

# Holographic baryons, dense matter and neutron star mergers

Matti Järvinen



6th International Conference on Holography, String Theory and  
Spacetime in Da Nang

Duy Tan University – 24 February 2023

[MJ, Elias Kiritsis, Francesco Nitti, Edwan Préau  
arXiv:2209.05868 (JHEP); arXiv:2212.06747]

[Tuna Demircik, Christian Ecker, MJ arXiv:2112.12157 (PRX)]

[Samuel Tootle, Christian Ecker, Konrad Topolski, Tuna Demircik, MJ,  
Luciano Rezzolla arXiv:2205.05691 (SciPost)] + [earlier work]

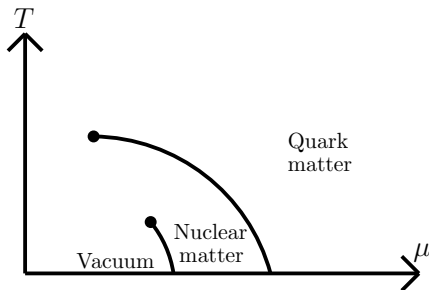


# Outline

1. Introduction and motivation
2. V-QCD and quark matter
3. Holographic nuclear matter
  - ▶ Isolated baryons V-QCD
  - ▶ Dense homogeneous nuclear matter
4. “Hybrid” Equations of State (EoSs)
  - ▶ Combining V-QCD with other approaches
  - ▶ Model at finite temperature and density
5. Application to neutron star mergers
  - ▶ Production of quark matter

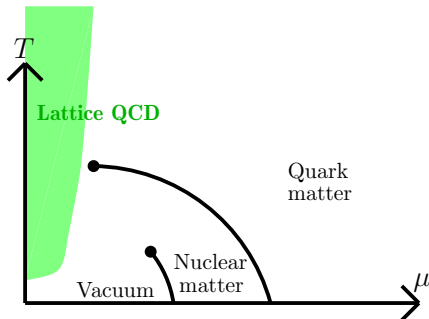
# 1. Introduction

# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results



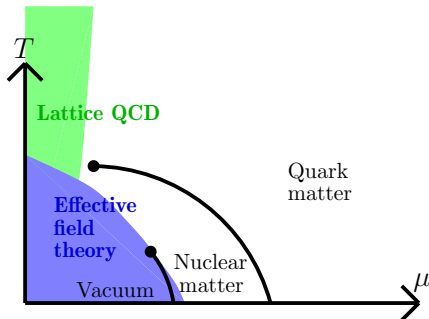
# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results

- ▶ Lattice data only available at zero/small chemical potentials



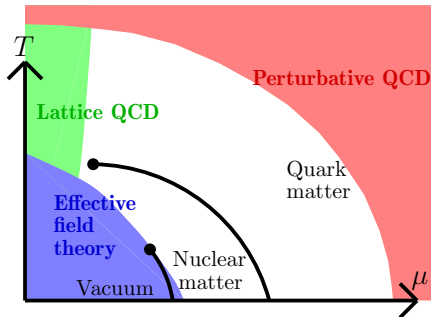
# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results

- ▶ Lattice data only available at zero/small chemical potentials
- ▶ Effective field theory works at small densities



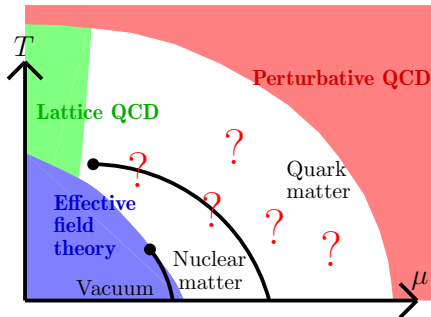
# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results

- ▶ **Lattice data** only available at zero/small chemical potentials
- ▶ **Effective field theory** works at small densities
- ▶ **Perturbative QCD**: only at high densities and temperatures



# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results

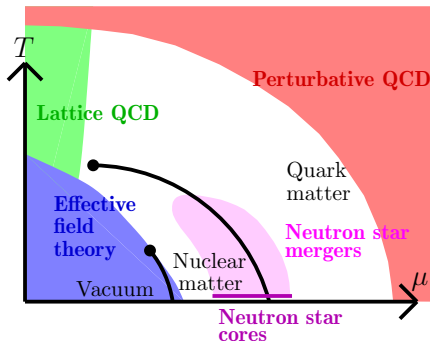
- ▶ Lattice data only available at zero/small chemical potentials
- ▶ Effective field theory works at small densities
- ▶ Perturbative QCD: only at high densities and temperatures
- ▶ Open questions at intermediate densities





# QCD phase diagram: theoretical results

- ▶ **Lattice data** only available at zero/small chemical potentials
- ▶ **Effective field theory** works at small densities
- ▶ **Perturbative QCD**: only at high densities and temperatures
- ▶ Open questions at intermediate densities

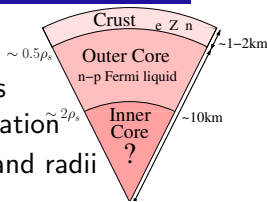


1. Improving theoretical predictions important!
2. Incoming experimental data from neutron star measurements!

# Neutron stars

Neutron stars: extremely dense cold QCD matter

- ▶ Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff (TOV) equations map equation of state (EoS) to mass-radius relation  $\sim 2\rho_s$
- ▶ EoS can be constrained by measuring masses and radii



Mass measurements: dozens of results using various methods

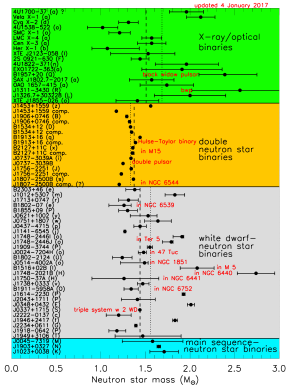
- ▶ Highest masses from Shapiro delay measurement of NS – white dwarf binaries J0348+0432 and J0740+6620:

$$M_{\max} \gtrsim 2M_{\odot}$$

[Antoniadis et al 1304.6875  
Cromartie et al 1904.06759]

Radius measurements: more challenging, high uncertainties

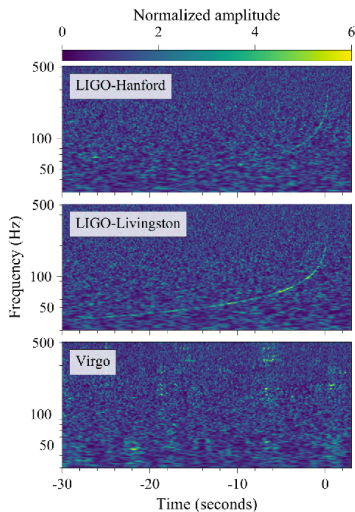
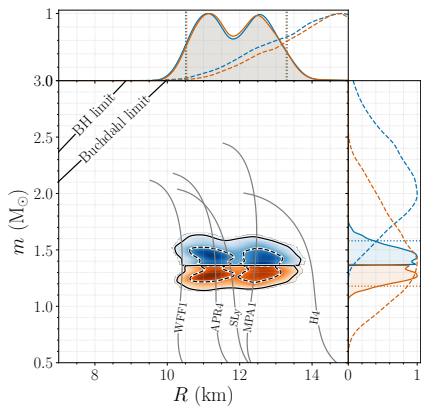
- ▶ Cooling after X-ray bursts  $\Rightarrow$  radii around 10-15 km



More and better results expected in near future! E.g. NICER [Lattimer]

# LIGO/Virgo constraints from GW170817

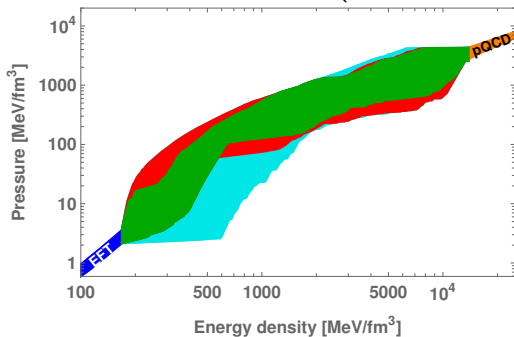
- ▶ The tidal deformability  $\Lambda$  measures how strongly neutron stars deform in gravitational field
- ▶ Inspiral phase GW signal gives an upper bound  $\Lambda \lesssim 580$
- ▶ Implies a rough upper bound for neutron star radius:  $R \lesssim 13.5$  km



# Constraints on equation of state (EoS)

State of the art for QCD EoS at  $T = 0$ : interpolations between nuclear EoS and pQCD, constrained by

1. Mass bound  $M_{\max} > 2M_{\odot}$  (excludes cyan area)
2. LIGO constraint from GW170817: (excludes red area)



[Adapted from Annala, Gorda, Kurkela, Vuorinen 1711.02644]

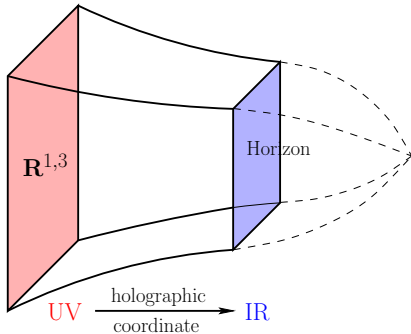
Source of uncertainties: physics at strong coupling  $\Rightarrow$

Can holographic methods be used to reduce uncertainties further?

## 2. V-QCD

# Gauge/gravity duality for QCD

- ▶ Motivated by the original AdS/CFT correspondence for  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM
- ▶ Instead of conformality, confinement:  
non-AdS/non-CFT duality
- ▶ Field theory lives on the boundary of the 5D geometry
- ▶ Operators  $O_i(x^\mu) \leftrightarrow$  classical bulk fields  $\phi_i(x^\mu, r)$



$$Z_{\text{grav}}(\phi_i|_{\text{bdry}} = J_i(x^\mu)) = \int \mathcal{D} e^{iS_{\text{QCD}} + i \int d^4x J^i(x^\mu) O_i(x^\mu)}$$

- ▶ E.g.  $\bar{\psi}^j \psi^i \leftrightarrow \phi^{ij}$        $T_{\mu\nu} \leftrightarrow g_{\mu\nu}$        $J_\mu \leftrightarrow A_\mu$
- ▶ Thermodynamics of QCD  $\leftrightarrow$  thermodynamics of a planar bulk black hole

# Holographic V-QCD

A holographic model for QCD

- ▶ Bottom-up, but trying to follow principles from string theory closely [MJ, Kiritsis 1112.1261; Review MJ 2110.08281]

The model is obtained through a fusion of two building blocks:

1. IHQCD: model for glue inspired by string theory [Gürsoy, Kiritsis, Nitti; Gubser, Nellore]
2. Adding flavor and chiral symmetry breaking via a  $D4 - \overline{D4}$ -brane setup [Klebanov, Maldacena; Bigazzi, Casero, Cotrone, Iatrakis, Kiritsis, Paredes]

Full backreaction in the Veneziano limit:  $N_c, N_f \rightarrow \infty$ , fixed  $\frac{N_f}{N_c}$

Two bulk scalars:  $\lambda \leftrightarrow \text{Tr}F^2$ ,  $\tau \leftrightarrow \bar{q}q$

$$S_{V\text{-QCD}} = N_c^2 M^3 \int d^5x \sqrt{g} \left[ R - \frac{4}{3} \frac{(\partial\lambda)^2}{\lambda^2} + V_g(\lambda) \right] - N_f N_c M^3 \int d^5x V_{f0}(\lambda) e^{-\tau^2} \sqrt{-\det(g_{ab} + \kappa(\lambda) \partial_a \tau \partial_b \tau + w(\lambda) F_{ab})}$$

Effective model, many potentials  $V_g$ ,  $V_{f0}$ ,  $w$ ,  $\kappa$  – essential to fix them by fitting QCD data  $\rightarrow$  predictions for other observables

# Constraining the model at $\mu \approx 0$

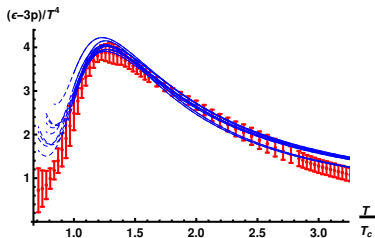
Standard recipe (charged black holes)  $\Rightarrow$  description of hot and dense quark matter

Fit to lattice data near  $\mu = 0$  [Gürsoy, Kiritsis, Mazzanti, Nitti 0903.2859; MJ, Jokela, Remes, 1809.07770]

- ▶ Many parameters already fixed by requiring qualitative agreement with QCD
- ▶ Results only weakly dependent of remaining parameters
- ▶ Good description of lattice data – nontrivial result!

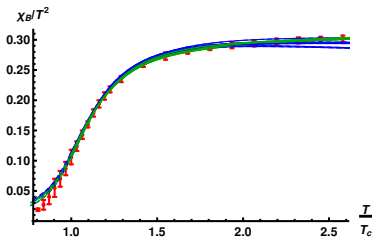
Interaction measure,  
2+1 flavors

[Data: Borsanyi et al. 1309.5258]



Baryon number  
susceptibility

[Data: Borsanyi et al. 1112.4416]





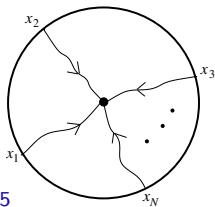
### 3. Nuclear matter

# The holographic baryon

Recall the standard AdS/CFT duality:

$\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM is dual to IIB sugra on  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

- ▶ Baryons are objects where  $N_c$  fundamental strings ( $\leftrightarrow$  quarks) can end
- ▶ Obtained by wrapping a D5 brane over the  $S^5$



[Witten hep-th/9805112]

Studied a lot in the Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto (WSS) model

- ▶ The wrapped brane (now D4) is diluted in the flavor D8 branes  $\rightarrow$  solitonic configurations of the D8 gauge fields
- ▶ In the strong coupling limit
  - ▶ Solitons localized in the bulk
  - ▶ Described in terms of 5D Yang-Mills in flat space

$$\mathcal{L}_B \sim -\kappa \int d^5x \text{Tr} F_{\mu\nu}^2$$

[Kim, Sin, Zahed arXiv:0708.1469;

Hata, Sakai, Sugimoto, Yamato hep-th/0701280; ...]

- ▶ Solution also constructed in “hard-wall” models

[Pomarol, Wulzer]<sub>13/29</sub>

# Solitons in V-QCD: motivation

Shortcomings of the soliton solutions

- ▶ The size of the soliton in WSS small wrt (inverse) glueball mass scale:  $\rho \sim 1/(\sqrt{\lambda}M_{KK}) \ll 1/M_{KK}$
- ▶ The interplay with chiral symmetry breaking not obvious in WSS, no tachyon field
- ▶ In hard wall, the properties of the baryon depend on IR cutoff/boundary conditions in an ad-hoc manner

In V-QCD, these will be fixed:

- ▶ Size of the soliton  $\sim 1/\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$
- ▶ Interplay between the soliton and the tachyon (i.e. chiral symmetry breaking effects) included
- ▶ Consistent model for the IR wall: geometry with good IR singularity with diverging tachyon, all boundary conditions fixed uniquely by normalizability

Baryon again a soliton of the non-Abelian gauge/fields . . . but finding it numerically is a technically challenging problem!

# The role of the Chern-Simons term

The Chern-Simons (CS) term, e.g. in the hard-wall model

$$S_{CS} \sim N_c \int dt \mu \int \text{Tr} \left[ F^{(L)} \wedge F^{(L)} - F^{(R)} \wedge F^{(R)} \right] \sim N_c \int dt \mu N_I$$

- ▶ The instanton number  $N_I$  gives rise to the charge  $\sim N_c N_I$

The V-QCD CS term also includes dependence on the tachyon  $T$

- ▶ Restrict to the massless case:  $T = \tau U$ , with  $\tau$  real and  $U$  unitary ( $U|_{\text{bdry}} = \text{pion matrix}$ )
- ▶ Solve the most general form consistent with symmetry:

$$S_{CS} \propto \int \Omega_5(T, A) \text{ with } \quad [\text{MJ, Kiritsis, Nitti, Pr\'eau 2209.05868}]$$

$$\Omega_5(T, A) = \Omega_5(\text{gauge inv.}) + \Omega_5(\text{closed})$$

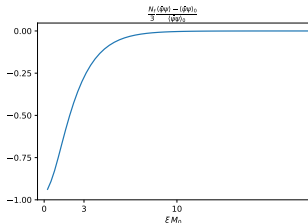
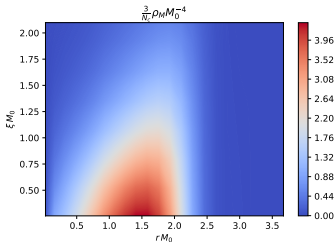
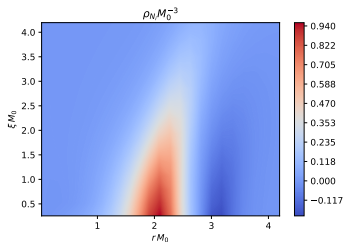
$$\Omega_5(\text{gauge inv.}) = \sum_{i=1}^4 f_i(\tau) \Omega_i^0(U, A)$$

$$\Omega_5(\text{closed}) = \text{Tr}(U^\dagger dU)^5 + d[\text{term fixed by anomalies}]$$

- ▶ Only the term fixed by anomalies contributes to the charge!
- ▶ Functions  $f_i$  do affect the soliton and interplay with tachyon – use flat space results [Casero, Kiritsis, Paredes arXiv:hep-th/0702155]

# Numerical single baryon solution

- ▶ Fit model parameters (simultaneously) to both QCD thermodynamics and meson mass spectra
- ▶ Write an Ansatz (gauge fields+tachyon) consistent with parity
- ▶ Solve using a relaxation method



Spin	V-QCD mass	Experimental mass
$s = \frac{1}{2}$	$M_N \simeq 1170 \text{ MeV}$	$M_N = 940 \text{ MeV}$
$s = \frac{3}{2}$	$M_\Delta \simeq 1260 \text{ MeV}$	$M_\Delta = 1234 \text{ MeV}$

[MJ, Kiritsis, Nitti, Pr au 2212.06747]

# Nuclear matter in holographic models

So far I discussed a solution for a single baryon . . .

- ▶ Dense nuclear matter requires studying many-instanton solutions
- ▶ Extremely challenging!
- ▶ Rest of the talk: set  $N_f = 2$  and use a simple approximation scheme (homogeneous), reasonable at high densities?

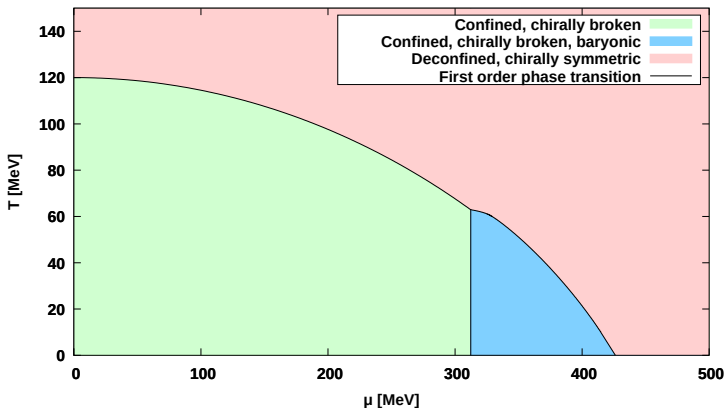
[Rozali, Shieh, Van Raamsdonk, Wu 0708.1322]

$$A^i = h(r)\sigma^i$$

[Li,Schmitt,Wang 1505.04886; Elliot-Ripley,Sutcliffe,Zamaklar 1607.04832]

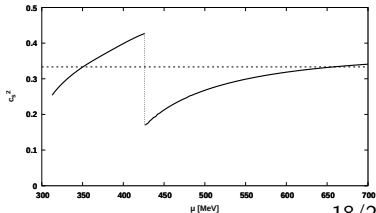
[Kovensky, Poole, Schmitt, 2111.03374]

# Phase diagram at zero quark mass



Stiff EoS (high  $c_s^2$ ) in the nuclear matter phase  $\Rightarrow$  helps to pass the bounds from neutron star observations!

[Ishii, MJ, Nijs, 1903.06169]



## 4. Hybrid EoSs



# Combining with other approaches

The V-QCD EoS as such is however not fully satisfactory:

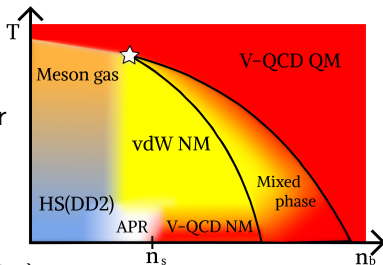
1. Our (homogeneous) approach for nuclear matter only works at high densities
2. Temperature dependence is trivial in the confined phases, and therefore also for holographic nuclear matter
  - ▶ This is a large  $N_c$  issue,  $T$  dependence would arise from loops

Solutions:

1. At low densities for nuclear matter, use “traditional” nuclear theory results
  - ⇒ choose the Hempel-Schaffner-Bielich model with DD2 interactions (HS(DD2))  
[Typel et al. 0908.2344; Hempel, Schaffner-Bielich 0911.4073]
2. Since no reliable results available, borrow  $T$  dependence from basically the simplest reasonable model
  - ⇒ use van der Waals (vdW) gas (protons, neutrons, electrons)  
[Ecker, MJ, Nijs, van der Schee 1908.03213]  
[Jokela, MJ, Nijs, Remes 2006:01141]  
[Demircik, Ecker, MJ 2112.12157]

# Overview of the hybrid model

- ▶ V-QCD for quark matter and cold dense nuclear matter
- ▶ Van der Waals model extrapolates dense V-QCD nuclear matter to finite  $T$
- ▶ At low density, choose HS(DD2)
- ▶ At medium density, use APR cold EoS (using only HS(DD2) would lead to tension with neutron star observations)
- ▶ Add QCD mesons to HS(DD2), important to describe the critical point

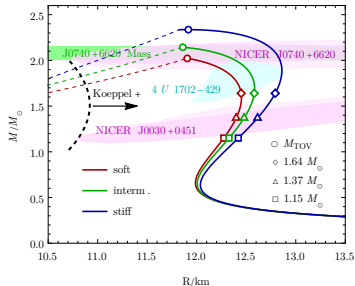
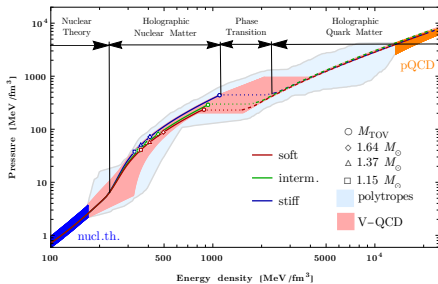


Goal: improve the-state-of-the-art of EoSs for neutron star mergers that include the phase transition

[Demircik, Ecker, MJ 2112.12157]

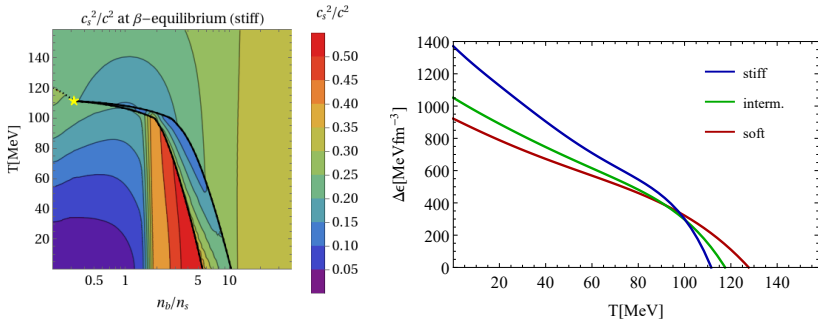
# Cold EoS and known constraints

- ▶ Three choices of EoSs: **soft**, **intermediate**, and **stiff**  $\leftrightarrow$  the degrees of freedom of V-QCD left free by fit to lattice data
- ▶ Compared to bands of all feasible cold matter EoS: **Without** and **with** holography



- ▶ Plug EoSs in TOV: neutron star  $M(R)$  curves (left plot)
- ▶ Compares well with mass/radius observations

# Results: phase transition and critical point



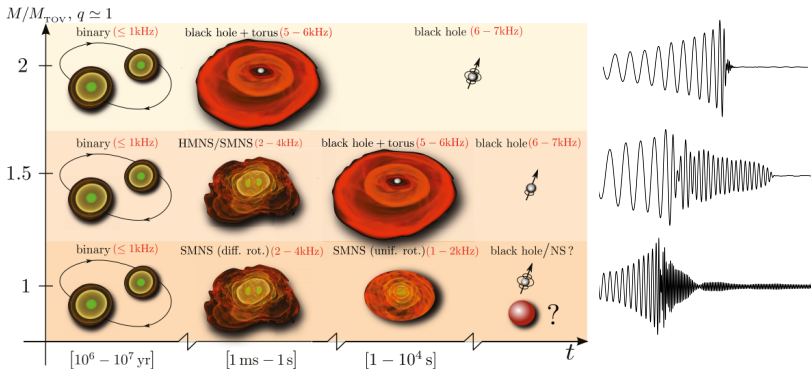
- ▶ Low  $T$ : strong 1st order nuclear to quark matter transition and mixed phase
- ▶ High  $T$ : weak first order transition  $\approx$  crossover
- ▶ Critical point with
$$110 \text{ MeV} \lesssim T_c \lesssim 130 \text{ MeV}$$
$$480 \text{ MeV} \lesssim \mu_{bc} \lesssim 580 \text{ MeV}$$
- ▶ Close to results in other (simpler) holographic models

[DeWolfe et al. 1012.1864; Knaute et al. 1702.06731; Critelli et al. 1706.00455]

## 5. (Holographic) Neutron Star Mergers

# Neutron star mergers

- ▶ Significant sources of gravitational radiation
- ▶ Microscopic properties of dense matter encoded in GW and EM signal



[picture: Baiotti, Rezzola 1607.03540]

One good event (GW170817) and a few other events already observed!

[LIGO/Virgo, 1710.05832]

# Simulating Binary Neutron Star Mergers

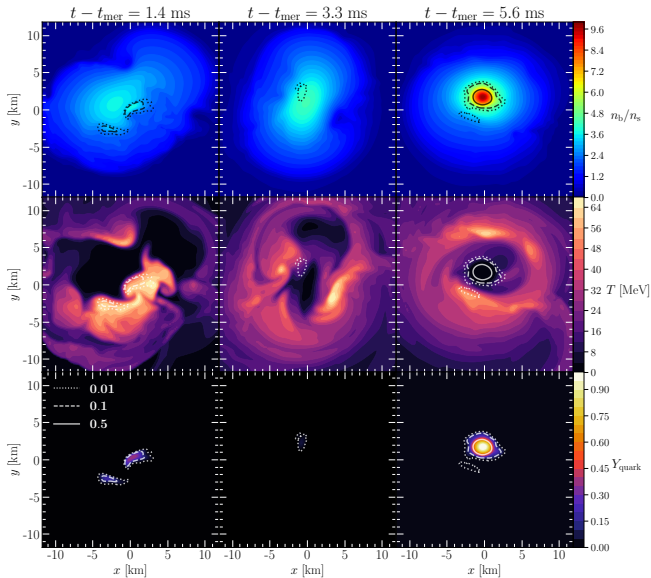
Have to solve the 3+1D General Relativistic hydrodynamics equations:

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G_N T_{\mu\nu}, \quad \nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad \nabla_\mu J^\mu = 0$$

with initial spacetime and fluid distribution modelling a NS binary system

- ▶ Equation of State  $p = p(n_b, T, Y_e)$  as input – use V-QCD hybrid EoS
- ▶ Spectral code Frankfurt University/Kadath (FUKA) for initial data  
[Papenfort, Tootle, Grandclement, Most, Rezzolla 2103.09911]
- ▶ Frankfurt/Illinois (FIL) code for binary evolution with tabulated EoS  
[Most, Papenfort, Rezzolla 1907.10328]
- ▶ Implemented in the Einstein Toolkit  
[<http://einsteintoolkit.org>]
- ▶ Need supercomputing: Project BNSMIC with 100 million core-hours on HAWK at the High-Performance Computing Center Stuttgart

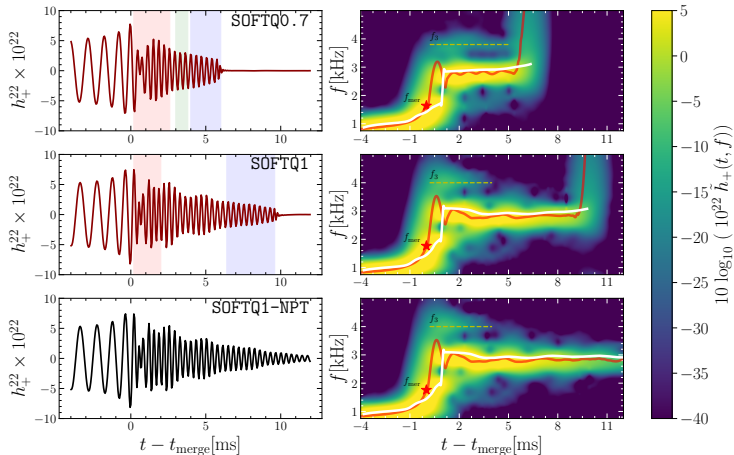
# Hot, Warm and Cold Quarks



[Tootle, Ecker, Topolski, Demircik, MJ, Rezzolla 2205.05691]



# Imprint on Gravitational Waves



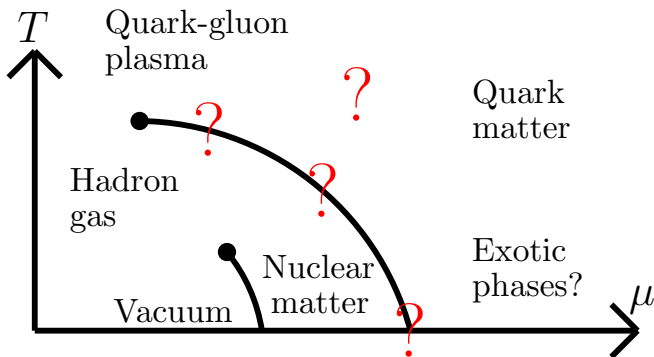
- ▶ Most significant signature of the phase transition: short lifetime of remnant
- ▶ Early collapse in tension with electromagnetic signal from GW170817  $\Rightarrow$  constrains the EoS – soft model disfavored

# Summary

- ▶ (Effective) holography, combined with other approaches, is useful to study dense QCD
- ▶ Using V-QCD, details work well:
  - ✓ Precise fit of lattice thermodynamics at  $\mu \approx 0$
  - ✓ Simultaneous model for nuclear and quark matter
  - ✓ Stiff EoS for nuclear matter
- ▶ A new holographic baryon solution
  - ▶ Coupled to the tachyon in a consistent IR model
- ▶ An EoS at finite temperature and density using V-QCD + other models
  - ▶ Input for merger simulations
- ▶ State-of-the-art binary neutron star merger simulations with our EoS
  - ▶ Production of hot, warm and cold quark matter
- ▶ Lots of future work, e.g. transport, domain walls

Thank you!

# The QCD phase diagram



Focus in this talk: phases at high density

- ▶ Nuclear matter: dense liquid of protons and neutrons – density  $\gtrsim$  density of large nuclei
- ▶ Quark matter: densely packed phase of free quarks and gluons

Laboratory experiments challenging ( $T_{QCD} \sim 10^{12}$  K), in particular at high density – lots of effort

- ▶ Recent and future progress: LHC, RHIC, FAIR, NICA, ...

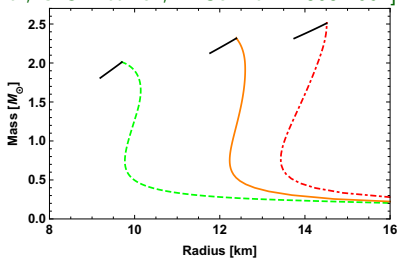
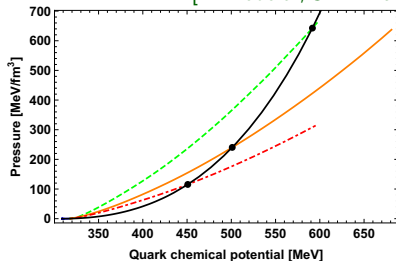
# Recent progress on dense holographic QCD

For **quark matter**, use D3-D7 top down model:  $\epsilon = 3p + \frac{\sqrt{3}m^2}{2\pi} \sqrt{p}$   
[Karch, O'Bannon, 0709.0570]

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM +  $N_f = 3$  probe hypermultiplets in the fundamental representation

For **nuclear matter** use with **stiff**, **intermediate**, and **soft** “extrapolations” of EFT results

[K. Hebeler, J. M. Lattimer, C. J. Pethick, A. Schwenk 1303.4662]



- ▶ Strong first order nuclear to quark matter transitions
- ▶ Neutron stars with “holographic” quark matter core (black curves) are unstable

Varying the quark mass  $m$  one can get quark stars and hybrid stars

[Annala, Ecker, Hoyos, Jokela, Rodriguez-Fernandez, Vuorinen 1711.06244]

- ▶ Sizeable deviations from universal I-Love-Q relations

[Yagi, Yunes, 1303.1528]

Including running of the quark mass + color superconductivity

[Bitaghsir Fadafan, Cruz Rojas, Evans, 1911.12705; 2009.14079]

- ▶ Possibility of an intermediate  $\chi$ SB deconfined phase
- ▶ Stiffer holographic equations of state (high speed of sound)
- ▶ Quark matter cores

Using Einstein-Maxwell-dilaton for quark matter

[Mamani, Flores, Zanchin, 2006.09401]

(Largish) quark stars also studied in Witten-Sakai-Sugimoto and in D4-D6 models

[Burikham, Hirunsirisawat, Pinkanjanarod, 1003.5470  
Kim, Shin, Lee, Wan, 1108.6139, 1404.3474]

This talk: towards more realistic model of quark matter?

# Constraining the potentials

In the UV ( $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ ):

- ▶ UV expansions of potentials matched with perturbative QCD beta functions  $\Rightarrow$  asymptotic freedom and logarithmic flow of the coupling and quark mass, as in QCD

[Gürsoy, Kiritsis 0707.1324; MJ, Kiritsis 1112.1261]

In the IR ( $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ): various qualitative constraints

- ▶ Linear confinement, discrete glueball & meson spectrum, linear radial trajectories
- ▶ Existence of a “good” IR singularity
- ▶ Correct behavior at large quark masses
- ▶ Working potentials often string-inspired power-laws, multiplied by logarithmic corrections (i.e, first guesses usually work!)

[Gürsoy, Kiritsis, Nitti 0707.1349; MJ, Kiritsis 1112.1261; Arean, Iatrakis, MJ, Kiritsis 1309.2286, 1609.08922; MJ 1501.07272]

Final task: determine the potentials in the middle,  $\lambda = \mathcal{O}(1)$

- ▶ Qualitative comparison to lattice/experimental data

## Ansatz for potentials, ( $x = 1$ )

$$V_g(\lambda) = 12 \left[ 1 + V_1 \lambda + \frac{V_2 \lambda^2}{1 + \lambda/\lambda_0} + V_{\text{IR}} e^{-\lambda_0/\lambda} (\lambda/\lambda_0)^{4/3} \sqrt{\log(1 + \lambda/\lambda_0)} \right]$$

$$V_{f0}(\lambda) = W_0 + W_1 \lambda + \frac{W_2 \lambda^2}{1 + \lambda/\lambda_0} + W_{\text{IR}} e^{-\lambda_0/\lambda} (\lambda/\lambda_0)^2$$

$$\frac{1}{w(\lambda)} = w_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{w_1 \lambda/\lambda_0}{1 + \lambda/\lambda_0} + \bar{w}_0 e^{-\lambda_0/\lambda w_s} \frac{(w_s \lambda/\lambda_0)^{4/3}}{\log(1 + w_s \lambda/\lambda_0)} \right]$$

$$V_1 = \frac{11}{27\pi^2}, \quad V_2 = \frac{4619}{46656\pi^4}$$

$$W_1 = \frac{8 + 3W_0}{9\pi^2}; \quad W_2 = \frac{6488 + 999W_0}{15552\pi^4}$$

Fixed UV/IR asymptotics  $\Rightarrow$  fit parameters only affect details in the middle



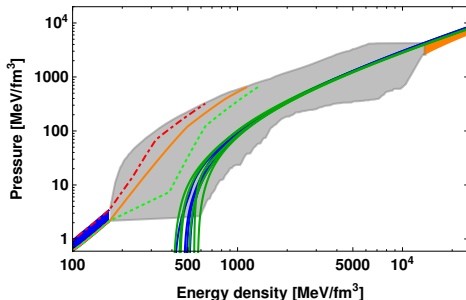
# Extrapolated EoSs of cold quark matter

The V-QCD cold quark matter result compares nicely to known constraints:

- ▶ Band of allowed equations of state (EoSs) (gray, polytropic interpolations)
- ▶ **Stiff**, **intermediate**, and **soft** nuclear EoSs

[Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick,  
Schwenk 1303.4662]

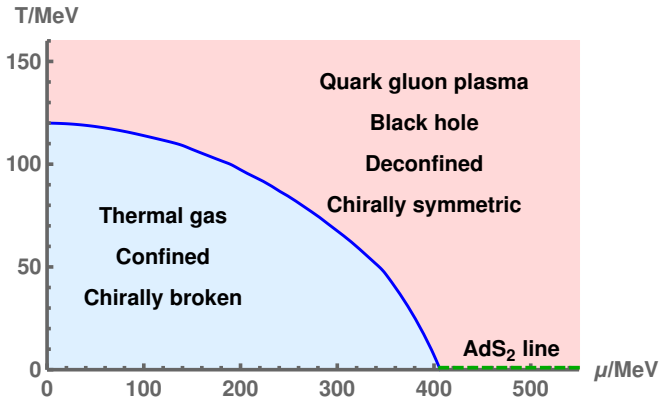
[MJ, Jokela, Remes, 1809.07770]



Approach similar in spirit to studies of the QCD critical point

[DeWolfe, Gubser, Rosen 1012.1864; Knaute, Yaresko, Kämpfer 1702.06731;  
Critelli, Noronha, Noronha-Hostler, Portillo, Ratti, Rougemont, 1706.00455;  
Cai, He, Li, Wang 2201.02004]

# Phase diagram with quark matter



- ▶ With quark matter only, expected phase diagram
- ▶ Cold QM equation of state (EoS) and location of the  $T = 0$  phase transition agree with constraints

# Homogeneous nuclear matter in V-QCD

Nuclear matter in the probe limit: consider full brane action

$S = S_{\text{DBI}} + S_{\text{CS}}$  where

[Bigazzi, Casero, Cotrone, Kiritsis, Paredes; Casero, Kiritsis, Paredes]

$$S_{\text{DBI}} = -\frac{1}{2} M^3 N_c \text{Tr} \int d^5x V_{f0}(\lambda) e^{-\tau^2} \left( \sqrt{-\det A^{(L)}} + \sqrt{-\det A^{(R)}} \right)$$
$$A_{MN}^{(L/R)} = g_{MN} + \delta_M^r \delta_N^r \kappa(\lambda) \tau'(r)^2 + \delta_{MN}^{rt} w(\lambda) \Phi'(r) + w(\lambda) F_{MN}^{(L/R)}$$

gives the dynamics of the solitons (will be expanded in  $F^{(L/R)}$ ) and

$$S_{\text{CS}} = \frac{N_c}{8\pi^2} \int \Phi(r) e^{-b\tau^2} dt \wedge \left( F^{(L)} \wedge F^{(L)} - F^{(R)} \wedge F^{(R)} + \dots \right)$$

sources the baryon number for the solitons

► Extra parameter,  $b > 1$ , to ensure regularity of solutions

Set  $N_f = 2$  and consider the **homogeneous** SU(2) Ansatz

[Rozali, Shieh, Van Raamsdonk, Wu 0708.1322]

$$A_L^i = -A_R^i = h(r) \sigma^i$$

[Ishii, MJ, Nijs, 1903.06169]

# Discontinuity and smeared instantons

With the homogeneous Ansatz  $A_i^a(r) = h(r)\delta_i^a$  baryon number vanishes for any smooth  $h(r)$ :

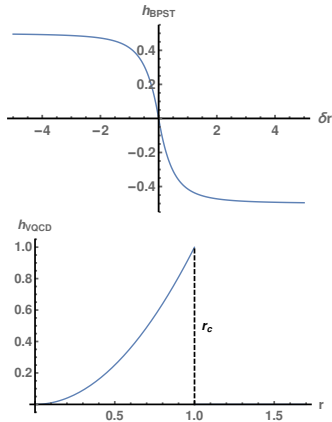
$$N_b \propto \int dr \frac{d}{dr} [\text{CS - term}] = 0$$

How can this issue be avoided?

- ▶ Smearing the BPST soliton in **singular Landau gauge**:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A_i^a \rangle &\sim \int \frac{d^3x \eta_{i4}^a \delta r}{(\delta r^2 + x^2 + \rho^2)(\delta r^2 + x^2)} \\ &\sim -\frac{\delta_i^a \delta r}{\sqrt{\delta r^2 + \rho^2} + |\delta r|} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ This suggests a solution: introduce a discontinuity in  $h(r)$  at  $r = r_c$
- ▶ The discontinuity sources nonzero baryon charge!



# Van der Waals model

Ideal gas of protons, neutrons and electrons with

- ▶ Excluded volume correction for nucleons

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\text{ex}}(T, \{\mu_i\}) &= p_{\text{id}}(T, \{\tilde{\mu}_i\}) \\ \tilde{\mu}_i &= \mu_i - v_0 p_{\text{ex}}(T, \{\mu_i\}) \quad (i = p, n) \end{aligned}$$

$v_0 \sim$  volume of one nucleon

- ▶ (Mostly) attractive potential term to match with (APR and V-QCD at  $T = 0$ )

$$p_{\text{vdW}}(T, \{\mu_i\}) = p_{\text{ex}}(T, \{\mu_i\}) + \Delta p(\{\mu_i\})$$

schematically:

$$\Delta p(\{\mu_i\}) = p_{\text{V-QCD}}(T = 0, \{\mu_i\}) - p_{\text{ex}}(T = 0, \{\mu_i\})$$

[Rischke, Gorenstein, Stoecker, Greiner, Z Phys. C 51, 485 (1991)]

[Vovchenko, Gorenstein, Stoecker, 1609.03975]

[Vovchenko, Motornenko, Alba, Gorenstein, Satarov, Stoecker, 1707.09215]

# Hempel-Schaffner-Bielich DD2 model

A widely used general purpose model for the EoS

- ▶ Parameters: temperature, density, charge fraction  $Y_q$

Combines two approaches (in thermodynamically consistent way):

- ▶ For  $n < n_s$ , statistical method with excluded volume corrections and interactions, including light and heavy nuclei

[Hempel, Schaffner-Bielich, 0911.4073]

- ▶ For  $n > n_s$ , relativistic mean field theory of nucleons interacting with  $\sigma$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $\omega$  mesons (DD2)

[Typel, Ropke, Klahn, Blaschke, Wolter, 0908.2344]

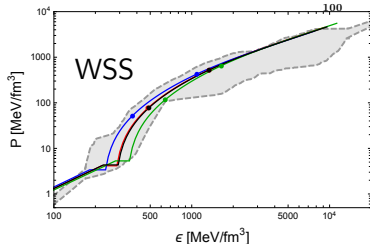
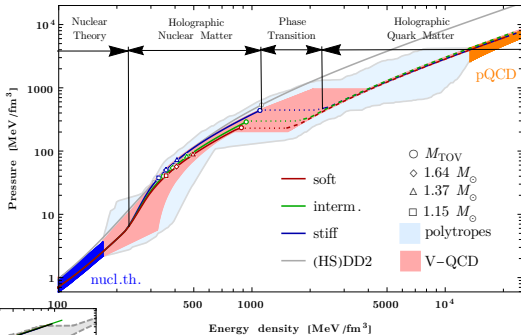
# Results: Cold Hybrid Equations of State

- ▶ Variations in model parameters give rise to the band
- ▶ Same (holographic) model for dense nuclear and quark matter phases!

Without and  
with holography

[Ecker, MJ, Nijs, van der  
Schee 1908.03213]

[Jokela, MJ, Nijs, Remes  
2006.01141]

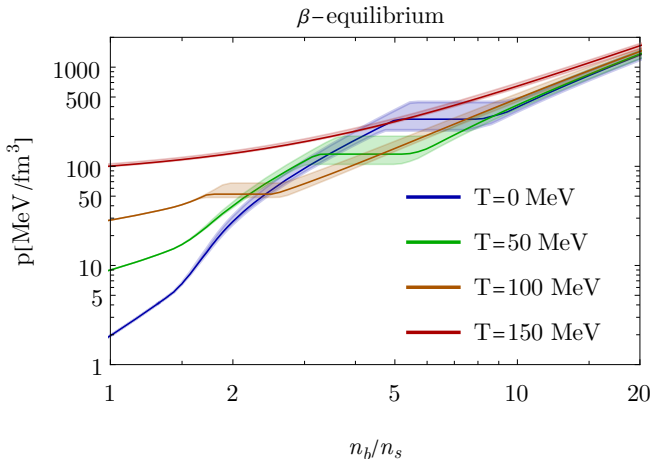


WSS with isospin asymmetry and  
holographic crust region

- ▶ Similar EoS for dense  
nuclear matter as V-QCD!

[Kovensky, Poole, Schmitt  
2111.03374]

# Results: EoS at Finite $T$



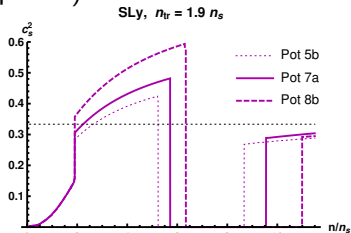
- ▶ Bands: variation of the V-QCD model (soft/intermediate/stiff)
- ▶ With increasing  $T$ , weaker transition at lower pressure

[Demircik, Ecker, MJ 2112.12157]

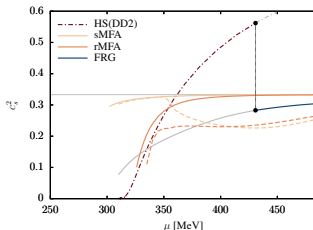
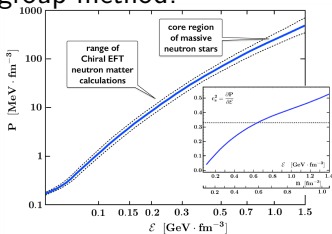


# Speed of sound and comparison to FRG

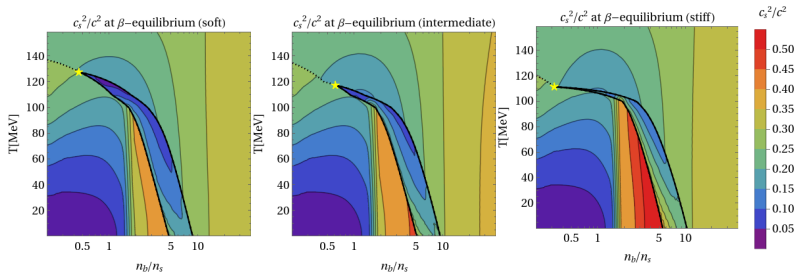
Speed of sound (squared) as a function of density



- ▶ Relatively mild dependence on model parameters
- ▶ Similar predictions as with the functional renormalization group method!

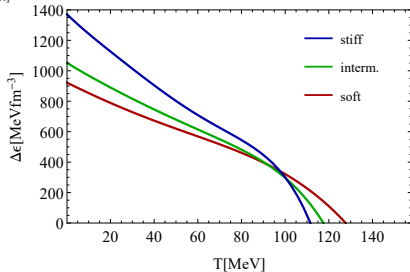


# Results: critical point



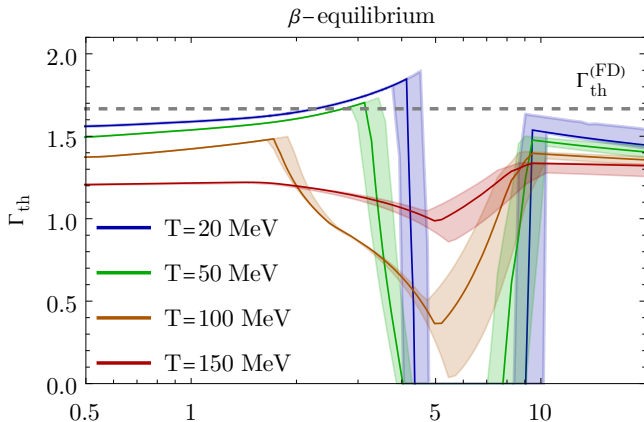
$$110 \text{ MeV} \lesssim T_c \lesssim 130 \text{ MeV}$$

$$0.3n_s \lesssim n_c \lesssim 0.6n_s$$



Critical point is determined by fitting the latent heat in the region of strong phase transition and extrapolating

# Results: thermal index



$$\Gamma_{\text{th}}(n_b, T) = 1 + \frac{\rho(n_b, T) - \rho(n_b, 0)}{e(n_b, T) - e(n_b, 0)}$$

- ▶ Values in expected range
- ▶ Low values in the mixed phase

# Rapidly spinning holographic neutron stars

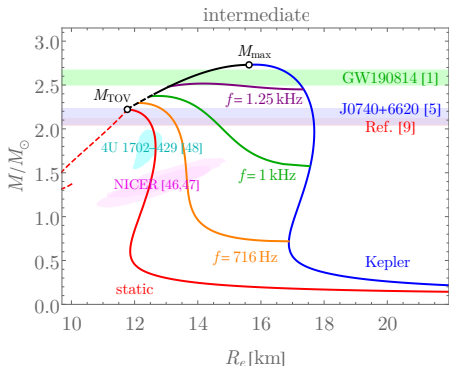
GW190814: LIGO/Virgo observed a merger of a  $23M_{\odot}$  black hole with a  $2.6M_{\odot}$  compact object

[2006.12611]

►  $2.6M_{\odot}$  falls in the “gap”: a black hole or a neutron star?

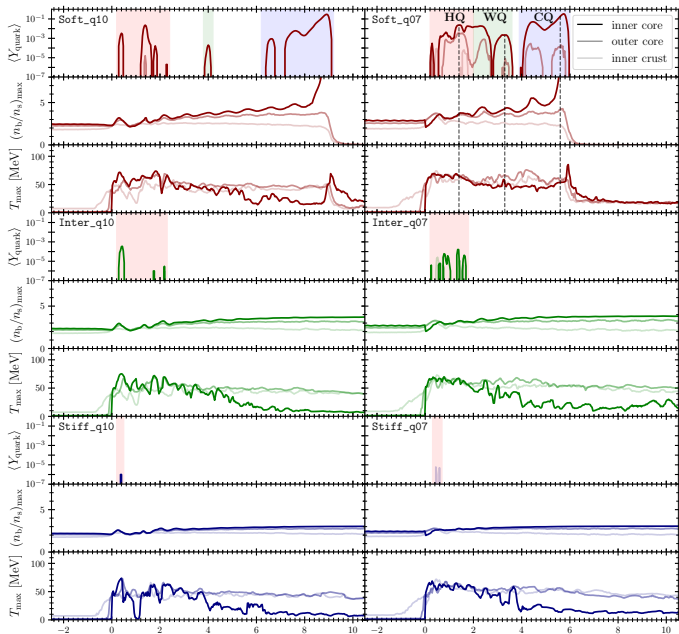
► Holographic EoSs easily compatible with the neutron star interpretation

► However requires **fast rotation**,  $f \gtrsim 1$  kHz



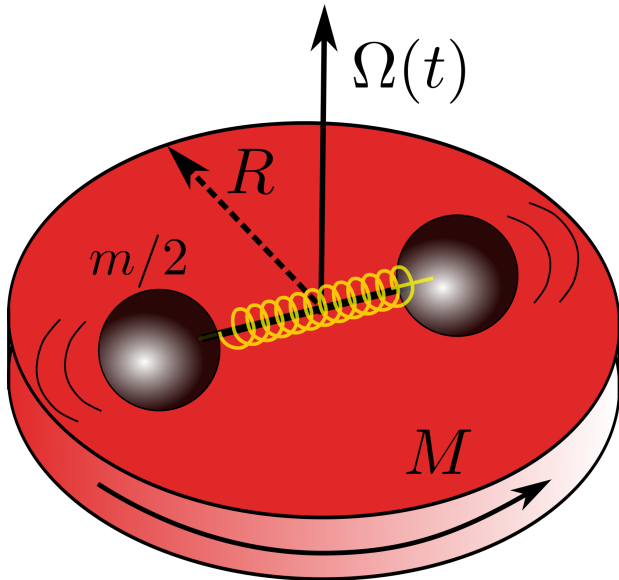
[Demircik, Ecker, MJ, 2009.10731]

# Details on quark formation



back

# Mechanical Toy Model



[Takami, Rezzolla, Baiotti 1412.3240]