

# Probing the equation of state of dense matter with neutron stars: constraints from nuclear physics

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# Outline

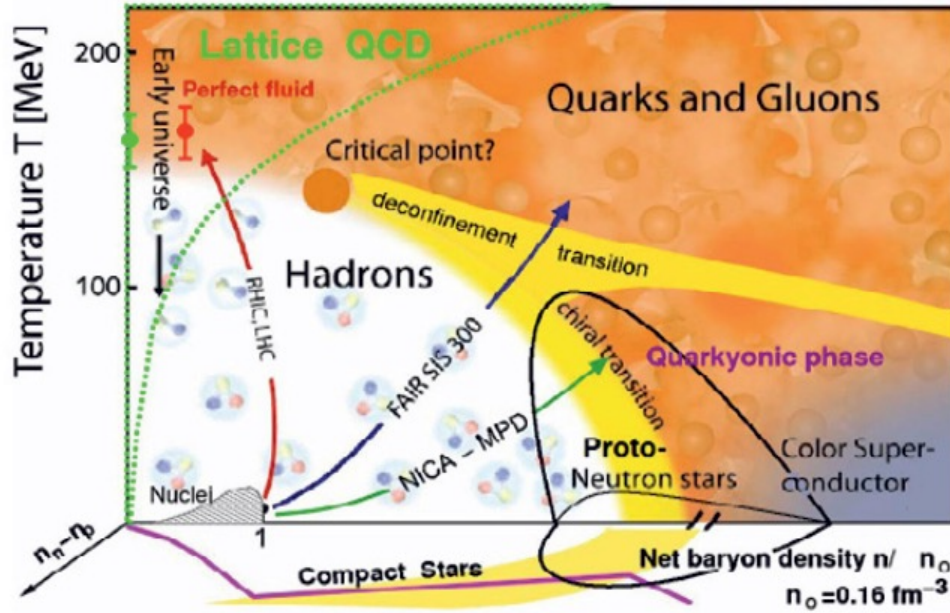
- ❖ Introduction: neutron stars (NSs)
- ❖ Equation-of-state (EoS) modelling
  - NS EoS
  - Constraints on the NS EoS from nuclear physics
  - EoS and neutron-star (NS) properties
- ❖ Conclusions and outlooks

N.B.: In this talk,  $T = 0$  and beta-equilibrium matter, no magnetic field

see H. Dinh Thi's talk for  $T > 0$ , and L. Scurto's talk for B field effects



# Probing extreme conditions in NSs



Kekelidze et al., EPJ Web of Conf. 70, 00084 (2014)

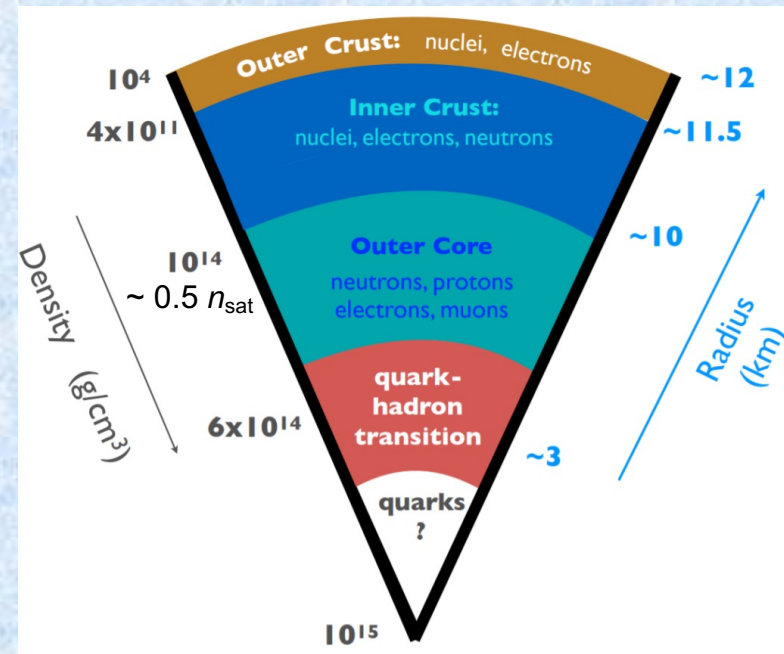


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

different states of matter spanned in NSs !  
→ inhomogeneous, homogeneous, “exotic” particles (?)  
+ superfluidity, magnetic field, etc.

**→ not all conditions can be probed in terrestrial labs → theoretical models !**





# Micro to macro through modelling

**Microphysics (inputs)**  
(e.g. EoS, nuclear processes)

pre...

**Astrophysical (macrophysics)  
hydrodynamic/static models**  
(simulations)

...straint

constraint

prediction

**Nuclear theory** (with model parameters)

constraint

prediction

con...

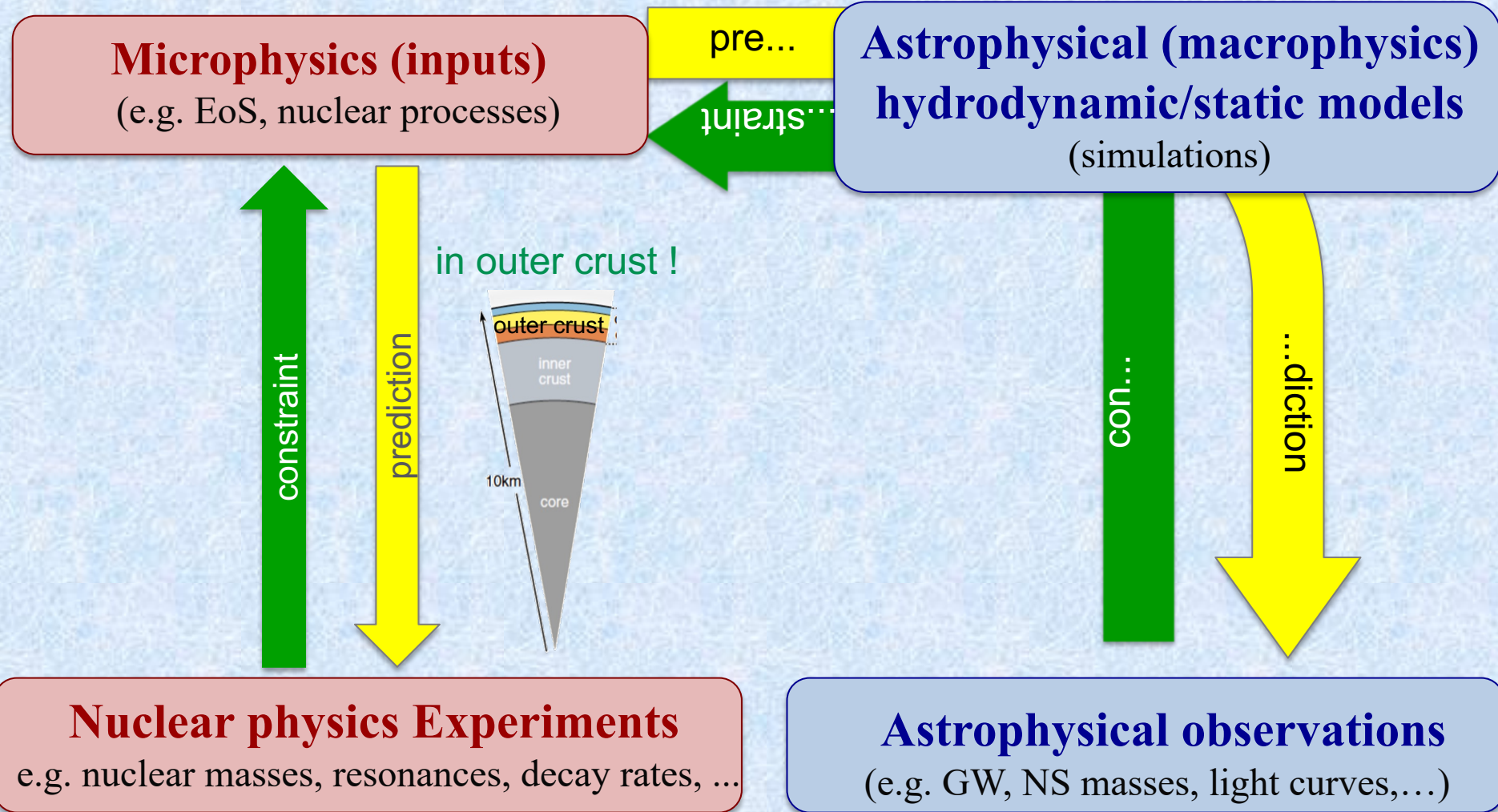
...diction

**Nuclear physics Experiments**  
e.g. nuclear masses, resonances, decay rates, ...

**Astrophysical observations**  
(e.g. GW, NS masses, light curves,...)



# Micro to macro through modelling

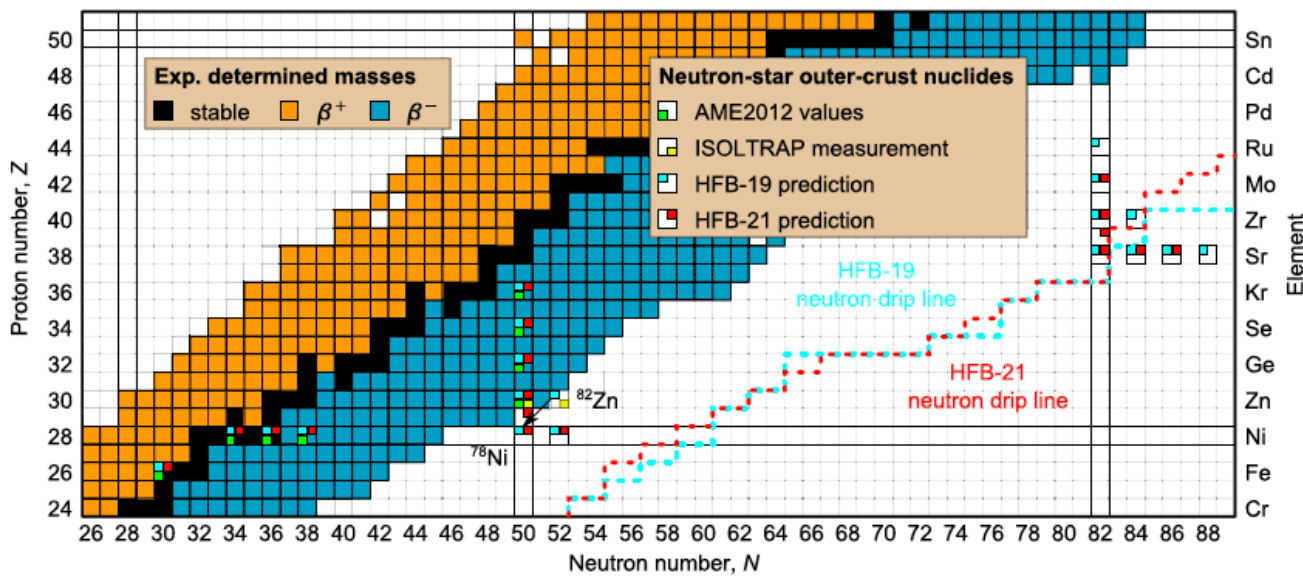




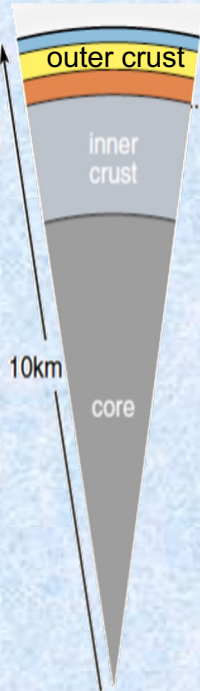
# NS outer crust: up to neutron drip (1)

- Nuclei in bcc lattice + electrons:  $\epsilon_{WS}(n_B) = \frac{M(A, Z)c^2}{V_{WS}} + \epsilon_e(n_e) + \epsilon_{Coul}$   
e-e and e-i int.

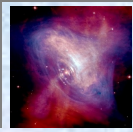
Only microscopic inputs are **nuclear masses** → Experimental or mass models



Wolf *et al.*, PRL 110, 041101 (2013)



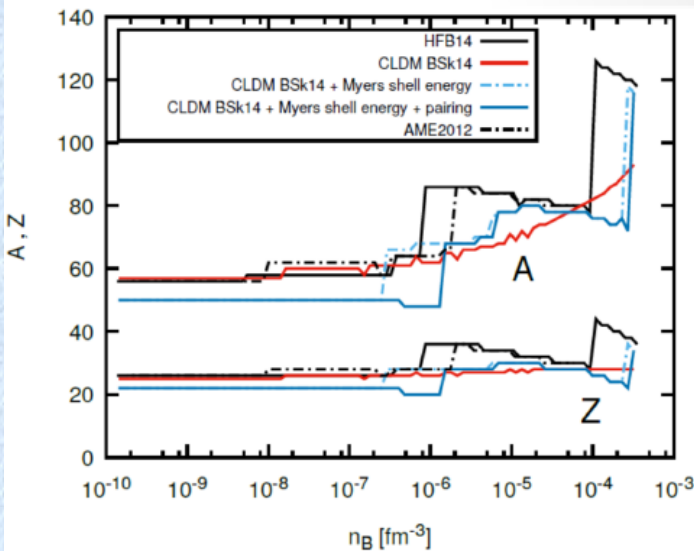
➤ very neutron-rich nuclei, imprint of shell structure



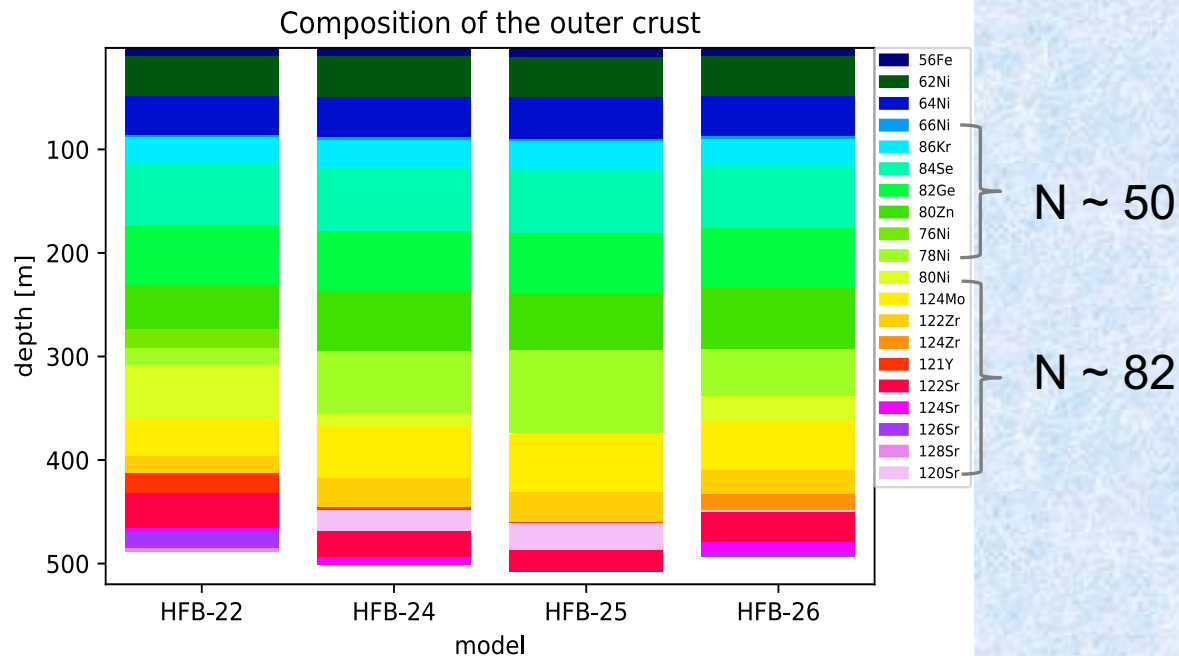
# NS outer crust: up to neutron drip (2)

- Nuclei in bcc lattice + electrons:  $\epsilon_{\text{WS}}(n_B) = \frac{M(A, Z)c^2}{V_{\text{WS}}} + \epsilon_e(n_e) + \epsilon_{\text{Coul}}$   
e-e and e-i int.

Only microscopic inputs are **nuclear masses** → Experimental or mass models

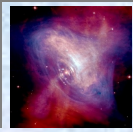


F. Gulminelli's talk @GMR workshop (2020)



- very neutron-rich nuclei, imprint of shell structure
- EoS relatively well constrained, dependence on many-body method



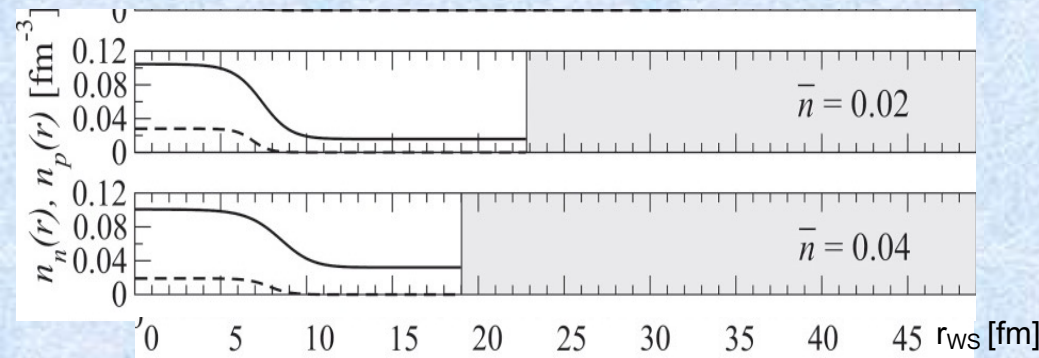
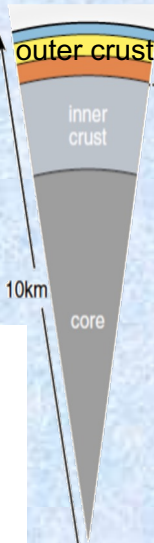


# NS inner crust: until cc transition

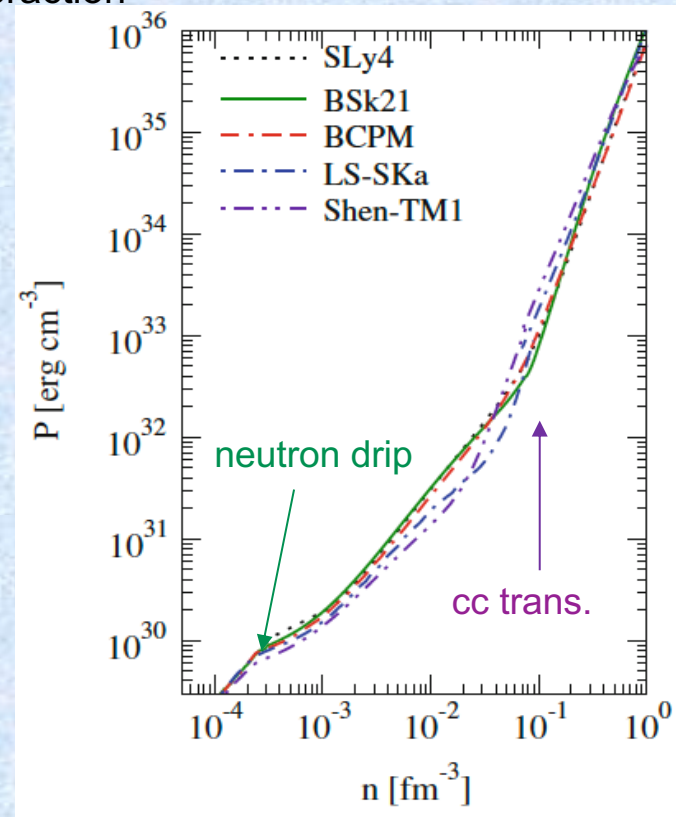
- Nuclei in bcc lattice + electrons + "free" neutrons → nuclear modelling

$$\epsilon_{WS}(n_B) = \frac{M(A, Z)c^2}{V_{WS} \text{ exp./theo masses}} + \epsilon_e(n_e) + \epsilon_{\text{Coul}} + \epsilon(n_{gn}) + \epsilon_{\text{int}}$$

Coulomb interaction
nucleus-gas interaction



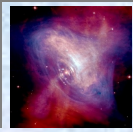
Pearson et al., PRC 85, 065803 (2012)



Burgio & Fantina, ASSL 457 (2018)

- higher uncertainties
  - model-dependence in the functional
  - model-dependence in many-body method

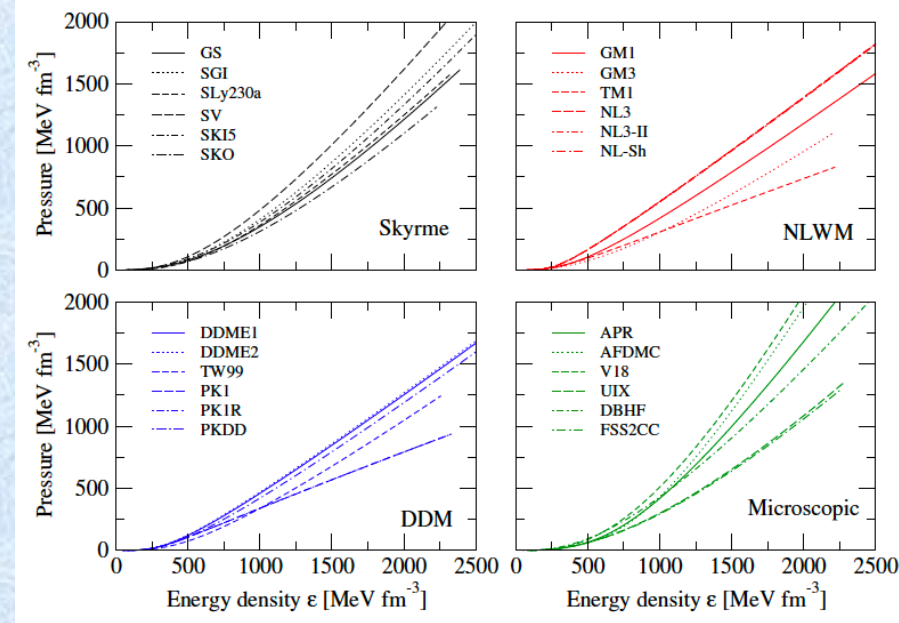




# NS core: homogeneous matter

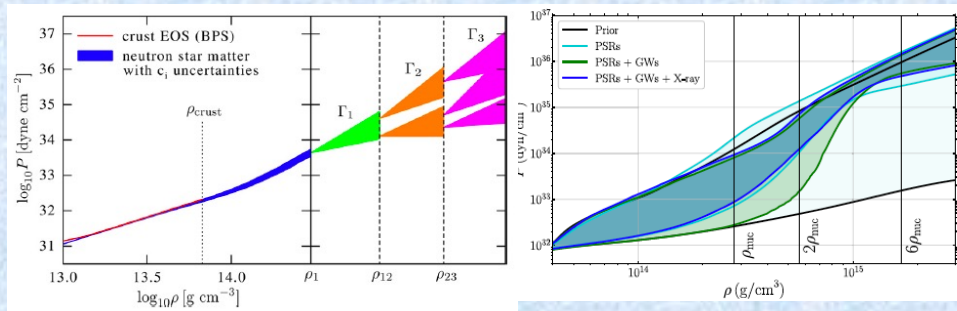
- **Ab-initio (“microscopic”) approaches**  
e.g. variational methods, (D)BHF, chiral EFT, Monte-Carlo, Green’s func.,....)
- **Phenomenological approaches**  
e.g. EDF e.g. Skyrme/Gogny, meta-models, ...

- higher uncertainties in the functional  
→ extrapolation
- + additional particles ?



Burgio & Vidana, Universe 6, 119 (2020)

- **Agnostic (non-parametric) approaches**  
e.g. Piecewise polytropes (PP), Speed-of-sound models (CSM), Spectral functions (SF), Gaussian processes (GP)  
→ but what about nuclear physics?

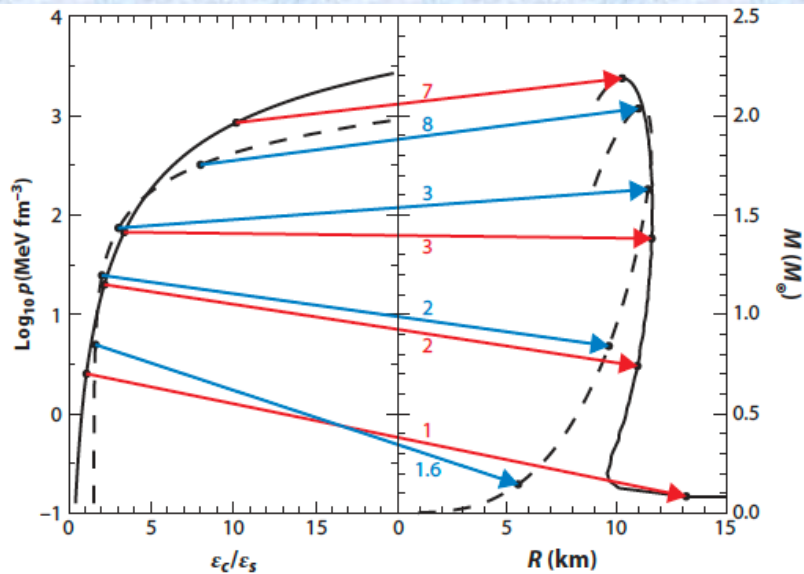


Hebeler et al., ApJ 773, 11 (2013) Landry et al. PRD 101, 123007 (2020)

for a review see e.g. Haensel et al. 2007 (Springer), Oertel et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. (2017), Burgio & Fantina, ASSL 457 (2018)  
 Agnostic approaches, e.g. PP: Reed et al. PRD 2009, Hebeler et al. ApJ 2013, Annala et al. PRL 2018, ...; CSM: Tews et al. ApJ 2018, Tan et al. PRL 2020; Somasundaram et al., PRC 2023; SF: Lindblom 2010, Lindblom & Indik 2014, ...; GP: Landry et al. PRD 2020, Essick et al. PRD 2020; Legred et al. PRD 2021, PRD 2022, ...



# EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS (static) observables (1)



- ✓ GR  $\rightarrow$  one-to-one correspondence  
EoS  $\leftrightarrow$  NS static properties  $M(R)$ ,  $\Lambda(M)$ ...  
(non-rotating mature NS)
- ✓ Different EoSs  $\leftrightarrow$  different NS properties  
 $\leftrightarrow$  different GW signals  
?  $\rightarrow$  trace back to EoS and composition ?

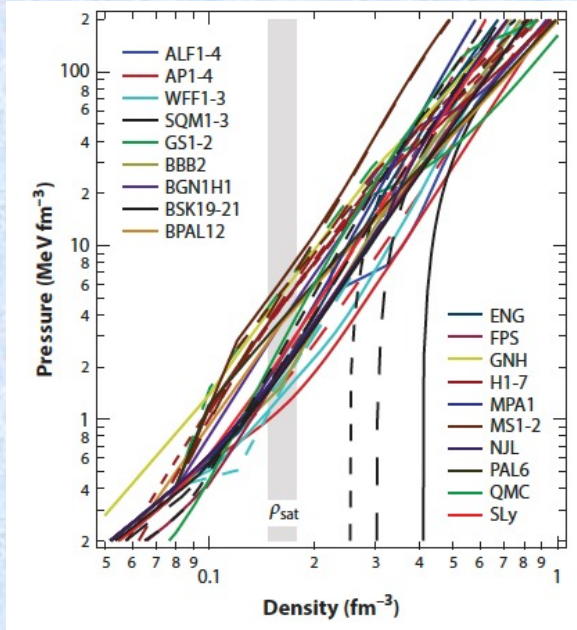
Lattimer, Annu. Rev. Part. Nucl. Sci. 62, 485 (2012)  
see also F. Gulminelli's talk

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

$P(\rho) \rightarrow$  EoS



# EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS (static) observables (2)

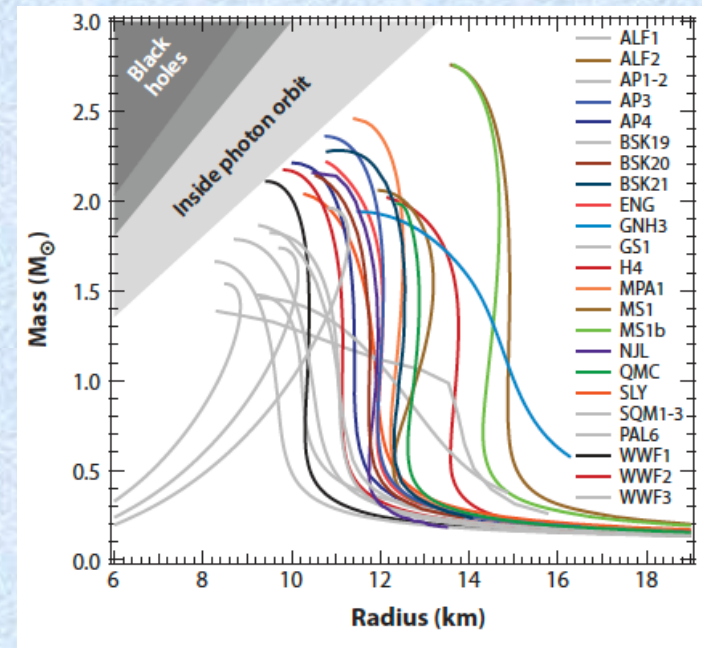


Ozel & Freire, ARAA 54, 401 (2016)

but:

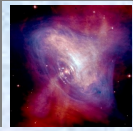
- ✗ EoS model dependent !
- ✗ no ab-initio dense-matter calculations in all regimes  
→ phenomenological models
- ✗ composition  $\leftrightarrow$  EoS  $\rightarrow M(R)$  ?
- ✗ role of additional d.o.f. ?

- ✓ GR  $\rightarrow$  one-to-one correspondence  
EoS  $\leftrightarrow$  NS static properties  $M(R)$ ,  $\Lambda(M)$ ...  
(non-rotating mature NS)
- ✓ Different EoSs  $\leftrightarrow$  different NS properties  
 $\leftrightarrow$  different GW signals  
?  $\rightarrow$  trace back to EoS and composition ?



Ozel & Freire, ARAA 54, 401 (2016);  
see also Burgio & Fantina, ASSL 457, 255 (2018)



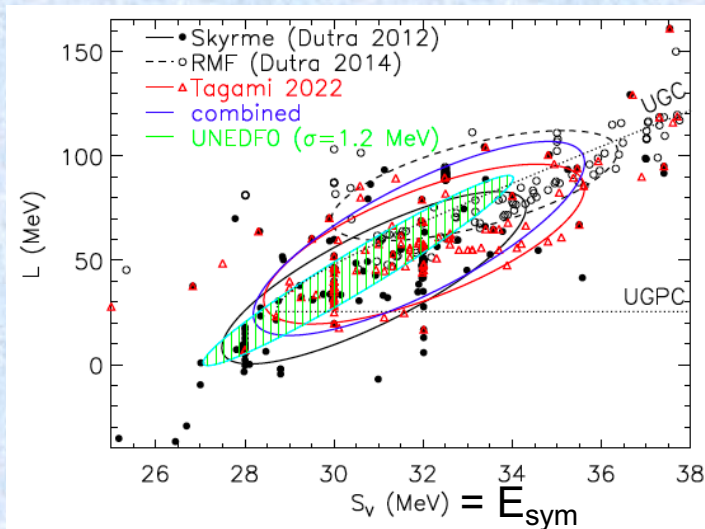


# EoS $\leftrightarrow$ nuclear matter parameters

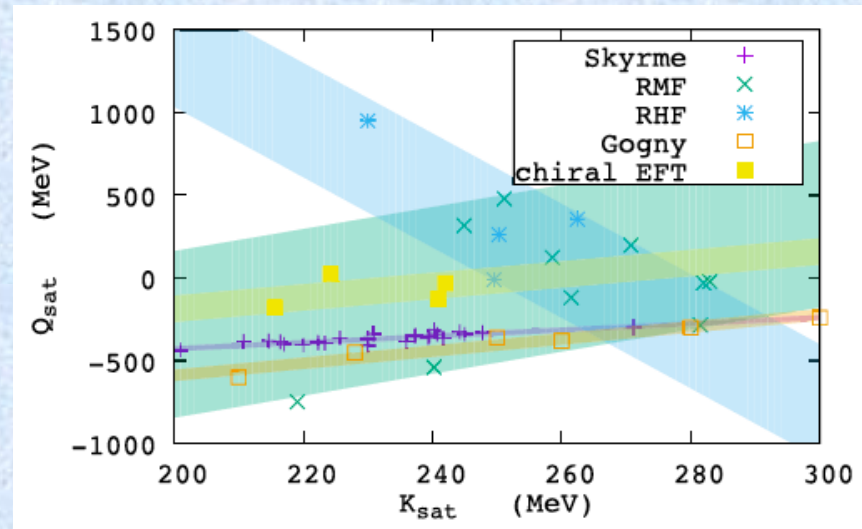
- Expansion in density and asymmetry around  $n_{\text{sat}}$  and  $\delta = 0$

$$\epsilon_B(n, \delta) \approx n \sum_{m=0}^N \frac{1}{m!} \left( \left. \frac{d^m e_{\text{sat}}}{dx^m} \right|_{x=0} + \left. \frac{d^m e_{\text{sym}}}{dx^m} \right|_{x=0} \delta^2 \right) x^m \quad \begin{aligned} x &= (n - n_{\text{sat}})/3n_{\text{sat}} \\ \delta &= (n_n - n_p)/n \end{aligned}$$

Empirical parameters (bulk)  $\mathbf{X}_{\text{sat}} = E_{\text{sat}}, K_{\text{sat}}, Q_{\text{sat}}, \dots$   
 $\mathbf{X}_{\text{sym}} = E_{\text{sym}}, L_{\text{sym}}, K_{\text{sym}}, Q_{\text{sym}}, \dots$



Lattimer, Particles 6, 30 (2023)



Margueron et al., PRC 97, 025805 (2018)

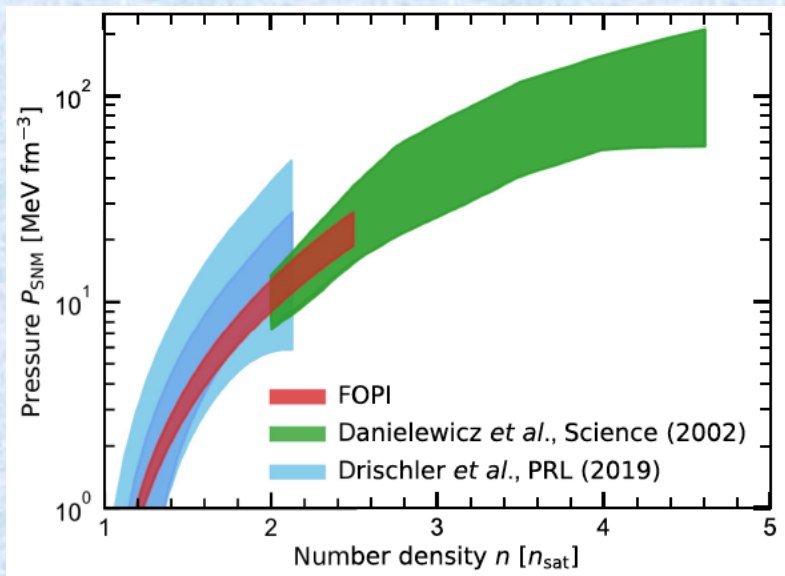


# How can we get constraints?

## Nuclear physics exp./ theory

- Measure of **nuclear properties**:
  - masses and radii of nuclei
  - collective modes, polarizability
  - neutron skins, HIC, flows
  - etc ...
- **ab-initio calculations**

→ “low” density (better in nucleonic sector)

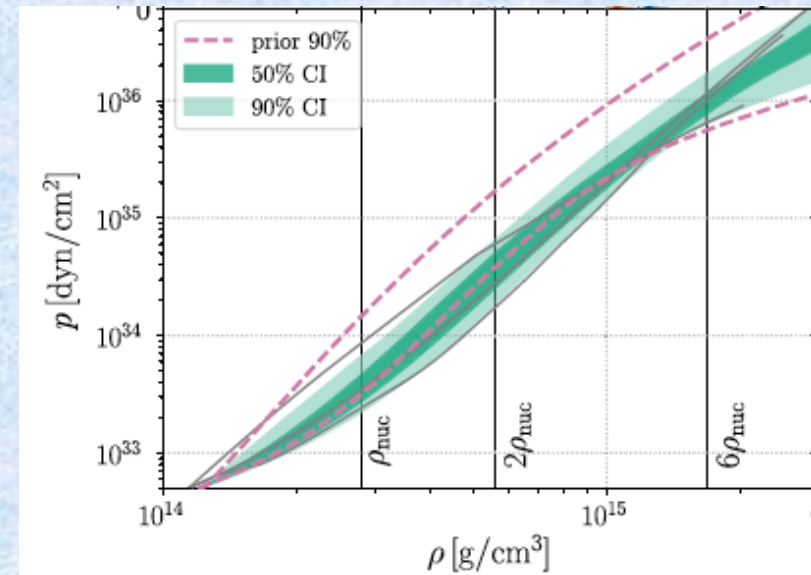


Huth et al., Nature 606, 276 (2022)

## Astrophysical observations

- Measure of **NS properties**:
  - NS masses and radii
  - rotational frequency, oscillation modes
  - cooling, moment of inertia
  - etc ...
- **Gravitational waves**

→ “high” density



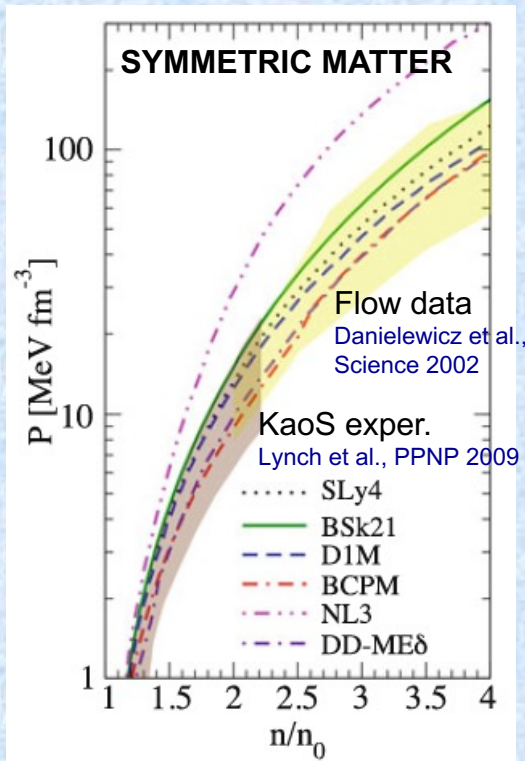
Abbott et al., PRL 121, 161101 (2018)



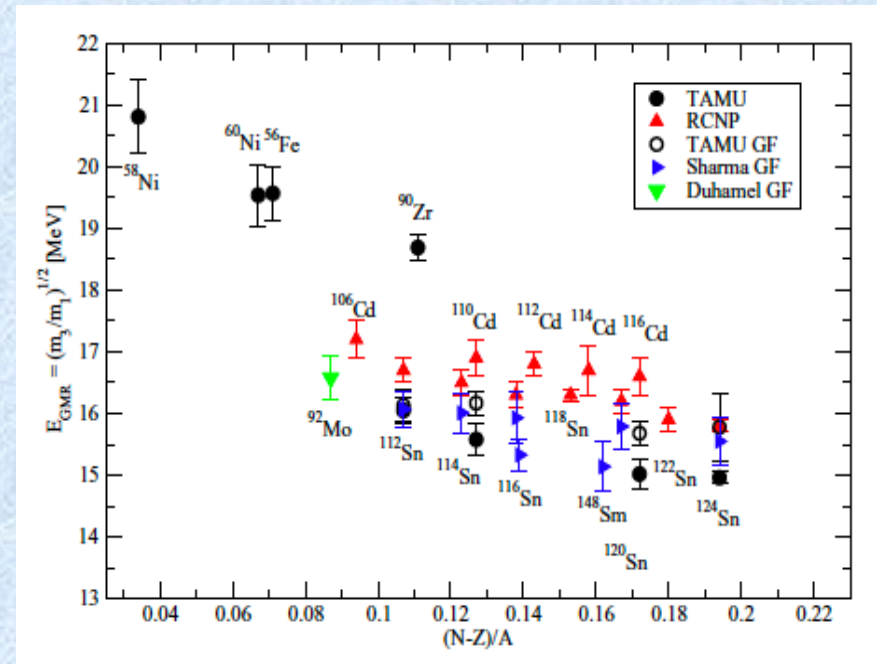




# Constraints from nucl. phys.: exp (1)



Burgio&Fantina, ASSL 457, 255 (2018)



Stone et al., PRC 89, 0044316 (2014)

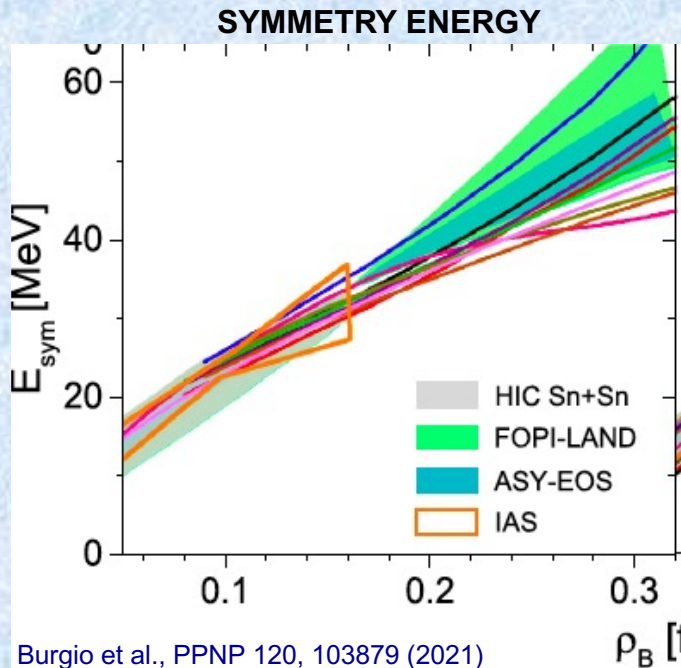
- Constraints at “low” densities → low-order parameters
- Constraints more on “symmetric” matter

N.B.: deduced constraints are often *not* raw data, but combined with models  
 → model dependence of constraints !

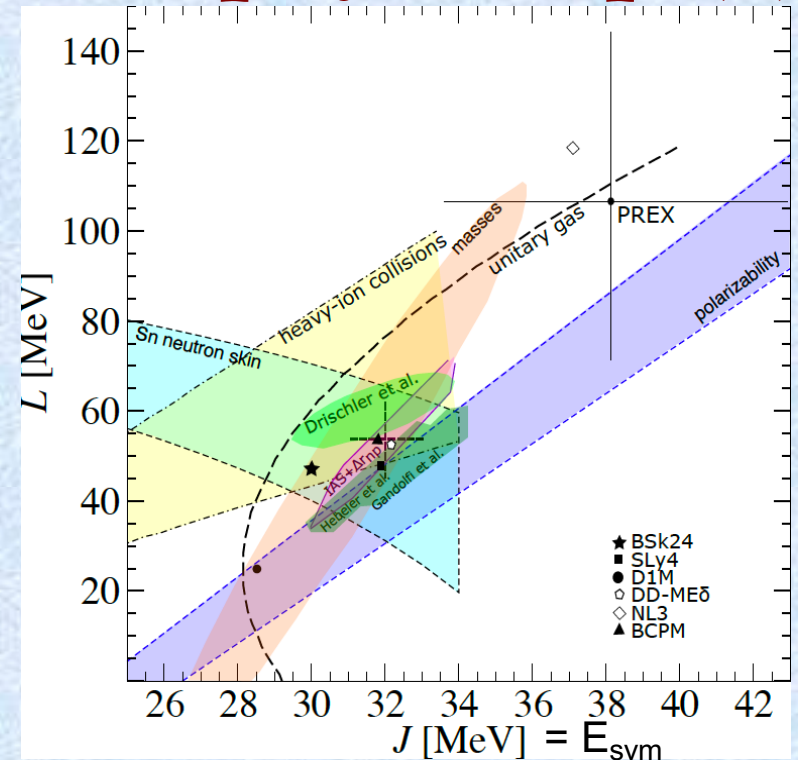
see also Margueron et al., PRC 97, 025805 (2018) for a compilation



# Constraints from nucl. phys.: exp (2)



Burgio et al., PPNP 120, 103879 (2021)  
see also Burgio&Fantina, ASSL 457, 255 (2018)



Gulminelli&Fantina, Nucl. Phys. News 31, 9 (2021); Fantina&Gulminelli, submitted (2022)

- Constraints at “low” densities → low-order parameters
- Constraints more on “symmetric” matter
- Not always “clear” constraints → “tension”

N.B.: deduced constraints are often *not* raw data, but combined with models  
→ model dependence of constraints !

see also Margueron et al., PRC 97, 025805 (2018) for a compilation



# NS properties : which nuclear parameters matter ?

$n_{CC}$	-0.09	-0.05	0.15	-0.11	0.00	-0.34	-0.69	-0.22	0.55	-0.16
$P_{CC}$	-0.05	-0.02	0.13	-0.03	-0.03	-0.07	-0.62	-0.38	0.41	-0.04
$R_{crust}^{1.4}$	0.09	-0.18	0.19	0.15	0.09	-0.01	-0.14	0.20	0.64	0.01
$R_{1.4}$	0.15	-0.22	0.13	0.20	0.14	-0.03	0.41	0.65	0.42	0.06
$\Lambda_{1.4}$	0.16	-0.24	0.16	0.23	0.14	-0.17	0.26	0.60	0.50	0.10
$\chi_p^{1.4}$	-0.24	0.32	-0.41	-0.50	-0.09	0.39	0.60	0.75	0.58	0.04
$R_{crust}^{2.0}$	0.15	-0.23	0.27	0.31	0.19	-0.16	-0.26	0.08	0.53	0.12
$R_{2.0}$	0.21	-0.27	0.24	0.38	0.25	-0.19	0.10	0.36	0.37	0.18
$\Lambda_{2.0}$	0.22	-0.29	0.27	0.42	0.27	-0.28	-0.03	0.27	0.36	0.21
$\chi_p^{2.0}$	-0.20	0.19	-0.39	-0.57	-0.29	0.20	0.31	0.51	0.62	0.25
	$E_{sat}$	$n_{sat}$	$K_{sat}$	$Q_{sat}$	$Z_{sat}$	$E_{sym}$	$L_{sym}$	$K_{sym}$	$Q_{sym}$	$Z_{sym}$

## CRUST-CORE TRANSITION

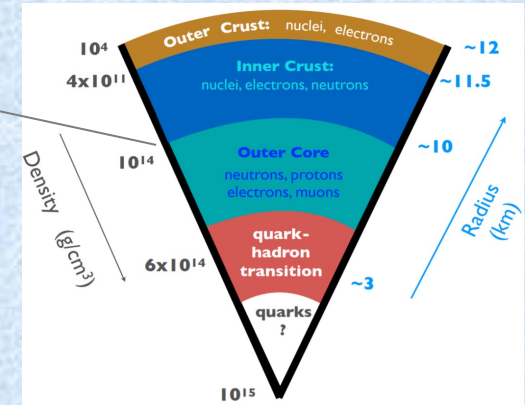


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

→ importance of *higher-order parameters*

Dinh Thi et al., A&A 654, A114 (2021); EPJA 57, 296 (2021); Universe 7, 00373 (2021)  
within meta-model approach

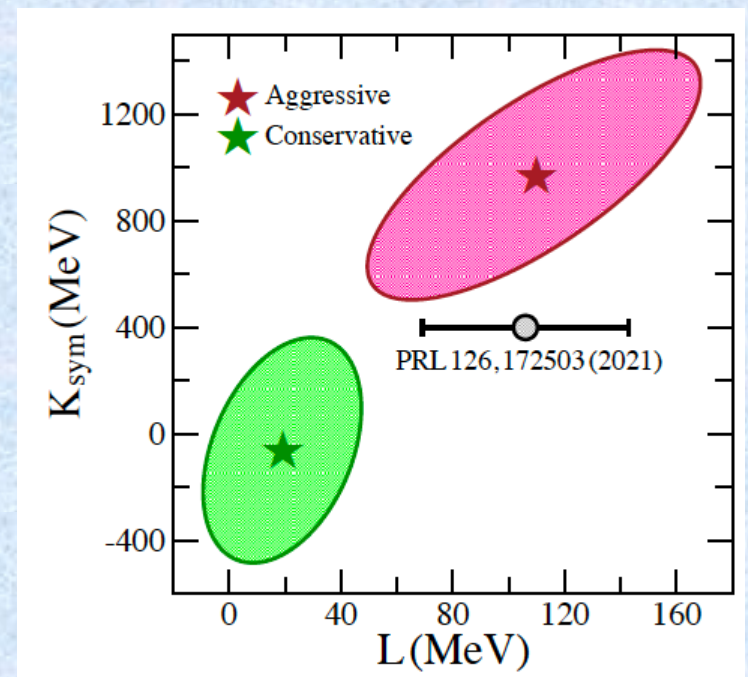
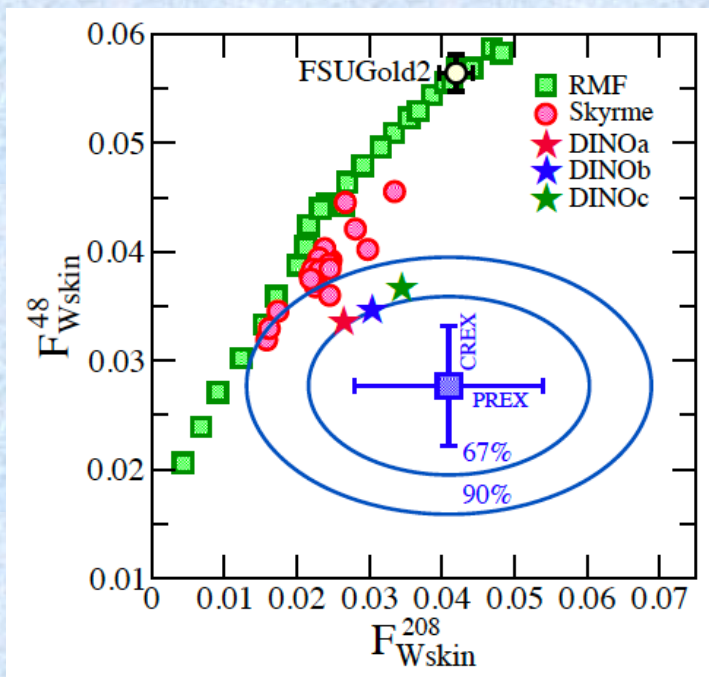
see also Balliet et al., ApJ 918, 79 (2021)





# How to discriminate models ? (exp 1)

- More constraints from nuclear physics experiments
  - e.g. reduced error bar in neutron skin measurements (e.g. PREX/CREX)
  - constraints on low-order parameters in isospin sector

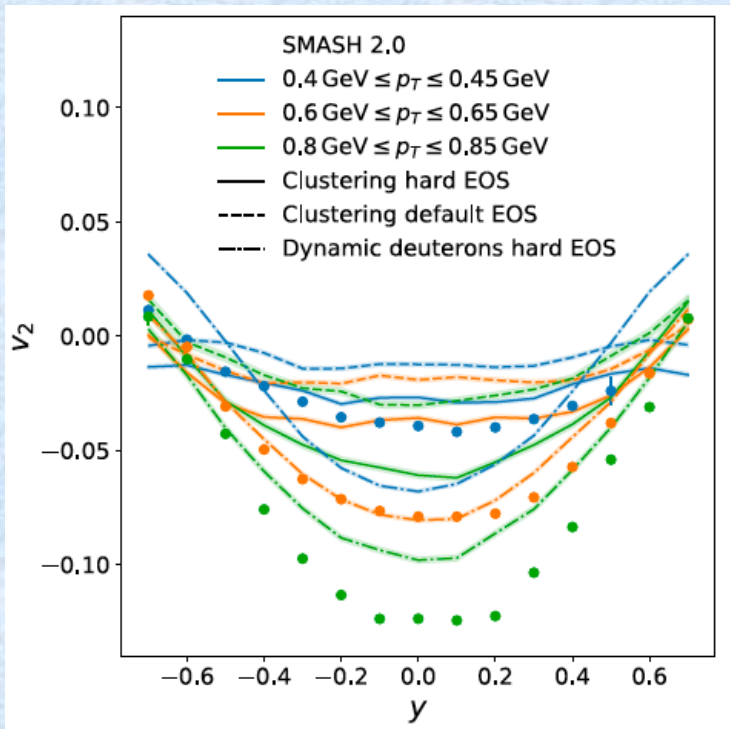


Reed et al., arXiv:2305.19376 (2023)

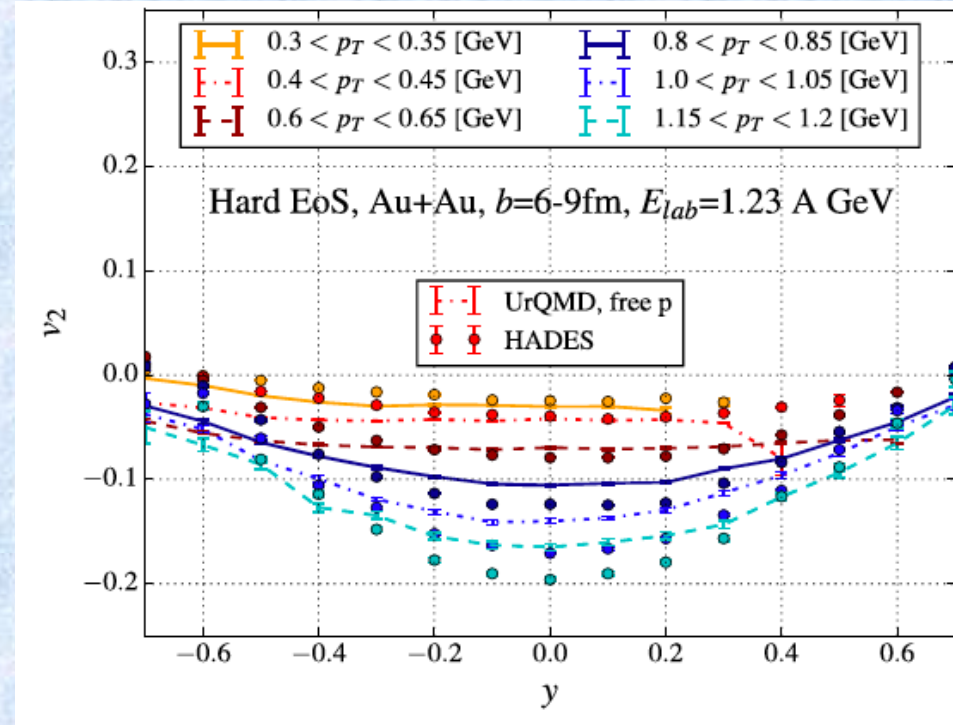


# How to discriminate models ? (exp 2)

- More constraints from nuclear physics at high density ( $\sim 2 n_{\text{sat}}$ )
  - e.g. HADES collaboration; elliptic flow: transport model vs data
  - constraints “higher”-order parameters in isoscalar sector



Mohs et al., PRC 105, 034906 (2022)



Hillman et al., J. Phys. G 47, 055101 (2020)



# Conclusions & open questions

- ❖ Nuclear inputs needed for neutron-star modelling
    - extrapolations of data & theoretical models needed
  - ❖ Nuclear physics + astrophysics → constraints on EoS
  - ❖ Uncertainties in nuclear data → impact astro observables
    - ➔
      - ✓ need of (microscopic) reliable theoretical model when no data
      - ✓ need of experimental data to calibrate the models
      - ✓ need of astrophysical observations
- 
- Extrapolation from raw data → **model dependence of the constraints**
  - Lab experiments mostly “low” density ( $\sim$  saturation density), low  $T$  probed; matter in astro sites different from lab → **extrapolation to astro conditions (high  $T$  and density, asymmetry, charge neutral) ?**
  - Astro simulations vs microphysics inputs → **uncertainties in nuclear / astro, consistency of inputs** and relative **effects of microphysics inputs in astro modelling ?** → systematic studies / bayesian analysis needed





*Thank you*