

**The ExtreMe Matter Institute (EMMI)
at GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research, Darmstadt
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The hyperon puzzle in Neutron Stars



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The so-called **hyperon puzzle** in neutron stars is the difficulty to reconcile the measured masses of neutron stars with the presence of hyperons in their interiors.

Summary of the talk

- Introduction to neutron star (NS) physics and results for *nucleon stars*
- Hyperons in dense matter and the origin of the hyperon puzzle
- Hyperonic three-body interactions as a possible solution of the hyperon puzzle
- Strange quark matter in NSs and hyperon puzzle

Neutron Stars: bulk properties

Mass $M \sim 1.5 M_{\odot}$

Radius $R \sim 10 \text{ km}$

Centr. Density $\rho_c = (4 - 8) \rho_0$

Compactness $R/R_g \sim 2 - 4$

Baryon number $A \sim 10^{57}$

Binding energy $B \sim 10^{53} \text{ erg}$

$B/A \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$ $B/(Mc^2) \sim 10\%$

Stellar structure:
General Relativity

Giant “atomic nucleus”
or “hypernucleus”
bound by **gravity**

$M_{\odot} = 1.989 \times 10^{33} \text{ g}$ $R_{\odot} = 6.96 \times 10^5 \text{ km}$ $R_g_{\odot} = 2.95 \text{ km}$

$\rho_0 = 2.6 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$ ($n_0 \sim 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ **nuclear saturation density**)

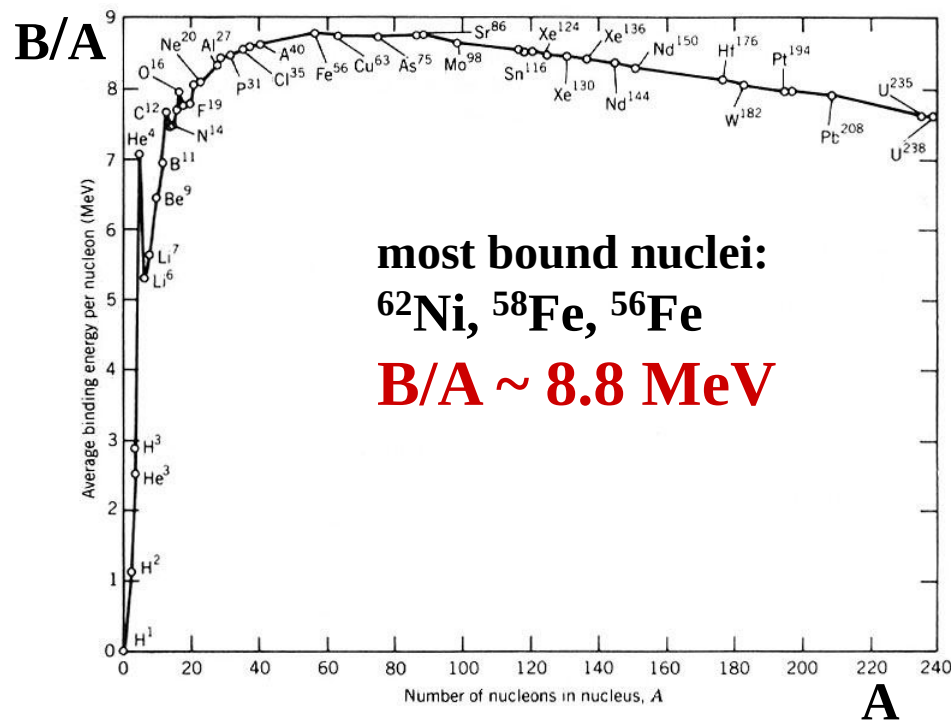
$R_g \equiv 2GM/c^2$ (Schwarzschild radius)

Atomic Nuclei: bulk properties

Mass number $A = 1 - 238$ (natural stable isotopes)

Radius $R = r_0 A^{1/3} \sim (2 - 8) \text{ fm}$

Density $\rho \sim \rho_0 = 2.6 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$



most bound nuclei:

^{62}Ni , ^{58}Fe , ^{56}Fe

$B/A \sim 8.8 \text{ MeV}$

$B/(Mc^2)$

$\sim (0.1-1)\%$

bound by
nuclear
interactions

Relativistic equations for stellar structure

Static and spherically symmetric self-gravitating mass distribution

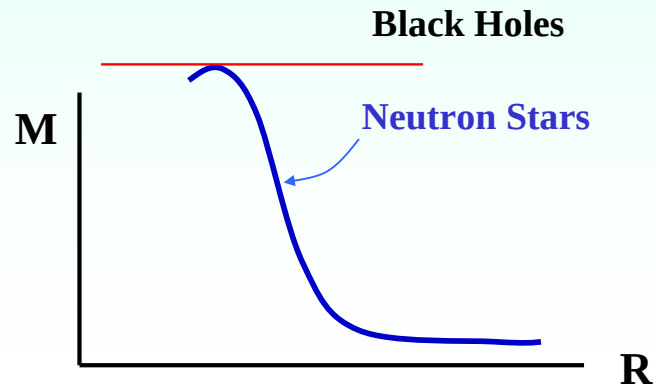
Tolman – Oppenheimer – Volkov equations (TOV)

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = -G \frac{m(r)\rho(r)}{r^2} \left(1 + \frac{P(r)}{c^2 \rho(r)} \right) \left(1 + 4\pi \frac{r^3 P(r)}{m(r) c^2} \right) \left[1 - \frac{2Gm(r)}{c^2 r} \right]^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dm}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \rho(r)$$

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dr} = -\frac{1}{\rho(r)c^2} \frac{dP}{dr} \left(1 + \frac{P(r)}{\rho(r)c^2} \right)^{-1}$$

One needs the
equation of state (EOS) of
dense matter, $P = P(\rho)$,
up to **very high densities**



$M_{\max}(\text{EOS}) \geq$ all measured neutron star masses

Measured Neutron Star masses in relativistic binary systems: **three “heavy” Neutron Stars**

Measuring post-Keplerian parameters: very accurate NS mass measurements;
model independent measurements within GR

PSR J1614–2230 $M_{\text{NS}} = 1.97 \pm 0.04 M_{\odot}$

NS – WD binary system (He WD) $M_{\text{WD}} = 0.5 M_{\odot}$ (companion mass)

$P_b = 8.69 \text{ hr}$ (orbital period) $P = 3.15 \text{ ms}$ (PSR spin period) $i = 89.17^\circ \pm 0.02^\circ$ (inclination angle)

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

PSR J0348+0432 $M_{\text{NS}} = 2.01 \pm 0.04 M_{\odot}$

NS – WD binary system $M_{\text{WD}} = 0.172 \pm 0.003 M_{\odot}$ (companion mass)

$P_b = 2.46 \text{ hr}$ (orbital period) $P = 39.12 \text{ ms}$ (PSR spin period) $i = 40.2^\circ \pm 0.6^\circ$ (inclination angle)

Antoniadis et al., Science 340 (2013) 448

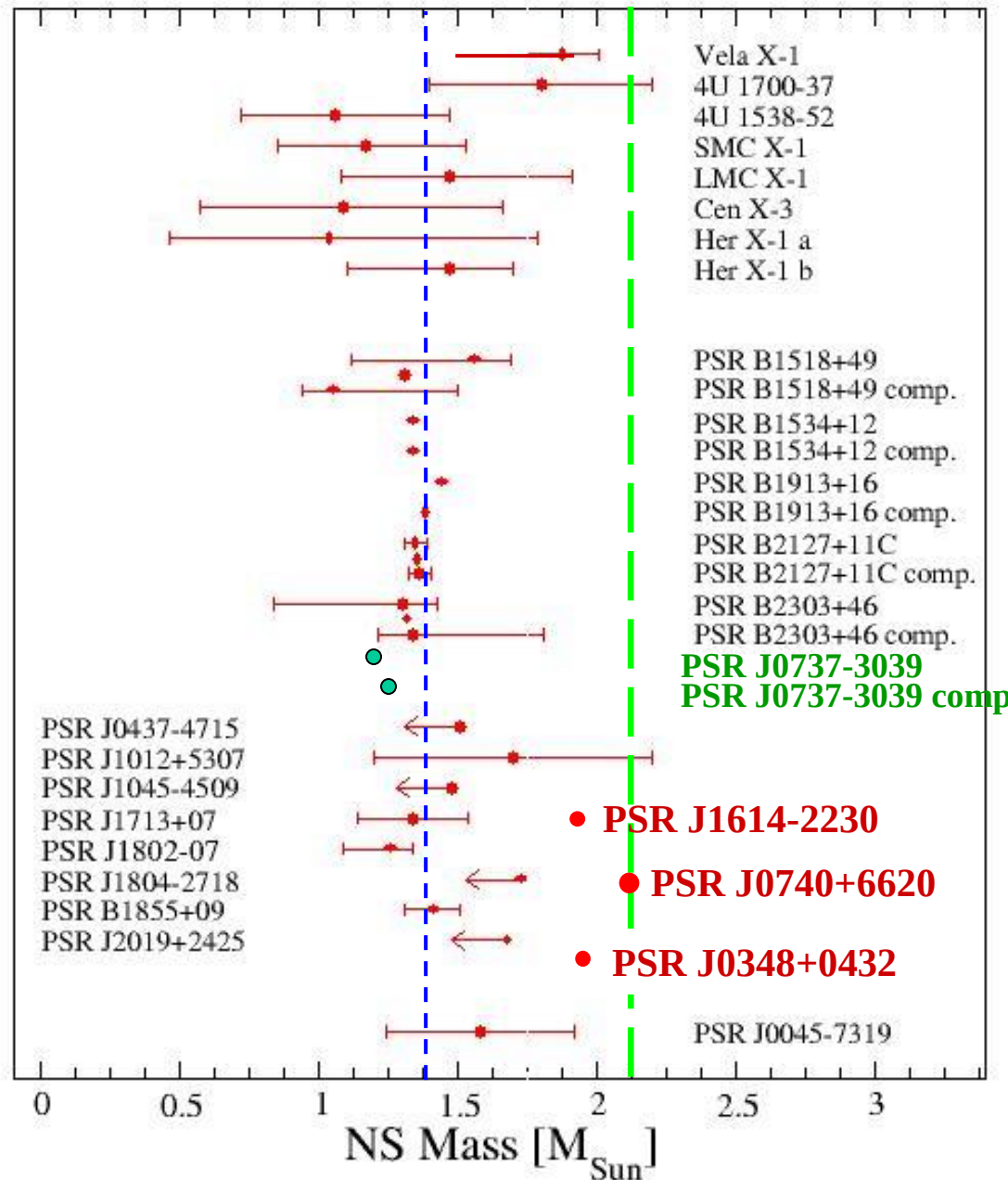
PSR J0740+6620 $M_{\text{NS}} = 2.14^{+0.10}_{-0.09} M_{\odot}$

NS – WD binary system $M_{\text{WD}} = 0.258 M_{\odot}$ (companion mass)

$P_b = 4.7669 \text{ days}$ (orbital period) $P = 2.89 \text{ ms}$ (PSR spin period) $i = 87.38^\circ \pm 0.20^\circ$ (inclination angle)

H. T. Cromartie et al., Nature Astronomy 4 (2020) 72

Measured Neutron Star Masses



$$M_{\text{max}} \geq 2 M_{\odot}$$



Very stringent
constraint on the
EOS

soft EOS
are
ruled out

Neutron star physics in a nutshell

1) **Gravity** compresses matter at very high density

2) **Pauli principle**

Stellar constituents are different species of **identical fermions** (n, p,...,e⁻, μ⁻)
→ antisymmetric wave function for particle Exchange → Pauli principle

Chemical potentials $\mu_n, \mu_p, \dots, \mu_e$ rapidly increasing functions of the density

3) **Weak interactions** change the **isospin** and **strangeness** content of dense matter to **minimize the energy**

Cold catalyzed matter (Harrison, Wakano, Wheeler, 1958)

The ground state (minimum energy per baryon) of a system of **hadrons** and **leptons** with respect to their mutual **strong** and **weak interactions** at a given total baryon density n and temperature T = 0.

Nucleon Stars

β -stable nuclear matter

$$p + e^- \leftrightarrow n + \nu_e$$

$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \leftrightarrow n + e^+$$

$$\mu_e \geq m_\mu$$

$$e^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

☐ **Equilibrium with
respect to the weak
interaction processes**

☐ **Charge neutrality**

$$\mu_n - \mu_p = \mu_e$$

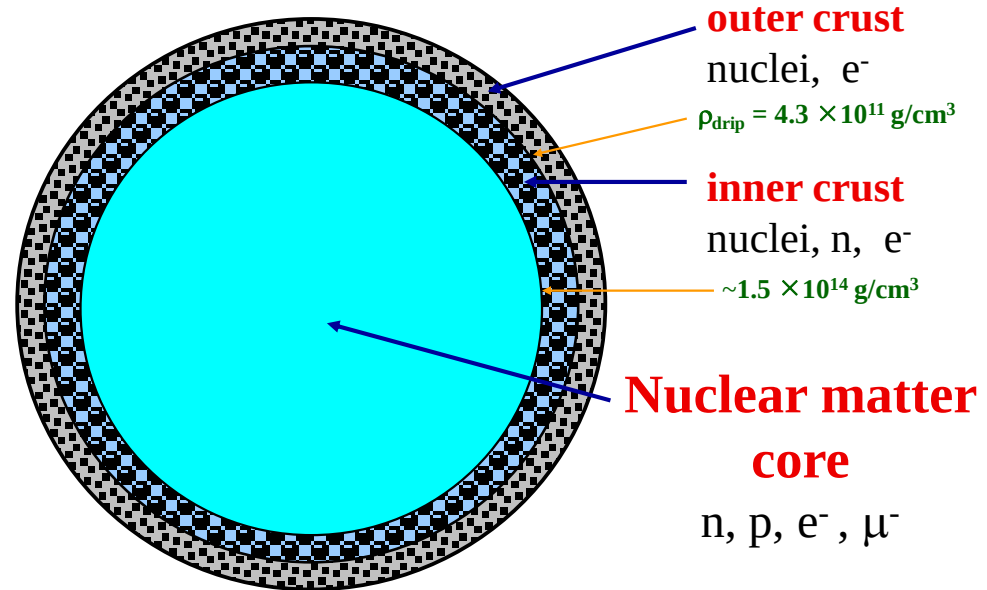
$$\mu_\mu = \mu_e$$

$$n_p = n_e + n_\mu$$

neutrino-free matter

$$\mu_\nu = \mu_{\bar{\nu}} = 0$$

To be solved for any given value of the total baryon number density n



Microscopic approach to asymmetric nuclear matter EOS

input

Two-body nuclear interactions: V_{NN}

Parameters fitted to
NN scattering data with $\chi^2/\text{datum} \sim 1$

Three-body nuclear interactions: V_{NNN}

Parameters fitted to

- binding energy of $A = 3, 4$ nuclei or
- empirical saturation point of symmetric nuclear matter:
 $n_0 = (0.16 \pm 0.01) \text{ fm}^{-3}$, $E/A = (-16 \pm 1) \text{ MeV}$

	AV18	AV18/UIX	Exp.
B(3H)	7.624	8.479	8.482
B(3He)	6.925	7.750	7.718
B(4He)	24.21	28.46	28.30

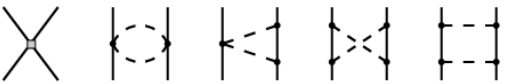
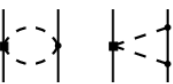
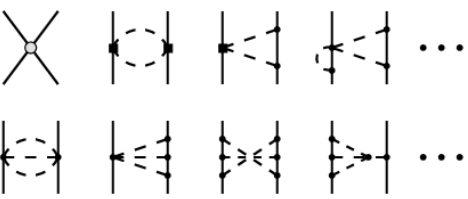
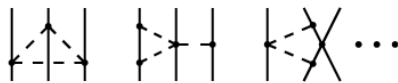
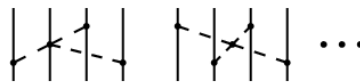
Values in MeV

Nuclear Matter at $n = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

$$E^{\text{pot}}(2\text{BF})/A \sim -40 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E^{\text{pot}}(3\text{BF})/A \sim -1 \text{ MeV}$$

Nuclear interactions derived in Chiral Perturbation Theory (ChPT)

	Two-nucleon force	Three-nucleon force	Four-nucleon force
LO			
NLO			
N2LO			
N3LO			

Two-nucleon (NN), three-nucleon (NNN) and many-nucleon interactions can be calculated perturbatively (i.e. order by order) according to a well-defined scheme based on a low-energy effective QCD Lagrangian.

[S. Weinberg, Physica A 96 \(1979\) 327; Phys. Lett. B 251 \(1990\) 288; Phys. Lett B 259 \(1992\) 114](#)

[E. Epelbaum, H.-W. Hammer, U. G. Meißner, Rev. Mod. Phys. 81 \(2009\) 1773](#)

[R. Machleidt and D. R. Entem, Phys. Rep. 503 \(2011\) 1](#)

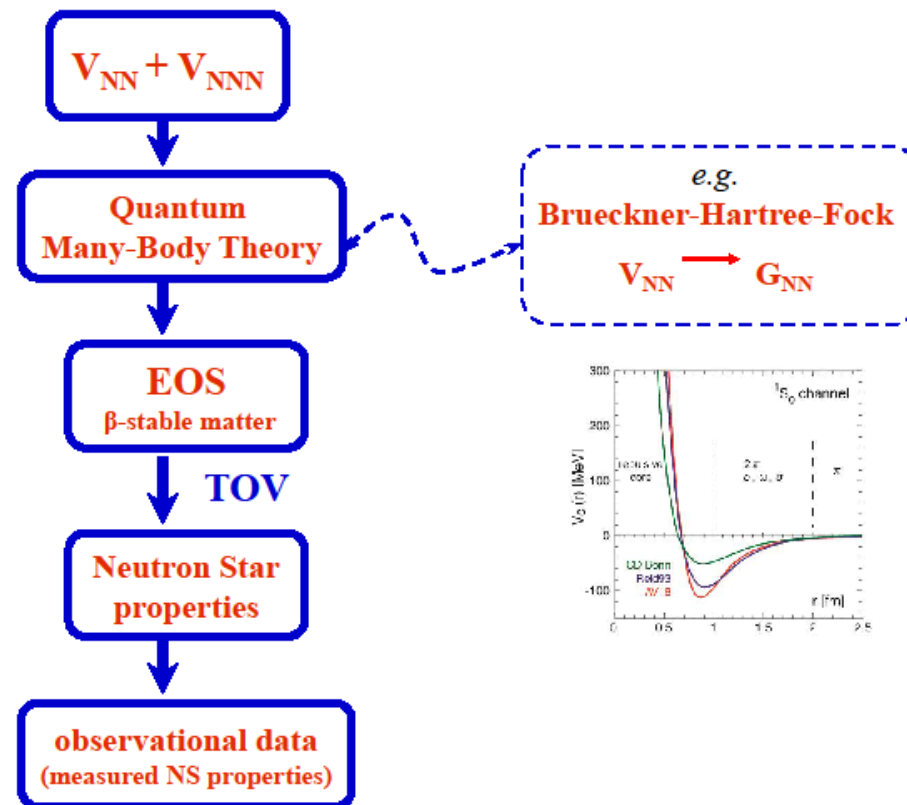
[S. Petschauer, J. Haidenbauer, N. Kaiser, , U. G. Meißner, W. Weise, Front. Phys. 8 \(2020\) 12](#)

A new microscopic EOS model for nuclear matter

I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, *Astron. and Astrophys.* 609 (2018) A128

Available in tabular form on **CompOSE** web site

<https://compose.obspm.fr/eos/120/>



Quantum many-body approach

Brueckner-Bethe-Goldstone theory

$$G_{\tau\tau'}(\omega) = V + V \sum_{k_a k_b} \frac{|k_a k_b\rangle Q_{\tau\tau'} \langle k_a k_b|}{\omega - e_\tau(k_a) - e_{\tau'}(k_b) + i\varepsilon} G_{\tau\tau'}(\omega)$$

$$e_\tau(k) = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + U_\tau(k)$$

$$U_\tau(k) = \Re \left\{ \sum_{\tau'} \sum_{k'} \langle kk' | G_{\tau\tau'}(e_\tau(k) + e_{\tau'}(k')) | kk' \rangle_A \right\}$$

Energy per baryon in the Brueckner-Hartree-Fock (BHF) approximation

$$\tilde{E}(n_n, n_p) \equiv \frac{E}{A} = \frac{1}{A} \left\{ \sum_{\tau} \sum_k \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2M} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\tau} \sum_k U_{\tau}(k) \right\}$$

$$n_n = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \beta)n$$

$$n_p = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \beta)n$$

Interactions

NN ChEFT N3LO $\Delta(1232)$

Piarulli et al., Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 054007

NNN ChEFT N2LO $\Delta(1232)$

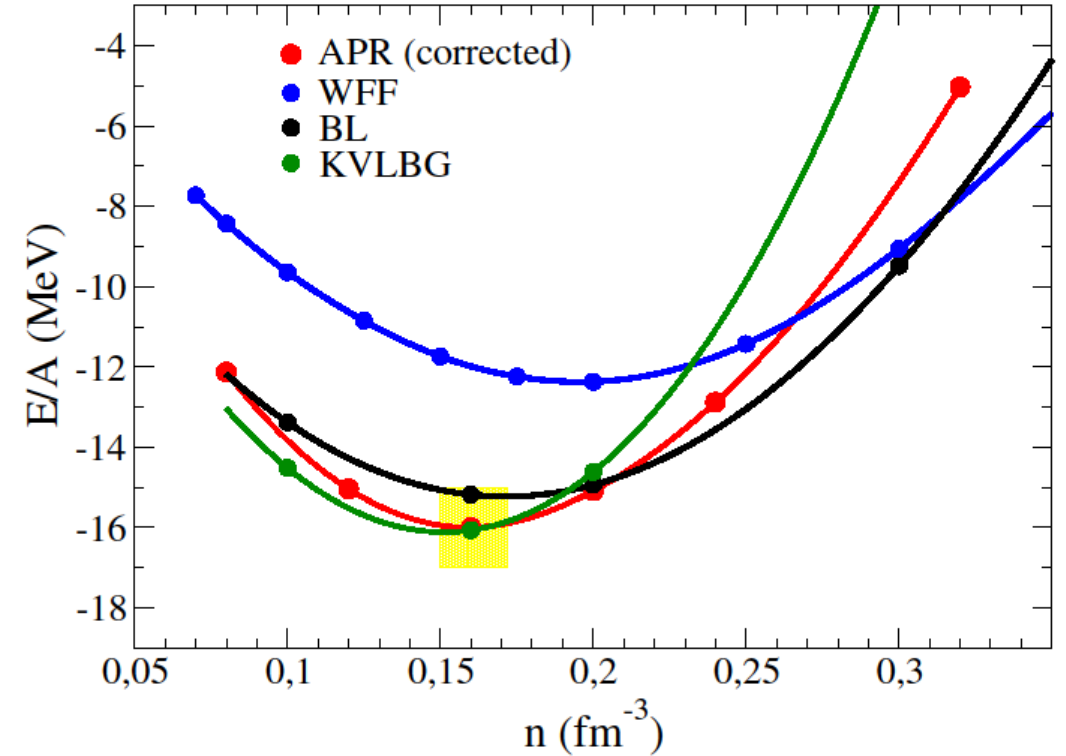
Epelbaum et al., Phys. Rev C 66 (2002) 064001

Navratil, Few-Body Syst. 41 (2007) 117

average $\rightarrow V_{NN}^{\text{eff}}(n)$

Logoteta et al., Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 064001

Symmetric Nuclear matter



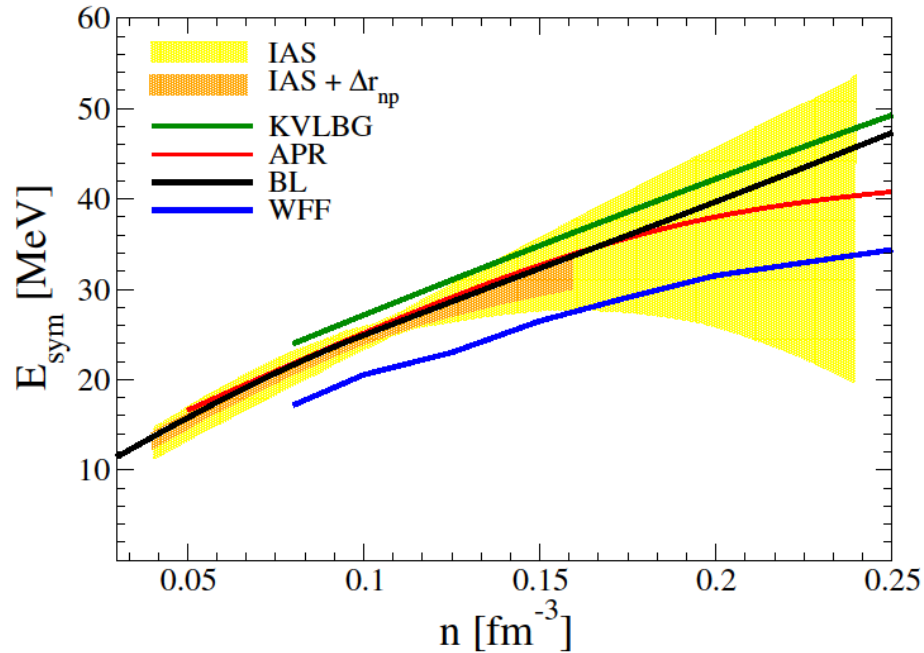
BL : I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, Astron. and Astrophys. 609 (2018) A128

WFF : R.B. Wiringa, V. Ficks and A. Fabrocini, Phys. Rev. C **38** (1988) 1010.

APR :A. Akmal, V.R. Pandharipande and D.G. Ravenhall, Phys. Rev. C **58** (1998) 1804.

KVLBG :A. Kievsky, M. Viviani, D. Logoteta, I. Bombaci and L. Girlanda, Phys. Rev. Lett. **121** (2018) 072701.

Symmetry energy



IAS = constraint from Isobaric Analog States in nuclei

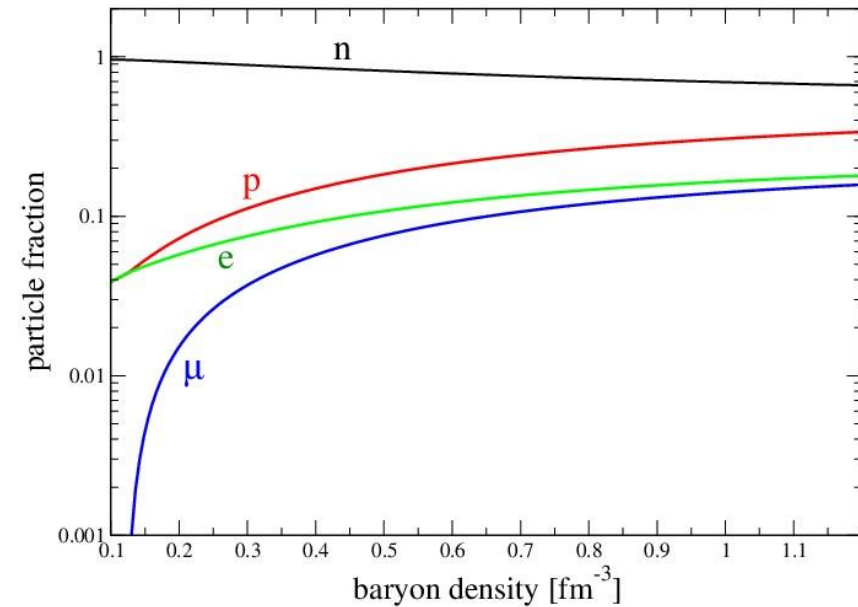
(P. Danielewicz, J. Lee, Nucl. Phys. A922 (2014) 1)

Δr_{np} = neutron skin thickness of heavy nuclei

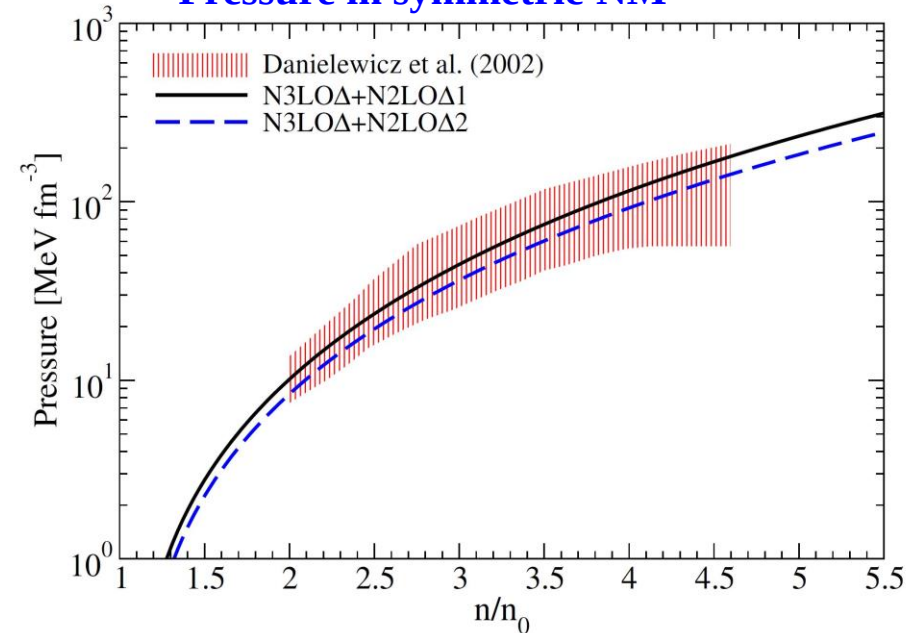
(X. Roca-Maza et al., Phys. Rev. C 87 (2013) 034301)

The **red hatched area** represents the region in the pressure–density plane for **SNM** which is consistent with the measured **elliptic flow of matter in collision experiments between heavy atomic nuclei** (Danielewicz et al. 2002).

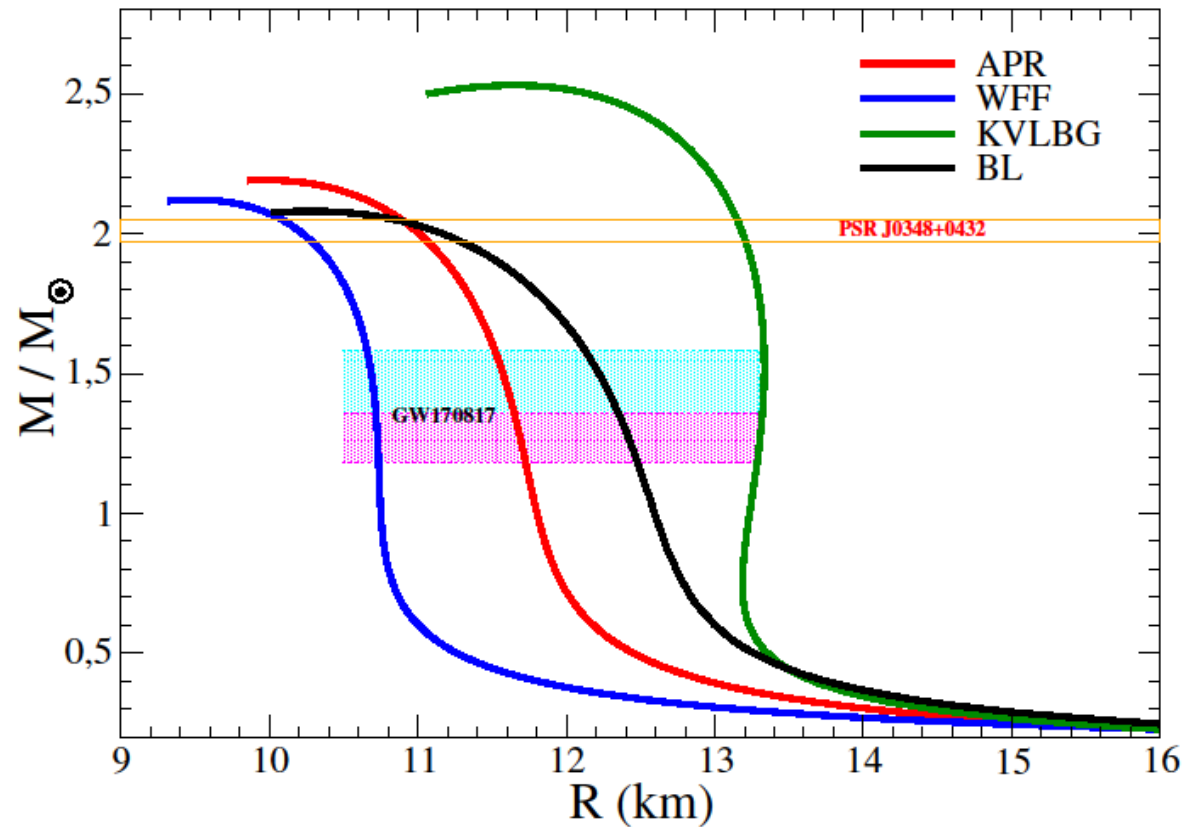
Particle fractions



Pressure in symmetric NM



NS mass-radius relation



GW170817 data from: **B. P. Abbot et al. (LIGO-Virgo collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 119 (2017) 161101**

$R_1 = (11.9 \pm 1.4) \text{ km}$ and **$R_2 = (11.9 \pm 1.4) \text{ km}$** for the radius of the two neutron stars and
 $1.36 \leq M_1/M_\odot \leq 1.58$ and **$1.18 \leq M_2/M_\odot \leq 1.36$** for their masses at the 90% credible level,
for the case of “low-spin” prior.

Neutron stars: the maximum mass configuration

EOS	n_c (fm ⁻³)	n_c / n_0	ρ_c (10 ¹⁴ g/cm ³)	M (M _⊙)	R (km)
BL	1.156	7.23	27.37	2.08	10.28
KVLBG	0.845	5.28	20.25	2.53	11.65
WFF	1.247	7.79	30.12	2.12	9.50
APR	1.146	7.16	27.87	2.19	9.97

I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, Astron. and Astrophys. 609 (2018) A128

A. Kievsky, M. Viviani, D. Logoteta, I. Bombaci and L. Girlanda, Phys. Rev. Lett. **121** (2018) 072701

R.B. Wiringa, V. Ficks and A. Fabrocini, Phys. Rev. C **38** (1988) 1010.

A. Akmal, V.R. Pandharipande and D.G. Ravenhall, Phys. Rev. C 58 (1998) 1804.

Message taken from **Nucleon Stars** (i.e. Neutron Stars with a pure **nuclear matter core**)

NN interactions are essential to have “large” stellar mass

For a free neutron gas $M_{\max} = 0.71 M_{\odot}$ (Oppenheimer and Volkoff, 1939)

NNN interactions are essential

- (i) to reproduce the correct **empirical saturation point of nuclear matter**
- (ii) to reproduce measured neutron star masses, i.e. to have $M_{\max} > 2 M_{\odot}$

Few-body ($A \leq 4$) nuclear systems properties and/or
the **saturation properties of nuclear matter** **can not constrain**
the **NNN interactions at high density**

models of **Nucleon Stars**

(i.e. Neutron Stars with a pure **nuclear matter core**)

are able to explain measured Neutron Star masses
as those of

PSR J1614-2230, PSR J0348+0432 and PSR J0740+6620

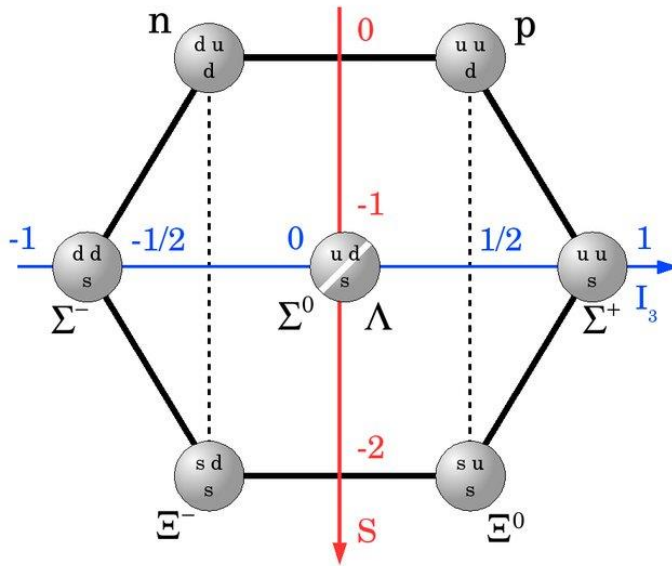
$$M_{\text{NS}} \approx 2 M_{\odot}$$

Happy?

Not the end of the story!

Hyperons in dense matter and Hyperon Stars

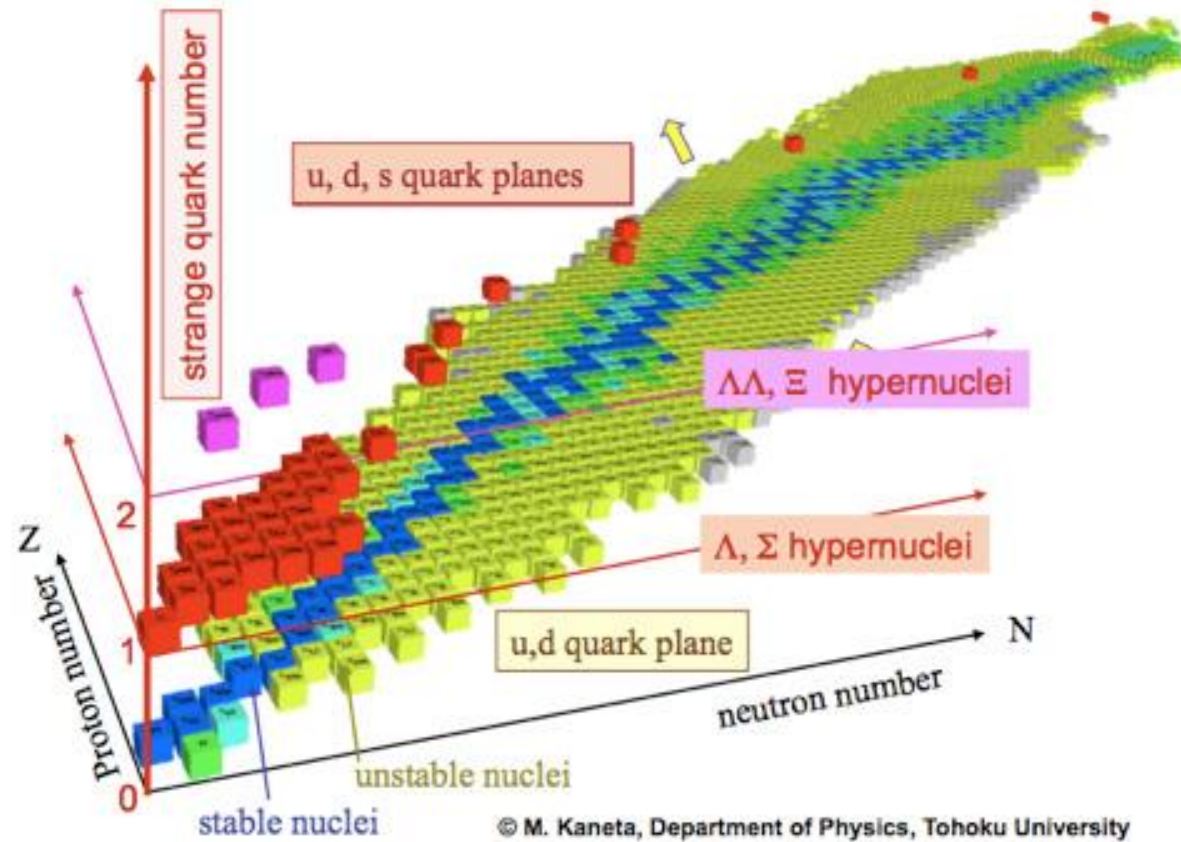
The baryon octet : $J^{\pi} = (1/2)^{+}$



baryon name	Isospin	I_3	S	quarks	mass (MeV/c ²)	mean life
n	1/2	-1/2	0	udd	939.56	880 s
p	1/2	+1/2	0	uud	938.27	stable
Λ	0	0	-1	uds	1115.68	2.63×10^{-10} s
Σ ⁻	1	-1	-1	dds	1197.43	1.48×10^{-10} s
Σ ⁰	1	0	-1	uds	1192.55	7.4×10^{-20} s [†]
Σ ⁺	1	+1	-1	uus	1189.37	0.80×10^{-10} s
Ξ ⁻	1/2	-1/2	-2	dss	1321.32	1.64×10^{-10} s
Ξ ⁰	1/2	+1/2	-2	uss	1314.90	2.90×10^{-10} s

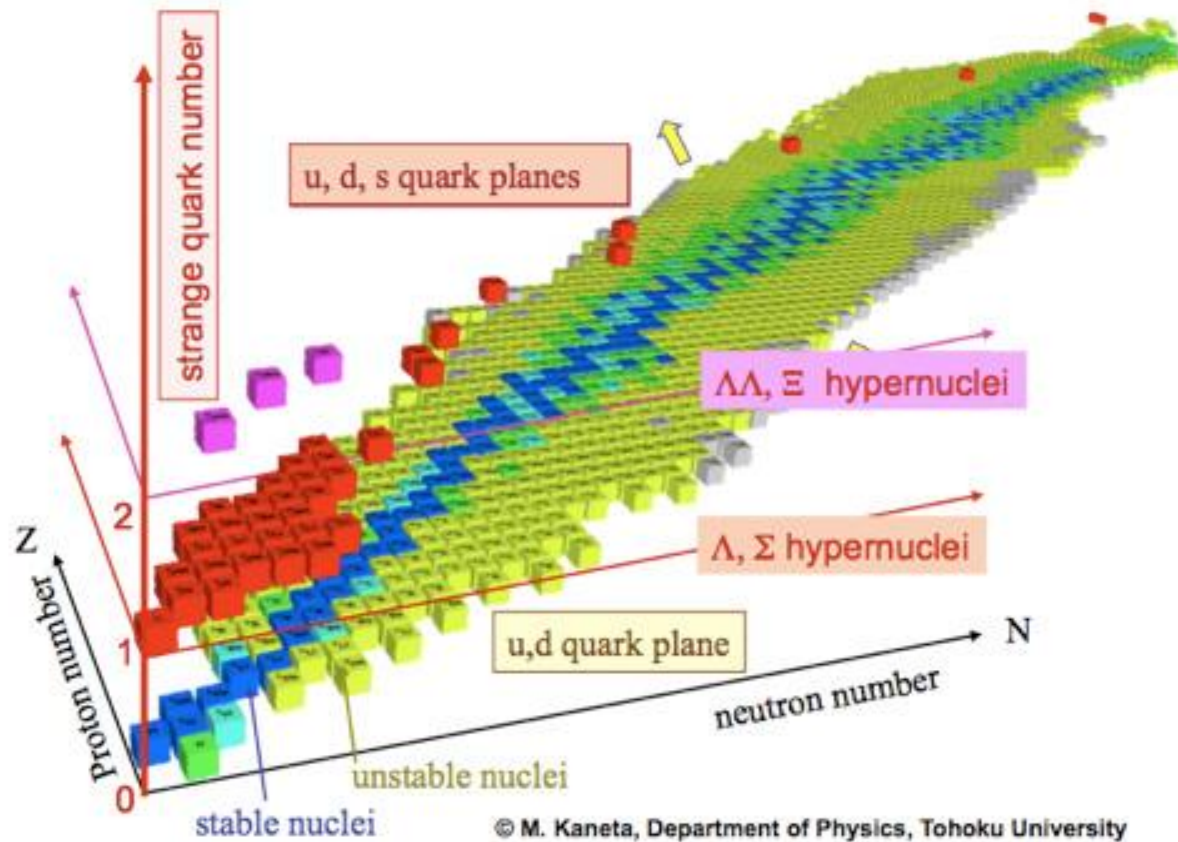
[†] The Σ^0 decays via the electromagnetic process $\Sigma^0 \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ followed by the weak decay of the Λ .

Hypernuclei: (n, p, Y) bound states



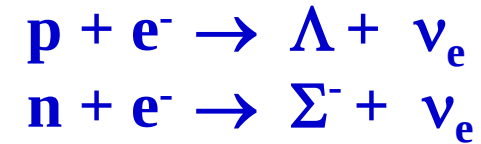
valuable informations on the interactions
between nucleons and hyperons

Hypernuclei: (n, p, Y) bound states



valuable informations on the interactions
between nucleons and hyperons

Hyperons formation in dense nuclear matter

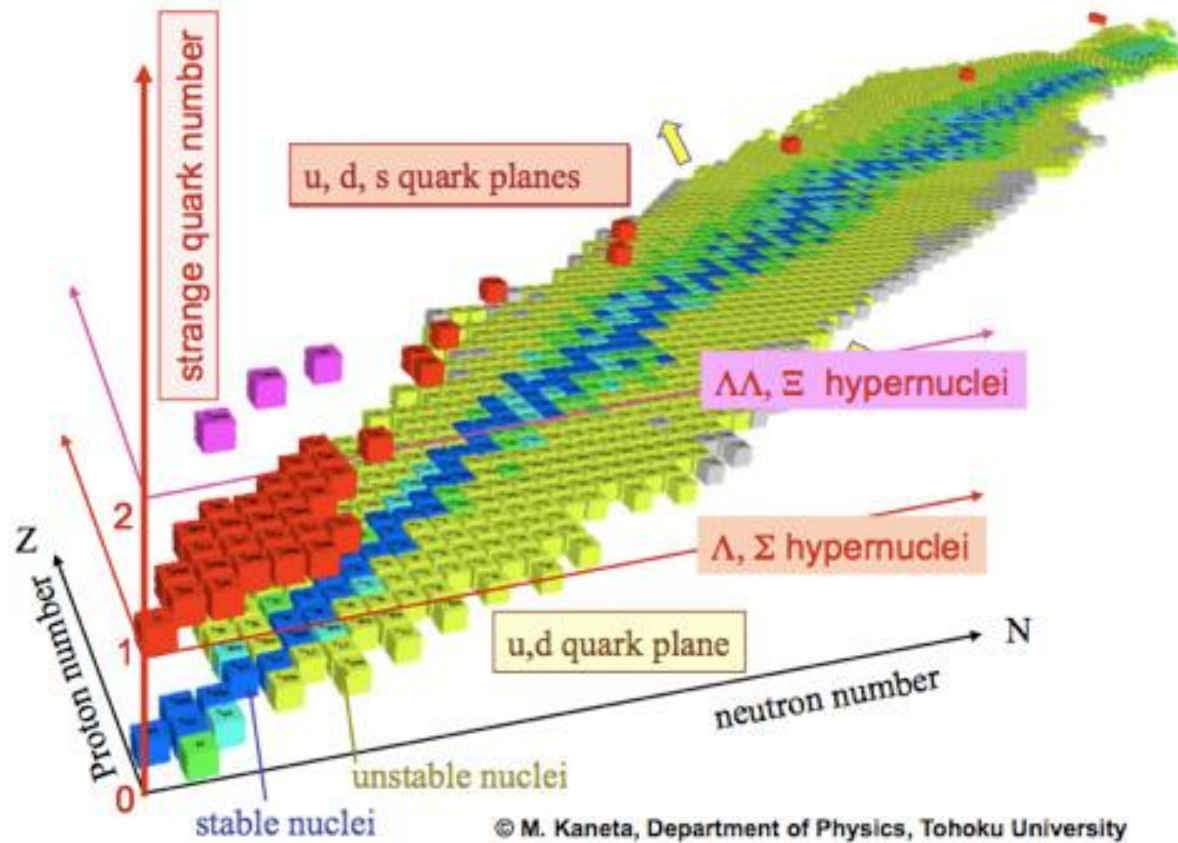


$$\mu_\Lambda = \mu_p + \mu_e = \mu_n$$

$$\mu_{\Sigma^-} = \mu_n + \mu_e$$

(neutrino-free matter)

Hypernuclei: (n, p, Y) bound states



valuable informations on the interactions
between nucleons and hyperons

Hyperons formation in dense nuclear matter



etc.

$$\mu_p = \mu_n - \mu_e = \mu_{\Sigma^+}$$

$$\mu_n = \mu_{\Sigma^0} = \mu_{\Xi^0} = \mu_{\Lambda}$$

$$\mu_n + \mu_e = \mu_{\Sigma^-} = \mu_{\Xi^-}$$

$$\mu_{\mu} = \mu_e$$

$$n_p + n_{\Sigma^+} = n_e + n_{\mu} + n_{\Sigma^-} + n_{\Xi^-}$$

(neutrino-free matter)

At sufficiently high density nuclear matter
turns into hyperonic matter

Hyperons threshold densities

(1) a simple estimate: $\{n, p, e\}$ ideal gas in β -equilibrium (**no strong interaction**) [non-rel. (n, p), ultrarel. e^-]

$$\mu_n = \mu_p + \mu_e = m_\Lambda c^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad n^{*\Lambda} = 0.86 \text{ fm}^{-3} = 5.4 n_0$$

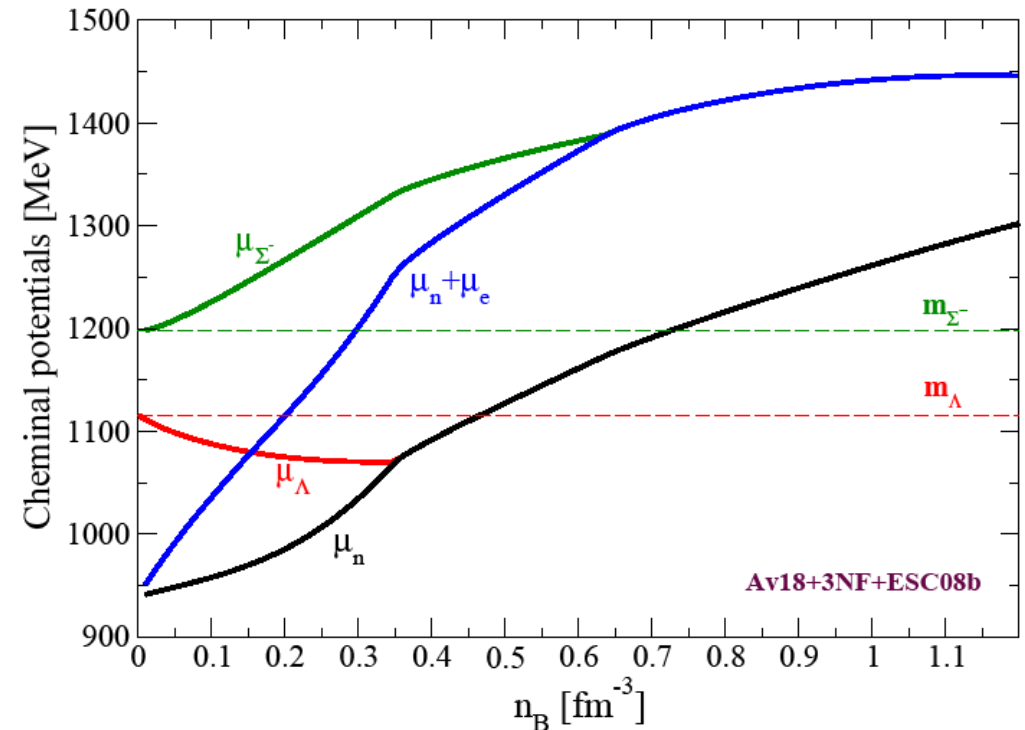
(2) Effect of the **strong interaction**

NN(Av18) + NNN + NY(ESC08b)
(no hyperonic TBF)

$$n^{*\Lambda} = 0.35 \text{ fm}^{-3} = 2.19 n_0$$

$$n^{*\Sigma^-} = 0.64 \text{ fm}^{-3} = 4 n_0$$

$$n^{*\Lambda}, n^{*\Sigma^-} < n_c(M_{max})$$



Neutron stars: the maximum mass configuration

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BL	1.156	7.23	27.37	2.08	10.28
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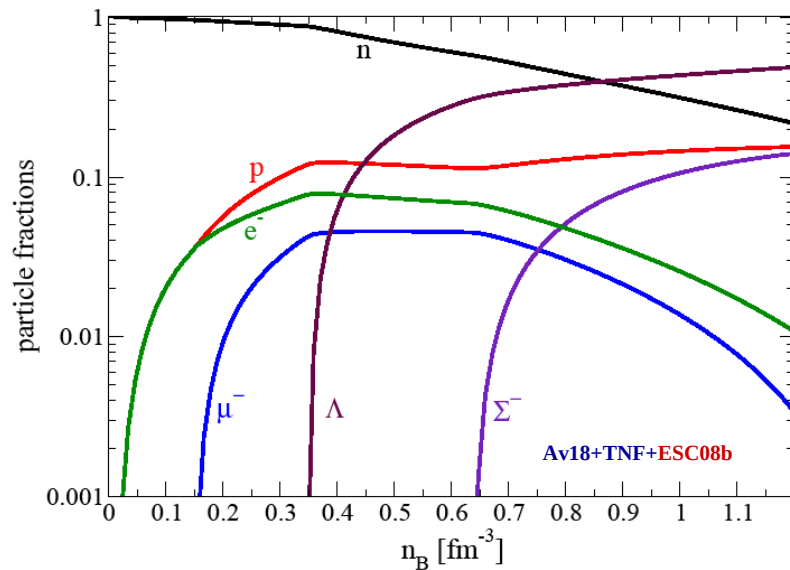
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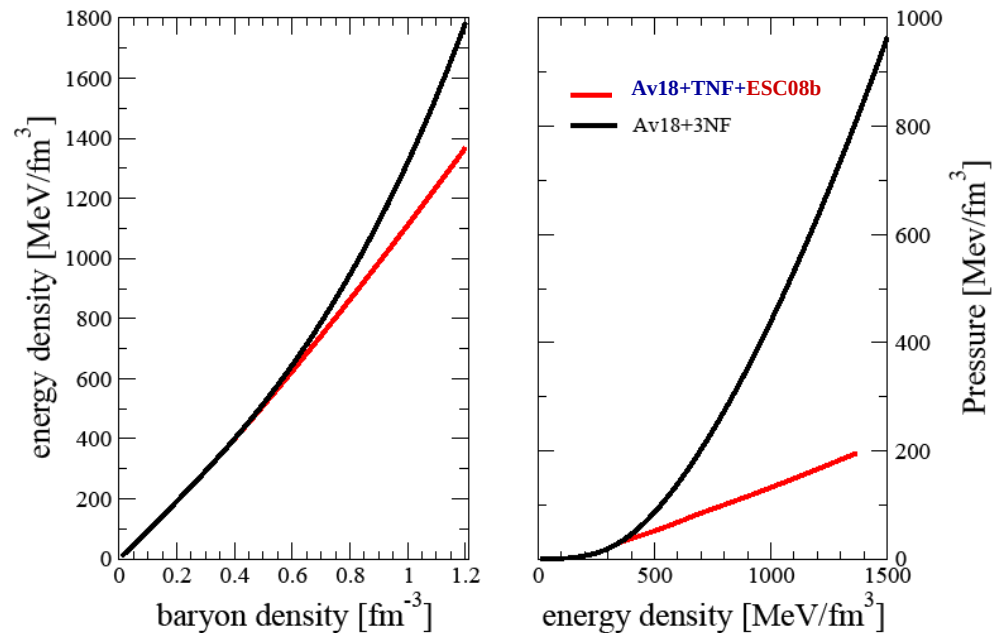
Particle fractions



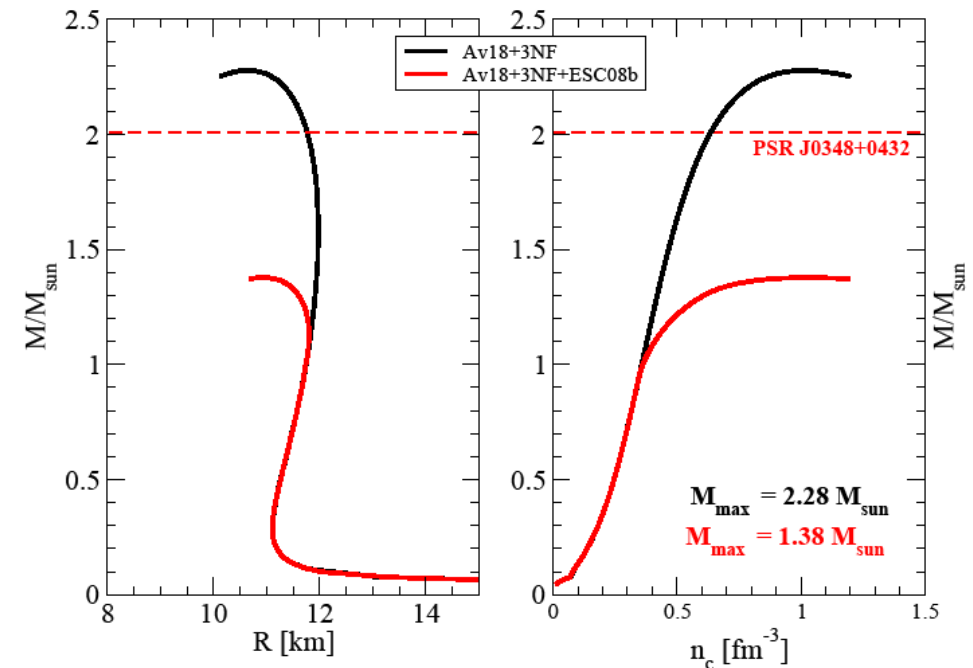
NN(Av18) + NNN + NY(ESC08b)
no hyperonic TBF

hyperons produce a strong softening of the EOS

Equation of State of Hyperonic Matter



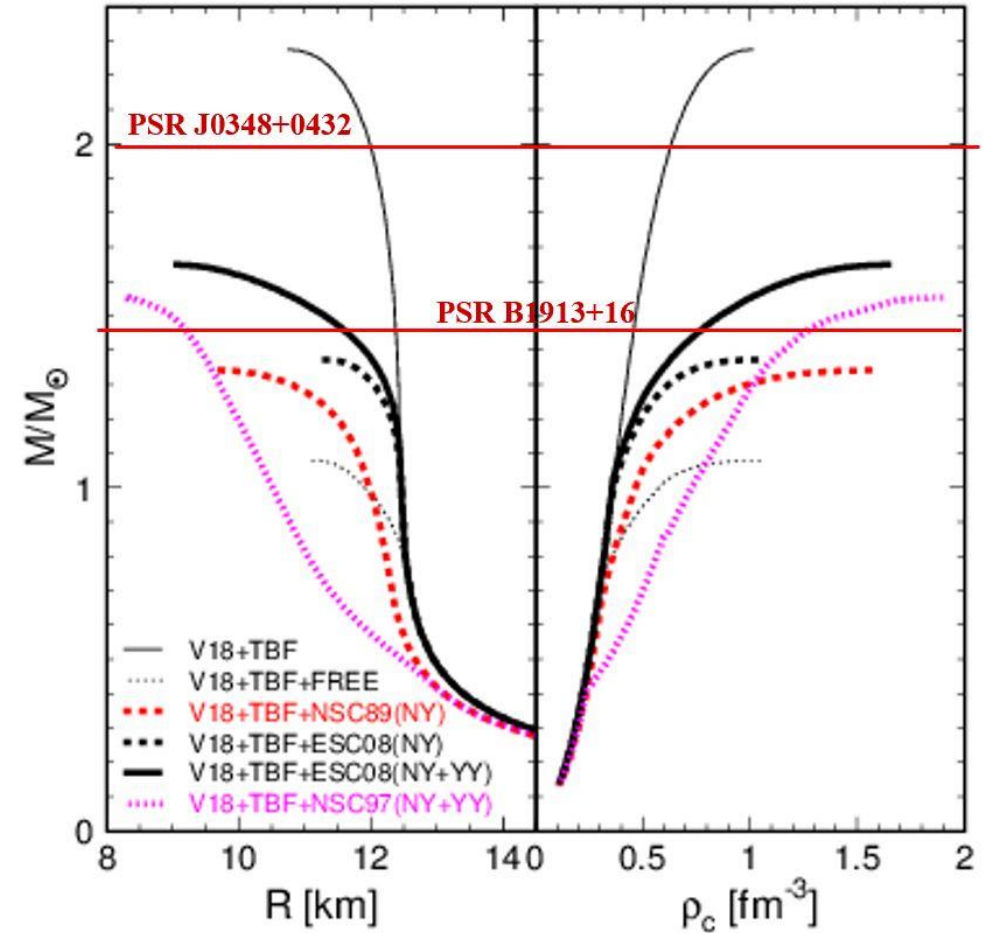
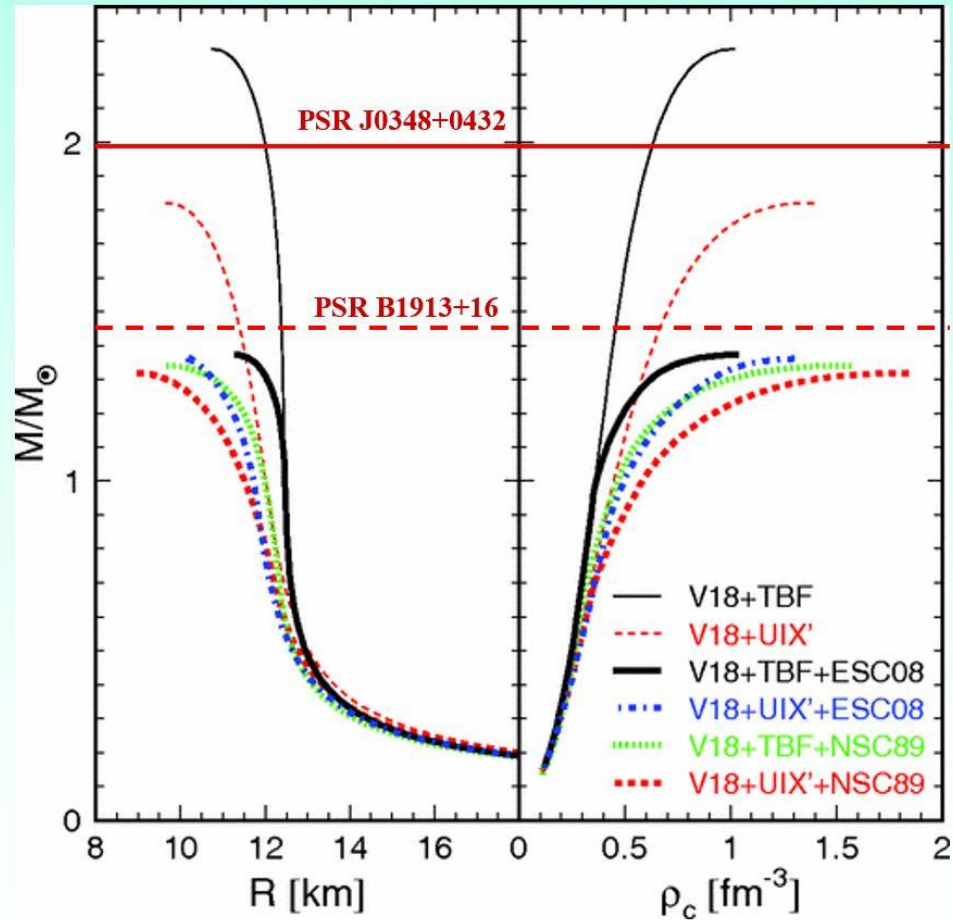
Stellar mass



Effect of the YY interaction

NN(Av18) + NNN + NY + YY (ESC08c)
no hyperonic TBF

NN(Av18) + NNN + NY(ESC08 or NSC89)
no YY int. no hyperonic TBF



The hyperon puzzle in Neutron Stars

Many hyperonic matter EOS models (mostly microscopic models) predict the presence of hyperons in the NS core, but they give

$$M_{\text{max}} < 2 M_{\odot}$$

not compatible with measured NS masses

A problem which likely originates from our incomplete knowledge of the baryonic interactions.

Hyperonic three-body interactions as a possible solution of the hyperon puzzle

As mentioned before, **three-nucleon interactions** are a necessary ingredient for an accurate description of nuclei and nuclear matter within non-relativistic approaches.

Thus, it is rather obvious to suppose the existence of **hyperonic three-body interactions** (of the type **NNY, NYY, YYY**).

The **NN Λ interaction** was in fact first hypothesized at the end of the 1950s (*), *i.e.* during the early days of hypernuclear physics, as an important ingredient to calculate the **binding energy of hypernuclei**.

It is thus reasonable to expect that **hyperonic three-body interactions** can influence dense-matter EoS and represent a **likely candidate to solve the hyperon puzzle**.

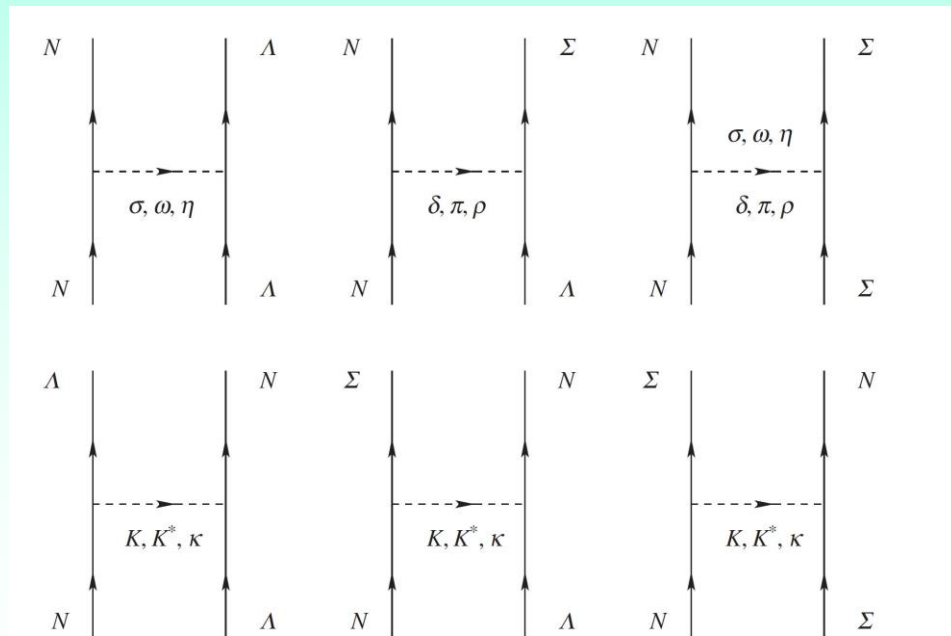
- (*)
- R. Spitzer, Phys. Rev., 110 (1958) 1190.
 - G. G. Bach, Nuovo Cimento XI (1959) 73.
 - R. H. Dalitz, 9th Int. Ann. Conf. on High-Energy Physics, Academy of Sciences, USSR, Vol I (1960) 587.

Microscopic approach to **hyperonic matter** EOS

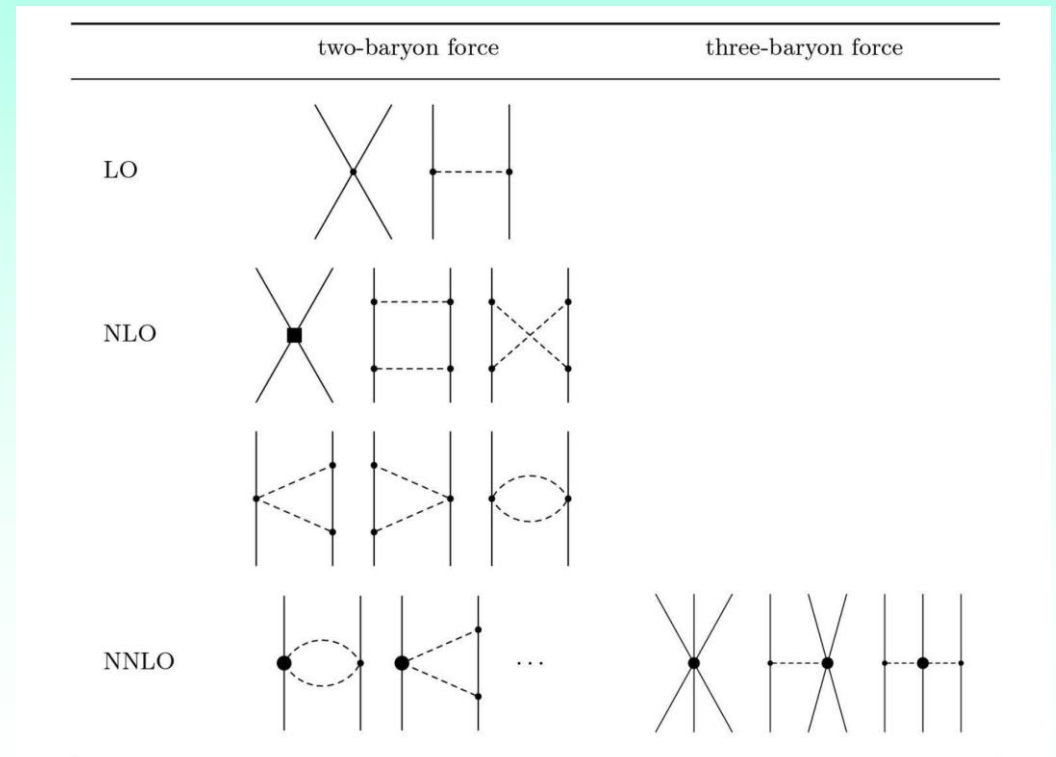
input

2BF: nucleon-nucleon (NN), nucleon-hyperon (NY), hyperon-hyperon (YY)
3BF: NNN, NNY, NYY, YYY, 4BF:

Phenomenological meson-exchange models:
 (Jülich, Nijmegen)



Chiral Effective Field Theory (ChEFT)



Microscopic approach to hyperonic matter EOS

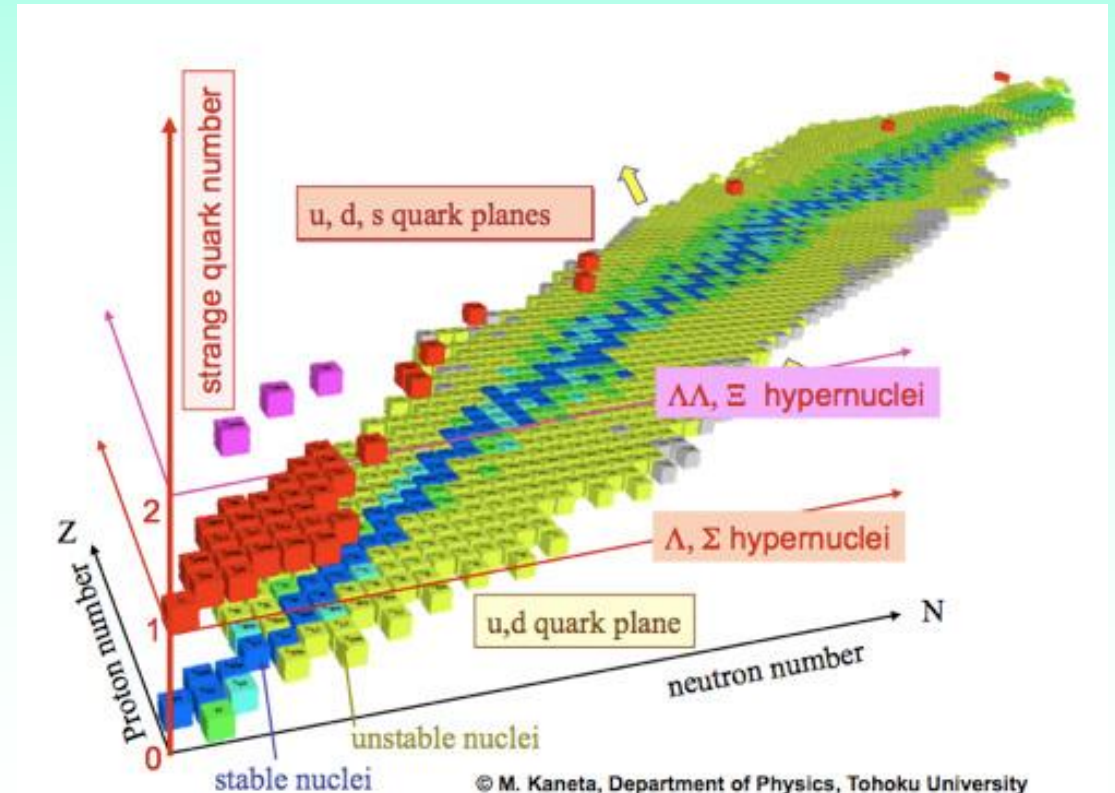
input

2BF: nucleon-nucleon (NN), nucleon-hyperon (NY), hyperon-hyperon (YY)
3BF: NNN, NNY, NYY, YYY, 4BF:

Hyperonic sector: experimental data

1. **YN scattering data ≈ 50**
(NN data ≈ 4300)
2. **Hypernuclei : ≈ 40 $_{\Lambda}X$, ≈ 5 $_{\Lambda\Lambda}X$**
a few Ξ -hypernuclei
(nuclei ≈ 3300)

E. Botta, T. Bressani, G. Garbarino, Eur. Phys. J. A 48 (2012) 41
C. Curceanu, *et al.*, Rev. Mod. Phys. 91 (2019) 025006
O. Hashimoto, H. Tamura, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 57, (2006) 564.
L. Tolos, and L. Fabbietti, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 112 (2020) 103770



A breakthrough for determining the NY and YY interactions

Recently, the **ALICE Collaboration** has demonstrated that NY and YY interactions can be investigated with high precision using **p – p and p –Pb collisions at the LHC** (using the technique called **femtoscopy**).

ALICE Collaboration. p – p , p – Λ and Λ – Λ correlations studied via femtoscopy in pp reactions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV. *Phys. Rev. C* 99, 024001 (2019).

ALICE Collaboration. Scattering studies with low-energy kaon–proton femtoscopy in proton–proton collisions at the LHC. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 124, 092301 (2020).

ALICE Collaboration. Study of the Λ – Λ interaction with femtoscopy correlations in pp and p –Pb collisions at the LHC. *Phys. Lett. B* 797, 134822 (2019).

ALICE Collaboration. First observation of an attractive interaction between a proton and a cascade baryon. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 123, 112002 (2019).

ALICE Collaboration. Investigation of the p – Σ^0 interaction via femtoscopy in pp collisions. *Phys. Lett. B* 805, 135419 (2020).

ALICE Collaboration. Unveiling the strong interaction among hadrons at the LHC, *Nature* 588, 232(2020)

Microscopic EOS for hyperonic matter: **extended Brueckner theory**

$$G(\omega)_{B_1 B_2 B_3 B_4} = V_{B_1 B_2 B_3 B_4} + \sum_{B_5 B_6} V_{B_1 B_2 B_5 B_6} \frac{Q_{B_5 B_6}}{\omega - e_{B_5} - e_{B_6}} G(\omega)_{B_5 B_6 B_3 B_4}$$

$$e_{B_i}(k) = M_{B_i} c^2 + \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2M_{B_i}} + U_{B_i}(k)$$

$$U_{B_i}(k) = \sum_{B_j} \sum_{k' \leq k_{F B_j}} \langle \vec{k} \vec{k}' | G_{B_i B_j B_i B_j}(\omega = e_{B_i} + e_{B_j}) | \vec{k} \vec{k}' \rangle$$

V is the **baryon -baryon interaction for the baryon octet**

(**n**, **p**, **Λ** , **Σ^-** , **Σ^0** , **Σ^+** , **Ξ^-** , **Ξ^0**)

● **Energy per baryon in the BHF approximation**

$$E/N_B = 2 \sum_{B_i} \int_0^{k_{F[B_i]}} \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ M_{B_i} c^2 + \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2M_{B_i}} + \frac{1}{2} U_{B_i}^N(k) + \frac{1}{2} U_{B_i}^Y(k) \right\}$$

Baldo, Burgio, Schulze, Phys.Rev. C61 (2000) 055801;

Vidaña, Polls, Ramos, Engvik, Hjorth-Jensen, Phys.Rev. C62 (2000) 035801;

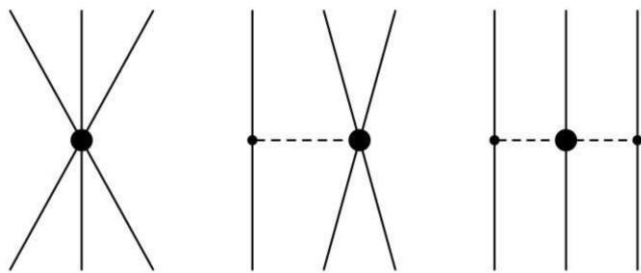
Vidaña, Bombaci, Polls, Ramos, Astron. Astrophys. 399, (2003) 687.

A simplified version for hyperonic matter: $\{n, p, \Lambda\}$ -matter

(D. Logoteta, I. Vidaña, I. Bombaci, Eur. Phys. J. A 55 (2019) 207)

Interactions:

NN	ChEFT	N3LO	$\Delta(1232)$	Piarulli et al., Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 054007
NNN	ChEFT	N2LO	$\Delta(1232)$	Epelbaum et al., Phys. Rev C 66 (2002) 064001 Navratil, Few-Body Syst. 41 (2007) 117
	average $\rightarrow$	$V_{NN}^{\text{eff}}(n)$		Logoteta et al., Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 064001
N Λ	Nijmegen Soft Core 97 (NSC97a,e)			Rijken et al., Phys. Rev. C 59, (1999) 21; Stocks , Rijken, Phys. Rev. C 59 (1999) 3009
NNA	ChEFT	N2LO		Petschauer et al., Phys. Rev. C 93 (2016) 014001
	average $\rightarrow$	$V_{N\Lambda}^{\text{eff}}(n)$		Petschauer et al., Nucl. Phys. A 957 (2017) 347



Saturation by decuplet baryons



Only one LEC (H') is left

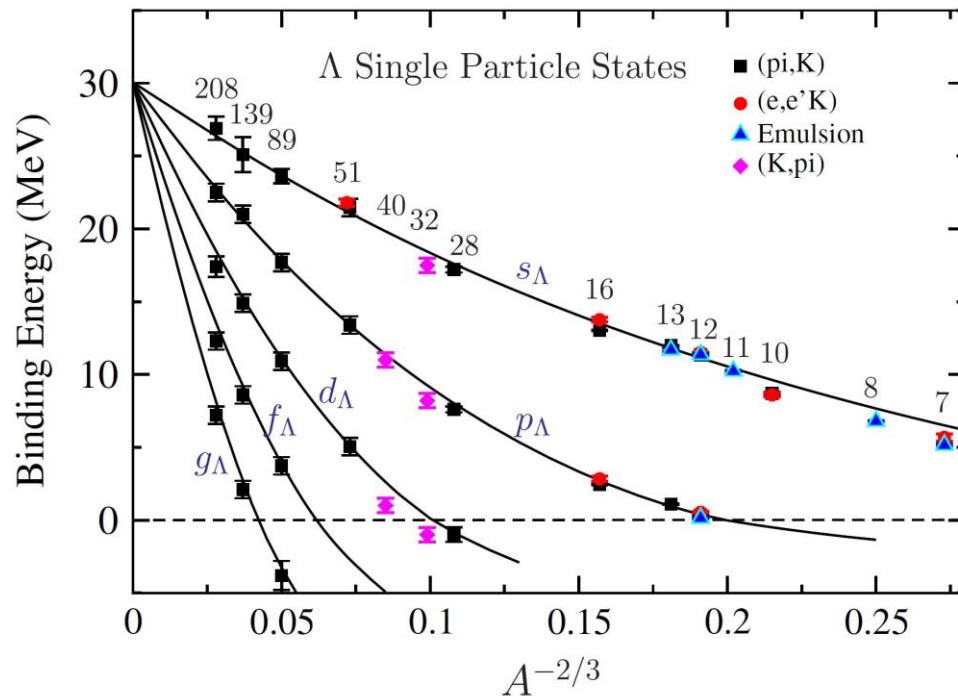
$$H' = \frac{\beta}{f_\pi^2}$$

$f_\pi = 93 \text{ MeV}$ pion decay constant

We fix β to to have, in **symmetric nuclear matter** at the empirical saturation density $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$:

$$U_\Lambda(k = 0, n_0) = B_\Lambda^\infty$$

where B_Λ^∞ is the extrapolation to infinite nuclear matter of the **binding energy** B_Λ of Λ in **hypernuclei**

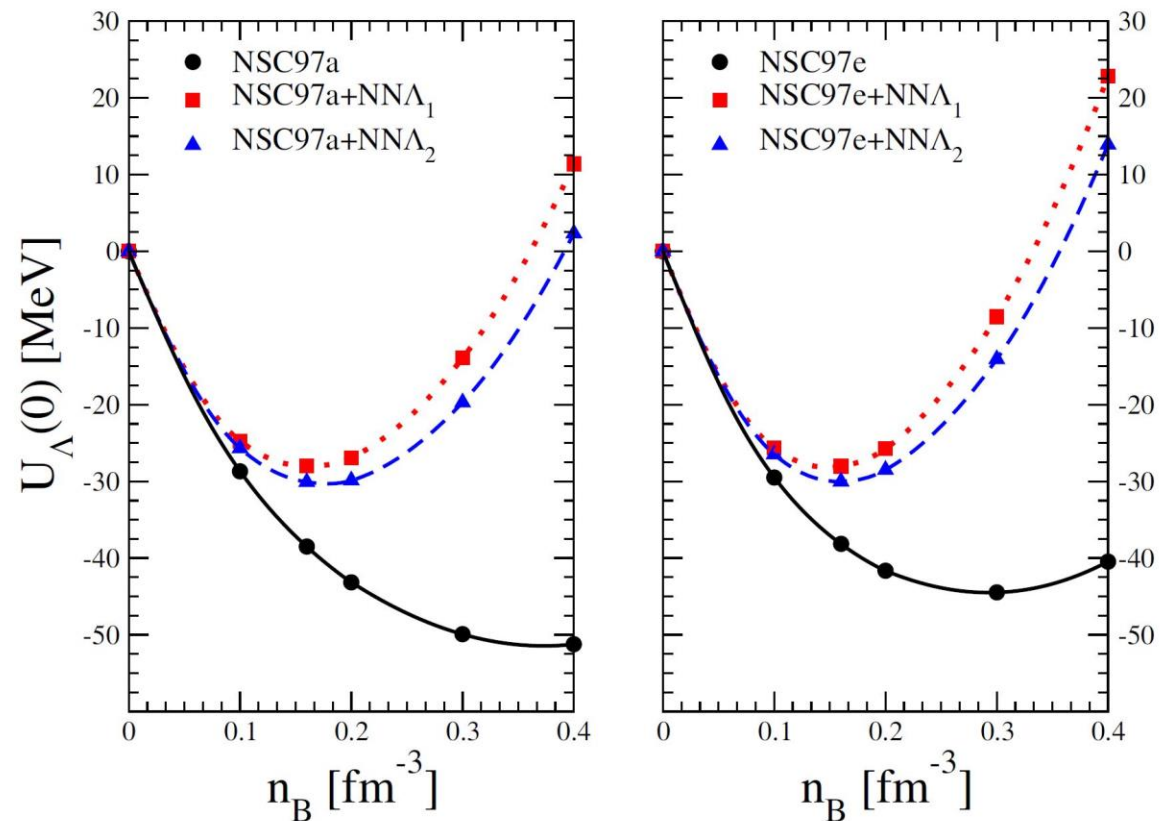
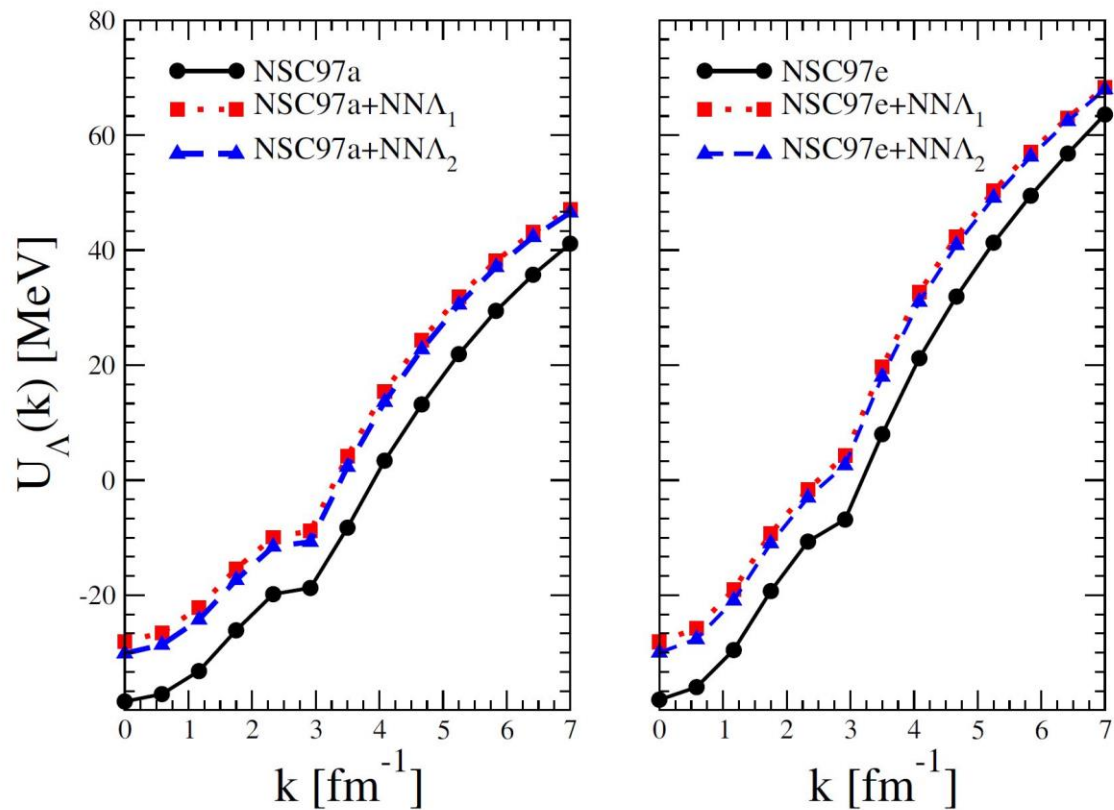


$$U_\Lambda(k = 0, n_0) = -28 \text{ MeV} \quad (\text{NNA}_1)$$

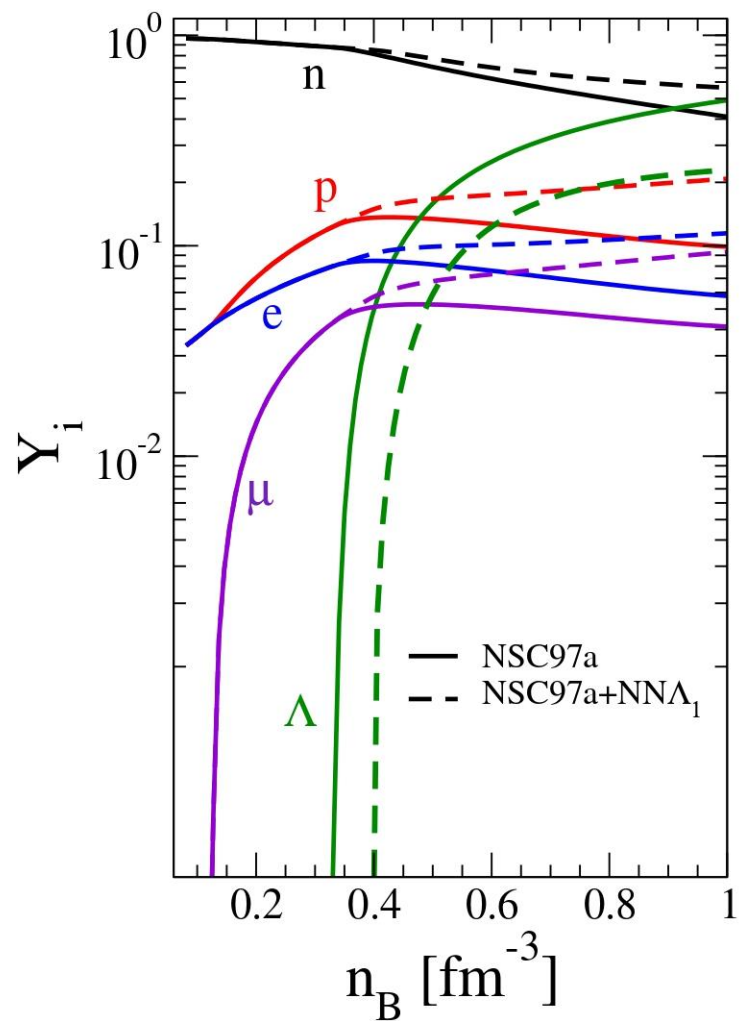
$$U_\Lambda(k = 0, n_0) = -30 \text{ MeV} \quad (\text{NNA}_2)$$

Single particle potential of Λ in Symmetric Nuclear Matter

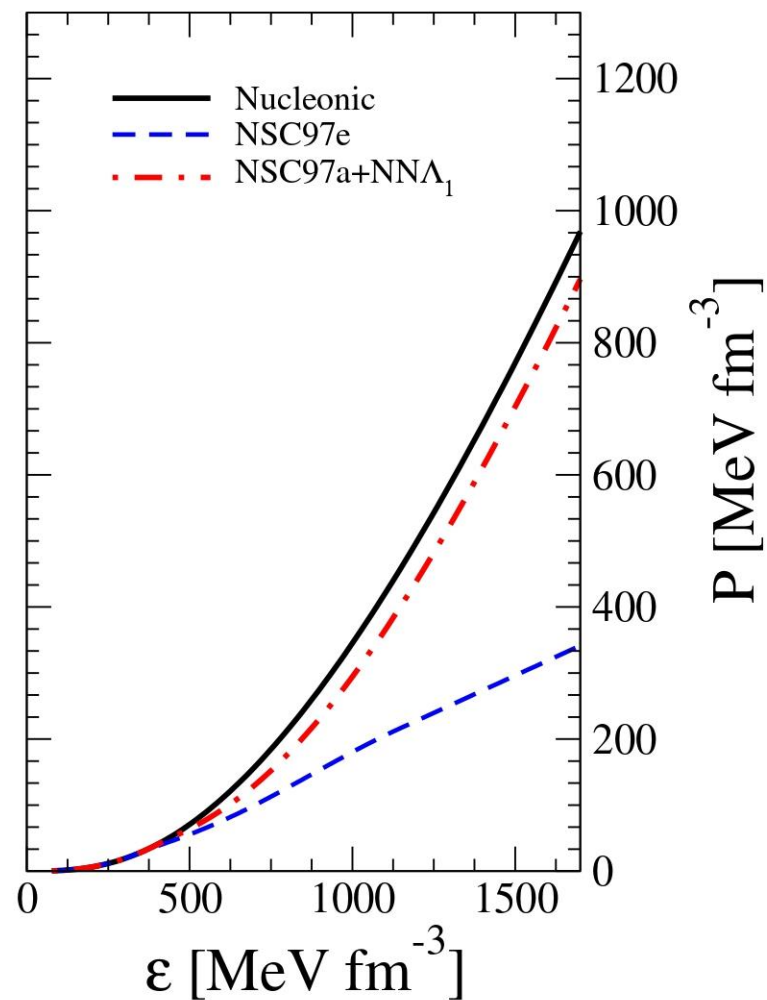
$$n_B = n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$$



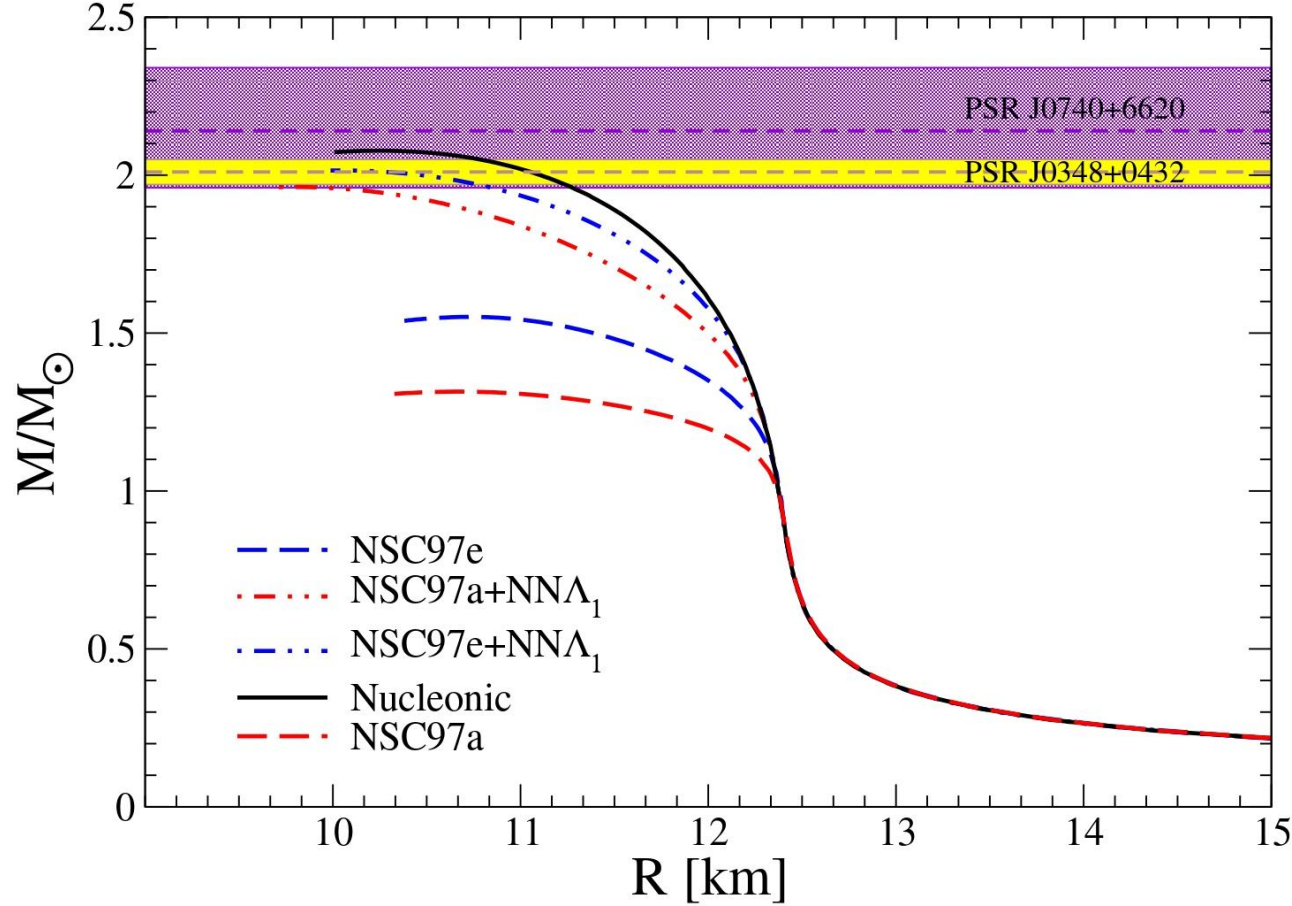
Particle fractions in β -stable (n, p, Λ) matter



EOS



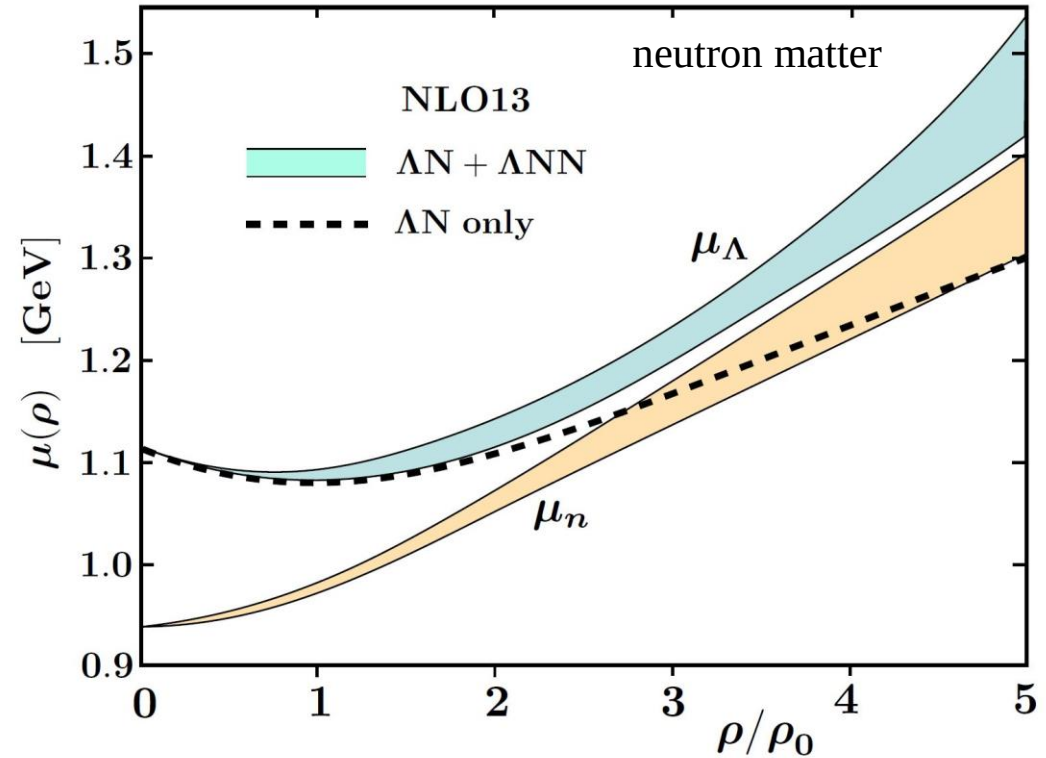
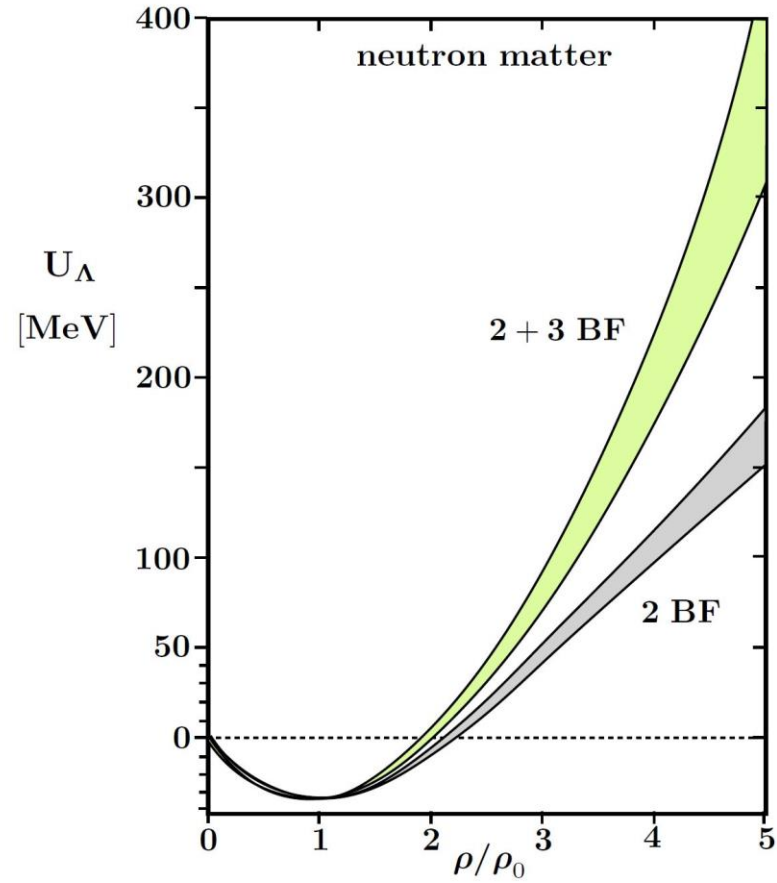
Mass–Radius relation



Properties of the maximum mass configuration

	$M_{max}(M_\odot)$	R (km)	n_c (fm $^{-3}$)
Nucleonic	2.08	10.26	1.15
NSC97a	1.31	10.60	1.40
NSC97a+NN Λ_1	1.96	9.80	1.30
NSC97a+NN Λ_2	1.97	9.87	1.28
NSC97e	1.54	10.81	1.18
NSC97e+NN Λ_1	2.01	10.10	1.20
NSC97e+NN Λ_2	2.02	10.15	1.19

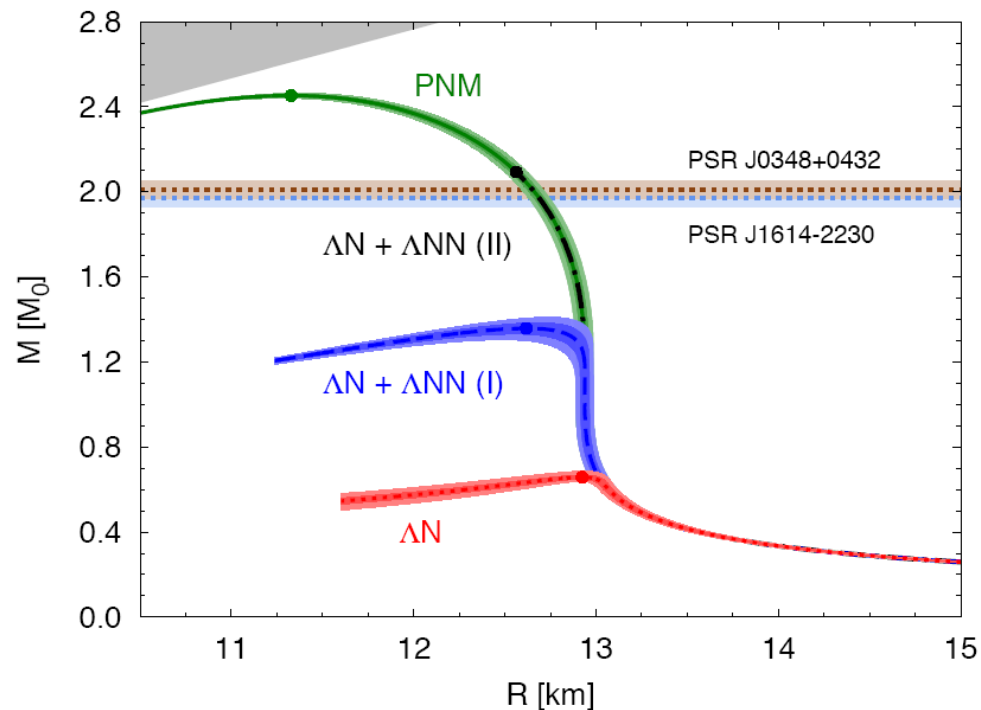
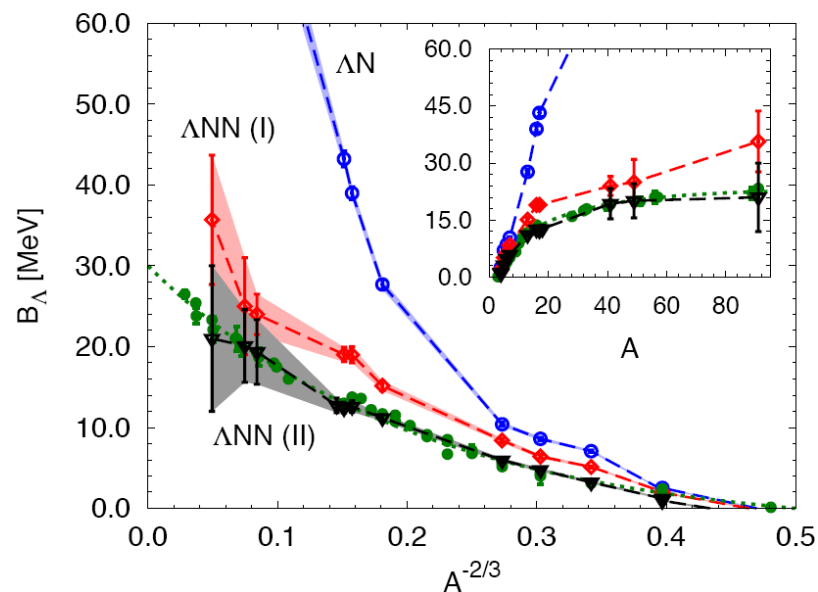
Hyperonic three-body interactions could represent a likely solution of the hyperon puzzle in Neutron Stars



D. Gerstung, N. Kaiser, W. Weise, Eur. Phys. J. A 56 (2020) 175

«The combined repulsion from two- and three-body hyperon-nuclear interactions can indeed be potentially strong enough to avoid the appearance of Λ hyperons in neutron stars»

Microscopic EOS for hyperonic matter: **AFDM**



(n , Λ) - matter

$\Delta v8' + \text{UXI} + \Delta NN$

Repulsive ΔNN

(Bodmer, Usmani, Carlson, 1984)

Parameters fixed to fit

B_Λ Λ hypernuclei ($A \leq 91$)

D. Lonardoni, A. Lovato, S. Gandolfi, F. Pederiva, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015) 092301

Within this model

**“Hyperon Stars” do not
contain hyperons**

The hyperon puzzle in Neutron Stars

Hyperonic three-body interactions could represent a likely solution of the hyperon puzzle in Neutron Stars

but

if hyperonic three-body interactions are repulsive enough, hyperons will never appear at the densities encountered in neutron star cores.

In this case “hyperon stars” would not contain hyperons at all, that is, we will go back to the case of **nucleonic stars**.

This could be a physically acceptable conclusion if the “true” hyperonic three-body interactions make **hyperon formation non convenient from an energetic point of view, contrary to the simple expectation based on the ideal Fermi gas argument.**

Neutron Stars in the QCD phase diagram

Lattice QCD at $\mu_b=0$ and finite T

- The transition to Quark Gluon Plasma is a crossover

Aoki et al., Nature, 443 (2006) 675

- Deconfinement transition temperature T_c

HotQCD Collaboration

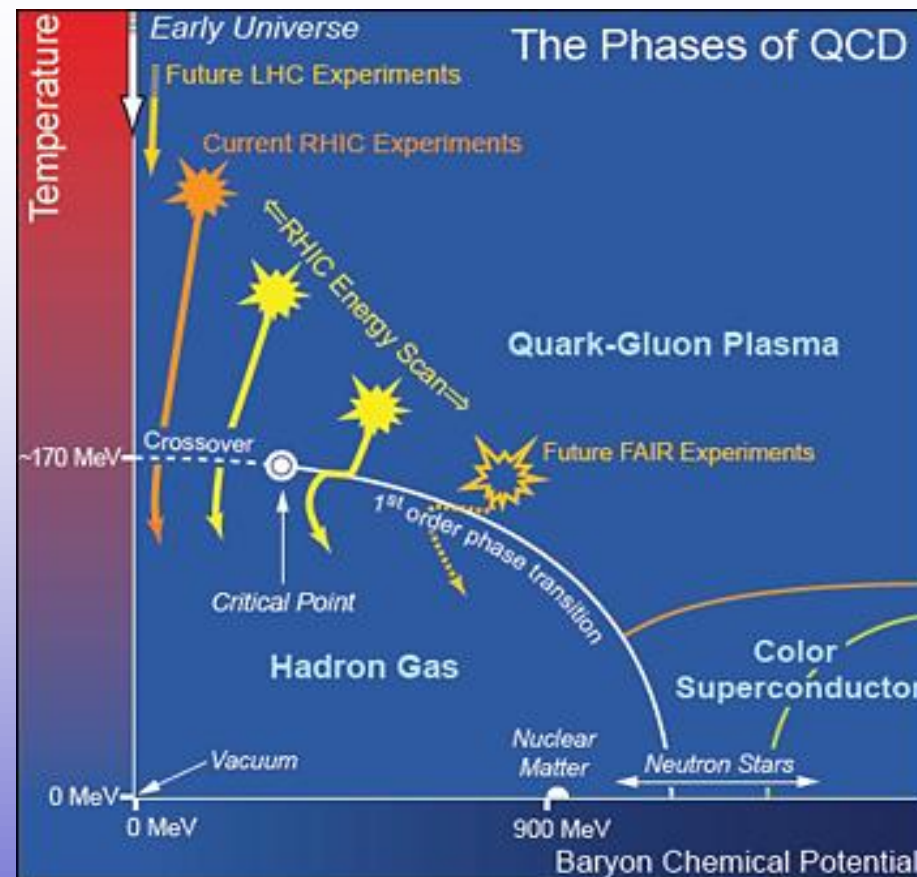
$$T_c = 154 \pm 9 \text{ MeV}$$

Bazarov et al., Phys.Rev. D85 (2012) 054503

Wuppertal-Budapest Collab.

$$T_c = 147 \pm 5 \text{ MeV}$$

Borsanyi et al., J.H.E.P. 09 (2010) 073



Neutron Stars: high μ_b and low T

Lattice QCD calculations are presently not possible

Quark deconfinement transition expected of the first order

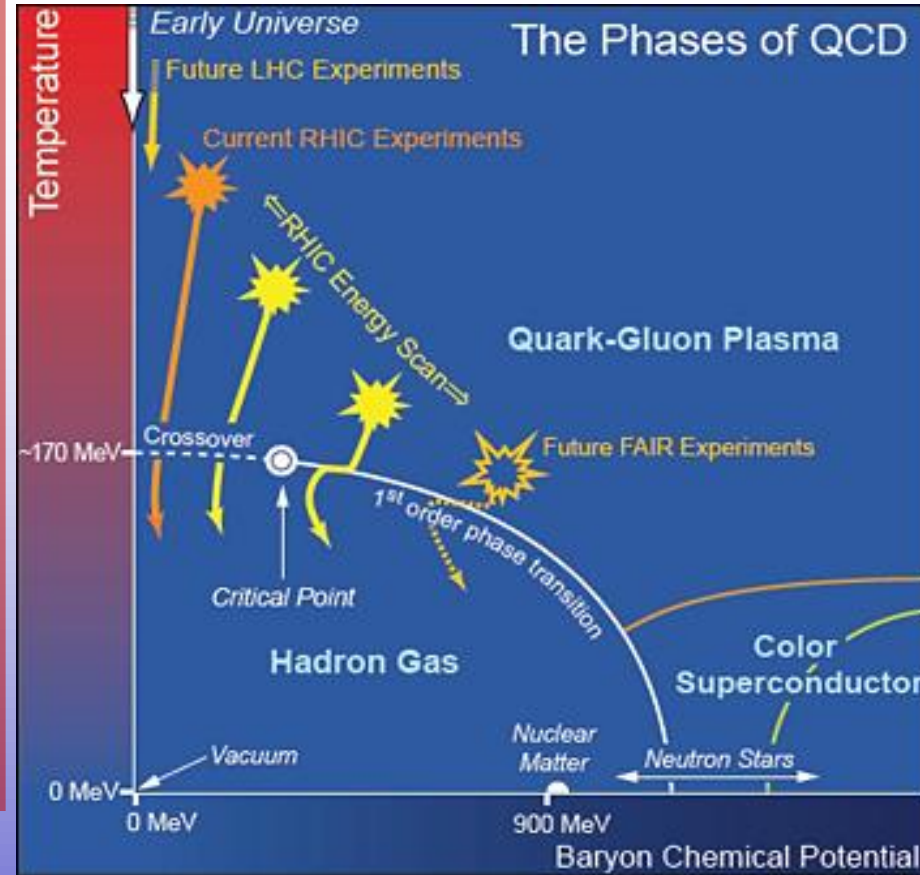
Z. Fodor, S.D. Katz, Prog. Theor. Suppl. 153 (2004) 86

“A link between lattice QCD and measured neutron star masses”

I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, Mont. Not. Royal Astron. Soc. 433 (2013) L79

Neutron Stars in the QCD phase diagram

The core of the most massive **Neutron Stars** is one of the best candidates in the Universe where a **quark-deconfined phase of matter (Quark Matter)** can be found



Neutron Stars: high μ_b and low T

Lattice QCD calculations are presently not possible

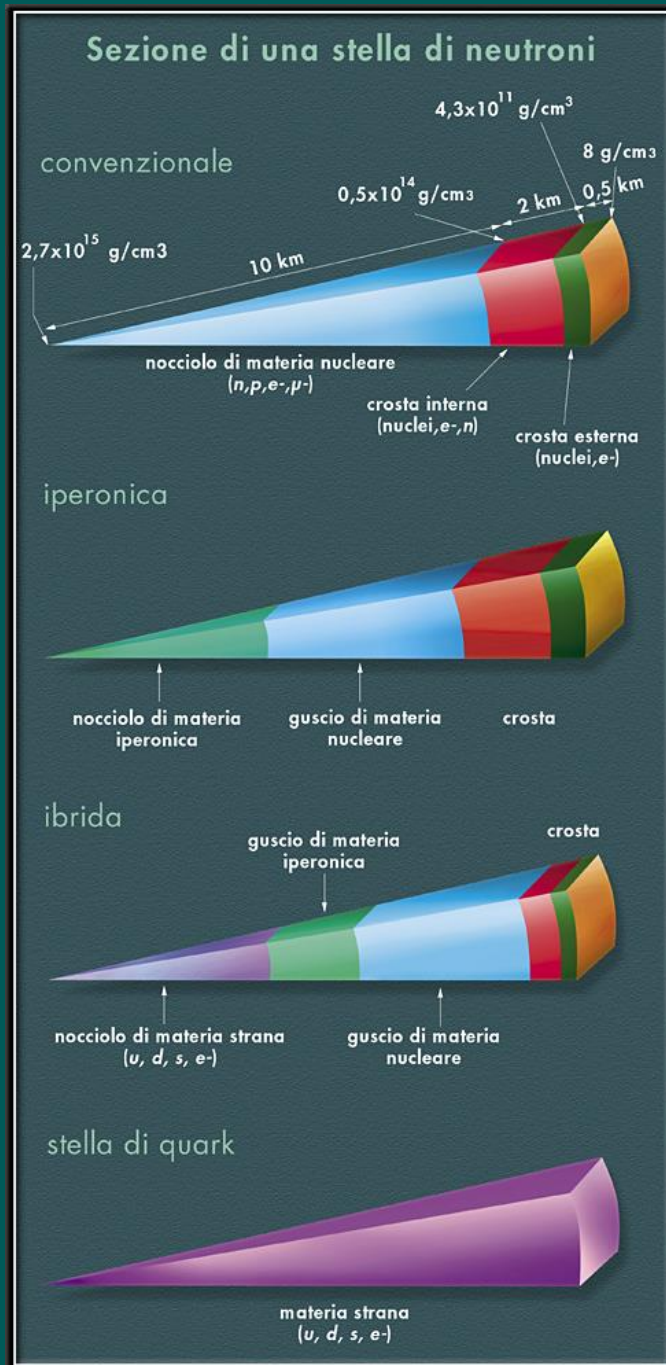
Quark deconfinement transition expected of the first order

Z. Fodor, S.D. Katz, Prog. Theor. Suppl. 153 (2004) 86

“A link between lattice QCD and measured neutron star masses”

I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, Mont. Not. Royal Astron. Soc. 433 (2013) L79

“Neutron Stars”



Nucleon Stars

Hyperon Stars

**Hadronic
Stars**

Hybrid Stars

Strange Stars

**Quark
Stars**

“Neutron Stars”

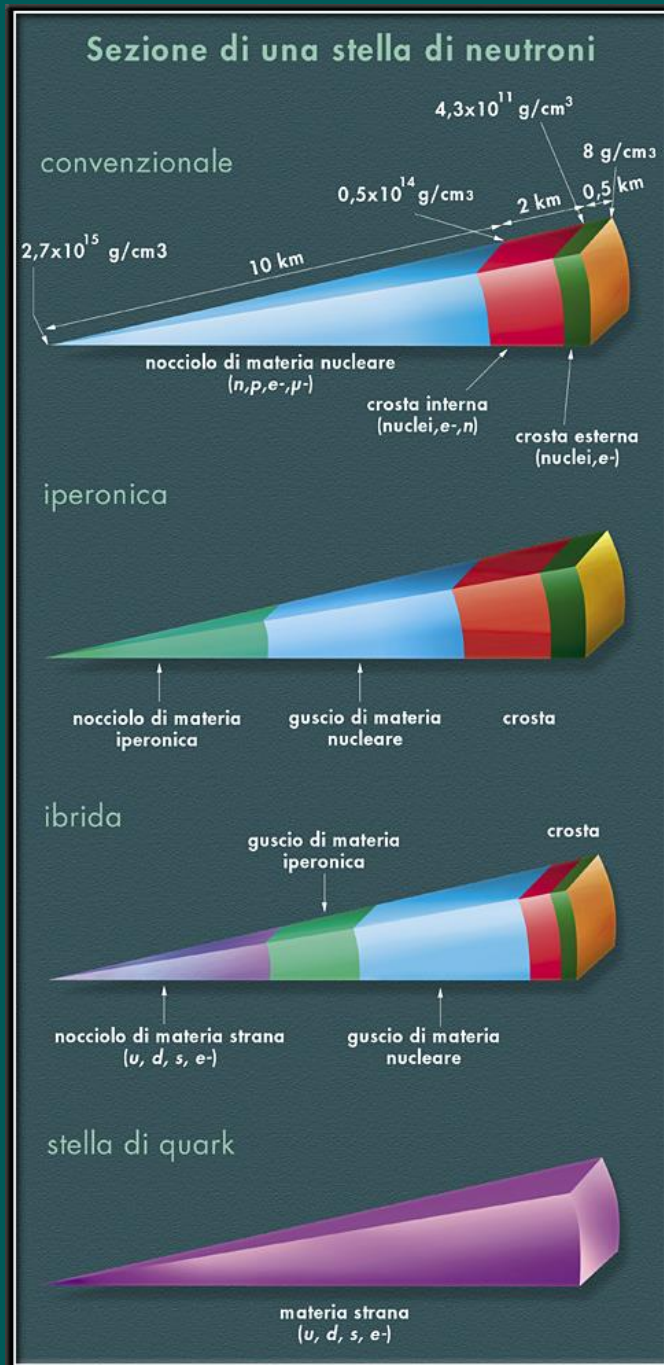
Nucleon Stars

**Hadronic
Stars**

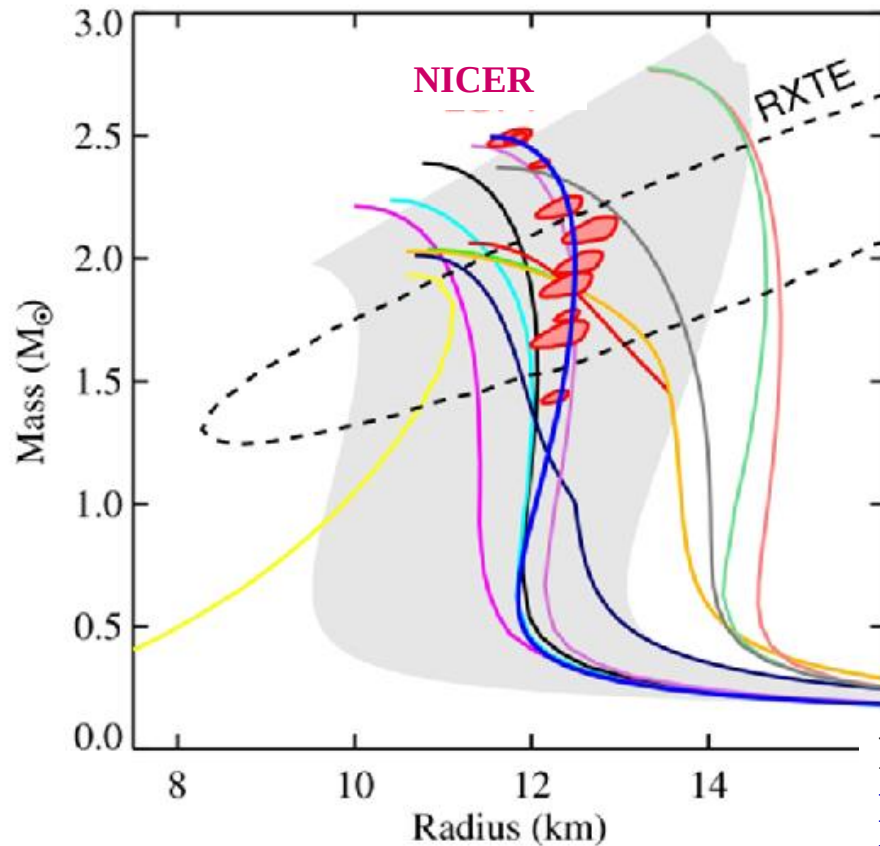
What type(s)
of Neutron Stars
does Nature produce?

**Quark
Stars**

Strange Stars



The current accepted paradigm: one family of “Neutron Stars”



“Measuring” the EOS

accurate measurements of the
mass and radius
of several neutron stars



Determination of the cold ($T=0$)
dense matter EOS

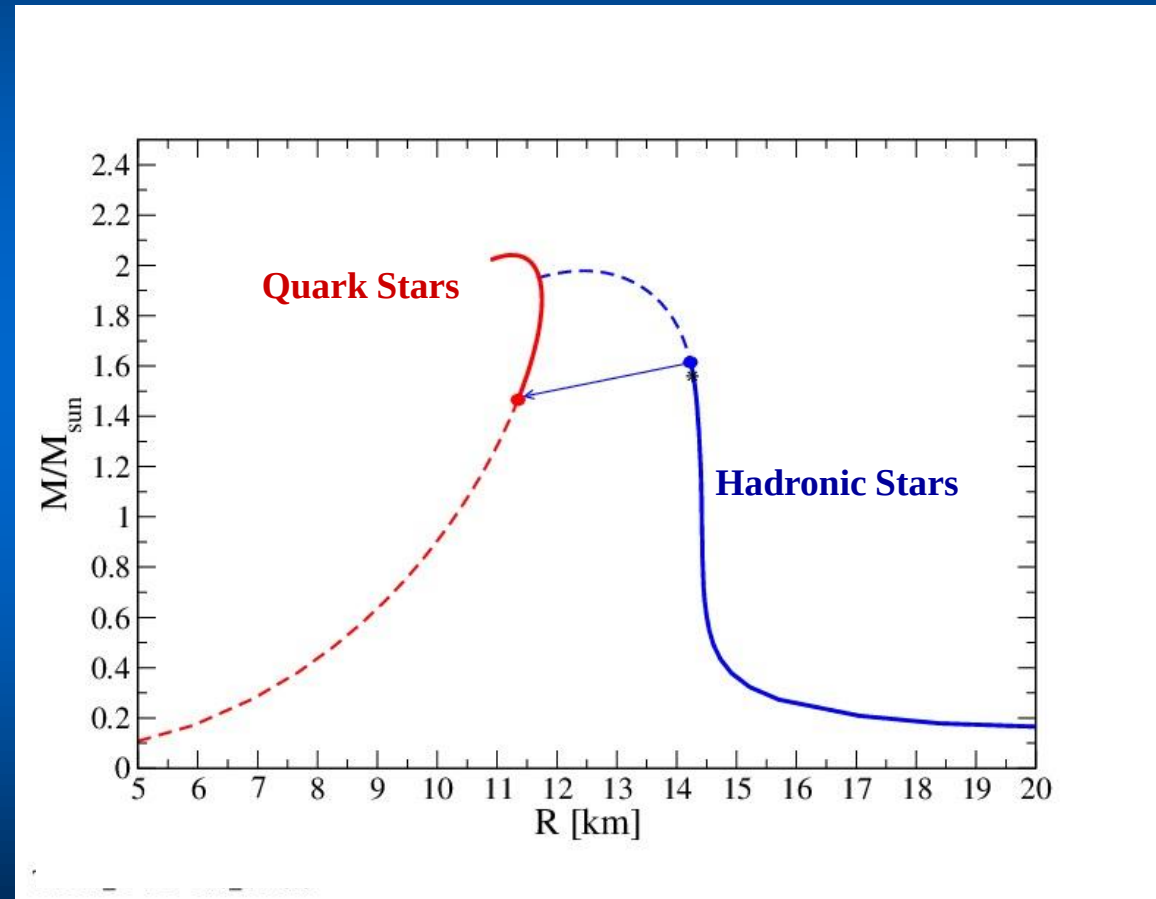
$$P = P(\rho)$$

Relativistic inverse stellar structure problem:

L. Lindblom, *ApJ* 398 (1992) 569

T. E. Riley et al., *MNRAS* 478 (2018) 1093

The new paradigm: two families of “Neutron Stars”



GAMMA-RAY BURSTS FROM DELAYED COLLAPSE
OF NEUTRON STARS TO QUARK MATTER STARS

Z. BEREZHIANI,¹ I. BOMBACI,² A. DRAGO,³ F. FRONTERA,^{3,4} AND A. LAVAGNO⁵

Received 2002 September 12; accepted 2002 December 2

ABSTRACT

We propose a model to explain how a gamma-ray burst can take place days or years after a supernova explosion. Our model is based on the conversion of a pure hadronic star (neutron star) into a star made at least in part of deconfined quark matter. The conversion process can be delayed if the surface tension at the

QUARK DECONFINEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE RADIUS
AND THE LIMITING MASS OF COMPACT STARS

IGNAZIO BOMBACI,¹ IRENE PARENTI,¹ AND ISAAC VIDAÑA¹

Received 2003 August 4; accepted 2004 June 22

ABSTRACT

We study the consequences of the hadron-quark deconfinement phase transition in stellar compact objects when finite-size effects between the deconfined quark phase and the hadronic phase are taken into account. We show that above a threshold value of the central pressure (gravitational mass) a neutron star is metastable to the decay (conversion) to a hybrid neutron star or to a strange star. The mean lifetime of the metastable configuration dramatically depends on the value of the stellar central pressure. We explore the consequences of the metastability of “massive” neutron stars and of the existence of stable compact quark stars (hybrid neutron stars or strange stars) on the concept of the limiting mass of compact stars. We discuss the implications of our scenario for the interpretation of the stellar mass and radius extracted from the spectra of several X-ray compact sources.

Finally, we show that our scenario implies, as a natural consequence, a two-step process that is able to explain the inferred “delayed” association between compact object formation and gamma-ray bursts (GRB), originating from

The new paradigm: **two families of “Neutron Stars”**

A 1st order quark-deconfinement phase transition occurs in the core of sufficiently massive Neutron Stars

The order of a phase transition: Eherenfest classification

By a **phase** is meant a physically homogeneous part of a system differing in physical properties from other parts of the system and separated from them by a well defined boundary (interface)

The order of a phase-transition is the order of the lowest derivative of the free energy that is discontinuous at the transition

First-order phase-transition: discontinuity in the first order derivative of the free energy
(e.g. **liquid-vapor phase transition** in water)

Second-order phase-transition: discontinuity in the second order derivative of the free energy
(e.g. **ferromagnetic phase transition:** discontinuity in the magnetic susceptibility)

1st order phase transitions are triggered by the **nucleation** of a **critical size drop** of the **new (stable) phase** in a **metastable mother phase**

Virtual drops of the stable phase are created by small localized **fluctuations** in the state variables of the **metastable phase**

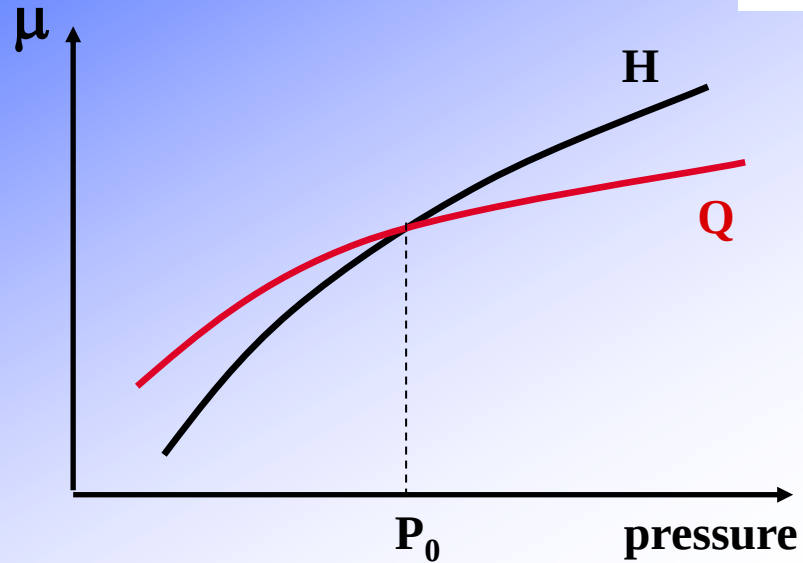


A common event in nature, e.g.:

- **fog or dew formation in supersaturated vapor**
- **ice formation in supercooled water**

Pure and distilled water at standard pressure (100 kPa) can be supercooled down to a temperature of $-48.3\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. In the temperature range $(-48.3 — 0)\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, water is in a metastable phase and ice crystals will form via a nucleation process.

Gibbs' criterion for phase equilibrium



$$\mu_H = \mu_Q \equiv \mu_0$$

$$T_H = T_Q = 0$$

$$P(\mu_H) = P(\mu_Q) \equiv P(\mu_0) \equiv P_0$$

**Cold deleptonized
Neutron Stars**
 $t \gg t_{\text{cool}} \sim \text{a few } 10^2 \text{ s}$
cooling time

μ_j = Gibbs' energy per baryon
(j-phase average chemical pot.) $j = H, Q$

In NS cores when $P_{\text{centr}} = P(r=0) > P_0$

**Hadronic matter phase is
metastable**

The **stable Quark matter phase**
is formed by a **nucleation process**

$$\mu_H = \frac{\varepsilon_H + P_H - \cancel{s_H T}}{n_{b,H}}$$

$$\mu_Q = \frac{\varepsilon_Q + P_Q - \cancel{s_Q T}}{n_{b,Q}}$$

- Oscillation time of a virtual drop in the potential energy barrier:

$$v_0^{-1} \approx \tau_{\text{strong}} \approx 10^{-23} \text{ sec.} \ll \tau_{\text{weak}}$$

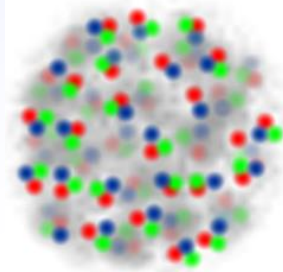


**Quark-flavor must be conserved
in the early stage of deconfinement**

Q*-phase: flavor content is equal to that of β -stable HM
at the same pressure and temperature

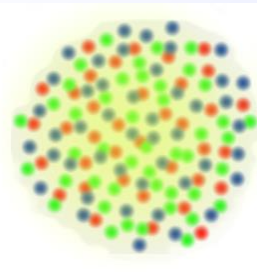
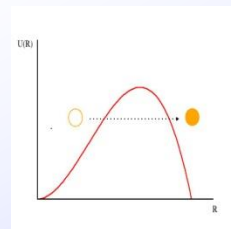
- **Q-phase:** β -stable SQM.

Soon afterwards a critical-size drop of QM is formed,
the weak interaction re-establish β -equilibrium



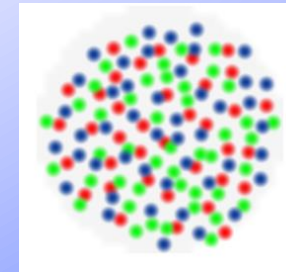
Hadron-phase

$$\tau_S \sim 10^{-23} \text{ s}$$



Q*-phase
Non- β -stable
quark-matter drop

$$\tau_W \sim 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

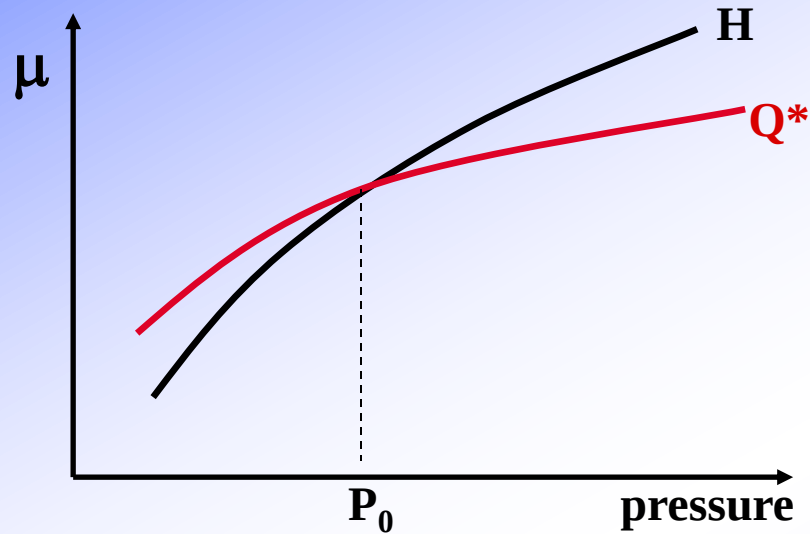


Q-phase

First drop of
 Q^* -matter



stellar conversion process
 $HS \rightarrow QS$

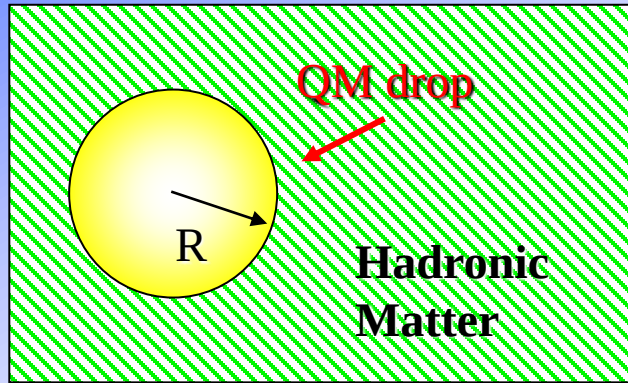


Hadronic Stars with $P_{\text{centr}} > P_0$
are **metastable** to the **conversion**
to **Quark Stars**

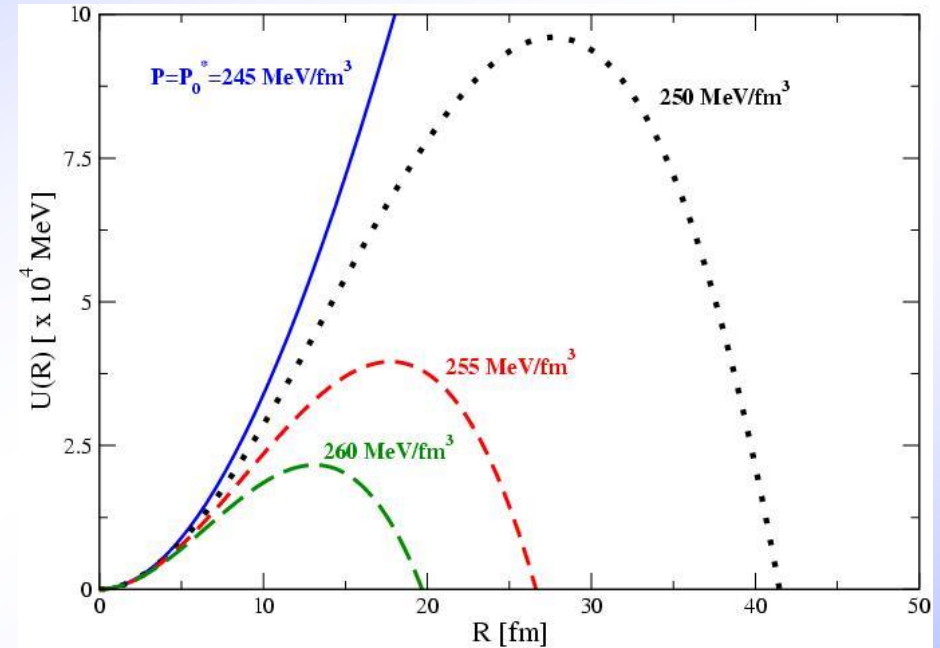
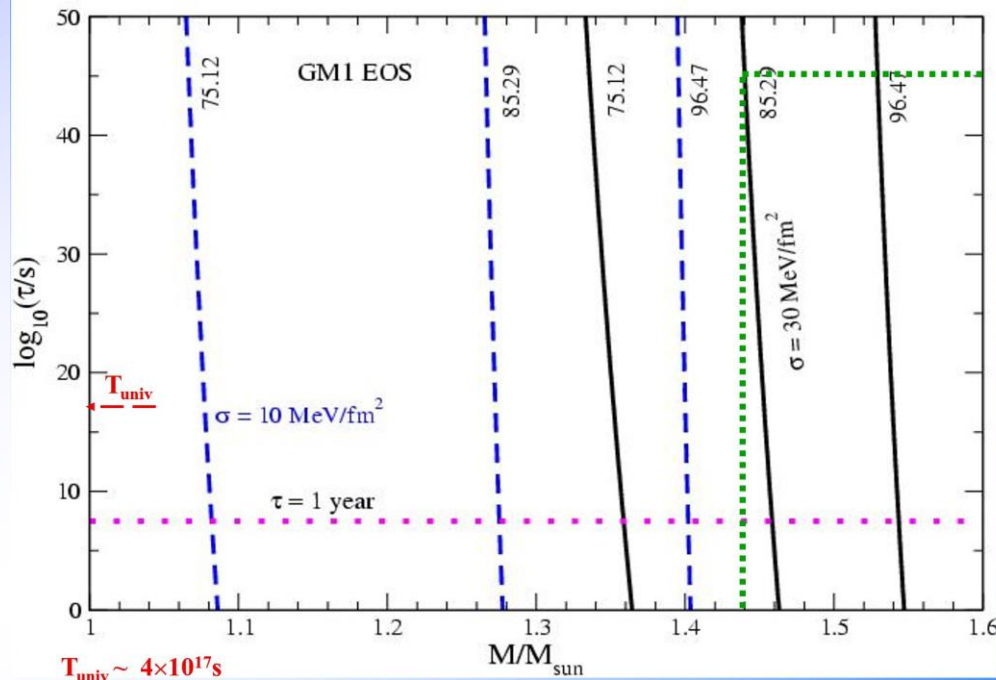
The **mean lifetime** of the **metastable Hadronic Star configuration** is related to the **nucleation time (τ)**
of the first **Q^* -phase** drop

Quantum nucleation theory

I.M. Lifshitz and Y. Kagan, 1972; K. Iida and K. Sato, 1998



Hadronic Star mean-life time



$$U(R) = (4/3)\pi R^3 n_{Q^*} (\mu_{Q^*} - \mu_H) + 4\pi\sigma R^2$$

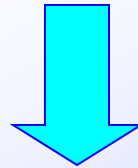
I. Bombaci, I. Parenti, I. Vidaña,
Astrophys. Jour. 614 (2004) 314

The critical mass of metastable Hadronic Stars

Def.: $M_{\text{cr}} \equiv M_{\text{HS}}(\tau = 1 \text{ yr})$

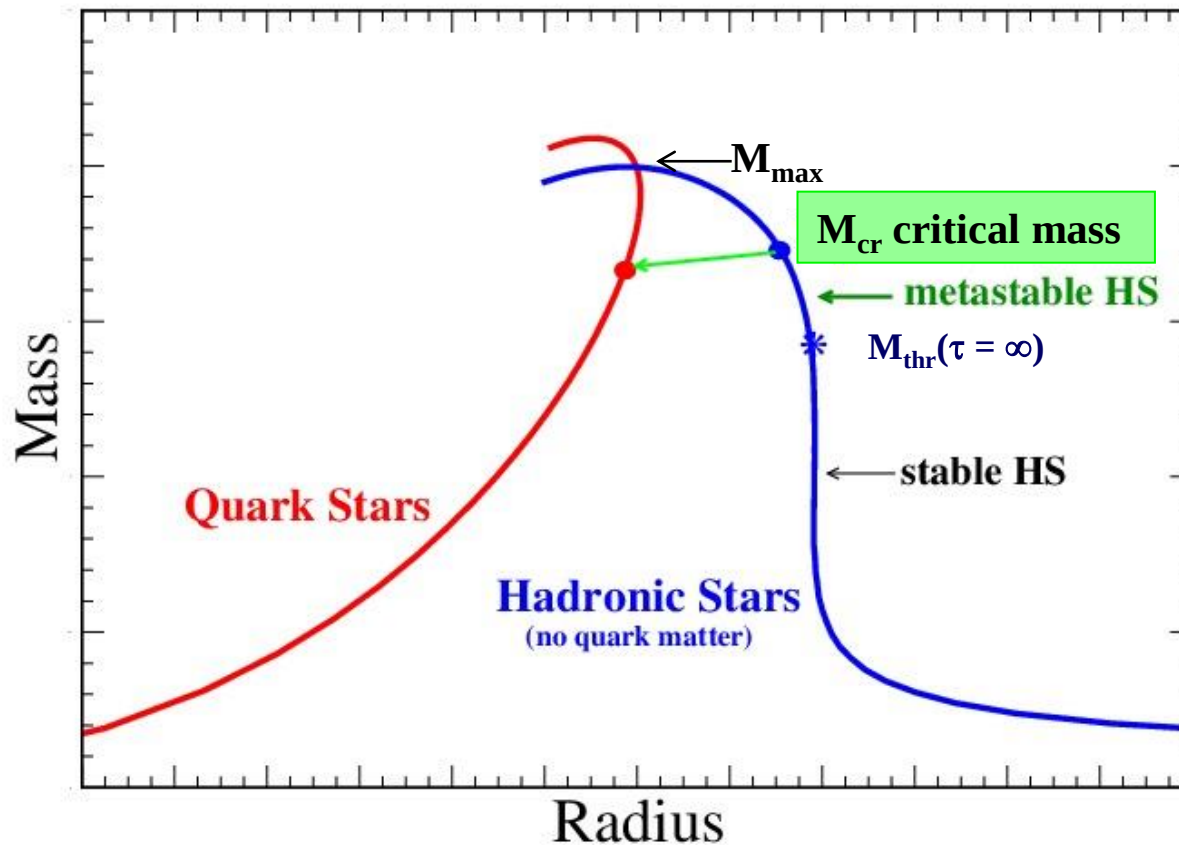
- HS with $M_{\text{thr}} < M_{\text{HS}} < M_{\text{cr}}$ are metastable with $\tau = 1 \text{ yr} \div \infty$

- HS with $M_{\text{HS}} > M_{\text{cr}}$ are very unlikely to be observed



The critical mass M_{cr} plays the role of an **effective maximum mass** for the hadronic branch of compact stars

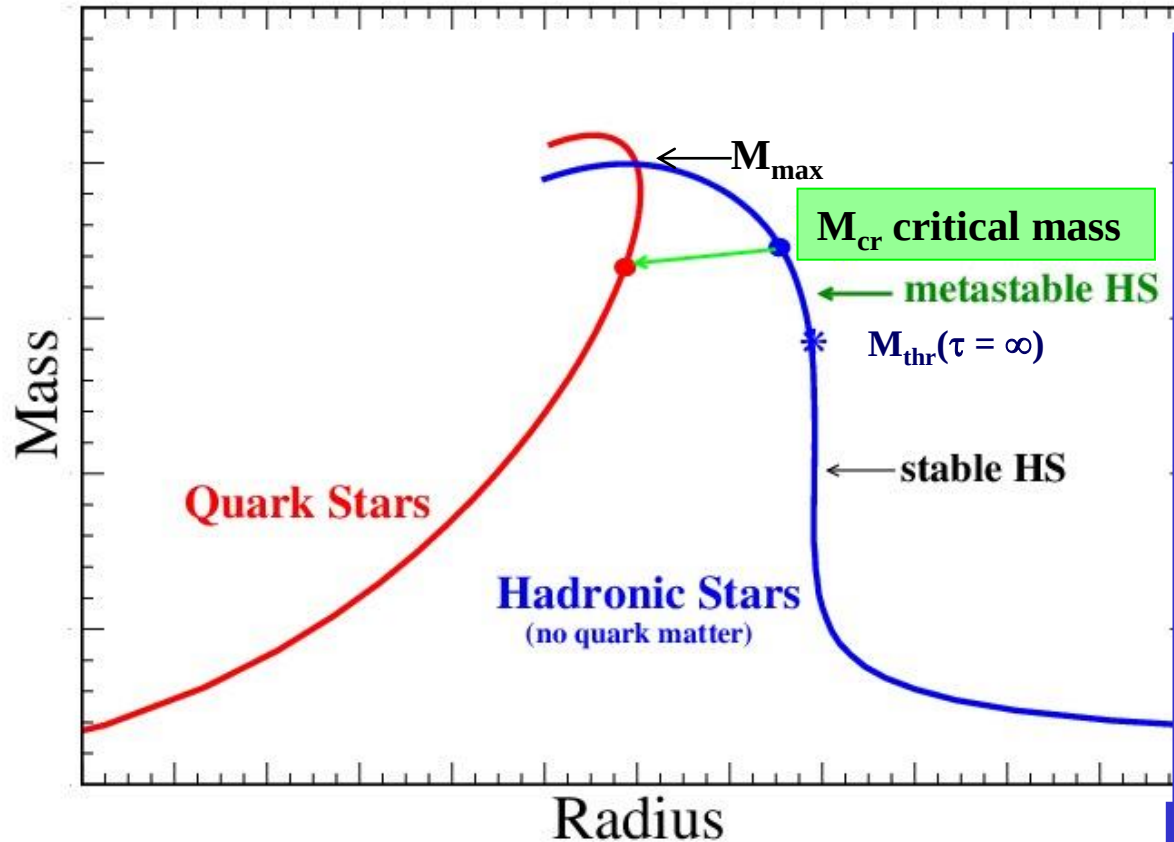
Metastability of Hadronic Stars



Hadronic Stars above a threshold value of their gravitational mass are metastable to the **conversion** to **Quark Stars (QS)** (hybrid stars or strange stars)

- Z. Berezhiani, I. Bombaci, A. Drago, F. Frontera, A. Lavagno, *Astrophys. Jour.* 586 (2003) 1250
I. Bombaci, I. Parenti, I. Vidaña, *Astrophys. Jour.* 614 (2004) 314
I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, C. Providencia, I. Vidaña, *Astr. and Astrophys.* 528 (2011) A71
I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, I. Vidaña, C. Providencia, *EPJ A* 52 (2016) 58
A. Drago, G. Pagliara, *EPJA* 52 (2016) 41

Metastability of Hadronic Stars



● M_{cr} , critical mass of hadronic stars.

● Two families of compact stars

● stellar conversion
 $\text{HS} \rightarrow \text{QS}$

$E_{\text{conv}} \sim 10^{53}$ erg
possible energy source for some GRBs

extension of the concept of
limiting mass of compact stars
with respect to the *classical* one
given by
Oppenheimer and Volkoff

Z. Berezhiani, I. Bombaci, A. Drago, F. Frontera, A. Lavagno, *Astrophys. Jour.* 614 (2004) 314
I. Bombaci, I. Parenti, I. Vidaña, *Astrophys. Jour.* 614 (2004) 314
I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, C. Providencia, I. Vidaña, *Astr. and Astrophys.* 581 (2015) 1
I. Bombaci, D. Logoteta, I. Vidaña, C. Providencia, *EPJ A* 52 (2016) 58
A. Drago, G. Pagliara, *EPJ A* 52 (2016) 41

Two families of compact stars

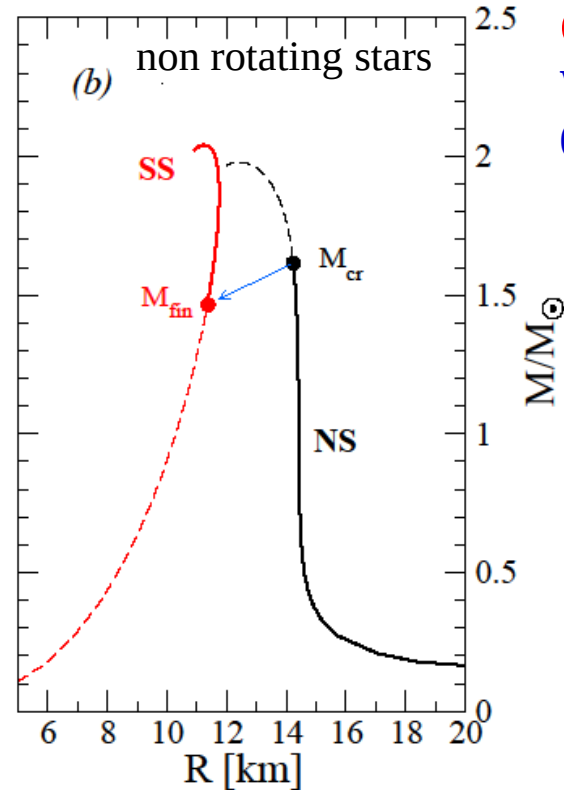
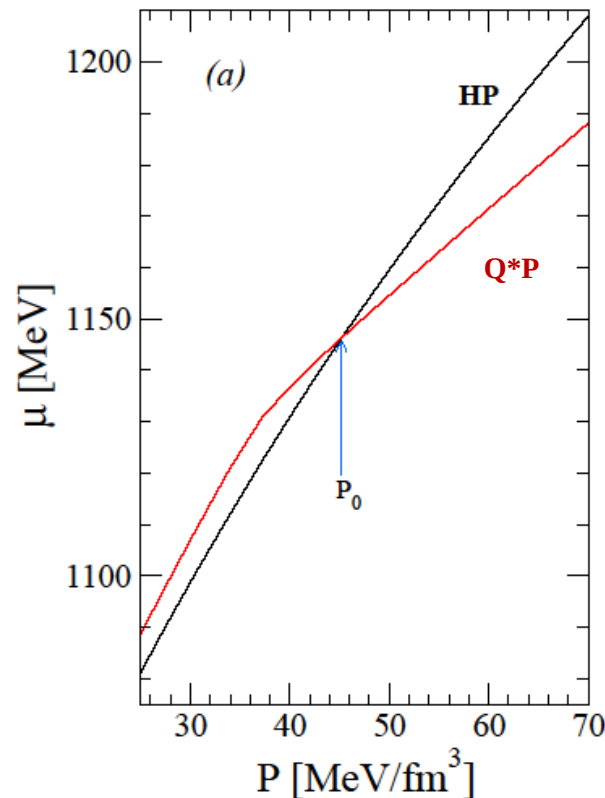
HP: TM1-2(NY) EOS

Providencia, Rabhi, PRC 87 (2013)

QP: extended Bag model

Weissneborn et al. ApJL 740 (2011),

$$B_{\text{eff}}^{1/4} = 140 \text{ MeV}, \quad a_4 = 0.8$$



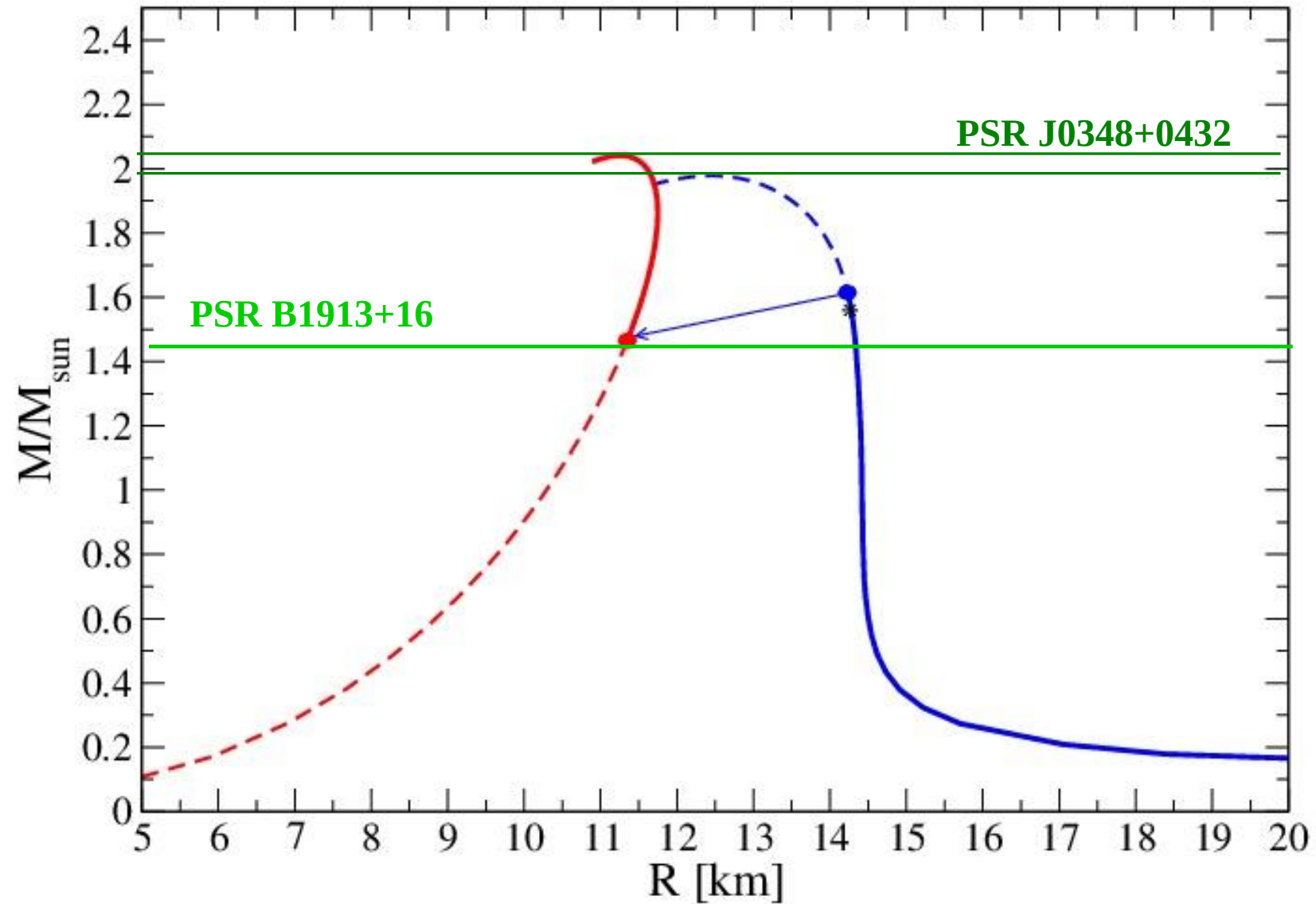
$$M_{\text{max}}^{\text{NS}} = 1.978 M_\odot$$

$$M_{\text{max}}^{\text{SS}} = 2.042 M_\odot$$

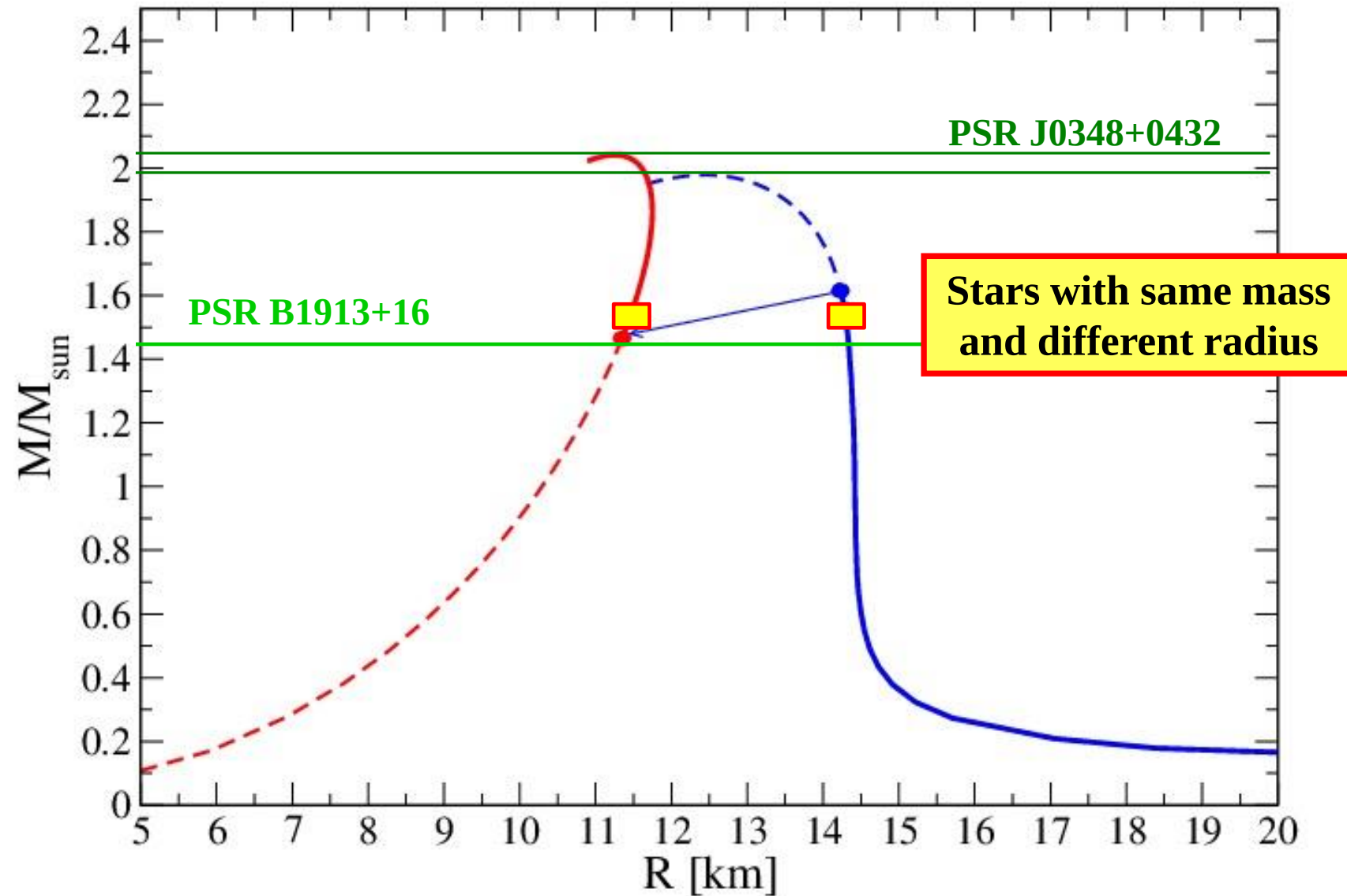
$$M_{\text{cr}} = 1.615 M_\odot$$

$$M_{\text{fin}} = 1.465 M_\odot$$

Two families of compact stars



Two families of compact stars



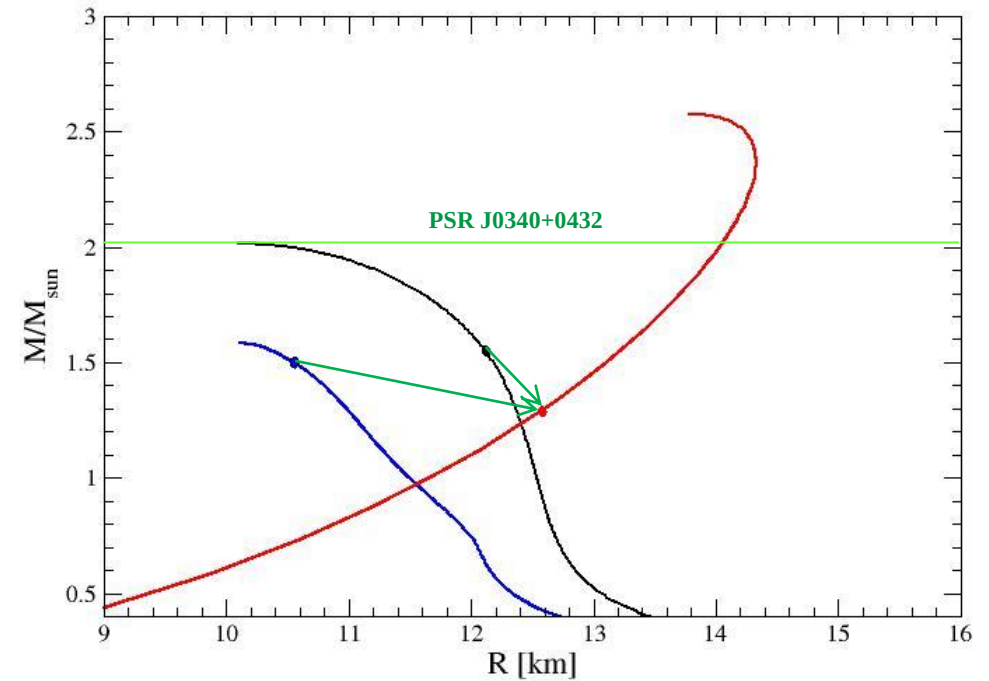
GW190814

Merger of a binary system: $23 M_{\odot}$ black hole (BH) + $(2.5 - 2.67) M_{\odot}$ compact star

The mass of the secondary component lies within the so-called **mass-gap** $(2.5 - 5) M_{\odot}$ between **Neutron Stars** and **Black Holes**.

The secondary component could be the **lightest BH** or the **heaviest NS** ever discovered

A **heavy NS** (stiff nuclear matter EOS) is **not compatible with the constraints on the tidal deformability** (stellar radius) obtained by **GW170817** which **favors softer EOSs**.



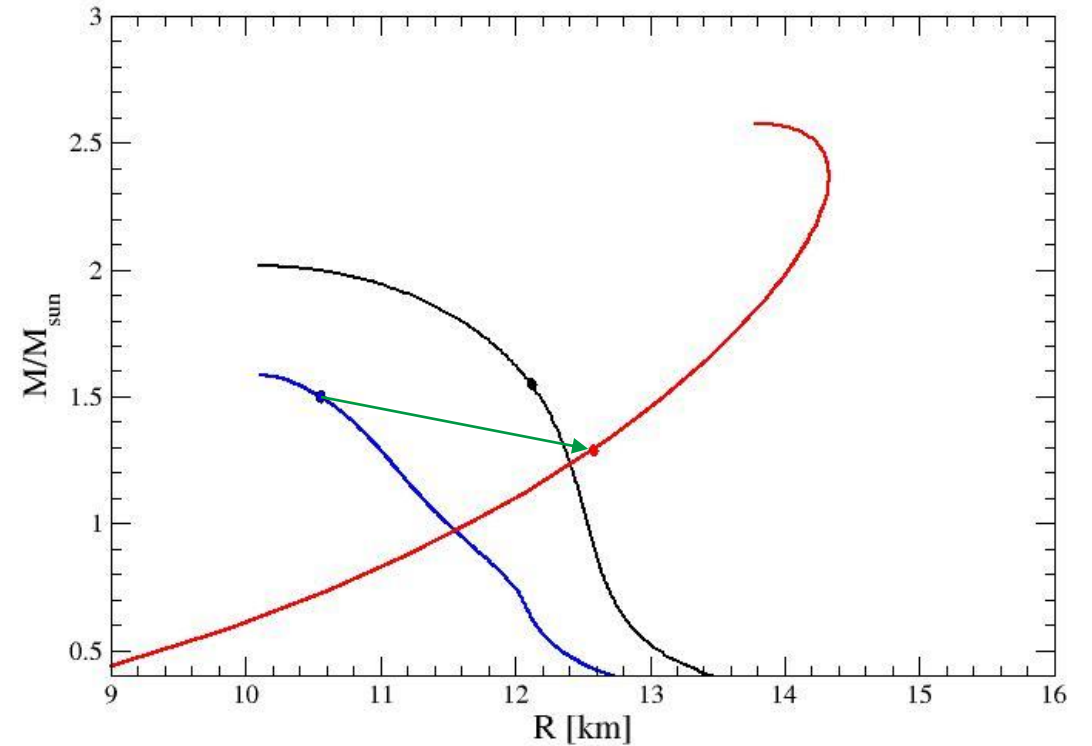
Was GW190814 a black hole – strange quark star system?

I. Bombaci, A. Drago, D. Logoteta, G. Pagliara I. Vidaña, arXiv:2010.1509

Two coexisting families of compact stars: implications for the hyperon puzzle

Within the two-families scenario **it is unnecessary to have a stiff EoS for hyperonic matter**, and thus **it is unnecessary to have strongly repulsive two- and three-body hyperonic interactions**, because compact stars with $M \sim 2 M_{\odot}$ (or even larger values) belong to the QS family.

In addition hyperon formation in HSs could help the quark **matter nucleation mechanism** which trigger the stellar conversion process.



Probing dense QCD matter in the laboratory

Whether the **quark-deconfinement phase transition** is of the **first-order with a critical endpoint**, or whether it proceeds smoothly by a **crossover** is still an open question.

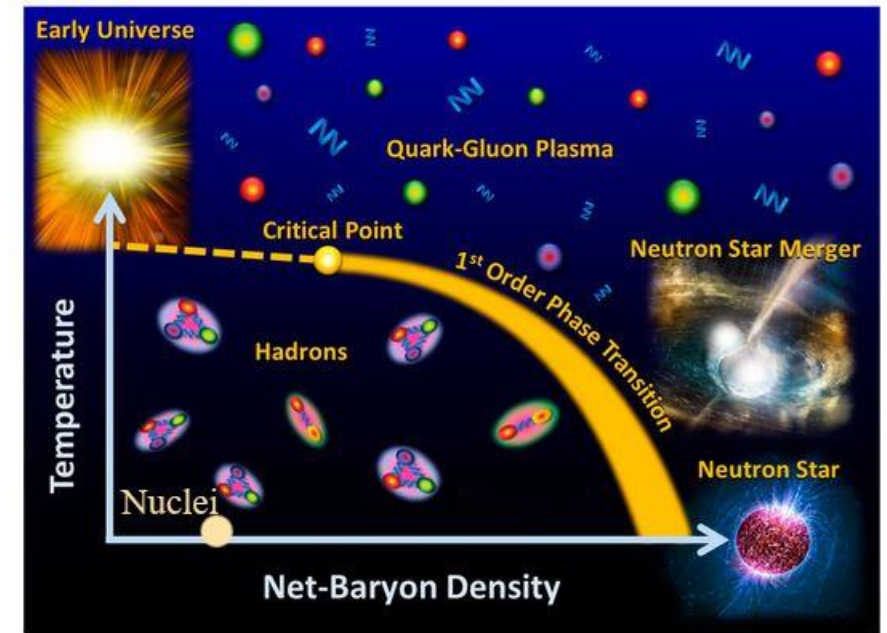
New dedicated experiments are under construction at future facilities

Compressed Baryonic Matter (CBM) experiment

at the Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research (FAIR) in **Darmstadt**,

J-PARC Heavy-Ion-project at the Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC) in **Tōkai**,

Heavy-Ion-program at the Nuclotron-based Ion Collider fAcility (NICA) at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in **Dubna**.



Adapted from P. Senger, and N. Herrmann, Nuclear Physics News, Vol. 28, No 2 (2018) 23.

**The prospects in the quest
to uncover the correct
EoS which describes
Neutron Stars look thus
very bright.**

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Arun V. Thampan



Giuseppe Pagliara

[illegible]