



*Some interpretation of the
trace anomaly in dense
neutron star matter*



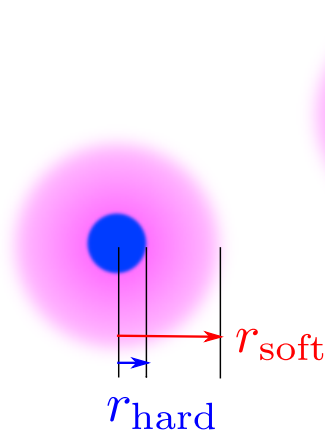
Kenji Fukushima

The University of Tokyo

— Online Seminar —

Dense Matter

How dense can nuclear matter be?



Interaction Cloud Size

$$r_{\text{soft}} \sim 1/(2m_{\pi}) \sim 0.7 \text{ fm}$$

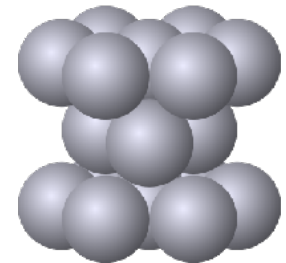
Baryon Number Distribution Size

$$r_{\text{hard}} \sim 0.5 \text{ fm}$$

Closest Packed State (hcp/fcc)

Filling rate $\sim 74\%$

$$0.74 \times \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} r_{\text{hard}}^3 \right)^{-1} \approx 1.4 \text{ fm}^{-3} \approx \boxed{8.3 n_{\text{sat}}}$$



Nuclear matter cannot exist at this density!

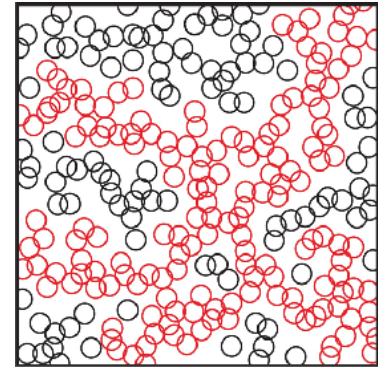
Dense Matter

How dense can nuclear matter be?

Percolation threshold

3D critical filling density $\sim 34\%$

(Excellent Wikipedia!)



(From Wikipedia)

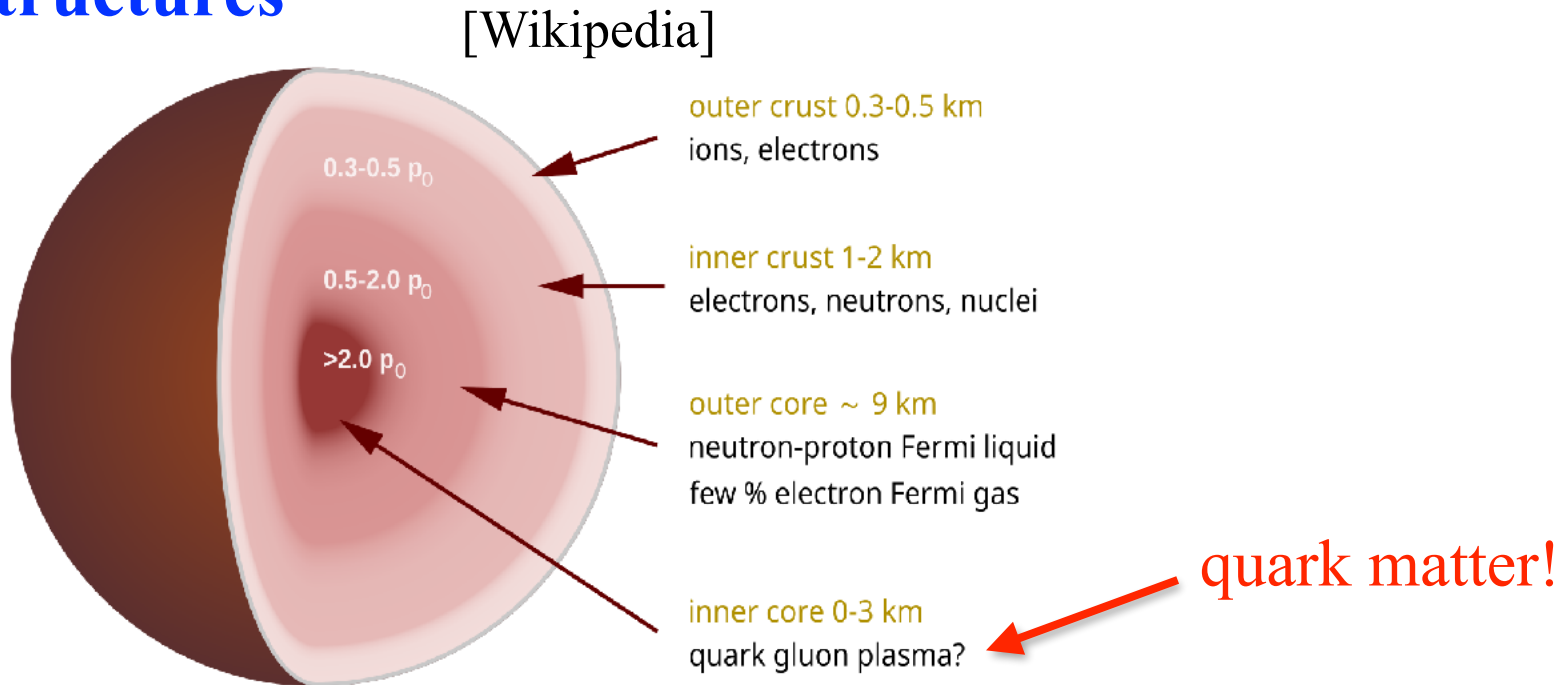
$$0.34 \times \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} r_{\text{soft}}^3 \right)^{-1} \approx 0.24 \text{ fm}^{-3} \approx 1.5 n_{\text{sat}}$$

Standard nuclear-physics calculations may break down at this density due to the lack of multi-body interactions.

See: Fukushima-Kojo-Weise (2020) for more details.

Dense Matter in NS

Structures



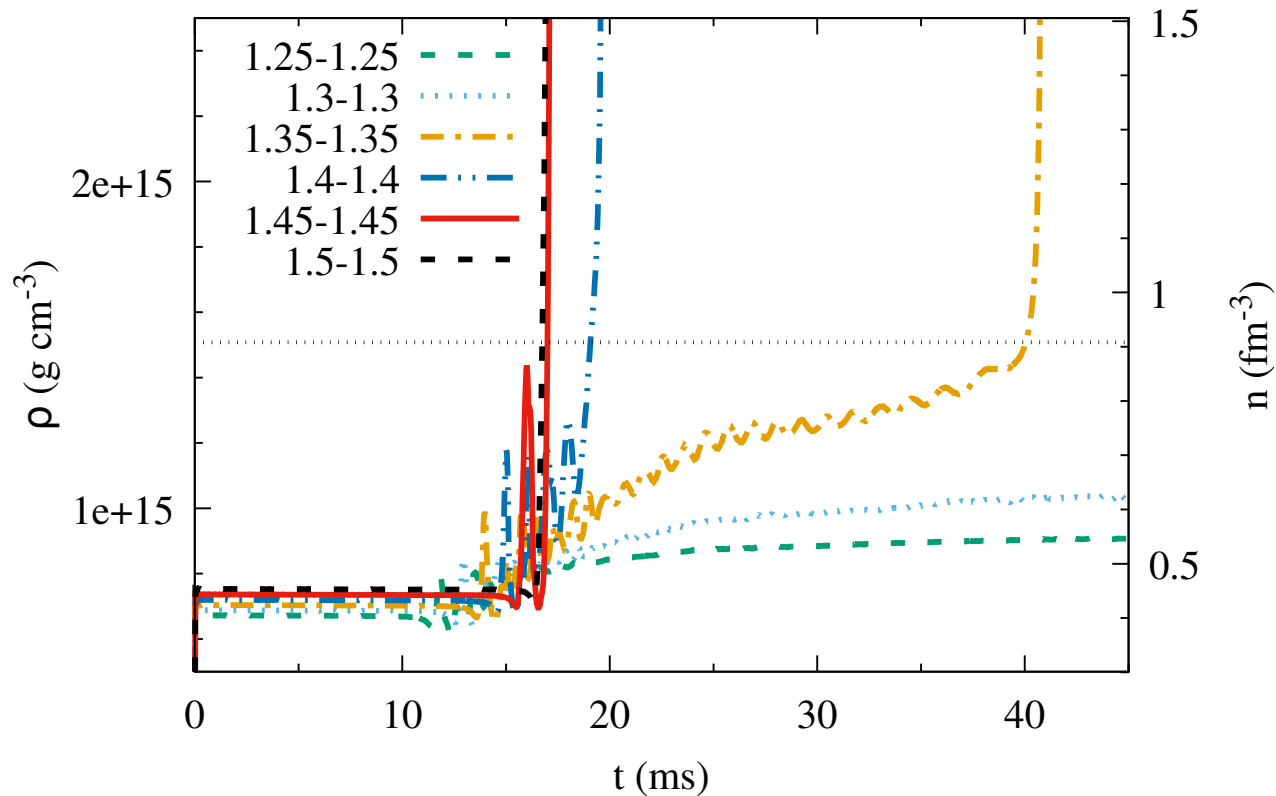
(Somebody must really correct the Wikipedia...)

The density at the deepest core can reach $> 5\rho_{\text{sat}}$ and
the binary neutron star merger can reach $> 8\rho_{\text{sat}}$

Dense Matter in NS

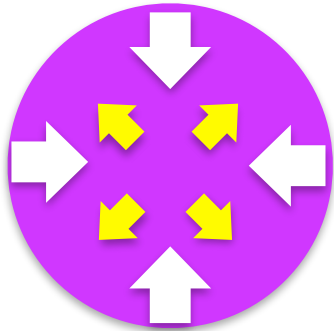
Highest accessible density

Fujimoto-Fukushima-Hotokezaka-Kyutoku (2024)



Neutron Star

Force Balance



Gravitational force is supported by the pressure from inside.

Hydrostatic condition for $r \sim r + dr$


$$\frac{dp(r)}{dr} = -G \frac{M(r)}{r^2} \varepsilon(r)$$

$M(r)$ represents the integrated mass in r -sphere.

$$\frac{dM(r)}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \varepsilon(r)$$

(In Newtonian gravity)

Neutron Star


$$\frac{dp(r)}{dr} = -G \frac{M(r) \varepsilon(r)}{r^2}$$

Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff Eq.

→
**General
Relativistic
extension**

$$\frac{dp(r)}{dr} = -G \frac{M\varepsilon}{r^2} \left(1 + \frac{p}{\varepsilon}\right) \left(1 + \frac{4\pi r^3 p}{M}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2GM}{r}\right)^{-1}$$

One condition still missing...

A relation between p and ε → Equation of State (EOS)

Initial

$$r = 0$$

$$\varepsilon(r = 0) = \varepsilon_c \quad \text{free parameter}$$

$$p(r = 0) = p_c = p(\varepsilon_c)$$

Final

$$r = R$$

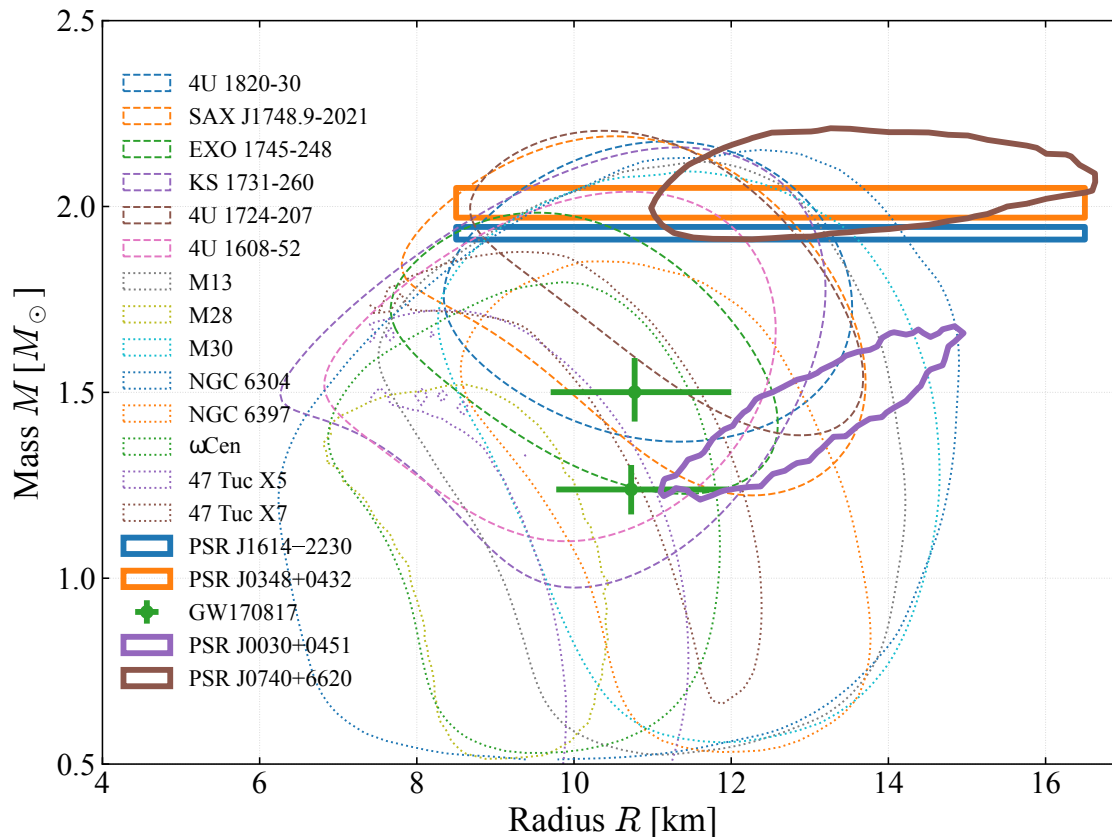
$$p(r = R) = 0$$

$$M = \int dr 4\pi r^2 \varepsilon(r)$$

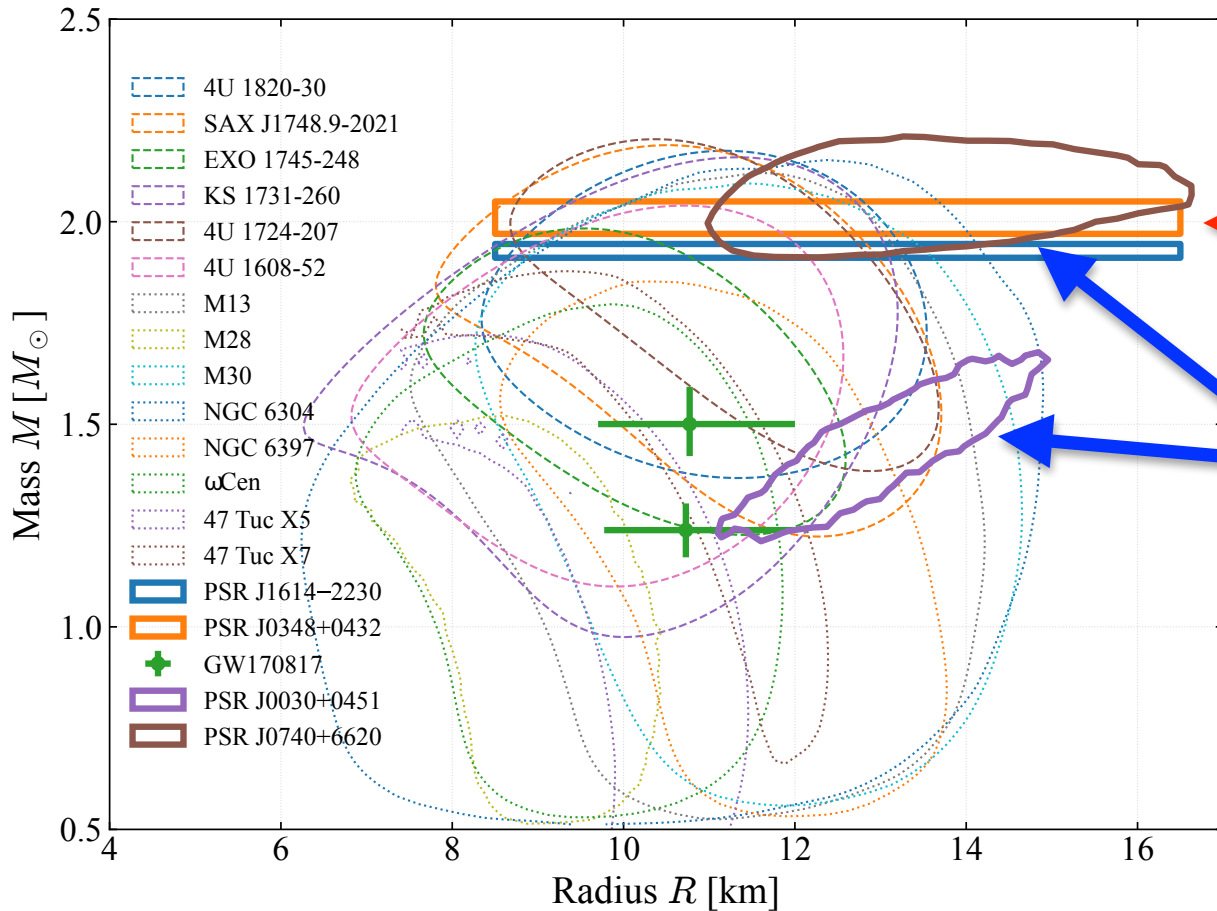
Neutron Star

Compilation of the observed data (68% Credible)

Fujimoto-Fukushima-Kamata-Murase (2024)



Neutron Star



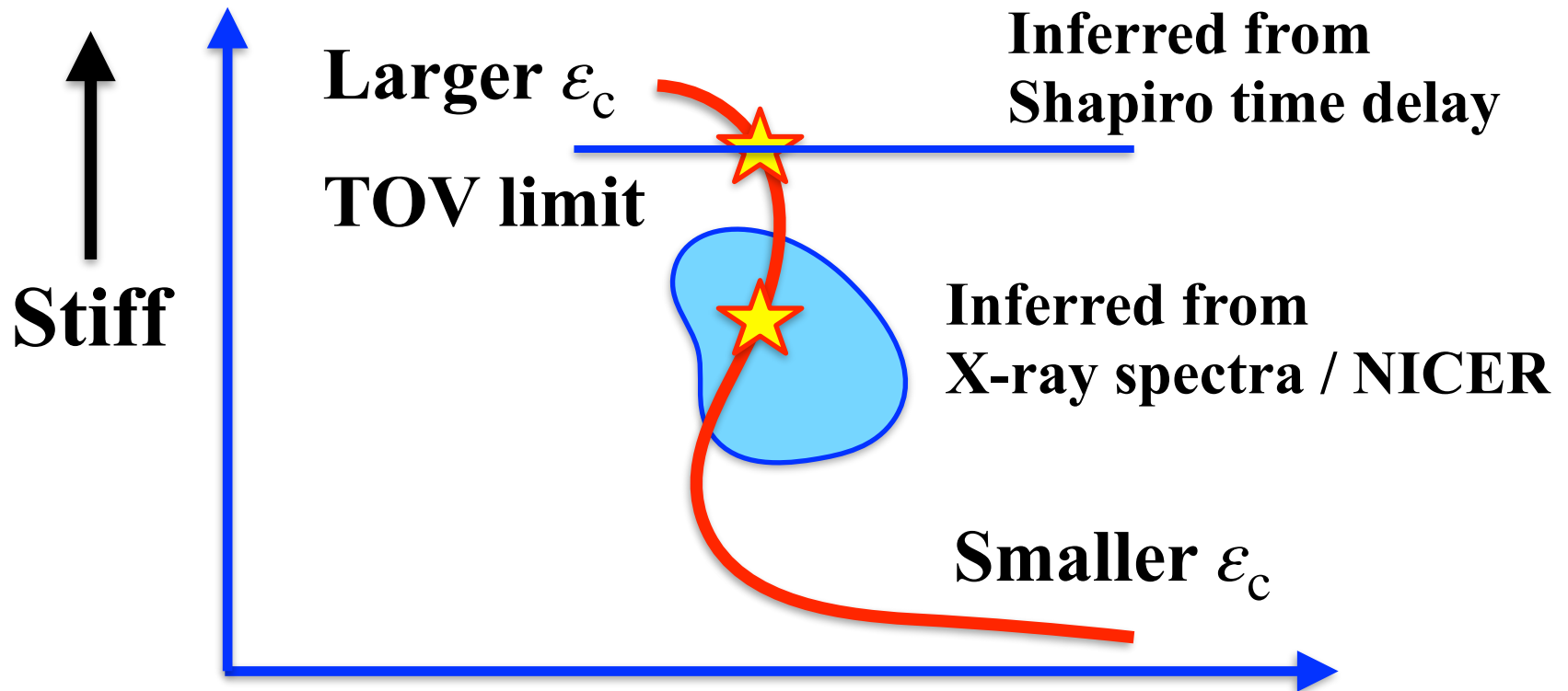
EOS must be “stiff” enough to reach the Shapiro delay observation.

Lensing and timing (NICER) constraining the gravity strength and the radius!

EOS Reconstruction



Neutron Star Mass M



Neutron Star Radius R

EOS Reconstruction

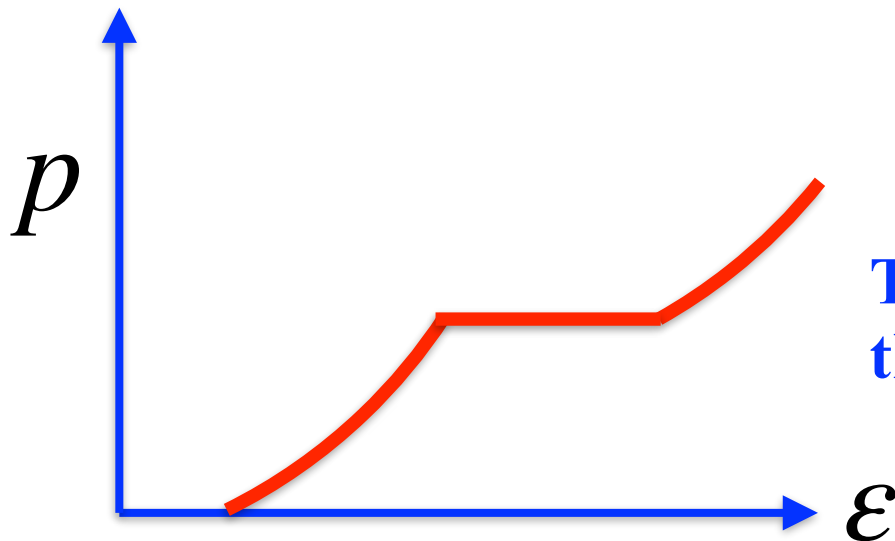


Mathematically proven:

$$p = p(\varepsilon) \longleftrightarrow M = M(R)$$

One-to-one Correspondence through TOV eq.

Lindblom (1992)

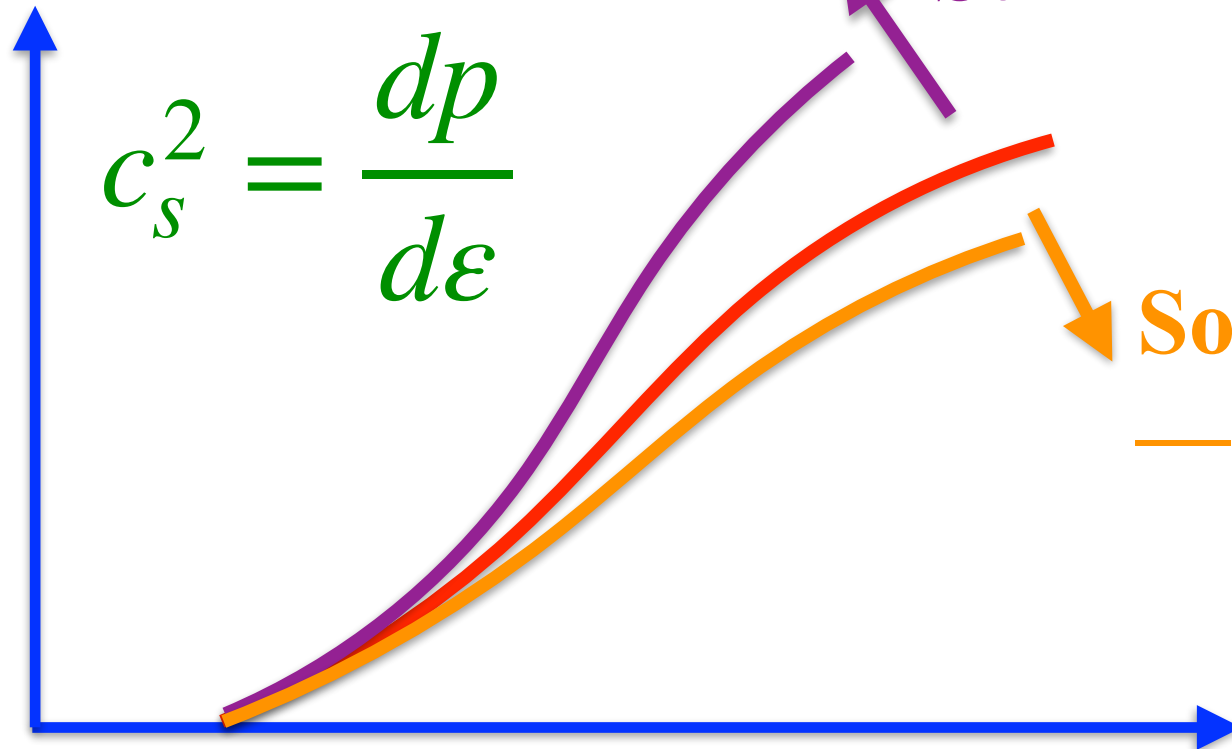


**This is the case even with
the 1st-order phase transition.**

EOS Reconstruction



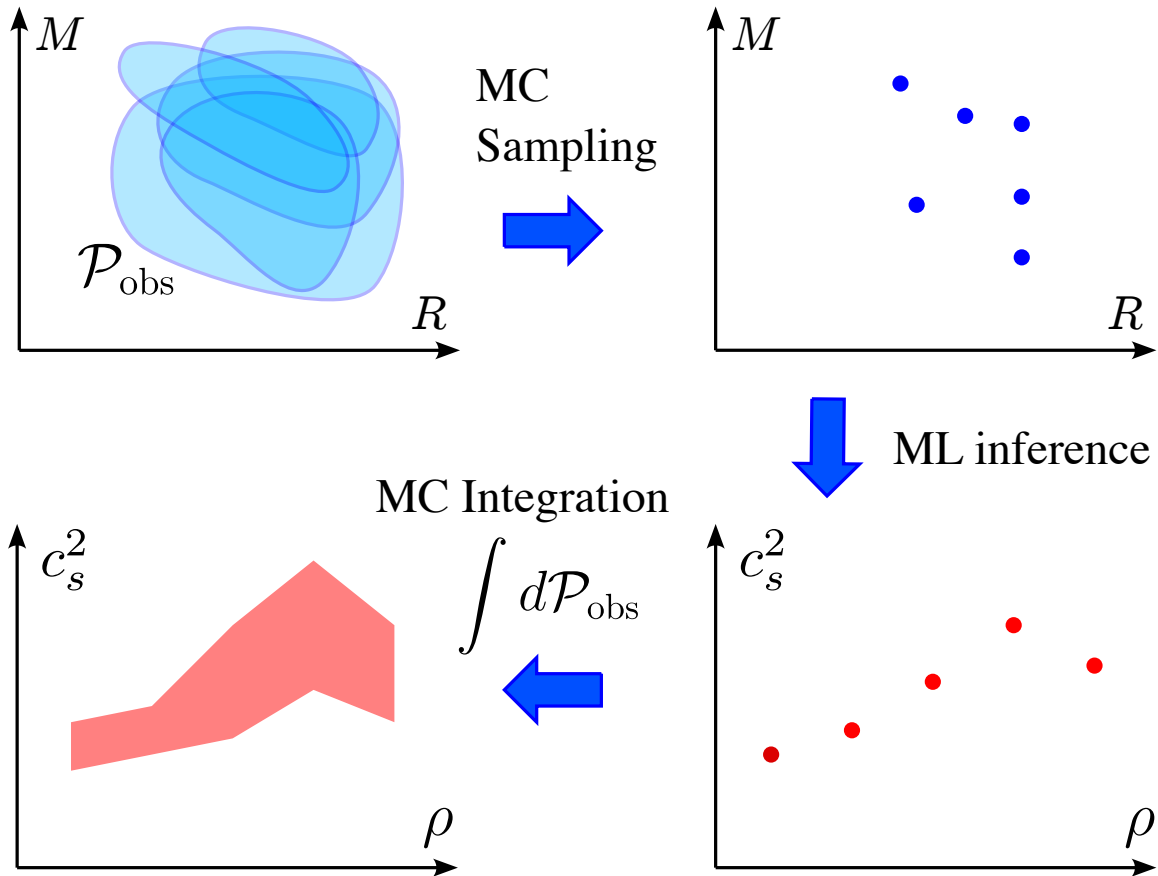
Pressure $p(\varepsilon)$



Mass-density ρ or Energy-density ε

EOS Inference Program

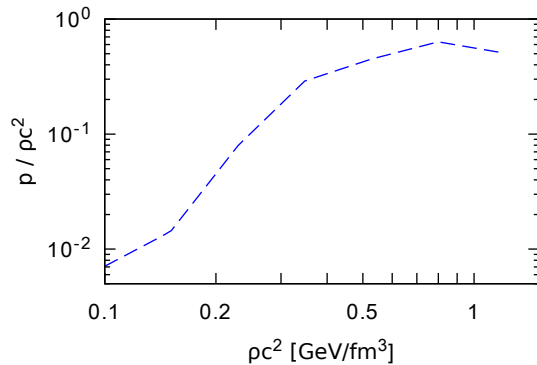
Fujimoto-Fukushima-Kamata-Murase (2018-2024)



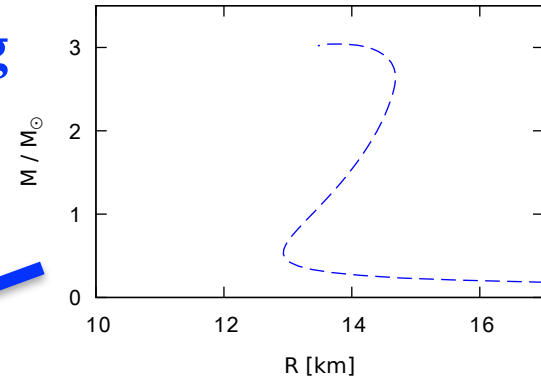
EOS Inference Program

Fujimoto-Fukushima-Kamata-Murase (2018-2024)

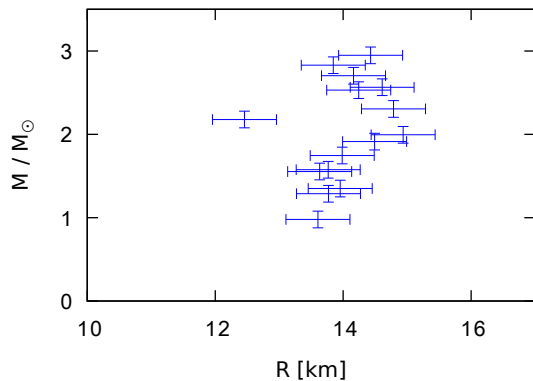
Proof of principle



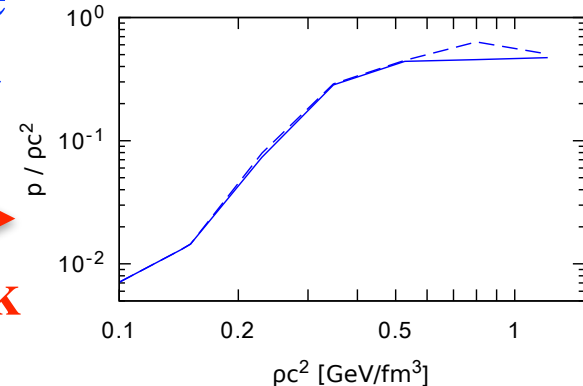
Corresponding
M-R relation



Mimic the
astro data

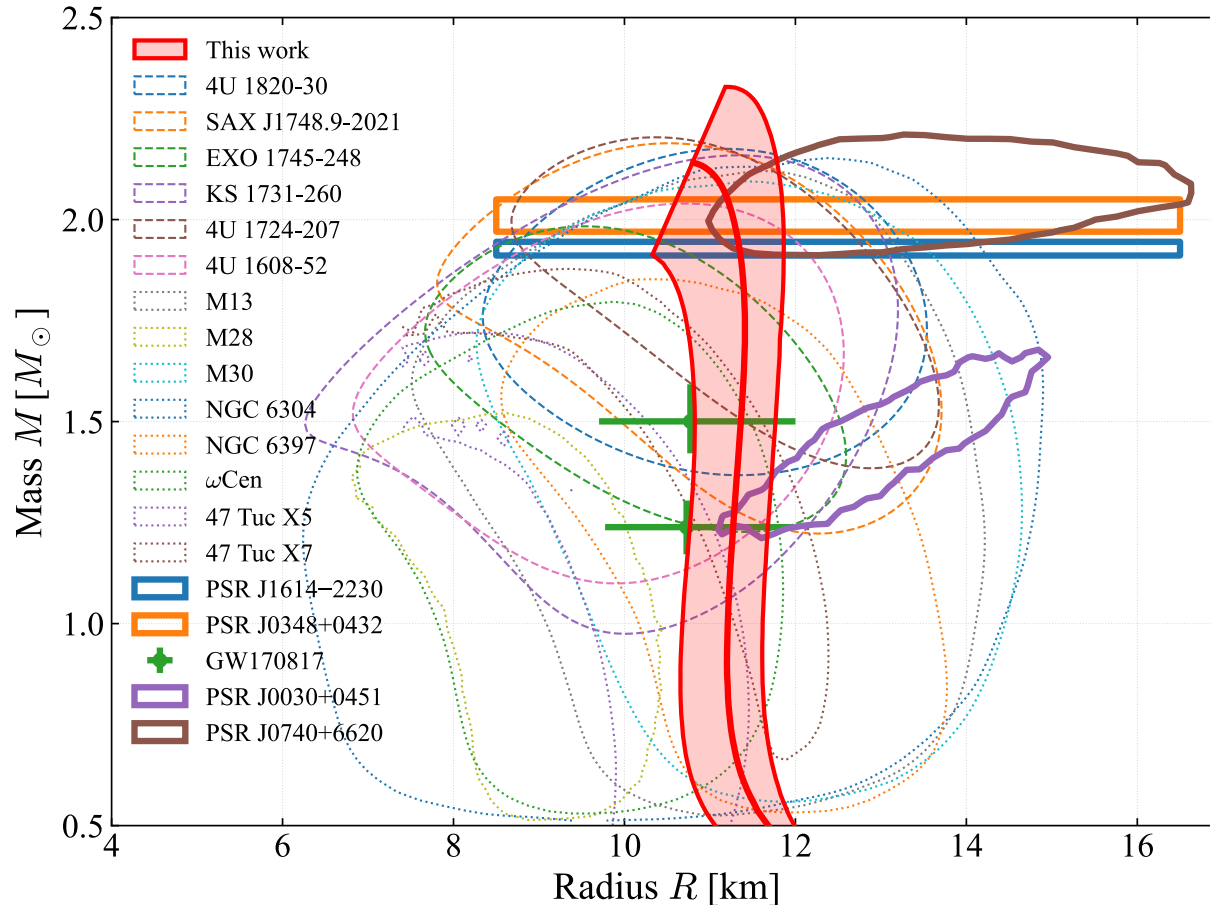


Validity check



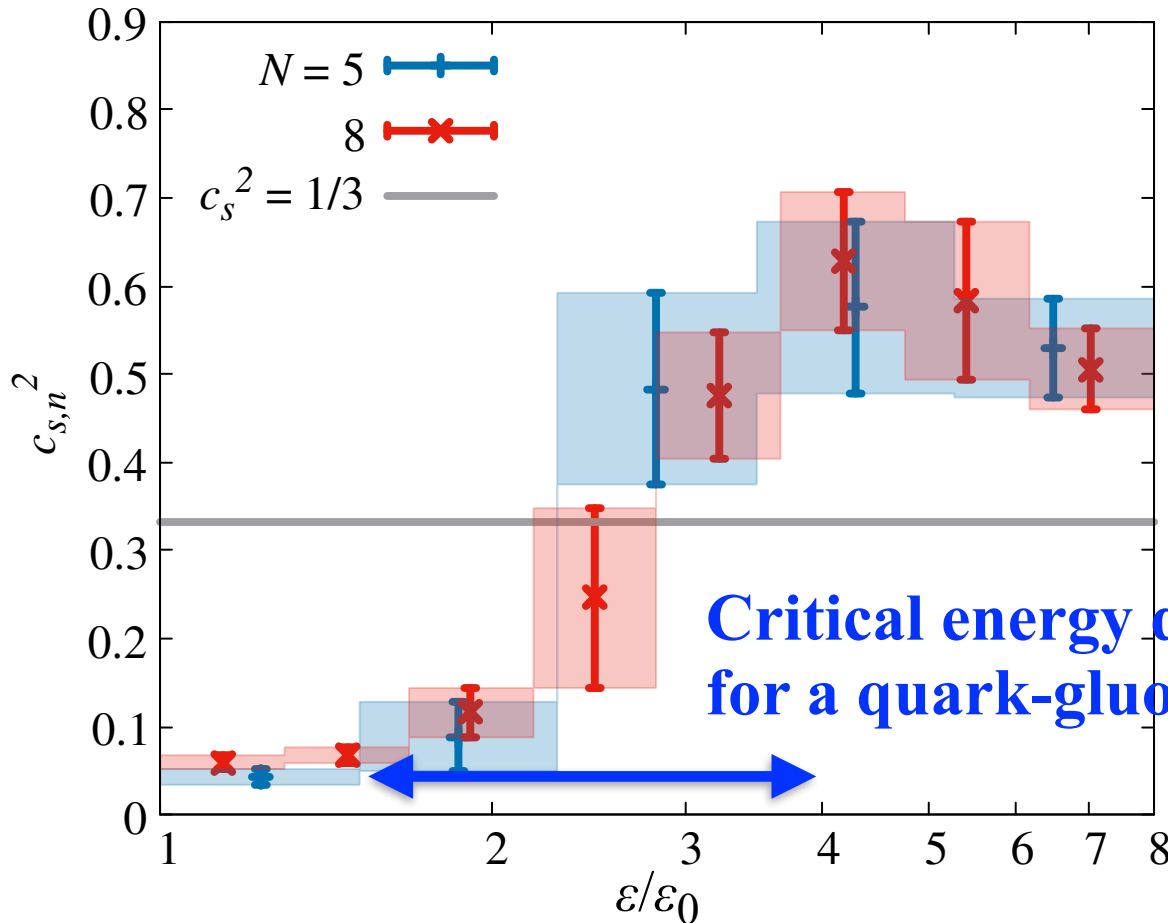
EOS Inference Program

Fujimoto-Fukushima-Kamata-Murase (2018-2024)



EOS Inference Program

Fujimoto-Fukushima-Kamata-Murase (2018-2024)



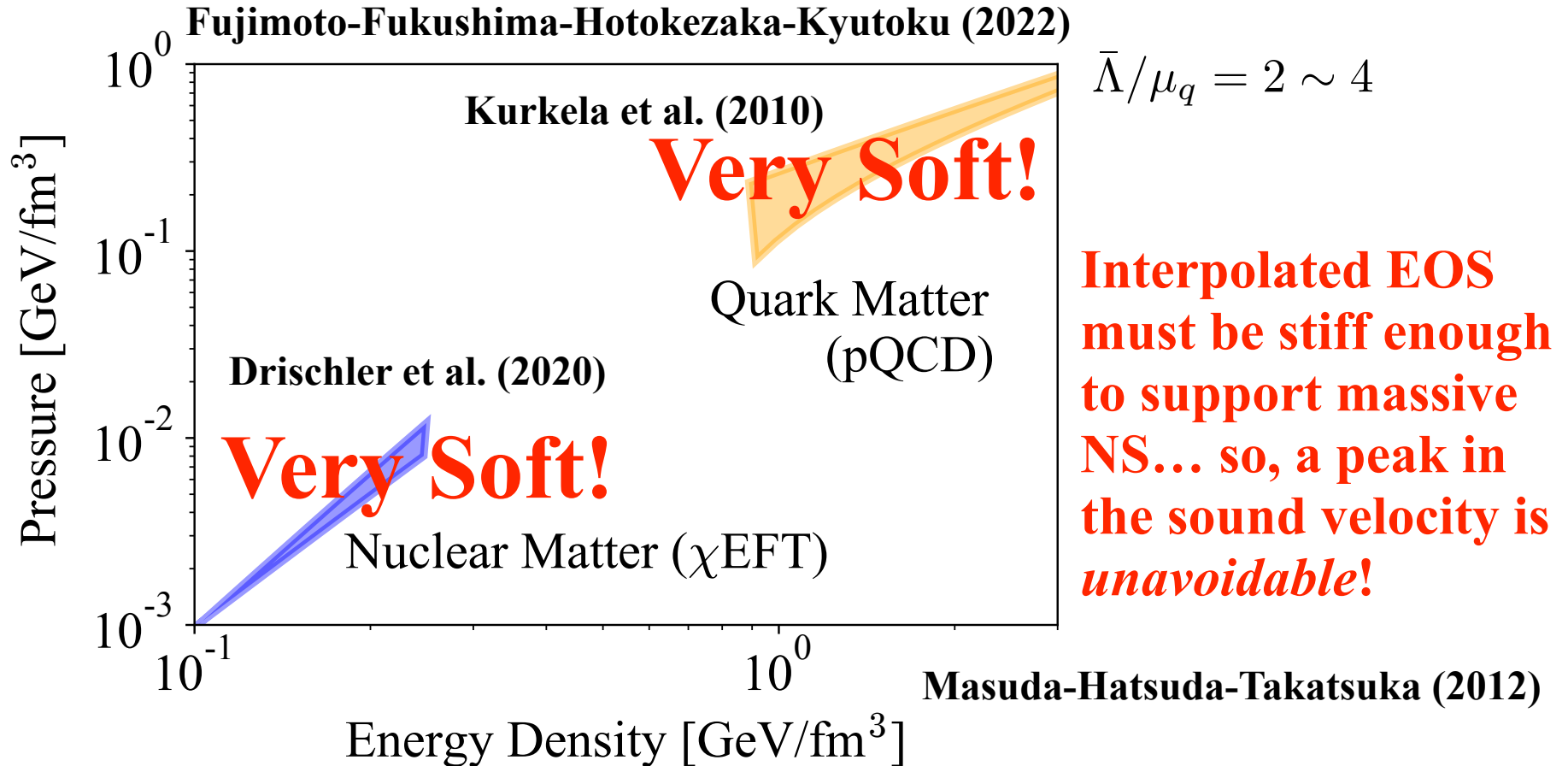
**Not minimum,
but maximum!?**

**Critical energy density
for a quark-gluon plasma**

$$\epsilon_0 = 150 \text{ MeV fm}^{-3}$$

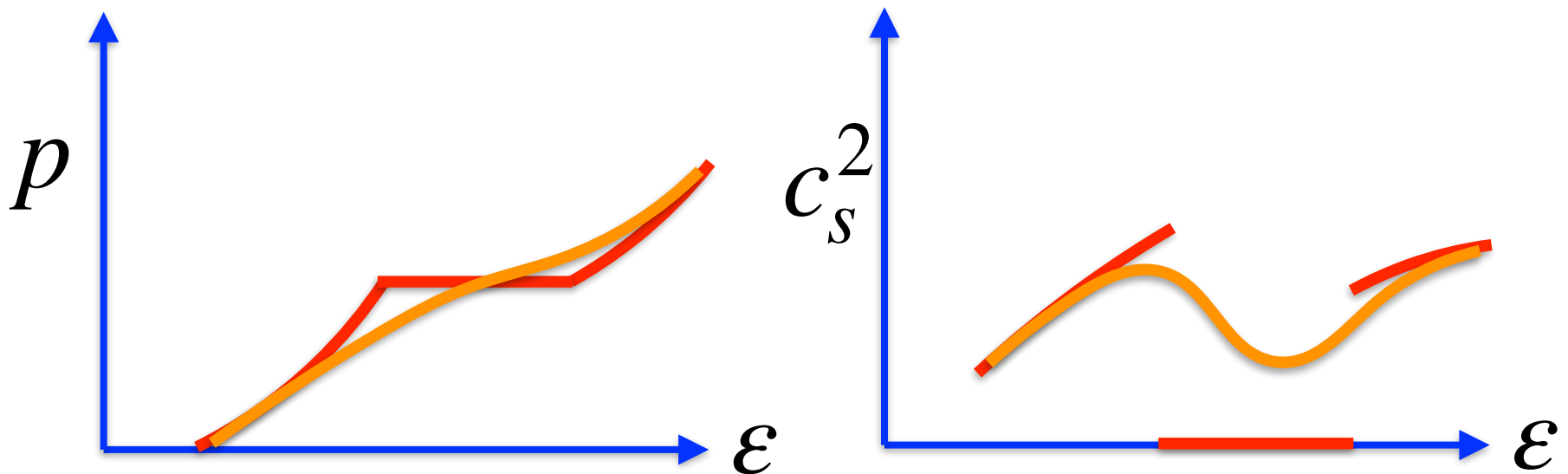
Interpretation ?

Interpolation between Low and High Density Regions



Interpretation ?

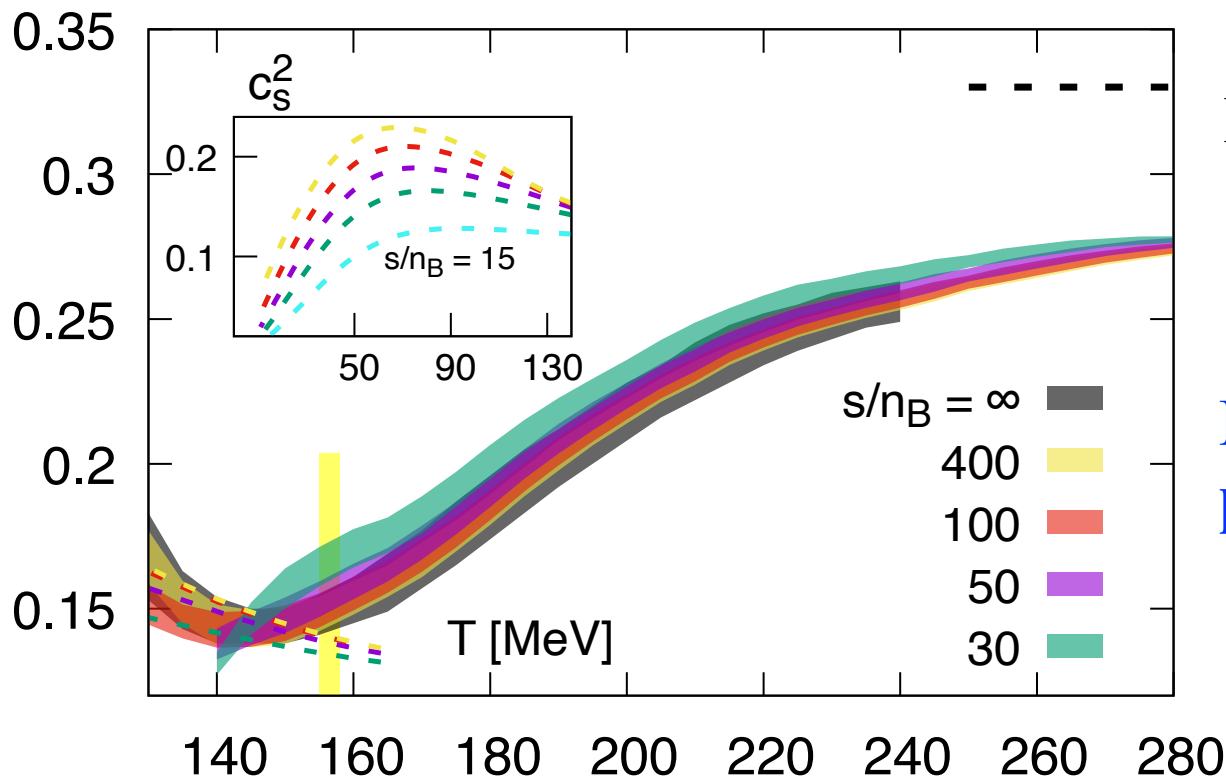
[1st-order-like EoS]



Phase transition is manifested by a minimum in the speed of sound.

Interpretation ?

[High-Temperature QCD — QGP Crossover]



**HotQCD Collab.
(2212.09043)**

**Minimum around
phase transition**

Interpretation ?

Fujimoto-Fukushima-McLerran-Praszalowicz (2022)

Measure of conformality:

$$\Delta = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{p}{\varepsilon}$$

$$c_s^2 = \frac{dp}{d\varepsilon} = c_{s, \text{deriv}}^2 + c_{s, \text{non-deriv}}^2$$

Gvai-Gupta-Mukherjee (2004)

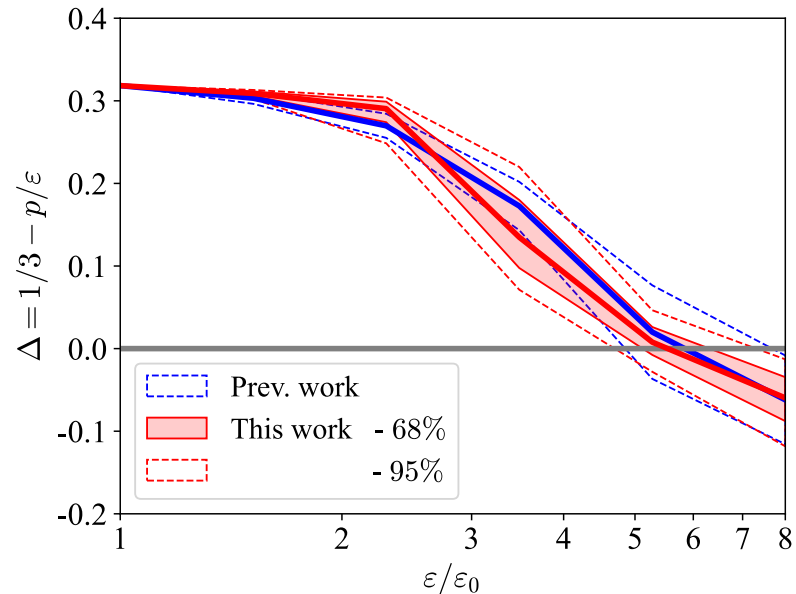
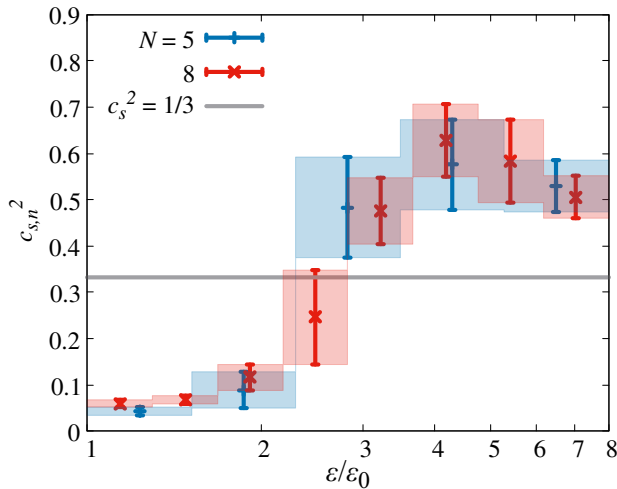
$$c_{s, \text{deriv}}^2 = -\varepsilon \frac{d\Delta}{d\varepsilon} \quad c_{s, \text{non-deriv}}^2 = \frac{1}{3} - \Delta$$

Derivative

Non-Derivative

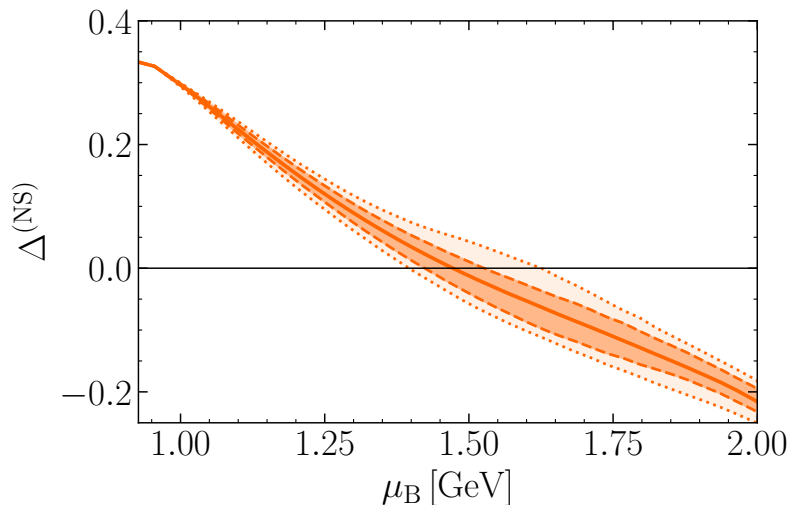
Dominant at high density making a peak!

Interpretation ?



Brandes-Fukushima-Iida-Yu (2024)

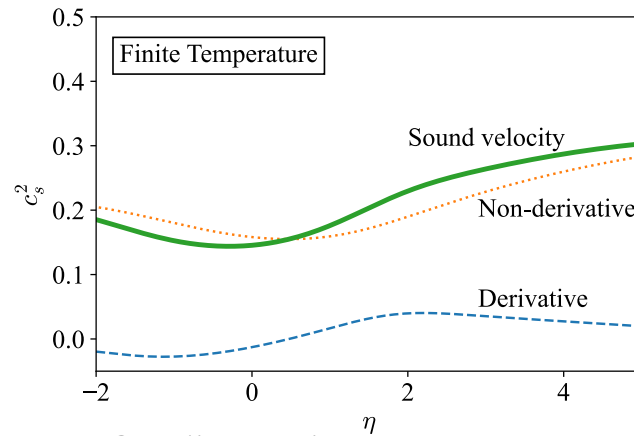
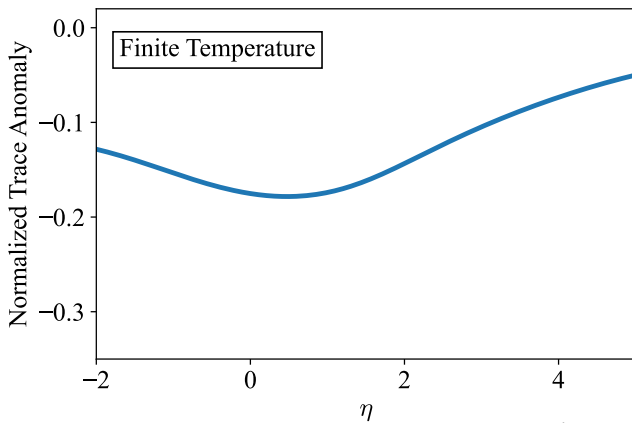
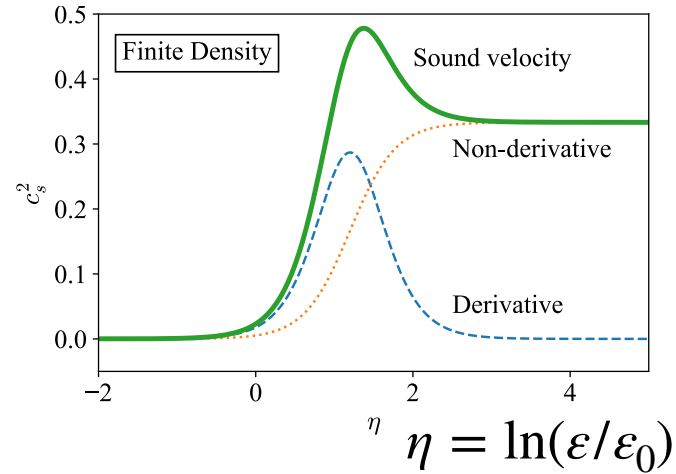
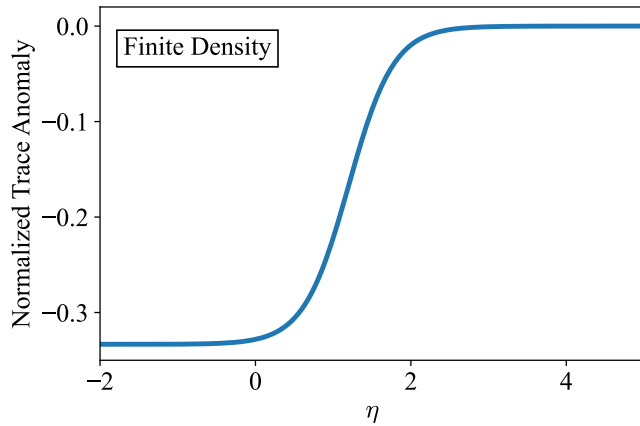
Newer analysis suggests that the trace anomaly goes negative!



Interpretation ?

Derivative contribution makes a peak structure!

Sign Flipped — Δ

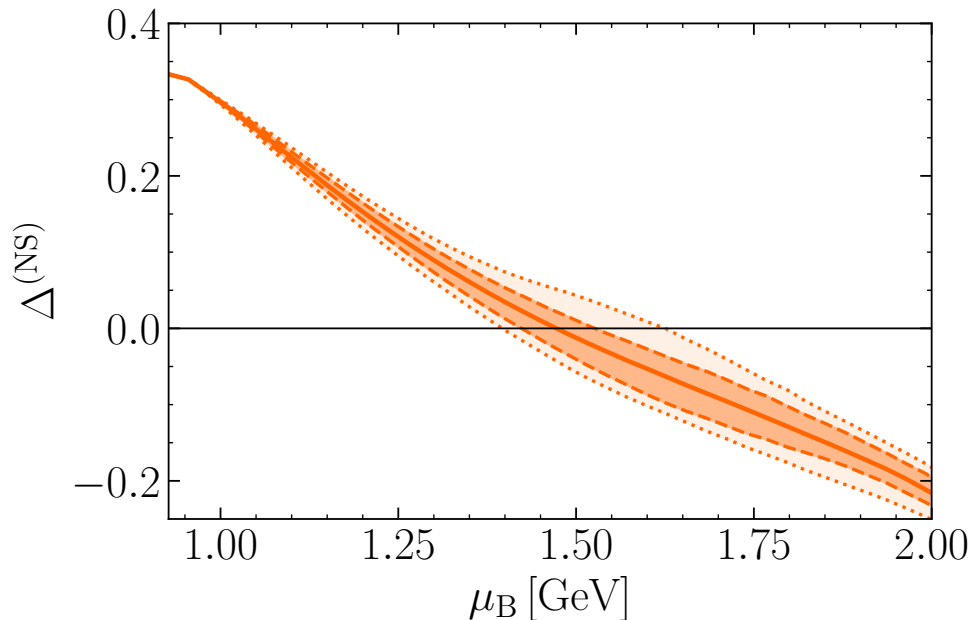


Speed of Sound

Interpretation ??



Interesting question... $\Delta < 0$???



$$\Delta \propto \varepsilon - 3p$$

$$\propto \frac{d}{d\mu} \left(\frac{p}{\mu^4} \right)$$

**Thermodynamic
degrees of freedom**

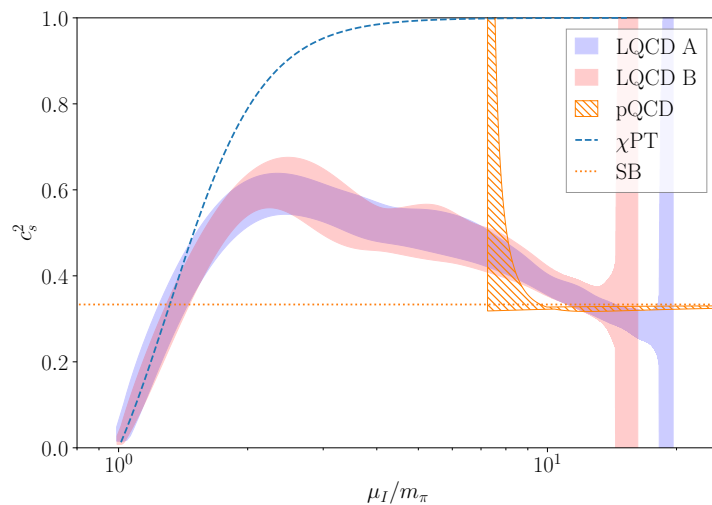
**Negative trace anomaly implies
the presence of “condensates”!?**

Interpretation ??

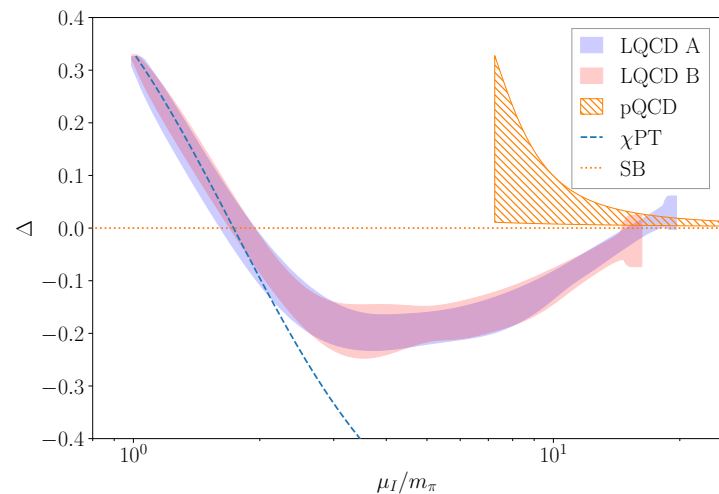
Lesson from high-isospin matter

Abbott+ (2023)

[Speed of sound peak]



[Negative trace anomaly]



$$p_{\chi\text{PT}} = \frac{f_\pi^2 \mu_I^2}{2} \left(1 - \frac{m_\pi^2}{\mu_I^2} \right)^2$$

Pressure from the condensates

Interpretation ??

Quick derivation

Son-Stephanov (2001)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{f_\pi^2}{4} \text{Tr} \nabla_\nu \Sigma \nabla_\nu \Sigma^\dagger - \frac{m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2}{2} \text{Re Tr} \Sigma$$

$$\nabla_0 \Sigma = \partial_0 \Sigma - \frac{\mu_I}{2} (\tau_3 \Sigma - \Sigma \tau_3)$$

$$\pi^0 = 0, \quad \pi^\pm \neq 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \bar{\Sigma} = \cos \alpha + i(\tau_1 \cos \phi + \tau_2 \sin \phi) \sin \alpha$$

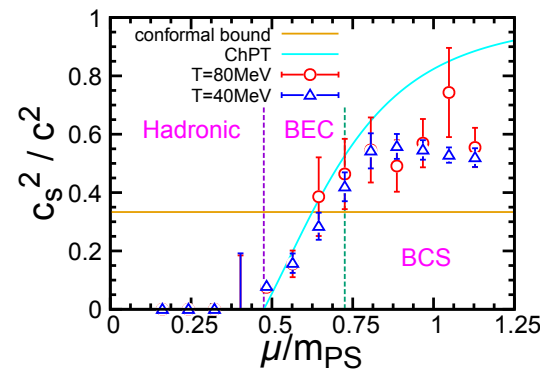
$$F = -\frac{f_\pi^2}{2} \mu_I^2 \sin^2 \alpha - m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 \cos \alpha \quad \longrightarrow \quad \cos \alpha = m_\pi^2 / \mu_I^2$$

$$\longrightarrow F = -\frac{f_\pi^2}{2} \mu_I^2 \left(1 + \frac{m_\pi^4}{\mu_I^4} \right)$$

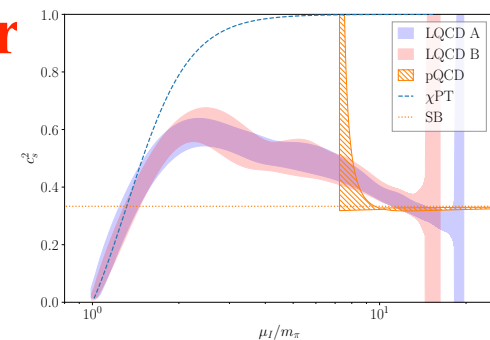
Perturbative Approaches

We should conduct extensive studies of the condensation effects on the speed of sound *perturbatively* for...

* **Diquark superfluid in QC_2D**
To be compared with
Lattice: Itou+ (2023-2024)



* **Pion-condensed high-isospin matter**
To be compared with
Lattice: Abbott+ (2023)

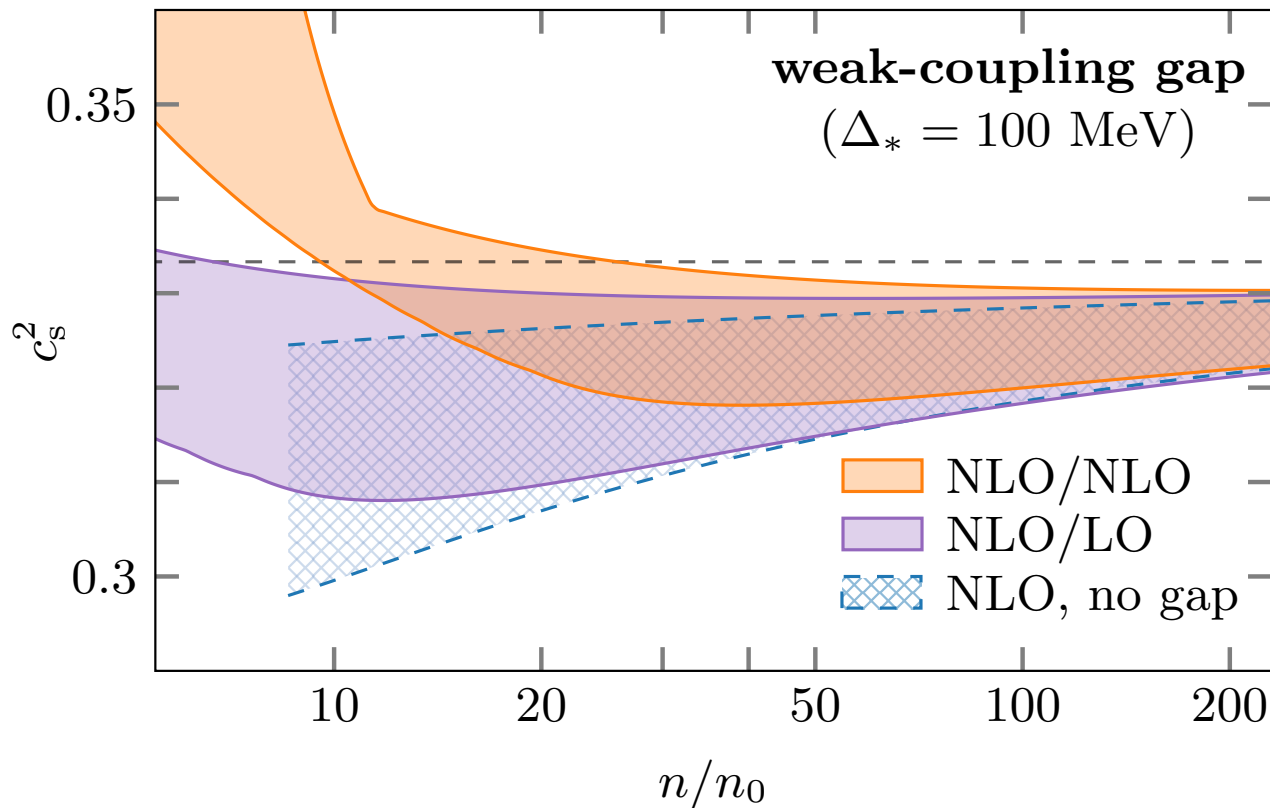


* **Two-flavor color-superconducting (2SC) matter**

Perturbative Approaches

Geissel-Gorda-Braun (2024)

* **Two-flavor color-superconducting (2SC) matter**



Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Perturbative master formula:

$$c_s^2 - \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{-\frac{5}{36} \mu \frac{\partial \gamma_0(g)}{\partial \mu}} + \frac{\gamma_1(g)}{18} \\ \times \left\{ 2 \frac{\Delta^2}{\mu^2} - \frac{\Delta}{\mu} \frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \mu} - \left(\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \mu} \right)^2 - \Delta \frac{\partial^2 \Delta}{\partial \mu^2} \right\}$$

$$\gamma_0(g) = 1 - \frac{g^2}{2\pi^2} \longrightarrow$$

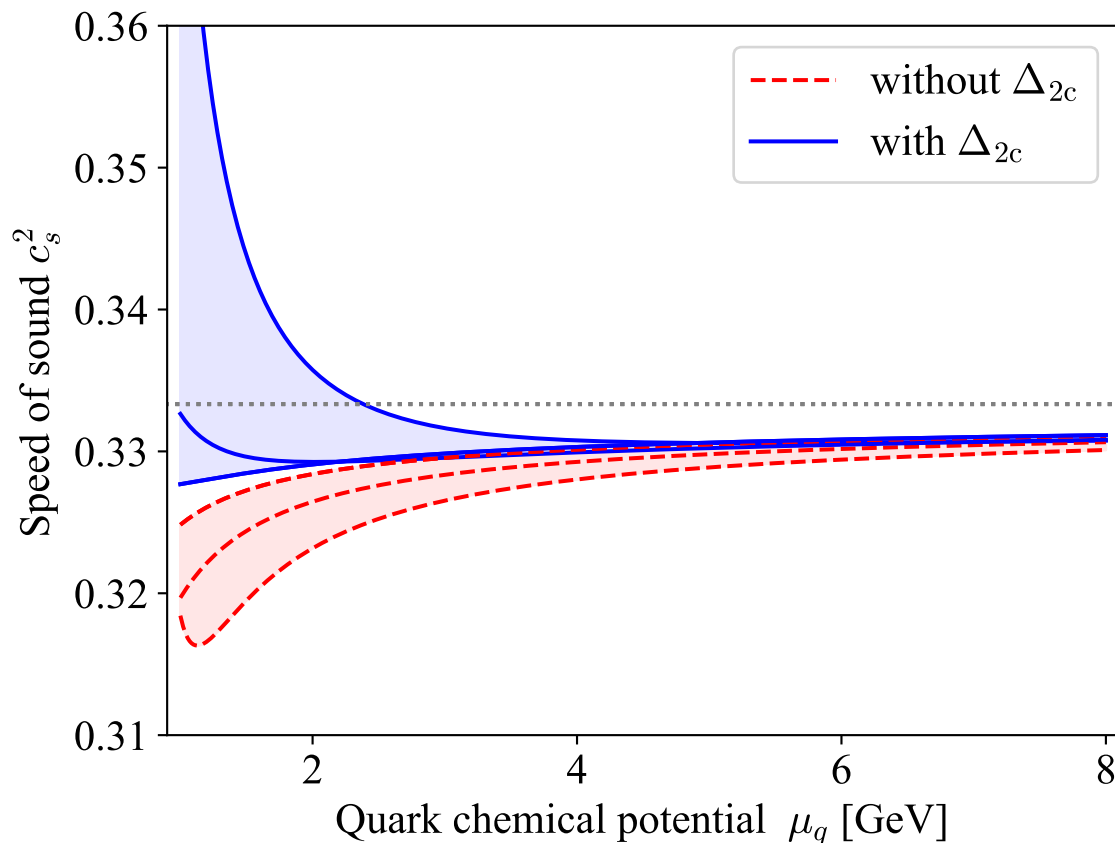
NLO correction without condensate is negative!

Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

*** Diquark superfluid in QC₂D**

**Looks pretty good!
Condensate makes it.**

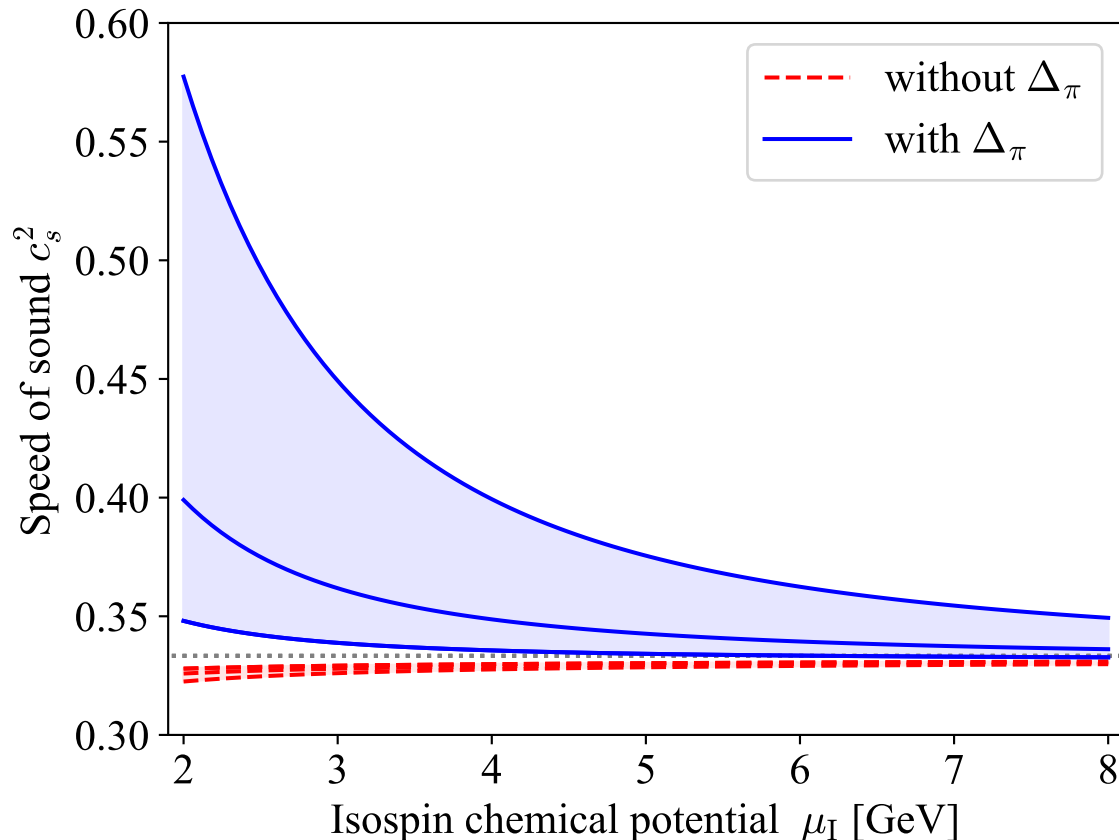


Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

*** Pion-condensed high-isospin matter**

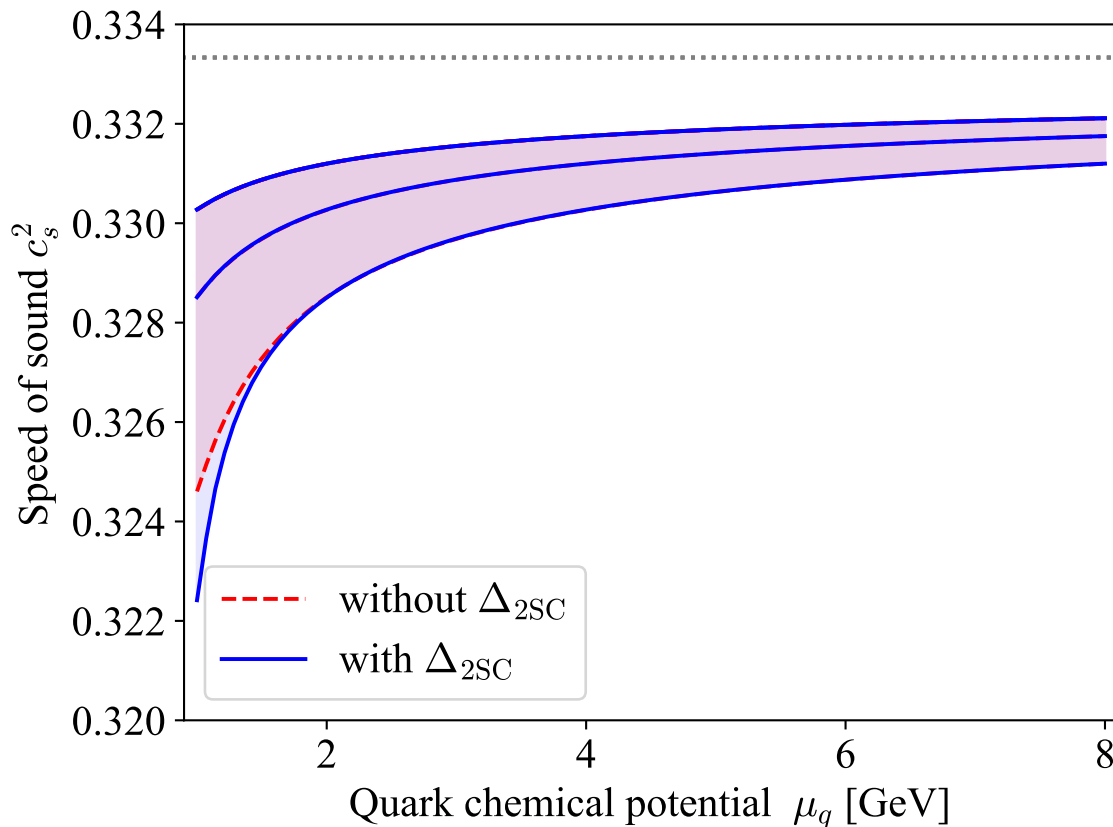
Tendency is as expected!



Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

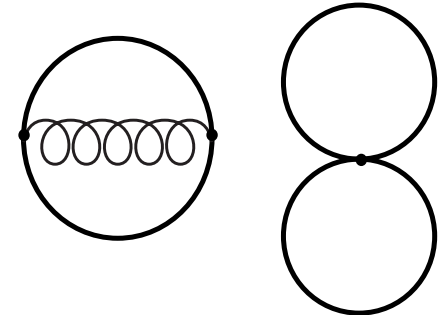
* 2SC quark matter



Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Framework is common — gap equation



$$\bar{\Delta}_\alpha(\nu) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty d\nu' \left[h_{1,\alpha} g^2 \ln \left(\frac{b}{\sqrt{|\nu^2 - \nu'^2|}} \right) + h_{2,\alpha} \bar{G} \right] Z^2(\nu') \frac{\bar{\Delta}_\alpha(\nu')}{\sqrt{\nu'^2 + \bar{\Delta}_\alpha(\nu')^2}}$$

$$\Delta_\alpha \sim \mu e^{-\pi^2 / 2 \sqrt{h_{1,\alpha} g}}$$

$$Z(\nu)^{-1} = 1 + \frac{g^2}{24\pi^2} C_F \ln \left(\frac{\pi \bar{m}_D^2}{4\nu^2} \right)$$

α	$c_{1,\alpha}^F$	$c_{g,\alpha}^F$	$h_{1,\alpha}$	$h_{2,\alpha}$
2SC	$3 \frac{2}{N_c}$	$\frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\frac{2N_c}{N_c+1}}$	$\frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{N_c} \right)$	$\frac{2N_f}{8N_c(N_c-1)}$
2c	3	$\frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\frac{2N_c}{N_c+1}}$	$\frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{N_c} \left(1 + \frac{1}{N_c} \right)$	$\frac{N_c N_f}{8N_c(N_c-1)}$
π	3	$\frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{C_F}}$	$\frac{1}{12} C_F$	$\frac{2N_f N_c}{8N_c^2}$

Approximations lead to a factor difference.

Perturbative Approaches



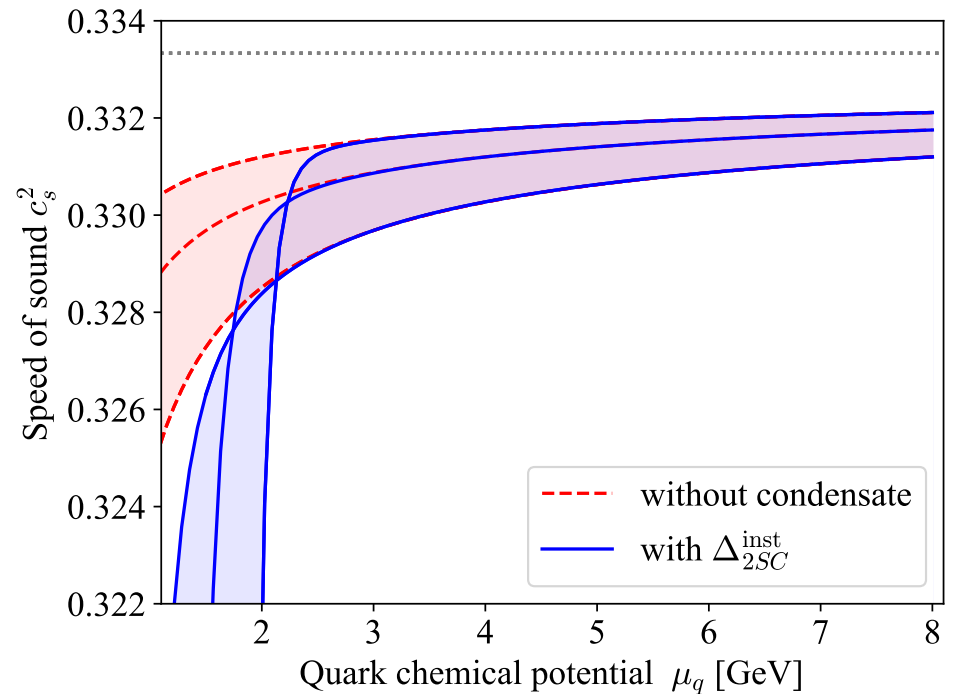
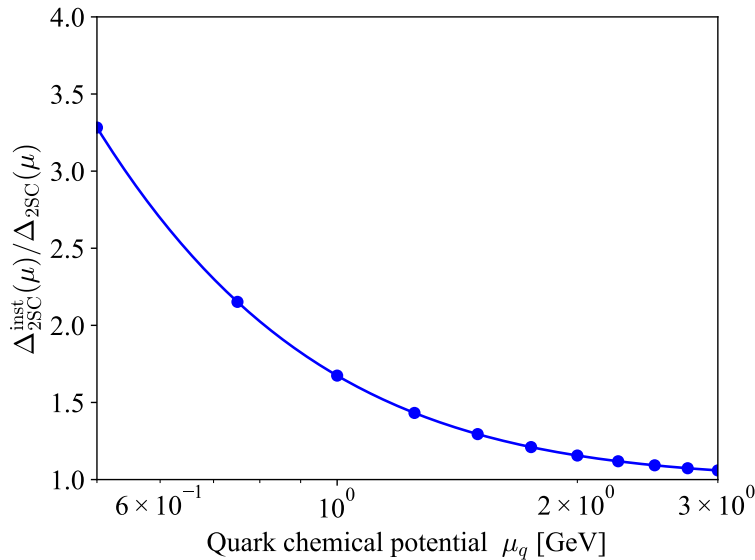
Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Instanton-induced interaction?



Even worse!?

Factor larger condensates



Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Subtle balance seem from

$$c_s^2 - \frac{1}{3} = -\frac{5}{36} \mu \frac{\partial \gamma_0(g)}{\partial \mu} + \frac{\gamma_1(g)}{18} \times \left\{ 2 \frac{\Delta^2}{\mu^2} - \frac{\Delta}{\mu} \frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \mu} - \left(\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \mu} \right)^2 - \Delta \frac{\partial^2 \Delta}{\partial \mu^2} \right\}$$

Even if the condensate develops large, almost no correction for $\Delta/\mu \sim \partial\Delta/\partial\mu$, or the overall sign could be flipped.

Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Cancellation **NOT** seen in the trace anomaly:

$$\mathfrak{T} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{p}{\epsilon}$$

Positive $\approx \frac{\mu}{9} \frac{\partial \gamma_0(g)}{\partial \mu} - \frac{2}{9} \gamma_1(g) \frac{\Delta}{\mu} \left(\frac{\Delta}{\mu} - \frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \mu} \right)$

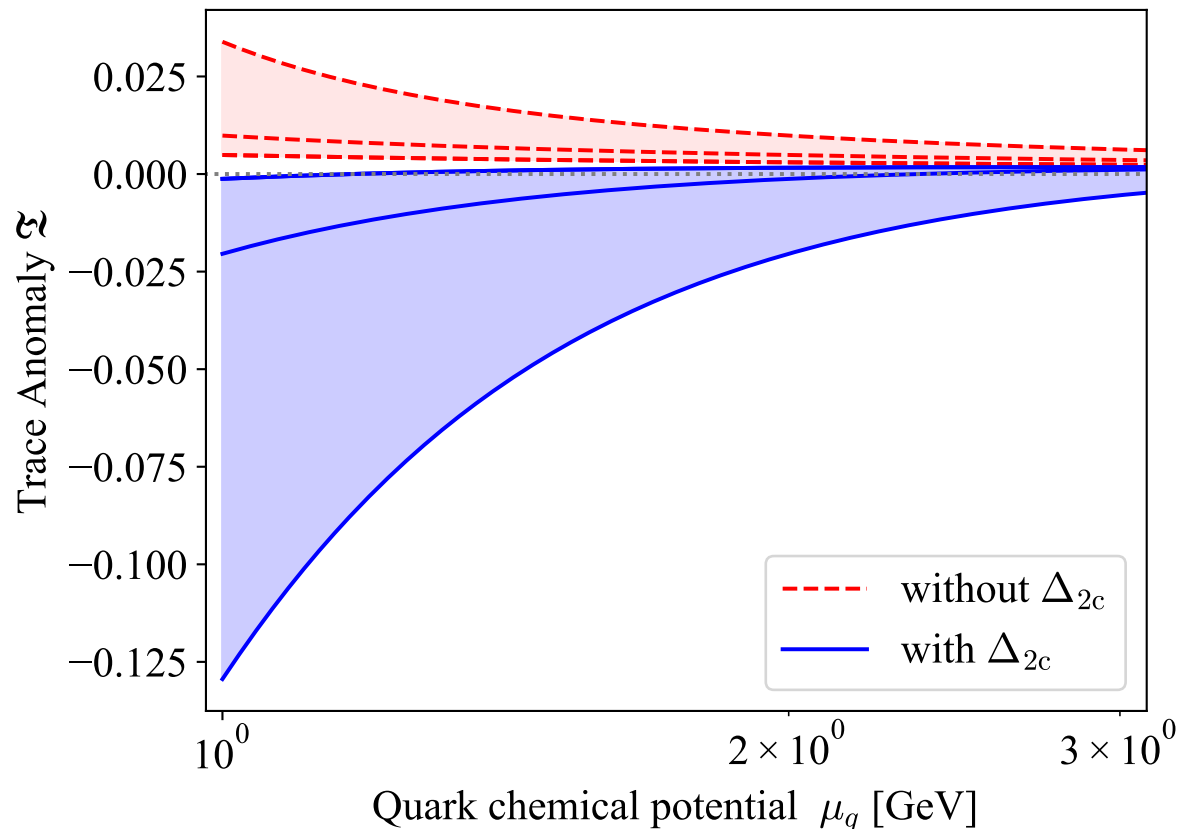
No cancellation if Δ is non-perturbatively large at lower density indicating $\partial \Delta / \partial \mu < 0$.

Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

* Diquark superfluid in QC₂D

Negative values
are strongly favored.

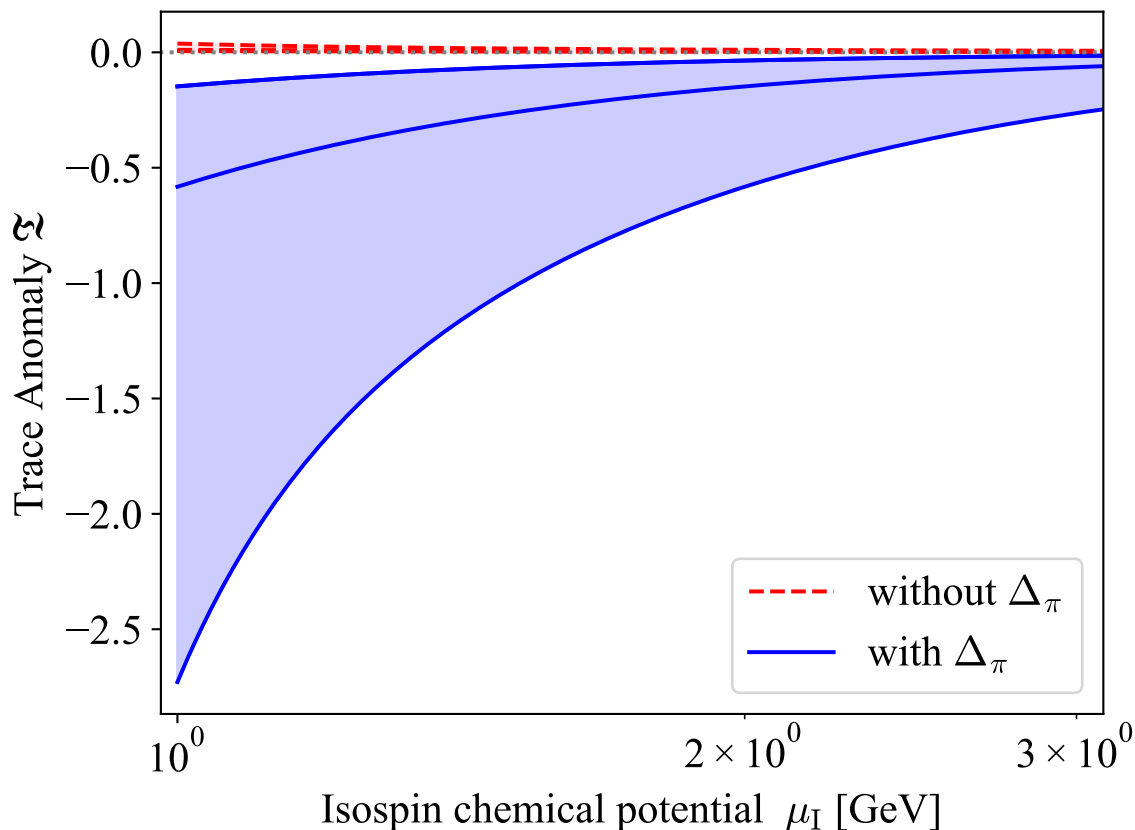


Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

*** Pion-condensed high-isospin matter**

Negative values are strongly favored.

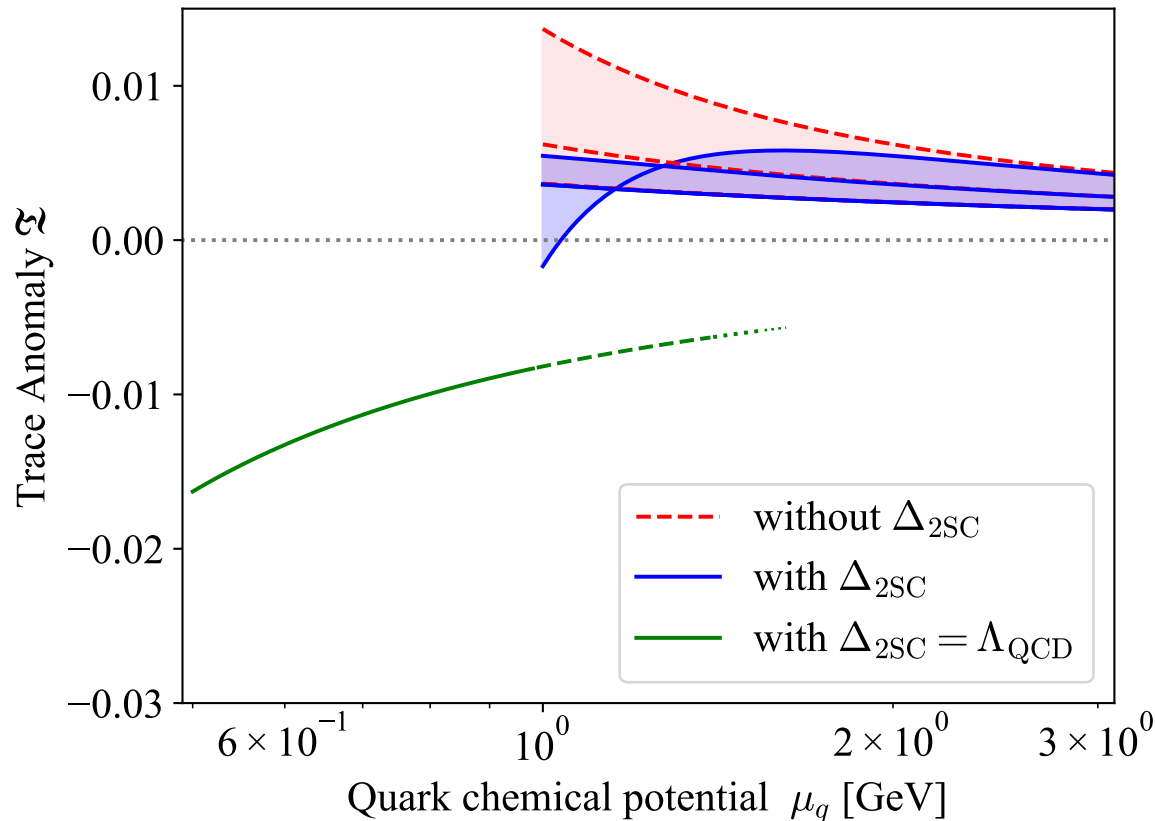


Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Not bad...?

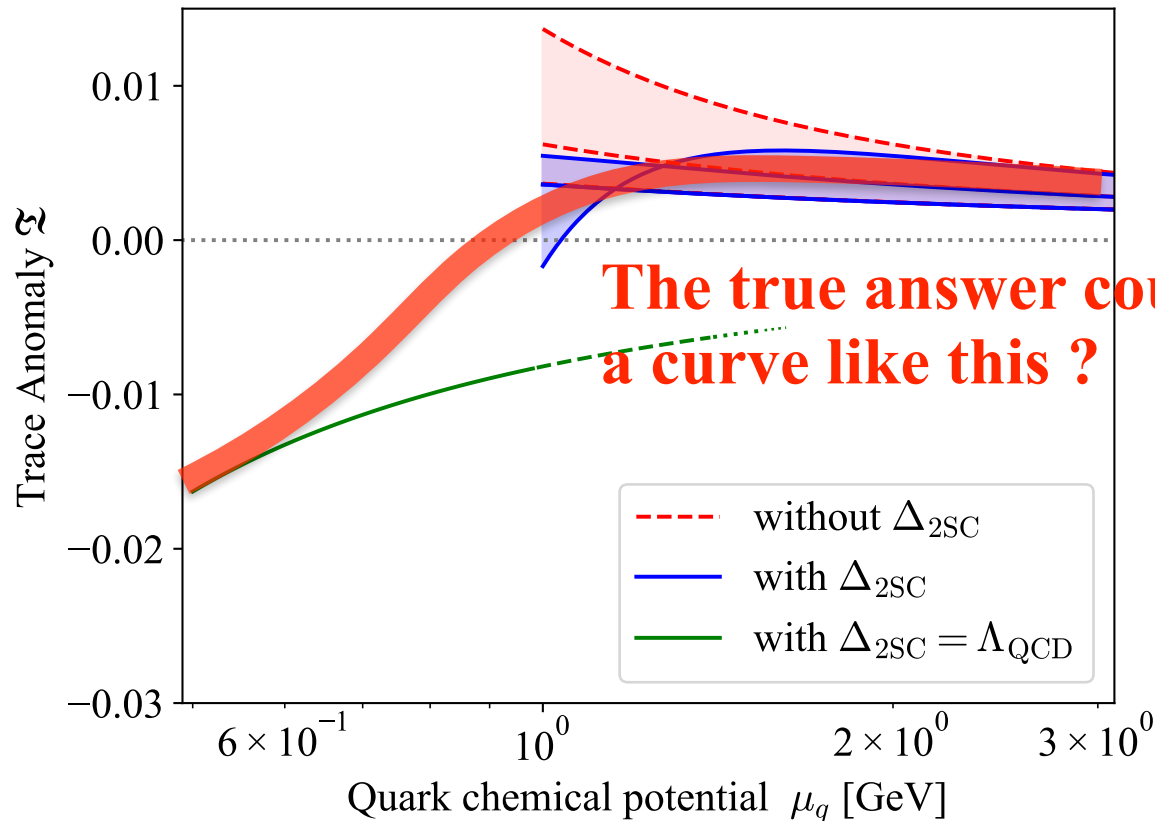
* 2SC quark matter



Perturbative Approaches

Fukushima-Minato (2024)

Cancellation **NOT** seen in the trace anomaly:



Conclusions



- **Speed of sound at high density may increase above the conformal value. This could be confirmed by the heavy-ion collision.**
- **Trace anomaly is going negative and it implies the presence of some condensates. Color-super?**
- **Non-perturbative effects should be considered in a consistent way for three parallel systems.**
- **Trace anomaly is rather straightforward, but the speed of sound is more subtle...**