

# Non-equilibrium fermion production on the lattice

Daniil Gelfand | University of Heidelberg |

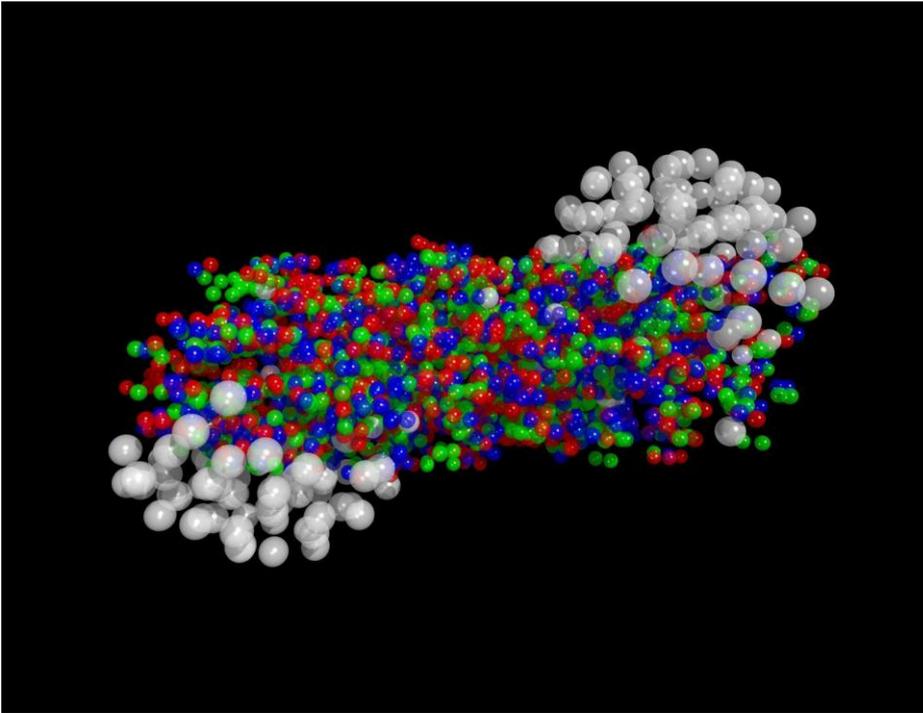


Image copyright CERN/Henning Weber.

*J. Berges, D. G., J. Pruschke, PRL  
107 (2011) 061301*

*J. Berges, D. G., D. Sexty,  
hep-ph/1308.xxxx*

*F. Hebenstreit, J. Berges, D. G., PRD  
87 (2013) 105006*

*F. Hebenstreit, J. Berges, D. G.,  
hep-ph/1307.4619*

# Introduction

*Fermion production important for:*

- **Heavy-ion collisions**

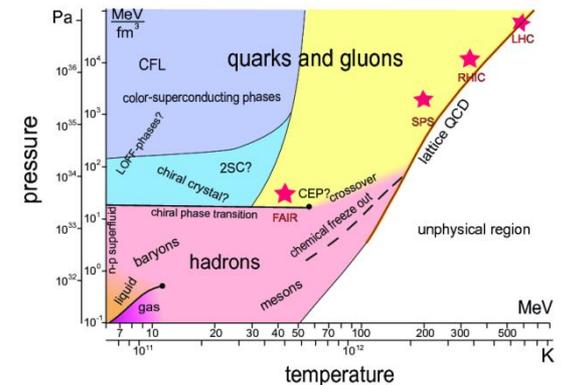
- Production of quarks from highly occupied gauge fields
- String breaking in QCD

- **Intense laser beams**

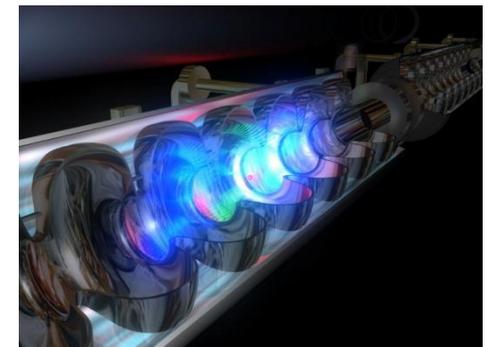
- Vacuum pair production of electron-positron pairs

- **Non-equilibrium processes!**

- Real-time description necessary
- Initial value problems



Wambach, J. et al. AIP Conf. Proc. 1441 (2012) 794-796



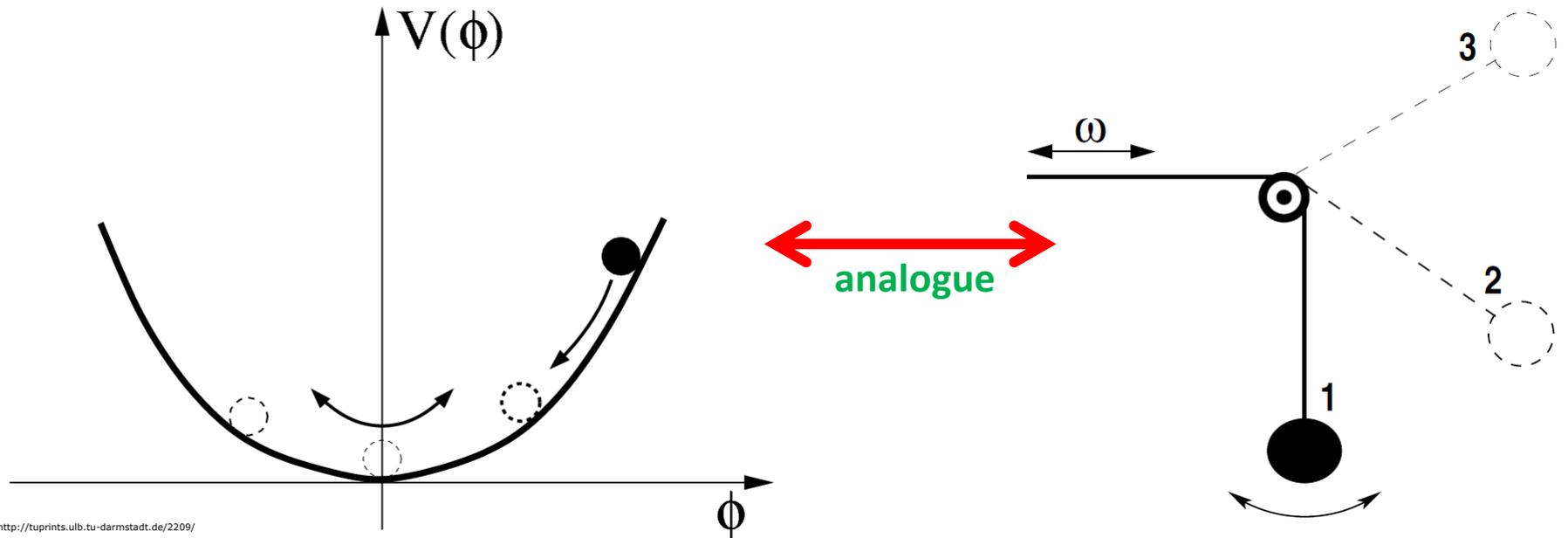
[http://scr3.golem.de/screenshots/1206/NFEL/Nfel\\_5.jpg](http://scr3.golem.de/screenshots/1206/NFEL/Nfel_5.jpg)

# Introduction

## Parametric resonance

- Enhancement of boson fluctuations through instabilities
- Strong and weak wave turbulence
  - Dual cascade

R. Micha, I. I. Tkachev, Phys.Rev. D70 (2004) 043538; J. Berges, A. Rothkopf, J. Schmidt, Phys.Rev.Lett. 101 (2008) 041603; J. Berges, D. Sexty, Phys. Rev. Lett. 108 (2012) 161601



<http://tuprints.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/2209/>

<http://tuprints.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/2209/>

# Introduction

## Quark-meson model

- 2 flavours of quarks coupled to mesons

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} (i\partial_\mu \gamma^\mu) \psi + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi_a \partial^\mu \phi_a - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi_a \phi_a - \frac{\lambda}{4! \cdot N_s} (\phi_a \phi_a)^2 - \frac{g}{N_f} \bar{\psi} (\sigma + i\gamma_5 \vec{\tau} \vec{\pi}) \psi$$

- O(4) self-interacting meson field  $\phi = \{\sigma, \pi^1, \pi^2, \pi^3\}$   $\phi(t) = \langle \sigma(t, \mathbf{x}) \rangle$
- 3+1 dimensions

## Schwinger model

- QED in 1+1 dimensions  $\mathcal{S} = \int d^2x \left( \bar{\psi} [i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m] \psi - \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} \right)$
- Fermion pair production from electric fields

$$\frac{\Delta n^\pm}{LT} = \frac{eE_0}{2\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi m^2}{eE_0}\right) = \frac{m^2 \epsilon}{2\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{\epsilon}\right) \quad E_c = \frac{m^2}{e} \quad \epsilon = \frac{E_0}{E_c}$$

# Implementation

## Schwinger model

- Linear potential between charges
  - String formation/breaking similar to QCD

- *No magnetic fields!*
- *No propagating photons!*

## Lattice approach

- Plaquette formulation: 
$$\mathcal{S}_g[U] = \frac{1}{e^2 a_s a_t} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \text{Re} [1 - U_{01}(\mathbf{x})]$$
- Temporal axial gauge:  $\mathcal{A}_0 = 0 \quad U_0(\mathbf{x}) = 1$
- Classical-statistical bosonic fields

$$\langle O \rangle = \int D\mathcal{A}_{t_0} D\mathcal{E}_{t_0} W[\mathcal{A}_{t_0}, \mathcal{E}_{t_0}] O_{\text{cl}}[\mathcal{A}_{t_0}, \mathcal{E}_{t_0}]$$

$$O_{\text{cl}}[\mathcal{A}_{t_0}, \mathcal{E}_{t_0}] = \int D\mathcal{A} O[\mathcal{A}] \delta(\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{A}_{\text{cl}}[\mathcal{A}_{t_0}, \mathcal{E}_{t_0}])$$

$$\partial_\mu \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu}(x, t) = -e \text{Tr} [\gamma^\nu F(x, x; t)]$$

*Fermion backreaction from statistical propagator:*

$$F(x, y; t) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \langle [\psi(x, t), \bar{\psi}(y, t)] \rangle$$

G. Aarts and J. Smit, Nucl. Phys. B 555 (1999) 35

# Implementation

## Lattice approach

- Quantum fermions using  $\otimes/\otimes$  - method

S. Borsanyi and M. Hindmarsh, Phys. Rev. D 79 (2009) 065010

- Set of auxiliary spinor fields  $\psi_{M/F}(x)$  is introduced

- Initialization

$$\psi_{M,F}(t=0, \mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\mathbf{p}\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_s (\xi_s(\mathbf{p})u_s(\mathbf{p}) \pm \eta_s(\mathbf{p})v_s(\mathbf{p}))$$

- With random numbers:

$$\langle \xi_s(\mathbf{p}), \xi_{s'}^*(\mathbf{q}) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{ss'} \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}) (1 - 2n_+^s(\mathbf{p}))$$

$$\langle \eta_s(\mathbf{p}), \eta_{s'}^*(\mathbf{q}) \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{ss'} \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}) (1 - 2n_-^s(\mathbf{p}))$$

- Evolved in time using EoM

$$i\partial_\mu \gamma^\mu \psi_g(x) - \frac{g}{2} (\sigma(x) + i\gamma_5 \vec{\tau} \vec{\pi}(x)) \psi_g(x) = 0$$

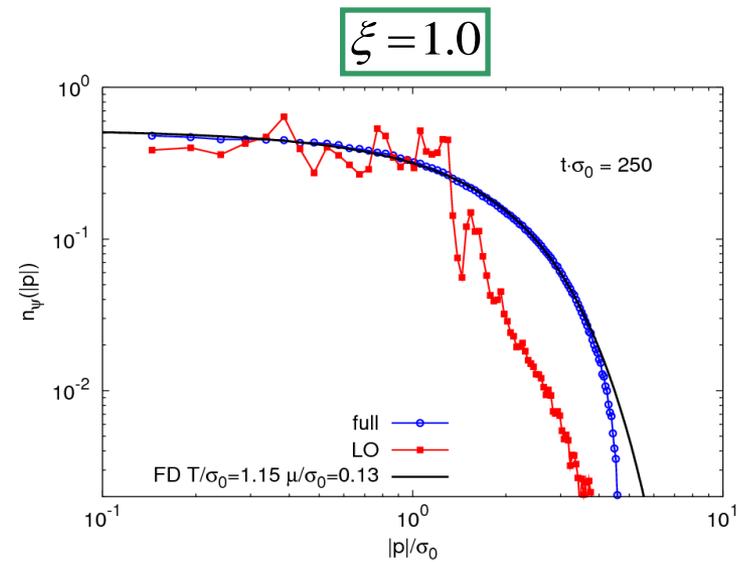
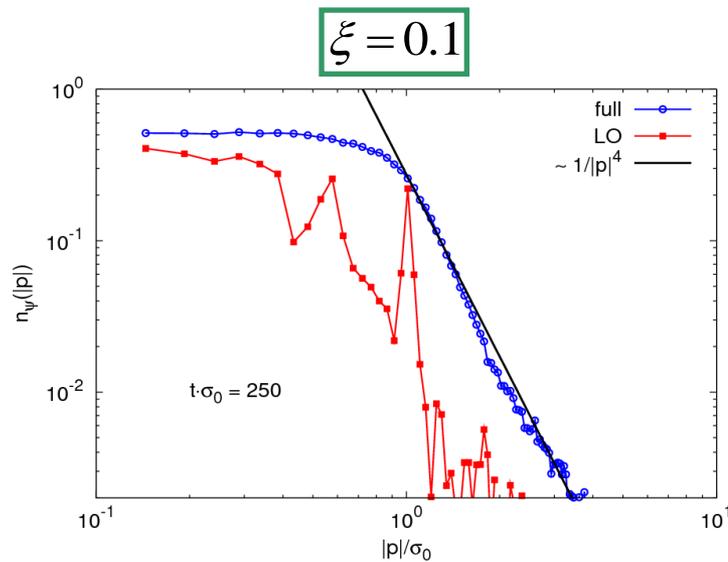
- Average over all pairs:

$$F_{\text{sto}}(x, y; t) \equiv \langle \psi_M(x, t) \bar{\psi}_F(y, t) \rangle = \langle \psi_F(x, t) \bar{\psi}_M(y, t) \rangle$$

$$F_{\text{sto}}(x, y; t) \stackrel{!}{=} F(x, y; t)$$

# Results

## Quark-meson model:



- Total number of produced fermions strongly enhanced
- Quantum effects important, even at weak couplings

LO:

$$\left[ i\partial_\mu \gamma^\mu - \frac{g}{N_f} \phi(t) \right] D(x, y) = 0$$

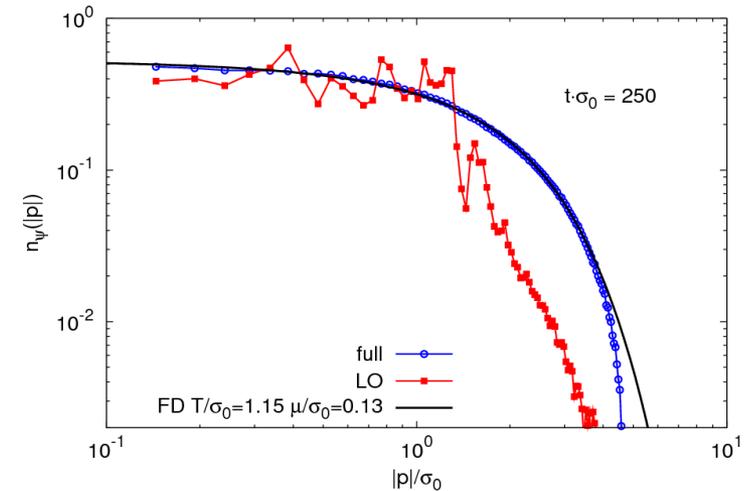
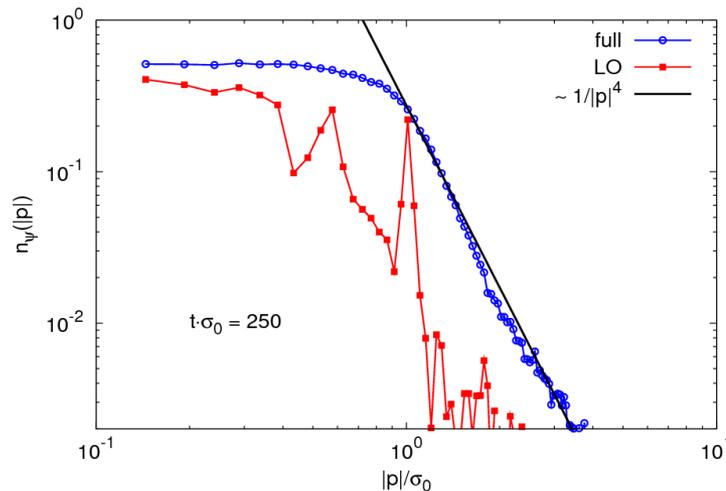
No fluctuations!

Baacke, Heitmann, Pätzold, PRD 58 (1998) 125013; Greene, Kofman, PLB 448 (1999) 6; Giudice, Peloso, Riotto, Tkachev, JHEP 9908 (1999) 014; Garcia-Bellido, Mollerach, Roulet, JHEP 0002(2000) 034; ...

# Results

## Quark-meson model:

Results consistent with functional methods (2PI)!



$\xi = 0.1$

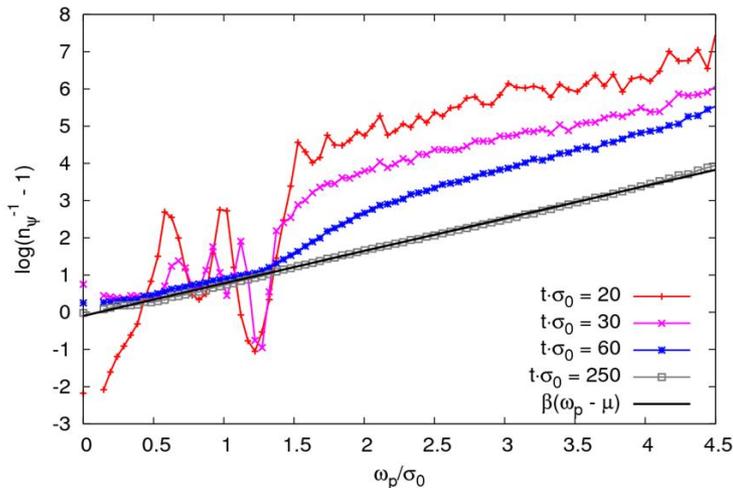
- Unexpected power-law dependence in the UV
- Exact value of exponent varies in time, stays  $\approx 4$

$\xi = 1.0$

- Full dynamics shows higher occupancy in UV
- Quarks seem to take on a Fermi-Dirac distribution

# Results

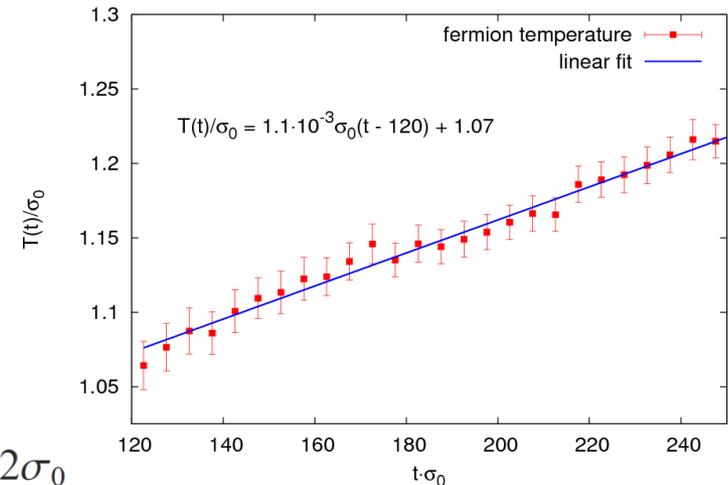
## Quark-meson model:



- *Similar quasi-equilibration already observed in a strongly coupled Abelian Higgs model in 1+1d*

G. Aarts, J. Smit, Phys. Rev. D61 (2000) 025002

- *Time dependent non-equilibrium temperature*



## Stefan-Boltzmann limit:

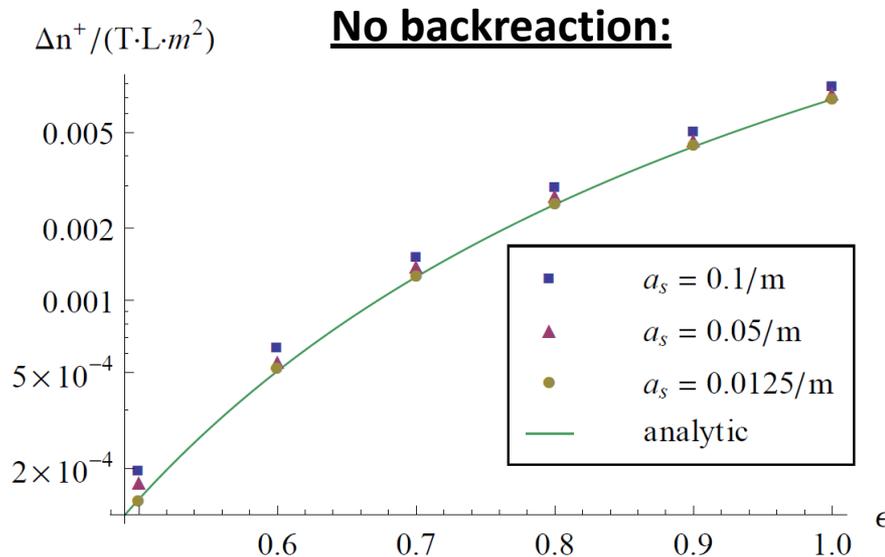
$$T_{eq} = \sigma_0 \left( \frac{45N_s}{\pi^2 \left( N_s + \frac{7}{2}N_f \right) \lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \simeq 2.02\sigma_0$$

# Results

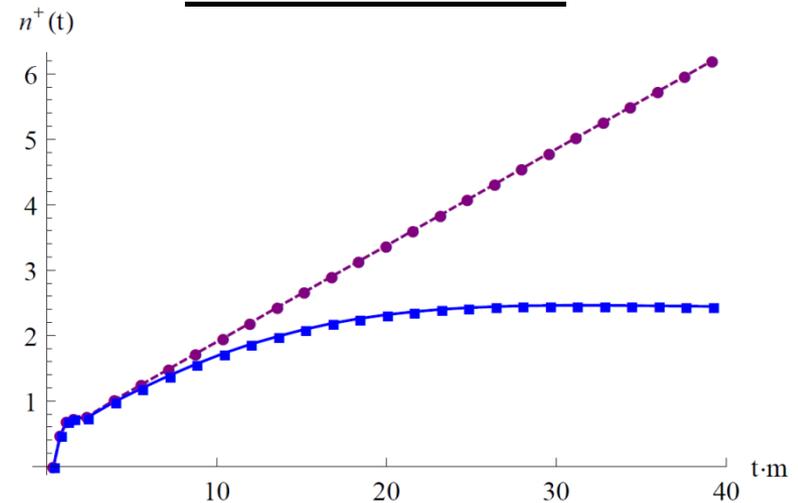
## Schwinger model:

- Homogeneous field

$$E(x, t) = E_0$$



## **With backreaction:**



- *Convergence to analytic prediction in continuum limit*
- *Backreaction leads to saturation*
- *Earlier results successfully confirmed*

F. Hebenstreit, R. Alkofer and H. Gies, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107 (2011) 180403; F. Hebenstreit, PhD thesis, arXiv:1106.5965 [hep-ph]

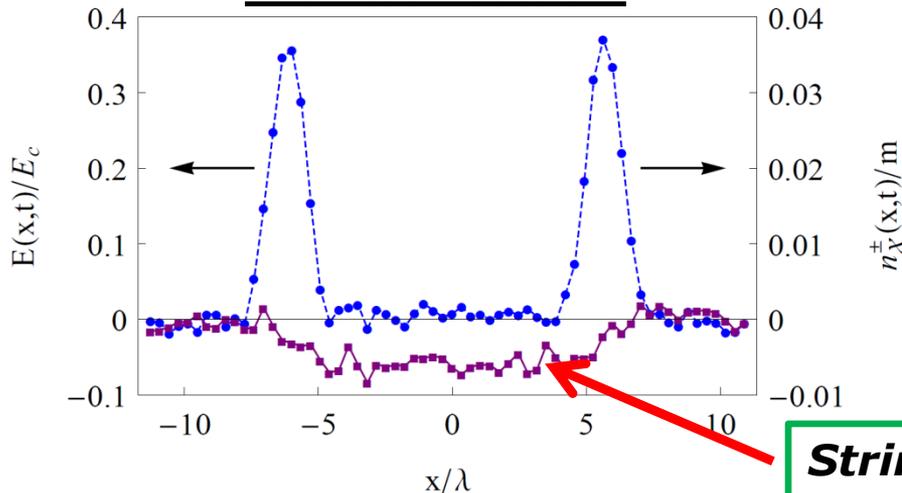
# Results

## Schwinger model:

- Inhomogeneous field

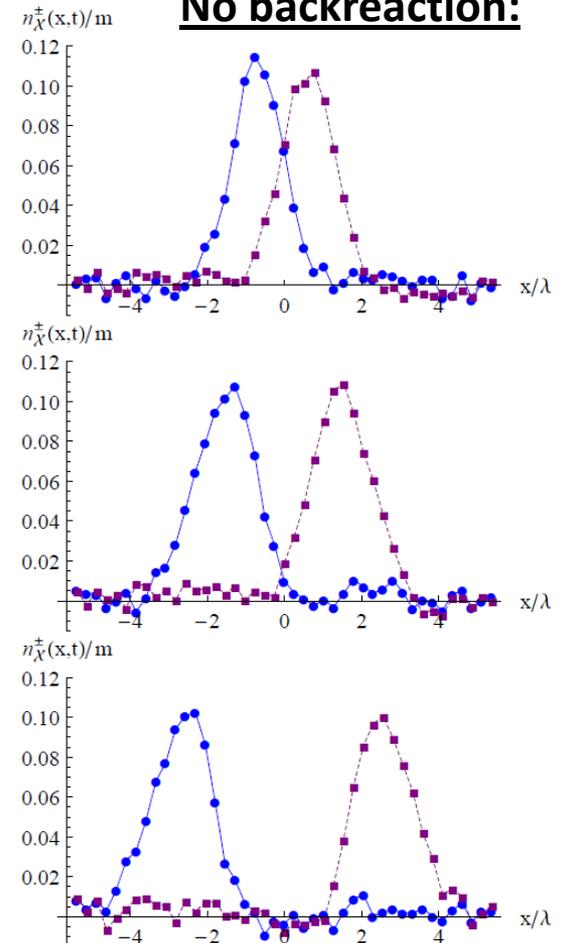
$$E(x, t) = E_0 \operatorname{sech}^2(\omega t) \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\lambda^2}\right)$$

### With backreaction:



**String formation**

### No backreaction:



# Results

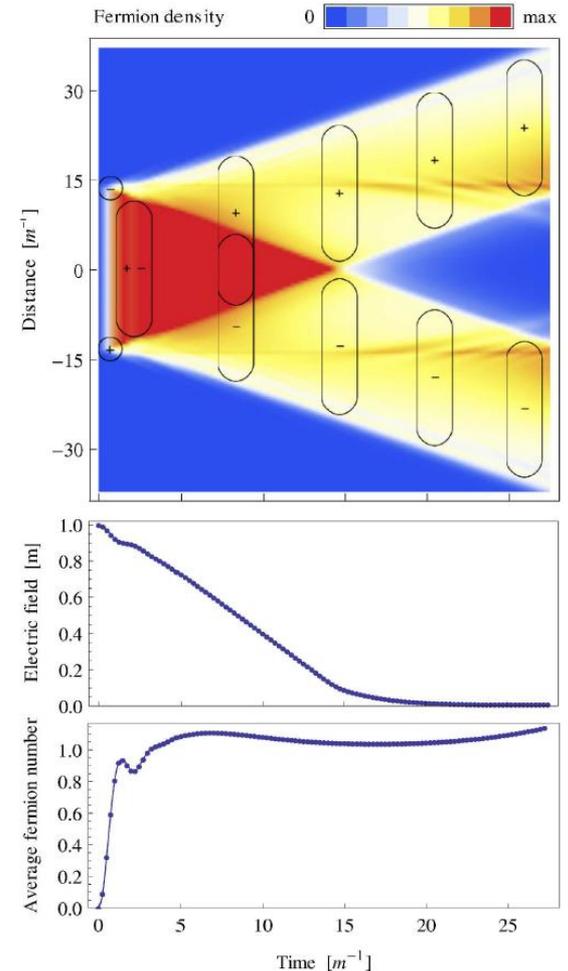
## String breaking:

- Pair of static charges

$$\partial_x E = e [\delta(x + d/2) - \delta(x - d/2)]$$

- Dynamical two-stage process:
  - First production of overlapping oppositely charged fermion pairs
  - No screening
  - Then charges are separated by the external field
- Condition for string breaking:

$$V_{\text{str}} \gtrsim 2m + \underline{W} \longrightarrow d_c \simeq \frac{24m}{e^2}$$



# Summary & Outlook

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## Summary:

- Real-time simulations of fermion dynamics in 3+1d feasible with modern lattice techniques
- Quantum fluctuations strongly enhance quark production
- In strongly coupled systems a Fermi-Dirac distribution emerges
- Dynamical picture of string formation/breaking established

## Outlook:

- Fermion production in “real” QED (3+1d) and QCD (ongoing)
- Consider other instabilities (Nielsen-Olesen, Weibel, etc.)
- Generalization to expanding systems

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# The End

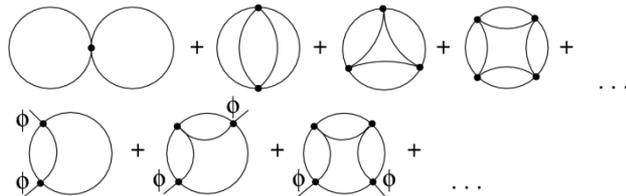
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# Thank you for your attention!

# Implementation

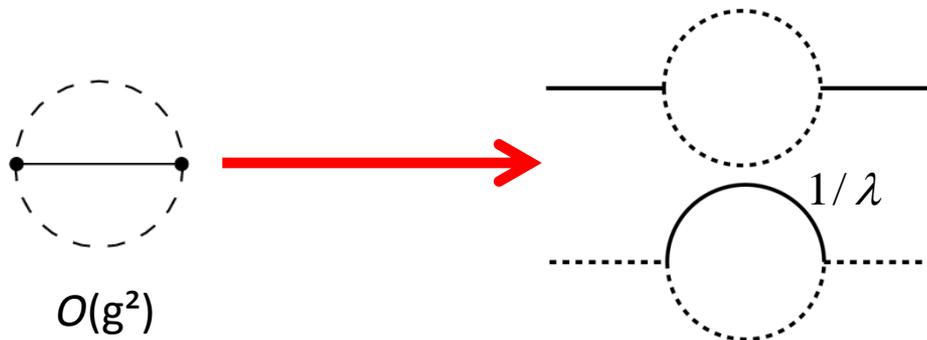
**2PI effective action:** J. Berges, AIP Conf. Proc. 739, 3 (2005)

- Different truncation schemes for the action
  - 1/N expansion to NLO in the number of scalar fields



J. Berges, Nucl. Phys. A 699 (2002) 847  
 G. Aarts et al, Phys. Rev. D 66 (2002) 045008

- Coupling expansion to NLO in the Yukawa coupling



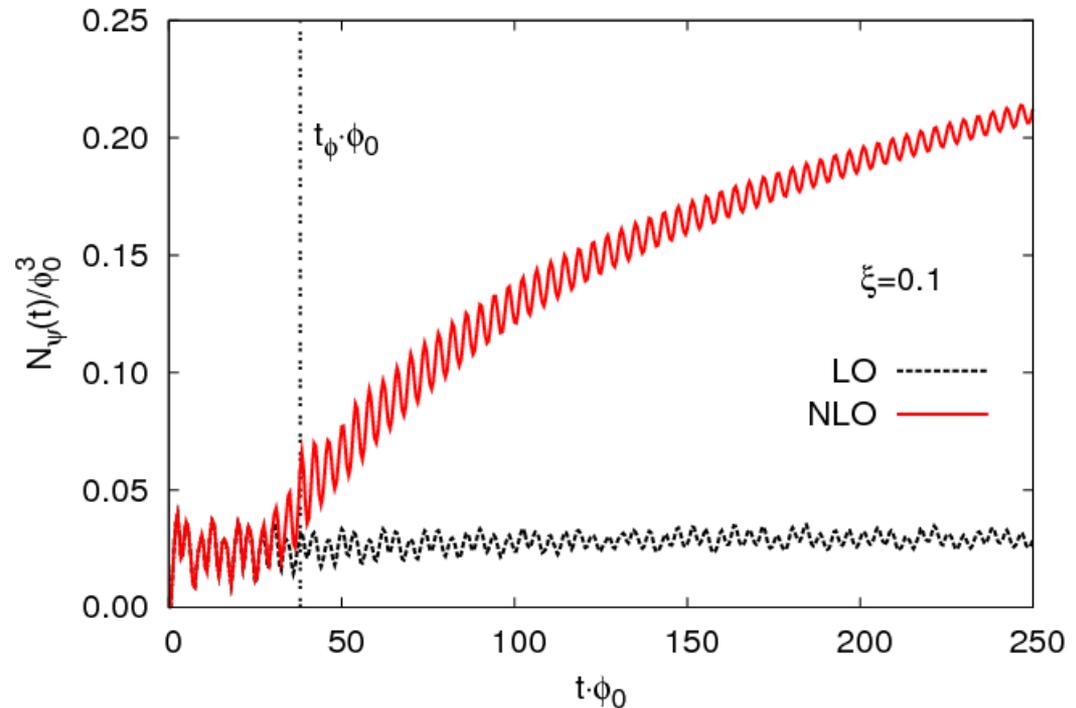
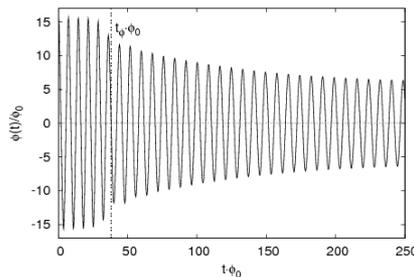
**Contribution to meson self-energy**

**Quark self-energy**

# Results

## Quark-meson model:

- Total number of produced fermions strongly enhanced
- Quantum effects important, even at weak couplings
- Quark production rate  $\sim \xi = g^2/\lambda$



**LO:** 
$$\left[ i\partial_\mu \gamma^\mu - \frac{g}{N_f} \phi(t) \right] D(x, y) = 0$$

No fluctuations!

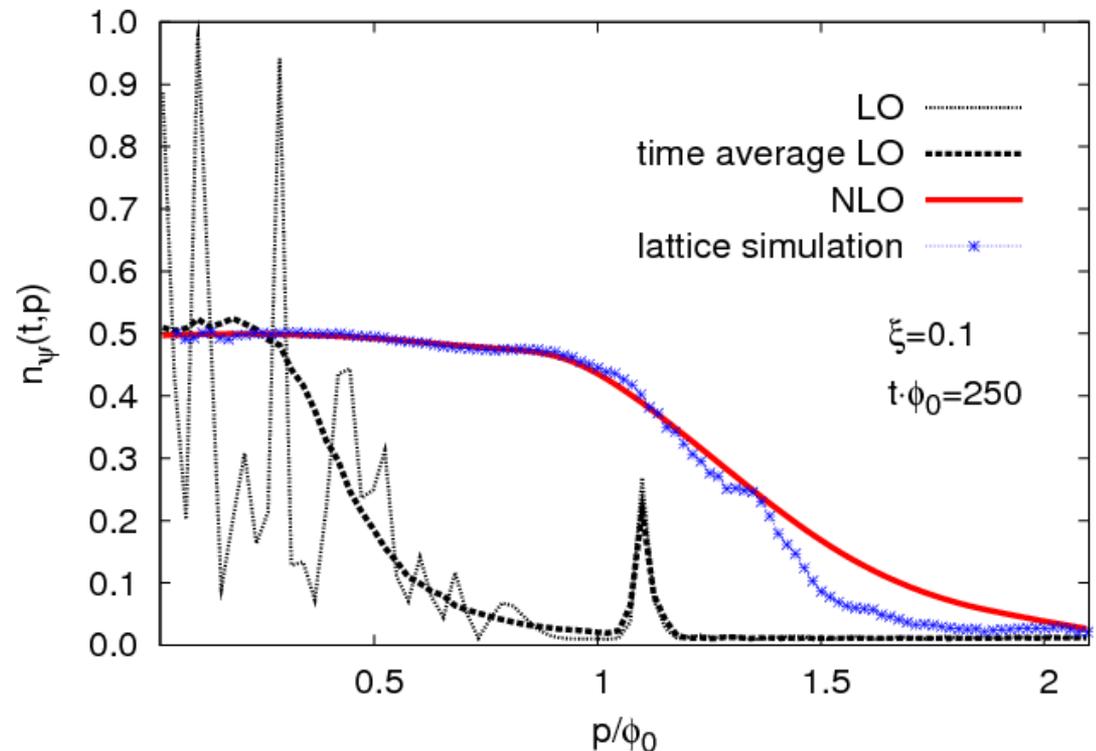
Baacke, Heitmann, Pätzold, PRD 58 (1998) 125013; Greene, Kofman, PLB 448 (1999) 6; Giudice, Peloso, Riotto, Tkachev, JHEP 9908 (1999) 014; Garcia-Bellido, Mollerach, Roulet, JHEP 0002(2000) 034; ...

# Results

## Weak coupling:

- Qualitative and quantitative difference between LO and NLO
- Good agreement between lattice and 2PI
- Particle numbers drop at the rescaled initial field amplitude:

$$\phi_0 = \phi(t = 0) / \sqrt{6N_s/\lambda}$$



**LO:** 
$$\left[ i\partial_\mu \gamma^\mu - \frac{g}{N_f} \phi(t) \right] D(x, y) = 0$$

# Supplement

## Initial conditions:

- Large sigma field expectation value  $\phi(t=0) \sim \sqrt{\frac{6N_s}{\lambda}}$
- Fermionic (quantum) vacuum fluctuations
- Bosonic vacuum fluctuations for unstable modes only
  - Otherwise problems with classical Rayleigh-Jeans divergence
- Enhancement of boson fluctuations through instabilities
  - Bosonic two-point function becomes parametrically large  $\langle \phi\phi \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\lambda}$
  - IR fixed point prevents early thermalization (**strong turbulence**)

J. Berges, A. Rothkopf and J. Schmidt, Phys. Rev. Lett. 101 (2008) 041603; J. Berges and G. Hoffmeister, Nucl. Phys. B 813, 383 (2009); J. Berges and D. Sexty, Phys. Rev. D 83, 085004 (2011); J. Berges, D. Sexty, arXiv:1201.068

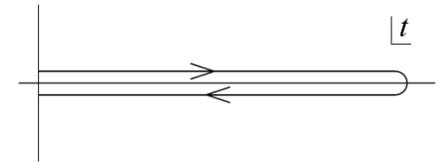
# Supplement

## 2PI effective action:

J. Berges, AIP Conf.Proc. 739 (2005) 3–62

- Functional method to describe time evolution of quantum fields

- Closed time path (in-in formalism)
- Time evolution of two-point functions



commutator:  $\rho(x,y) = i\langle[\Phi(x), \Phi(y)]\rangle,$

anti-commutator:  $F(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}\langle\{\Phi(x), \Phi(y)\}\rangle.$

- Kadanoff-Baym equations of motion

$$[\square_x + M^2(x)] \rho(x,y) = - \int_{y^0}^{x^0} dz \Sigma_\rho(x,z) \rho(z,y),$$

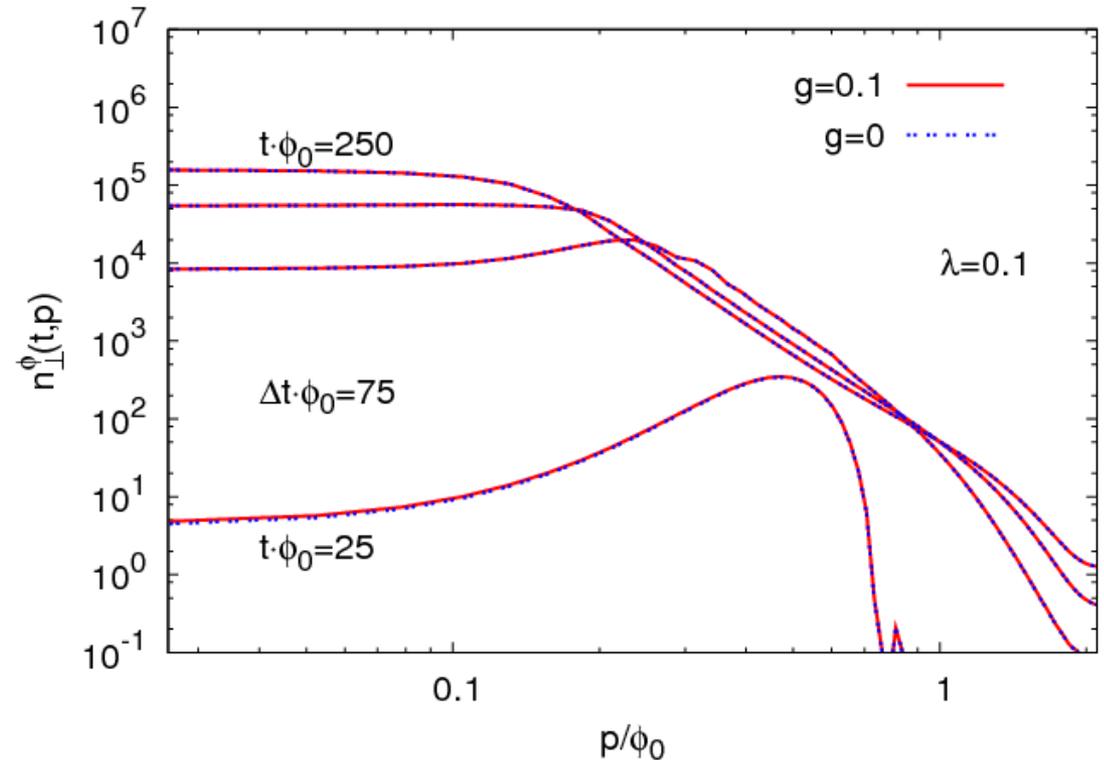
$$[\square_x + M^2(x)] F(x,y) = - \int_0^{x^0} dz \Sigma_\rho(x,z) F(z,y) + \int_0^{y^0} dz \Sigma_F(x,z) \rho(z,y).$$

Memory integrals!

# Supplement

## Weak coupling:

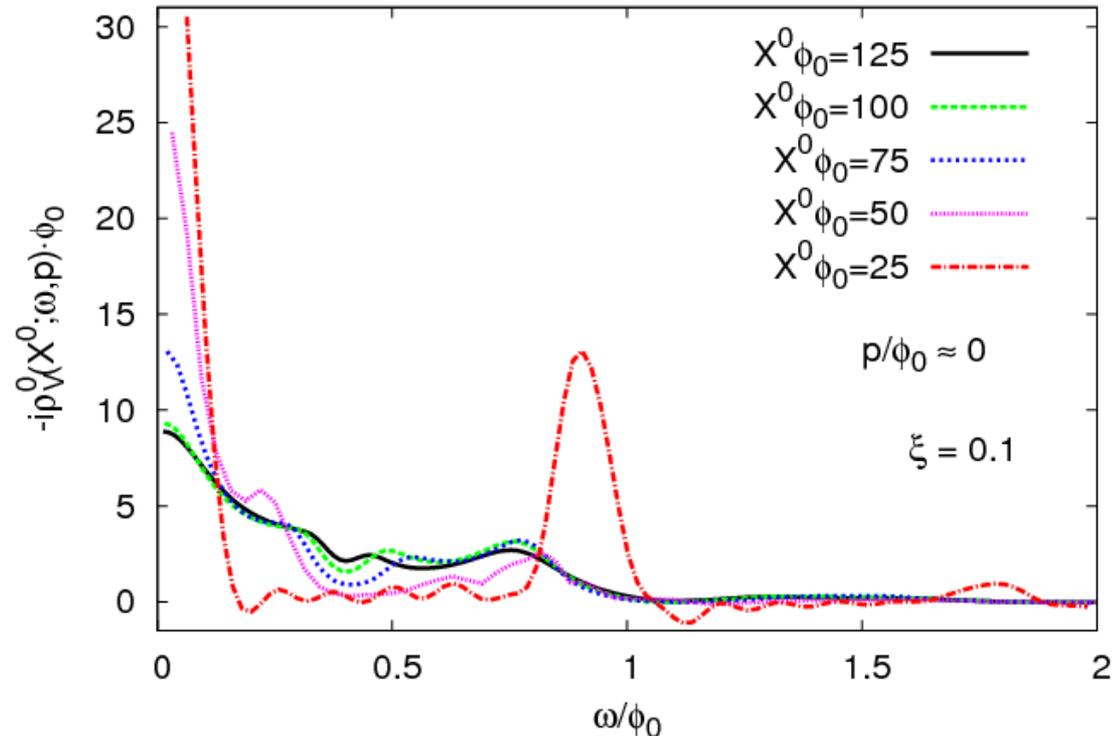
- Bosonic dynamics unchanged for weak Yukawa couplings
- High occupation numbers in the IR (classical-statistical regime)
- Strong turbulence at later times



# Supplement

## Weak coupling:

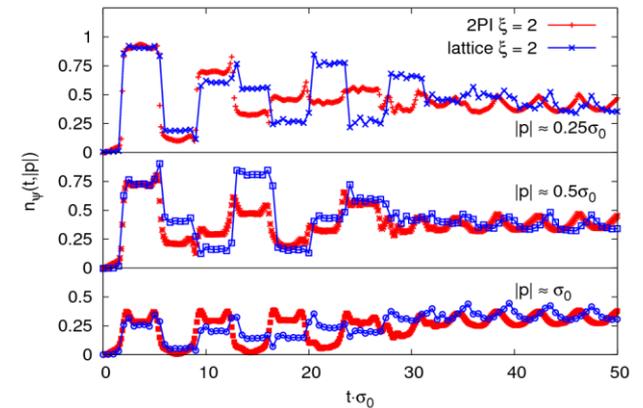
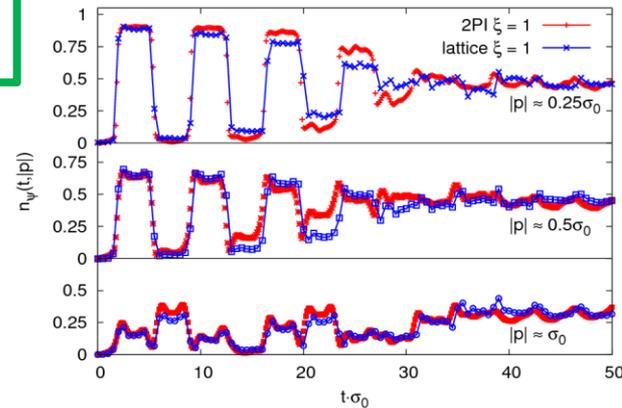
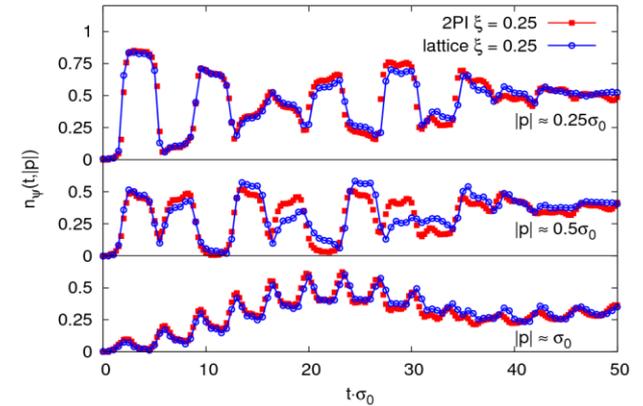
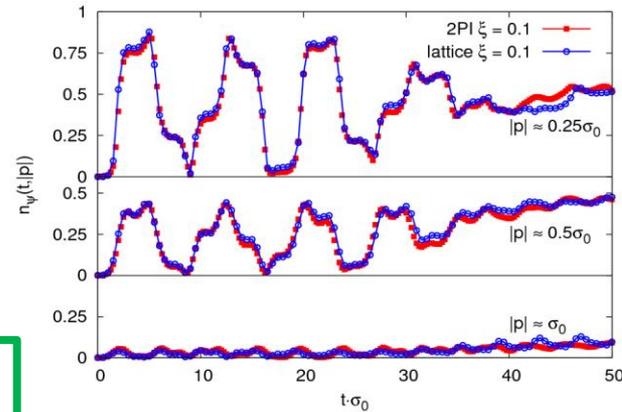
- Wigner transformed dynamical spectral function
- Quasi-particle description valid at early times
- Strongly correlated medium at later times



# Supplement

Increasing  
coupling:

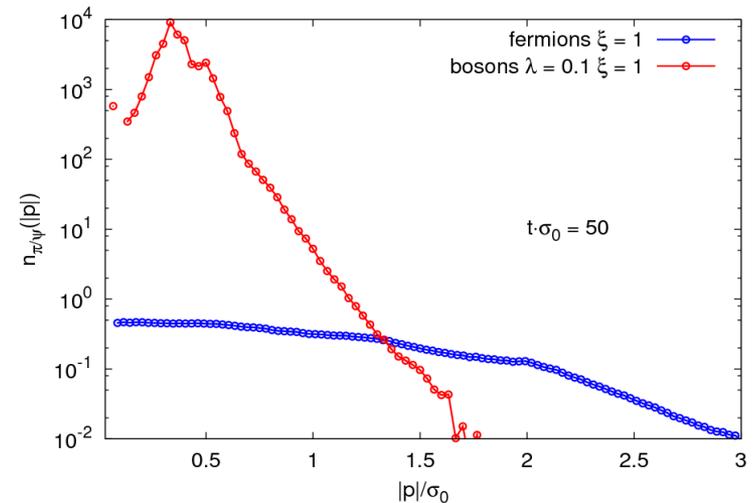
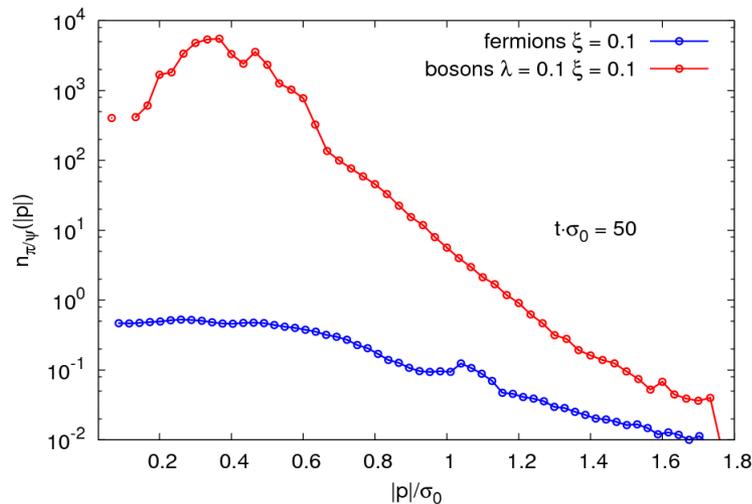
Loop expansion  
breaks down at  
stronger couplings!



# Supplement

## From weak to strong:

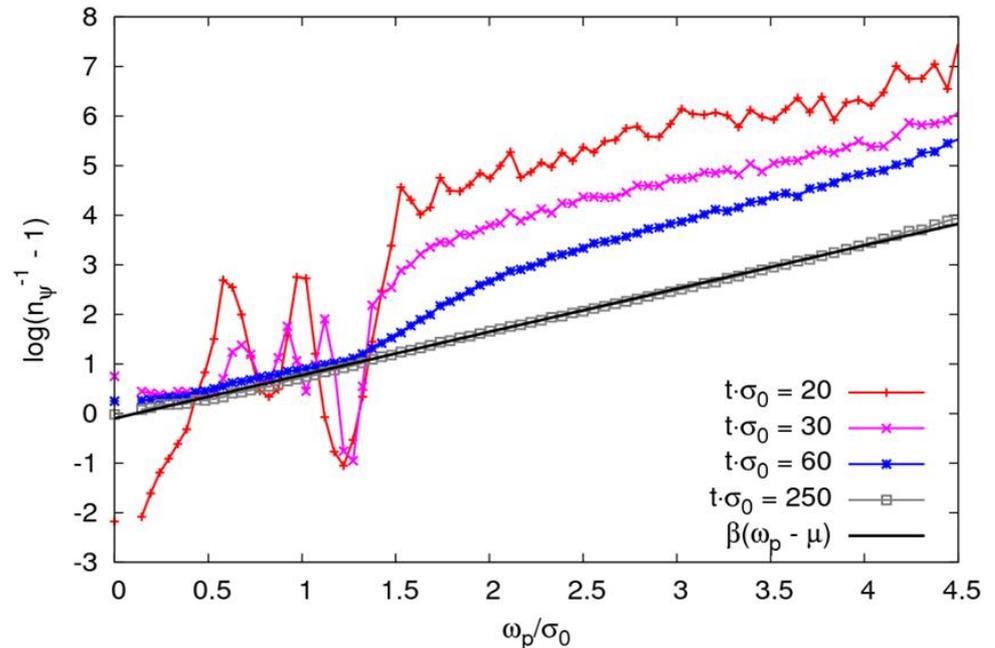
- Production of high-momentum quarks kinematically forbidden in LO perturbation theory
- Multiple scatterings become relevant at strong coupling



# Supplement

## Strong coupling:

- First scattering smoothens the IR distribution
- Occupancy in the UV is built up much later
- Lattice dispersion relation used



$$\xi = 1.0$$

# Supplement

## Further issues:

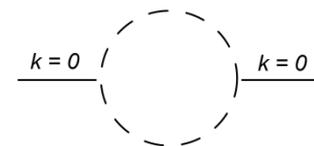
- Lattice discretization causes so-called fermion doublers
  - Spatial doublers addressed with pseudoscalar Wilson term

$$W_{PS}\psi_g(x) = i\gamma_5 \frac{ra_s}{2} \Delta_x \psi_g(x) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \omega(\mathbf{p}) = \sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \bar{p}_i \bar{p}^i + \frac{r^2 a_s^2}{4} (\mathbf{p})_{lat}^4}$$

- Quadratically divergent scalar mass has to be renormalized

$$m_{0,\sigma/\vec{\pi}}^2 + \Sigma_{\sigma/\vec{\pi}}(m_0^2, k=0) = m_R^2$$

- Perturbative one-loop renormalization:



# Supplement

## Lattice formulas and definitions:

Scalar (standard) Wilson term:

$$W_S \psi_g(x) = \frac{ra_s}{2} \Delta_x \psi_g(x)$$

$$\omega(\mathbf{p}) = \sqrt{m_\psi^2 + \bar{p}_i \bar{p}^i + ra_s m_\psi(\mathbf{p})_{lat}^2 + \frac{r^2 a_s^2}{4} (\mathbf{p})_{lat}^4}$$

Free statistical propagator:

$$D(t=0, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{m_\psi - \gamma^i p_i - i\gamma_5 \frac{ra_s}{2} (\mathbf{p})^2}{2\omega(\mathbf{p})} (1 - 2n_\psi(\mathbf{p}))$$

Particle number definitions:

$$n_\psi(t, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{[\bar{p}_i D_V^i(t, \mathbf{p}) + m_\psi(t) D_S(t, \mathbf{p}) + i \frac{ra_s}{2} (\mathbf{p})_{lat}^2 D_{PS}(t, \mathbf{p})]}{\sqrt{\bar{p}_i \bar{p}^i + m_\psi^2(t, \mathbf{p}) + \frac{r^2 a_s^2}{4} (\mathbf{p})_{lat}^4}}$$

$$\epsilon_a(t, \mathbf{p}) = \sqrt{\frac{\partial_t \partial_{t'} F_a(t, t', \mathbf{p})|_{t=t'}}{F_a(t, t', \mathbf{p})|_{t=t'}}$$

$$n_\phi^a(t, \mathbf{p}) = F_a(t, t, \mathbf{p}) \epsilon_a(t, \mathbf{p}) - \frac{1}{2}$$