

# Volume and Quark Mass Dependence of QCD

Julian Bernhardt

Institut für Theoretische Physik  
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

Based on:

JB, Fischer, Isserstedt, Schaefer, PRD 104 (2021) 074035  
and

JB, Fischer, Isserstedt (in preparation)

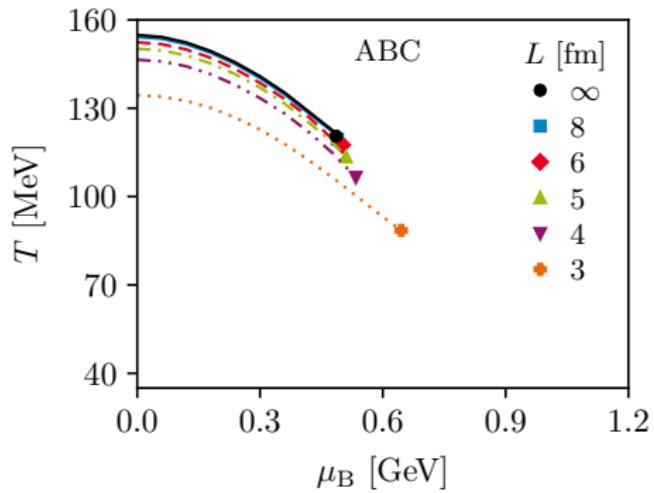


ITP Lunch Club Seminar, JLG Gießen  
2022-06-15

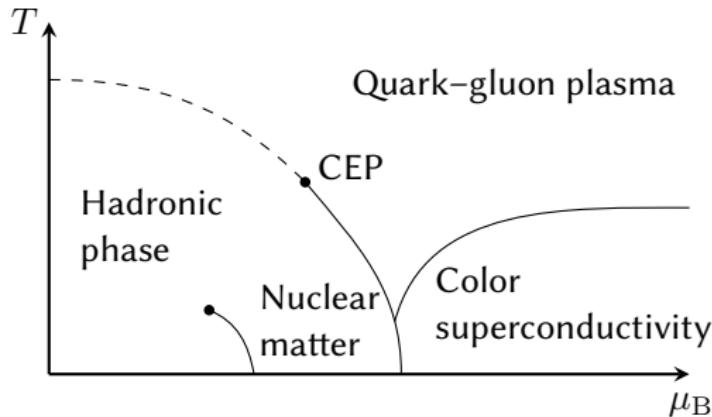
# Outline

- 1 First Objective: QCD Phase Diagram in a Finite Volume
- 2 Second Objective: Columbia Plot and (Up Quark) Chiral Limit
- 3 Conclusion and Outlook

# First Objective: QCD Phase Diagram in a Finite Volume



# Motivation: Why Finite Volume?



- Goal of many experiments is to locate critical endpoint in QCD phase diagram
- “Fireball” of heavy-ion collisions has finite spatial extent
- Impact of volume effects on CEP is important for comparison between theory and experiment
- Cross-check between different theoretical approaches: lattice QCD (by construction formulated in a finite volume) vs. functional methods

# Framework: Dyson–Schwinger Equations

## Master DSE

$$0 = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \frac{\delta}{\delta\varphi} \exp(-\mathcal{S}[\varphi] + \langle\varphi, J\rangle) = \left\langle -\frac{\delta\mathcal{S}}{\delta\varphi} + J \right\rangle$$

- Quantum equations of motion of Euclidean  $n$ -point functions
- Non-perturbative, functional approach
- Obtained by taking appropriate number of functional derivatives of master DSE (and setting  $J = 0$ )
- Infinite tower of coupled, self-consistent equations → truncation needed
- Wide range of applications
  - ▶ Phase diagram, Columbia Plot, thermodynamics, ...
  - ▶ Together with BSEs: Hadron physics (spectroscopy, decays, ...)
  - ▶ Muon  $g - 2$ , QED3, ...
  - ▶ ...

Reviews: Fischer, PPNP 105 (2019) 1  
Eichmann, Sanchis-Alepuz, Williams, Alkofer, Fischer, PPNP 91 (2016) 1

# DSEs of QCD Propagators

## Quark Propagator

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}$$

## Gluon Propagator

$$\text{---} \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---}$$
$$-\frac{1}{2} \text{---} \text{---} - \frac{1}{6} \text{---} \text{---} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \text{---}$$

## Ghost Propagator

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}$$

# Truncation Scheme

## Quark Propagator

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}^{-1}$$

Quark-gluon vertex  
ansatz

## Gluon Propagator

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \boxed{\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} \text{---} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}^{-1}}$$

Quenched part  
fitted to  
lattice data

see Fischer, PNP 105 (2019) 1  
(and references therein)

## Ghost Propagator

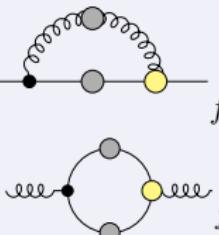
$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---}^{-1} = \text{---} \text{---}^{-1} + \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---}^{-1}$$

Not needed

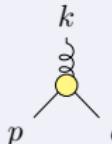
# Truncated Set of DSEs

## Truncated DSEs for Quarks and Gluons

see Fischer, PPNP 105 (2019) 1  
(and references therein)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-1}{f} &= \frac{-1}{f} + \frac{-1}{f} \\ \frac{-1}{\text{---} \bullet \text{---}} &= \frac{-1}{\text{---} \bullet \text{---}} + \sum_{f \in \{\text{u,d,s}\}} \frac{-1}{f} \end{aligned}$$


## Quark–Gluon Vertex Ansatz

$$\Gamma_\mu^f(k, p, q) = \Gamma(k, p, q) \Gamma_\mu^{f, \text{BC}}(p, q) \quad (\text{Information about quarks})$$


## Quenched Gluon Propagator

$$\frac{-1}{\text{---} \bullet \text{---}} \quad D_{\mu\nu}^{\text{que}}(k) = D_{\mu\nu}^{\text{que}}(k; T) \quad (\text{Temperature-dependent fit to lattice data})$$

reference for lattice data: Fischer, Maas, Müller, EPJC 68 (2010) 165-181

Maas, Pawłowski, von Smekal, Spielmann, PRD 85 (2012) 034037

# Finite Volume Framework: Ansatz

- Feasible shape as ansatz: cube with edge length  $L$ :

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d^3x \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \int_{[0,L]^3} d^3x \mathcal{L}$$

- For quarks, free to choose between

$$\psi(\mathbf{x} + L\mathbf{e}_i) = +\psi(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{periodic boundary conditions (PBC)}$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{x} + L\mathbf{e}_i) = -\psi(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{antiperiodic boundary conditions (ABC)}$$

- For gluons, need PBC for kinematic reasons

→ Only discrete values possible in momentum space

# Finite Volume Framework: Implications

→ Possible discrete momentum values given by:

## Spatial Matsubara Modes

$$\omega_n^L = \begin{cases} 2n\pi/L & \text{for PBC ,} \\ (2n+1)\pi/L & \text{for ABC ,} \end{cases} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- Momentum integrals become sums

$$\int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} K(\mathbf{q}) \rightarrow \frac{1}{L^3} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^3} K(\mathbf{q}_n),$$

where  $\mathbf{q}_n := \sum_{i=1}^3 \omega_{n_i}^L e_i$  are allowed momentum vectors

# Finite Volume Framework: Technical Obstacles

- Need angular information: rearrange into spheres of equal radius
- Problem: Number of points scales with third power of cutoff
- Observation: Outer spheres become increasingly dense

→ Solution:

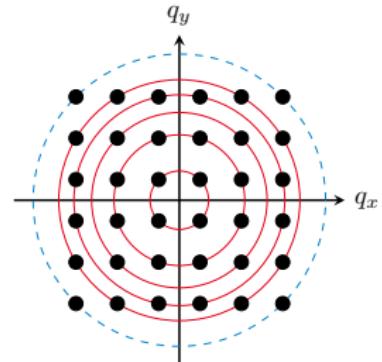


Figure: 2D ABC momentum grid

## Continuum-improved Momentum Summation

$$\int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} K(\mathbf{q}) \rightarrow \frac{1}{L^3} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^3}^{|\mathbf{q}_n| < \Lambda_{\text{vol}}} K(\mathbf{q}_n) + \int_{|\mathbf{q}| > \Lambda_{\text{vol}}} \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} K(\mathbf{q})$$

# Inclusion of Temperature and Chemical Potential

- Finite temperature: bounded imaginary time to  $[0, 1/T]$  and spin-statistics theorem together lead to

(Temporal) Matsubara Frequencies

$$\omega_n = \begin{cases} 2n\pi T & \text{for bosons ,} \\ (2n + 1)\pi T & \text{for fermions ,} \end{cases} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- At finite  $T$ , energy integral becomes sum over Matsubara frequencies

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dq_0}{2\pi} K(q_0) \rightarrow T \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} K(\omega_n)$$

- Chemical potential corresponds to imaginary shift of energy

$$\omega_n \rightarrow \tilde{\omega}_n := \omega_n + i\mu$$

# QCD Phase Diagram

## Order Parameter: Quark Condensate

$$\langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle_f \sim \sum_{\omega_n} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \text{Tr}[S_f(\omega_n + i\mu, \mathbf{q})]$$

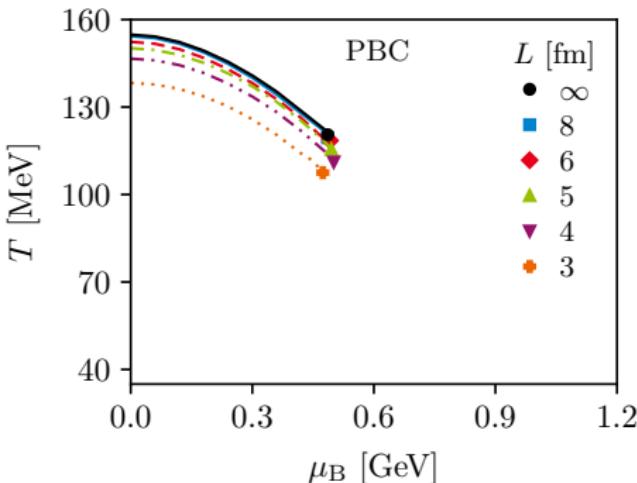
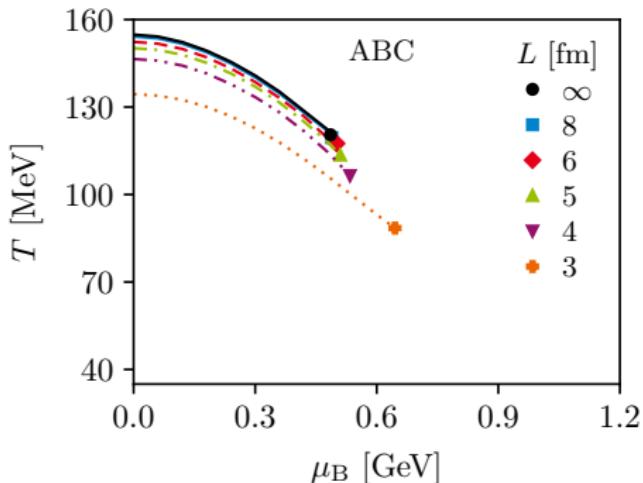
- $\langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle_f$  is divergent for  $m_f > 0$ . Therefore, define regularized condensate:

$$\Delta_{us} := \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle_u - \frac{m_u}{m_s} \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle_s$$

## Pseudocritical Temperature

$$T_c := \arg \max_T \left| \frac{\partial \Delta_{us}}{\partial T} \right|$$

# Results: QCD Phase Diagram in a Finite Volume



- Consistent infinite-volume limit
- For decreasing  $L$ , pseudocritical temperature decreases and CEP (mostly) moves to higher  $\mu$
- Visible volume effects for  $L \leq 4$  fm
- Very similar results for ABC and PBC above  $L \geq 4$  fm

# Quark Number Fluctuations

## Quark Number Fluctuations from QCD's Grand Potential

$$\chi_{ijk}^{\text{uds}} = -T^{(i+j+k)-4} \frac{\partial^{i+j+k}}{\partial \mu_u^i \partial \mu_d^j \partial \mu_s^k} \Omega$$

- Grand potential is not accessible by DSEs  $\rightarrow$  quark number densities are:

## Quark Number Density from Propagator

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_f} \Omega = \rho_f \sim \sum_{\omega_n} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \text{Tr} [\gamma_4 S_f(\omega_n + i\mu, \mathbf{q})]$$

- Neglect off-diagonal terms, i.e., mixed derivatives:

## Quark Number Fluctuations from QCD's Grand Potential

$$\chi_n^f = T^{n-4} \frac{\partial^{n-1}}{\partial \mu_f^{n-1}} \rho_f$$

# Baryon Number Fluctuations

## Baryon Number Fluctuations from Quark Number Fluctuations

$$\chi_n^B \approx \frac{1}{3^n} (2\chi_n^u + \chi_n^s)$$

- Relation to cumulants of baryon number distribution:

$$C_n^B = V T^3 \chi_n^B$$

- Directly linked to moments of baryon number distribution:

$$\sigma_B^2 = C_2^B, \quad S_B = C_3^B (C_2^B)^{-3/2}, \quad \kappa_B = C_4^B (C_2^B)^{-2}, \quad \dots$$

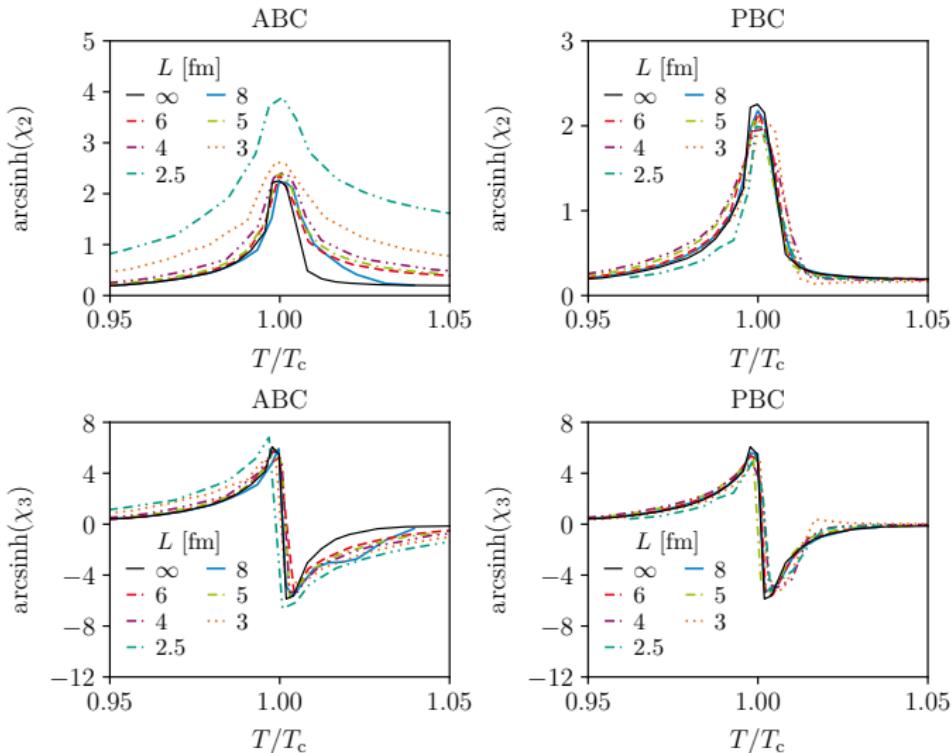
- Ratios relate theoretical and experimental quantities:

$$\chi_3^B / \chi_2^B = S_B \sigma_B, \quad \chi_4^B / \chi_2^B = \kappa_B \sigma_B^2, \quad \dots$$

→ Explicit volume dependence drops out!

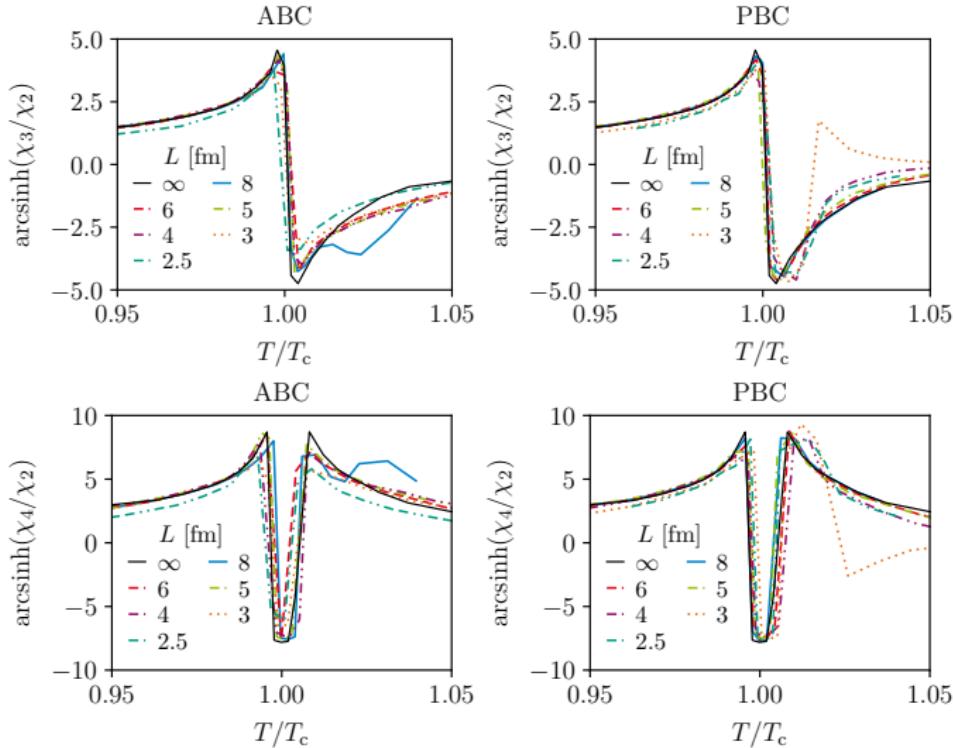
Reviews: Luo, Xu, Nucl. Sci. Tech. 28 (2017) 112  
Bzdak, Esumi, Koch, Liao, Stephanov, Xu, Phys. Rep. 853 (2020) 1

# Results: Baryon Number Fluctuations at $\mu = \mu_c$



- Visible volume effects (especially for ABC)

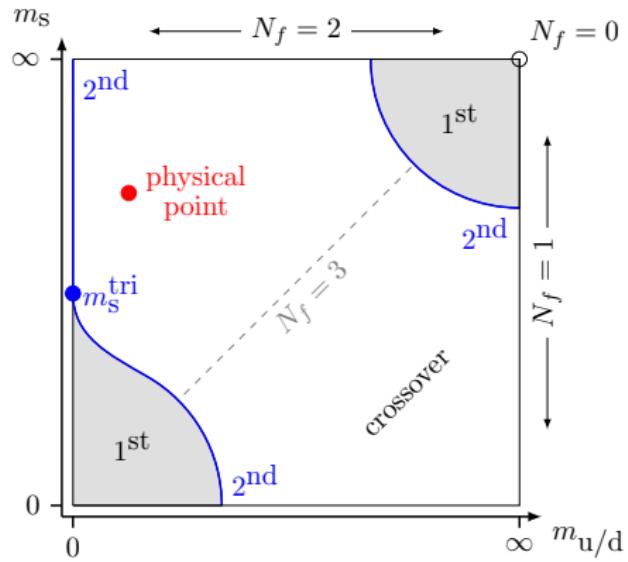
# Results: Baryon Number Fluctuation Ratios at $\mu = \mu_c$



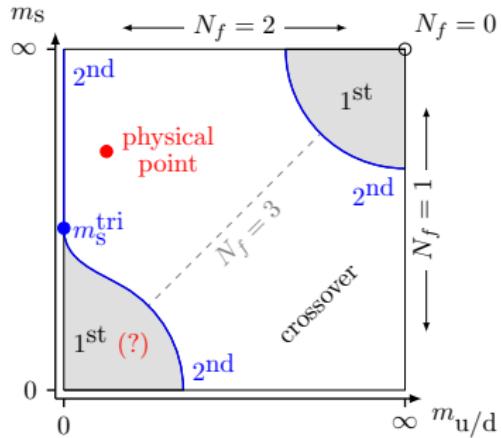
- (Essentially) independent of system size  $\rightarrow$  no implicit volume dependence

JB, Fischer, Isserstedt (in preparation)

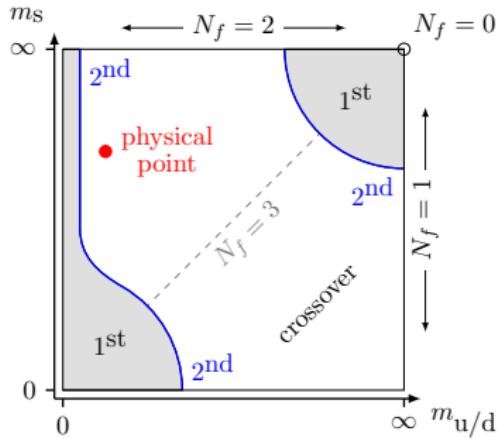
## Second Objective: Columbia Plot and (Up Quark) Chiral Limit



# Motivation: Columbia Plot(s)

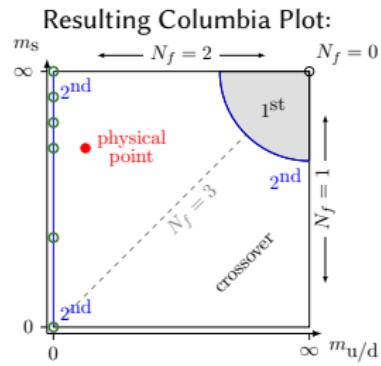
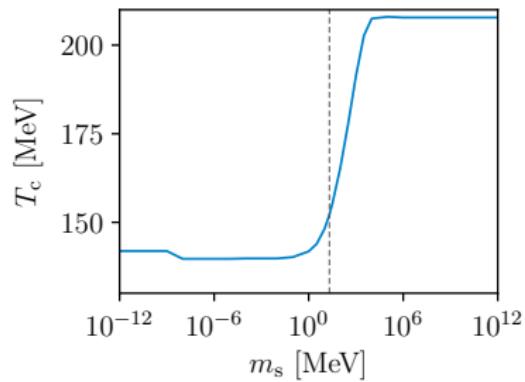
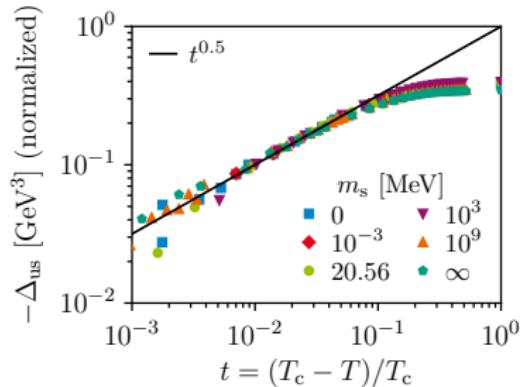
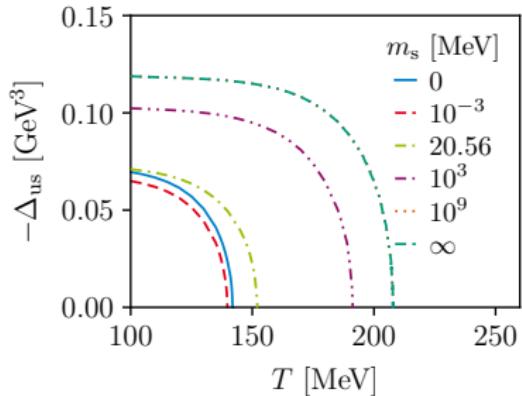


for reference on upper right corner in DSE framework,  
see Fischer, Luecker, Pawłowski, PRD 91 (2015) 014024



- Two different scenarios for Columbia Plot: anomalously broken (left) or restored (right)  $U_A(1)$ -symmetry
- Existence of first order region in lower left corner (of left scenario) is not yet clear see Cuteri, Philipsen, Sciarrà, JHEP 11 (2021) 141
- Chiral limit is difficult for lattice QCD but no conceptual problem for our framework

# Results: Condensate and Critical Scaling in Chiral Limit



# Meson Backcoupling Ansatz

- Improve truncation in chiral limit: long-range correlations in vertex become important → add meson backcoupling diagram to quark DSE

## Modified Quark DSE

$$\text{---} \circ \overset{-1}{f} = \text{---} \overset{-1}{f} + \text{---} \bullet \circ \text{---} \overset{\pi, K, \eta_8, \sigma, f_0}{f} + \text{---} \circ \text{---} \overset{\text{---}}{f}$$

## Bethe–Salpeter Amplitudes



(Obtained from quarks: Goldberger–Treiman-like relations)

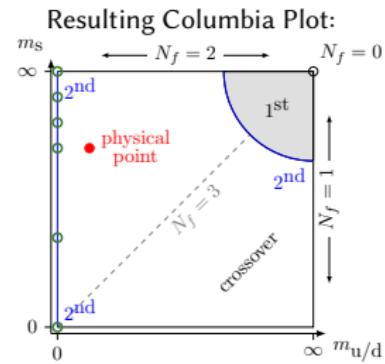
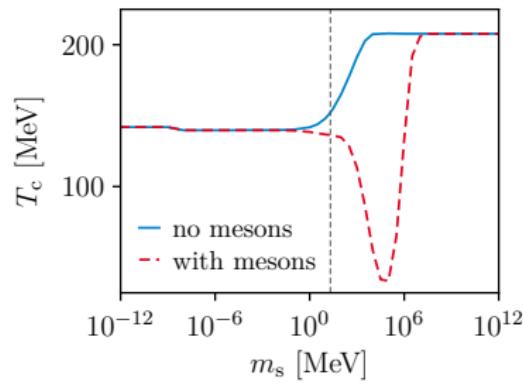
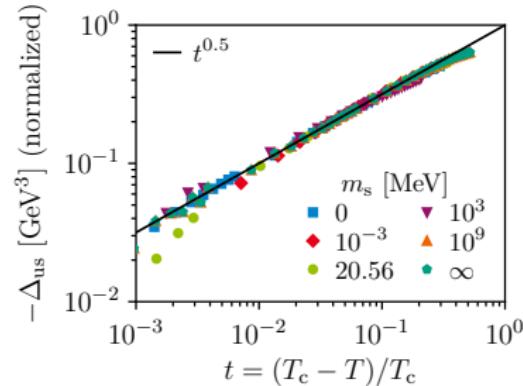
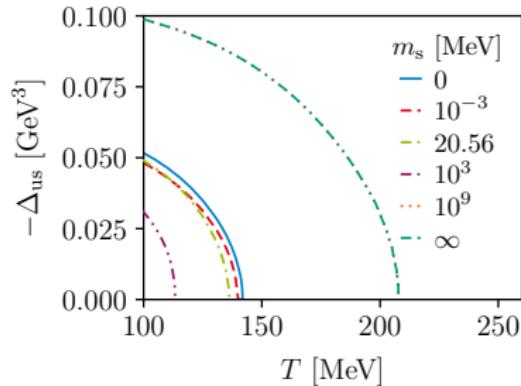
## Free Meson Propagator



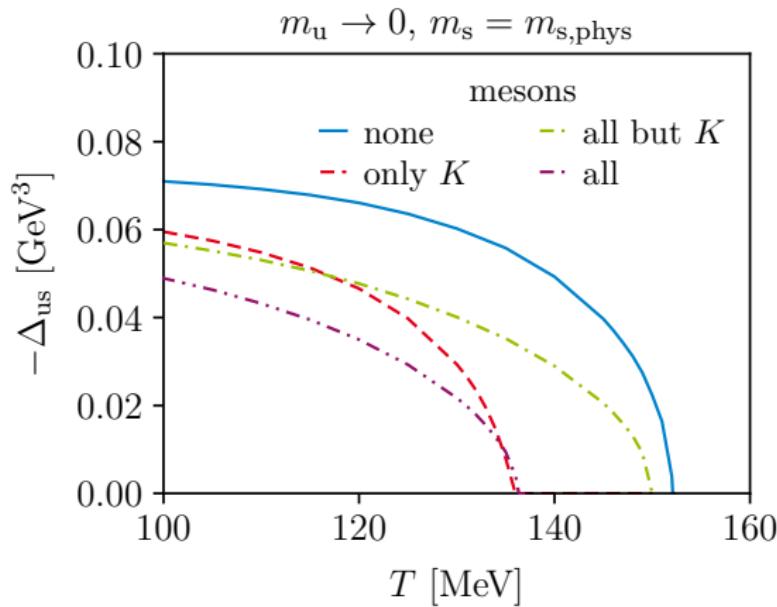
(Mass from Gell-Mann–Oakes–Renner fit)

details on meson backcoupling: Fischer, Müller, PRD 84 (2011) 054013

# Results for Meson Backcoupling



# Meson Backcoupling: Influence of kaons on $T_c$



- Drop in  $T_c$  is almost exclusively caused by kaons while shape of condensate is modified by other mesons

# Conclusion and Outlook

## Conclusion:

- Studied finite-volume effects on QCD phase diagram using DSEs beyond rainbow-ladder truncation for ABC and PBC
- Crossover line and CEP exhibit visible volume effects for  $L \leq 4 \text{ fm}$
- Baryon number fluctuations show volume dependence, ratios do not
- Second order phase transition across whole left edge of Columbia Plot (both with and without meson backcoupling)
- Kaon backcoupling causes drastic decrease of critical temperature for intermediate strange quark masses

## Outlook:

- Implement QCD scaling to meson backcoupling
- Investigate imaginary chemical potentials
- Study finite-volume effects in chiral limit