

# Critical end points in (2+1)-flavor QCD with imaginary chemical potential

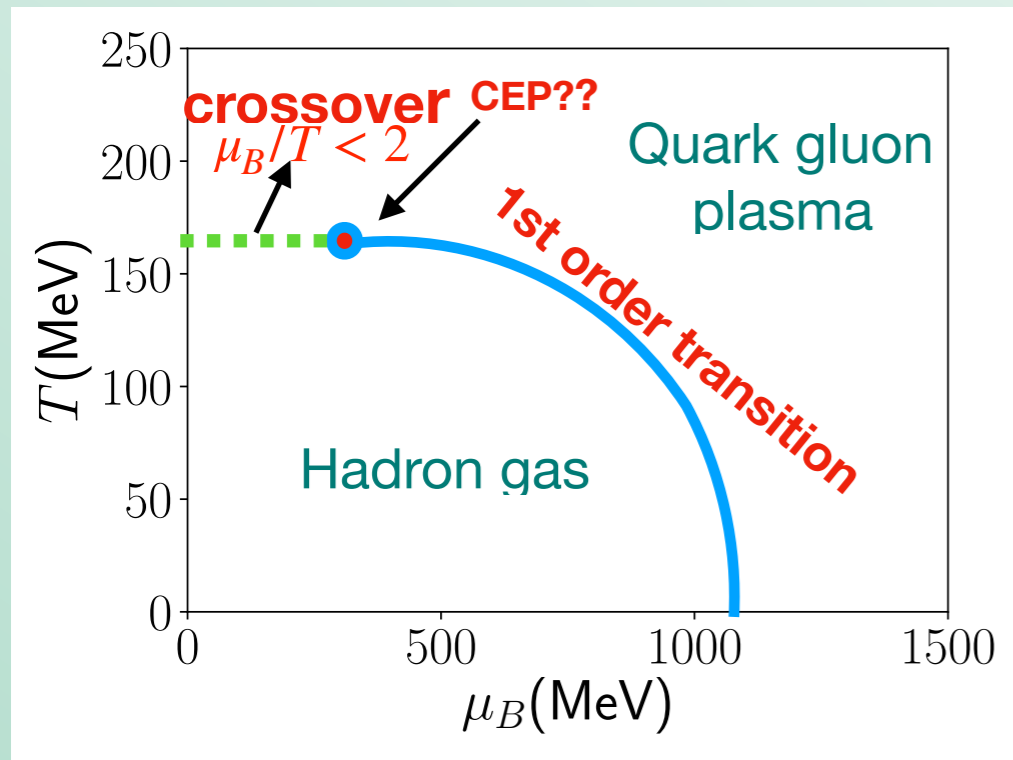
In collaboration with: Frithjof Karsch,  
Christian Schmidt, and Anirban Lahiri

**Jishnu Goswami**

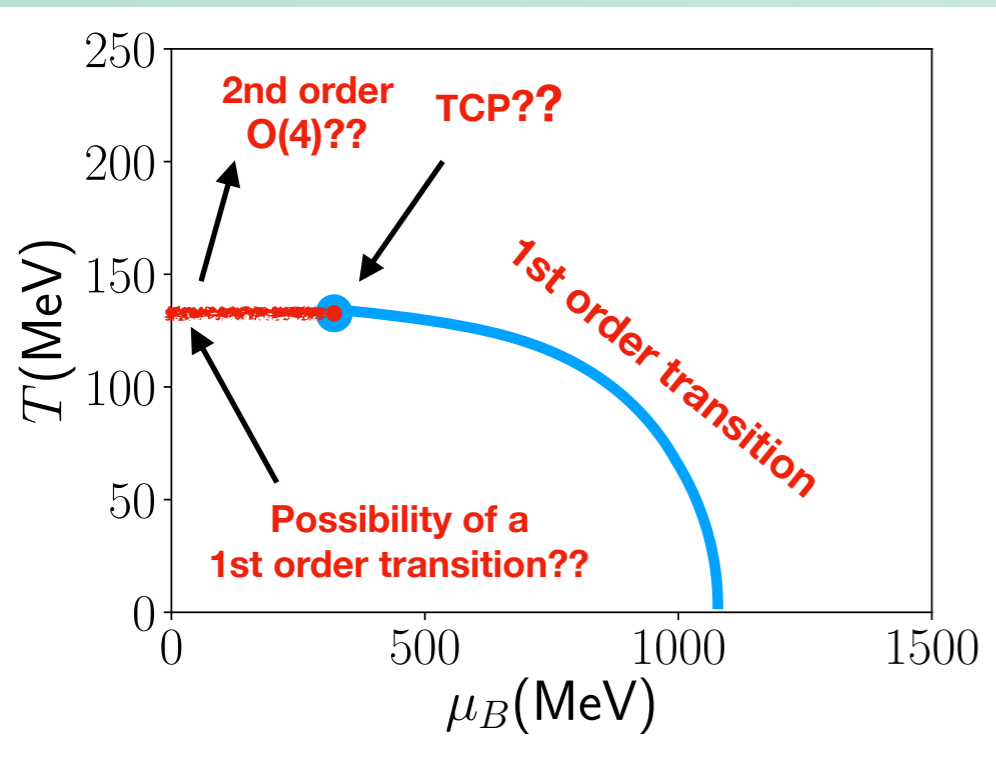
**From QCD matter to hadrons**

**"Hirscheegg 2019"**

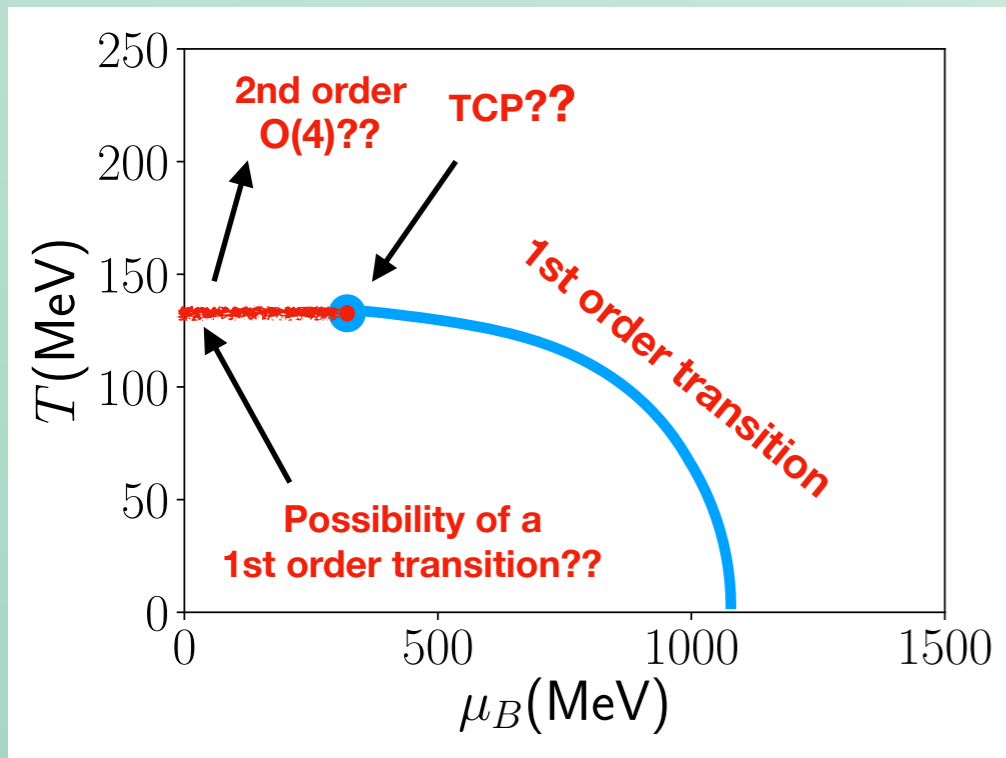
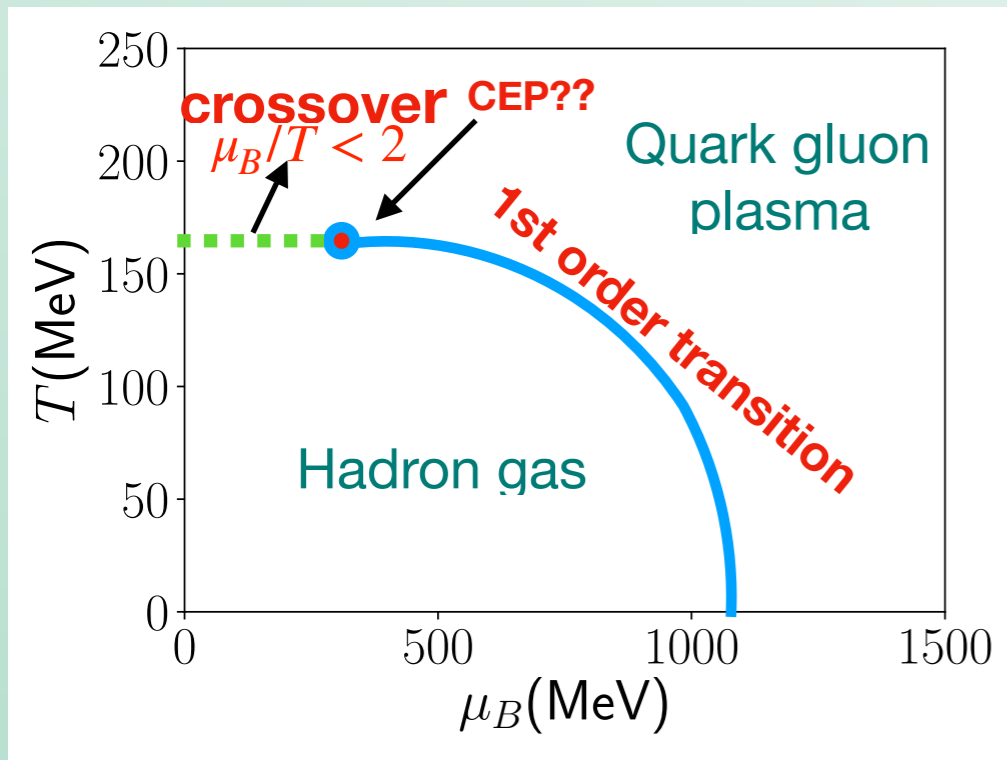
# QCD phase diagram



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- \* However the crossover nature is verified and the search for CEP with physical pion mass is ongoing.

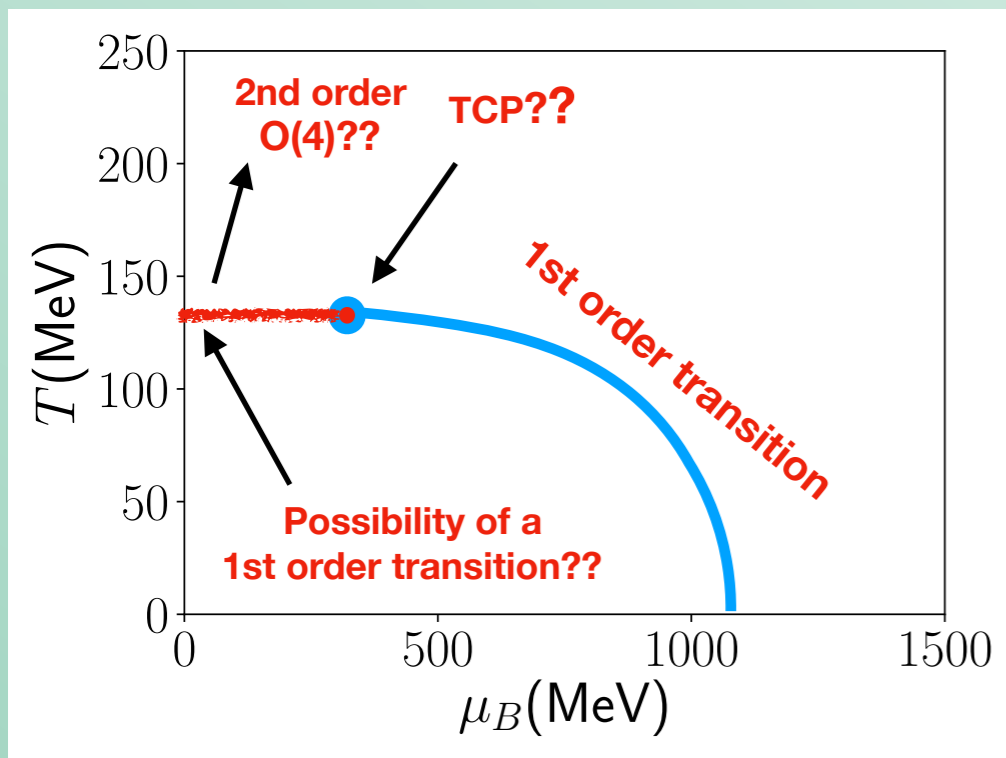
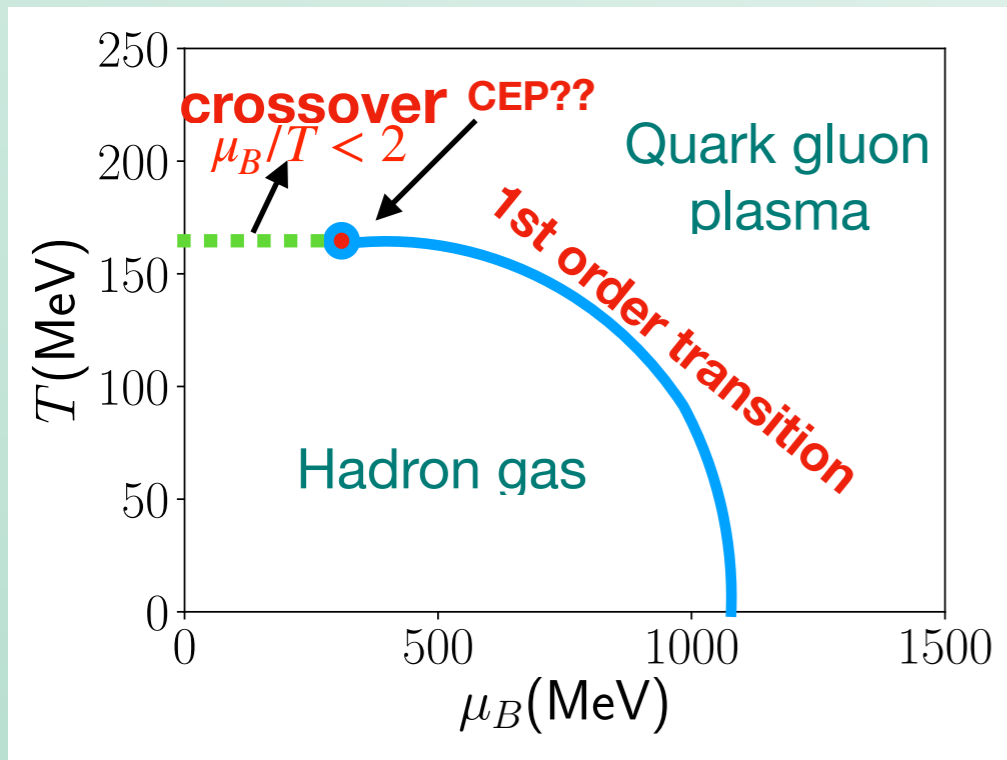


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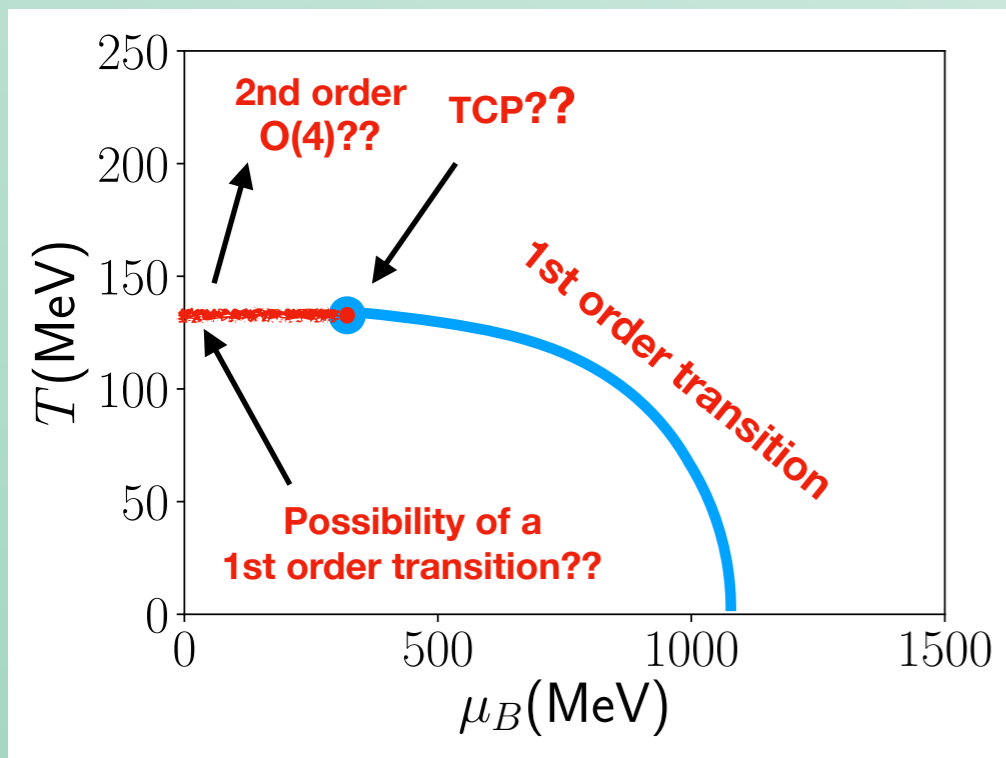
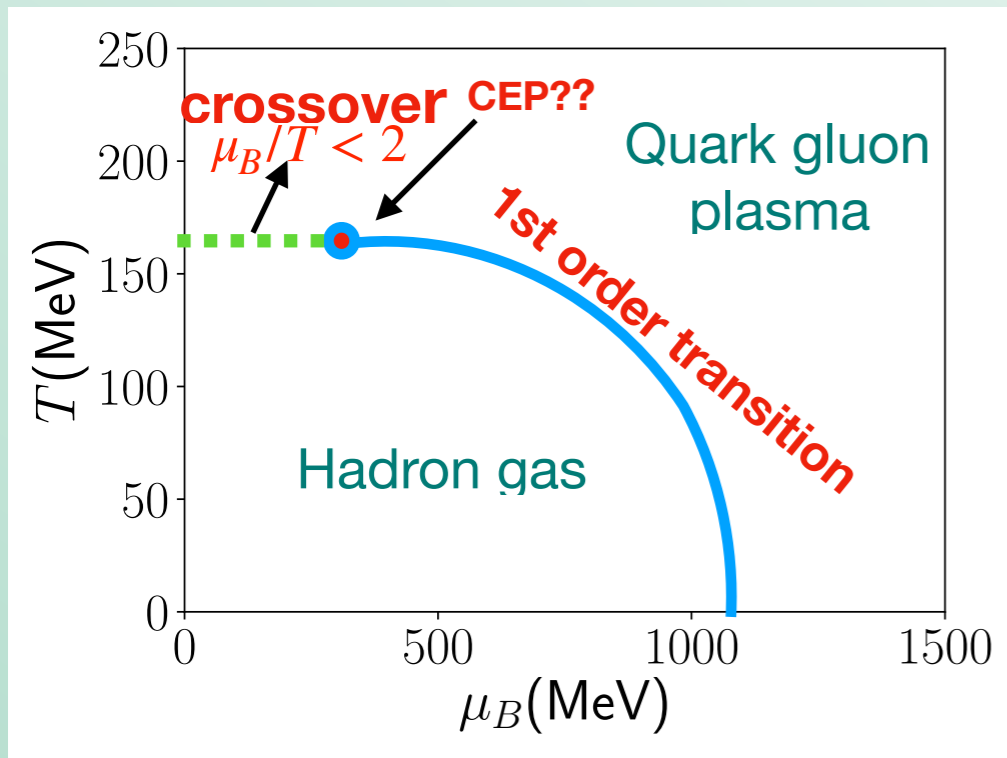
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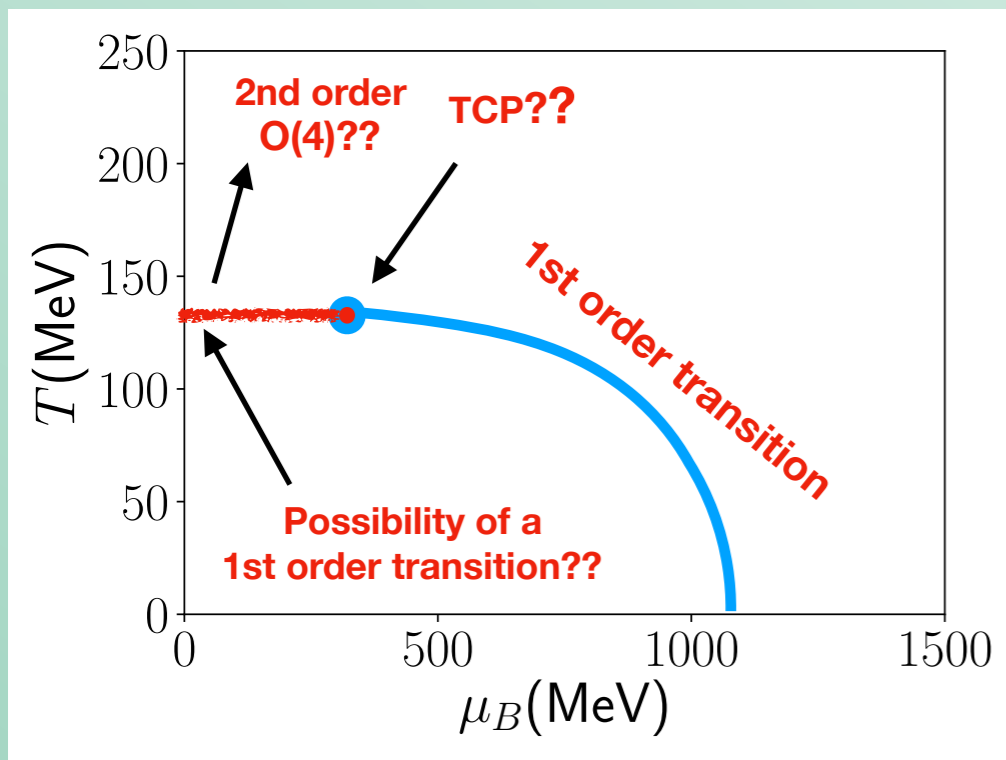
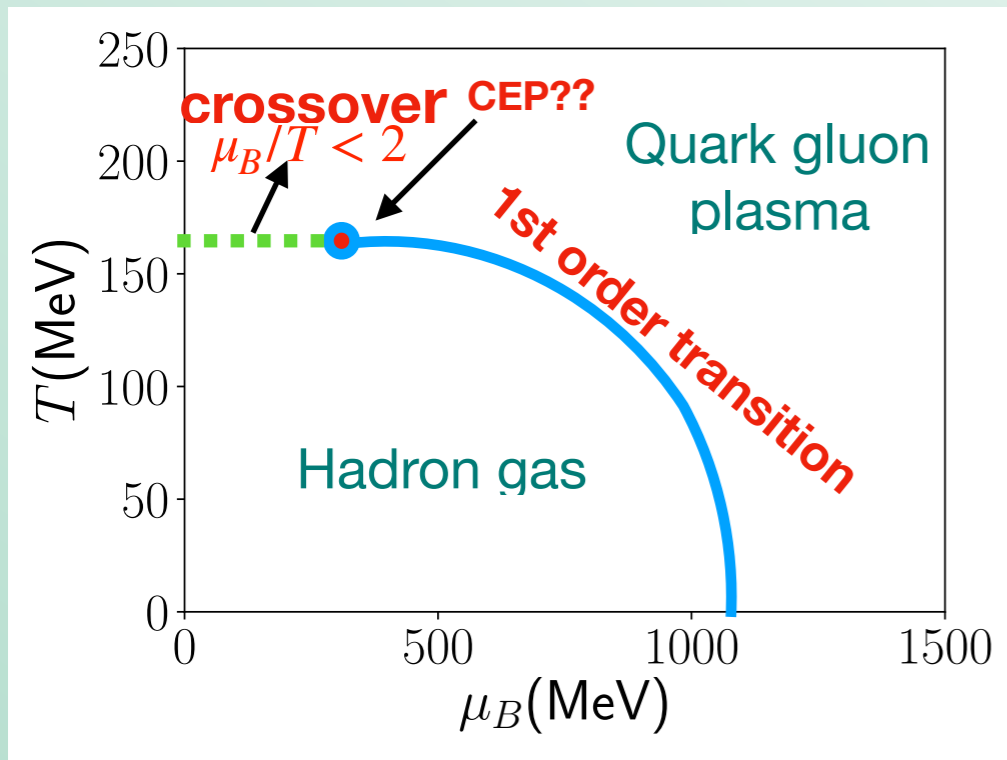
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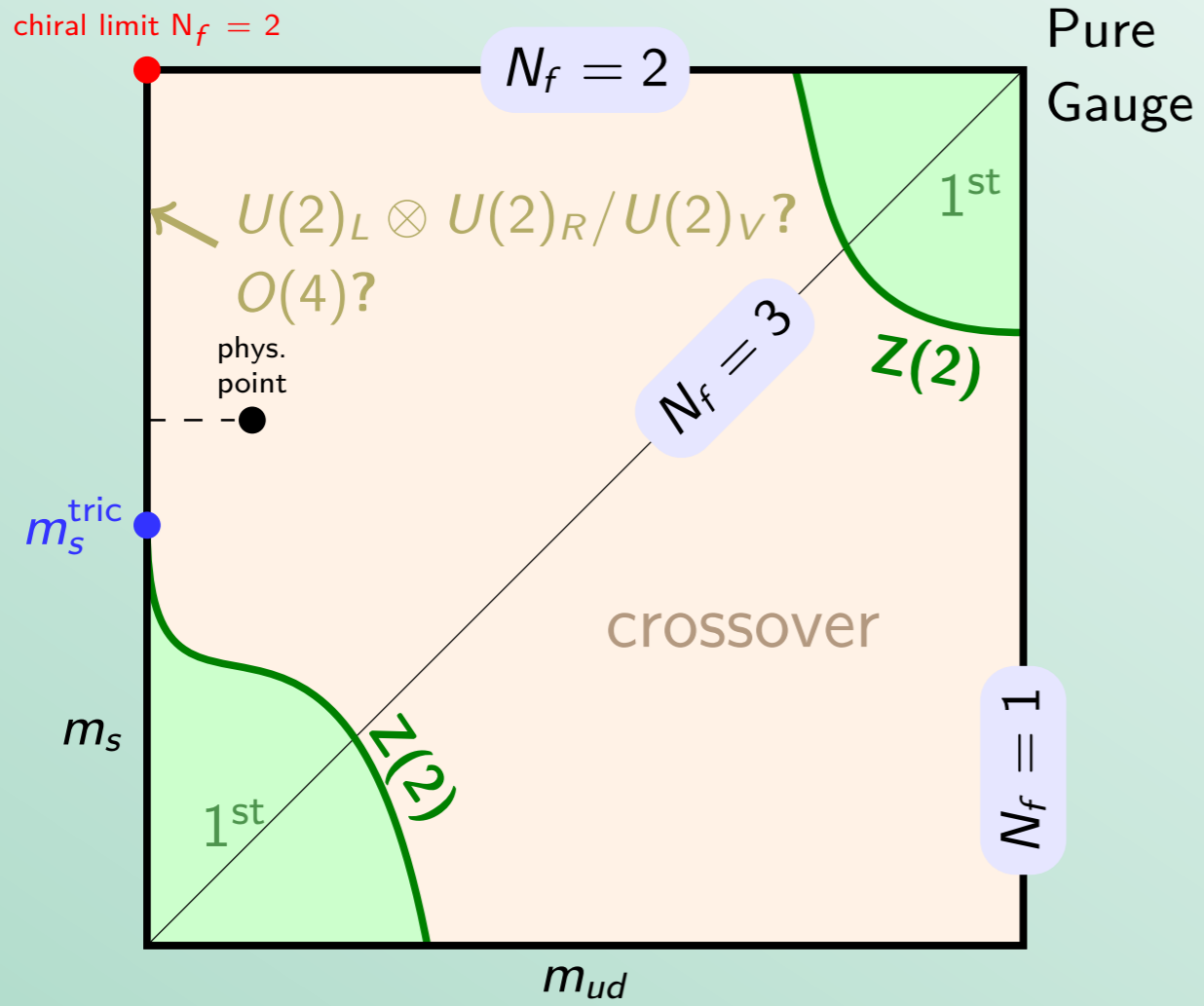
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- \* Order of the phase transition in the chiral limit is also of relevance for studies of fluctuations at the LHC.

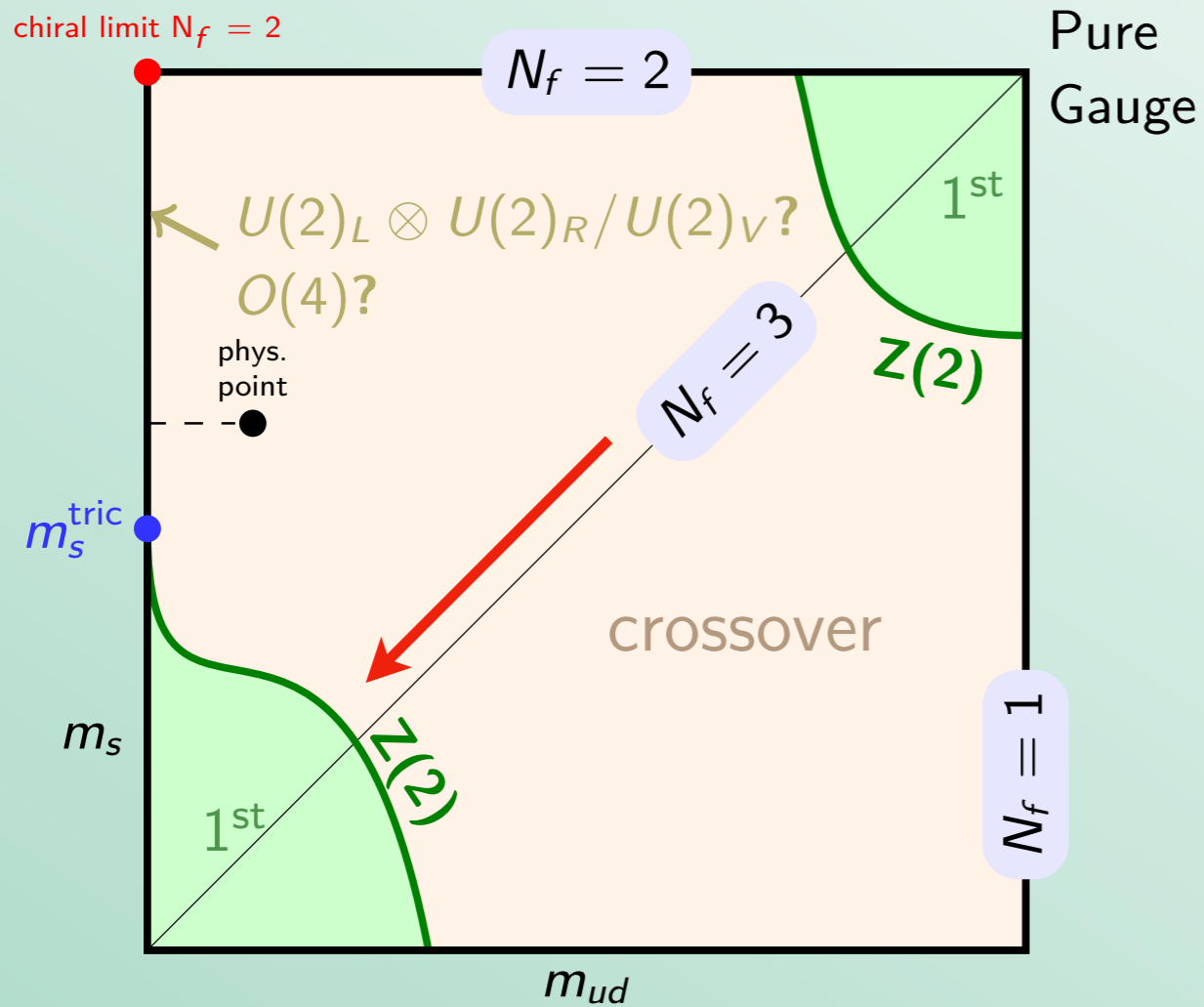
# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential with HISQ

# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential with HISQ





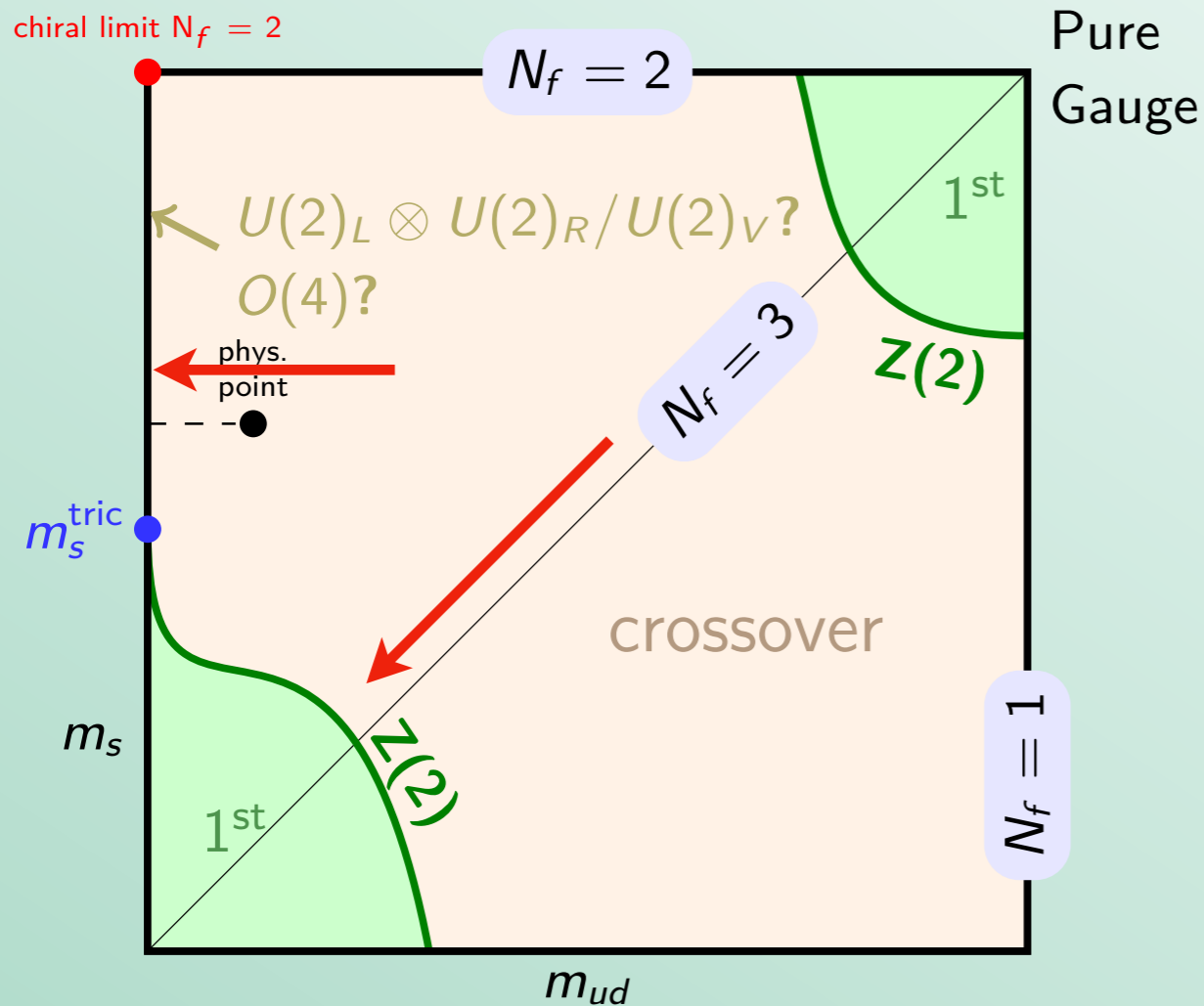
# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential with HISQ



$N_f=3$  : 1st order phase transition ruled out for  $230 \text{ MeV} > m_\pi > 80 \text{ MeV}$ . Bound on critical pion mass is given as,  $m_\pi^{\text{cr}} \lesssim 50 \text{ MeV}$  from the scaling analysis.



# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential with HISQ



See talk by Frithjof Karsch

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$N_f=2+1$  : No hint of 1st order phase transition for  $m_\pi > 55 \text{ MeV}$ . Chiral transition is most likely 2nd order  $O(4)$  rather than 1st order.

Bazavov et. al. PRD 95, 074505 (2017)

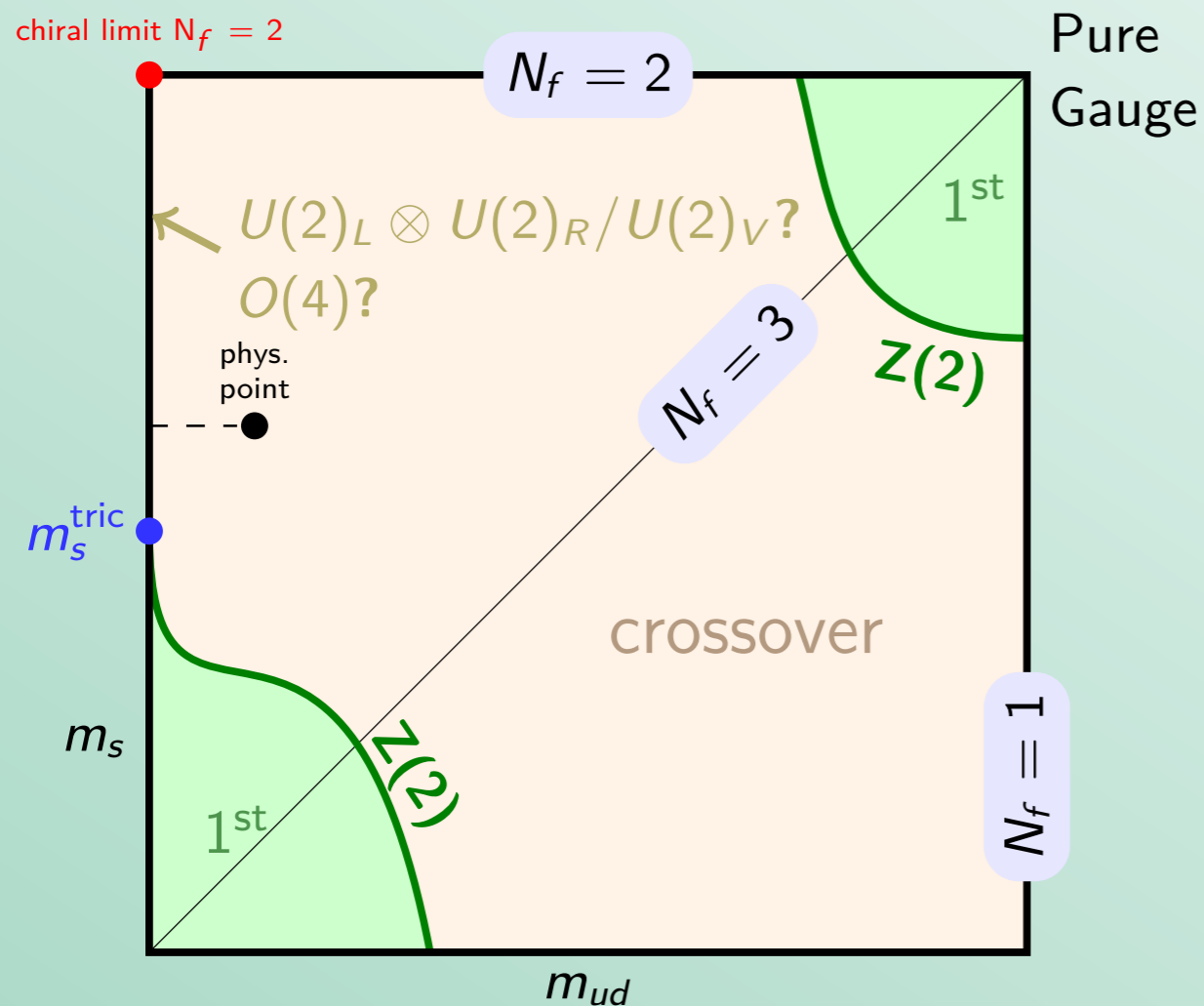
A. Lahiri et. al. , QM 2018, arXiv:1807.05727

# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential with HISQ

- HotQCD results on chiral phase transition, [ $\mu = 0$ ]

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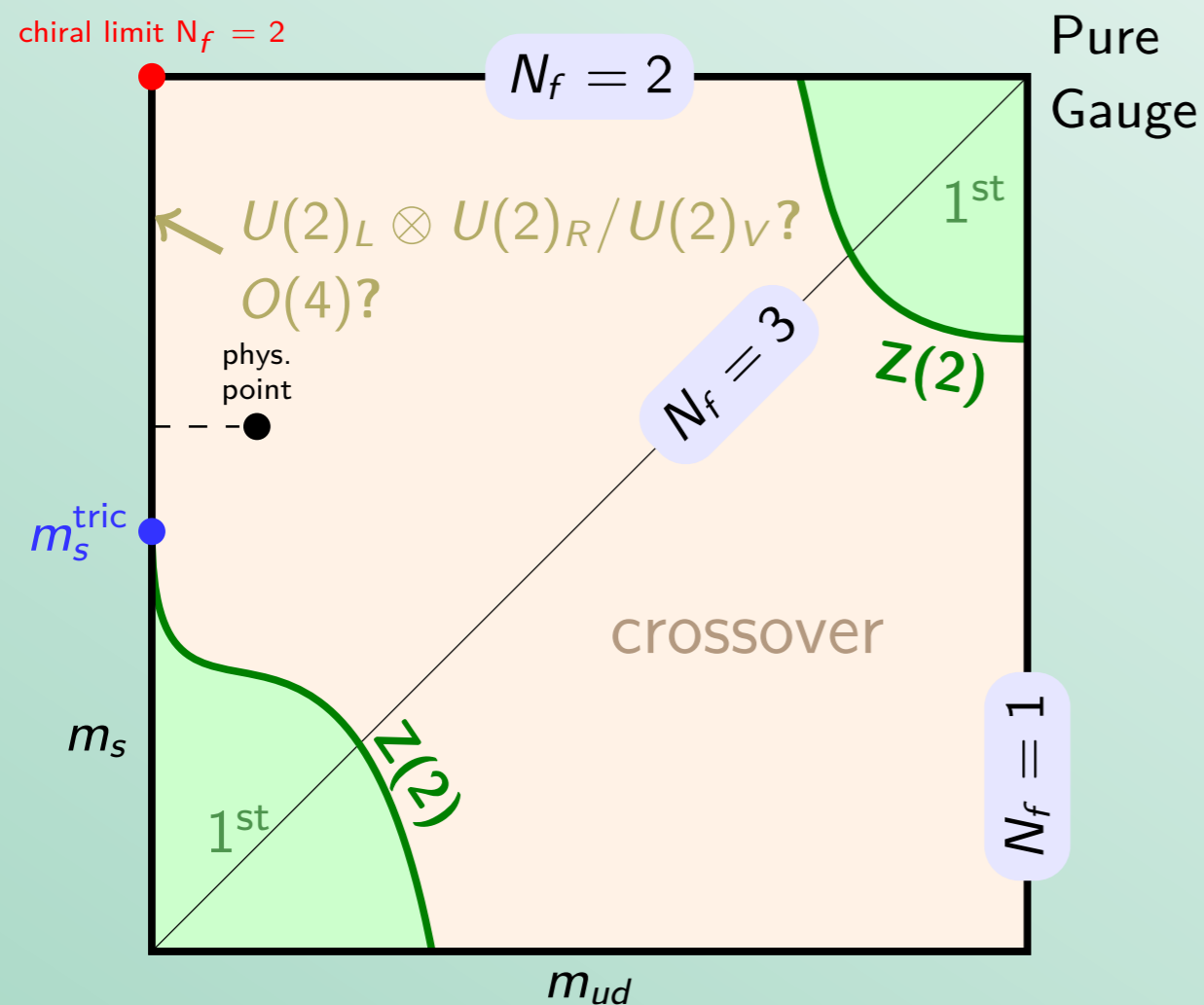
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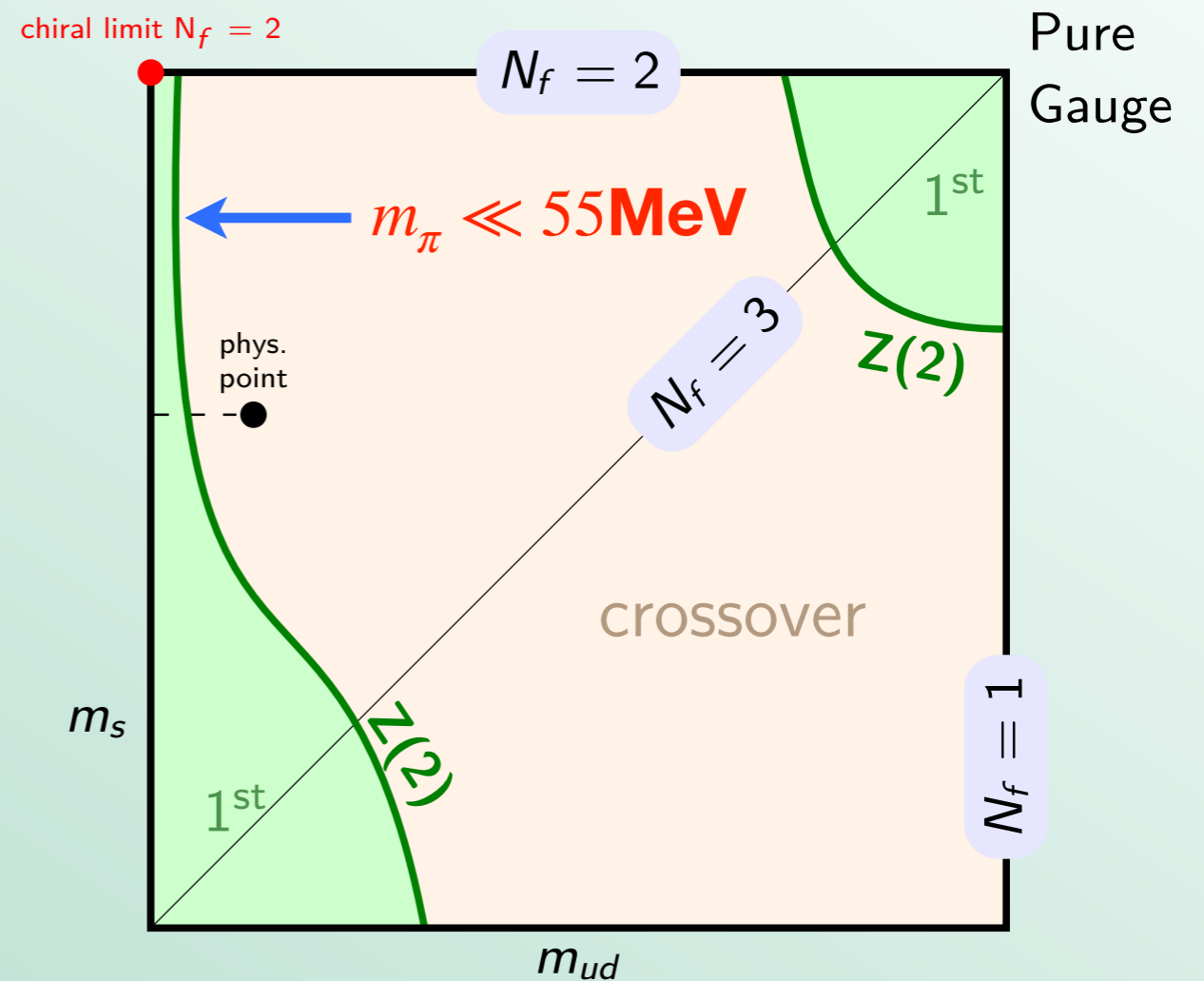
HotQCD: Based on studies with HISQ action

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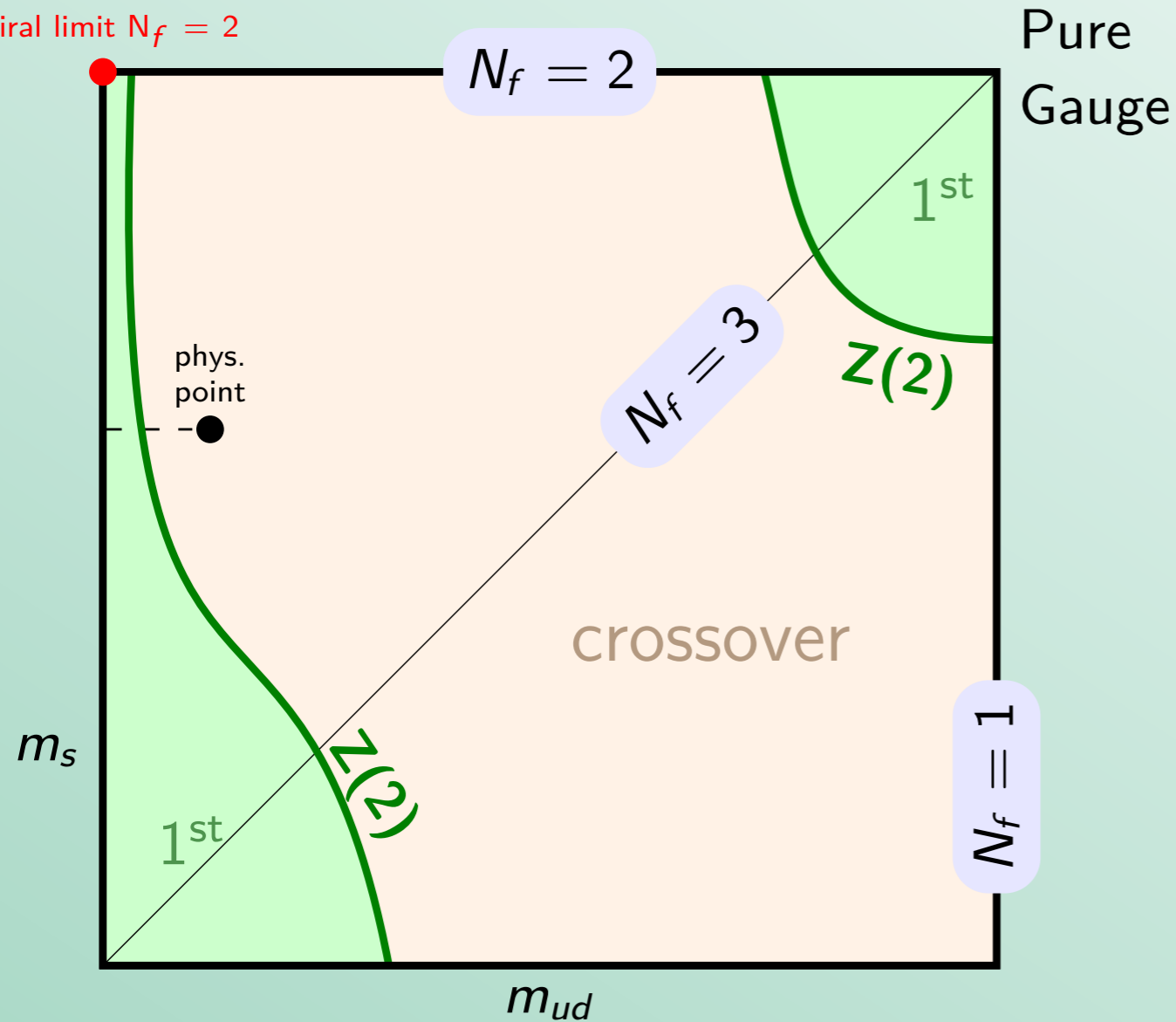
HotQCD: Based on studies with HISQ action



However, still one may argue that 1st order transition can be possible for,  $m_\pi \ll 55 \text{ MeV}$

# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential

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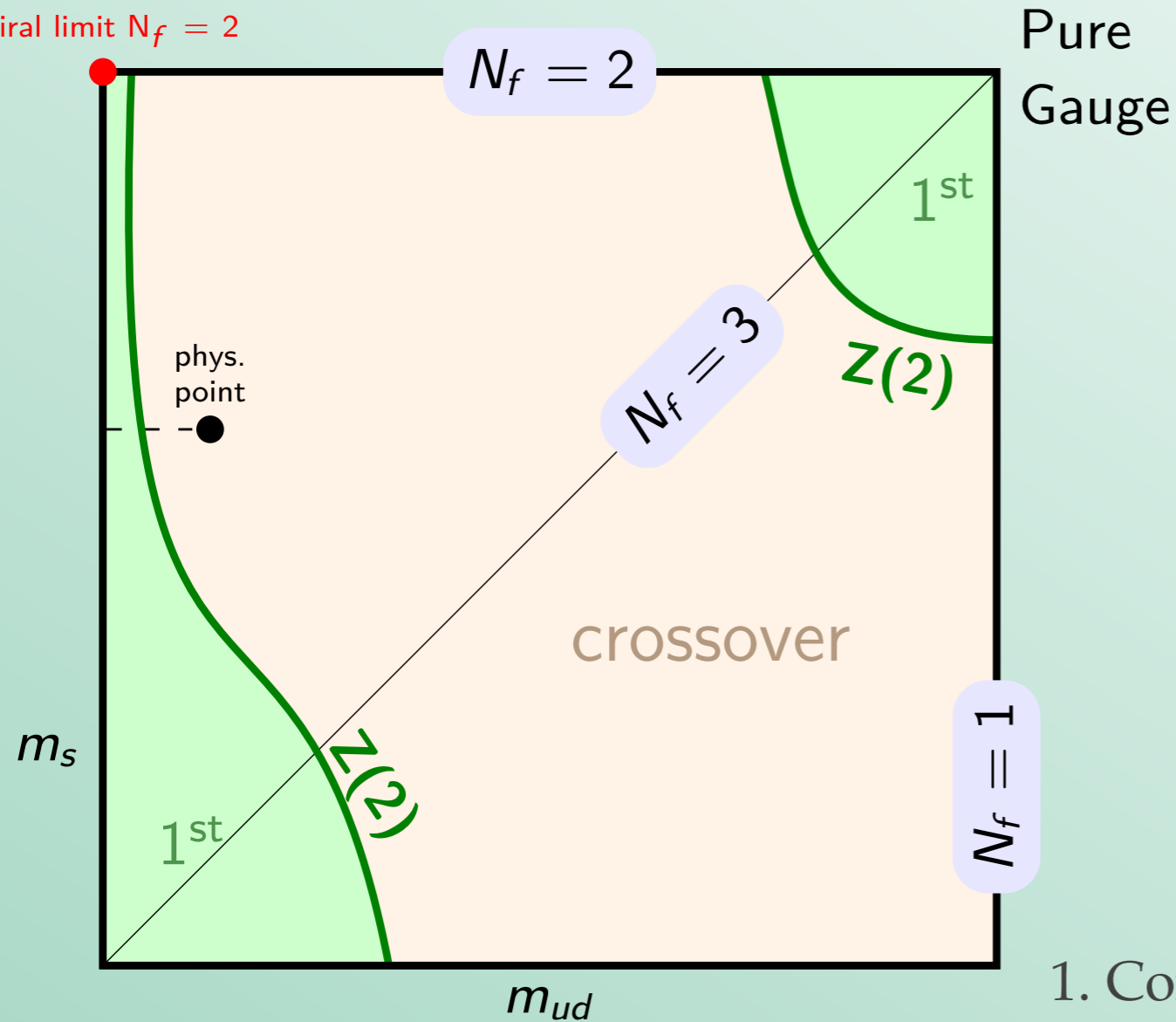
❖ A few Lattice actions show a first order chiral transition but.....

1. These results are done on fixed  $N_\tau$ . Not continuum extrapolated.
2. They use unimproved actions which have large cut-off effects, means the calculations are done away from the continuum.
3. The order of the transition can change if calculations are done close to continuum.

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# Chiral transition for zero chemical potential



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## Possible Solutions:

1. Continuum extrapolate the results (requires decent effort).
2. Verify with actions which allows us to do the calculations close to the continuum i.e. with improved actions

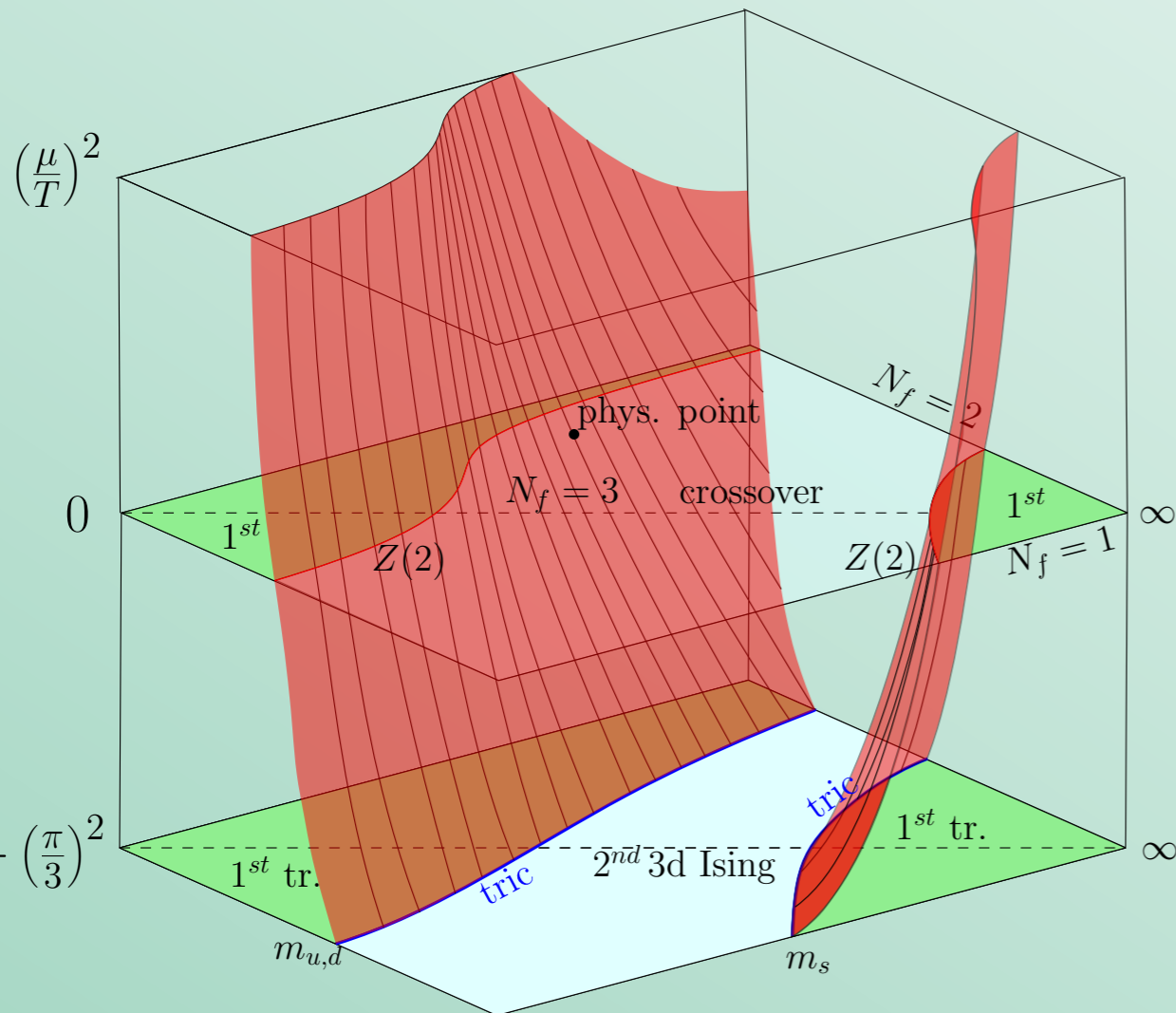
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# Nature of the chiral symmetry restoring transition at $\mu=0$ at the chiral limit??

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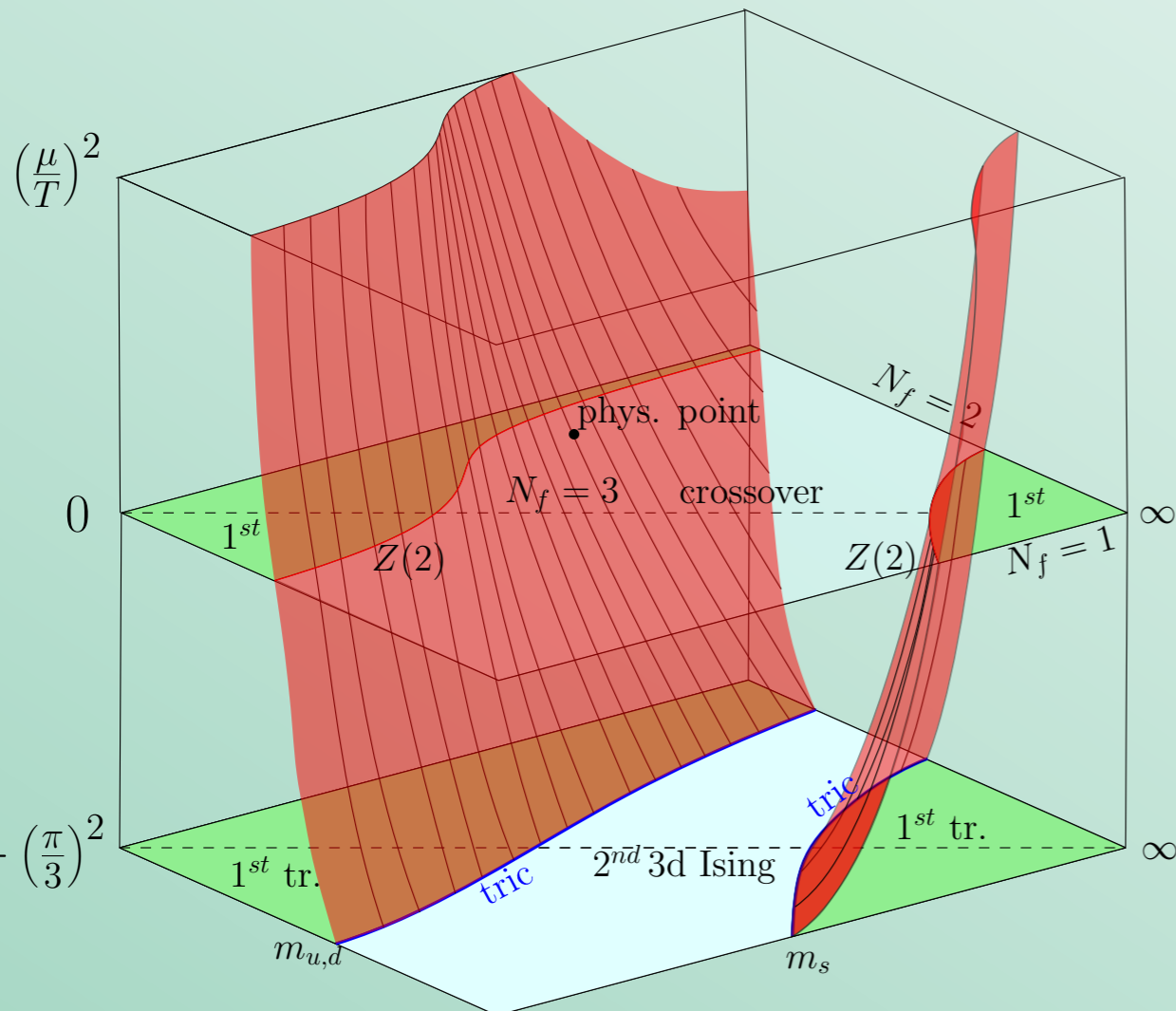


Another possible way to examine the nature of chiral transition (1st order??) at  $\mu=0$  is to study the phase diagram with imaginary chemical potential. It is expected that the first order region, if exists, increases in the imaginary chemical potential direction.

Possible scenario of extended 3d Columbia plot

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Largest 1st order region:  
Roberge-Weiss (RW) plane,  $i\mu/T=i\pi/3$

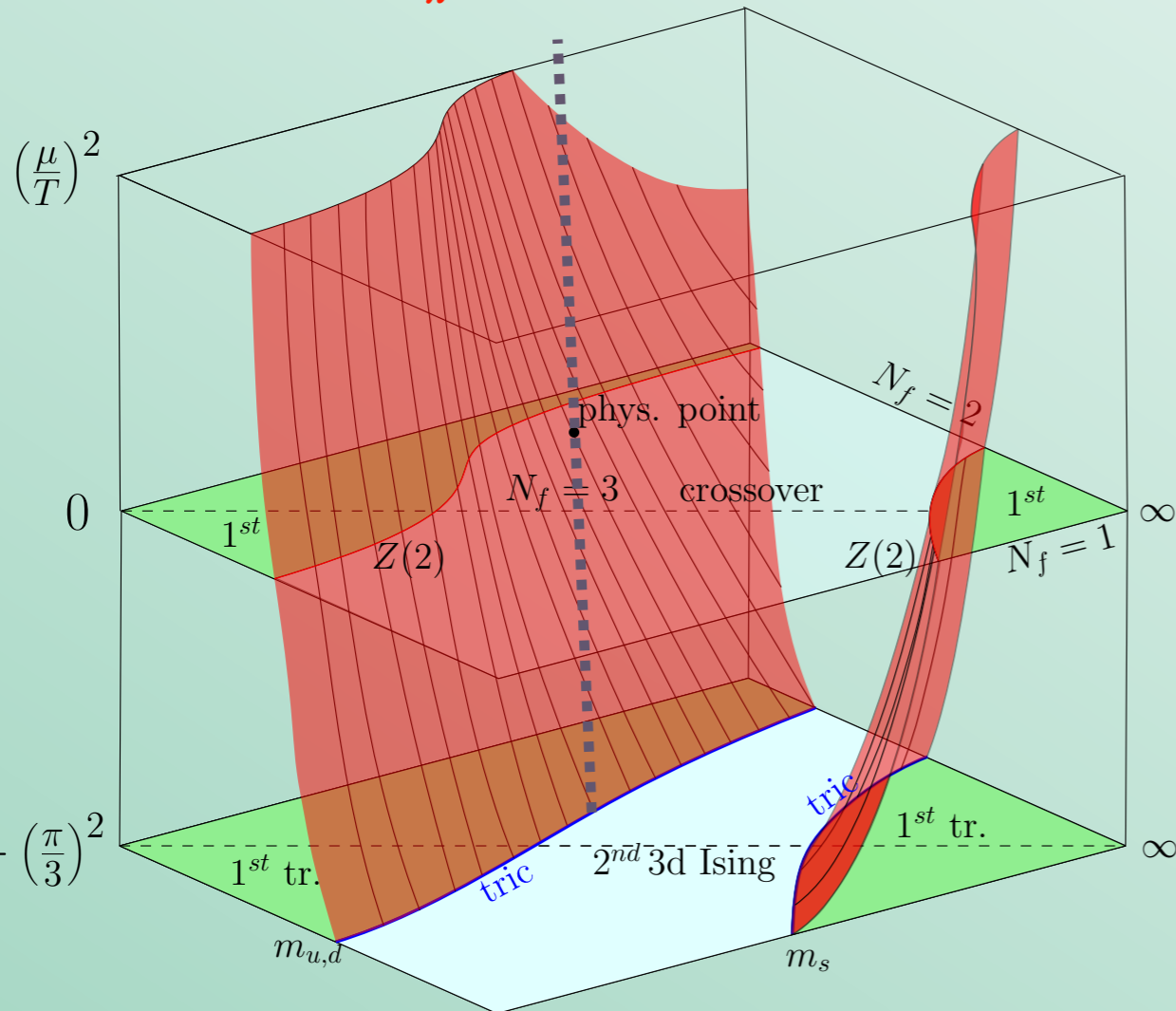
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Does a 1st order chiral symmetry restoring transition exist at  $\mu=0$  below a certain critical quark mass ( $m_{\text{cri}}$ ) ??

$m_\pi \sim 135 \text{ MeV}$



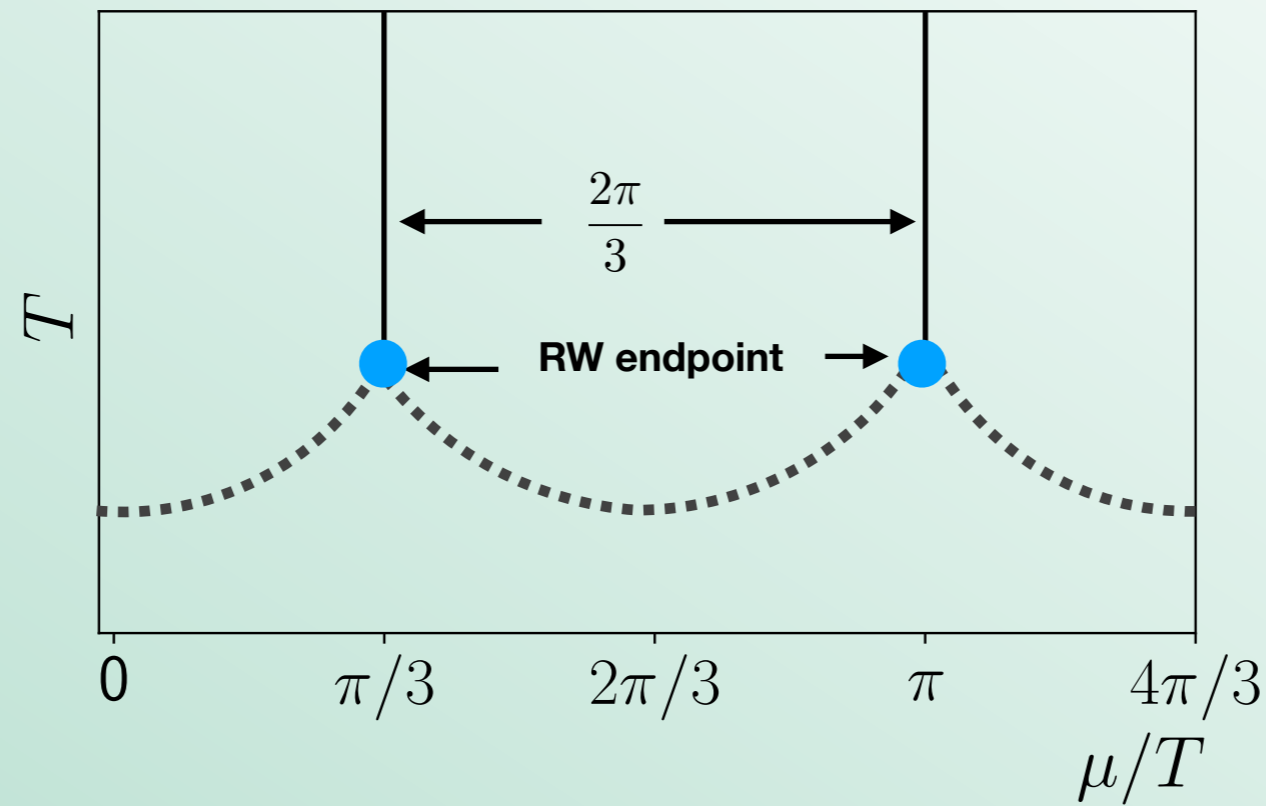
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Roberge-Weiss (RW) plane,  $i\mu/T=i\pi/3$

Possible scenario of extended 3d Columbia plot

General strategy: Locate the physical point for  $N_f=2+1$ , approach the chiral limit while keeping the strange quark mass fix to its physical value. Extrapolate the result to  $\mu=0$ .

# Details about the RW plane



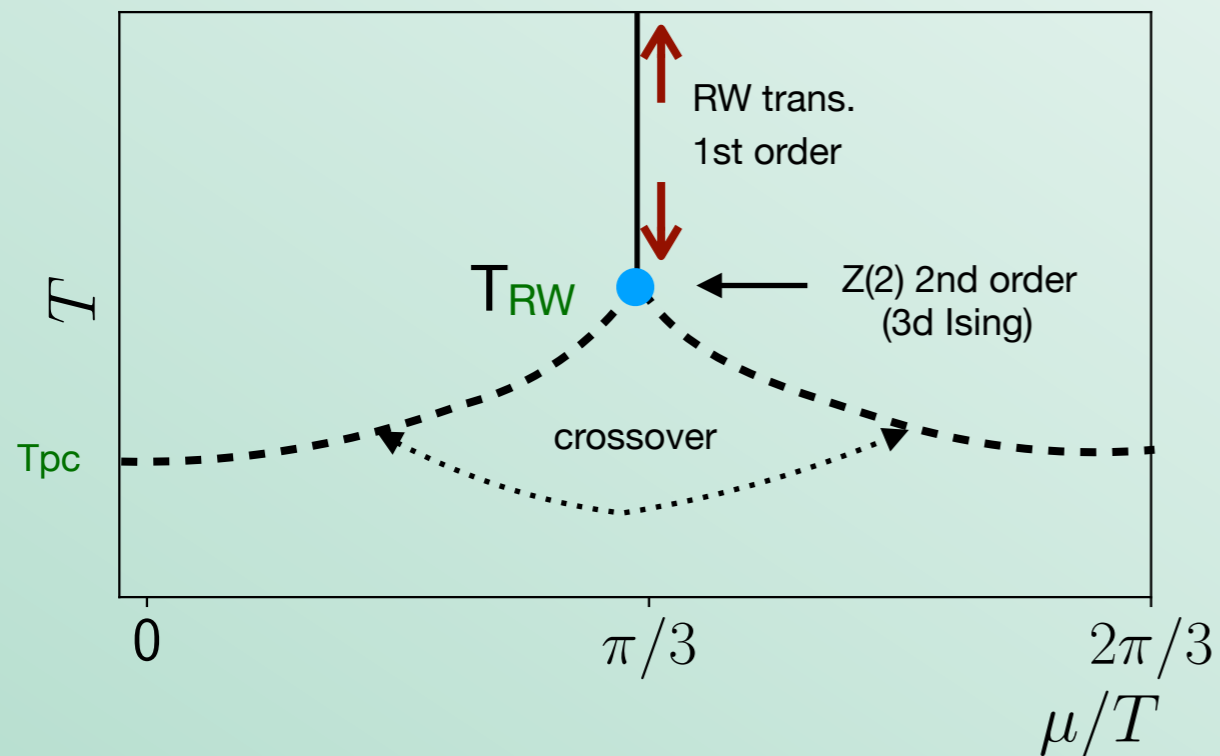
- If  $(i\mu)$  is purely imaginary then we can compare the results with the real chemical potential as,

$$\langle O \rangle = \sum_n c_n \left( \frac{i\mu}{T} \right)^n, n = 2, 4, 6, \dots$$

- The partition function is periodic in  $\mu/T$  as,  $Z(\mu/T) = Z(\mu/T + 2k\pi/3)$ , known as Roberge-Weiss (RW) periodicity. And  $\mu/T = (2k+1)\pi/3$ , is known as RW plane.

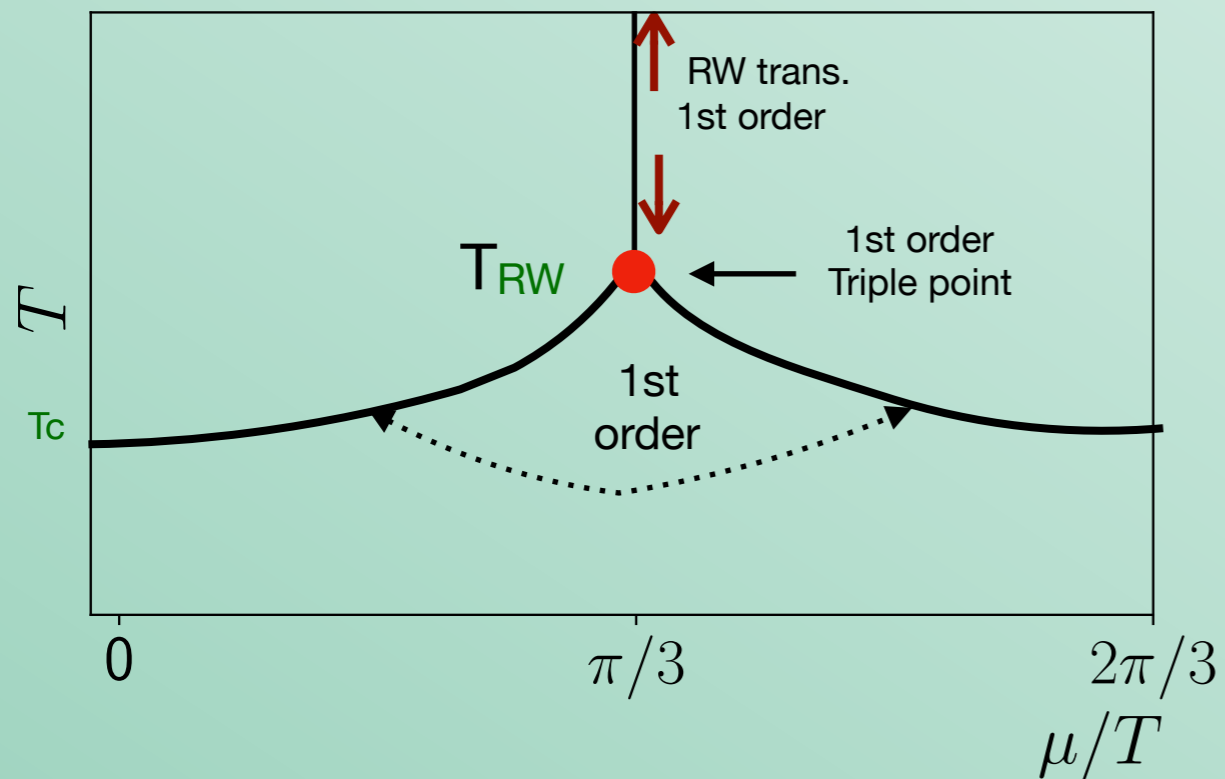
# Possible fate of the RW end point

Intermediate quark mass

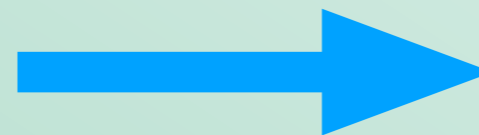


For, intermediate pion mass RW end point is of Z(2) 2nd order.

Approaching Chiral limit



For, smaller pion mass RW end point may become a 1st order triple point.



This could indicate that the chiral transition at  $\mu=0$  is 1st order.



# Studies in the RW plane

Mostly with unimproved actions

$N_f=2$ : 1st order triple point (at the end of the line of 1st order RW transitions) exist for  $\mu/T=\pi/3$  and  $m_{\text{cri}} > m_{\text{phy}}$ .

Standard staggered action:

$$m_\pi \sim 400 \text{ MeV} (N_\tau=4)$$

Standard Wilson action:

$$m_\pi \sim 930 \text{ MeV} (N_\tau=4)$$

$$m_\pi \sim 680 \text{ MeV} (N_\tau=6)$$

The results are strongly fermion discretization scheme and cut-off( $N_\tau$ ) dependent.

P. de Forcrand et. al, PRL 105, 152001(2010),  
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(2016)

Very recent studies with improved actions,

Stout improved staggered fermions( $N_f=2+1$ ): For physical quark mass the RW endpoint is belongs to the Z(2) universality class.

C. Bonati et. al, PRD 93, 074504 (2016)

No, 1st order triple point exist at least for  $m_\pi > 50 \text{ MeV}$ .

C. Bonati et. al, arXiv:1807.02106 [hep-lat]

HISQ( $N_f=2$ ): Order of the phase transition at physical point is not clear (large cut-off effects) .

L.K.Wu, et al. PRD 97, 114514(2018)

# Studies with HISQ in the RW plane

Action, 
$$Z(T, \mu) = \int [\mathcal{D}U] \det[M_{ud}(\mu_f)]^{1/2} \det[M_s(\mu_f)]^{1/4} \exp[-S_G]$$

$$M_q = D_{HISQ}(\mu_f) + m_q, \quad \mu_f \text{ is purely imaginary}$$

Simulation details,

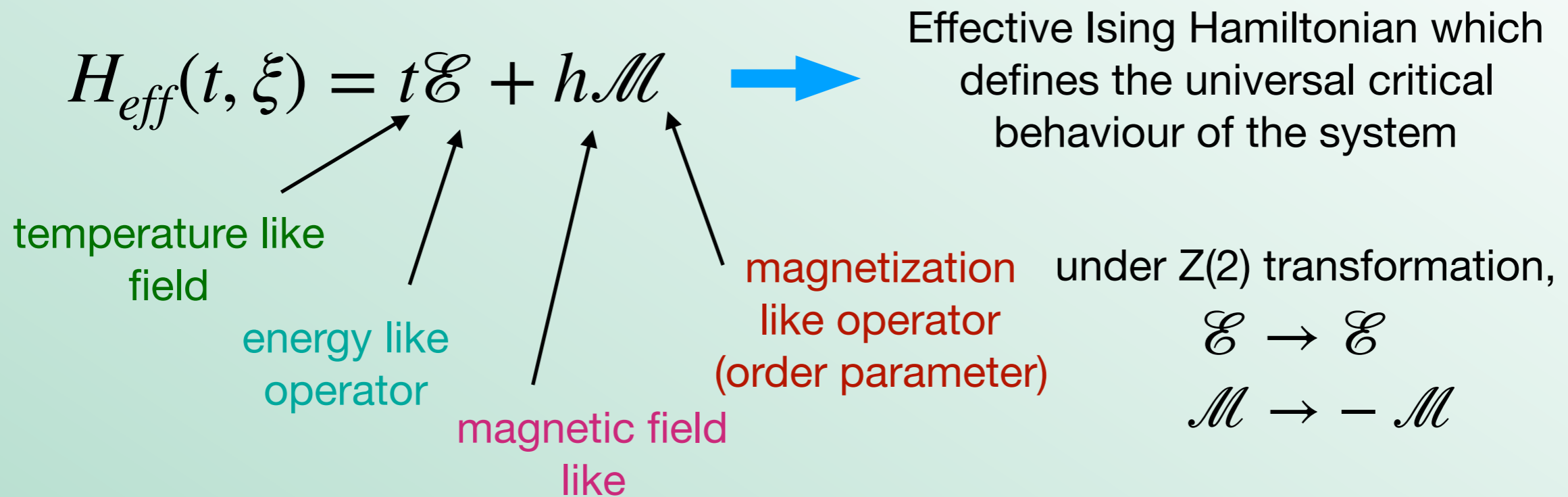
$$N_f = 2 + 1, \quad \frac{\mu_f}{T} = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$N_\sigma$	$N_\tau$	$\frac{m_l}{m_s}$	$m_\pi$ (MeV)
8	4	1/27	135
12	4	1/27	135
16	4	1/27, 1/40, 1/60	135, 110, 90
24	4	1/27, 1/40, 1/160, 1/320	135, 110, 55, 40

$T$  is varied in the range, 176-215 MeV,  
corresponds to,  
 $T \sim T_c \pm 0.1T_c$

Generally we generated  
20k trajectory per  $T$  value away  
from  $T_c$  and 80k trajectory near  $T_c$

# Ising endpoint of a first order line



Corresponding critical behaviour of QCD in 2nd RW plane [Z(2) transformation],

$$Im L \rightarrow -Im L$$

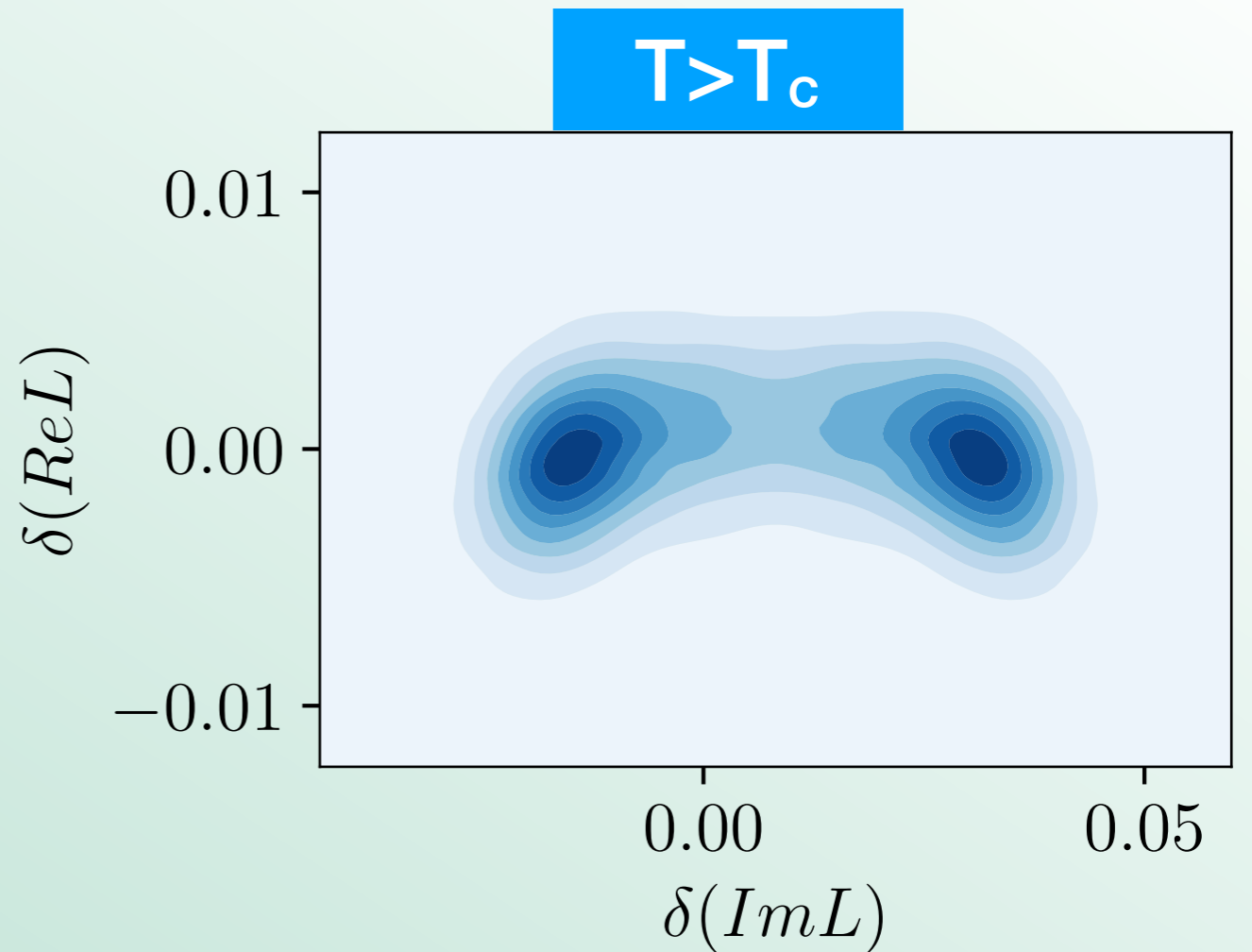
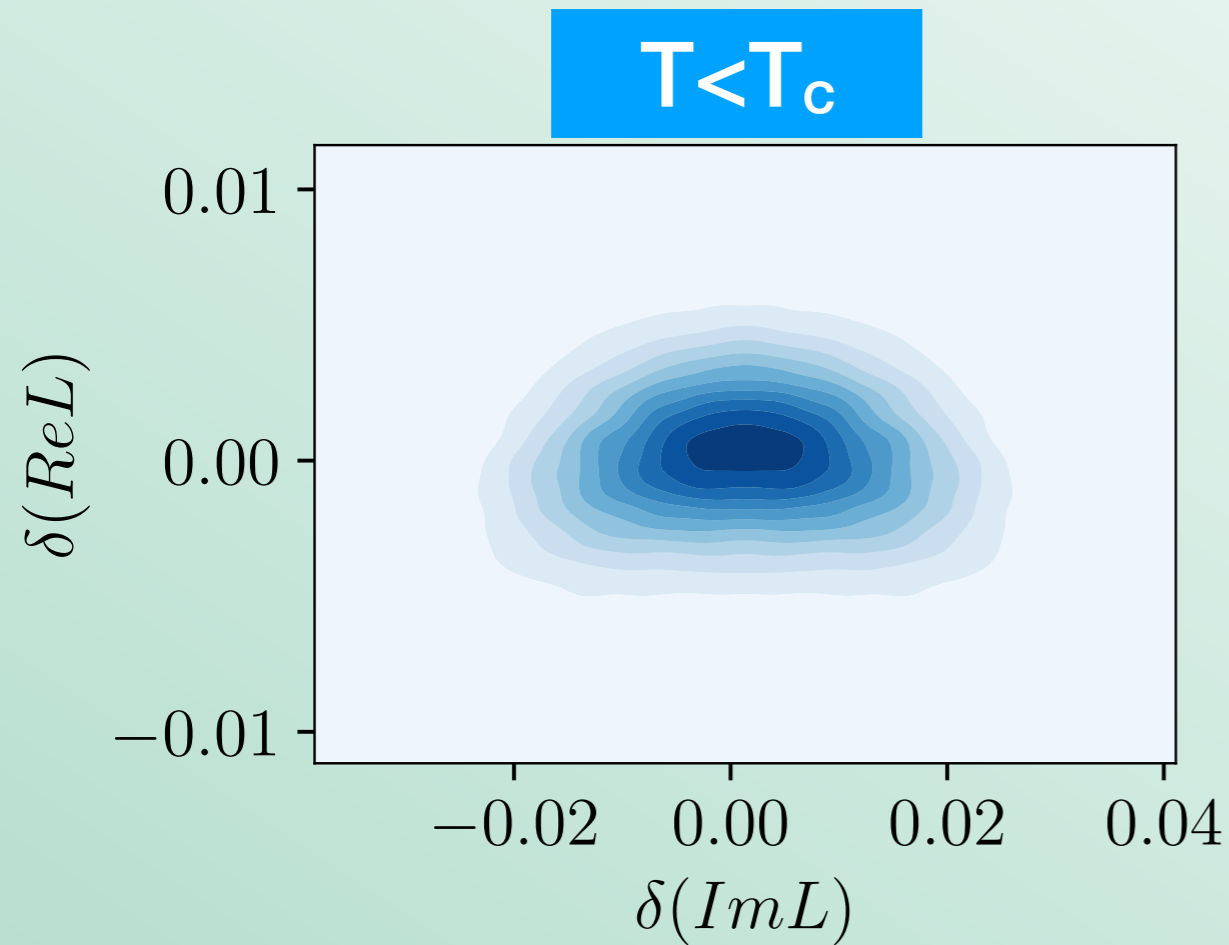
$\rightarrow$  order parameter

$$Re L \rightarrow Re L$$

$\rightarrow$  energy like

i.e. at  $\mu = \mu_{RW}$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \lim_{V \rightarrow \infty} \langle Im L \rangle \equiv \lim_{V \rightarrow \infty} \langle |Im L| \rangle_{h=0} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \beta < \beta_c \\ \text{non-zero,} & \text{if } \beta > \beta_c \end{cases}$$



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# Finite size scaling and Z(2) universality class

Free energy and the universal functions for second order transition near the critical point can be written as, [  $t=(T-T_c)/T_c$  ]

$$f = b^{-d} f_s(b^{y_t} u_t, b^{y_h} u_h, b^{-1} N_\sigma) + f_{ns}, \quad u_t \sim c_t t, \quad u_h \sim c_h h$$

$$\langle |Im L| \rangle = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \right|_{h \rightarrow 0} \sim N_\sigma^{-\beta/\nu} f_h(z_0 t N_\sigma^{1/\nu})$$

universal scaling function of order parameter

$$\chi_h = \left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial h^2} \right|_{h \rightarrow 0} \sim N_\sigma^{\gamma/\nu} f_\chi(z_0 t N_\sigma^{1/\nu})$$

universal scaling function of order parameter susceptibility

$$B_4 - (1/N_\sigma^d) B_{ns} \sim f_B(z_0 t N_\sigma^{1/\nu})$$

universal scaling function of Binder cumulant

$$\chi_t = \left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} \right|_{h \rightarrow 0} \sim N_\sigma^{\alpha/\nu} f_c(z_0 t N_\sigma^{1/\nu})$$

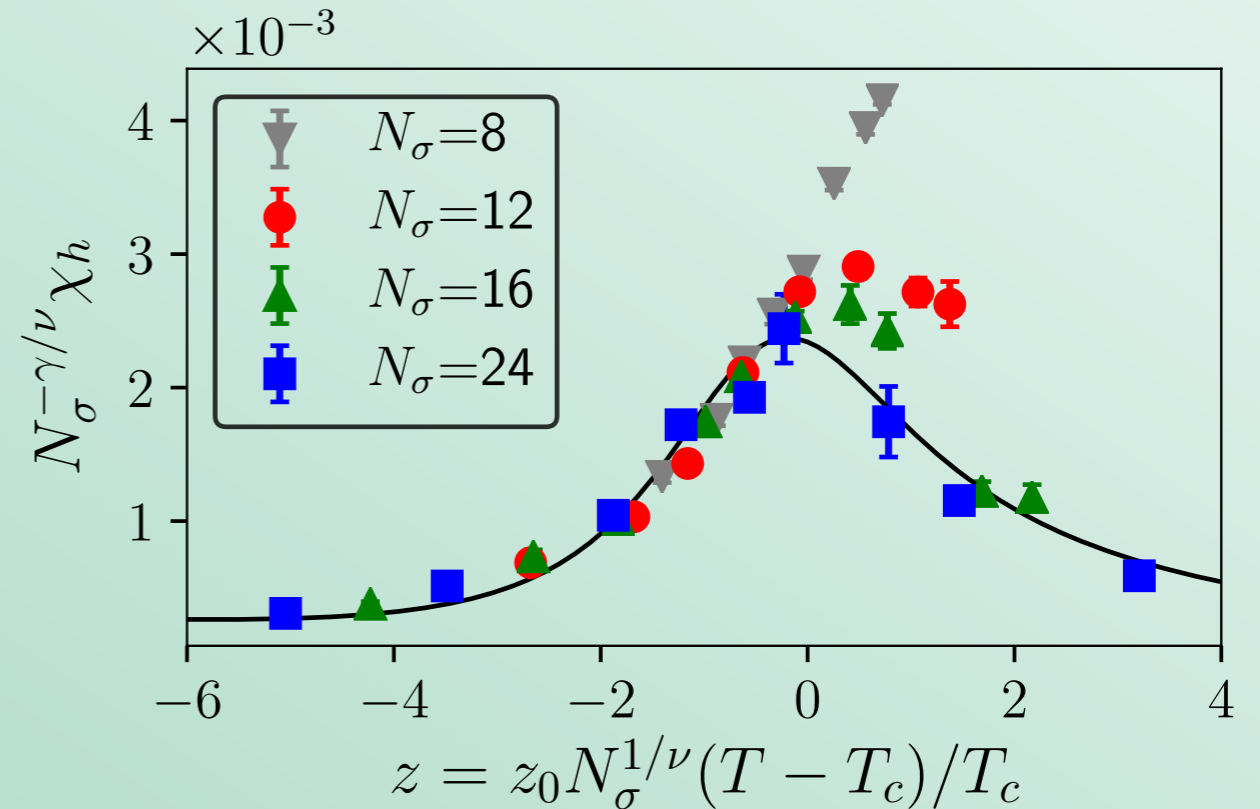
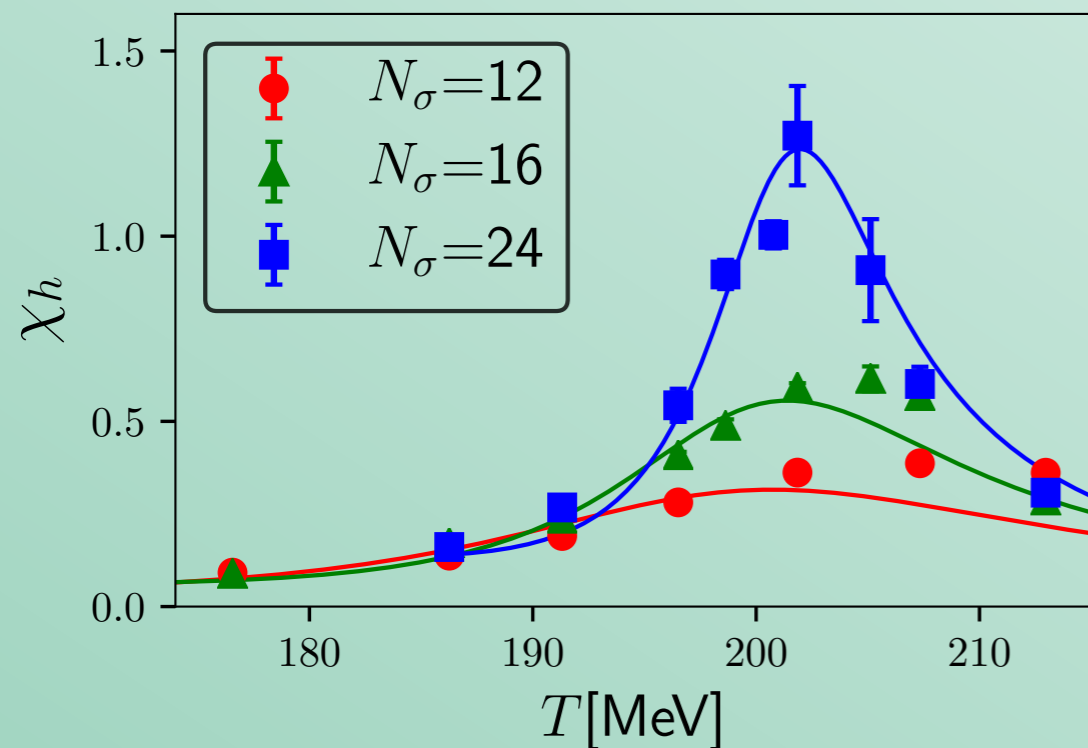
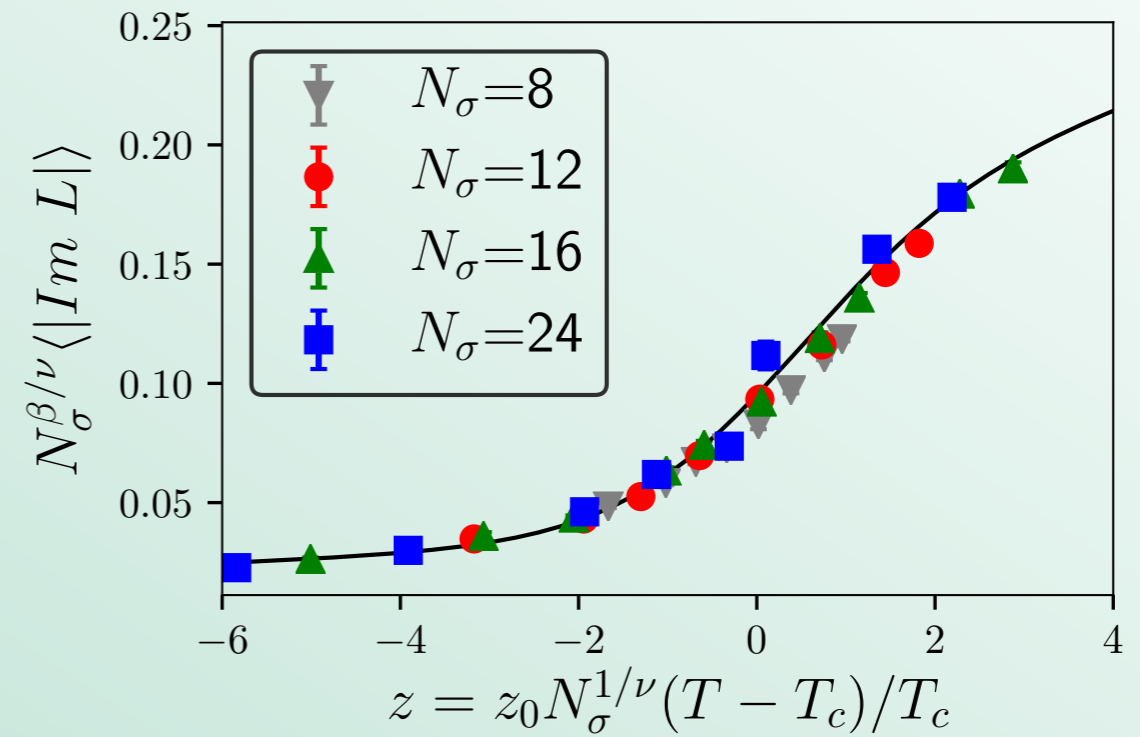
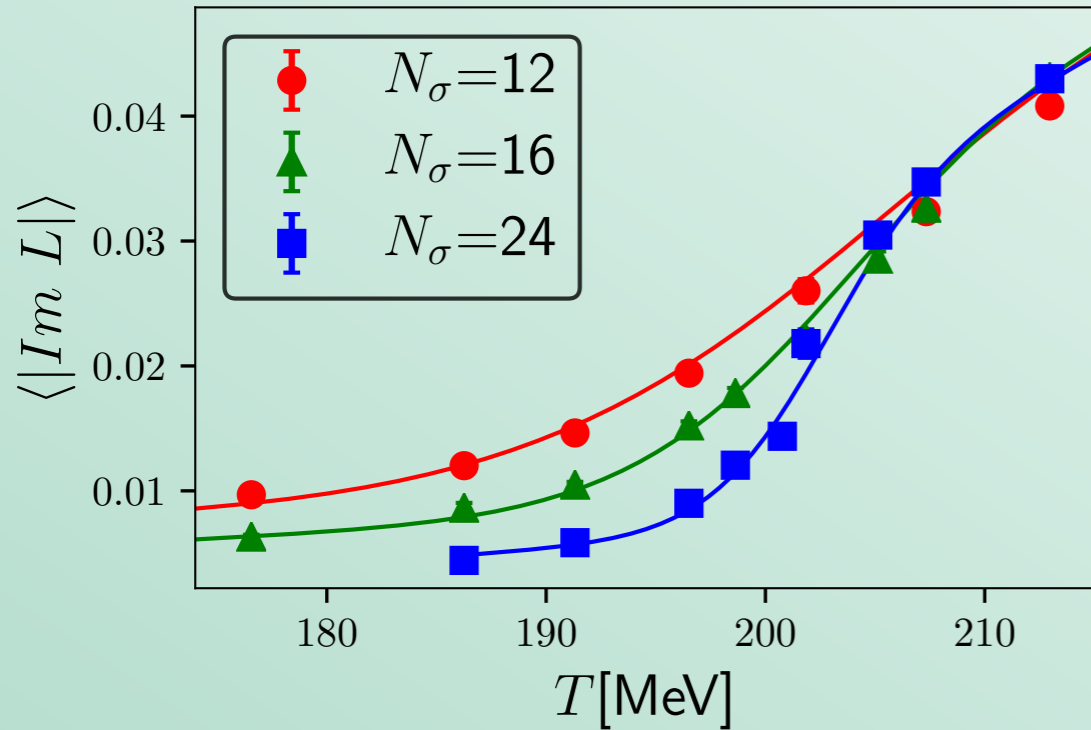
universal scaling function of specific heat

In our case  $\beta, \nu, \alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are Z(2) critical exponents

# Finite size scaling of order parameter and its susceptibility

$$m_\pi \sim 135 \text{ MeV}$$

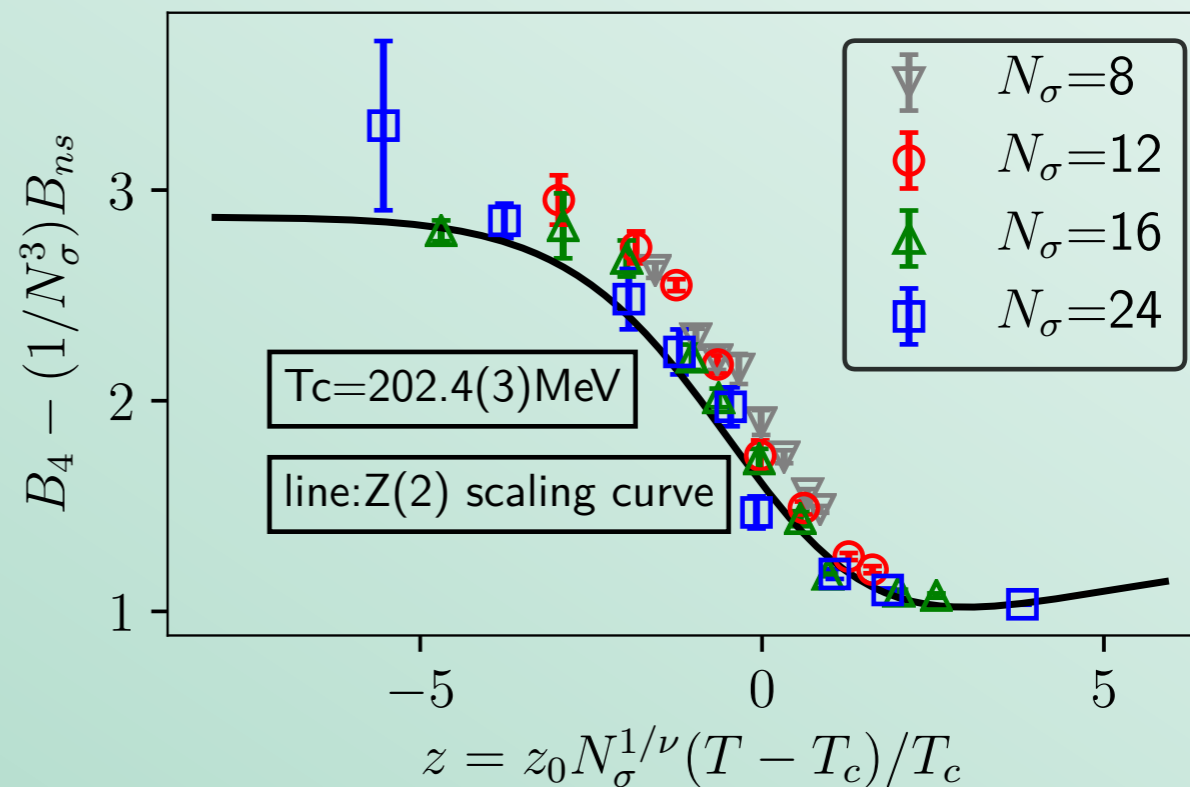
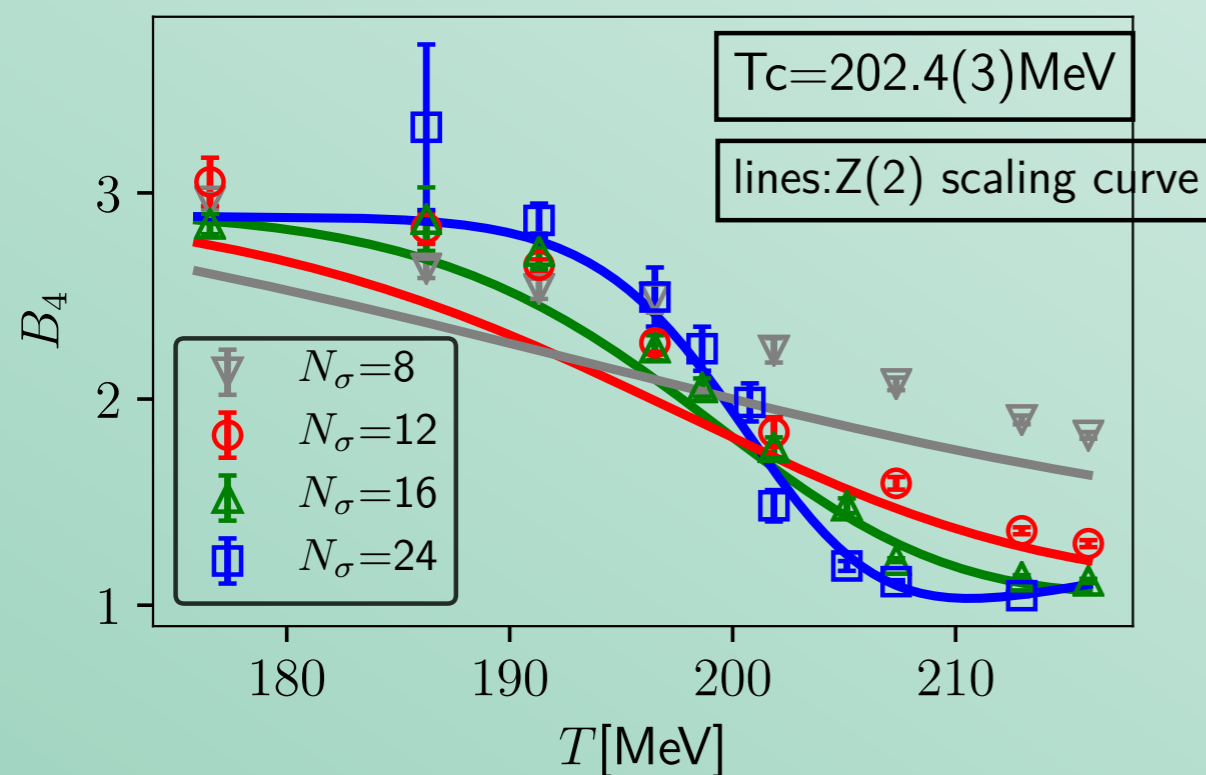
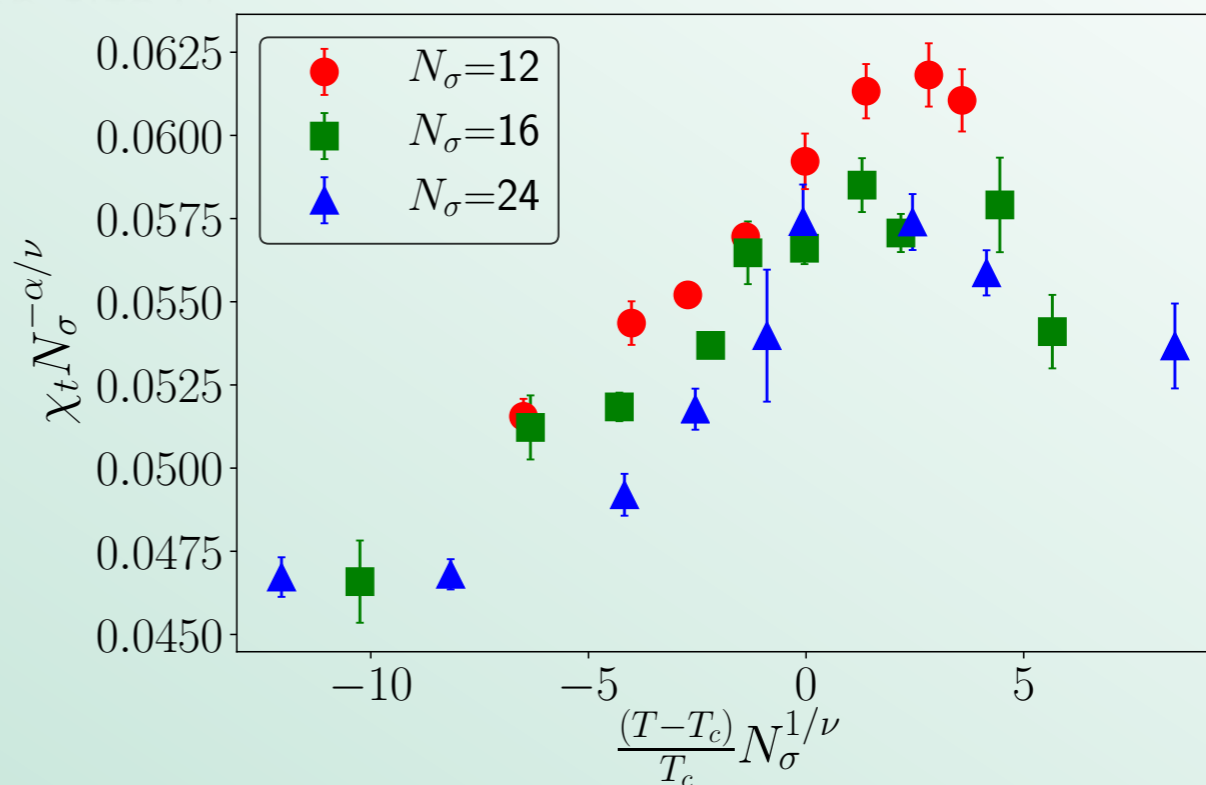
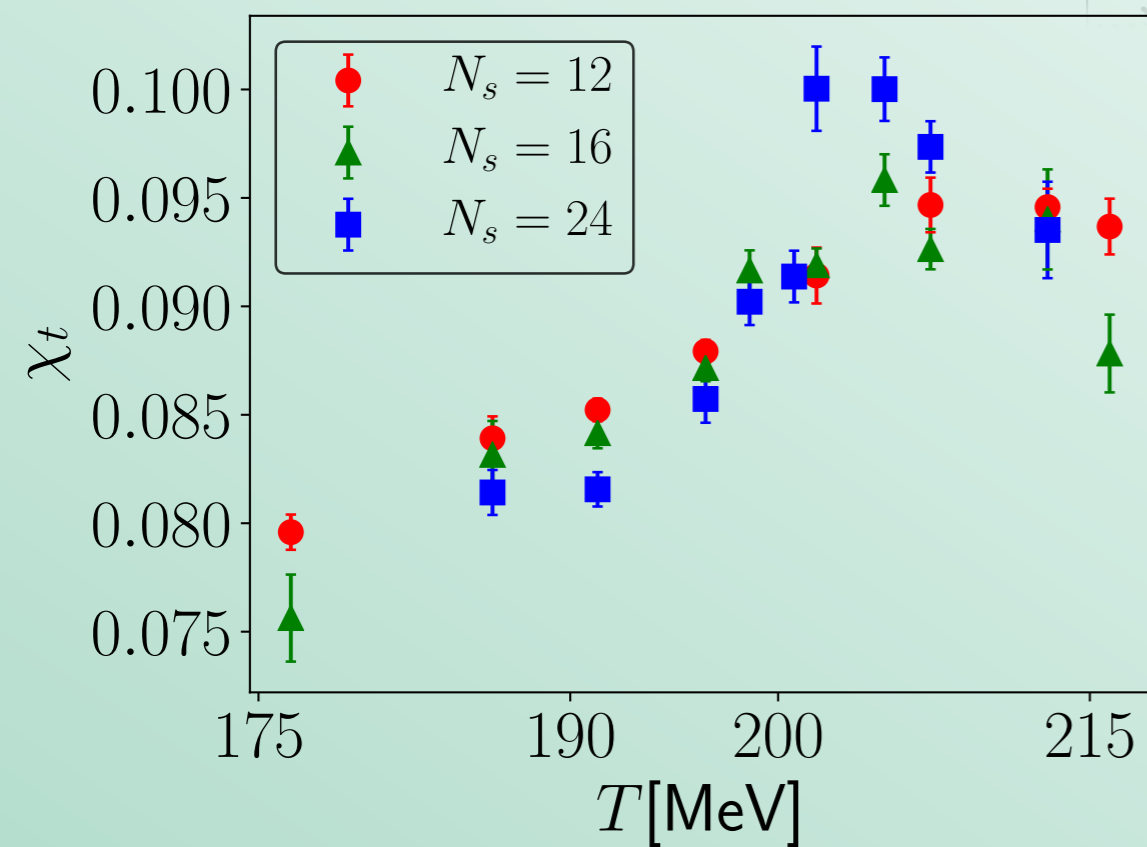
$$\beta = 0.32 \quad \gamma = 1.24 \quad \nu = 0.62$$



# Finite size scaling of specific heat and Binder cumulant

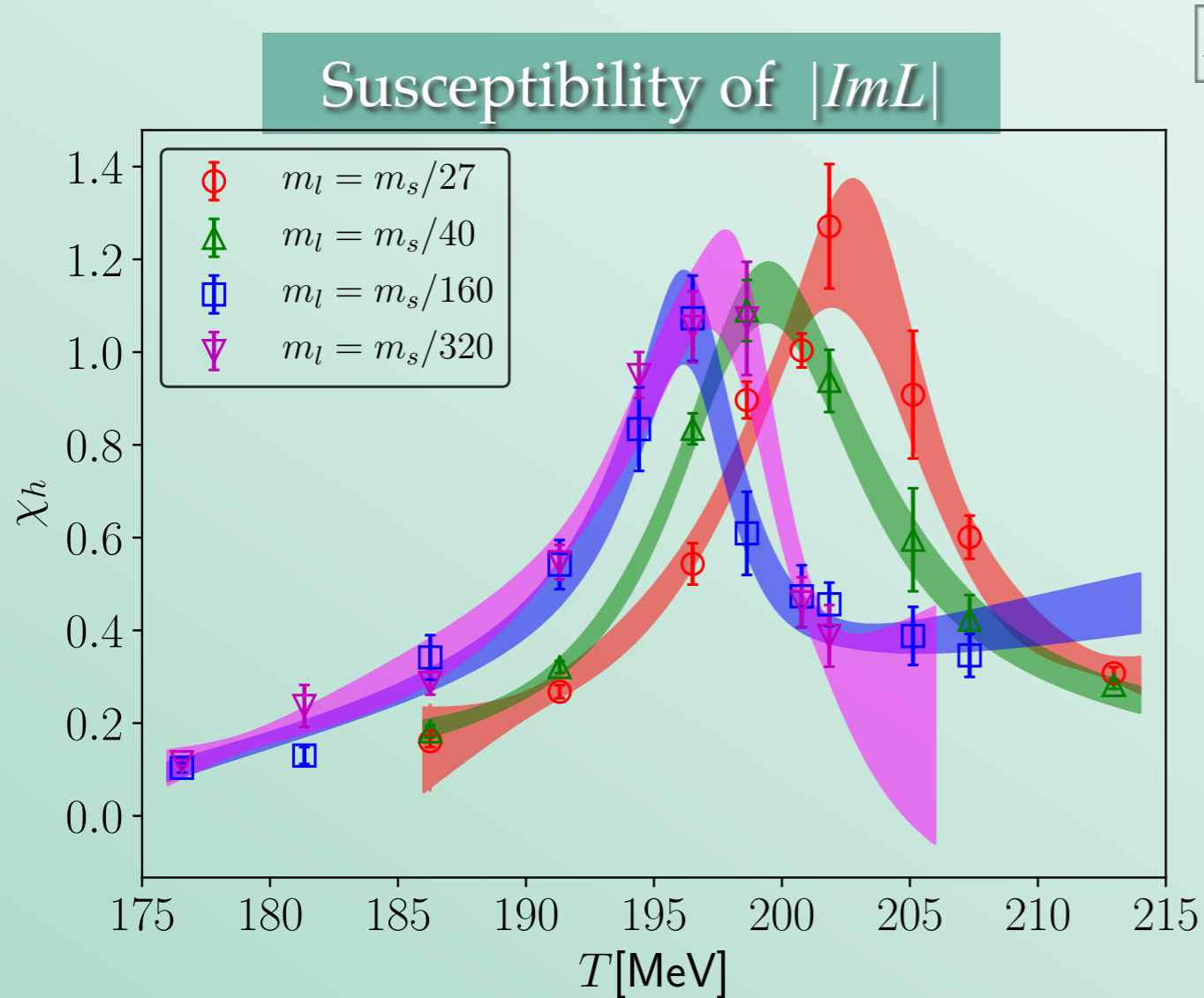
$m_\pi \sim 135 \text{ MeV}$

$\alpha = 0.11$





# Quark mass dependence of RW transition



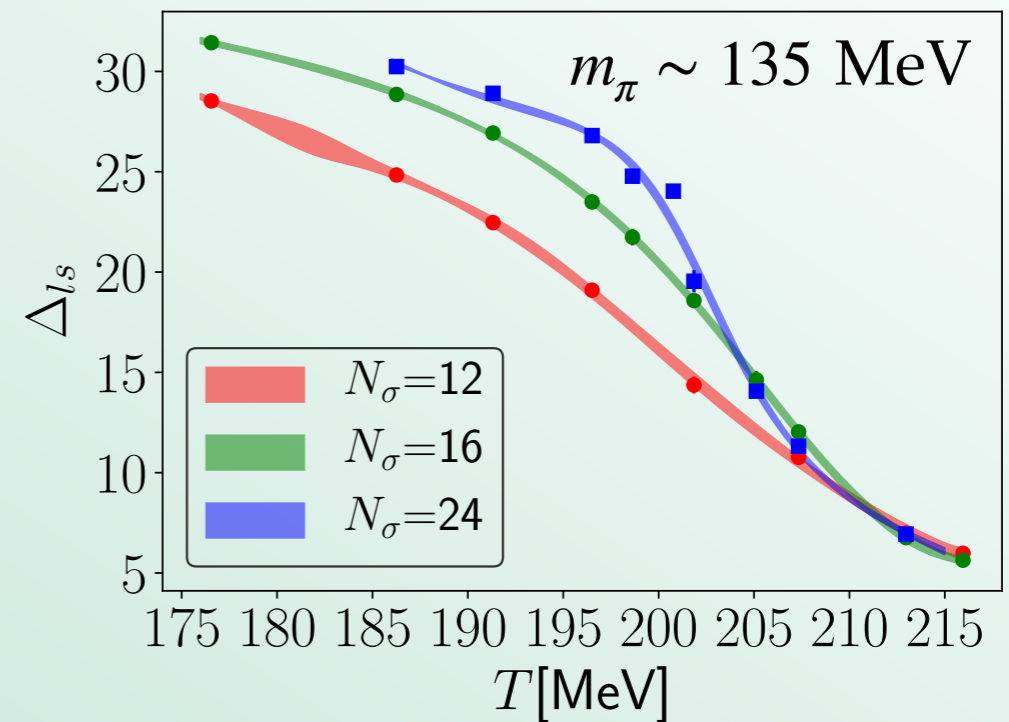
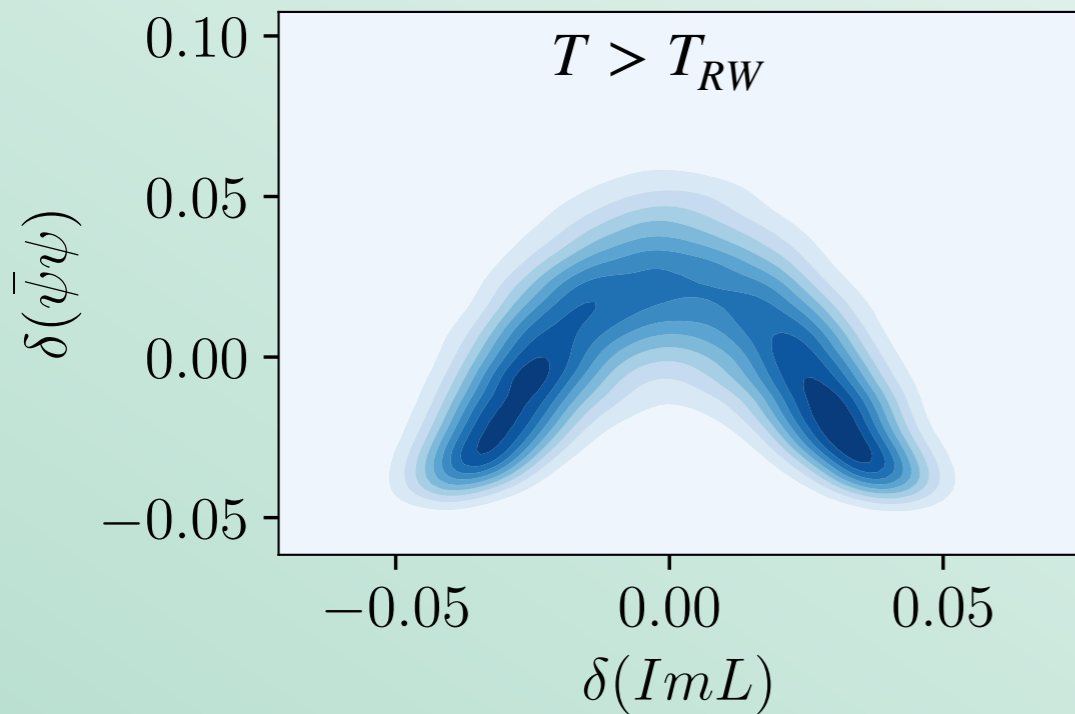
$m_l$	$m_\pi$ (MeV)
$m_s/27$	135
$m_s/40$	110
$m_s/160$	55
$m_s/320$	40

No significant rise in the peak of the susceptibility of the order parameter with respect to pion mass down to,  $m_\pi \sim 40$  MeV

Order of the RW transition seems to be unchanged ??

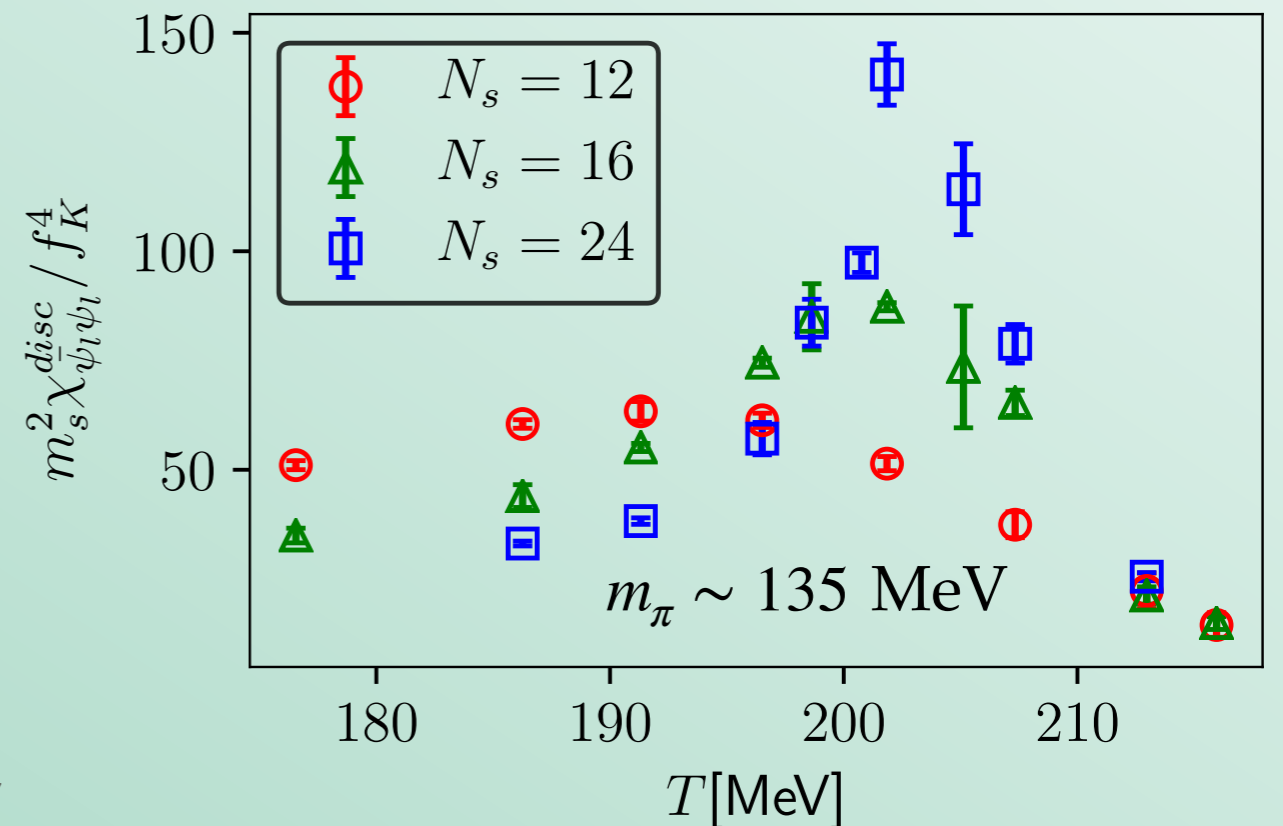
Preliminary finite size scaling study with  $m_\pi \sim 55$  MeV is consistent with Z(2) second order transition.

# Finite size effects on chiral observables

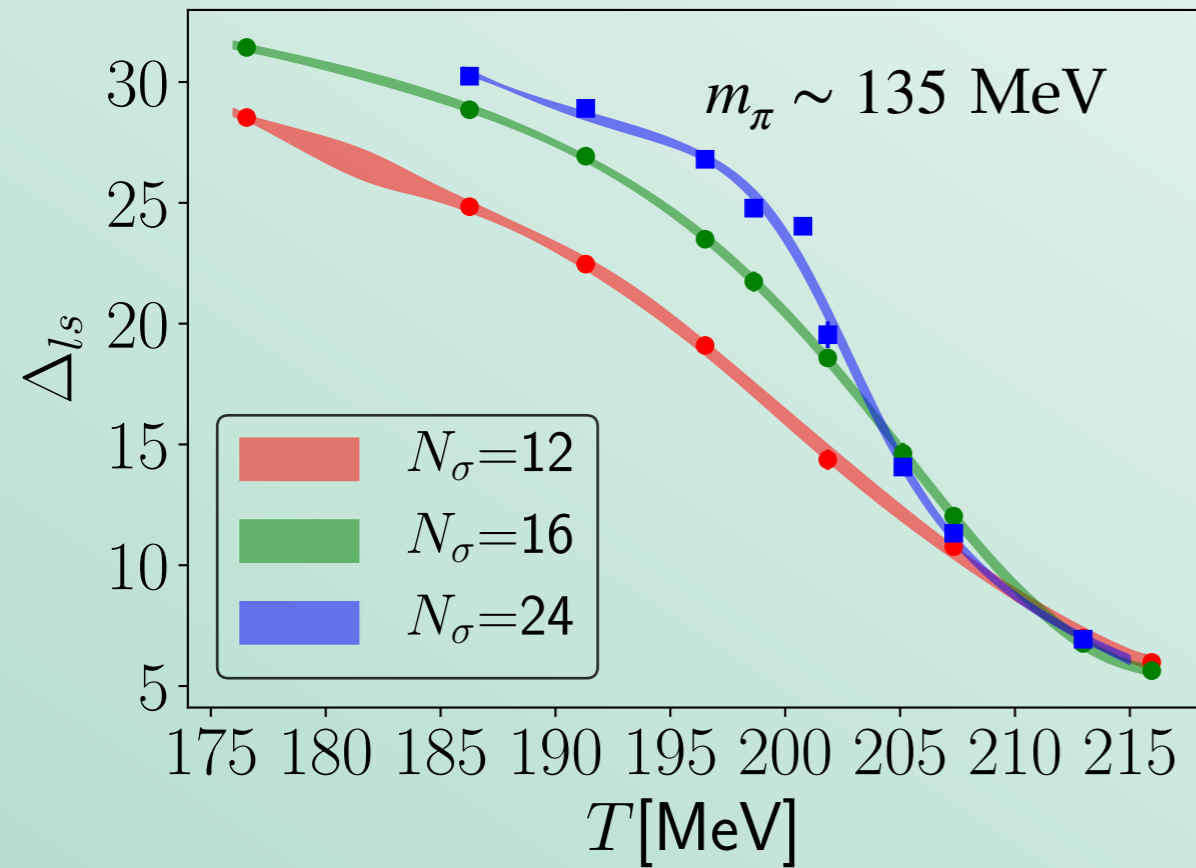


$$\Delta_{ls} = (m_s/f_k^4) (\langle \bar{l}l \rangle - (m_l/m_s) \langle \bar{s}s \rangle)$$

Strong volume dependence of “subtracted chiral condensate” at fixed  $m_l/m_s$  below  $T_{RW}$

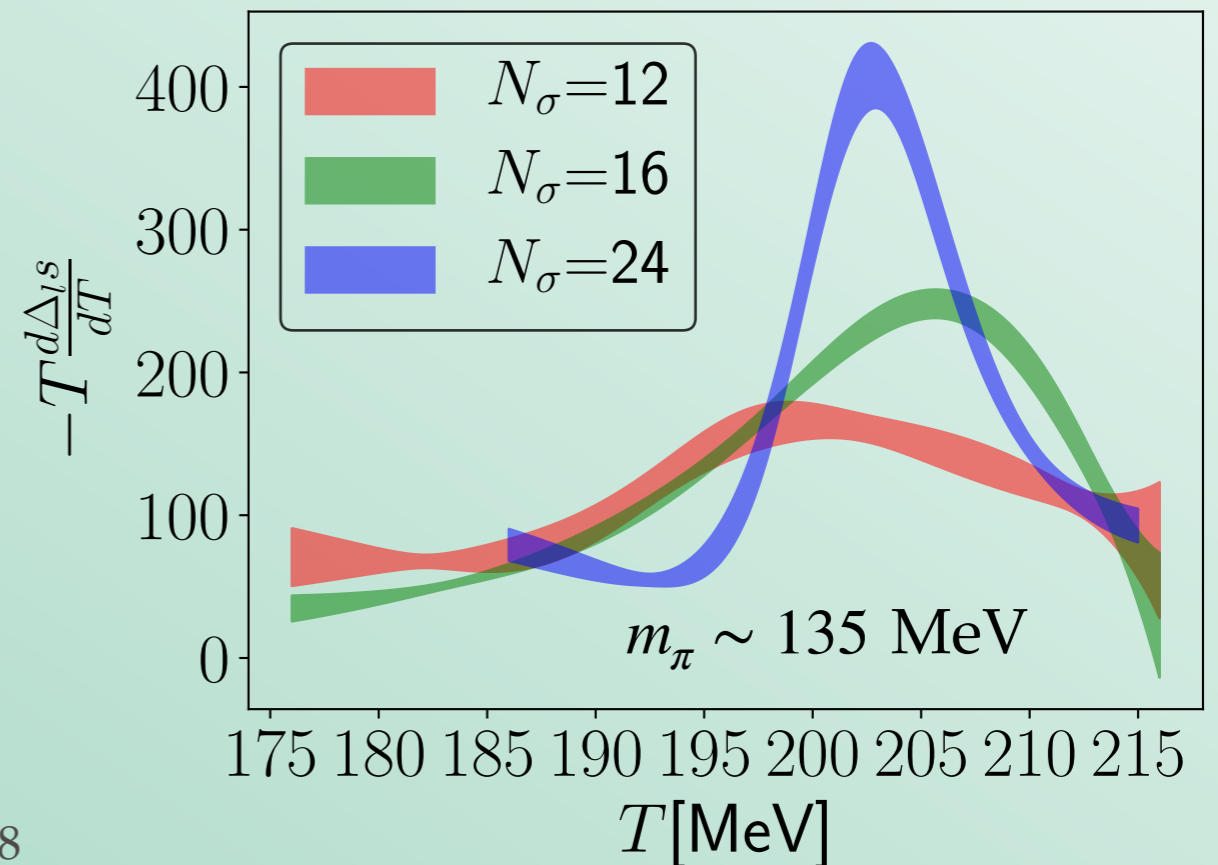
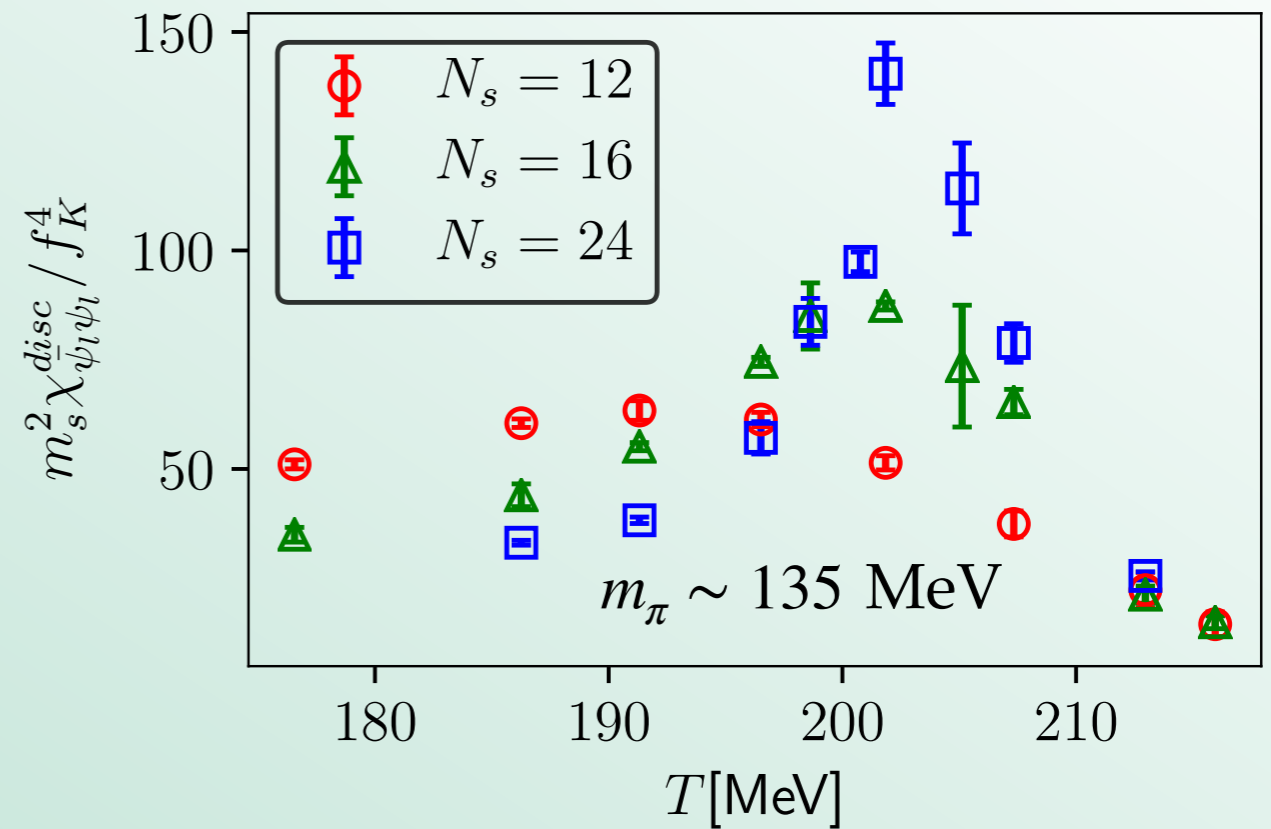


# Finite size effects on chiral observables



Strong volume dependence of “subtracted chiral condensate” at fixed  $m_l/m_s$  below  $T_{RW}$

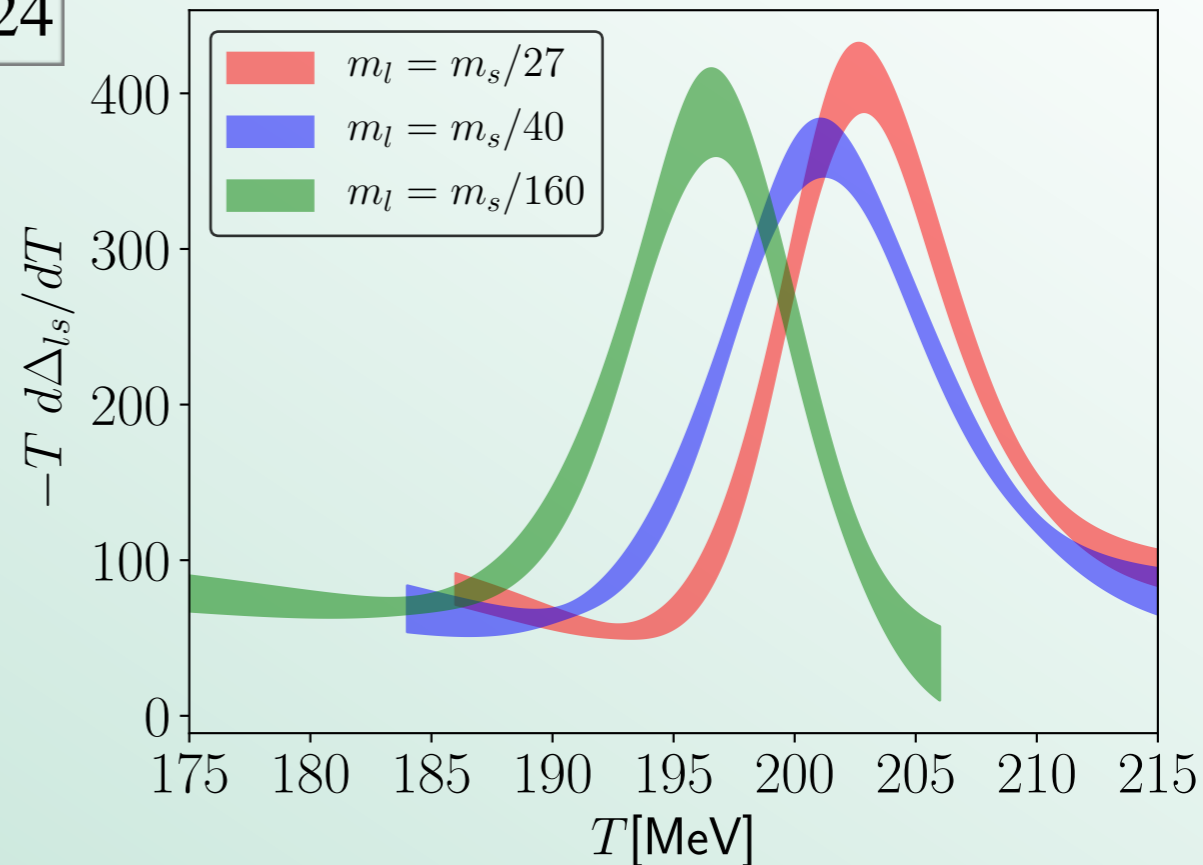
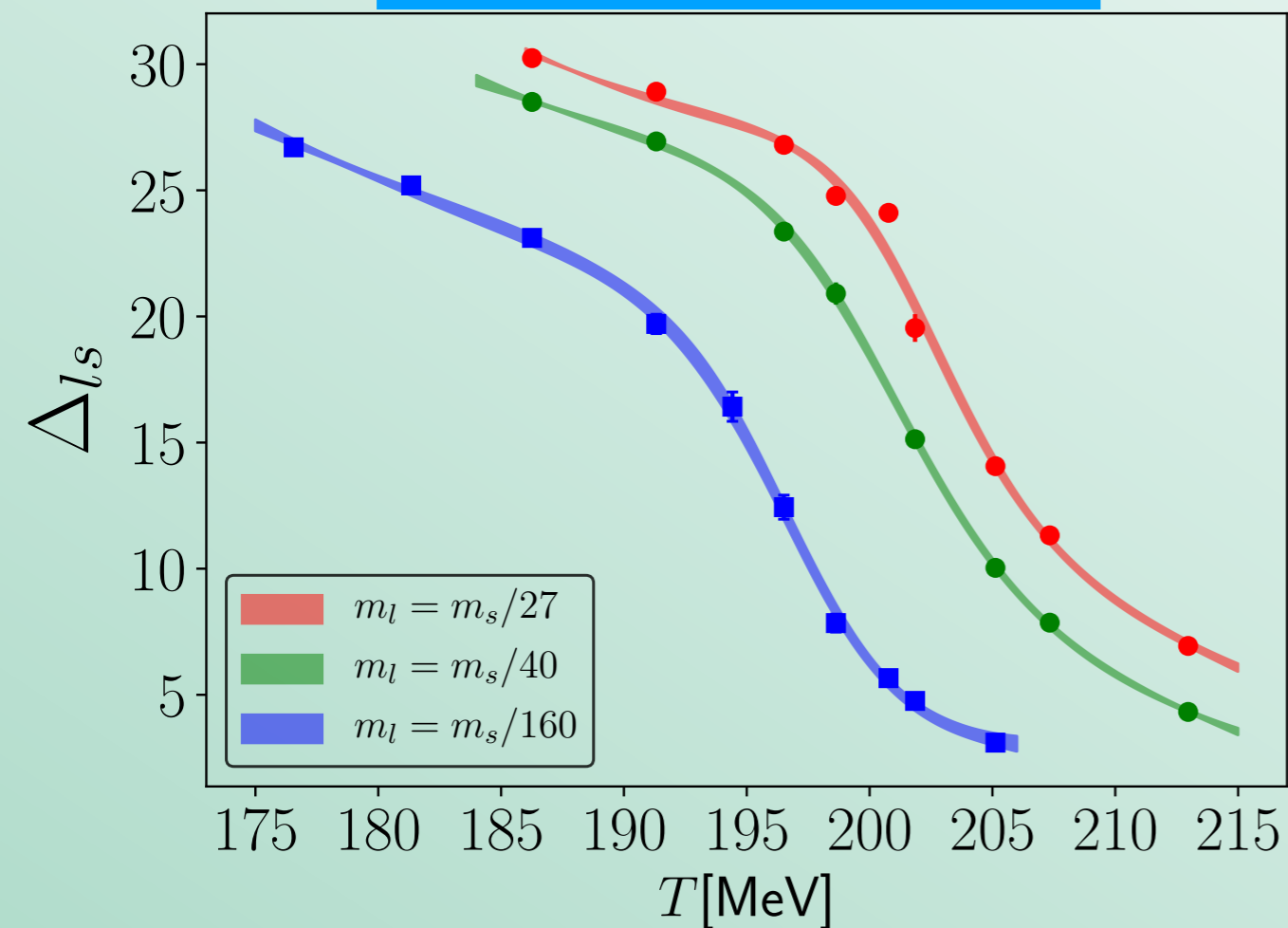
mixed chiral susceptibility sensitive to transition at the RW endpoint



# Chiral limit and RW transition

$N_\sigma = 24$

Sub. Chiral condensate



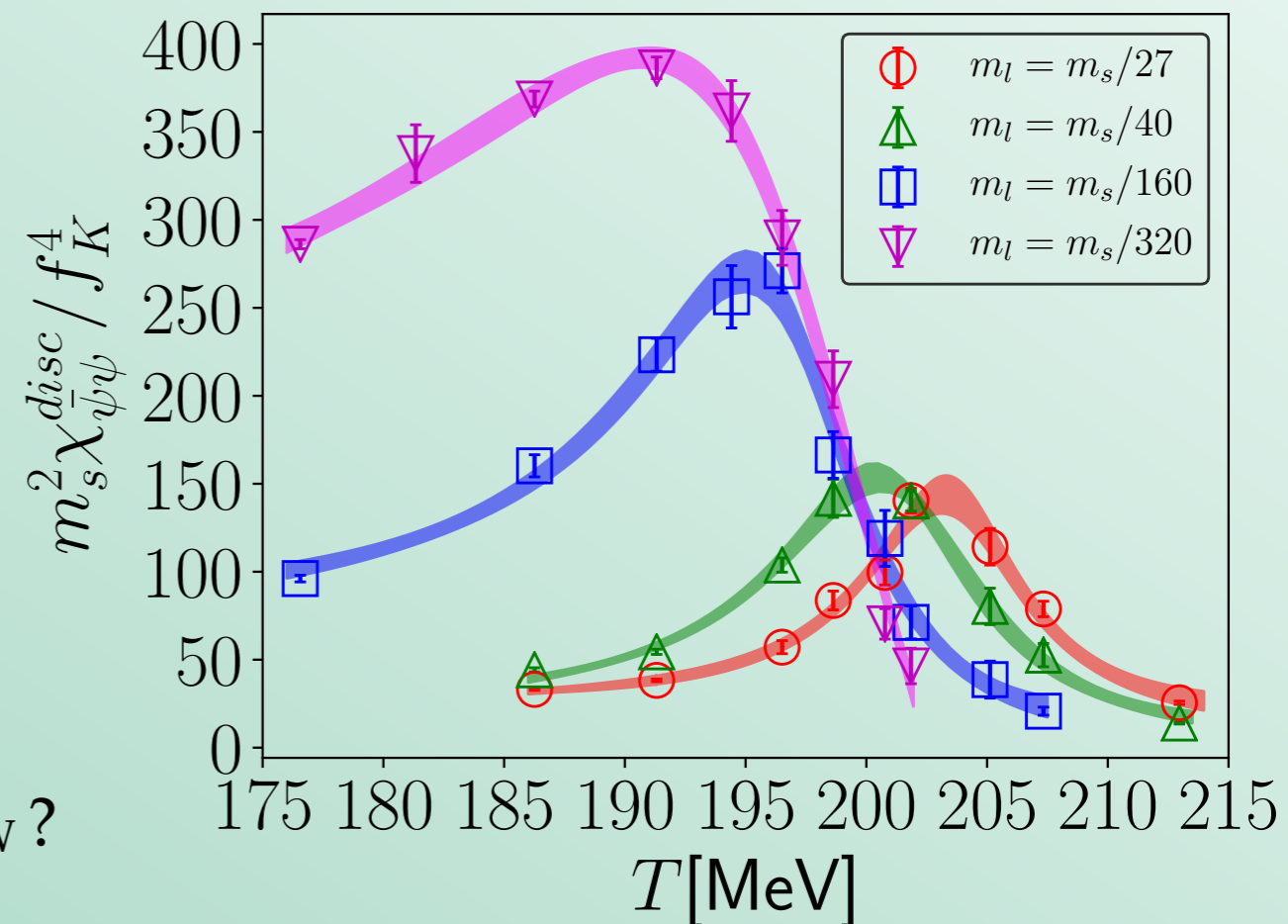
$$\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle \sim c_0(T) + c_g(T) m^{1/2}$$

$$\chi_{\bar{\psi}\psi}^{disc} \sim m^{-1/2} \text{ For, } T < T_c$$

Goldstone effect (square root singularity)

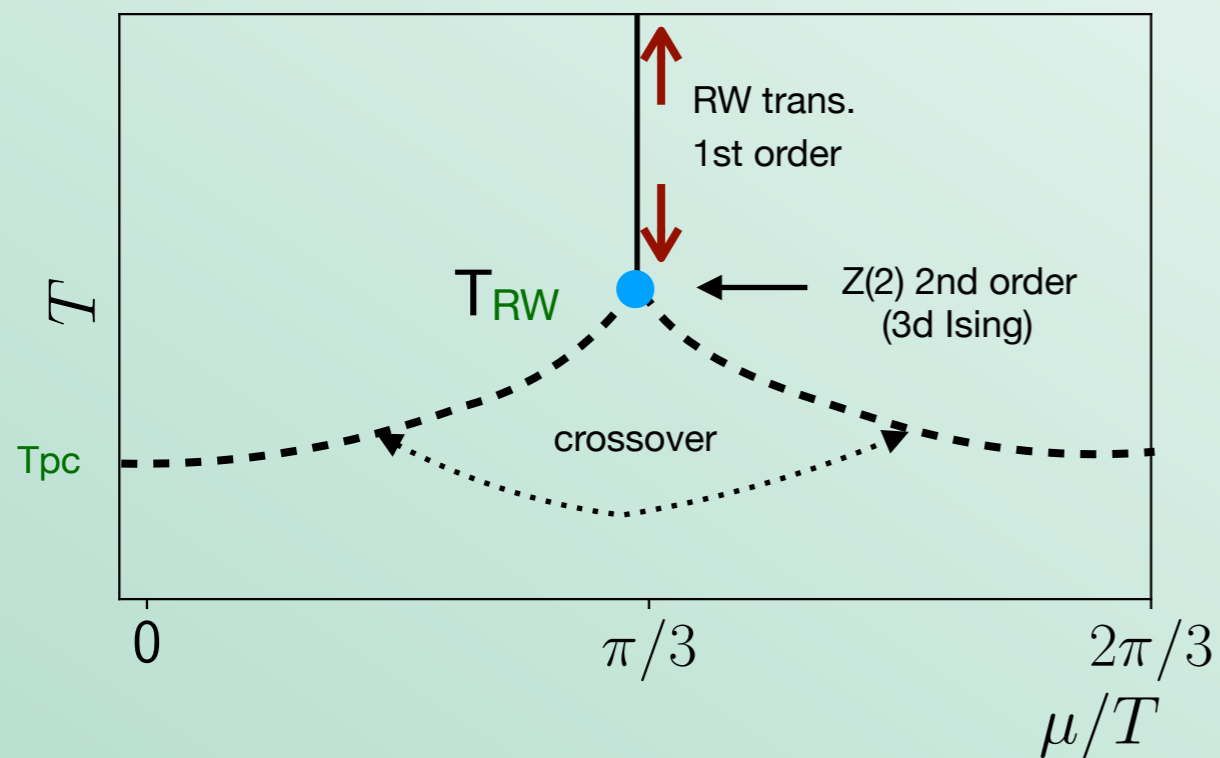
in  $\chi_{\bar{l}l}^{disc}$  below  $T_{RW}$  is evident.

➔ chiral symmetry restoration at  $T_{RW}$ ?



# Outlook on the fate of the RW end point

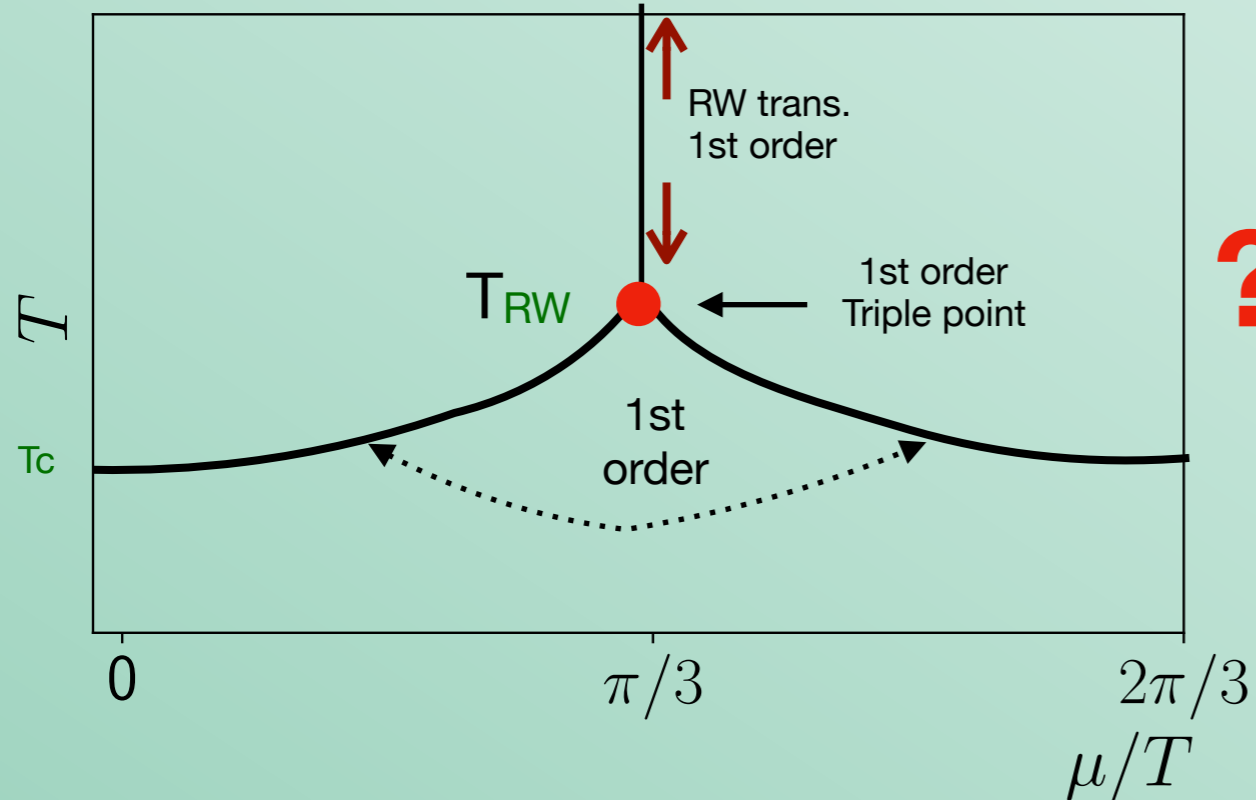
Intermediate quark mass



$$55 \text{ MeV} \leq m_\pi \leq 135 \text{ MeV}$$

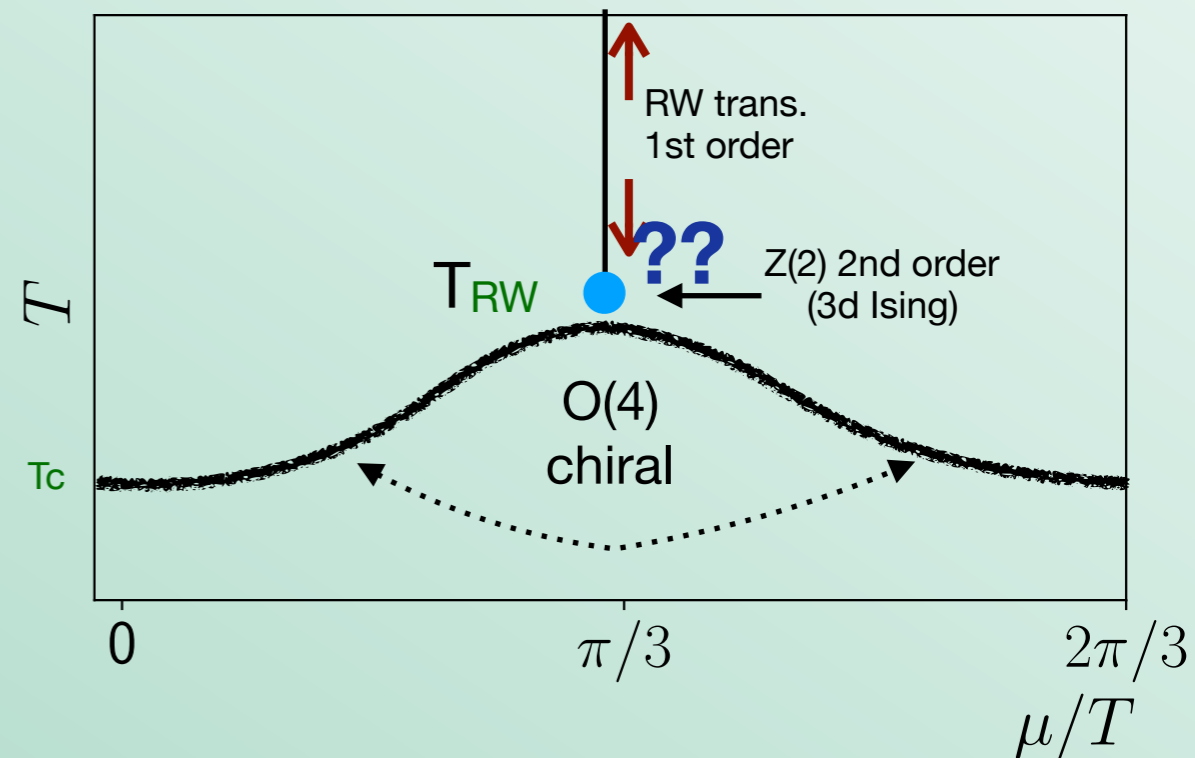
For, ~~intermediate~~ pion mass RW end point stays as Z(2) 2nd order.

Approaching Chiral limit



??

Approaching Chiral limit



# Conclusions

- \* Preliminary results down to  $m_\pi \sim 40$  MeV suggests that the RW end point remains as  $Z(2)$  second order.
- \* Nature of the chiral transition in the RW plane needs to be examined further. **Favours 2nd order( $O(4)$ ) transition at  $\mu=0$ .**
- \* RW transition and chiral phase transition may coincide in the chiral limit.
- \* Calculations on larger lattices are ongoing.

no 1st order  $\geq 40$  MeV  
phys. point

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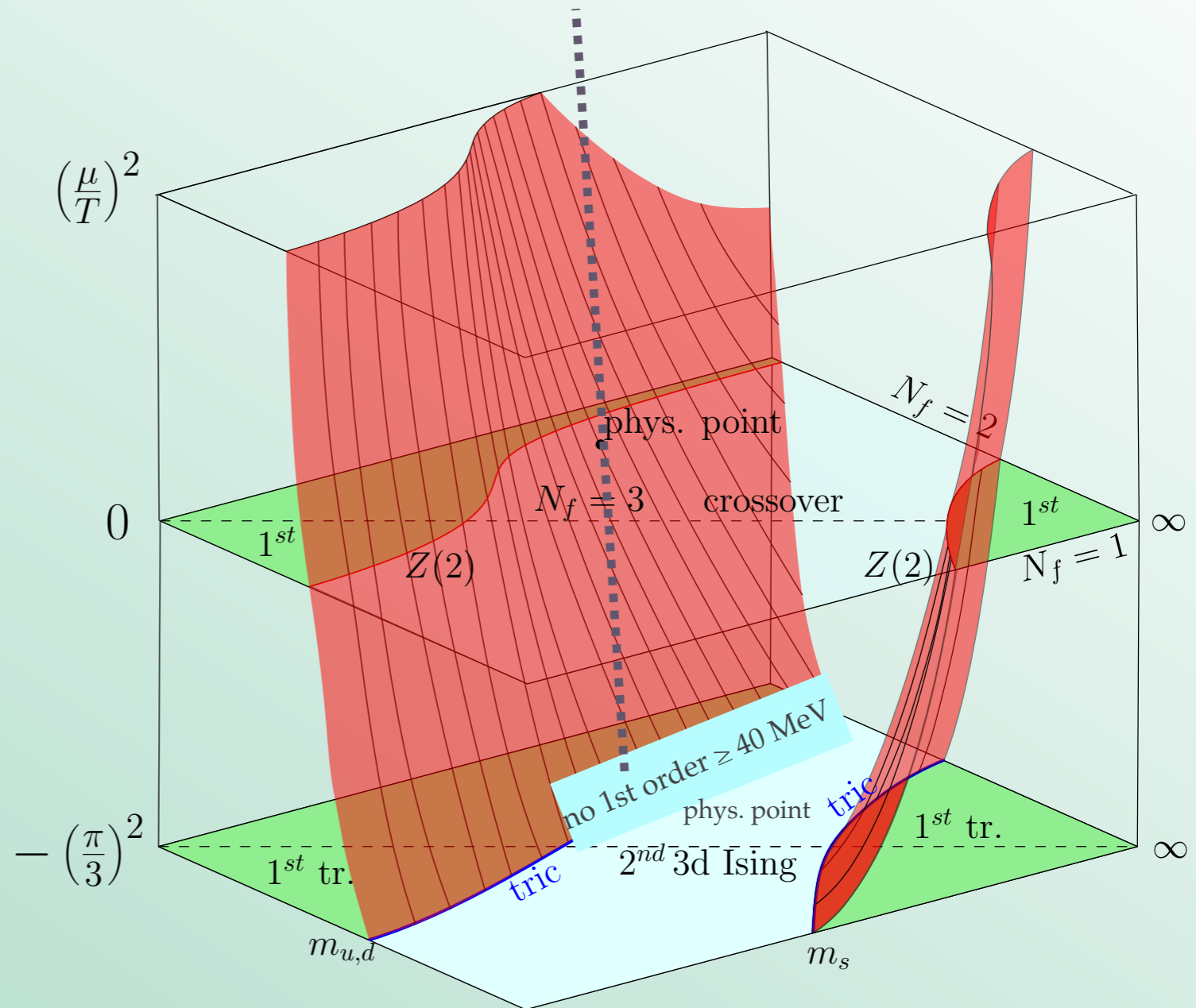
Thank you for your time  
and attention





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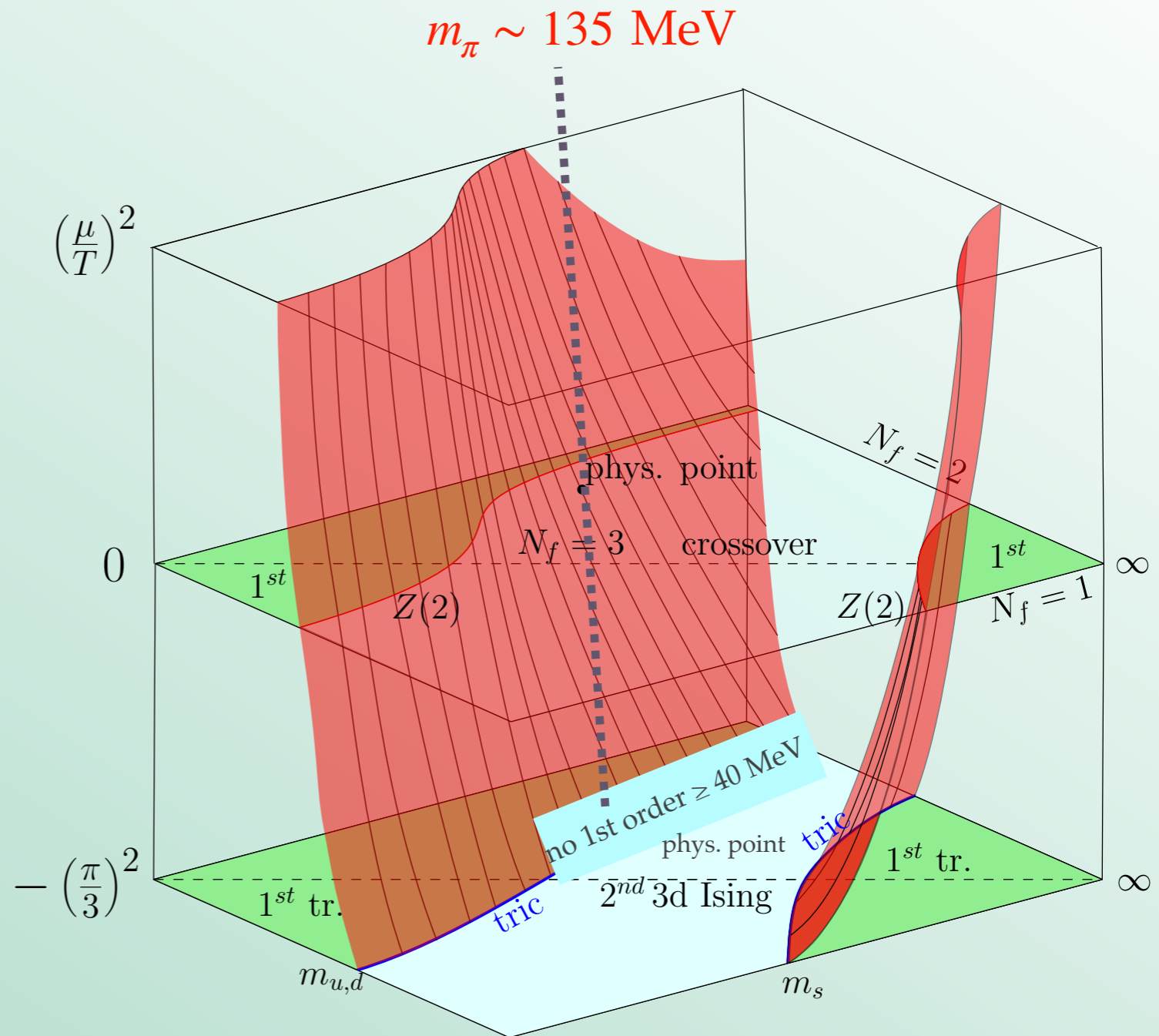
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# Phases in the RW plane

- RW transition happens between two  $Z(3)$  sectors of the Polyakov loop. Hence, the order parameter can be the phase or the imaginary part of the Polyakov loop.
- In the RW plane, the 1st order region (for small mass) consists of three 1st order transitions, where high temperature RW transition meets two chiral phase transitions.
- The physical point which is crossover for  $\mu=0$  can be 1st or 2nd order in the RW plane. So, our first goal is to confirm this issue and then going to the chiral limit to “search for a 1st order” transition.