# **Chiral phase transition and**

# chemical freeze out

#### Understanding the phase diagram



# Order parameters

Nuclear matter and quark matter are separated from other phases by true critical lines
Different realizations of global symmetries
Quark matter: SSB of baryon number B
Nuclear matter: SSB of combination of B and isospin I<sub>3</sub> neutron-neutron condensate

#### "minimal" phase diagram for nonzero quark masses

< 777? small Crossover 2.0 superfluid U(1)<sub>B</sub> broken nuclear matter 1.0

# speculation : endpoint of critical line ?



# How to find out ?

# Methods

 Lattice : One has to wait until chiral limit is properly implemented ! Non-zero chemical potential poses problems.
 Functional renormalization : Not yet available for QCD with quarks and non-zero chemical potential. Nucleons ?

 Models : Simple quark meson models cannot work.
 Polyakov loops ? For low T : nucleons needed. Higgs picture of QCD ?

Experiment : Has T<sub>c</sub> been measured ?

# Chemical freeze-out and phase diagram



## Hadron abundancies



# Chemical freeze-out and phase diagram



#### **Chemical freeze-out**



Lessons from the hadron world

# Chemical freeze-out at high baryon density



## Chiral order parameter





# Number density





# Linear nucleon – meson model

- Protons, neutrons
- Pions, sigma-meson
- Omega-meson (effective chemical potential, repulsive interaction)
- Chiral symmetry fully realized
- Simple description of order parameter and chiral phase transition
- Chiral perturbation theory recovered by integrating out sigma-meson

## Linear nucleon – meson model

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_{a} i\gamma^{\nu} (\partial_{\nu} - ig \omega_{\nu} - i\mu \delta_{0\nu}) \psi_{a} + \sqrt{2} h \left[ \bar{\psi}_{a} \left( \frac{1+\gamma_{5}}{2} \right) \phi_{ab} \psi_{b} + \bar{\psi}_{a} \left( \frac{1-\gamma_{5}}{2} \right) (\phi^{\dagger})_{ab} \psi_{b} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{*}_{ab} (-\partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu}) \phi_{ab} + U_{\text{mic}} (\rho, \sigma) + \frac{1}{4} (\partial_{\mu} \omega_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} \omega_{\mu}) (\partial^{\mu} \omega^{\nu} - \partial^{\nu} \omega^{\mu}) + \frac{1}{2} m_{\omega}^{2} \omega_{\mu} \omega^{\mu}.$$

$$\phi_{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\sigma + i\pi^0) & i\pi^- \\ i\pi^+ & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\sigma - i\pi^0) \end{pmatrix} \quad \rho = \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2$$

$$U_{\rm mic}(\rho,\sigma) = \bar{U}(\rho) - m_{\pi}^2 f_{\pi}\sigma.$$

# Effective potential and thermal fluctuations

$$U(\sigma, \omega_0) = U(\rho, \omega_0) - m_\pi^2 f_\pi \sigma \ , \ \rho = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2,$$

$$\Delta = U(\rho, \omega_0; T, \mu) - U(\rho, \omega_0; 0, \mu_c)$$

# For high baryon density and low T : dominated by nucleon fluctuations !

$$U(\sigma, \omega_0; T, \mu) = U_{\text{vac}}(\sigma, \omega_0) - 4 P_{\text{FG}}(T, \mu + g\omega_0, h\sigma)$$

# Pressure of gas of nucleons with field-dependent mass

$$U(\sigma, \omega_0; T, \mu) = U_{\text{vac}}(\sigma, \omega_0) - 4 P_{\text{FG}}(T, \mu + g\omega_0, h\sigma)$$

$$P_{\rm FG}(T,\mu,m) = \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\vec{p}^2}{\sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2}} \\ \times \left[ \frac{1}{e^{\frac{1}{T}(\sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2} - \mu)} + 1} + \frac{1}{e^{\frac{1}{T}(\sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2} + \mu)} + 1} \right]$$

# Valid estimate for $\Delta$ in indicated region



Input : T=0 potential includes complicated physics of quantum fluctuations in QCD

$$\begin{split} U_{\rm vac}(\sigma,\omega_0) = &\frac{1}{2}m_\pi^2(2\rho - f_\pi^2) + \frac{1}{8}\lambda(2\rho - f_\pi^2)^2 \\ &+ \frac{1}{3}\frac{\gamma_3}{f_\pi^2}(2\rho - f_\pi^2)^3 + \frac{1}{4}\frac{\gamma_4}{f_\pi^4}(2\rho - f_\pi^2)^4 \\ &- m_\pi^2 f_\pi(\sigma - f_\pi) - \frac{1}{2}m_\omega^2\omega_0^2. \end{split}$$

#### parameters

$$f_{\pi}, m_{\pi}, \lambda, \gamma_3, \gamma_4, m_{\omega}, h \text{ and } g.$$

determined by phenomenology of nuclear matter. Droplet model reproduced. Density of nuclear matter, binding energy, surface tension, compressibility, order parameter in nuclear matter.

other parameterizations : similar results

# Effective potential (T=0)



FIG. 4: Effective potential  $U(\sigma)$  as a function of the chiral order parameter for T = 0 and chemical potential  $\mu = 915$  MeV (dotted line),  $\mu = 922.7$  MeV (solid line) and  $\mu = 930$  MeV (dashed line).

## Effective potential for different T



FIG. 5: Effective potential  $U(\sigma)$  as a function of the chiral order parameter at the critical chemical potential of the first order phase transition  $\mu = \mu_c(T)$  for temperatures T = 0, T = 5 MeV, T = 10 MeV, T = 15 MeV and T = 20 MeV.

## Chiral order parameter



FIG. 6: Chiral order parameter  $\sigma_0$  as a function of the chemical potential for T = 0 (uppermost curve), T = 10 MeV, T = 20 MeV, T = 30 MeV, T = 40 MeV, T = 50 MeV, T = 60 MeV, T = 70 MeV and T = 80 MeV (lowermost curve). Endpoint of critical line of first order transition

> T = 20.7 MeV $\mu = 900 \text{ MeV}$

# **Baryon density**



FIG. 7: Baryon number density as a function of the chemical potential for T = 0 (lowermost curve), T = 10 MeV, T = 20 MeV, T = 30 MeV, T = 40 MeV, T = 50 MeV, T = 60 MeV, T = 70 MeV and T = 80 MeV (uppermost curve).

#### Particle number density



FIG. 8: Number density of baryons and pions (solid lines) as well as baryons only (dashed lines) as a function of temperature for the chemical potentials  $\mu = 550$  MeV (lowermost curves),  $\mu = 650$  MeV,  $\mu = 750$  MeV and  $\mu = 850$  MeV (uppermost curves).

# Energy density



FIG. 9: Energy density of baryons and pions (solid lines) as well as baryons only (dashed lines) as a function of temperature for the chemical potentials  $\mu = 550$  MeV (lowermost curves),  $\mu = 650$  MeV,  $\mu = 750$  MeV and  $\mu = 850$  MeV (uppermost curves).

# Conclusion (1)

Thermodynamics reliably understood in indicated region of phase diagram



No sign of phase transition or crossover at experimental chemical freeze-out points
 Freeze-out at line of constant number density

$$n = 0.15 n_{\text{nuclear}}$$

Has the critical temperature of the QCD phase transition been measured ?

#### Heavy ion collision



Yes!

# $0.95 T_{c} < T_{ch} < T_{c}$

not : "I have a model where T<sub>c</sub>≈ T<sub>ch</sub> "
 not : "I use T<sub>c</sub> as a free parameter and find that in a model simulation it is close to the lattice value ( or T<sub>ch</sub> ) "

 $T_{ch} \approx 176 \text{ MeV}$ 

## Hadron abundancies



# Has T<sub>c</sub> been measured ?

- Observation : statistical distribution of hadron species with "chemical freeze out temperature "T<sub>ch</sub>=176 MeV
- T<sub>ch</sub> cannot be much smaller than  $T_c$ : hadronic rates for  $T < T_c$  are too small to produce multistrange hadrons ( $\Omega$ ,..)
- Only near T<sub>c</sub> multiparticle scattering becomes important
   (collective excitations ...) proportional to high power of density

$$\implies$$
 T<sub>ch</sub> $\approx$ T<sub>c</sub>

P.Braun-Munzinger, J.Stachel, CW

## **Exclusion argument**

Assume temperature is a meaningful concept complex issue

 $T_{ch} < T_c$  :  $\longrightarrow$  hadrochemical equilibrium

Exclude hadrochemical equilibrium at temperature much smaller than  $T_c$ : say for temperatures < 0.95  $T_c$ 

 $0.95 < T_{ch} / T_c < 1$ 

#### Estimate of critical temperature

#### For $T_{ch} \approx 176 \text{ MeV}$ :

# 0.95 < T<sub>ch</sub> /T<sub>c</sub> 176 MeV < T<sub>c</sub> < 185 MeV</li> 0.75 < T<sub>ch</sub> /T<sub>c</sub> 176 MeV < T<sub>c</sub> < 235 MeV</li>

Quantitative issue matters!



# lower bound on T<sub>ch</sub> / T<sub>c</sub>



- Two particle scattering rates not sufficient to produce Ω
- "multiparticle scattering for Ω-production ": dominant only in immediate vicinity of T<sub>c</sub>

Mechanisms for production of multistrange hadrons

Many proposals

Hadronization

Quark-hadron equilibrium

**Decay** of collective excitation ( $\sigma$  – field)

Multi-hadron-scattering

Different pictures !

#### Hadronic picture of $\Omega$ - production

Should exist, at least semi-quantitatively, if  $T_{ch} < T_c$ (for  $T_{ch} = T_c$  :  $T_{ch} > 0.95 T_c$  is fulfilled anyhow)

e.g. collective excitations ≈ multi-hadron-scattering (not necessarily the best and simplest picture)

multihadron  $\rightarrow \Omega + X$  should have sufficient rate

Check of consistency for many models Necessary if  $T_{ch} \neq T_c$  and temperature is defined

Way to give quantitative bound on  $T_{ch} / T_c$ 

# Rates for multiparticle scattering

#### 2 pions + 3 kaons -> $\Omega$ + antiproton

$$r(n_{in}, n_{out}) = \bar{n}(\mathbf{T})^{n_{in}} |\mathcal{M}|^2 \phi$$

$$\phi = \prod_{k=1}^{n_{out}} \left( \int \frac{d^3 p_k}{(2\pi)^3 (2E_k)} \right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 \left( \sum_k p_k^\mu \right)$$

$$r_{\Omega} = n_{\pi}^5 (n_K/n_{\pi})^3 |\mathcal{M}|^2 \phi.$$

# Very rapid density increase

... in vicinity of critical temperature

Extremely rapid increase of rate of multiparticle scattering processes

(proportional to very high power of density)

# Energy density

Lattice simulations Karsch et al

( even more dramatic for first order transition )



# Phase space

- increases very rapidly with energy and therefore with temperature
- $\blacksquare$  effective temperature dependence of time which is needed to produce  $\Omega$

$$\tau_{\Omega} \sim T^{-60}$$
 !

This will even be more dramatic if transition is closer to first order phase transition

#### Production time for $\Omega$



P.Braun-Munzinger, J.Stachel, CW

multi-meson scattering

 $\pi + \pi + \pi + K + K ->$  $\Omega + p$ 

> strong dependence on pion density

# enough time for $\Omega$ - production

at T=176 MeV :



consistency !

chemical equilibrium in hadronic phase

requires multi-particle scattering to be important
realized for observed freeze out temperature

chiral phase transition from hadronic perspective

- must exist for crossover ( or second order phase transition )
- critical temperature : the temperature when multi-particle scattering becomes dominant
- coincides with freeze-out temperature

# extremely rapid change

lowering T by 5 MeV below critical temperature :

rate of  $\Omega$  – production decreases by factor 10

This restricts chemical freeze out to close vicinity of critical temperature

$$0.95 < T_{ch} / T_c < 1$$





experimental determination of critical temperature may be more precise than lattice results

error estimate becomes crucial

# Conclusion (3)

- temperature and chemical potential of phase transition should be determined from distribution of particles which change their abundance only through multi-particle interactions
- pions may still have time to change numbers through few body scattering – results in lower freeze-out temperature for pions

#### Chemical freeze-out



#### end