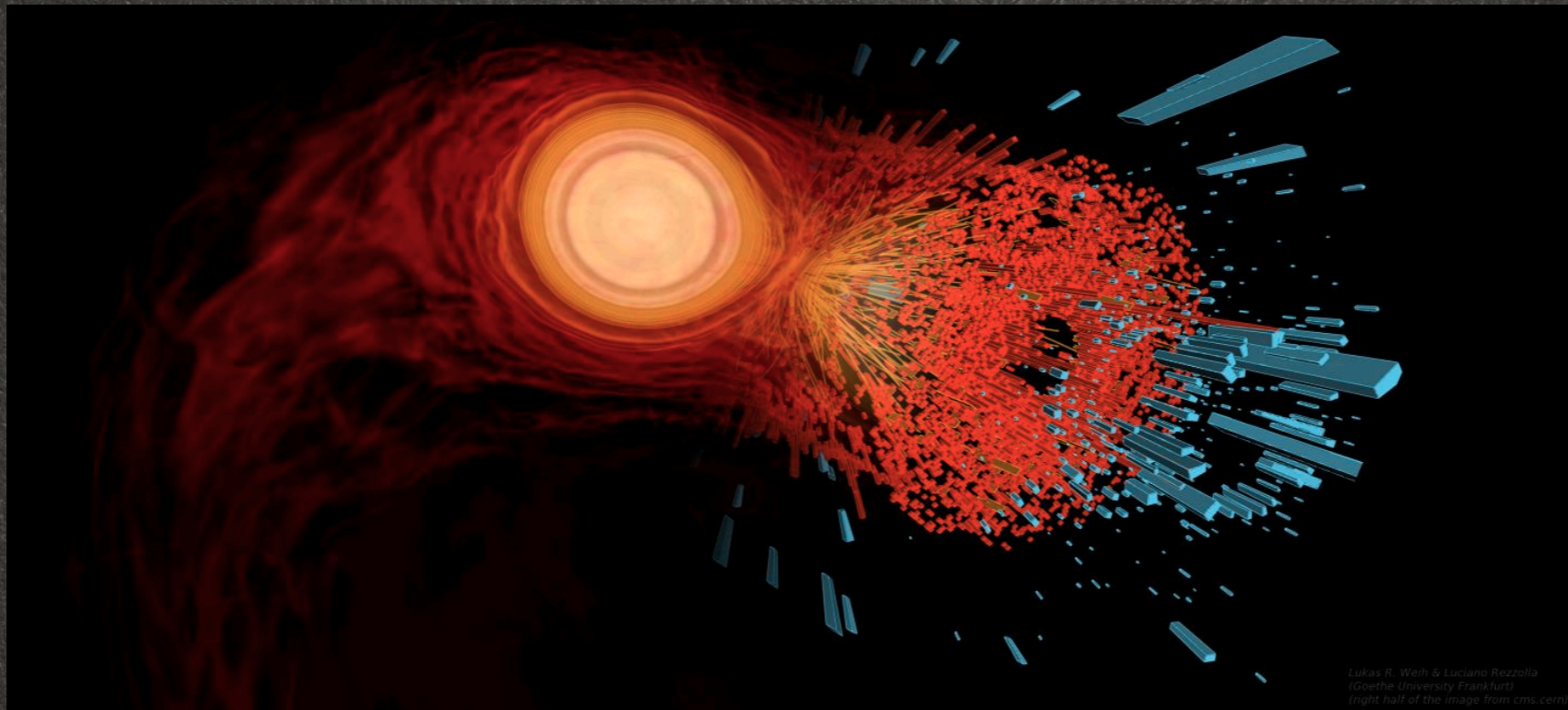




Illinois Center for Advanced Studies of the Universe



DNP Town Hall 2022  
High Density QCD Theory



Lukas R. Weh & Luciano Rezzolla  
(Goethe University Frankfurt)  
(right half of the image from cms.cern)

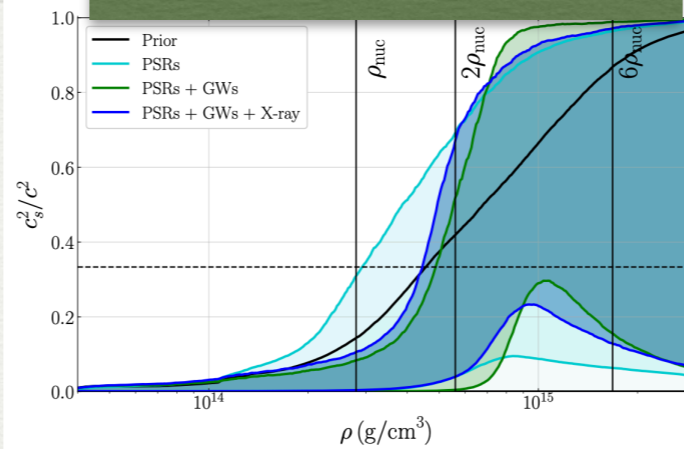
Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Who works on dense matter?

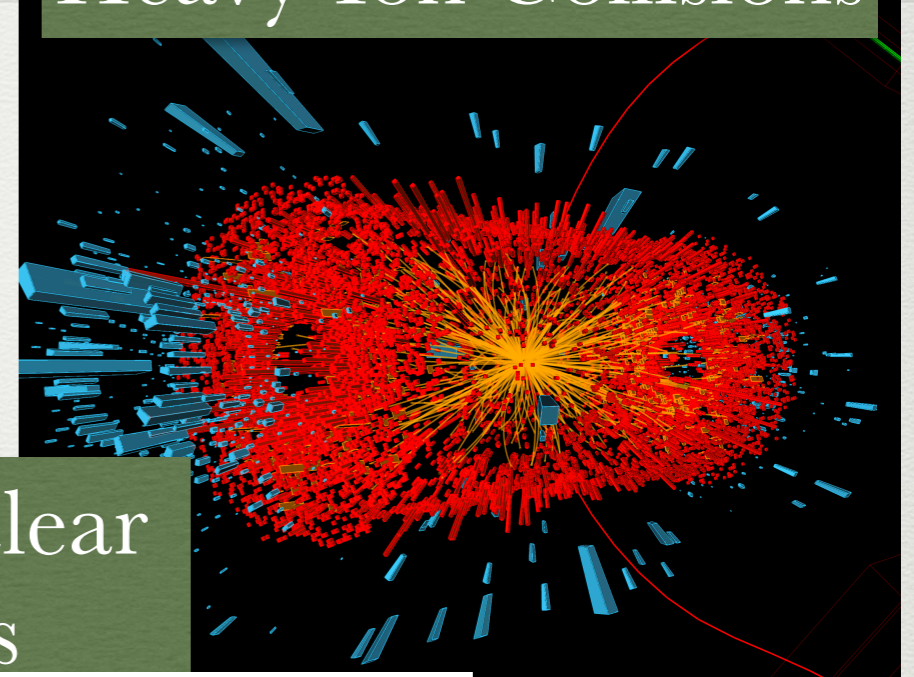
Numerical Relativity/  
Gravitational Waves



Data Scientists



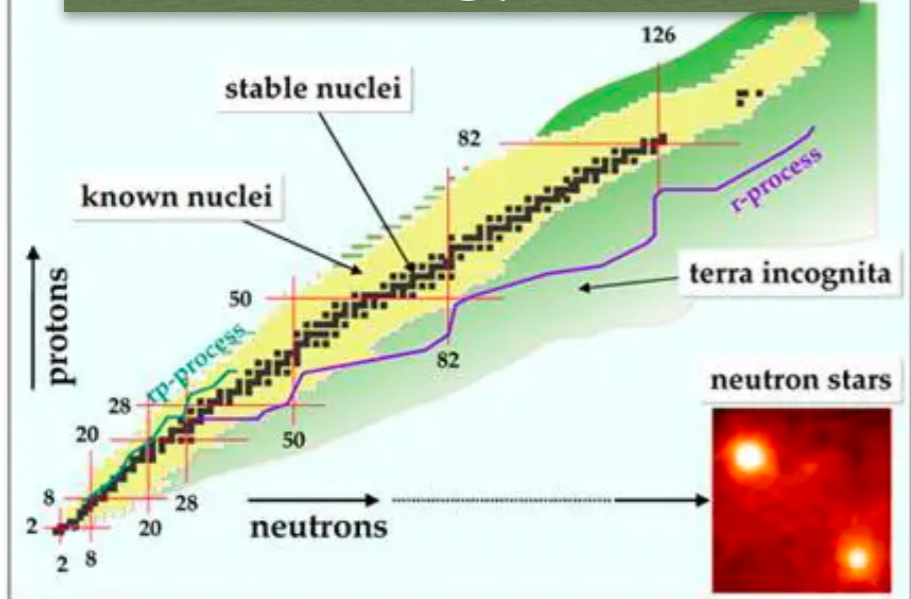
Heavy-Ion Collisions



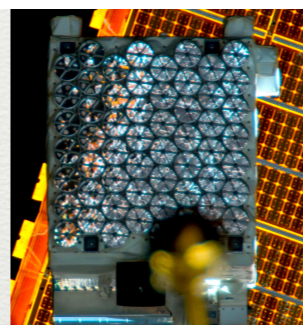
High-energy nuclear  
astrophysicists

$$L = L_{Kin} + L_{Int} + L_{Self} + L_{SB} - U,$$

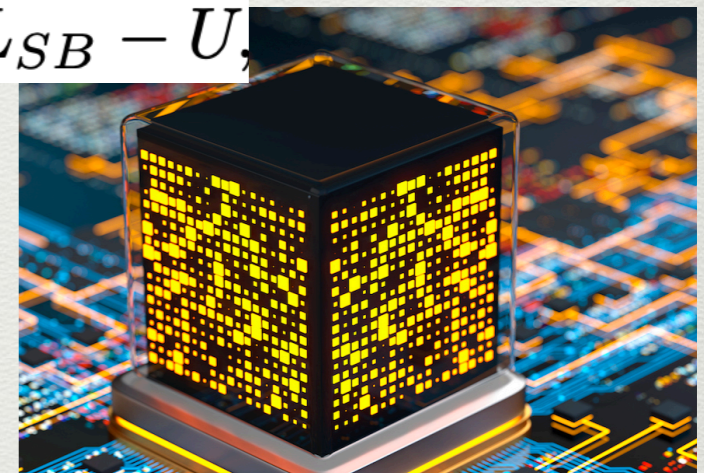
Low-energy nuclear



Astrophysicists  
(NICER)

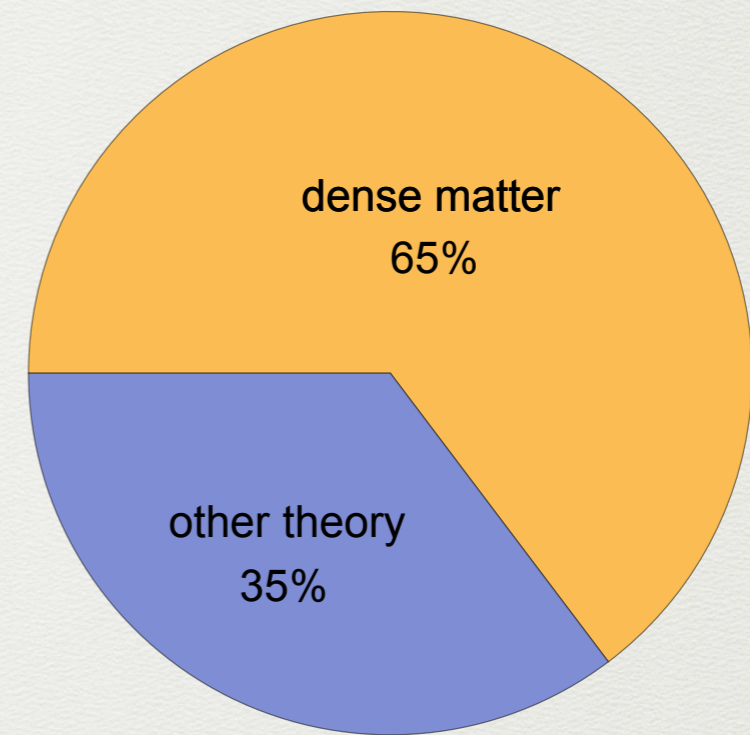
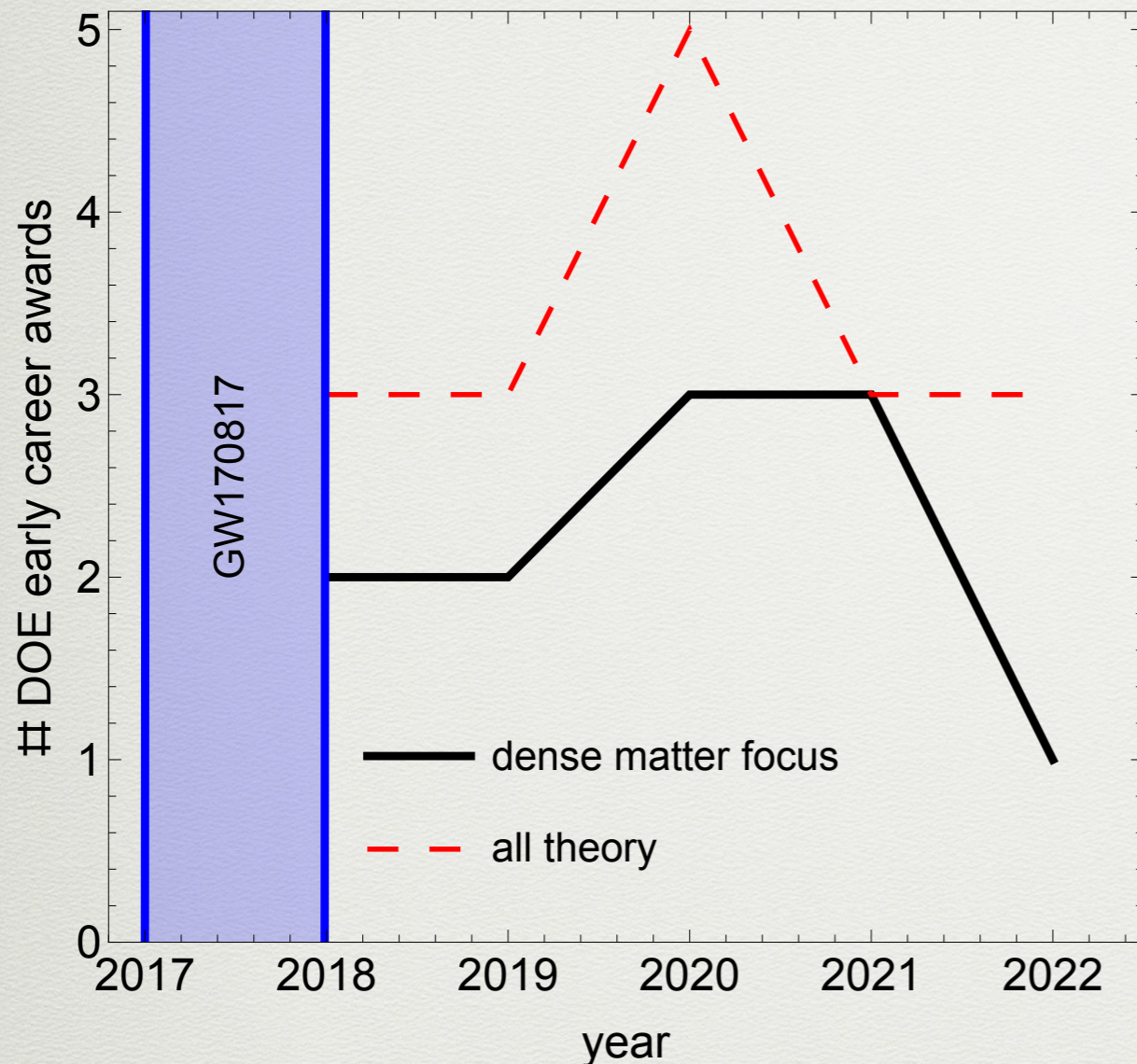


Quantum Computing



# How big is the theory community?

Study DOE Early Career Awardees since 2018



Note: Many others out there, NSF CAREER awards, 4+ faculty hires last year, regular DOE/NSF holders

- 2 Heavy-Ions (BES)
- 3 Low-Energy (FRIB)
- 1 High-Energy Astro
- 4 Gravity
- 1 Quantum Computing

# Former and Existing Collaborations



- DOE topical collaboration: 2016-2020
- BEST EOS (~100 citations) - University of Houston, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Illinois Chicago, MIT, and North Carolina State University as well as external collaborators at SUBATECH
- Highlights: Baryon stopping initial conditions, Hydro with baryon conservation, Hadronic afterburner with potentials
- 2 bridge hires+5 postdocs → faculty positions
- 2 DOE ECA winners: JNH & Shen
- ~ 200 papers, 500+ talks, 50+ plenaries

## NSF funded collaborations

- MUSES (Cyberinfrastructure) 2021-2026  
Topics: Open-source equation of state **modules**
- BAND (Cyberinfrastructure) 2020-2025  
Topics: Uncertainty quantification **tools** across all nuclear
- JETSCAPE (Cyberinfrastructure) 2020-2024  
Topics: jets/heavy flavor, hydro+hadron transport
- NP3M (Hub) 2021-2026  
Topics: Neutron star mergers and supernova
- N3AS (PFC) 2020-2025  
Topics: Neutrinos, dark matter, nucleosynthesis, numerical relativity

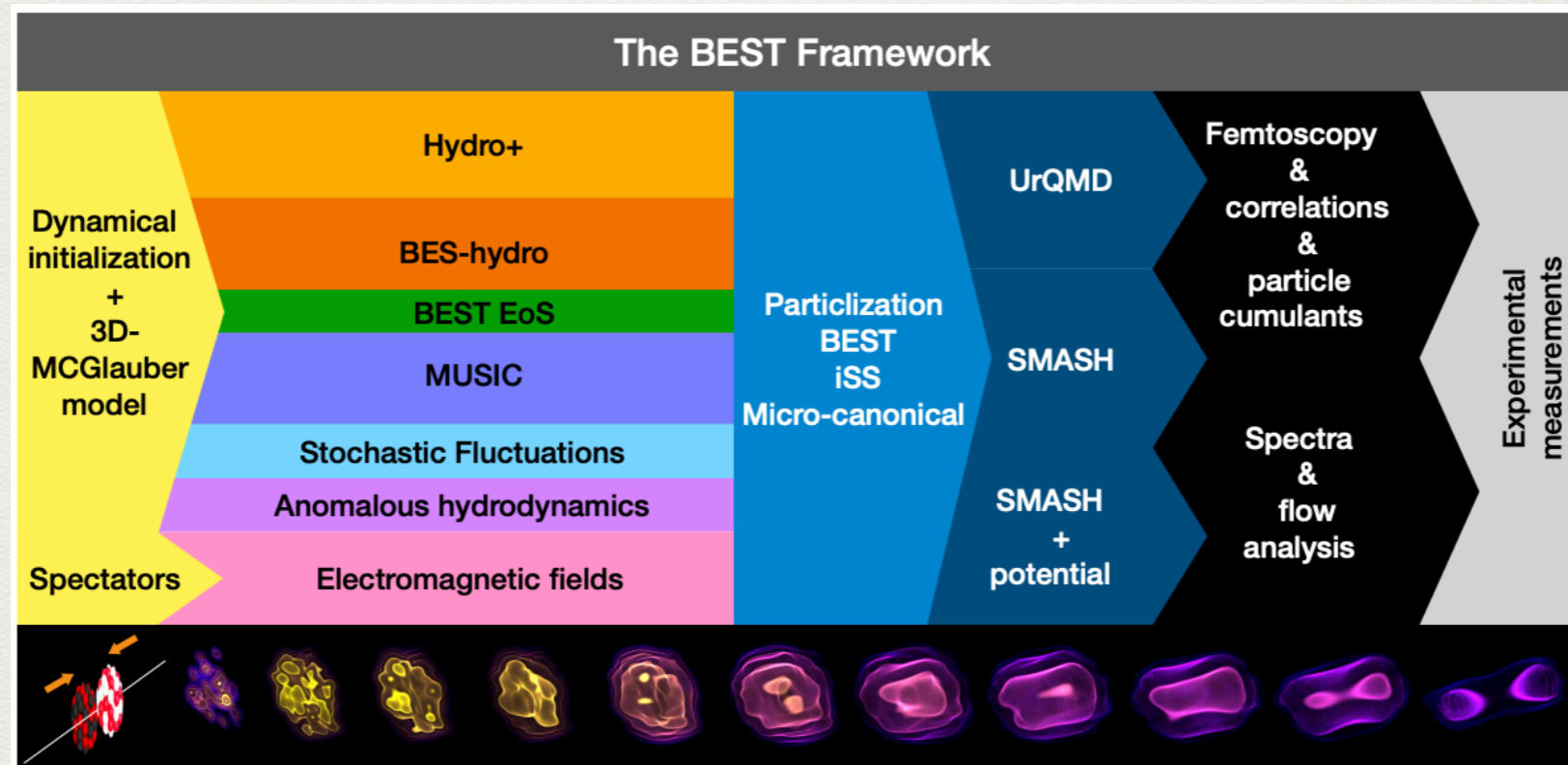
### What is missing?

- \* Analysis of heavy-ion BESII data
- \* Connect low/high energy nuclear physics
- \* Explore synergy between HIC/NS

# Where are we now? What is left?

Summary document

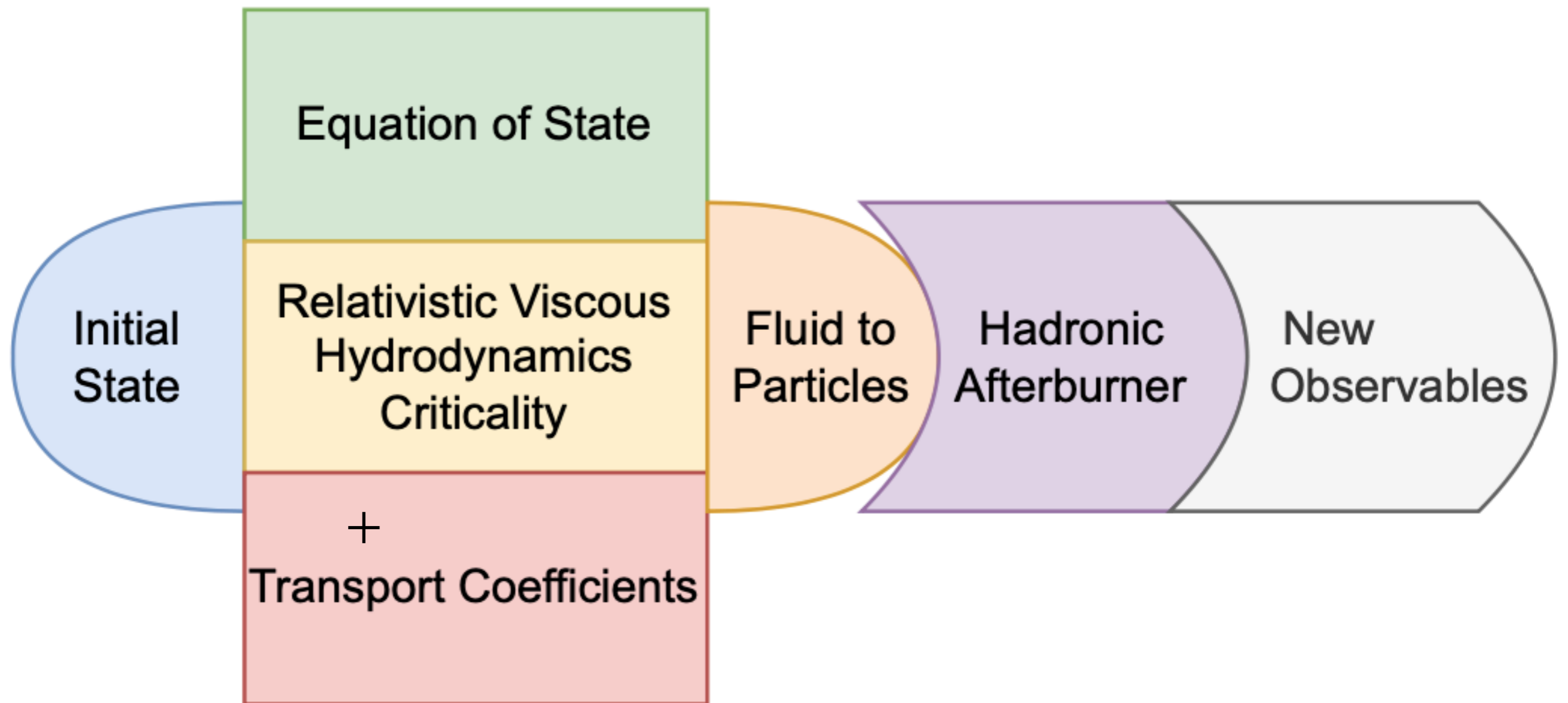
[BEST] Nucl.Phys.A 1017 (2022) 122343, 2108.13867 [nucl-th]



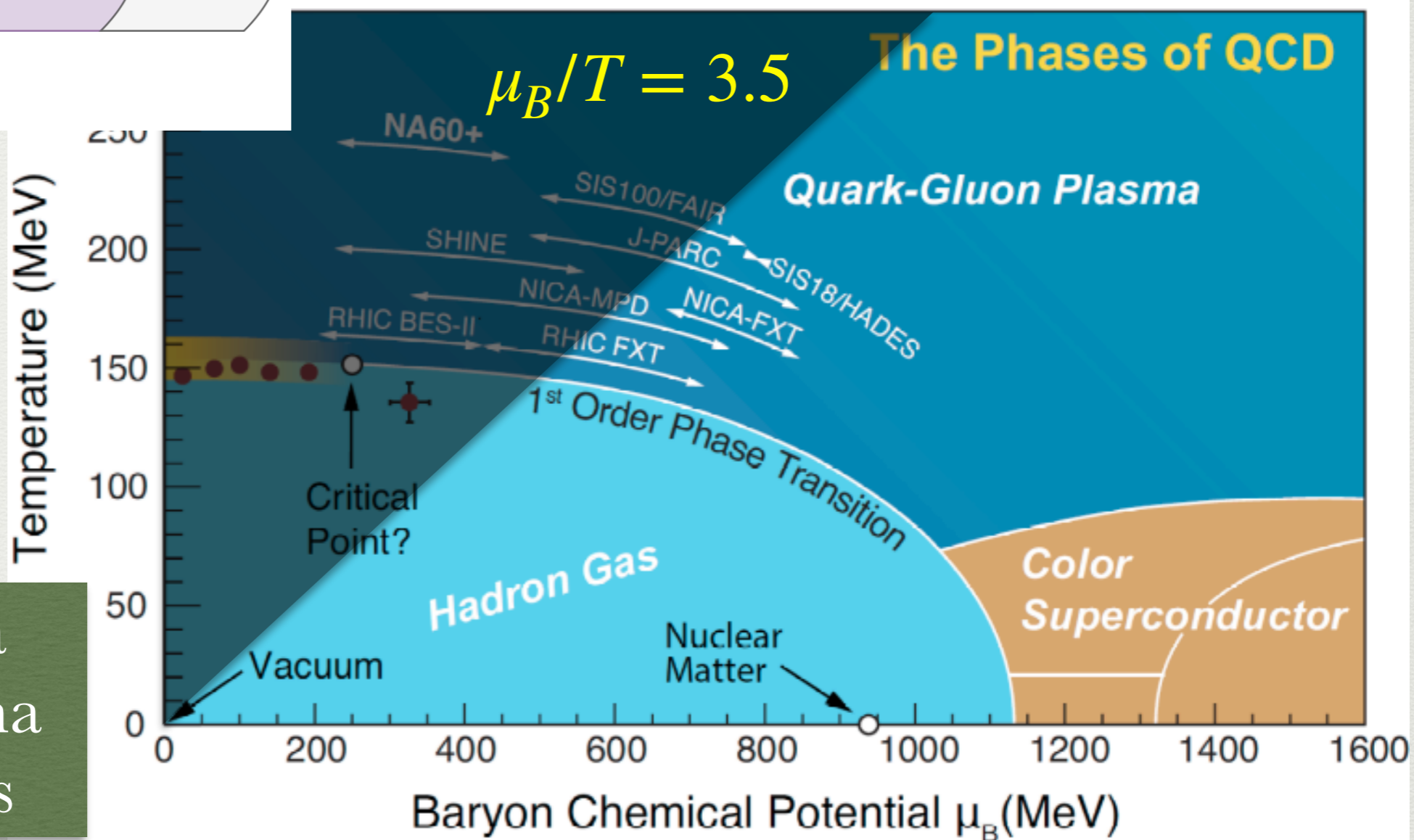
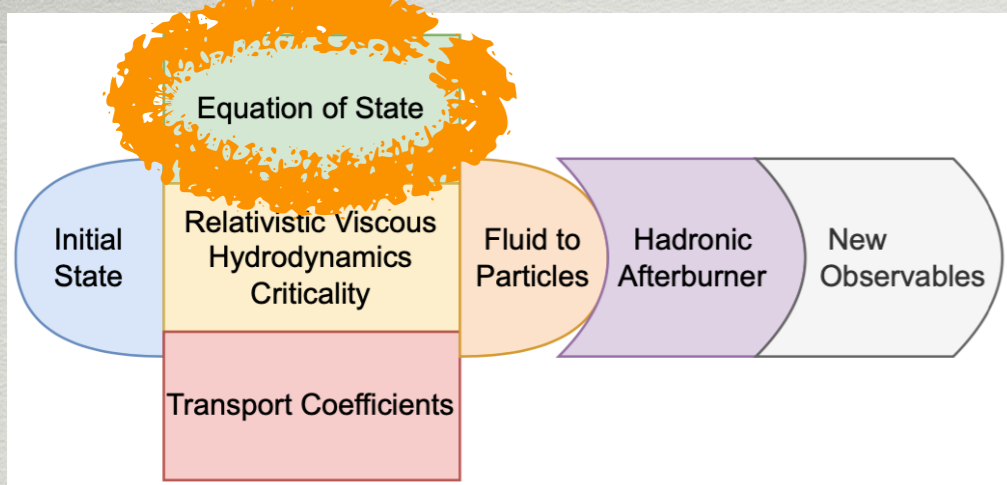
1. Still waiting on BES II data
2. Some tools not yet finished, some not fully coupled together
3. 1st-order transition needs significant theoretical development
4. Connections to neutron stars (mergers) begging to be made!

# Standard Model of HIC:

It all needs to change at large  $\mu_B$ !



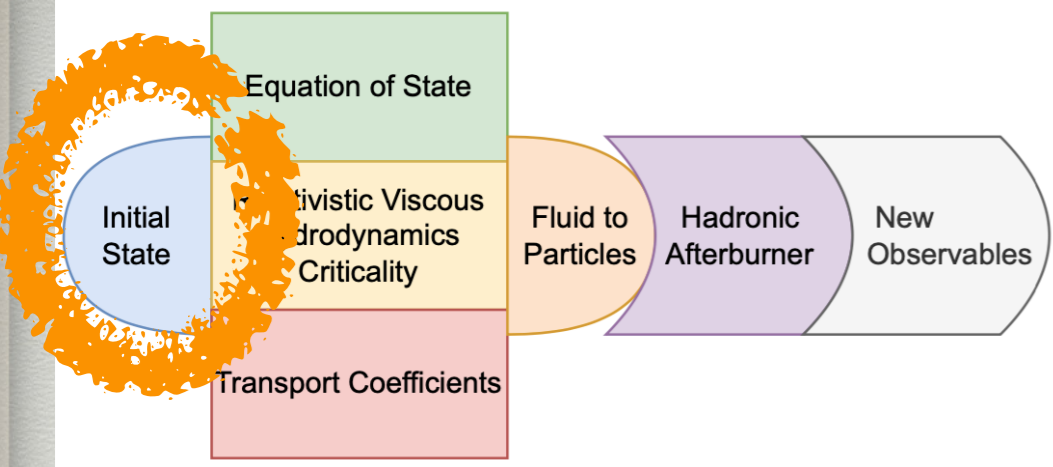
# Beyond Lattice QCD?



Talks: Claudia Ratti's & Martha Constantinou's

HIC: 4D EOS  $\{T, \mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q\}$ , NS: 3D EOS  $\{T, \mu_B, Y_Q\}$ ,  
 Test with CP & 1st-order PT; 2nd CP; new phases of matter

# Need full $T^{\mu\nu}, J^\mu$



## Out-of-equilibrium initial state

Dore et al, *Phys.Rev.D* 102 (2020) 7, 074017; 2207.04086 [nucl-th]

## Fluctuations in $Z/A$ in the IC?

### Rapidity dependence?

### D.o.f. vs $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ? Initial $T, \mu_B$ ?

Simple Initial State:  $\varepsilon, n_B$

Better Initial State:  $\varepsilon, n_B, n_Q, n_S$

+flow:  $\varepsilon, n_B, n_Q, n_S, u^\mu$

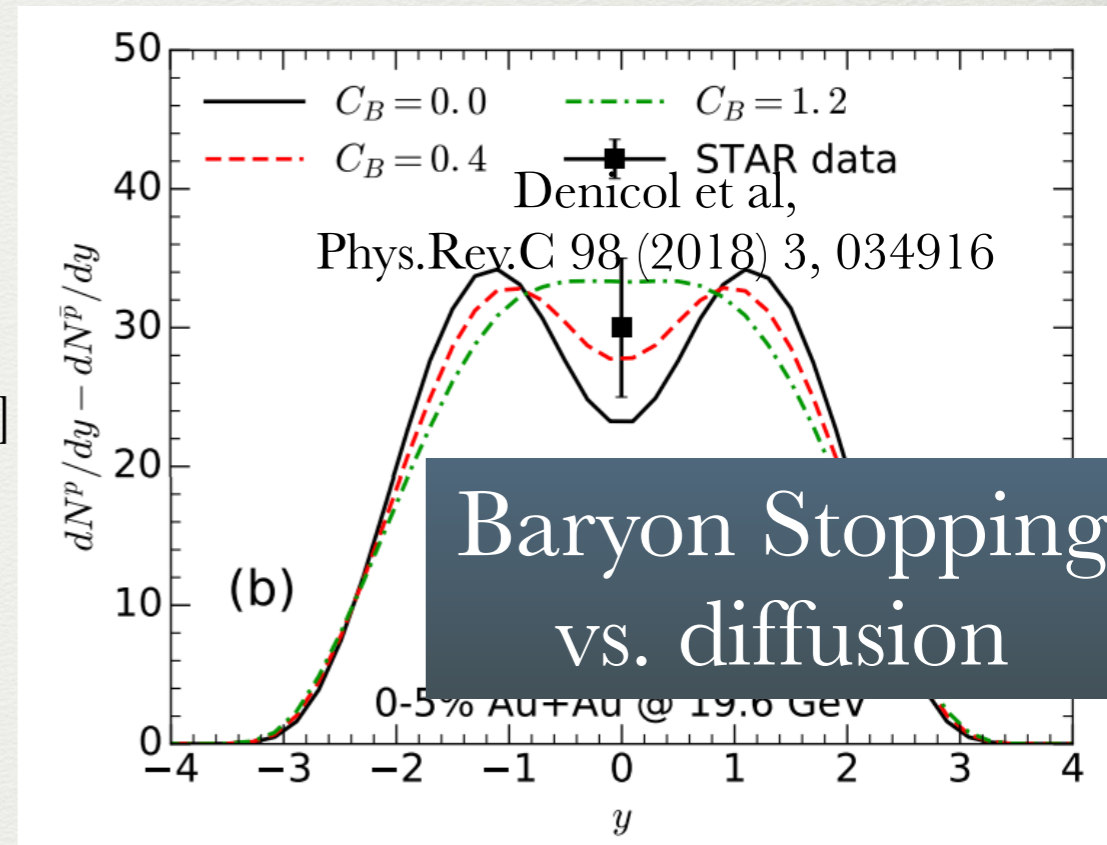
+dissipative:  $\varepsilon, B^\mu, S^\mu, Q^\mu, \pi^{\mu\nu}, \Pi$

Shen & Schenk *Phys.Rev.C* 97 (2018) 2, 024907

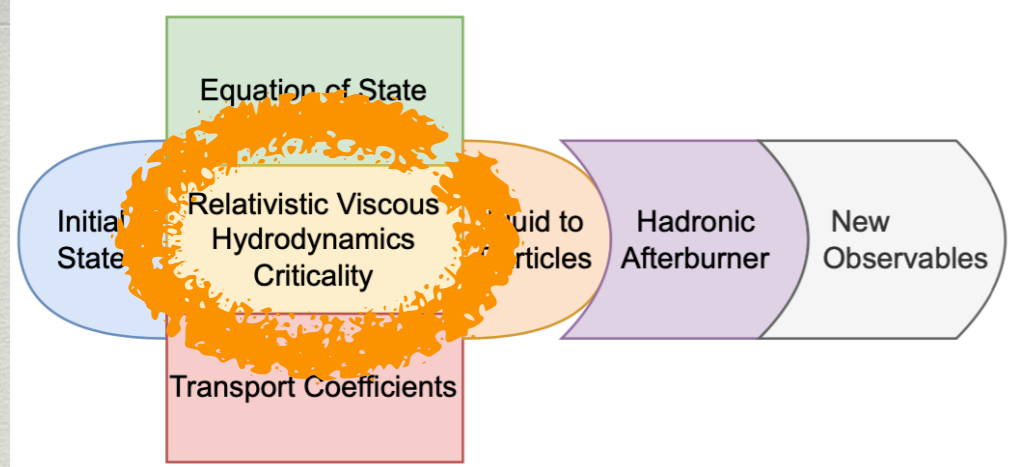
[ICING] Carzon et al, *Phys.Rev.C* 105 (2022) 3, 034908

Fluctuations only, no net- $n_B$

Hadron transport possible [SMASH, URQMD, etc.],  
not used in practice



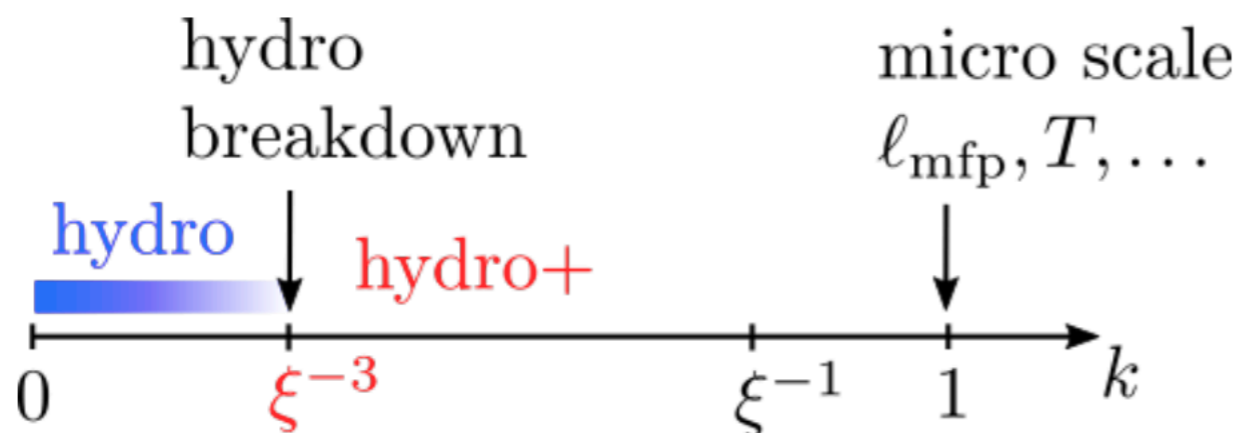




Hydro should break down at the CP

$$p_{\text{hydro}} = p_{\text{equilibrium}} - \zeta \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Stephanov, Yin Phys. Rev. D 98, 036006 (2018)



Critical fluctuations:  
theory? Slow modes?



# Far-from-equilibrium hydro @ BESII

Hydro approach:

- Causality/stability

$$\varepsilon + p \geq \frac{(\delta_{n\pi}^q)^2}{2\beta_\pi(2\beta_\pi\beta_n^{qq'} - (\delta_{n\pi}^q)^2)}$$

Almaalol et al, 2209.11210 [hep-th]

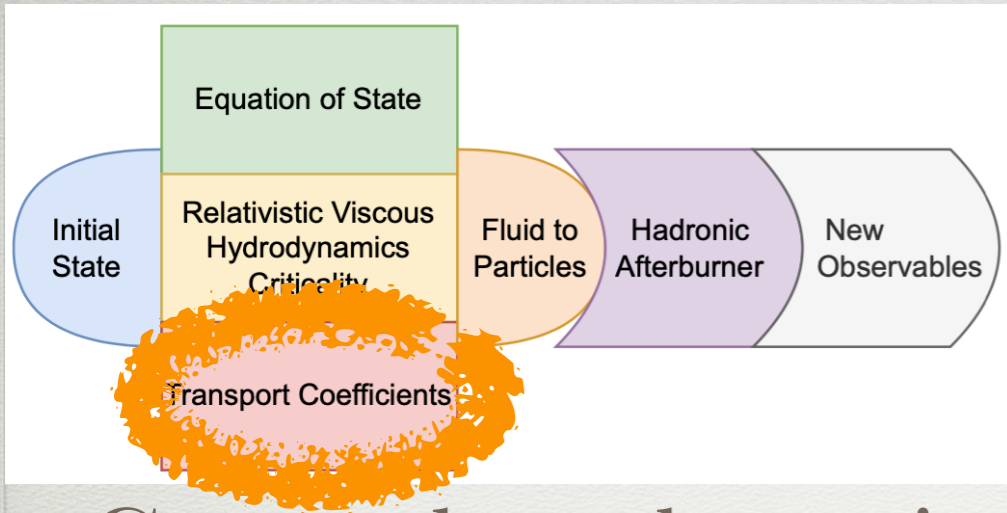
- Attractors

- Israel-Stewart, DNMR, BDNK?

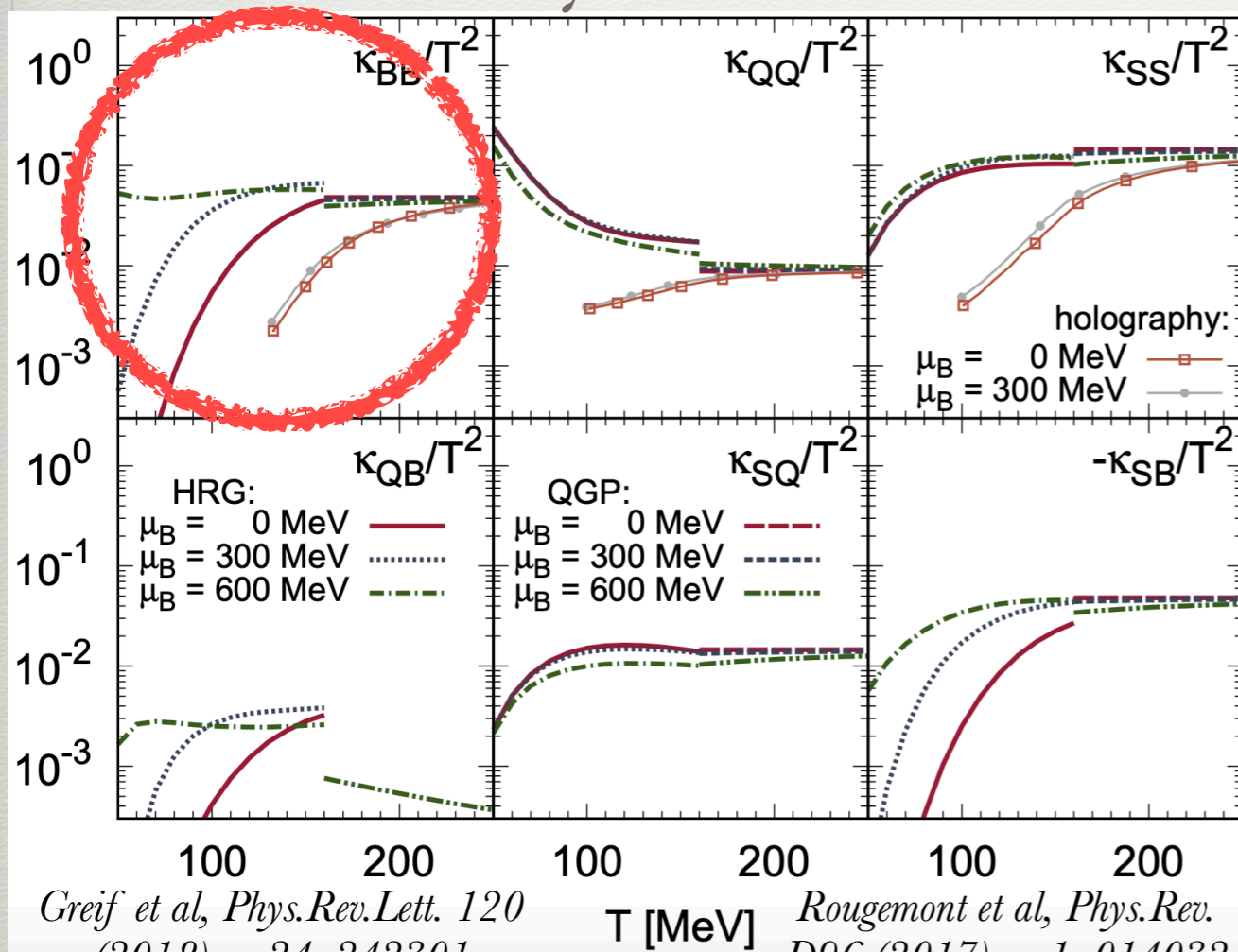


Implement in hydro, run tests,  
compare to data/theory  
constraints + **metastable?**

# Unique feature of QCD: BSQ Diffusion $\kappa_{ij}$

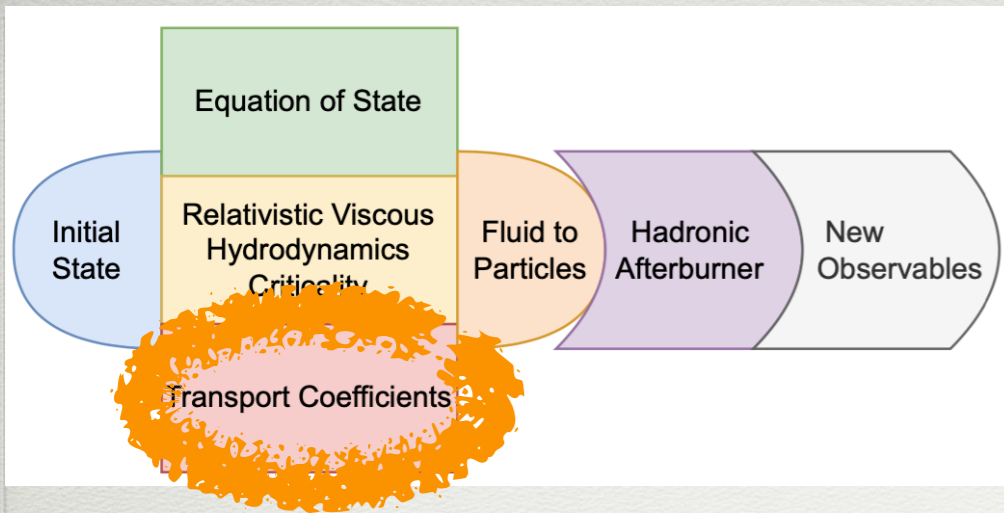


Currently, only  $\kappa_{BB}$  in 2+1/3+1 hydro codes



- BSQ diffusion generates fluctuations in charge
- Requires BSQ EOS, initial conditions, particalization

Fotakis et al *Phys.Rev.D* 101 (2020) 7, 076007



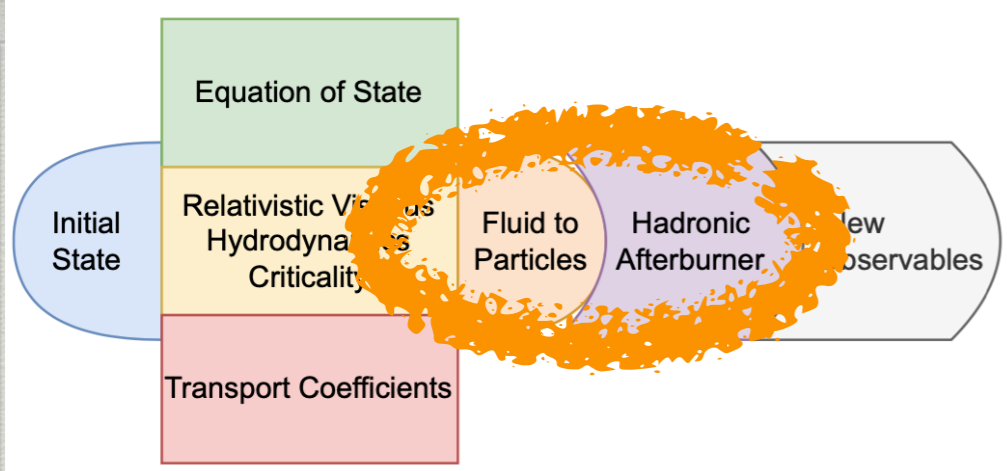
# What will transport coefficients teach us about phase transitions?

Transport Coefficient	Critical Point	1st-order	Comments
Shear viscosity	Critical scaling negligible	jump	HRG may $\uparrow$ with $n_B$ , QGP may $\downarrow$ with $n_B$
Bulk viscosity	Diverges (peak)	jump	Complicated with $cs^2 \rightarrow 1$
Baryon Diffusion	Opalescence ( $=0$ )	jump	HRG may $\uparrow$ with $n_B$ , QGP may $\downarrow$ with $n_B$
BSQ diffusion	???	jump	Models give different results

Need full scale Bayesian analysis in 3+1 model

Holography Grefa et al, *Phys.Rev.D* 106 (2022) 3, 034024; Critical Scaling *Phys.Rev.C* 95 (2017) 3, 034902 ; Bulk/shear Dore et al, 2207.04086 [nucl-th]; Shear viscosity across 1-st order phase transition Soloveva et al, *Phys.Rev.C* 103 (2021) 5, 054901





# How is hadron transport affected at large $n_B$ ?

Out-of-equilibrium corrections to distribution function

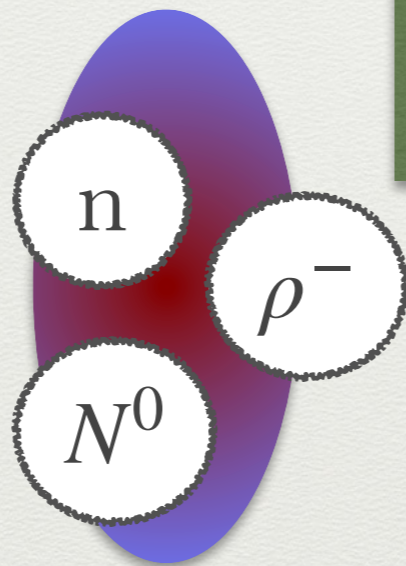
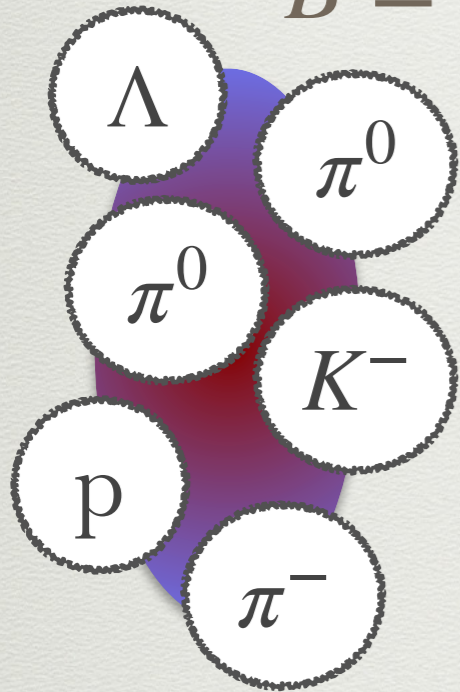
$$f = f_{ideal} + \delta f_{bulk} + \delta f_{shear} + \delta f_{B,S,Q}$$

Criticality at FO: Pradeep et al, *PRD* 106 (2022) 3, 036017

Sampling routine to conserve BSQ

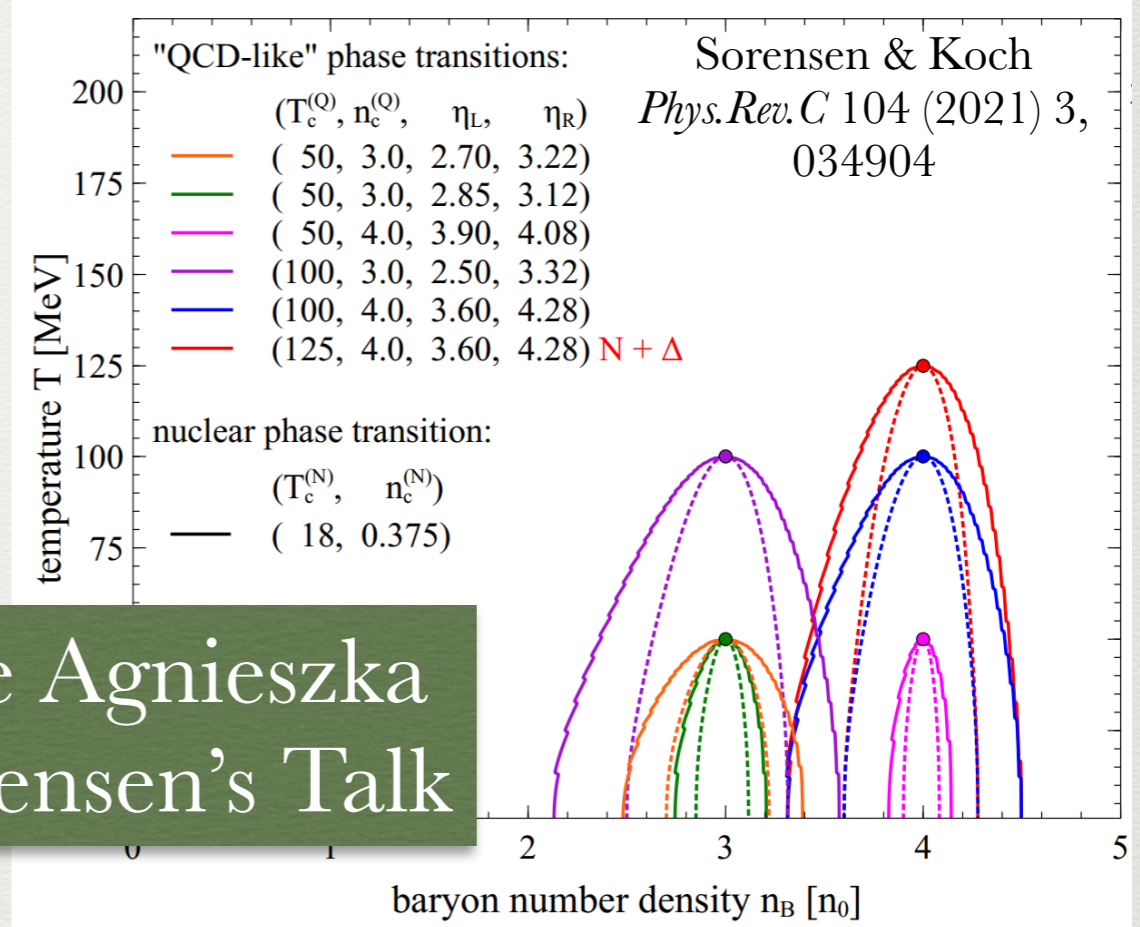
Oliinychenko & Koch *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 123 (2019) 18, 182302

$$B = 2, S = 0, Q = -1$$



See Agnieszka Sorensen's Talk

## Potentials in SMASH

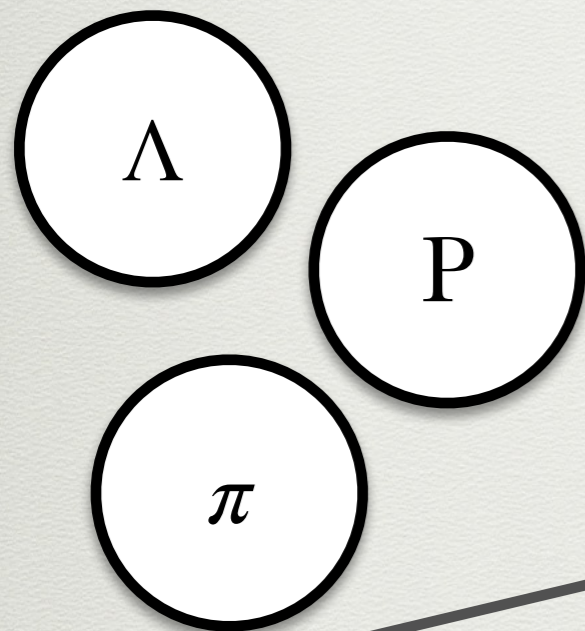


Still must couple BSQ hydro+sampling+transport with potentials

# Degrees of freedom at low $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

Dynamics below  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 7.7$  GeV?

Hydro+Transport  
works well above  
 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} > 7.7$  GeV



Hydro vs. Transport  
mixed results  
 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 7.7$  GeV

# What if we don't find the CP?



**Remaining questions:** applicability of BSQ hydrodynamics, BSQ transport coefficients and initial state, vorticity, sign problem etc

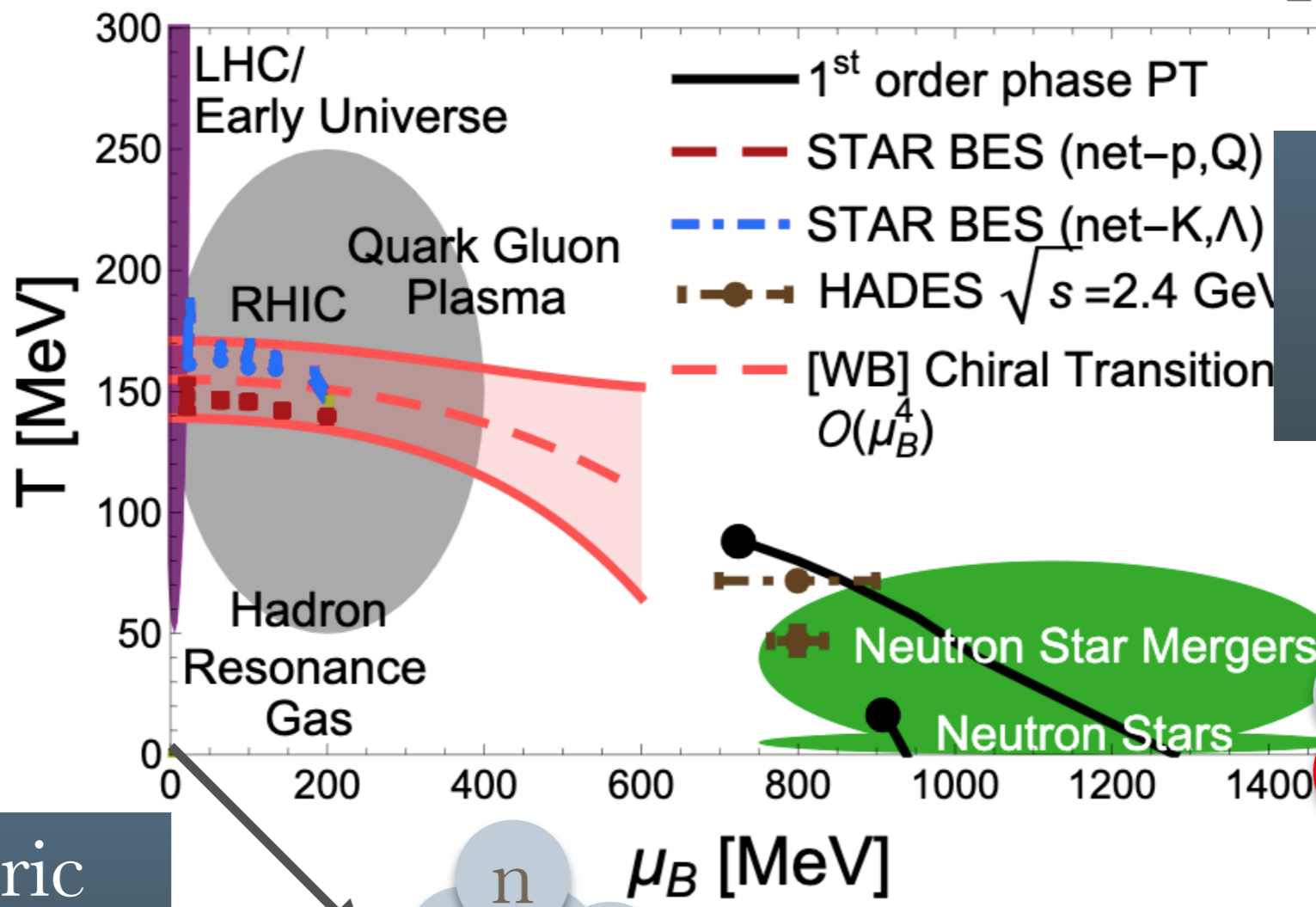
See Rob Pisarski's Talk

**Other phases of matter:** pion/kaon condensates, moat regimes, color superconductivity in NS, etc

**Connections to NS:** quarkyonic matter/bump in  $c_s^2$ , isospin dependence of EOS, QCD EOS with and without leptons/weak interactions...

# How do we connect NS and HIC in the phase diagram?

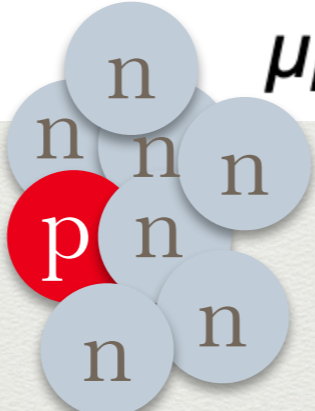
**Light transition**  
*Phys.Lett. B738 (2014)*  
 305-310;  
**Strange Transition**  
*Bellwied, JNH, Parotto, Vazquez, Ratti, Stafford, arXiv:1805.00088 ;*  
**Neutron Star (mergers)** *V. Dexheimer arXiv:1708.08342;*  
**Holography** *Critelli, JNH, et al, Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.9, 096026;*  
**[HADES]** *Nature Physics volume 15, pages 1040–1045(2019);*



$$Y_Q = \frac{Z}{A} = \frac{n_Q^{QCD}}{n_B}$$

Symmetric nuclear matter  
 $Y_Q \sim 0.38 - 0.5$

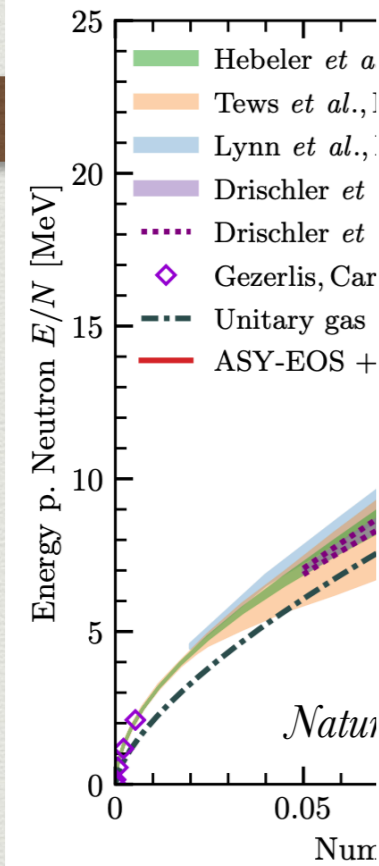
Asymmetric nuclear matter  
 $Y_Q \sim 0.01 - 0.2$



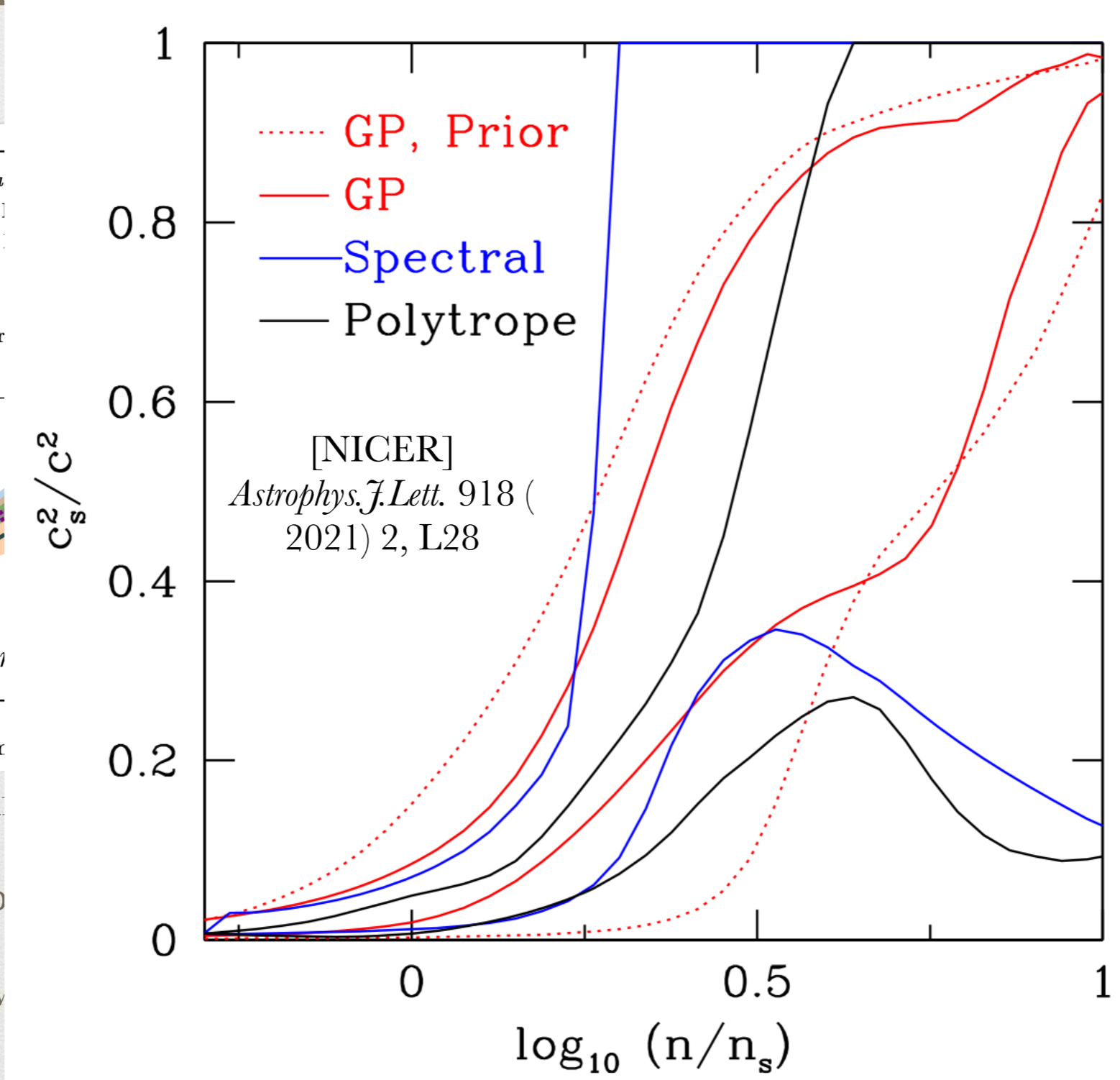
Nuclear EX measure coefficients to connect HIC to NS (PREXII/isobars/FRIB400)

# Challenges in Neutron Star (NS) EOS

Low  $n_B$



- Uncertainty quanti
- Finite T and transp
- Collaborations betw
- needed



High  $n_B$



dense QCD  
ansitions (in  
m)

aryon

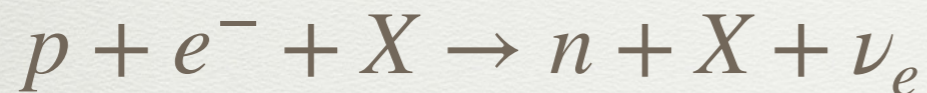
ave observables

problem



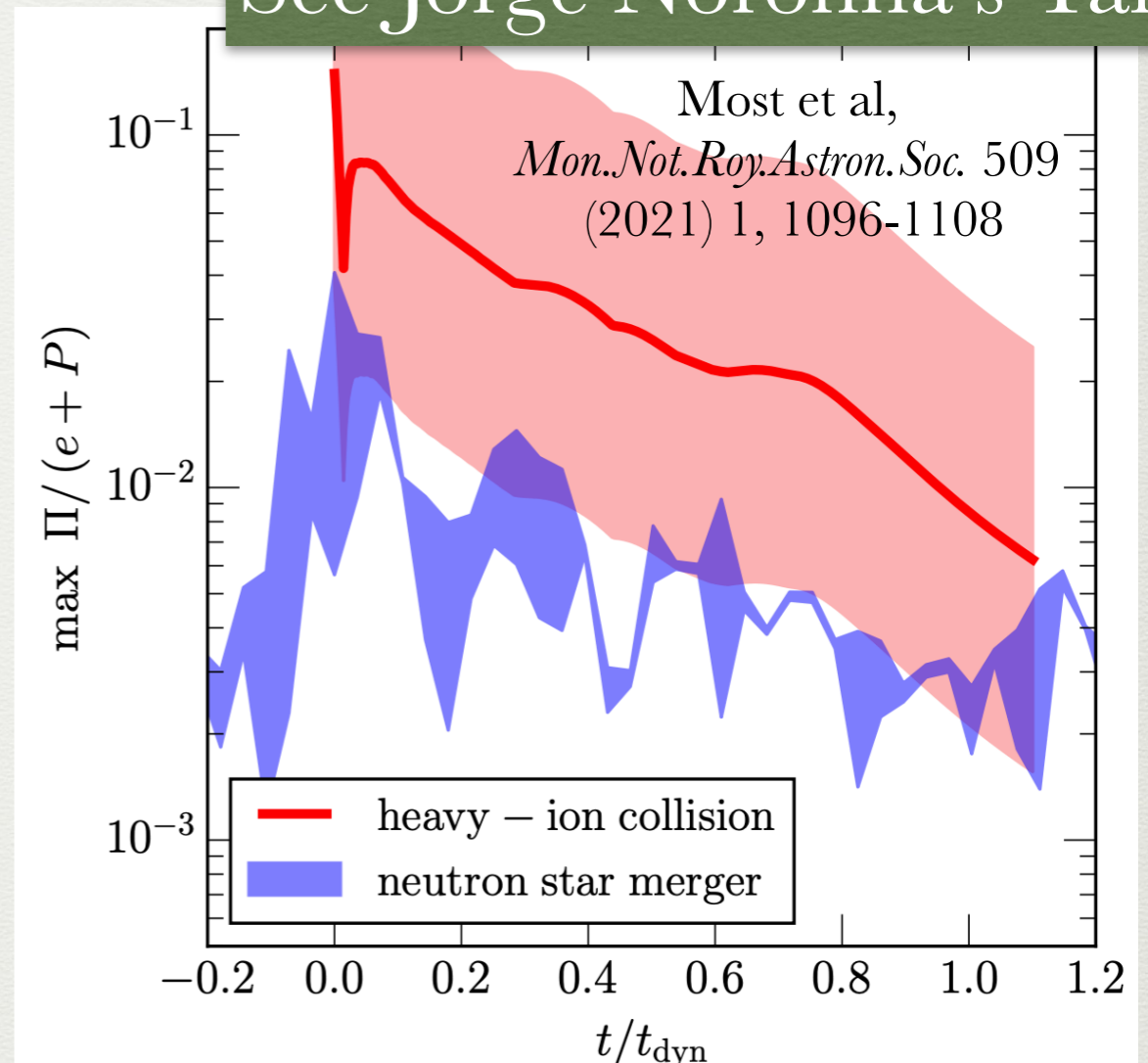
# Neutron stars out-of-equilibrium

Delayed  $\beta$ -equilibrium in mergers



- Sensitivity to  $T$ , different degrees of freedom, phase transitions
- Requires collaborations between nuclear physicists and numerical relativity
- Signatures in gravitational waves?

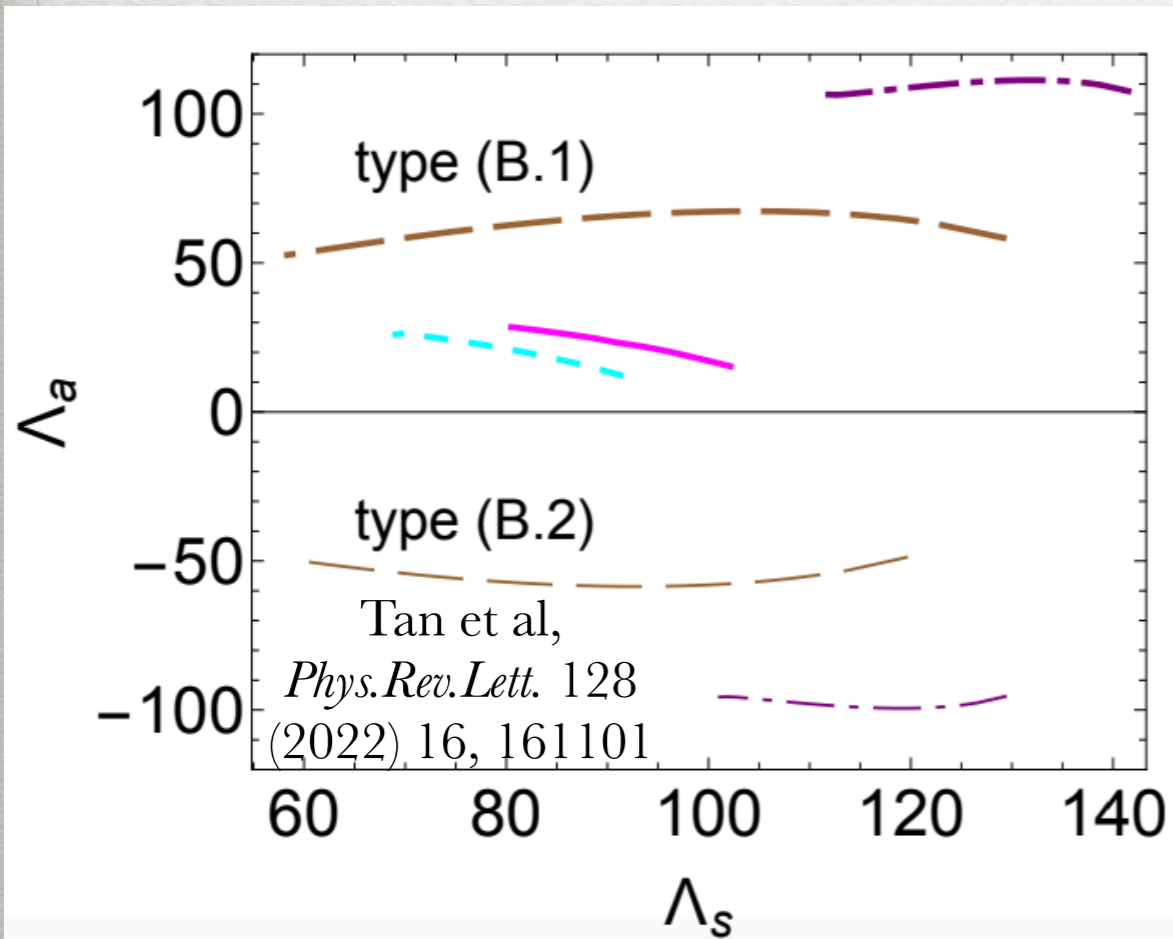
See Jorge Noronha's Talk



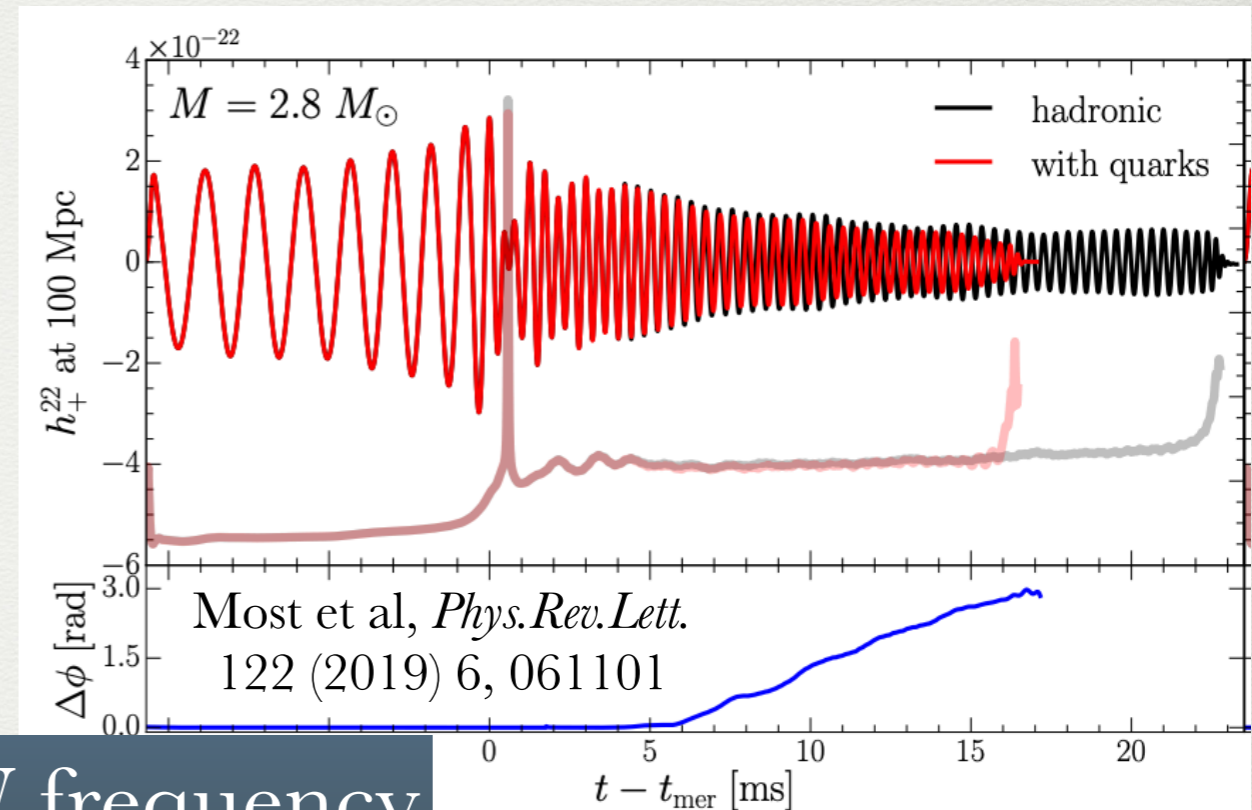
Opportunity to understand  
rel. viscous fluids in General  
Relativity

# Interdisciplinary collaborations

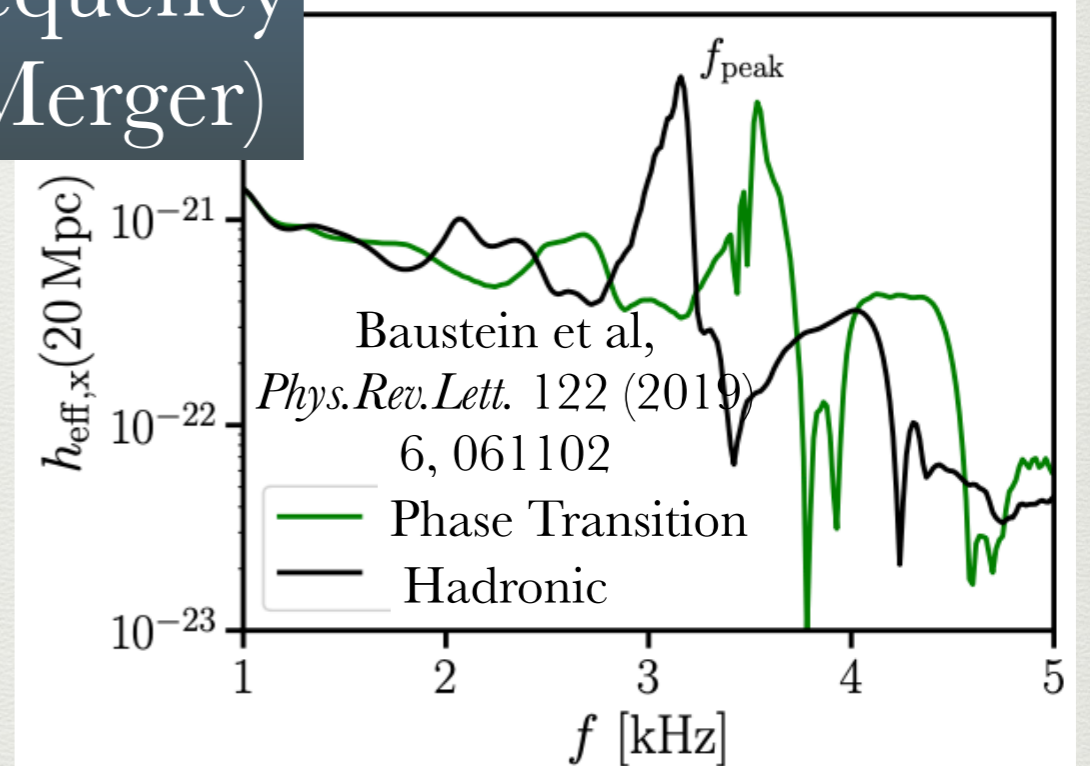
## Binary love relation (inspiral)



Gravity-nuclear collaborations extremely fruitful to identifying new observables: funding mechanism?

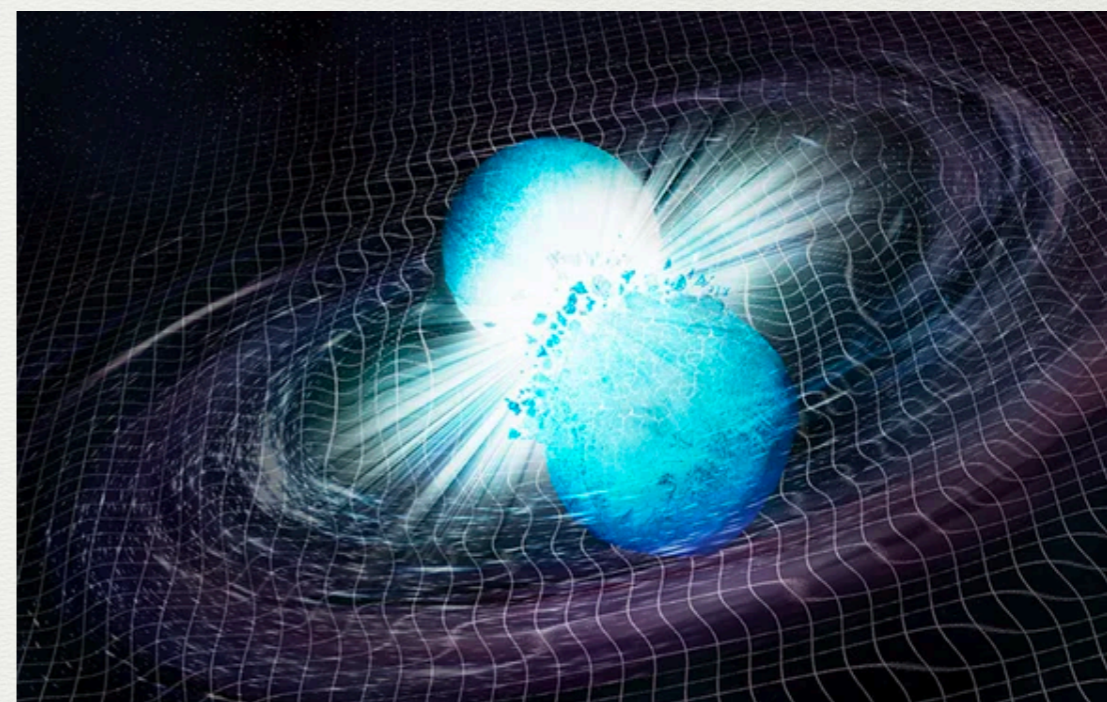
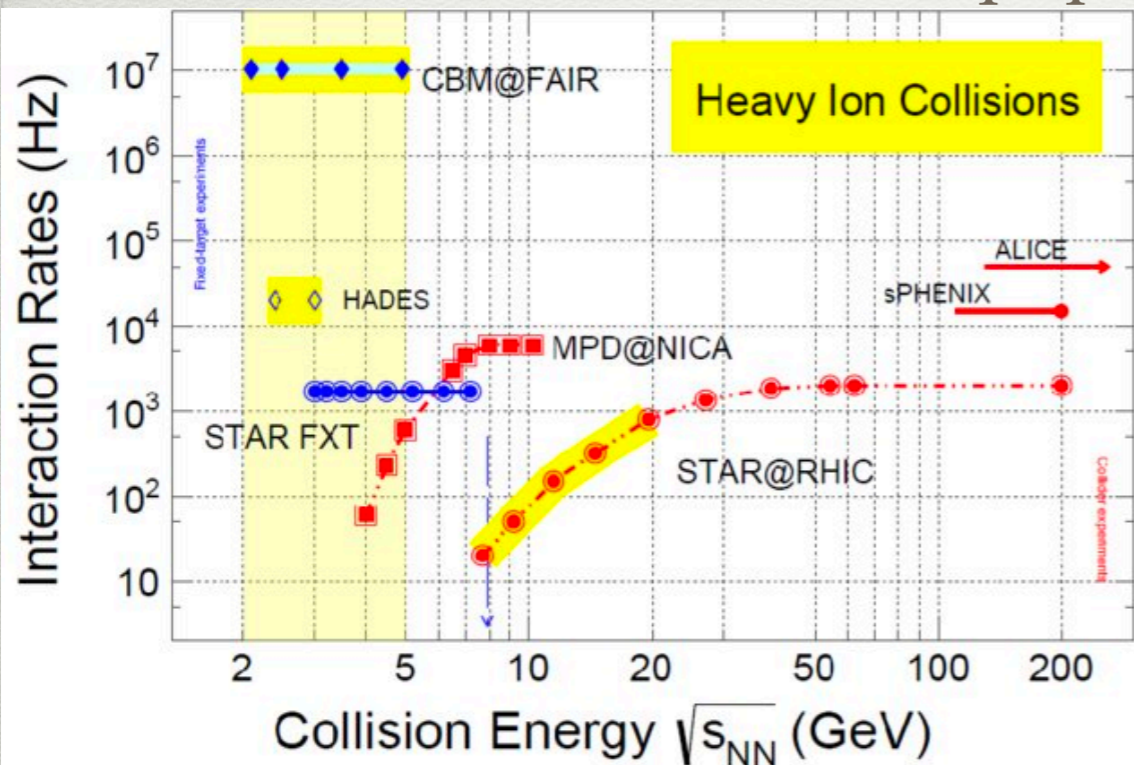


## GW frequency (Post-Merger)



# Why CBM? Astro Observations?

CBM US contribute white paper: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2209.05009.pdf>



- Resolve unanswered questions from BESII/ fixed target (new observables)
- Isospin/species dependences (crucial for HIC to NS)
- Hypernuclei (strangeness information!)
- Large US theory community, very EX driven (needs talk between theory/experiment)

Run	Years	% err (GW170817)	New physics
O2/3	done	~100%	GW170817, NS-BH
O4	23-24	~40%	$\Lambda$ , post-merger
O5	26-29	~20%	Localization
3G	30-50	~3%	All NS in universe

Details <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1903.03909.pdf>

NICER renewed for 3 years!

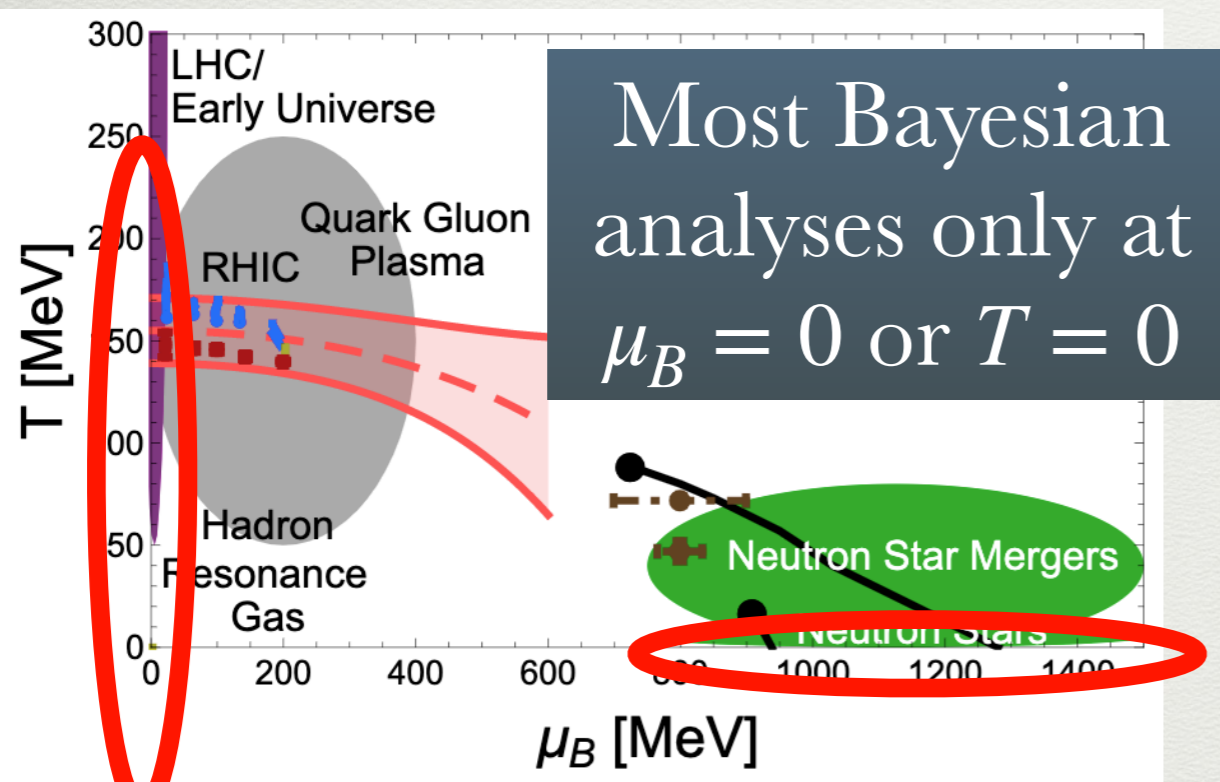
# Computational opportunities

Computational  
Nuclear Physics  
and AI/ML  
Workshop



Computational Nuclear Physics and AI/ML Workshop

6-7 September 2022



**Bayesian Analysis needed at low  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  with BES theory**

- \* Location of CP/first-order
- \* ML/AI for identifying new features/phases
- \* Functional form of EOS/transport coefficients
- \* Connecting the EOS in HIC to NS (both from data and theory constraints)
- \* Input from experimentalists on best constraints
- \* Hydro vs transport

# Physics motivation: low $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ heavy-ions

- Existence, location, properties of the QCD critical point
- Dynamic vs static universality of QCD critical point.
- Can we understand  $\Lambda$  polarization/spin hydrodynamics at large densities?
- How are baryons stopped in relativistic collisions? What roles does electric charge/isospin play?
- Hadron vs quark degrees of freedom at low  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ? Extract dense matter EOS, relevant for neutron stars
- Other phases of matter at large  $\mu_B$ ?

See Jinfeng  
Liao's Talk

# Physics motivation: neutron stars

From HIC to NS Workshop 2020 Summary: J.Phys.G 48 (2021) 7, 073001    Snowmass 2022: 2209.07412 [astro-ph.HE]

- Phase(s) of matter at large density: detectability? Properties in and out-of-equilibrium?
- What is the interplay between strong and weak interactions (neutrinos), E&M, and gravity? What new things can be found in neutron star mergers?
- Do QCD phases remain the same once the charge fraction is changed? Symmetric vs. asymmetric matter
- New ideas on constraining neutron skin?  
Nuclear structure+HIC white paper: 2209.11042 [nucl-ex]
- What role does beyond standard model physics play?

See Jiangyong  
Jia's Talk

Thank you everyone for your input  
and discussions!

Agnieszka Sorensen, Bjoern Schenke, Christopher  
Plumberg, Chun Shen, Claudia Ratti, Dekrayat Almaaol,  
Gordon Baym, Huan Huang, Ingo Tews, Jamie Karthien,  
Jorge Noronha, Krishna Rajagopal, Mark Alford, Misha  
Stephanov, Nicolas Yunes, Nu Xu, Pawel Danielewicz, Rob  
Pisarski, Swagato Mukherjee, Thomas Schaefer, Thomas  
Schaefer, Veronica Dexheimer

*Thank  
you*



# Recommendations for the LRP

- Theoretical nuclear physics is essential for establishing new scientific directions, and meeting the challenges and realizing the full scientific potential of current and future experiments. We recommend increased investment in the base program and expansion of topical programs in nuclear theory.
- Put the pieces together developed by the BEST collaboration to search for the critical point/1st order phase transition at STAR/CBM
  - Theory work needed on equations of motion: critical fluctuations, non-linear causality constraints for BSQ hydrodynamics, metastable region, transport codes+potentials
- Uncertainty analysis for chiral effective field theory to higher-order terms, finite T, transport coefficients; further development/constraints on microscopic models
- Pursue synergy between heavy-ions and neutrons stars on dissipative processes; joint statistical analyses; looking for  $c_s^2 \rightarrow 1$
- **Crucial time with BESII data coming, CBM@FAIR being built, LIGO upgrades, and new data from NICER to study dense QCD!**