



ICN



UNAM

AVOIDING IMAGINARY **MASSES**

**STABILIZING THE CHIRAL PHASE
IN THE LINEAR SIGMA MODEL BEYOND MEAN-FIELD**

**Second Latin American Workshop on
Electromagnetics Effects in QCD
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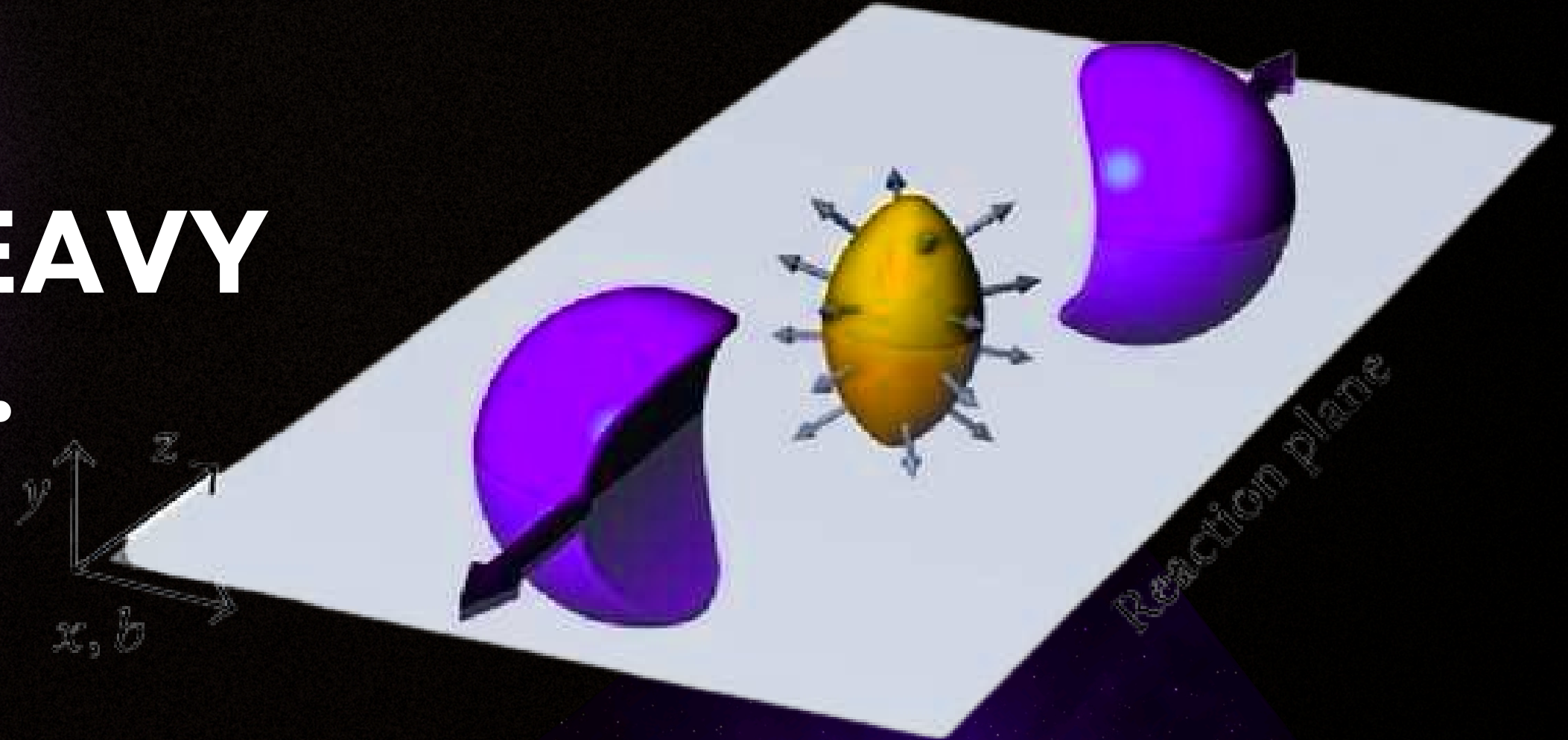
Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025

WHO GENERATES THE STRONGEST MAGNETIC FIELDS?

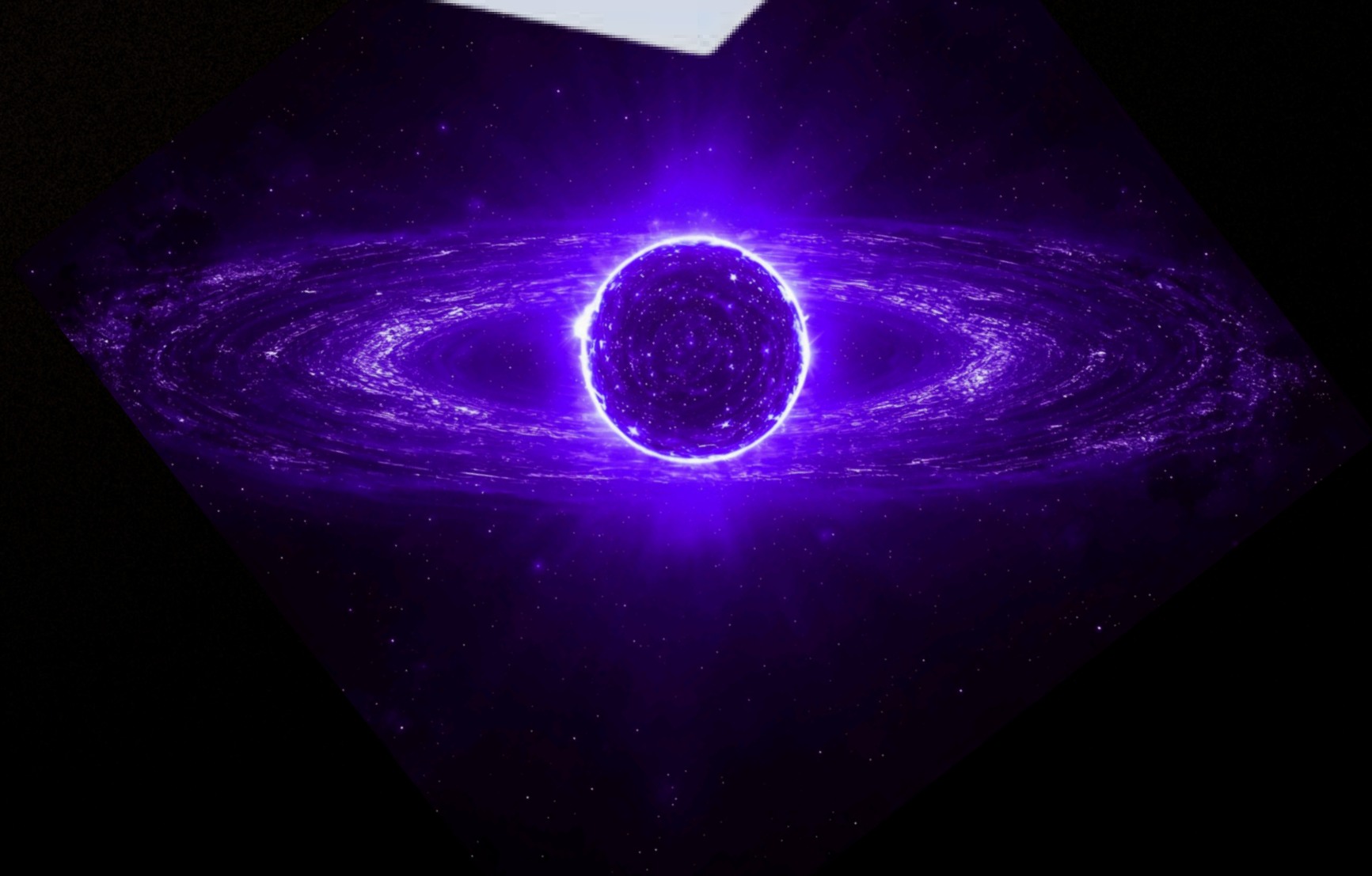


**USUAL
SUSPECTS**

- **PERIPHERICAL HEAVY ION COLISIONS.**



- **NEUTRON STARS.**



WHAT THEY HAVE IN
COMMON?

NOT ONLY MAGNETIC FIELD

ALSO



AND

ρB

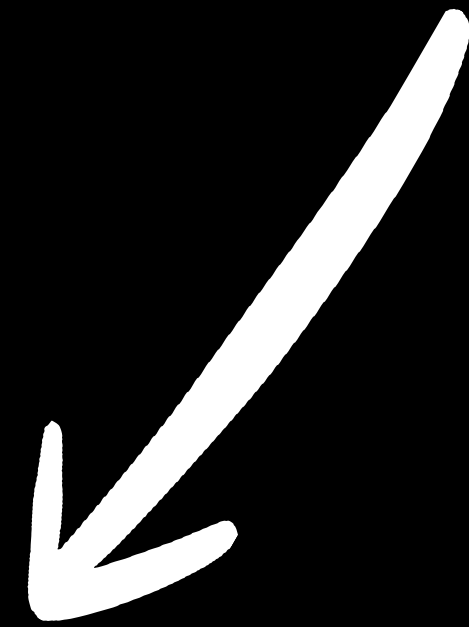
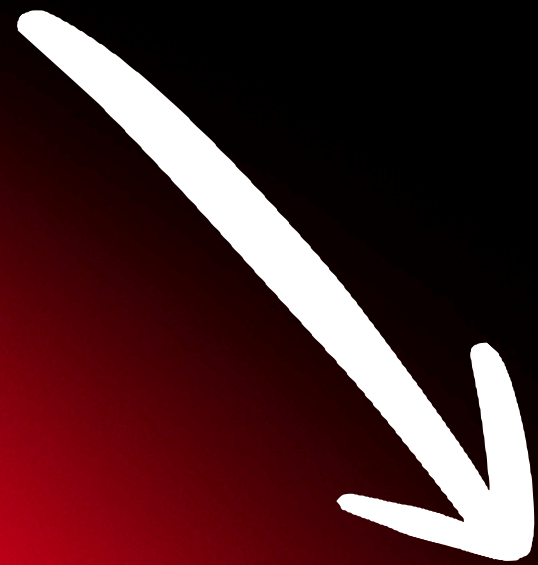
$$T - B \quad \text{OR} \quad \mu - B$$

**SOME
OPTIONS**

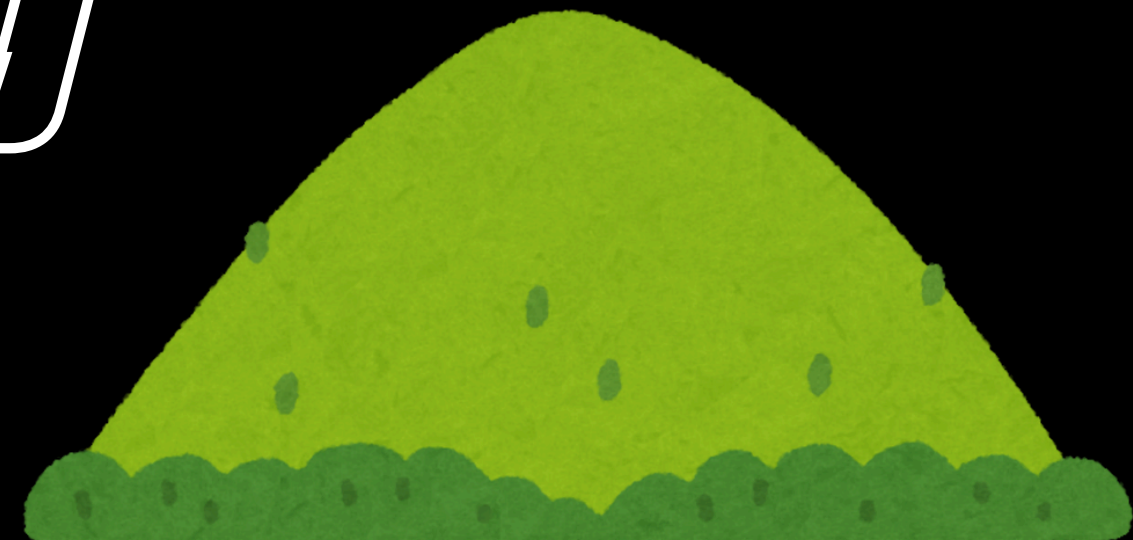
Effective models	Region
Holography	Strong couplings
Hadronic fields	Low Energy, nuclear physics
HLS	Vector mesons
Chiral models	Chiral restoration

CHIRAL MODELS AS LSMQ OR NJL

$T - B$ OR $\mu - B$



IMAGINARY
MASSSES



LET BE A SYMMETRIC AND PERFECT
WORLD.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} [(\partial_\mu \sigma)^2 + (\partial_\mu \vec{\pi})^2] - \frac{\mu^2}{2} (\sigma^2 + \vec{\pi}^2) - \frac{\lambda}{4} (\sigma^2 + \vec{\pi}^2)^2 \\ + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi - ig\bar{\psi}\gamma^5 \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\pi} \psi - g\bar{\psi}\psi\sigma$$

EVERYTHING IS IN THE GROUND STATE.
TOO BORING!!



We take $\mu^2 \rightarrow -a^2$
with $a^2 > 0$, which
gives us the famous
-and stylistically
questionable-
'Mexican hat'
potential.



**SPONTANEOUS
SYMMETRY
BREAKING**

$$\langle \sigma \rangle \neq 0$$





MESON
MASSES

In LSMq

$$m_{\pi}^2 = \lambda v^2 - a^2$$

$$m_{\sigma}^2 = 3\lambda v^2 - a^2$$

$$v = \langle \sigma \rangle$$



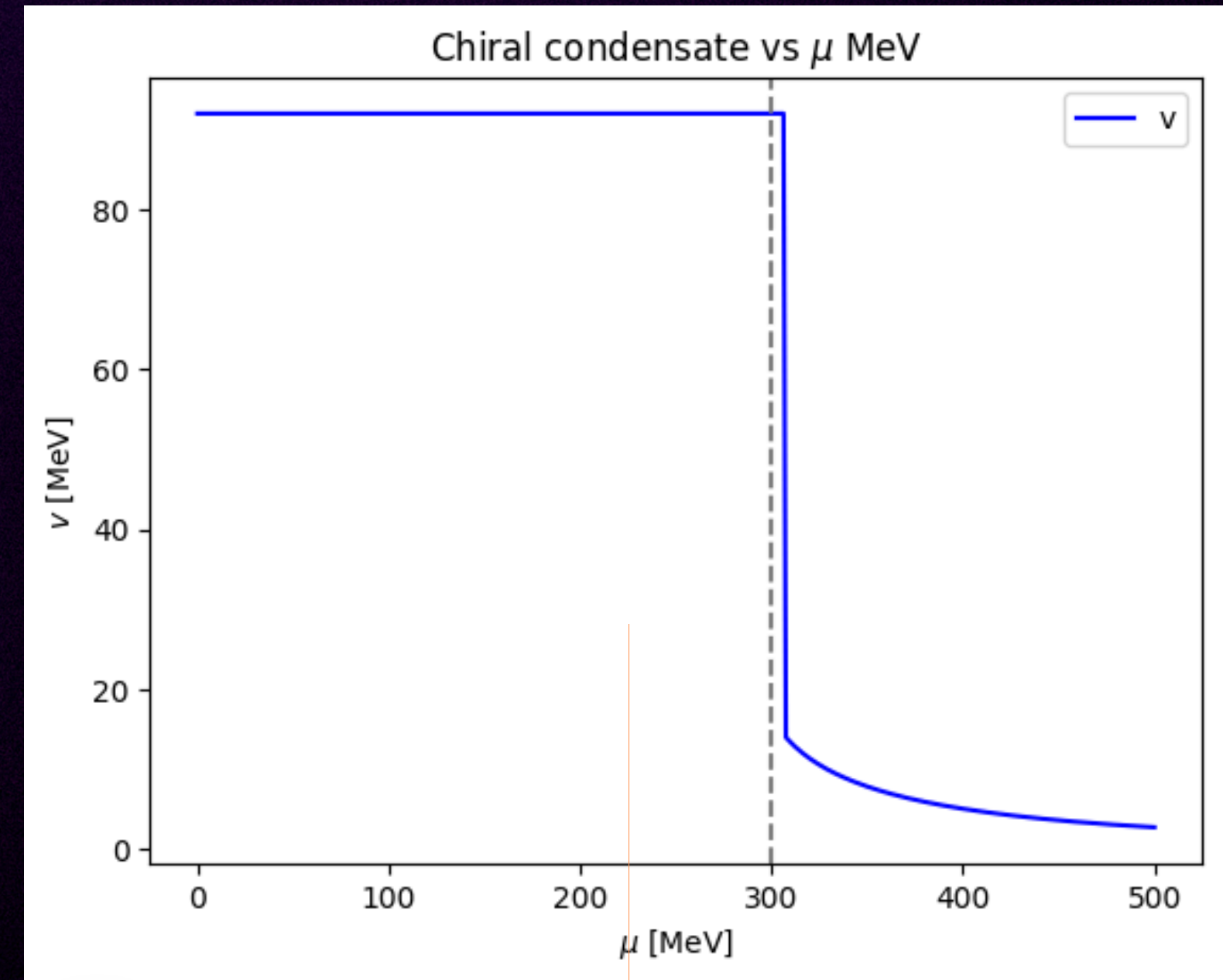
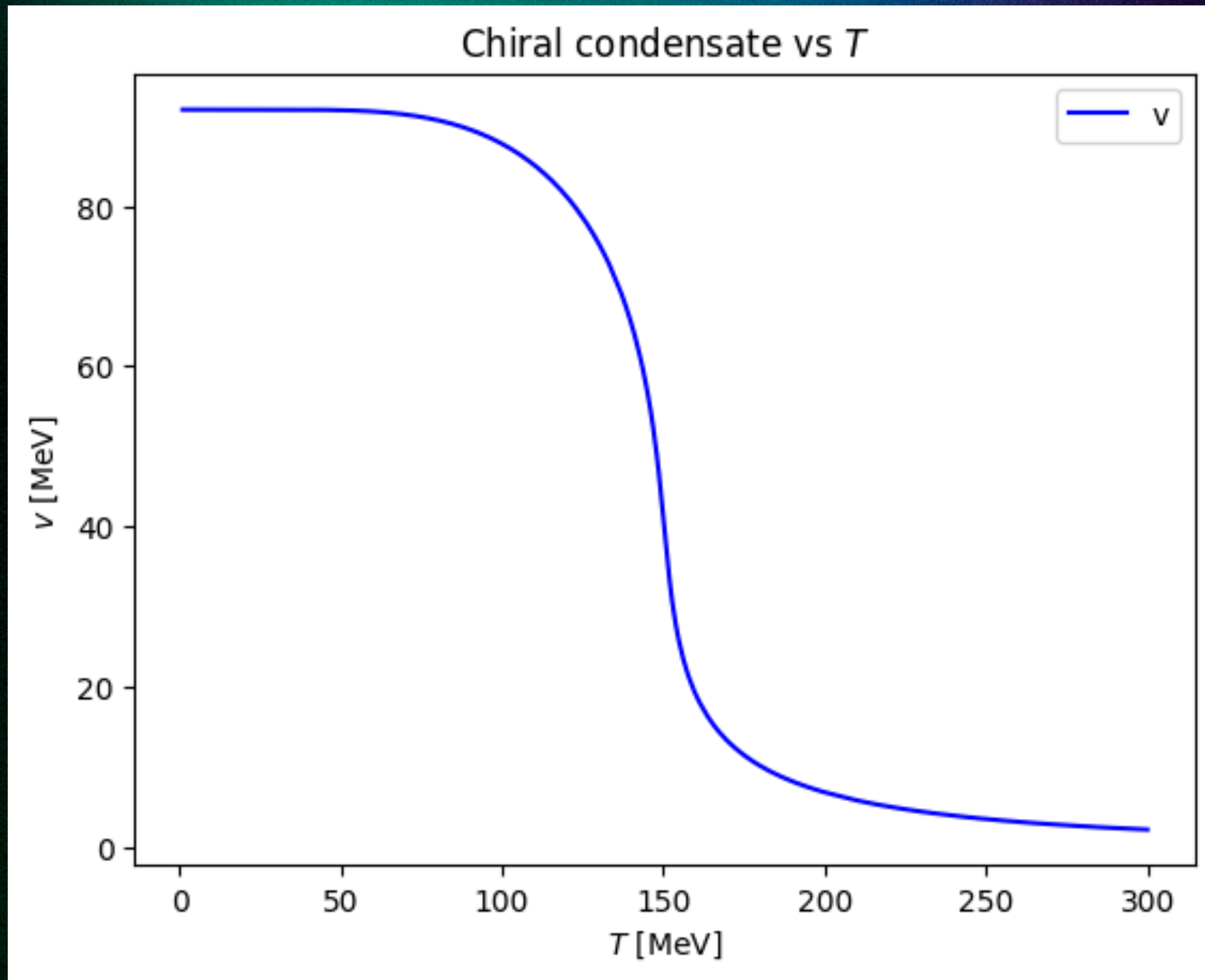
MESON MASSES

Explicit
symmetry
breaking
term

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} + h(\sigma + v)$$

**DRA. JOANA GAVE US A
HINT YESTERDAY
ACTUALLY**

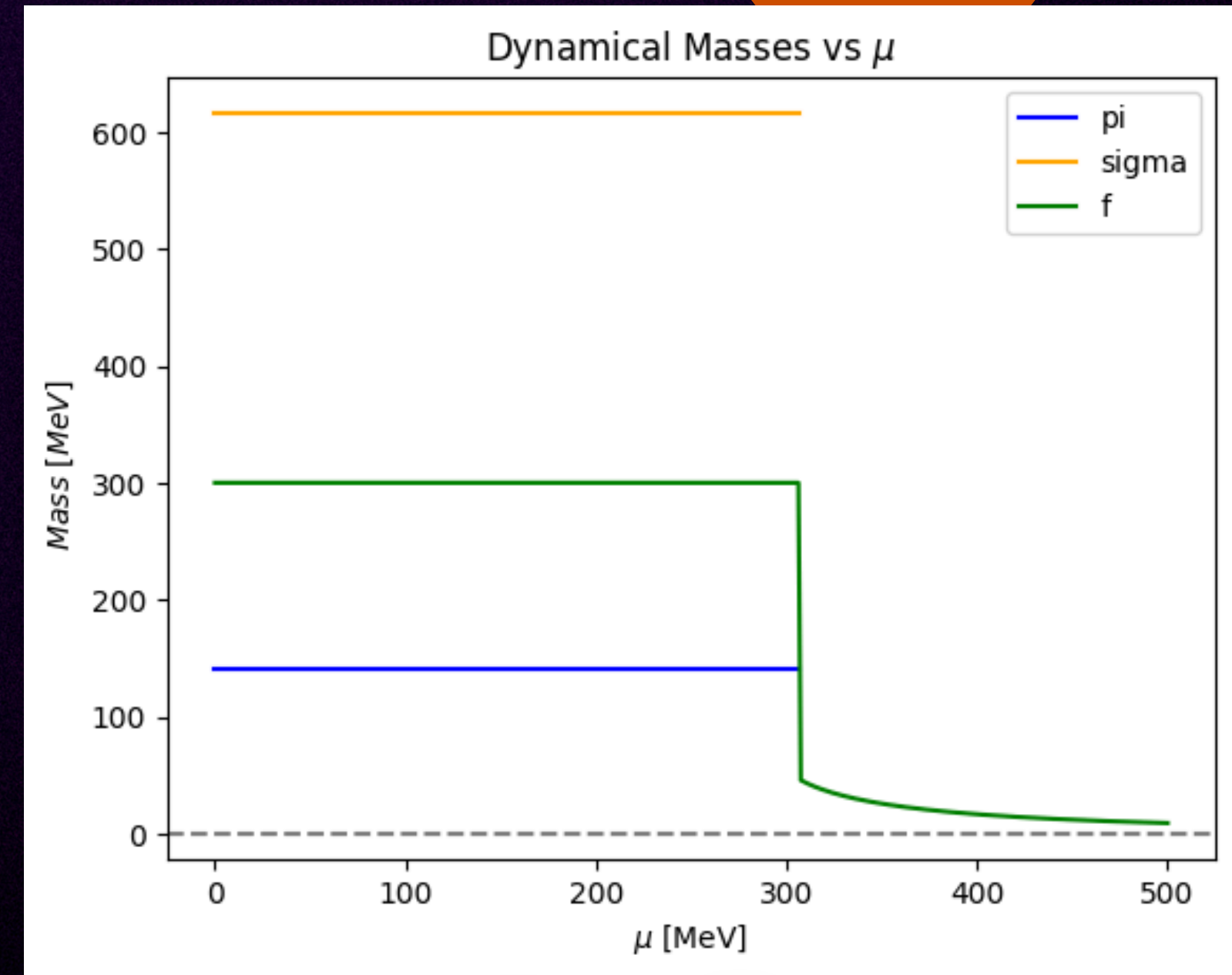
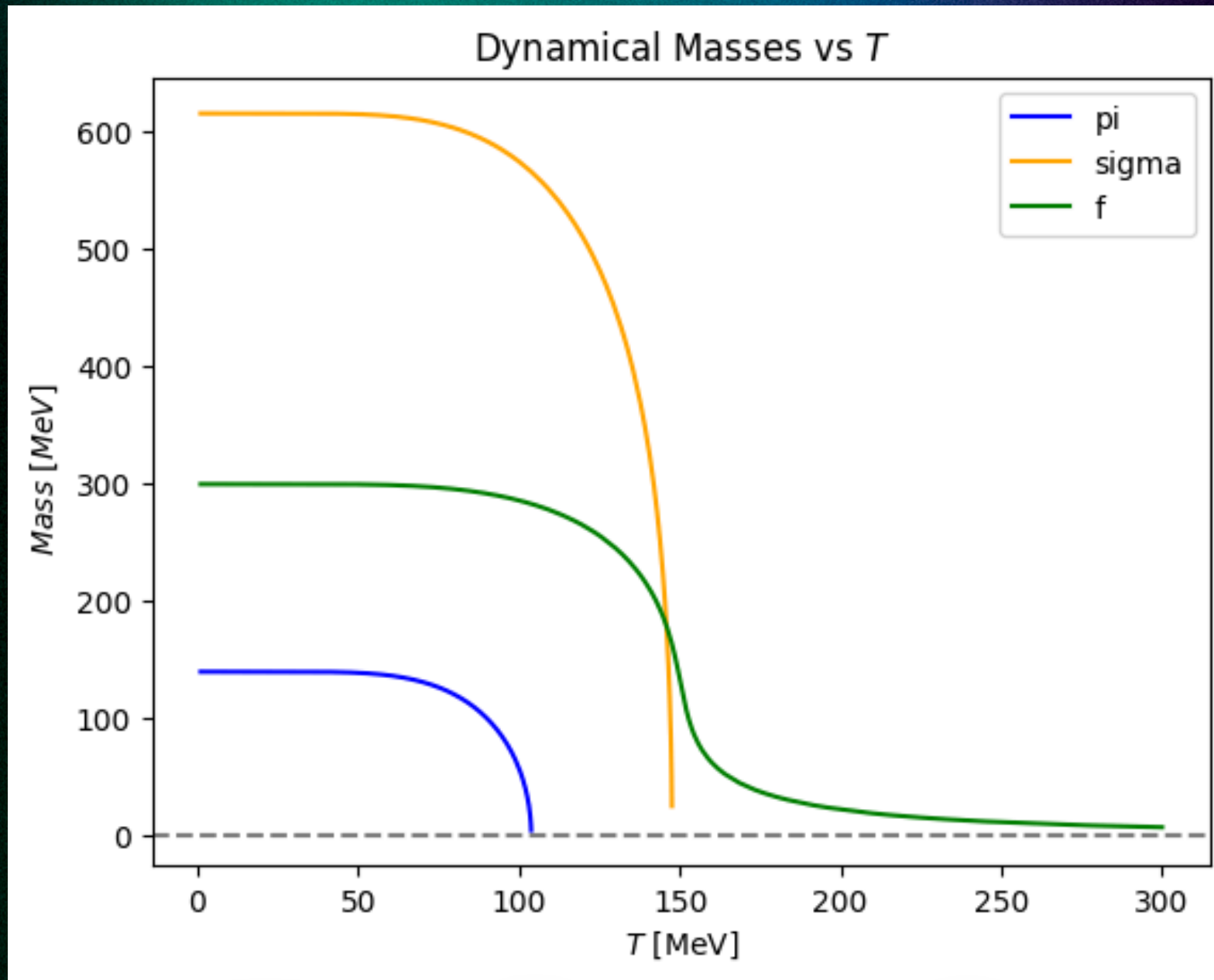
IF YOU DON'T IMPLEMENT ANYTHING



yeah!!

IF YOU DON'T IMPLEMENT
ANYTHING

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\pi}^2 &= \lambda v^2 - a^2 \\ m_{\sigma}^2 &= 3\lambda v^2 - a^2 \end{aligned}$$



Tachyonic mesons? oh no!!



1

SELFENERGY

2

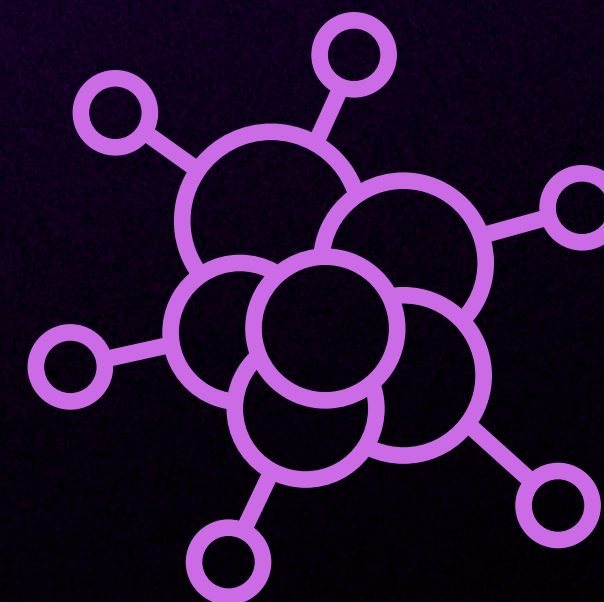
**BETHE-SALPETER
EQUATIONS**

3

NON LINEAR EFT

4

**LIPPMANN-SCHWINGER
EQUATIONS**



**IDENTIFY FEYMAN
DIAGRAMS**

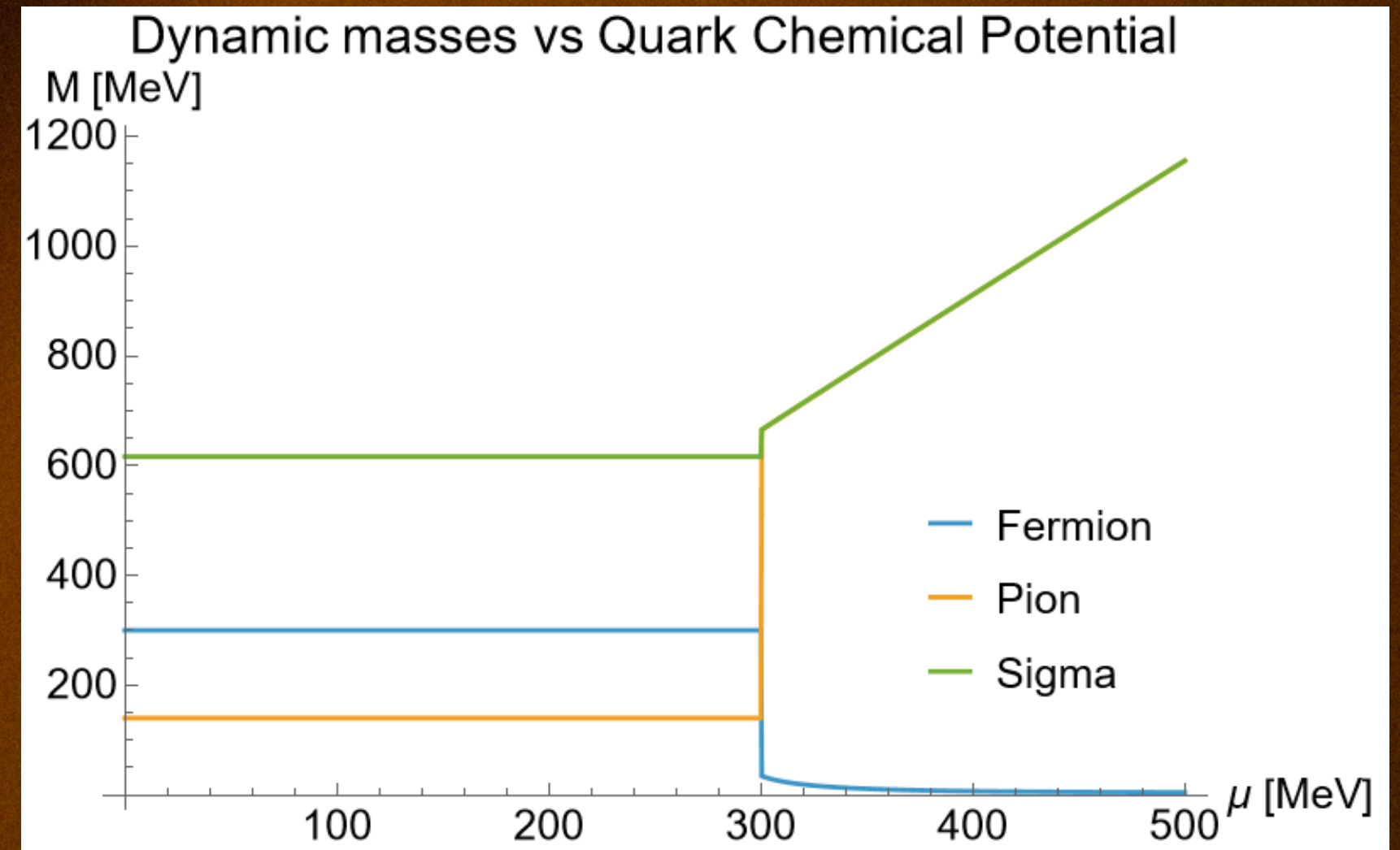
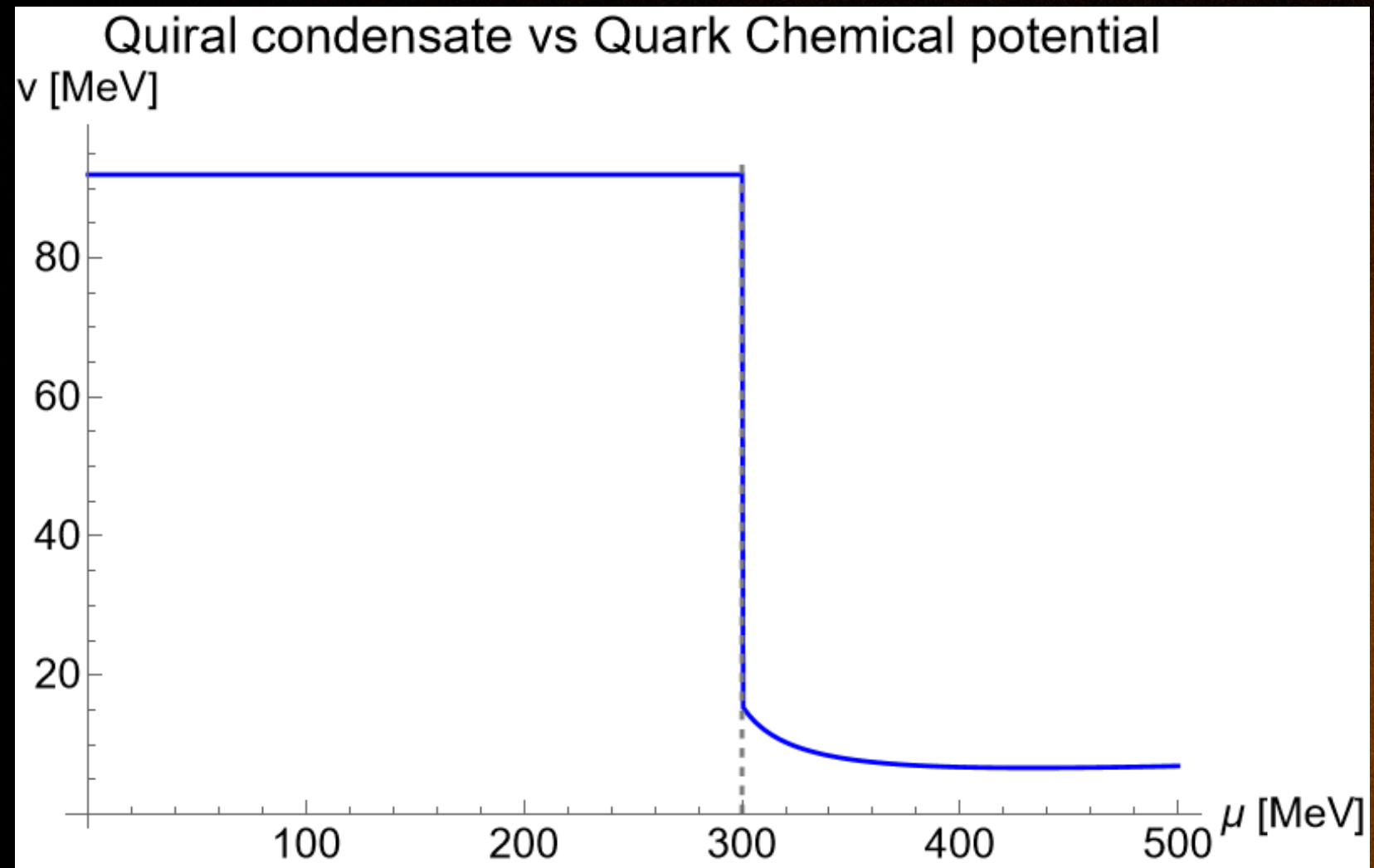
**INCLUDE MEDIUM:
MATSUBARA FREQ.
COVARIANT DERIV.
LANDAU LEVELS - RITUS EQ.**

VISUALIZE

PROGRAM

WITH SELFENERGY

$$M_{\pi}^2 = \lambda v^2 - a^2 + \Pi_{\pi}$$
$$M_{\sigma}^2 = 3\lambda v^2 - a^2 + \Pi_{\sigma}$$



Tachyonic mesons? oh no!!

WHY IT WORKS?

COUNTER EXAMPLE:

Pion Condensate



$$m_{\sigma}^2 = \lambda(3v^2 + \Delta^2) - a^2,$$

$$m_{\pi}^2 = \lambda(v^2 + \Delta^2) - a^2,$$

$$m_{ch}^2 = \lambda(v^2 + 2\Delta^2) - a^2.$$

Isospin
chemical
potential

COMPARISON



Selfenergy

Pion cond.



Schwinger
proper-time

π

CONCLUSION

- **WE HAVE EXPLORED DIVERSE METHODS TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF IMAGINARY MASSES.**
- **A FUNDAMENTAL OBSERVATION UNIFIES ALL THESE APPROACHES: IT IS CRUCIAL TO ENDOW THE PARTICLES WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEDIUM IN WHICH THEY PROPAGATE.**

The tachyon is a ghost in our theoretical machinery, telling us we are expanding around the wrong vacuum. Our job is to listen to it and evolve the vacuum along with the medium.

Thank all