

# Mass Sensitivity of the QCD Phase Structure

**Bernd-Jochen Schaefer**



**Germany**

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018



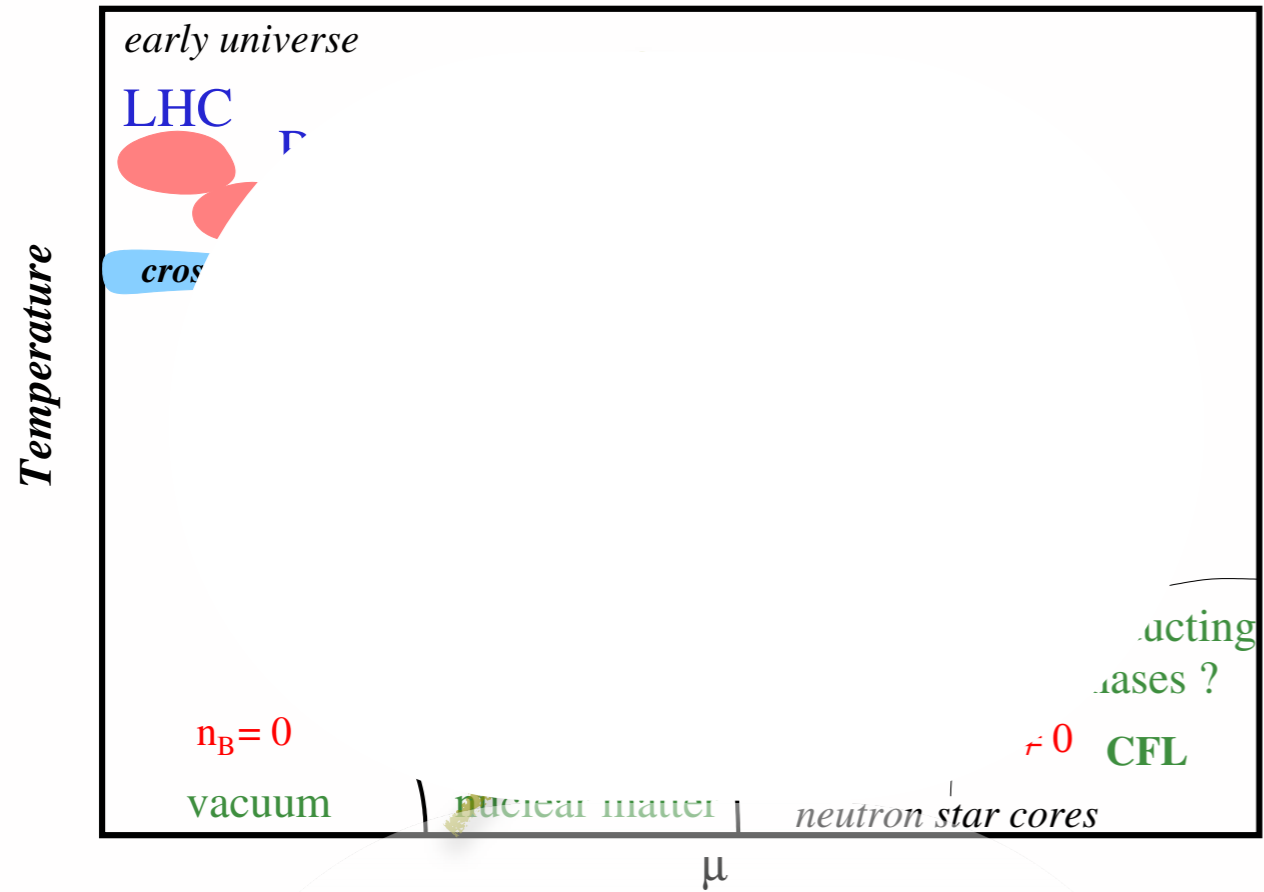
**Germany**



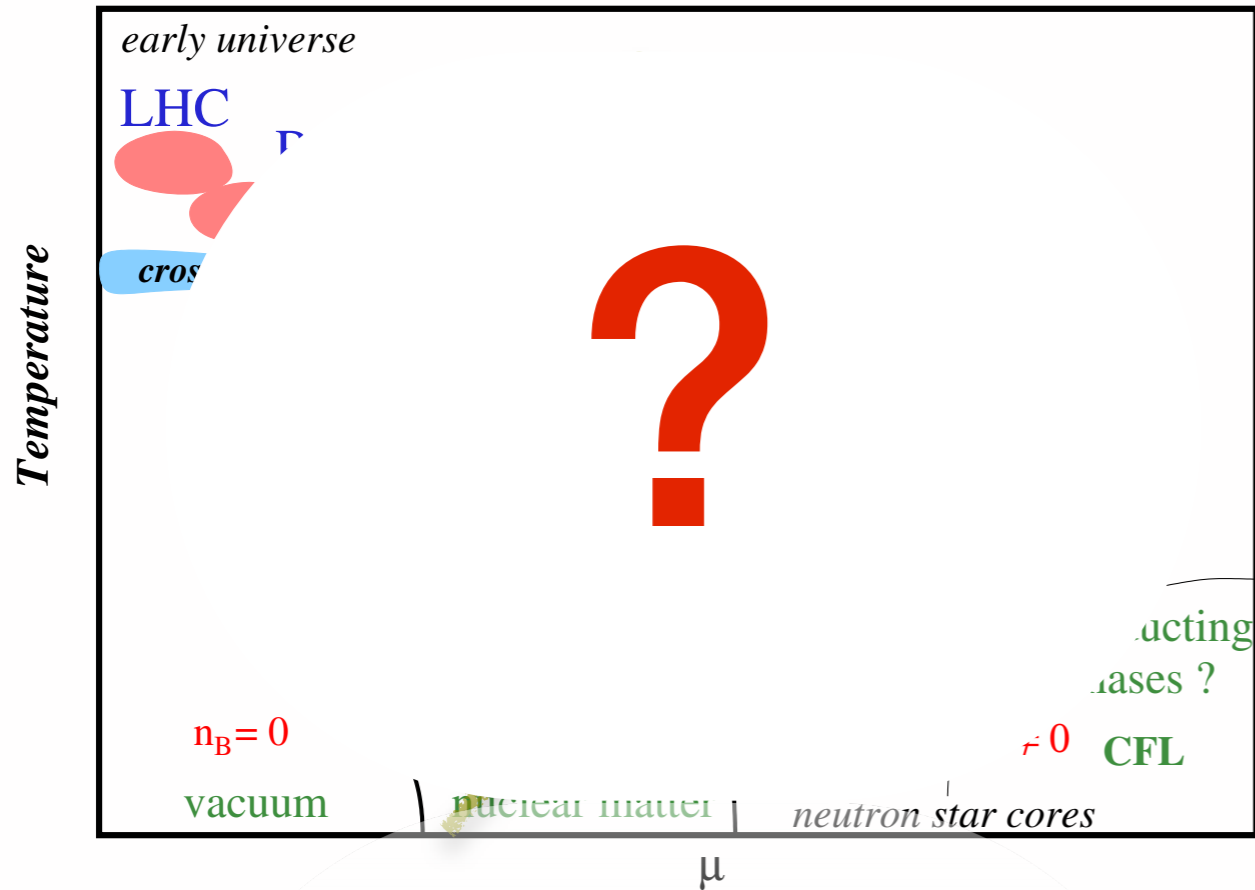
**666. WE-Heraeus-Seminar**  
**From correlation functions to QCD phenomenology**  
03rd of April 2018 - 06th of April 2018  
Physikzentrum Bad Honnef, Germany



# QC<sub>3</sub>D phase structure

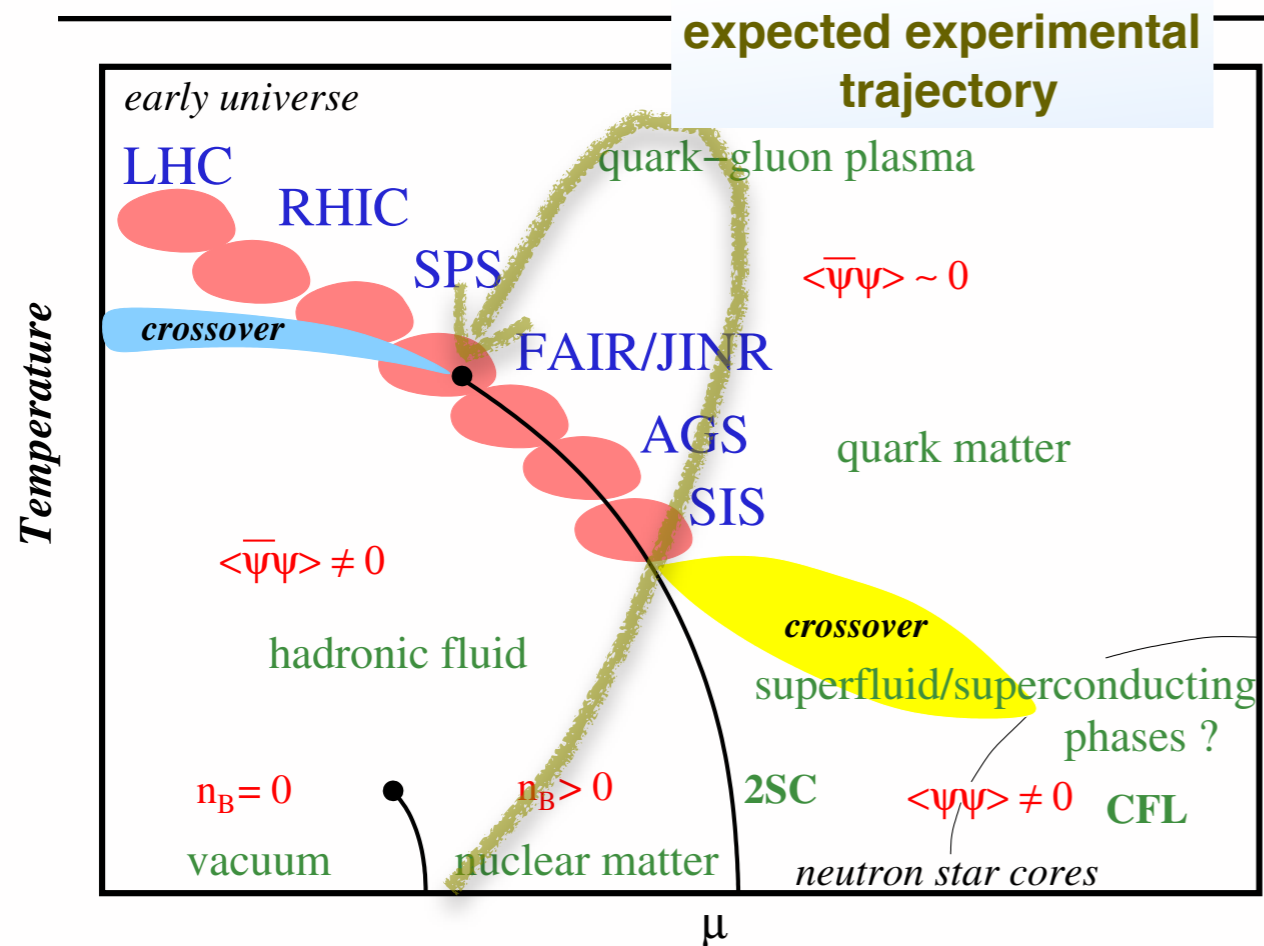


# QC<sub>3</sub>D phase structure



vacuum/nuclear matter/transition &  
only corners of the phase diagram are known  
from “first principles”

# conjectured QC<sub>3</sub>D phase structure



knowledge so far

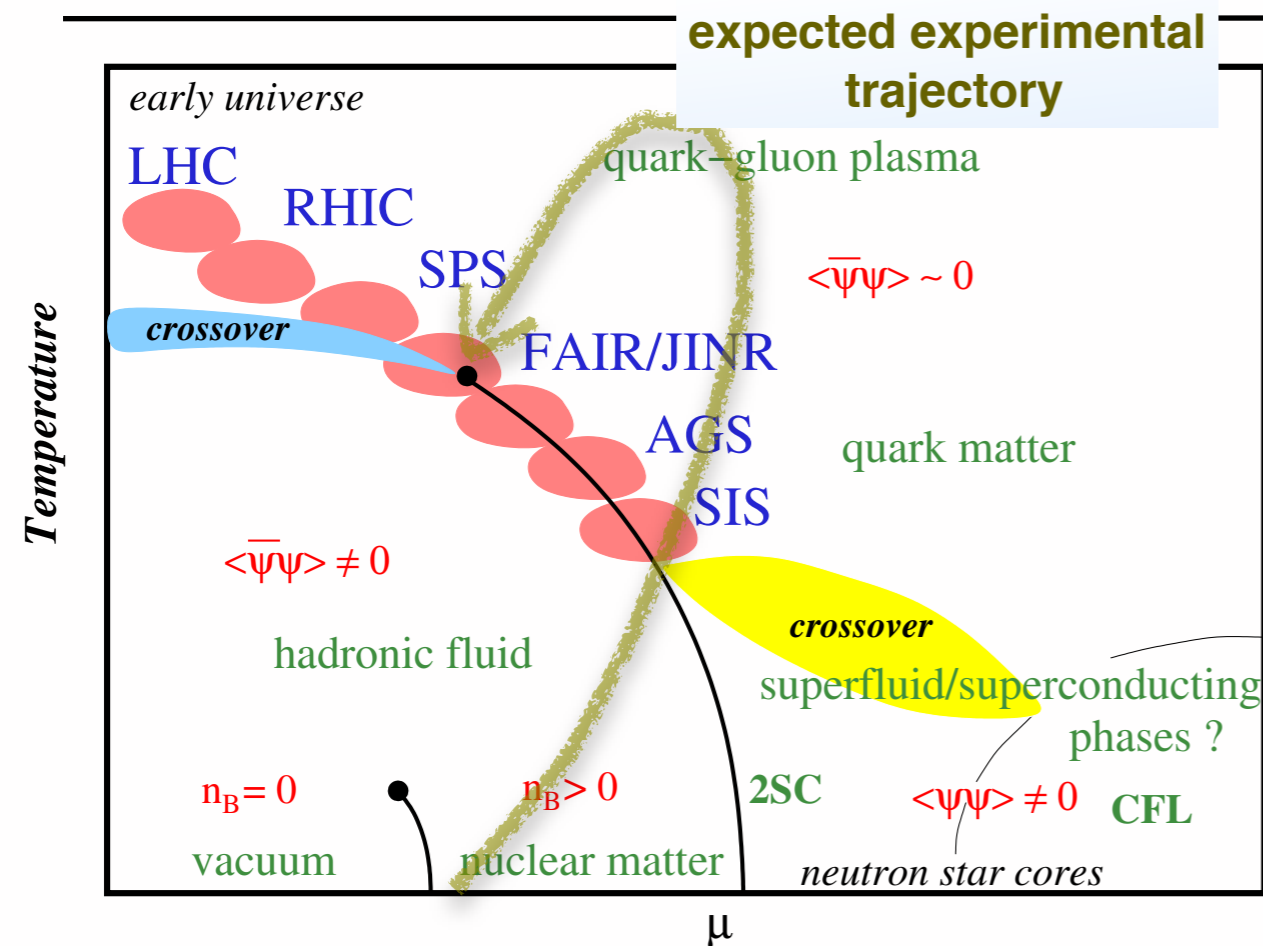
mostly based on model calculations

assumptions:

equilibrium, homogeneous phases,

infinite volume, ....

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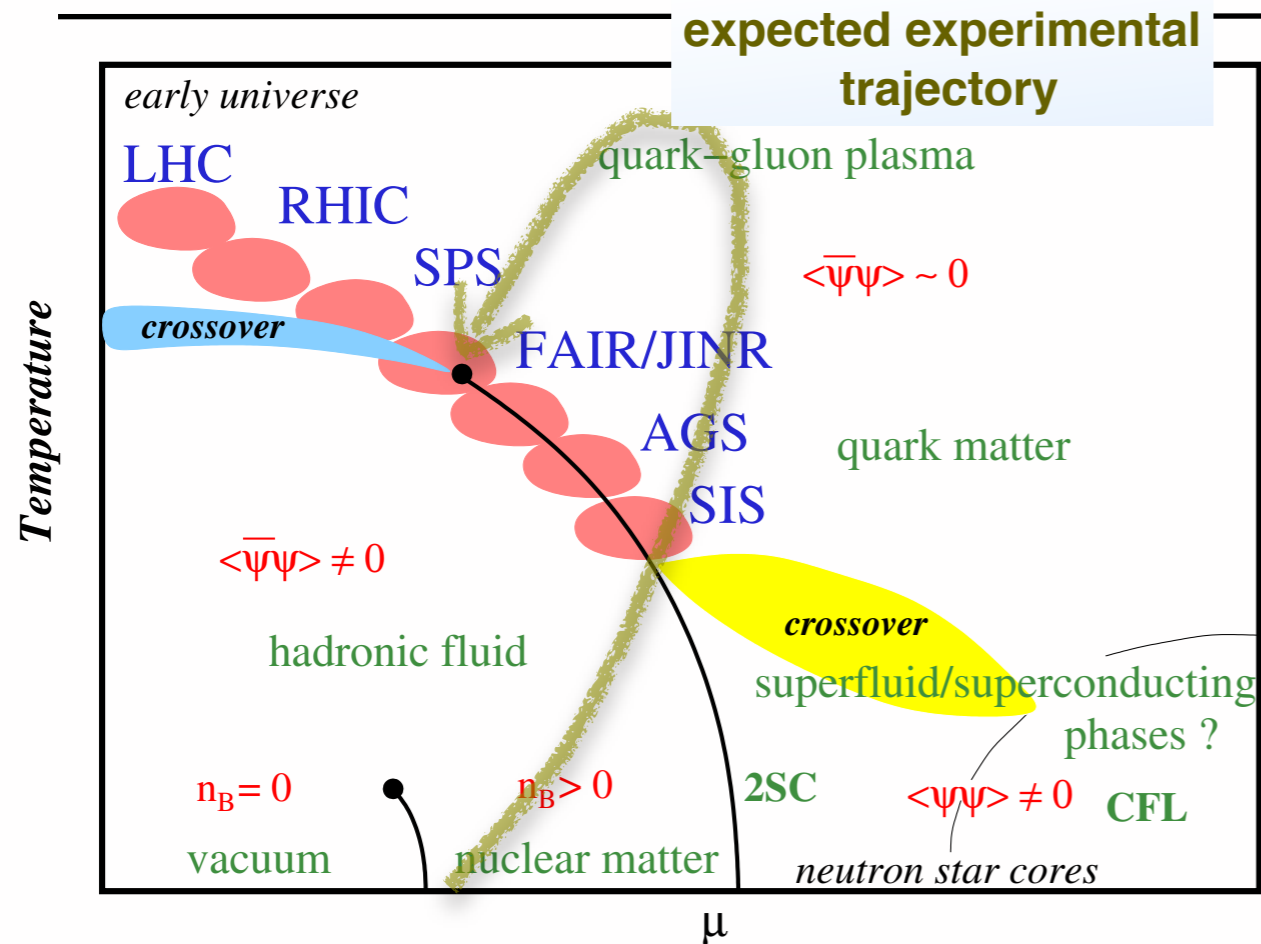
equilibrium, homogeneous phases,

infinite volume, ....

## Open/unclear questions:

- **CEP:** existence/location/number
- relation between chiral & deconfinement?  
chiral  $\Leftrightarrow$  deconfinement CEP?
- **Quarkyonic phase:** coincidence of both transitions  
at  $\mu=0$  &  $\mu>0$ ?
- **inhomogeneous phases?**  $\rightarrow$  more favored?
- **axial anomaly restoration** around chiral transition?
- **finite volume effects?**  $\rightarrow$  lattice comparison/  
influence boundary conditions
- **role of fluctuations?** so far mostly Mean-Field results  
 $\rightarrow$  effects of fluctuations important  
examples: size of crit reg. around CEP
- **What are good experimental signatures?**  
 $\rightarrow$  cumulants?

# conjectured QC<sub>3</sub>D phase structure



Theory:

- Lattice: but simulations restricted to small  $\mu$
- Models: effective theories parameter dependency
- Functional QFT methods: FRG, DSE, nPI

Experiment: (non-equilibrium? → most likely thermal equilibrium)

→ in a finite box (HBT radii: freeze-out vol.  $\sim 5000 \text{ fm}^3$ )

(UrQMD ( $\sqrt{s}$ ): system vol.  $\sim 50 - 250 \text{ fm}^3$ )

knowledge so far

mostly based on model calculations

assumptions:

equilibrium, homogeneous phases,

infinite volume, ....

Theoretical aim:

deeper understanding & more realistic HIC description

→ existence of critical end point(s)?

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# Agenda

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- **Role of Fluctuations:**  
from mean-field approximations to the FRG
- **Columbia plot**

# Agenda

- Role of Fluctuations:  
from mean-field approximations to the FRG
- Columbia plot

complementary to



2016



March 2018





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- Role of Fluctuations:

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complementary to



2016




March 2018



# FRG and QCD

■ **FRG (average effective action)** [Wetterich 1993]

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

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k[\phi] \sim \frac{1}{2} \text{ (diagram) }$$


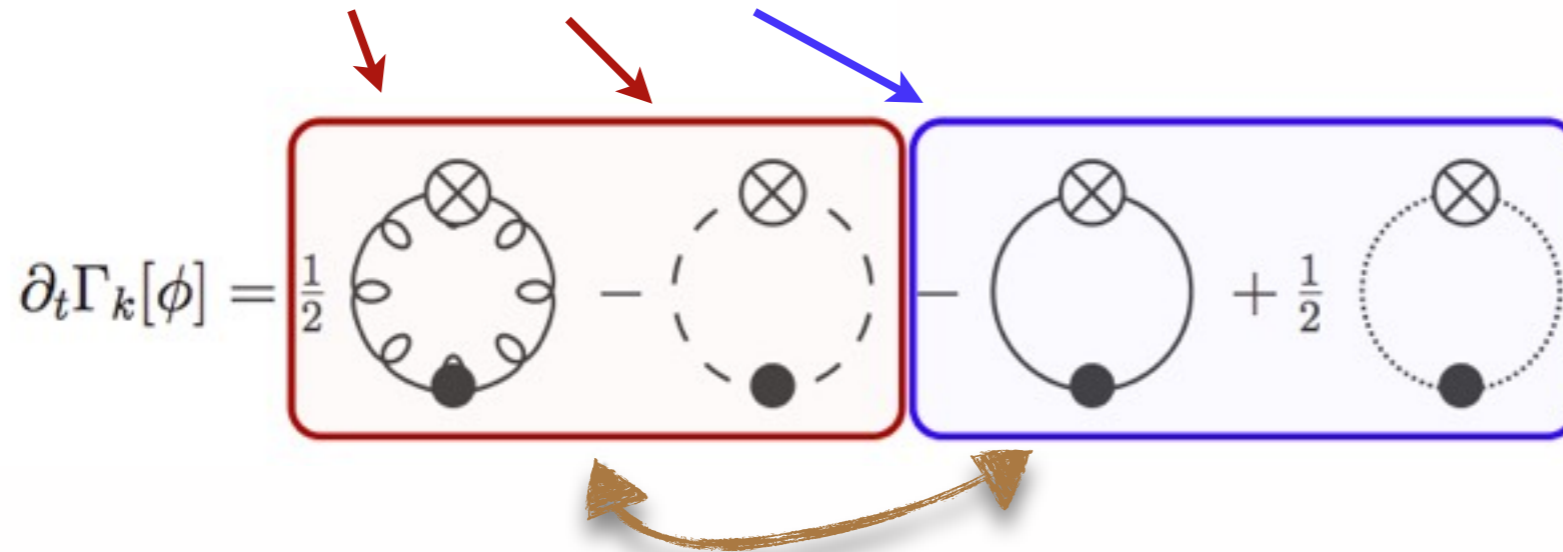
Regulator  $R_k$

$$\Gamma_k^{(2)} = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \phi \delta \phi}$$

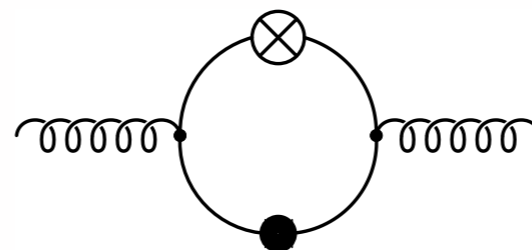
$$t = \ln(k/\Lambda)$$

■ **full dynamical QCD flow:**

fluctuations of **gluon, ghost, quark** and (via hadronization) **meson** [Pawlowski et al. 2009....]

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (diagram) } - \text{ (diagram) } - \text{ (diagram) } + \frac{1}{2} \text{ (diagram) }$$


in presence of **dynamical quarks:**  
**gluon propagator** is modified



**pure Yang Mills flow +  
matter back-coupling**

# FRG: quark-meson truncation

chiral phase transition:

→ cf. talk by  
Wei-jie Fu and many others

flow for **quark-meson** model truncation:

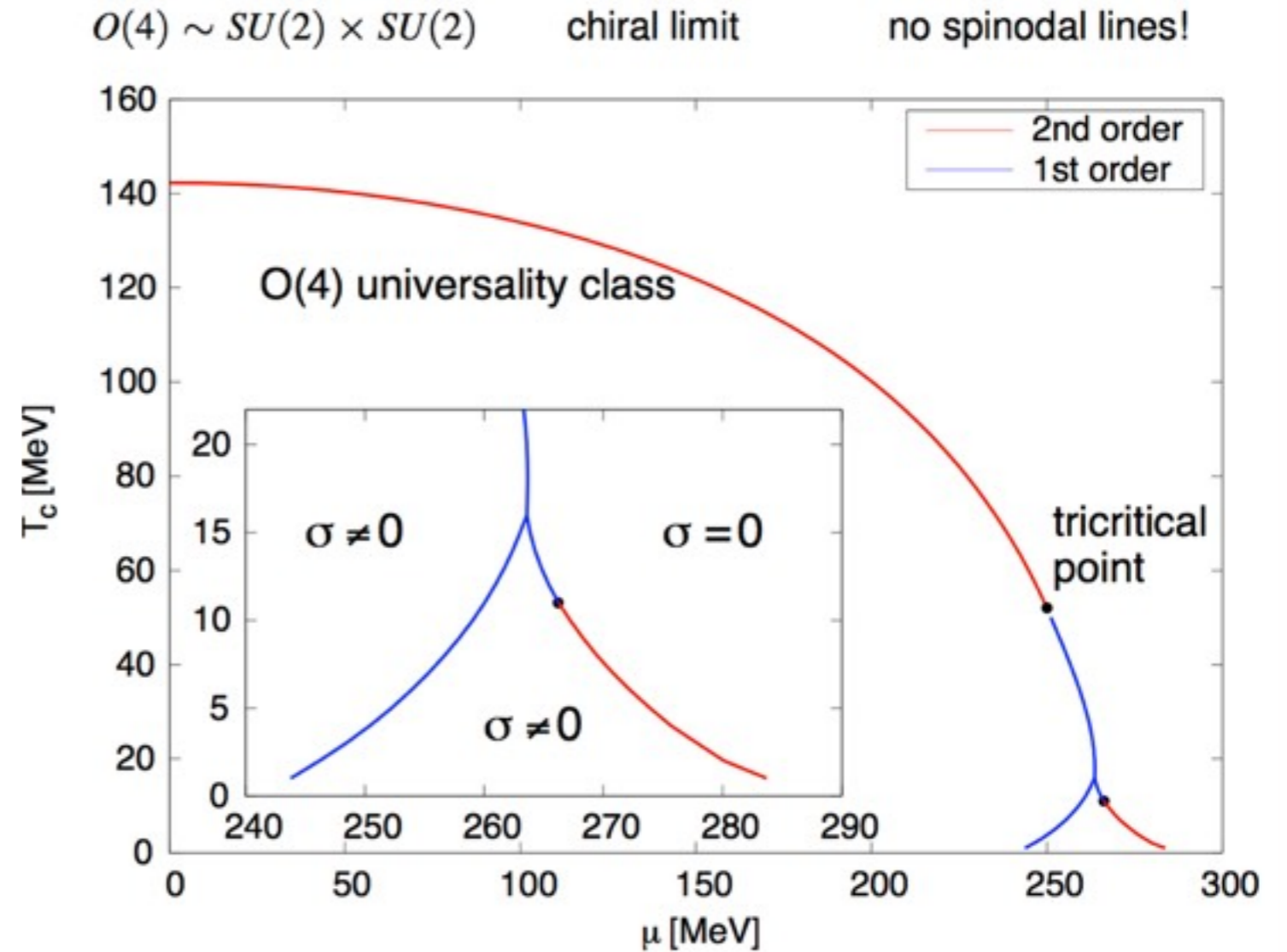
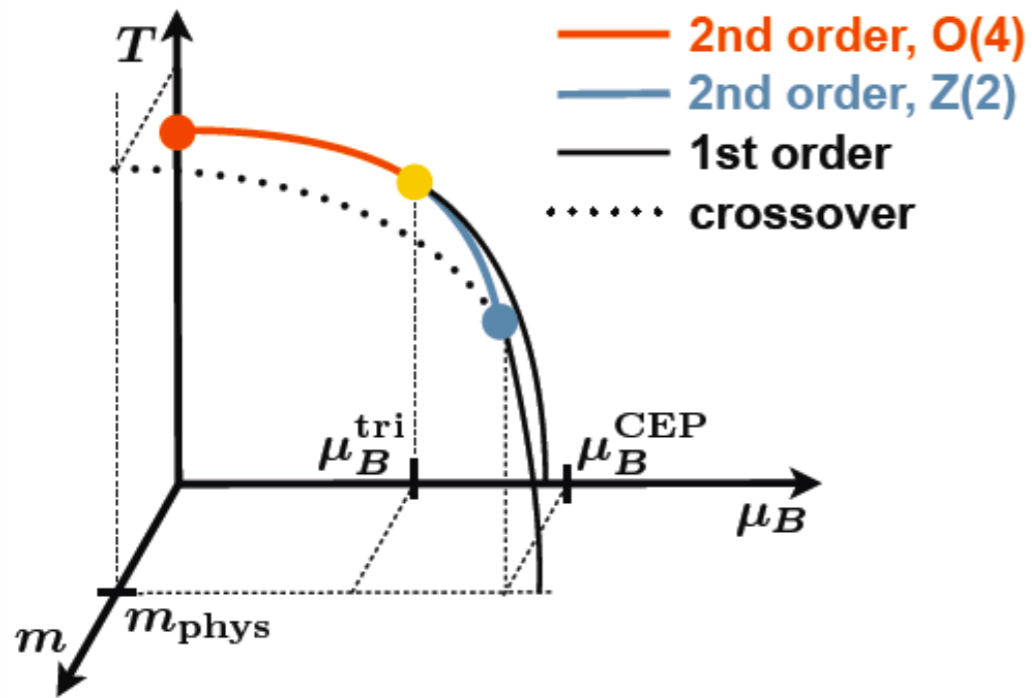
neglect

**YM contributions and bosonic fluctuations**

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \text{diagram 1} - \text{diagram 2} \right] - \left[ \text{diagram 3} + \frac{1}{2} \text{diagram 4} \right]$$

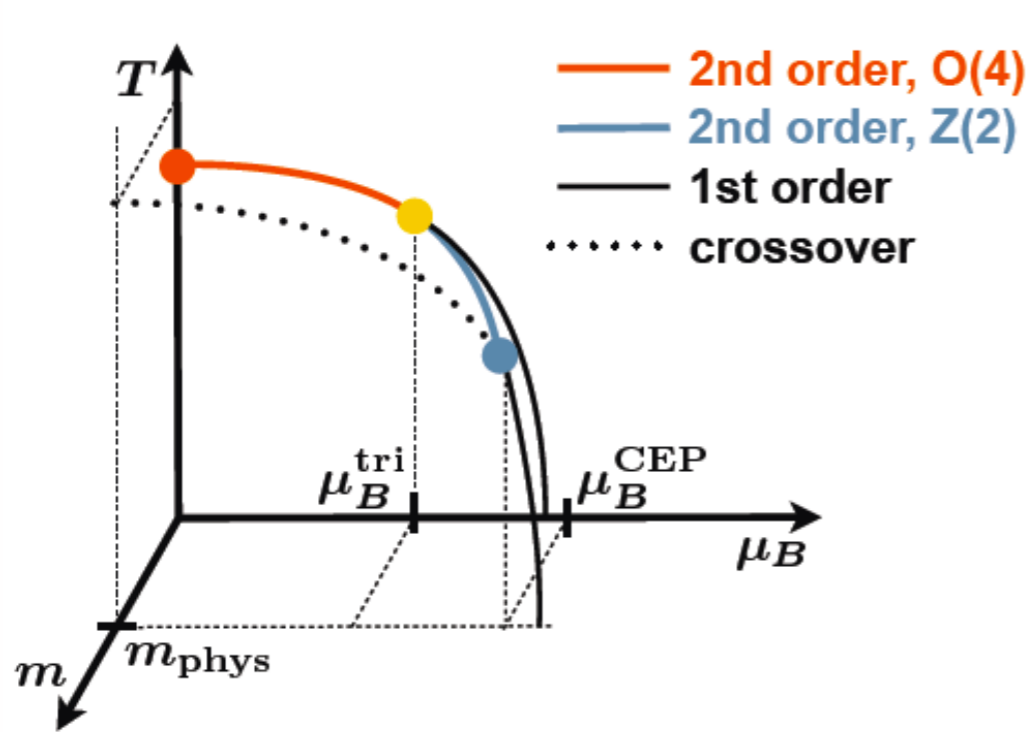
without bosonic fluctuations:  
extended Mean-field approximation

# Phase diagram $N_f=2$ QM

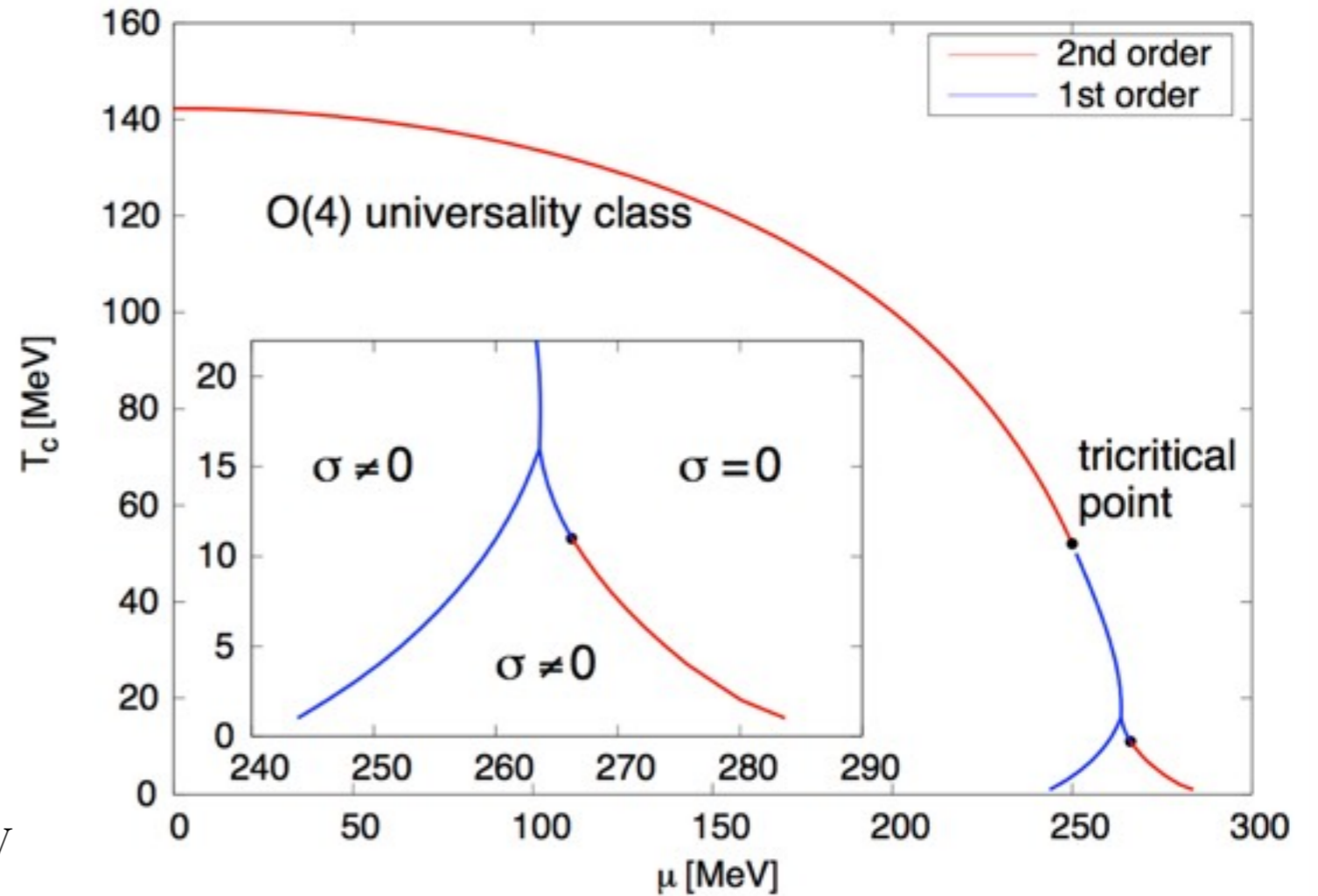


[BJS, J Wambach 2005]

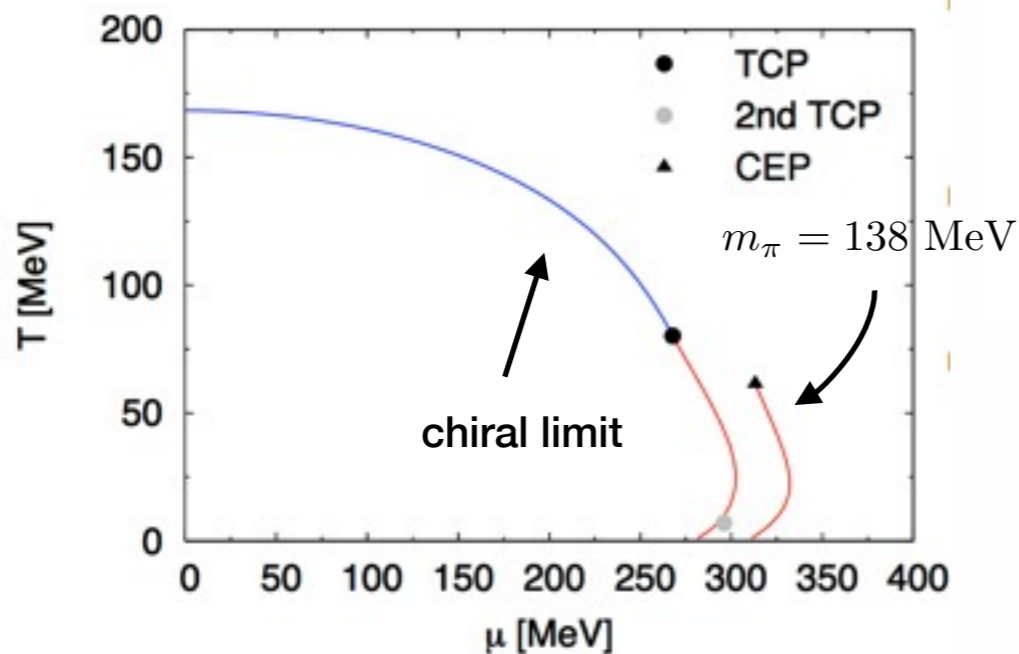
# Phase diagram $N_f=2$ QM



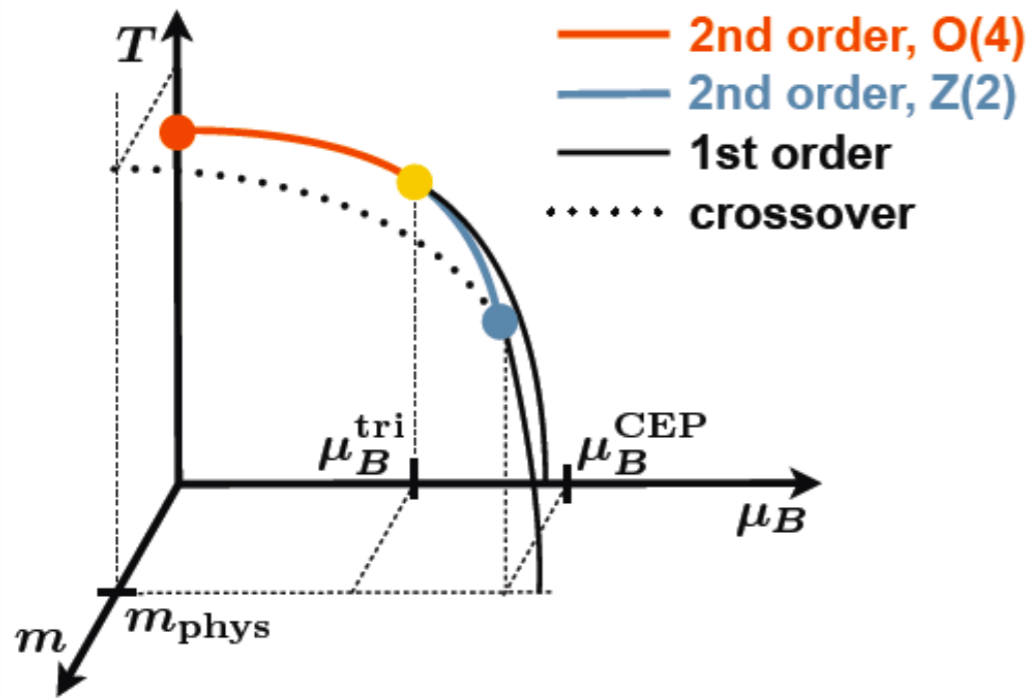
$O(4) \sim SU(2) \times SU(2)$       chiral limit      no spinodal lines!



[BJS, J Wambach 2005]



# Phase diagram $N_f=2$ QM



Fluctuations of order parameter  $\rightarrow \infty$  at 2<sup>nd</sup> order transition  
 critical fluctuations  $\rightarrow$  phase boundary?

How can we probe a transition?  $\rightarrow$  cumulants

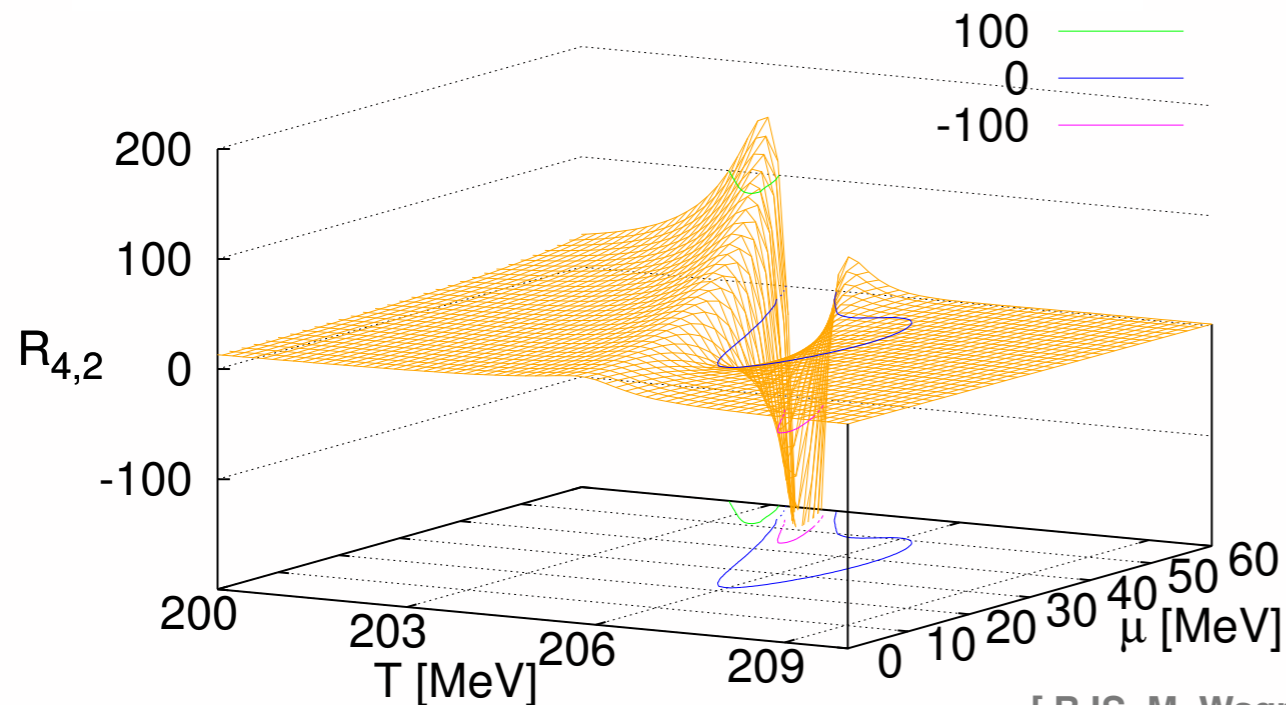
Taylor expansion:

.... more sensitive to criticality

$$\frac{p(T, \mu)}{T^4} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(T) \left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right)^n$$

$$c_n(T) = \frac{1}{n!} \frac{\partial^n p(T, \mu) / T^4}{\partial (\mu/T)^n}$$

$\rightarrow$  cf. talk by  
 Marlene Nahrgang et al.



[ BJS, M. Wagner 2012]

■ singular behaviour in  $\frac{\partial^n p(X)}{\partial X^n}$  with  $X = T, \mu, \dots$

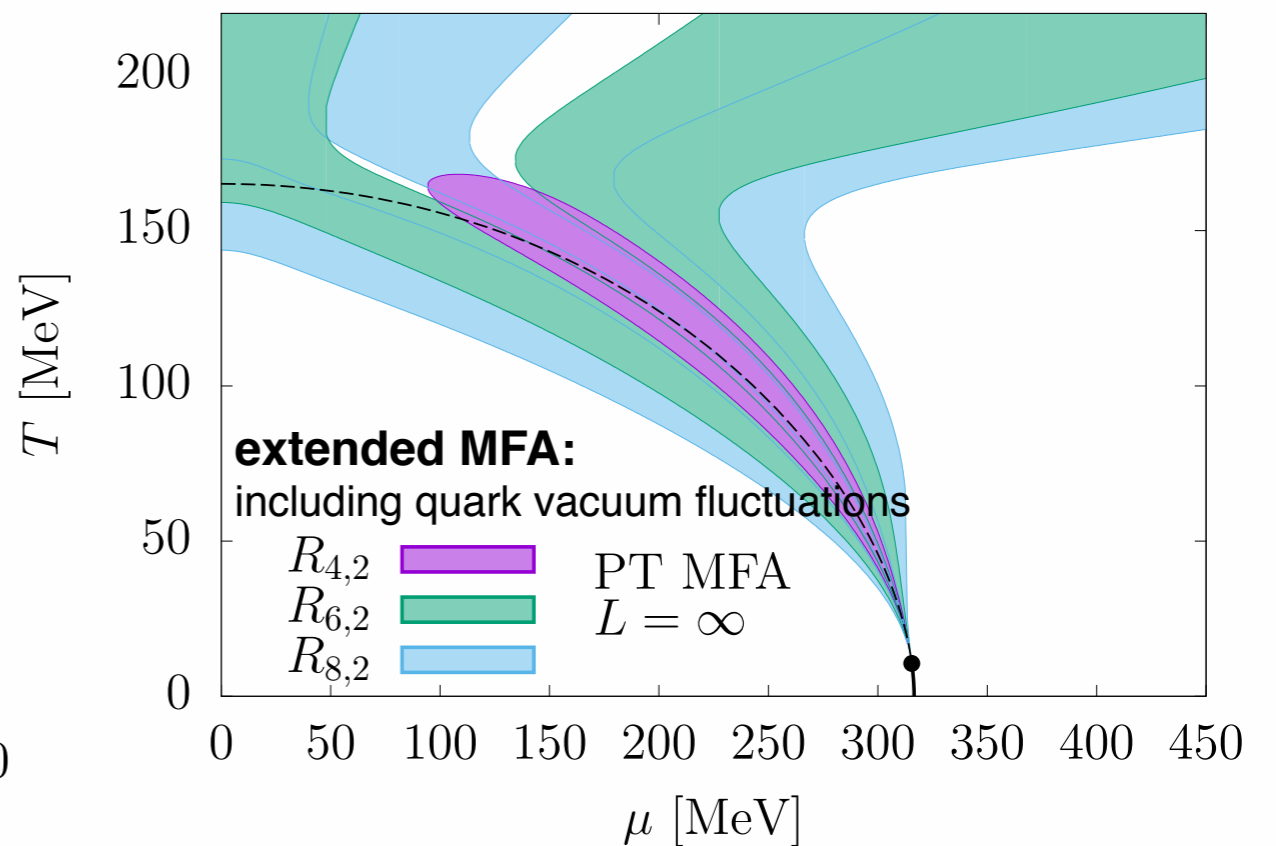
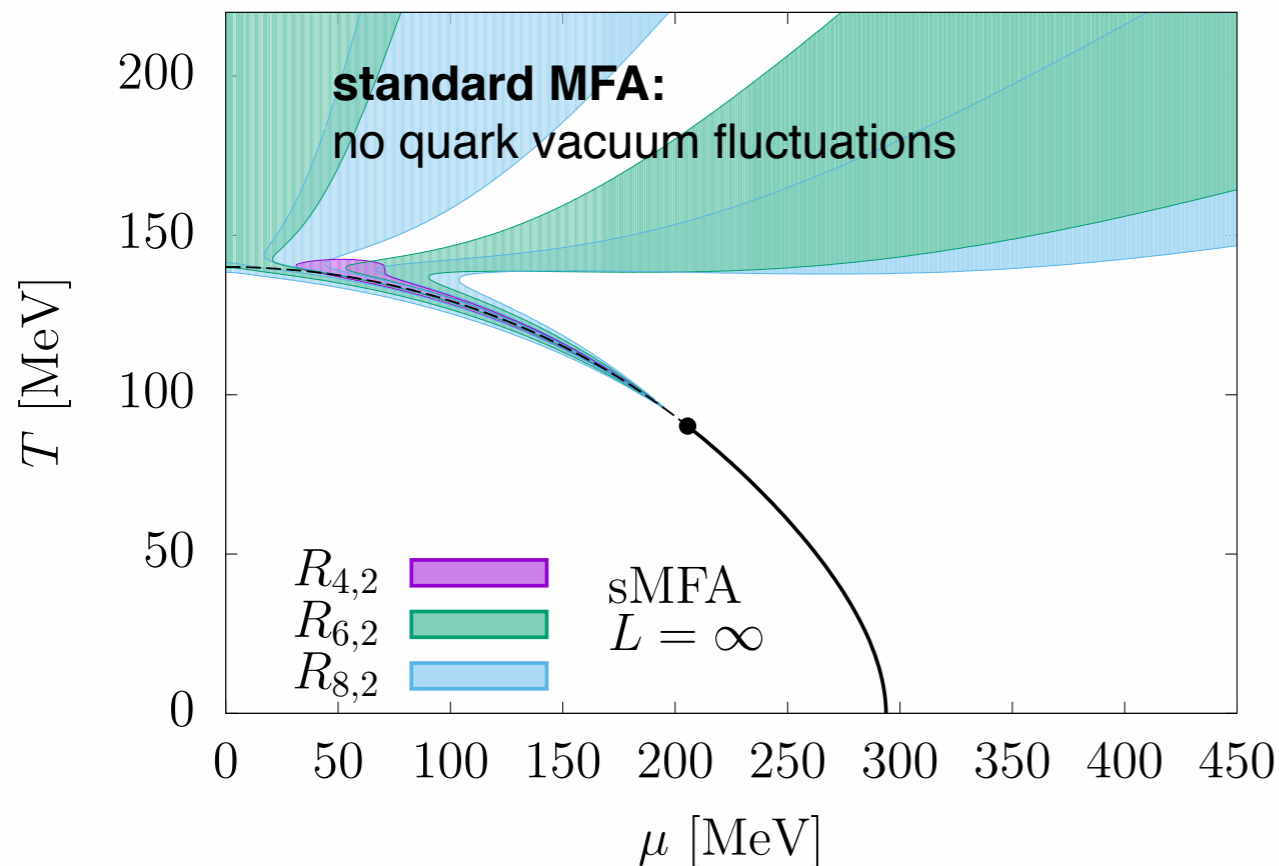
example: Kurtosis

$\rightarrow R_{4,2} = c_4/c_2$  negative region

# Higher cumulants

[S. Resch, BJS to be published]

infinite volume: influence of fluctuations



findings:

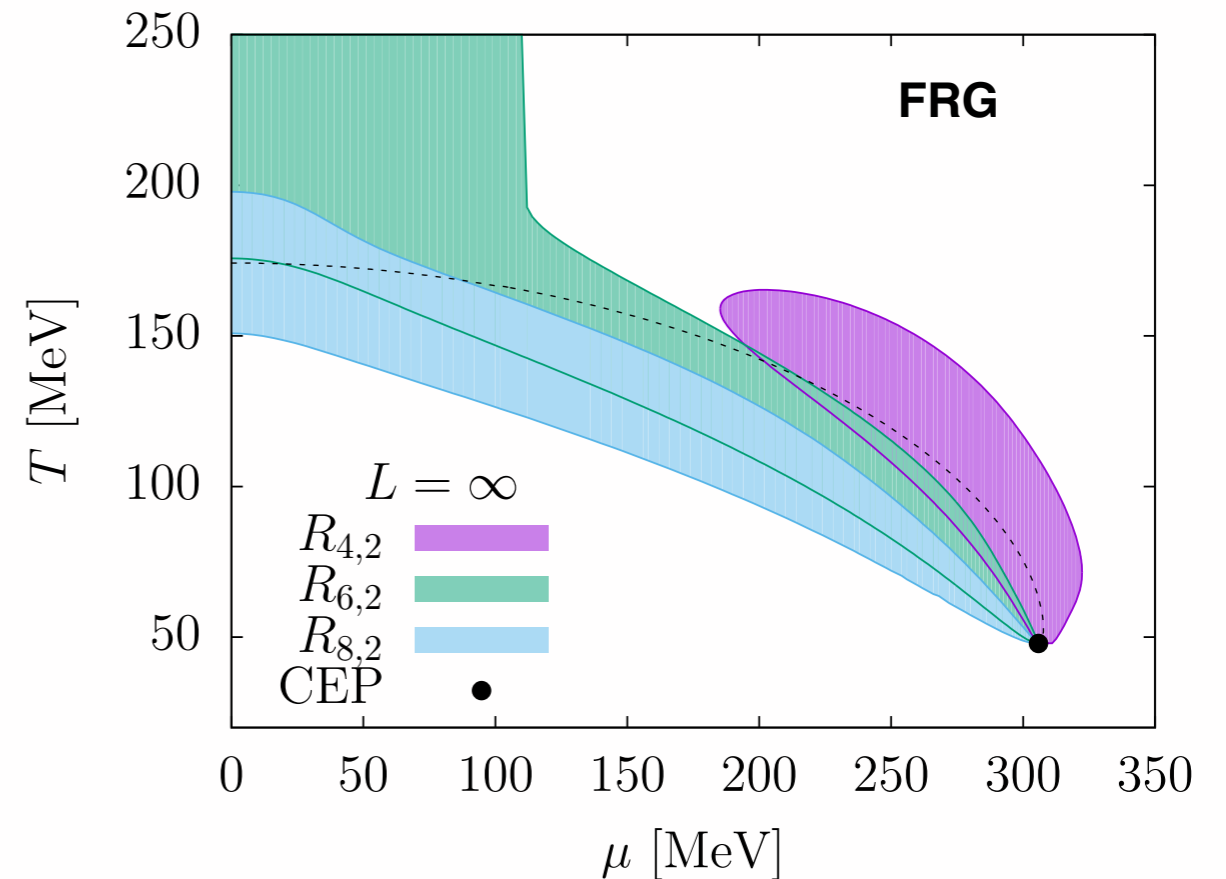
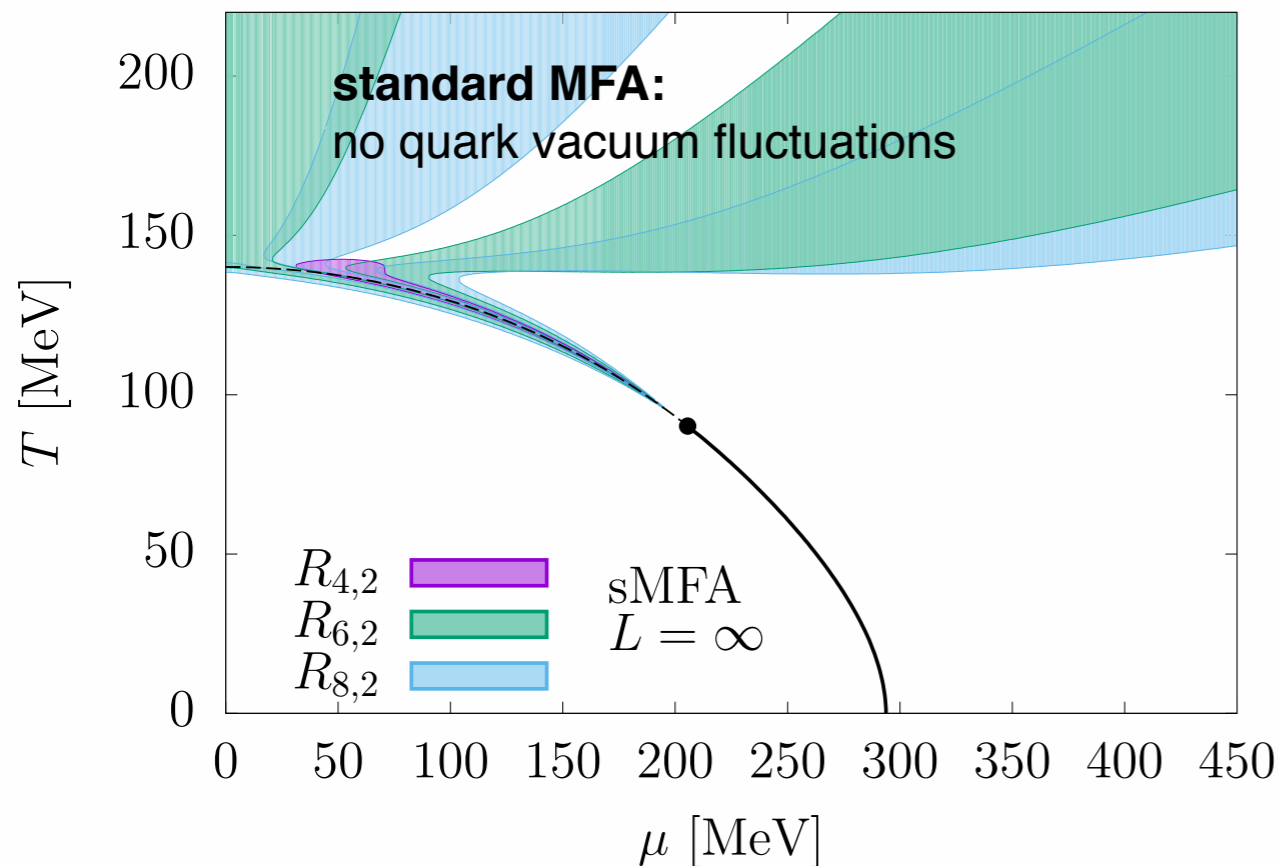
(quark) fluctuations pushes CEP to smaller  $T$  and bigger  $\mu$

Fluctuations wash out phase transition  $\rightarrow$  broader negative regions

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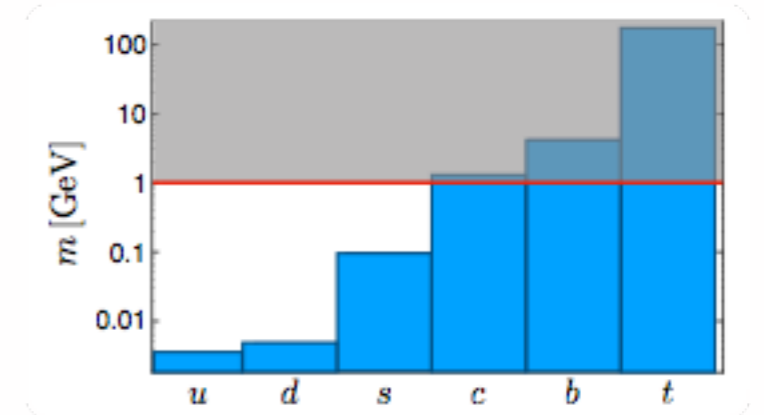
Fluctuations wash out phase transition  $\rightarrow$  broader negative regions



# $N_f = 2+1$ quark flavor

$$k \lesssim 2\pi T_c \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$$

- relevant current quarks: u,d,s  $m_u \approx m_d < m_s \Rightarrow N_f = 2 + 1$



- dominant 4-quark channel with chiral  $U(N) \times U(N)$  symmetry

$$\lambda_{S-P} \left[ (\bar{q} T^a q)^2 + (\bar{q} i\gamma_5 T^a q)^2 \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{[J. Braun, M. Leonhardt, M. Pospiech 2018]} \\ \text{[M. Mitter, J. Pawłowski, N. Strodthoff 2015]} \end{array}$$

- (Pseudo)scalar meson nonet via bosonization

$$\Sigma = T^a (\sigma^a + i\pi^a) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_l + a_0^0 + i\eta_l + i\pi^0) & a_0^- + i\pi^- & \kappa^- + iK^- \\ a_0^+ + i\pi^+ & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_l - a_0^0 + i\eta_l - i\pi^0) & \kappa^0 + iK^0 \\ \kappa^+ + iK^+ & \bar{\kappa}^0 + i\bar{K}^0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sigma_s + i\eta_s) \end{pmatrix}$$

- (Pseudo)scalar mixing angles

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{mass eigenstates} \\ \begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ \sigma \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_s & -\sin \varphi_s \\ \sin \varphi_s & \cos \varphi_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_l \\ \sigma_s \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ \eta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_p & -\sin \varphi_p \\ \sin \varphi_p & \cos \varphi_p \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \eta_l \\ \eta_s \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \quad \text{flavor eigenstates}$$

# N<sub>f</sub> = 2+1 initial action

[F. Rennecke, BJS 2017]

$$\Gamma_k = \int_x \left\{ \bar{q} Z_{q,k} (\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + \gamma_0 \mu) q + \bar{q} h_k \cdot \Sigma_5 q + \text{tr} (Z_{\Sigma,k} \partial_\mu \Sigma \cdot \partial_\mu \Sigma^\dagger) + \tilde{U}_k(\Sigma) \right\}$$

$$q^T = (l, l, s)$$

$$\Sigma_5 = T_a (\sigma_a + i \gamma_5 \pi_a)$$

• effective potential

$$\tilde{U}_k = U_k(\rho_1, \tilde{\rho}_2) - j_l \sigma_l - j_s \sigma_s - c_k \xi \quad \xi = \det(\Sigma + \Sigma^\dagger)$$

U(3) x U(3) sym. potential  
(two chiral invariants)

$$\rho_i = \text{tr}(\Sigma \cdot \Sigma^\dagger)^i$$

explicit chiral symmetry breaking:  
finite light & strange current quark masses

anomalous U(1)<sub>A</sub> breaking  
via 't Hooft determinant

• wave function renormalizations  $p^2 + m^2 \rightarrow Z_k p^2 + m^2$

$$Z_{q,k} = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{l,k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Z_{l,k} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Z_{s,k} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Z_{\Sigma,k} = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{\phi,k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Z_{\phi,k} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Z_{\phi,k} \end{pmatrix}$$

• Yukawa couplings

$$h_k = \begin{pmatrix} h_{l,k} & h_{l,k} & h_{ls,k} \\ h_{l,k} & h_{l,k} & h_{ls,k} \\ h_{sl,k} & h_{sl,k} & h_{s,k} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Different FRG truncations

[F. Rennecke, BJS 2017]

- different truncations:

$$\Gamma_k = \int_x \left\{ \bar{q} Z_{q,k} (\gamma_\mu \partial_\mu + \gamma_0 \mu) q + \bar{q} h_k \cdot \Sigma_5 q + \text{tr} (Z_{\Sigma,k} \partial_\mu \Sigma \cdot \partial_\mu \Sigma^\dagger) + \tilde{U}_k(\Sigma) \right\}$$

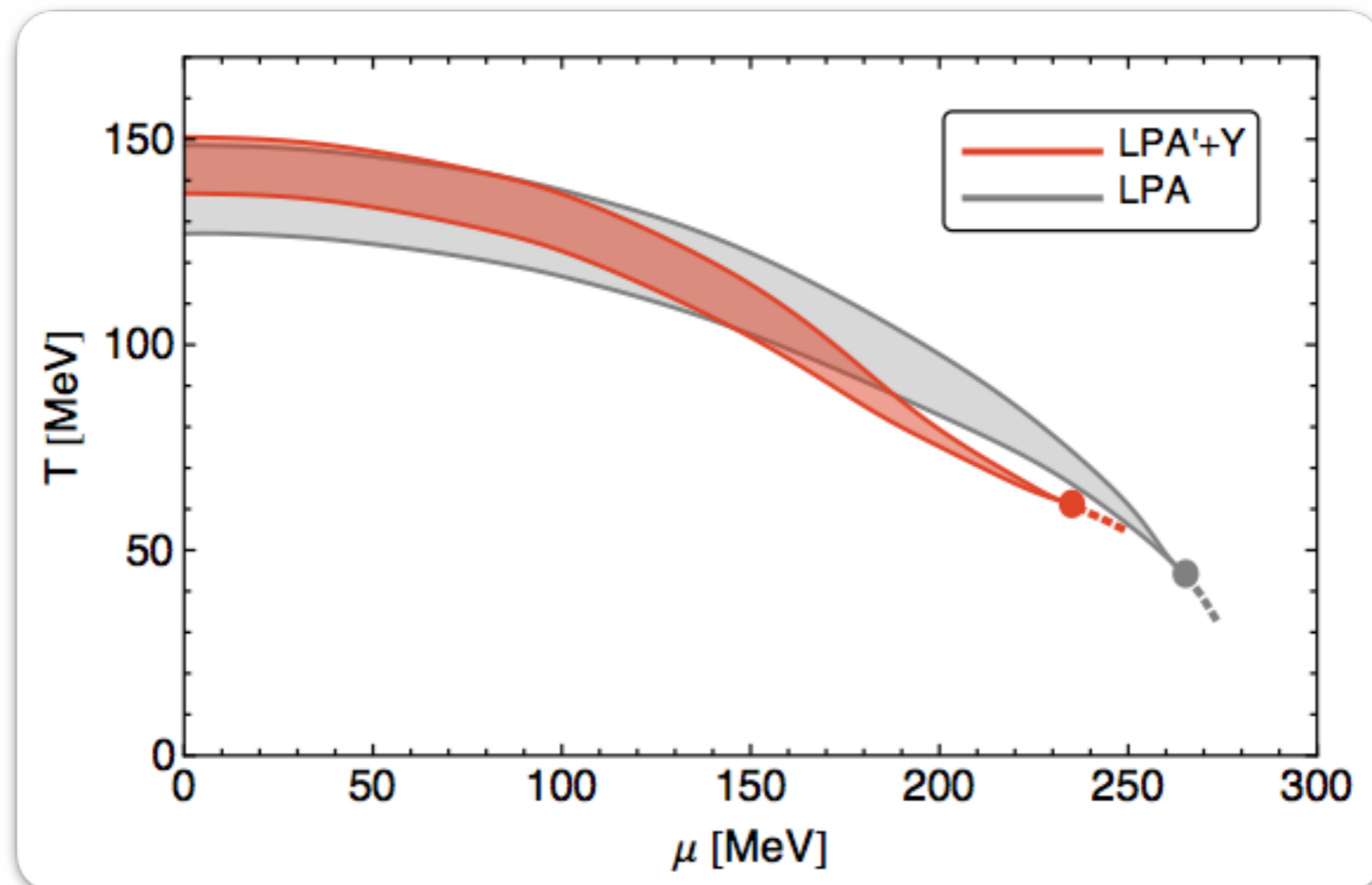
truncation	running couplings
LPA'+Y	$\tilde{U}_k, \bar{h}_{l,k}, \bar{h}_{s,k}, Z_{l,k}, Z_{s,k}, Z_{\phi,k}$
LPA+Y	$\tilde{U}_k, \bar{h}_{l,k}, \bar{h}_{s,k}$
LPA	$\tilde{U}_k$

# Chiral Phase Diagram

[F. Rennecke, BJS 2017]

- Critical Endpoint for different truncations:

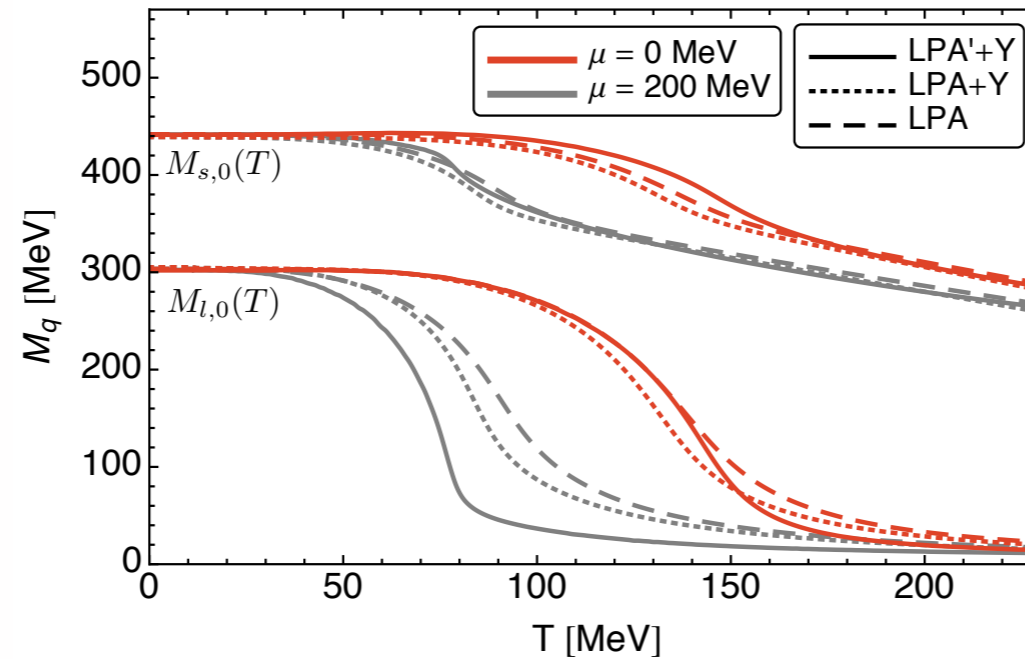
truncation	running couplings	$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{\text{CEP}})$ [MeV]
LPA'+Y	$\tilde{U}_k, \bar{h}_{l,k}, \bar{h}_{s,k}, Z_{l,k}, Z_{s,k}, Z_{\phi,k}$	(61,235)
LPA+Y	$\tilde{U}_k, \bar{h}_{l,k}, \bar{h}_{s,k}$	(46,255)
LPA	$\tilde{U}_k$	(44,265)



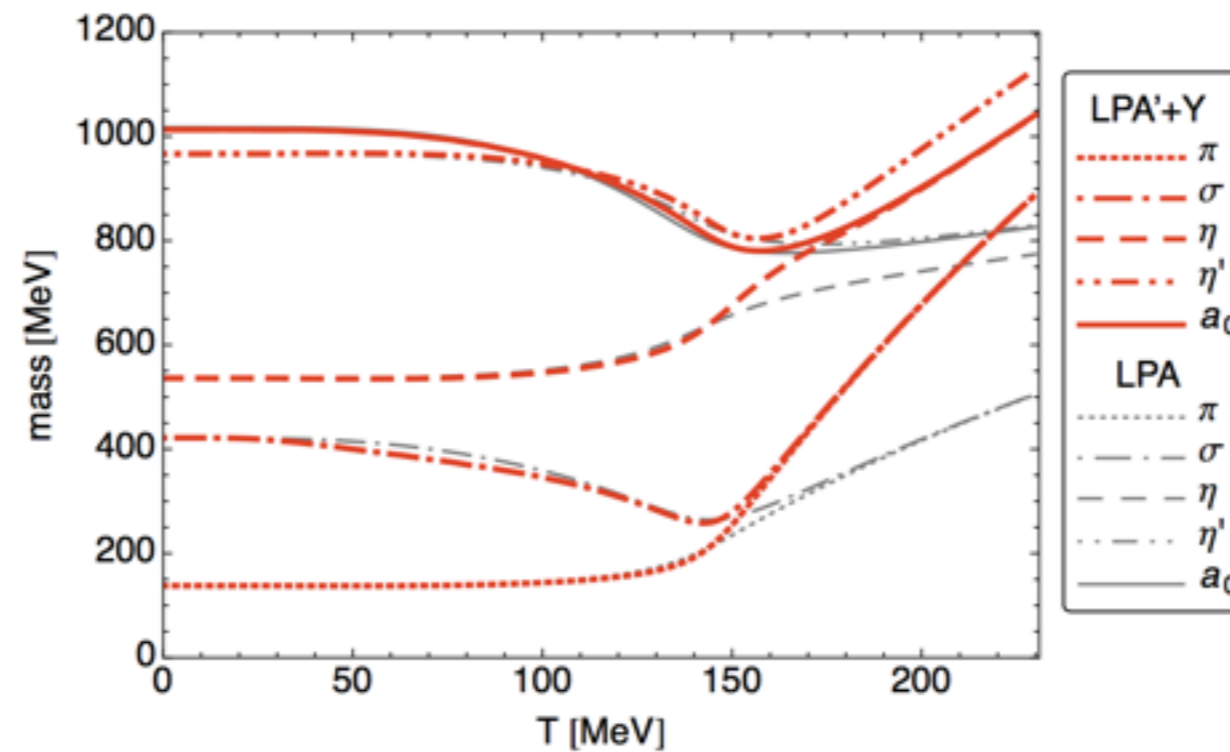
# Masses

[F. Rennecke, BJS 2017]

• quark masses



• meson masses



driven by the mesonic  
wave-function  
renormalization

*mesons decouple  
more rapidly  
beyond LPA*

# Mixing angles

[F. Rennecke, BJS 2017]

- mixing angles determine light and strange quark content of  $\sigma$ ,  $f_0$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\eta'$  mesons

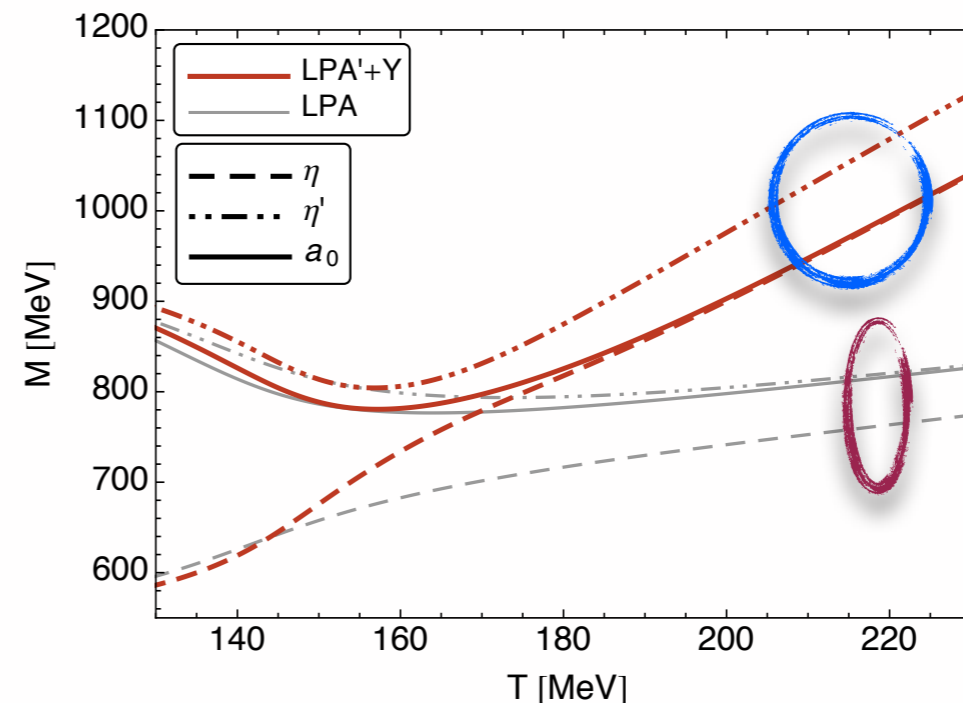
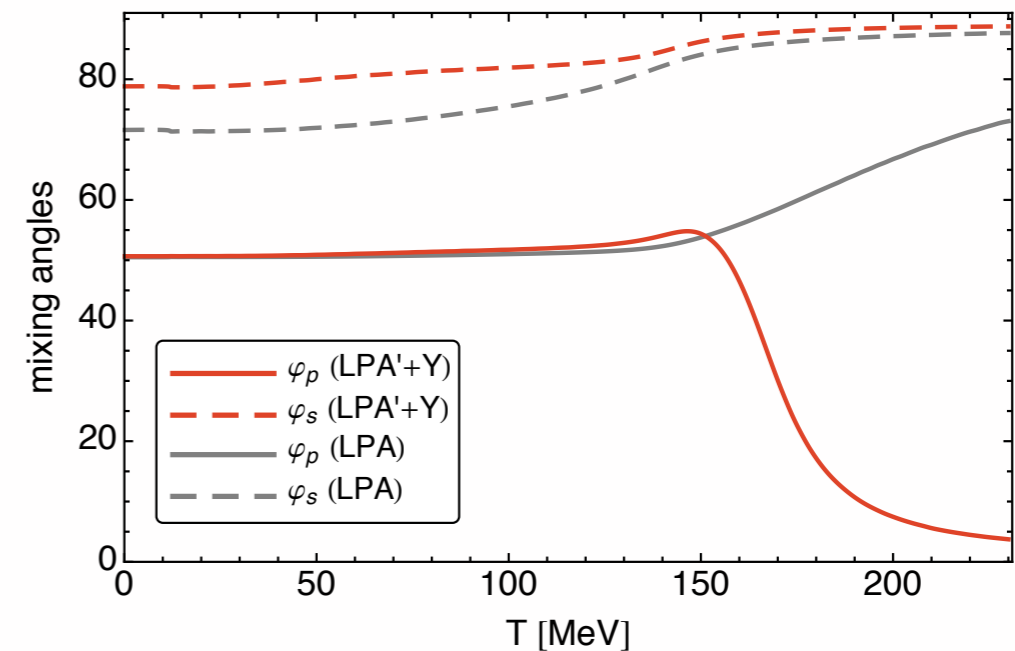
$$\begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ \sigma \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_s & -\sin \varphi_s \\ \sin \varphi_s & \cos \varphi_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_l \\ \sigma_s \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ \eta' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi_p & -\sin \varphi_p \\ \sin \varphi_p & \cos \varphi_p \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \eta_l \\ \eta_s \end{pmatrix}$$

**significant effects on pseudoscalar mixing beyond LPA!**

consequence: chiral partners of  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$  change!

mean-field/LPA	LPA' + Y
$(\eta, f_0)$	$(\eta, a_0)$
$(\eta', a_0)$	$(\eta', f_0)$



# Agenda

- Role of Fluctuations:  
from mean-field approximations to FRG
- **Columbia plot**  
with Simon Resch and Fabian Rennecke



Simon Resch  
awarded Kaki-Prize 2016  
(best theoretical master thesis)

# Columbia plot

For physical quark masses: smooth phase transitions → deconfinement: analytic change of d.o.f.

→ associated global QCD symmetries only **exact** in two mass limits

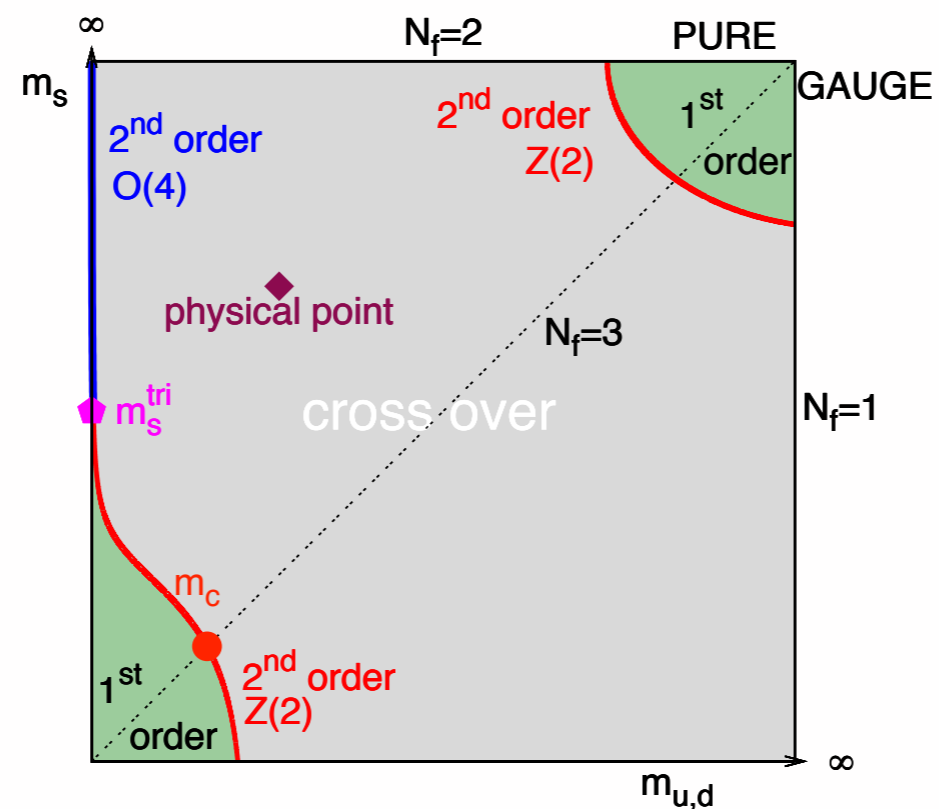
1. infinite quark masses (center symmetry)

Order parameter: VEV of traced Polyakov loop(s)

2. massless quarks (chiral symmetry)

Order parameter: chiral condensate(s)

for finite quark masses:  
both symmetries  
explicitly broken





# Columbia plot

For physical quark masses: smooth phase transitions → deconfinement: analytic change of d.o.f.

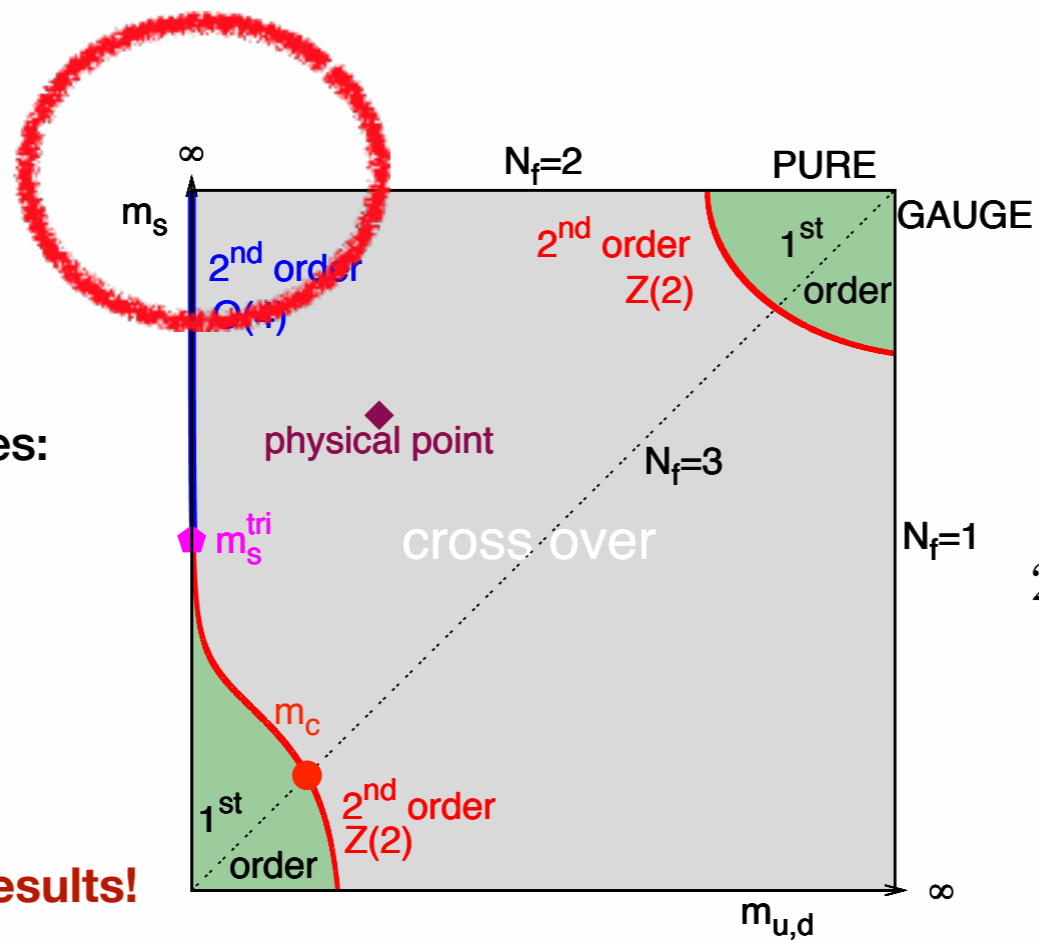
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Order parameter: VEV of traced Polyakov loop(s)

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Order parameter: chiral condensate(s)



for finite quark masses:  
both symmetries  
explicitly broken

still conflicting lattice results!

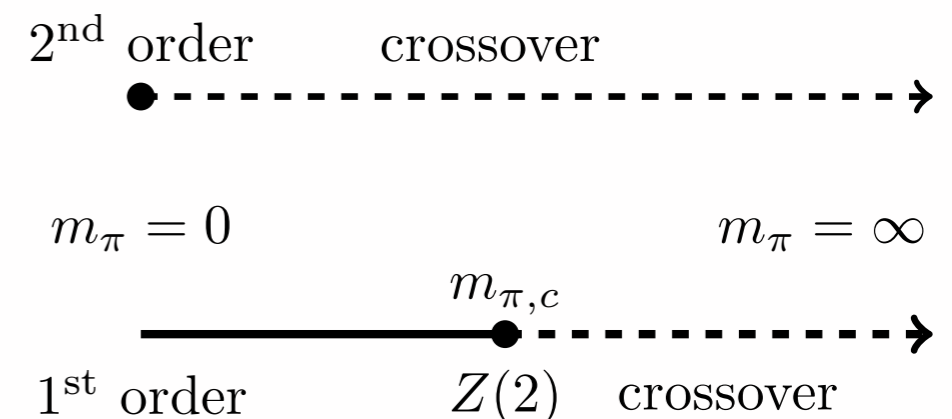
open issue:  $N_f=2$ :  $O(4)$ ?

$U(2)_L \times U(2)_R / U(2)_V$ ?

→ crit. exp. similar

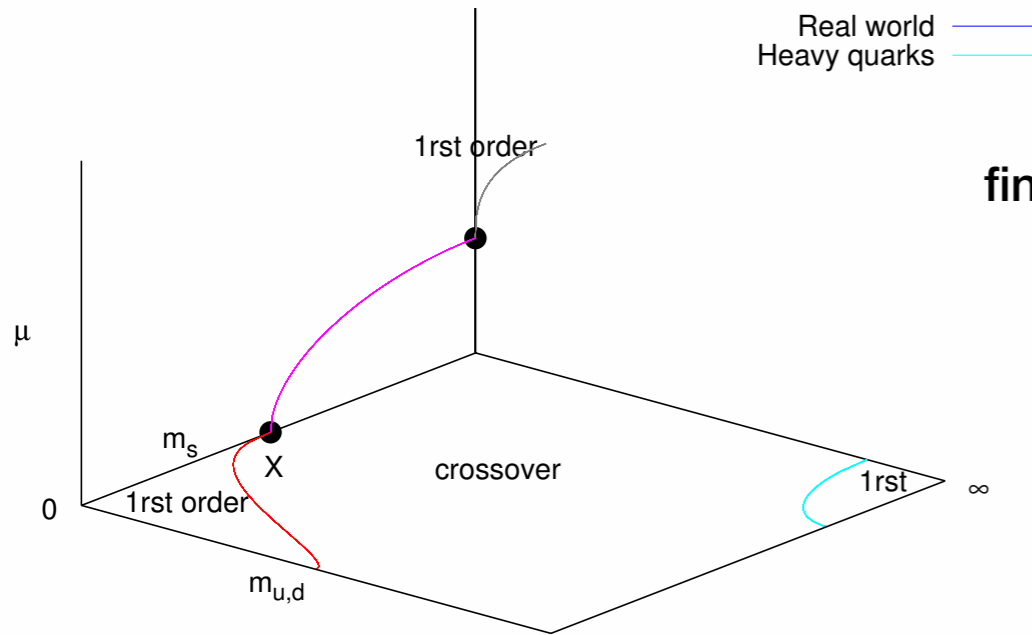
or even 1st order?

dep. on strength of axial anomaly!



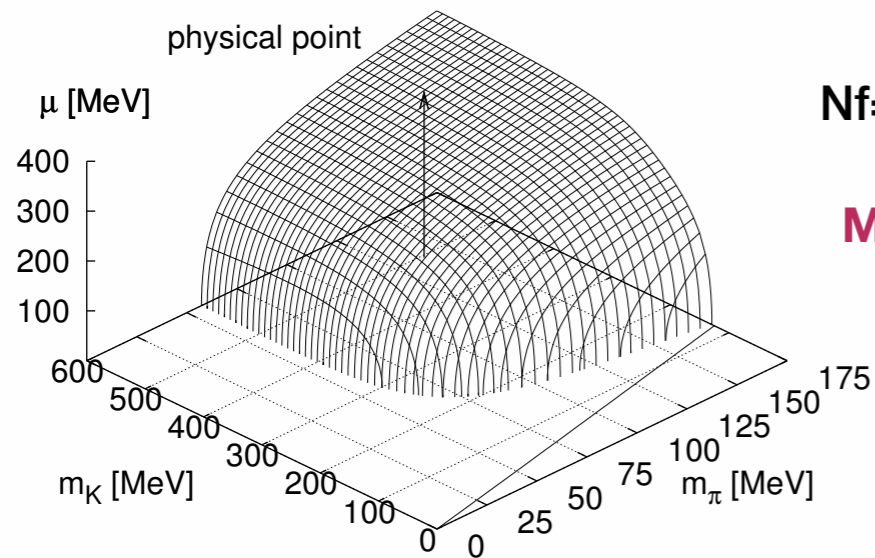
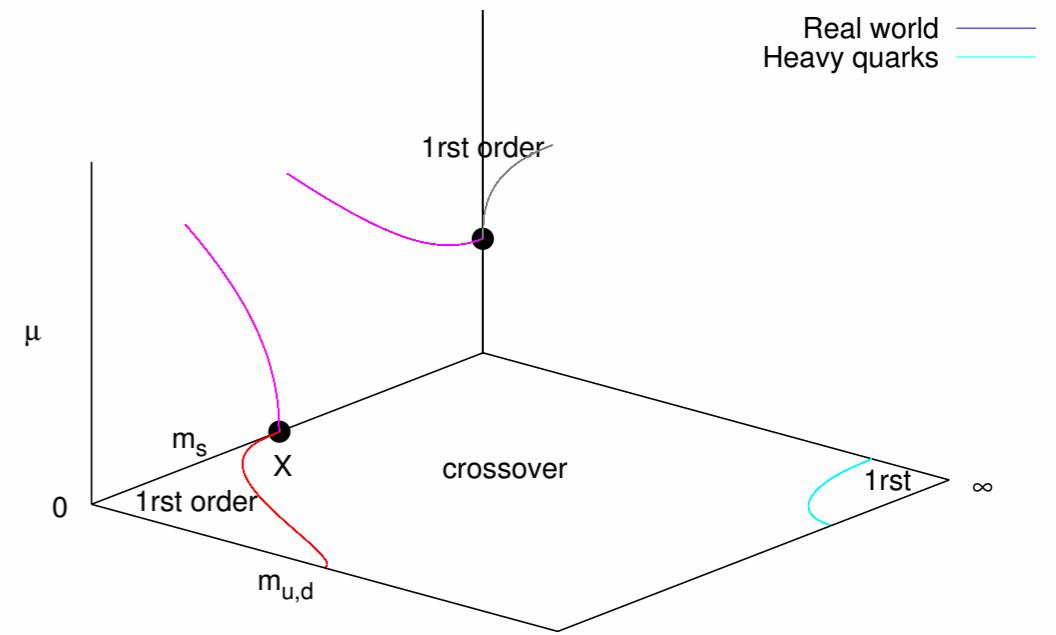
# Columbia plot (MFA)

chiral critical surface  
standard scenario



finite chemical potential

chiral critical surface  
non-standard scenario

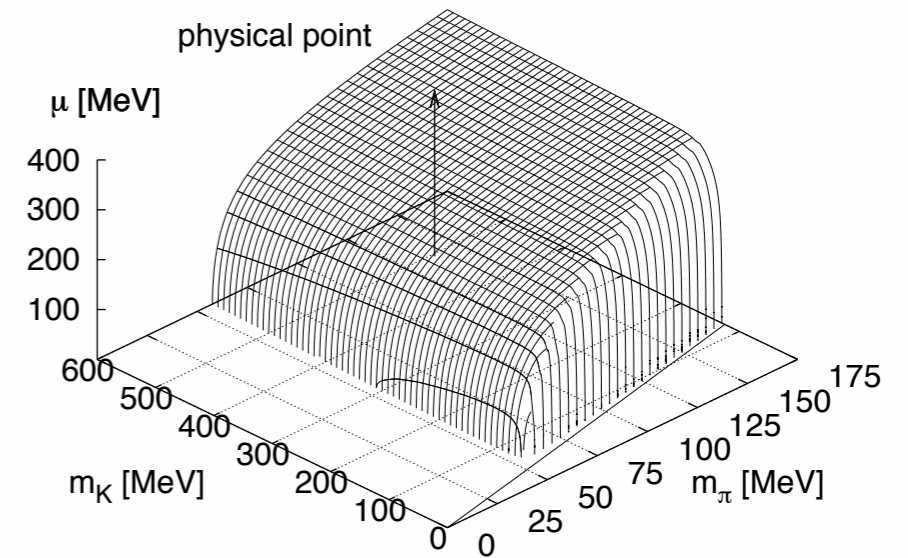


Nf=2+1 quark-meson model

Mean-field approximation

with  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

[BJS, M. Wagner 2009]



without  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

# Columbia plot (FRG)

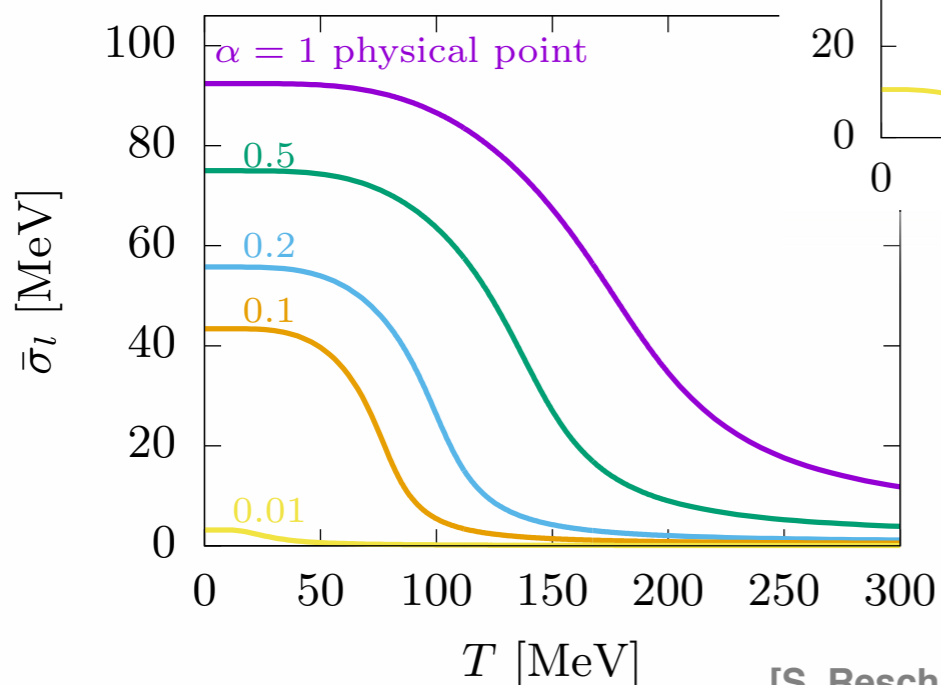
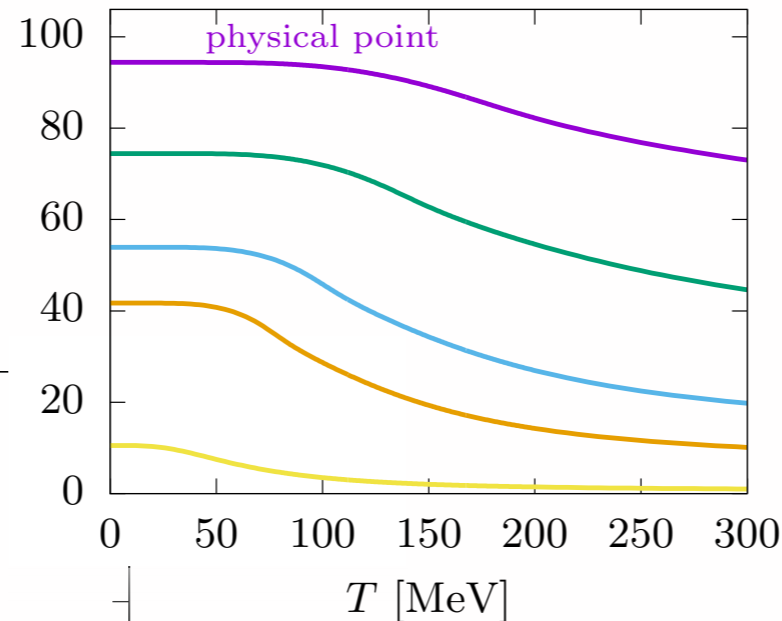
Nf=2+1 quark-meson truncation with FRG

Fixing initial action in the UV: 4 coupling parameters, 2 explicit symmetry breaking, 1 't Hooft determinant  
axial  $U_A(1)$  symmetry: consider two extrema on or off

How to fix initial action in the UV away from the physical mass point?

1.) fixed UV -scenario:

vary only explicit SB  
remaining parameter  
adjusted @ physical  
point

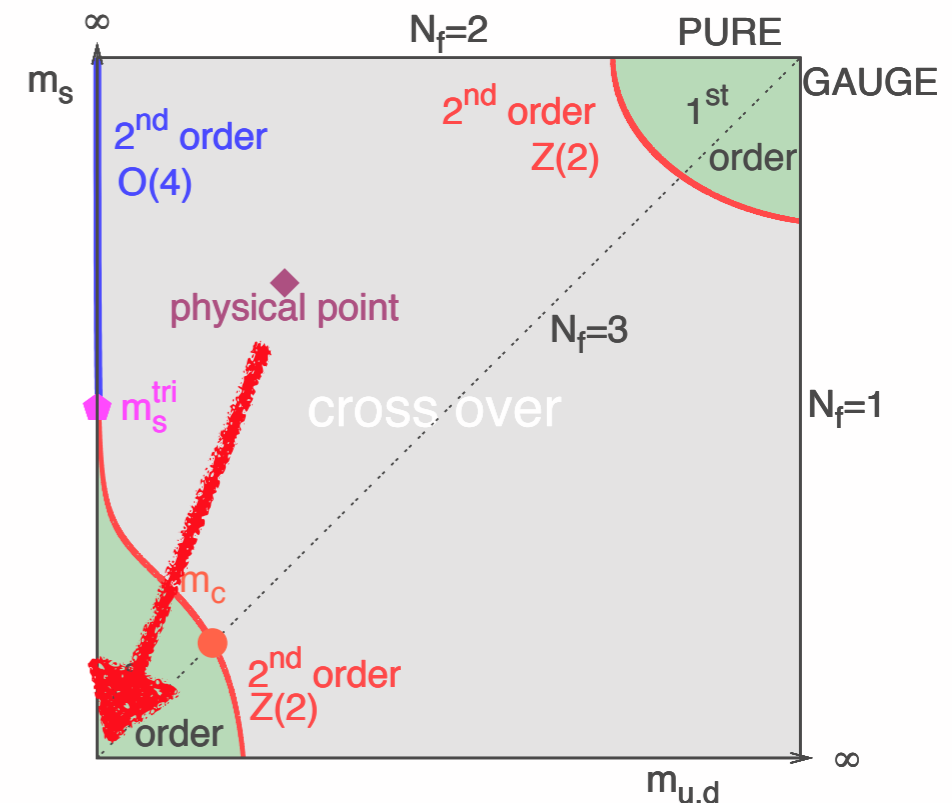


No symmetry breaking in  
the chiral limit!

[S. Resch, F. Rennecke, BJS arXiv:1712.07961]

$\alpha=1$  physical mass point

$\alpha=0$  chiral limit



# Columbia plot (FRG)

Nf=2+1 quark-meson truncation with FRG

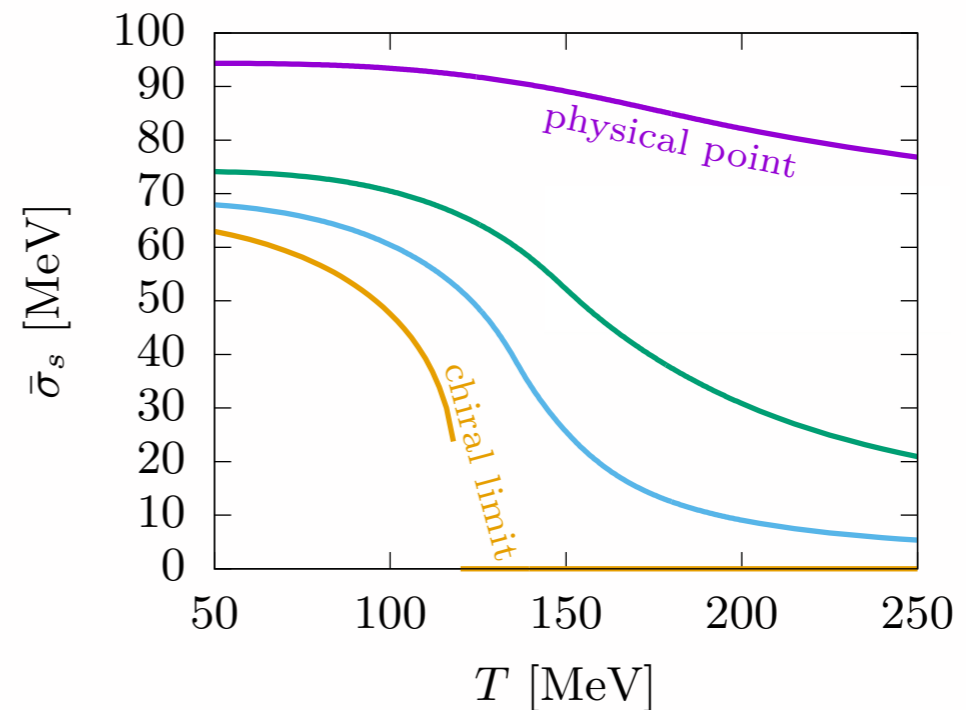
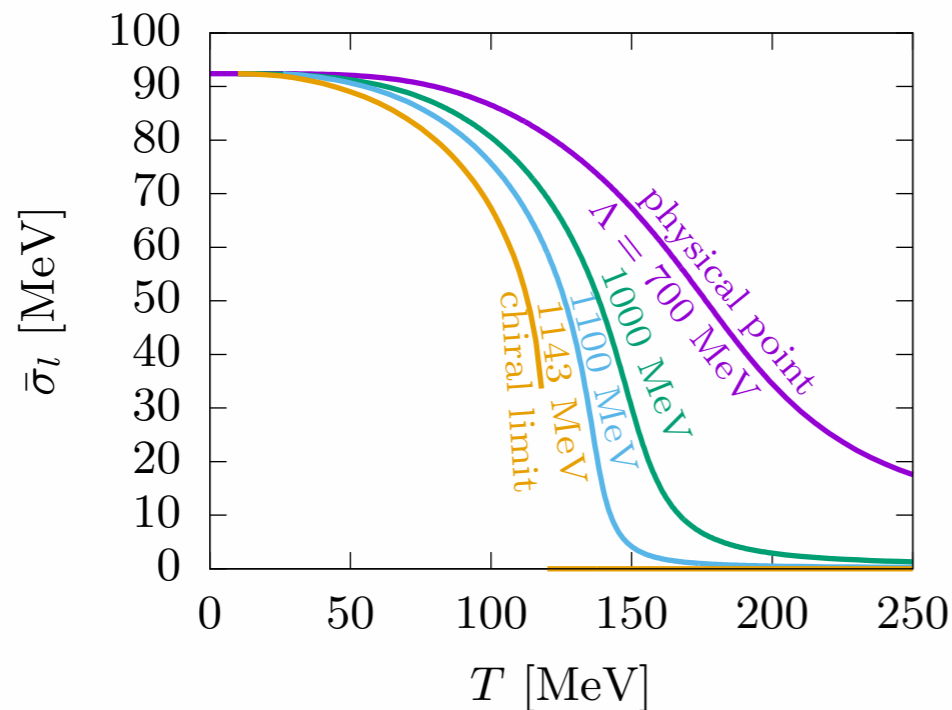
Fixing initial action in the UV: 4 coupling parameters, 2 explicit symmetry breaking, 1 't Hooft determinant  
axial  $U_A(1)$  symmetry: consider two extrema on or off

How to fix initial action in the UV away from the physical mass point?

2.) **fixed  $f_\pi$ -scenario**: (motivated by chiral perturbation theory)

fix  $f_\pi$  in the infrared when explicit SB is varied

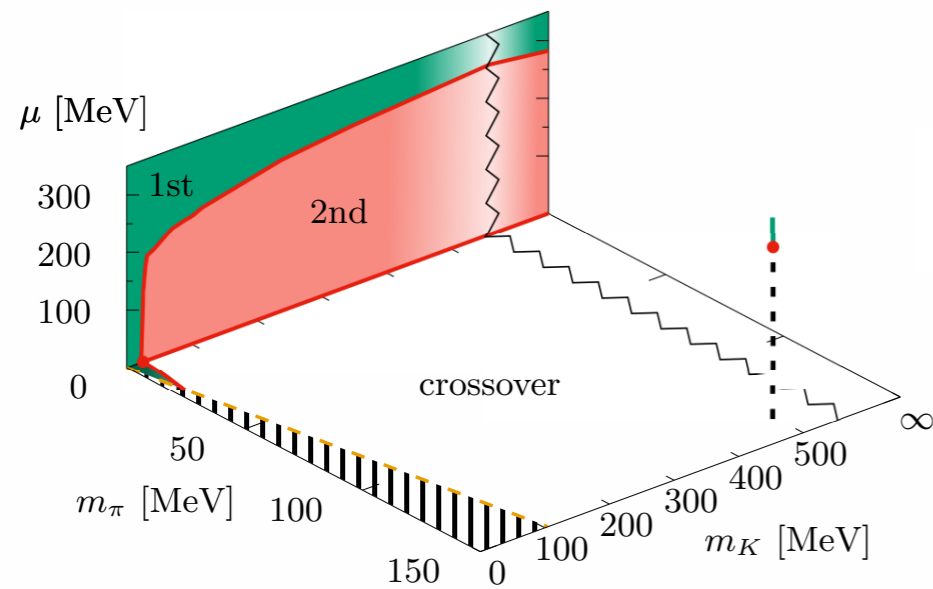
trick: vary only UV cutoff while initial action is fixed



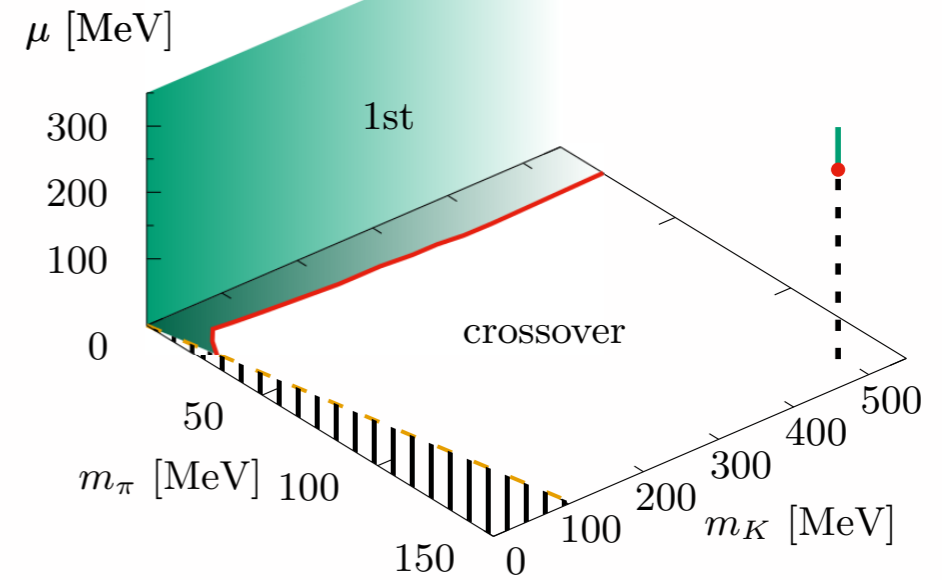
[S. Resch, F. Rennecke, BJS arXiv:1712.07961]

# Vacuum fluctuations

FRG



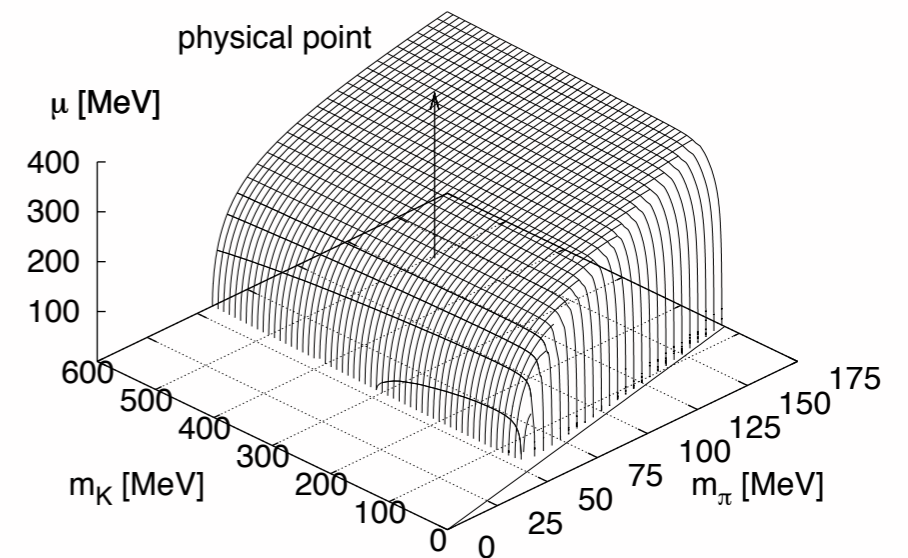
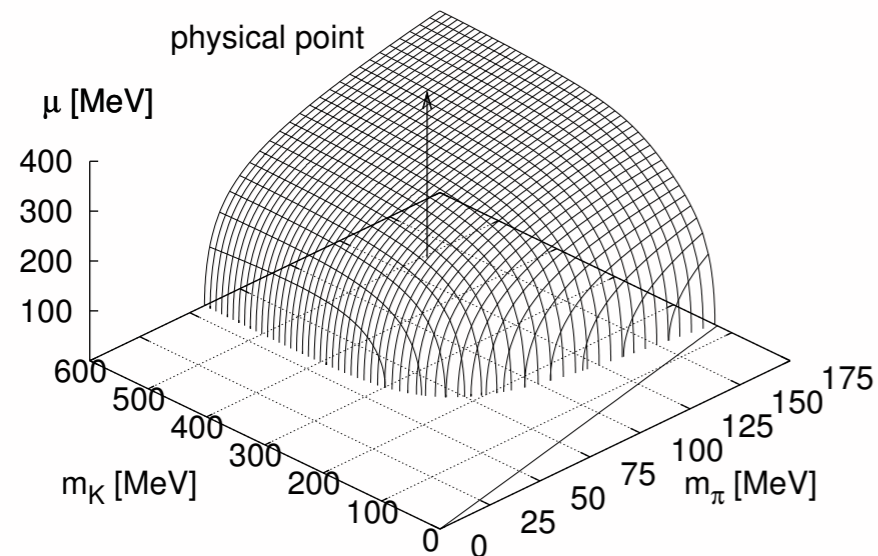
all fluctuations  
quarks & mesons



with  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

without  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

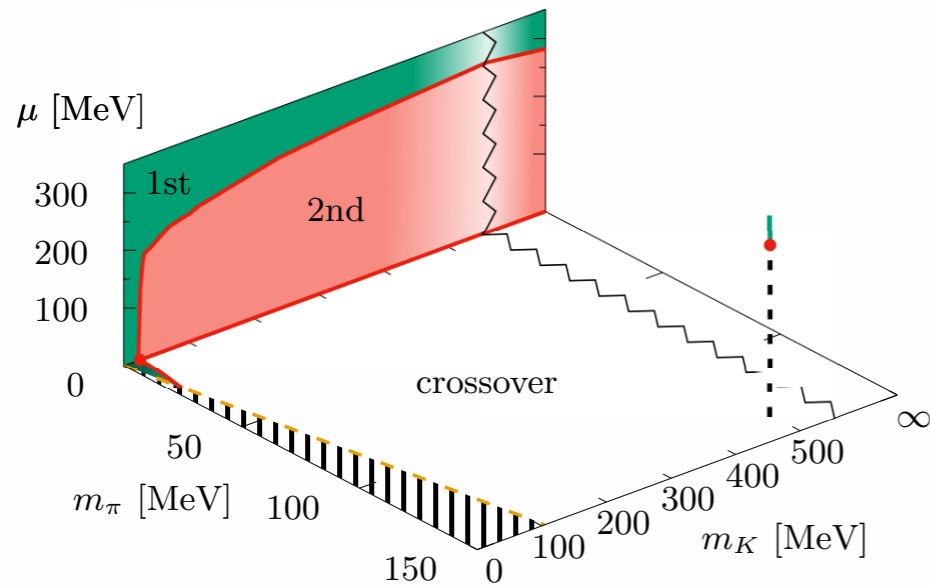
Mean-field analysis



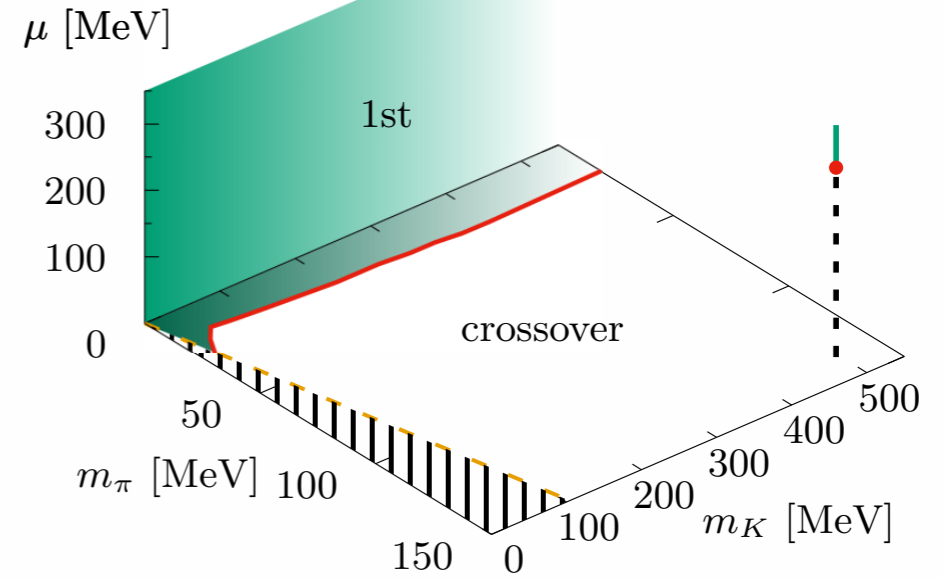
[S. Resch, F. Rennecke, BJS arXiv:1712.07961]

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FRG



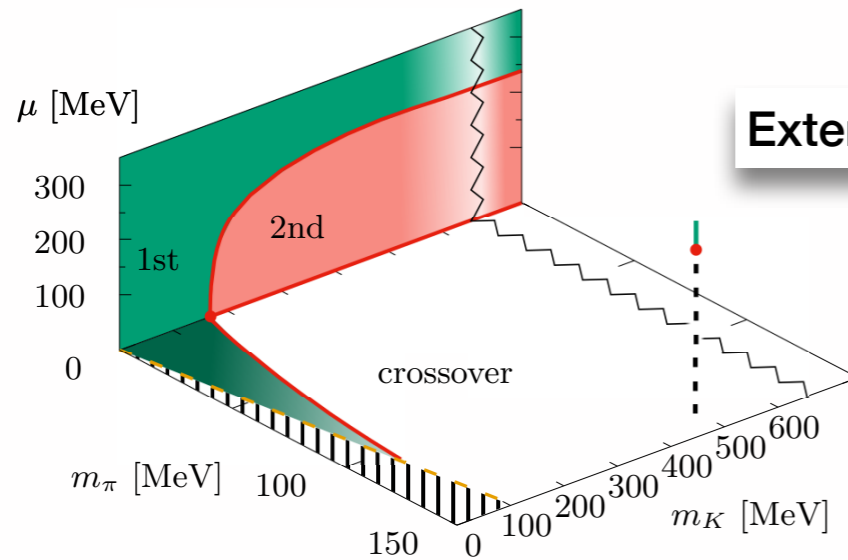
all fluctuations  
quarks & mesons



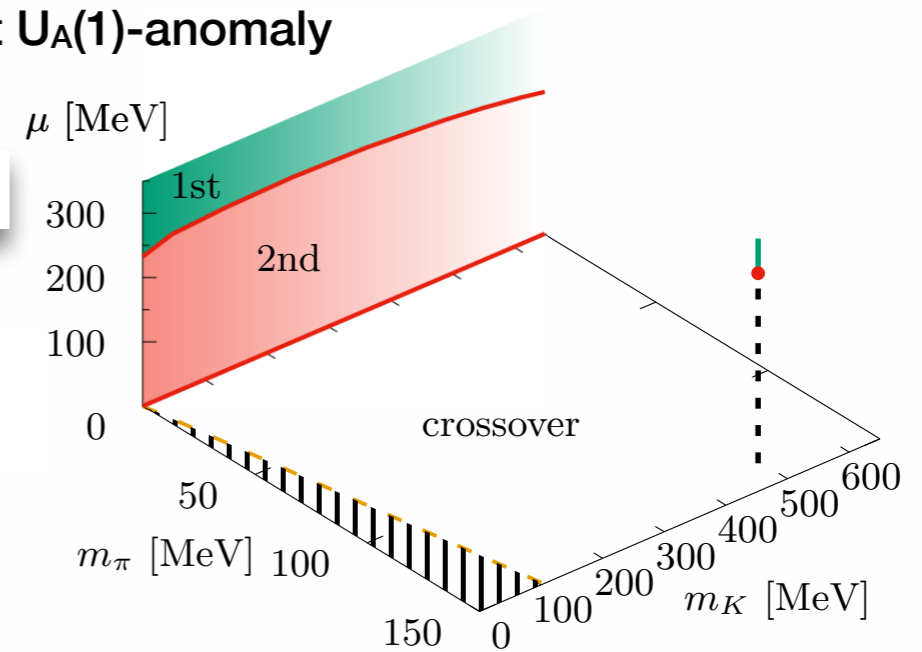
with  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

without  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

Extended Mean-field analysis

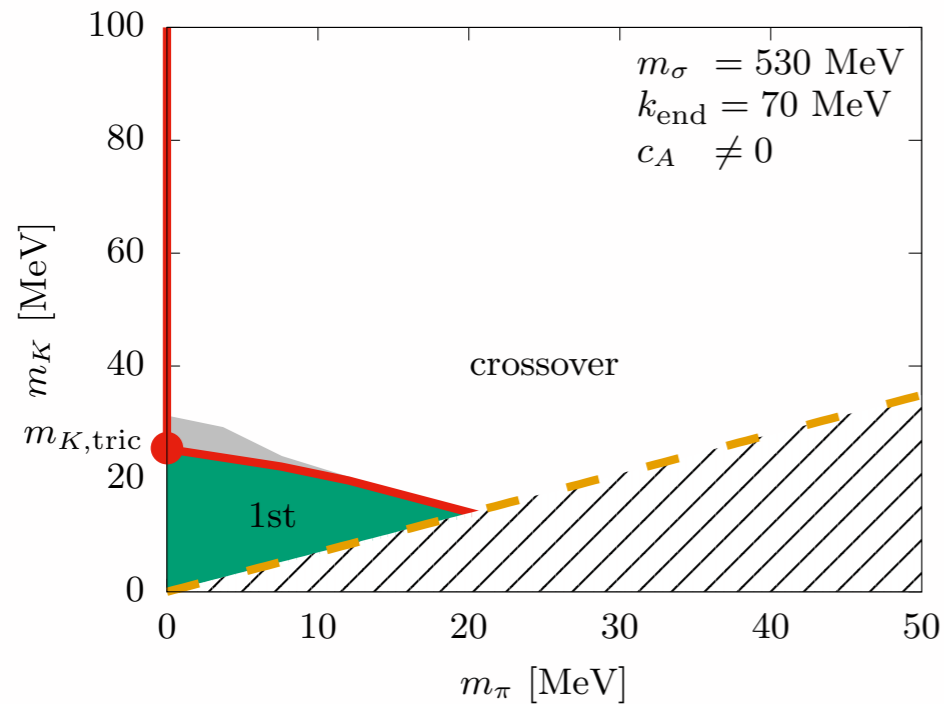


influence of vacuum  
fluctuations of quarks



[S. Resch, F. Rennecke, BJS arXiv:1712.07961]

# Columbia plot with the FRG



findings:

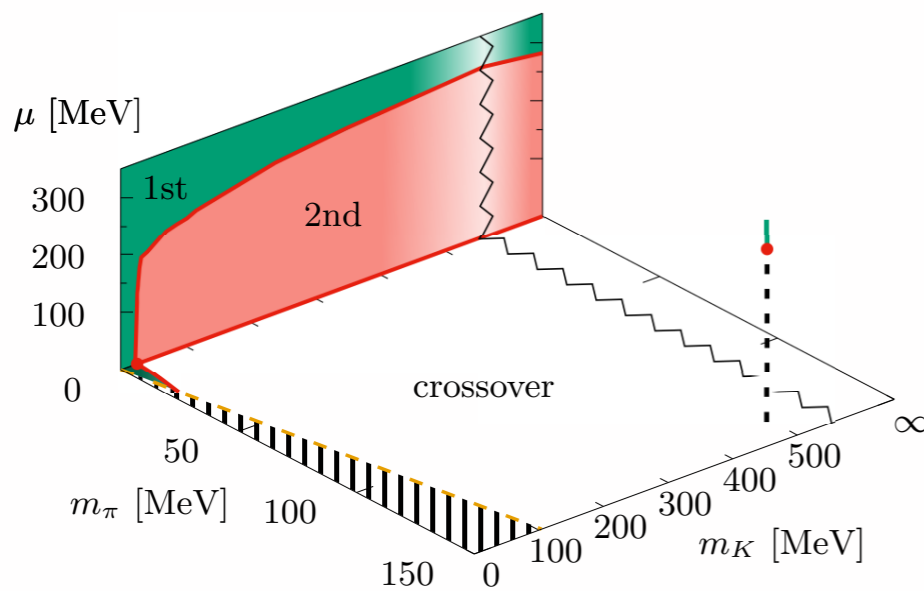
conventional bending of chiral critical surface  
 → critical endpoint @ physical mass point

tricritical strange quark mass far away from light chiral limit

First-order region around chiral limit very small

$N_f=2+1 \rightarrow N_f=2$  analytically connected two-flavor chiral limit

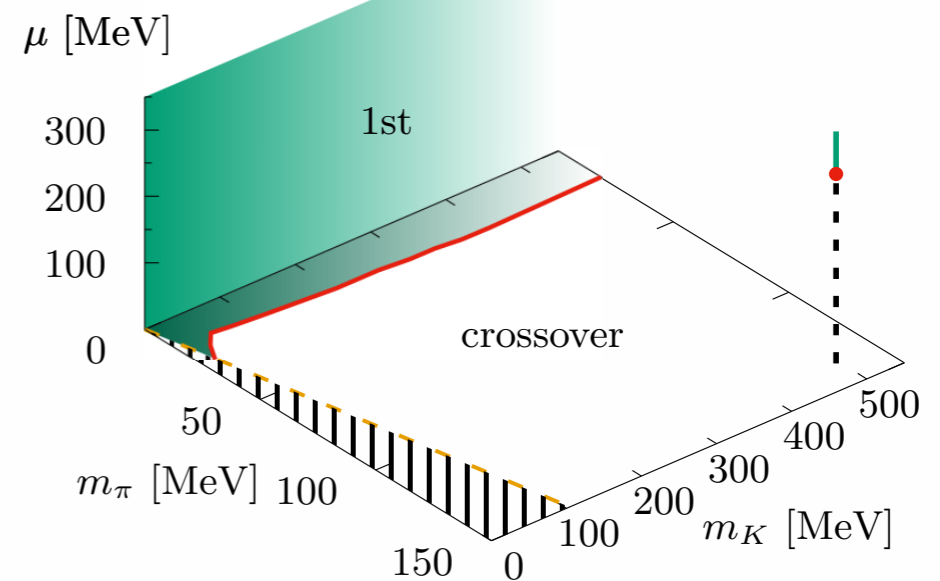
influence of axial anomaly on chiral critical line



with  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

FRG

all fluctuations  
quarks & mesons



without  $U_A(1)$ -anomaly

[S. Resch, F. Rennecke, BJS arXiv:1712.07961]

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# Summary & Conclusions

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- effects of quantum and thermal fluctuations on QCD phase diagram

FRG investigation with different truncations LPA, LPA', LPA'+Y

→ **fluctuations are important**

→ **mass sensitivity of the chiral phase structure (Columbia plot)**