

Recent Theoretical Developments in the QCD Phase Diagram



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outline:

1. the quark-hadron transition at vanishing μ
2. a 'quarkyonic phase' at large μ and small T ?
3. inhomogeneous phases and the CEP

supported by:

Helmholtz Alliance: EMMI
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The quark-hadron transition at vanishing μ

3-flavor PQM model



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PQM model contains essential features of QCD (symmetries, anomalies,...)
same universality class as QCD

model Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{PQM} = \mathcal{L}_{quark} + \mathcal{L}_{meson} + \mathcal{L}_{pol}$$

quark part:

$$\mathcal{L}_{quark} = \bar{q} \left(i \not{\partial} - G \frac{\lambda_a}{2} (\sigma_a + i \gamma_5 \pi_a) \right) q$$

meson part:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{meson} = & \text{Tr}(\partial_\mu M^\dagger \partial^\mu M) - m^2 \text{Tr}(M^\dagger M) - \lambda_1 [\text{Tr}(M^\dagger M)]^2 - \lambda_2 \text{Tr}(M^\dagger M)^2 \\ & + c \left(\det(M) + \det(M^\dagger) \right) + \text{Tr}[H(M + M^\dagger)] \end{aligned}$$

with

$$M = \sum_a \frac{\lambda_a}{2} (\sigma_a + i \pi_a); \quad H = \sum_a \frac{\lambda_a}{2} h_a$$

Polyakov loop:

$$\mathcal{L}_{pol} = -\bar{q} \gamma_0 A_0 q - \mathcal{U}(\ell, \bar{\ell}); \quad \ell = \frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} P \exp \left[i \int_0^\beta d\tau A_0(\mathbf{x}, \tau) \right]$$

The quark-hadron transition at vanishing μ

thermodynamic potential in MFT

grand canonical potential:

$$\Omega(T, \mu; \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \ell, \bar{\ell}) = U(\sigma_x, \sigma_y) + \Omega_{\bar{q}q}(\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \ell, \bar{\ell}) + \mathcal{U}(\ell, \bar{\ell})$$

fermionic part:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_{\bar{q}q}(\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \ell, \bar{\ell}) = & \\ & -2T \sum_{f=u,d,s} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \ln \left[1 + 3\ell e^{-(E_{p,f}-\mu_f)/T} + 3\bar{\ell} e^{-2(E_{p,f}-\mu_f)/T} + e^{-3(E_{q,f}-\mu_f)/T} \right] \right. \\ & \left. - 2T \sum_{f=u,d,s} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \ln \left[1 + 3\ell e^{-(E_{p,f}+\mu_f)/T} + 3\bar{\ell} e^{-2(E_{p,f}+\mu_f)/T} + e^{-3(E_{q,f}+\mu_f)/T} \right] \right\} \right.\end{aligned}$$

in the hadronic phase **single** quarks and **diquarks** suppressed!

phase diagram from

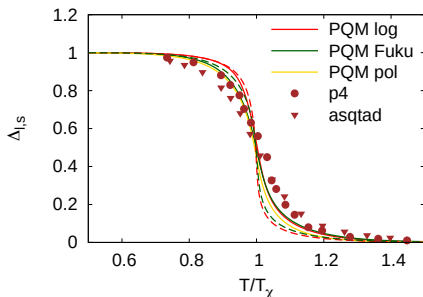
$$\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \sigma_x} = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \sigma_y} = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \ell} = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \bar{\ell}} \Big|_{\min} = 0$$

QCD Thermodynamics $N_f = 2 + 1$

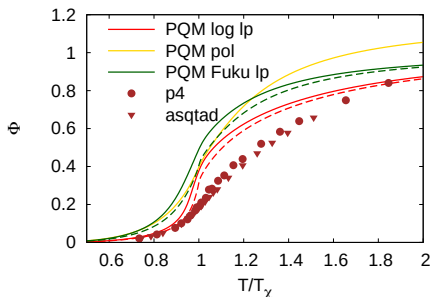
lattice comparison @ $\mu = 0$

(pseudo) order parameters: B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2010)

lattice data: Bazavov et al. (2009) $m_\pi \sim 220$ MeV



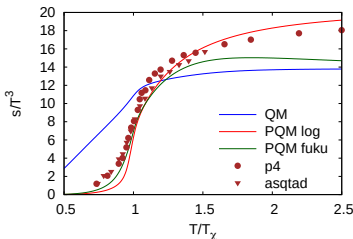
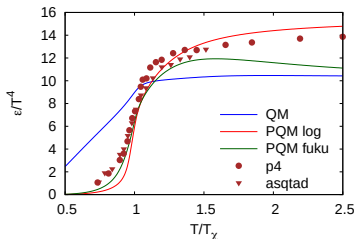
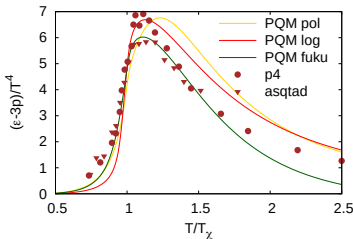
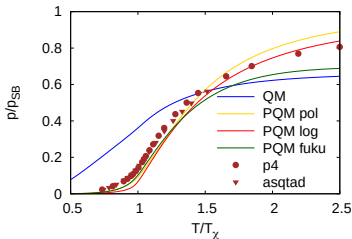
$$\Delta_{l,s} = \frac{\langle \bar{l}l \rangle(T) - \frac{\hat{m}_l}{\hat{m}_s} \langle \bar{s}s \rangle(T)}{\langle \bar{l}l \rangle(T=0) - \frac{\hat{m}_l}{\hat{m}_s} \langle \bar{s}s \rangle(T=0)}$$



- solid lines: PQM with lattice masses (HOTQCD)
- dashed lines: PQM with realistic masses

QCD Thermodynamics $N_f = 2 + 1$

EoS B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2010)

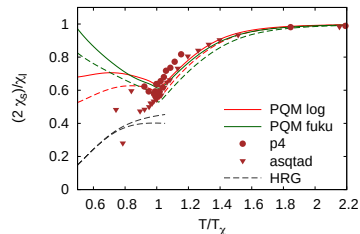
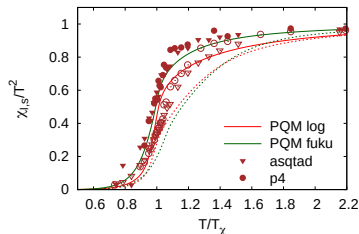
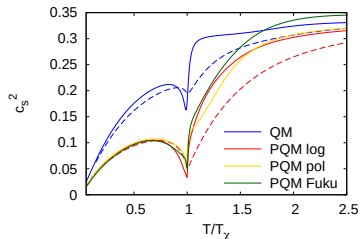
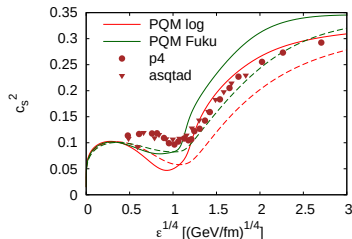


QCD Thermodynamics $N_f = 2 + 1$

susceptibilities B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2010)



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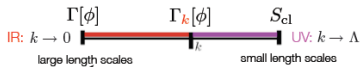


Including quantum fluctuations

FRG approach C. Wetterich (1993), B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2005)



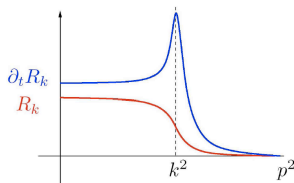
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start at classical action and include
quantum fluctuations successively by lowering k

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k \equiv \partial_t \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial_t R_k}{\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k}; \quad \Gamma_k^{(2)} = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \phi \delta \phi}$$

regulator R_k suppresses particle
propagation with momenta lower
than k



$$\Omega(T, \mu) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} (\Omega_k(T, \mu) = (T/V) \Gamma_k)$$

FRG for the PQM model

flow equations B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2007) E. Nakano et al. (2010)



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flow equation for Ω with quarks coupled to classical background gluon field

$$\partial_k \Omega_k = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \left[\frac{3}{E_\pi} (1 + 2n_B(E_\pi)) + \frac{1}{E_\sigma} (1 + 2n_B(E_\sigma)) - \frac{N_c N_f}{E_q} (1 - n_q(\ell, \bar{\ell}) - n_{\bar{q}}(\ell, \bar{\ell})) \right]$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} E_\pi^2 &= 1 + 2\Omega'_k/k^2 & E_\sigma^2 &= 1 + 2\Omega'_k/k^2 + 4\phi^2\Omega''_k/k^2 \\ E_q^2 &= 1 + G\phi^2/k^2 & \Omega'_k &= \partial\Omega_k/\partial\phi \quad \text{etc} \quad \phi = \langle\sigma\rangle \end{aligned}$$

quark densities modified by gluon field

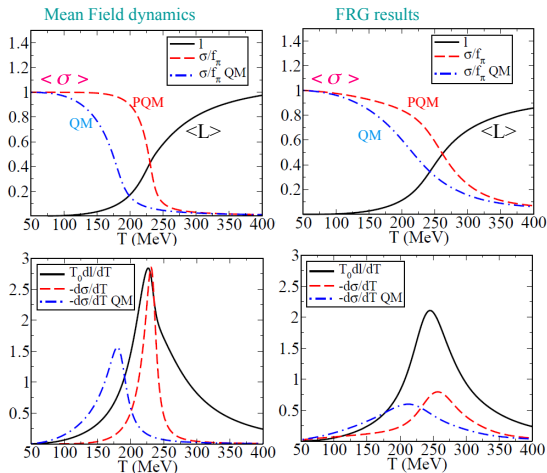
$$n_q(\ell, \bar{\ell}) = \frac{1 - 2\bar{\ell} \exp((E_q - \mu)/T) + \ell \exp(2(E_q - \mu)/T)}{1 + 3\ell \exp(2(E_q - \mu)/T) + 3\bar{\ell} \exp(2(E_q - \mu)/T) + \exp(3(E_q - \mu)/T)}$$

FRG flow equations solved with

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \ell} \Omega(T, \mu; \ell, \bar{\ell}) = 0 \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\ell}} \Omega(T, \mu; \ell, \bar{\ell}) = 0 \quad \Omega(T, \mu; \ell, \bar{\ell}) = \Omega_{k \rightarrow 0}(T, \mu; \ell, \bar{\ell}) - \mathcal{U}(\ell, \bar{\ell})$$

FRG for the PQM model:

results: V. Skokov et al. (2010), T.K. Herbst et al. (2010)



quantum fluctuations make transition smoother!

$1/N_c$ - expansion

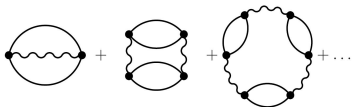
M. Oertel et al. (2000)



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the $1/N_c$ - expansion provides physical picture for smoothening of the transition

$$\Omega = \Omega_{MF} + \delta\Omega$$



$1/N_c$ -diagrams can be summed to all order ('ring sum')

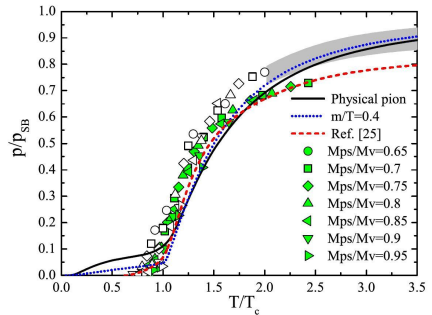
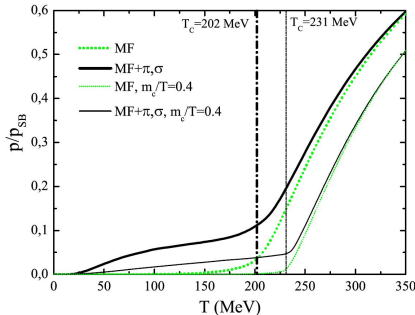
$$\delta\Omega = \sum_M \Omega_M; \quad \Omega_M = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{T}{2} \sum_{i\omega_q} \ln(1 - 2G\Pi_M(i\omega_q, \vec{q}))$$

$$\Omega_M = - \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\pi} (1 + 2n_B(\omega)) \phi_M; \quad \phi_M = \frac{1}{2i} \ln \frac{1 - 2G\Pi_M(\omega - i\eta, \vec{q})}{1 - 2G\Pi_M(\omega + i\eta, \vec{q})}$$

$1/N_c$ - expansion

A. Radzhabov et al. (2008), T. Hell et al. (2009)

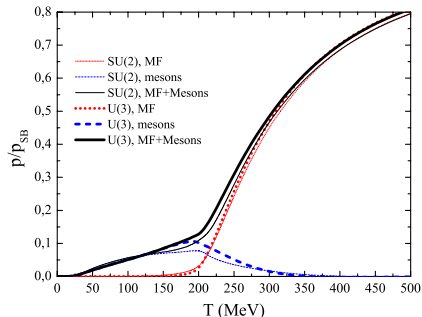
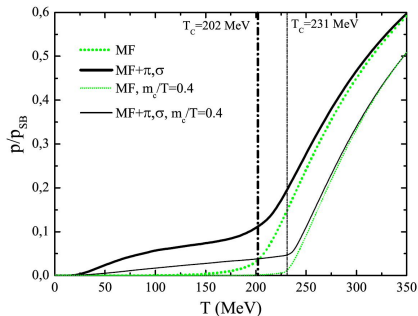
$N_F = 2$ results



- ▶ mesonic fluctuations contribute to pressure in the hadronic phase
- ▶ thus contribute to the chiral condensate ($\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = \partial\Omega/\partial m_q$)
- ▶ Polyakov loop couples dynamically to the chiral condensate

Resonance gas?

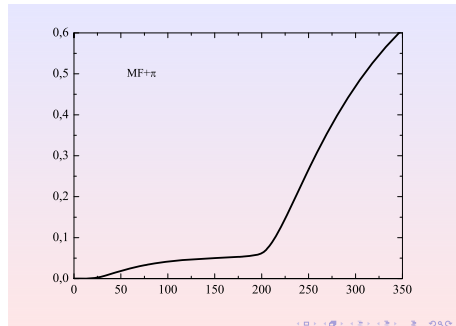
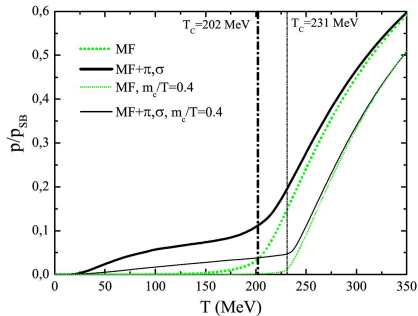
A. Radzhabov (2009)



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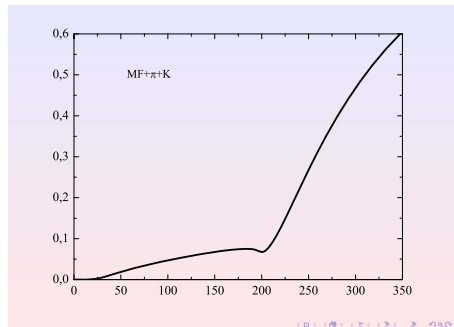
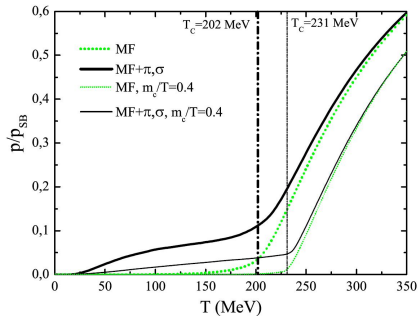
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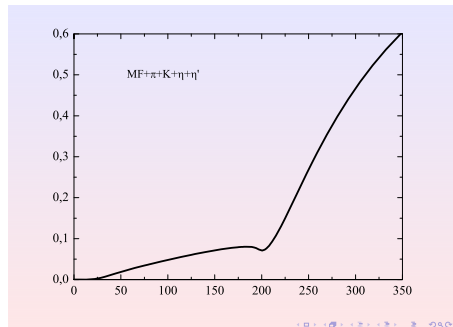
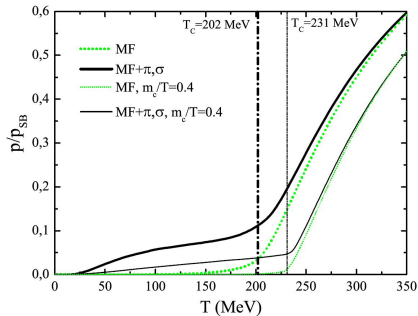
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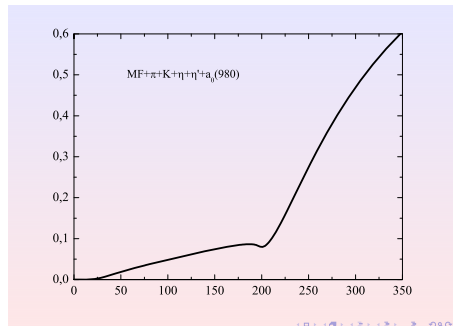
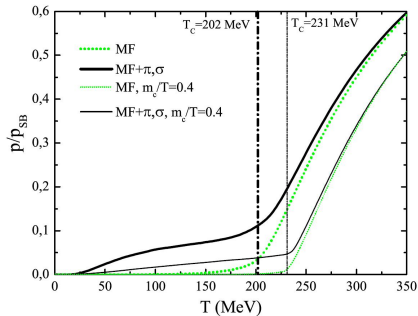
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Resonance gas?

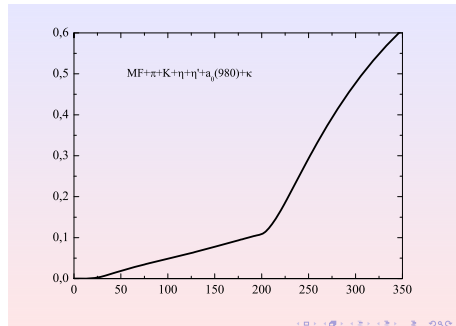
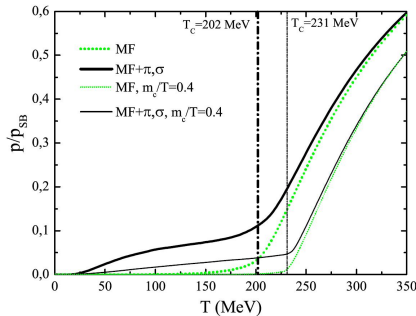
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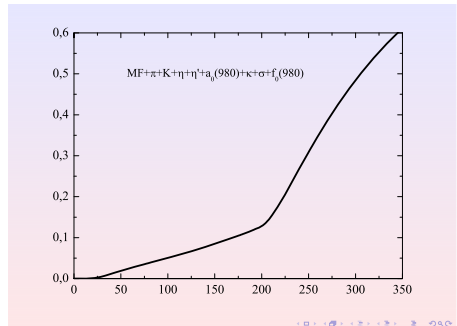
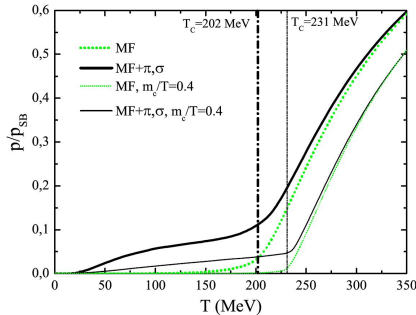
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Resonance gas?

A. Radzhabov (2009)



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Conclusions and outlook

Quark-hadron transition at $\mu = 0$



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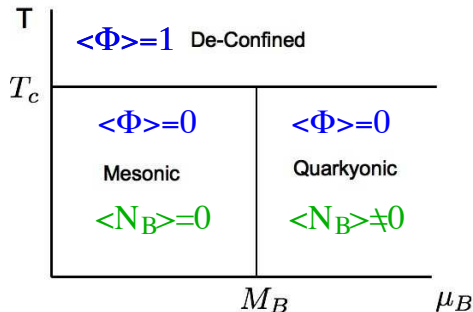
- ▶ QCD-inspired models give good account of the $N_f = 2 + 1$ lattice EoS and susceptibilities
- ▶ quantum fluctuations smooth out chiral- and deconfinement transition
- ▶ understood through additional pressure in the hadronic phase
- ▶ 'Hagedorn singularity' avoided through 'melting' of resonances above T_c
- ▶ is confinement properly accounted for by the Polyakov loop?
- ▶ transport coefficients?

'Quarkyonic' phase at low T and high μ ?

L. McLerran et al. (2007)

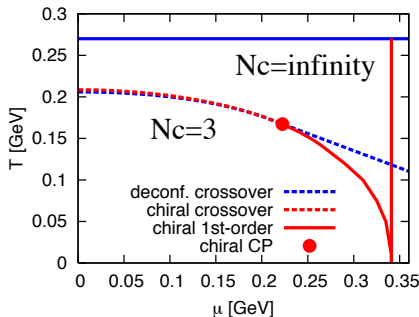
L. McLerran et al. (2007)

large N_c 'conjecture'



L. McLerran et al. (2009)

PNJL study



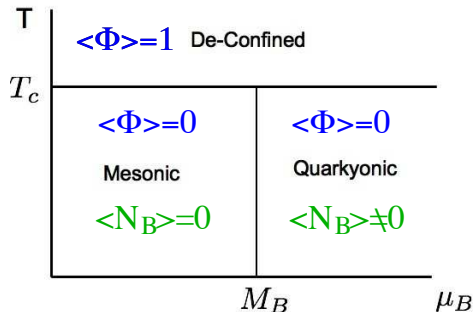
- ▶ 'quarkyonic' phase is confining but chirally restored ($\rightarrow$ parity-doubled hadrons)
- ▶ 'triple point' in the phase diagram
- ▶ excludes BCS-like 'color superconductivity' at moderate density

'Quarkyonic' phase at low T and high μ ?

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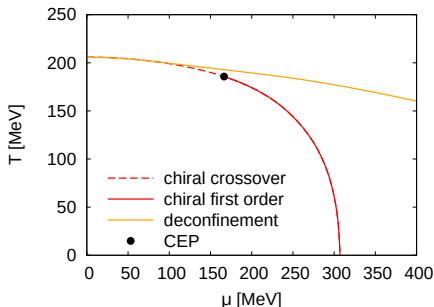
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B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2010)

PQM study



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'Quarkyonic' phase at low T and high μ ?

L. McLerran et al. (2007)



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width of the quarkyonic phase crucially depends on Polyakov loop dynamics!

polynomial potential: Polyakov (1978), Meisinger (1996), Pisarski (2000)

$$\frac{\mathcal{U}(\ell, \bar{\ell})}{T^4} = -\frac{b_2(T, T_0)}{2} \ell \bar{\ell} - \frac{b_3}{6} (\ell^3 + \bar{\ell}^3) + \frac{b_4}{16} (\ell \bar{\ell})^2$$

with

$$b_2(T, T_0) = a_0 + a_1(T_0/T) + a_2(T_0/T)^2 + a_3(T_0/T)^3$$

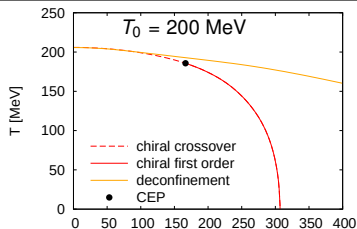
- ▶ T_0 adjusted to precise lattice data for the 'pure gauge' transition ($T_0 = 270$ MeV)
- ▶ in the presence of dynamical quarks $T_0 = T_0(N_f, \mu)$ B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2007)

N_f	0	1	2	$2+1$	3
T_0 [MeV]	270	240	208	187	178

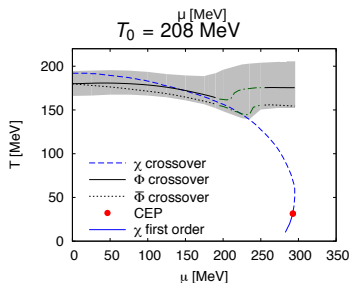
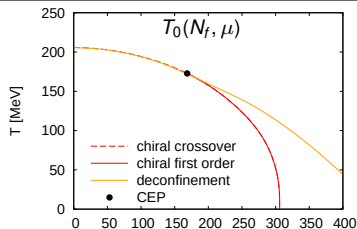
based on 'one loop' running of QCD β -function

'Quarkyonic' phase at low T and high μ ?

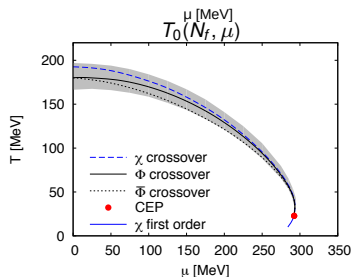
B.-J. Schaefer et al. (2010), T.K. Herbst et al. (2010)



MFT



FRG

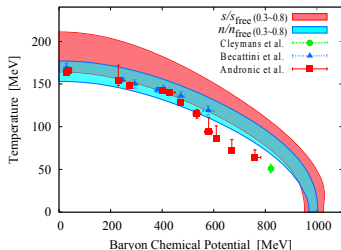


'Quarkyonic' phase at low T and high μ ?

Lessons from the 'statistical model' K. Fukushima (2010)

results from THERMUS

S. Wheaton et al. (2009)



$$T_f(\mu_B) = a - b\mu_b^2 - c\mu_b^4$$

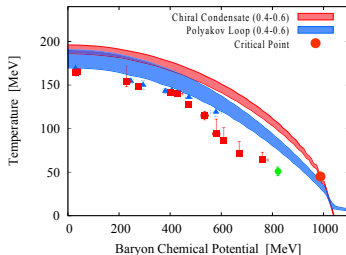
$$a = 166(2) \text{ MeV} \quad b = 1.39(16) \times 10^{-4} \text{ MeV}^{-1}$$

$$c = 5.3(21) \times 10^{-11} \text{ MeV}^{-3}$$

$$\text{lattice : } T_c(\mu_B)/T_c(0) = 1 - 6.8 \times 10^{-3}(\mu_b/T_0)^2 \quad \text{curvature} \sim 1/3!?$$

PNJL consistent with stat. model

K. Fukushima (2010)



$$T_0(\mu)/T_0(0) = 1 - (bT_0)(\mu_b/T_0)^2$$

$$bT_0 = 2.78 \times 10^{-2} \text{ MeV}$$

$$bT_0 = 2.1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ MeV (one-loop)}$$

Conclusions and outlook

Quarkyonic phase?



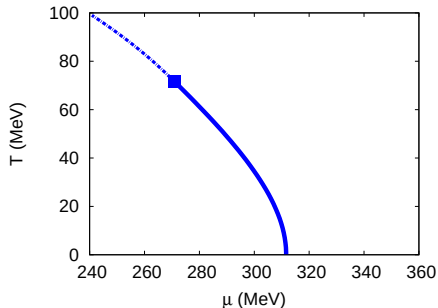
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- ▶ do the chiral and deconfinement transition coincide at all T and μ ?
- ▶ possibly yes $\rightarrow$ little room for 'quarkyonic phase'
- ▶ depends crucially on $T_0(N_f, \mu)$
- ▶ consistency with the statistical model?
 - $\rightarrow$ likely the chemical freeze-out line
 - is **not** the phase boundary @ all T and μ
- ▶ role of baryons at small T and large μ
- ▶ inclusion of quark-diquark correlations
- ▶ inhomogeneous phases?

Inhomogeneous phases of QCD matter

phase diagram (chiral limit: $m_q = 0$)

chiral transition (conventional)



- ▶ homogeneous:
- ▶ first-order chiral phase transition
- ▶ critical end point

is the homogeneous phase stable near the CEP?

Is the homogeneous phase stable near the CEP?

GL analysis (D. Nickel 2009)



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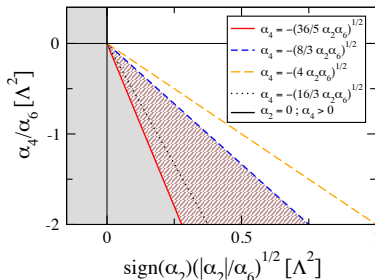
GL functional near the CEP: (chiral limit)

$$\Omega_{GL}(T, \mu; M(\mathbf{x})) = \frac{\alpha_2}{2} M(\mathbf{x})^2 + \frac{\alpha_4}{4} (M(\mathbf{x})^4 + (\nabla M(\mathbf{x}))^2) + \frac{\alpha_6}{6} \left(M(\mathbf{x})^6 + 5(\nabla M(\mathbf{x}))^2 M(\mathbf{x})^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta M(\mathbf{x}))^2 \right)$$

CEP: $\alpha_2 = \alpha_4 = 0, \alpha_6 > 0$ for inhomogeneous phases $\alpha_4 < 0$

1D inhomogeneities:
exact mass function

$$M(\mathbf{x}) = M(z) = \sqrt{\nu} q \operatorname{sn}(qz, \nu)$$



Phase structure in 1+1 dimensions

M.Thies et al. (2004)

exact solutions of 1+1 D fermionic theories for $N \rightarrow \infty$, $Ng^2 = \text{const}$
(Gross-Neveu, NJL, 't Hooft)

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} (i\partial - m_0) \psi + \frac{g^2}{2} (\bar{\psi}\psi)^2$$

► $U(N)$ flavor symmetry

► Z_2 chiral symmetry

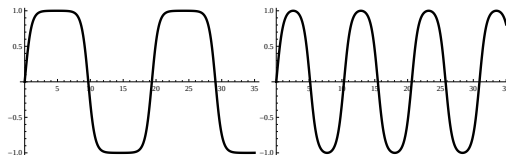
$$\psi \rightarrow \gamma_5 \psi \quad \bar{\psi}\psi \rightarrow -\bar{\psi}\psi$$

► for $N \rightarrow \infty$ MF exact

mass function: ($m_0 = 0$)

$$\rightarrow M(z) = \sqrt{\nu} q \operatorname{sn}(qz, \nu)$$

$$(-i\gamma_5 \partial_z + \gamma^0 M(z)) = \epsilon_\alpha \psi_\alpha$$
$$M - m_0 = -Ng^2 \sum_\alpha n_\alpha \bar{\psi}_\alpha \psi_\alpha$$



Phase diagram

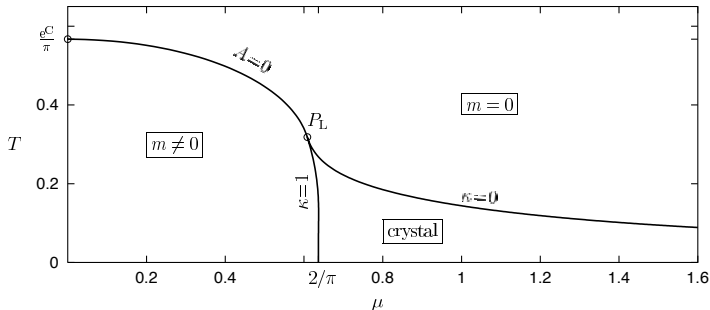
O. Schnetz et al. (2006)



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thermodynamic potential:

$$\Omega(T, \mu) = -T \operatorname{Tr} \log (S^{-1}) + \frac{1}{2Ng^2\lambda} \int_0^\lambda dz M(z)^2$$



NJL Model in 3+1 dimensions

D. Nickel (2009)



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- ▶ start from the $N_f = 2$ NJL Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} (i\cancel{\partial} - m_q) q + G_s \left((\bar{q}q)^2 + (\bar{q}i\gamma^5 \tau^a q)^2 \right)$$

- ▶ allow for spatially inhomogeneous condensates

$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = S(\vec{x}) \quad \langle \bar{q}i\gamma^5 \tau^a q \rangle = P_a(\vec{x})$$

- ▶ in mean-field approximation

$$\mathcal{L}_{MF}(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{q} (i\cancel{\partial} - m_q + 2G_s (S(\mathbf{x}) + i\gamma^5 \tau_3 P(\mathbf{x}))) q - G_s (S(\mathbf{x})^2 + P(\mathbf{x})^2)$$

$$M(\mathbf{x}) = m_q - 2G_s (S(\mathbf{x}) + iP(\mathbf{x}))$$

- ▶ thermodynamic potential: (1D modulations)

$$\Omega(T, \mu) = -\frac{2T}{V} \sum_{\alpha} \int_{p_{\perp}} \ln \left(2 \cosh \left(\frac{\alpha \sqrt{1 + \mathbf{p}_{\perp}^2 / \alpha^2} - \mu}{2T} \right) \right) + \int_V \frac{|M(\mathbf{x}) - m_q|^2}{4G_s V}$$

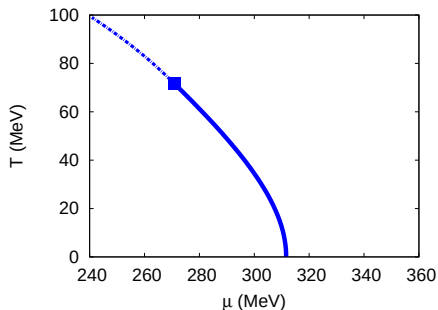
Phase diagram

chiral limit: $m_q = 0$



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chiral transition (conventional)

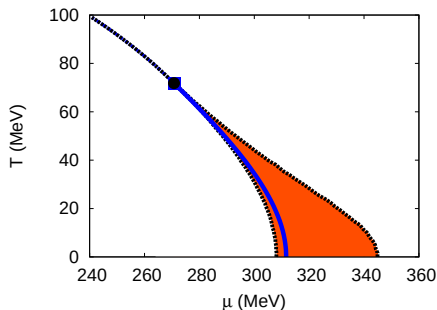


- ▶ homogeneous:
- ▶ first-order chiral phase transition
- ▶ critical end point

Phase diagram

chiral limit: $m_q = 0$

chiral transition (new scenario)



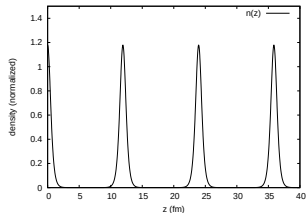
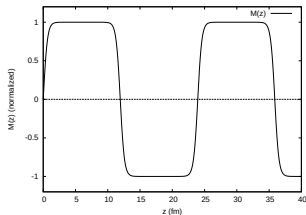
D. Nickel (2009)

- ▶ inhomogeneous:
- ▶ inhomogeneous region bounded by 2nd-order transition lines
- ▶ first-order transition line completely covered by inhomogeneous region
- ▶ critical end point $\rightarrow$ 'Lifshitz' point

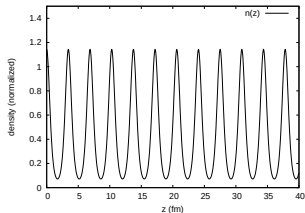
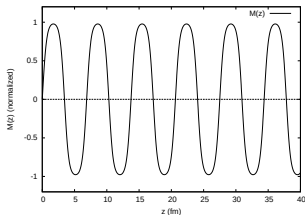
similar conclusions hold in the QM model

mass and density modulations (T=0)

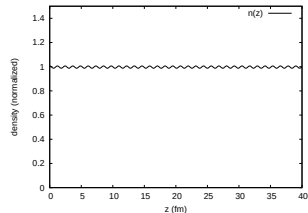
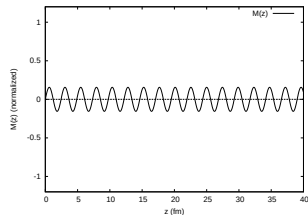
$\mu = 307 \text{ MeV}$



$\mu = 308 \text{ MeV}$



$\mu = 342 \text{ MeV}$



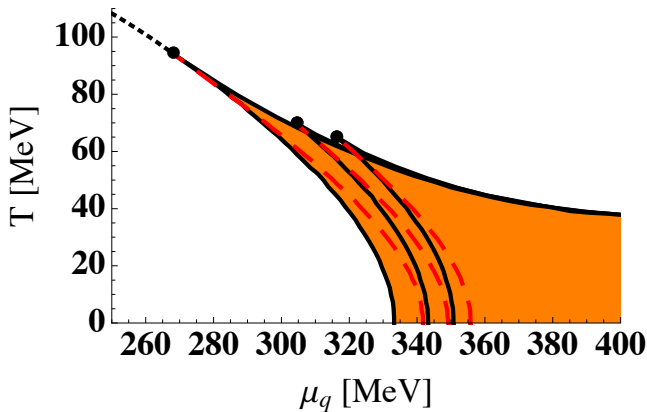
Phase diagram

finite quark mass



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two different choices of bare quark mass ($m_q = 5, 10$ MeV)



NJL with vector interactions

S. Carignaro et al. (2010)



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- ▶ extended $N_f = 2$ NJL Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q} (i \not{\partial} - m_q) q + G_s \left((\bar{q}q)^2 + (\bar{q}i\gamma^5 \tau^a q)^2 \right) - G_v (\bar{q}\gamma^\mu q)^2$$

- ▶ spatially varying chemical potential: $\tilde{\mu}$

$$\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}) = \mu - 2G_v n(\mathbf{x})$$

- ▶ sacrifice complete self-consistency: pick $\tilde{\mu} \equiv \langle \tilde{\mu} \rangle_z$ instead of $\tilde{\mu}(z)$

$$\Omega(T, \mu) \rightarrow \Omega(T, \tilde{\mu}) - \frac{(\tilde{\mu} - \mu)^2}{4G_v}$$

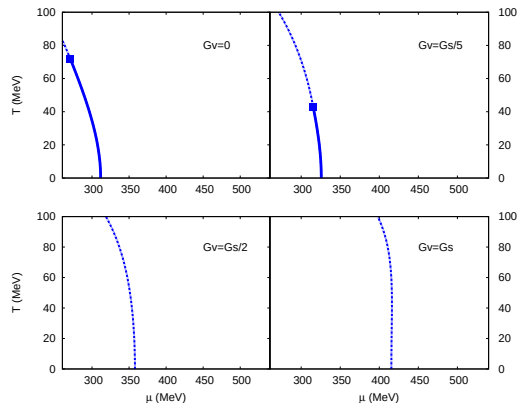
- ▶ determine $\tilde{\mu}$ from

$$\frac{\delta \Omega}{\delta \tilde{\mu}} = 0$$

Phase diagram with vector interactions

$$m_q = 0$$

homogeneous

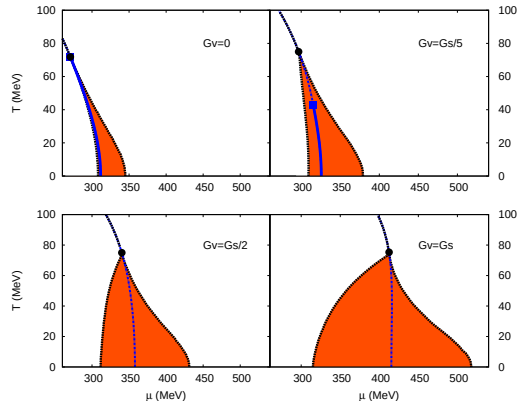


- ▶ stretch towards higher μ
- ▶ critical end point moves towards lower T and higher μ

Phase diagram with vector interactions

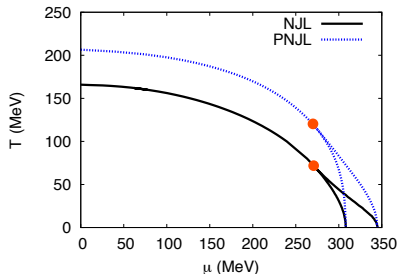
$$m_q = 0$$

inhomogeneous

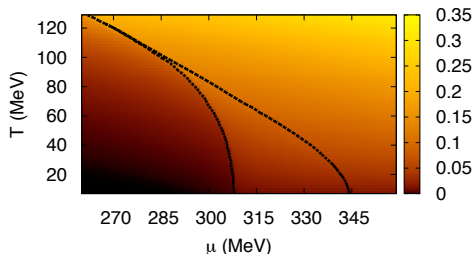


- ▶ stretch towards higher μ
- ▶ Lifschitz point only moves in μ
- ▶ Lifschitz- and CEP split

Phase diagram with vector interactions including the Polyakov loop



stretching in the T - direction
well known from homogeneous case



ℓ ($\bar{\ell}$) rather small in the inhomogeneous region

Conclusions and outlook

Inhomogeneous phases



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- ▶ self-consistent lower-dimensional spatial modulations can be studied by relying on analytical results from the Gross-Neveu model
- ▶ inhomogeneous 1D phases favored in a region of the QCD phase diagram
- ▶ 'solitonic' region bounded by 2nd order phase transitions
- ▶ inclusion of vector interactions $\rightarrow$ shift to higher μ
 $\rightarrow$ split of CEP and Lifschitz point
- ▶ 1D phases unstable against thermal fluctuations!
- ▶ higher-dimensional inhomogeneities?
 $\rightarrow$ complicated 'band structure' calculations
- ▶ interplay between chiral- und superconducting phases
- ▶ inhomogeneous Polyakov loop?

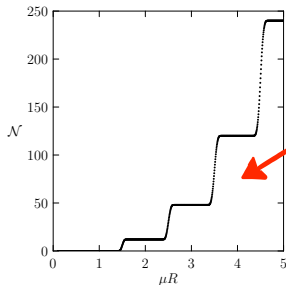
QCD_2 lattice results

J. Myers et al. (2010)



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QCD_2 on a hypersphere $S^3 \times S^1$ with $R \ll \Lambda_{QCD}$
'Two-color Attoworld' (S. Hands)



Quark density rises
stepwise as finite “shells”
are filled with occupancy

$$\mathcal{N}_L = N_c N_f \sum_{\ell=1}^L 2\ell(\ell+1)$$

Polyakov line indicates
alternating ranges of
confinement and
deconfinement
 $\Leftrightarrow$ partially-filled shell

