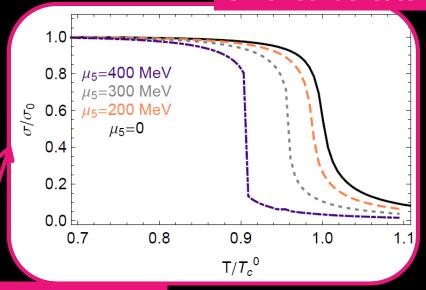
### Phase Diagram: Results



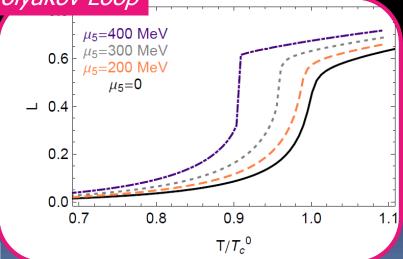
Deconfinement and  $\chi$ S Restoration are <u>entangled</u> for any value of  $\mu$ 5

This is different from what is found at real chemical potential, see:
M. Yahiro *et al.*, **arXiv:1104.2394 [hep-ph]** 

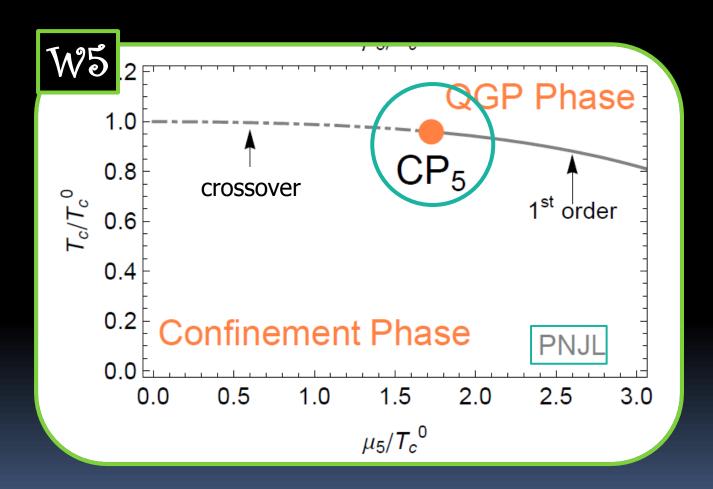
#### Chiral Condensate

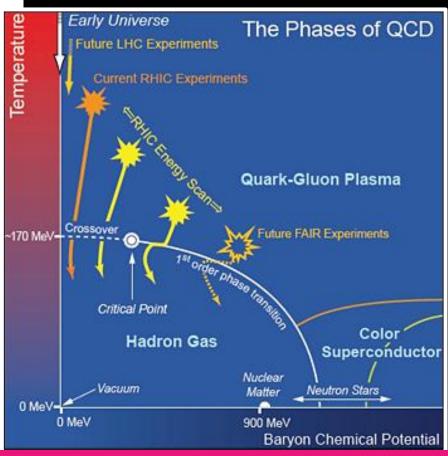


#### Polyakov Loop

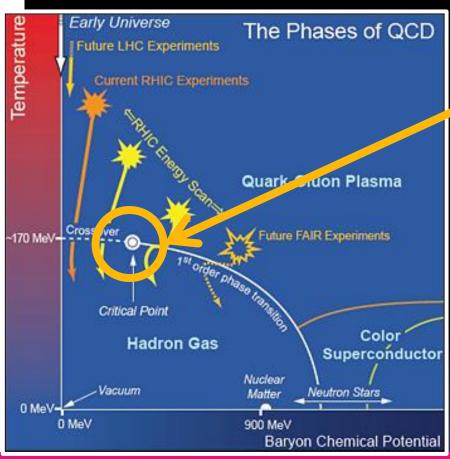


# Phase Diagram: Results





Sophie Bushwick, http://www.bnl.gov/today/story.asp?ITEM\_NO=1870



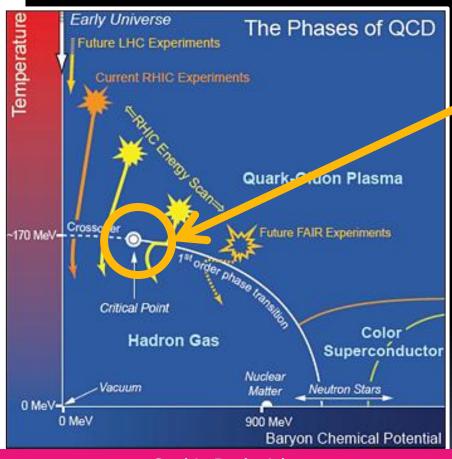
Sophie Bushwick, http://www.bnl.gov/today/story.asp?ITEM\_NO=1870

**Critical Endpoint (CP)** 

First order and crossover lines intersect at CP

Asakawa and Yazaki, **Nucl.Phys. A504 (1989) 668-684** 

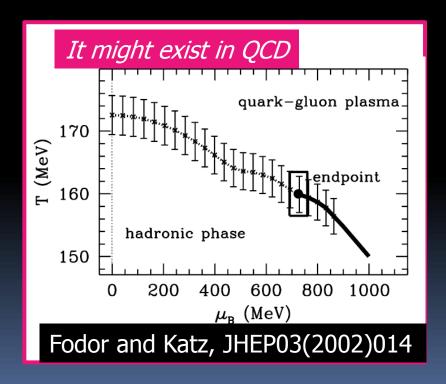
Based on NJL model



Sophie Bushwick, http://www.bnl.gov/today/story.asp?ITEM\_NO=1870

#### **Critical Endpoint (CP)**

First order and crossover lines intersect at CP



For a (critical) review see De Forcrand in PoS LAT2009 (2009) 010

#### Lattice

Fodor and Katz, **JHEP03(2002)014** 

C. R. Allton *et al.*, **Phys. Rev. D71 (2005) 054508** 

Gavai and Gupta, Phys. Rev. D78 (2008) 114503

De Forcrand and Philipsen, Nucl. Phys. B642 (2002) 290

- P. De Forcrand *et al.*, **arXiv:0911.5682**
- S. Eijiri, **Phys. Rev. D78 (2008) 074507**
- A. Ohnishi *et al.*, **Pos LAT2010 (2010) 202**

#### Models

K. Fukushima et al., Phys. Rev. D80 (2009) 054012

Bowman and Kapusta, Phys. Rev. C79 (2009) 015202

Zhang and Kunihiro, Phys. Rev. D80 (2009) 290

A. Ohnishi et al., arXiv:1102.3753

M. A. Stephanov, **PoS LAT2006 (2006) 024** 

Abuki *et al.*, **Phys. Rev. D81 (2010) 125010** 

Basler and Buballa, Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 094004

Hanada and Yamamoto, arXiv:1103.5480 [hep-ph]

Nowadays, it has been hard to detect CP by means of Lattice simulations with **Nc=3**, because of the sign problem.

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Idea for (theoretical) detection:

Continue CP to another critical point,
which can be detected on the Lattice

Besides progresses achieved with simulations at *finite isospin* or *imaginary* chemical potential:

De Forcrand and Philipsen, JHEP0811 (2008) 012
De Forcrand and Philipsen, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105 (2010) 152001
Kogut and Sinclair, Phys. Rev. D66 (2002) 034505

P. De Forcrand et al., **PoS LAT2007 (2007) 237** 

P. Cea et al., **Phys. Rev. D80 (2009) 034501** 

chiral chemical potential offers an interesting alternative of continuation of the critical point.

I implement the continuation idea within model (M.R., arXiv:1103.6186)

### Continuation of CP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

$$+ \mu \bar{q} \gamma^0 q$$

Baryon Chemical Potential conjugated to baryon density

$$+ \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

Chiral Chemical Potential conjugated to chiral density: N5=nR - nL

### Continuation of CP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

$$+ \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

 $+ \mu \bar{q} \gamma^0 q$ 

**Baryon Chemical Potential** conjugated to baryon density

Chiral Chemical Potential conjugated to chiral density: N5=nR - nL

I introduce two worlds:

#### **W5**:

World with  $\mu$ =0 and finite  $\mu$ 5

<u>W</u>:

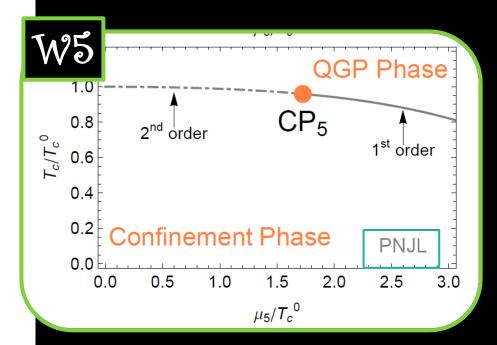
World with  $\mu$ 5=0 and finite  $\mu$ 

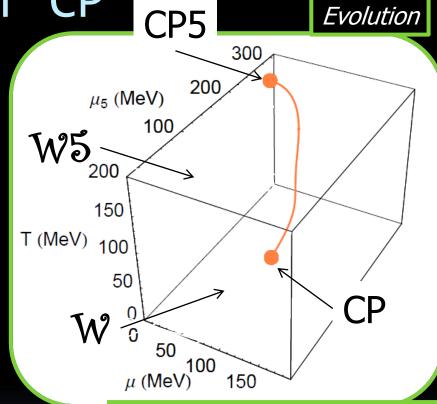
CP5

evolution

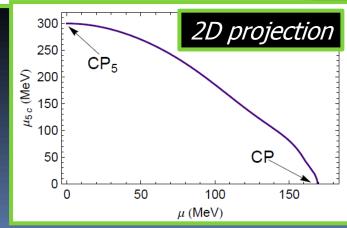
**CP** 

### Continuation of CP



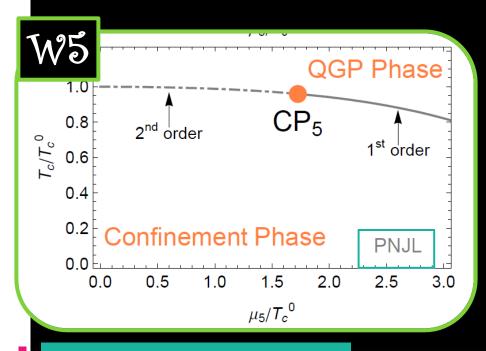


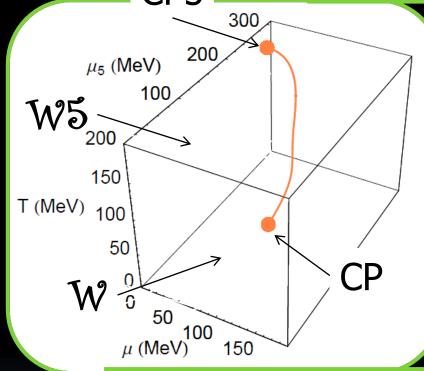
**CP5** is not an accident, but **CP** viewed by hot quark matter in W5. Its detection (?) can be interpreted as a theoretical signature of the real world **CP**.



Evolution

### Continuation of CP



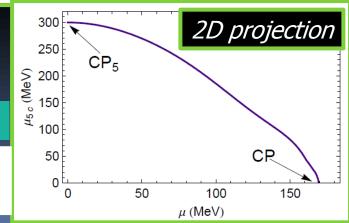


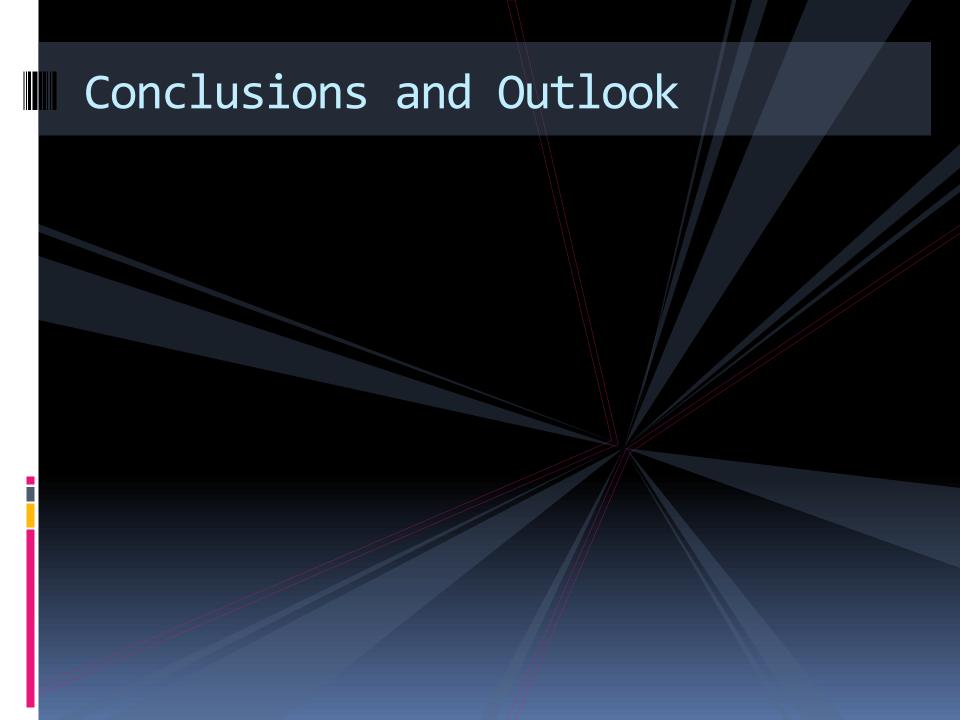
#### Use the model to estimate:

$$\frac{\mu_c}{\mu_{5c}} \approx 0.53 \; , \quad \frac{T_c}{T_{5c}} \approx 0.97$$

How do the above ratios change when Nc is larger?

For a comparision with the framework of: Hanada and Yamamoto, arXiv:1103.5480 [hep-ph]





### Conclusions

- Chiral chemical potential is introduced to mimic chirality-changing processes in hot QCD medium
- Phase Structure of Quark Matter (QM) with  $\mu$ 5 similar to that of QM of our Universe
- QM with  $\mu 5$  can be simulated on Lattice (no sign problem)
- Critical Endpoint (CP) of QCD is continued to a new Critical Endpoint, CP5
- Detection of CP5, if found on the Lattice, can be interpreted as a signature of CP

### Outlook

Interesting comparison with results from SS model, C. A. Ballon Bayona et al., arXiv:1104.2291[hep-th]

- Study of inhomogeneous phases around the critical endpoint at finite  $\mu$ 5
- Compute quantitative dependence of the critical endpoint on the quark masses
- Study the Nc dependence of the mapping coordinates
- Mapping the critical endpoint within the Ginzburg-Landau effective potential approach
- From 2 to 2+1 flavors

I acknowledge:

**K. Fukushima** and **R. Gatto** for collaboration on some of the topics discussed here. Moreover, I acknowledge:

H. Abuki, P. De Forcrand, M. D'Elia, M. Frasca, T. Hatsuda, A. Ohnishi, M. Tachibana, A. Yamamoto and N. Yamamoto for interesting discussions about the topics discussed in this talk.

Thanks for your attention.



Non pentirti di ciò che hai fatto, se quando l'hai fatto eri felice (Do not regret the things you did, if when you did them you were happy)



# The L-dependent coupling

NJL Model with the Polyakov Loop

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^{2} + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_{5} \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^{2} \right]$$

Interaction among background field and gluons leads to a tree-level coupling among G and L

$$G = g \left[ 1 - \alpha_1 L L^{\dagger} - \alpha_2 (L^3 + (L^{\dagger})^3) \right]$$

M. Yahiro *et al.*, **Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 076003** K. Kondo, **Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 065024** 

## The 1-loop TP

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} \left( i \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} - m \right) q + G \left[ \left( \bar{q} q \right)^2 + \left( i \bar{q} \gamma_5 \boldsymbol{\tau} q \right)^2 \right] + \mu_5 \bar{q} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 q$$

#### One-loop Thermodynamic Potential

$$V = \mathcal{U}(L, L^{\dagger}, T) + \frac{\sigma^2}{G} - N_c N_f \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_s$$
$$-\frac{N_c N_f}{\beta} \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \log (F_+ F_-)$$

Minimization of V leads to physical values of .) σ (chiral condensate) .) L

$$F_{-} = 1 + 3Le^{-\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-2\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_s - \mu)}$$

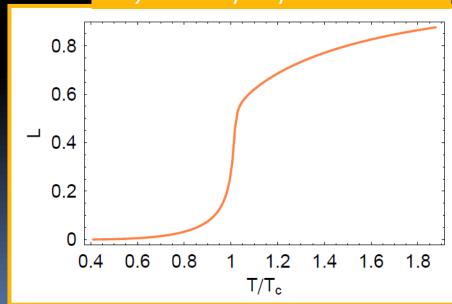
$$F_{+} = 1 + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + 3Le^{-2\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)}$$

$$F_{-} = 1 + 3Le^{-\beta(\omega_{s}-\mu)} + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-2\beta(\omega_{s}-\mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_{s}-\mu)}$$

$$F_{+} = 1 + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + 3Le^{-2\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_{s}+\mu)}$$

Statistically confining distribution functions

### Polyakov loop expectation value

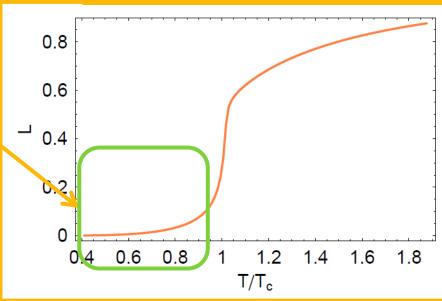


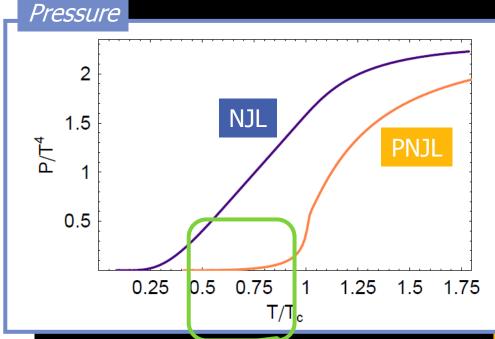
Statistically confining distribution functions

<u>Confinement phase</u>: L=0 (approximately)

The colorless 3-quark states give the main contribution to the thermodynamic potential in the confinement phase.

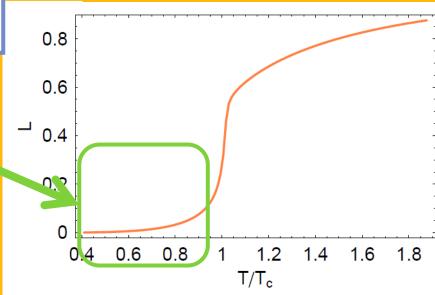
### Polyakov loop expectation value



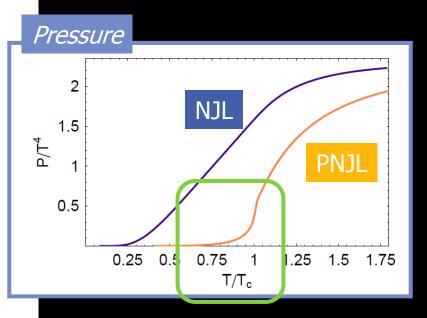


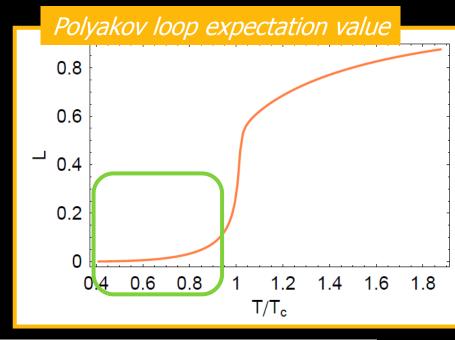
Thermal suppression of pressure

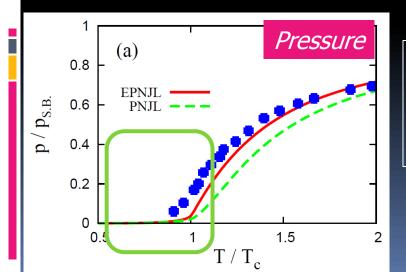
Polyakov loop expectation value



The colorless 3-quark states give the main contribution to the thermodynamic potential in the confinement phase.







Qualitative agreement with Lattice data

Picture from:

M. Yahiro *et al.*, **arXiv:1104.2394 [hep-ph]** 

Lattice data from:

A. Ali Khan *et al.*, **Phys. Rev. D64 (2001)** 

PNJL offers a better description of finite temperature QCD than NJL

$$F_{-} = 1 + 3Le^{-\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-2\beta(\omega_s - \mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_s - \mu)}$$

$$F_{+} = 1 + 3L^{\dagger}e^{-\beta(\omega_s + \mu)} + 3Le^{-2\beta(\omega_s + \mu)} + e^{-3\beta(\omega_s + \mu)}$$

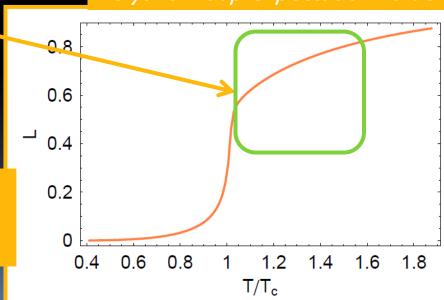
Statistically confining distribution functions

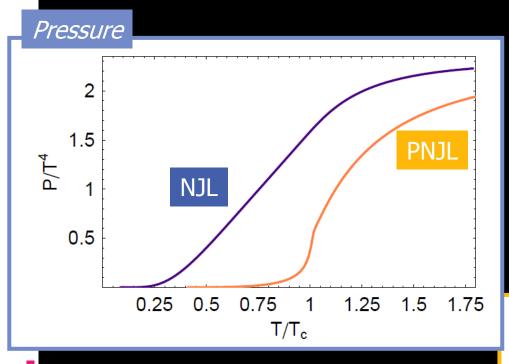
<u>Deconfinement phase</u>: L>0

1- and 2-quark states are liberated

The colored 1-quark and 2-quark states give a finite contribution to the thermodynamic potential in the deconfinement phase.

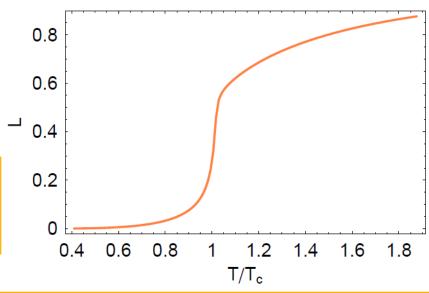


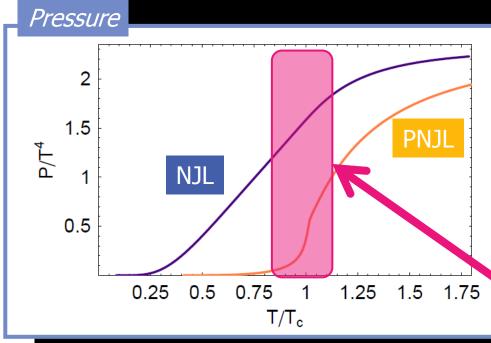




The colored 1-quark and 2-quark states give a finite contribution to the thermodynamic potential in the deconfinement phase.

#### Polyakov loop expectation value

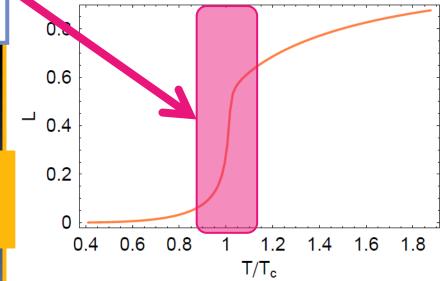




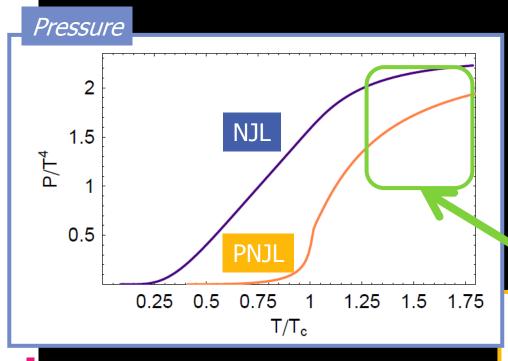
Thermal growht of pressure in correspondence of the crossover

1- and 2-quark states are liberated

Polyakov loop expectation value



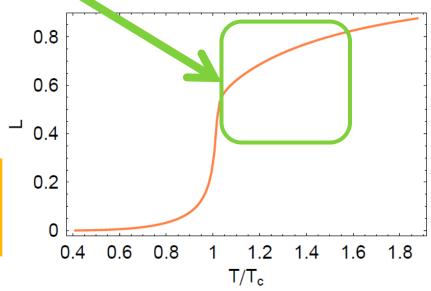
The colored 1-quark and 2-quark states give a finite contribution to the thermodynamic potential in the deconfinement phase.

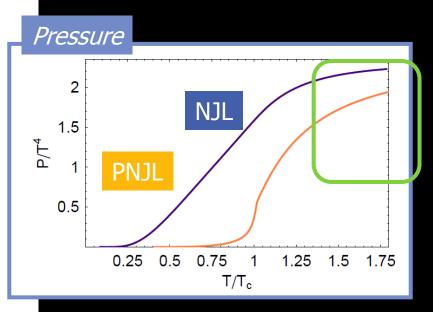


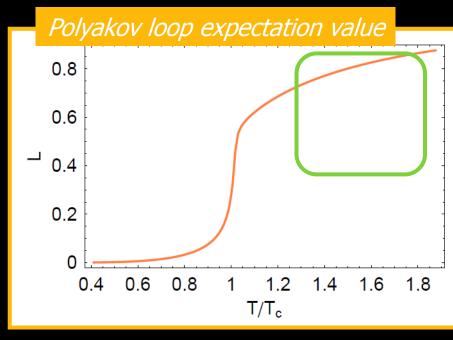
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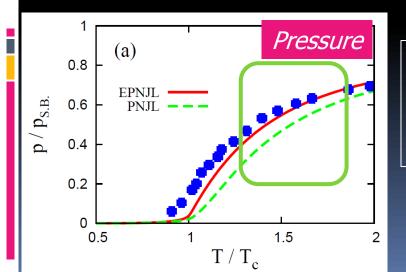
1- and 2-quark states are liberated

### Polyakov loop expectation value









Qualitative agreement with Lattice data

Picture from:

M. Yahiro *et al.*, **arXiv:1104.2394 [hep-ph]** 

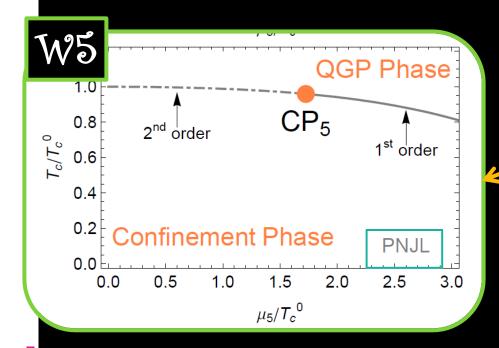
Lattice data from:

A. Ali Khan *et al.*, **Phys. Rev. D64 (2001)** 

PNJL offers a better description of finite temperature QCD than NJL

M.R., arXiv:1103.6186

## Phase Diagram

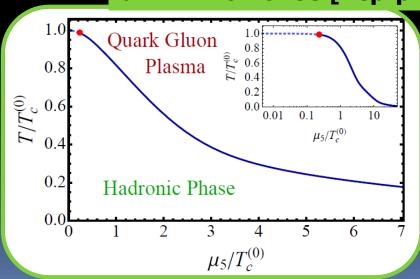


Comparison with previous results

QM model (without vacuum fluctuations)

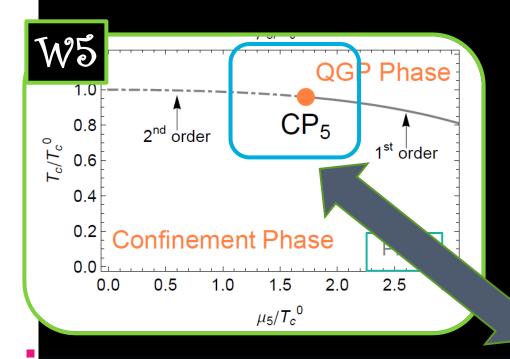


M Chernodub and A. Nedelin, arXiv:1102.0188 [hep-ph]



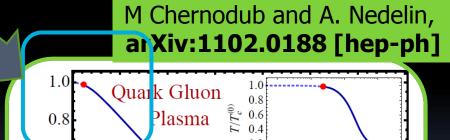
M.R., arXiv:1103.6186

# Phase Diagram



Comparison with previous results

QM model (without vacuum fluctuations)



 $\mu_5/T_c^{(0)}$ 

Hadronic Phase

0.01

0.1

 $\mu_5/T_c^{(0)}$ 

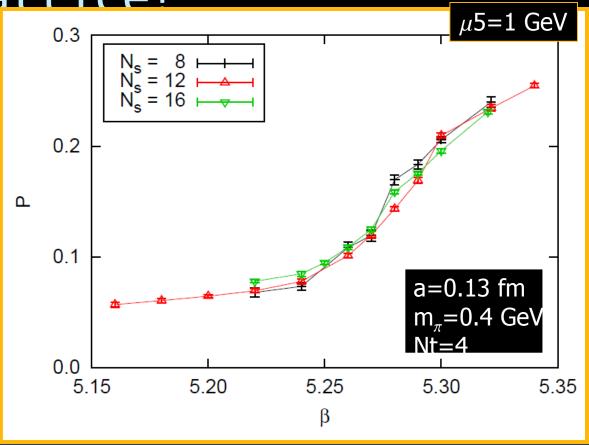
6

 $L/L_{c}^{(0)}$ 

0.2

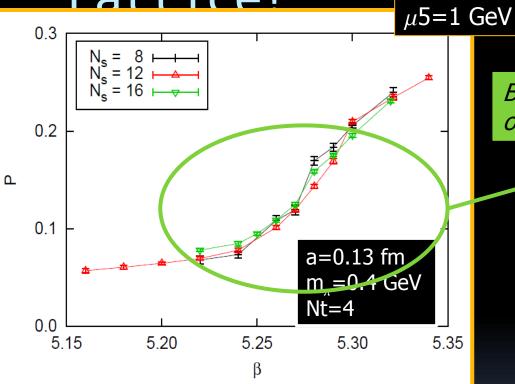
0.0

What do we know from Lattice?



# What do we know from





Broad crossover instead of the expected 1<sup>st</sup> order transition

### Speculation

If the result is confirmed with finer lattices and with the physical pion, the crossover could be interpreted as the smoothed phase transition due to inhomogeneous phases.

# Phase Diagram: Model

Calculation
The effective potential for the Polyakov loop:

$$V = \mathcal{U}(L, L^{\dagger}, T) + \frac{\sigma^2}{G} - N_c N_f \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_s$$
$$-\frac{N_c N_f}{\beta} \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \log (F_+ F_-)$$

Thermodynamic Potential

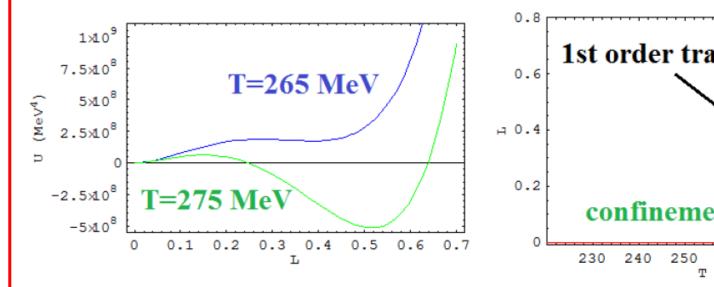
$$\mathcal{U}[\Phi, \bar{\Phi}, T] = T^4 \left\{ -\frac{a(T)}{2} \bar{\Phi} \Phi + b(T) \ln \left[ 1 - 6\bar{\Phi}\Phi + 4(\bar{\Phi}^3 + \Phi^3) - 3(\bar{\Phi}\Phi)^2 \right] \right\}$$

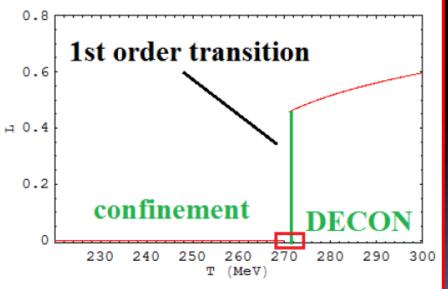
W. Weise *et al*, **Phys.Rev.D75:034007,2007** 



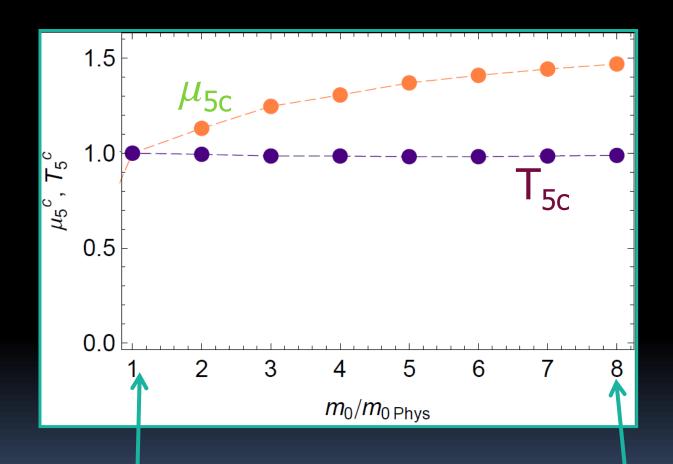
$$\begin{split} \mathcal{U}[\Phi,\bar{\Phi},T] &= T^4 \bigg\{ -\frac{a(T)}{2}\bar{\Phi}\Phi \\ &+ b(T) \ln \big[ 1 - 6\bar{\Phi}\Phi + 4(\bar{\Phi}^3 + \Phi^3) - 3(\bar{\Phi}\Phi)^2 \big] \bigg\} \end{split}$$

Expectation value of L: identified with the global minima of the effective potential.





## Quark Mass Dependence of CP5

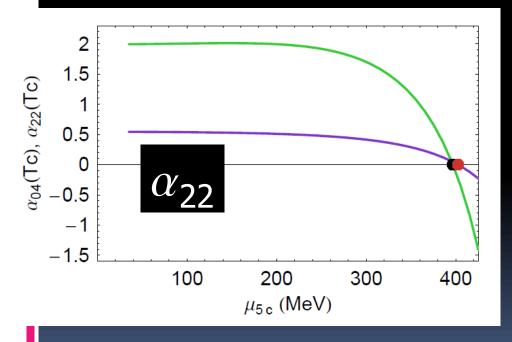


 $m_{\pi}$ =139 MeV

 $m_{\pi}$ =400 MeV

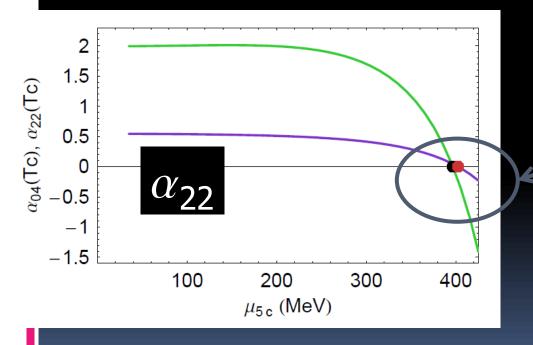
Effective potential for the chiral condensate in vicinity of the critical point:

$$\Gamma = \frac{\alpha_{02}}{2}\sigma^2 + \frac{\alpha_{04}}{4}\sigma^4 + \frac{\alpha_{22}}{2}\boldsymbol{q}^2\sigma^2$$

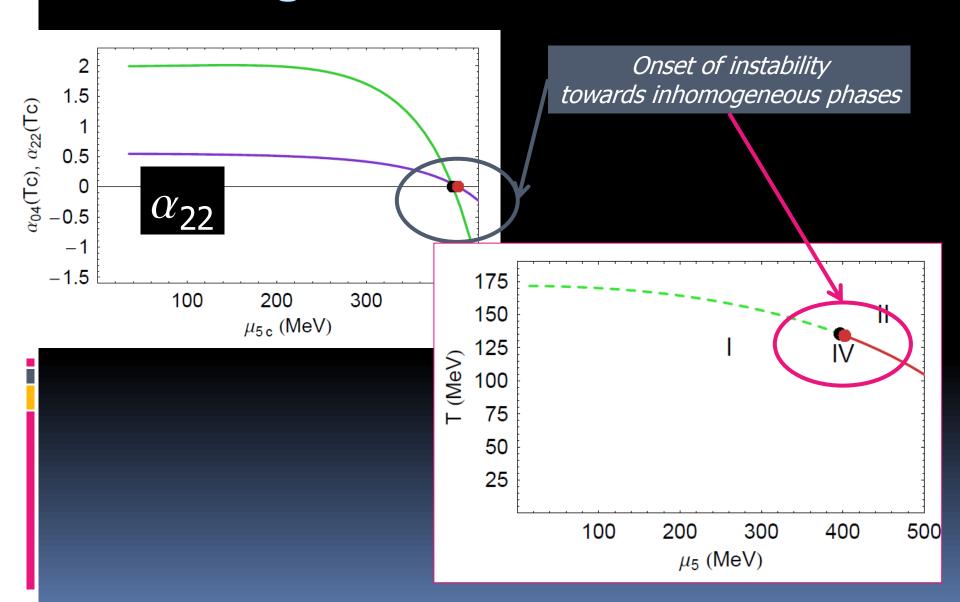


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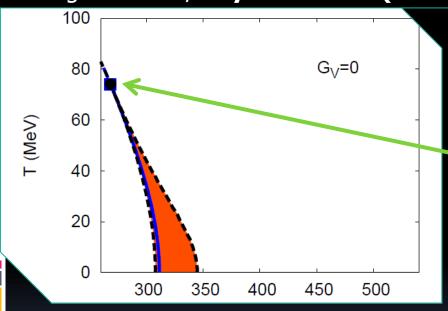
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Onset of instability towards inhomogeneous phases

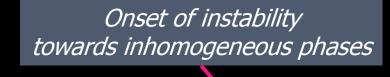


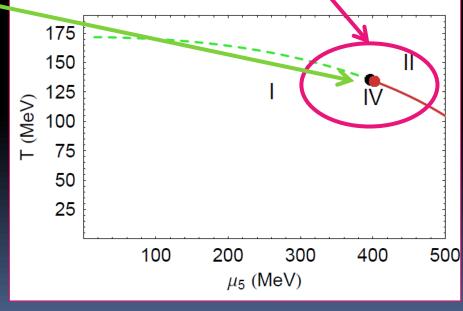
#### S. Carignano et al, **Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 054009**



At finite *baryon* chemical potential, the 1<sup>st</sup> order transition is smoothed by inhomogeneous condensation

Does the same happen at finite *chiral* chemical potential?





#### Gluon configurations with winding number

Ward identity in QCD:

$$(N_L - N_R)_{+\infty} - (N_L - N_R)_{-\infty} = 2Q_W$$

with  $Q_W \equiv \text{winding number of a background gluon configuration:}$ 

$$Q_W = \frac{g^2}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x F \cdot \tilde{F}$$

If in a region of space there is a gluon configuration with  $Q_W \neq 0$ , this will cause the chirality of quarks to change.

- Perturbative QCD: only  $Q_W = 0 \rightarrow$  absence of chirality change
- Non-perturbative QCD: classical gluon configurations with  $Q_W \neq 0$  can give contribution to physical quantities

#### Connecting winding number to Chern-Simon number

- Pure gauge SU(3) theory: energy minimized by pure gauge configurations
- In the gauge  $A_0 = 0$ :  $A_i(\mathbf{x}) = ig^{-1}U(\mathbf{x})\partial_i U^{\dagger}(\mathbf{x})$ , with  $U(\mathbf{x}) \in SU(3)$
- Each vacuum configuration can be labelled by an integer number:

$$N_{CS} = \frac{1}{24\pi^2} \int d^3x \ \epsilon^{ijk} \text{Tr} \left[ (U^{\dagger} \partial_i U) (U^{\dagger} \partial_j U) (U^{\dagger} \partial_k U) \right]$$

- ullet The different vacua are separated by energy barrier of order  $\Lambda_{QCD}$
- Gauge field configuration with  $Q_W \neq 0$  interpolates between two vacua:

$$Q_W = N_{CS}(t = +\infty) - N_{CS}(t = -\infty)$$

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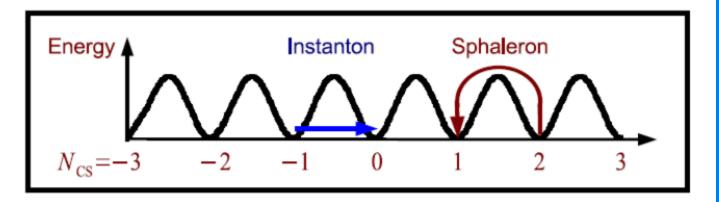
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Energy Landscape, Instantons and Sphalerons

$$Q_W = N_{CS}(t = +\infty) - N_{CS}(t = -\infty)$$



- Instantons: tunneling between two different vacua.
- Sphalerons: hopping over the barrier.

Transition rate via sphaleron: from Lattice (Moore, 2000):

$$\Gamma = \frac{dN}{d^3xdt} \propto \alpha_S^5 T^4$$