

# On the order of the chiral phase transition at zero and small baryon density

Owe Philipsen



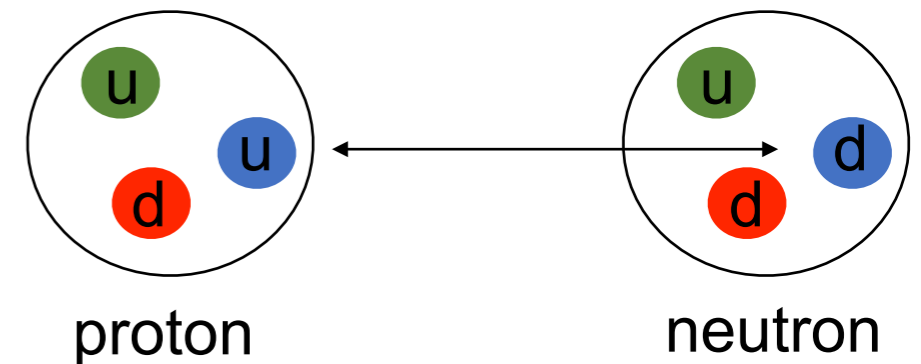
- Motivation
- Lattice results at zero density: 1st or 2nd order transition?
- Finite density

# Chiral symmetry breaking and restoration

For  $m_q = 0$  QCD symmetric under rotations in flavor space

$$SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_A$$

↑  
anomalous



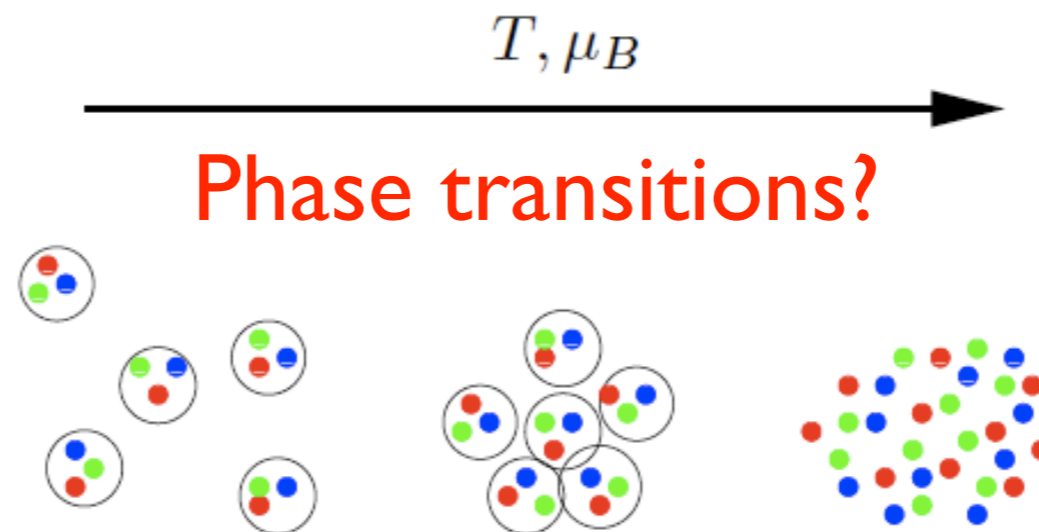
Confinement + spontaneous symmetry breaking:

$$\sigma = \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle \neq 0$$

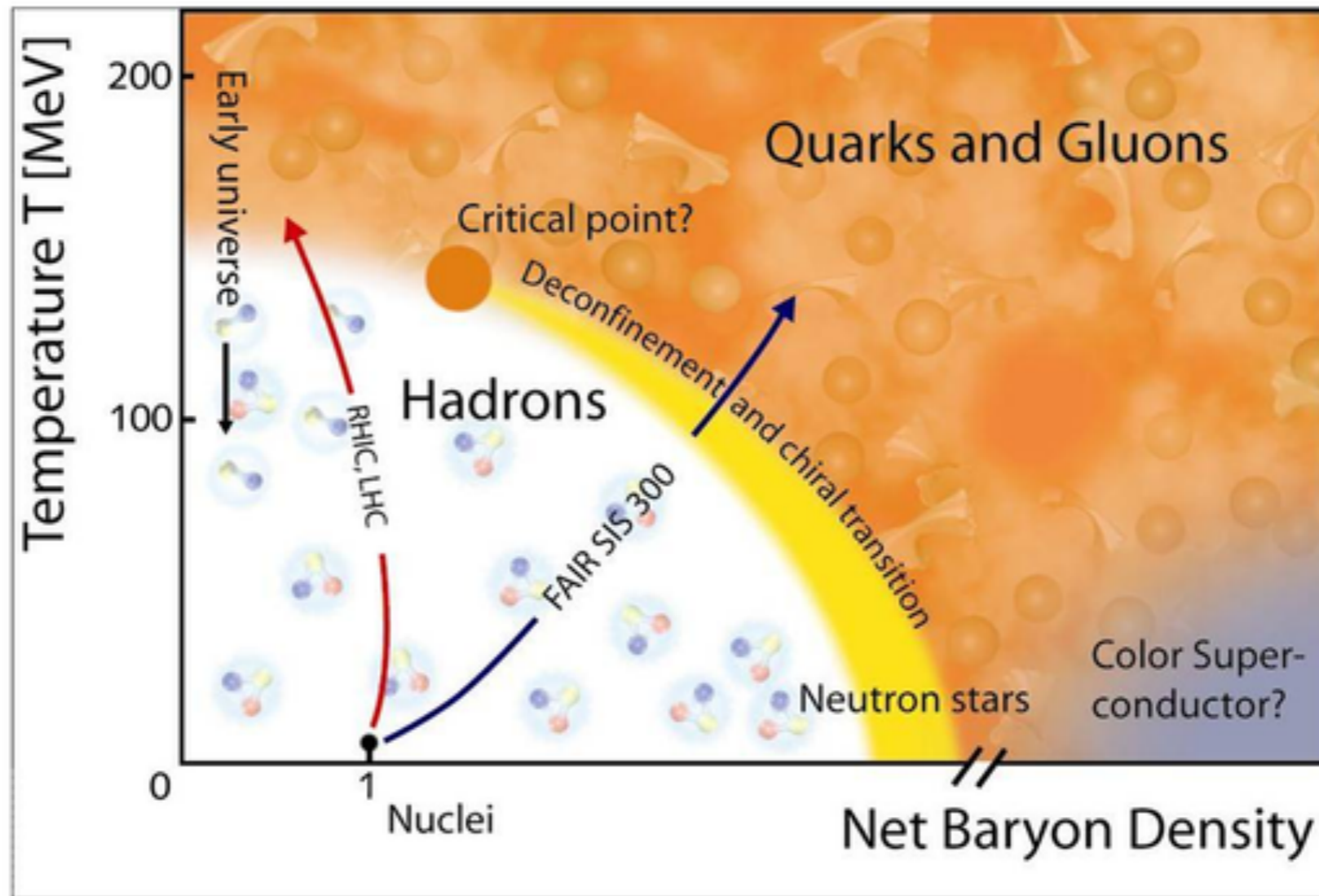
Responsible for visible mass in the Universe

Extreme conditions:

- Heavy-ion collisions
- Early Universe
- Compact stars



# The QCD phase diagram



No Monte Carlo of Lattice QCD: **sign problem!**

# Theory: how to calculate p.t., critical temperature

deconfinement/chiral phase transition  $\rightarrow$  quark gluon plasma

“order parameter”:

chiral condensate  $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle$

generalized susceptibilities:

$$\chi = V(\langle \mathcal{O}^2 \rangle - \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle^2)$$

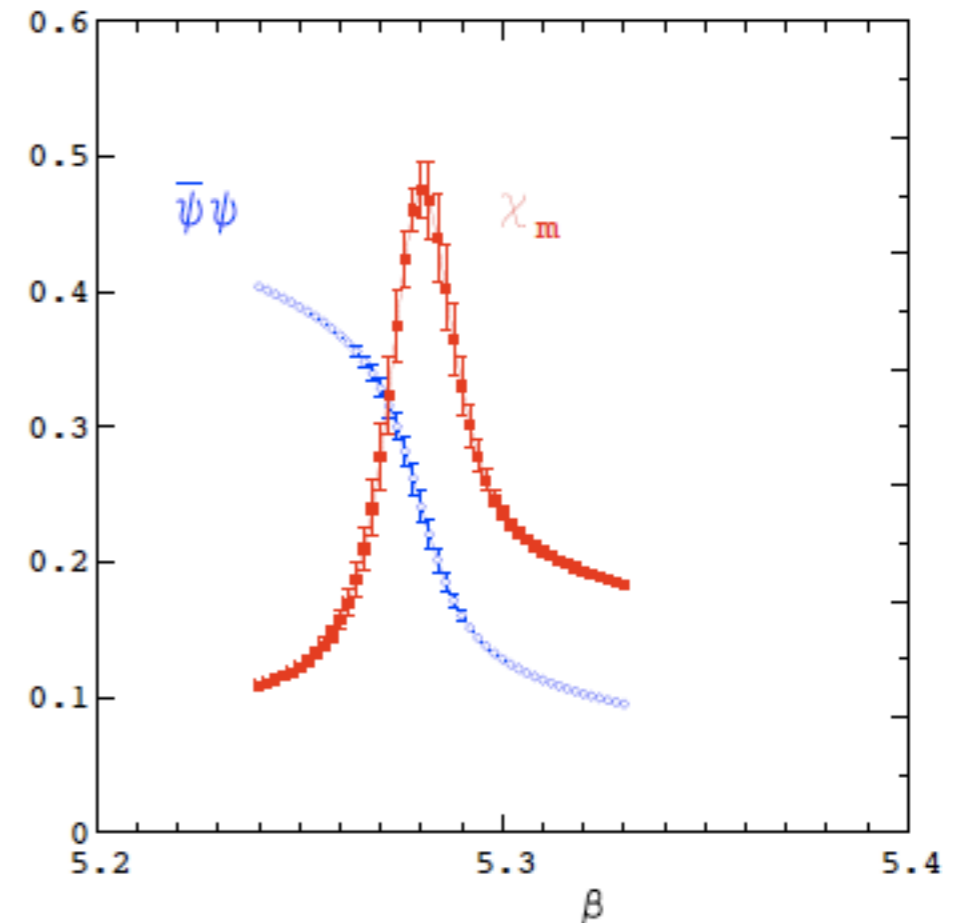
$$\Rightarrow \chi_{max} = \chi(\beta_c) \Rightarrow T_c$$

only pseudo-critical on finite  $V$ !

Order of transition:

finite volume scaling

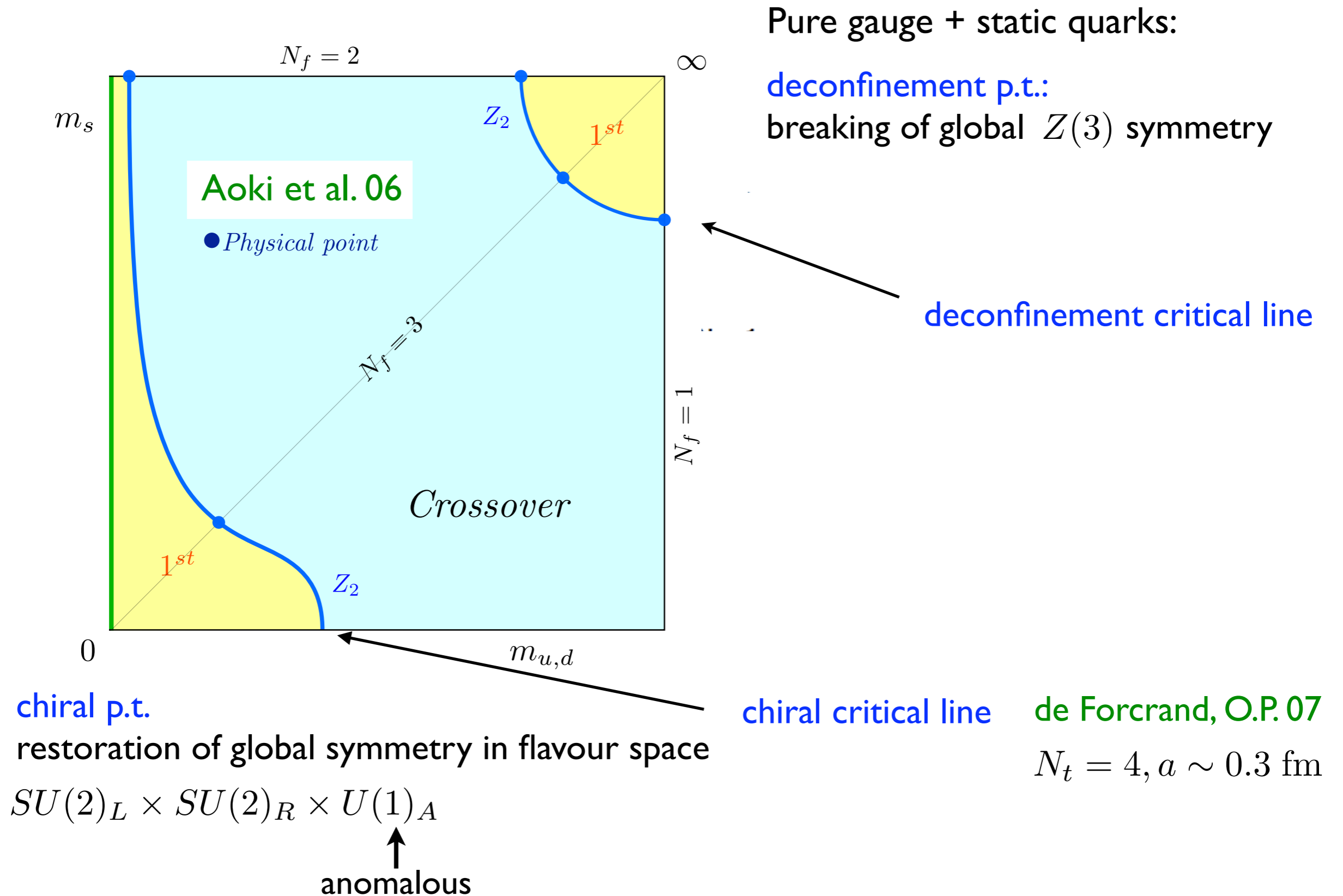
$$\chi_{max} \sim V^\sigma$$



lattice coupling  $\beta$ , viz.  $T$

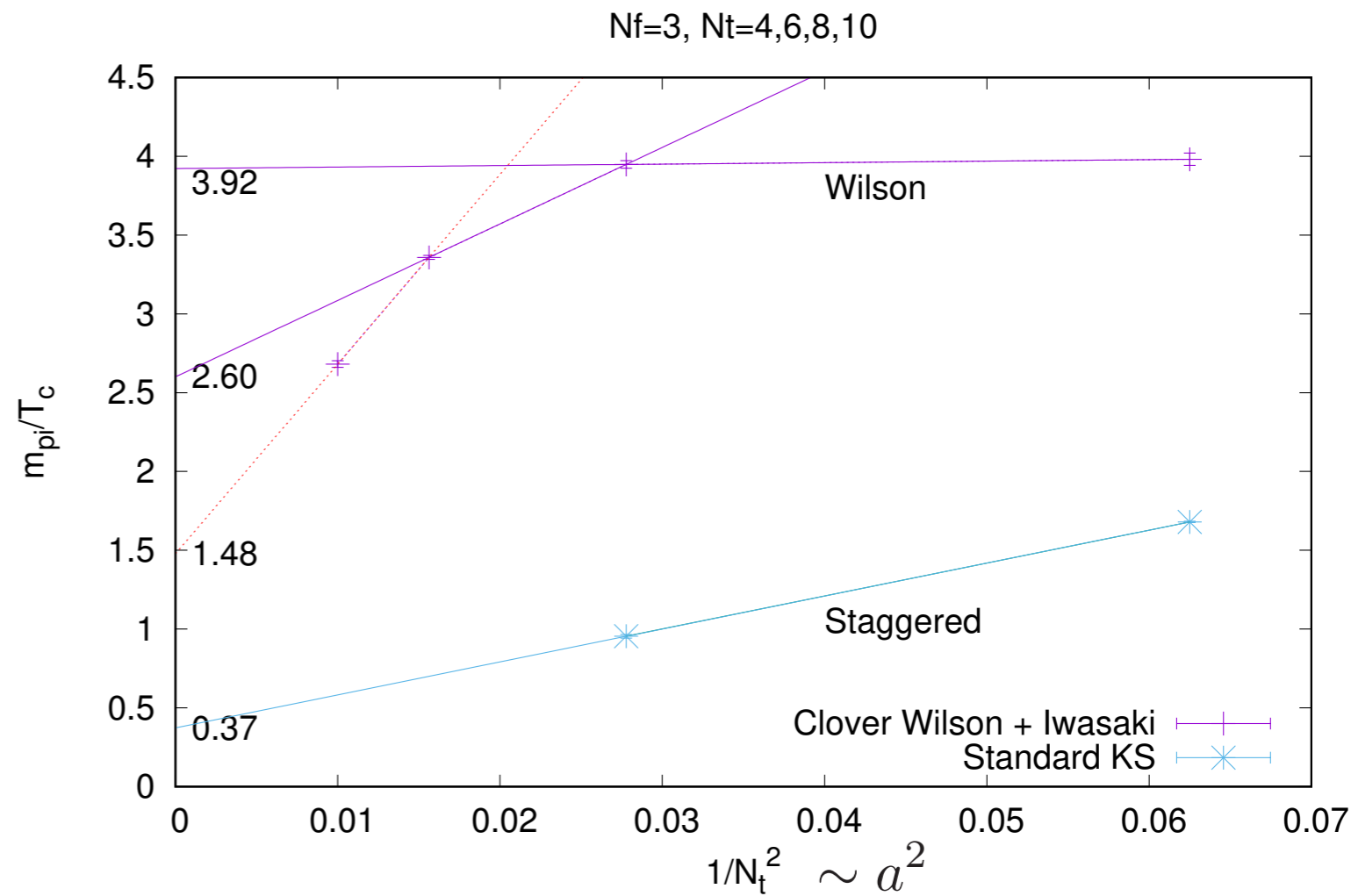
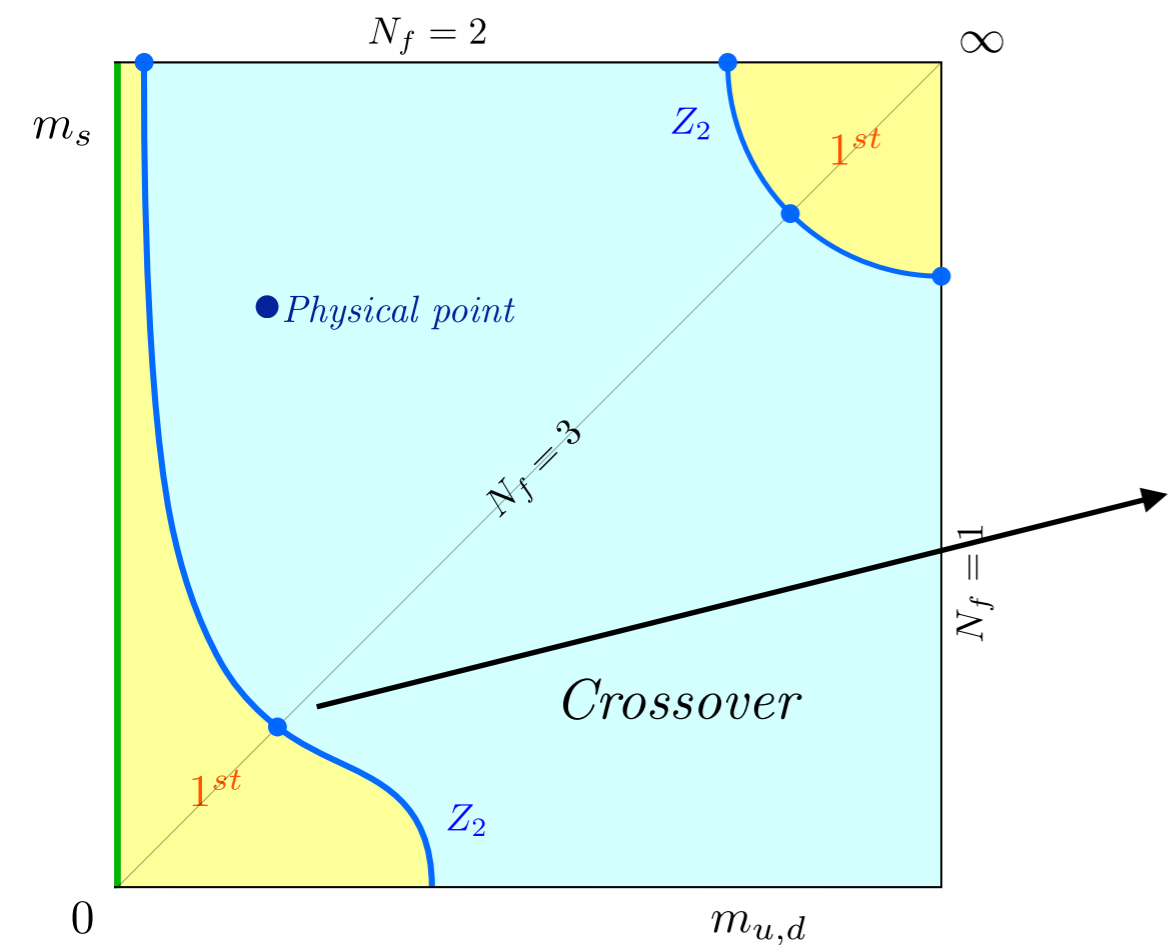
$\sigma = 1$	1st order
$\sigma = \text{crit. exponent}$	2nd order
$\sigma = 0$	crossover

# The nature of the QCD thermal transition



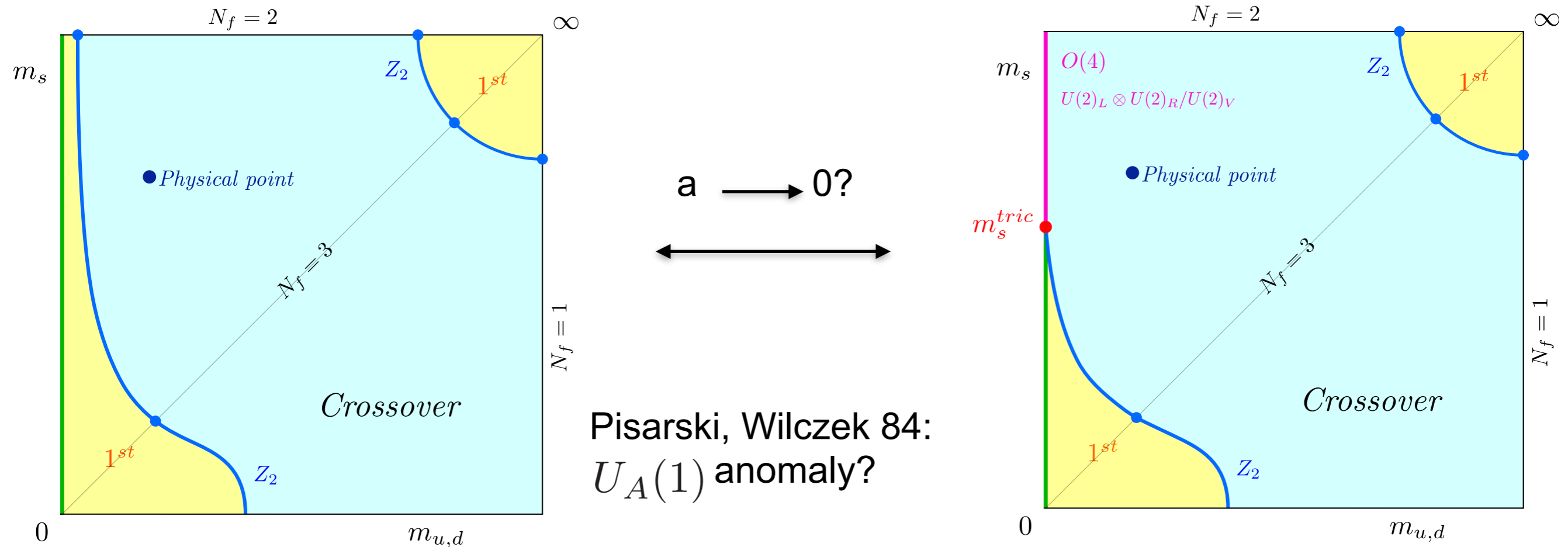
# The nature of the QCD thermal transition

...has horribly large cut-off effects!



# The nature of the QCD thermal transition

...is still unknown in the continuum limit



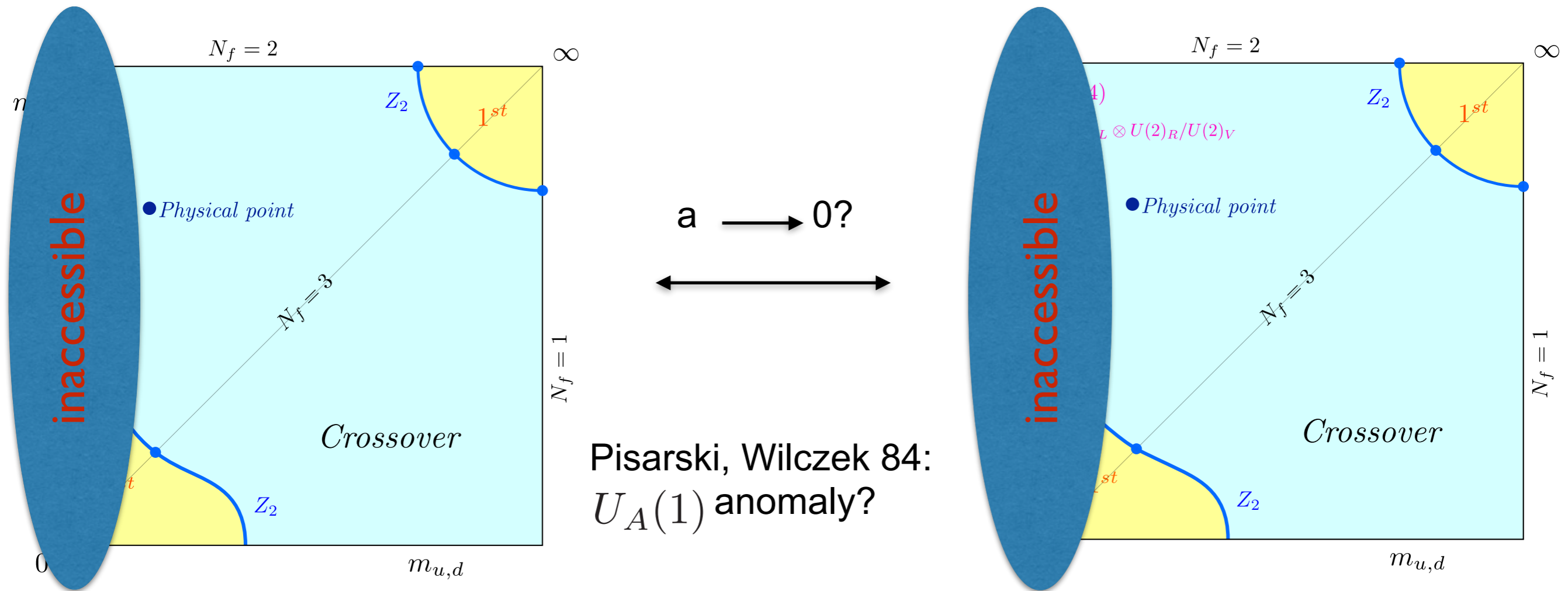
Pisarski, Wilczek 84:  
 $U_A(1)$  anomaly?

1st order region seen on coarse lattices but shrinks with decreasing  $a$   
Only upper bounds with improved actions

Base for exploration of phase diagram at finite baryon density

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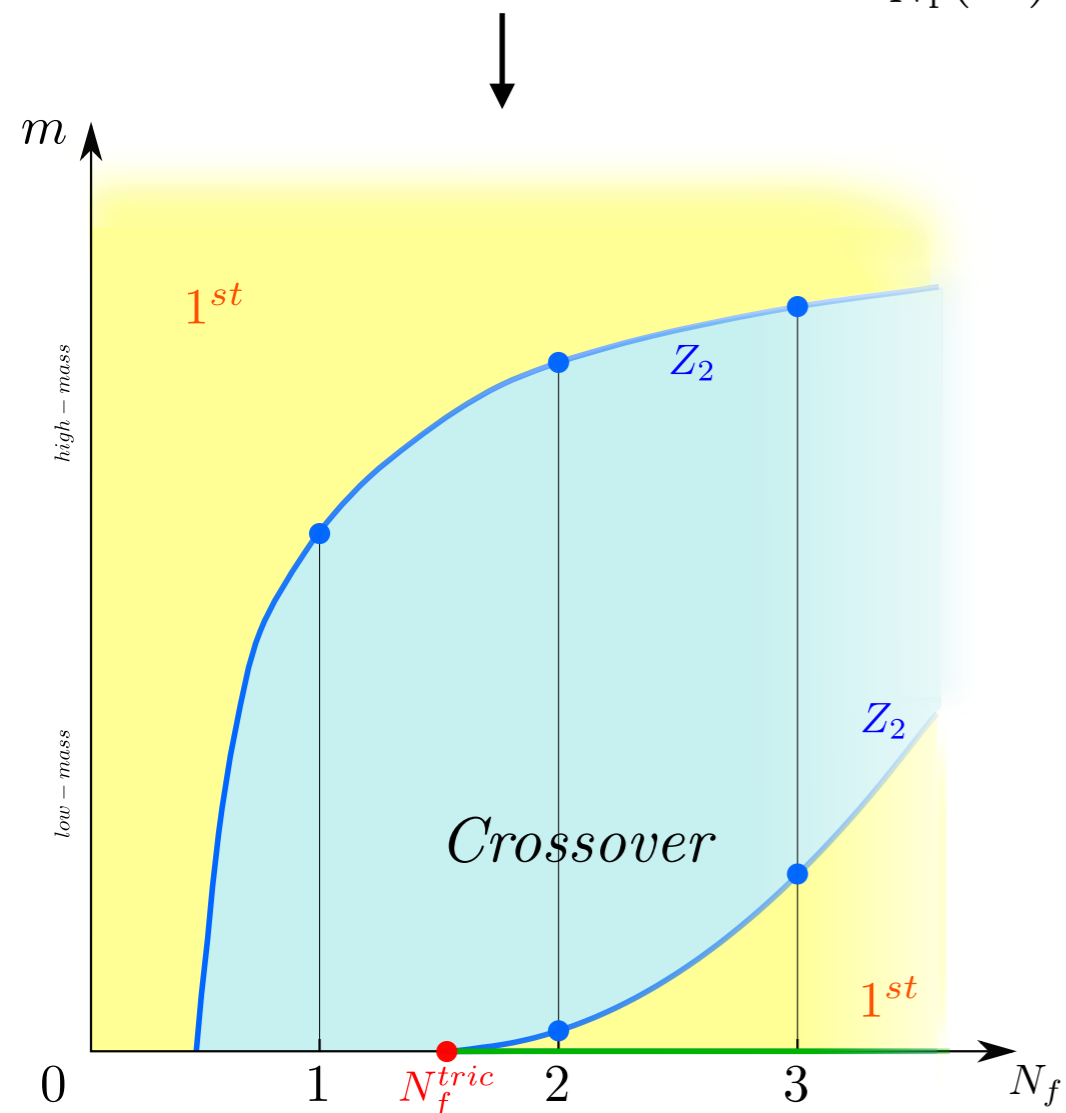
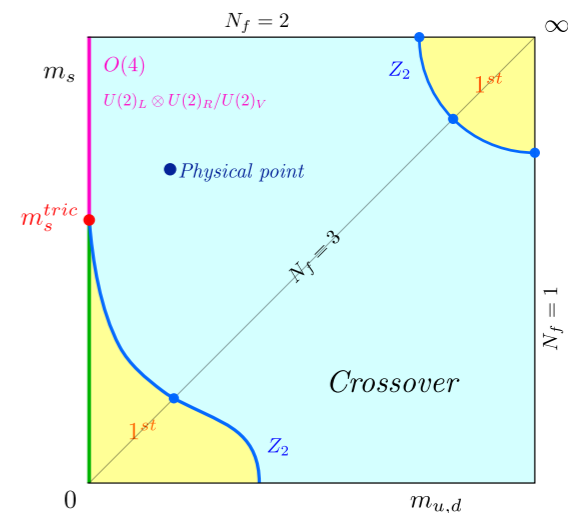
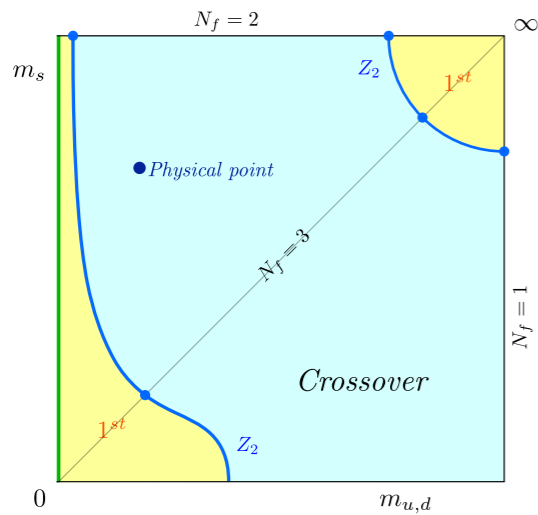
# Lattice results on the anomaly...

- fate of  $U(1)_A$  lattice
  - HotQCD (DW, 2012) broken
  - JLQCD (topology fixed overlap, 2013) restores
  - TWQCD (optimal DW, 2013) restores ?
  - LLNL/RBC (DW, 2014) broken
  - HotQCD (DW, 2014) broken
  - Dick et al. (overlap on HISQ, 2015) broken
  - Brandt et al. ( $O(a)$  improved Wilson 2016) restores
  - JLQCD (reweighted overlap from DW, 2016) restores
  - JLQCD (current: see Suzuki et al Lattice 2017) restores
  - Ishikawa et al (Wilson, 2017) at least  $Z_4$  restores

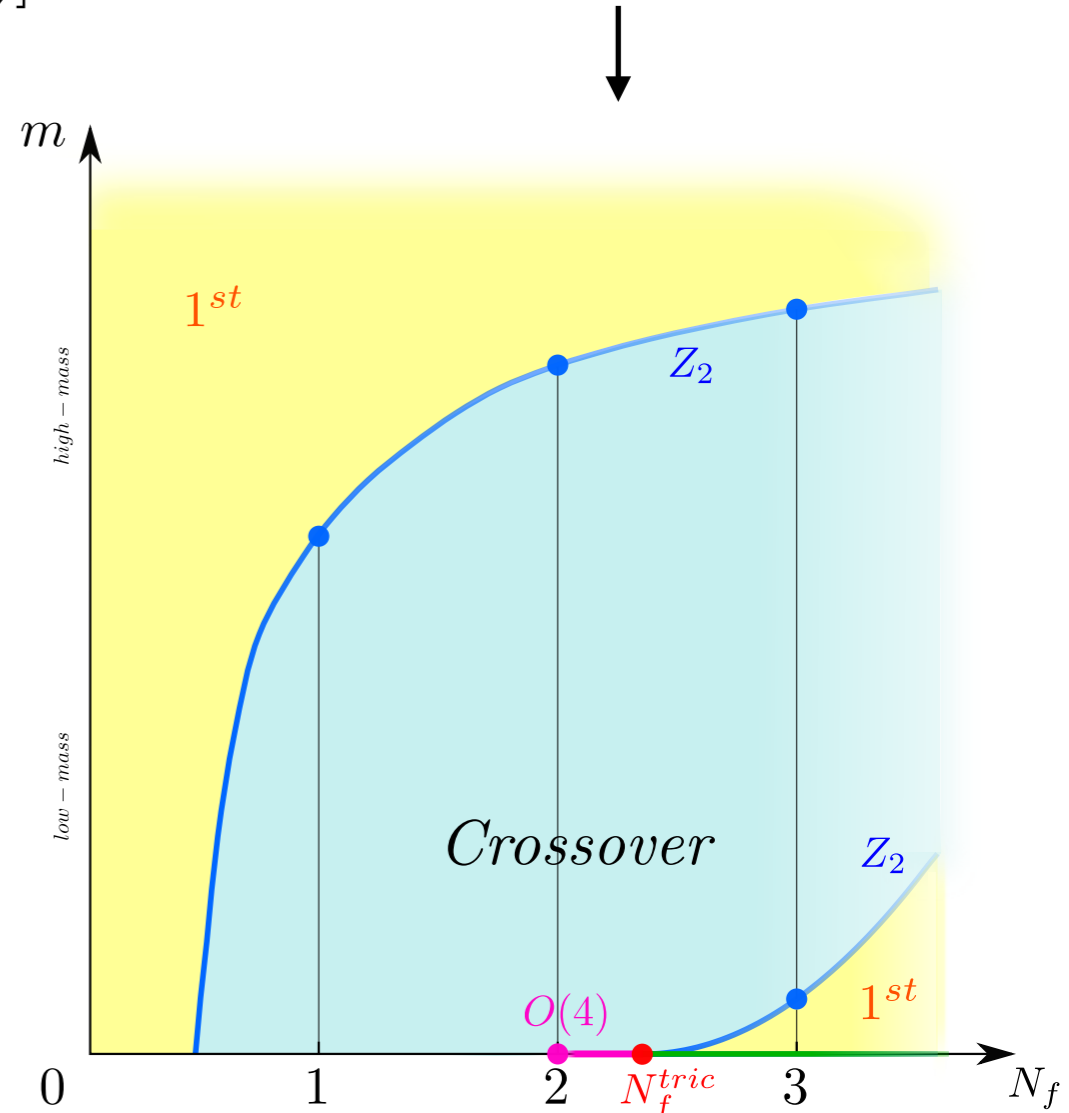
# Statistical system with “continuous $N_f$ ”

Cuteri, Sciarra, O.P., 17

$$Z_{N_f}(m) = \int \mathcal{D}U [\det M(U, m)]^{N_f} e^{-S_G}$$

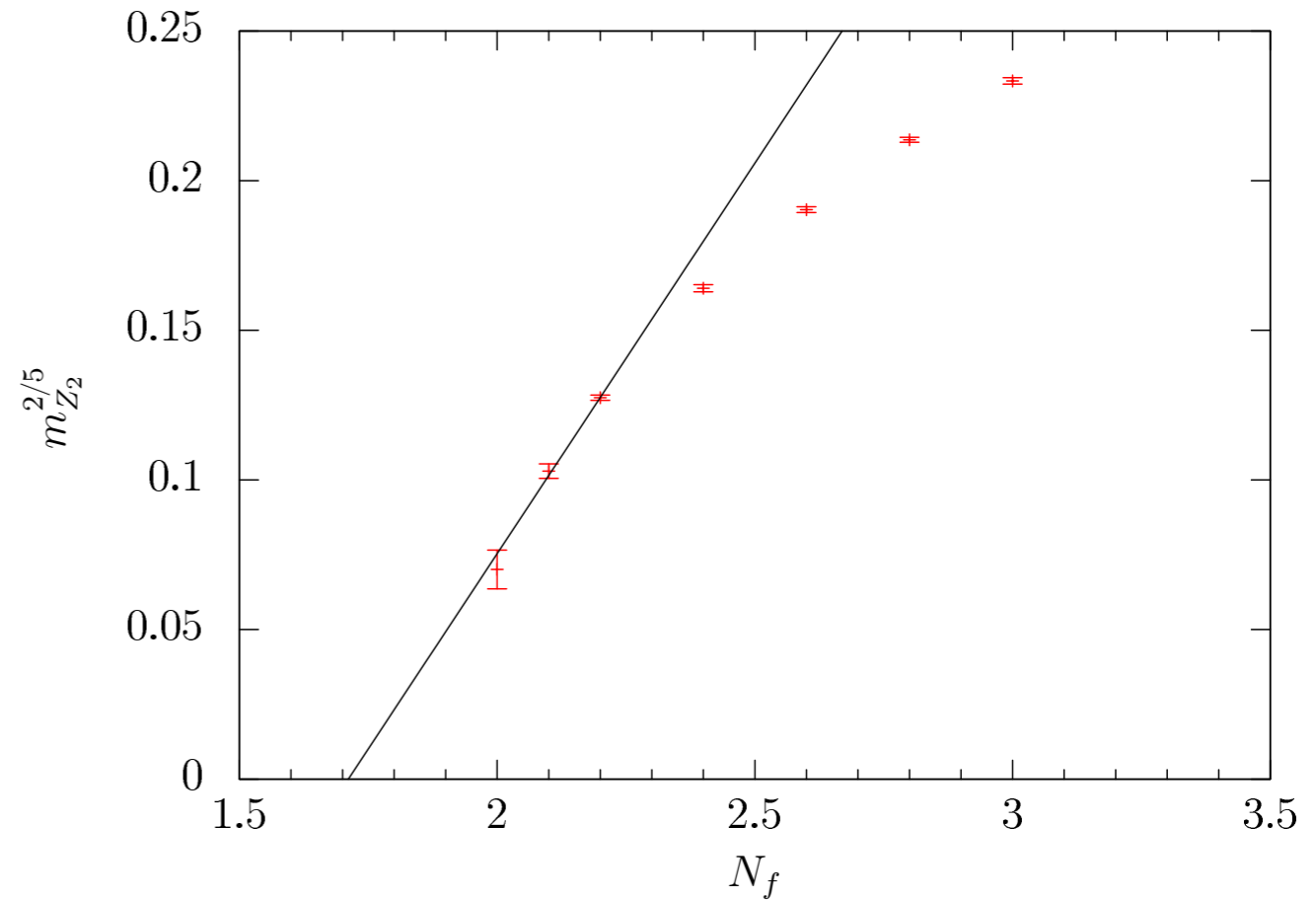
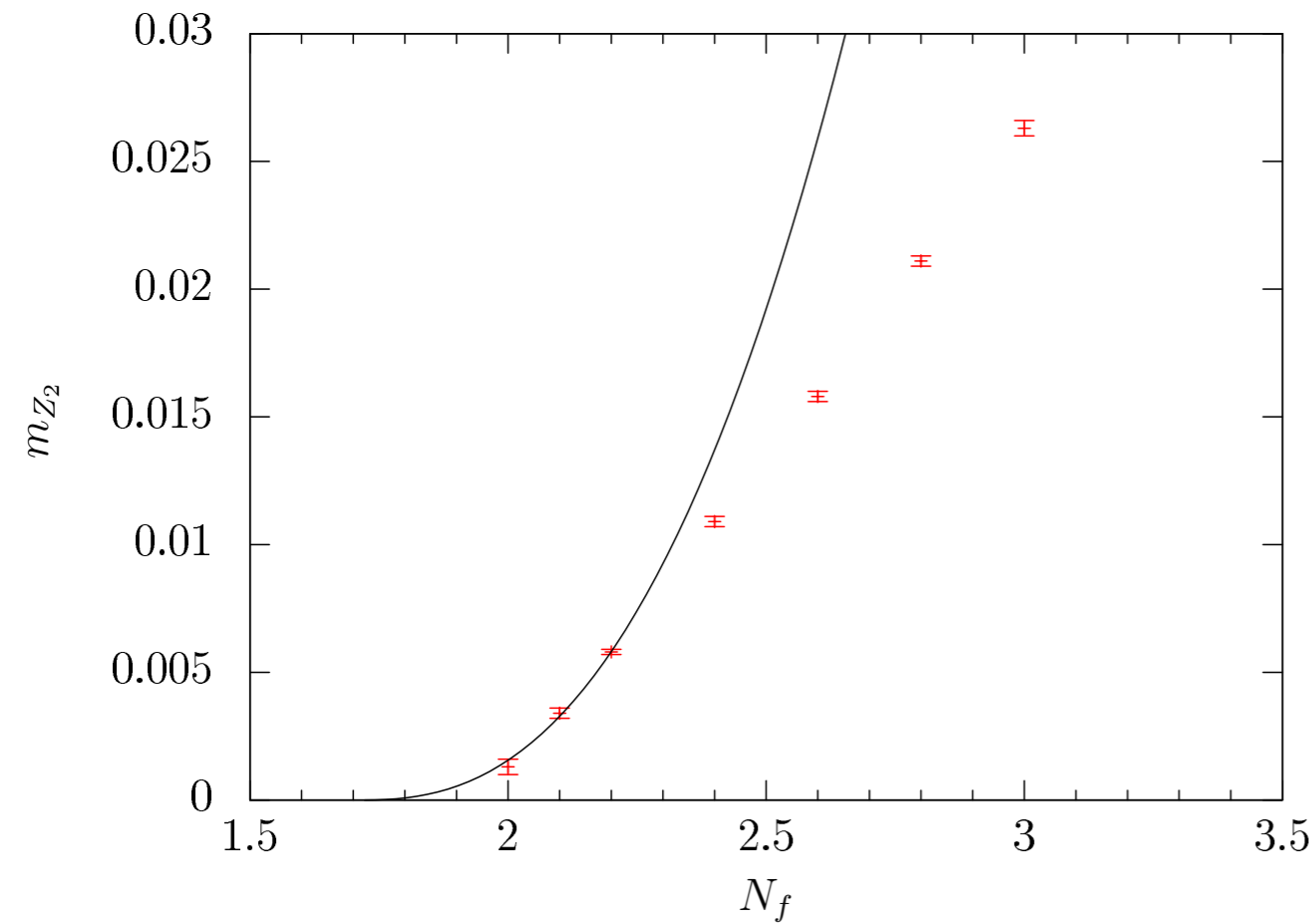


$$\langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle \begin{cases} > 0 \\ = 0 \\ < 0 \end{cases}$$



# Numerical results for varying $N_f$

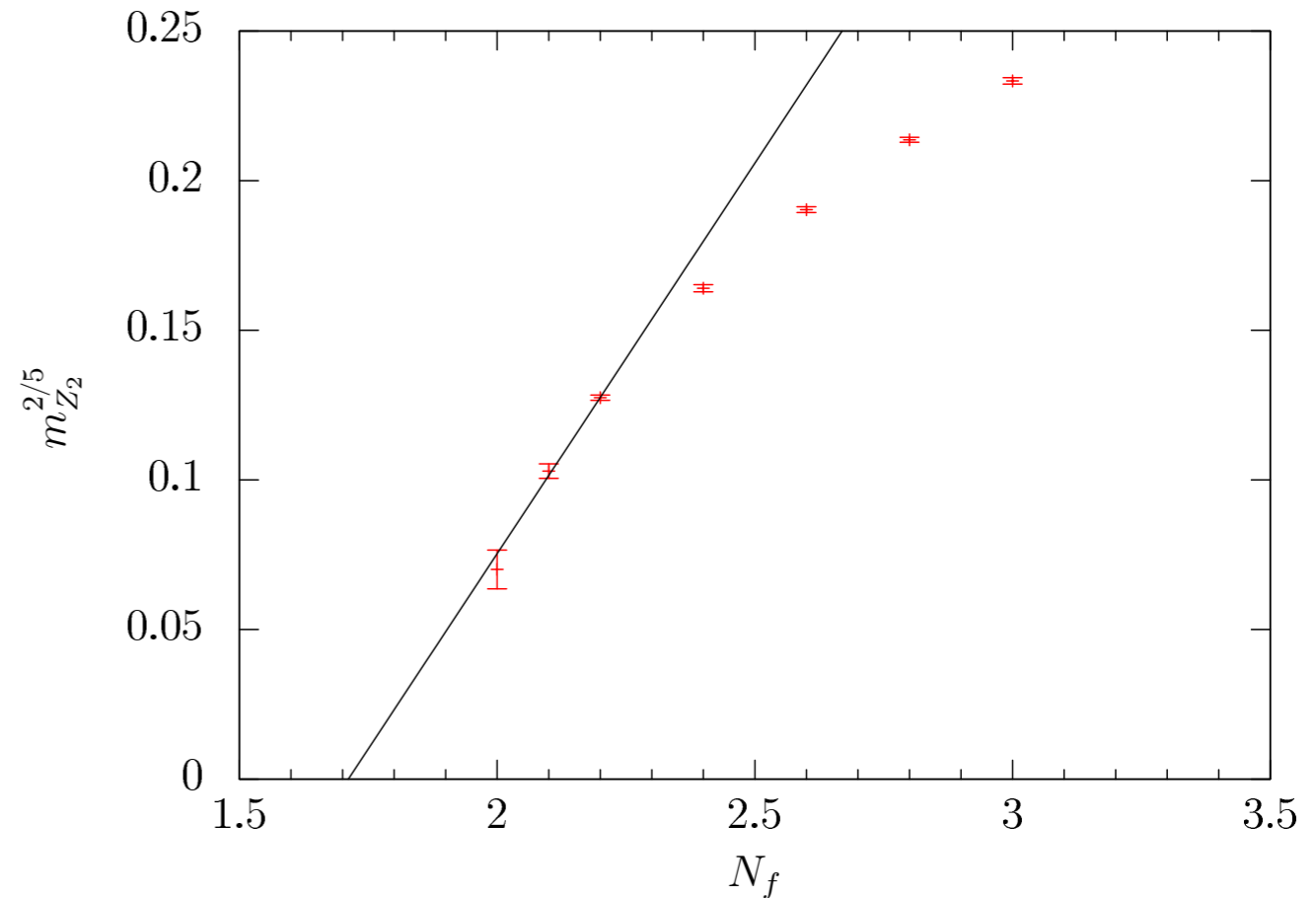
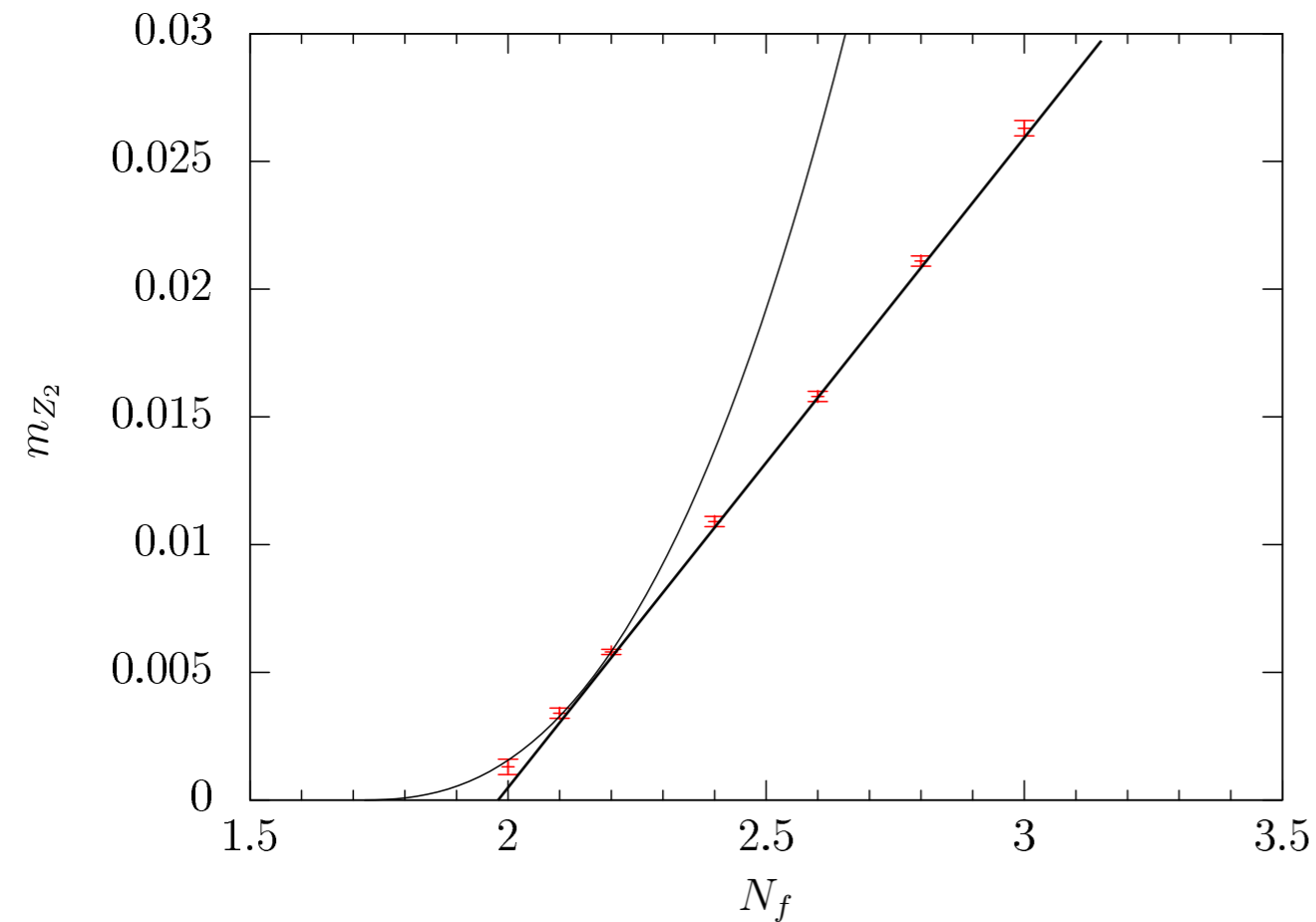
$$N_\tau = 4, a \approx 0.26\text{fm}$$



Tricritical scaling  $\sim m^{2/5}$  observed!

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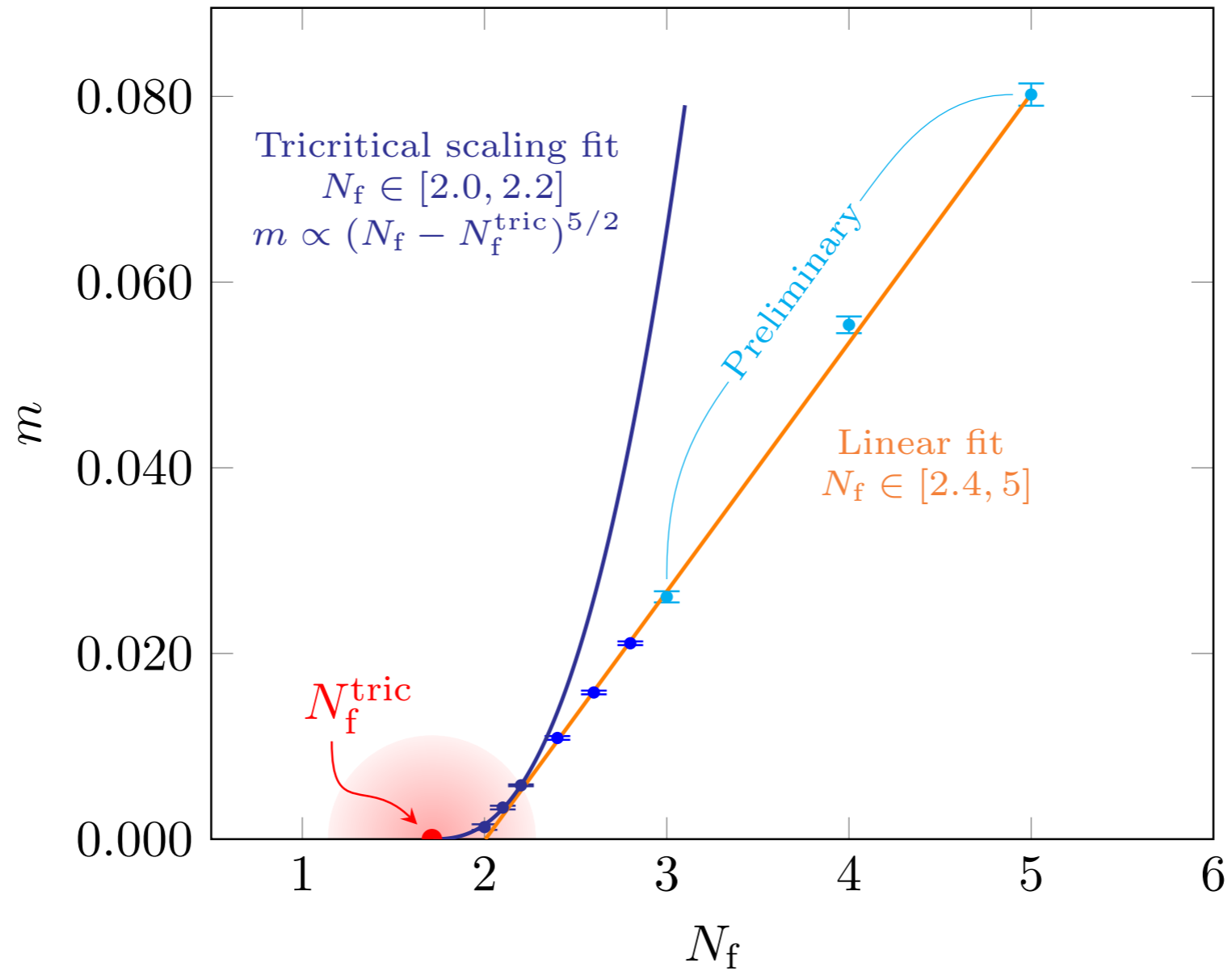
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Plus linear behaviour??

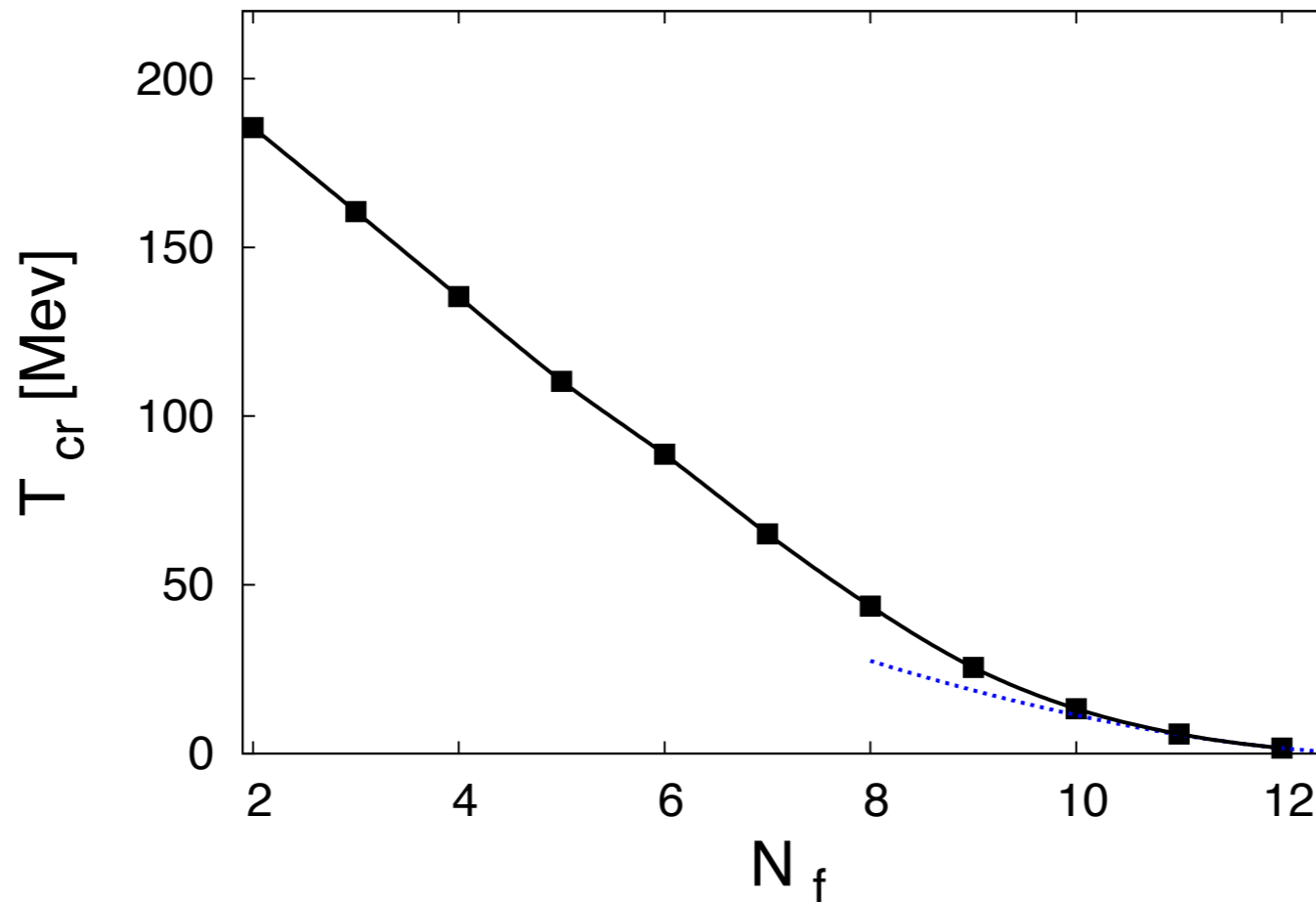
Linearity confirmed with larger  $N_f$ :



Scaling region plus linear region

# Linear N<sub>f</sub>-dependence:

Braun, Gies 09: chiral transition towards the conformal window.... RG treatment



$$\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \simeq \mu_0 e^{-\frac{1}{4\pi b_0 \alpha(\mu_0)}}$$

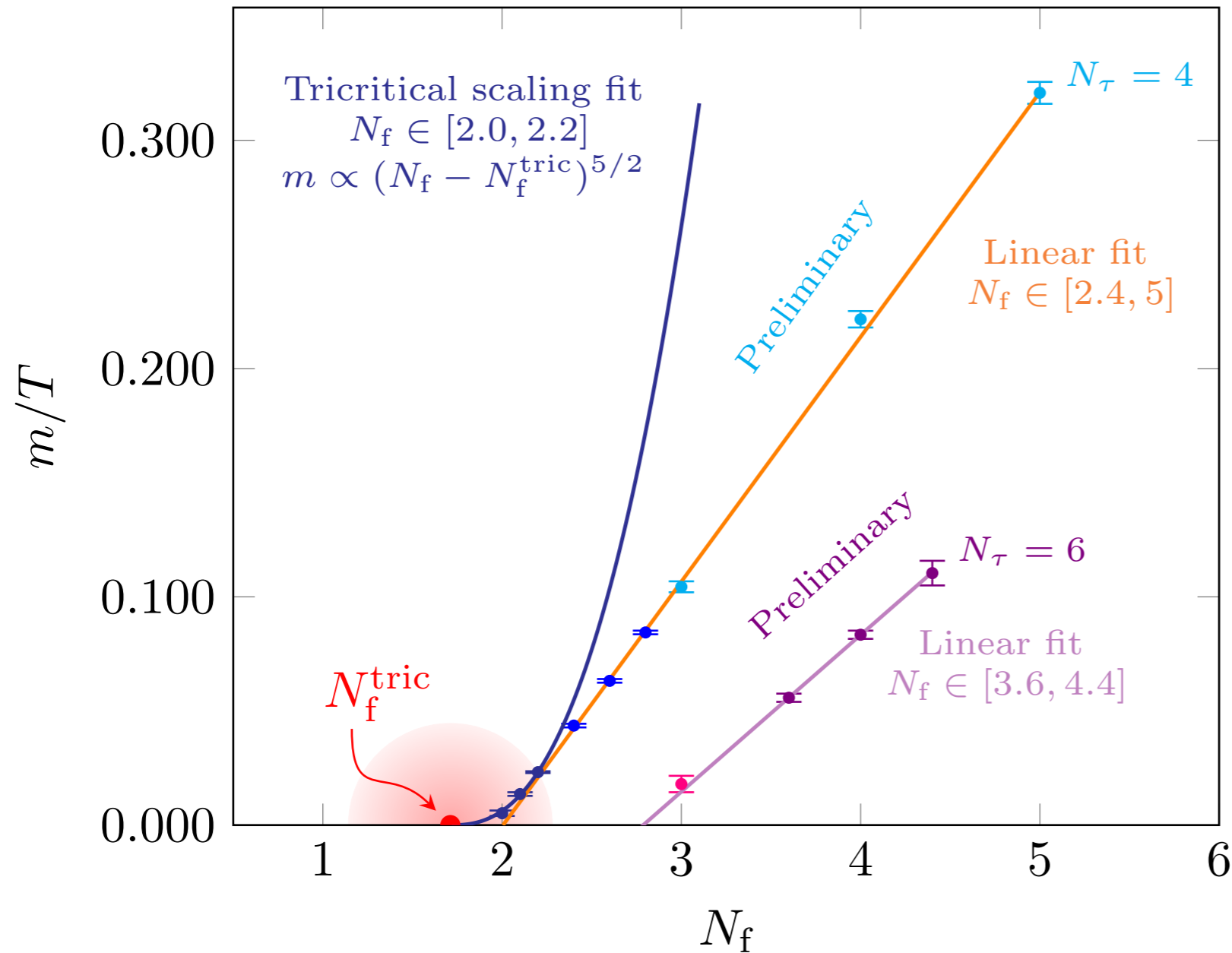
$$\simeq \mu_0 e^{-\frac{6\pi}{11N_c \alpha(\mu_0)} (1 - \epsilon N_f + \mathcal{O}((\epsilon N_f)^2))}$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{12\pi}{121N_c^2 \alpha(\mu_0)} \simeq 0.107$$

Inherited by all dimensionful quantities!

# Allows for simulations on finer lattices

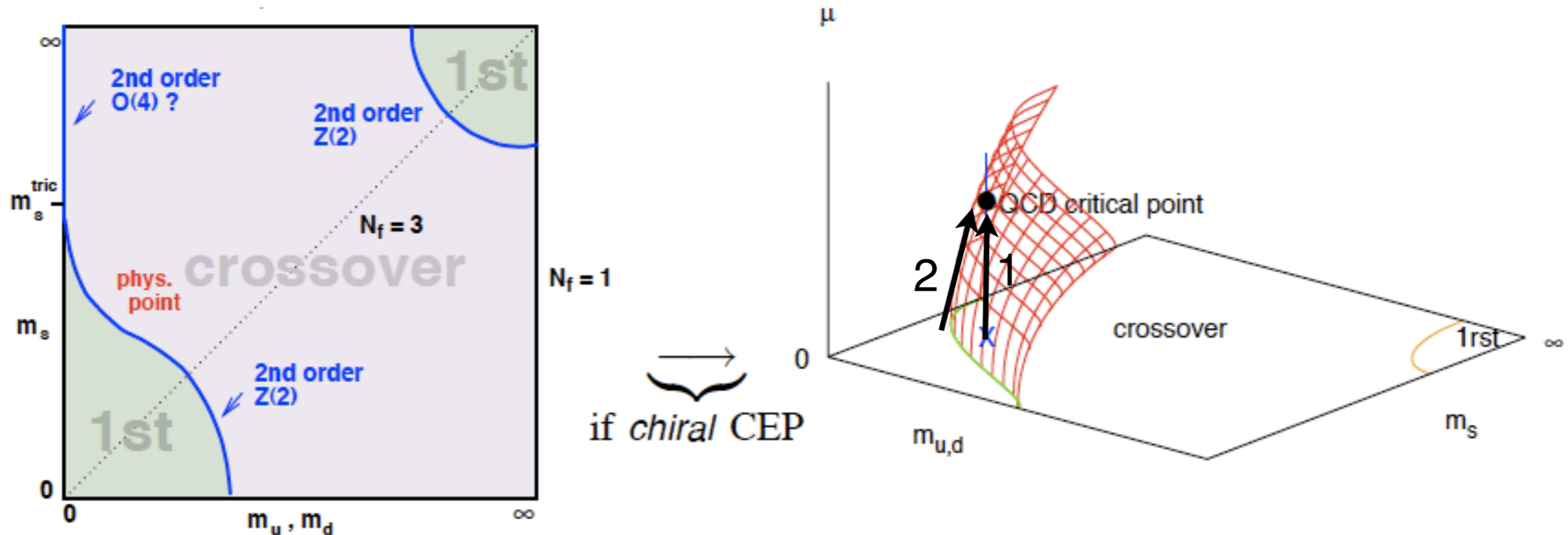
Cuteri, Sciarra, O.P., in progress



Eventual continuum limit should be possible!

$N_f = 3, N_\tau = 6$  from de Forcrand, Kim, O.P., 07

# Extension to finite baryon density



Two strategies:

1 follow **vertical line**:  $m = m_{\text{phys}}$ , turn on  $\mu$  **sign problem!**

2 follow **critical surface**:  $m = m_{\text{crit}}(\mu)$

Some methods trying (1) give indications of critical point, but systematics not yet controlled



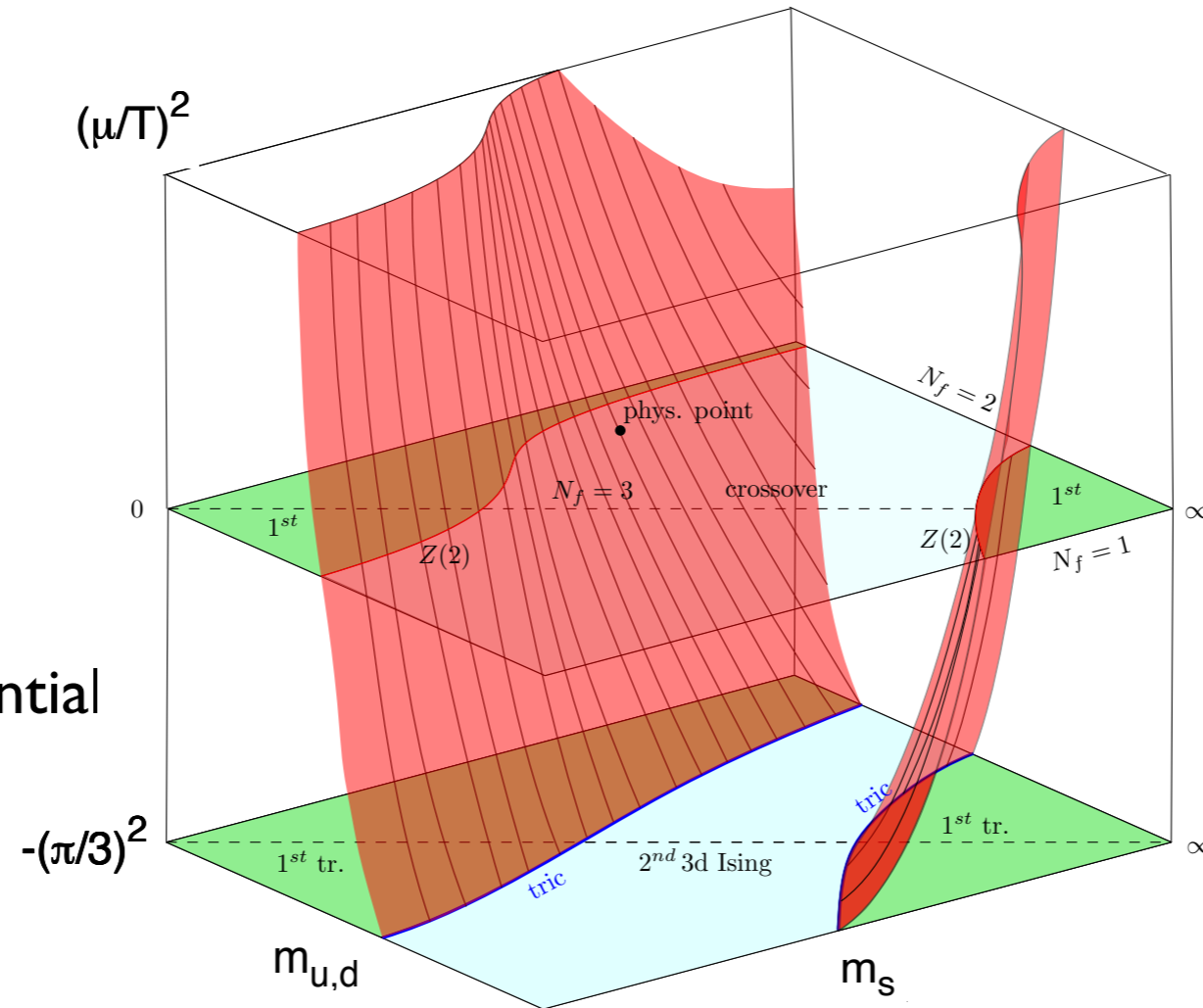
# Extension to finite baryon density

Real and imaginary chemical potential, coarse  $N_t=4,6$  lattices

Real chemical potential:  
sign problem

Imaginary chemical potential  
no sign problem

Non-trivial phase structure  
Roberge-Weiss  $Z(3)$  symmetry!



staggered,  $N_f=3$ :  
de Forcrand, O.P. 10

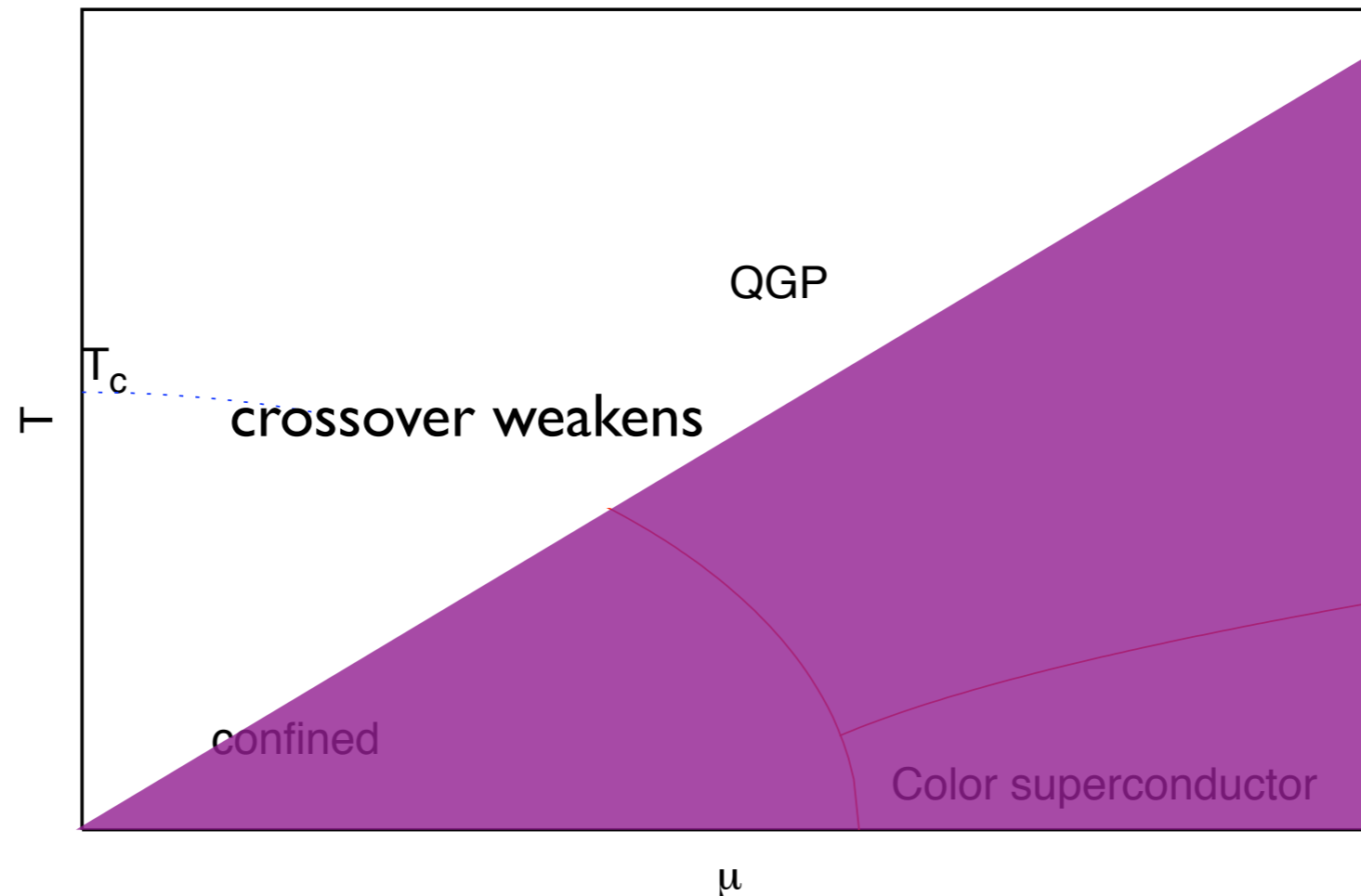
staggered,  $N_f=2$ :  
D'Elia, Sanfillippo 11

Wilson,  $N_f=2$ :  
Pinke, O.P. 14

shape, sign of curvatures determined by tricritical scaling!

transition weakens with real chemical potential!

# The lattice-calculable region of the phase diagram



- Sign problem prohibits direct simulation, circumvented by approximate methods: reweighting, Taylor expansion, imaginary chem. pot., need  $\mu/T \lesssim 1$  ( $\mu = \mu_B/3$ )
- No critical point in the controllable region, some signals beyond

# Cluster expansion model (CEM) for baryon number

Vovchenko, Steinheimer, Stöcker, O.P.

QCD thermodynamics with **relativistic fugacity/cluster expansion**:

$$\frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k(T) \cosh\left(\frac{k \mu_B}{T}\right)$$

## Imaginary $\mu_B$ :

Lattice QCD is problematic at real  $\mu$  but tractable at **imaginary  $\mu$**

$\mu_B \rightarrow i\tilde{\mu}_B \Rightarrow$  QCD observables obtain **trigonometric Fourier series** form

Pressure: 
$$\frac{p(T, i\tilde{\mu}_B)}{T^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k(T) \cos\left(\frac{k \tilde{\mu}_B}{T}\right),$$

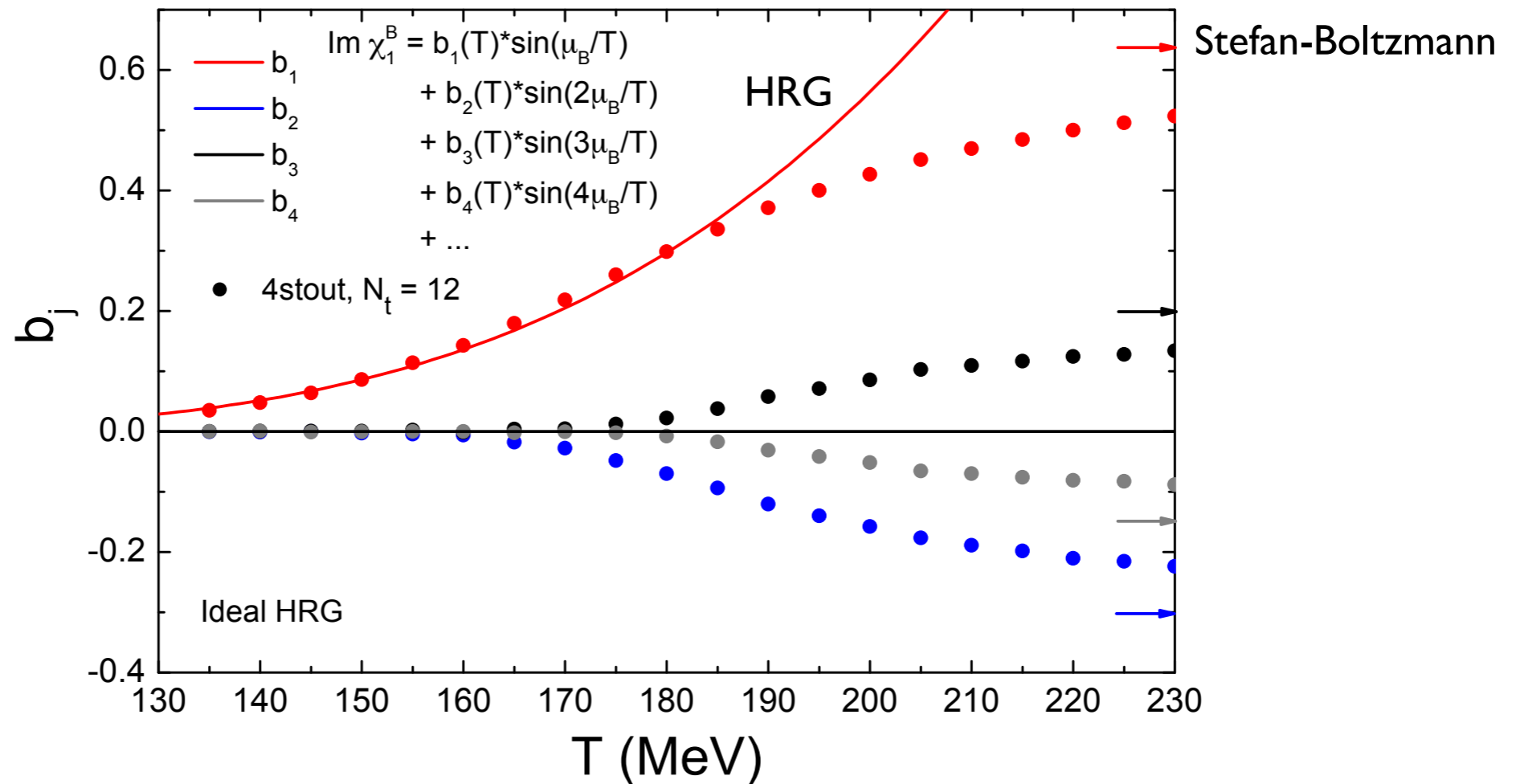
Net baryon density: 
$$\frac{\rho_B(T, i\tilde{\mu}_B)}{T^3} = i \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k(T) \sin\left(\frac{k \tilde{\mu}_B}{T}\right), \quad b_k(T) \equiv k p_k(T)$$

$$b_k(T) = \frac{2}{\pi T^3} \int_0^{\pi} d\tilde{\mu}_B [\text{Im } \rho_B(T, i\tilde{\mu}_B)] \sin(k \tilde{\mu}_B/T)$$

Coefficients  $b_k(T)$  can and are now being calculated in LQCD

# Coefficients calculated on the lattice:

$$\frac{\rho_B(T, i\tilde{\mu}_B)}{T^3} = i \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j(T) \sin(j\tilde{\mu}_B/T)$$



# Formulation of the CEM

- All observables are calculated from fugacity expansion for baryon density

$$\frac{\rho_B(T)}{T^3} = \chi_1^B(T) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k(T) \sinh(k \mu_B/T)$$

- $b_1(T)$  and  $b_2(T)$  are model input

- All higher order coefficients  $b_k(T) = \alpha_k \frac{[b_2(T)]^{k-1}}{[b_1(T)]^{k-2}}$   $\alpha_k = \frac{[b_1^{\text{SB}}]^{k-2}}{[b_2^{\text{SB}}]^{k-1}} b_k^{\text{SB}}$

Motivated by HRG with excluded volume;

Assumption: 2-particle interactions only (sufficiently dilute)

Baryon number susceptibilities at  $\mu_B = 0$ :

$$\chi_{2n}^B(T) \equiv \left. \frac{\partial^{2n}(p/T^4)}{\partial(\mu_B/T)^{2n}} \right|_{\mu_B=0} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{2n-1} b_k(T) \simeq \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} k^{2n-1} b_k(T)$$

# Baryon number fluctuations:

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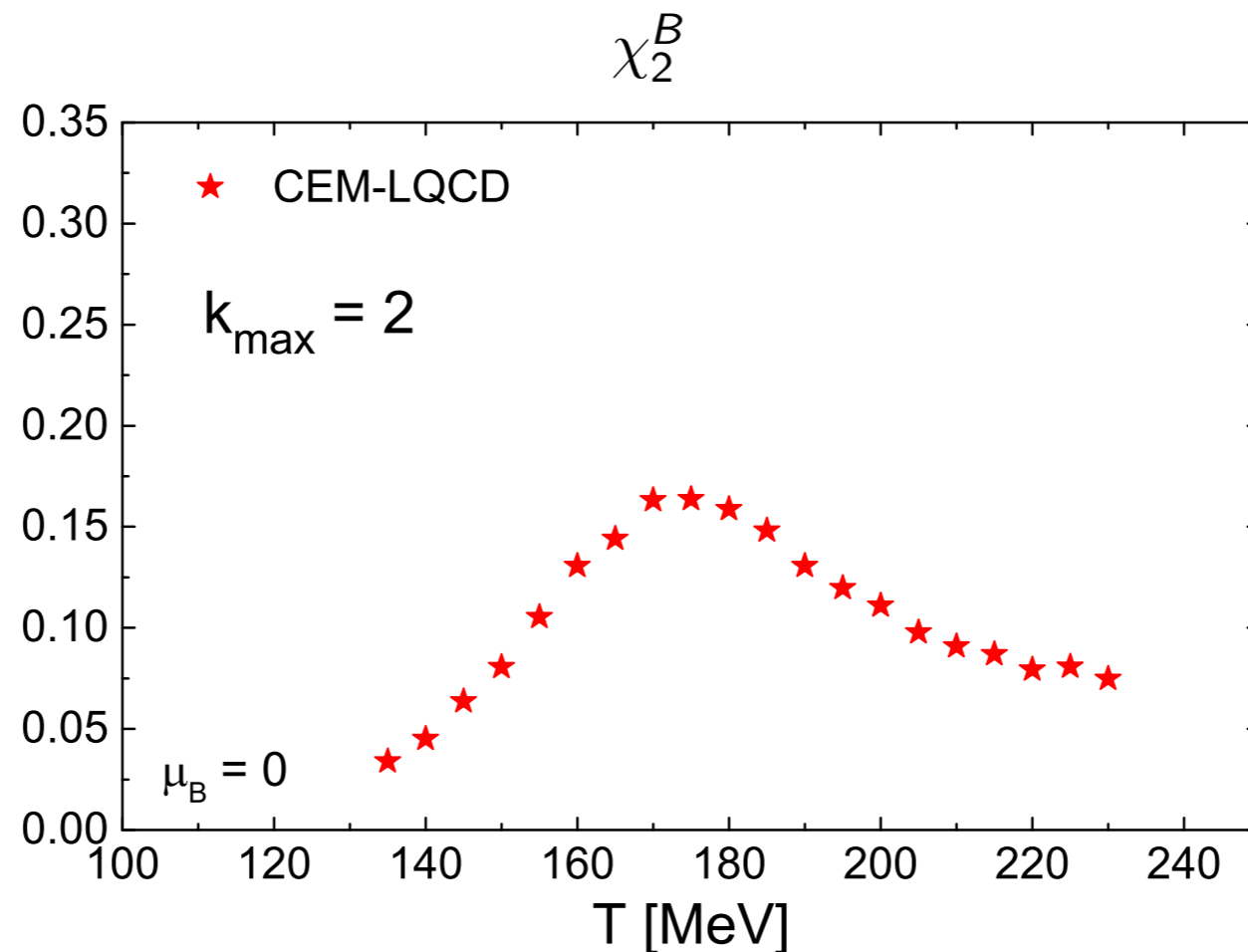
CEM-LQCD:  $b_1(T)$  and  $b_2(T)$  taken from LQCD simulations at imaginary  $\mu_B$

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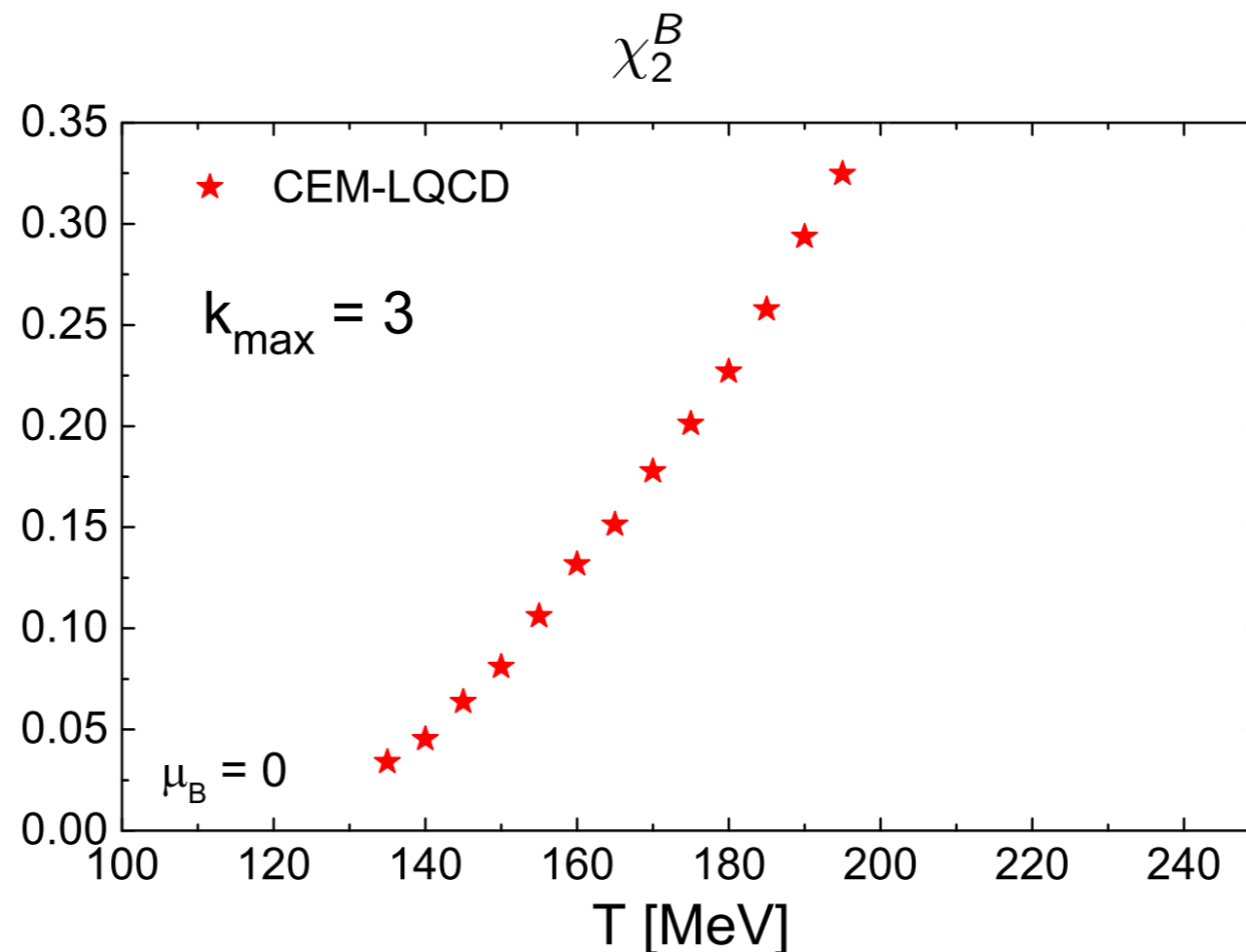


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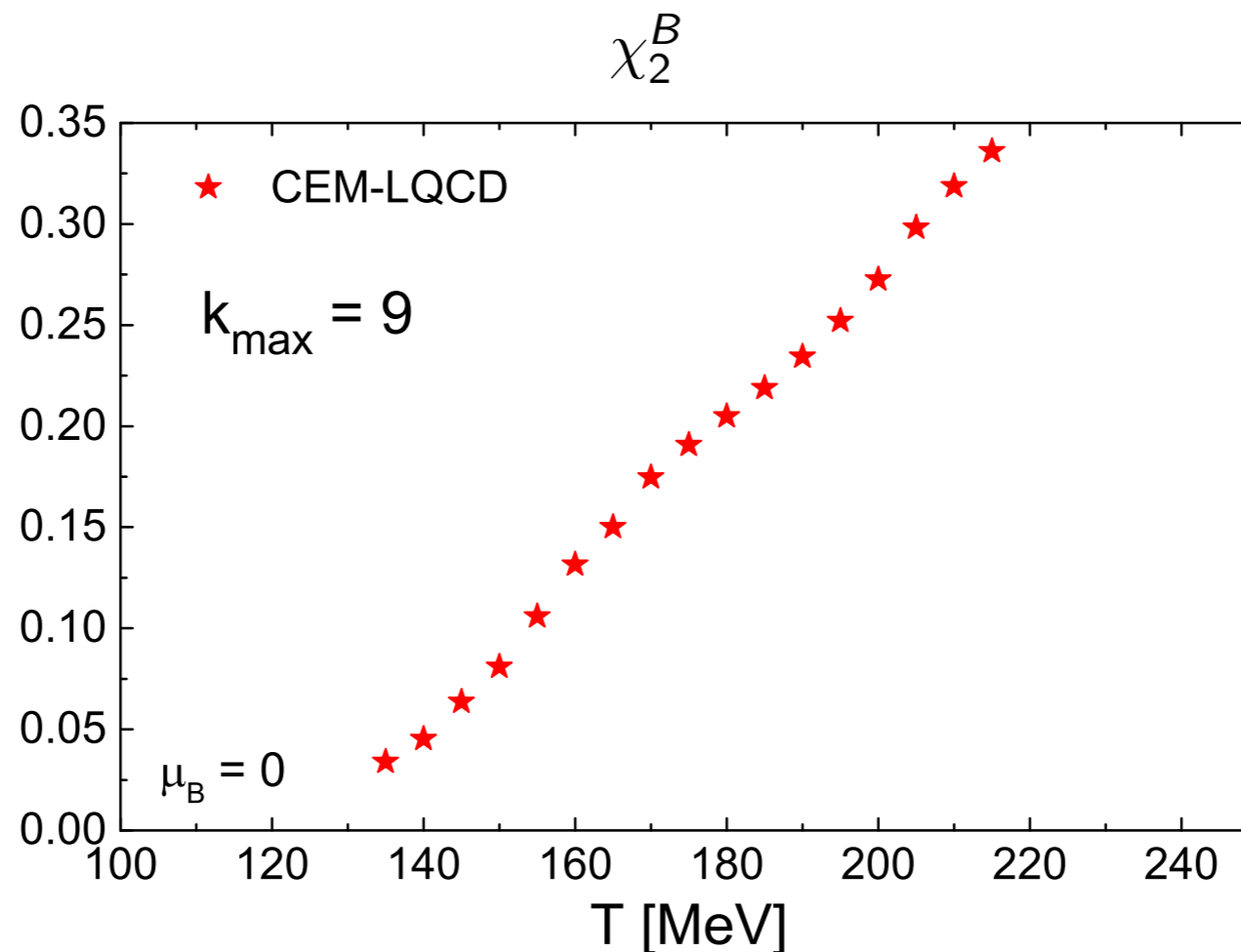


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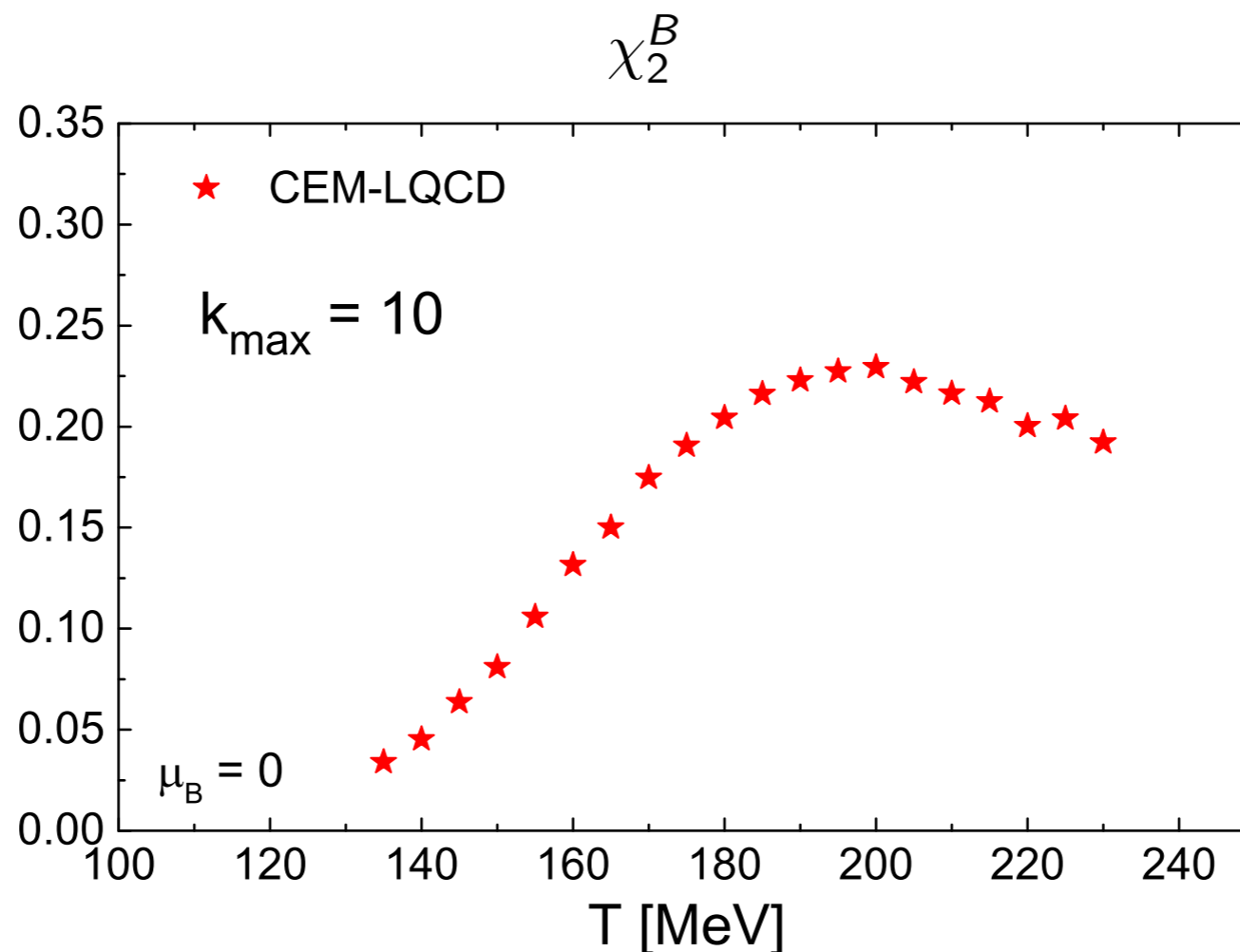


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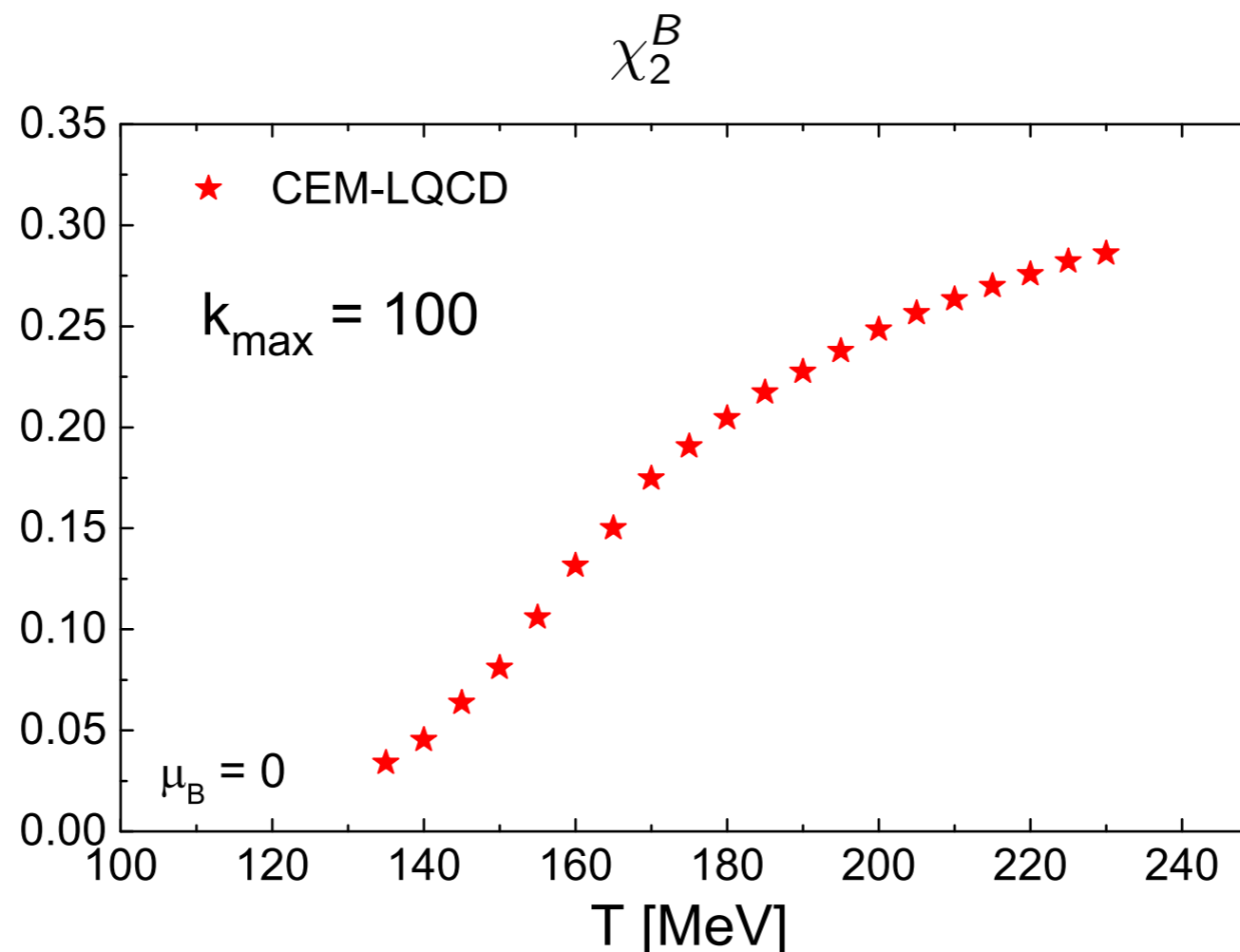


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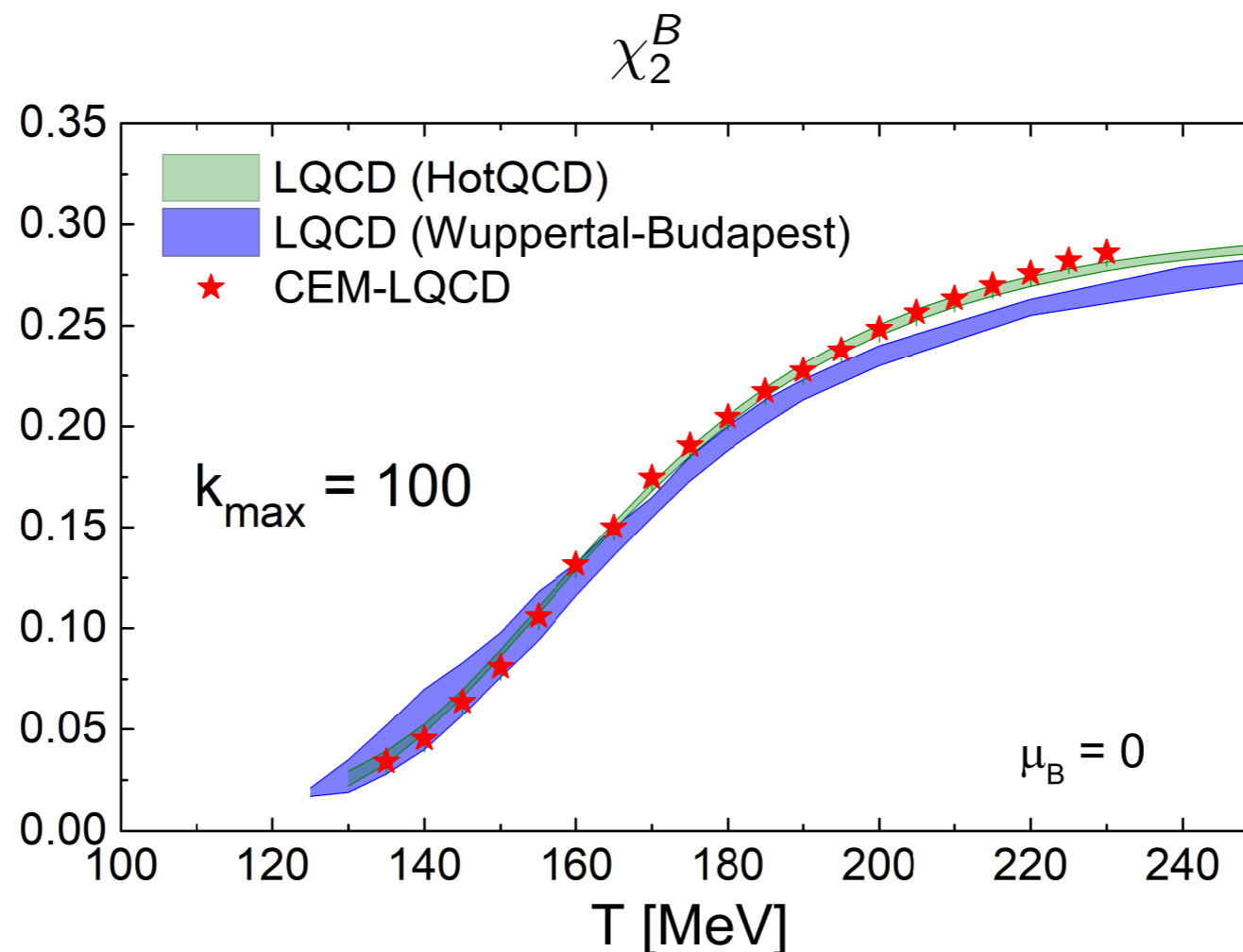


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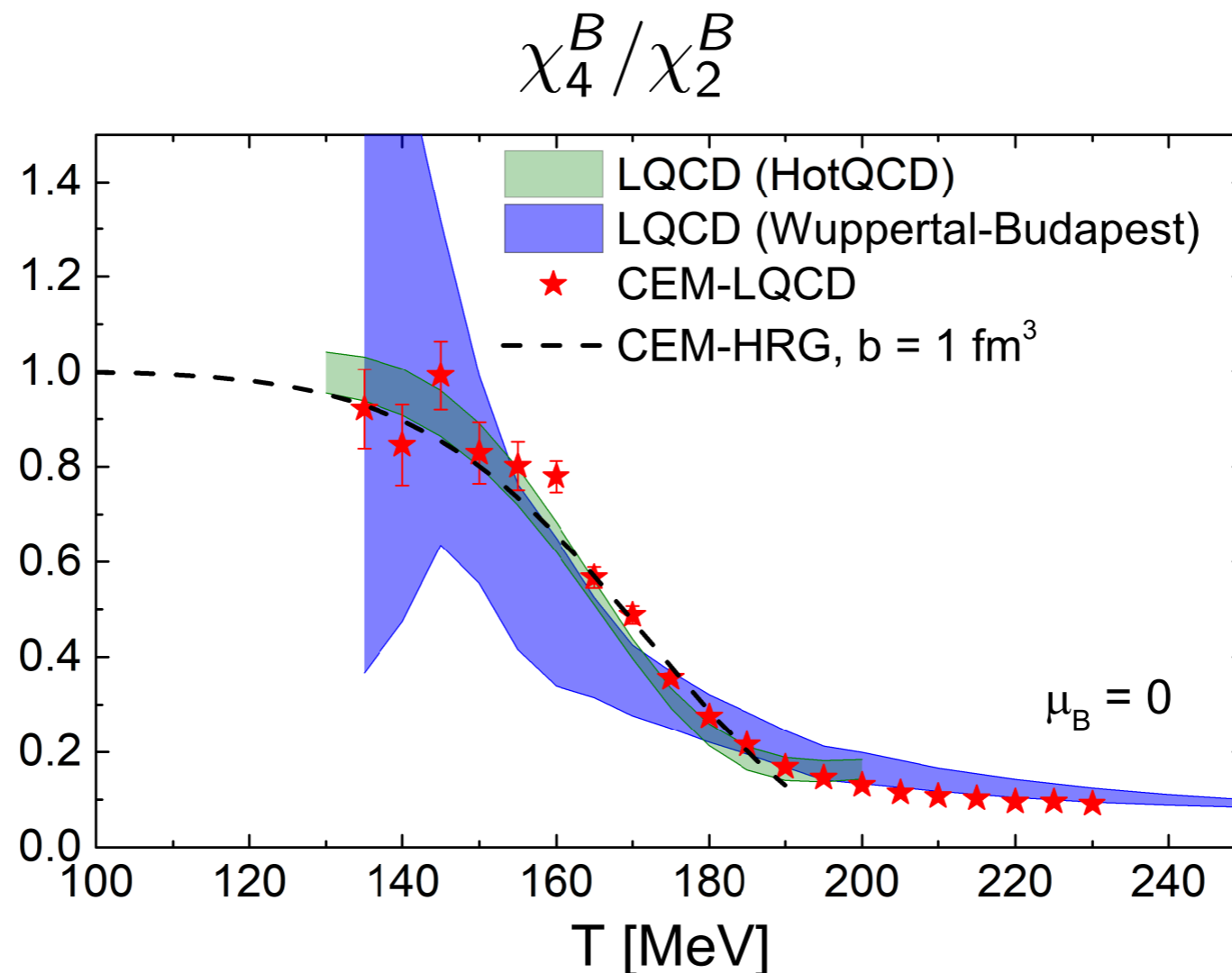


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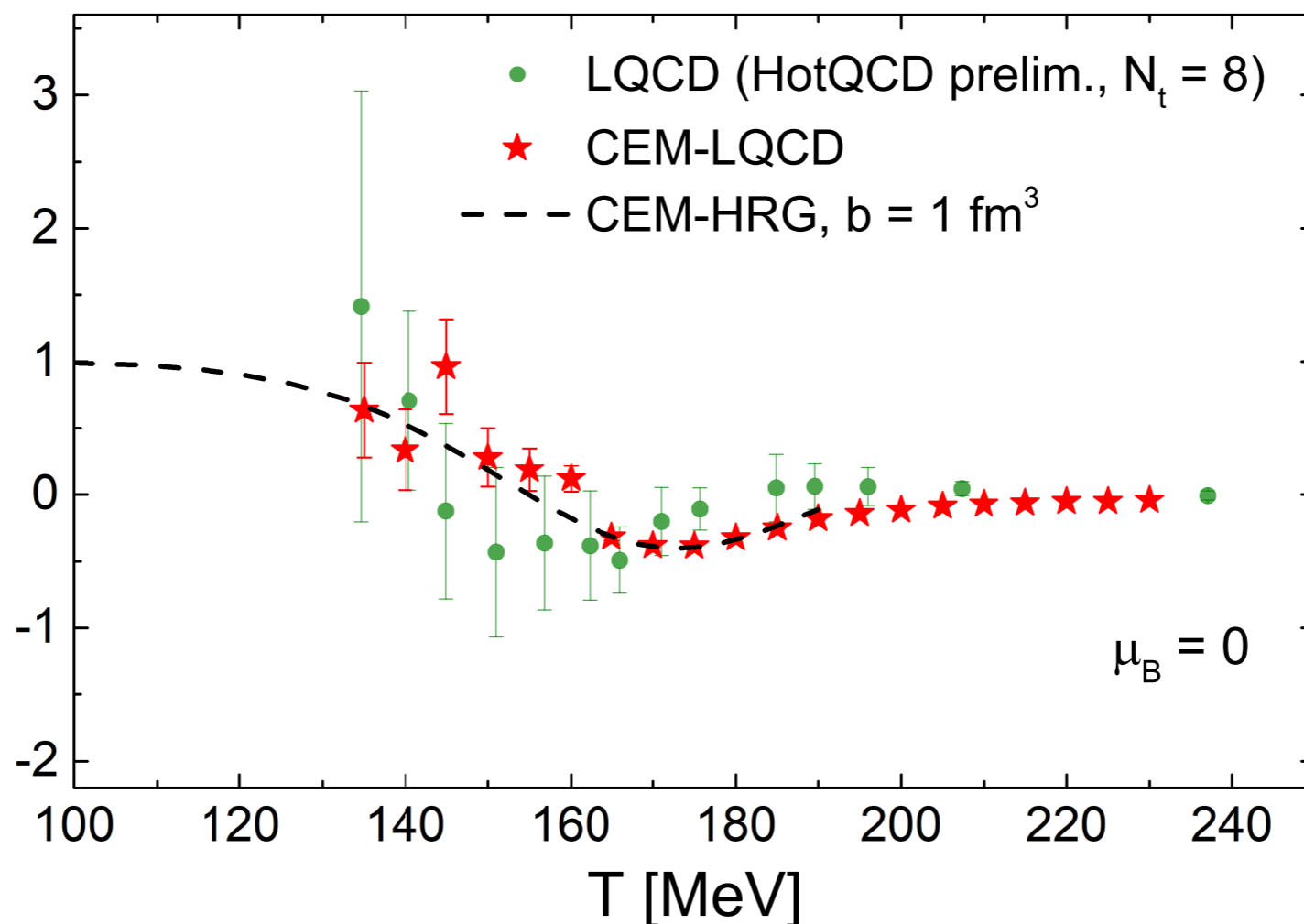
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$$\chi_6^B / \chi_2^B$$

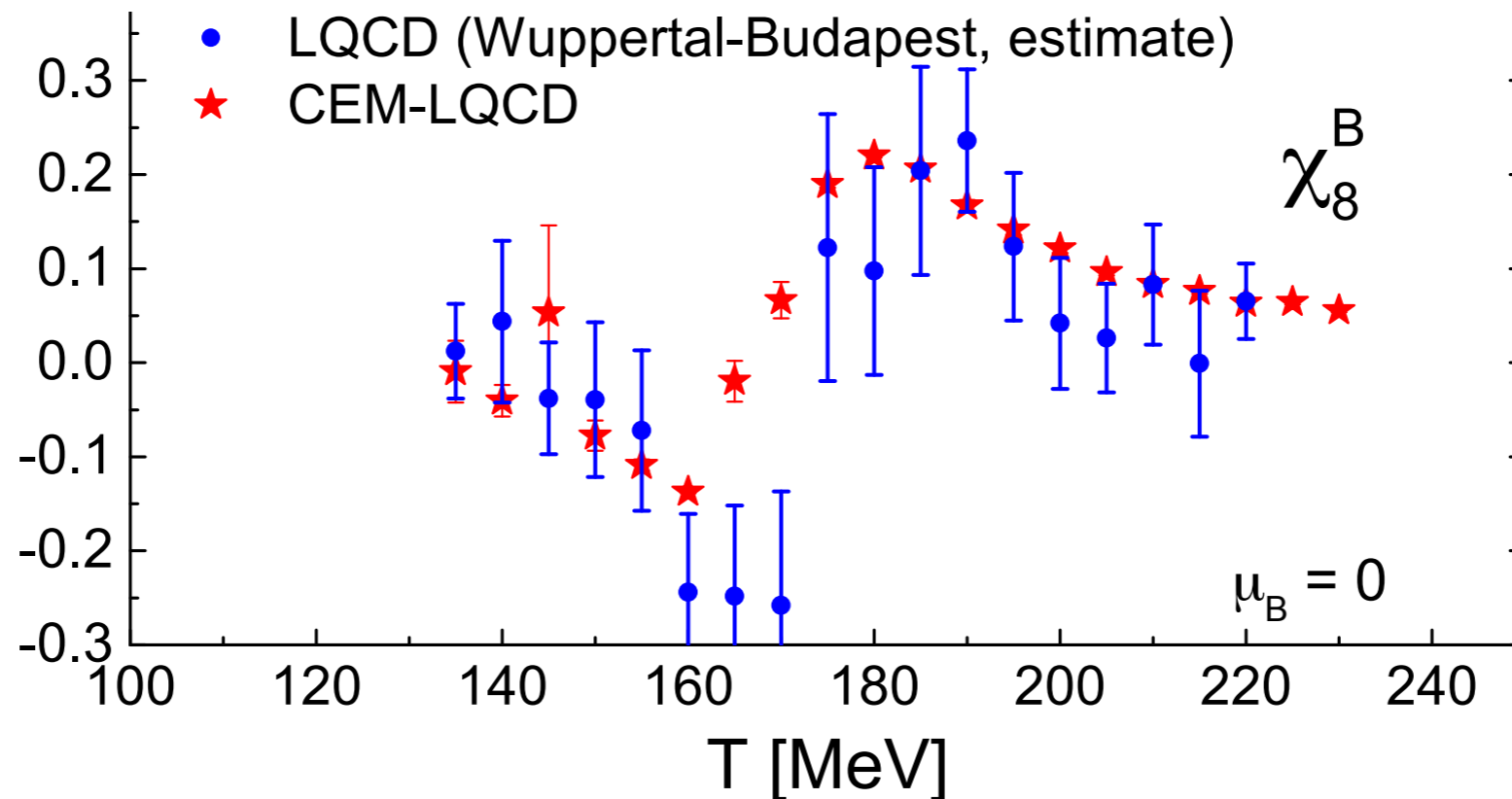


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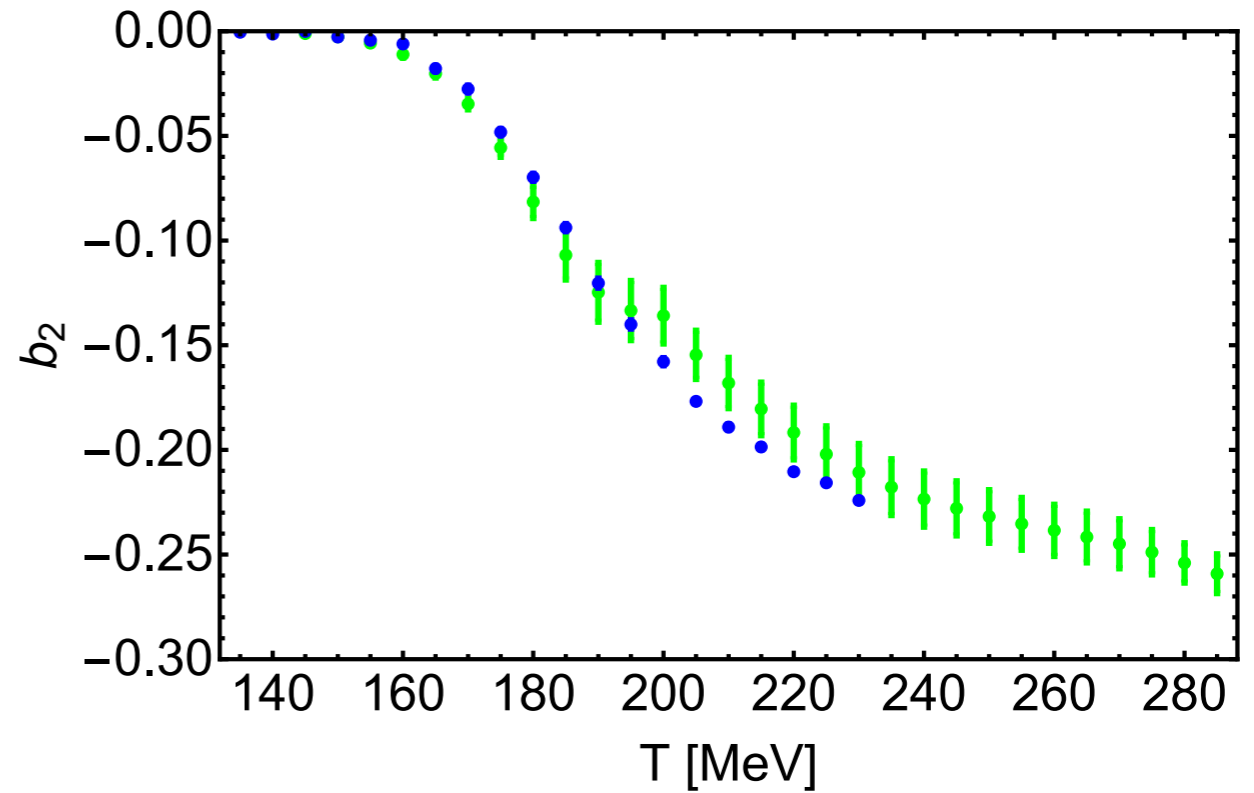
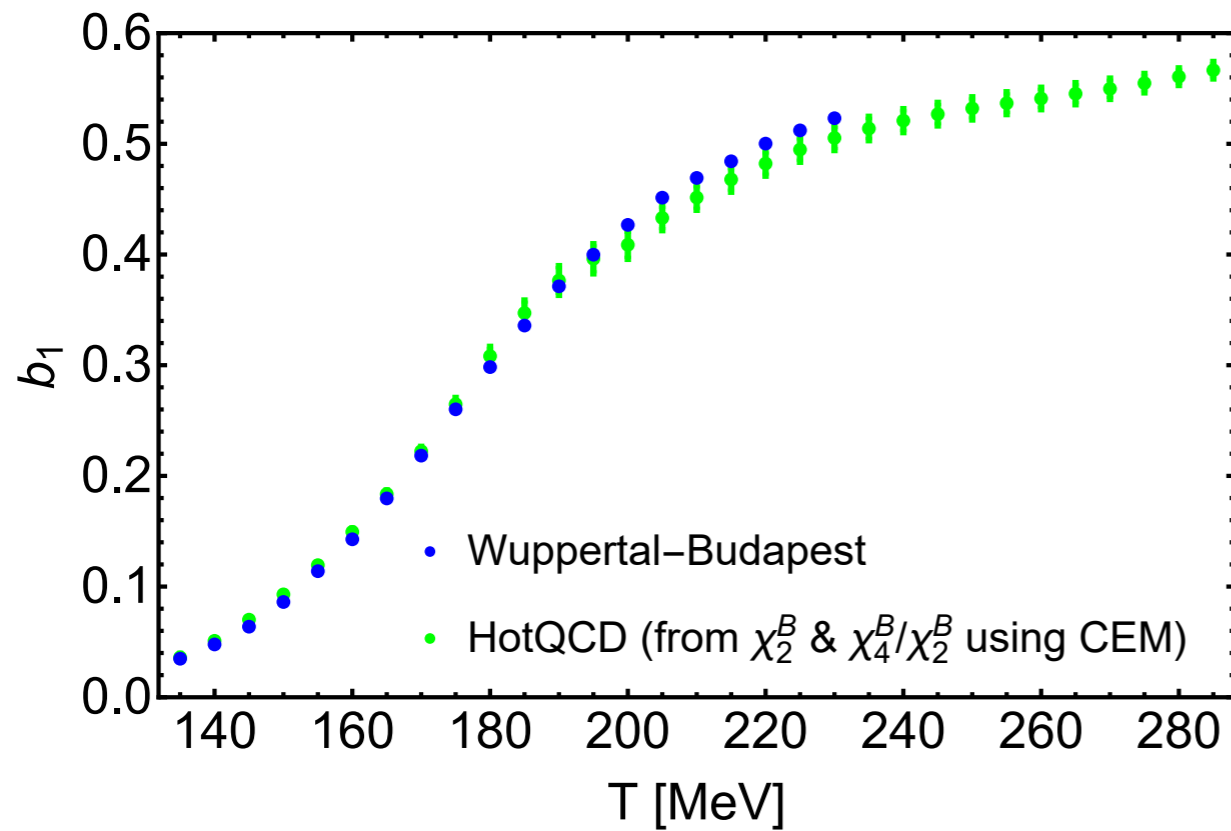
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# Yet another test of CEM



Note: this involves all coefficients!



# Radius of convergence

Taylor expansion of QCD pressure:

$$\frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{p(T, 0)}{T^4} + \frac{\chi_2^B(T)}{2!} (\mu_B/T)^2 + \frac{\chi_4^B(T)}{4!} (\mu_B/T)^4 + \dots$$

Radius of convergence  $r_{\mu/T}$  of the expansion is the distance to the nearest singularity of  $p/T^4$  in the **complex**  $\mu_B/T$  plane at a given temperature  $T$

If the nearest singularity is at a real  $\mu_B/T$  value, this could point to the **QCD critical point**

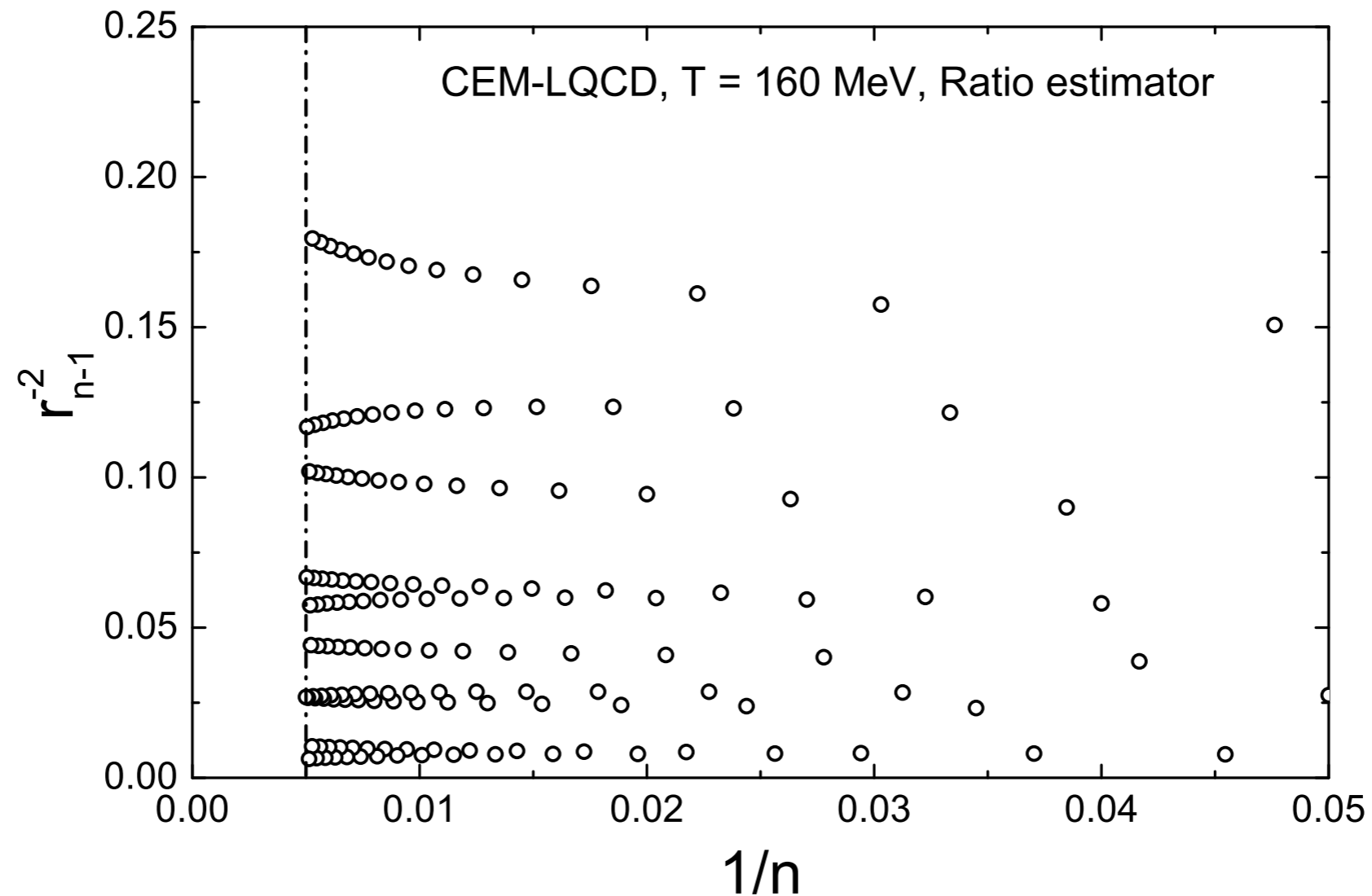
Lattice QCD strategy: Estimate  $r_{\mu/T}$  from few leading terms

M. D'Elia et al., 1611.08285; S. Datta et al., 1612.06673; A. Bazavov et al., 1701.04325

**Ratio estimator:**  $r_n = \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)\chi_{2n}^B}{\chi_{2n+2}^B} \right|^{1/2}, \quad r_{\mu/T} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n$

CEM allows to analyze  $r_n$  to very high order

Domb-Sykes plot:  $1/r_n^2$  vs  $1/n$ , linear extrapolation to  $1/n = 0$  yields  $r_{\mu/T}$   
 CEM-LQCD @  $T = 160$  MeV

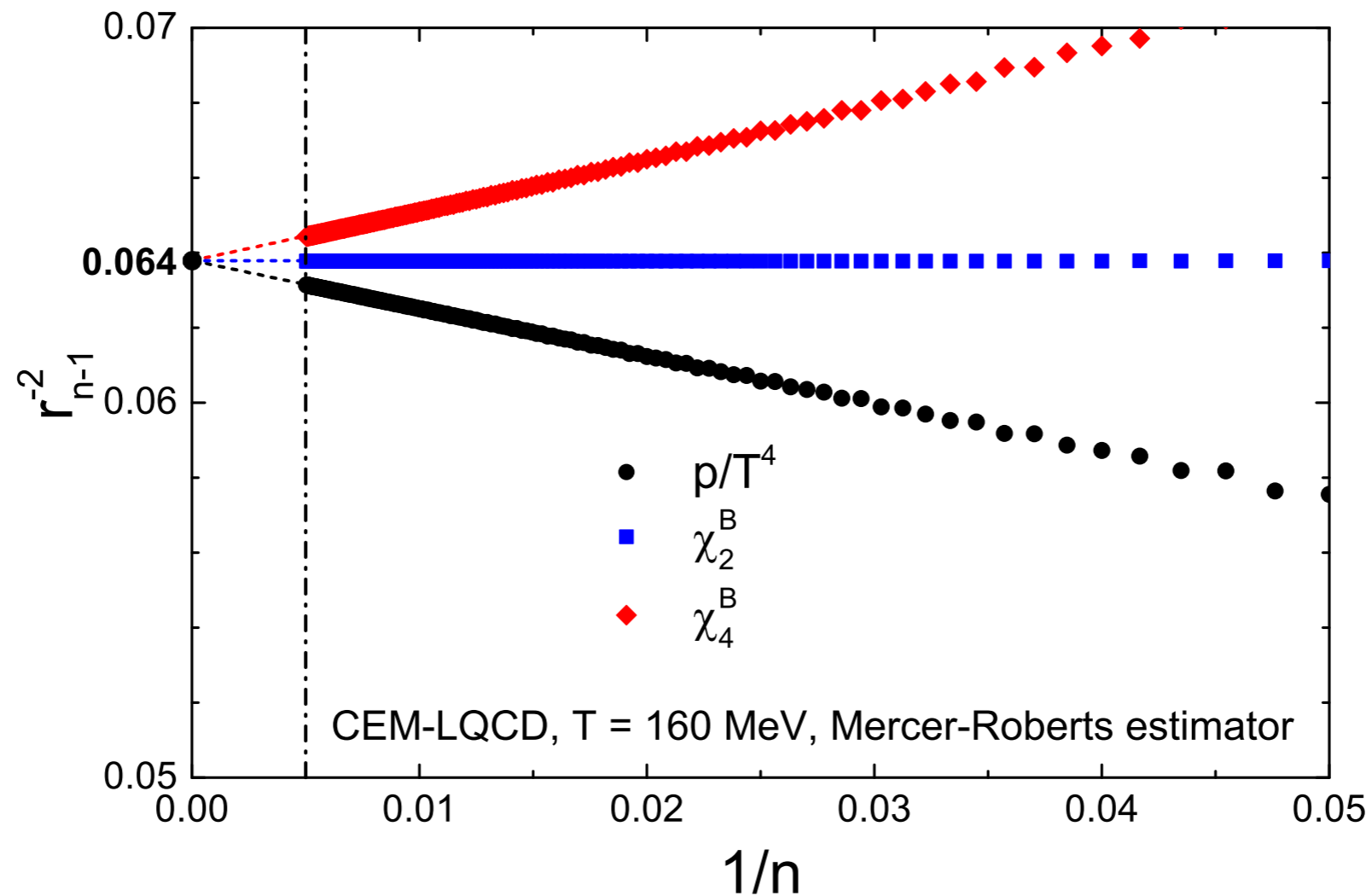


$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)\chi_{2n}^B}{\chi_{2n+2}^B} \right|^{1/2} \text{ DOES NOT EXIST!}$$

Reason: coefficients have neither same nor alternating signs  
 (required for ratio test)

# Mercer-Roberts estimator

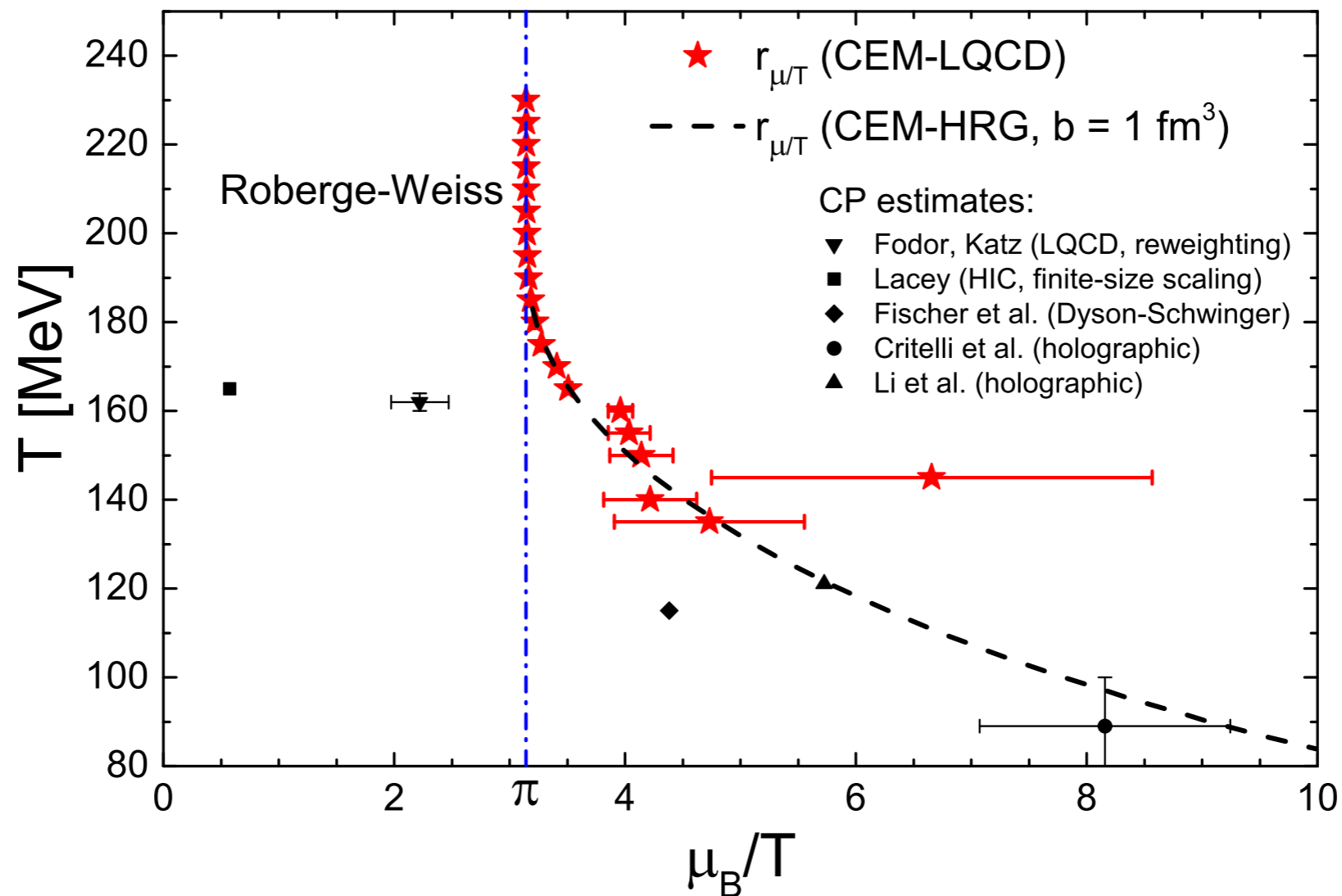
$$r_n = \left| \frac{c_{n+1} c_{n-1} - c_n^2}{c_{n+2} c_n - c_{n+1}^2} \right|^{1/4}, \quad c_n = \frac{\chi_{2n}^B}{(2n)!}.$$



Three different observables show same radius of convergence!

# Radius of convergence of CEM

Applying the same procedure at other temperatures



Radius of convergence of Taylor expansion sees **Roberge-Weiss transition**

R-W transition expected at  $T > T_{RW}$  and  $\text{Im}[\mu_B/T] = \pi$  [Roberge, Weiss, NPB '86]

Lattice estimate:  $T_{RW} \sim 200 \text{ MeV}$  [C. Bonati et al., 1602.01426 ]

# Conclusions

- Order of chiral phase transition not yet settled in the continuum
- For physical quark masses it is a crossover
- For small baryon density the crossover weakens, no sign of criticality
- Cluster expansion model for baryon number:  
EoS for small densities to all orders in chemical potential  
no critical point below  $\mu_B < \pi T$
- If there is a phase transition at larger density: is it chiral?