

# Baryon number fluctuations and singularities at real and complex baryochemical potential

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V.V., A. Pásztor, Z. Fodor, S.D. Katz, H. Stoecker, [Phys. Lett. B 775, 71 \(2017\)](#)

V.V., J. Steinheimer, O. Philipsen, H. Stoecker, [arXiv:1711.01261](#)

V.V., L. Jiang, M.I. Gorenstein, H. Stoecker, [arXiv:1711.07260](#)

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FIAS  
Frankfurt Institute  
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## Outline

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- Motivation: QCD equation of state at finite baryon density
- New lattice QCD data at imaginary  $\mu_B$ 
  - Fourier coefficients of fugacity expansion
  - Evidence for baryonic excluded volume
- Cluster expansion model
  - Baryon number susceptibilities
  - Radius of convergence and Roberge-Weiss transition
- Critical point of nuclear matter and beam energy dependence of net proton number fluctuations
- Summary

## Analysis of new lattice data at imaginary chemical potential using the fugacity expansion

## QCD thermodynamics with fugacity expansion

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

$$\frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k(T) \cosh\left(\frac{k \mu_B}{T}\right) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{p}_{|k|}(T) e^{k \mu_B / T}$$

**Imaginary**  $\mu_B$ : no sign problem on the lattice

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

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

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

$$b_k(T) = \frac{2}{\pi T^4} \int_0^{\pi T} d\tilde{\mu}_B [\text{Im } \rho_B(T, i \tilde{\mu}_B)] \sin(k \tilde{\mu}_B / T)$$

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

We analyze  $b_k(T)$  with phenomenological models **directly at  $\text{Im } \mu_B$**

Note: Expansion respects the **Roberge-Weiss symmetry**,  $Z(T, \mu_B) = Z(T, \mu_B + i 2\pi T)$

## Expected asymptotics

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- At low T/densities  $\text{QCD} \simeq \text{ideal hadron resonance gas}$

$$\frac{p^{\text{hrg}}(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{\phi_M(T)}{T^3} + 2 \frac{\phi_B(T)}{T^3} \cosh\left(\frac{\mu_B}{T}\right),$$

$$\phi_B(T) = \sum_{i \in B} \int dm \rho_i(m) \frac{d_i m^2 T}{2\pi^2} K_2\left(\frac{m}{T}\right),$$

$$p_0^{\text{hrg}}(T) = \frac{\phi_M(T)}{T^3}, \quad p_1^{\text{hrg}}(T) = \frac{2\phi_B(T)}{T^3}, \quad p_k^{\text{hrg}}(T) \equiv 0, \quad k \geq 2$$

- At high T  $\text{QCD} \simeq \text{ideal gas of massless quarks and gluons}$

$$\frac{p^{\text{SB}}(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{8\pi^2}{45} + \sum_{f=u,d,s} \left[ \frac{7\pi^2}{60} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\mu_B}{3T} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \left( \frac{\mu_B}{3T} \right)^4 \right],$$

$$p_0^{\text{SB}} = \frac{64\pi^2}{135}, \quad p_k^{\text{SB}} = \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^2} \frac{4[3 + 4(\pi k)^2]}{27(\pi k)^2}, \quad b_k^{\text{SB}} = k p_k^{\text{SB}}.$$

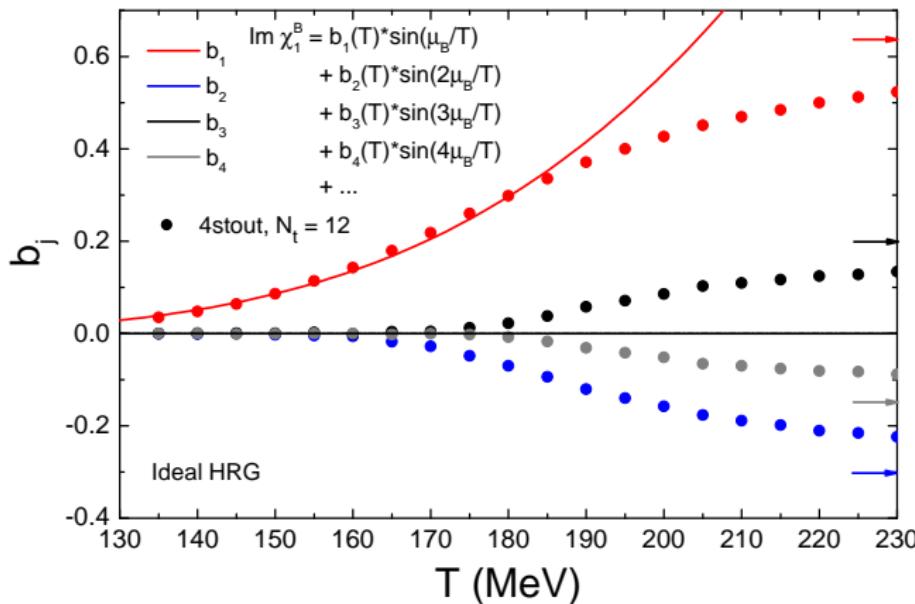
*Lattice data explore intermediate, transition region  $130 < T < 230 \text{ MeV}$*

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\*In this study we assume that  $\mu_S = \mu_Q = 0$

# Lattice QCD results on imaginary $\mu_B$ observables

Coefficients  $b_k(T)$  of  $\rho_B$  expansion are now calculated on the lattice

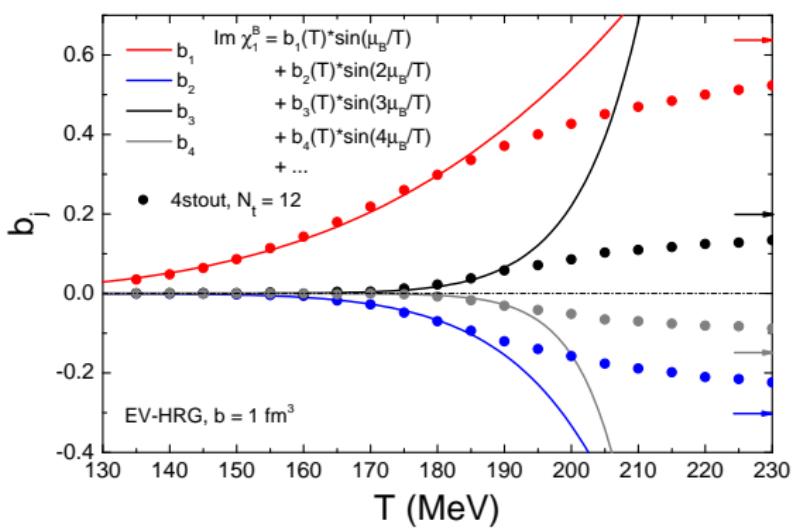


- Ideal HRG describes well  $b_1(T)$  at small temperatures
- All four coefficients converge slowly to Stefan-Boltzmann limit
- What is the mechanism of appearance of non-zero  $b_k$  for  $k > 1$ ?

# Imaginary $\mu_B$ and repulsive baryonic interactions

Repulsive interactions with excluded-volume [Rischke et al., Z. Phys. C '91]

$$V \rightarrow V - bN \quad \Rightarrow \quad p_B(T, \mu_B) = p_B^{\text{id}}(T, \mu_B - b\mu_B)$$



HRG with baryonic EV:

$$b_1^{\text{ev}}(T) = 2 \frac{\phi_B(T)}{T^3}$$

$$b_2^{\text{ev}}(T) = -4 [bT^3] \left[ \frac{\phi_B(T)}{T^3} \right]^2$$

$$b_3^{\text{ev}}(T) = 9 [bT^3]^2 \left[ \frac{\phi_B(T)}{T^3} \right]^3$$

$$b_4^{\text{ev}}(T) = -\frac{64}{3} [bT^3]^3 \left[ \frac{\phi_B(T)}{T^3} \right]^4$$

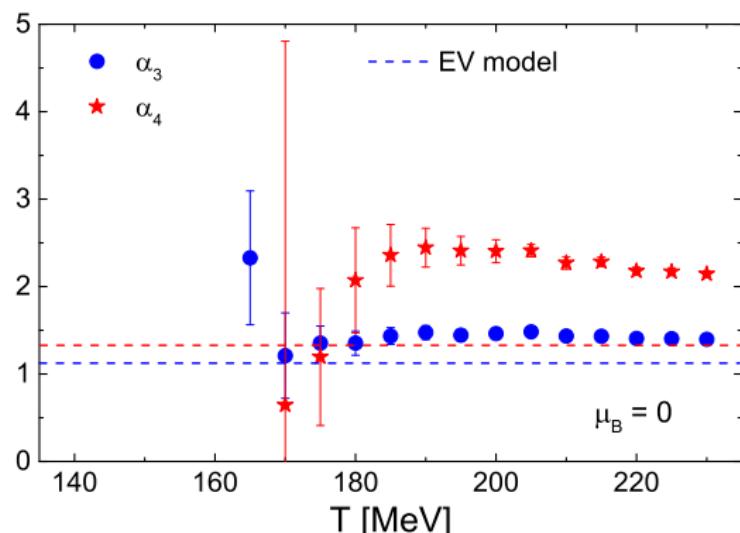
- Ideal HRG describes well  $b_1(T)$  at small temperatures
- Non-zero  $b_j(T)$  for  $j \geq 2$  signal deviations from ideal HRG
- EV interactions between baryons ( $b \simeq 1 \text{ fm}^3$ ) reproduce lattice trend

## Relation between leading and higher order coefficients

A particular feature of the EV model: **temperature-independent** ratios

$$\alpha_3 = \frac{b_1(T)}{[b_2(T)]^2} b_3(T), \quad \alpha_4 = \frac{[b_1(T)]^2}{[b_2(T)]^3} b_4(T), \quad \dots \quad \alpha_k = \frac{[b_1(T)]^{k-2}}{[b_2(T)]^{k-1}} b_k(T)$$

Also hold true for many other models with short-range interaction



Excluded volume model:

$$\alpha_3^{EV} = 1.125, \quad \alpha_4^{EV} = 1.333$$

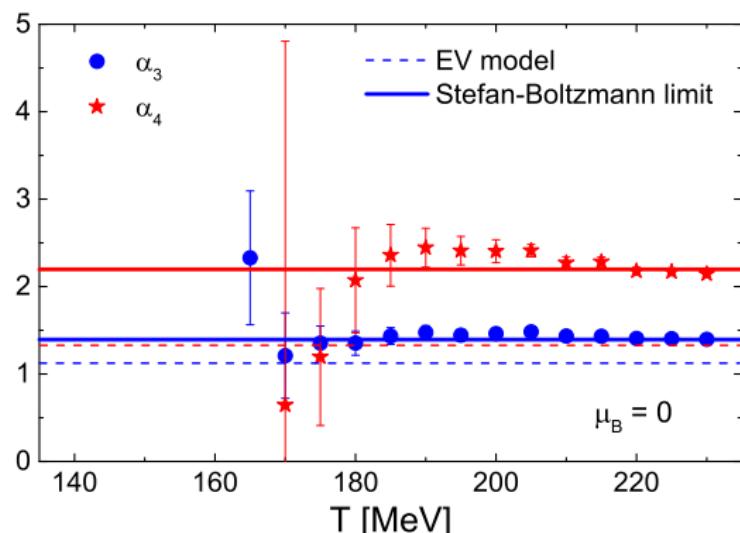
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Excluded volume model:

$$\alpha_3^{EV} = 1.125, \quad \alpha_4^{EV} = 1.333$$

Stefan-Boltzmann limit of massless quarks and gluons:

$$\alpha_3^{SB} \simeq 1.394, \quad \alpha_4^{SB} \simeq 2.198$$

$\alpha_3$  and  $\alpha_4$  are approximately **T-independent** on lattice, EV somewhat off

Ratios are consistent with the **Stefan-Boltzmann limit** of massless quarks

## Cluster Expansion Model – CEM

*V. Vovchenko, J. Steinheimer, O. Philipsen, H. Stoecker, [1711.01261](#)*

## Cluster Expansion Model (CEM)

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$\alpha_3$  and  $\alpha_4$  are consistent with the Stefan-Boltzmann limit. Now assume the same for all higher-order coefficients

### CEM formulation:

- $b_1(T)$  and  $b_2(T)$  are model input
- All higher order coefficients are then predicted

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

- Observables are calculated from fugacity expansion for baryon density

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

- **Physical picture:** Hadron gas with residual repulsion at moderate  $T$ , weakly interacting quarks and gluons at high  $T$

## CEM: Baryon number fluctuations

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Baryon number susceptibilities at  $\mu_B = 0$ :

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

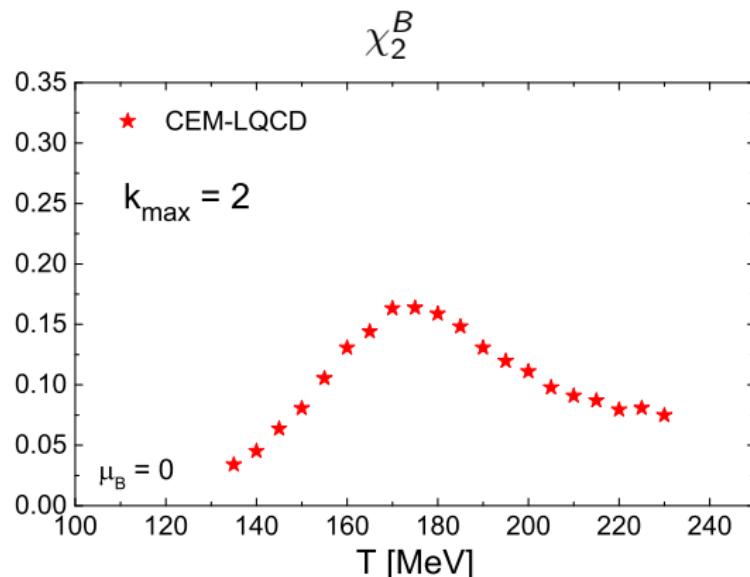
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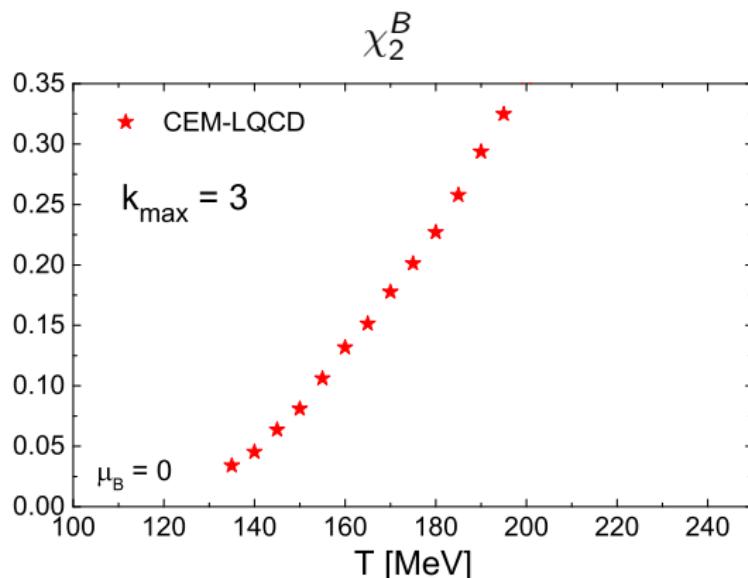


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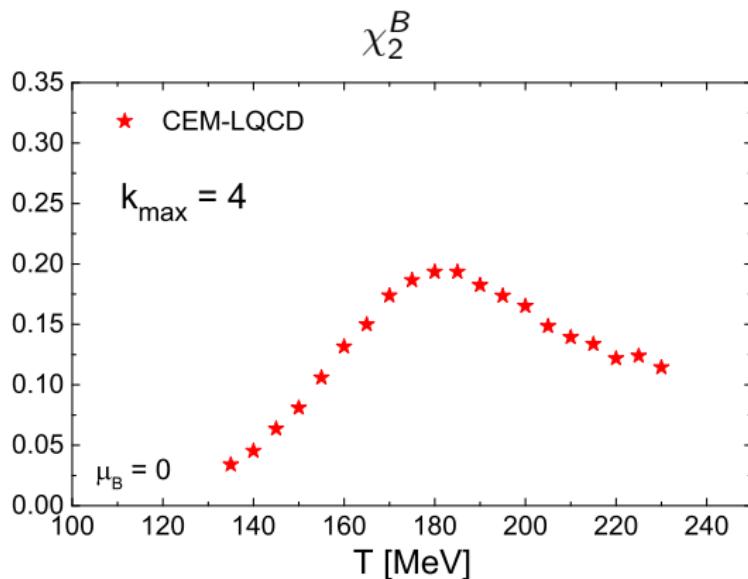


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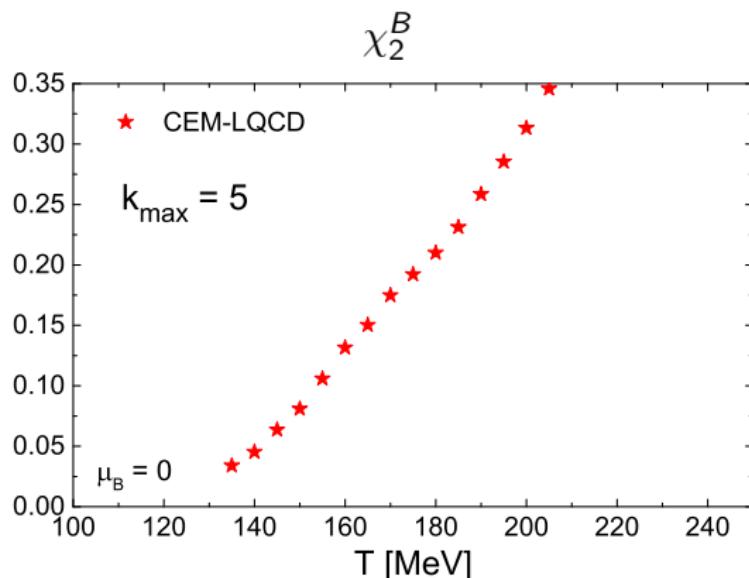


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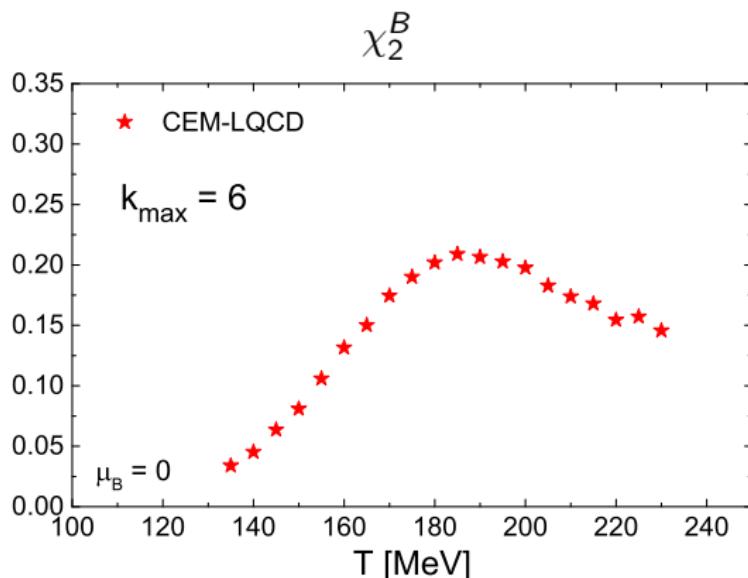


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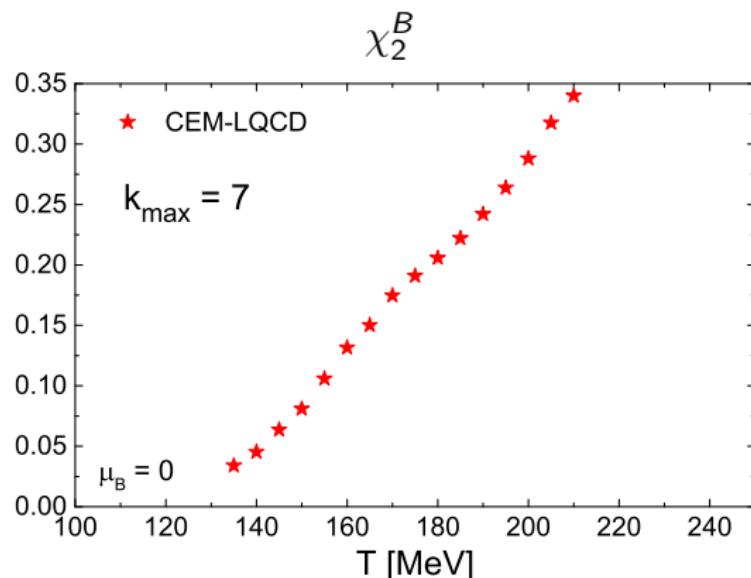


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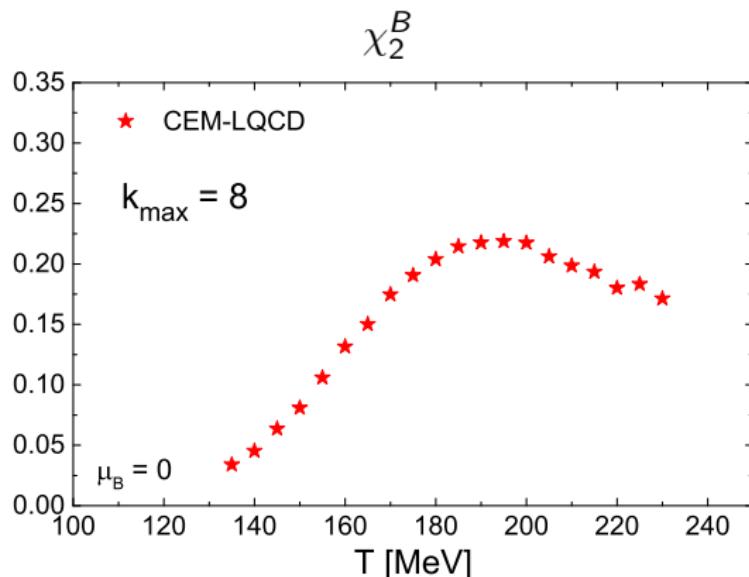


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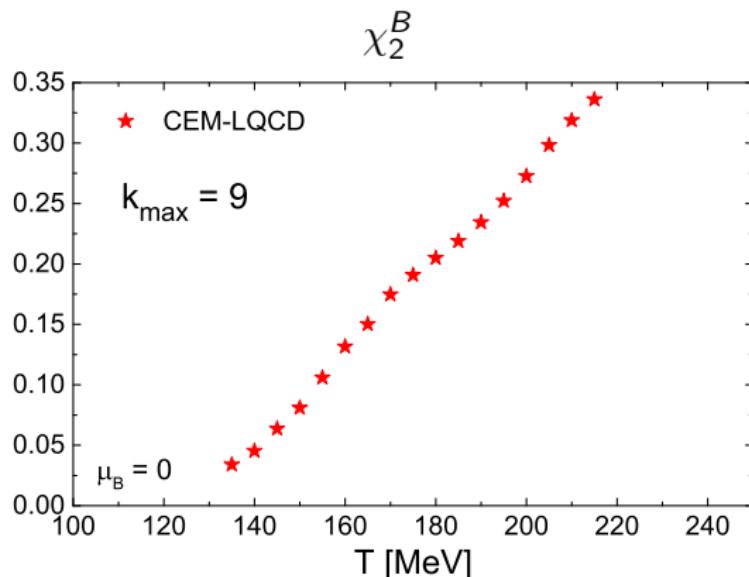


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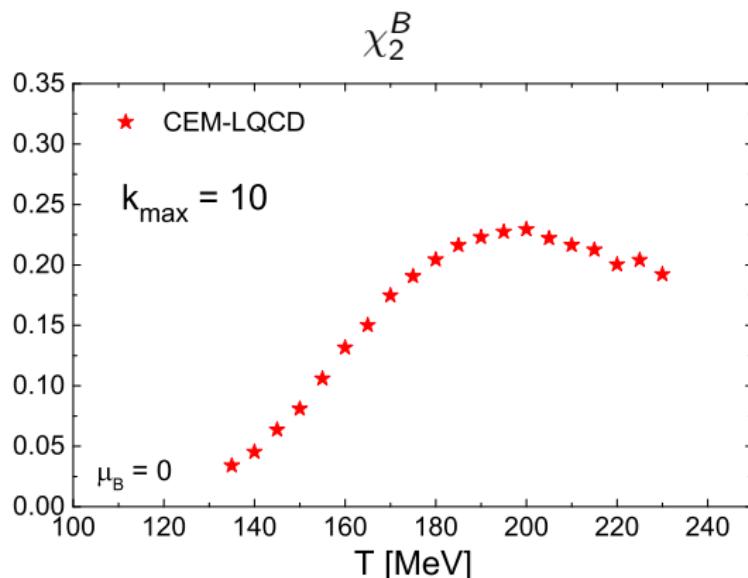


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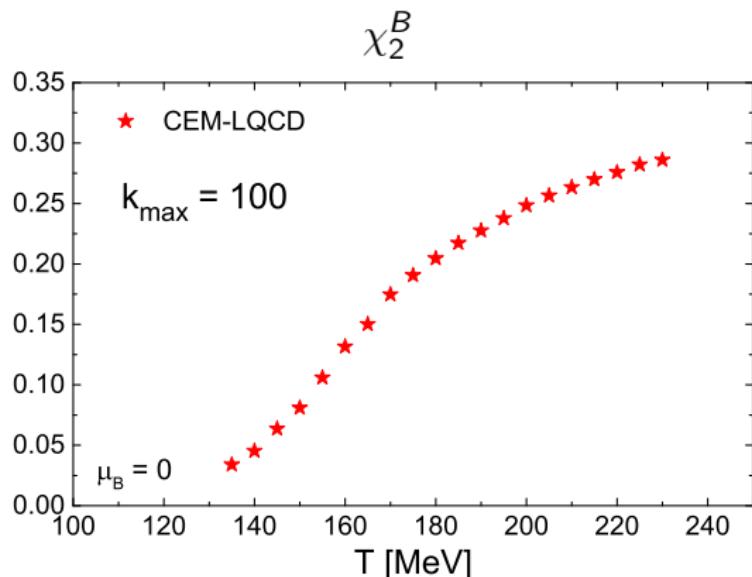


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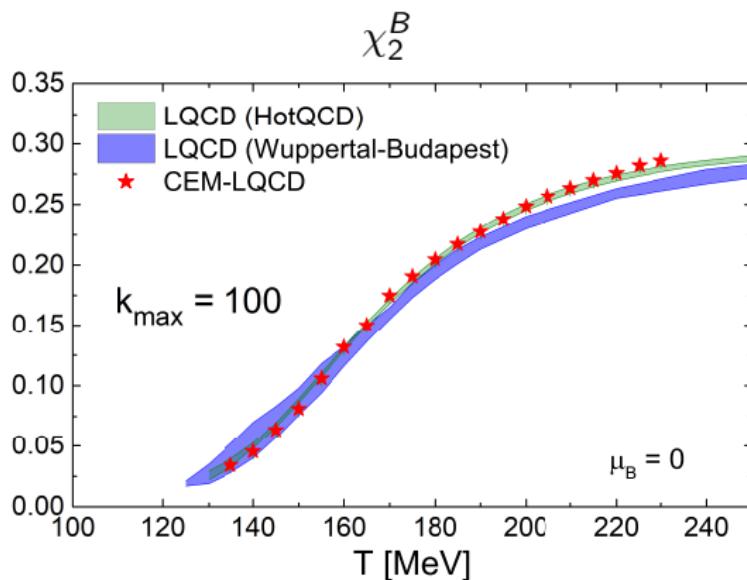


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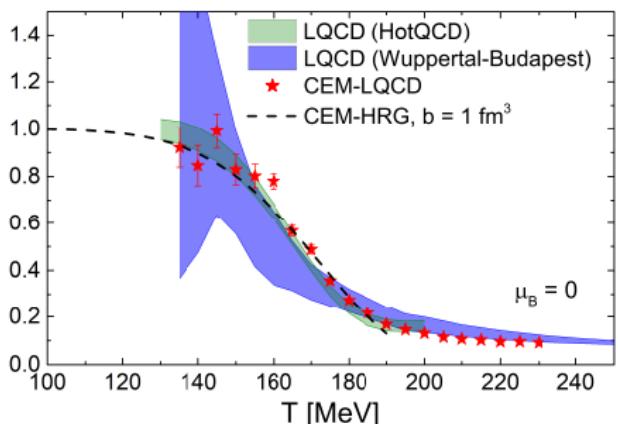
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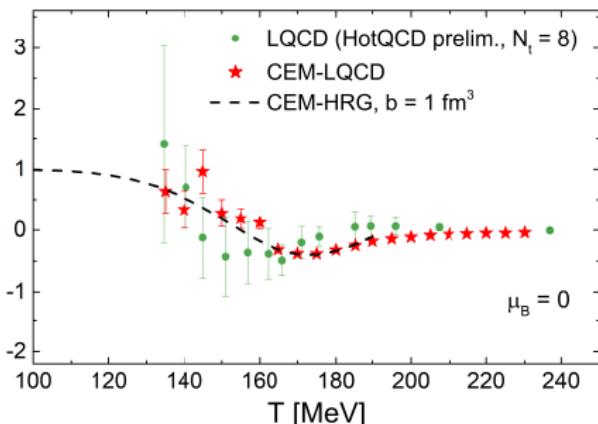
## CEM: 4th and 6th order ratios

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

$$\chi_4^B / \chi_2^B$$



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

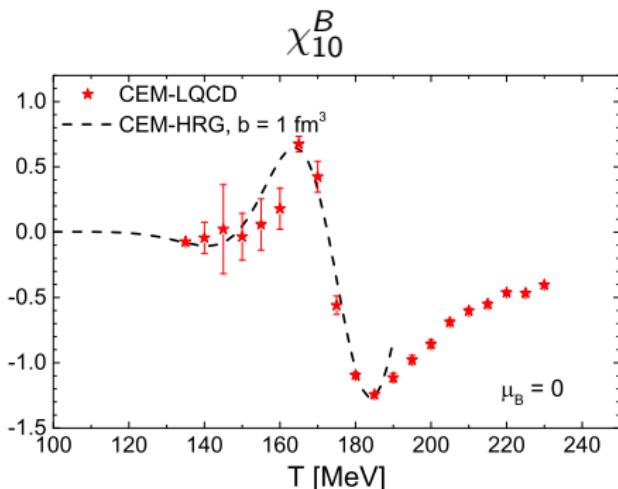
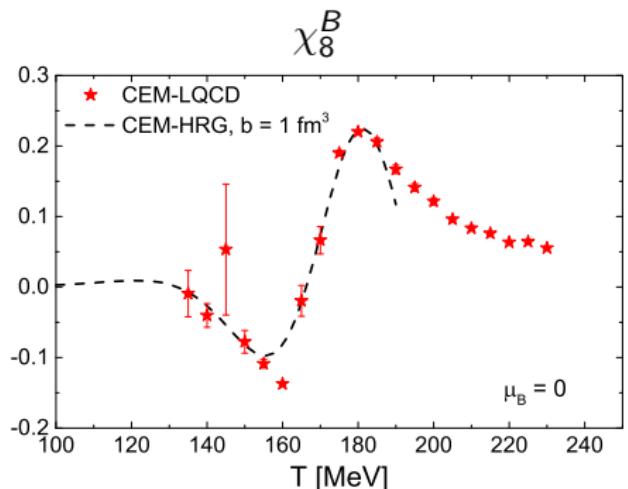


- Consistency with available LQCD data
- Interacting hadrons (CEM-HRG) up to  $T \simeq 185$  MeV?

LQCD data from 1507.04627 (Wuppertal-Budapest), 1701.04325 & 1708.04897 (HotQCD)  
CEM-HRG:  $b_1(T)$  and  $b_2(T)$  from EV-HRG model with  $b = 1 \text{ fm}^3$

## CEM: predictions for high orders

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



*To be verified by the future lattice data*

## Radius of convergence

---

Taylor expansion of QCD pressure:

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

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

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

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

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

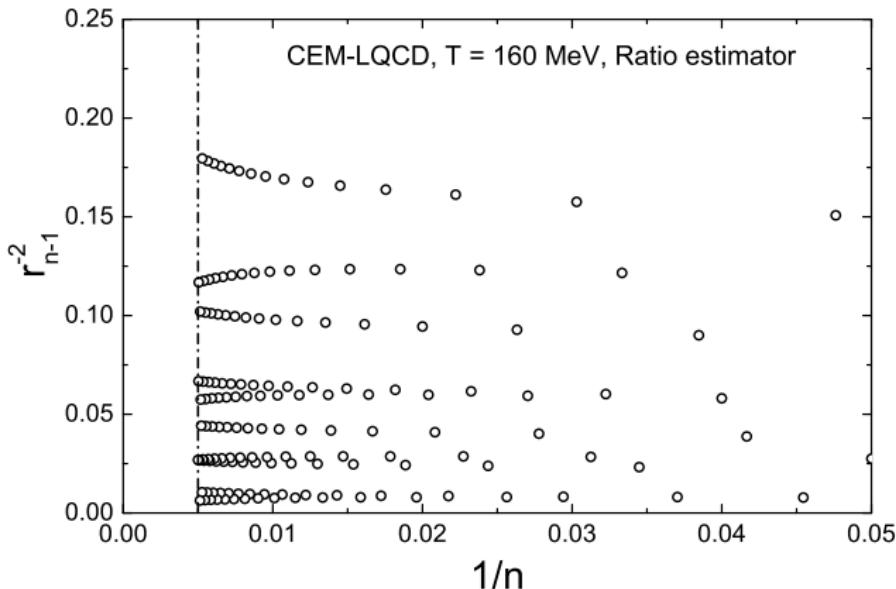
Ratio estimator:  $r_n = \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)\chi_{2n}^B}{\chi_{2n+2}^B} \right|^{1/2}, \quad r_{\mu/T} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n$

CEM allows to analyze  $r_n$  to very high order

## Radius of convergence: Domb-Sykes plot

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

CEM-LQCD @  $T = 160$  MeV

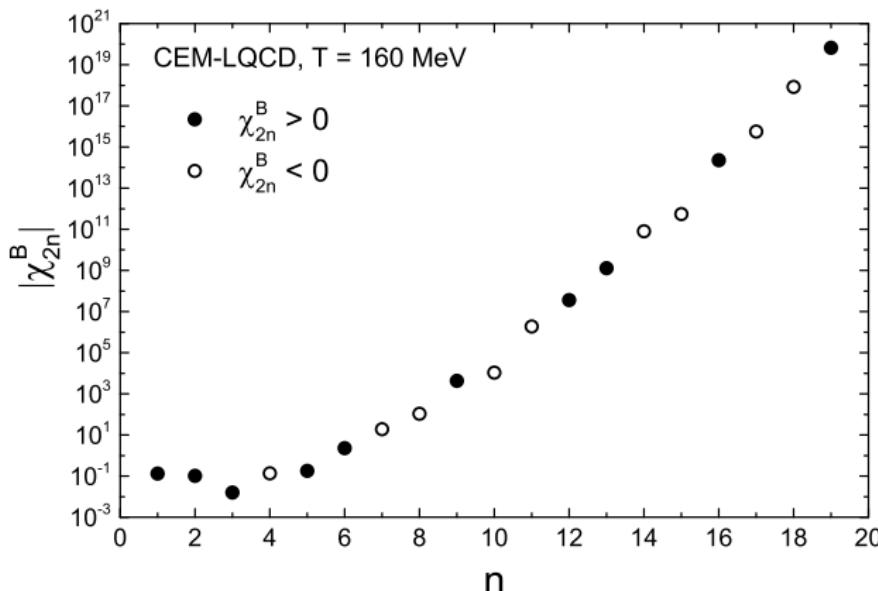


$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)\chi_{2n}^B}{\chi_{2n+2}^B} \right|^{1/2} \text{ DOES NOT EXIST!}$$

## Radius of convergence: Structure of Taylor coefficients

Ratio estimator works when coefficients have **regular asymptotic structure**:  
they either share the **same sign** or they **alternate in sign**

Equivalently: *Limiting singularity must be at a real  $(\mu_B/T)^2$  value*

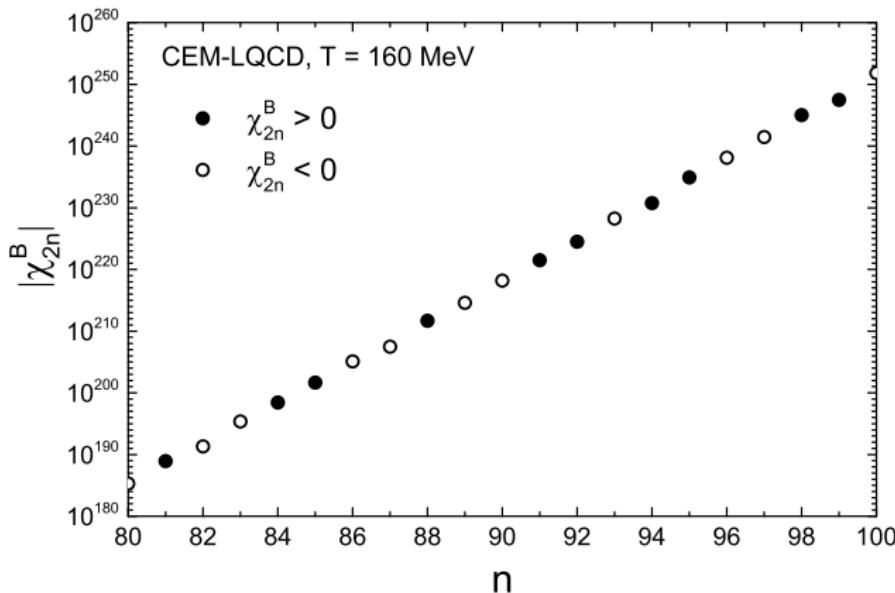


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Equivalently: *Limiting singularity must be at a real  $(\mu_B/T)^2$  value*



Negative coefficients appear starting from  $\chi_8^B$   
They never settle into a regular pattern

This means that limiting singularity lies in the **complex  $\mu_B/T$  plane** 14/23

## Radius of convergence: Use ratio estimator with care!

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If the limiting singularity lies in the complex  $\mu_B/T$  and the ratio estimator is applied then...

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$$r_n = \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)\chi_{2n}^B}{\chi_{2n+2}^B} \right|^{1/2}$$

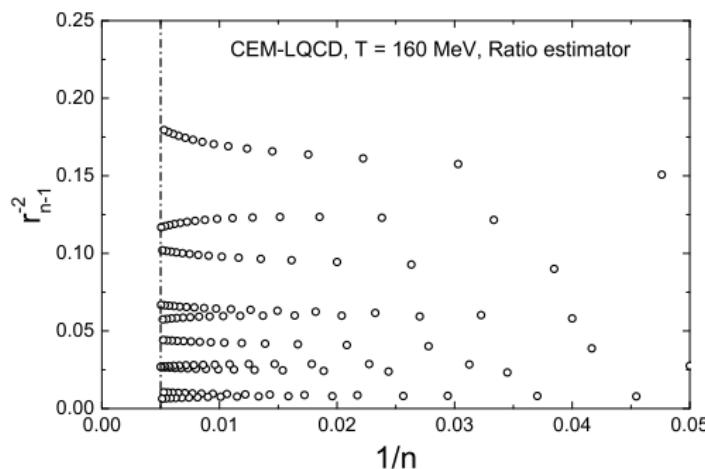
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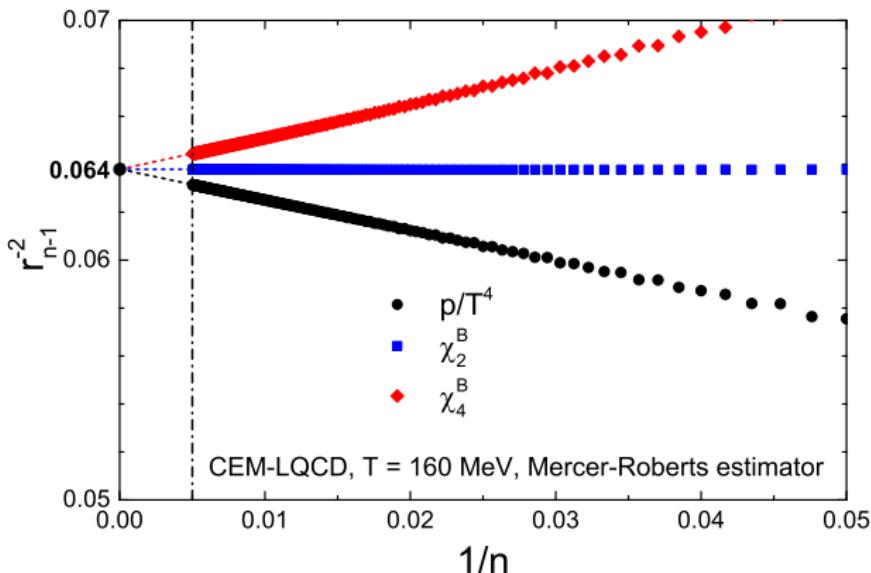


principle applies

## Radius of convergence: Mercer-Roberts estimator

A more involved Mercer-Roberts estimator:

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

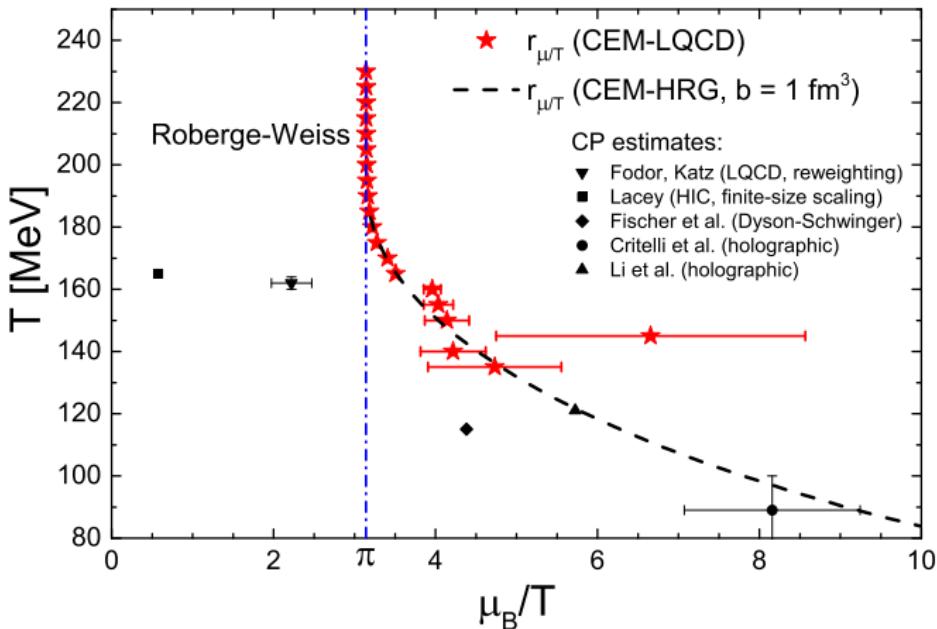


Taylor expansions for  $p/T^4$ ,  $\chi_2^B$ , and  $\chi_4^B$  all point to the same

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n^{-2} \simeq 0.064 \Rightarrow r_{\mu/T} \simeq 3.95 \text{ at } T = 160 \text{ MeV}$$

# Radius of convergence: Temperature dependence

Applying the Mercer-Roberts same procedure at other temperatures



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

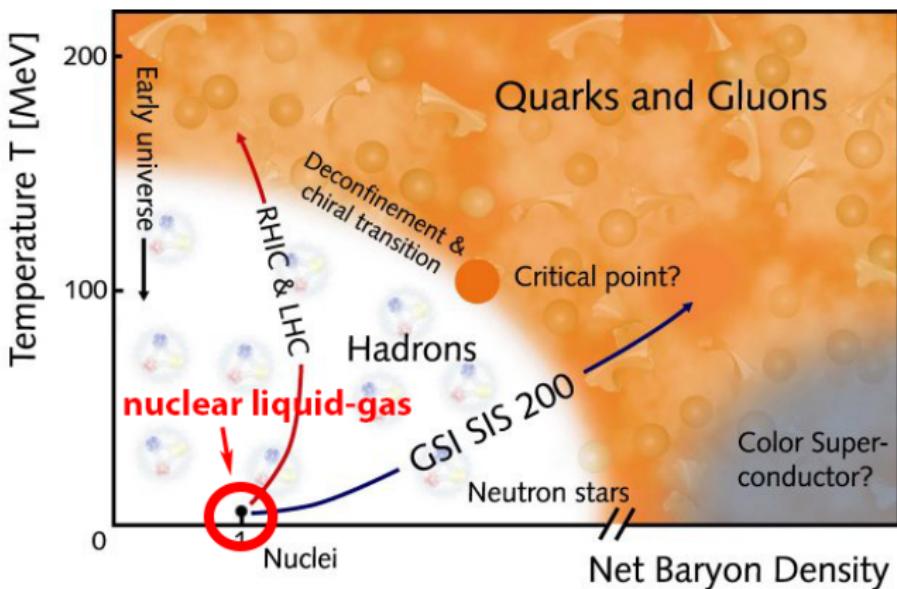
R-W transition expected at  $T > T_{RW}$  and  $\text{Im}[\mu_B/T] = \pi$  [Roberge, Weiss, NPB '86]

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

Critical point of nuclear matter and beam energy dependence of net proton number fluctuations

## Critical point of nuclear matter

While the existence and location of the QCD critical point is unclear, the QCD phase diagram



is known to contain the critical point of nuclear matter at  $T_c \sim 15$  MeV and *real* ( $c\mu_B/T)_c \sim 40$

How does it influence the fluctuation observables in heavy-ion collisions?

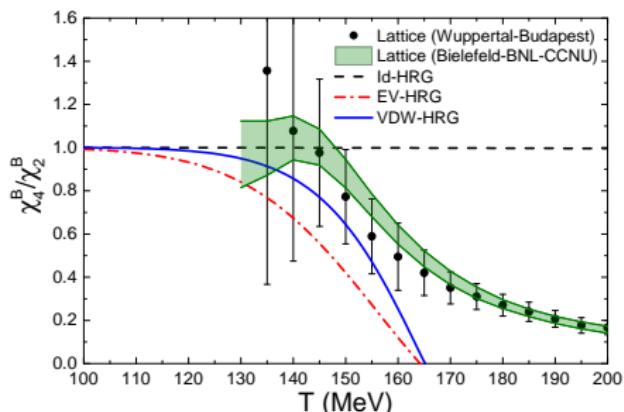
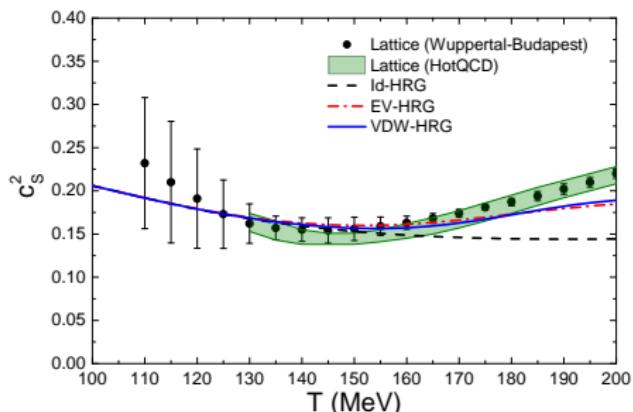
# QvdW-HRG model

## QvdW-HRG model [V.V., M.I. Gorenstein, H. Stoecker, PRL 118, 182301 (2017) ]

HRG with attractive and repulsive van der Waals interactions between baryons  
vdW parameters  $a = 329 \text{ MeV fm}^3$  and  $b = 3.42 \text{ fm}^3$  tuned to nuclear ground state properties

Critical point of nuclear matter at  $T_c \simeq 19.7 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\mu_c \simeq 908 \text{ MeV}$

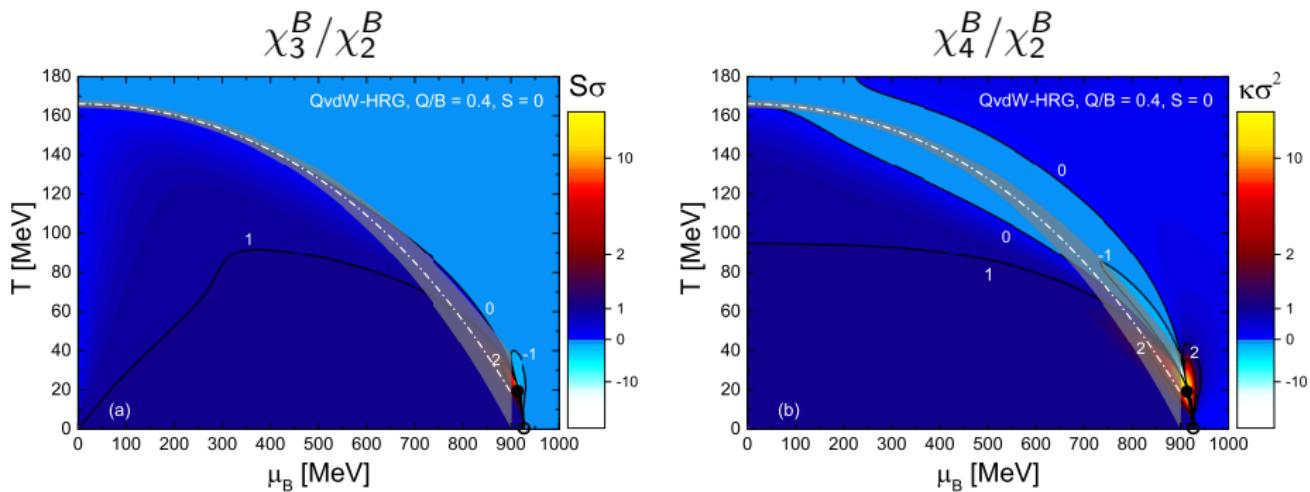
Hadronic model – no QGP



*Strong effects even at  $\mu_B = 0!$*

*What about intermediate collision energies?*

# QvdW-HRG model: fluctuations in $T$ - $\mu_B$ plane



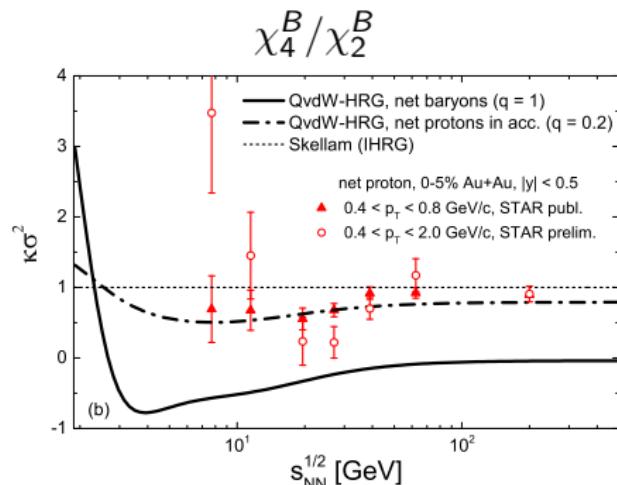
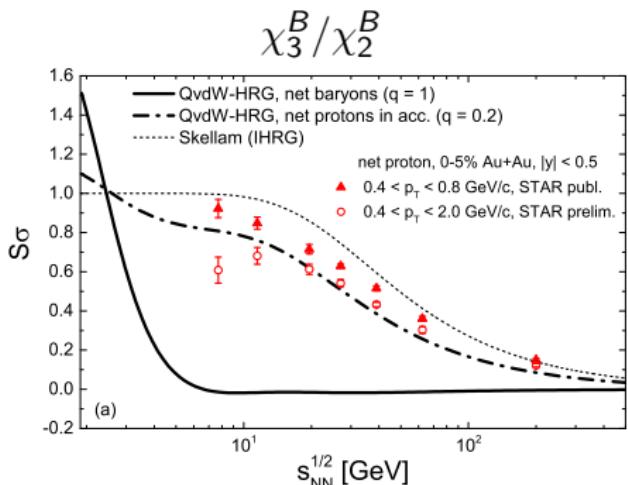
Chemical freeze-out curve from Cleymans et al., Phys. Rev. C 73, 034905 (2006)

*Critical point of nuclear matter shines brightly in fluctuation observables, across the whole region of phase diagram probed by heavy-ion collisions*

# QvdW-HRG model: collision energy dependence

Calculating fluctuations along the “freeze-out” curve

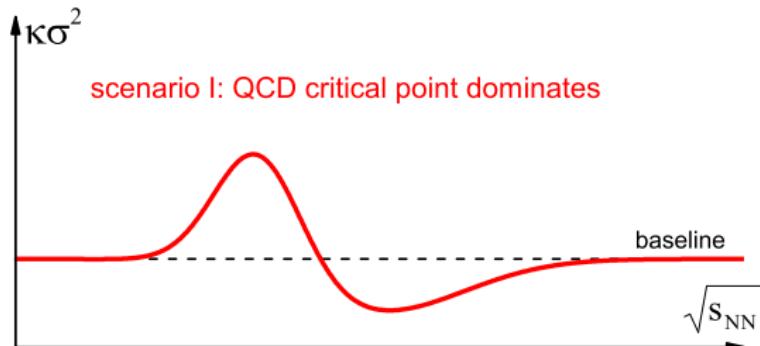
Acceptance effects (protons instead of baryons, momentum cut) modeled *schematically*, by applying the *binomial filter* [A. Bzdak, V. Koch, PRC '12]



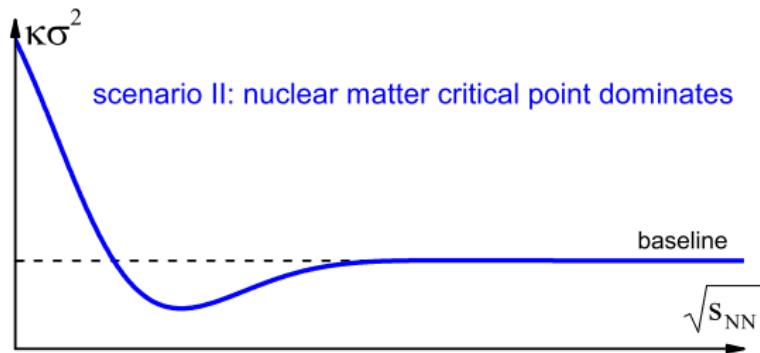
Effects of nuclear liquid-gas criticality:

- Non-monotonic collision energy dependence
- Net proton quite different from net baryon, even if global charge conservation effects could be neglected/corrected for

## Scenarios for collision energy dependence



M. Stephanov, JPG "11



V.V., L. Jiang, M. Gorenstein,  
H. Stoecker, 1711.07260

Can the scenarios be distinguished? Need data at lower energies...

Opportunities for HADES, CBM, NA61/SHINE, STAR!

## Summary

---

- LQCD data at imaginary  $\mu_B$  suggests presence of repulsive baryonic interactions with “eigenvolume”  $b \simeq 1 \text{ fm}^3$  in the crossover region
- Cluster Expansion Model describes all available lattice data on net baryon susceptibilities. Radius of convergence at  $T > 135 \text{ MeV}$  sees Roberge-Weiss like transition in the complex  $\mu_B/T$  plane
- Nuclear liquid-gas criticality causes non-monotonic energy dependence of skewness and kurtosis
- Net proton fluctuations  $\neq$  Net baryon fluctuations, for more reasons than just baryon number conservation

## Summary

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**Thanks for your attention!**

## Backup slides

## Baryonic excluded volume

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Baryon-baryon interactions seem to exhibit a repulsive core – **excluded volume**

EV model: a simple approach for repulsive interactions [Rischke et al., Z. Phys. C '91]

$$V \rightarrow V - bN \quad \Rightarrow \quad p(T, \mu) = p^{\text{id}}(T, \mu - bp)$$

### EV-HRG model

- Identical EV interactions for all baryon-baryon and antibaryon-antibaryon pairs
- Baryon-antibaryon, meson-meson, meson-baryon EV terms **neglected**
- A single parameter  $b$  characterizing interactions

Three independent subsystems: **mesons** + **baryons** + **antibaryons**

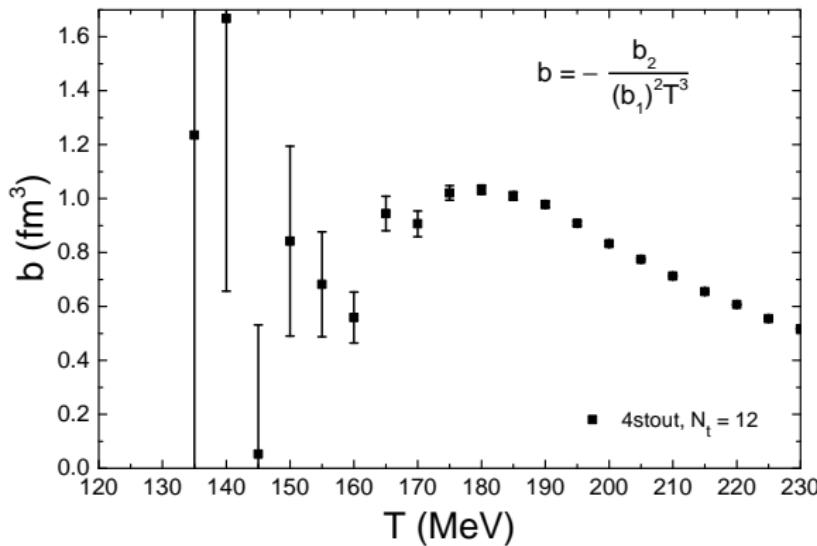
$$p(T, \mu) = p_M(T, \mu) + p_B(T, \mu) + p_{\bar{B}}(T, \mu),$$

$$p_M(T, \mu) = \sum_{j \in M} p_j^{\text{id}}(T, \mu_j) \quad \text{and} \quad p_B(T, \mu) = \sum_{j \in B} p_j^{\text{id}}(T, \mu_j - b p_B)$$

## “Excluded volume” parameter from imaginary $\mu_B$ data

“Excluded volume” parameter of baryon-baryon interactions can be estimated from lattice

$$b(T) = -\frac{b_2(T)}{[b_1(T)]^2 T^3}$$



$b(T)$  mostly consistent with 1 fm $^3$  at  $T < 190$  MeV

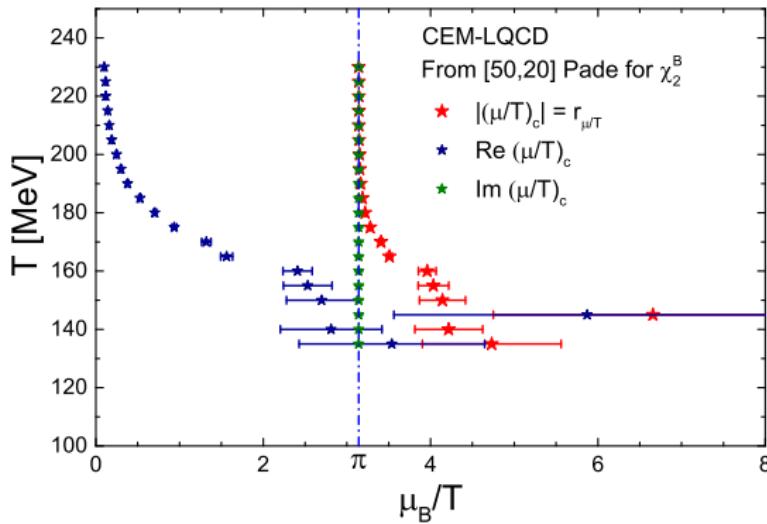
## Radius of convergence: Cross-check with Padé approximants

Padé approximant for  $\chi_2^B$ :

$$\chi_2^B(T, \mu_B/T) \approx \frac{\sum_{j=0}^m a_j (\mu_B/T)^j}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k (\mu_B/T)^k}$$

$a_j$  and  $b_k$  constructed from  $\chi_{2n}^B$  to match Taylor expansion

Poles of Padé approximants often point to true singularities of the function

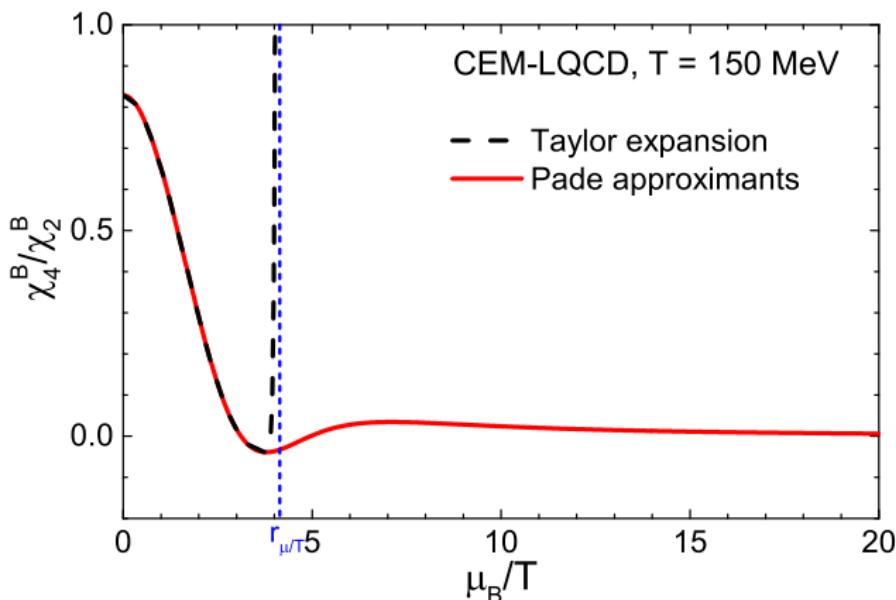


$\text{Im}[\mu_B/T]_c = \pi$ , while  $\text{Re}[\mu_B/T]_c$  decreases towards zero with 23/23

## Going beyond the radius of convergence

Padé approximants allow to go beyond the radius for convergence

Example:  $\chi_4^B / \chi_2^B$  at finite  $\mu_B / T$



## Outlook: Full QCD equation of state at finite baryon density

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Full QCD equation of state at finite baryon density can be obtained from fugacity expansion

$$\frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{p(T, 0)}{T^4} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_k(T)}{k} [\cosh(k \mu_B / T) - 1],$$

or from Taylor expansion

$$\frac{p(T, \mu_B)}{T^4} = \frac{p(T, 0)}{T^4} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi_{2k}^B(T)}{(2k)!} (\mu_B / T)^{2k},$$

where  $p(T, 0)/T^4$  is already available from lattice QCD, and where  $b_k(T)$  or  $\chi_{2k}^B(T)$  can be computed using CEM to arbitrary order.

Various techniques can be employed to circumvent limitations due to a finite radius of convergence.