

# COMPLEX LANGEVIN DYNAMICS AND OTHER APPROACHES AT FINITE CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

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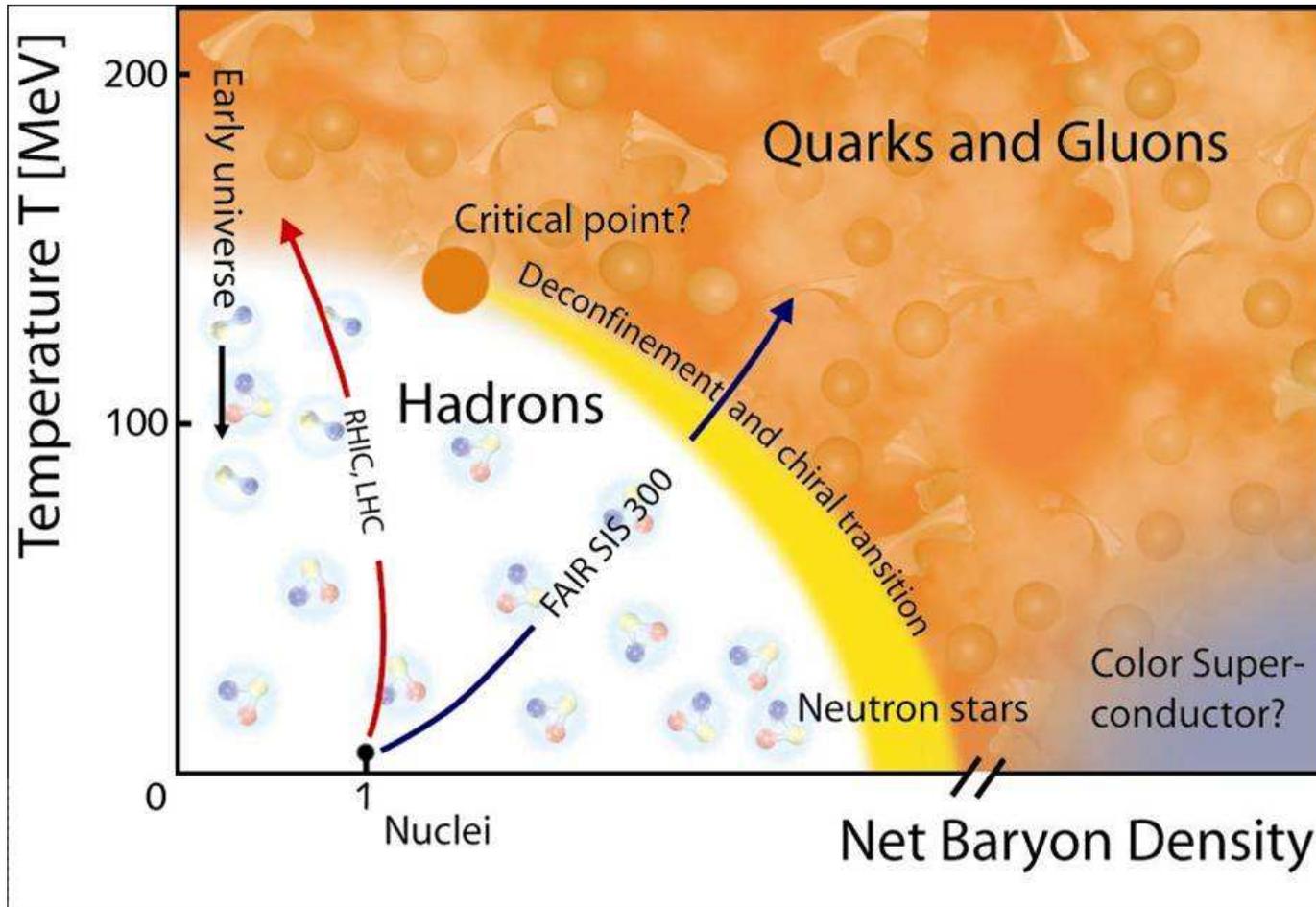
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# QCD PHASE DIAGRAM

A POSSIBILITY



# QCD PHASE DIAGRAM

at nonzero quark chemical potential

$$[\det D(\mu)]^* = \det D(-\mu^*)$$

- fermion determinant is complex
- straightforward importance sampling not possible
- sign problem

⇒ phase diagram has not yet been determined  
non-perturbatively



# OUTLINE

- reminder: sign/overlap/Silver Blaze problems
- techniques that avoid or eliminate sign problem:\*

  - sign problem free
  - milder sign problem (3D effective theories)
  - complex Langevin dynamics

- conclusion

\* I will not discuss “standard methods” at small  $\mu$  (reweighting, Taylor series, analytical continuation, histograms) or the strong coupling limit, even though there were many interesting talks at the Conference. I apologize if your work is not discussed!

# SIGN/OVERLAP/SILVER BLAZE PROBLEMS

## GENERAL REMARKS

integrate out the quarks: complex  $\det D(\mu) = |\det D(\mu)|e^{i\theta}$

- sign problem due to complexity, not due to Grassmann nature: also appears in bosonic theories with  $\mu \neq 0$
- ignore the phase:  $|\det D(\mu)|$ , phase quenching (pq)

if pq  $\neq$  full, e.g. the pq theory has a transition to a high-density phase at a lower critical  $\mu$  than the full theory:

- bad overlap problem: average sign

$$\langle e^{i\theta} \rangle_{\text{pq}} = Z/Z_{\text{pq}} = e^{-\Omega\Delta f} \quad \Delta f = f - f_{\text{pq}}$$

vanishes exponentially with 4-volume  $\Omega$

- Silver Blaze problem: many cancelations to ensure that onset happens at the right critical  $\mu$  Cohen 03

# SIGN/OVERLAP/SILVER BLAZE PROBLEMS

## GENERAL REMARKS

example:  $N_f = 2$  QCD with  $[\det D(\mu)]^2$

- phase-quenched:  $|\det D(\mu)|^2 = \det D(\mu) \det D(-\mu)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  isospin chemical potential

at  $T = 0$ :

- isospin: onset at  $\mu = m_\pi/2$   
full: onset at  $\mu \sim m_N/3$  (– binding energy)
- Silver Blaze region:  $m_\pi/2 < \mu \lesssim m_N/3$
- intricate cancelations, e.g. eigenvalue density of Dirac operator is complex, highly oscillatory, with exp. large amplitude in thermodynamic limit
- precise integration to get correct cancelations

Osborn, Splittorff & Verbaarschot 05

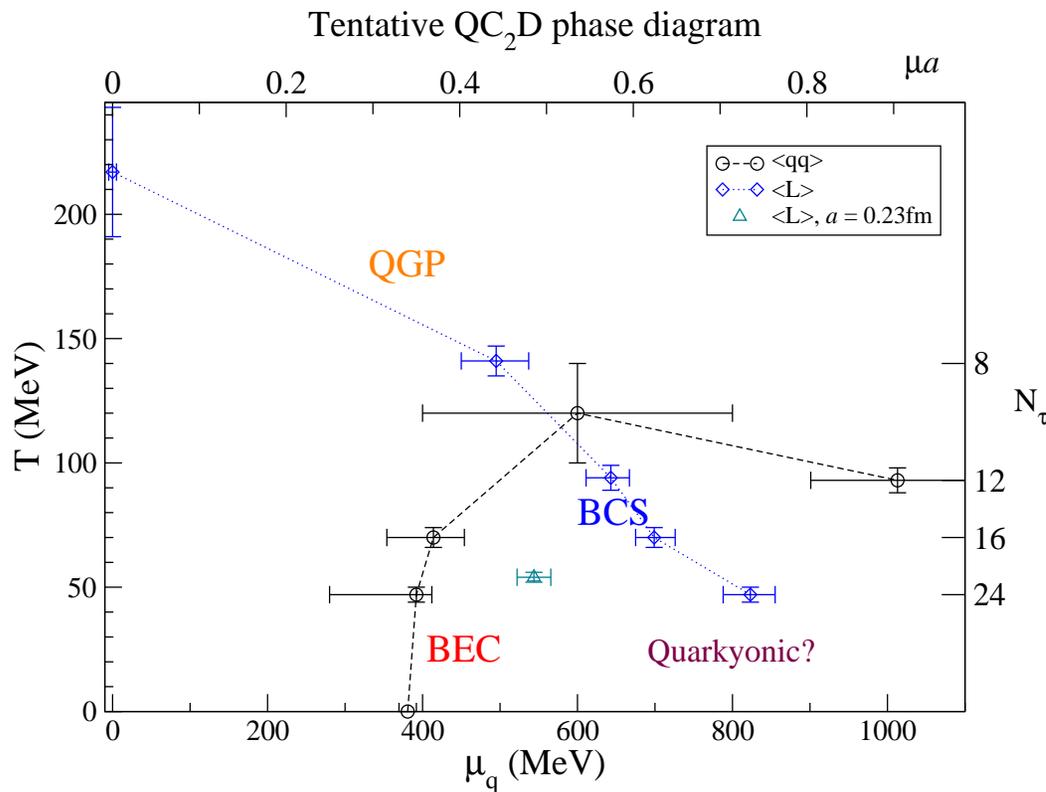
# THEORIES WITHOUT A SIGN PROBLEM

DETERMINANT IS REAL, EVEN WHEN  $\mu > 0$

prime example: two-color QCD (QC<sub>2</sub>D)

phase diagram can be determined

Skullerud et al 12



diquark condensate  
correct in QC<sub>2</sub>D

detailed analysis of singular values  $D^\dagger(\mu)D(\mu)\psi_n = \xi_n^2\psi_n$   
(independent of Dirac eigenvalues)

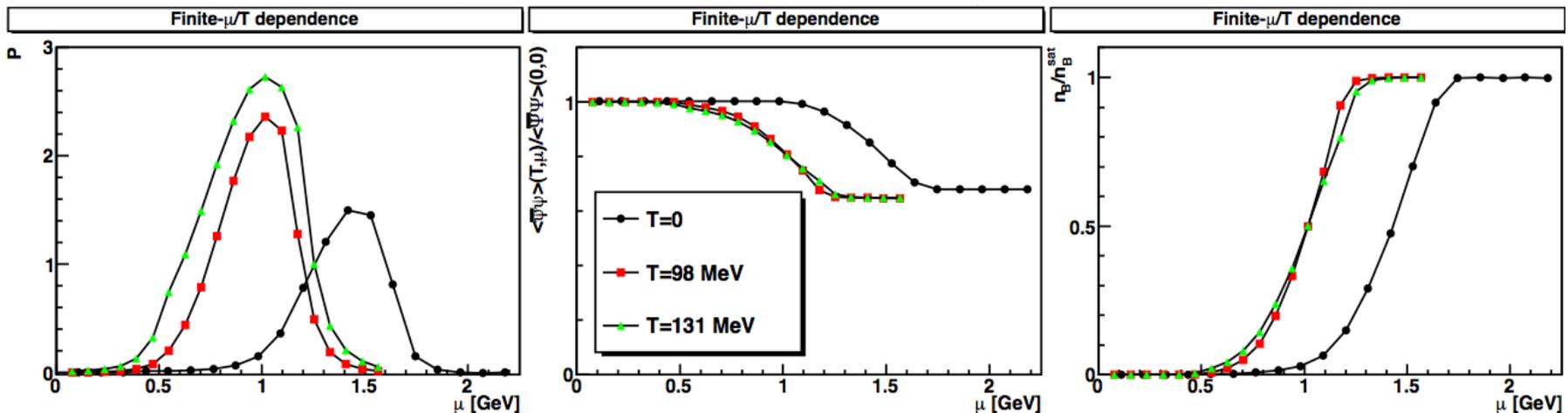
Wettig et al 12

# THEORIES WITHOUT A SIGN PROBLEM

DETERMINANT IS REAL, EVEN WHEN  $\mu > 0$

recent example: exceptional gauge group  $G_2$

bosonic (qq) *and* fermionic baryons (qqq) + hybrids (qggg)



- onset presumably at diquark threshold, but indications for a second rise in density at larger  $\mu$  (not shown)
- requires more precise spectrum calculations
- avoid saturation

Maas, Wellegehausen et al 12

# THEORIES WITH Milder SIGN PROBLEM

## STRATEGY

effective field theories/spin models may

- have a milder sign problem
- be reformulated without sign problem (flux, world line)\*
- be solvable with complex Langevin

ideally

- detailed mapping between effective couplings and QCD parameters
- use insight for QCD phase diagram

\* see also Chandrasekharan & Li for fermion models

# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SIMPLEST EXAMPLE

### 3-dimensional SU(3) spin model

$$S = S_B + S_F$$

$$S_B = -\beta \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} [P_x P_y^* + P_x^* P_y]$$

$$S_F = -h \sum_x [e^\mu P_x + e^{-\mu} P_x^*]$$

- SU(3) matrices:  $P_x = \text{Tr } U_x$
- gauge action: nearest neighbour Polyakov loops
- (static) quarks represented by Polyakov loops
- complex action  $S_F^*(\mu) = S_F(-\mu^*)$

# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SIMPLEST EXAMPLE

very, very, very old model:

- mean field solutions Banks & Ukawa 83
  - complex Langevin Karsch & Wyld 85
- Bilic, Gausterer & Sanielevici 88

recent revival:

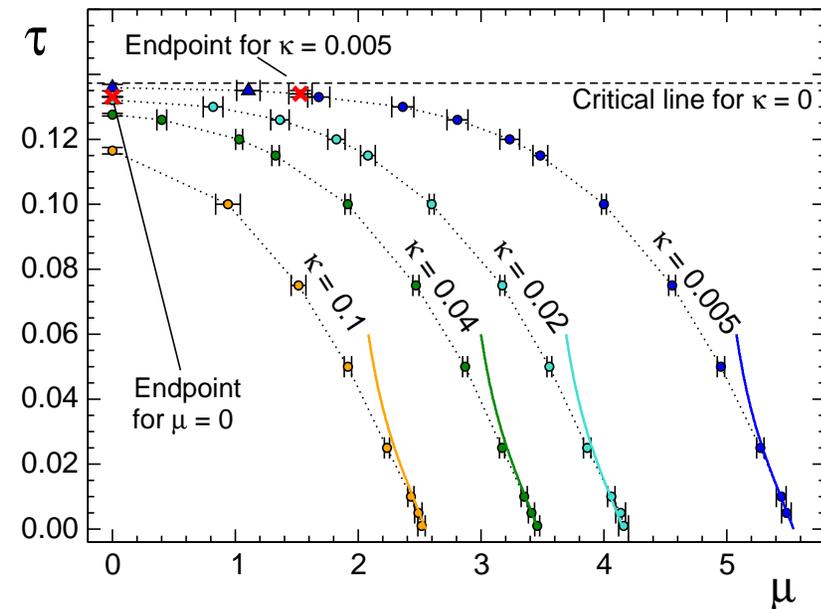
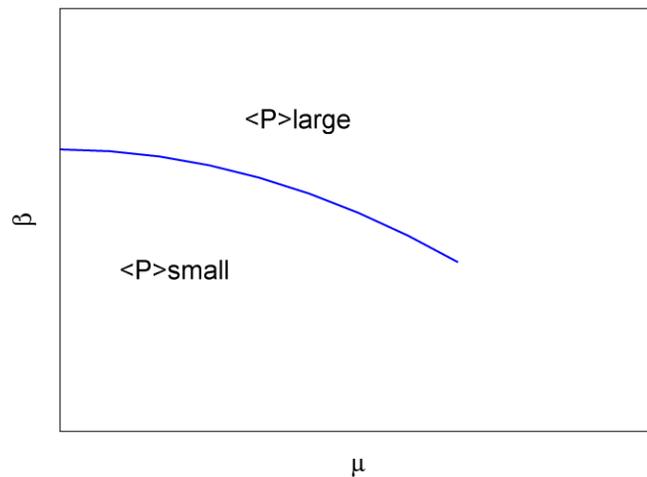
- reformulated as a flux model without sign problem Gattringer 11 (& Mercado 12)
- re-addressed with complex Langevin GA & James 11
- mean field analysis Greensite & Splittorff 12
- part of family of high-order strong-coupling models Philipsen et al 11

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

GATTRINGER & MERCADO 12

flux representation (“high temperature” expansion):

- expand Boltzmann weight
- integral over powers of Polyakov loops at each site
- find a monomer-dimer system with constraints
- no sign problem: solved with Monte Carlo (or worm)



# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SYSTEMATIC EXTENSION

construct whole family of effective Polyakov loop models

Philipsen, Langelage, Lottini & Fromm 10, 11

- integrate out spatial links in strong-coupling expansion
- systematically improvable
- include more Polyakov loop interactions

schematic form of action (without fermions):

$$S = \lambda_1 \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} (P_x P_y^* + P_x^* P_y) + \lambda_2 \sum_{[xy]} (P_x P_y^* + P_x^* P_y) \\ + (\text{higher order representations}) + \dots$$

# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SYSTEMATIC EXTENSION

resum certain subclasses to all orders:

$$S = \lambda_1 \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} (P_x P_y^* + c.c.) + \dots = \sum_{\langle xy \rangle} \ln [1 + \lambda_1 (P_x P_y^* + c.c.)] + \dots$$

effective couplings  $\lambda_i$  depend on  $\beta$  and  $N_\tau$ , e.g.:

$$\lambda_1(u, N_\tau = 4) = u^4 \exp \left[ 4 \left( 4u^4 + 12u^5 - 14u^6 + \dots + \frac{1035317}{5120} u^{10} + \dots \right) \right]$$
$$\lambda_1(u, N_\tau \geq 5) = u^{N_\tau} \exp \left[ N_\tau \left( 4u^4 + 12u^5 - 14u^6 + \dots + \frac{1055797}{5120} u^{10} + \dots \right) \right]$$
$$\lambda_2(u, N_\tau = 4) = u^8 [12u^2 + 26u^4 + 364u^6 + \dots]$$

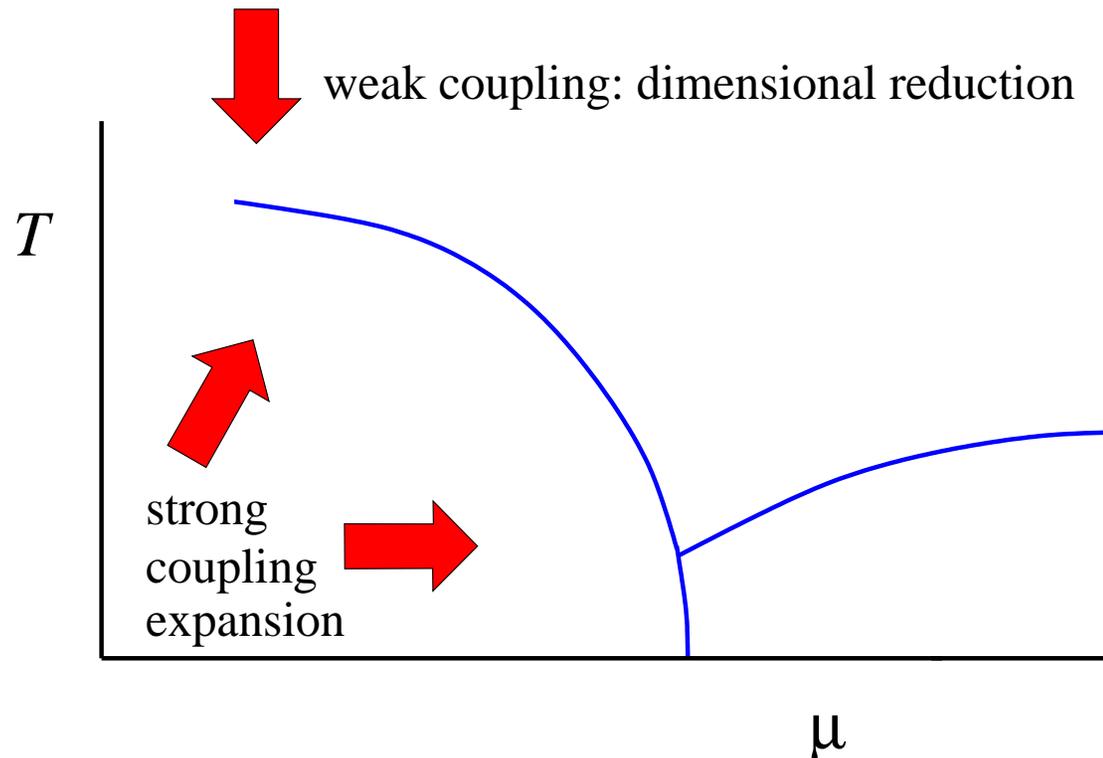
$$u = u(\beta) = a_f(\beta) = \beta/18 + \dots \text{ (character expansion)}$$

⇒ far beyond simplest SU(3) spin model  
quantitative predictions?

# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SYSTEMATIC EXTENSION

- forget strong coupling origin: view as effective model
- complementary to dimensional reduction at high  $T$  and weak coupling
- test range of validity



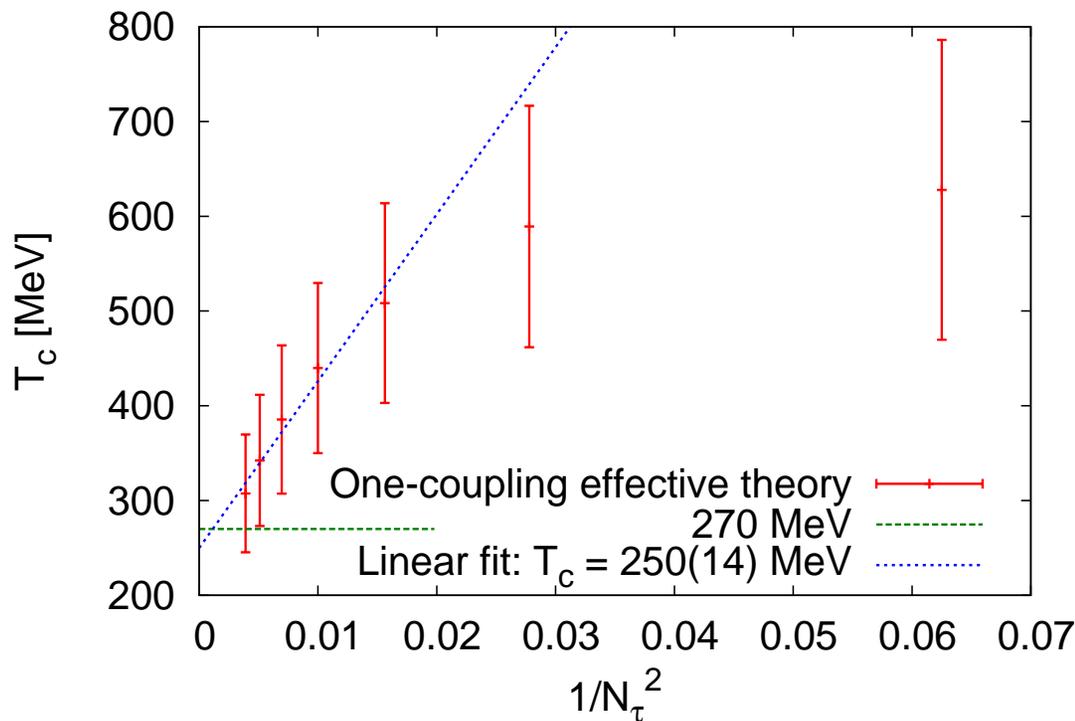
# EFFECTIVE SPIN MODELS

## SYSTEMATIC EXTENSION

example: pure gauge SU(3)

Philipsen, Langelage & Lottini 10

- determine one critical coupling  $\lambda_{1,c}$  in 3D
- relate  $\lambda_{1,c}(\beta, N_\tau)$  to 4D critical coupling  $\beta_c(N_\tau)$



- reproduce 4D results up to  $N_\tau = 16$

# SPIN MODELS WITH QUARKS

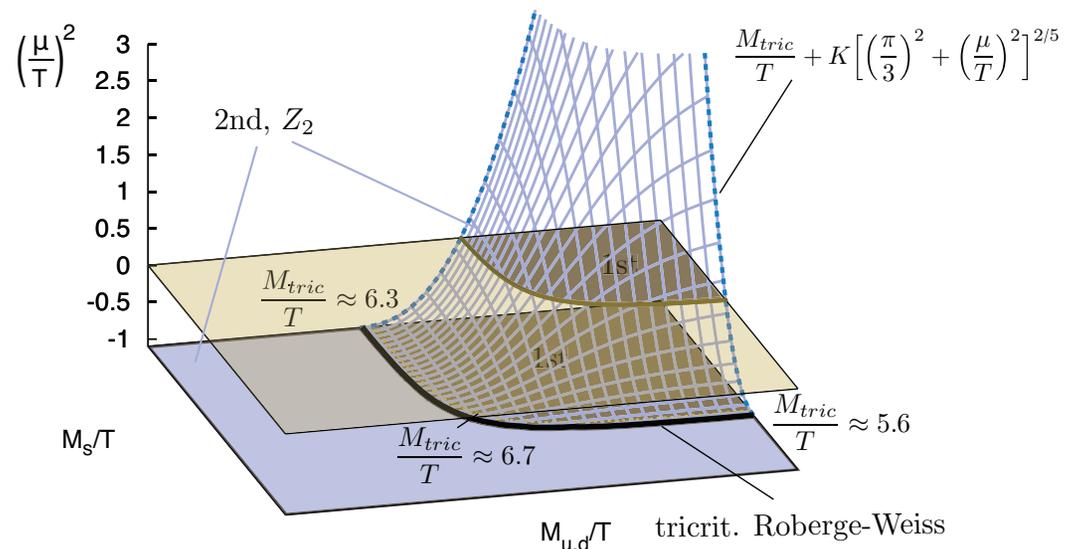
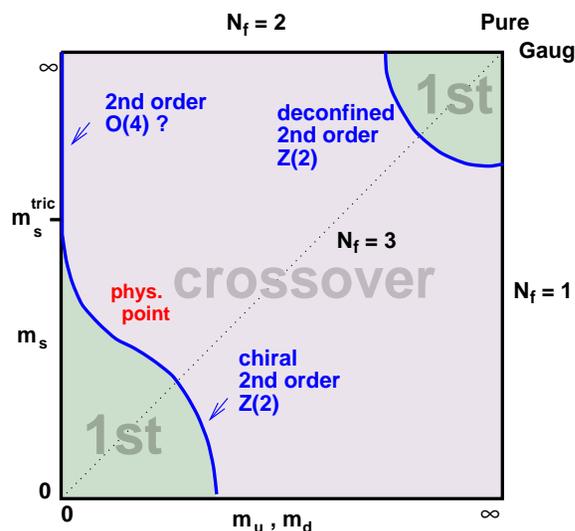
## HEAVY QUARKS AND NONZERO CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

- hopping expansion

$$S_F \sim -\ln \det \left[ (1 + h e^{\mu/T} W_x)(1 + h e^{-\mu/T} W_x^\dagger) \right]$$

$W_x =$  untraced Polyakov loop,  $h = h(\kappa, N_\tau)$

- determine phase diagram in heavy quark sector
- mild sign problem (reweighting)





# COMPLEX INTEGRALS

- consider simple integral

$$Z(a, b) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-S(x)} \quad S(x) = ax^2 + ibx$$

- complete the square/saddle point approximation:  
into complex plane
- lesson: don't be real(istic), be more imaginative

radically different approach:

- complexify all degrees of freedom  $x \rightarrow z = x + iy$
- enlarged complexified space
- new directions to explore

# COMPLEX SADDLE POINTS

recent proposal (as an alternative to complex Langevin):

*high-density QCD on a Lefschetz thimble?*

Cristoforetti, di Renzo & Scorzato 12

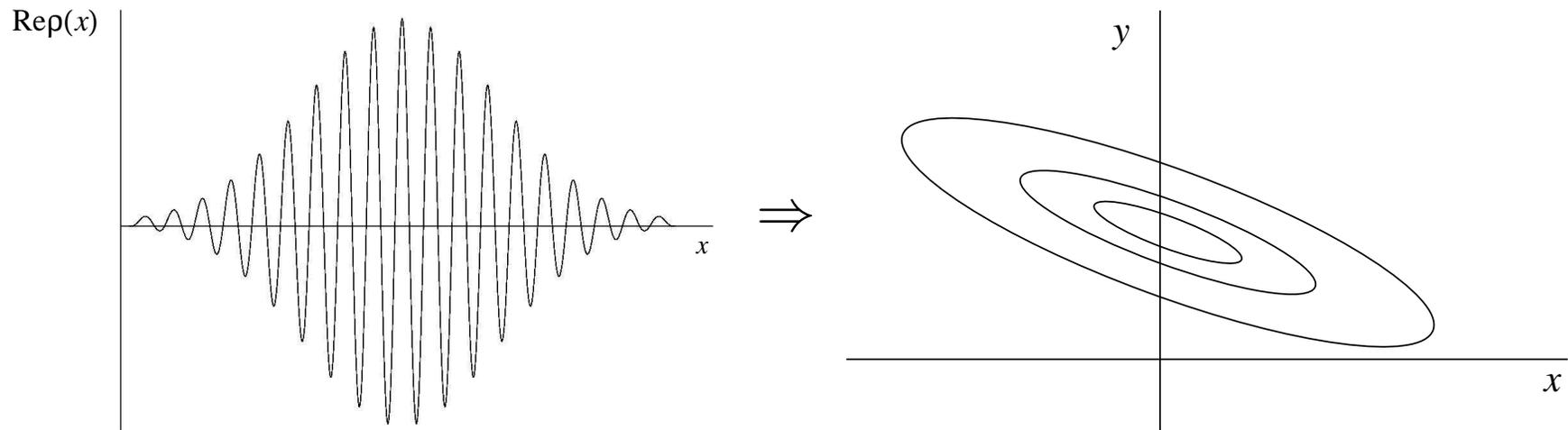
- deform integration contour into complex plane
- associate (real) integration domain with each stationary point (“thimble”)
- path integral = sum over integrals over thimbles
- imaginary parts should be subleading
- motivated by Witten and Morse theory (!)

interesting idea – wait for implementation

# COMPLEXIFIED FIELD SPACE

COMPLEX WEIGHT  $\rho(x)$

dominant configurations in the path integral?



real and positive distribution  $P(x, y)$ : how to obtain it?

$\Rightarrow$  solution of stochastic process

complex Langevin dynamics

Parisi 83, Klauder 83

# COMPLEX LANGEVIN DYNAMICS

COMPLEX WEIGHT  $\rho(x)$

does it work?

- for real actions: stochastic quantization
- equivalent to path integral quantization

Damgaard & Hüffel, Phys Rep 87

- for complex actions: no formal proof
- troubled past: “disasters of various degrees”

Ambjørn et al 86

why talk about it here? recent examples in which CL

- can solve Silver Blaze problem
- can handle severe sign problems
- gives the correct result (!)
- improved analytical understanding

# COMPLEX LANGEVIN DYNAMICS

various scattered results since mid 1980s

here:

review results obtained mostly with IO Stamatescu, E Seiler and F James, starting with hep-lat/0807.1597

also with D Sexty, with K Splittorff, with J Pawlowski

- Silver Blaze problem
- severe sign problem
- analytical insight
- SU(3) spin model
- more analytical insight

# SILVER BLAZE AND SIGN PROBLEM

## BOSE GAS

relativistic Bose gas at nonzero  $\mu$ ,  $d = 4$ ,  $m^2 > 0$

- continuum action

$$S = \int d^4x \left[ |\partial_\nu \phi|^2 + (m^2 - \mu^2) |\phi|^2 + \mu (\phi^* \partial_4 \phi - \partial_4 \phi^* \phi) + \lambda |\phi|^4 \right]$$

linear term in  $\mu$  is imaginary

- lattice action

$$S = \sum_x \left[ (2d + m^2) \phi_x^* \phi_x + \lambda (\phi_x^* \phi_x)^2 - \sum_{\nu=1}^4 (\phi_x^* e^{-\mu \delta_{\nu,4}} \phi_{x+\hat{\nu}} + \phi_{x+\hat{\nu}}^* e^{\mu \delta_{\nu,4}} \phi_x) \right]$$

- $S^*(\mu) = S(-\mu^*)$  as always

GA 08, 09

# SILVER BLAZE AND SIGN PROBLEM

## BOSE GAS

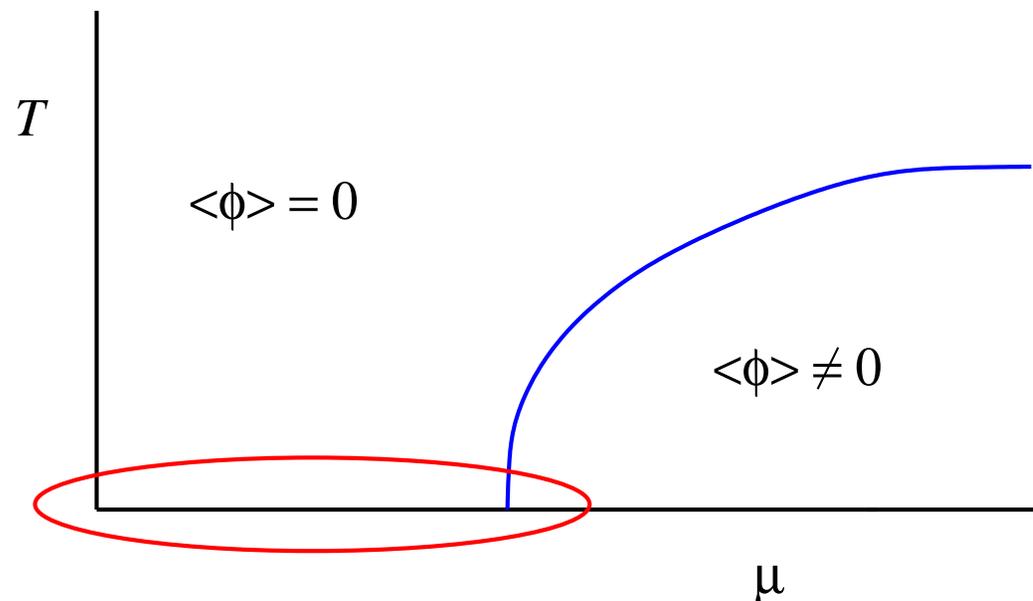
at  $T = 0$ :

- full theory:  $\mu$  independence until onset,  $\mu_c \sim m$
- phase-quenched theory: always  $\mu$  dependence

$$V(\phi) = (m^2 - \mu^2)|\phi|^2 + \lambda|\phi|^4$$

phase diagram  
in full theory

Silver Blaze  
problem

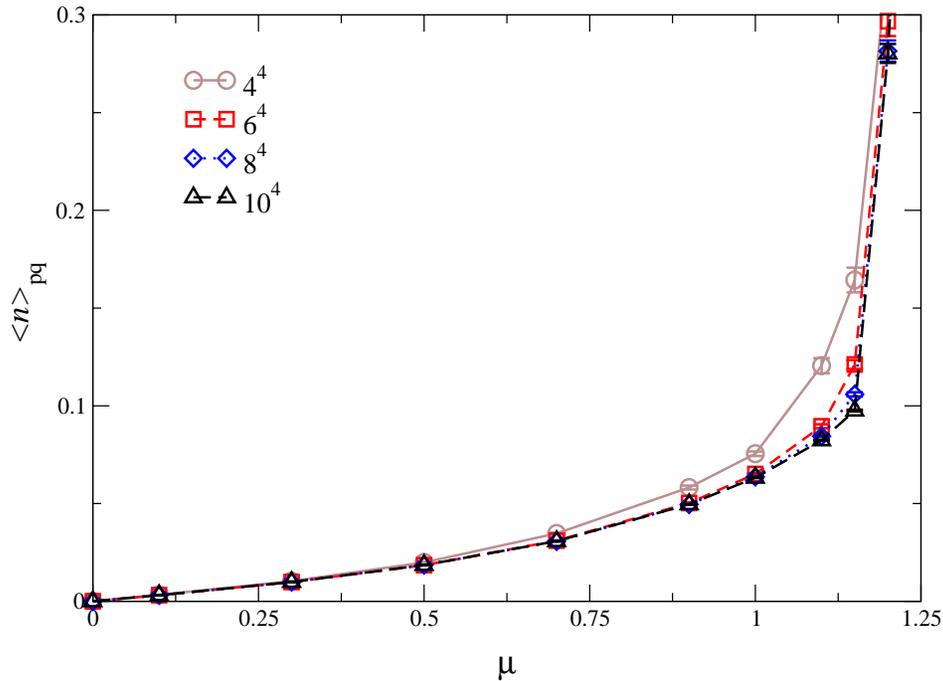


# SIGN AND SILVER BLAZE PROBLEMS

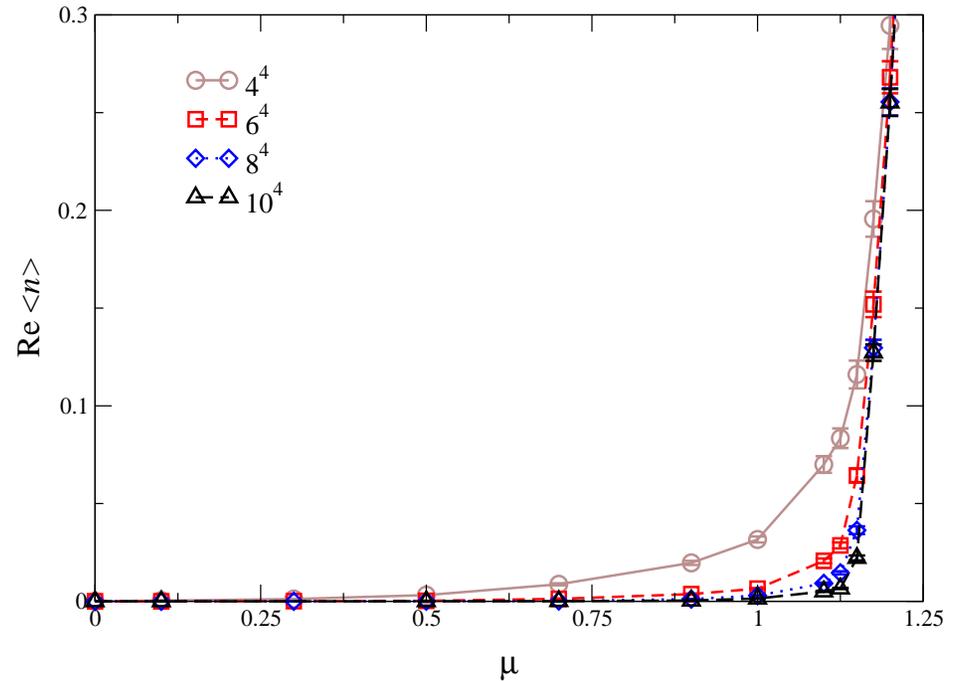
BOSE GAS

density:

$(m = \lambda = 1)$



phase quenched



full

Silver Blaze problem resolved

phase  $e^{i\theta} = e^{-S}/|e^{-S}|$  does precisely what is expected

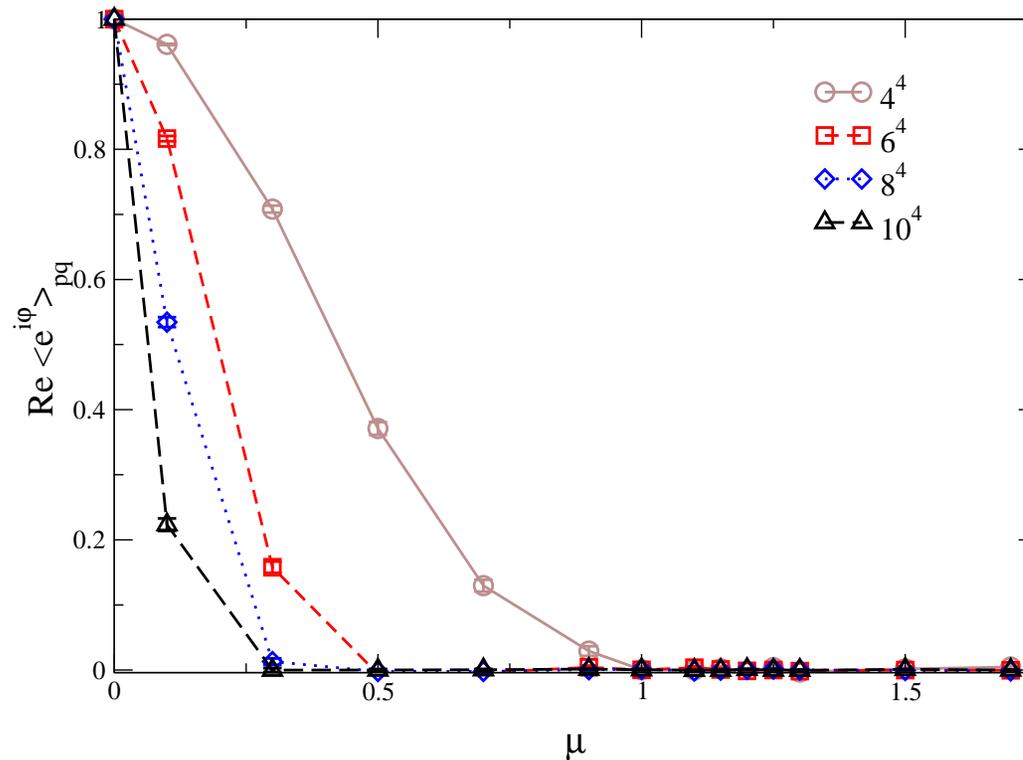
# HOW SEVERE IS THE SIGN PROBLEM?

## AVERAGE PHASE FACTOR

- complex action  $e^{-S} = |e^{-S}|e^{i\theta}$
- average phase factor in phase quenched theory

$$\langle e^{i\theta} \rangle_{\text{pq}} = \frac{Z}{Z_{\text{pq}}} = e^{-\Omega \Delta f}$$

$$\Omega \rightarrow \infty, \mu \neq 0$$



- exponentially hard in thermodynamic limit

# ONE-DIMENSIONAL QCD

## SILVER BLAZE

- exactly solvable Gibbs 86, Bilic & Demeterfi 88
- phase quenched: transition at  $\mu = \mu_c$ , full: no transition

severe sign problem when  $|\mu| > |\mu_c|$

- chiral condensate:  
write as integral over spectral density

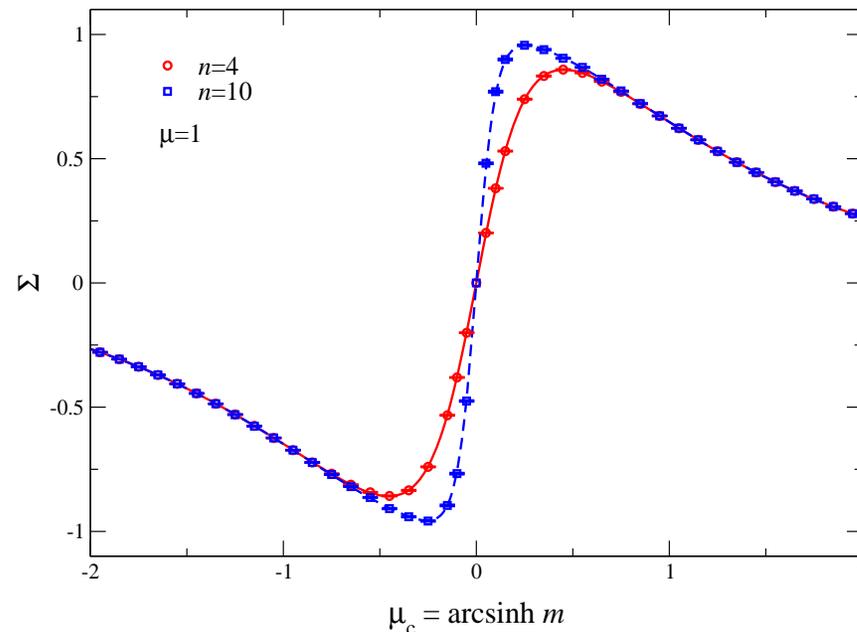
$$\Sigma = \int d^2 z \frac{\rho(z; \mu)}{z + m} \quad \mu_c = \operatorname{arcsinh} m$$

- $\rho(z; \mu)$  complex and oscillatory Ravagli & Verbaarschot 07
- condensate independent of  $\mu$ : Silver Blaze
- solve with complex Langevin GA & Splittorff 10

# ONE-DIMENSIONAL QCD

## SILVER BLAZE

- exact results reproduced
- discontinuity at  $\mu_c = 0$  in thermodynamic limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$



- sign problem severe when  $|\mu_c| < |\mu|$
- condensate independent of  $\mu$ : Silver Blaze

# ONE-DIMENSIONAL QCD

ANALYTIC SOLUTION IN THERMODYNAMIC LIMIT

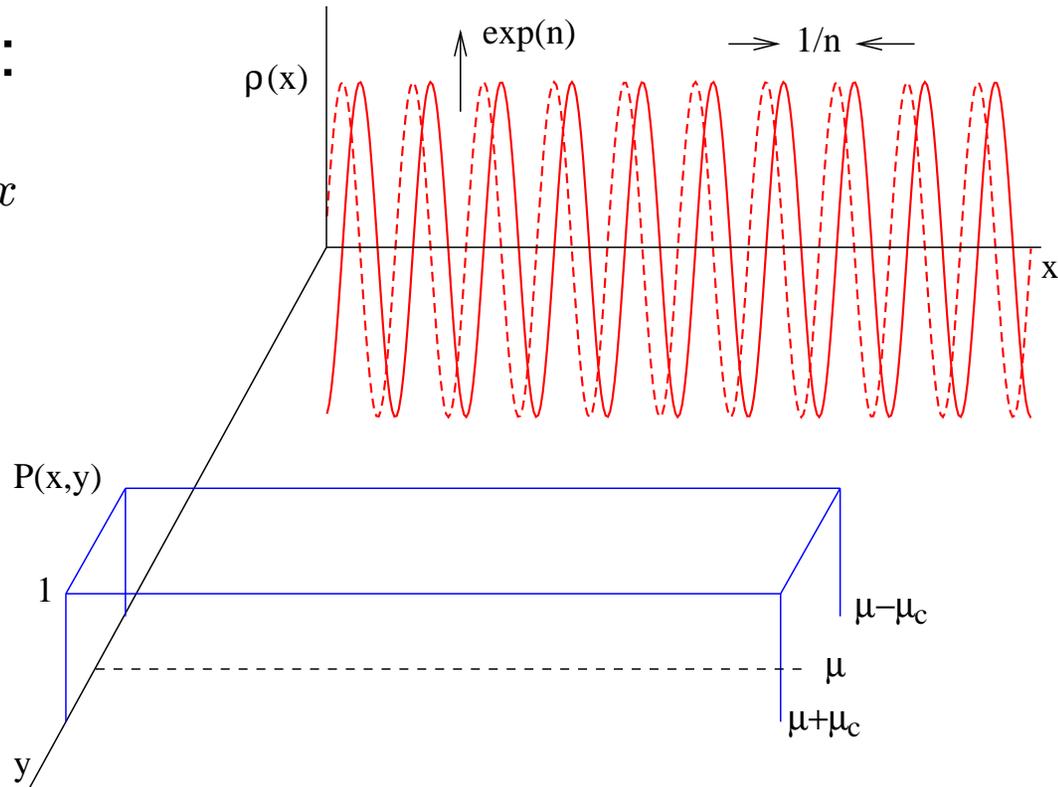
elegant analytical solution:

- original distribution:

$$\rho(x) \sim e^{n(\mu - \mu_c)} e^{inx}$$

when  $n \rightarrow \infty$

- real distribution sampled by complex Langevin:



$$P(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \mu - \mu_c < y < \mu + \mu_c \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

# TROUBLED PAST

## OF COMPLEX LANGEVIN DYNAMICS

1. numerical problems: runaways, instabilities

⇒ adaptive stepsize

no instabilities observed, works for SU(3) gauge theory

GA, FJ, ES & IOS 09

a la Ambjorn et al 86

2. theoretical status unclear

⇒ detailed analysis, identified necessary conditions

GA, FJ, ES & IOS 09-12

3. convergence to wrong limit

⇒ better understood but not yet resolved

in progress

# ANALYTICAL UNDERSTANDING

## SKETCH

consider expectation values and Fokker-Planck equations

one degree of freedom  $x$ , complex action  $S(x)$ ,  $\rho(x) \sim e^{-S(x)}$

● wanted: 
$$\langle O(x, t) \rangle_\rho = \int dx \rho(x, t) O(x)$$

$$\partial_t \rho(x, t) = \partial_x (\partial_x + S'(x)) \rho(x, t)$$

● solved with CLE:

$$\langle O(x, t) \rangle_P = \int dx dy P(x, y; t) O(x + iy)$$

$$\partial_t P(x, y; t) = [\partial_x (\partial_x - K_x) - \partial_y K_y] P(x, y; t)$$

with  $K_x = -\text{Re}S'$ ,  $K_y = -\text{Im}S'$

● question:  $\langle O(x, t) \rangle_P = \langle O(x, t) \rangle_\rho$  ?

# ANALYTICAL UNDERSTANDING

## SKETCH

question:  $\langle O(x, t) \rangle_P = \langle O(x, t) \rangle_\rho$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  ?

answer: yes, provided some conditions are met:

- distribution  $P(x, y)$  should drop off fast enough in  $y$  direction
- partial integration without boundary terms possible
- actually  $O(x + iy)P(x, y)$  for large enough set  $O(x)$

⇒ distribution should be sufficiently localized

- can be tested numerically via criteria for correctness

$$\langle LO(x + iy) \rangle = 0$$

with  $L$  Langevin operator

0912.3360, 1101.3270

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

## DETAILED TESTS

apply these ideas to 3D SU(3) spin model

GA & James 11

- earlier solved with complex Langevin

Karsch & Wyld 85

Bilic, Gausterer & Sanielevici 88

- however, no detailed tests performed

⇒ test reliability of complex Langevin using developed tools

- analyticity in  $\mu^2$ :

- from imaginary to real  $\mu$

- Taylor series

- criteria for correctness

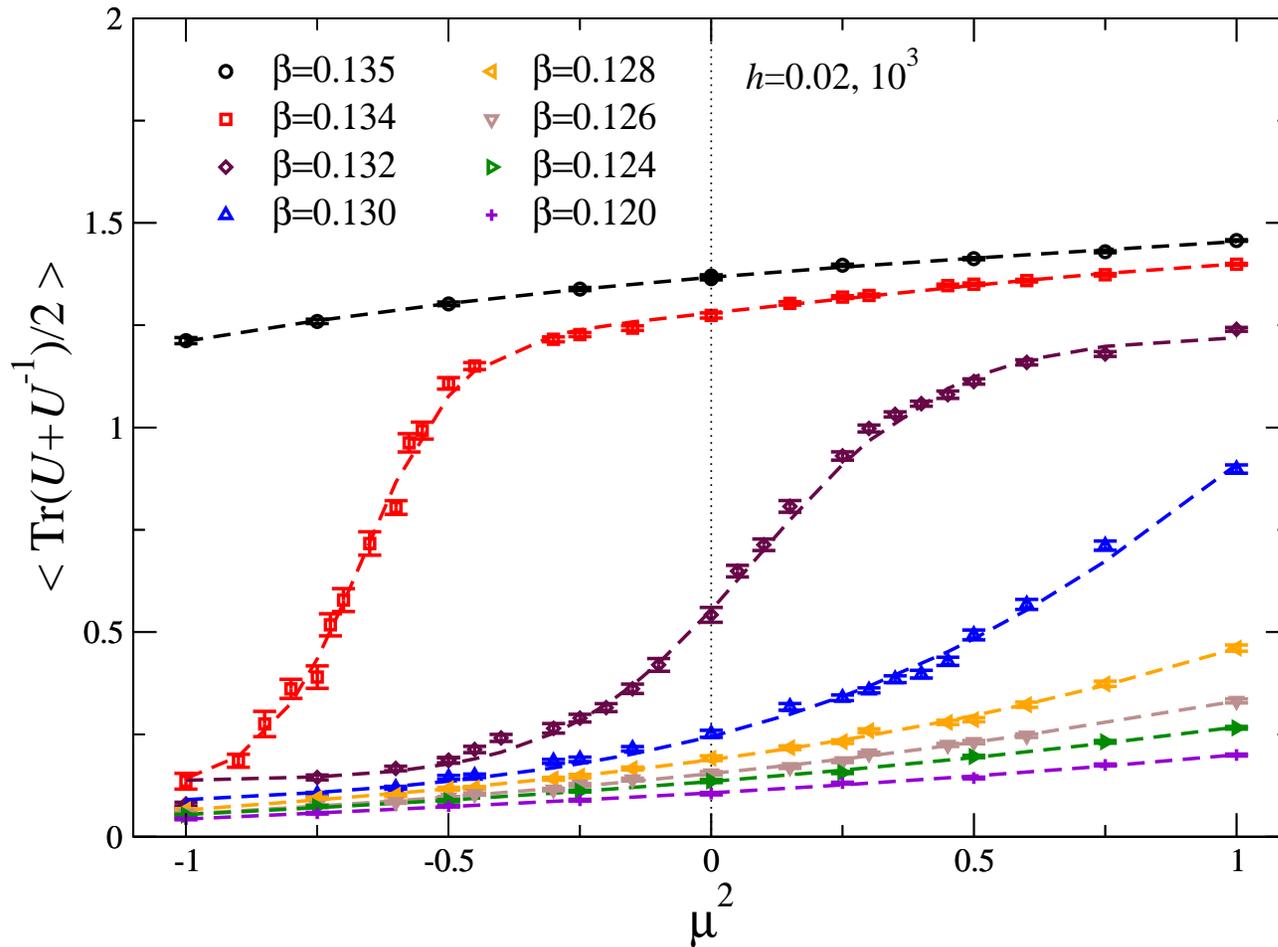
- comparison with flux formulation

Gattringer & Mercado 12

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

REAL AND IMAGINARY POTENTIAL

first-order transition in  $\beta - \mu^2$  plane,  $\langle P + P^* \rangle / 2$

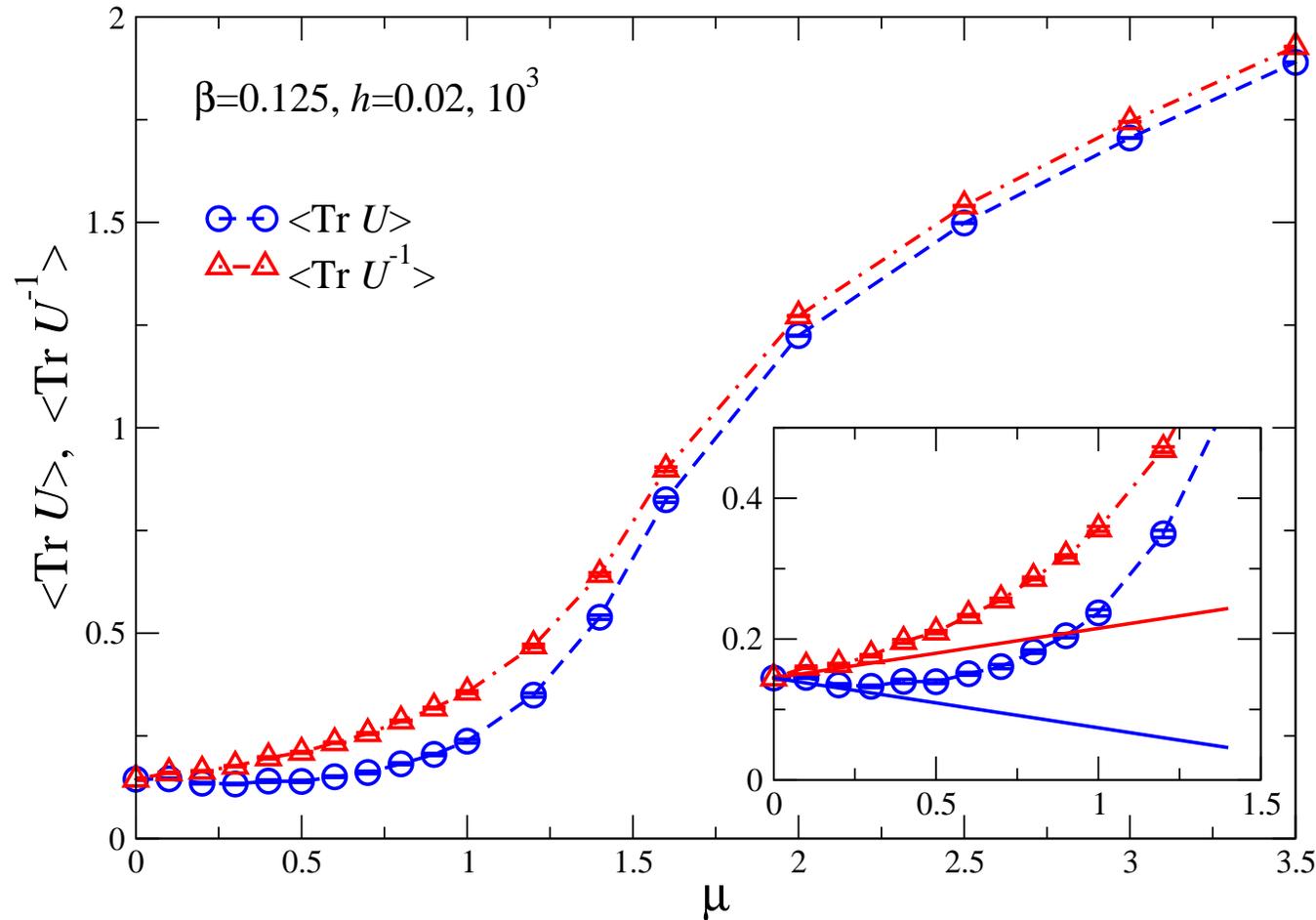


negative  $\mu^2$ : real Langevin — positive  $\mu^2$ : complex Langevin

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

REAL CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

immediate splitting between  $\langle P \rangle$  and  $\langle P^* \rangle$ : no Silver Blaze



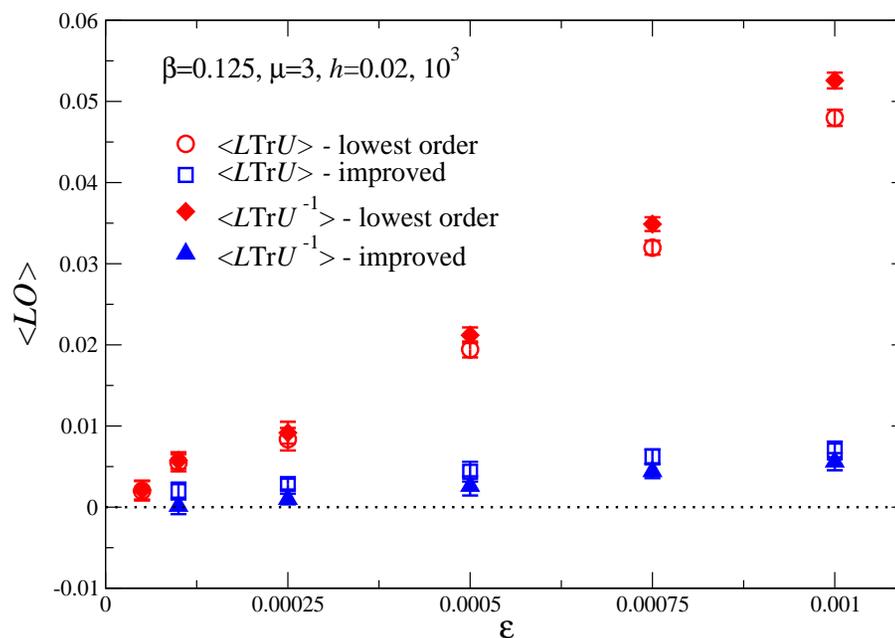
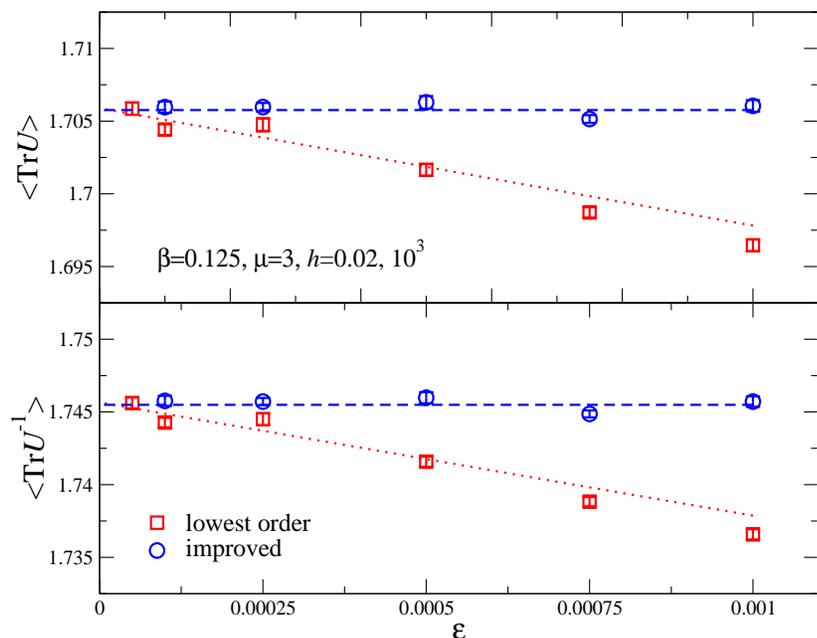
inset: lines from first-order Taylor expansion

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

## STEPSIZE DEPENDENCE

left:  $\langle P \rangle$  (top) and  $\langle P^* \rangle$  (bottom) at  $\mu = 3$

right: criteria for correctness  $\langle LO \rangle = 0$

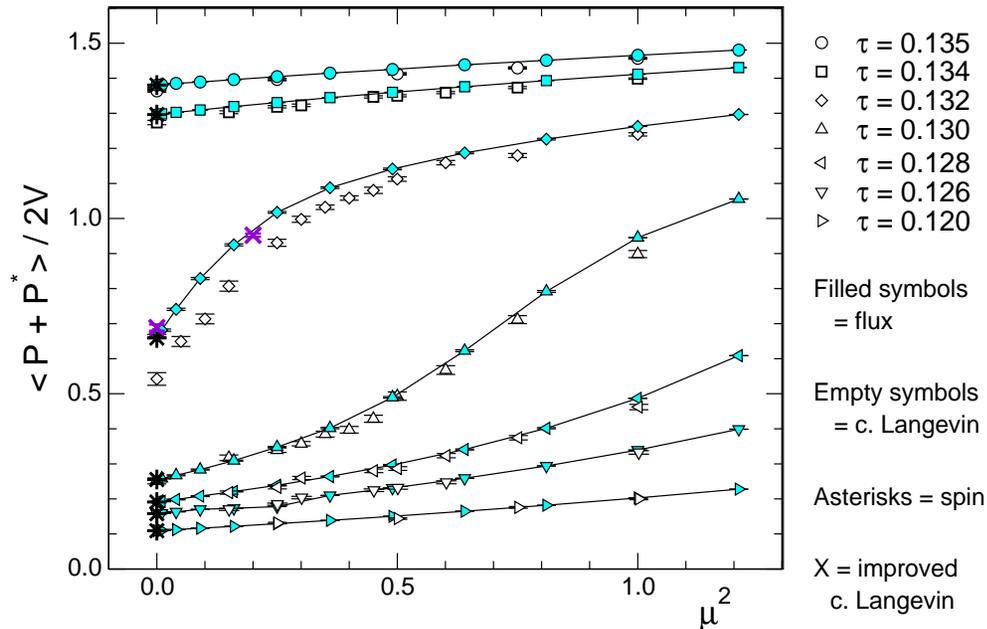


improved stepsize algorithm to eliminate linear dependence  
 criteria satisfied as stepsize  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$

# SU(3) SPIN MODEL

## FLUX REPRESENTATION

comparison with result obtained using flux representation



CL: finite stepsize errors  
in lowest-order algorithm

improved algorithm  
removes discrepancy  
in critical region

complex Langevin passes all the tests: why?

- localized distribution: fast decay in imaginary direction
- real manifold is stable under small fluctuations
- Haar measure plays essential role

# STABILIZING DRIFT

## HAAR MEASURE, JACOBIANS

- Haar measure contribution to complex drift restoring
- controlled exploration of the complex field space
- compare with XY/U(1) model: trivial Haar measure  
CLE fails in part of phase diagram

GA & James 10

employ this: generate Jacobian by field redefinition

$$Z = \int dx e^{-S(x)} \quad x = x(u) \quad J(u) = \frac{\partial x(u)}{\partial u}$$

$$= \int du e^{-S_{\text{eff}}(u)} \quad S_{\text{eff}}(u) = S(u) - \ln J(u)$$

$$\text{drift:} \quad K(u) = -S'_{\text{eff}}(u) = -S'(u) + J'(u)/J(u)$$

which field redefinition? singular at  $J(u) = 0$  but should be restoring in complex plane

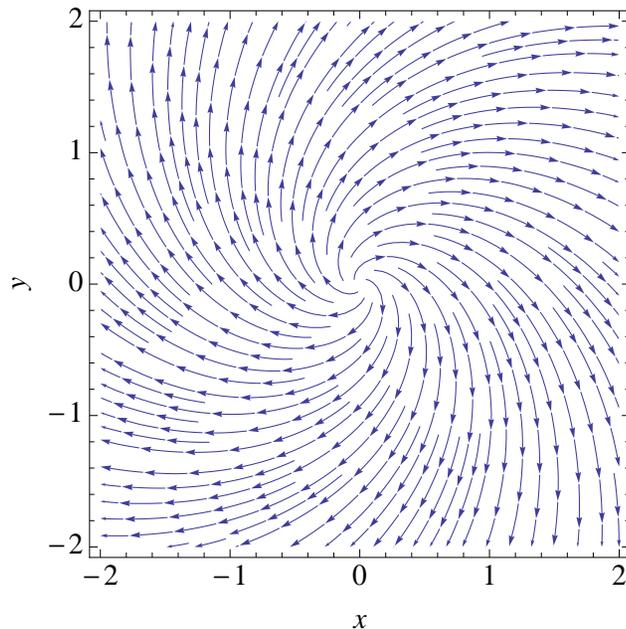
# FUN WITH COMPLEX LANGEVIN

## STABILIZING JACOBIANS

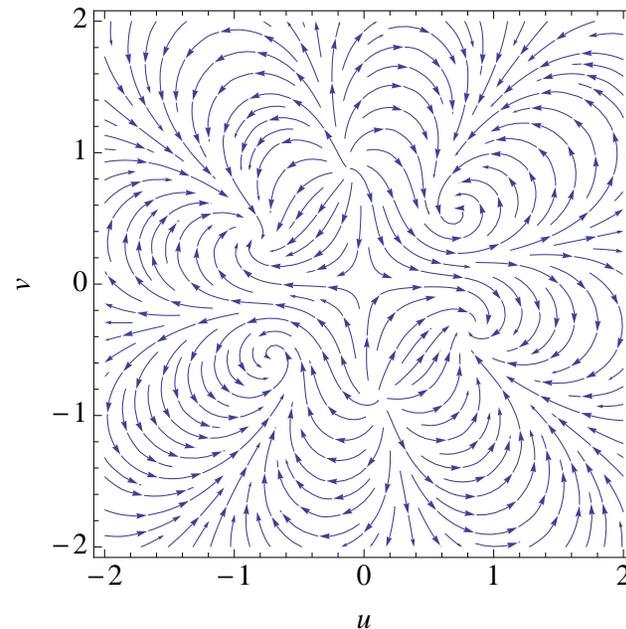
Gaussian example: defined when  $\text{Re}(\sigma) = a > 0$

$$Z = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma x^2} \quad \sigma = a + ib \quad \langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

what if  $a < 0$ ? flow in complex space for  $a = -1, b = 1$ :



left: highly unstable

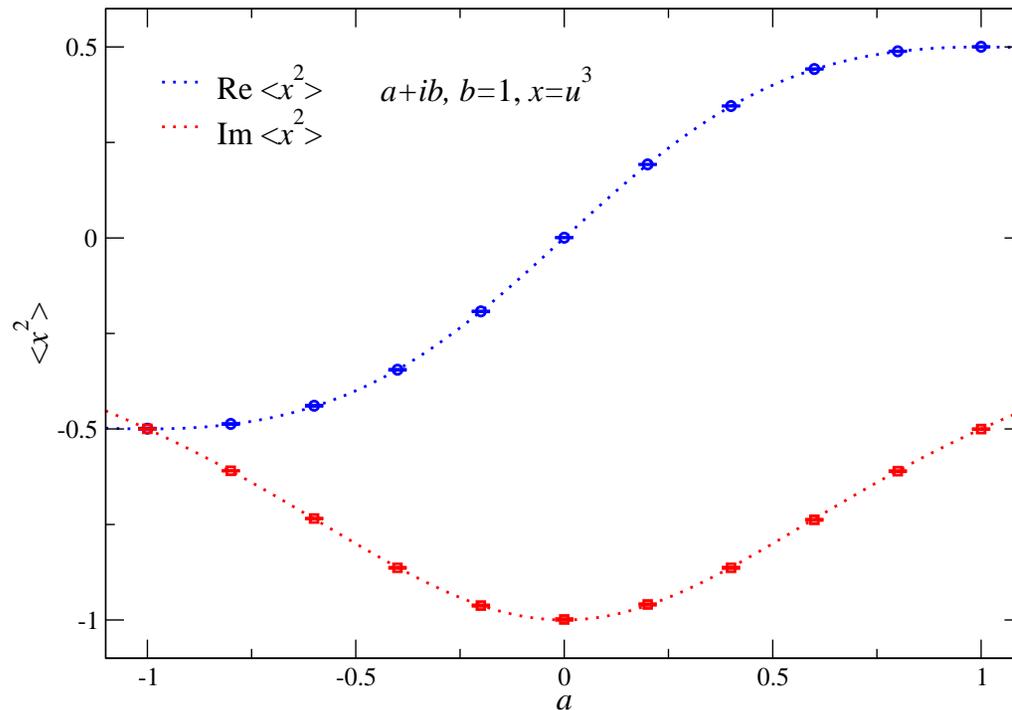


right: after transformation  $x(u) = u^3$   
attractive fixed points

# FUN WITH COMPLEX LANGEVIN

## STABILIZING JACOBIANS

do CLE in the  $u$  formulation and compute  $\langle x^2 \rangle = \langle u^6 \rangle$



$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sigma} = \frac{a - ib}{a^2 + b^2}$$

take also negative  $a$

CLE finds the analytically continued answer to negative  $a$ !  
clearly needs more exploration – potential for stabilization  
– affects convergence

# SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

## QCD AT NONZERO CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

prediction for the heavy quark corner

- will be settled, using a combination of techniques and effective models

challenge: light quarks

- strong sensitivity to quark masses
- effective models much less predictive

complex Langevin dynamics can handle

- sign problem
- Silver Blaze problem
- phase transition
- thermodynamic limit

in a variety of theories, but ...

# SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

## QCD AT NONZERO CHEMICAL POTENTIAL

- ... correct result not guaranteed
- ... can convergence to wrong result

we have

- developed better understanding
- formulated criteria for correctness
- a theoretical framework also applicable to SU(3) lattice theory

tests of various ideas in SU(3) in progress

not yet exhausted ...