

The Infrared Phase of QCD and Anderson Localization

Ivan Horváth

Institute of Nuclear Physics, Řež-Prague & University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

People involved: [various stages/aspects]

Andrei Alexandru (George Washington), Peter Markoš (Comenius), Robert Mendris (Shawnee)
Beijing (Yi-Bo Yang et al), Keh-Fei Liu (Kentucky), Massimo D'Elia (Pisa), Claudio Bonanno (Madrid)

Literature: [w degrees of separation]

0-th	1-st	2-nd	3-rd
<u>1906.08047</u>	1502.07732	1405.2968	1807.03995
	2103.05607	1412.1777	1809.07249
	2110.04833	hep-lat/0607031	2110.11266
	2305.09459	hep-lat/0610121	2205.11520
	2404.12298	hep-lat/0703010	2207.13569
	2310.03621	0803.2744	2212.09806

Technical credits: Dimitrios Petrellis

OUTLINE:

A. IR Phase of SU(3) Gauge Theories

B. Anderson Localization

C. Effective Dimension(s) [Hausdorff/Minkowski dimension for spaces w probabilities]

D. The Role of Anderson-like Localization in IR Phase

Four talks really. Blue parts will be flyovers. Have to proceed deductively.

A. SU(3) Gauge Theories w Fundamental Quarks

$$S = -\frac{1}{2g^2} \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + \sum_{f=1}^{N_f} \bar{\psi}_f (D + m_f) \psi_f \quad \text{[Euclidean formulation]}$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} \equiv \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu + [A_\mu, A_\nu] \quad A_\mu \in su(3) \quad \text{[gluons]}$$

$$D\chi \equiv \gamma_\mu (\partial_\mu + A_\mu) \chi \quad \chi(x) \in C^{12} \quad \text{[fundamental quarks]}$$

Consider them at arbitrary temperature T: $1/T =$ Euclidean "time" extent

Language: $N_f=0$ pure glue QCD of quenched QCD \Leftrightarrow infinite quark masses
 $N_f=2$ two flavors, $m_1=m_2$
 $N_f=2+1$ three flavors, $m_1=m_2 \neq m_3$
 ...

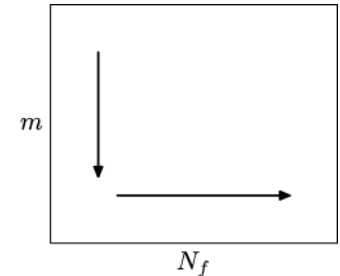
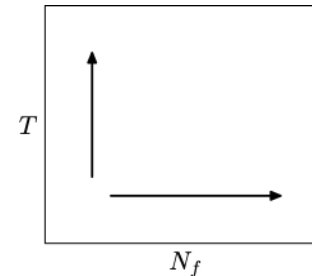
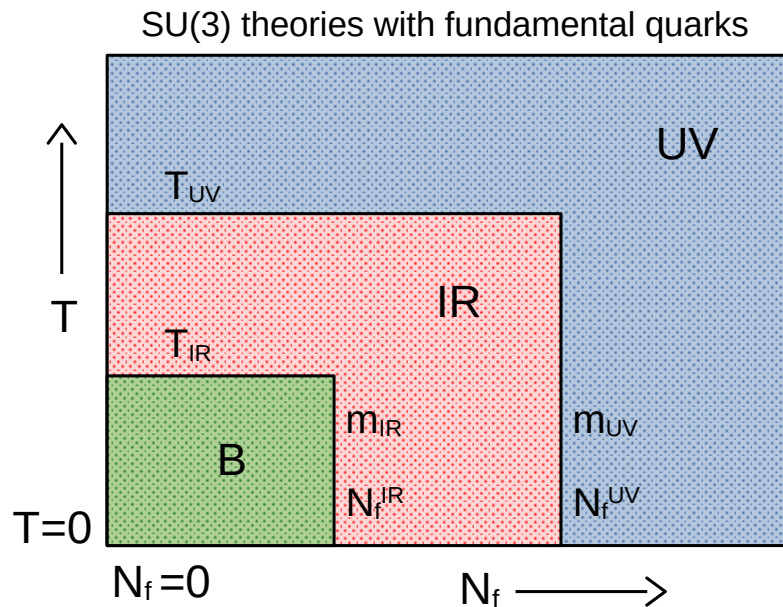
(1) Real-world QCD : $N_f=1+1+1+1+1+1$ $m_f =$ physical quark-mass parameters
 $N_f=2+1$ at physical quark masses its precise representation

(2) Varied behaviors including conformality

(3) For $N_f < 16.5$ we know how to take the continuum limit

$$\text{phase} = \begin{cases} \text{B} & \text{if } p = 0 \\ \text{IR} & \text{if } p < 0 \\ \text{UV} & \text{if } p > 0 \end{cases} \quad \rho(\lambda) \propto \lambda^p, \lambda \rightarrow 0$$

B = IR-broken
 IR = IR-symmetric
 UV = IR-trivial



Changes consistent with directions of arrows can induce transitions from $B \rightarrow IR$ or from $IR \rightarrow UV$.

See also 1502.07732

Most known detail comes from $B \rightarrow IR$ thermal case:

IR PHASE OF THERMAL QCD

Important also $B \rightarrow IR$ light-flavor case ($T=0$):

IR PHASE = STRONGLY COUPLED PART OF CONFORMAL WINDOW

1405.2968, 1412.1777, 1906.08047

A. IR Phase of SU(3) Gauge Theories...

I. IR PHASE OF THERMAL QCD

1906.08047, 2404.12298, 2305.09459

above/different from χ -crossover T_c

$$T_c < T_{\text{IR}} < T < T_{\text{UV}}$$

$\approx 155 \text{ MeV}$ $200\text{-}230 \text{ MeV}$ **perturb**

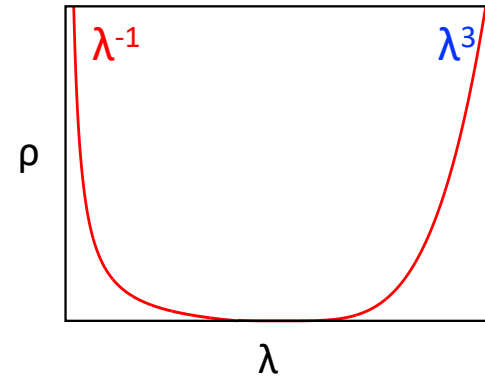
II. WHY IR? Power-law accumulation of DOFs

in the IR AA&IH 1906.08047

Thermal QCD in IR phase:

-highly unusual scales $\Lambda < 1 \text{ MeV}$

-partial deconfinement 1502.07732



$$\lambda^{-1} \rightarrow \lambda^{-1+\delta}$$

$$\delta = \delta(a) \rightarrow 0 ?$$

$$a \rightarrow 0$$

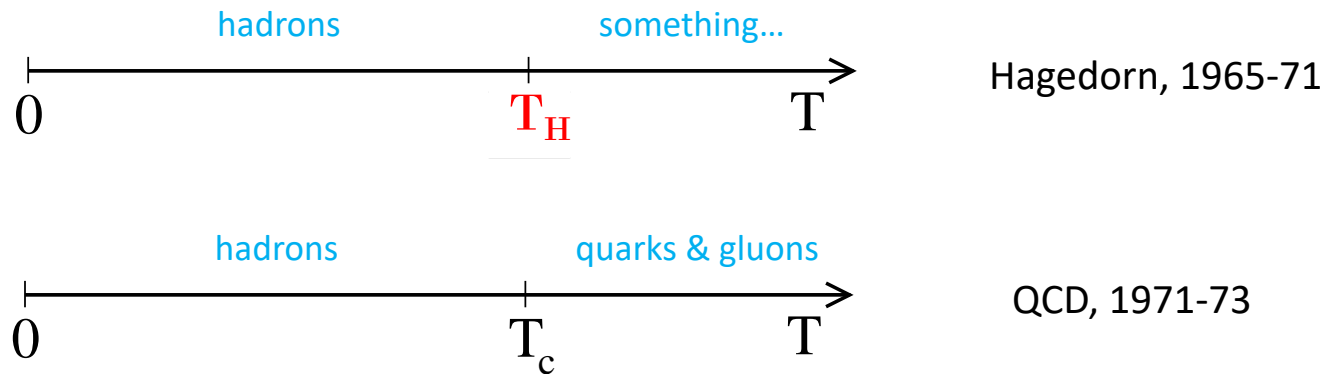
III. WHY PHASE?

At T_{IR} :

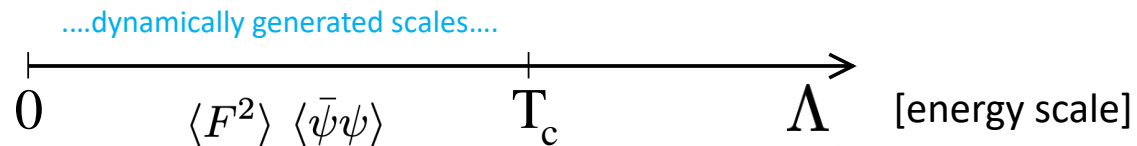
1906.08047

- (i) IR BECOMES AN AUTONOMOUS SUBSYSTEM
[IR-BULK decoupling, from 1-component to 2-component system]
- (ii) GLUE OF IR COMPONENT BECOMES SCALE INVARIANT
- (iii) NON-ANALYTICITIES APPEAR
- (iv) INFINITE GLUE SCREENING LENGTHS APPEAR

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD



Effects of Temperature:



Scales Story: thermal agitation erodes condensates and melts them upon T reaching T_c

DOFs Story: thermal agitation reduces IR dof-s and depletes them when T reaches T_c

[DOFs = quark & glue]

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD...

Scales Story: thermal agitation erodes condensates and melts them upon T reaching T_c

DOFs Story: thermal agitation reduces IR DOF-s and depletes them when T reaches T_c

BUT IS THIS TRUE? LATTICE PERFECT FOR UNAMBIGUOUS ANSWER [if lucky w scales].

Need a construct that expresses the distribution of DOFs over scales:

$$D = D[A] \quad D\psi_\lambda = i\lambda\psi_\lambda \quad \rho(\lambda, V_4) \equiv \frac{\# \text{ modes near } \lambda}{V_4 d\lambda} \quad \text{Dirac spectral density}$$

1) DISTRIBUTION OF QUARK DOFs ACROSS ENERGY-LIKE SCALES

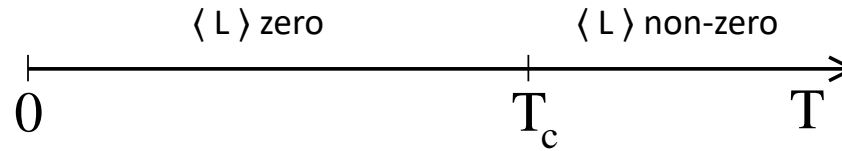
2) GAUGE-INVARIANT SCALE-DEPENDENT GLUE OPERATOR
[Quantifies contributions to F^2 from different energy-like scales.]

This should tell us truth about the stories & it does!

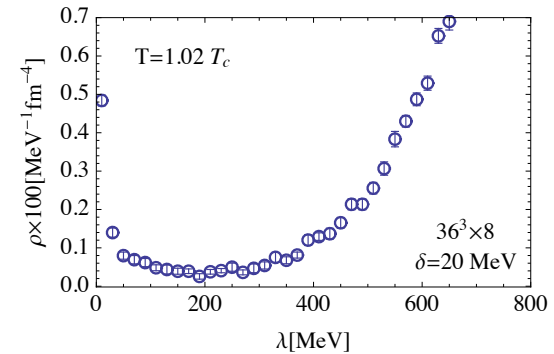
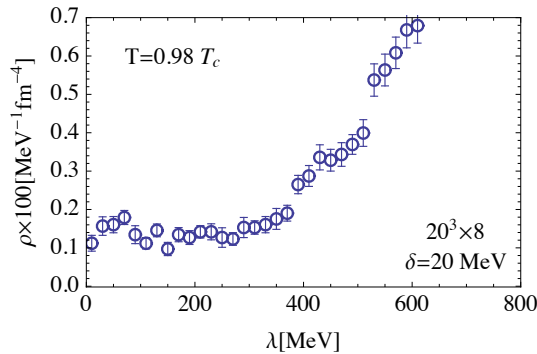
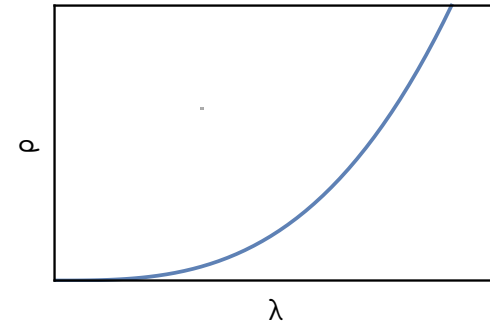
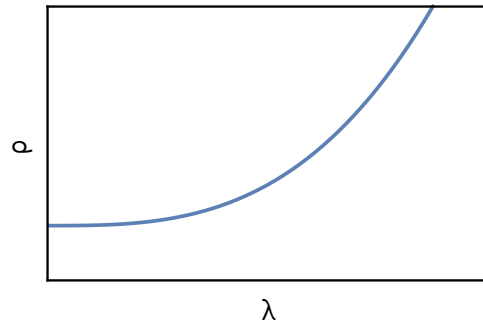
Due to 2) we say since 1502.07732: "Give us your glue and we will tell you who you are."

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD...

$N_f=0$ QCD



$\langle L \rangle$ = Polyakov loop
1-st order transition

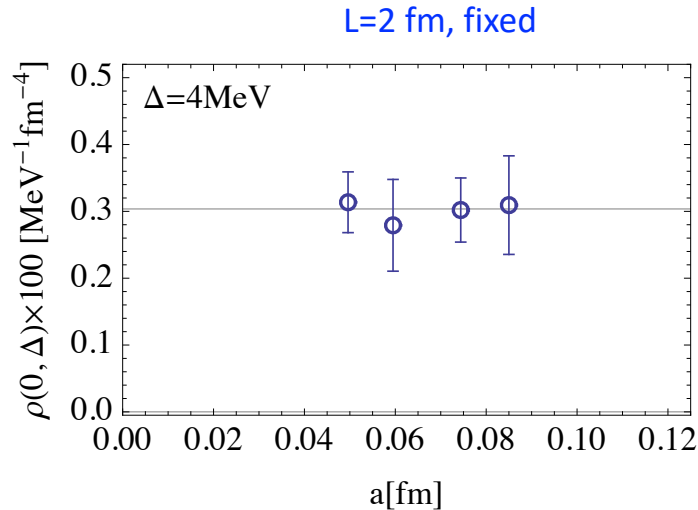
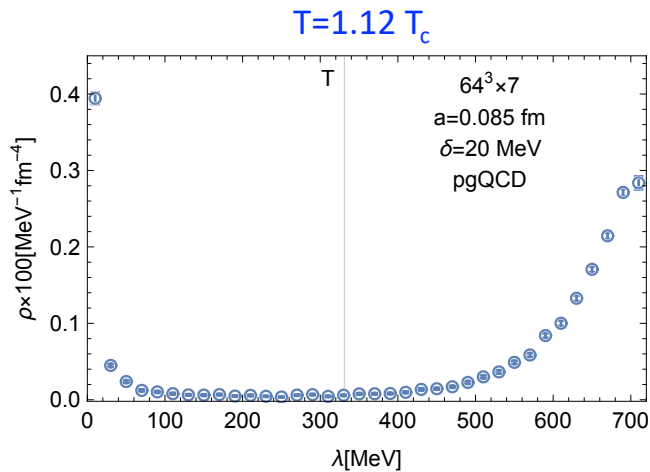


AA & IH 1502.07732

Well, perhaps some sort of an artifact?

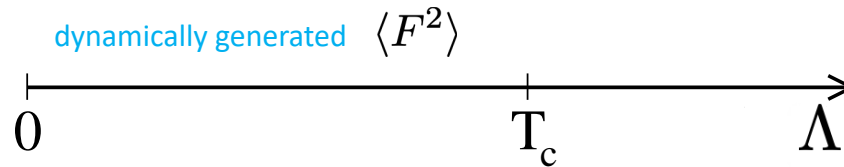
Edwards et al, hep-lat/9910041

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD...



NO ARTIFACT in $N_f=0$ QCD. Strength of IR peak scales!
AA & IH 1502.07732

Stories: $N_f=0$ adaptation
Thermal agitation erodes $\langle F^2 \rangle$ and melts it upon T reaching T_c



Thermal agitation reduces IR DOF-s and depletes them upon T reaching T_c . NOT TRUE

Removing scales was supposed to restore IR scale invariance trivially by removing IR DOF-s!

The reality is that IR DOF-s actually proliferate 😊. Thank you lattice!

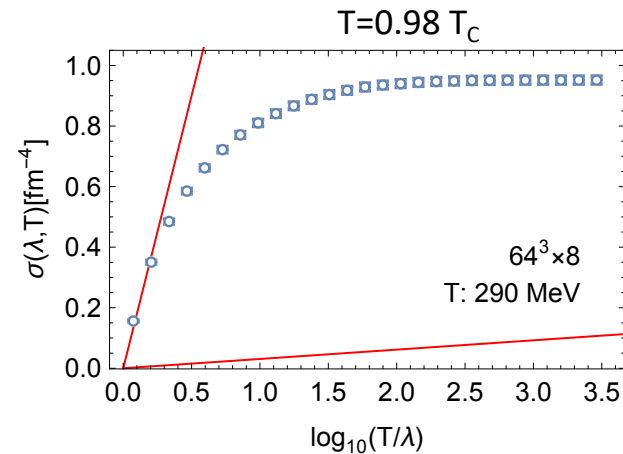
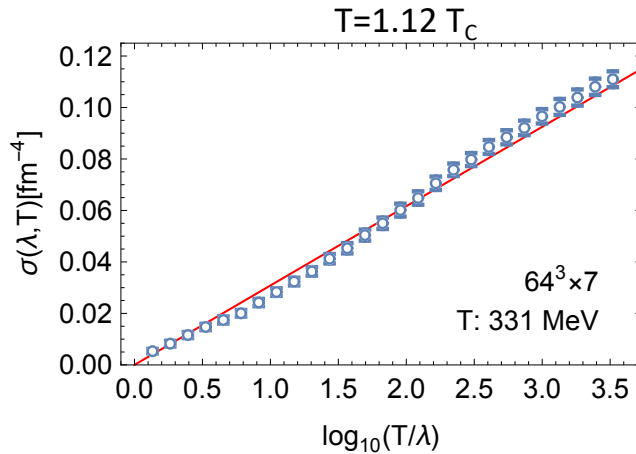
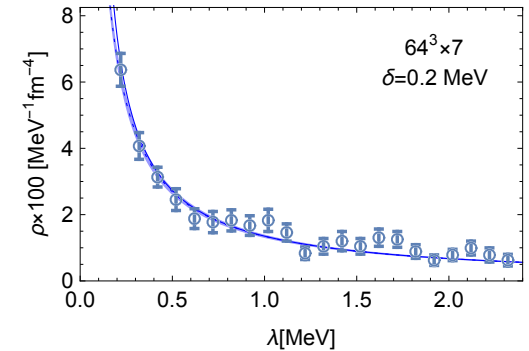
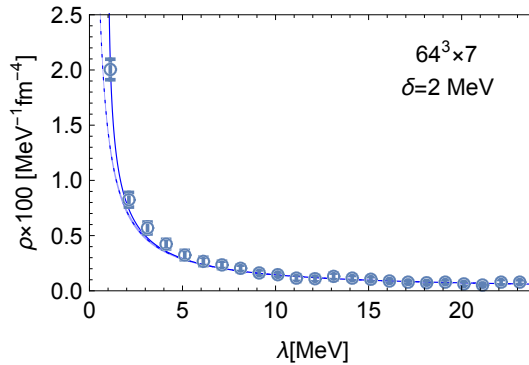
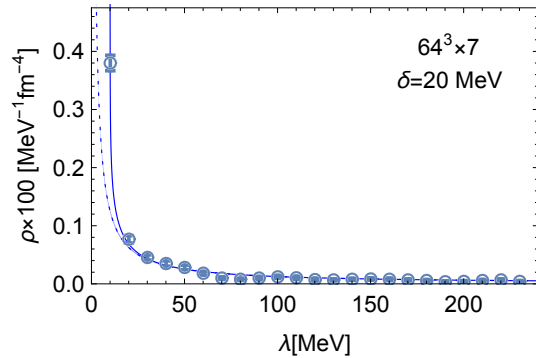
Could it be that IR scale invariance is restored non-trivially???

AA & IH 1906.08047

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD...

Fits to $\rho(\lambda) \propto 1/\lambda$ [$N_f=0, T=1.12 T_c$]

AA & IH 1906.08047



- Data:**
- (1) IR SCALE-INVARIANT DENSITY ($\lambda < T$) OVER 3 ORDERS OF MAGNITUDE IN SCALE
 - (2) NEGATIVE POWER-LAW ACCUMULATION OF DIRAC MODES IN IR: $\rho(\lambda) \propto \lambda^p$ $p \gtrsim -1$

Proposal: THIS REFLECTS IR SCALE-INVARIANT GLUE: IR PHASE [$p < 0$] 1906.08047

A. IR Phase: Stories of Temperature & QCD...WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE?

T=0 classically scale invariant theory

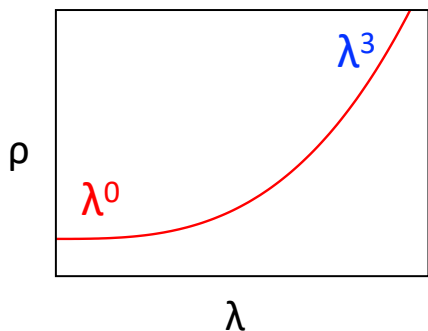
quantum fluctuations
 \longrightarrow
 scale anomaly

scales generated
 world of hadrons

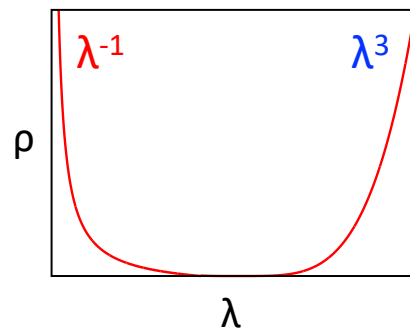
scale-broken
 T=0 theory

thermal fluctuations
 \longrightarrow
 increasing T

scale-invariant but
 only for $\Lambda < \Lambda_{IR} < T$



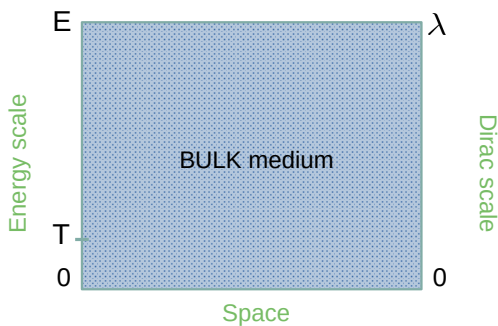
thermal agitation
 \longrightarrow



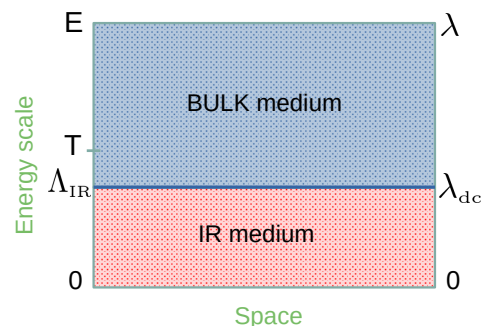
$$\lambda^{-1} \rightarrow \lambda^{-1+\delta}$$

$$\delta = \delta(a) \rightarrow 0?$$

$$a \rightarrow 0$$



thermal agitation
 \longrightarrow
 IR-BULK SEPARATION
 AA & IH 1906.08047



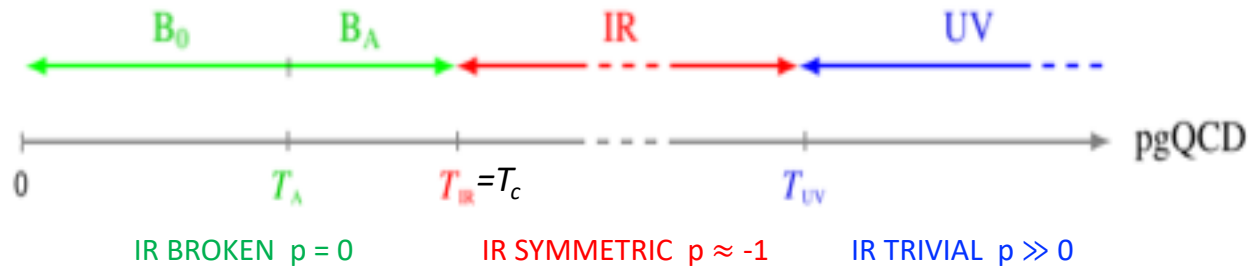
NON-INVARIANT

INVARIANT

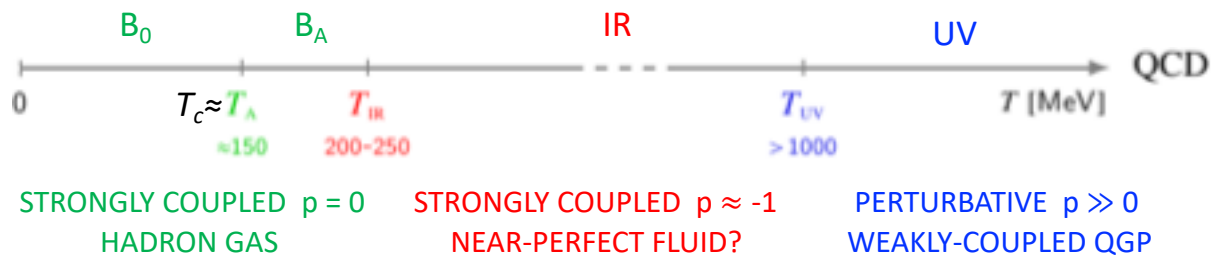
AT $T=T_{IR}$ THERMAL QCD BECOMES 2-COMPONENT SYSTEM: IR MEDIUM AN AUTONOMOUS SUBSYSTEM

A. Phase Diagrams of Thermal QCD via IR Scale Invariance of Glue AA & IH 1906.08047

- Thermal phase diagram for $N_f=0$: Polyakov line transition coincides w IR-phase transition



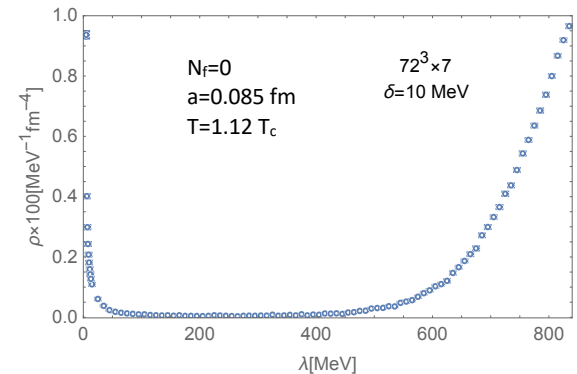
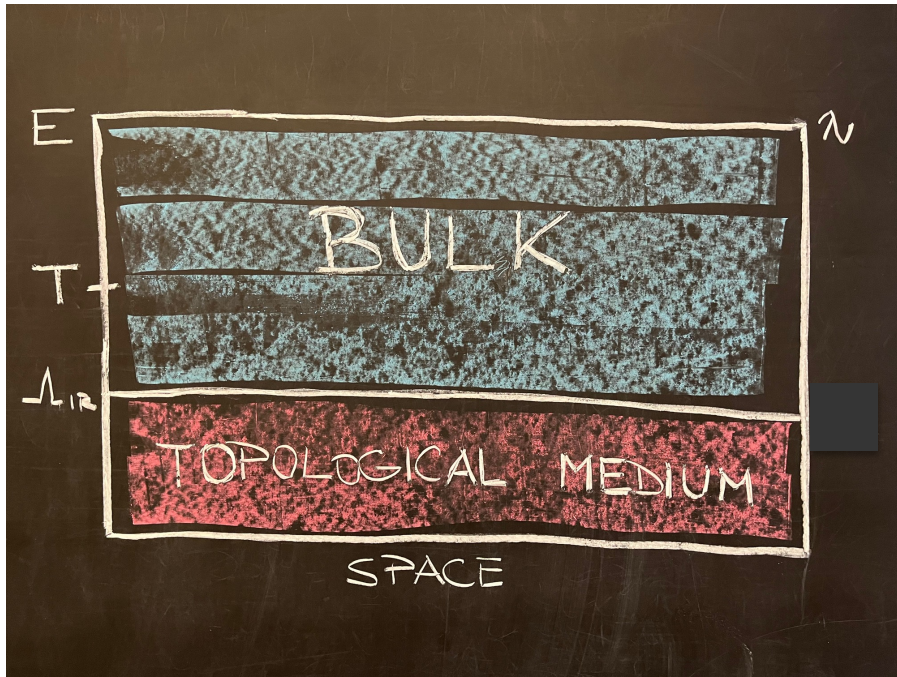
- Thermal phase diagram of $N_f=2+1$ "real-world": chiral crossover below IR-phase transition



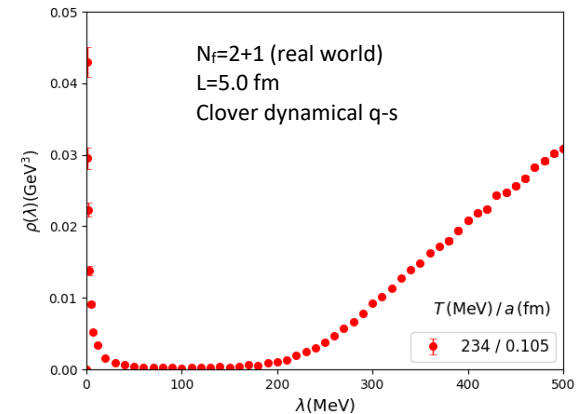
Hypothesis: IR phase describes the near-perfect fluid [RHIC, ALICE] state of matter

Experimental signatures on ALICE3?

AA & IH 1906.08047



AA & IH unpublished

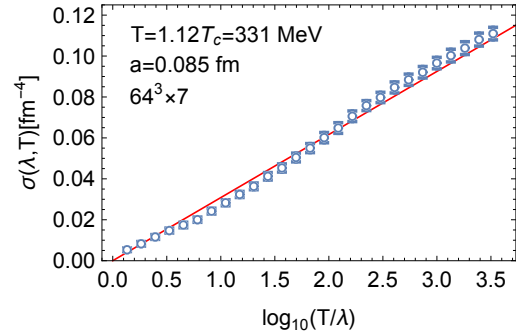
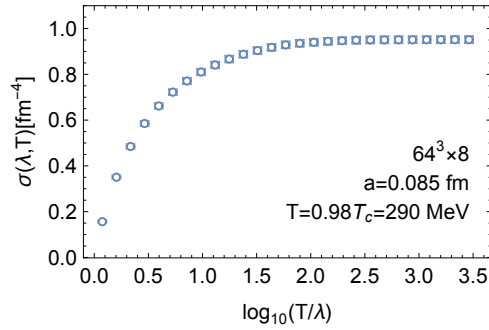


X. Meng et al 2305.09459

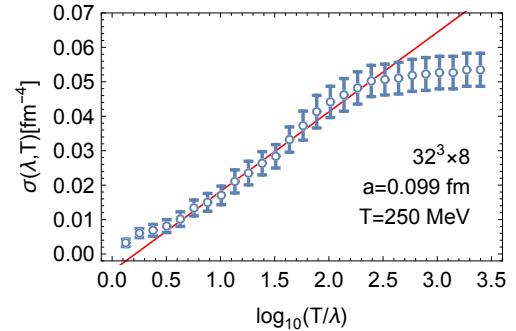
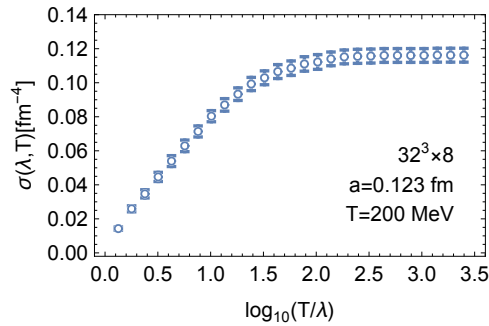
- System in IR Phase a 2-component medium: invariant IR and non-invariant bulk
- Tisza/Landau 2-component theory of liquid helium? Maybe in some dual form.

A. IR Phase: Real-World QCD

$N_f=0$



$N_f=2+1$



Real-world QCD is $N_f=2+1$ at physical quark masses of stouted staggered quarks (Wuppertal-Budapest) here.

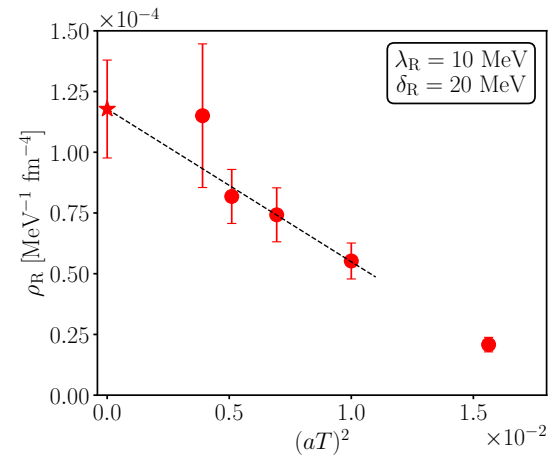
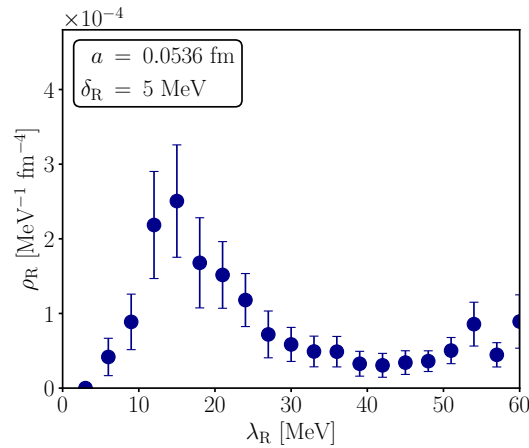
Conjecture: REAL-WORLD QCD HAS IR PHASE WITH $p \approx -1$

$200 \text{ MeV} < T_{\text{IR}} < 250 \text{ MeV}$

AA & IH 1906.08047

A. IR Phase: Real-World QCD...

AA, Bonanno, D'Elia, IH 2404.12298



Real-world QCD is $N_f=2+1$ at physical quark masses of stouted staggered quarks here.

Lattice Dirac operator = stouted staggered [not overlap]

- ❑ IR structure exists in Dirac operator describing dynamical quarks
- ❑ not a lattice artifact
- ❑ IR medium is a quark-gluon medium
- ❑ green light to study IR phase using overlap: correct & efficient

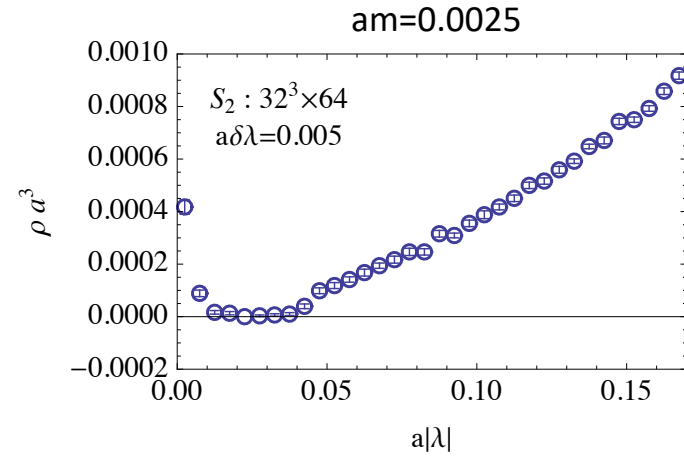
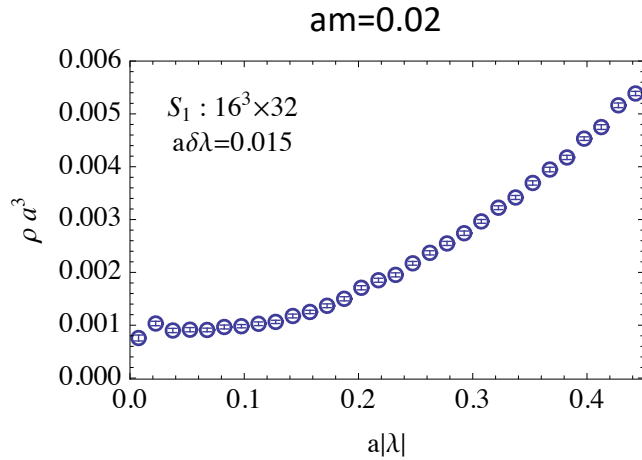
A. IR Phase: Theories with Many Flavors?

$N_f=12, T=0$

Configss: A. Hasenfratz et al, 1207.7162

staggered with nHYP

AA & IH 1405.2968 1411.1777

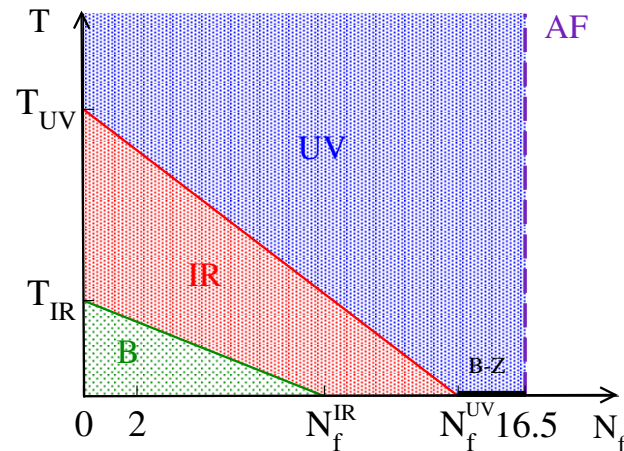


Lowering quark mass at sufficient number of flavors can generate IR phase

Conjecture: AA & IH 1906.08047

Conformal window has a strongly coupled part with $p < 0$.

$$N_f^c \equiv N_f^{\text{IR}} < N_f < N_f^{\text{UV}} \leq 16.5$$



B. Anderson Localization & Transitions

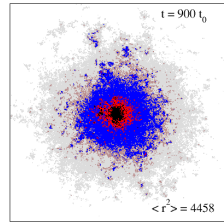
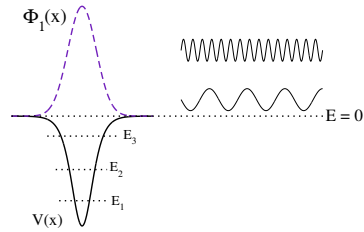
courtesy of P.Markos

Quantum mechanics: eigenstates of quantum particle could be

bounded extended

... and localized

[P. W. Anderson 1958]



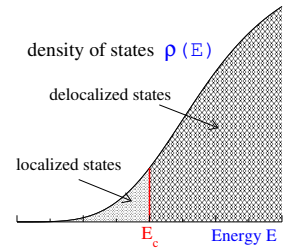
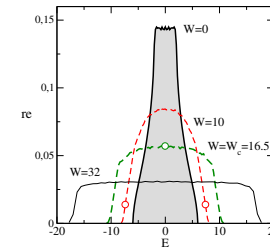
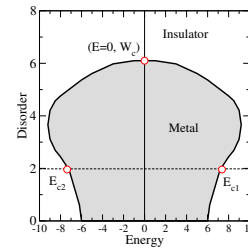
$E < 0$ $E > 0$

Localization is a consequence of

- ▶ disorder
- ▶ wave character of particle
- ▶ $\Phi(\vec{r}) \propto \exp[-r/\lambda]$

λ is a localization length here $\lambda \longrightarrow \ell$

3D Anderson model: phase diagram, density of state, mobility edge



Critical exponents:

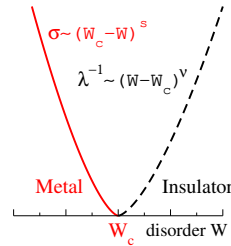
conductivity:

$$\sigma(E) \sim (E_c - E)^s$$

localization length:

$$\lambda(E) \sim (E - E_c)^{-\nu}$$

$s = (d - 2)\nu$... critical exponents.



(1) $\ell \propto \xi$

density-density correlation length within the mode

(2) $\langle \psi_{loc}^2(x) \psi_{ext}^2(y) \rangle_c \longrightarrow 0$ for $L \rightarrow \infty$

Anderson-like transition in thermal QCD:

Disorder $W \rightarrow$ Temperature T

Mobility edge $\lambda_A \neq 0$ invoked for understanding chiral phase transition: aka metal-to-insulator picture

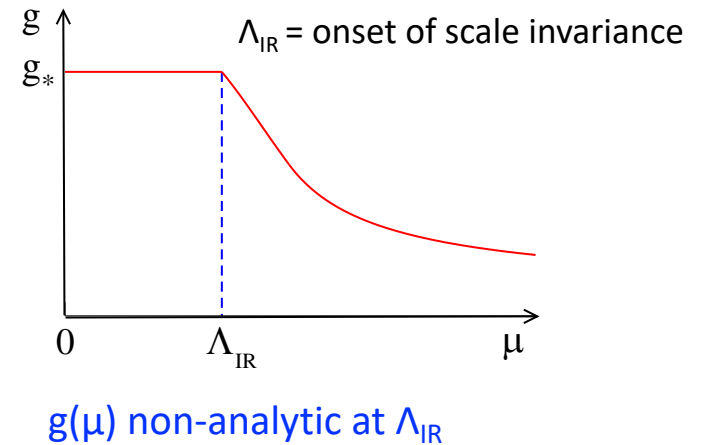
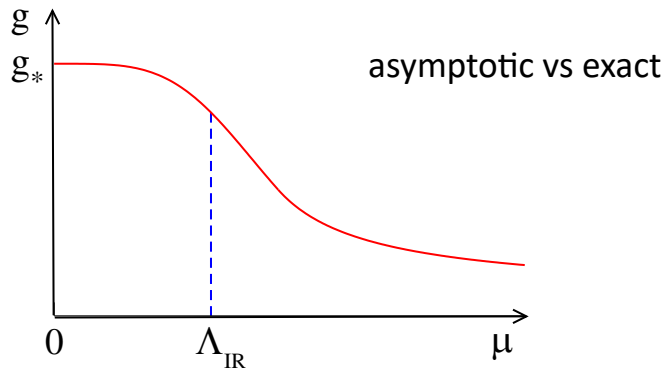
Garcia-Garcia & Osborn hep-lat/0611019

Kovacs & Pitler 1006.1205

Giordano, Kovacs & Pitler 1312.1179

Shortly after AA & IH 1906.0804 we realized that λ_A is a very friendly feature to our claim and accepted it ☺.

B. Why is Anderson-Like λ_A Handy



Q: Do non-analyticities exist and, if so, how do they arise?

Their existence in λ -dependences would also facilitate IR-BULK decoupling!

Hint: Given the existence of λ_A and its nature, focus on spatial IR dimensions of modes.

WHAT IS IR DIMENSION OF MODES? Concept didn't exist.

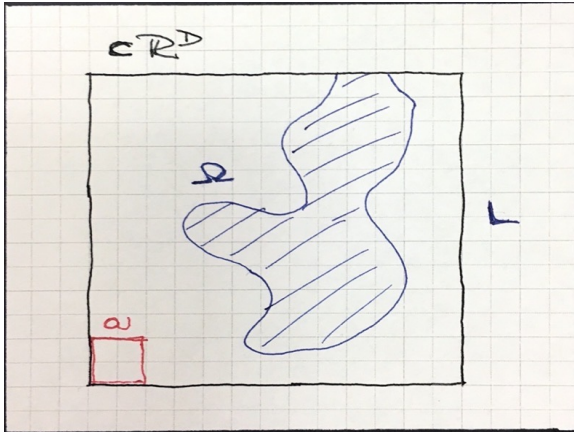
IH & RM 1807.03995

effective-number theory

IH, PM and RM 2205.11520

effective-dimension theory

C. Effective Dimensions



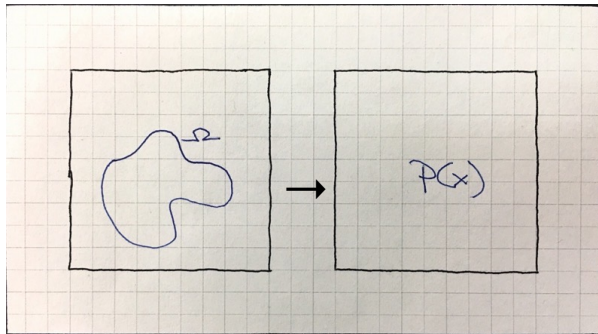
characterize fine [UV] and global [IR] features of fixed sets

all points/elements of regularized space: $N \propto (L/a)^D$

points/elements covering Ω : N_+

UV: $N_+(a, L) \propto a^{-d_{UV}(L)}$, $a \rightarrow 0$

IR: $N_+(a, L) \propto L^{d_{IR}(a)}$, $L \rightarrow \infty$



$P(x) \implies \Omega_{\text{eff}}$

But how to proceed when instead of fixed Ω we have $P(x)$?

- 1) Count how many points $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}[P] = \mathcal{N}(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N)$ are effectively selected by P .
- 2) Select Ω_{eff} as \mathcal{N} most probable points on the lattice
- 3) Proceed as Minkowski/box-counting with N_+

Consistent realization of this program leads to **unique effective dimensions** IH, PM and RM 2205.11520

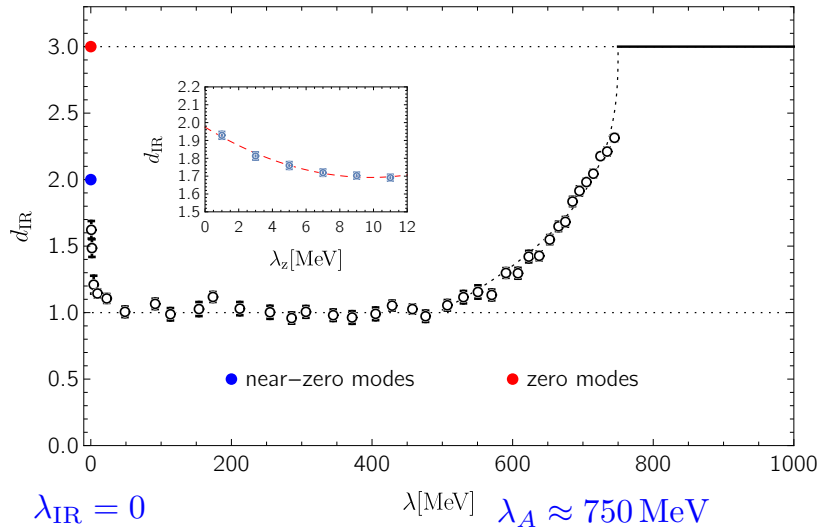
$$\mathcal{N}_*[P] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{n}_*(Np_i) \quad , \quad \mathbf{n}_*(c) = \min\{c, 1\} \quad \text{IH \& RM 1807.03995}$$

Box: $N \longrightarrow N_+$ Effective: $N \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}_*[P]$

D. Anderson Localization in IR Phase

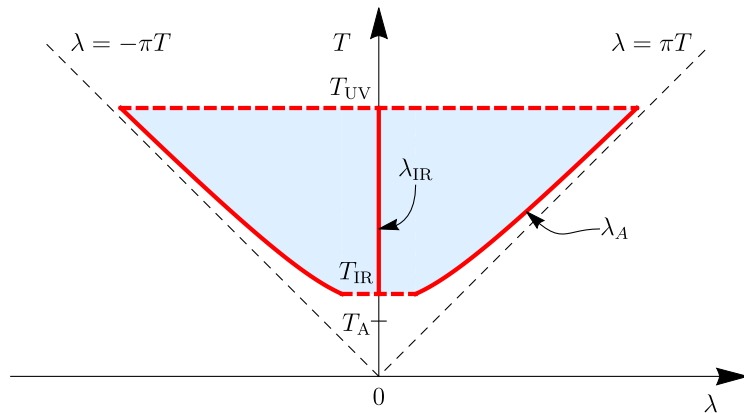
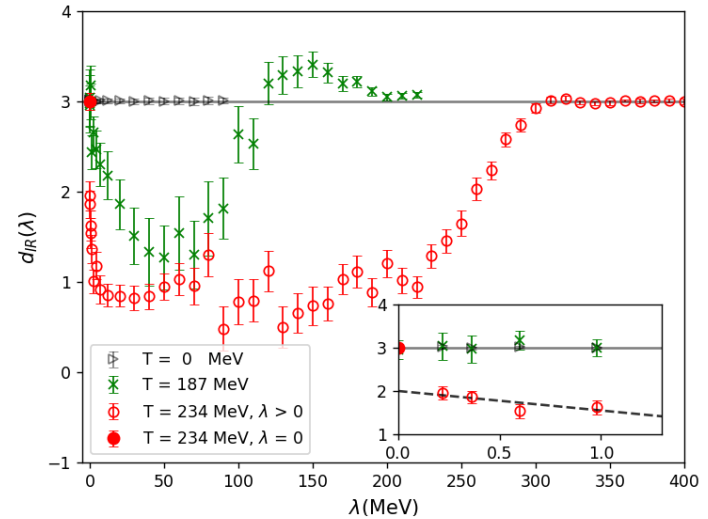
AA & IH 2103.05607

$N_f=0$, $a=0.085$ fm, $T=1.12T_{IR}$



X. Meng et al 2305.09459

$N_f=2+1$ physical point, $a=0.105$ fm



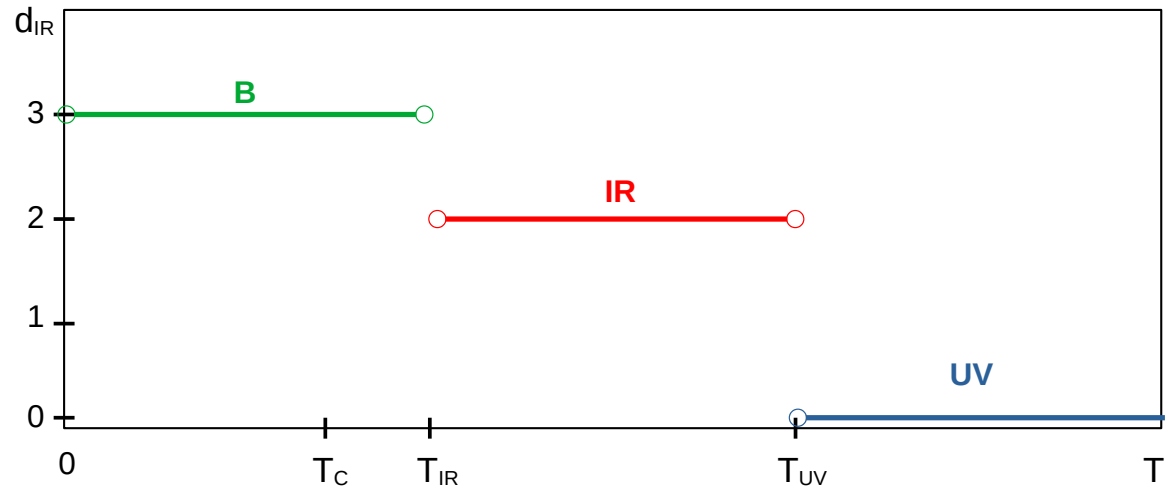
AA & IH 2110.04833

Dirac spectral phase diagram of QCD

- ❖ IR phase associated with Dirac non-analyticity
- ❖ Explains non-analytic running
- ❖ Entails IR-Bulk decoupling
- ❖ Second mobility edge $\lambda_{IR}=0$ [gives long-range physics]
- ❖ Recall that λ_A facilitates decoupling
[see also model in Kovács 2311.04208 for support of decoupling]
- ❖ $T=187$ MeV is different from $T=234$ MeV as predicted

D. Anderson Localization in IR Phase...

Clean representation
of non-analyticity in
IR dimension: represents
 d_{IR} of near-zero modes and
 d_{IR} of IR glue field strength



In which aspects of IR phase are Anderson-like localization features relevant?

- (i) IR BECOMES AN AUTONOMOUS SUBSYSTEM YES
[IR-BULK decoupling, from 1-component to 2-component system]
- (ii) GLUE OF IR COMPONENT BECOMES SCALE INVARIANT YES
- (iii) NON-ANALYTICITIES APPEAR YES
- (iv) INFINITE GLUE SCREENING LENGTHS APPEAR YES

Studies of Dirac Spectra in Other Contexts

$U_A(1)$ problem and other

Dick et al 1502.06190

Kaczmarek et al 2102.06136

Aoki et al 2011.0149

Ding et al 2010.14836

Kehr et al 2304.13617

Glozman et al 2204.05083

Bonanno & Giordano 2312.02857

Kaczmarek et al 2301.11610

Kovacs & Vig 1706.03562

Rohrhofer et al 1902.03191

Cardinali et al 2107.02745

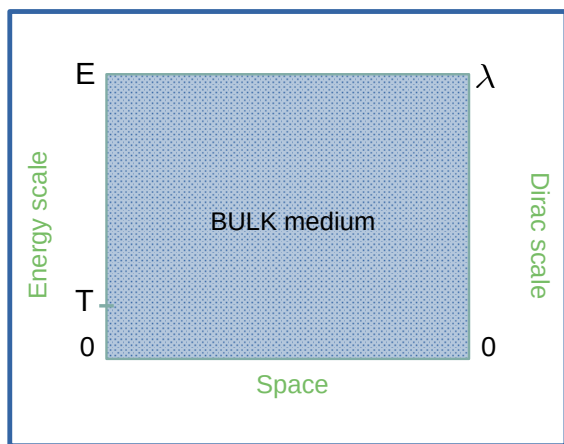
Giordano 2404.03546

Pandey et al 2407.09253

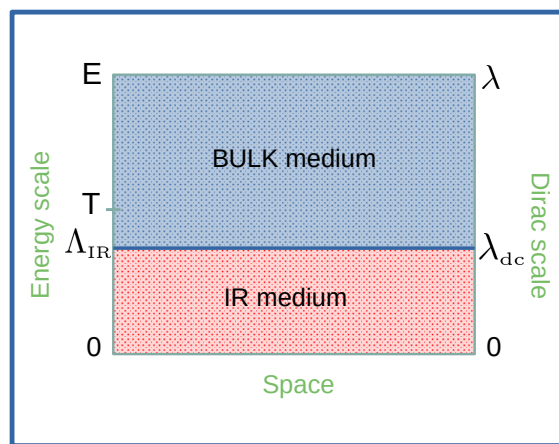
and other...

SLIDES FOR QUESTIONS

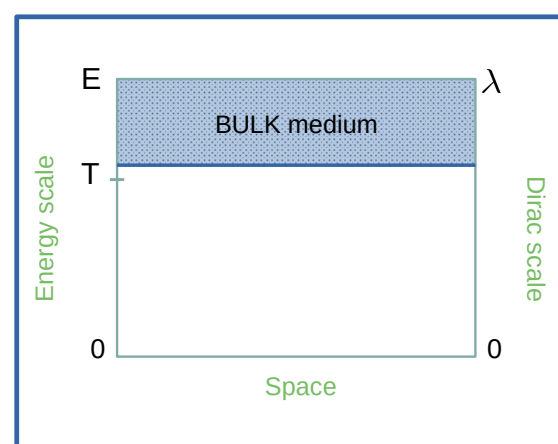
$$T < T_{\text{IR}}$$



$$T_{\text{IR}} < T < T_{\text{UV}}$$



$$T > T_{\text{UV}}$$



WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION

$N_f=0$ easier to communicate the point [same in $N_f=2+1$ just more awkward.]

T=0 classically scale
invariant theory

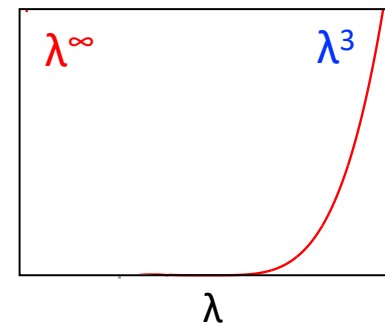
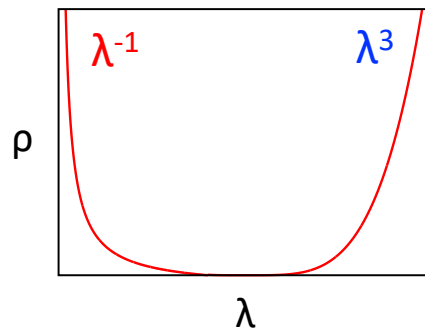
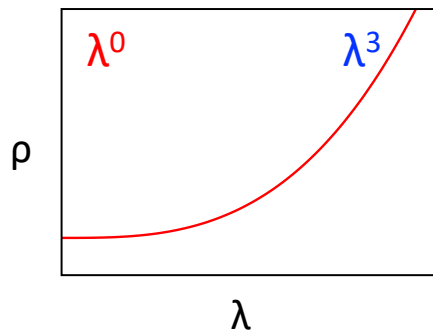
quantum fluctuations
→
scale anomaly

scales generated
world of hadrons etc

scale-broken
T=0 theory

thermal fluctuations
→
increasing T

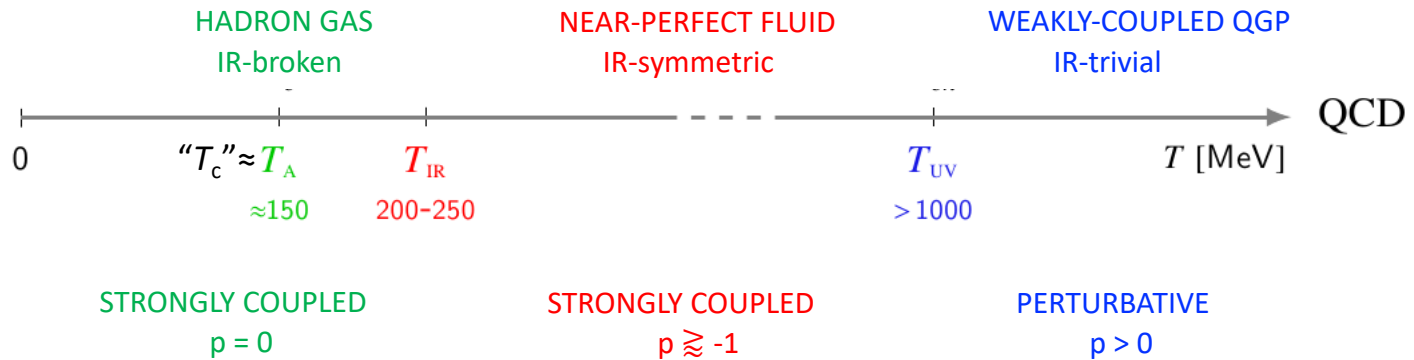
scale-invariant
but only for $\Lambda \leq \Lambda_{\text{IR}} < T$



WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION...

PHASE STRUCTURE OF THERMAL QCD IN TERMS OF GLUE IR SCALE INVARIANCE

[AA & IH 1906.08047]

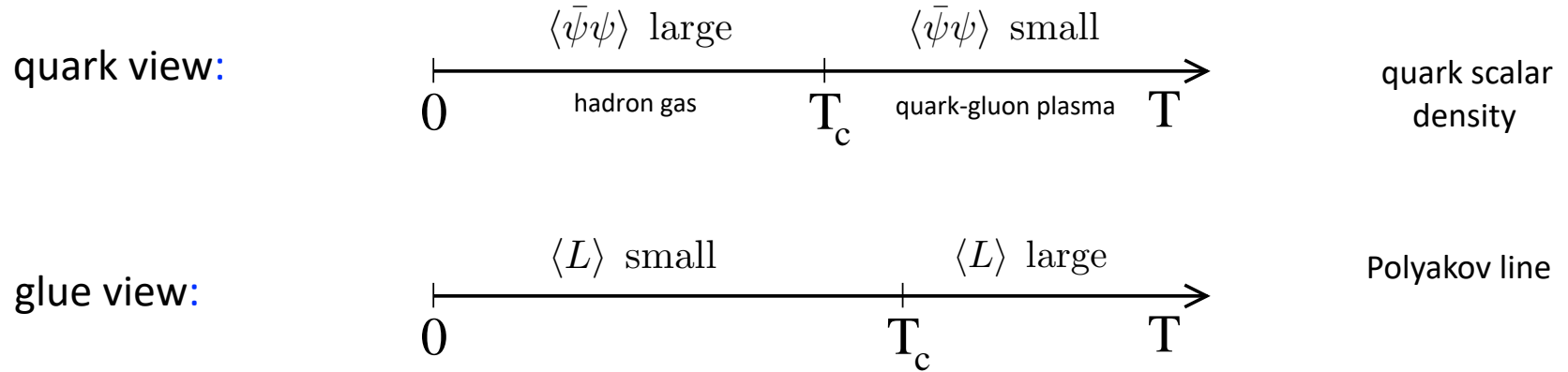


$$\text{phase} = \begin{cases} \text{B} & \text{if } p = 0 \\ \text{IR} & \text{if } p < 0 \\ \text{UV} & \text{if } p > 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{with} \quad \rho(\lambda) \propto \lambda^p \quad \text{for} \quad \lambda \rightarrow 0$$

Original talk: https://indico.cern.ch/event/764552/contributions/3420459/attachments/1865996/3068382/WuHan_jun_2019_infra.pdf

Useful talk: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vZ0AY0WsZAfF9iV7-Br-E_2NiwaZzRGp/view

Standard approaches to phases:



Quarks won the popularity contest

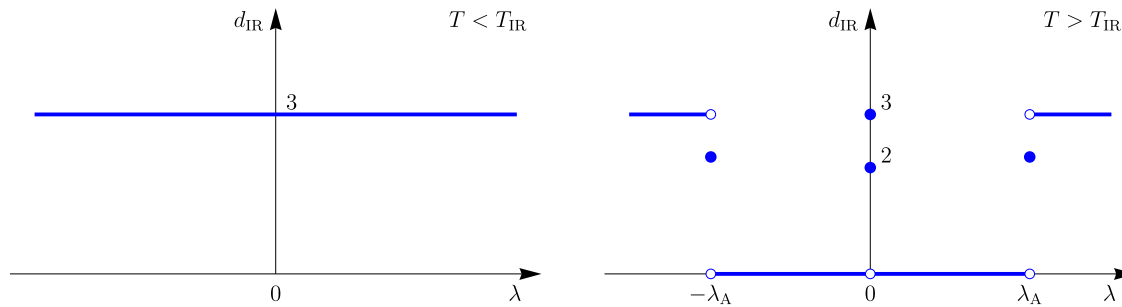
[$T_c \approx 155$ MeV, crossover , Aoki et al, 2007]

NEED NEW IDEA!

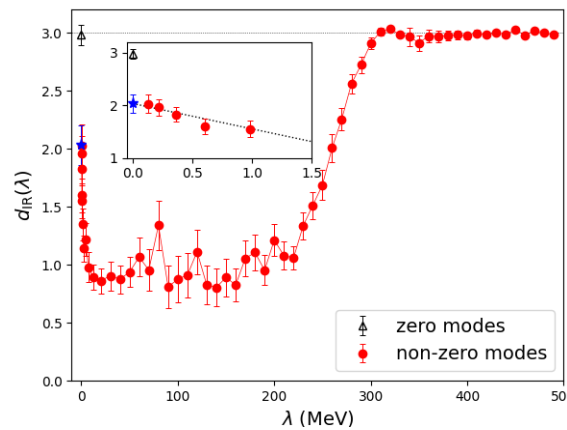
- Point 1: $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$ is cleaner because it reflects deeper IR of glue
- Point 2: both $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$ and $\langle L \rangle$ are limited in terms of reflecting glue
- Point 3: need glue probe that is sensitive to any scale by construction object with explicit scale dependence

TOPOLOGICAL ORIGIN AND NON-ANALYTICITY

A.A. & I.H. 2103.05607, 2110.04833, 2310.03621, 2305.09459



d_{IR} = effective IR dimension of modes

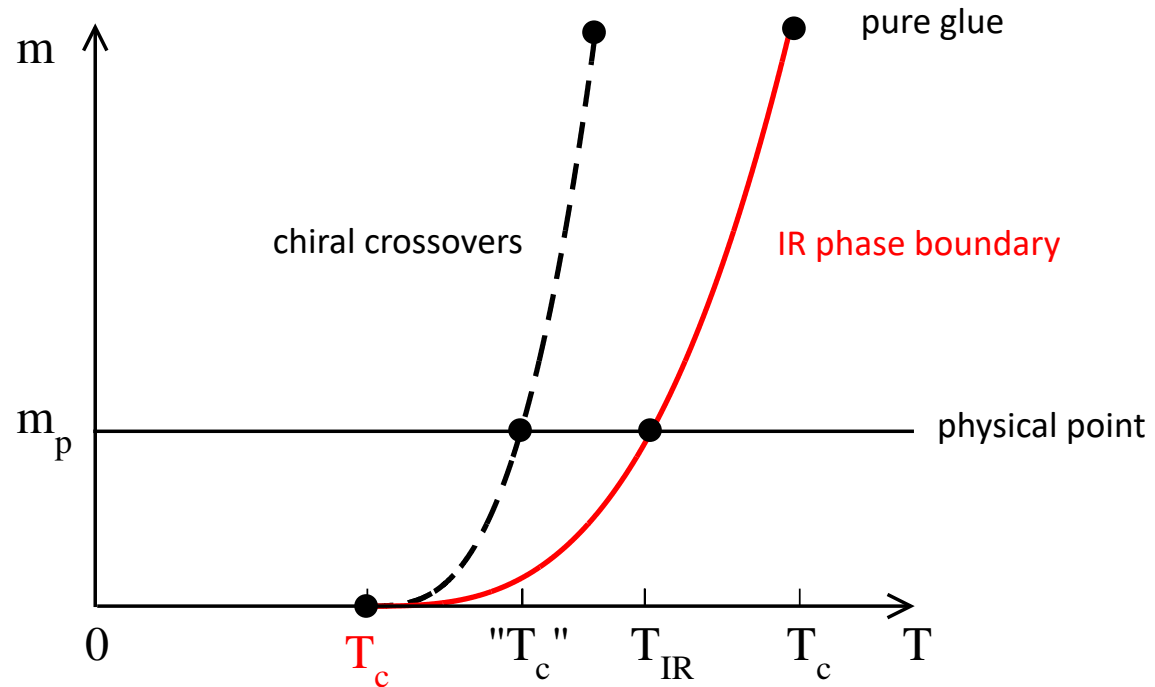


2305.09459

$N_f = 2 + 1$ at physical point $T = 234$ MeV $a = 0.105$ fm overlap mode-density glue operator

Reconcile IR phase transition with chiral transition:

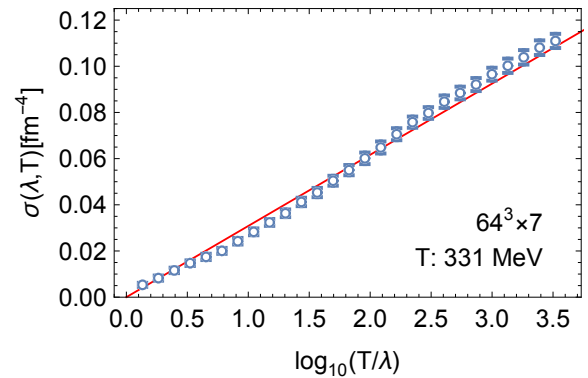
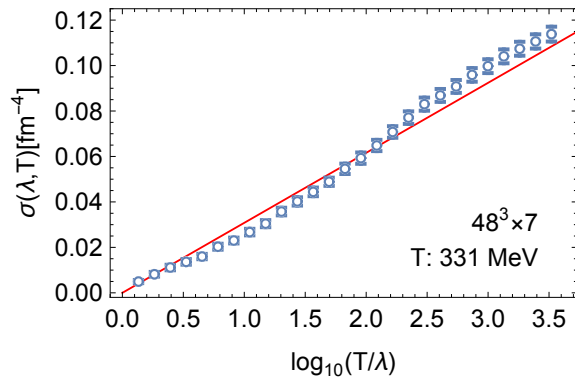
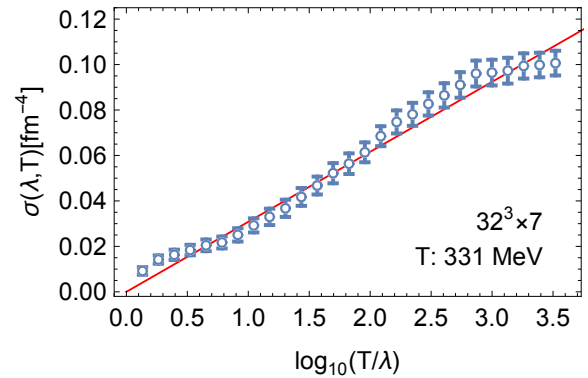
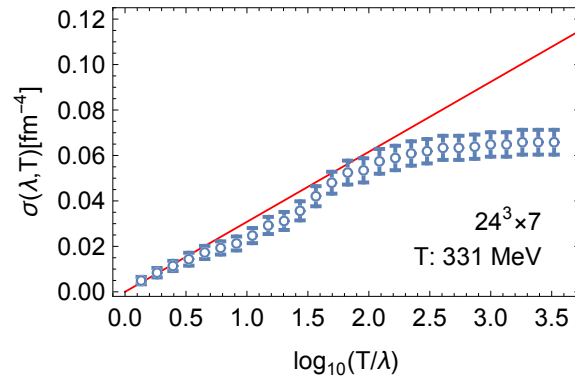
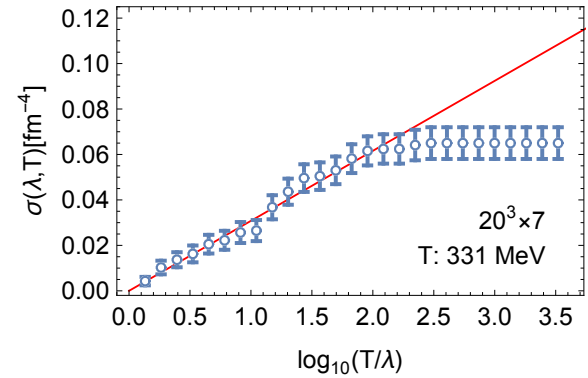
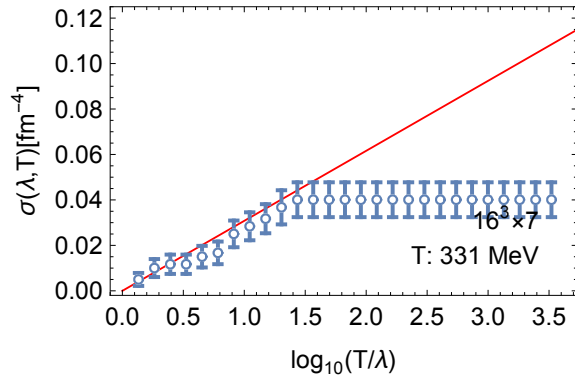
2-flavor theory: trends, known from [A.A & I.H. 1502.07732](#) and consistent with the following



- Note: chiral limit not much closer to physical point than heavy limit
- Secret: story of QCD phase transition is really a T_{IR} story!

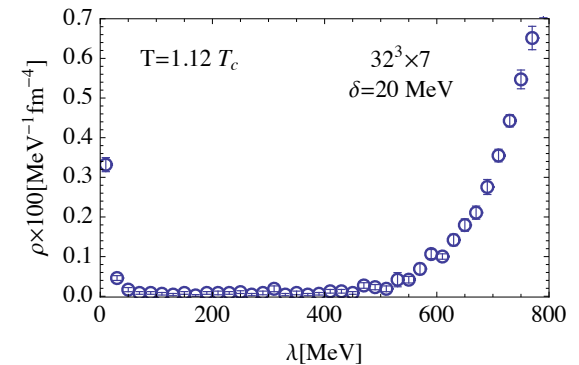
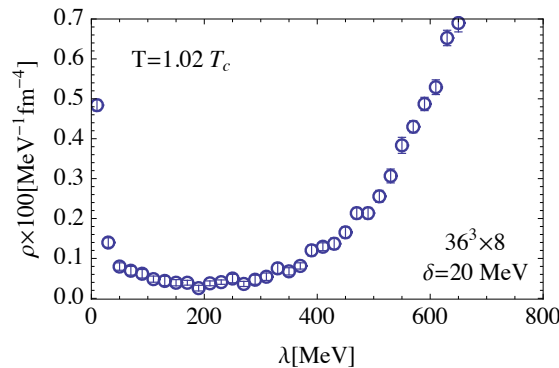
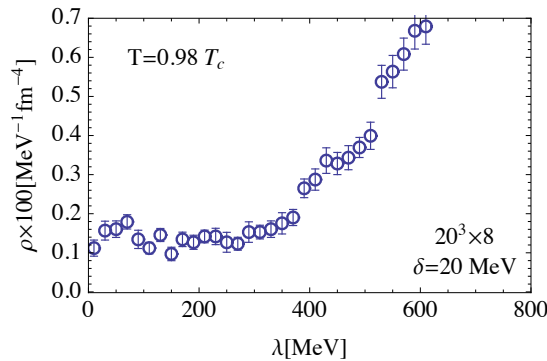
Check this further & better... $\sigma(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \equiv \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} d\lambda \rho(\lambda)$

$$\rho(\lambda) = c/\lambda \quad \longrightarrow \quad \sigma(\lambda, T) = c \ln(T/\lambda)$$



- Peak in IR overlap spectrum upon crossing T_c (pure glue) [Edwards, Heller, Narayanan, Kiskis, 1999]

- Our version of it [AA & IH, 1502.07732]



- knee-jerk reaction was: quenched chiral condensate may diverge in high-temperature pure glue
- knee-jerk reaction should be: **what on earth is glue doing to produce this?** [1502.07732]
- didn't know but went on with it, e.g., around chiral crossover we got this:

