

# Matter under extreme conditions

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IFAE, February 2019



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UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



# Today's menu

- Matter at finite baryon density
- Matter at finite isospin density
- Matter with a chiral imbalance

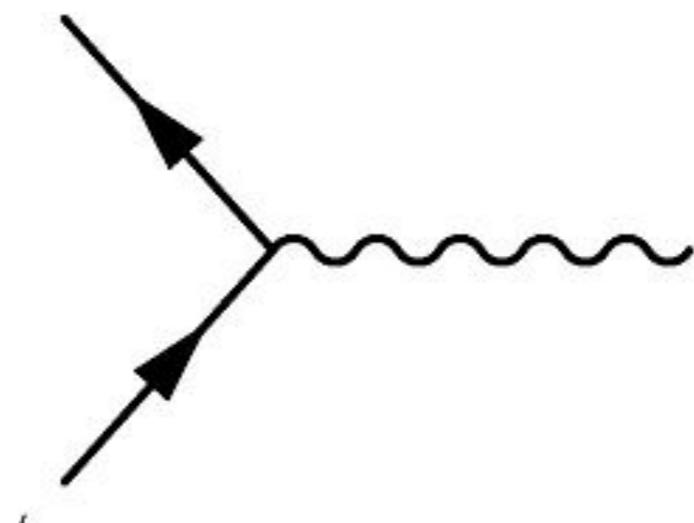
(\*matter = boring standard model stuff)

# Setting the stage

(the theory)

# Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

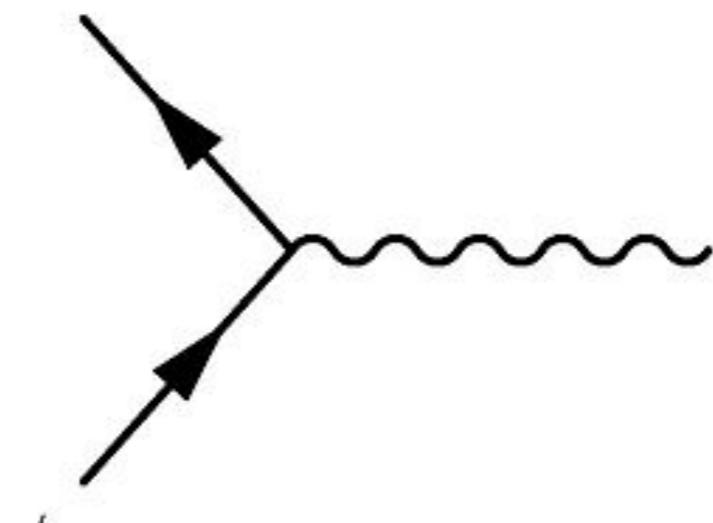
Describes charged fermions interacting with photons



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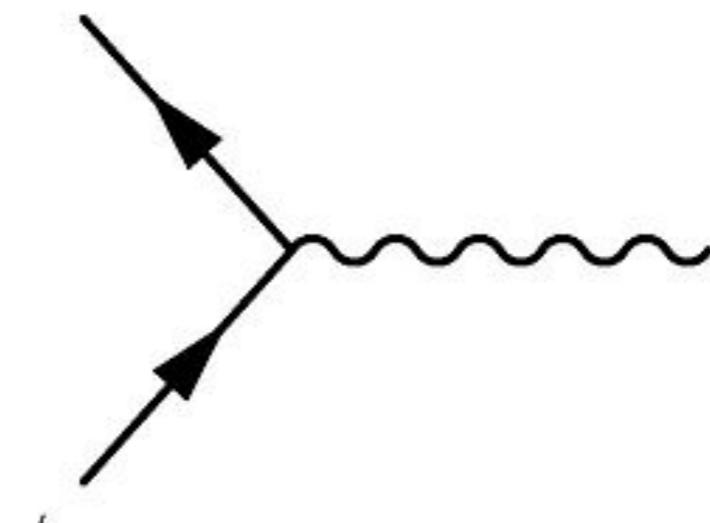


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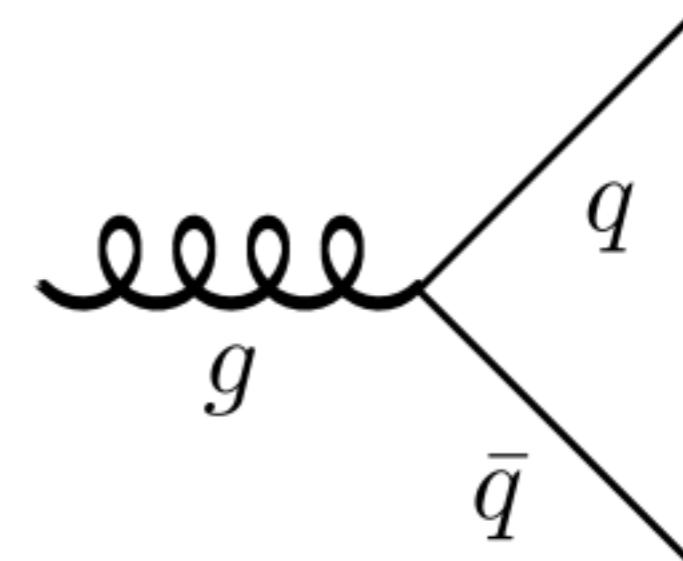
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→ we like it

# Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

Describes quarks interacting  
with gluons...



... and gluons interacting  
with gluons...



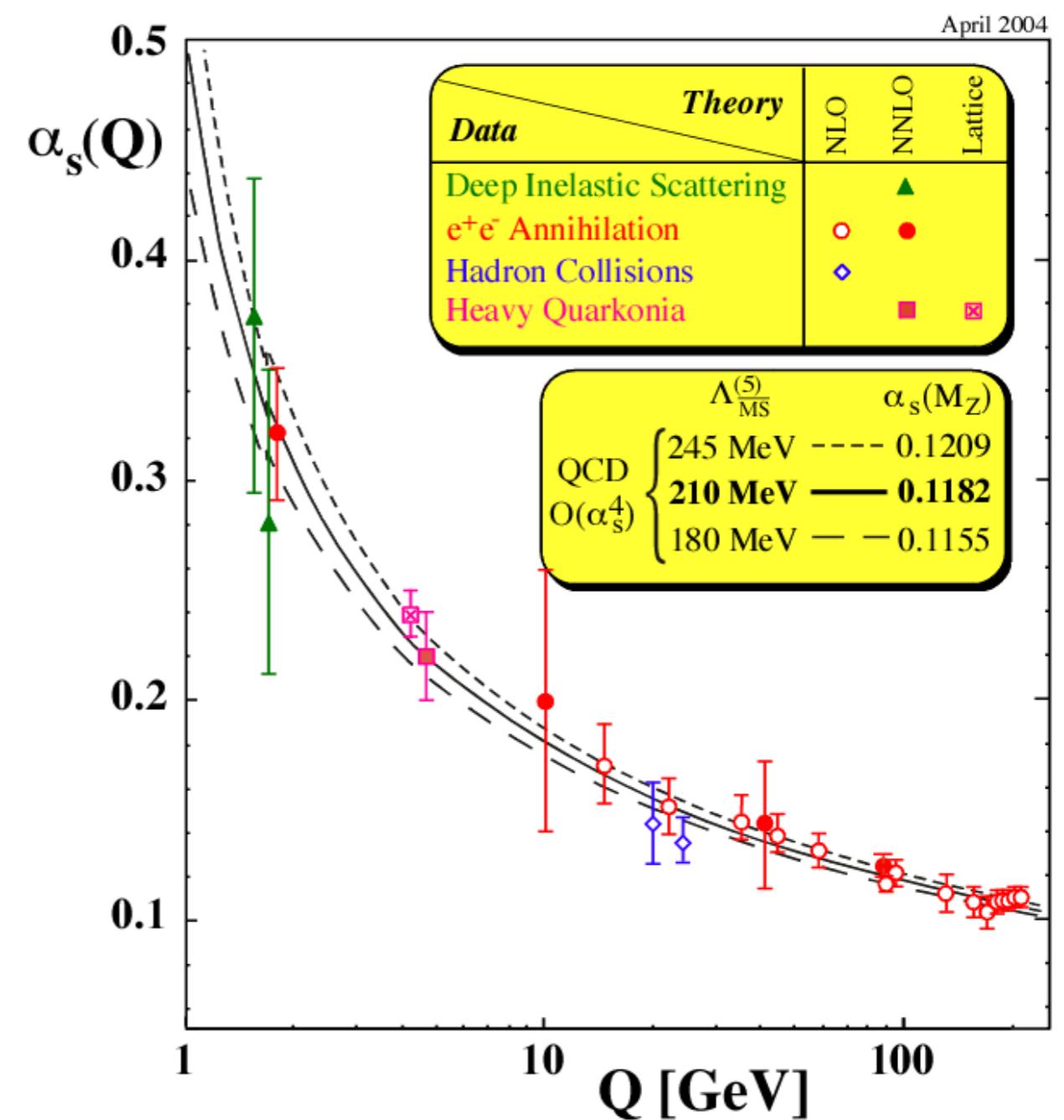
# QCD Running coupling

Up to intermediate energies,  
the QCD coupling is large!

Dynamical development  
of a characteristic scale

$$\Lambda_{QCD} \sim 200\text{MeV}$$

At high energies, coupling  
becomes small:  
asymptotic freedom



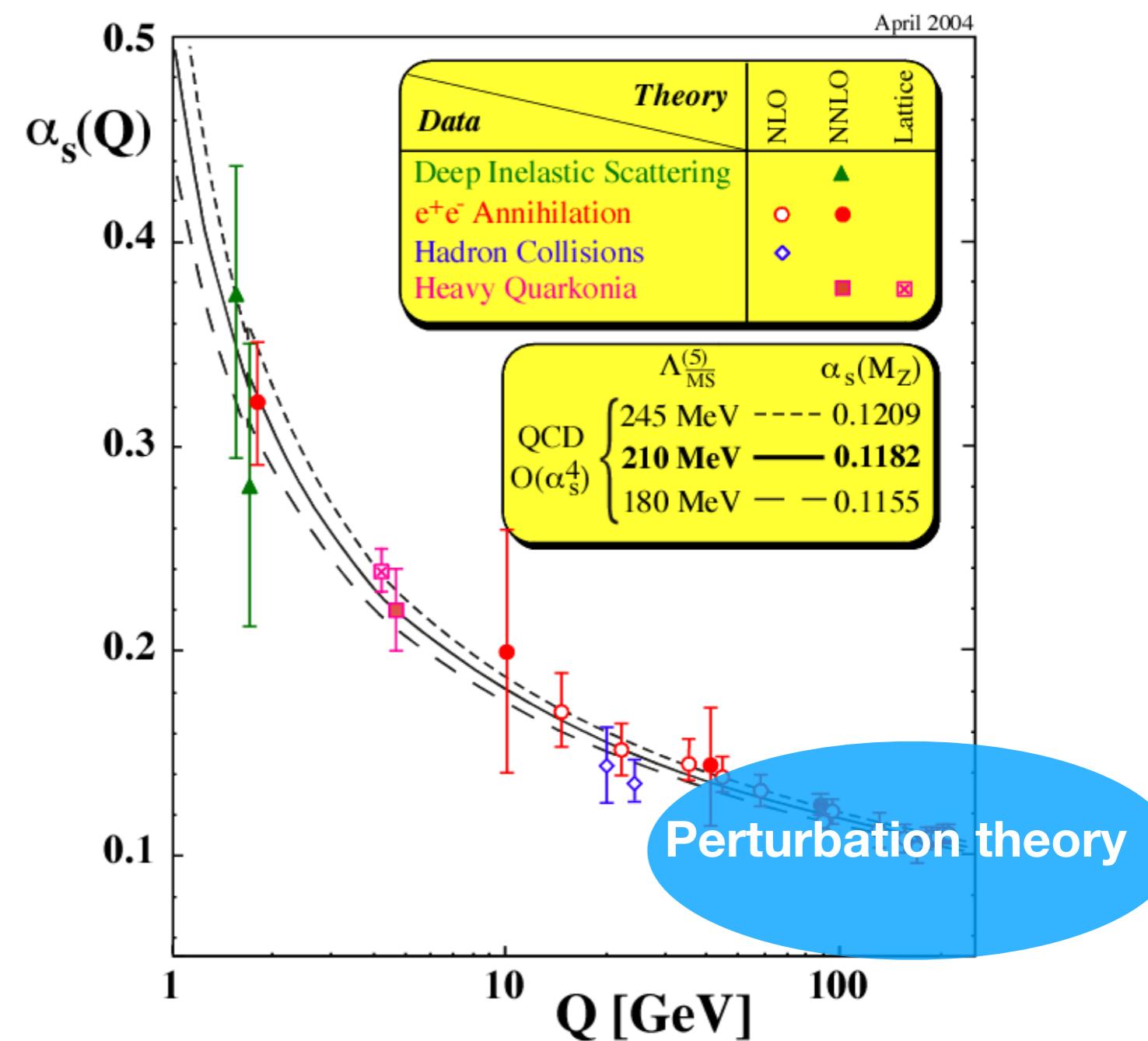
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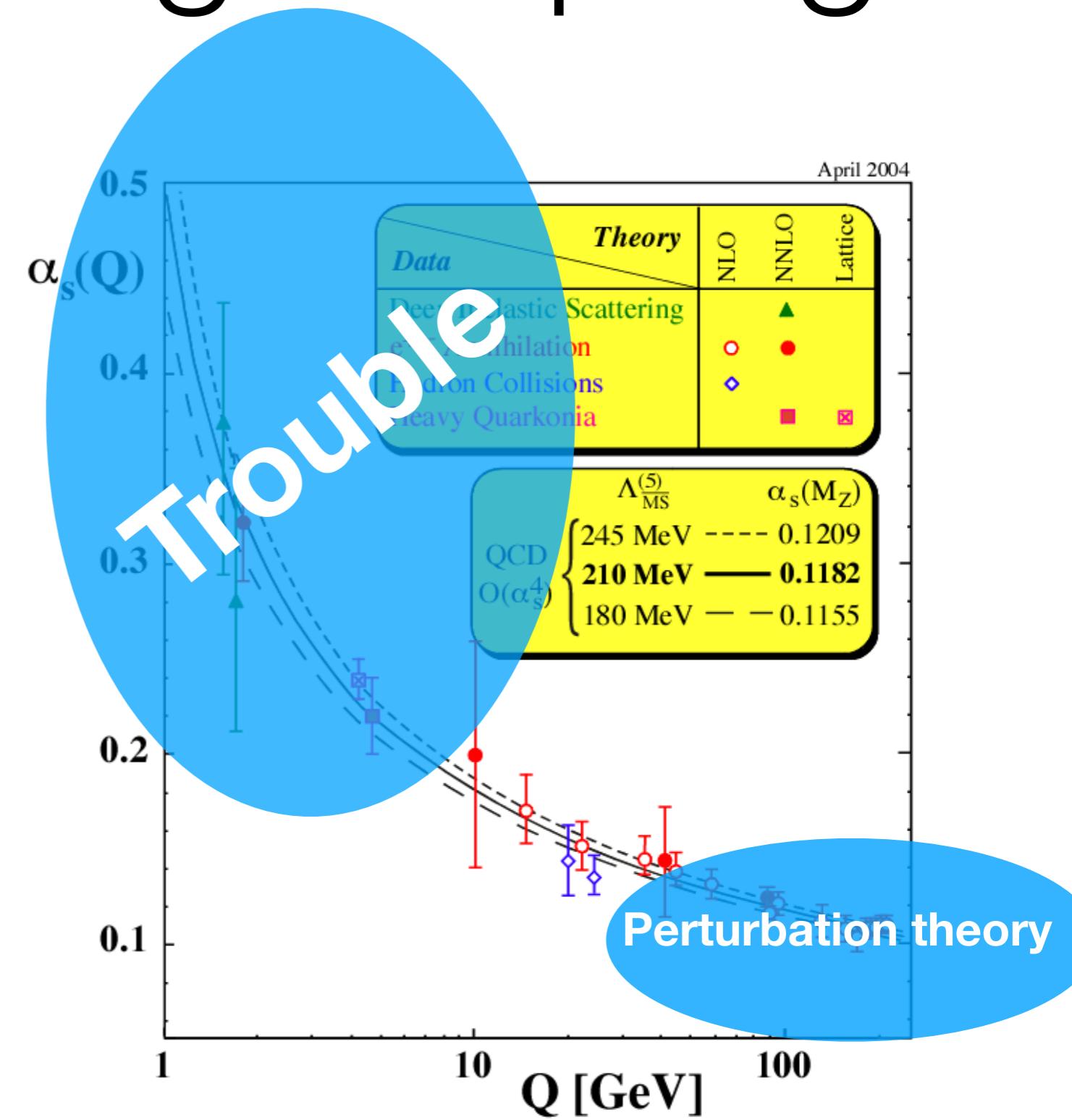
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# QCD at low energies

Consequences of a large coupling for the QCD vacuum:

- Confinement
- Spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking

“Non-perturbative” effects

cannot be described using perturbation theory

# Confinement

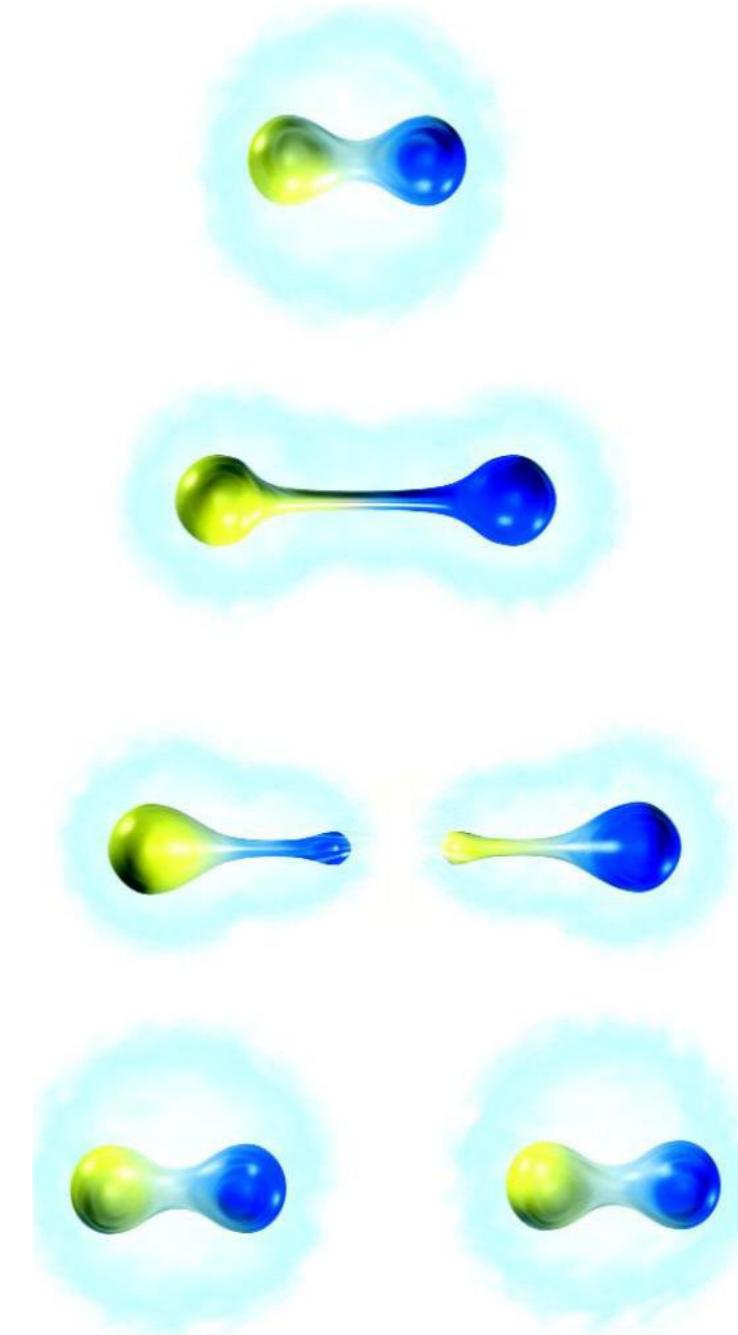
Try pulling apart two quarks  
(or a quark-antiquark)...

Hadrons break up into other hadrons:

mesons ( $\bar{q}q$ ) and baryons ( $qqq$ )

-> No free quarks observed

Need to think carefully about  
the relevant degrees of freedom!



# Chiral symmetry

- For massless quarks, it's a symmetry of  $\mathcal{L}_{QCD}$
- Formally (2f):  $SU(2)_V \times SU(2)_A \equiv SU(2)_L \times SU_2(R)$

$$SU(2)_V : \quad \psi \rightarrow e^{i\tau_a \theta^a} \psi$$

$$SU(2)_A : \quad \psi \rightarrow e^{i\gamma^5 \tau_a \theta^a} \psi$$

Is it a good symmetry?

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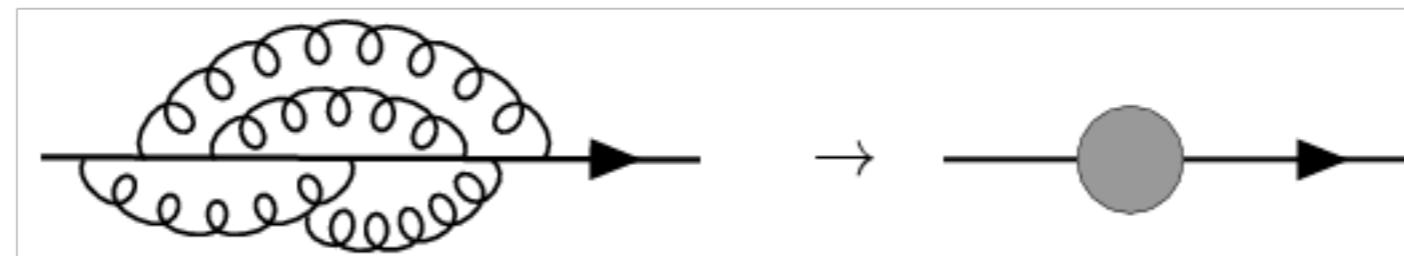
- Spontaneously broken by the QCD vacuum!
- Non-degenerate chiral partners (sigma-pion, rho-a1..)
- Goldstone modes: pions

# Dynamical mass generation

- Spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry related to dynamical mass generation

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\chi SB} \sim M\bar{\psi}_L\psi_R$$

- Generation of a chiral condensate  $\langle\bar{\psi}\psi\rangle$  in the QCD vacuum
- Interpretation: Strong interactions “dress” particles and the interaction energy generates constituent masses



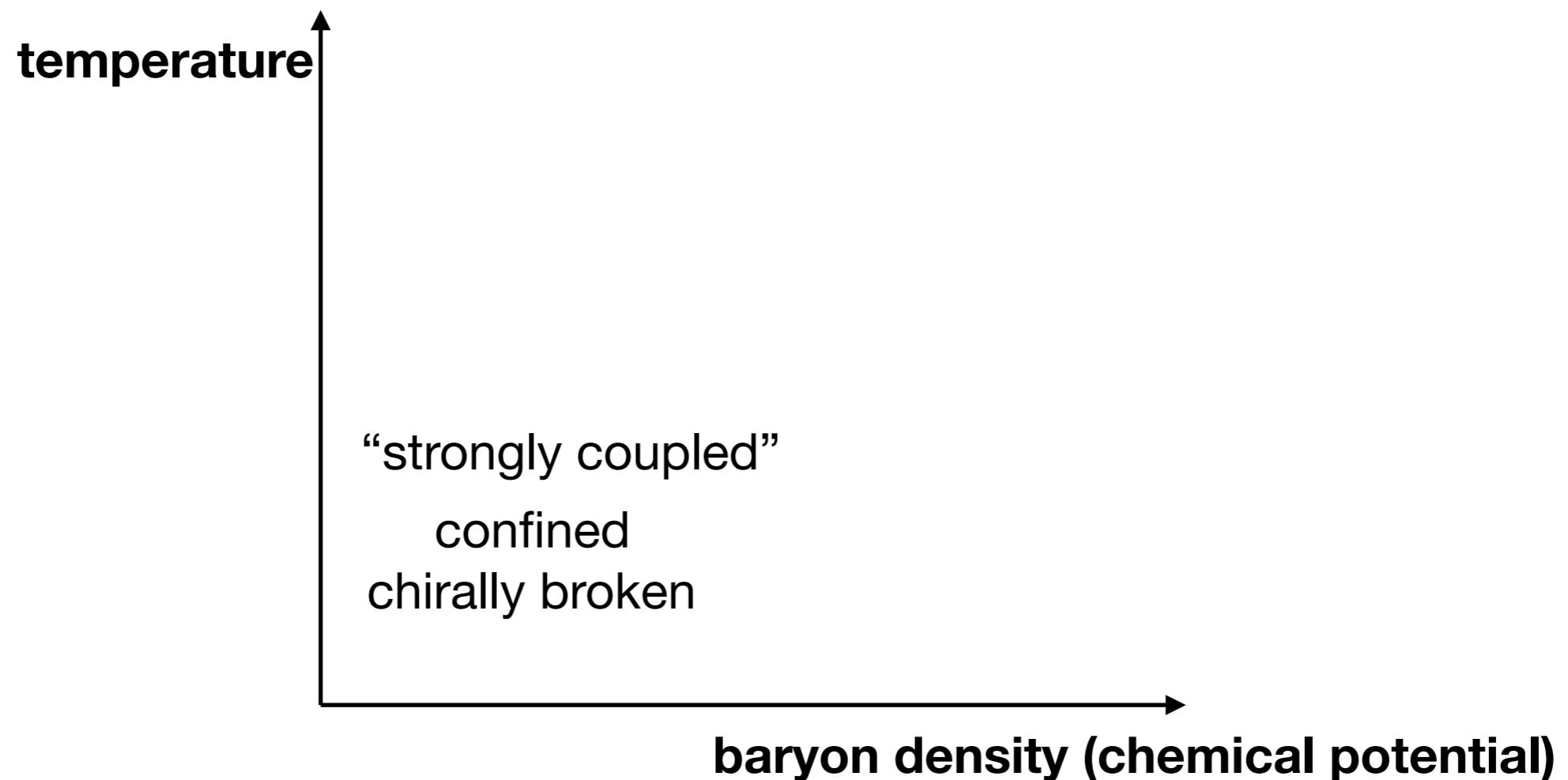
# Extreme conditions

(=crank up the temperature/density)

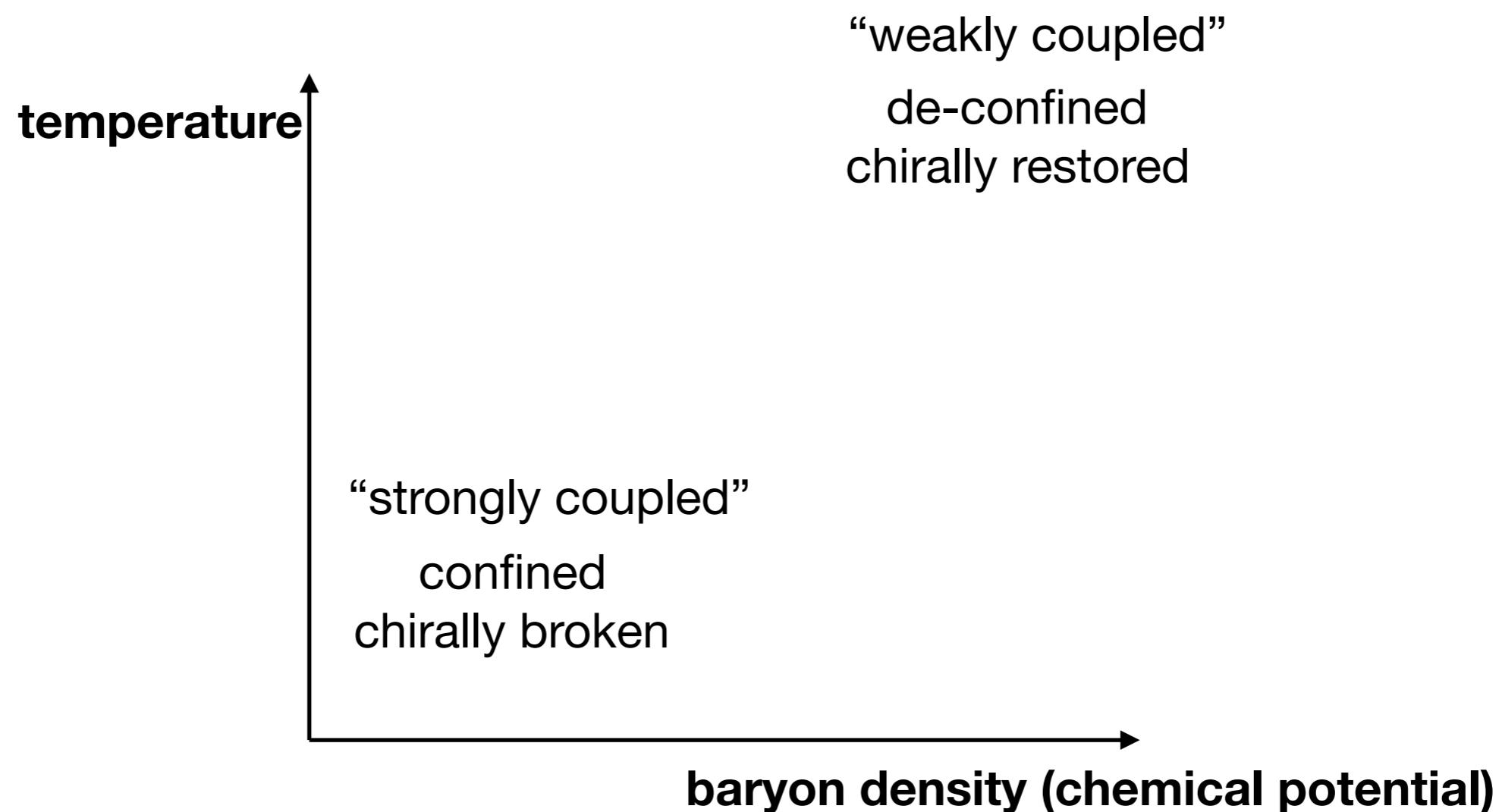
# QCD phase diagram



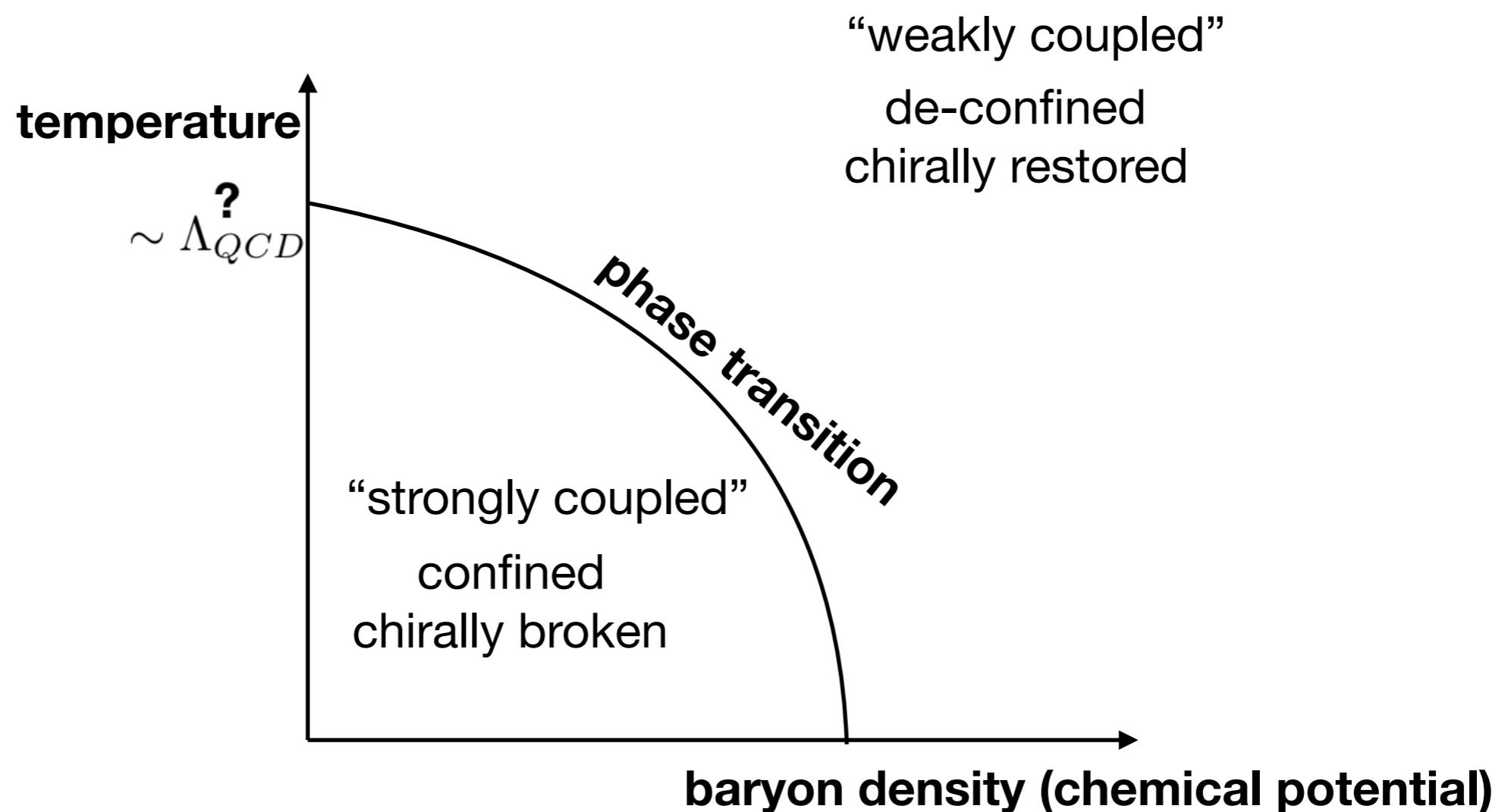
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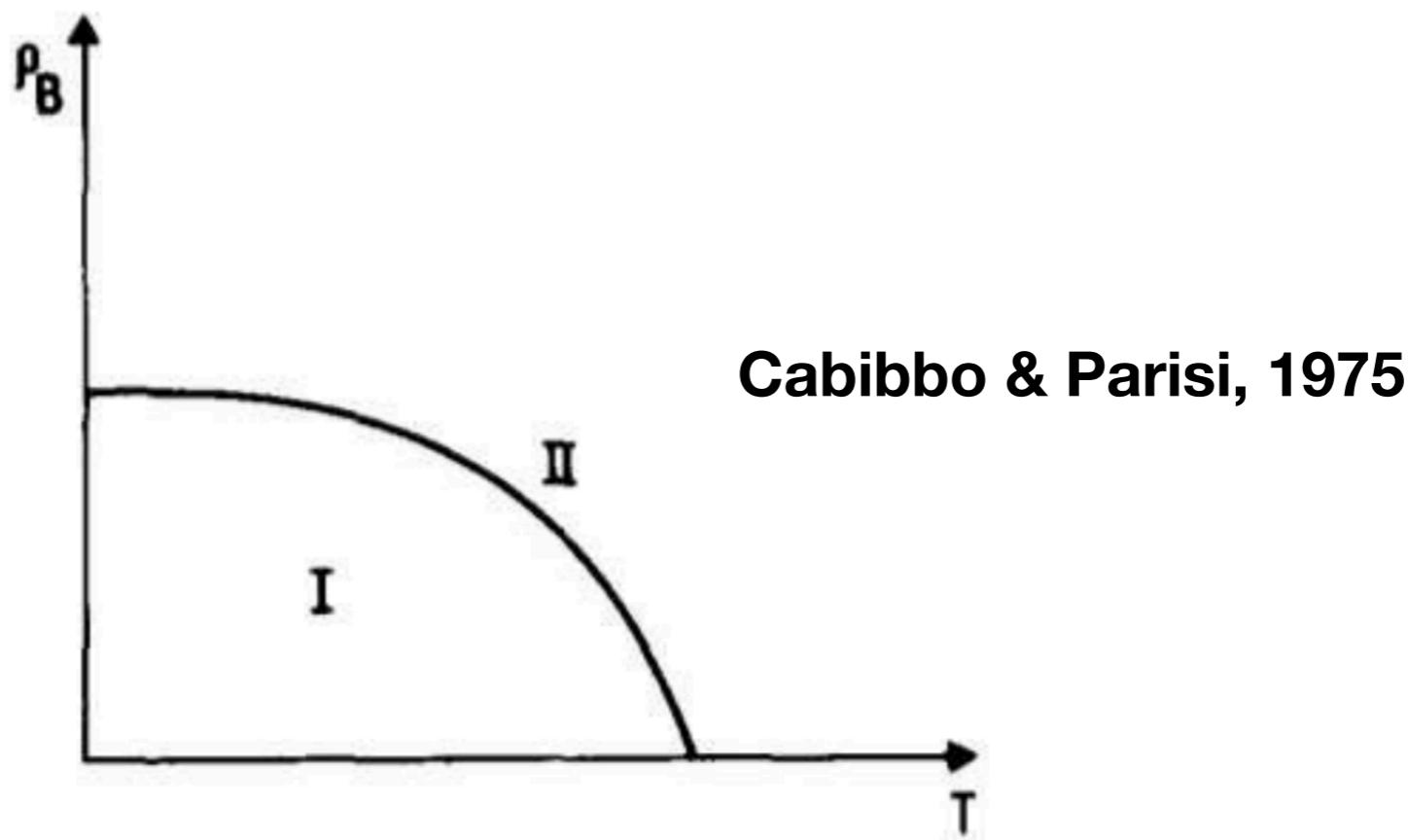


Fig. 1. Schematic phase diagram of hadronic matter.  $\rho_B$  is the density of baryonic number. Quarks are confined in phase I and unconfined in phase II.

# QCD phase diagram

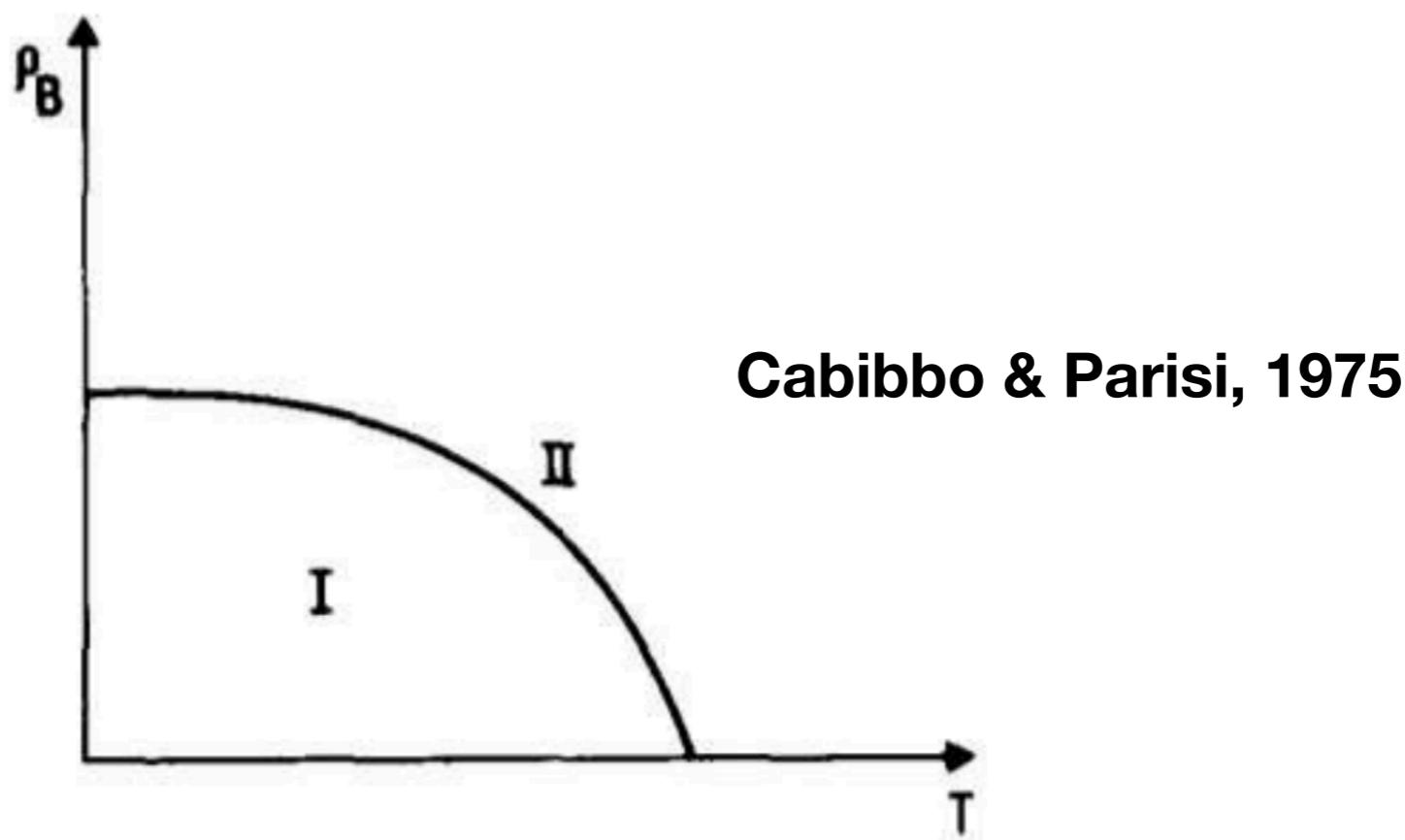
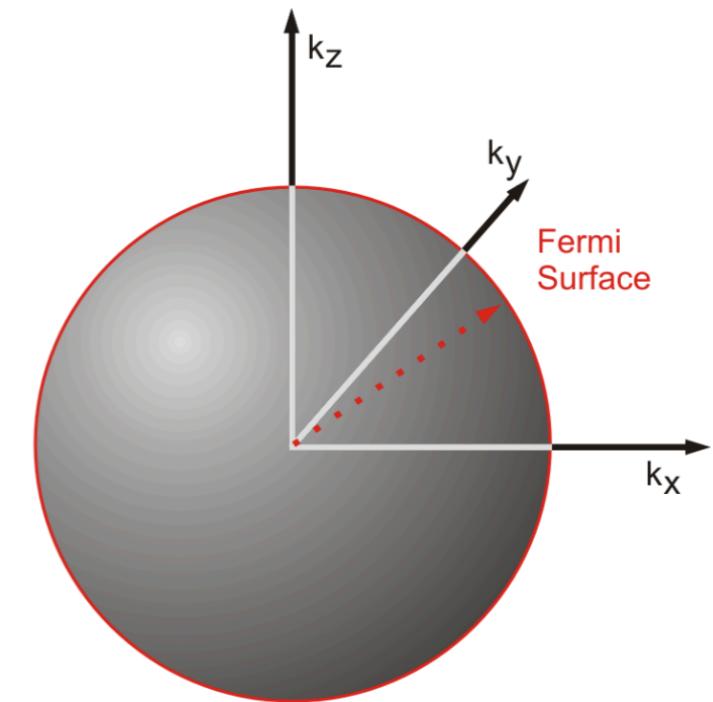


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Is that all ?

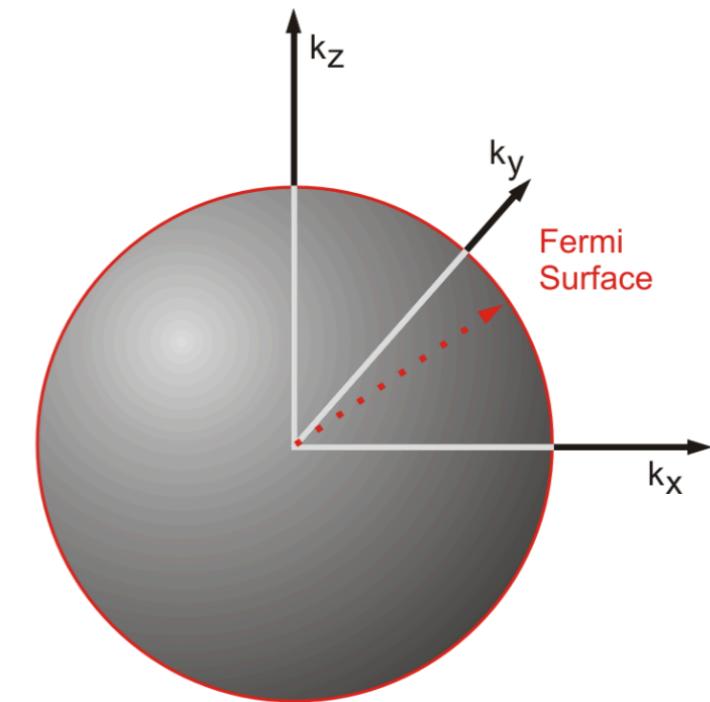
# Color superconductivity

- High density and low temperature:  
Fermi sphere of quarks



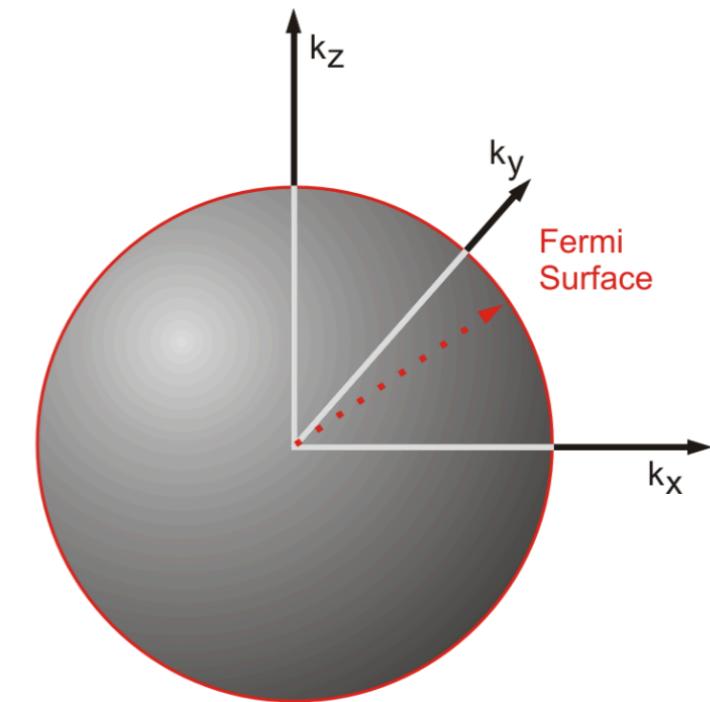
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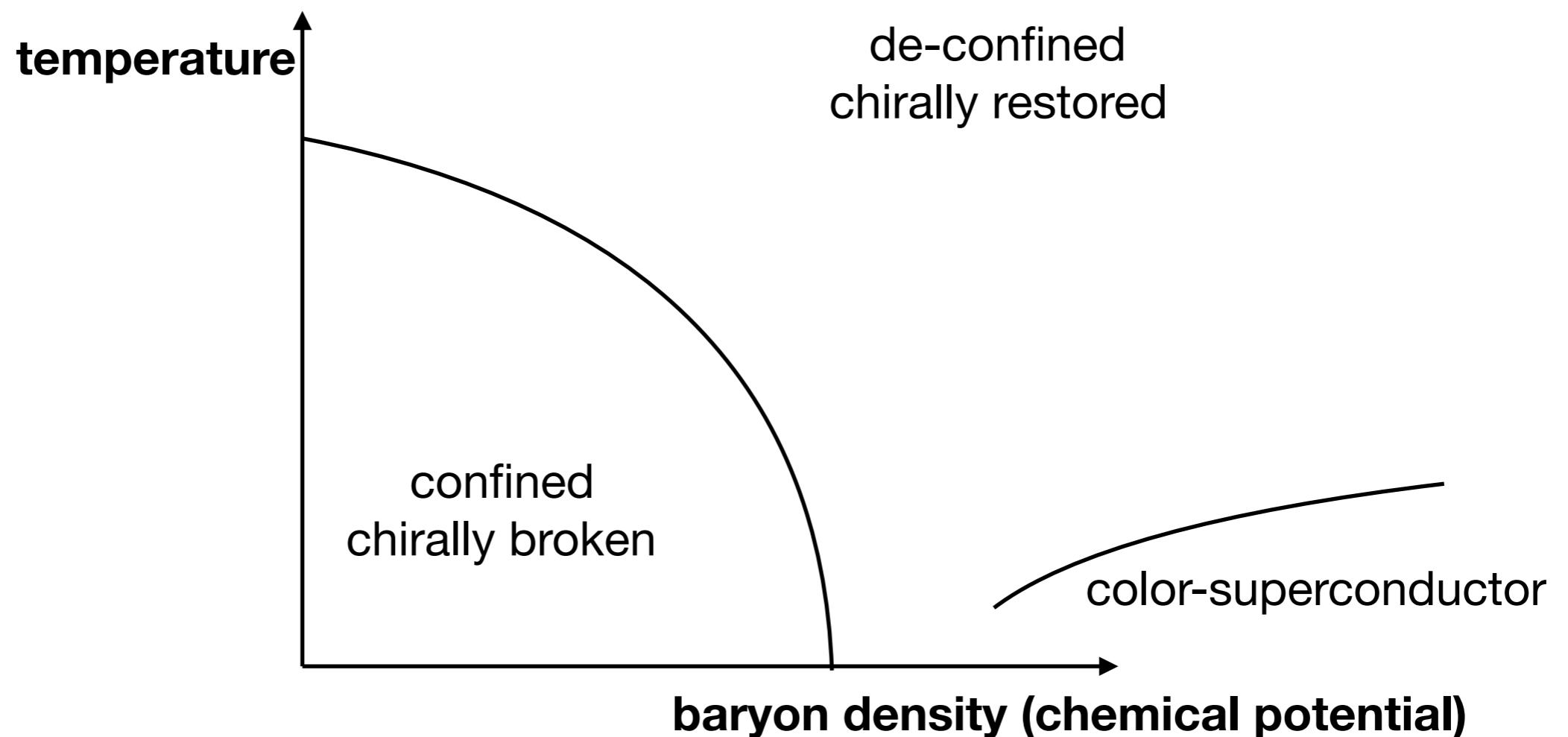


# Color superconductivity

- High density and low temperature:  
Fermi sphere of quarks
- Weak coupling: attractive channel in 1-gluon exchange
  - Cooper instability:  $\langle qq \rangle \neq 0$
- Cold quark matter at (**very**) high density  
is a color superconductor!

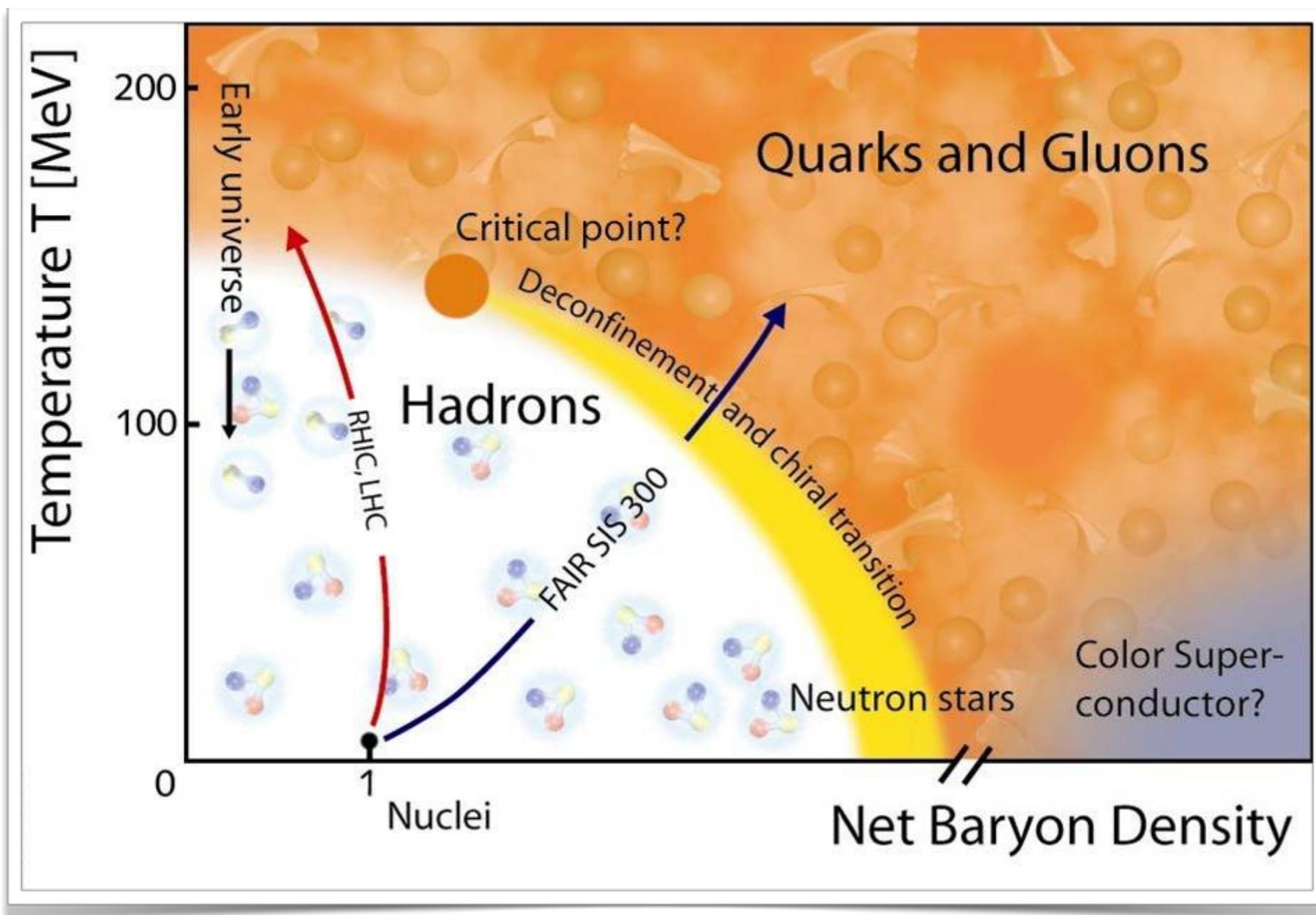


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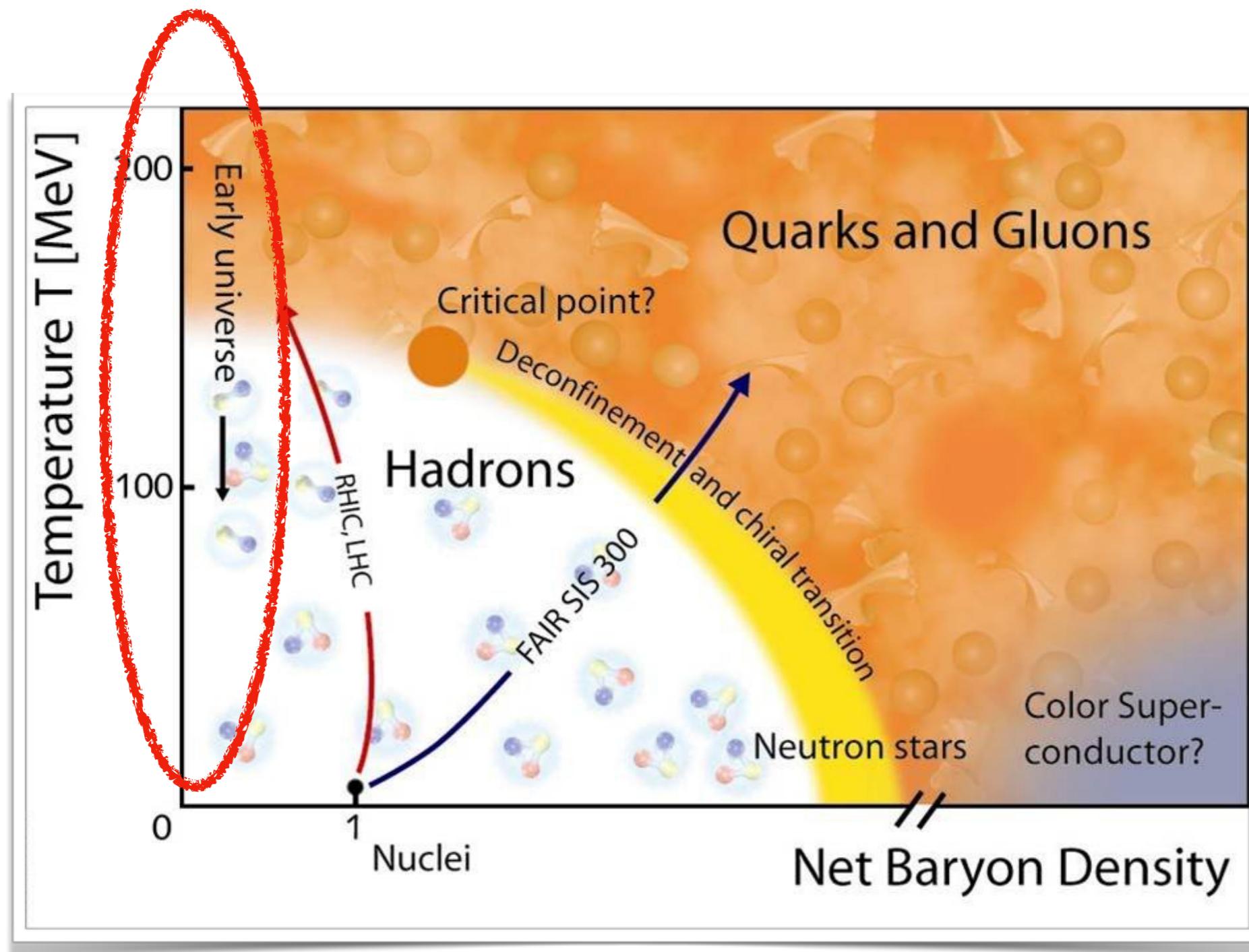


40something years  
later...

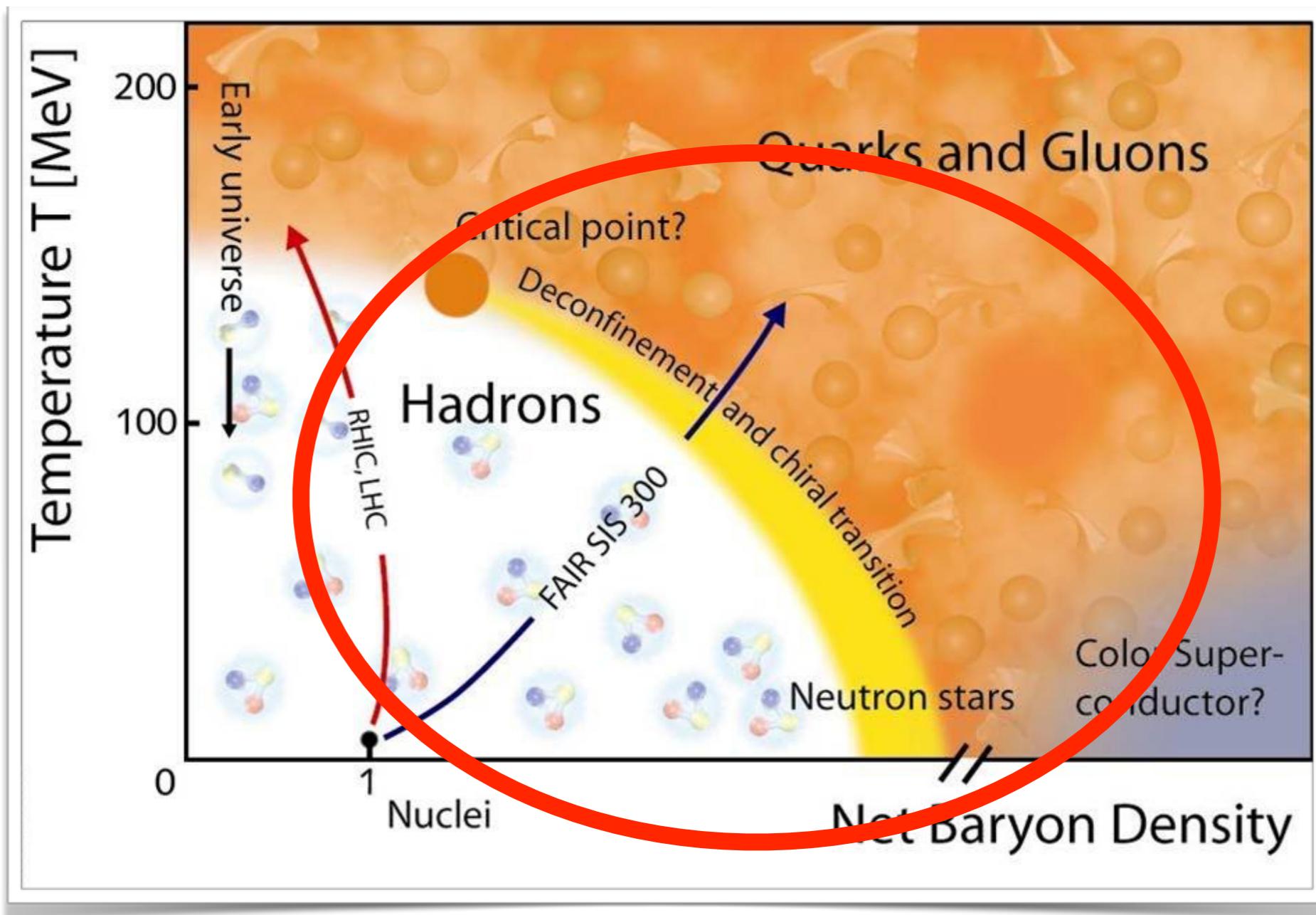
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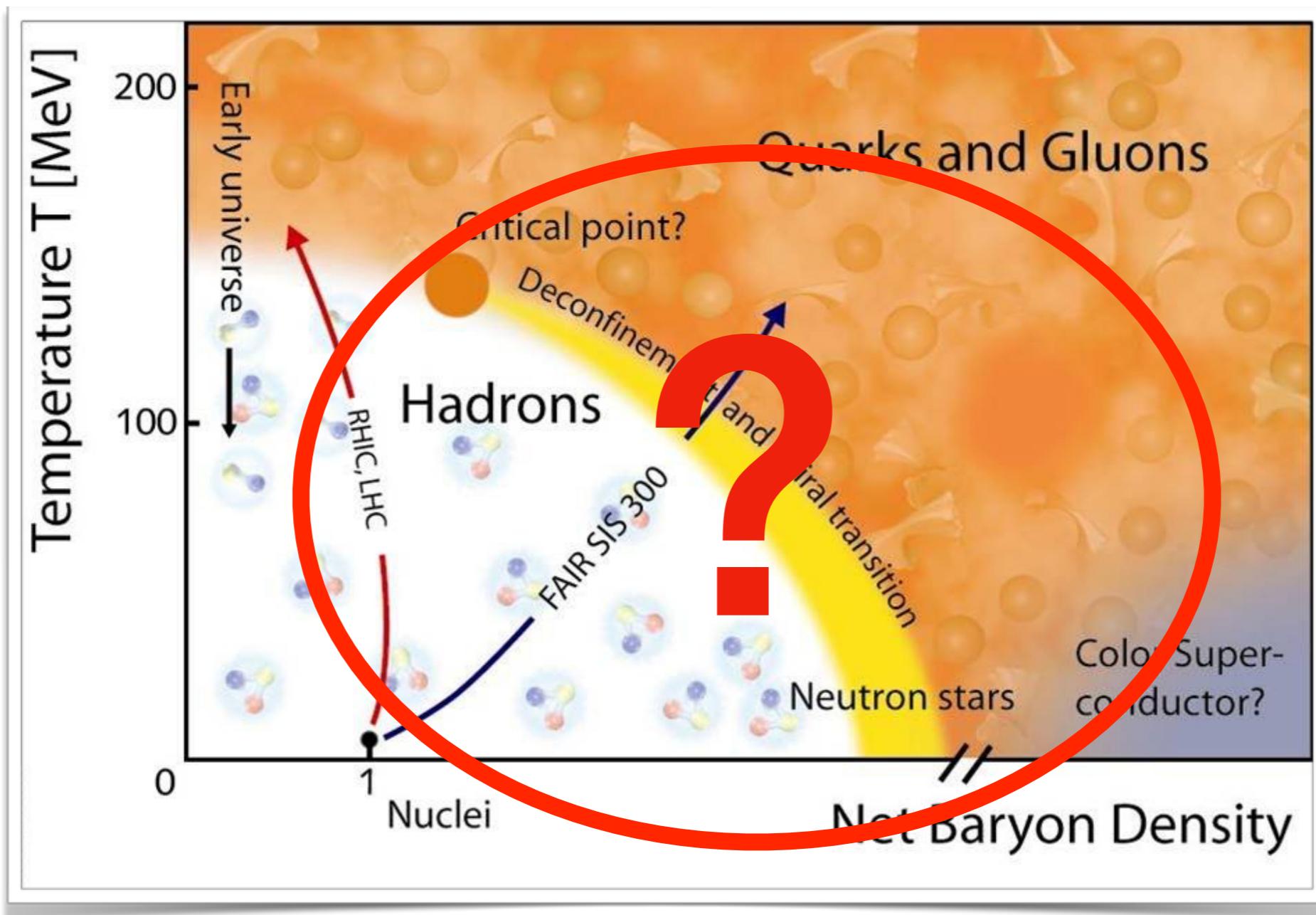
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# (some) Open questions

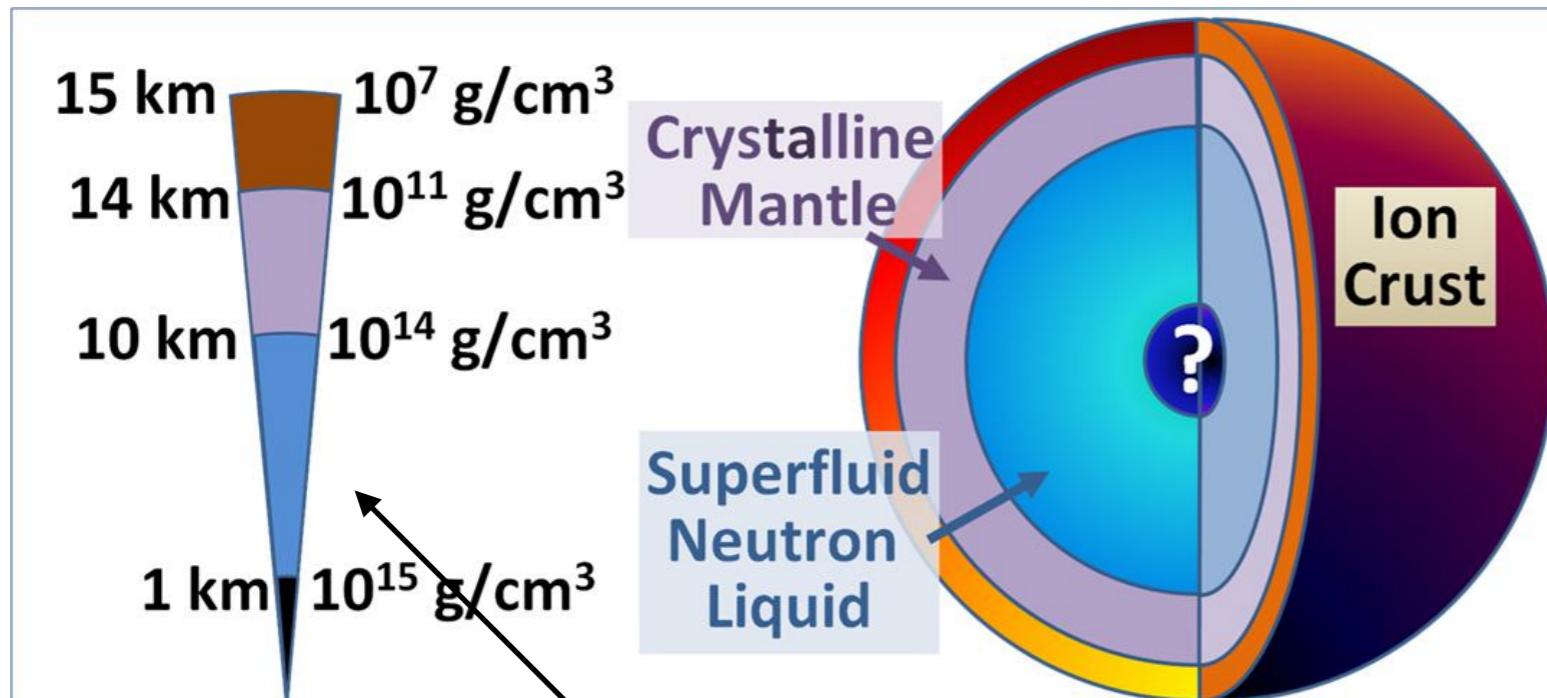
- Location of the phase transition(s)?
- Order of phase transition(s)?
- (How) are the chiral symmetry and (de)confinement transitions related ?
- Does color-superconductivity reach all the way down to intermediate densities?
- Can some exotic phase appear at finite density?



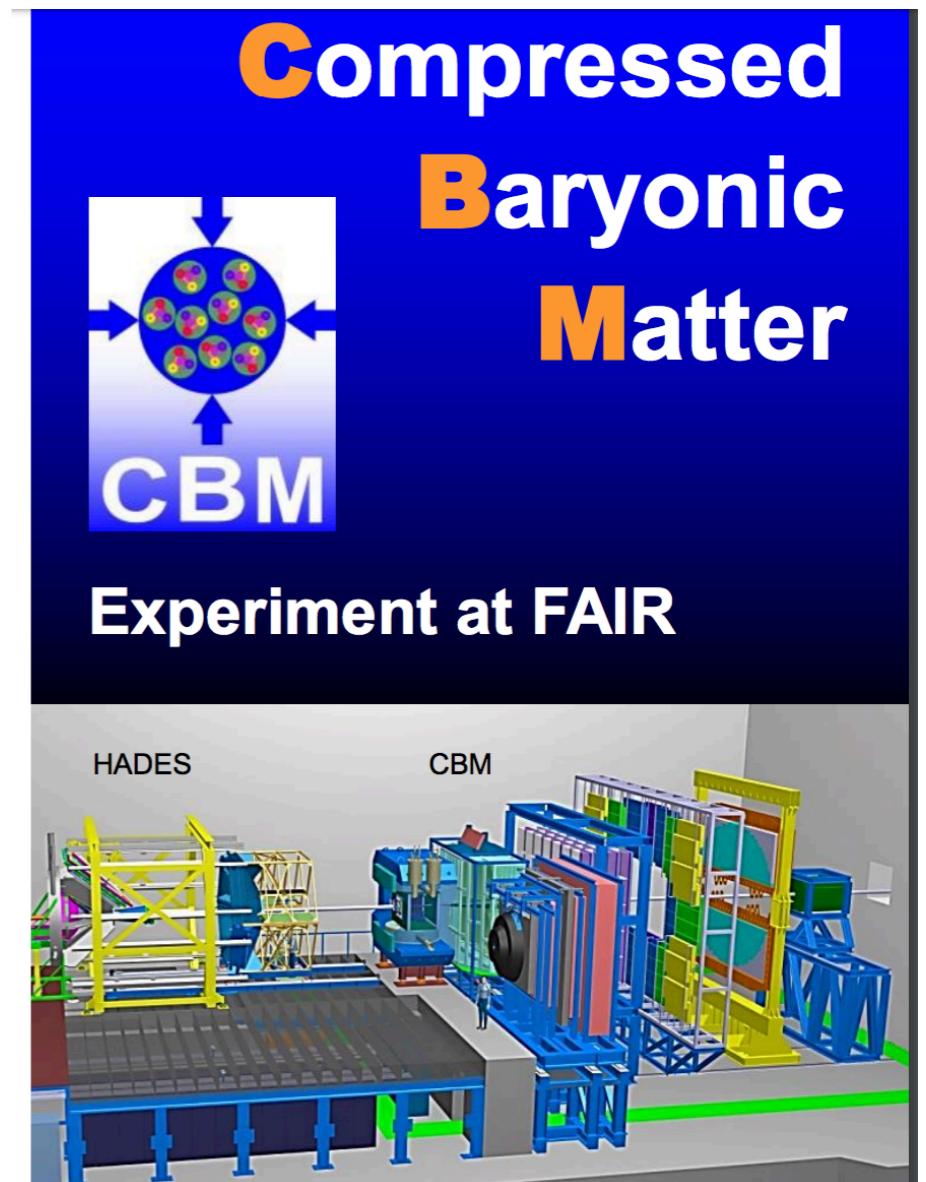
# Studying dense matter could be relevant for

Physics of compact stars

and heavy-ion collisions!



nuclear matter  
saturation density



# Intermediate densities

- From the theory side:
  - no lattice QCD
  - no perturbative expansions
- From the experimental side:
  - no heavy-ion collisions there (yet!)
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OR

More exciting!  
exotic phases,  
several phase transitions..

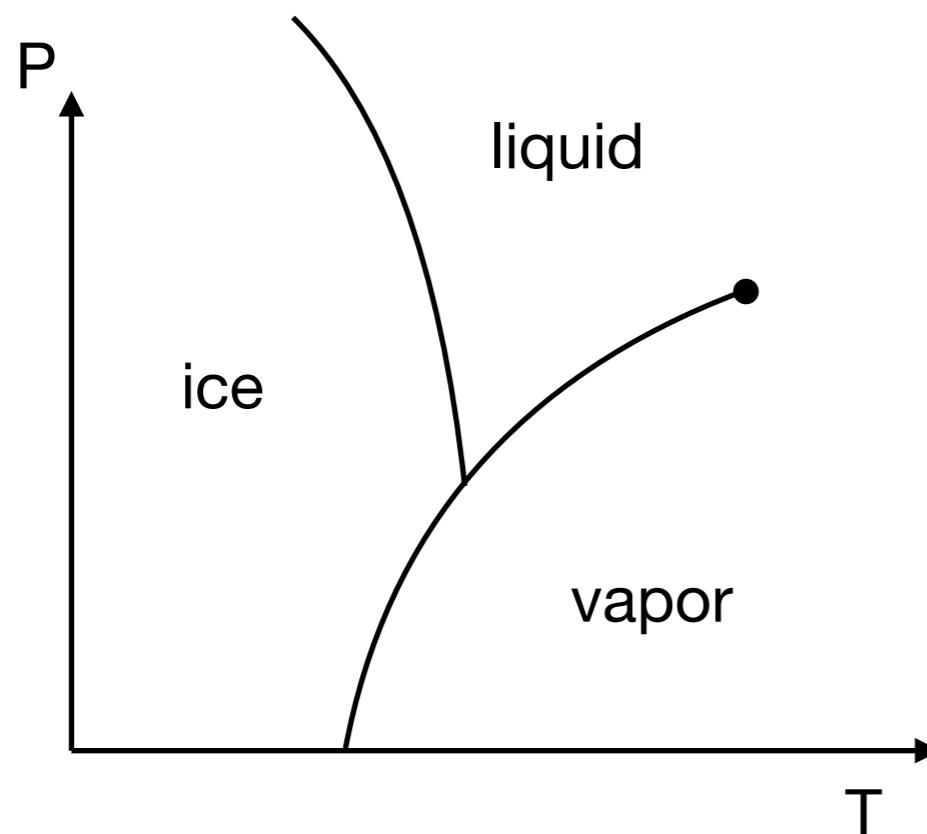
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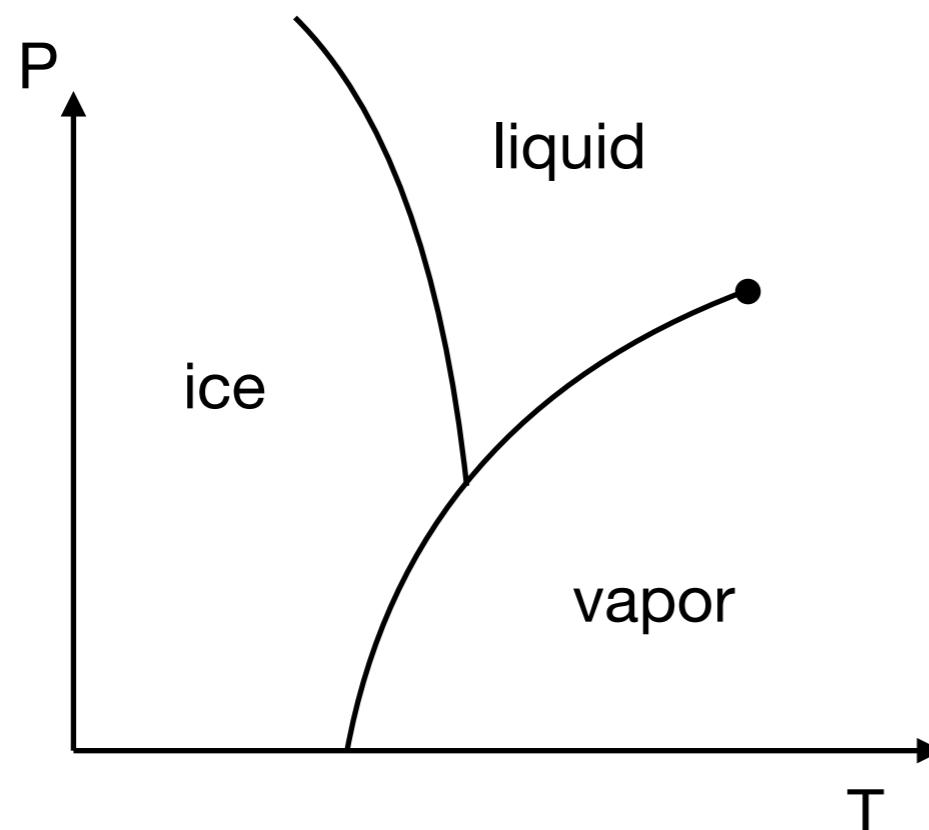
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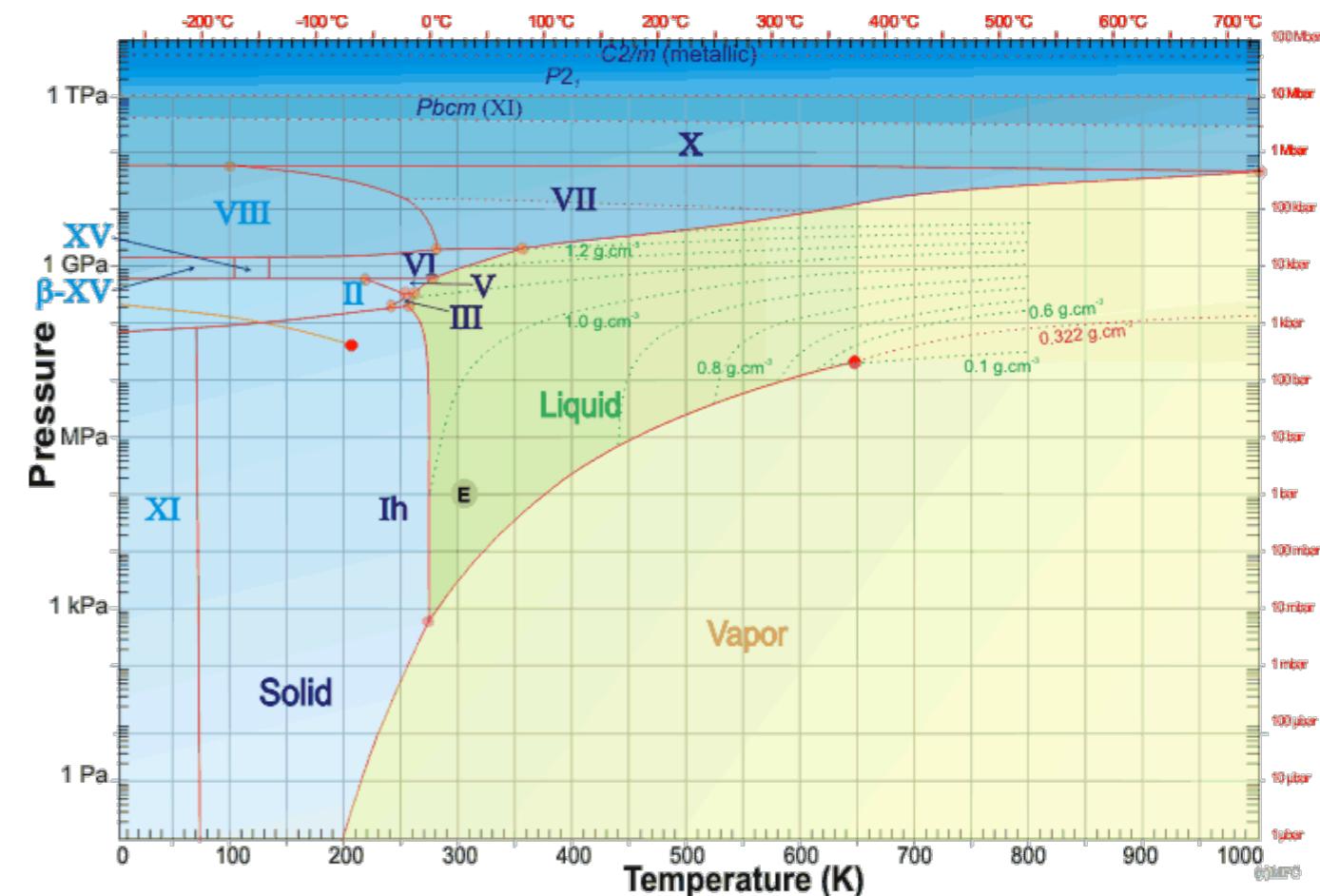
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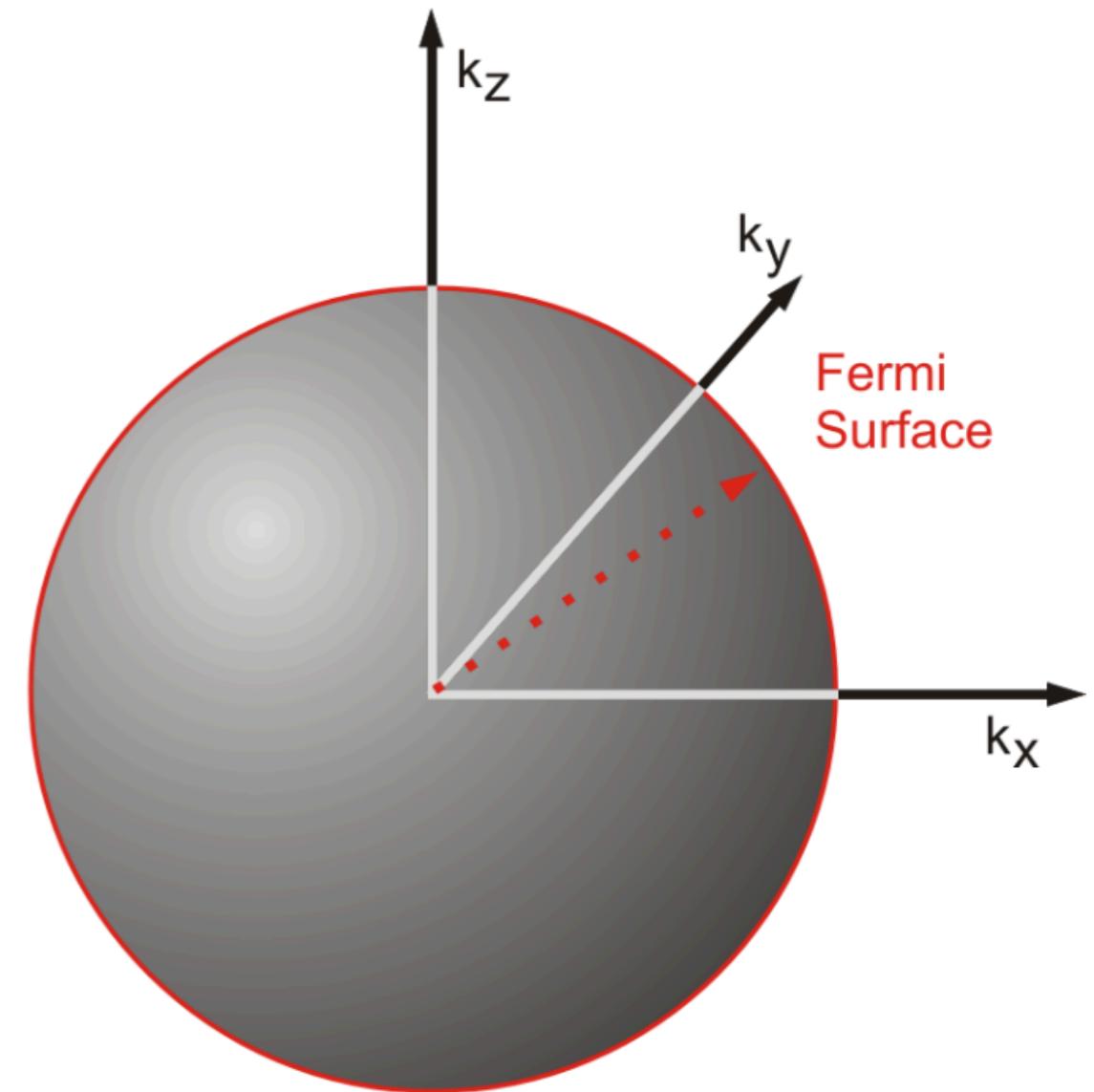
vs.

What it actually is like



# Quarkyonic matter

- Very speculative/qualitative scenario for dense matter
- Perturbative physics in the bulk, **nonperturbative** excitations at the Fermi surface
- Large  $N_c$  limit, dimensional reduction at the Fermi surface
- Effective theory: QCD(1+1D): favored ground state for low  $T$  is a crystal! (“chiral spirals”)





# How to tackle QCD at finite density?

# (some) Theoretical methods for QCD at finite density

- Functional methods:
  - Dyson-Schwinger equations
  - Functional renormalization group
- Effective quark (and quark-hadron) models
  - NJL, Quark-meson ..
- Effective field theories
  - Chiral perturbation theory

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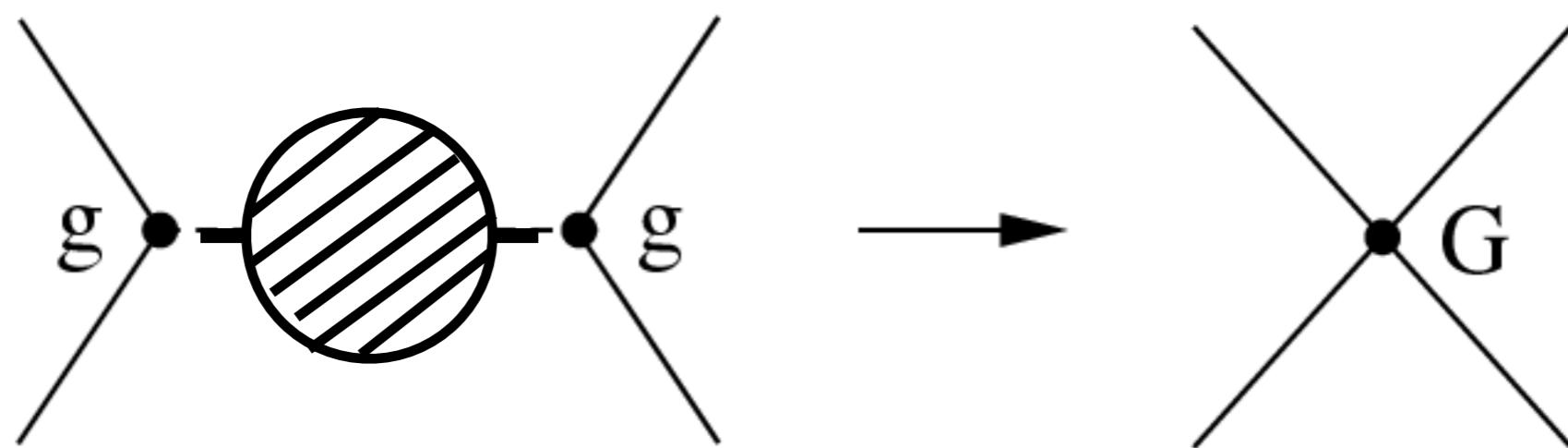
Chiral perturbation theory

# Advantages of effective models

- Built around symmetries of the full theory
- Relatively easy computations
- (Typically) Few parameters  
(typically) fitted to experimental data in vacuum
- Qualitatively reasonable results

# Nambu—Jona-Lasinio (NJL) model

Complicated quark-gluon interaction replaced by effective four-fermion vertex with fixed coupling constant G



Simplest version: 2 flavor, scalar-pseudoscalar interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{NJL} = \bar{\psi} i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi - m \bar{\psi} \psi + G [(\bar{\psi} \psi)^2 + (\bar{\psi} i\gamma^5 \tau^a \psi)^2]$$

# Mean-field approximation

- Typical assumption: mean-field approximation  $(\bar{\psi}\psi) \approx \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$

- A constant mean-field chiral condensate acts as constituent quark mass:

$$M_q = m - 2G\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$$

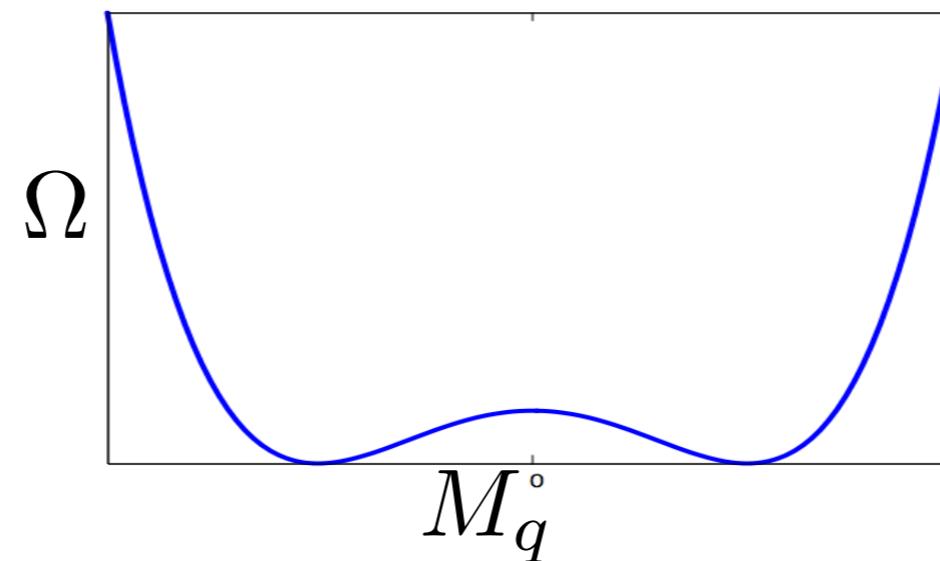
- Neglecting fluctuations, it is possible to obtain the free energy of the system as a trace over the inverse quark propagator:

$$\Omega \sim \frac{T}{V} \text{Tr} \log \left( \frac{S^{-1}(M_q)}{T} \right)$$

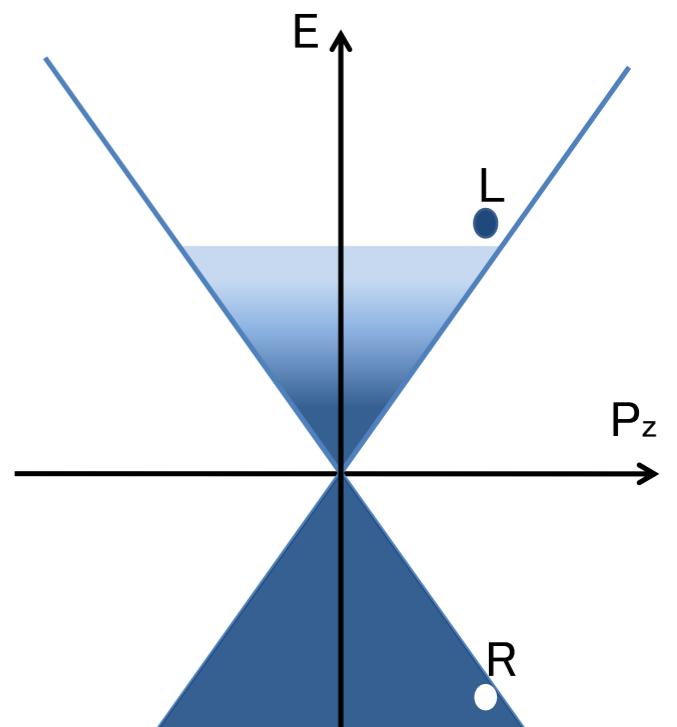
# Chiral condensate

- Optimization problem: minimize the free energy wrt.  $M_q$  to find the ground state of the system

- In vacuum:



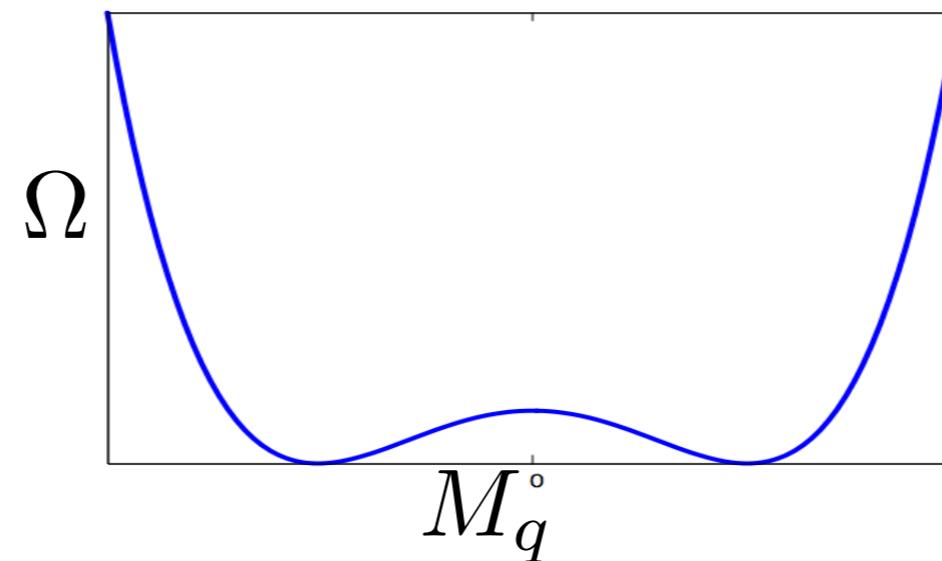
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# Chiral condensate

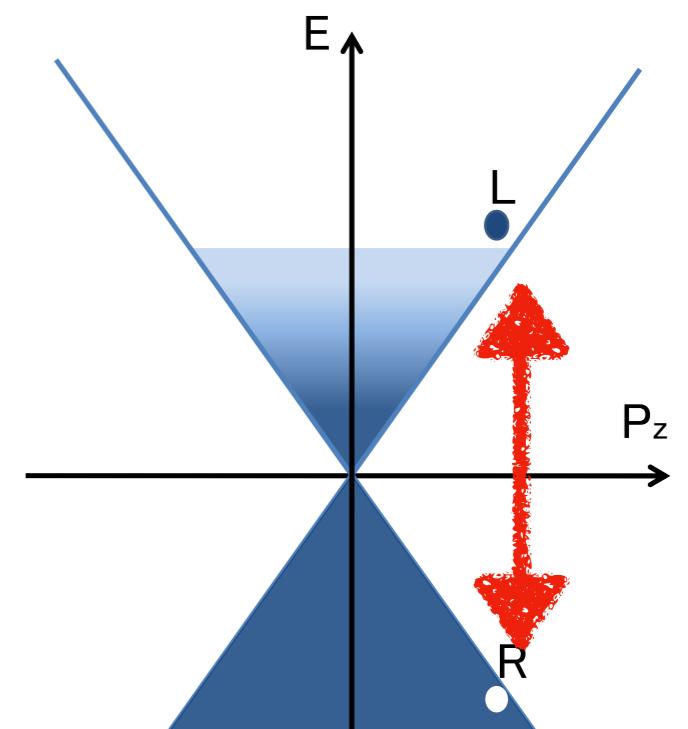
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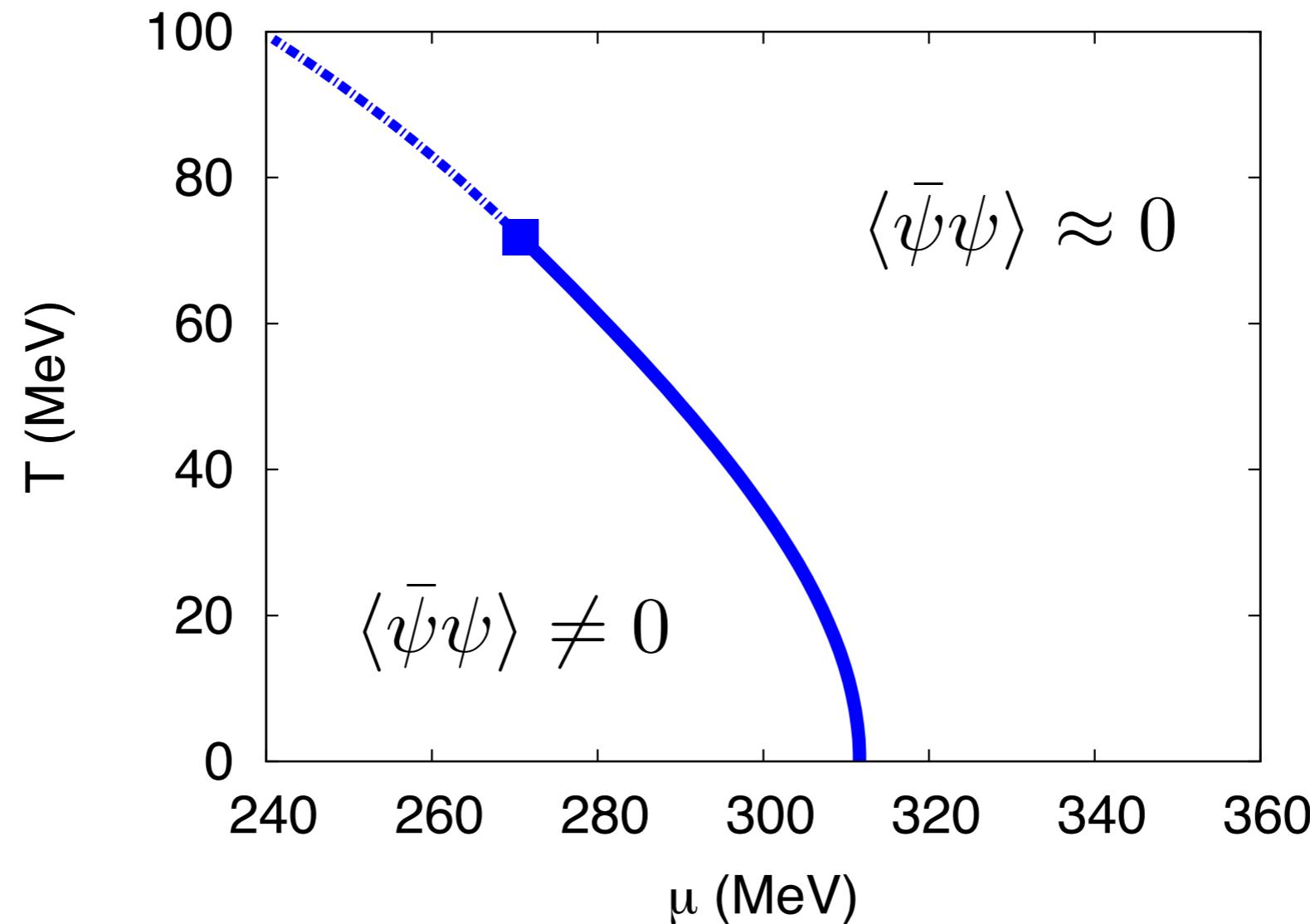
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- As density increases, **higher energy cost** to form particle-antiparticle pairs -> chiral restoration



# NJL phase diagram

Two-flavor, chiral transition only

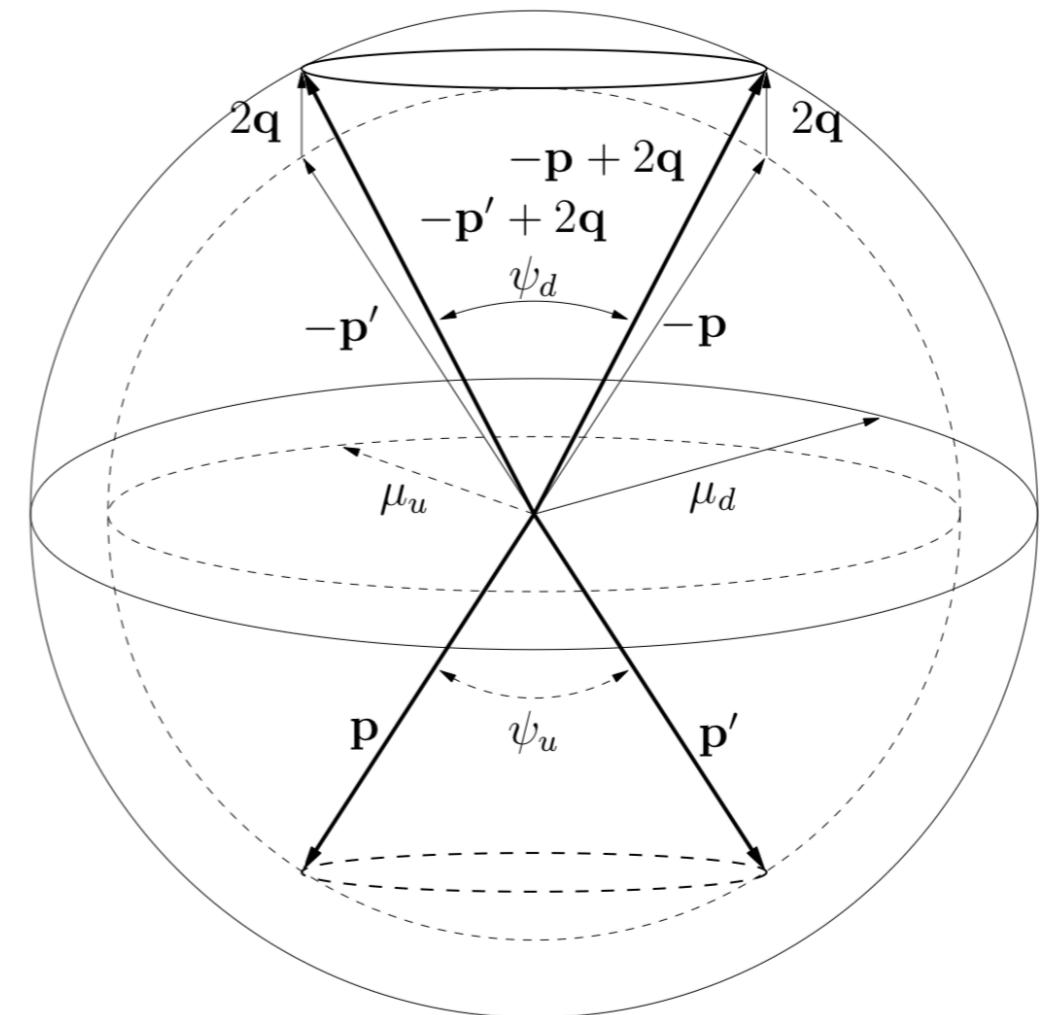
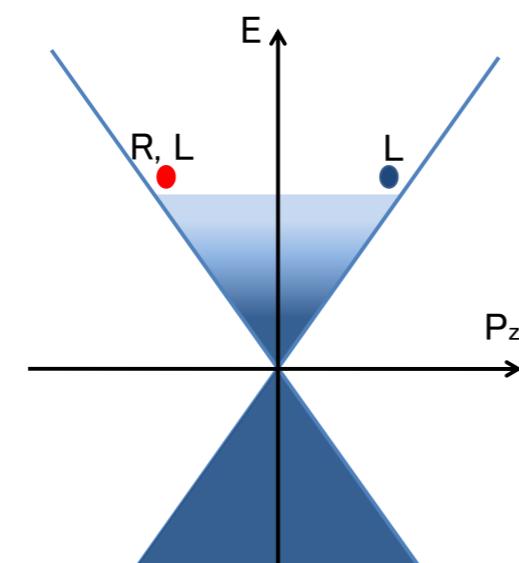


# Crystalline phases

- What happens if we relax the approximation of spatially constant condensates?  
-> Inhomogeneous phases
- Not a new idea: density waves in nuclear matter (1960s), p-wave pion condensation (1970s) ...  
More recently: quarkyonic chiral spirals, hints from 1+1D models (Gross-Neveu, NJL\_2 .. )
- For QCD at finite density?

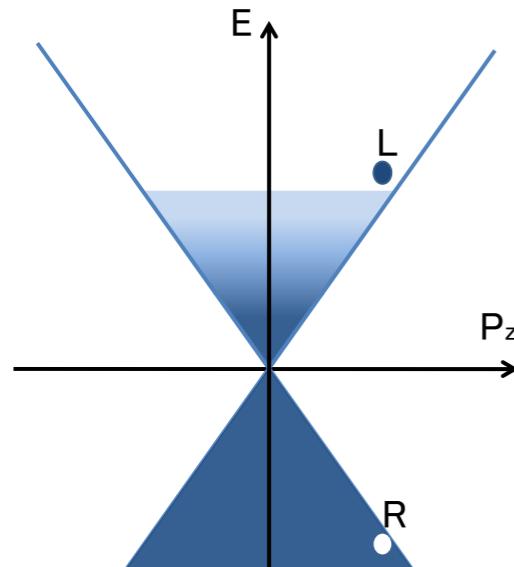
# Inhomogeneous color-superconductivity

- In presence of isospin imbalance, Fermi surfaces for u,d quarks are unequal
- Favored to create Cooper pairs with nonzero total momentum
- Crystalline diquark condensate!



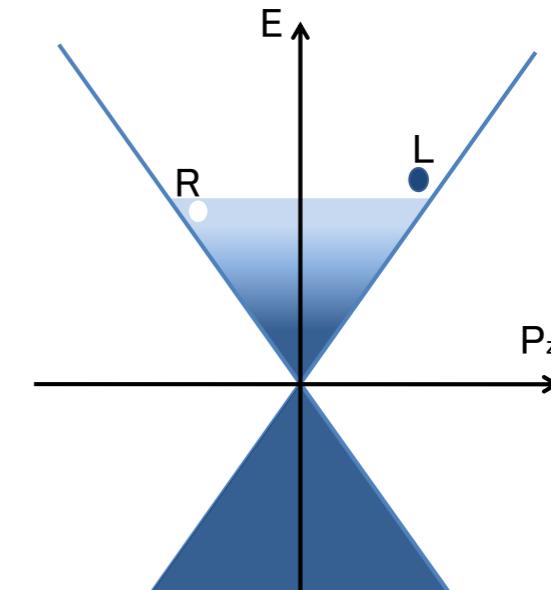
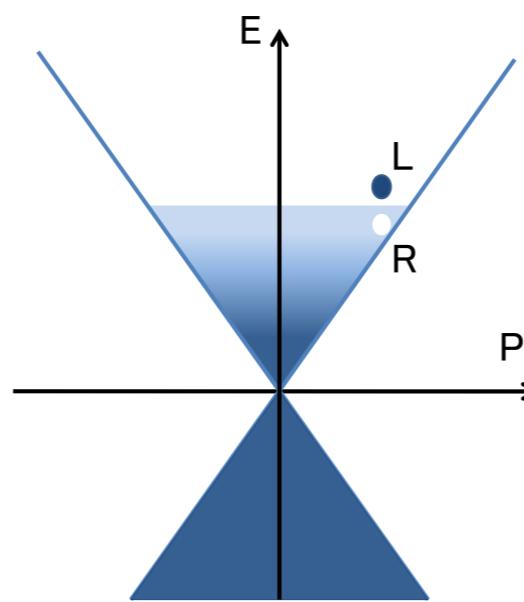
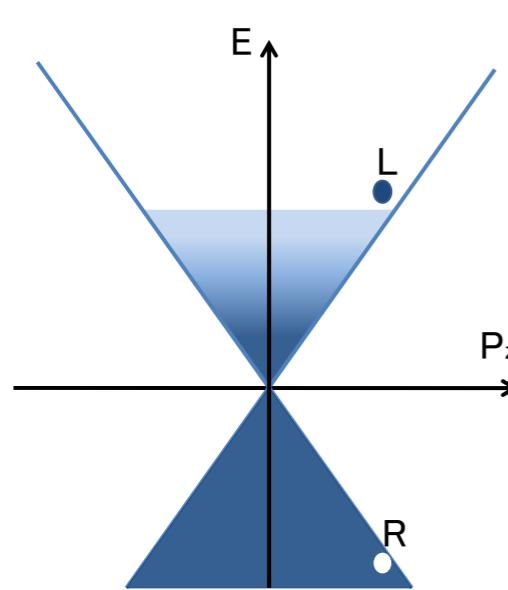
# Inhomogeneous chiral condensates

Instead of the standard particle-antiparticle condensate...



# Inhomogeneous chiral condensates

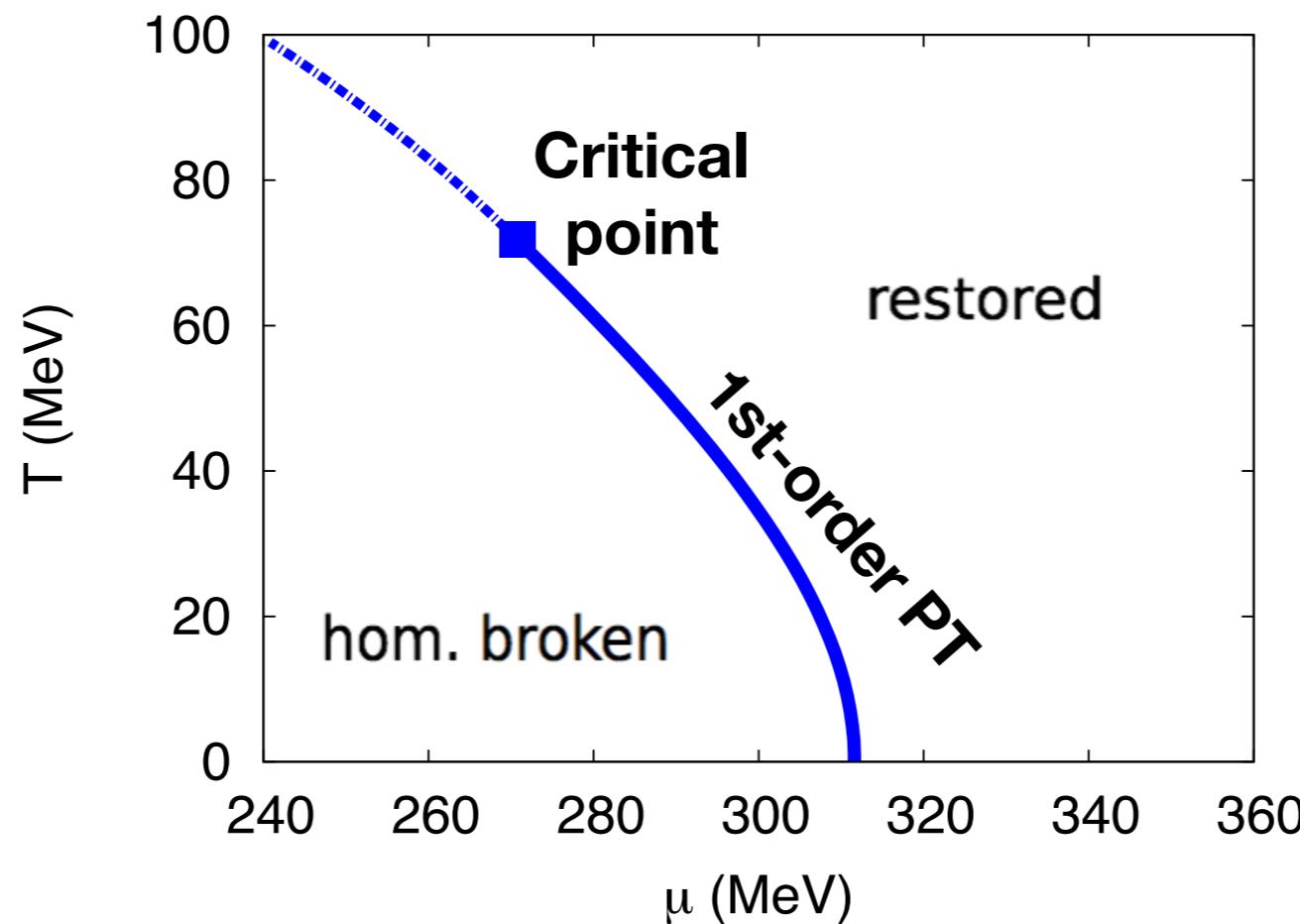
...particle-hole pairing at the Fermi surface (“density waves”)



- Can occur at finite density: could be relevant at intermediate densities, close to the chiral phase transition

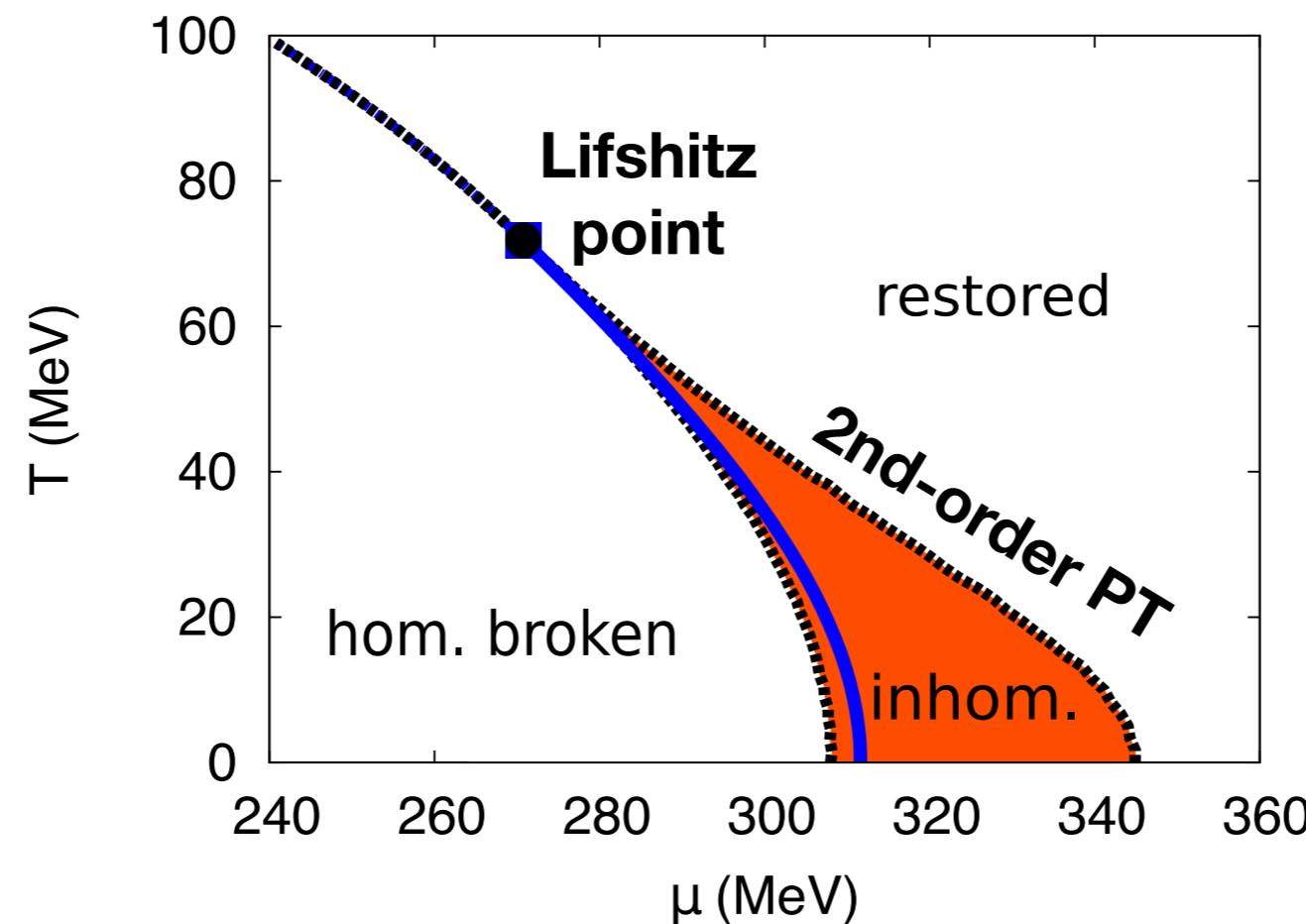
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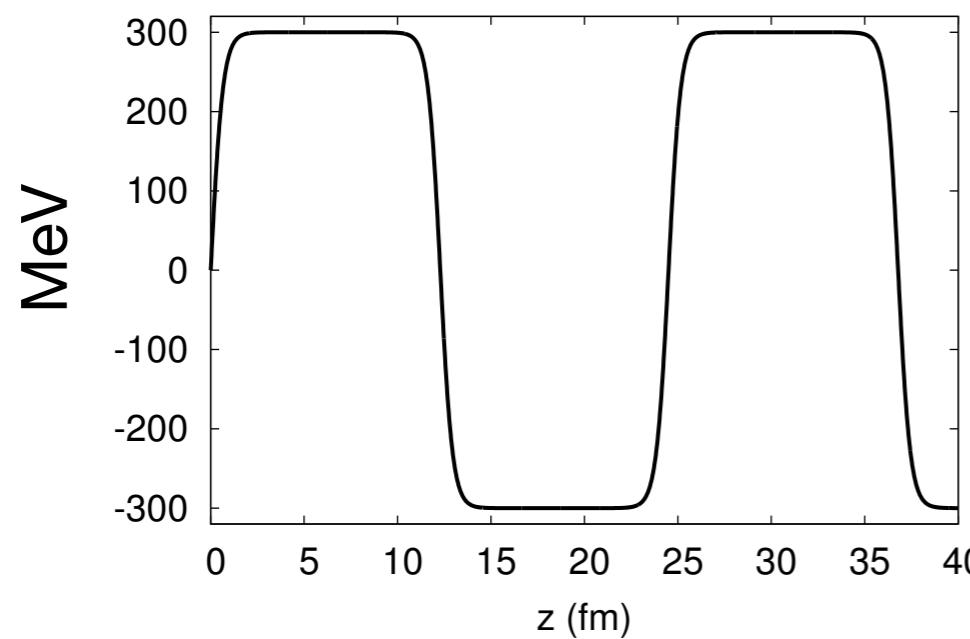
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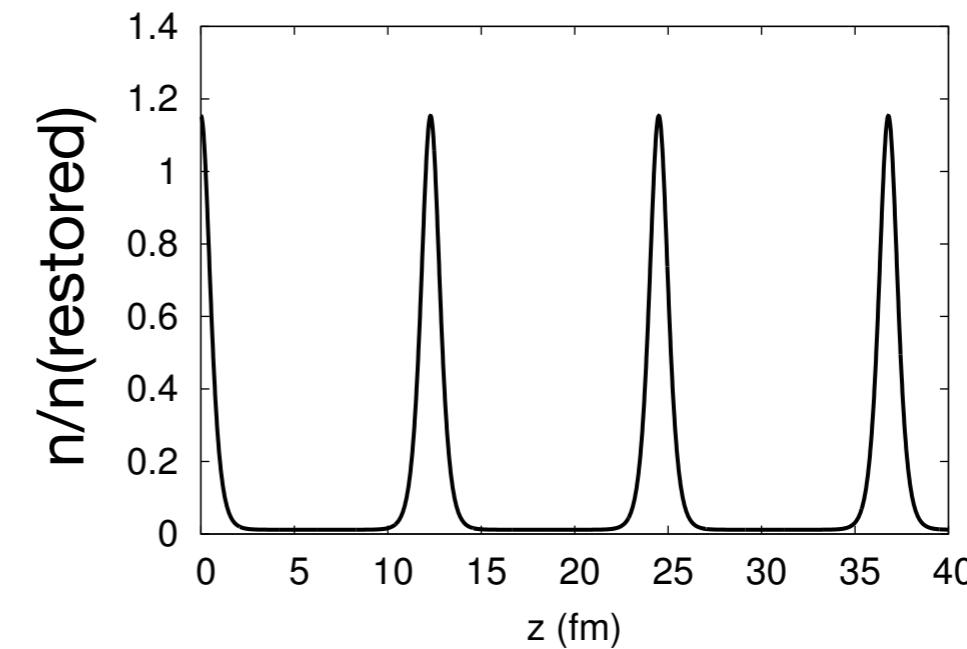
# Condensate and density

- If the chiral condensate is spatially modulated, the density of the system becomes inhomogeneous as well
- For the real kink crystal

$$M(z) \sim \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle$$



$$n(z) \sim \langle \psi^\dagger \psi \rangle$$

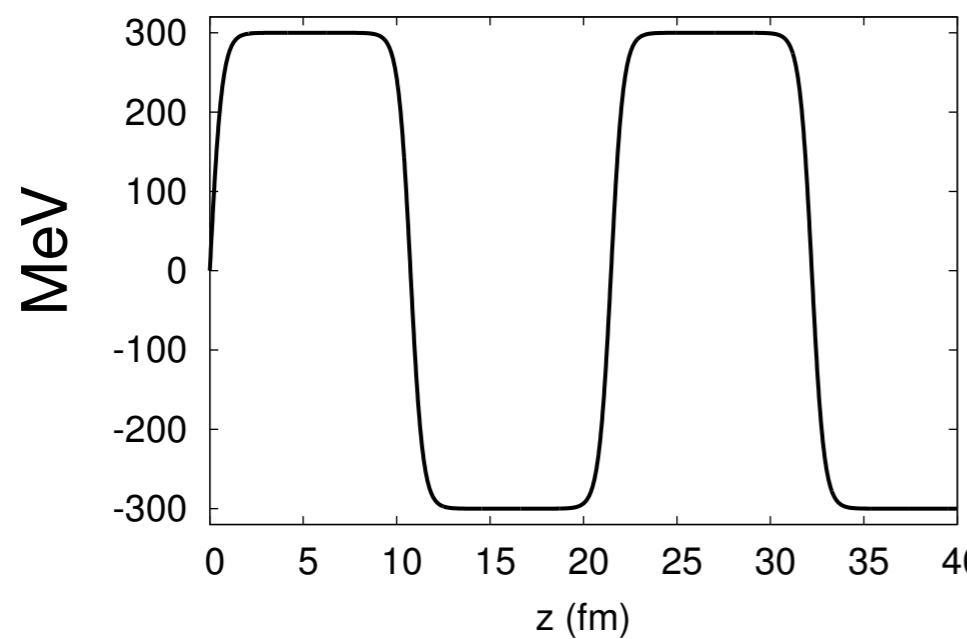


$$\mu \sim 308 \text{ MeV}$$

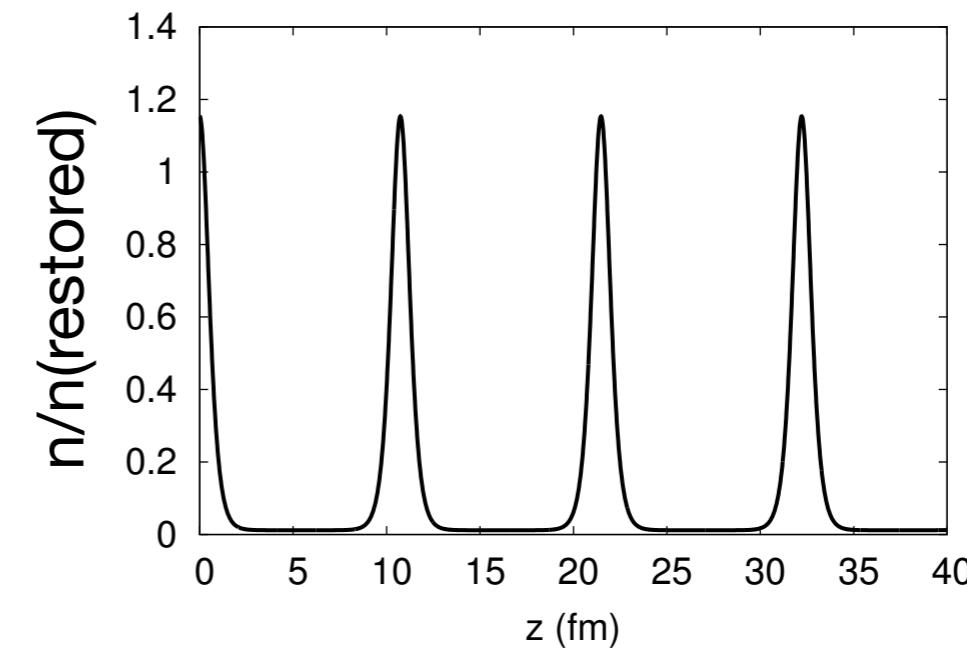
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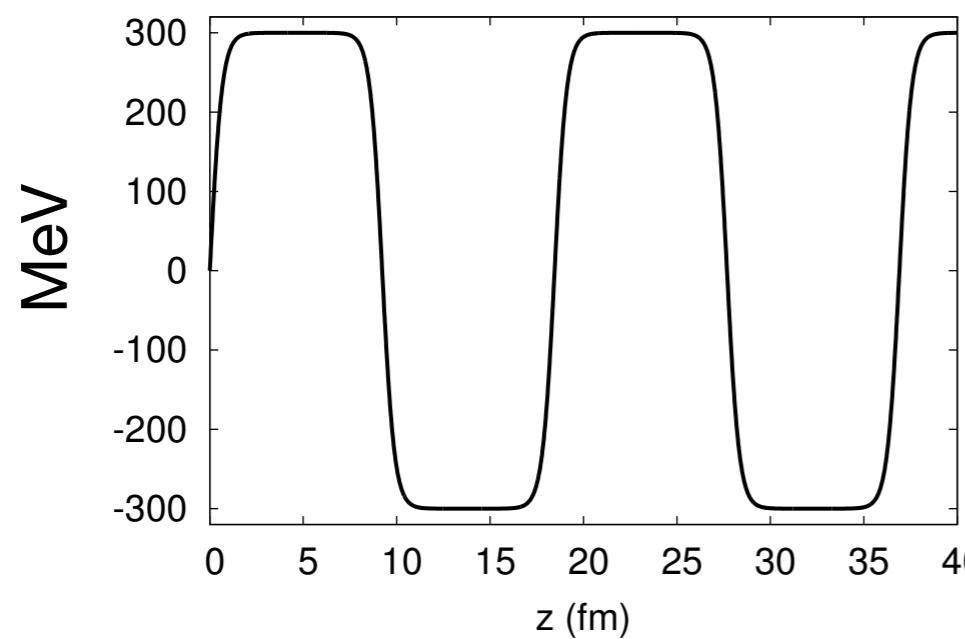
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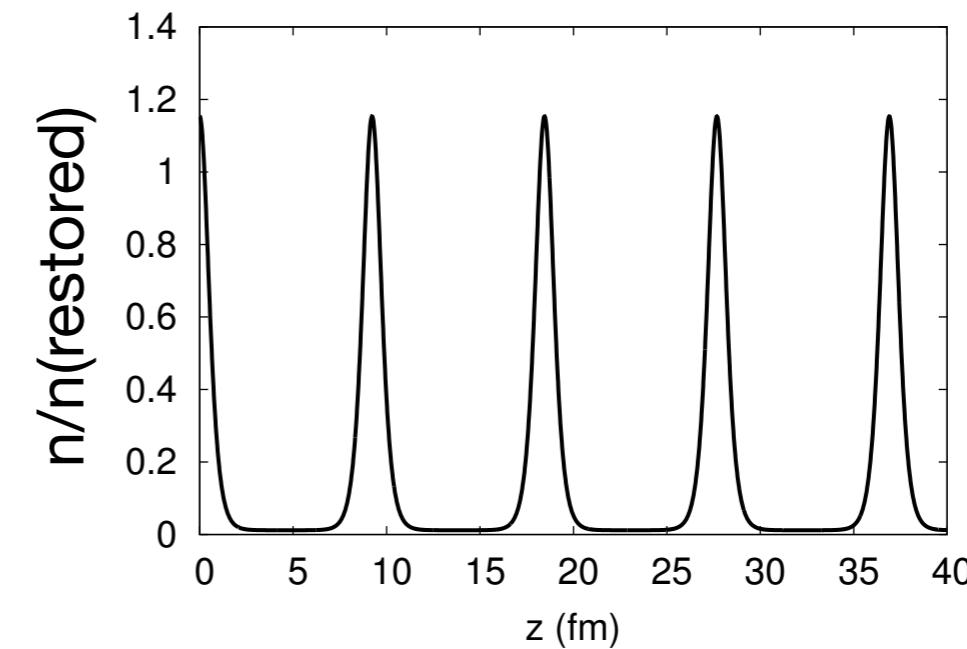
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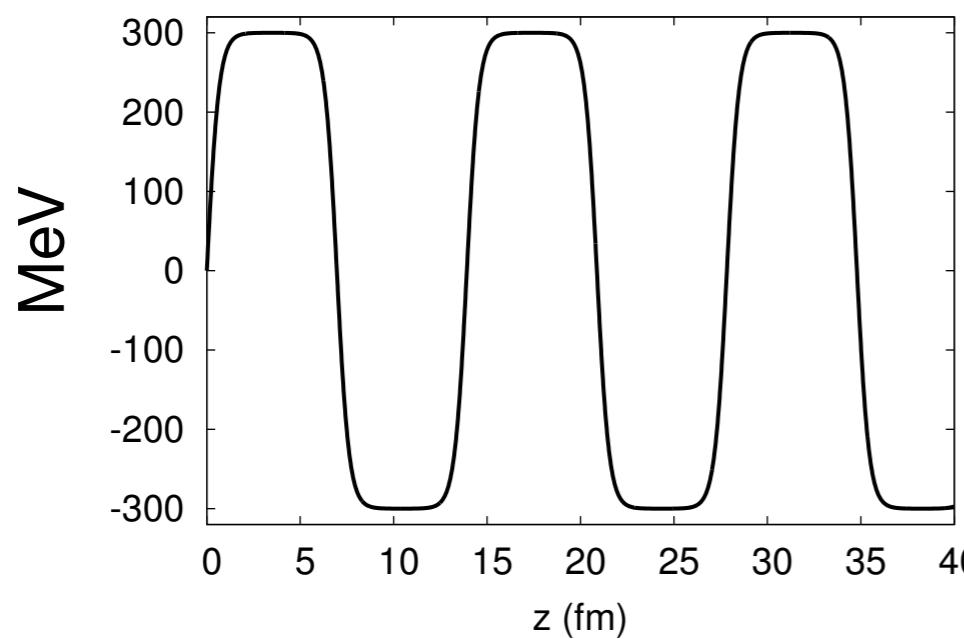
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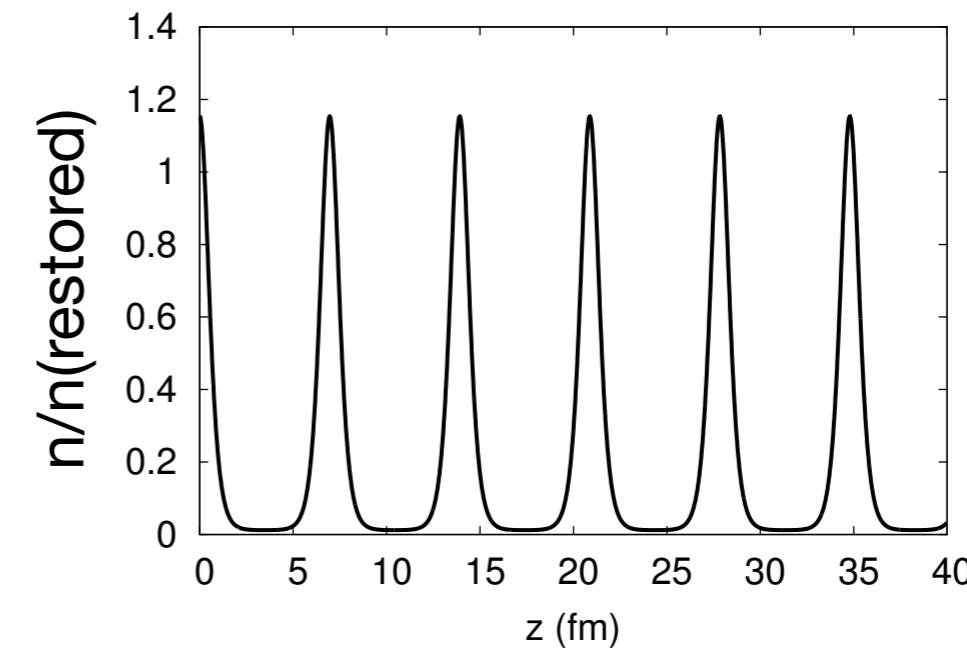
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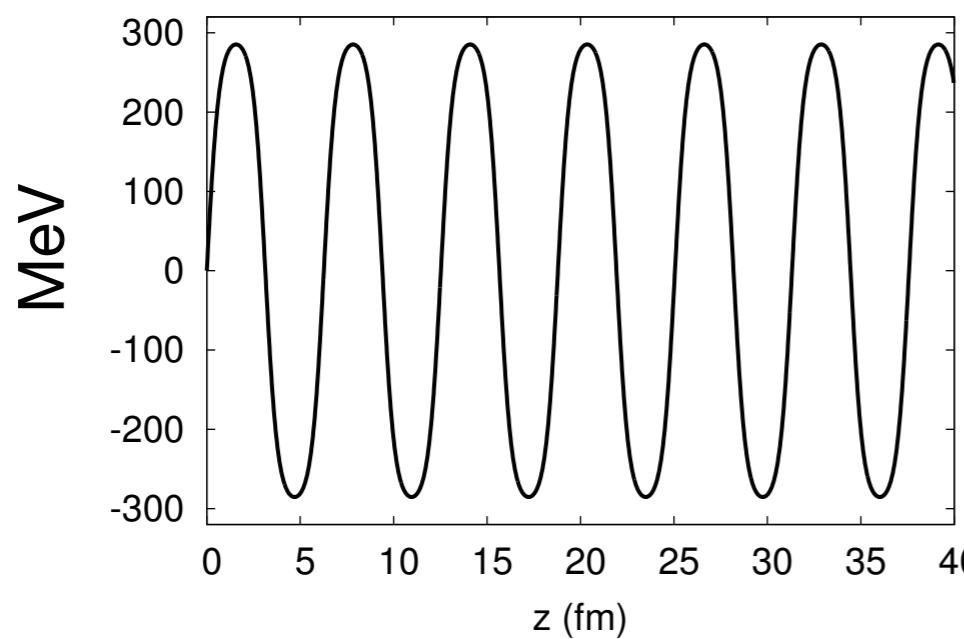
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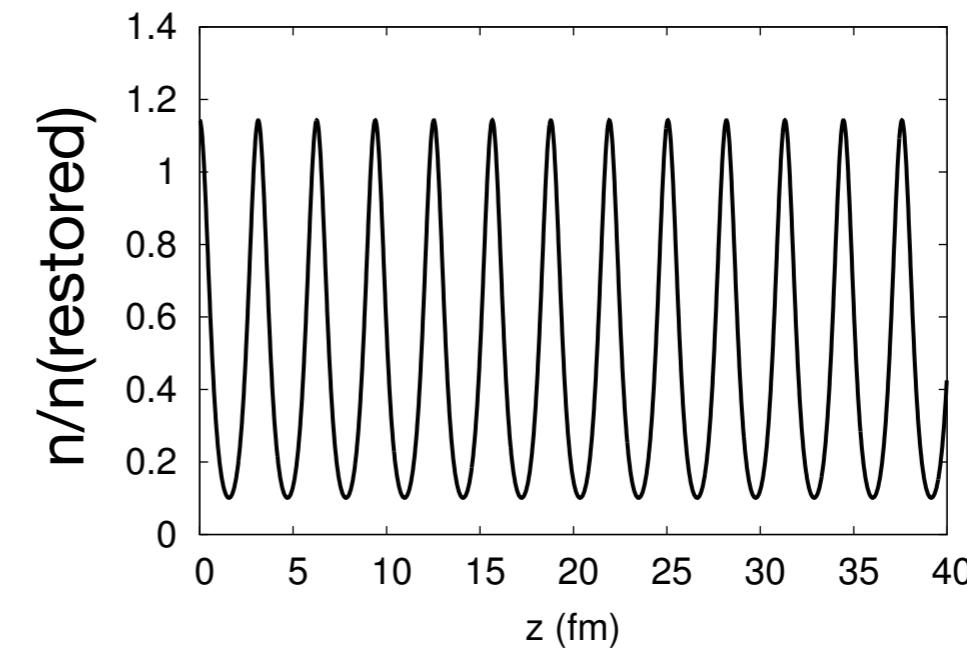
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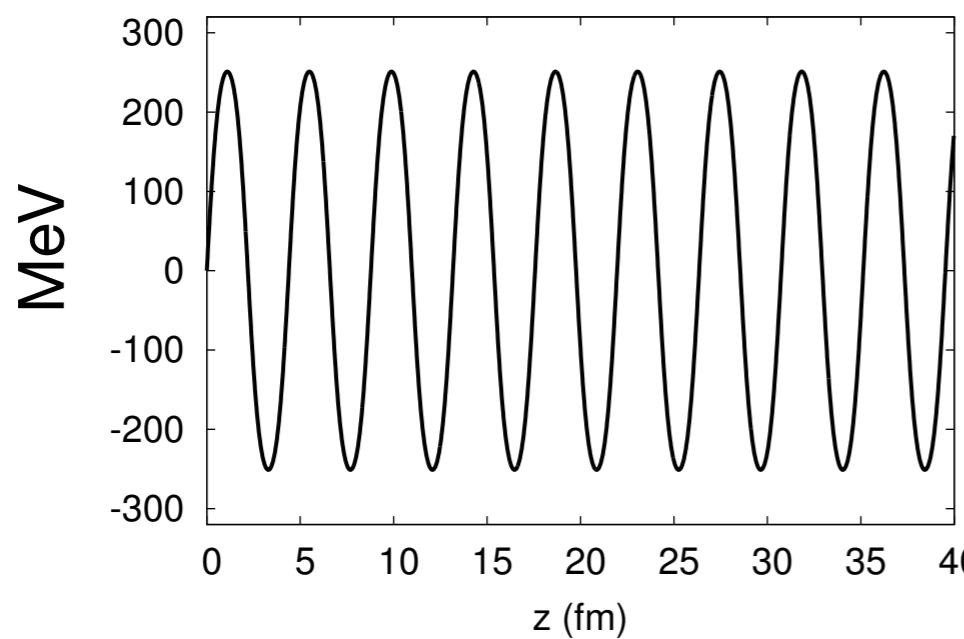


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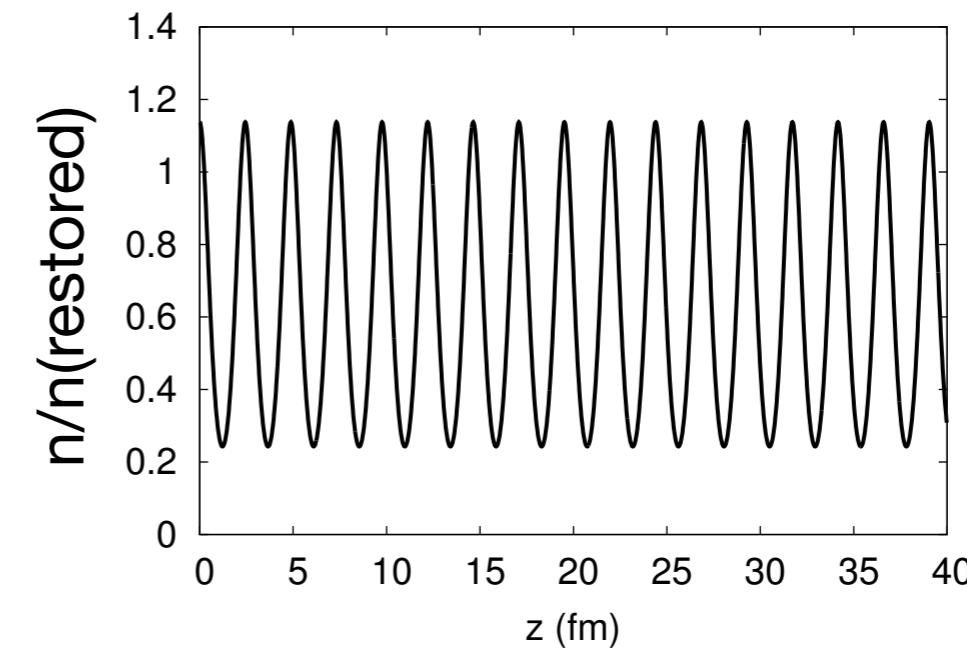
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$$M(z) \sim \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle$$



$$n(z) \sim \langle \psi^\dagger \psi \rangle$$

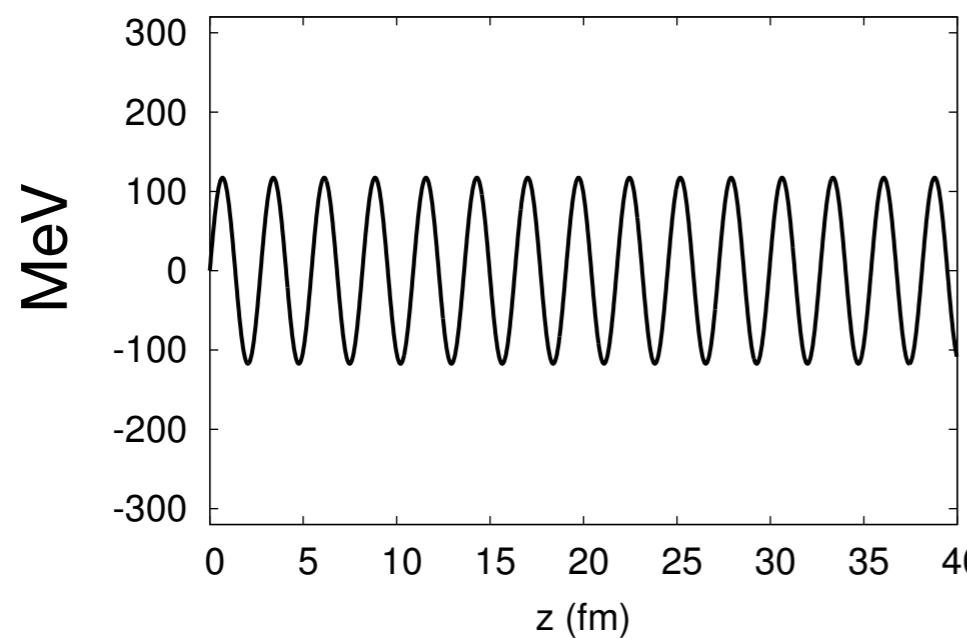


$$\mu \sim 315 \text{ MeV}$$

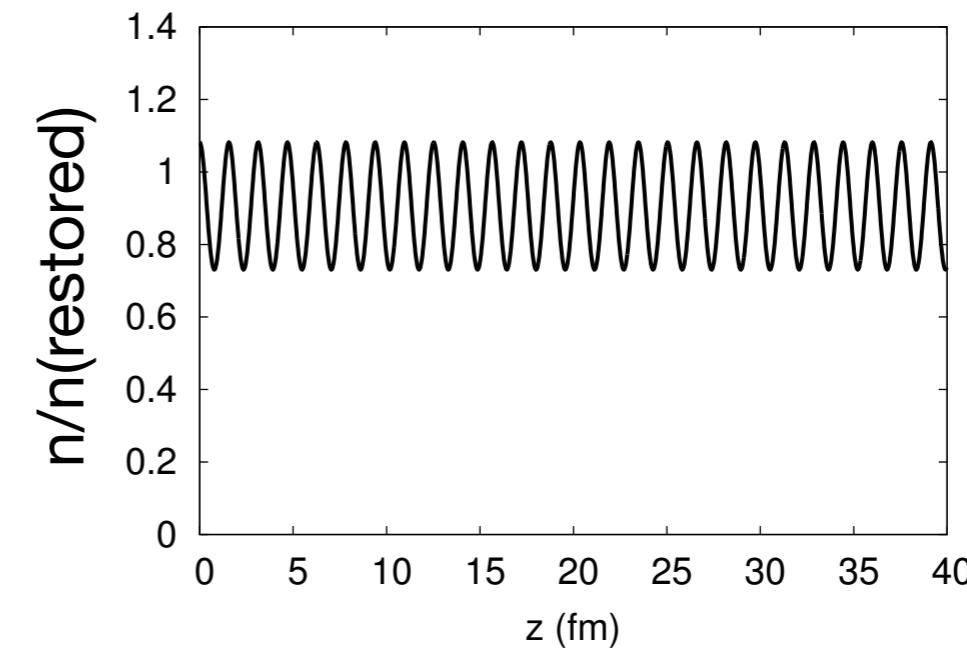
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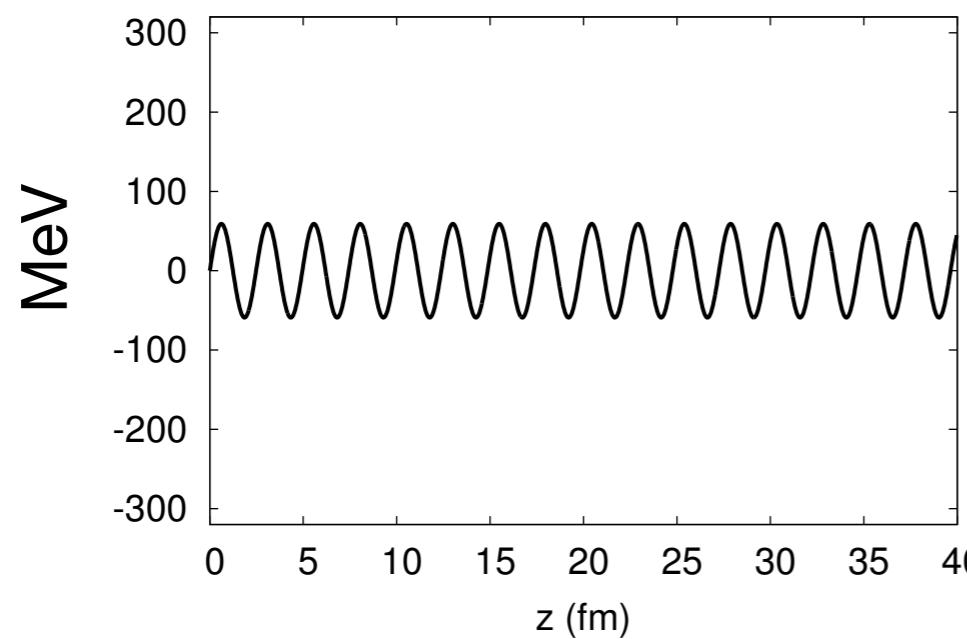


$$\mu \sim 320 \text{ MeV}$$

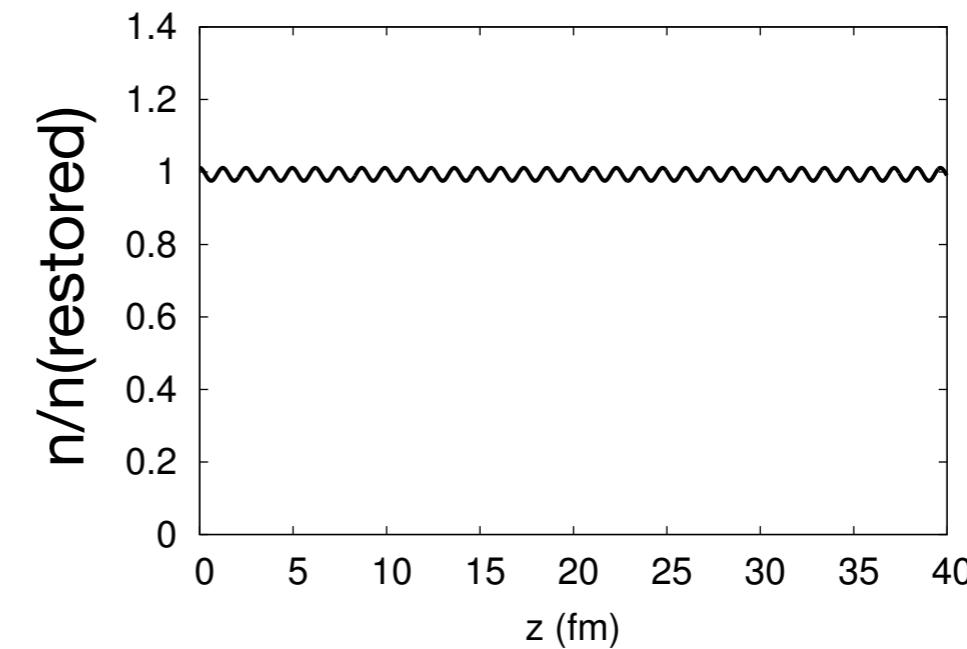
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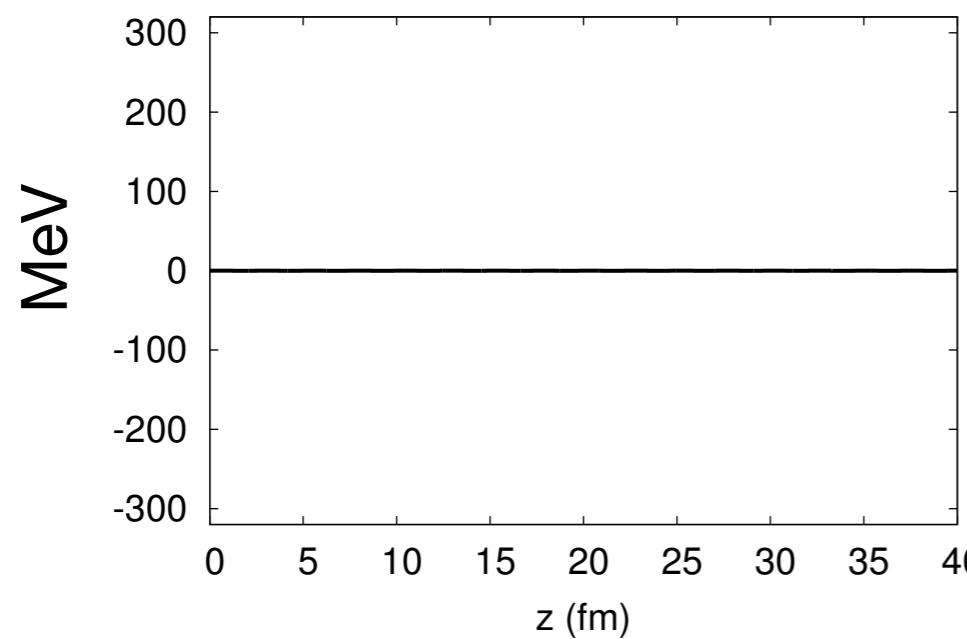


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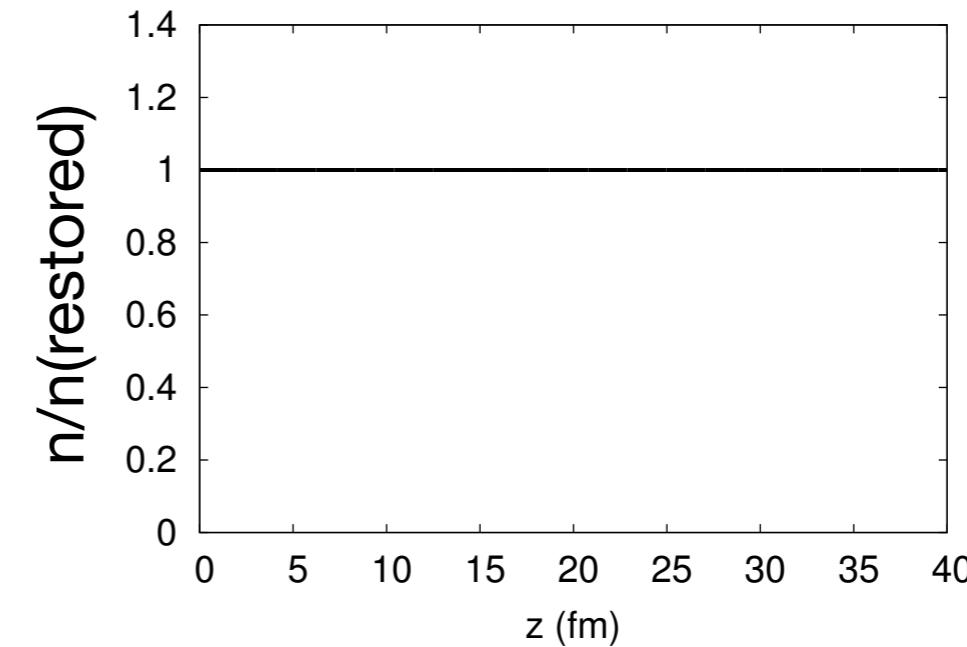
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$$M(z) \sim \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle$$



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$$\mu \sim 350 \text{ MeV}$$

# Model extensions and inhomogeneous phases

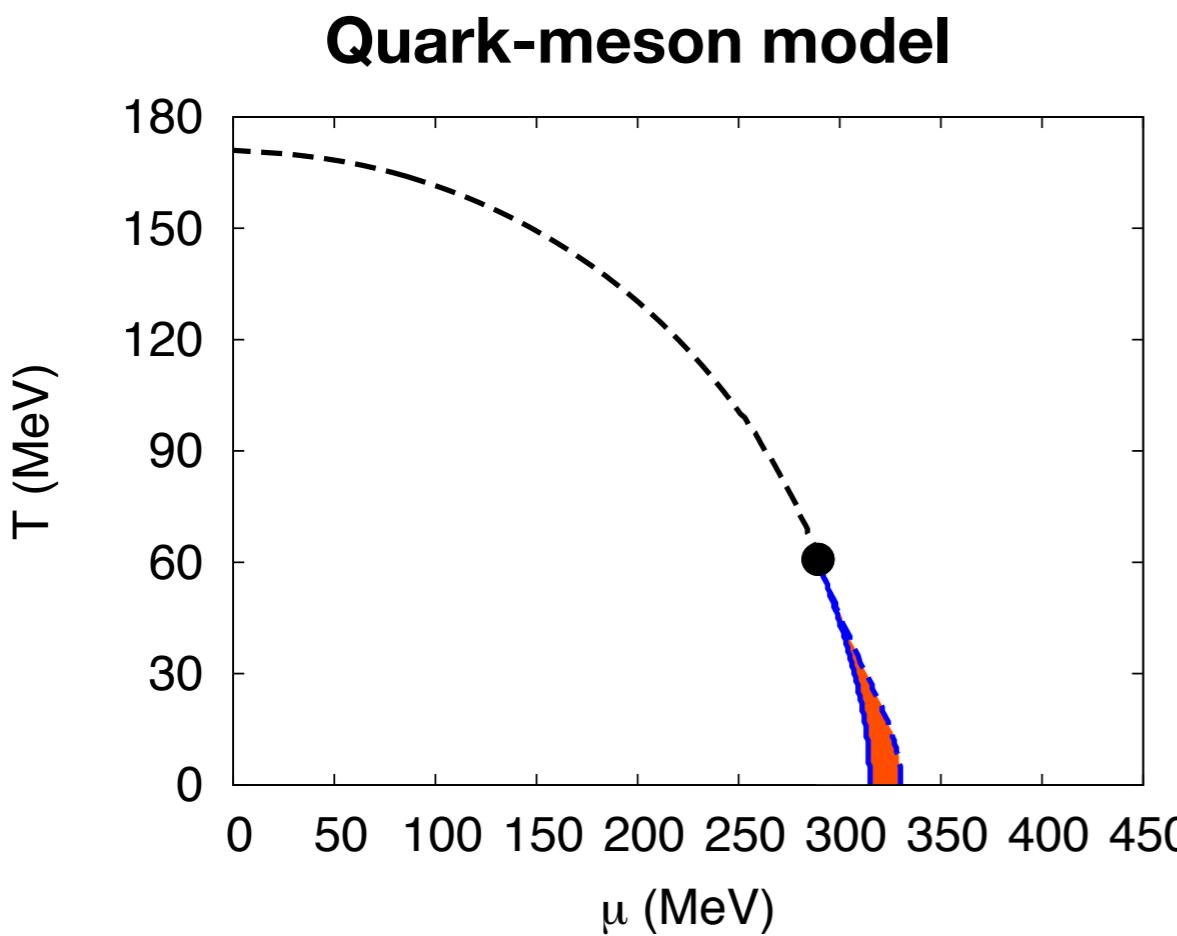
- Polyakov loop (PNJL) SC, D.Nickel and M.Buballa, Phys.Rev. D82 (2010) 054009
- Magnetic fields SC, E.Ferrer, V.Incera and L.Paulucci,  
Phys.Rev. D92 (2015) no.10, 105018
- Vector interactions SC, M. Schramm and M.Buballa, Phys.Rev. D98 (2018) 014033
- Finite current masses M. Buballa and SC, arXiv:1809.10066
- Strange quarks SC and M.Buballa, WIP
- ....

# One might wonder . . .

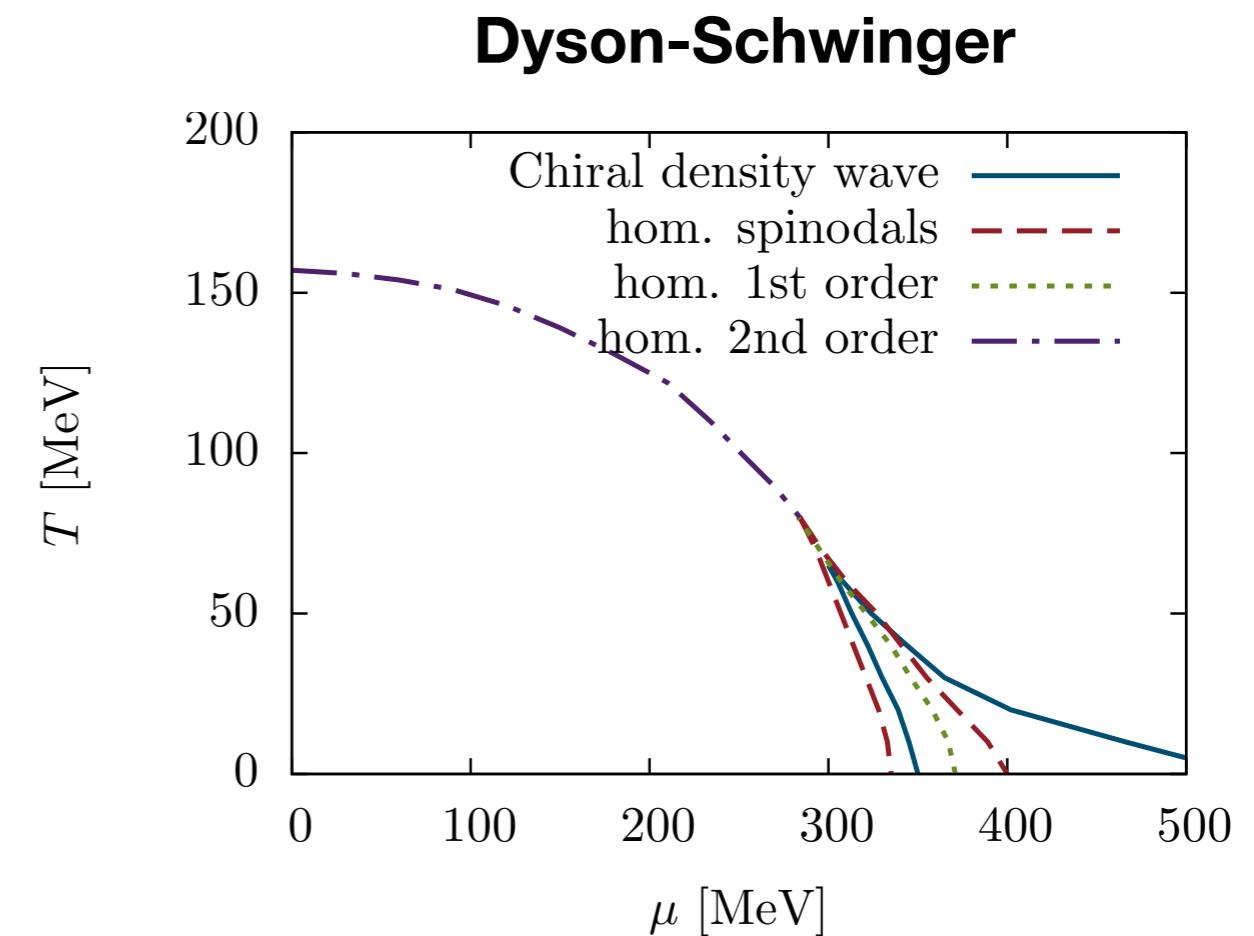
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# One might wonder...

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Unlikely, they also appear in Quark-meson model and DSE studies!



SC, M. Buballa and B.J. Schaefer,  
Phys. Rev. D 90 (2014)



D.Müller, M.Buballa and J.Wambach,  
Phys.Lett. B727 (2013)

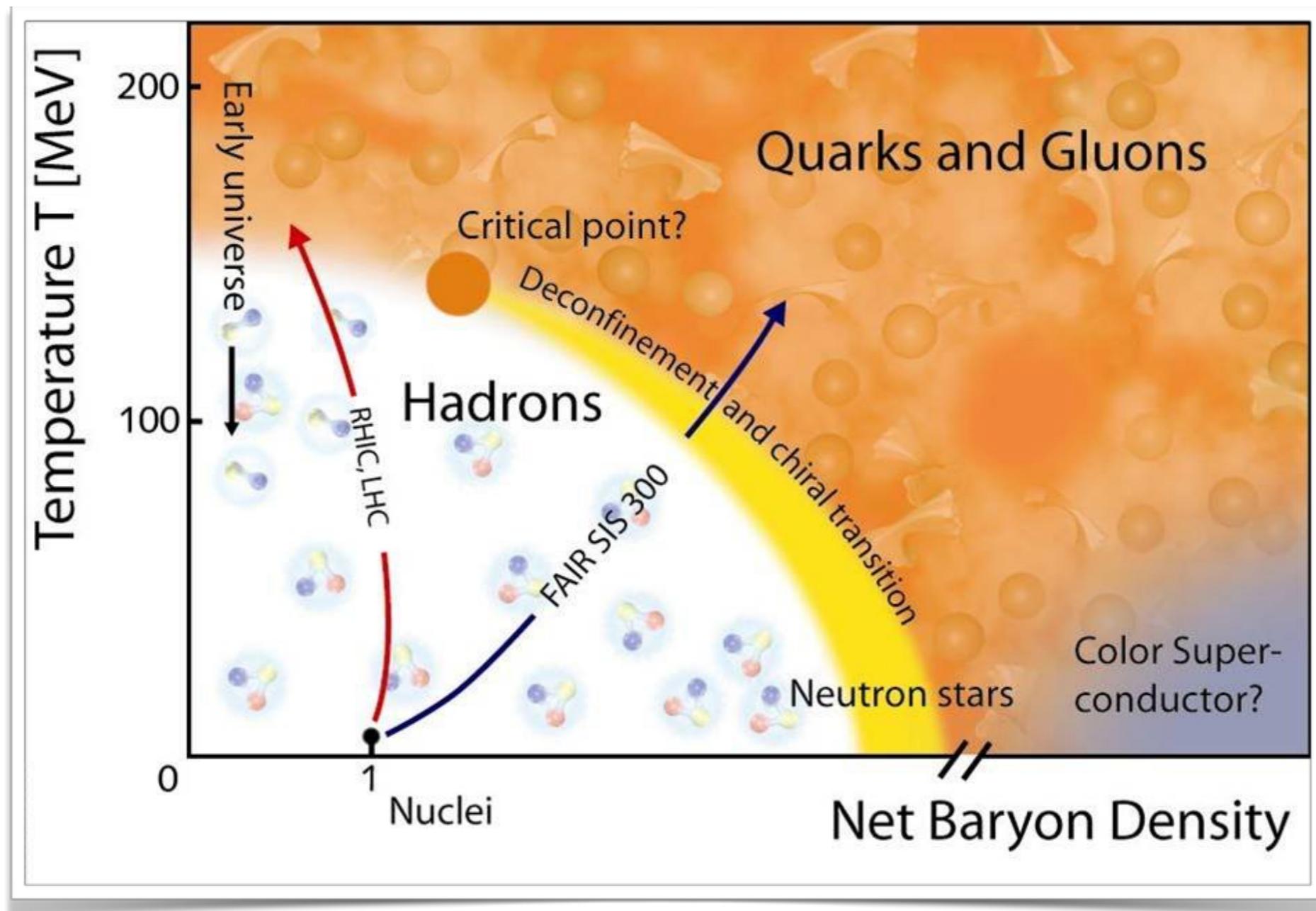
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- Could inhomogeneous phases be a NJL model feature - artifact ?!  
Unlikely, they also appear in Quark-meson model and DSE studies!
- So far: mean-field results. Fluctuations might play an important role, especially for lower-dimensional modulations!!  
  
-> Work in progress!

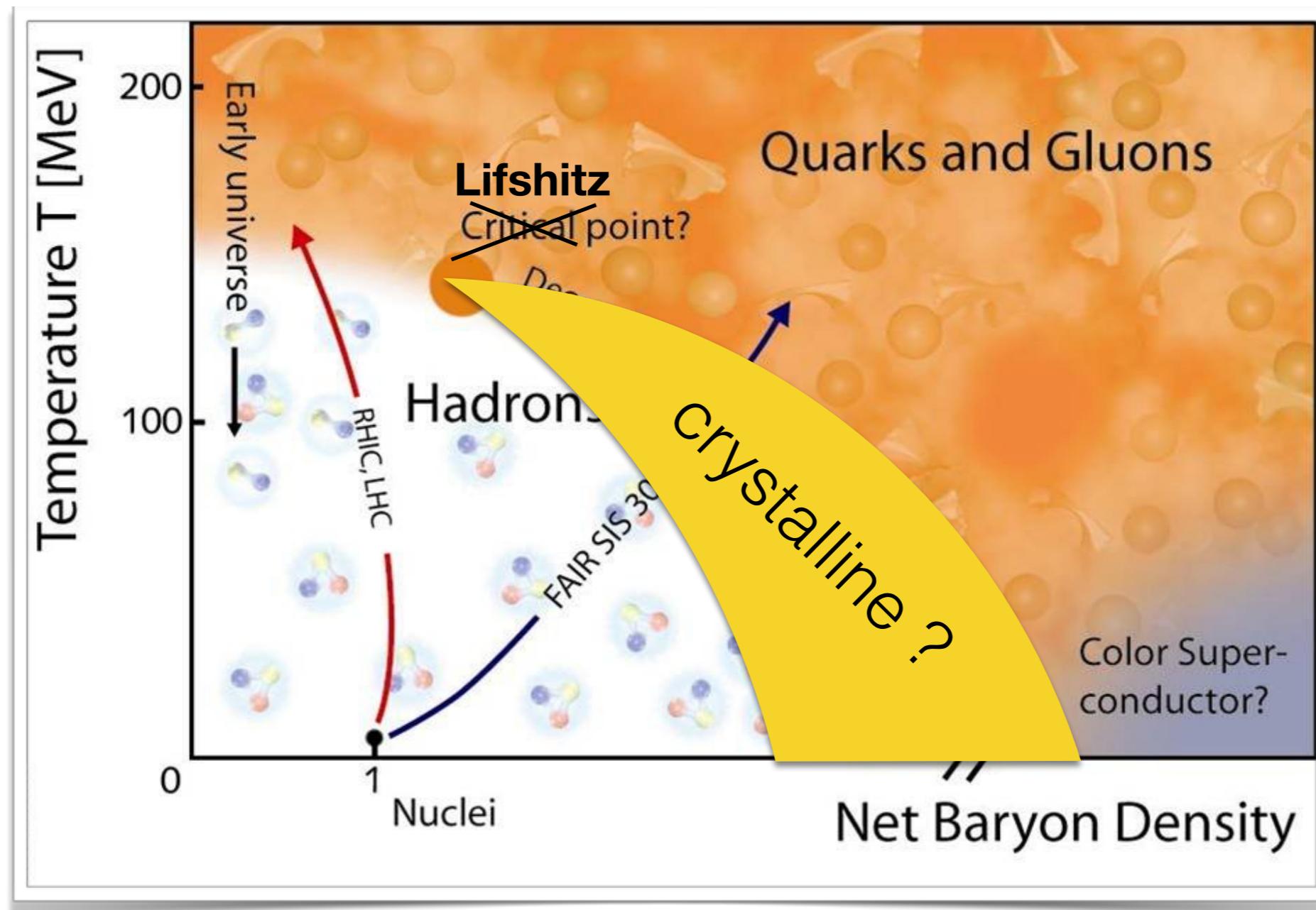
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  - > Work in progress!
- Phenomenological relevance ?
  - > For compact stars: SC, E.Ferrer, V.Incera and L.Paulucci, Phys.Rev. D92 (2015)  
M.Buballa and SC, Eur.Phys.J. A52 (2016)
  - > For heavy-ion collisions: SC, D.Nickel and M.Buballa, Phys.Rev. D82 (2010)

# Take-home message #1



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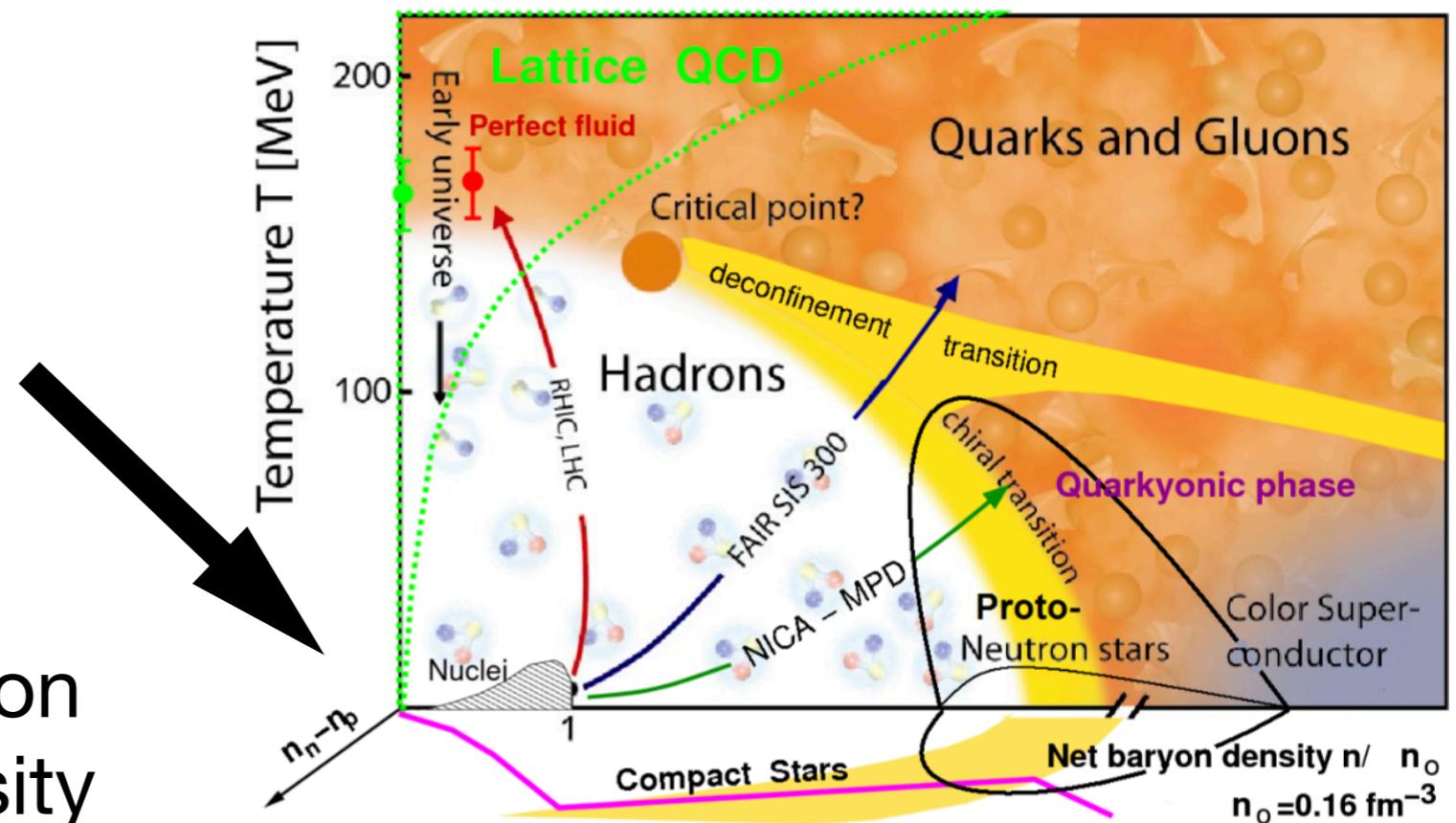


# Matter at finite isospin density

# Invitation: Charge neutrality

- Required for a realistic description of compact stars
- u,d quarks have different charges -> **isospin imbalance**

- New axis on the phase diagram:  $\mu_I$
- Simultaneous description of baryon+isospin density can be tricky!



Try something simpler:

$$\mu_B = 0, \mu_I \neq 0$$

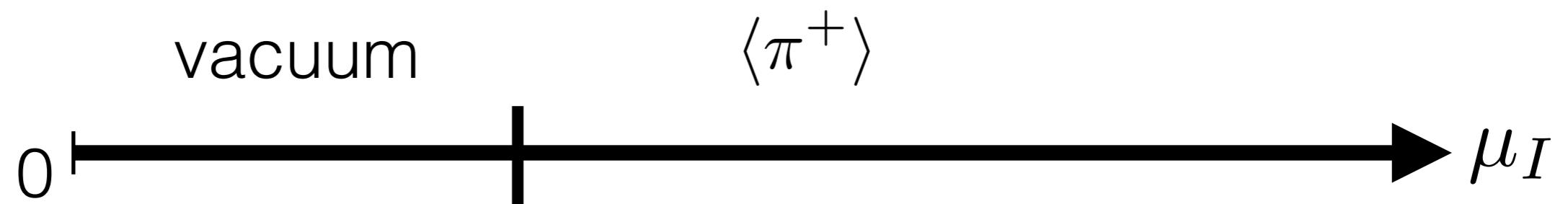
# Phase structure at $\mu_B = 0, \mu_I \neq 0$ ( $T = 0$ )

Qualitative picture:



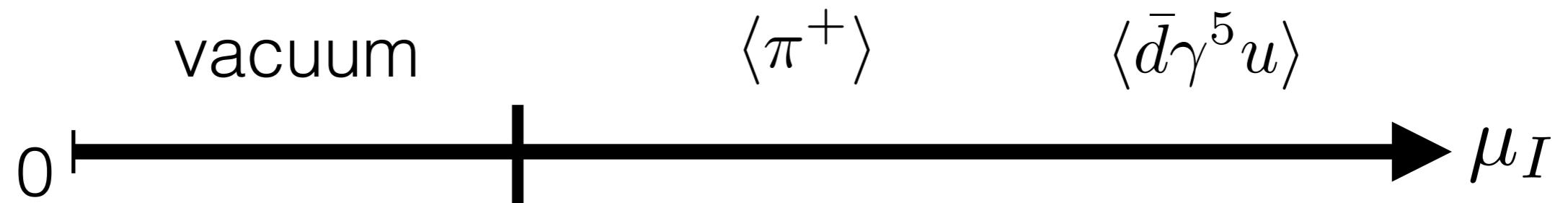
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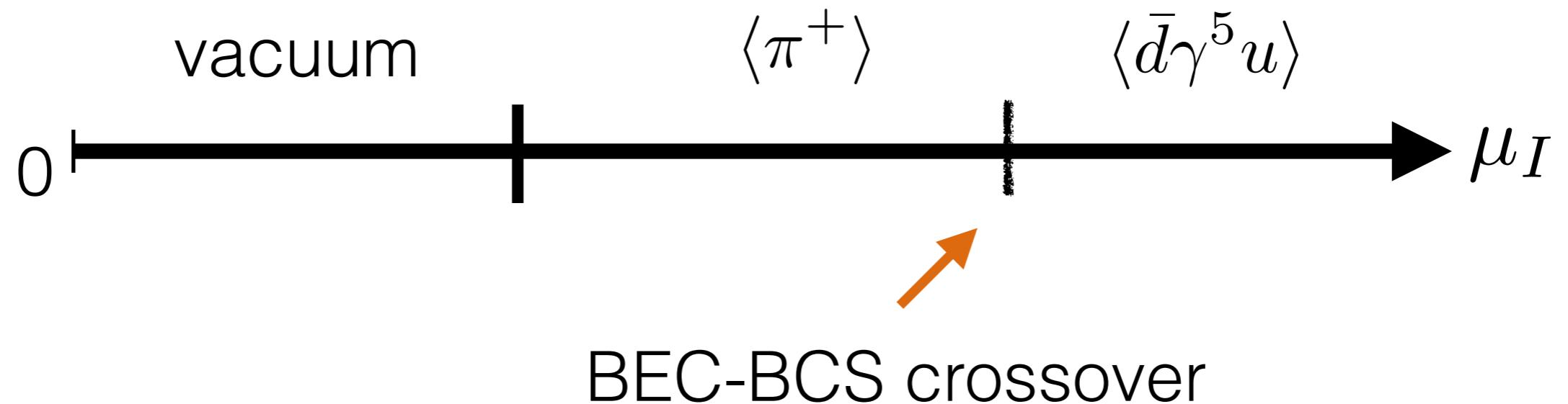
Qualitative picture:



\*not to scale

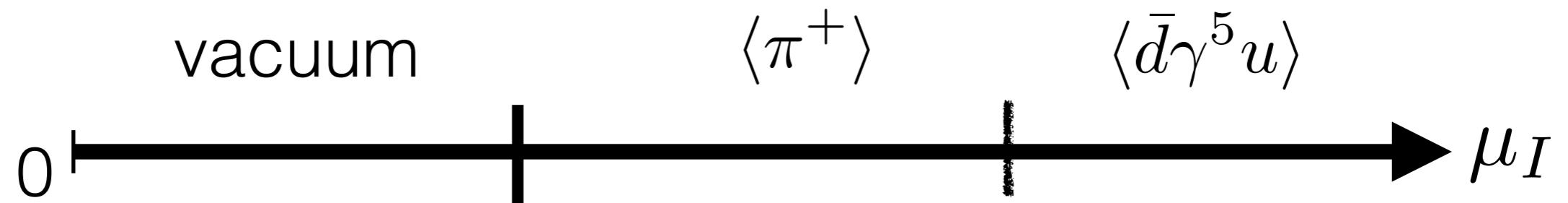
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Qualitative picture:



# Phase structure at $\mu_B = 0, \mu_I \neq 0$ ( $T = 0$ )

Qualitative picture:



Quantitatively?

# Meson chiral perturbation theory - SU(2)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{F_0^2}{4} \text{Tr}[D_\mu U (D^\mu U)^\dagger] + \frac{F_0^2 m_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr}(U^\dagger + U)$$

Degrees of freedom: meson fields

$$U = e^{i\frac{\phi}{2F_0}} \sum e^{i\frac{\phi}{2F_0}} \quad \phi = \tau_a \phi^a$$

$$SU(2) : \phi = \begin{pmatrix} \pi^0/\sqrt{2} & \pi^+ \\ \pi^- & -\pi^0/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Two free parameters:  $F_0, m_\pi$

# External fields

Introduced through the covariant derivative

$$D_\mu U = \partial_\mu U - \frac{i}{2} [v_\mu, U] + \frac{i}{2} \{a_\mu, U\}$$

Chemical potentials too!

$$v^\mu = -2eQA^\mu - 2\mu\delta^{\mu 0}$$

$$\mu = diag \left( \frac{1}{3}\mu_B + \frac{1}{2}\mu_I, \frac{1}{3}\mu_B - \frac{1}{2}\mu_I, \frac{1}{3}\mu_B - \mu_S \right)$$

# Limits of validity

Low-energy effective theory:

- Small momenta
- No baryons
- Lightest mesons only

$$\mu_B \lesssim 940 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\mu_I \lesssim 770 \text{ MeV} \approx 5 m_\pi$$

# Ground state - SU(2)

Ansatz:

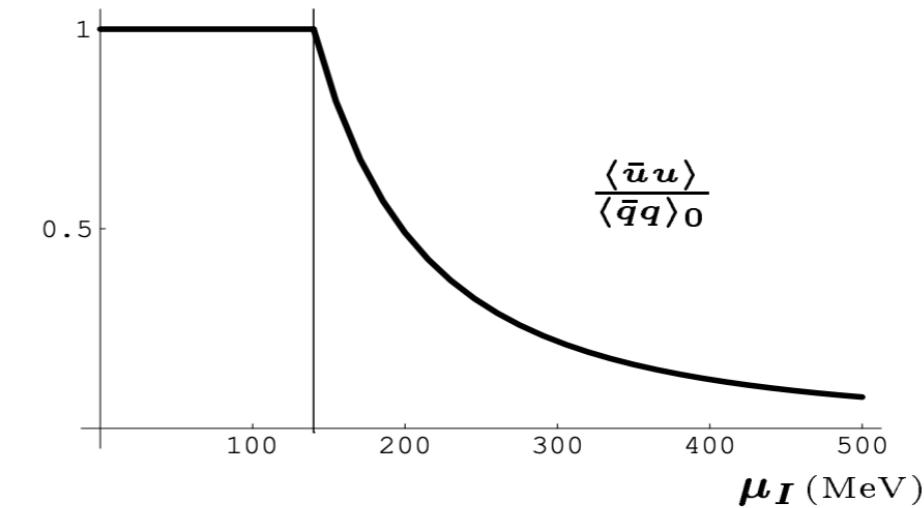
$$\Sigma = e^{i\alpha \cdot \sigma} = \cos \alpha + i(\mathbf{n} \cdot \sigma) \sin \alpha$$
$$\mathbf{n} = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0)$$

Ground state: maximize the static part of the Lagrangian  
( “potential energy” )

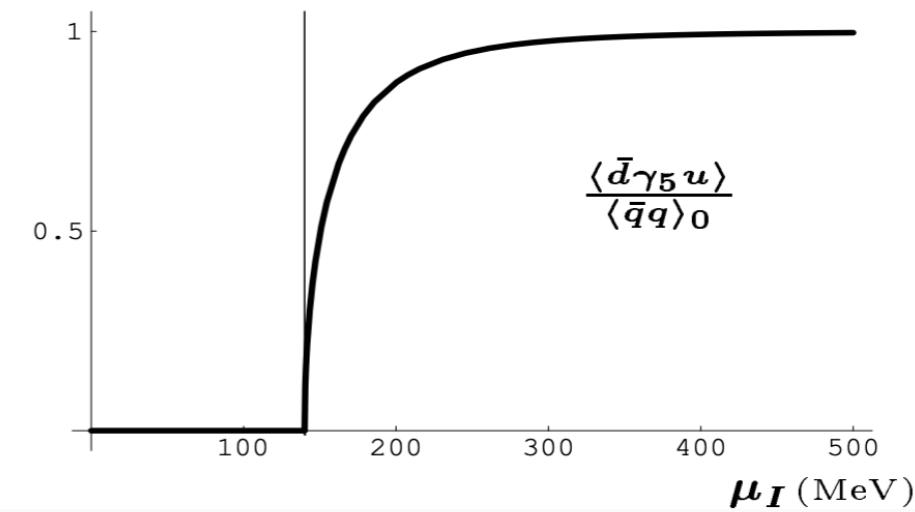
$$\mathcal{L}_{stat} = F_0^2 m_\pi^2 \cos \alpha + \frac{1}{2} F_0^2 \mu_I^2 \sin^2 \alpha (n_1^2 + n_2^2)$$

# Pion condensation

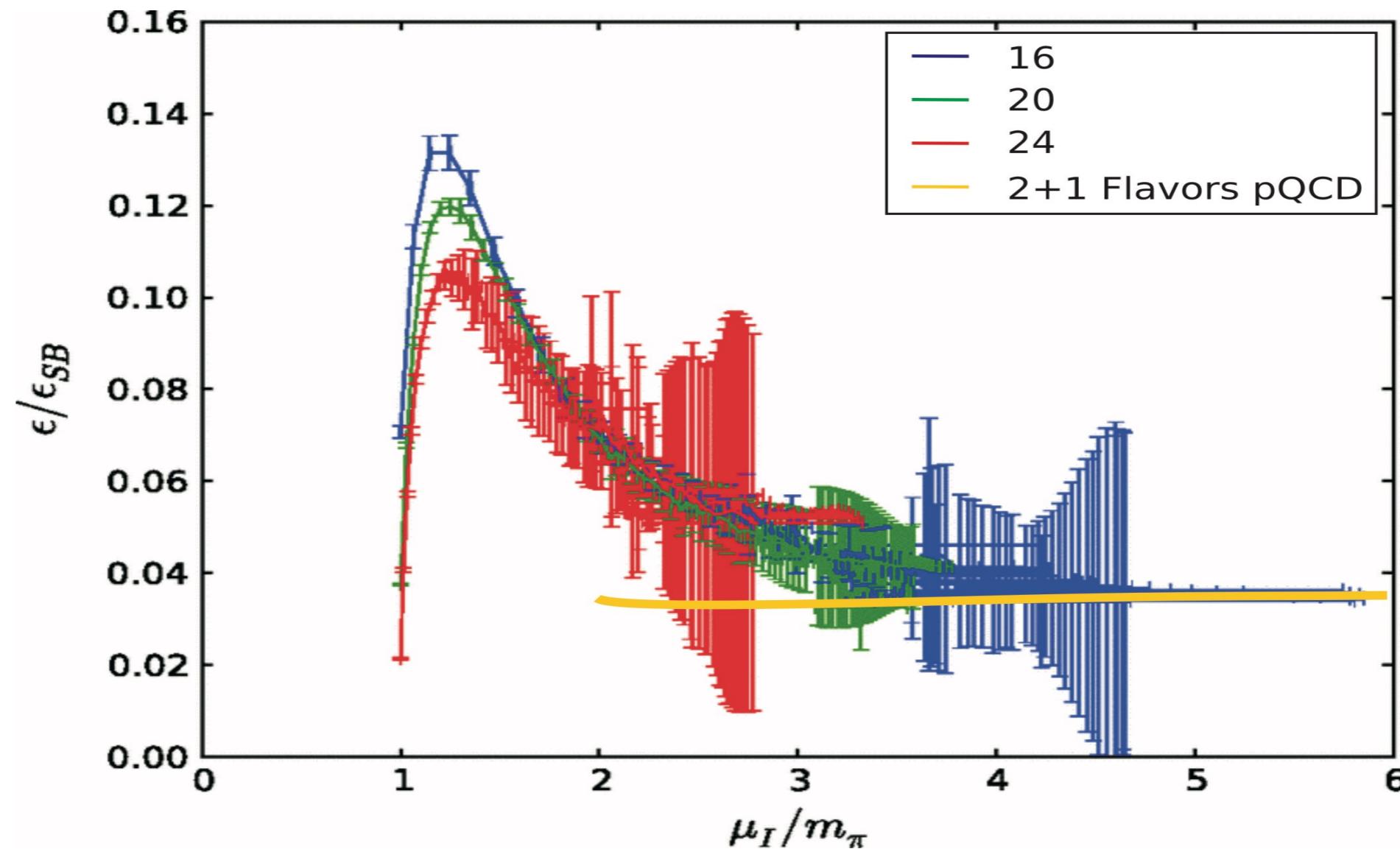
When  $\mu_I$  reaches  $m_\pi$   
pion condensate forms!



(and the  
chiral condensate melts)



# Energy density



W. Detmold et al, Phys.Rev. D86 (2012)  
T. Graf et al, Phys.Rev. D93 (2016)

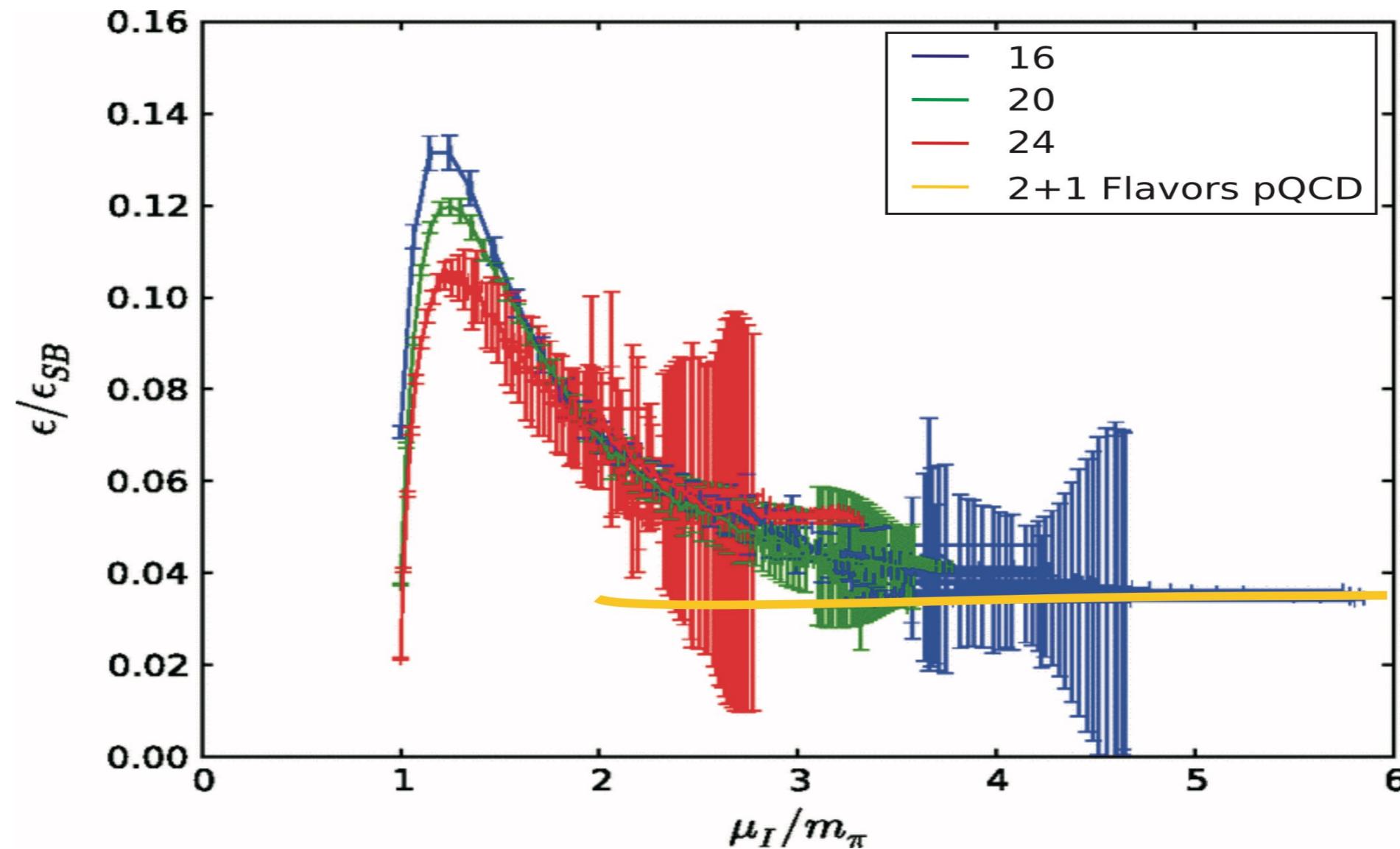
# XPT Equation of state - $\pi c$ phase

$$\epsilon^{\pi c} = \frac{f_\pi^2 \mu_I^2}{2} \left( 1 + 2 \frac{m_\pi^2}{\mu_I^2} - 3 \frac{m_\pi^4}{\mu_I^4} \right)$$

$$\epsilon(P) = 2\sqrt{P(2F_0^2 m_\pi^2 + P)} - P$$

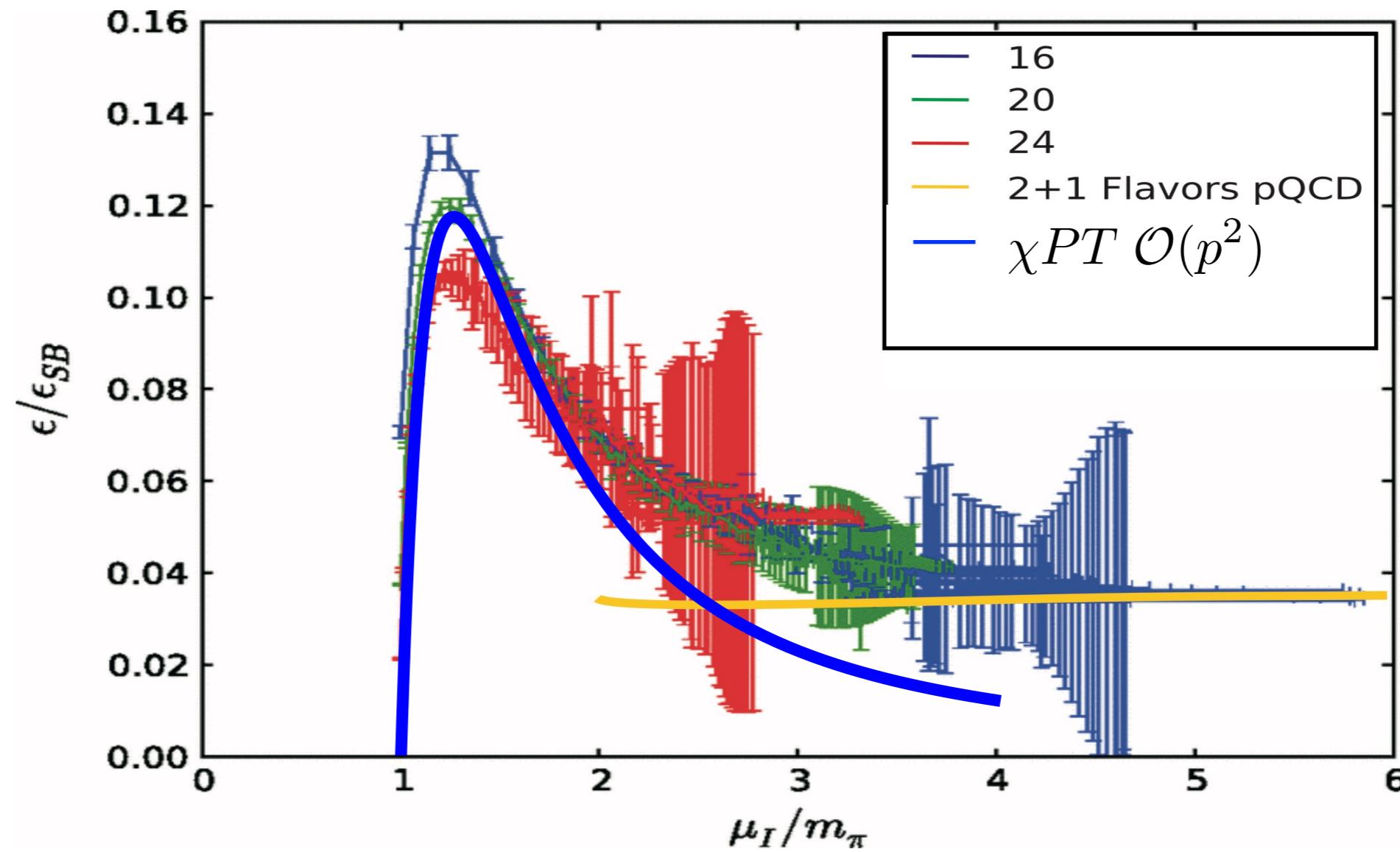
Comparison with lattice ?

# Energy density



W. Detmold et al, Phys.Rev. D86 (2012)  
T. Graf et al, Phys.Rev. D93 (2016)

# Energy density



Lowest order XPT already gives surprisingly good agreement!

# Peak

Peak position

$$\mu_I^{peak} = (\sqrt{13} - 2)^{1/2} m_\pi \approx 1.28 m_\pi$$

Parameter-independent!

Continuum-extrapolated lattice result:

$$\mu_I^{peak} = 1.3 m_\pi$$

# NLO Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & \frac{F_0^2}{4} \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D^\mu U^\dagger)] + \frac{F_0^2}{4} \text{Tr}(\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger) \\ & + L_1 \left\{ \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D^\mu U)^\dagger] \right\}^2 \\ & + L_2 \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D_\nu U)^\dagger] \text{Tr}[D^\mu U(D^\nu U)^\dagger] \\ & + L_3 \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D^\mu U)^\dagger D_\nu U(D^\nu U)^\dagger] \\ & + L_4 \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D^\mu U)^\dagger] \text{Tr}(\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger) \\ & + L_5 \text{Tr}[D_\mu U(D^\mu U)^\dagger (\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)] \\ & + L_6 [\text{Tr}(\chi U^\dagger + U \chi^\dagger)]^2 \\ & + L_7 [\text{Tr}(\chi U^\dagger - U \chi^\dagger)]^2 \\ & + L_8 \text{Tr}(U \chi^\dagger U \chi^\dagger + \chi U^\dagger \chi U^\dagger) \\ & - i L_9 \text{Tr}[f_{\mu\nu}^R D^\mu U(D^\nu U)^\dagger + f_{\mu\nu}^L (D^\mu U)^\dagger D^\nu U] \\ & + L_{10} \text{Tr}(U f_{\mu\nu}^L U^\dagger f_R^{\mu\nu})\end{aligned}$$

← In principle: 2+10  
free parameters  
("low-energy constants")

# NLO ground state

In practice:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & F_0^2 m_\pi^2 \cos \alpha + \frac{F_0^2}{2} \mu_I^2 \sin^2 \alpha \\ & + 2\mu_I^4 (2L_1 + 2L_2 + L_3) \sin^4 \alpha + 4\mu_I^2 m_\pi^2 (2L_4 + L_5) \sin^2 \alpha \cos \alpha \\ & + 4m_\pi^4 [(4L_6 + L_8) \cos^2 \alpha - L_8 \sin^2 \alpha]\end{aligned}$$

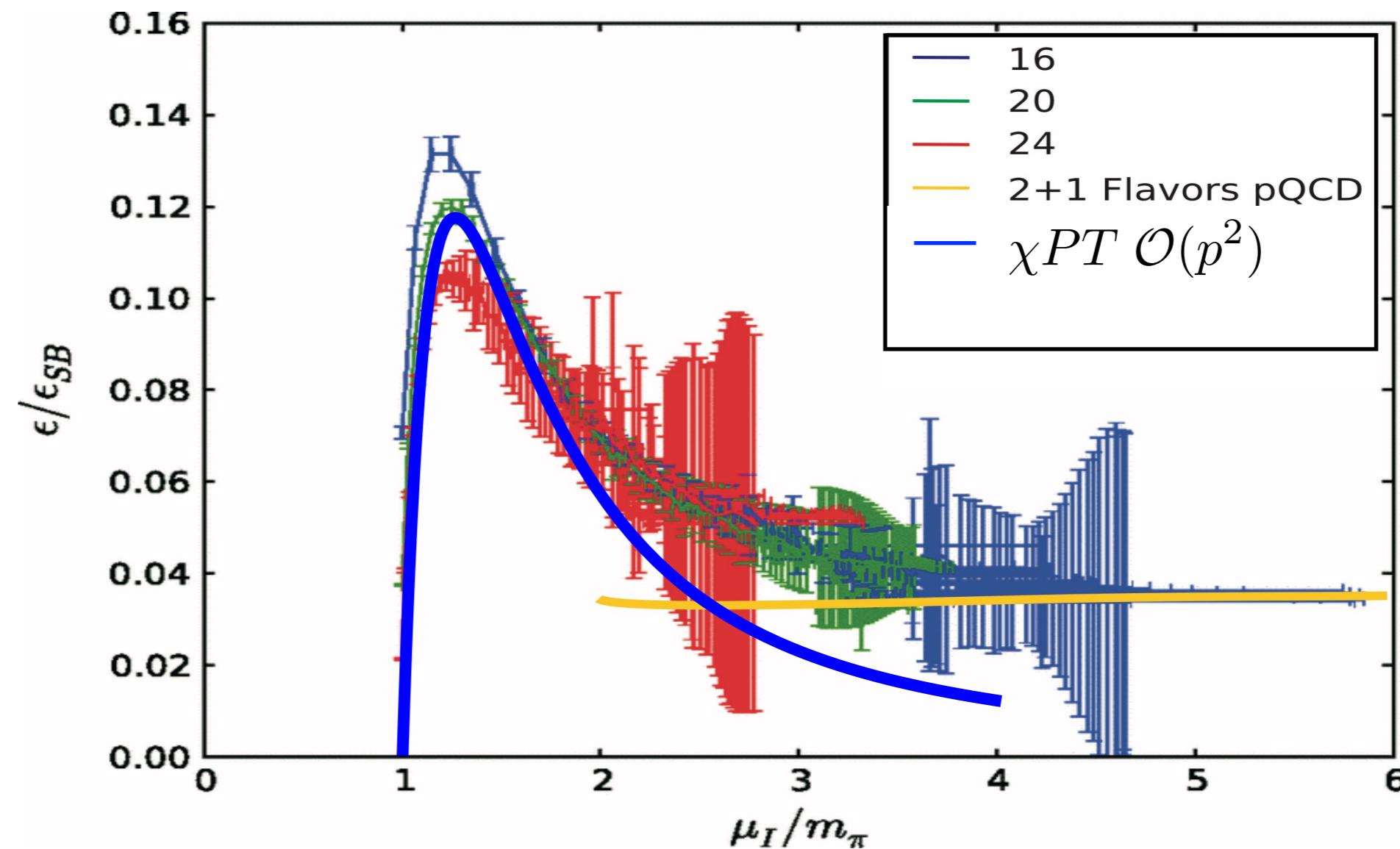
Parameters only enter in given combinations!

$$(2L_1 + 2L_2 + L_3) = a_0 \epsilon$$

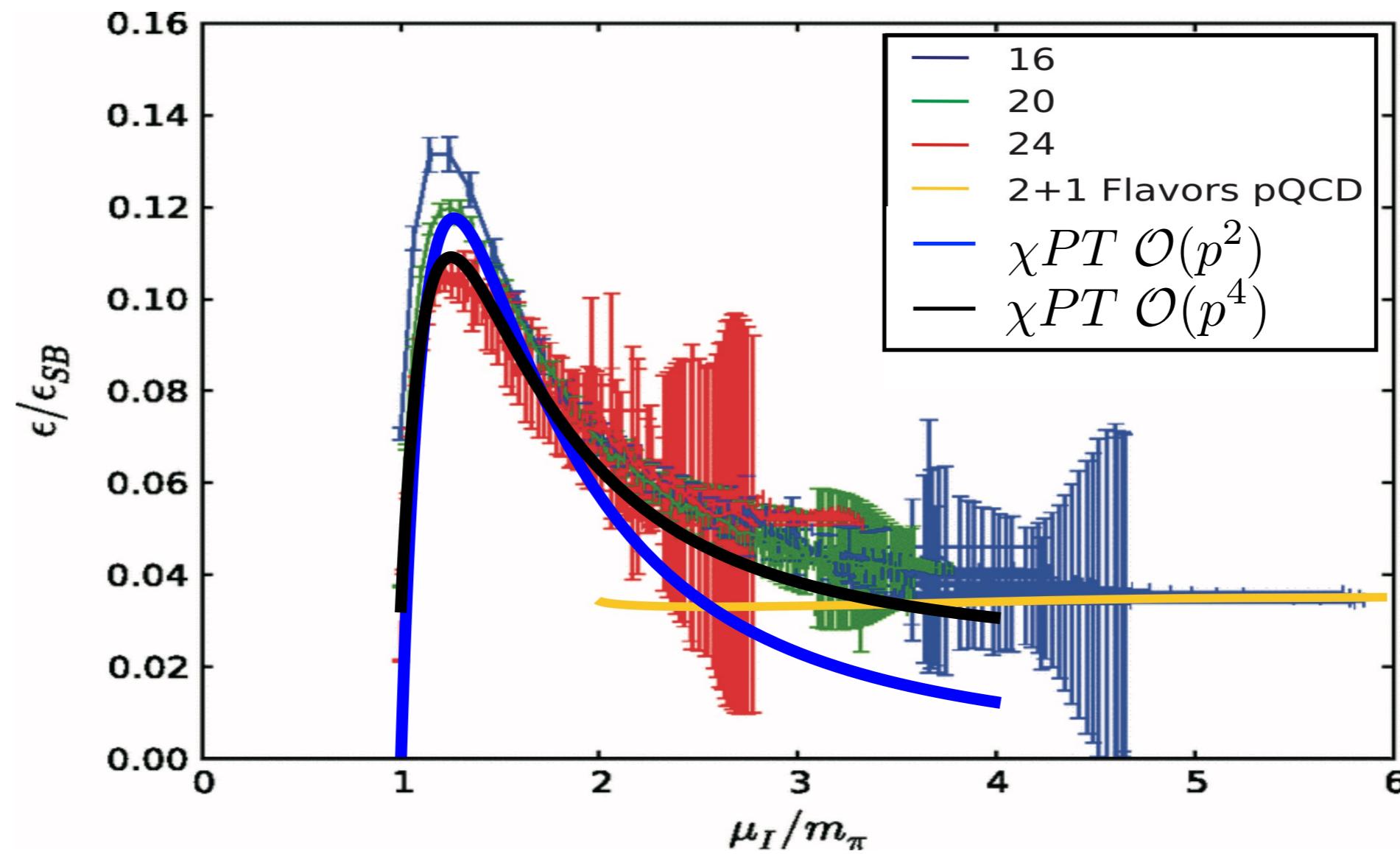
$$(2L_4 + L_5) = b_0 \epsilon \qquad \qquad \qquad \epsilon = 10^{-3}$$

$$(2L_6 + L_8) = c_0 \epsilon$$

# Energy density



# Energy density



( Effectively a (2+1)-parameter fit -> can use lattice to fix LEC! )

# Take-home message #2

- Mesonic chiral perturbation theory is a powerful tool for describing strong interaction matter at finite isospin densities
- Peculiar shape of energy density curve very well reproduced by chiral perturbation theory
- Overlap of different methods - possibility to benchmark them against each other!
- Using LQCD to fix low-energy constants

# Chiral plasmas

# Chiral plasma

- System of massless fermions at finite temperature/density
- Could be relevant for
  - Heavy-ion collisions
  - Weyl-Dirac semimetals
  - Astrophysical scenarios
- Lots of new physics! Especially when chiral imbalanced  
(chiral magnetic effect, plasma instabilities...)

# Theoretical framework

- Keep things simple: QED
- Introduce temperature/density: multi-scale problem ( $g$ ,  $T..$ )
- Do perturbative computations behave well  
in thermal field theory?

# Invitation: hard thermal loops

Separation of scales a fundamental concept in thermal FT

For a system at high temperature:

hard scale  $\sim T$

soft scale  $\sim g T$

$(g \ll 1)$

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Separation of scales a fundamental concept in thermal FT

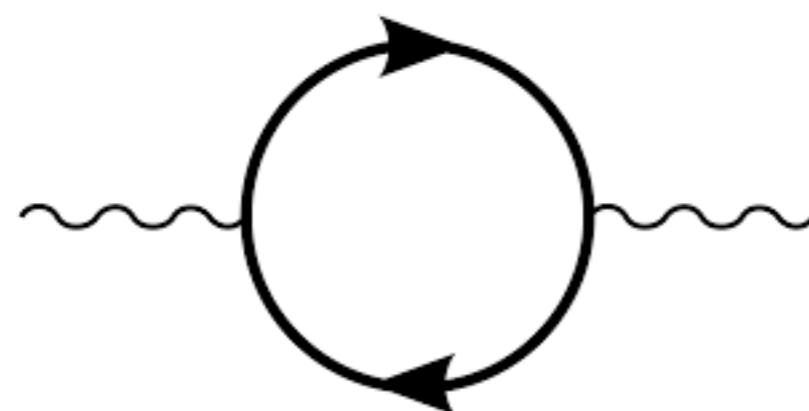
For a system at high temperature:

hard scale  $\sim T$

soft scale  $\sim g T$

$(g \ll 1)$

Now consider eg. photon self-energy

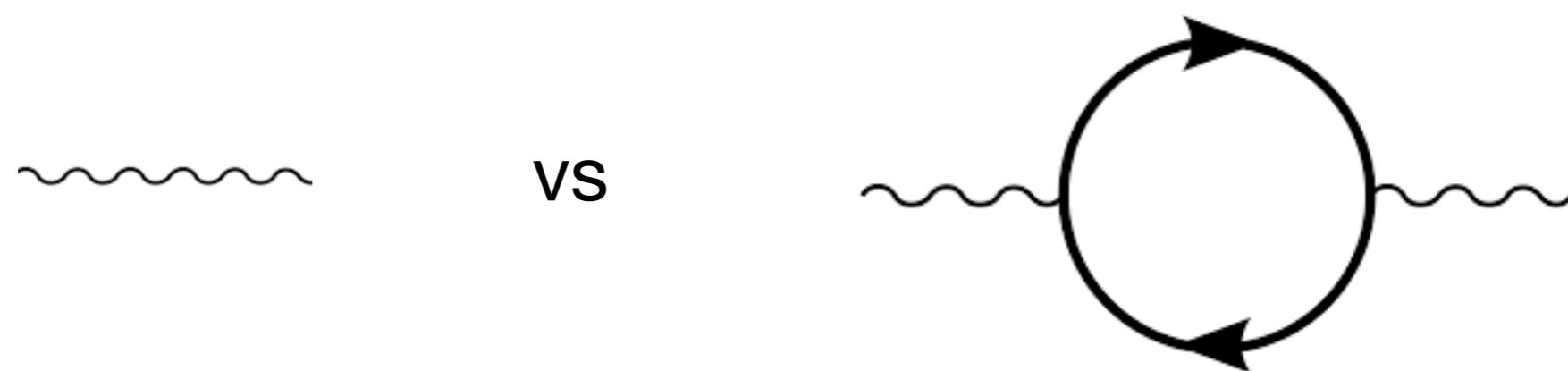


Leading contribution comes from  
hard loop momenta  $Q \sim T$

$$\Pi_{HTL} \sim g^2 T^2$$

# Invitation: hard thermal loops

For a **soft** photon momentum...

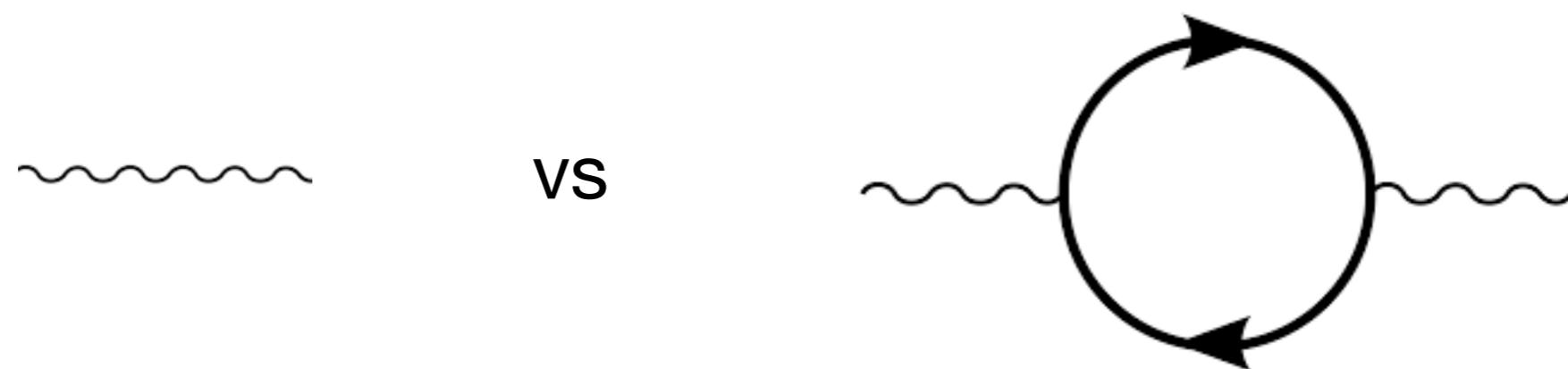


$$D_{\mu\nu}^{-1}(L) \sim L^2 - \Pi$$

$$\sim g^2 T^2$$
A blue arrow points from the text "For a soft photon momentum..." up towards the term  $\sim g^2 T^2$ .

# Invitation: hard thermal loops

For a soft photon momentum...



$$D_{\mu\nu}^{-1}(L) \sim L^2 - \Pi$$

$$\sim g^2 T^2$$

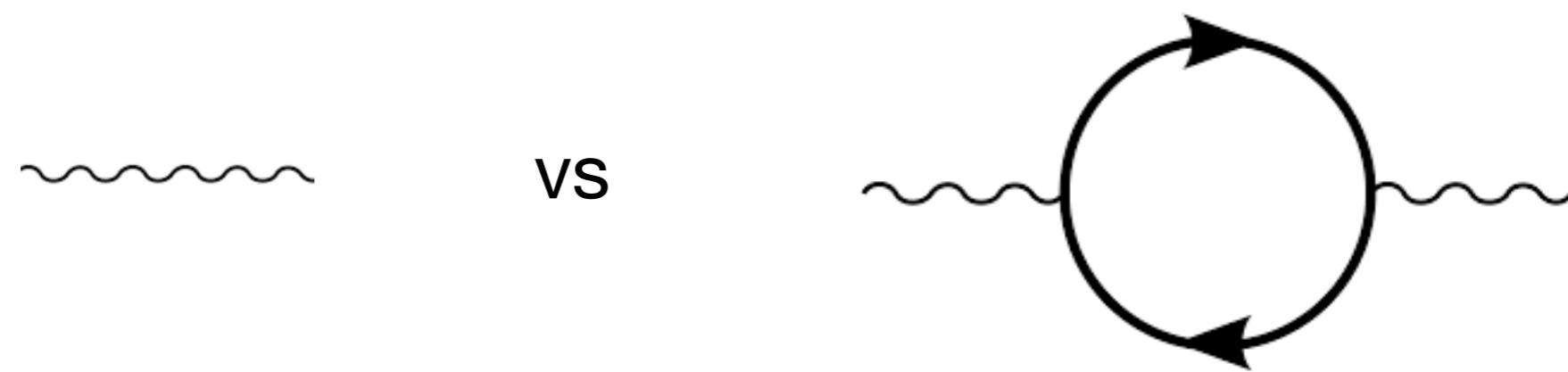


$$\sim g^2 T^2$$

# Invitation: hard thermal loops

For a soft photon momentum...

vs


$$D_{\mu\nu}^{-1}(L) \sim L^2 - \Pi$$

$\sim g^2 T^2$        $\sim g^2 T^2$

Breakdown of perturbation theory: for **soft** external momenta,  
one-loop **hard** thermal corrections as relevant as tree amplitudes

→ Resummation is required !

# Hard thermal loops

- HTL resummation:  
include (hard) correction into (soft) propagators

$$\Pi_{(1)}^L = -\frac{m_D^2}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \log \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right)$$

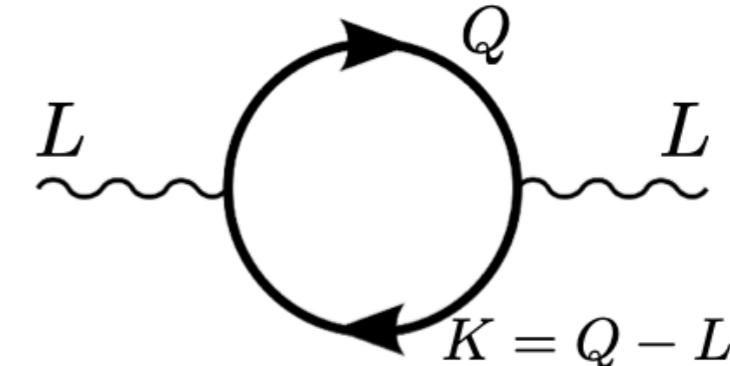
$$\Pi_{(1)}^T = -\frac{m_D^2}{2} \left[ 1 + \frac{L^2}{l^2} \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \log \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right) \right]$$

$$m_D^2 \sim g^2 T^2 \quad \text{Debye ("thermal") mass}$$

- Can we go beyond this? -> Power corrections

# Deriving HTL corrections

Start from photon self-energy:



$$\Pi_R^{\mu\nu}(L) = -\frac{ie^2}{2} \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \left( \text{Tr}[\gamma^\mu S_S(K)\gamma^\nu S_R(Q)] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^\mu S_A(K)\gamma^\nu S_S(Q)] \right),$$

$$S_{R/A}(Q) = \frac{Q}{Q^2 \pm i\text{sgn}(q_0)\eta} , \quad S_S(Q) = -2\pi i Q (1 - 2n_F(|q_0|))\delta(Q^2)$$

on-shell condition!

$$q^\mu = qv^\mu \quad q^\mu = -q\tilde{v}^\mu$$

$$\vec{v} = \vec{q}/q \quad (q = |\vec{q}|)$$

# HTL computation

One arrives at

$$\Pi_R^{\mu\nu}(L) = e^2 \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1 - 2n_F(q)}{q} \left( \begin{array}{c} \frac{2qv^\mu v^\nu - (v^\mu L^\nu + v^\nu L^\mu) + g^{\mu\nu}}{v \cdot L - \frac{L^2}{2q} + i \operatorname{sgn}(q - l_0)\eta} \\ - \frac{2q\tilde{v}^\mu \tilde{v}^\nu - (\tilde{v}^\mu L^\nu + \tilde{v}^\nu L^\mu) + g^{\mu\nu}}{\tilde{v} \cdot L + \frac{L^2}{2q} + i \operatorname{sgn}(q + l_0)\eta} \end{array} \right)$$

occupation number  
encoding  $(T, \mu)$  dependence

Leading contribution from **hard ( $\mathbf{q} \sim T$ ) on-shell particles**

# HTL computation

One arrives at

$$\Pi_R^{\mu\nu}(L) = e^2 \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1 - 2n_F(q)}{q} \left( \frac{2qv^\mu v^\nu - (v^\mu L^\nu + v^\nu L^\mu) + g^{\mu\nu}}{v \cdot L - \frac{L^2}{2q} + i \operatorname{sgn}(q - l_0)\eta} v \cdot L \right. \\ \left. - \frac{2q\tilde{v}^\mu \tilde{v}^\nu - (\tilde{v}^\mu L^\nu + \tilde{v}^\nu L^\mu) + g^{\mu\nu}}{\tilde{v} \cdot L + \frac{L^2}{2q} + i \operatorname{sgn}(q + l_0)\eta} \tilde{v} \cdot L \right)$$

now expand for large  $q$  the integrand..

# QED photon self-energy

One finds

$$\Pi_{(1)}^L = -\frac{m_D^2}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \log \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right)$$

$$\Pi_{(1)}^T = -\frac{m_D^2}{2} \left[ 1 + \frac{L^2}{l^2} \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \log \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right) \right]$$

$$\Pi_{(3)}^L = \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \left[ \frac{l^2}{\epsilon} + 2l^2 \left( \ln \frac{\sqrt{\pi} T e^{-\gamma_E/2}}{2\nu} - 1 \right) + (2l^2 - L^2) \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \ln \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right) \right]$$

$$\Pi_{(3)}^T = \frac{2\alpha L^2}{3\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} + \left( \ln \frac{\sqrt{\pi} T e^{-\gamma_E/2}}{2\nu} - 1 \right) + \frac{1}{4} + \left( 1 + \frac{L^2}{4l^2} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{l_0}{2l} \ln \frac{l_0 + l}{l_0 - l} \right) \right]$$

# Missing stuff

We computed one power correction  $\sim e^2$  of the HTL result

Is it the full story?

No! two-loop diagrams  
equally important

$\Pi_\gamma$	LO	$e^2 T^2$	[1]
	1-loop soft	$e^5 T^2$	
	2-loop hard	$e^4 T^2$	
	1-loop hard correction	$e^4 T^2$	

Mirza & Carrington, PRD 87

....so not the full story  
(but still one necessary piece! )

All in all a nasty computation...

... can we figure out a way to make our lives easier ?

# OSEFT

## The hint:

For many quantities in thermal field theory  
the relevant degrees of freedom are  
**on-shell** (quasi)particles

# OSEFT

The idea:

An EFT to describe physical phenomena dominated by (almost) on-shell degrees of freedom

-> **On-shell effective field theory**

# OSEFT

The idea:

An EFT to describe physical phenomena dominated by (almost) on-shell degrees of freedom

For massless fermions:  $Q^2 \approx 0$

Particles:

$$q^\mu = p v^\mu + k^\mu$$

$$v^\mu = (1, \vec{v})$$

Antiparticles:

$$q^\mu = -p \tilde{v}^\mu + k^\mu$$

$$\tilde{v}^\mu = (1, -\vec{v})$$

$$v^2 = \tilde{v}^2 = 0$$

$$k \ll p$$

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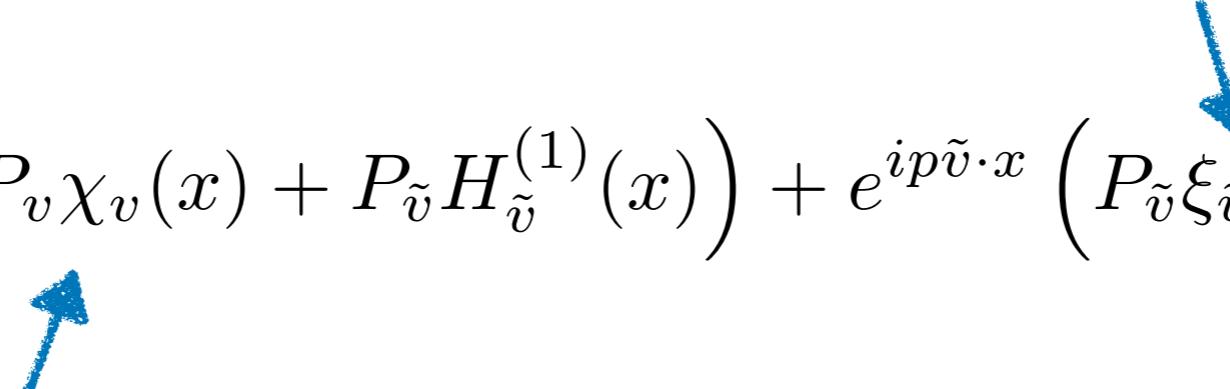
$$v^2 = \tilde{v}^2 = 0$$

$$k \ll p$$

# OSEFT Lagrangian

1) Split fermion field

(almost) on-shell antiparticle

$$\psi_{\mathbf{v}} = e^{-ipv \cdot x} \left( P_v \chi_v(x) + P_{\tilde{v}} H_{\tilde{v}}^{(1)}(x) \right) + e^{ip\tilde{v} \cdot x} \left( P_{\tilde{v}} \xi_{\tilde{v}}(x) + P_v H_v^{(2)}(x) \right)$$


(almost) on-shell particle

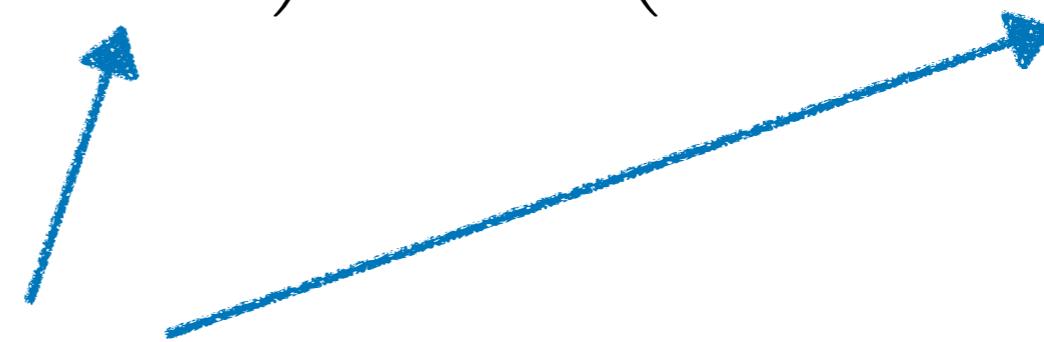
$$P_v = \frac{1}{2} \gamma \cdot v \gamma_0 ,$$

$$P_{\tilde{v}} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma \cdot \tilde{v} \gamma_0$$

# OSEFT Lagrangian

1) Split fermion field

$$\psi_{\mathbf{v}} = e^{-ipv \cdot x} \left( P_v \chi_v(x) + P_{\tilde{v}} H_{\tilde{v}}^{(1)}(x) \right) + e^{ip\tilde{v} \cdot x} \left( P_{\tilde{v}} \xi_{\tilde{v}}(x) + P_v H_v^{(2)}(x) \right)$$



2) Integrate out the H fields

# OSEFT and other EFT

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{p,\mathbf{v}} = & \chi_v^\dagger(x) \left( i v \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2p + i \tilde{v} \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \chi_v(x) \\ & + \xi_{\tilde{v}}^\dagger(x) \left( i \tilde{v} \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{-2p + i v \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \xi_{\tilde{v}}(x)\end{aligned}$$

# OSEFT and other EFT

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{p,\mathbf{v}} &= \chi_v^\dagger(x) \left( i \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{D} + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2p + i \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \mathbf{D}} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \chi_v(x) \\ &\quad + \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{v}}}^\dagger(x) \left( i \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \mathbf{D} + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{-2p + i \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{D}} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \xi_{\tilde{\mathbf{v}}}(x)\end{aligned}$$

Compare with High-density effective field theory (HDET)..

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{HDET}} = \psi^\dagger(x) \left( i \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{D} + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2\mu + i \tilde{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \mathbf{D}} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \psi(x)$$

..or heavy-quark effective field theory (HQET)..

$$\mathcal{L}_v = \bar{Q}_v \left\{ i \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{D} + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2m + i \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{D}} i \not{D}_\perp \right\} Q_v$$

# OSEFT and other EFT

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{p,\mathbf{v}} &= \chi_v^\dagger(x) \left( i v \cdot D + i \not{D} - \frac{1}{2p - i \tilde{v} \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \chi_v(x) \\ &+ \xi_{\tilde{v}}^\dagger(x) \left( i \tilde{v} \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp - \frac{1}{2p + i v \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \xi_{\tilde{v}}(x)\end{aligned}$$

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..or heavy-quark effective field theory (HQET)..

$$\mathcal{L}_v = \bar{Q}_v \left\{ iv \cdot D + i \not{D} - \frac{1}{2m + i v \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right\} Q_v$$

# Order by order..

In practice: expand our Lagrangian in powers of  $1/p \dots$

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v} = \chi_v^\dagger(x) \left( i v \cdot D + i \not{D}_\perp \frac{1}{2p + i \tilde{v} \cdot D} i \not{D}_\perp \right) \chi_v(x)$$

$$= \sum_n \mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(n)}$$

# Order by order..

In practice: expand our Lagrangian in powers of  $1/p \dots$

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(0)} = \chi_v^\dagger (i v \cdot D) \chi_v$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2p} \chi_v^\dagger \left( D_\perp^2 - \frac{e}{2} \sigma_\perp^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) \chi_v$$

# Order by order..

In practice: expand our Lagrangian in powers of  $1/p$  ...

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(0)} = \chi_v^\dagger (i v \cdot D) \chi_v$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2p} \chi_v^\dagger \left( D_\perp^2 - \frac{e}{2} \sigma_\perp^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \right) \chi_v$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{p,v}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{8p^2} \chi_v'^\dagger \left( [\not{D}_\perp, [i\tilde{v} \cdot D, \not{D}_\perp]] - \{( \not{D}_\perp)^2, (iv \cdot D - i\tilde{v} \cdot D)\} \right) \chi_v'$$

\*ugliness intensifies..\*

# Propagators and vertices

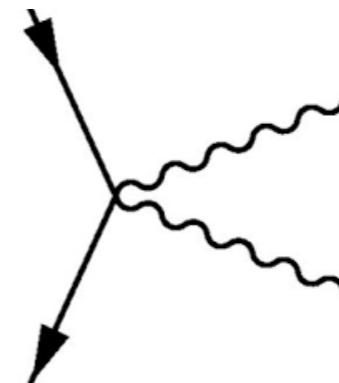
Real-time (Keldysh) propagators in OSEFT:

$$S^{R/A}(k) = \frac{P_v \gamma_0}{k_0 \pm i\epsilon - f(\mathbf{k})},$$

$$S^S(k) = P_v \gamma_0 (-2\pi i \delta(k_0 - f(\mathbf{k})) (1 - 2n_f(p + k_0)))$$

dispersion relation (order (2)):  $f^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}) = k_{||} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{\perp}^2}{2p} - \frac{k_{||}\mathbf{k}_{\perp}^2}{2p^2}$

Additional vertex from  $O(1/p)$ :



# Applications

- Derivation of power corrections to Hard Thermal Loops
  - > C. Manuel, J. Soto and S. Stetina, Phys.Rev. D94 (2016)

# Applications

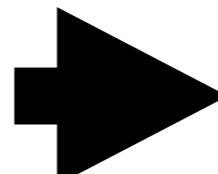
- Derivation of power corrections to Hard Thermal Loops
  - > C. Manuel, J. Soto and S. Stetina, Phys.Rev. D94 (2016)
- Kinetic theory

# Chiral kinetic theory

- Kinetic theory for massless fermions  
describing evolution of quasi-particle distribution functions
- Chiral anomaly has macroscopic effects on transport  
(chiral magnetic effect, chiral vortical effect... )
- What is the correct kinetic equation  
to describe these effects ?

# Chiral kinetic theory and OSEFT

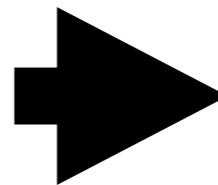
Transport equations describe  
propagation of  
on-shell quasiparticles



OSEFT works with on-shell  
degrees of freedom

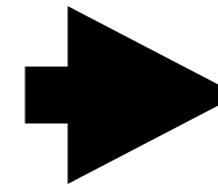
# Chiral kinetic theory and OSEFT

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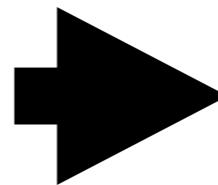
Anomaly is a quantum effect:  
can be formulated in terms  
of Berry curvature/phase...



OSEFT provides a  
systematic way to include  
quantum corrections!

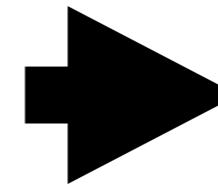
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Anomaly is a quantum effect:  
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OSEFT provides a  
systematic way to include  
quantum corrections!

OSEFT seems to be the perfect tool to derive the  
equations of chiral kinetic theory!

# The recipe

- Build order-by-order equations of motions for the two-point function starting from the OSEFT Lagrangian formulated in a general covariant frame
- Perform a Wigner transform, add link operators to make results gauge-invariant
- Make sure you've had enough coffee because equations are lengthy and it's easy to miss factors of 2
- Go back from the EFT variables to full momenta

# Chiral kinetic theory

Covariant form of the transport equation

$$\left( v_\mu^q - \frac{e}{2E_q^2} S_\chi^{\mu\nu} F_{\nu\rho} (2u^\rho - v_q^\rho) \right) \Delta_\mu f(X, q) \delta_+(Q) = 0$$

with  $v_\mu^q = \frac{q^\mu}{E_q}$   $E_q = q \cdot u$

$$\Delta^\mu \equiv \partial_X^\mu - e F^{\mu\nu}(X) \partial_{q,\nu}$$

# CKT and beyond

With OSEFT one can

Derive kinetic equations for a chiral plasma

Check Lorentz invariance (= reparametrization invariance) of the results

Derive the current and the anomalous current

Recover the chiral anomaly equation

.....

# Chiral plasma instabilities

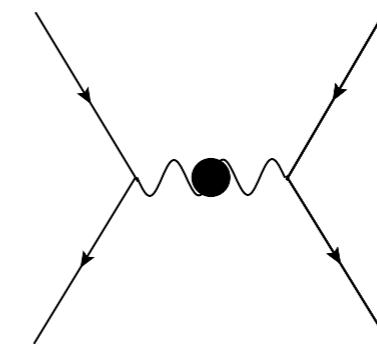
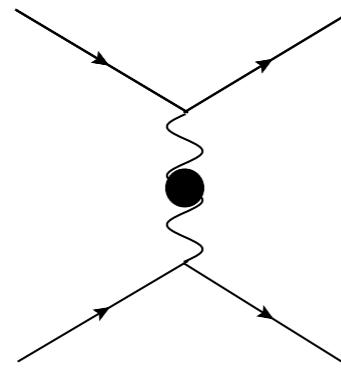
- A chirally imbalanced plasma could develop instabilities leading to the reduction of the chiral charge  $\sim n_5$
- It has been argued that this could result in generation of axial magnetic fields in the early universe and in proto-neutron stars
- Can we see this instability by inspecting the lifetime of a fermion in such a system?

# Fermion damping

Fermion propagating through a hot/dense plasma

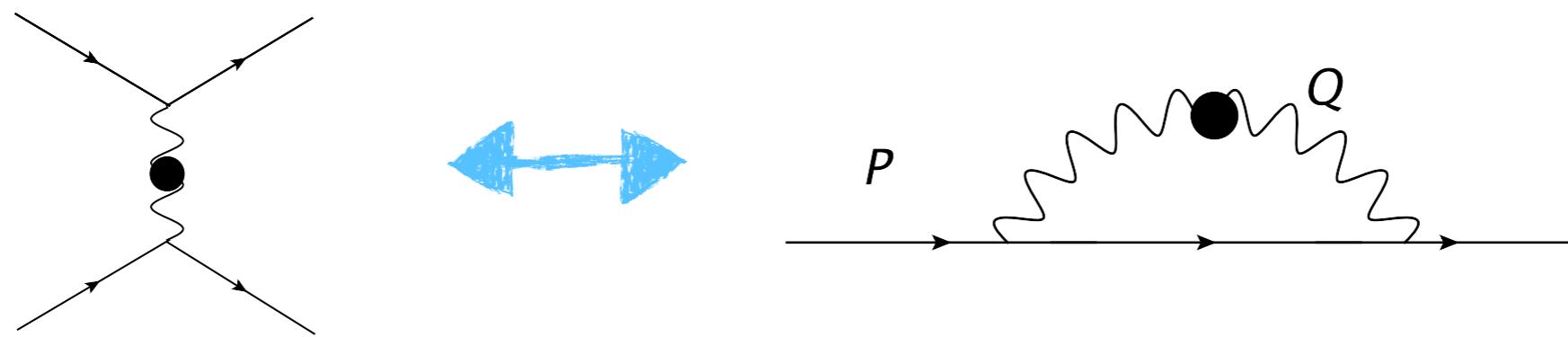
For simplicity: consider QED

Interactions with the medium: decay (damping)

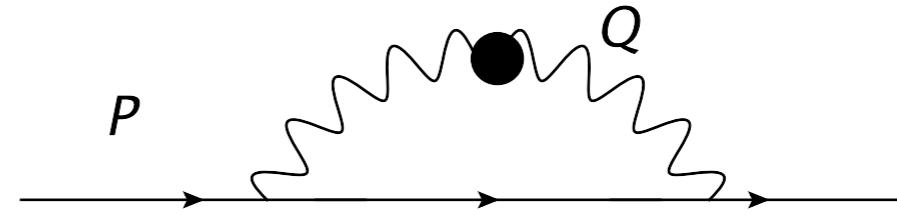
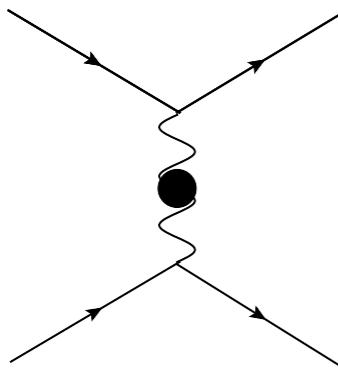


(only at finite temperature)

# Fermion damping

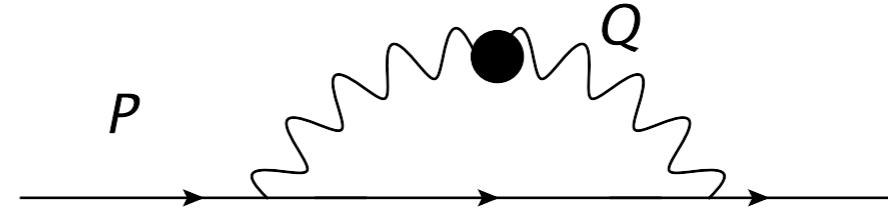
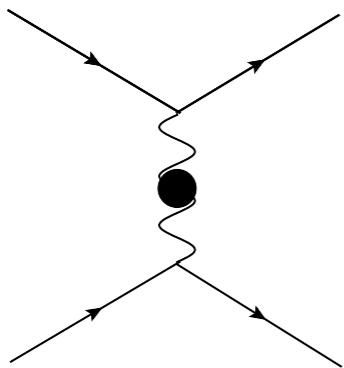


# Fermion damping



$$\gamma_\chi(E) = -\frac{1}{2E} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathcal{P}_\chi \cancel{P} \text{Im}\Sigma(p_0 + i\eta, \mathbf{p}) \right] \Big|_{p^0=E}$$

# Fermion damping



$$\gamma_\chi(E) = -\frac{1}{2E} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathcal{P}_\chi \not{P} \text{Im}\Sigma(p_0 + i\eta, \mathbf{p}) \right] \Big|_{p^0=E}$$

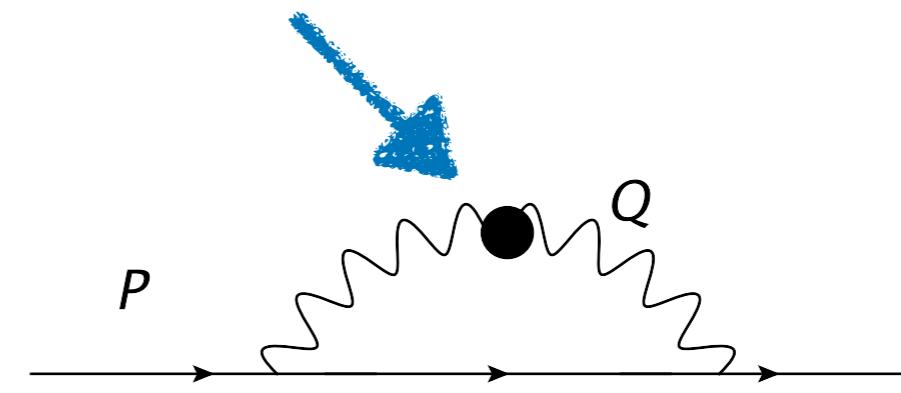
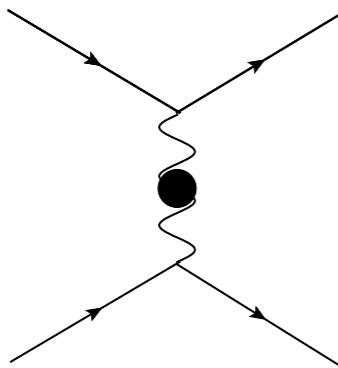
**Chirality projector**



**Particle projector**

$$\mathcal{P}_\chi = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \chi \gamma_5)$$

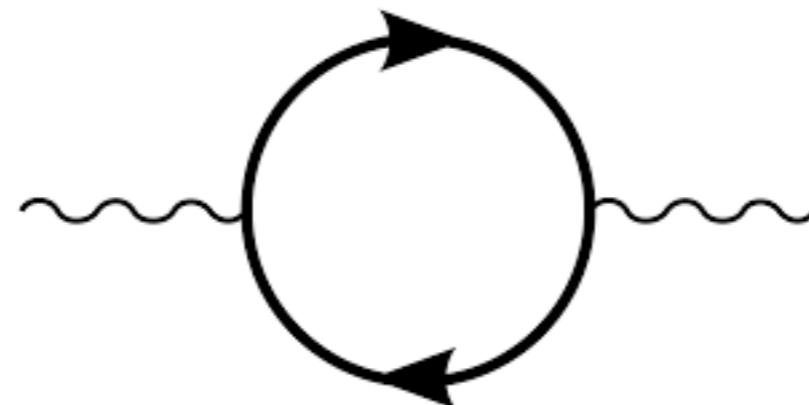
# Fermion damping



$$\gamma_\chi(E) = -\frac{1}{2E} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathcal{P}_\chi \not{P} \text{Im}\Sigma(p_0 + i\eta, \mathbf{p}) \right] \Big|_{p^0=E}$$

Leading contribution from **soft** photon momenta:  
need HTL resummed propagator!

# Photon self-energy with chiral imbalance



$$\mu_R = \mu_V + \mu_5 \neq \mu_L = \mu_V - \mu_5$$

Fermion loop with asymmetric contributions from different chiralities generates parity-violating contribution to the self-energy

-> Different propagation of transverse modes!

# Photon self-energy with chiral imbalance

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}(q_0, \mathbf{q}) = \delta_{\mu 0} \delta_{\nu 0} \Delta_L(q_0, q) + \sum_{h=\pm} \mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}^{T,h} \Delta_T^h(q_0, q)$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}^{T,h} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta^{ij} - \hat{q}^i \hat{q}^j - ih\epsilon^{ijk}\hat{q}^k \right) \delta_{\mu i} \delta_{\nu j}$$

$h = \pm$  circular polarized modes

$$\Delta_L = \frac{1}{q^2 + \Pi_L}, \quad \Delta_T^h = \frac{1}{q_0^2 - q^2 - \Pi_T - h\Pi_P}$$

anomalous HDL

$$\Pi_P(q_0, q) = -\frac{e^2 \mu_5}{2\pi^2} \frac{q_0^2 - q^2}{q} \left[ 1 - \frac{q_0}{2q} \ln \left( \frac{q_0 + q}{q_0 - q} \right) \right]$$

# Fermion damping in chiral imbalanced system

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_\chi(E) = & -\frac{e^2}{2E} \operatorname{Im} \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk_0}{2\pi} \rho_f(k_0, k) \\ & \times \frac{1 + f(q_0) - \tilde{f}(k_0 - \mu_\chi)}{p_0 - k_0 - q_0 + i\eta} \operatorname{Tr} (\mathcal{P}_\chi \not{p} \gamma^\mu \not{k} \gamma^\nu) \\ & \times \left[ \delta_{\mu 0} \delta_{\nu 0} \rho_L(q_0, \mathbf{q}) + \sum_{h=\pm} \mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}^{T,h} \rho_T^h(q_0, \mathbf{q}) \right]\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}^{T,h} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta^{ij} - \hat{q}^i \hat{q}^j - ih\epsilon^{ijk} \hat{q}^k \right) \delta_{\mu i} \delta_{\nu j}$$

# Fermion damping in chiral imbalanced system

After some massaging and expanding...

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_{\chi}^{\text{soft}} \simeq & \frac{e^2}{2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \left( \Theta(q_0) - \Theta(\mu_{\chi} - E + q_0) \right) \Theta(q^* - q) \\ & \times \left\{ \rho_L(Q) \left( 1 - \frac{q_0}{E} \right) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \right. \\ & \left. \times \sum_{h=\pm} \left[ \left( 1 - \chi h \frac{q}{E} \right) \rho_T^h(Q) \right] \right\} \Big|_{q_0=q \cos \theta}\end{aligned}$$

# Fermion damping in chiral imbalanced system

Leading chemical potential dependence ( $\mu_\chi = \mu_V + \chi \mu_5$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_\chi^{\text{soft}} \simeq & \frac{e^2}{2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \left( \Theta(q_0) - \Theta(\mu_\chi - E + q_0) \right) \Theta(q^* - q) \\ & \times \left\{ \rho_L(Q) \left( 1 - \frac{q_0}{E} \right) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \right. \\ & \times \left. \sum_{h=\pm} \left[ \left( 1 - \chi h \frac{q}{E} \right) \rho_T^h(Q) \right] \right\} \Big|_{q_0=q \cos \theta} \end{aligned}$$

# Fermion damping in chiral imbalanced system

At Fermi surface damping is zero!

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\chi}^{\text{soft}} &\simeq \frac{e^2}{2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \left( \Theta(q_0) - \Theta(\mu_{\chi} - E + q_0) \right) \Theta(q^* - q) \\ &\times \left\{ \rho_L(Q) \left( 1 - \frac{q_0}{E} \right) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \right. \\ &\times \left. \sum_{h=\pm} \left[ \left( 1 - \chi h \frac{q}{E} \right) \rho_T^h(Q) \right] \right\} \Big|_{q_0=q \cos \theta} \end{aligned}$$

# Fermion damping in chiral imbalanced system

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Fermions couple differently with transverse photons depending on their chirality

# Fermion damping

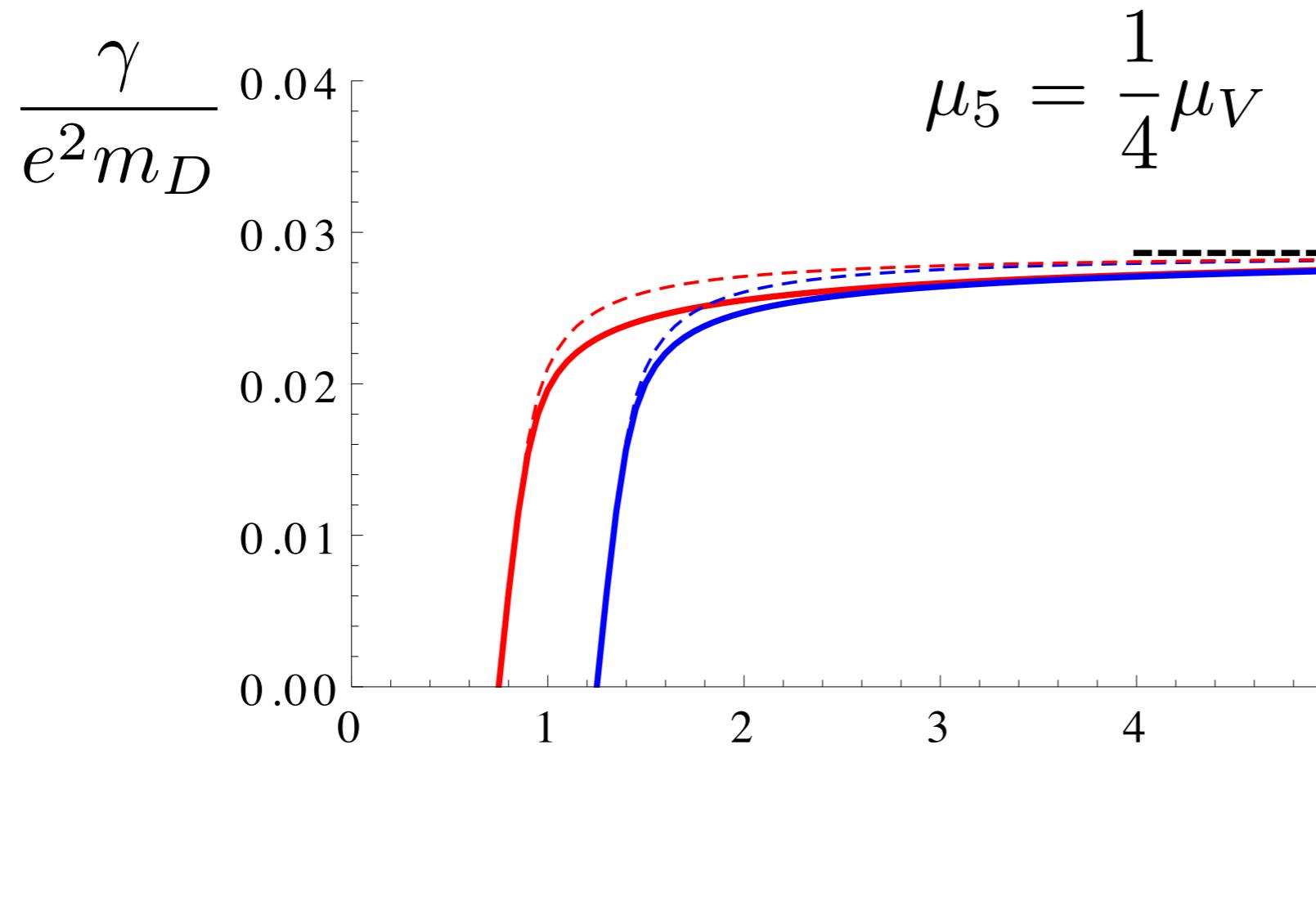
Close to the Fermi surface chirality-dependent effects turn out to be subleading

Same behavior as symmetric case

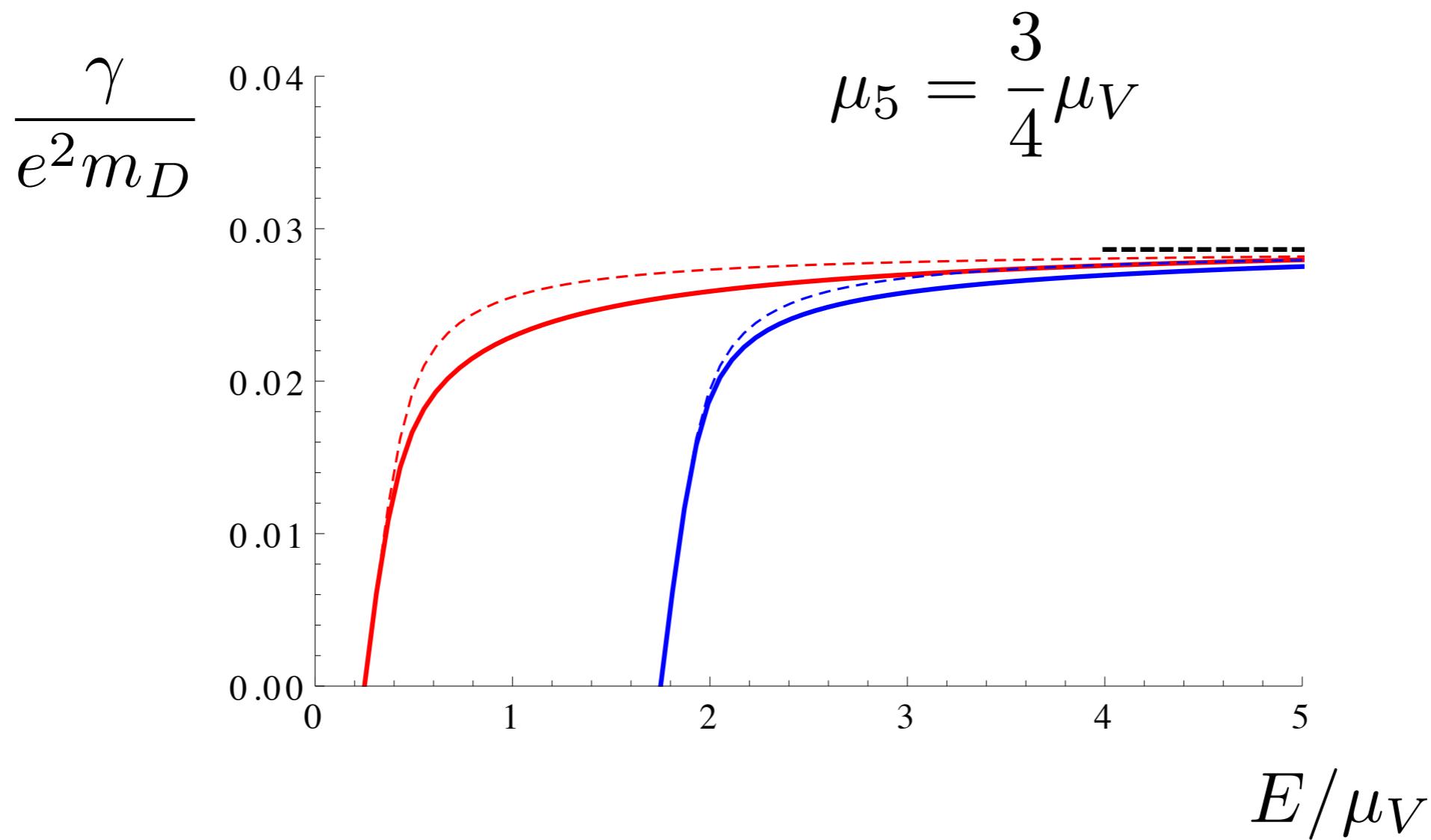
$$\gamma_\chi(E) = \frac{e^2}{24\pi}(E - \mu_\chi) + \dots$$

Away from the Fermi surface: full numerical result

# Fermion damping



# Fermion damping



# Take-home message #3

- Chiral plasmas provide a nice playground for new physical effects with several real-world applications
- OSEFT is a nice tool to simplify our lives (or at least give us some guidance) in thermal field theory computations
- Still a lot of work to be done: maybe some (more or less accepted) ideas need rethinking



# Inhomogeneous chiral condensates in NJL

- Allow for a spatially modulated chiral condensate

$$\langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle = S(\mathbf{x}) \quad \langle \bar{\psi} i\gamma^5 \tau_a \psi \rangle = P_a(\mathbf{x})$$

(we can also build  $M(\mathbf{x}) = -2G(S(\mathbf{x}) + iP_3(\mathbf{x}))$ )

- Diagonalize the mean-field quark Hamiltonian in momentum space

$$\mathcal{H}_{\vec{p}_m, \vec{p}_n} = \begin{pmatrix} -\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}_m \delta_{\vec{p}_m, \vec{p}_n} & \sum_{\vec{q}_k} M_{\vec{q}_k} \delta_{\vec{p}_m, \vec{p}_n + \vec{q}_k} \\ \sum_{\vec{q}_k} M_{\vec{q}_k}^* \delta_{\vec{p}_m, \vec{p}_n - \vec{q}_k} & \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}_m \delta_{\vec{p}_m, \vec{p}_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Inhomogeneous chiral condensates in NJL

- Then, minimize the thermodynamic potential

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(T, \mu; M(\vec{x})) &= -\frac{T}{V} \text{Log} \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi \exp \left( \int_{x \in [0, \frac{1}{T}] \times V} (\mathcal{L}_{MF} + \mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \psi) \right) \\ &= -\frac{TN_c}{V} \sum_n \text{Tr}_{D,f,V} \text{Log} \left( \frac{1}{T} (i\omega_n + \mathcal{H}_{MF} - \mu) \right) + \frac{1}{V} \int_V \frac{|M(\vec{x}) - m|^2}{4G_s}\end{aligned}$$

with respect to the mass function  $M(x)$

# Inhomogeneous chiral condensates in NJL

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with respect to the mass function  $M(x)$

- Not so easy for an arbitrary  $M(x)$  !
- To make the problem tractable, assume specific ansatz for the functional form of  $M$ , minimize thermodynamic potential, compare free energies for different modulations...

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

- Tackling arbitrary modulations is numerically intensive
- Can we avoid having to diagonalize the quark hamiltonian?

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

- Tackling arbitrary modulations is numerically intensive
- Can we avoid having to diagonalize the quark hamiltonian?

→ Ginzburg-Landau expansion of the free energy:

- Systematic expansion in terms of order parameter and its gradients
- For inhomogeneous phases, expected to be valid where both amplitudes and gradients are small

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_{\text{GL}} = & \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 (M^4 + (\nabla M)^2) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 + 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]\end{aligned}$$

D.Nickel, Phys.Rev.Lett.103 (2009)

H.Abuki, D.Ishibashi, K.Suzuki, Phys.Rev.D85 (2012)

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\Omega_{\text{GL}} = \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 (M^4 + (\nabla M)^2) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) \right. \\ \left. + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 + 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]$$

Restored +

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\Omega_G = \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 (M^4 + (\nabla M)^2) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 - 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]$$

Restored + “homogeneous” +

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\Omega_G = \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 (M^4 + (\nabla M)^2) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 - 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]$$

Restored + “homogeneous” + gradient terms

- In principle straightforward: for each order add all possible independent terms (considering gradients are of the same order as  $M$ )

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\Omega_{\text{GL}} = \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 (M^4 + (\nabla M)^2) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 + 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]$$

- GL coefficients  $\alpha_n(T, \mu)$  are independent from the shape of the modulation  
-> can be computed relatively easily in a chirally restored background!

# Ginzburg-Landau analysis

$$\Omega_{\text{GL}} = \Omega[0] + \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \alpha_2 M^2 + \alpha_4 \left( M^4 + (\nabla M)^2 \right) + \alpha_6 \left( M^6 + 3(\nabla M)^2 M^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla M^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla^2 M)^2 \right) \right. \\ \left. + \alpha_8 \left( M^8 + 14M^4(\nabla M)^2 - \frac{1}{5}(\nabla M)^4 + \frac{18}{5}M(\nabla^2 M)(\nabla M)^2 + \frac{14}{5}M^2(\nabla^2 M)^2 + \frac{1}{5}(\nabla^3 M)^2 \right) + \dots \right]$$

- GL coefficients  $\alpha_n(T, \mu)$  are independent from the shape of the modulation  
-> can be computed relatively easily in a chirally restored background!
- But: calculating the relative prefactors between terms of the same order is an extremely tedious task..  
There are tricks, however.