

Detectability of Phase Transitions from Binary Neutron Star Mergers

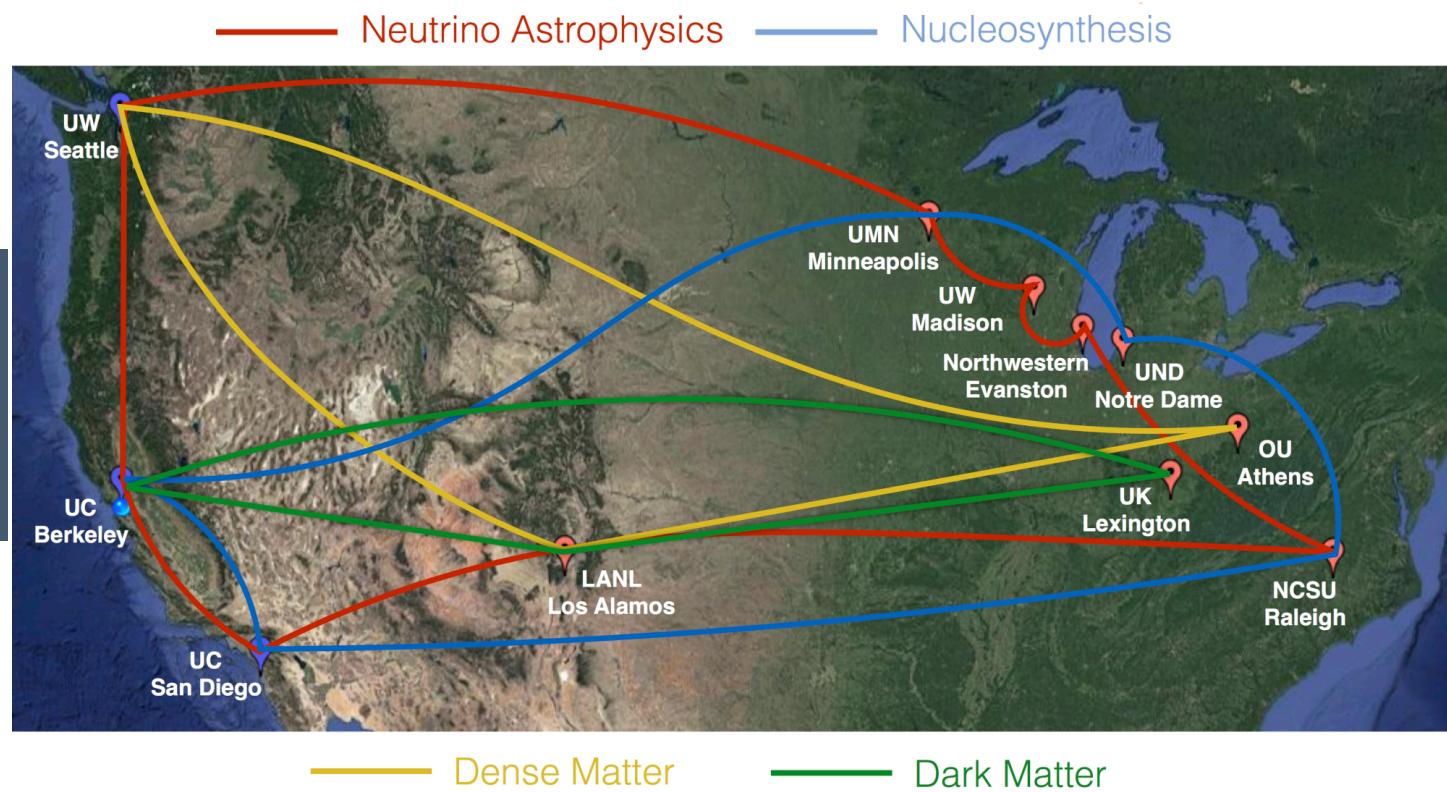
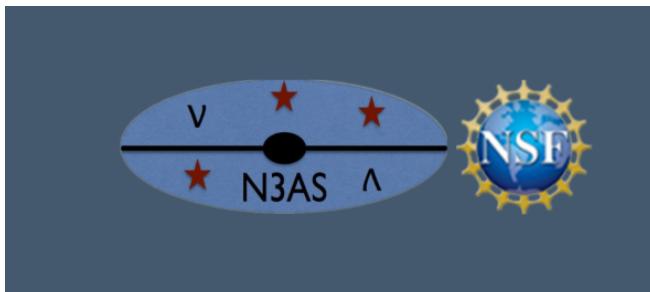
Sophia Han

N3AS Fellow, Ohio University/UC Berkeley

[arXiv:1906.04095](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.04095)

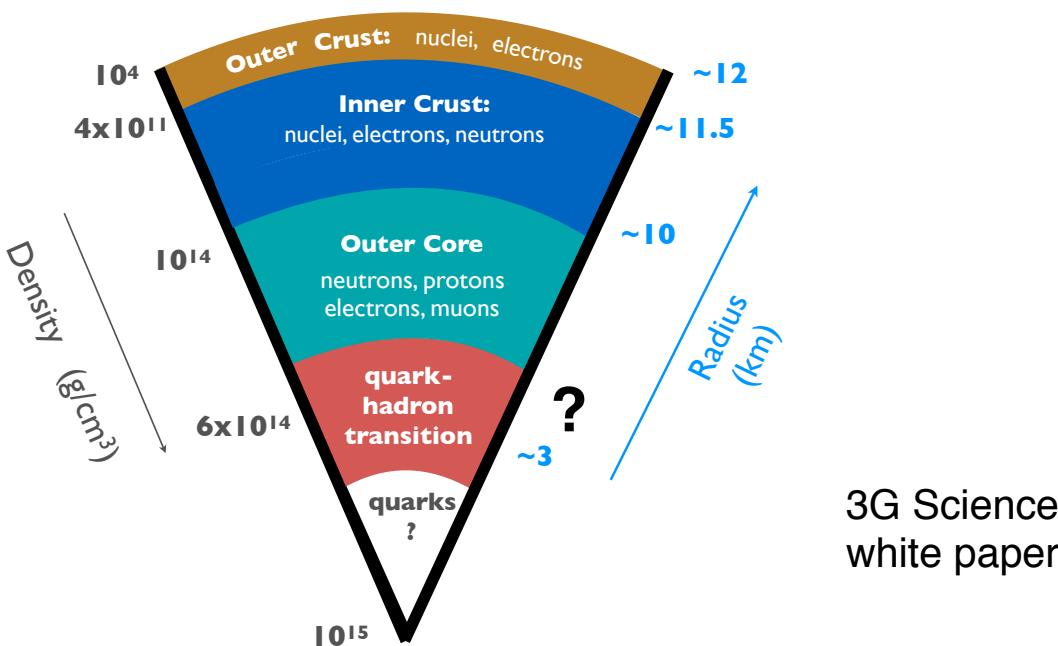
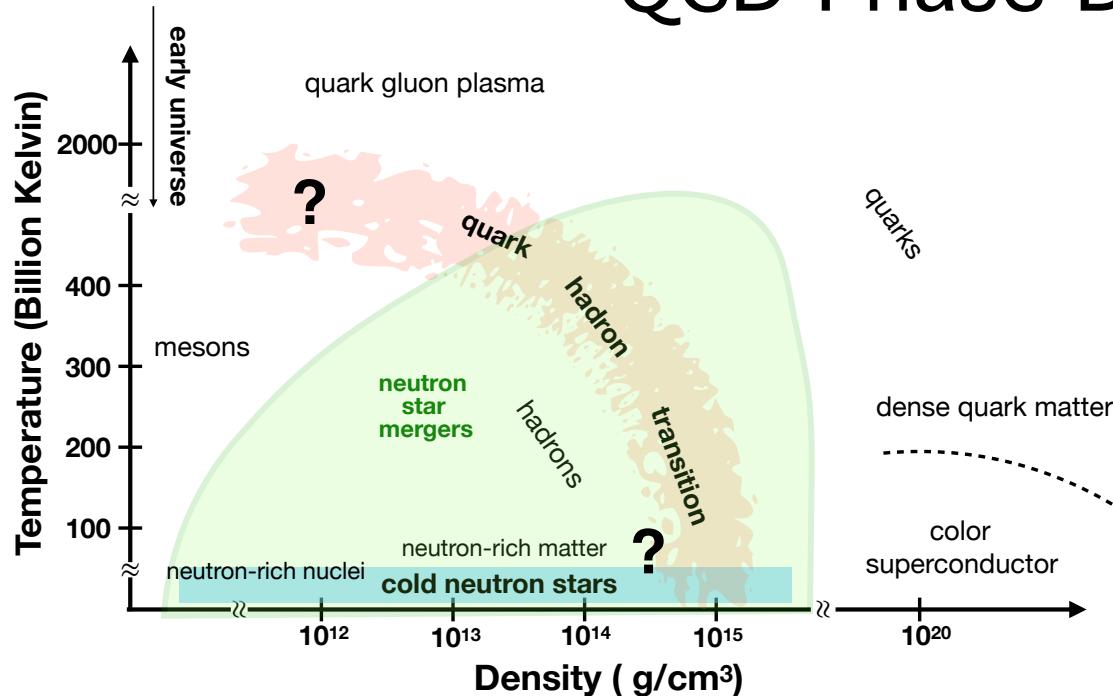
[arXiv:1904.05471](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.05471)

[arXiv:1810.10967](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.10967)



YITP MMGW2019
Sep. 24, 2019 @Kyoto

QCD Phase Diagram

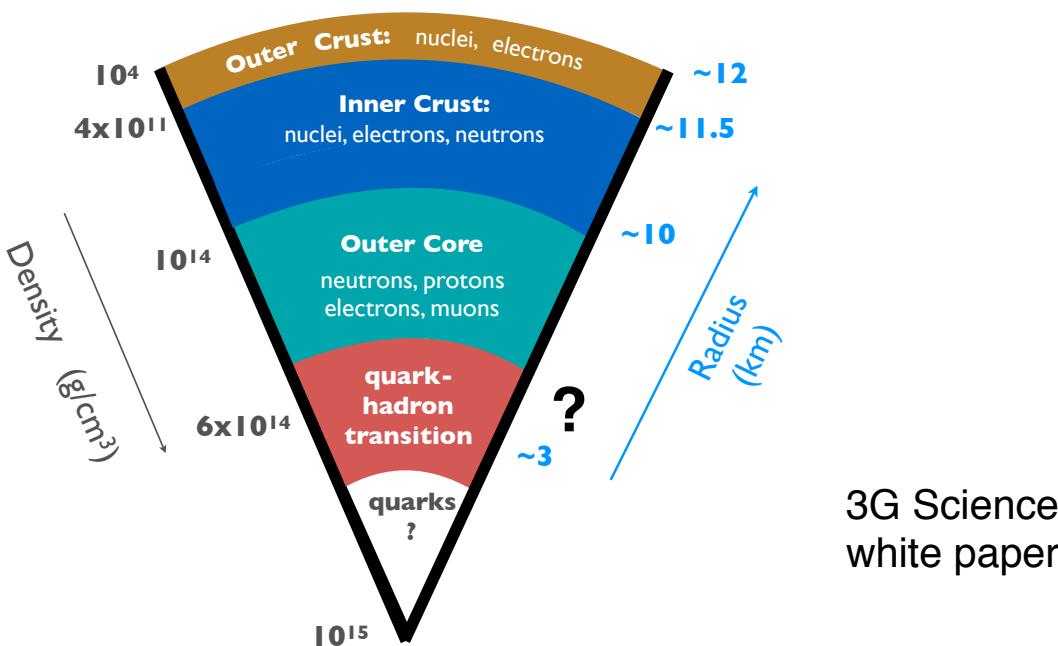
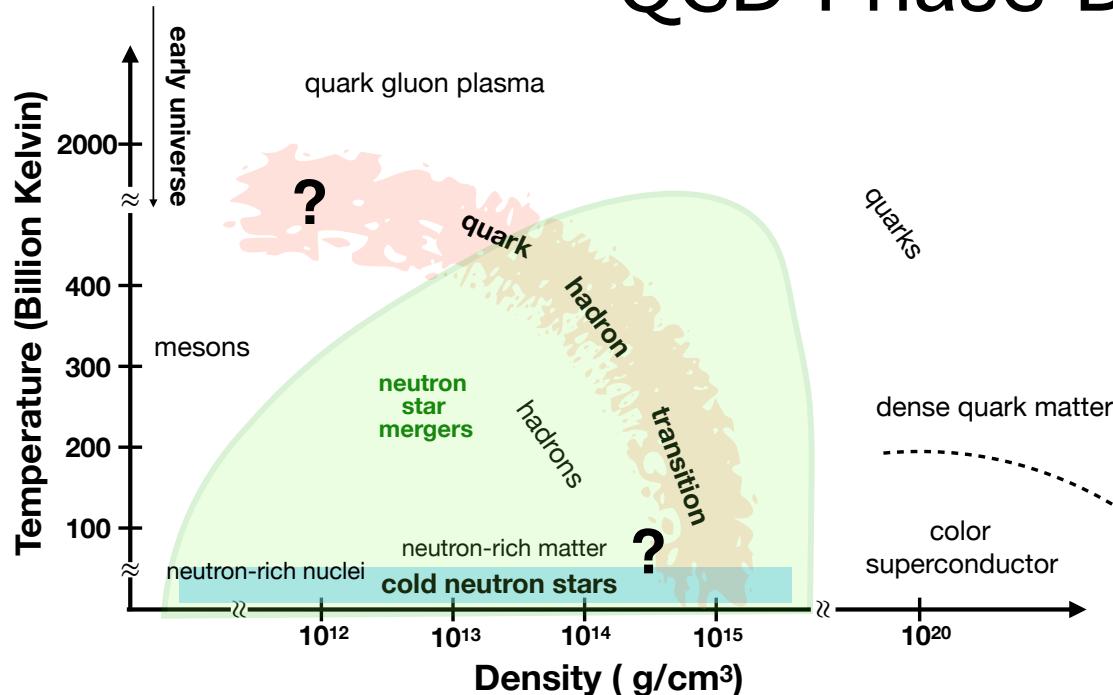


motivation

Limits on computations for cold dense matter

- lattice QCD gives good result at finite temperature, but is stymied currently at finite density
- perturbative QCD: only valid at asymptotically high densities
- can't calculate properties of cold dense matter, must observe!

QCD Phase Diagram



summary

Current status: quark matter in neutron stars

- no evidence to rule out QM
- no evidence to confirm QM
- massless weakly-interacting quarks strongly disfavored
- some hints that neutrons and protons are not enough
- better understanding of **nuclear matter** improves constraints on QM

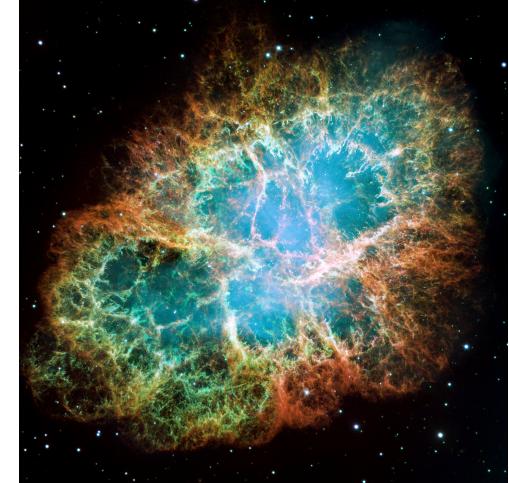
3G Science
white paper

Neutron Stars

Messengers: photons, neutrinos and gravitational waves

Facilities

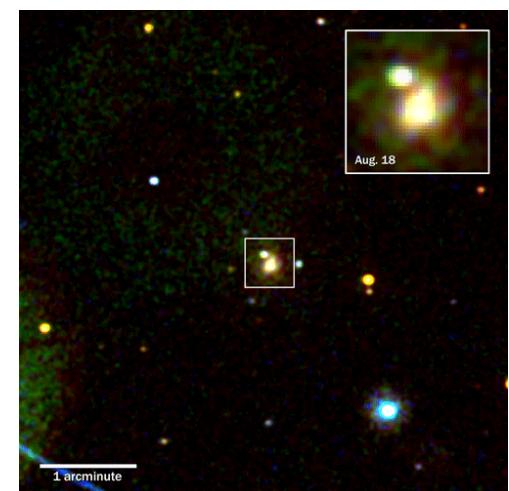
- Hubble, Chandra, Fermi, NICER, Parkes, NRAO, SKA..
- Super-K (Hyper-K), SNO+, IceCube..
- LIGO, Virgo, KAGRA, GEO600, LISA..



©NASA

Sources

- core-collapse supernovae, accreting & isolated NSs
- mergers of NS/NS, NS/BH
- MSRPs, magnetars, gamma-ray bursters
- double pulsar system



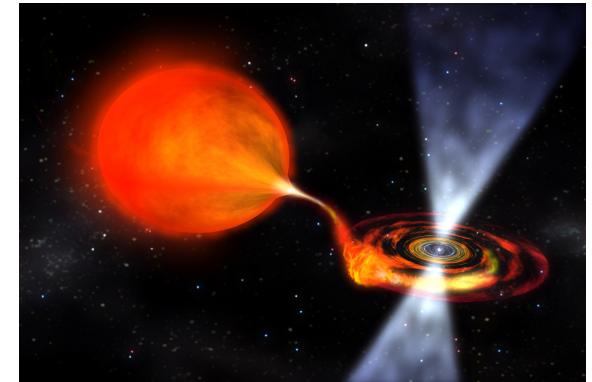
Recent Advances

Massive pulsars ~2 solar masses observed

(Shapiro delay) new! PSR J0740+6620 with $2.14^{+0.20}_{-0.18} M_{\odot}$

BNS mergers

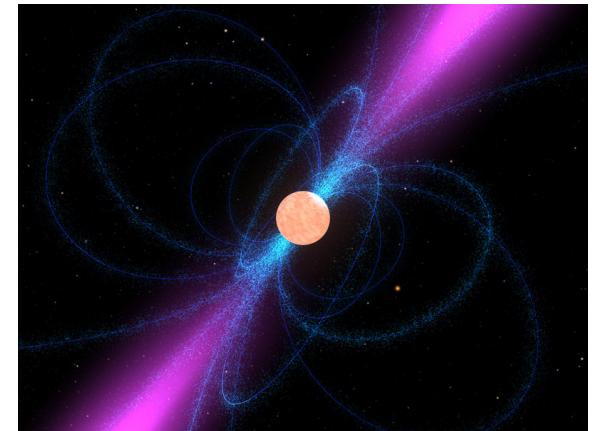
- pre-merger GW170817 signal favors “small” stars
- sGRBs, kilonova lightcurves, afterglow



©NASA

Accreting & isolated NSs

- crust cooling of accreting NSs to quiescence
- X-ray bursts, super-bursts, QPOs
- long-term cooling in e.g. Cassiopeia A
- glitches; pulsar timing



Dense Matter in Neutron Stars

Properties

Static: dense matter
equation of state (EoS)

Dynamic: thermal, elastic
& transport properties

Observables

global structure:
mass, radius, tidal deformation, binding
energy, moment of inertia

evolution:
surface temperature/luminosity,
rotational frequency, neutrinos, magnetic
field, gravitational waves

Connections

- nuclear & particle physics
- atomic, condensed matter physics
- computational astrophysics, gravitational physics

I. Global Structure

©NRAO

Microphysics input

- equations of state (EoS); pressure vs. density

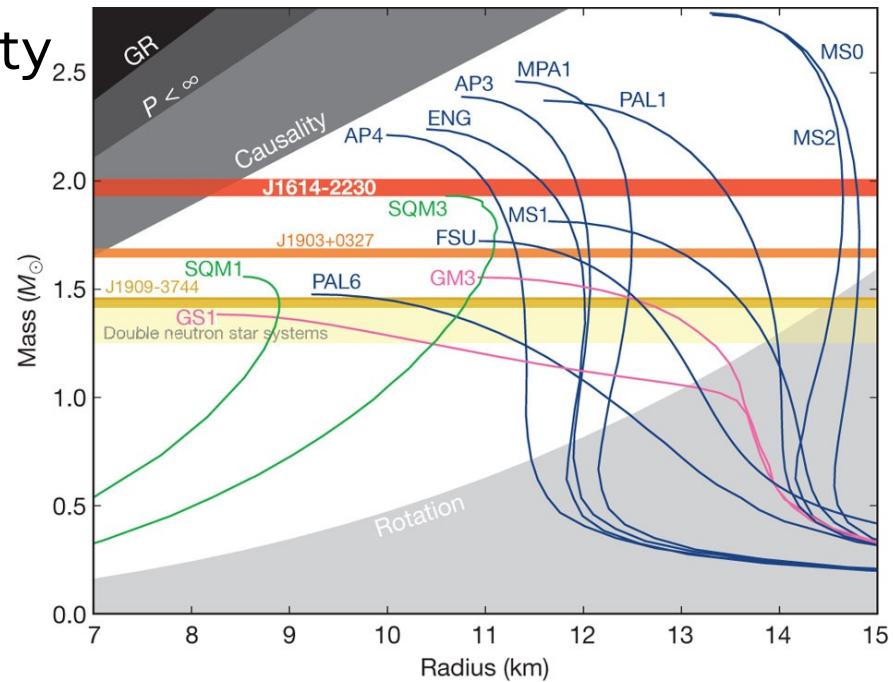
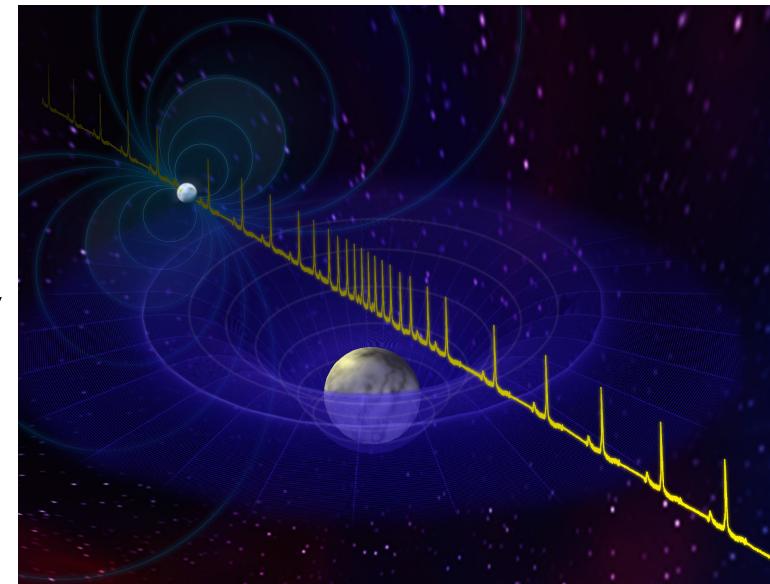
Context

- cold, beta-stable, non-magnetars

- hydrostatic equilibrium in General Relativity

Output

- masses and radii; compactness M/R
- binding energy
- tidal Love number & tidal deformability
- moment of inertia



Demorest et al., Nature 467, 1081 (2010)

I. Global Structure

©NRAO

Microphysics input

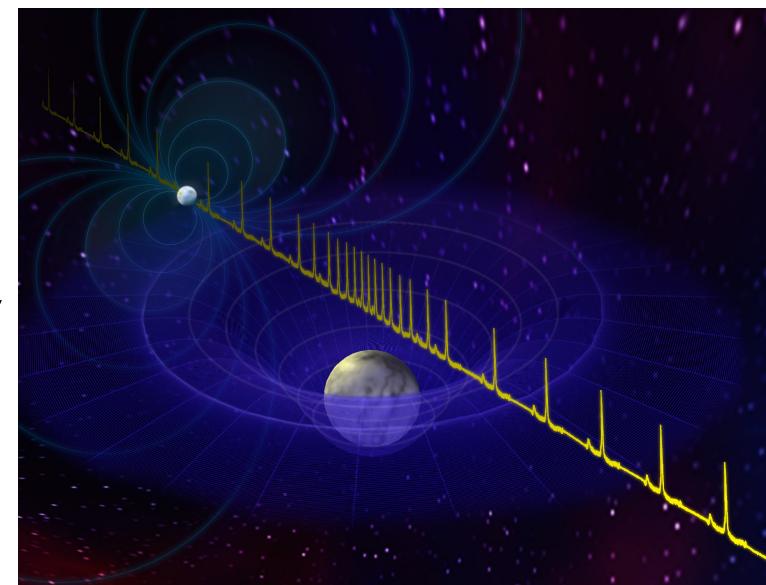
- equations of state (EoS); pressure vs. density

Context

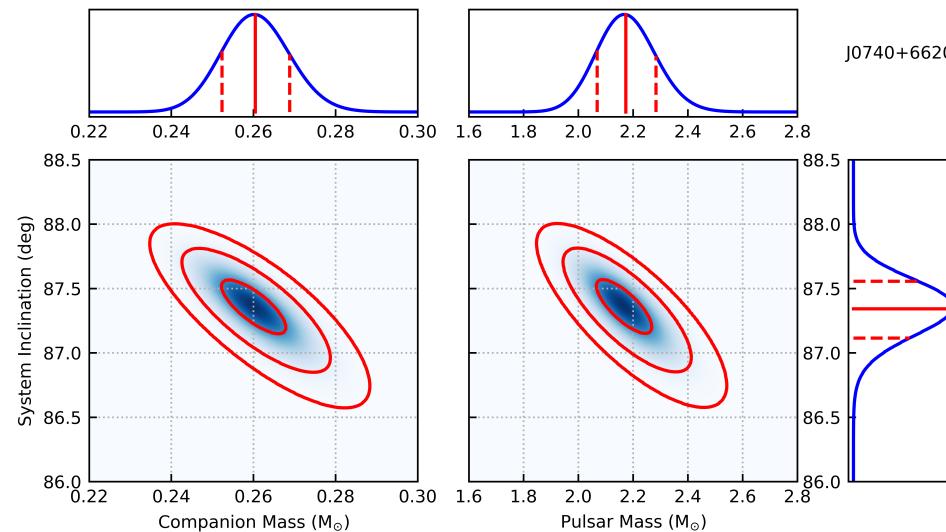
- cold, slowly-rotating, non-magnetars
- hydrostatic equilibrium in GR

Output

- masses and radii; compactness M/R
- binding energy
- tidal Love number & tidal deformability
- moment of inertia



new! PSR J0740+6620 with $2.14^{+0.20}_{-0.18} M_{\odot}$



Cromartie et al., arXiv:1904.06759

Equation of State (EoS)

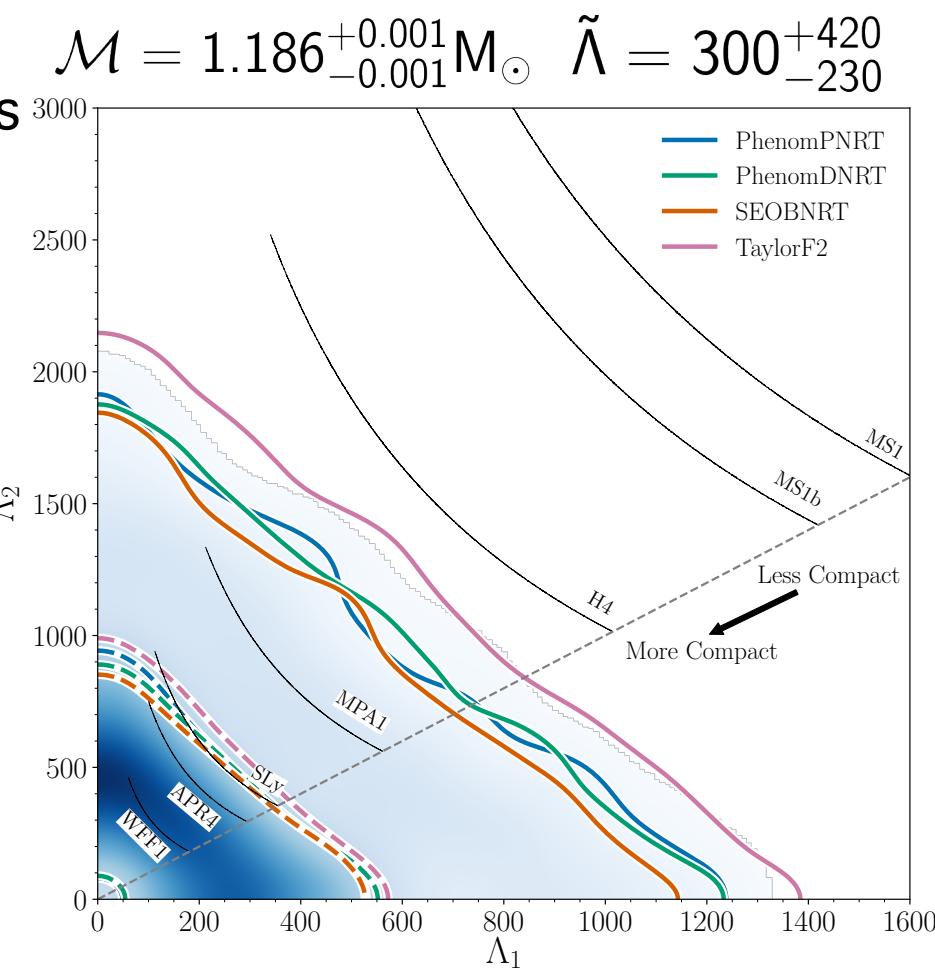
Best constraints so far

- massive pulsars: rule out too “soft” EoSs
- small tidal deformation in mergers: rules out too “stiff” EoSs

Theoretical models

- minimal scenario: dense nuclear matter EoS
- hybrid EoS: phase transition to e.g. hyperonic matter, kaon/pion condensates, quark matter..
- strange matter hypothesis

Laboratory experiments: near nuclear density

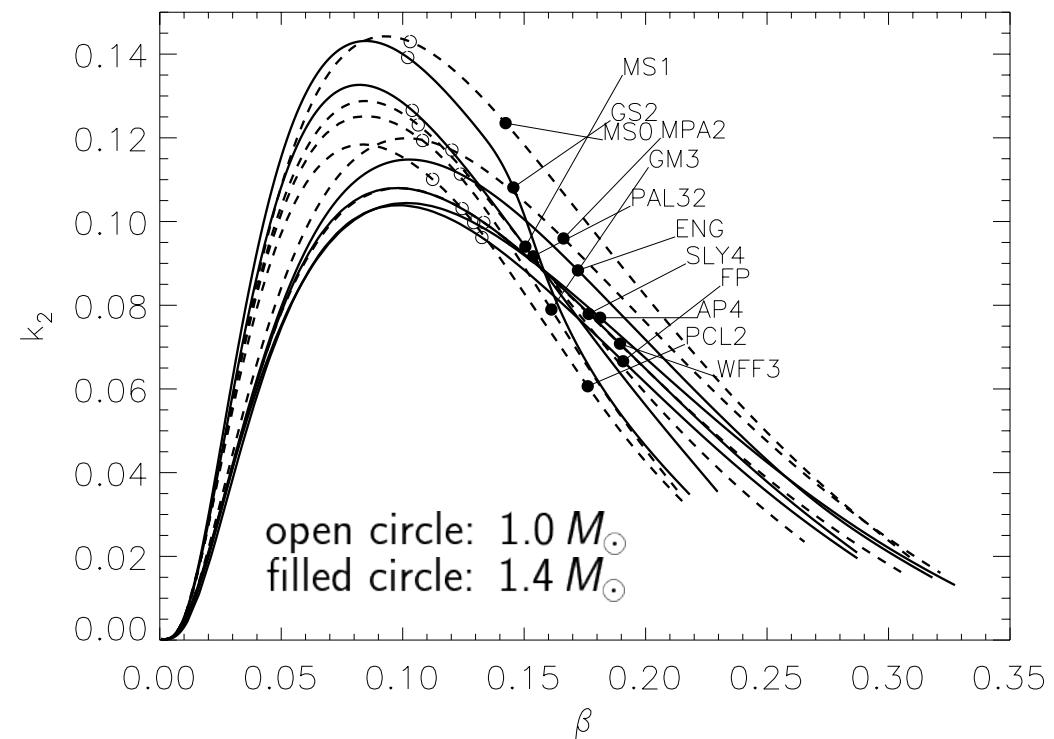
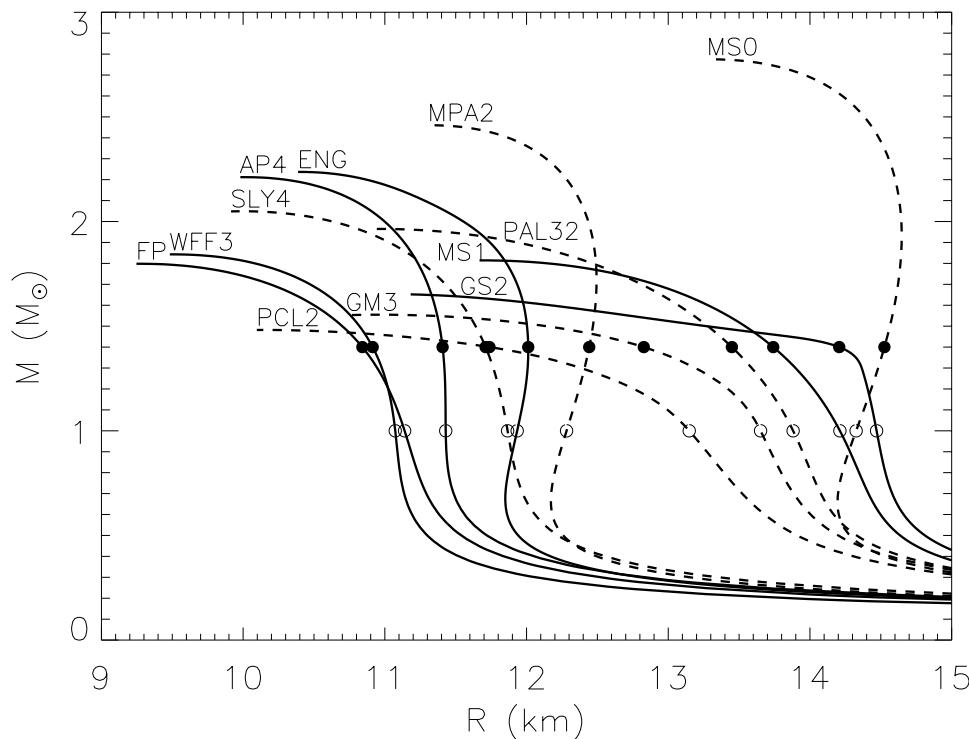


LVC collaboration, arXiv:1805.11579

Normal Hadronic EoSs

- tidal Love numbers 0.05~0.15
- speed of sound monotonically increasing with pressure from zero

$$c_s^2 = dp/d\epsilon$$



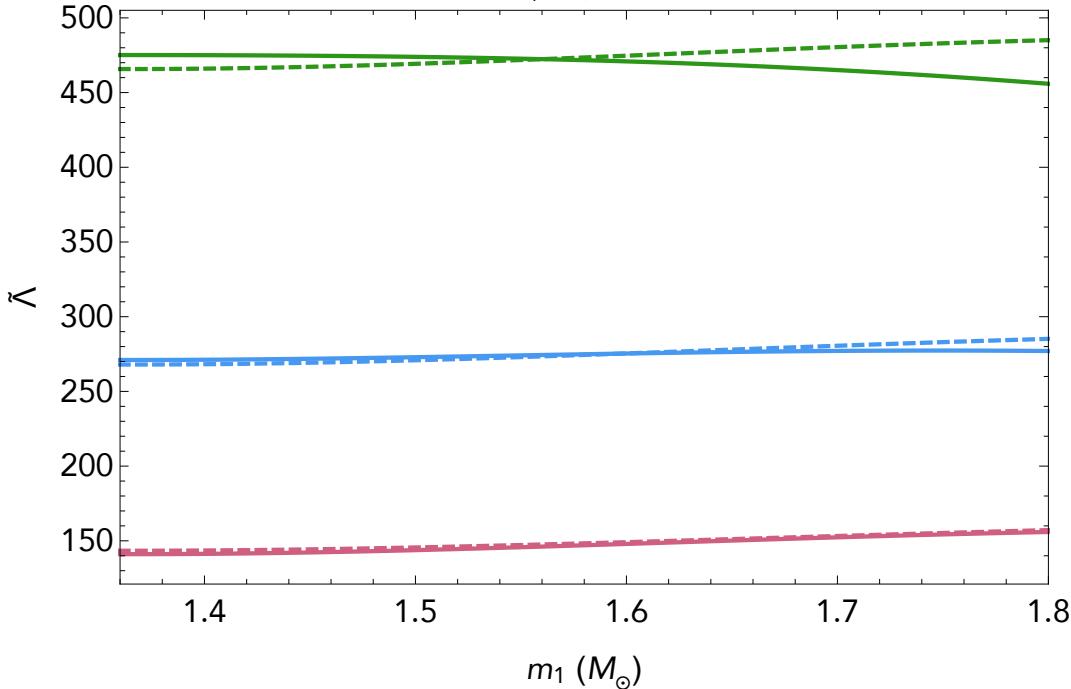
$$\Lambda \equiv \frac{\lambda}{M^5} \equiv \frac{2}{3} k_2 \left(\frac{R c^2}{G M} \right)^5$$

Postnikov, Prakash & Lattimer,
Phys. Rev. D 82, 024016 (2010)
arXiv:1004.5098

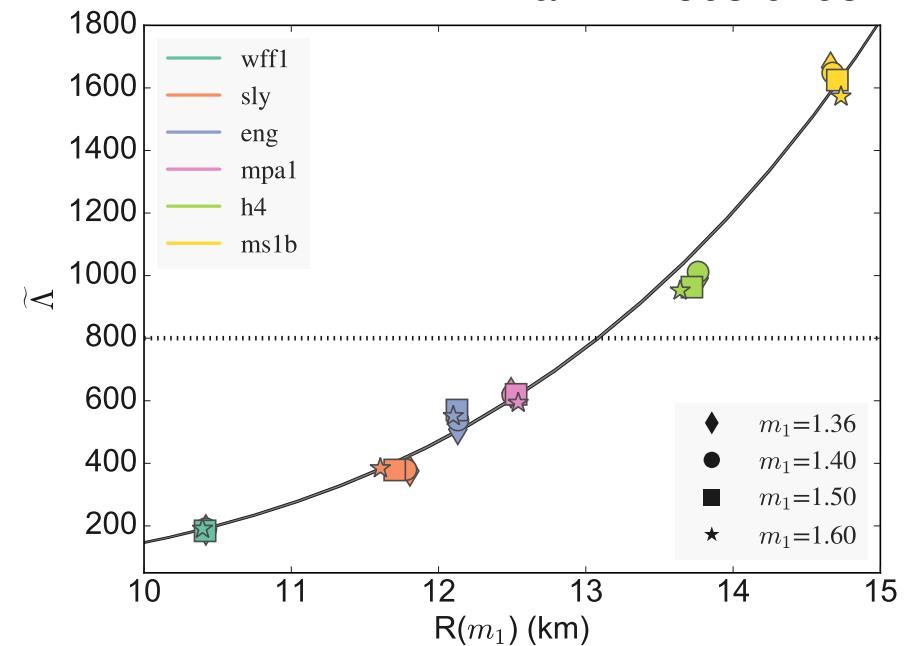
Binary Tidal Deformability

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} \frac{(m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4 \Lambda_1 + (m_2 + 12m_1)m_2^4 \Lambda_2}{(m_1 + m_2)^5}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = (m_1 m_2)^{3/5} / (m_1 + m_2)^{1/5}$$



Raithel, Özel & Psaltis,
ApJ. Lett. 857, L23 (2018)
arXiv:1803.07687



- strikingly insensitive to the mass ratio for **nuclear matter EoS**
- chirp mass measured to high accuracy -> estimate range of $\tilde{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$
- allows for direct probe of the neutron star radius

Minimal Scenario

Nuclear matter models

- “stiffness” parameters: symmetry energy S and its slope L around nuclear saturation density

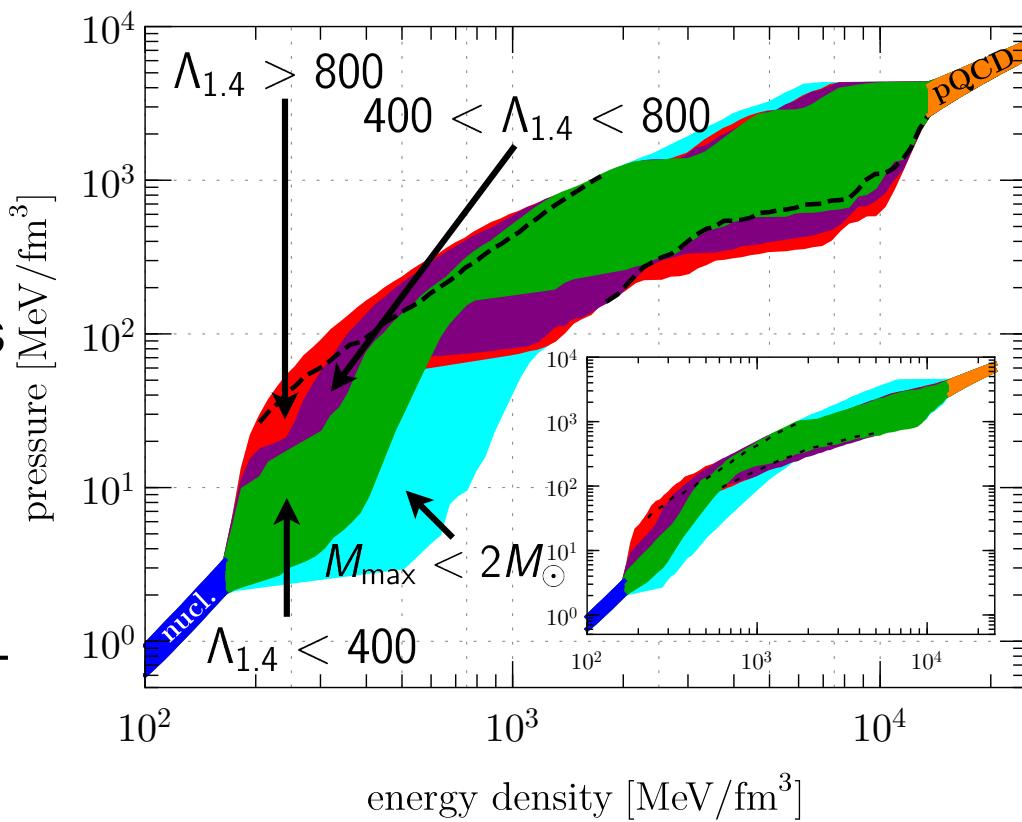
Theory

- requires strong repulsive interactions to support massive NSs; caution: causality limit
- likely tension implies a rapid switch from “soft” to “stiff” EoS around twice saturation density; QMC, chEFT

Experiment

- neutron skin, nuclei masses, dipole polarizability, heavy-ion collisions..

- chEFT + piece-wise polytrope extrapolation



Annala et al., PRL 120, 172703 (2018)

Speed of Sound

$$c_s^2(r) \equiv dp(r)/d\varepsilon(r)$$

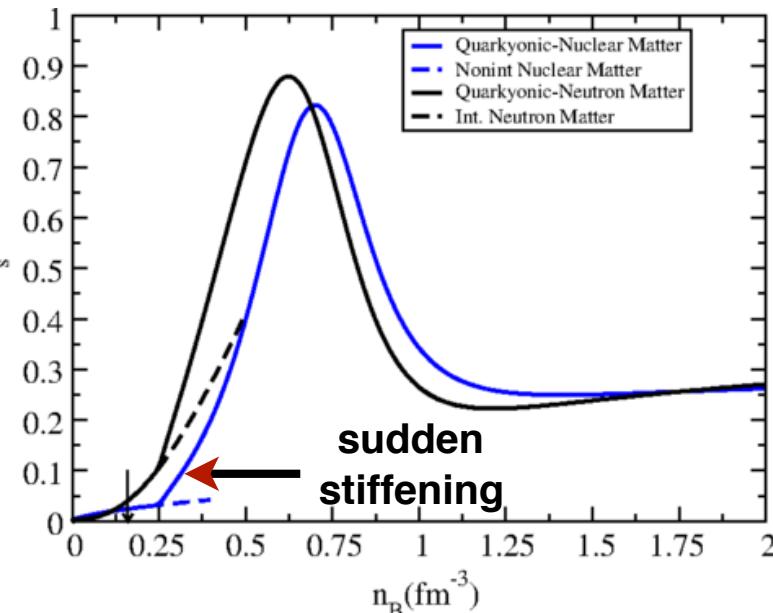
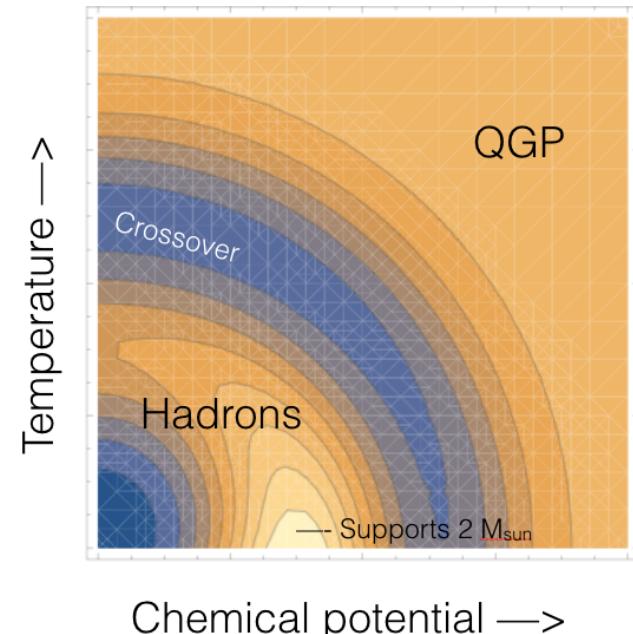
how fast pressure rises with energy density

Behavior in neutron stars

- minimal scenario of nuclear matter: smooth, monotonically increasing function of pressure
- first-order phase transition scenario: finite energy density **discontinuity** induces sudden softening near the phase boundary
- crossover scenario (quark-hadron continuity)

Limits

- asymptotically high density: $\sim 1/3$
- intermediate: need to support massive NSs
- high-T: matches lattice calc./heavy-ion data



McLerran & Reddy,
PRL 122, 122701 (2019)

Modeling Quark Cores

1st-order transition

- infinite surface tension:
Maxwell construction
- zero surface tension:
Gibbs construction

Crossover transition

- quarkyonic model (second order)
- interpolation scheme

Key questions

- what is the minimum NS mass that is likely to contain quarks?
- what is the minimum density where a hadron-quark transition of any kind can occur?
- which astronomical observations have the best potential to attest to the presence of quarks?

1st-order Transition

Hybrid EoS models

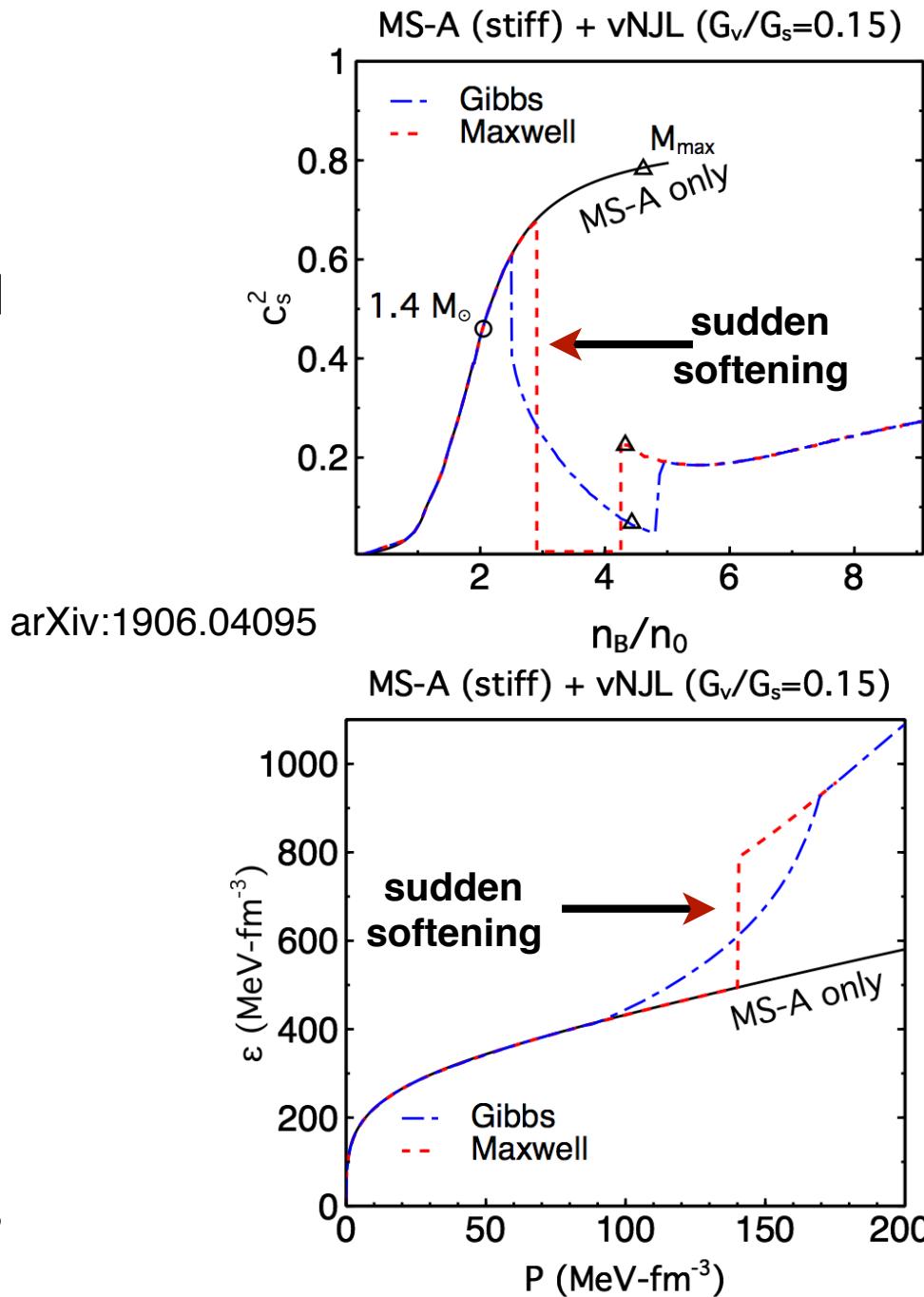
- phase transition parameters: threshold density, weak or strong PT, stiffness (speed of sound) above PT
- input: nuclear matter EoS below PT

Theory

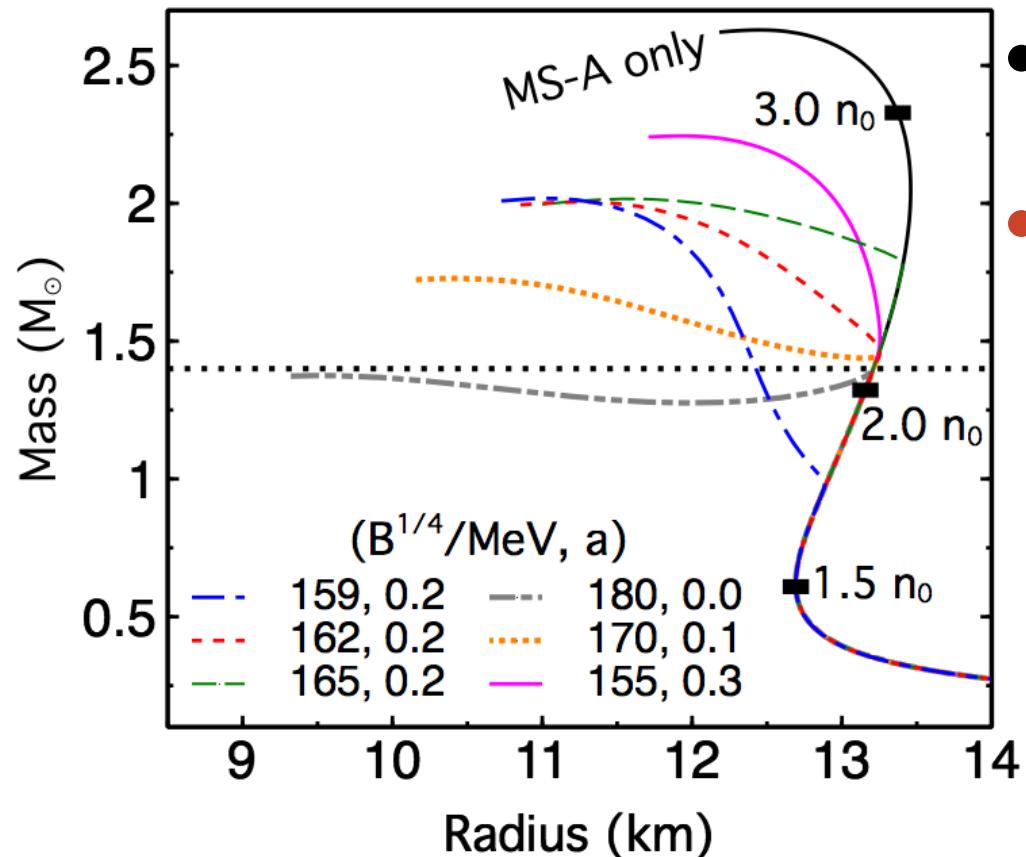
- high-density quark models: pQCD, NJL models, chiral sigma model, MIT bag..
- surface tension at the hadron/quark interface: sharp transition or mixed phase?

Evident signatures

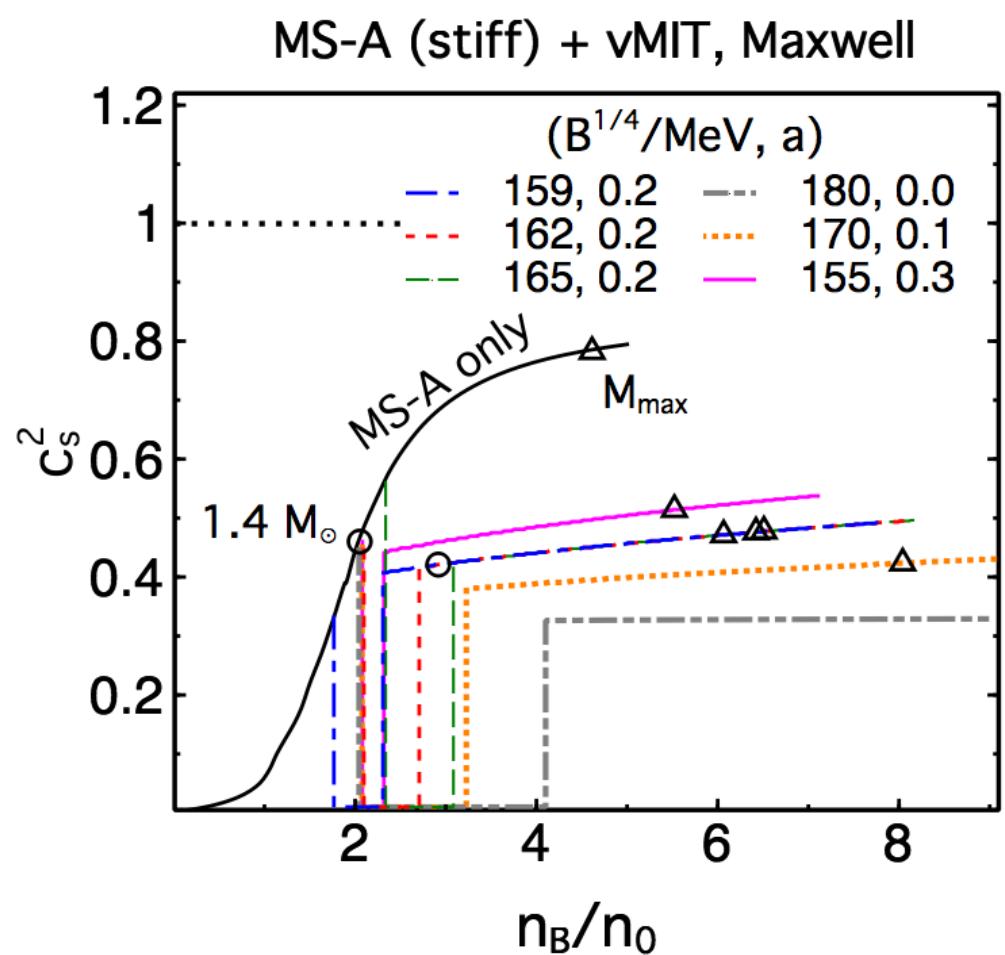
- disc. M-R; multivalued tidal parameters



MS-A (stiff) + vMIT, Maxwell

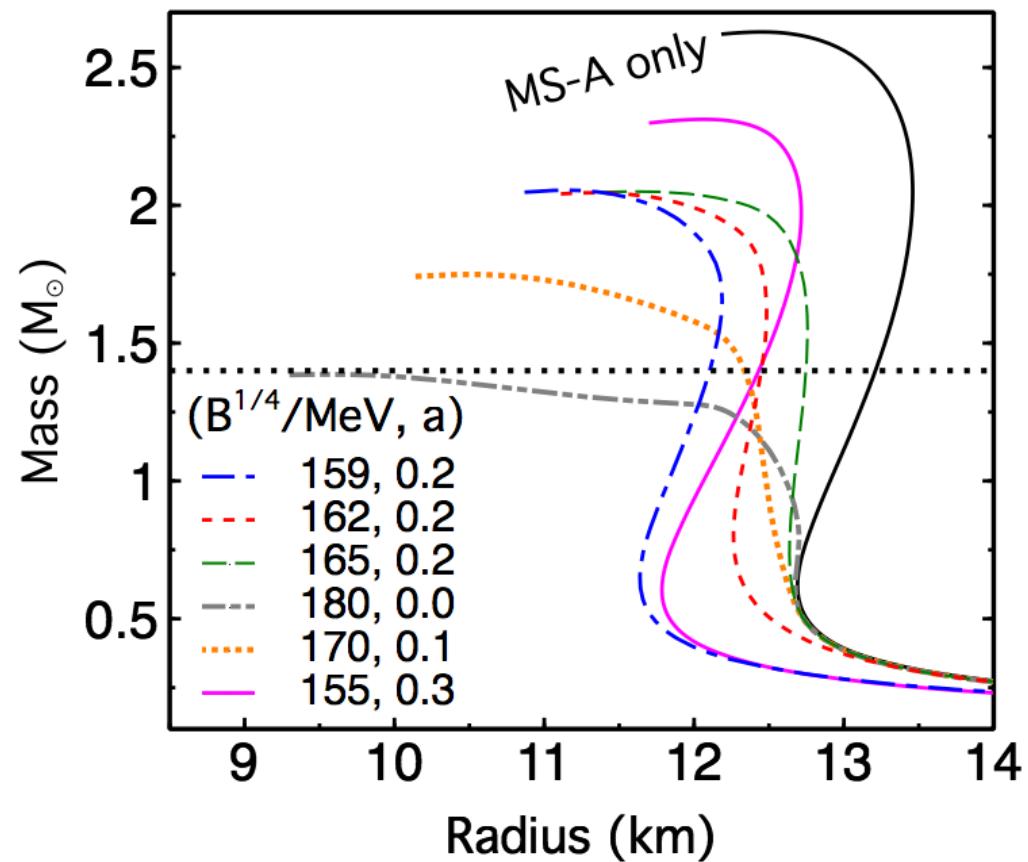


- if quarks appear **too late**: i) immediate collapse; ii) violates tidal deformability
- **only stiff NM to stiff QM @ $\lesssim 3n_0$ survives!**



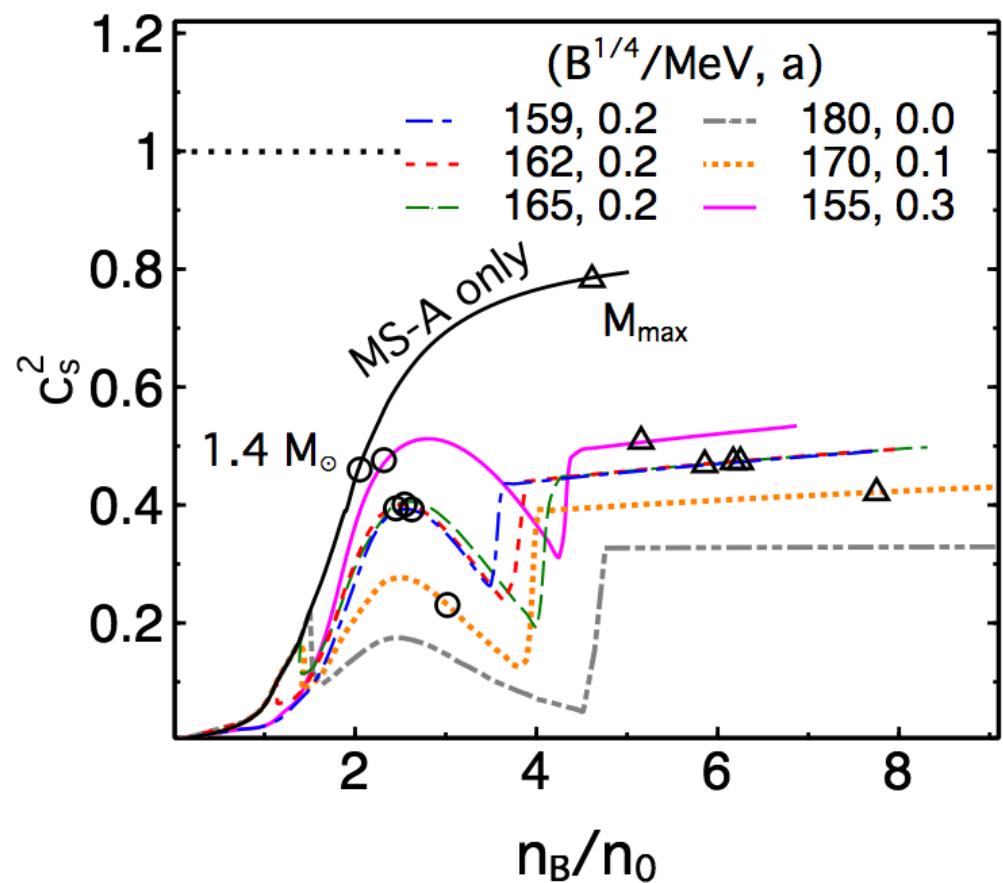
- 1st-order: reduces both R and M_{max}
- soft q-EoS: **cannot** support 2 solar masses
- soft n-EoS: **no** valid PT (pressure & chemical potential equality)

MS-A (stiff) + vMIT, Gibbs

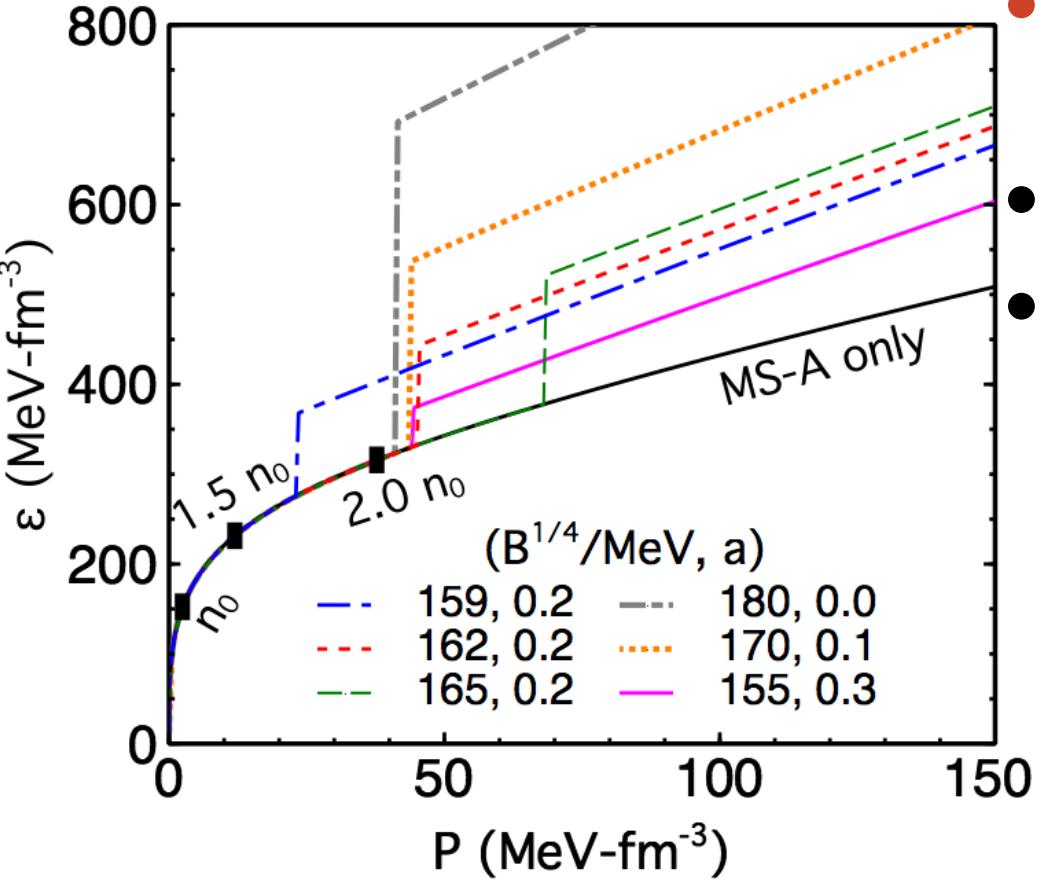


- Gibbs: smoothes out mass-radius
- even lower threshold
- indistinguishable

MS-A (stiff) + vMIT, Gibbs

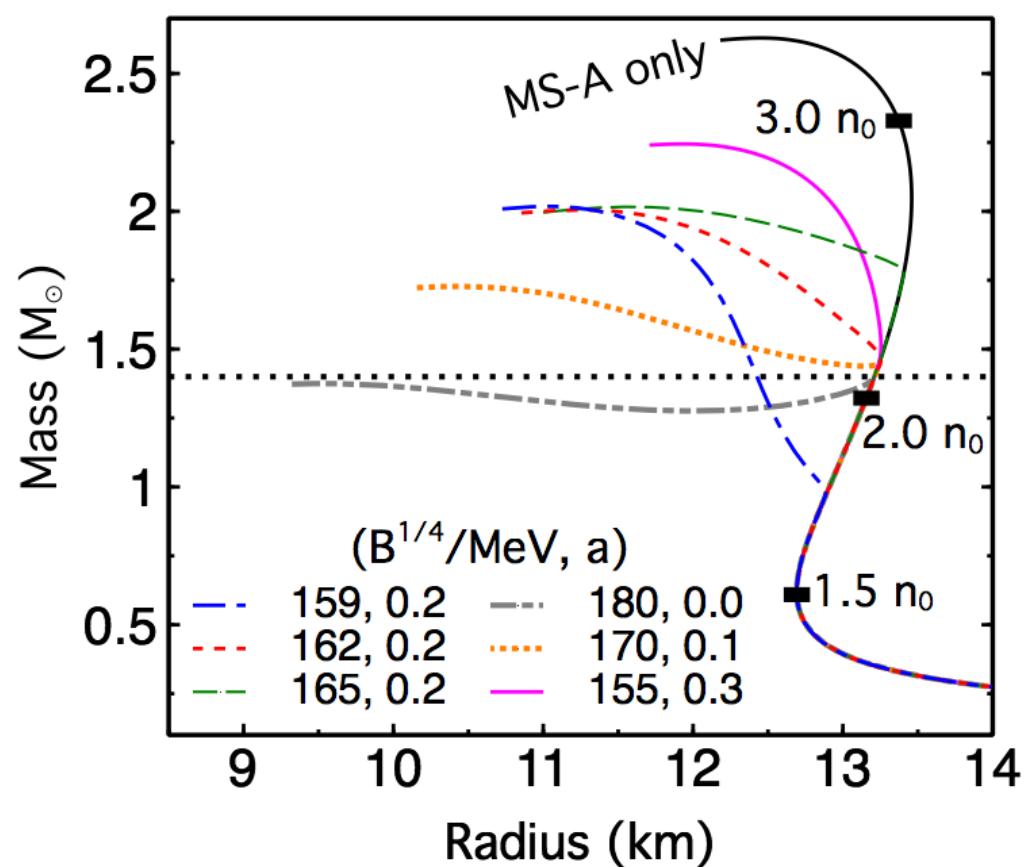


MS-A (stiff) + vMIT, Maxwell



- if **stiff NM to stiff QM** is true: quarks probably exist in **pre-merger NSs**
- can it be manifest in observations?
- Maxwell: yes if PT is strong; Gibbs: no

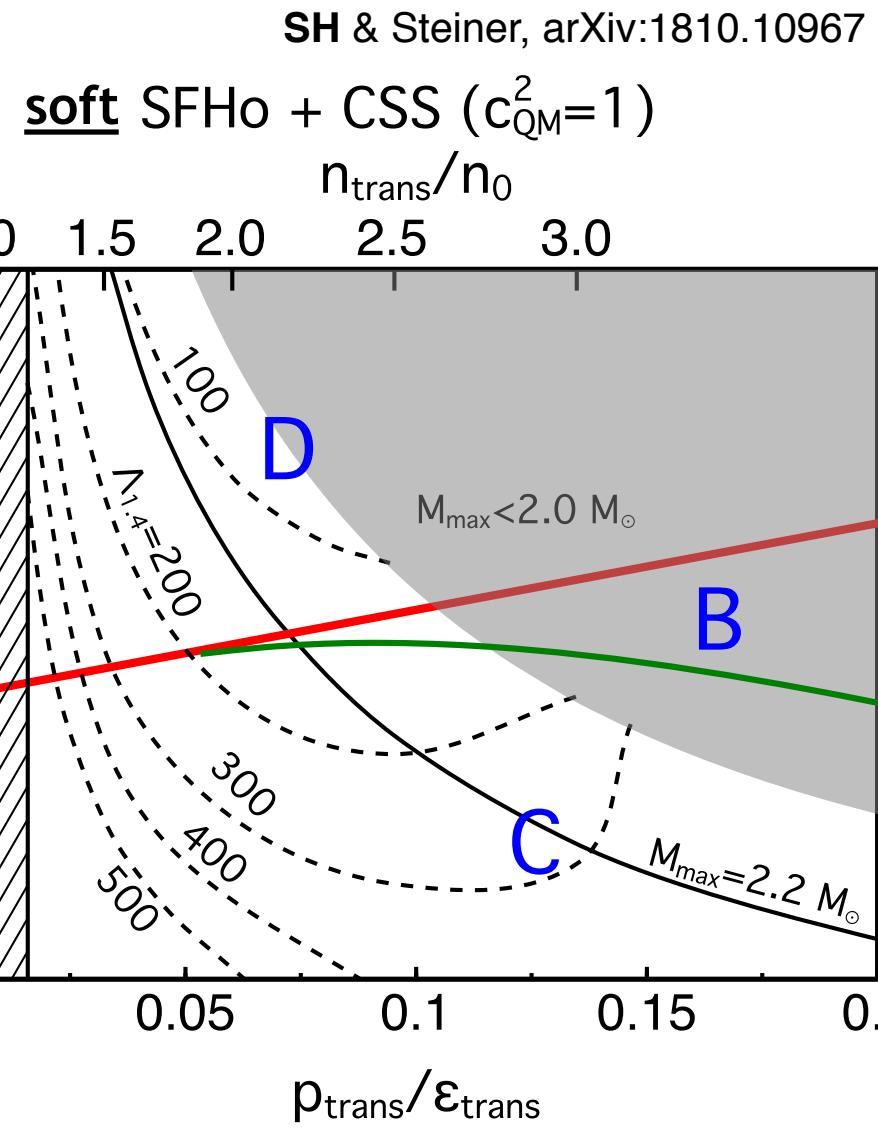
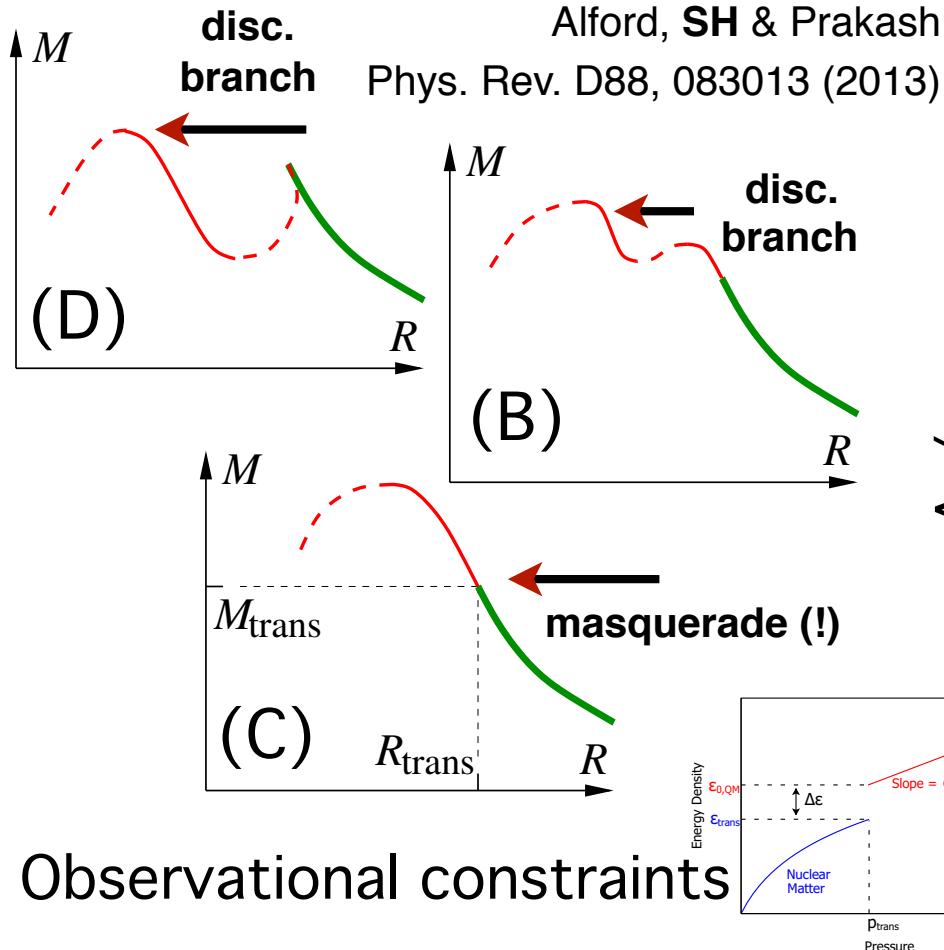
MS-A (stiff) + vMIT, Maxwell



- if n-EoS @ $\sim 2n_0$ proved **soft**: no 1st-order PT; resort to crossover, or
- quark models applied **fail** to capture **soft to stiff** 1st-order PT
- model-independent parametrization

Constraints on 1st-order PT

Better knowledge of nuclear EoS helps

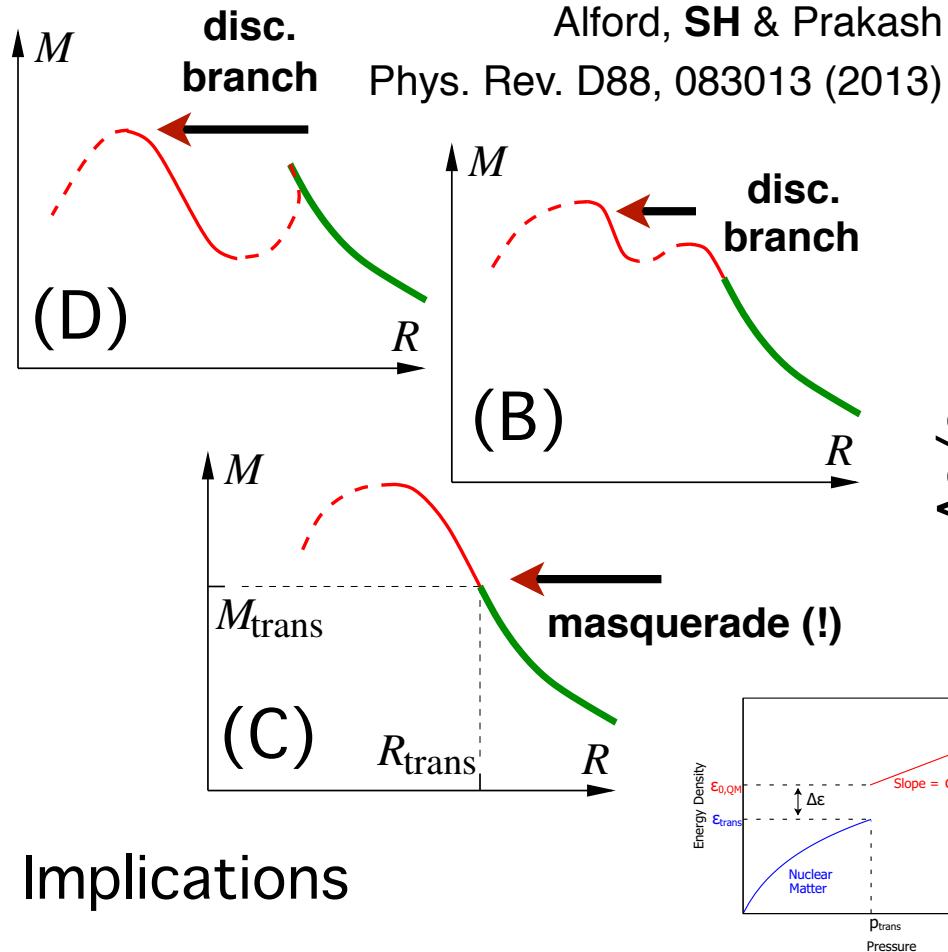


Observational constraints

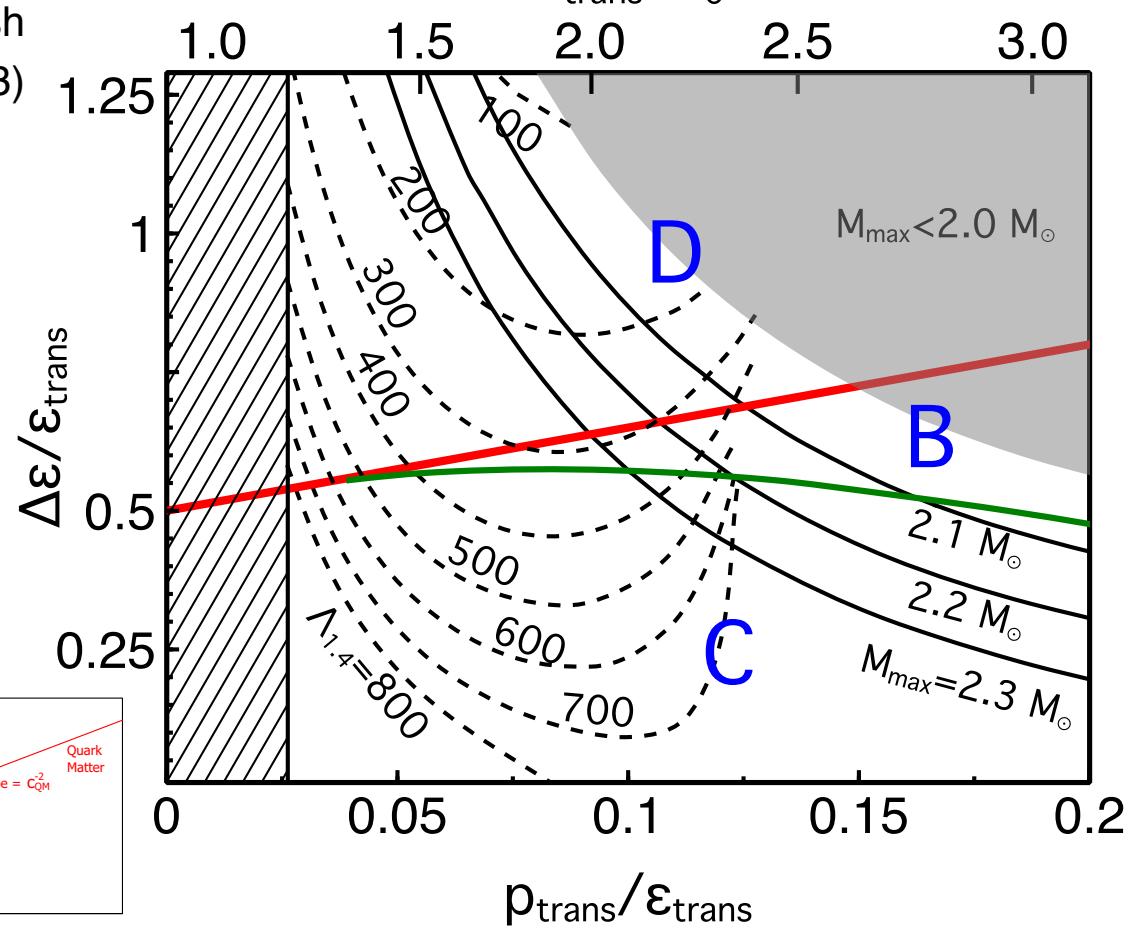
- massive pulsars observed ~ 2 solar masses
- pre-merger GW signals detected limit tidal deformability

Constraints on 1st-order PT

Better knowledge of nuclear EoS helps



SH & Steiner, arXiv:1810.10967
stiff DBHF + CSS ($c_{QM}^2=1$)



Implications

- stiff nuclear matter preferred; too-high transition density ruled out
- distinguishability (“D/B” vs. “C”) depends on the strength of PT: $\Delta\epsilon/\epsilon_{\text{trans}}$

Quarkyonic Matter

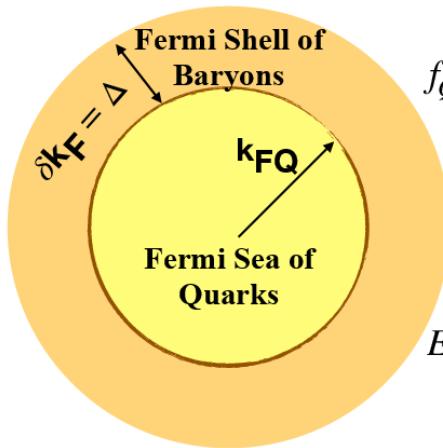
- both quarks and hadrons exist in the system simultaneously
- choose a QCD inspired cutoff and obtain the “shell” in Fermi sphere

$$\Delta = \frac{\Lambda_Q^3}{k_F^2} + \kappa \frac{\Lambda_Q}{N_c^2}$$

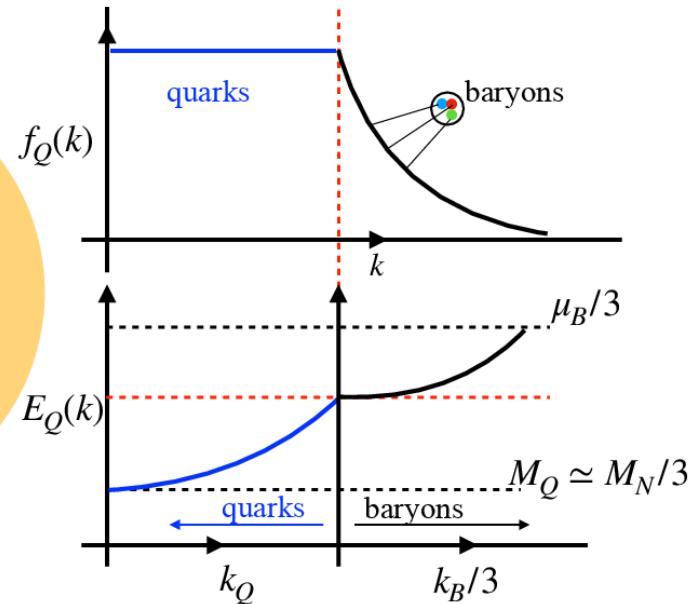
- quark momenta

$$k_{Fq} = \frac{(k_{FB} - \Delta)}{N_c} \Theta(k_{FB} - \Delta)$$

- quarks appear after when $k_{FB} > \Delta$
- Λ_Q and κ determine the onset (below which n-EoS is suitably chosen)



McLerran & Reddy,
PRL 122, 122701 (2019)

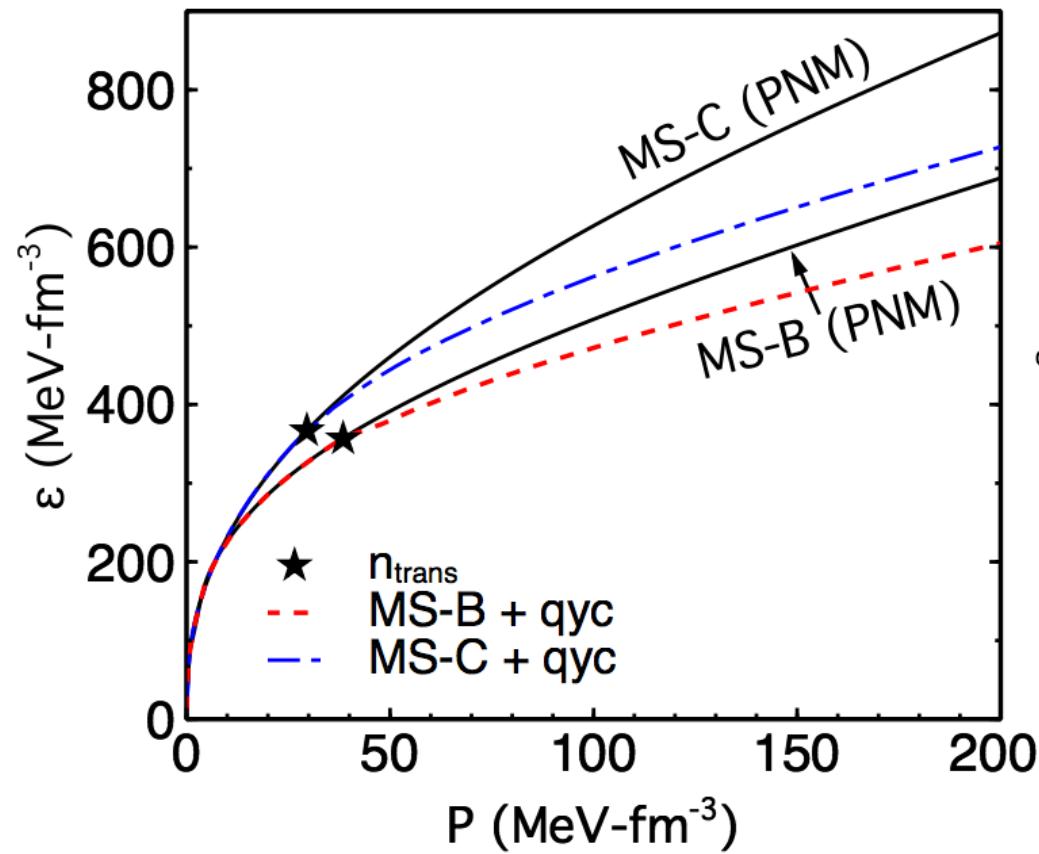


- smooth crossover; both pressure and energy density continuously increase
- peak of sound velocity supports massive star

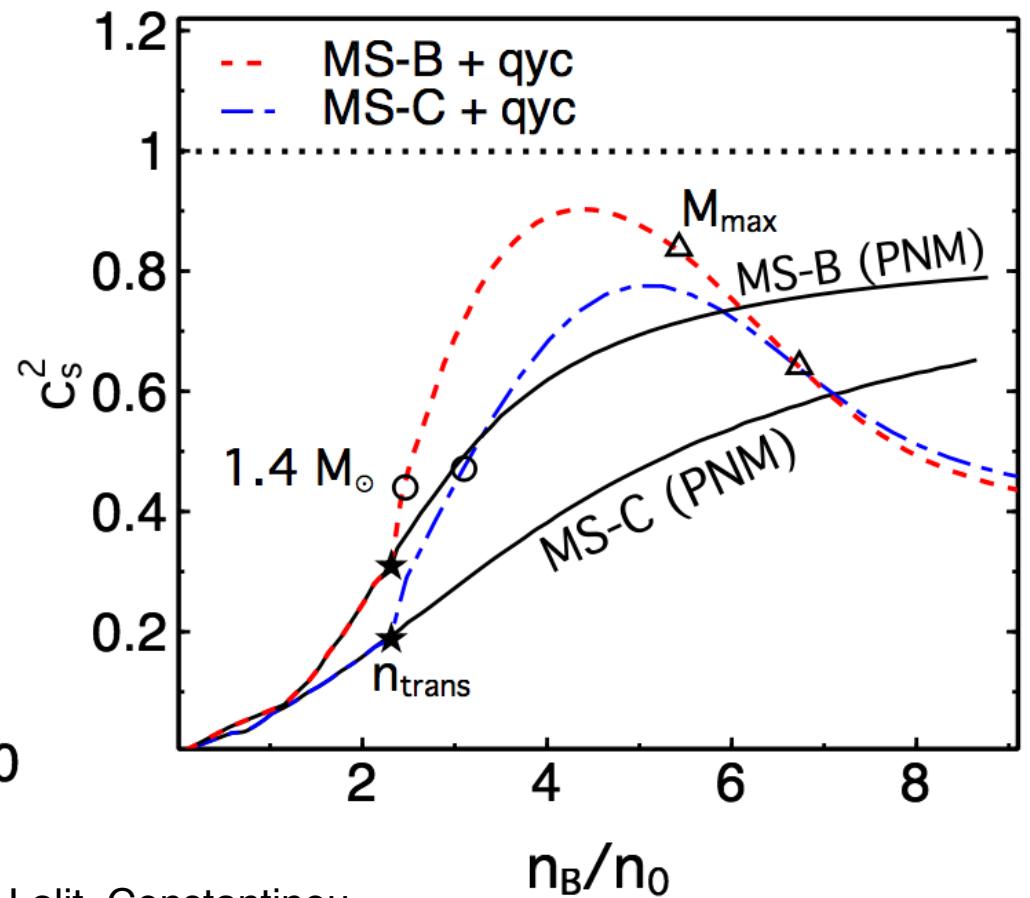
Crossover Transition

- example: pure neutron matter (PNM) + quarkyonic
- boosts both tidal deformability & maximum mass

MS-B/C (PNM) + Quarkyonic (u, d)



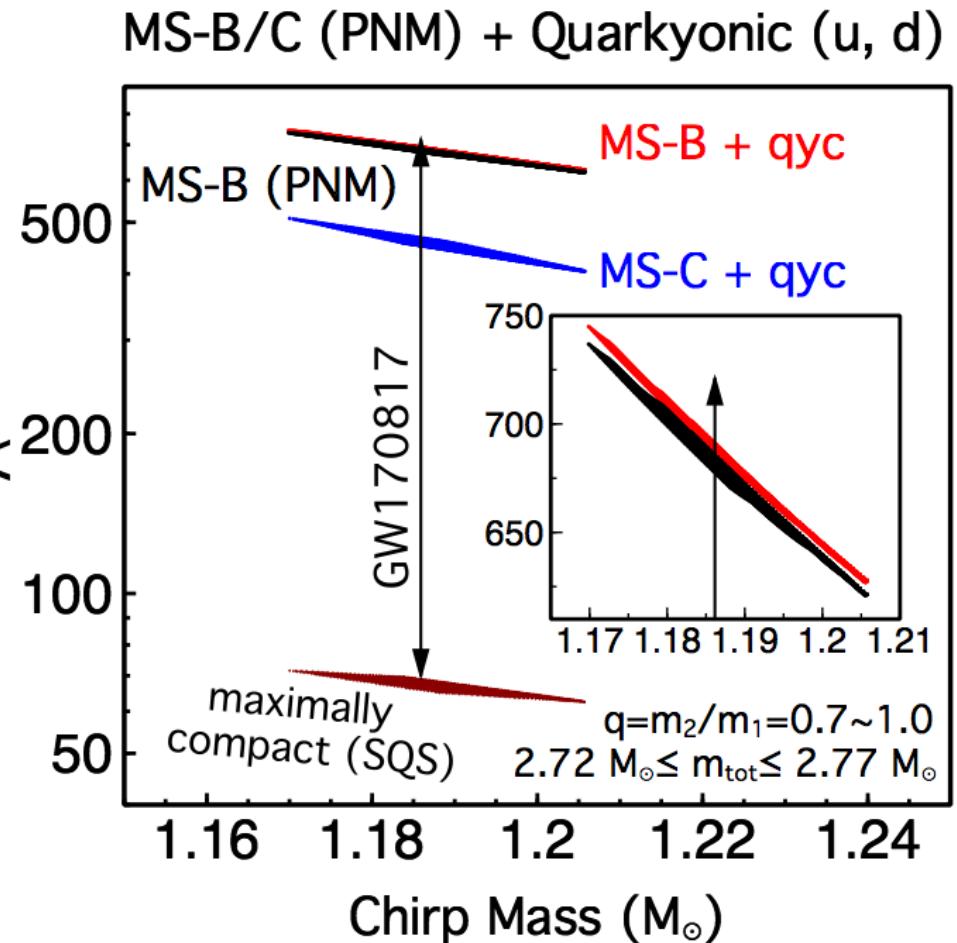
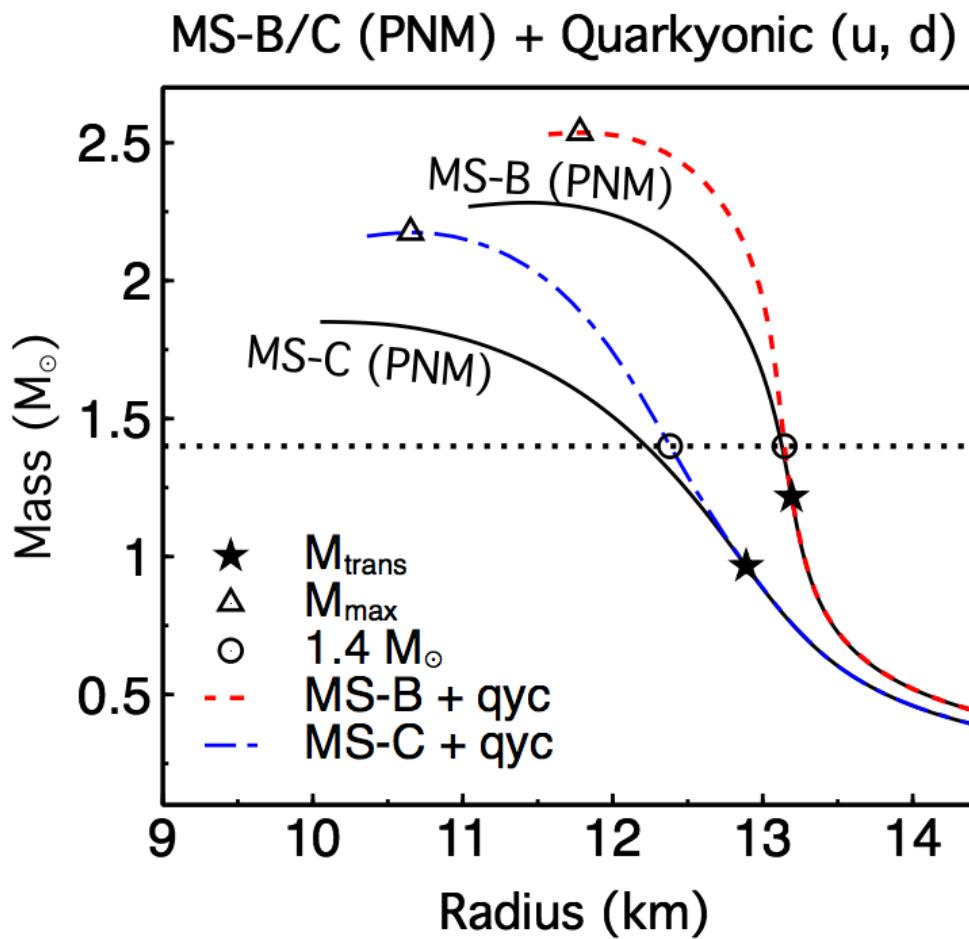
MS-B/C (PNM) + Quarkyonic (u, d)



SH, Al Mamun, Lalit, Constantinou
& Prakash, arXiv:1906.04095

Crossover Transition

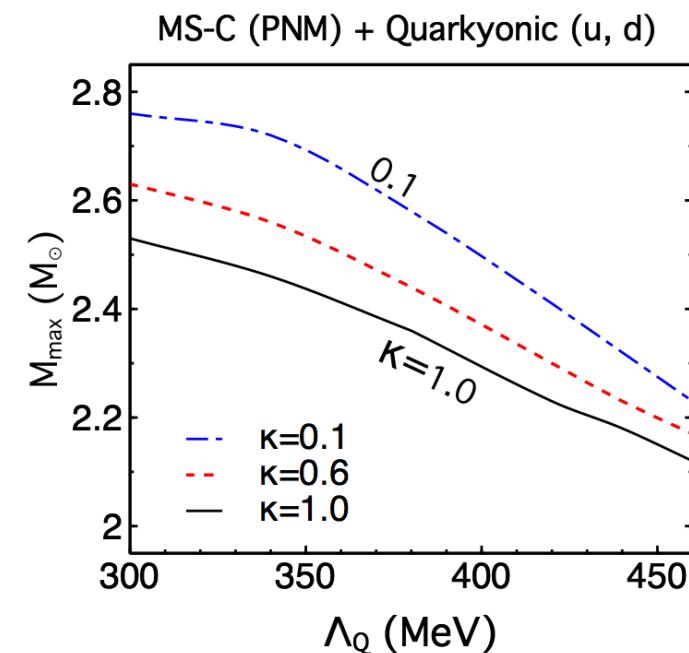
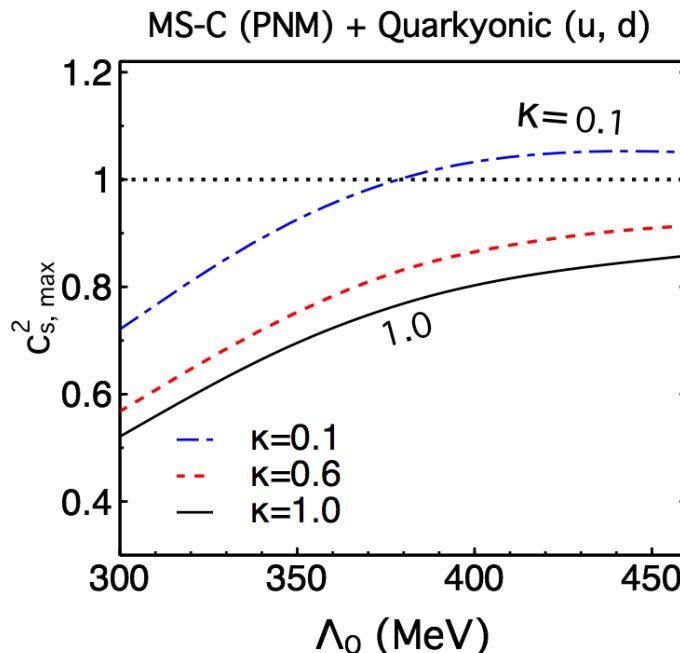
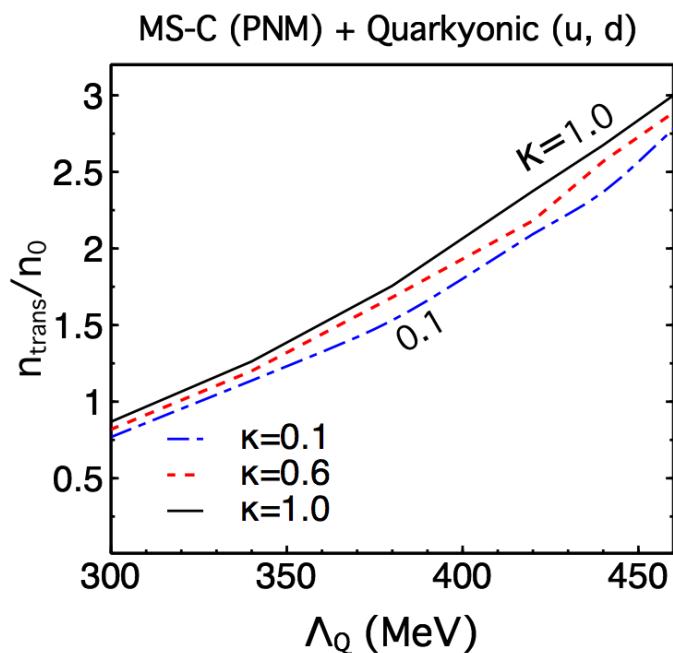
- relies on soft nuclear matter to ensure small R & deformability
- indistinguishable (!) from purely hadronic stars



SH, Al Mamun, Lalit, Constantinou
& Prakash, arXiv:1906.04095

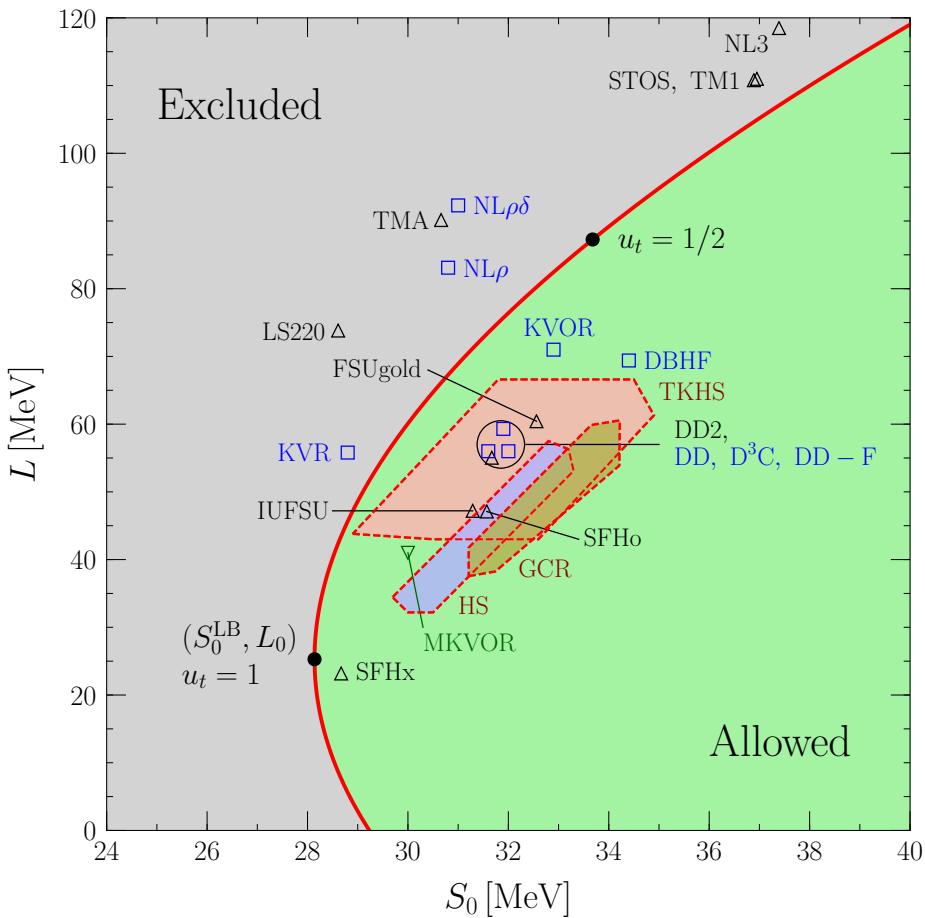
Crossover Transition

- relies on soft nuclear matter to ensure small R & deformability
- exploring the limits of threshold density



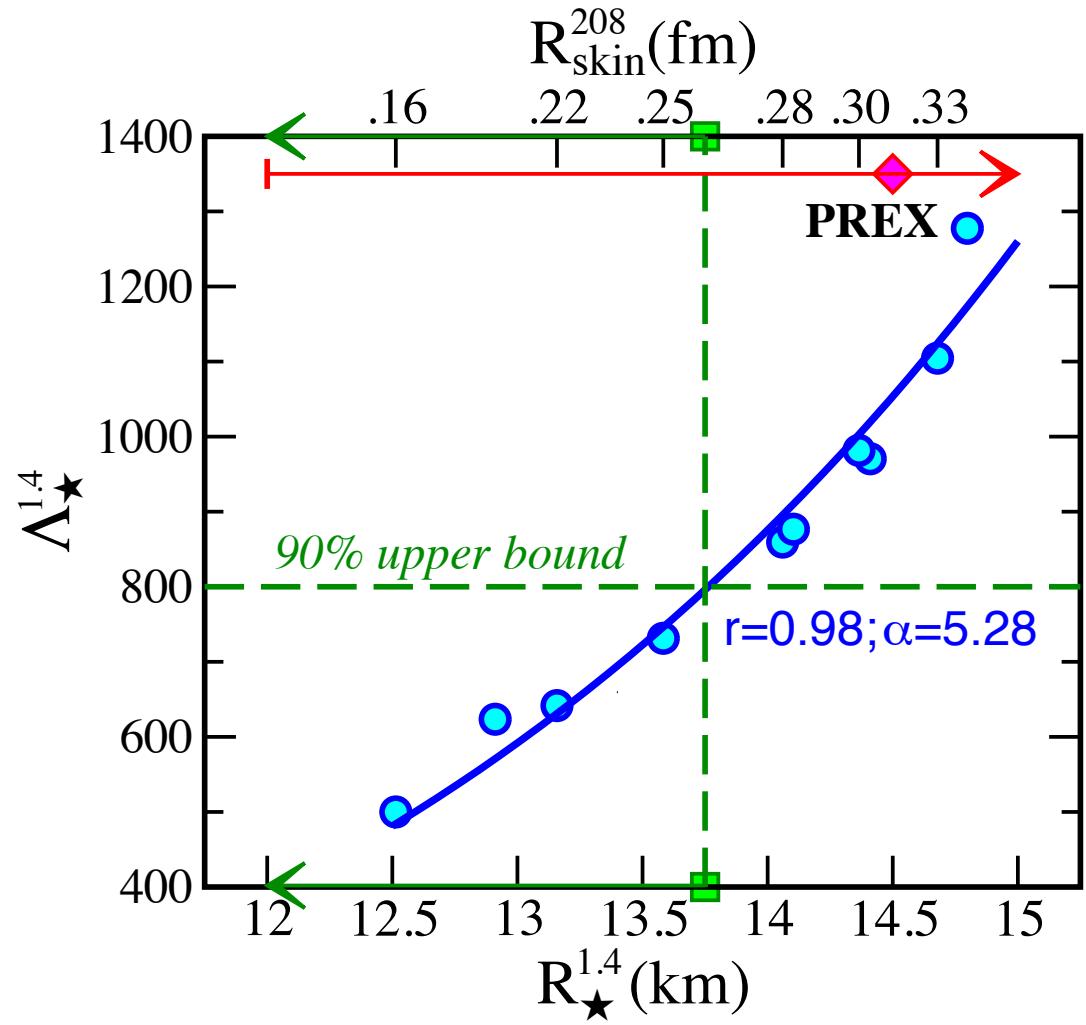
Low-energy Theory/Experiment

- example: unitary gas constraints
- neutron-skin thickness of neutron-rich nuclei



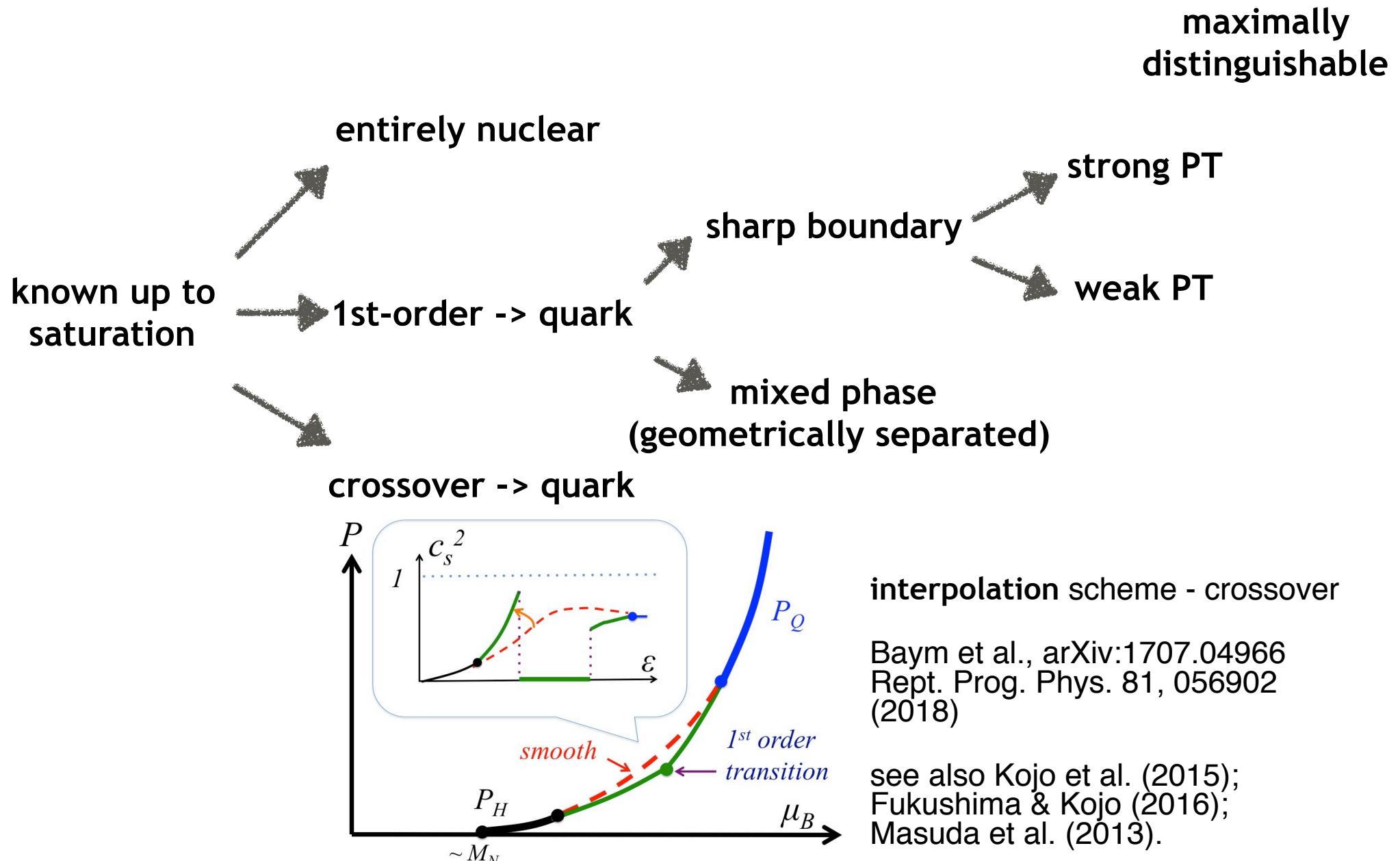
Tews, Lattimer, Ohnishi & Kolomeitsev,
Astrophys. J. 848, 105 (2017)

Fattoyev, Piekarewicz & Horowitz,
PRL 120, 172702 (2018)

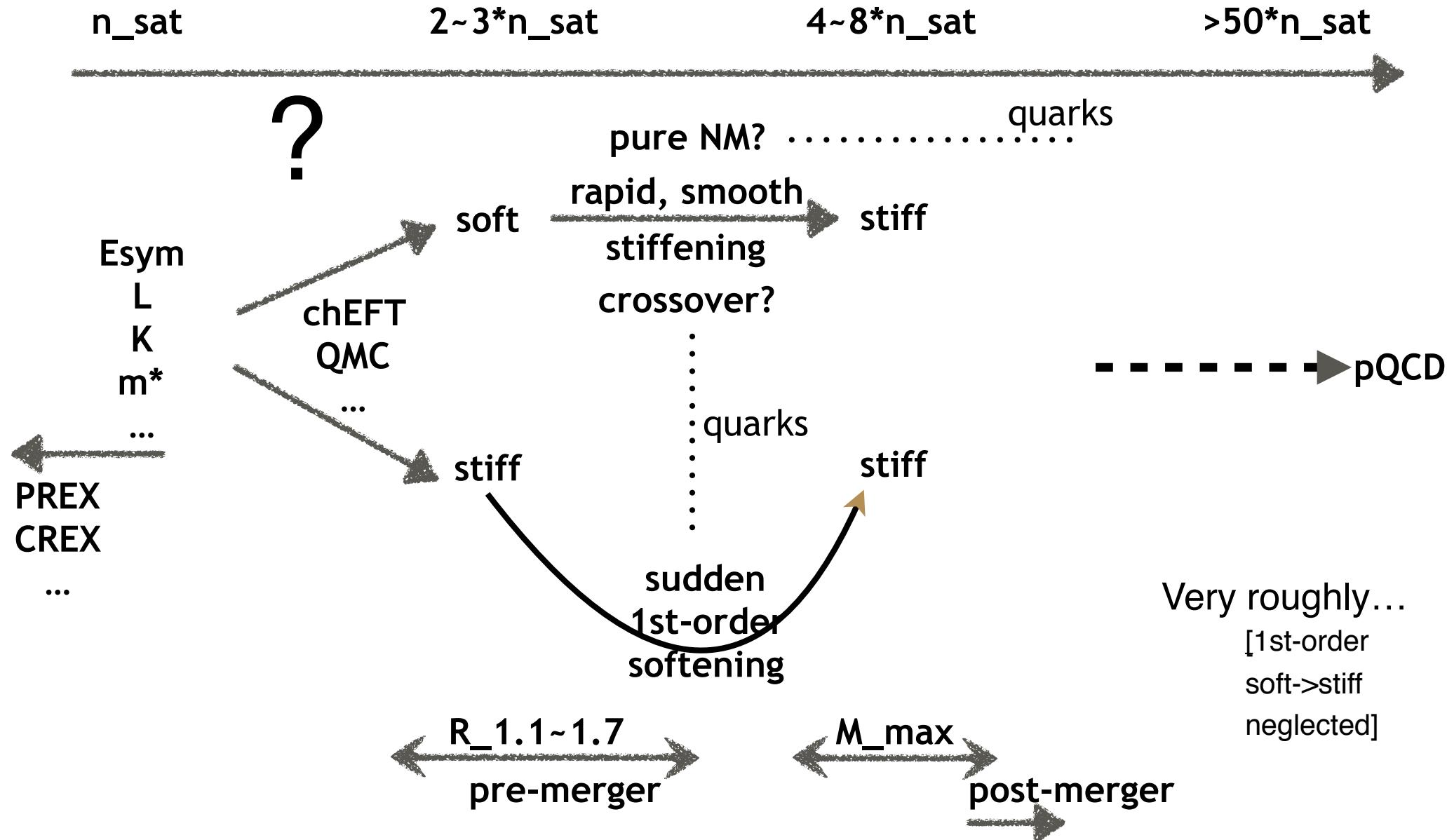


- paths to go beyond saturation?

Summary: Crossroads



Summary: Crossroads



Highlights: Global Structure

arXiv:1906.04095

Limits on PT within neutron stars

arXiv:1904.05471

arXiv:1810.10967

- weakly interacting quarks are nearly ruled out
 - 1st-order: **stiff** nuclear matter preferred (for typical quark models)
 - crossover: **soft** nuclear matter required
 $1.1 \sim 1.7 M_{\odot}$
 - possible onset of deconfined quarks in the **pre-merger** components

Distinguishability of QM

- sharp transition: ✓ separate branches with different radii
 - smooth transition: ✗ simple topology that resembles purely hadronic phase

Looking forward

- dynamic observables important: sensitive to transport properties
 - cooling, spin-down, osc. modes, gravitational-wave radiation..

Highlights: Dynamics

[arXiv:1906.04095](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.04095)

Thermal evolution

[arXiv:1904.05471](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.05471)

- isolated stars: compatible with “minimal cooling”
- evidence for enhanced nu-emission in accreting stars, yet origin unknown
- phases with too small specific heat ruled out by late-time crust cooling
- unpaired quark matter: unlikely to dominate

Spin evolution

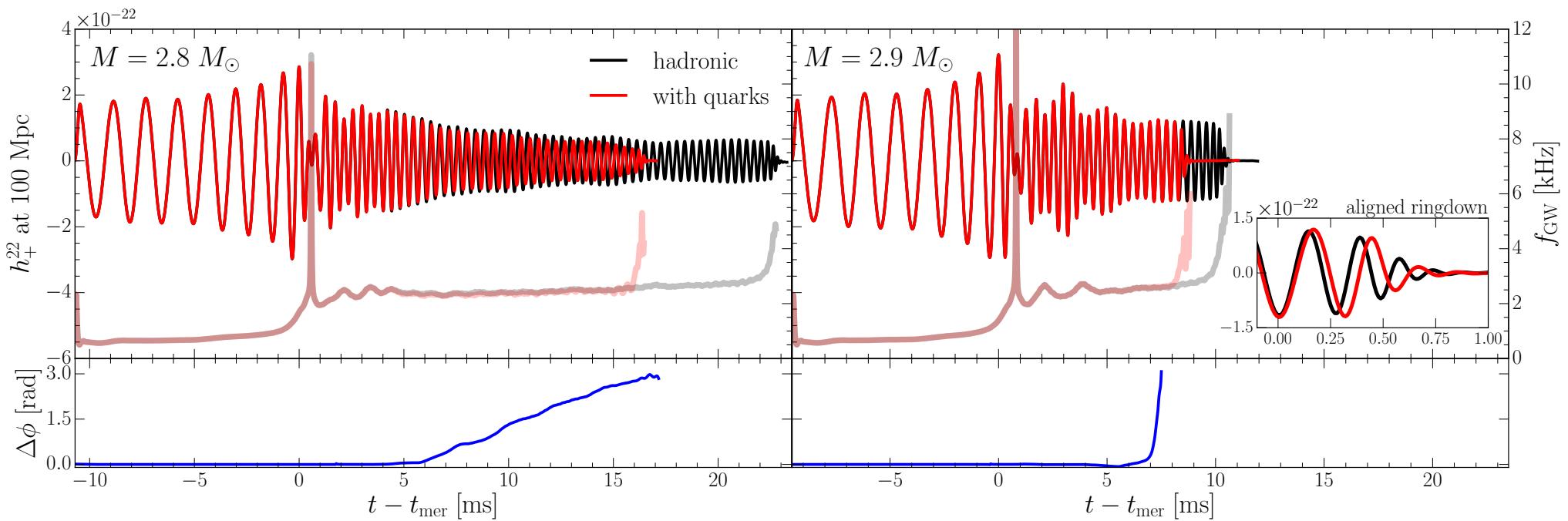
- pulsar glitch: suggests superfluidity
- r-mode puzzle: hadrons insufficient; shifted bulk viscosity resonance in quark matter (unpaired); phase-conversion dissipation

Gravitational waves

- ellipticity of solid phases: continuous GWs from “mountains”
- neutron star mergers: frequency and spectra

e.g. merger simulation with quarks

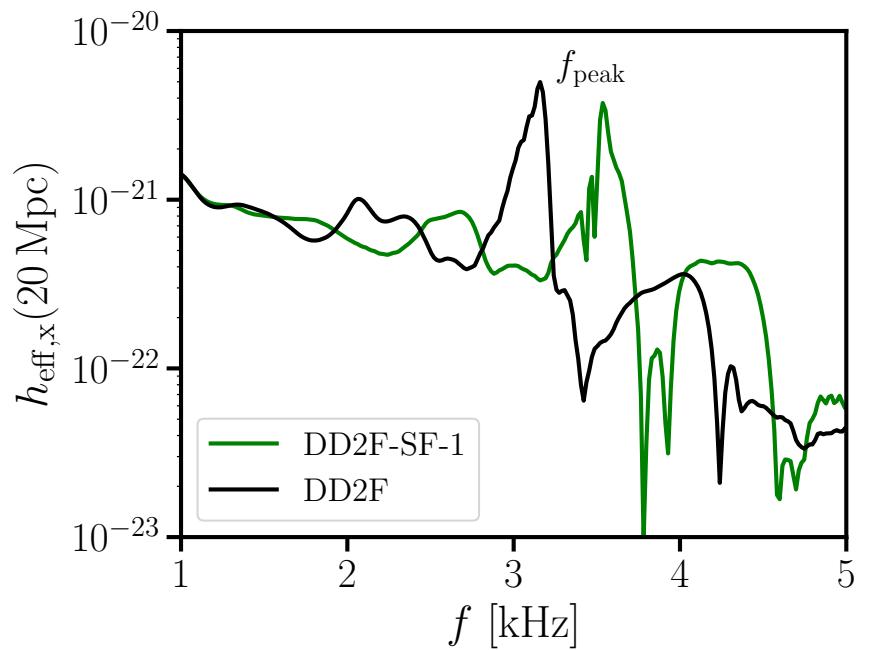
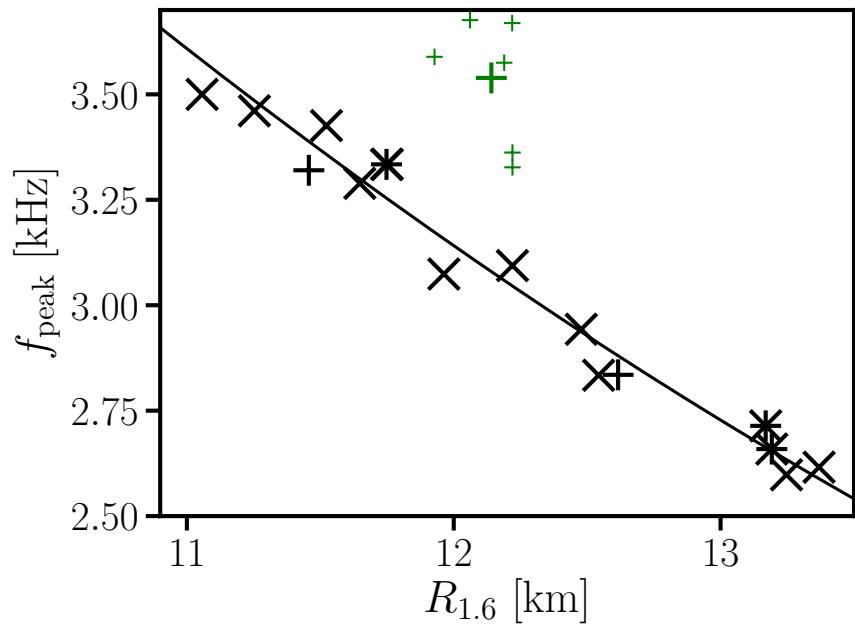
Most et al., arXiv:1807.03684
PRL 122, 061101 (2019)



- evolution of temperature and density of merger remnant
- different post-merger GW collapse time, ringdown; full GR

e.g. merger simulation with quarks

Bauswein et al., arXiv:1809.01116
PRL 122, 061102 (2019)

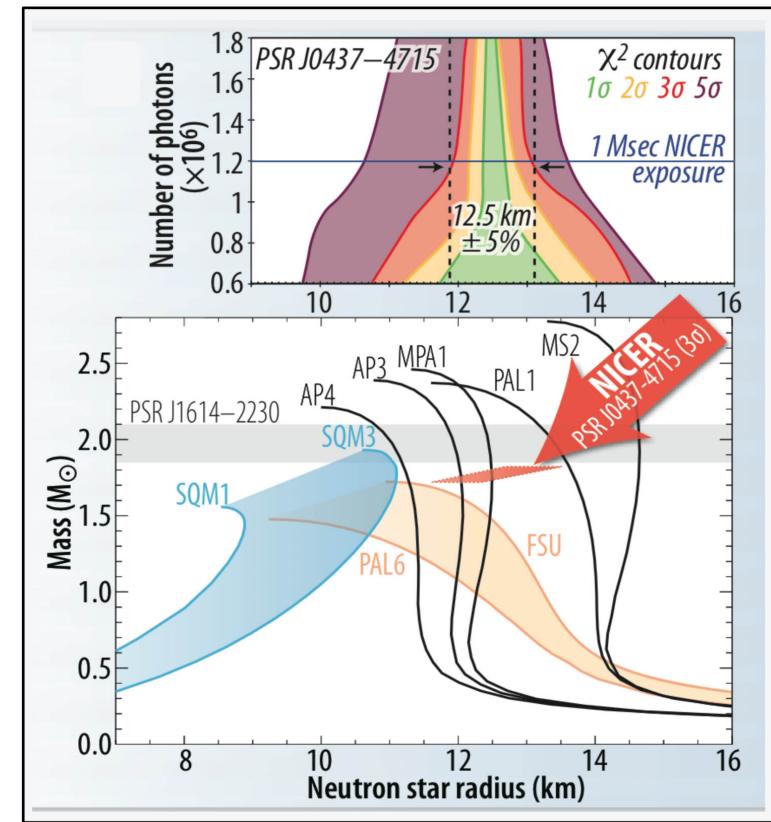


- correlation with $R_{1.6}$ breaks down
- shifted peak frequency in power spectra density

Near Future

Observation

- refined ranges of binary tidal deformability from more merger data; 3G detectors
- better determination of radii
- capability of measuring moment of inertia in the next decade
- upper bound on maximum mass



Simulations/Modeling of data

- expand EoS templates to include phase transitions (thermal effects important)

Nuclear theory & experiment

- quantifying EoS uncertainties near twice saturation density



<https://www.skatelescope.org>

THANK YOU!

Q & A

BACKUP

SLIDES

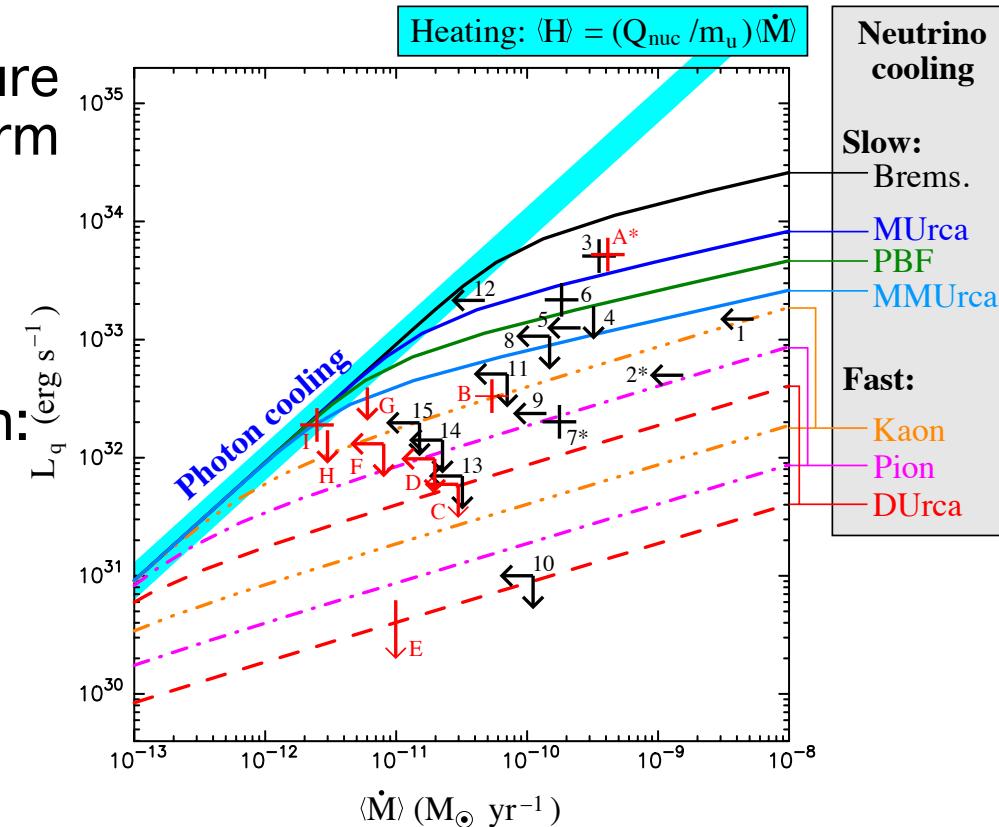
II. Dynamics

Thermal evolution

- observe surface luminosity/temperature of isolated and accreting NSs: long-term or transient

Dense matter

- dominant channel of neutrino emission: standard or enhanced cooling?
- heat capacity, thermal conductivity
- superfluidity
- modeling of crust and envelope



Candidate DM particles

- constraints on axion-cooling etc.

Wijnands et al.

MNRAS, 432, 2366 (2013)

Neutrino Emission Mechanism

Nuclear matter

Name	Process	Emissivity erg cm ⁻³ s ⁻¹	Efficiency
Modified Urca (neutron branch)	$\begin{cases} n + n' \rightarrow p + n' + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ p + n' + e^- \rightarrow n + n' + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 2 \times 10^{21} R T_9^8$	Slow
Modified Urca (proton branch)	$\begin{cases} n + p' \rightarrow p + p' + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ p + p' + e^- \rightarrow n + p' + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{21} R T_9^8$	Slow
Bremsstrahlung	$\begin{cases} n + n' \rightarrow n + n' + \nu + \bar{\nu} \\ n + p \rightarrow n + p + \nu + \bar{\nu} \\ p + p' \rightarrow p + p' + \nu + \bar{\nu} \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{19} R T_9^8$	Slow
Cooper pair	$\begin{cases} n + n \rightarrow [nn] + \nu + \bar{\nu} \\ p + p \rightarrow [pp] + \nu + \bar{\nu} \end{cases}$	$\sim 5 \times 10^{21} R T_9^7$	Medium
Direct Urca (nucleons)	$\begin{cases} n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ p + e^- \rightarrow n + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{27} R T_9^6$	Fast

Pairing in nucleonic SF: suppresses Urca processes but triggers PBF neutrino emission

- standard cooling
(slow processes)

$$L_\nu^{\text{slow}} \approx \frac{3}{4} \pi R^3 \cdot Q^{\text{slow}} T_9^8$$

- enhanced cooling
(fast processes)

$$L_\nu^{\text{fast}} = \frac{3}{4} \pi R_p^3 \cdot Q^{\text{fast}} T_9^6$$

Neutrino Emission Mechanism

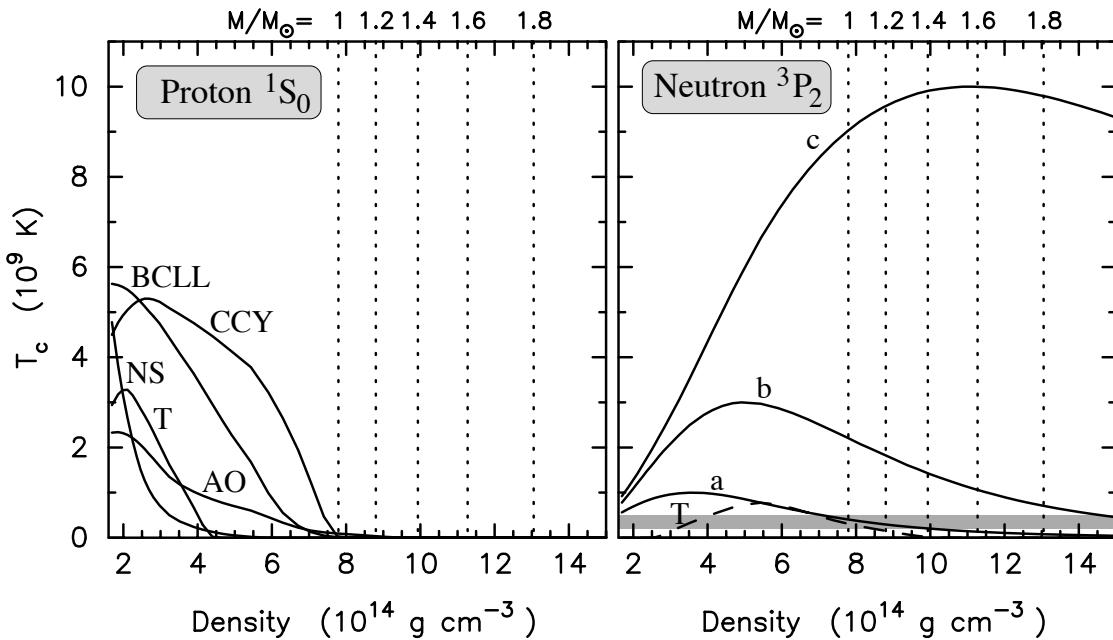
Exotic matter

Direct Urca (Λ hyperons)	$\begin{cases} \Lambda \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ p + e^- \rightarrow \Lambda + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{27} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca (Σ^- hyperons)	$\begin{cases} \Sigma^- \rightarrow n + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ n + e^- \rightarrow \Sigma^- + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{27} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca (no-nucleon)	$\begin{cases} \Lambda + e^- \rightarrow \Sigma^- + \nu_e \\ \Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 2 \times 10^{27} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca (π^- condensate)	$\begin{cases} n + <\pi^-\> \rightarrow n + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ n + e^- \rightarrow n + <\pi^-\> + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{26} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca (K^- condensate)	$\begin{cases} n + <K^-\> \rightarrow n + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ n + e^- \rightarrow n + <K^-\> + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{25} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca cycle ($u - d$ quarks)	$\begin{cases} d \rightarrow u + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ u + e^- \rightarrow d + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{27} RT_9^6$	Fast
Direct Urca cycle ($u - s$ quarks)	$\begin{cases} s \rightarrow u + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e \\ u + e^- \rightarrow s + \nu_e \end{cases}$	$\sim 10^{27} RT_9^6$	Fast

- hyperons, deconfined quarks, meson condensates...

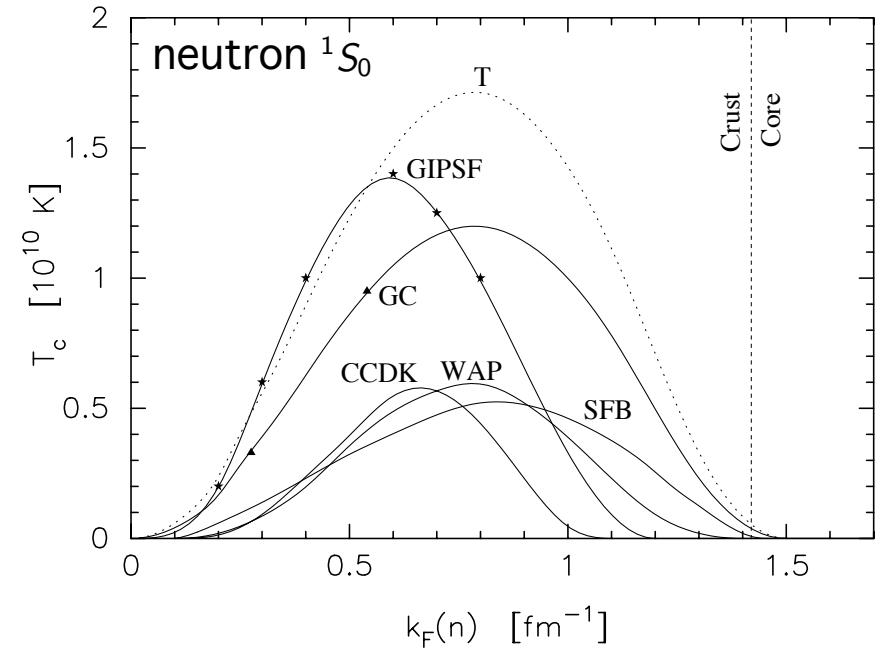
Stellar Superfluids

outer core



inner core

Page et al. (2013)



- density/radial profiles of the nucleonic superfluid critical temperatures remain highly uncertain
- suppresses Urca neutrinos and induce pair-breaking-formation neutrinos: presence of superfluid alters the **dominant** cooling channel
- older stars ($>10\text{-}100$ yrs) observed are cold: crust fully paired; cooling data only probe **core** superfluids

Isolated vs. Accreting NSs

Minimal scenario (Page et al. 2004)

- npemu-matter, **no dUrca**, mild neutron/proton superfluidity
- weak dependence on NS mass: assumed below dUrca

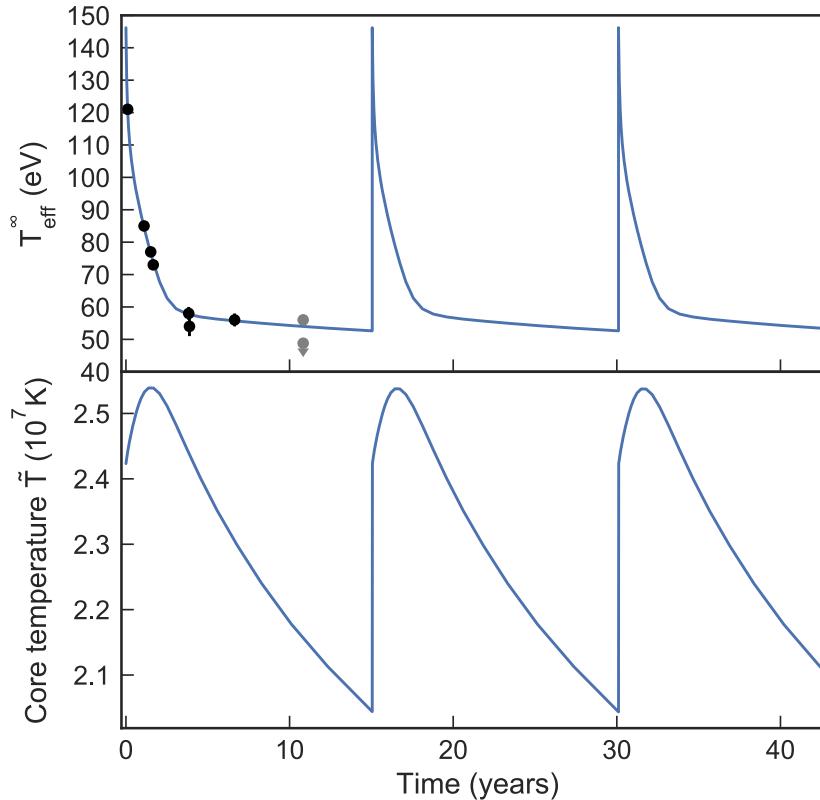
Alternative scenario (Gusakov et al. 2004)

- npemu-matter, dUrca + **strong proton superconductivity**
- varying EoS models shifts dUrca onset

Both agree fairly well with INSSs data, but extremely cold, transiently accreting stars infer

- fast cooling ~**dUrca operating**
- **vanishing superfluid gaps** in the core
- little/zero light-element (hydrogen or helium) residue

Evidence for Enhanced Cooling

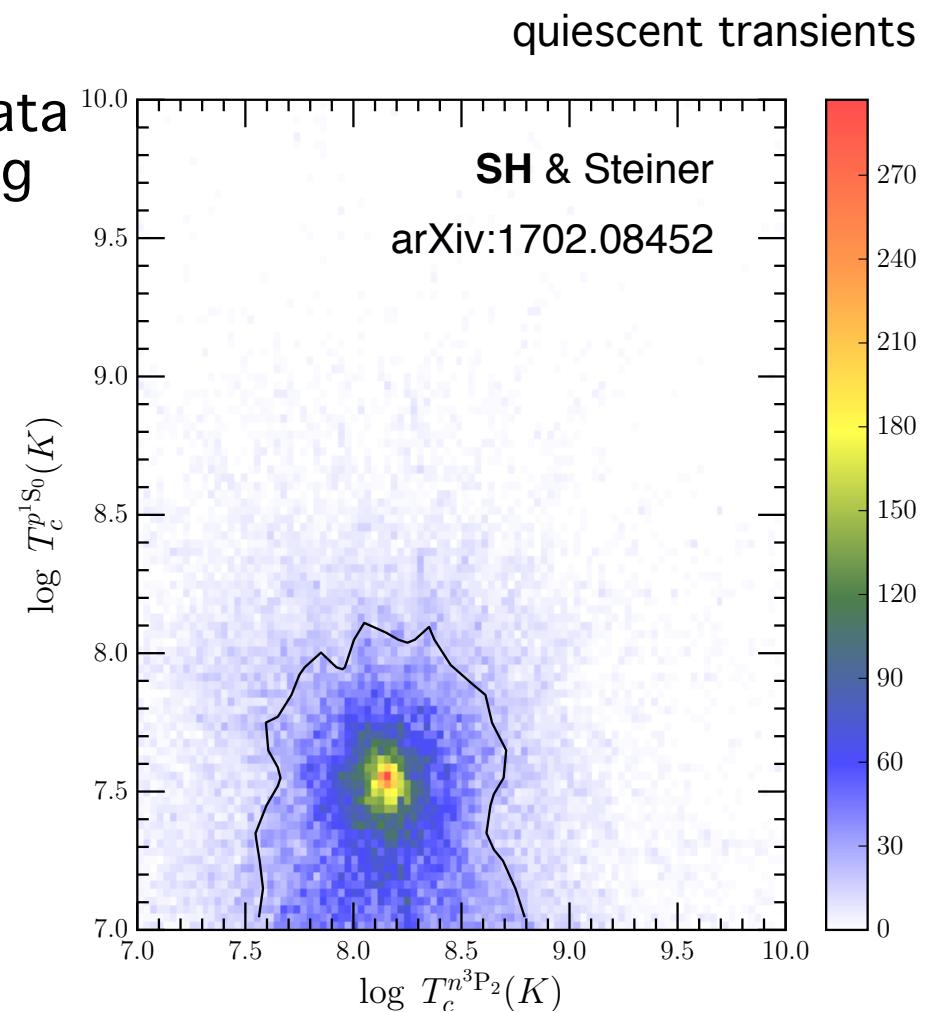
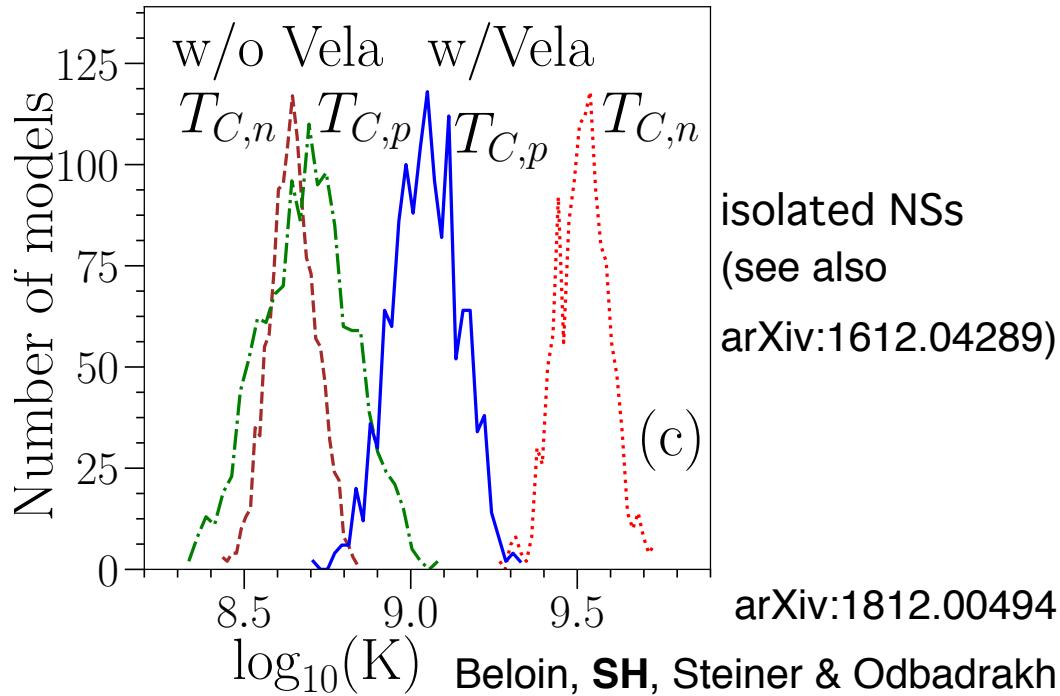


Brown et al., arXiv:1801.00041
PRL 120, 182701 (2018)

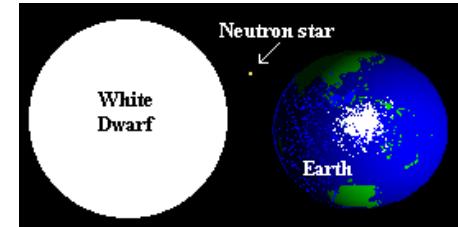
- MXB 1659-29: during accretion interior heated out of thermal equilibrium
- significant late-time crust cooling observed after outburst requires fast neutrino emission; yet the origin remains **unknown**: i) nucleonic dUrca (large E_{sym} at high density) or ii) emergence of exotica
- able to derive constraints on the core heat capacity: limiting superfluid phases

Cooling Constraints on T_c

- npemu-matter (**excluding exotica for now**)
- Gaussian parametrization $n^3P_2 : [T_{\text{cnt}}^{\max}, k_{Fn}^{\text{peak}}, \Delta k_{Fn}]$
 $p^1S_0 : [T_{\text{cps}}^{\max}, k_{Fp}^{\text{peak}}, \Delta k_{Fp}]$
- results sensitive to cold sources
- **inconsistency!** between fitting X-ray data from isolated neutron stars & accreting neutron stars



Cooling: Questions & Tasks



Questions

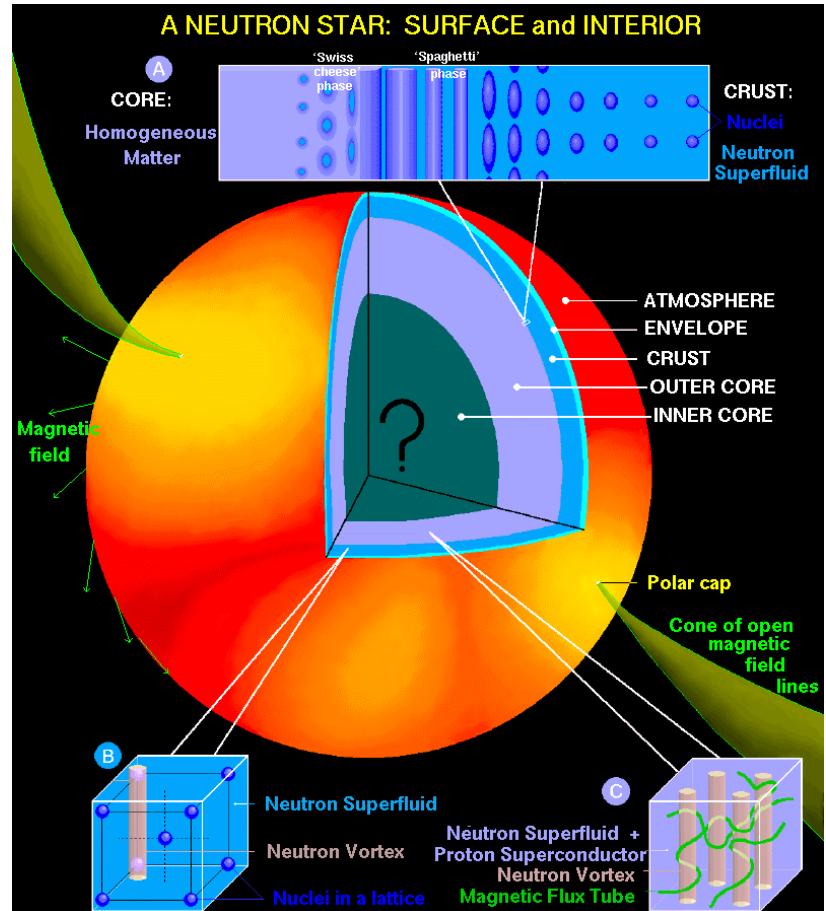
- amount of dUrca cooling?
- fraction of normal/superfluid baryons?
- (non-)existence of exotic particles?

Theory/Modeling

- EoS constraints; crust & envelope properties
- better understanding of pairing and its extent in NS

Observation

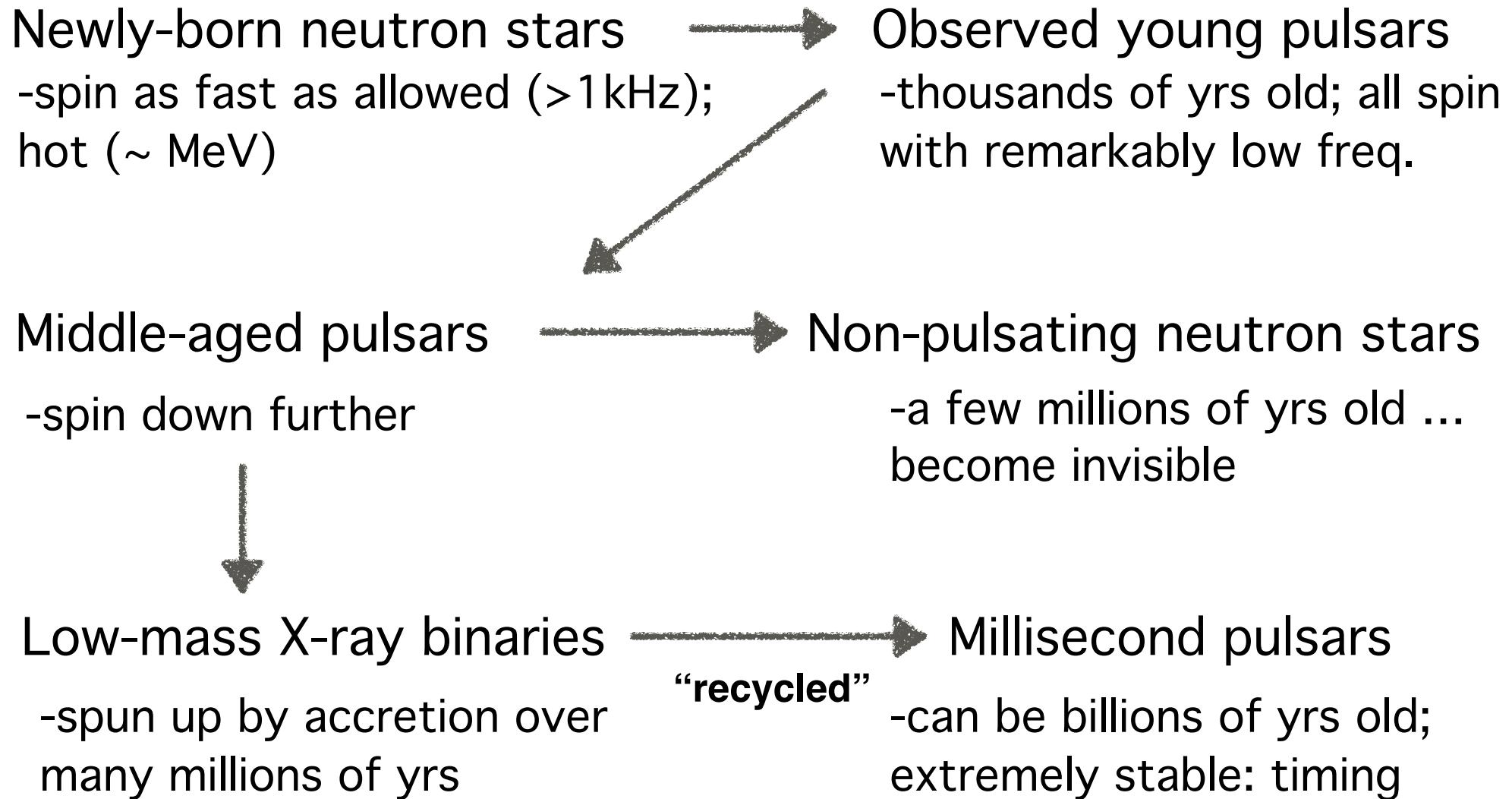
- enlarge data sample
- improve estimates on T, accretion, etc.
- incorporate statistical analysis



Neutron stars: unique laboratory for extreme physics

credit: D. Page

Generic Evolution of Pulsars



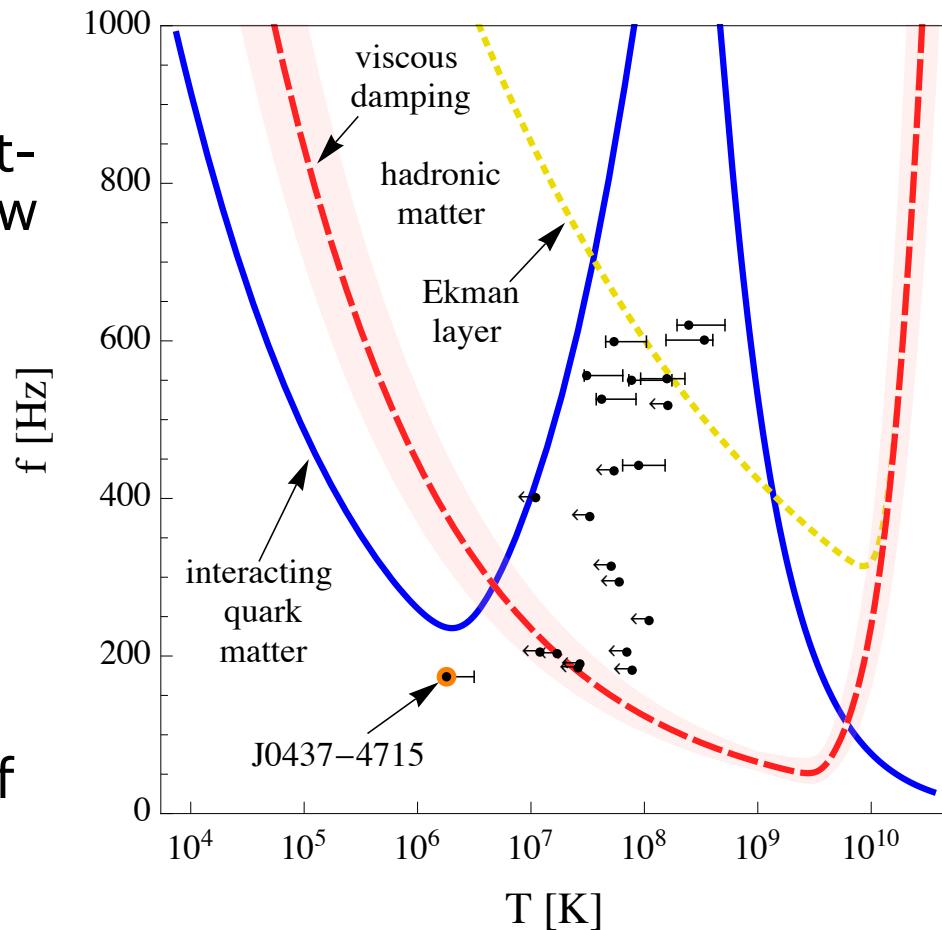
II. Dynamics (cont.)

Spin evolution

- puzzles: long periods of young NSs; fast-rotating NSs in r-mode instability window of hadronic matter; glitches..

e.g. r-modes

- transport properties of dense matter: shear & bulk **viscosity**
- r-modes both heat and spin-down NS: standard (minimal) model **inconsistent** with temperature and frequency data of LMXBs
- promising **saturation** mechanisms: superfluid mutual friction; phase-conversion at hadron/quark interface



Alford & Schwenzer, arXiv:1310.3524
Haskell, Degenaar & Ho, arXiv:1201.2101

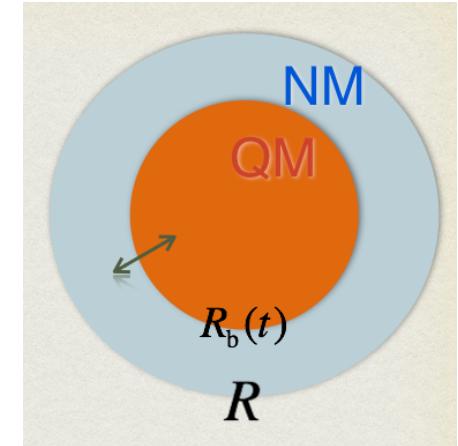
II. Dynamics (cont.)

Spin evolution

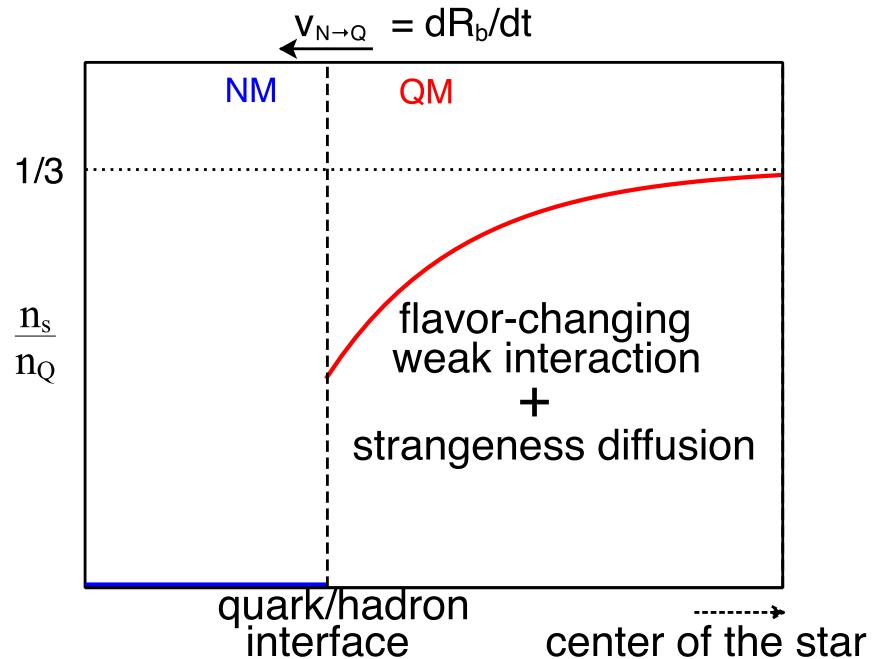
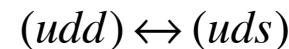
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- steady-state transport
- no acceleration/deceleration effects; no turbulence
- no leptons; no superfluids



Dissipation at an Interface

- Ekman layer damping from shear rubbing of a fluid core along a solid crust

Phase-conversion dissipation (PCD)

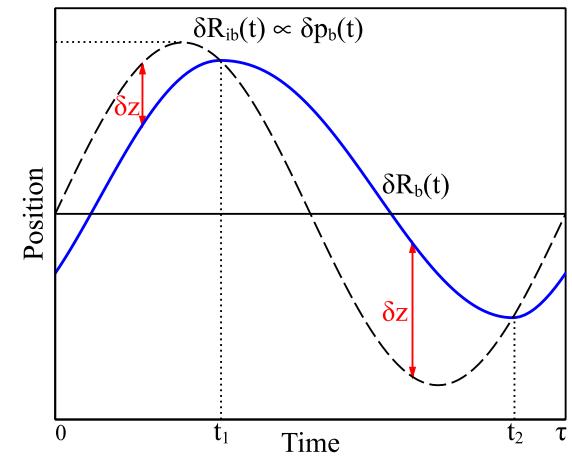
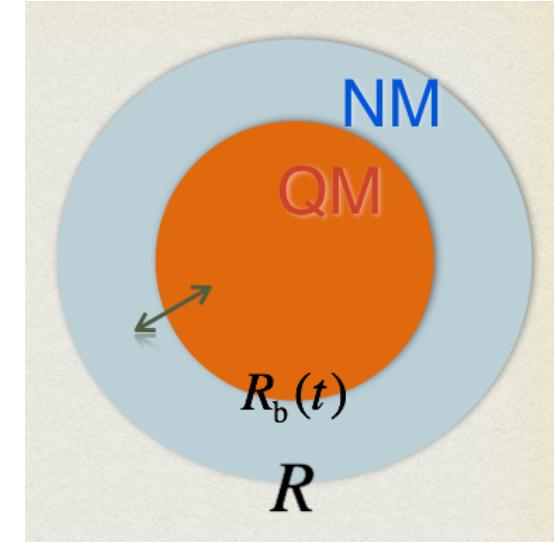
- between fluids in different phases with first-order transition separated by a **sharp** interface

- quark/hadron conversion

1) flavor-changing process $d \leftrightarrow s$ out of equilibrium due to global oscillations

2) instantaneous restoration \Leftrightarrow
phase boundary moves arbitrarily fast (no diss.)

3) finite rate of weak interaction and flavor diffusion
 \rightarrow a **phase lag** in system response
 \rightarrow dissipates energy



Alford, SH & Schwenzer
arXiv:1404.5279

II. Dynamics (cont.)

Supernovae and BNS mergers

- explosive environment: high entropy, short expansion, neutron-rich matter
- high-performance computing (HPC)
- observatories for GW & electromagnetic counterparts

Theory & simulation

- neutrino scattering & absorption in a dense medium: dynamic response
- sensitivity to finite-temperature EoSs: electron fraction Y_e ; heat transport (diffusion, convection) by neutrinos
- neutrino oscillation: luminosity in different flavors
- nucleosynthesis: predict amount & composition of ejecta
- hydrodynamics, numerical relativity, magnetic field..

II. Dynamics (cont.)

GW detection in mergers

- pre-merger (inspiral): dense matter EoS and tidal effects are important; mass, radius and tidal deformability affect GW spectra -> distinguish EoSs!
- merger: complicated evolution of temperature and density; viscosity & oscillation modes; ejecta, r-process and jets..
- post-merger: remnant GW signals (NS or BH? evolution of rotation?); attendant gamma-ray, x-ray, optical and infrared signals: multi-messenger tools

Future

- more data from merger events enable systematic analysis: prospects for future detections to discern possible phase transition at supra nuclear densities
- continuous GW sources, e.g. mountains on a NS or CFS-unstable modes