# Vacuum-fluctuation effects on inhomogeneous chiral condensates 

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## Motivation

- QCD phase diagram (standard picture):



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- How about non-uniform phases ?


## NJL-model studies


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- 1st-order phase boundary completely covered by the inhomogeneous phase!
- Critical point $\rightarrow$ Lifshitz point [D. Nickel, PRL (2009)]
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including inhomogeneous phase

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- 1st-order phase boundary completely covered by the inhomogeneous phase!
- Critical point $\rightarrow$ Lifshitz point [D. Nickel, PRL (2009)]
- Inhomogeneous phase rather robust under model extensions and variations:
- vector interactions
- Polyakov-loop dynamics
- including strange quarks
- isospin imbalance
- magnetic fields
[MB, S. Carignano, PPNP (2015)]


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$\Rightarrow$ use renormalizable model: QM model
- Long-term goal:

Study role of fluctuations beyond mean field (FRG)

## Quark-meson model

- Lagrangian: $\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{QM}}=\mathcal{L}_{\text {mes }}+\mathcal{L}_{q}$
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text {mes }}=\frac{1}{2}\left(\partial_{\mu} \sigma \partial^{\mu} \sigma+\partial_{\mu} \vec{\pi} \partial^{\mu} \vec{\pi}\right)-U(\sigma, \vec{\pi})$,
$U(\sigma, \vec{\pi})=\frac{\lambda}{4}\left(\sigma^{2}+\vec{\pi}^{2}-v^{2}\right)^{2}-h \sigma, \quad$ chiral limit: $h=0$
- $\mathcal{L}_{q}=\bar{\psi}\left(i \not \partial-g\left(\sigma+i \gamma_{5} \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\pi}\right)\right) \psi$


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- Thermodynamic potential:

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\Omega(T, \mu)=-\frac{T}{V} \log \int \mathcal{D} \sigma \mathcal{D} \vec{\pi} \mathcal{D} \bar{\psi} \mathcal{D} \psi \exp \left(\int_{\left[0, \frac{1}{T}\right] \times V} d^{4} x_{E}\left(\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{QM}}+\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^{0} \psi\right)\right)
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- Mean-field approximation:

$$
\sigma(x) \rightarrow\langle\sigma(x)\rangle \equiv S(\vec{x}), \quad \pi_{a}(x) \rightarrow\left\langle\pi_{a}(x)\right\rangle \equiv P(\vec{x}) \delta_{a 3}
$$

- $S(\vec{x}), P(\vec{x})$ time independent classical fields
- Retain space dependence!


## Mean-Field Approximation

- Mean-field Lagrangian: $\mathcal{L}_{M F}=\mathcal{L}_{\text {mes }}^{M F}+\bar{\psi} \mathcal{S}^{-1} \psi$
- mesonic part: $\quad \mathcal{L}_{\text {mes }}^{M F}=-\frac{1}{2}\left((\vec{\nabla} S)^{2}+(\vec{\nabla} P)^{2}\right)-U(S, P) \quad$ (entirely classical)
- quark part bilinear in $\psi$ and $\bar{\psi} \Rightarrow$ quark fields can be integrated out!
- inverse dressed quark propagator:

$$
\mathcal{S}^{-1}(x)=i \not \partial-g\left(S(\vec{x})+i \gamma_{5} \tau_{3} P(\vec{x})\right) \equiv \gamma^{0}\left(i \partial_{0}-H_{M F}[S, P]\right)
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- Thermodynamic potential: $\Omega_{M F}=\Omega_{\text {mes }}+\Omega_{q}$
- $\Omega_{\text {mes }}=\frac{1}{V} \int_{V} d^{3} x\left(\frac{1}{2}\left((\vec{\nabla} \sigma)^{2}+(\vec{\nabla} \vec{\pi})^{2}\right)+U(\sigma, \vec{\pi})\right) \quad$ straightforward
- $\Omega_{q}=-\frac{T}{V} \operatorname{Tr} \log \left[\frac{1}{T}\left(i \partial_{0}-H_{M F}+\mu\right)\right]$

$$
=-\frac{1}{V} \sum_{\lambda}\left[\frac{E_{\lambda}-\mu}{2}+T \log \left(1+e^{\frac{E_{\lambda}-\mu}{T}}\right)\right],
$$

$E_{\lambda}=$ eigenvalues of $H_{M F}[S, P] \Rightarrow$ in general difficult

## Condensate modulations

- Difficulty: $H_{Q M}$ is nondiagonal in momentum space
$\rightarrow$ has been diagonalized only for certain condensate functions so far
- Generalized constituent quark mass functions: $M(\vec{x}):=g(S(\vec{x})+i P(\vec{x}))$
- Modulations with analytically known eigenvalues:
- homogeneous matter: $M=$ const.
- chiral density wave (CDW): $M(z)=\Delta e^{i q z}$
- real kink crystal (RKC): $M(z)=\sqrt{\nu} \Delta \operatorname{sn}(\Delta z \mid \nu)$


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- real kink crystal (RKC): $\quad M(z)=\sqrt{\nu} \Delta \operatorname{sn}(\Delta z \mid \nu)$
- With this one gets:
$\Omega_{q}=-\int_{0}^{\infty} d E \rho(E ;\{S, P\})\left\{E+T \log \left[1+e^{-\frac{E-\mu}{T}}\right]+T \log \left[1+e^{-\frac{E+\mu}{T}}\right]\right\}$
- $\rho(E ;\{S, P\})$ : analytically known density of states


## Standard and extended MFA

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- standard mean-field approximation (sMFA): neglect the vacuum part completely ("no-sea approximation")
- standard procedure for a long time
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- This talk: eMFA study of inhomogeneous (and homogeneous) phases [S. Carignano, MB, B.-J. Schaefer, PRD (2014); S. Carignano, MB, W. Elkamhawy, PRD (2016)]


## Fixing the parameters

- Fit $g, \lambda$, and $v$ to three vacuum "observables" : $M_{v a c}=g\langle\sigma\rangle, m_{\sigma}, f_{\pi}$


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f_{\pi}=\langle\sigma\rangle
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(Goldberger-Treiman: $M_{v a c}=g_{\pi} f_{\pi}$ )

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(Goldberger-Treiman: $M_{\text {vac }}=g_{\pi} f_{\pi}$ )
- Including the Dirac sea (usual identification):

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m_{\sigma}^{2}=\left.\frac{\partial^{2} \Omega}{\partial \sigma^{2}}\right|_{\sigma=\langle\sigma\rangle, \vec{\pi}=\overrightarrow{0}} \equiv m_{\sigma, \text { curv }}^{2}, \quad f_{\pi}=\langle\sigma\rangle
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- Correct procedure meson propagator with loop corrections:


$$
\begin{aligned}
& D_{j}\left(q^{2}\right)=\frac{1}{q^{2}-m_{j, t r e e}^{2}+g^{2} \Pi_{j}\left(q^{2}\right)+i \epsilon}=\frac{z_{j}}{q^{2}-m_{j, j o l e}^{2}+i \epsilon}+\text { reg. terms, } \quad j=\sigma, \pi \\
\rightarrow \quad & m_{\sigma} \equiv m_{\sigma, p o l e}, \quad f_{\pi}=\frac{M_{v a c}}{g_{\pi, \text { een }}}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{Z_{\pi}}}\langle\sigma\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

## Fixing the parameters

- $g^{2}=\frac{M_{v a c}^{2}}{f_{\pi}^{2}+\frac{1}{2} M_{\text {vac }}^{2} L_{2}(0)}, \quad \lambda=2 g^{2} \frac{m_{\sigma}^{2}}{4 M_{\text {vac }}^{2}}\left[1-\frac{1}{2} g^{2}\left(1-\frac{4 M_{v a c}^{2}}{m_{\sigma}^{2}}\right) L_{2}\left(m_{\sigma}^{2}\right)\right], \quad v^{2}=\frac{M_{v a c}^{2}}{g^{2}}-\frac{g^{2} L_{1}}{\lambda}$;
$L_{1}=4 i N_{f} N_{c} \int \frac{d^{4} p}{(2 \pi)^{4}} \frac{1}{p^{2}-M_{\text {vac }}^{2}+i \epsilon}, \quad L_{2}\left(q^{2}\right)=4 i N_{f} N_{c} \int \frac{d^{4} p}{(2 \pi)^{4}} \frac{1}{\left[(p+q)^{2}-M_{\text {vac }}^{2}+i \epsilon\left[\left[p^{2}-M^{2}+i \epsilon\right]\right.\right.}$


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- "Hands-on renormalization":
- Regularize $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ (here: Pauli-Villars).
- Increase cutoff $\Lambda$, keeping $M_{\text {vac }}, m_{\sigma}$, and $f_{\pi}$ fixed.


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- "Hands-on renormalization":
- Regularize $L_{1}$ and $L_{2}$ (here: Pauli-Villars).
- Increase cutoff $\Lambda$, keeping $M_{\text {vac }}, m_{\sigma}$, and $f_{\pi}$ fixed.
- Results for $M_{\text {vac }}=300 \mathrm{MeV}, f_{\pi}=88 \mathrm{MeV}, m_{\sigma}=600 \mathrm{MeV}$ :





## Phase diagram for homogeneous matter

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## Phase diagram for homogeneous matter

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## Phase diagram for homogeneous matter

TECHNISCHE


- Convergence reached at $\Lambda \approx 2 \mathrm{GeV}$.


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- inhomogeneous island gets smaller but survives.
- Lifshitz point $\hat{=}$ critical point


## Ginzburg-Landau analysis

- Expansion of the thermodynamic potential:

$$
\Omega(M)=\Omega(0)+\frac{1}{V} \int d^{3} x\left\{\frac{1}{2} \gamma_{2}|M(\vec{x})|^{2}+\frac{1}{4} \gamma_{4, a}|M(\vec{x})|^{4}+\frac{1}{4} \gamma_{4, b}|\nabla M(\vec{x})|^{2}+\ldots\right\},
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& \Rightarrow \gamma_{i}>0 \\
-\gamma_{2}<0, \gamma_{4 b}>0 & \Rightarrow \text { restored phase }(M \equiv 0) \\
& \Rightarrow \gamma_{4 b}<0
\end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \text { inhomogeneous broken phase }(M=\text { const. } \neq 0),
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- NJL: $\quad \gamma_{4, a}=\gamma_{4, b} \Rightarrow$ CP $=$ LP $\quad$ [Nickel, PRL (2009)]
- QM-model: $\gamma_{4, a}=\gamma_{4, b}$ if $m_{\sigma}=2 M_{\text {vac }}$ (as always in NJL!), but in general CP and LP do not coincide.


## Sigma-mass dependence

- GL results and phase diagrams for $m_{\sigma}=550,590,610,650 \mathrm{MeV}$ :


- Size of the inhomogeneous phase very sensitive to $m_{\sigma}$ !


## Different parameter fixing

- "RP": $f_{\pi}=\frac{\langle\sigma\rangle}{\sqrt{Z_{\pi}}}, \quad m_{\sigma}=m_{\sigma, p o l e}$
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- Homogeneous phase diagram:
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- reason: $\Omega_{\text {hom }}$ depends only on the ratio $\frac{\lambda}{g^{4}}$
- Ginzburg-Landau:
- $\gamma_{2}$ and $\gamma_{4, a}$ UV finite in both schemes
- $\gamma_{2}^{\mathrm{RP}}-\gamma_{2}^{\mathrm{BC}}=-M_{\text {vac }}^{2} \eta\left(m_{\sigma}^{2}\right), \quad \gamma_{4, a}^{\mathrm{RP}}-\gamma_{4, a}^{\mathrm{BC}}=\eta\left(m_{\sigma}^{2}\right)$.
- $\eta\left(m_{\sigma}^{2}\right)$ UV finite, vanishes for $m_{\sigma}=2 M_{\text {vac }}$


## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram: qualitatively different!


## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram: $\quad \Lambda=200 \mathrm{MeV}$




## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram: $\Lambda=300 \mathrm{MeV}$




## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram: $\Lambda=400 \mathrm{MeV}$




## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram:

qualitatively different!



## Different parameter fixing

- Inhomogeneous phase diagram:
"RP"

qualitatively different!

- Ginzburg-Landau:
- $\gamma_{4, b}=\frac{2}{g^{2}}-\left.L_{2}(0)\right|_{M=0}+$ UV finite terms
- RP: $2 / g^{2}=L_{2}(0)+$ finite $\Rightarrow$ UV divergences cancel
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- So far we discussed:
- "RP": $\quad f_{\pi}=\frac{\langle\sigma\rangle}{\sqrt{Z_{\pi}}}, \quad m_{\sigma}=m_{\sigma, \text { pole }}$
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Does not even work for homogeneous phases:

- $\gamma_{2}^{\mathrm{BP}}=\frac{m_{\sigma}^{2}}{4} L_{2}(0)+$ fiinite $\Rightarrow$ chiral symmetry gets never restored
- $\gamma_{2}^{\mathrm{RC}}=-\frac{m_{\sigma}^{2}}{4} L_{2}(0)+$ fiinite $\Rightarrow$ chiral symmetry is never broken


## Fate of the inhomogeneous continent

NJL model


## Fate of the inhomogeneous continent

NJL model


QM model, $\quad \Lambda=0$


- no continent


## Fate of the inhomogeneous continent

NJL model


QM model, $\quad \Lambda=600 \mathrm{MeV}$


- The continent appears ...


## Fate of the inhomogeneous continent

NJL model


QM model, $\quad \Lambda=5 \mathrm{GeV}$


- ... and melts away


## Fate of the inhomogeneous continent

NJL model


QM model, $\quad \Lambda=5 \mathrm{GeV}$


- ... and melts away
- Problem: $\Omega_{\text {MF }}$ not bounded from below
- w.r.t. large amplitudes $\Delta$ when $\lambda<0$
- w.r.t. large wave numbers $q$ when $g^{2}<0$


## Vacuum instabilities

- Thermodynamic potential for $T=\mu=0$

$$
\Lambda=600 \mathrm{MeV}
$$


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- Can the problem be cured by including bosonic fluctuations $(\rightarrow$ FRG)?


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- Inhomogeneous phases in the QCD phase diagram should be considered!
- Investigation of inhomogeneous phases in the QM model with fermionic vacuum fluctuations (Dirac sea):
- Increasing cutoff: Inhomogeneous phase shrinks, but generally survives
- High sensitivity to the sigma-meson mass;

$$
m_{\sigma}=2 M_{\text {vac }} \Rightarrow L P=C P
$$

- Consistent loop corrections to $m_{\sigma}$ and $f_{\pi}$ crucial
- Vacuum instabilities w.r.t. large amplitudes and wave numbers


## Outlook

- Towards including bosonic fluctuations:
- Repeat present analysis of fermionic fluctuations within the FRG framework [Carignano, Schaefer, MB; work in progress]
- Identify phase boundary of the inhomogeneous phase as onset of $p$-wave pion condensation [ $\rightarrow$ talk by R.A. Tripolt]:

$$
D_{\pi}^{-1}(\omega=0,|\vec{p}|=q)=0
$$

- Analyze bosonic excitation spectrum in the inhomogeneous phase
[ $\rightarrow$ M. Schramm, next talk]

