

# Functional Renormalization Group Approach to Nuclear Matter

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# Outline

- ▶ Short Introduction to FRG
  - Local Potential Approximation (LPA)
- ▶ FRG at Finite temperature
- ▶ Solving FRG equations at finite temperature
  - Semi finite temperature approximation
- ▶ Numerical Solution
  - Toy model
- ▶ Walecka–Type model

# Motivation for using FRG

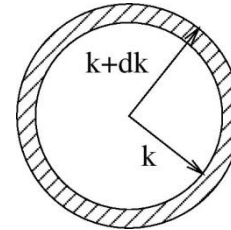
- ▶ FRG is a general method for finding the effective action of a system.
  - RG idea: gradual momentum integration
  - If a theory is defined at **high energy** scale it is possible to calculate **low energy** effective quantities which includes **quantum fluctuations**.
  - Investigation of phase transitions
- ▶ Using FRG methods at finite temperature it is possible to calculate equation of state which include quantum effects.
  - **Go beyond mean-field approximation**
  - **Find tools for FRG calculations suited for Compact Stars**

# Introduction to FRG-I

## ▶ Generating Functional+ Regulator

- The regulator acts as a mass term and suppresses fluctuations below scale  $k$
- gradual momentum integration

$$Z_k[J] = \int \left( \prod_a d\Psi_a \right) e^{-S[\Psi] - \frac{1}{2} R_{k,ab} \Psi_a \Psi_b + \Psi_a J_a}$$

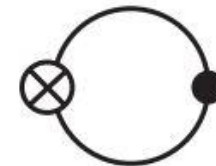


- ▶ The effective Action is the Legendre-transform of the Schwinger functional:

$$\Gamma_k[\psi] = \sup_J (\psi_a J_a - W[J]) - \frac{1}{2} R_{k,ab} \psi_a \psi_b$$

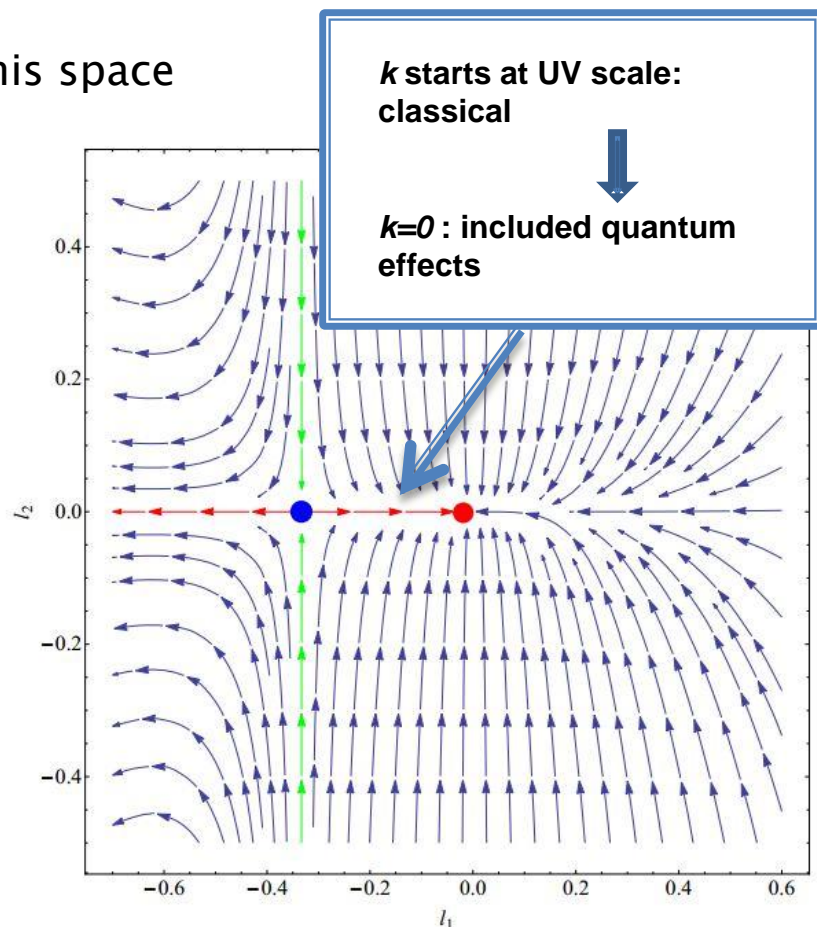
- ▶ The scale-dependence of the effective action is given by the Wetterich-equation:

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{1}{2} \text{Str} \left[ (\partial_k R_k) \left( \Gamma_k^{(1,1)} + R_k \right)^{-1} \right]$$



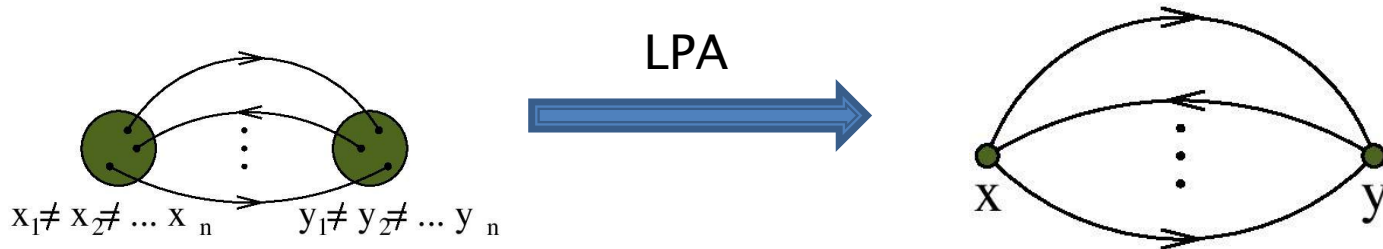
# Introduction to FRG-II

- ▶ The scale dependent coupling constants in the effective action defines theory space
  - Each point in this space is a different initial condition for the Wetterich-equation
  - Wetterich-equation defines a flow in this space
- ▶ We define our theory at UV scale  $k_{UV}$ .
- ▶ Integrating out the Wetterich-equation from  $k_{UV}$  to  $k=0$ , gives the IR scale effective action which includes all quantum fluctuations.
- ▶ **At finite temperature this process yields an EoS which contains quantum fluctuations**



# Solving Wetterich–equation in LPA

- ▶ The Wetteric–equation is **exact**, but
  - it is too complicated to solve directly, because we have to use all possible operators in the effective action.
  - For practical purposes one have to use some kind of truncation
- ▶ Local potential approximation (LPA):
  - LPA is based on the assumption that the contribution of these two diagrams are close.

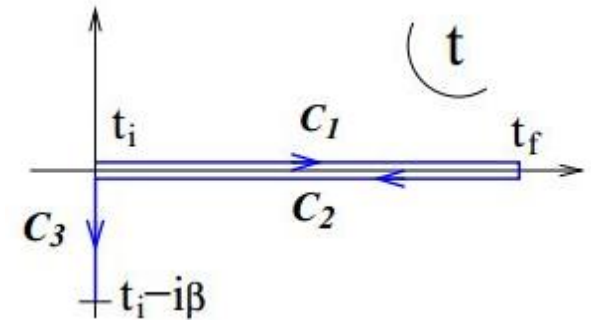


- ▶ The LPA ansatz for the effective action:

$$\Gamma_k [\psi] = \int d^4x \left[ \frac{1}{2} \psi_i K_{k,ij} \psi_j + U_k (\psi) \right]$$

# FRG in LPA at finite temperature

- ▶ At finite temperature the path integral needs to extend for imaginary time.



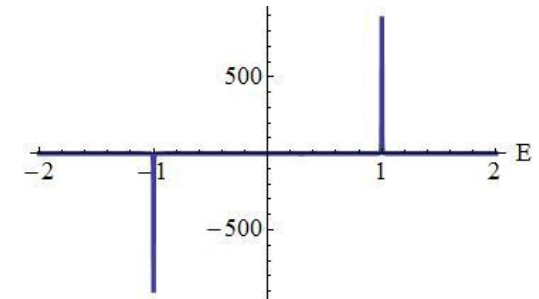
- ▶ Since the regulator term is **time-independent**, the Wetterich-equation takes the following form in LPA:

$$\partial_k U = -\frac{i}{2} \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} (\partial_k R_{ij}) G_{ij}(p) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \partial_k U = -\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \partial_k R_{ij}(\mathbf{p}) \left( \frac{1}{2} + n_{\alpha_i}(p_0) \right) \varrho_{ij}(p)$$

- Where the Fermi-Dirac/Bose-Einstein distribution is denoted by

$$n_{\alpha}(\omega) = \frac{\alpha}{e^{\beta\omega} - \alpha}$$

- and  $\varrho_{ij}(p)$  is the spectral function of the system.





# Solving FRG–equations numerically

- ▶ In the LPA approximation the aim is to determine the scale-dependence of the effective potential  $U$ .
- ▶ The initial condition:  $U$  function is given at  $k_{UV}$
- ▶ For one scalar field at  $T=0$ , the Wetterich–equation for the effective potential is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} U_k(\phi) = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k(\phi)}{\partial \phi^2}}}$$

- ▶ Methods for numerically solving this equation
  - Newton–Raphson (more widely used)
  - Runge–Kutta type methods (problems with instability)
  - Taylor expansion of the equation and compare the coefficients



# Solving FRG-equations at finite T

- ▶ For fermionic fields at finite temperature the **Fermi-Dirac distribution** the Newton-Raphson method is non-convergent.
  - Derivatives of Fermi-Dirac distribution at low temperature does not behave well



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} U_k(\phi) = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \frac{n_\alpha(p)}{\sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k(\phi)}{\partial \phi^2}}}$$

- ▶ Modified version of the **Dormand-Price Method** (adaptive Runge-Kutta type)
  - We have to deal with the instabilities in these **explicite methods**.

# Semi Finite Temperature Approximation

- ▶ The basic idea:
  - If the running of  $U_k(\phi)$  is given, Wetterich equation is just an integral
  - Approximate the running of  $U_k(\phi)$
- ▶ Possible applications:
  - Low temperature approximations of EoS (Compact Stars!)
  - Investigation of relevant parameters in the running of the potential
- ▶ LPA for bosonic field at finite temperature

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} U_k(\phi) = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k(\phi)}{\partial \phi^2}}}$$

Solve at  $T=0$



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} U_k(\phi) = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \frac{n_\alpha(p)}{\sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k(\phi)}{\partial \phi^2}}}$$

Using the  $T=0$  solution this is an integral with parameters  $T, \mu$

# Toy model

$$\Gamma_k = \underbrace{\bar{\psi}(\not{p} - m - g_\sigma \sigma)\psi}_{\text{Fermionic part}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \sigma \partial^\mu \sigma - m_\sigma^2 \sigma^2)}_{\text{Bosonic part}} + \underbrace{U_k(\sigma)}_{\text{Running potential}}$$

Fermionic part

Yukawa  
Coupling

Bosonic part

Running  
potential

- ▶ The Wetterich–equation on Finite temperature in LPA

$$\partial_k U_k = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \left( \underbrace{\frac{2n_b(\omega_\sigma) + 1}{\omega_\sigma}}_{\text{Bosonic part}} - 8 \underbrace{\frac{1 - n_f(\omega - \mu) - n_f(\omega + \mu)}{\omega}}_{\text{Fermionic part}} \right)$$

Bosonic part

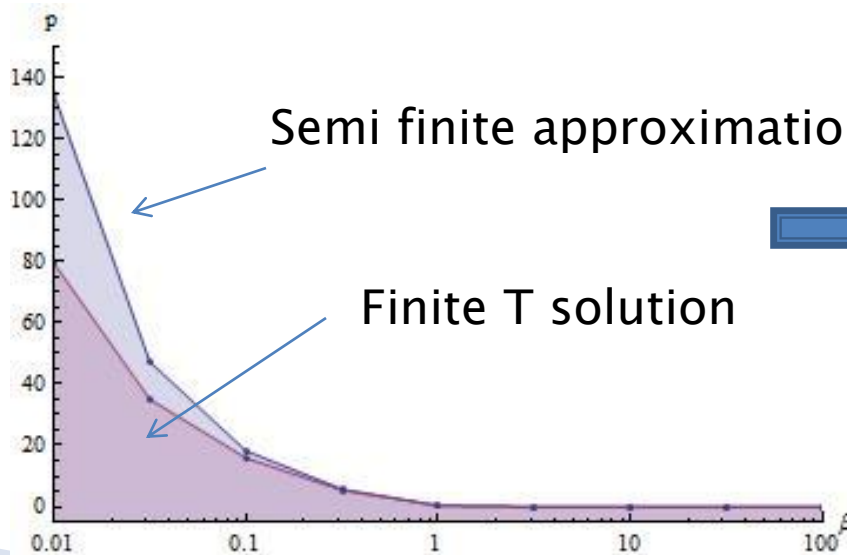
Fermionic part

$$\omega_\sigma = \sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k}{\partial \sigma^2}}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{k^2 + (g_\sigma \sigma)^2}$$

# Properties of the toy model

- ▶ FRG equations numerically solveable
  - very similar to the walecka-type models (difference in chemical potential)
  - Ideal to test the semi finite temperature approximation
    - **Results: low temperatures: very good approximation**
- ▶ Compact stars: very good approximation



**Enough to solve FRG equations at  $T=0$**

The effective potential corresponds to the Grand potential:

$$\phi = \epsilon - Ts - \mu n = -p$$

# Walecka-type model

$$\Gamma_k = \bar{\psi} \left( \not{p} - g_\sigma (\sigma + i\gamma_5 \tau_j \pi^j) - g_\omega \not{\omega} \right) \psi + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \sigma \partial^\mu \sigma + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \pi \partial^\mu \pi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_\omega^2 \omega_\mu \omega^\mu + U(\sigma, \pi)$$



LPA + Mean Field Approximation to the  $\omega$ -meson

- ▶ Wetterich-equation is very similar to the toy-model

$$\partial_k U_k = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} \left( \underbrace{\frac{2n_b(\omega_\sigma) + 1}{\omega_\sigma} + 3 \frac{2n_b(\omega_\pi) + 1}{\omega_\pi}}_{\text{bosonic}} - 8 \underbrace{\frac{1 - n_f(\omega - \mu) - n_f(\omega + \mu)}{\omega}}_{\text{fermionic}} \right)$$

$$\partial_k \Gamma_k = \frac{k^4}{12\pi^2} (\text{bosonic} - \text{fermionic})$$

$$\omega_\sigma = \sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial^2 U_k}{\partial \sigma^2}}$$

$$\omega_\pi = \sqrt{k^2 + \frac{\partial U_k}{\partial \sigma}}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{k^2 + (g_\sigma \sigma)^2}$$

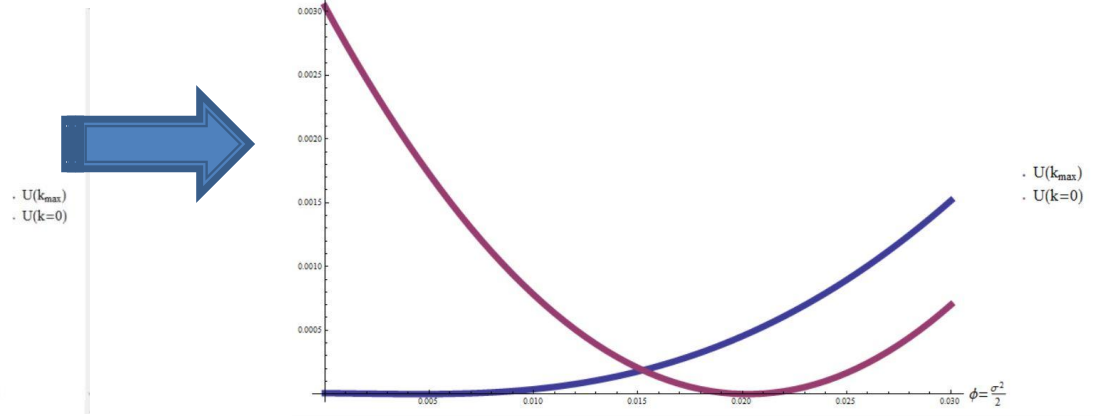
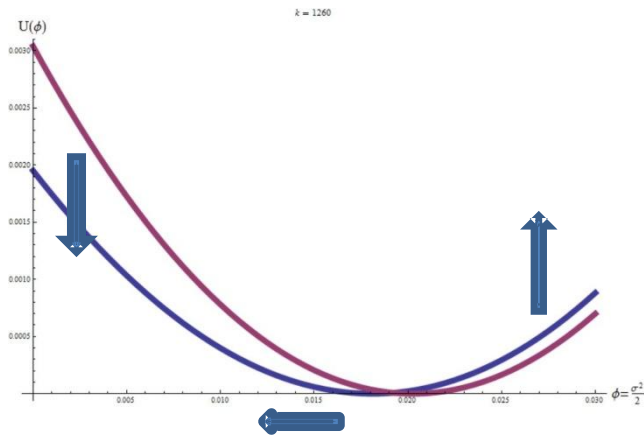
- ▶ Running of  $\omega$

$$\partial_k \omega_{0,k} = -\frac{2g_\omega k^4}{3\pi^2 m_\omega^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left( \frac{n_f(\omega - \mu) + n_f(\omega + \mu)}{\omega} \right)$$

# Numerical Solution

- ▶ Set  $U$  to reproduce vacuum expectation value at  $k=0$ ,  $v_{ev}=93MeV$ 
  - $k=1.3 GeV$
  - $m=1.2GeV^2$
  - $\lambda=7.4$

$$U(\phi) = -m\phi + \lambda\phi^2 \quad \phi = \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$



Maxwell construction

# Conclusions

- ▶ **Motivation:**
  - Exploring methods to go beyond mean field approximation
  - Quantum fluctuations can be calculated in FRG
- ▶ **Goal:**
  - Scaleable equation of state for compact stars
- ▶ **Status:**
  - In case of compact stars: semi finite temperature approximation can be used



**Thank you for your attention!**