Chiral symmetry breaking in QCD and finite-volume effects

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[GSI]

Hadronic matter under extreme conditions

heavy-ion collisions



[STAR experiment, RHIC, BNL]



 nadronic matter at finite temperature and density

QCD: chiral symmetry and confinement

 SU(3) gauge theory of strongly interacting quarks and gluons

$$S_{\rm QCD} = \int d^4x \; \left\{ \bar{\psi} \left(i \not \!\!\!D - m \right) \psi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \right\}$$

 chiral flavor symmetry: symmetry for 2 massless quarks (flavors (u, d))



Spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking Chiral symmetry restoration and d

0.0 100

150

200

- chiral symmetry is spontaneously broken in the QCD ground state 0.8 0.6 • order parameter: chiral condensate 0.4 $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi\rangle = \langle \psi_I^{\dagger}\psi_R + \psi_B^{\dagger}\psi_L\rangle \neq 0$ 0.2
- Goldstone bosons of spontaneous symmetry breaking: **pions** are the (almost massless) low-energy degrees of freedom
- low-momentum QCD: theory of weakly interacting pions

Г [MeV]

300

250

Deconfinement: Z(3) symmetry breaking

• Polyakov loop acts as order parameter

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{N_c} \operatorname{Tr} \left[\exp i \int_0^{1/T} d\tau A_4(\vec{x}, \tau) \right]$$



• Z(3) center symmetry

de-confined phase: Z(3) symmetry spontaneously broken

$$\Phi \to z \Phi$$

$$z = \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\frac{2\pi n}{N_c}\right]$$

confined phase: Z(3) symmetric

- $\left< \Phi \right> \neq 0 \qquad \qquad \left< \Phi \right> = 0$
- Polyakov loop corresponds to free energy of a free static quark: $\Phi \sim \exp{(-F_q/T)}$

Chiral symmetry restoration and deconfinement Chiral symmetry restoration and deconfinement

Chiral quark condensate



- finite quark mass
- strictly speaking, not a true phase transition
- crossover

- Polyakov loop
- crossover in presence of quarks



Phase transitions in QCD



[F. .Karsch and E. Laermann, arXiv:hep-lat/0305025.]



- chiral perturbation theory: Effective Field Theory
- lattice QCD: simulation of the gauge theory in finite Euclidean space-time volume

Methods for studying QCD

- Dyson-Schwinger Equations for QCD [C. Fischer and R. Alkofer, J. Lücker, ...]
- functional Renormalization Group methods
 - for models, including confinement [B.-J. Schaefer, T. Herbst, A. Tripolt, V. Skokov, B. Friman, K. Redlich ...]
 - for QCD [J. Braun, H. Gies, L. Haas, L. Fister, Pawlowski, ...]
- (chiral) model calculations for transition regions
 → this talk

QCD in a finite volume

- finite volume introduces an additional scale 1/L: probes different momentum regions, like temperature T
- no real phase transitions, critical long-range behavior affected by the volume size
- quark boundary conditions: what to choose in a finite spatial volume? periodic or anti-periodic?



finite-volume effects in the analysis?

Topics

- Critical scaling for the chiral phase transition in infinite and finite volume
- Phenomenological implications of finite-volume effects for the QCD phase diagram

long-range fluctuations: Renormalization Group (RG) methods

The quark-meson model

- a model for chiral symmetry breaking
- no gauge degrees of freedom

$$\Gamma_{\Lambda}[\bar{\psi},\psi,\sigma,\vec{\pi}] = \int d^4x \Big\{ \bar{\psi}(i\,\partial\!\!\!\!\partial)\psi + g\bar{\psi}(\sigma+i\gamma_5\vec{\tau}\cdot\vec{\pi})\psi \\ + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}\sigma)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}\vec{\pi}\,)^2 + U_{\Lambda}(\sigma,\sigma^2+\vec{\pi}^2) \Big\}$$

- chiral symmetry breaking: SU(2) × SU(2) \rightarrow SU(2) as O(4) \rightarrow O(3) (meson sector) $\langle \sigma \rangle \neq 0$
- specify effective action for the model at initial scale Λ
- use functional Renormalization Group (Wetterich equation) to obtain effective action [C.Wetterich, Phys. Lett. B 301 (1993) 90.]

Renormalization Group calculation

• RG flow equation with 3*d* optimized cutoff function: change of effective potential with change of RG scale *k*

$$k\partial_k U_k(\phi^2) = k^5 \left[\frac{3}{E_\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} + n_B(E_\pi) \right) \mathcal{B}_p(kL) + \frac{1}{E_\sigma} \left(\frac{1}{2} + n_B(E_\sigma) \right) \mathcal{B}_p(kL) - \frac{2N_c N_f}{E_q} \left(1 - n_F(E_q, \mu) - n_F(E_q, -\mu) \right) \mathcal{B}_p(kL) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \text{ see also talk by M. Scherer}$$

- volume dependence encoded in mode-counting functions
- depends on choice of boundary conditions (for the spatial directions)

Critical behavior, scaling and universality

- Critical point (e.g. second-order phase transition)
- diverging *correlation length* $\xi \sim 1/M_{\sigma} \rightarrow \infty$
- critical *long-range* fluctuations dominate the physics of a system close to the critical point
- universality classes: the same critical behavior is observed in different systems with the same symmetries and dimensionality
- critical behavior is *characterized* by a few *critical exponents* β , γ , δ , ν and *scaling functions*



finite volume cuts off long-range fluctuation and impacts critical scaling behavior!

Scaling behavior in infinite volume

• two relevant couplings: temperature *T* and symmetry breaking (quark mass *m*) *H*

 $\boldsymbol{t} = (T - T_c)/T_0, \qquad \boldsymbol{h} = H/H_0$

• Scaling function for the order parameter $M(f_{\pi}, \langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle)$:

 $M(t, h = 0) = (-t)^{\beta} \qquad M(t = 0, h) = h^{1/\delta}$ $M(t, h) = h^{1/\delta} f_M(z) \qquad z = t/h^{1/(\beta\delta)}$

• Scaling function for the susceptibility χ_{σ} :

$$\chi_{\sigma}(t,h) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial H}(t,h) = \frac{1}{H_0} h^{1/\delta - 1} f_{\chi}(z)$$



• susceptibility χ_{σ} for small values of $m_{\pi} < 0.9$ MeV



Susceptibility χ_{σ} from the model: O(4)

• rescaled susceptibility $\chi_{\sigma} H_0 h^{1-1/\delta}$ for realistic values of m_{π}



Infinite volume scaling in finite volume?

• rescaled susceptibility $\chi_{\sigma} H_0 h^{1-1/\delta}$ in finite volume

susceptibility decrease $\chi_{\sigma} \sim L^2$ usceptibility increase



r. Piasecki, J. Braun, and B. Klein (2010), arXiv:1008.2155]

•
$$m_{\pi} = 75 \text{ MeV}$$

- deviations from infinite-volume scaling for L < 6 fm
- effects probably weaker in lattice QCD

Scaling behavior in finite volume

- correlation length is cut off by finite volume size L
- Volume size L appears as additional relevant coupling
- Finite-size scaling functions with additional scaling variable
- Finite-size scaling function for the order parameter:

 $M(t, h, L) = L^{-\beta/\nu} Q_M(z, \bar{h}), \quad \bar{h} = h L^{\beta \delta/\nu}$

• Finite-size scaling function for the susceptibility:

 $\chi_{\sigma}(t,h,L) = L^{\gamma/\nu} Q_{\chi}(z,\bar{h})$

Finite size scaling: Susceptibility χ_{σ}

susceptibility in finite volume



Finite size scaling: Susceptibility χ_{σ}

finite-size scaled susceptibility





- second-order phase transition for two flavors in the chiral limit [R. D. Pisarski and F. Wilczek, Phys. Rev. D 29 (1984) 338]
- crossover at finite quark masses for finite temperature at $\mu = 0$
- conventional expectation: first-order phase transition with critical end point

Curvature of the transition line

• at small baryon chemical potential μ , the phase transition line is characterized by the curvature κ

$$\frac{T_{\chi}(L, m_{\pi}, \mu)}{T_{\chi}(L, m_{\pi}, \mu = 0)} = 1 - \kappa \left(\frac{\mu}{(\pi T_{\chi}(L, m_{\pi}, 0))}\right)^2 + \dots$$

• "sign problem" in lattice QCD: simulations are difficult at finite μ

RG methods: [J. Braun, Eur. Phys. J. C64, 459 (2009)]

• curvature can be calculated in lattice QCD (imaginary chemical potential, Taylor expansion) [P. de Forcrand and O. Philipsen, Nucl. Phys. B 642 (2002) 290, JHEP 01 (2007) 077; F. Karsch et al., Nucl. Phys. Proc. Suppl. 129, 614 (2004).]

differences partially due to finite-volume effects?

Why Finite-volume effects?

• curvature depends on the sensitivity of the system on the chemical potential $\partial F \mid$

$$u = \left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial N_q} \right|_{T,V}$$



- sensitivity in turn depends on the "constituent quark mass"
- constituent quark mass affected by volume!

Change of curvature in finite volume

- periodic boundary conditions for quarks
- decreasing curvature in intermediate volume
- corresponds to decreasing pion mass/increasing constituent quark mass
- decreased sensitivity to chemical potential



[B.-J. Schaefer, J.Braun, B. Klein]

Phase diagram for QCD models in finite volume - qualitative results

- qualitatively clear effects of finite volume on curvature
- phase transition line tends to flatten in an intermediate volume range
- curvature increases dramatically for very small volumes



Phase diagram for QCD models in finite volume - first results

- potential discretized on a mesh grid
- first-order phase transition can be determined
- effects on critical point can be determined



[A. Tripolt, B.-J. Schaefer, J.Braun, B. Klein]

Effects of the quark boundary conditions

- Pion mass shift in $V = L^3 \times 1/T$ in quark-meson model
- periodic vs. anti-periodic quark boundary conditions (b.c.)



Quark contributions for a finite volume

- quark momentum modes contributing to the condensate (and the constituent quark mass) in a large finite volume
- zero-mode for periodic b.c.
- no zero mode for anti-periodic b.c.



Quark contributions for a finite volume

- quark momentum modes contributing to the condensate (and the constituent quark mass) in a small finite volume
- enhancement of the zeromode contribution ~1/V for periodic b. c.



Comparison to Chiral Perturbation Theory

• comparison of model results with **anti-periodic** boundary conditions from RG to ChPT in NNLO ChPT data thanks to G. Colangelo

[G. Colangelo, S. Dürr, C. Haefeli, Nucl. Phys. B 271 (2005) 136.]



Conclusions

- Scaling functions from the functional renormalization group for the analysis of the QCD chiral phase transition: Results from a model for the chiral phase transition
- Finite-size effects in lattice simulations can lead to significant deviations from expected scaling behavior
- Additional finite-volume effects for curvature of transition line is expected
- choice of spatial quark boundary condition is important!

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