Vacuum-fluctuation effects on inhomogeneous chiral condensates



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT

Michael Buballa

Theoriezentrum, Institut für Kernphysik, TU Darmstadt

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September 19, 2016 | Michael Buballa | 1

Motivation



QCD phase diagram (standard picture):



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• assumption: $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle$, $\langle qq \rangle$ constant in space

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- assumption: $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle$, $\langle qq \rangle$ constant in space
- How about non-uniform phases ?





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1st-order phase boundary

[D. Nickel, PRL (2009)]

completely covered by the inhomogeneous phase!

Critical point \rightarrow Lifshitz point



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- 1st-order phase boundary completely covered by the inhomogeneous phase!
- Critical point → 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





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⇒ use renormalizable model: QM model

Long-term goal:

Study role of fluctuations beyond mean field (FRG)





Quark-meson model



• Lagrangian: $\mathcal{L}_{QM} = \mathcal{L}_{mes} + \mathcal{L}_q$

$$\mathcal{L}_{mes} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\partial_{\mu} \sigma \partial^{\mu} \sigma + \partial_{\mu} \vec{\pi} \partial^{\mu} \vec{\pi} \right) - U(\sigma, \vec{\pi}),$$

$$U(\sigma, \vec{\pi}) = \frac{\lambda}{4} \left(\sigma^{2} + \vec{\pi}^{2} - v^{2} \right)^{2} - h\sigma, \quad \text{chiral limit: } h = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{q} = \bar{\psi} \left(i \partial - g(\sigma + i \gamma_{5} \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\pi}) \right) \psi$$

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► Thermodynamic potential:

$$\Omega(T,\mu) = -\frac{T}{V}\log\int \mathcal{D}\sigma \mathcal{D}\vec{\pi} \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi \exp\left(\int_{[0,\frac{1}{T}]\times V} d^4x_E \left(\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{QM}} + \mu\bar{\psi}\gamma^0\psi\right)\right)$$

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Mean-field approximation:

 $\sigma(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \langle \sigma(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \equiv S(\vec{\mathbf{x}}), \quad \pi_a(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \langle \pi_a(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \equiv P(\vec{\mathbf{x}}) \, \delta_{a3}$

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

Mean-Field Approximation



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

$$\mathcal{S}^{-1}(x) = i\partial \!\!\!/ - g\left(\mathcal{S}(\vec{x}) + i\gamma_5\tau_3 P(\vec{x})\right) \equiv \gamma^0 \left(i\partial_0 - H_{MF}[\mathcal{S}, P]\right)$$

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• Thermodynamic potential: $\Omega_{MF} = \Omega_{mes} + \Omega_q$

•
$$\Omega_{mes} = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V} d^3 x \left(\frac{1}{2} \left((\vec{\nabla} \sigma)^2 + (\vec{\nabla} \vec{\pi})^2 \right) + U(\sigma, \vec{\pi}) \right)$$
 straightforward

•
$$\Omega_q = -\frac{T}{V} \operatorname{Tr} \operatorname{Log} \left[\frac{1}{T} \left(i \partial_0 - H_{MF} + \mu \right) \right]$$

= $-\frac{1}{V} \sum_{\lambda} \left[\frac{E_{\lambda} - \mu}{2} + T \log \left(1 + e^{\frac{E_{\lambda} - \mu}{T}} \right) \right],$
 E_{λ} = eigenvalues of $H_{MF}[S, P] \implies$ in general difficult

Condensate modulations



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

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- With this one gets:

$$\Omega_q = -\int_0^\infty dE \,\rho(E; \{S, P\}) \left\{ E + T \log\left[1 + e^{-\frac{E-\mu}{T}}\right] + T \log\left[1 + e^{-\frac{E+\mu}{T}}\right] \right\}$$

▶ ρ(E; {S, P}) : analytically known density of states



- ▶ separates into vacuum (~ E) and medium (~ T log[...]) parts
- vacuum contribution ("Dirac sea") divergent



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- standard mean-field approximation (sMFA):

neglect the vacuum part completely ("no-sea approximation")

- standard procedure for a long time
- hope: Dirac-sea effects can be absorbed in the meson-potential
- but: artifacts for the phase diagram [Skokov et al., PRD (2010)]



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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)]



Fit g, λ , and v to three vacuum "observables" : $M_{vac} = g\langle \sigma \rangle$, m_{σ} , f_{π}



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► sMFA:
$$m_{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \sigma^2} \Big|_{\sigma = \langle \sigma \rangle, \vec{\pi} = \vec{0}} \equiv m_{\sigma, \text{tree}}^2, \qquad f_{\pi} = \langle \sigma \rangle$$

(Goldberger-Treiman: $M_{\text{vac}} = g_{\pi} f_{\pi}$)



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Including the Dirac sea (usual identification):

$$m_{\sigma}^{2} = \frac{\partial^{2}\Omega}{\partial\sigma^{2}}\Big|_{\sigma = \langle \sigma \rangle, \vec{\pi} = \vec{0}} \equiv m_{\sigma, curv}^{2}, \qquad f_{\pi} = \langle \sigma \rangle$$



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Correct procedure

meson propagator with loop corrections:

$$D_j(q^2) = \frac{1}{q^2 - m_{j,tree}^2 + g^2 \prod_j (q^2) + i\epsilon} = \frac{Z_j}{q^2 - m_{j,pole}^2 + i\epsilon} + \text{reg. terms}, \quad j = \sigma, \pi$$

_____ = ------

$$ightarrow m_{\sigma} \equiv m_{\sigma, {
m pole}}, \qquad f_{\pi} = rac{M_{
m vac}}{g_{\pi, {
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angle$$



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



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$$g^2 = \frac{M_{vac}^2}{t_{\pi}^2 + \frac{1}{2}M_{vac}^2 L_2(0)}, \quad \lambda = 2g^2 \frac{m_{\sigma}^2}{4M_{vac}^2} \left[1 - \frac{1}{2}g^2 \left(1 - \frac{4M_{vac}^2}{m_{\sigma}^2}\right) L_2(m_{\sigma}^2)\right], \quad v^2 = \frac{M_{vac}^2}{g^2} - \frac{g^2 L_1}{\lambda};$$

$$L_1 = 4iN_f N_c \int_{(2\pi)^4}^{\frac{d^4p}{p^2 - M_{vac}^2 + i\epsilon}}, \quad L_2(q^2) = 4iN_f N_c \int_{(2\pi)^4}^{\frac{d^4p}{(p+q)^2 - M_{vac}^2 + i\epsilon][p^2 - M^2 + i\epsilon]}}$$

- "Hands-on renormalization":
 - ▶ Regularize *L*₁ and *L*₂ (here: Pauli-Villars).
 - Increase cutoff Λ , keeping M_{vac} , m_{σ} , and f_{π} fixed.



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 - Regularize L₁ and L₂ (here: Pauli-Villars).
 - Increase cutoff Λ , keeping M_{vac} , m_{σ} , and f_{π} fixed.
- Results for M_{vac} = 300 MeV, f_{π} = 88 MeV, m_{σ} = 600 MeV:



September 19, 2016 | Michael Buballa | 10


















































• Convergence reached at $\Lambda \approx 2$ GeV.



















- inhomogeneous island gets smaller but survives.



• Expansion of the thermodynamic potential:

 $\Omega(M) = \Omega(0) + \frac{1}{V} \int d^3x \, \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \gamma_2 |M(\vec{x})|^2 + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{4,a} |M(\vec{x})|^4 + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_{4,b} |\nabla M(\vec{x})|^2 + \dots \right\},$



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 - $\gamma_i > 0$ \Rightarrow restored phase ($M \equiv 0$)
 - ► $\gamma_2 < 0, \gamma_{4b} > 0 \implies$ homogeneous broken phase (*M* = *const.* \neq 0)
 - $\gamma_{4b} < 0 \Rightarrow$ inhomogeneous phase



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- ► NJL: $\gamma_{4,a} = \gamma_{4,b} \Rightarrow CP = LP$ [Nickel, PRL (2009)]



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- ► NJL: $\gamma_{4,a} = \gamma_{4,b} \Rightarrow CP = LP$ [Nickel, PRL (2009)]
- ► QM-model: $\gamma_{4,a} = \gamma_{4,b}$ if $m_{\sigma} = 2M_{vac}$ (as always in NJL!), but in general CP and LP do not coincide.

Sigma-mass dependence



• GL results and phase diagrams for m_{σ} = 550, 590, 610, 650 MeV:



► Size of the inhomogeneous phase very sensitive to m_σ!



• "RP":
$$f_{\pi} = \frac{\langle \sigma \rangle}{\sqrt{Z_{\pi}}}$$
, $m_{\sigma} = m_{\sigma,pole}$ "BC": $f_{\pi} = \langle \sigma \rangle$, $m_{\sigma} = m_{\sigma,curv}$



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► Parameters:





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- Homogeneous phase diagram:
 - identical for $m_{\sigma} = 2M_{vac}$ (moderate differences for $m_{\sigma} \neq 2M_{vac}$)
 - reason: Ω_{hom} depends only on the ratio $\frac{\lambda}{a^4}$



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- Ginzburg-Landau:
 - ▶
 γ₂ and
 γ_{4,a} UV finite in both schemes

$$\label{eq:rescaled_rescaled$$

•
$$\eta(m_{\sigma}^2)$$
 UV finite, vanishes for $m_{\sigma} = 2M_{vac}$



Inhomogeneous phase diagram: qualitatively different!



Inhomogeneous phase diagram: Λ = 200 MeV







Inhomogeneous phase diagram: Λ = 300 MeV





Inhomogeneous phase diagram: Λ = 400 MeV





Inhomogeneous phase diagram:



qualitatively different!





Inhomogeneous phase diagram:







Ginzburg-Landau:

- $\gamma_{4,b} = \frac{2}{g^2} L_2(0)|_{M=0} + \text{UV finite terms}$
- RP: $2/g^2 = L_2(0)$ + finite \Rightarrow UV divergences cancel

• BC: $g = const. \Rightarrow$ UV divergence persists



Inhomogeneous phase diagram:







Ginzburg-Landau:

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- RP: $2/g^2 = L_2(0)$ + finite \Rightarrow UV divergences cancel

• BC: $g = const. \Rightarrow$ UV divergence persists \Rightarrow no renormalized limit!



So far we discussed:

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How about the two other possibilities?

• "BP":
$$f_{\pi} = \langle \sigma \rangle$$
, $m_{\sigma} = m_{\sigma,pole}$

• "RC":
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Does not even work for homogeneous phases:

 γ₂^{BP} = m²_σ L₂(0) + fiinite ⇒ chiral symmetry gets never restored

 γ₂^{RC} = -m²_σ L₂(0) + fiinite ⇒ chiral symmetry is never broken

Fate of the inhomogeneous continent





September 19, 2016 | Michael Buballa | 18




QM model, $\Lambda = 0$



no continent





QM model, $\Lambda = 600 \text{ MeV}$



The continent appears ...





QM model, $\Lambda = 5 \text{ GeV}$



... and melts away





... and melts away

• Problem: Ω_{MF} not bounded from below

- w.r.t. large amplitudes Δ when $\lambda < 0$
- w.r.t. large wave numbers q when $g^2 < 0$



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





 $\Lambda = 5 \text{ GeV}$



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



known instability [Skokov et al., PRD 2010]

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- ► Can the problem be cured by including bosonic fluctuations (→ 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;
 - $m_{\sigma} = 2M_{vac} \Rightarrow LP = CP$
 - Consistent loop corrections to m_{σ} and f_{π} 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 [→ talk by R.A. Tripolt]:

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

 Analyze bosonic excitation spectrum in the inhomogeneous phase [
— M. Schramm, next talk]