

Complex Langevin and QCD Thermodynamics

Benjamin Jäger

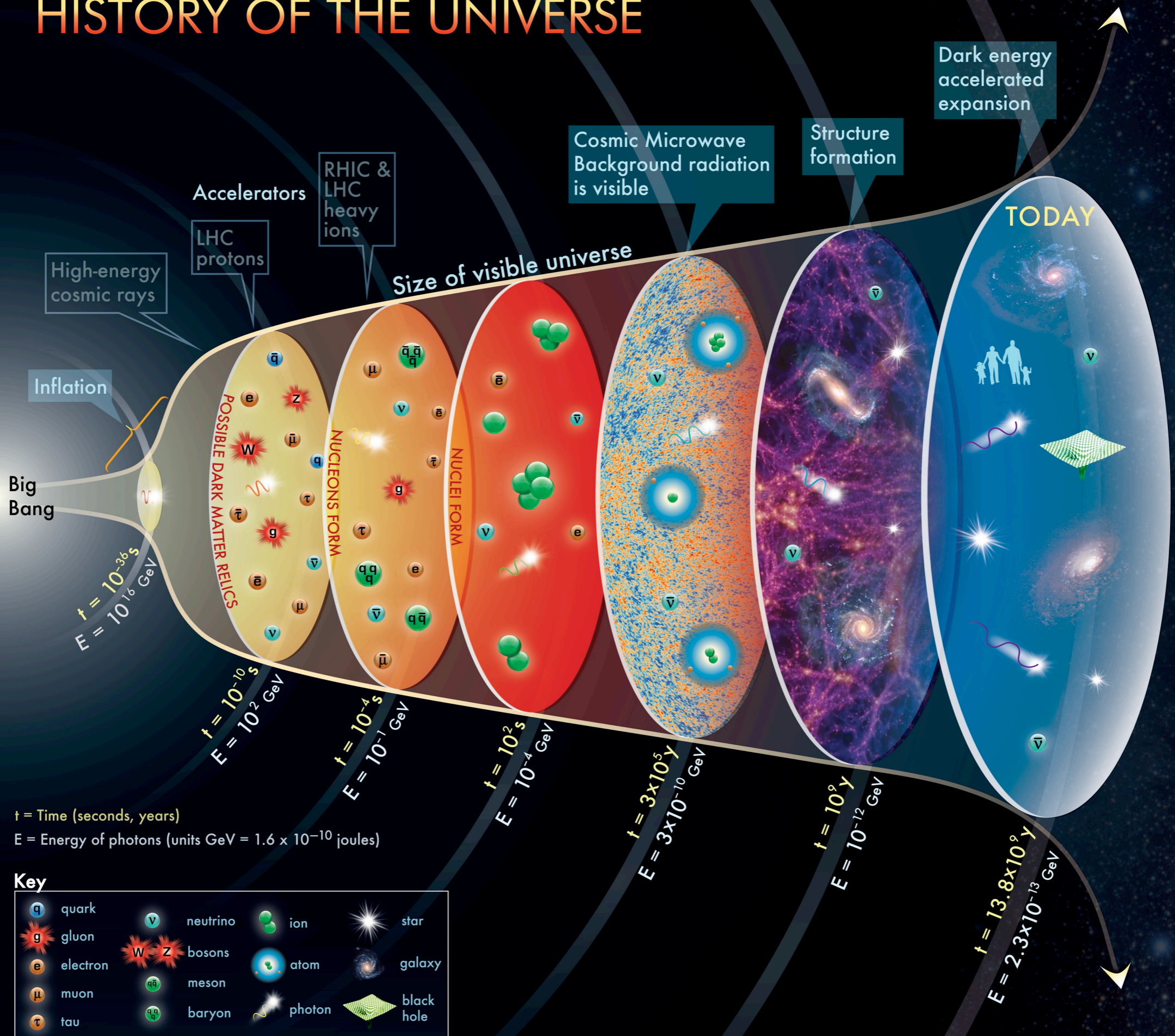


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HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE



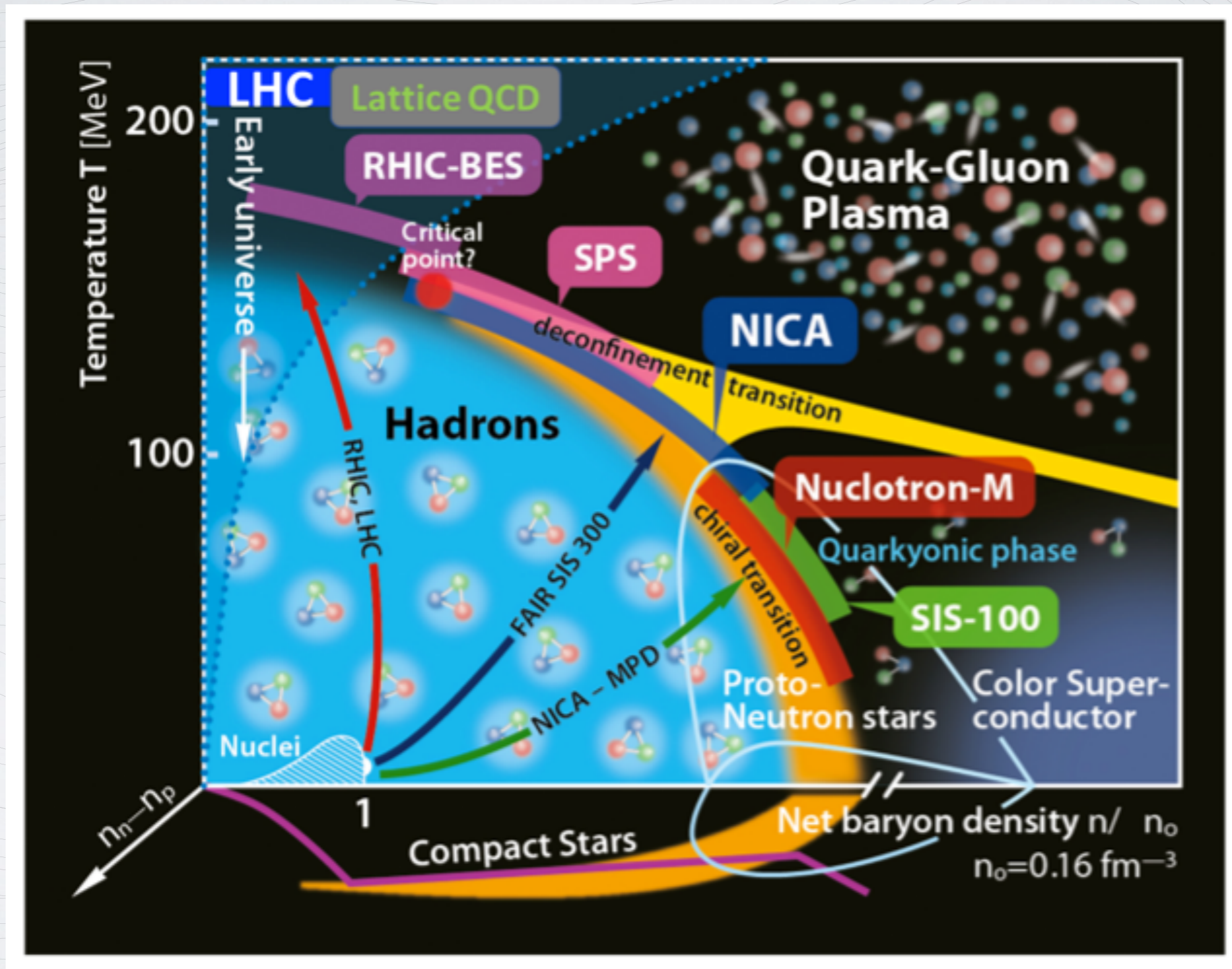
t = Time (seconds, years)
 E = Energy of photons (units GeV = 1.6×10^{-10} joules)

Key

quark	neutrino	ion	star
gluon	bosons	atom	galaxy
electron	meson	photon	black hole
muon	baryon		
tau			

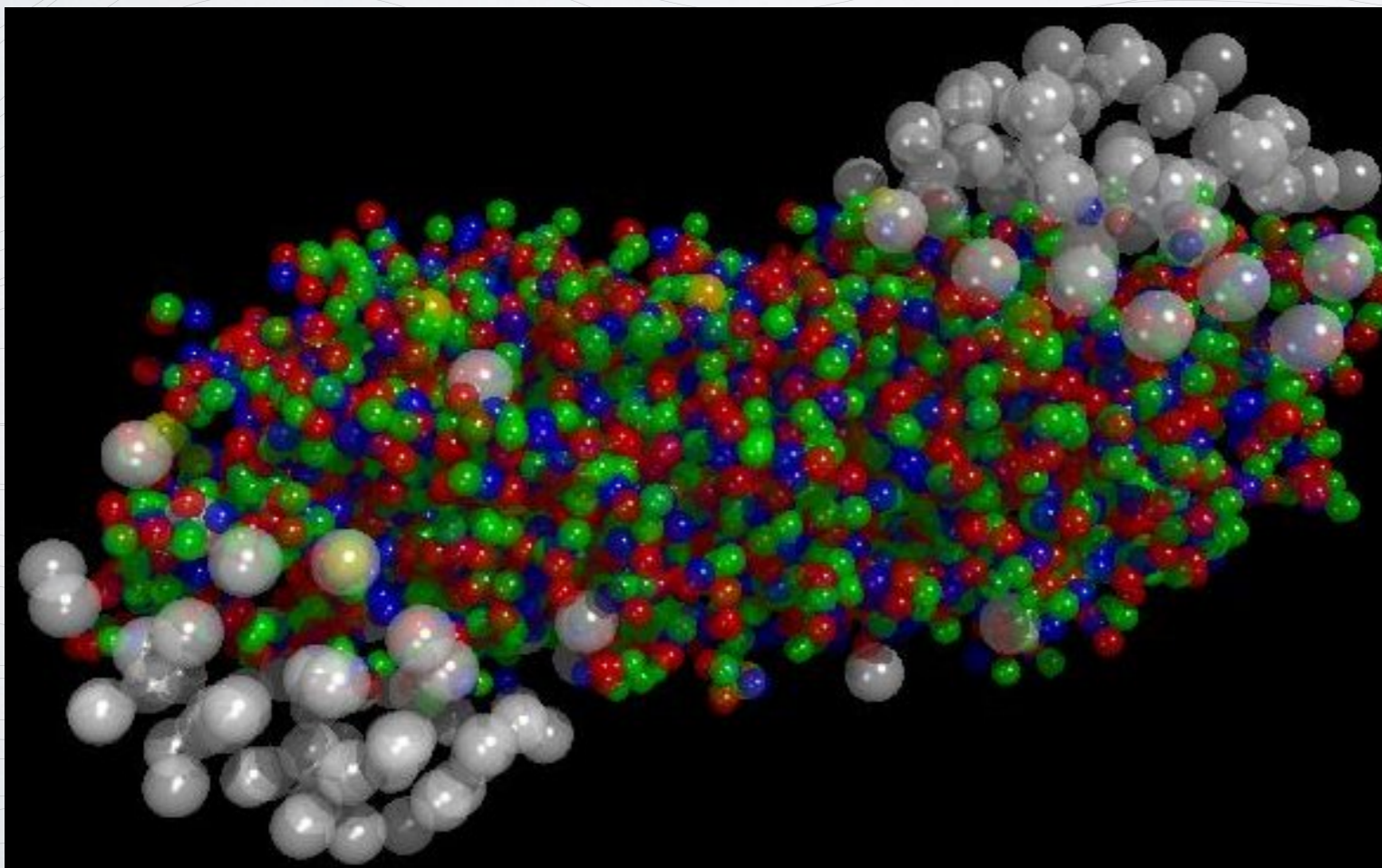
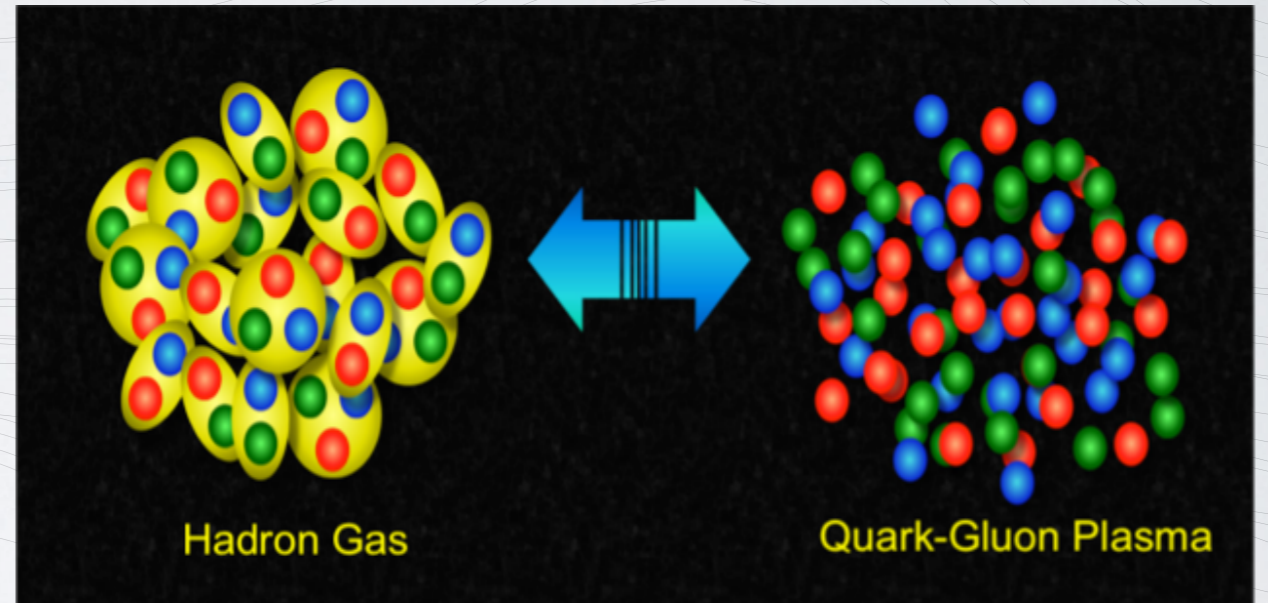
The concept for the above figure originated in a 1986 paper by Michael Turner.

QCD Thermodynamics



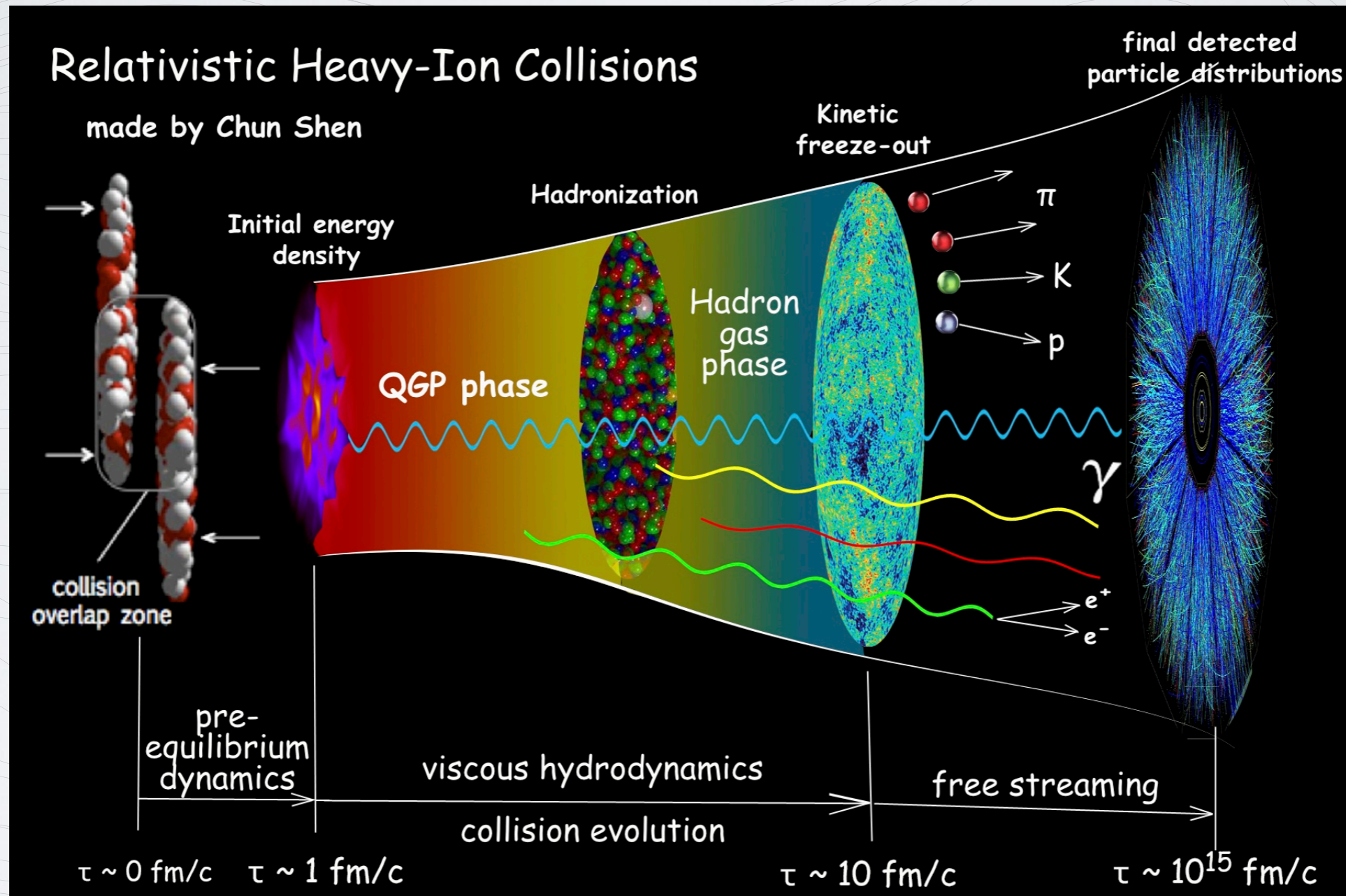
QCD Thermodynamics

Understand the transition

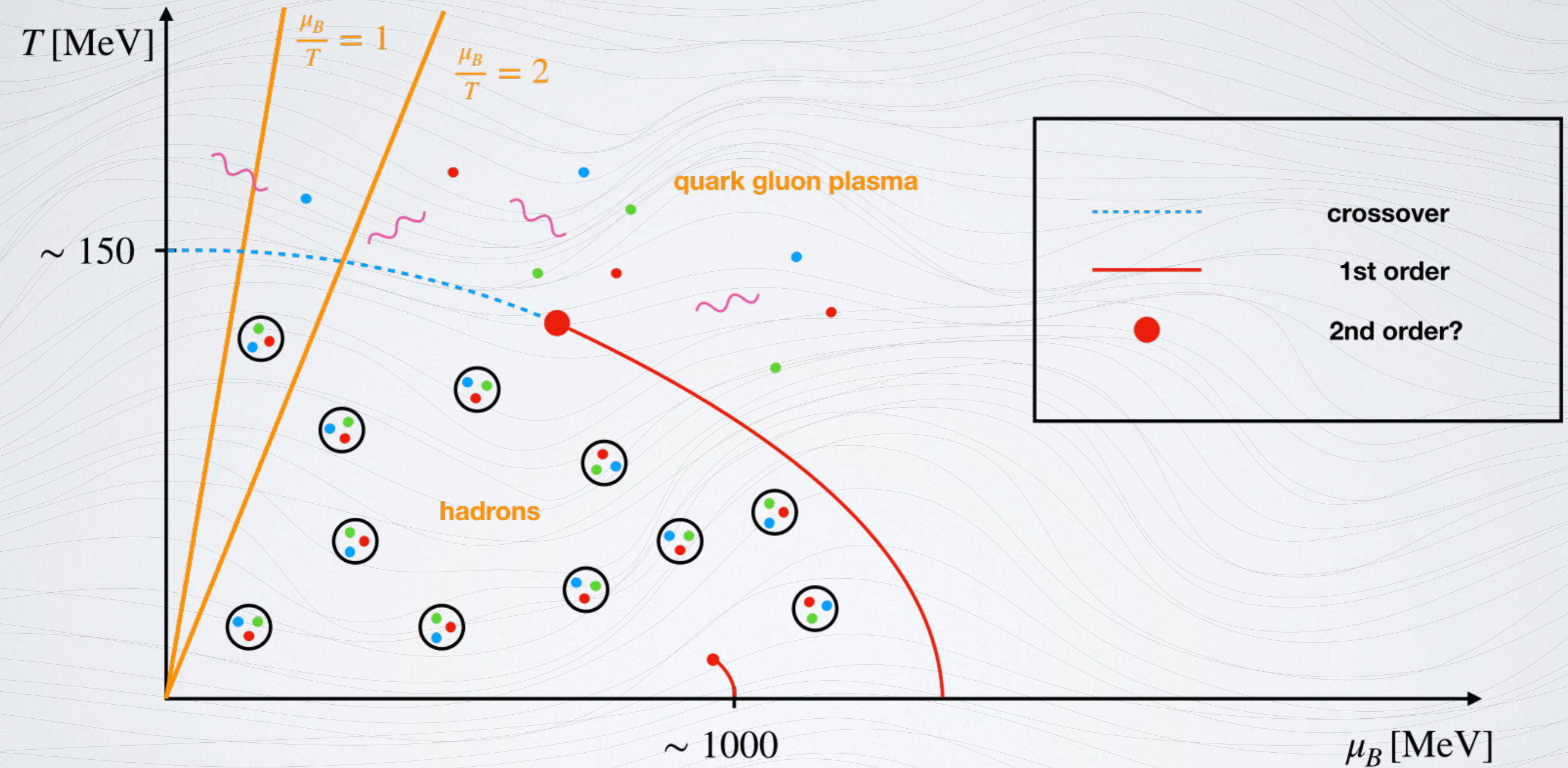


Heavy-Ion
Collision
Experiments

Heavy-Ion Collision Experiments

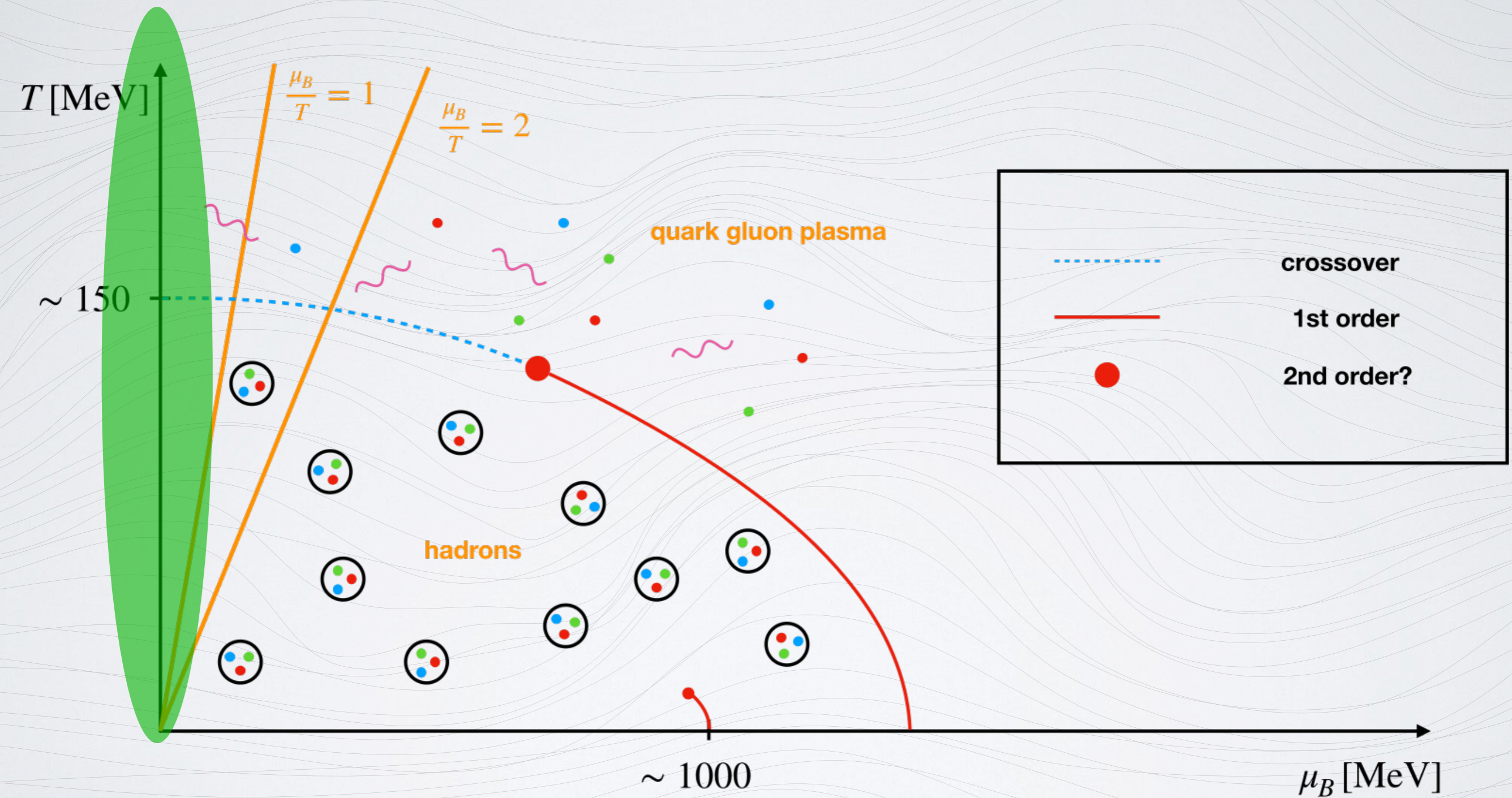


QCD phase diagram



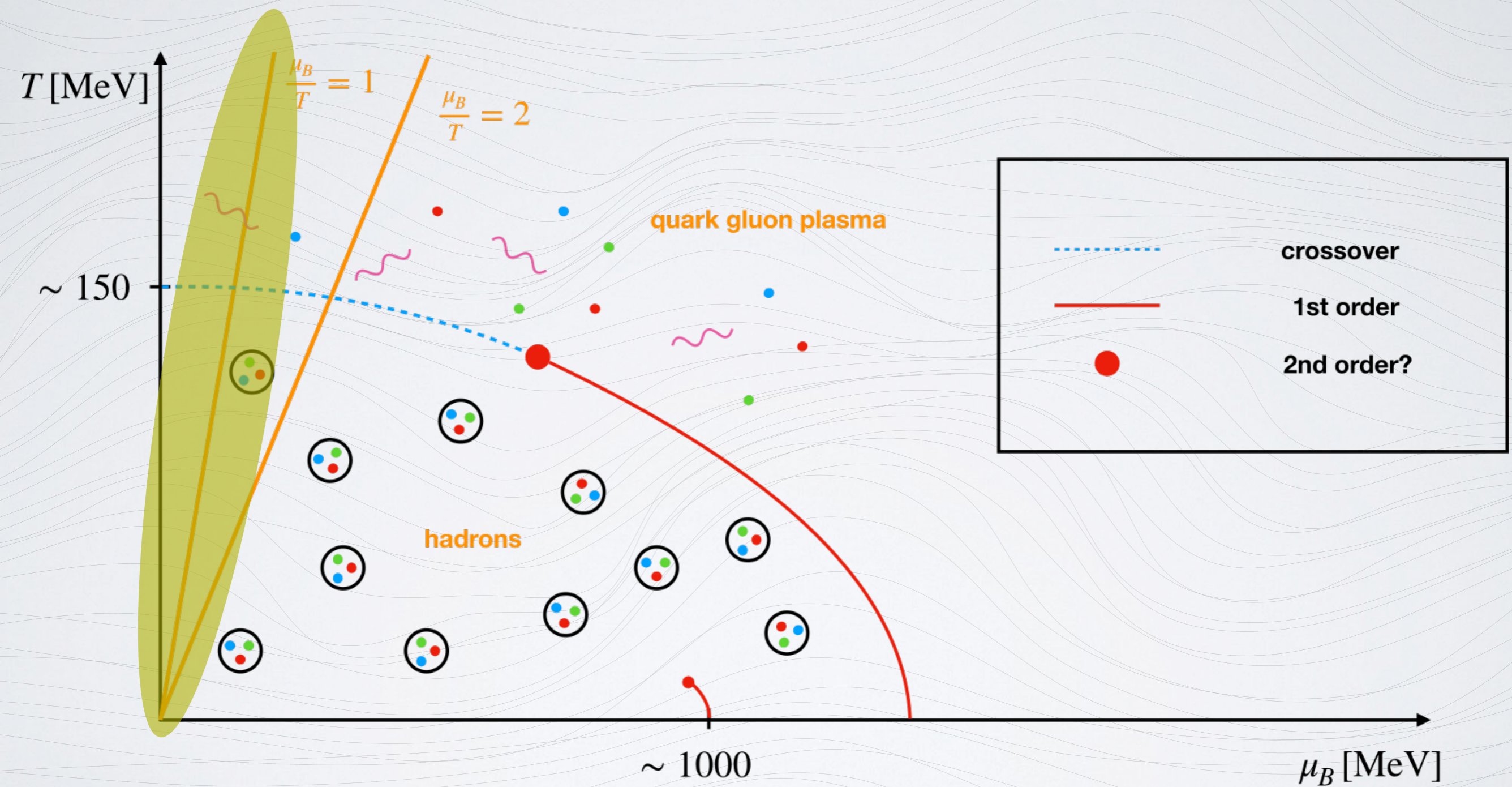
Here: Focus on QCD phase diagram with complex Langevin

QCD phase diagram



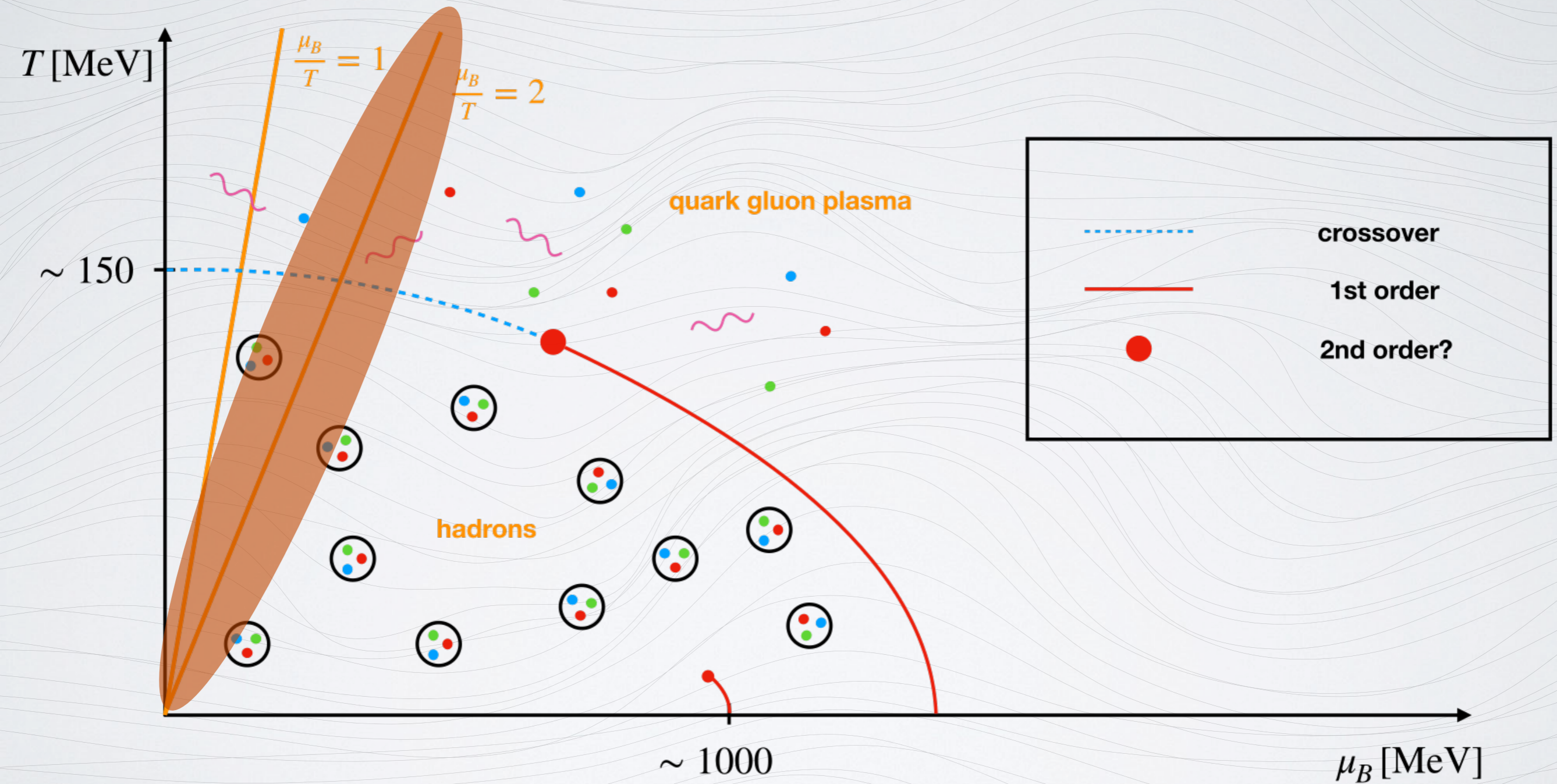
Thermodynamics ($\mu = 0$) - Easy

QCD phase diagram



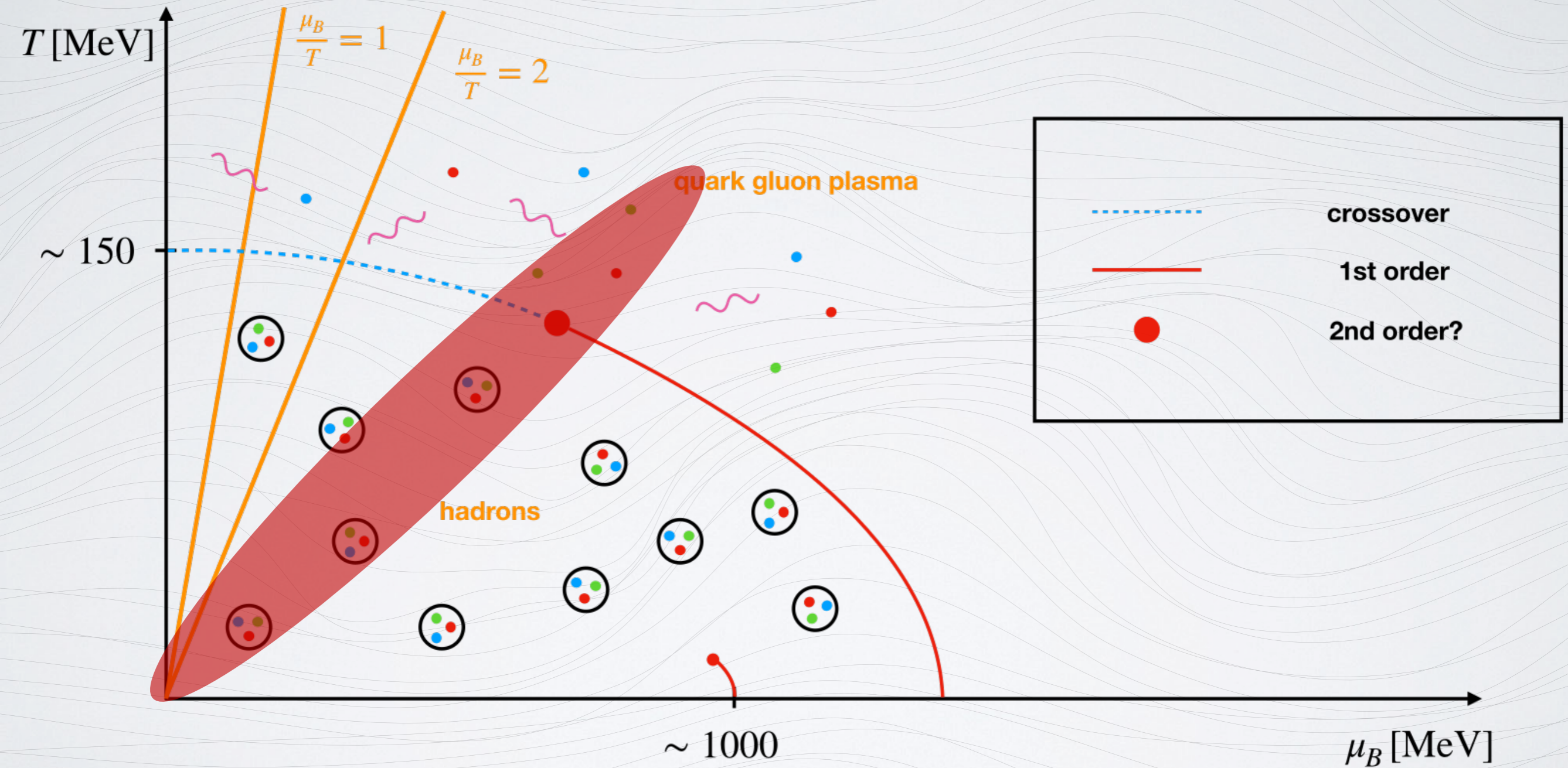
Small expansions - Medium

QCD phase diagram



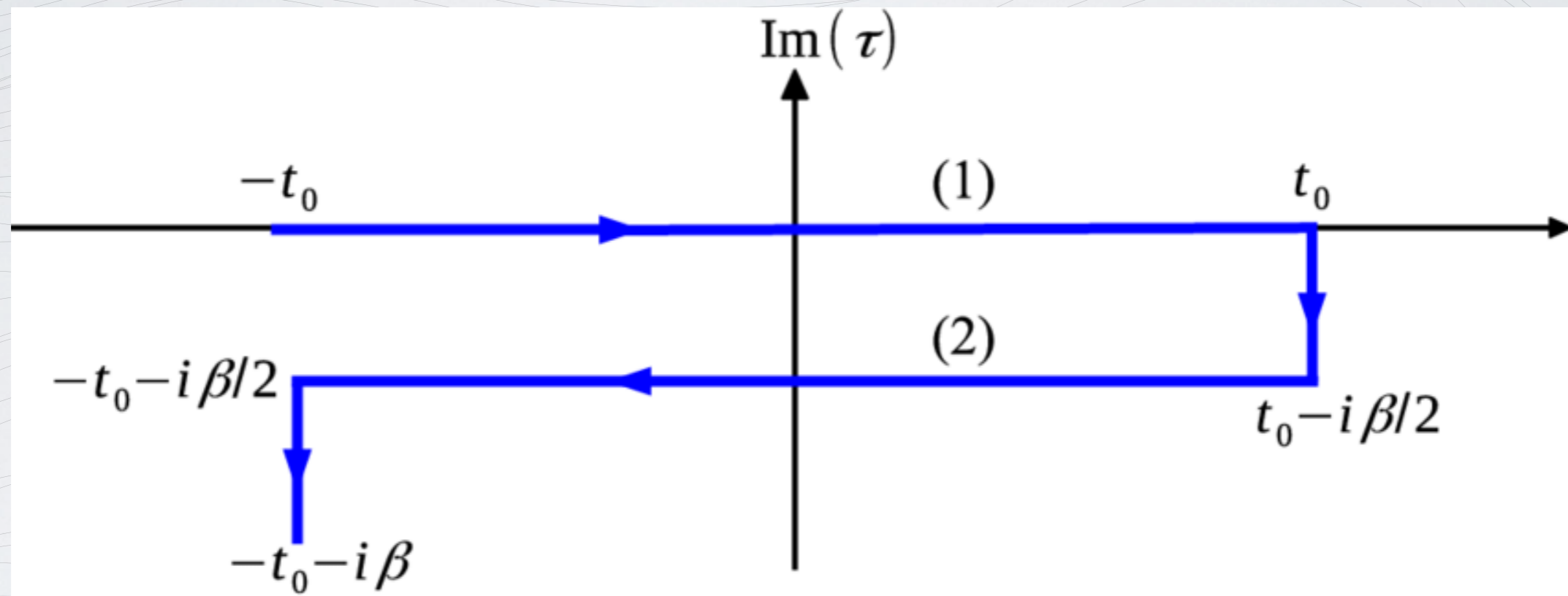
Larger expansions - Hard

QCD phase diagram



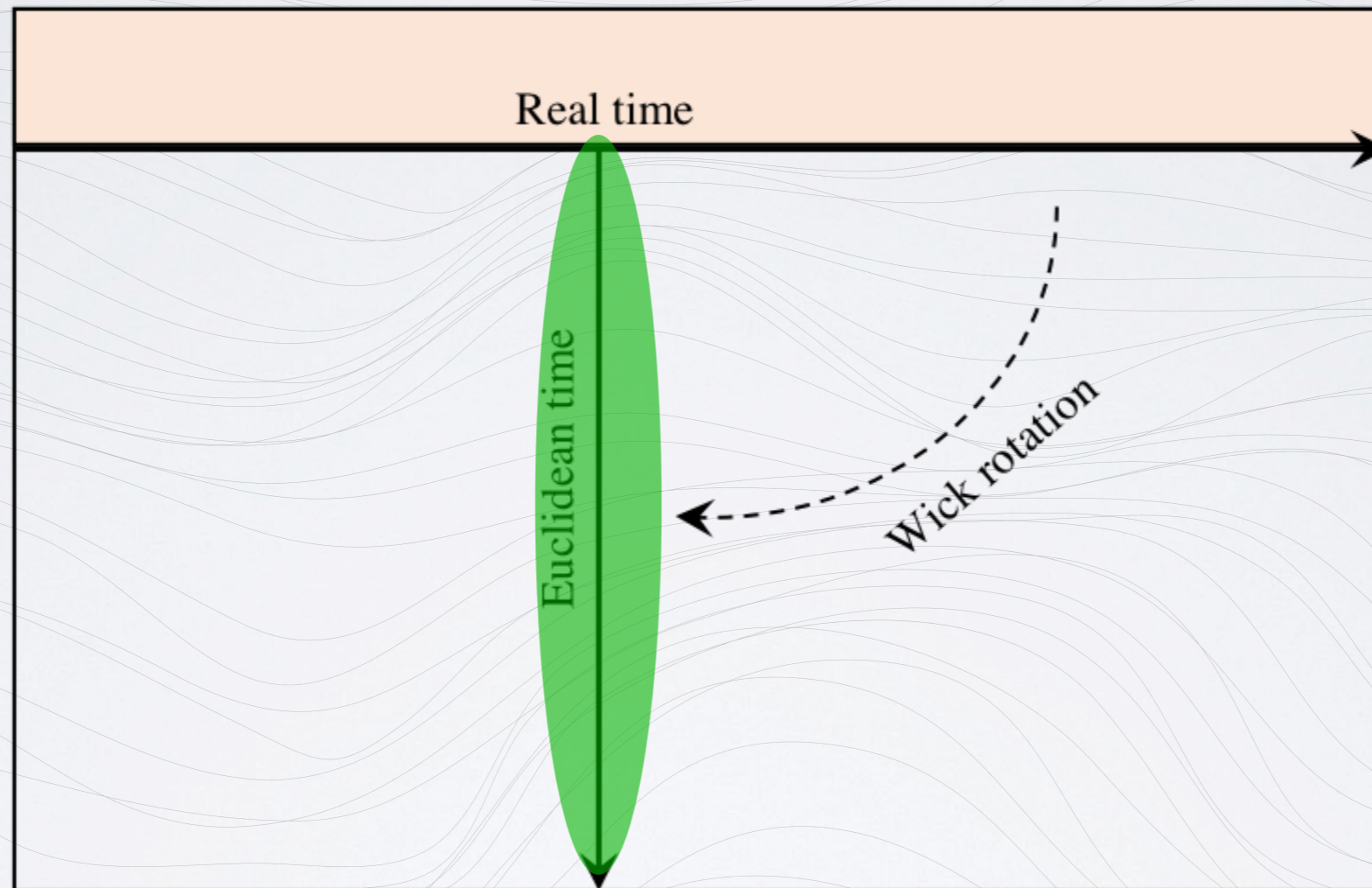
Finite μ - Very hard (exponential in volume)

Real-time QCD



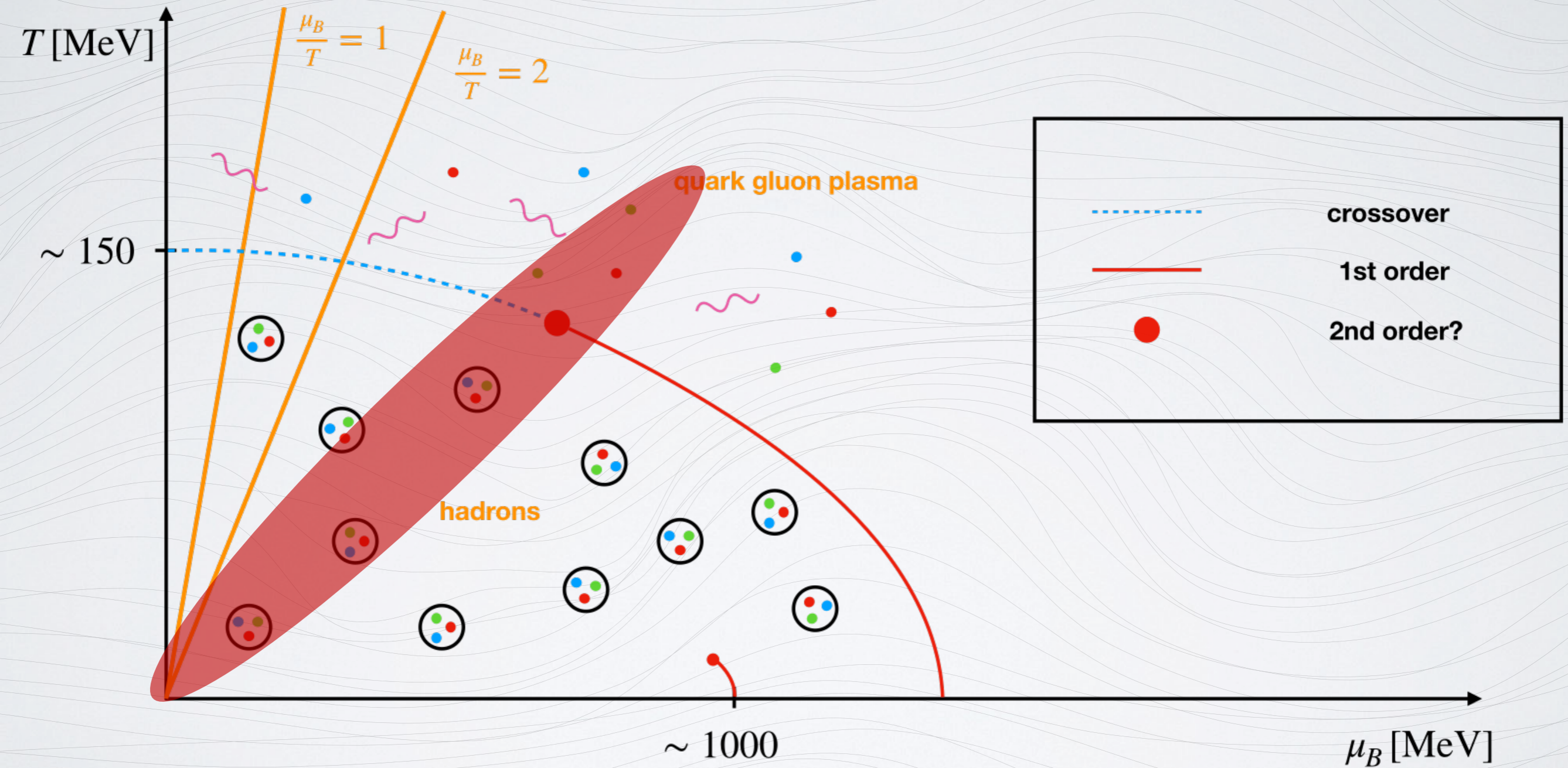
Schwinger-Keldysh contour - Extremely hard

In Minkowski space-time



In Minkowski space-time - Currently impossible

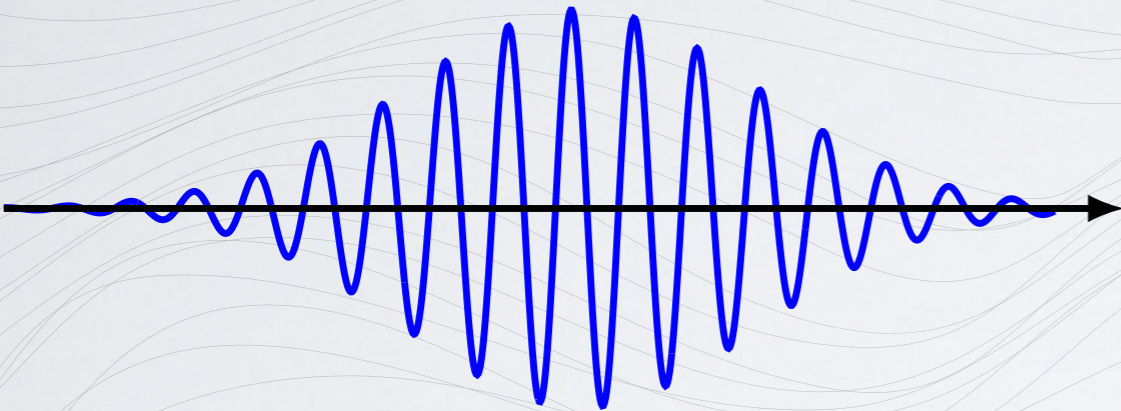
Back to QCD phase diagram



Finite μ - Very hard (exponential in volume)

Sign Problem

Sign Problem



- With $\mu_B \neq 0$ the path integral becomes complex
- Reason: $\det(D) \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}[U] O(U) |\det D| e^{i\phi} e^{-S_G(U)}$$

- Importance Sampling Monte Carlo not applicable :(

Sign Problem

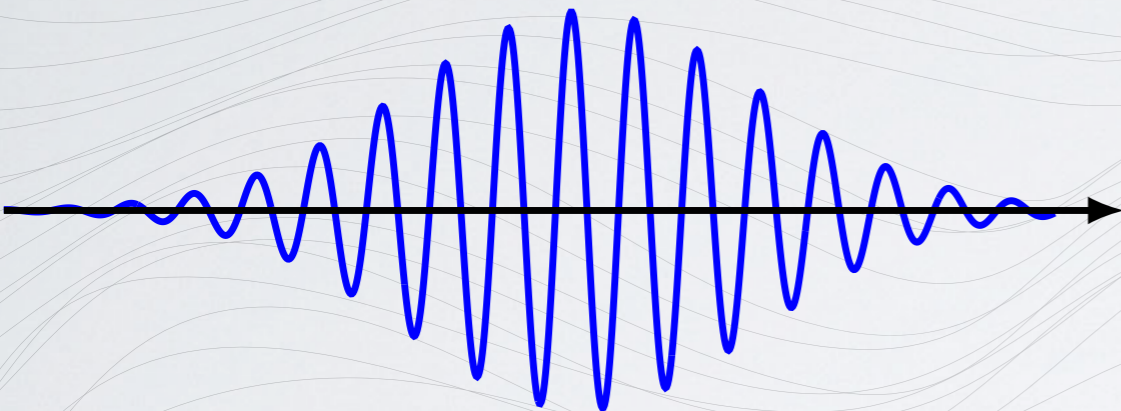
Example

- Simple one-dim. integral

$$Z = \int dx e^{-x^2 + i \lambda x}$$

- Exact integration: $Z = \sqrt{\pi} e^{-\lambda^2/4}$

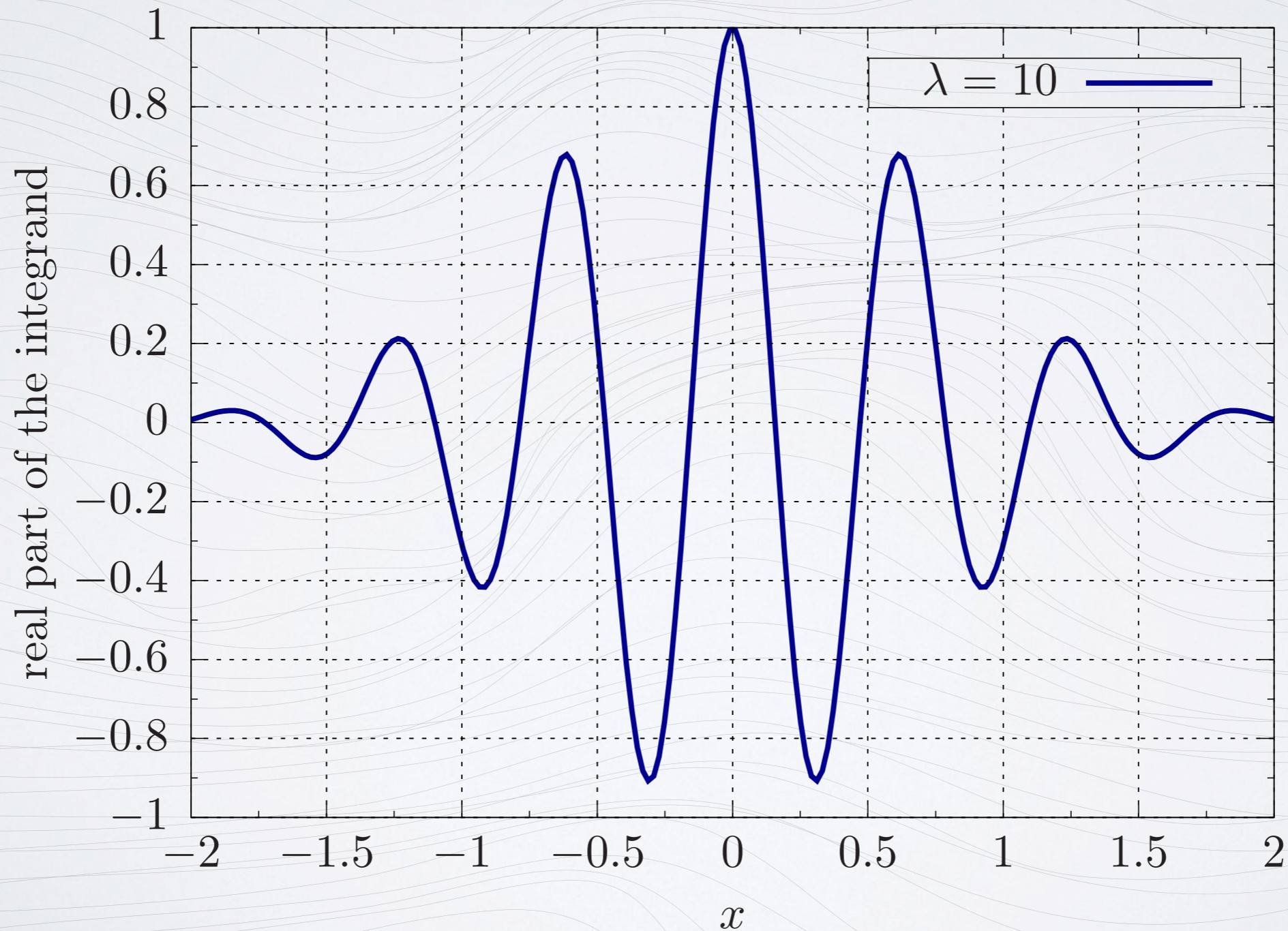
$$\Re(Z) = \int dx \exp(-x^2) \cos(\lambda x)$$



Sign Problem

Example ($\lambda = 10$)

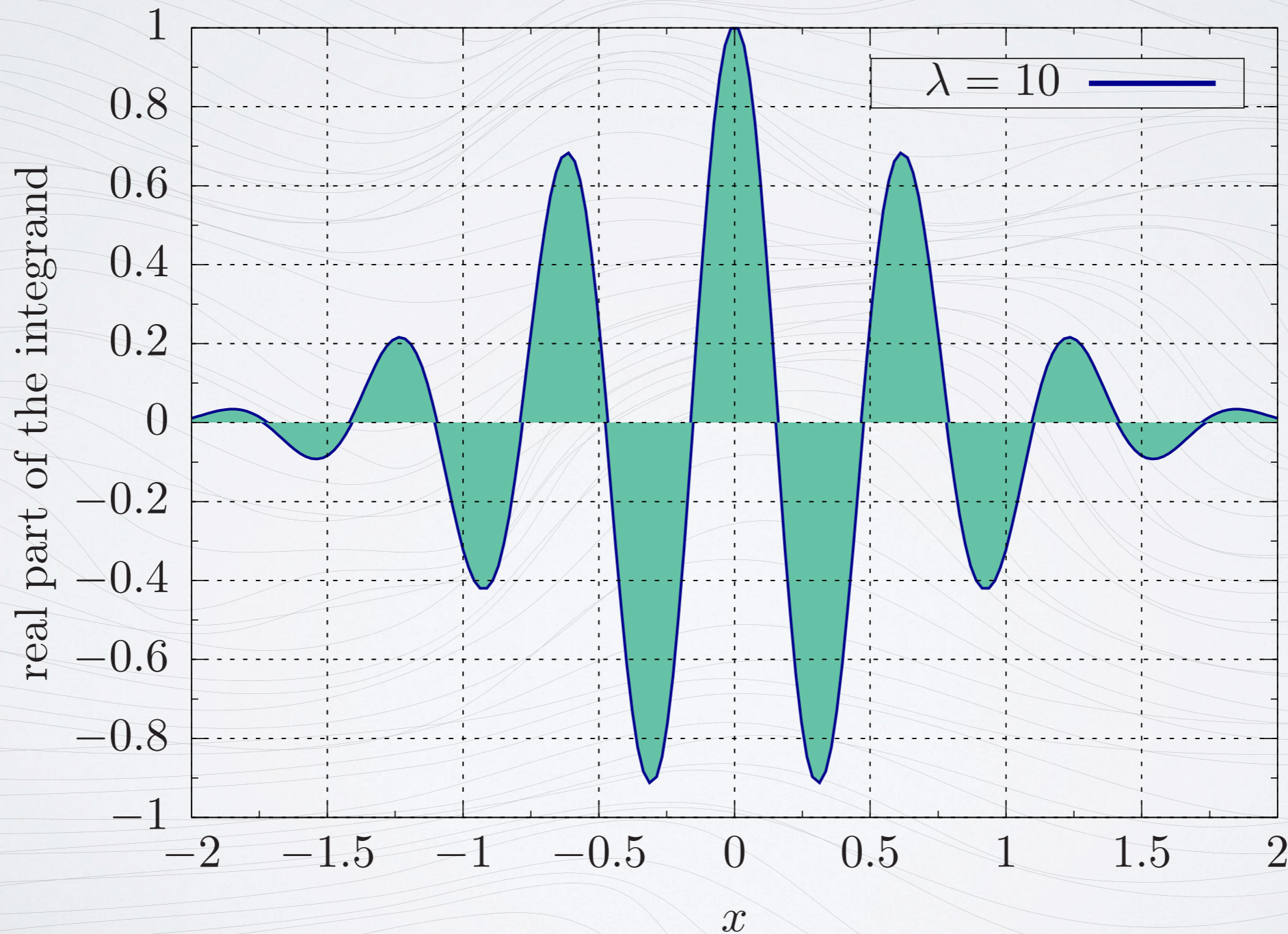
$$Z = \int dx e^{-x^2 + i\lambda x}$$



Sign Problem

Example ($\lambda = 10$)

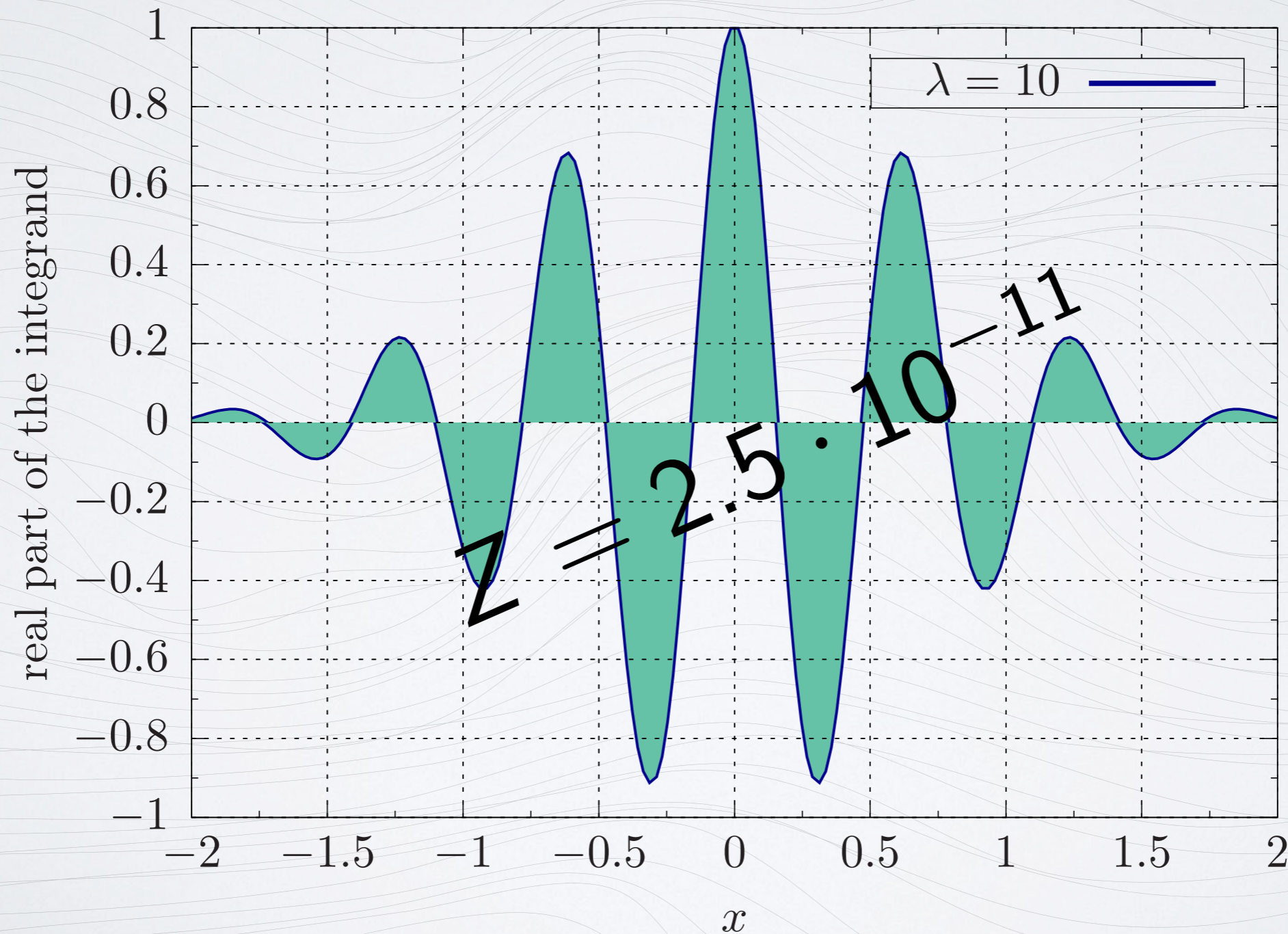
$$Z = \int dx e^{-x^2 + i\lambda x}$$



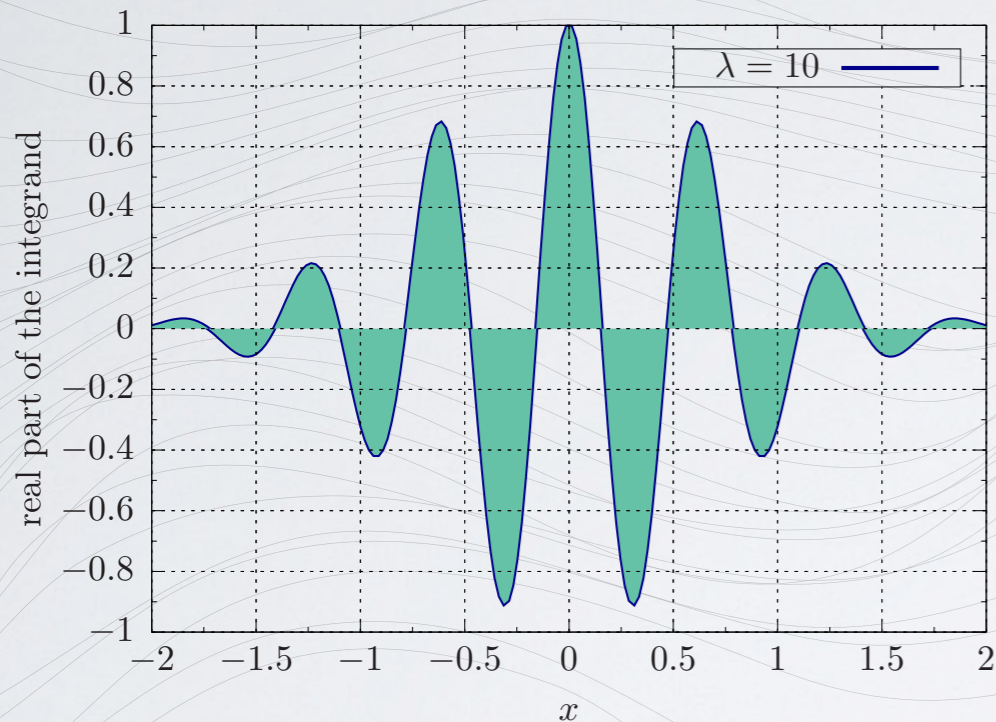
Sign Problem

Example ($\lambda = 10$)

$$Z = \int dx e^{-x^2 + i\lambda x}$$



Sign Problem



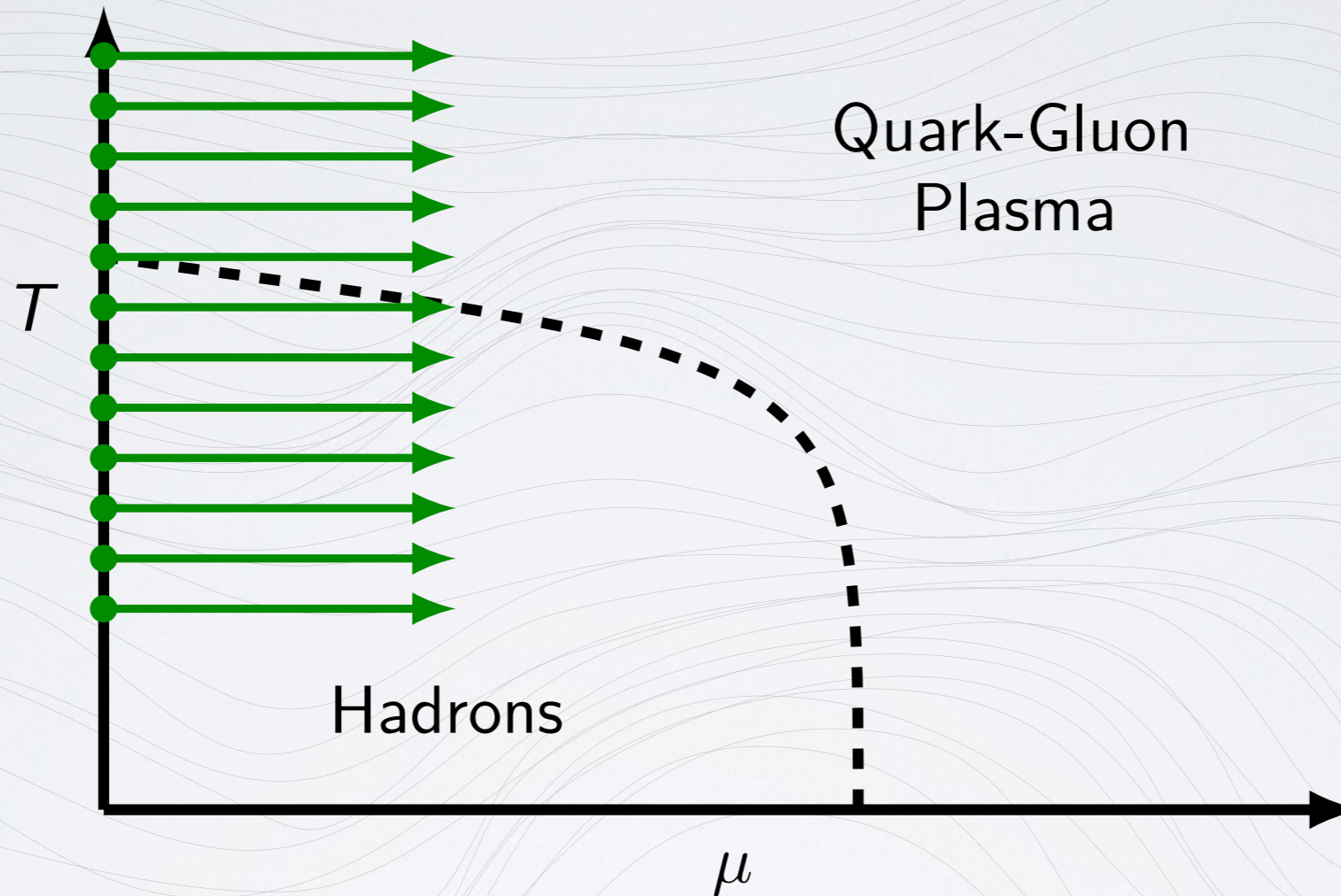
Sign Problem

- Relies on precise cancellations
- Numerical very challenging
- For QCD:

$$\langle O \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}[U] O(U) |\det D| e^{i\phi} e^{-S_G(U)}$$

- New methods needed and developed:
 - Taylor Expansion, Imaginary μ , Deforming the contour, ...
 - Focus here: Complex Langevin

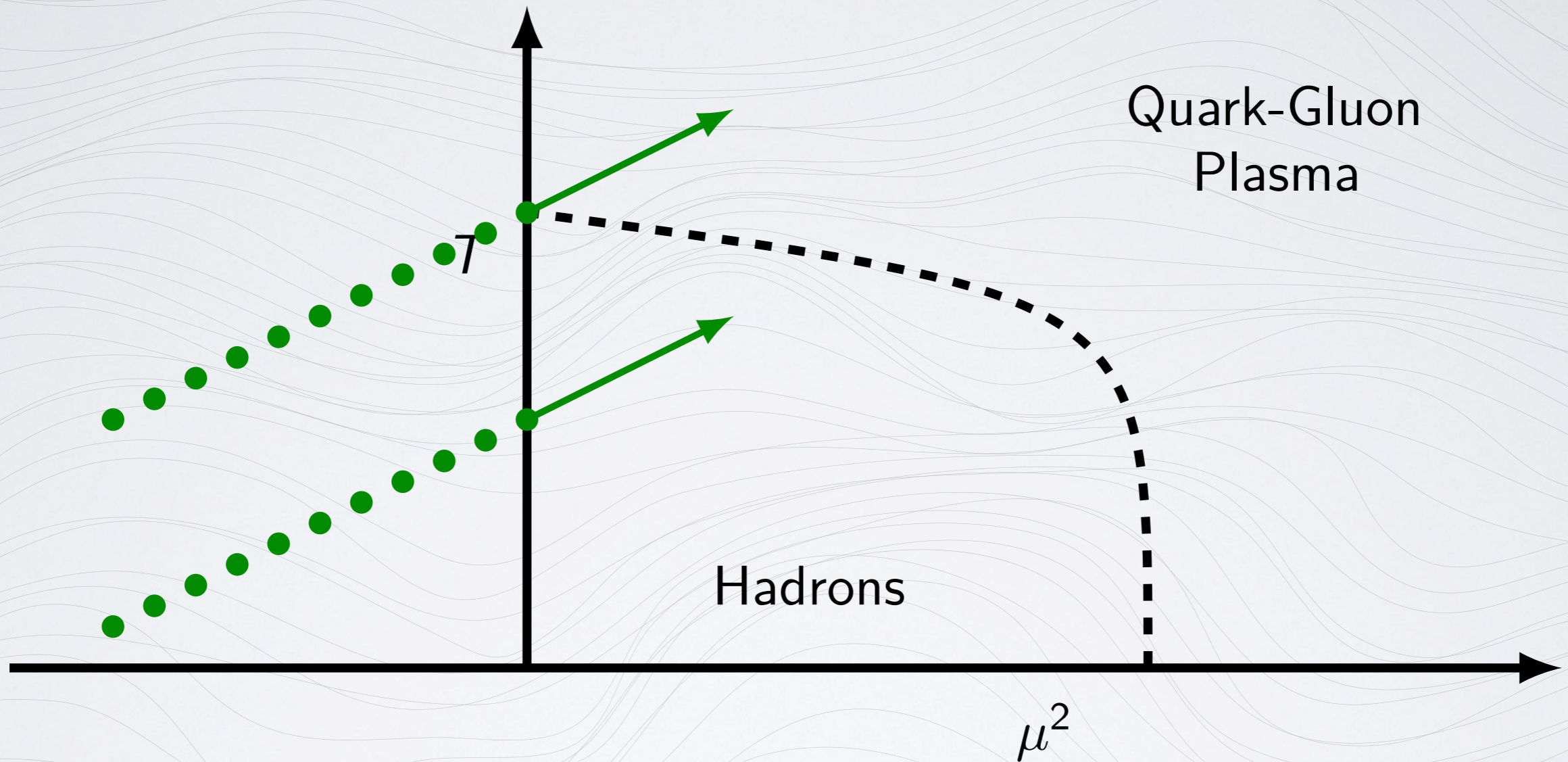
Taylor Expansion



- Simulate at zero chemical potential and expand

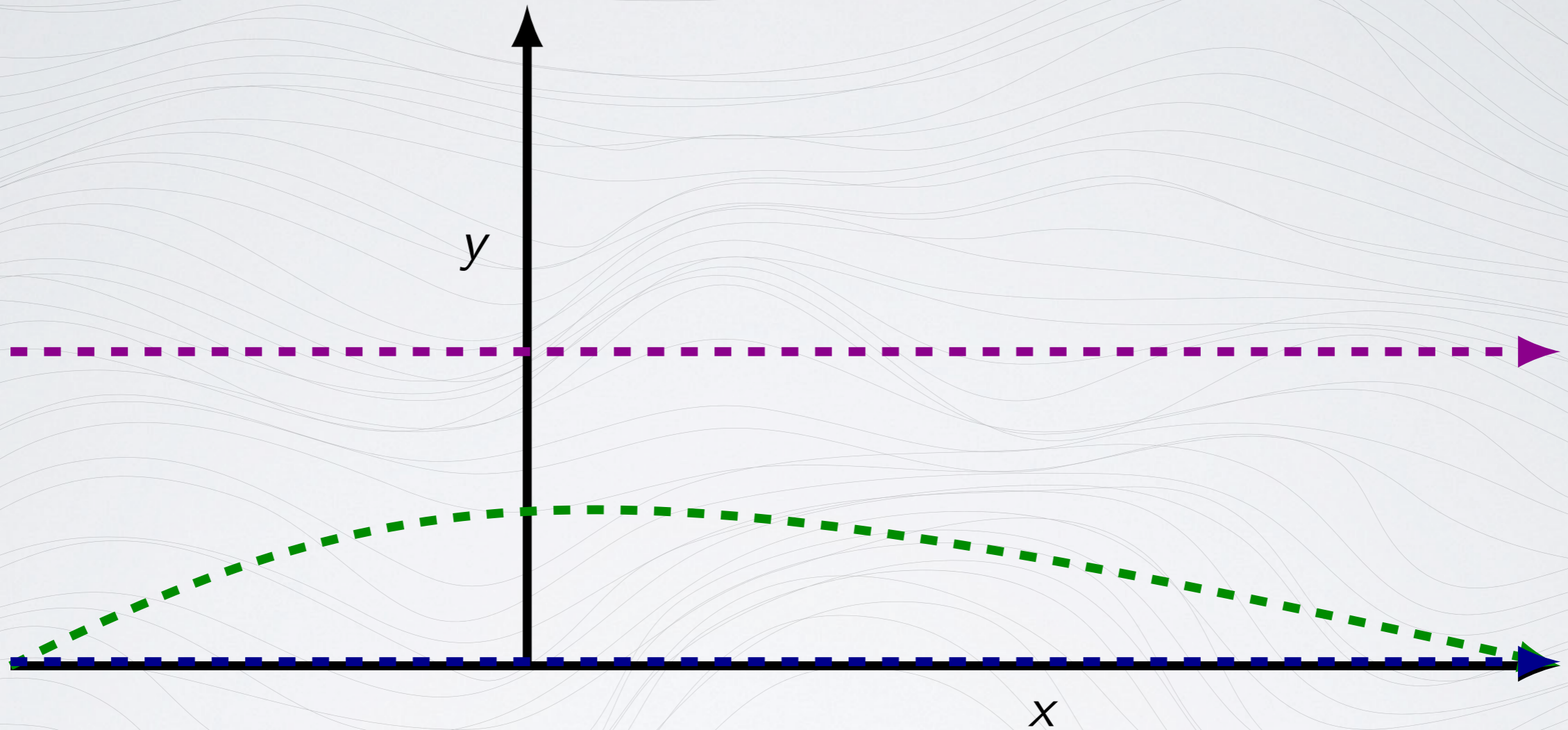
$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \sum_k c_k(T) \left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right)^k, \quad k = 0, 2, \dots$$

Imaginary μ



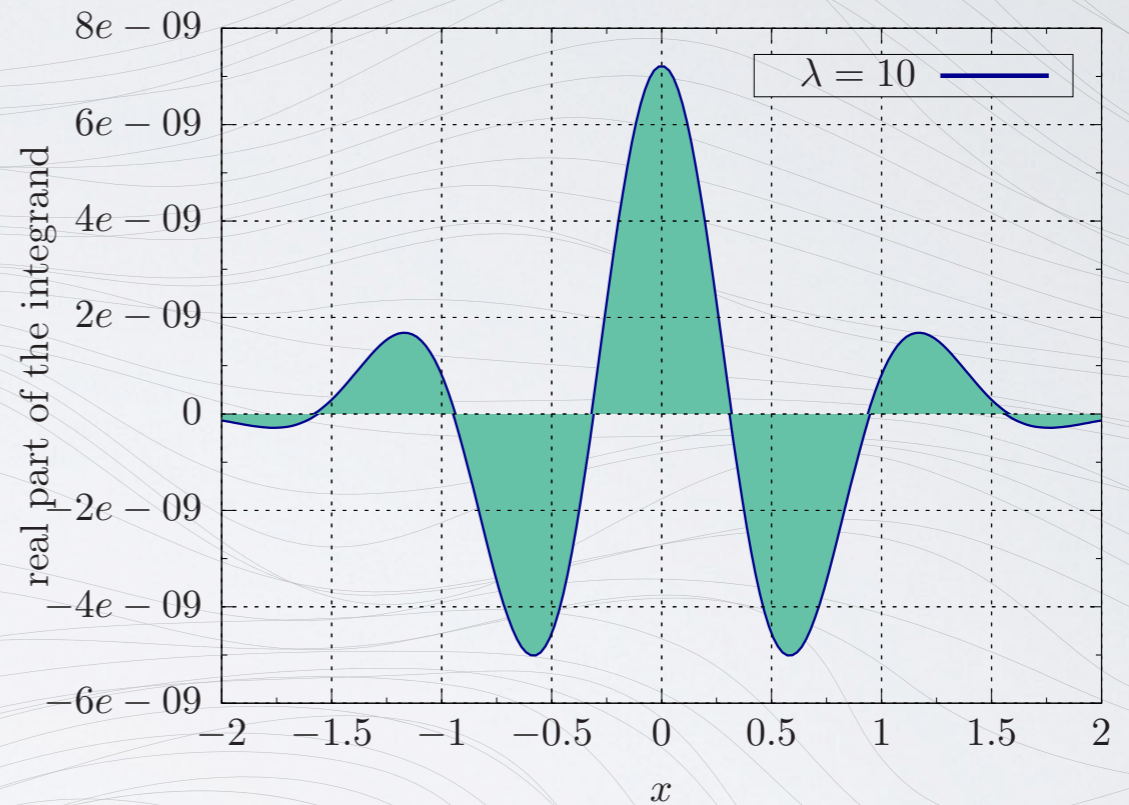
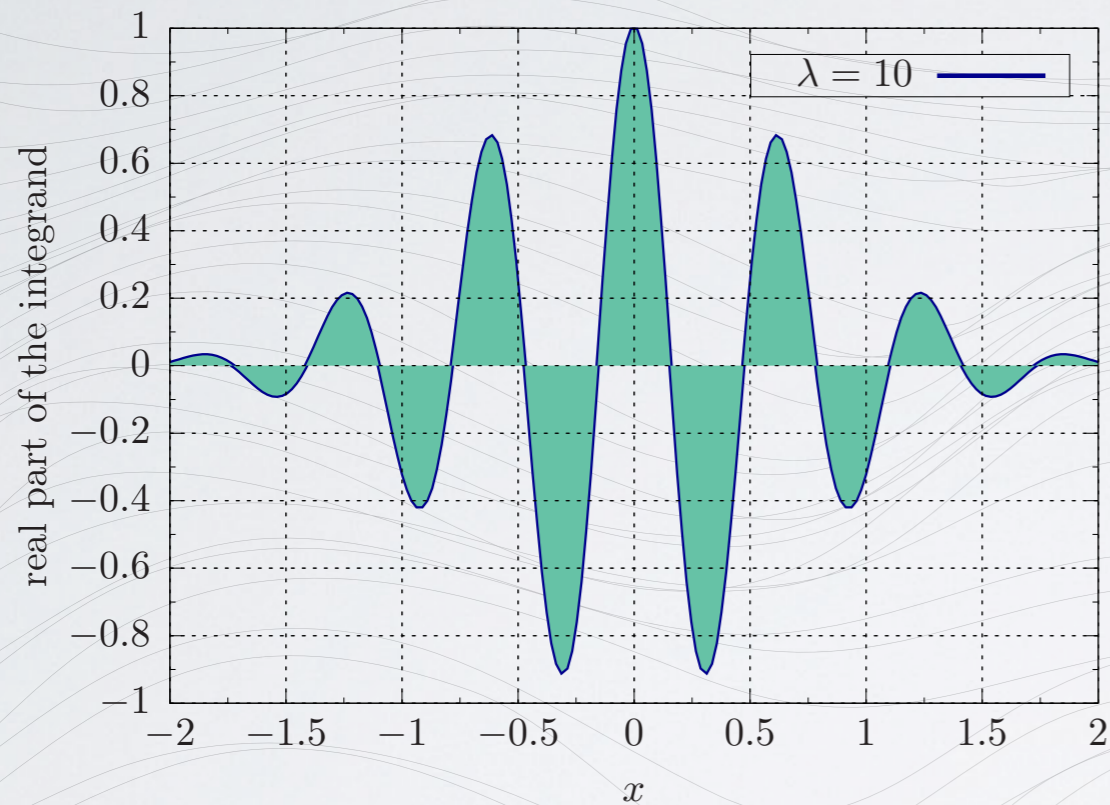
- Simulate at imaginary chemical potential and extrapolate to the QCD phase diagram

Complex Deformation



- **Go complex!**
- Deform the integration contour to reduce sign problem

Complex Deformation



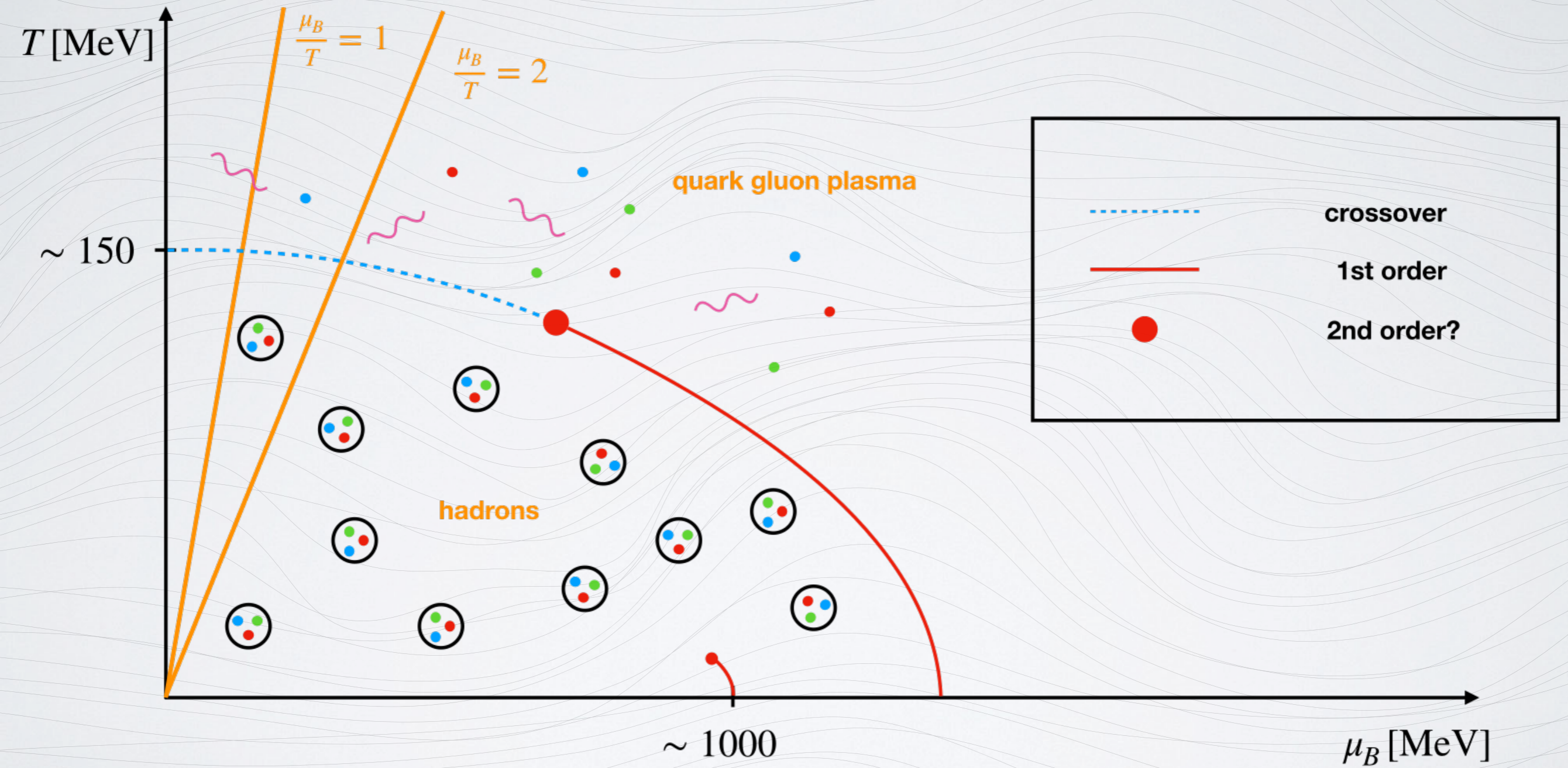
$$z = x - \frac{1}{4} i \lambda$$

$$Z = \int dx e^{-x^2 + i \lambda x}$$

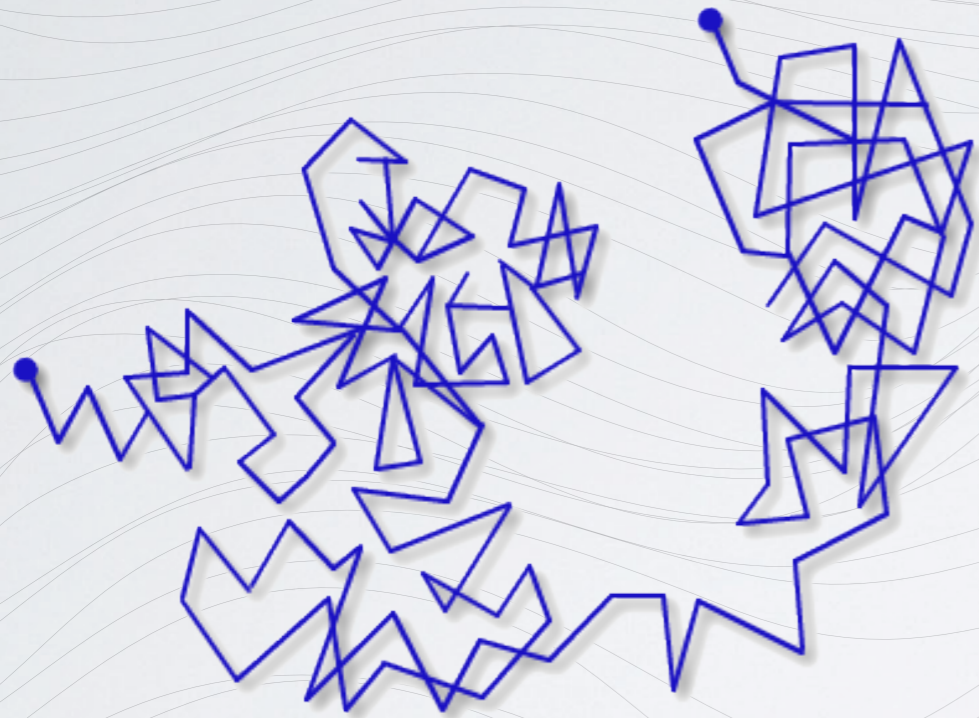
$$Z = \int dz e^{-z^2 + i \lambda z}$$

- Previous example: Deform contour

QCD phase diagram



Complex Langevin



- Complexify degrees of freedom

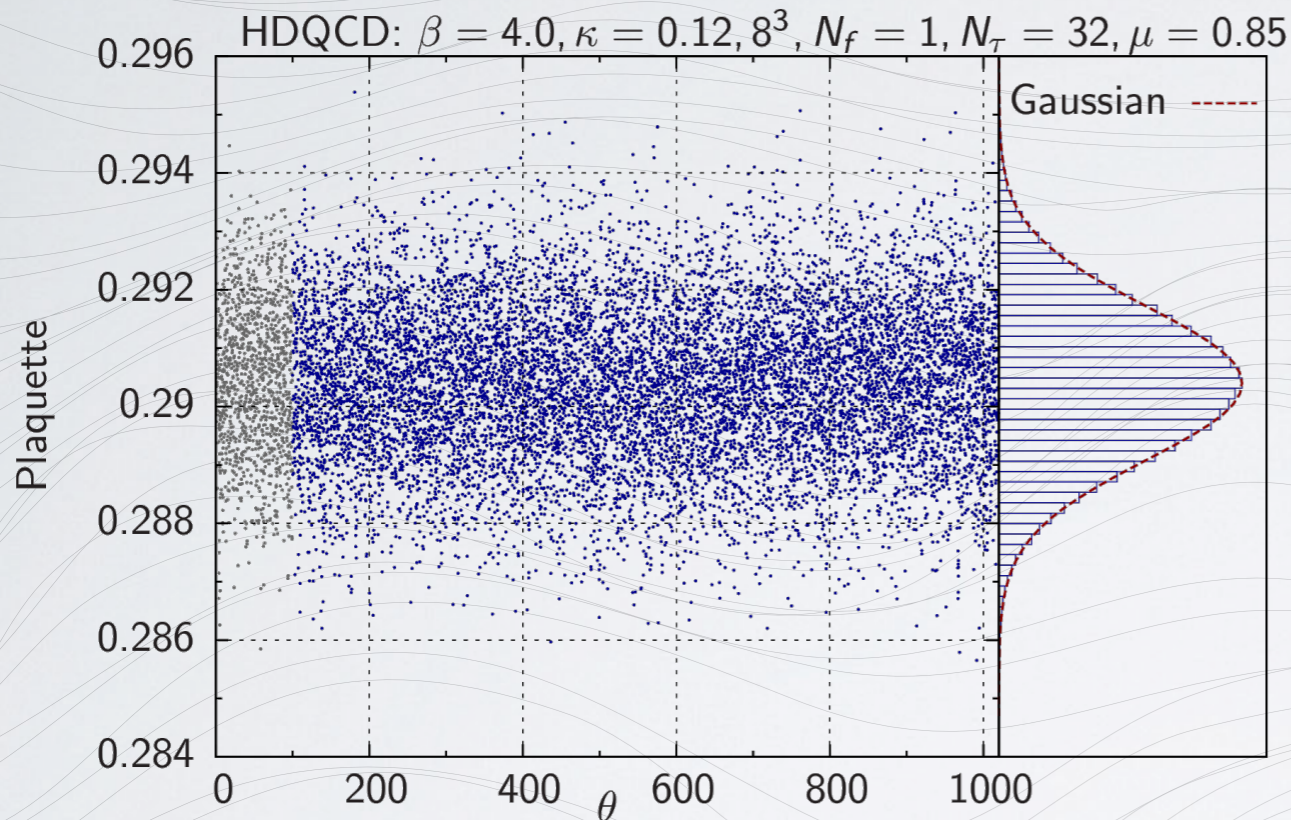
$$x \rightarrow z = x + iy$$

- Stochastic Quantization:
Langevin Eq:

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial S}{\partial z} + \eta(\theta)$$

- Sign problem can be circumvented, even if it is severe! :)
- However, convergence only when:
 - Action and observables are holomorphic
 - Extension into the non-SU(3) manifold is compact

Complex Langevin



- Gauge theories (QCD)

$$SU(3) \rightarrow SL(3, \mathbb{C})$$

- Non-compact gauge group

$$U_{x,\mu} = \exp \left[i a \lambda_c \left(A_{x,\mu}^c + i B_{x,\mu}^c \right) \right]$$

- Update scheme (First order discretisation)

$$U_{x,\mu}(\theta + \epsilon) = \exp \left[i a \lambda_c \left(-\epsilon D_{x,\mu}^c S + \sqrt{\epsilon} \eta_{x,\mu}^c \right) \right] U_{x,\mu}(\theta)$$

- Accept-reject step not possible, but extrapolation $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$

Foundation

- Complex Langevin \leftrightarrow Fokker-Plank equation
 - Stationary solution of FP is equilibrium solution e^{-S}
- Mathematical foundations \leftrightarrow Criteria of correctness
 - Aarts & Stamatescu, JHEP 09 (2008) 018
 - Seiler et.al., Phys. Lett. B723 (2013)
 - Nishimura et.al., Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015)
 - Scherzer et. al., Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020)
- More work on the foundation needed, but getting there :)
- Criteria more or less known, but can only be checked afterwards ...

Stablising complex Langevin

- Complexification creates enlarged space, i.e. $SL(3, \mathbb{C})$ - Doubling of degrees of freedom
- Keep simulations close to $SU(3)$ with small excursions
- Potential issues (seen in models and simulations):
 - Runaway trajectories observed (exploring all of $SL(3, \mathbb{C})$)
 - Convergence to wrong result (stable)
 - $\log \det M$ has multiple branch cuts (non-holomorphic)
 - Extrapolation in step-size ϵ needed
 - For large μ condition number of M explodes
 - ...

Stablising complex Langevin

- Methods (actively developed):

- Adaptive step - small steps for large forces

Aarts et. al.,
Eur. Phys. J. A 49 (2013)

- Gauge cooling - use gauge transformations

Seiler et. al.,
Phys. Lett. B 723 (2013)

- Dynamic stablization - add force to get closer to $SU(3)$,
unfortunately non-holomorphic, but $a \rightarrow 0$

Attanasio & Jäger,
Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019)

- Implicit solvers - needed for stiff SDE

Alvestad, Larsen & Rothkopf
JHEP 08 (2021) 138

- Kernelled complex Langevin - use a symmetry of Fokker-
Plank equation, add a kernel in the CL eq.

Alvestad, Larsen & Rothkopf
JHEP 04 (2023) 057

Computations: Forces

- Gauge drift (straightforward)

$-D_{x,\mu}^a S_G$ combination of plaquettes with derivatives

- Fermionic drift

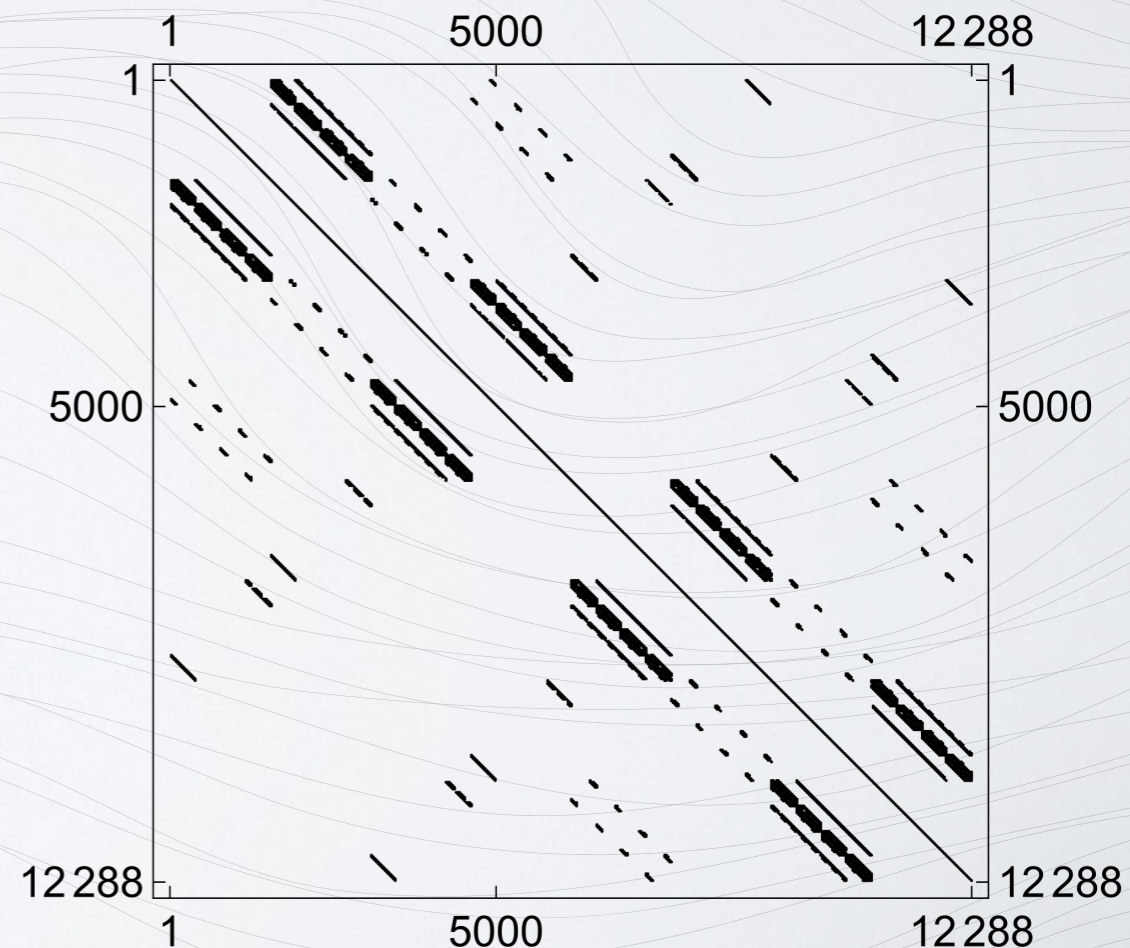
- Bilinear noise scheme (not exact)

D. Sexty Phys.Lett.B 729 (2014)

$$-D_{x,\mu}^a S_F = N_f \text{Tr} \left[M^{-1} D_{x,\mu}^a M \right]$$

- Update scheme

- Update gauge more frequently
- Fermion inversion costly
- Fermions inversion becomes very expensive (cond. number)



Some QCD Success stories :)

- **Heavy-Dense approximation of QCD**

- Quarks very heavy \rightarrow Quarks only move in time
- Full Wilson gauge action
- Phase Diagram known (Good check)
- Simpler theory, but still has phase structure

Aarts, Attanasio, Jäger & Sexty,
JHEP 09, 087 (2016)

- **Full QCD in a small box & small μ**

- Staggered quarks
- Expected plateaus from quark numbers
- Individual quarks

Ito et. al.,
JHEP 10, 144, (2020)

Some QCD Success stories :)

- **Full QCD at small chemical potential**

- Quarks still heavy ($m_\pi \sim 1400\text{MeV}$)
- Comparison to Taylor expansion
- Improved action
- Effects of smearing studied

D. Sexty,
Phys. Rev. D100, 074503 (2019)

- **Full QCD at moderate T and higher densities**

- Lighter quarks ($m_\pi \sim 480\text{MeV}$)
- Wilson gauge action and fine lattices ($a \sim 0.06\text{fm}$)
- Naive Wilson fermions
- More later!

Attanasio, Jäger & Ziegler,
2203.13144

Real-time QCD Success stories :)

- **Kernelled complex Langevin**

- Strongly coupled quantum anharmonic oscillator
- Introduction of kernels to Langevin
- Machine Learning to optimise kernels
- More later

Alvestad, Larsen & Rothkopf,
JHEP 04, 057 (2023)

- **Anisotropic kernel for SU(2) YM**

- Using anisotropic kernel
- SU(2) Yang-Mills in 3+1 dimensions
- Large time extents possible

Boguslavski, Hotzy and Müller,
JHEP 06, 011 (2023)

Non-QCD success stories...

- **Ultra-cold atoms**

Attanasio & Drut,
Phys. Rev. A 101 (2020)

- Spin-Orbit coupling
- Bosons with quartic interaction
- Lattice formulation leads to non-abelian background
- Time derivative makes action complex

- **Polymers and Complex Fluids**

- Mixtures require non-equilibrium processing
- Hamiltonian complex for their model
- Complex Langevin used to study the model

Fredrickson, Ganesan, & Drolet,
Macromolecules, 35, 2002.

Some of our recent results

F. Attanasio, **B. Jäger** and F. Ziegler



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Lattice Setup

- **Lattice setup**

- Wilson plaquette action $\beta = 5.8 \leftrightarrow a = 0.06 \text{ fm}$
- Two-flavour dynamical fermions Wilson Fermions ($c_{sw} = 0$)
- Pion mass $\kappa = 0.1544 \leftrightarrow m_\pi \sim 480 \text{ MeV}, m_N = 1.3 \text{ GeV}$
- Volume $V = 24^3 \leftrightarrow m_\pi L = 3.5$

parameters based on
hep-lat:0512021

- **Phase diagram scan**

- Temperature $N_\tau = 4 - 128 \leftrightarrow 25 - 800 \text{ MeV}$
- Chemical potential $a\mu = 0 - 2 \leftrightarrow \mu = 0 - 6500 \text{ MeV}$
- Gauge Cooling, Adaptive Stepsize & Dynamic Stabilisation

Results

- **Consistency checks @ $\mu = 0$**

- HMC vs. CL

- Histograms

- Observables

- Fermion density

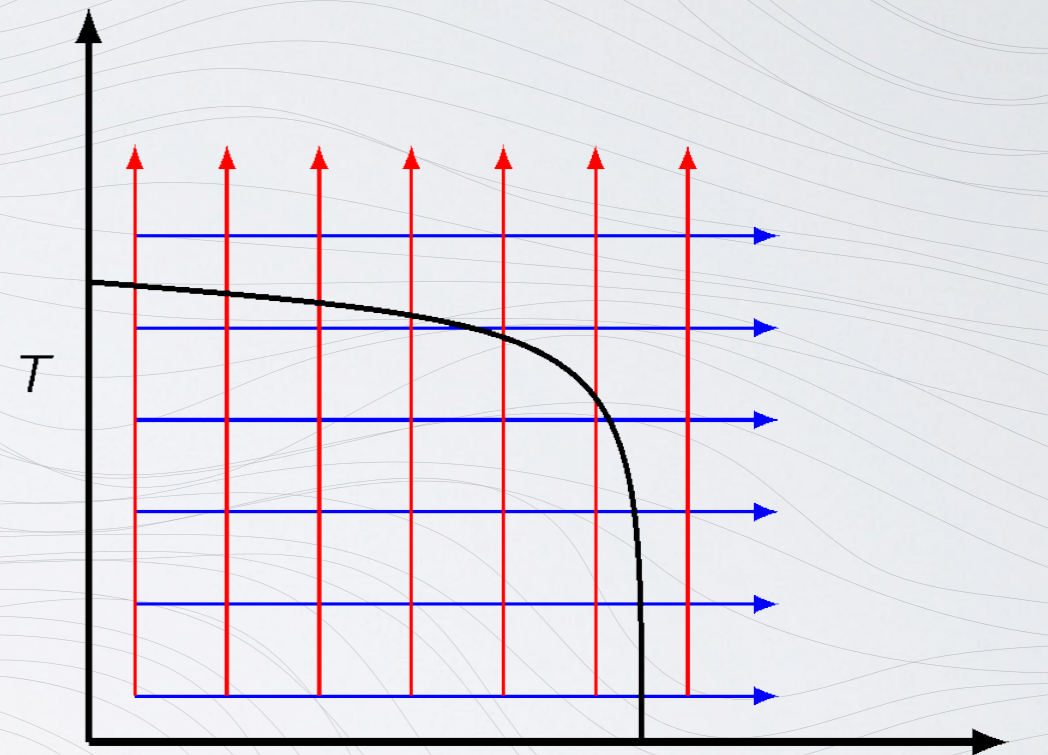
- Polyakov loop

- Numerics / Stability

- Unitarity norm (distance to SU(3))

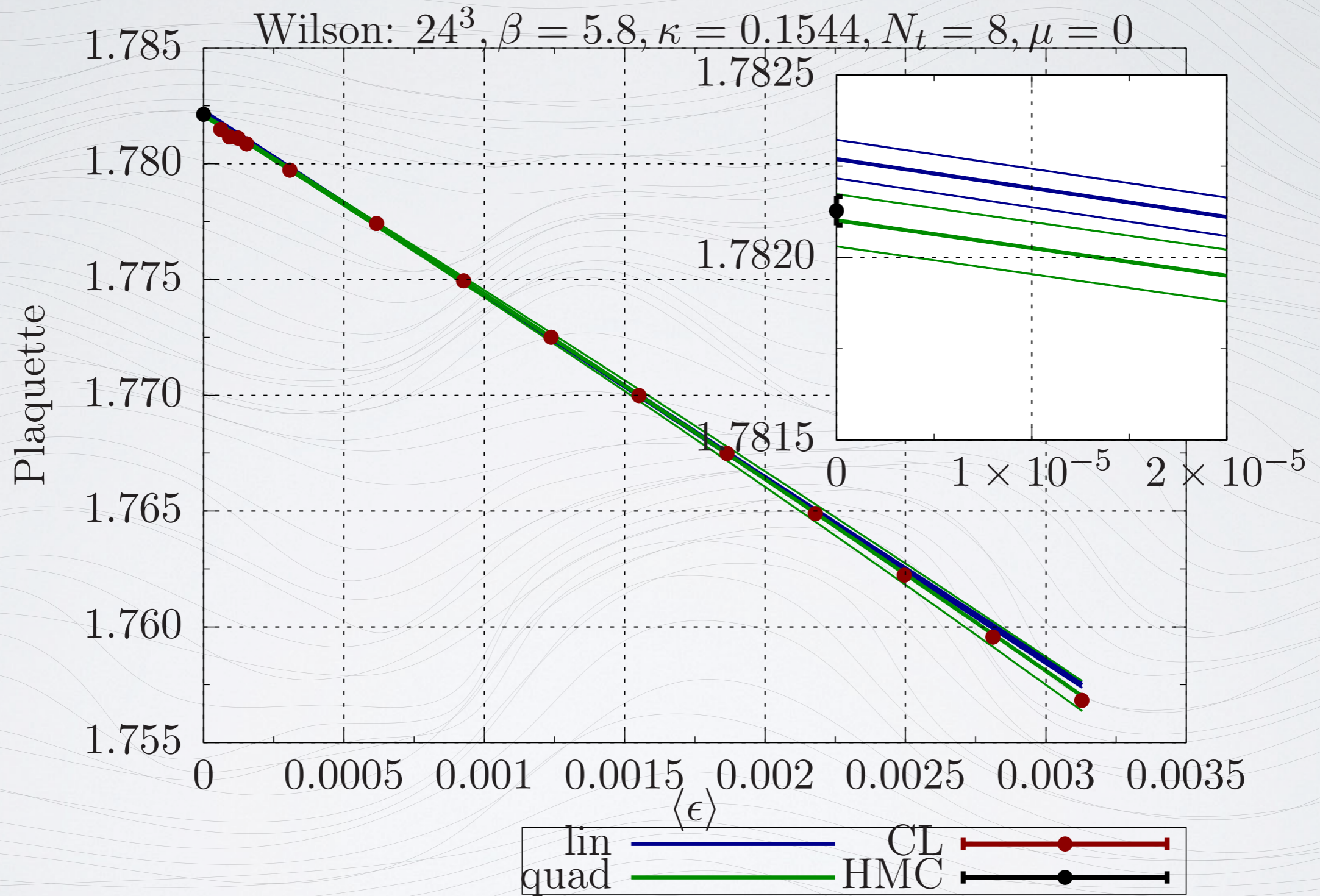
- Iterations (Conjugate Gradient)

- Equation of state



Wilson @ $m_{\pi}^{\mu} \sim 480 \text{ MeV}$

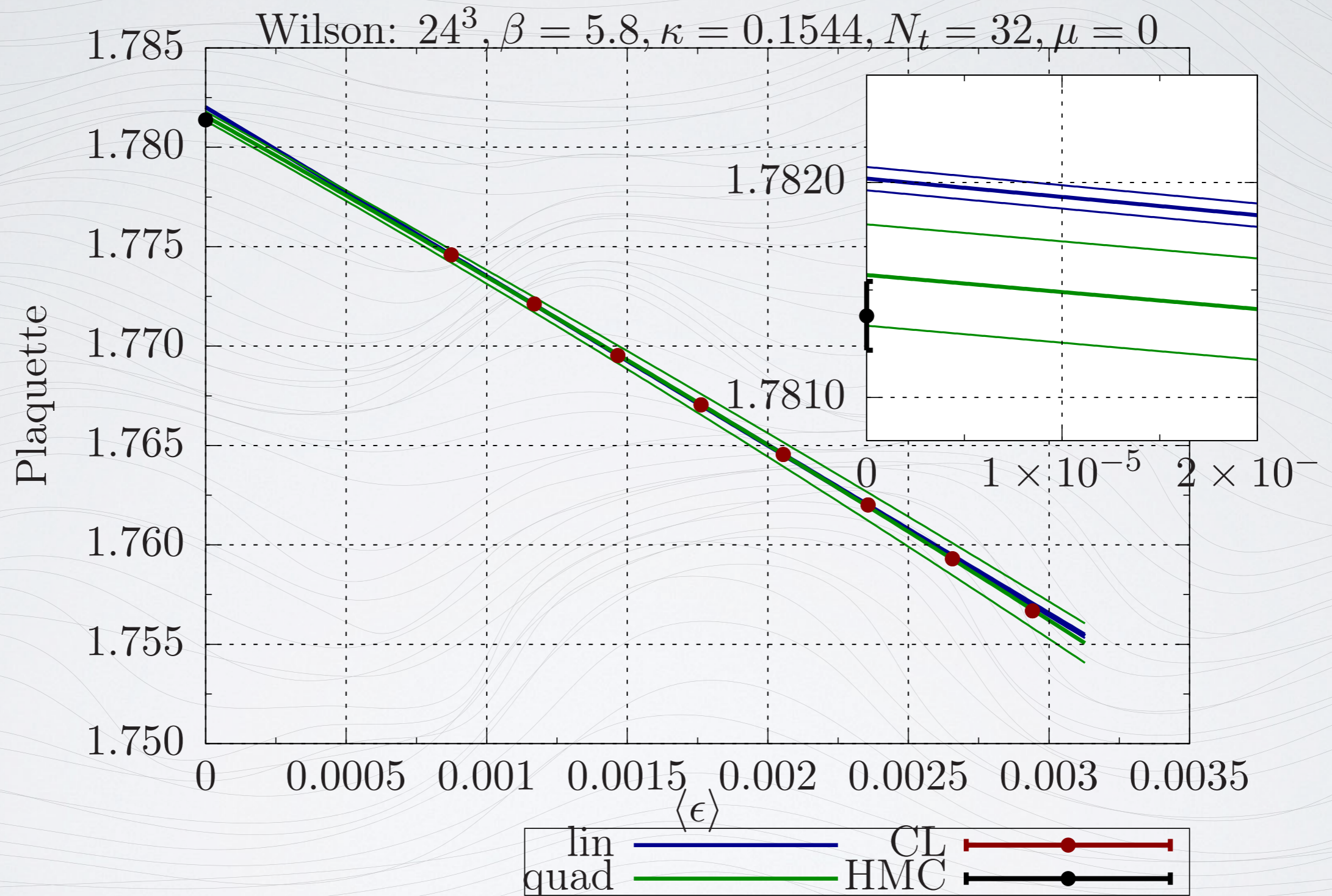
HMC vs CL - deconfined phase



@ $\mu = 0$

$N_t = 8 \leftrightarrow T = 400 \text{ MeV}$

HMC vs CL - confined phase

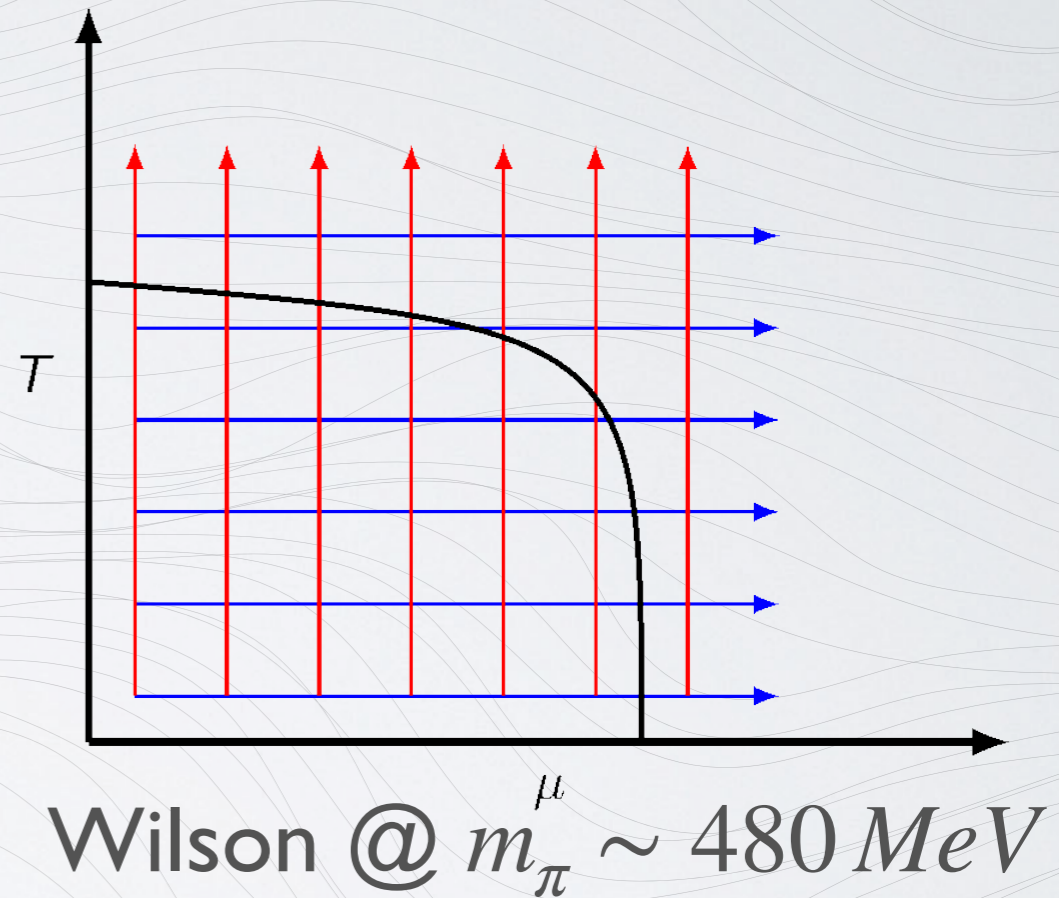


@ $\mu = 0$

$N_t = 32 \leftrightarrow T = 100 \text{ MeV}$

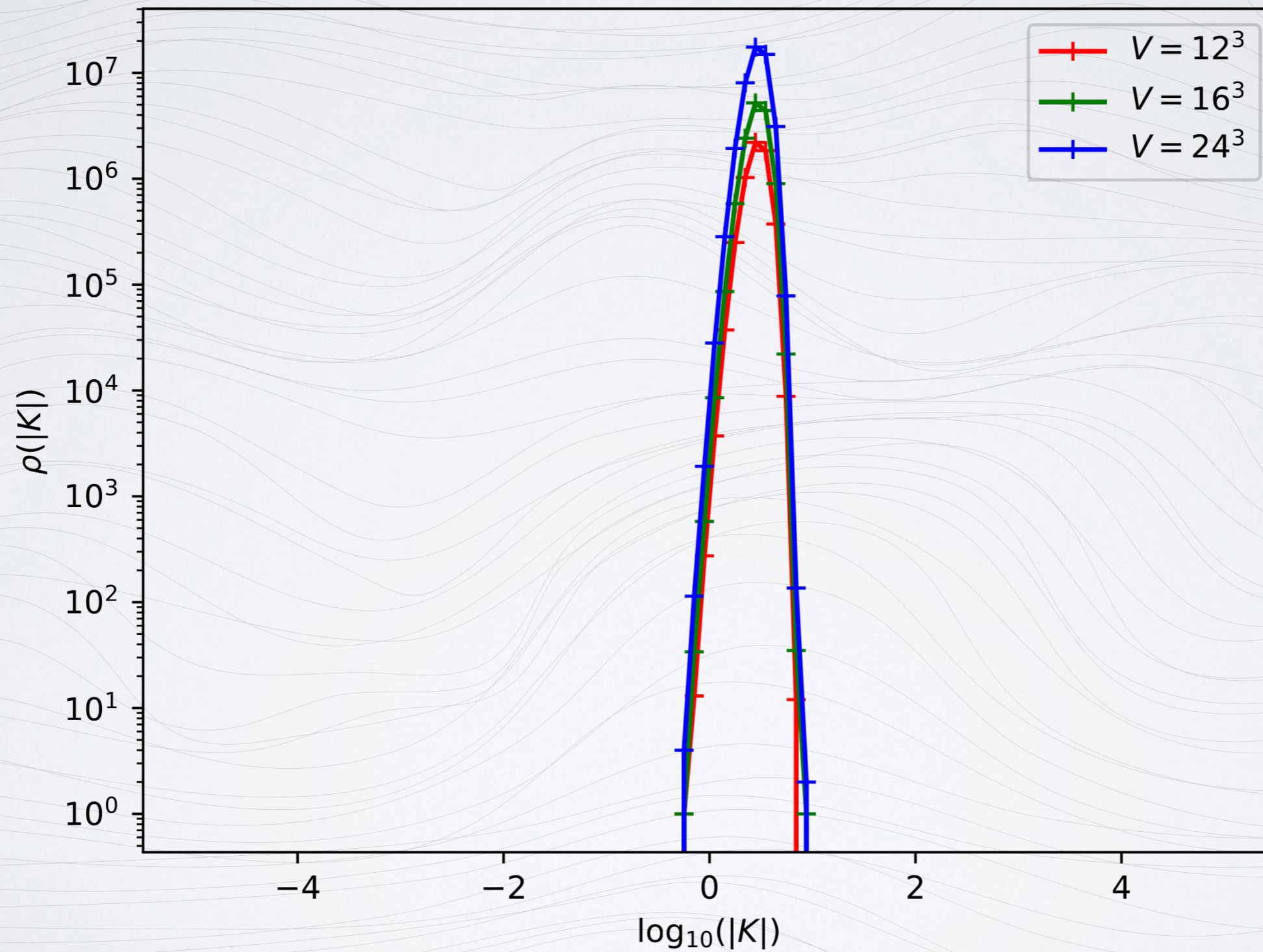
Results

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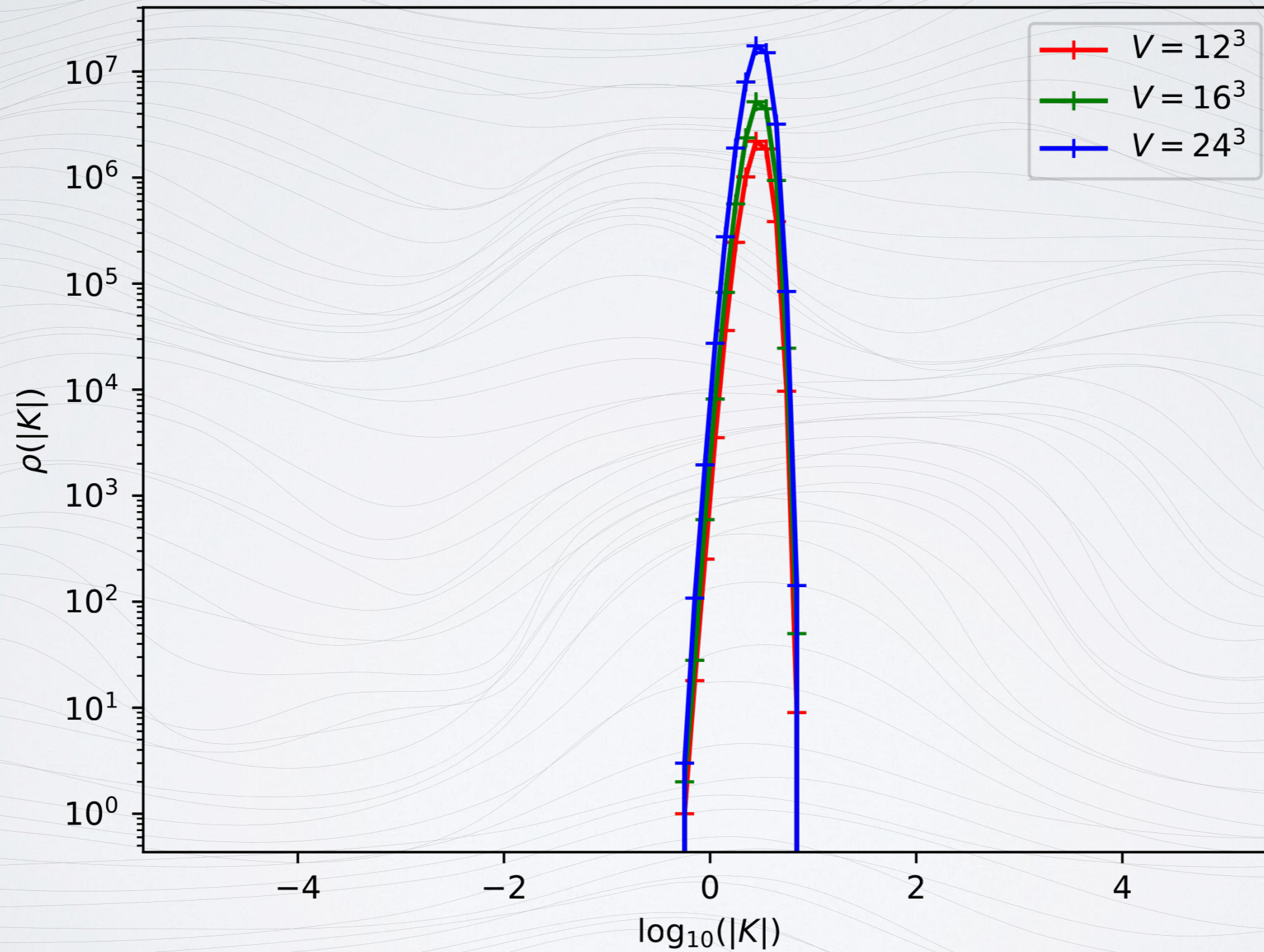
Histograms

$Nt = 32, \mu_B/m_N = 0.0$



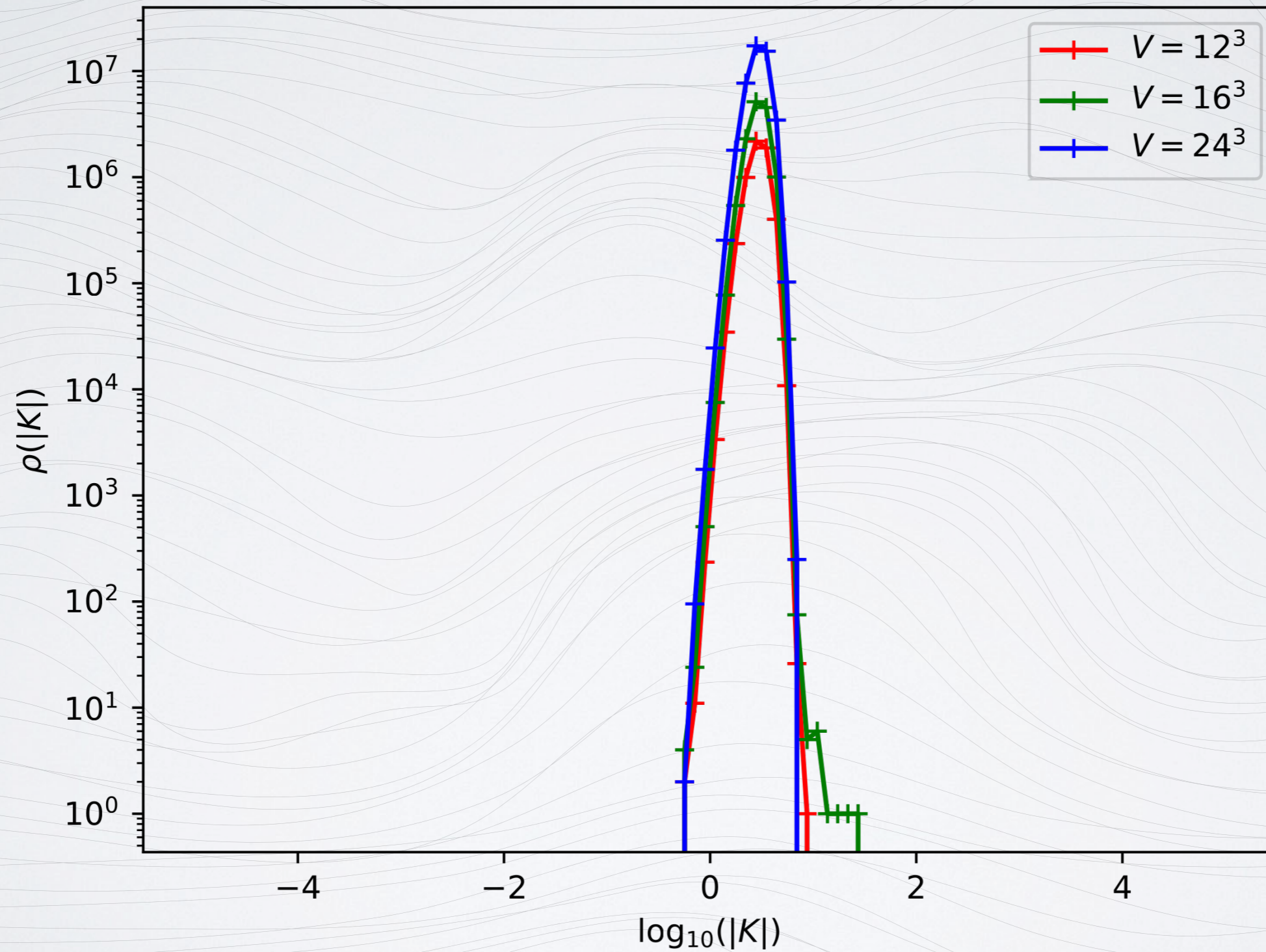
Histograms

$Nt = 32, \mu_B/m_N = 0.46$



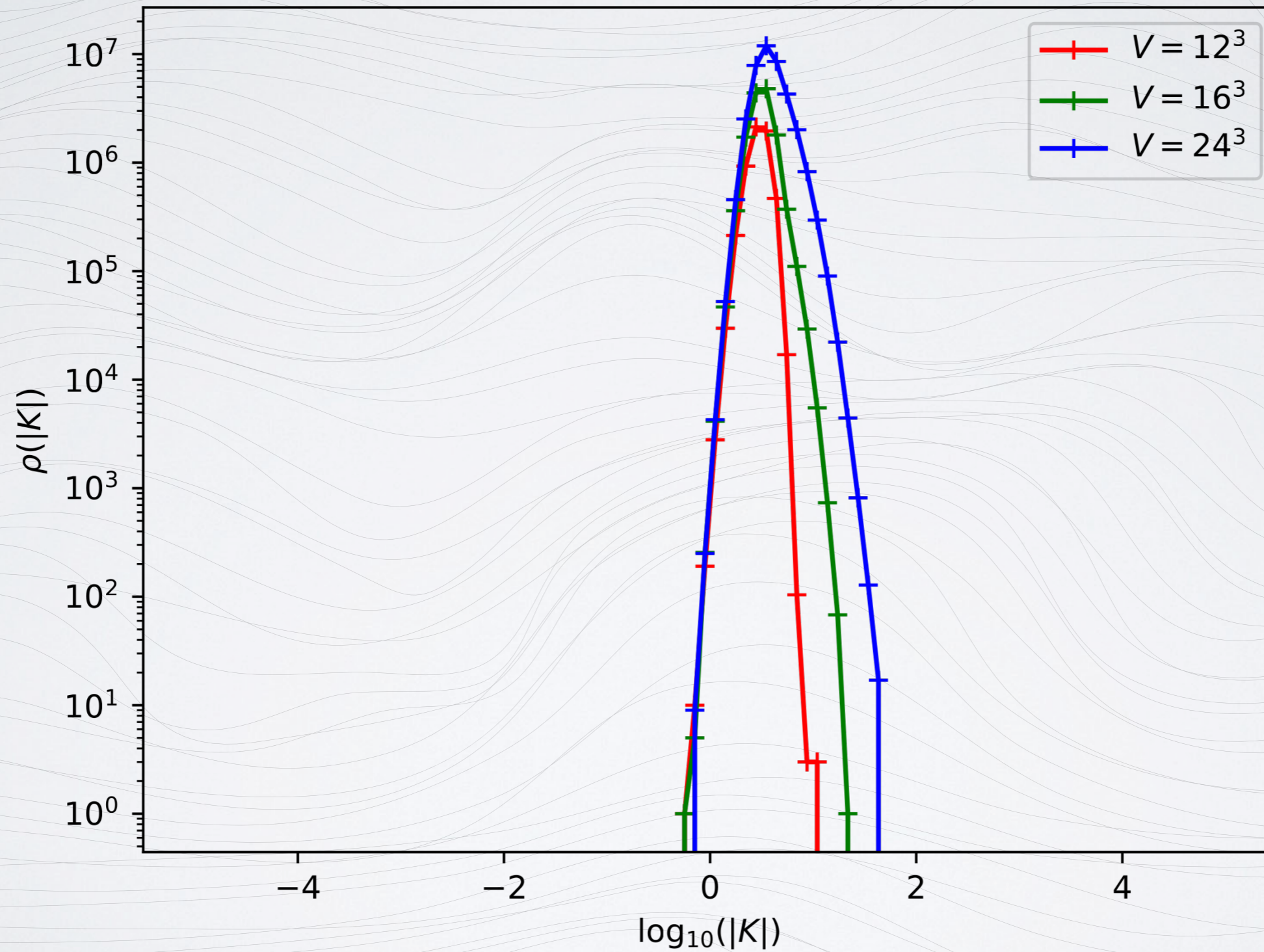
Histograms

$Nt = 32, \mu_B/m_N = 0.76$



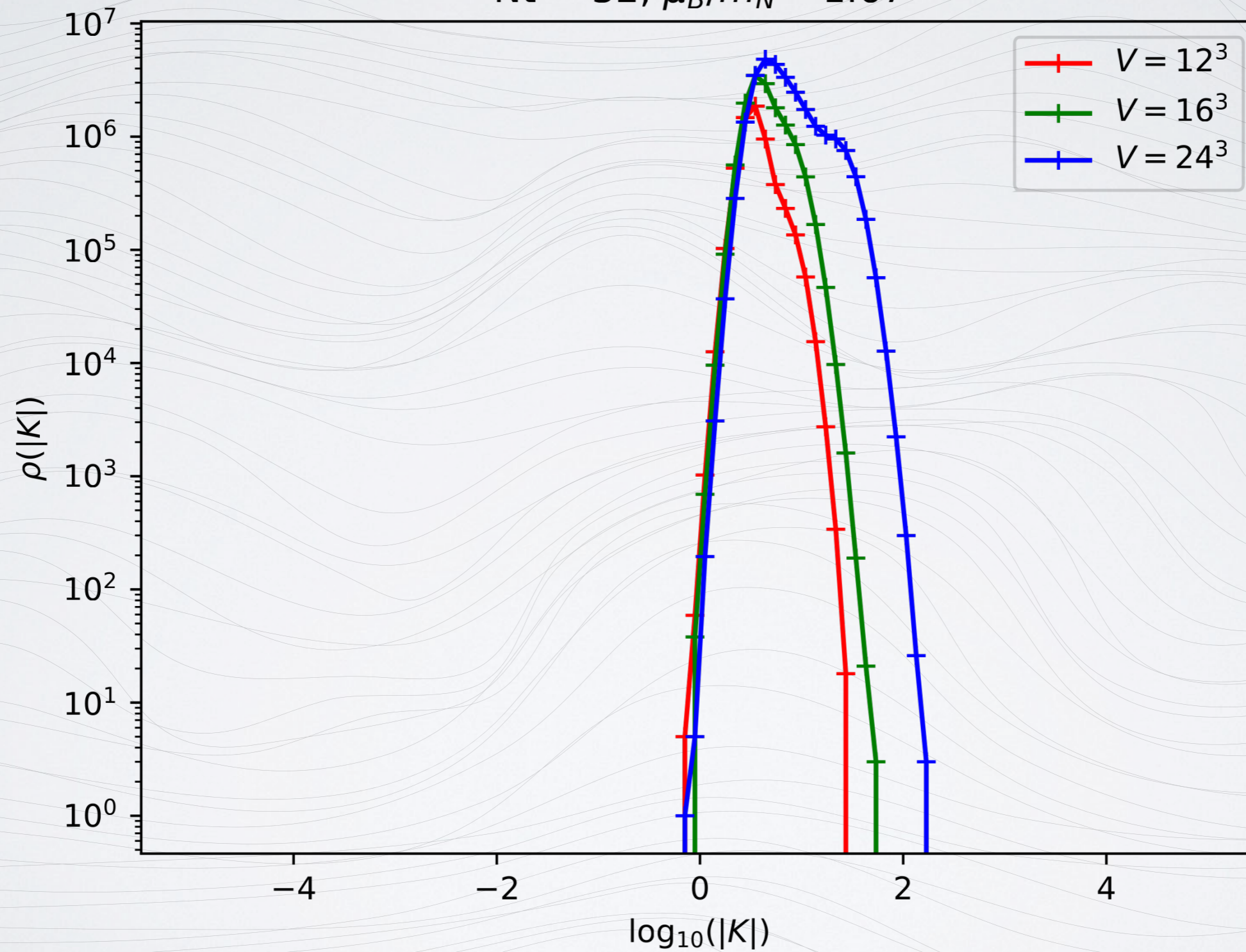
Histograms

$Nt = 32, \mu_B/m_N = 1.21$



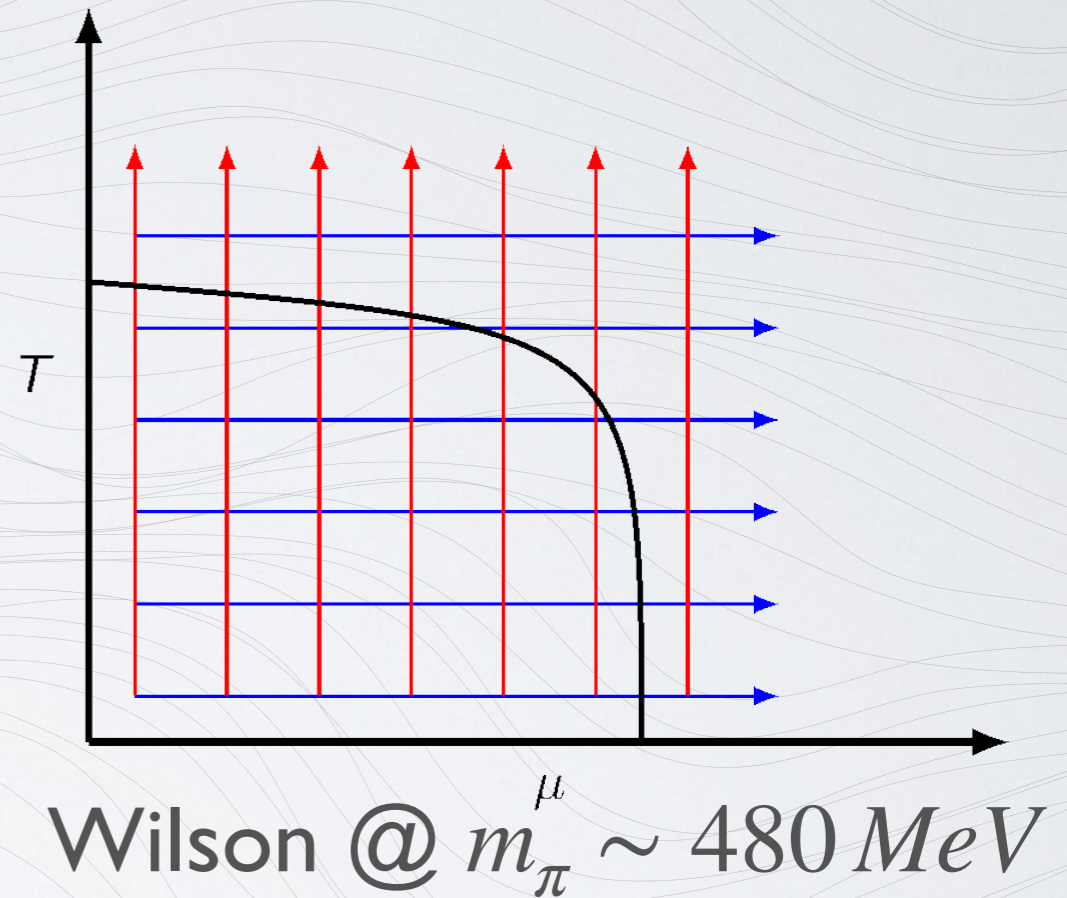
Histograms

$Nt = 32, \mu_B/m_N = 1.67$

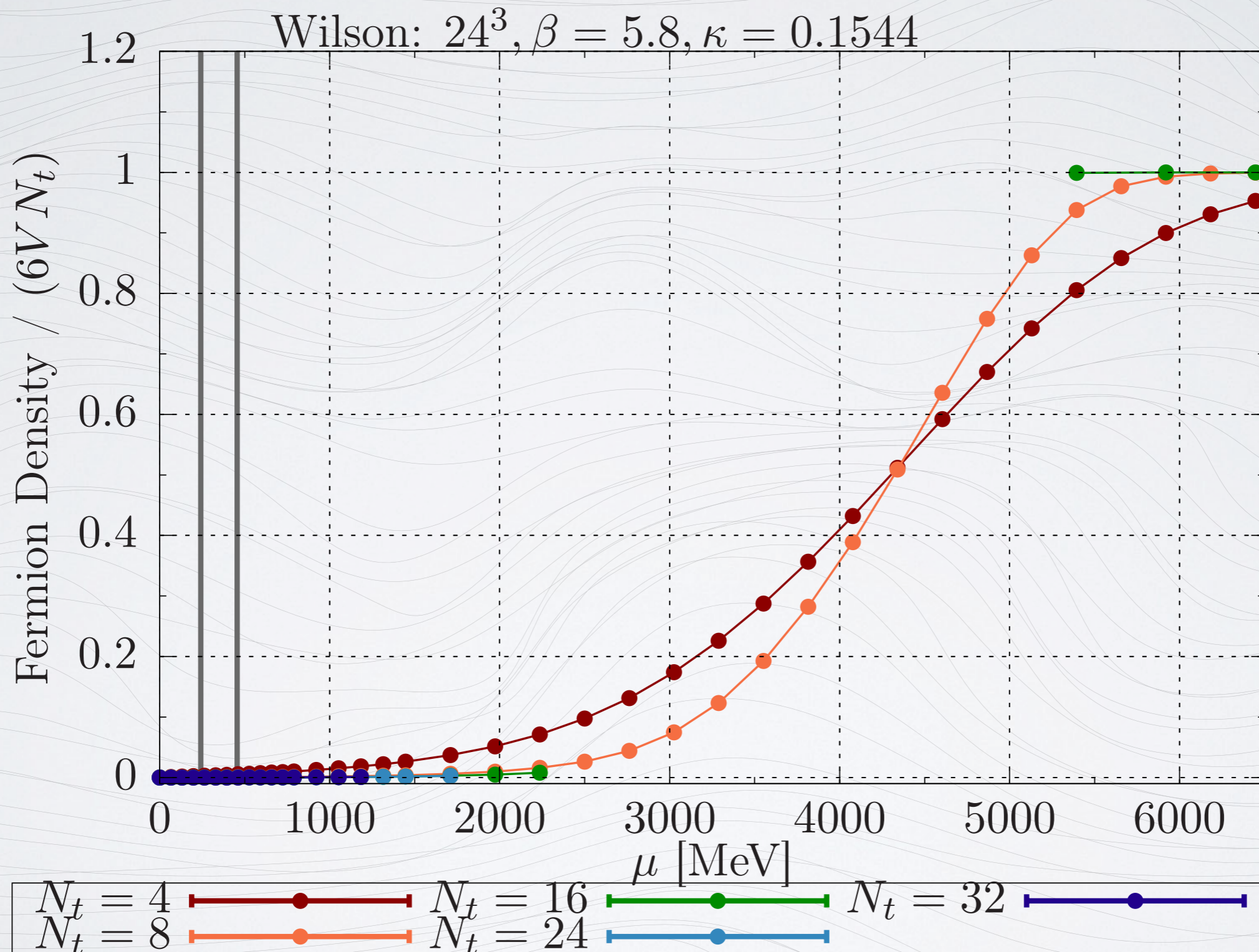


Results

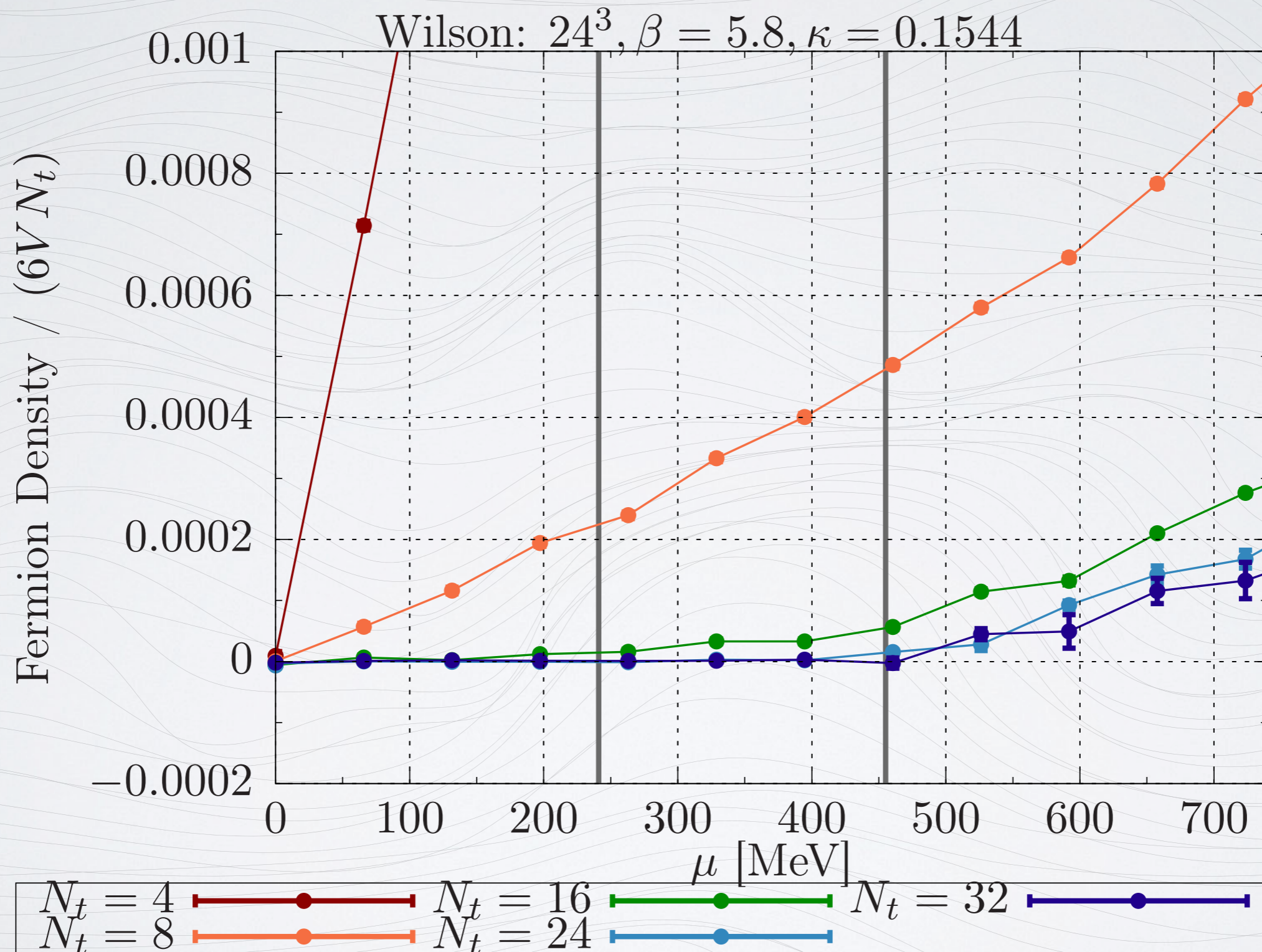
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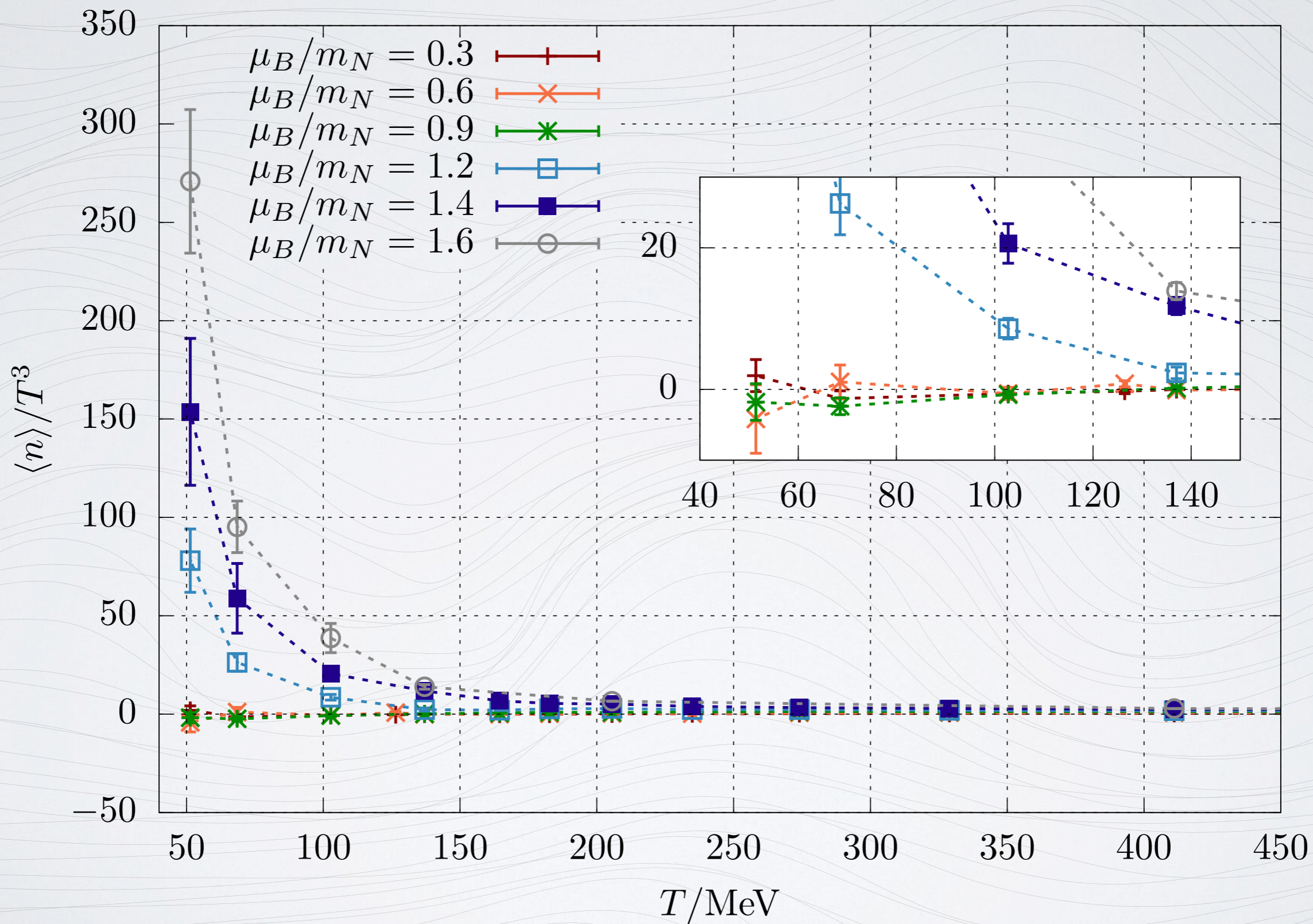
Fermion Density



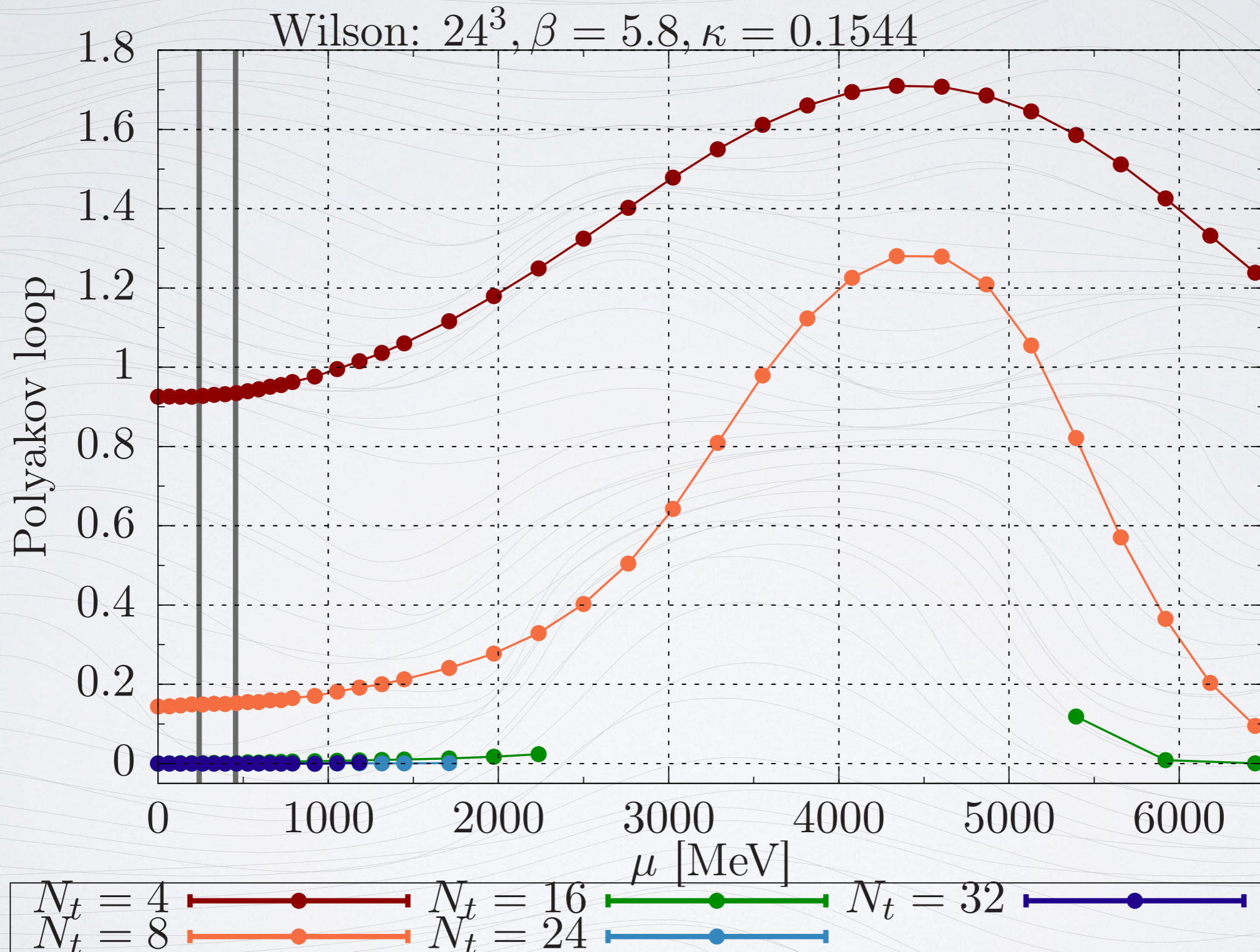
Fermion Density



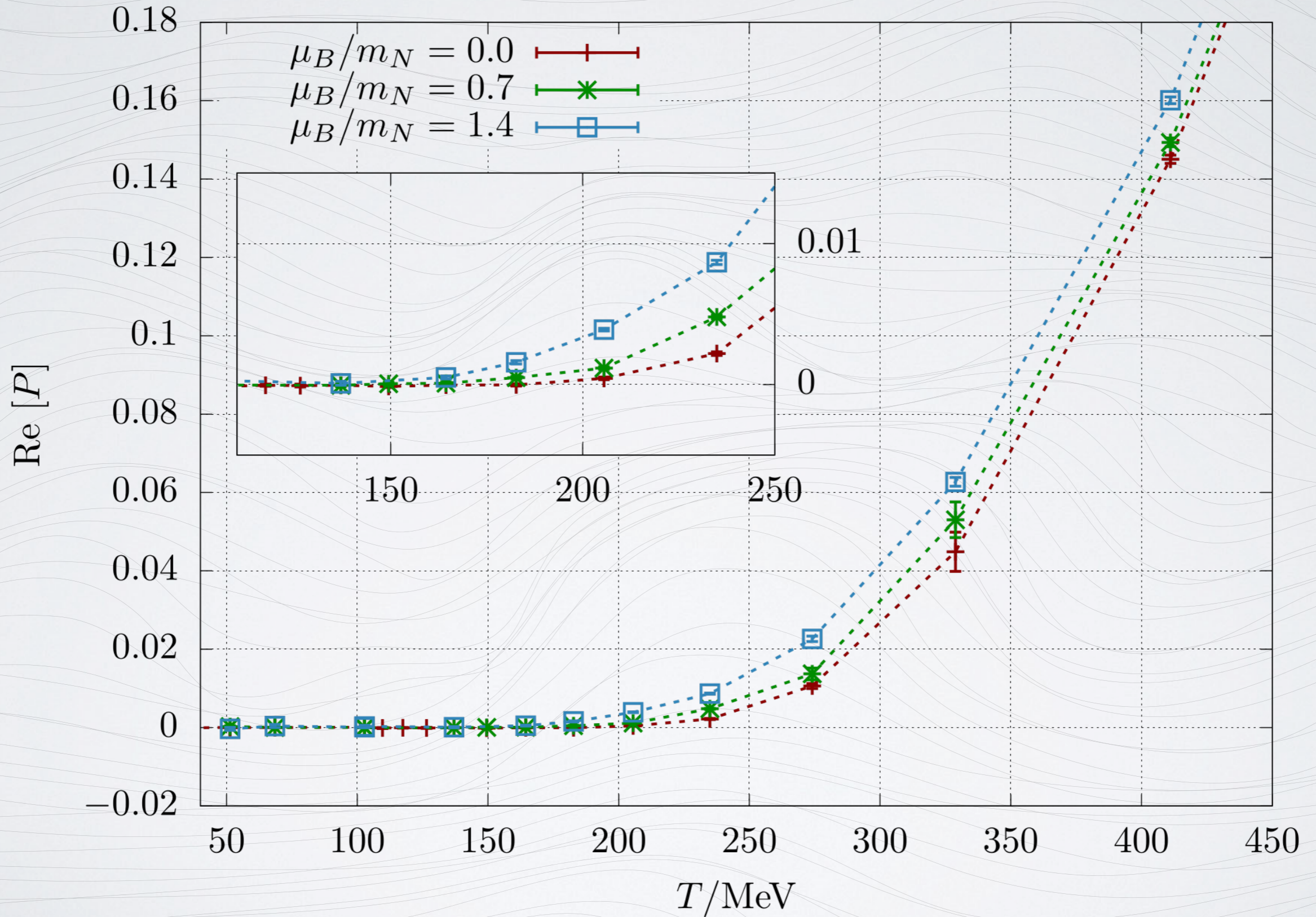
Fermion Density



Polyakov Loop



Polyakov Loop



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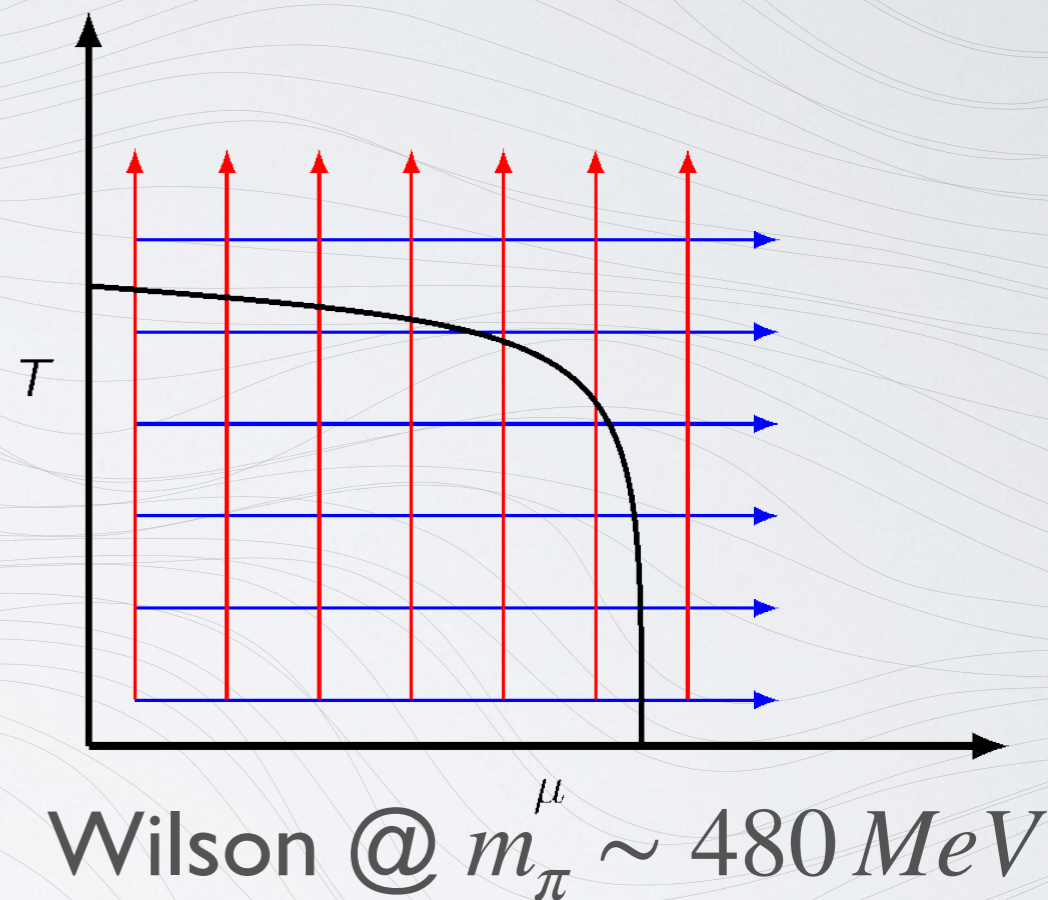
- Polyakov loop

- **Numerics / Stability**

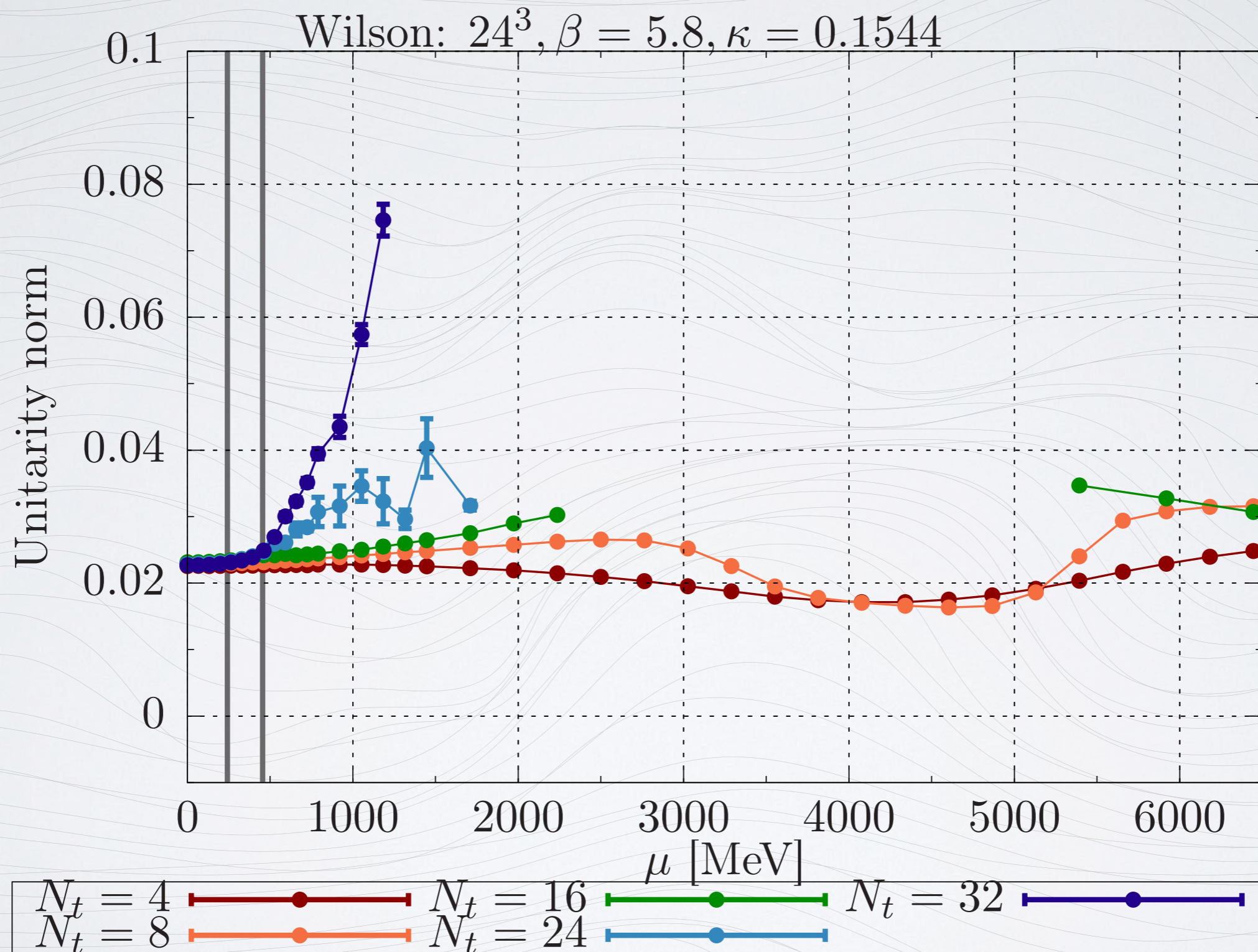
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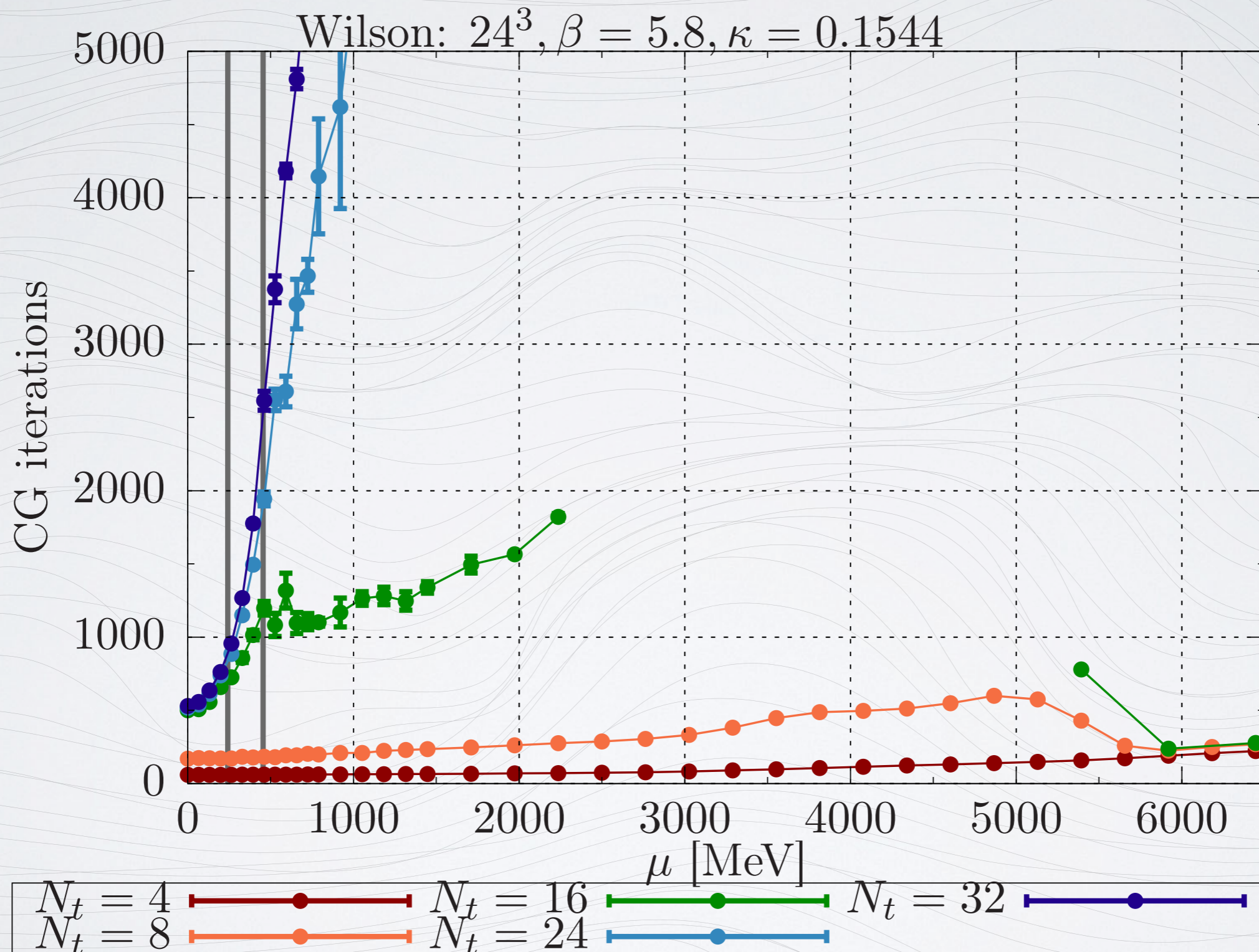
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Unitarity Norm

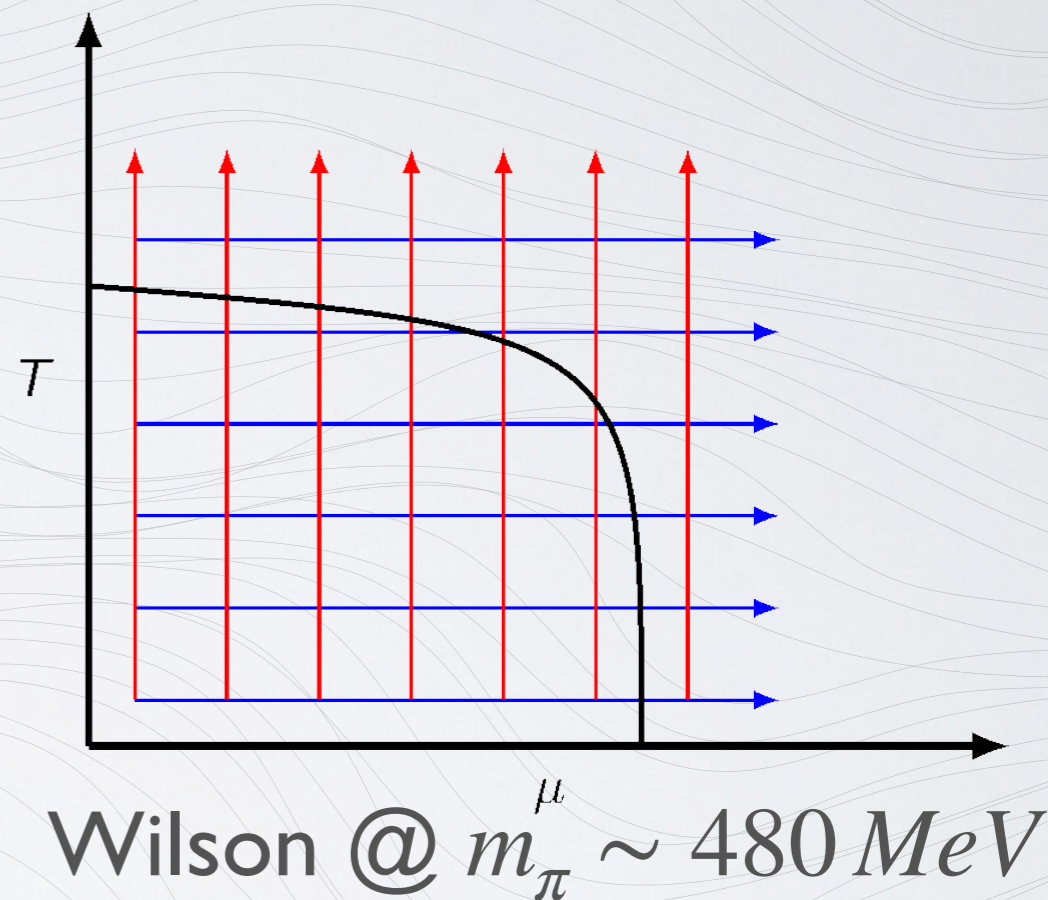


CG Iterations

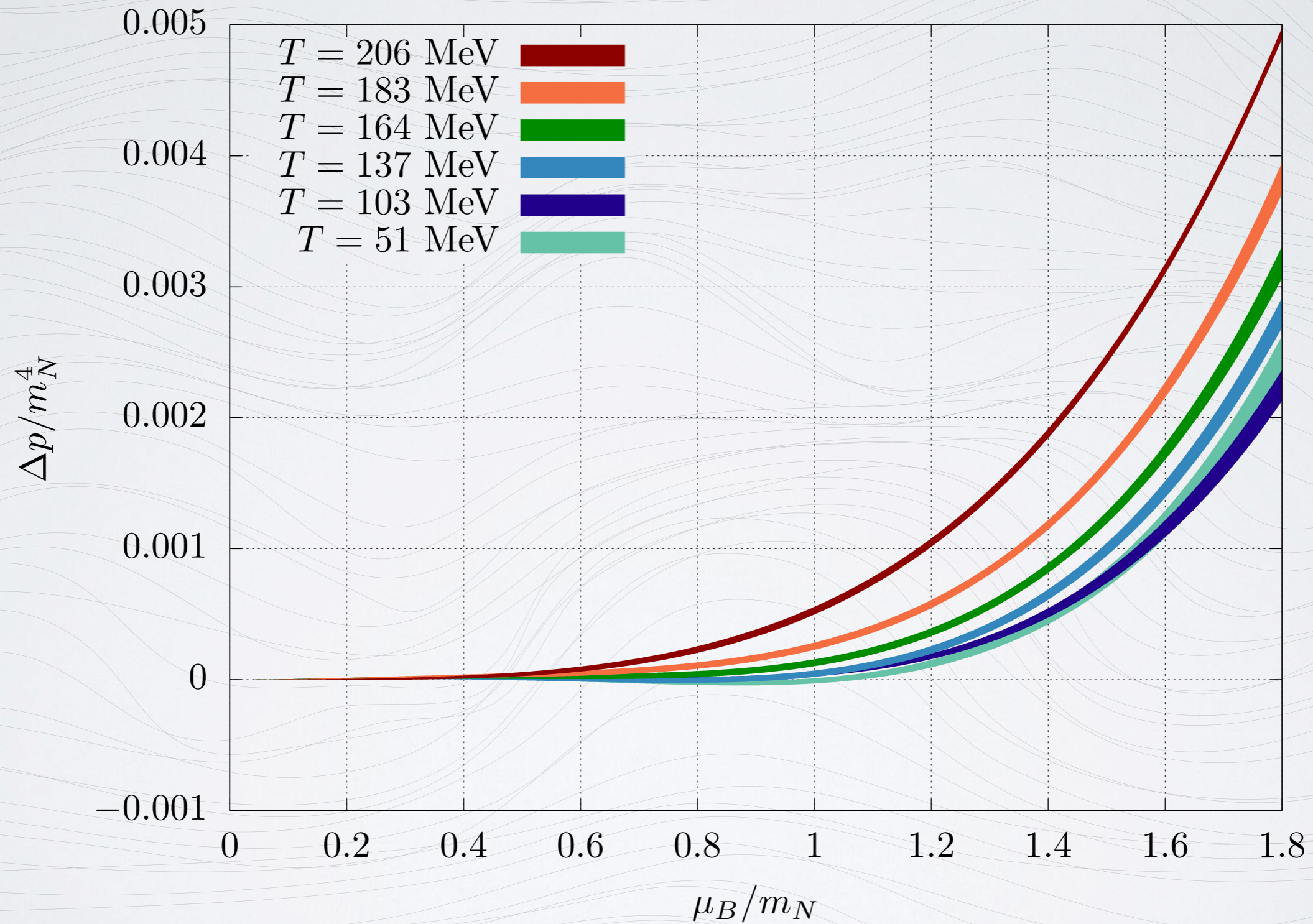


Results

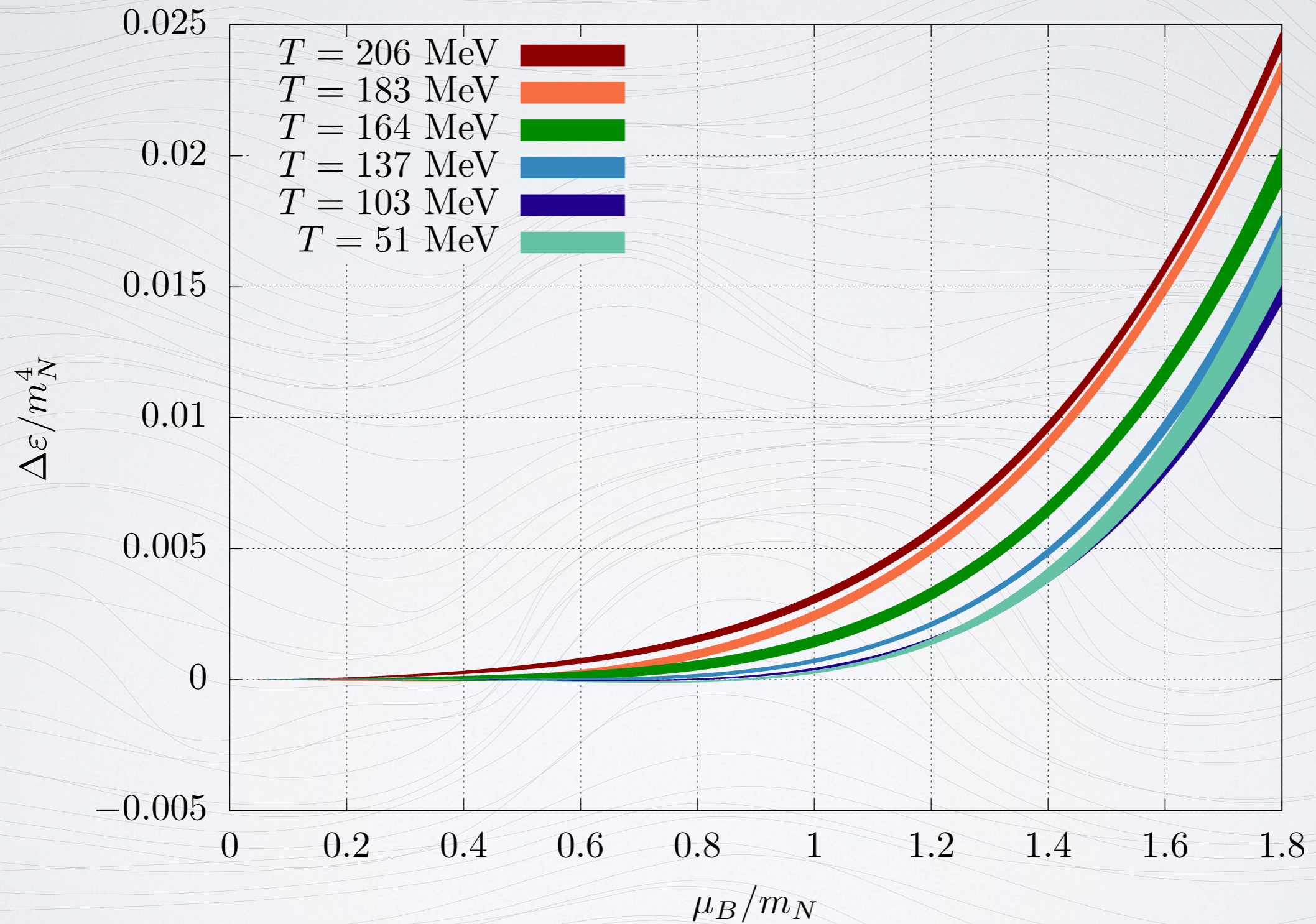
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Equation of State - Pressure

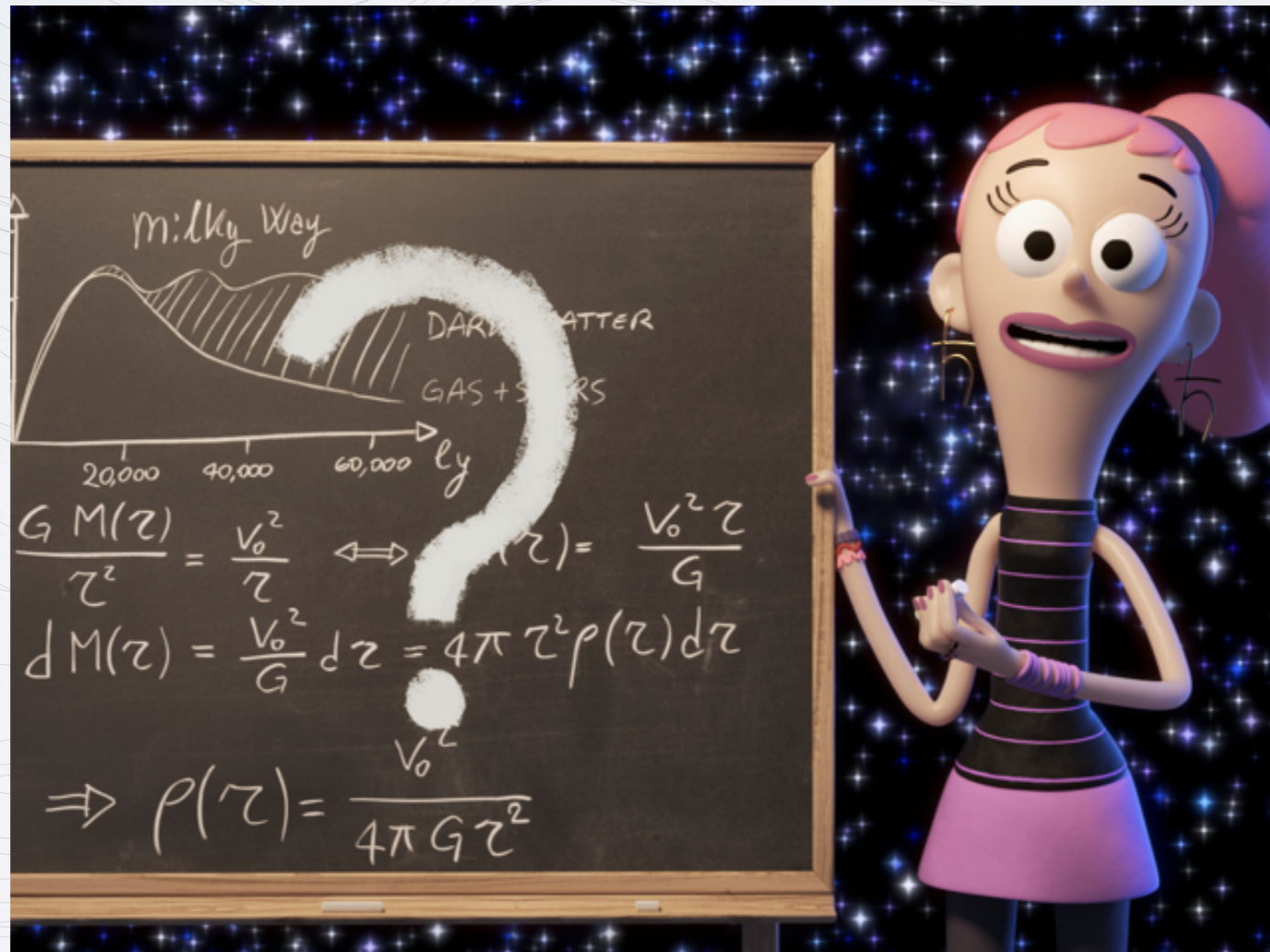


Equation of State - Energy density



Questions?

Thank you for your attention!



Quantum Kate (orig. Kvantte Karina): CP3 Outreach <http://www.kvantebanditter.dk/en>