

Degrees of freedom in various charm subsectors from Lattice QCD

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Motivation

- ▶ Strong interaction matter undergoes a chiral crossover at $T_{pc} = 156.5 \pm 1.5$ MeV.
[HotQCD Collaboration, 2019; Borsanyi et al., 2020; Kotov et al., 2021]
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- ▶ Questions which heavy-ion experiments aim to answer:
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 - do charm quarks start appearing at T_{pc} or not.
- ▶ Charm fluctuations (cumulants) calculated in the framework of Lattice QCD can receive enhanced contributions due the existence of not-yet-discovered open-charm states; it is possible to compare this enhancement to the HRG calculations.

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- ▶ Boltzmann approximation is good in the charm sector not just for mesons and baryons but also for a charm-quark gas.

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- ▶ $\hat{\mu}_X = \mu/T$, $X \in \{B, Q, S, C\}$.

Generalized susceptibilities of the conserved charges

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- ▶ $K_2(x) \sim \sqrt{\pi/2x} e^{-x} [1 + \mathcal{O}(x^{-1})]$. If $m_i \gg T$, then contribution to P_C will be exponentially suppressed.
- ▶ Λ_c^+ mass ~ 2286 MeV, Ξ_{cc}^{++} mass ~ 3621 MeV. At T_{pc} , contribution to B_C from Ξ_{cc}^{++} will be suppressed by a factor of 10^{-4} in relation to Λ_c^+ .

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- ▶ Dimensionless generalized susceptibilities of conserved charges:

$$\chi_{klmn}^{BQSC} = \frac{\partial^{(k+l+m+n)} [P(\hat{\mu}_B, \hat{\mu}_Q, \hat{\mu}_S, \hat{\mu}_C) / T^4]}{\partial \hat{\mu}_B^k \partial \hat{\mu}_Q^l \partial \hat{\mu}_S^m \partial \hat{\mu}_C^n} \Big|_{\vec{\mu}=0}$$

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- ▶ Dimensionless generalized susceptibilities of conserved charges are given by,

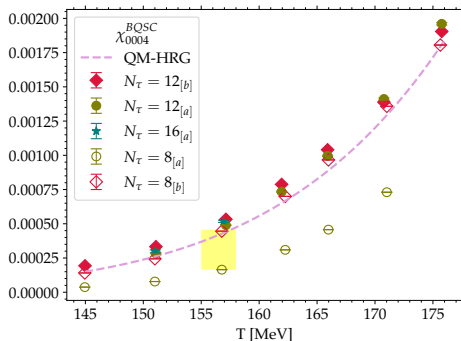
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- ▶ $\chi_{mn}^{BC} = B_{C,1} + 2^n B_{C,2} + 3^n B_{C,3} \simeq B_{C,1}$

$$\chi_{m00n}^{BQSC}$$

- ▶ At present, we have gone upto fourth order in calculating various cumulants.

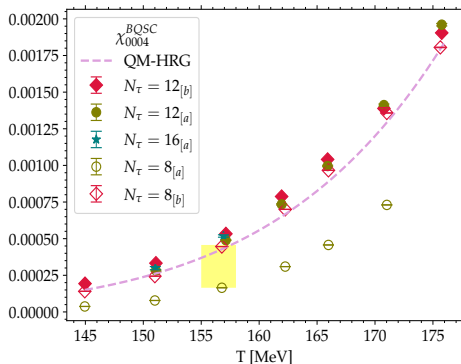
Continuum limit



► Two different LCPs:

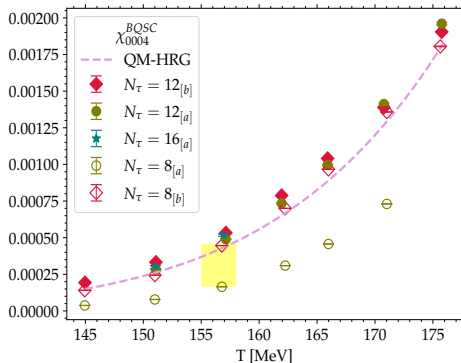
a) charmonium mass, b) m_c/m_s

Continuum limit



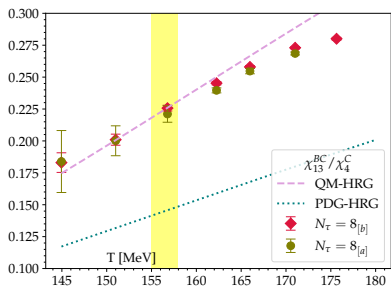
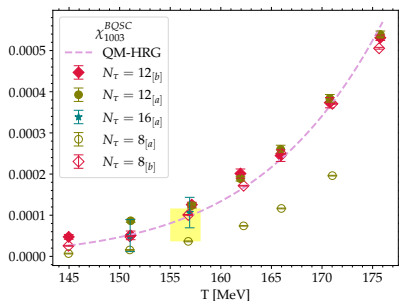
- ▶ Absolute predictions in the charm sector are particularly sensitive to the precise tuning of the bare input quark masses.

Continuum limit



- ▶ Absolute predictions in the charm sector are particularly sensitive to the precise tuning of the bare input quark masses.
- ▶ Different hadrons have different lattice-cut off effects, therefore, taking the continuum limit is mandatory.

Ratios calculated using different LCPs



- Sensitivity to the choice of LCP cancels to a large extent in the ratios
 \implies stick to the ratios.

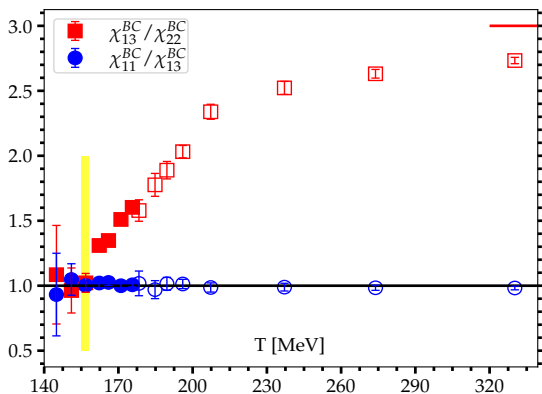
Ratios independent of the hadron spectrum

- ▶ Irrespective of the details of the baryon mass spectrum, in the validity range of HRG, $\chi_{mn}^{\text{BC}}/\chi_{kl}^{\text{BC}} = 1$, $\forall (m+n), (k+l) \in \text{even}$.

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- ▶ $\chi_{1n}^{\text{BC}}/\chi_{1l}^{\text{BC}} = 1$, $\forall n, l \in \text{odd}$, for the entire temperature range.

Change in the charm degrees of freedom



- States with fractional B start appearing near T_{pc} . Is it possible to determine this fractional B?

Baryonic and mesonic contributions to P_C

In the low temperature range, where HRG works,

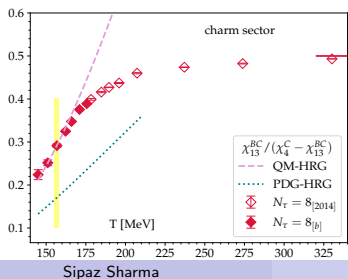
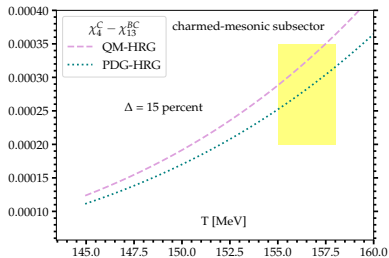
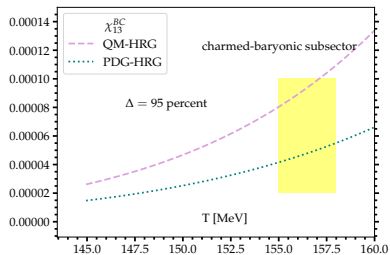
- ▶ χ_{13}^{BC} is the partial pressure from the charmed-baryonic subsector.
- ▶ $\chi_4^C - \chi_{13}^{BC}$ can be interpreted as the partial pressure from the charmed-mesonic subsector.

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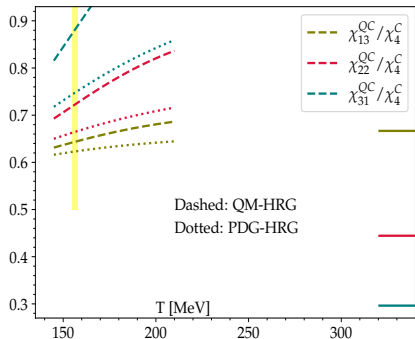
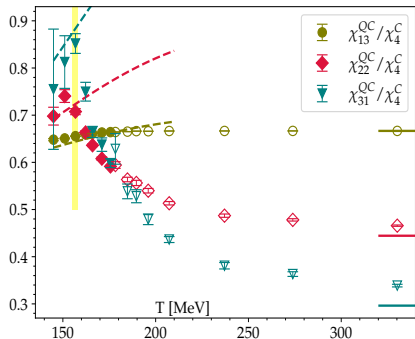
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- ▶ $\chi_4^{\text{C}} - \chi_{13}^{\text{BC}}$ can be interpreted as the partial pressure from the charmed-mesonic subsector.
- ▶ Unlike the previous quantities shown, ratios such as $\chi_{13}^{\text{BC}} / (\chi_4^{\text{C}} - \chi_{13}^{\text{BC}})$ will partially depend upon the hadron spectrum.

Ratios of baryonic and mesonic contributions to P_C



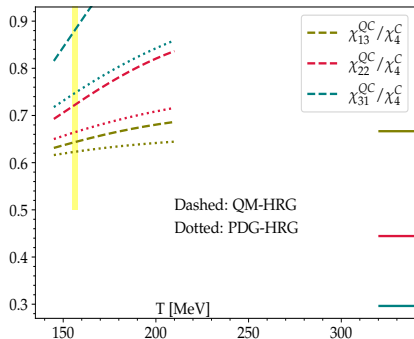
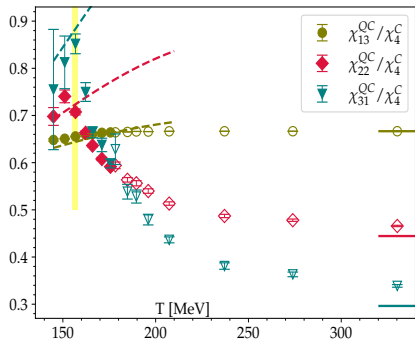
- ▶ Missing charmed-baryonic states below T_{pc} .
- ▶ $\Delta = (|1 - \text{QM-HRG}/\text{PDG-HRG}|)|_{T_{pc}}$

Electrically-charged-charm subsector



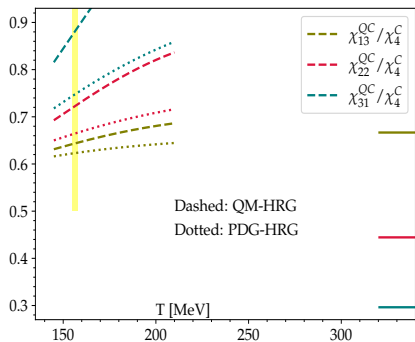
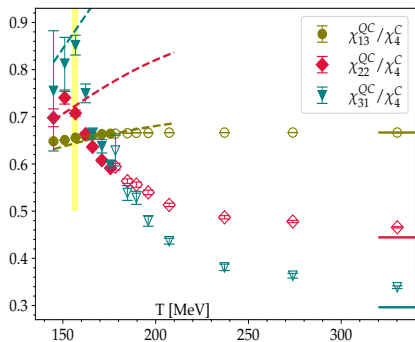
- ▶ With now available statistics, possibility of distinguishing $|Q| = 0, 1, 2$ charm subsectors in the hadronic phase.

Electrically-charged-charm subsector



- ▶ Ratio of QM-HRG/PDG-HRG increases with increasing Q -moments
 $\implies |Q| = 2$ sector more sensitive to 'missing resonances'.
- ▶ χ_{22}^{QC} and χ_{31}^{QC} give evidence for 'missing resonances'.

Electrically-charged-charm subsector

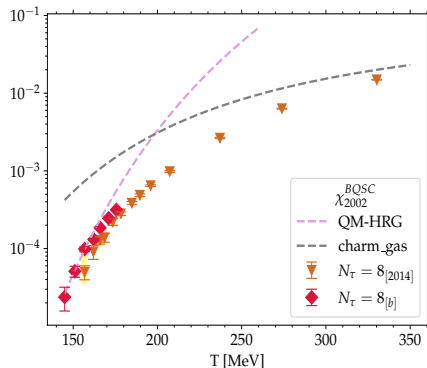
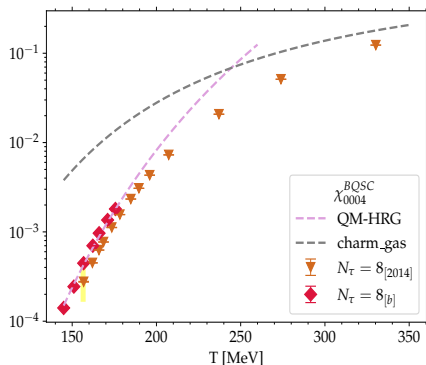


- ▶ Ratio of QM-HRG/PDG-HRG increases with increasing Q-moments.
- ▶ Close to freeze-out, an enhancement over the PDG expectation in the fractional contribution of the $|Q| = 2$ (Σ_c^{++}) charm subsector to the total charm partial pressure.

Approach to free charm-quark gas limit

$$P_c(T, \vec{\mu}) = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{m_c}{T} \right)^2 K_2(m_c/T) \cosh \left(\frac{2}{3} \hat{\mu}_Q + \frac{1}{3} \hat{\mu}_B + \hat{\mu}_C \right)$$

$$m_c = 1.27 \text{ GeV.}$$



Charm degrees of freedom in the intermediate T range

Quasi-particle model:

$$P^C(T, \hat{\mu}_C, \hat{\mu}_B)/T^4 = P_M^C(T) \cosh(\hat{\mu}_C) + P_B^C(T) \cosh(\hat{\mu}_C + \hat{\mu}_B) \\ + P_q^C(T) \cosh(\hat{\mu}_C + \hat{\mu}_B/3)$$

$$P_q^C = 9(\chi_{13}^{BC} - \chi_{22}^{BC})/2$$

$$P_B^C = (3\chi_{22}^{BC} - \chi_{13}^{BC})/2$$

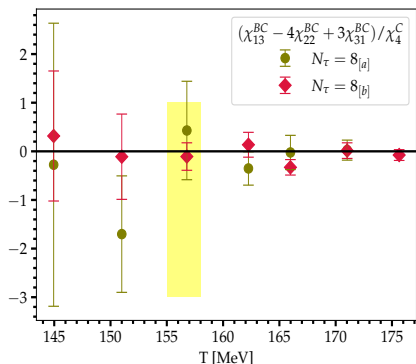
$$P_M^C = \chi_4^C + 3\chi_{22}^{BC} - 4\chi_{13}^{BC}$$

Constraint on cumulants in a simple quasi-particle model:

$$c = \chi_{13}^{BC} + 3\chi_{31}^{BC} - 4\chi_{22}^{BC} = 0$$

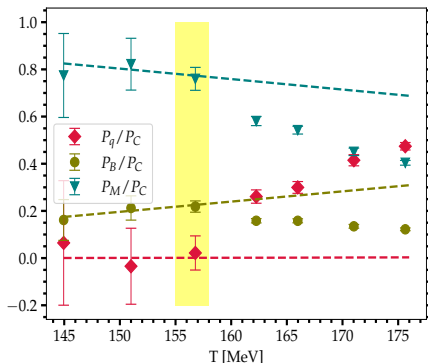
[S. Mukherjee et al., 2016]

Quasi-particle model



The constraint holds true \implies quasi-particle states with $B = 0, 1$ or $1/3$ exist in the intermediate temperature range.

Charm-quark-like excitations in QGP



Right after T_{pc} , P_q starts contributing to P_C , which is compensated by a reduction (and deviation from HRG) in the fractional contribution of the hadron-like states to P_C .

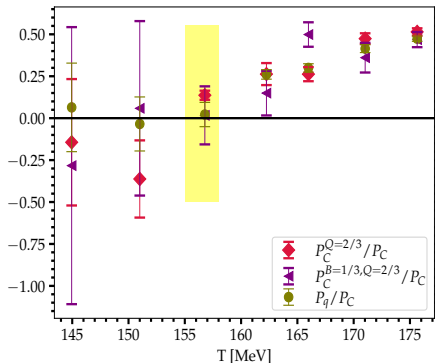
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Quantum numbers of the charm-quark like excitations in QGP?

$$P_C^{Q=2/3} = \frac{1}{8} [54\chi_{13}^{QC} - 81\chi_{22}^{QC} + 27\chi_{31}^{QC}] \quad (1)$$

$$P_C^{B=1/3, Q=2/3} = \frac{27}{4} [\chi_{112}^{BQC} - \chi_{211}^{BQC}] \quad (2)$$

Charm-quark-like excitations in QGP



Clear agreement between three independent observables which correspond to the partial pressures of

- $B = 1/3$, ii) $Q = 2/3$, and iii) $B = 1/3$ and $Q = 2/3$ charm subsectors.

Conclusions & Outlook

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 - Presence of charm-quark-like excitations in QGP.
 - No evidence for the existence of charmed diquarks above T_{pc} .
- ▶ Continuum limit with two different LCPs is in progress; it will enable us to make a statement based on the absolute cumulants.