

θ physics and axion

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θ term in QCD

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

$$Z_{\text{QCD}}(\theta) = \int [dA][d\psi][d\bar{\psi}] e^{-S_{\text{QCD}}}$$

instanton number: $Q = \int d^4x \frac{1}{32\pi^2} F \tilde{F}$ (integer!)

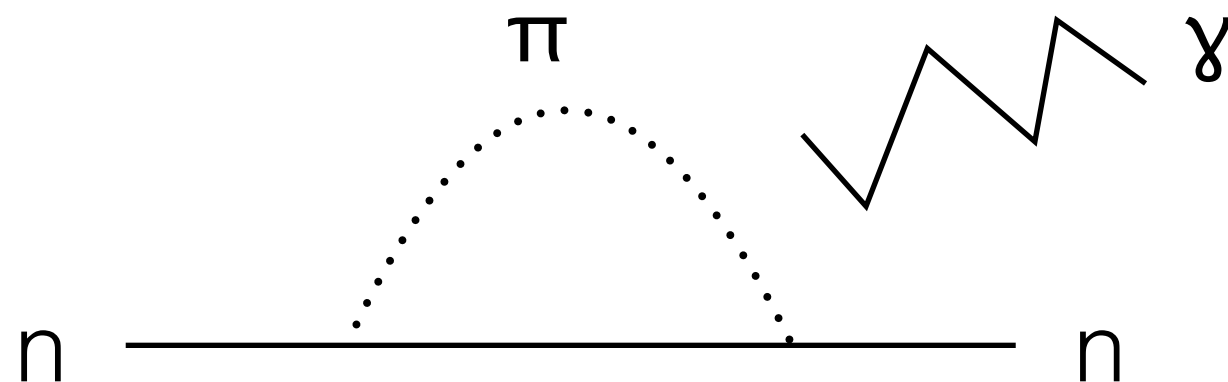
How does θ affect physics?

It is actually physical, and even known to be problematic.

Strong CP problem

θ term breaks CP

[’t Hooft ’76]



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

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

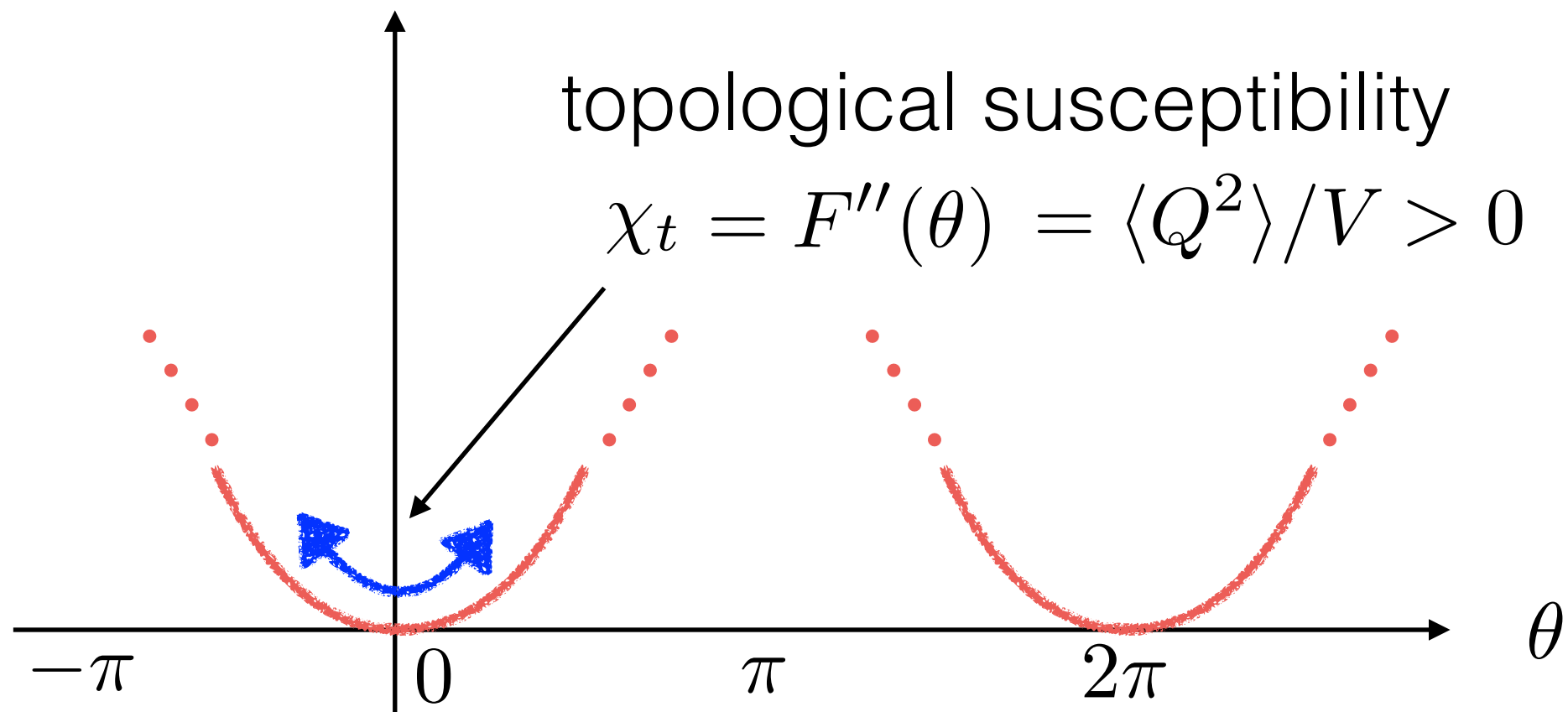
[Crewther, Di Vecchia,
Veneziano, Witten '79]

θ dependence of free energy?

$$F(\theta) = -\frac{1}{V} \log Z(\theta)$$

topological susceptibility

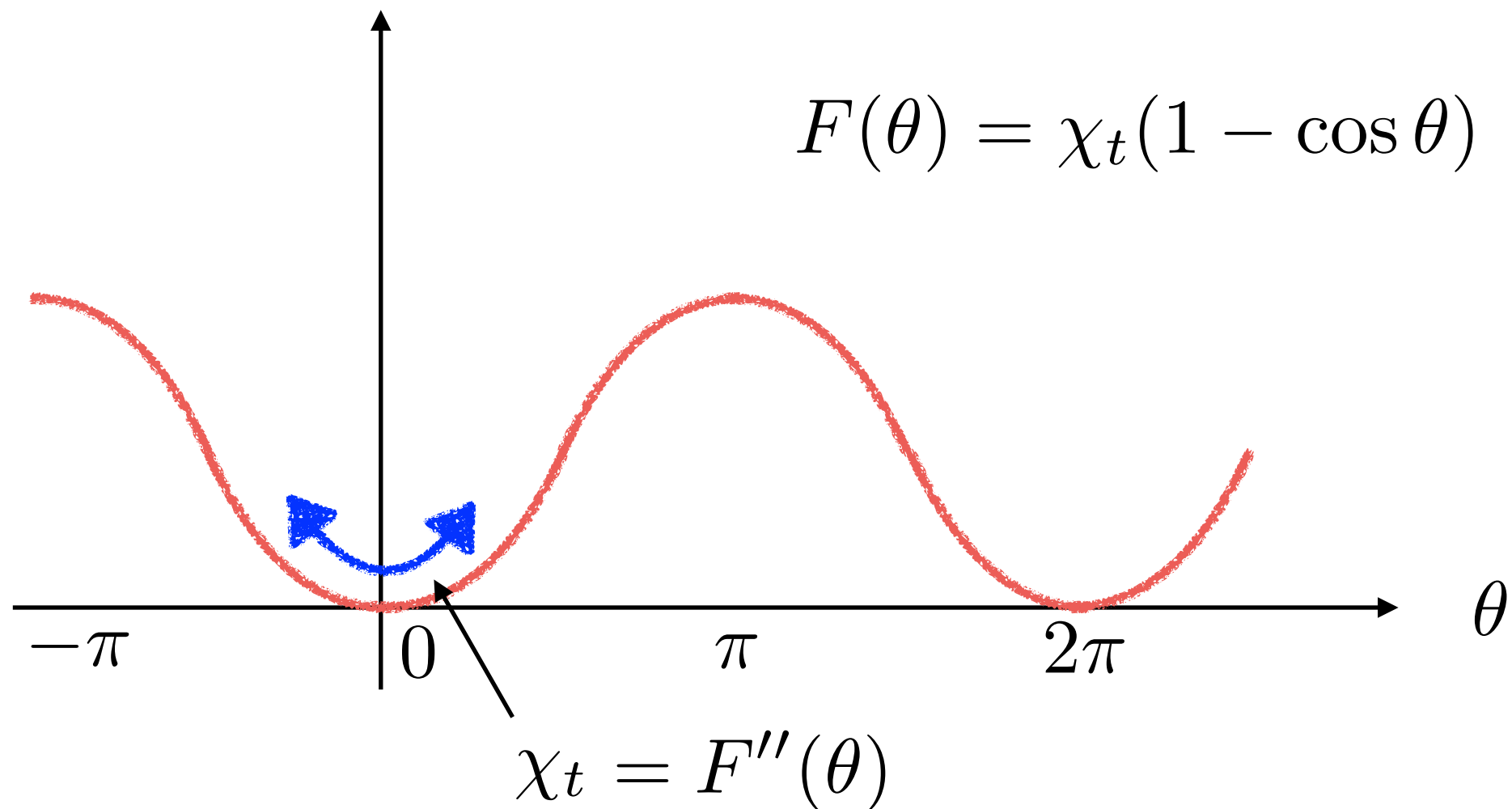
$$\chi_t = F''(\theta) = \langle Q^2 \rangle / V > 0$$



dilute instanton gas picture

$$F(\theta) = -\frac{1}{V} \log Z(\theta)$$

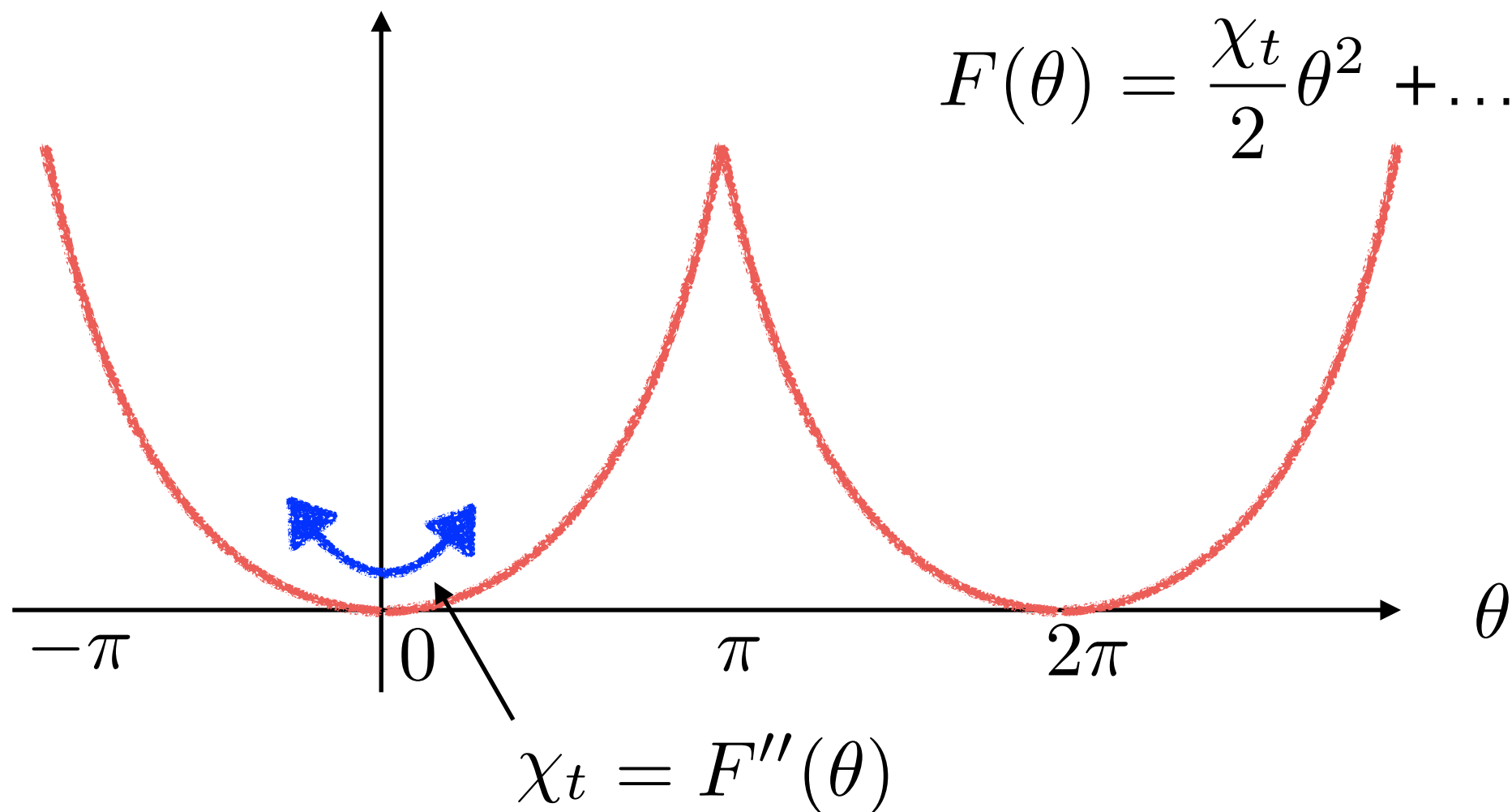
$$F(\theta) = \chi_t (1 - \cos \theta)$$



large N picture

$$F(\theta) = -\frac{1}{V} \log Z(\theta)$$

$$F(\theta) = \frac{\chi_t}{2} \theta^2 + \dots$$



This seems to hold in YM theory with **finite** N. (maybe $N > 2$)

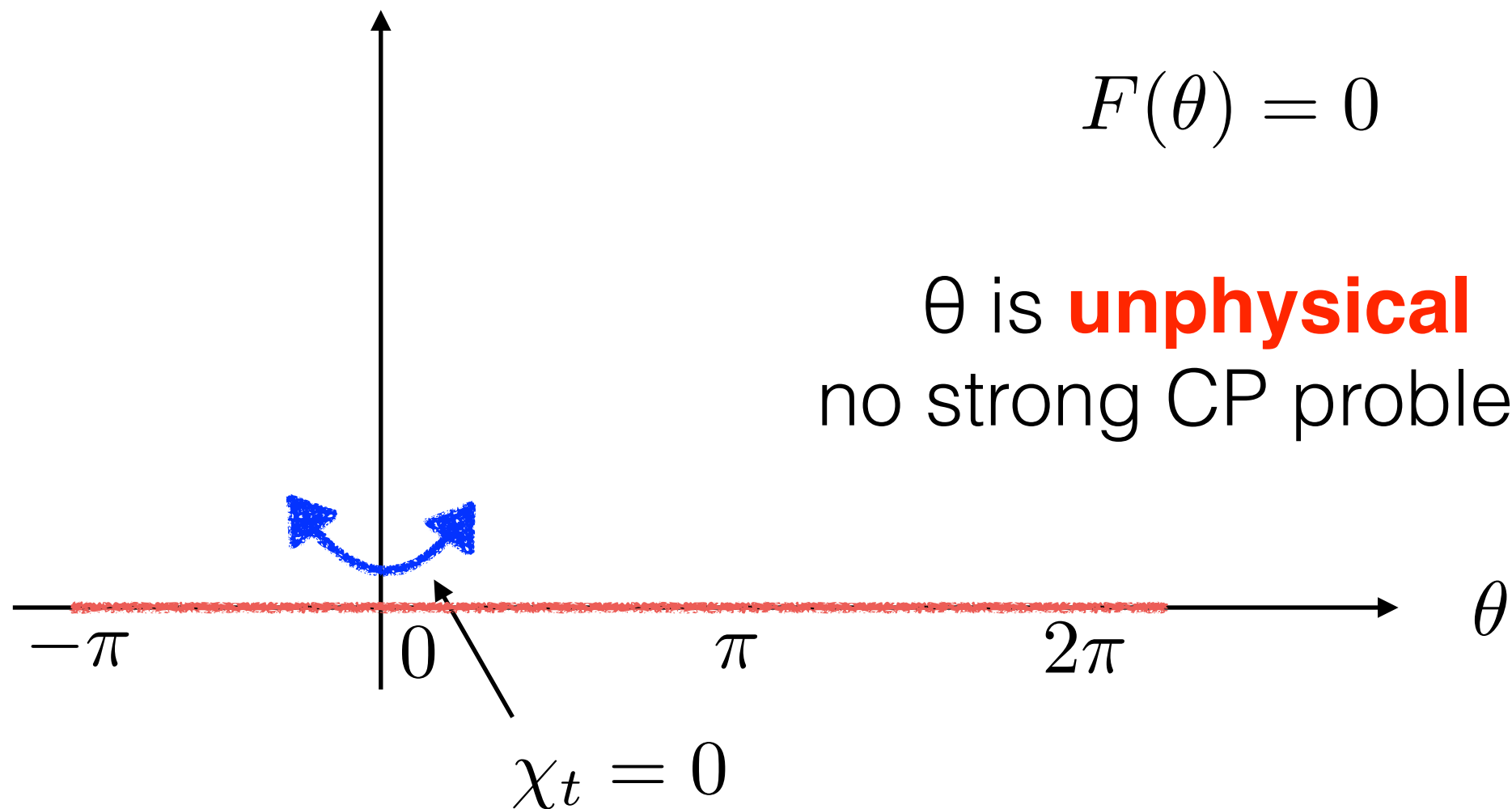
[Gaiotto, Kapustin, Komargodski, Seiberg '17] [RK, Suyama, Yamada '17]

massless quark

$$F(\theta) = -\frac{1}{V} \log Z(\theta)$$

$$F(\theta) = 0$$

θ is **unphysical**
no strong CP problem

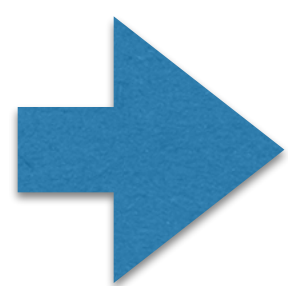


χ_t and quark mass

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

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

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


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

If m_u is non zero, θ is physical.

If $m_u=0$, physics does **not** depend on θ .

—> no strong CP problem

$$m_u=0?$$

LIGHT QUARKS (u, d, s)

[PDG]

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

Lattice QCD?

The quark mass is something you **define**
it's not just a parameter in the Lagrangian.

One should define the quark mass so that

$$\chi_t \propto m_u$$

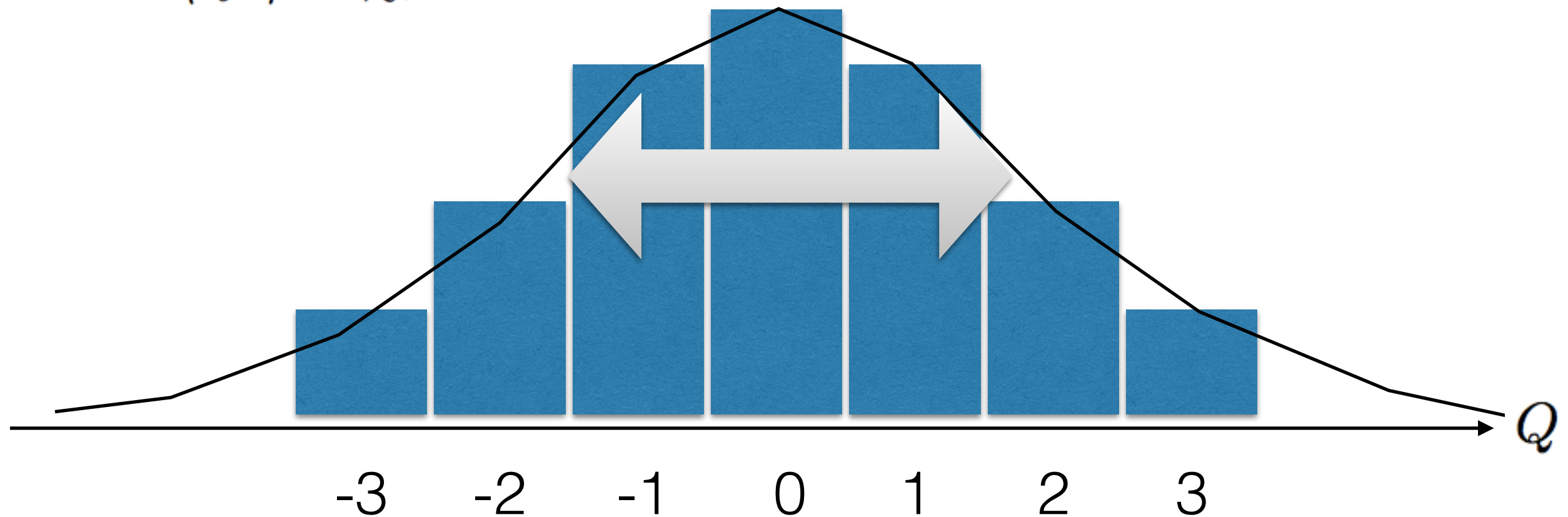
in order to establish

$m_u \neq 0$ and the strong CP problem is real.

χ_t on the lattice

$$Q = \int d^4x \frac{1}{32\pi^2} F \tilde{F} = \text{Tr} \gamma_5 = n_+ - n_-$$

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



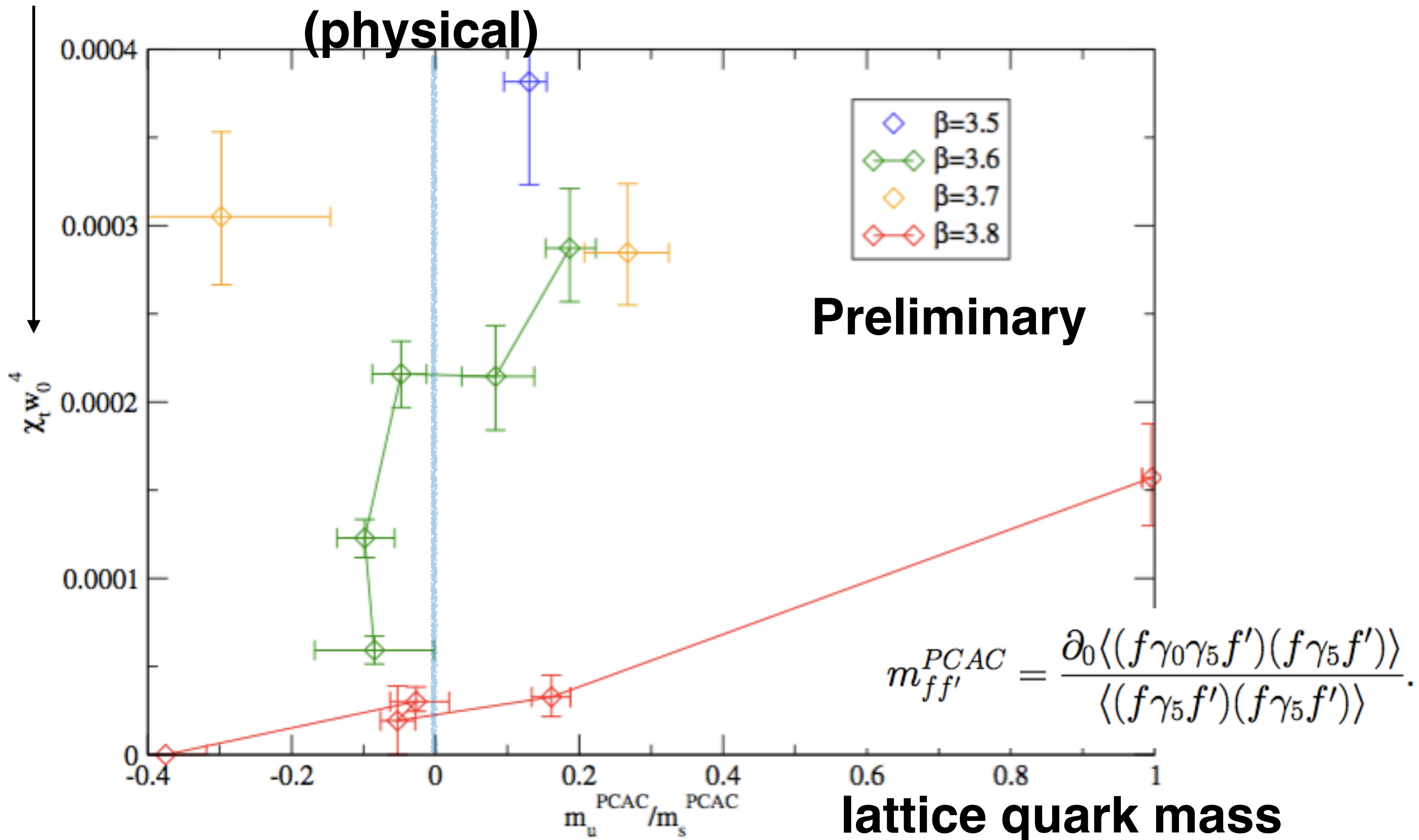
Let's examine if the “lattice quark mass” satisfies

$$\chi_t \propto m_u$$

1+2 flavor QCD

**measure of the Strong CP problem
(physical)**

[RK, Yamada, Frison '16]



It seems that there is a large discretization effects..
We need more data to say something quantitative.

Hopefully we can say
something soon...

Sorry! No conclusion yet...

[Peccei, Quinn '77][Weinberg '78][Wilczek '78]

[Kim '79]

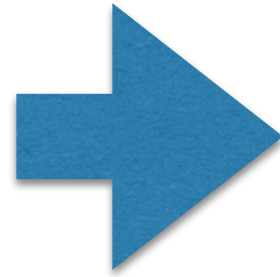
[Shifman, Vainstein, Zakharov '80]

[Zhitnitsky '80]

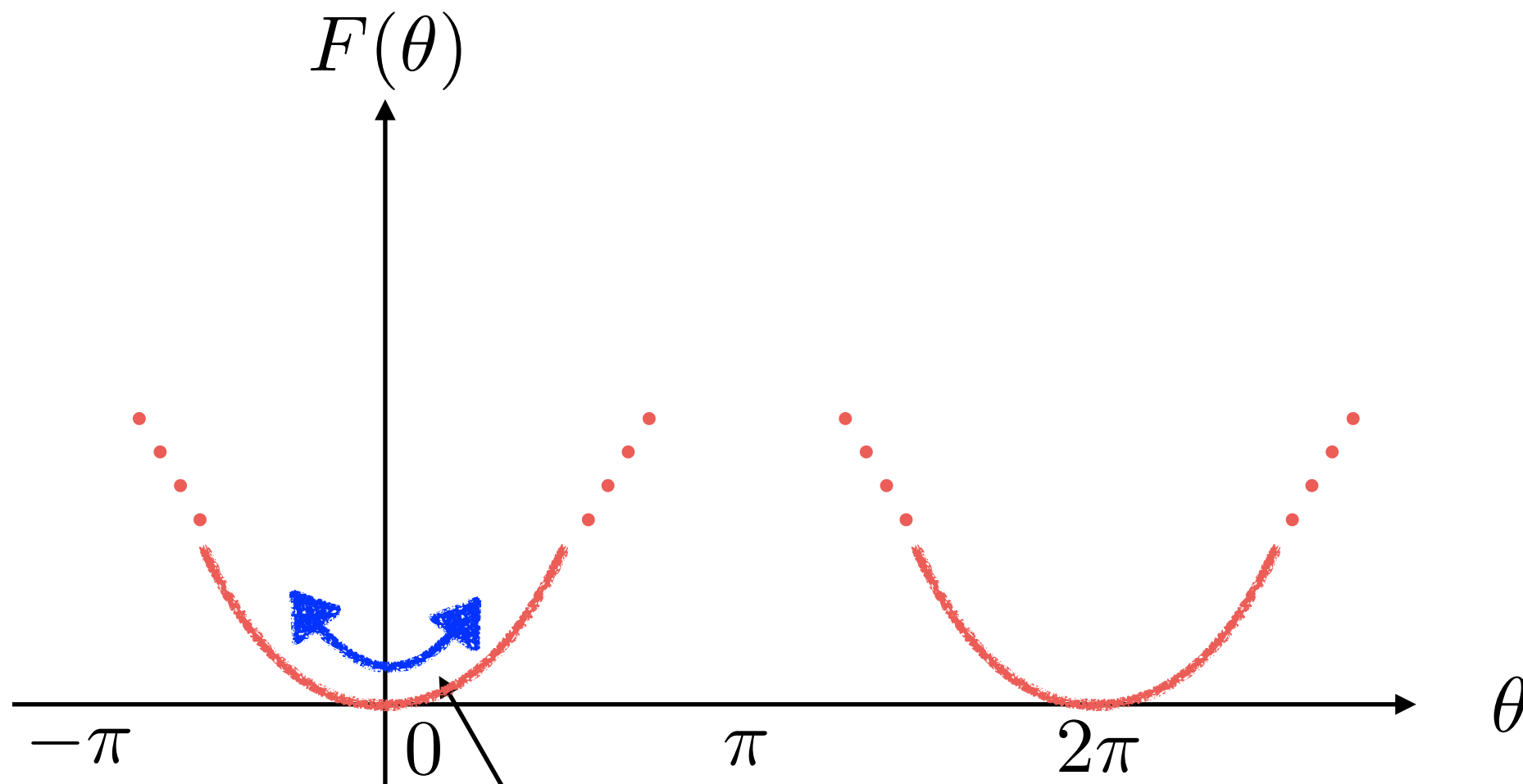
[Dine, Fischler, Srednicki '81]

Axion

promote θ to
a dynamical field

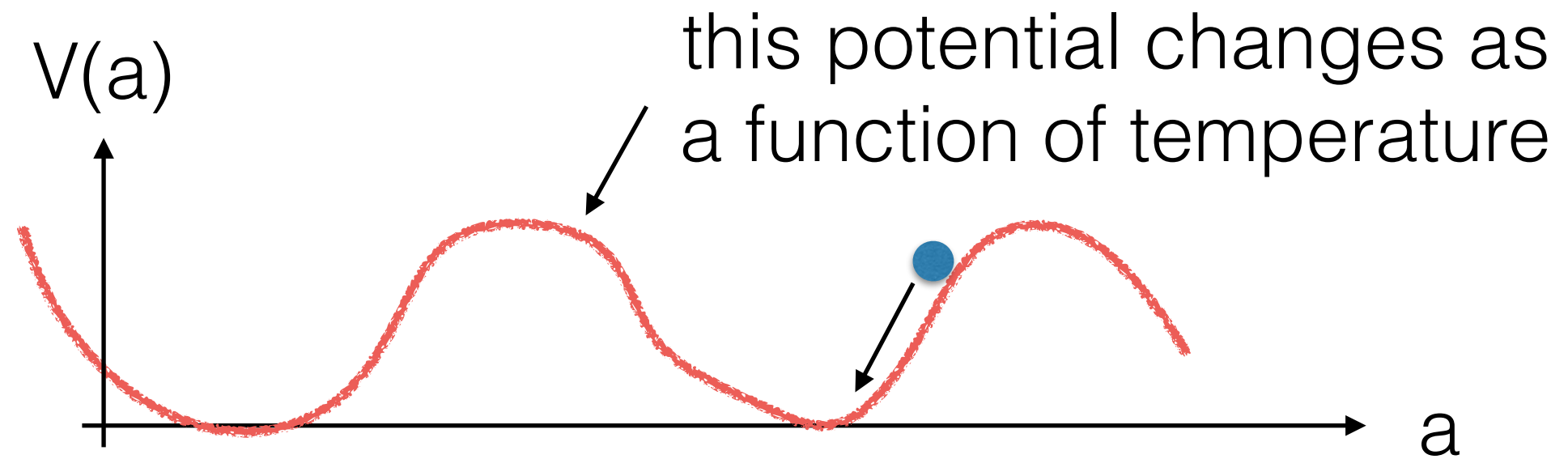


minimum
of the potential preserve CP!

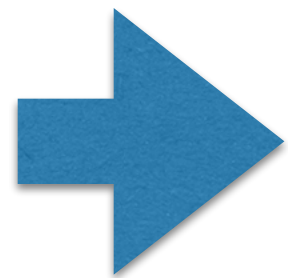


$$\chi_t = F''(\theta) = m_a^2 f_a^2 \quad \text{axion mass}$$

Axion Dark Matter



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



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

where

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

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

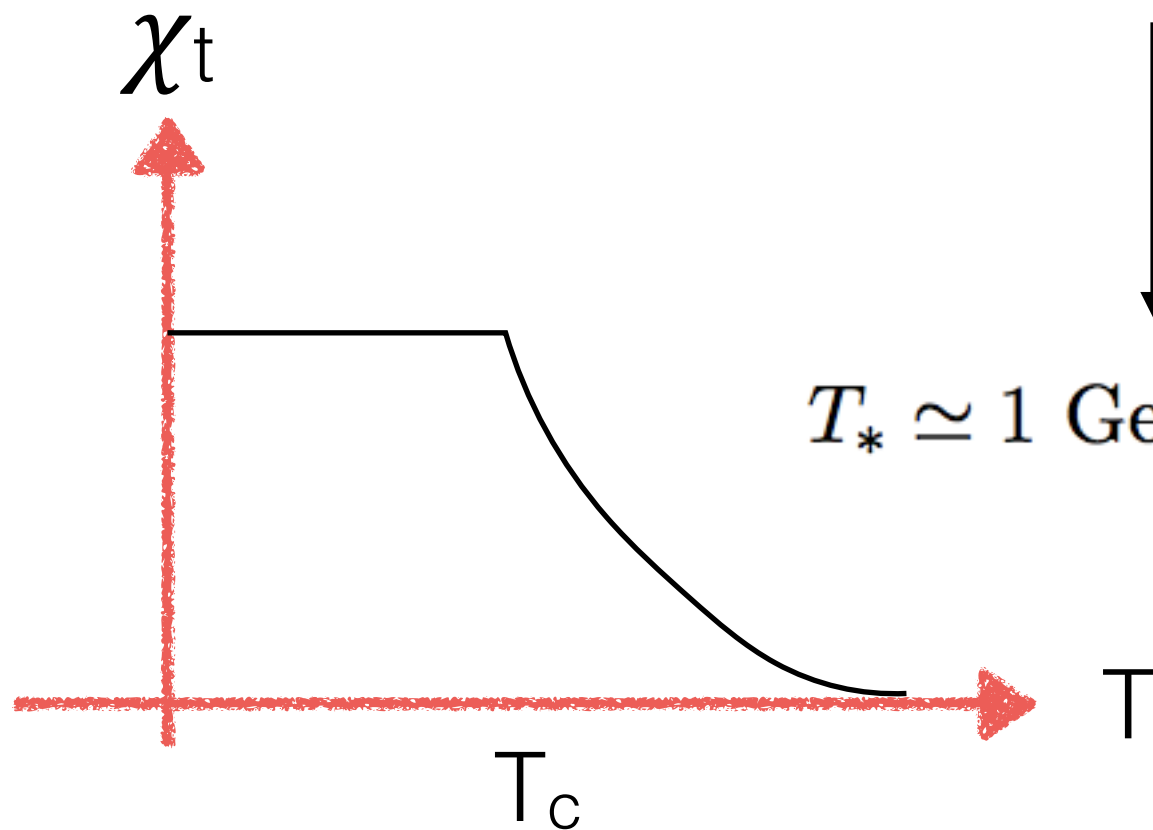
instanton paradigm

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

[Pisarsky, Yaffe '80]

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

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

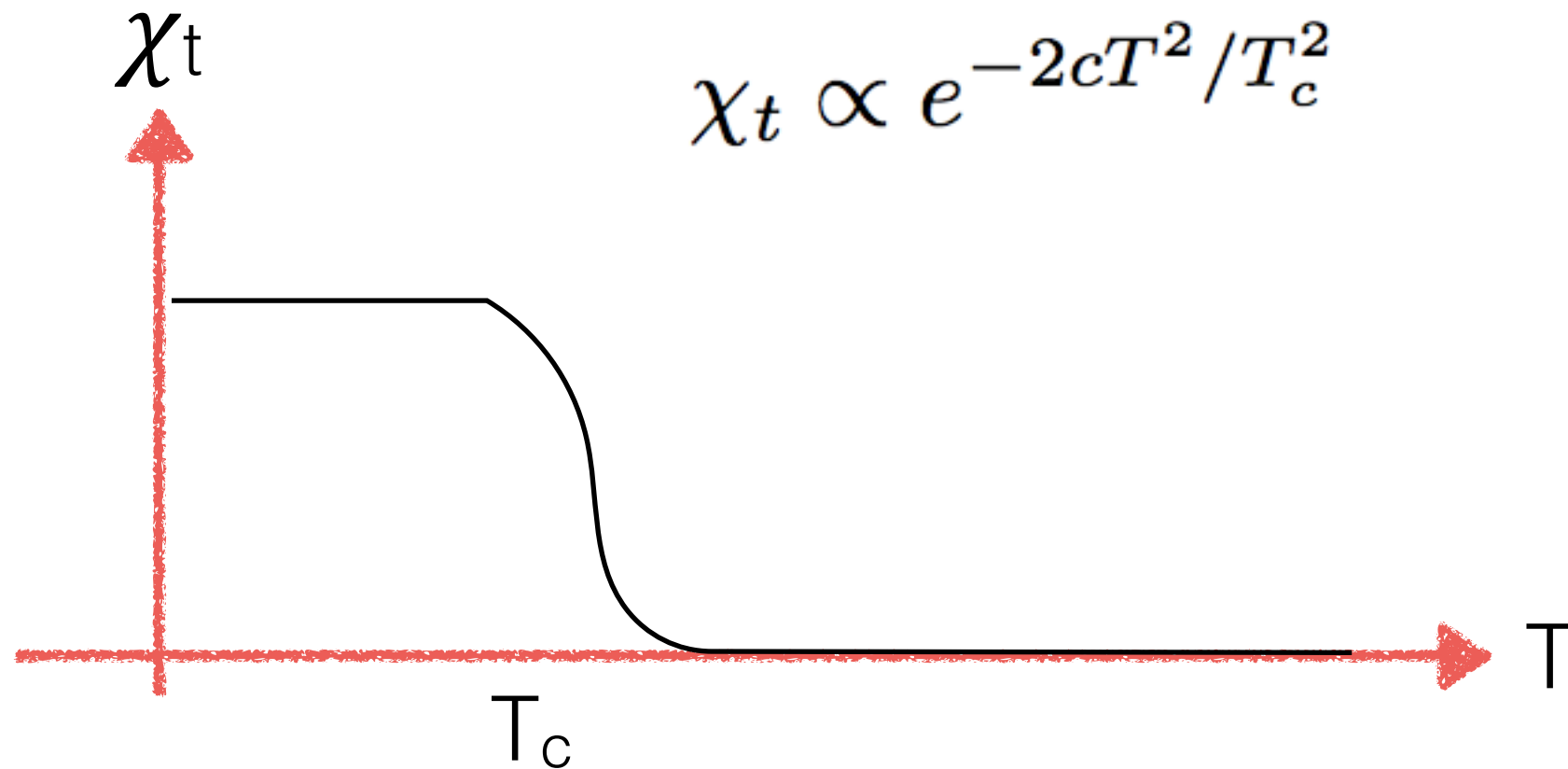


$$T_* \simeq 1 \text{ GeV} \cdot \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/6}$$

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

if χ_t shuts off very quickly at T_c

the axion suddenly starts to oscillate at $T \sim T_c$

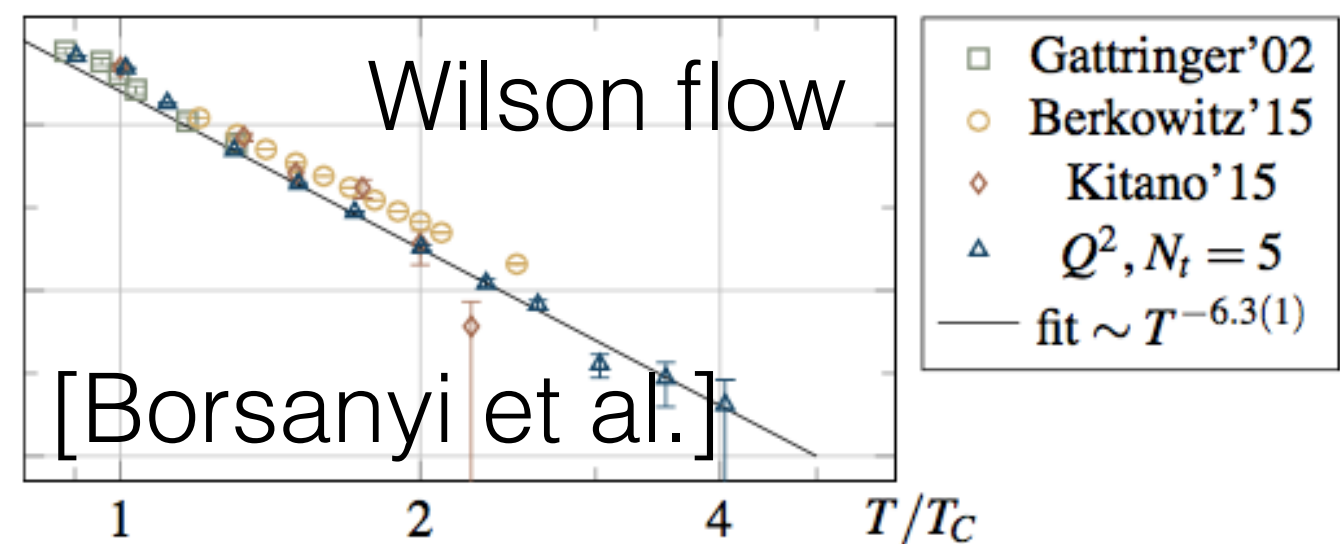
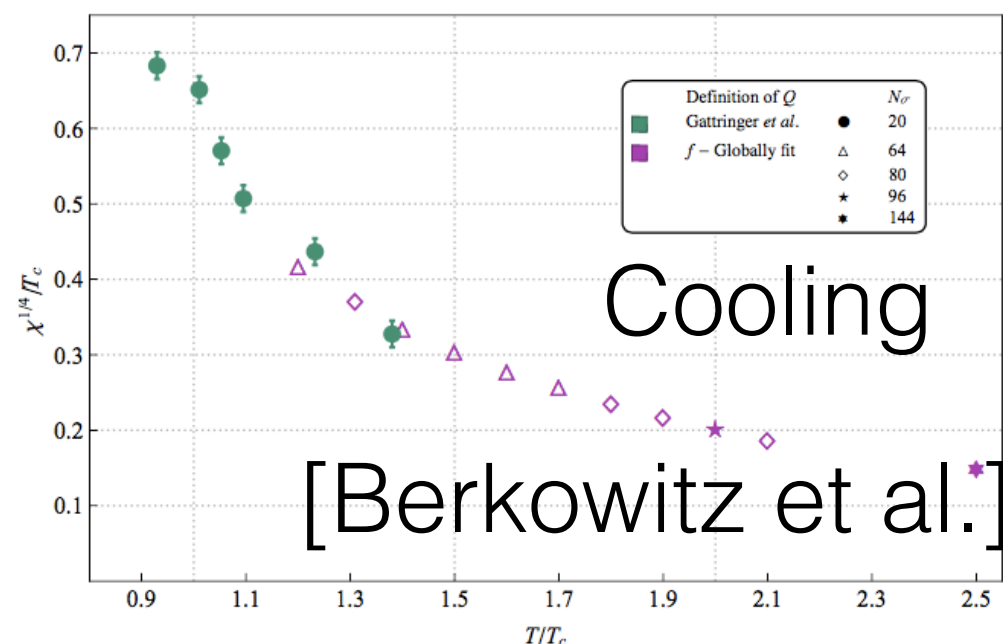
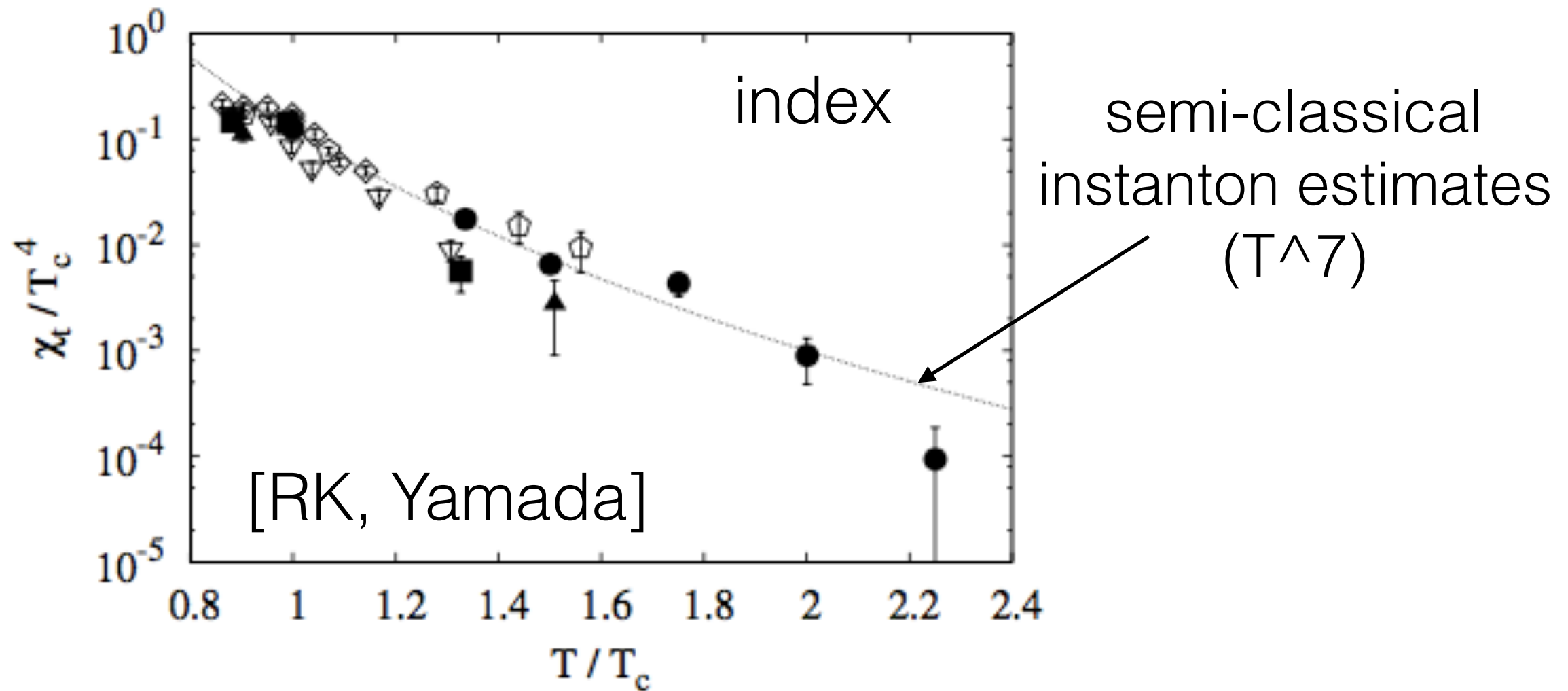


$$\Omega_a \sim 0.2\theta_{\text{ini}}^2 \left(\frac{m_a}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}} \right)^{-1} \times 2.5c \quad (c \gg 1)$$

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

Dark Matter abundance is controlled by
How quickly the potential grows as temperature.

lattice results (SU(3) YM)



Power Law

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

The dilute Instanton gas picture seems to be pretty good above the critical temperature.

directly access the exponent

[Frison, RK, Matsufuru, Mori, Yamada '16]

$$\chi_t V(\beta) \simeq \frac{2Z_1(\beta)}{Z_0(\beta)} \quad \chi_t(\beta) \propto T^k$$

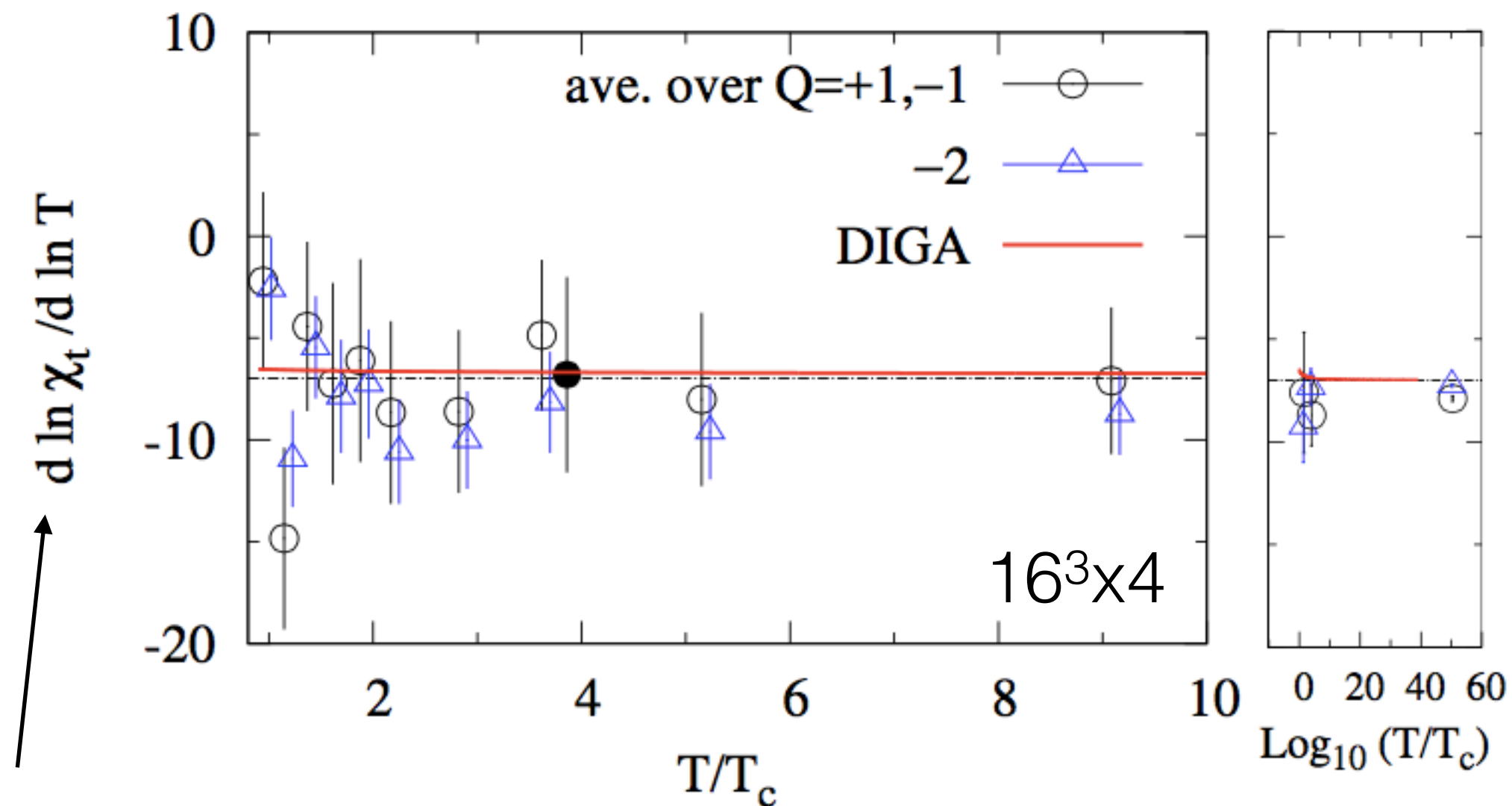
$$\frac{d \ln Z_Q(T)}{d \ln T} = \left(\frac{d\beta}{d \ln T} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} + \frac{d \ln \bar{m}_q}{d \ln T} \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln \bar{m}_q} \right) \ln Z_Q(\beta, \bar{m}_q)$$

$$k = \frac{d \log \chi_t}{d \log T} = \frac{d\beta}{d \log T} (\langle S \rangle_{1,\beta} - \langle S \rangle_{0,\beta}) + 4$$
$$+ N_f \left(1 + \frac{d \log m_q}{d \log a} \right) m_q (\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_{1,\beta} - \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_{0,\beta})$$

instanton prediction is “-b+4-Nf” we can measure this by fixing the topology.

Fixed topology measurements

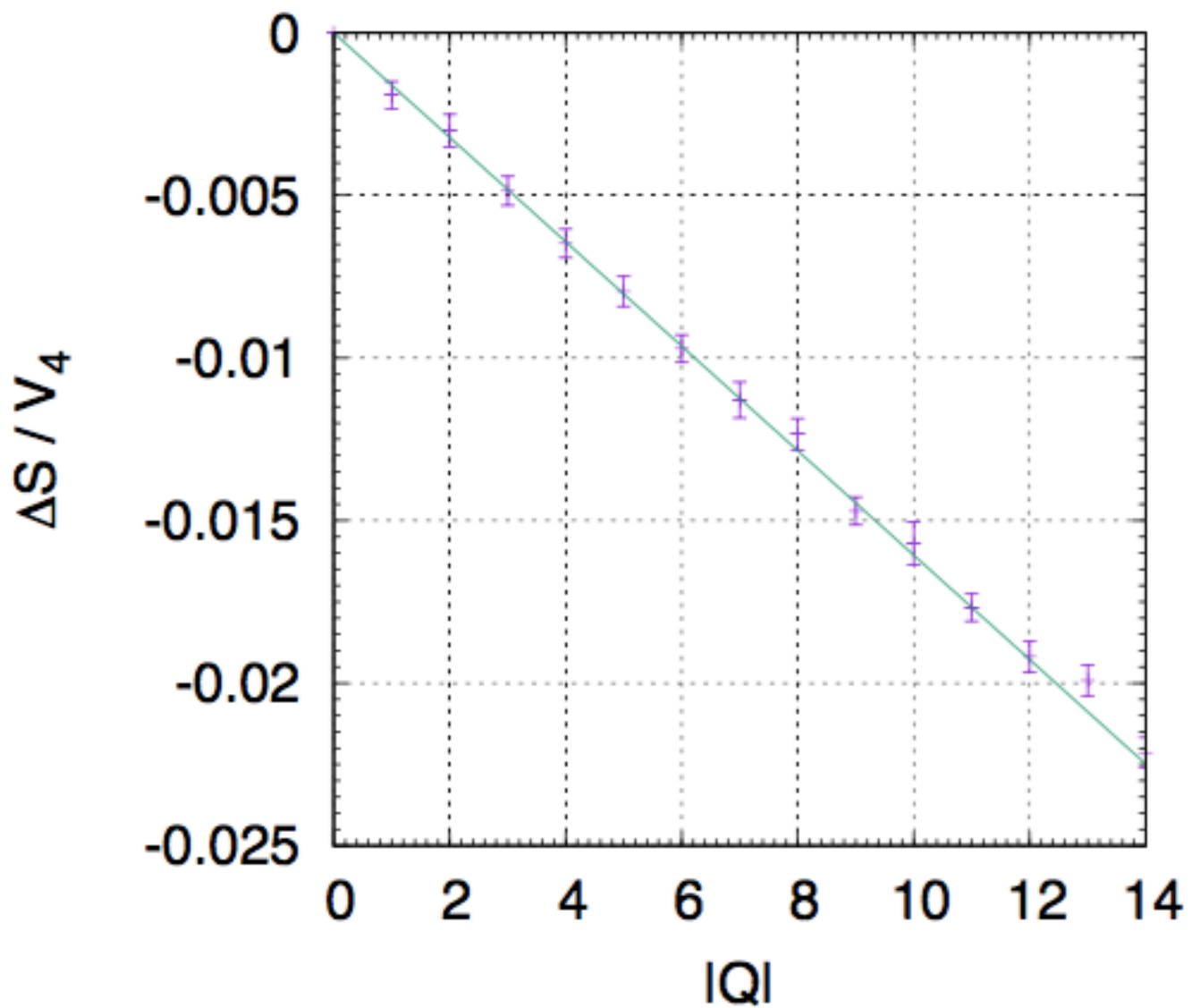
(quenched)



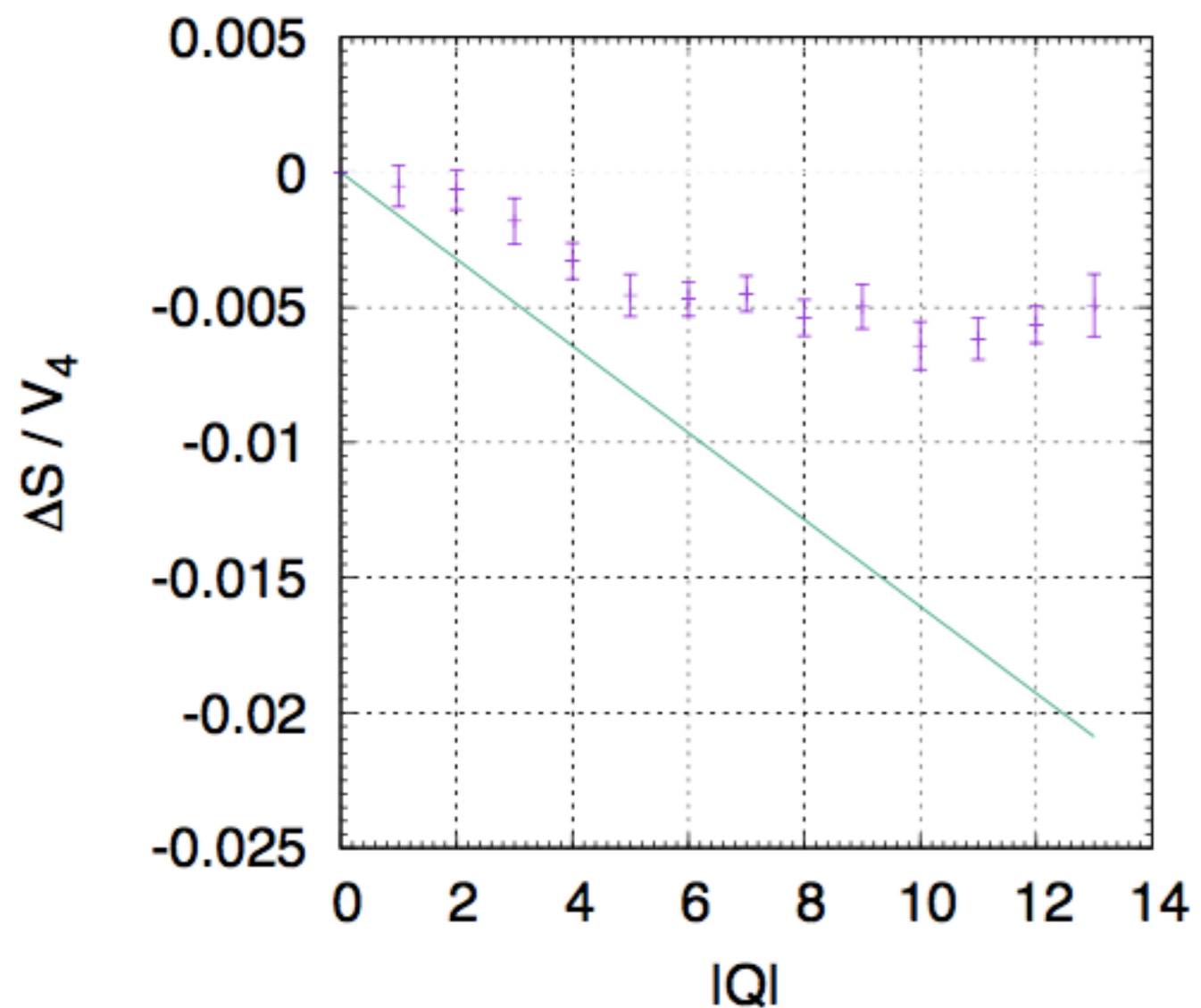
This quantity is related to the difference of $\langle S \rangle$ for fixed Q .
Instanton looks good.

fun with instantons

high temperature



low temperature

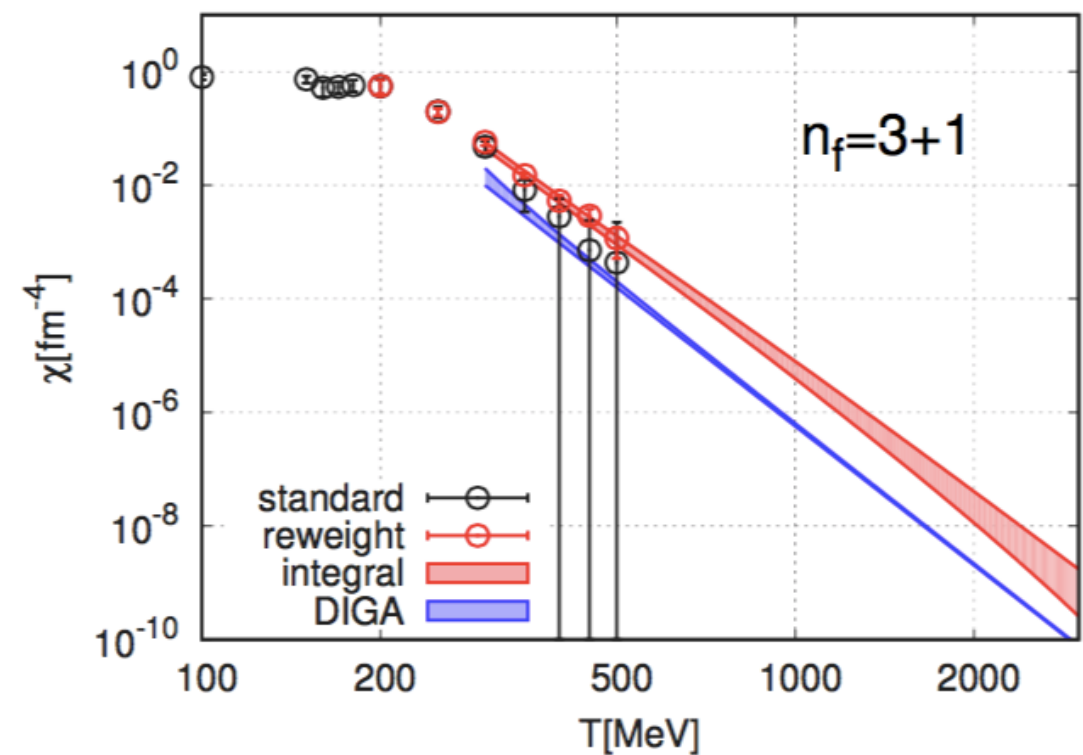
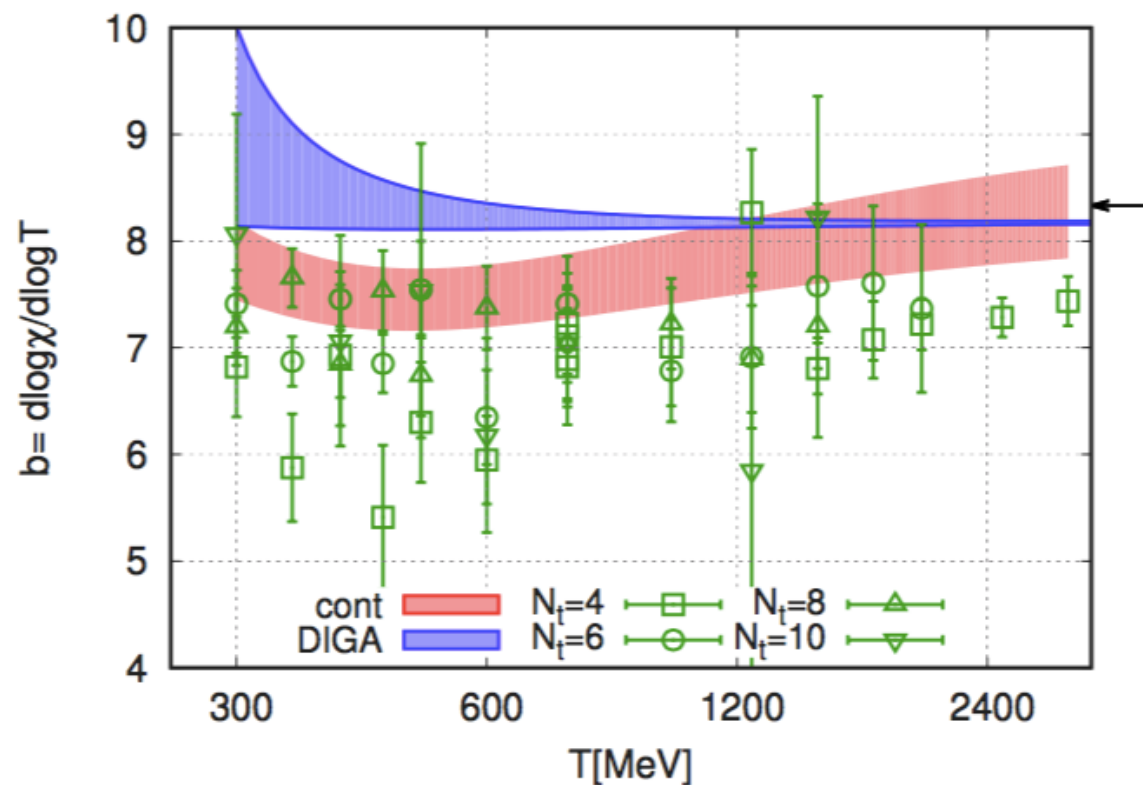


— instanton gas predictions

dynamical fermions

from [1606.07494 Borsanyi et. al.]

$$\langle \bar{\psi} \psi_f \rangle_{Q=0}^{\text{rw+zm}} = \langle \bar{\psi} \psi_f \rangle_{Q=0}^{\text{rw}} + \frac{|Q|}{m_f} - \left\langle \frac{1}{2m_f} \sum_{n=1}^{2|Q|} \frac{4m_f^2}{\lambda_n^2[U] + 4m_f^2} \right\rangle_Q^{\text{rw}}$$



Instanton picture looks essentially OK,
but normalization differs by $O(10)$.

Instanton picture seems to work at high temperature.
(Actually, there are still active discussion on this point.)
See Fukaya's talk!

Summary

θ is physical

if quark is massive.

We have been considering

- Is quark really massive? (under progress..)
- How Axion mass behaves as a function of temperature? (looks like dilute instanton gas is good at least qualitatively)
- What's the actual θ dependence of the vacuum? Especially, what happens at $\theta=\pi$? (spontaneous CP violation or deconfinement!)