Strong CP problem and axion on the lattice

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based on 1506.00370 with Nori Yamada (KEK)

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In the Standard Model,

all the possible renormalizable interactions are present in the Lagrangian,
except for one funny term called the θ term.

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta = \frac{i\theta}{32\pi^2}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\sigma\rho}\mathrm{tr}(F_{\mu\nu}F_{\rho\sigma}) = \frac{i\theta}{32\pi^2}F\tilde{F}$$

gluon field strength

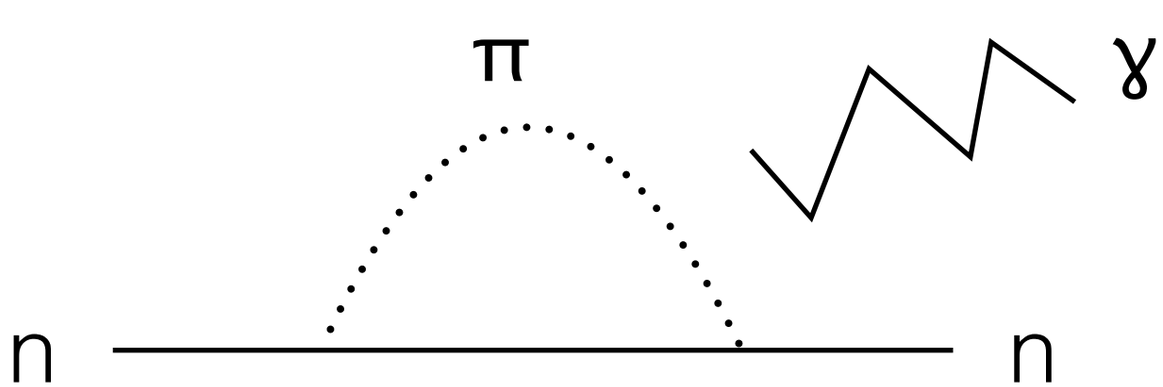
Maybe something deep is hiding behind this fact.

Strong CP problem

$$Z_{\mathrm{QCD}} = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] e^{-S_{\mathrm{QCD}}}$$

$$S_{\mathrm{QCD}} = \int d^4x \left(\frac{1}{4g^2} F^2 + \frac{i\theta}{32\pi^2} F\tilde{F} + \bar{\psi}(D+m)\psi \right)$$

θ term breaks CP



$$d_n \sim 10^{-15} \theta e \cdot \mathrm{cm}$$

$$\theta \lesssim 10^{-10}$$????

Is θ-term really physical?

—> Does the partition function Z depend on θ?

$$\frac{1}{iZ}\frac{dZ}{d\theta}\bigg|_{\theta=0} = \langle \int d^4x \frac{1}{32\pi^2} F\tilde{F} \rangle \bigg|_{\theta=0} = 0$$

(CP)

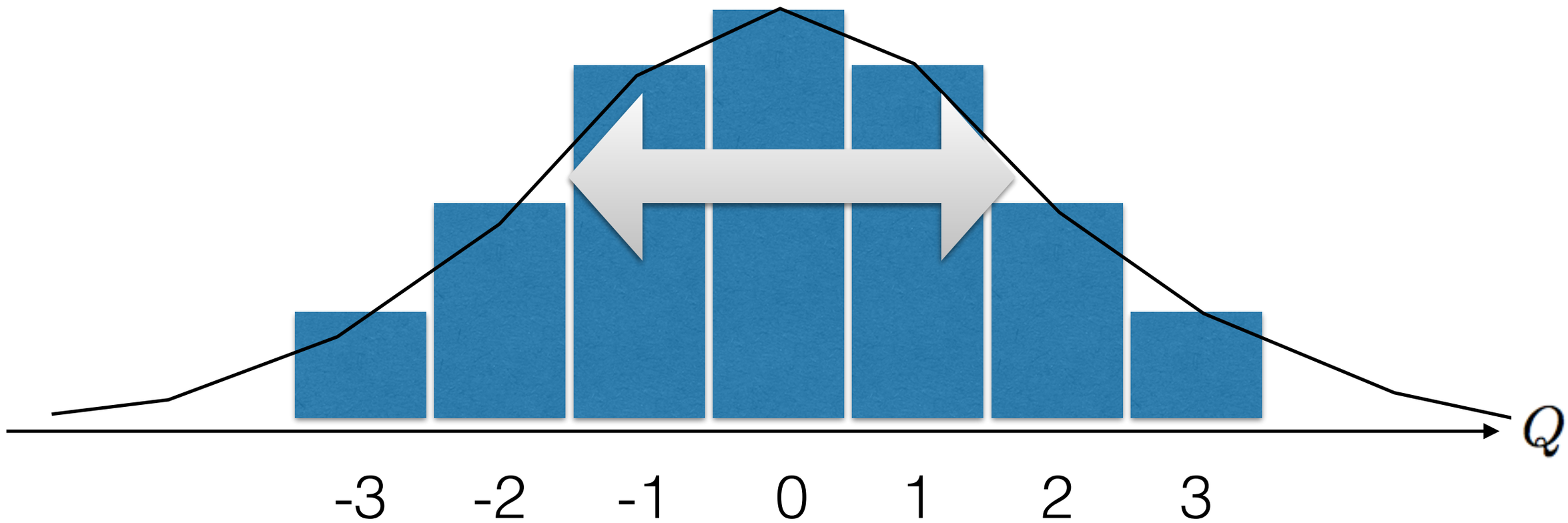
$$= Q$$

(topological charge = integers!)

$$\chi_t = -\frac{1}{V}\frac{1}{Z}\frac{d^2 Z}{d\theta^2}\bigg|_{\theta=0} = \frac{\langle Q^2 \rangle}{V}$$

(topological susceptibility)

χ_t



$$\langle Q^2 \rangle = \chi_t V$$

χ_t measures how often instantons appear in the path integral.

If χ_t is nonzero, θ is physical.

χ_t and m_u

$$Z_{\rm QCD} = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] e^{-S_{\rm QCD}} = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] e^{-S'_{\rm QCD}}$$

$$S_{\rm QCD} = \int d^4x \left(\frac{1}{4g^2} F^2 + \frac{i\theta}{32\pi^2} F\tilde{F} + \bar{\psi}(D+m)\psi \right)$$

$$S'_{\rm QCD} = \int d^4x \left(\frac{1}{4g^2} F^2 + \bar{\psi}(D + m e^{-i\gamma_5\theta})\psi \right)$$

$$\chi_t = -\frac{1}{V}\frac{1}{Z}\frac{d^2 Z}{d\theta^2}\bigg|_{\theta=0} = -m_u \langle \bar{u}u \rangle + O(m_u^2/m_\pi^2)$$

If m_u is non zero, θ is physical.

If m_u=0, physics does **not** depend on θ.
—> no strong CP problem

m_u=0?

[PDG]

LIGHT QUARKS (u, d, s)

OMITTED FROM SUMMARY TABLE

u-QUARK MASS

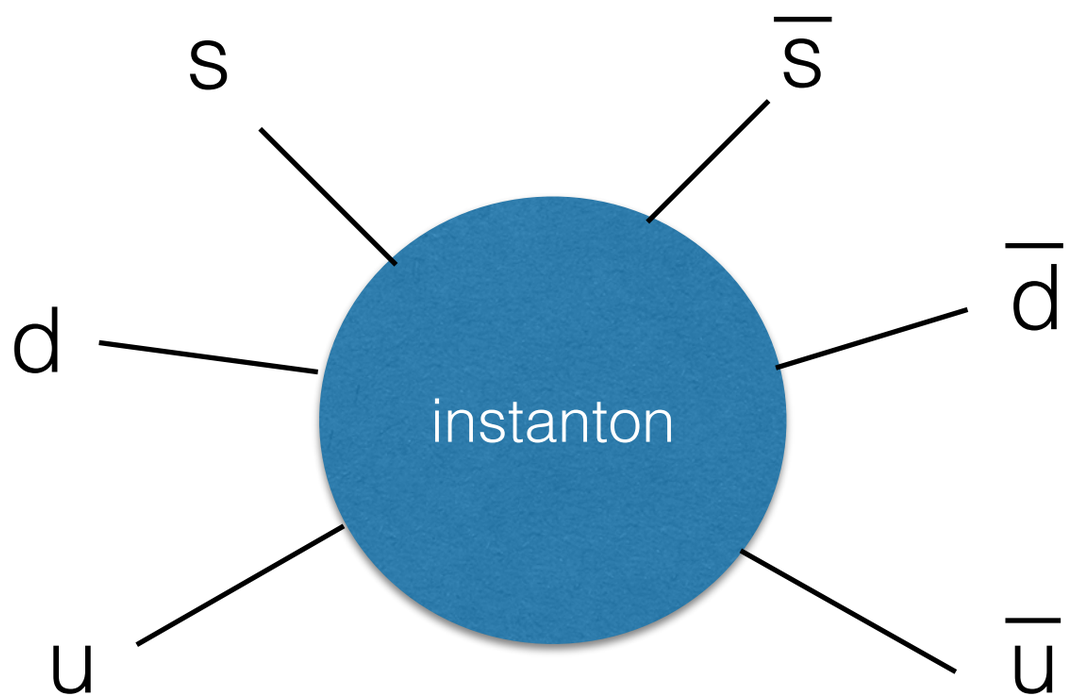
The u-, d-, and s-quark masses are estimates of so-called "current-quark masses," in a mass- independent subtraction scheme such as $\overline{\text{MS}}$. The ratios m_u/m_d and m_s/m_d are extracted from pion and kaon masses using chiral symmetry. The estimates of d and u masses are not without controversy and remain under active investigation. Within the literature there are even suggestions that the u quark could be essentially massless. The s-quark mass is estimated from SU(3) splittings in hadron masses.

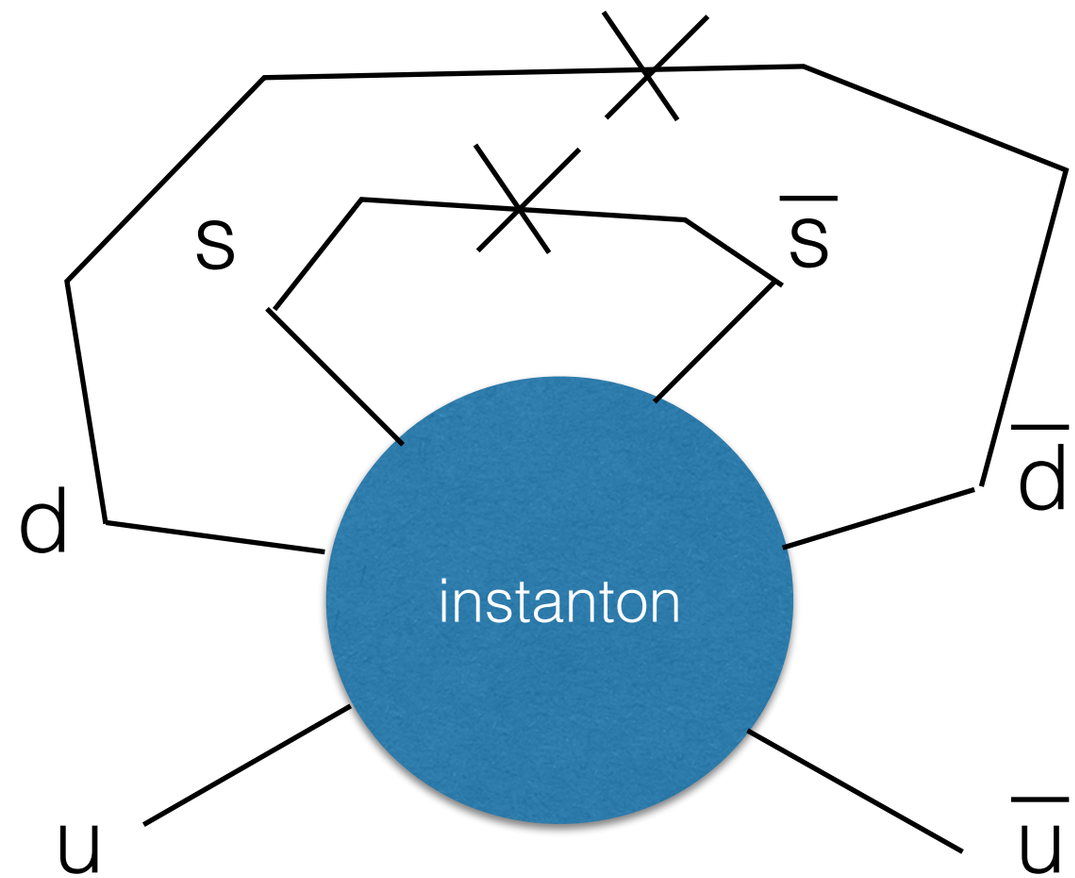
We have normalized the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ masses at a renormalization scale of $\mu = 2$ GeV. Results quoted in the literature at $\mu = 1$ GeV have been rescaled by dividing by 1.35. The values of "Our Evaluation" were determined in part via Figures 1 and 2.

VALUE (MeV)	*DOCUMENT ID*		*TECN*	*COMMENT*
$2.3\ ^{+0.7}_{-0.5}$ OUR EVALUATION	See the ideogram below.			
$2.15 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.10$	[1] DURR	11	LATT	$\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme
$2.24 + 0.10 + 0.34$	[2] BLUM	10	LATT	$\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme

Confusion 1

[Georgi and McArthur '81]





additive shift of $m_u \sim \frac{m_d m_s}{\Lambda_{\rm QCD}} \sim$ MeV

mimic the non-zero mass even if m_u=0?

Confusion 2

[Kaplan and Manohar '86]

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_u & & \\ & m_d & \\ & & m_s \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} m_d m_s & & \\ & m_s m_u & \\ & & m_u m_d \end{pmatrix}$$

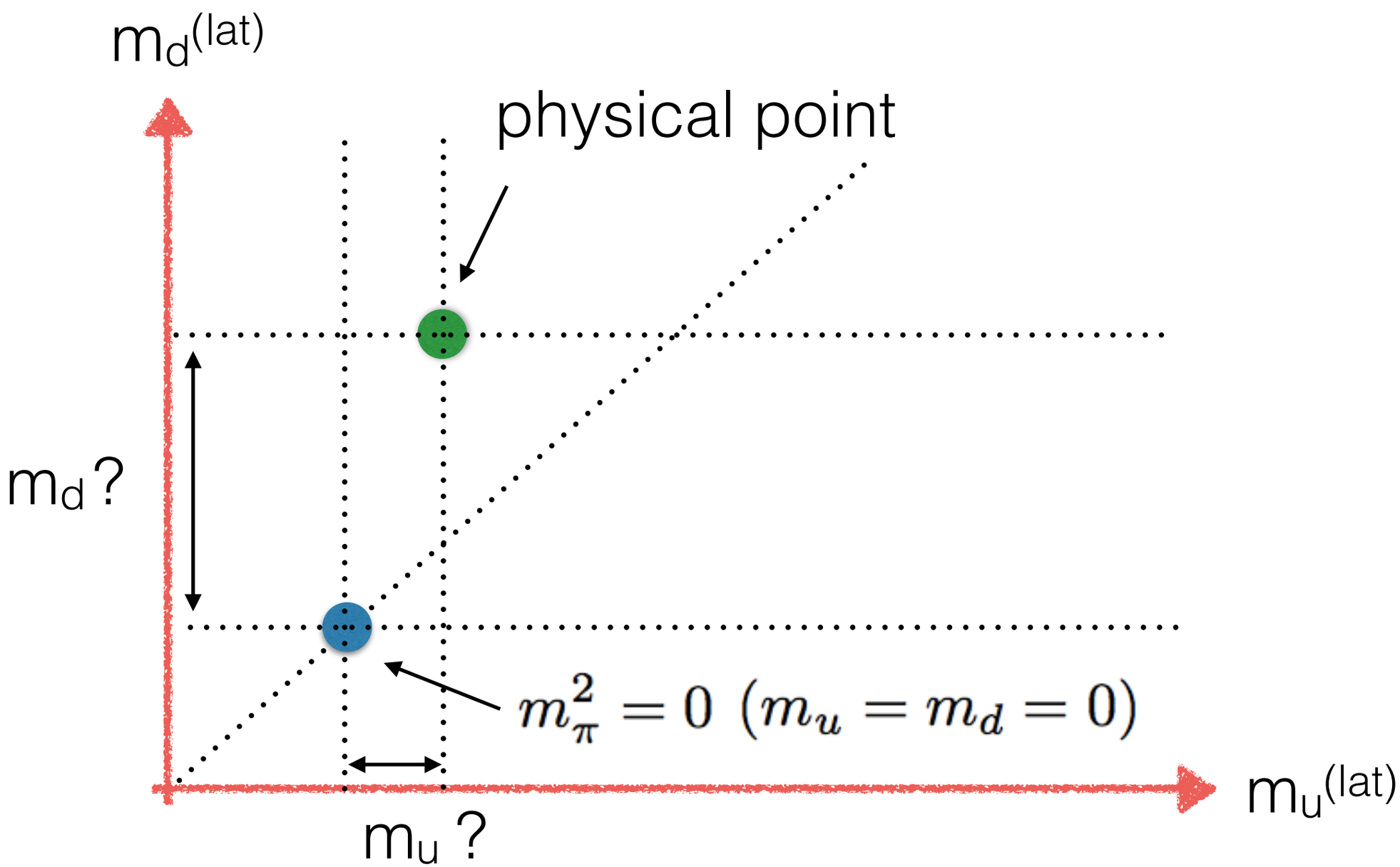
these two matrices have the **same** quantum numbers under the chiral symmetry

⇒ the chiral Lagrangian cannot distinguish m_u from $m_u + c m_d m_s$

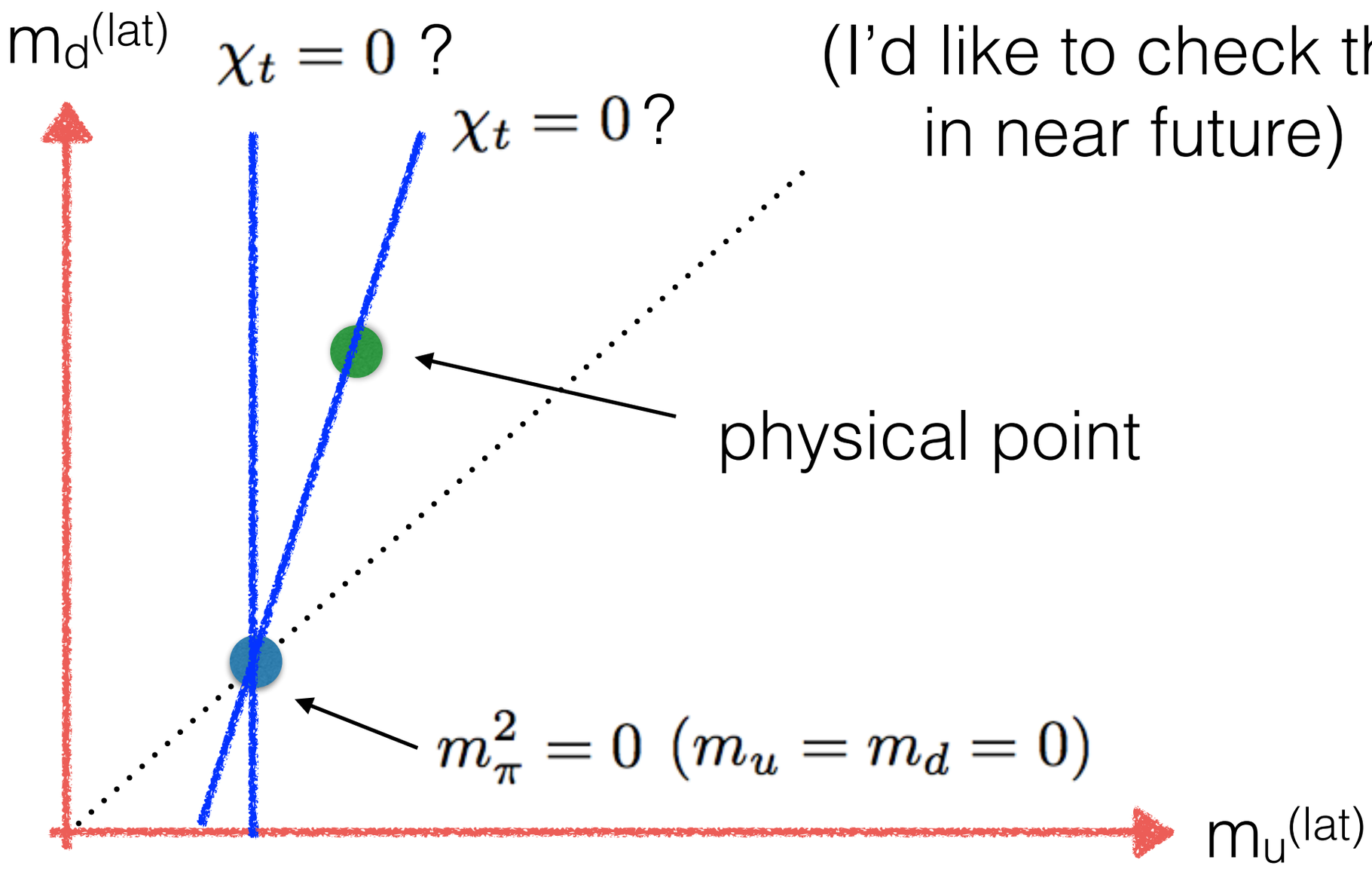
⇒ again, mimic nonzero m_u?

Lattice?

Lattice action has m_u and m_d as parameters.



I think the really important question is …



(I'd like to check this in near future)

[Peccei and Quinn '77]

Axion

OK, maybe m_u is non zero and θ is physical.

Then, why is θ so small?

The axion provides a nice solution.

$$\theta \to \theta + \frac{a(x)}{f_a} \qquad \left(\Delta\mathcal{L} = \frac{ia(x)}{32\pi^2 f_a} F\tilde{F}\right)$$

$$\frac{\chi_t}{f_a^2} = m_a^2$$

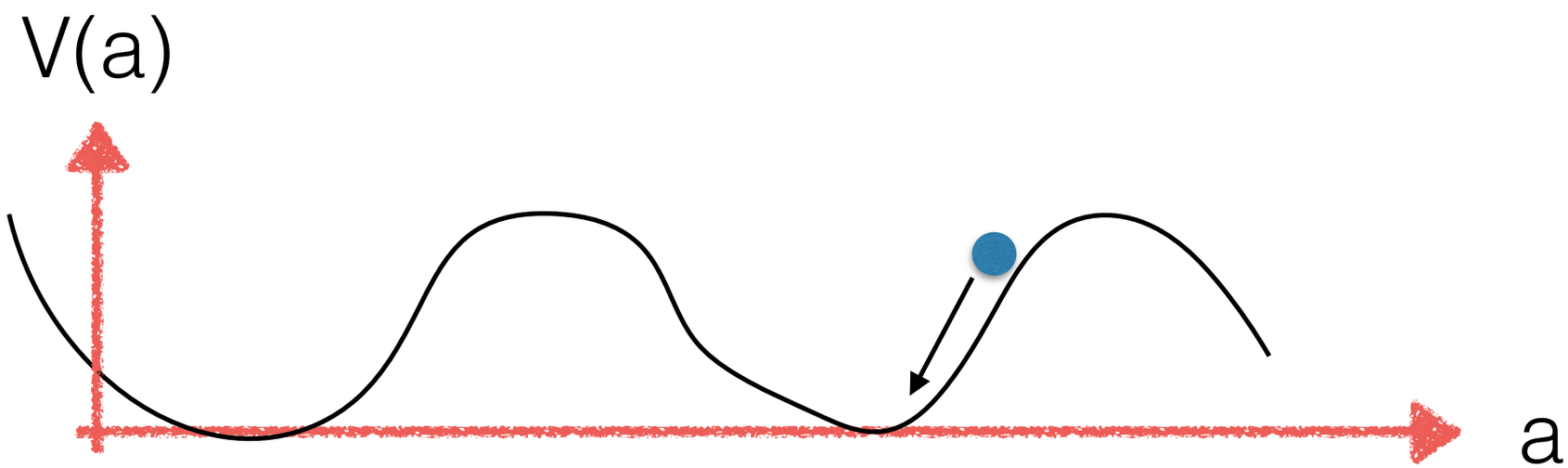
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\chi_t}{2}\theta^2 + \cdots \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = (\partial_\mu a)^2 + \frac{\chi_t}{2}(\theta + \frac{a}{f_a})^2 + \cdots$$

$$\chi_t > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \theta + \frac{a}{f_a} = 0$$

(dynamically selected)

[Preskill, Wise, Wilczek '83][Abbott, Sikivie '83]
[Dine, Fischler '83]

Axion Dark Matter



$$\ddot{a} + 3H\dot{a} = -V'(a) \sim -m_a^2 a$$

$$\left.\frac{n_a}{T^3}\right|_{\rm now} \sim \frac{m_a(T_*) f_a^2 \theta_{\rm ini}^2}{T_*^3}$$

where

$$m_a(T_*) \sim 3H(T_*)$$

temperature dependence of the axion mass
is the essential information to estimate the abundance.

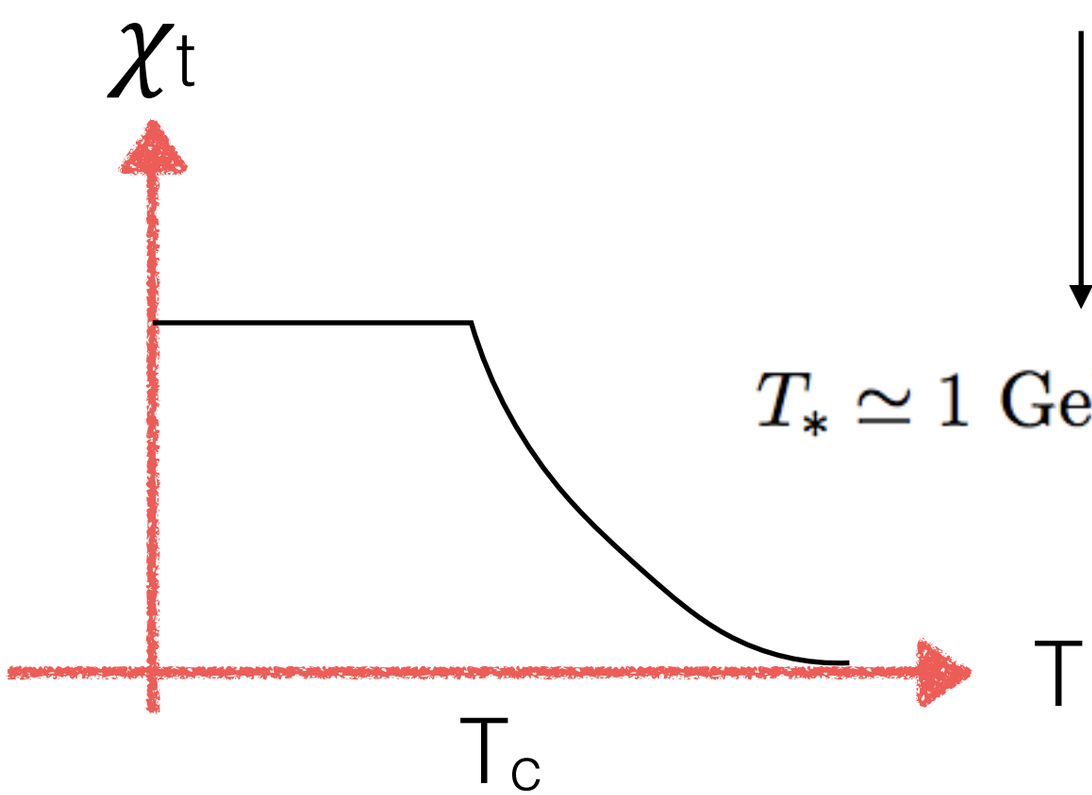
instanton paradigm

The standard way to calculate the temperature dependence of m_a is based on the dilute instanton gas approximation.

[Pisarsky, Yaffe '80]

$$\chi_t(T) = m_a^2(T) f_a^2 \propto m_u m_d m_s \Lambda_{\rm QCD}^b T^{-8} \qquad b = \frac{11}{3}N_c - \frac{2}{3}N_f = 9$$

instanton action $e^{-8\pi^2/g^2}$



$$T_* \simeq 1\ \text{GeV} \cdot \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5}\ \text{eV}}\right)^{1/6}$$

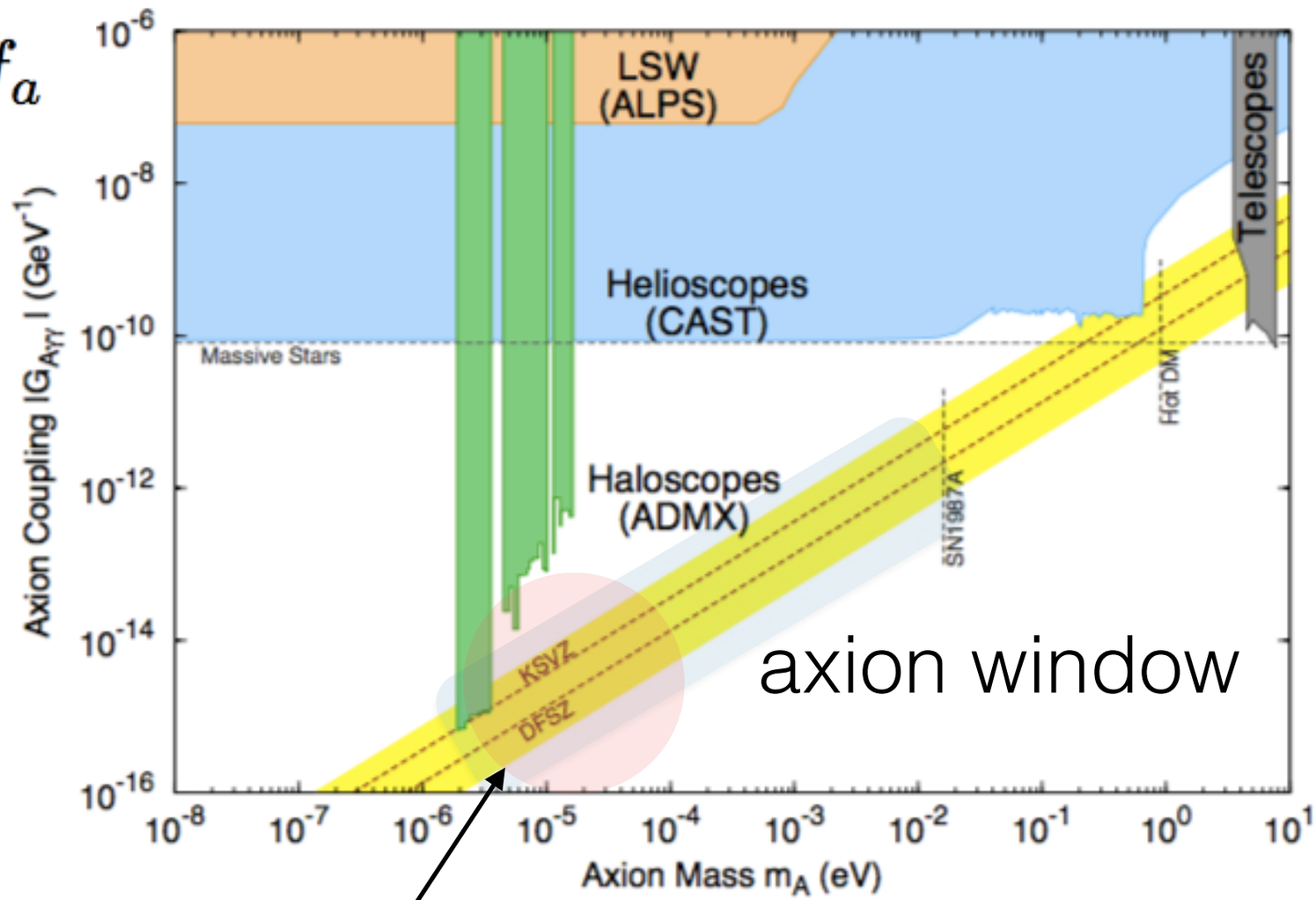
$$\Omega_a \simeq 0.2 \cdot \theta_{\rm ini}^2 \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5}\ \text{eV}}\right)^{-7/6}$$

Axion Dark Matter

$$\Omega_a \simeq 0.2 \cdot \theta_{\rm ini}^2 \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5}\ \rm eV}\right)^{-7/6}$$

[PDG]

$\sim 1/f_a$



good DM abundance

[Cohen '96][Aoki, Fukaya, Taniguchi '12]

Is instanton correct?

Based on $\langle\bar{q}q\rangle = O(m_q)$ at high temperatures and the Ward identities, Cohen has argued

$$\chi_t(T) = O(m_q^4) \qquad \text{for } N_f=2$$

whereas the instanton says

$$\chi_t(T) = O(m_q^2) \qquad \text{for } N_f=2$$

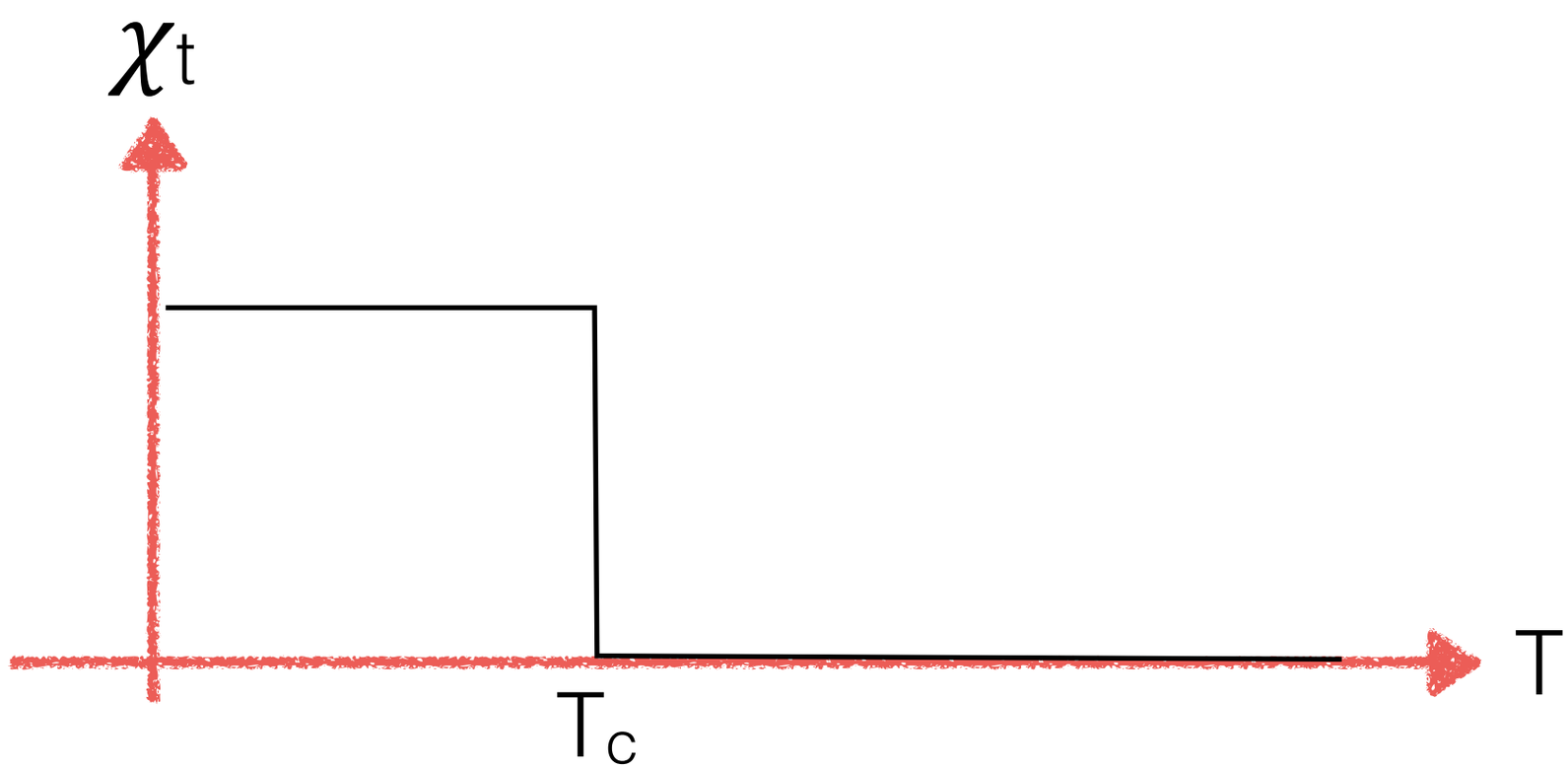
Aoki et al refined the Cohen's analysis and argued

$$\chi_t(T) = 0 \qquad \text{for small but finite } m_q$$

in any case, it is clearly inconsistent with instantons.

if χ_t=0 above T_c~150MeV,

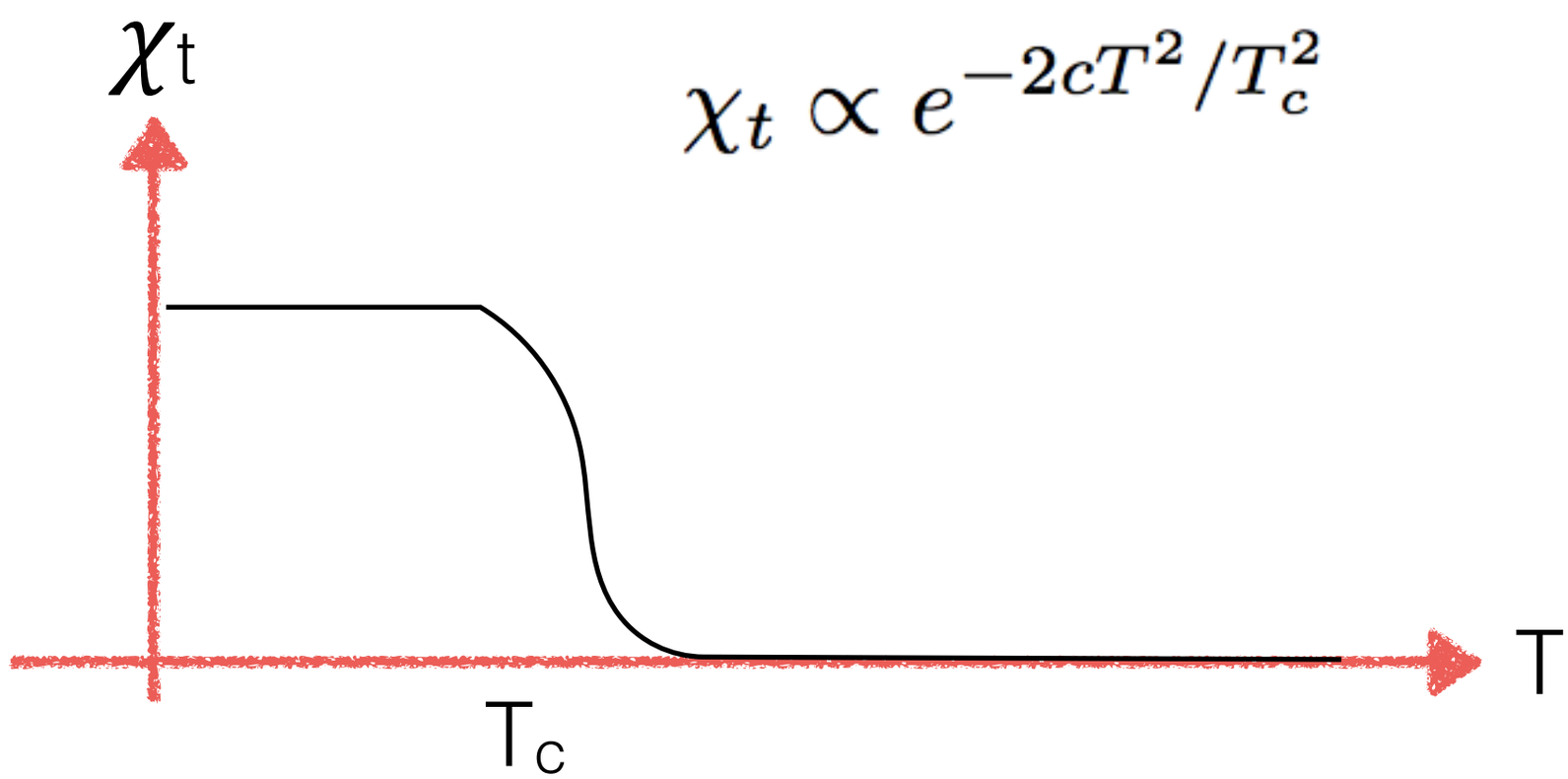
the axion suddenly starts to oscillate at $T=T_c$



$$\Omega_a \sim 2 \times 10^5 \theta_{\rm ini}^2$$ independent of m_a

axion window is gone.

a bit milder case



$$\chi_t \propto e^{-2cT^2/T_c^2}$$

$$\Omega_a \sim 0.2\theta_{\rm ini}^2 \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5}\ {\rm eV}}\right)^{-1} \times 2.5c \qquad (c \gg 1)$$

enhancement due to the non-adiabatic evolution of the potential.

It seems that
the lattice determination of
χ_t is important

χ_t on the lattice

$$\chi_t = \frac{\langle Q^2 \rangle}{V}$$

we just need to measure Q in each configuration.

$$Q = \int d^4x \frac{1}{32\pi^2} F\tilde{F}$$

$$= \int d^4x \ \mathrm{tr}\gamma_5$$

$$\gamma_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

There are two ways to measure Q.

Bosonic definition

$$Q = \int d^4x \frac{1}{32\pi^2} F\tilde{F}$$

on the lattice, one would not get integers
due to the ambiguities in the definition of F.

—> The techniques called Cooling or Wilson flow
can make it possible to identify Q.

Fermionic definition

$$Q = \int d^4x \ \mathrm{tr}\gamma_5$$

With a properly defined γ_5, one can get integers.

This method gives unambiguous Q, but the cost of the calculation is high.

Somehow,

in 2015, three independent calculations appeared.

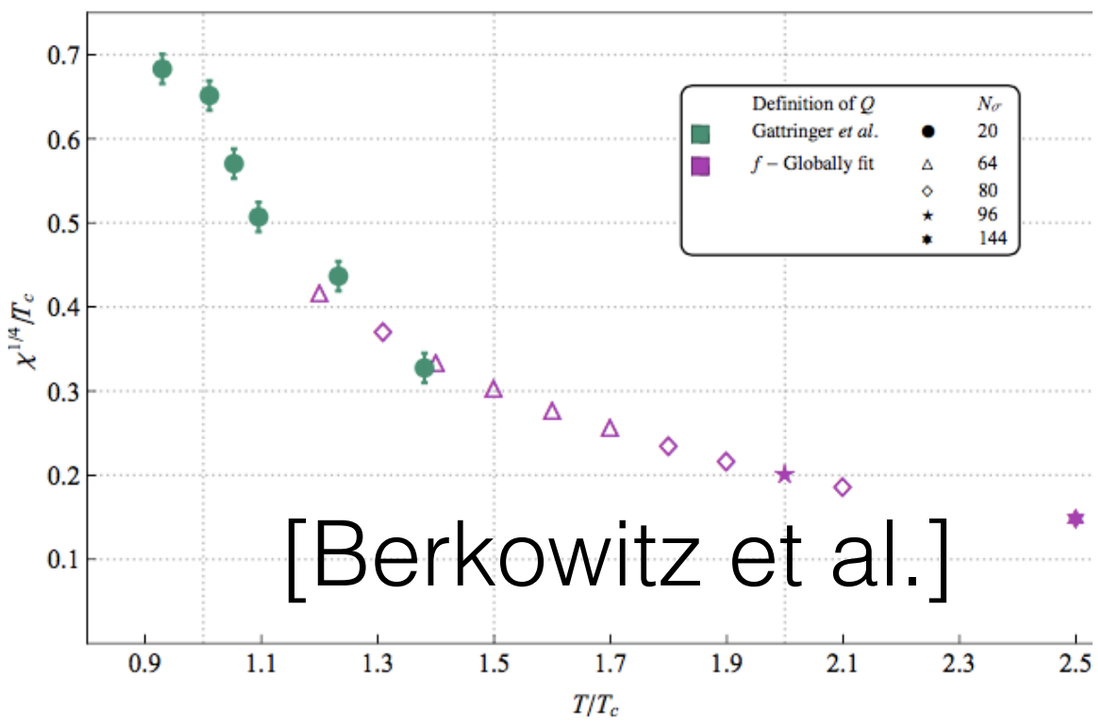
(in the SU(3) Yang-Milles theory, **no quarks yet**)

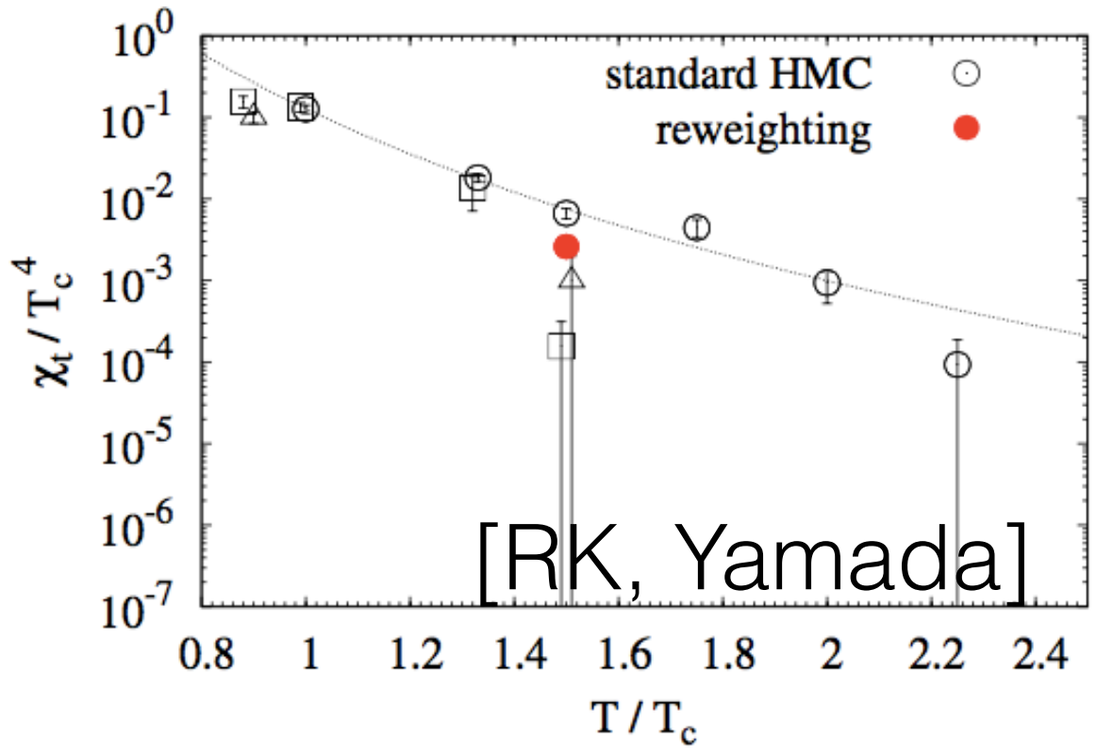
E. Berkowiz, M. Buchoff, E. Rinaldi (LLNL)
Bosonic (cooling)

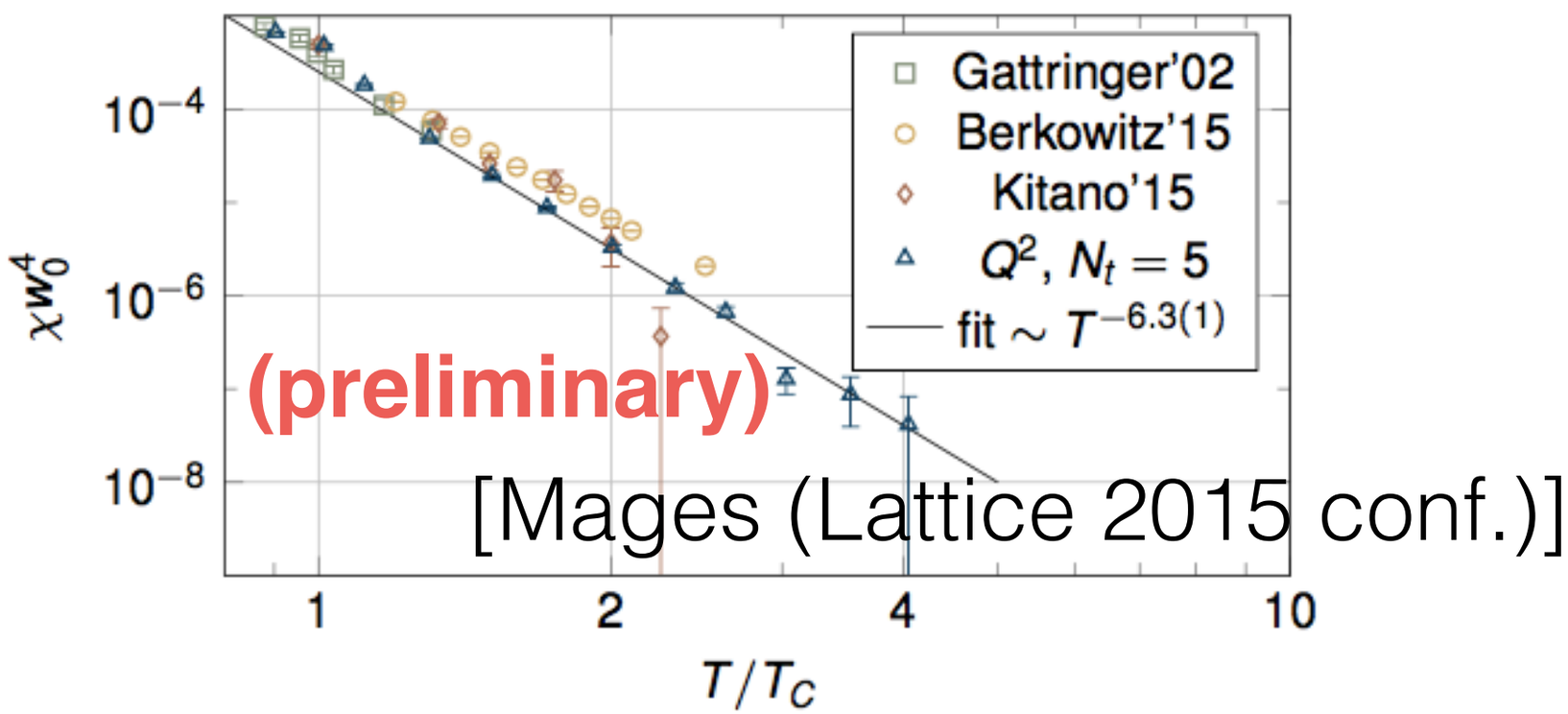
RK and N. Yamada (KEK) Fermionic (overlap)

S. Mages et al (BMW) Bosonic (Wilson Flow)

lattice results

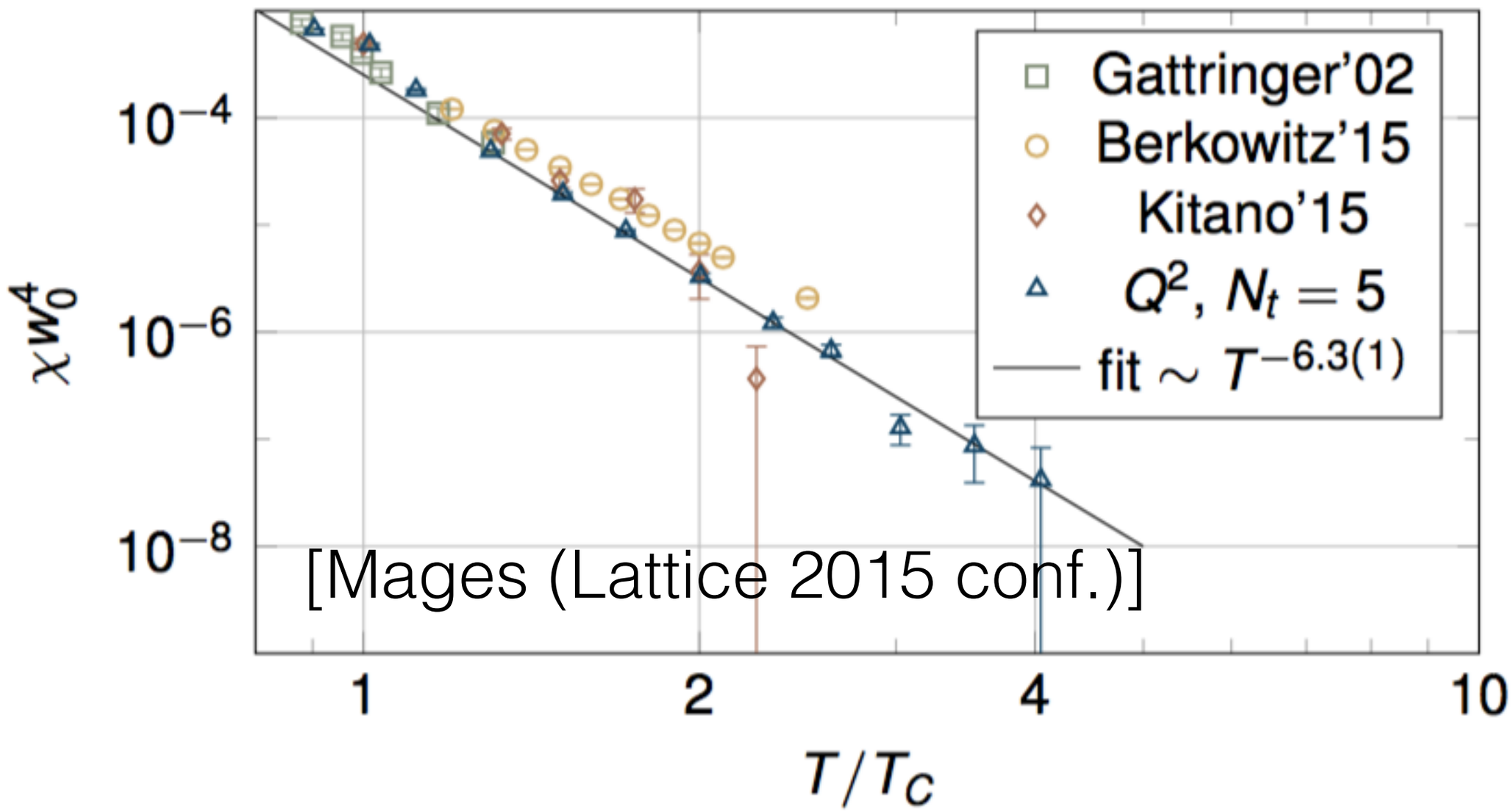






All look consistent

(at least qualitatively)



We see a clear power law even at a very low temperature.

instanton?

The instanton predicts $\chi_t \propto T^{-7}$ for $T \gg T_c$

in SU(3) YM theory

We find around T ~ T_c

$$\chi_t \propto T^{-6\pm 0.?}$$

It seems that the semiclassical instanton picture is qualitatively good in YM theories.

But for the axion study, we need to include quarks.

problem at high temperature and/or with small quark masses

at high temperatures
and/or small quark masses

$$\langle Q^2 \rangle = \chi_t V \ll 1$$

→ We only see Q=0 configurations

→ We cannot calculate $\langle Q^2 \rangle$

Probably we need some method to improve the calculation further.

a trick

$$Z_{\mathrm{QCD}} = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] e^{-S_{\mathrm{QCD}}}$$

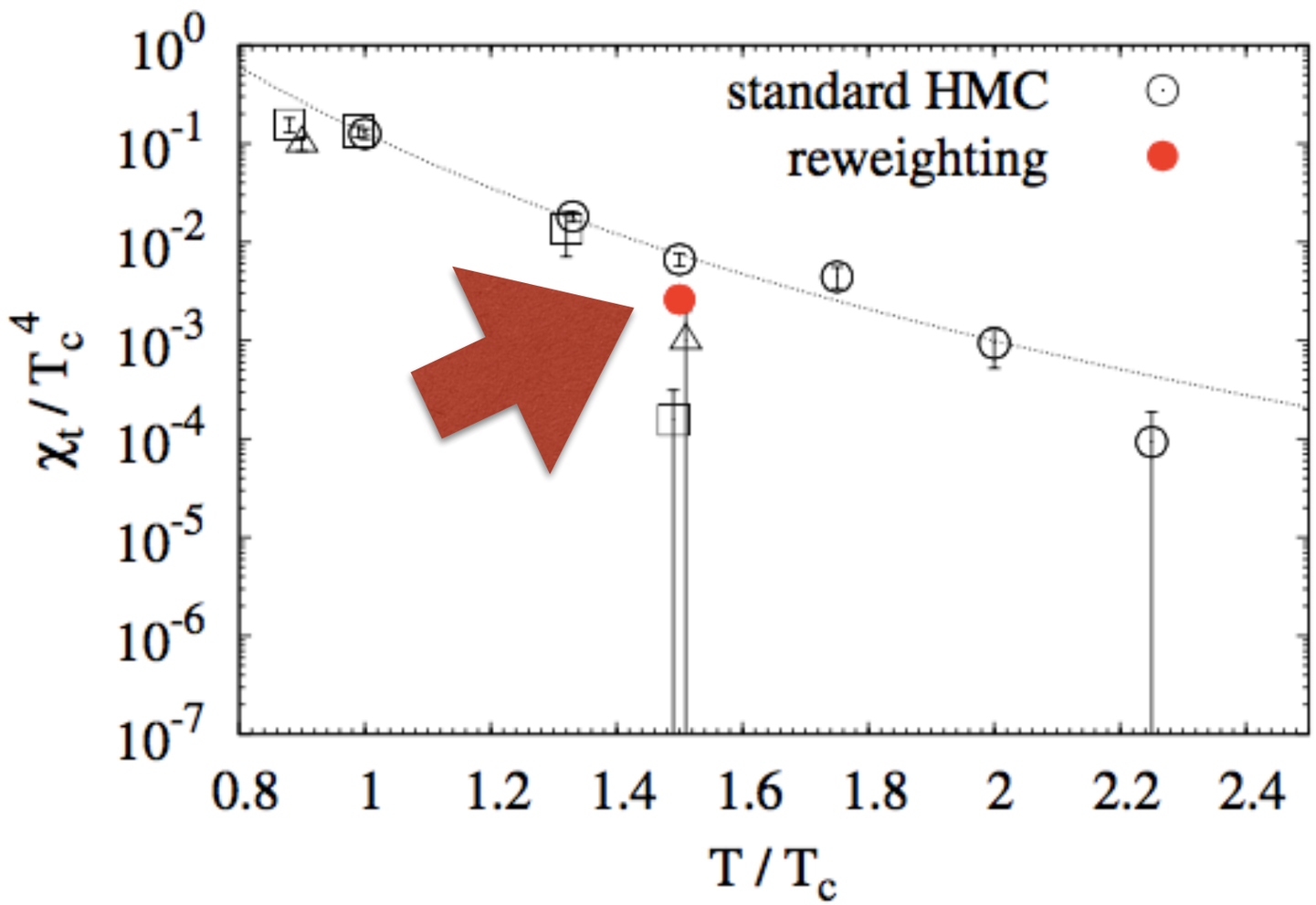
$$\Rightarrow \quad Z_X = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] X e^{-S_{\mathrm{QCD}}}$$

$$X = \det\left(\frac{H_W^2 + \mu^2}{H_W^2 + \epsilon^2}\right)^{N_\phi}$$

X enhances to generate nonzero Q confs.

$$\Rightarrow \quad \chi_t = \frac{\langle (Q^2/V) X X^{-1} \rangle}{\langle X X^{-1} \rangle} = \frac{\langle (Q^2/V) X^{-1} \rangle_X}{\langle X^{-1} \rangle_X}$$

trial



Wmm. Not too bad, but we need more studies.

Summary

χ_{t} is the fundamental quantity in QCD which measures the effects of topology.

very much related to Strong CP problem

The calculation in YM seems to support the instanton picture, but anything can happen when we include dynamical quarks.

more lattice simulations at both zero and high temperatures are necessary to make things clear.