

Anomalous chiral symmetry in finite temperature QCD and its implications

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Chiral symmetry in QCD

- Since $m_{u,d} \ll \Lambda_{QCD}$, 2+1 flavor QCD respects $U_L(2) \times U_R(2)$ chiral symmetry to a good extent.
- The non-singlet part of this chiral symmetry gets broken at low T ,
 $SU_A(2) \times SU_V(2) \rightarrow SU_V(2)$
- This happens through a crossover transition at a temperature now known to unprecedented accuracy $156.5(1.5)$ MeV.
[HotQCD collab. 18, F. Burger et. al. 18, Budapest-Wuppertal collab. 20]
- The singlet part $U_A(1)$ is anomalous yet can affect the order of the chiral phase transition as $m_{u,d} \rightarrow 0$.
[Pisarski & Wilczek 84, Pelissetto & Vicari 13, G. Fejos, 22]
- Do singlet and non-singlet chiral symmetries get restored simultaneously?

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- Not an exact symmetry → what observables to look for? **Degeneracy of the 2-point (integrated) correlation functions** [Shuryak, 94]

$$\chi_\pi - \chi_\delta \xrightarrow{V \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\infty d\lambda \frac{4m_f^2 \rho(\lambda, m_f)}{(\lambda^2 + m_f^2)^2}$$

- For $\rho(\lambda)$: near-zero modes need careful study. Suffer from lattice cut-off + finite volume effects.
[HotQCD collaboration, 12, G. Cossu et. al, 13, 14, 15, V. Dick et. al, 15, Suzuki et. al., 18, 20]
- Bulk part: → $\rho(\lambda) \sim \lambda^3$ is a necessary cond. for $U_A(1)$ breaking invisible in upto 6 point correlators [Aoki, Fukaya & Taniguchi, 12]
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Looking at spectral density of QCD at finite temperature

- Very little known. Only recently studied in detail

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- Assuming $\rho(\lambda, m)$ to be analytic in λ, m^2 , look at Ward identities of n -point function of scalar & pseudo-scalar currents when chiral symmetry is restored.

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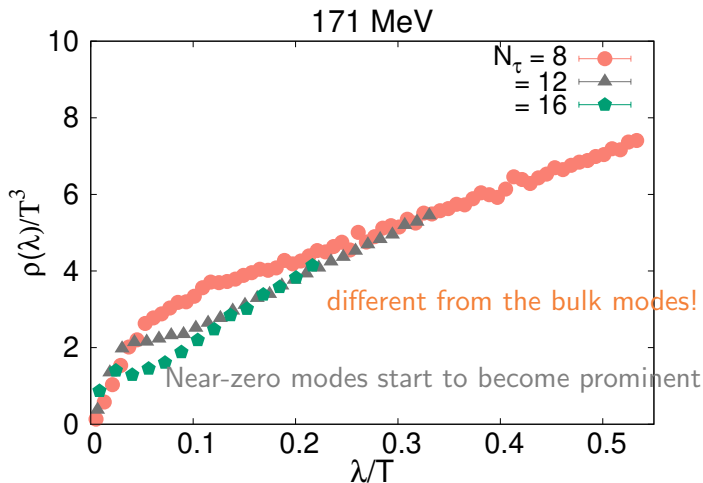
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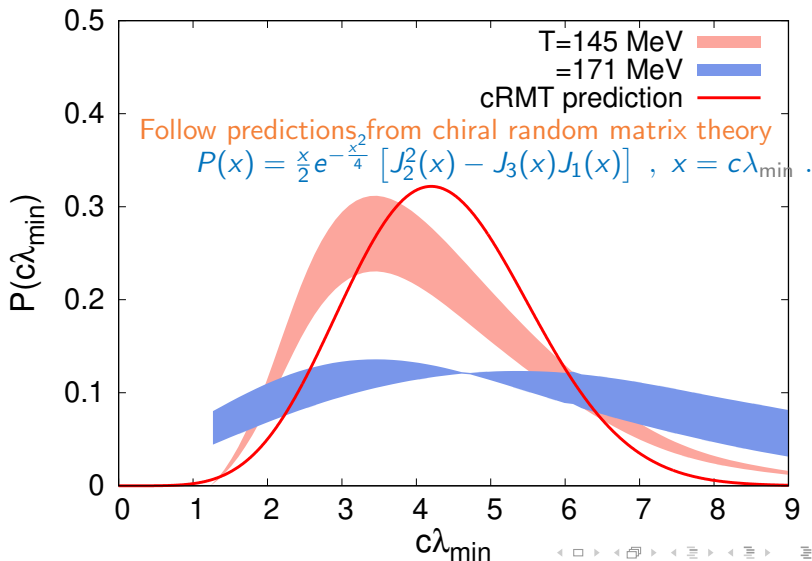
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Spectral Density when chiral symmetry is restored

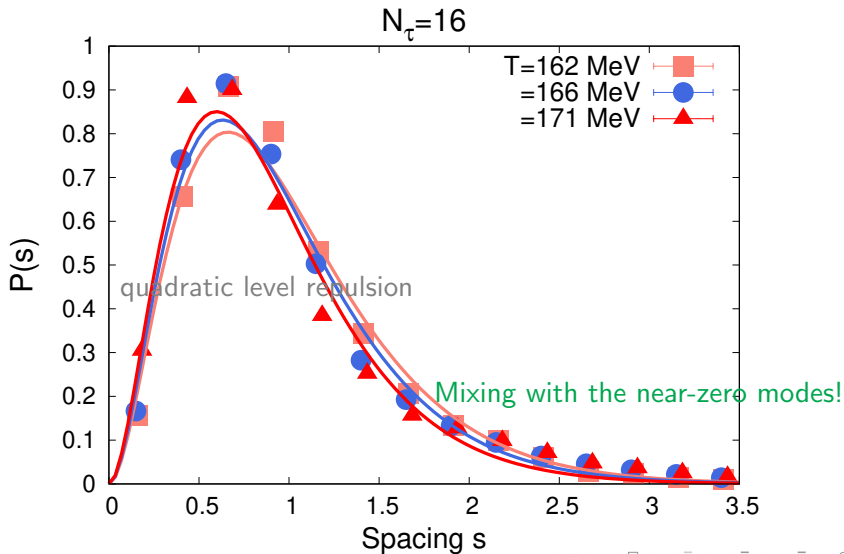
- The bulk modes show a linear rise characterized by $c(T, m) = 16.8(4)T^2 + \mathcal{O}(m^2/T^2)$. This is a new finding which has consequences for U A (1) breaking in the chiral limit.



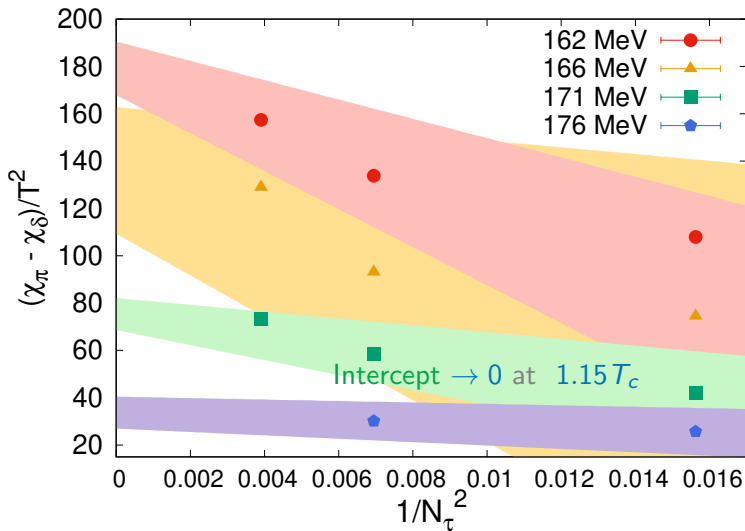
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Level-spacing distribution of the bulk modes



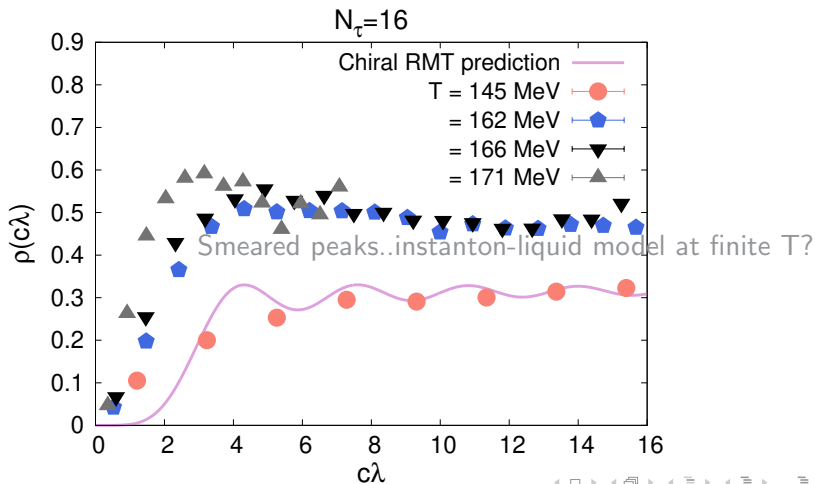
When is $U_A(1)$ effectively restored $\rightarrow 1.15T_c$



[Fig. from O. Kaczmarek, Ravi Shanker, S. S., PRD 108, 094501, 2023].

What more does the eigenspectra tell us?

- $T < T_c$: random matrix theory predicts eigenvalues of QCD \rightarrow **disordered phase** [Fig. from O. Kaczmarek, Ravi Shanker, S. S., PRD 108, 094501, 2023].
- $T > T_c$: **disorder decreases**: interactions become short ranged.



How can we understand our results

- One can visualize quarks as **many-body states** moving in the background of **lowest energy topological states of gauge fields called instantons**
- $T < T_c$: Instantons strongly interacting \rightarrow disordered potential creates bulk modes in the quark Dirac spectrum
- $T > T_c$: Interactions among instantons become short range \rightarrow liquid-like
- $T = 1.15T_c$: The near-zero and the bulk modes disentangle. **the axial part of chiral symmetry is also restored**
- Studies also observe jump in the electrical conductivity at the same T [A. Amato et. al., 14]. Same is observed in interacting many-electron system in a disordered potential [Altshuler et. al, 04]

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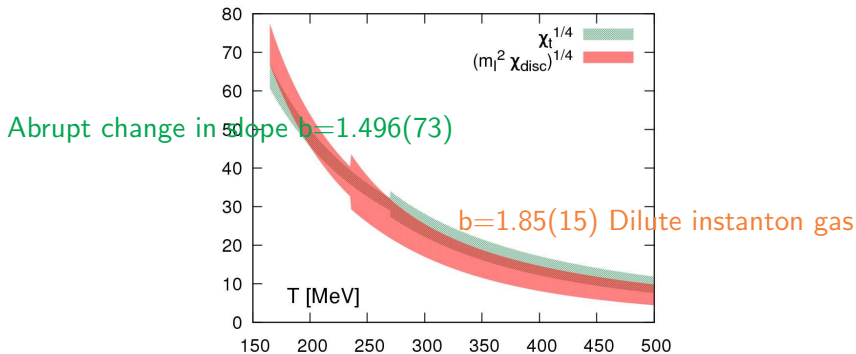
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Topological origin of the $U_A(1)$?

- The **topological susceptibility** is related to $U_A(1)$ breaking through $\chi_t = m^2 \chi_{disc} = m^2(\chi_\pi - \chi_\delta)/4$.
- Characterizing, $\chi_t^{1/4}(T) \sim (T_c/T)^b$ [Petreczky, Schadler, S.S. 16].

[See also C. Bonati et. al., 15, 18, Sz. Borsanyi et. al., 16, F. Burger et. al, 18]



Summary

- We are now able to understand the thermodynamics of chiral symmetry restoration, **including its anomalous part** from the fundamental theory of strong interactions, QCD.
- It involves subtle interplay of many-body interactions among quarks and disorder due to the gauge fields.
- The precise microscopic origin is not yet understood.
- Interesting if one can observe this from the decay of $\eta' \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ (2.3%), $\eta' \rightarrow \rho^0\gamma$ (30%) meson in the CBM experiment.

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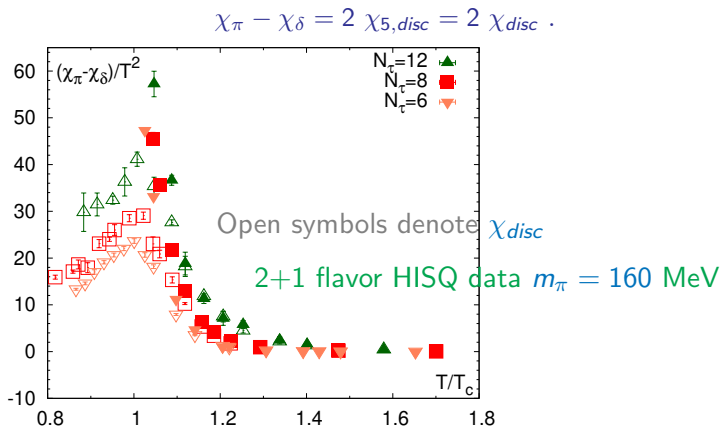
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Backup: How well are Chiral Ward Identities realized for 2+1 f QCD?

- When chiral symmetry is restored

[L. Giusti, G. C. Rossi, M. Testa, 04, HotQCD 1205.3535]



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