

# Functional renormalization – concepts and prospects

# physics at different length scales

- microscopic theories : where the laws are formulated
- effective theories : where observations are made
- effective theory may involve different degrees of freedom as compared to microscopic theory
- example: the motion of the earth around the sun does not need an understanding of nuclear burning in the sun

QCD :

Short and long distance  
degrees of freedom are different !

Short distances : quarks and gluons

Long distances : baryons and mesons

How to make the transition?

confinement/chiral symmetry breaking

**collective  
degrees of freedom**

# Hubbard model

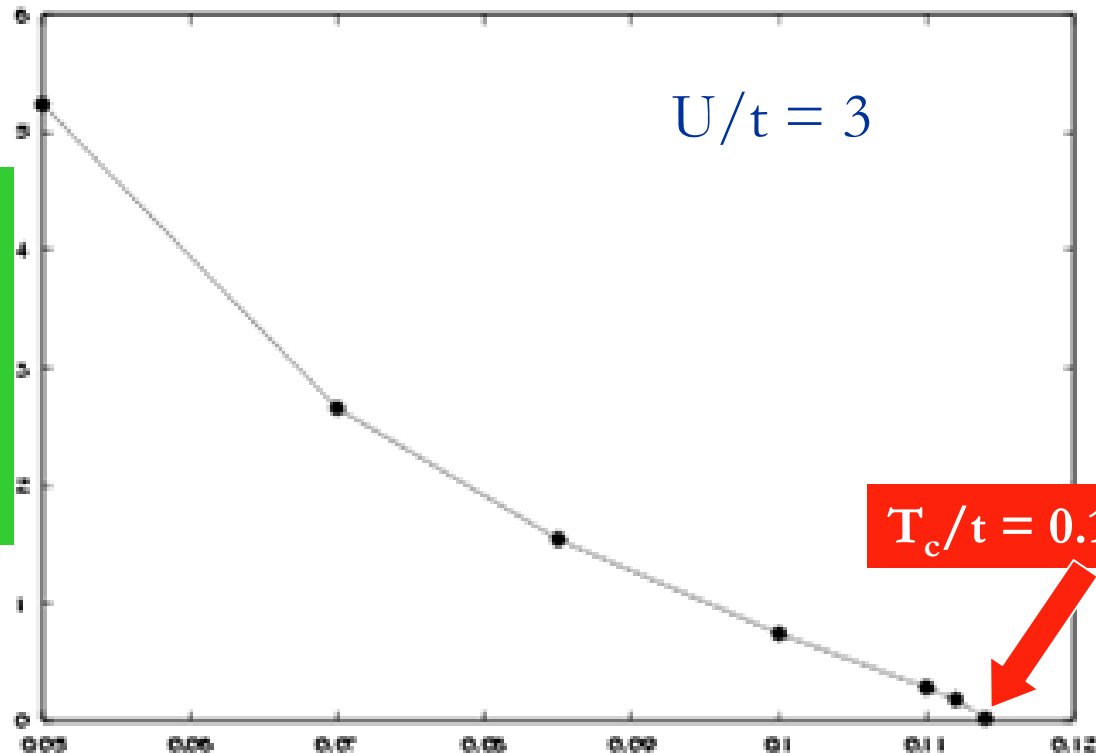
- Electrons on a cubic lattice  
here : on planes (  $d = 2$  )
- Repulsive local interaction if two electrons are on the same site
- Hopping interaction between two neighboring sites

# In solid state physics : “ model for everything ”

- Antiferromagnetism
- High  $T_c$  superconductivity
- Metal-insulator transition
- Ferromagnetism

# Antiferromagnetism in d=2 Hubbard model

antiferro-  
magnetic  
order  
parameter



$T_c/t = 0.115$

temperature in units of  $t$

T.Baier,  
E.Bick,...

# Collective degrees of freedom are crucial !

for  $T < T_c$

- nonvanishing order parameter

$$\vec{m}(X) = \hat{\psi}^\dagger(X) \vec{\sigma} \hat{\psi}(X)$$

$$\hat{m}(Q) \rightarrow \vec{a} \delta(Q - \Pi)$$

- gap for fermions
- low energy excitations:  
antiferromagnetic spin waves



# effective theory / microscopic theory

- sometimes only distinguished by different values of couplings
- sometimes different degrees of freedom

# Functional Renormalization Group

describes flow of effective action from small to large length scales

perturbative renormalization : case where only couplings change , and couplings are small

How to come from quarks and gluons to  
baryons and mesons ?

How to come from electrons to spin waves ?

Find effective description where relevant degrees of freedom depend on momentum scale or resolution in space.

Microscope with variable resolution:

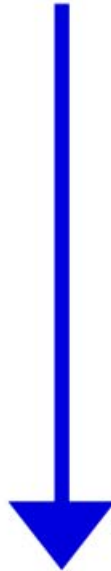
- High resolution , small piece of volume:  
quarks and gluons
- Low resolution, large volume : hadrons

From

**Microscopic Laws**  
(Interactions, classical action)

to

Fluctuations!



**Macroscopic Observation**  
(Free energy functional,  
effective action)

- block spins

Kadanoff, Wilson

- exact renormalization group equations

Wilson, Kogut

Wegner, Houghton

Weinberg

Polchinski

Hasenfratz<sup>2</sup>

- Lattice finite size scaling

Lüscher,...

- coarse grained free energy/average action

effective average action

Effective average potential :  
Unified picture for scalar field theories  
with symmetry  $O(N)$   
in arbitrary dimension  $d$  and arbitrary  $N$

linear or nonlinear sigma-model for  
chiral symmetry breaking in QCD

or:

scalar model for antiferromagnetic spin waves  
(linear  $O(3)$  – model )

fermions will be added later

# Effective potential includes **all** fluctuations

Average potential  $U_k$

$\equiv$  scale dependent effective potential

$\equiv$  coarse grained free energy

Only fluctuations with momenta  $q^2 > k^2$  included

$k$ : infrared cutoff for fluctuations, "average scale"

$\Lambda$ : characteristic scale for microphysics

$$U_\Lambda \approx S \rightarrow U_0 \equiv U$$

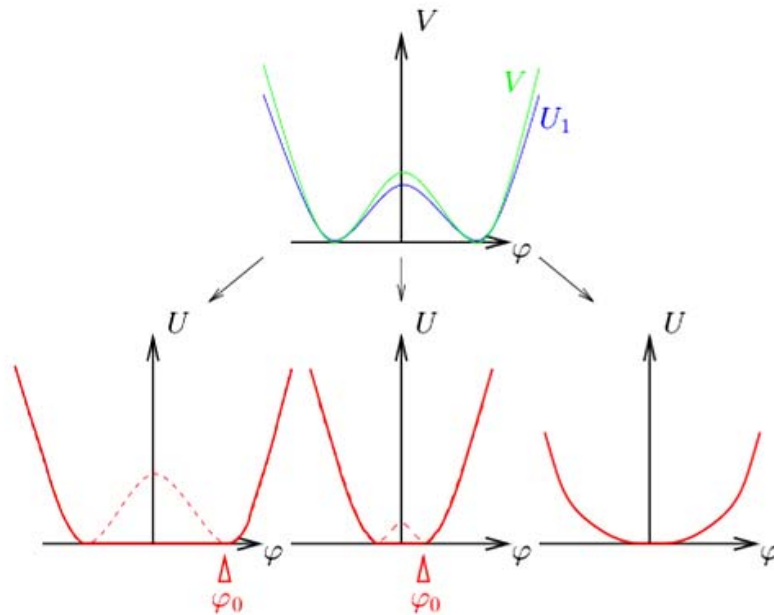


# Scalar field theory

$\varphi_a(x)$ : magnetization, density, chemical concentration, Higgs field, meson field, inflaton, cosmon

$O(N)$ -symmetry:

$$S = \int d^d x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi_a \partial_\mu \varphi_a + V(\rho) \right\}; \quad \rho = \frac{1}{2} \varphi_a \varphi_a$$



# Flow equation for average potential

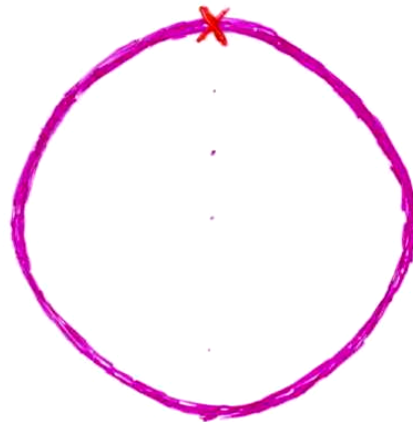
$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

$$\bar{M}_{k,ab}^2 = \frac{\partial^2 U_k}{\partial \varphi_a \partial \varphi_b} \quad : \quad \text{Mass matrix}$$

$$\bar{M}_{k,i}^2 \quad : \quad \text{Eigenvalues of mass matrix}$$

Simple one loop structure –  
nevertheless (almost) exact

$$\partial_k U_k = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$\partial_k R_k(q^2)$$

$$(Z_k q^2 + M_k^2 + R_k(q^2))^{-1}$$

# Infrared cutoff

$R_k$  : IR-cutoff

e.g. 
$$R_k = \frac{Z_k q^2}{e^{q^2/k^2} - 1}$$

or 
$$R_k = Z_k (k^2 - q^2) \Theta(k^2 - q^2) \quad (\text{Litim})$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} R_k = 0$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} R_k \rightarrow \infty$$

Flow equation for  $U_k$

$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

'91

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Partial differential  
equation for function  
 $U(k, \varphi)$  depending on  
two ( or more )  
variables

$$Z_k = c k^{-\eta}$$

# Regularisation

For suitable  $R_k$ :

$$R_k = \frac{Z_k q^2}{e^{q^2/k^2} - 1}$$
$$R_k = Z_k (k^2 - q^2) \Theta(k^2 - q^2)$$

- Momentum integral is ultraviolet and infrared finite
- Numerical integration possible
- Flow equation defines a regularization scheme ( ERGE –regularization )

$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

# Integration by momentum shells

Momentum integral  
is dominated by

$$q^2 \sim k^2.$$

$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

Flow only sensitive to  
physics at scale  $k$

# Wave function renormalization and anomalous dimension

$Z_k$ : wave function renormalization

$$k\partial_k Z_k = -\eta_k Z_k$$

$\eta_k$ : anomalous dimension

$$t = \ln(k/\Lambda)$$

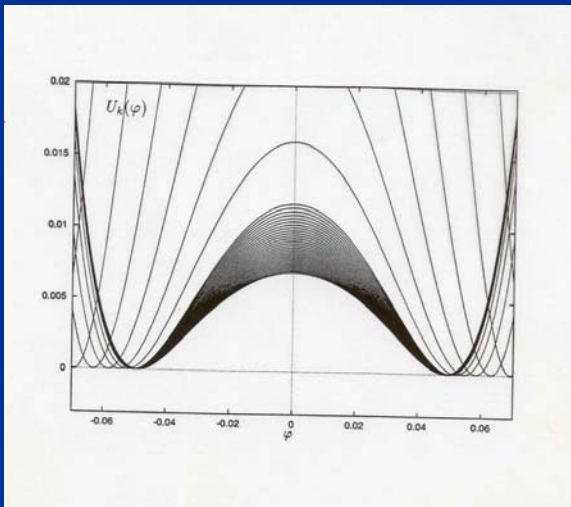
$$\partial_t \ln Z = -\eta$$

for  $Z_k(\varphi, q^2)$  : flow equation is **exact** !

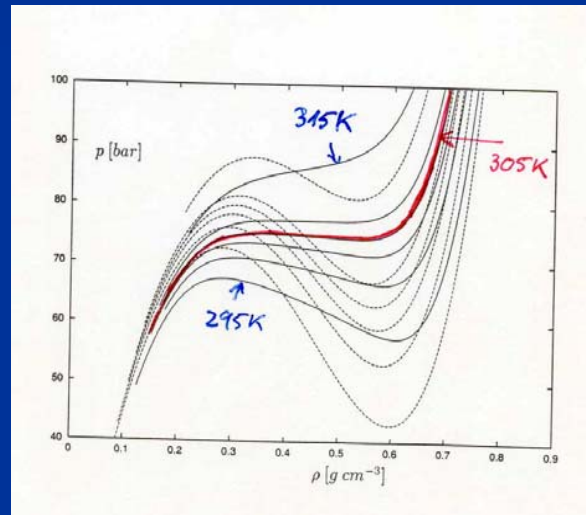


# Flow of effective potential

## Ising model



## CO<sub>2</sub>



## Critical exponents

$d = 3$

Critical exponents  $\nu$  and  $\eta$

$N$	$\nu$		$\eta$	
0	0.590	0.5878	0.039	0.0292
1	0.6307	0.6308	0.0467	0.0356
2	0.666	0.6714	0.049	0.0385
3	0.704	0.7102	0.049	0.0380
4	0.739	0.7474	0.047	0.0363
10	0.881	0.886	0.028	0.025
100	0.990	0.980	0.0030	0.003

“average” of other methods  
(typically  $\pm(0.0010 - 0.0020)$ )

Experiment :

$$T_* = 304.15 \text{ K}$$

$$p_* = 73.8 \text{ bar}$$

$$\rho_* = 0.442 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

S.Seide ...

# Critical exponents , $d=3$

Critical exponents  $\nu$  and  $\eta$

$N$	$\nu$		$\eta$	
0	0.590	0.5878	0.039	0.0292
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(typically  $\pm(0.0010 - 0.0020)$ )

# Solution of partial differential equation :

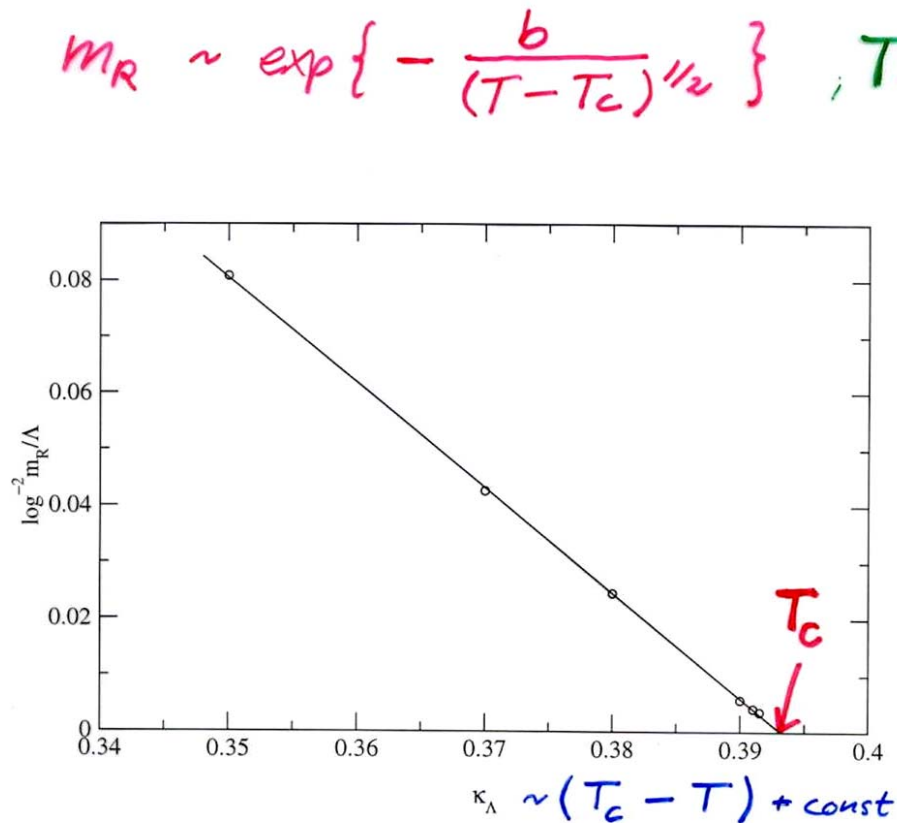
yields highly nontrivial non-perturbative results despite the one loop structure !

Example:

Kosterlitz-Thouless phase transition

# Essential scaling : $d=2, N=2$

- Flow equation contains correctly the non-perturbative information !
- (essential scaling usually described by vortices)

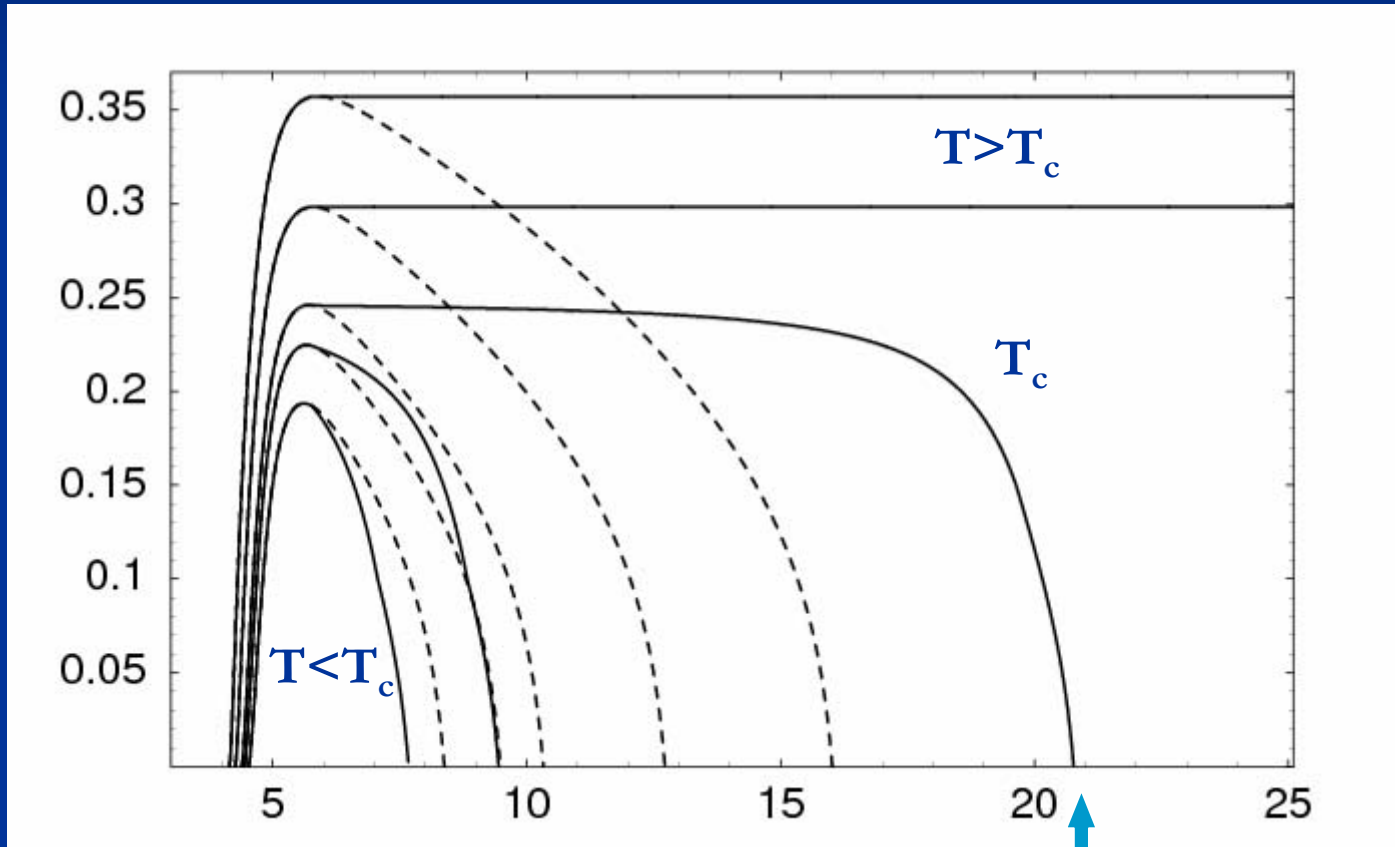


# Kosterlitz-Thouless phase transition ( $d=2, N=2$ )

Correct description of phase with  
Goldstone boson  
( infinite correlation length )  
for  $T < T_c$

# Running renormalized d-wave superconducting order parameter $\kappa$ in Hubbard model

$\kappa$

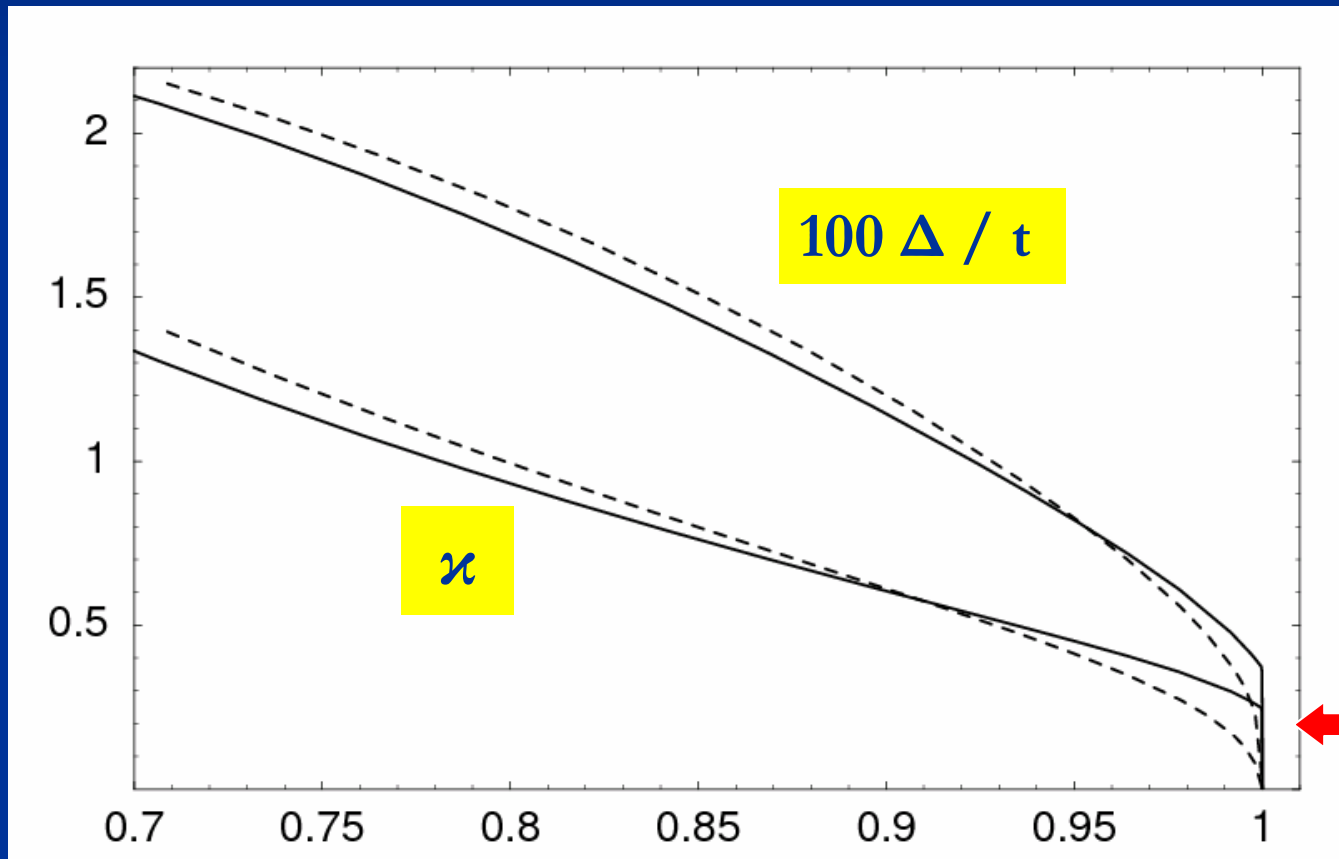


C.Krahl,...

$-\ln(k/\Lambda)$

macroscopic scale 1 cm

# Renormalized order parameter $\kappa$ and gap in electron propagator $\Delta$

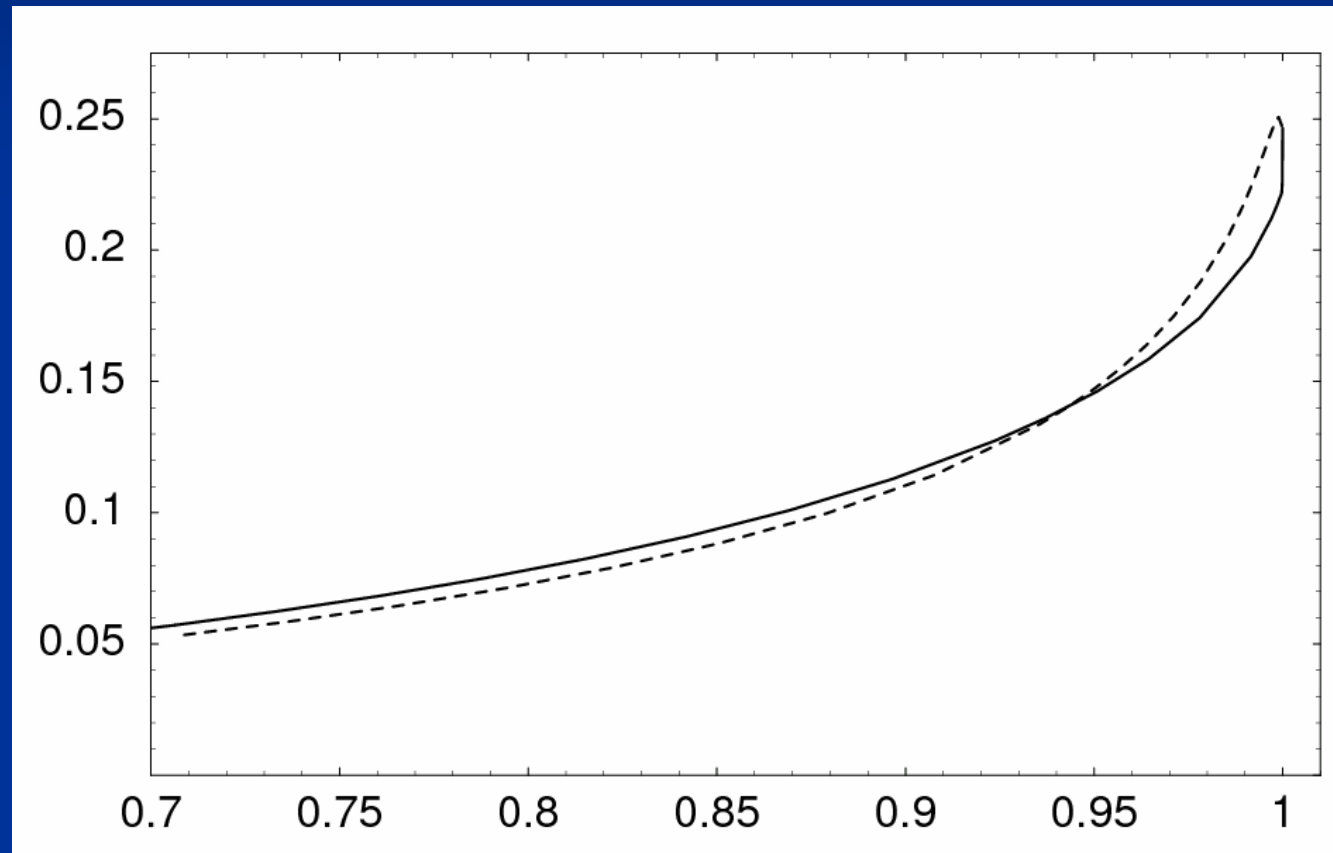


← jump

$T/T_c$

# Temperature dependent anomalous dimension $\eta$

$\eta$



$T/T_c$



Effective average action

and

exact renormalization group equation

# Generating functional

generating functional for connected Green's functions in presence of quadratic infrared cutoff

$$W_{\textcolor{red}{k}}[j] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\chi \exp \left( -S[\chi] - \Delta_{\textcolor{red}{k}} S[\chi] + \int d^d x j_a \chi_a \right)$$

$$\Delta_{\textcolor{red}{k}} S = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} R_{\textcolor{red}{k}}(q^2) \chi_a(-q) \chi_a(q)$$

$$\text{e.g. } R_k = \frac{Z_k q^2}{e^{q^2/k^2} - 1}$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} R_k = 0$$

$$R_{k \rightarrow \infty} \rightarrow \infty$$

# Effective average action

$$\Gamma_k[\varphi] = -W_k[j] + \int d^d x j_a \varphi_a - \Delta_k S[\varphi]$$

$\Gamma_0[\varphi]$ : quantum effective action  
generates 1PI vertices  
free energy:  $F = \Gamma T + \mu n V$

$\Gamma_k$  includes all fluctuations (quantum, thermal)  
with  $q^2 > k^2$

$\Gamma_\Lambda$  specifies microphysics

$$\varphi_a = \langle \chi_a \rangle = \frac{\delta W_k}{\delta j_a}$$

Loop expansion :  
perturbation theory  
with  
infrared cutoff  
in propagator

# Quantum effective action

for  $k \rightarrow 0$

all fluctuations (quantum + thermal)  
are included

knowledge of  $\Gamma_{k \rightarrow 0} \hat{=}$  solution of model

# Exact renormalization group equation

Exact flow equation

for scale dependence of average action

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\varphi] + R_k \right)^{-1} \partial_k R_k \right\}$$

'92

$$\left( \Gamma_k^{(2)} \right)_{ab}(q, q') = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \varphi_a(-q) \delta \varphi_b(q')}$$

$$\text{Tr} : \sum_a \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d}$$

(fermions : STr)

# Proof of exact flow equation

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_k \Gamma|_\phi &= -\partial_k W|_j - \partial_k \Delta_k S[\varphi] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \{ \partial_k R_k (\langle \phi \phi \rangle - \langle \phi \rangle \langle \phi \rangle) \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \partial_k R_k W_k^{(2)} \right\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}W_k^{(2)} (\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k) &= \mathbb{1} \\ (\Delta_k S^{(2)} &\equiv R_k)\end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left\{ \partial_k R_k (\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k)^{-1} \right\}$$

# Truncations

Functional differential equation –  
cannot be solved exactly

Approximative solution by truncation of  
most general form of effective action

## derivative expansion

Tetradis,...; Morris

$O(N)$ -model:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_k = & \int d^d x \{ U_k(\rho) + \frac{1}{2} Z_k(\rho) \partial_\mu \varphi_a \partial_\mu \varphi_a \\ & + \frac{1}{4} Y_k(\rho) \partial_\mu \rho \partial_\mu \rho + \cdots \} \\ & (N = 1 : \quad Y_k \equiv 0)\end{aligned}$$

## field expansion

(flow eq. for 1PI vertices)

Weinberg; Ellwanger,...

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_k = & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \int \prod_{j=0}^n d^d x_j \Gamma_k^{(n)}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ & \prod_{j=0}^n (\phi(x_j) - \phi_0)\end{aligned}$$

error estimate?



## Expansion in canonical dimension of couplings

Lowest order:

$$d = 4 : \quad \rho_0, \bar{\lambda}, Z$$

$$d = 3 : \quad \rho_0, \bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}, Z$$

$$U = \frac{1}{2}\bar{\lambda}(\rho - \rho_0)^2 + \frac{1}{6}\bar{\gamma}(\rho - \rho_0)^3$$

works well for  $O(N)$  models

Tetradis,...; Tsypin

polynomial expansion of potential converges

if expanded around  $\rho_0$

Tetradis,...; Aoki et al.

# Exact flow equation for effective potential

- Evaluate exact flow equation for homogeneous field  $\varphi$ .
- R.h.s. involves exact propagator in homogeneous background field  $\varphi$ .

# Flow equation for average potential

$$\partial_k U_k(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int \frac{d^d q}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{\partial_k R_k(q^2)}{Z_k q^2 + R_k(q^2) + \bar{M}_{k,i}^2(\varphi)}$$

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QCD :

Short and long distance  
degrees of freedom are different !

Short distances : quarks and gluons

Long distances : baryons and mesons

How to make the transition?

confinement/chiral symmetry breaking

# Nambu Jona-Lasinio model

$$S = \int d^4x \left\{ i \bar{\psi}_a^i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi_a^i \right. \\ \left. + 2\lambda_G ( \bar{\psi}_{Lb}^i \psi_{Ra}^i ) ( \bar{\psi}_{Ra}^j \psi_{Lb}^j ) \right\}$$
$$\psi_{L,R} = \frac{1 \pm \gamma^5}{2} \psi$$

$$i, j = 1 \dots N_c \quad \text{color} \quad (N_c = 3)$$
$$a, b = 1 \dots N_F \quad \text{flavor} \quad (N_F = 3, 2)$$

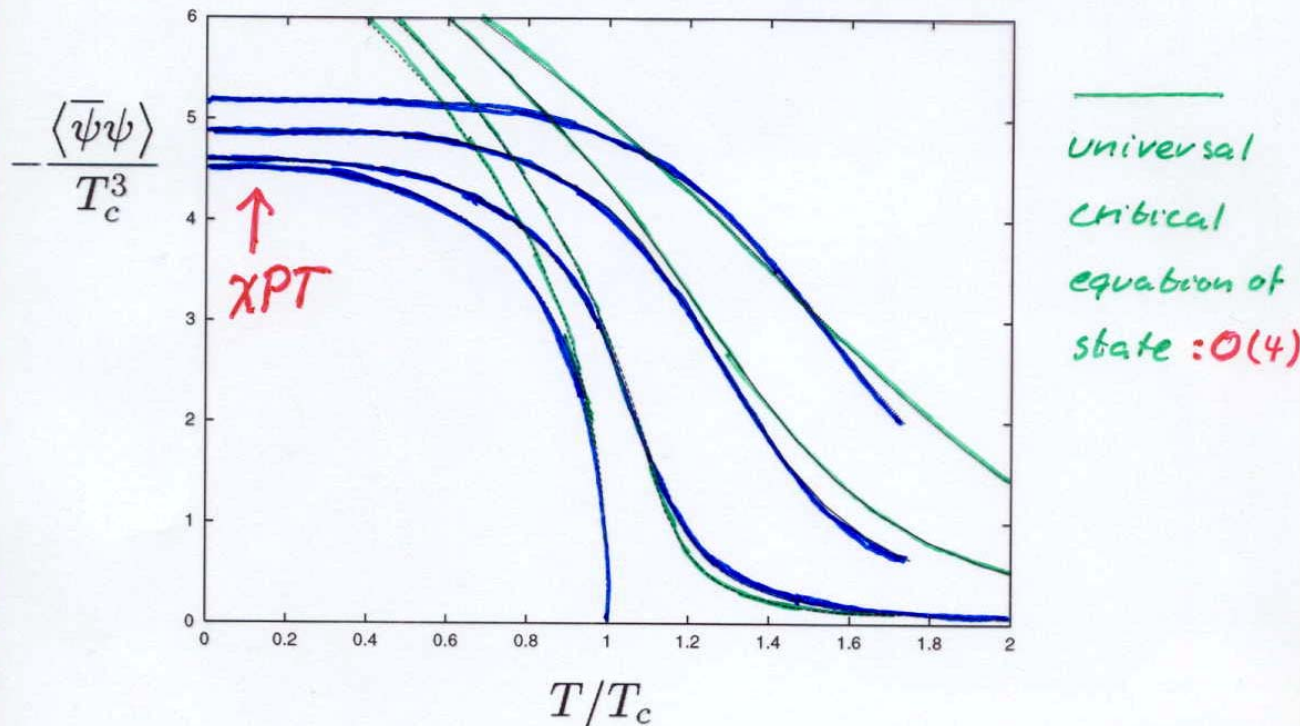
chiral flavor symmetry :

$$SU_L(N_F) \times SU_R(N_F)$$

...and more general quark meson models

# Chiral condensate ( $N_f=2$ )

2nd order PT (expected for  $O(4)$  Heisenberg model)



$\Rightarrow$  Explicit link between  $\chi PT$  domain of validity (4d) and critical (universal) domain near  $T_c$  (3d)

Berges,  
Jungnickel,...

# Critical temperature , $N_f = 2$

$\frac{m_\pi}{\text{MeV}}$	0	45	135	230
$\frac{T_{pc}}{\text{MeV}}$	100.7	$\simeq 110$	$\simeq 130$	$\simeq 150$

for  $f_\pi = 93 \text{ MeV}$



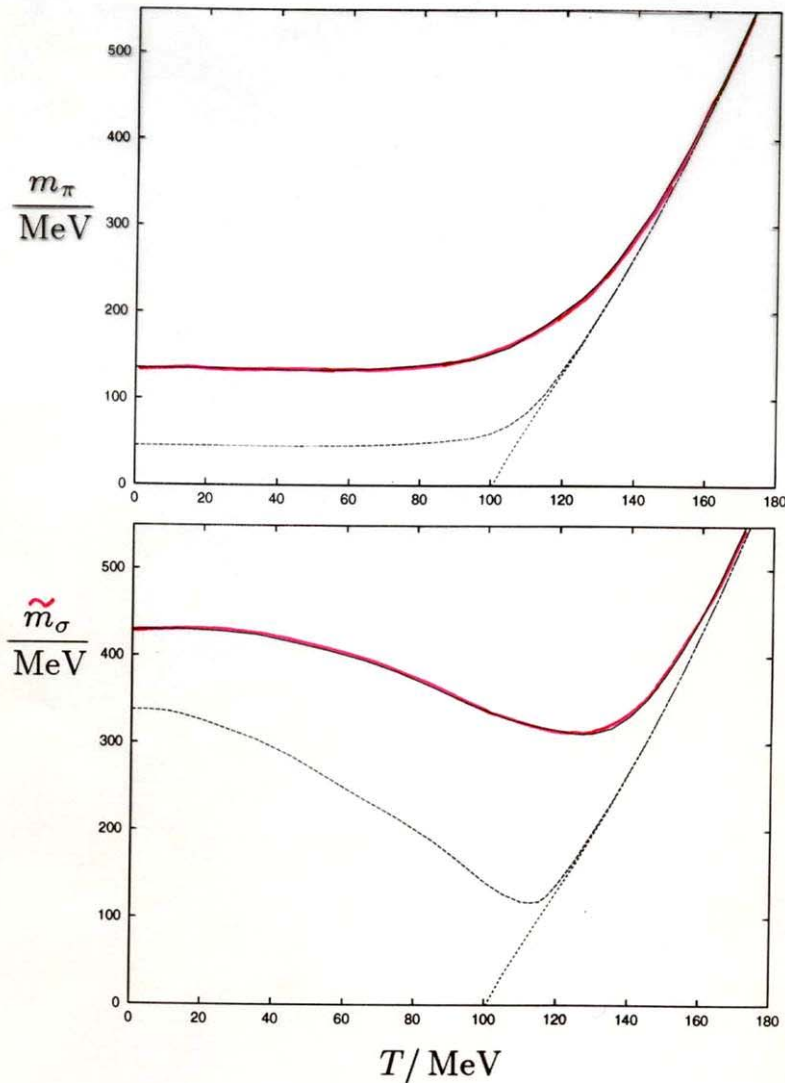
Lattice simulation

J.Berges,D.Jungnickel,...

temperature  
dependent  
masses

pion mass

sigma mass



$?$   $m_\sigma < 2m_\pi$  for  $T \gtrsim 100$  MeV  $?$

No long pion correlation length in thermal equilibrium!



# Critical equation of state

Critical behavior for second order  
phase transitions :

correlation length  $\xi = m_R^{-1}$   
only relevant length scale

$\varphi_R$  : renormalized field variable

$U(\varphi_R)$  depends only on  $m_R$

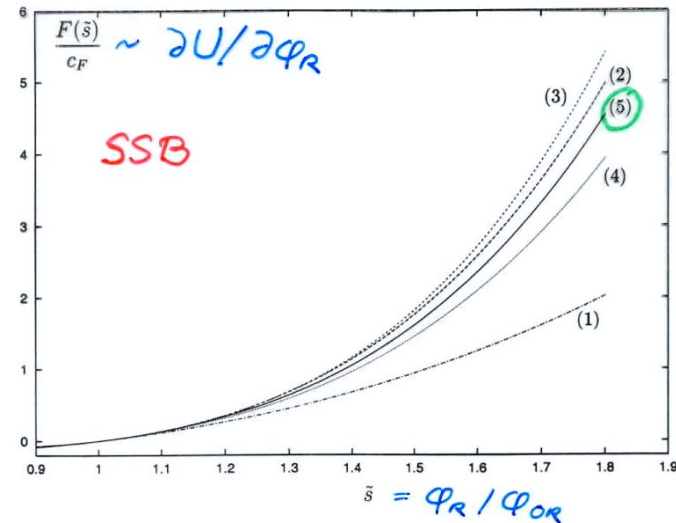
$$B \sim \frac{\partial U}{\partial \varphi_R} = F\left(\frac{\varphi_R}{\sqrt{m_R}}\right) m_R^{5/2}$$



Widom scaling function

# Scaling form of equation of state

Berges,  
Tetradis,...



critical equation of state

(2) ERGE, (lowest order derivative exp.; Berges, Tetradis, ...)

(5) ERGE, first order derivative exp.; Seide, ...

(1) mean field

(4) high-T-series, loop expansion,  $\epsilon$ -expansion

(3) Monte Carlo

Universal critical equation of state  
is valid near critical temperature  
**if** the only light degrees of freedom  
are pions + sigma with  
 $O(4)$  – symmetry.

Not necessarily valid in QCD, even  
for two flavors !

# conclusions

Flow equation for effective average action:

- Does it work?
- Why does it work?
- When does it work?
- How accurately does it work?

