

Astrophysics & EoS

dense-matter EoS and compact-objects properties

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Saint-Pierre-d'Oléron (France), 13 – 18 September 2026



Outline

❖ Motivations:

- Intro on astrophysical sites: (proto-)neutron stars ((P)NS), core-collapse supernovae (CCSN), and binary neutron star (BNS) merger
- Connection with the nuclear equation of state (EoS)

❖ Astrophysical sites at $T = 0$ (NS):

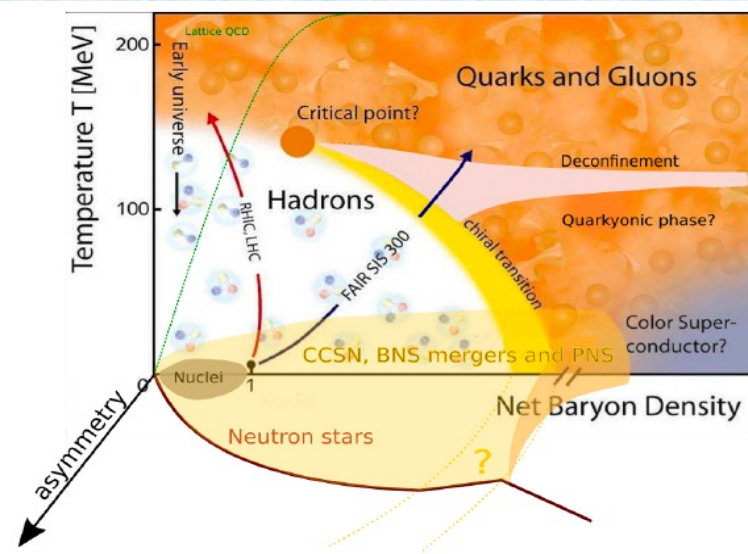
- EoS: generalities
- Application to NS (crust & core)

❖ Astrophysical sites at $T > 0$ (CCSN/PNS):

- EoS: generalities
- Applications to CCSN and PNS
- Rates (CCSN)



Compact objects: sites for (hot) dense matter

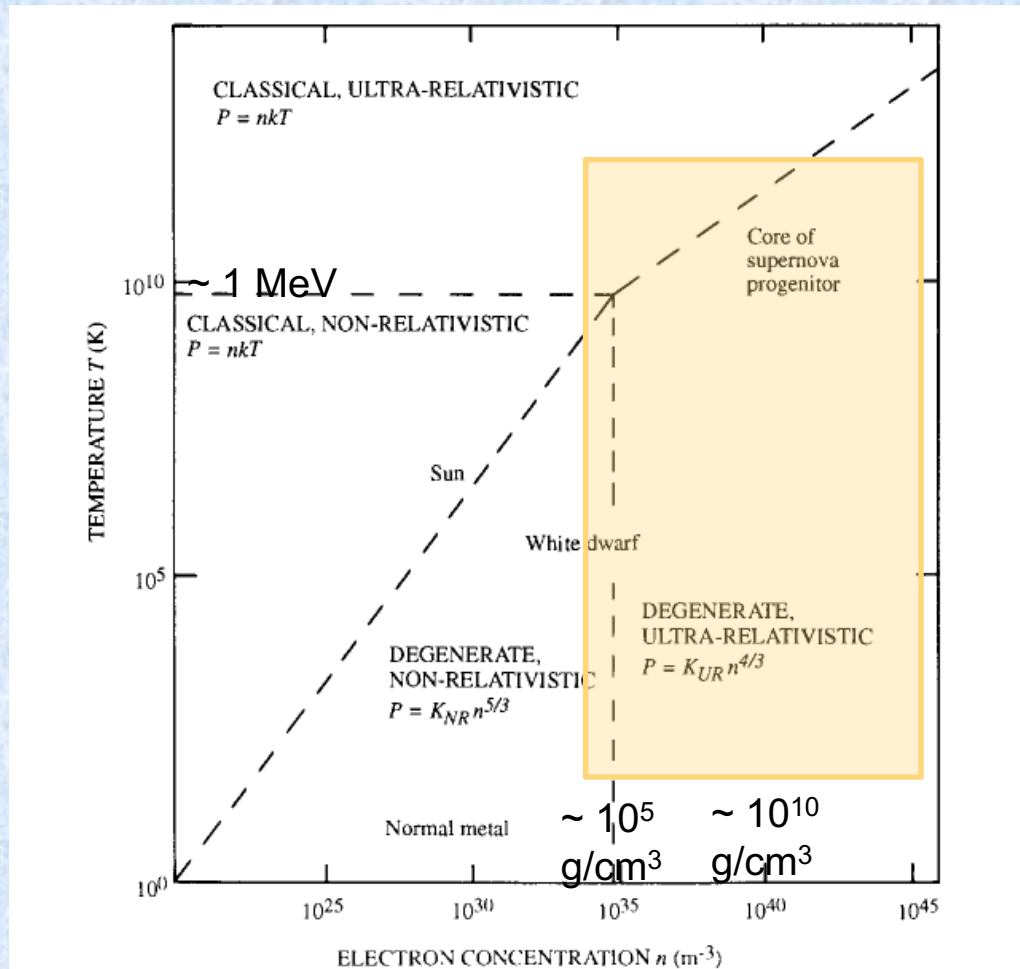


Abac et al., arXiv:2503.12263 (ET BlueBook)

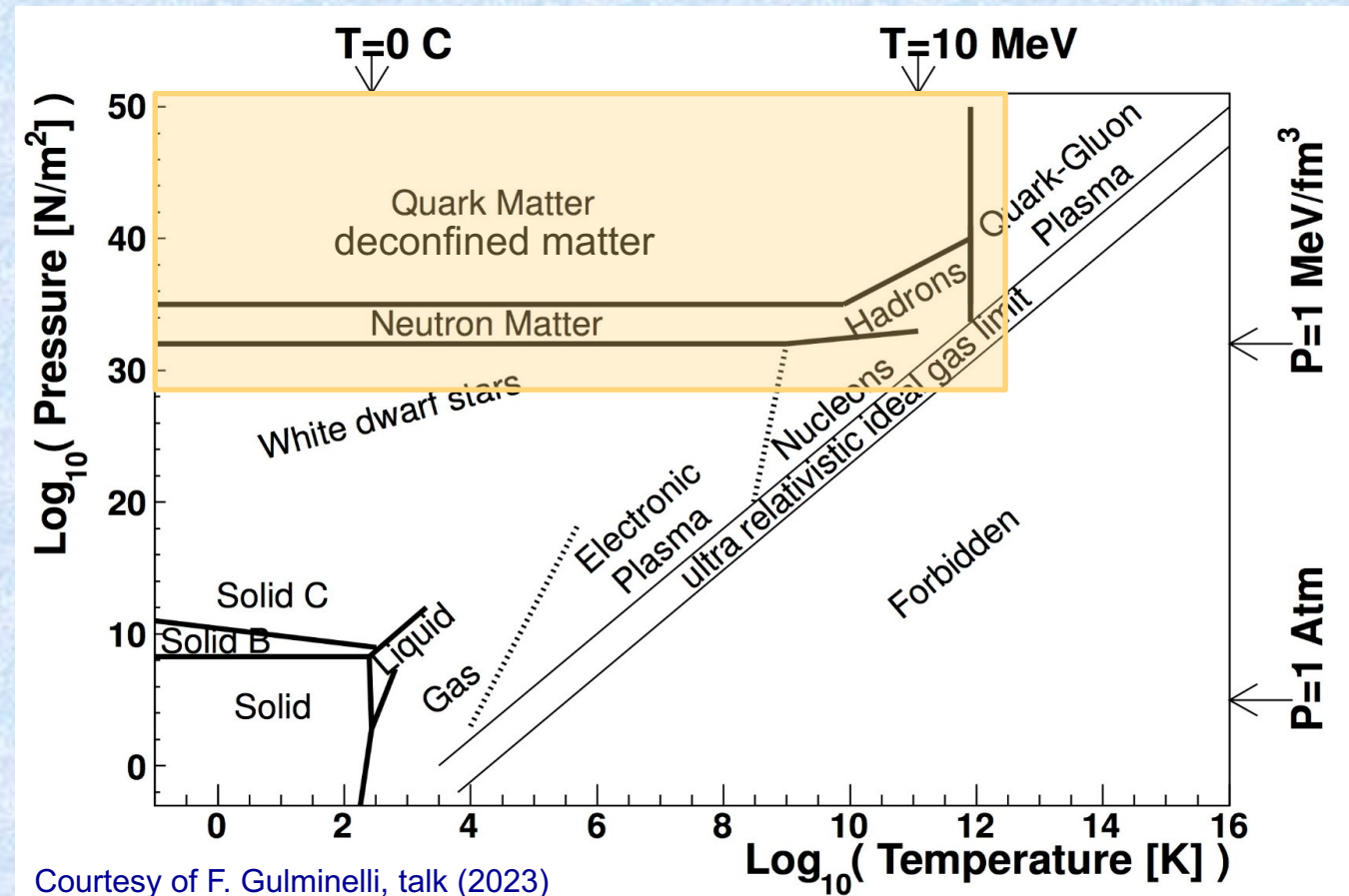
Object	Thermo	Equilibrium	Micro inputs
CCSN BNS (post-)mergers	$n_B \in (0, \sim 10n_{\text{sat}})$ $T \in (0, \sim 100) \text{ MeV}$ $Y_e \in (0, 0.6)$	strong	$P(n_B, T, Y_e)$ (weak), ν rates $\rightarrow$ compo
PNS	$n_B \in (0, \sim 10n_{\text{sat}})$ $T \in (0, \sim 20) \text{ MeV}$ $(Y_e \in (0, 0.5))$	strong (+weak)	$P(n_B, T, (Y_e))$ (+ rates $\rightarrow$ composition)
NS (old) binary inspiral	$n_B \in (0, \sim 10n_{\text{sat}})$ $T = 0$	strong+weak $\rightarrow \beta$ equil.	$P(n_B)$



What matter can we expect?



Phillips, "The Physics of Stars"

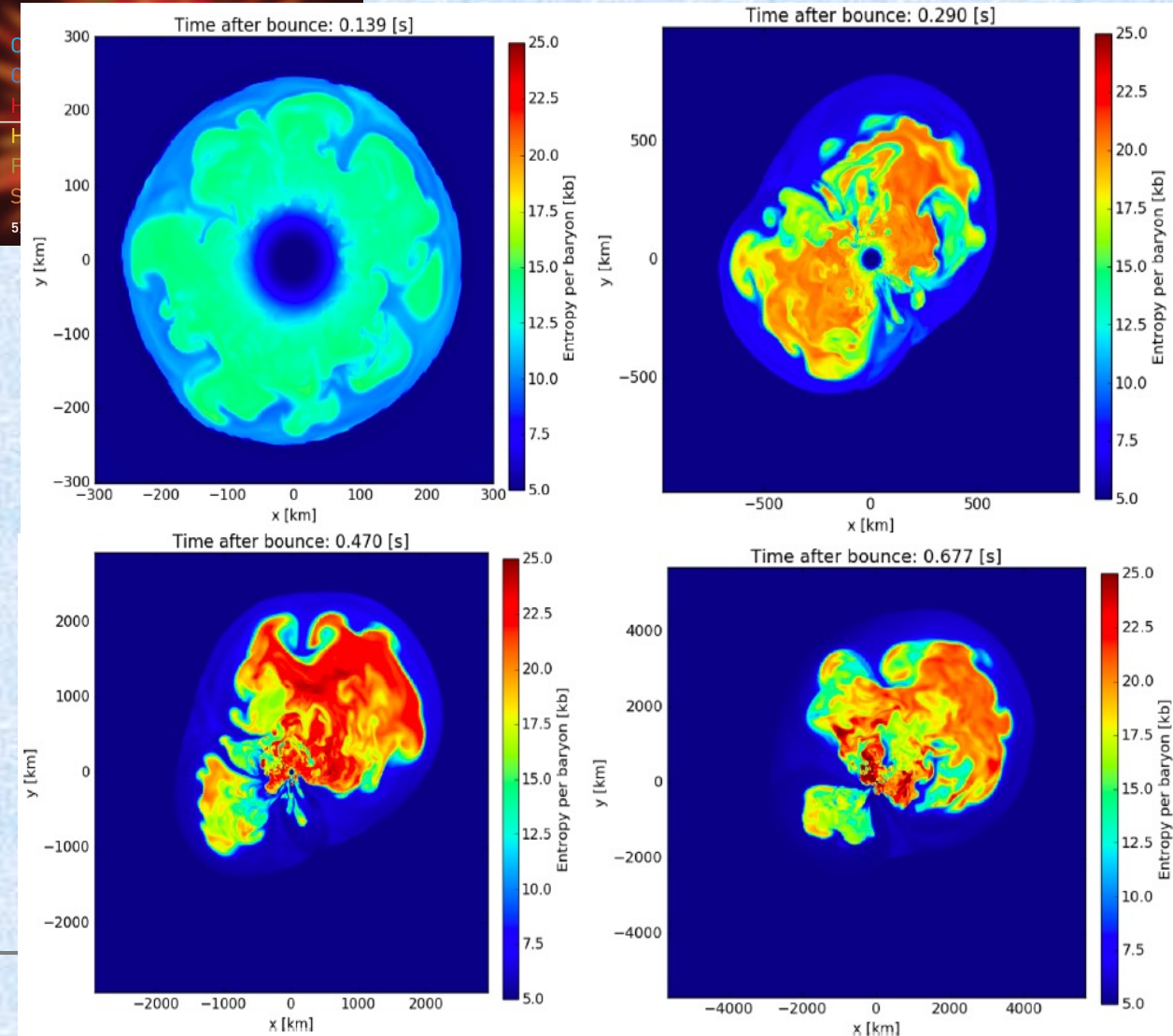
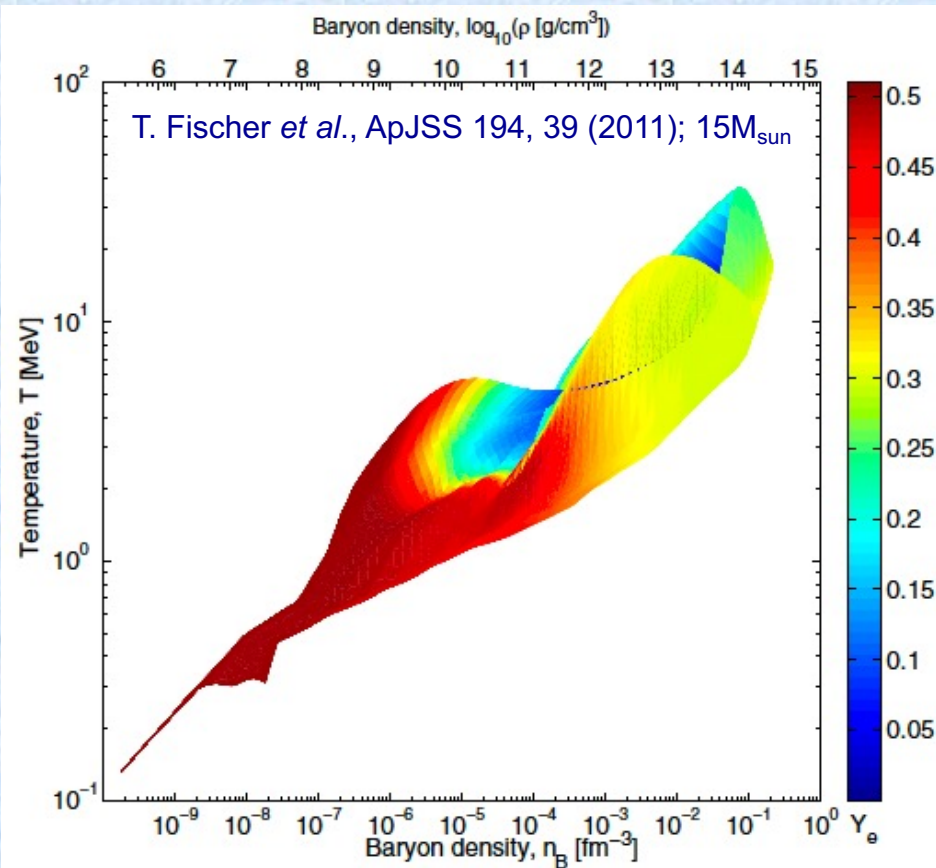
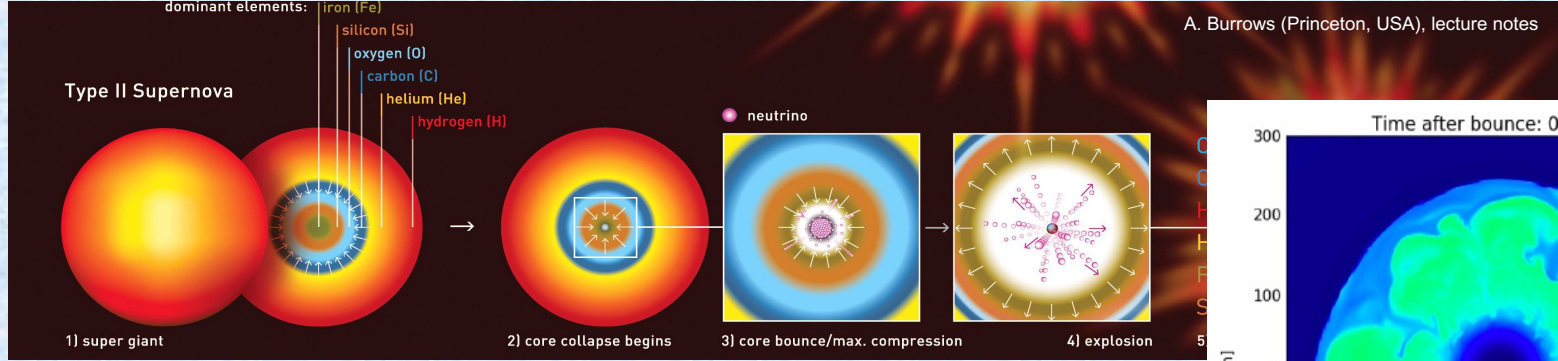


Courtesy of F. Gulminelli, talk (2023)

- Matter (almost always) degenerate and relativistic e⁻
- Possible additional d.o.f. → "exotic" matter

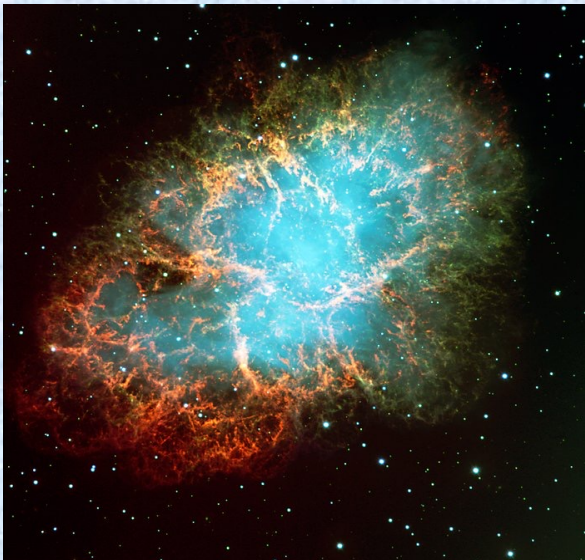


Core-collapse supernovae (CCSN)





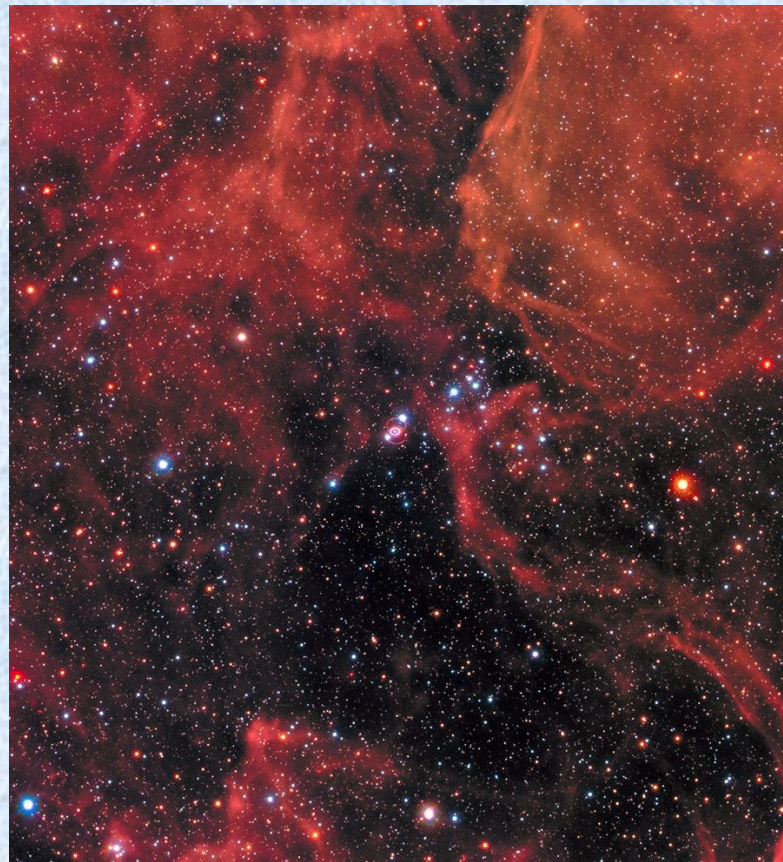
Core-collapse supernovae (CCSN): observations



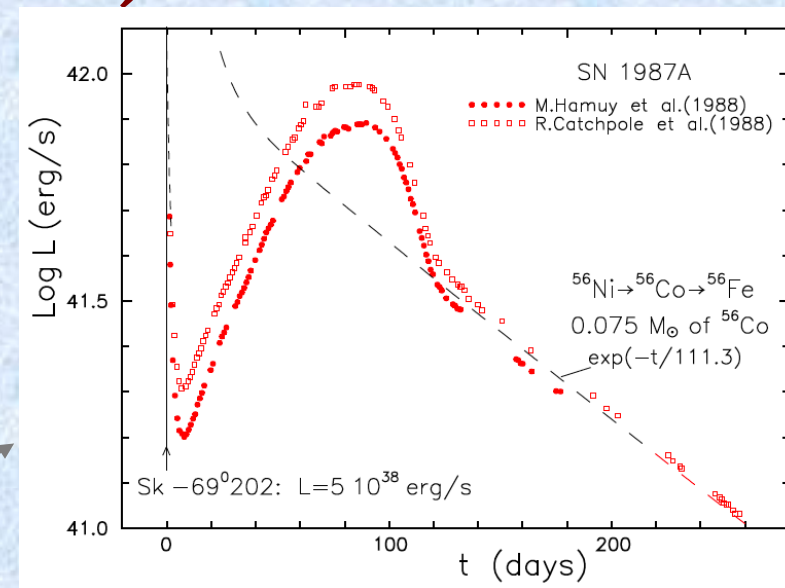
Crab Nebula (1054). Credit: ESO



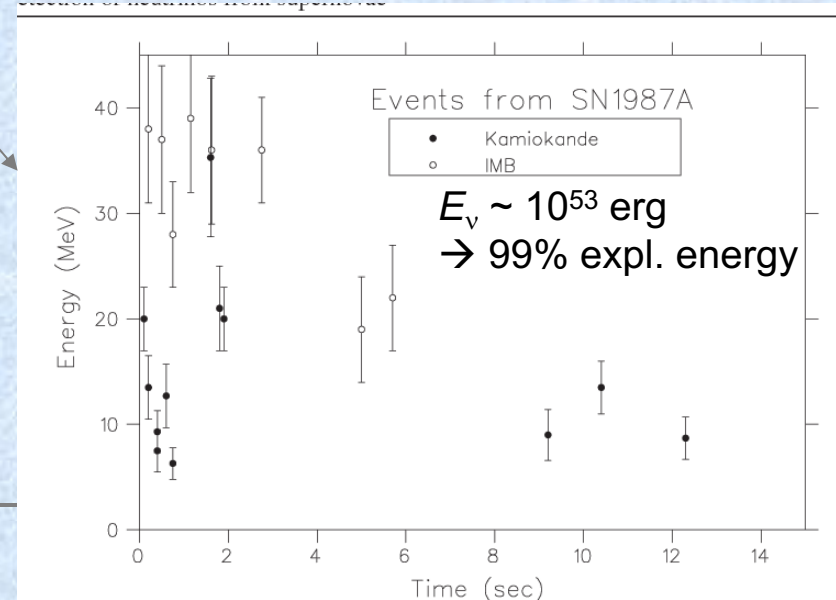
Cassiopea A. Credit: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI
A. F. Fantina



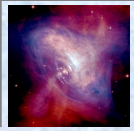
SN1987A. Credit: NASA, ESA



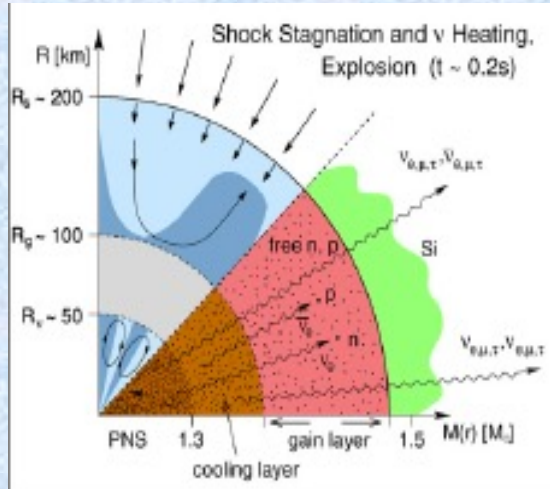
Light curve; Nadyozhin&Imshennik, arXiv:0501.002



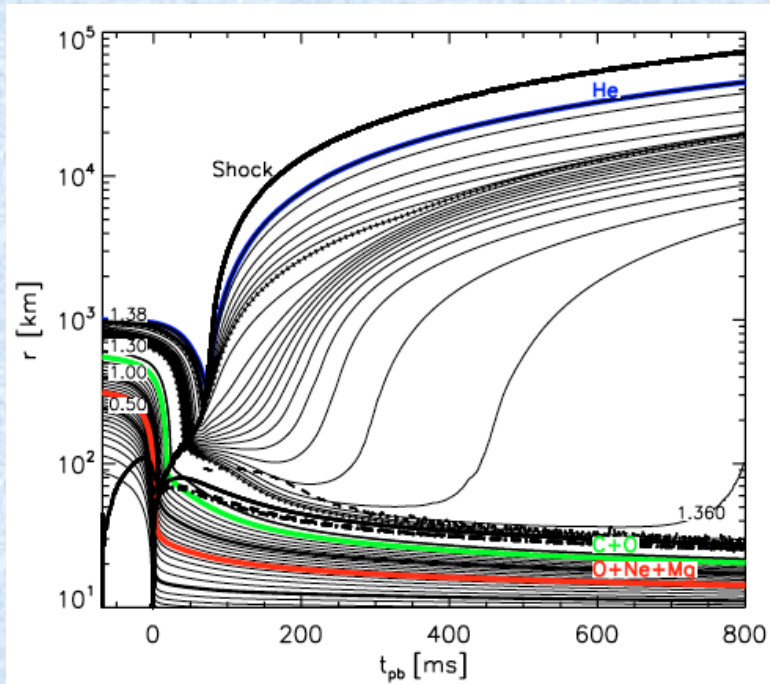
Boyd et al., J.Phys.G 29, 11 (2003)



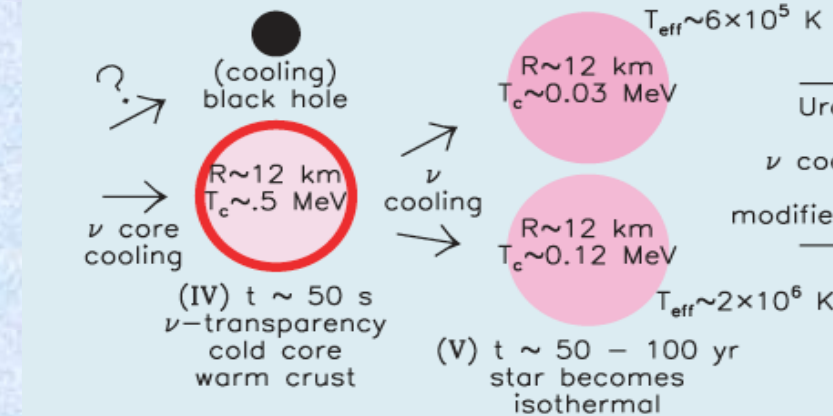
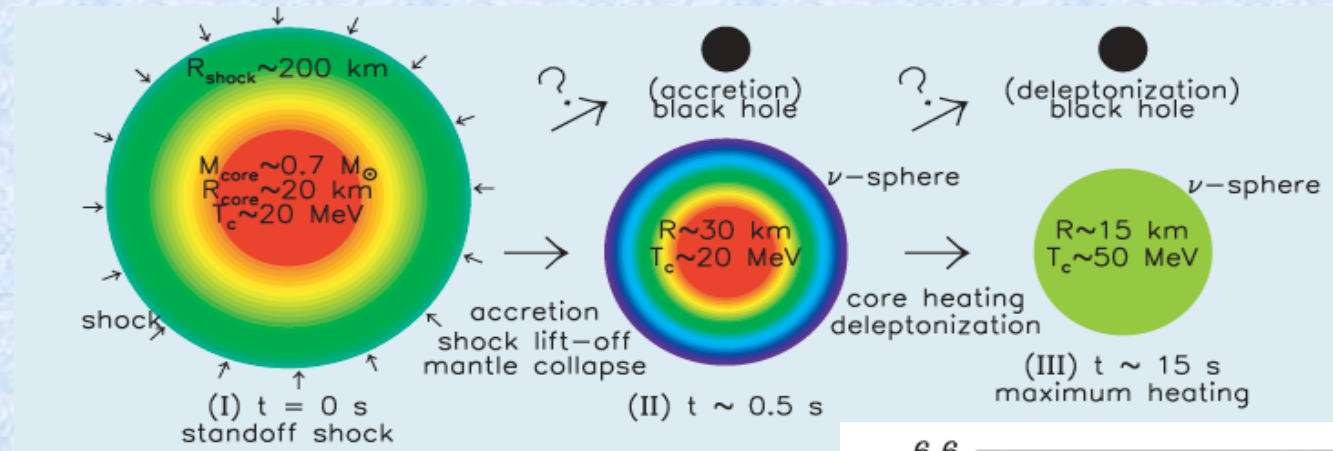
Proto-neutron stars (PNS)



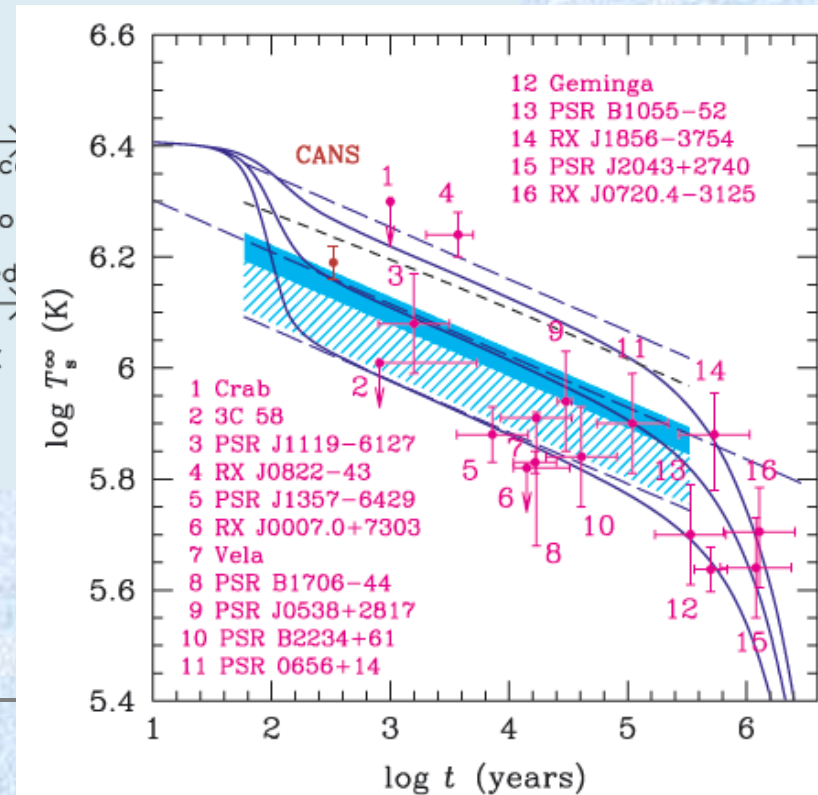
Janka et al., Phys. Rep. 2007



Kitaura et al., A&A 450, 345 (2006). O-Ne-Mg SN



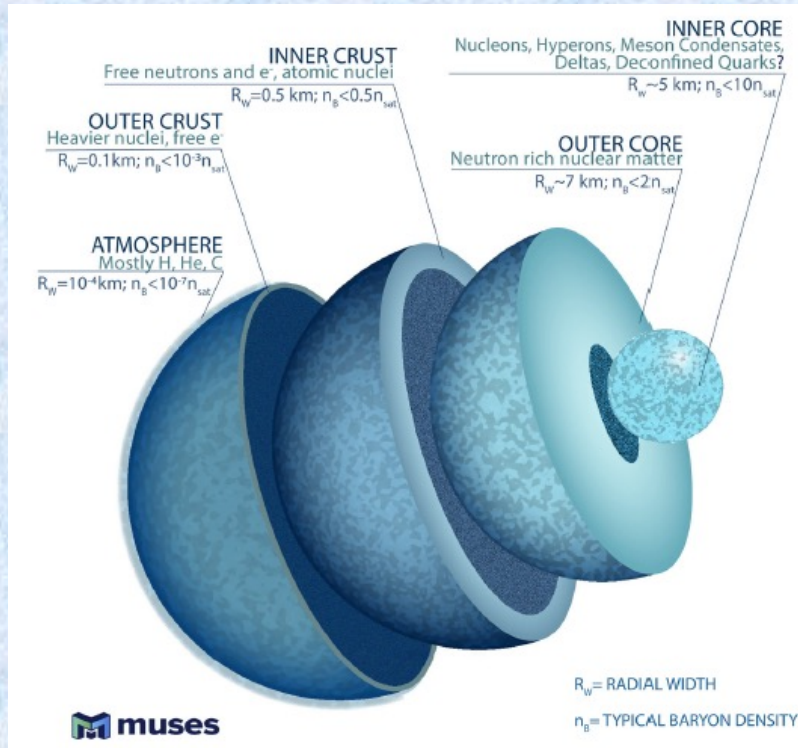
Lattimer & Prakash, Science 304, 536 (2004)



Yakovlev et al., MNRAS 411, 1977 (2011)



Neutron-stars (NS)



Kumar et al., Liv. Rev. Rel. 27, 3 (2024)

$$M \approx 1 - 2M_{\odot}$$

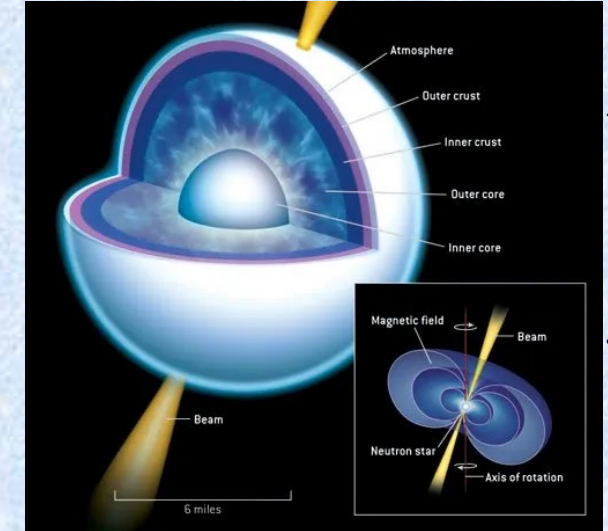
$$R \approx 10 \text{ km}$$

$$\bar{\rho} \approx 10^{14} - 10^{15} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

$$T < 10^8 \text{ K} \quad \text{NB: } T = 0 \Leftrightarrow T \ll T_F$$

rotation up to 716 Hz ($v_{\text{equat}} \sim \frac{1}{4} c$)

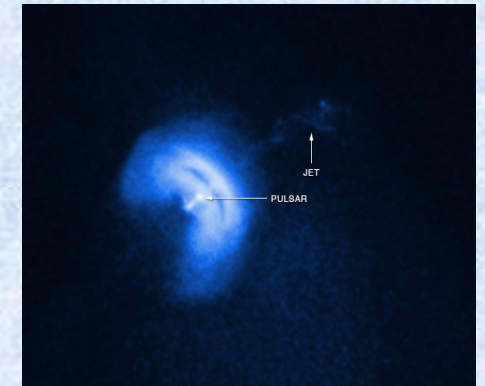
high magnetic fields, $B > 10^{12} \text{ G}$



Credits: <https://www.astronomy.com/science/>



Crab, X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO; Optical: NASA/STScI; IR: NASA-JPL-Caltech



Vela, Credit: NASA/CXC/Univ of Toronto/ M.Durant et al



Neutron-stars (NS): fortuitous discovery



Jocelyn Bell in 1966

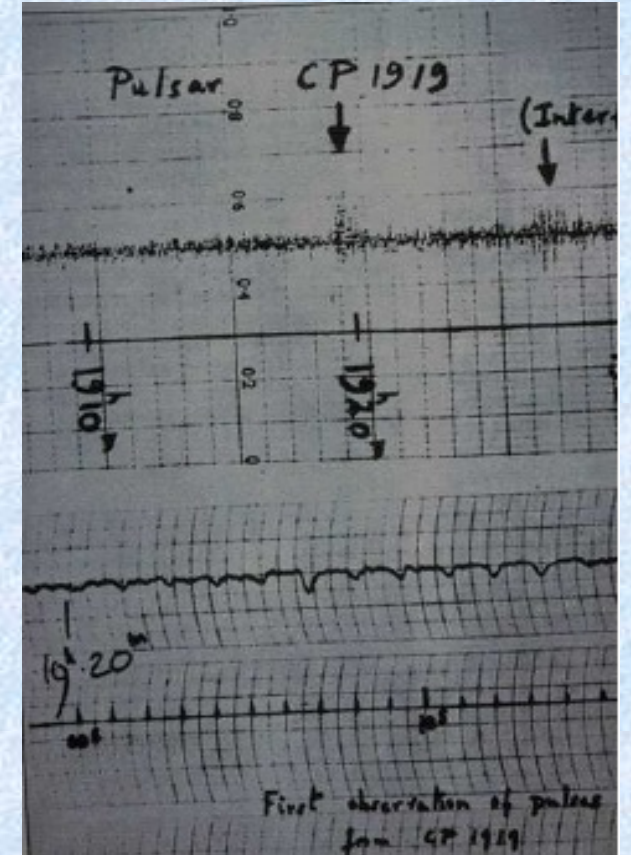
1967: J. Bell, PhD thesis at Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge on radio sources. With a 3.7m diameter telescope, she discovered a very regular source, with a period of 1.3373012 s.

This source was called LGM ("Little Green Man"); a journalist from Daily Telegraph called this source "*Pulsar*".

→ It is now known as PSR B1919+21.

In 1974, A. Hewish (Bell's PhD supervisor) received the Nobel prize...

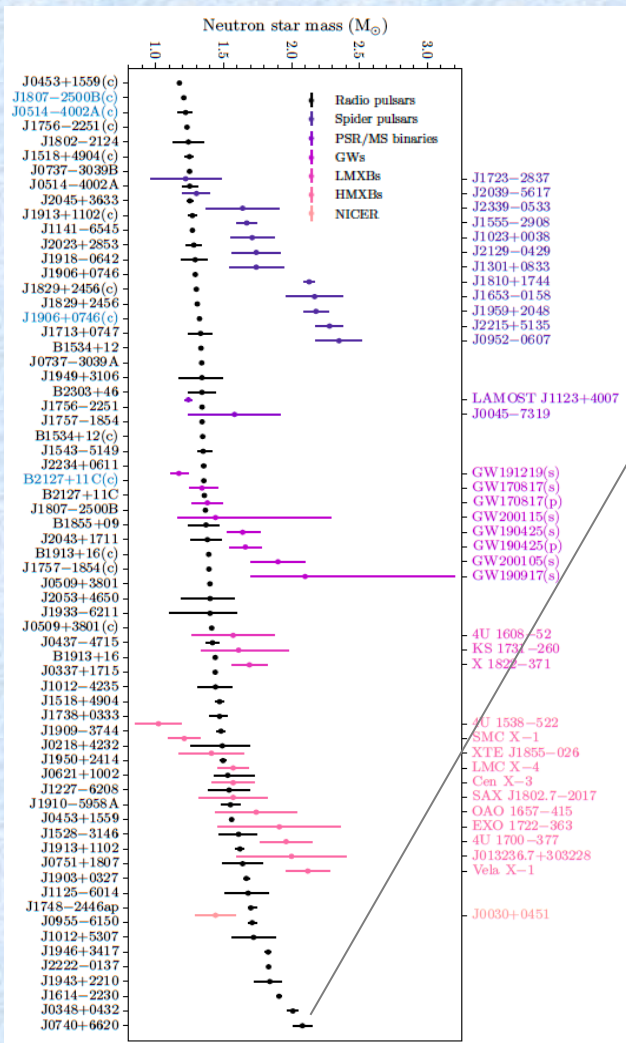
Now, over 3000 pulsars known!



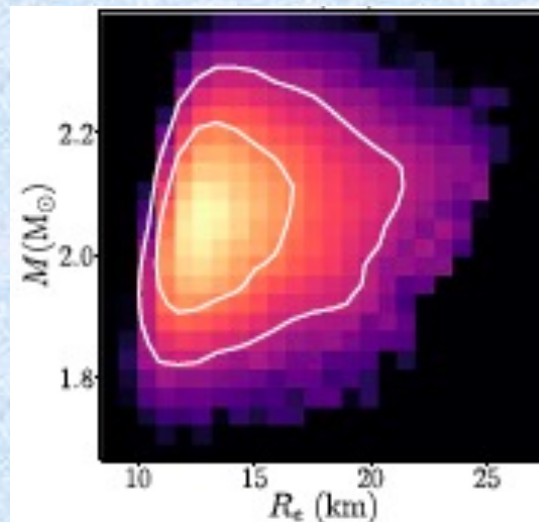


Neutron-stars (NS): observations

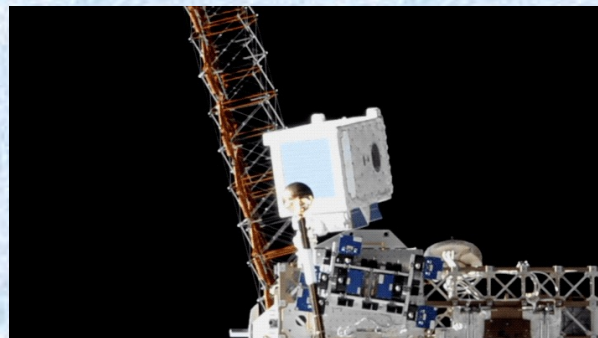
MASSSES



RADII



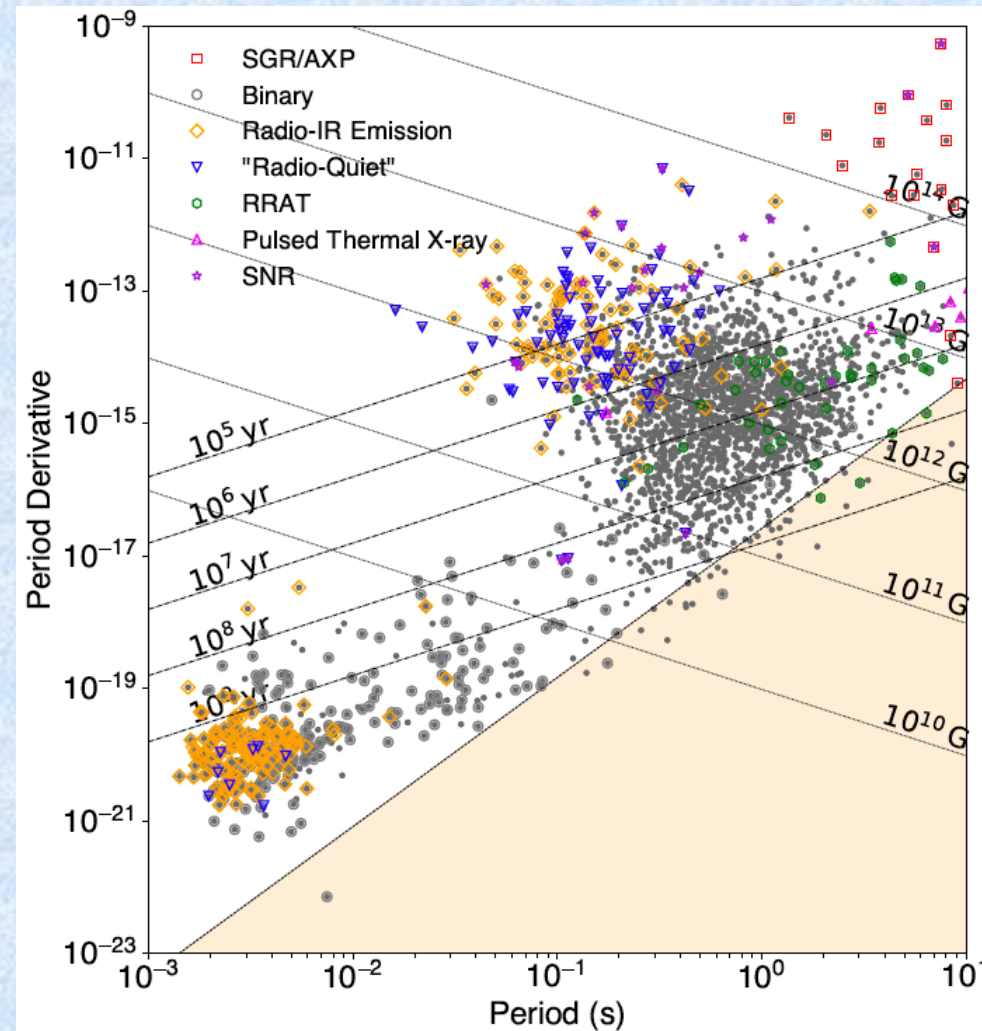
NICER observations (Miller et al., ApJ 2019, 2021; Riley et al., ApJL 2019, 2021; Rutherford et al., ApJL 2024; Mauviard et al., arXiv 2025)



NICER on the ISS

Credits: <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/nicer/>

SPIN PERIOD



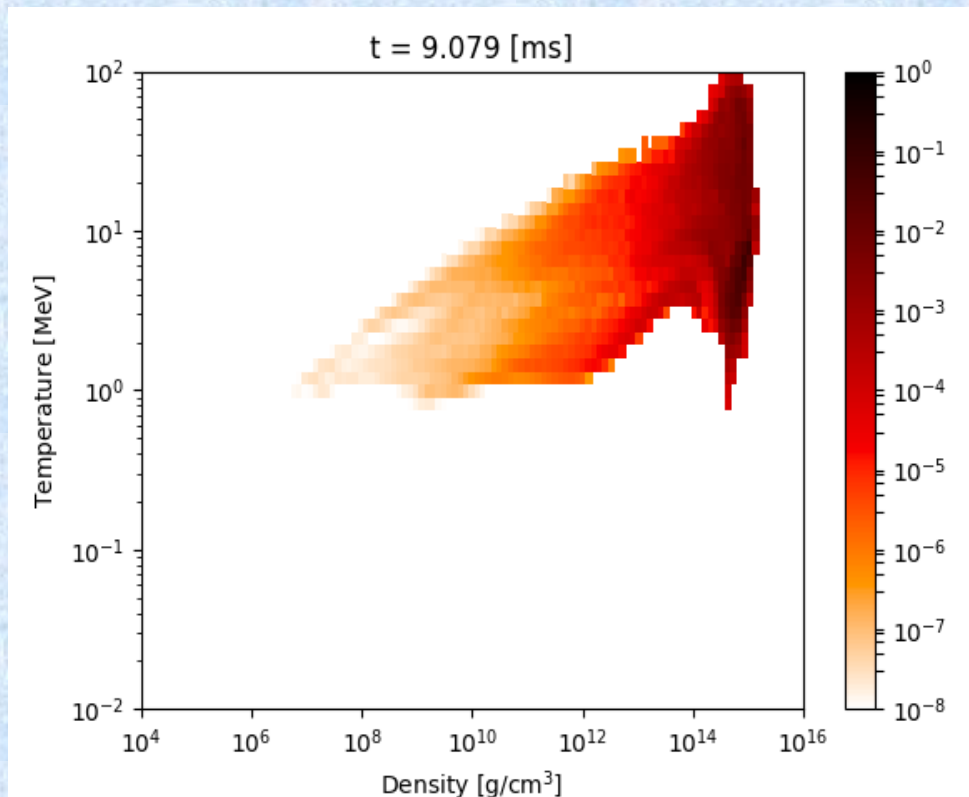
You et al., Nat. Astr. 9, 552 (2025);
https://www3.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/staff/pfreire/NS_masses.html

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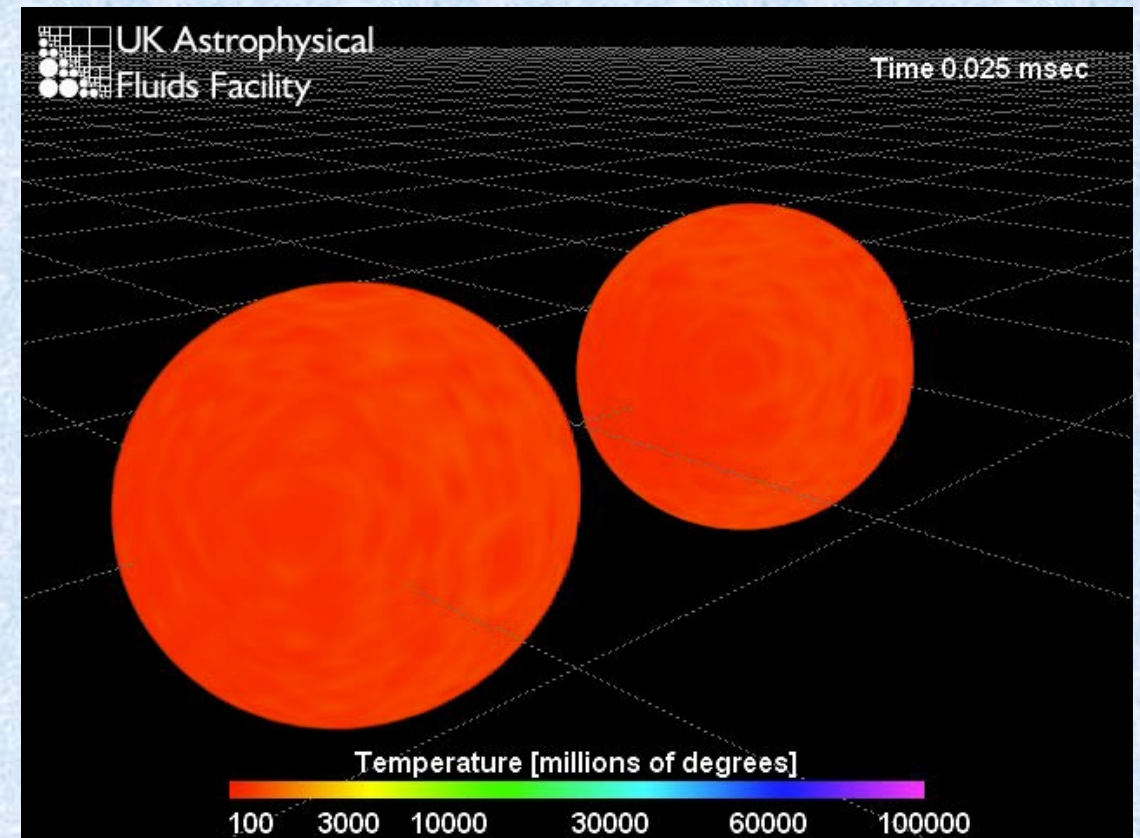
Credits: ATNF Pulsar Catalogue, <https://www.atnf.csiro.au/research/pulsar/psrcat/> ;
 Manchester et al. AJ 129, 1993 (2005); plot generated with Python psrqpy package



Neutron-star (NS) mergers (1)



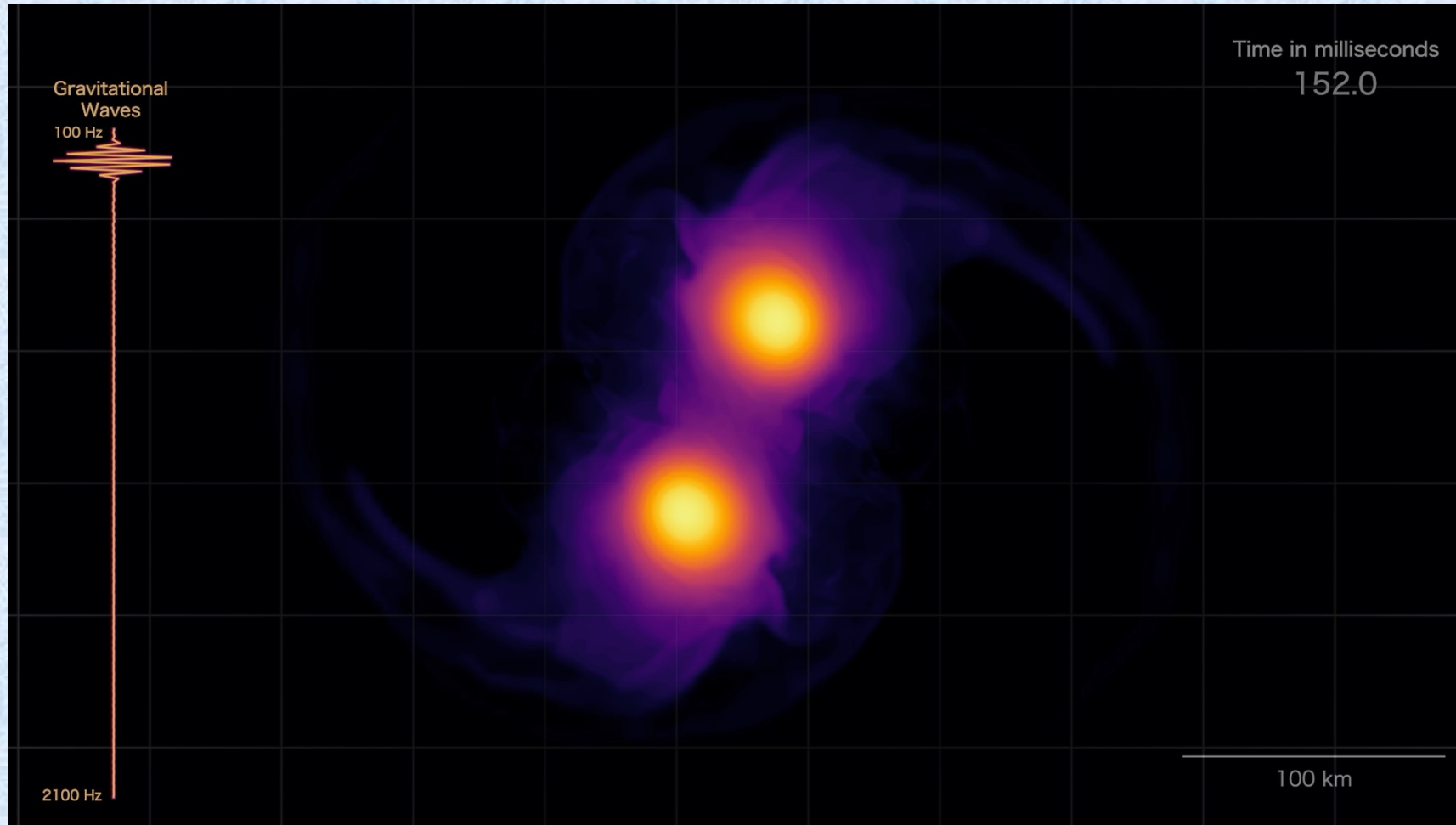
Perego et al., EPJA 55, 124 (2019)



Simulation by S. Rosswog, visualisation R. West
<http://www.ukaff.ac.uk/movies/nsmerger/>

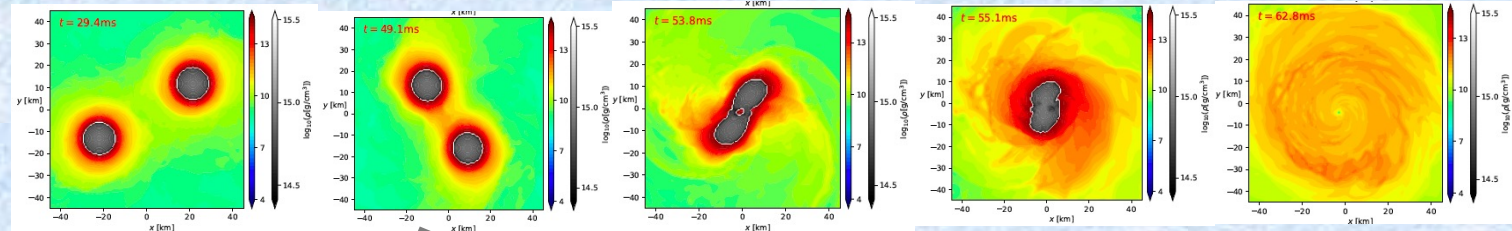


Neutron-star (NS) mergers (2)

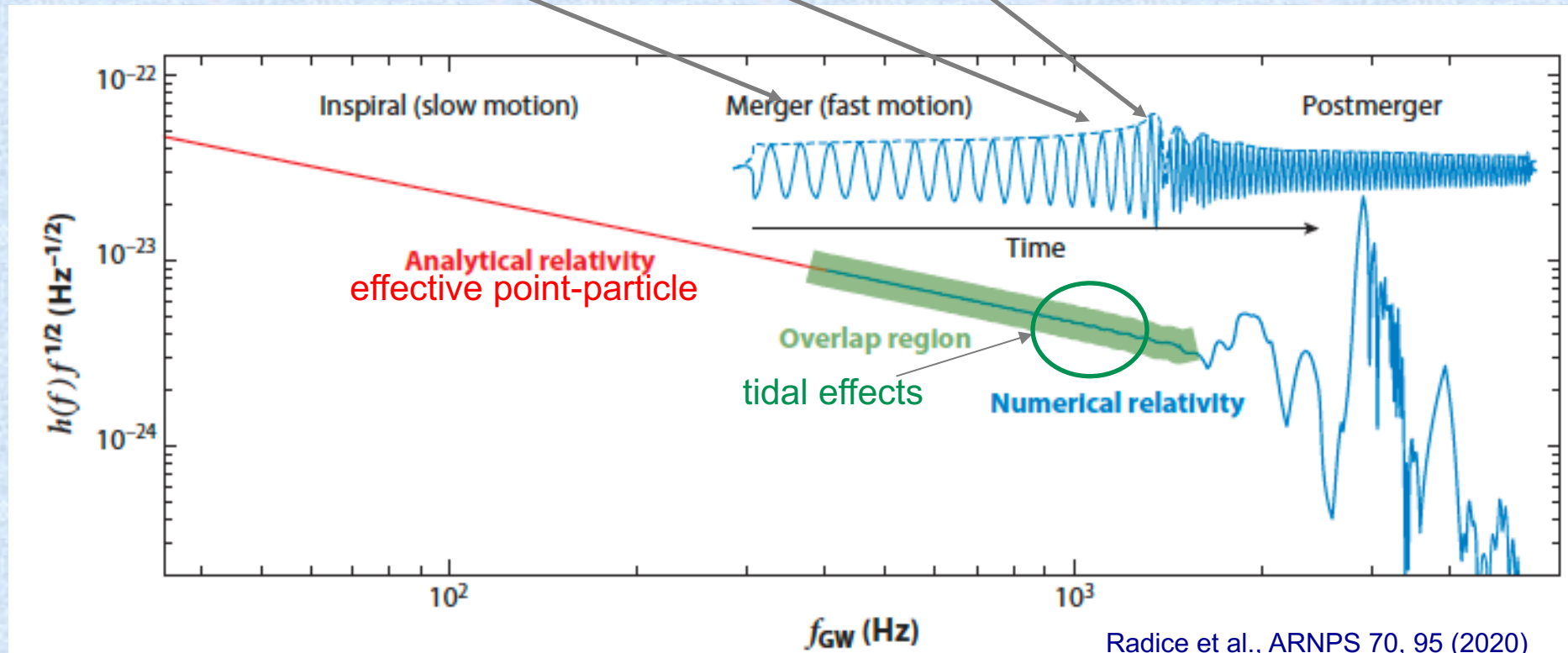




Neutron-star (NS) mergers (3)

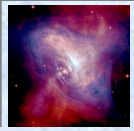


Giegl et al., Particle 2, 23 (2019)

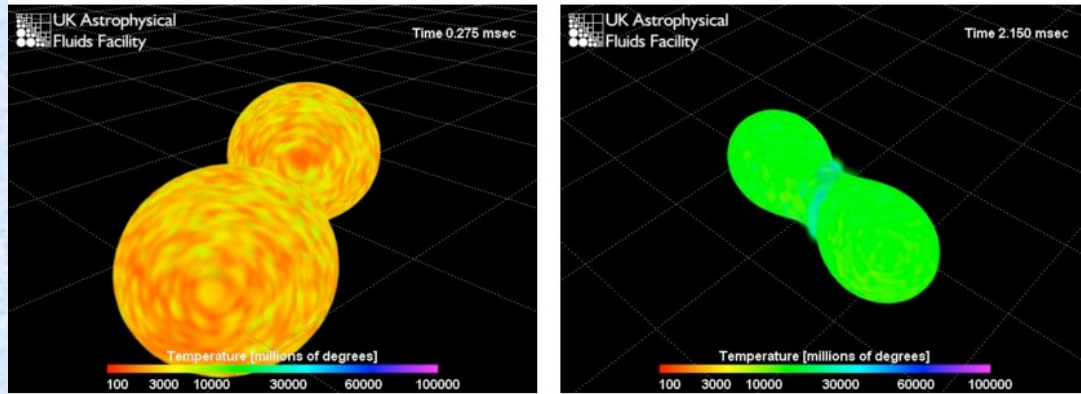


Radice et al., ARNPS 70, 95 (2020)

- (Late) inspiral (before merging): modification wrt point particle but still “(hydro)static”
- Temperatures not so high → like “ $T = 0$ ”



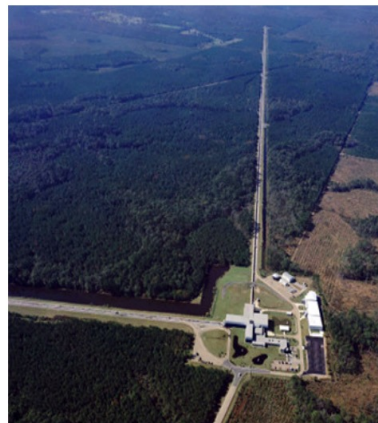
NS mergers: observations



Simulation by S. Rosswog, visualisation R. West <http://www.ukaff.ac.uk/movies/nsmerger/>



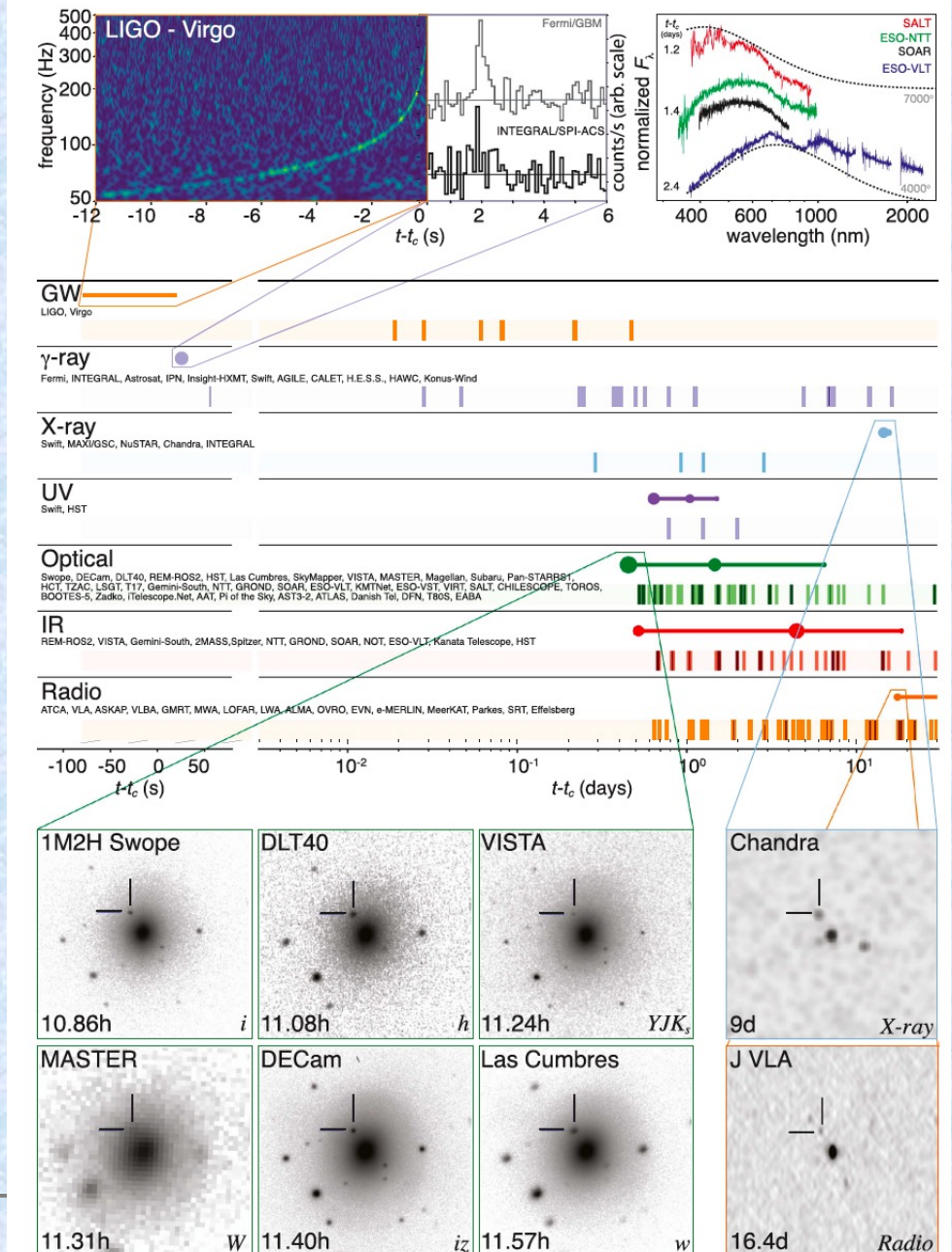
LIGO Hanford Observatory, Washington
(Credits: C. Gray)



LIGO Livingston Observatory, Louisiana
(Credits: J. Giaime)



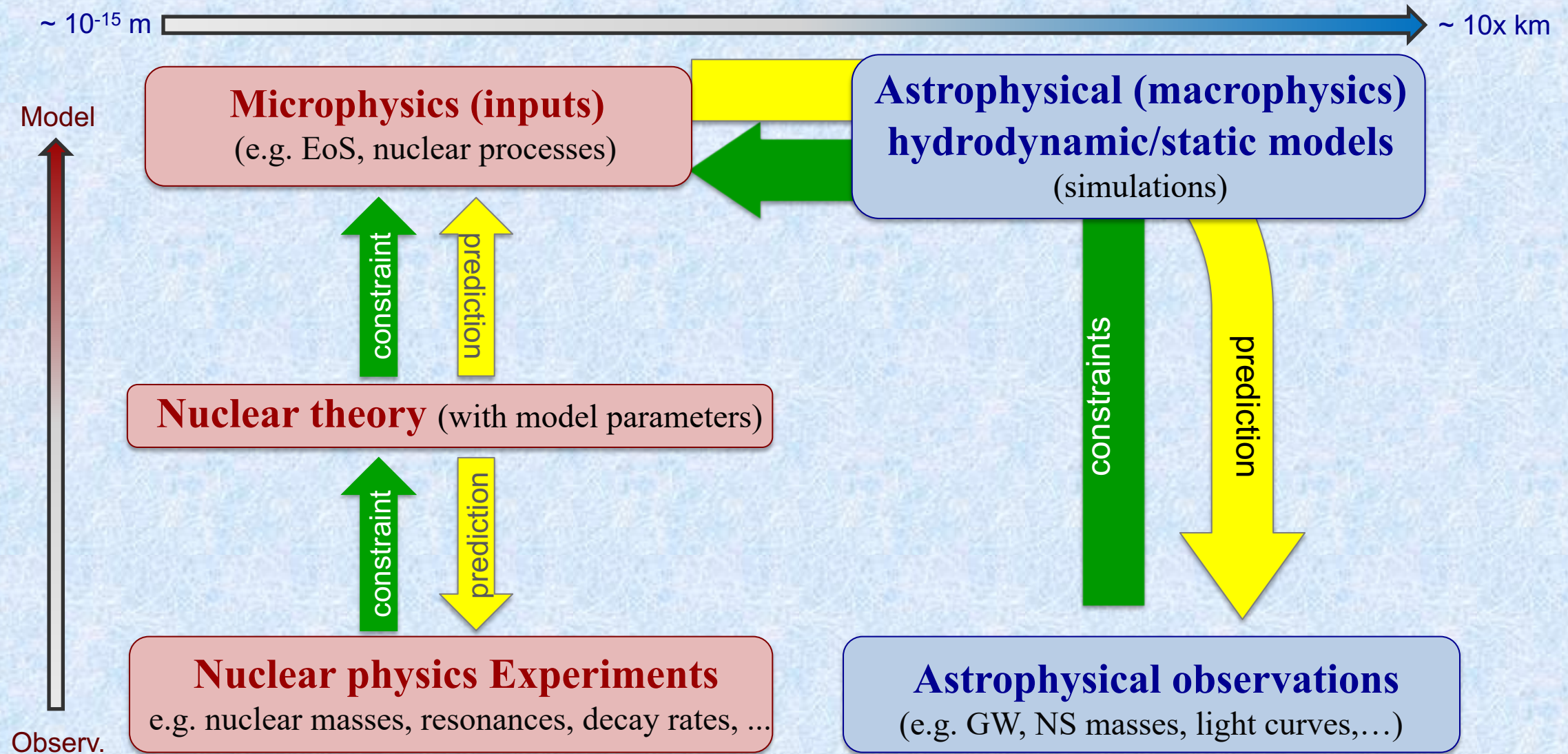
Virgo detector, Italy
(Credits: Virgo Collaboration)



Abbott et al., ApJL 848, L12 (2017)



Micro to macro through modelling and scales





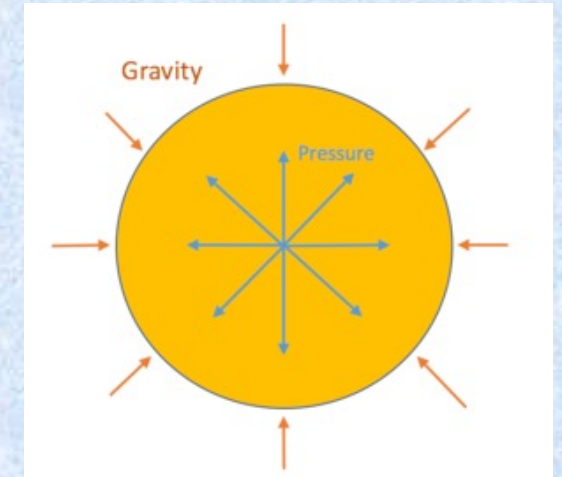
(cold) NS $\rightarrow$ static $\rightarrow$ EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS observables (1)

- **TOV $\rightarrow M(R)$** (Tolmann 1939; Oppenheimer&Volkoff 1939; see also Haensel et al. Springer 2007)

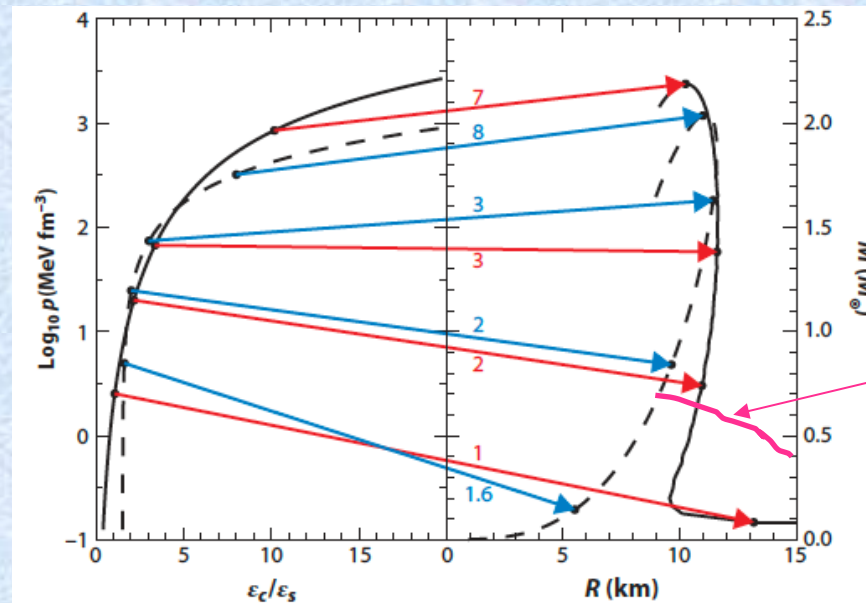
$$\frac{dP(r)}{dr} = -\frac{G\rho(r)\mathcal{M}(r)}{r^2} \left[1 + \frac{P(r)}{c^2\rho(r)} \right] \left[1 + \frac{4\pi P(r)r^3}{c^2\mathcal{M}(r)} \right] \left[1 - \frac{2G\mathcal{M}(r)}{c^2r} \right]^{-1}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(r) = 4\pi \int_0^r \rho(r') r'^2 dr' \quad \Rightarrow \quad P(\mathcal{E}) \quad \text{EoS only needed!}$$

$$\forall P_c \text{ (or } \mathcal{E}_c) \rightarrow R = r(P = 0), M = \mathcal{M}(r = R) \rightarrow \text{Mass \& Radius}$$



Credits: J. Stayner, Stanford Univ.



Lattimer, Annu. Rev. Part. Nucl. Sci. 62, 485 (2012)

using EoS of free n gas
 $\rightarrow$ nuclear interaction !!!

(Oppenheimer&Volkoff 1939; for a review on M_{max} :
Chamel et al., IJMPE 22, 1330018 (2013))

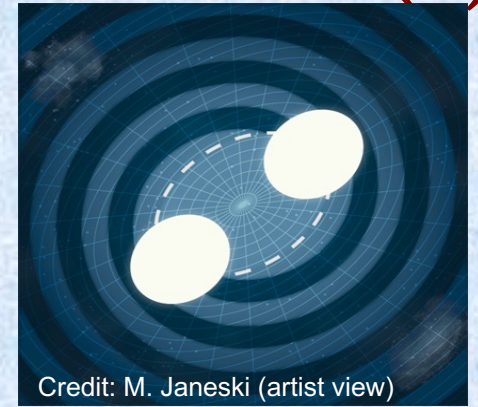
(cold) NS $\rightarrow$ static $\rightarrow$ EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS observables (2)

- **NS in external, inhomogeneous gravitational field $\rightarrow$ tidal deformation**

(Thorne & Campolattaro 1967; Hinderer, ApJ 2008; Hinderer et al., PRD 2010; Blanchet, Liv. Rev. Relat. 2014)

$$Q_{ij} = -\lambda \mathcal{E}_{ij} \quad \rightarrow \text{quadrupolar } (l=2) \text{ momentum in response to tidal field} \\ (\text{hp linear order, source of tidal field far away})$$

$$k_2 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{G}{R^5} \lambda \quad \rightarrow \text{tidal Love number (dimensionless)}$$

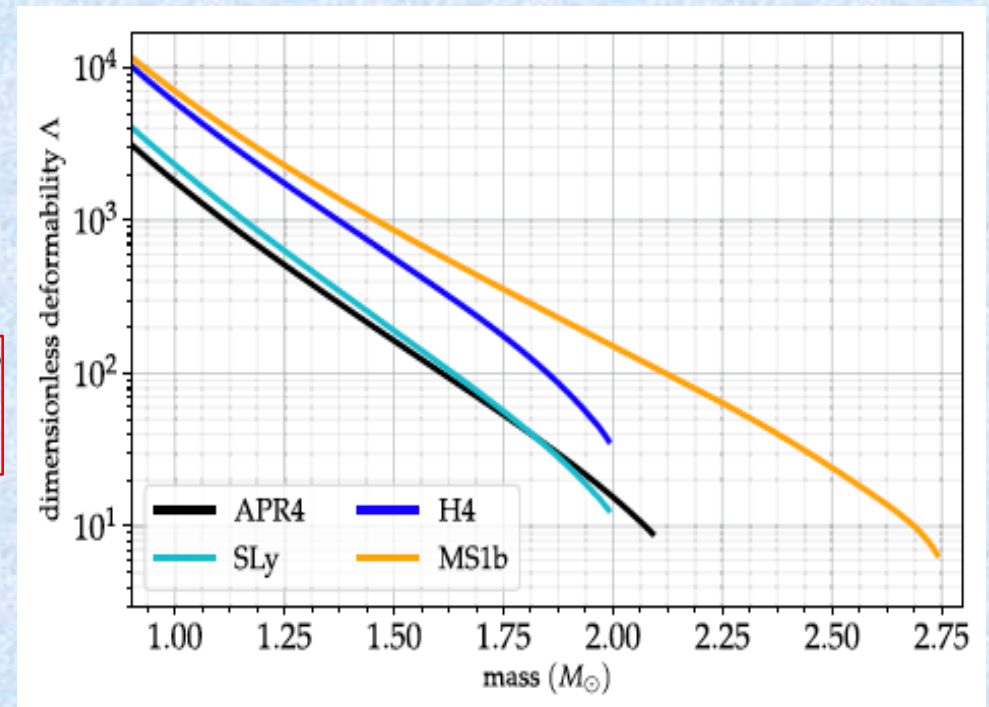


- **Perturbation to the equilibrium metric $\rightarrow$ eq. for $y(r)$**

$$r \frac{dy}{dr} + y(r)^2 + F(r)y(r) + Q(r) = 0$$

$\swarrow \quad \nwarrow$
 $P(r), \mathcal{E}(r)$

$$\rightarrow k_2 = k_2(y(r=R), M/R) \rightarrow \Lambda = \frac{2}{3} k_2 \left(\frac{Rc^2}{GM} \right)^5$$



Dietrich et al., Gen. Rel. Gravit. 53, 27 (2021)



Binary parameters and GW signal

- **Binary parameters extracted from GW signal**
(compare $h(t)$ with templates)

$$h(t) \propto A(t) \exp^{i\Phi(t)} \rightarrow \tilde{h}(f) \propto \mathcal{A} f^{-7/6} \exp^{i\phi(f)}$$

$$\mathcal{A} \propto \mathcal{M}^{5/6} \quad \rightarrow \text{chirp mass} \quad \mathcal{M} = \frac{(M_1 M_2)^{3/5}}{(M_1 + M_2)^{1/5}}$$

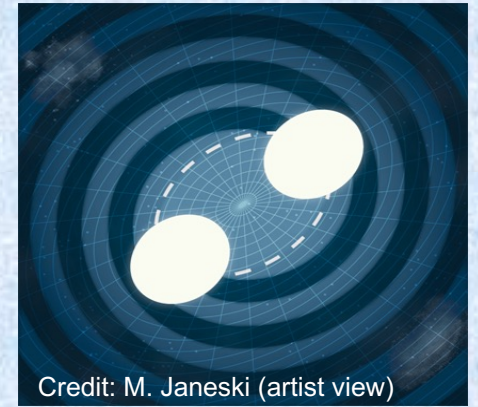
$$\phi(f) = \phi_{\text{p.p.}} + \phi_{\text{tidal}}$$

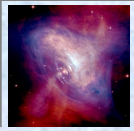
In post-newtonian ($\rightarrow$ expansion in $(v/c)^2$) and for non-spinning objects (Henri et al., arXiv:2005.13367; Wade et al., PRD 2014):

$$\phi(f) = 2\pi f t_c - 2\phi_0 - \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{3}{128} \frac{(\pi G(M_1 + M_2) f)^{-5/3} (M_1 + M_2)^2}{M_1 M_2} \left[1 - \frac{39}{2} \tilde{\Lambda} \left(\frac{\pi G(M_1 + M_2) f}{c^3} \right)^{10/3} \right]$$

➤ Leading mass dependence: $\frac{(M_1 + M_2)^{1/3}}{M_1 + M_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{-5/3}$

➤ Tidal effects at 5PN $\rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} \frac{(M_1 + 12M_2)M_1^4 \Lambda_1 + (M_2 + 12M_1)M_2^4 \Lambda_2}{(M_1 + M_2)^5}$





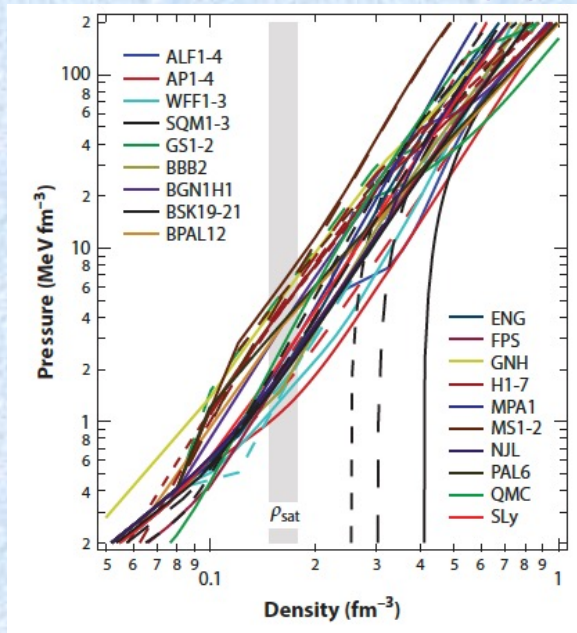
EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS observables $\leftrightarrow$ $M(R)$, $\Lambda(R)$?

→ GR → direct correspondence
EoS $\leftrightarrow$ NS static properties

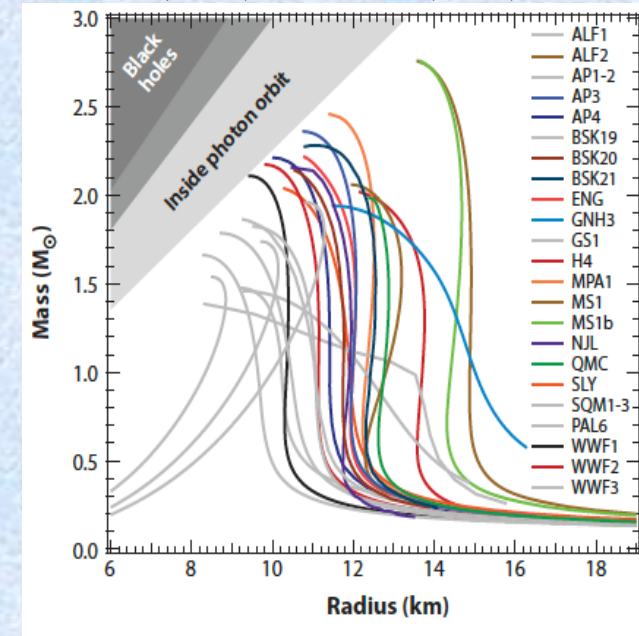
?
→ trace back to EoS
(and composition?)

but:

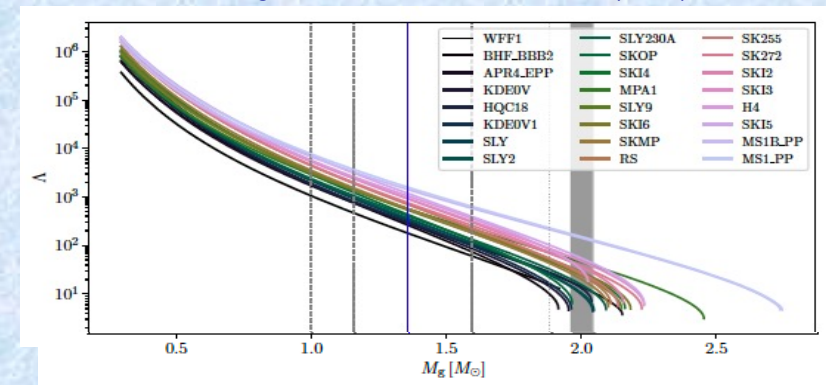
- ✗ EoS model dependent ! (higher uncertainties at higher ρ)
- ✗ no ab-initio dense-matter calculations
in all regimes → phenomenological models
- ✗ composition $\leftrightarrow$ EoS → $M(R)$?



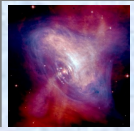
Ozel & Freire, ARAA 54, 401 (2016)



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



Abbott et al., Class. Quantum Grav. 37, 045006 (2020)



EoS at $T = 0$: generalities (1)

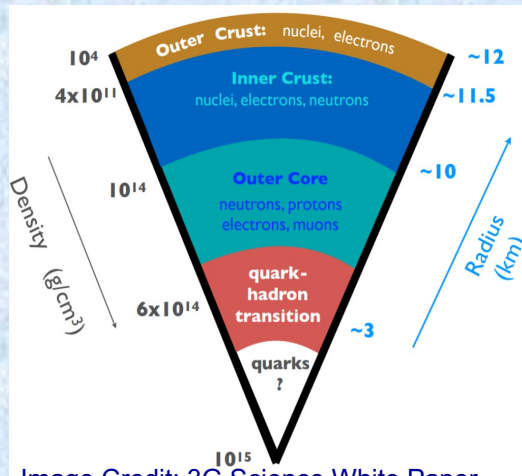


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

- **NS hot** ($\sim 10^{12}$ K $\rightarrow$ finite T important) $\rightarrow$ cool in days to $\sim 10^9$ K $\rightarrow T = 0 \rightarrow$ **full equilibrium (strong+weak)** $\rightarrow T \ll T_F$
- EoS needed to compute NS properties (M , R , etc)
- Composition input for different observables (e.g. cooling, elastic properties, oscillations, magneto-rotational evolution, ...)
- Different phases of matter (solid crust, “liquid” core, superfluid, QGP?, ...)

- **NB:** matter decouples from gravity! $\rightarrow$ when calculating EoS, gravity can be neglected (this also at $T > 0$)

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 - \frac{2Gm(r)}{rc^2} \right) c^2 dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2Gm(r)}{rc^2} \right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

Variation of the metric from NS centre to surface: $\frac{g_{00}(r = R, m = M)}{g_{00}(r = 0, m = 0)} = 1 - \frac{2GM}{Rc^2} \approx 0.4$ if $M = 2M_\odot, R = 10\text{km}$

Variation of the metric on a nuclear scale: $\frac{g_{00}(r + \delta r)}{g_{00}(r)} \approx 1 + \frac{\delta r}{r} \approx 1 + 10^{-19}$



EoS at $T = 0$: generalities (2)

- $T = 0 \rightarrow$ full equilibrium (cold catalysed matter)
- EoS only density dependent $P(n_B)$ (or $P(\varepsilon)$) $\rightarrow$ one-dimensional
- EoS at each $n_B \rightarrow$ minimise the total energy density
- However, different matter constituents $\rightarrow E(\{n_i\})$, with $n_i(r) \rightarrow P(\{n_i\})$
but: conserved densities: $n_B, n_L, n_Q, (n_S)$: baryon, lepton, charge, (strange)
in the core: infinite matter $\rightarrow$ thermo limit: $n_i(r) = n_i$
- Baryons & leptons decoupled:

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_B + \mathcal{E}_L$$

$$\text{If only baryons + e: } \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_B(n_n, n_p) + \mathcal{E}_e(n_e = n_p)$$

$$\text{If } \beta \text{ equilibrium: 1 variable } n_B \text{ as } n_B = n_n + n_p, \quad n_e = n_p = Y_p n_B$$

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

$$P = - \left. \frac{dE}{dV} \right|_{\{N_j\}, T} = n_B^2 \frac{de}{dn_B}$$

$$\text{If only baryons + electrons: } P = P_B + P_e$$

NB: n_B = baryon number density, $\rho c^2 = \varepsilon$ mass-energy density !

NB: Leptons are treated as free Fermi gas, but baryons interact!

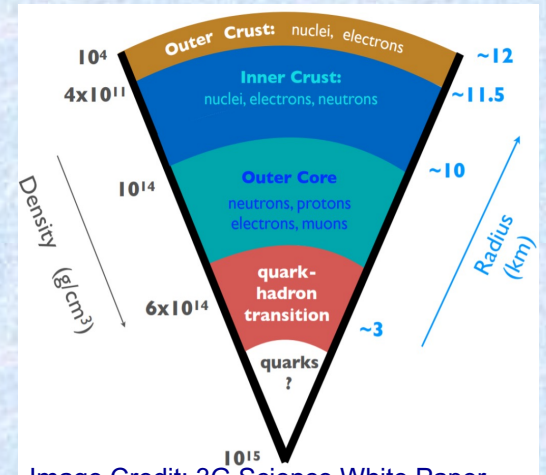


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper



Leptons (electrons) at $T = 0$ (1)

- Fermi gas, degenerate matter

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(e(k) - \mu)/(k_B T)}}$$

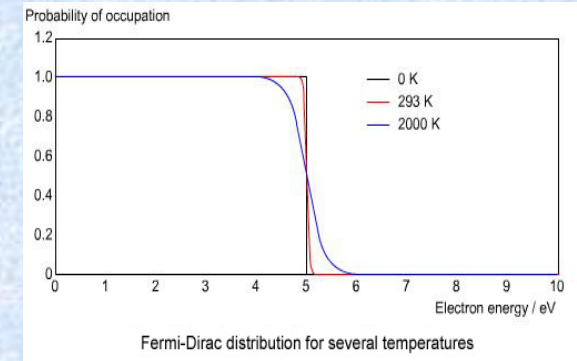
$$f(k) = \Theta(k)$$

- density:
$$n_e = \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k f(k) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk k^2 \Theta(k) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F} dk k^2 = \frac{k_{F,e}^3}{3\pi^2}$$

- electron energy:
$$e_e(k) = \sqrt{(m_e c^2)^2 + (\hbar c k)^2}$$

- NR limit: $p_e c \ll m_e c^2 : \mathcal{E}_e = \frac{2}{(2\pi^2)^3} \int_0^{k_F} dk 4\pi k^2 \left(m_e c^2 + \frac{\hbar^2 c^2 k^2}{2m_e c^2} \right) = n_e m_e c^2 + \frac{\hbar^2 c^2 k_{e,F}^5}{10\pi^2 m_e c^2}$

$$P_e = n_e^2 \frac{d(\mathcal{E}_e/n_e)}{dn_e} = \frac{\hbar^2 c^2 k_{e,F}^5}{15\pi^2 m_e c^2} \propto n_e^{5/3} \rightarrow P = \mathcal{K} n^\gamma \rightarrow \text{Polytropic EoS}$$



Credit: University of Cambridge



NB: same for muons, with $\mu_\mu = \mu_e$. They appear when $\mu_\mu = m_\mu$



Leptons (electrons) at $T = 0$ (2)



▪ Fermi gas, degenerate matter

- UR limit: $p_e c \gg m_e c^2$: $\mathcal{E}_e = \frac{2}{(2\pi^2)^3} \int_0^{k_F} dk 4\pi k^2 \hbar c k = \frac{\hbar c k_{e,F}^4}{4\pi^2}$

$$P_e = n_e^2 \frac{d\mathcal{E}_e}{dn_e} = \frac{\hbar c k_{e,F} n_e}{4} \propto n_e^{4/3} \rightarrow P = \mathcal{K} n^\gamma \rightarrow \text{Polytropic EoS}$$

e⁻ relativistic when $p_e \sim m_e c \rightarrow \rho_B = \frac{A}{Z} n_e m_p \approx \frac{A}{Z} n_e m_p \frac{1}{3\pi^2 \lambda_{e,C}^3} \approx 10^6 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$

$$\lambda_{e,C} = \frac{m_e c^2}{\hbar c}$$

- more general expressions: $\mathcal{E}_e = \frac{m_e c^2}{8\pi^2 \lambda_{e,C}^3} \left[2x^3 \sqrt{1+x^2} + x \sqrt{1+x^2} - \ln(x + \sqrt{1+x^2}) \right]$ $x = \frac{\hbar c (3\pi^2 n_e)^{1/3}}{m_e c^2}$

$$P_e = \frac{m_e c^2}{8\pi^2 \lambda_{e,C}^3} \left[x \left(\frac{2}{3} x^2 - 1 \right) \sqrt{1+x^2} + \ln(x + \sqrt{1+x^2}) \right]$$

N.B.: there are corrections to this formula, e.g.:

- electron screening
- exchange energy

NB: same for muons, with $\mu_\mu = \mu_e$. They appear when $\mu_\mu = m_\mu$



Leptons (electrons) at $T > 0$

- Fermi distribution function at $T > 0$ not step function $f(k) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(e(k) - \mu)/(k_B T)}}$

$$e_e = \sqrt{(m_e c^2)^2 + (\hbar c k)^2} \quad \text{relativistic particles}$$

$$n_e = \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 k f(k) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi} \lambda_e^3} \left[I_{1/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) + \frac{k_B T}{m_e c^2} I_{3/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) \right]$$

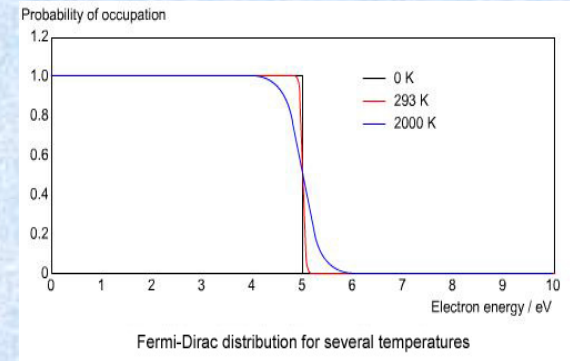
$$\mathcal{E}_e = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{k_B T}{\lambda_e^3} \left[I_{3/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) + \frac{k_B T}{m_e c^2} I_{5/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) \right] \quad \lambda_e = \left(\frac{2\pi (\hbar c)^2}{m_e c^2 k_B T} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$P_e = \frac{8}{3\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{k_B T}{\lambda_e^3} \left[I_{3/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) + \frac{k_B T}{2m_e c^2} I_{5/2}(\chi, k_B T / m_e c^2) \right] \quad \chi = \frac{\mu_e - m_e c^2}{k_B T}$$

→ Fermi integral $I_k \rightarrow$ numerical resolution

$$I_k(\chi, t) \equiv \int_0^\infty \frac{x^k (1 + tx/2)^{1/2}}{1 + \exp(x - \chi)} dx$$

NB: for relatively small T ($T/T_F \ll 1$) → Sommerfeld expansion in powers of T^2



NB: same for muons



Baryons (n,p) at $T = 0$

NN interaction not known; nuclear physics = non-perturbative regime of QCD

→ *Two different approaches*

➤ **Ab-initio (“microscopic”) approaches**

based on quantum many-body theory from realistic NN interactions;

different techniques: **variational methods**, (D)BHF, **chiral EFT**, Monte-Carlo, Green’s functions, ...

→ usually restricted to homogeneous matter (NS core)

see L. Jokiniemi’s and P. Arhuis’s lecture

➤ **Phenomenological approaches**

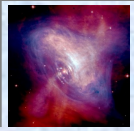
based on effective interactions (start from Hamiltonian/Lagrangian) with parameters

adjusted to reproduced nuclear properties: **EDF**
e.g. **Skyrme / Gogny**, **RMF**, **meta-models**, ...

→ also for inhomogeneous matter (crust+core)

see M. Bender’s lecture

see also S. Lenzi’s lecture



Baryons (n,p) at $T = 0$

NN interaction not known; nuclear physics = non-perturbative regime of QCD

→ Two different approaches

➤ Ab-initio (“microscopic”) approaches

based on quantum many-body theory
realistic NN interactions;
different techniques: **variational**
chiral EFT, Monte-Carlo, G

→ usually restricted to hom

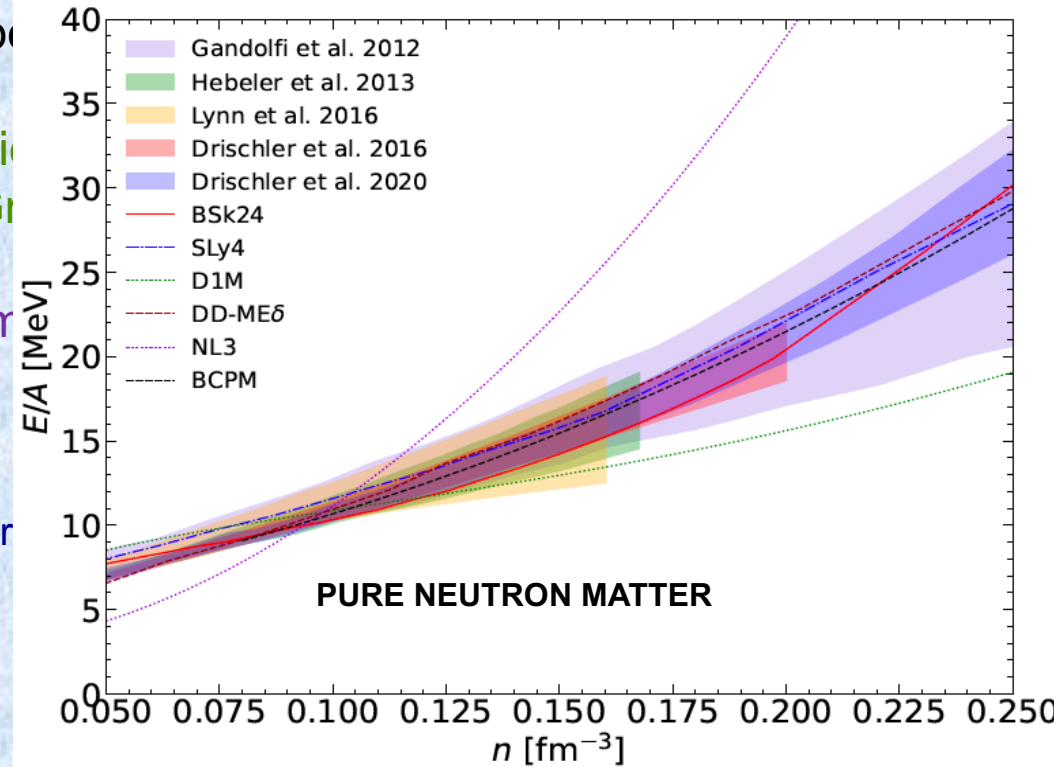
see L. Jokiniemi’s and P. Ar

➤ Phenomenological approaches

effective interactions (start from
agrangian) with parameters
produced nuclear properties: **EDF**
Gogny, **RMF**, **meta-models**, ...

homogeneous matter (crust+core)

. Bender’s lecture



Fantina & Gulminelli, J.Phys. Conf. Ser. 2586, 012112 (2023)



Baryons (n,p) at $T = 0$: mean-field approx (1)

- Fermions (see electron part), but interactions!
→ similar to electron gas but with “effective” masses and “effective” chemical potentials
- Independent (quasi-)particles (non-relativistic, $q = n, p$): $e_q(k) = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_q} + U_q(k)$
→ $U_q(k)$ from effective interactions (DFT)
- In infinite nuclear matter, $T = 0$ $\sum_q \sum_k \rightarrow \sum_q g_{s,q} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \Theta_q(k) = \sum_q g_{s,q} \int_0^{k_{F,q}} \frac{dk}{2\pi^2} k^2$
(transl. invariant):
- Matter energy density: $\mathcal{E}_q = g_{s,q} \int_{k \leq k_F} \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} e_q(k) = \mathcal{E}_{F,q} + g_{s,q} \underbrace{\int_{k \leq k_F} \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} U_q(k)}_{\text{EDF} \rightarrow \text{energy functional}}$
NB: rest-mass to be added
- Examples: *Skyrme* (0-range), *Gogny* (finite-range), *Fayans* (more flexibility than Skyrme), *BCPM* (inspired to BHF calculations), *KIDS* (based on power expansion of nuclear matter energy in terms of k_F), *meta-model* (based on Taylor expansion in density around saturation density)
- NB: here effects beyond mean-field not discussed see M. Bender’s lecture



Baryons (n,p) at $T = 0$: mean-field approx (2)

❖ Example of **Skyrme** EDF (Skyrme, Nucl. Phys. 9, 615 (1959)):

Matter energy (infinite matter): central term + density-dep. term + eff. mass term ~~+ s-o, grad, tensor~~

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{Sky}} = \sum_q m_q c^2 n_q + \sum_q \mathcal{E}_{F,q} + \underline{C_{1,\text{is}}} n_B^2 + \sum_q \underline{C_{1,\text{is}}} n_q^2$$

$n_B = n_n + n_p$

$$+ \underline{C_{2,\text{is}}} n_B^{\alpha+2} + \sum_q \underline{C_{2,\text{iv}}} n_q^\alpha n_B^2 + \underline{C_{m,\text{is}}} n_B^{5/3} + \sum_q \underline{C_{m,\text{iv}}} n_q^{5/3}$$

n^α terms $\rightarrow$ mimic many-body effect

$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_q} \rightarrow \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_q^*}$

NB: $\mathcal{E}_{F,q} \propto n_q^{5/3} \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\text{Sky}} = \sum_q m_q n_q + \sum_q \mathcal{E}_{F,q}^* + \underline{C_{1,\text{is}}} n_B^2 + \sum_q \underline{C_{1,\text{is}}} n_q^2$

$$+ \underline{C_{2,\text{is}}} n_B^{\alpha+2} + \sum_q \underline{C_{2,\text{iv}}} n_q^\alpha n_B^2$$



$\Rightarrow$ Landau (k) effective mass (momentum dependence)

$\Rightarrow e_q = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_q^*} + U_q \quad \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_q^*} = \frac{\delta E_{\text{EDF}}}{\delta \tau_q}, U_q = \frac{\delta E_{\text{EDF}}}{\delta n_q}$

τ_q kin.energy dens.; no gradient in infinite matter!

Model parameters $\rightarrow$ fitted to exp.

NB: Extensions (e.g. added density-dep terms)



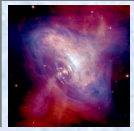
Baryons (n,p) at $T = 0$: mean-field approx (3)

- **RMF** : - nucleons interact via field, e.g. ω (repulsion, short range) and σ (attraction, medium range)
but others can be added, e.g. ρ needed to account for isospin!
 - meson field are replaced by average values
- Relativistic particle: $e_q(k) = \sqrt{(m_q^*c^2)^2 + (\hbar ck)^2} + V_q$
- Scalar field $\rightarrow$ effective mass: $m^* = m - \underline{g_\sigma \sigma_0}$

$$m_\sigma^2 \sigma_0 = g_\sigma \sum_q \frac{g_{s,q}}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{k_{F,q}} k^2 dk \frac{m_q^*}{\sqrt{\hbar^2 k^2 + m_q^{*2}}} \rightarrow n_s \text{ (scalar density)}$$
- Vector field $\rightarrow$ shifts energy $\rightarrow V_q$: $g_\omega \omega_0 (\pm g_\rho \rho)$
- Matter energy density: $\mathcal{E}_{\text{RFM}, \sigma\omega(\rho)} = \sum_q \frac{g_{s,q}}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{k_{F,q}} k^2 dk \sqrt{k^2 + m_q^{*2}} + \frac{1}{2} m_\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\omega^2 \omega_0^2 + \underline{g_\omega \omega_0 n_B}$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2} m_\rho^2 \rho_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \underline{g_\rho \rho_0^3} (n_p - n_n) \right) \quad \text{Model parameters} \rightarrow \text{fitted to exp.}$$

NB: Extensions: density-dependent (DD) couplings or non-linear (NL) self-interaction



Effective mass

- Note: Landau (NR) & Dirac (R) effective masses are different (different definition) !
- Nucleons interact in medium $\rightarrow$ mass not the same as in vacuum

❖ Landau k -mass (at k_F) (momentum dep.) $m_L^* = k \left(\frac{dE}{dk} \right)^{-1}$

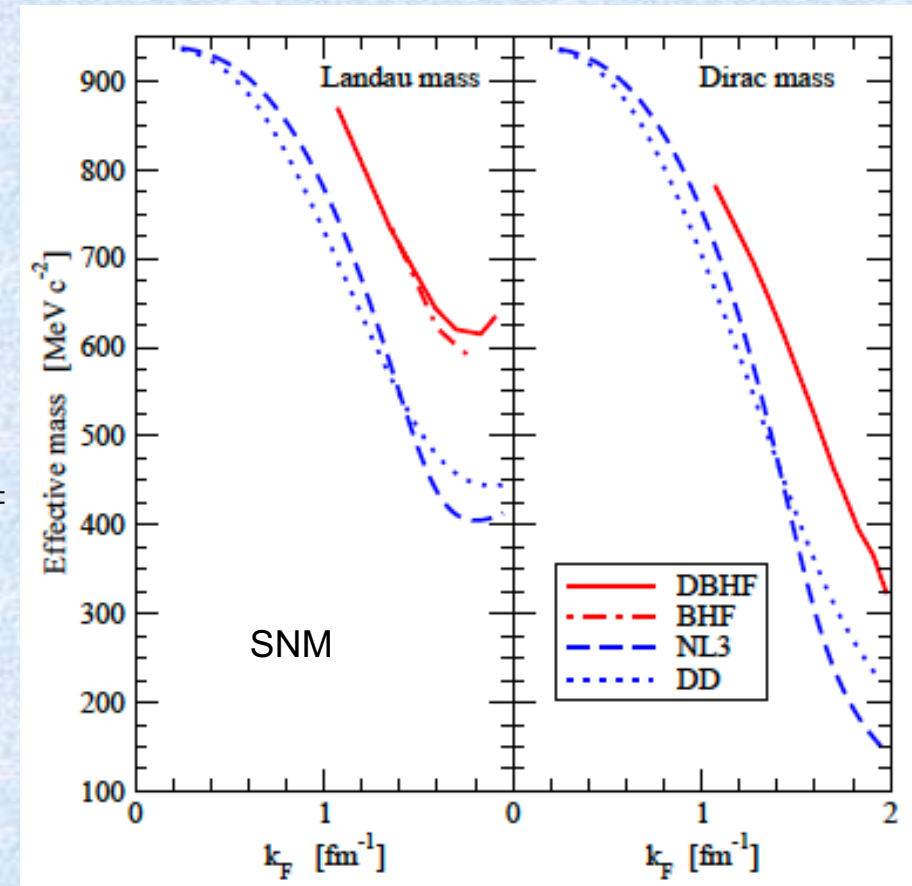
❖ Dirac mass

$$m_D^* = m - g_\sigma \sigma_0 = m - \frac{g_\sigma^2}{m_\sigma^2} \sum_q \frac{g_{s,q}}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F} k^2 dk \frac{m_q^*}{\sqrt{\hbar^2 k^2 + m_q^{*2}}}$$

$\rightarrow$ different functional dependencies and values!

$\rightarrow$ mapping not straightforward

$$m_L^* \stackrel{?}{\approx} \sqrt{m_D^{*2} + (\hbar k_F)^2}$$



Van Dalen & M  ther, IJMPA 19, 2077 (2010); arXiv:1004.0144



Baryons (n,p) at $T > 0$

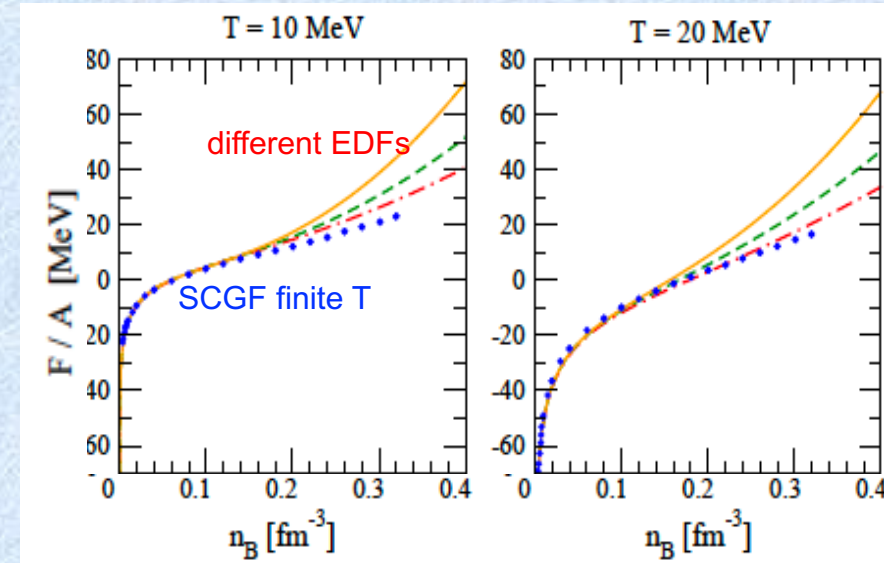
- At $T > 0 \rightarrow$ Fermi function
$$f(k) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(e(k) - \mu)/(k_B T)}}$$
- In principle, same approach as before but $f(k) \rightarrow T$ -dep in occupation
- With good approx., only kinetic part depend on $T \rightarrow m^*$ term!
(beyond mean-field effect can add T -dep but small for $T < 10$ -20 MeV)

❖ Non-relativistic particles

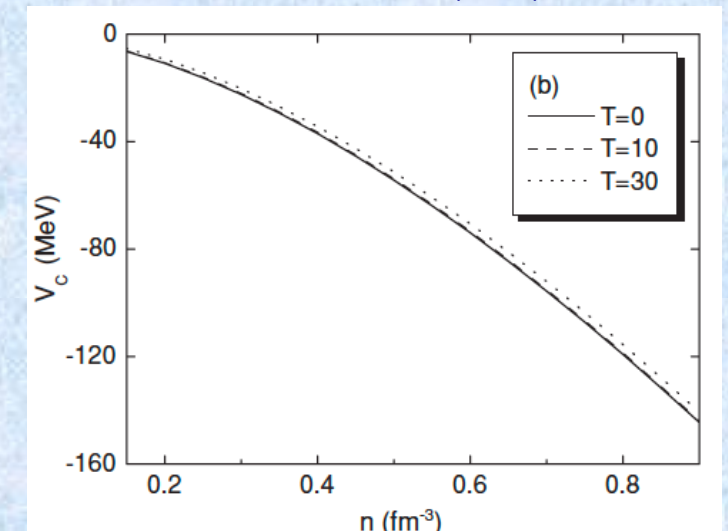
$$e_q = \frac{\hbar^2 c^2}{2m_q^*} + U_q, \quad \tilde{\mu}_q = \mu_q - U_q$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\text{kin},q} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{k_B T}{\lambda_q^3} I_{3/2} \left(\frac{\tilde{\mu}_q}{k_B T} \right)$$

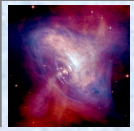
caveat: what about extrapolation at much higher T
(~ 100 MeV, e.g. SN, BNS mergers?)



Fantina et al., JPCS 342, 012003 (2012)

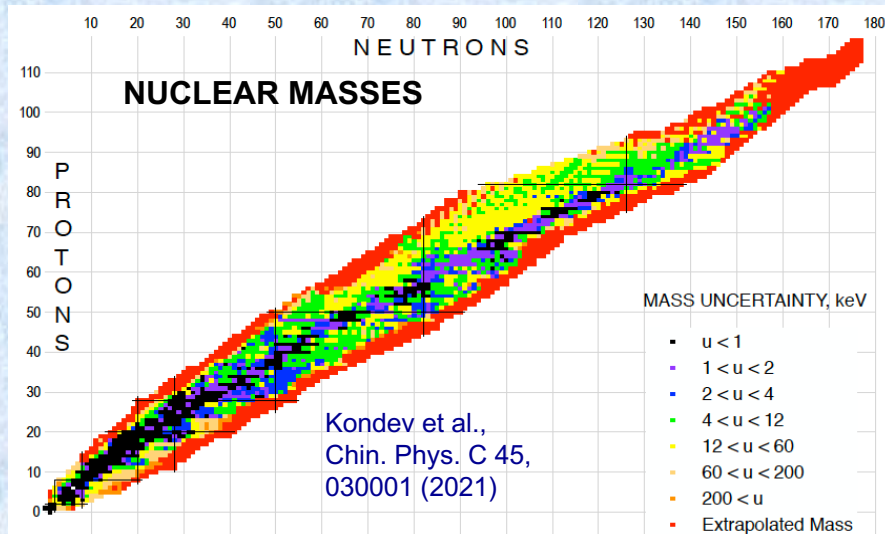


Moustakidis & Panos, PRC 79, 045806 (2009);
(see also e.g. Lu et al., PRC 2019, Shang et al., PRC 2020)

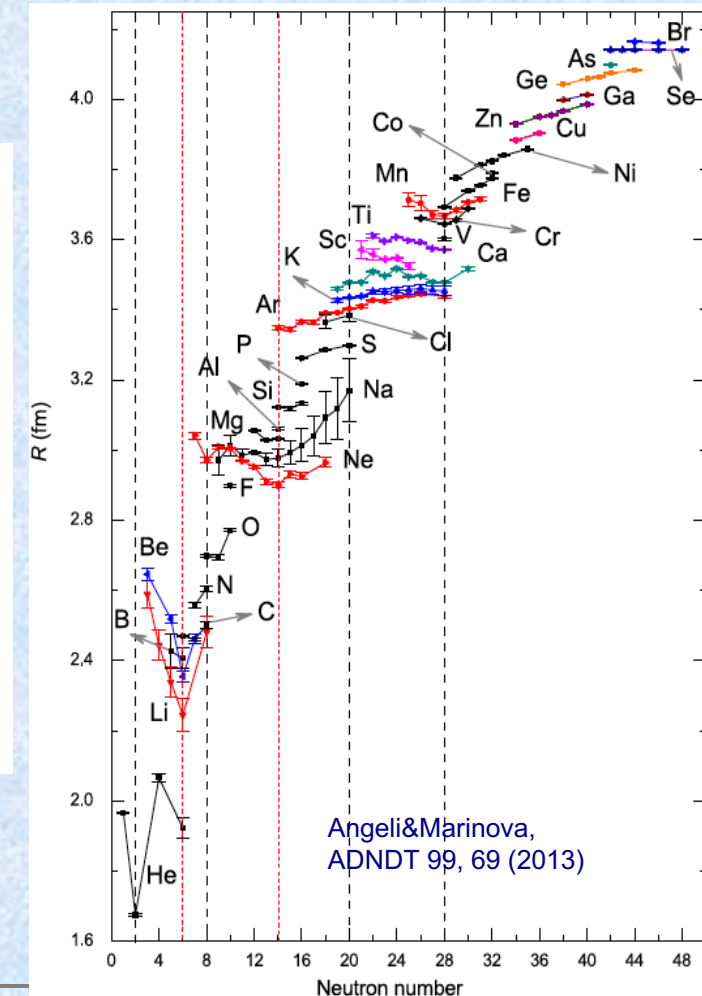
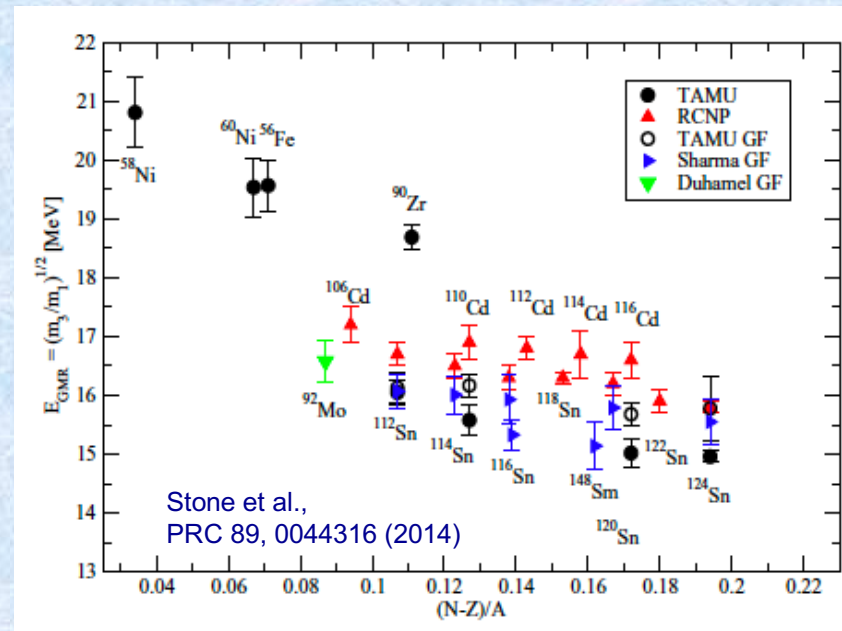


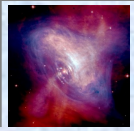
Connection with nuclear physics experiments (1)

- EDF (with parameters) can model nuclei ($T = 0$)
 → Parameters fitted on nuclear physics experiments



see M. Bender's lecture





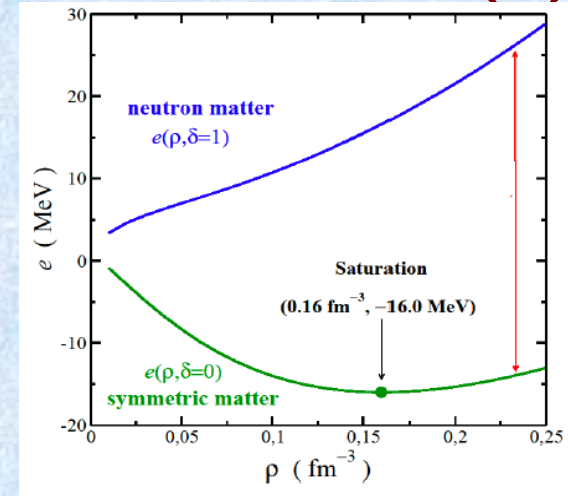
Connection with nuclear physics experiments (2)

- EoS of infinite matter can be Taylor expanded around saturation

$$e(n_B, \delta) \approx e_{\text{is}}(n_B) + e_{\text{iv}}(n_B)\delta^2 \quad \text{but attention: kinetic part!} \quad \delta = (n_n - n_p)/n$$

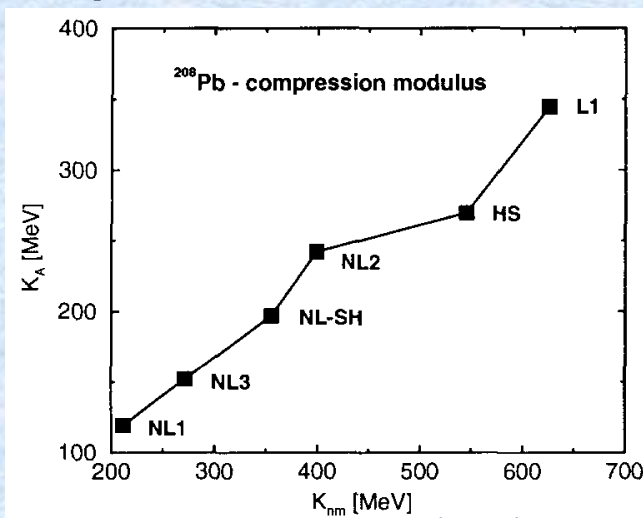
$$e_{\text{is}} = E_{\text{sat}} + \frac{1}{2}K_{\text{sat}}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}Q_{\text{sat}}x^3 + \dots \rightarrow e_{\text{sat}}(n_B, \delta=0)$$

$$e_{\text{iv}} = E_{\text{sym}} + L_{\text{sym}}x + \frac{1}{2}K_{\text{sym}}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}Q_{\text{sym}}x^3 + \dots \rightarrow e_{\text{sym}}(n_B) = e(n_B, \delta=1) - e(n_B, \delta=0)$$

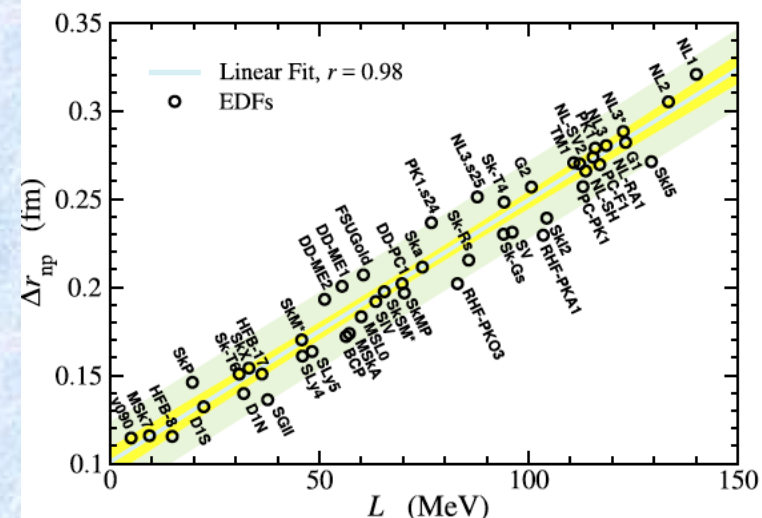


Centelles, talk@Primosten (2011)

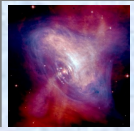
nuclear empirical parameters = successive derivative of energy functional at $n_{\text{sat}} \rightarrow$ from experiments



Vretenar et al., NPA 621, 853 (1997)

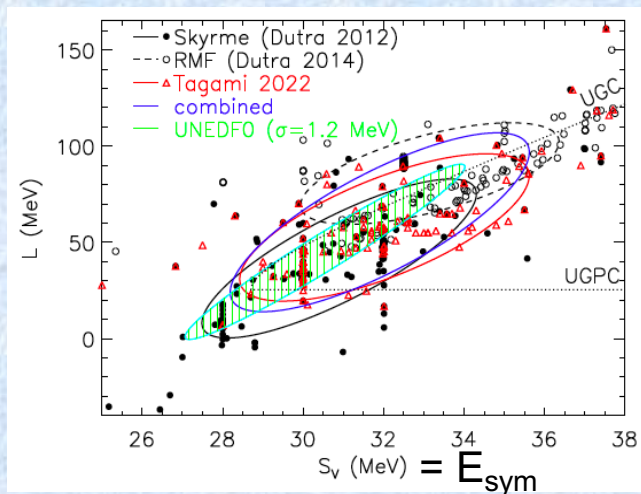


Roca Maza & Paar, PNP 101, 96 (2018)

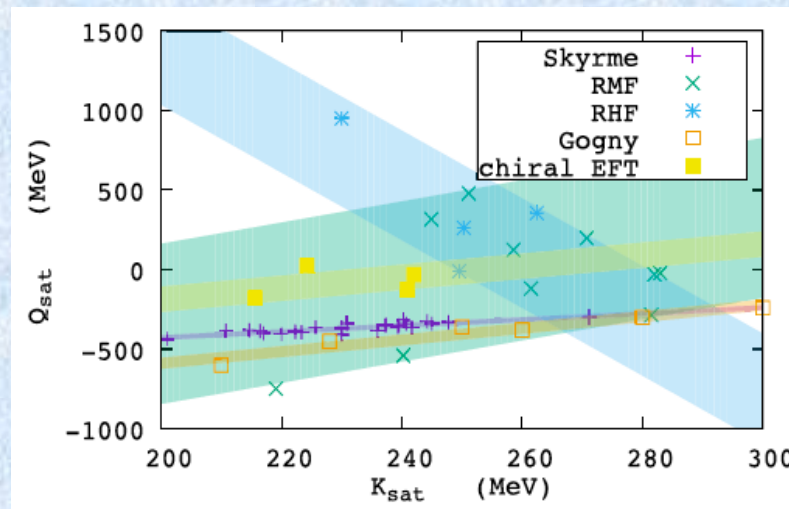


... but choice not unique!

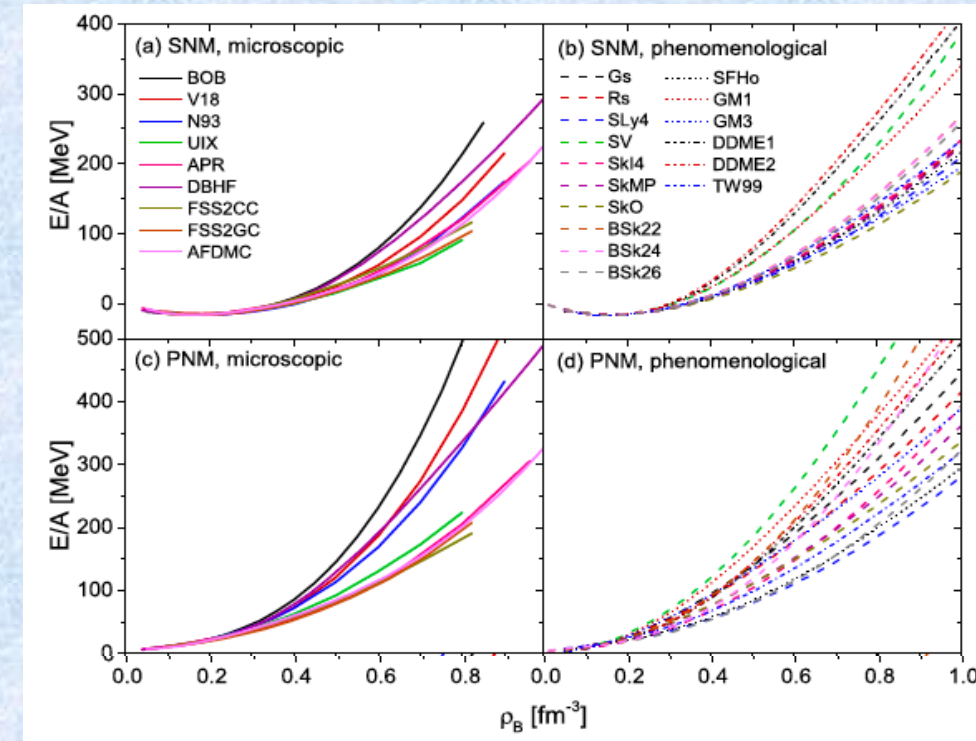
- but: choice of the functional, data set & fitting protocol not unique
 → variety of models (even if same potential!)
 → spread at high density (extrapolation far from experimental info)
- Even for ab-initio, different many-body techniques, w/ or w/o 3BF
 → variety of models



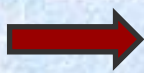
Lattimer, Particles 6, 30 (2023)



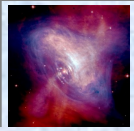
Margueron et al., PRC 97, 025805 (2018)



Burgio et al., PPNP 120, 103879 (2021)



How this affects astro?



From nuclear models to astro prediction

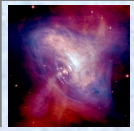
Two ways of investigating impact of nuclear physics in astro

1. Choose your “favourite” model(s)

- More “microscopic” model (accurately calibrated EDFs)
→ study specific model dependence
- **Benchmark calculations (if simulations long)**
- Calculate several nuclear inputs consistently for nuclear physics and astrophysics
- X No parameter-space exploration

2. Statistical model exploration

- More flexible, faster computation model (EDF, meta-model-like)
→ Parameter-space exploration
- **Bayes analysis**
- Run millions of models and evaluate uncertainties
- X Less microscopic



NS atmosphere

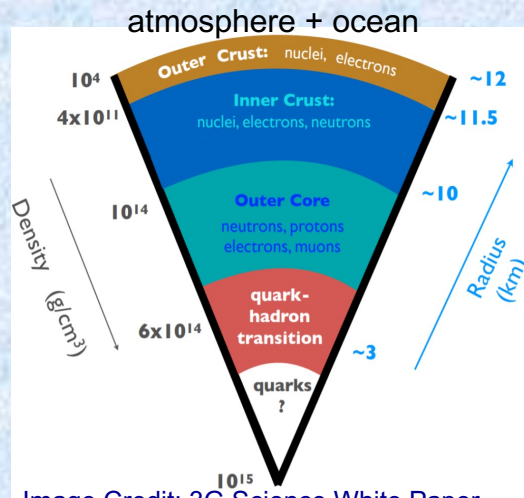
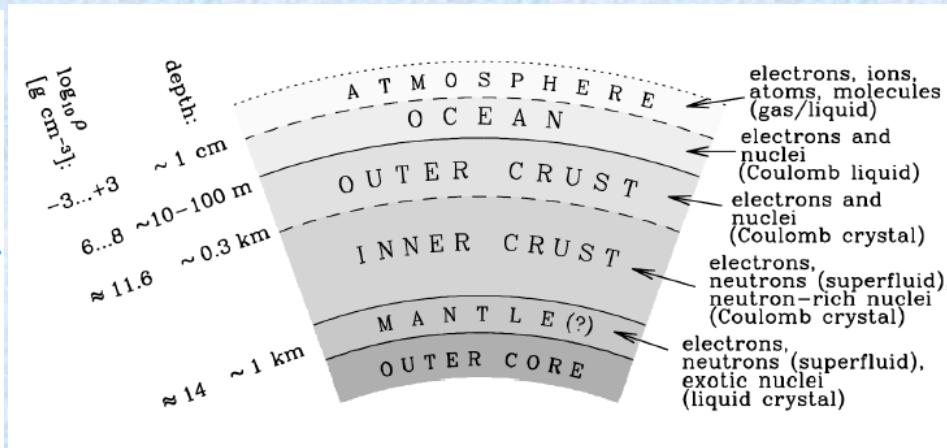
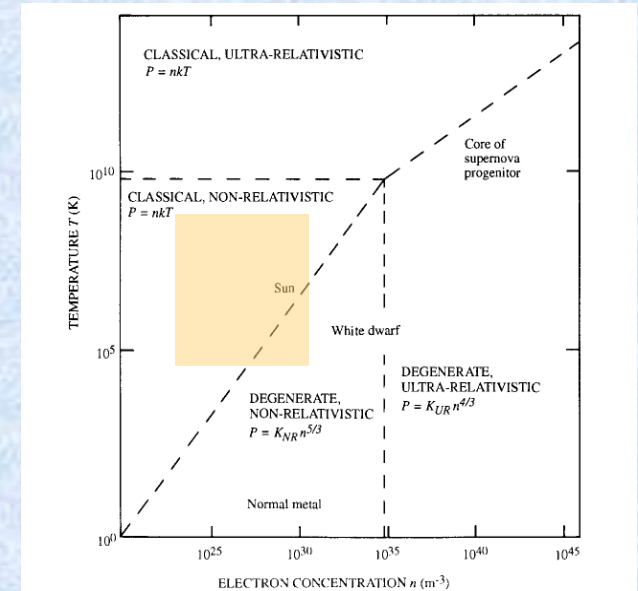


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper



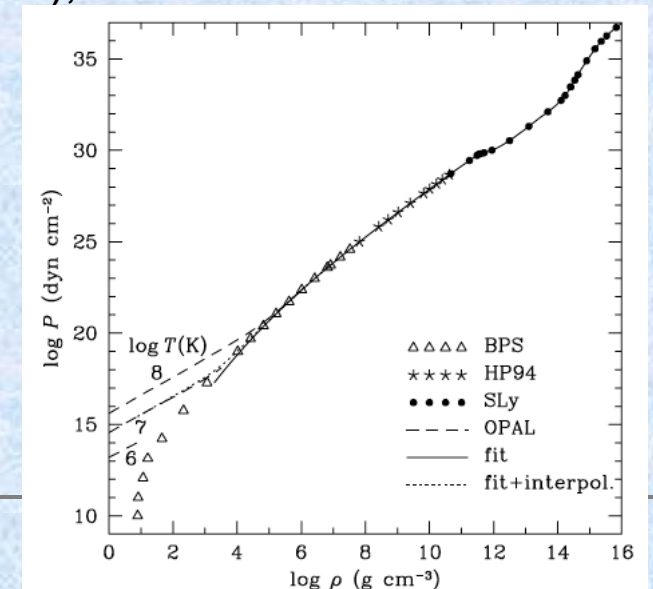
Haensel et al., Neutron Star 1 (Springer 2007)



Phillips, "The Physics of Stars"

- **Atmosphere:** (few cm) of light to intermediate-mass elements (e.g. H, He, C), e^- + ions + atoms + molecules; gas/liquid
 - Emission of thermal radiation $\rightarrow T_{\text{surf}}$, surface gravity, etc.
 - Very low density ($\rho < \sim 1 - 100 \text{ g/cm}^3$) $\rightarrow$ EoS ideal gas $P = nRT$

NB: below $\sim 10^6 \text{ g/cm}^3$ EoS is T -dependent ($\rightarrow T=0$ approx not valid)



Haensel et al., Neutron Star Structure 1 (Springer 2007); Nattila et al., ApJ 971, 37 (2024)



NS ocean

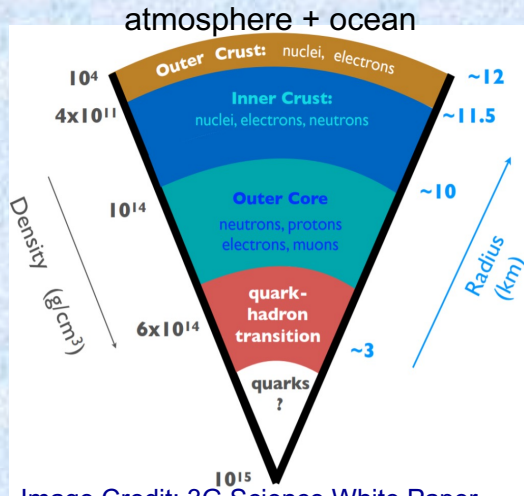
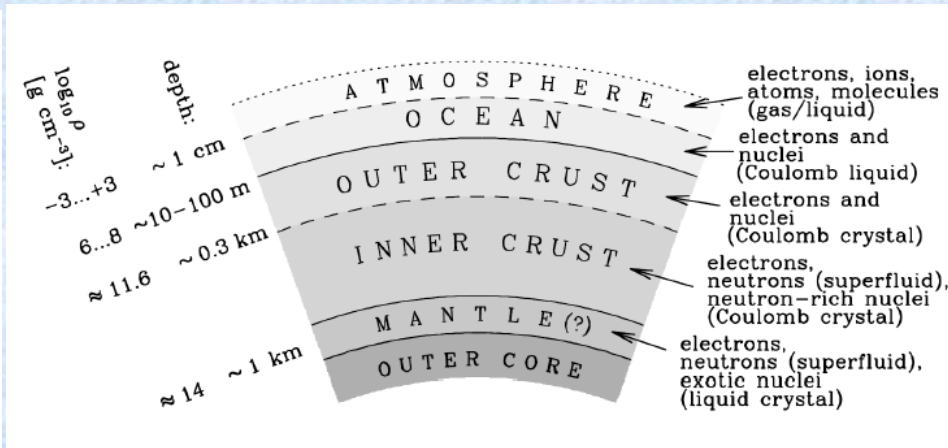


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper



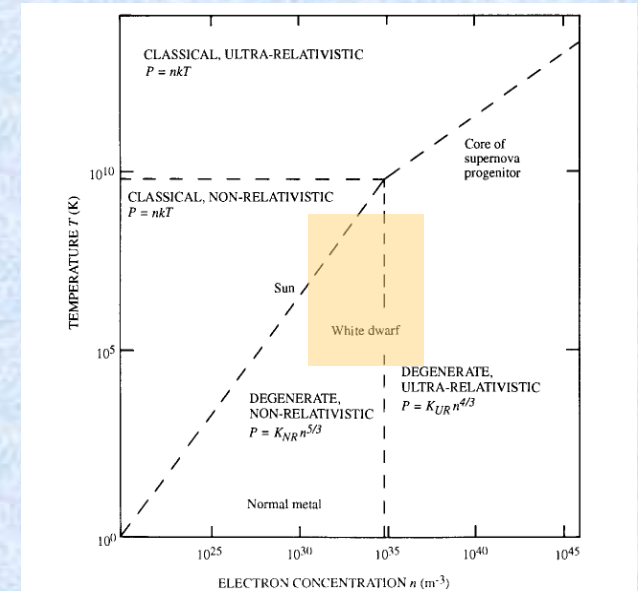
Haensel et al., Neutron Star 1 (Springer 2007)

■ Ocean: a few 10 m, ions + electrons

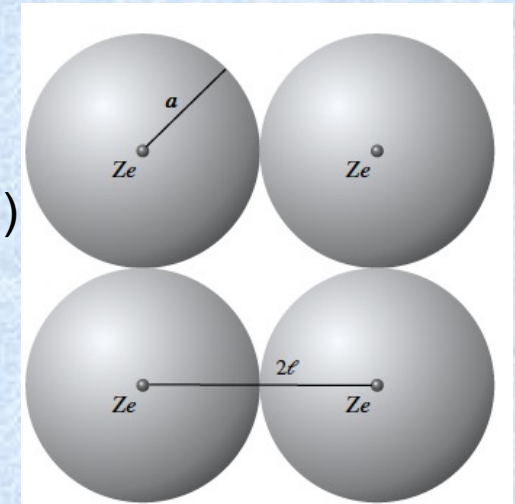
- Expected to be made by Fe nuclei (at least at the bottom) + electrons
- Low density ($\rho < \sim 10^8 \text{ g/cm}^3$) $\rightarrow$ EoS dominated by degenerate e^- gas
- Atoms completely ionised! When this occurs?
 $\rightarrow$ inter-atom spacing $\sim$ atom radius (found from $E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{coul}} = 0$ when atom bound)

$$l = \left(\frac{4\pi n_N}{3} \right)^{-1/3} \approx a = \left(\frac{3\pi^2}{16} \right)^{1/3} \frac{a_0}{Z^{1/3}}$$

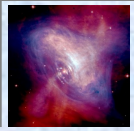
$$\rightarrow \rho_B \gg \rho_i = m_N n_N \approx A m_p n_N \approx 1.4 A Z \approx 10^3 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$



Phillips, "The Physics of Stars"



N. Chamel (2026)



NS crust: general picture

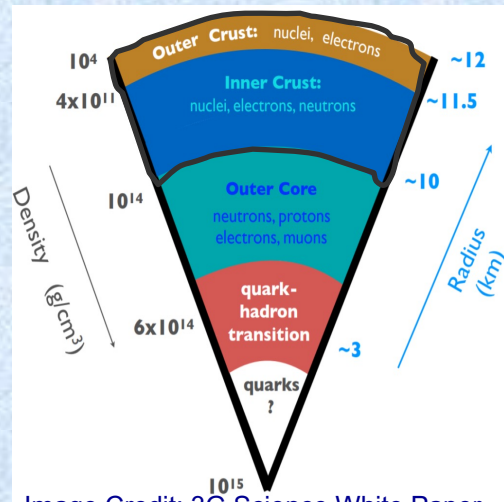
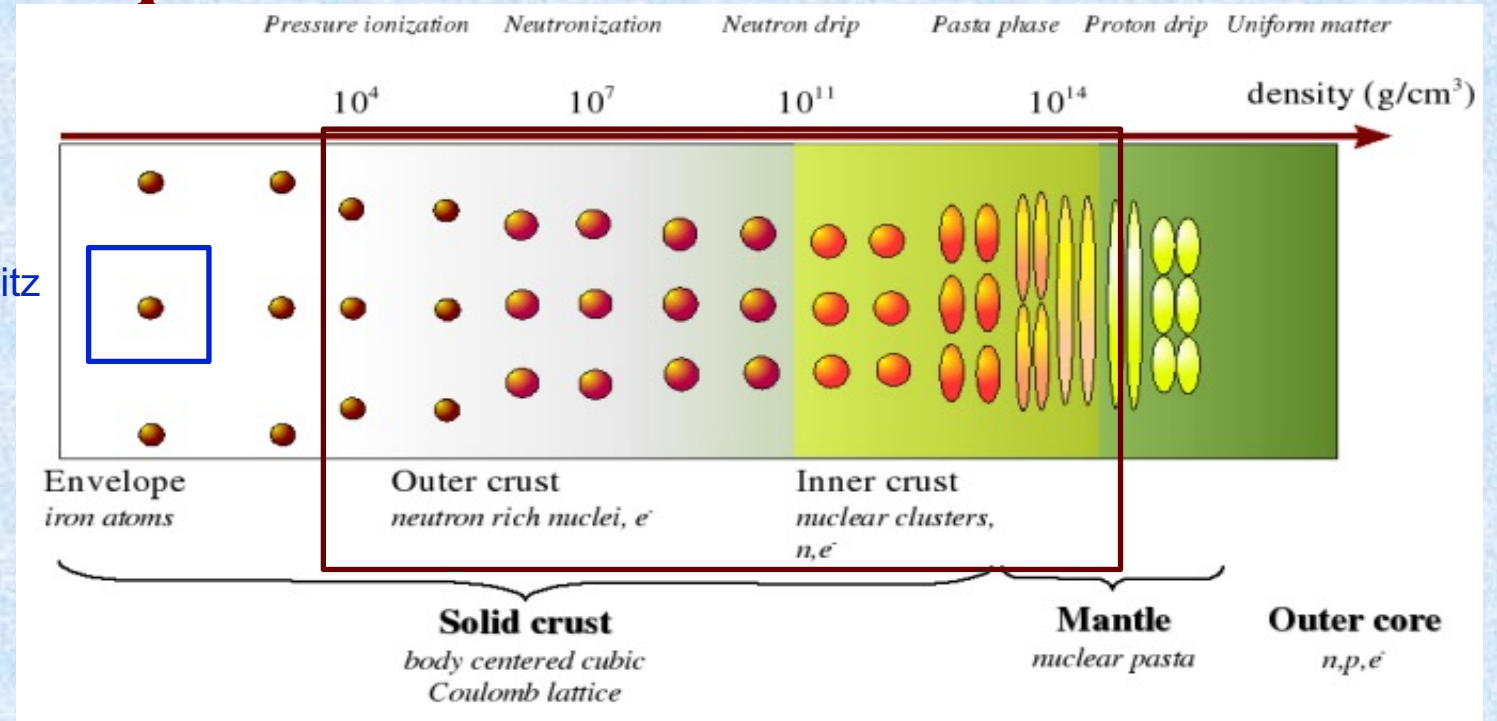
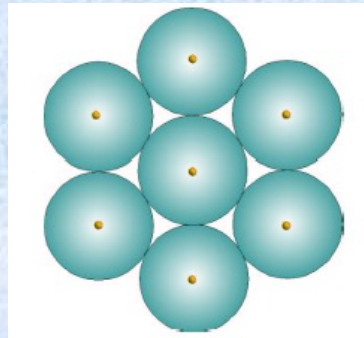


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

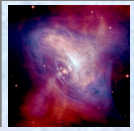
Wigner-Seitz
(WS) cell



Chamel & Haensel, Liv. Rev. Relativ. 11, 10 (2008); see also Blaschke & Chamel, ASSL 457, 337 (Springer, 2018)

Haensel et al., Neutron Star Structure 1 (Springer 2007)

- To obtain the EoS → **minimisation** $\varepsilon(n_B) = E_{WS}/V_{WS} = \min$
- One nuclear species at each density point → **one component or single nucleus approx.**
- At $T = 0$ → bcc lattice



NS crust: matter neutronisation

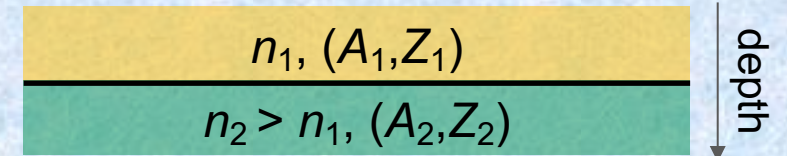
- With increasing density, matter becomes more neutron rich

$$\mu_n - \mu_p = \mu_e \quad \rightarrow \text{electron Fermi energy changes with } n_B$$

- charge neutrality: $n_e = n_p$

- Le Chatelier-Braun principle: $n_2 > n_1 \rightarrow \frac{Z_2}{A_2} > \frac{Z_1}{A_1}$

$\rightarrow \beta$ eq: n/p ratio adjust $\rightarrow$ matter gets more n rich



- When does this occur? Ignoring (Coulomb) interaction and ν mass:



$$M(A, Z)c^2 + \mu_e > M(A, Z - 1)c^2$$

$$\text{if } M(A, Z) \approx (A - Z)m_n + Zm_p \rightarrow \mu_e > (m_n - m_p)c^2$$

$$\text{if UR } e^- \rightarrow \mu_e \approx \hbar c (3\pi^2 n_e)^{1/3}$$

$$\rightarrow \rho_\beta = \frac{1}{3\pi^2} \frac{A}{Z} m_p \left(\frac{(m_n - m_p)c^2}{\hbar c} \right)^3 \sim 10^7 \frac{A}{Z} \text{ g cm}^{-3} \longrightarrow \text{first transition in NS crust}$$

Z	N	A	$\bar{n}_{\min}$	$\bar{n}_{\max}$
26	30	56	—	4.93×10^{-9}
28	34	62	5.08×10^{-9}	1.63×10^{-7}

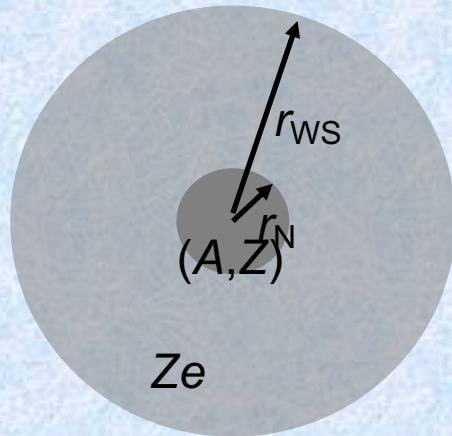
Pearson et al., MNRAS 481, 2994 (2018)



NS crust: Coulomb interaction



▪ Gauss theorem in WS cell

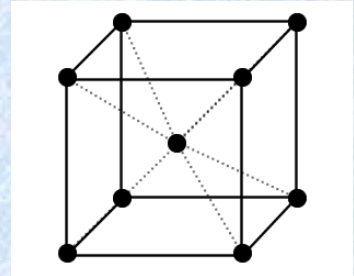


$$E_{\text{Coul}} = \frac{3}{5} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{(Ze)^2}{r_N} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{r_N}{r_{\text{WS}}} \right)^3 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{r_N}{r_{\text{WS}}} \right]$$

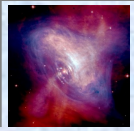
nucleus (sphere)
(Gaussian units $1/(4\pi\epsilon_0)=1$)

Lattice energy (e-e, e-N):
$$E_L = -\frac{9}{10} \frac{(Ze)^2}{r_{\text{WS}}}$$

for a bcc: $\sim 0.896 \sim 9/10$



Lattice pressure:
$$P_L = \frac{1}{3} E_L < 0 \rightarrow \text{soften the EoS}$$



NS outer crust

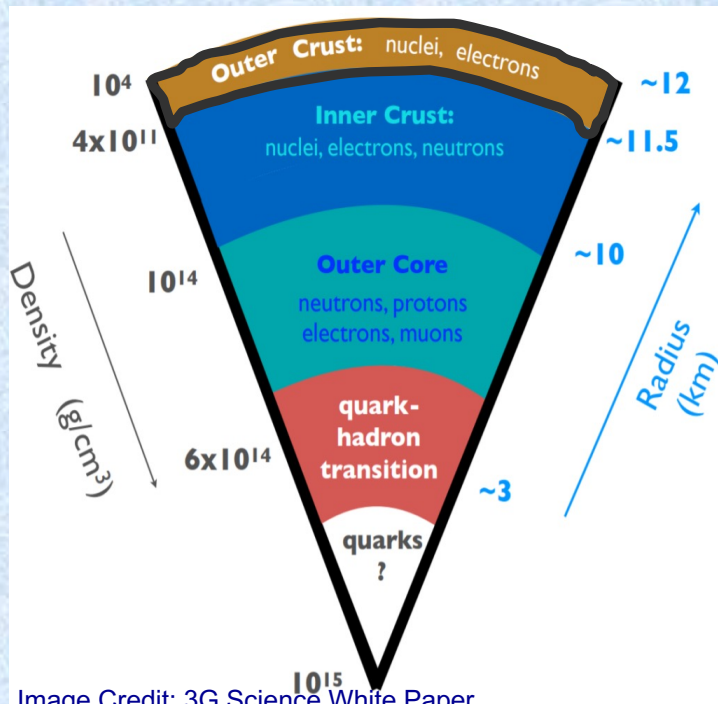
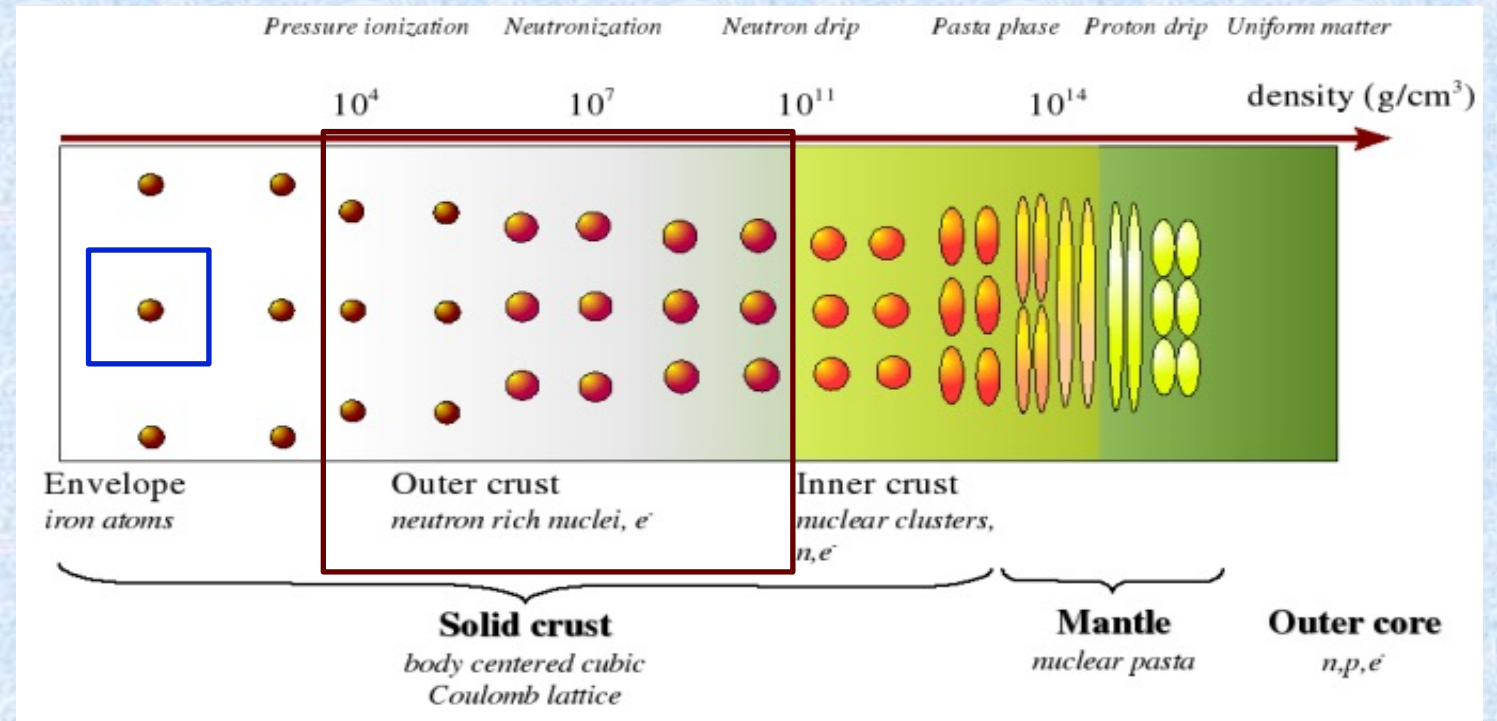
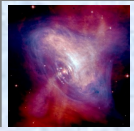


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper



Chamel & Haensel, Liv. Rev. Relativ. 11, 10 (2008); see also Blaschke & Chamel, ASSL 457, 337 (Springer, 2018)



NS outer crust (1)

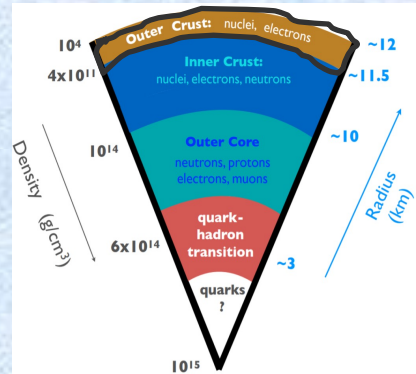
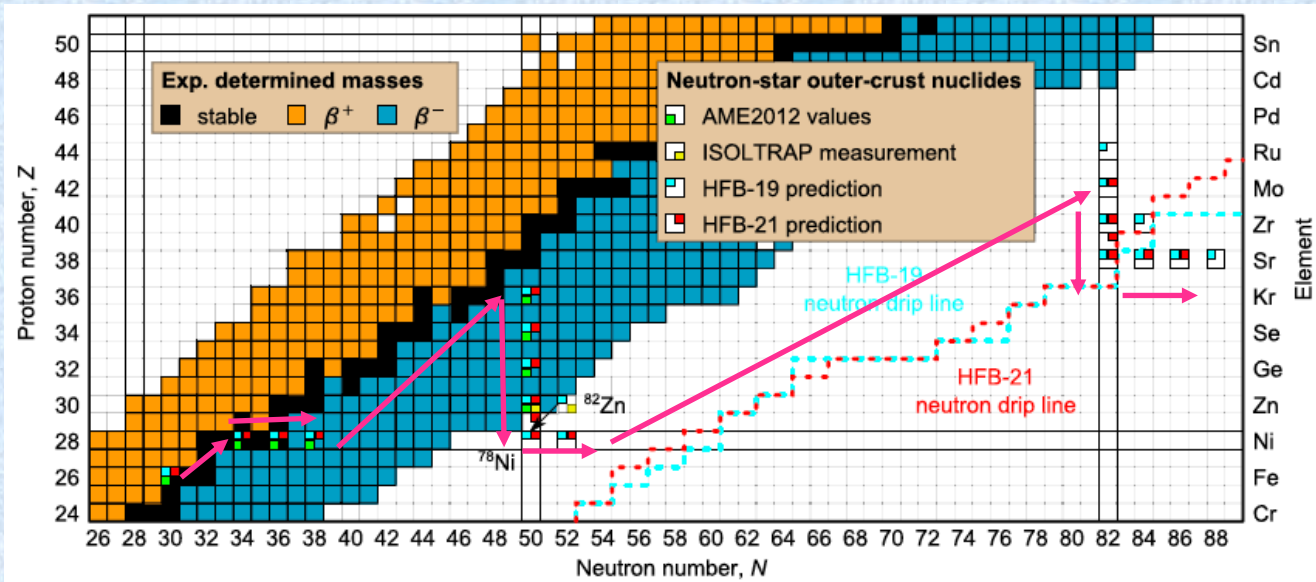


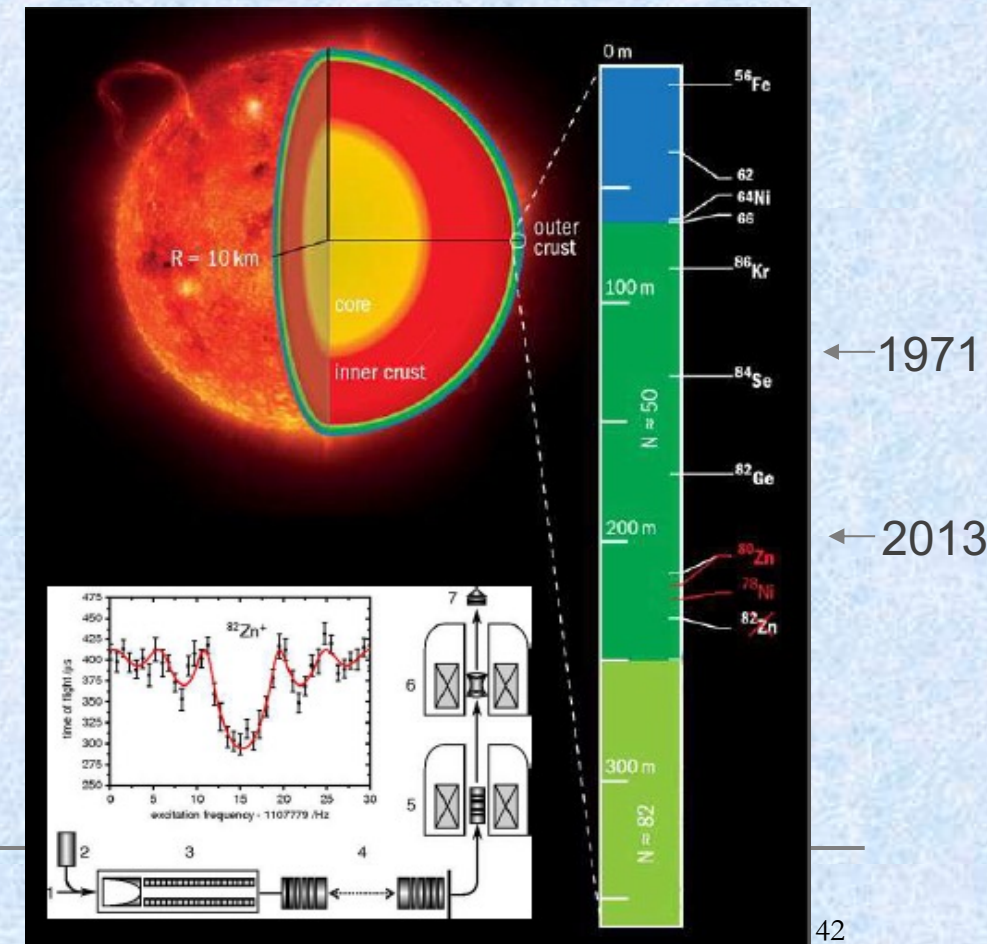
Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

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

Only microscopic inputs are nuclear masses → Experimental or mass models



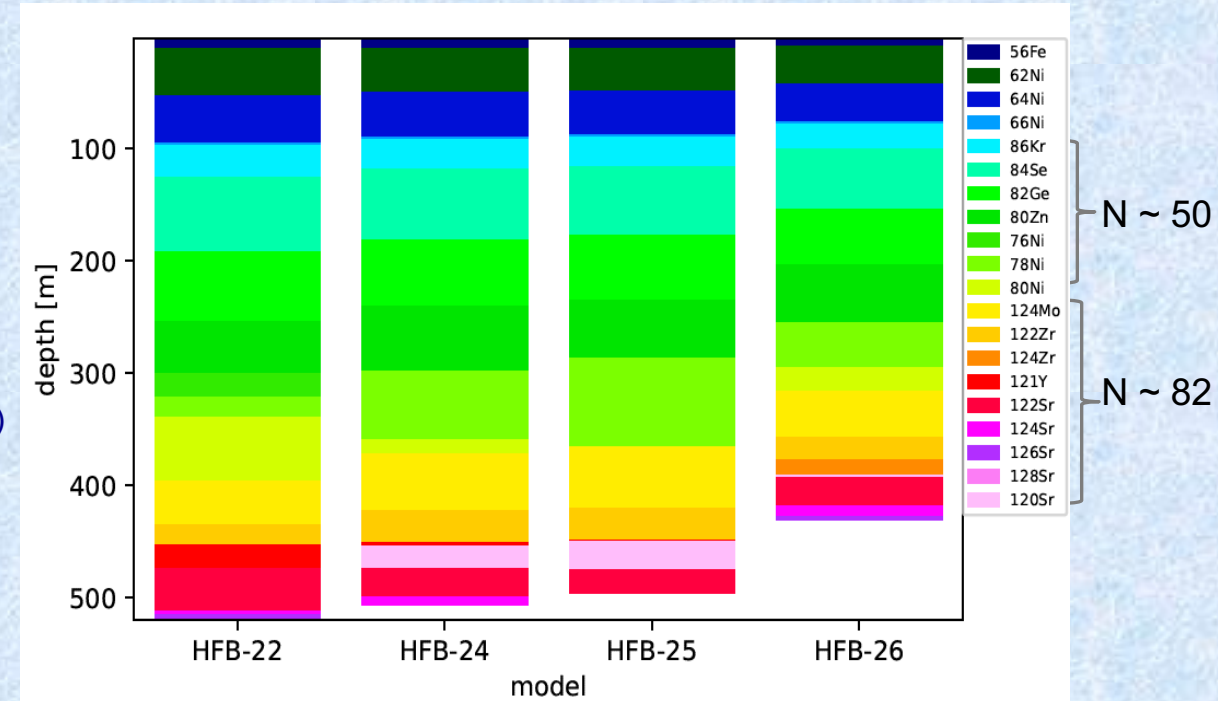
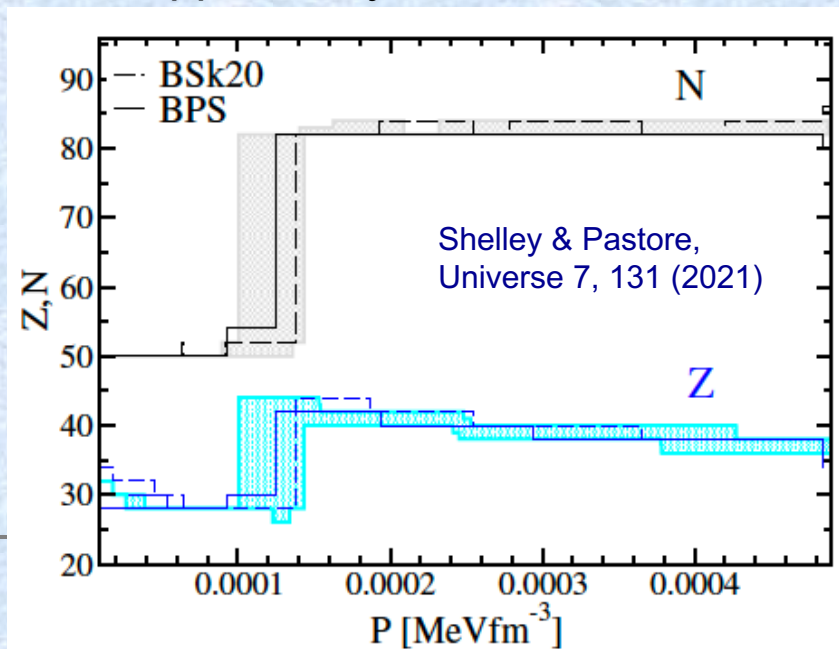
Wolf *et al.*, PRL 110, 041101 (2013) ; ISOLTRAP collaboration at CERN (^{82}Zn)

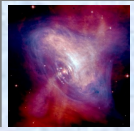




NS outer crust (2)

- Experimental info on masses → model independent results
- Beyond → nuclear mass models → model dependence
- Imprint of magic nuclei ($N \sim 50, 82$)
(less on Z because of weak equilibrium and charge neutrality, few layers with $Z=28$)
- Machine learning used to fit nuclear mass data
(e.g. Utama et al., PRC 93, 014311 (2016); Shelley & Pastore, Universe 7, 131 (2021))
but: extrapolations, applicability for inner crust and core ?





Neutron drip

- At some point, nuclei become so neutron rich $\rightarrow$ n drip out of nuclei $\rightarrow$ **neutron drip**
- In nuclear physics, neutron dripline $\rightarrow$ lightest isotope such that

$$M'(A, Z) - M'(A - 1, Z) > m_n$$
- But: nuclei (with structure effects) in a medium (background gas, lattice effects) $\rightarrow$ **dripline shifted !**
- Drip $\rightarrow$ neutrons occupy delocalised continuum states

NB: - two representations can be mapped
 - neutron superfluid fraction (i.e. those not co-moving with lattice) important for e.g. glitches, elastic properties, ...
 $\rightarrow$ “free” neutrons in e-cluster
 representation (Almirante & Urban, PRL 2025)

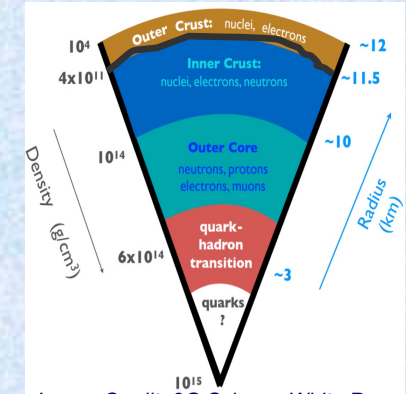


Image Credit: 3G Science White Paper

