The phase diagram of strongly interacting matter

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August 8, 2011

Introduction

The Discovery of the Strong Interactions

1911: the discovery of the atomic nucleus

The scattering of α and β particles by matter and the structure of the atom, E. Rutherford, Phil. Mag. 21 (**1911**) 668–88.

1961: quarks underly the visible world

Axial Vector Current Conservation in Weak Interactions, Y. Nambu, Phys. Rev. Lett. 4 (**1960**) 380–2.
The Eighfold Way: A Theory of strong interaction symmetry Murray Gell-Mann CTSL-20, TID-12608, Mar. **1961**, 49 pp.
Derivation of strong interactions from a gauge invariance, Yuval Ne'eman, Nucl. Phys. 26 (**1961**) 222–9.

The Discovery of the Theory of Strong Interactions

Asymptotic freedom in QCD

Ultraviolet Behavior of Nonabelian Gauge Theories, D. J. Gross and F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. Lett. 30 (**1973**) 1343–6.
Reliable Perturbative Results for Strong Interactions? H. D. Politzer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 30 (**1973**) 1346–9.

Confinement in QCD

Confinement of Quarks, K. G. Wilson Phys. Rev. D 10 (**1974**) 2445–59.

Quantum Chromo Dynamics: a hard problem

Asymptotic freedom implies weak coupling expansion works at large energy. Strong coupling at low energy hard to tackle. Many models: quark models, Nambu Jona-Lasinio model, QCD (AVZ) sum rules, Skyrme model, PNJL model, AdS/CFT models.

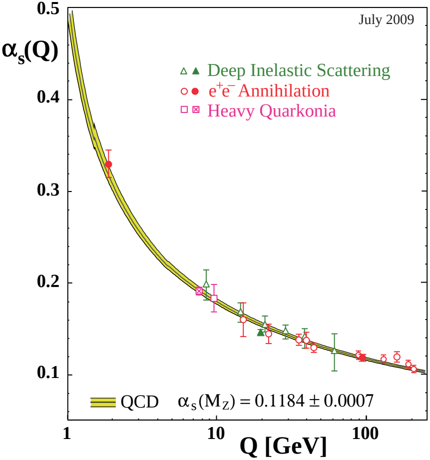
Inadequacy of models

"One may say that the reason why QCD is hard to solve is not just that it is strongly coupled in the IR, but that it is strongly coupled in the IR and weakly coupled in the UV."

David Mateos, plenary talk at Quark Matter 2011: Gauge-String duality applied to heavy ion collisions: Limitations, insights and prospects

No model of QCD simpler than a nonabelian gauge theory is known.

QCD works very well



K. Nakamura et al. (Particle Data Group)

QED coupling: $\alpha = \frac{e^2}{\hbar c}$. QCD coupling: analogous, runs with distance. Potential between static charges not Coulombic.

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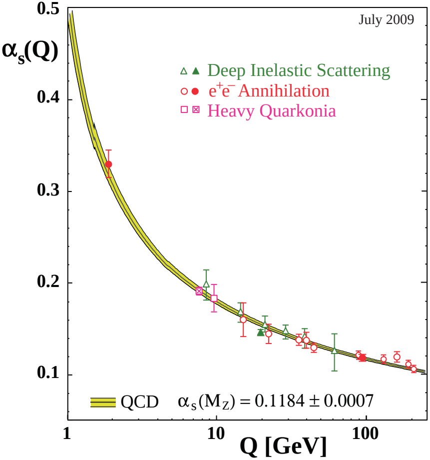

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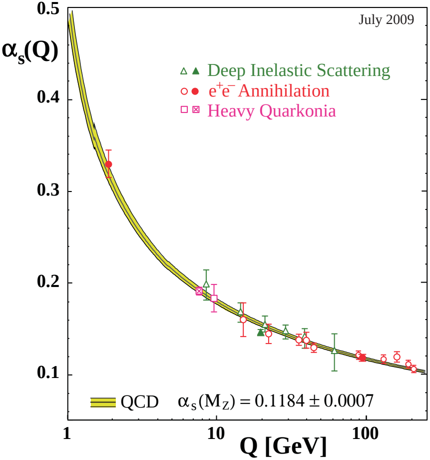

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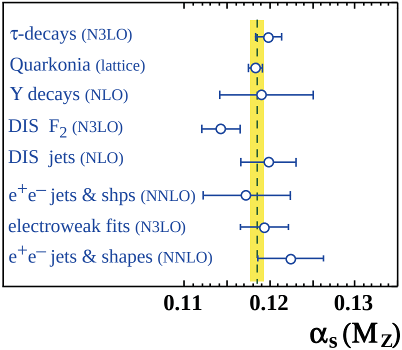
QED coupling: $\alpha = \frac{e^2}{\hbar c}$.
QCD coupling: analogous, runs with distance. Potential between static charges not Coulombic.
Logarithmic corrections to potential. Log implies QCD has an intrinsic length scale. Trade this scale for any observable with dimension of length / time / energy.

Weak and strong coupling agree



K. Nakamura et al. (Particle Data Group), J. Phys. G 37, (2010) 075021

Weak coupling regime (non-lattice): $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1186 \pm 0.0011$.
Strong coupling regime (lattice): $\alpha_s(M_Z) = 0.1189^{+0.0004}_{-0.0006}$.

Shintani, Lattice 2011, July 2011

Bulk Strongly Interacting Matter

Thermodynamics is the frame work

Bulk matter is described by thermodynamics: (almost) irrespective of the microscopic forces between constituents. Strongly interacting matter seems to be no different.

Conserved quantities

Energy and net electrical charge (Q), net baryon number (B), and net strangeness (S) are conserved. Grand canonical ensemble (GCE): introduce Lagrange multipliers called temperature T and chemical potentials (μ_Q, μ_B and μ_S).

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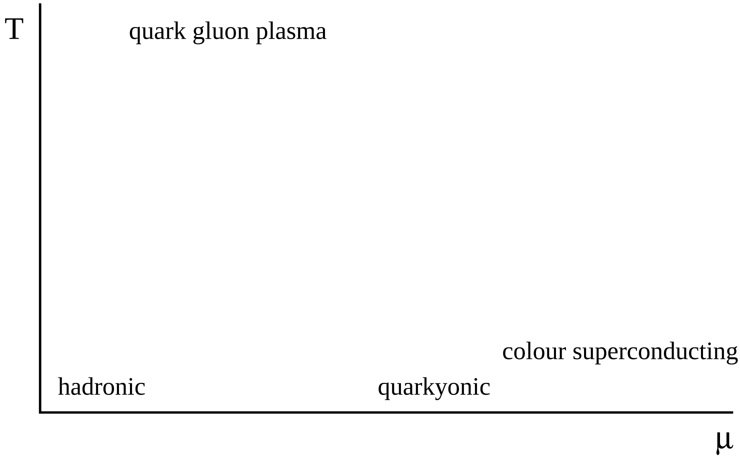
Phase transitions are possible: pion may no longer be a Nambu boson. Phase diagram requires simultaneous control of weak and strong interaction regimes.

The phases of QCD

- **The vacuum phase**: chiral symmetry spontaneously broken, colour confined. Excitations are the normal hadrons.
- **The quark-gluon plasma phase**: approximate chiral symmetry restored, colour deconfined. Excitations are quasi-quarks. **Cabibbo and Parisi, Phys. Lett. B 59 (1975) 67**
- **Quarkyonic phases**: conjectured approximate chiral symmetry restored but confined phases. Excitations could be abnormal hadrons. **McLerran and Pisarski, Nucl. Phys. A 796 (2007) 83**
- **Colour superconducting phases**: quasi-quarks bound into coloured Cooper pairs, colour gauge symmetry broken. Possibility of many different kinds of superconducting phases. Excitations are coloured hadron-like and coloured Higgs bosons. **Alford, Rajagopal and Wilczek, Phys. Lett. B 422 (1998) 247**

The phase diagram of QCD



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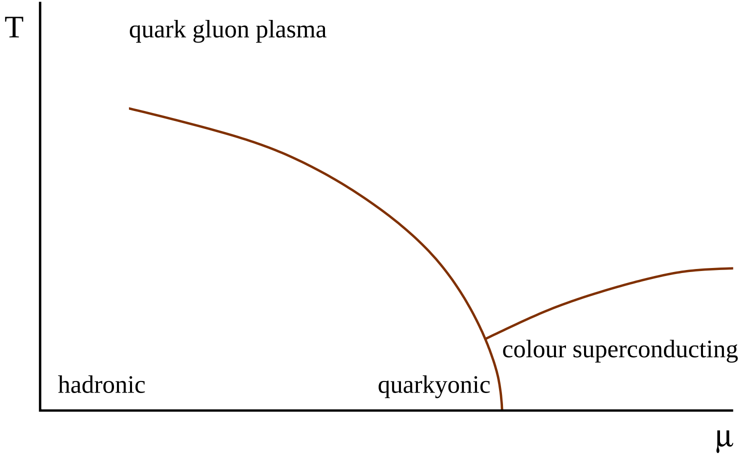

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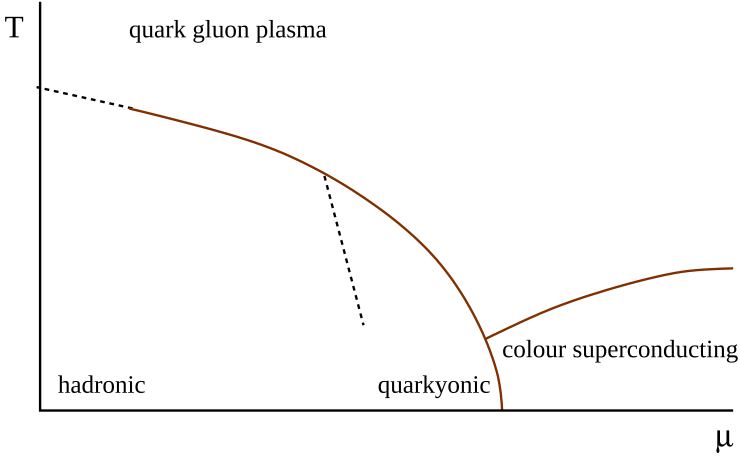

$T_c^{deconf} \simeq 175$ **MeV,** $T_c^{\chi} \simeq 150$ **MeV, Y. Aoki** *et al.*, **Phys. Lett. B 643 (2006) 46**

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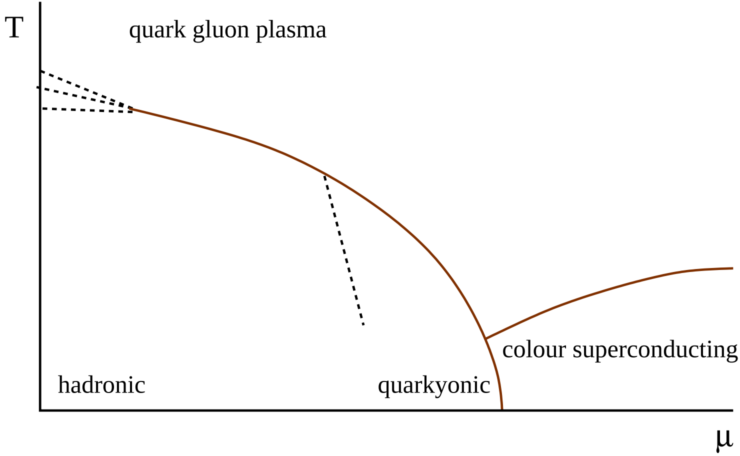

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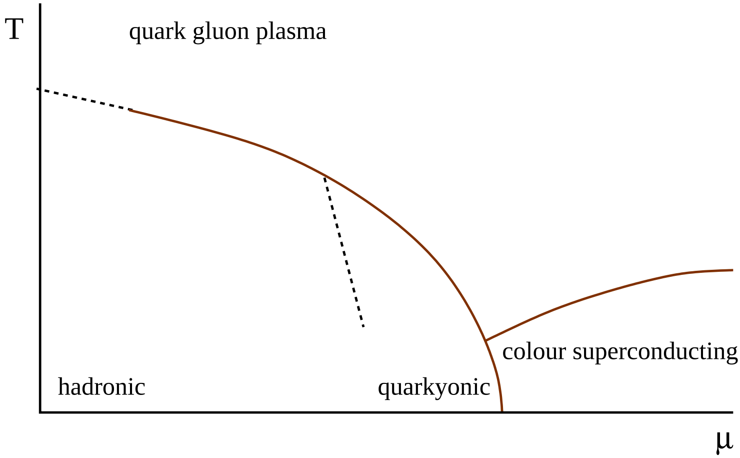

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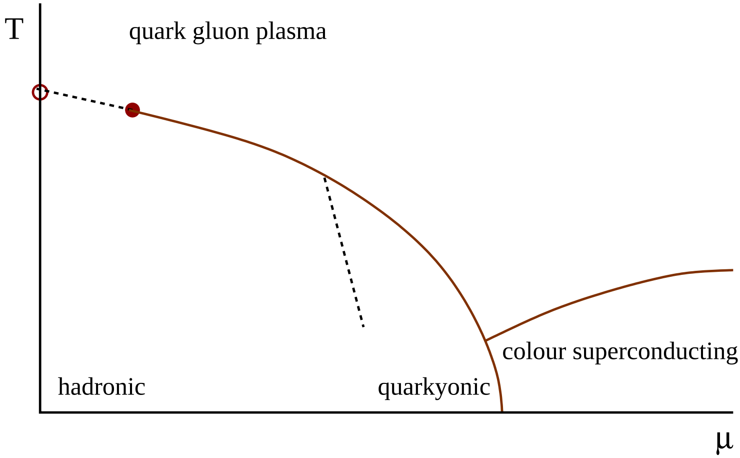

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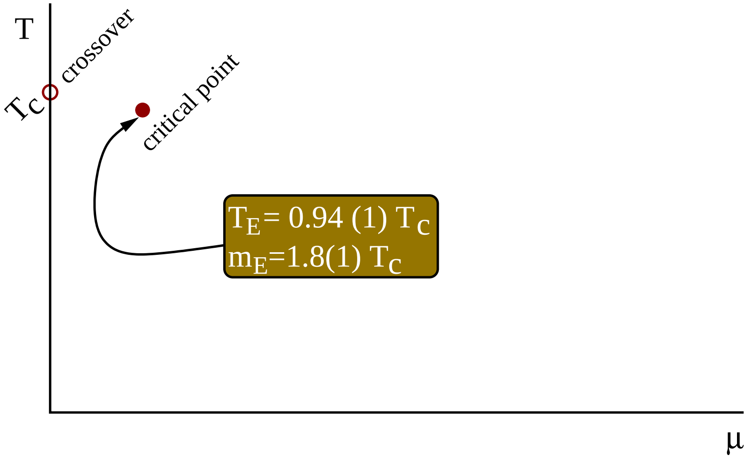

Gavai and Gupta, Phys. Rev. D 71 (2005) 110414, D 78 (2008) 114503

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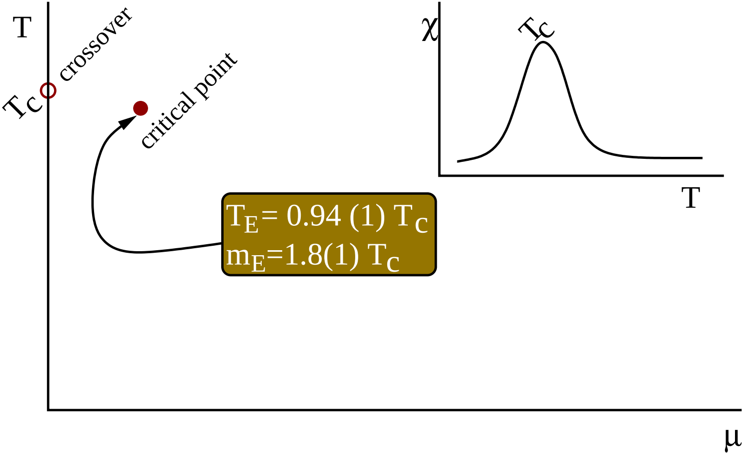

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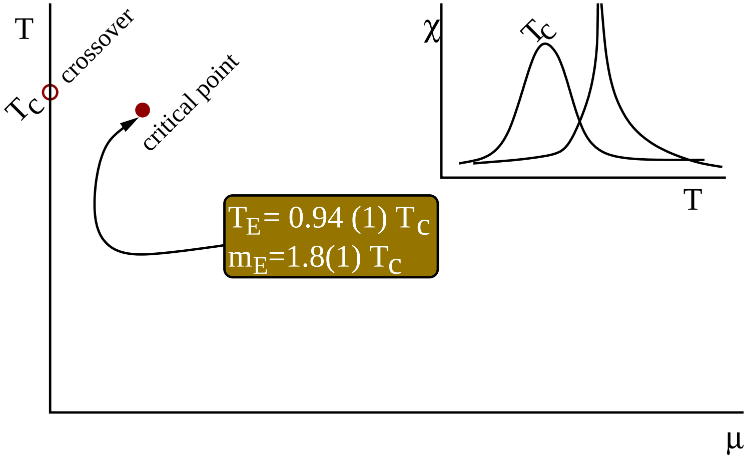

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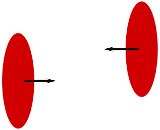
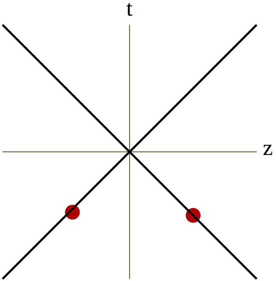
Relativistic Heavy-ion Collisions

Beating a path through the phase diagram of QCD





Anishetty, Koehler, McLerran, Phys. Rev. D22 (1980) 2793

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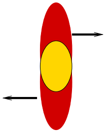

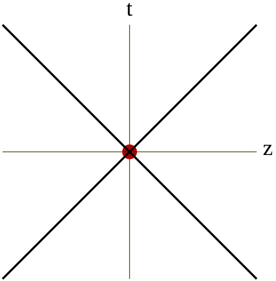

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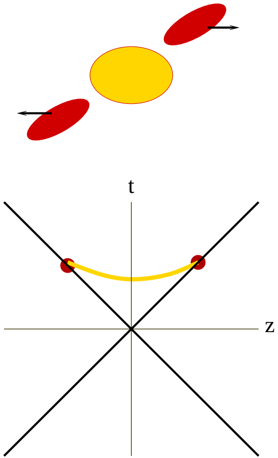

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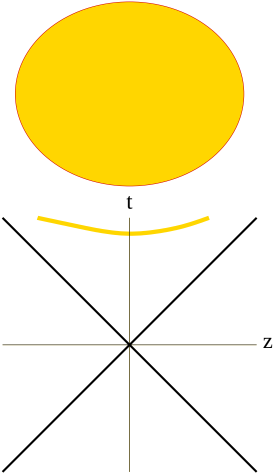

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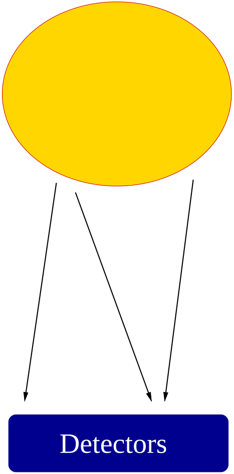

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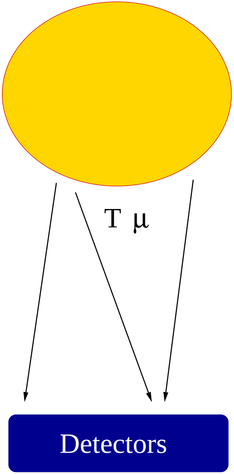
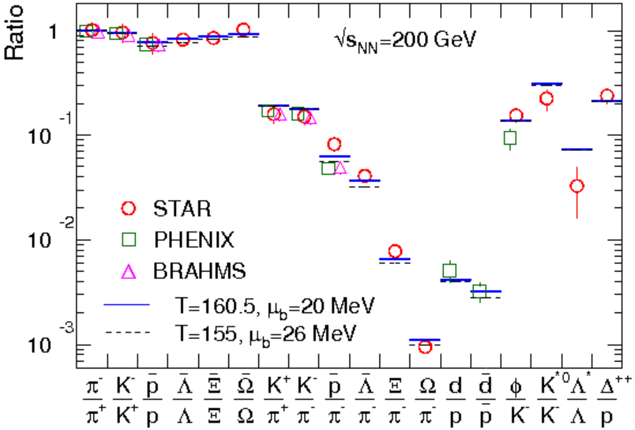


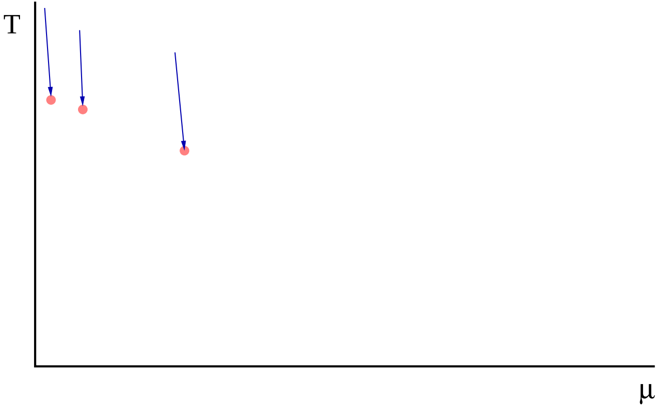
Anishetty, Koehler, McLerran, Phys. Rev. D22 (1980) 2793

Inferring freeze out conditions



Andronic et al, nucl-th/051107

The freeze-out curve: the final state



Braun-Munzinger, Cleymans, Redlich, Stachel, Xu

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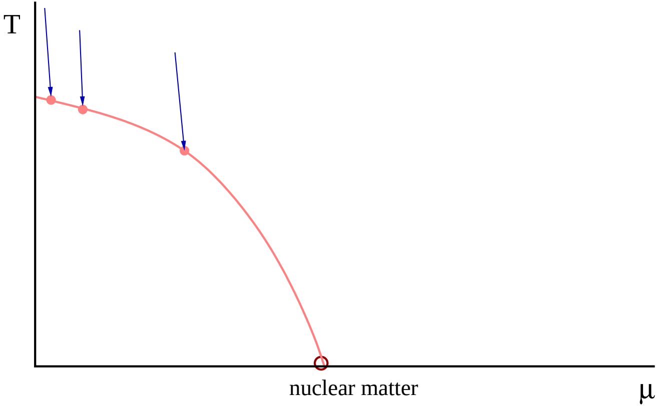

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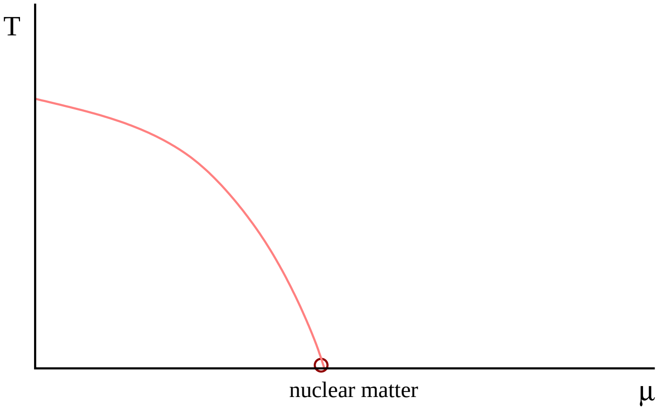

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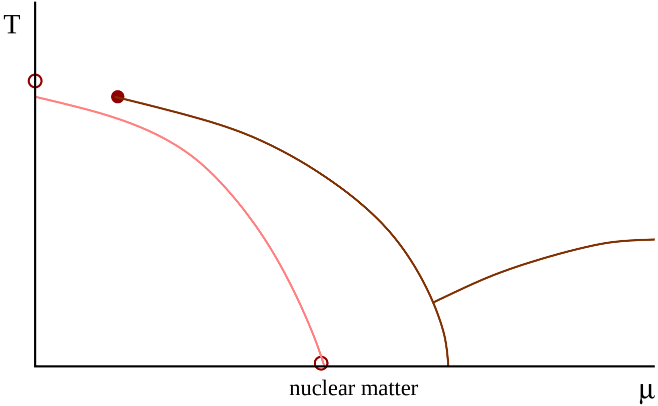


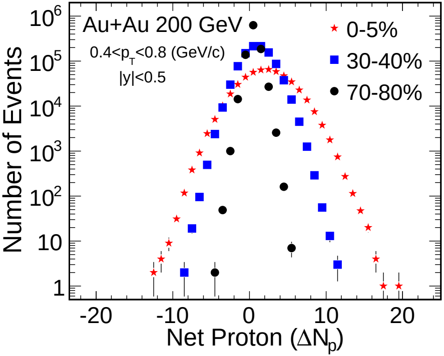
Braun-Munzinger, Cleymans, Redlich, Stachel, Xu

Observables

1. **Yields and spectra**: hadrons may give more information on freeze out conditions **Cleymans, Satz, Mukherjee, Godbole, SG,** *etc.*
2. **Flow**: angular correlations (v_2, *etc.*) and fluctuations may give information on initial state and transport **Ollitrault, Bhalerao, Srivastav** *etc.*
3. **Penetrating probes**: dileptons and photons may give information on the evolution of the fireball **Srivastava, Alam, Gale** *etc.*
4. **Hadron correlations**: jet quenching, ridge phenomenology may give information on transport **PHENIX, STAR, ALICE, CMS**
5. **Fluctuations of conserved quantities**: fluctuations of B, Q, S, may give information on the phase diagram **Gavai, Mohanty, SG, Stephanov, Asakawa** *etc.*

Fluctuations of Conserved Quantities

Event-by-Event fluctuations of baryons



Central rapidity slice. Experiments blind to neutrons; but isospin fluctuations small. Assumption tested in event generators.

STAR 2010, Asakawa and Kitazawa 2011

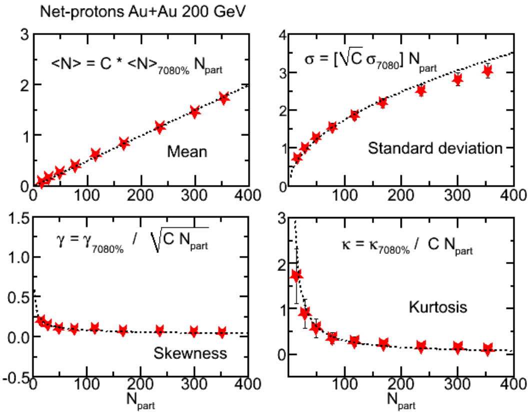
Shapes of distributions

1. Experiments simulate a GCE when cuts are chosen appropriately.
2. Cumulants of the distribution, $[B^n]$, measure the shape; then connected to measurables in GCE:

$$[B^n] = \left(VT^3\right) T^{n-4} \chi_B^{(n)}(t, z).$$

3. Shape variables $\langle B \rangle$, $\sigma^2 = [B^2]$, skewness $S = [B^3]/\sigma^3$ and Kurtosis $\kappa = [B^4]/\sigma^4$ scale as expected with change in V (proxy measure: $V \propto N_{part}$). Central limit theorem.
4. Study of finite-volume effects gives more information about the theory than thermodynamic analysis. In the $V \to \infty$ limit the distribution is Gaussian; S, κ *etc.* vanish.

At a normal point fluctuations are Gaussian



Mohanty, QM 2009

QCD predictions at finite μ_B

Make a MacLaurin expansion of the (dimensionless) pressure:

$$\frac{1}{T^4}P(t,z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} T^{n-4}\chi_B^{(n)}(t,0)\frac{z^n}{n!}, \qquad \text{where} \quad t=\frac{T}{T_c}, z=\frac{\mu_B}{T}.$$

and measure each NLS at $z=0$. **Gavai and SG 2003**
By resumming the series, construct the lattice predictions for:

$$T^{n-4}\chi_B^{(n)}(t,z) = \frac{1}{T^4}\frac{\partial^n P(t,z)}{\partial z^n}, \qquad \text{where} \quad t=\frac{T}{T_c}, z=\frac{\mu_B}{T}.$$

Series resummation needed since the series can diverge near a critical point: ie, any term of the series is as important as any other, and neglect of an infinite number of terms is not justified.
Gavai and SG 2008

Ratios of cumulants

Cumulants depend on volume: prone to large fluctuations. However, ratios of cumulants are state variables independent of the volume: well-determined functions on the phase diagram.

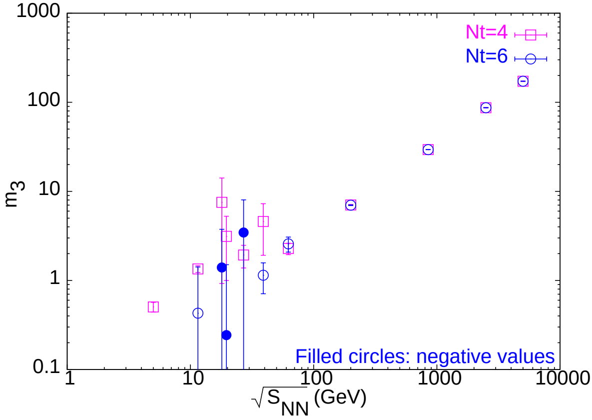
$$m_1: \quad \frac{[B^3]}{[B^4]} = \frac{T\chi_B^{(3)}}{\chi_B^{(2)}} \quad = S\sigma$$

$$m_2: \quad \frac{[B^4]}{[B^2]} = \frac{T\chi_B^{(4)}}{\chi_B^{(2)}} \quad = \kappa\sigma^2$$

$$m_3: \quad \frac{[B^4]}{[B^3]} = \frac{T\chi_B^{(4)}}{\chi_B^{(3)}} \quad = \frac{\kappa\sigma}{S}$$

SG, PoS CPOD2009 (2009) 025

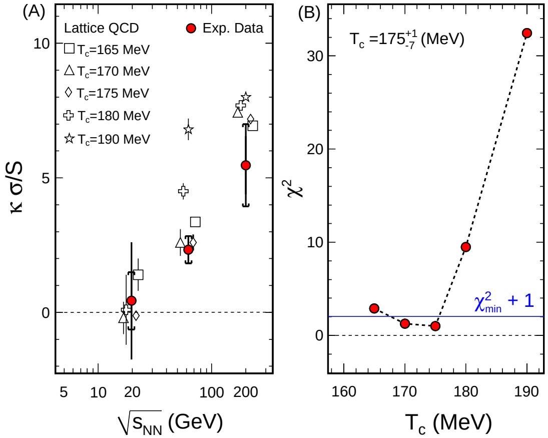
Shape of fluctuations at freezeout



Lattice predictions along the freezeout curve of heavy-ion collisions.

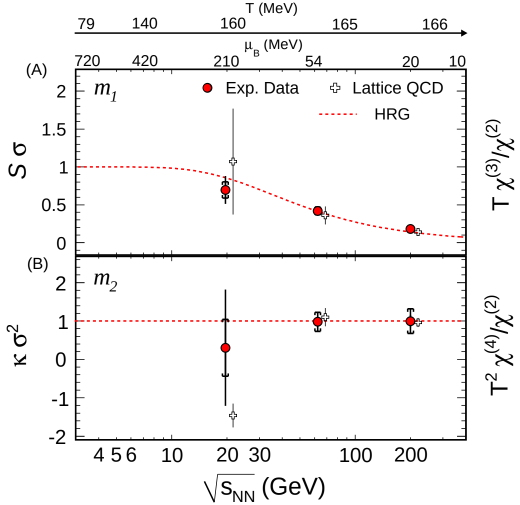
Gavai and SG, Phys. Lett. B696 (2010) 459

Tuning lattice scale to match data



SG, Luo, Mohanty, Ritter, Xu, Science, 332 (2011) 1525

Checking the match



Results

T_c

First direct test of lattice against data for bulk matter requires

$$T_c = 175^{+1}_{-7}\,\mathrm{MeV}.$$

In agreement with other scale settings on the lattice. Indicates that non-perturbative phenomena in single hadron physics and strong interaction thermodynamics are mutually consistent through QCD.

Thermalization in bulk matter

1 parameter tuning makes thermodynamic predictions agree with data for 2 ratios at 3 energies. Indicates thermalization of the fireball at chemical freezeout. Simultaneously, test of central limit theorem shows that correlation lengths are small.

Conclusions

The future

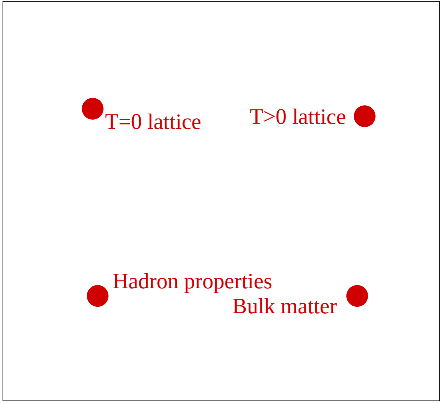
Finding the critical point

At the critical point correlations and relaxation times diverge: system falls out of equilibrium. Agreement of shape variables with QCD predictions implies normal points. Lack of agreement, coupled with test of failure of CLT implies critical point. This would be the second step in exploring the phase diagram of QCD.

Technical issues remain

Do fluctuations freeze out at the same time as yields? How significant are isospin fluctuations beyond chemical freezeout? How much does the freezeout point for fluctuations change as the acceptance is changed?
There are small remaining cutoff and quark mass effects in the lattice predictions: how do they affect physics?

QCD works!



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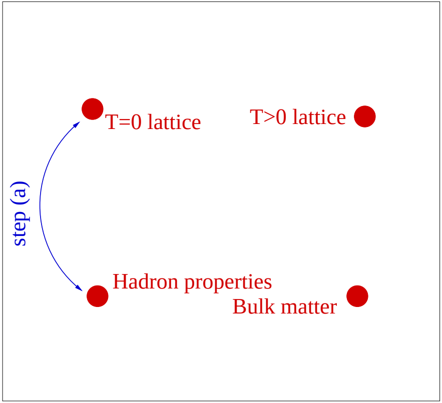

(a,b) Lattice, (c) hadron gas, (d) this work

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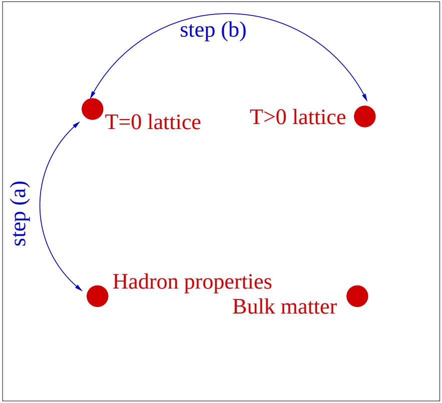

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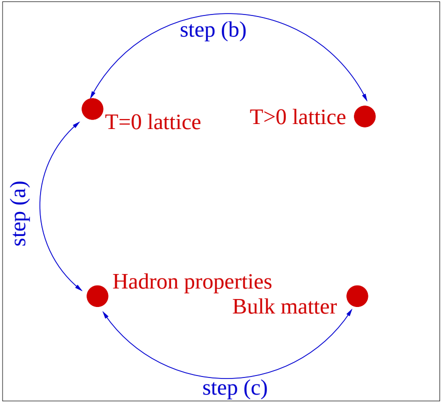

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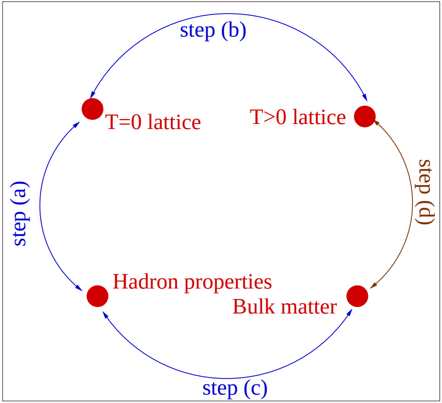

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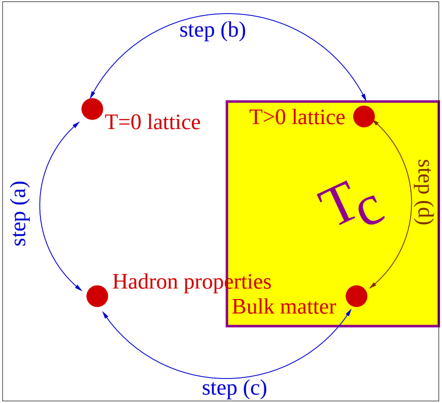

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