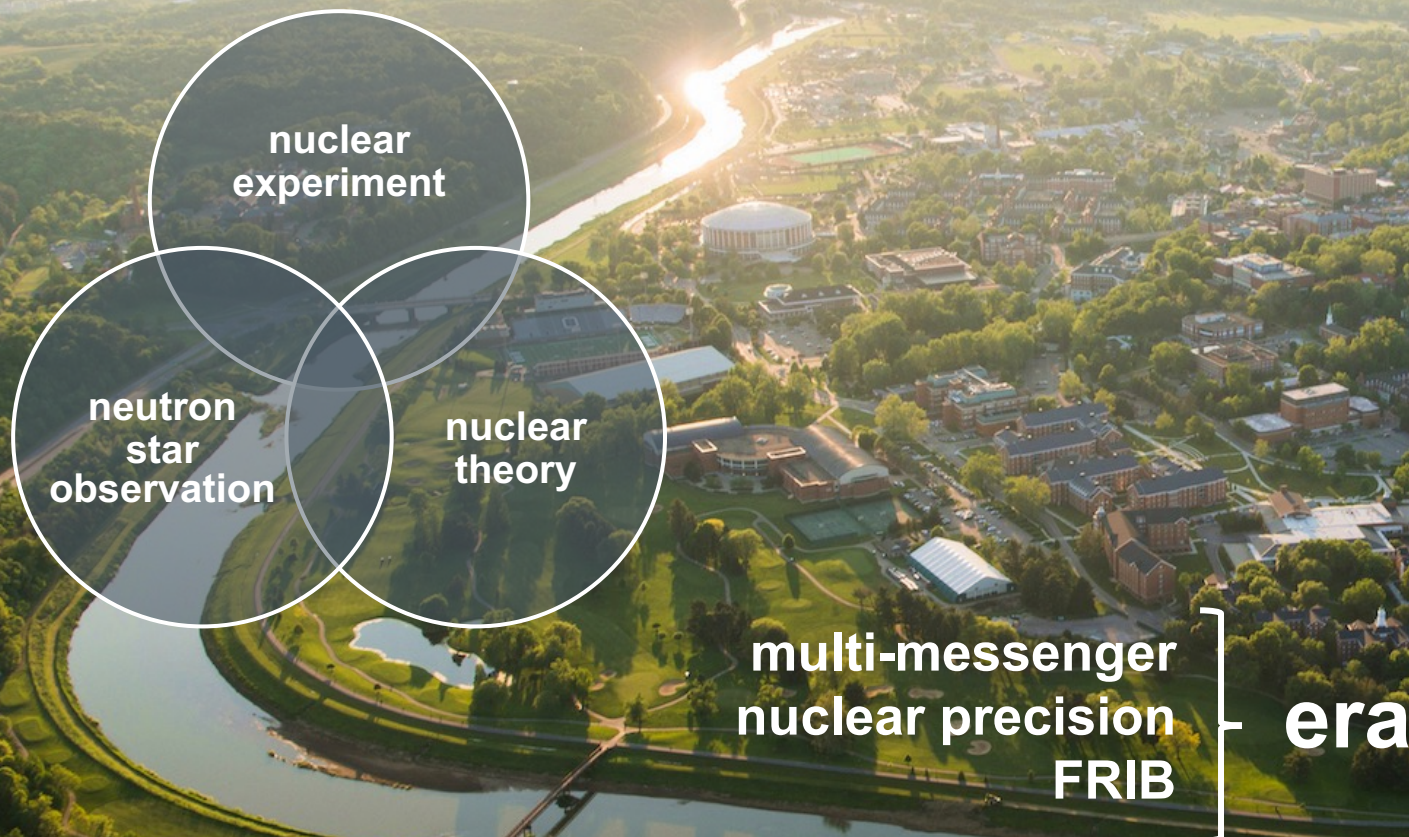
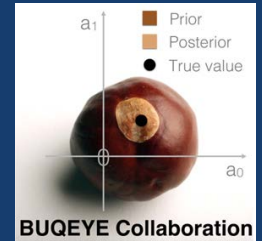


# How well do we know the nuclear saturation point? Insights from EFT & DFT with Bayesian UQ

Christian Drischler (drischler@ohio.edu)

INT Workshop INT-22r-2a: Neutron-Rich Matter on Heaven and Earth

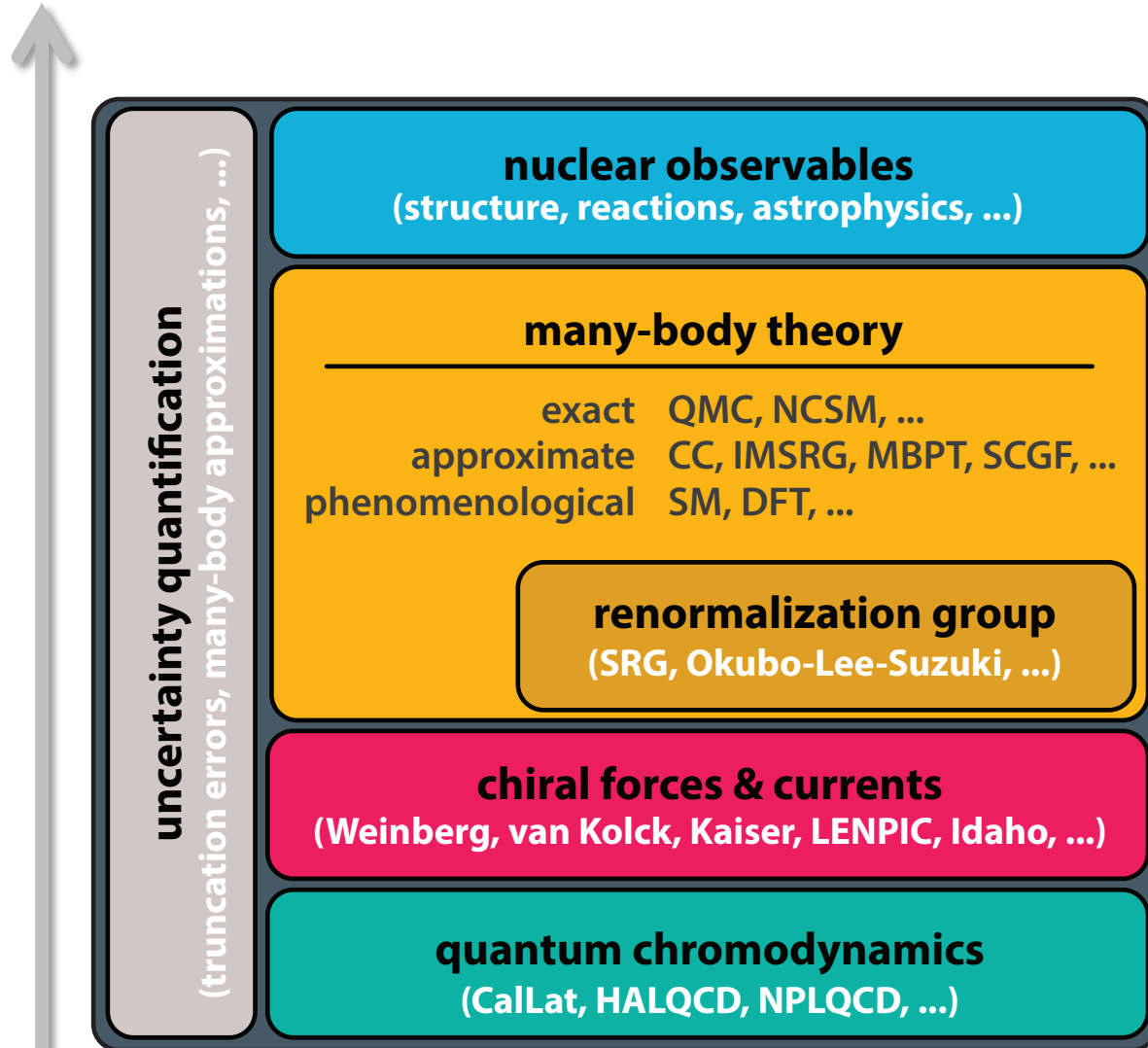
June 30, 2023



Ohio University Campus

## Keywords:

- chiral **effective field theory**
- *microscopic* many-body **calculations of the EOS**
- EFT-based UQ
- *predicted vs. empirical* nuclear saturation point
- **density functional theory**



CD & Bogner, Few Body Syst. **62**, 109

**Here: nuclear equation of state (EOS)**  
energy per particle (and related quantities)

**See also Rahul Somasundaram's talk (QMC):**  
*Constraining the neutron star equation of state from gravitational wave detections*

**Here: many-body perturbation theory (MBPT)**  
automated, computationally efficient method  
allows to estimate many-body uncertainties

Widely applicable:

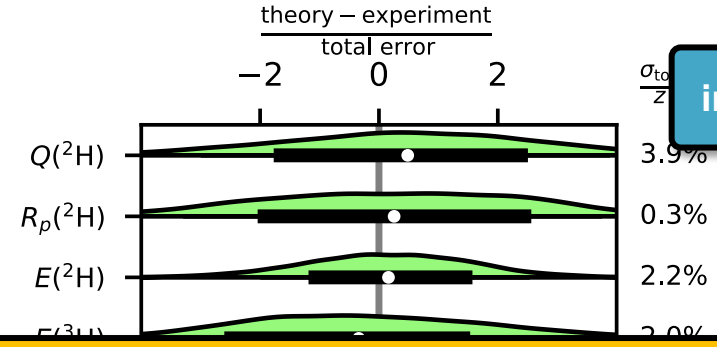
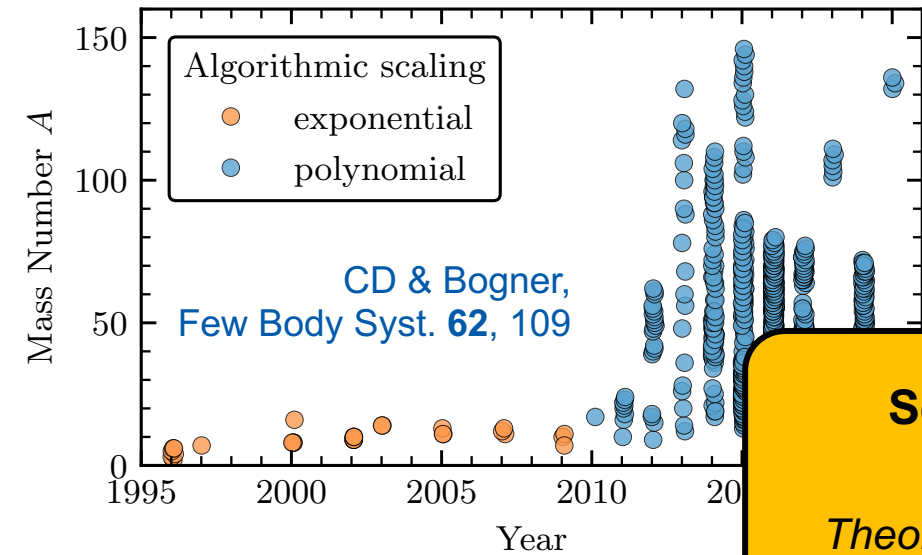
- ✓ arbitrary proton fractions
- ✓ finite temperature
- ✓ optical potentials, linear response, nuclei, ...

Other frameworks include **quantum Monte Carlo**,  
coupled cluster, and self-consistent Green's functions

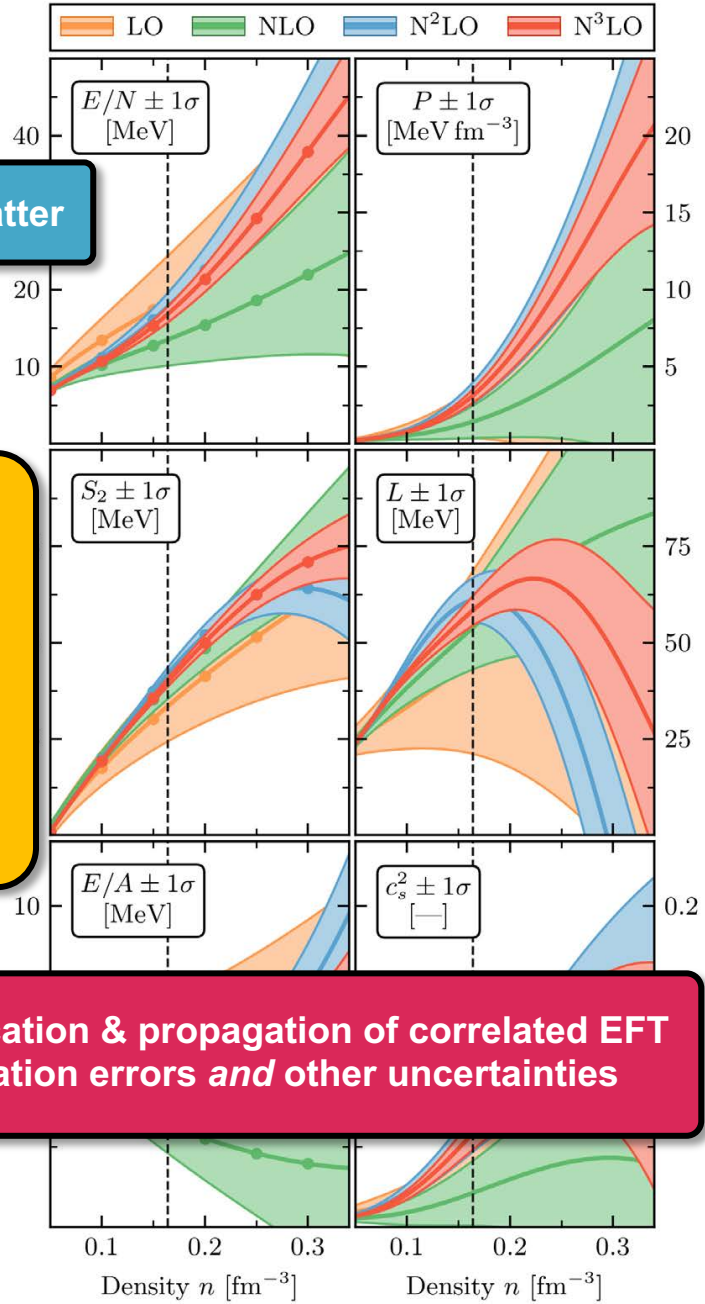
CD, Haxton, McElvain, Mereghetti *et al.*, PPNP **121**, 103888



# Major process: CEFT, many-body theory, and UQ!



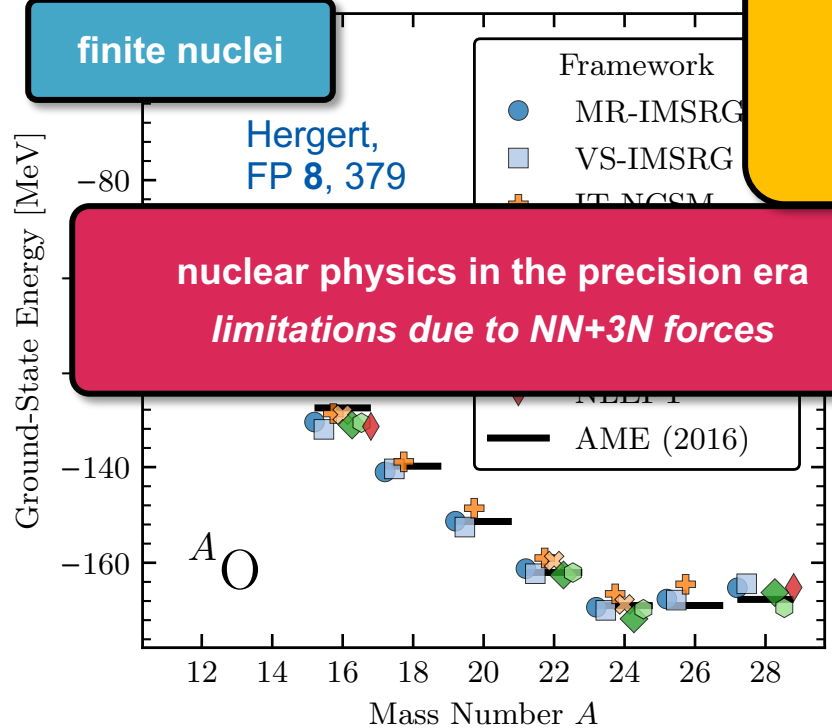
infinite matter



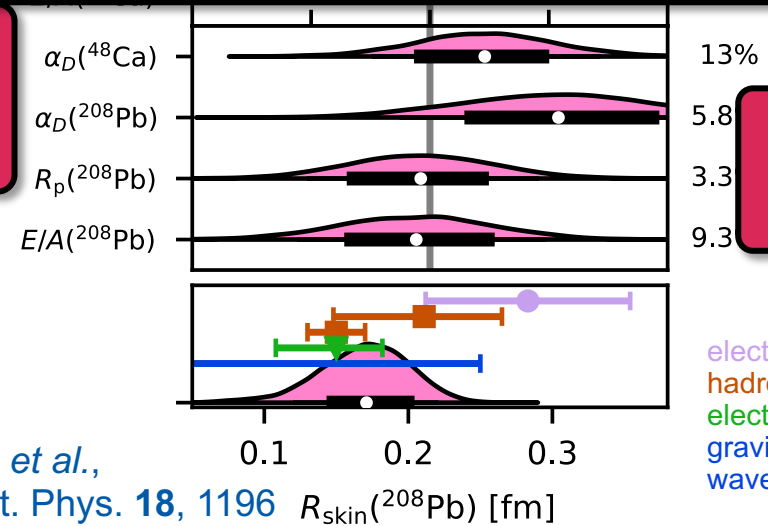
See also overview talks at [Neutron Rich Matter on Heaven and Earth \(Part I\)](#)

Theoretical advances and uncertainty quantification of neutron star properties ([CD's talk](#))

Equation of state developments for nuclear matter ([Achim Schwenk's talk](#))



nuclear physics in the precision era  
limitations due to NN+3N forces



quantification & propagation of correlated EFT truncation errors and other uncertainties

electroweak  
hadronic  
electromagnetic  
gravitational waves

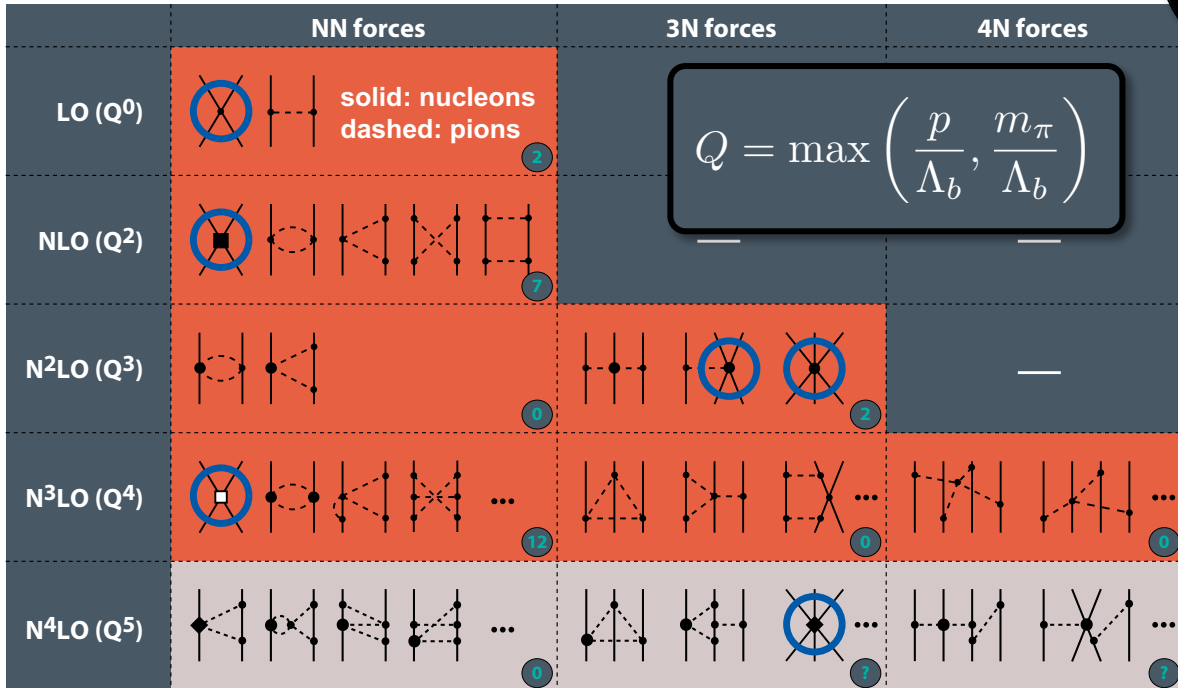
Hu *et al.*, *Nat. Phys.* **18**, 1196

CD, Furnstahl, Melendez, Phillips, *PRL* **125**, 202702

# Chiral nuclear forces

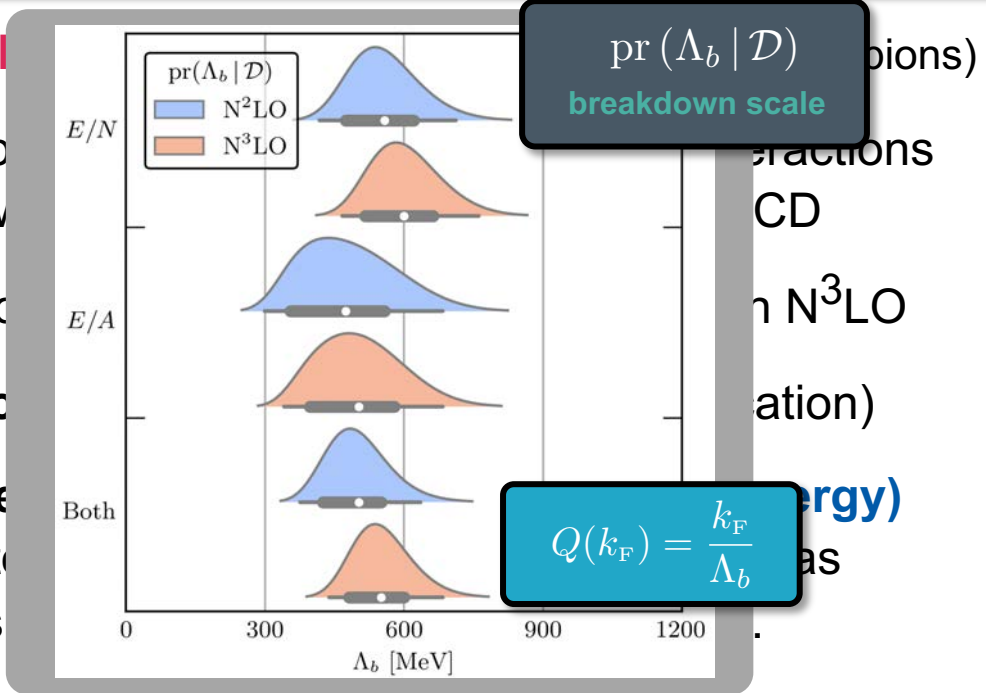


CD, Furnstahl, Melendez,  
Phillips, PRL 125, 202702



$$Q = \max\left(\frac{p}{\Lambda_b}, \frac{m_\pi}{\Lambda_b}\right)$$

dominant ap  
consistent w  
three- and fo  
enables unc  
parameter e  
couplings to  
phase shifts



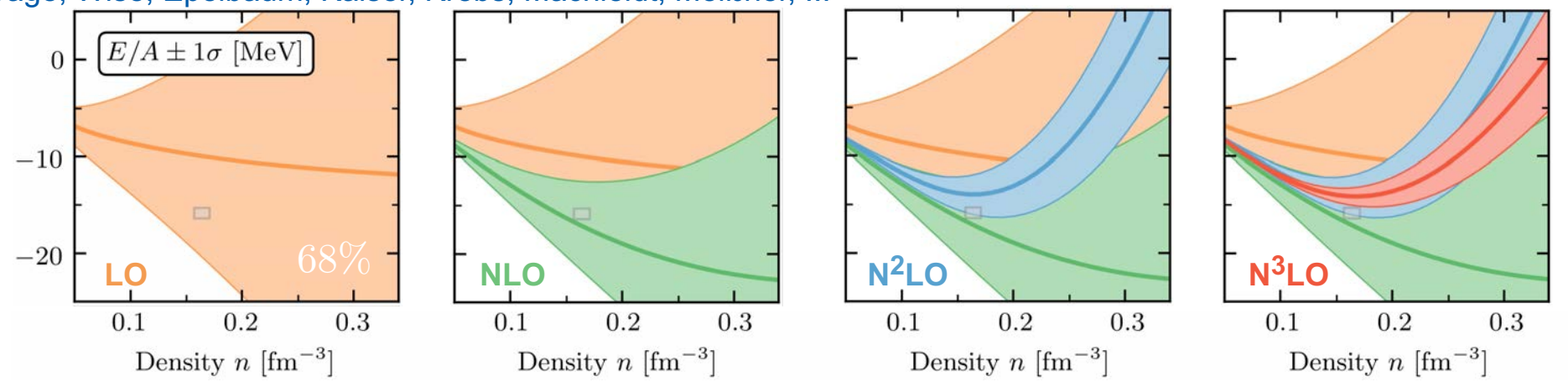
Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Krebs, Machleidt, Meißner, ...

An example:  
symmetric matter

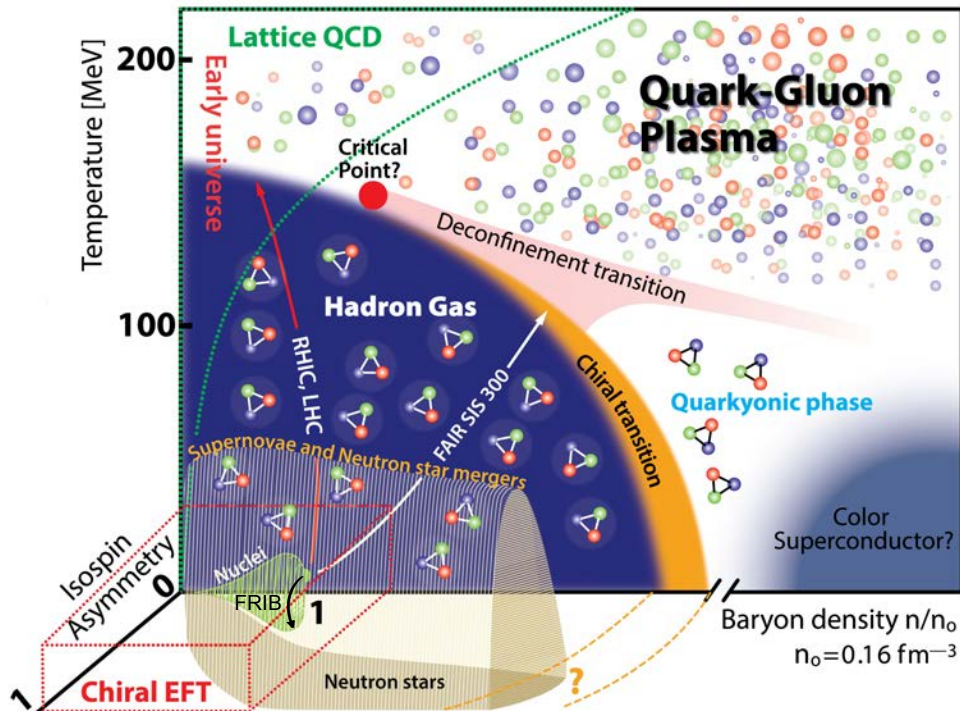
$$y = \frac{E}{A}, \quad k = 4 \quad (\text{N}^3\text{LO})$$

Uncertainty bands depict  
68% credibility regions

$$y = y_k + \delta y_k$$







## Chiral Effective Field Theory and the High-Density Nuclear Equation of State

Annual Review of Nuclear and Particle Science

Vol. 71:403-432 (Volume publication date September 2021)

First published as a Review in Advance on July 6, 2021

<https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-nucl-102419-041903>



C. Drischler,<sup>1,2,3</sup> J.W. Holt,<sup>4</sup> and C. Wellenhofer<sup>5,6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

<sup>2</sup>Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

<sup>3</sup>Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA; email: [drischler@frib.msu.edu](mailto:drischler@frib.msu.edu)

<sup>4</sup>Cyclotron Institute and Department of Physics and Astronomy, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843, USA

<sup>5</sup>Institut für Kernphysik, Technische Universität Darmstadt, 64289 Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>6</sup>ExtreMe Matter Institute EMMI, GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH, 64291 Darmstadt, Germany

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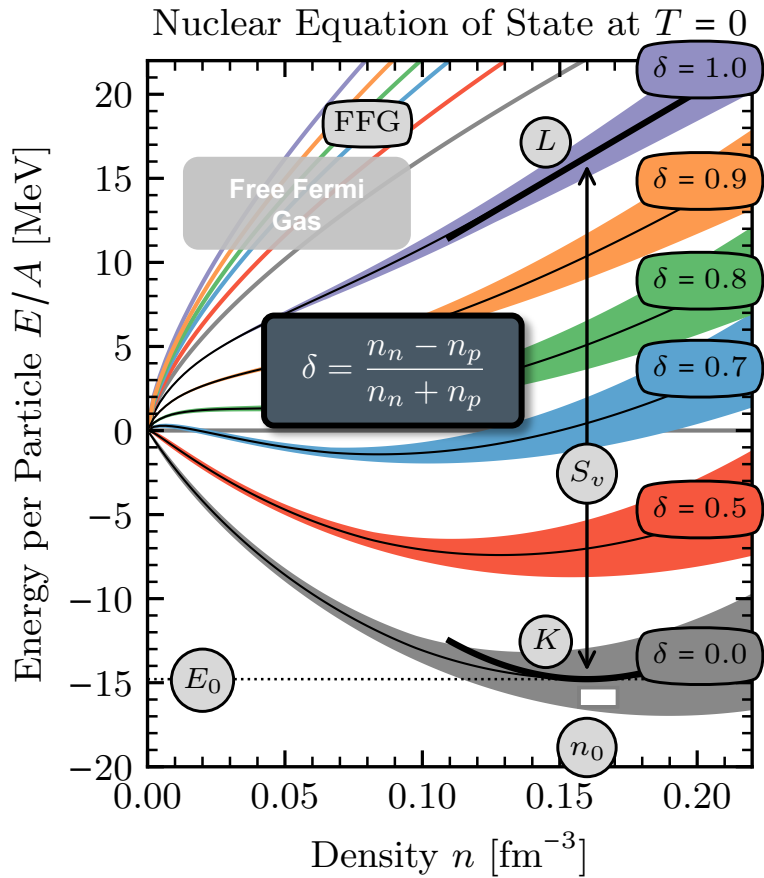
### Keywords:

Chiral EFT | neutron stars | MBPT  
nuclear matter at zero and finite temperature  
Bayesian uncertainty quantification  
recent neutron star observations

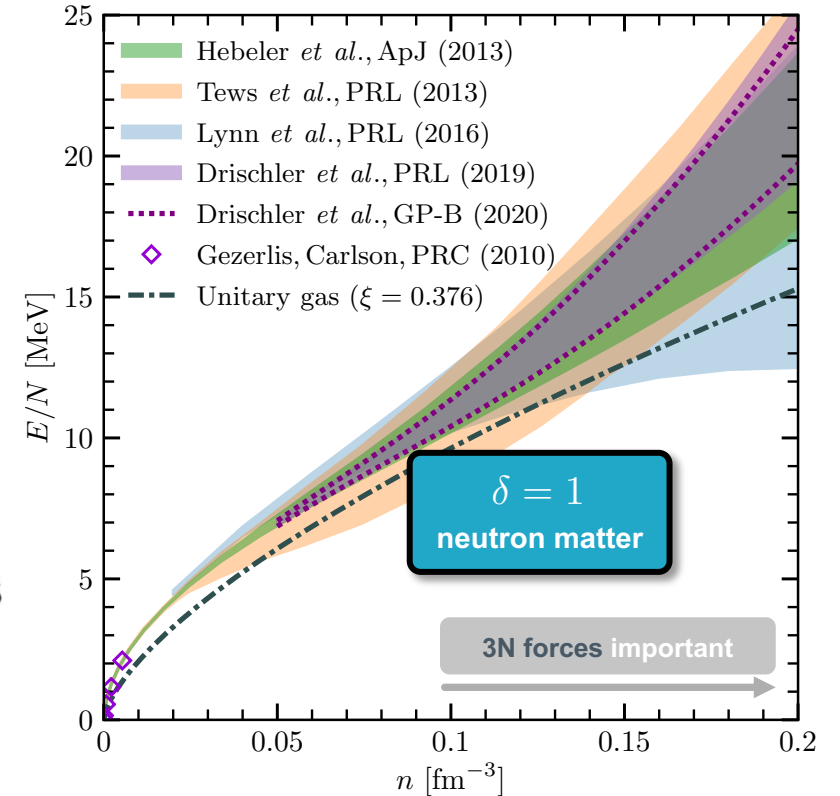
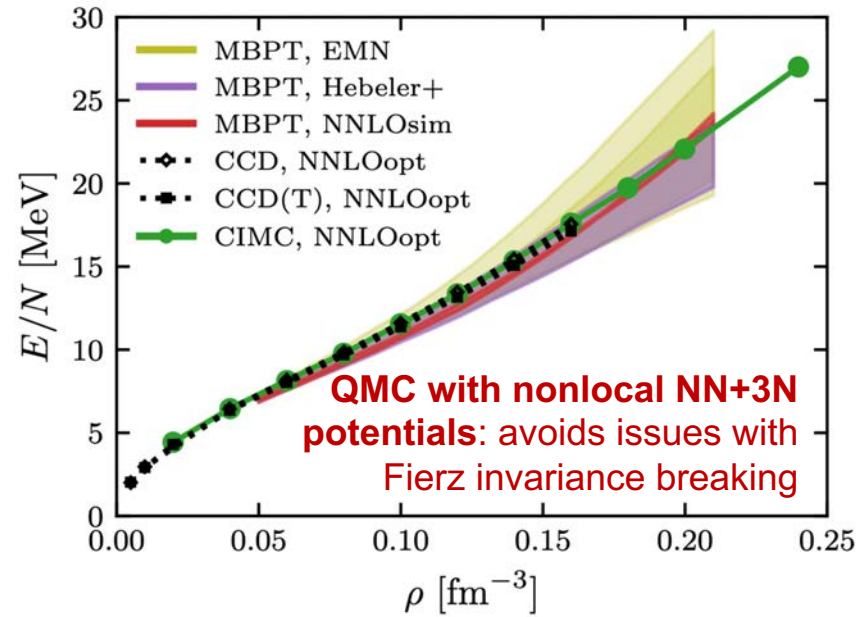
see also in the same journal:  
James Lattimer, *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* **71**, 433

Open Access

# Isospin asymmetric nuclear matter



CD, Holt, and Wellenhofer, *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* **71**, 403



Huth *et al.*, *PRC* **103**, 025803

saturation point: **fine-tuned cancellation**

betw  
cont

See also Marc Salinas's talk:  
*Bayesian Refinement of RMF Models*

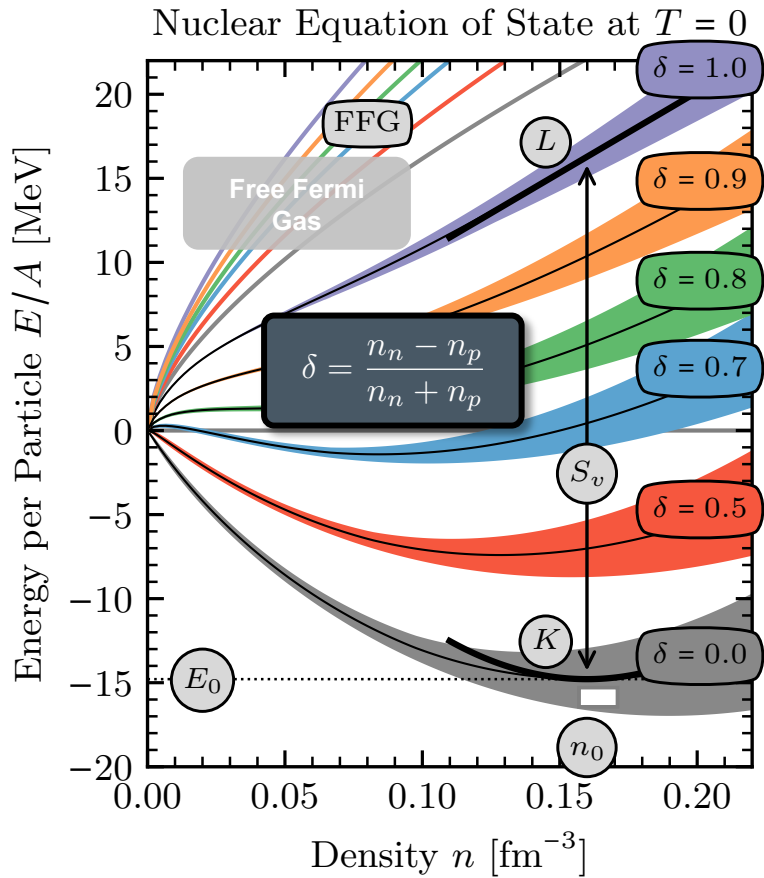
CD, H...  
Ekström *et al.*, *PRC* **97**, 024332; Atkinson *et al.*, *PRC* **102**, 044333; and many more

Simonis, Stroberg *et al.*, *PRC* **96**, 014303;

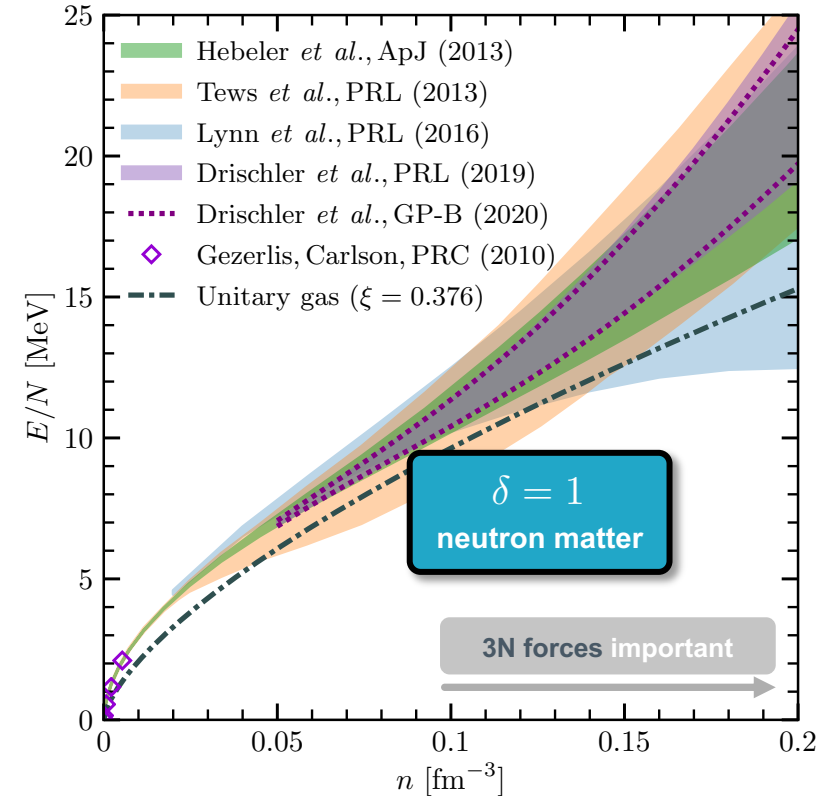
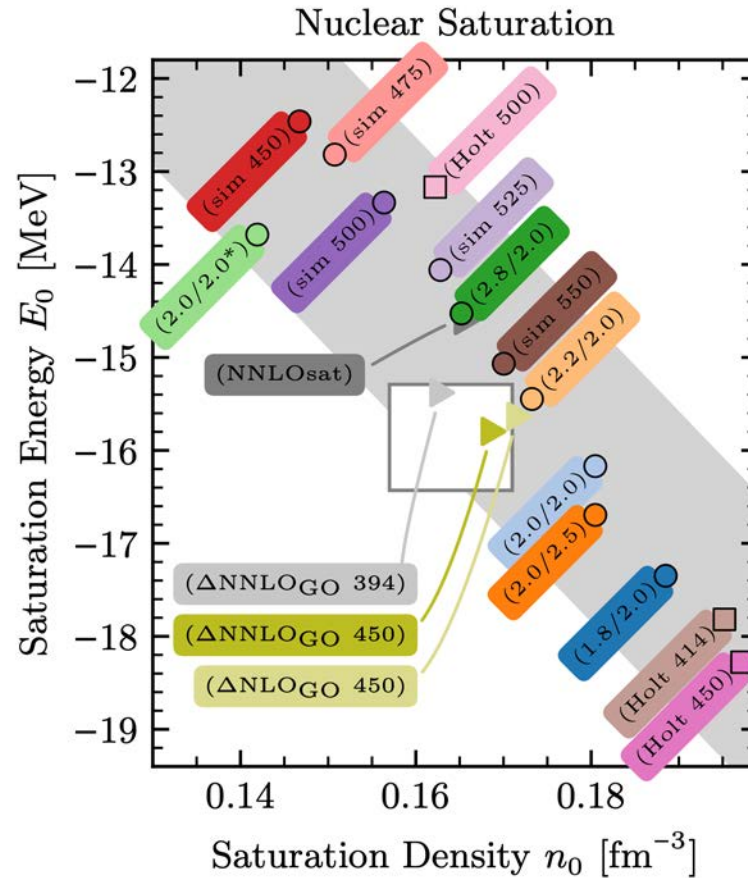
neutron matter below saturation density is **well-constrained** by NN scattering phase shifts

see also Configuration-Interaction Monte Carlo, Arthuis *et al.*, arXiv:2203.16167

# Isospin asymmetric nuclear matter



CD, Holt, and Wellenhofer, *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* **71**, 403



Huth *et al.*, *PRC* **103**, 025803

saturation point: **fine-tuned cancellation** empirical constraints provide **important** constraints of chiral interactions, esp. 3NF ( $\lambda / \Lambda_{3N}$ ) in  $\text{fm}^{-1}$  or ( $\Lambda$ ) in MeV

**See also Marc Salinas's talk:**  
*Bayesian Refinement of RMF Models*

CD, H... Ekström *et al.*, *PRC* **97**, 024332; Atkinson *et al.*, *PRC* **102**, 044333; and many more

Simonis, Stroberg *et al.*, *PRC* **96**, 014303;

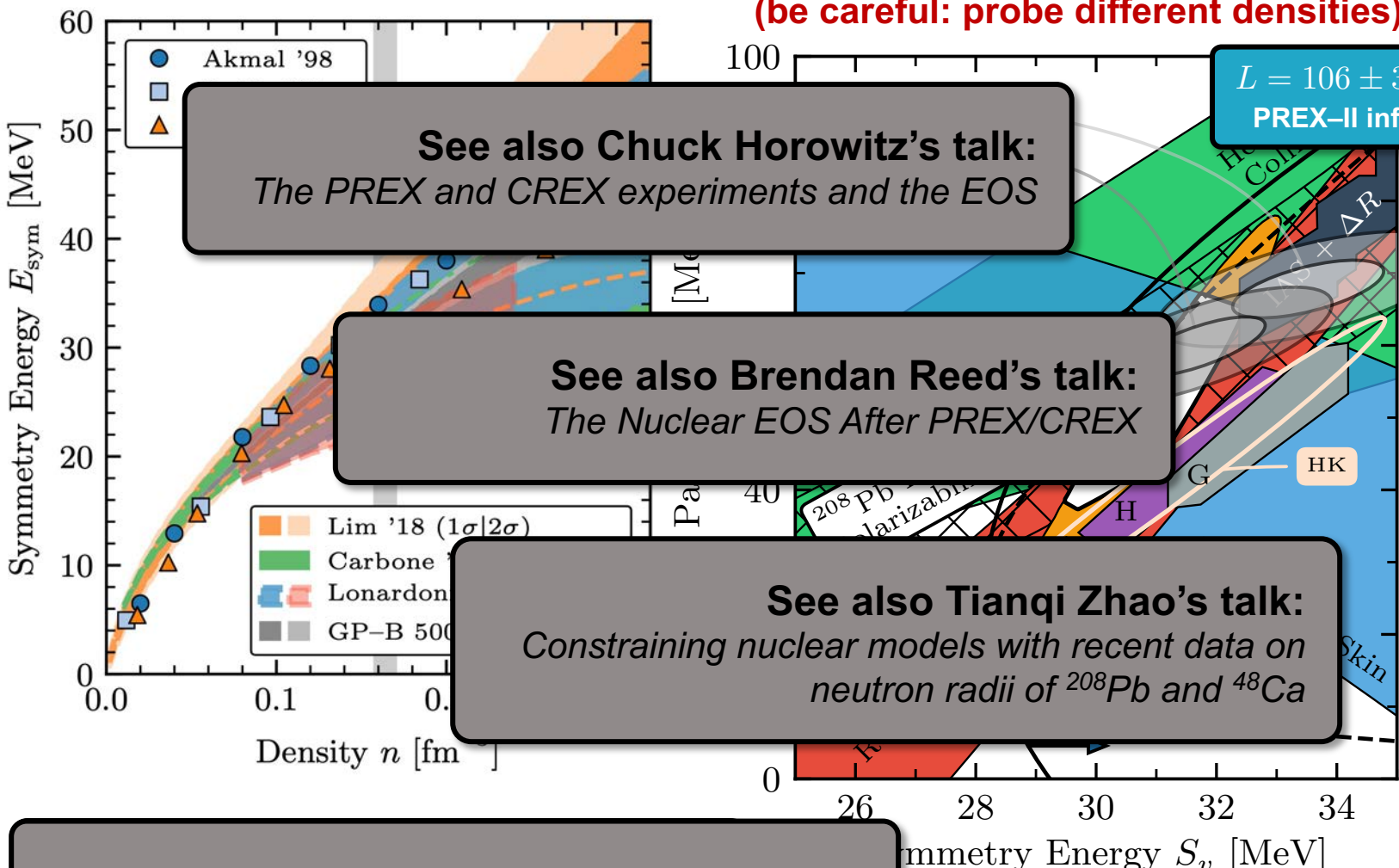
**neutron matter** below saturation density is **well-constrained** by NN scattering phase shifts

see also Configuration-Interaction Monte Carlo, Arhuis *et al.*, arXiv:2203.16167



# Nuclear symmetry energy

agreement between various constraints  
(be careful: probe different densities)



See also Chuck Horowitz's talk:  
*The PREX and CREX experiments and the EOS*

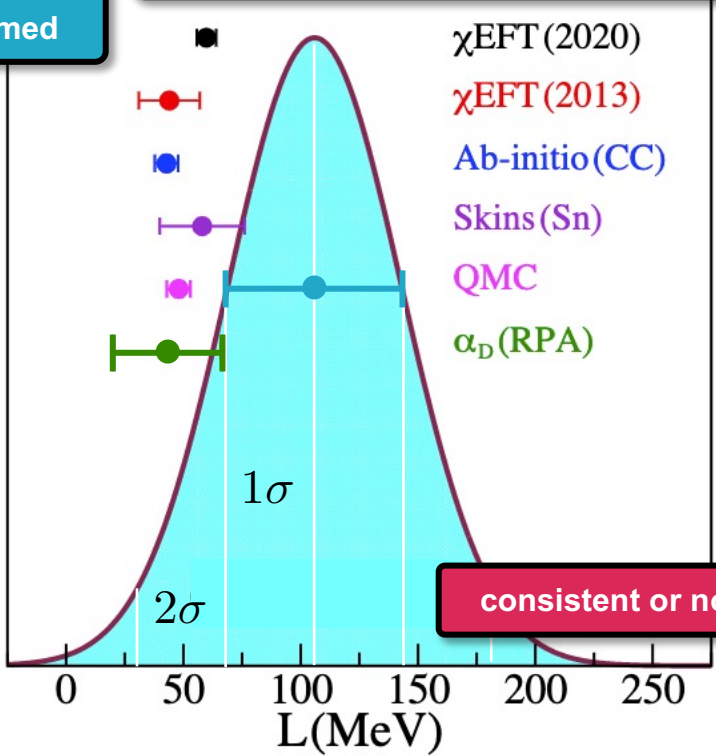
See also Brendan Reed's talk:  
*The Nuclear EOS After PREX/CREX*

See also Tianqi Zhao's talk:  
*Constraining nuclear models with recent data on neutron radii of <sup>208</sup>Pb and <sup>48</sup>Ca*

See also David Tsang's talk:  
*Probing nuclear physics with neutron star mergers*

$L = 106 \pm 37$  MeV  
PREX-II informed

$$S_2(n) \equiv S_v + \frac{L}{3} \left( \frac{n - n_0}{n_0} \right) + \dots$$



Reinhard *et al.*, PRL **127**, 232501  
Reed, Fattoyev *et al.*, PRL **126**, 172503  
Piekarewicz, PRC **104**, 024329

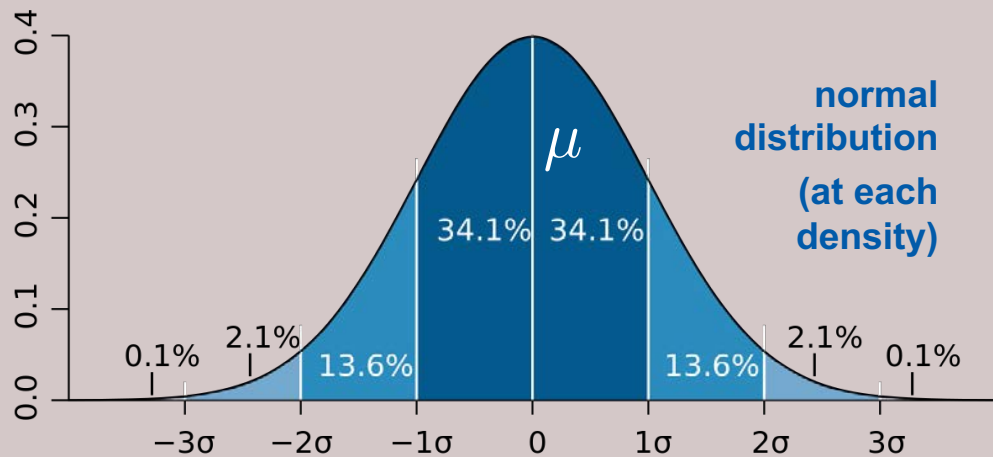
Neutron skin constraints with  $\pm 0.03$  fm or better are needed: **MREX @ MESA (~2030)**

*et al.*, ARNPS **71**, 403  
*er & Lim*, APJ **771**, 51



# Why correlations are important: symmetry energy

Reminder: Statistics 101



$$S_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{S_2}, \sigma_{S_2}^2)$$

$$\mu_{S_2} = \mu_{\text{PNM}} - \mu_{\text{SNM}}$$

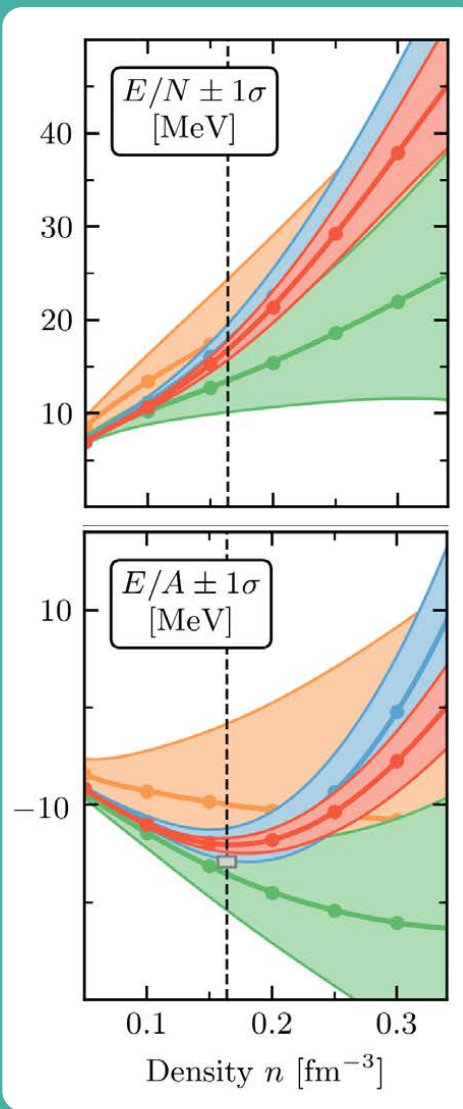
$$\sigma_{S_2}^2 = \sigma_{\text{PNM}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{SNM}}^2$$

$$- 2\sigma_{\text{PNM}}\sigma_{\text{SNM}}\rho$$

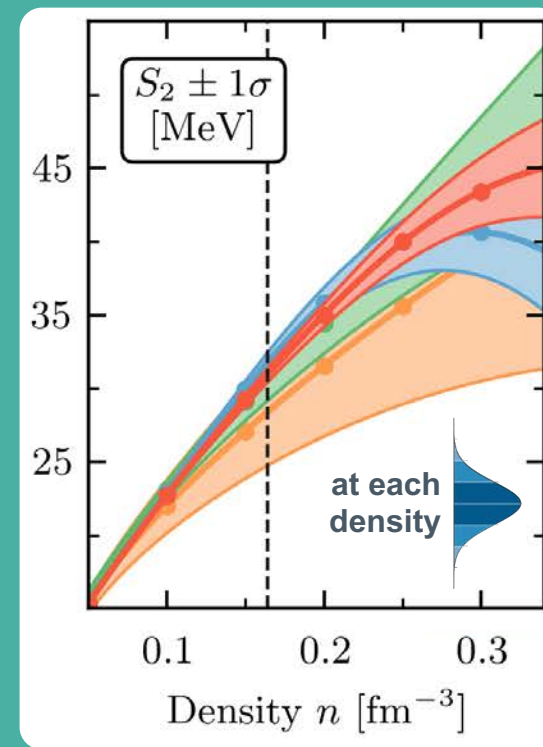
correlation coefficient  $-1 \leq \rho \leq +1$

may result in smaller uncertainties than one might *naively* expect

difference



$$S_2(n) \approx \frac{E}{N}(n) - \frac{E}{A}(n)$$



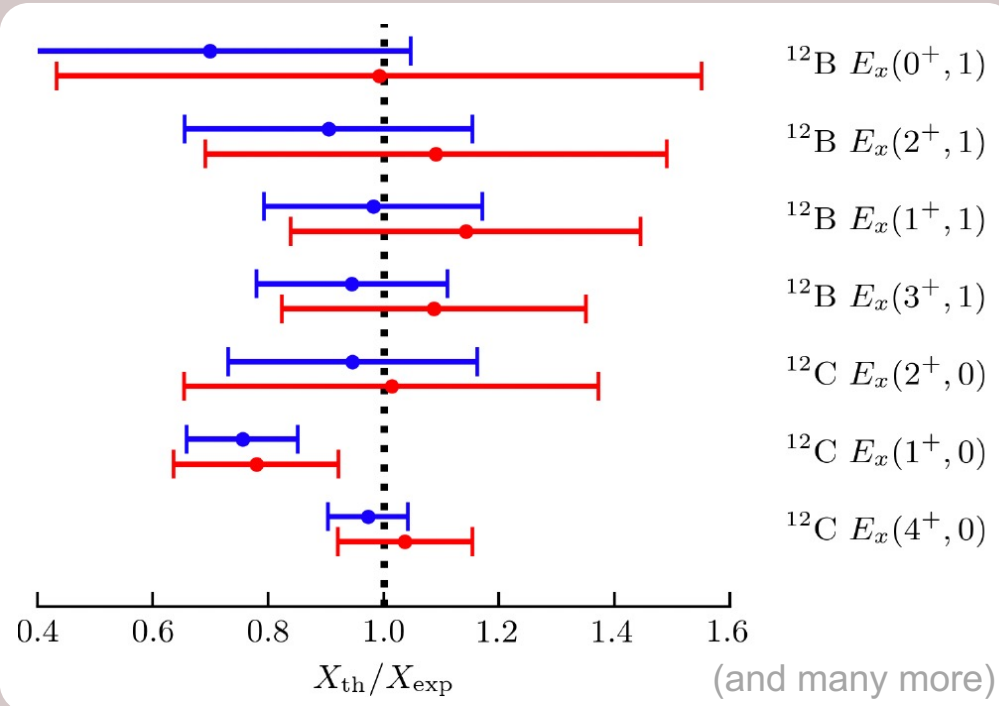
$$E/A \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

symmetry energy | multi-task GPs

# Why correlations are important: symmetry energy

$$S_2(n) \approx \frac{E}{N}(n) - \frac{E}{A}(n)$$

Similar idea: excitation energies in light nuclei

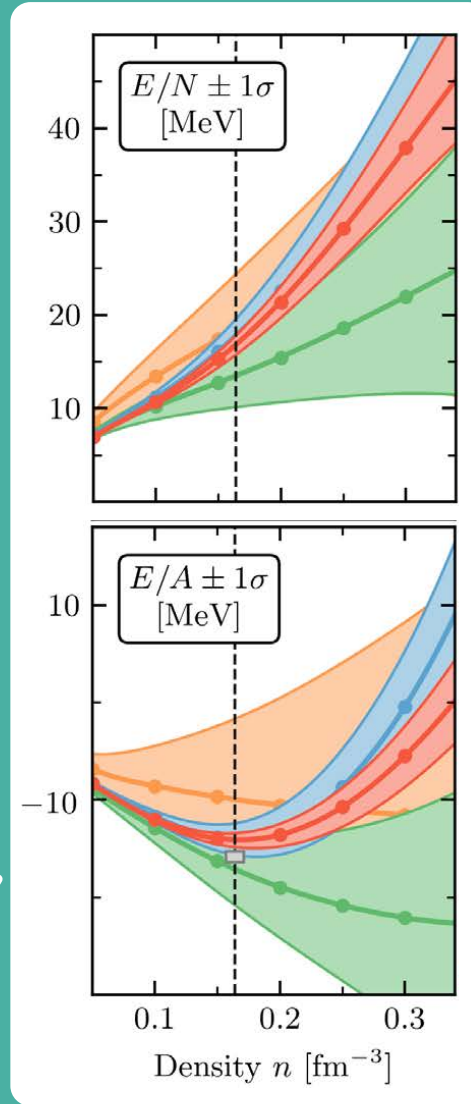


Correlated EFT truncation errors are **2 to 3x smaller** than when summed in quadrature

LENPIC, PRC **103**, 054001; PRC **106**, 064002

**How can we exploit correlations? Are there observables we have not looked at?**

difference

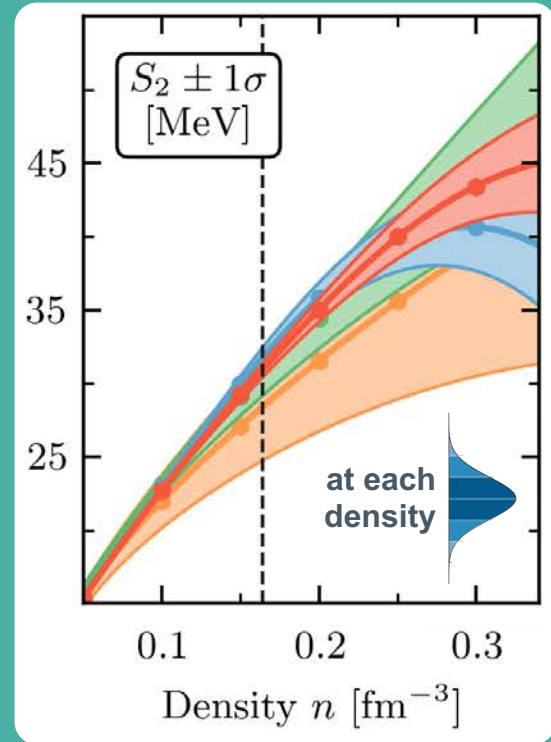


at each density

at each density

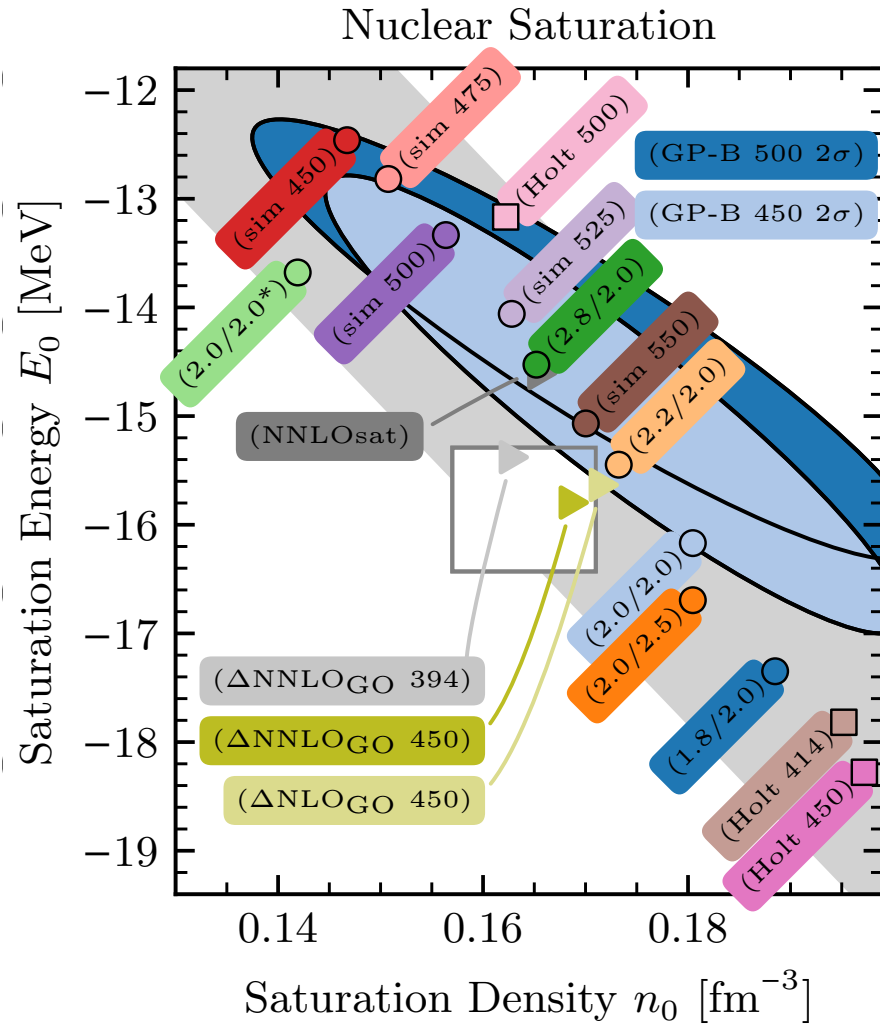
$$E/A \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

symmetry energy | multi-task GPs





# Empirical saturation box (overview)

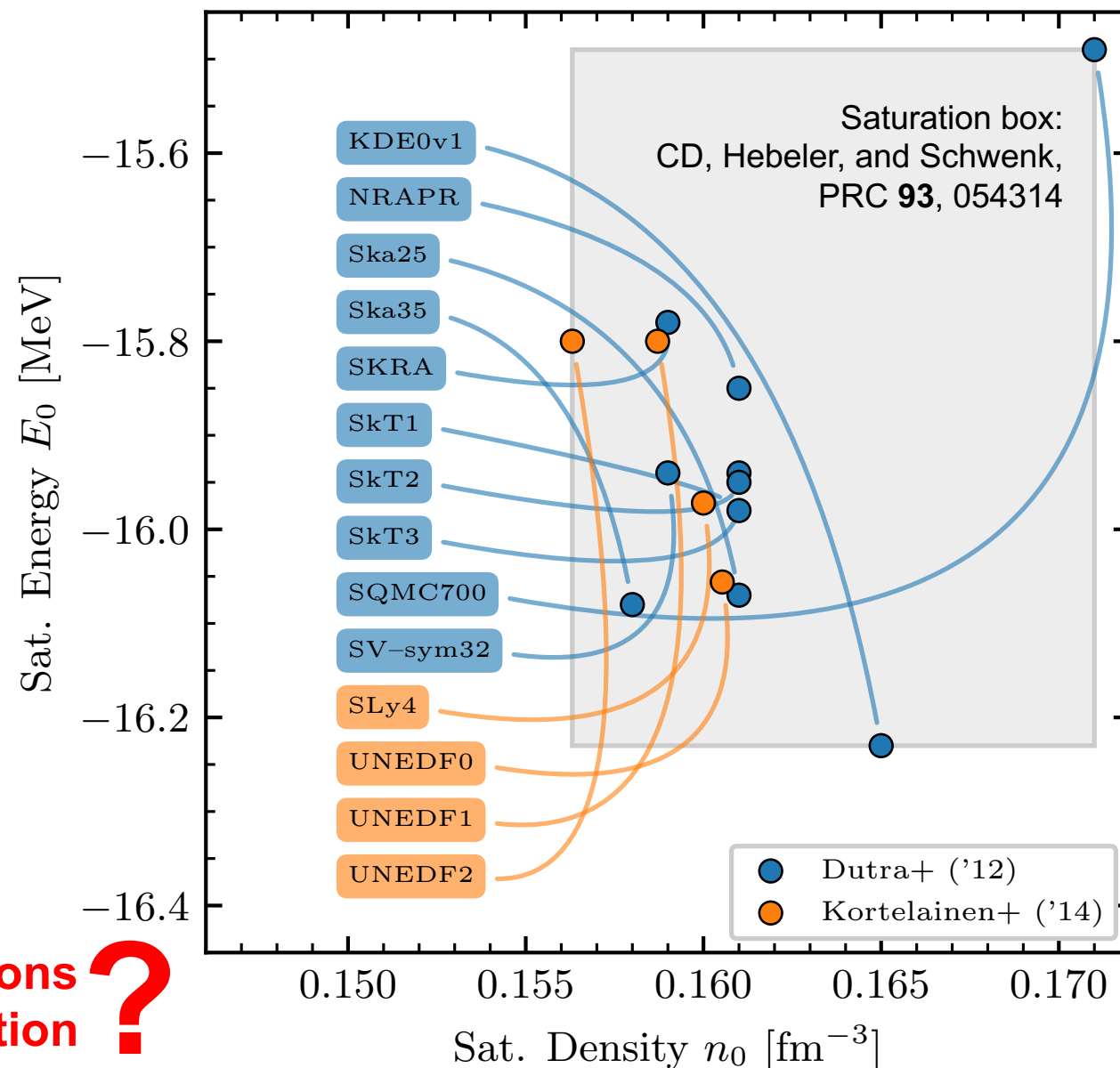


## Empirical saturation box (2016):

- based on 14 (out of 240+) functionals that reproduce well selected nuclear properties
- often used to benchmark chiral interactions
- **limited statistical meaning at best**

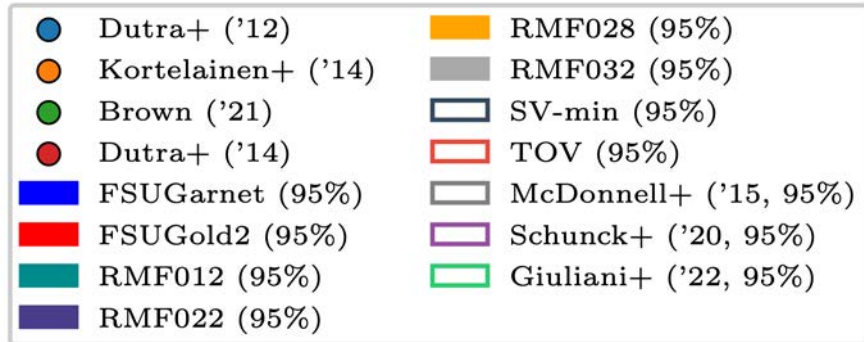
Dutra *et al.*, PRC **85**, 035201  
Kortelainen *et al.*, PRC **89**, 054314  
Brown & Schwenk, PRC C **89**, 011307

How can we benchmark chiral NN+3N interactions **rigorously** in terms of nuclear saturation ?





# Select empirical constraints from DFT



## Significant progress in UQ for DFT:

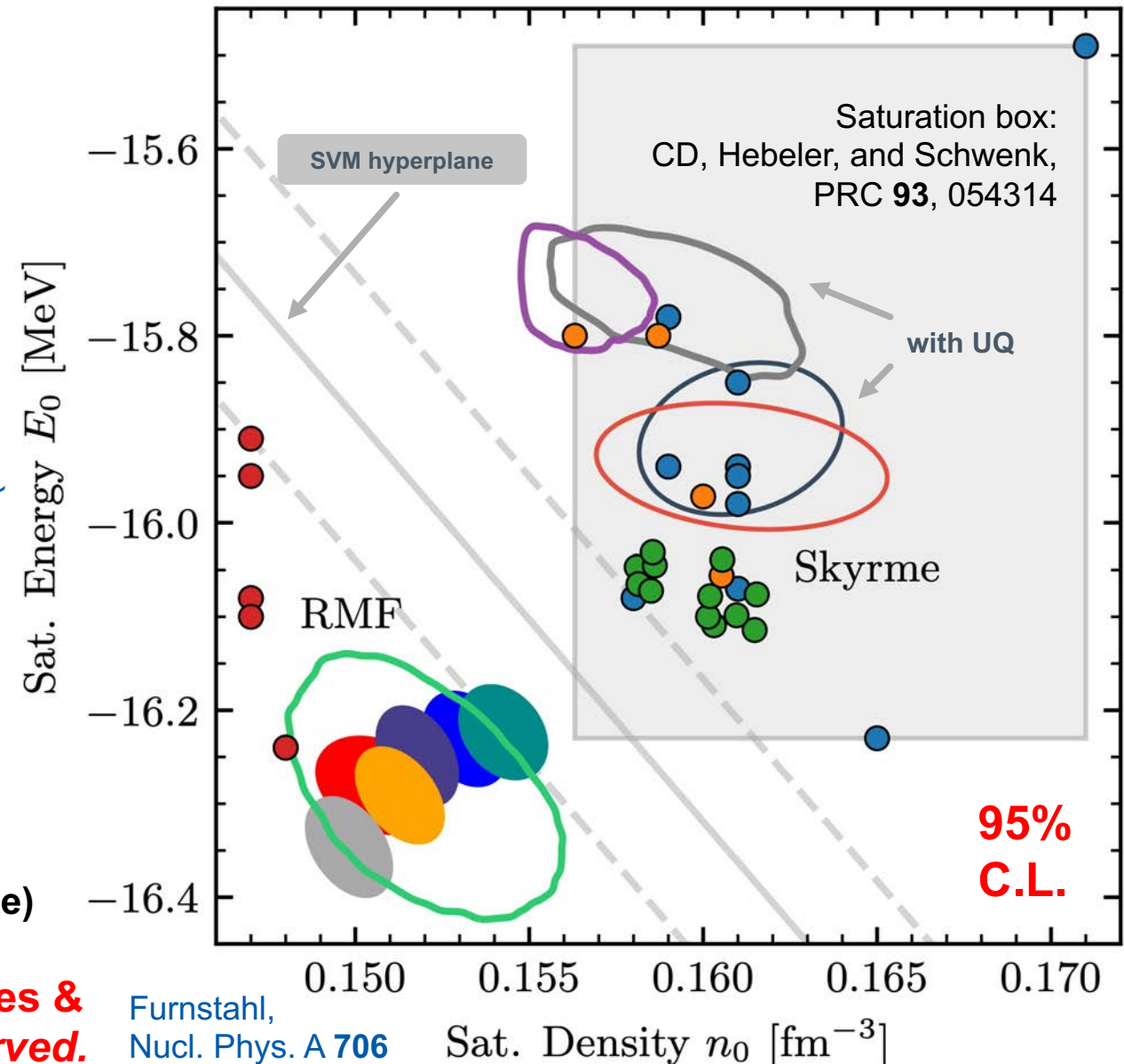
Schunck, O'Neal, Grosskopf, Lawrence, Wild, JPG: NP **47**, 074001  
 McDonnell, Schunck, Higdon, Sarich, Wild, Nazarewicz, PRL **114**, 122507  
 Neufcourt, Cao, Nazarewicz, Olsen, Viens, PRL **122**, 062502  
 Chen & Piekarewicz, PRC **90**, 044305; and more

## Recently: UQ is driven by emulators (game changers!)

Bonilla, Giuliani, Godbey, Lee, PRC **106**, 054322  
 Giuliani, Godbey, Bonilla, Viens, Piekarewicz, Front. Phys. **10**

Empirical constraints are *precise but not very accurate* (systematic uncertainties are *difficult* to estimate)

**Skyrme models: systematically lower binding energies & larger saturation densities. This has been long observed.**





## BUQEYE Guide to Projection-Based Emulators in Nuclear Physics

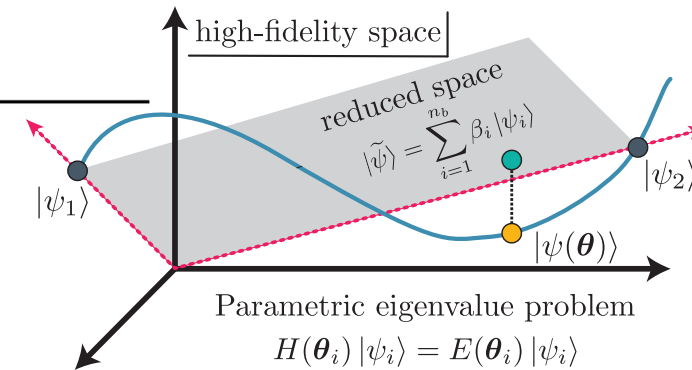
Front. Phys. 10, 92931 (open access)

C. Drischler,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> J. A. Melendez,<sup>3</sup> R. J. Furnstahl,<sup>3</sup> A. J. Garcia,<sup>3</sup> and Xilin Zhang<sup>2</sup>

### ABSTRACT

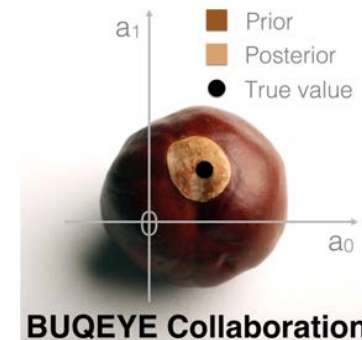
The BUQEYE collaboration (Bayesian Uncertainty Quantification: Errors in Your EFT) presents a pedagogical introduction to projection-based, reduced-order emulators for applications in low-energy nuclear physics. The term *emulator* refers here to a fast surrogate model capable of reliably approximating high-fidelity models. As the general tools employed by these emulators are not yet well-known in the nuclear physics community, we discuss variational and Galerkin projection methods, emphasize the benefits of offline-online decompositions, and explore how these concepts lead to emulators for bound and scattering systems that enable fast & accurate calculations using many different model parameter sets. We also point to future extensions and applications of these emulators for nuclear physics, guided by the mature field of model (order) reduction. All examples discussed here and more are available as interactive, open-source Python code so that practitioners can readily adapt projection-based emulators for their own work.

Keywords: emulators, reduced-order models, model order reduction, nuclear scattering, uncertainty quantification, effective field theory, variational principles, Galerkin projection



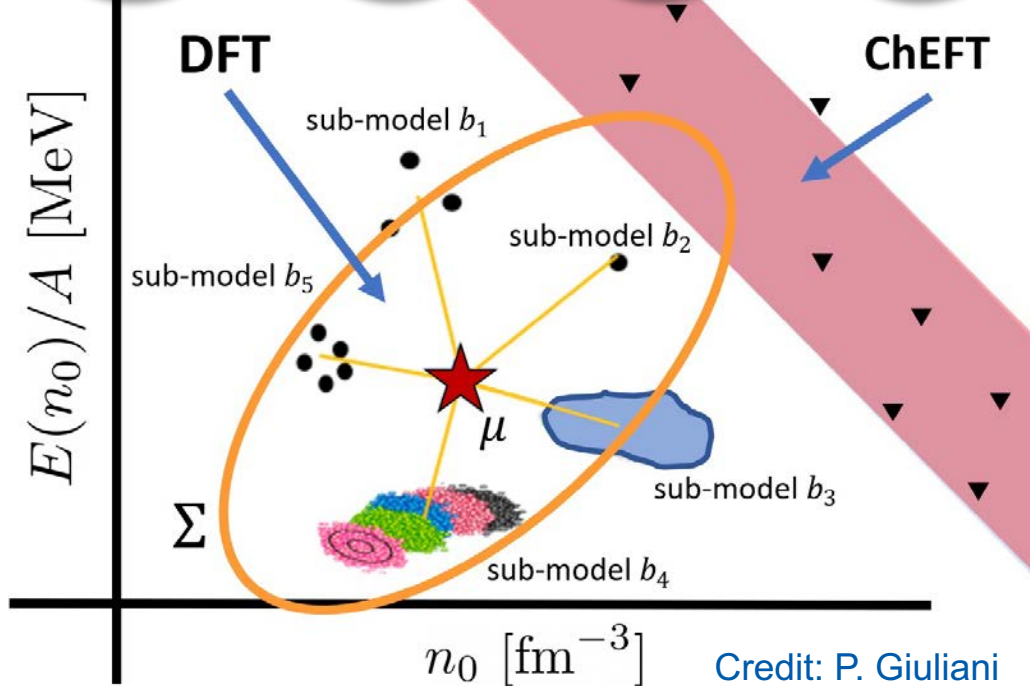
with interactive Jupyter notebooks on GitHub!

see also  
our Literature Guide  
Melendez, CD *et al.*,  
J. Phys. G 49, 102001





# Bayesian inference: empirical saturation point



**Model assumption:** DFT samples are random draws from a bivariate normal distribution with *unknown* mean vector  $\mu$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$

»  $y^* = [n_0, E(n_0)/A] \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

## Bayes' theorem

$$P(\mu, \Sigma | \mathcal{D}) \propto P(\mathcal{D} | \mu, \Sigma) P(\mu, \Sigma)$$

posterior
likelihood
prior

## prior

$$P(\mu, \Sigma) = \text{NIW}_{\nu_0}(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$\mu | \mu_0, \kappa, \Sigma \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu | \mu_0, \frac{1}{\kappa} \Sigma\right)$$

$$\Sigma | \Psi, \nu \sim \mathcal{W}^{-1}(\Sigma | \Psi, \nu)$$

## likelihood

$$P(\mathcal{D} | \mu, \Sigma) \propto |\Sigma|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu) \Sigma^{-1} (y_i - \mu)\right]$$

## posterior

same as the **conjugate prior** but with updated hyperparameters (analytic expression)

## posterior predictive (marginalization)

$$P(y^* | \mathcal{D}) \propto \int d\mu d\Sigma P(y^* | \mu, \Sigma) P(\mu, \Sigma | \mathcal{D})$$

model
posterior

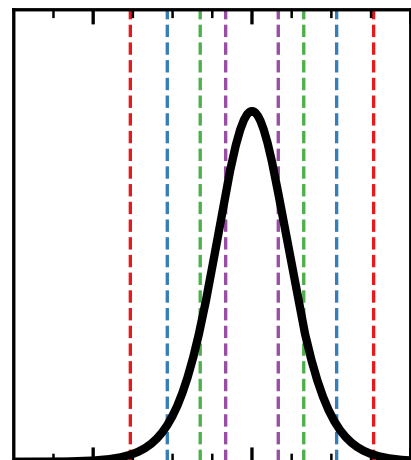
(evaluates to a **bivariate t-distribution**)

# Analysis: Saturation box (2016)

(preliminary)



$0.160 \pm 0.011 \text{ fm}^{-3}$  (95%)



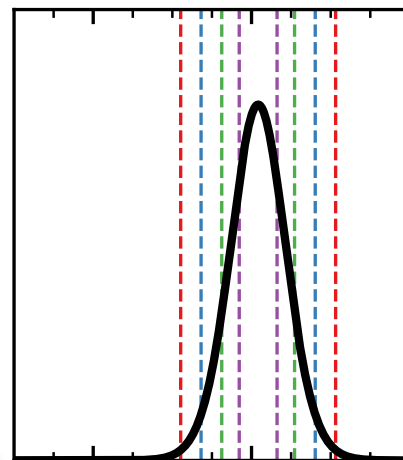
prior predictive  
(Extra Set)

(data-agnostic)

confidence level



$0.161 \pm 0.007 \text{ fm}^{-3}$  (95%)



posterior predictive  
(Extra Set)

(data-informed)

confidence level



Only data used to  
construct the  
saturation box are  
considered

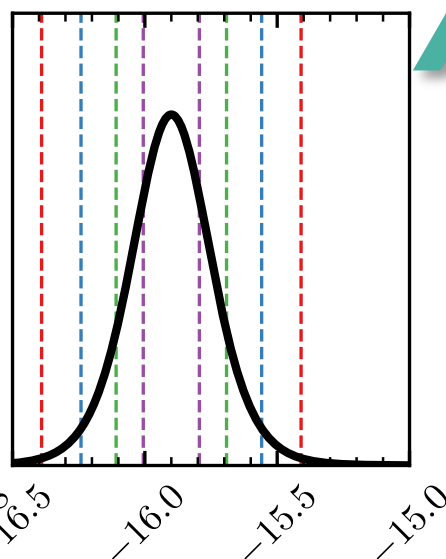
Jupyter notebooks  
& tutorials will be  
publicly available

analytic calculations  
due to conjugacy

predictives & marginals  
are *t*-distributions

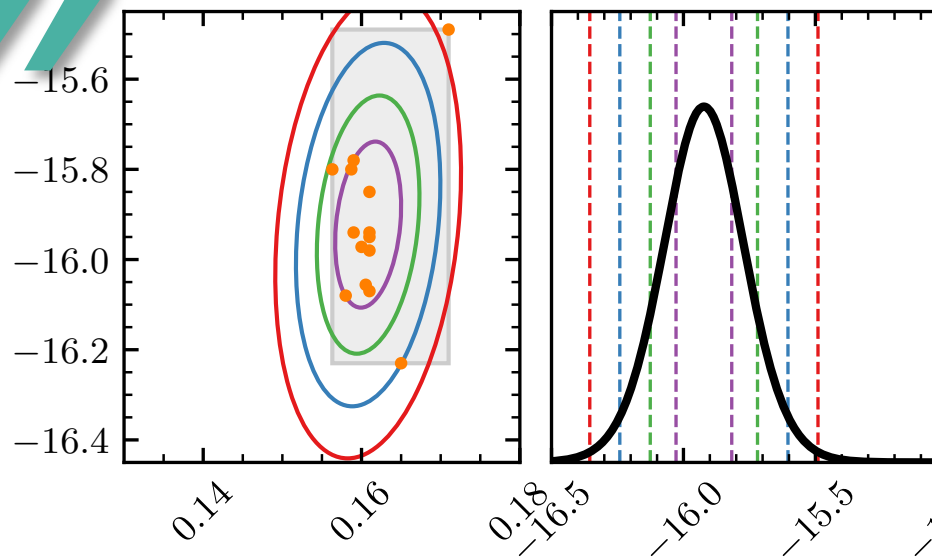
can easily investigate  
the prior sensitivity

$-15.90 \pm 0.34 \text{ MeV}$  (95%)



Sat. Energy  $E_0$  [MeV]

$-15.92 \pm 0.32 \text{ MeV}$  (95%)



Sat. Density  $n_0$  [ $\text{fm}^{-3}$ ] Sat. Energy  $E_0$  [MeV]

Sat. Energy  $E_0$  [MeV]

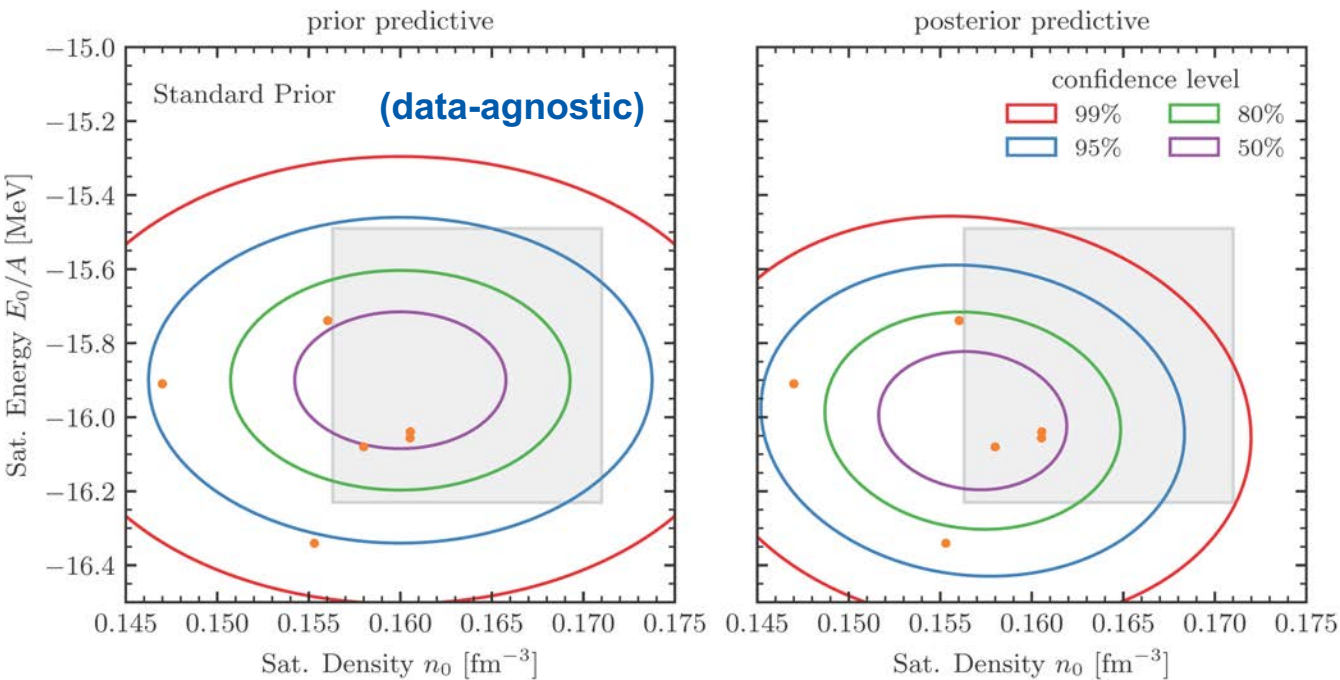
Sat. Density  $n_0$  [ $\text{fm}^{-3}$ ]

# All DFT constraints: joint MC analysis (preliminary)



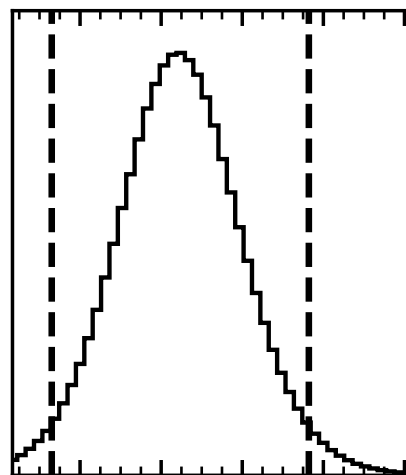
**Uncertainties in the DFT constraints break conjugacy!**

**Mixture modeling comes to the rescue! Use simple MC sampling...**



set #1  
set #2  
set #3  
set #4  
...

$0.157 \pm 0.009 \text{ fm}^{-3}$  (95%)

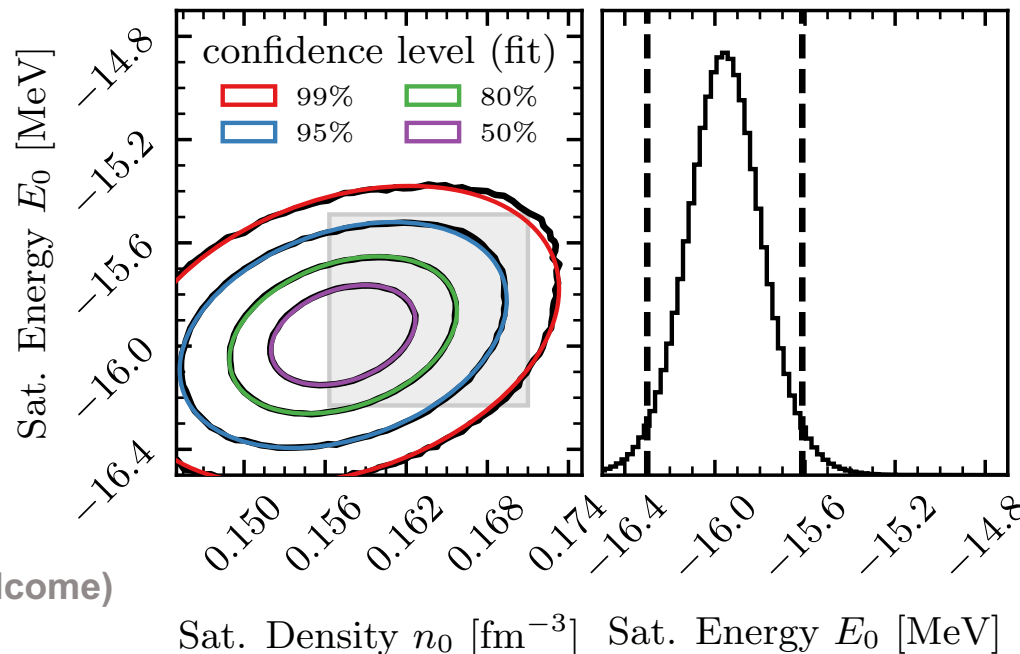


posterior predictive (Extra Set)

... to obtain the ...

**joint posterior predictive**

$-15.96 \pm 0.34 \text{ MeV}$  (95%)



**Joint DFT constraint has approx. a *t*-distribution and is consistent** with the commonly used box estimate (95% C.L.) **but shifted toward lower ( $n_0$ ,  $E_0/A$ )**

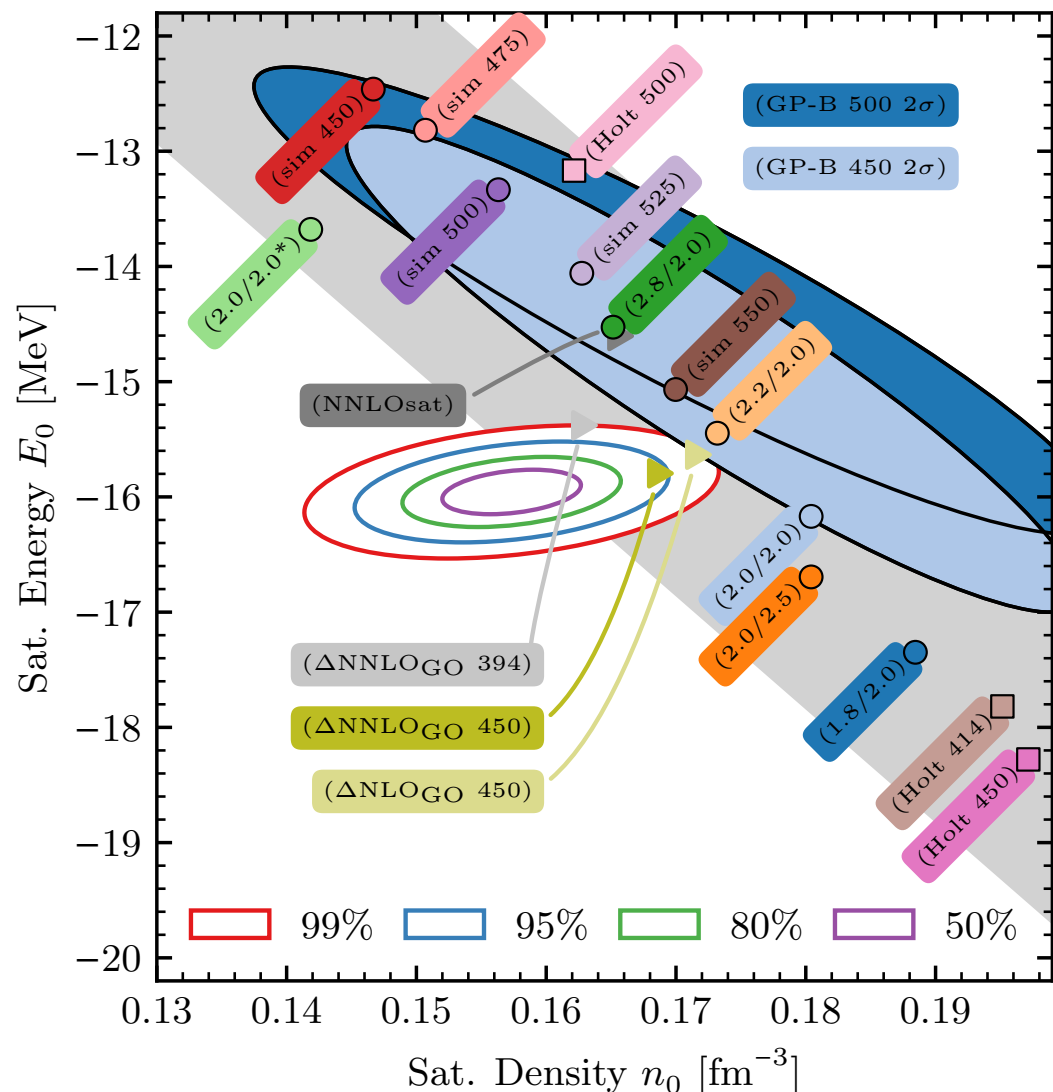
What other constraints should we consider?  
What is our prior knowledge of saturation?



(feedback welcome)

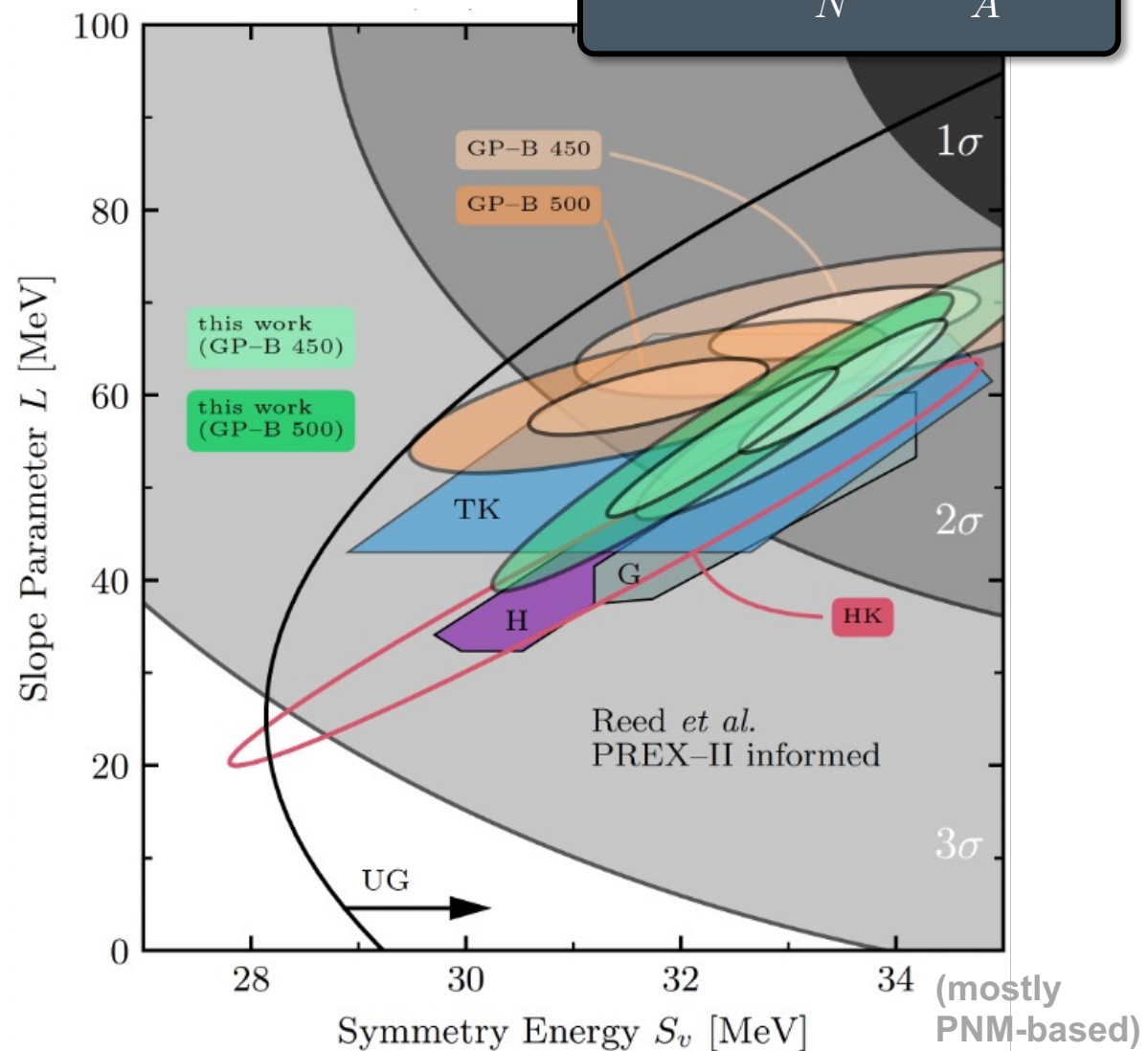


# Nuclear saturation | symmetry energy (preliminary)



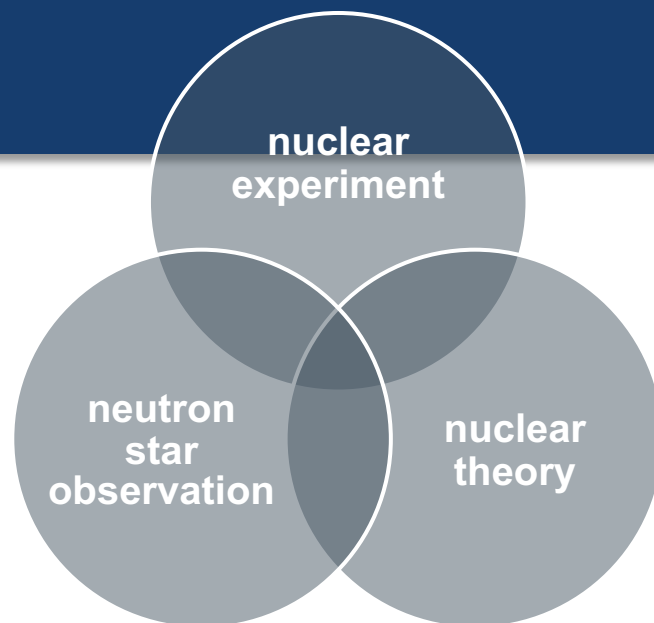
Combined with microscopic PNM calculations at  $N^3\text{LO}$ :

$$S_2(n) \approx \frac{E}{N}(n) - \frac{E}{A}(n)$$



Inferred empirical saturation point is not well reproduced by a wide range of chiral NN+3N interactions (high C.L.)

multi-messenger  
nuclear precision  
FRIB } era



unique opportunity to obtain a **fundamental understanding** of strongly interacting matter, with great **potential for discoveries**

- 1 Chiral EFT enables *ab initio* calculations of **finite nuclei & nuclear matter** at  $T \geq 0$  & arbitrary proton fractions ( $n \lesssim 2n_{\text{sat}}$ ). **Where does it break down and why?**
- 2 Bayesian statistics allows for **rigorous UQ** in EFT-based calculations (facilitated by new emulators!). **EFT predictions statistically consistent?**
- 3 Need for improved **constraints on the nuclear matter EOS** in the density regime  $1 \lesssim n/n_{\text{sat}} \lesssim 2$ . **How can these constraints help guide or validate nuclear theory?**
- 4 Our *preliminary* analysis suggests for the empirical saturation point:  $n_0 \approx 0.157 \pm 0.009 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ , with  $E_0/A \approx -15.96 \pm 0.34 \text{ MeV}$  (95%, correlated!)



a<sub>1</sub>  
■ Prior  
■ Posterior  
● True value



Many thanks to:

R. Furnstahl P. Giuliani S. Han J. W. Holt J. Lattimer K. McElvain  
J. Melendez D. Phillips M. Prakash S. Reddy C. Wellenhofer T. Zhao