

# Functional renormalization group studies of QCD - a review

**Exploring the QCD Phase Diagram  
through Energy Scans, INT-16-3  
INT, Seattle, WA**

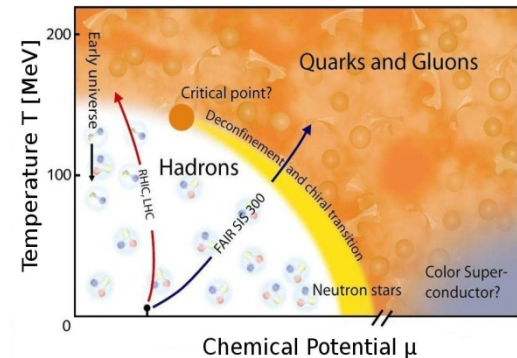
Nils Strodthoff, LBNL



# Fundamental challenges

## 1. Understanding the **phase structure of QCD** from first principles

Phase structure at large chemical potentials largely unknown due to **sign problem** in lattice QCD...



➤ adapted from GSI

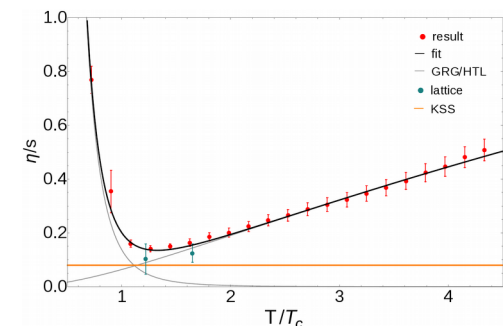
## 2. Understanding the **fundamental properties** of strongly interacting matter from its **microscopic description**

### Hadron spectrum

pole masses, decay constants, form factors, scattering amplitudes,...

### Realtime observables

elementary spectral functions, transport coefficients...



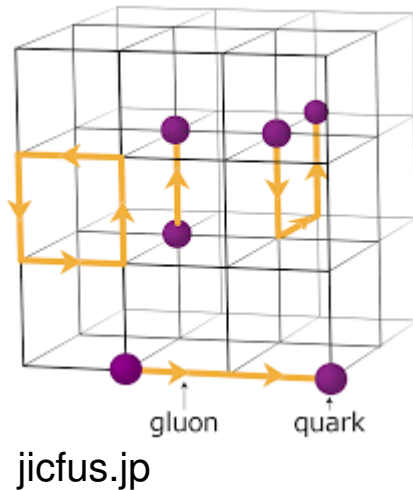
➤ Christiansen, Haas, Pawłowski, NSt PRL **115** (2015) 11, 112002

Difficult to obtain in Euclidean approaches due to analytic continuation

# Nonperturbative approaches

Both challenges require **first-principle approaches**:

## Lattice QCD

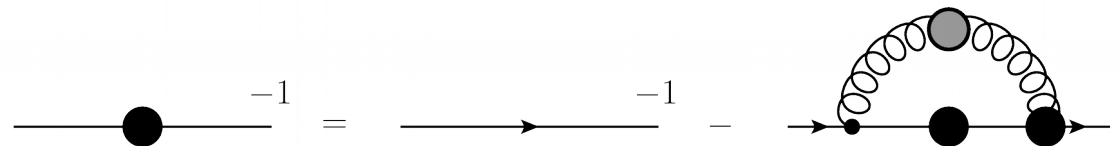


## Functional approaches

- Dyson-Schwinger equations (DSE)
- n-particle irreducible methods (nPI)
- **Functional Renormalization Group (FRG)**

use relations between off-shell Green's functions

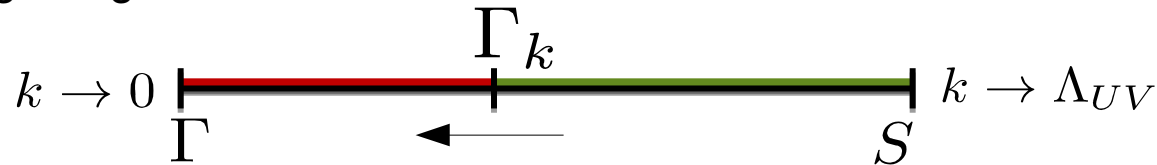
e.g. quark propagator DSE



- ✓ Complementary to the lattice
- ✓ No sign problem
- ✓ Calculation of realtime observables

# Functional RG for QCD

Spirit of **Wilson RG**: Calculate full quantum effective action by integrating fluctuations with momentum  $k$



## Functional Renormalization Group (FRG)

Master equation:

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Gluon fluctuations} - \text{Ghost fluctuations} - \text{Quark fluctuations} \right)$$

IR-Regulator

full field- and momentum-dependent propagators

Free energy/  
Grand potential

Gluon fluctuations
Ghost fluctuations
Quark fluctuations

+flow equations for n-point functions via functional differentiation

# Yang-Mills & Confinement

...



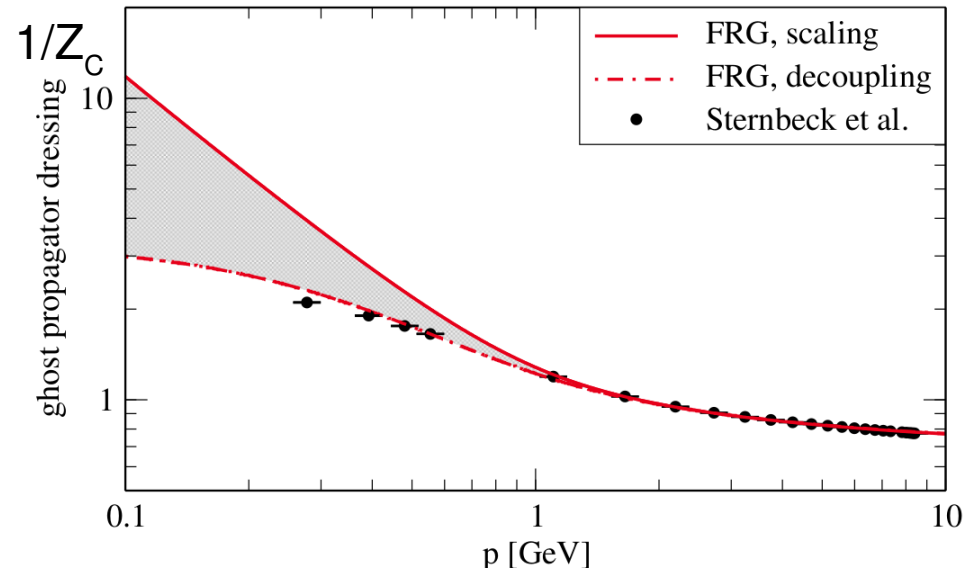
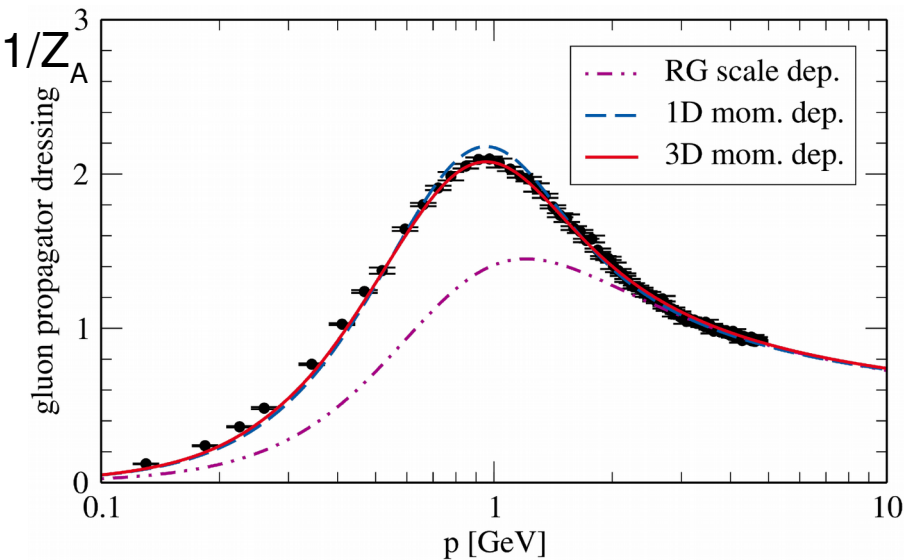
# YM propagators (T=0)

Self-consistent solution of the system of transversal 2-,3- and 4-point functions

- Cyrol, Fister, Mitter, Pawłowski, NSt Phys.Rev. **D94** (2016) no.5, 054005

$$[\Gamma_{A^2}^{(2)}]_{ab}^{\mu\nu}(p) = Z_A(p)p^2\Pi_T^{\mu\nu}(p)\delta_{ab}$$

$$[\Gamma_{\bar{c}c}^{(2)}]_{ab}(p) = Z_c(p)p^2\delta_{ab}$$



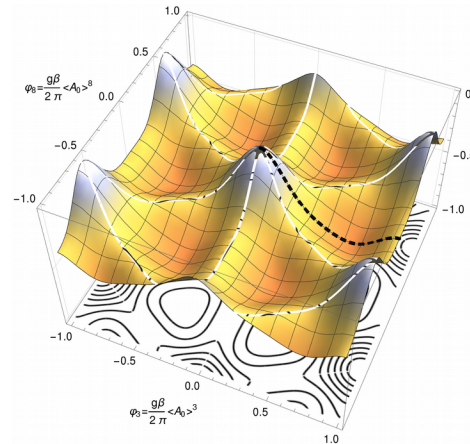
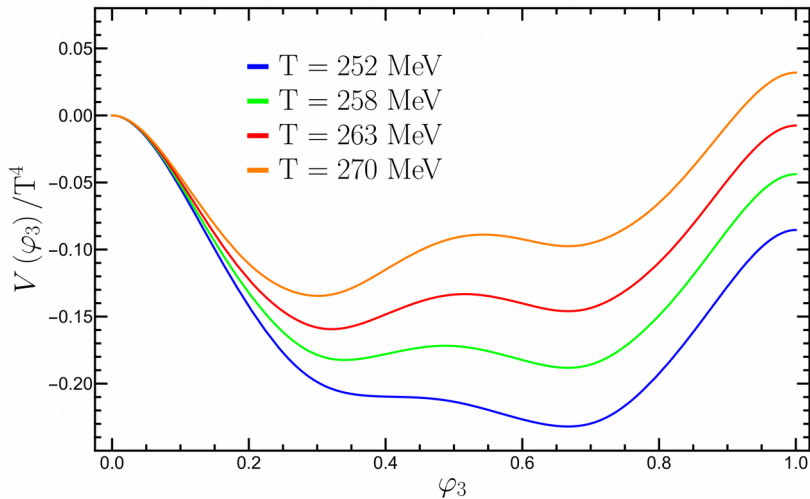
Finite T results in preparation ➤ Cyrol, Mitter, Pawłowski, NSt in prep

Confinement from correlation functions:

- Fister, Pawłowski, Phys.Rev. **D88** (2013) 045010
- Braun, Gies, Pawłowski, Phys.Lett. **B684** (2010) 262-267

# Confinement

$V(\langle A_0 \rangle)$  from YM propagators



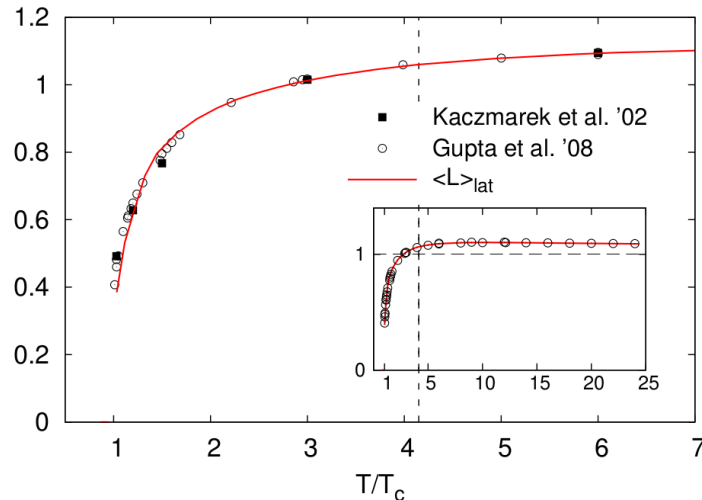
Confined:

$$\bar{\varphi}_3 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$L(\bar{\varphi}_3, 0) = 0$$

- Pawłowski, Scherzer, Strodthoff, Wink in prep.
- Herbst, Luecker, Pawłowski, (2015), 1510.03830
- Fister, Pawłowski, Phys.Rev. D88 045010 (2013)
- Braun, Gies, Pawłowski, Phys.Lett. B684 (2010)

$\langle L(A_0) \rangle$  from  $L(\langle A_0 \rangle)$



Order parameters:

$\bar{\varphi}_3$  most easily computed in functional methods

$L(\langle A_0 \rangle)$  computed on the lattice; now also in the FRG

$\langle L(A_0) \rangle$  computed on the lattice; now also in the FRG

$$\langle L(A_0) \rangle \leq L(\langle A_0 \rangle)$$

$$\langle L(A_0) \rangle = 0 \iff L(\langle A_0 \rangle) = 0$$

Towards full QCD...

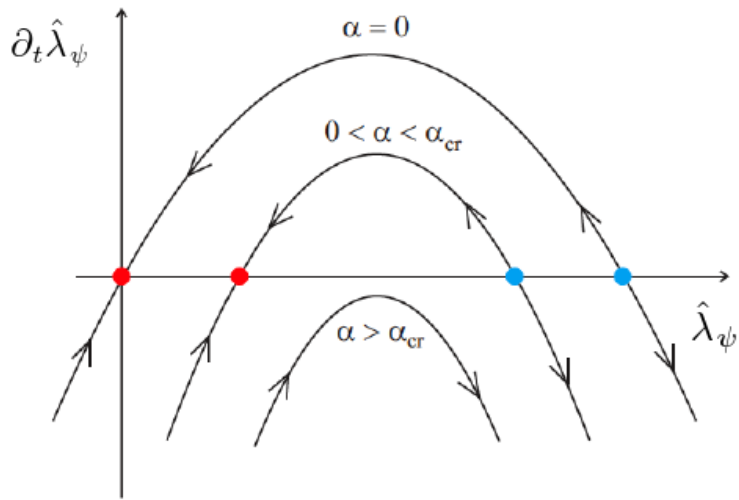
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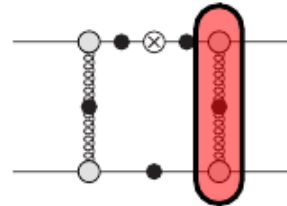
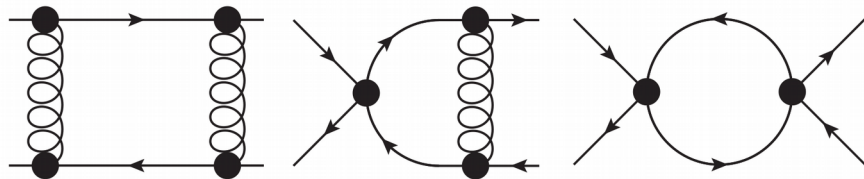
# Chiral symmetry breaking

$\chi$ SB  $\leftrightarrow$  resonance in 4-quark interaction (pion pole)

$\beta$ -function:



$$k\partial_k \hat{\lambda}_\psi = (d-2)\hat{\lambda}_\psi - a\hat{\lambda}_\psi^2 - b\hat{\lambda}_\psi g^2 - cg^4$$

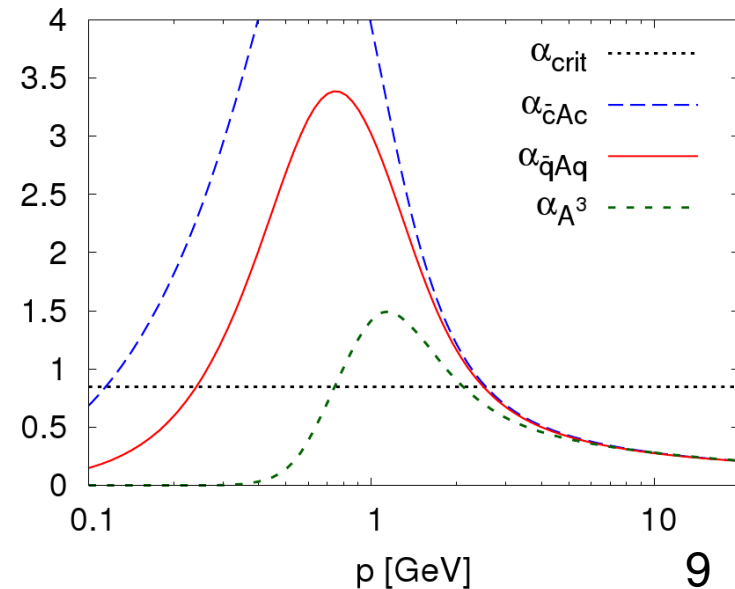


$$\alpha_{\bar{c}Ac}(p) = \frac{Z_{\bar{c}Ac}^2(\bar{p})}{4\pi Z_A(p) Z_c^2(p)}$$

$$\alpha_{\bar{q}Aq}(p) = \frac{Z_{\bar{q}Aq}^2(\bar{p})}{4\pi Z_A(p) Z_q^2(p)}$$

$$\alpha_{A^3}(p) = \frac{Z_{A^3}^2(\bar{p})}{4\pi Z_A^3(p)}$$

running couplings  $\alpha_s$



# Dynamical Hadronization

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{Gluon fluctuations} - \text{Ghost fluctuations} - \text{Quark fluctuations} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Mesonic } (\sigma, \pi) \text{ fluctuations} \right)$$

Free energy/  
Grand potential

Gluon fluctuations

Ghost fluctuations

Quark fluctuations

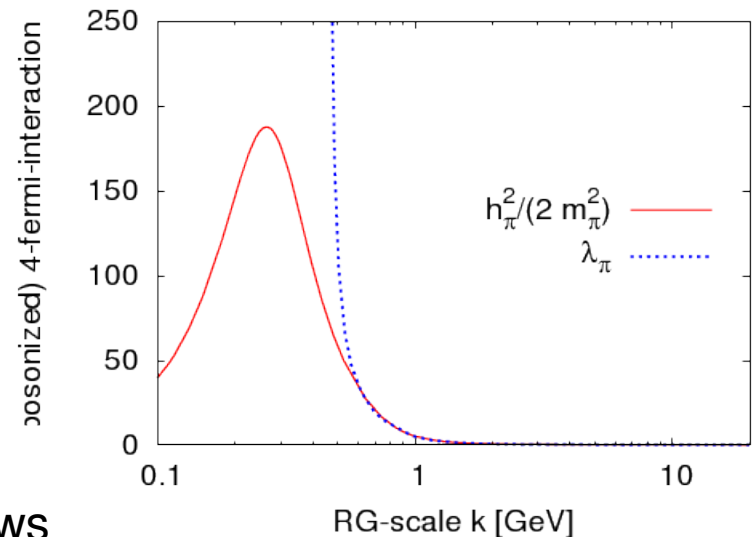
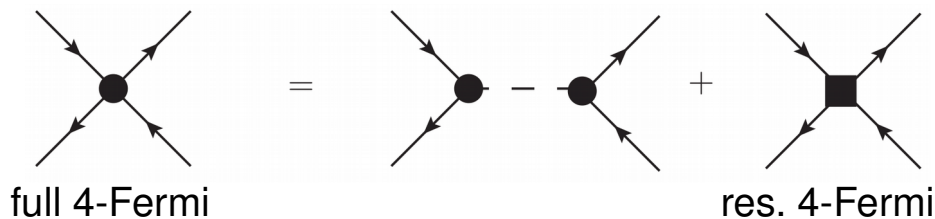
Mesonic ( $\sigma, \pi$ ) fluctuations

Efficient bookkeeping  
no double counting

## Dynamical hadronization

Store resonant 4-Fermi structures in terms of effective mesonic interactions

➤ Gies, Wetterich Phys.Rev. **D65** (2002) 065001

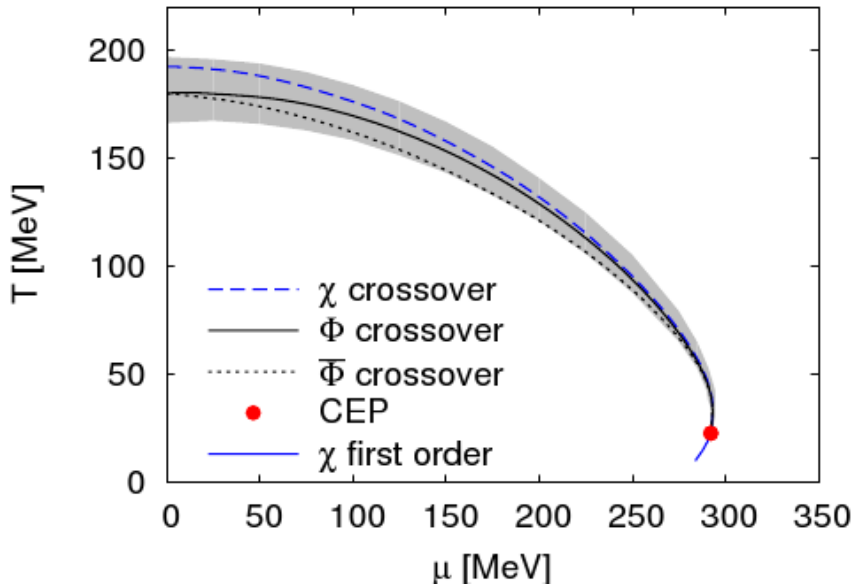


✓ Effective models incorporated

- initial conditions determined by QCD-flows

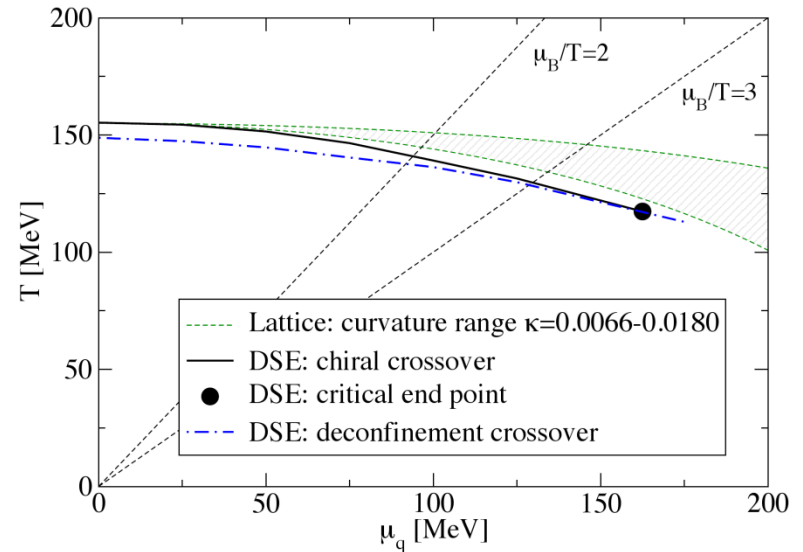
# Functional methods at $T, \mu > 0$

PQM model,  $N_f=2$ , FRG



➤ Herbst, Pawłowski, Schaefer  
Phys.Lett. **B696** (2011)

Quark+Gluon propagator DSE,  $N_f=2+1$



➤ Fischer, Luecker, Welzbacher  
Nucl.Phys. **A931** (2014) 774-779

But: so far all require additional phenomenological input

**Aim: Quantitative framework for continuum QCD**

fundamental parameters of QCD as only input parameters

**fQCD collaboration**

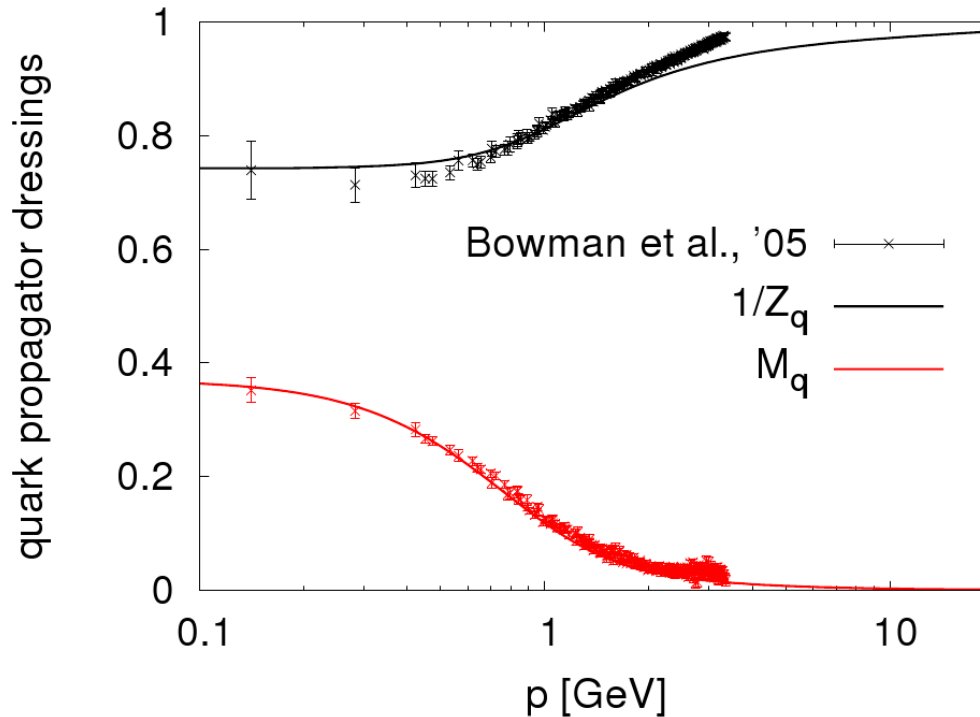
J. Braun, L. Corell, A. K. Cyrol, L. Fister, W. J. Fu, M. Leonhardt, M. Mitter, J. M. Pawłowski, M. Pospiech, F. Rennecke, NSt, N. Wink

# Quark propagator (T=0)

## Quenched quark propagator

From the full matter system using quenched gluon propagator as only input

$$\Gamma_{\bar{q}q}(p) = Z_q(p)(i\not{p} + M_q(p))$$



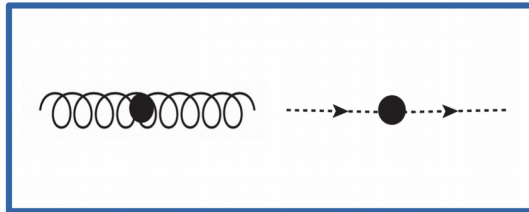
Very good agreement  
with (quenched)  
lattice results!

➤ Mitter, Pawłowski, NSt Phys.Rev. **D91** (2015) 054035

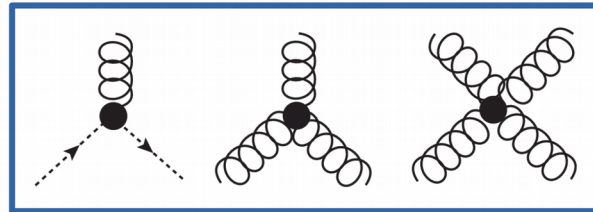
# Truncation

**Vertex expansion:** systematic expansion in terms of 1PI vertices

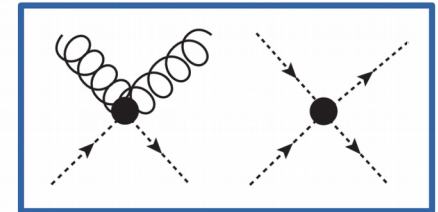
Perturbative relevance counting no longer valid



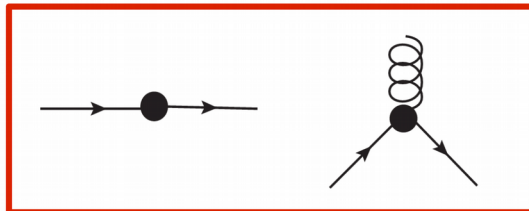
- full mom. dep.



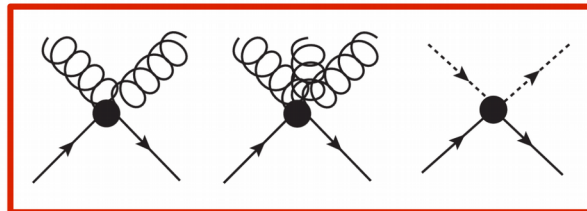
- classical tensor structure
- mom. dep. (sym. channel)



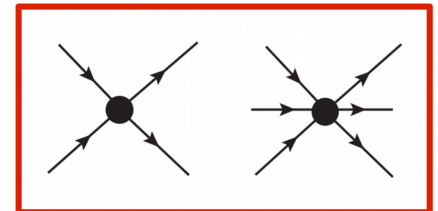
- under investigation:
- full tensor structure
- mom. dep. (sym. channel)



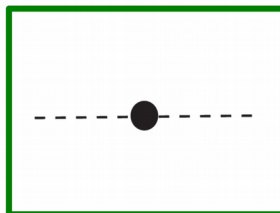
- full tensor structure
- full mom. dep.



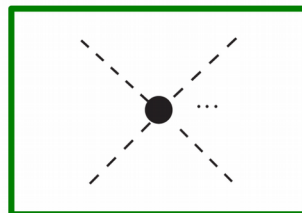
- partial tensor structure
- mom. dep. (sym. channel)



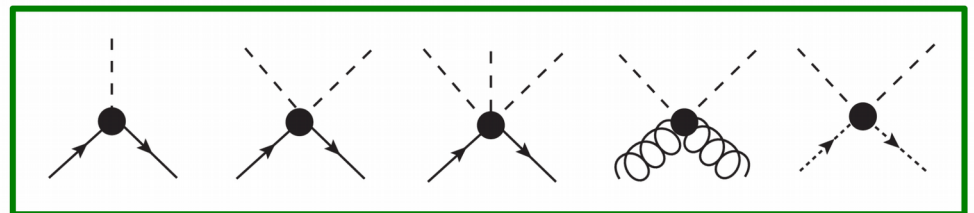
- full tensor structure
- mom. dep. (single channel)



- full mom. dep.



- via effective potential



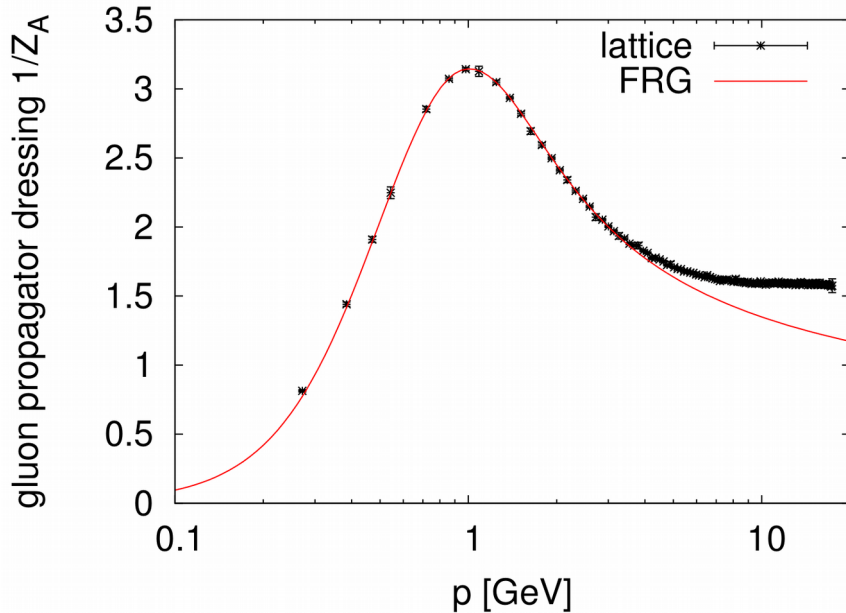
- full tensor structure
- mom. dep. (sym. channel)

# Unquenching

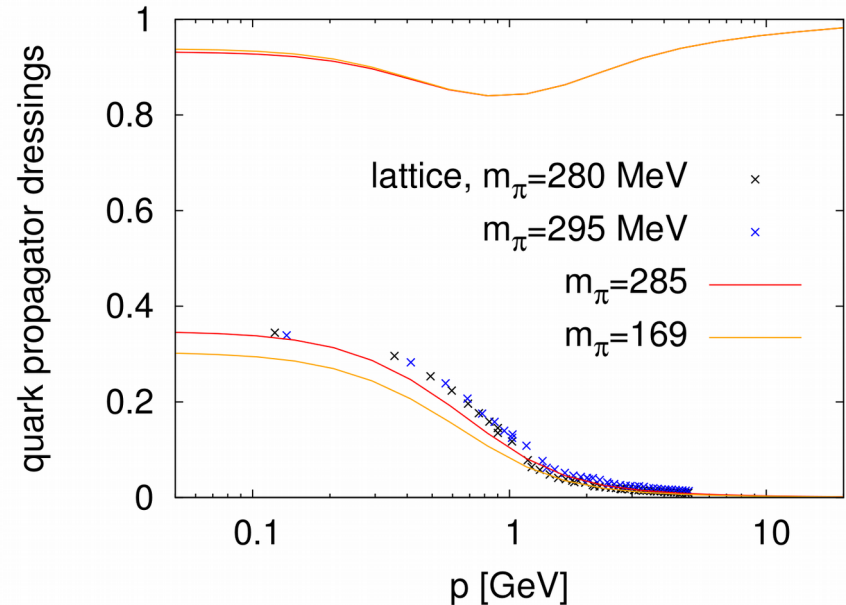
## Unquenched gluon and quark propagators

Self-consistent, parameter-free solution of the coupled matter-gluon system

➤ Cyrol, Mitter, Pawłowski, NSt in prep



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

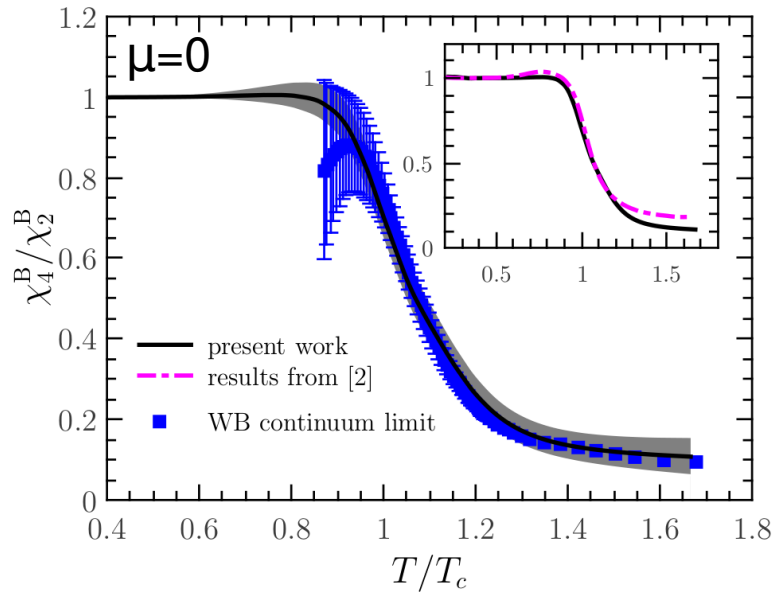


➤ Lattice: Oliveira et al 1605.09632

## Summary

✓ Everything in place for first quantitative results of the full system at finite  $T$  and  $\mu$

# Fluctuation observables

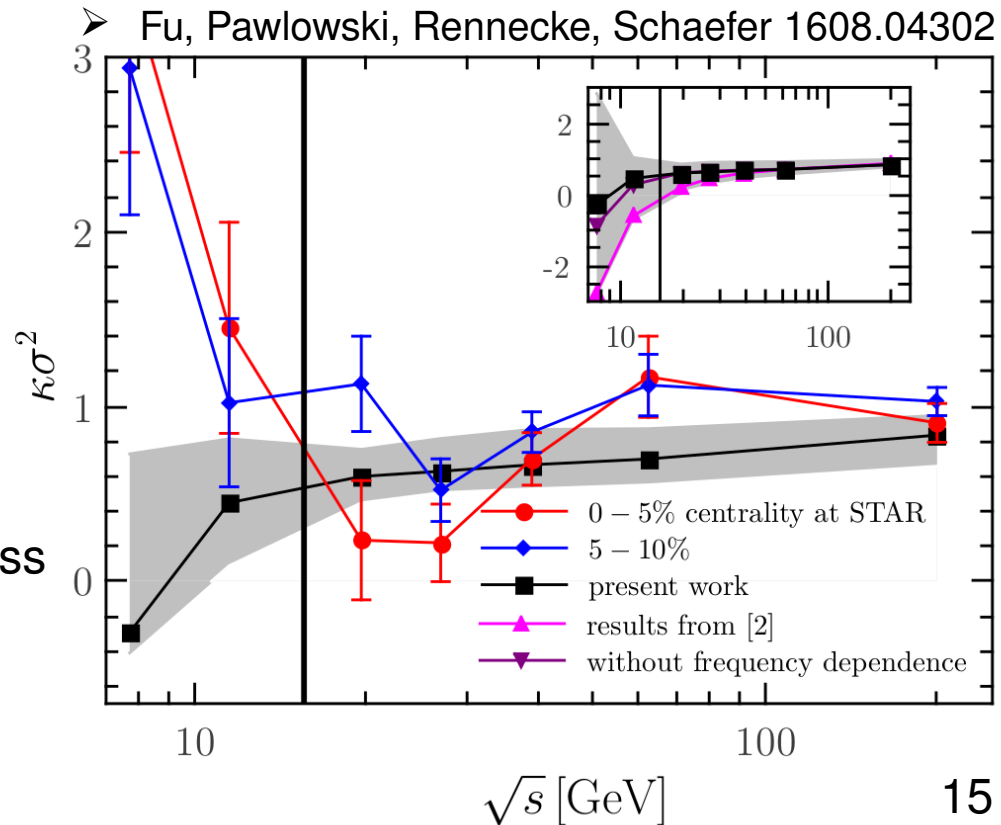


- Fu, Pawlowski, Rennecke, Schaefer 1608.04302
- Fu, Pawlowski, Phys.Rev. **D93** (2016) no.9, 091501
- Fu, Pawlowski, Phys.Rev. **D92** (2015) no.11, 116006

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

**Nf=2 PQM model**  
 (QCD-improved PL Pot;  
 PL fluctuations from lattice YM pot;  
 analytical frequency dep.)

- $\mu(\sqrt{s})$  from freeze out curve;  
 rescaled to Nf=2
- $T_F$  from matching experimental skewness
- ➔ kurtosis is prediction



# Realtime observables

...





# Spectral Functions

Real-time observables from Euclidean framework

$$\Gamma_R^{(2)}(\omega, \vec{p}) = -\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \Gamma_E^{(2)}(-i(\omega + i\epsilon), \vec{p})$$
$$\rho(\omega, \vec{p}) = \frac{\text{Im} \Gamma_R^{(2)}(\omega, \vec{p})}{\text{Im} \Gamma_R^{(2)}(\omega, \vec{p})^2 + \text{Re} \Gamma_R^{(2)}(\omega, \vec{p})^2}$$

requires analytical continuation from Euclidean to Minkowski signature, a numerically hard problem

**Popular approaches (based on Euclidean data)**

- Maximum Entropy Method (MEM)
- Padé Approximants

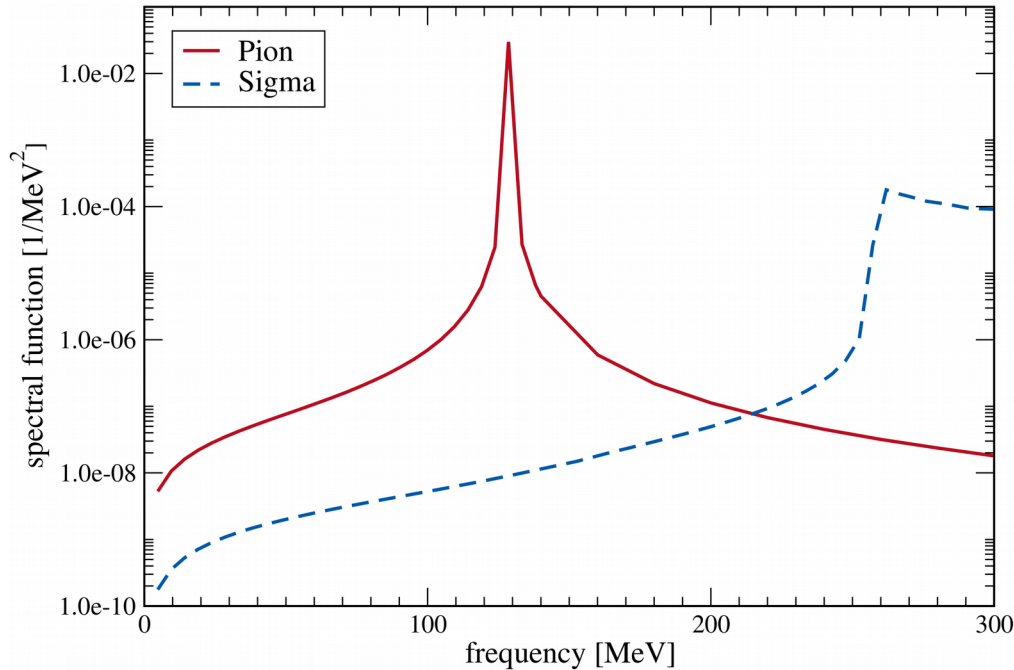
**Alternative: analytic continuation on the level of the functional equation**

- Kamikado, NSt, von Smekal, Wambach Eur.Phys.J. **C74** (2014) 2806
- Floerchinger JHEP 1205 (2012) 021
- Strauss, Fischer, Kellermann PRL **109** (2012) 252001

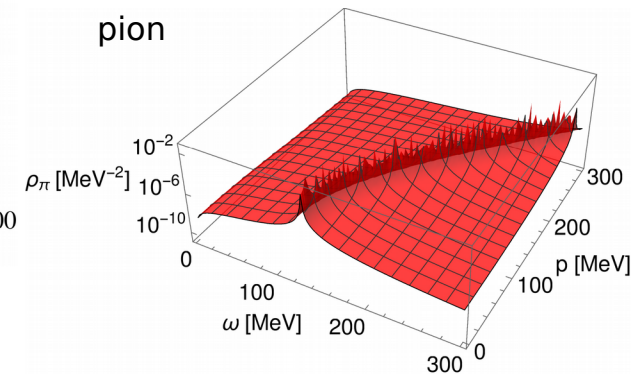
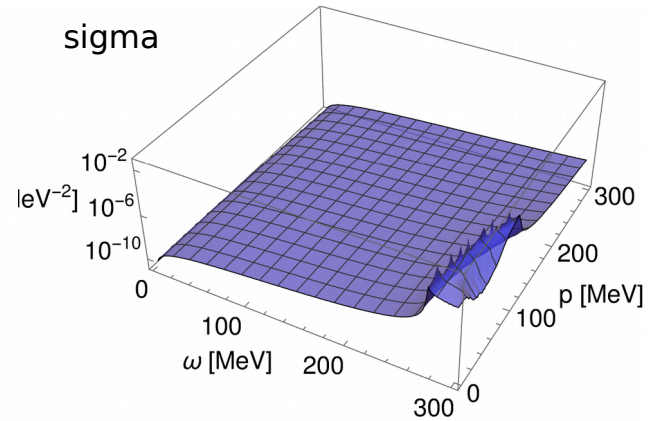
Here Minkowski external momenta appear as external parameters

# Spectral Functions

O(N) at T=0, full momentum dependence



➤ NSt, in prep



## Summary

- ✓ Directly calculated spectral functions
- ✓ Tested in scalar and Yukawa models at  $T, \mu > 0$
- ✓ Allows the inclusion of full momentum dependence

□ Quark & gluon spectral functions in full QCD

- Pawłowski, NSt  
Phys.Rev. **D92** (2015) 9, 094009
- Tripolt, NSt, von Smekal, Wambach  
Phys.Rev. **D89** (2014) 034010
- Kamikado, NSt, von Smekal, Wambach  
Eur.Phys.J. **C74** (2014) 2806

# Transport Coefficients

Kubo formula for the shear viscosity

$$\eta = \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2\omega} \frac{\rho_{\pi\pi}(\omega, \vec{0})}{\omega}$$

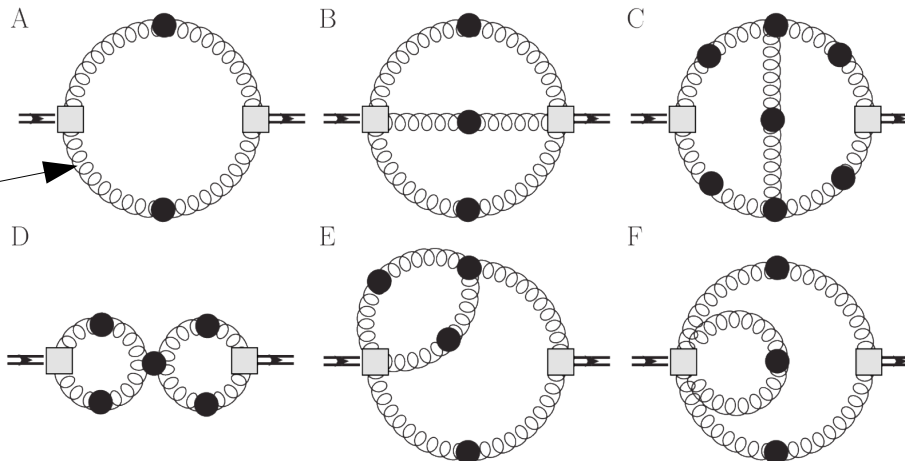
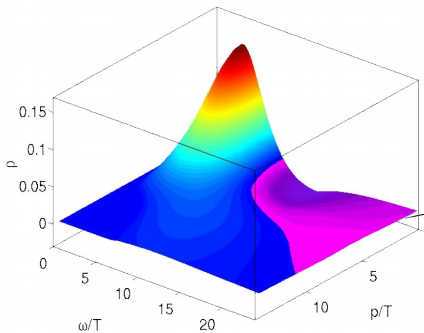
Require  $\rho_{\pi\pi}(\omega, \vec{p}) = \int_x e^{-i\omega x_0 + i\vec{p}\vec{x}} \langle [\pi_{ij}(x), \pi_{ij}(0)] \rangle$

Expansion formula

➤ Pawłowski Annals Phys. 322 (2007) 2831-2915

$$\langle \pi_{ij}[\hat{A}] \pi_{ij}[\hat{A}] \rangle = \pi_{ij} \left[ G_{A\phi_k} \frac{\delta}{\delta\phi_k} + A \right] \pi_{ij} \left[ G_{A\phi_k} \frac{\delta}{\delta\phi_k} + A \right]$$

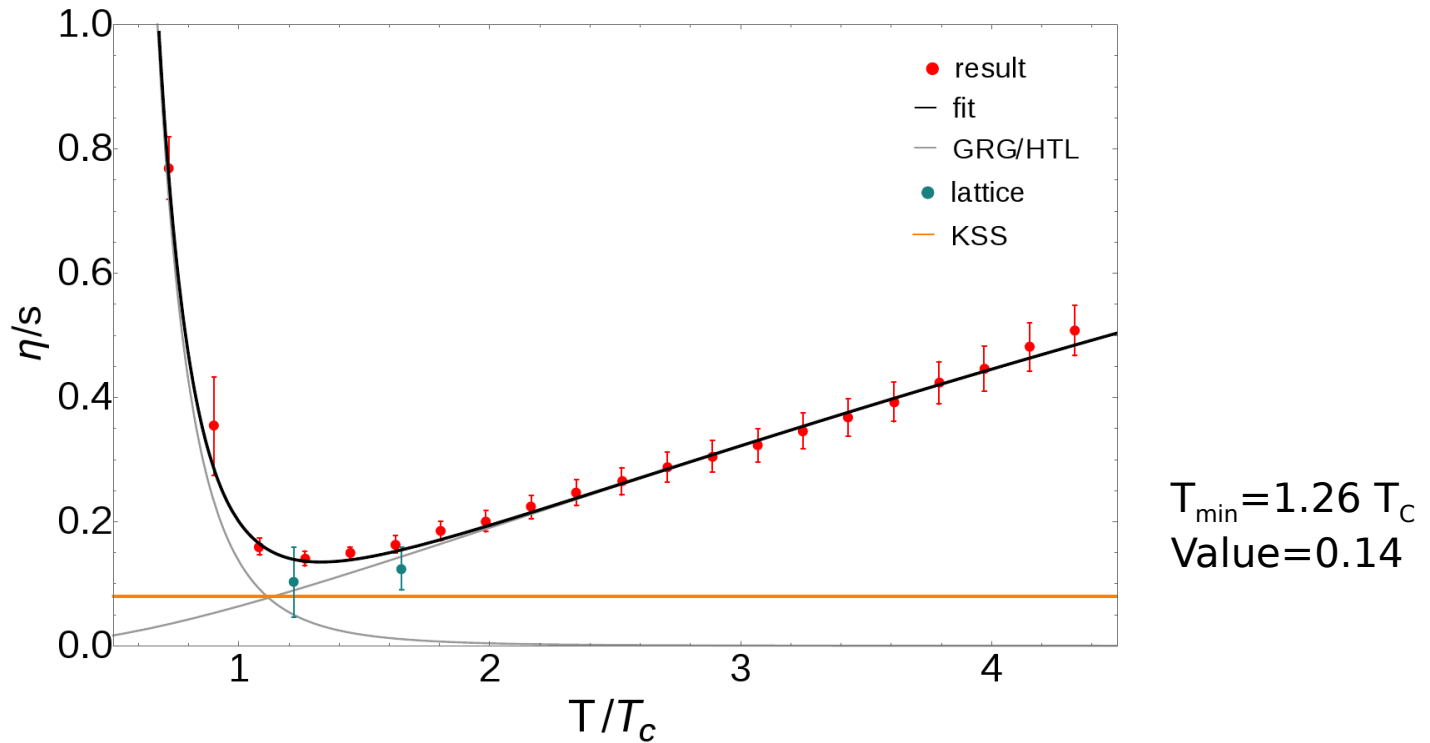
Finite number of diagrams involving full propagators/vertices



All diagrams to 2-loop order

➤ Haas, Fister, Pawłowski  
Phys. Rev. D90 091501 (2014)

# $\eta/s$ in Yang-Mills Theory



➤ Christiansen, Haas, Pawłowski, NSt PRL **115** (2015) 11, 112002

$$\text{Direct sum: } \frac{\eta}{s}(T) = \frac{a}{\alpha_s (cT/T_c)^\gamma} + \frac{b}{(T/T_c)^\delta}$$

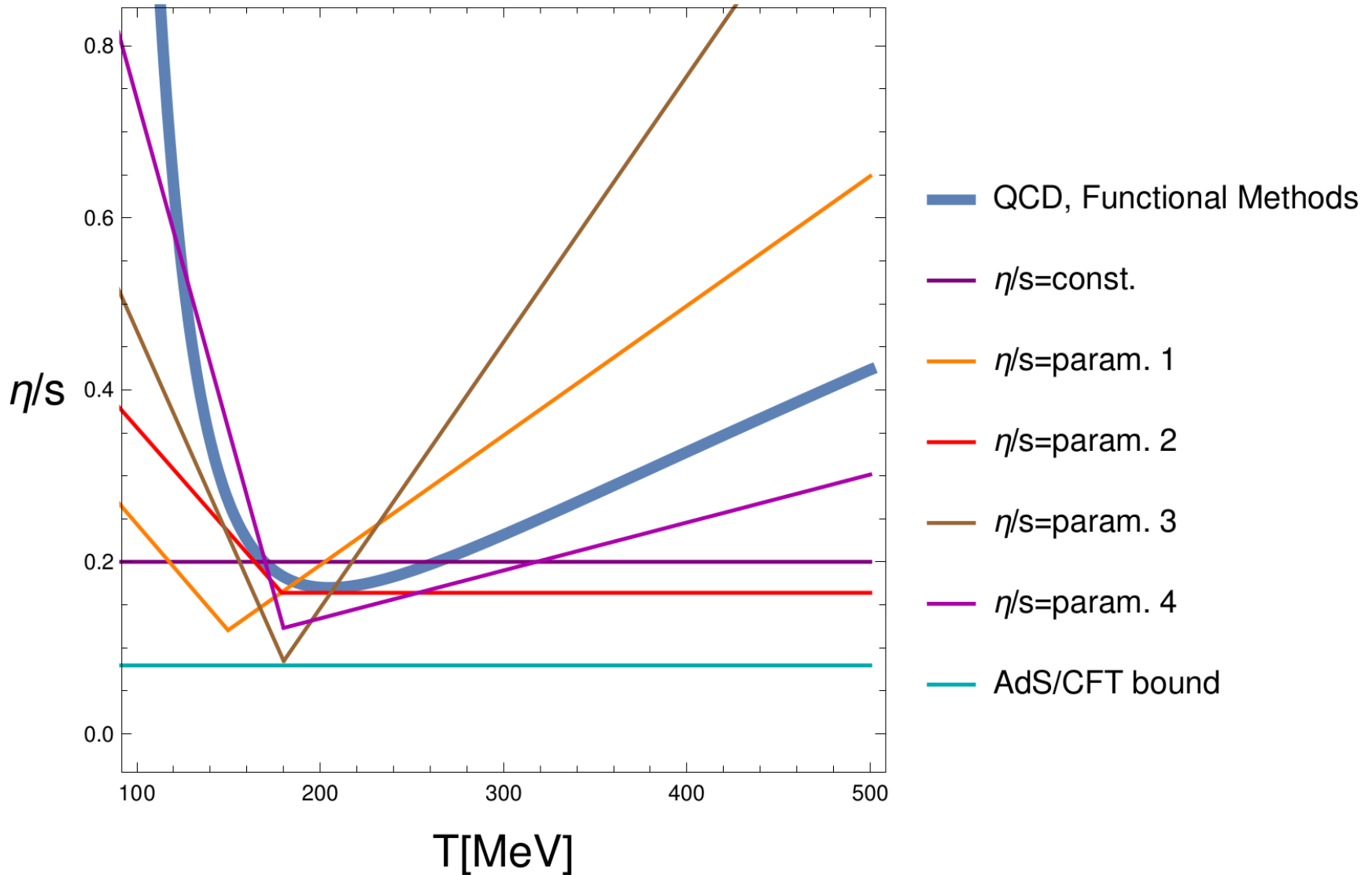
$$\gamma = 1.6 \quad a = 0.15 \quad b = 0.14 \quad c = 0.66 \quad \delta = 5.1$$

High T: **consistent with HTL-resummed pert. theory** (fixing  $\gamma$ )  
 supporting quasiparticle picture

Small T: algebraic decay  
**glueball resonance gas**

# Estimate: $\eta/s$ in QCD

➤ c.f. Niemi, Eskola, Paatelainen 1505.02677



# Summary

## ➤ **YM theory & QCD phase structure**

*towards a quantitative continuum approach to QCD*

- ✓ Quantitative grip on fluctuation physics in the vacuum
- ❑ Finite temperature and density
- ❑ Nuclear matter: nuclear binding energy...

## ➤ **Elementary spectral functions**

*new approach to analytical continuation problem*

- ✓ tested in low energy eff. models (O(N), QM model)
- ❑ quark & gluon, vector meson, ...

## ➤ **Transport Coefficients**

*from loop expansion involving full propagators and vertices*

- ✓ Global quantitative prediction for  $\eta/s$  in YM theory
- ❑ full QCD, bulk viscosity, relaxation times

• Thank you for your attention!