

# Dense matter within RHF approaches

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# OUTLINE

Motivation for Relativistic approaches

Neutron stars

RMF with Chiral symmetry and Confinement (RMF-CC)

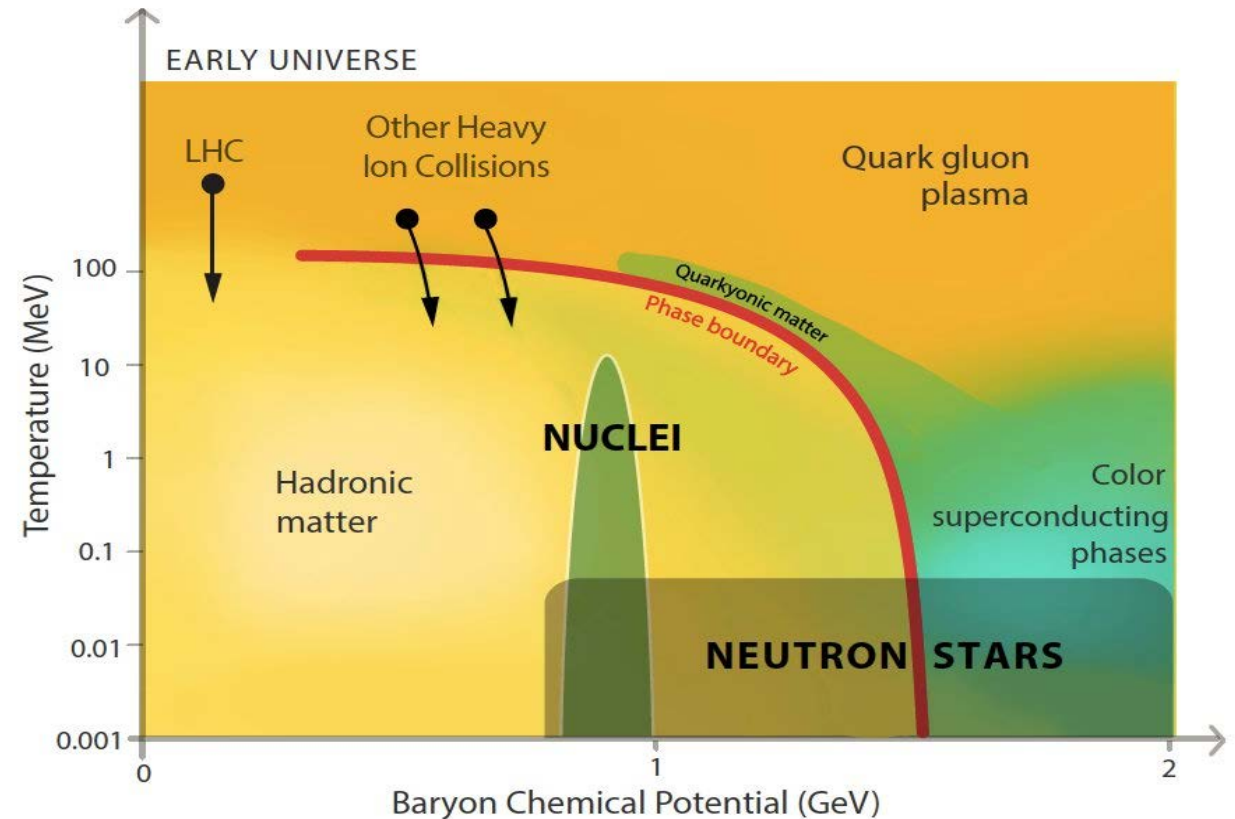
Results

Conclusions and outlooks

# Phase diagram of QCD

- The state of matter at high densities remains a mystery (quark-gluon plasma, hyperons, color superconductivity, ...)
- QCD is perturbative but at  $\sim 40n_{\text{sat}}$  !!
- No theory applies in the regime of low-T and large densities.

Watts et al. '16



## INSIDE A NEUTRON STAR

A NASA mission will use X-ray spectroscopy to gather clues about the interior of neutron stars — the Universe's densest forms of matter.

### Outer crust

Atomic nuclei, free electrons

### Inner crust

Heavier atomic nuclei, free neutrons and electrons

### Outer core

Quantum liquid where neutrons, protons and electrons exist in a soup

### Inner core

Unknown ultra-dense matter. Neutrons and protons may remain as particles, break down into their constituent quarks, or even become 'hyperons'.

### Atmosphere

Hydrogen, helium, carbon

Beam of X-rays coming from the neutron star's poles, which sweeps around as the star rotates.

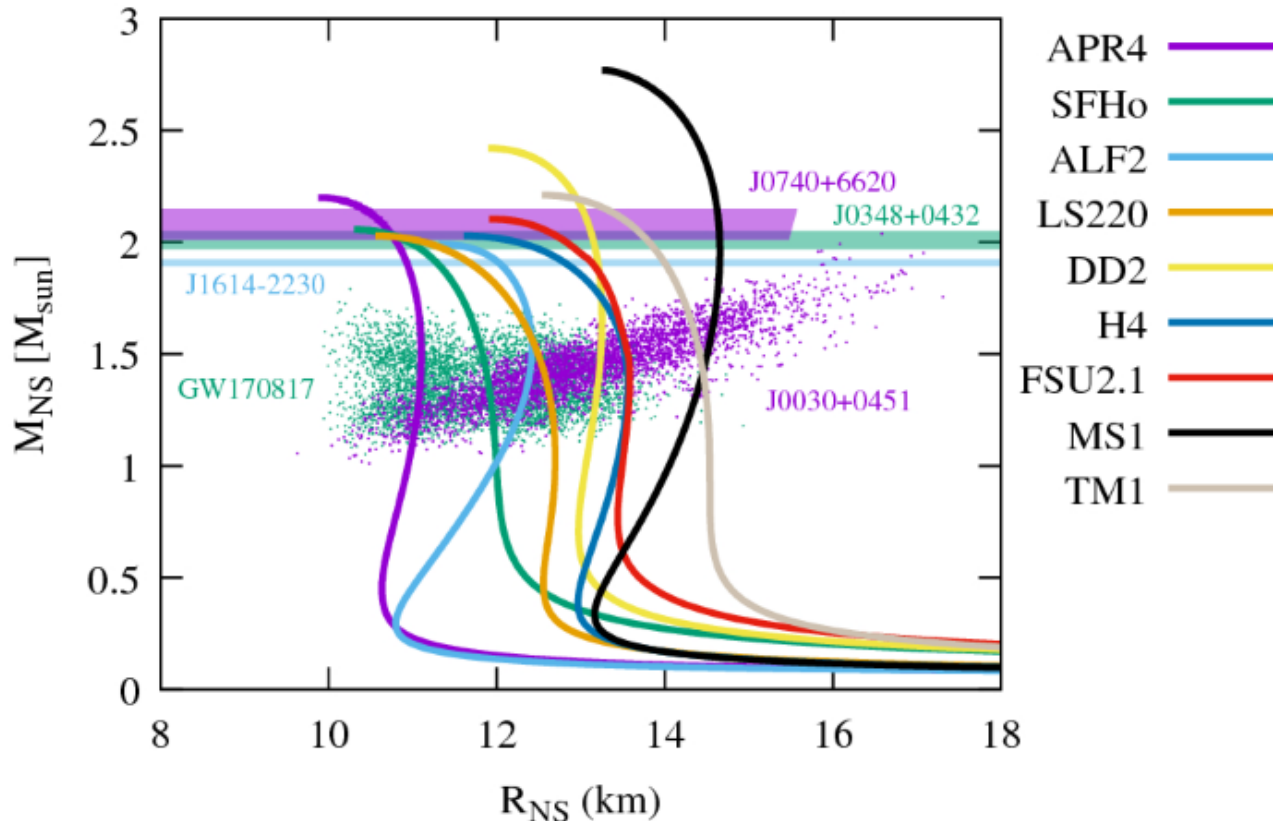
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## Neutron stars

- The remnant of massive dead stars
- Densest matter in the universe: 6-8 times saturation density !
- Excellent laboratory to study dense matter
- Their core remains a mystery

# NS observables

- We solve the hydrostatic equations in GR for spherical and nonrotating stars (TOV equations).
- The family of solutions with unique mass  $M$  and radii  $R$  are generated by varying the central density  $\rho_c$ , BUT THIS REQUIRES AN EQUATION OF STATE !
- We can extract tidal deformabilities from gravitational waves (LIGO/VIRGO) or compactness from X-ray measurements (e.g NICER)



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

$$\frac{d\Phi(r)}{dr} = \frac{Gm(r)}{r^2} \frac{1 + \frac{4\pi r^3 P(r)}{m(r)c^2}}{1 - \frac{2Gm(r)}{rc^2}}$$

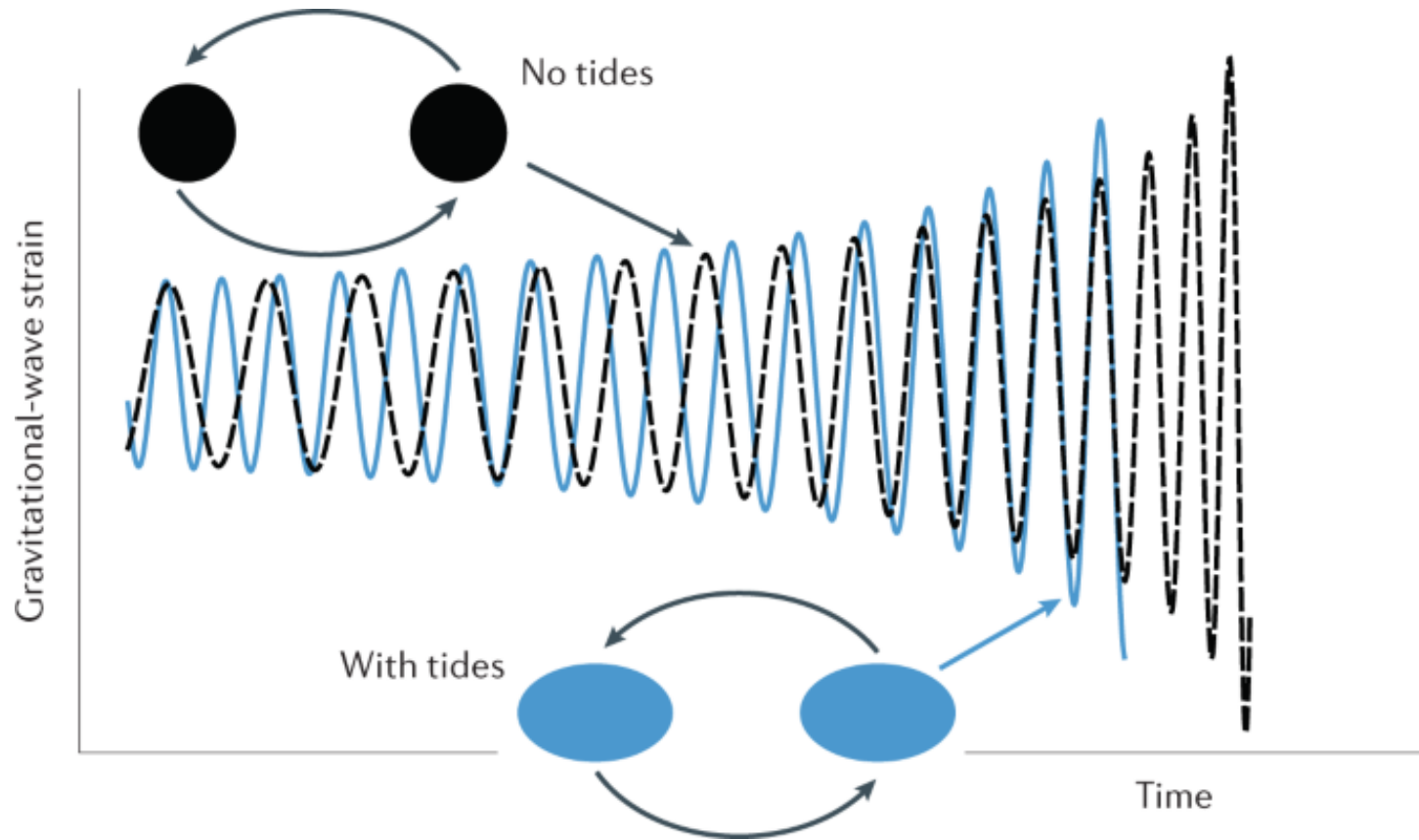
$$\frac{dP(r)}{dr} = -\rho(r) \left( 1 + \frac{P(r)}{\rho(r)c^2} \right) \frac{d\Phi(r)}{dr}$$

# Tidal deformability

$$\Lambda \equiv \frac{\lambda}{m^5} = \frac{2}{3} k_2 \frac{R^5}{m^5} = \frac{2}{3} k_2 C^{-5}$$

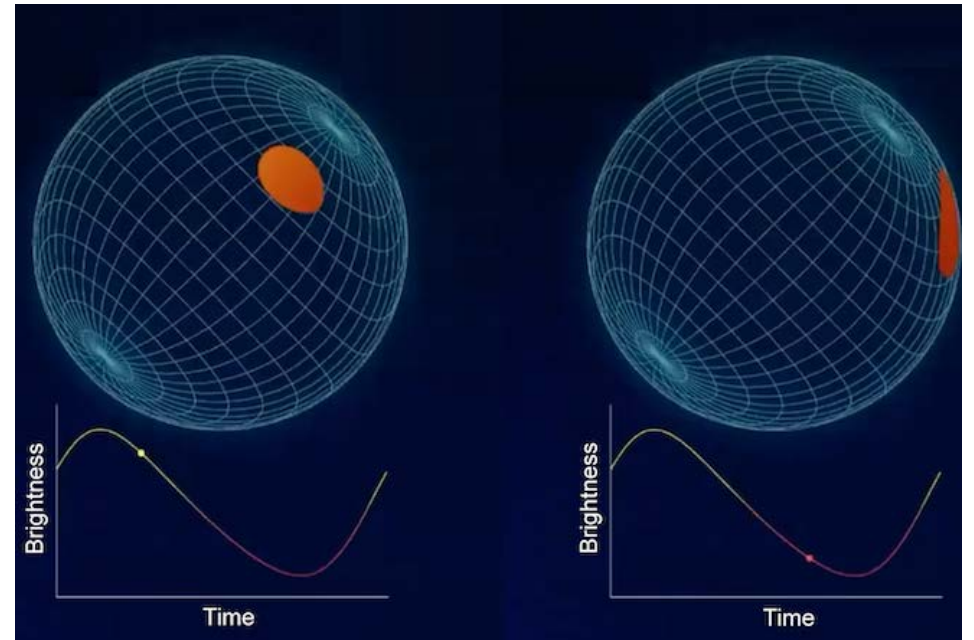
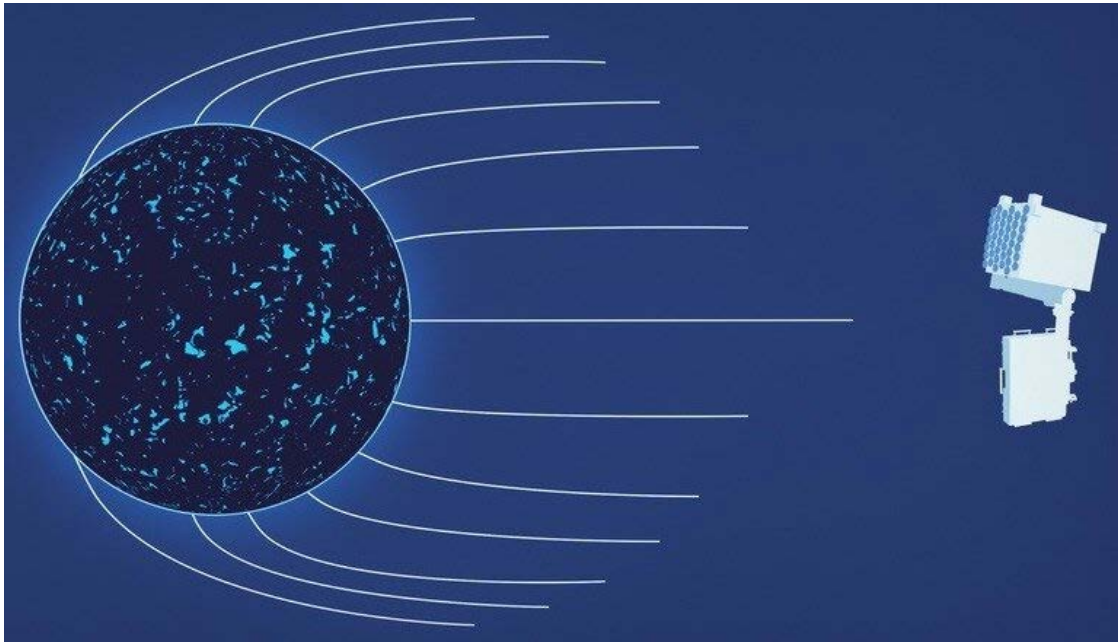
With  $k_2$  the gravitational Love number and  $C$  the compactness.

It quantifies how easily the star is deformed when subject to an external tidal field. It shows up as a “dephasing” of the wavefront of the GW signal.



# NICER

- Installed on the ISS in 2017
- Can detect X-ray emissions from NS



# Why Relativistic approaches ?

- Many models for nuclear matter exist, with **chiral effective theory** being one of them: a perturbative expansion with a hierarchy of leading orders
  - **Advantages** : systematic addition of higher-order contributions, which allows us to know at which density our expansion should stop ( $\chi\text{EFT} \sim 2n_{\text{sat}}$ ).
  - **Disadvantages**: breaks down at  $\sim 2n_{\text{sat}}$ , whereas we need to describe nuclear matter at higher densities.
- At high density, we need a **relativistic approach** since the sound speed in NS cores is expected to be larger than 10% of the light speed, as revealed by analyses of recent radio as well as X-ray observations from NICER of massive NSs.
  - **Advantages** : can go beyond  $2n_{\text{sat}}$ .
  - **Disadvantages**: no simple way to decide where the model breaks down, or to quantify the uncertainties.



# What is RMF-CC?

- An effective model describing the nuclear interaction as an exchange of mesons.
- A lagrangian based on chiral symmetries from QCD and confinement of quarks (anchored to QCD).
- The mesons field will be decomposed as such:

$$\varphi_R = \overline{\varphi_R} + \Delta\varphi_R$$

Ground state expectation value,  
i.e classical value → Hartree level

Small  
fluctuations → Fock  
level

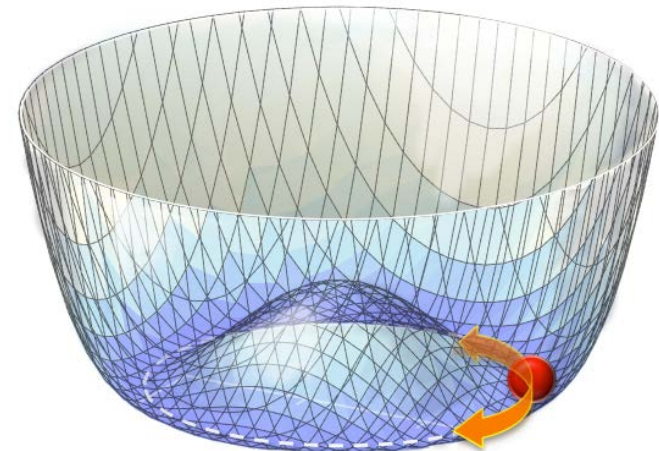
# What is RMF-CC?

## 1) Chiral symmetry

- At the limit of zero quark masses (u,d & s), QCD has a chiral symmetry (non-interacting quarks with opposite parity are indistinguishable and do not couple to each other)
- Had the symmetry been realised in nature, we would have observed for each meson, a partner meson with the SAME mass but opposite parity → the symmetry is broken

The radial component corresponds to the  $\sigma$  meson of Walecka, first identified by Chanfray (PRC 63 (2001)), and the phase component corresponds to the massless Goldstone boson, the pion

But since the quarks have a small mass, the symmetry is also explicitly broken and the pion acquires a small mass!



# What is RMF-CC?

## 2) Confinement

- It is well established that in QCD, only colour neutral objects can be observed
- Since in our model, the nucleons are considered the “elementary particles”, this effect should be taken into consideration
- In Guichon’s work (*Guichon, Phys. Lett. B 200 (1988)*), the quarks wave functions get modified by the scalar field → the nucleon mass depends on the surrounding scalar field:
- We parametrize the nucleon mass as:

$$M_N(s) = M_N + g_S s + \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{NS} \left( s^2 + \frac{s^3}{3 f_\pi} \right)$$

Nucleon polarisation

The response parameters,  $g_S$ ,  $\kappa_{NS}$ , might be given by an underlying quark confining model (confinement mechanism)

# The chiral Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi} i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \Psi + \mathcal{L}_s + \mathcal{L}_\omega + \mathcal{L}_\rho + \mathcal{L}_\delta + \mathcal{L}_\pi$$

Meson	$(J^\Pi, T)$	Field	interaction
$\sigma$	$(0^+, 0)$	scalar-isoscalar	middlerange attraction
$\omega$	$(1^-, 0)$	vector-isoscalar	shortrange repulsion
$\rho$	$(1^-, 1)$	vector-isovector	isospin part of nuclear force
$\delta$	$(0^+, 1)$	scalar-isovector	isospin part of nuclear force

$$\mathcal{L}_s = -M_N(s) \Psi \Psi - V(s) + \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu s \partial_\mu s$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\omega = -g_\omega \omega_\mu \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \Psi + \frac{1}{2} m_\omega^2 \omega^\mu \omega_\mu - \frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho = -g_\rho \rho_{a\mu} \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \tau_a \Psi - g_\rho \frac{\kappa_\rho}{2M_N} \partial_\nu \rho_{a\mu} \Psi \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \tau_a \Psi + \frac{1}{2} m_\rho^2 \rho_{a\mu} \rho_a^\mu - \frac{1}{4} G_a^{\mu\nu} G_{a\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\delta = -g_\delta \delta_a \bar{\Psi} \tau_a \Psi - \frac{1}{2} m_\delta^2 \delta^2 + \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu \delta \partial_\mu \delta$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\pi = \frac{g_A}{2f_\pi} \partial_\mu \varphi_{a\pi} \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \tau_a \Psi - \frac{1}{2} m_\pi^2 \varphi_{a\pi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu \varphi_{a\pi} \partial_\mu \varphi_{a\pi}$$

with:  $V(s)$  a typical “Mexican hat” potential from the linear sigma model

# The chiral Lagrangian

- 4 unknown parameters:  $m_s, g_s, g_w$  &  $C$

They can be fixed by:

- lattice QCD ( see Somasundaram +, *Eur.Phys.J.A* 58 (2022) 5, 84)

$$M_N(m_\pi^2) = a_0 + a_2 m_\pi^2 + a_4 m_\pi^4 + \Sigma_\pi(m_\pi, \Lambda).$$

- nuclear saturation properties ( $E_{sat} = -15.8 \text{ MeV}, n_{sat} = 0.155 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ )

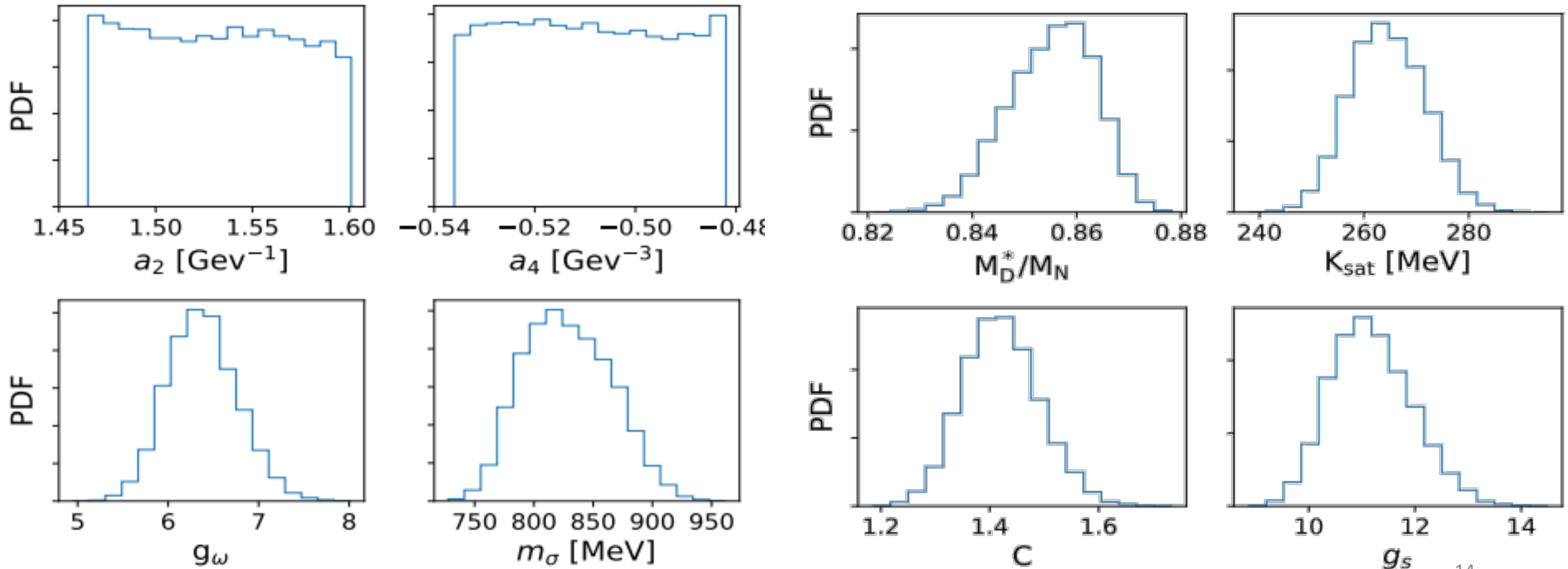
$$a_2 = \frac{g_s f_\pi}{m_\sigma^2} \qquad a_4 = -\frac{f_\pi g_s}{2m_\sigma^4} \left( 3 - 2C \frac{M_N}{f_\pi g_s} \right)$$

- $\kappa_\rho$  is not well-known: The pure vector dominance model (VDM) implies the identification of  $\kappa_\rho$  with the anomalous part of the isovector magnetic moment of the nucleon (i.e.,  $\kappa_\rho = 3.7$ , weak  $\rho$  scenario). However, pion-nucleon scattering data suggest  $\kappa_\rho = 6.6$  (strong  $\rho$  scenario) (G. Hohler and E. Pietarinen, *Nucl. Phys. B*95, 210 (1975)).

# Results

## 1) Hartree level (no pion)

(Somasundaram +, *Eur.Phys.J.A* 58 (2022) 5, 84)



# Short-Range-Correlation (SRC)

- The model being an effective one, doesn't have a good resolution at short ranges, where we expect it to start to break
- Short range effects should be treated by hand, but maintaining as much as possible a connection with underlying microscopic descriptions
- We use the Jastrow function approach: the mesons' propagators are convoluted with a correlation function forbidding the presence of 2 nucleons at the same point

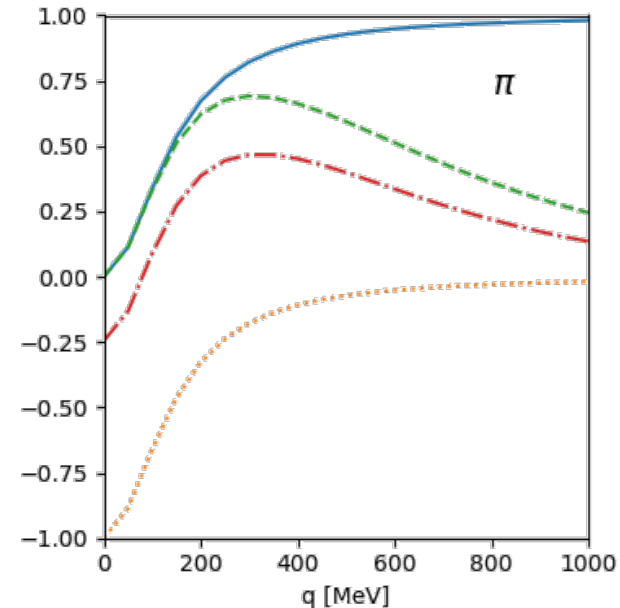
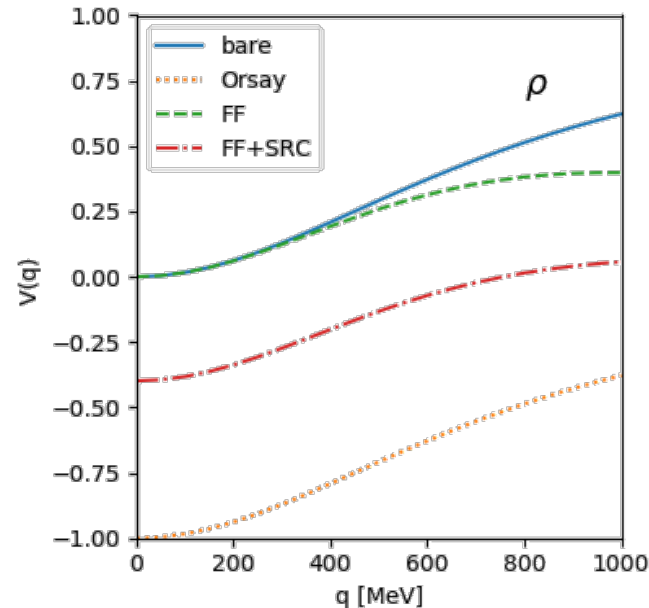
# Short-Range-Correlation (SRC)

- They can be mainly seen for the pion and tensor  $\rho$  channels
- Experiments show that the pion term should be repulsive at short ranges, the scale at which we don't have a good resolution

$$V(q) = \frac{q^2}{q^2+m^2} = 1 - \frac{m^2}{q^2+m^2}$$

Contact term  $\rightarrow$  **should be suppressed by SRC**

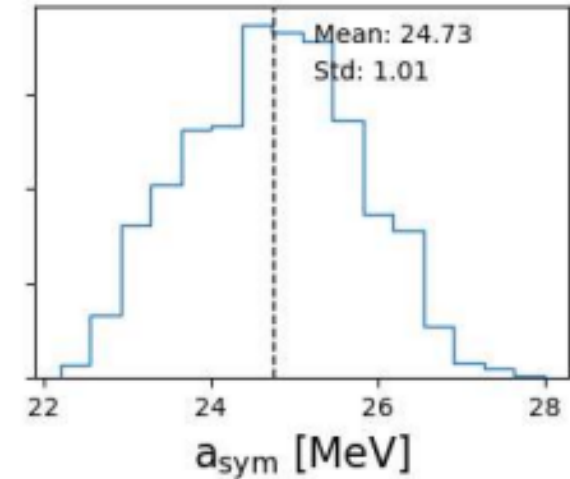
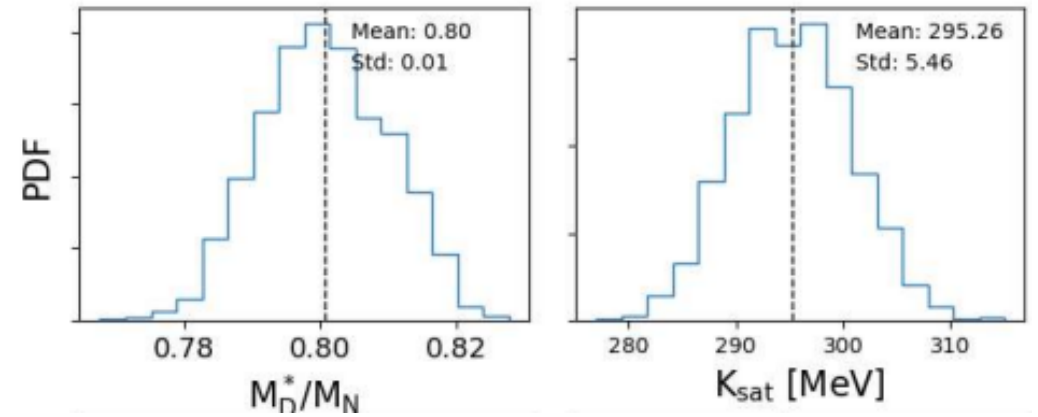
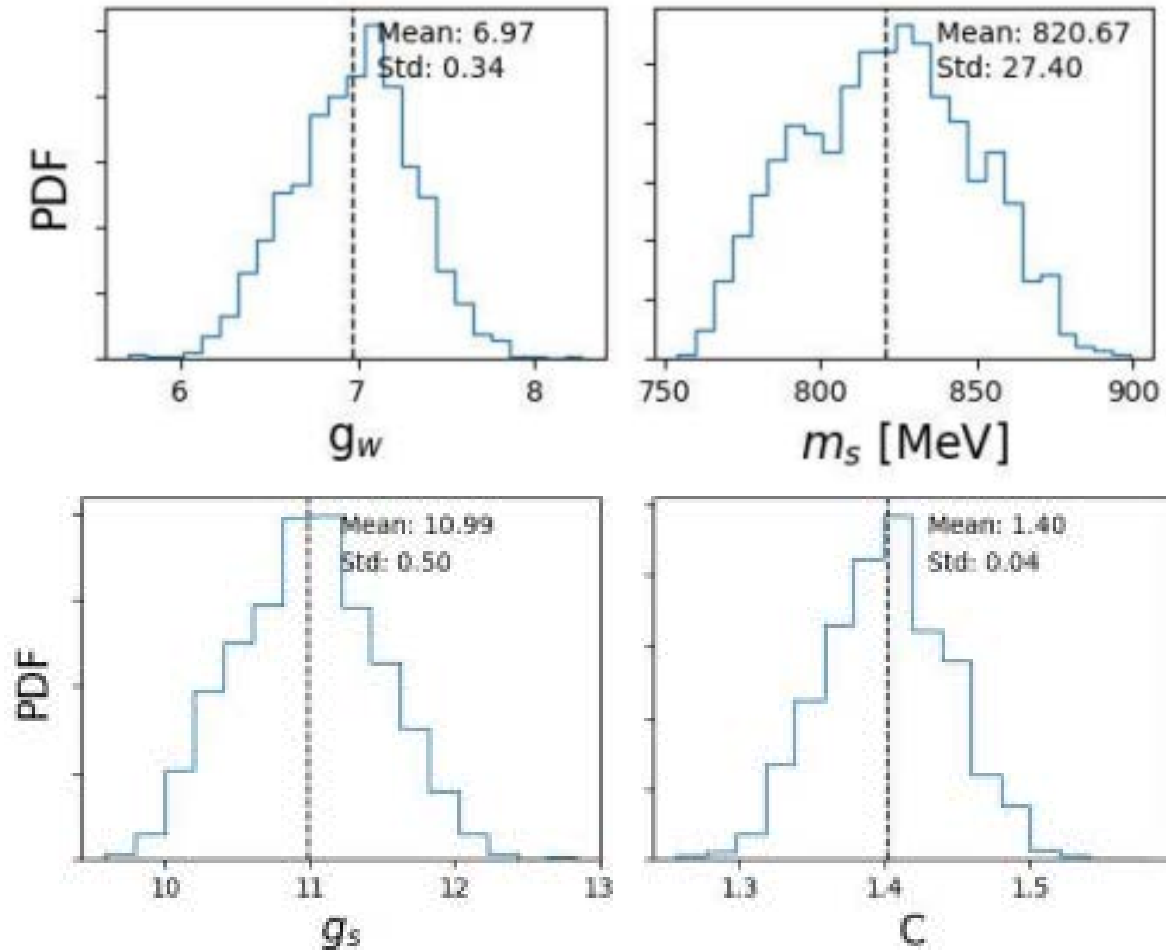
Normal Yukawa potential (attractive)





# Results

## 2) Hartree Fock level + SRC



# Results

M. Chamseddine, et al., in progress

$\kappa_\rho = 6.6$	Hartree level	Hartree-Fock level	Hartree-Fock with SRC	Experimental values
C	1.40	1.66	1.40	
$g_s$	11	13.53	10.99	
$m_s$	820	911	821	
$g_w$	6.5	5.84	6.97	
$E_{sym}$	18	19.36	24.73	$32 \pm 2$
$K_{sat}$	265	306	295	$230 \pm 20$

# Conclusions:

- HF+SRC seems to be heading towards the right direction vis-à-vis the experimental data
- The model at its current state is not ready yet to be extrapolated to higher densities for applications to neutrons stars

# Outlooks

- The inclusion of higher order correction in the pion channel, also known as the « pion cloud » which could decrease  $K_{sat}$  closer to its experimental value and also lower the value of the coupling constants which is also a desired effect in models
- A more microscopic treatment of SRC using the UCOM method

THANK YOU

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