

# Constraints for the QCD phase diagram from imaginary chemical potential

Owe Philipsen



- Taking imaginary  $\mu$  more seriously, study in its own right
- Triple, critical and tri-critical structures at  $\mu = i\frac{\pi T}{3}$
- Implications for the QCD phase diagram at real  $\mu$
- Everything here standard staggered,  $N_t=4$

with Ph. de Forcrand (ETH/CERN), [arXiv:1004.3144](https://arxiv.org/abs/1004.3144)

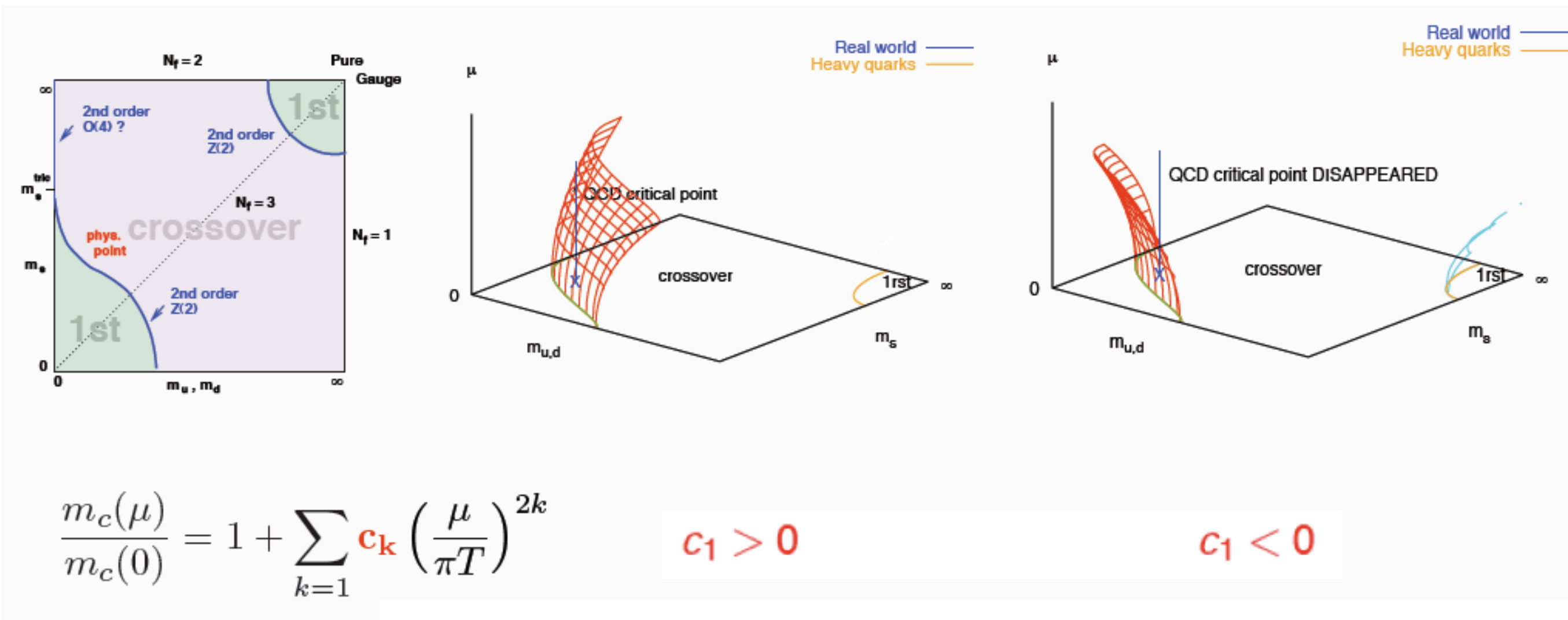
# The sign problem and its work-arounds

- QCD phase diagram at finite baryon density largely unknown
- Approximate results:  
Reweighting, Taylor expansion, imaginary  $\mu = i\mu_i$  + analytic continuation
- Only valid for  $\mu/T \lesssim 1$



Here: imaginary chem. pot. without continuation:  
no sign problem, no approximations

# Finite density: critical lines $\longrightarrow$ critical surfaces



On coarse lattices: right scenario, no chiral critical point de Forcrand, O.P. 08

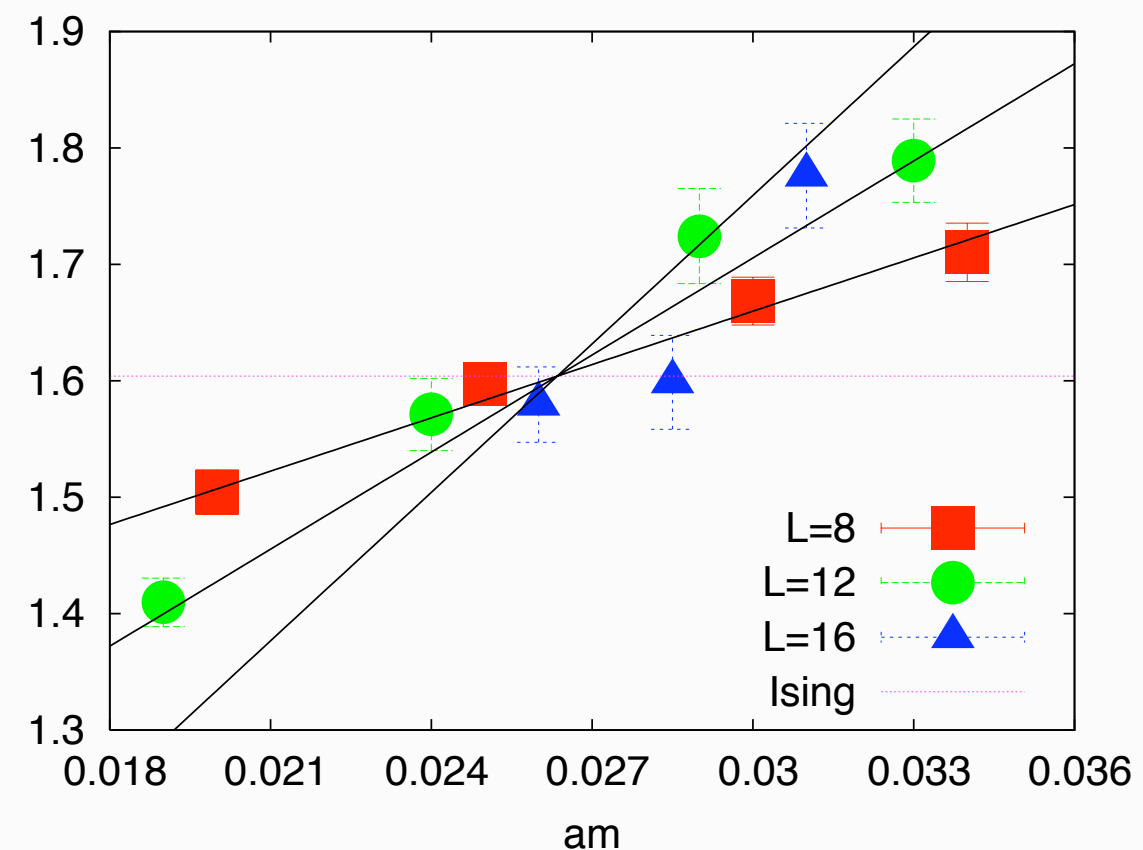
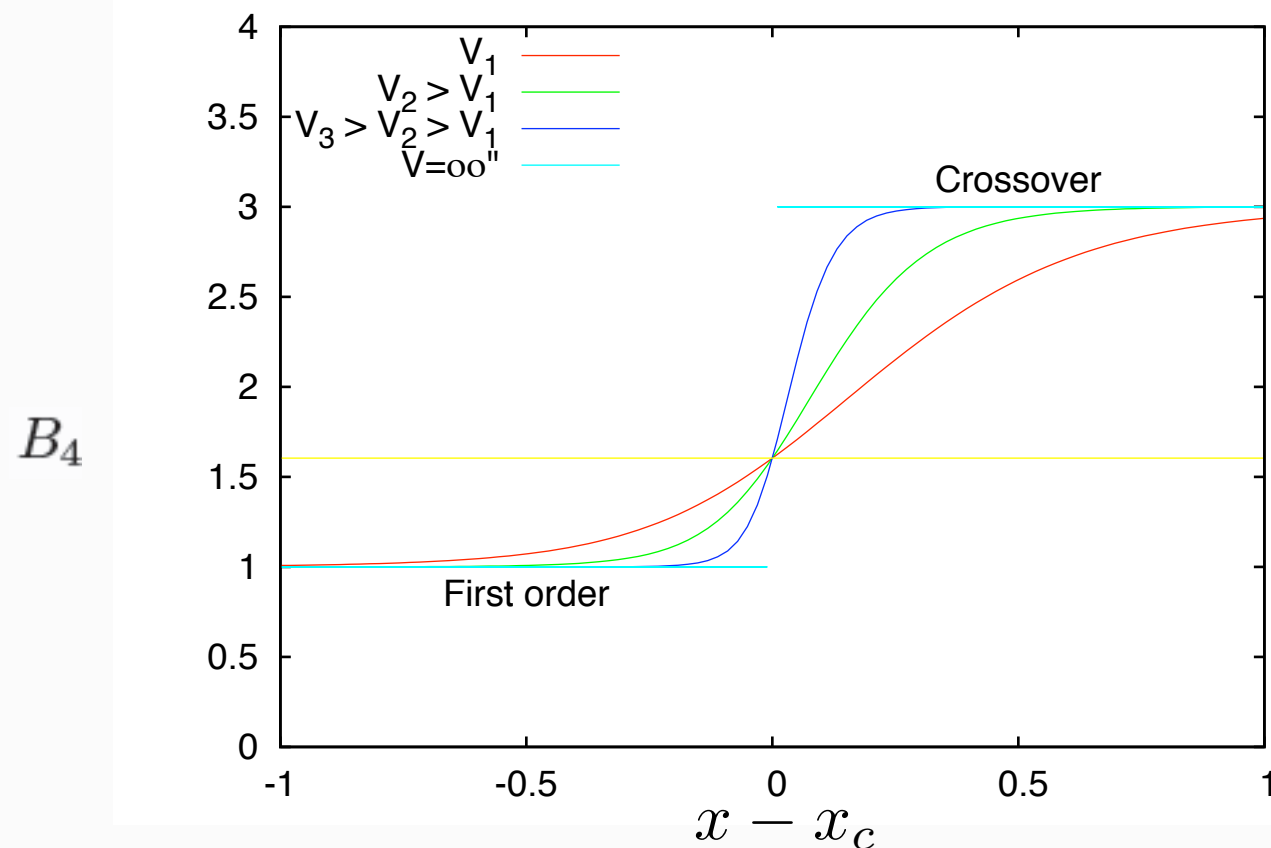
$N_f=3$ :

$$\frac{m_c(\mu)}{m_c(0)} = 1 - 3.3(3) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T} \right)^2 - 47(20) \left( \frac{\mu}{\pi T} \right)^4 - \dots$$

# How to identify the order of the phase transition

$$B_4(\bar{\psi}\psi) \equiv \frac{\langle (\delta\bar{\psi}\psi)^4 \rangle}{\langle (\delta\bar{\psi}\psi)^2 \rangle^2} \xrightarrow{V \rightarrow \infty} \begin{cases} 1.604 & \text{3d Ising} \\ 1 & \text{first - order} \\ 3 & \text{crossover} \end{cases}$$

$\mu = 0$ :  $B_4(m, L) = 1.604 + bL^{1/\nu}(m - m_0^c), \quad \nu = 0.63$



parameter along phase boundary,  $T = T_c(x)$

# 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

Roberge, Weiss

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

## Imaginary $\mu$ phase diagram:

Z(3)-transitions:  $\bar{\mu}_i^c = \frac{2\pi}{3} \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$

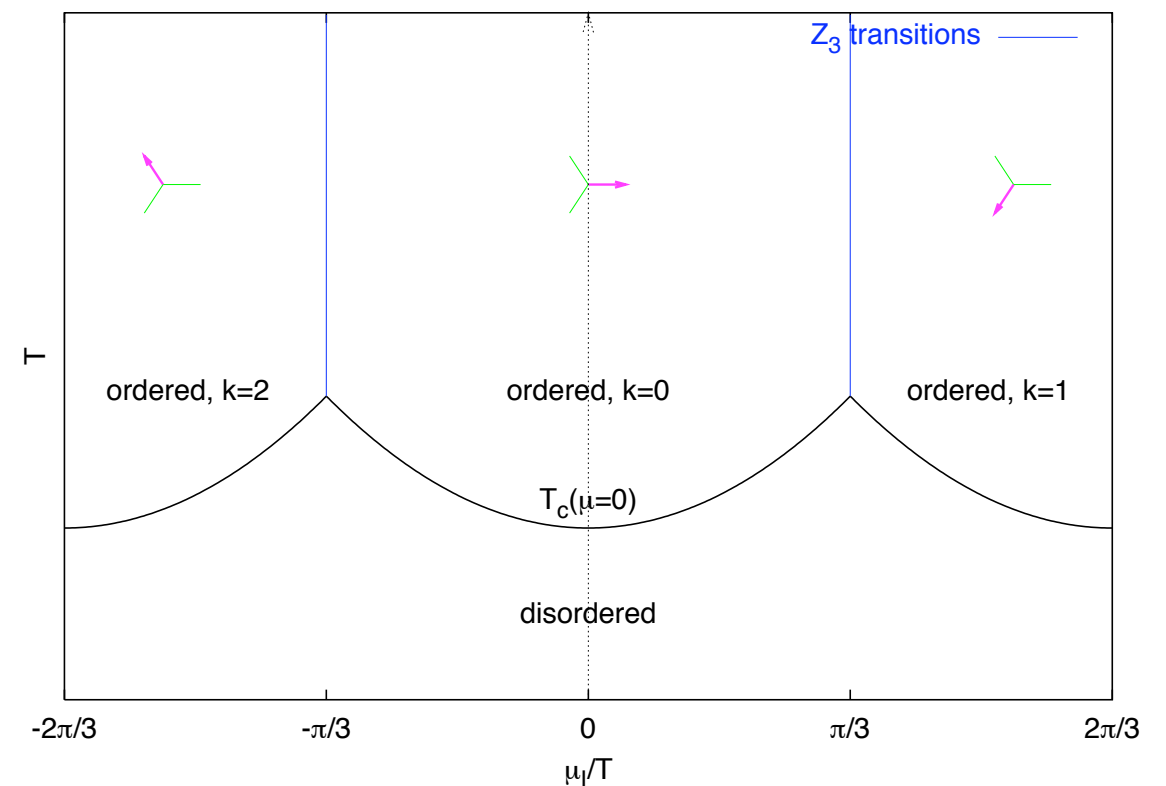
1st order for high T, crossover for low T

analytic continuation within:

$$|\mu|/T \leq \pi/3 \Rightarrow \mu_B \lesssim 550 \text{ MeV}$$

So far:

$$\langle O \rangle = \sum_n^N c_n \bar{\mu}_i^{2n} \Rightarrow \mu_i \longrightarrow -i\mu_i$$



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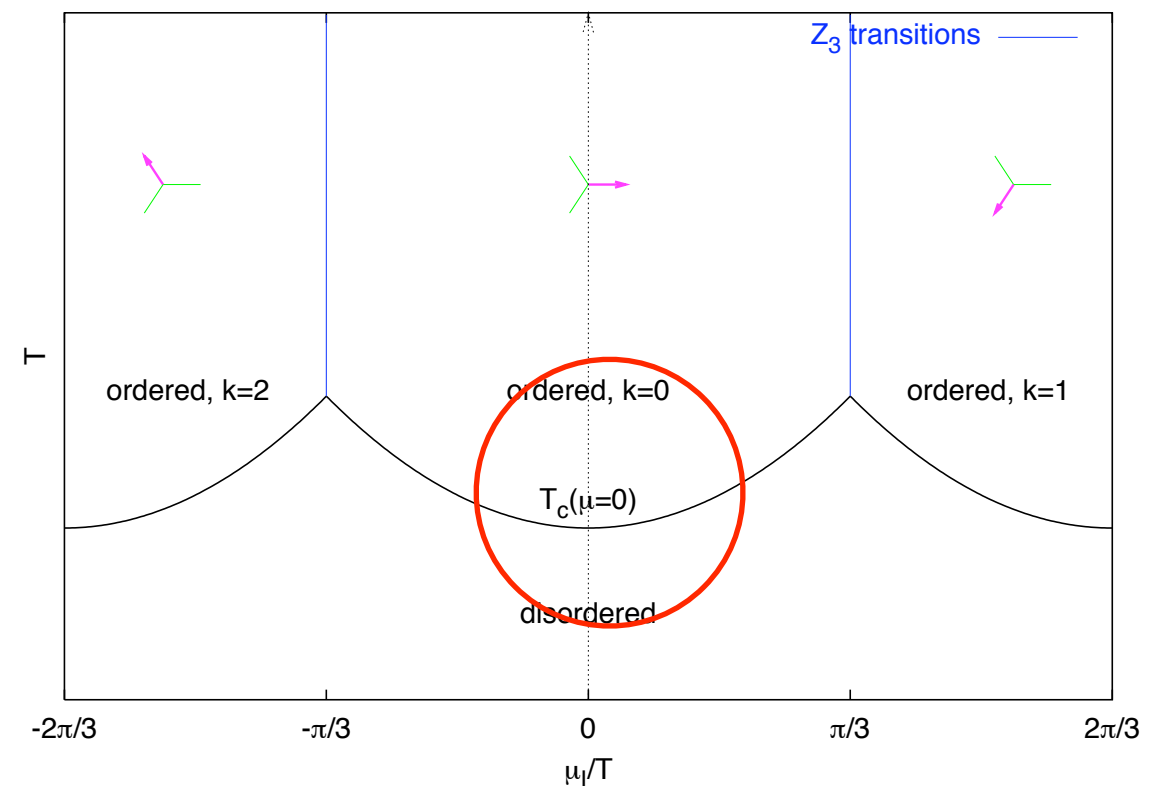
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chiral/deconf. transition

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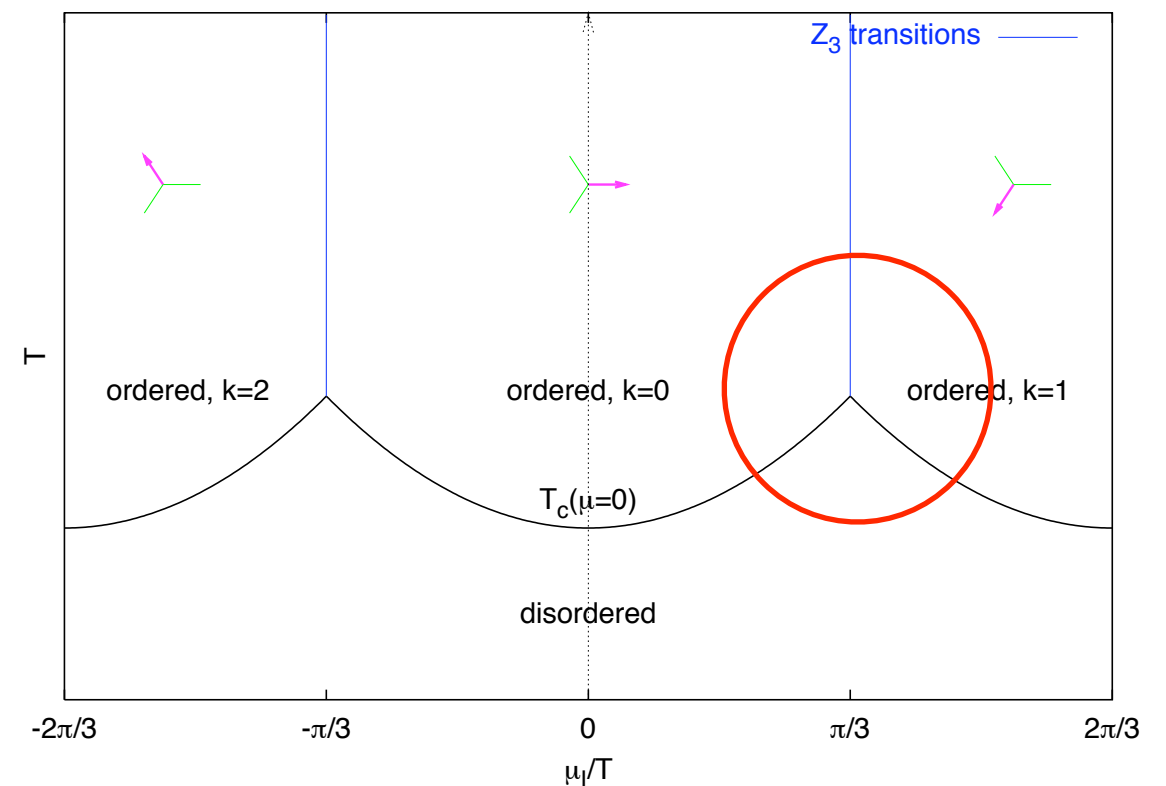
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Now:

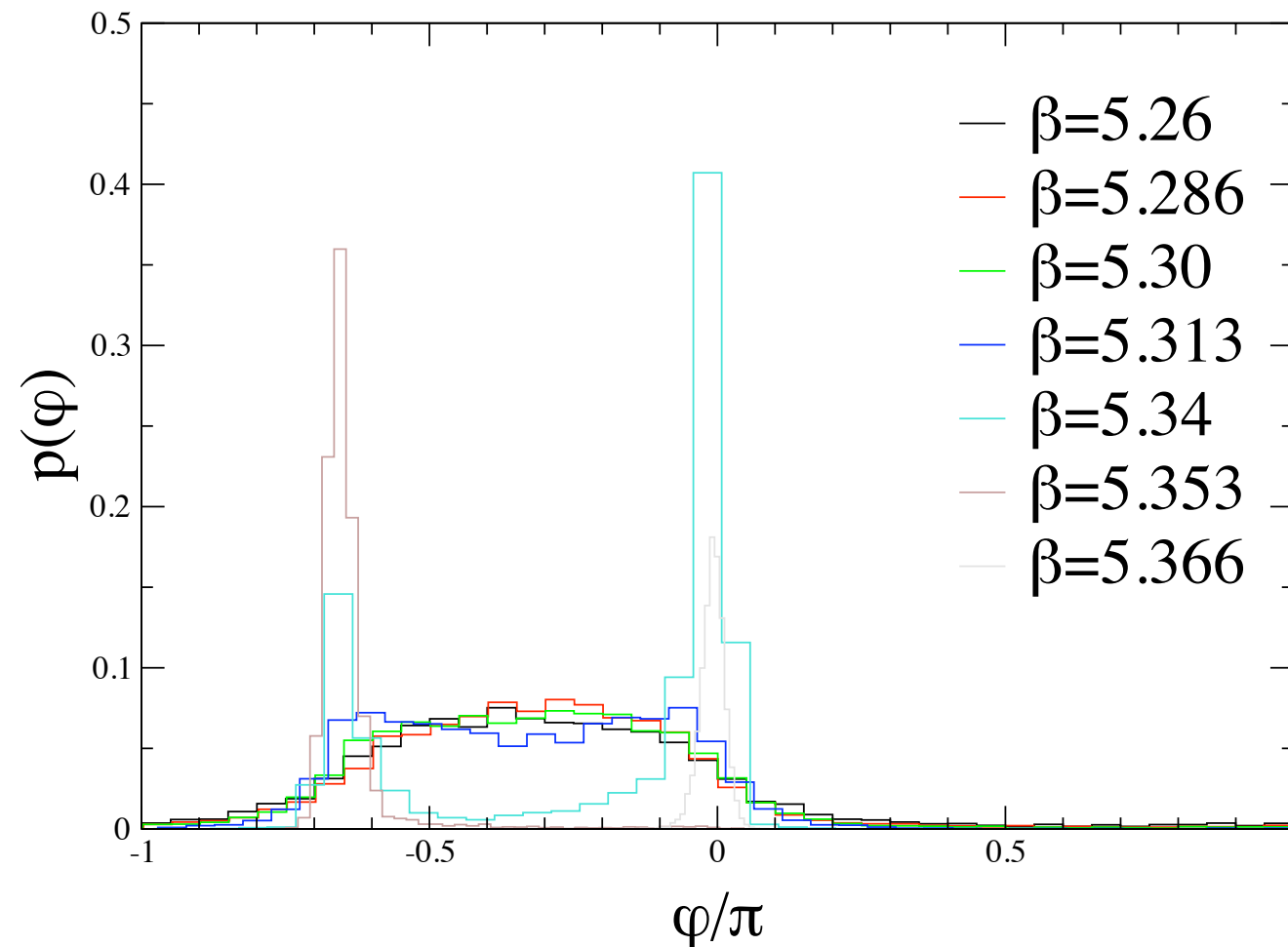
endpoint/junction of Z(3) transition

# The $Z(3)$ transition numerically

Nf=2: de Forcrand, O.P. 02

Nf=4: D'Elia, Lombardo 03

Sectors characterised by phase of Polyakov loop:  $\langle L(x) \rangle = |\langle L(x) \rangle| e^{i\varphi}$



Low T: crossover

High T: first order p.t.



# The nature of the $Z(3)$ end points

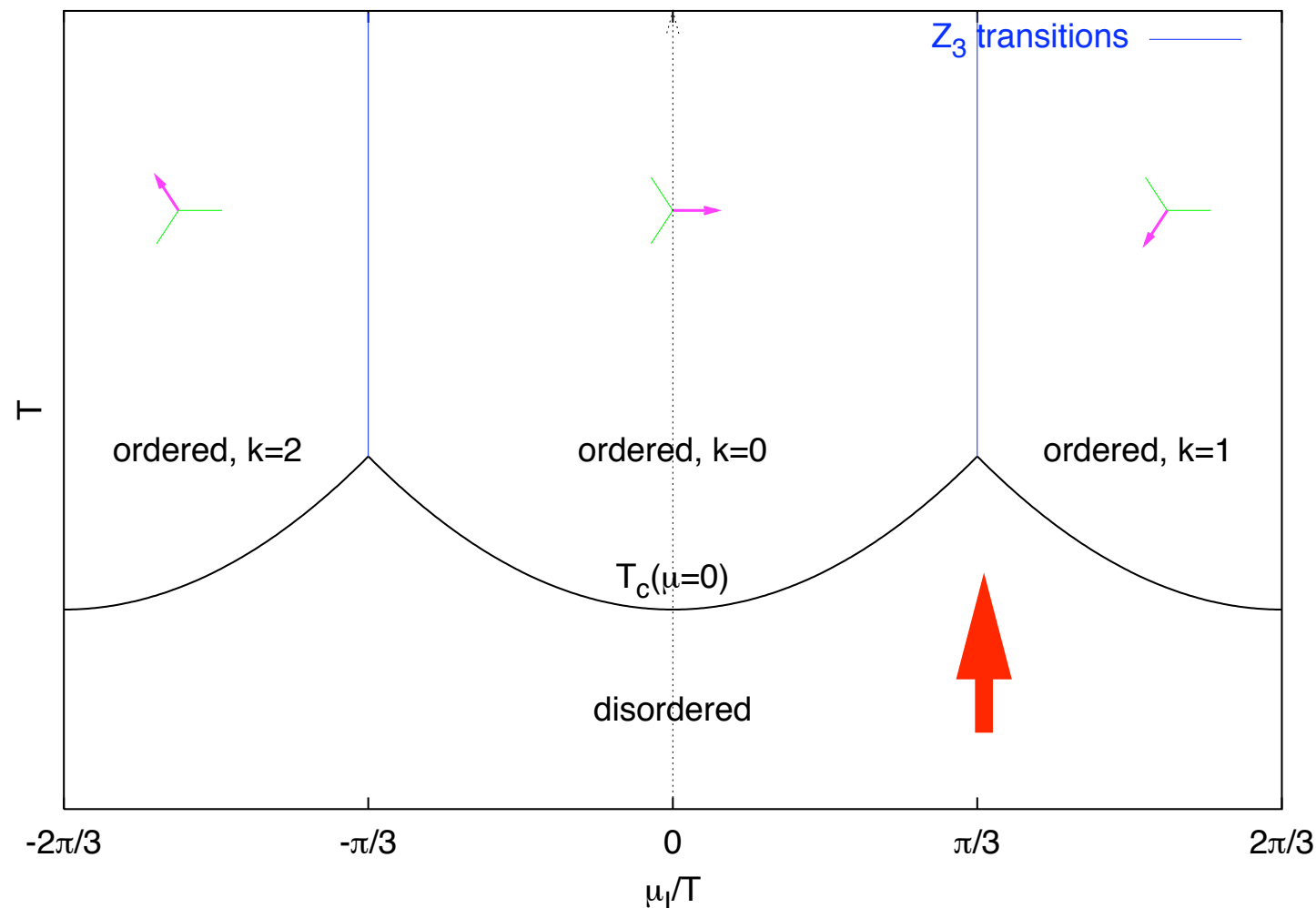
Nf=4: D'Elia, Di Renzo, Lombardo 07

Nf=2: D'Elia, Sanfilippo 09

Here: Nf=3

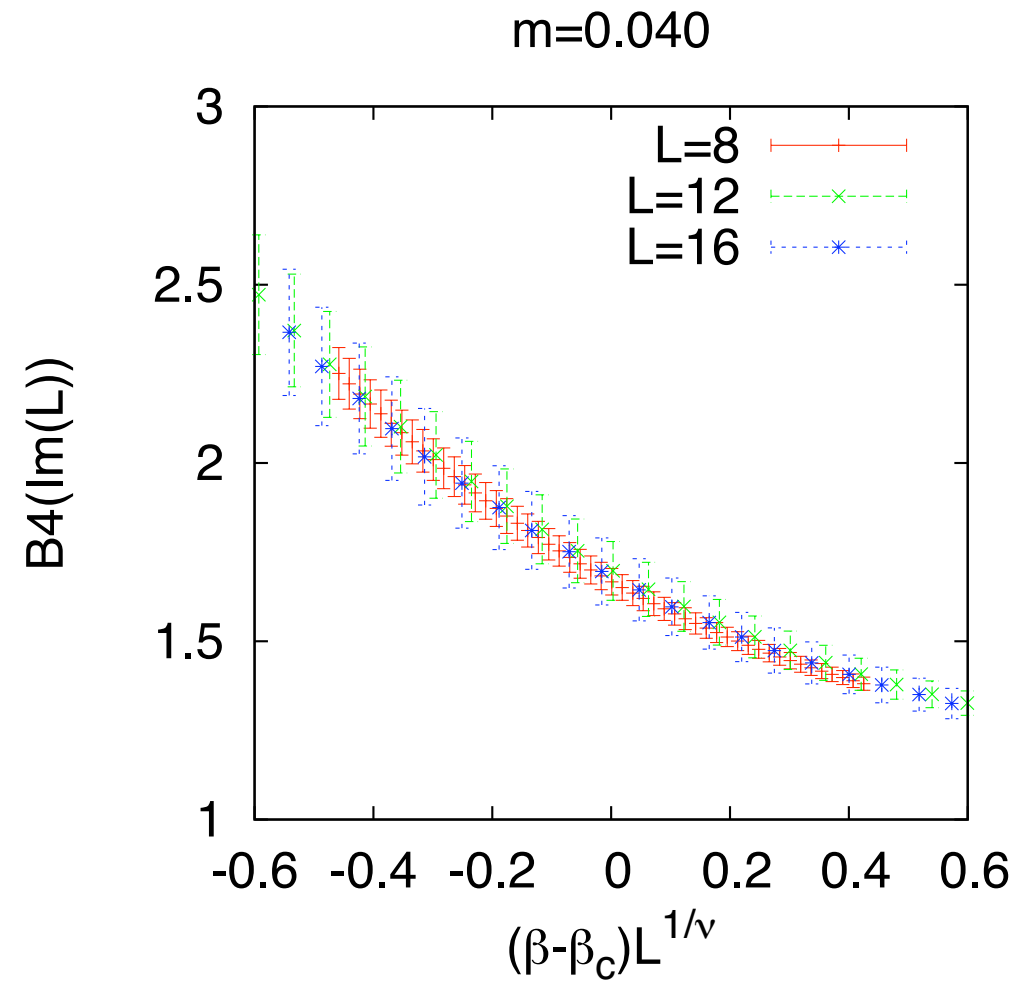
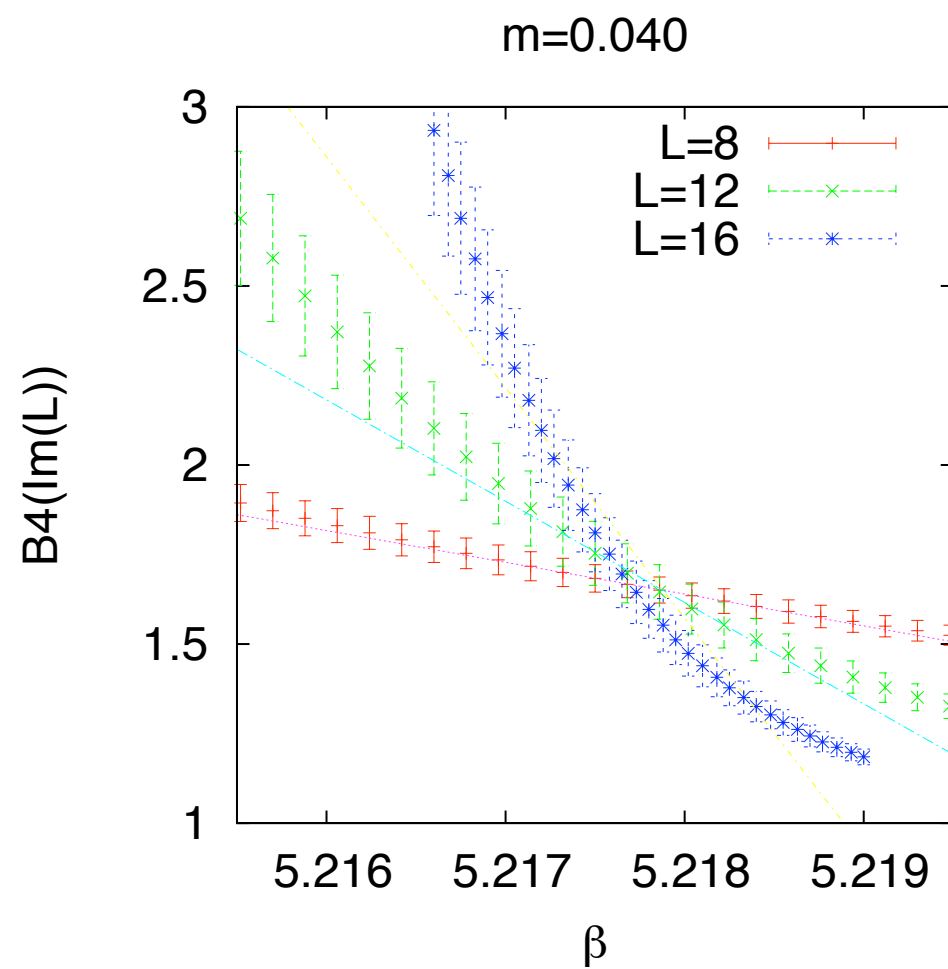
Strategy: fix  $\frac{\mu_i}{T} = \frac{\pi}{3}, \pi$ , measure  $\text{Im}(L)$ , order parameter at  $\frac{\mu_i}{T} = \pi$

determine order of  $Z(3)$  branch/end point as function of  $m$



$$B_4 = \frac{\langle \delta \text{Im}(L)^4 \rangle}{\langle \delta \text{Im}(L)^2 \rangle^2}$$

# Results:



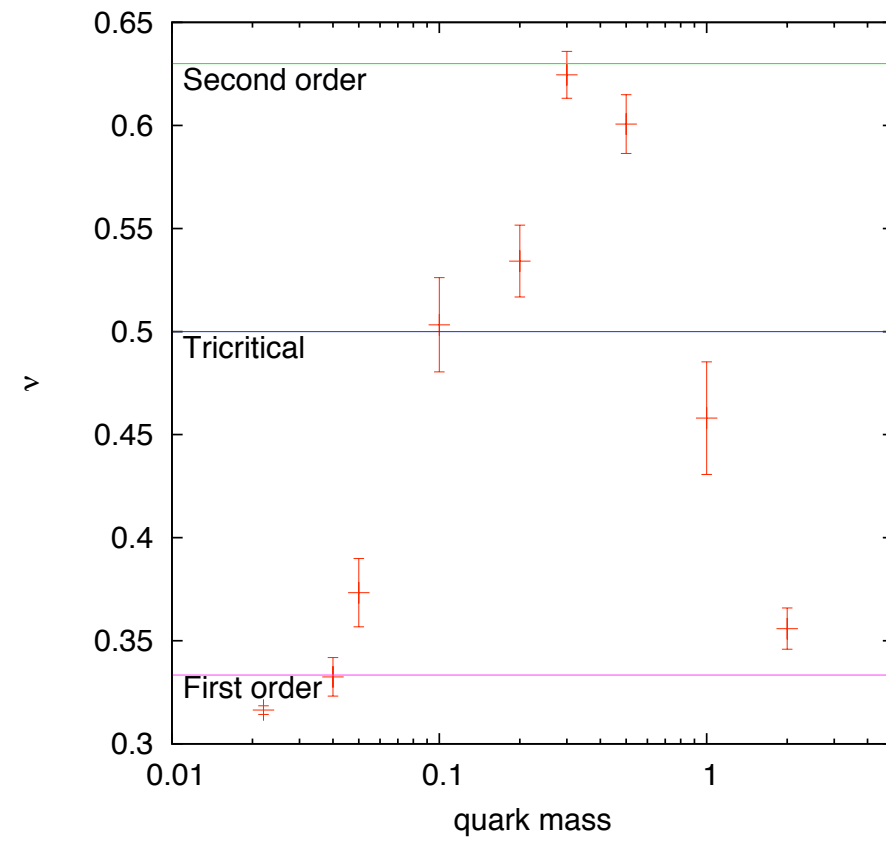
$$\nu = 0.33$$

$$B_4(\beta, L) = B_4(\beta_c, \infty) + C_1(\beta - \beta_c)L^{1/\nu} + C_2(\beta - \beta_c)^2L^{2/\nu} \dots$$

$B_4$  at intersection has large finite size corrections (well known),  $\nu$  more stable

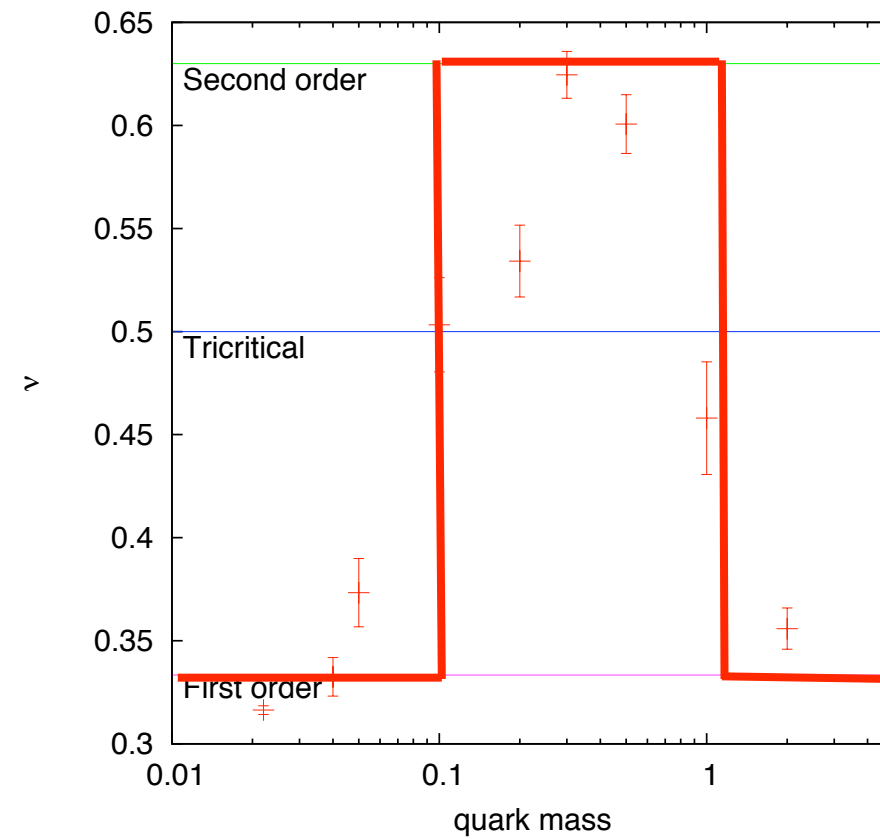
$$\nu = 0.33, 0.5, 0.63$$

for 1st order, tri-critical, 3d Ising scaling



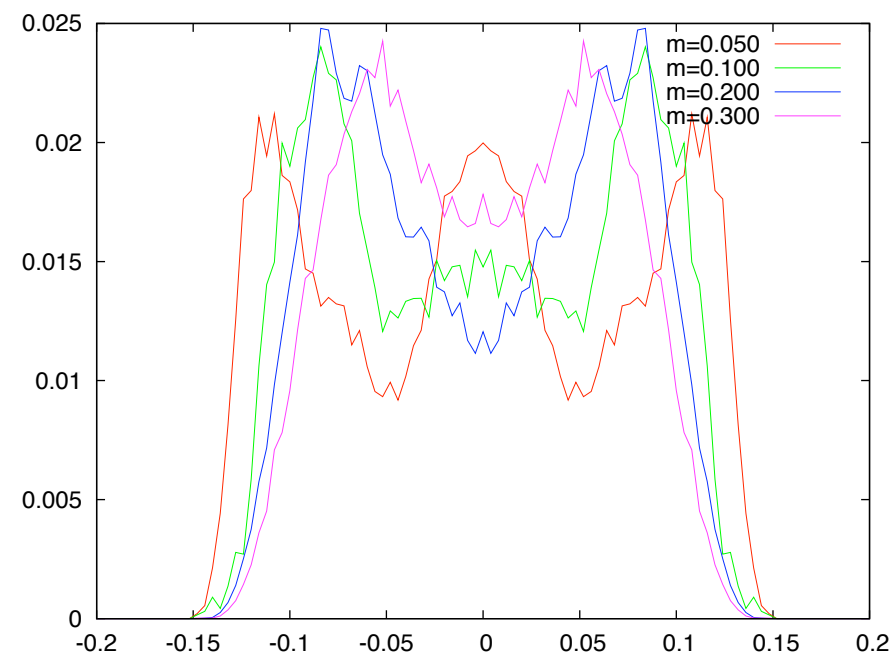
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for 1st order, tri-critical, 3d Ising scaling



On infinite volume, this becomes a step function, smoothness due to finite L

# Details of RW-point: distribution of $\text{Im}(L)$



Small+large masses: three-state coexistence

triple point

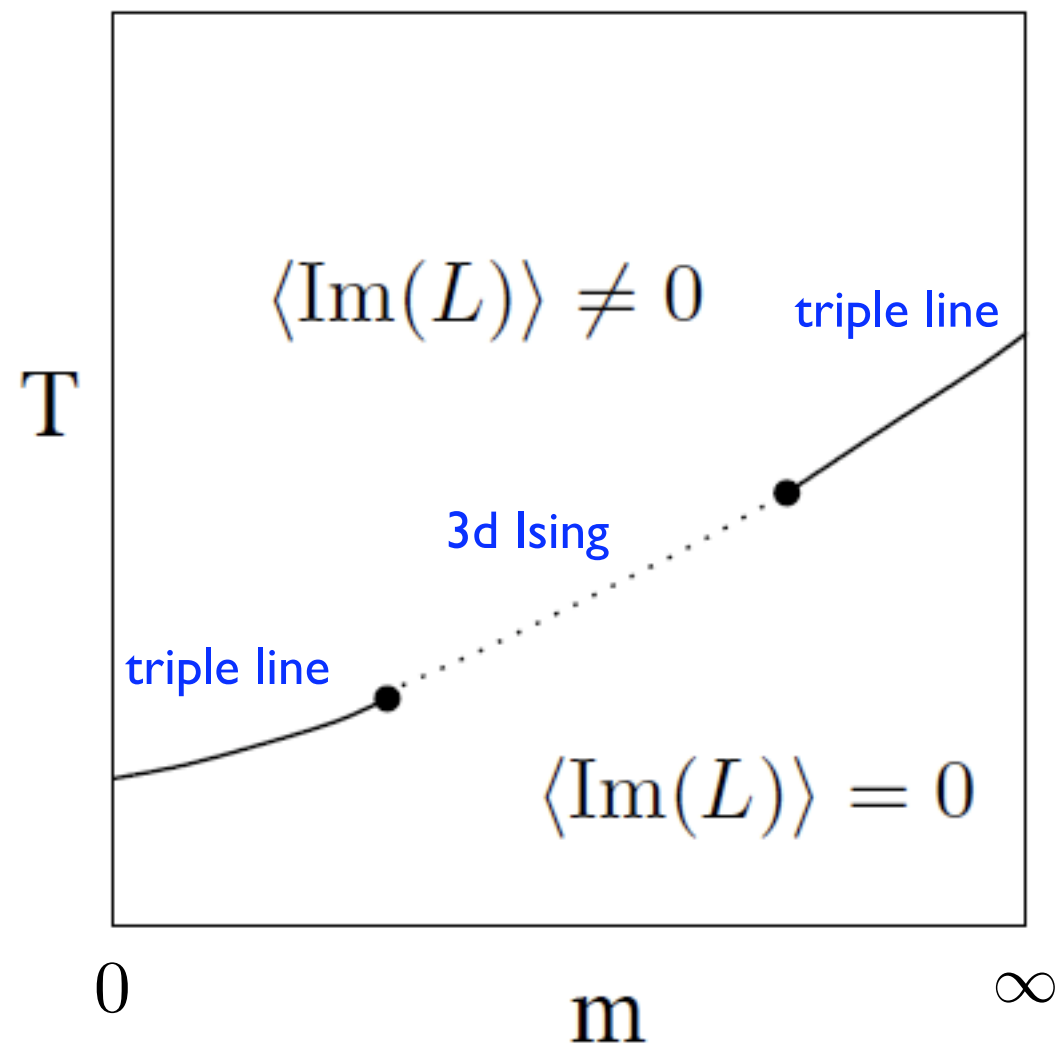
Intermediate masses: middle peak disappears

Ising distribution in magn. direction



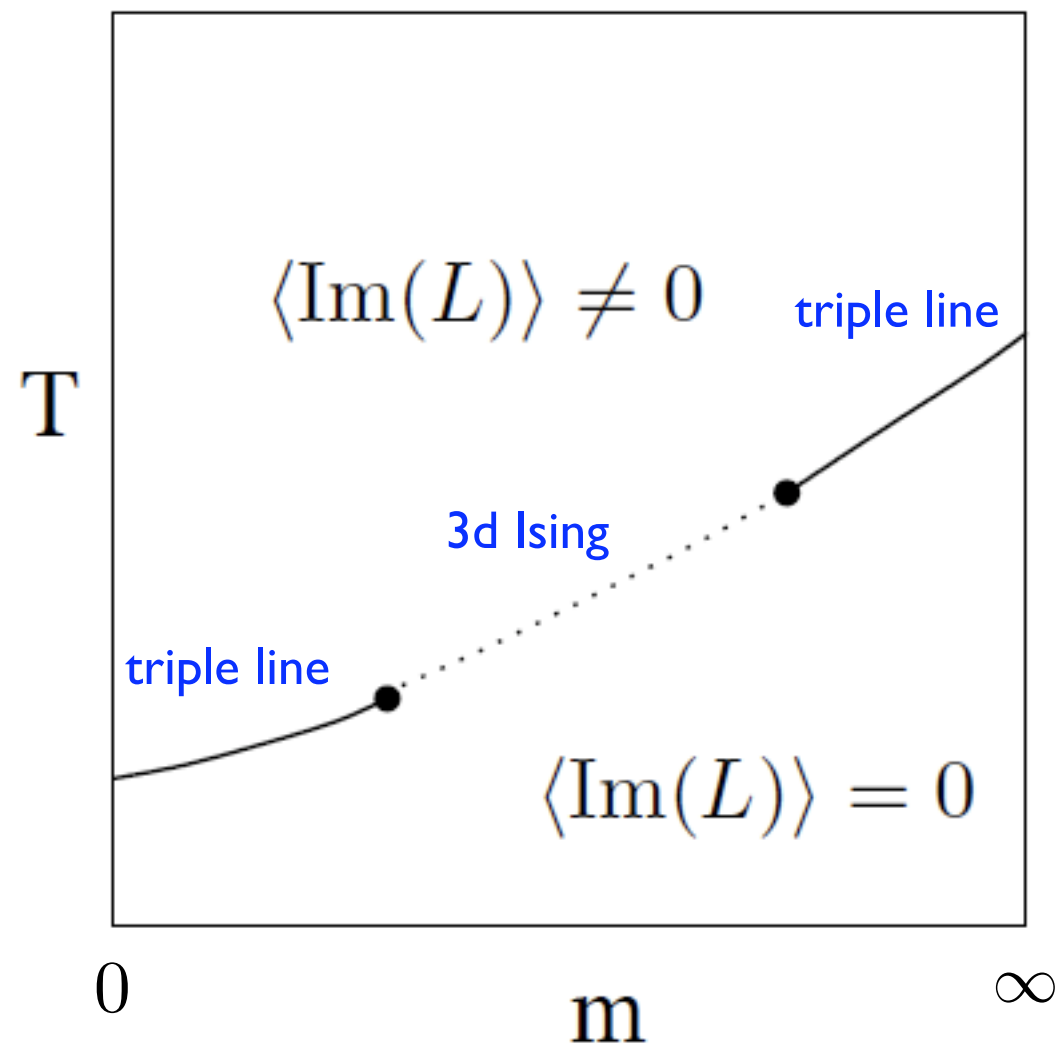
tri-critical point in between!

# Phase diagram at $\mu = i\frac{\pi T}{3}$



Nf=2, light and intermediate masses: 1st and 3d Ising behaviour D'Elia, Sanfilippo 09

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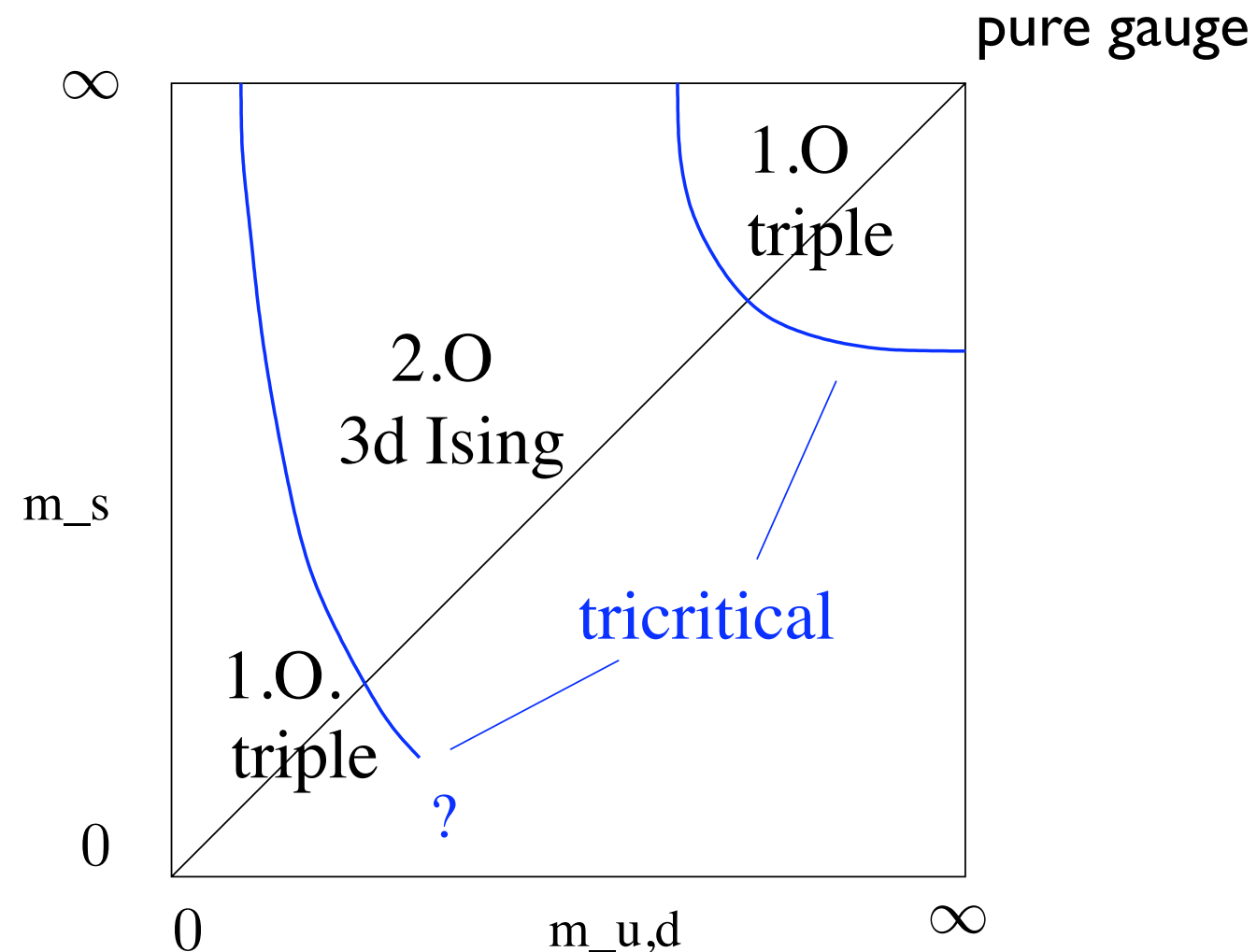


## Cut-off effects?

- location of lines, tric. points strongly affected
- qualitative structure stable, **universality!**  
(up to tric. points merging or on boundary?)

Nf=2, light and intermediate masses: 1st and 3d Ising behaviour D'Elia, Sanfilippo 09

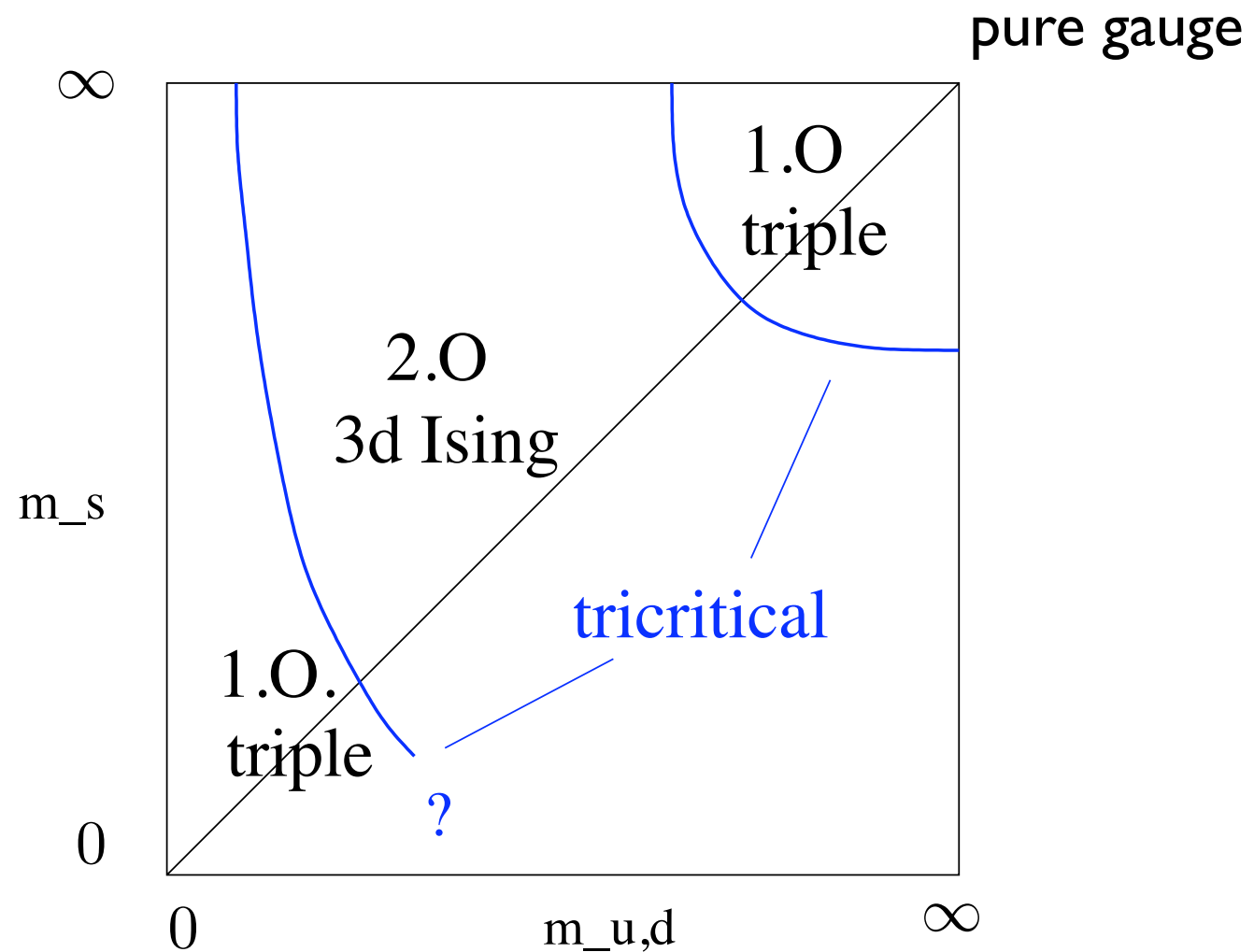
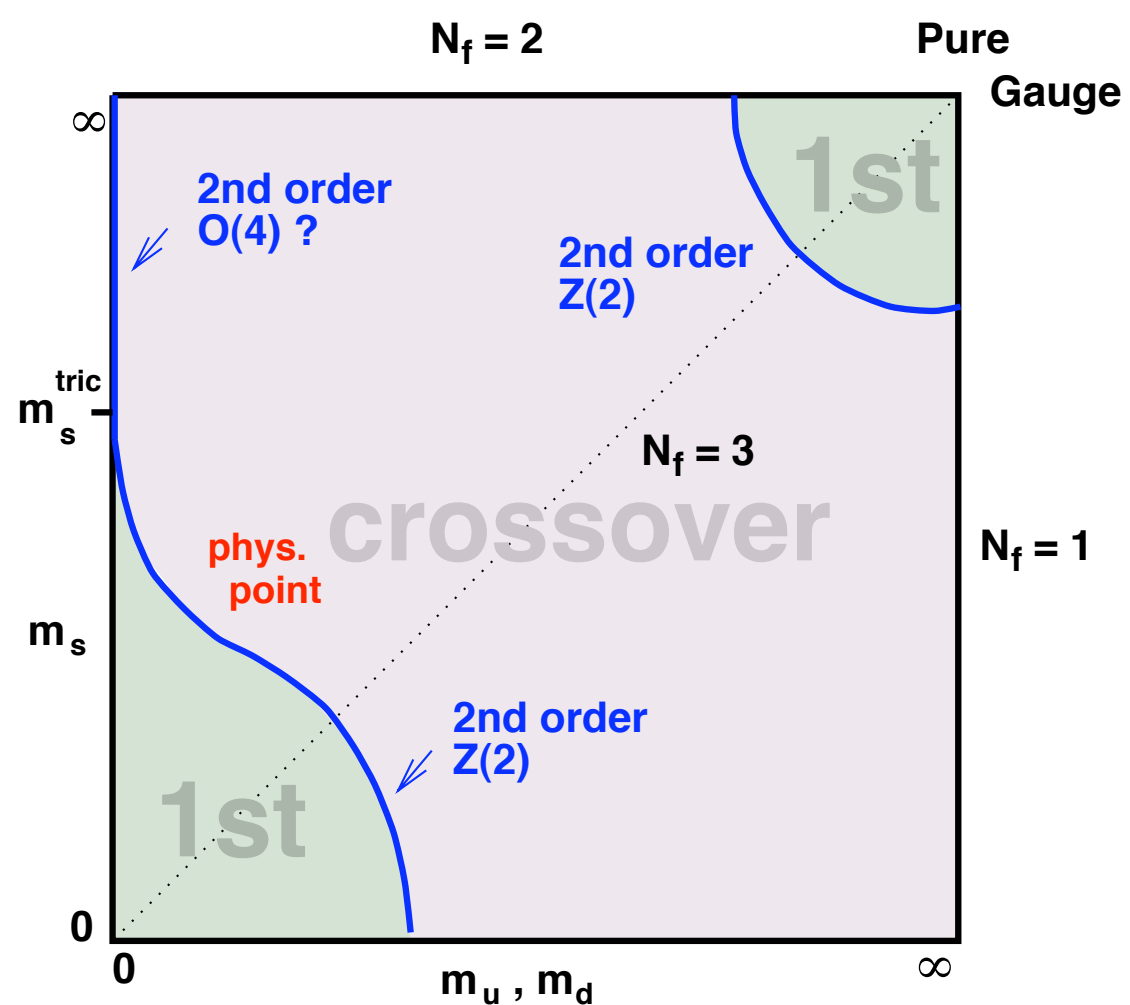
# Generalisation: nature of the $Z(3)$ endpoint for $N_f=2+1$



- Diagram computable with standard Monte Carlo, continuum limit feasible!
- Benchmarks for PNJL, chiral models etc.



# Connection with zero and real $\mu$



$$\mu = 0$$

$$\mu = i \frac{\pi T}{3}$$

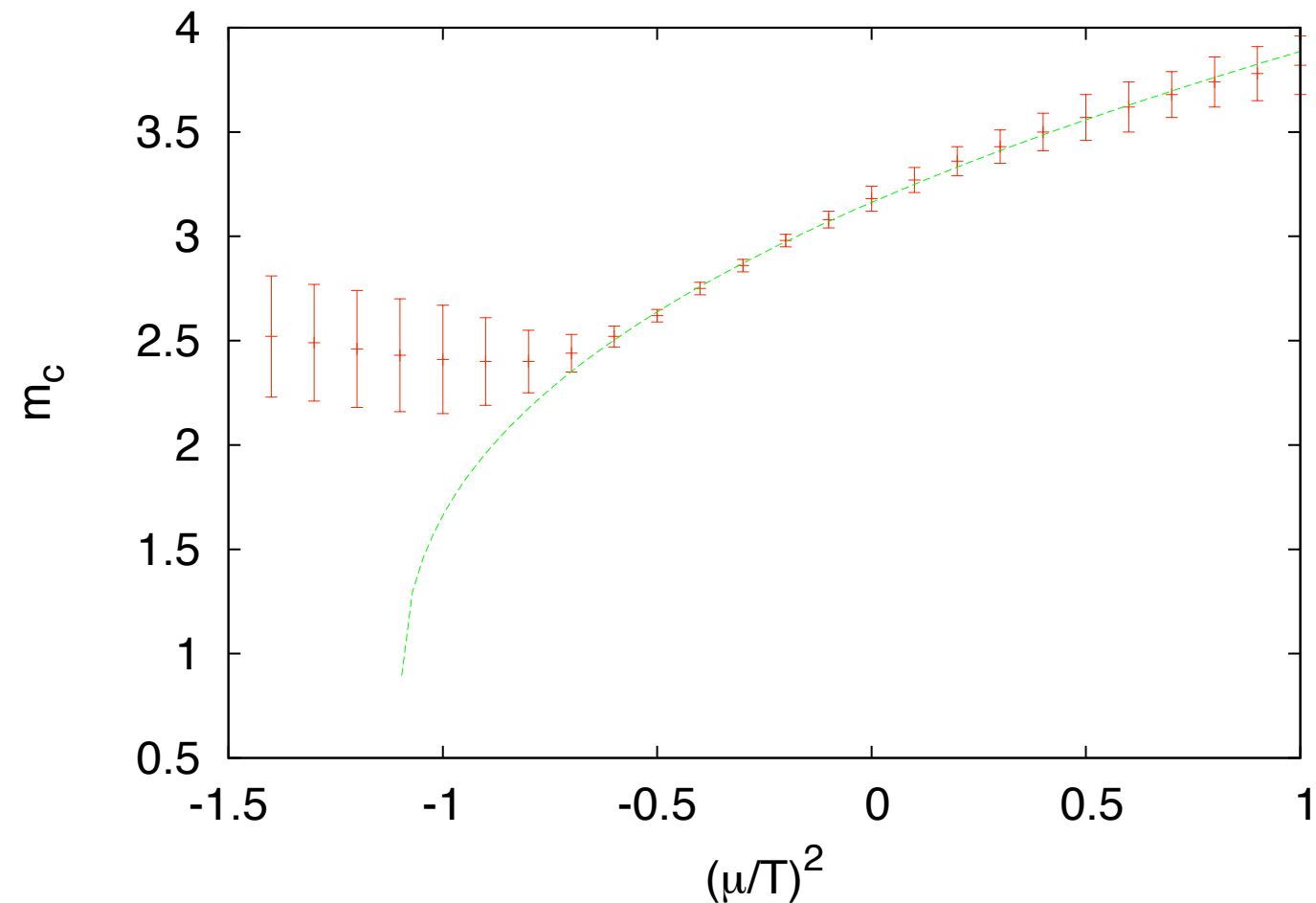
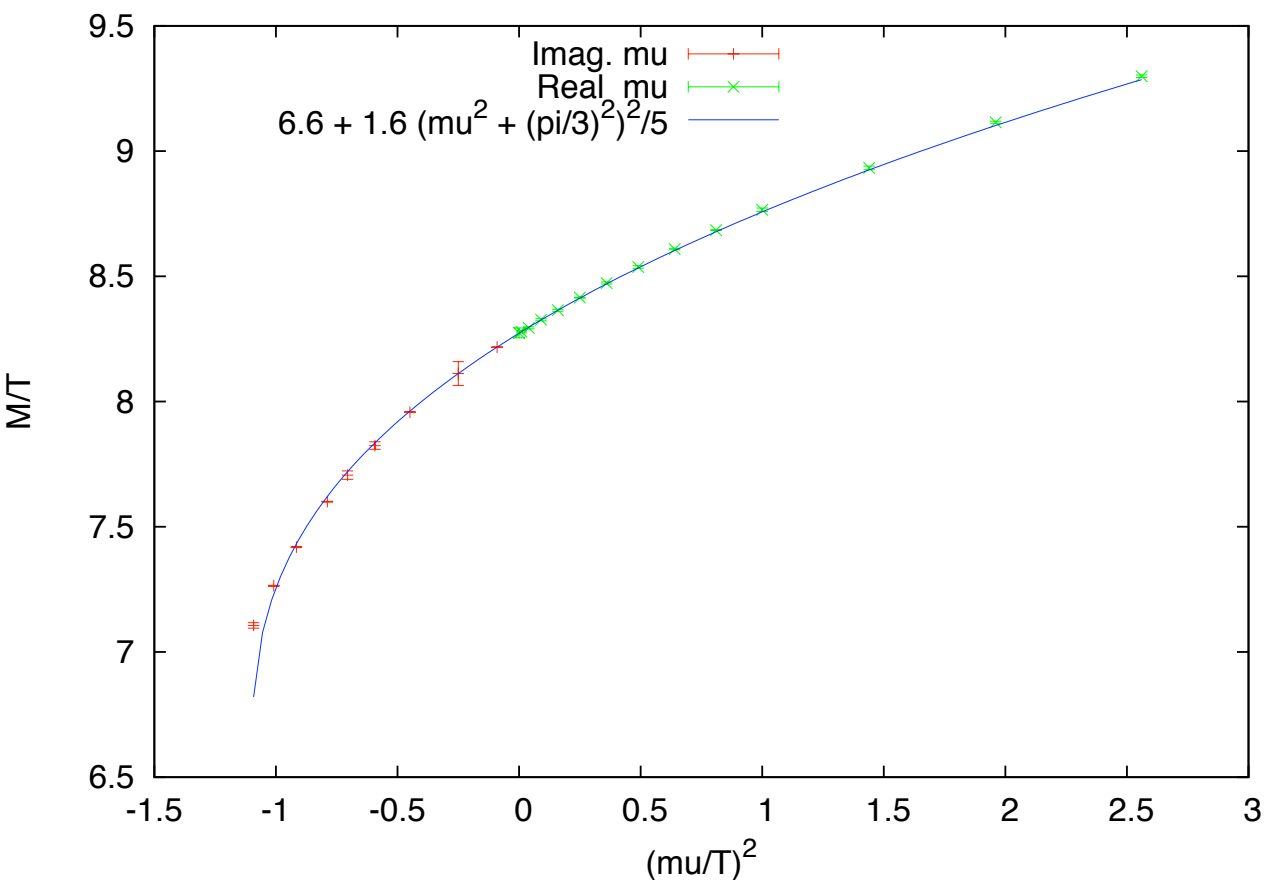
- Connection computable with standard Monte Carlo!
- Here: heavy quarks in eff. theory

$m \rightarrow \infty$ : QCD  $\rightarrow$  theory of Polyakov lines  $\rightarrow$  universality class of 3d 3-state Potts model  
(3d Ising,  $Z(2)$ )

small  $\mu/T$ : sign problem mild, doable for **real  $\mu$ !**

Potts, Monte Carlo:  
de Forcrand, Kim, Kratochvila, Takaishi 05

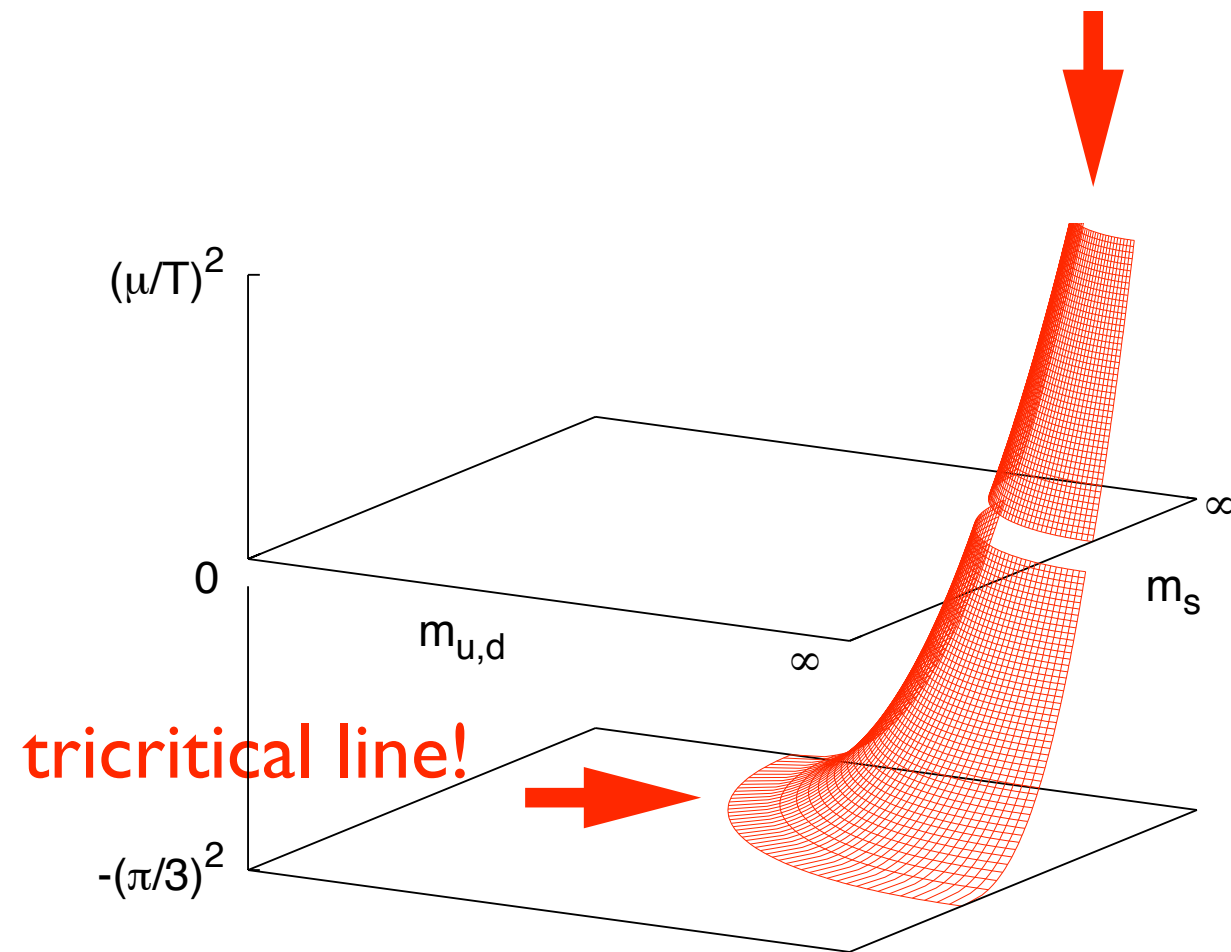
QCD,  $N_t=1$ , strong coupling series:  
Langelage, O.P. 09



**tri-critical scaling:**  $\frac{m_c}{T}(\mu^2) = \frac{m_{tric}}{T} + K \left[ \left( \frac{\pi}{3} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\mu}{T} \right)^2 \right]^{2/5}$  **exponent universal**

# Deconfinement critical surface for heavy quarks

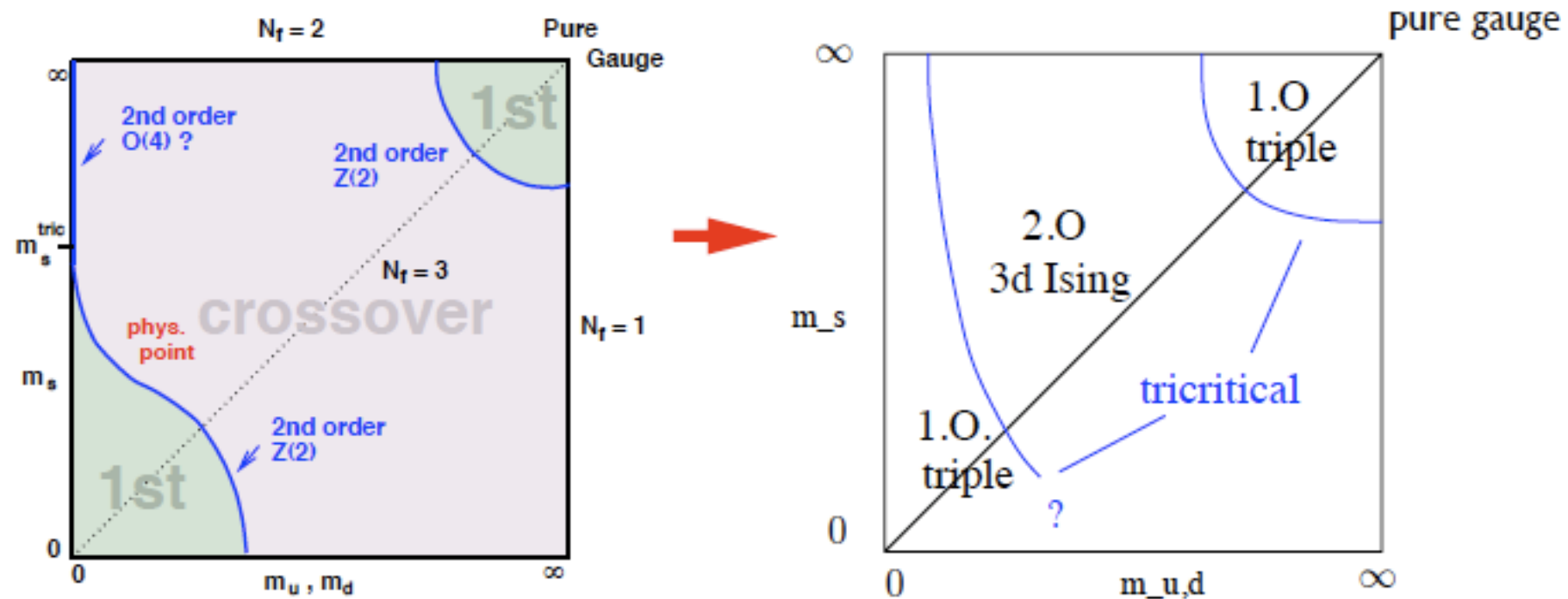
shape determined by tric. scaling!



# Chiral critical surface?

Check for tri-critical scaling possible by extensive simulations

Know now:



$$m_c(\mu = 0) < m_{tric}(\mu = i\pi T/3)$$

Consistent with 1st order region shrinking with real chemical potential!

Independent confirmation of earlier simulations!

# Conclusions

- $Z(3)$  transition at imaginary chem. pot. connects with chiral/deconf. transition
- Deconfinement and chiral critical surfaces end in tri-critical lines
- Curvature of deconfinement critical surface determined by tri-critical scaling!
- Chiral critical surface: to be checked, but first order shrinking for real chem. pot.
- Physical QCD: **no chiral critical point for moderate chemical potentials!**