#### **QCD** with many flavors at zero and non-zero temperature

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## New Frontiers of Lattice Field Theories GGI Firenze 17 September 2012

### QCD with many flavors : Sketchy view of the phase diagram



## (ideal) Outline

- Nf=0
- Nf=1
- Nf=2
- Nf=3
- Nf=4
- Nf=5
- Nf=6
- Nf=7
- Nf=8
- Nf=9
- Nf=10
- Nf=11
- Nf=12
- Nf=13
- Nf=14
- Nf=15
- Nf=16
- Summary

# Outline



#### Near Conformal: Continuum and Lattice

This talk's main theme: precursors effects of conformality when approaching Nfc from the QCD side

## QCD-like : running coupling



# **Running vs Walking :**

Both compatible with IR slavery and UV freedom



Running :  $\Lambda$  sets the scale

 m Λ
 Walking : Separation of Scales:
 Interesting for
 Phenomenology

## The discovery of the conformal window of QCD

Miransky-Yamawaki, 1997; Appelquist et al. 1997

•For Nf > 8 the perturbative  $\beta$ function of QCD develops a second 0 : the Banks-Zacs **IRFP**.

•Then the coupling runs to **IRFP** 

•Chiral Symmetry Breaking requires *OPOC*cr:

• 1) IRFP <  $\alpha cr \rightarrow$ CONFORMAL WINDOW

2) IRFP > αcr → IRFP disappears QCD-like, but: NEAR-CONFORMALITY, WALKING





## Can we establish walking as well?

Can we establish walking as well? (if yes, it has to be for Nf > 5)

## Near-Conformal behaviour On the QCD-side can be seen in:

. . .

Different scales  $\Lambda {\sf UV}$  and  $\Lambda {\sf IR}$ 

Critical behaviour Nf ---> Nfc

m 
$$(N_f) = K |N_f - N_f^c|^{-1/\theta}$$
.

## Thermal transition and near-conformal dynamics

J. Braun , H. Gies 06 08 09



Towards Conformality: Continuum (from the lattice)



### From the Lattice..

..to the continuum Via old fashioned asymptotic scaling

$$\Lambda_{\rm L} a(\beta_{\rm L}) = \left(\frac{2N_c b_0}{\beta_{\rm L}}\right)^{-b_1/(2b_0^2)} \exp\left[\frac{-\beta_{\rm L}}{4N_c b_0}\right].$$
$$\frac{1}{N_t} = \left|\frac{T_c}{\Lambda_{\rm L}}\right| \times \left(\Lambda_{\rm L} a(\beta_{\rm L}^{\rm c})\right).$$
Must be approx. constant for several Nt (Old fashioned asymptotic scaling)

### Nf = 6 Chiral crossover of order parameter



## Nf=6, Polyakov loop



#### Nf=6 : Chiral crossover of the chiral cumulant $R\pi$



## Summary of results for $\beta c$ (updated at xQCD2012)

**Table:**  $N_f = 0, 4, 6$ : Miura-Lombardo-Pallante ('12),  $N_f = 8$ : Deuzeman-Lombardo-Pallante ('08)

$N_f \setminus N_t$	4	6	8	12
0	$7.35\pm0.1$	$7.88\pm0.05$	$8.20\pm0.1$	-
4	-	$5.89\pm0.05$	-	
6	$4.65\pm0.05$	$5.05\pm0.05$	$5.2\pm0.05$	$5.55\pm0.1$
8	-	$4.1125 \pm 0.0125$	-	$4.34\pm0.04$

 The Monte-Carlo simulations have been performed by using the same lattice action (one-loop Symanzik tad-pole improved AskTad action) up to

$$\frac{1}{N_t} = \frac{T_c}{\Lambda_L} \times \left(\Lambda_L \ a(\beta_L^{\ c})\right).$$
Must be Nt  
independent

## Nt-(quasi) independence of Tc/ $\Lambda$ Lat for Nf = 6





## Tc/ $\Lambda$ as a function of Nf



## Fixing an UV scale



• We have measured the tadpole factosr  $u_0 = \langle \Box \rangle^{1/4}$  at T = 0.

• We use the couplings obtained by the constant *u*<sub>0</sub> line to define a UV reference scale *M*.

# $Tc/M_{UV}$



### Trading $\Lambda$ LAT for $\Lambda$ IR stable



 $T_c(N_f) = K|N_f - N_f^c|^{-1/\theta}$ . 1.1 < 1/ $|\theta|$  < 2.5,



### Alternative analysis





## (Quasi)Conformality and High T QCD

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\eta/S < (3-5) / 4 \pi
```

AdS/CFT vs. lattice data in a 'quasi-conformal' regime

For  $T \simeq 3T_c$ , the lattice results reveal that the deconfined plasma, while still strongly interacting and far from the Stefan-Boltzmann limit, approaches a scale-invariant regime ...

 $p(\varepsilon)$  equation of state and approach to conformality





M. Panero 2010

S. Borsaniy et al.2011

#### **Conformality and near-Conformality at zero and finite** T: coupling 'walks' in the 0.6 T/T<sub>c</sub> $\alpha_{qq}(r,T)$ 0.5 0.4 2.50.3 **NEAR-CONFORMAL QGP** 0.2 SQGP 0-0I 200 3-di 1.5 0.1 T-dep 1 150 T <sub>cr</sub> [Mev] the ru "More" Stronger QGP – develo more slowly walking 100 0.5 r [fm] 1 50 Kaczmarez-Zantov 2005 0 2 12 4 6 8 10 **Conformal Window** Nf J. Braun, H. Gies, 06

## Towards Conformality-Lattice

### **PHASES OF QCD ON THE LATTICE : Temperature = 0**

#### Miransky, Yamawaki



#### **PHASES OF QCD ON THE LATTICE : Finite Nt**



### PHASES OF QCD ON THE LATTICE : Finite Nt Numerical results



## Critical number of flavor from thermal lines





#### **Inside the Conformal window**

#### The nucleon mass and the 'Edinburgh Plot' in the conformal window



#### Mass ratio : qualitative features discriminating broken and symmetric phases



A sketchy view of the behavior of the  $\pi$  to  $\sigma$  mass ratio as a function of the bare mass. Each line corresponds to one lattice coupling, and the coupling decreases from bottom to top. Chiral symmetry is broken on the lower part

## The transition of 4dQED on a Lattice





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#### Nf = 12 SAME TREND AS IN SYMMETRIC QED, SUPPORTING SYMMETRIC PHASE



A. Deuzeman, M. P. Lombardo, E. Pallante, Phys. Rev. D82 (2010) 074503

 $m_{a}$ 

## Nf=12: mass ratio



#### Chiral Partners, and anomalous dimension

$$\delta_{a_1} = 0.67(4), \, \delta_{\rho} = 0.68(3), \, \text{at } \beta_L = 3.9,$$
  
 $\delta_{a_1} = 0.68(7), \, \delta_{\rho} = 0.67(3) \, \text{at } \beta_L = 4.0,$ 



Caveat... Can we compute anomalous dimenions away from IRFP ???

#### ANALOGY WITH STRONGLY COUPLED QED



#### Summary

Near-conformal dynamics (continuum):

Tc/ $\Lambda$  suggests scale separation for Nf > 6 Pre-conformal (critical) behaviour

$$T_c(N_f) = K|N_f - N_f^c|^{-1/\theta}$$

observed for Nf > 6, with Nf critical = 11 (3) Shuryak's (equivalent) view : coupling at (Tc, Nfc) = coupling at IRFP

Near-conformal dynamics (lattice) :

Thermal pseudocritical lines meet at (g\*, Nf critical), with **Nf critical = 10(2)** (preliminary)

All estimates confirm that twelve flavors is close to the conformal transitions – *Nf*=12 difficult to study directly (as we know!)

Interesting interplay with finite temperature QCD with implications for the physics of the strongly interactive quark gluon plasma