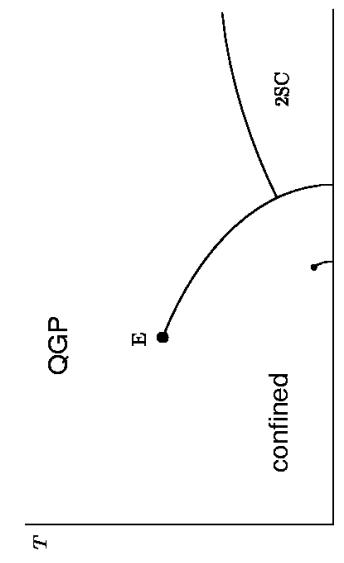


## Simulations of QCD at finite baryon density, via imaginary chemical potential

Philippe de Forcrand (ETH Zürich & CERN)

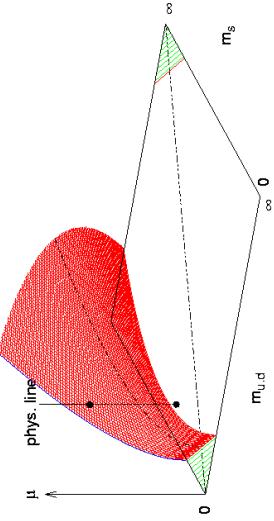
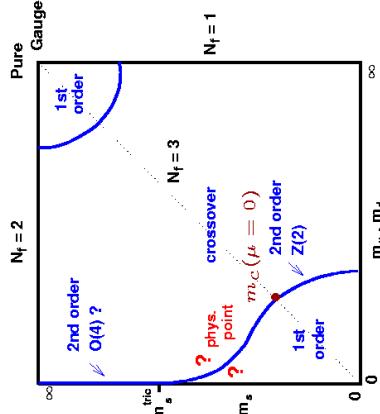
- Present: Analytic continuation, with Owe Philipsen (U. Münster)
- Future: Canonical approach, with Slavo Kratochvila (ETH)

- Confinement loses meaning when matter is heated and/or compressed



- non-perturbative  $\longrightarrow$  lattice simulations

## The QCD phase transition at finite $T, \mu = 0$



**Finite density,  $\mu \neq 0$ :**

$$D(\mu)^\dagger = \gamma_5 D(-\mu^*) \gamma_5 \Rightarrow \det(D) \notin R, \text{ unless } \mu = i\mu_I \text{ (e.g. } 0)$$

**Sign problem**

## Circumventing the sign problem:

### I. Multi-dimensional reweighting in $(\mu, \beta)$

$$Z(\mu, \beta) = \left\langle \frac{e^{-S_g(\beta)} \det(\mu)}{e^{-S_g(\beta_0)} \det(\mu = 0)} \right\rangle_{\mu=0, \beta_0} Z(\mu = 0, \beta_0)$$

**idea:** simulate at  $\beta_0 = \beta_c(0)$ , better overlap by sampling both phases; errors? ovlp.?

### II. Taylor expansion of I

**idea:** for small  $\mu/T$ , compute coeffs. of Taylor series  $\Rightarrow$  local ops.  $\Rightarrow$  gain V convergence?

### III. Imaginary $\mu$ + analytic continuation

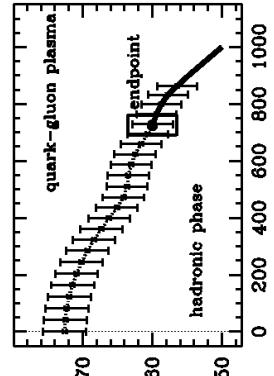
D'Elia & Lombardo; Chen & Luo; Azcoiti et al.

fermion determinant positive  $\Rightarrow$  no sign problem

**idea:** for small  $\mu/T$ , fit full simulation results of imag.  $\mu$  by Taylor series  $\Rightarrow$  continuation

- vary **two** parameters  $(\mu, T) \Rightarrow$  uncorrelated results

- control over systematics



Fodor & Katz  
Bielefeld/Swansea  
Gavai & Gupta

**idea:** for small  $\mu/T$ , compute coeffs. of Taylor series  $\Rightarrow$  local ops.  $\Rightarrow$  gain V convergence?

de Forcrand & Philipsen

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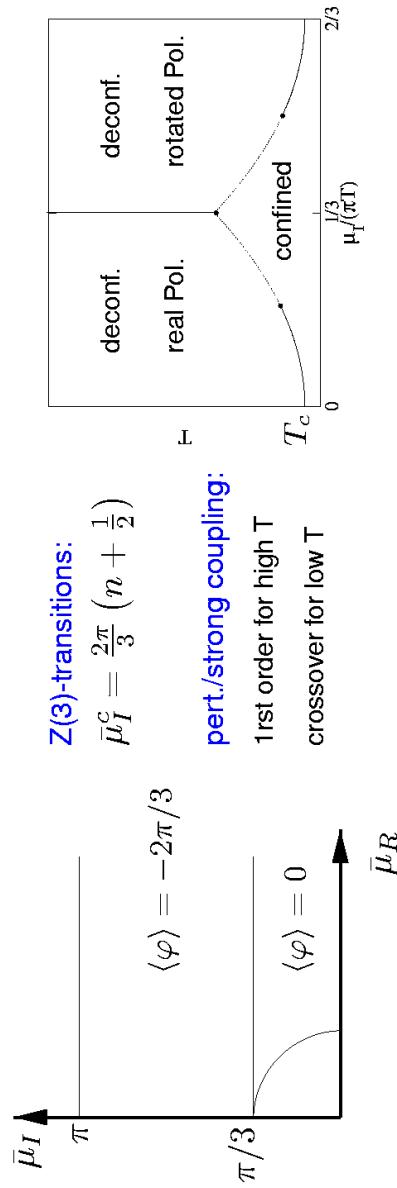
### QCD at complex $\mu$ : general properties

$$Z(V, \mu, T) = \text{Tr} \left( e^{-(\hat{H} - \mu \hat{Q})/T} \right); \quad \mu = \mu_R + i\mu_I; \quad \bar{\mu} = \mu/T$$

exact symmetries:  $\mu$ -reflection and  $\mu_I$ -periodicity

$$Z(\bar{\mu}) = Z(-\bar{\mu}), \quad Z(\bar{\mu}_R, \bar{\mu}_I) = Z(\bar{\mu}_R, \bar{\mu}_I + 2\pi/N_c)$$

Roberge & Weiss



analytic continuation within arc,  $\mu_B \lesssim 500 \text{ MeV}$  :  $\langle O \rangle = \sum_n c_n \bar{\mu}_I^{2n} \Rightarrow \mu_I \rightarrow i\mu_I$

### Ia. Analyticity of the (pseudo-) critical line in finite V

location of phase transition from maximum of susceptibilities:

$$\chi(\beta, a\mu, V) = VN_t \langle (\mathcal{O} - \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle)^2 \rangle, \quad \mathcal{O} \in \{\text{plaq}, \bar{\psi}\psi, |P(x)|\}$$

- **finite volume:** suspect. **always** finite and analytic

Critical line  $\beta_c(a\mu)$  defined by peak  $\chi_{max} \equiv \chi(a\mu_c, \beta_c)$

- **implicit function theorem:**  $\chi(\beta, a\mu)$  analytic  $\Rightarrow \beta_c(a\mu)$  analytic!

$$\text{symmetries: } \Rightarrow \beta_c(a\mu) = \sum_n c_n (a\mu)^{2n}$$

### What to expect in physical units?

Natural expansion parameter is  $\frac{\mu}{\pi T}$ :

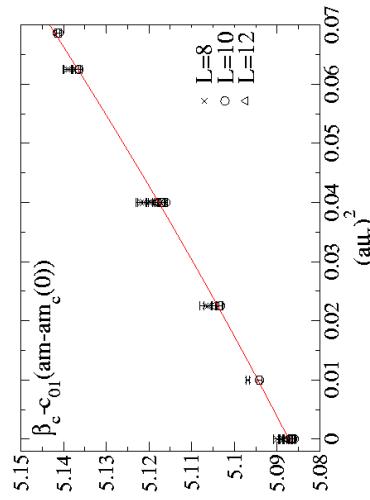
- thermal perturbation theory

- $\mu_I \rightarrow$  shift in Matsubara frequencies  $(2n+1)\pi T$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{T_c(\mu)}{T_c(\mu=0)} = 1 - \mathcal{O}(1) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T_c(0, m)} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(1) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T_c(0, m)} \right)^4 + \dots$$

*N<sub>f</sub> = 3 results, quark mass dependence*

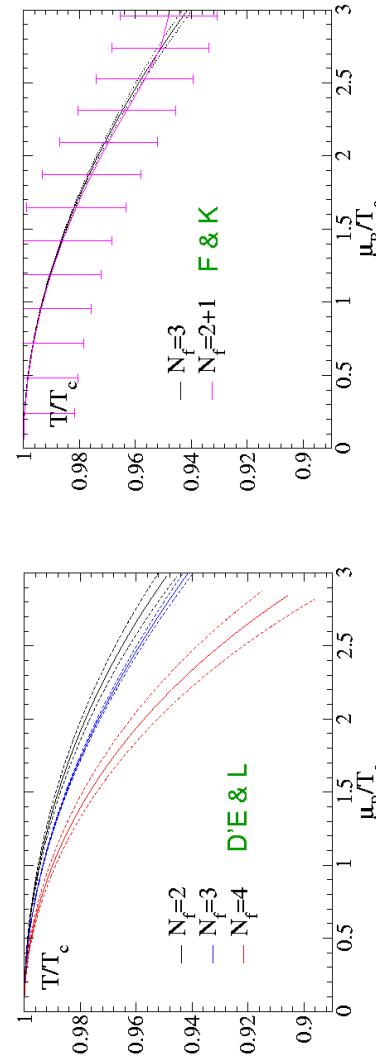
$$\beta_c(a\mu, am) = \sum_{k,l=0} c_{kl} (a\mu)^{2k} (am - am_c(0))^l$$



→ sensitive to  $\mu^4$ , but data very well described by  $\mu^2$  fit!

$$\frac{T_c(\mu, m)}{T_c(\mu = 0, m_c(0))} = 1 + 1.937(17) \frac{m - m_c(0)}{\pi T_c}$$

$$+ 0.602(9) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T_c(0, m)} \right)^2 + 0.23(9) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T_c(0, m)} \right)^4$$

*N<sub>f</sub>-dependence*

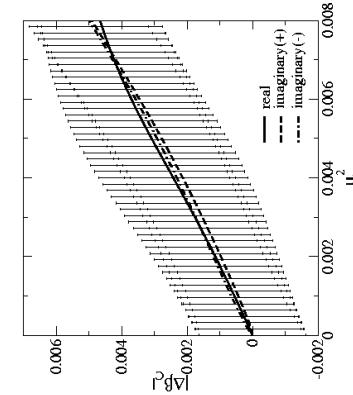
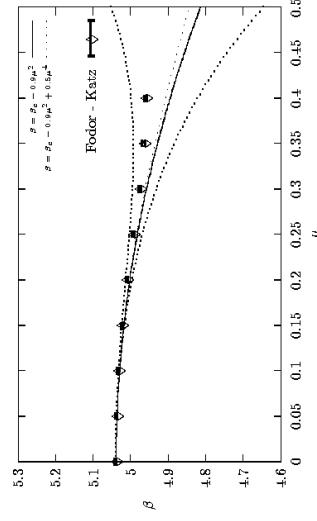
- curvature  $\propto N_f$  when  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$

Touboul

- $N_f = 2 + 1$  same as  $N_f = 3$  as long as  $m_s \ll \pi T$

**Comparison:**  
 $N_f = 4$   
 imag.  $\mu$  vs. reweighting  
 D'Elia, Lombardo

**Comparison:**  
 real  $\mu$  vs. imag.  $\mu$   
 to leading order  
 Bielefeld/Swansea

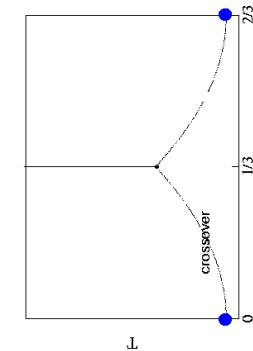
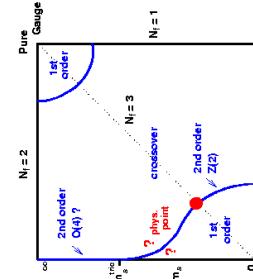


**Comparison:**

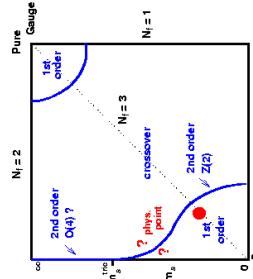
analyt. continuation ok in SU(2) Giudice, Papa

### Ib. Critical endpoint $(\mu, m_c(\mu))$ : numerical strategy

$m = m_c(0)$



$\iff$



$m < m_c(0)$

**Expect:**

$$\frac{m_c(\mu)}{m_c(\mu=0)} = 1 + \textcolor{red}{c}_1 \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T} \right)^2 + \dots$$

$m = 0 \Rightarrow$  true chiral phase transition  $\Rightarrow c_1 \leq 9$

**Detecting criticality:** Binder cumulant  $B_4 \equiv \frac{\langle (\delta\bar{\psi}\psi)^4 \rangle}{\langle (\delta\bar{\psi}\psi)^2 \rangle^2}$

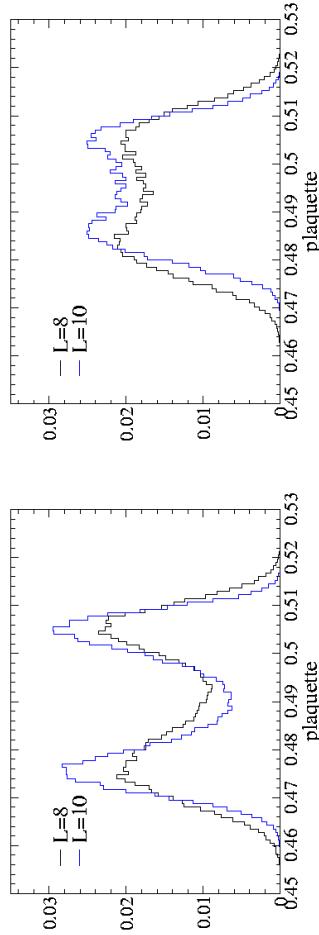
$$B_4(m_c, \mu_c) \rightarrow 1.604, \quad V \rightarrow \infty$$

**3d Ising universality :**

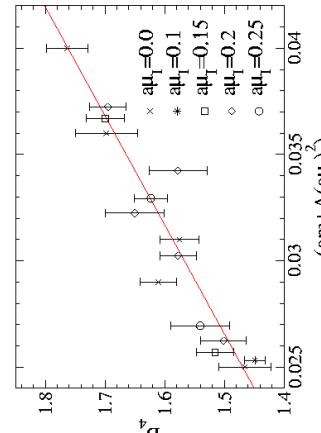
$$(B_4 = 1 \text{ (first-order), } 3 \text{ (crossover) for } V = \infty)$$

need **VERY LONG** MC runs for sufficient tunnelling statistics

first-order



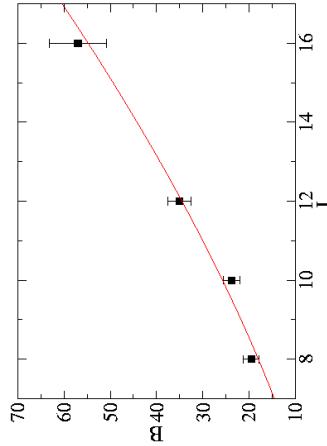
**Taylor series**  $B_4(am, a\mu) = 1.604 + B(am - am_c(0) + A(a\mu)^2) + \dots$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{m_c(\mu)}{m_c(\mu = 0)} = 1 + 0.84(36) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T} \right)^2 + \dots \quad \text{high quark mass sensitivity of } \mu_c!$$

$m_c(0)$  in agreement with **Bielefeld, Columbia**;  $c_1(\text{Bielefeld,impr.}) \sim 600(300)$  ?

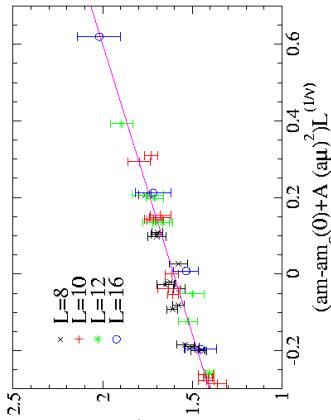
### Finite size scaling



FSS:

$$\nu = 0.62(3)$$

$$\nu(L \sin g) = 0.63$$



Can one expect the critical point to be at “small”  $\mu$ ?

If  $\mu_c \lesssim 120$  MeV (F & K), then

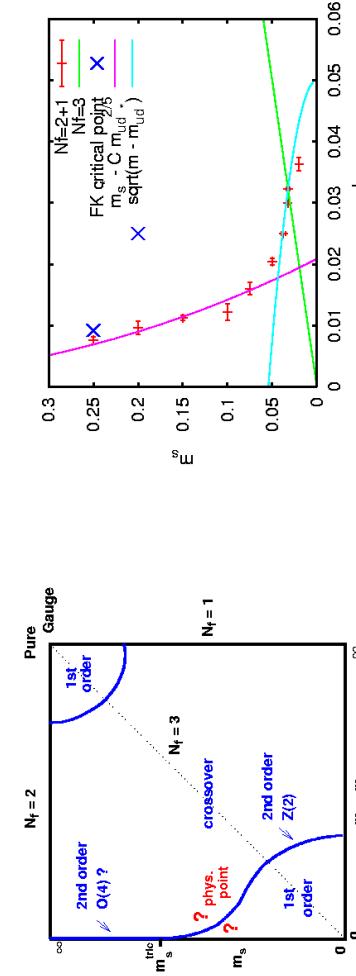
$$1 < \frac{m}{m_c(\mu = 0)} \lesssim 1.05$$

fine tuning of quark masses!

Outlook:  $N_f = 2 + 1$  Phase diag. 4d:  $(T, \mu, m_{u,d}, m_s)$

Two-step procedure:

I.  $(m_s, m_{u,d})$  phase-diagram at  $\mu = 0 \rightarrow m_s^c(m_{u,d})$



⇒ strong non-linearities, no linear extrapolations from  $N_f = 3$ !

⇒ new Fodor & Katz qualitatively consistent with our results  $(m_{u,d}/m_{u,d}^c \sim 1.1)$

⇒ consistent with  $O(4)$ , tri-critical point,  $m_s^{\text{tric}}/T \sim 2.8$

II. repeat calculation for  $\mu \neq 0$

## II. Canonical ensemble

with Slavo Kratochvila ([hep-lat/0409072](#))

Fix baryon number  $B$ :  $\delta(3B - \int d^3x \bar{\psi} \gamma_0 \psi)$

$$\Rightarrow Z_C(B) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\left(\frac{\mu_I}{T}\right) e^{-i3B \frac{\mu_I}{T}} Z_{GC}(\mu = i\mu_I)$$

- Sample  $Z_{MC}(\mu = i\mu_{MC})$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{Z_C(B)}{Z_{MC}(i\mu_{MC})} = \langle \frac{1}{\det(i\mu_{MC})} \int d\mu_I \exp(i3B \frac{\mu_I}{T}) \det(i\mu_I) \rangle$

- Fourier transform each determinant exactly ( $\text{work} \propto L_s^9 L_t$ )  $\Leftarrow$  low  $T$

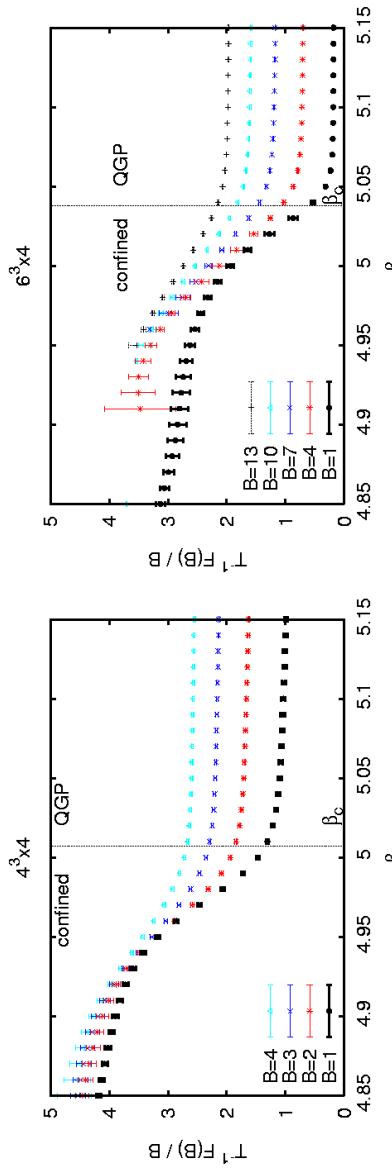
- Sign problem  $\leftrightarrow$  noise in  $Z_C(B) \Leftarrow$  governed by  $B$  (not  $V$ )

- Study few-baryon system at low temperature: Nuclear Physics!

- Overlap: combine several  $(\mu_{MC}, \beta)$  ensembles with Ferrenberg-Swendsen

- Here: KS fermions,  $N_f = 4$ ,  $am = 0.05$ ,  $a \sim 0.3$  fm (P.T. first order  $\forall \mu$ )

Free energy versus temperature

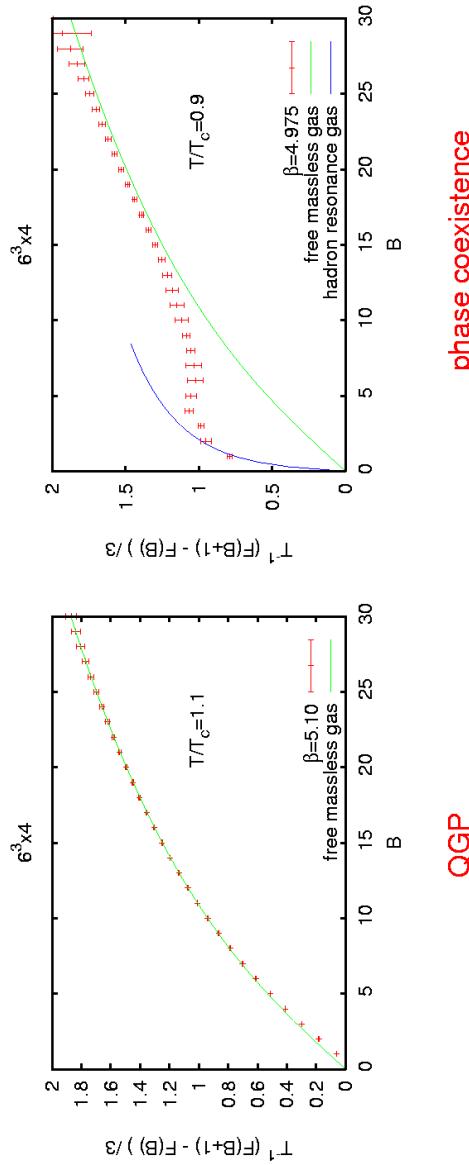


### Chemical potential versus density

Do NOT use fugacity expansion  $Z_{GC}(\mu) = \sum_B \exp(3B\frac{\mu}{T})Z_C(B)$

**Saddle point approximation:**

$$Z_{GC}(\mu) = \int d\rho \exp(-\frac{V}{T}(f(\rho)) + \mu\rho) \implies \mu \approx f'(\rho) \approx \frac{F(B+1) - F(B)}{3}$$

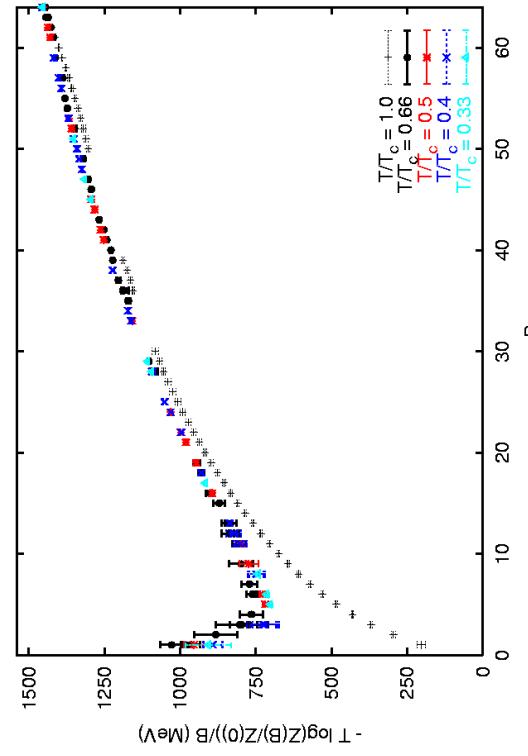


phase coexistence

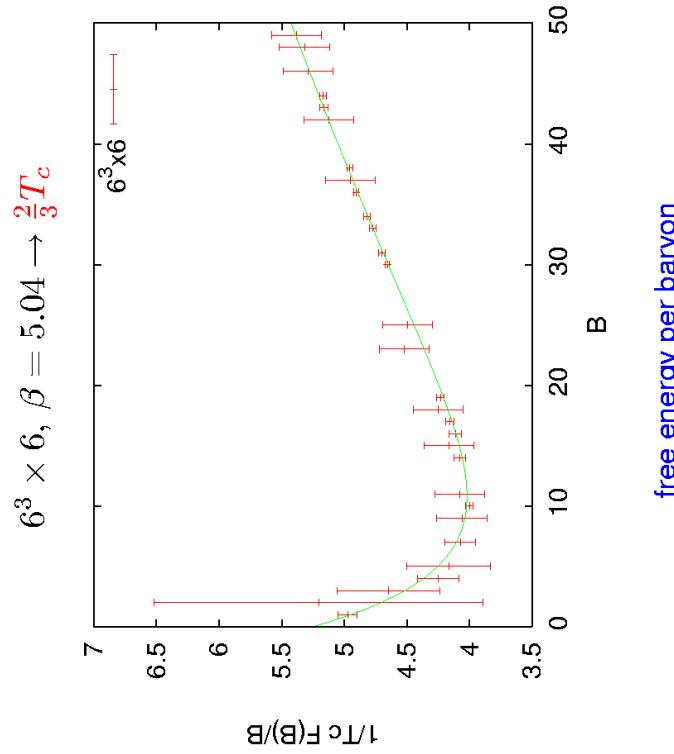
QGP

**Lower temperatures  $\rightarrow \frac{1}{3}T_c$  nuclear attraction**

$4^3 \times 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, \beta = 5.04$



free energy per baryon



### Conclusions

- Imaginary chemical potential: no sign pb., uncorrelated results ( $\mu_I, \beta$ )
- Transition line accessible to simulations for  $\mu_q/T \lesssim 1$
- consistent among all approaches!
- very flat  $\approx \mu^2$ , small quark mass dependence
- precision calculation?
- Critical endpoint ( $T_E, \mu_E$ ) still exploratory (esp.  $a \rightarrow 0$ )
- Critical endpoint extremely quark mass sensitive
- $\Rightarrow \mu_c \lesssim 400$  MeV requires nature to fine tune  $m_q$ 's
- Canonical approach promising: low  $T$ , nuclear physics