

ETA CONDENSATES ON THE EXTENDED COLUMBIA PLOT WITH AXIAL ANOMALY

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Phys. Rev. D 111, 016014

XVIII POLISH WORKSHOP ON RELATIVISTIC HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS
JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, 2025. 12. 13-14.

From the chiral symmetry

$$SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R \times U(1)_V \times U(1)_A$$

the $U(1)_A$ symmetry is anomalously broken

Physical consequences:

e.g. mass of η and η'

Phys.Rept. 142 (1986) 357-387

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around the transition temperature
(but above or below?)

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Axial anomaly and the order of the phase transition in the chiral limit:

From ϵ expansion **Phys. Rev. D 29 (1984) 338**

In the chiral limit:

$N_f = 0$ Pure Yang-Mills, first-order.

$N_f = 1$ Crossover transition with the anomaly.
(can be second order without)

$N_f = 2$ Without anomaly the transition is second order, with anomaly it might be first or second order depending on the restoration of the anomaly.

$N_f = 3$ First-order transition.

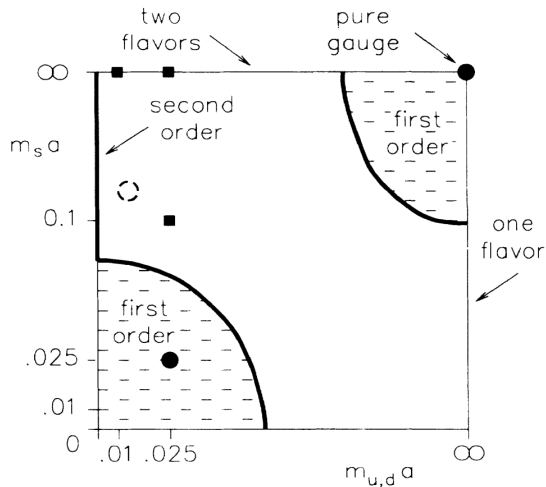
EXPLICIT BREAKING OF THE CHIRAL SYMMETRY – COLUMBIA PLOT

The chiral symmetry is explicitly broken by $m_u \approx m_d > 0$ and $m_s > 0$

Columbia plot:

the order of the phase transition
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Phys Rev Lett 65 (1990) 2491



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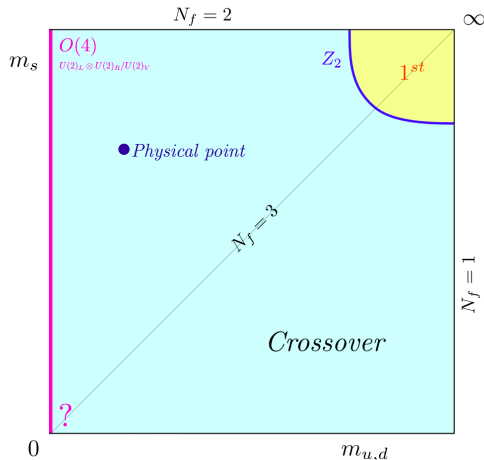
No first-order in bottom left?

Symmetry 13 (2021) 11, 2079

Phys.Rev.D 108 (2023) 11, 114018

Order in top left?

Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 1, 016021



Higher order terms that can break the $U(1)_A$ symmetry

Terms allowed by symmetry considerations (breaking $U(1)_A$, but not other)

$$\xi_1(\det \Phi + \det \Phi^\dagger), \quad \xi_1^1 \text{tr}(\Phi^\dagger \Phi)(\det \Phi + \det \Phi^\dagger), \quad \xi_2 \left[(\det \Phi)^2 + (\det \Phi^\dagger)^2 \right], \quad \xi_2^\pm (\det \Phi \pm \det \Phi^\dagger)^2$$

- higher order $|Q| > 2$
- log det term à la Witten, di Vecchia, Veneciano
- polydeterminant [Lett. Math. Phys. 115, no.6, 119 \(2025\)](#)

Model at hand:

Extended Linear Sigma Model (eLSM)

[Phys. Rev. D 87, no.1, 014011 \(2013\)](#)

[Phys. Rev. D 93, no.11, 114014 \(2016\)](#)

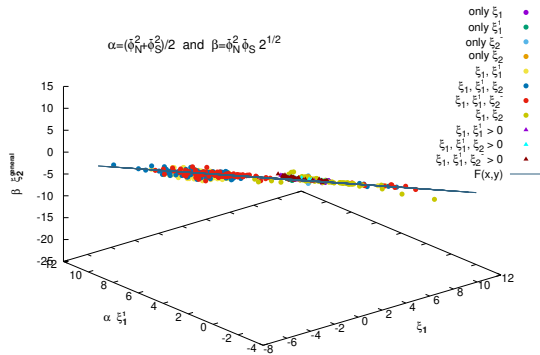
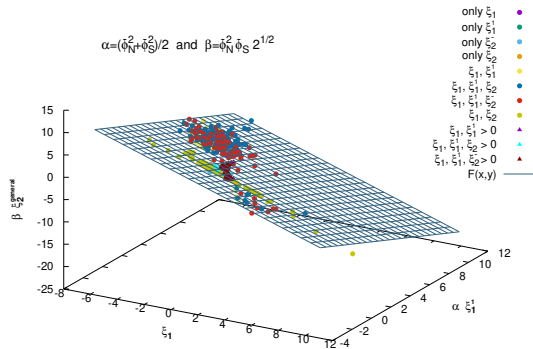
[Phys. Rev. D 104, 056013 \(2021\)](#)

Only an effective coupling matters

Comparing m_π^2 and m_η^2 : $\xi_{\text{eff}} \equiv \xi_1 + \xi_1^1 (\phi_N^2 + \phi_S^2) / 2 + \xi_2 \phi_N^2 \phi_S / \sqrt{2}$

Phys.Rev.Lett. 132 (2024) 25, 251903

Phys. Rev. D 111 (2025), 016014

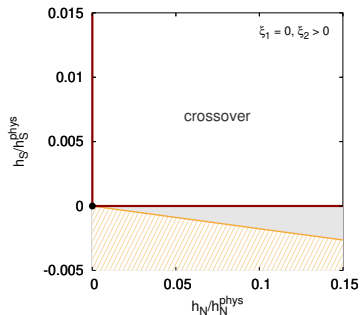
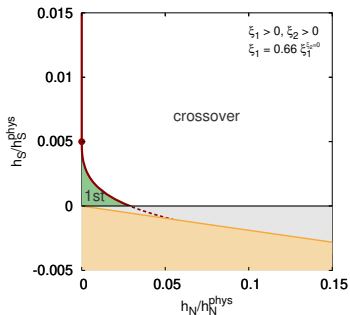
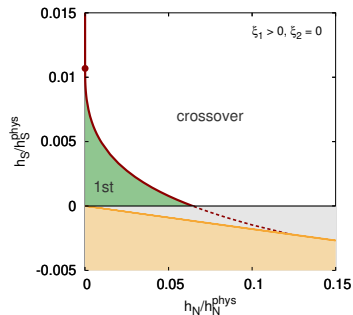


At finite temperature $\xi_{\text{eff}} = \xi_{\text{eff}}(T)$ due to $\phi_N(T)$ and $\phi_S(T)$

THE COLUMBIA PLOT

Keep **only** ξ_1 and ξ_2 and compare to $\xi_{\text{eff}} = 1.50$ GeV. Using h_N and h_S (alternative: m_π and m_K)

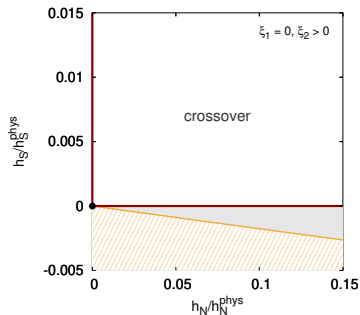
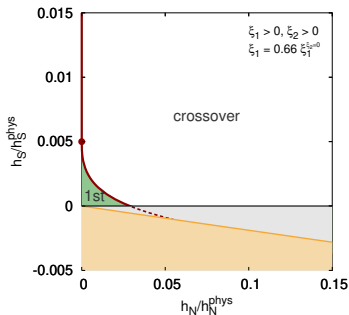
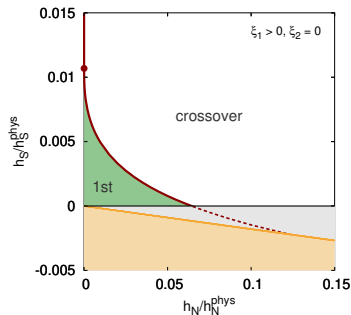
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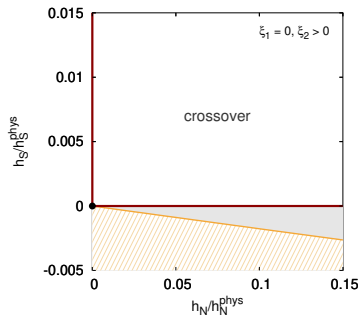
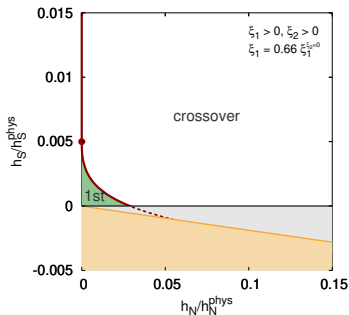
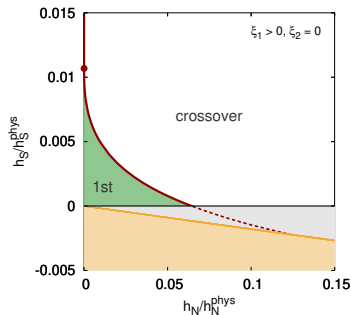


Size of first-order region is controlled by ξ_1 .

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At $h_S < 0$ (already at $m_K > 0$): eta condensation $\Rightarrow$ **CP violation** depending on the anomaly terms!

Topological angle:

QCD vacuum: topological sectors with different topological charge

Topological angle $\theta > 0$: CP violation; first-order transition at $\theta = \pi$

Effective model: θ appears in the anomaly term

Phys. Rev. Res. 2, no.3, 033359 (2020)

$$\begin{aligned} & \xi_1 \left(e^{i\theta} \det \Phi + e^{-i\theta} \det \Phi^\dagger \right) \\ & \xi_2 \left[e^{i2\theta} (\det \Phi)^2 + e^{-i2\theta} (\det \Phi^\dagger)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \xleftrightarrow{s \rightarrow e^{i\frac{\alpha}{2}} \gamma_5 s} \\ \alpha = \theta \end{array}$$

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negative explicit breaking $\sim$ negative m_s
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Daschen's phenomena $\Leftarrow$

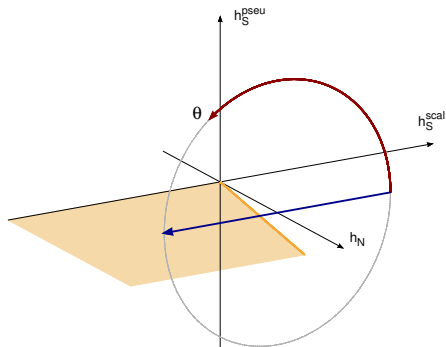
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Varying h and θ



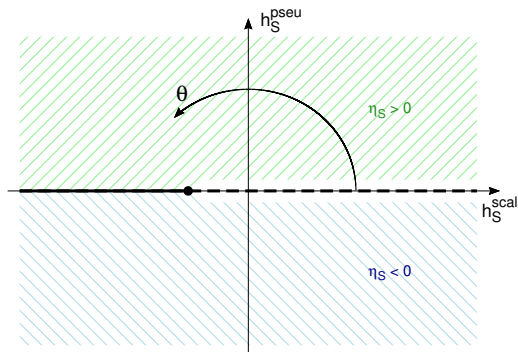
Varying h^{scal} and h^{pseu}



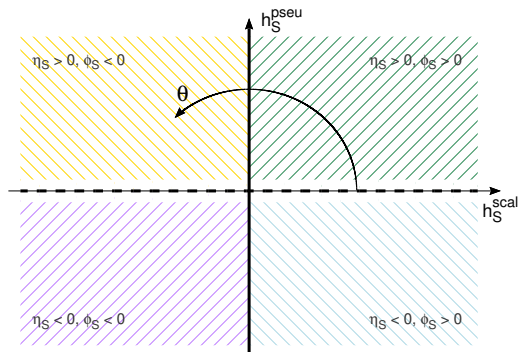
Varying h and θ



Varying h^{scal} and h^{pseu}



With only the 't Hooft term



Only higher order term

- Multiple terms to describe the $U(1)_A$ anomaly (almost) equally well, only an effective coupling can be determined.
- The relative size of 't Hooft term determines the size of the first-order region in the bottom left corner of the Columbia pot.
- Eta condensates emerge at negative explicit breaking $\Leftrightarrow$ at $\theta = \pi$ depending in the anomaly terms.
- $h_s < 0$ 2+1 flavor calculation tell about the content of ξ_{eff} .
- Columbia plot and CP violation depends on the anomaly terms.
- Higher order terms ($\det^2$, $\det^3$, general) and their effect is interesting.

THANK YOU!