

# Electric field effects on hot and dense media

Oswaldo Ferreira



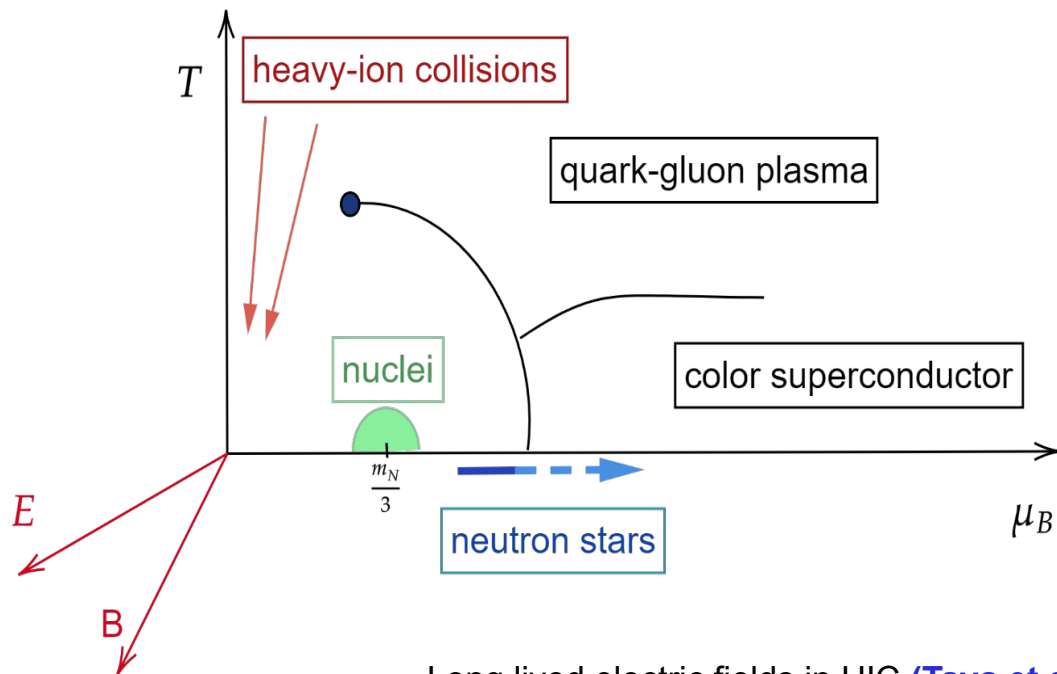
**UFRJ**

UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL  
DO RIO DE JANEIRO

**60th International School for  
Subnuclear Physics  
Erice, 2024**

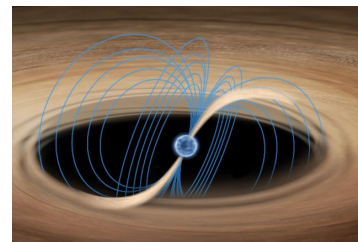
# Motivation

## The QCD phase diagram in background fields

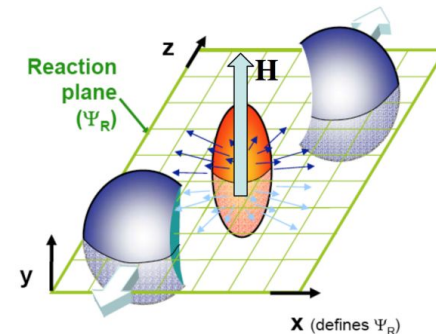


Long lived electric fields in HIC (Taya et al, arxiv, 2024)

## Neutron stars



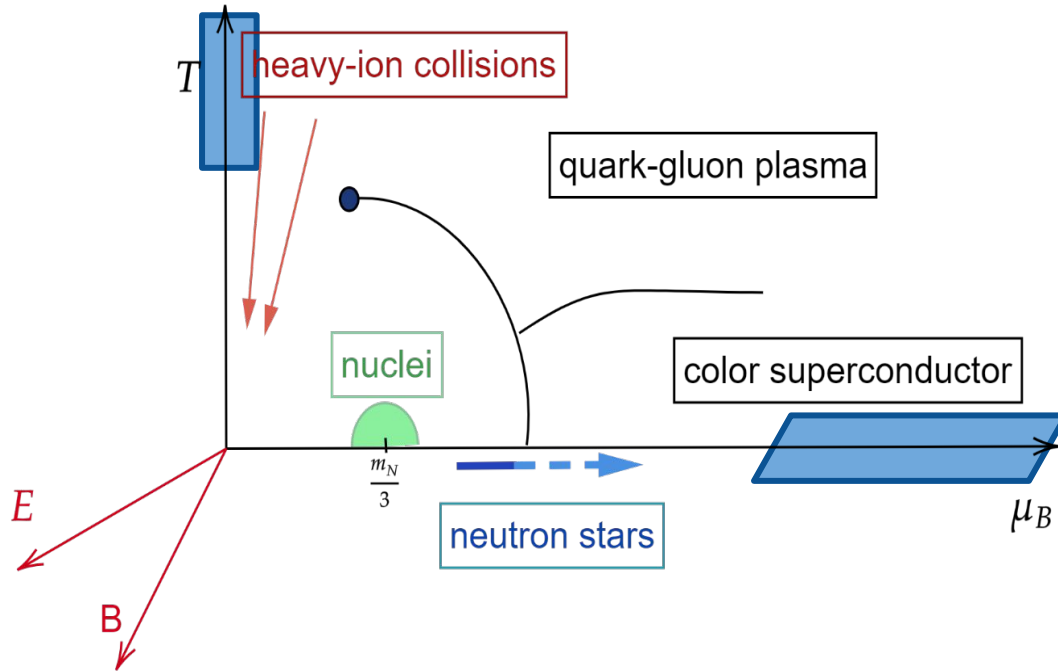
## Heavy-ions collisions



(Kharzeev, PPNP, 2014)

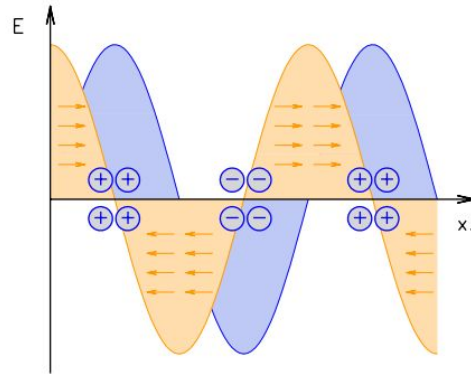
# Motivation

## The QCD phase diagram in background fields



# The electromagnetic susceptibilities

The electromagnetic susceptibilities are the linear response of a system to the application of external **electric** and magnetic fields.



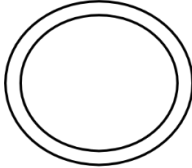
(Endródi and Markó, JHEP, 2022)

**Equilibrium:** the electric field induces a charge distribution in the medium which in turn balances the electric force of the external field. **Here: Fermi pressure vs electric force**

# The electromagnetic susceptibilities: two approaches

## 1) Free energy for constant EM fields

## 2) Expand for weak fields

**Schwinger:**  $\Omega(E, B) =$  

(Lowe and Rojas, PRD, 1992)

(Elmfors and Skagerstam, Phys.Lett.B, 1995)

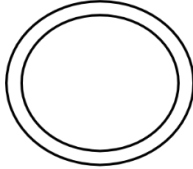
(Gies, PRD, 1995)

$$\Omega = \xi \frac{E^2}{2} + \chi \frac{B^2}{2} + O(E^4, B^4, E^2 B^2)$$

Adapted from Endrődi's talk at EESIM, 2022

# The electromagnetic susceptibilities: two approaches

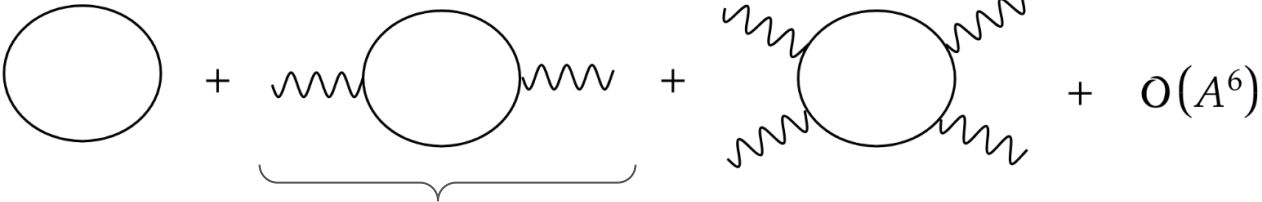
1) Free energy for constant EM fields

**Schwinger:**  $\Omega(E, B) =$  

2) Expand for weak fields

$$\Omega = \xi \frac{E^2}{2} + \chi \frac{B^2}{2} + O(E^4, B^4, E^2 B^2)$$

Expand the free energy in terms of the background fields from the start

**Weldon:**  $\Omega(A) =$  

(Weldon, PRD, 1982)

$\xi, \chi \sim \Pi_{\mu\nu}$   Photon polarization tensor

Adapted from Endrődi's talk at EESIM, 2022

# Disagreement with Schwinger's method

In (Endródi and Markó, JHEP, 2022) the susceptibilities are computed using a High-temperature expansion within the real-time formalism.

$$\xi_{Weldon} - \xi_{Schwinger} = -\frac{1}{6\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^2}{T^2}\right)$$

The magnetic susceptibilities agree, but the electric ones do not.

$\chi$

# The electromagnetic susceptibilities in Weldon's approach

(Endródi and Markó, JHEP, 2022)

Equilibrium distribution

$$\xi = \frac{1}{e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(k_0, k) - \Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(0, 0)}{k^2} \right] \quad \text{(Electric)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(k_0, k)}{\partial k^2}$$

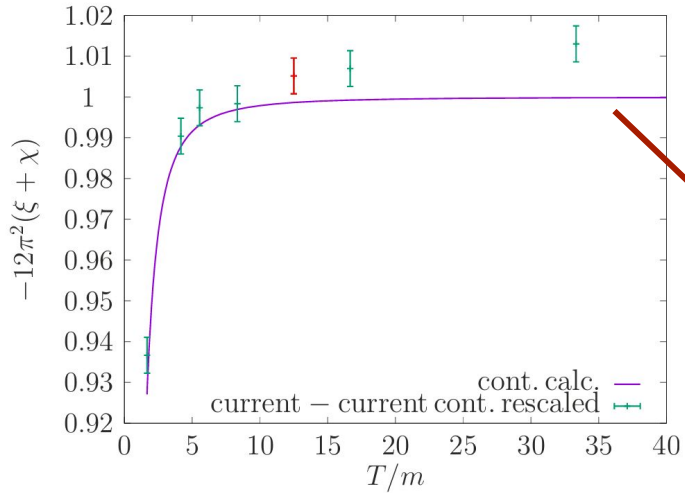
Vacuum term removed (T=0)

$$\chi = \frac{1}{2e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi_S^{T \neq 0}(k_0, k)}{\partial k^2} \quad \text{(Magnetic)}$$



# The electromagnetic susceptibilities: early lattice results

(Endrődi and Markó, PRD, 2022)



$$\xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \log \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{m^2} - 2\gamma_E + 1 \right) + \frac{31\zeta'(-4)}{192\pi^2} \frac{m^4}{T^4} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{m^6}{T^6} \right)$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \log \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{m^2} - 2\gamma_E \right) - \frac{7\zeta'(-2)}{12\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{T^2} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{m^4}{T^4} \right)$$

$$\xi + \chi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} - \frac{7\zeta'(-2)}{12\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{T^2} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{m^4}{T^4} \right)$$

The dots are the results obtained on the Lattice.

From now on, all expressions are from Weldon's approach on.

Only mass corrections appear in the sum.

# Electromagnetic susceptibilities and power corrections

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(k_0, k)}{\partial k^2}$$



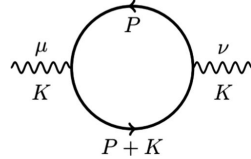
The susceptibilities are associated to **power corrections** to the photon polarization tensor.

We applied the methods of [\(Gorda et al, PRD, 2023\)](#): **real-time formalism for QFT at finite temperature and density**

Alternative calculations for power corrections: [\(Carignano et al, Phys.Lett.B, 2018\)](#), [\(Manuel et al, PRD, 2016\)](#).

Hard thermal loop expansion should in principle lead to the same results as high-temperature expansion.

# The electromagnetic susceptibilities



$$\Pi^{\mu\nu}(K) = \mathcal{P}_T^{\mu\nu}(K)\Pi_T(K) + \mathcal{P}_L^{\mu\nu}(K)\Pi_L(K)$$

Keep the vacuum the term

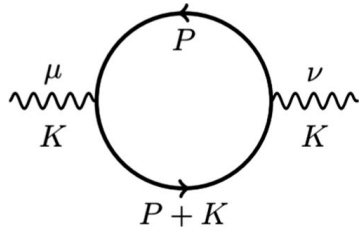
$$\chi = -\frac{1}{2e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi_T(k_0, k)}{\partial k^2},$$

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi_L(k_0, k)}{\partial k^2},$$

(OF and Eduardo S. Fraga, PRD, 2024)

# The photon polarization tensor

## The power and mass corrections



$$\Pi_L = \frac{-K^2}{k^2} \Pi_{00} \quad , \quad \Pi_T = \frac{1}{d-1} \left( \Pi_\mu^\mu + \frac{K^2}{k^2} \Pi_{00} \right)$$

$$\Pi_{00}^R(K) = 4e^2 \int_P \Delta^d(P) [N_F^-(P) + N_F^+(P)] \frac{2p_0^2 + 2k^0 p^0 + K \cdot P}{2K \cdot P + K^2} ,$$

$$(\Pi^R)_\mu^\mu = -4e^2 \int_P \Delta^d(P) [N_F^-(P) + N_F^+(P)] \left[ \frac{(D-2)K \cdot P + 2m^2}{K^2 + K \cdot P} \right]$$

$$K \ll P \text{ and } m \ll T, \mu \sim P$$

1) Expand to obtain the power corrections



2) Expand for small masses around the massless solution

# Results for the susceptibilities

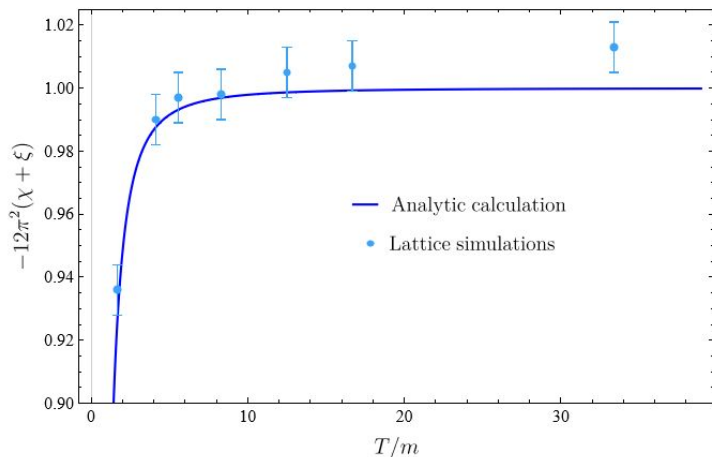
## The high-temperature limit

$$\xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{\bar{\Lambda}^2} - 2\gamma_E + 1 \right) - \frac{31\zeta'(-4)}{192\pi^2} \frac{m^4}{T^4} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^6}{T^6}\right),$$
$$\chi = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{\bar{\Lambda}^2} - 2\gamma_E \right) - \frac{7\zeta'(-2)}{12\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{T^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^4}{T^4}\right)$$

- ➔ Negative electric susceptibilities and positive magnetic susceptibilities (paramagnet) which agrees with (Endródi and Markó, PRD, 2022) (Bali et al, JHEP,2020).
- ➔ Electric susceptibilities also disagree with the result from the Schwinger's method.
- ➔ Both a renormalization scale and a mass appear in our results.

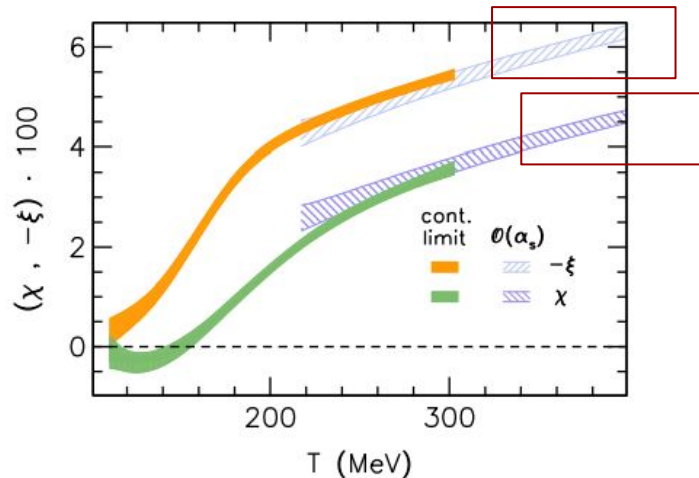
# Results for the susceptibilities

## The high-temperature limit



$$\xi + \chi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} - \frac{7\zeta'(-2)}{12\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{T^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^4}{T^4}\right),$$

(Endrődi and Markó, PRD, 2024)



$$\xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{\Lambda^2} - 2\gamma_E + 1 \right)$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{\Lambda^2} - 2\gamma_E \right)$$

# Conclusions and perspectives

In this work

- We have shown how the electric and magnetic susceptibilities can be computed using tools from hard thermal loop theory;
- Results for the high temperature limit agree well with lattice simulations and are consistent with  $m \rightarrow 0$ ;
- We have extended previous results to the case of dense media.

For future work

- Interacting quarks within perturbative QCD (in progress);
- Extend the results for dense media to arbitrary masses.

Returning to the motivation...

- Still not clear why the Schwinger's method gives a different answer (ordering of limits?).

## **Backup slides**



# The photon polarization tensor

## Results for the longitudinal component

$$K \ll P \text{ and } m \ll T, \mu \sim P$$

Mass corrections

$$\Pi_L^{\text{Pow}}(K) = \Pi_L^{\text{P0}} - K^2 \frac{e^2}{384\pi^2} \frac{m^4}{T^4} \left( \text{Li}_{-4}^{(1)}(-e^{-\frac{\mu}{T}}) + \text{Li}_{-4}^{(1)}(-e^{\frac{\mu}{T}}) \right) \left( 1 + 8 \frac{k^2 k_0^2}{(K^2)^2} \right)$$

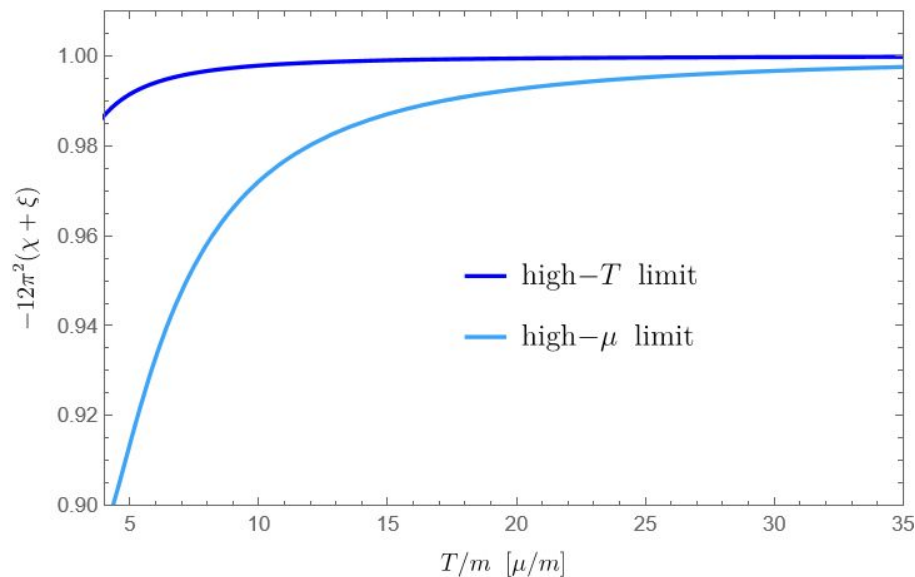
$$\Pi_L^{\text{P0}} = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{2K^2}{3} \left\{ \ln \frac{2e^{-\gamma_E T}}{\bar{\Lambda}} - 1 + \left( 1 + \frac{K^2}{2k^2} \right) \left[ 1 - \frac{k^0}{2k} \ln \frac{k^0 + k + i\eta}{k^0 - k + i\eta} \right] - \text{Li}_0^{(1)}\left(-e^{\frac{\mu}{T}}\right) - \text{Li}_0^{(1)}\left(-e^{-\frac{\mu}{T}}\right) \right\}.$$

Do not contribute to the sum

For  $m \rightarrow 0$  we recover the massless case (Gorda et al, PRD, 2023), (Carignano et al, Phys.Lett.B, 2018), (Manuel et al, PRD, 2016).

# Results for the susceptibilities

## The high-chemical potential limit



$$\chi + \xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} + \frac{1}{6\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^4}{\mu^4}\right)$$

Similar qualitative behaviour, but the dense case reaches saturation more slowly.

# Results for the susceptibilities

## The high-chemical potential limit

$$\xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{4\mu^2}{\bar{\Lambda}^2} + 1 \right) + \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \frac{m^4}{\mu^4} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{m^6}{\mu^6} \right),$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \ln \frac{4\mu^2}{\bar{\Lambda}^2} \right) + \frac{1}{6\pi^2} \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{m^4}{\mu^4} \right)$$

The signs for the susceptibilities are the same as in the high-temperature limit: **negative electric susceptibilities** and **positive magnetic susceptibilities**.

# Susceptibilities without equilibrium requirement: more complications

(Endródi and Markó, JHEP, 2022)

Equilibrium distribution

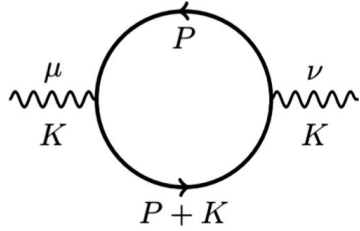
$$\xi = \frac{1}{e^2} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k_0 \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(k_0, k) - \Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(0, 0)}{k^2} \right]$$

$$\xi_{\text{Weldon}}^{\text{non-equi}} = \frac{T^2}{3k_1^2} + \mathcal{O}(k_1^0)$$

Taking the  $k \rightarrow 0$  limit leads to a divergence

# The photon polarization tensor

## The power and mass corrections



$$\Pi_L = \frac{-K^2}{k^2} \Pi_{00} \quad , \quad \Pi_T = \frac{1}{d-1} \left( \Pi_\mu^\mu + \frac{K^2}{k^2} \Pi_{00} \right)$$

$$K \ll P$$

$$\Pi_{00}^{\text{Pow}}(K) = \frac{e^2}{2} \int_P \Delta^d(P) [N_F^-(P) + N_F^+(P)] \left( \frac{K^4}{(K \cdot P)^2} + \frac{2K^4 k^0 p^0}{(K \cdot P)^3} - \frac{K^6 p_0^2}{(K \cdot P)^4} \right)$$

$$(\Pi^{\text{Pow}})_\mu^\mu = \frac{e^2}{2} (D-2) \int_P \Delta^d(P) [N_F^-(P) + N_F^+(P)] \left[ -\frac{K^4}{(K \cdot P)^2} + \frac{m^2 K^6}{2(K \cdot P)^4} \right]$$

## Calculations by [\(Endródi and Markó, JHEP, 2022\)](#)

The second order term in the expansion of  $\Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(0, k)$  around  $k = 0$  gives then the susceptibility, which reads (see the details again in App. A)

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \Re \Pi_{00}^{T \neq 0}(0, k)}{\partial k^2} \right|_{k=0} = -\frac{e^2}{3\pi^2} \int_m^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - m^2}} \left( 2n_F(\omega) - \omega \frac{dn_F(\omega)}{d\omega} \right), \quad (3.13)$$

and hence

$$\xi = -\frac{1}{6\pi^2} \int_m^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - m^2}} \left( 2n_F(\omega) - \omega \frac{dn_F(\omega)}{d\omega} \right). \quad (3.14)$$

One can expand in terms of  $m/T$  to obtain a high-temperature expansion (HTE) expression

$$\xi = -\frac{1}{12\pi^2} \left( \log \frac{T^2 \pi^2}{m^2} - 2\gamma_E + 1 \right) + \frac{31\zeta'(-4)}{192\pi^2} \frac{m^4}{T^4} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^6}{T^6}\right), \quad (3.15)$$

where  $\zeta'(z)$  is the derivative of the Riemann  $\zeta$  function. The leading term in (3.15) agrees with the results of Refs. [40, 49] for massless fermions – in that case  $m$  is replaced by the renormalization scale under the logarithm.

(Endródi and Markó, PRD, 2024)

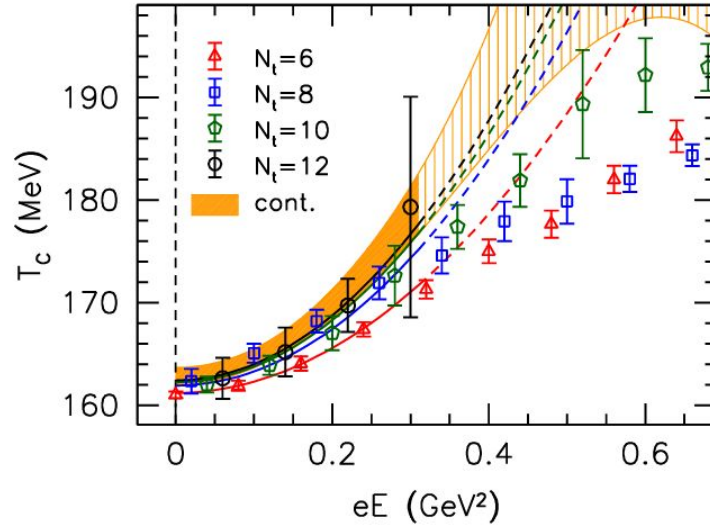


FIG. 3. Transition temperature as a function of the electric field for different lattice spacings (colored symbols) and a continuum extrapolation (yellow band). Higher-order effects in  $eE$  become non-negligible for  $eE \gtrsim 0.3 \text{ GeV}^2$ , indicated by the dashed section of the fits.

# Estimation of the electromagnetic field in intermediate-energy heavy-ion collision

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<sup>3</sup>*Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics, Kyoto University, Kyoto, 606-8317, Japan*

We estimate the spacetime profile of the electromagnetic field in head-on heavy-ion collisions at intermediate collision energies  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = \mathcal{O}(3 - 10 \text{ GeV})$ . Using a hadronic cascade model (JAM; Jet AA Microscopic transport model), we numerically demonstrate that the produced field has strength  $eE = \mathcal{O}((30 - 60 \text{ MeV})^2)$ , which is supercritical to the Schwinger limit of QED and is non-negligibly large compared even to the hadron/QCD scale, and survives for a long time  $\tau = \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ fm}/c)$  due to the baryon stopping. We show that the produced field is nonperturbatively strong in the sense that the nonperturbativity parameters (e.g., the Keldysh parameter) are sufficiently large, which is in contrast to high-energy collisions  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} \gtrsim 100 \text{ GeV}$ , where the field is merely perturbative. Our results imply that the electromagnetic field may have phenomenological impacts on hadronic/QCD processes in intermediate-energy heavy-ion collisions and that heavy-ion collisions can be used as a new tool to explore strong-field physics in the nonperturbative regime.