

# Lattice QCD results on conserved charge fluctuations

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with a lot of input  
from 'HotQCD,'

in particular,  
Sipaz Sharma  
Jishnu Goswami  
Mugdha Sarkar

- QCD phase diagram – constraining the location of a critical endpoint
- Precision results for 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants
- Higher order cumulants: Skewness, kurtosis and beyond
- Charmed cumulants: Towards continuum extrapolated results

# Critical behavior in QCD

- close to the chiral limit thermodynamics in the vicinity of the QCD transition(s) is controlled by a **universal scaling function**

$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \ln Z(V, T, \vec{\mu}) = -h^{(2-\alpha)/\beta\delta} f_f(t/h^{1/\beta\delta}) - f_r(V, T, \vec{\mu})$$

singular

regular

$$t \sim \frac{T - T_c}{T_c} + \kappa_2 \left( \frac{\mu_l}{T} \right)^2$$

$$h \sim \frac{m_l}{T_c}$$

## Pseudo-critical temperatures

response functions  
2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants

- magnetic

mixed

thermal

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial h^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial h \partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial t^2}$$

O(4) critical exponents

$$\alpha = -0.21$$

$$\beta = 0.38$$

$$\delta = 4.82$$

$$\sim \left( \frac{m_l}{T_c} \right)^{1/\delta - 1}$$

↑

$$\sim -0.79$$

$$\sim \left( \frac{m_l}{T_c} \right)^{(\beta-1)/\beta\delta}$$

↑

$$\sim -0.34$$

$$\sim \left( \frac{m_l}{T_c} \right)^{-\alpha/\beta\delta}$$

↑

$$\sim +0.11$$

divergence: strong

moderate

none

# Fluctuation observables in QCD

– chiral condensate:  $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_l = \frac{\partial P/T}{\partial m_l/T}$  ,  $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_l = (\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_u + \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_d)/2$

– chiral order parameter:  $M = \frac{2}{f_K^4} [m_s \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_l - m_l \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle_s]$

$$m_l = (m_u + m_d)/2$$

– chiral susceptibility:  $\chi_M = m_s \left( \frac{\partial M}{\partial m_u} + \frac{\partial M}{\partial m_d} \right)$  **magnetic**

– mixed chiral susceptibility:  $\chi_t = T \frac{\partial M}{\partial T}$  **mixed**

– conserved charge fluctuations:  $\chi_x = T^4 \frac{\partial^4 P/T^4}{\partial \mu_x^4} \Big|_{\mu_x=0}$  **thermal**

$$X = B, Q, S, \dots$$

# Higher order cumulants

## – Taylor expansion of QCD EoS and the HRG –

Taylor expansion of the **QCD** pressure:  $\frac{P}{T^4} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \ln Z(T, V, \mu_B, \mu_Q, \mu_S)$

$$\frac{P}{T^4} = \sum_{i,j,k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!j!k!} \chi_{ijk}^{BQS}(T) \left(\frac{\mu_B}{T}\right)^i \left(\frac{\mu_Q}{T}\right)^j \left(\frac{\mu_S}{T}\right)^k$$

cumulants of net-charge fluctuations and correlations:

$$\chi_{ijk}^{BQS} = \left. \frac{\partial^{i+j+k} P/T^4}{\partial \hat{\mu}_B^i \partial \hat{\mu}_Q^j \partial \hat{\mu}_S^k} \right|_{\mu_{B,Q,S}=0}, \quad \hat{\mu}_X \equiv \frac{\mu_X}{T}$$

**cumulants at vanishing chemical potential  
provide information on the equation of state  
as well as freeze-out conditions at small  
non-zero chemical potential**

# HotQCD data collection for (2+1)-flavor QCD-EoS

EoS:2017:  
arXiv:1701.04325

$N_\tau = 6$				$N_\tau = 8$				$N_\tau = 12$			
$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.	$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.	$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.
5.980	0.00435	135.29	81200	6.245	0.00307	134.64	180320	6.640	0.00196	134.94	5834
6.010	0.00416	139.71	120790	6.285	0.00293	140.45	172110	6.680	0.00187	140.44	5833
6.045	0.00397	145.05	120770	6.315	0.00281	144.95	138150	6.712	0.00181	144.97	13846
6.080	0.00387	150.59	79390	6.354	0.00270	151.00	107510	6.754	0.00173	151.10	14200
6.120	0.00359	157.17	66180	6.390	0.00257	156.78	135730	6.794	0.00167	157.13	15476
6.150	0.00345	162.28	79660	6.423	0.00248	162.25	115850	6.825	0.00161	161.94	16772
6.170	0.00336	165.98	49760	6.445	0.00241	165.98	120270	6.850	0.00157	165.91	19542
6.200	0.00324	171.15	122700	6.474	0.00234	171.02	139980	6.880	0.00153	170.77	21220
6.225	0.00314	175.76	122730	6.500	0.00228	175.64	133070	6.910	0.00148	175.76	12303

EoS 2022:  
arXiv:2202.09184

added O(10)  
times new  
confs.

added O(20)  
times new  
confs.

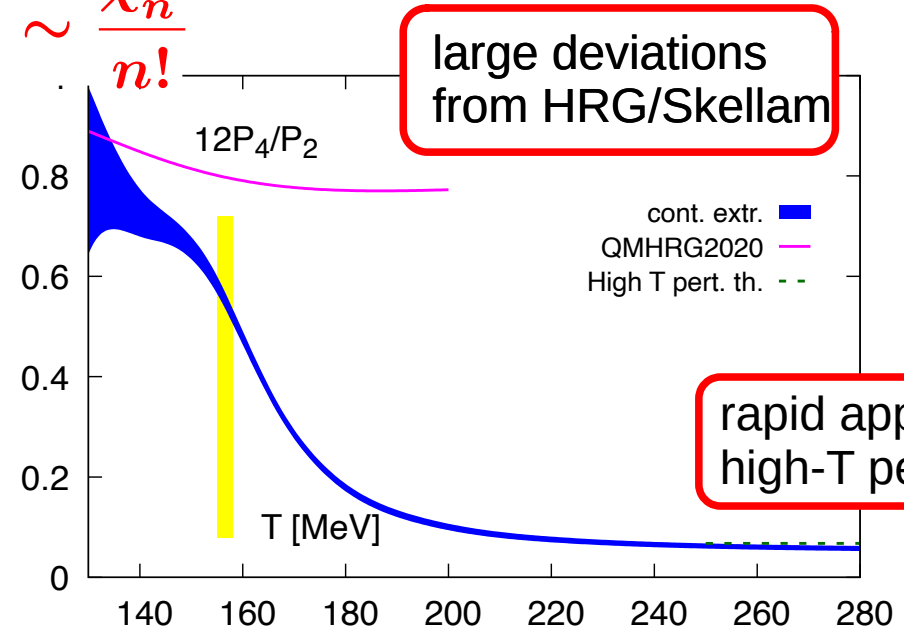
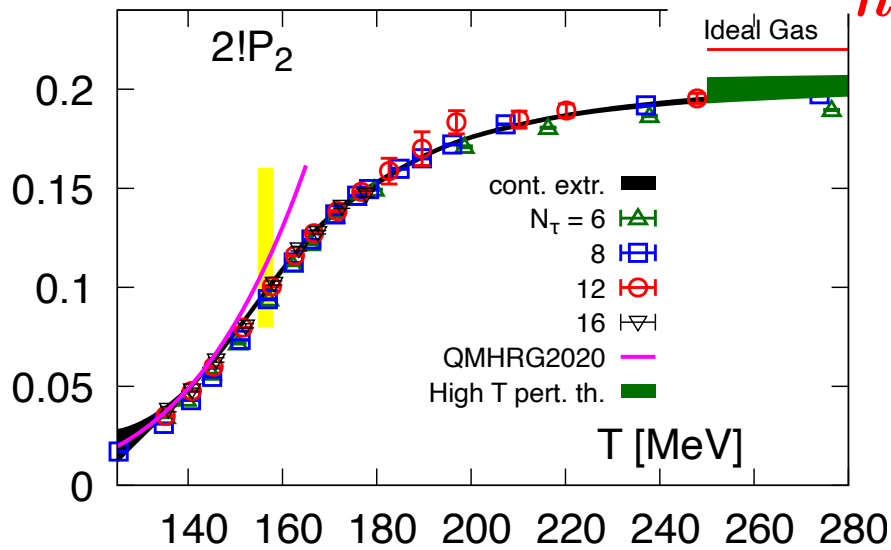
all new

$N_\tau = 8$				$N_\tau = 12$				$N_\tau = 16$			
$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.	$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.	$\beta$	$m_l$	T[MeV]	#conf.
6.175	0.003307	125.28	2,200,000	6.640	0.00196	135.24	330,447	6.935	0.00145	135.80	17671
6.245	0.00307	134.84	1,275,380	6.680	0.00187	140.80	441,115	6.973	0.00139	140.86	23855
6.285	0.00293	140.62	1,598,555	6.712	0.00181	145.40	416,703	7.010	0.00132	145.95	26122
6.315	0.00281	145.11	1,559,003	6.754	0.00173	151.62	323,738	7.054	0.00129	152.19	26965
6.354	0.00270	151.14	1,286,603	6.794	0.00167	157.75	299,029	7.095	0.00124	158.21	21656
6.390	0.00257	156.92	1,602,684	6.825	0.00161	162.65	214,671	7.130	0.00119	163.50	18173
6.423	0.00248	162.39	1,437,436	6.850	0.00157	166.69	156,111	7.156	0.00116	167.53	19926
6.445	0.00241	166.14	1,186,523	6.880	0.00153	171.65	144,633	7.188	0.00113	172.60	17163
6.474	0.00234	171.19	373,644	6.910	0.00148	176.73	131,248	7.220	0.00110	177.80	3282
6.500	0.00228	175.84	294,311								

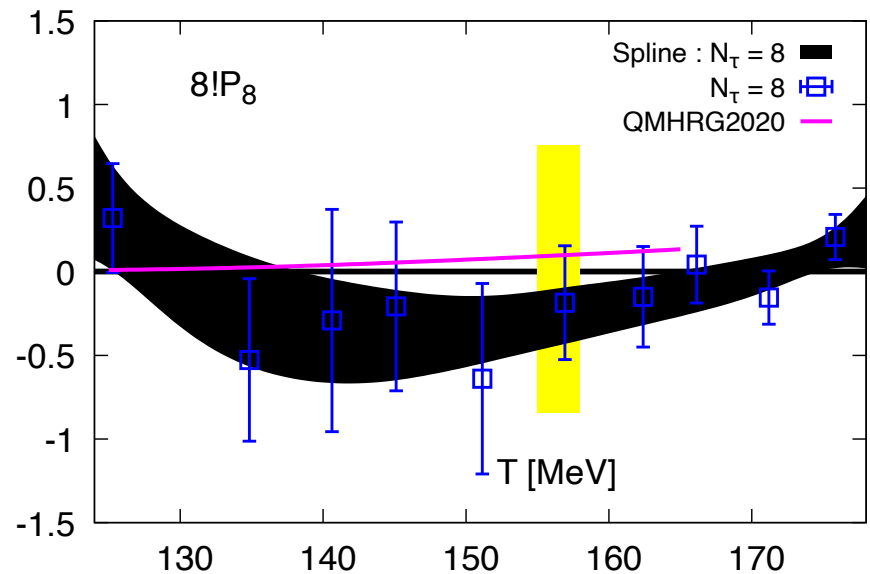
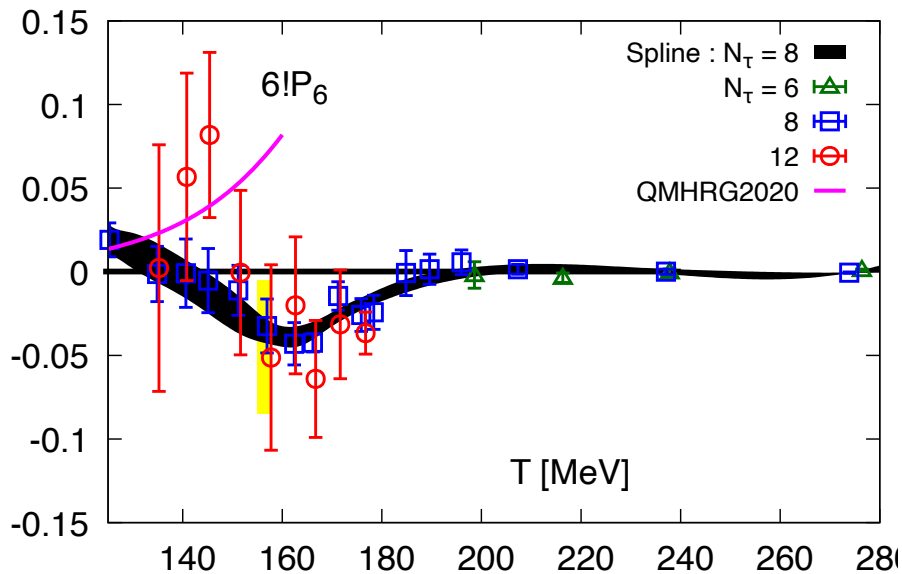
A. Bazavov et al. (HotQCD), Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 074511, arXiv:2202.09184 & arXiv:1701.04325

# Up to 8<sup>th</sup> order Taylor expansion for pressure

$$P_n \equiv \frac{\tilde{\chi}_n^B}{n!} \sim \frac{\chi_n^B}{n!}$$



rapid approach to high-T pert. theory

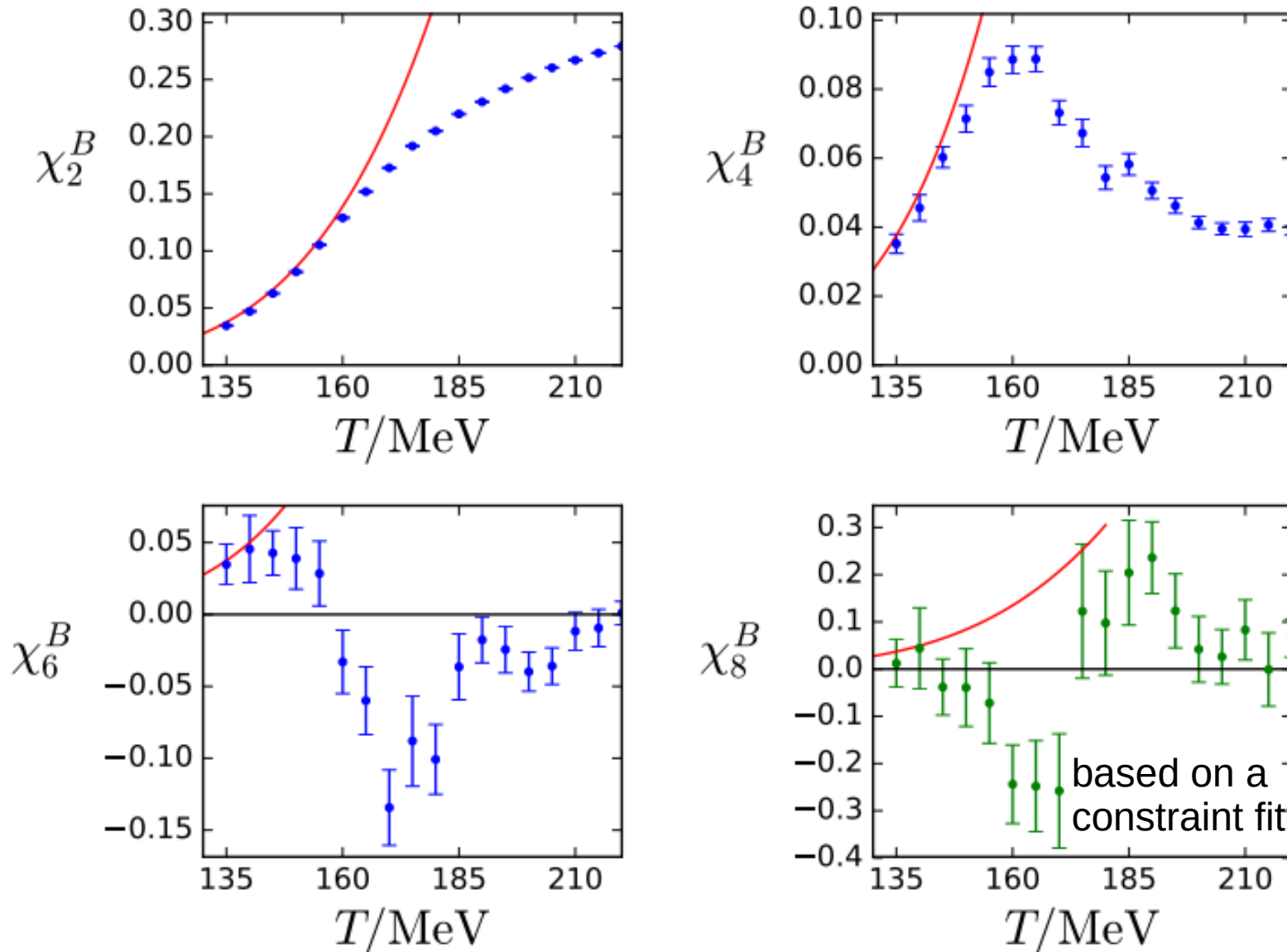


A. Bazavov et al. (HotQCD), Phys. Rev. D 105 (2022) 074511, arXiv:2202.09184 & arXiv:1701.04325

# Up to 8<sup>th</sup> order cumulants are used frequently

– **imag. chem. pot. extrapolations** –

$48^3 \times 12$



S. Borsanyi et al. , JHEP 10 (2018) 205, arXiv:1805.04445

# Comparing Taylor series and Pade resummation

## Taylor series

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta p}{T^4} &\equiv \frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} - \frac{p(T, 0)}{T^4} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_{2k}(T) \left( \frac{\mu_B}{T} \right)^{2k}, \quad P_{2k} \sim \chi_{2k}^B \\ &= \frac{P_2^2}{P_4} (\bar{x}^2 + \bar{x}^4 + c_{6,2} \bar{x}^6 + c_{8,2} \bar{x}^8 + \dots) \quad \text{use } P_2 > 0, P_4 > 0 \\ &\quad \bar{x} \equiv \sqrt{P_4/P_2} (\mu_B/T) \\ &\quad c_{6,2} = \frac{P_6 P_2}{P_4^2}, \quad c_{8,2} = \frac{P_8 P_2^2}{P_4^3} \end{aligned}$$

## Pade approximation

$$\text{pressure: } \frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} \Big|_{[nm]} = \frac{P_2^2}{P_4} P_{[nm]}$$

$$P_{[4,4]} = \frac{(1 - c_{6,2}) \bar{x}^2 + (1 - 2c_{6,2} + c_{8,2}) \bar{x}^4}{(1 - c_{6,2}) + (c_{8,2} - c_{6,2}) \bar{x}^2 + (c_{6,2}^2 - c_{8,2}) \bar{x}^4}$$

to this order: poles are obtained from a quadratic eq. in  $\bar{x}^2 \sim \chi_4^B / \chi_2^B \cdot \hat{\mu}_B^2$

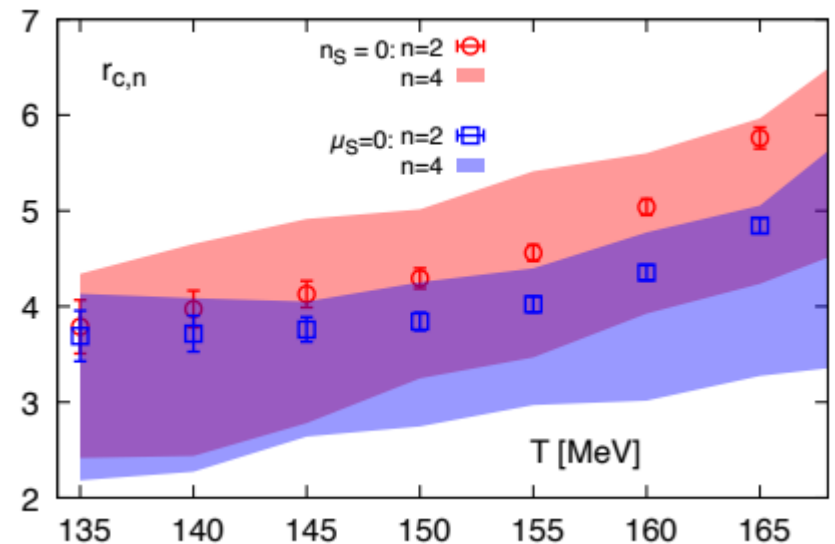
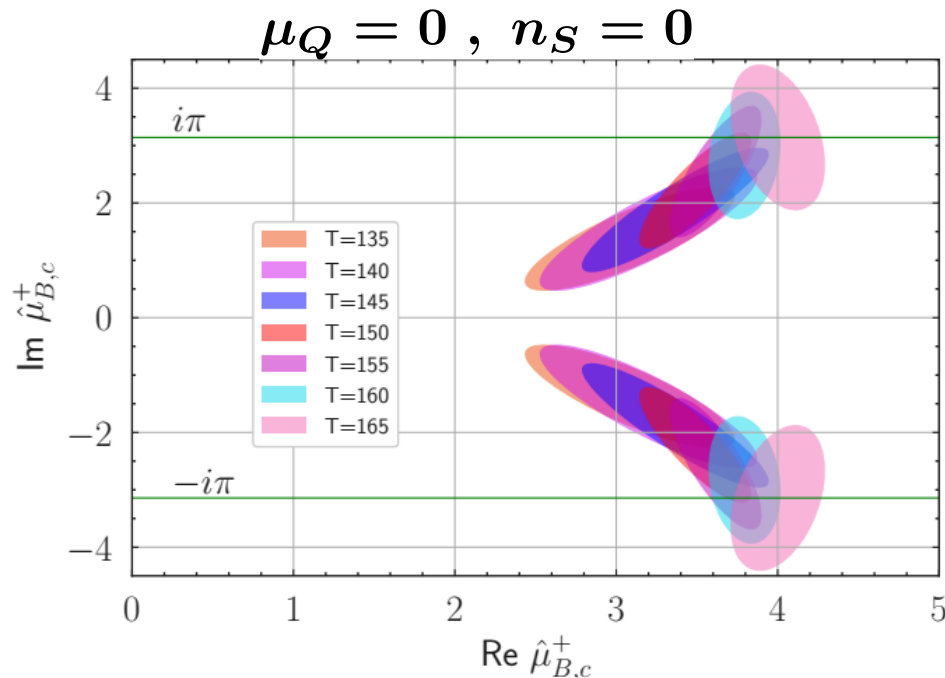


# Poles of [n,n] Pade approximants in QCD

$$\hat{\mu}_{B,c}^{\pm} = \pm r_{c,4} e^{\pm i\Theta_{c,4}}, \quad r_{c,4} = \sqrt{\frac{12\tilde{\chi}_0^{B,2}}{\tilde{\chi}_0^{B,4}} \left| \frac{1 - c_{6,2}}{c_{6,2}^2 - c_{8,2}} \right|^{1/4}}, \quad c_{2k,2} = \frac{2\tilde{\chi}_0^{B,2}}{(2k)! \tilde{\chi}_0^{B,2k}} \left( \frac{12\tilde{\chi}_0^{B,2}}{\tilde{\chi}_0^{B,4}} \right)^{k-1}$$

complex poles move to real axis as temperature decreases

distance of complex poles from the origin is given by the **Mercer-Roberts estimator** for the radius of convergence



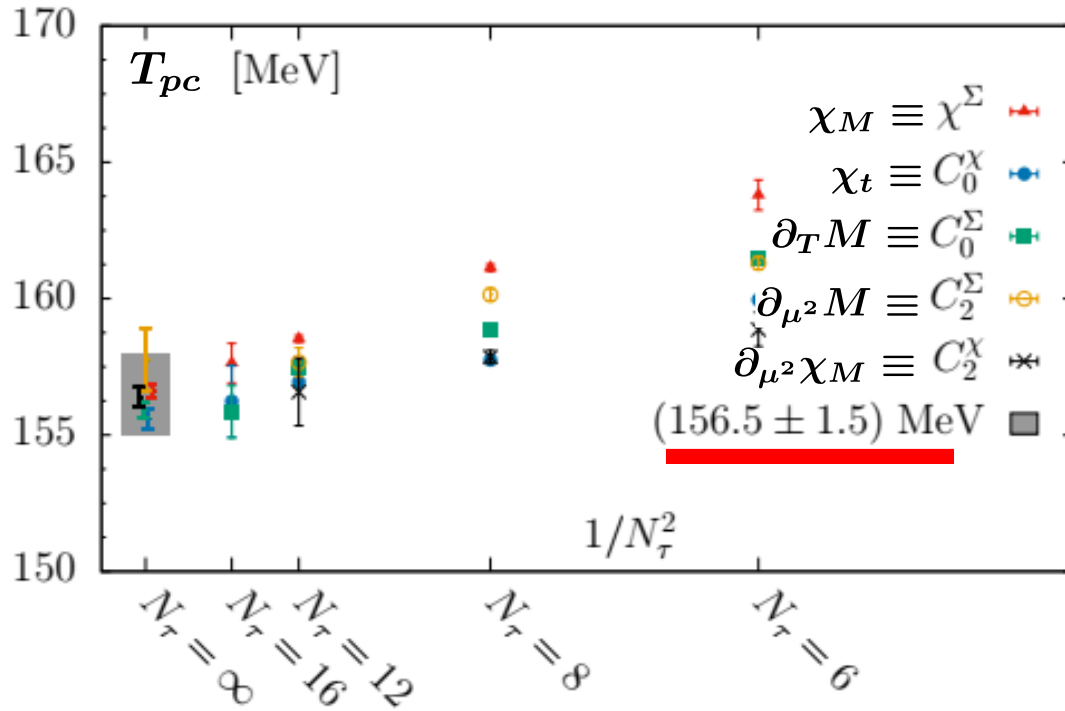
HotQCD, arXiv:2202.09184

within current errors poles on the real axis (critical point) are possible only for

$$T \leq 135 \text{ MeV}, \quad \mu_B/T > 2.5$$

higher statistics will sharpen the constraint

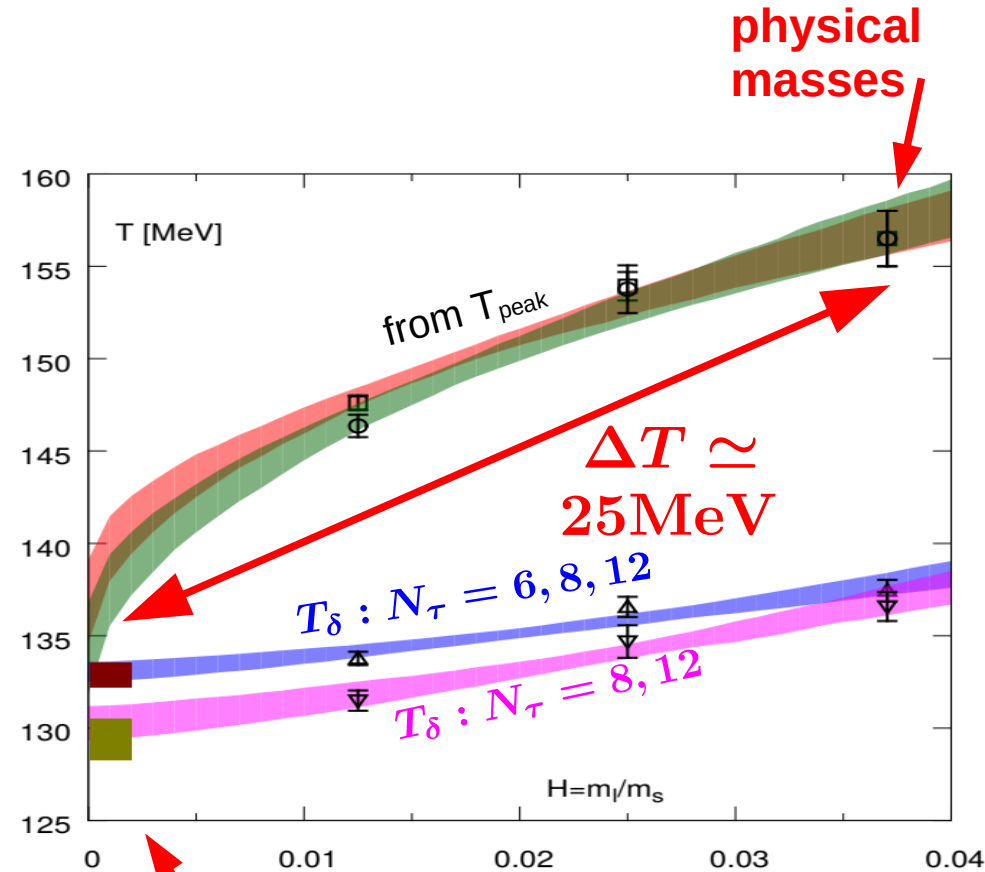
# Pseudo-critical and critical temperatures



A. Bazavov et al (HotQCD), arXiv:1812.08235

**physical masses**

$$T_{pc}^{phys} = (156.5 \pm 1.5) \text{ MeV}$$



H.T Ding et al (HotQCD),  
 arXiv:1903.04801  
 Anirban Lahiri et al,  
 arXiv:2010:15593

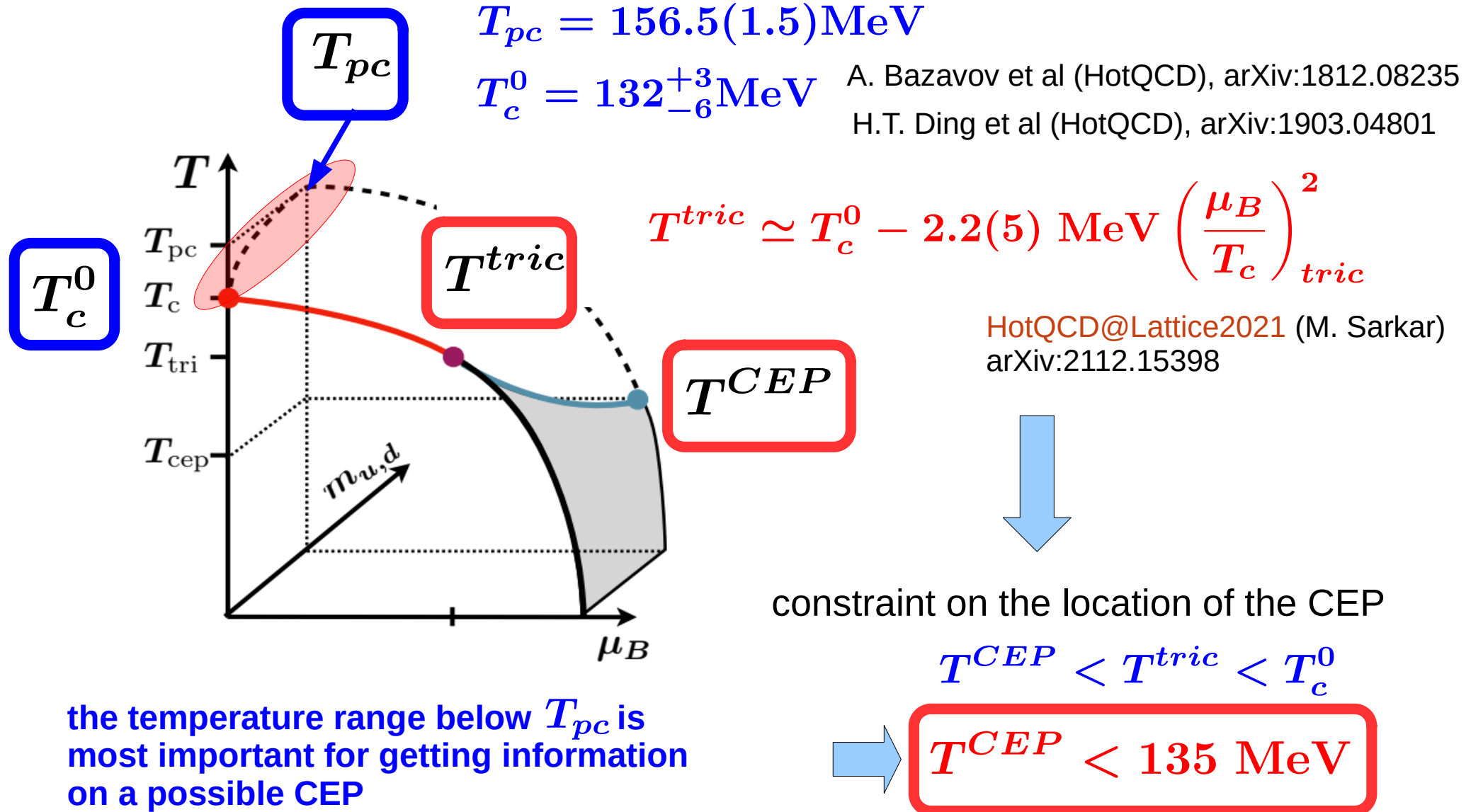
**chiral limit** extrapolations

$$T_c^0 = 132_{-6}^{+3} \text{ MeV}$$

also: A. Y. Kotov et al., arXiv: 2105.09842

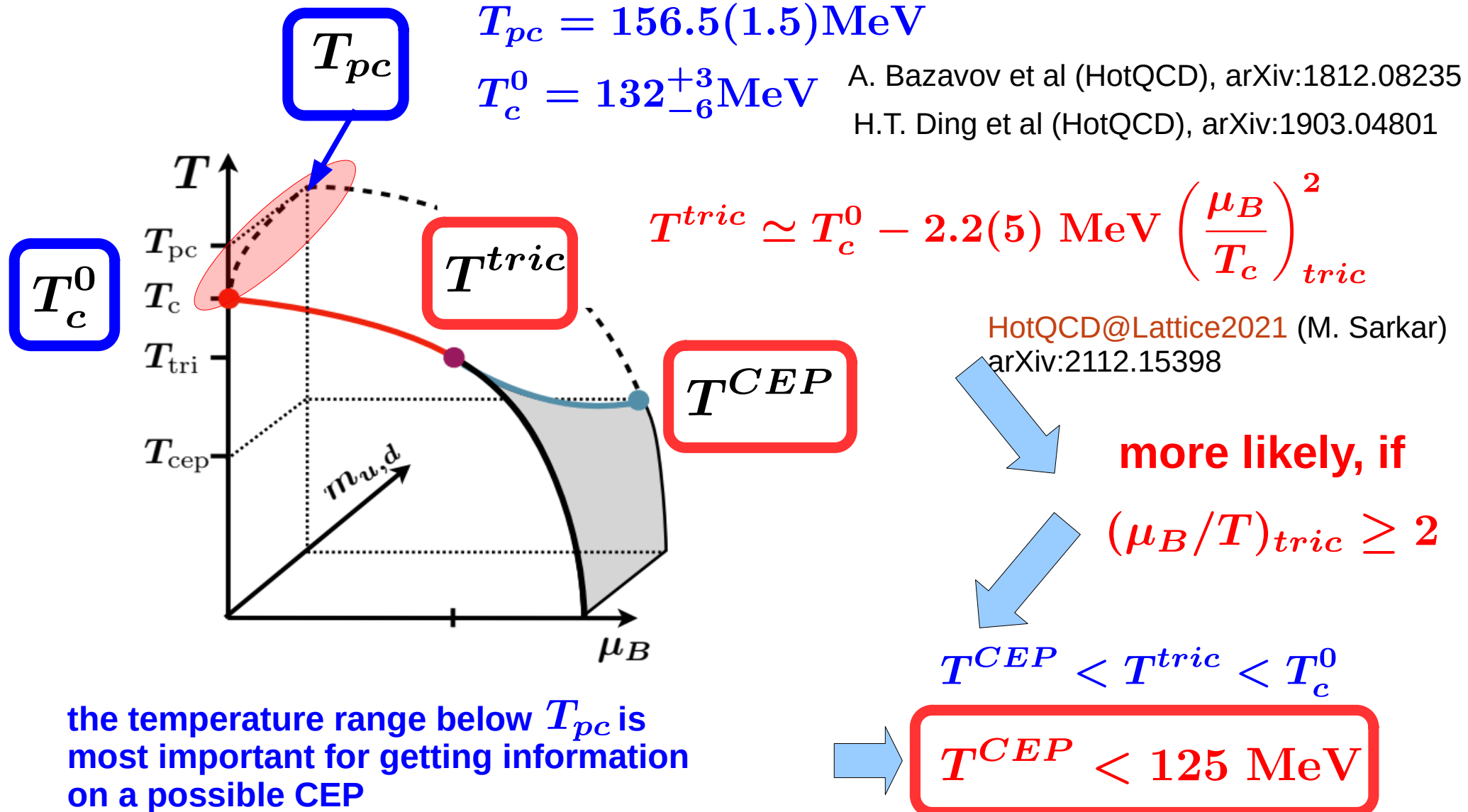
# Summary: Phases of strong-interaction matter

determination of  $T_c^0$  puts an upper limit on  $T^{CEP}$



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## Baryon-Strangeness Correlations: A Diagnostic of Strongly Interacting Matter

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(Received 23 May 2005; published 24 October 2005)

The correlation between baryon number and strangeness elucidates the nature of strongly interacting matter, such as that formed transiently in high-energy nuclear collisions. This diagnostic can be extracted theoretically from lattice QCD calculations and experimentally from event-by-event fluctuations. The analysis of present lattice results above the critical temperature severely limits the presence of  $q\bar{q}$  bound states, thus supporting a picture of independent (quasi)quarks.

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PACS numbers: 25.75.Gz, 12.38.Gc, 12.38.Mh, 25.75.Nq

The principal goal of high-energy heavy-ion collisions is the creation and exploration of a novel state of matter in which the quarks and gluons are deconfined over distances considerably larger than that of a hadron [1]. It had originally been assumed that asymptotic freedom would cause such matter to behave as a plasma of massless quarks and gluons interacting with a relatively weak screened chromodynamic Coulomb force. While this picture is supported qualitatively by the rapid rise in the entropy density at a temperature of about  $T_c \approx 170$  MeV, as obtained by lattice QCD calculations, the fact that the high- $T$  behavior falls somewhat below that of an ideal gas of massless quarks and gluons [2] indicates that the chromodynamic plasma has a more complex structure.

Indeed, recent results from lattice QCD calculation on spectral functions [3–6] suggest the presence of bound, color-neutral states well above  $T_c$ . This has led to the suggestion that at moderate temperatures,  $T \approx 1 - 2T_c$ , the system is composed of medium-modified (massive) quarks and gluons together with their (many and possibly colored) bound states [7–10].

Furthermore, jet quenching observed at the Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collider (RHIC) suggests that the matter formed is not hadronic [11]. Moreover, the RHIC collisions exhibit strong elliptic and radial collective flows that are consistent with predictions by ideal fluid dynamics [12,13]. If ideal hydrodynamics is indeed the correct framework, rapid thermalization must occur and this in turn would seem to rule out a weakly interacting plasma. Thus, the nature of the matter being created at RHIC is still not clarified and the purpose of this Letter is to offer a novel diagnostic tool for elucidating this issue by probing the relevant degrees of freedom and their correlations.

In particular, we will argue that the correlation between the strangeness  $S$  and the baryon number  $B$  provides a useful diagnostic for the presence of strong correlations between quarks and antiquarks. In order to understand this, consider first a situation in which the basic degrees of freedom are weakly interacting quarks and gluons. Then strangeness is carried exclusively by the  $s$  and  $\bar{s}$  quarks which in turn carry baryon number in strict proportion to

their strangeness,  $B_s = -\frac{1}{3}S_s$ , thus rendering strangeness and baryon number strongly correlated. This feature is in stark contrast to a hadron gas in which the relation between strangeness and baryon number is less intimate. For example, at small baryon chemical potential the strangeness is carried primarily by kaons, which have no baryon number.

These elementary considerations lead us to introduce the following correlation coefficient,

$$C_{BS} \equiv -3 \frac{\sigma_{BS}}{\sigma_S^2} = -3 \frac{\langle BS \rangle - \langle B \rangle \langle S \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle - \langle S \rangle^2} = -3 \frac{\langle BS \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle}. \quad (1)$$

The average  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  is taken over a suitable ensemble of events and the last expression uses the fact that  $\langle S \rangle$  vanishes. When the active degrees of freedom are individual quarks, the total strangeness is  $S = \nu_s - \nu_{\bar{s}}$ , while the baryon number can be expressed as  $B = \frac{1}{3}(U + D - S)$ , where  $U = \nu_u - \nu_{\bar{u}}$  is the upness and  $D = \nu_d - \nu_{\bar{d}}$  is the downness. Thus, if the flavors are uncorrelated, we have  $\sigma_{BS} = -\frac{1}{3}\sigma_S^2$  and  $C_{BS}$  is unity.

In a gas of hadron resonances, the total baryon number is  $B = \sum_k n_k B_k$  and its total strangeness is  $S = \sum_k n_k S_k$ , where the species  $k$  has baryon number  $B_k$  and strangeness  $S_k$ . If the multiplicities  $\{n_k\}$  are uncorrelated, as is generally assumed in the standard statistical treatment [14],  $C_{BS}$  may be expressed in terms of the associated multiplicity variances  $\sigma_k^2 \equiv \langle n_k^2 \rangle - \langle n_k \rangle^2 \approx \langle n_k \rangle$ ,

$$C_{BS} = -3 \frac{\sum_k \sigma_k^2 B_k S_k}{\sum_k \sigma_k^2 S_k^2} \approx -3 \frac{\sum_k \langle n_k \rangle B_k S_k}{\sum_k \langle n_k \rangle S_k^2}, \quad (2)$$

where the approximate expression holds for Poisson statistics. Thus, in a gas of uncorrelated hadrons, the numerator receives contributions from only (strange) baryons (and antibaryons), while the denominator receives contributions also from (strange) mesons,

$$C_{BS} \approx 3 \frac{\langle \Lambda \rangle + \langle \bar{\Lambda} \rangle + \dots + 3\langle \Omega^- \rangle + 3\langle \bar{\Omega}^+ \rangle}{\langle K^0 \rangle + \langle \bar{K}^0 \rangle + \dots + 9\langle \Omega^- \rangle + 9\langle \bar{\Omega}^+ \rangle}. \quad (3)$$

While Eq. (1) [or its more explicit version (6)] holds

## Conserved charge correlations

### baryon number – strangeness correlations

$$\frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}(T, \mu_B)}{\chi_2^S(T, \mu_B)} \equiv \frac{\langle BS \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle}$$

$$C_{BS} = -3 \frac{\langle BS \rangle - \langle B \rangle \langle S \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle - \langle S \rangle^2} = -3 \frac{\langle BS \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle}$$

### Free Quark Gas

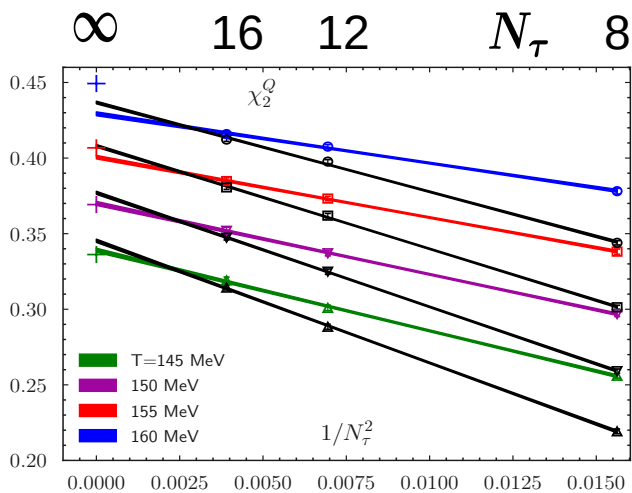
$$C_{BS} = -3 \frac{\langle BS \rangle}{\langle S^2 \rangle} = -3 \frac{\frac{\pm 1}{3} \cdot (\mp 1)}{(\pm 1)^2} = 1$$

### Hadron Resonance Gas (HRG)

$$C_{BS} \approx 3 \frac{\langle \Lambda \rangle + \langle \bar{\Lambda} \rangle + \dots + 3\langle \Omega^- \rangle + 3\langle \bar{\Omega}^+ \rangle}{K^0 + \bar{K}^0 + \dots + 9\langle \Omega^- \rangle + 9\langle \bar{\Omega}^+ \rangle}$$

# Fluctuations and Correlations

## - precision calculation of all 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants -



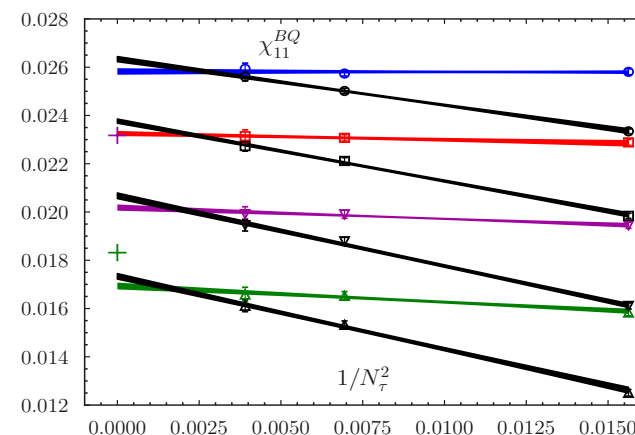
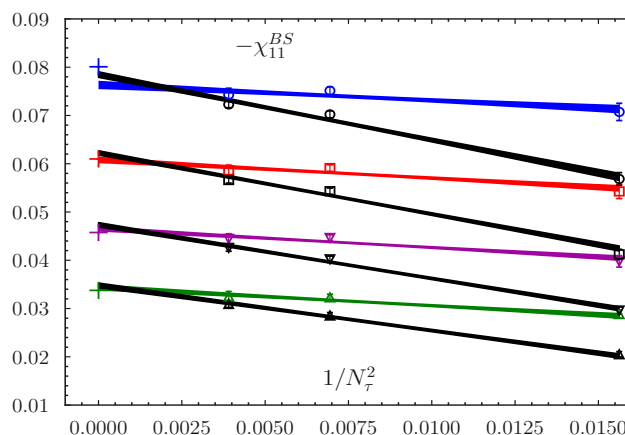
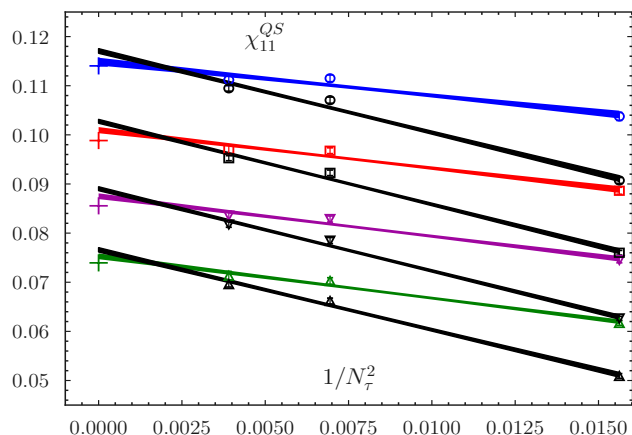
two constraints: only 4 out of 6  
2<sup>nd</sup> order observables are independent

$$\chi_2^B = 2\chi_{11}^{BQ} - \chi_{11}^{BS} \quad \chi_2^S = 2\chi_{11}^{QS} - \chi_{11}^{BS}$$

- exact relations in QCD for  $\mu_X = 0$ ,  $X = B, Q, S$
- satisfied in HRG models to better than 1%

- well controlled continuum extrapolation

scale setting used: colored af\_K, black: r1/a



- continuum extrapolated results for all 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants in (2+1)-flavor QCD

D. Bollweg et al (HotQCD), Phys. rev. D104 (2021) 7, arXiv:2107.10011

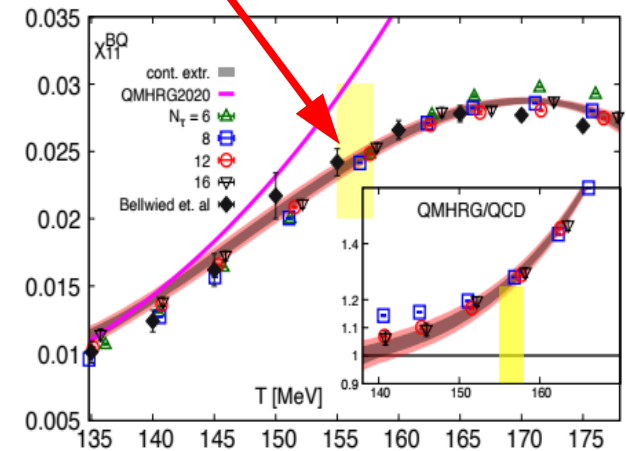
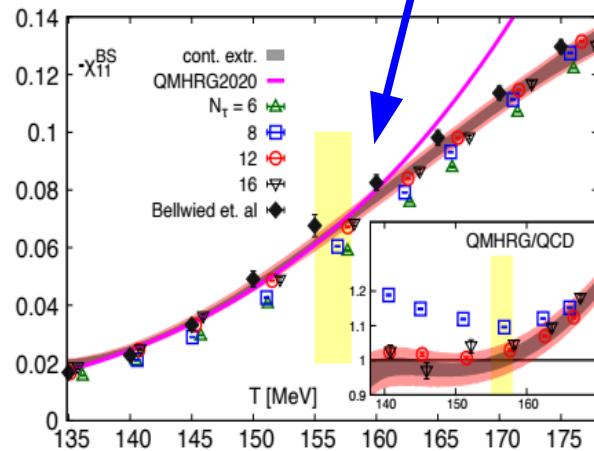
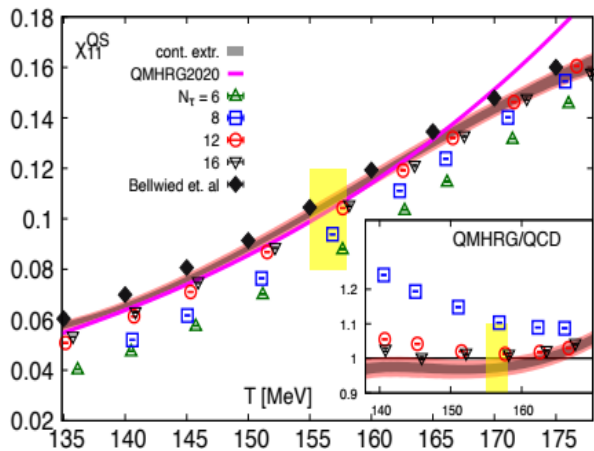
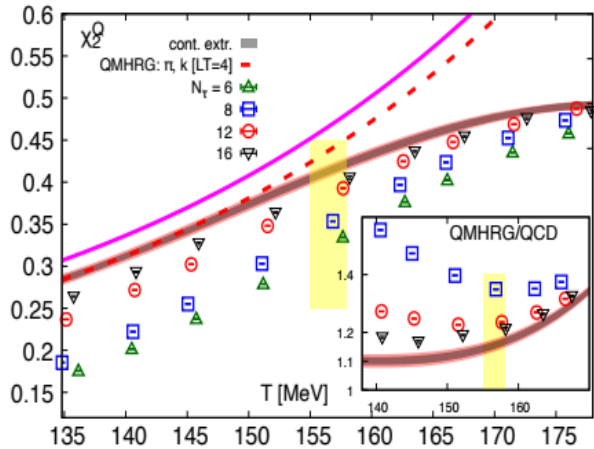
# 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants: fluctuations and correlations

two constraints: only 4 out of 6  
2<sup>nd</sup> order observables are independent

$$T_c = (156.5 \pm 1.5)\text{MeV}$$

$$\chi_2^B = 2\chi_{11}^{BQ} - \chi_{11}^{BS} \quad \chi_2^S = 2\chi_{11}^{QS} - \chi_{11}^{BS}$$

- exact relations in QCD for  $\mu_X = 0$ ,  $X = B, Q, S$
- satisfied in HRG models to better than 1%



significant difference in  
BS and BQ  
correlations

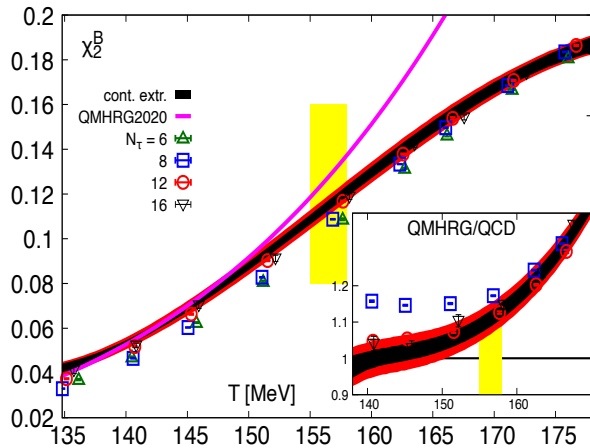
- continuum extrapolated results for all 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants in (2+1)-flavor QCD

D. Bollweg et al (HotQCD), Phys. rev. D104 (2021) 7, arXiv:2107.10011

# 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants: fluctuations and correlations

at  $T_{pc}$

	$\chi_{11}^{BQ}$	$\chi_{11}^{BS}$	$\chi_{11}^{QS}$	$(\chi_2^Q)_{LT=4}$	$\chi_2^S$	$\chi_2^B$	$\chi_{11}^{BS}/\chi_2^S$	$\chi_{11}^{BQ}/\chi_2^B$
QCD[this work]	0.0243(7)(9)	-0.066(4)(5)	0.106(3)(5)	0.413(8)(9)	0.279(9)(12)	0.115(5)(7)	-0.236(5)(6)	0.212(4)(5)
QMHRG2020[HotQCD]	0.031(3)	-0.066(6)	0.103(5)	0.437(14)	0.272(14)	0.127(10)	-0.243(8)	0.244(3)
QMHRG2016+ [Houston]	0.031(3)	-0.071(7)	0.104(5)	0.444(15)	0.277(16)	0.132(10)	-0.256(7)	0.235(2)
PDGHRG	0.030(2)	-0.046(4)	0.094(4)	0.419(12)	0.234(11)	0.106(8)	-0.197(6)	0.283(2)
EVHRG2020[ $b = 1 \text{ fm}^3$ ]	0.027(2)	-0.059(5)	0.103(5)	0.431(13)	0.264(13)	0.113(8)	-0.223(5)	0.243(2)
S-matrix [Friman et al,2015]	0.020(1)	-0.062(5)	0.107(4)	–	–	–	–	–

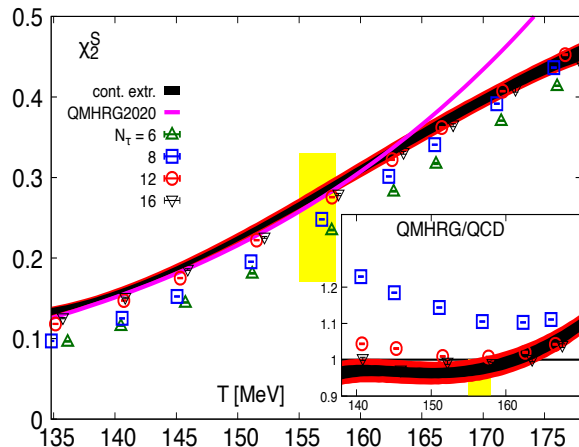


– largest deviations from HRG seen for  $\chi_{11}^{BQ}$  : ~25%

$$\chi_2^B = 2\chi_{11}^{BQ} - \chi_{11}^{BS}$$

$$-\chi_{11}^{BS}/\chi_2^B = 0.57(6)$$

– strangeness fluctuations and correlations are well described by QMHRG2020 at  $T_{pc}$



– electric charge fluctuations and correlations deviate from QMHRG2020 already at about 145 MeV

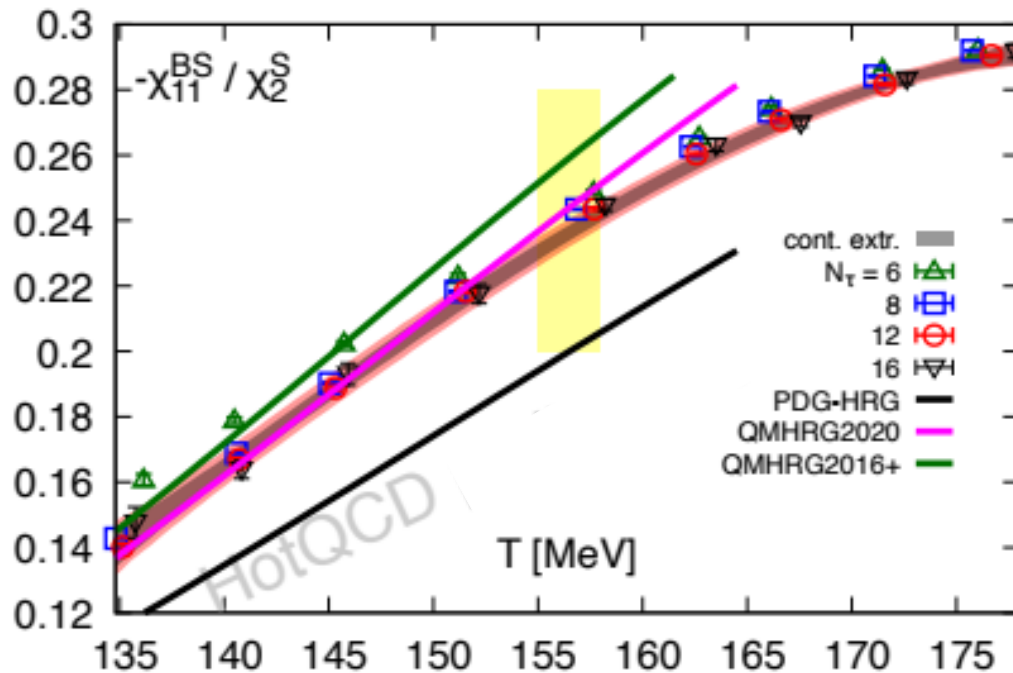
– baryon number fluctuations are sensitive to BS-correlations

$$\chi_2^B(T_{pc}) = 2\chi_{11}^{BQ} \left( 1 - \frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{2\chi_{11}^{BQ}} \right)_{T_{pc}} \simeq 2.6 \cdot (2\chi_{11}^{BQ})$$



# Ratio of baryon number – strangeness correlation and net strangeness fluctuations

$$\frac{\mu_S}{\mu_B} \equiv -\frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{\chi_2^S} - q_1 \frac{\chi_{11}^{QS}}{\chi_2^S} + \mathcal{O}(\mu_B^2)$$



✦ evidence for experimentally not yet observed strange baryons?

✦ evidence for strong flavor correlations

$$-\frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{\chi_2^S} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \frac{\chi_{11}^{us}}{\chi_2^S}$$

D. Bollweg et al. (HotQCD), arXiv:2107.10011

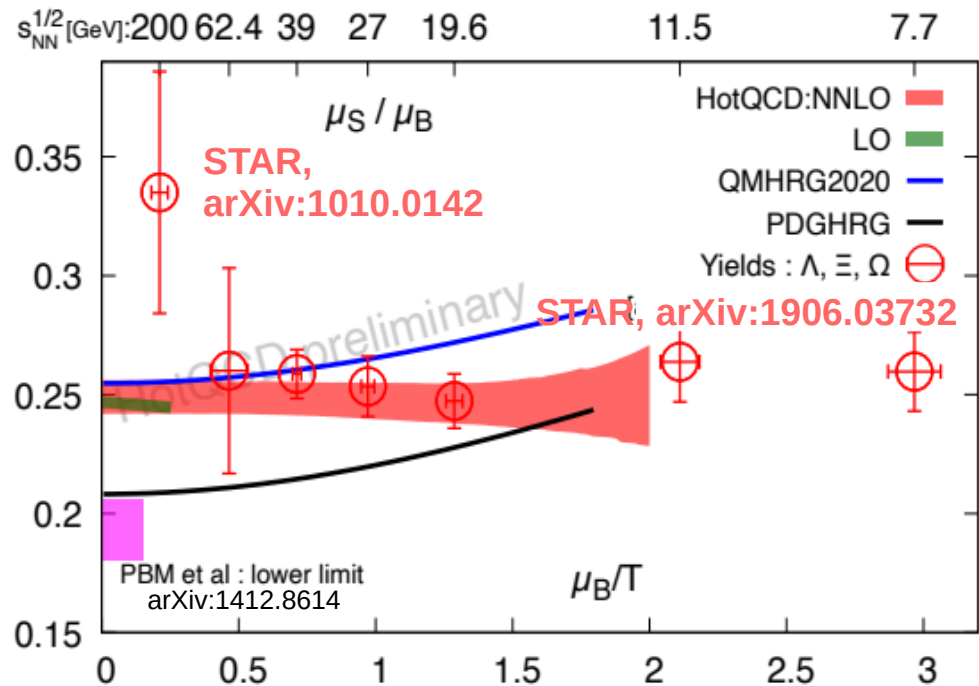
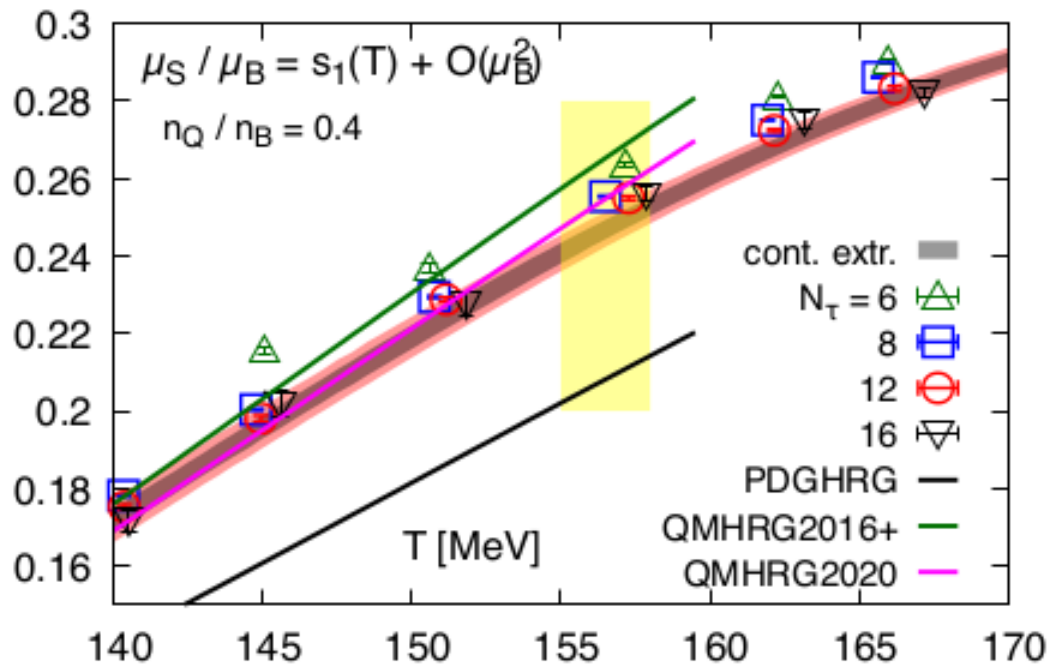
PDG-HRG: uses experimentally known hadron spectrum listed by the Particle Data Group  
 QM-HRG: uses additional hadrons predicted to exist in Quark Model calculations

– description of BS-correlations in HRG models is particularly sensitive to "missing resonances" in the strangeness sector

# Baryon number – strangeness chemical potentials at freeze-out from strange baryon yields

## BS ratios probe strangeness content in an HRG

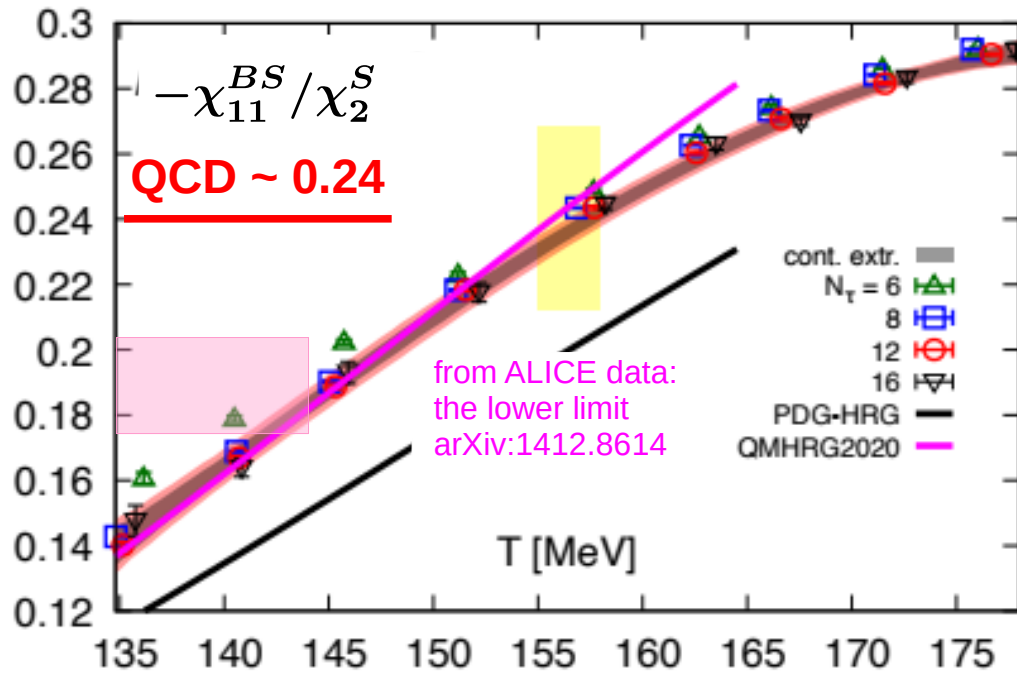
$$\frac{\mu_S}{\mu_B} \equiv -\frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{\chi_2^S} - q_1 \frac{\chi_{11}^{QS}}{\chi_2^S} + \mathcal{O}(\mu_B^2)$$



STAR multi-strange baryon yields are consistent with freeze-out at  $T_{pc}$  and a  $\mu_S / \mu_B$  that reflects contributions from **additional strange baryons**

at  $T_{pc}$  QCD:  $\frac{\mu_S}{\mu_B} \simeq 0.24$   
 PDG-HRG:  $\frac{\mu_S}{\mu_B} \simeq 0.21$

# Experimental access to baryon number – strangeness correlation ?



testing assumption of Skellam distribution:

$$-\frac{\chi_{BS}}{T^2} > \frac{1}{VT^3} [2\langle\Lambda + \Sigma^0\rangle + 4\langle\Sigma^+\rangle + 8\langle\Xi\rangle + 6\langle\Omega^-\rangle] = 97.4 \pm 5.8.$$

$$\chi_{11}^{QS} / T^2 = (178.5 \pm \pm 17.14)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\chi_S}{T^2} \simeq & \frac{1}{VT^3} [(\langle K^+ \rangle + \langle K^0 \rangle + \langle \Lambda + \Sigma^0 \rangle + \langle \Sigma^+ \rangle \\ & + \langle \Sigma^- \rangle + 4\langle \Xi^- \rangle + 4\langle \Xi^0 \rangle + 9\langle \Omega^- \rangle + \text{antiparticles}) \\ & - (\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow K^+} + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow K^-} + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow K^0} + \Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \bar{K}^0}) \langle \phi \rangle] = (504 \pm 24). \end{aligned}$$

P. Braun-Munzinger, A. Kalweit, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, Phys. Lett. B747 (2015) 292, arXiv:1412.8614

for Skellam distributions mean values and second order cumulants as well as correlations are related:

$$\frac{\chi_N}{T^2} = \frac{1}{VT^3} (\langle N_q \rangle + \langle N_{-q} \rangle)$$

$$\frac{\chi_N}{T^2} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \sum_{n=1}^{|q|} n^2 (\langle N_n \rangle + \langle N_{-n} \rangle)$$

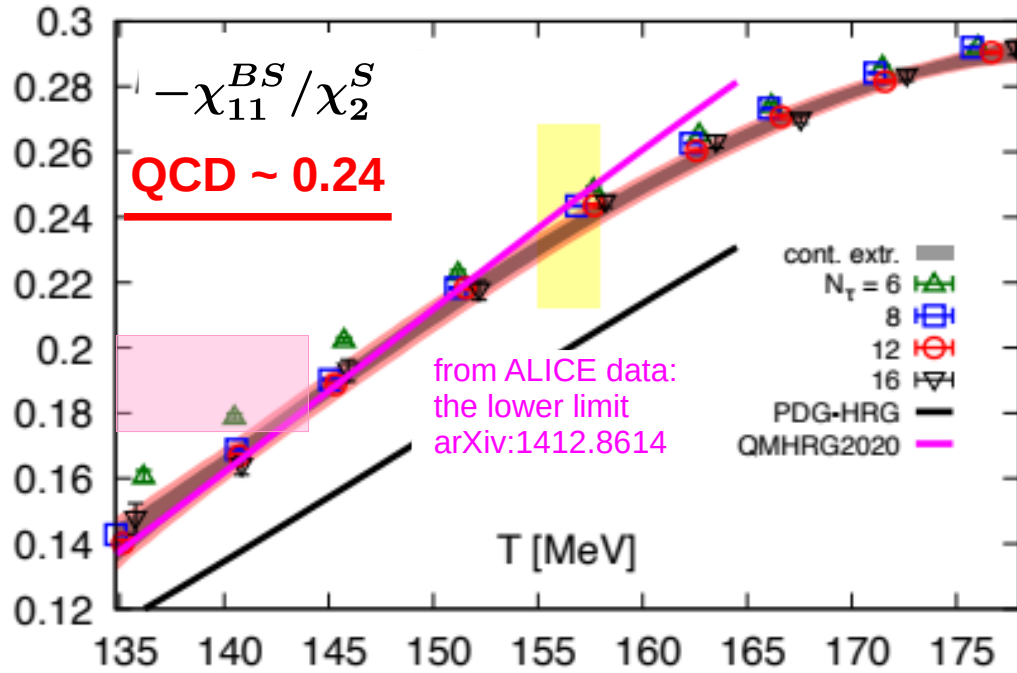
$$\frac{\chi_{NM}}{T^2} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \sum_{n=-q_N}^{q_N} \sum_{m=-q_M}^{q_M} nm \langle N_{n,m} \rangle$$

$$|q| = 1 (B), 2 (Q), 3 (S)$$

getting control over B rather than P fluctuations is important!!!

$$\longrightarrow -\frac{\chi_{BS}}{\chi_S} \geq 0.193(22)$$

# Experimental access to baryon number – strangeness correlation ?



for Skellam distributions mean values and second order cumulants as well as correlations are related:

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P. Braun-Munzinger, A. Kalweit, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, Phys. Lett. B747 (2015) 292, arXiv:1412.8614

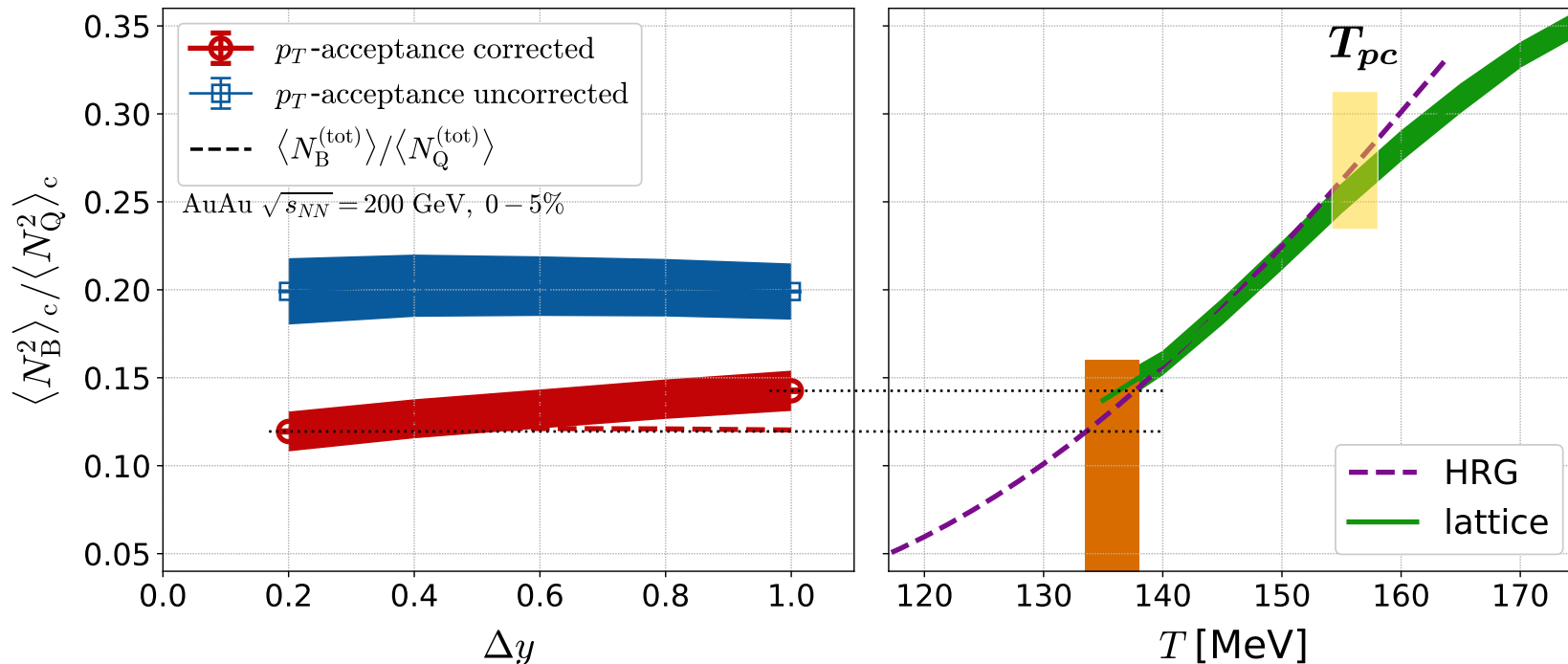
$$\frac{2\chi_{11}^{QS} - \chi_{11}^{BS}}{\chi_2^S} = 0.90 \pm 0.13$$

consistent with QCD constraint

$$\chi_2^S = 2\chi_{11}^{QS} - \chi_{11}^{BS}$$

# A puzzle ?

$\chi_2^B / \chi_2^Q$  from STAR data using proton number distribution as proxy and implementing a “simple treatment for strange baryon contributions” to obtain  $\chi_2^B$

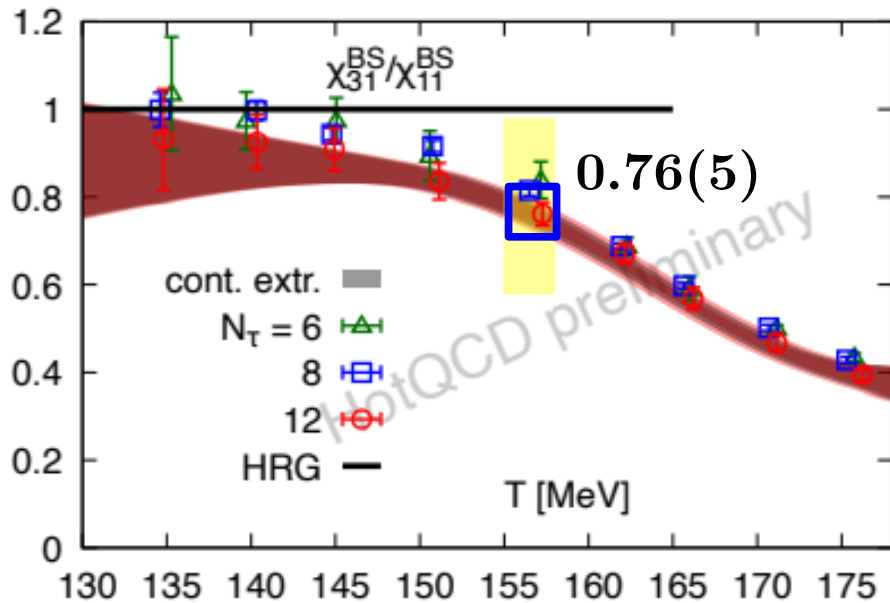
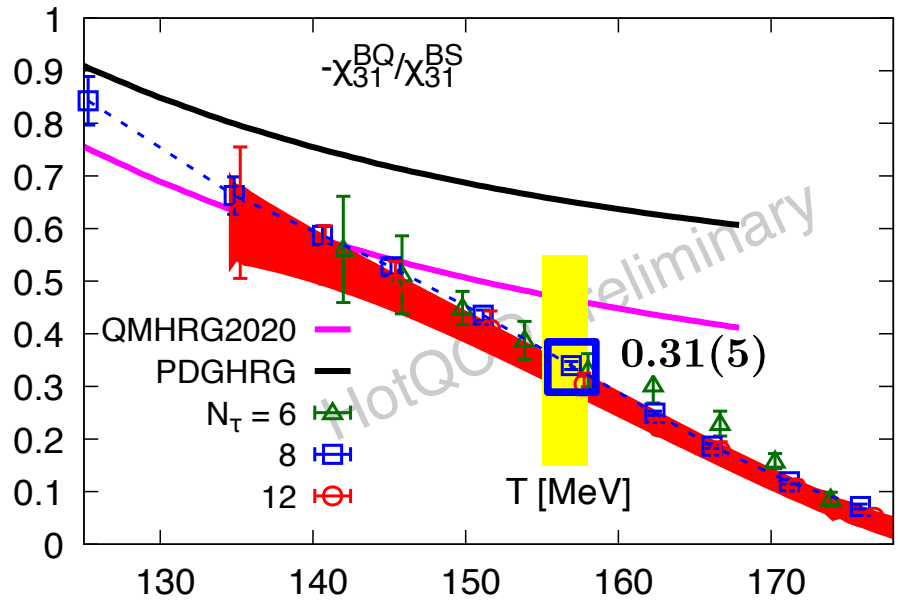
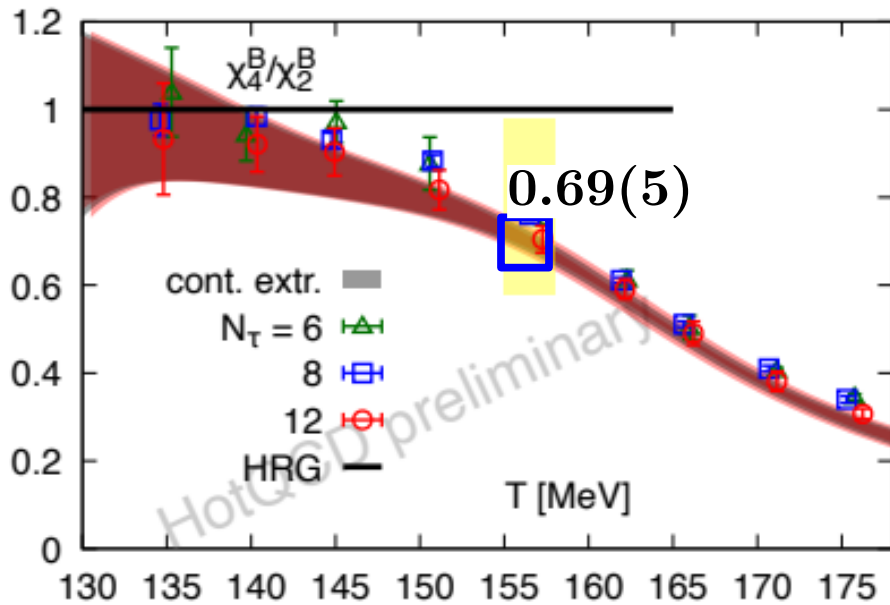


M. Kitazawa et al, arXiv:2205.10030

- result is about a factor 2 smaller than expected
- consistent with the expected, missing strange baryon contribution?

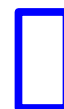
# Ratios of 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants

– large deviations from Skellam –



- ratios of 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants differ from non-inter. HRG for  $T > 145$  MeV
- they change by  $\sim (20-40)\%$  in the crossover region

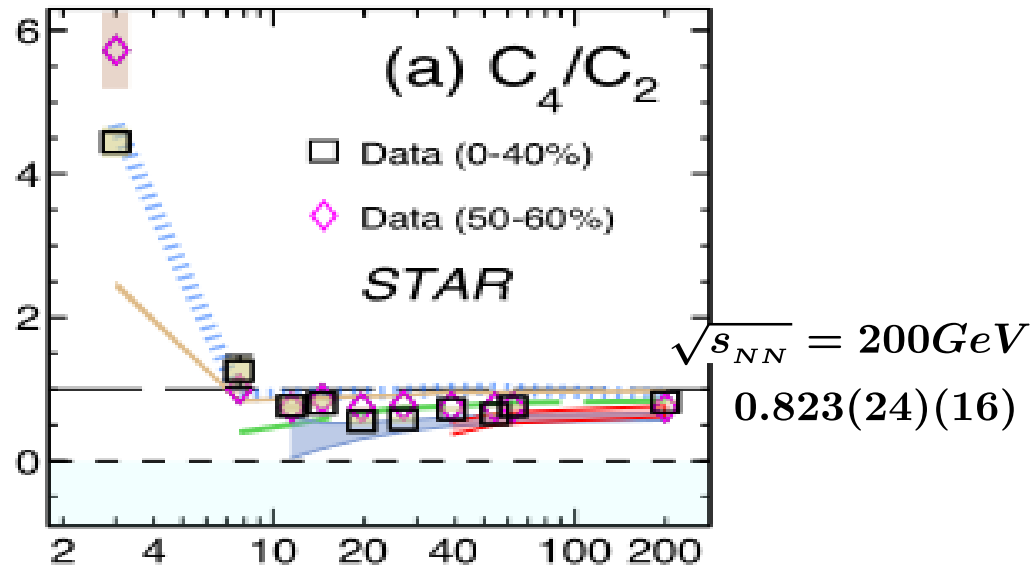
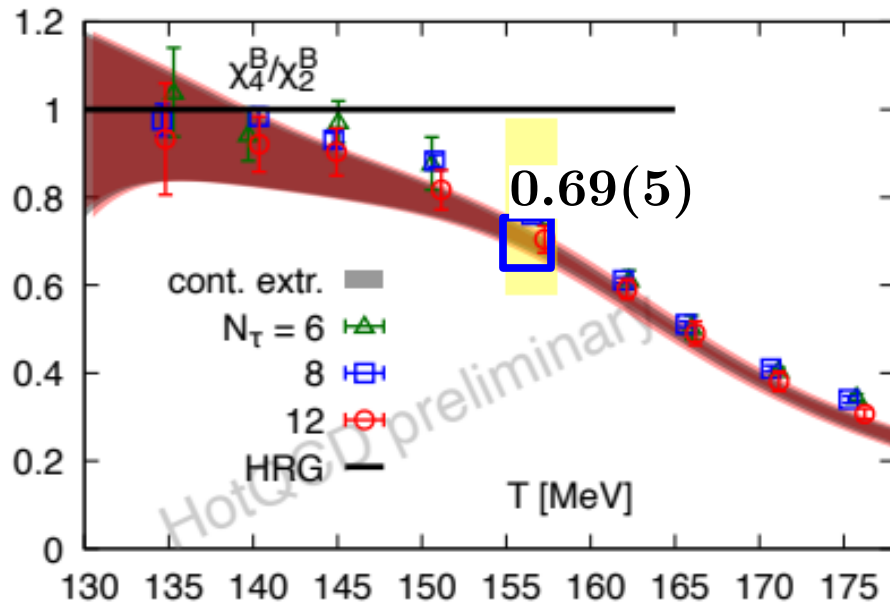
**sensitive probes for freeze-out**



at ALICE freeze-out temperature  
 $T_{fo} = 156.5(1.5)$  MeV

# Ratios of 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants

– large deviations from Skellam –



STAR PRL 2023, arXiv:2207.09837

- Why are cumulants of proton number fluctuations a good proxy for ratios of baryon number cumulants, although they may not be good proxies for the individual cumulants ?

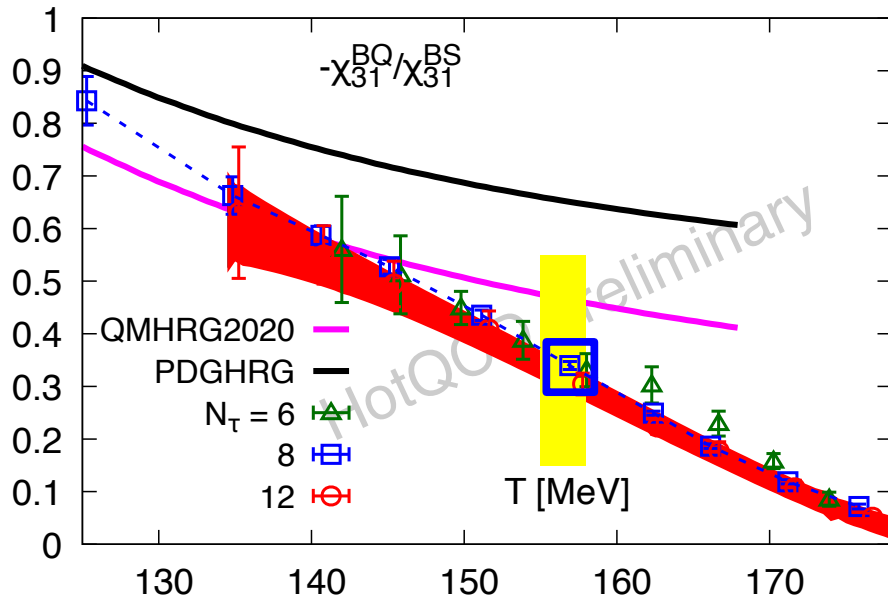
constraint:

$$\chi_{n+1}^B = 2\chi_{n1}^{BQ} - \chi_{n1}^{BS}$$



$$\frac{\chi_4^B}{\chi_2^B} = \frac{1 - \frac{\chi_{31}^{BS}}{2\chi_{31}^{BQ}}}{1 - \frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{2\chi_{11}^{BQ}}} \frac{\chi_{31}^{BQ}}{\chi_{11}^{BQ}} \equiv R(T) \frac{\chi_{31}^{BQ}}{\chi_{11}^{BQ}}$$

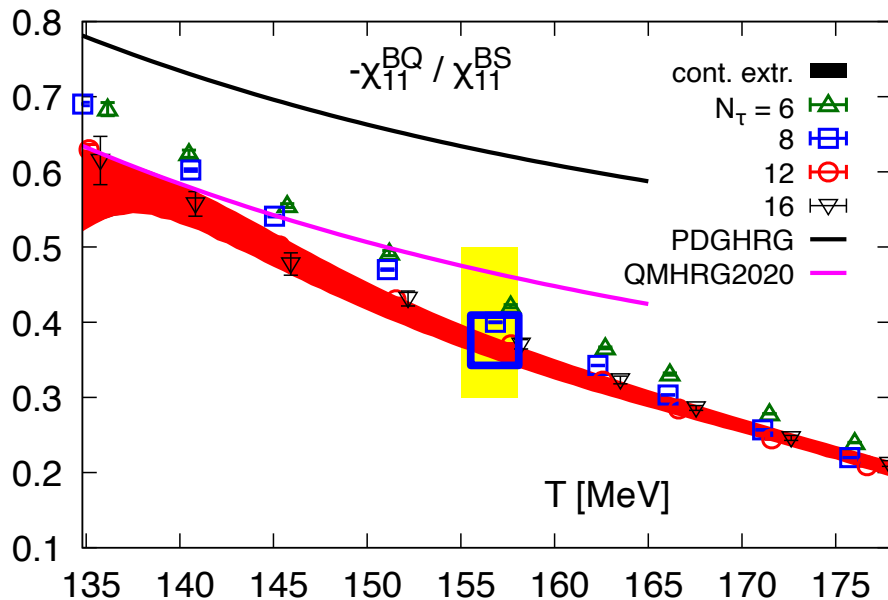
# Ratios of 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants



$$\frac{\chi_4^B}{\chi_2^B} = \frac{1 - \frac{\chi_{31}^{BS}}{2\chi_{31}^{BQ}}}{1 - \frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{2\chi_{11}^{BQ}}} \frac{\chi_{31}^{BQ}}{\chi_{11}^{BQ}} \equiv R(T) \frac{\chi_{31}^{BQ}}{\chi_{11}^{BQ}}$$



$$R(T_{pc}) \simeq 1.15 \frac{\chi_{31}^{BQ}}{\chi_{11}^{BQ}}$$



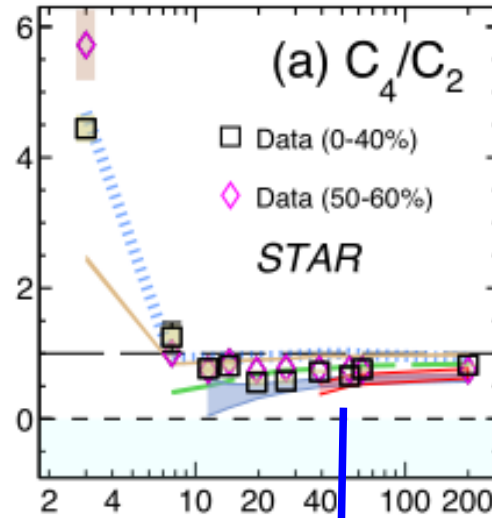
reminder:

$$\chi_2^B(T_{pc}) = 2\chi_{11}^{BQ} \left(1 - \frac{\chi_{11}^{BS}}{2\chi_{11}^{BQ}}\right)_{T_{pc}} \simeq 2.6(2\chi_{11}^{BQ})$$

unlike  $\chi_2^B$ ,  $\chi_4^B$  themselves, their ratio is much less sensitive to BS-correlations



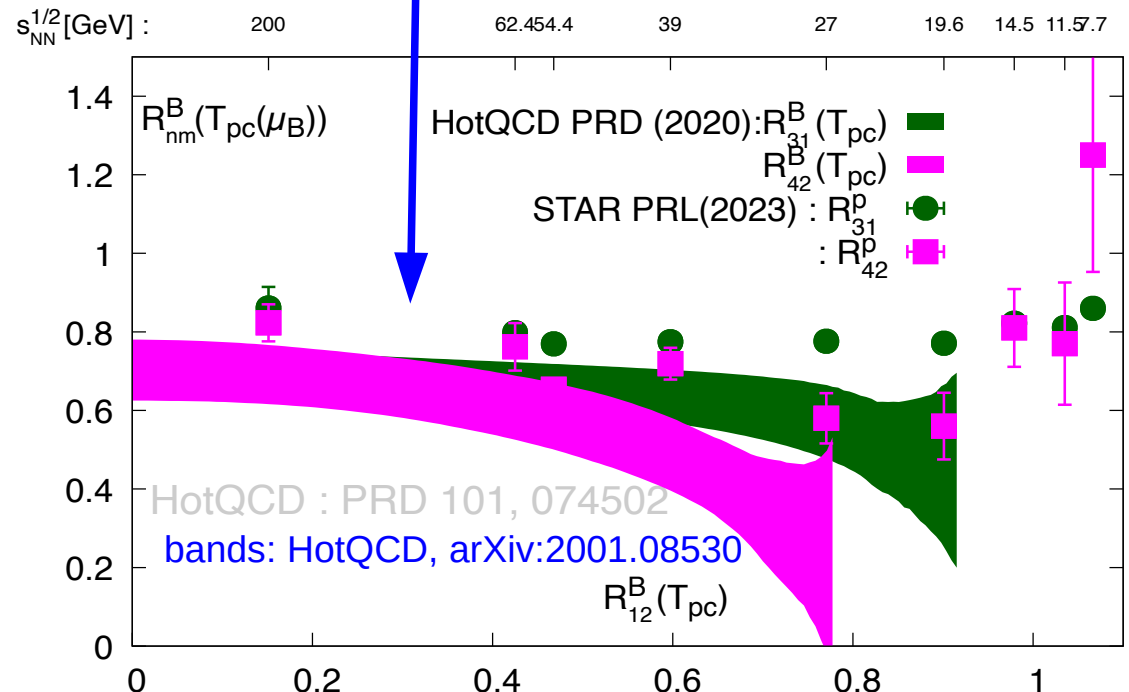
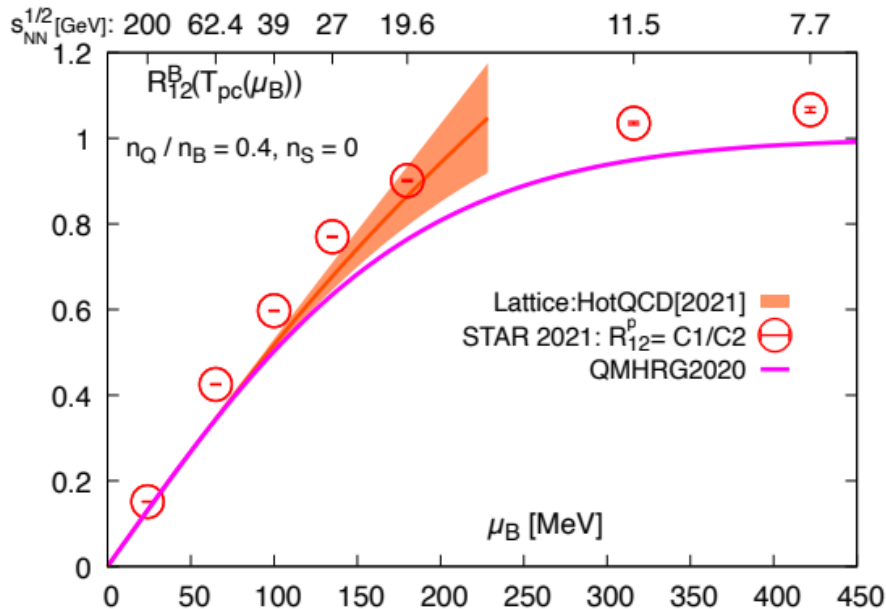
# Ratio of 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order cumulants



STAR PRL 2023, arXiv:2207.09837

mean over variance

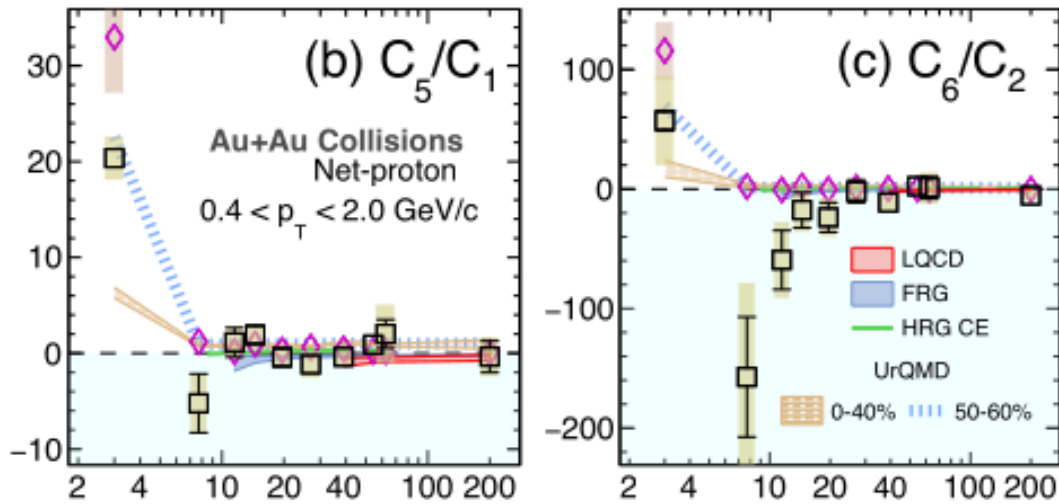
$$R_{12}^X = (M/\sigma^2)_X = \frac{\chi_1^X}{\chi_2^X}$$



updated by Jishnu Goswami

# Higher order cumulant ratios on the pseudo-critical line

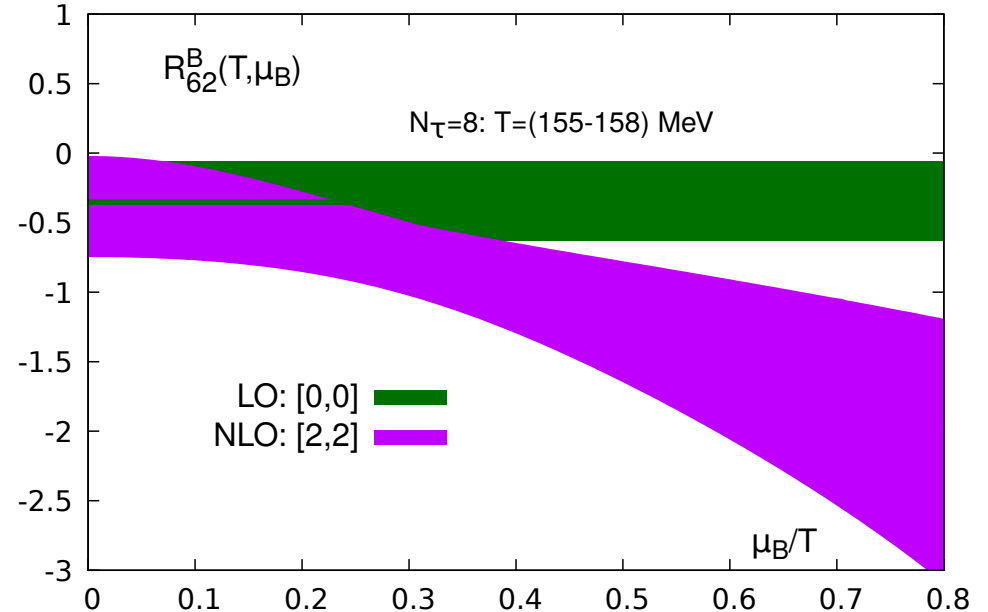
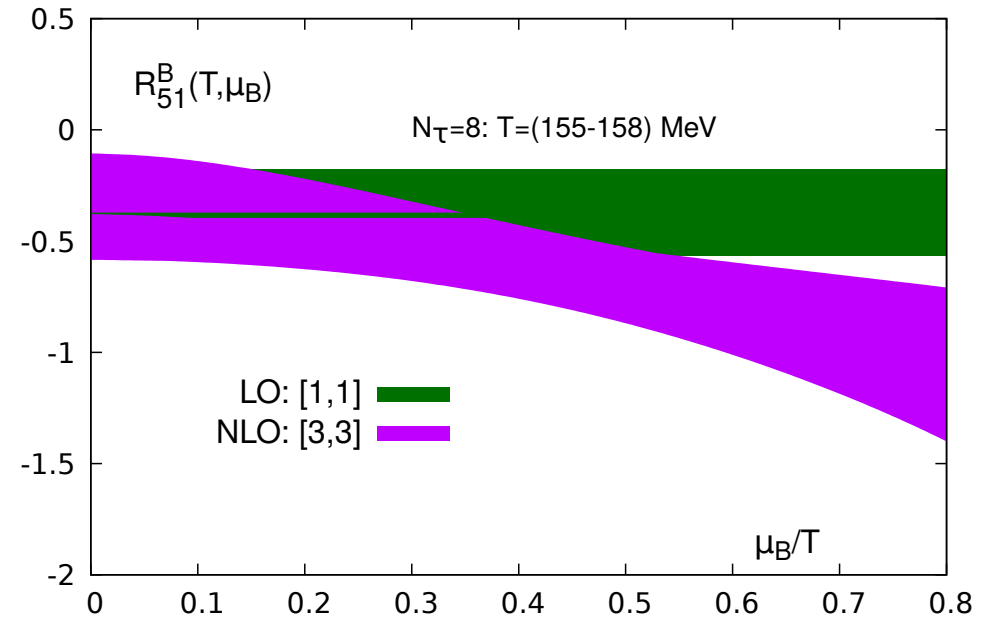
A. Bazavov et al. (HotQCD), PRD 101, 074502 (2020), arXiv:2001.08530



STAR PRL 2023, arXiv:2207.09837

new STAR data are consistent with  
 the expected QCD-pattern

$$R_{31} > R_{42} > R_{51} > R_{62}$$



# Charm fluctuations and correlations

– calculating cumulants involving charm is difficult because

a) the large charm quark mass cumulants are strongly, exponentially suppressed

$$\chi_{1,1}^{X,C} \sim e^{-M/T} \sim O(e^{-10})$$

b) as a consequence the quark mass needs to be well tuned to get accurate charm hadron masses: 5% error on charmed hadron mass changes cumulants by a factor 2

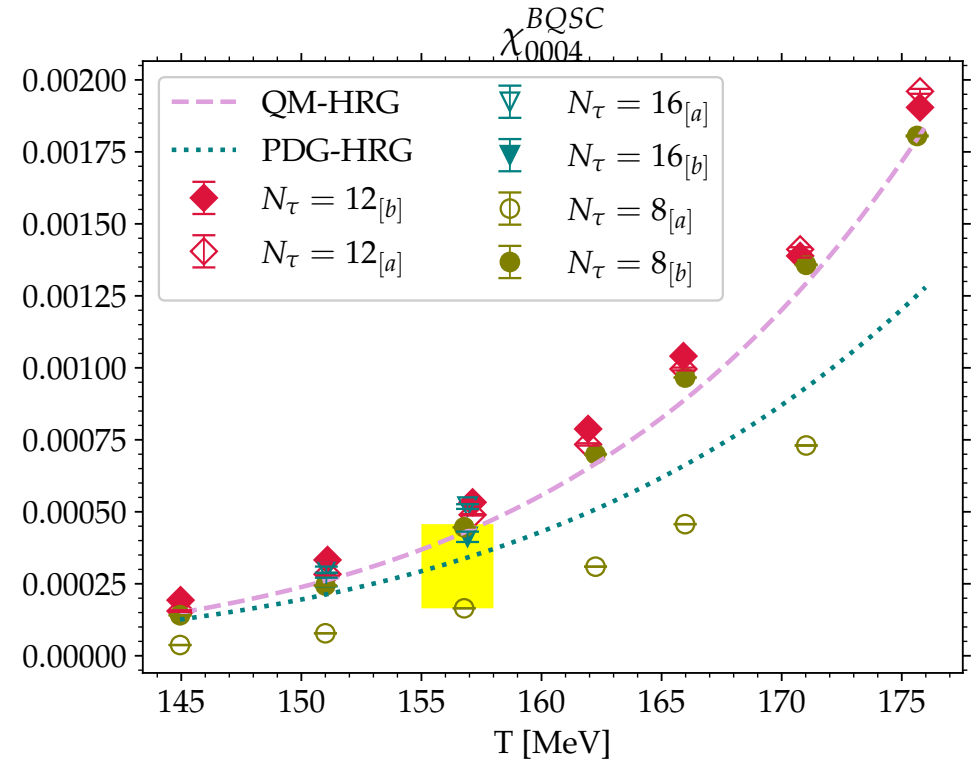
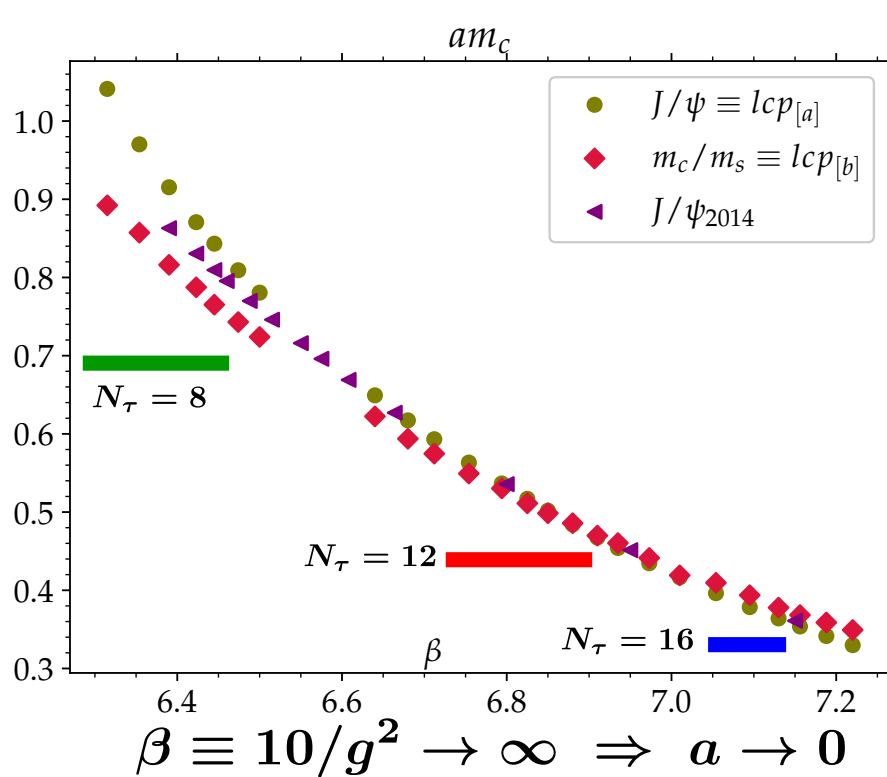
– lattice cut-off effects need to be controlled well to allow for a unique definition of a “line of constant physics”

c) charmed hadron spectrum less well known (in particular in the baryon sector): influence of missing states in the charm sector is much larger than in the light and strange quark sector

# Charmed cumulants: towards a controlled continuum limit extrapolation

- tuning the charm quark mass on the lattice using different criteria introduces cut-off effects
- approaching the continuum limit on different trajectories

**the choice of a trajectory is irrelevant in the continuum limit, results will be unique**



all currently published data on charm cumulants are based on data from  $N_\tau = 8$  lattices

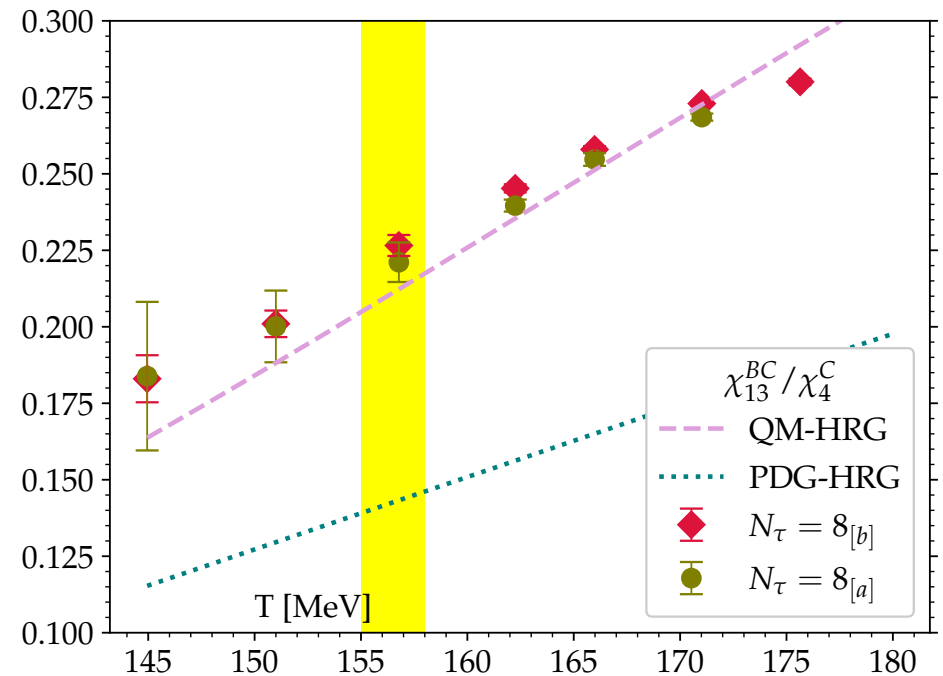
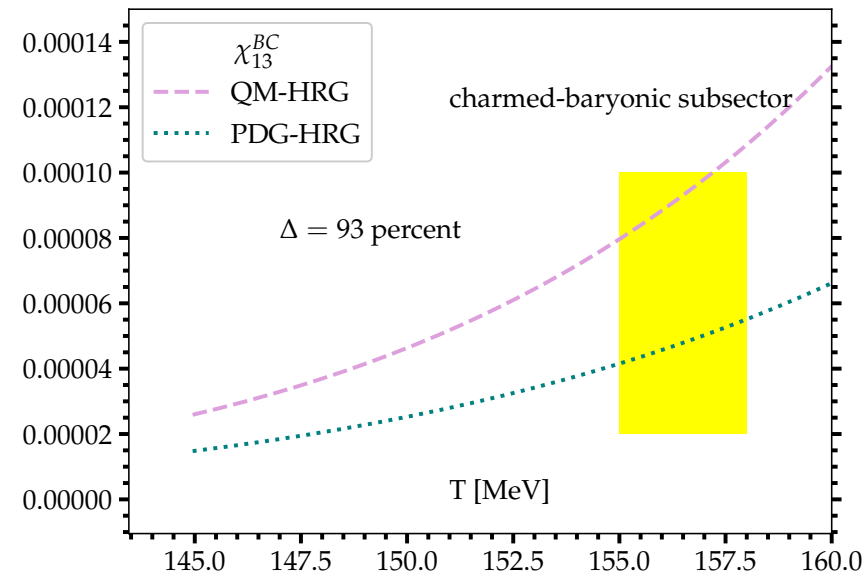
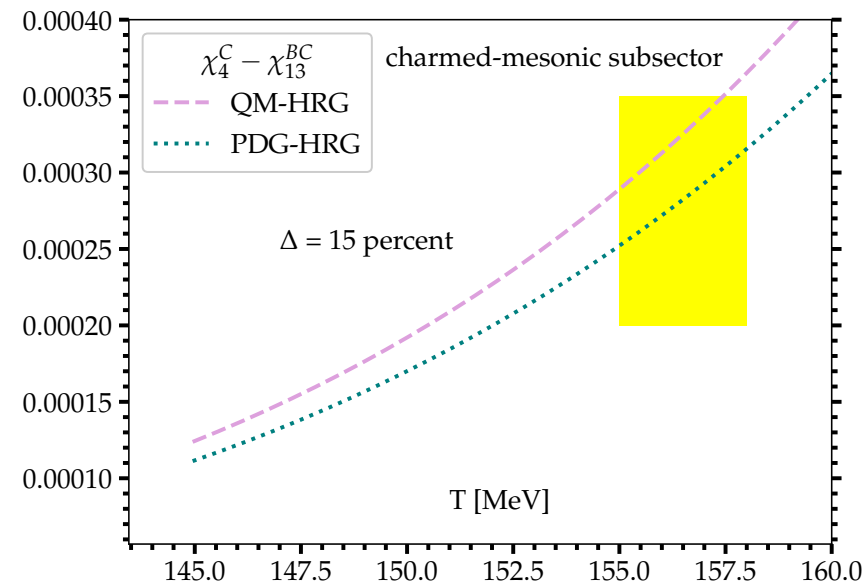
A. Bazavov et al, arXiv:1404.4043

Sipaz Sharma, arXiv:2212.11148

**first continuum extrapolations using  $N_\tau = 8, 12, 16$  data: Sipaz Sharma @ Lattice2023**

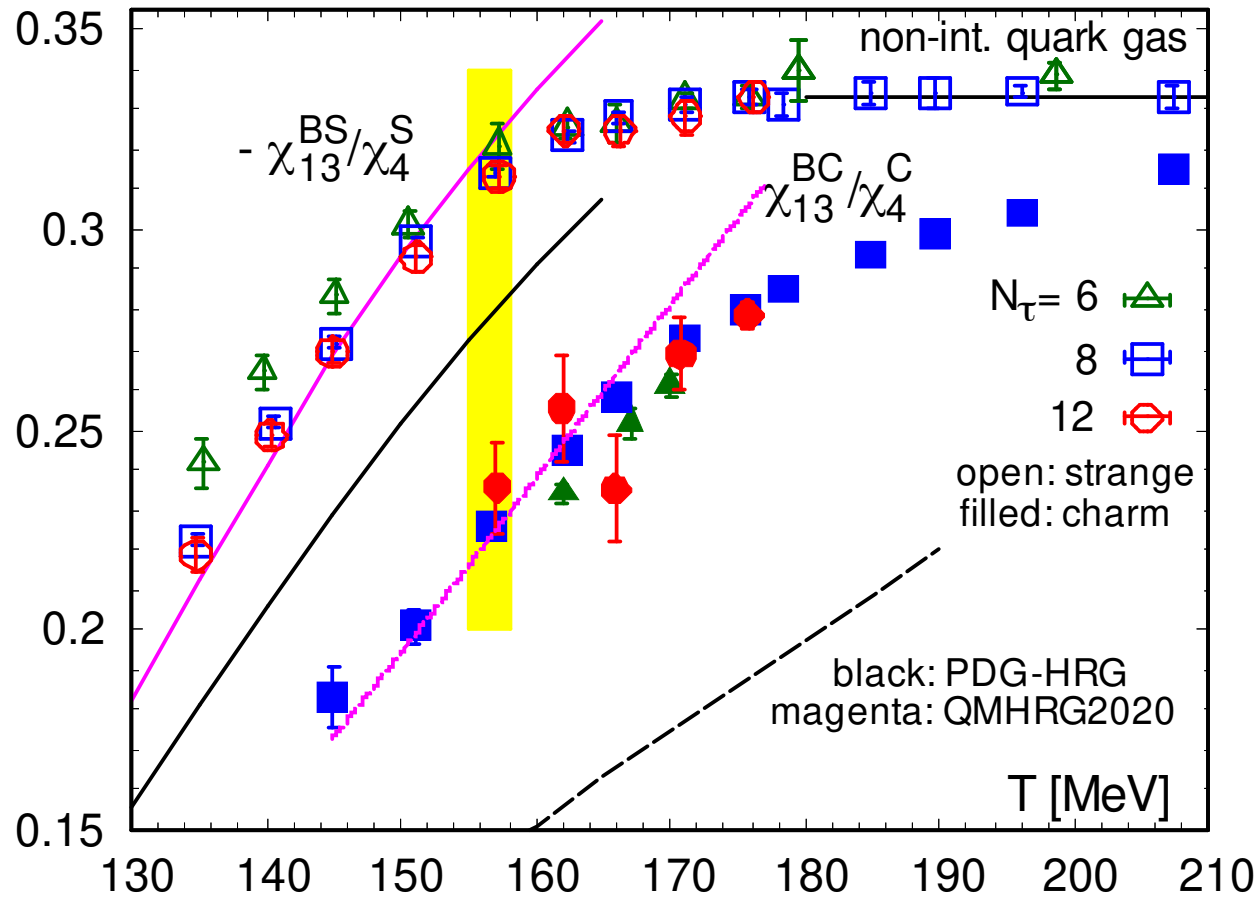
# Charmed cumulants: the influence of missing charmed resonances

- **largest in baryon sector**: using Quark Model calculations amounts to a change of **almost a factor 2** compared to PDG-HRG (compared to about 15% in the strange hadron sector)



Sipaz Sharma, HotQCD preliminary

# The charmed Koch-ratio

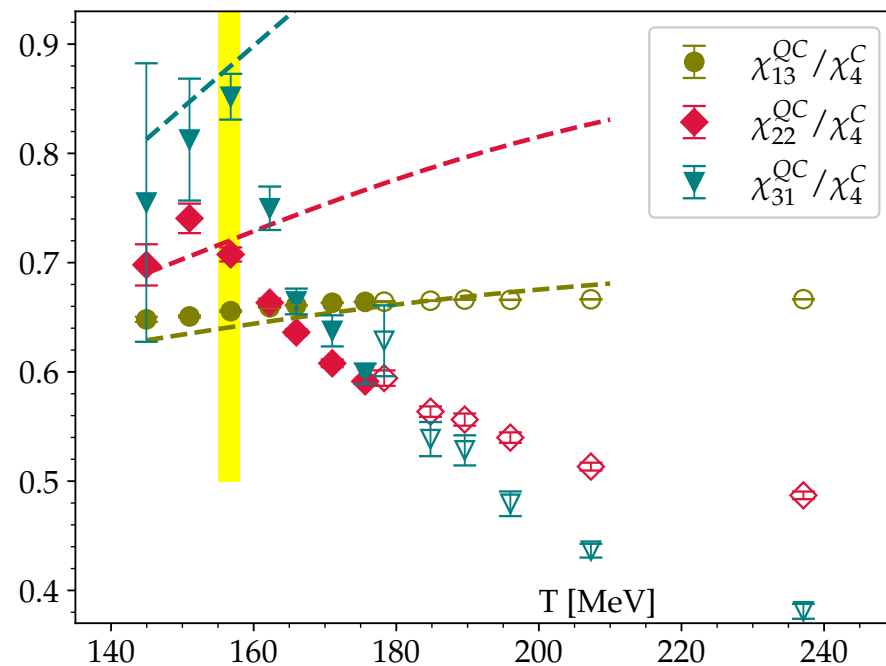
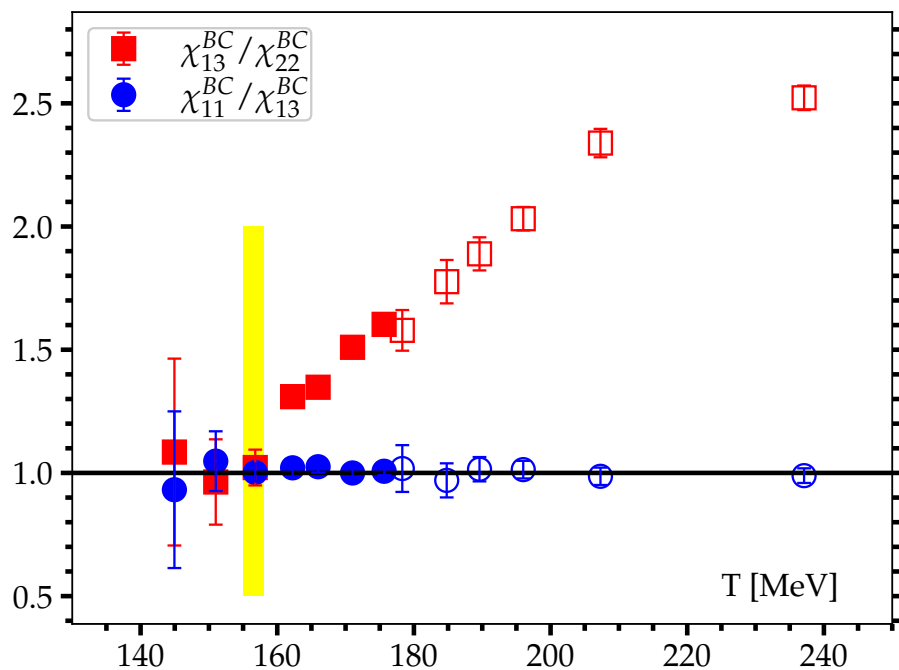


note: contributions from doubly-charmed hadrons (in HRG/Boltzmann approximation) are suppressed by a factor  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-4})$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\chi_{13}^{BC}}{\chi_4^C} = \frac{\chi_{11}^{BC}}{\chi_2^C} + \mathcal{O}(10^{-4})$$

# Sensitivity to different sectors of the charmed hadron spectrum

- contribution of multiply charged charmed baryons can be separated
- influence of missing states is more prominent for states with  $|Q|=2$

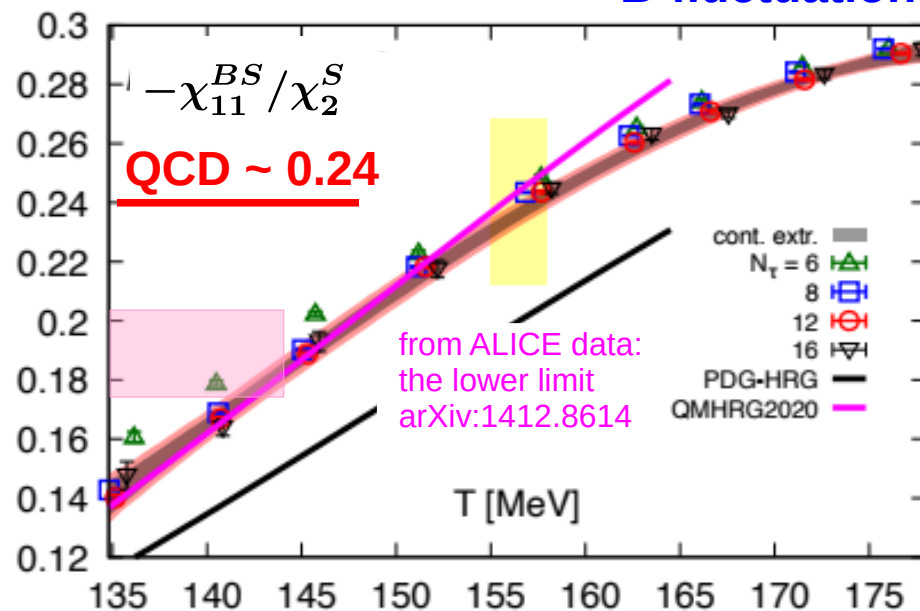
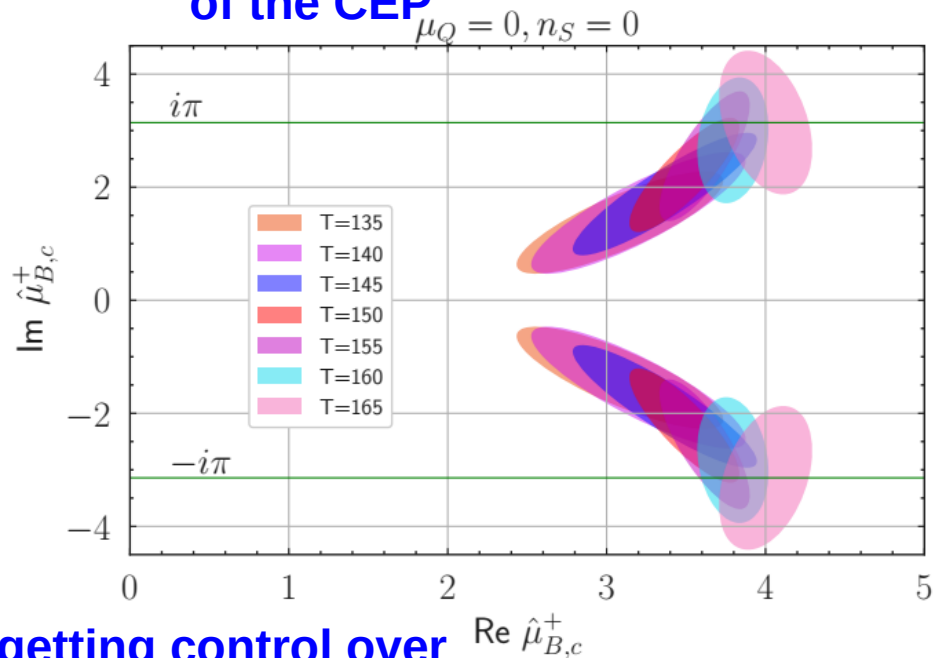


- charm quark degrees of freedom start showing up at  $T_{pc}$

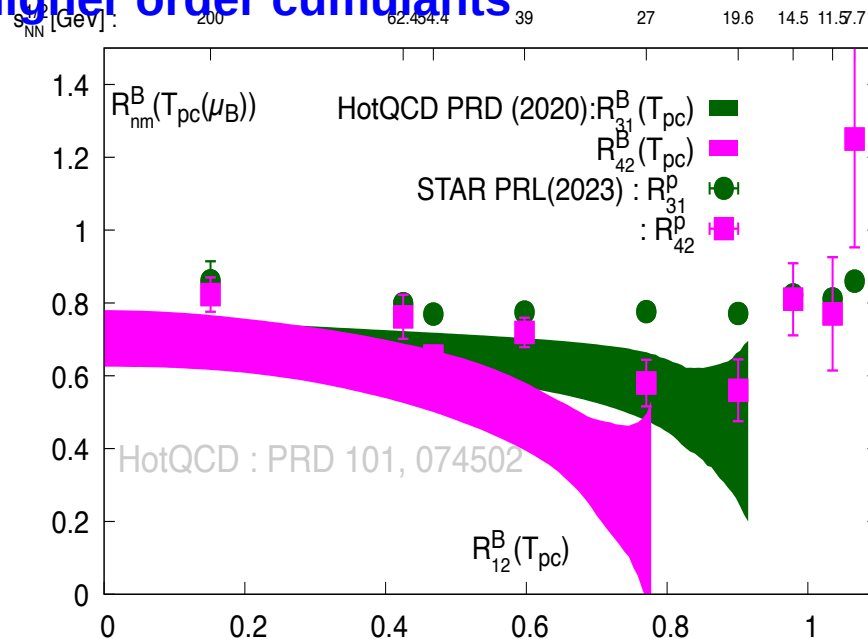
constraining the location of the CEP

May be discussed further

the influence of BS-corr. B-fluctuations



getting control over higher order cumulants



influence of poor knowledge of charm spectrum on cumulants (and yields)

