

# 3D Hydro + UrQMD Model with QCD Critical Point

*Nagoya University*

**Chiho NONAKA**

In collaboration with

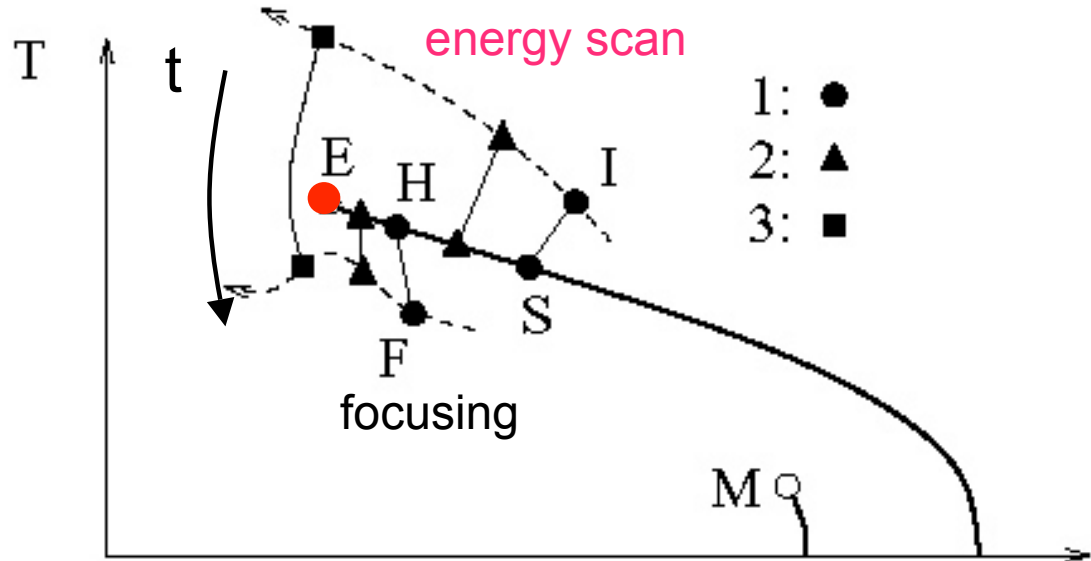
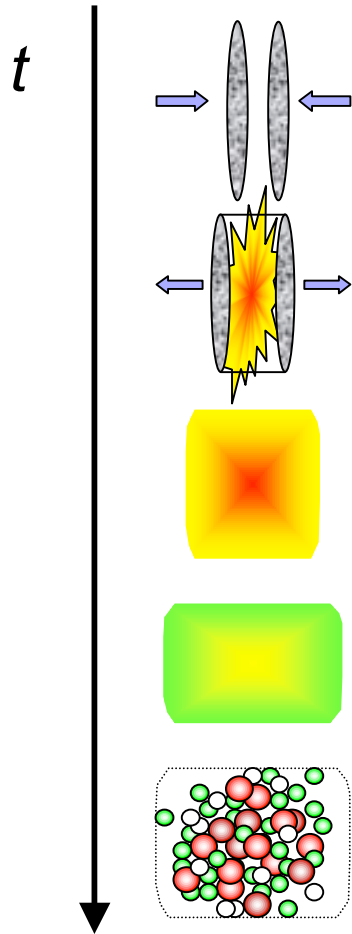
M.ASAKAWA(Osaka) and S.A.Bass(Duke)

February 8, 2008 @QM2008, Jaipur, India



# The QCD Critical Point in HIC

## The QCD critical point search from phenomenology



M. Stephanov, K. Rajagopal, and E. Shuryak,  $\mu$   
PRL81 (1998) 4816

→ 3D Hydro + UrQMD  
Realistic dynamical model for Heavy Ion Collisions

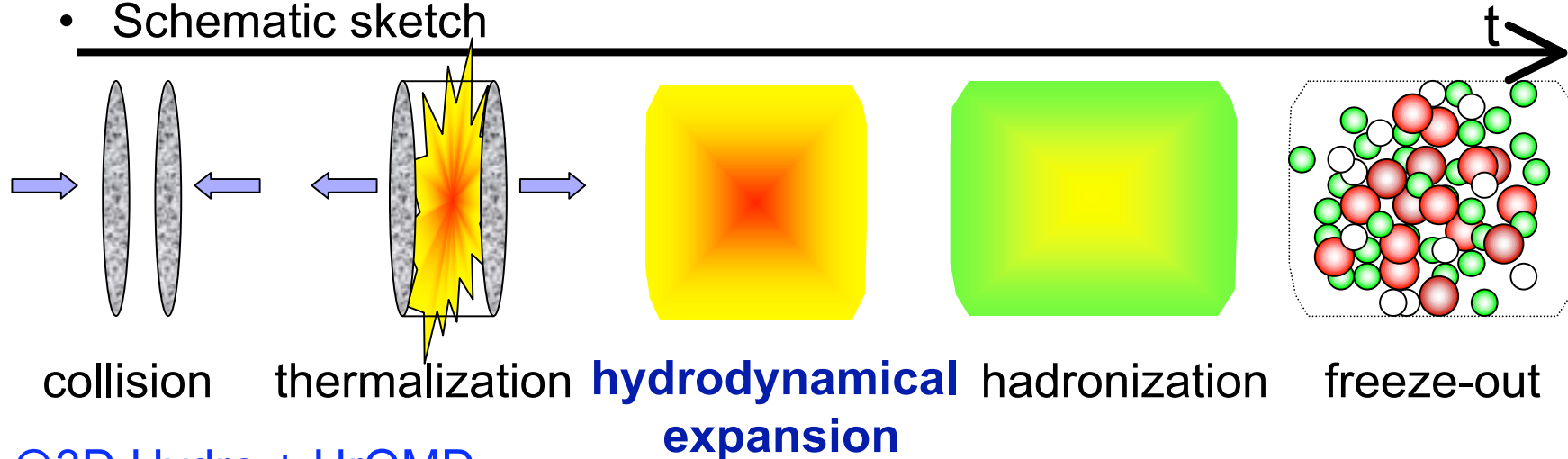


# 3D Hydro+UrQMD Model

Nonaka and Bass PRC75:014902(2007)

## Relativistic Heavy Ion Collision

- Schematic sketch



3D Hydro + UrQMD

### Full 3-d Hydrodynamics

EoS : 1st order phase transition  
QGP + excluded volume model

### Hadronization

Cooper-Frye formula  
Monte Carlo

### UrQMD

final state interactions

$T_C$

$T_{SW}$

$t$  fm/c

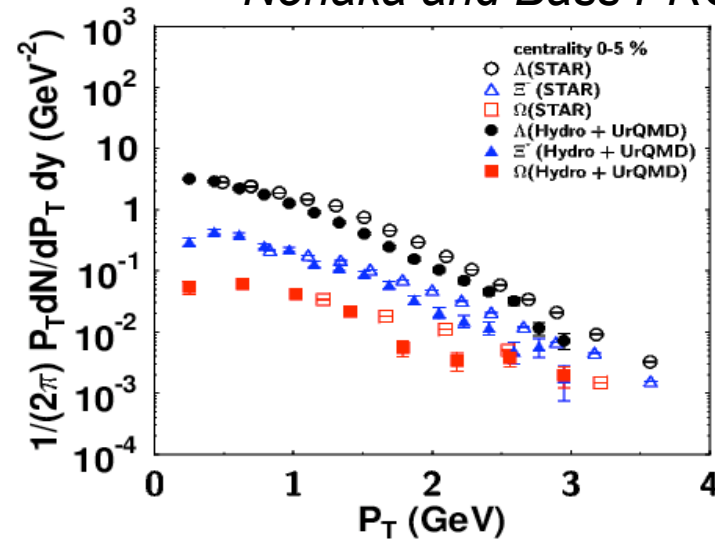
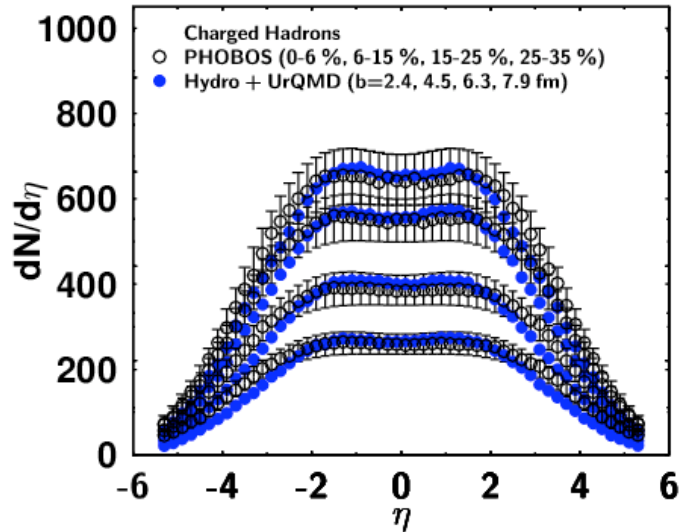
$T_C$ : critical temperature >  $T_{SW}$ : Hydro  $\rightarrow$  UrQMD



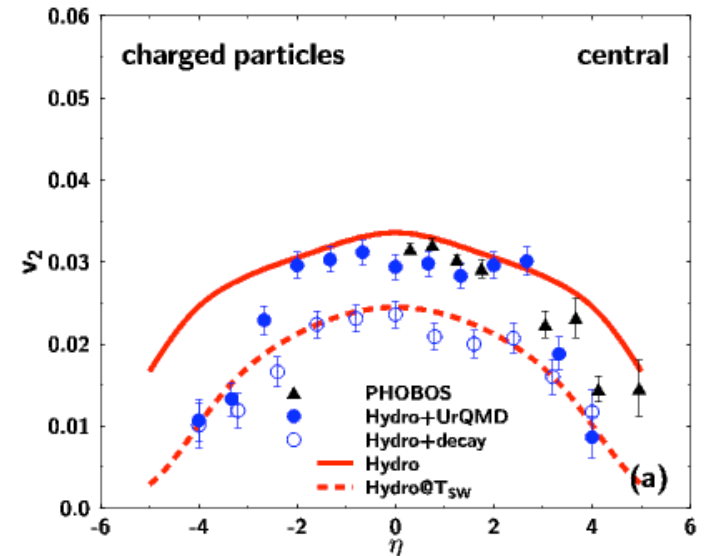
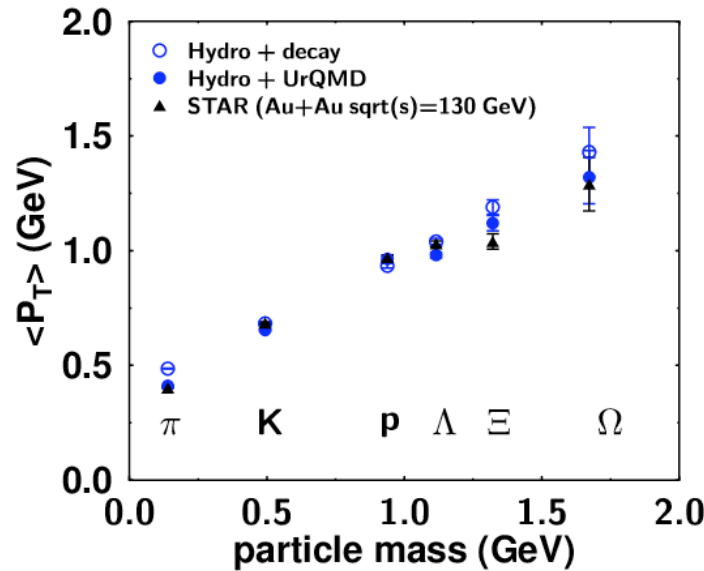
Chiho NONAKA

# Highlight of 3D Hydro+UrQMD

Nonaka and Bass PRC75:014902(2007)



Au+Au, sqrt(s)=200 GeV



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# Realistic Equation of States

## ■ 3D Hydro + UrQMD

### Full 3-d Hydrodynamics

EoS : 1st order phase transition  
QGP + excluded volume model

### Hadronization

Cooper-Frye  
formula  
Monte Carlo

### UrQMD

final state  
interactions

$T_C$

$T_{SW}$

$t$  fm/c

$T_C$ : critical temperature  $> T_{SW}$ : Hydro  $\rightarrow$  UrQMD

### initial conditions

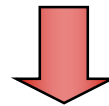
- parametrization

### equation of states

- bag model

### freezeout process

- Viscosity effect of hadron phase
- Final state interactions



**Realistic EOS with QCD critical point**

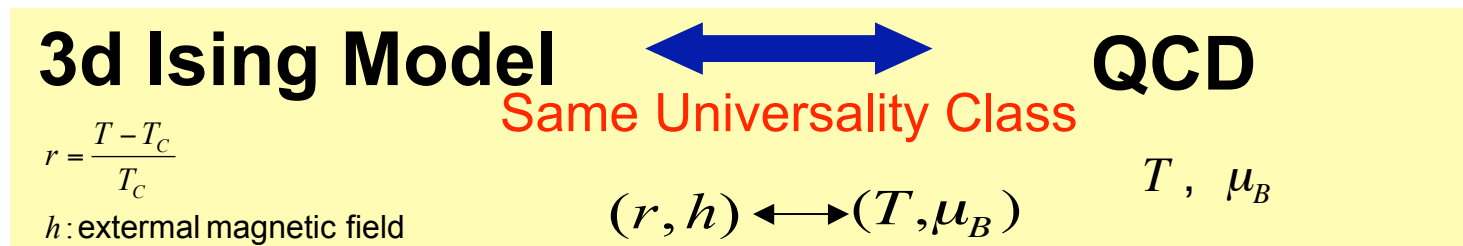


# EOS with QCD Critical Point

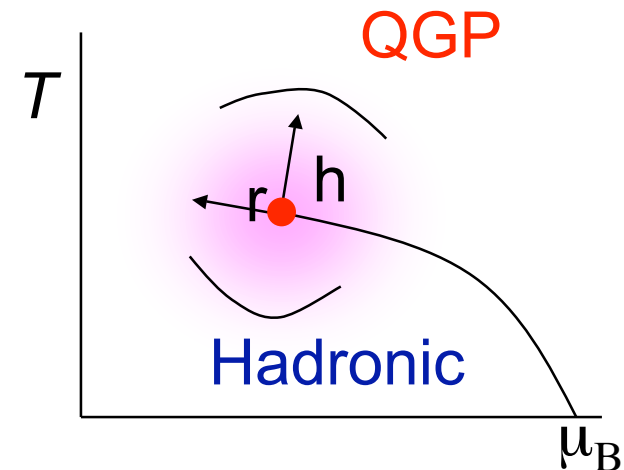
Nonaka and Asakawa, PRC71,044904(2005)

## ■ Singular part near QCD critical point + Non-singular part

- Non-singular part  
QGP phase and hadron phase
- Singular part



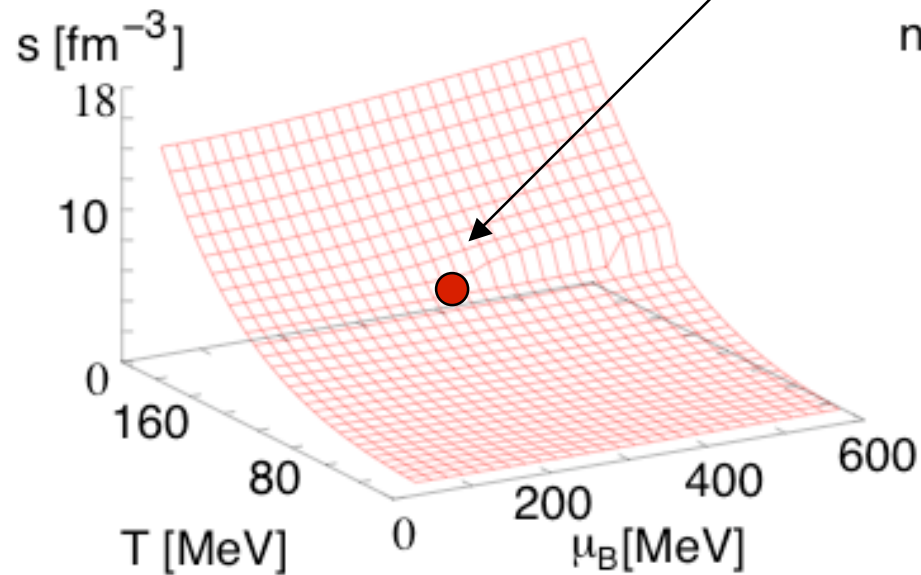
- Mapping  $(r, h) \rightarrow (T, \mu_B)$
- Matching with known QGP and hadronic entropy density
- Thermodynamical quantities



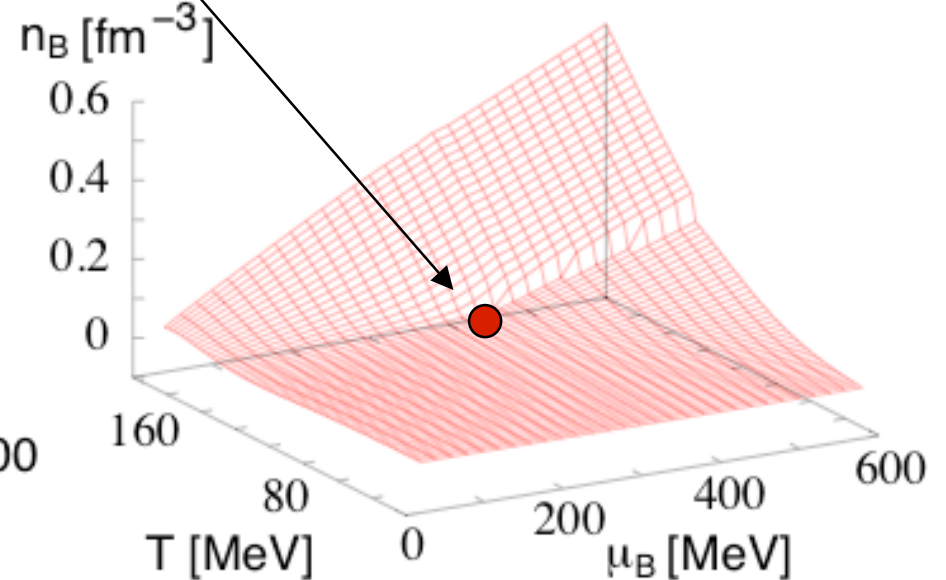
# Equation of State

$$T_E = 154.7 \text{ [MeV]}, \mu_E = 367.7 \text{ [MeV]}$$

QCD critical point



entropy density



baryon number density

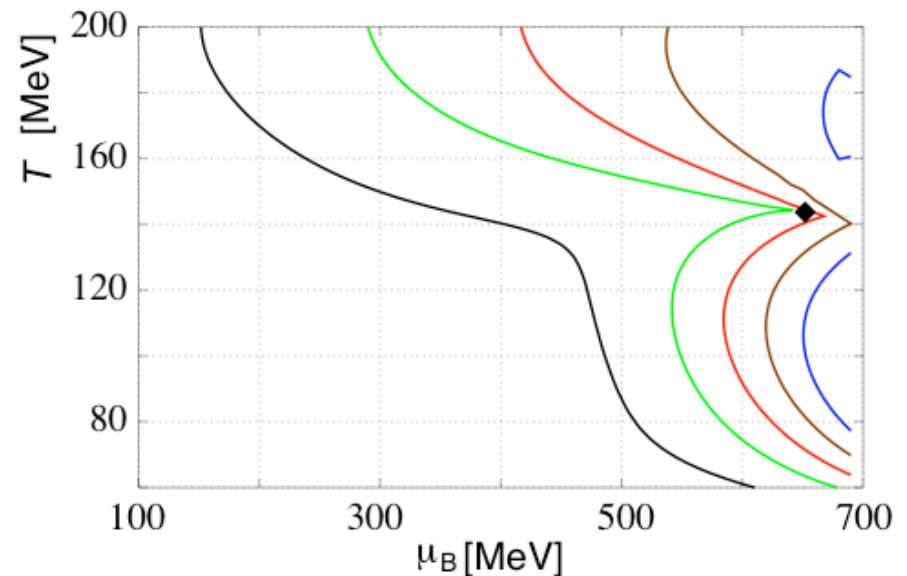
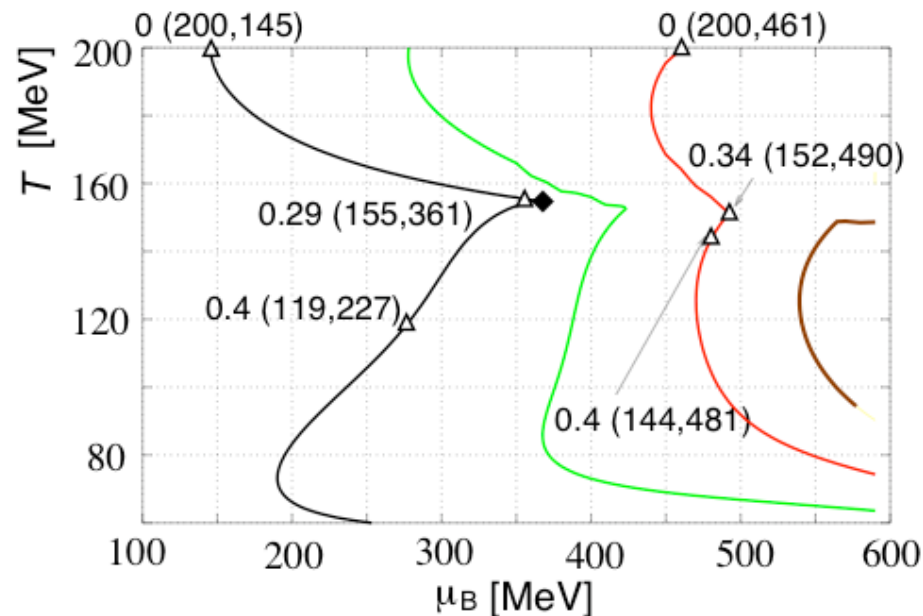


# Isentropic Trajectories

## ■ Isentropic trajectories: $n_B/s = \text{const.}$ line

$$T_E = 154.7 \text{ MeV}, \quad \mu_E = 367.7 \text{ MeV}$$

$$T_E = 143.7 \text{ MeV}, \quad \mu_E = 652.0 \text{ MeV}$$



- Behavior of focusing depends on the location of QCP on  $T-\mu_B$  plane.
- The focusing effect appears stronger in the case  $(T, \mu_B) = (143, 652)$ .
- The location of QCP is a parameter. ➔ Experiments

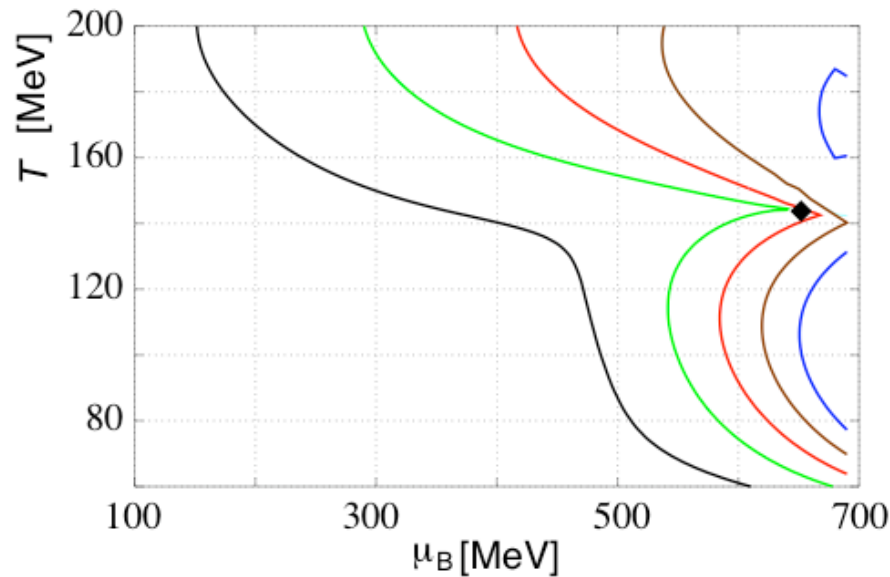




# Comparison with Bag Model

## ■ Isentropic trajectories on $T$ - $\mu_B$ plane

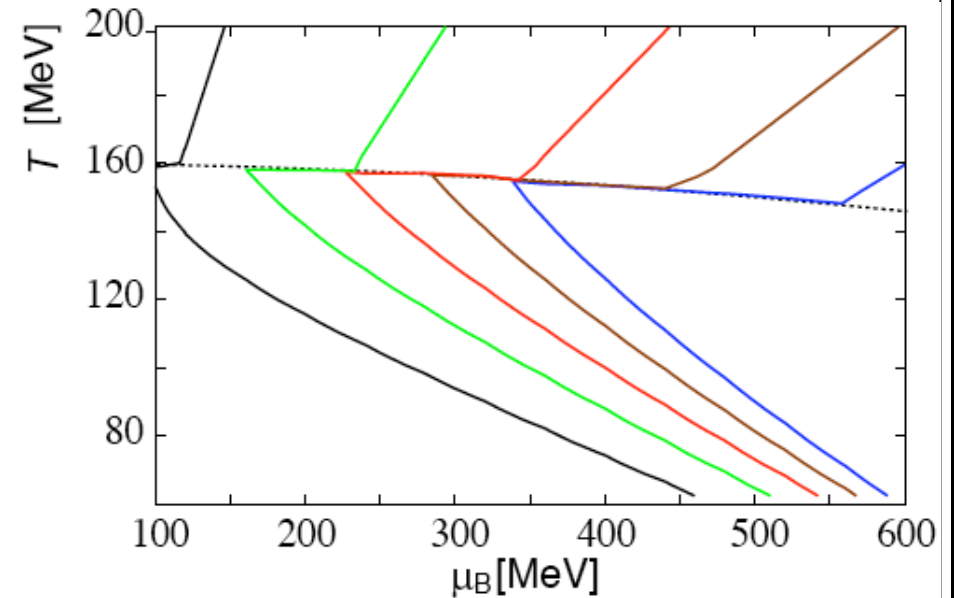
With QCD critical point



*Focused*

Bag Model +  
Excluded Volume Approximation  
(No Critical Point)

= Usual Hydro Calculation



*Not Focused*



# 3D Hydro+UrQMD with QCP

## Initial Conditions

- Energy density

$$\varepsilon(x, y, \eta) = \varepsilon_{\max} W(x, y; b) H(\eta)$$

- Baryon number density

$$n_B(x, y, \eta) = n_{B\max} W(x, y; b) H(\eta)$$

- Parameters  $\begin{cases} \tau_0 = 0.6 \text{ fm}/c \\ \eta_0 = 0.5 \quad \sigma_\eta = 1.5 \end{cases}$

- Flow

$$v_L = \eta \text{ (Bjorken's solution); } v_T = 0$$

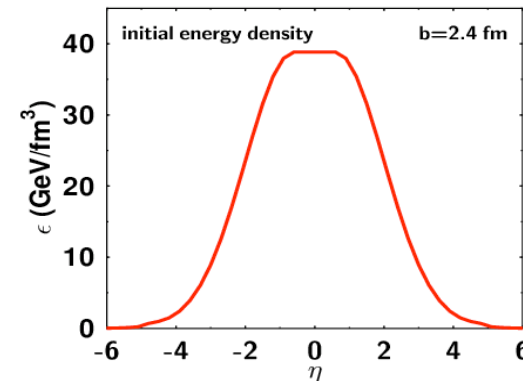
- EOS: QCP, Bag Model

- Switching temperature

$$T_{\text{sw}} = 150 \text{ [MeV]}$$

$$\text{QCP: } T_E = 143.7 \text{ MeV, } \mu_E = 652.0 \text{ MeV}$$

- longitudinal direction:  $H(\eta)$



	$\varepsilon_{\max}$ GeV/fm <sup>3</sup>	$n_{B\max}$ fm <sup>-3</sup>
1	1.5	0.2
2	2.0	0.15

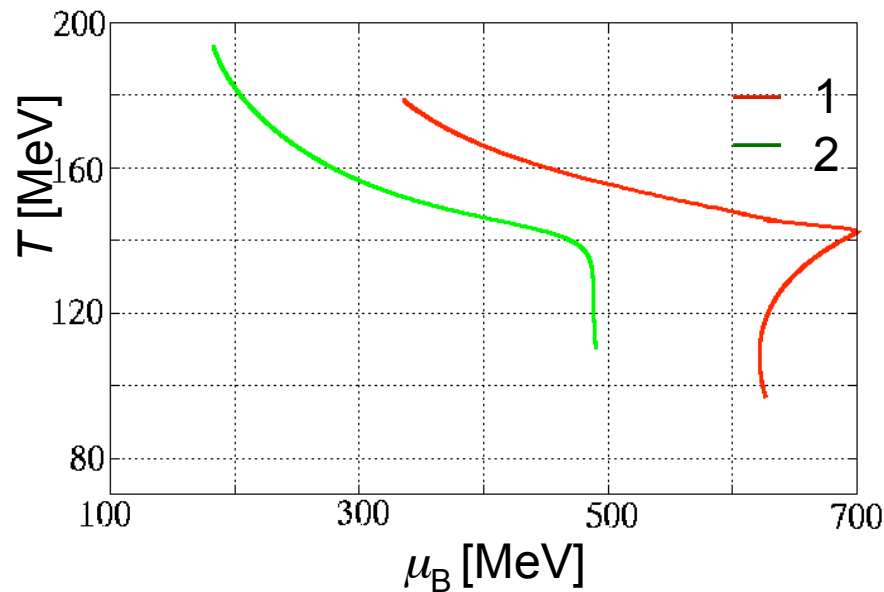


# Isentropic Trajectories in Hydro

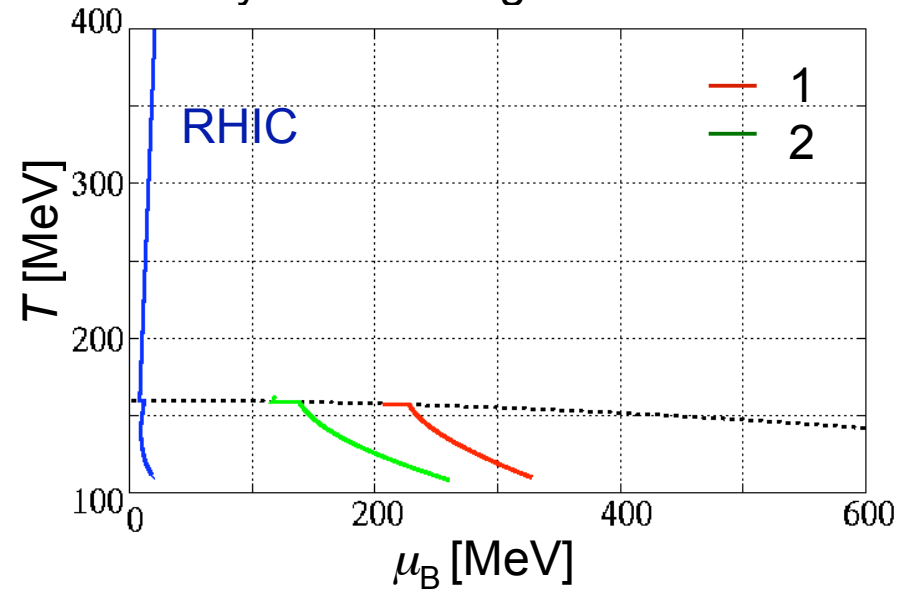
- $T$  and  $\mu_B$  in one volume element close to center

QCP:  $T_E = 143.7 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\mu_E = 652.0 \text{ MeV}$

Hydro with QCD critical point



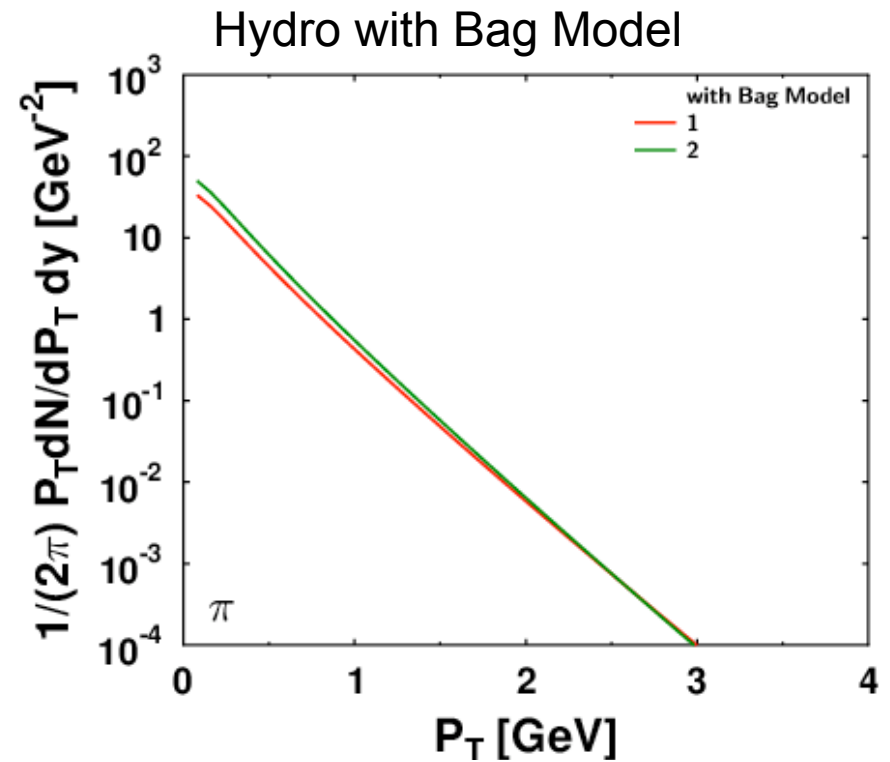
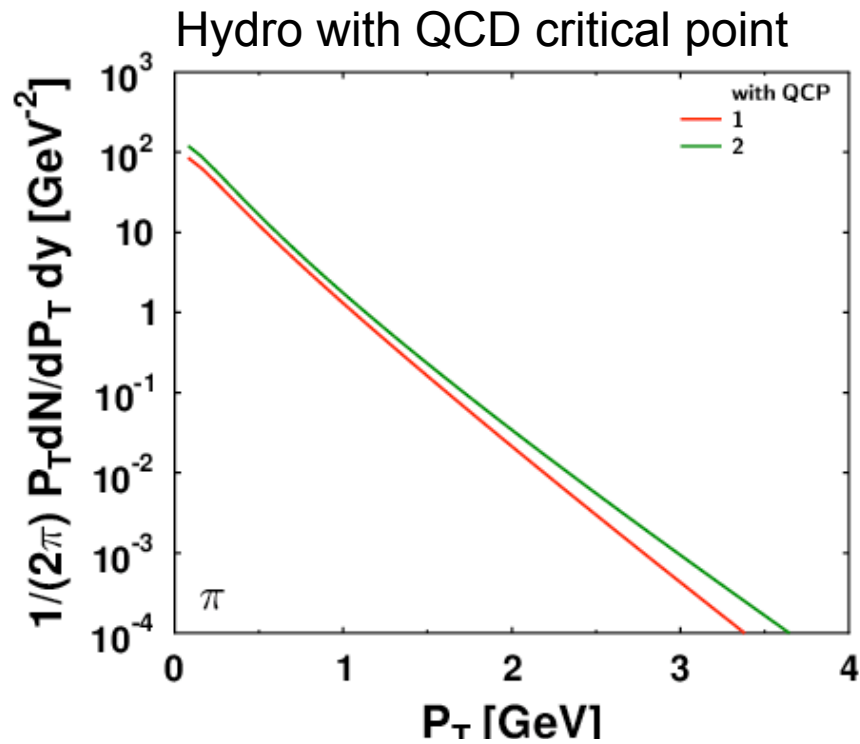
Hydro with Bag Model



- $T_f = 110 \text{ MeV}$
- Behavior of isentropic trajectories in hydro with QCP is different from one in hydro with bag model.
- Focusing effect appears in hydro with QCD critical point.



# $P_T$ Spectra in 3D Hydro

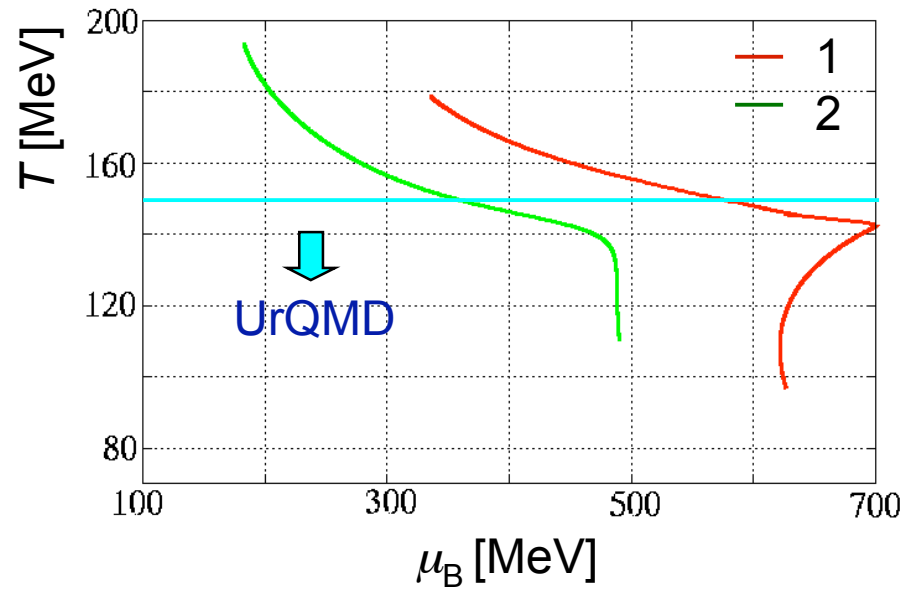


- $T_f = 110$  MeV
- $P_T$  slope is almost the same.

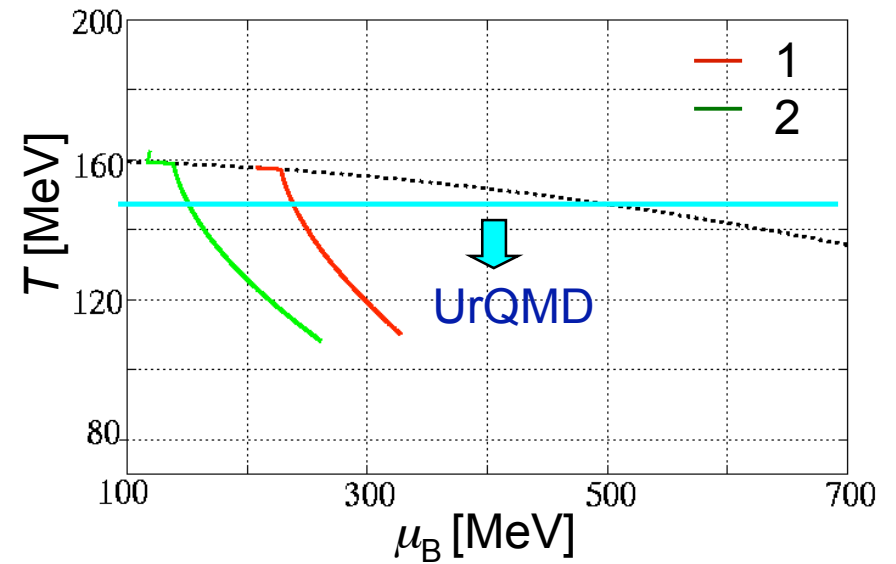


# 3D Hydro + UrQMD

Hydro with QCD critical point



Hydro with Bag Model

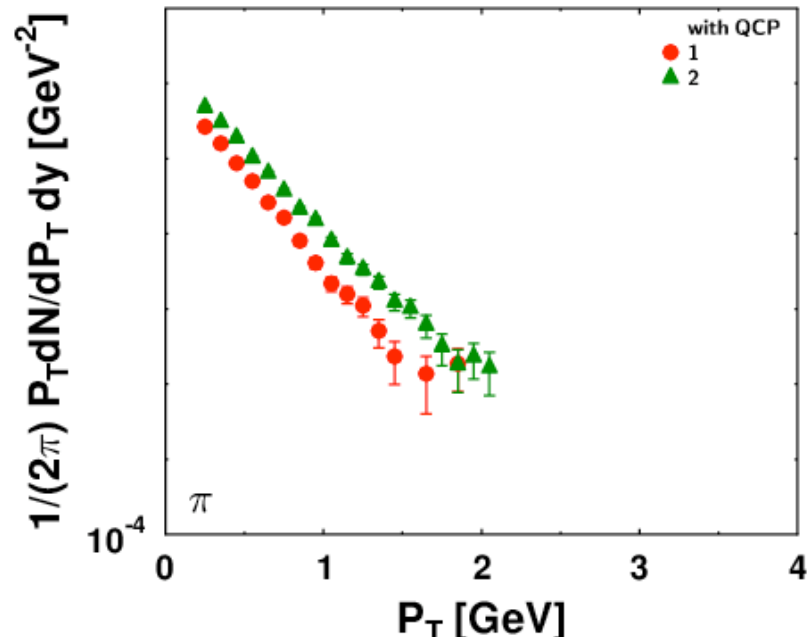


Switching temperature: 150 MeV

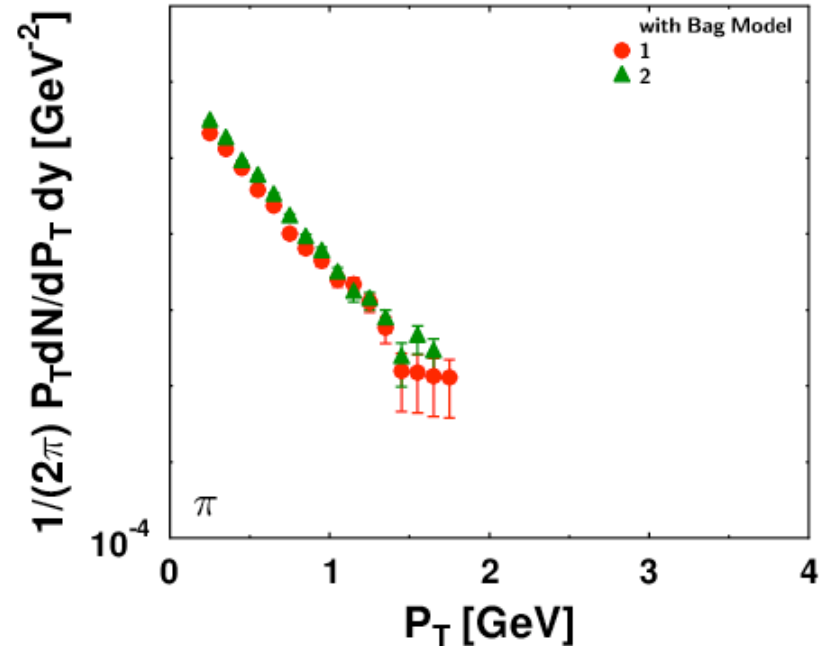


# $P_T$ Spectra

QCD critical point



Bag Model

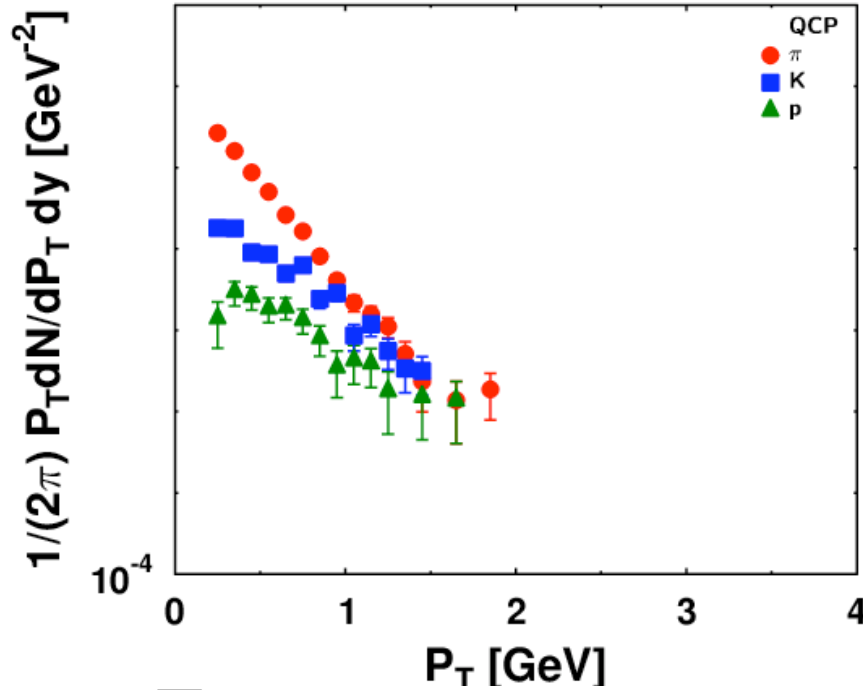


- $P_T$  slope is almost the same.
- Larger difference of different initial conditions appears in the case of QCP.

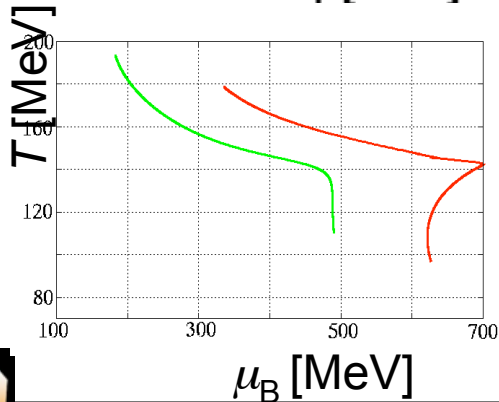
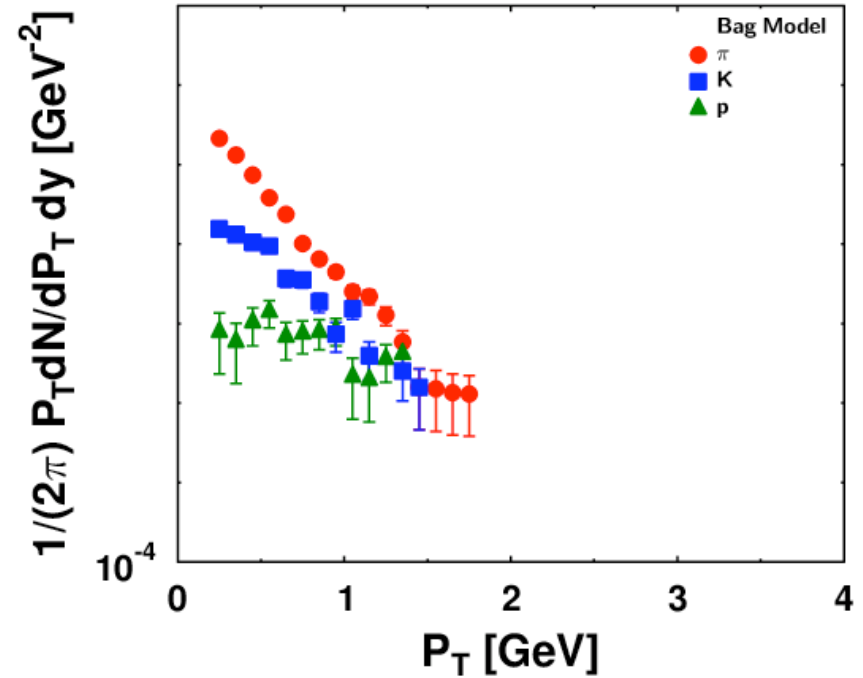


# Hadron Ratios

QCD critical point



Bag Model



Because of focusing effect

$$\text{At } T_{\text{SW}} \langle \mu_B \rangle_{\text{QCP}} > \langle \mu_B \rangle_{\text{BG}} \Rightarrow \frac{p}{\pi}_{\text{QCP}} > \frac{p}{\pi}_{\text{BG}}$$



# Summary

## ■ 3D Hydro + UrQMD Model with the QCD critical point

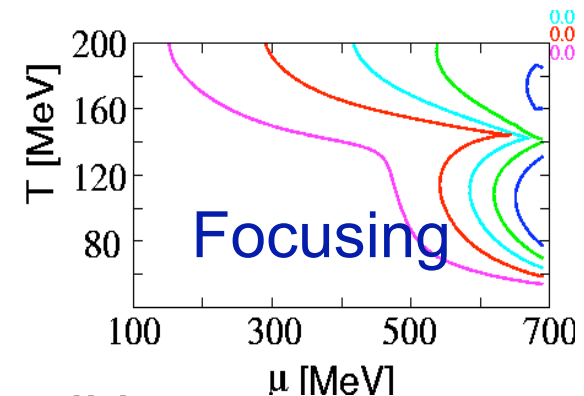
- Isentropic trajectories
- $P_T$  spectra, hadron ratio

## ■ The QCD critical point search

- Energy scan  
parameter sets of  $\varepsilon$  and  $n_B$  in initial conditions
- Switching temperature dependence
- Location of QCD critical point

## ■ Physical observables

- Fluctuations
- Balance function





*BACKUP*

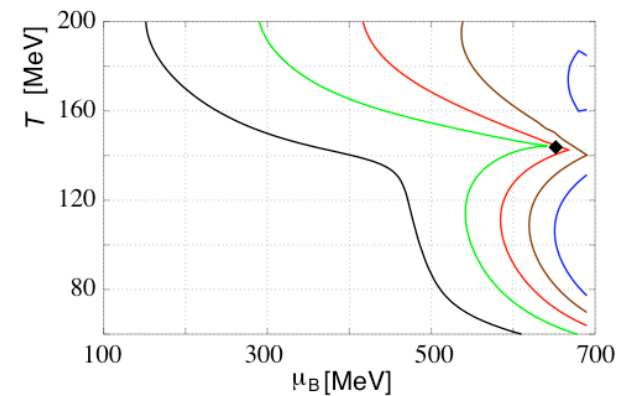
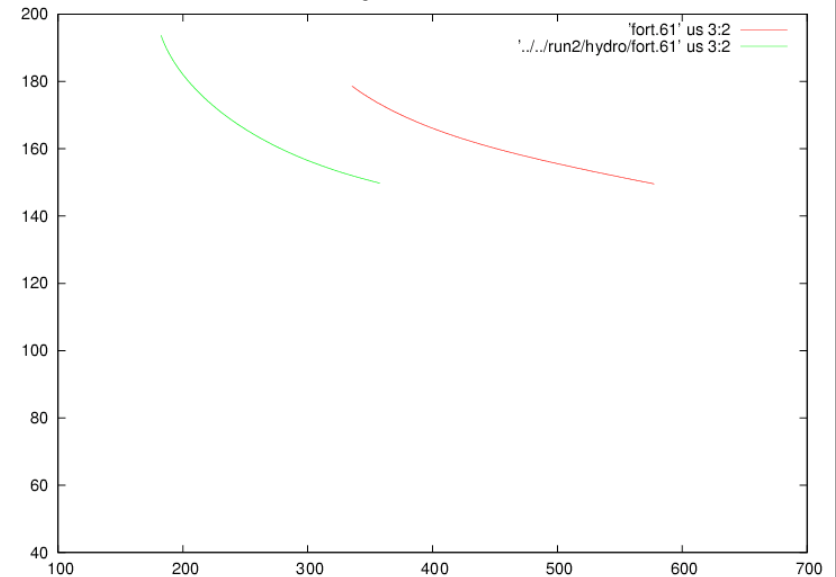
# Mean $P_T$ Fluctuation

$P_T < 1 \text{ GeV}$

	$\pi$	p	K
1	0.567E-02	0.266E-01	0.156E-01
2	0.416E-02	0.242E-01	0.115E-01

\*In this calculation, definition of mean  $P_t$  fluctuation is different from CERES.

preliminary

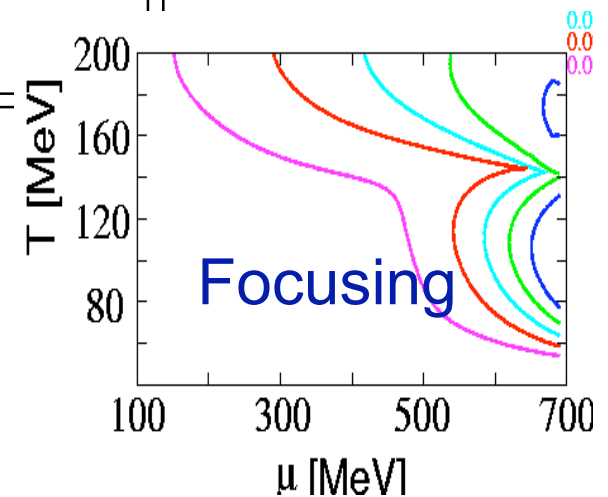


# CEP and Its Consequences

## Consequences

- Slowing out of equilibrium
  - Large fluctuation
- Freeze out temperature at RHIC
- Fluctuation

Existence and location of CEP in phase diagram:  
Collision energy dependent experiments are indispensable.



## Work in Progress

- Realistic hydro calculation with critical point



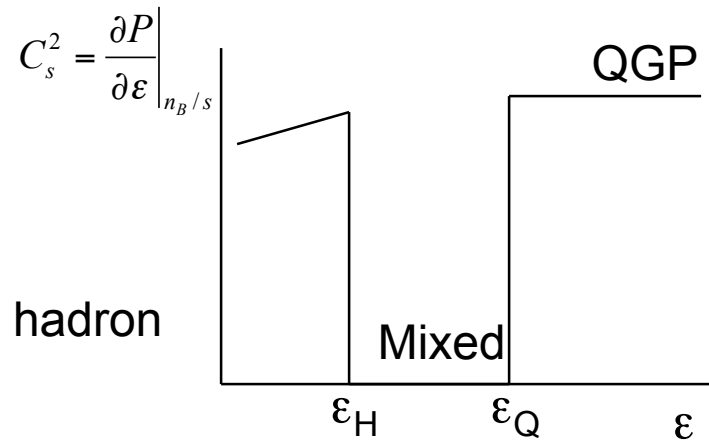
# Sound Velocity

■ EoS

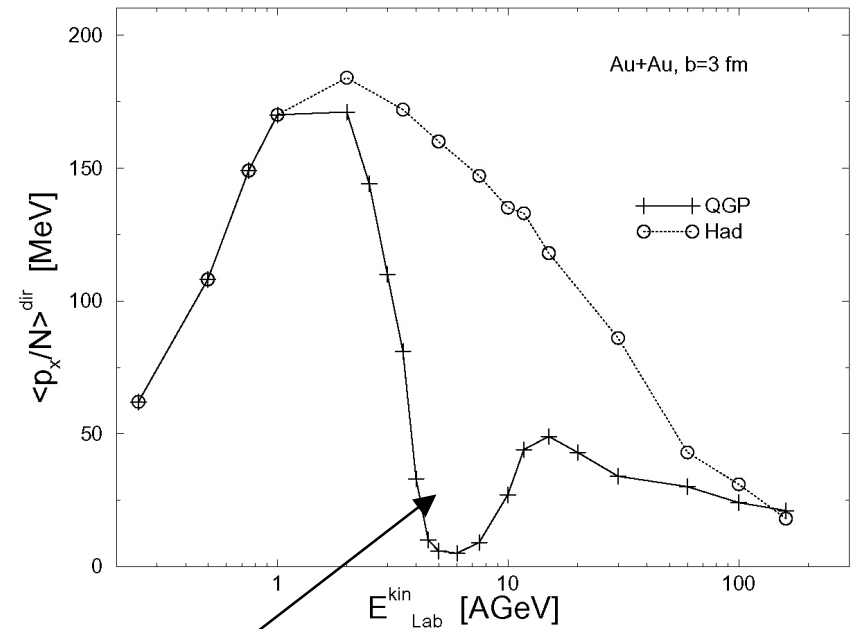


Hydrodynamic Expansion

$$C_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_{n_B/s}$$



Ex. Rischke et al. nucl-th/9504021

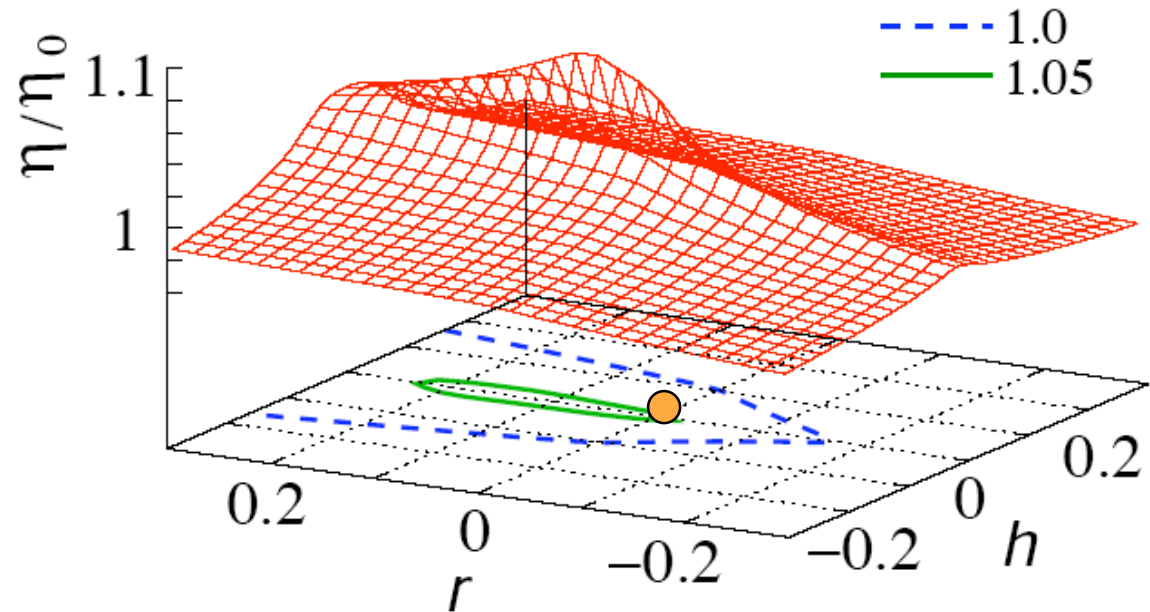


Effect of mixed phase?



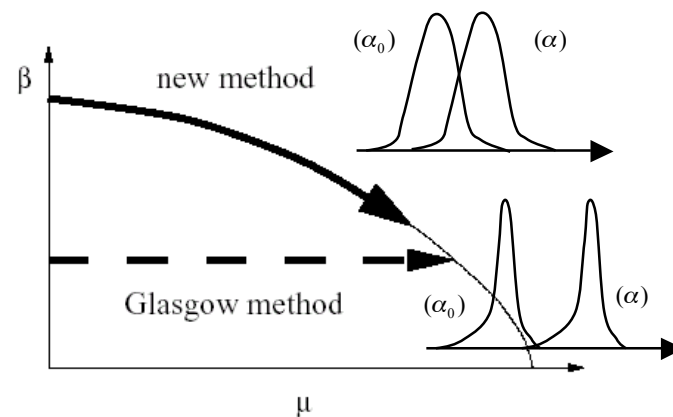
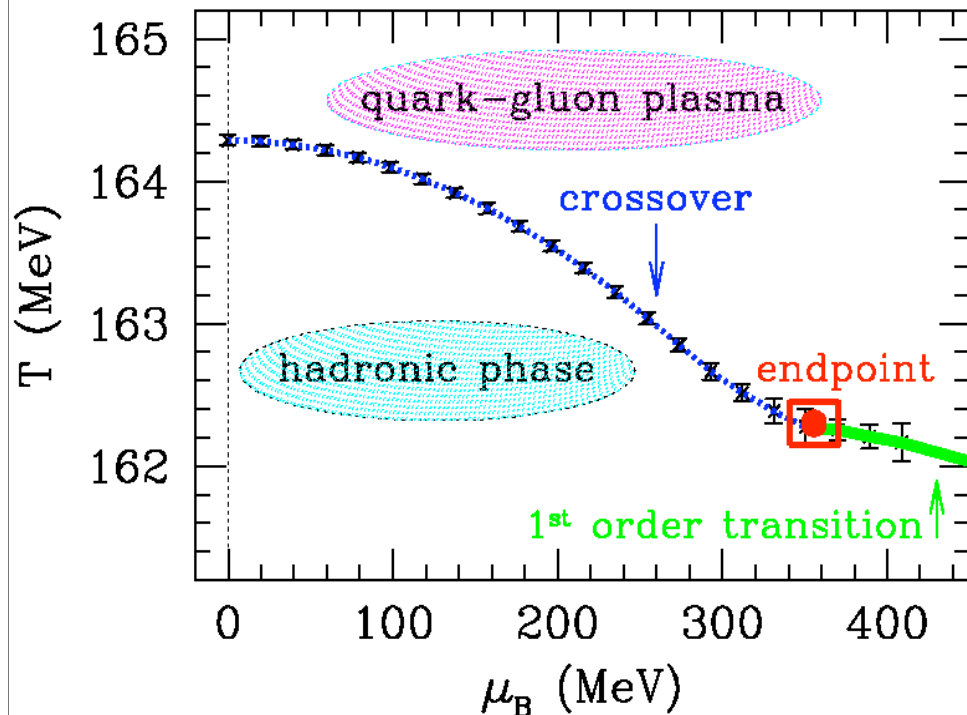
# Shear Viscosity

$$\frac{\eta}{\eta_0} = \left( \frac{\xi_{\text{eq}}}{\xi_{\text{eq},0}} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{19} \varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2) \right]$$



# Lattice QCD at finite T and $\mu_B$

## Multi-parameter reweighting technique



$$\alpha = (\beta, m, \mu)$$

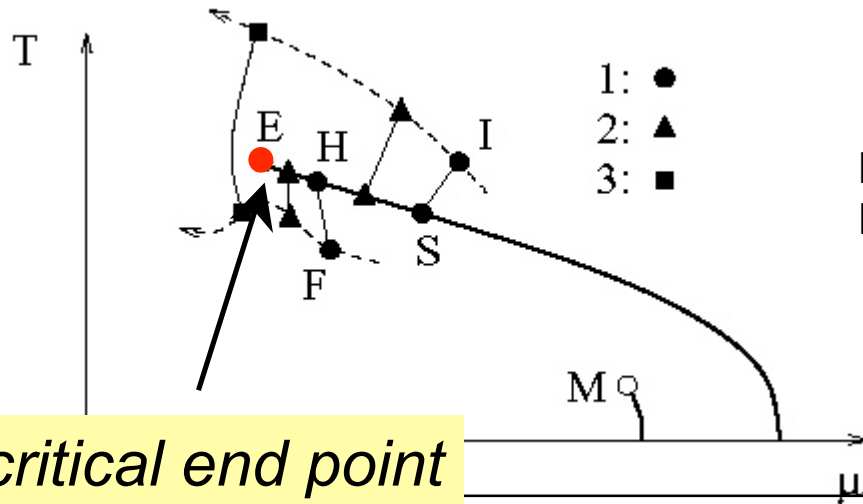
- Fodor and Katz (JHEP 0203 (2002) 014)  
hep-lat/0402006
- Allton et al. (Bielefeld-Swansea)

Overlap problem:  
The lattice size is small.

Maezawa san's talk



# Phenomenological Consequence ?



M. Stephanov, K. Rajagopal, and E. Shuryak,  
PRL81 (1998) 4816

Divergence of Fluctuation  
Correlation Length

## Still we need to study

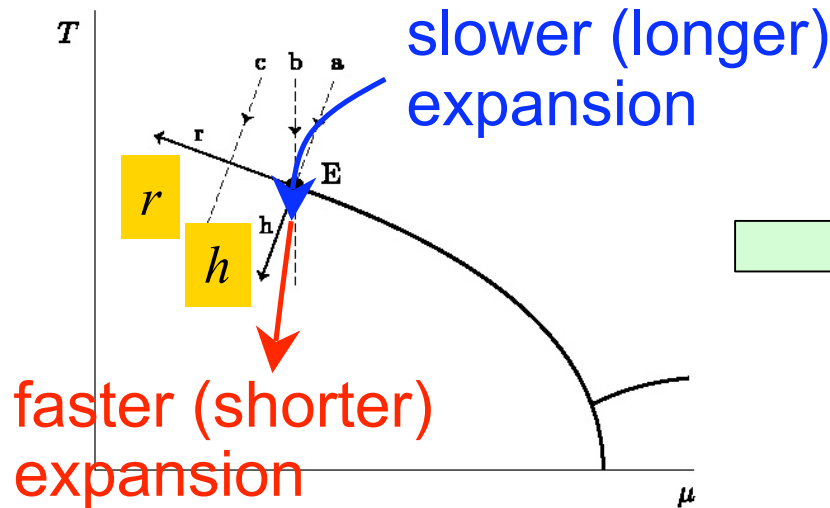
If expansion is adiabatic.

- Hadronic Observables : NOT directly reflect properties at CEP
  - Fluctuation, Collective Flow
- EOS
  - Focusing in  $n_B/s$  trajectories
- Dynamics (Time Evolution)



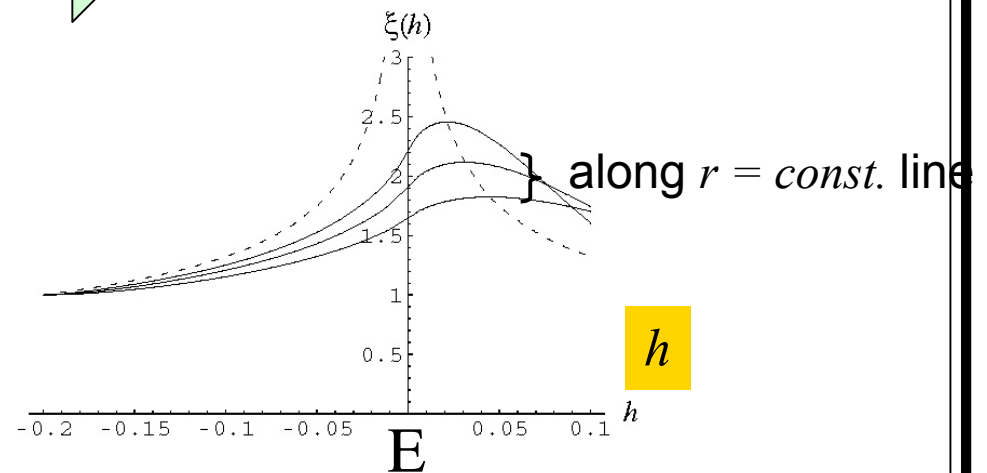
# Time Evolution

## ■ Berdnikov and Rajagopal's Schematic Argument



B. Berdnikov and K. Rajagopal,  
Phys. Rev. D61 (2000) 105017

Correlation Length  
longer than  $L_{eq}$



## ■ What's missing:

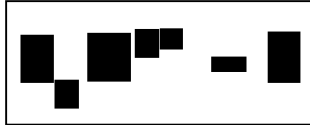
- Realistic Hydro Calculation with Realistic EOS





# 3-d Hydrodynamic Model

## Hydrodynamic equation



$$T^{\mu\nu} : T^{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon u^\mu u^\nu - p(g^{\mu\nu} - u^\mu u^\nu)$$

$\varepsilon$  : energy density  $p$  : pressure  $u^\mu$  : local velocity

- Baryon number density conservation

## Coordinates

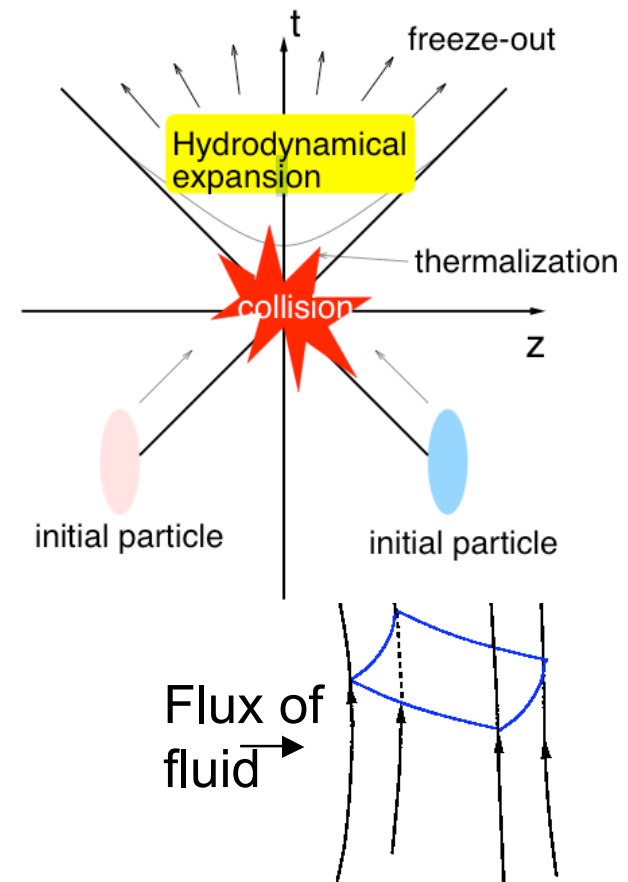


## Lagrangian hydrodynamics

- Tracing the adiabatic path of each volume element
- Effects of phase transition of observables

## Algorithm

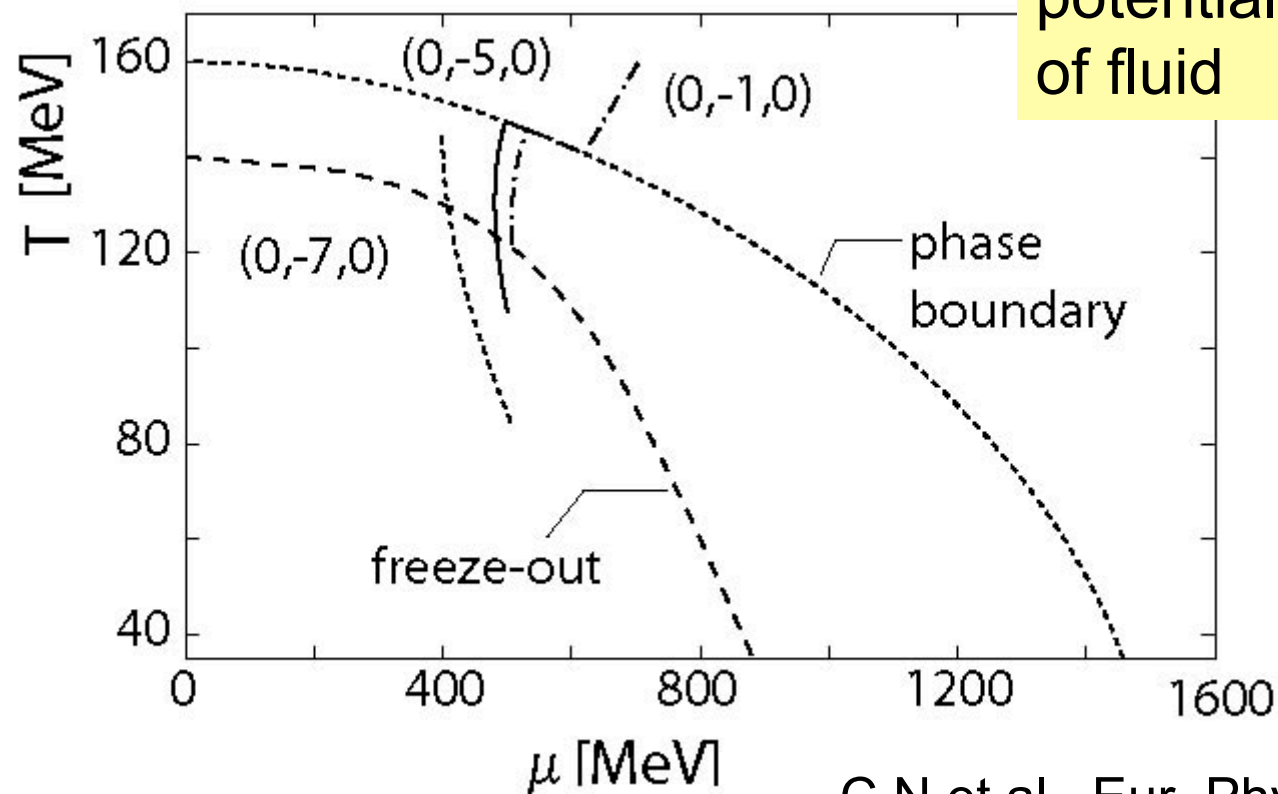
- Focusing on conservation law



# Trajectories on the phase diagram

## Lagrangian hydrodynamics

temperature and chemical potential of volume element of fluid



Effect of phase transition

C.N et al., Eur. Phys.J C17,663(2000)



# Jets in medium

Jet quenching mechanisms

Ex. Nuclear modification factor in 3D hydro

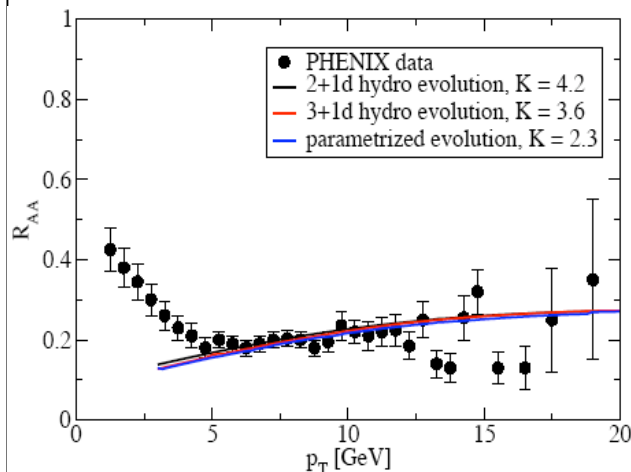
- parton path

- pQCD

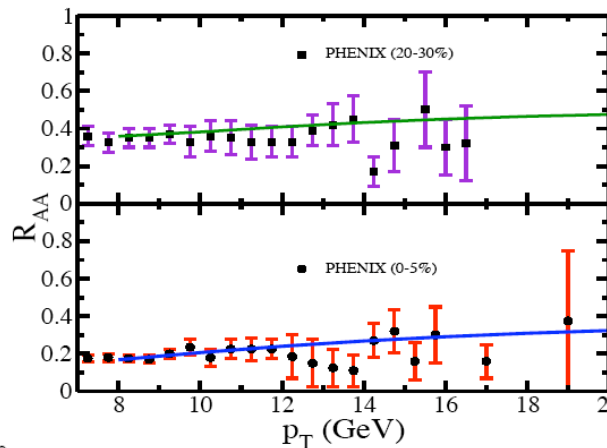
- AMY

- Mixed and hadron phase

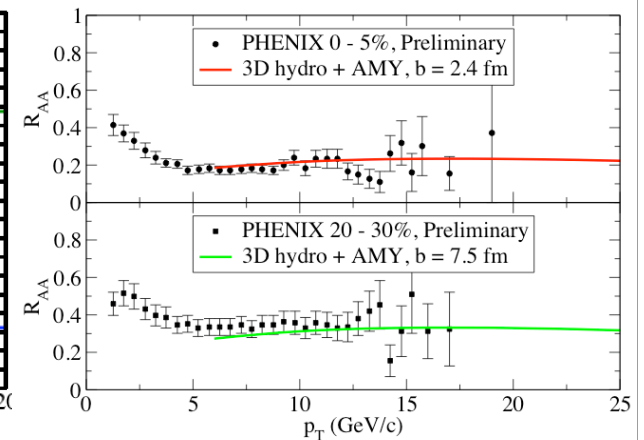
- gluon bremsstrahlung



nucl-th/0611027  
with Renk and Ruppert



nucl-th/0703019  
with Majumder



arXiv:0705.2575(hep-ph)  
with Qin, Ruppert, Turbide,  
Gale



Chiho NONAKA

# Soft + Hard

## Soft

- Full 3-d Hydrodynamic Model
  - QGP formation, EoS

Improved  
Cooper-Frye  
formula  
(Reco)

**UrQMD**

t fm/c

## Interaction between Soft and Hard

Hadronization

Final  
Interactions

## Hard

- Hard scattering & jet production
- Propagation of jet in medium, energy loss

Fragmentation

- First schematic attempt  
Hirano & Nara  
PRC66:041901,2002,  
PRC68:041901,2003,  
PRC71:082301,2005

- Dynamical effect on jets
- Jet correlations



# Non-Singular Part

## ■ Hadron Phase

- Excluded volume model

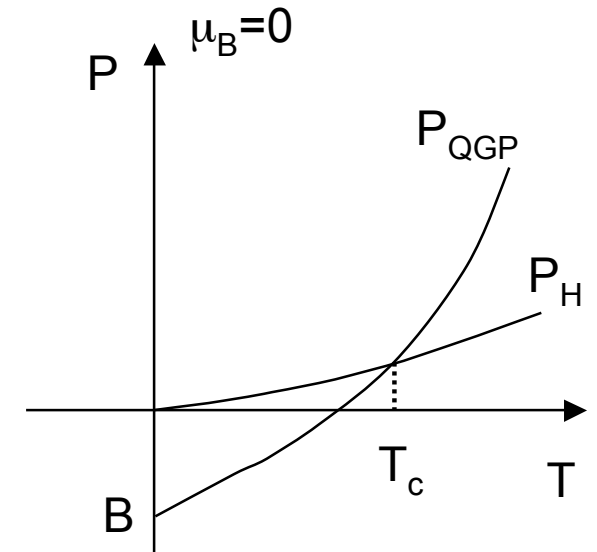
$$P(T, \mu_B) = \sum_i P_i^{\text{ideal}}(T, \mu_{Bi} - V_0 P(T, \mu_{Bi}))$$
$$= \sum_i P_i^{\text{ideal}}(T, \tilde{\mu}_{Bi})$$

## ■ QGP Phase

$$P(T, \mu_B) = \frac{(32 + 21N_f)\pi^2}{180} T^4 + \frac{N_f}{2} \left(\frac{\mu_B}{3}\right)^2 T^2 + \frac{N_f}{4\pi^2} \left(\frac{\mu_B}{3}\right)^4 - B$$

$N_f=2$

B: Bag constant (220 MeV)<sup>4</sup>



# Isentropic Trajectories in Hydro

## ■ Conservation law in ideal fluid

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = -\nabla \mu_B - \nabla \left( \frac{v^2}{2} \right)$$

→ Hydrodynamic expansion:  $n_B/s = \text{const.}$

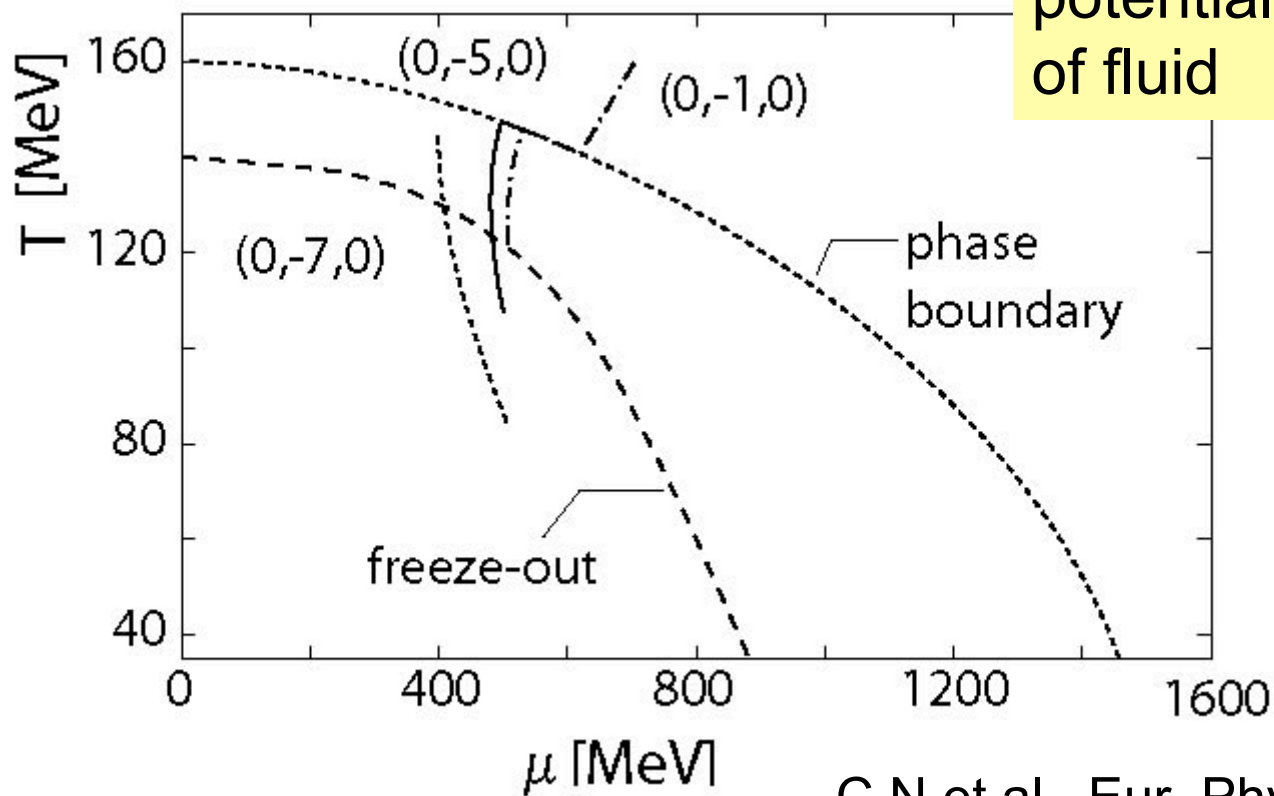
→  $n_B/s = \text{const.}$  lines on  $T-\mu_B$  plane: behavior of expansion



# Trajectories on the phase diagram

## ■ Lagrangian hydrodynamics

temperature and chemical potential of volume element of fluid



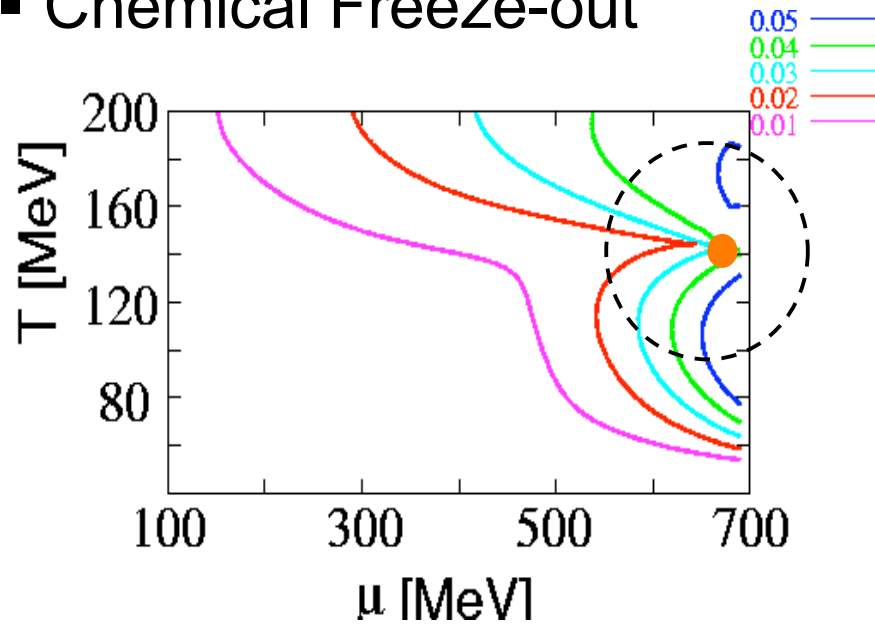
Effect of phase transition

C.N et al., Eur. Phys.J C17,663(2000)



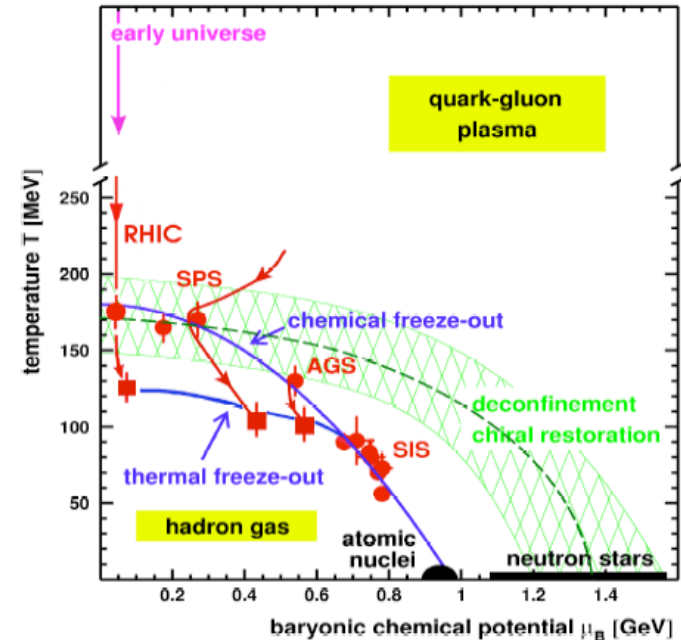
# Hadron ratios near CEP

## Chemical Freeze-out



- Hadron ratio (ex.  $p/\pi$ ) is not sensitive to collision energy near CEP.
- Near chemical freeze-out temperature the contribution from recombination, resonances is small.

Heinz :hep-ph/0109006



- Statistical Model  
Free resonance gas model
- ↕
- At chemical freeze-out  
Quasi-particle state





# EOS of 3-d Ising Model

## Parametric Representation of EOS

$$M = M_0 R^\beta \theta$$

$$h = h_0 R^\beta \tilde{h}(\theta) = h R_0^{\beta\delta} (\theta - 0.76201\theta^3 + 0.00804\theta^5)$$

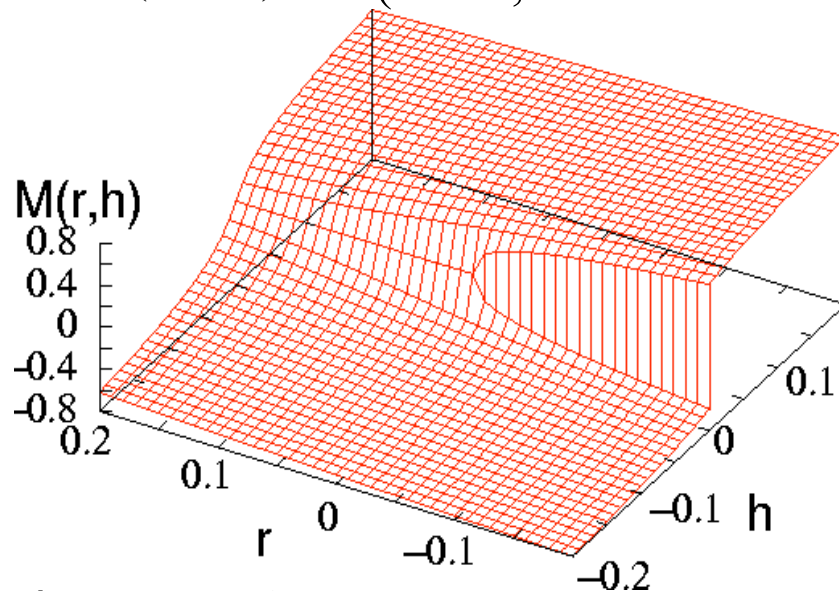
$$r = R(1 - \theta^2) \quad (R \geq 0, -1.154 \leq \theta \leq 1.154)$$

$$r = \frac{T - T_C}{T_C}$$

$h$  : external magnetic field

$$\beta = 0.326$$

$$\delta = 4.8$$

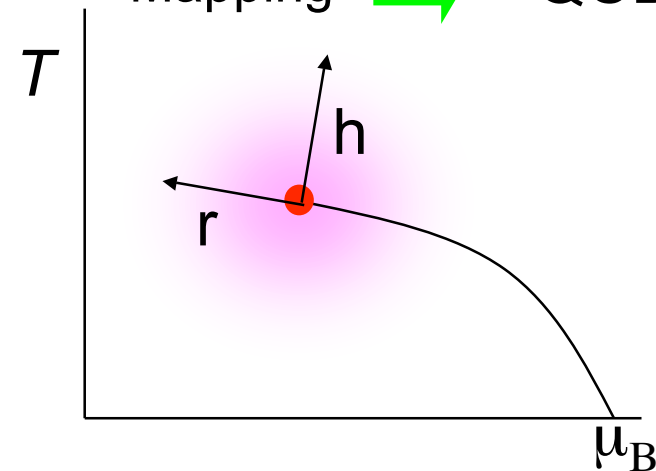


Order parameter

$$M \leftrightarrow \langle \bar{q}q \rangle$$

Guida and Zinn-Justin NPB486(97)626

Mapping  $\rightarrow$  QCD



# Singular Part of EOS

## Gibbs Free Energy

$$G(h, r) = F(M, r) - Mh$$

Guida and Zinn-Justin NPB486(97)626

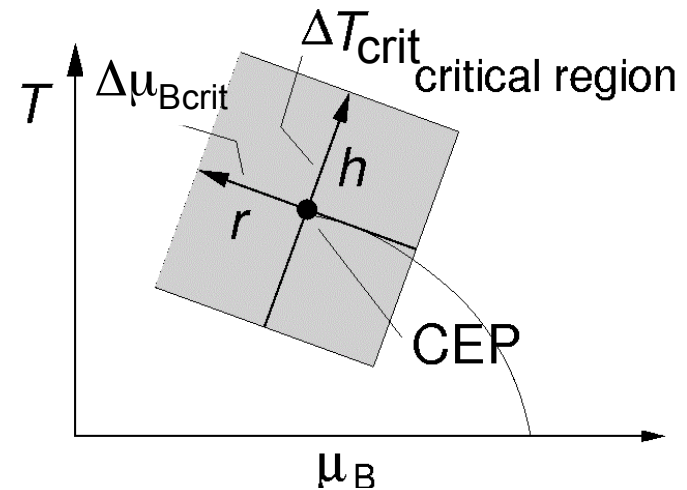
$$\text{Free energy: } F(M, r) = h_0 M_0 R^{2-\alpha} g(\theta) \longleftarrow h = \left. \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial M} \right) \right|_r \quad \alpha = 0.11$$

## Entropy Density for Singular Part

$$s_c = - \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} \right|_{\mu} = - \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial h} \right|_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial T} - \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial r} \right|_h \frac{\partial r}{\partial T}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{mapping}} (r, h) \leftrightarrow (T, \mu_B)$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial h} \right|_r = -M \\ \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial r} \right|_h = \left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial r} \right|_h - \left. \frac{\partial M}{\partial r} \right|_h h \end{array} \right.$$



# Singular Part + Non-singular Part

## ■ Entropy Density

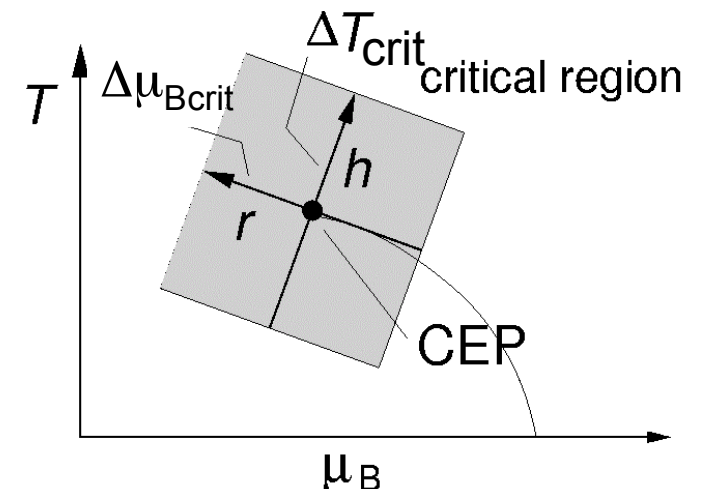
$$S_{\text{real}}(T, \mu_B) = \frac{1}{2} \{1 - \tanh[S_c(T, \mu_B)]\} S_H(T, \mu_B) + \frac{1}{2} \{1 + \tanh[S_c(T, \mu_B)]\} S_Q(T, \mu_B)$$

- $S_H(T, \mu_B)$  Hadron Phase (excluded volume model)
- $S_Q(T, \mu_B)$  QGP phase

- Dimensionless parameter:  $S_c$

$$S_c(T, \mu_B) = s_c \sqrt{(\Delta T_{\text{crit}})^2 + (\Delta \mu_{\text{crit}})^2} \times D$$

Critical domain



Critical exponent near CEP keeps correctly.

- Choice of parameters:  $\Delta T_{\text{crit}}, \Delta \mu_{\text{crit}}, D$

Thermodynamical inequalities

$$\left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_{V, N} \geq 0, \quad \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \right)_{T, N} \geq 0, \quad \left( \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial N} \right)_{T, V} \geq 0$$



# Thermodynamical Quantities

$$S_{\text{real}}(T, \mu_B) = \frac{1}{2} \{1 - \tanh[S_c(T, \mu_B)]\} S_H(T, \mu_B) + \frac{1}{2} \{1 + \tanh[S_c(T, \mu_B)]\} S_Q(T, \mu_B)$$

## ■ Baryon number density

$$n_B(T, \mu_B) = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \mu_B} = \int_0^T \frac{\partial s}{\partial \mu_B}(T', \mu_B) dT' + n_B(0, \mu_B) + \left| \frac{\partial T_c(\mu_B)}{\partial \mu_c} \right| (S_Q(T_c, \mu_B(T_c)) - S_H(T_c, \mu_B(T_c)))$$

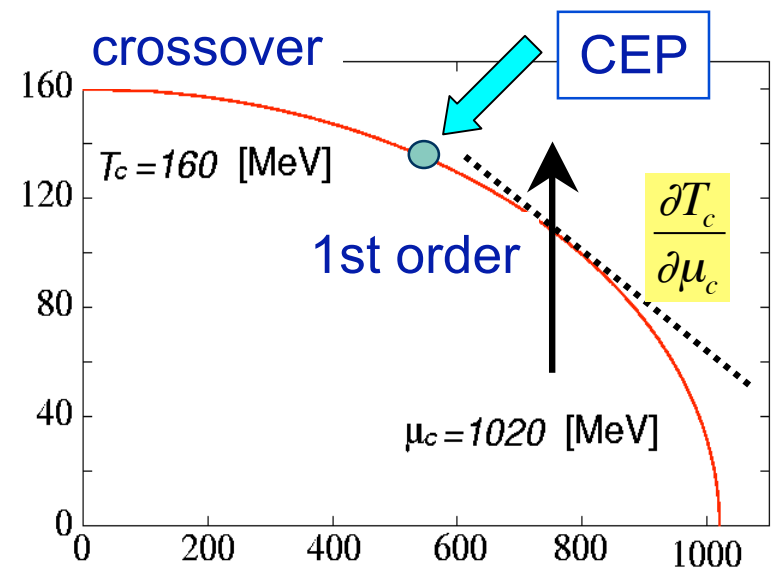
1st order

## ■ Pressure

$$P(T, \mu_B) = \int_0^T S_{\text{real}}(T', \mu_B) dT' + P(0, \mu_B)$$

## ■ Energy Density

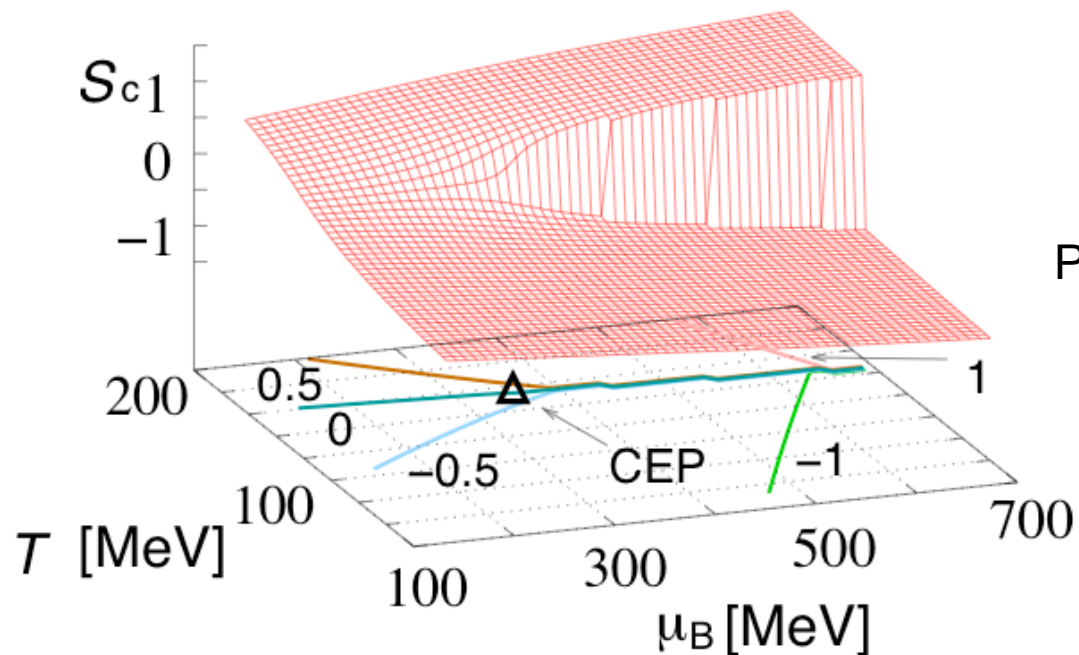
$$\varepsilon = TS_{\text{real}} - P - \mu_B n_B$$



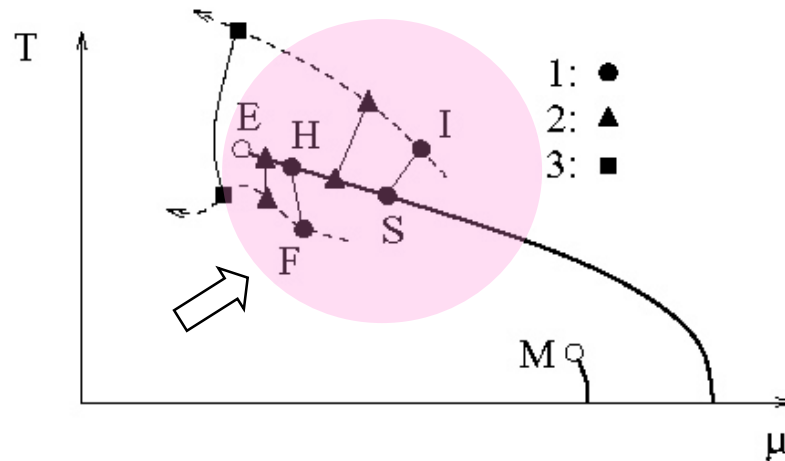
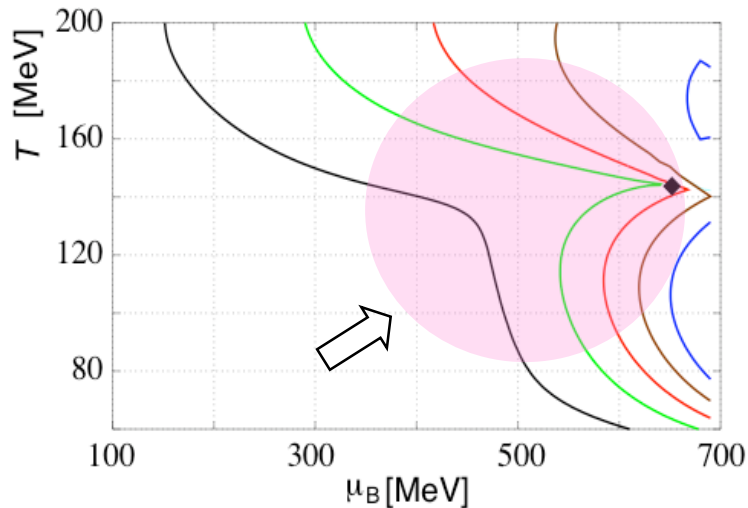
# Dimensionless Parameter

$$s_c = -\left.\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right|_{\mu} = -\left.\frac{\partial G}{\partial h}\right|_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial T} - \left.\frac{\partial G}{\partial r}\right|_h \frac{\partial r}{\partial T}$$

$$S_c(T, \mu_B) = s_c \sqrt{(\Delta T_{\text{crit}})^2 + (\Delta \mu_{\text{crit}})^2} \times D$$



# Focusing and QCD Critical Point



M. Stephanov, K. Rajagopal, and E. Shuryak,  
PRL81 (1998) 4816

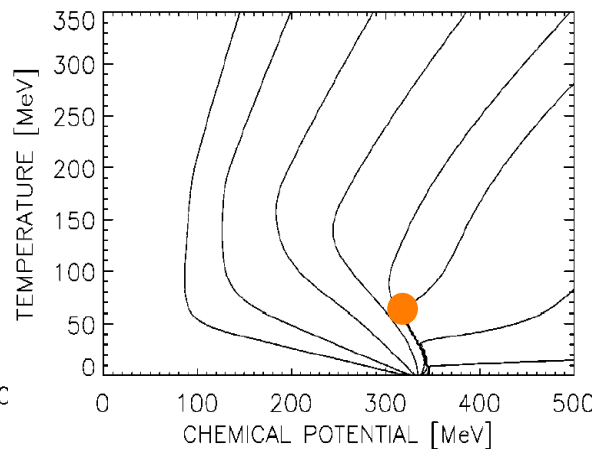
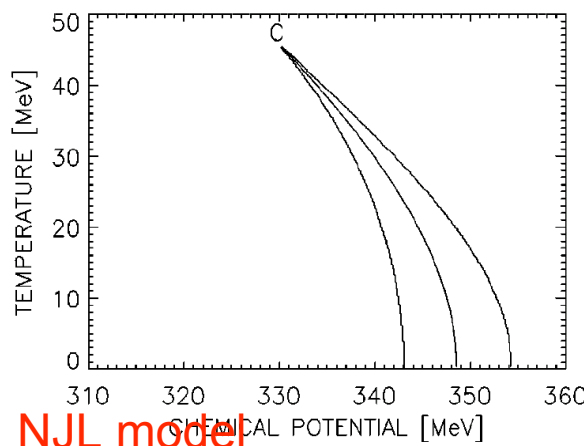
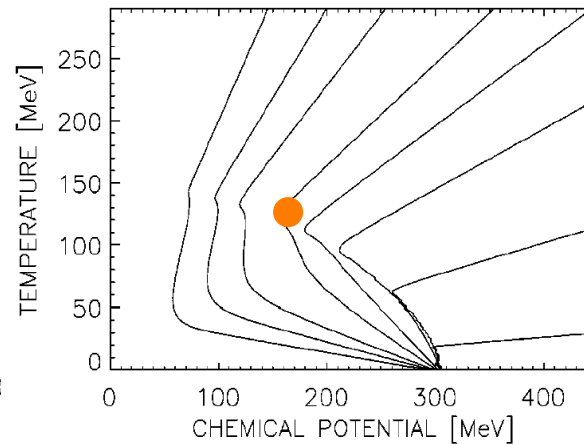
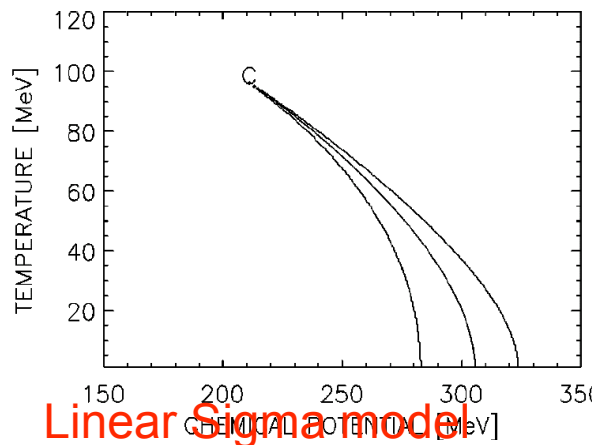
If the critical region is large enough

The fine-tuning of the collision energy is not necessary  
not only on the high energy side but also on the low energy side.



# Focusing

- $n_B/s$  trajectories on T- $\mu$  plane  $\leftrightarrow$  Hydrodynamic expansion  
Scavenius et al. PRC64(2001)045202 entropy, baryon number conservation



- CEP is not an attractor for  $n_B/s$  trajectories.
- Critical phenomena near CEP ?



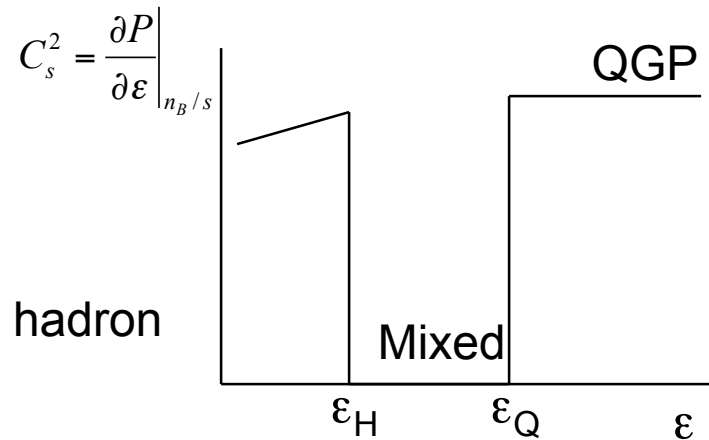
# Sound Velocity

■ EoS

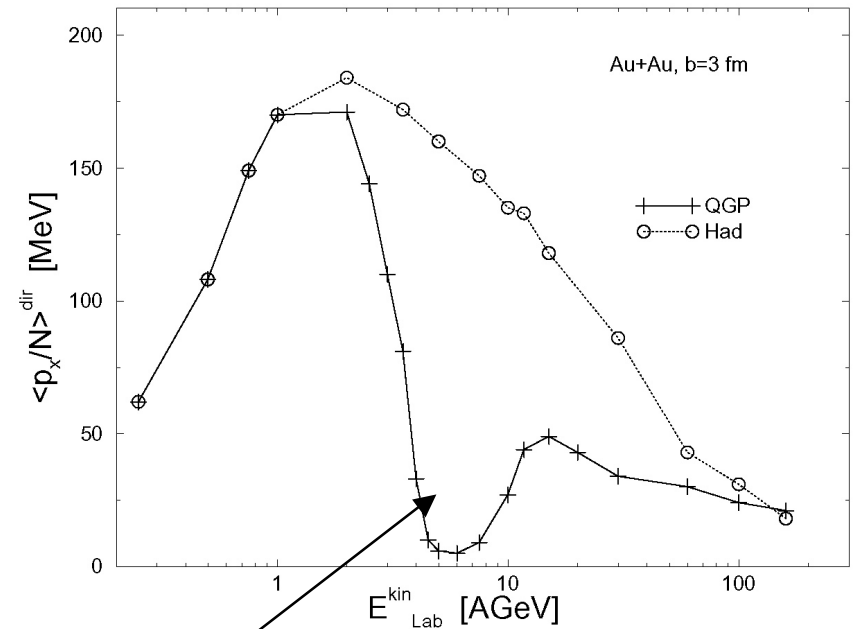


Hydrodynamic Expansion

$$C_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_{n_B/s}$$



Ex. Rischke et al. nucl-th/9504021



Effect of mixed phase?

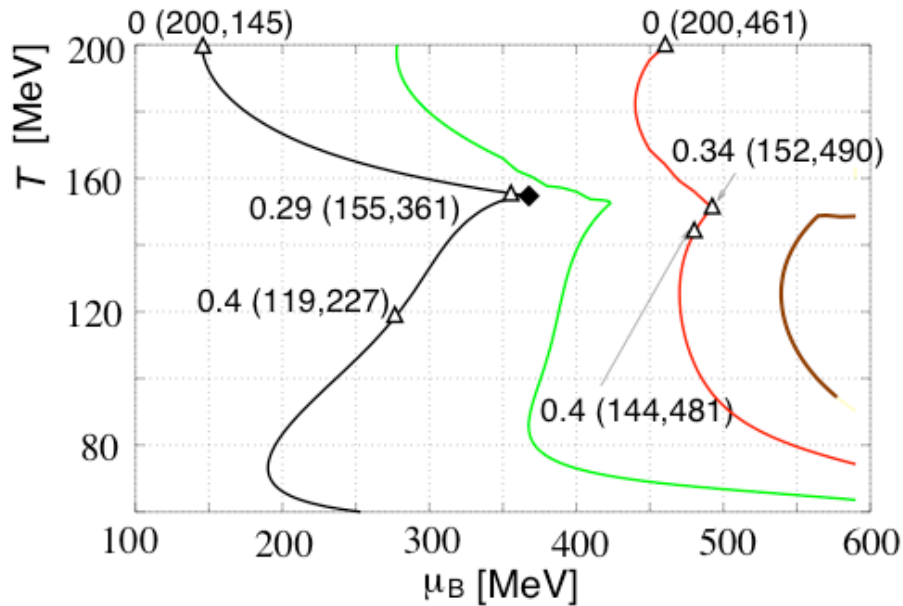




# Sound Velocity in EoS with CEP

## Effect on Time Evolution

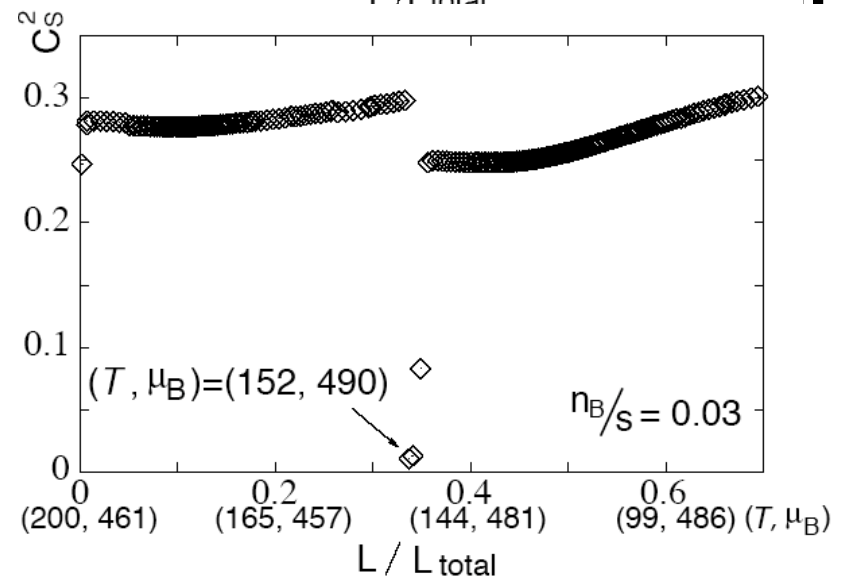
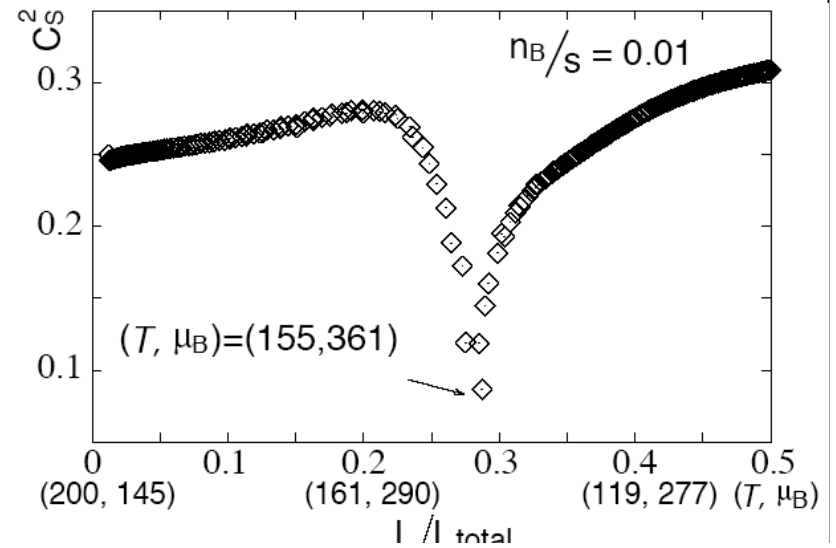
Collective flow  $\leftarrow$  EOS



$$C_s^2 = \left. \frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon} \right|_{n_B/s}$$

•The system may not expand uniformly.

Collective flow & HBT

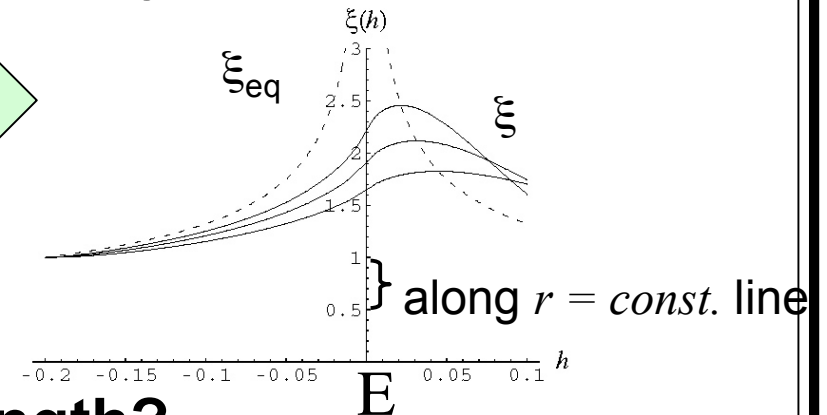
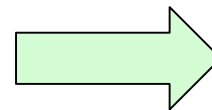
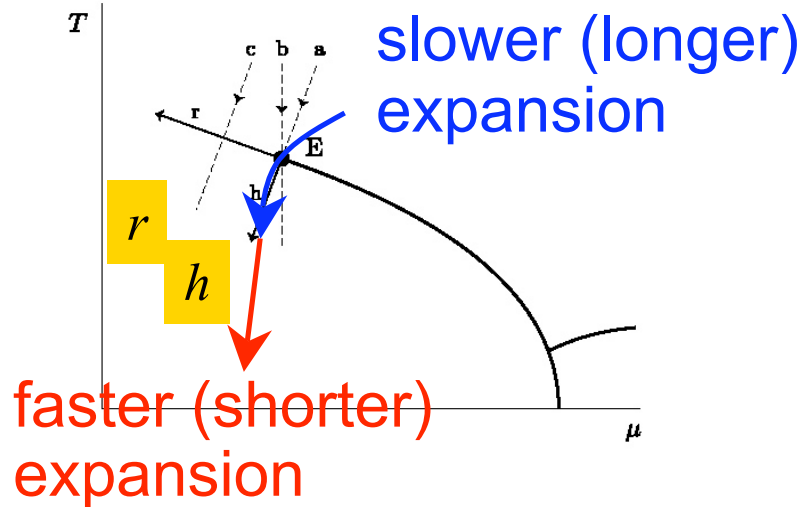


# Slowing out of Equilibrium

## Berdnikov and Rajagopal's Schematic Argument

B. Berdnikov and K. Rajagopal,  
Phys. Rev. D61 (2000) 105017

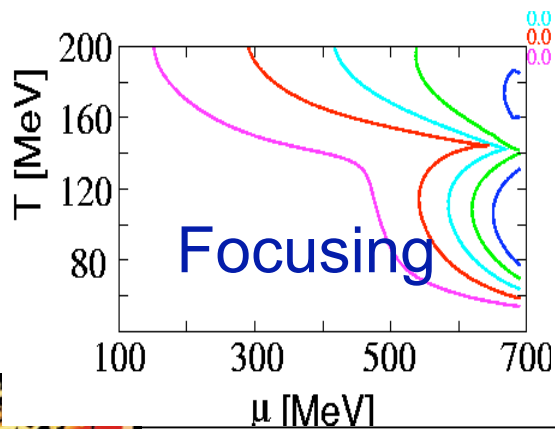
Correlation length  
longer than  $\xi_{eq}$



$h$

## Effect of Focusing on

correlation length?



Time evolution : Bjorken's scaling solution along  $n_B/s$   
 $\tau_0 = 1 \text{ fm}, T_0 = 200 \text{ MeV}$

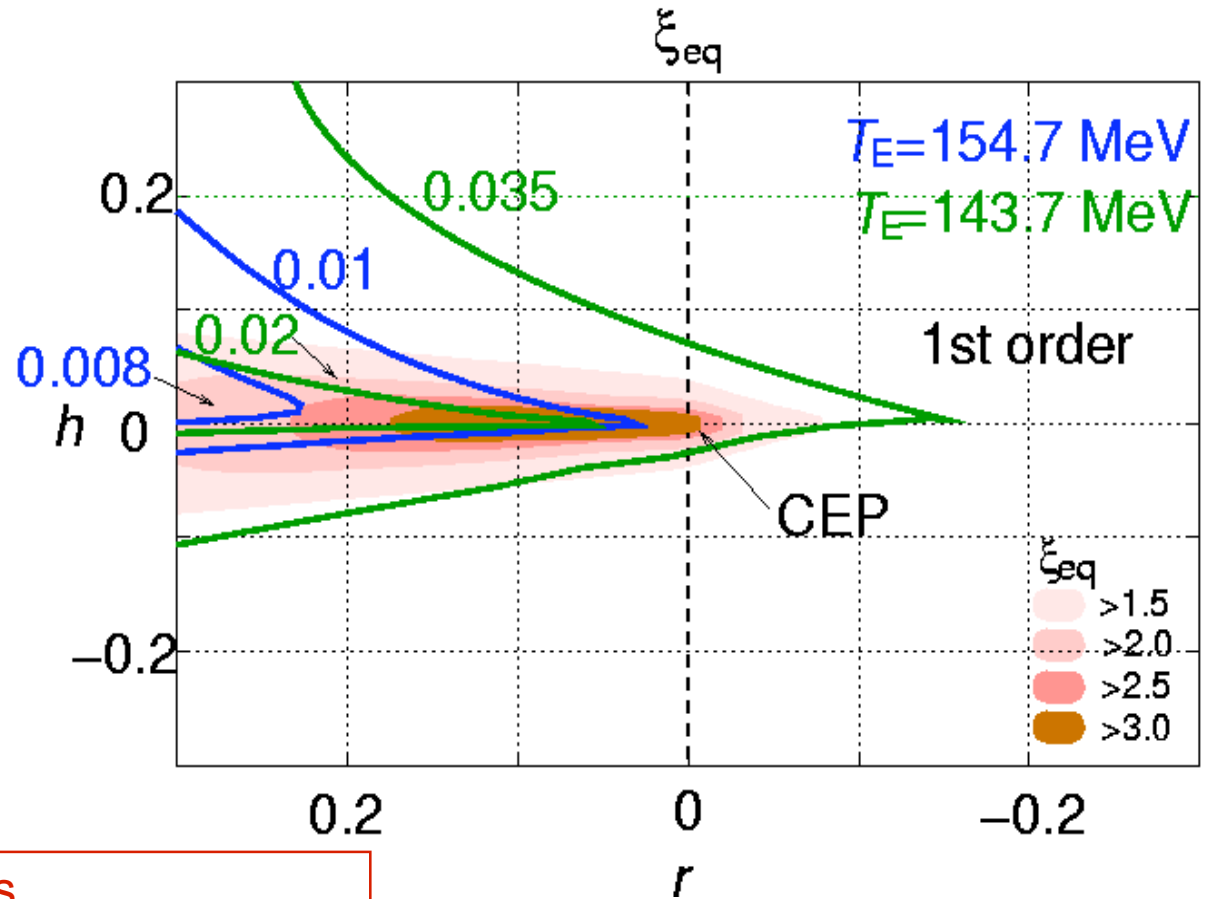
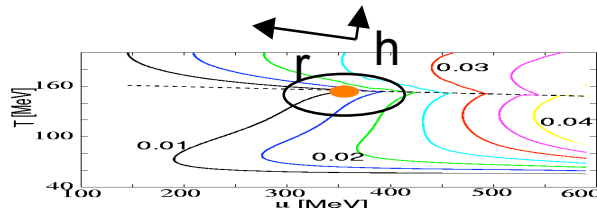


# Correlation Length in Equilibrium

■  $\xi_{eq}$

Widom's scaling law

$$\xi_{eq}^2(r, M) = f^2 M^{-2\nu/\beta} g\left(\frac{|r|}{|M|^{1/\beta}}\right)$$



- Max.  $\xi_{eq}$  depends on  $n_B/s$ .
- Trajectories pass through the region where  $\xi_{eq}$  is large. (focusing)
- $n_B/s$  — non-critical component of the EOS



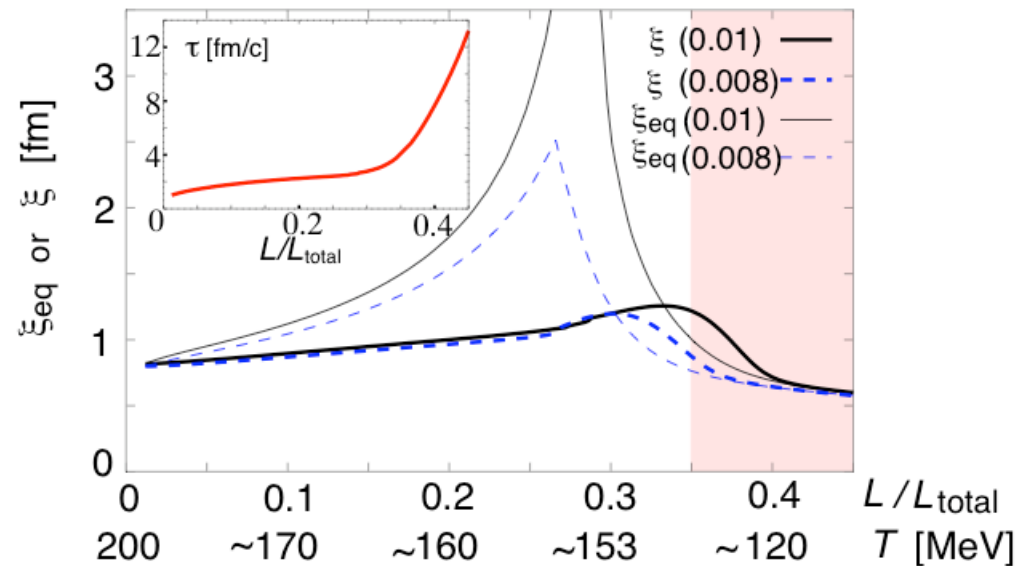
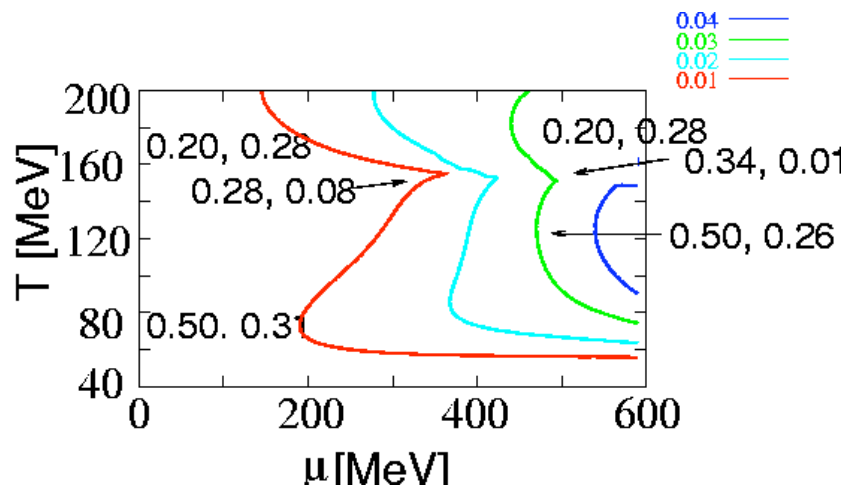
# Evolution of Correlation Length

- $\xi$  : time evolution (1-d)

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} m_\sigma(\tau) = -\Gamma[m_\sigma(\tau)] \left( m_\sigma(\tau) - \frac{1}{\xi_{\text{eq}}(\tau)} \right)$$

$$\Gamma(m_\sigma) = \frac{a}{\xi_0} (m_\sigma \xi_0)^z, \quad m_\sigma(\tau) = \frac{1}{\xi(\tau)}$$

$z = 3.0$  Model H (Halperin RMP49(77)435)

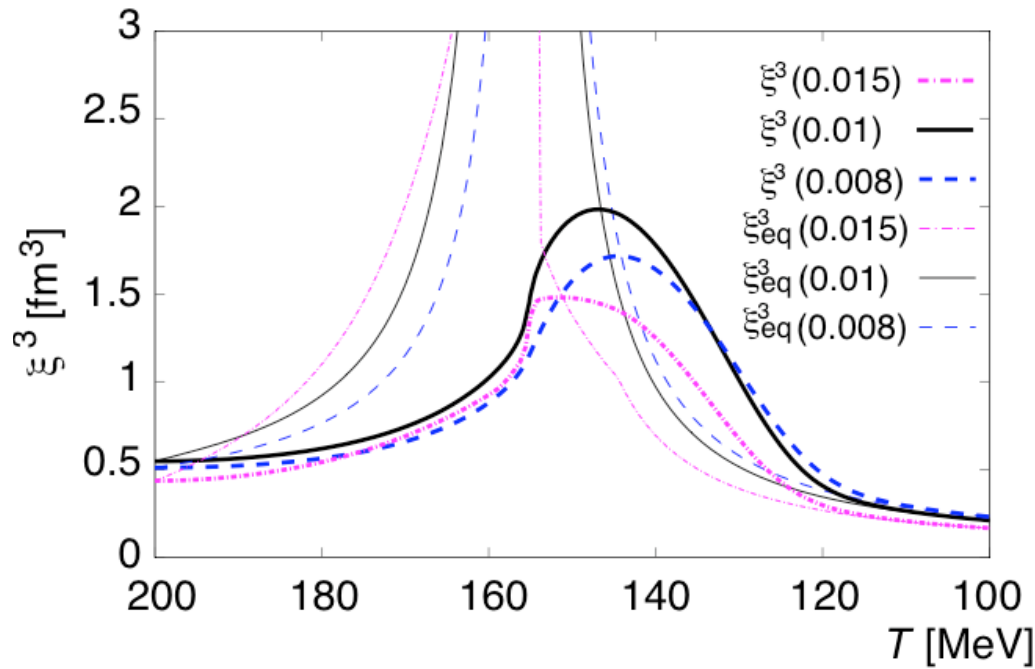


- $\xi$  is larger than  $\xi_{\text{eq}}$  at  $T_f$ . ← Critical slowing down
- Differences among  $\xi$ s on  $n_B/s$  are small.
- In 3-d, the difference between  $\xi_{\text{eq}}$  and  $\xi$  becomes large due to transverse expansion.



# Fluctuation

## ■ Cube of the equilibrium correlation length



Fluctuation  $\propto \xi^3$

- There is the possibility that the fluctuation shows some enhancement.



# Fluctuations (I)

## ■ Fluctuations

CERES

40,80,158 AGeV Pb+Au

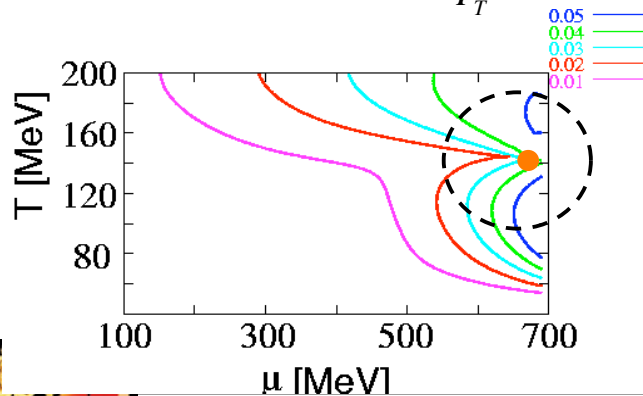
collisions

Mean  $P_T$  Fluctuation

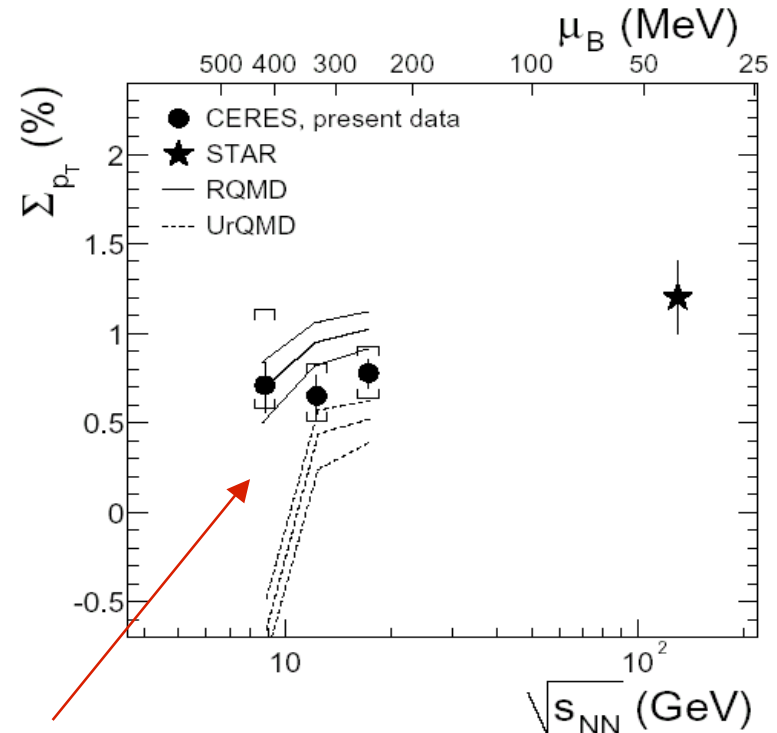
$$\sigma_{PT,dyn}^2 \equiv \langle \Delta M_{PT}^2 \rangle - \frac{\Delta P_T^2}{\langle N \rangle}$$

$$\langle M_x^2 \rangle = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n N_j (M_x^j - \langle M_x \rangle)^2}{\sum_{j=1}^n N_j}$$

$$\Sigma_{PT} \equiv \text{sgn}(\sigma_{PT,dyn}^2) \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_{dyn}^2}}{P_T}$$



CERES: Nucl. Phys. A727(2003)97



No unusually large fluctuation or non-monotonic behavior

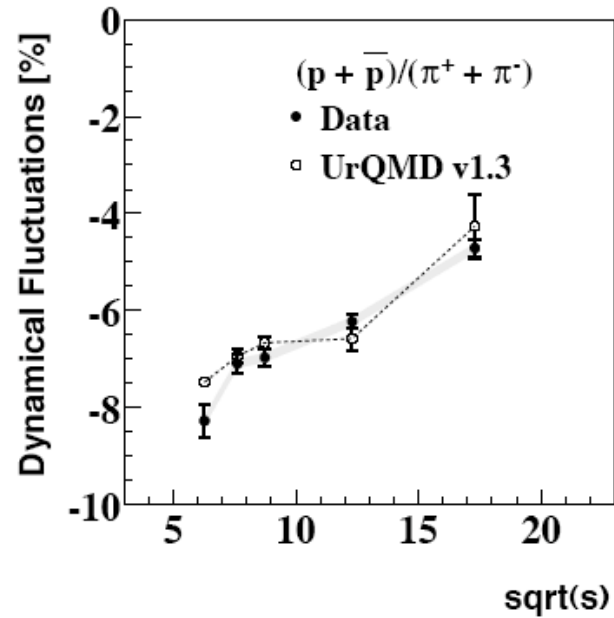
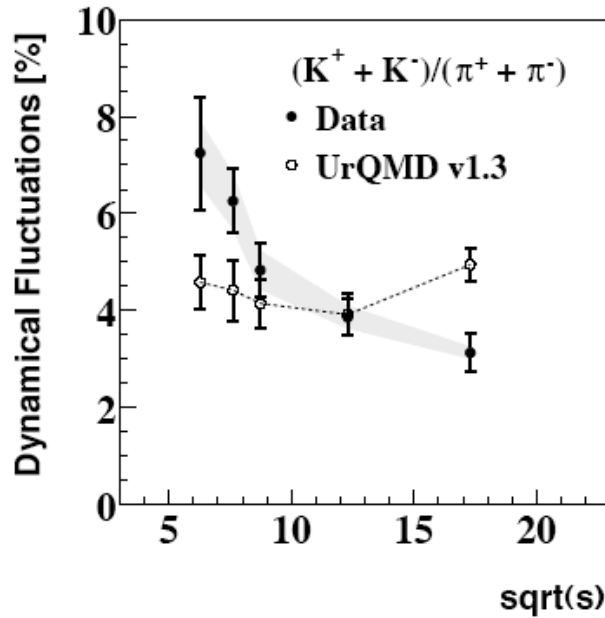
**CEP: attractor of isentropic trajectories**

Similar correlation length and fluctuation is observed near CEP.



# Fluctuations (II)

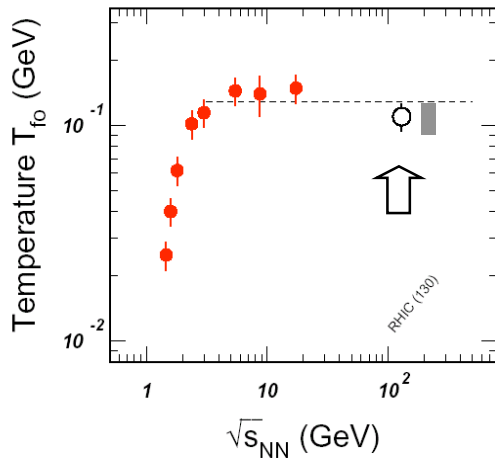
## ■ NA49



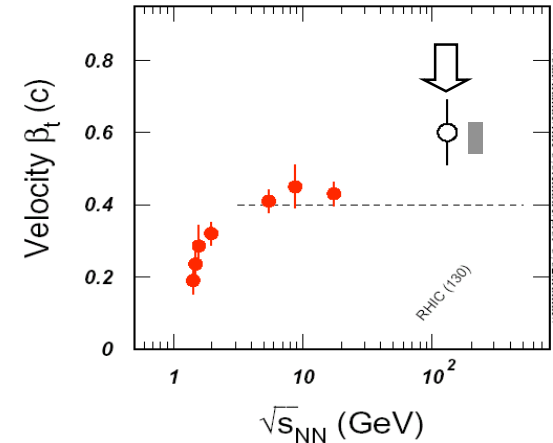
- Suggestion of QCD critical end point?
- Fluctuation ← Conservation



# Kinetic Freeze-out Temperature



Low  $T_f$  comes from large flow.



Xu and Kaneta,  
nucl-ex/0104021(QM2001)  
BRAHMS nucl-ex/0404011

- Kinetic Freeze-out mean (elastic) collision rate expansion rate

- $\pi$ -N cross section

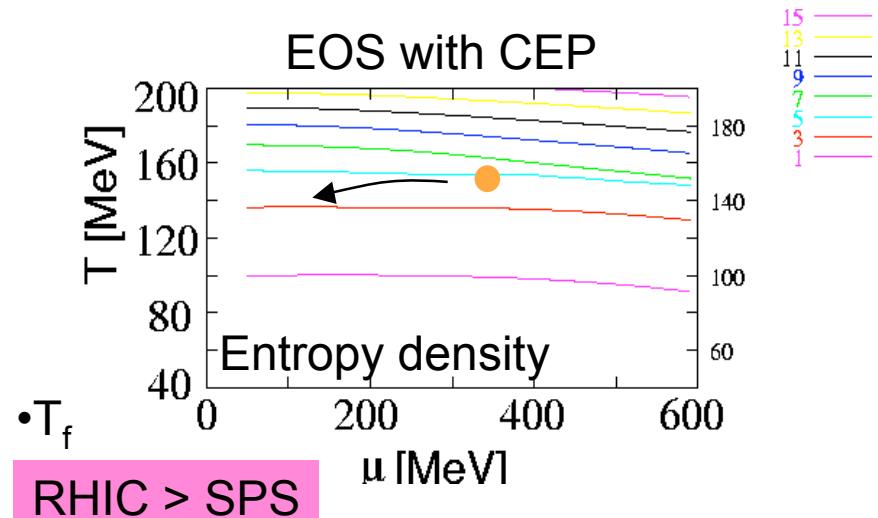
$$(p + \bar{p}) / (\pi^+ + \pi^-)$$

$$\text{SPS} \sim 0.09$$

$$\text{RHIC} \sim 0.09$$

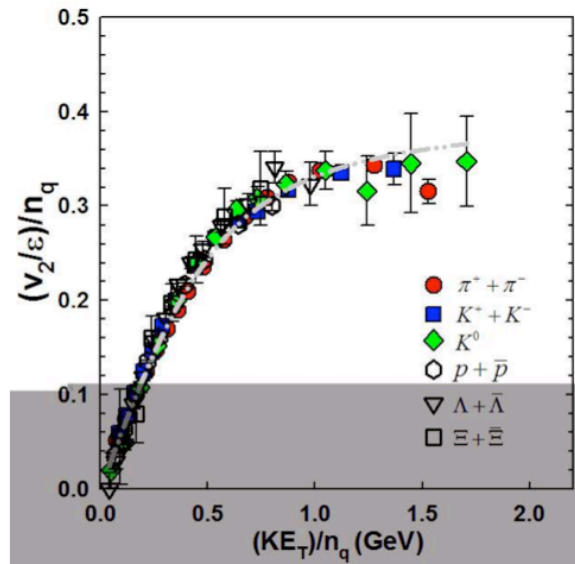
- Expansion rate  
RHIC > SPS

- Collision rate  
SPS ~ RHIC



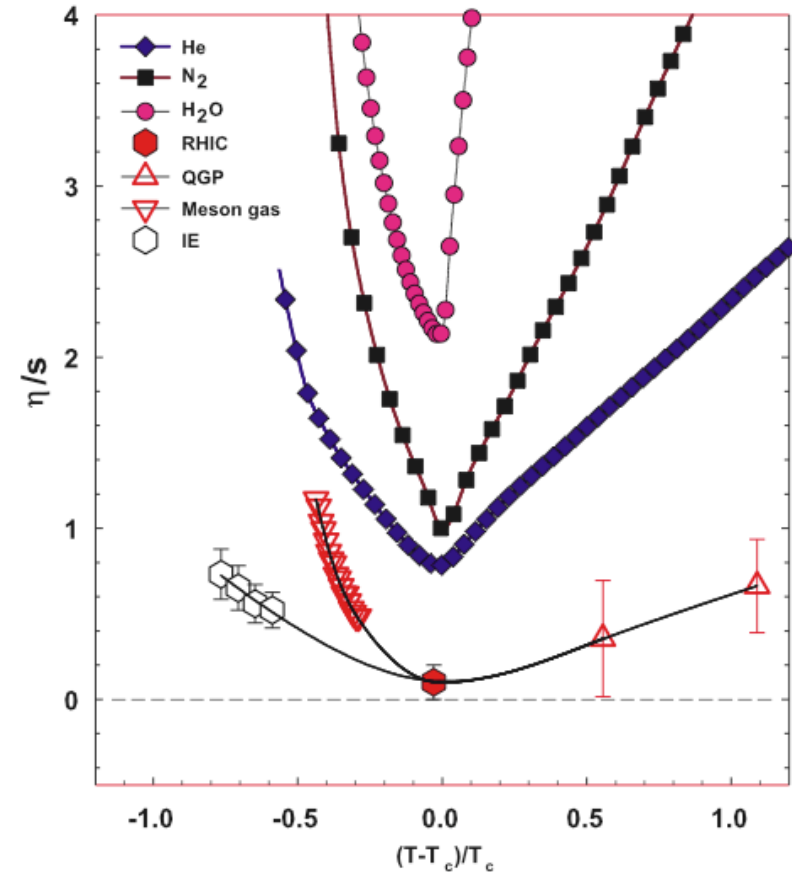


# CEP at RHIC?



Au+Au Collisions

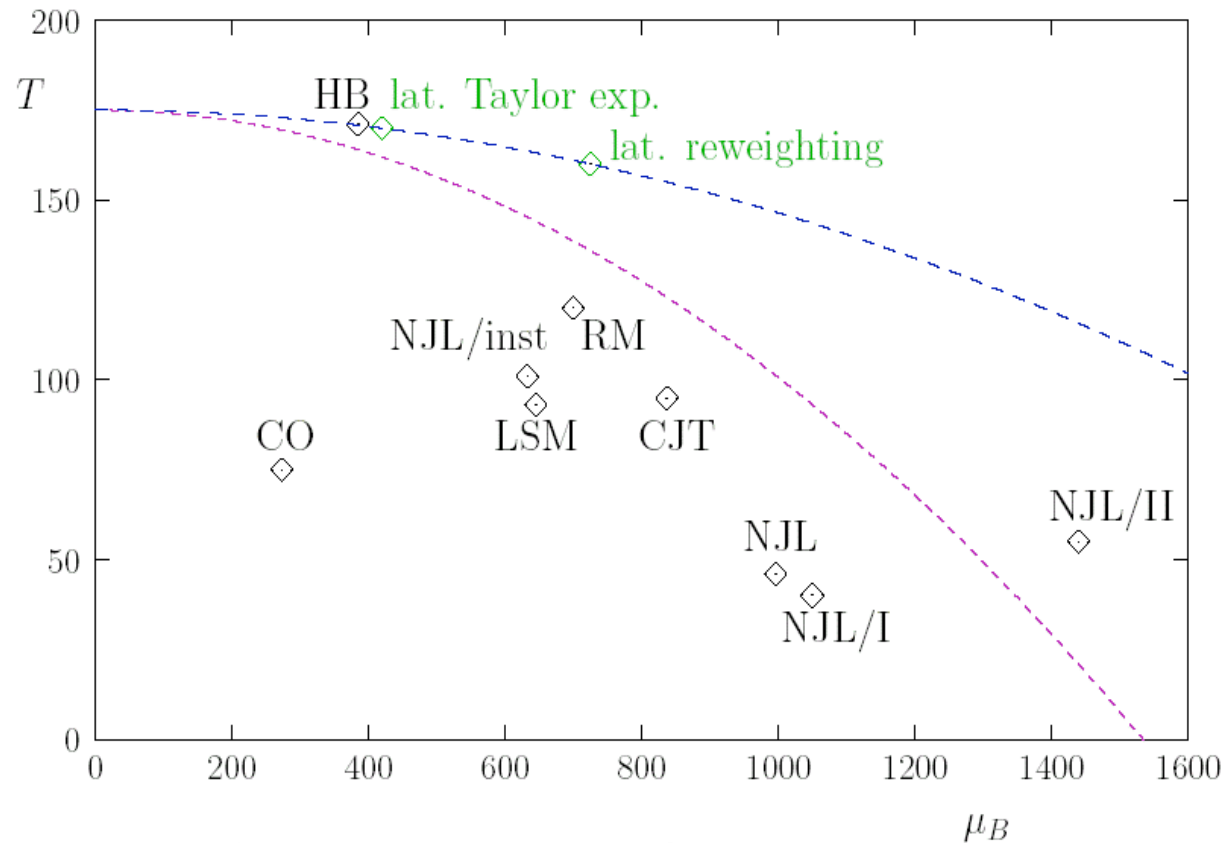
$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\eta}{s} &\sim T\lambda_f c_s \\ T &= 165 \pm 3 \text{ MeV} \\ c_s &= 0.35 \pm 0.05 \\ \lambda_f &= 0.3 \pm 0.03 \text{ fm} \end{aligned} \right\} \frac{\eta}{s} \sim 0.09 \pm 0.015$$



Lacey et al, Phys.Rev.Lett.98:092301,2007



# Where is CEP on $T$ - $\mu_B$ plane?



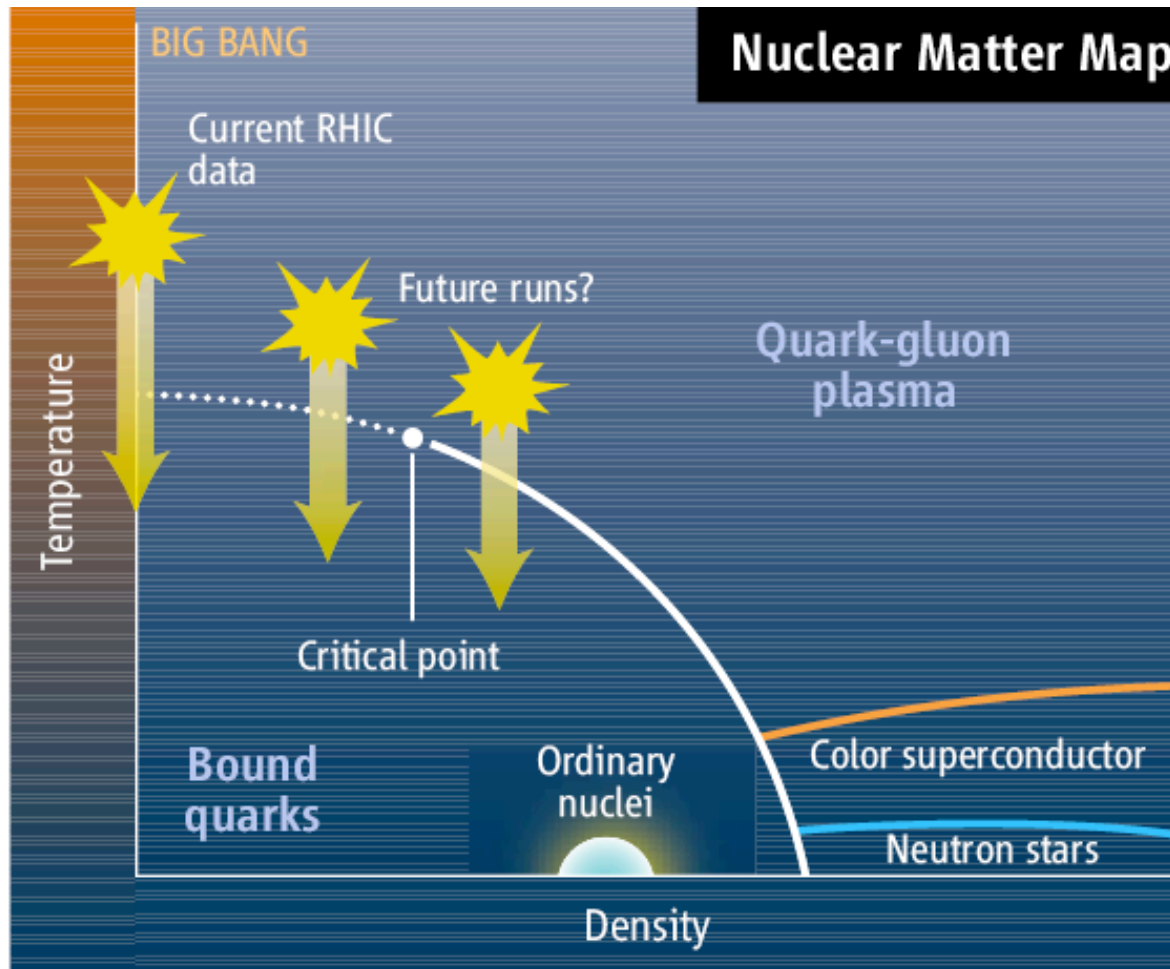
Stephanov:hep-ph/0402115

⇒ experiments

- NJL/I, NJL/II  
Asakawa & Yazaki
- CO (composite operator)  
Barducci et al.
- NJL/inst (instanton NJL)  
Berges & Rajagopal
- RM (random matrix)  
Halaz et al.
- LSM (linear sigma model)  
NJL  
Scavenius et al.
- CJT (effective potential)  
Hatta & Ikeda
- HB (hadronic bootstrap)  
Antoniou et al.



# Where is the Critical Point ?



Science, **312**, 190(2006)

Energy Scan:

- Necessity of lower energy experiments at RHIC
- SPS

**Landmark study.** Physicists have seen a smooth transition from bound quarks to quark-gluon plasma (dotted line). They now hope to find the point beyond which the transition becomes violent (white line).

