

REVISITING $O(N)$ SIGMA MODEL AT
UNPHYSICAL m_π AND FINITE TEMPERATURE

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- 3 m_π DEPENDENCE OF σ
- 4 TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE OF σ
- 5 VACUUM STRUCTURE OF THE $O(N)$ MODEL WITH EXPLICIT CHIRAL SYMMETRY BREAKING *
- 6 SUMMARY

- $\pi\pi$ scattering: important in understanding low energy QCD chiral symmetry breaking.
- Lattice calculation: phase shifts at unphysical pion mass,
 $m_\pi = 236\text{MeV}$ [Dudek, et al., PRD86,034031(2012)].
 $m_\pi = 391\text{MeV}$ [Briceno,PRL118,022002(2017)].
- Hadron system with a finite temperature: Hadron gases, QCD phase information.
- These two aspects provide more information of QCD: tuning m_π and T , to learn more information about chiral symmetry, confinement
- By studying the properties of resonances with varying m_π and T , one would also gain more understanding of the QCD.

FUNDAMENTALS ON $\pi\pi$ SCATTERING MATRIX

Full two particle scattering matrix: $S(s, t, u)$, $s + t + u = \sum_i m_i^2$.

$\pi\pi$ scattering: with isospin indices $S_{ab,cd}$

- Unitarity: $S \cdot S^\dagger = I$, $S = I + iT$. Optical theorem:

$$\text{Im}M(k_1, k_2 \rightarrow k_1, k_2) = 2E_{cm}p_{cm}\sigma_{\text{tot}}$$

- Analyticity: $S(s, t, u)$ can be analytically continued to be an analytic function of s, t, u .

- Crossing: By analytic continuation, the same S matrix can describe different scatterings by crossing

$$s > 4m_\pi^2, t, u < 0, s\text{-channel}, \pi_a(p_1) + \pi_b(p_2) \rightarrow \pi_c(p_3) + \pi_d(p_4).$$

$$t > 4m_\pi^2, s, u < 0, t\text{-channel}, \pi_a(p_1) + \bar{\pi}_c(-p_3) \rightarrow \bar{\pi}_b(-p_2) + \pi_d(p_4).$$

$$u > 4m_\pi^2, s, t < 0, u\text{-channel}, \pi_a(p_1) + \bar{\pi}_d(-p_4) \rightarrow \pi_c(p_3) + \bar{\pi}_b(-p_2).$$

- Crossing and generalized Bose symmetry impose constraints between $A(s, t, u)$, $B(s, t, u)$, $C(s, t, u)$.

$$T(s, t, u) = A(s, t, u)\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} + B(s, t, u)\delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + C(s, t, u)\delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}$$

FUNDAMENTALS ON $\pi\pi$ SCATTERING MATRIX

$$T(s, t, u) = A(s, t, u)\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} + B(s, t, u)\delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + C(s, t, u)\delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}$$

Scattering of **total angular momentum** eigenstates and **total Isospin** eigenstates:

- Isospin projection:

$$T_s^0(s, t, u) = 3A(s, t, u) + B(s, t, u) + C(s, t, u)$$

$$T_s^1(s, t, u) = B(s, t, u) - C(s, t, u)$$

$$T_s^2(s, t, u) = B(s, t, u) + C(s, t, u)$$

- Partial wave projection: $S_l = 1 + 2i\rho(s) T_l(s)$,

$$\rho = \sqrt{(s - 4m_\pi^2)/s},$$

$$T_l^I(s) = \frac{1}{32\pi} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta P_l(\cos\theta) T^I(s, t(s, \cos\theta))$$

$$T(s, t, u) = 16\pi \sum_l (2l+1) P_l(\cos\theta) T_l^I(s)$$

FUNDAMENTALS ON $\pi\pi$ SCATTERING MATRIX

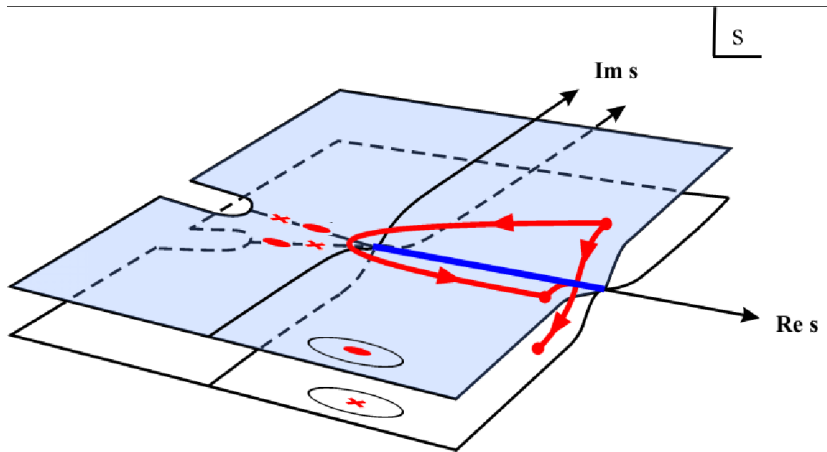
- Unitarity: **Single channel**, for physical processes, $s > 4m_\pi^2$,

$$S_l(s)S_l^*(s) = 1, \quad \text{Im} T_l(s) = \rho(s)|T_l(s)|^2.$$

- Analyticity: $S(s) \rightarrow$ analytical continuation, **real analytic function** of s , Schwartz reflection, $S^*(s) = S(s^*)$.

Single channel: Double-sheeted Riemann surface, a cut above the threshold $s = 4m_\pi^2$ — unitarity cut, or physical cut.

- $S^I = 1/S^{II}$: Zero point on the first sheet \leftrightarrow poles on the second sheet.
- On the first sheet:
 - **Bound state poles**: on the real axis below the threshold $4m_\pi^2$.
No other poles.
 - On the second sheet:
 - **Virtual state poles** on the real axis below the threshold $4m_\pi^2$.
 - **Resonances poles**, a pair of complex poles on the second sheet, symmetric w.r.t real axis.
- Crossing: The physical process of the t , u channel generate **left-hand cut**.



CHIRAL SYMMETRY AND σ STATE

2 flavor QCD: only u and d quarks,

- Chiral symmetry at chiral limit, $m_q = 0$:
 $SU_L(2) \times SU_R(2) \simeq O(4)$.

$$q_L \rightarrow e^{i\alpha_L^a \tau^a} q_L, \quad q_R \rightarrow e^{i\alpha_R^a \tau^a} q_R.$$

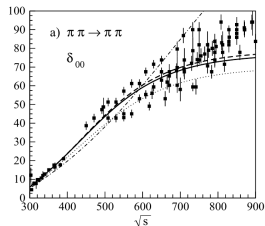
- SSB: quark condensate $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \neq 0$,
 $SU_L(2) \times SU_R(2) \rightarrow SU_V(2) \rightarrow$ Goldstone: pions.
- With explicit chiral symmetry breaking: $m_q \neq 0$, $m_\pi \neq 0$,
PCAC assumption, $\partial_\mu A^{a,\mu} = m_\pi^2 f_\pi \pi^a$.
- To realize this SSB in Low energy effective field theory:
Linear realization \rightarrow linear σ model, $\langle \sigma \rangle \neq 0 \rightarrow$ a 0^{++} scalar state. [M. Gell-Mann and M. Lévy, Nuo.Cim.16,705(1960)]
Nonlinear realization \rightarrow only pion d.o.f., no σ , ChPT.

[Coleman, Wess, Zumino, PR, 177, 2239; Callan, et.al. PR 177, 2247;

Gasser, Leutwyler, Ann. Phys. 158, 142, NPB 250, 465.]

- For a long time, the existence of the σ particle was in controversy.

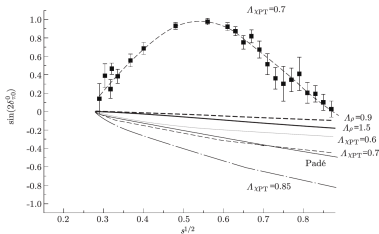
A broad resonance disappeared and reappeared from PDG table several times, from 1960 to 2000s.



- Chiral perturbation theory (CHPT): without sigma, can reproduce the lower energy scattering length, effective range, phase shift near threshold. Quickly blow up away from threshold.
- Unitarized CHPT: IAM, a broad resonance was found — σ or f_0 , but not quite reliable [Pelaez, *Mod. Phys. Lett. A*19,2870; A.G.Nicola, Pelaez, *PRD*65,054009(2002)].

- PKU representation with left-hand cut estimated by CHPT
[ZX,Zheng,NPA695,273(2001);Z. Y. Zhou,et.al. JHEP 02, 043(2004);Zheng, et.al., NPA733,235(2004)]: respects unitarity and analyticity, crossing can be imposed by BNR relation

Left-hand-cut contribution is always negative in $\sin 2\delta$. A broad resonance pole is needed.



- Roy equation [Colangelo,Gasser,Leutwyler NPB603,125(2001)]: model independent integral equation. Automatic respect unitarity, analyticity, crossing symmetry — established the existence of a broad 0^{++} resonance $f_0(500)$ [Caprini,Colangelo,Leutwyler PRL96,132001(2006)].

$$\sqrt{s_{\text{pole}}} = 441_{-8}^{16} - i272_{-13}^{+9} \text{ MeV}$$

- What role does it play in the chiral SSB? Is this the sigma in LSM?

INTRODUCTION

Analyzing the lattice QCD phase shift: K matrix, no crossing

$m_\pi = 236\text{MeV}$ [Dudek, et al., PRD86,034031(2012)], σ resonance

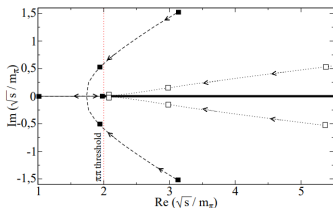
$m_\pi = 391\text{MeV}$ [Briceno,PRL118,022002(2017)], σ bound state.

- PKU + crossing using BNR relation: [X. L. Gao,Z.H.Guo,ZX,ZZ, PRD 105 (2022)9,094002]

at $m_\pi = 236\text{MeV}$: $m_\sigma = 610 \pm 11\text{MeV}$, $\Gamma_\sigma = 327 \pm 8\text{MeV}$;

at $m_\pi = 391\text{MeV}$: $m_{bound} = 774 \pm 6\text{MeV}$, $m_{virtual} = 716 \pm 28\text{MeV}$

- ChPT+unitarization: [Hanhart, et al. PRL100,152001(2008)]

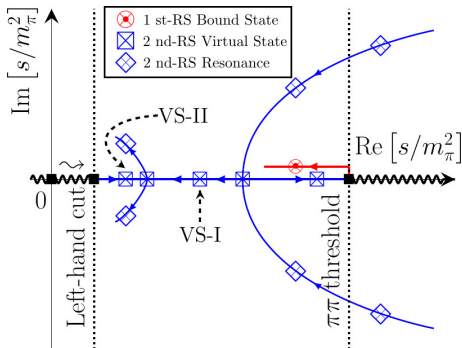


- Roy equation: [X.H. Cao, et al., PRD108(2023)3,034009]

at $m_\pi = 236\text{MeV}$: $\sqrt{s_\sigma} = 543 - i250 \text{ MeV}$

at $m_\pi = 391\text{MeV}$: $m_{bound} = 759\text{MeV}$, $\sqrt{s_{sub}} = (269 - i211) \text{ MeV}$

Propose the pole trajectory:



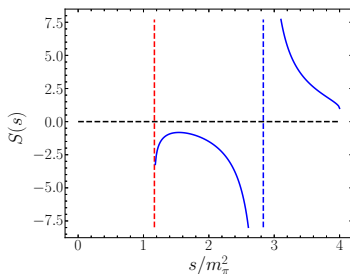
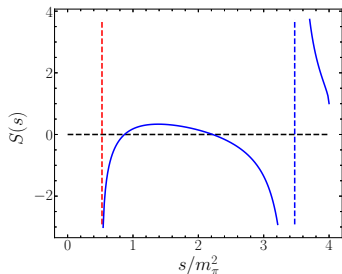
- More recent Lattice result + K matrix [Rodas et al.,

PRD108,034513(2023)]:

at $m_\pi = 330\text{MeV}$: σ is a bound state.

at $m_\pi = 283\text{MeV}$: large statistical error, could be a virtual state or resonance.

The proposed explanation of the subthreshold resonance at $m_\pi = 391\text{MeV}$:



The reason for the appearance of the subthreshold resonance poles:

- When the VS move through the threshold and becomes a bound state, the branch point of the l.h.c. move right.
- From the positivity of the residue of the bound state pole, it can be proved that near the branch point $S(s)$ tends to negative infinity.
- For small m_π , there are two zero point of $S(s)$ below threshold. For larger m_π , $S(s)$ become smaller, no zero points \rightarrow resonance pole.

INTRODUCTION: $O(N)$ SIGMA MODEL

- Lagrangian: $a = 1, \dots, N$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_a \partial^\mu \phi_a - \frac{1}{2} \mu_0^2 \phi_a \phi_a - \frac{\lambda_0}{8N} (\phi_a \phi_a)^2 + \alpha \phi_N,$$

- Classical level: when $\alpha = 0$, No explicit breaking
 $\mu^2 > 0$, no SSB;
 $\mu^2 < 0$, SSB. $\phi^2 = -2\mu^2 N / \lambda \equiv \langle \phi \rangle^2$, $\langle \phi \rangle > 0$
- Classical level: when $\alpha \neq 0$, vacuum solution

$$\left(-\mu_0^2 - \frac{\lambda_0}{4N} |\phi|^2\right) \phi_a = 0 \Rightarrow \phi_a = 0, \quad \text{for } a = 1, \dots, N-1$$

$$\left(-\mu_0^2 - \frac{\lambda_0}{4N} |\phi|^2\right) \phi_N + \alpha = 0$$

$$\langle \phi_N \rangle \neq 0 \sim \mathcal{O}(N^{1/2}), \quad \alpha \sim \mathcal{O}(N^{1/2}).$$

- To count the N order: Introduce an auxiliary field χ ,

[Coleman,et.al.,PRD10,2491]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &\rightarrow \mathcal{L} + \frac{N}{2\lambda_0} \left(\chi - \frac{\lambda_0}{2N} \phi_a \phi_a - \mu_0^2 \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_a \partial^\mu \phi_a + \alpha \phi_N + \frac{N}{2\lambda_0} \chi^2 - \frac{1}{2} \chi \phi_a \phi_a - \frac{N\mu_0^2}{\lambda_0} \chi,\end{aligned}$$

Integrating out χ , it come back to the previous path integral.

- After renormalization, effective potential:

$$V(\phi, \chi) = -\alpha \phi_N + \frac{1}{2} \chi \phi^2 + \frac{N\mu^2(M)}{\lambda(M)} \chi - \frac{N}{64\pi^2} \chi^2 \left(\log \frac{M^2}{\chi} + \frac{1}{2} \right),$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \chi} = 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_a} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \chi} = 0 \Rightarrow \phi_a \phi_a = \frac{2N}{\lambda} \chi - \frac{2N\mu^2}{\lambda} - \frac{N}{16\pi^2} \chi \log \frac{\chi}{M^2},$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_a} = 0 \Rightarrow \chi \phi_a = 0 \quad (a < N), \quad \chi \phi_N - \alpha = 0.$$

- π mass $m_\pi^2 = \chi$.
- For $N = 4$, compared with PCAC: $\partial^\mu A_\mu^a = m_\pi^2 f_\pi \pi^a$, and with explicit SSB, $\partial^\mu A_\mu^a = \alpha \pi^a$. From $\chi = \frac{\alpha}{\phi_N} = m_\pi^2$, we find

$$\langle \phi_N \rangle = f_\pi \sim \mathcal{O}(N^{1/2}).$$

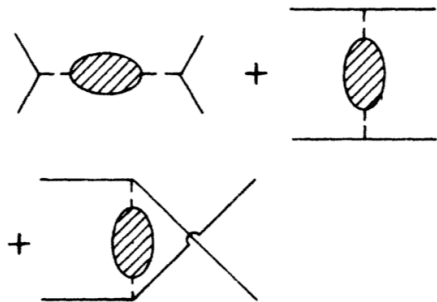


图: $O(N)$ model leading order $\pi\pi$ amplitude [Coleman,et.al.,PRD10,2491]

$\pi\pi$ amplitude to the leading $1/N$ order: (σ, τ have mixing)

$$\mathcal{J}_{\pi_a\pi_b\rightarrow\pi_c\pi_d} = iD_{\tau\tau}(s)\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} + iD_{\tau\tau}(t)\delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + iD_{\tau\tau}(u)\delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}, \quad (1)$$

$$D^{-1}(p^2) = -i \begin{pmatrix} p^2 - m_\pi^2 & -f_\pi \\ -f_\pi & N/\lambda_0 + NB_0(p^2, m_\pi) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

$$\tau \equiv \chi - \langle \chi \rangle, \quad B_0(p^2, m_\pi) = \frac{-i}{2} \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{(\ell^2 - m_\pi^2 + i\epsilon)((\ell + p)^2 - m_\pi^2 + i\epsilon)}.$$

After projection to $IJ = 00$ channel, leading $\mathcal{O}(N)$ amplitude \mathcal{J}_{00}^{LO} (define M such that $1/\lambda(M) = 0$), only s channel contributes

$$\mathcal{J}_{00}^{LO}(s) = \frac{iND_{\tau\tau}(s)}{32\pi} = \frac{N}{32\pi} \mathcal{A}(s),$$

$$\mathcal{A}(s) = \frac{m_\pi^2 - s}{(s - m_\pi^2)B(s, m_\pi, M) - f_\pi^2/N},$$

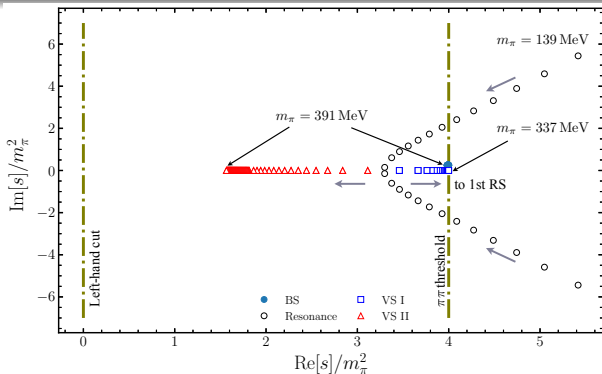
$$B(s, m_\pi, M) = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \left(1 + \rho(s) \log \frac{\rho(s) - 1}{\rho(s) + 1} - \log \frac{m_\pi^2}{M^2} \right),$$

- Adler zero: $s_A = m_\pi^2$.
- σ pole : solve

$$(s - m_\pi^2)B^{II}(s, m_\pi, M) - f_\pi^2/N = 0.$$

- No crossing symmetry.

m_π DEPENDENCE OF σ AT LEADING $1/N$



Fix f_π , M , changing m_π or α ,

- Adjust the $M \sim 550 \text{ MeV}$, at $m_\pi = 139 \text{ MeV}$, $\sqrt{s_\sigma} = 356 - i148 \text{ MeV}$.
- As m_π increases, $\sqrt{s_\sigma}$ moves \rightarrow real axis \rightarrow two virtual state poles \rightarrow one virtual move left, the other move right \rightarrow ($m_c \simeq 337 \text{ MeV}$) one virtual, one bound
- No crossing symmetry: $\sigma \rightarrow$ bound state, no l.h.c branch point \rightarrow $s = 4m_\pi^2 - m_\sigma^2$.
- Direct adding t and u channel contribution: violate unitarity.
- Unitarization method: IAM or K matrix, No control of the spurious poles, we resort to N/D .

N/D: UNITARITY WITH PARTIAL RECOVERY OF CROSSING

N/D Method: Basic ideas

- T matrix: $T(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)}$: $N(s)$ only has left-hand cut, D only has right-hand cut.
- Since $\text{Im}_R \mathcal{J}^{-1} = -\rho$, we have

$$\text{Im}_R D(s) = -\rho(s)N(s), \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Im}_L N(s) = D(s) \text{Im}_L \mathcal{J}(s). \quad (4)$$

- Write down the dispersion relation of $N(s)$ and $D(s)$ (twice subtracted)

$$D(s) = \frac{s - s_A}{s_0 - s_A} + g_D \frac{s - s_0}{s_A - s_0} - \frac{(s - s_0)(s - s_A)}{\pi} \int_R \frac{\rho(s')N(s')}{(s' - s)(s' - s_0)(s' - s_A)} ds', \quad (5)$$

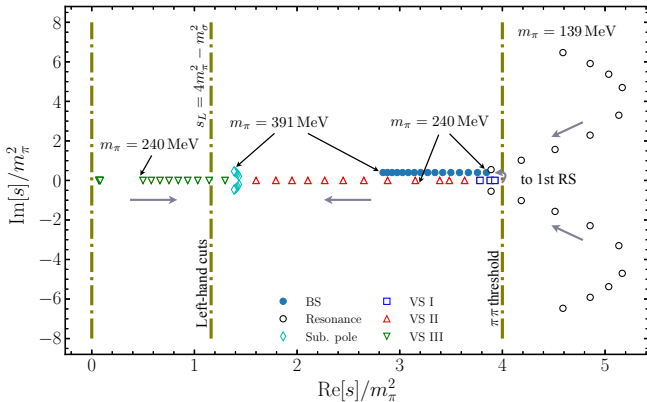
$$N(s) = b_0 \frac{s - s_A}{s_0 - s_A} + g_N \frac{s - s_0}{s_A - s_0} + \frac{(s - s_0)(s - s_A)}{\pi} \int_L \frac{D(s')\text{Im}_L \mathcal{J}(s')}{(s' - s)(s' - s_0)(s' - s_A)} ds', \quad (6)$$

- Using the $O(N)$ result $\text{Im}_L \mathcal{J}(s)$: from next to leading $1/N$ order.
- Subtraction, $s_0 = 4m_\pi^2$, $s_A = m_\pi^2$, $D(s_0) = 1$: require \mathcal{J} to recover $O(N)$ result at the leading $1/N$ order

$$b_0 = \mathcal{J}_{00}(s_0) = \frac{N-1}{32\pi} \mathcal{A}^{LO}(s_0) + I_{tu}(s_0), \quad (7)$$

$$g_D = \frac{32\pi f_\pi^2 b_0}{N(s_0 - s_A)}, \quad \frac{g_N}{g_D} = \text{Re } I_{tu}(s_A). \quad (8)$$

- When $m_\pi > m_c$, we require $D(m_\sigma^2) = 0$, for the sigma pole to be consistent with the branch point of the left hand cut.
- Solve the integral equation numerically.



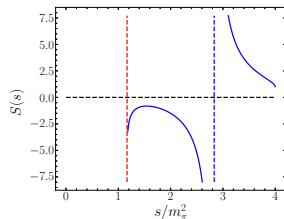
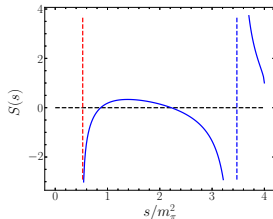
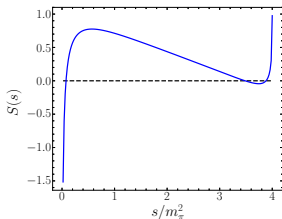
- As m_π increases:

σ approaches the real axis \rightarrow two virtual states, \rightarrow

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{one moving right} \rightarrow \text{first sheet bound state} \\ \text{one moving left} \end{array} \right\}$ hit \rightarrow resonant poles
 l.h.c. \rightarrow another virtual state

- The VSIII is generated when the Adler zero hit the left-hand cut

σ POLE TRAJECTORY WITH VARYING m_π

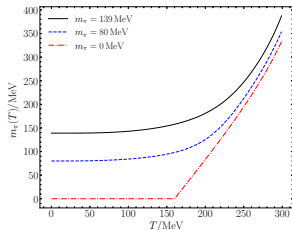
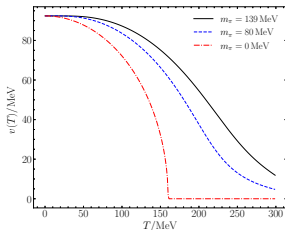


Physical-sheet S-matrix below threshold

- The left graph ($m_\pi = 207$ MeV) : two virtual states in the near threshold region and one additional virtual state pole generated close to the left-hand cut.
- The middle graph ($m_\pi = 283$ MeV) : one bound state with two virtual states.
- The right graph ($m_\pi = 391$ MeV): two virtual state poles have become a pair of resonance poles.

TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE AT LEADING $1/N$

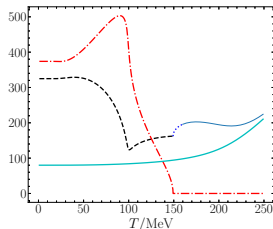
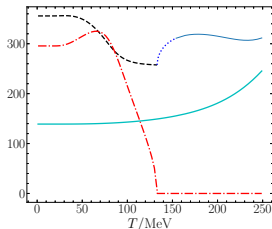
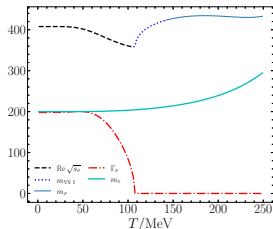
- It is well known: under high temperature, chiral symmetry recovers. [R. D. Pisarski and F. Wilczek, PRD 29,338(1984); A. Bazavov et al., PRD85,054503(2012)] $\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} v(T) \rightarrow 0$
- It is expected that $m_\sigma \rightarrow m_\pi$ at high temperature.
- ChPT: intrinsically in broken phase, break down at high temperature, $T \sim f_\pi$.
- In $O(N)$ model: v.e.v. $v(T)$ evolves with T , [J.O.Anderson, et. al. PRD70,116007]



- No explicit breaking $\alpha = 0$: at $T < T_c \sim 160$ MeV, $m_\pi(T) = 0$, $v(T) \neq 0$ SSB; at $T > T_c$, $v(T) = 0$, $m_\pi(T) \neq 0$.
- With $\alpha \neq 0$, $v(T) \rightarrow 0$.

σ POLE TRAJECTORY WITH T

At the leading $1/N$ order, $N = 4$:



From left to right, $m_\pi(0) = 200, 139$ and 80 MeV respectively.

- Scattering amplitude at T in the center of mass frame.

$$\mathcal{T}_{00}^T(s) = -\frac{1}{32\pi} \frac{s - m_\pi^2(T)}{(s - m_\pi^2(T)) B^T(s, m_\pi(T), M) - v^2(T)/N},$$

$$B^T(s, m_\pi(T), M) = B(s, m_\pi(T), M) + B^{T \neq 0}(s, m_\pi(T)),$$

$$B^{T \neq 0}(s, m_\pi(T)) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dk k^2}{8\pi^2 \omega_k^2} n_B(\omega_k) \left(\frac{1}{E + 2\omega_k} - \frac{1}{E - 2\omega_k} \right),$$

- σ resonance on the second sheet, \rightarrow virtual state, \rightarrow bound state \rightarrow tends to m_π .

- Unitarity with two particle intermediate states for $IJ = 00$ channel,

$$\text{Im } \mathcal{J}^T(s) = \rho^T(s) |\mathcal{J}^T|^2, \quad (9)$$

- Lorentz symmetry is broken by the temperature: Center of mass system in s channel is different from t channel — crossing is also broken.
- $IJ = 00$ thermal amplitude:

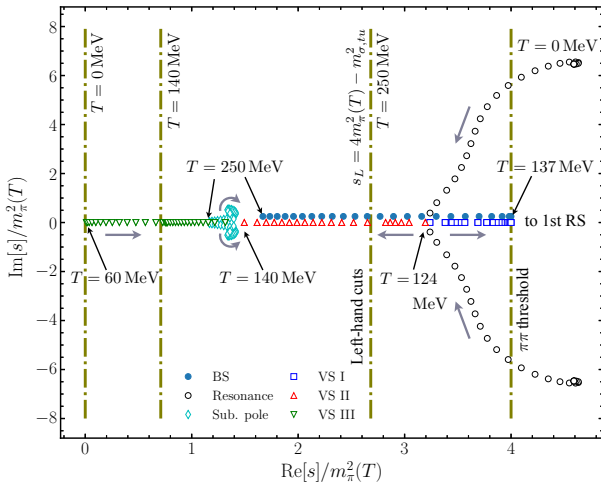
$$\mathcal{J}_{00}^T(s) = -\frac{1}{32\pi} \frac{s - m_\pi^2(T)}{(s - m_\pi^2(T)) B^T(s, m_\pi(T), M) - v^2(T)/N},$$

$$B^T(s, m_\pi(T), M) = B(s, m_\pi(T), M) + B^{T \neq 0}(s, m_\pi(T)),$$

$$B^{T \neq 0}(s, m_\pi(T)) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dk k^2}{8\pi^2 \omega_k^2} n_B(\omega_k) \left(\frac{1}{E + 2\omega_k} - \frac{1}{E - 2\omega_k} \right),$$

- N/D can be done: substitute the corresponding temperature dependent amplitudes.

N/D WITH TEMPERATURE: σ TRAJECTORY



- $T = 0$, $m_\pi = 139 \text{ MeV}$.
- $T = 60 \text{ MeV}$, VSIII generated from the l.h.c.
- σ resonance \rightarrow virtual states (I, II), ($T=124 \text{ MeV}$)
- VS1 \rightarrow BS ($T=137 \text{ MeV}$),
- $T = 140 \text{ MeV}$, VSII meets VSIII \rightarrow subthreshold resonance.
- $m_\sigma^2 \rightarrow m_\pi^2$.

SUMMARY I:

- The σ ($f_0(500)$) pole trajectory with varying m_π , can be qualitatively reproduced by the N/D improved $O(N)$ linear sigma model.
- A pair of subthreshold pole is generated with crossing symmetry taken into account for large m_π .
- The $f_0(500)$ could be the σ in the linear σ model.
- The pole trajectory with varying temperature is similar to the one with varying m_π .

VACUUM STRUCTURE: m_π DEPENDENCE

Solve $\chi(\phi)$, insert into $V(\phi, \chi)$, to obtain the effective potential $V_{eff}(\phi)$.

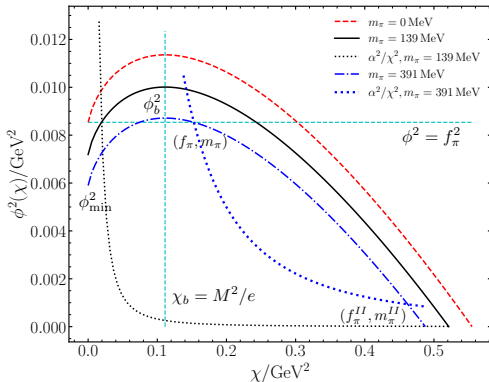
$$V(\phi, \chi) = -\alpha\phi_N + \frac{1}{2}\chi\phi^2 + \frac{N\mu^2(M)}{\lambda(M)}\chi - \frac{N}{64\pi^2}\chi^2 \left(\log \frac{M^2}{\chi} + \frac{1}{2} \right),$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \chi} = 0 \Rightarrow \phi^2 = f_\pi^2 + \frac{N}{16\pi^2} \left(m_\pi^2 \log \frac{m_\pi^2}{M^2} - \chi \log \frac{\chi}{M^2} \right),$$

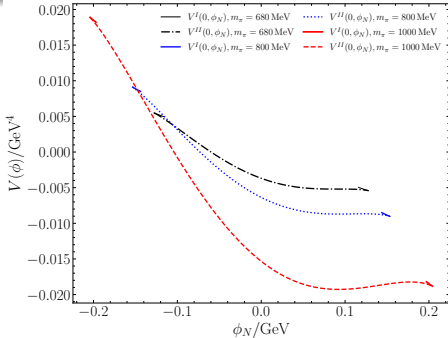
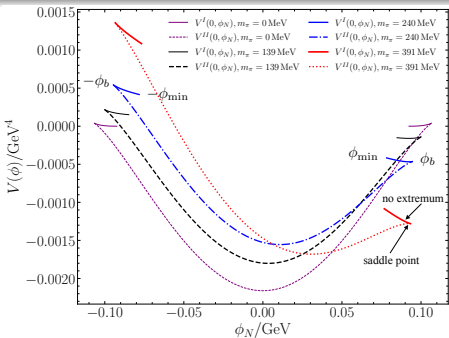
$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi_a} = 0 \Rightarrow \chi\phi_a = 0 \quad (a < N), \quad \chi\phi_N - \alpha = 0.$$

Fix f_π , M , changing m_π or α ,

- Two solutions branches: separated at χ_b
- Left one: With Chiral SSB in the Chiral limit, determine f_π (fixed), m_π .
- Right one: No chiral SSB in the Chiral limit.
- V become complex for $|\phi|^2 > \phi_b^2$: the system not stable. $\phi^2 < \phi_{min}^2$.

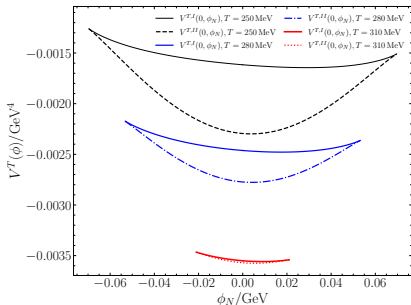
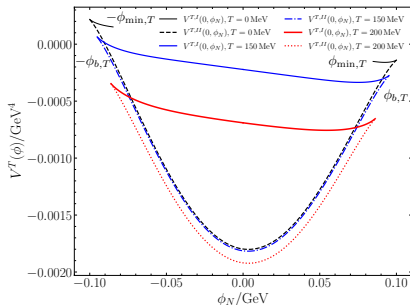


TWO BRANCHES OF THE VACUUM

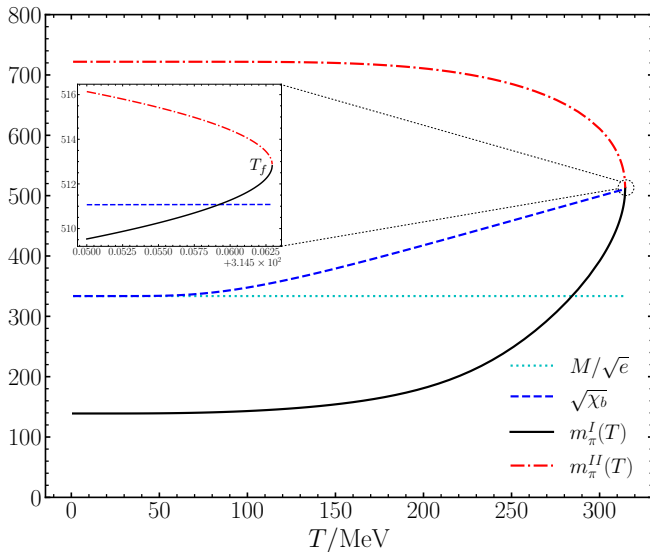


- $m_\pi^2 < \chi_b \sim 333\text{MeV}$, solution I: the local minimum on the first branch, false vacuum. There is a tachyon.
- Global minimum: Solution II on the second branch.
- As m_π increases, solution I moves towards the second branch.
- $m_\pi^2 > \chi_b$, no local minimum on the first branch. Solution I moves on the second branch \rightarrow saddle point.
- $m_\pi > (32\pi^2 f_\pi^2 / (Ny_0))^{1/2} \sim 680\text{MeV}$: solution I \leftrightarrow Solution II.

VACUUM STRUCTURE: FINITE TEMPERATURE



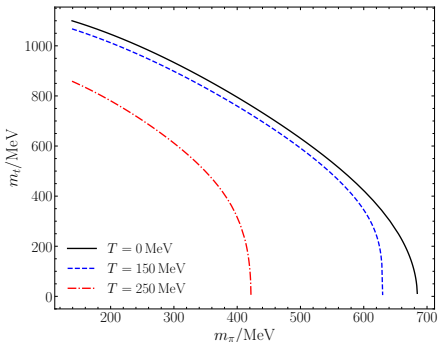
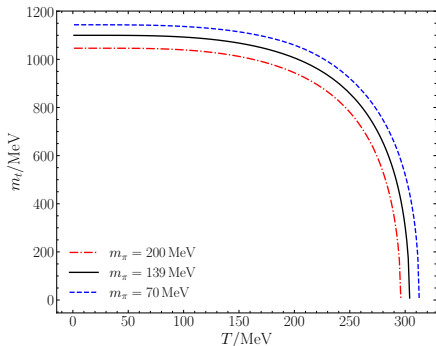
- T increases: $|\phi_b|$ and $|\phi_{min}| \rightarrow$ smaller.
- T_f : there is no solution for the gap equations. $T_f \sim 314\text{MeV}$
- T_b : $\phi_b = 0$.
- The two branches: Effective potential V get closer.
- $T_c < T_f < T_b$. $T > T_f$, no vacuum, the system is already unstable. Difference $T_b - T_f \sim \text{keV}$.



At high temperature: the Solution I will move to the second branch, becoming a saddle point.

TACHYON: m_π AND T DEPENDENCE

There could be a tachyon for solution I.



- Plays a role of another cutoff of the theory: $-m_t^2 \ll s \ll s + m_t^2$. ($m_t \sim 1.1\text{GeV}$ for physical mass, $T = 0$) [R. S. Chivukula and M. Golden, PLB 267, 233]
- $s = -m_t^2 < 0$: m_t decreases with temperature and m_π .
- Tachyon has positive residue in the $\sigma - \sigma$ propagator, similar to bound state.
- Tachyon \rightarrow bound state transition \leftrightarrow the point of exchanging the two solution.

- σ pole trajectory in leading $O(N)$ and N/D modified $O(N)$: with varying m_π and temperature.
- Subthreshold resonance pole generation: After crossing symmetry partially recovered.
- Vacuum structure: with varying m_π and temperature. Phenomenological favored one is the first branch.

APPENDIX

m_π (MeV)	139	239	283	330	391
$O(N)$ (LO)	$356 - i148$	$448 - i57$	558(VS I) 438(VS II)	660(VS I) 451(VS II)	780(BS) 489(VS II)
N/D modified $O(N)$	$348 - i180$	469(BS) 426(VS II) 168(VS III)	527(BS) 422(VS II) 264(VS III)	585(BS) 396 - $i28$ (Sub. pole)	658(BS) 466 - $i77$ (Sub. pole)
lattice + K -matrix		(487 ~ 809 - $i136$ ~ 304)[49, 51]	(476 ~ 579 - $i0$ ~ 129)[51]	657_{-4}^{+3} (BS)[51]	758 ± 4 (BS)[49]
lattice + Roy Eq.		(416 ~ 644 - $i176$ ~ 307)[57, 58]	522 ~ 562 (VS I&II)[58] ^a		759_{-16}^{+7} (BS)[57] $269_{-25}^{+40} - i211_{-23}^{+26}$ (Sub. pole)[57]

^a Additionally, there is a third though “noisy” pole close to the left-hand cut on the second sheet, which could correspond to the virtual state pole VS III appearing in the N/D modified $O(N)$ model analysis. However, a definitive conclusion about whether the σ is a virtual state or a subthreshold resonance at this m_π value cannot be made, owing to large statistical uncertainties in the results, see Ref. [58] for details.

TABLE I. Comparison of the pole positions ($\sqrt{s_{\text{pole}}}$) for $O(N)$ model, lattice + K -matrix [49, 51] and lattice + Roy equation [57, 58]. When $m_\pi = 391$ MeV, the subthreshold (Sub.) pole close to the left-hand cut in Ref. [57] can also be found (qualitatively) within the N/D modified $O(N)$ model discussed in this work.