

# Probing the behavior of strongly interacting matter at the highest densities

S@INT, Institute for Nuclear Theory  
01 April 2024

*Based on*  
2312.14127, 2403.03246

*In collaboration with*  
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I. Tews, L. Rezzolla

Tyler Gorda  
Goethe University

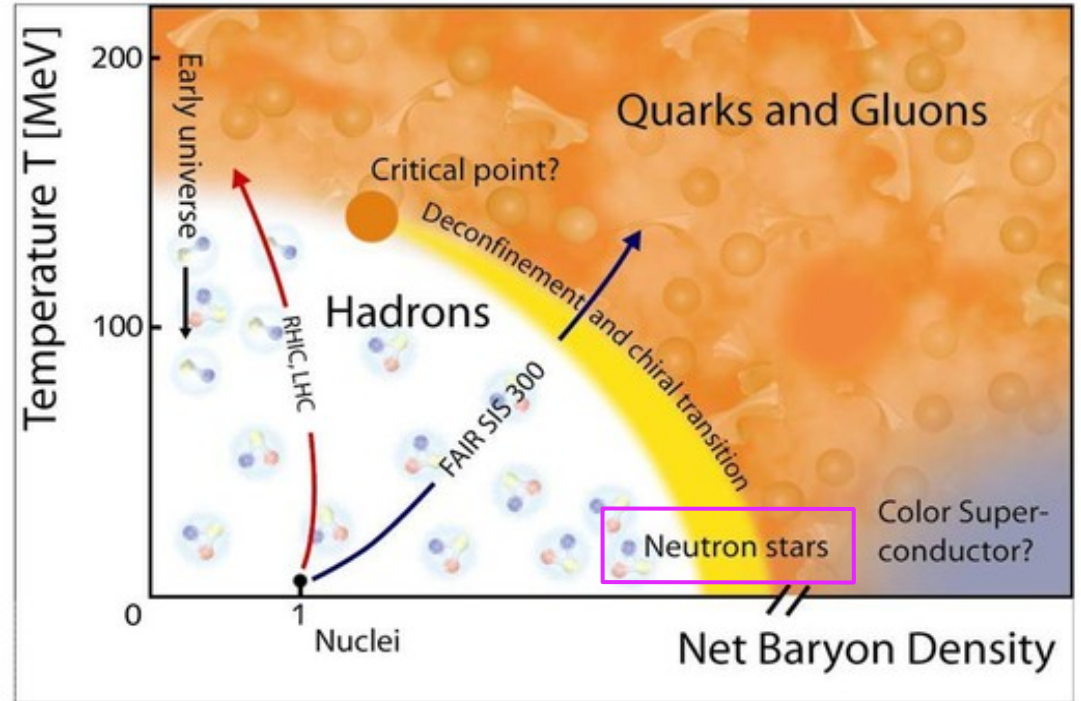
# Outline

- Introduction
- Constraining the NS EoS at  $n_{\text{TOV}}$  and beyond (2312.14127)
- Listening to the “long ringdown” in binary NS mergers (2403.03246)

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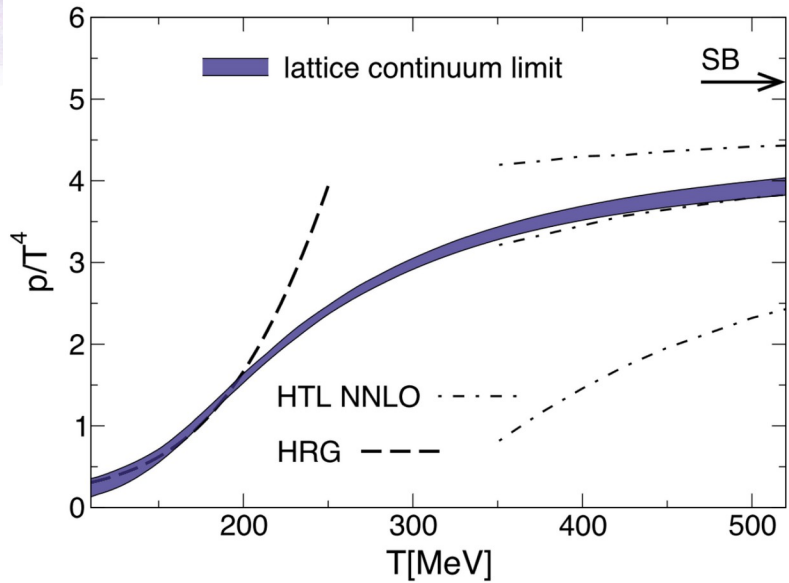
- **Introduction**
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# Understanding the phase diagram of QCD



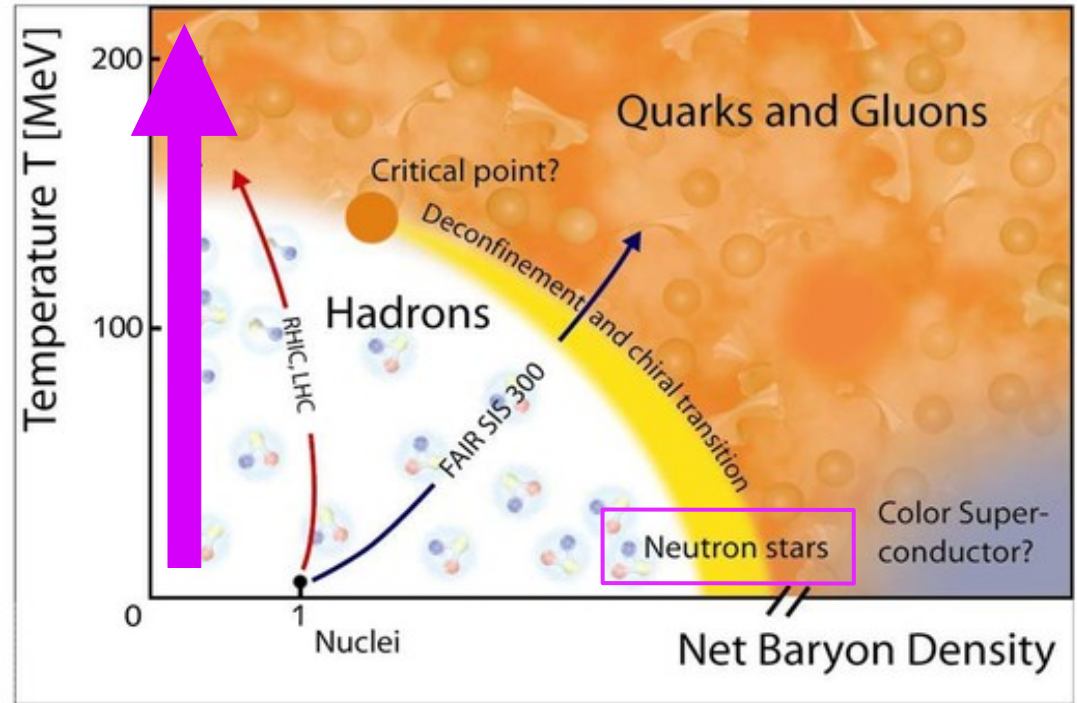
Compressed Baryonic Matter (CBM) experiment

# Understanding the phase diagram of QCD



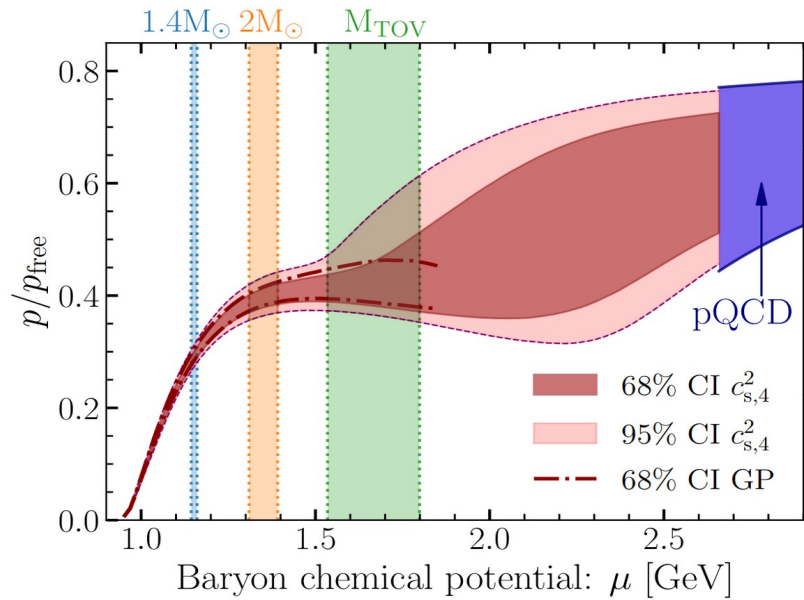
Borsanyi, Fodor, Hoelbling, Katz, Krieg, Szabo  
Phys. Lett. B 370 (2014)

Lattice calculations at high-T  
directly tell us the EoS



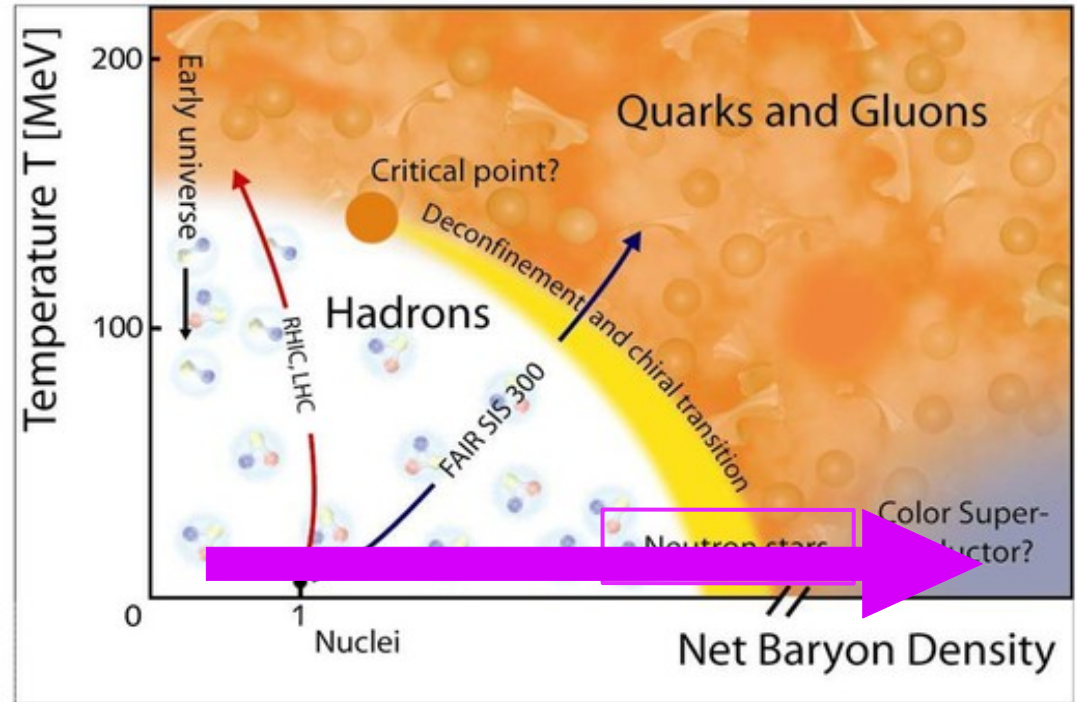
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# Understanding the phase diagram of QCD



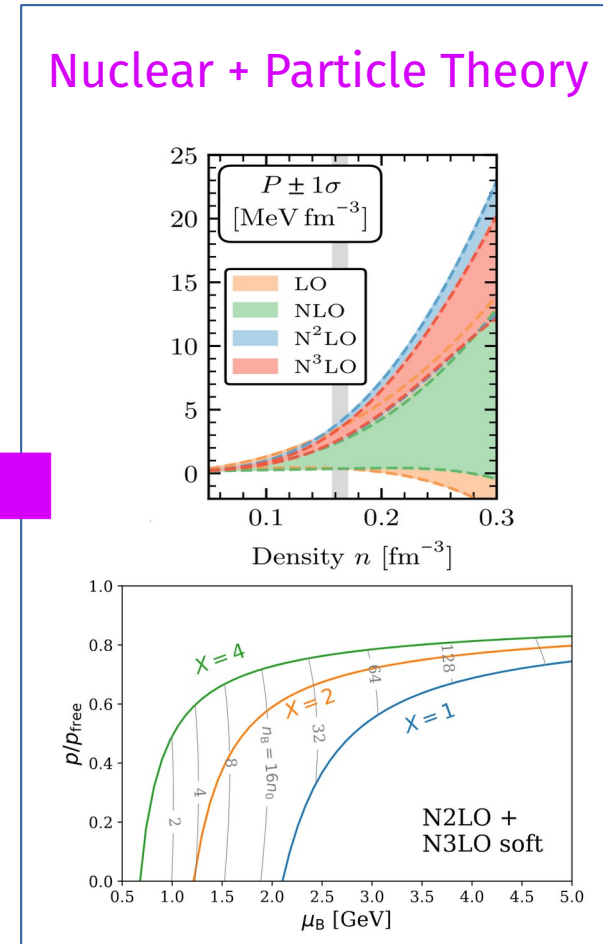
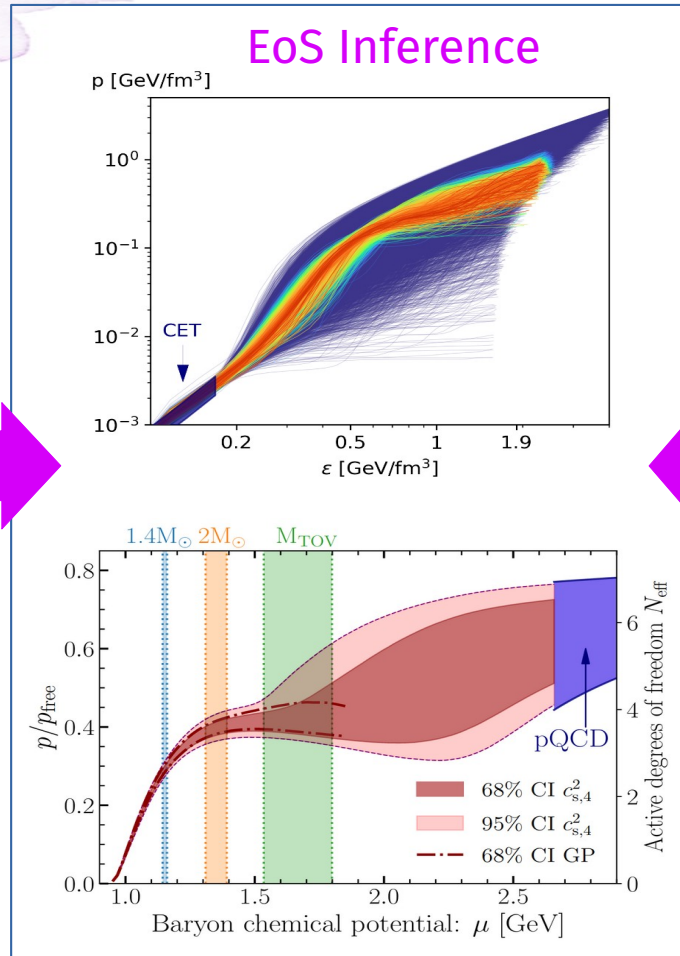
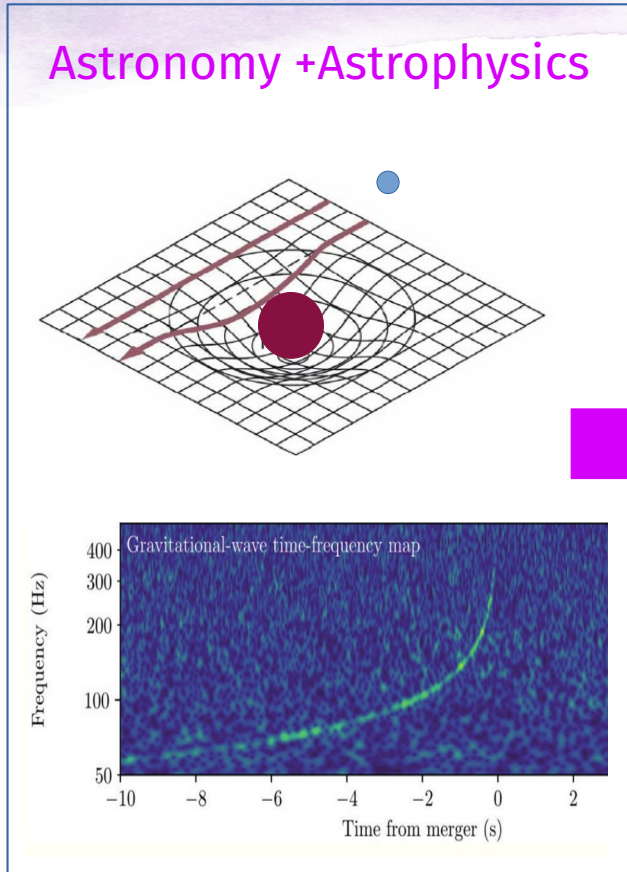
Annala, Gorda, Hirvonen, Komoltsev, Kurkela, Nättilä, Vuorinen Nat. Comm. 14 (2023)

At  $T = 0$ , no lattice, but we have **astrophysics**; and calculations in **nuclear and particle theory**

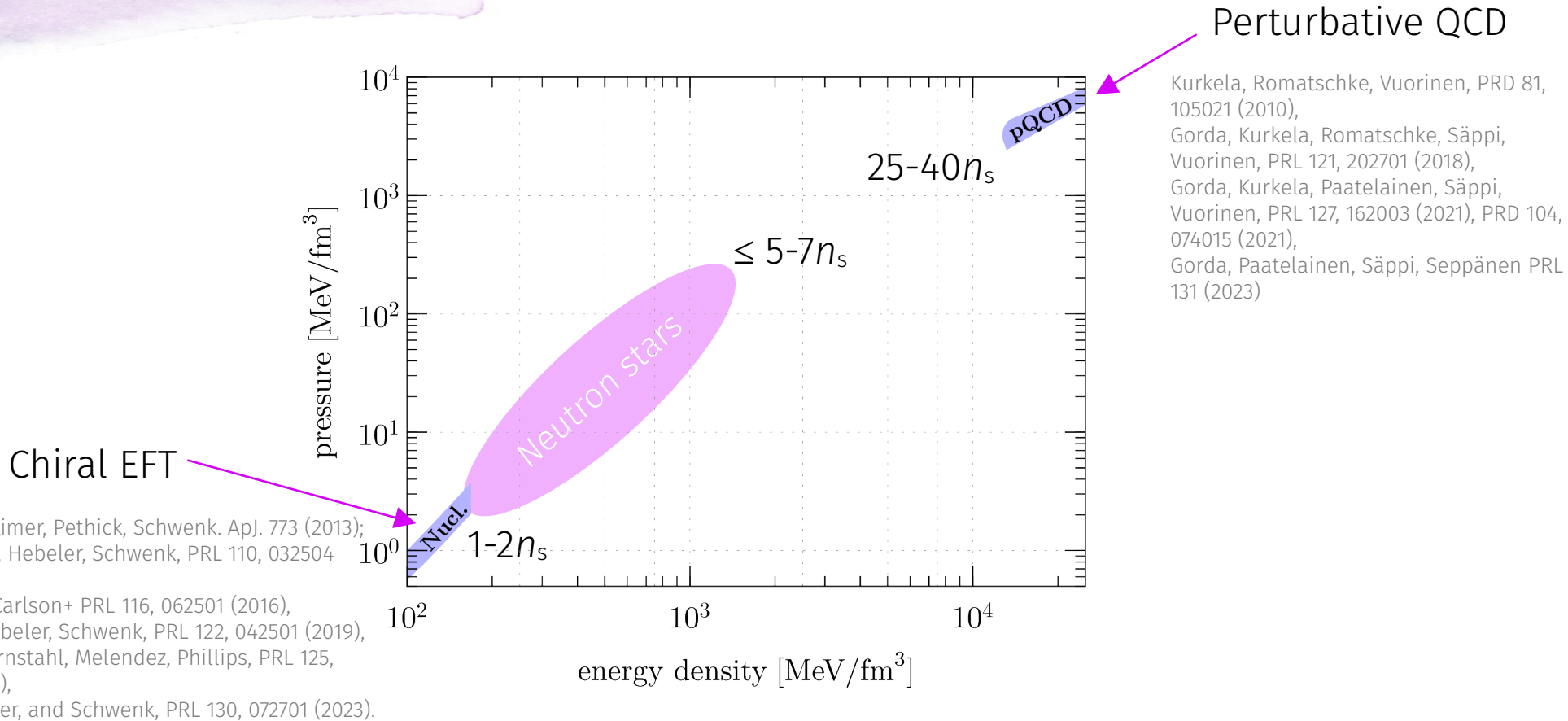


Compressed Baryonic Matter (CBM) experiment

# $T = 0$ is a synthesis of theory and experiment



# Different inputs constrain different parts of the EOS





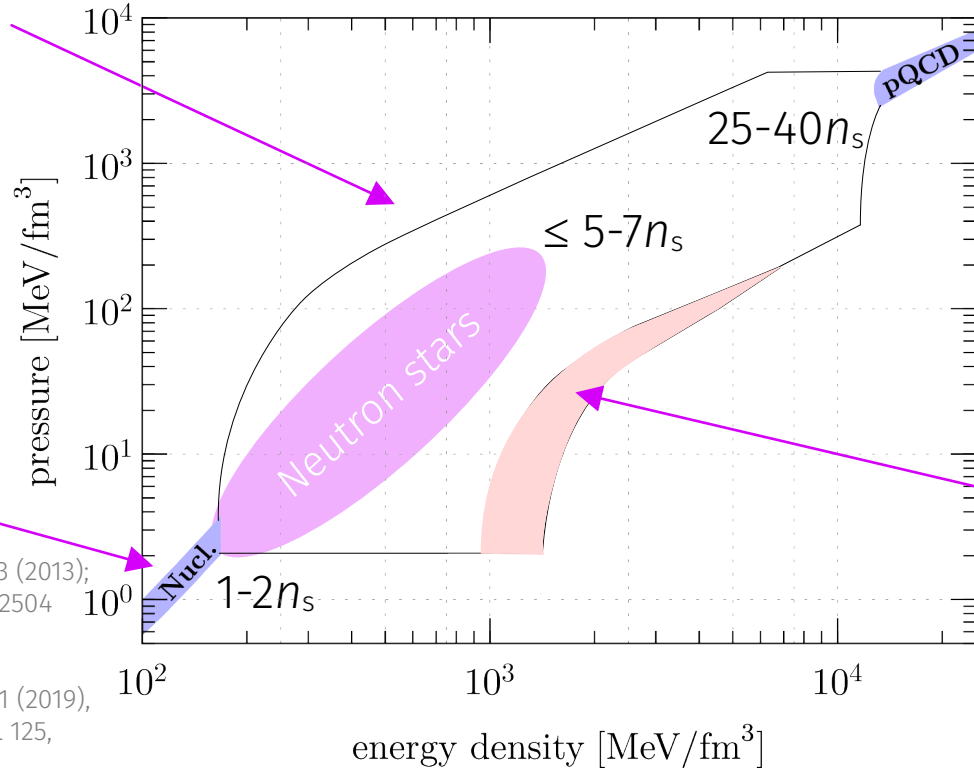
# Different inputs constrain different parts of the EOS

## Thermodynamics

Komoltsev, Kurkela PRL 128, 202701 (2022)

## Chiral EFT

Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk. ApJ. 773 (2013);  
 Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL 110, 032504 (2013)  
 Lynn, Tews, Carlson+ PRL 116, 062501 (2016),  
 Drischler, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL 122, 042501 (2019),  
 Drischler, Furnstahl, Melendez, Phillips, PRL 125, 202702 (2020),  
 Keller, Hebeler, and Schwenk, PRL 130, 072701 (2023).



## Perturbative QCD

Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen, PRD 81, 105021 (2010),  
 Gorda, Kurkela, Romatschke, Säppi, Vuorinen, PRL 121, 202701 (2018),  
 Gorda, Kurkela, Paatelainen, Säppi, Vuorinen, PRL 127, 162003 (2021), PRD 104, 074015 (2021),  
 Gorda, Paatelainen, Säppi, Seppänen PRL 131 (2023)

## Lattice (Isospin QCD)

Abbot, Detmold, Romero-López+ 2307.15014, Brandt, Cuterib, Endrődi JHEP 07 (2023) 055  
 Fujimoto, Reddy, PRD 109, 014020 (2024),  
 (see also Moore, Gorda, JHEP 12 (2023) 133, Navarrete, Paatelainen, Seppänen 2403.02180)

# Chiral EFT + pQCD + Thermodynamics constrain extreme EoSs

## 1. Stability

$$\partial_\mu^2 \Omega(\mu) \leq 0 \implies \partial_\mu n(\mu) \geq 0$$

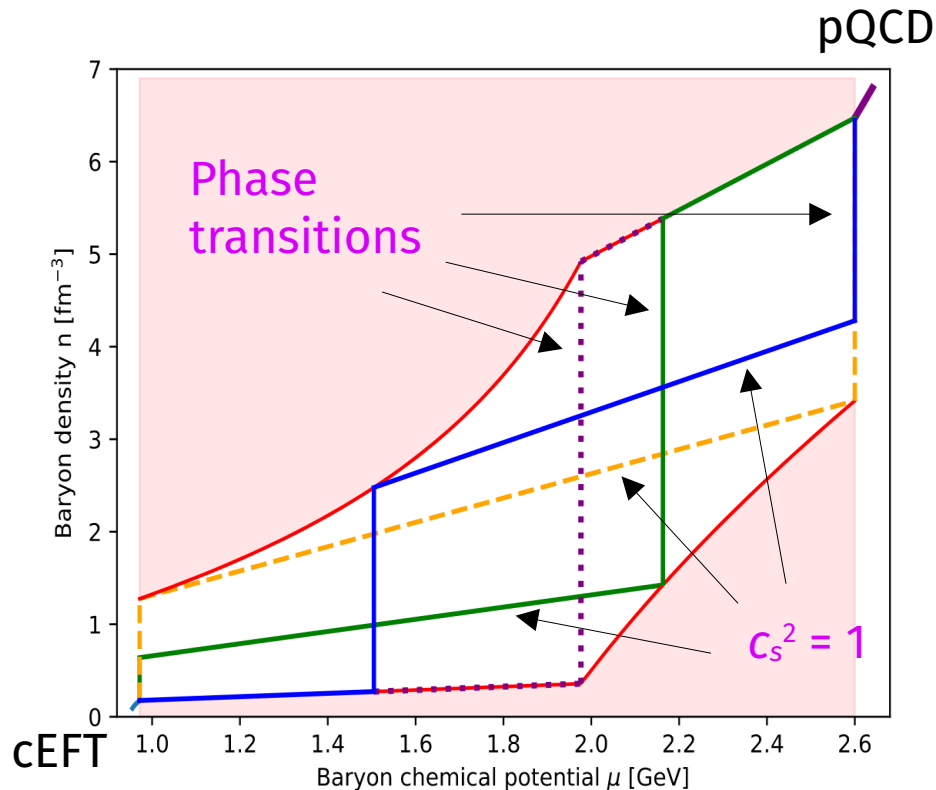
## 2. Causality

$$c_s^{-2} = \frac{\mu}{n} \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mu} \geq 1 \implies \partial_\mu n(\mu) \geq \frac{n}{\mu}$$

## 3. Consistency

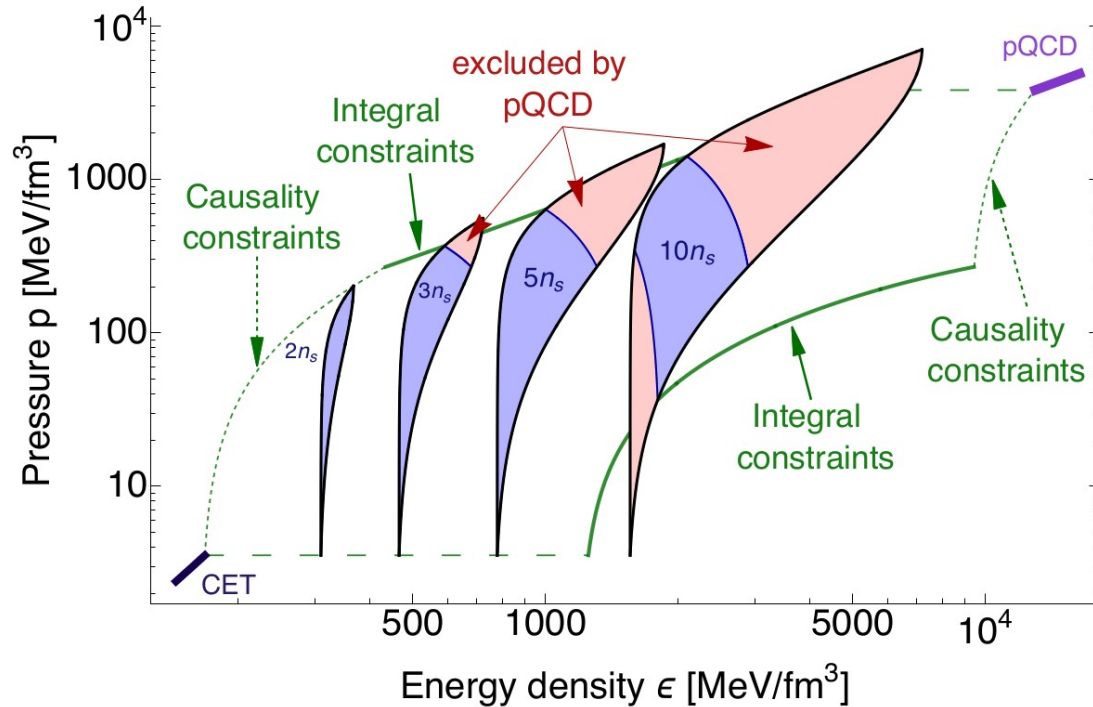
$$\int_{\mu_{\text{CET}}}^{\mu_{\text{QCD}}} d\mu n(\mu) = p_{\text{QCD}} - p_{\text{CET}} \quad \text{Fixed!}$$

“integral constraints”



Komoltsev and Kurkela, PRL 128 (2022)

# Chiral EFT + pQCD + Thermodynamics constrain extreme EoSs



Region of  $(\epsilon, p)$  at fixed  $n$  constrained by **general principles**

Komoltsev and Kurkela, PRL 128 (2022)

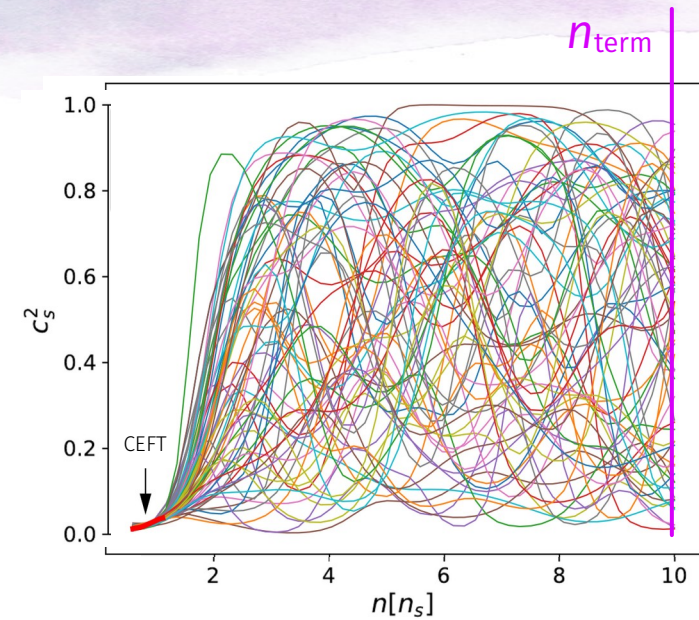
# Bayesian EoS inference setup

Likelihood of EoS  
given data + theory

EoS Prior

$$P(\text{EoS} | \text{data}) = \frac{P(\text{EoS})P(\text{data} | \text{EoS})}{P(\text{data})}$$

# Bayesian EoS inference setup



e.g.

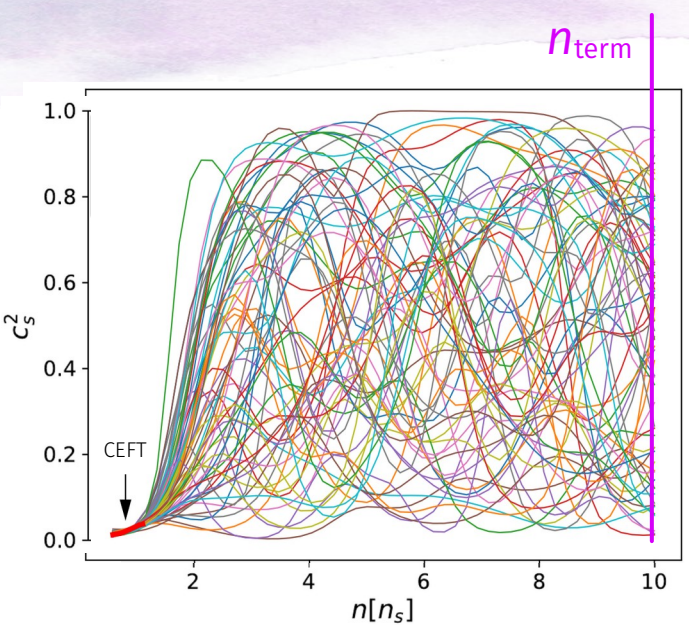
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Gorda, Komoltsev, Kurkela, ApJ 950 (2023)

# Bayesian EoS inference setup



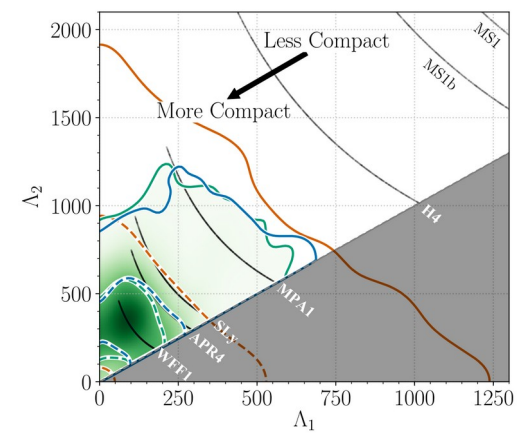
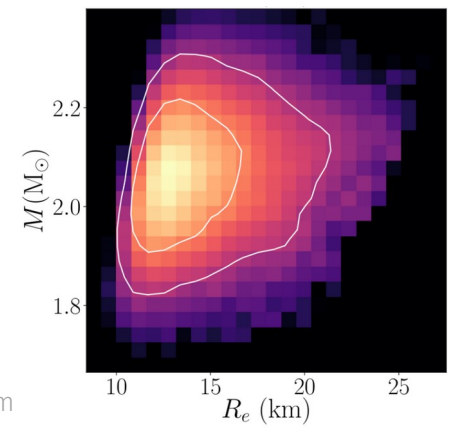
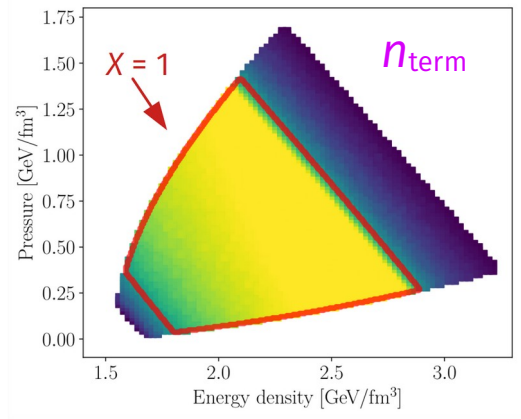
Gorda, Komoltsev, Kurkela, ApJ 950 (2023)

Likelihood of EoS given data + theory

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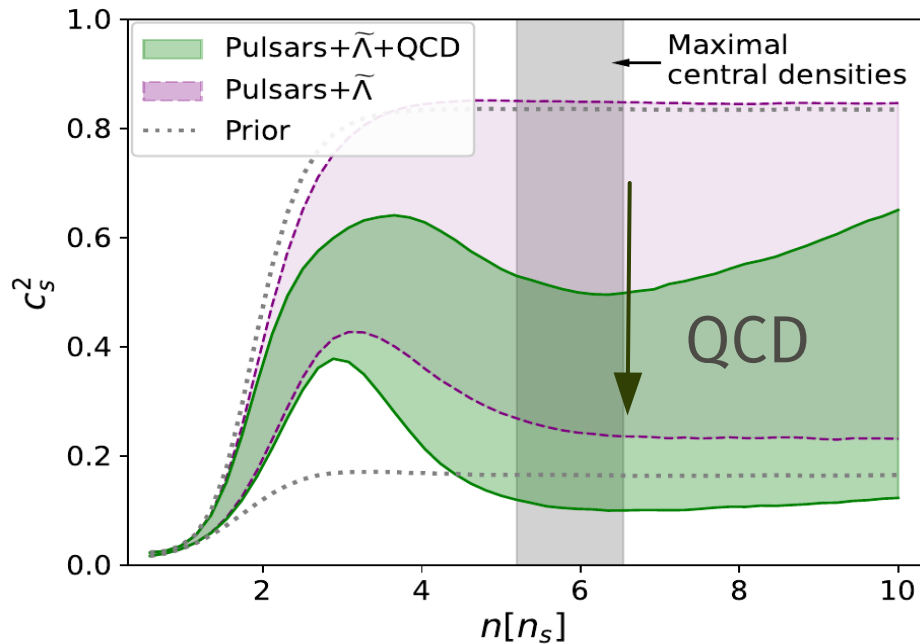
e.g. Weight of  $(\epsilon, p)$  points at  $n = 10n_s$



# Outline

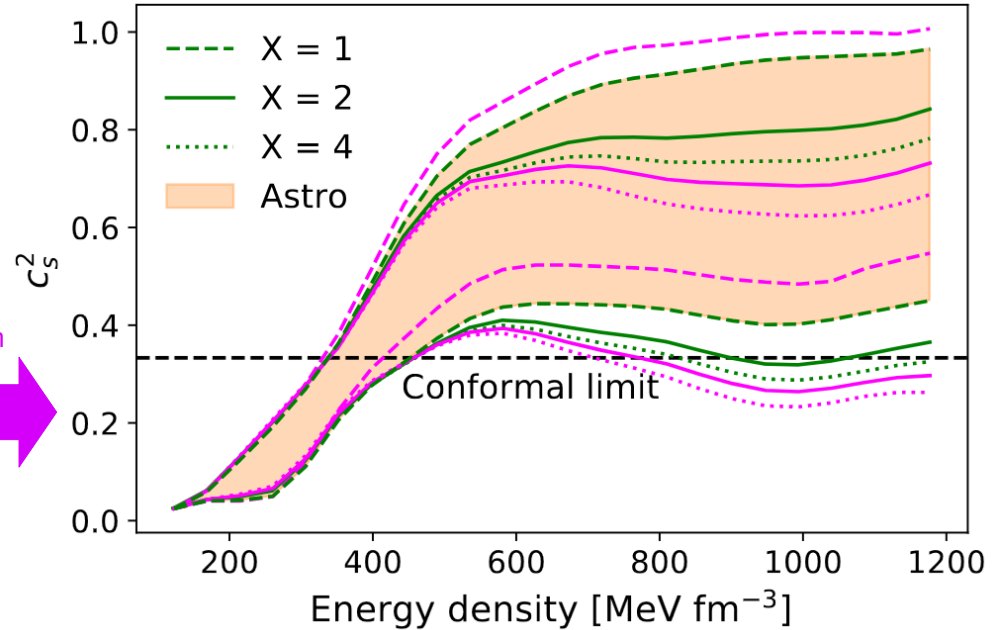
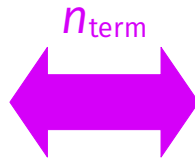
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# What does pQCD add to astrophysical data?



**Softening** seen in works applying pQCD at  $\geq 10n_{\text{sat}}$

Annala, Gorda, Kurkela, Nättilä, Vuorinen Nat. Phys. 16 (2020),  
 Altiparmak, Ecker, Rezzolla, ApJ.Lett. 939 (2022);  
 Ecker & Rezzolla, ApJ.Lett. 939 (2022); Fujimoto, Fukushima,  
 McLerran, Praszalowicz, PRL 129 (2022); Marczenko, McLerran,  
 Redlich, Sasaki, PRC 107 (2023);



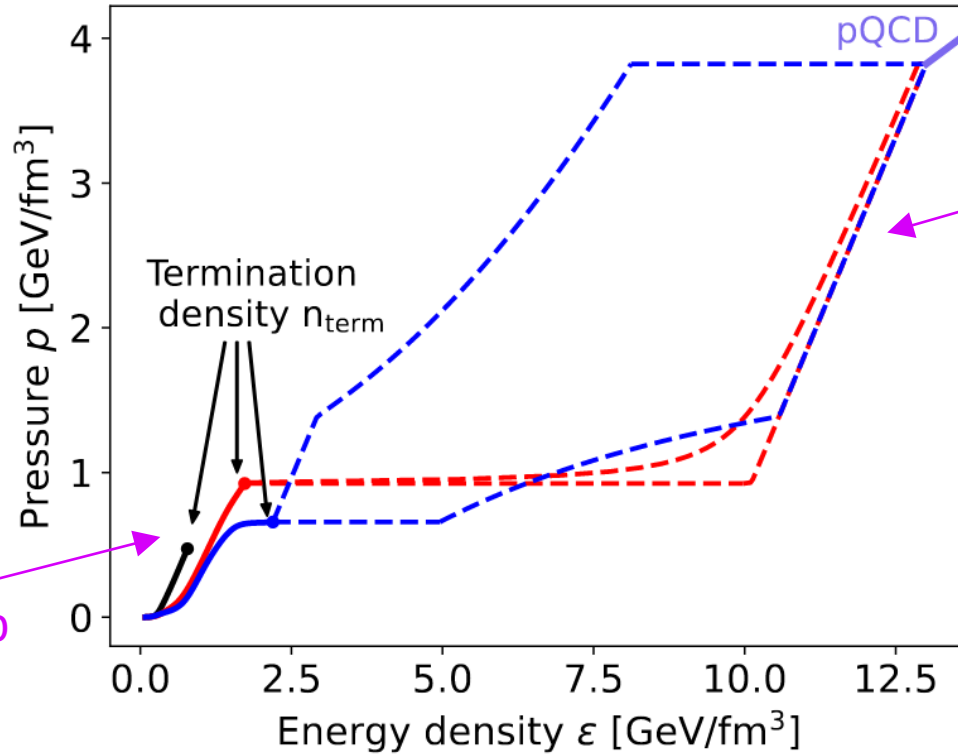
**No softening** seen in works applying pQCD at  $n_{\text{TOV}}$

Somasundaram, Tews, Margueron PRC 107 (2023);  
 Brandes, Weise, Kaiser PRD 108 (2023);  
 Essick, Legred, Chatziioannou, PRD 108 (2023)  
 Mroczek, Miller, Noronha-Hostler, Yunes 2309.02345



# Quantifying the *tension* with perturbative QCD

Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



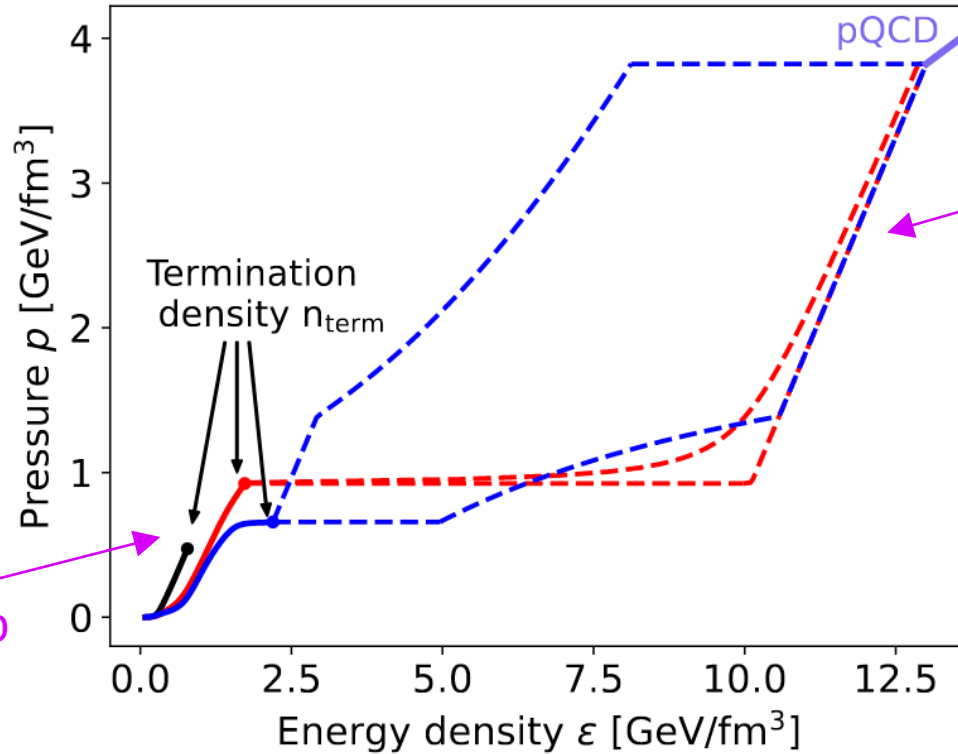
EoS modeled up to  $n_{\text{term}}$  using:

1. Gaussian process for  $c_s^2$  Gorda, Komoltsev, Kurkela, ApJ 950 (2023),
2. Piecewise linear  $c_s^2$  Somasundaram, Tews, Margueron PRC 107, L052801 (2023).

Thermodynamics restricts EoS behavior beyond  $n_{\text{term}}$

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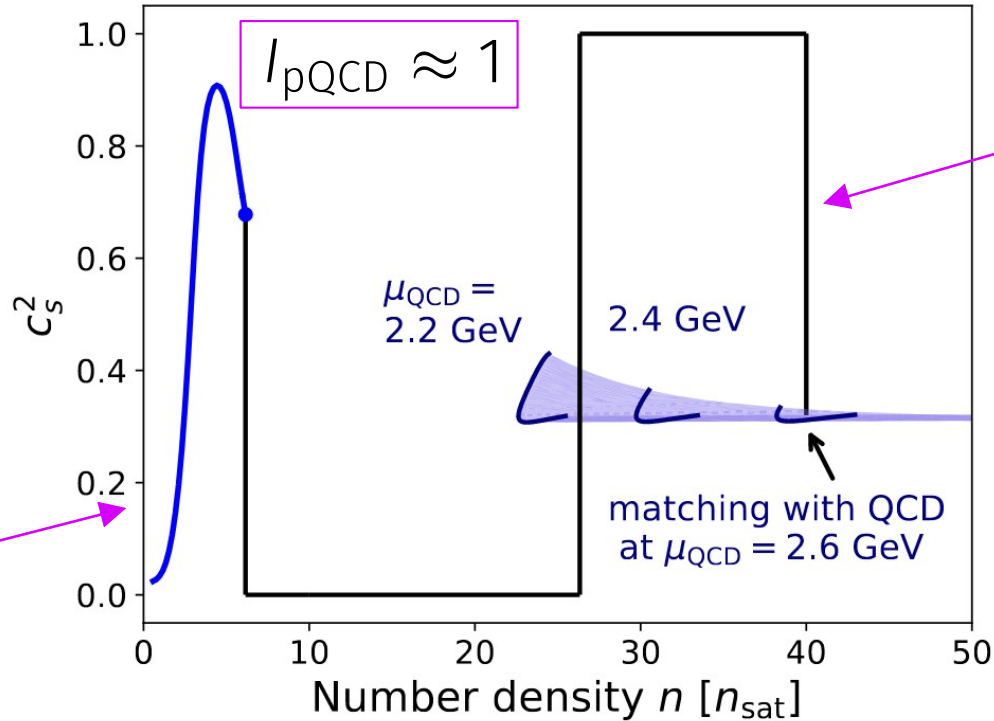
Introduce pQCD tension index  $I_{\text{pQCD}}$  to quantify how close to excluded a point is:

$$0 \leq I_{\text{pQCD}} \equiv \frac{\Delta p - \Delta p_{\text{min}}}{\Delta p_{\text{max}} - \Delta p_{\text{min}}} \leq 1$$

(stiffer EOSs have larger  $I_{\text{pQCD}}$ )

# Quantifying the *tension* with perturbative QCD

Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127

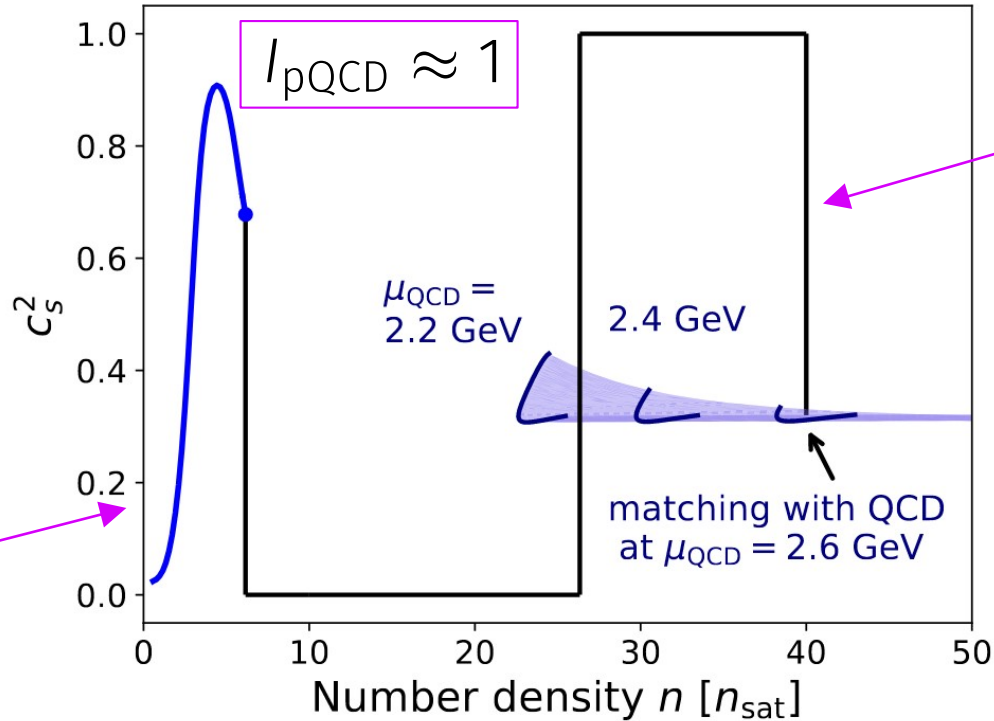


Thermodynamics restricts EoS behavior beyond  $n_{\text{term}}$

EoS modeled up to  $n_{\text{term}}$

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Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



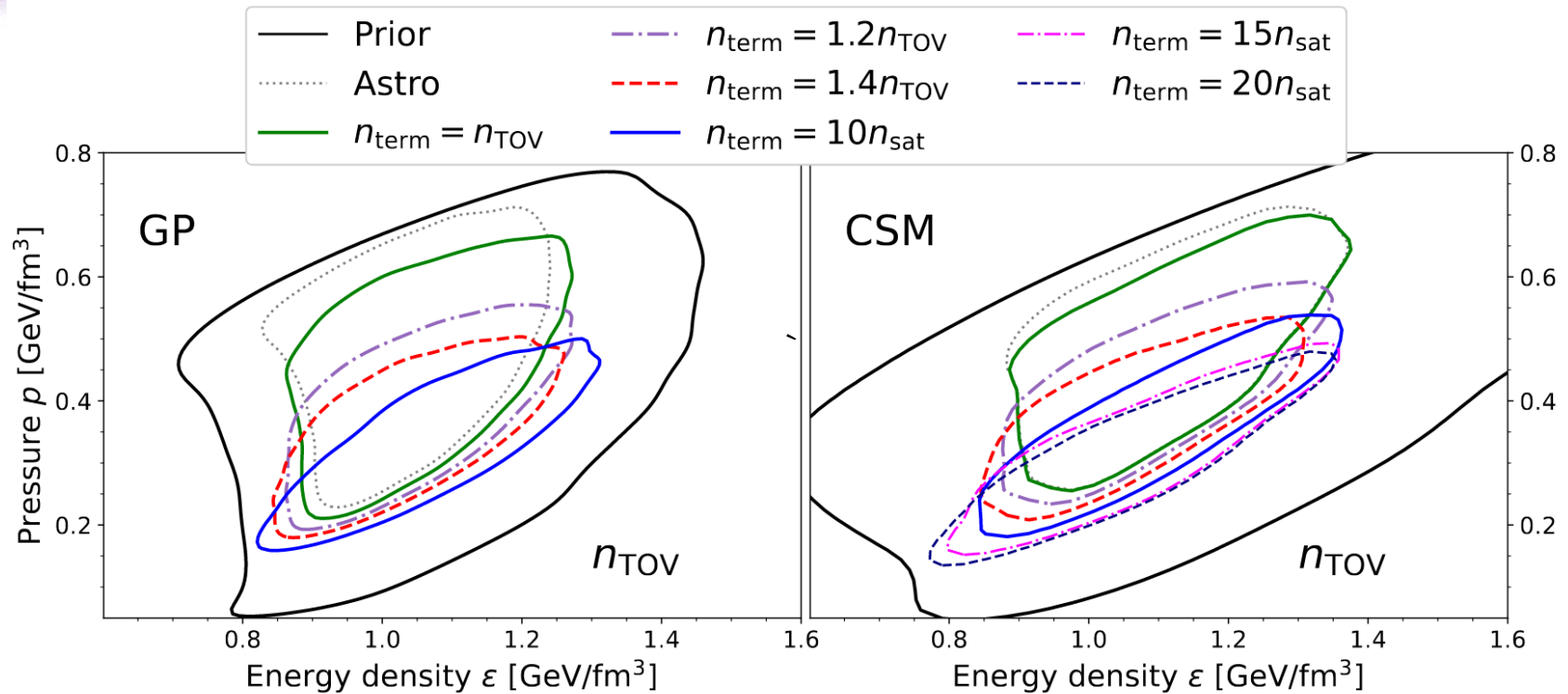
EoS modeled up to  $n_{\text{term}}$

Thermodynamics restricts EoS behavior beyond  $n_{\text{term}}$

Observation: High pQCD tension index also inconsistent with well-converged pQCD  $c_s^2$

# Softening of the EOS at $n_{\text{TOV}}$ depends on $n_{\text{term}}$

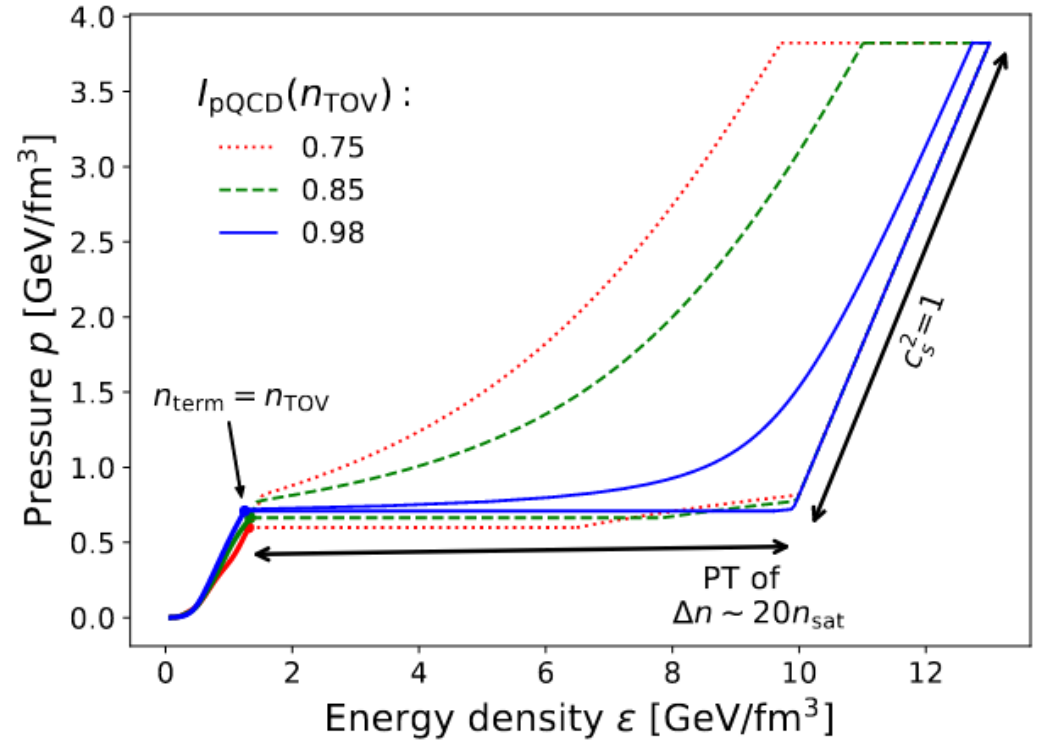
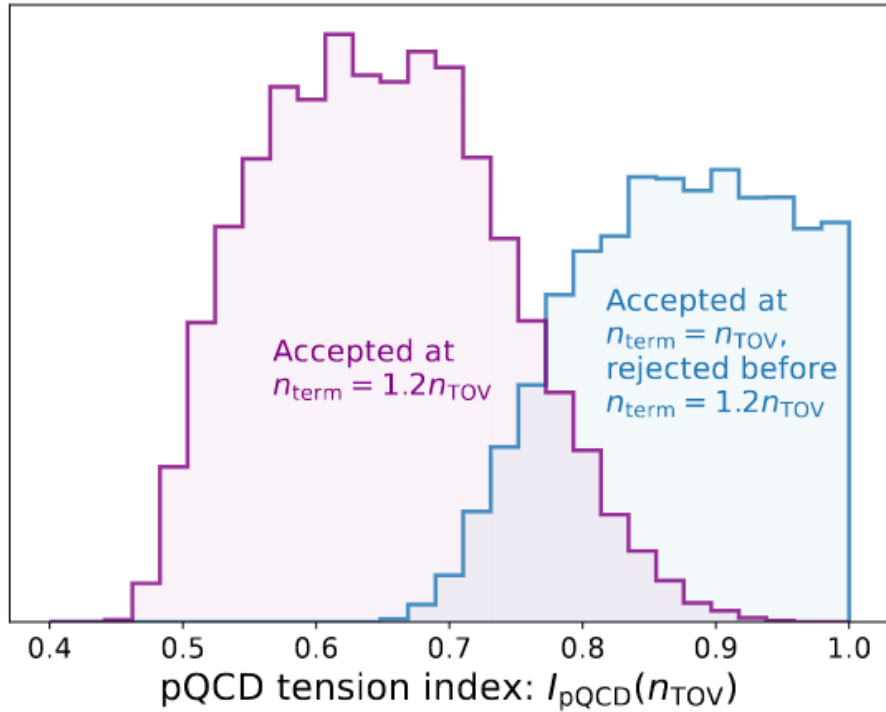
Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



Noticeable softening for  $n_{\text{term}} > n_{\text{TOV}}$ , but  $n_{\text{term}} = n_{\text{TOV}}$  unclear

# Examining $n_{\text{term}} = n_{\text{TOV}}$ : Many EOSs have high $I_{\text{pQCD}}$

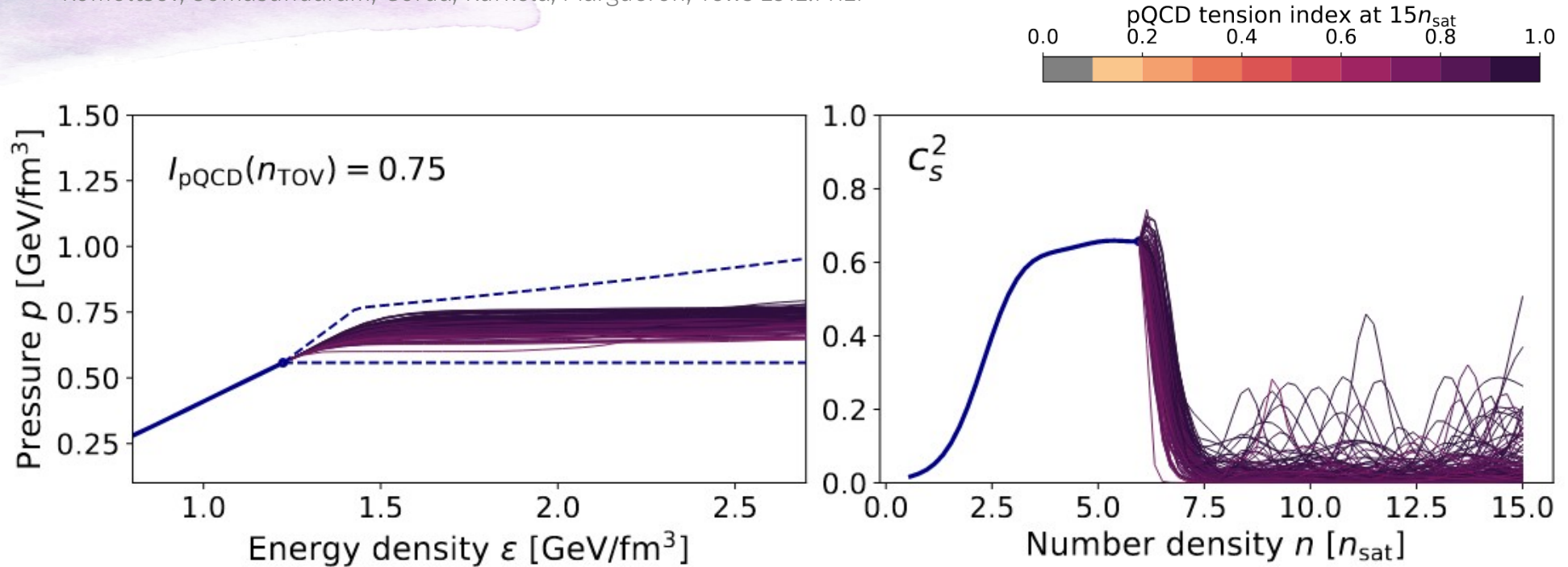
Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



Allowed extensions for stiff EoSs have **tightly constrained region beyond  $n_{\text{TOV}}$**

# Extending stiff EoSs indeed show strong, prolonged softening

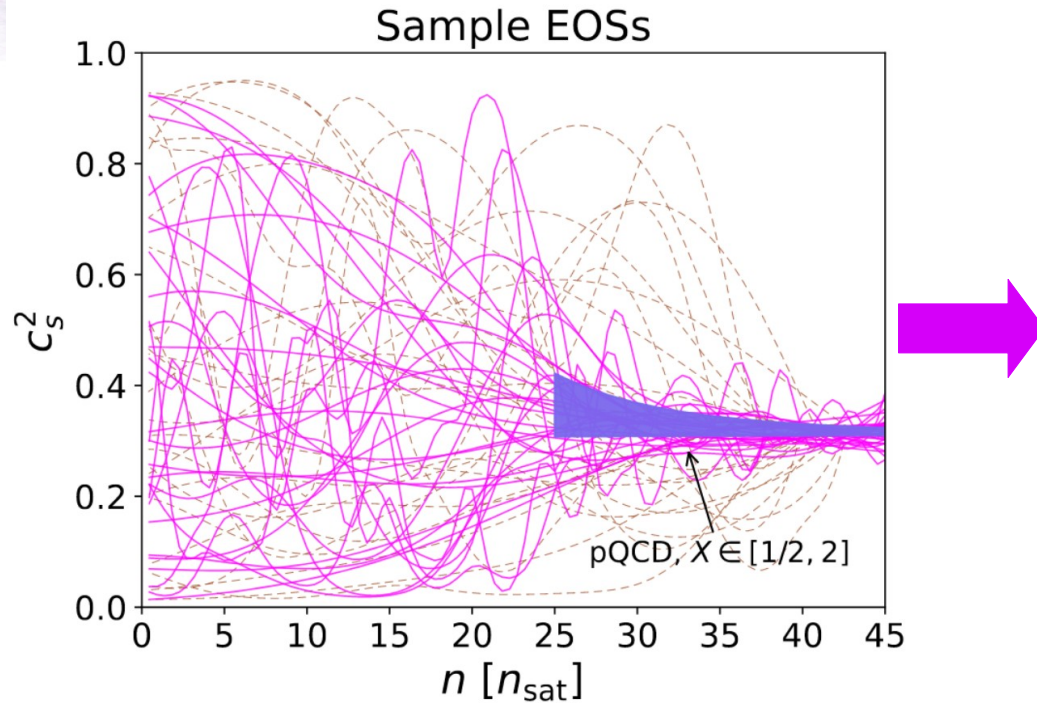
Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



**Takeaway:** Softening before  $n_{\text{TOV}}$  OR Strong, prolonged softening just after, followed by  $c_s^2 \approx 1$

# Conditioning with pQCD $c_s^2$ leads to robust softening

Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127

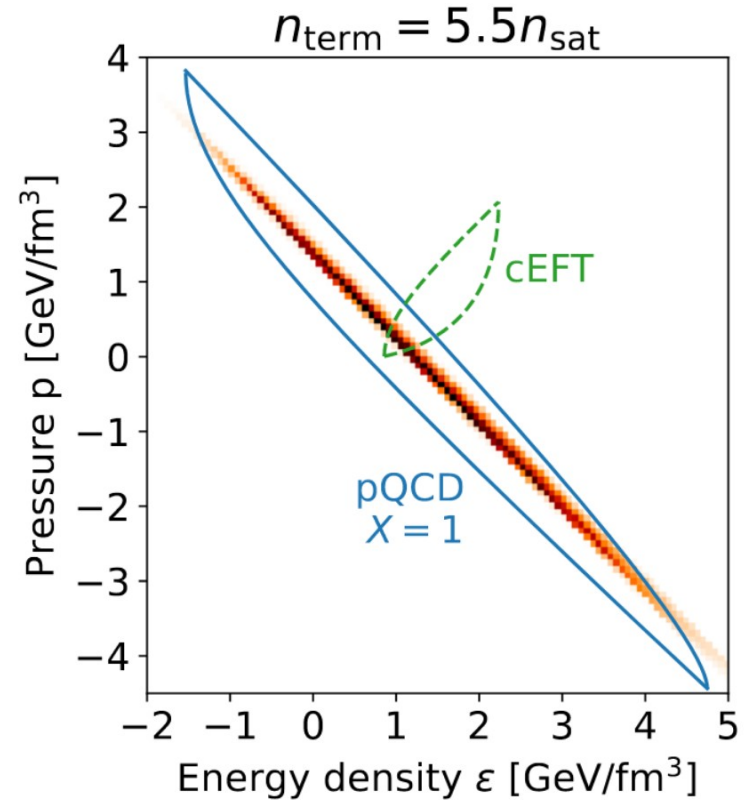
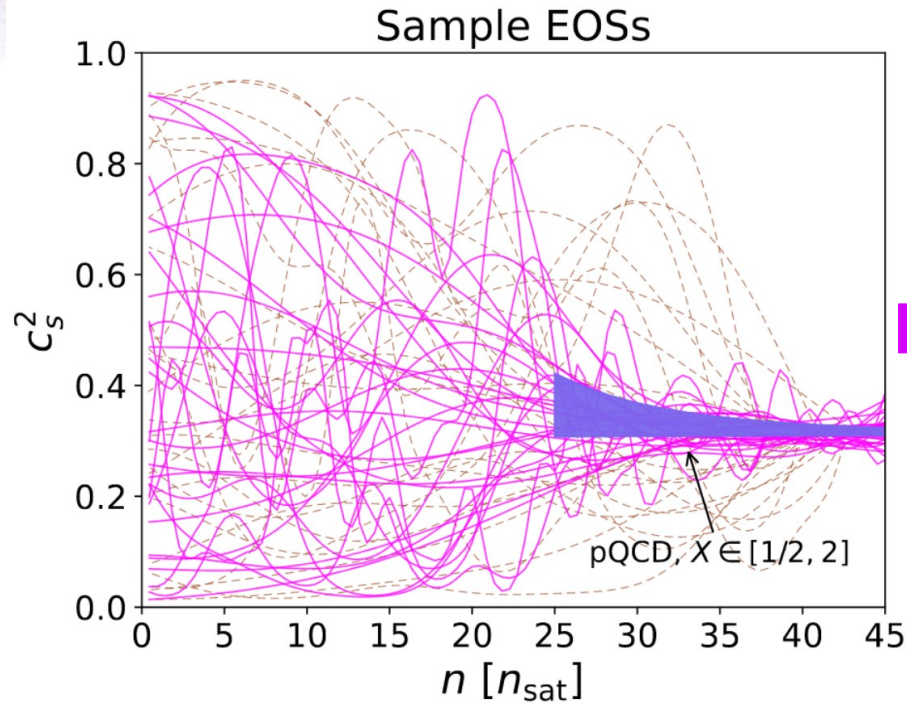


Can use 2<sup>nd</sup> GP to **marginalize over EoS extensions** and **condition with pQCD  $c_s^2$**



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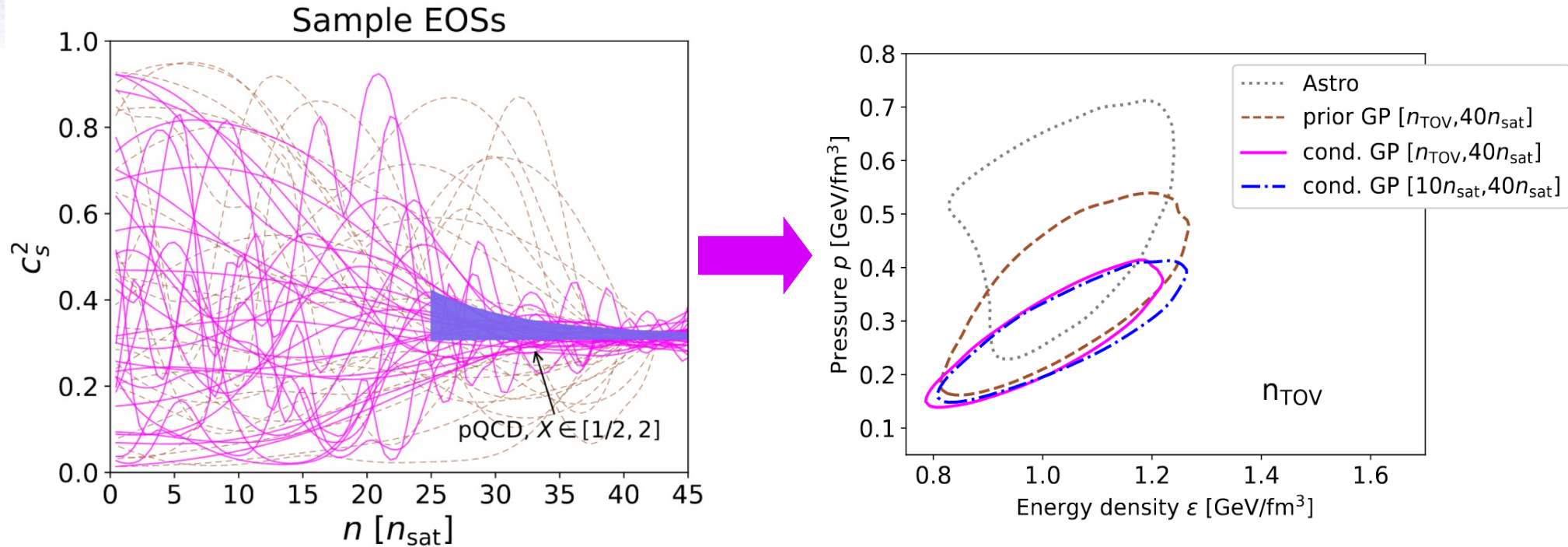
Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



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# Conditioning with pQCD $c_s^2$ leads to robust softening

Komoltsev, Somasundaram, Gorda, Kurkela, Margueron, Tews 2312.14127



**Takeaway:** marginalized QCD input yields results independent of  $n_{\text{term}}$

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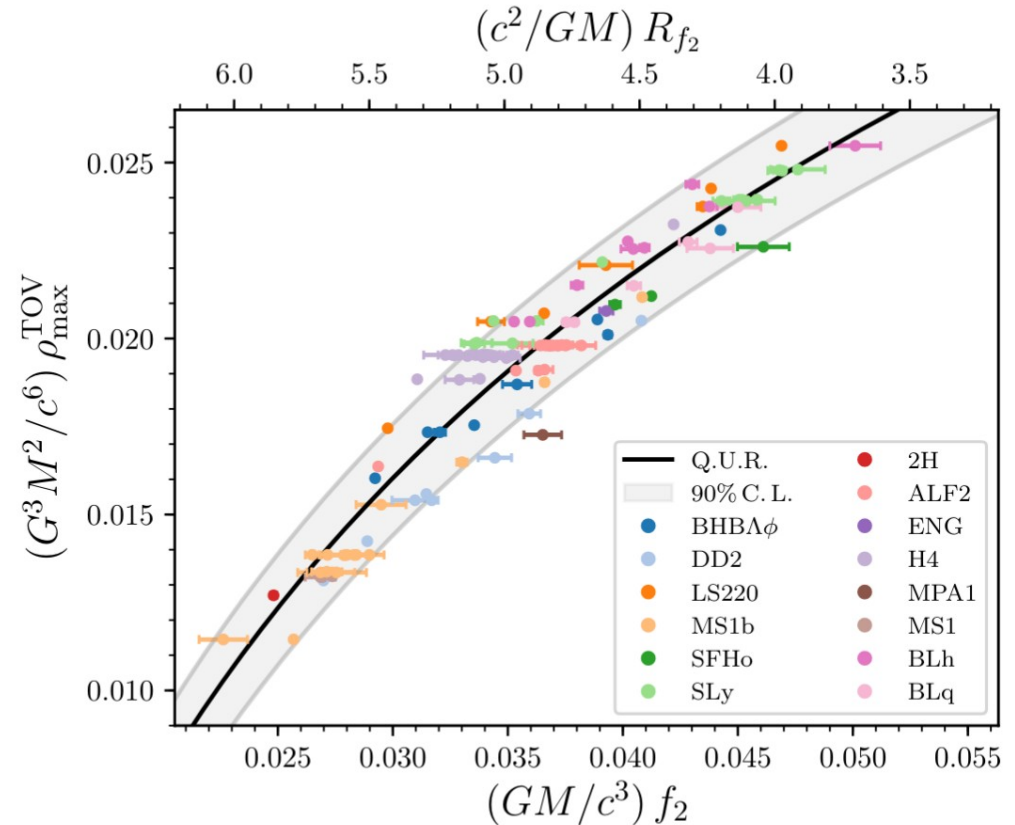


# Known correlations between $f_2$ and the EOS

Past works using individual models have seen **correlation between  $f_2$  and the underlying EOS**

Bauswein, Stergioulas, PRD 91, 124056 (2015);  
 Takami, Rezzolla, Baiotti PRD 91, 064001 (2015);  
 Rezzolla, Takami, PRD 93, 124051 (2016);  
 Bauswein, Nikolaos Stergioulas, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part.  
 Phys. 46 113002 (2019)

...



Breschi, Bernuzzi, Godzieba+ PRL 128 (2022)

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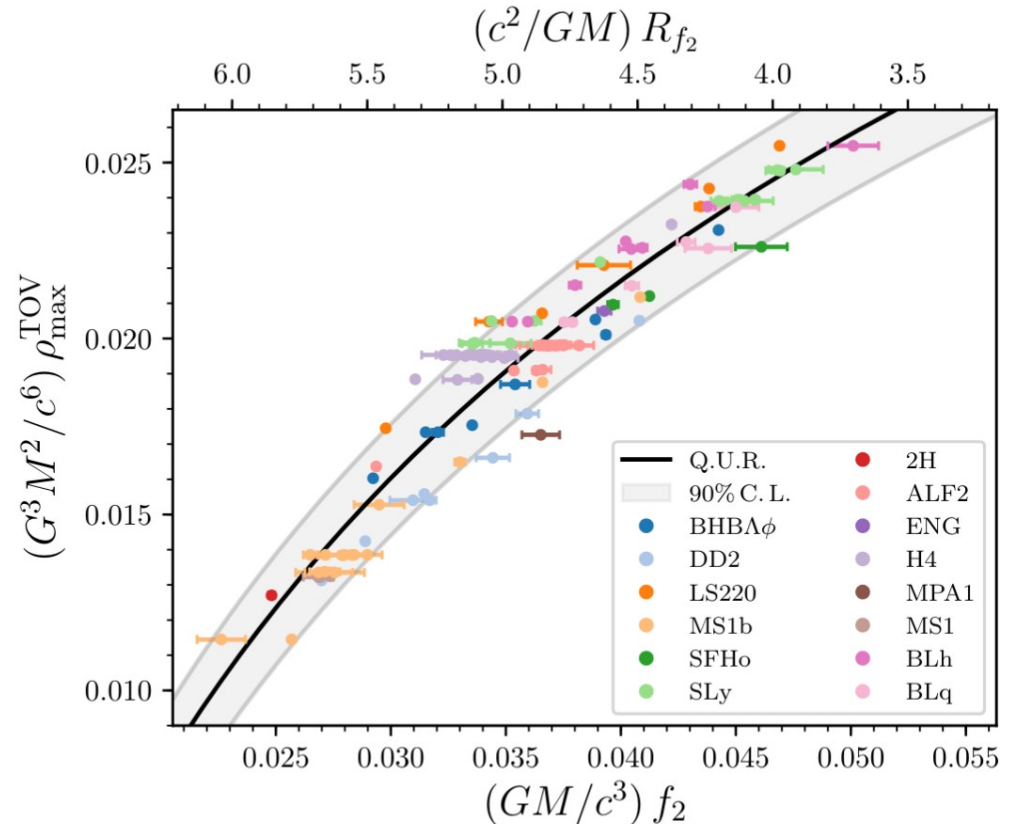
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Bauswein, Nikolaos Stergioulas, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part.  
Phys. 46 113002 (2019)

...

## Goal:

Can we perform a **model-agnostic analysis** of the post-merger evolution, using the same GP ensemble as before?

Can we find **other correlations** in the post-merger phase?



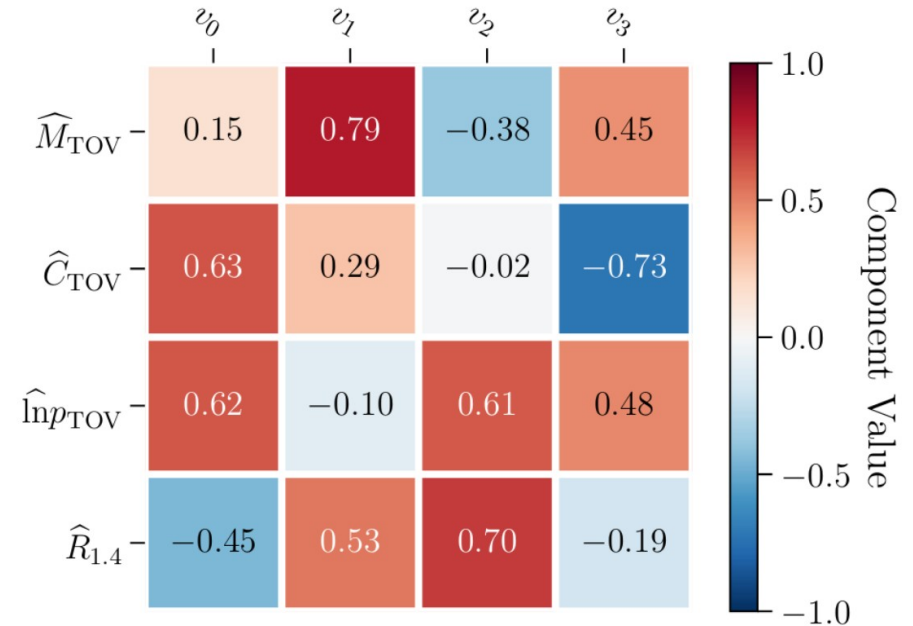
Breschi, Bernuzzi, Godzieba+ PRL 128 (2022)

# Selecting a small, smart sample of model-agnostic EOSs (1)

- $>10^5$  BNS simulations are **too expensive to simulate; need to select a small, smart sample**
- Focus on a few variables that characterize the high-density part of the EOS, and one to break degeneracy at lower densities:

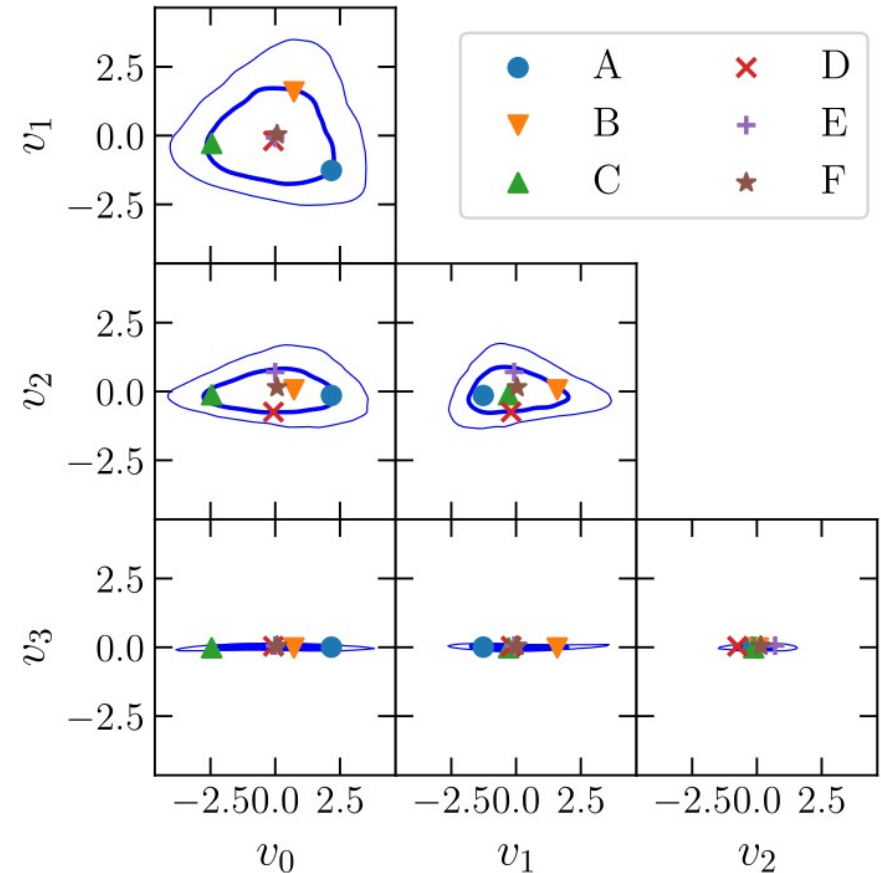
$$(M_{\text{TOV}}, R_{\text{TOV}}, \ln p_{\text{TOV}}, R(1.4M_{\odot}))$$

- Consider the 4d distribution of these variables, **normalized** as  $\hat{x} \equiv (x - \bar{x})/\sigma_x$  to have mean 0 and variance 1
- Find the **principal components** in this 4D space that **capture the majority of the variance** ( $v_0, \dots, v_3$ ) – eigenvectors & eigenvalues of covariance matrix



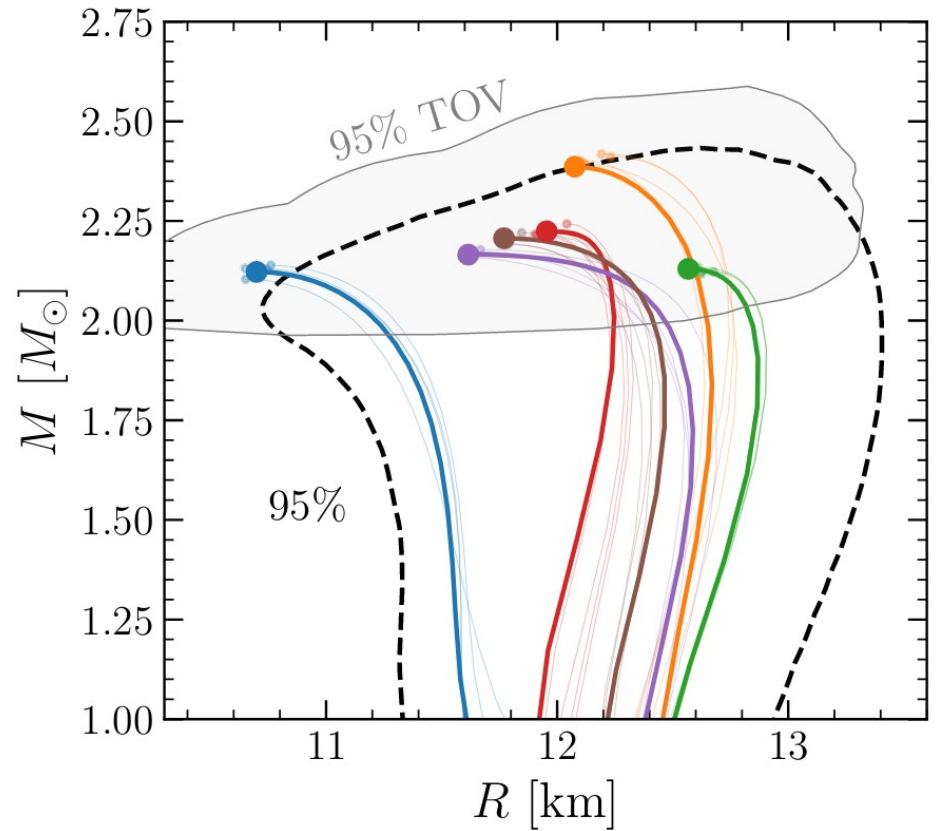
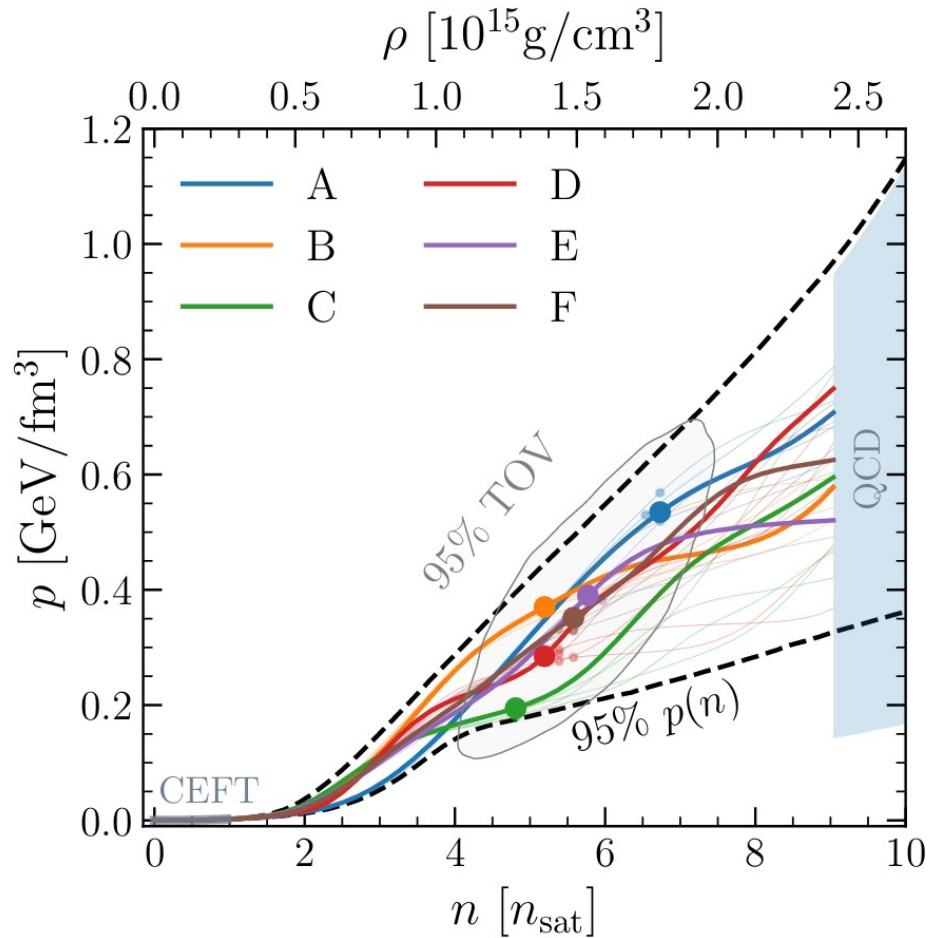
# Selecting a small, smart sample of model-agnostic EOSs (2)

- We find the 4D distribution in the PCA coordinates is **primarily 3D**, with **prominent triangular shape** in  $(v_0, v_1)$  plane
- Identify 6 “golden EOSs” near the 68% credible region of the 3D part (+1 in center) to simulate – we select the highest-likelihood EoSs out of the 30 closest EoSs
- Simulate  $q = M_2/M_1 = 1.0, 0.85, 0.7$  for GW170817 chirp mass + diagnostics (use simple hybrid EoS construction with fixed  $\Gamma_{\text{th}}=1.75$ )

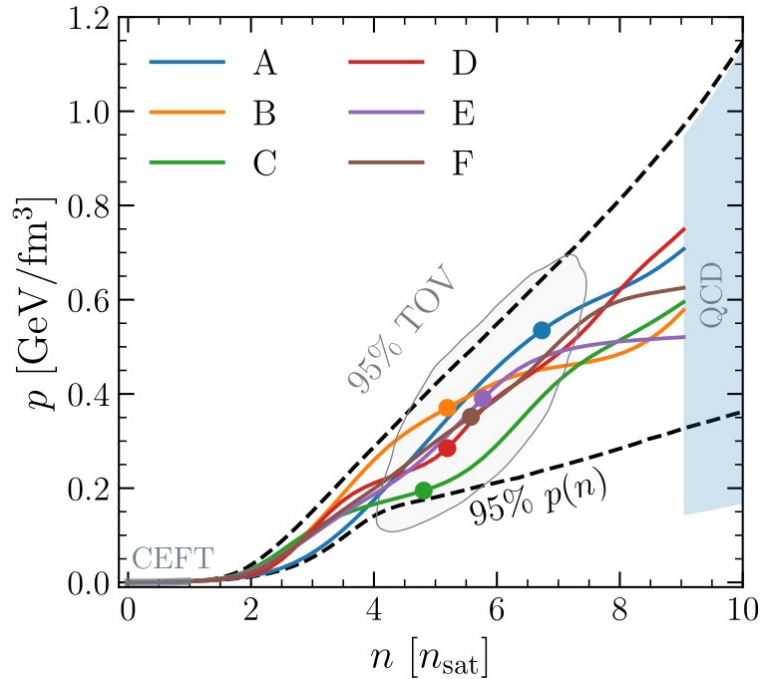




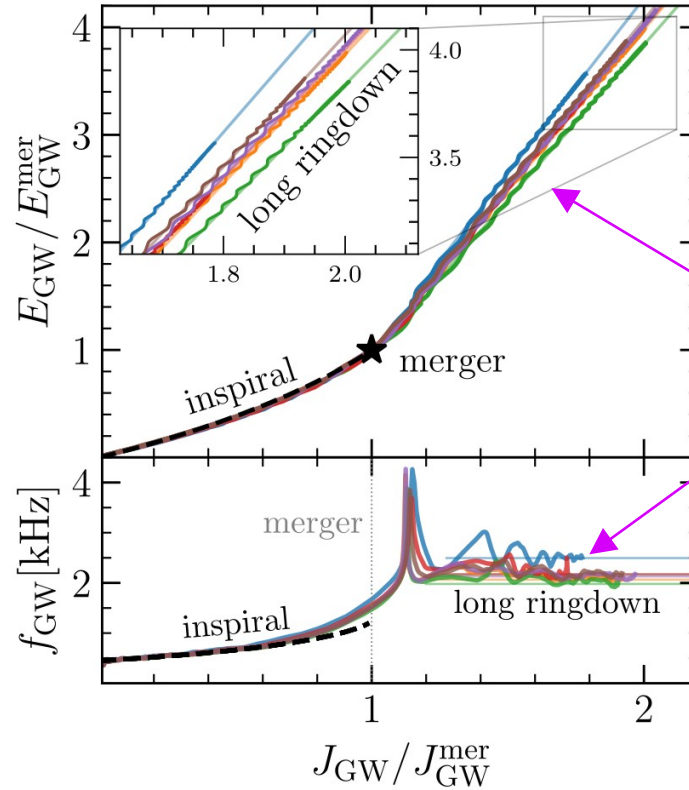
# The six “golden EoSs”



# Correlation observed in the “Long ringdown” of the HMNS

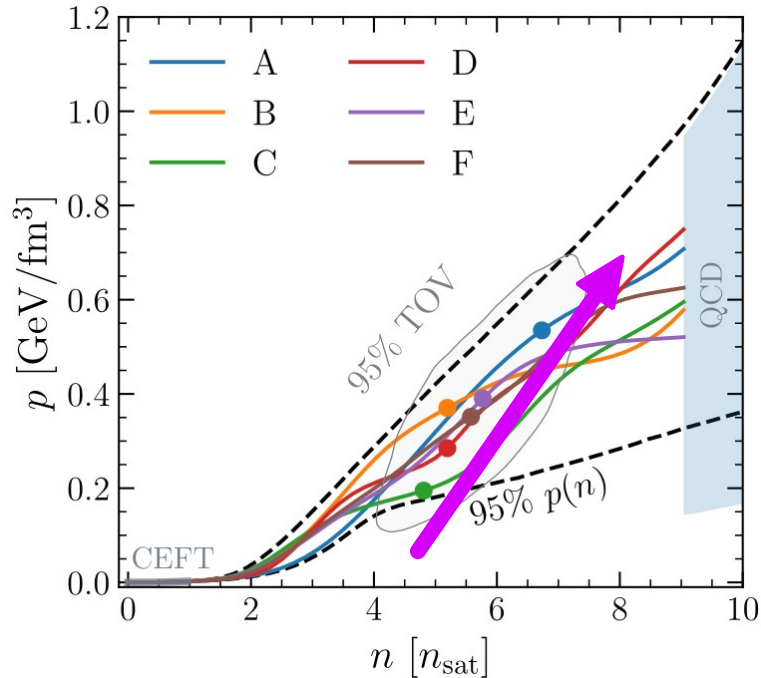


$q = 1$  results:

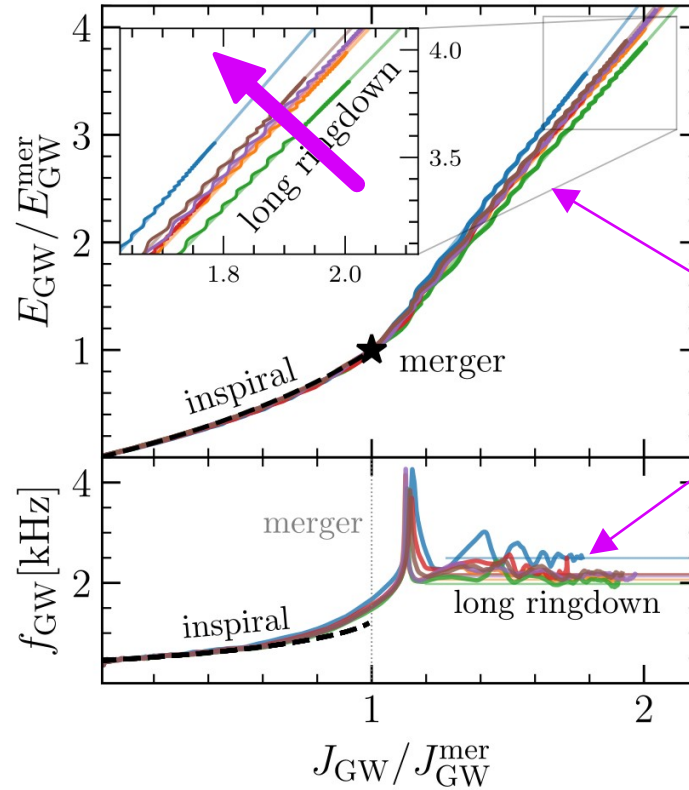


Striking **linear relation** between **emitted GW energy  $E$**  and **angular momentum  $J$**

# Correlation observed in the “Long ringdown” of the HMNS



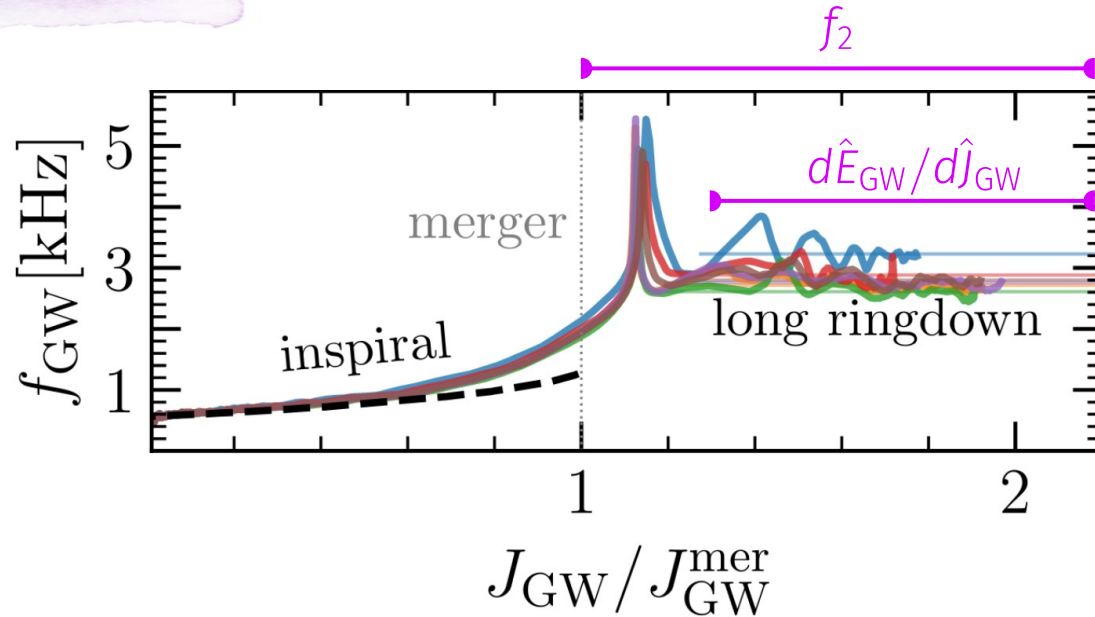
$q = 1$  results:



Slope given by  $f_{\text{GW}}$  if pure quadrupole (good approximation)

Find that TOV properties correlated with this linear slope

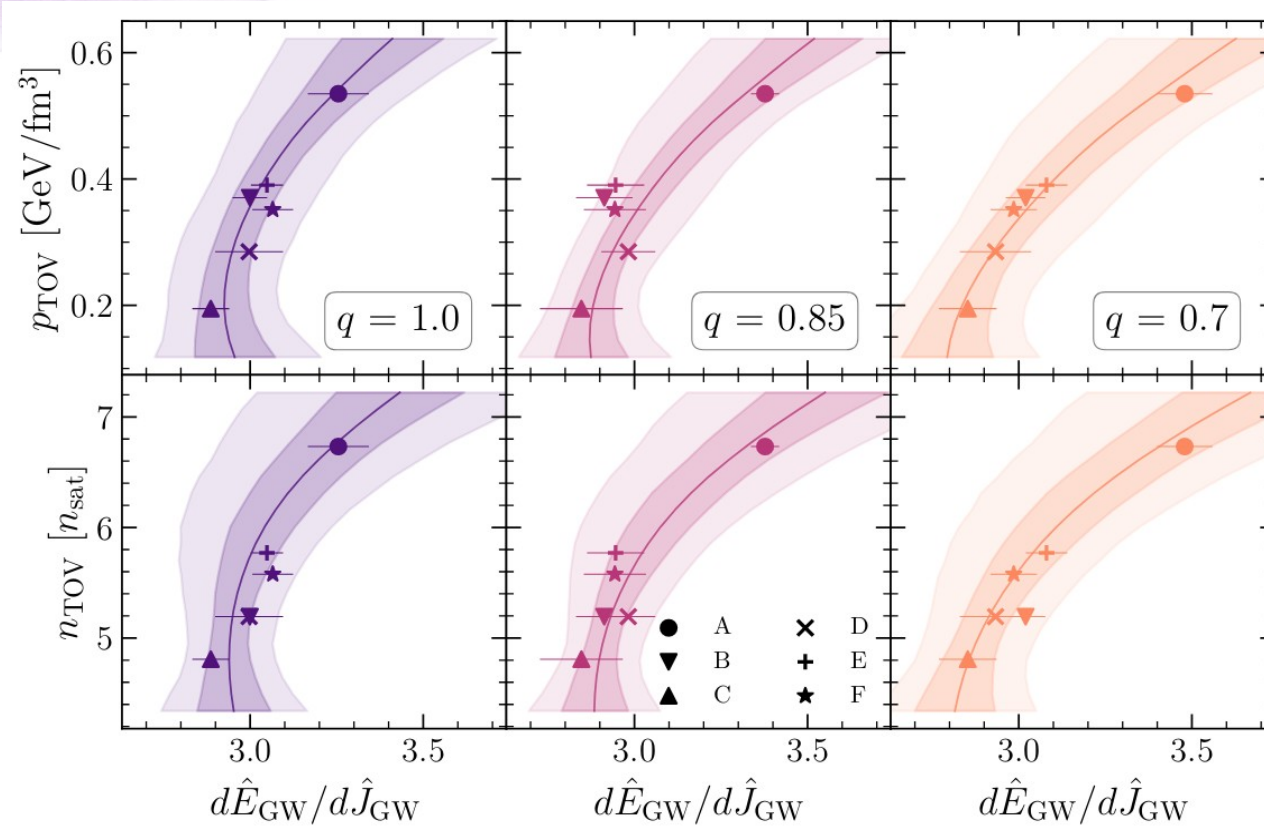
# Long ring-down slope and $f_2$ are not the same



$f_2$  picks up power even during the transient first few ms, and it is measured from Fourier transform, instead of linear fit to emitted  $E_{\text{GW}}, J_{\text{GW}}$

We find  $d\hat{E}_{\text{GW}}/d\hat{J}_{\text{GW}}$  better correlated with the TOV point (though both are well correlated)

# Slope is correlated with the TOV pressure and density



Use bilinear model : 
$$\frac{d\hat{E}_{\text{GW}}}{d\hat{J}_{\text{GW}}} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 n_{\text{TOV}} + \beta_2 p_{\text{TOV}} + \beta_3 q + \beta_4 n_{\text{TOV}} \cdot q + \beta_5 p_{\text{TOV}} \cdot q + \beta_6 n_{\text{TOV}} p_{\text{TOV}}$$

# Use correlation in a simple mock measurement

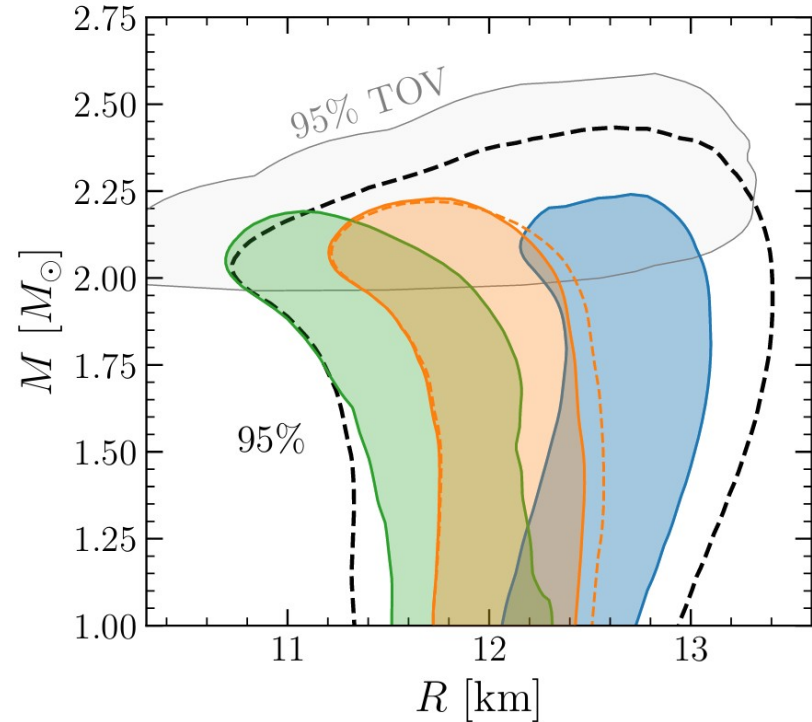
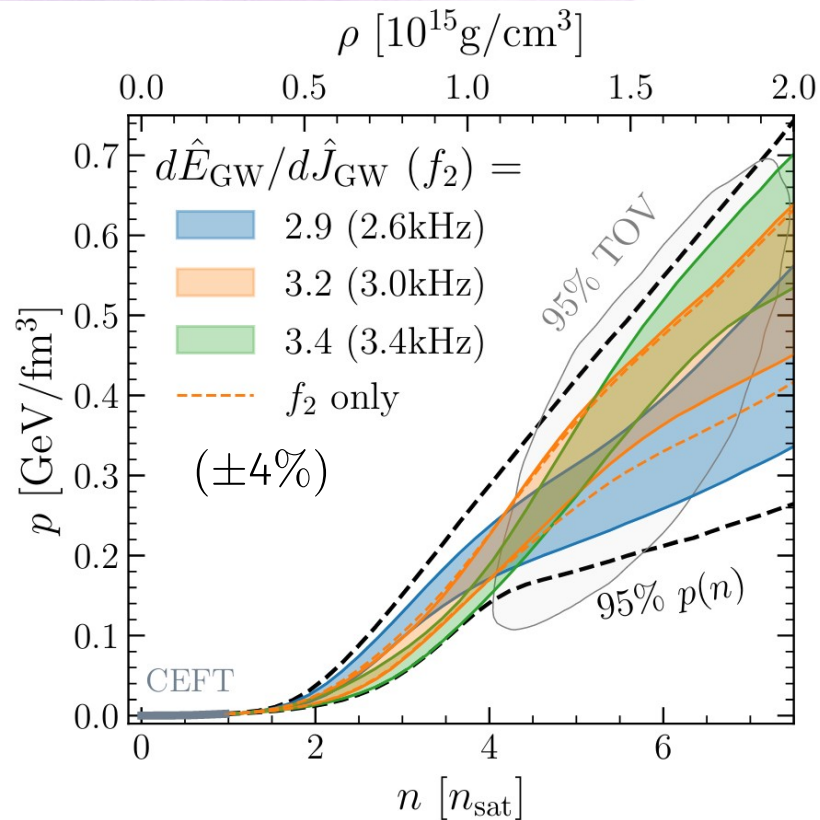
New component of likelihood in Bayes's Theorem

Joint likelihood from measurement (assumed multivariate Gaussian in  $f_2$  and slope)

$$P(\text{data}|\text{EOS}, q) = \int df_2 d\left(\frac{d\hat{E}_{\text{GW}}}{d\hat{J}_{\text{GW}}}\right) \\ \times P_{\text{meas}}(\text{data}|f_2, \frac{d\hat{E}_{\text{GW}}}{d\hat{J}_{\text{GW}}}, q) \\ \times P_{\text{mod}}(\frac{d\hat{E}_{\text{GW}}}{d\hat{J}_{\text{GW}}}, f_2|\text{EOS}, q),$$

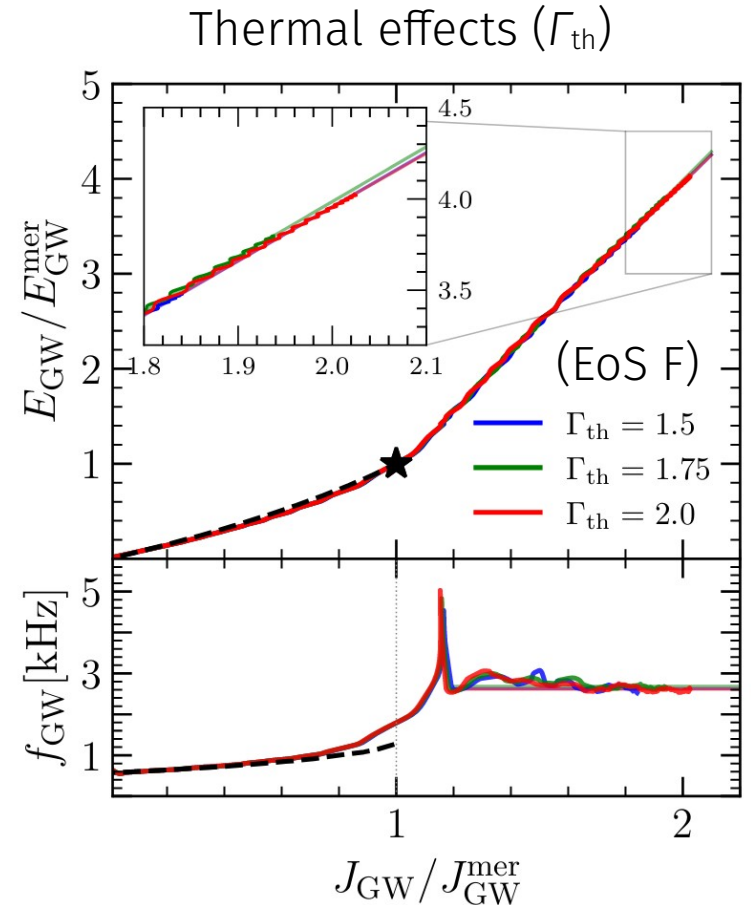
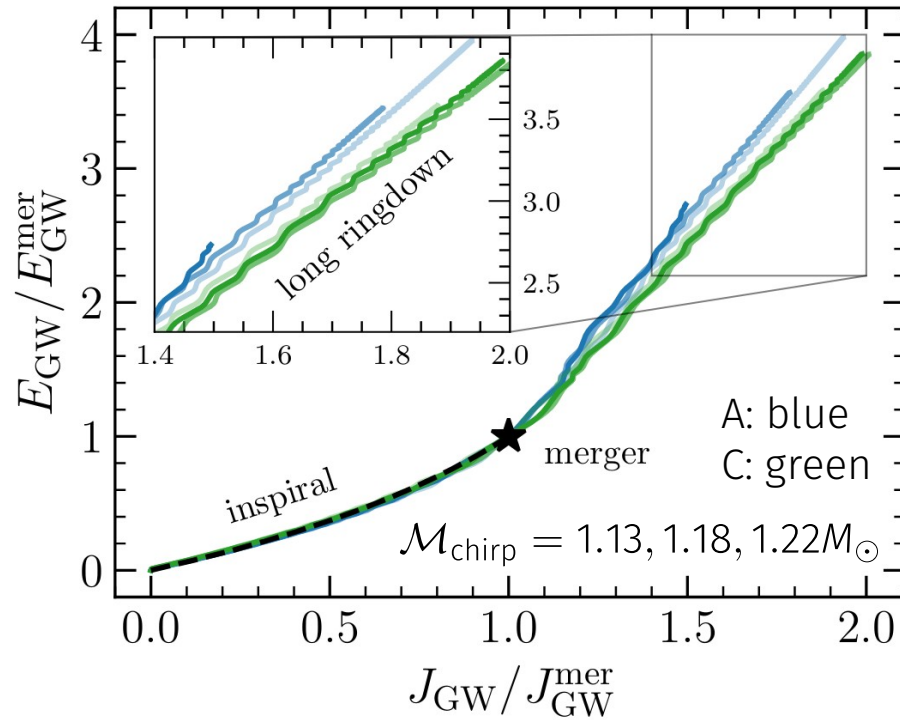
Bilinear model(s)

# Long ringdown measurement constrains the whole EOS



Measurement **improves upon constraints from  $f_2$  alone** due to better correlation (here assuming flat prior for  $q \in [0.7, 1]$ )

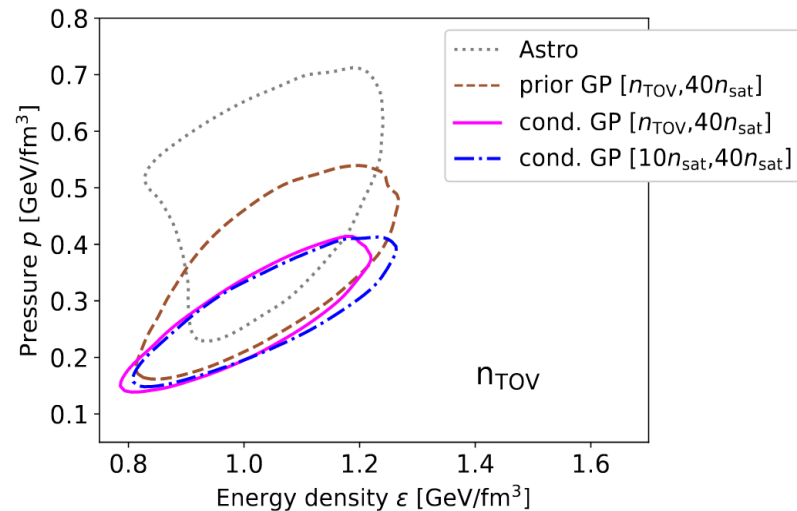
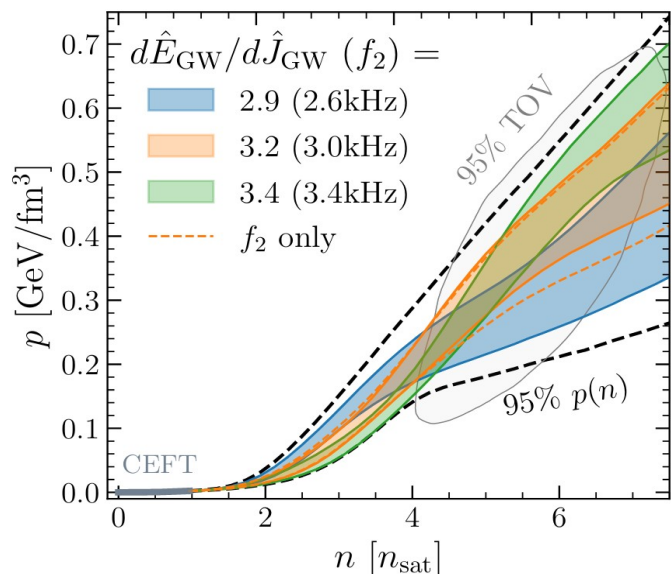
# Slope insensitive chirp mass and thermal effects





# Conclusions

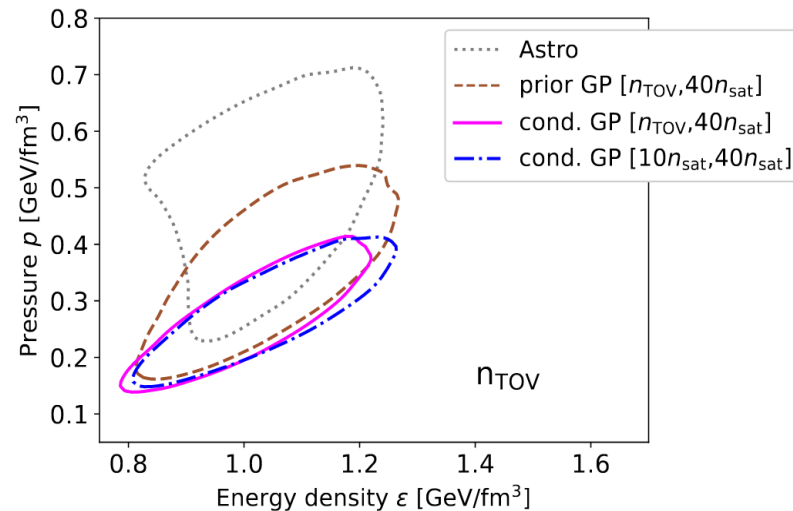
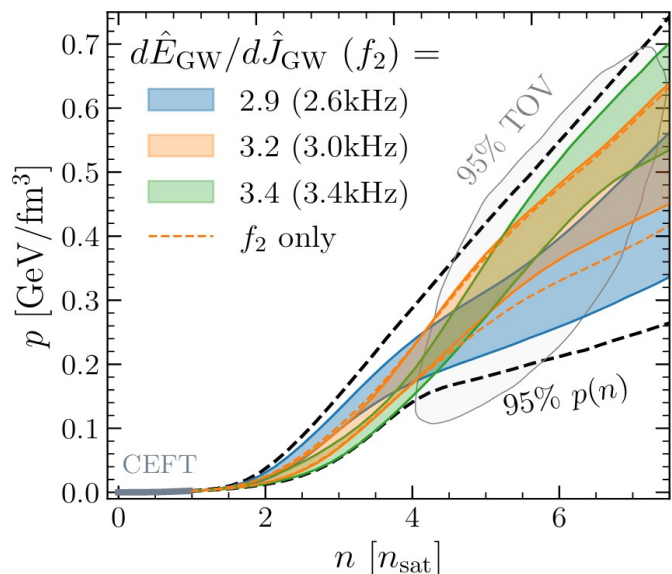
- ✓ pQCD +thermodynamics implies **softening before  $n_{\text{TOV}}$**  or **Strong, prolonged softening just after, followed by  $c_s^2 \approx 1$**
- Stiff EoS at  $n_{\text{TOV}}$  incompatible with pQCD  $c_s^2$  at  $25\text{-}40n_{\text{sat}}$
- ✓ Marginalized pQCD input yields results independent of  $n_{\text{term}}$



- ✓ “Long ringdown” in BNS mergers will constrain EoS
  - PCA analysis allows us to **capture ensemble behavior**
  - **Linear postmerger relation** between GW energy and angular momentum **correlated with TOV properties**
  - Yields **improved constraints** beyond of  $f_2$

# Conclusions

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Thanks for your attention!



*Here there be details...*

# Gaussian Process regression priors

- Follow Landry & Essick Phys. Rev. D 99 (2019) and implement a **Gaussian Process Regression** in an auxiliary variable  $\varphi(n) = -\ln(c_s^{-2}(n) - 1)$ , **but as function of  $n$**
- Use hierarchical model, for wide range of behavior

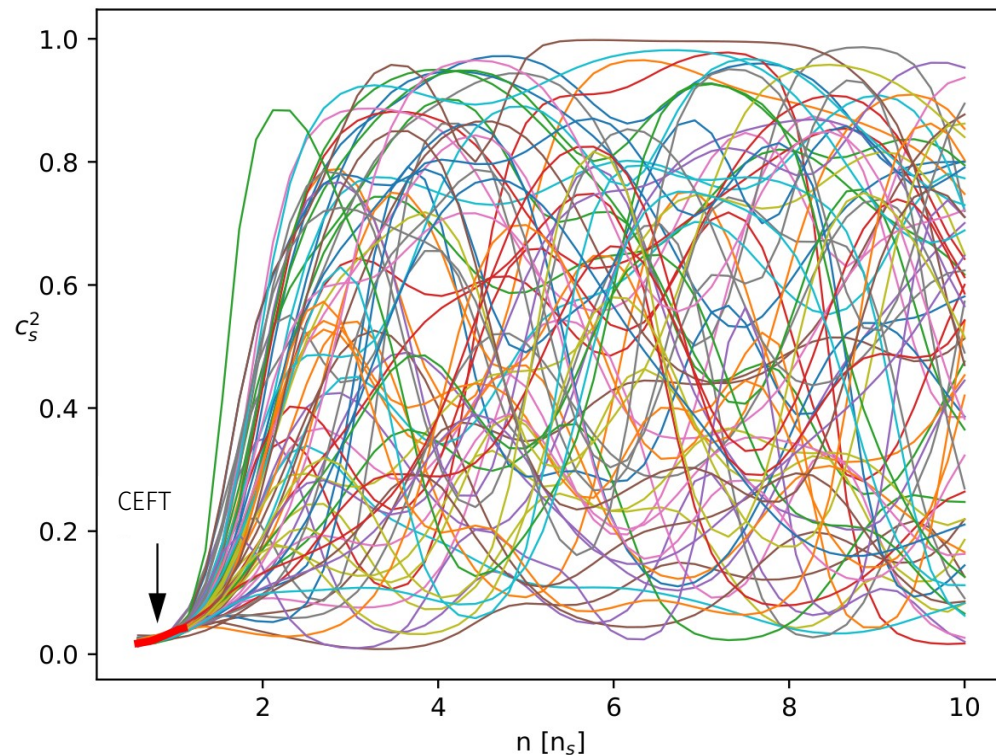
$$\varphi(n) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(-\ln(\bar{c}_s^{-2} - 1), K(n, n')\right),$$

$$K(n, n') = \eta e^{-(n-n')^2/2\ell^2}$$

$$\bar{c}_s^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 0.25^2),$$

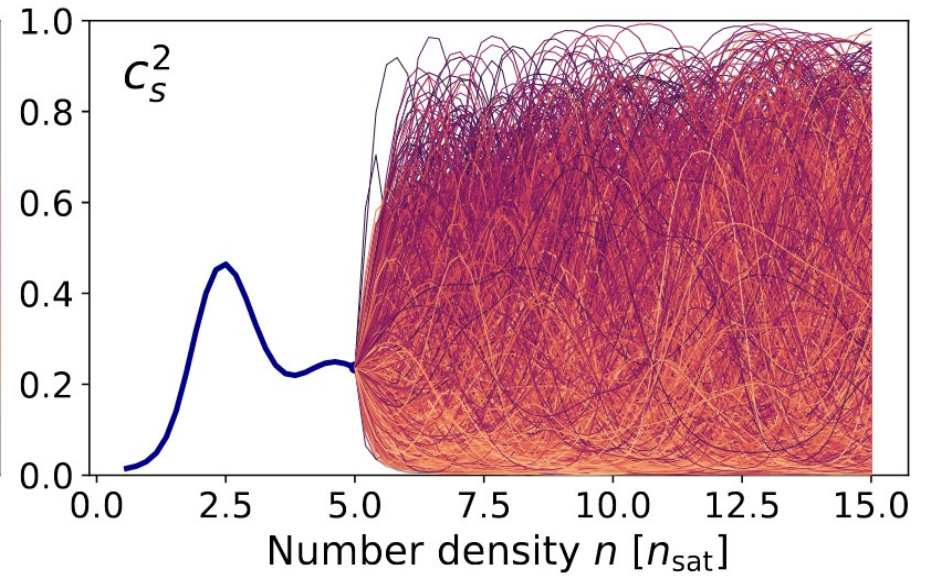
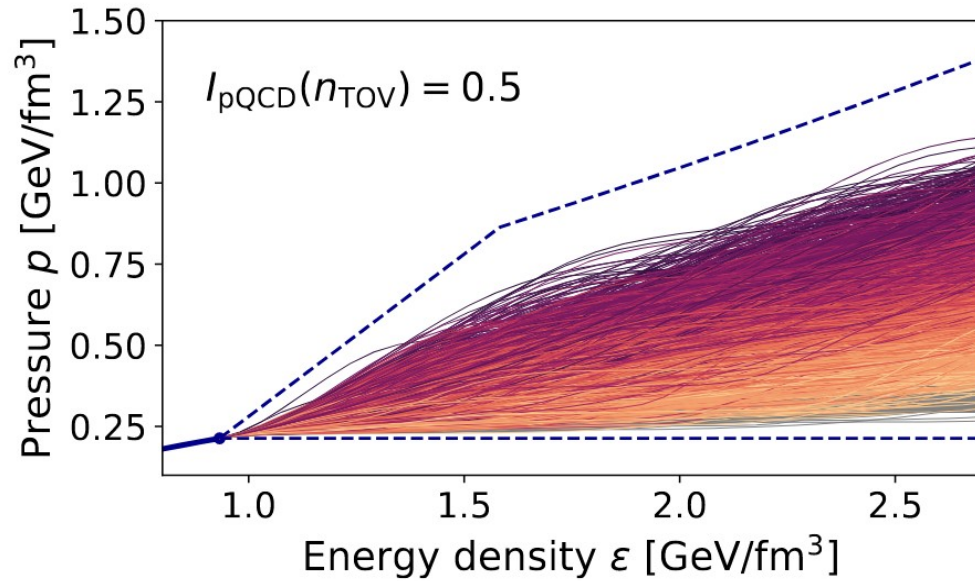
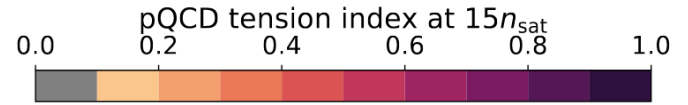
$$\ell \sim \mathcal{N}(1.0n_s, (0.2n_s)^2),$$

$$\eta \sim \mathcal{N}(1.25, 0.25^2).$$



Gorda, Komoltsev, Kurkela, ApJ 950 (2023)  
<https://github.com/OKomoltsev/QCD-likelihood-function>

# EoS extensions with least extreme $I_{\text{pQCD}}$



# Why is a 2<sup>nd</sup> GP marginalization?

(Low and high parts of EoS)

1. Expectation value of  $Q$ : 
$$P(Q) = \int d\eta_l d\eta_h P(Q|\eta_l, \eta_h) P(\eta_l, \eta_h)$$

2. Assume  $l$  and  $h$  are un- (or weakly) correlated: 
$$P(\eta_l, \eta_h) = P(\eta_l)P(\eta_h)$$

3.  $Q$  only depends on  $h$  through  $\varepsilon_L, p_L$  at  $n_{\text{term}}$ : 
$$P(Q|\eta_l, \eta_h) = P(Q|\eta_l; p_L, \varepsilon_L),$$

4. Then can marginalize over  $\varepsilon_L, p_L$  as

$$P(Q) = \int d\eta_l dp_L d\varepsilon_L P(Q|\eta_l; p_L, \varepsilon_L) P(\eta_l) w(p_L, \varepsilon_L),$$

$$w(p_L, \varepsilon_L) \equiv \int d\eta_h P(p_L, \varepsilon_L|\eta_h) P(\eta_h)$$



Quantity that we plotted before

# Simulation details:

- FUKA code initial data solver; initial separation  $\approx 45$  km

Papenfort, Tootle, Grandclément, Most, Rezzolla, PRD 104, 024057 (2021)

- Evolution with Einstein-Toolkit, including the fixed-mesh box-in-box refinement framework Carpet

Haas+ The Einstein Toolkit. Zenodo. (<http://einsteintoolkit.org>) (2020).

Schnetter, Hawley, Hawke, Class. Quantum Grav. 21, 1465–1488 (2004)

- six refinement levels; finest grid spacing of 295 m;
- impose reflection symmetry across orbital plane
- computational domain outer boundary at  $\pm 1512$  km
- Hybrid EoS construction w/ fixed  $\Gamma_{\text{th}} \equiv (p_{\text{th}}/\epsilon_{\text{th}}) + 1$
- Extract  $\psi_4 \equiv \ddot{h}_+ + i\ddot{h}_\times$  with sampling rate  $\approx 634$  kHz from a spherical surface with radius  $\approx 574$  km (spin-weighted spherical-harmonic modes with  $l \leq 4$ )

# Sample waveforms

$$10^{22} \times \sum_{\ell=2}^4 \sum_{m=-\ell}^{m=\ell} -2Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) h_+^{\ell m}(r) \text{ for } r = 40 \text{ Mpc, } \theta = 15^\circ, \phi = 0^\circ$$

$$2\sqrt{f}\tilde{h}(f) [\text{Hz}^{-1/2}]$$

