



# Functional renormalization group and its application in nonperturbative QCD

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**Dalian University of Technology**

**强子质量的非微扰起源**

**CCAST, Beijing, April 17-28, 2023**

Based on :

WF, Xiaofeng Luo, Jan M. Pawłowski, Fabian Rennecke, Shi Yin, in preparation;

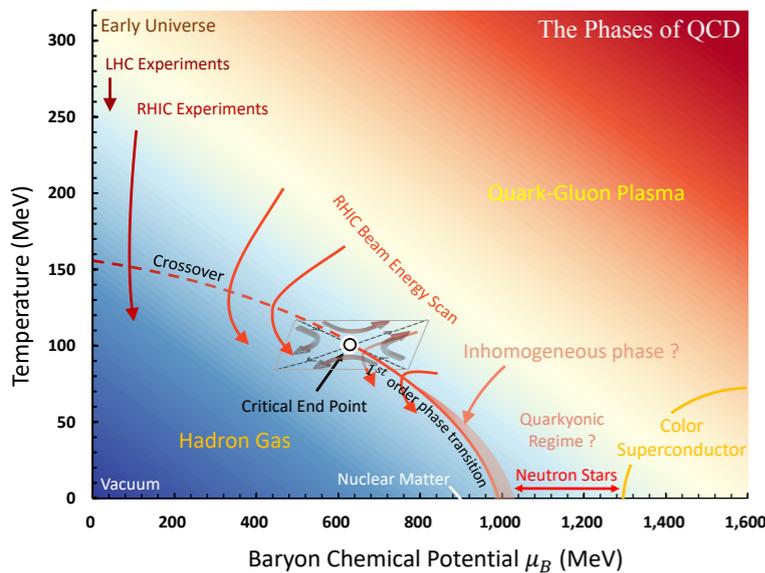
WF, Jan M. Pawłowski, Fabian Rennecke, Rui Wen, Shi Yin, in preparation;

WF, Chuang Huang, Jan M. Pawłowski, Yang-yang Tan, *SciPost Phys.* 14 (2023) 069, arXiv:2209.13120;

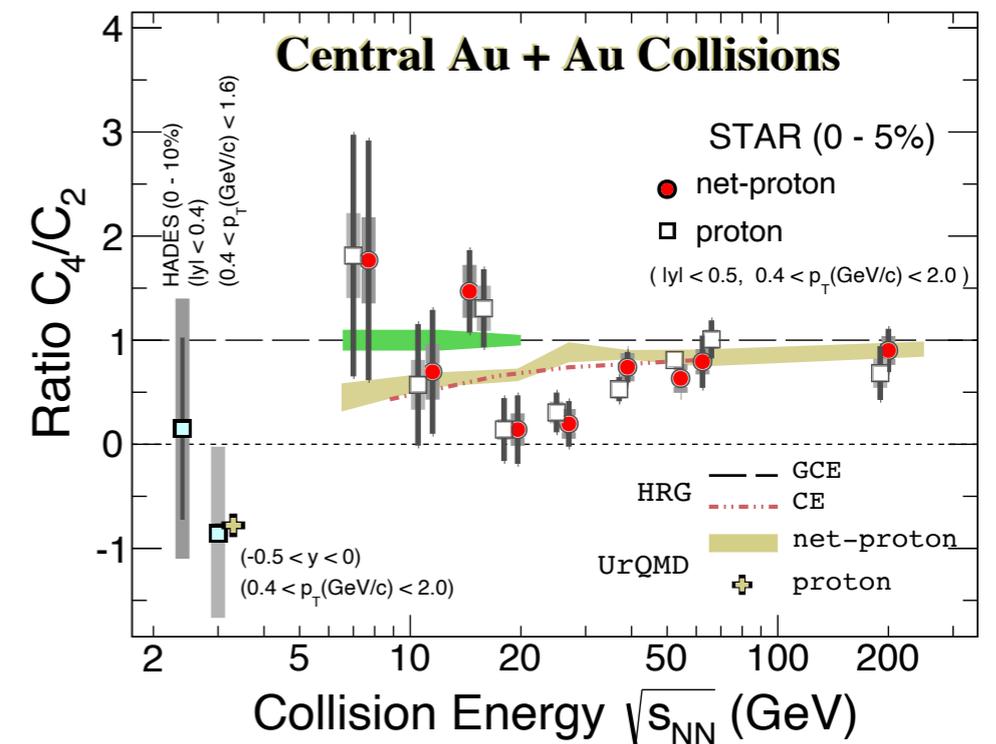
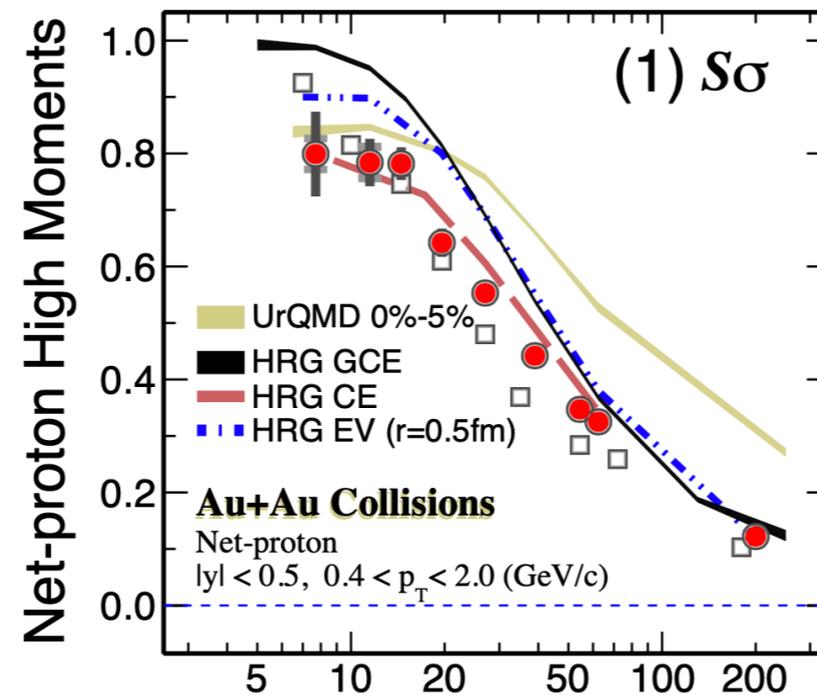
WF, *CTP* 74 (2022) 097304, arXiv:2205.00468

# QCD phase structure

## QCD phase diagram



## Skewness and kurtosis of net-proton distributions:

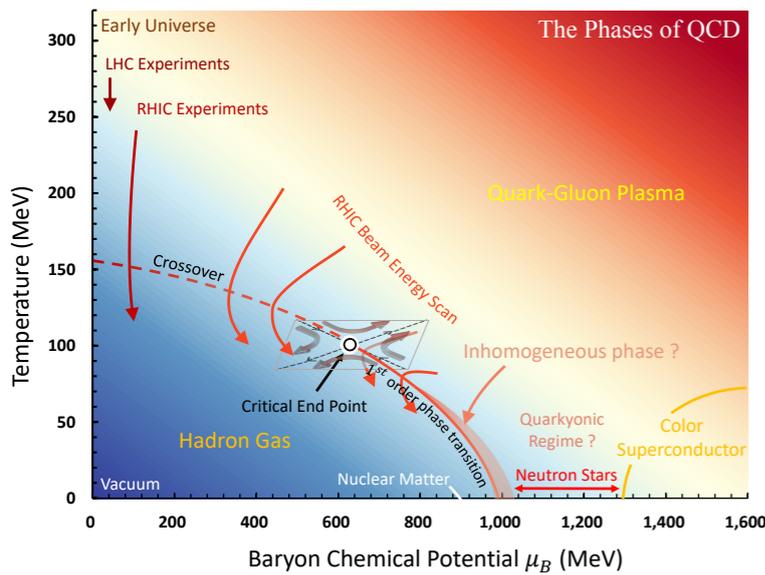


J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021), 092301;  
M. Abdallah *et al.* (STAR), *PRC* 104 (2021), 024902;  
M. Abdallah *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 128 (2022) 20, 202303

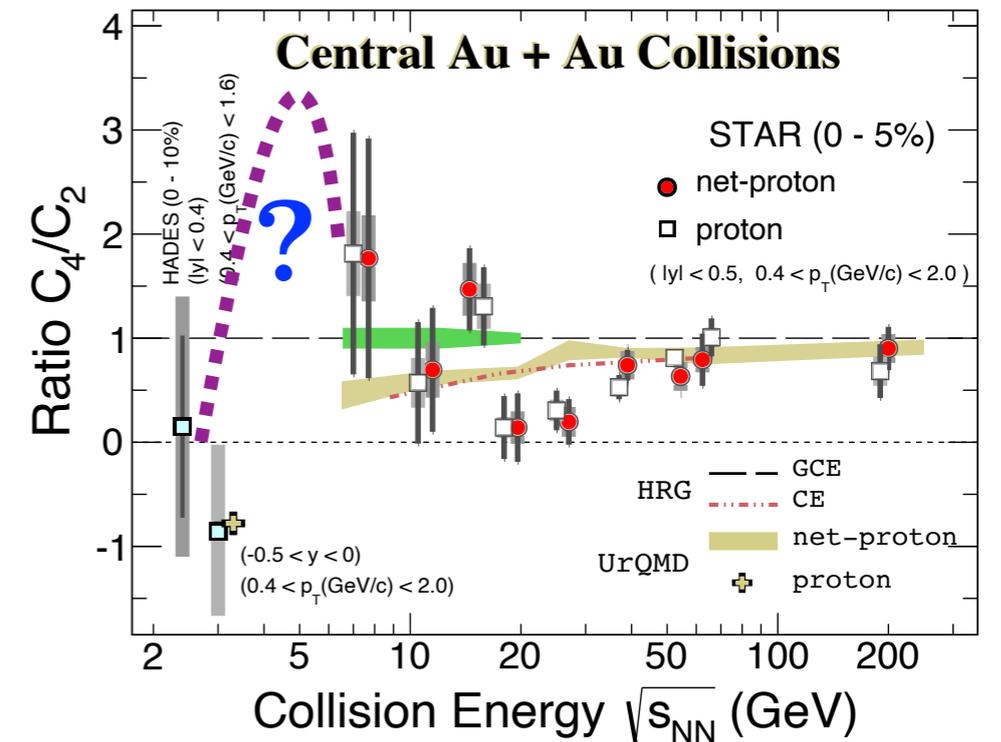
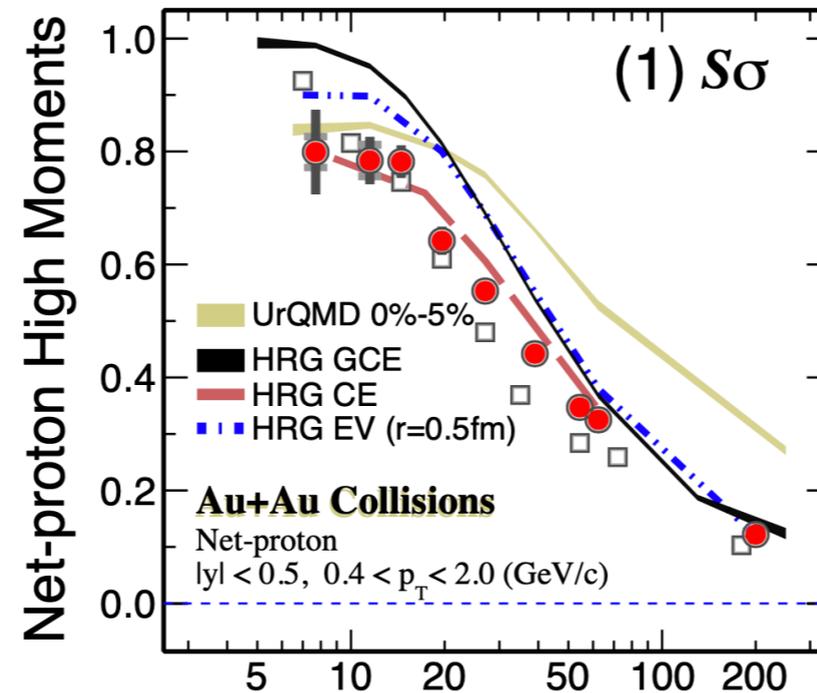
- The non-monotonicity of the kurtosis is observed with  $3.1\sigma$  significance.
- Is there a “peak” structure in the regime of low colliding energy?

# QCD phase structure

## QCD phase diagram



## Skewness and kurtosis of net-proton distributions:



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- The non-monotonicity of the kurtosis is observed with  $3.1\sigma$  significance.
- Is there a “peak” structure in the regime of low colliding energy?

# Outline

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- \* **Introduction**
- \* **Brief review about (f)RG**
- \* **QCD in vacuum**
- \* **QCD phase structure**
- \* **Baryon number fluctuations**
- \* **Summary**

# Functional renormalization group

Functional integral with an IR regulator

$$Z_k[J] = \int (\mathcal{D}\hat{\Phi}) \exp\left\{ -S[\hat{\Phi}] - \Delta S_k[\hat{\Phi}] + J^a \hat{\Phi}_a \right\}$$

$$W_k[J] = \ln Z_k[J]$$

regulator:

$$\Delta S_k[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \varphi(-q) R_k(q) \varphi(q)$$

flow of the Schwinger function:

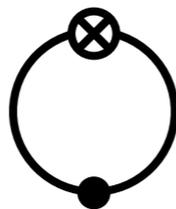
$$\partial_t W_k[J] = -\frac{1}{2} \text{STr} \left[ (\partial_t R_k) G_k \right] - \frac{1}{2} \Phi_a \partial_t R_k^{ab} \Phi_b$$

Legendre transformation:

$$\Gamma_k[\Phi] = -W_k[J] + J^a \Phi_a - \Delta S_k[\Phi]$$

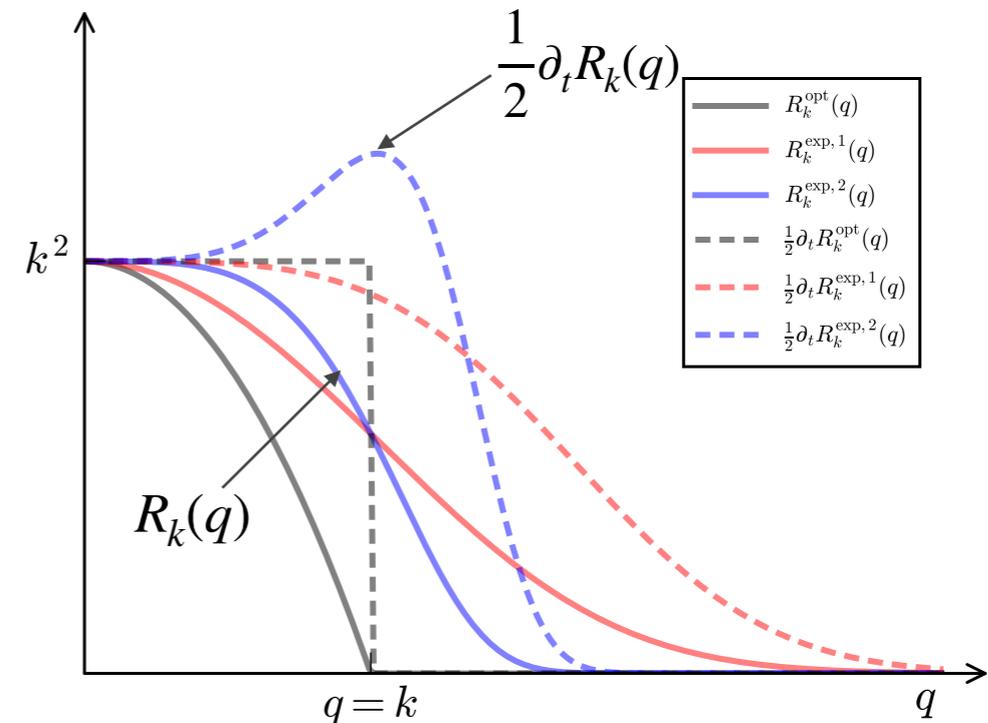
flow of the effective action:

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{STr} \left[ (\partial_t R_k) G_k \right] = \frac{1}{2}$$

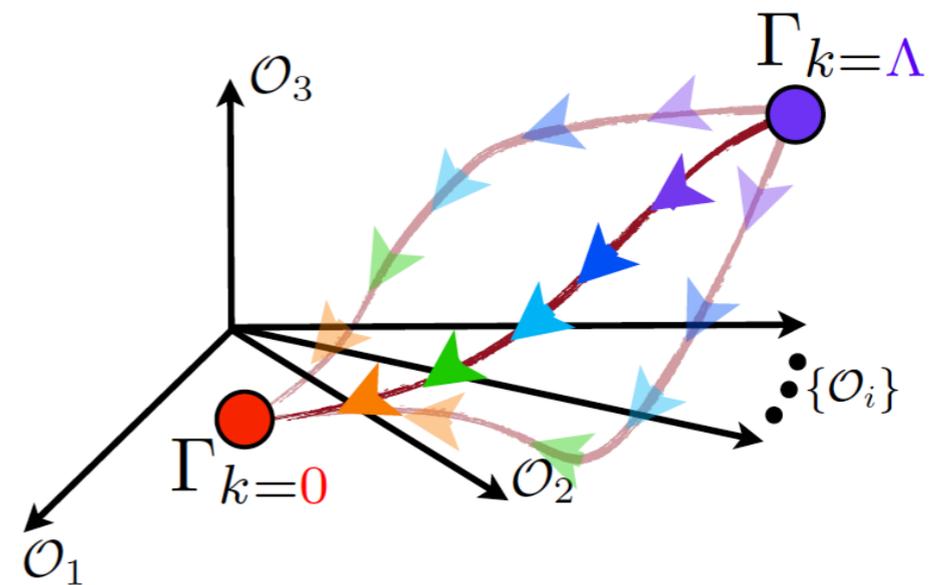


**Wetterich formula**

C. Wetterich, *PLB*, 301 (1993) 90



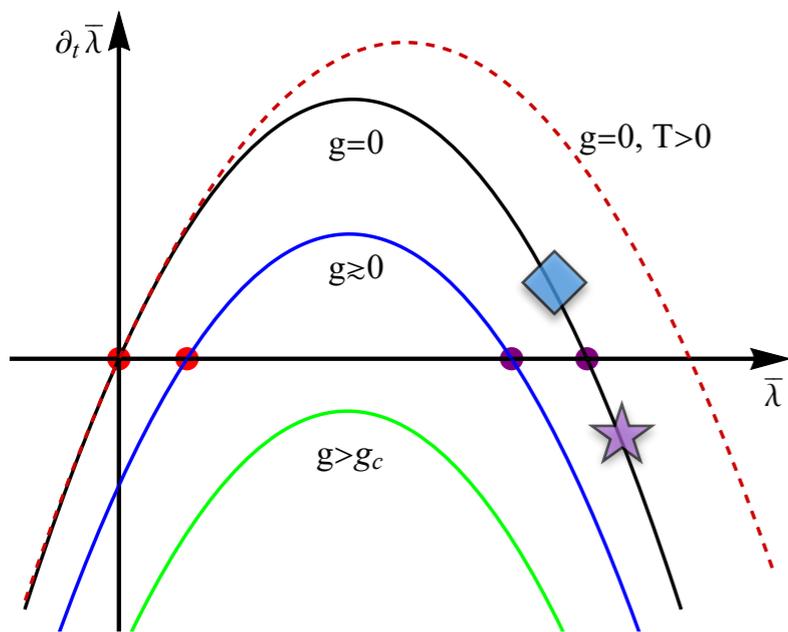
$$G_{k,ab} = \gamma^c_a \left( \Gamma_k^{(2)}[\Phi] + \Delta S_k^{(2)}[\Phi] \right)^{-1}_{cb}$$



Review: WF, *CTP* 74 (2022) 097304,  
arXiv: 2205.00468 [hep-ph]

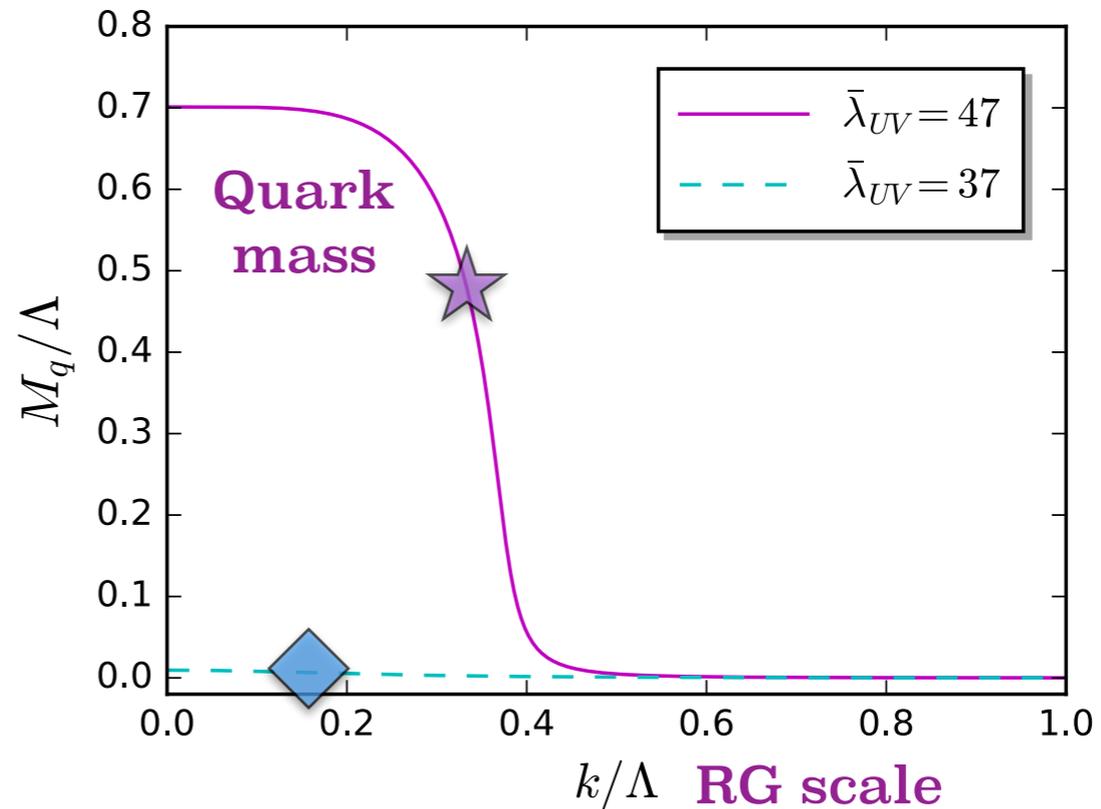
# Chiral symmetry breaking in RG

- $\beta$  function of 4-quark coupling:

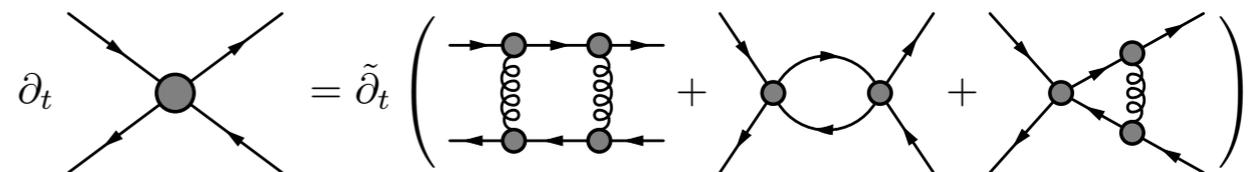


Braun, Gies, *JHEP* 06 (2006) 024.

$$\partial_t \bar{\lambda} = (d - 2)\bar{\lambda} - a\bar{\lambda}^2 - b\bar{\lambda}g^2 - cg^4,$$

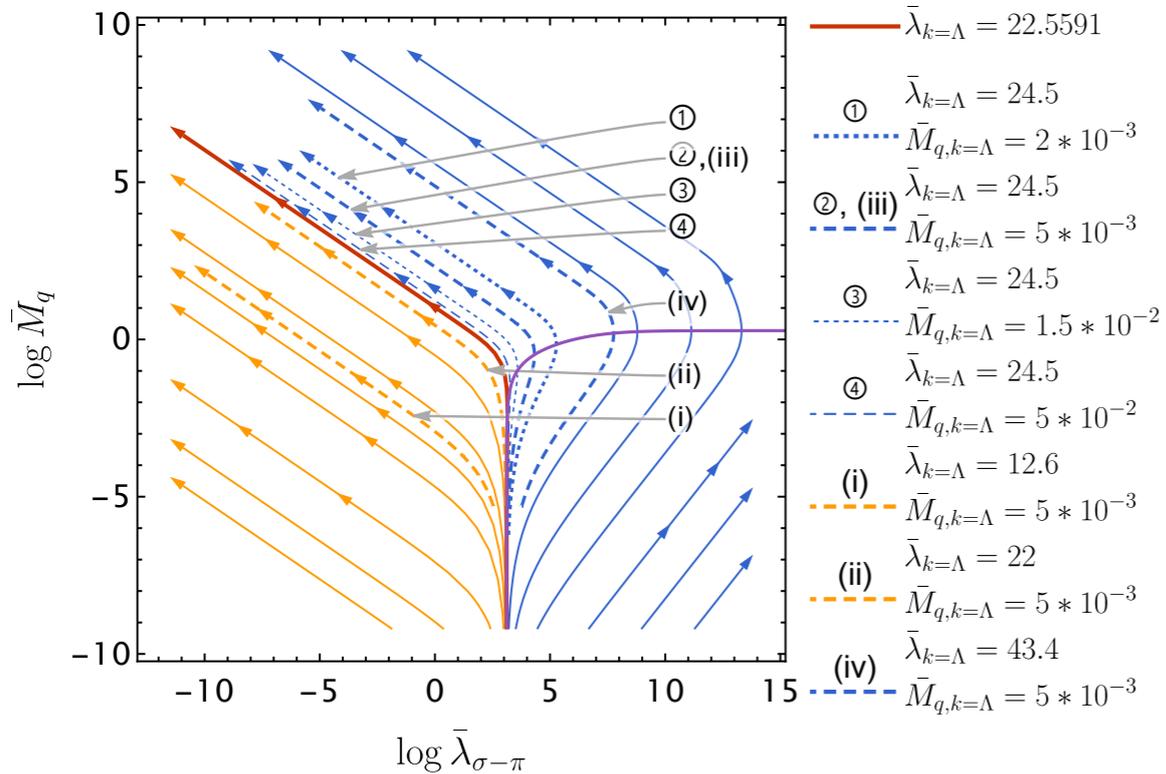


WF, Huang,  
Pawlowski, Tan,  
*SciPost Phys.* 14  
(2023) 069,  
arXiv:2209.13120

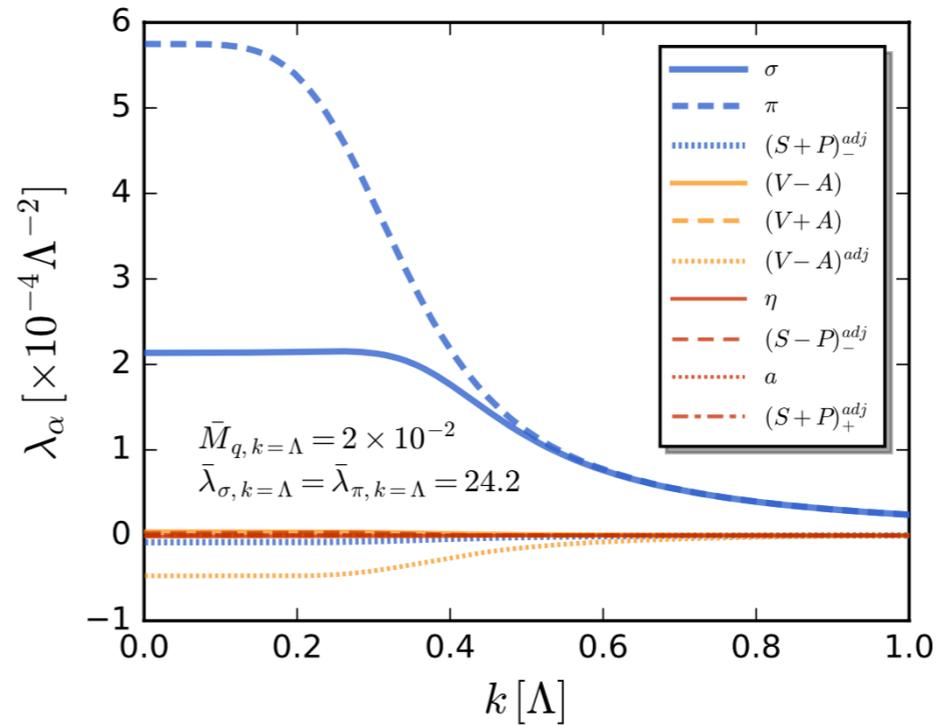


# Mass production in RG

- flow in the plane of the mass and coupling:

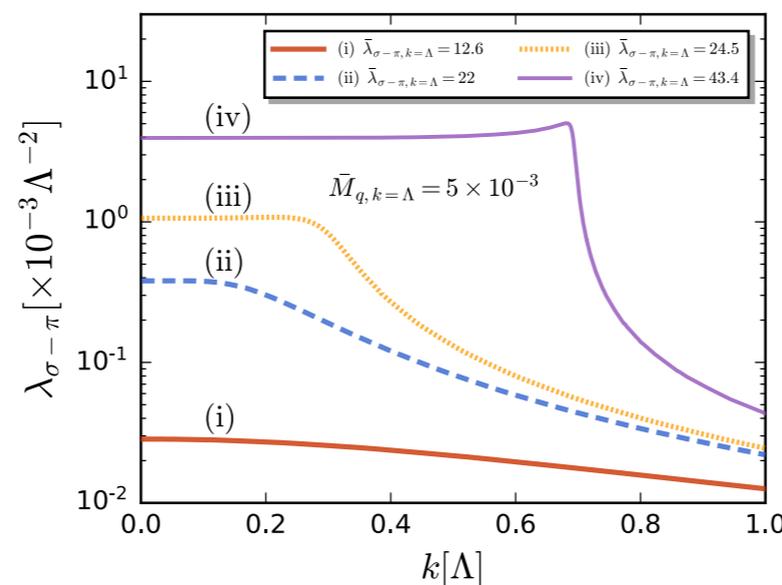
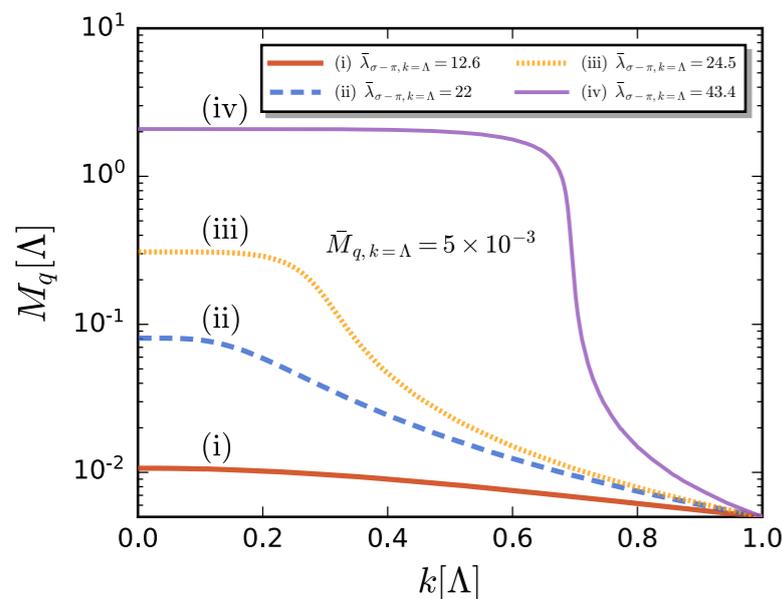


- couplings of different channels vs RG scale:



WF, Huang,  
 Pawłowski, Tan,  
*SciPost Phys.* 14  
 (2023) 069,  
 arXiv:2209.13120

- quark mass and couplings vs RG scale:

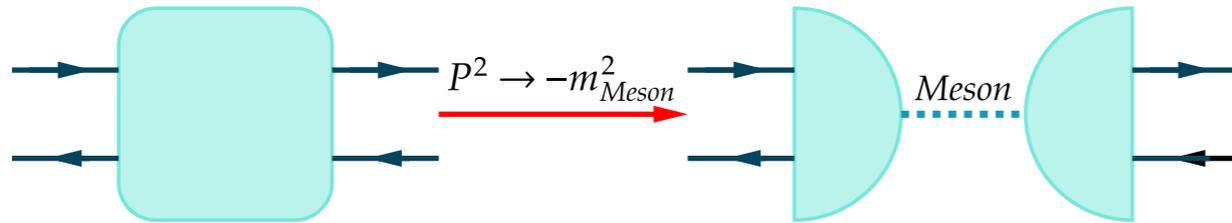


$$\partial_t \left( \text{blob} \right) = \tilde{\partial}_t \left( \text{loop} + \text{self-energy} \right)$$

- Understanding quark mass production from the viewpoint of **phase transition**.
- Analogue of **gap equation** in terms of RG flow.

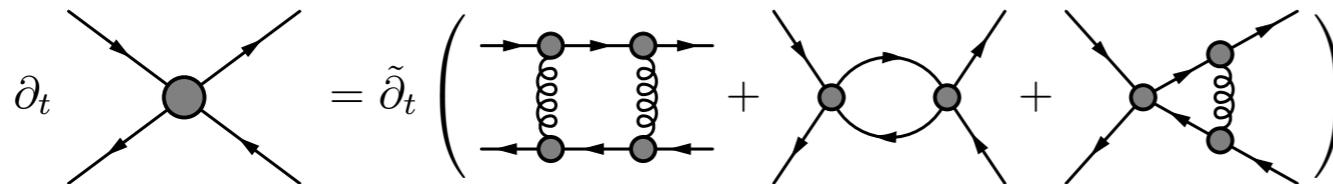
# Bound states in RG

- Bound states encoded in  $n$ -point correlation functions:



$$\partial_t \lambda_{\pi,k}(P^2) = C_k(P^2) \lambda_{\pi,k}^2(P^2) + A_k(P^2),$$

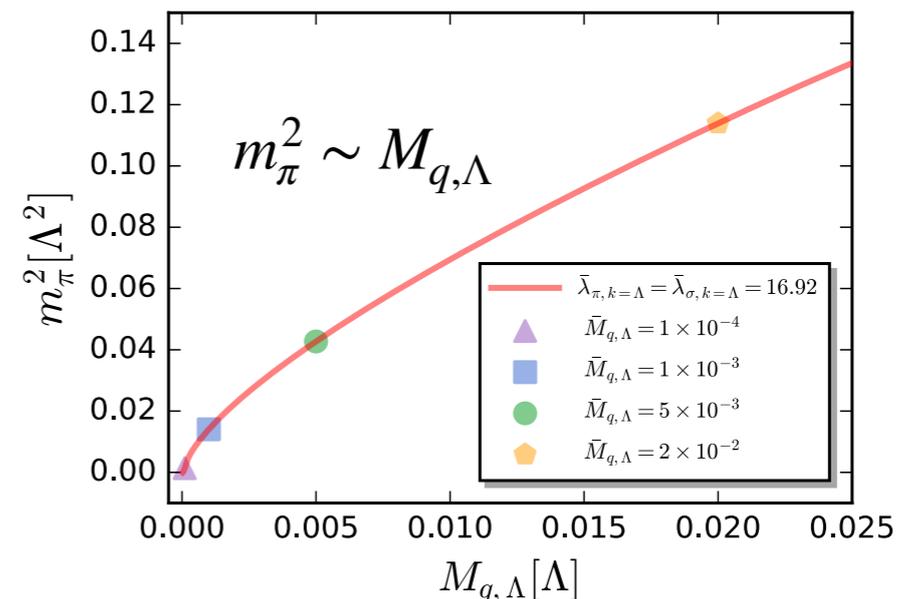
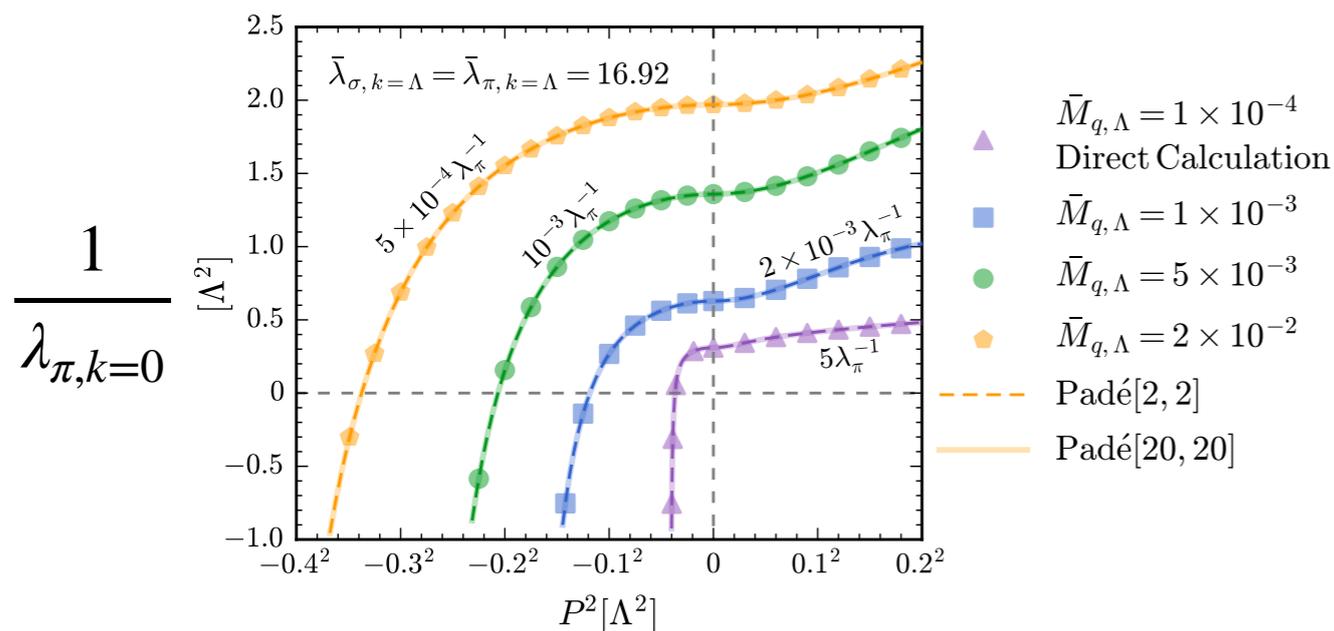
- Flow equation of 4-quark interaction:



$$\lambda_{\pi,k=0}(P^2) = \frac{\lambda_{\pi,k=\Lambda}}{1 - \lambda_{\pi,k=\Lambda} \int_{\Lambda}^0 C_k(P^2) \frac{dk}{k}},$$

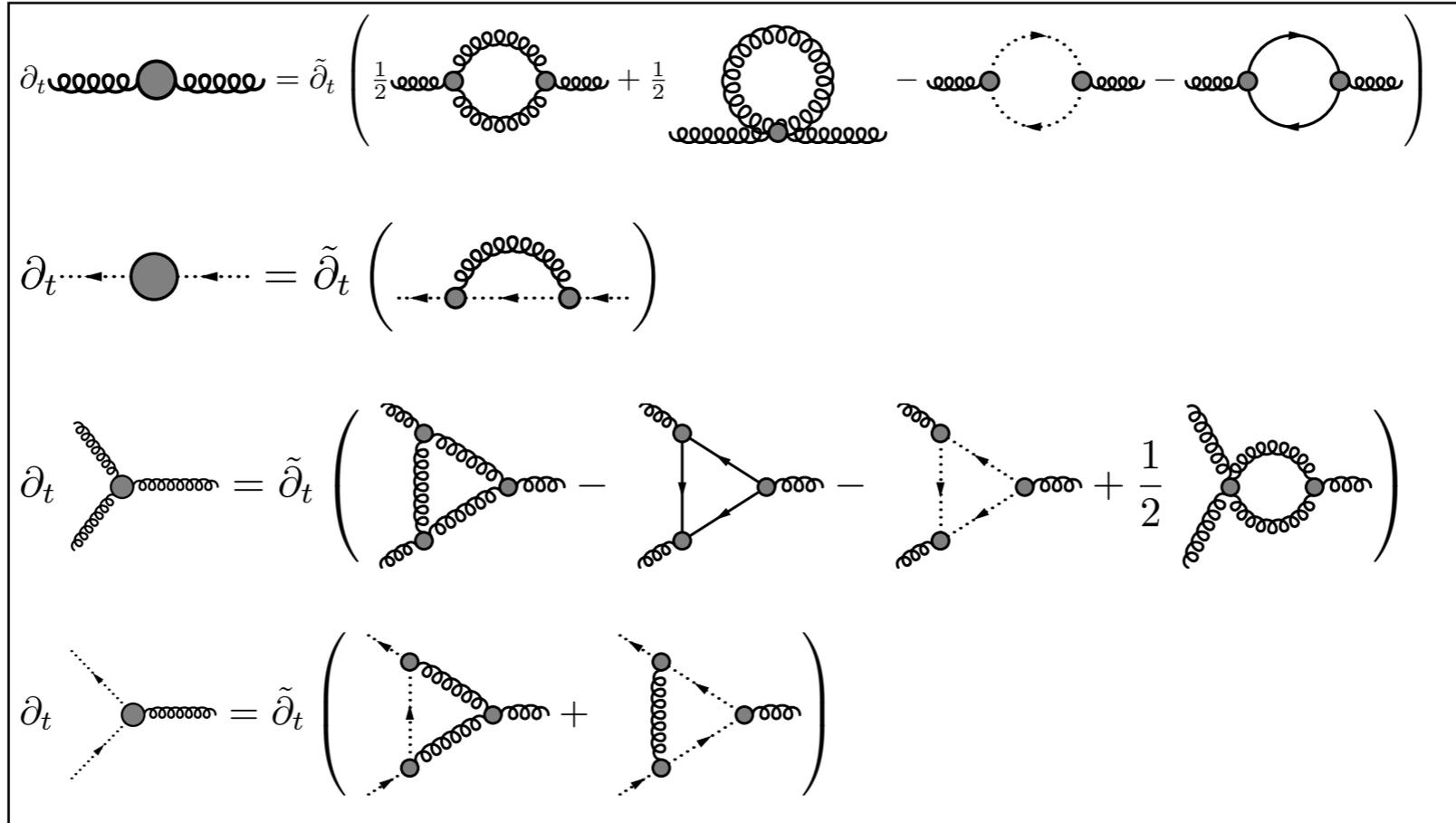
Note: playing the same role as the **Bethe-Salpeter equation**.

**Gell-Mann--Oakes--Renner relation**

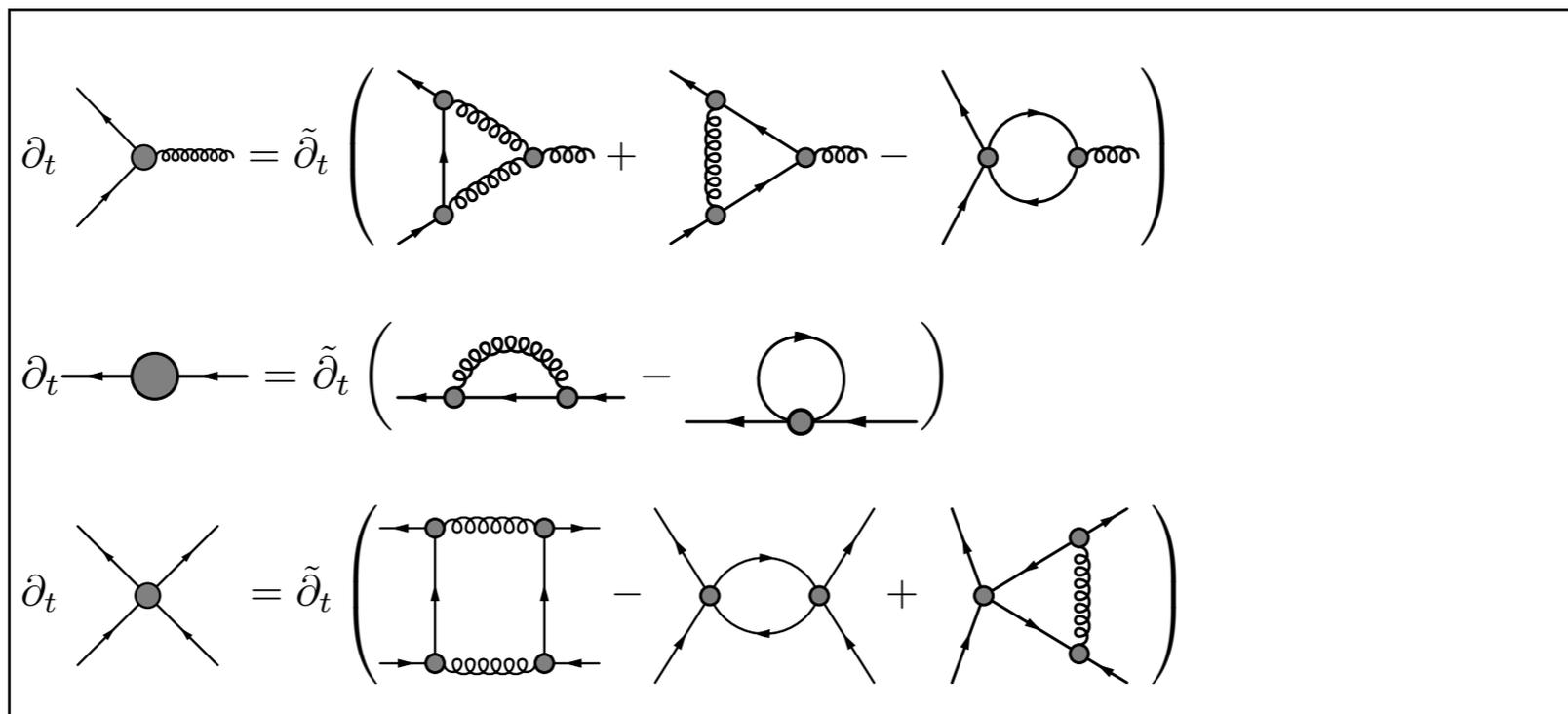


# QCD within fRG

Glue sector:



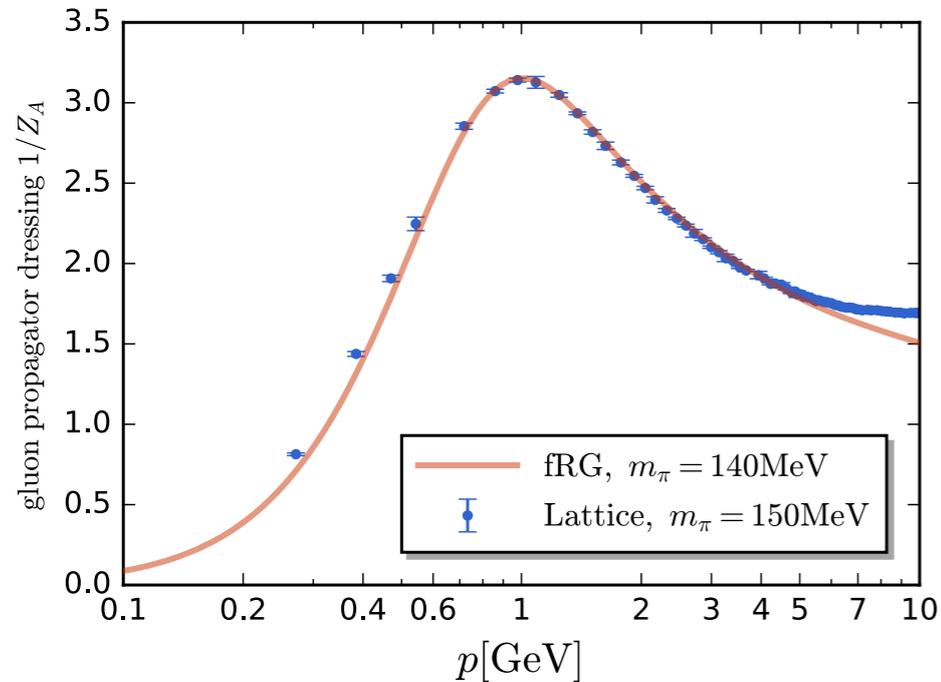
Matter sector:



WF, Huang,  
Pawlowski, Tan,  
in preparation

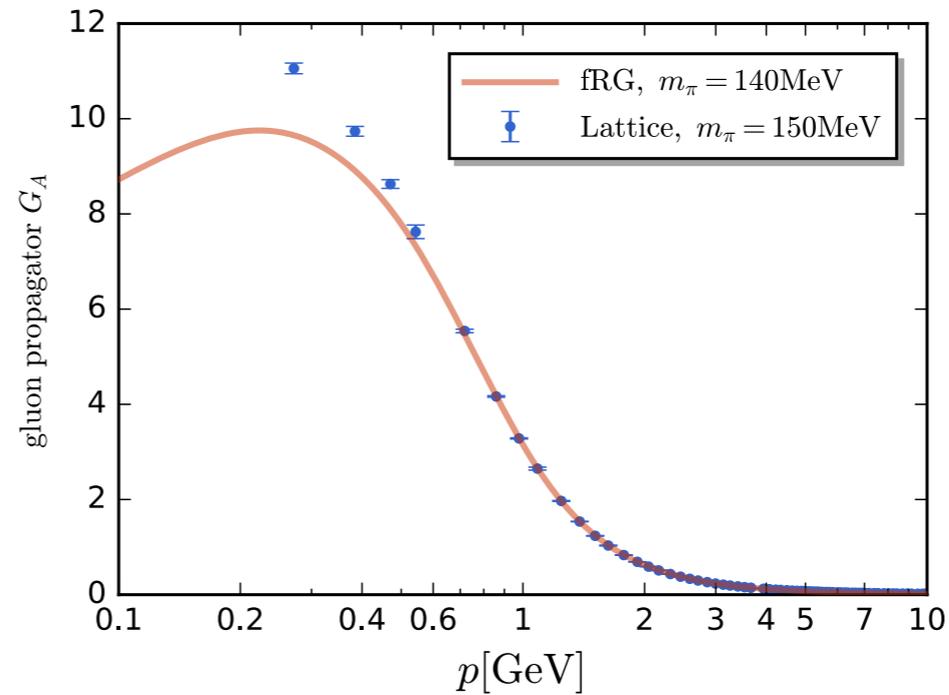
# QCD within fRG in vacuum

## Gluon dressing:



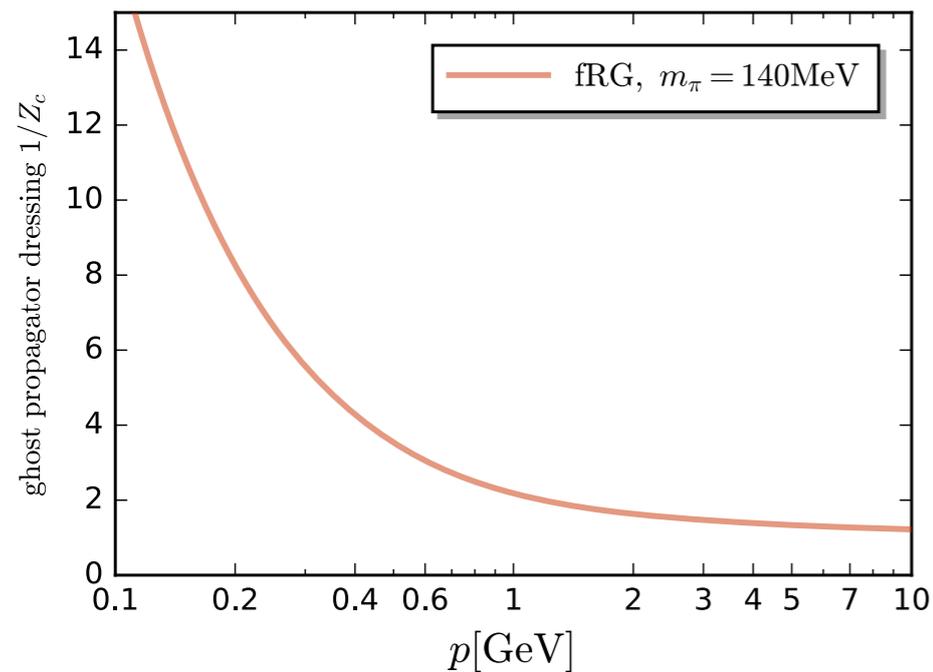
Lattice: Sternbeck *et al.*, PoS LATTICE2012 (2012) 243

## Gluon propagator:

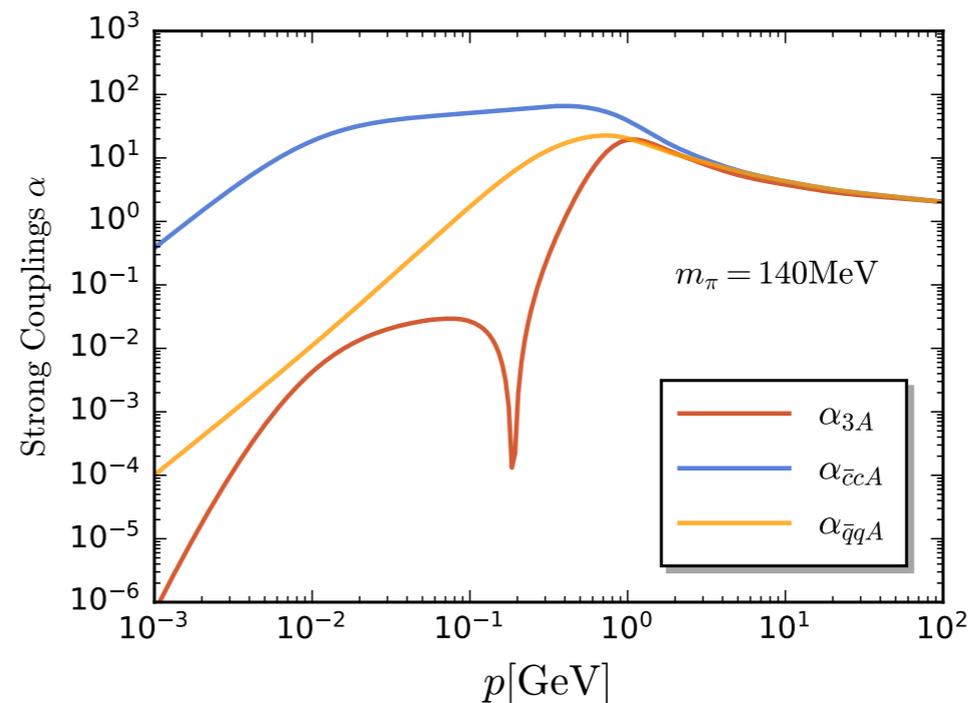


fRG: WF, Huang, Pawłowski, Tan, in preparation

## Ghost dressing:

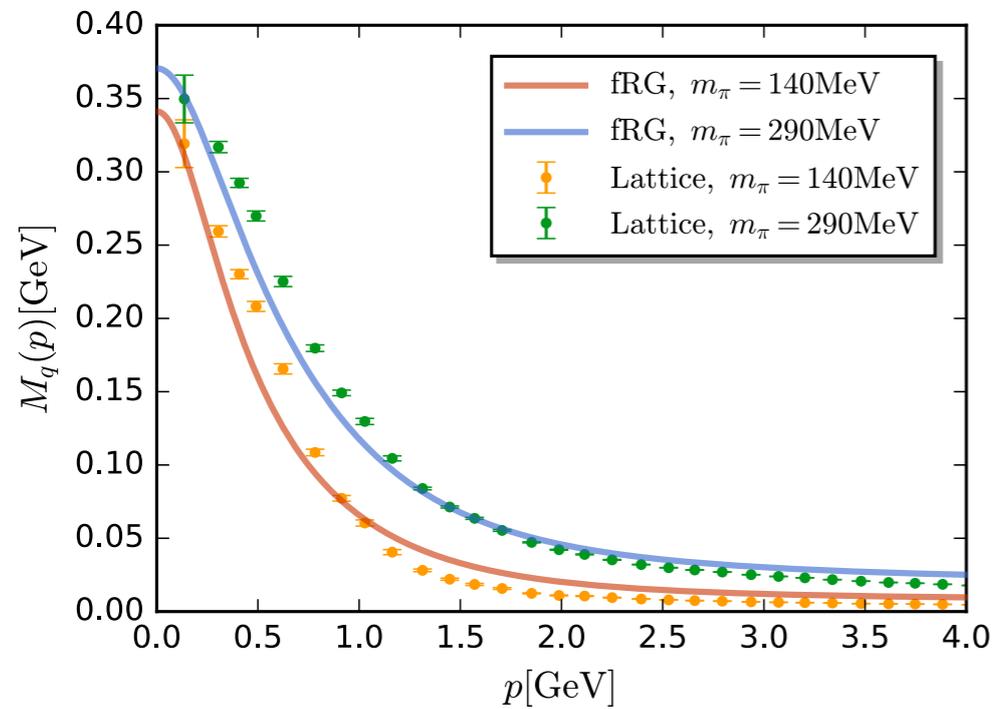


## Strong couplings:



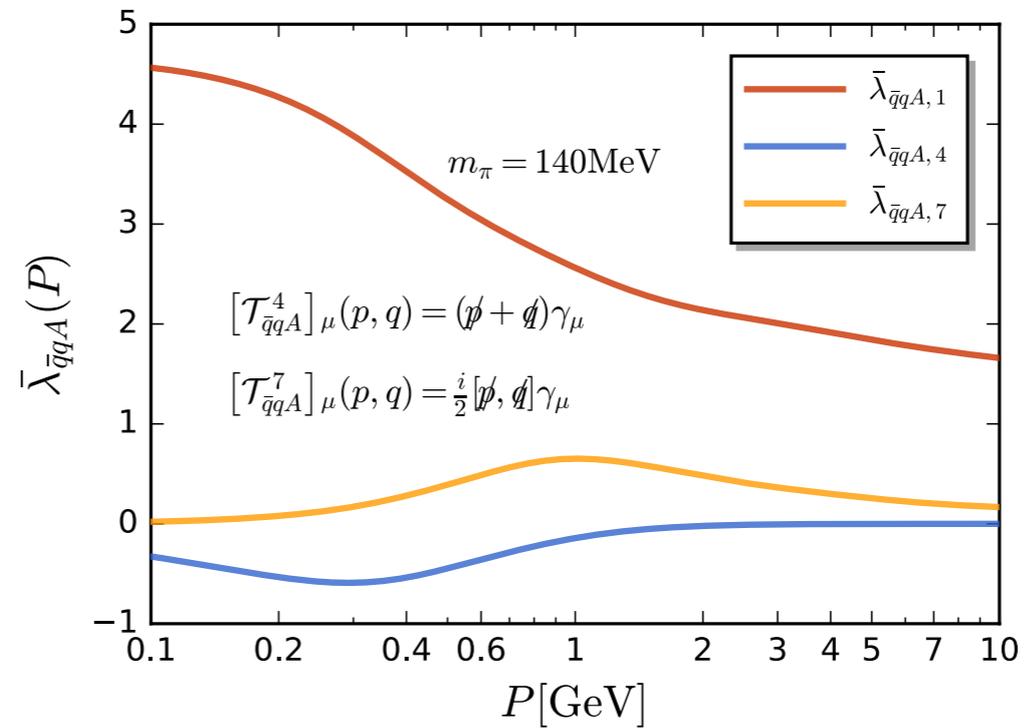
# QCD within fRG in vacuum

## Quark mass:



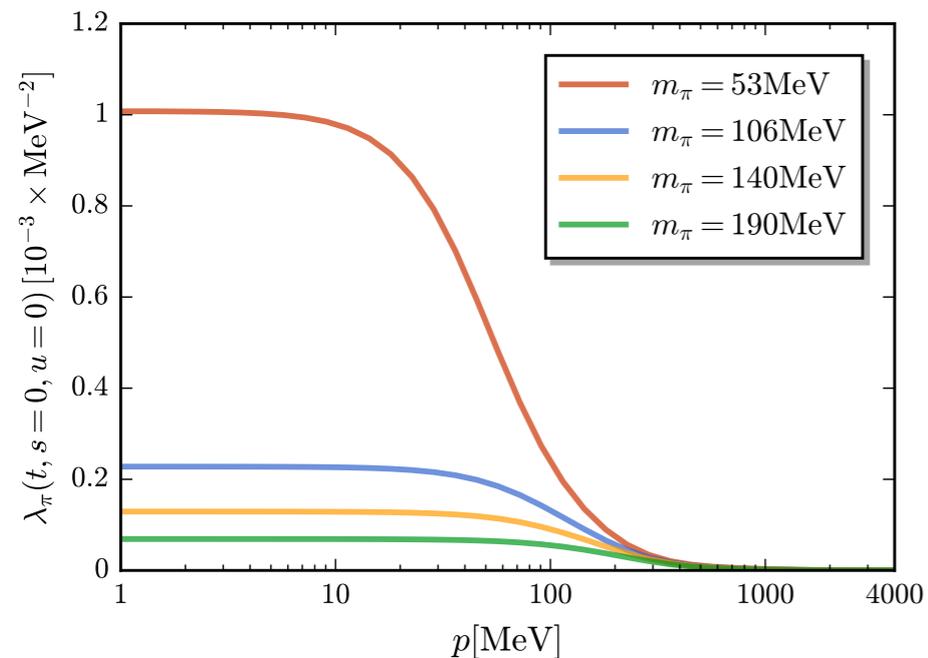
Lattice: Oliveira *et al.*, PRD 99 (2019) 094506

## Quark-gluon vertex:

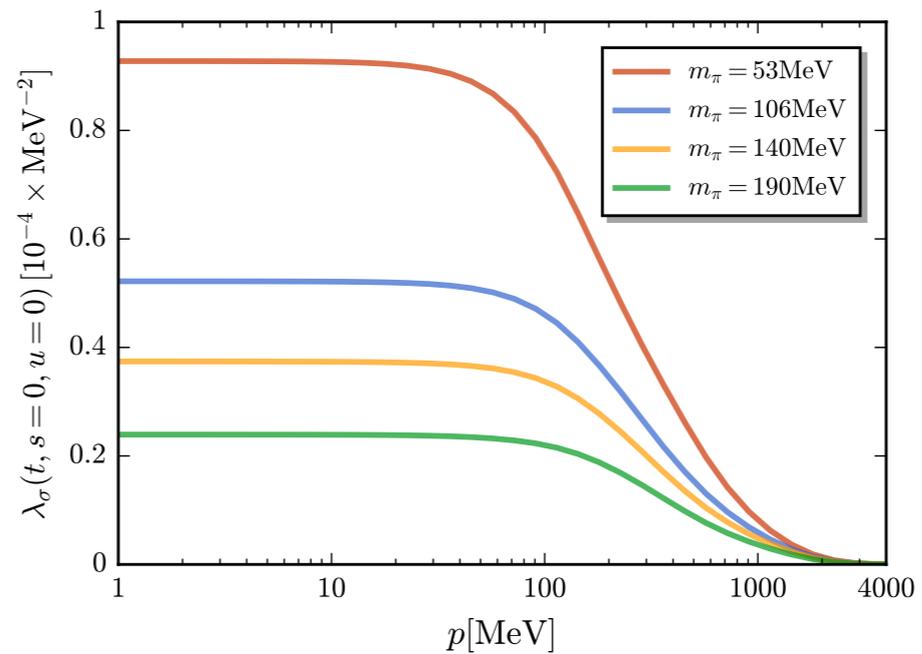


fRG: WF, Huang, Pawłowski, Tan, in preparation

## Four-quark vertex (pion channel):



## Four-quark vertex (sigma channel):



# QCD with dynamical hadronization

Introducing a RG scale dependent composite field:

$$\hat{\phi}_k(\hat{\varphi}), \text{ with } \hat{\varphi} = (\hat{A}, \hat{c}, \hat{\bar{c}}, \hat{q}, \hat{\bar{q}}),$$

$$\langle \partial_t \hat{\phi}_k \rangle = \dot{A}_k \bar{q} \tau q + \dot{B}_k \phi + \dot{C}_k \hat{e}_\sigma,$$

Gies, Wetterich, *PRD* 65 (2002) 065001; 69 (2004) 025001  
 Pawłowski, *AP* 322 (2007) 2831  
 Flörchinger, Wetterich, *PLB* 680 (2009) 371

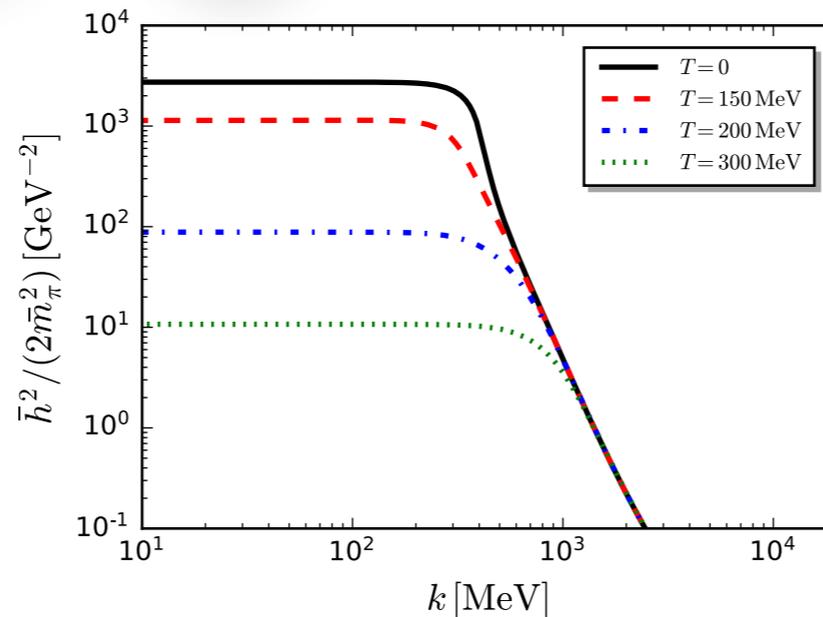
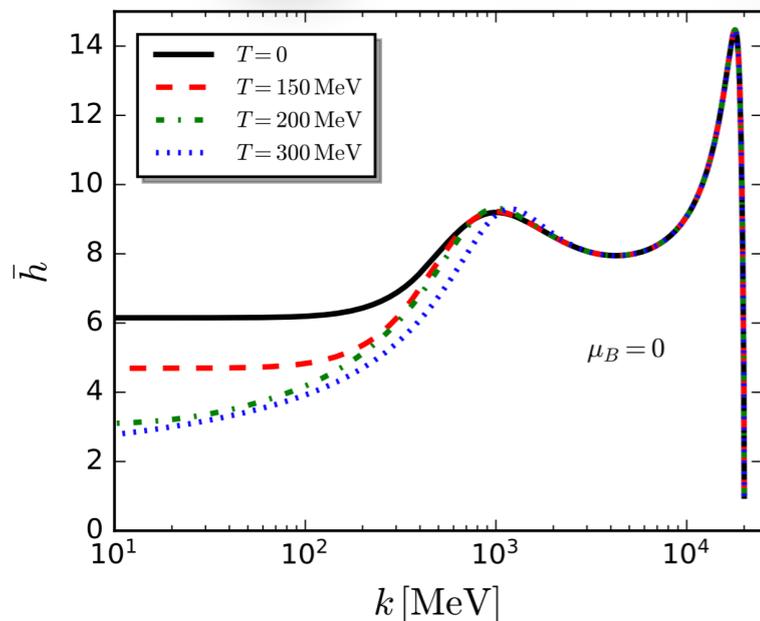
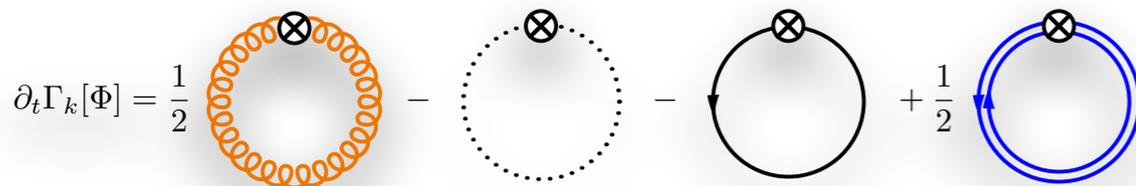
Wetterich equation is modified as

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\Phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{STr}(G_k[\Phi] \partial_t R_k) + \text{Tr} \left( G_{\phi \Phi_a}[\Phi] \frac{\delta \langle \partial_t \hat{\phi}_k \rangle}{\delta \Phi_a} R_\phi \right)$$

$$- \int \langle \partial_t \hat{\phi}_{k,i} \rangle \left( \frac{\delta \Gamma_k[\Phi]}{\delta \phi_i} + c_\sigma \delta_{i\sigma} \right),$$

WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032

Flow equation:

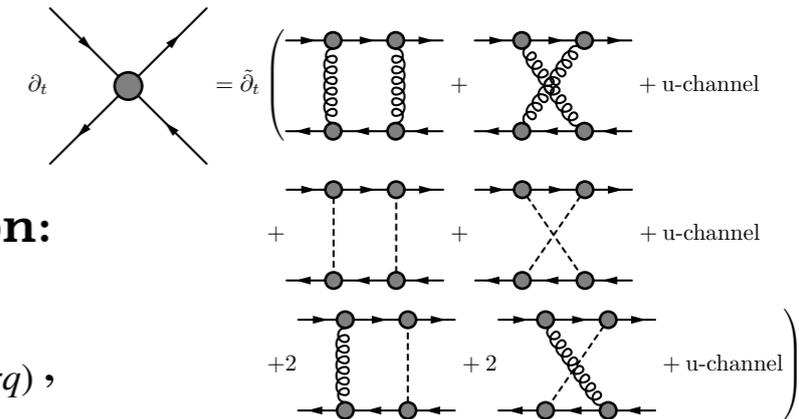


Flow of four-quark couplings:

$$\partial_t \bar{\lambda}_q - 2(1 + \eta_q) \bar{\lambda}_q - \bar{h} \dot{A} = \overline{\text{Flow}}_{(\bar{q}\tau q)(\bar{q}\tau q)}^{(4)},$$

choosing

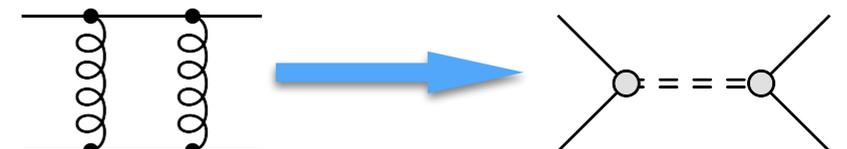
$$\bar{\lambda}_q \equiv 0, \quad \forall k,$$



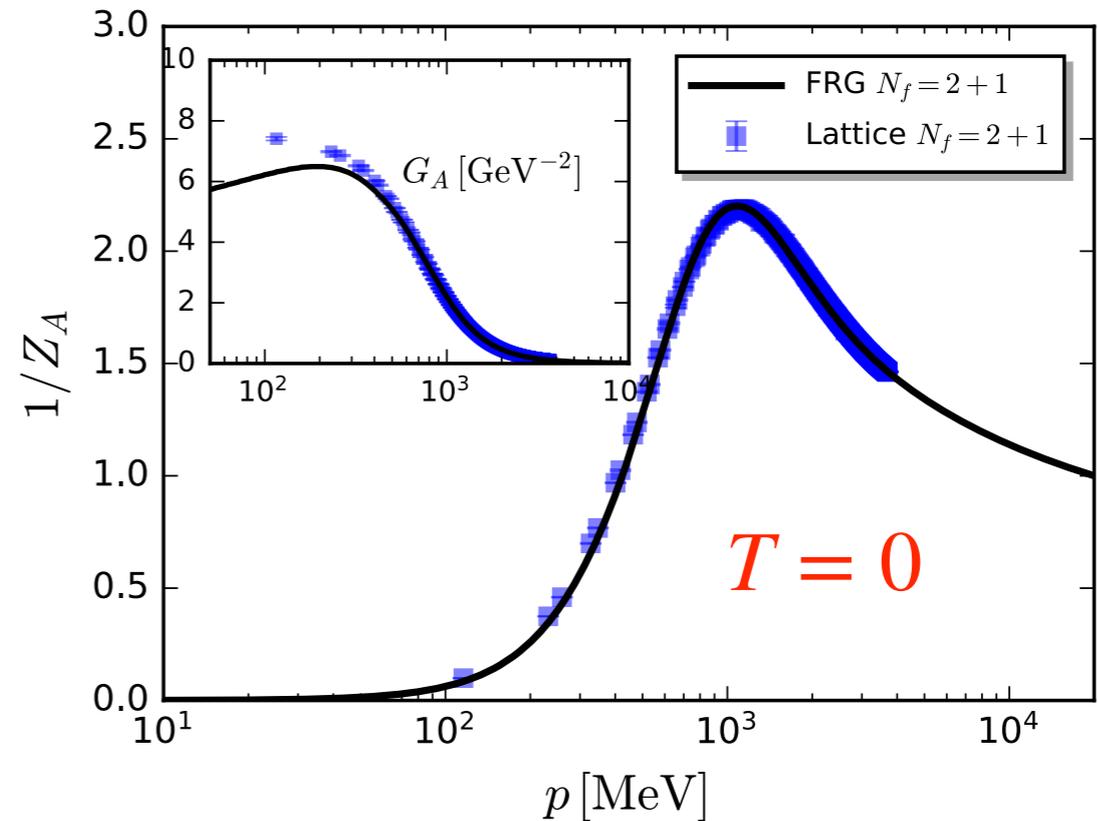
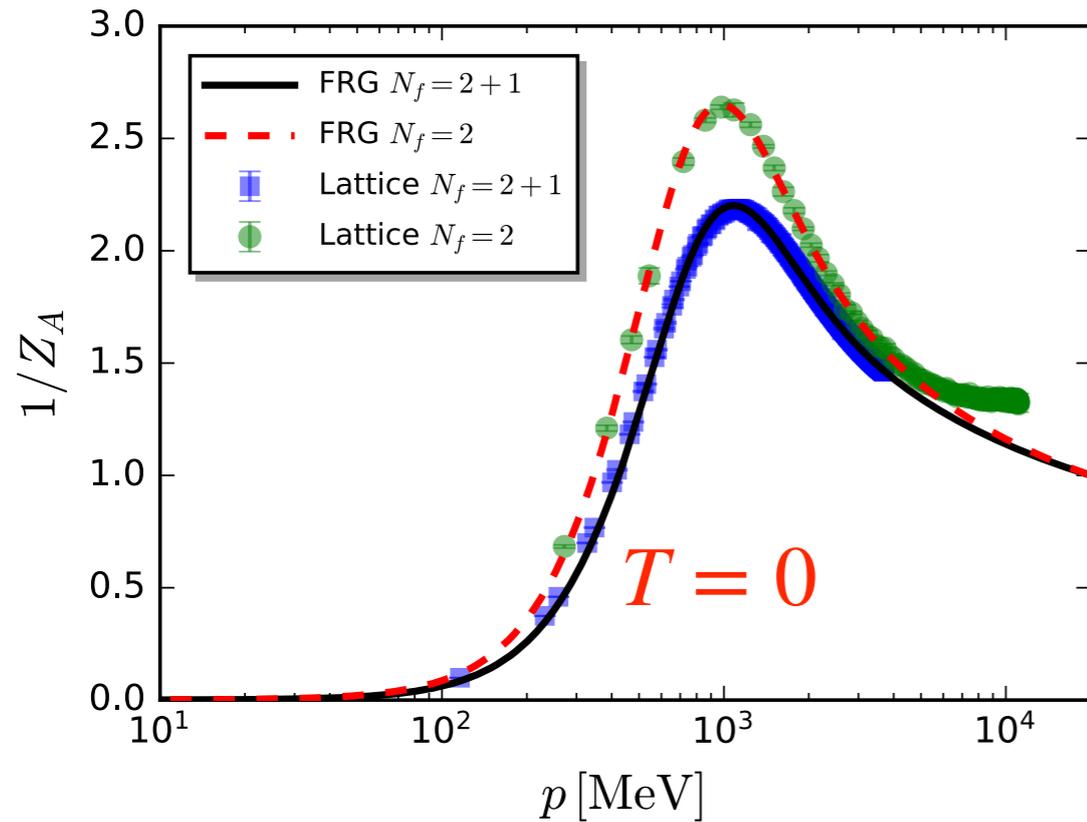
Hadronization function:

$$\dot{A} = -\frac{1}{\bar{h}} \overline{\text{Flow}}_{(\bar{q}\tau q)(\bar{q}\tau q)}^{(4)},$$

four-quark interaction encoded in Yukawa coupling:



# Gluon dressing functions

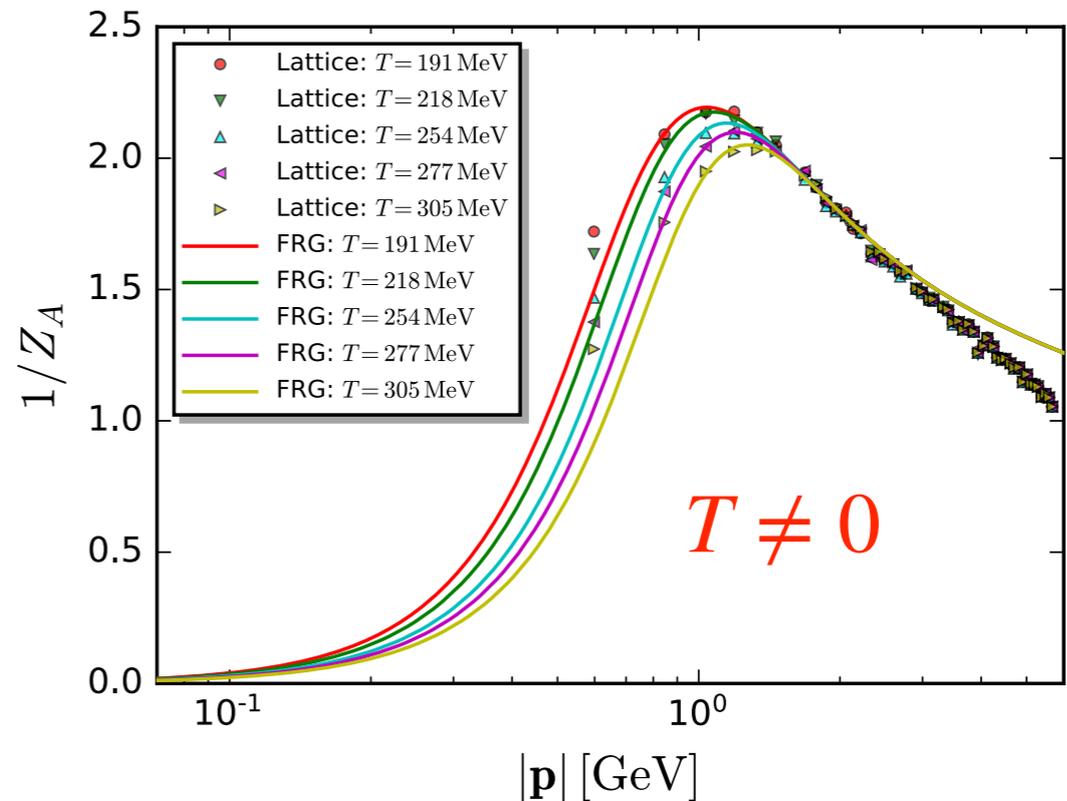


fRG  $N_f = 2$ : Cyrol, Mitter, Pawłowski, Strodthoff, *PRD* 97 (2018) 054006

Lattice  $N_f = 2$ : Sternbeck *et al.*, *PoS* (2012) LATTICE2012, 243

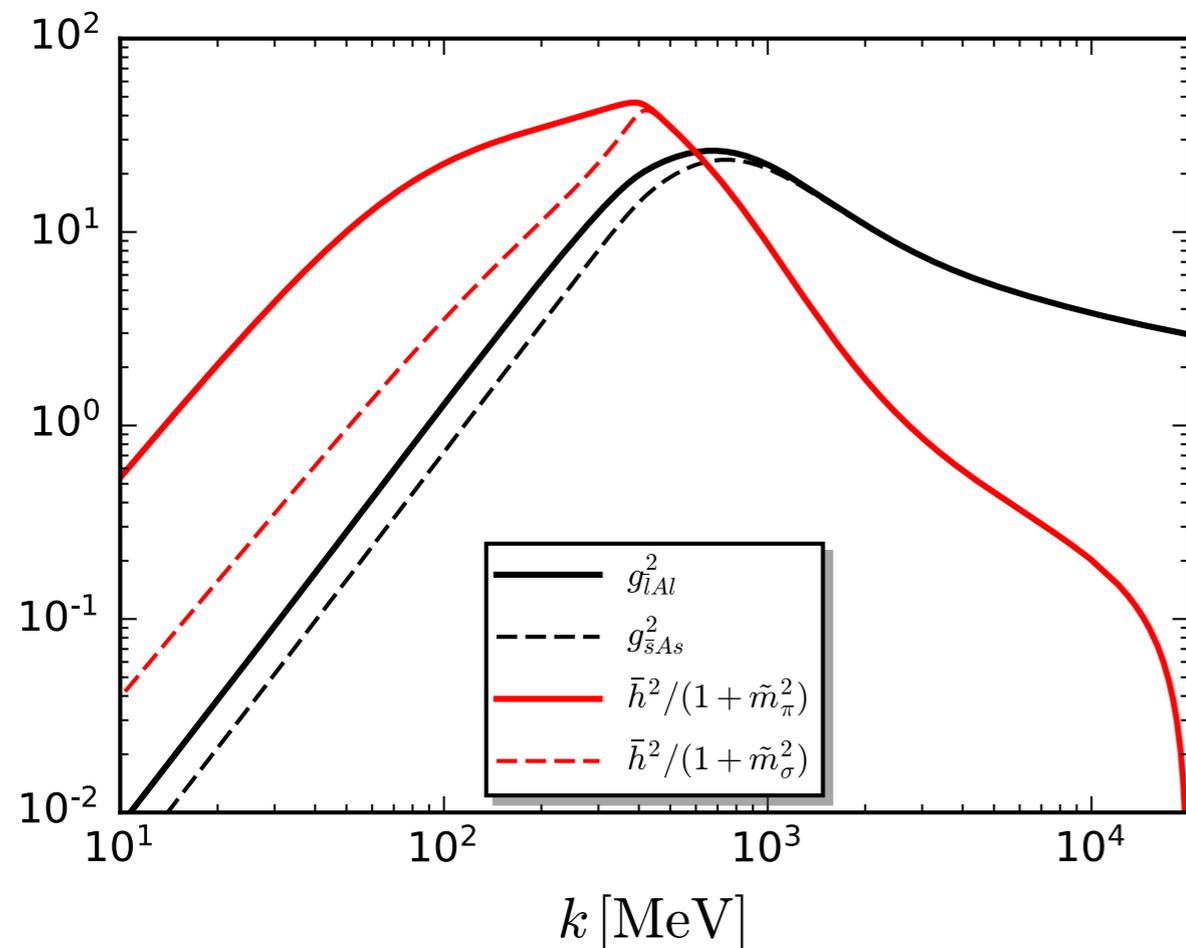
Lattice  $N_f = 2 + 1$ : Boucaud *et al.*, *PRD* 98 (2018) 114515

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032

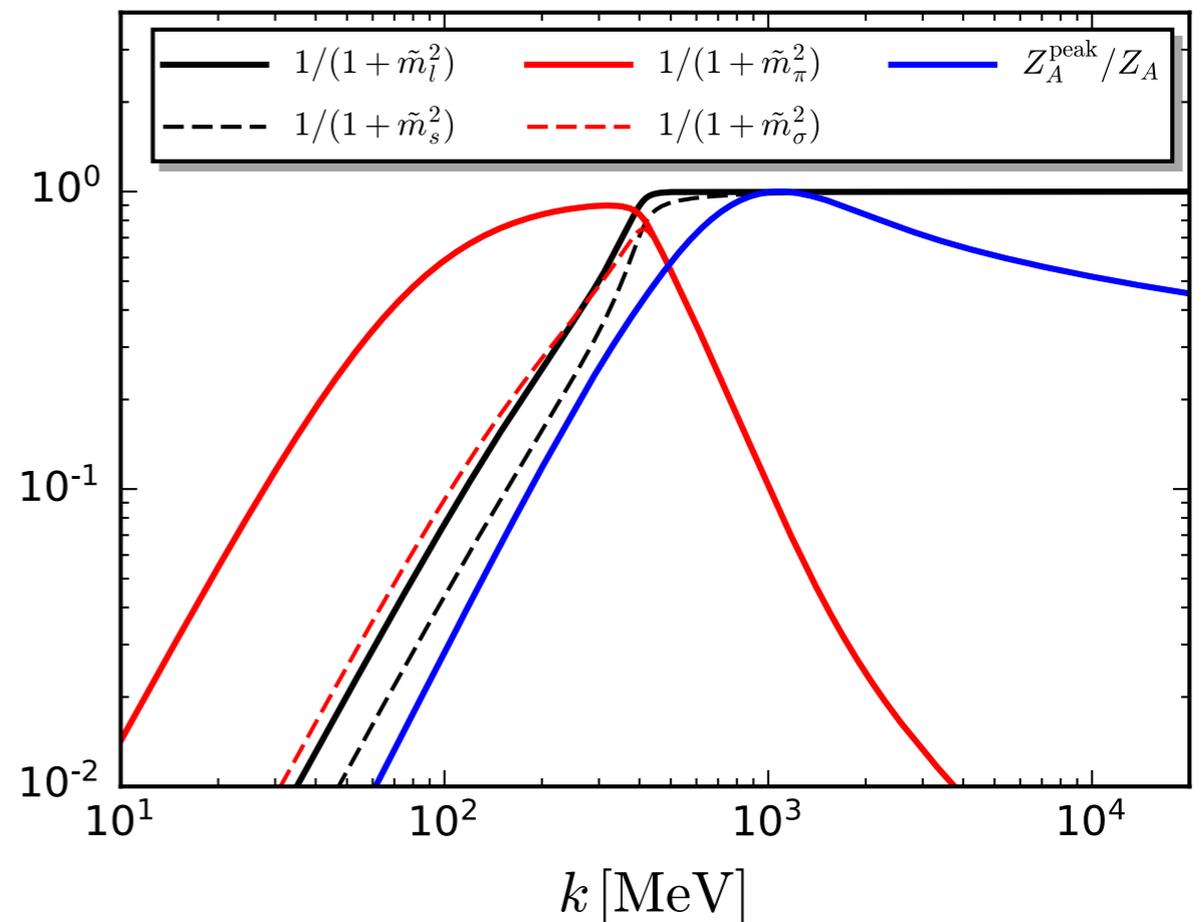


# Natural emergence of LEFTs from QCD

## ● Exchange couplings

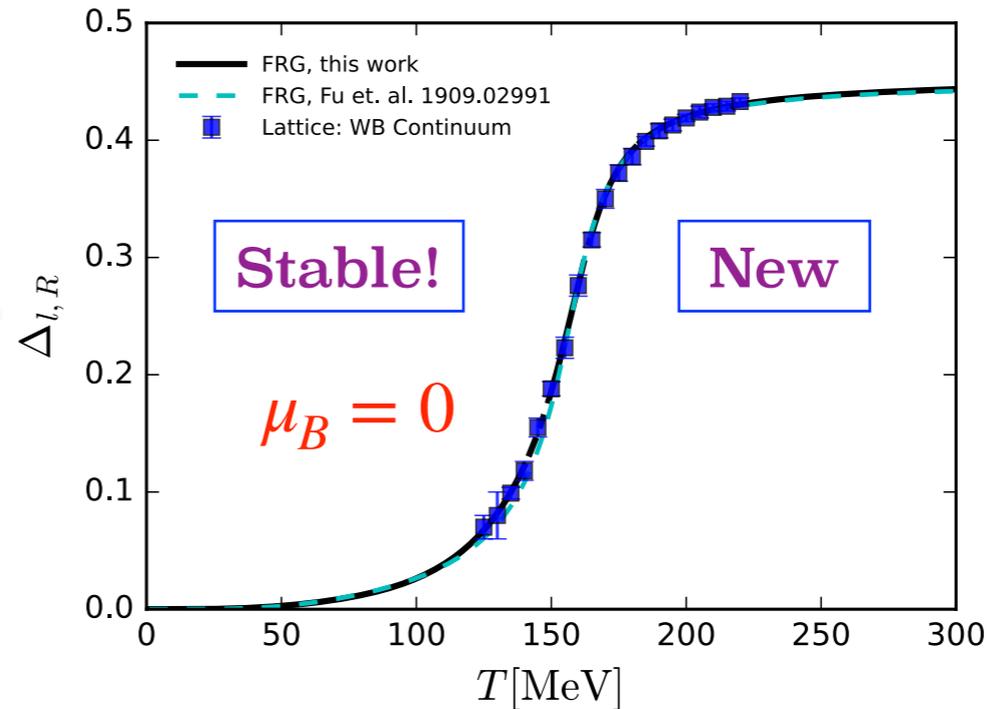
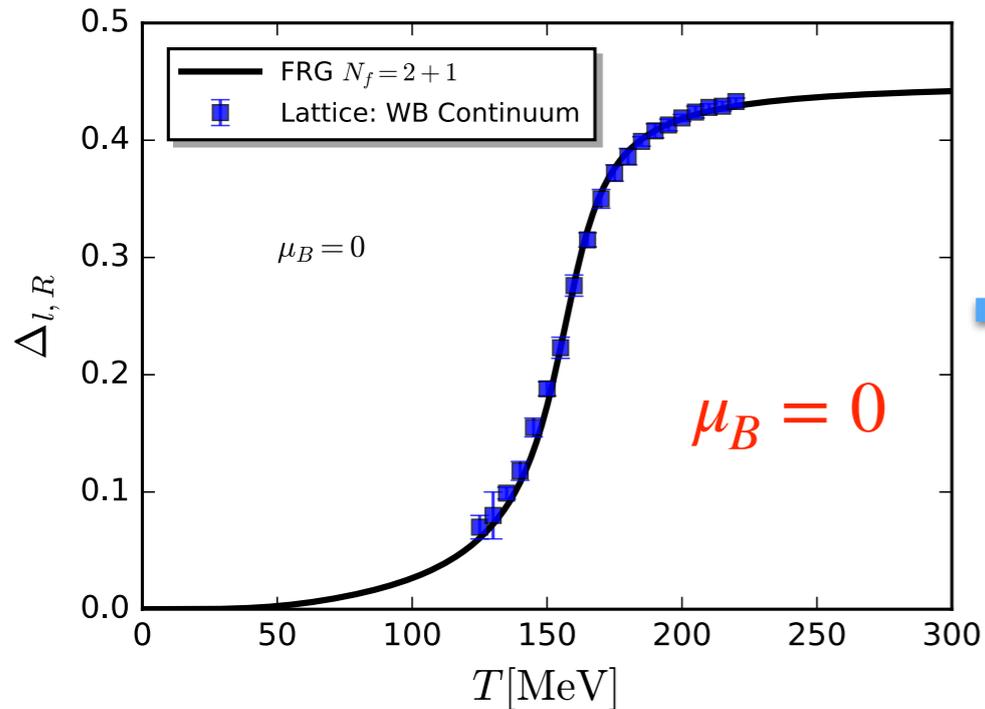


## ● Propagator gapping



- Composite (mesonic) degrees of freedom take over active dynamics from partonic ones when the RG scale is lowered down  $k \lesssim 600 \sim 800 \text{ MeV}$ .
- LEFTs emerge naturally from fundamental theory in the regime of low energy, in agreement with the viewpoint of RG.

# Renormalized light quark condensate

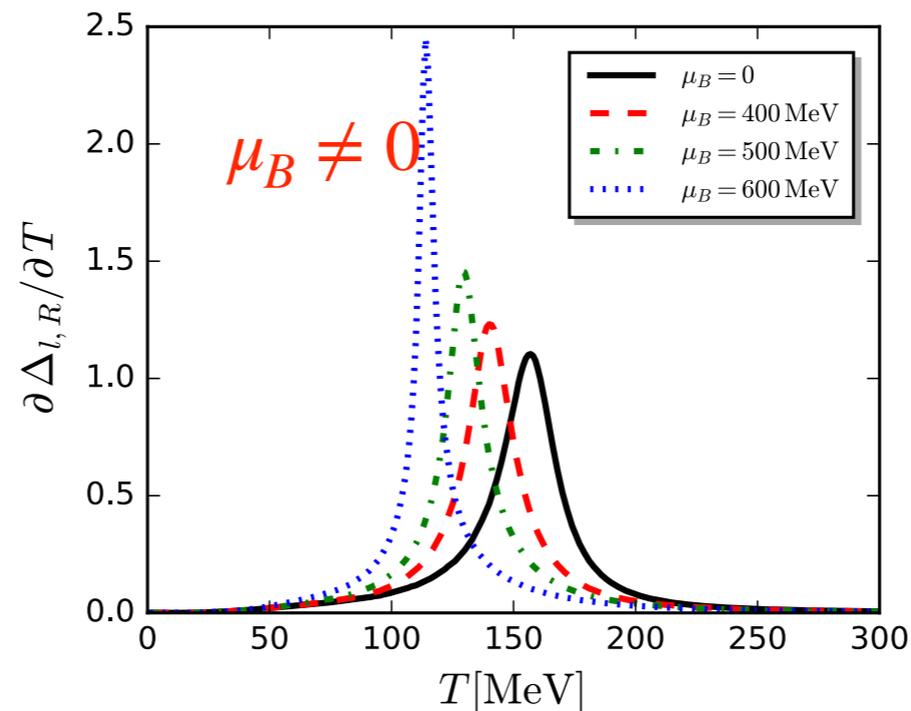
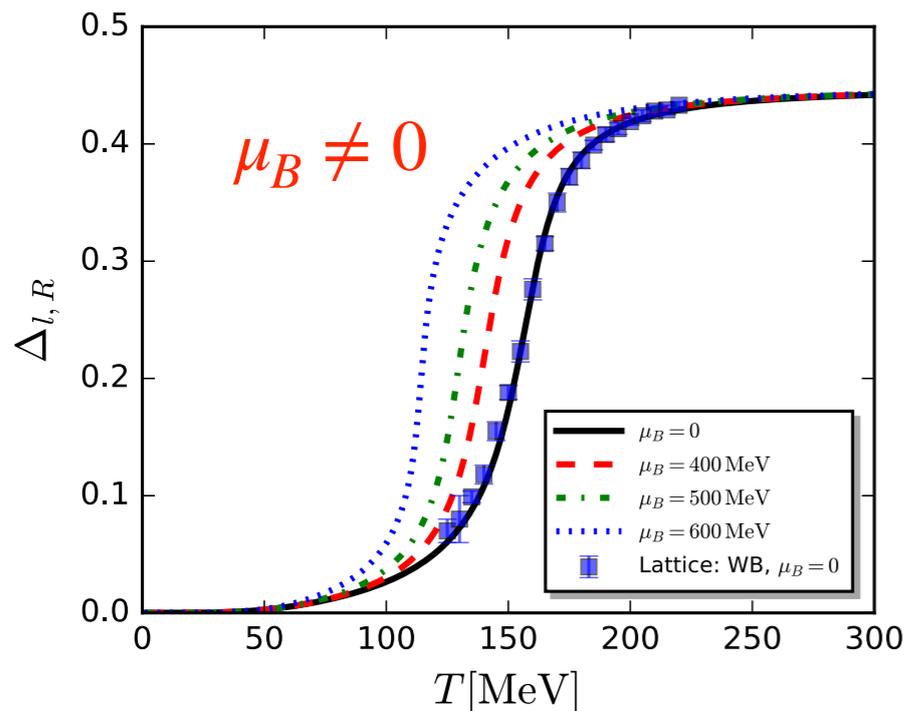


improved truncations for the sector of  $s$  quark and the full mesonic potential of  $N_f = 2+1$ .

Lattice: Borsanyi *et al.* (WB), *JHEP* 09 (2010) 073

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032

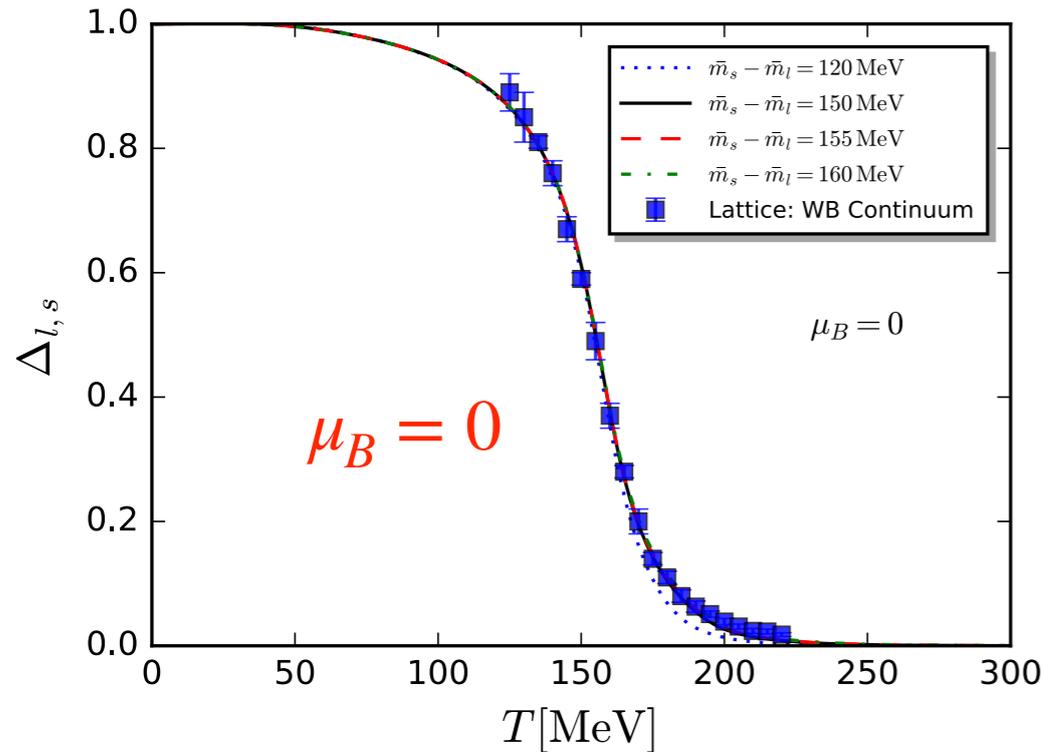


quark condensate:

$$\Delta_{q_i} \simeq -m_{q_i}^0 T \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \text{tr} G_{q_i \bar{q}_i}(q),$$

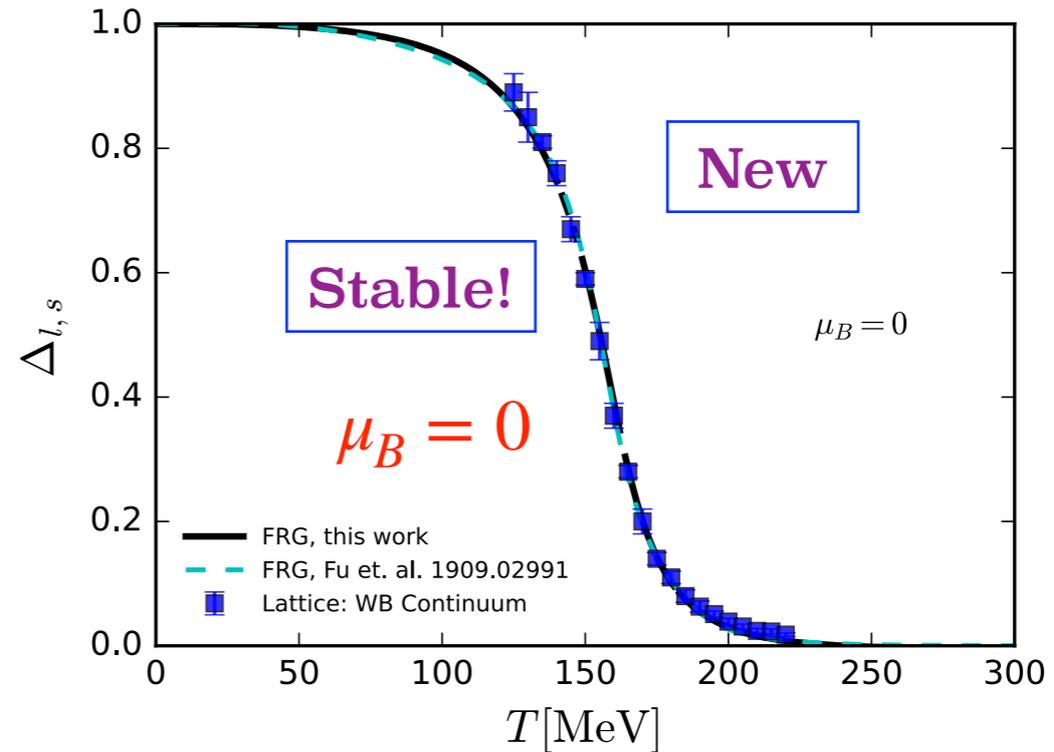
$$\Delta_{q_i,R} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_R} \left[ \Delta_{q_i}(T, \mu_q) - \Delta_{q_i}(0,0) \right].$$

# Other fermionic observables



Lattice: Borsanyi *et al.* (WB), *JHEP* 09 (2010) 073

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032



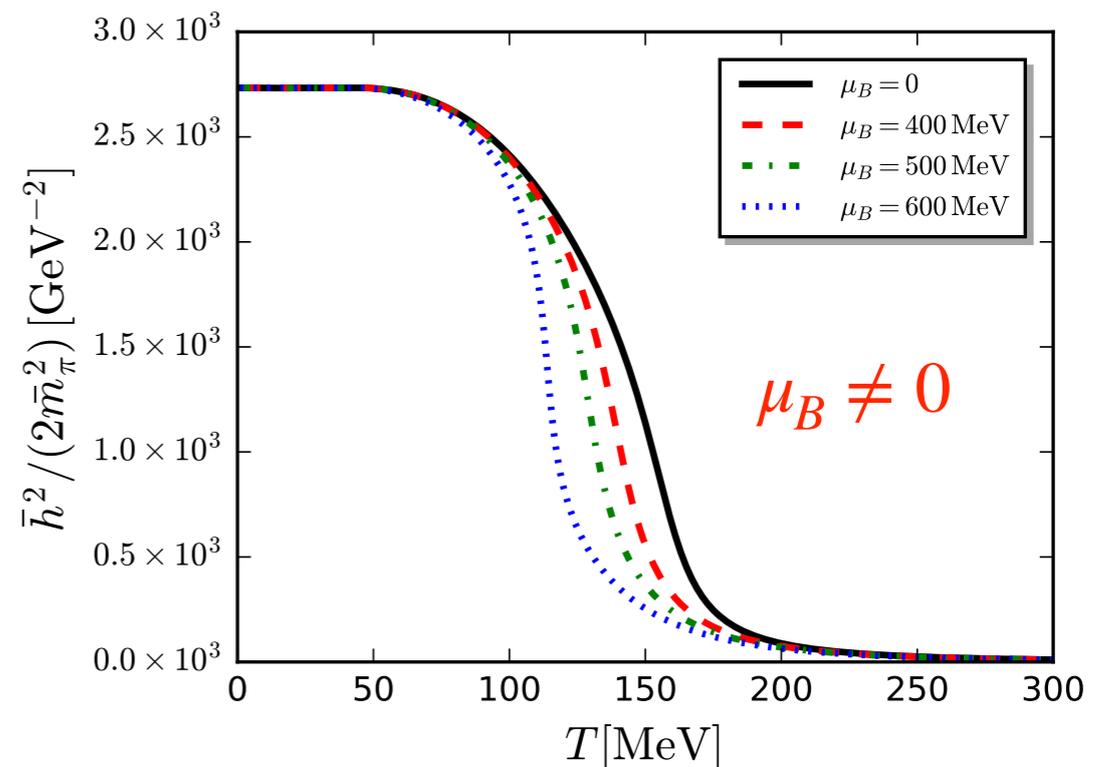
improved truncations for the sector of *s* quark and the full mesonic potential of  $N_f = 2+1$ .

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation

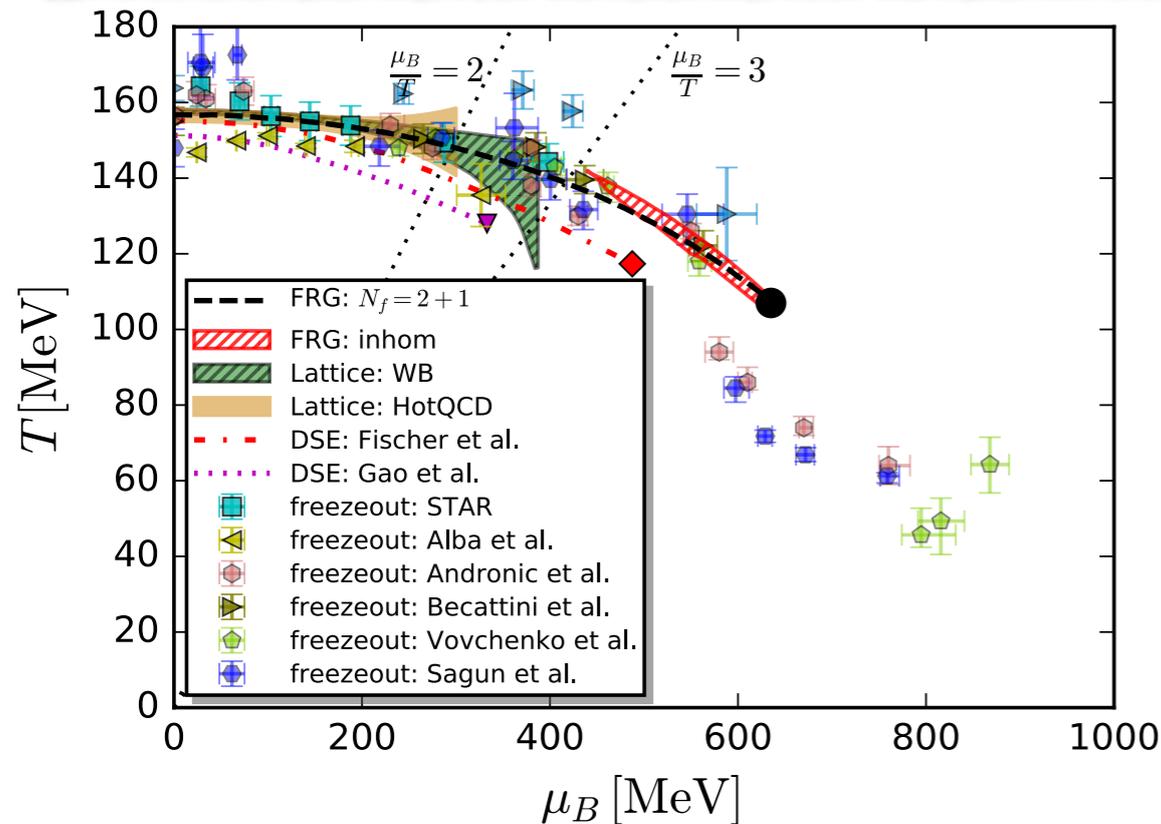
Reduced condensate:

$$\Delta_{l,s}(T, \mu_q) = \frac{\Delta_l(T, \mu_q) - \left(\frac{m_l^0}{m_s^0}\right)^2 \Delta_s(T, \mu_q)}{\Delta_l(0,0) - \left(\frac{m_l^0}{m_s^0}\right)^2 \Delta_s(0,0)}$$

Effective four-quark coupling:



# Phase boundary and curvature



CEP:

$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}})_{N_f=2+1} = (107 \text{ MeV}, 635 \text{ MeV}),$$

$$(T_{\text{CEP}}, \mu_{B_{\text{CEP}}})_{N_f=2} = (117 \text{ MeV}, 630 \text{ MeV}),$$

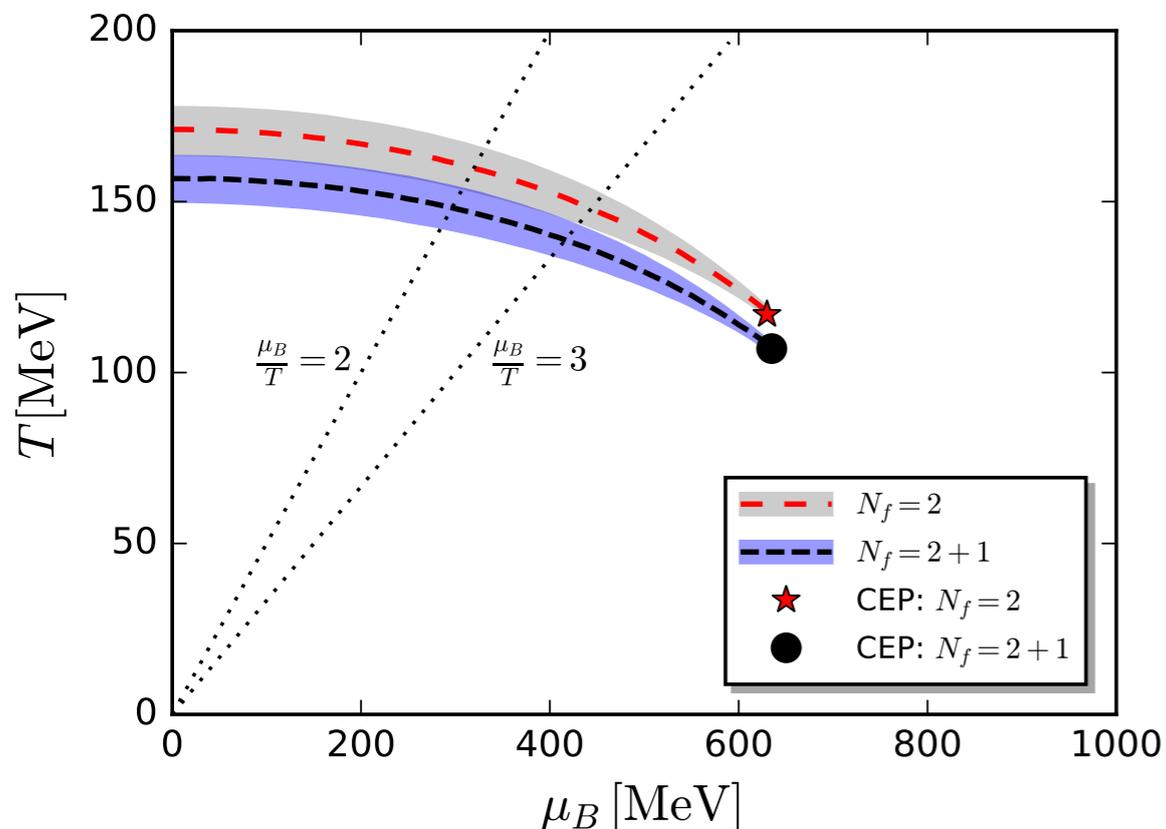
FRG curvature of the phase boundary:

$$\frac{T_c(\mu_B)}{T_c} = 1 - \kappa \left( \frac{\mu_B}{T_c} \right)^2 + \lambda \left( \frac{\mu_B}{T_c} \right)^4 + \dots,$$

$$\kappa_{N_f=2+1} = 0.0142(2)$$

$$\kappa_{N_f=2} = 0.0176(1)$$

FRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032



Lattice result:

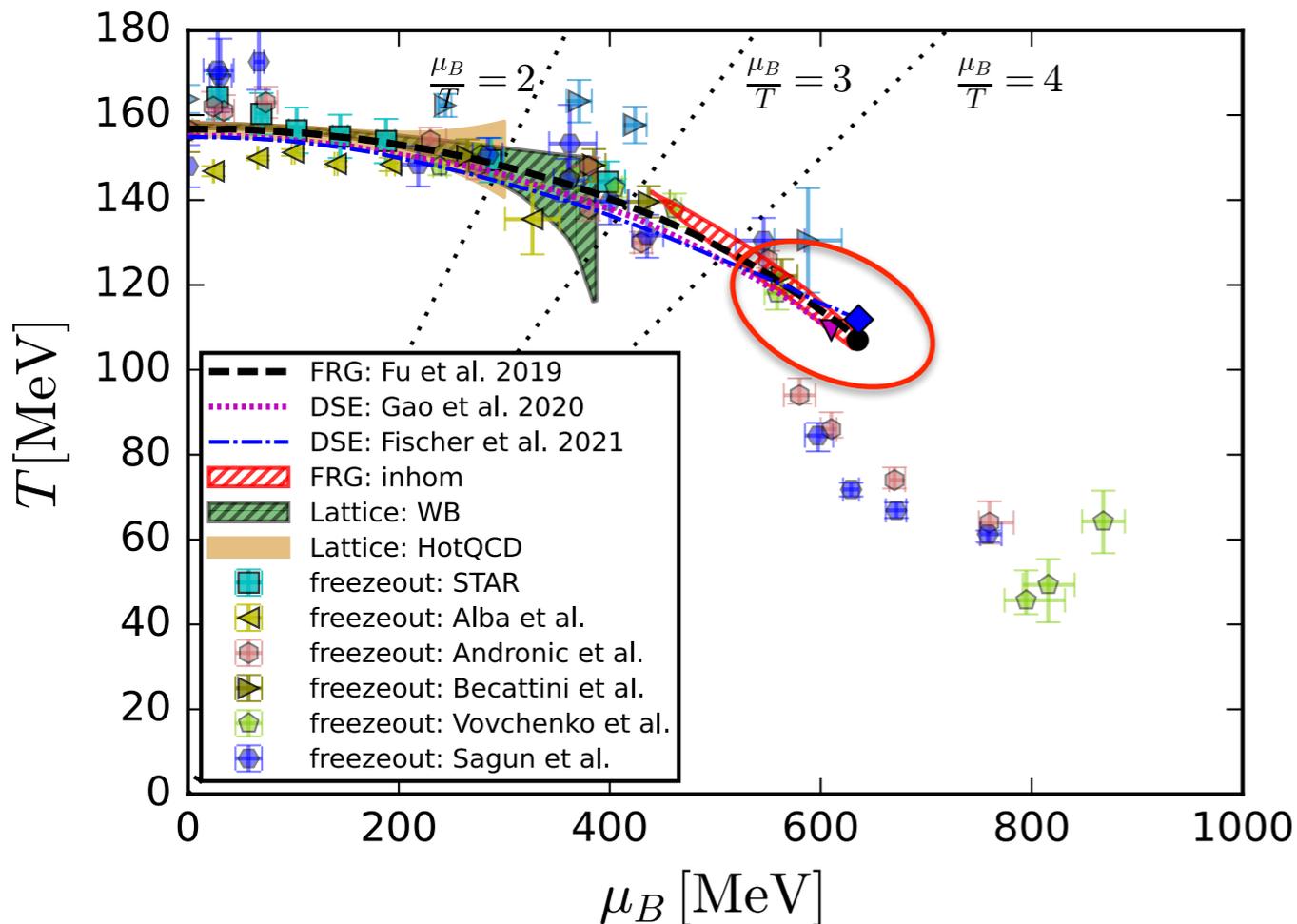
$$\kappa = 0.0149 \pm 0.0021$$

Lattice: Bellwied *et al.* (WB), *PLB* 751 (2015) 559

$$\kappa = 0.015 \pm 0.004$$

Lattice: Bazavov *et al.* (HotQCD), *PLB* 795 (2019) 15

# CEP from functional QCD



Prediction of location of CEP from functional QCD in literature

fRG:

●  $(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (107, 635)\text{MeV}$

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020), 054032

DSE:

▼  $(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (109, 610)\text{MeV}$

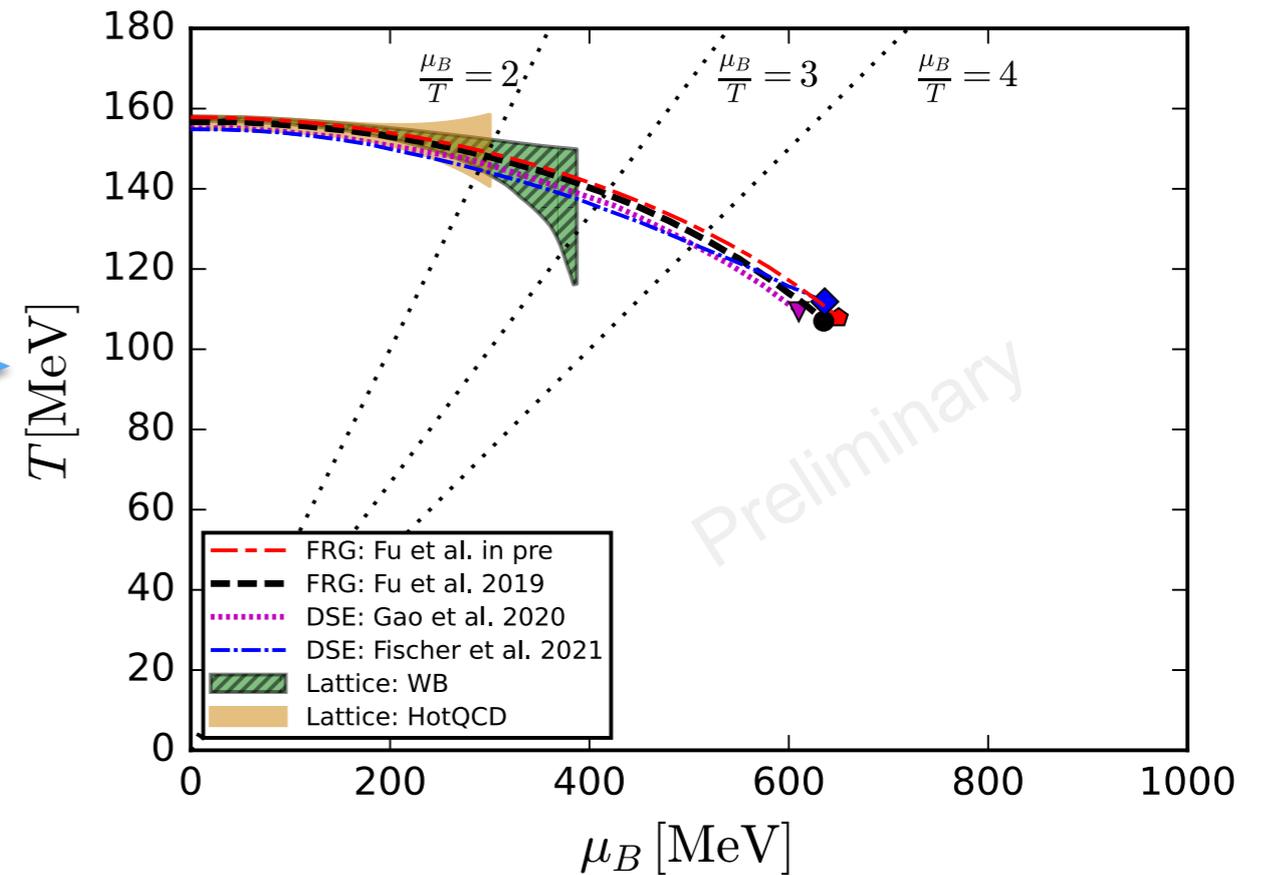
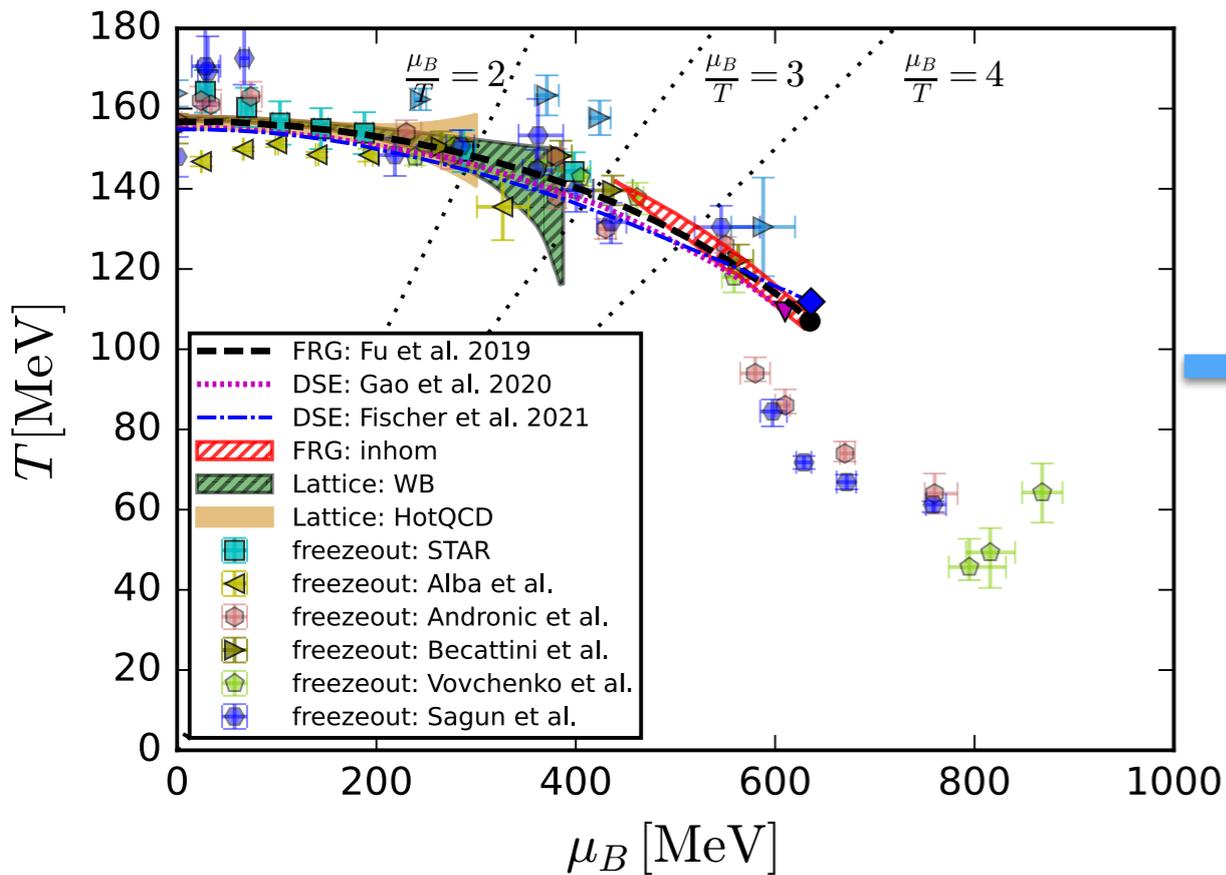
DSE (fRG): Gao, Pawłowski, *PLB* 820 (2021) 136584

◆  $(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (112, 636)\text{MeV}$

DSE: Gunkel, Fischer, *PRD* 104 (2021) 5, 054022

- No CEP observed in  $\mu_B/T \lesssim 2 \sim 3$  from lattice QCD. Karsch, *PoS CORFU2018* (2019)163
- Recent studies of QCD phase structure from both fRG and DSE have shown convergent estimate for the location of CEP.
- Considering relatively larger errors when  $\mu_B/T \gtrsim 4$ , one arrives at a reasonable estimation :  $450 \text{ MeV} \lesssim \mu_{B\text{CEP}} \lesssim 650 \text{ MeV}$ .

# Update: CEP from functional QCD



## fRG:

◆  $(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (108, 650)\text{MeV}$

improved truncations for the sector of  $s$  quark and the full mesonic potential of  $N_f = 2+1$ .

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation

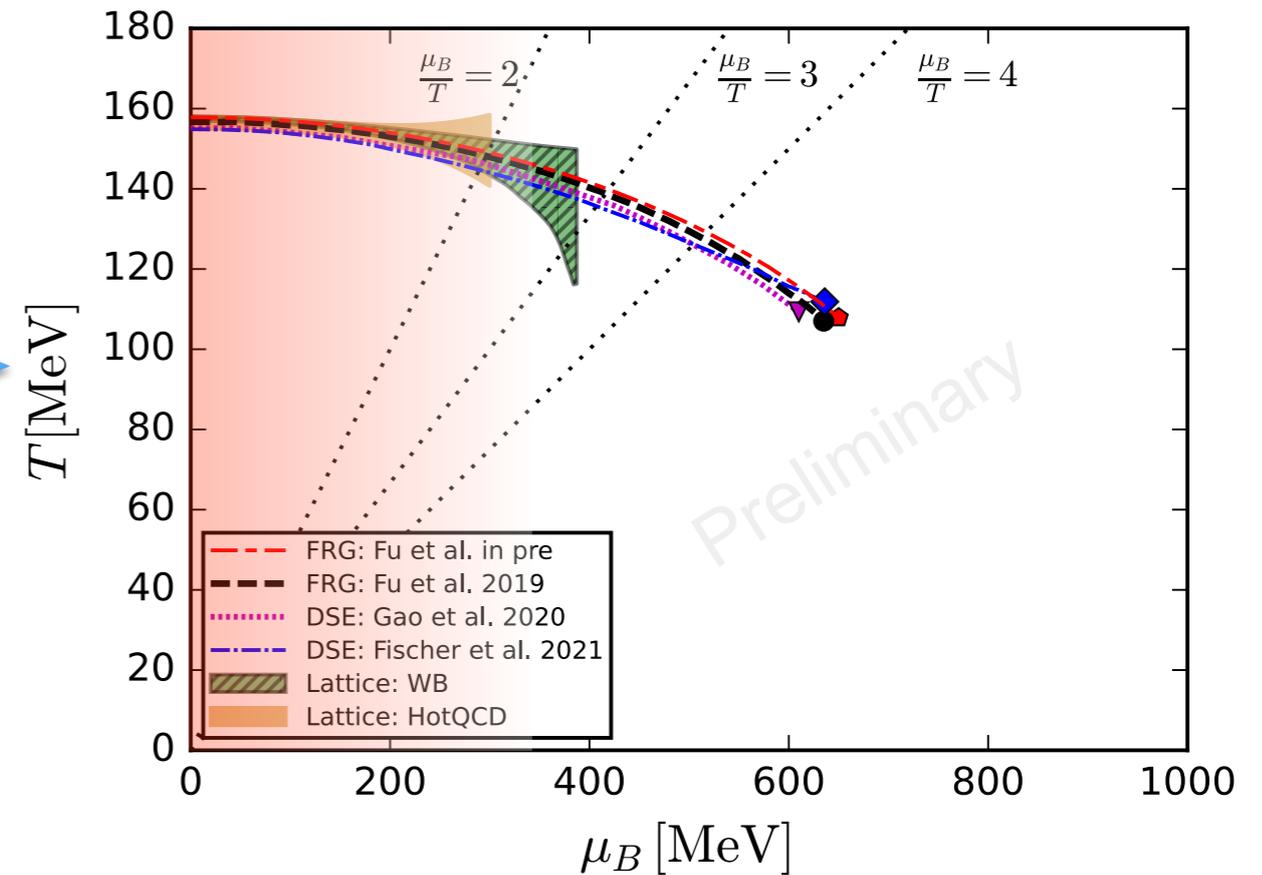
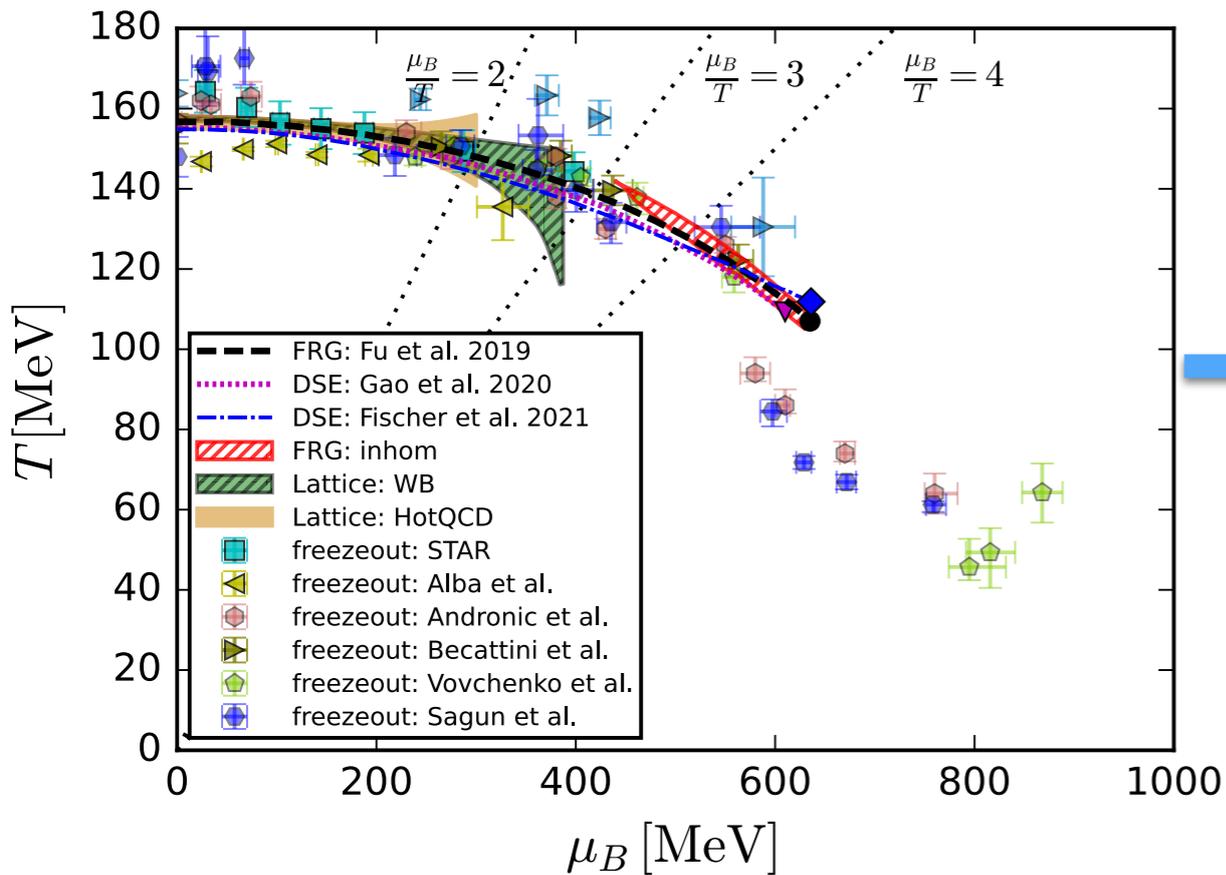
## DSE:

$(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (110, 610)\text{MeV}$  (preliminary)

Effects of thermal splitting on the location of CEP is small.

DSE: Gao, Schneider, Pawłowski, private communications.

# Update: CEP from functional QCD



## fRG:

$(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (108, 650)\text{MeV}$

improved truncations for the sector of  $s$  quark and the full mesonic potential of  $N_f = 2+1$ .

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation

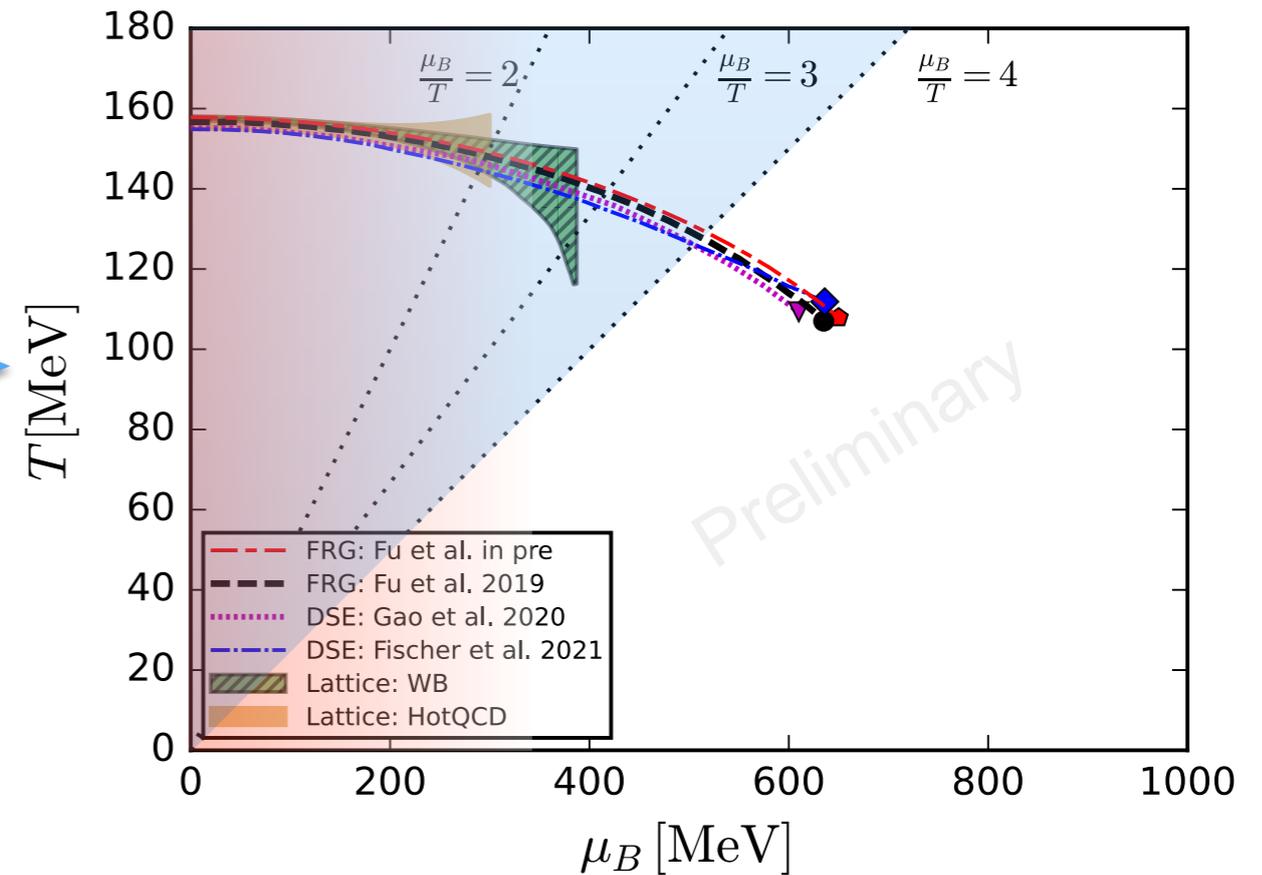
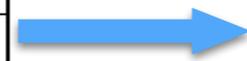
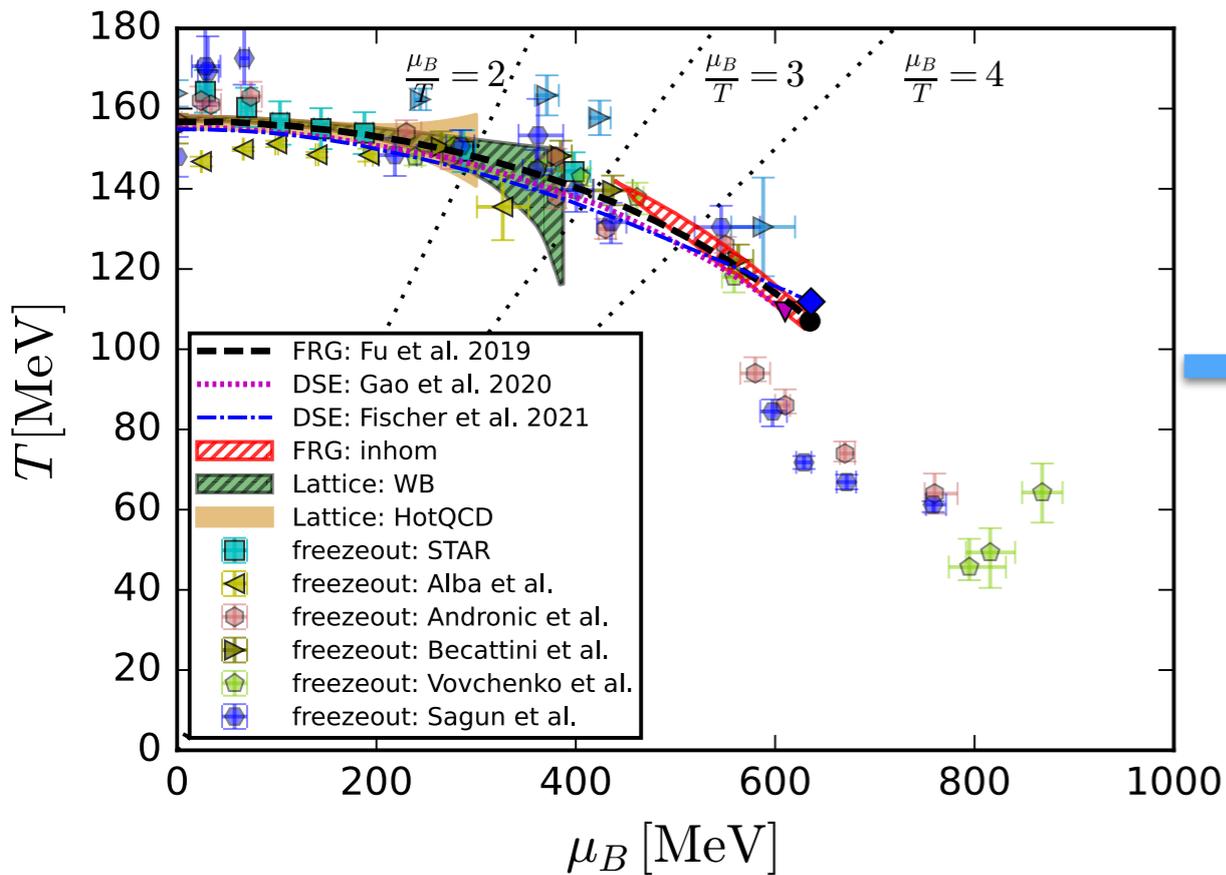
## DSE:

$(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (110, 610)\text{MeV}$  (preliminary)

Effects of thermal splitting on the location of CEP is small.

DSE: Gao, Schneider, Pawłowski, private communications.

# Update: CEP from functional QCD



**fRG:**

**⬠**  $(T, \mu_B)_{\text{CEP}} = (108, 650)\text{MeV}$

improved truncations for the sector of *s* quark and the full mesonic potential of  $N_f = 2+1$ .

fRG: WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation

**DSE:**

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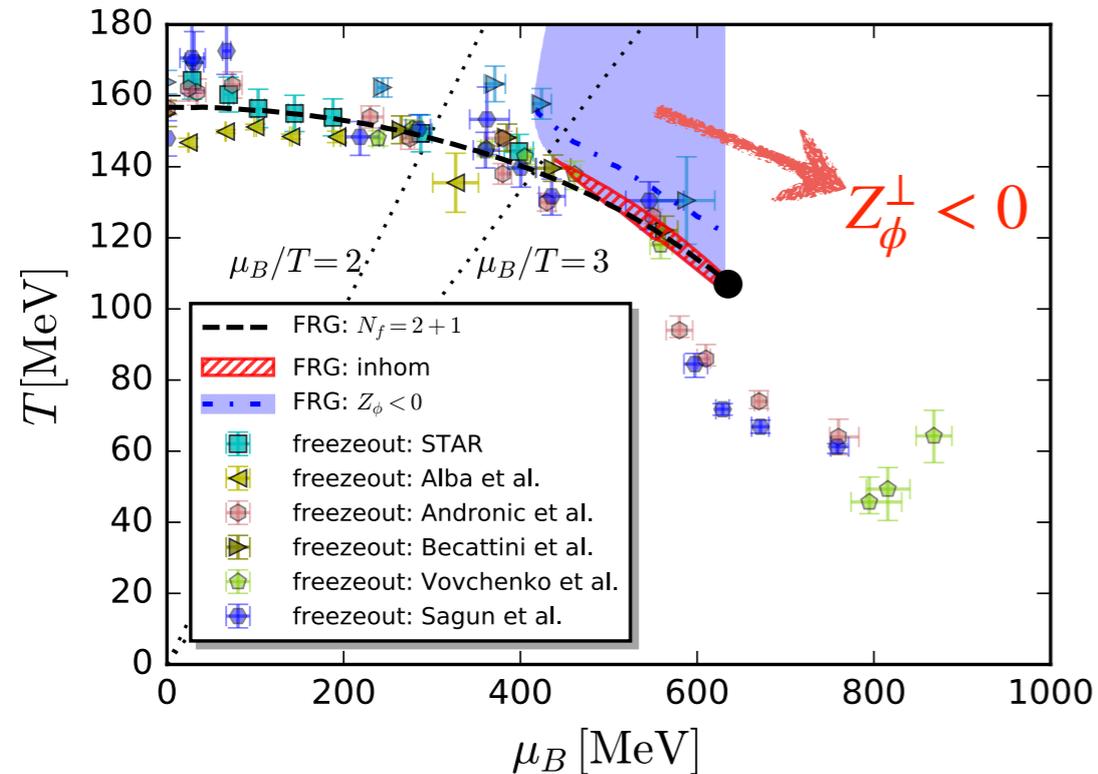


Passing lattice benchmark tests at vanishing  $\mu_B$ .



Regime of reliability of current best truncation.

# Inhomogeneous instabilities in QCD phase diagram



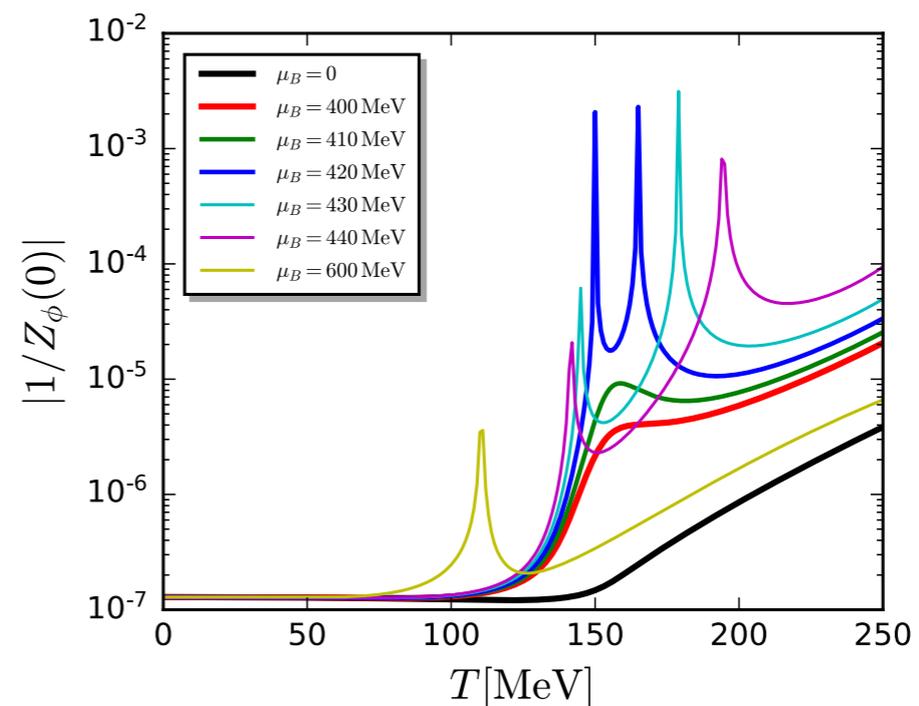
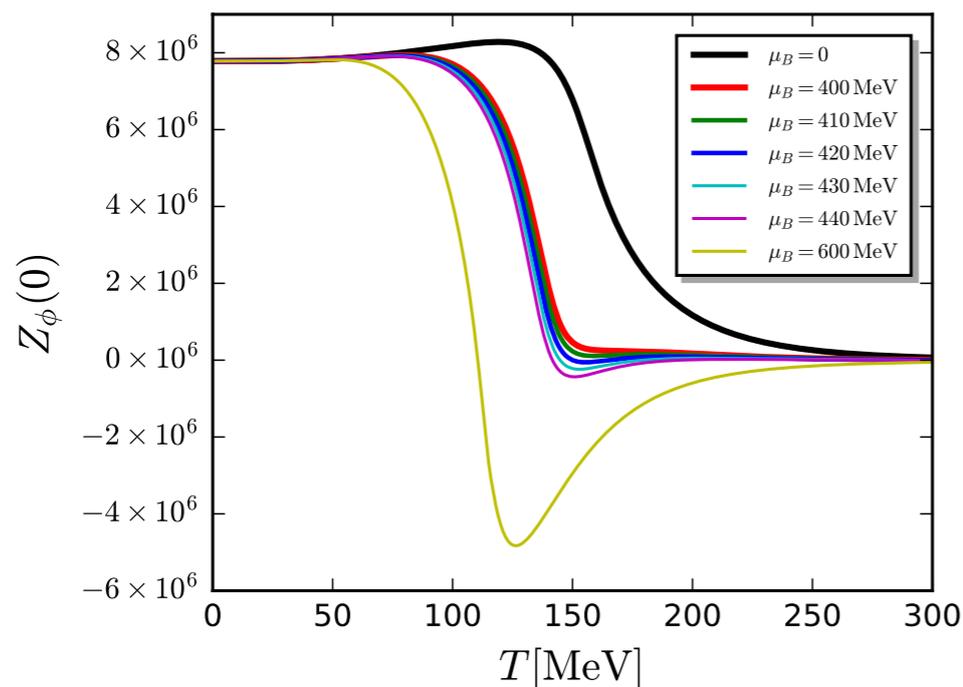
Mesonic two-point correlation function:

$$\Gamma_{\phi\phi}^{(2)}(p) = [Z_\phi^\parallel(p_0, \mathbf{p}) p_0^2 + Z_\phi^\perp(p_0, \mathbf{p}) \mathbf{p}^2] + m_\phi^2$$

with

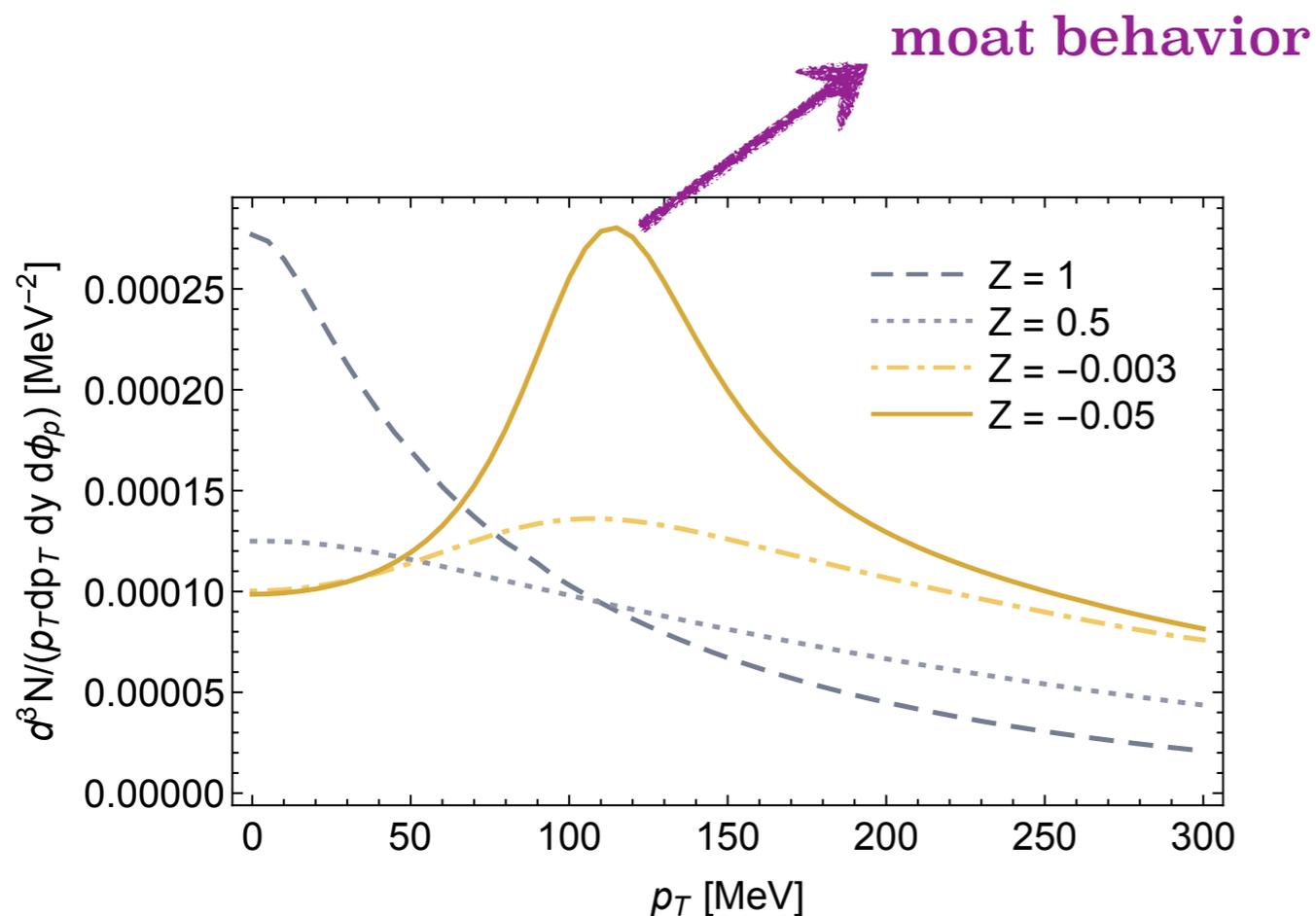
$$\Gamma_{\phi\phi,k}^{(2)} = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k[\Phi]}{\delta\phi\delta\phi} \Big|_{\Phi=\Phi_{\text{EoM}}}$$

WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020) 054032



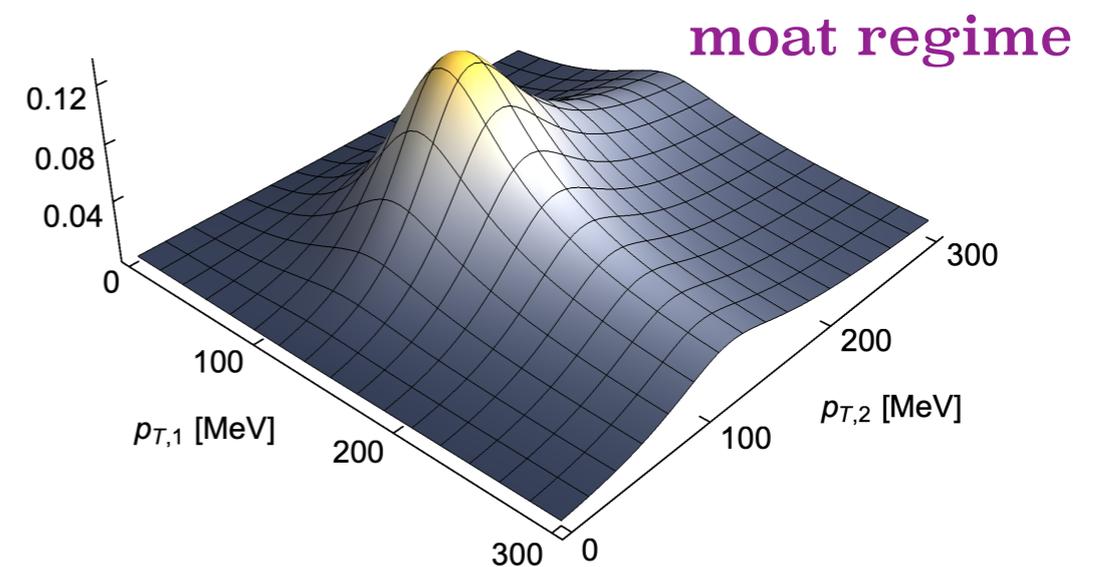
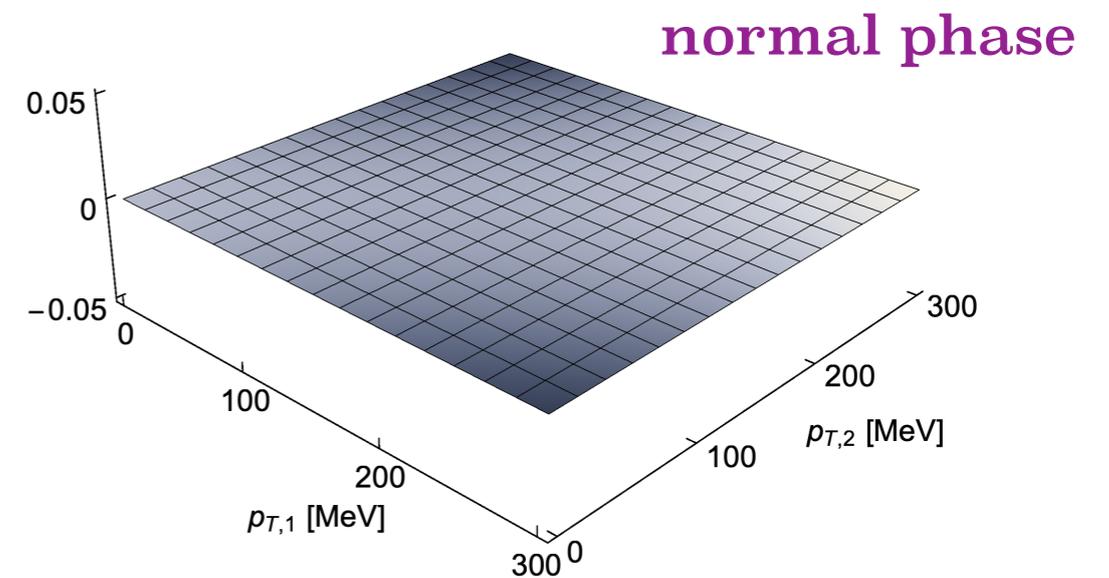
# Signature of inhomogeneous instability in heavy-ion collisions—“moat” spectrum

- transverse momentum spectrum of one particle:



Pisarski, Rennecke, *PRL* 127 (2021) 152302;  
Rennecke, Pisarski, arXiv:2110.02625

- two-particle correlation:

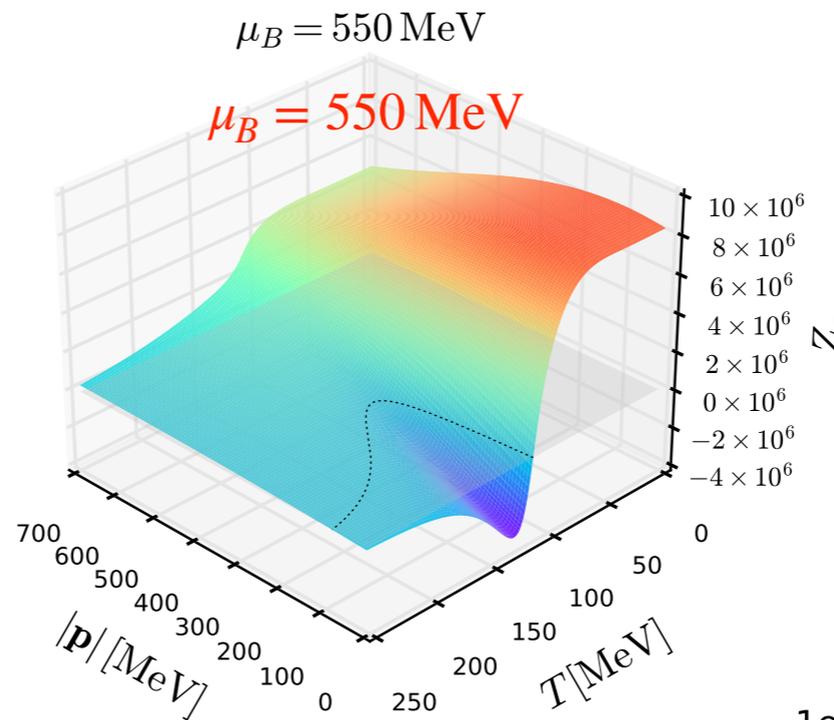
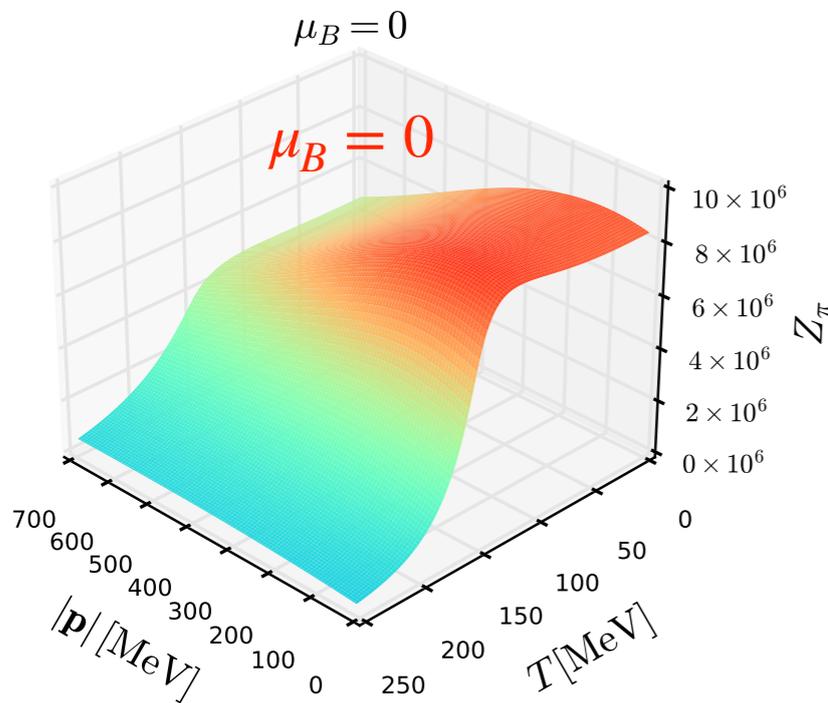


$$\Delta n_{12} = \left\langle \left( \frac{d^3 N}{d\mathbf{p}^3} \right)^2 \right\rangle_c / \left\langle \frac{d^3 N}{d\mathbf{p}^3} \right\rangle^2$$

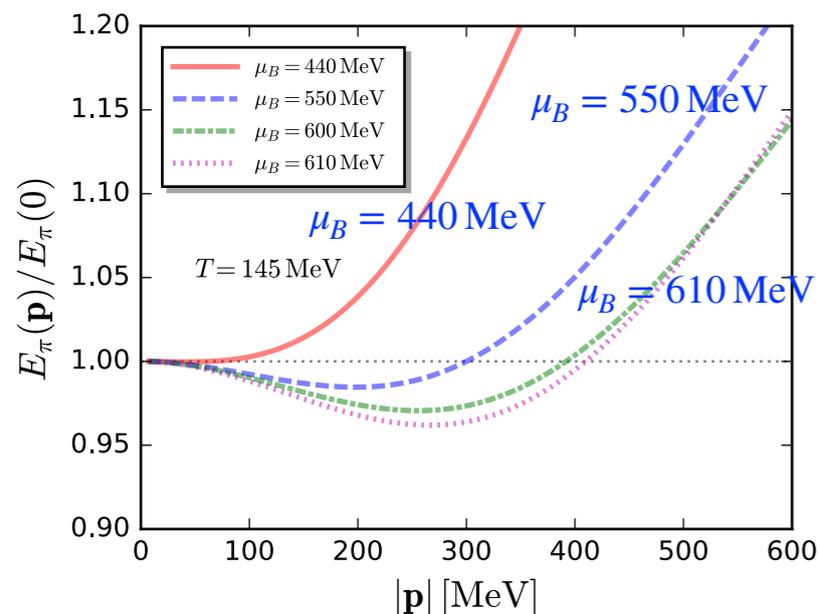
# Momentum-dependent mesonic wave function

Flow equation for mesonic two-point functions:

$$\partial_t \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \tilde{\partial}_t \left( \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} + \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} + \frac{1}{2} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \right)$$



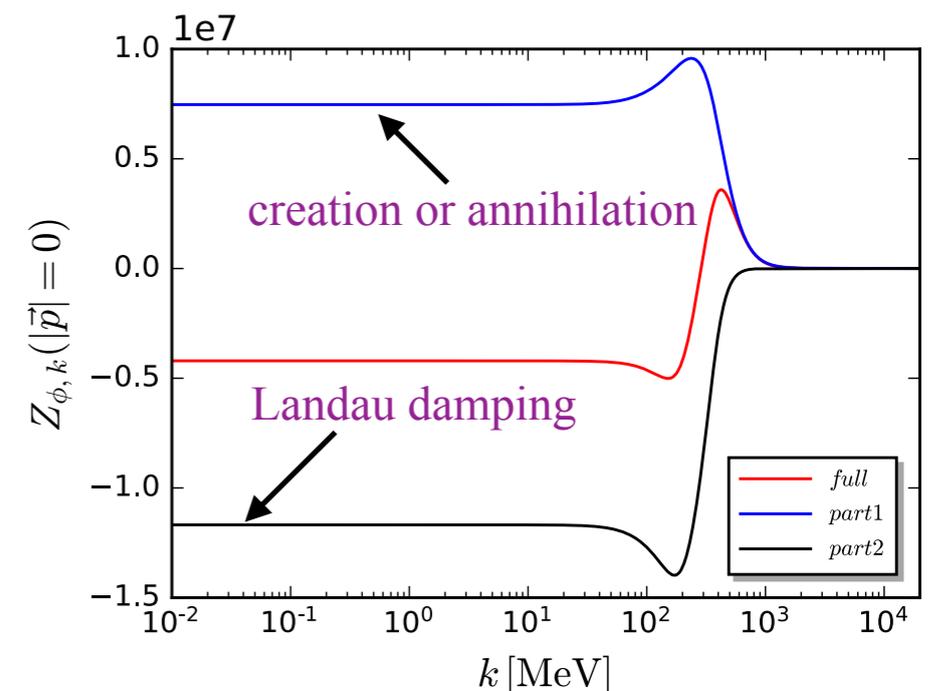
- Inhomogeneous instability is resulted from **Landau damping** of two quarks in thermal bath in the regime of large baryon chemical potential.



Dispersion relation:

$$E_\phi(\mathbf{p}) = \left[ Z_\phi^\perp(\mathbf{p}) \mathbf{p}^2 + m_\phi^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation.

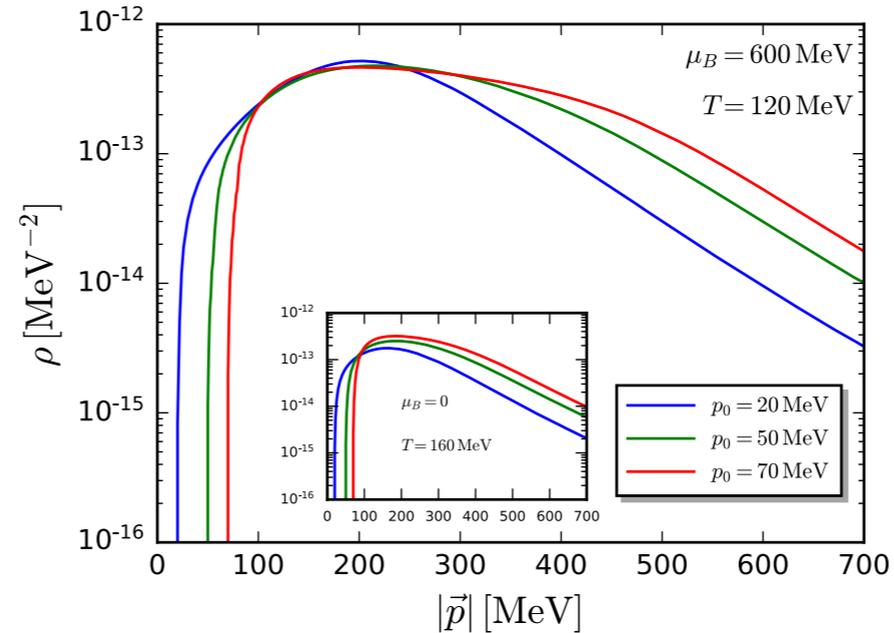


# Real-time mesonic two-point functions

Analytic continuation on the flow equation:

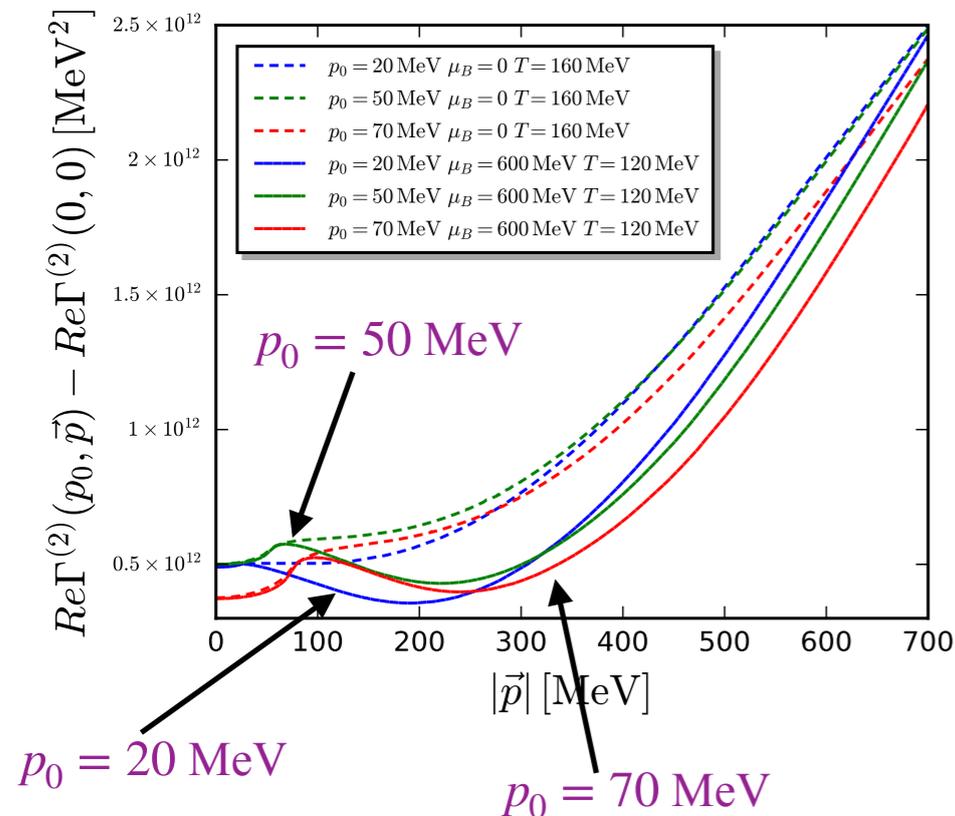
$$\Gamma_{\phi\phi,R}^{(2)}(\omega, \mathbf{p}) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \Gamma_{\phi\phi}^{(2)}(-i(\omega + i\epsilon), \mathbf{p})$$

**Note: not on data!**

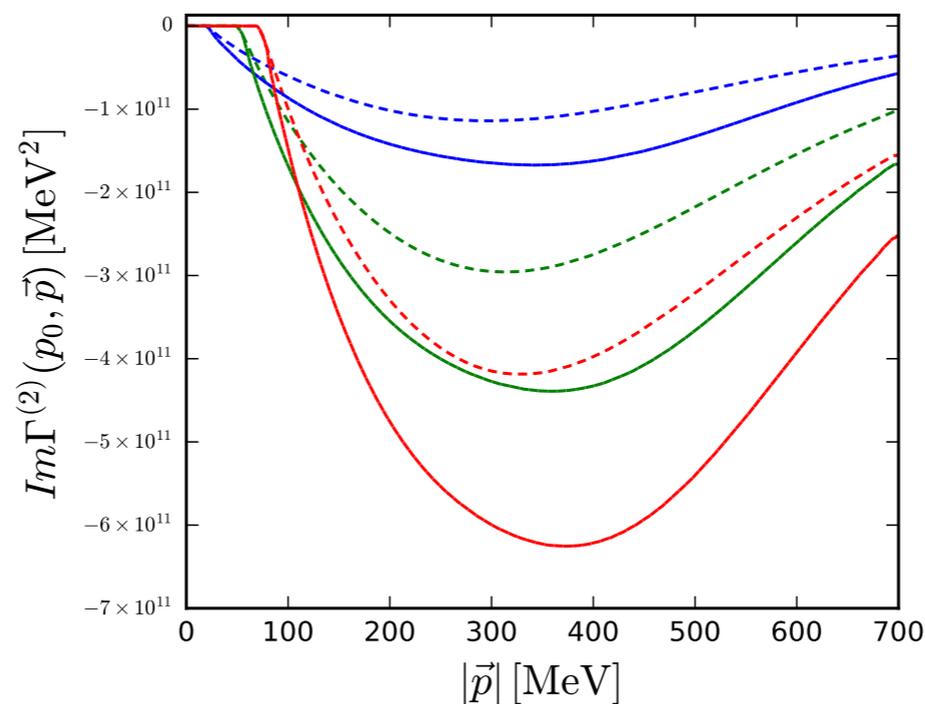


Spectral function

Real part of  $\Gamma_{\phi\phi,R}^{(2)}(p_0, \mathbf{p})$ :



Imaginary part of  $\Gamma_{\phi\phi,R}^{(2)}(p_0, \mathbf{p})$ :

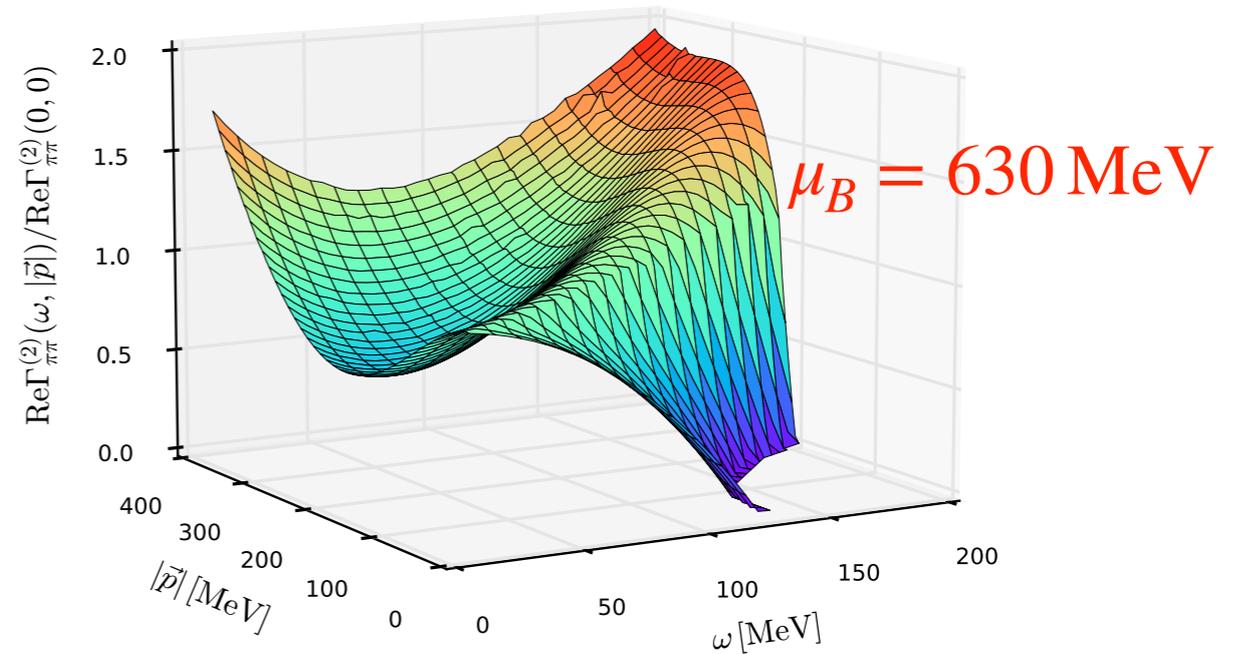
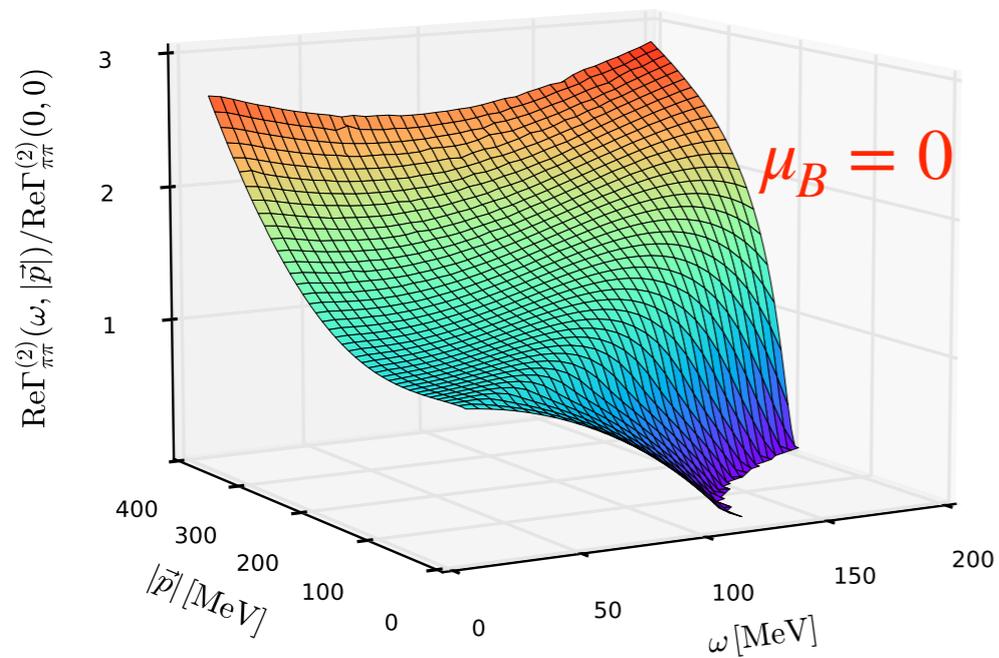


- Imaginary part of the mesonic two-point functions and spectral function are enhanced by the Landau damping effect

WF, Pawlowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation.

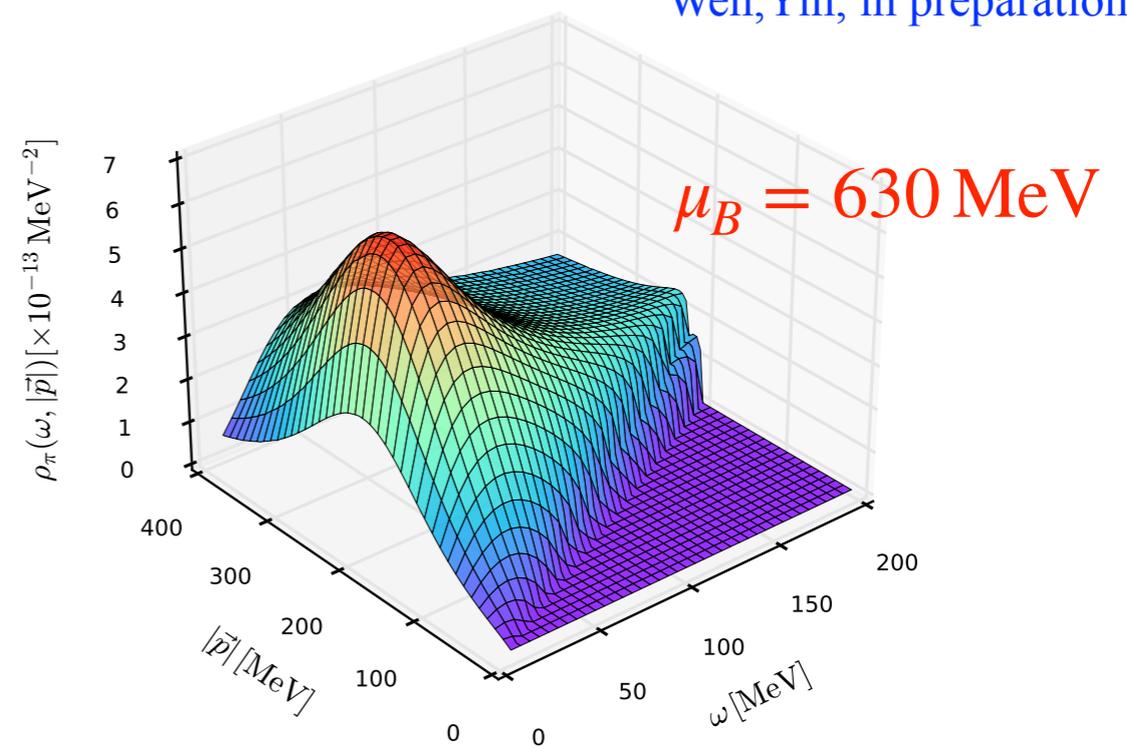
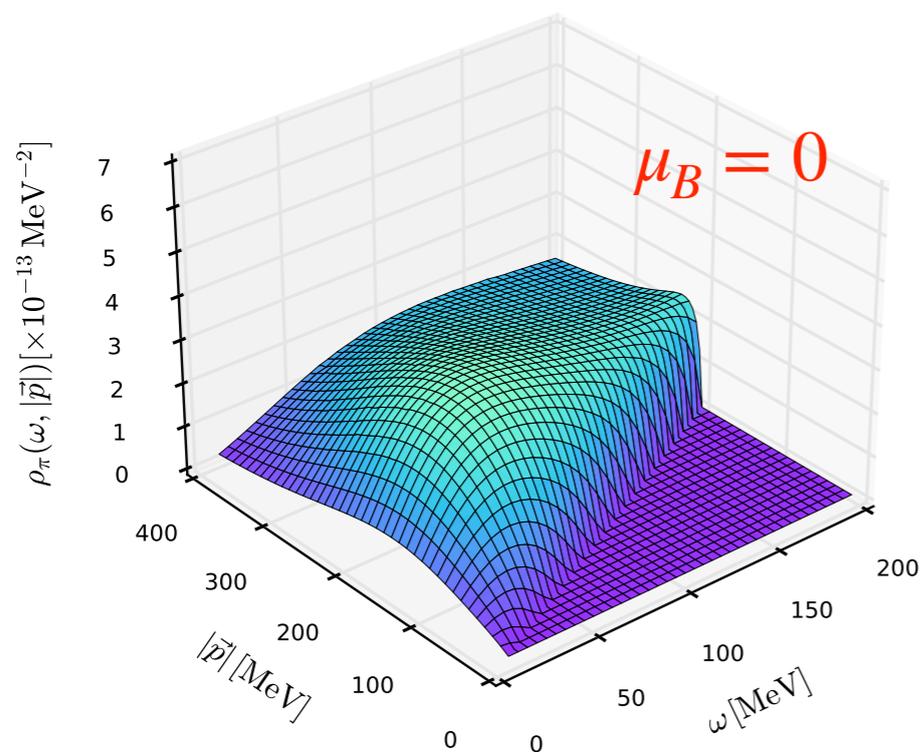
# Real-time mesonic two-point functions

Real part:



Spectral function:

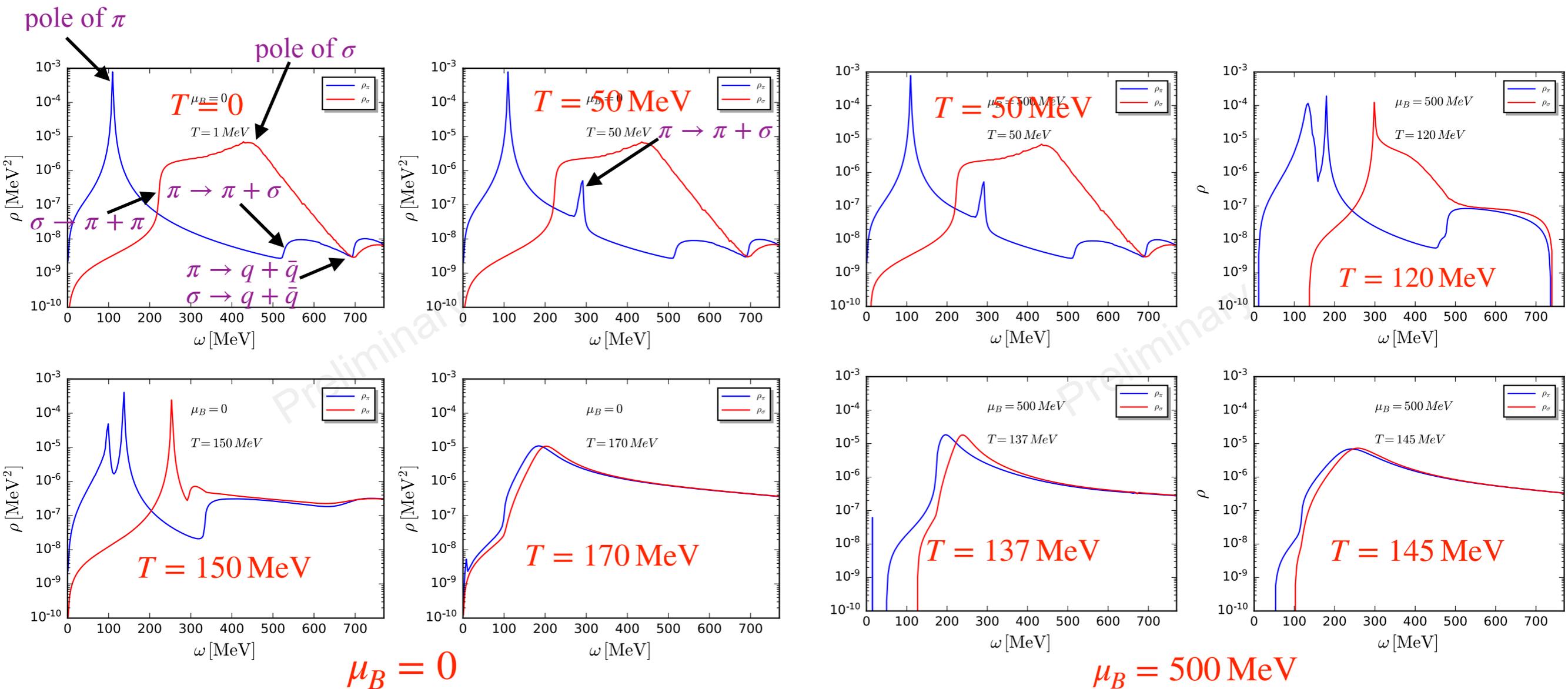
WF, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, in preparation



# Spectral functions for mesons

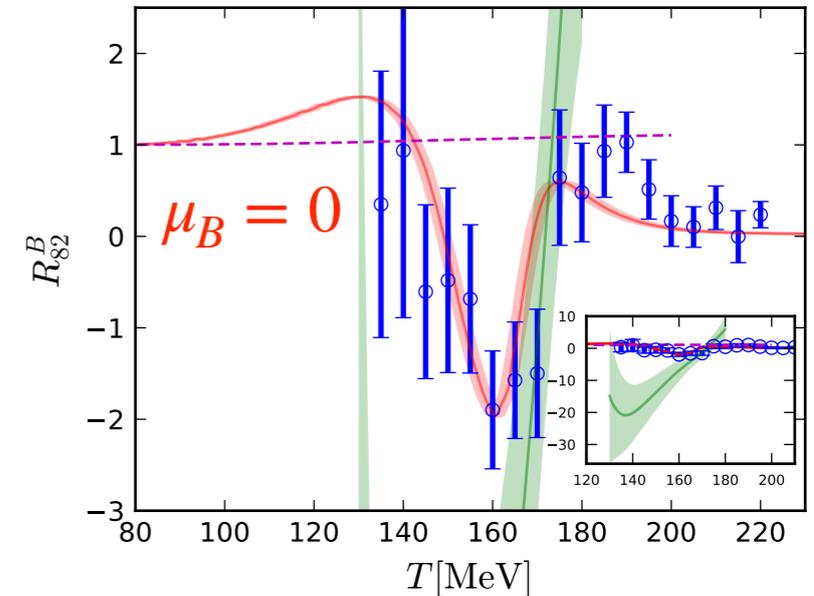
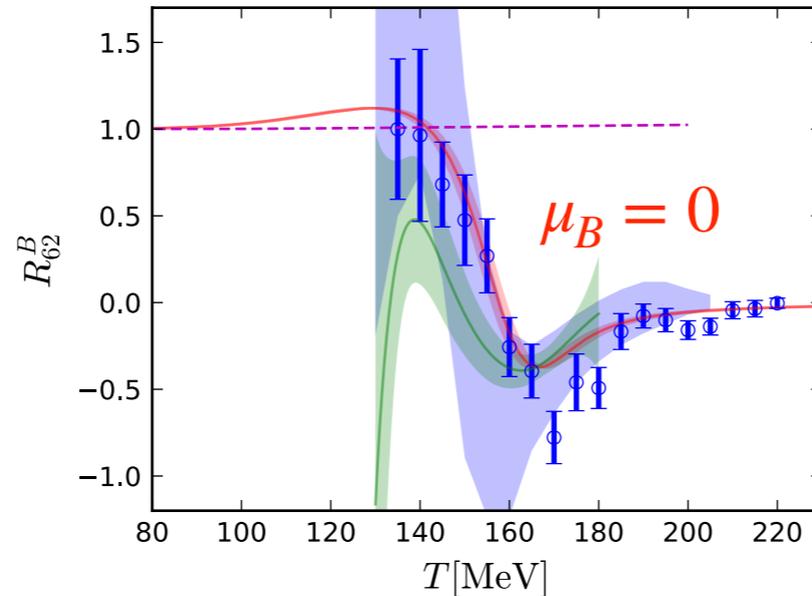
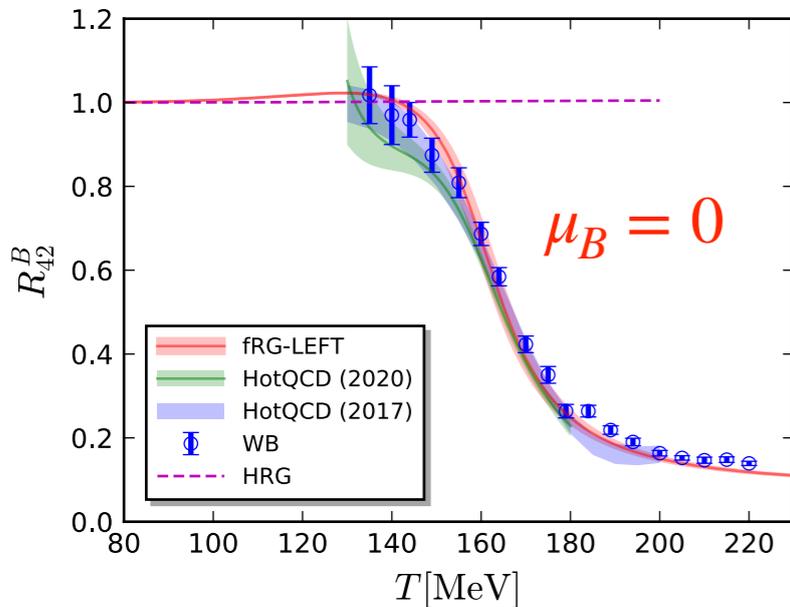
- spectral function:

$$\rho(\omega, \vec{p}) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\text{Im}\Gamma^{(2),R}(\omega, \vec{p})}{(\text{Re}\Gamma^{(2),R}(\omega, \vec{p}))^2 + (\text{Im}\Gamma^{(2),R}(\omega, \vec{p}))^2}$$



# Baryon number fluctuations

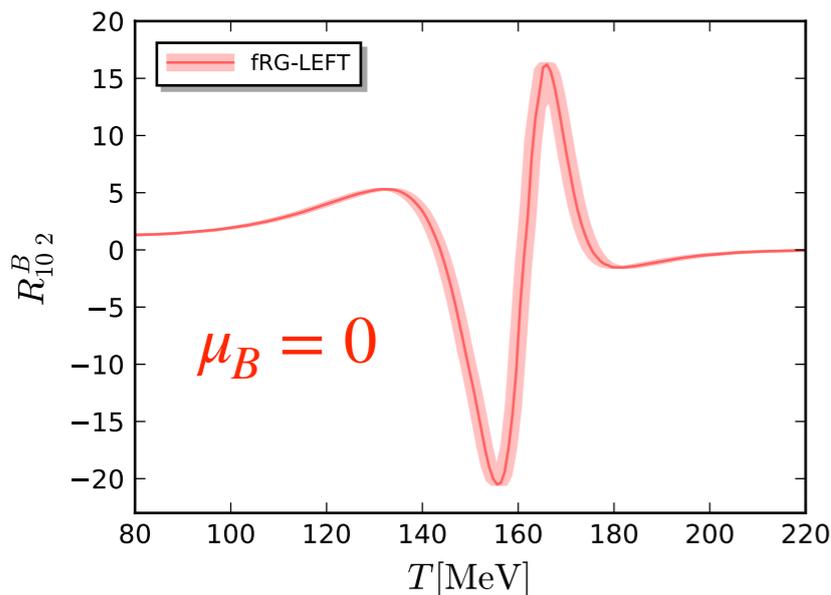
## fRG in comparison to lattice results and HRG



HotQCD: A. Bazavov *et al.*, *PRD* 95 (2017) 054504; *PRD* 101 (2020) 074502

fRG: WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, *PRD* 104 (2021) 094047

WB: S. Borsanyi *et al.*, *JHEP* 10 (2018) 205



## baryon number fluctuations:

$$\chi_n^B = \frac{\partial^n}{\partial(\mu_B/T)^n} \frac{p}{T^4},$$

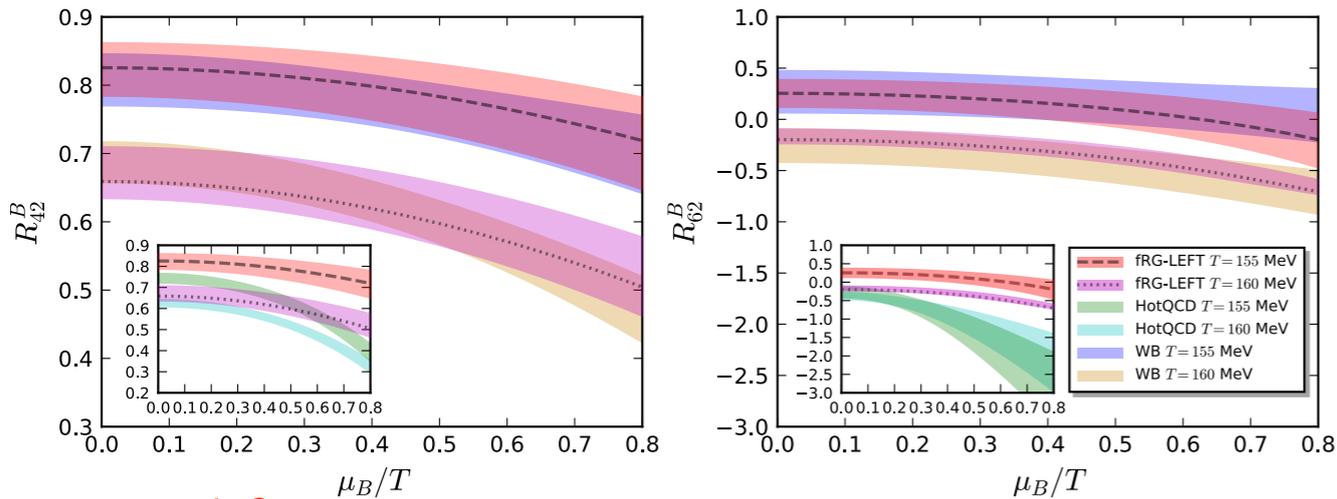
$$R_{nm}^B = \frac{\chi_n^B}{\chi_m^B}$$

## relation to the cumulants:

$$M = VT^3 \chi_1^B, \quad \sigma^2 = VT^3 \chi_2^B$$

$$S = \chi_3^B / (\chi_2^B \sigma), \quad \kappa = \chi_4^B / (\chi_2^B \sigma^2)$$

# Convergence radius of Taylor expansion?



$\mu_B \neq 0$  fRG vs Lattice

expanding the pressure at  $\mu_B = 0$

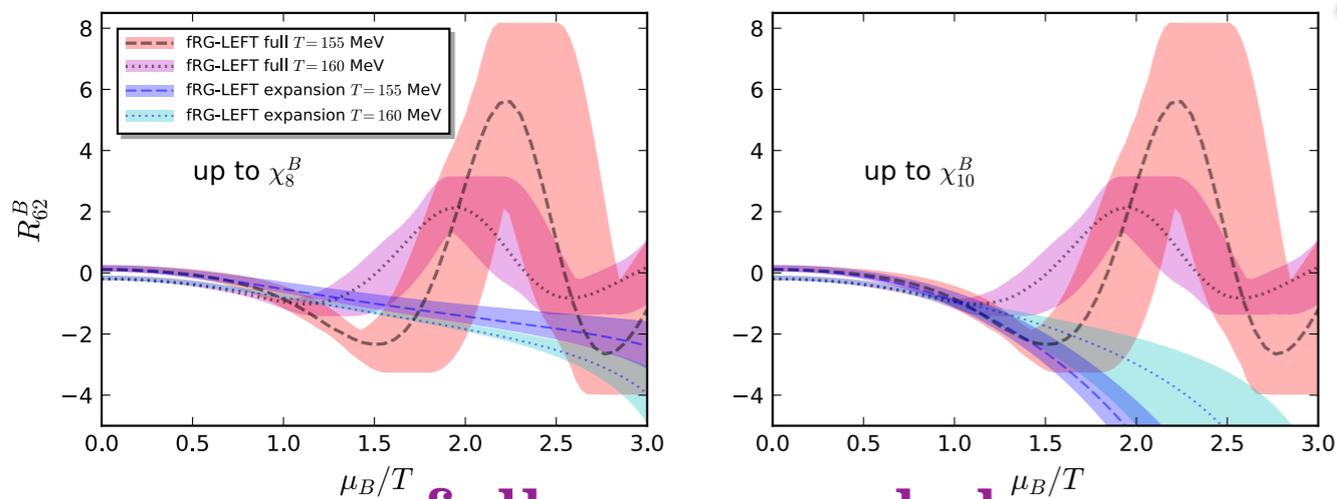
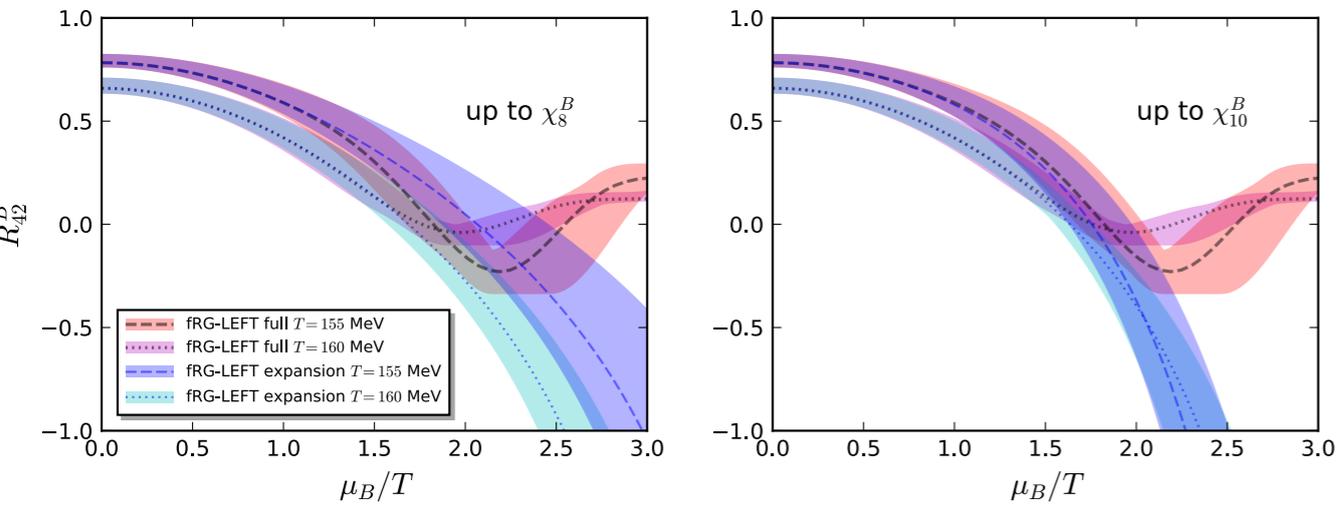
$$\frac{p(\mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{p(0)}{T^4} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi_{2i}^B(0)}{(2i)!} \hat{\mu}_B^{2i},$$

expanded fluctuations

$$\chi_2^B(\mu_B) \simeq \chi_2^B(0) + \frac{\chi_4^B(0)}{2!} \hat{\mu}_B^2 + \frac{\chi_6^B(0)}{4!} \hat{\mu}_B^4 + \frac{\chi_8^B(0)}{6!} \hat{\mu}_B^6,$$

$$\chi_4^B(\mu_B) \simeq \chi_4^B(0) + \frac{\chi_6^B(0)}{2!} \hat{\mu}_B^2 + \frac{\chi_8^B(0)}{4!} \hat{\mu}_B^4,$$

$$\chi_6^B(\mu_B) \simeq \chi_6^B(0) + \frac{\chi_8^B(0)}{2!} \hat{\mu}_B^2$$



full vs expanded

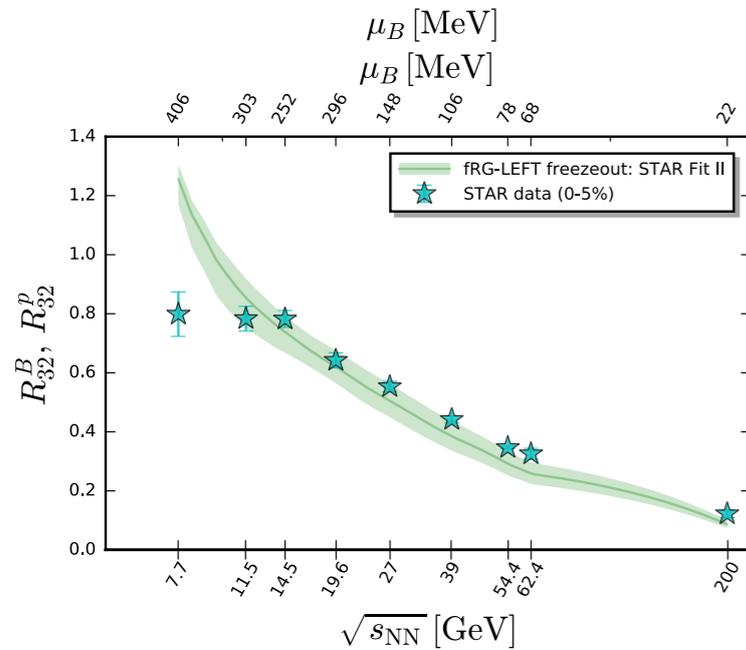
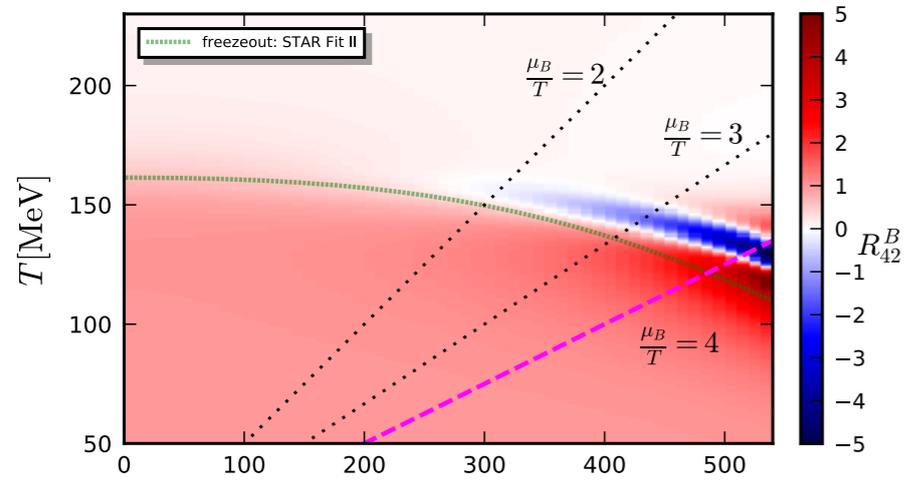
$$T = 155 \text{ MeV} : [\mu_B/T]_{\text{Max}} \approx 1.5,$$

$$T = 160 \text{ MeV} : [\mu_B/T]_{\text{Max}} \approx 1.2$$

Yang-Lee edge singularity?

# Fluctuations on the freeze-out curve

## $R_{42}^B$ on the phase diagram



STAR ( $R_{32}^p, R_{42}^p$ ):

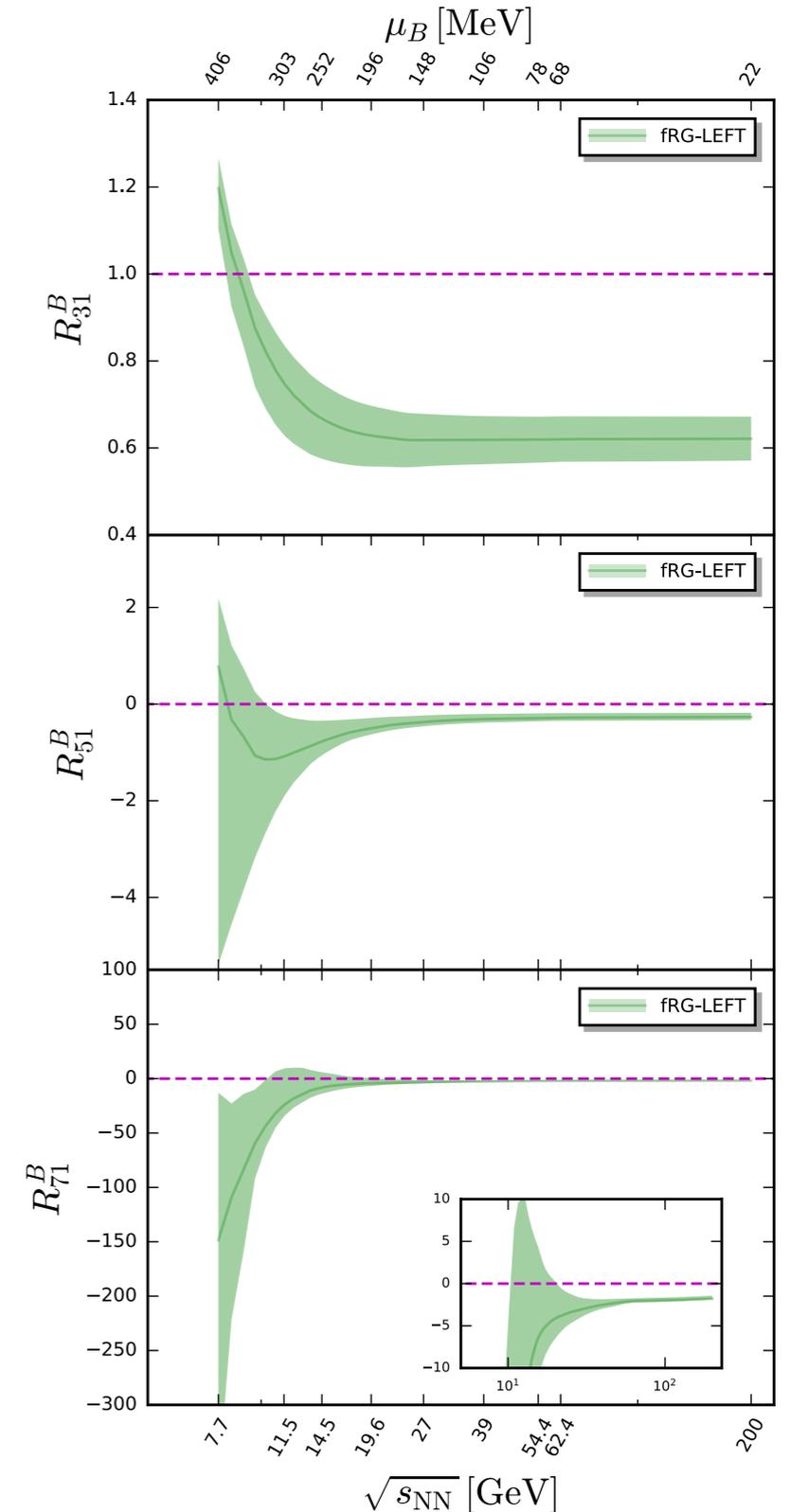
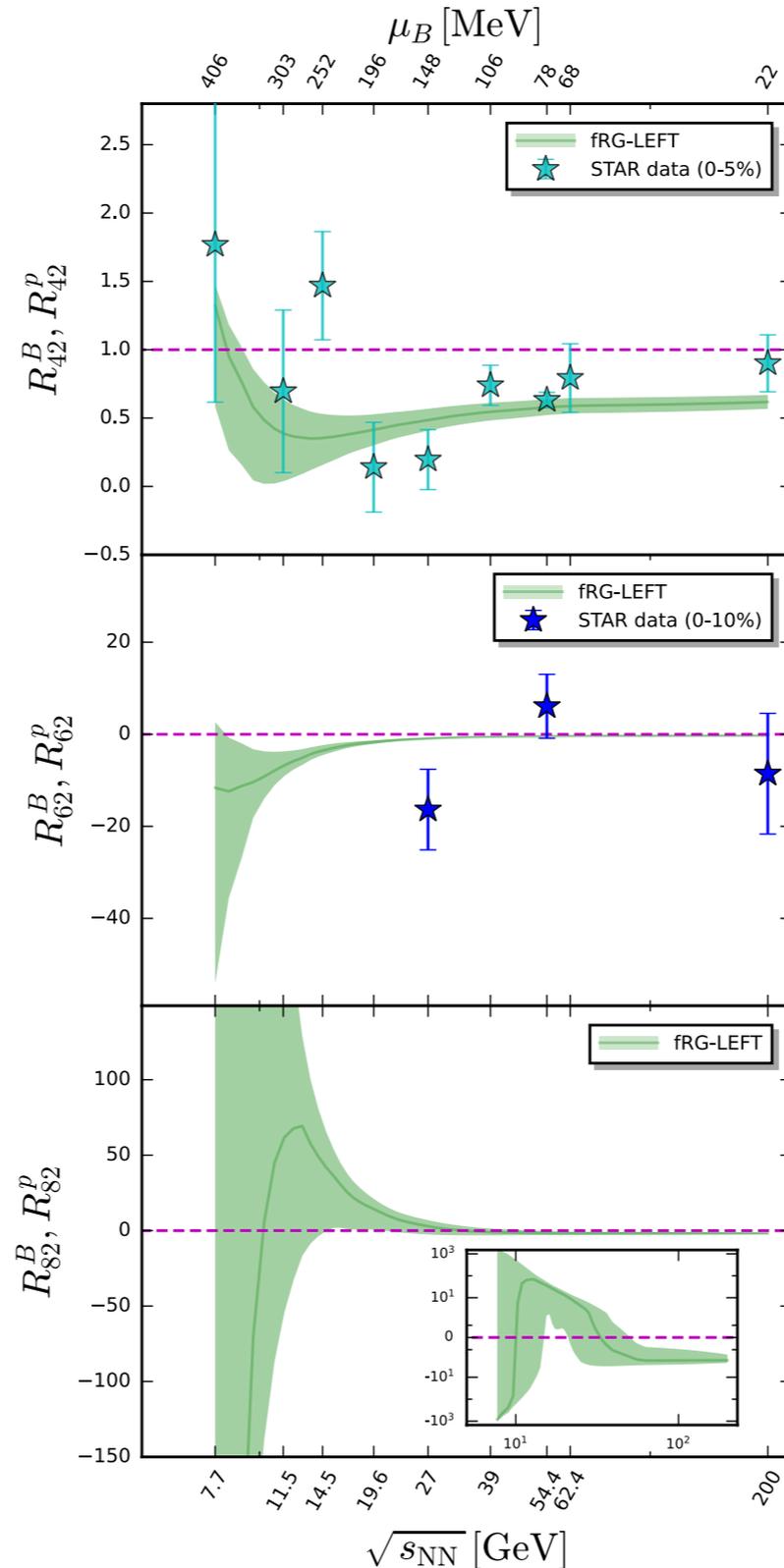
J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

STAR ( $R_{62}^p$ ):

M. Abdallah *et al.* (STAR), arXiv:2105.14698

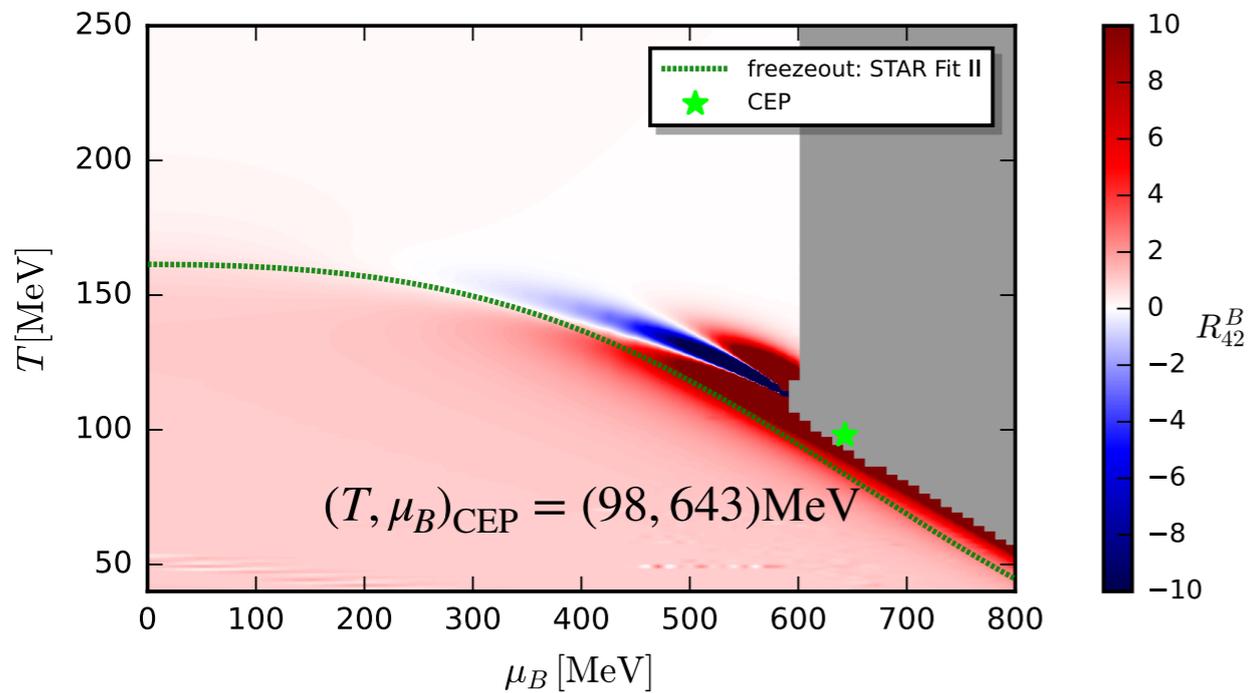
fRG:

WF, Luo, Pawlowski, Rennecke, Wen, Yin, *PRD* 104 (2021) 094047



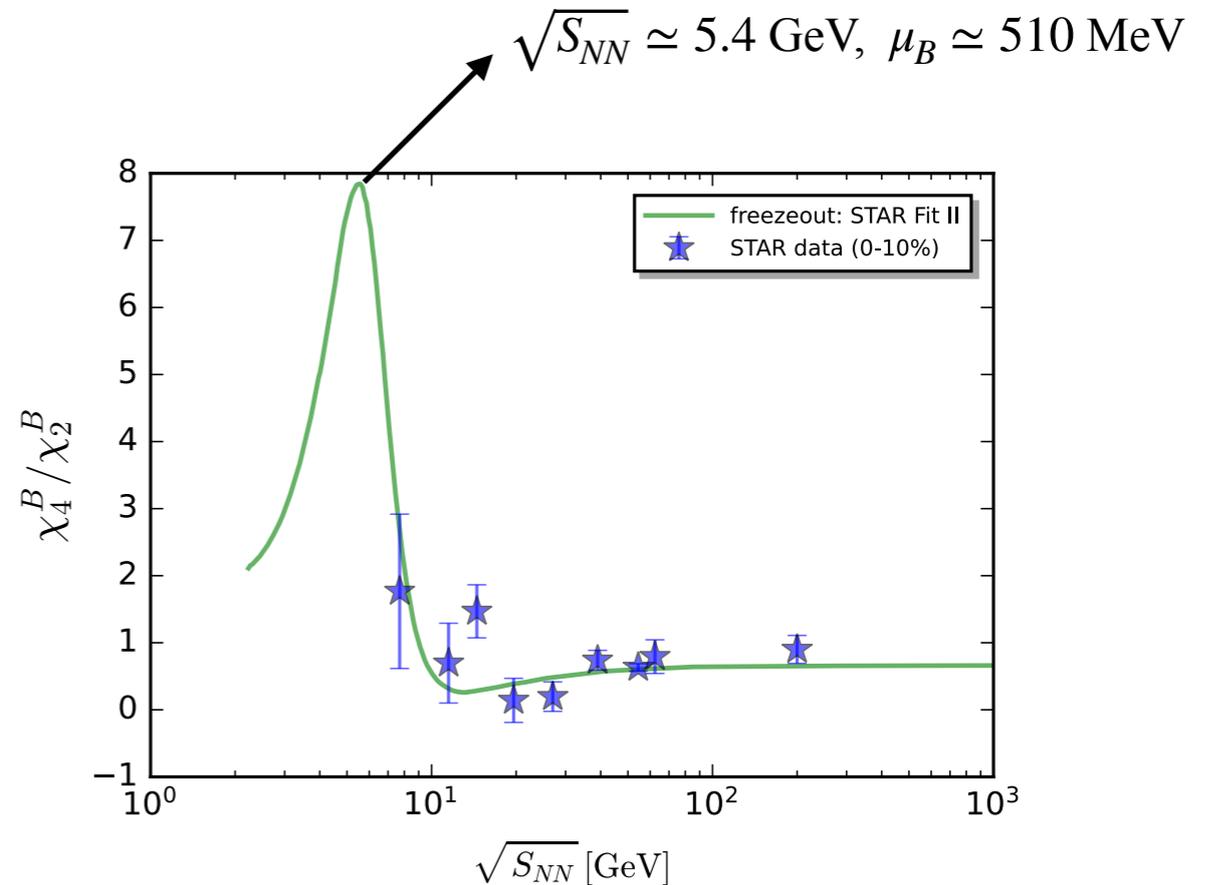
# Update: Fluctuations at large $\mu_B$

## $R_{42}^B$ on the phase diagram



## fRG:

WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Yin, in preparation



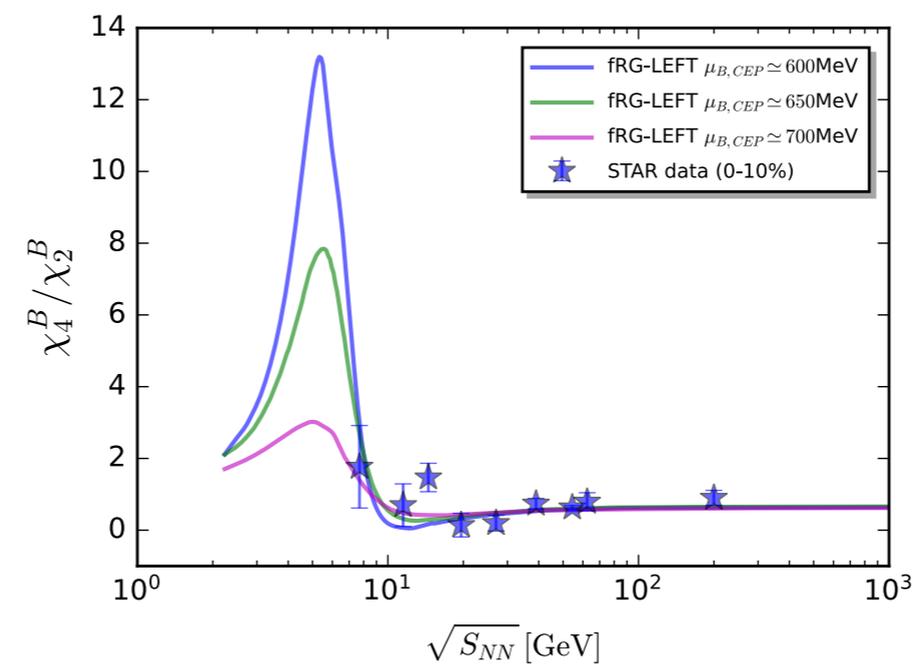
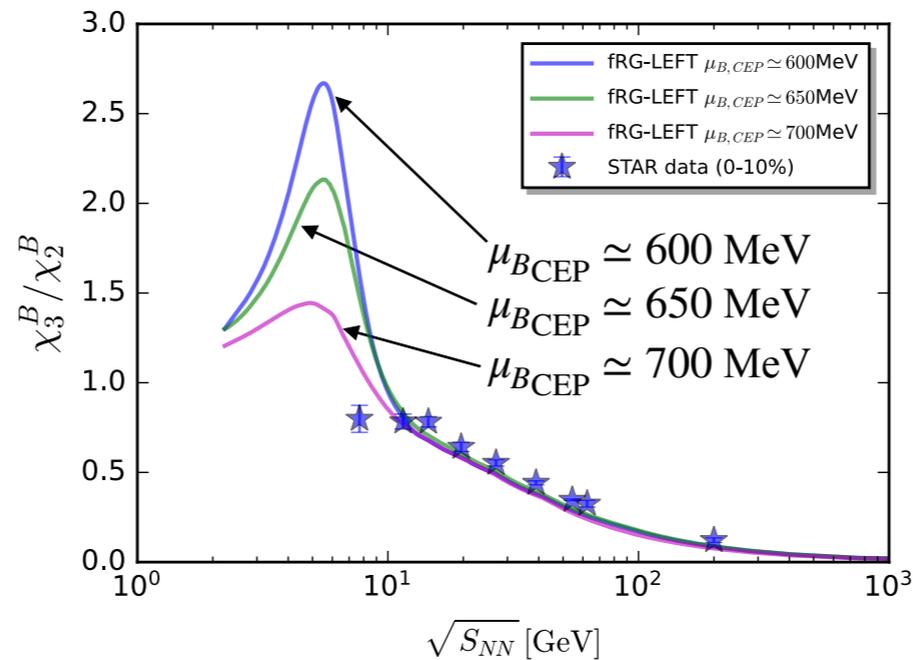
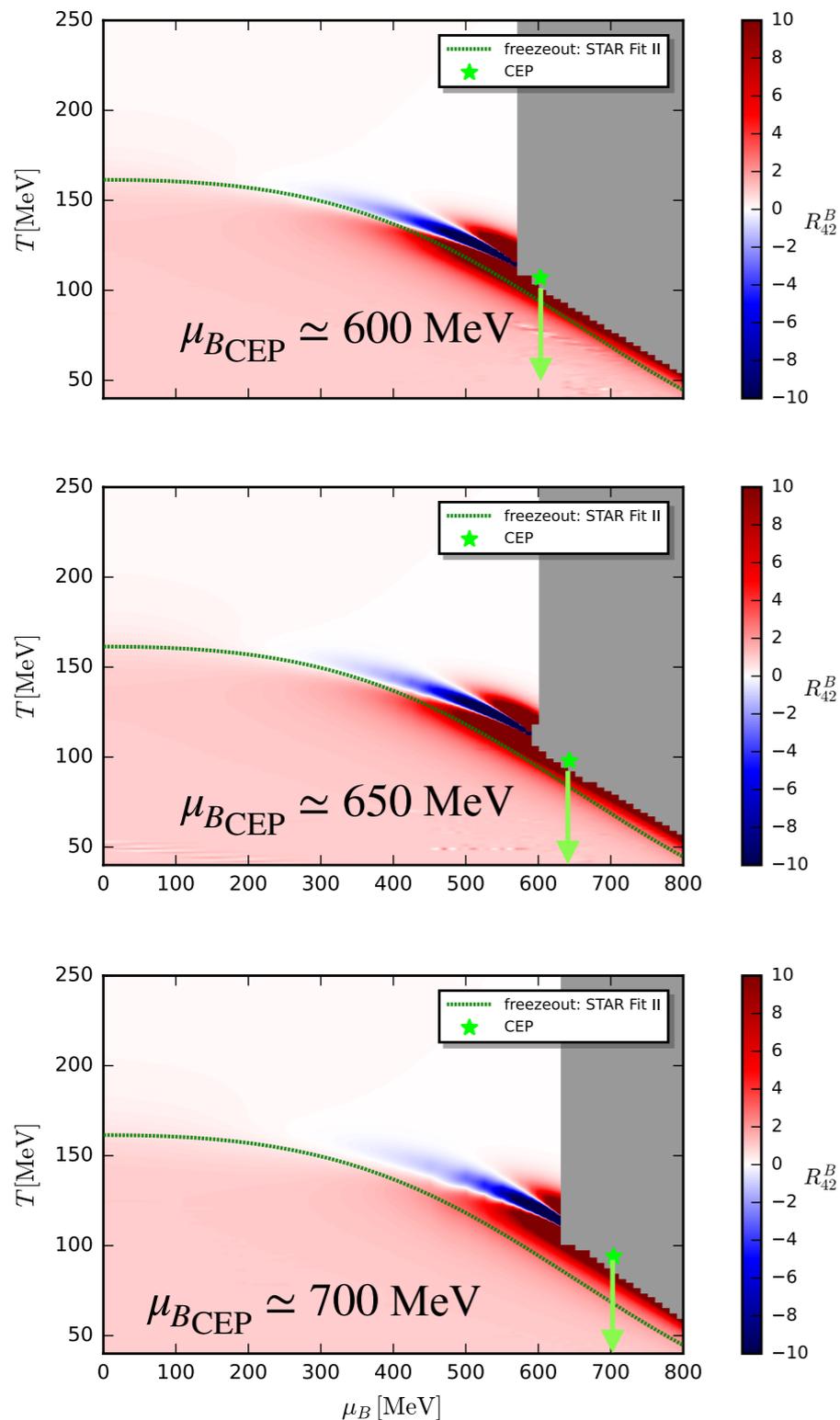
## STAR:

J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

- Calculations have been extended from  $\mu_B \sim 500$  to  $800$  MeV in the improved fRG-LEFT.
- A “peak” structure is found in the regime of low collision energy.

# Error estimate: Location of CEP

## $R_{42}^B$ on the phase diagram



## STAR:

J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

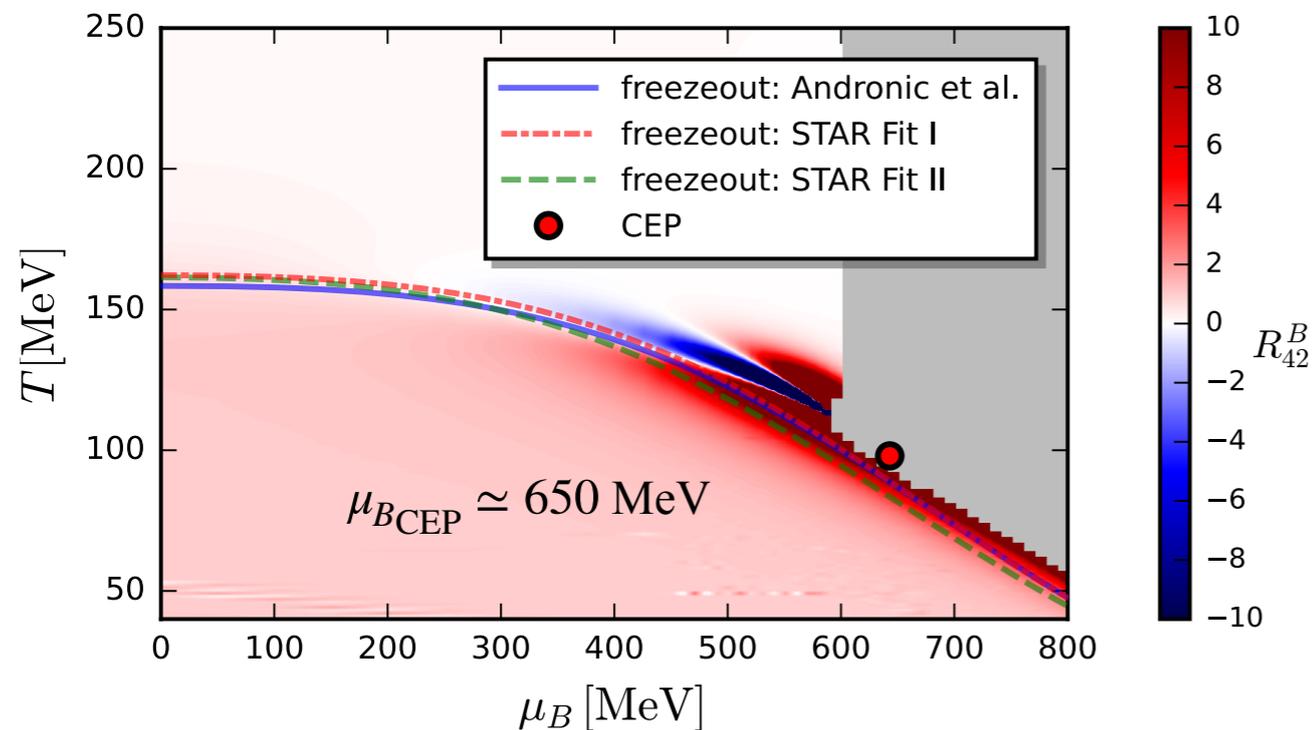
## fRG:

WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Yin, in preparation

- **Location** of the peak, i.e., the corresponding collision energy shows very **mild** dependence on the location of CEP in the range  $\mu_{B,CEP} \simeq (600 \sim 700)$  MeV.
- While the **height** of the peak shows **significant** dependence.

# Error estimate: Different freeze-out curves

## $R_{42}^B$ on the phase diagram

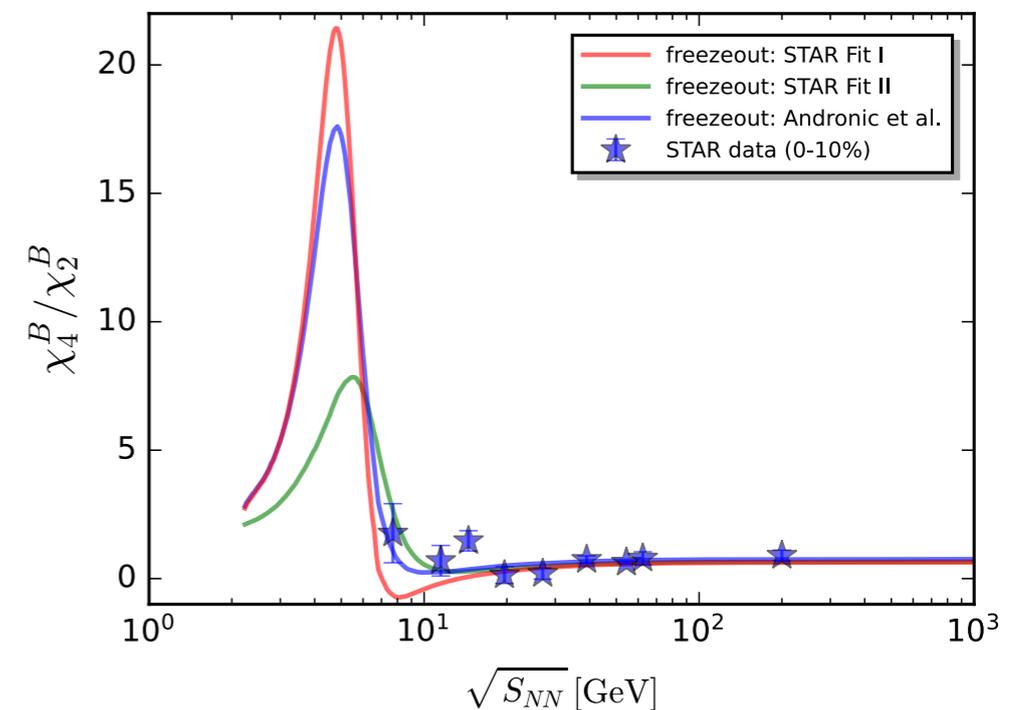
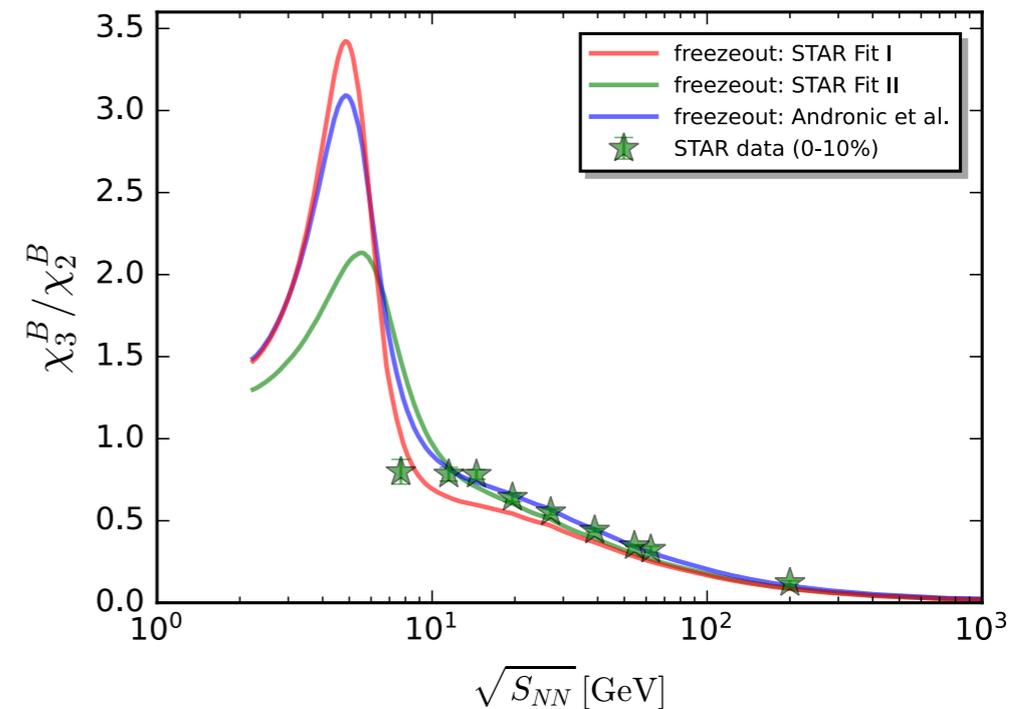


## STAR:

J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

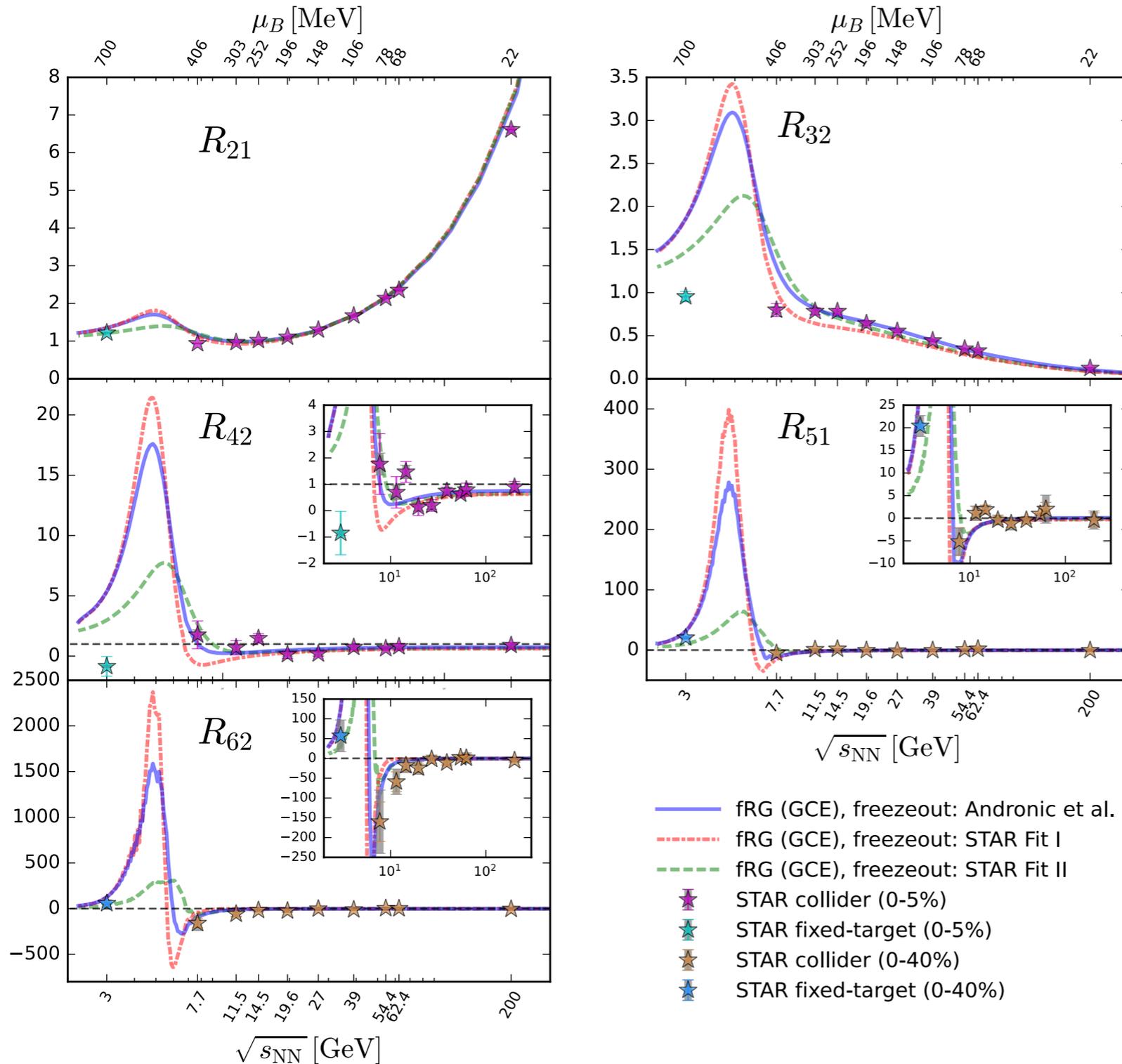
## fRG:

WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Yin, in preparation



- The **height of peak** is significantly influenced by different **freeze-out curves**.
- The **location of peak** shows **weak** dependence on freeze-out curves.

# Fluctuations: grand canonical ensemble



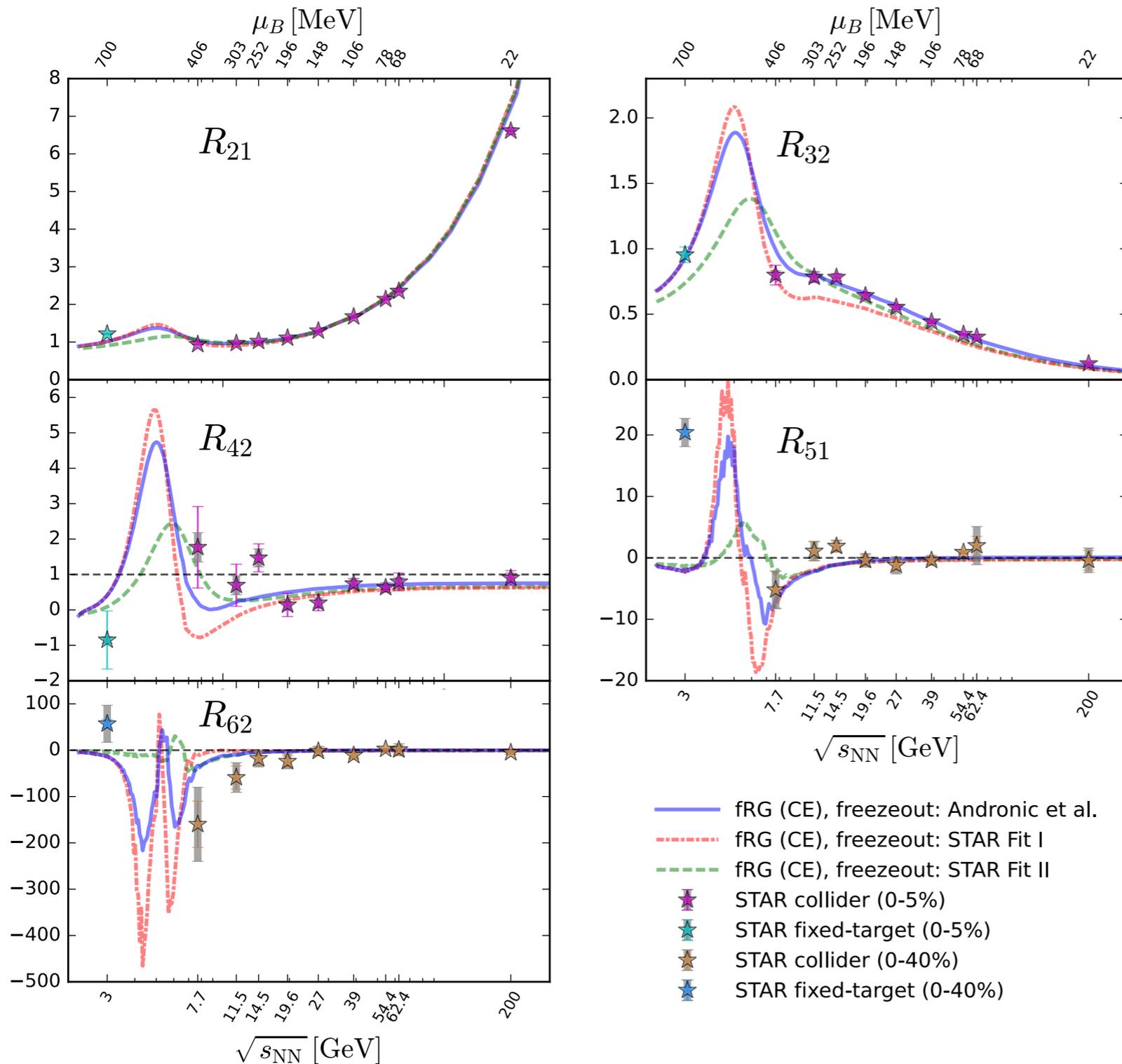
STAR:

J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

fRG:

WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Yin, in preparation

# Fluctuations: canonical ensemble



**STAR:**

J. Adam *et al.* (STAR), *PRL* 126 (2021) 092301

**fRG:**

WF, Luo, Pawłowski, Rennecke, Yin, in preparation

# Summary

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- ★ Recent years have seen significant progresses in studies of QCD in vacuum, QCD phase structure, phase transitions and properties of QCD matter in heavy-ion collisions within the fRG approach.
- ★ Estimates for the **location of the CEP** from fRG and Dyson-Schwinger Equations converge in a rather small region at baryon chemical potentials of **around 600 MeV**.
- ★ Theoretical calculations in fRG indicate that there would be a **peak** structure in the kurtosis of the baryon number fluctuations as a function of the collision energy in the regime of low collision energy, which would provide us a promising probe to pin down the location of CEP.

# Summary

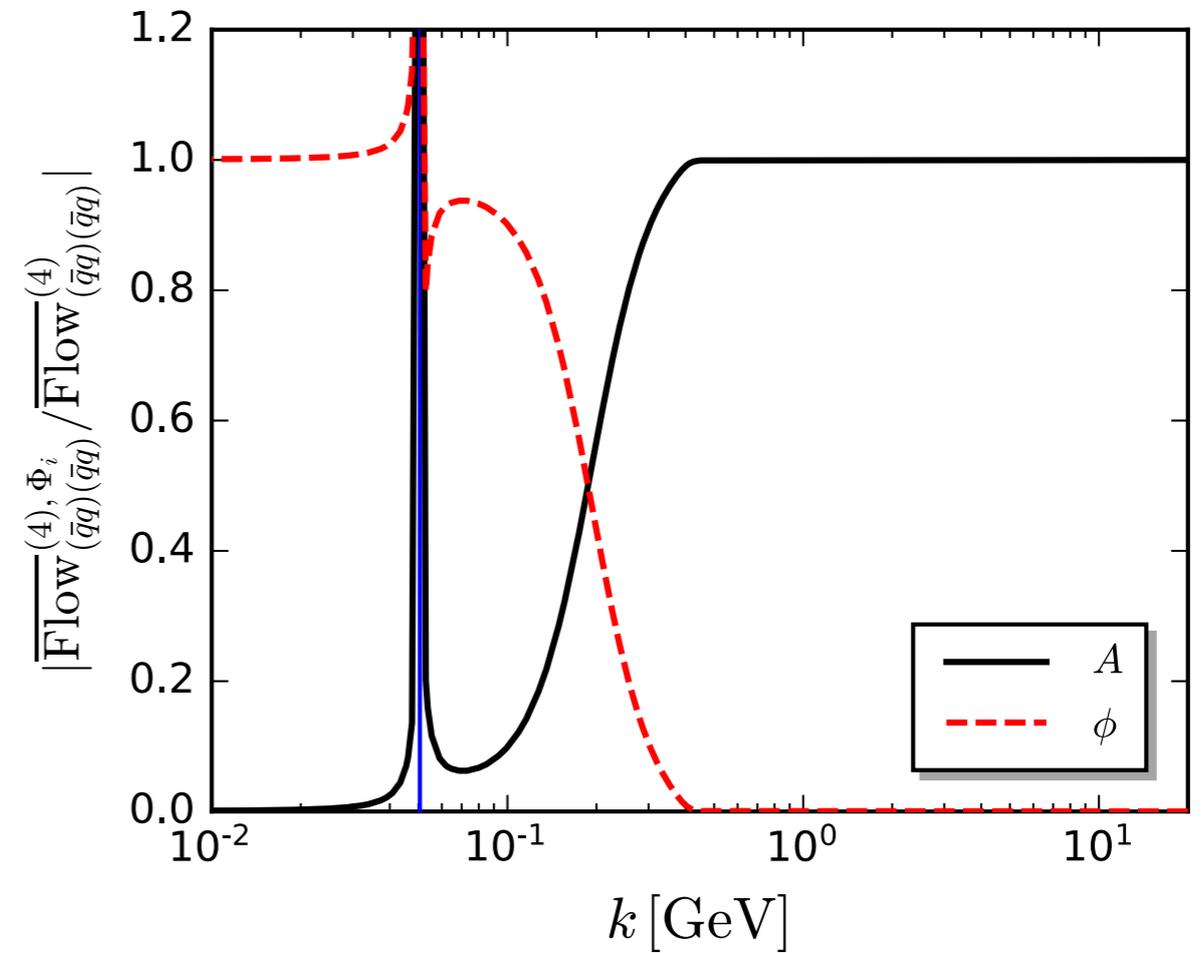
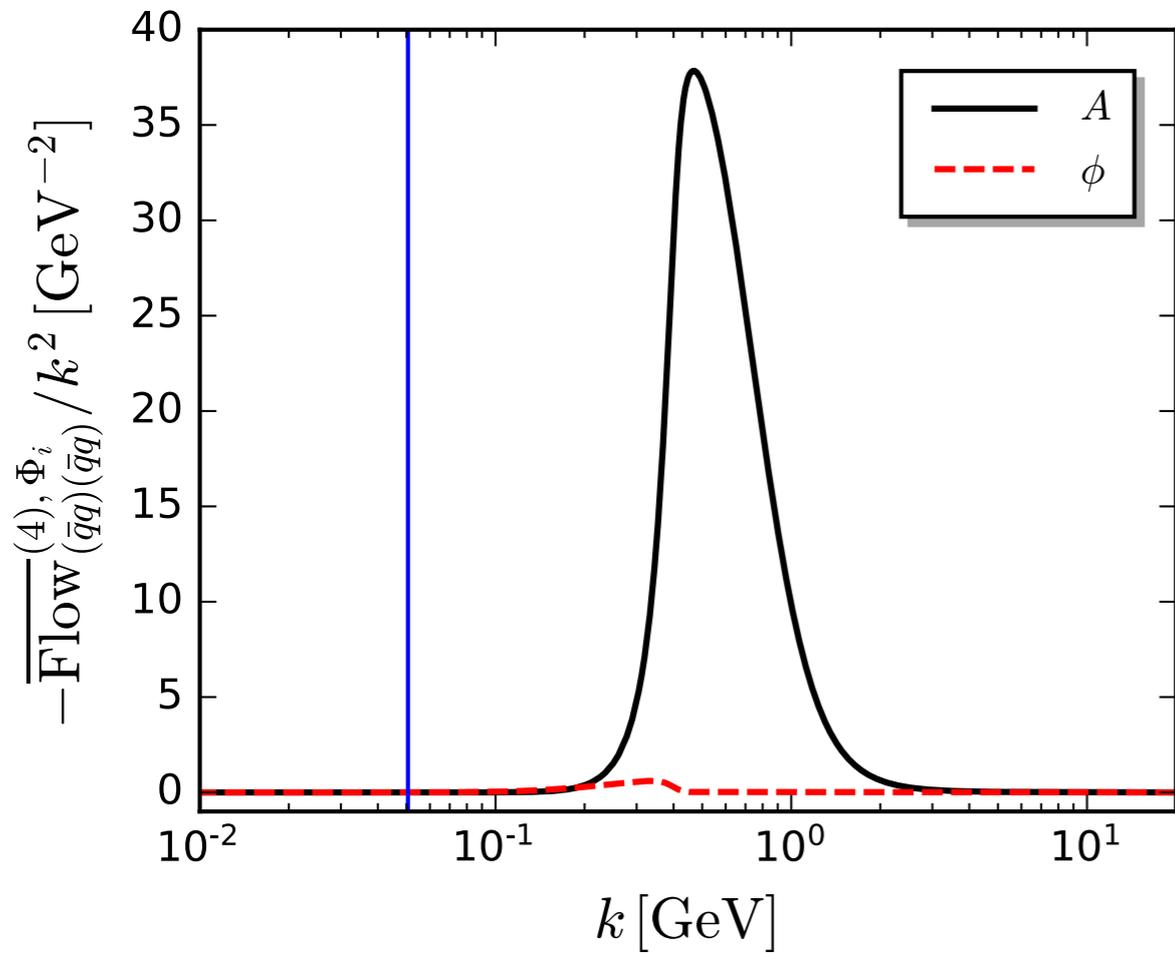
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**Thank you very much for your attentions!**

**Backup**

# Flow of 4-quark coupling–gluon versus meson



WF, Pawlowski, Rennecke, *PRD* 101 (2020), 054032

# Vacuum QCD within fRG

Input: **fundamental parameters** of QCD at a large momentum scale:  $\Lambda = 20 \text{ GeV}$

## 2-flavor QCD

- $\alpha_{s,k=\Lambda}$

- $m_{u,k=\Lambda} = m_{d,k=\Lambda} = m_{l,k=\Lambda}(m_\pi) \quad m_\pi = 138 \text{ MeV}$

## 2+1-flavor QCD

- $\alpha_{s,k=\Lambda}$

- $m_{u,k=\Lambda} = m_{d,k=\Lambda} = m_{l,k=\Lambda}(m_\pi) \quad m_\pi = 138 \text{ MeV}$

- $\frac{m_{s,k=\Lambda}}{m_{l,k=\Lambda}} = 27 \quad m_K = 498 \text{ MeV}$

# QCD strong couplings among quarks and gluons

