

The Complexity of Neutron Star Matter: from the Liquid-Gas Phase Transition to Chiral Symmetry Breaking and Restoration - I

Constança Providência

Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal

60th Karpacz Winter School on Theoretical Physics, May
16-24, 2024



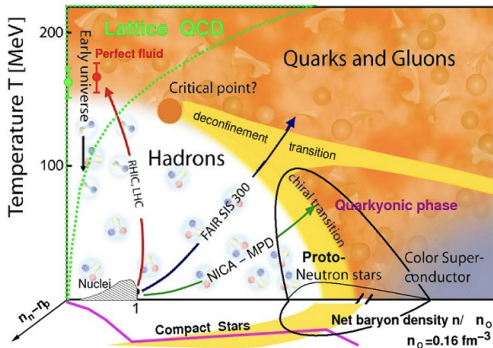
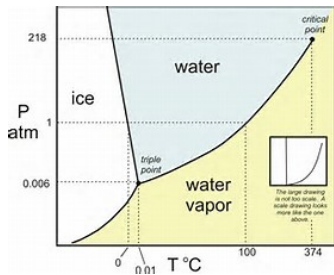
UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA



FCT
Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
MINISTÉRIO DA CIÊNCIA, TECNOLOGIA E INOVAÇÃO

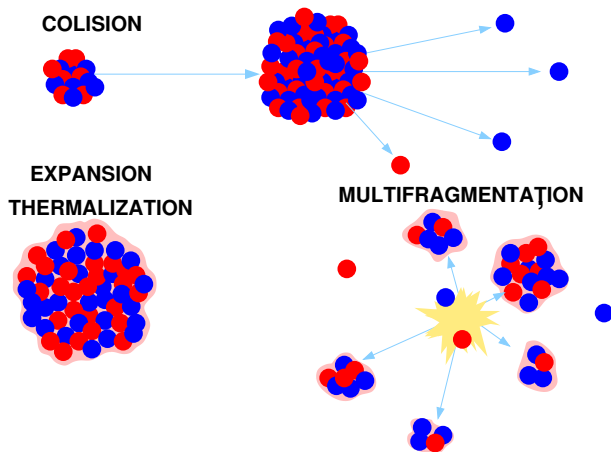


QCD phase diagram



autor: Larry McLerran

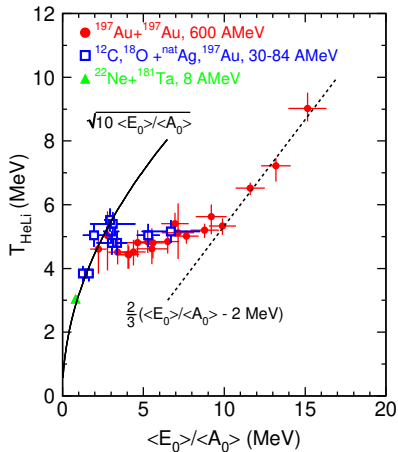
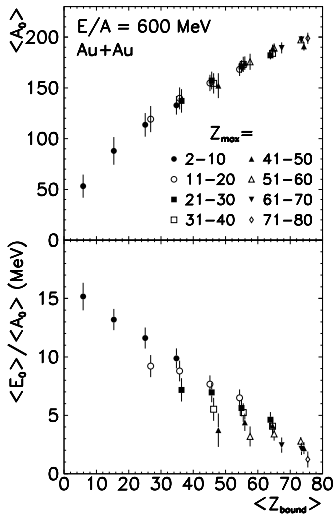
Multifragmentation



- ▶ Multifragmentation in relativistic heavy ion collisions
 - ▶ Experimental results consistent with equilibration of the excited systems prior to decay
 - ▶ This justifies a statistical and thermodynamical treatment.

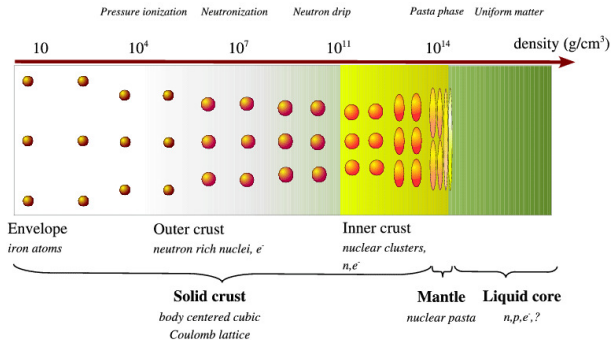
Liquid-Gas Phase Transition?

Phochodzalla et al., PRL75, 1995



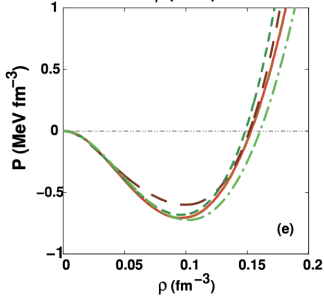
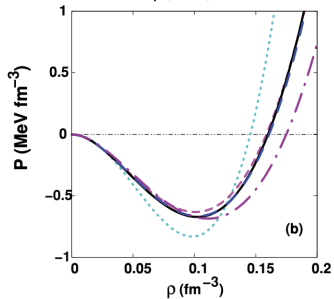
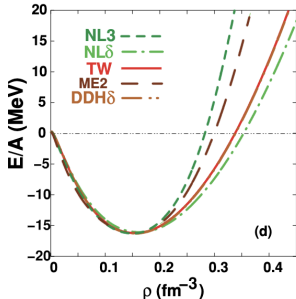
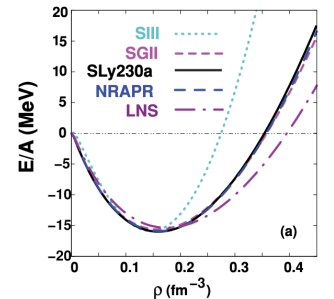
Crust

cold catalyzed matter



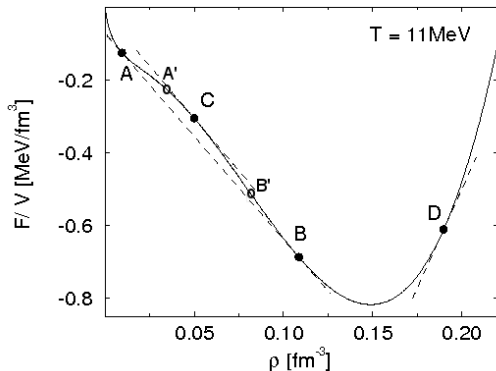
(Chamel and Haensel, Living Reviews 2008)

Nuclear Matter: Liquid-Gas Phase Transition



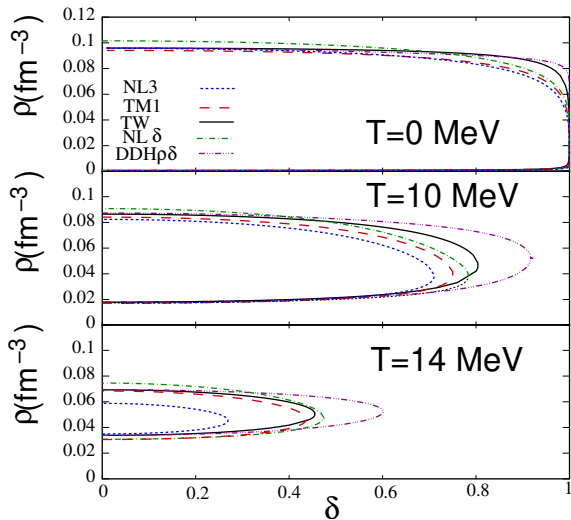
Convexity condition: one component system

Figure from Mueller & Serot PRC52,2071



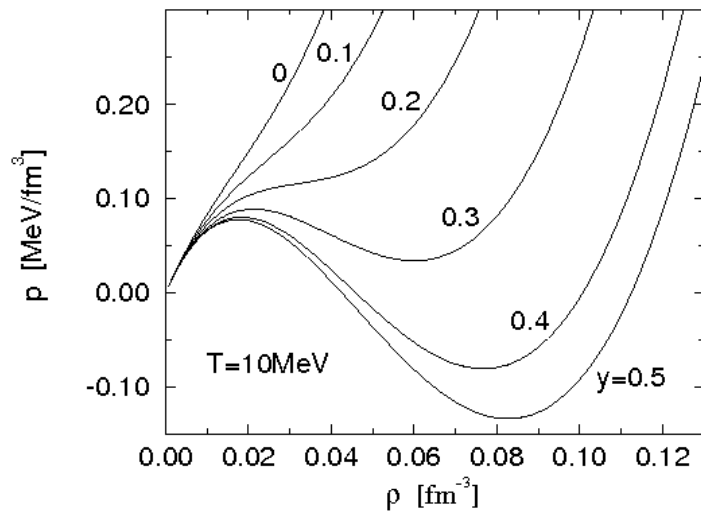
- ▶ $\mathcal{F} - \epsilon_0 \rho$
- ▶ A and B: \mathcal{F} is convex with common tangent (same μ)
 - ▶ coexistence of two phases with different densities
 - ▶ binodal points
- ▶ C: \mathcal{F} is concave, the system is unstable
- ▶ A' and B': $\partial^2 \mathcal{F} / \partial \rho^2 = 0$, spinodal points

Thermodynamical instability: different models

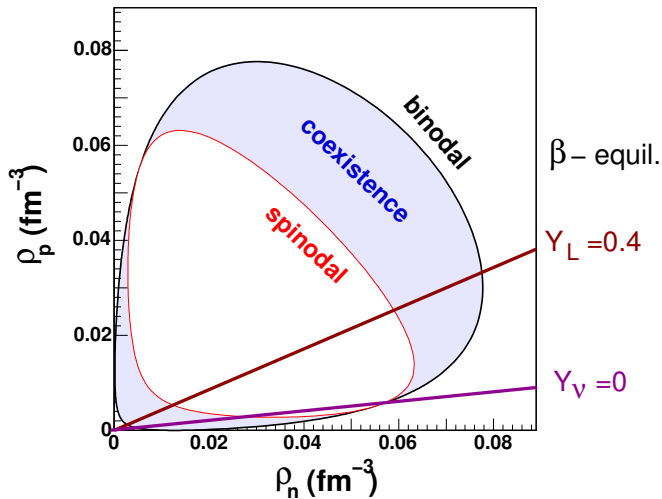


- **Largest differences:** at finite T and large δ

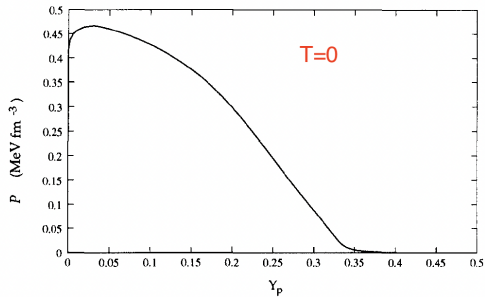
Nuclear Matter: Liquid-Gas Phase Transition



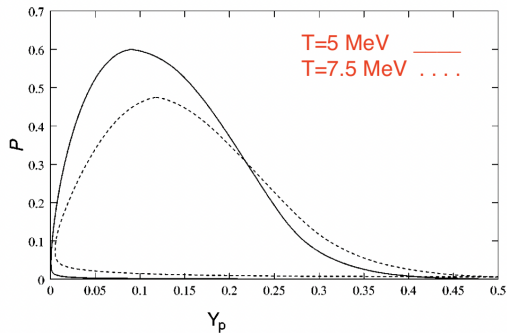
Spinodal versus Binodal



Binodal: pressure versus proton fraction



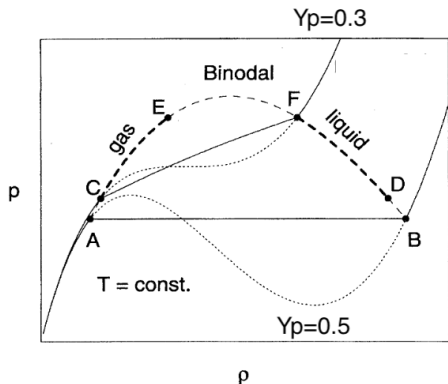
Menezes NPA650 (1999) 283



◀ Menezes PRC60 024313 (1999)

Nuclear matter: Maxwell construction

Figure from Mueller & Serot PRC52.2071



- ▶ **symmetric matter** ($y_p = 0.5$): $\rho_A = \rho_B$
- ▶ **asymmetric matter** ($y_p = 0.3$): transition occurs along the line CF , keeping $y_p = 0.3$
- ▶ **Between C and F**: the gas and liquid phases evolve along the **binodal line**

EOS: relativistic mean field description

RMF Lagrangian for stellar matter

- ▶ **Lagrangian density:** causal Lorentz-covariant Lagrangian (baryon densities and meson fields)

$$\mathcal{L}_{NLWM} = \sum_{B=\text{baryons}} \mathcal{L}_B + \mathcal{L}_{\text{mesons}} + \mathcal{L}_l + \mathcal{L}_\gamma,$$

- ▶ **Baryonic contribution:** $\mathcal{L}_B = \bar{\psi}_B [\gamma_\mu D_B^\mu - M_B^*] \psi_B,$

$$D_B^\mu = i\partial^\mu - g_{\omega B}\omega^\mu - \frac{g_{\rho B}}{2}\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \mathbf{b}^\mu$$

$$M_B^* = M_B - g_{\sigma B}\sigma$$

- ▶ **Meson contribution**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mesons}} = \mathcal{L}_\sigma + \mathcal{L}_\omega + \mathcal{L}_\rho + \mathcal{L}_{\text{non-linear}}$$

- ▶ **Lepton contribution: homogeneous matter**

$$\mathcal{L}_l = \sum_l \bar{\psi}_l [\gamma_\mu i\partial^\mu - m_l] \psi_l$$

- ▶ **Electromagnetic contribution:** $\mathcal{L}_\gamma = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$

- ▶ **Electron contribution:** $\mathcal{L}_e = \bar{\psi}_e [\gamma_\mu (i\partial^\mu + eA^\mu) - m_e] \psi_e$

EOS: relativistic mean field description

Density dependence of the EOS determined by introducing

- ▶ non-linear meson terms (Boguta&Bodmer 1977, Mueller&Serot 1996)
- ▶ NL3, NL3 $\omega\rho$, TM1, TM1 $\omega\rho$, FSU, FSU2, FSU2R

$$\mathcal{L}_{non-linear} = -\frac{1}{3}bg_{\sigma}^3(\sigma)^3 - \frac{1}{4}cg_{\sigma}^4(\sigma)^4 + \frac{\xi}{4!}(g_{\omega}\omega_{\mu}\omega^{\mu})^4 + \Lambda_{\omega}g_{\rho}^2\boldsymbol{\rho}_{\mu} \cdot \boldsymbol{\rho}^{\mu}g_{\omega}^2\omega_{\mu}\omega^{\mu},$$

- ▶ Parameters: g_i ($i = \sigma, \omega, \rho$), $b, c, \xi, \Lambda_{\omega}$ (Malik arxiv:2301.08169)
- ▶ Bayesian estimation of model parameters

EOS

RMF Lagrangian for npe μ matter

From RMF stress-energy tensor calculate energy density & pressure

$$T_{\text{RMF}}^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{i=n,p,e,\mu} i\bar{\psi}_i \gamma^\mu \partial^\nu \psi_i - \eta^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}_{\text{mesons}}$$

Energy density:

$$\epsilon = \langle T^{00} \rangle = \sum_i \langle \bar{\psi}_i \gamma_0 k_0 \psi_i \rangle - \mathcal{L}_{\text{mesons}}$$

Pressure

$$p = \frac{1}{3} \langle T^{ii} \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i \langle \bar{\psi}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma} \cdot \mathbf{k} \psi_i \rangle + \mathcal{L}_{\text{mesons}}$$

The particle energy spectrum is

$$E_{l_3}(k) = \sqrt{M^{*2} + k^2} + g_\omega \omega_0 + \frac{g_\rho}{2} l_3 \rho_{30}.$$

Field equations: minimize ϵ with respect to the fields

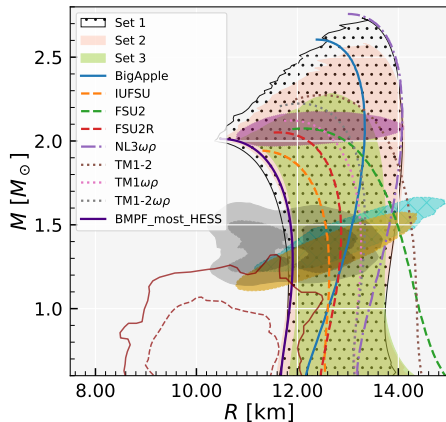
$$\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \sigma} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \omega_0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial \rho_{30}} = 0$$

Spanning the full range of NS properties with a microscopic model

Malik ApJ930 17, Malik arxiv: 2301.08169

Constraints				
Quantity		Value/Band	Ref	DDB
NMP (MeV)	ρ_0	0.153 ± 0.005	Typel & Wolter (1999)	✓
	ϵ_0	-16.1 ± 0.2	Dutra et al. (2014)	✓
	K_0	230 ± 40	Todd-Rutel & Piekarewicz (2005); Shlomo et al. (2006)	✓
	$J_{\text{sym},0}$	32.5 ± 1.8	Essick et al. (2021a)	✓
PNM (MeV fm^{-3})	$P(\rho)$	$2 \times \text{N}^3\text{LO}$	Hebeler et al. (2013)	✓
NS mass (M_\odot)	M_{max}	>2.0	Fonseca et al. (2021)	✓

NS properties: full posterior NL



- ▶ **Observations:** GW170817, NICER J0740 and J0030, HESS
- ▶ **RMF models:** NL3 $\omega\rho$, FSU2, FSU2R, IUFSU, BigApple, TM1-2($\omega\rho$)
- ▶ **Bayesian study:** Set 1 ($\xi < 0.004$), 2, 3 ($\xi > 0.015$)

Dynamical instabilities: small fluctuations

The Vlasov Equation

- ▶ Nucleons described by the distribution functions $f_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r}, t)$
- ▶ Equilibrium state of matter

$$\{f_{oi}, h_i\} = 0$$

- ▶ The time evolution of f_i is described by the **Vlasov equation**

$$\frac{df_i}{dt} = 0, \quad i = p, n, e$$
$$\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial t} + \{f_i, h_i\} = 0,$$

(first order of the TDHF equation in a Wigner-Kirkwood expansion)

- ▶ **Single particle hamiltonian** h_i (eigenstates Dirac equation)

$$h_i = \sqrt{(\mathbf{p} - \vec{\mathcal{V}})^2 + (m - g_s \sigma)^2} + \mathcal{V}_0$$

Equilibrium State of npe Matter

- ▶ Equilibrium state characterized by: P_{Fn} , P_{Fp} , P_{Fe}

$$f_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \text{diag} \left(\Theta(P_{Fp}^2 - p^2), \Theta(P_{Fn}^2 - p^2), \Theta(P_{Fe}^2 - p^2) \right)$$

$$h_{0i} = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + (m - g_s \sigma^{(0)})^2} + \mathcal{V}^{(0)}$$

- ▶ Charge neutrality: $P_{Fe} = P_{Fp}$
- ▶ Equilibrium fields

$$m_s^2 \phi_0 + \frac{\kappa}{2} \phi_0^2 + \frac{\lambda}{6} \phi_0^3 = g_s \rho_s^{(0)}$$

$$m_v^2 V_0^{(0)} = g_v (\rho_p + \rho_n), \quad V_i^{(0)} = 0$$

$$m_\rho^2 b_0^{(0)} = \frac{g_\rho}{2} (\rho_p - \rho_n), \quad b_i^{(0)} = 0$$

$$A_0^{(0)} = 0, \quad A_i^{(0)} = 0.$$

Small perturbation of the system

► Perturbed fields:

$$\phi = \phi_0 + \delta\phi, \quad V_0 = V_0^{(0)} + \delta V_0, \quad V_i = \delta V_i, \quad b_0 = b_0^{(0)} + \delta b_0, \quad b_i$$

$$A_0 = \delta A_0, \quad A_i = \delta A_i.$$

► Perturbed distribution function:

$$f = f_0 + \delta f,$$

$$\delta f_i = \{S_i, f_{0i}\}$$

► Generating function: $S(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}, t) = \text{diag}(S_p, S_n, S_e),$

Linearized Equations of Motion

- ▶ The time evolution of f_i is described by the **Vlasov equation**

$$\frac{df_i}{dt} = 0, \quad \rightarrow \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial t} + \{f_i, h_i\} = 0, \quad i = p, n, e$$

- ▶ The linearized relativistic Vlasov equation

$$\frac{dS_i}{dt} + \{S_i, h_{0i}\} = \delta h_i$$

- ▶ Longitudinal fluctuations:

$$\begin{pmatrix} S_i & \delta F_j & \delta \rho_i & \delta h_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{\omega,i}(x) & \delta F_{\omega,j} & \delta \rho_{\omega,i} & \delta h_{\omega,i} \end{pmatrix} e^{i(\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}-\omega t)}$$

$$x = \cos(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}),$$

$$i = e, p, n,$$

$$j = \sigma, \omega, \rho, \gamma$$

Linearized Equations of Motion

▶ One-body hamiltonian variation

▶ Electrons

$$\delta h_e = -e \left[\delta A_0 - \frac{\mathbf{p} \cdot \delta \mathbf{A}}{\epsilon_{0e}} \right],$$

▶ nucleons: relativistic models

$$\delta h_i = -g_s \delta \phi \frac{M^*}{\epsilon_0} + \delta \mathcal{V}_{0i} - \frac{\mathbf{p} \cdot \delta \mathcal{V}_i}{\epsilon_0}, \quad i = p, n$$

Dispersion relations

- ▶ In terms of the transition densities: $\delta\rho_i = \frac{3}{2} \frac{k}{P_{Fi}} \rho_{0i} A_{\omega i}$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + F^{pp} L_p & F^{pn} L_p & C_A^{pe} L_p \\ F^{np} L_n & 1 + F^{nn} L_n & 0 \\ C_A^{ep} L_e & 0 & 1 - C_A^{ee} L_e \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{\omega p} \\ A_{\omega n} \\ A_{\omega e} \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

- ▶ Lindhard function, speed of sound:

$$L(s_i) = 2 - s_i \ln \left(\frac{s_i + 1}{s_i - 1} \right), \text{ with } (s_i = \omega / \omega_{oi} = \omega / (k V_{Fi}), V_{Fi} = \frac{P_{Fi}}{\epsilon_{Fi}})$$

$$F^{ij} = C_s^{ij} - C_v^{ij} - \tau_i \tau_j C_\rho^{ij} - C_A^{ij} \delta_{ip} \delta_{jp}, \quad i, j = n, p,$$

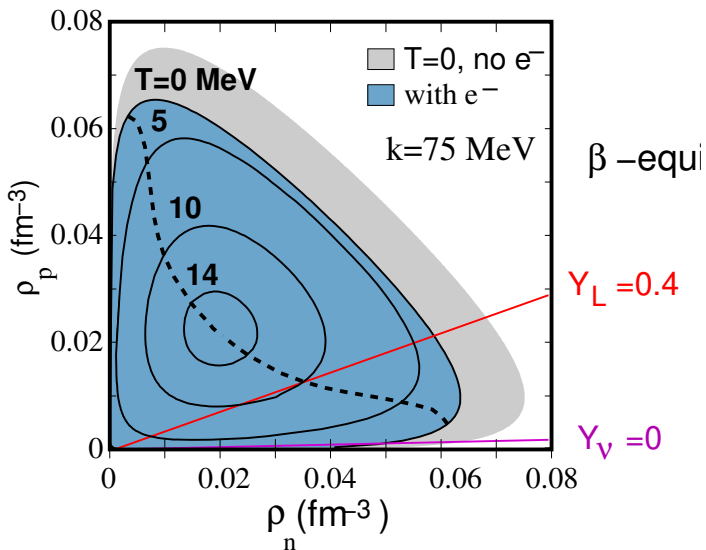
- ▶ dispersion relation

$$\begin{aligned} & [1 - C_A^{ee} L_e] [1 + L_p F^{pp} + L_n F^{nn} + L_p L_n (F^{pp} F^{nn} - F^{pn} F^{np})] \\ & - C_A^{ep} C_A^{pe} L_e L_p (1 + L_n F^{nn}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Surface $\omega = 0$: defines dynamical spinodal

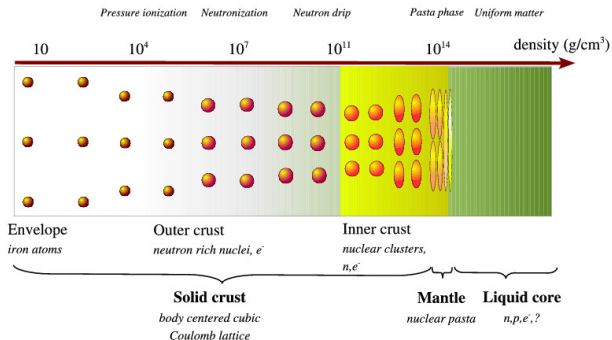
Dynamical Spinodal

Dynamical versus thermodynamical Spinodal



Crust

cold catalyzed matter



(Chamel and Haensel, Living Reviews 2008)

- ▶ Surface on NS: $p = 0$
- ▶ Lowest energy state of hadronic matter at zero compression and T: ^{56}Fe
 - ▶ surface is formed by solid iron

Inner crust - Pasta phase

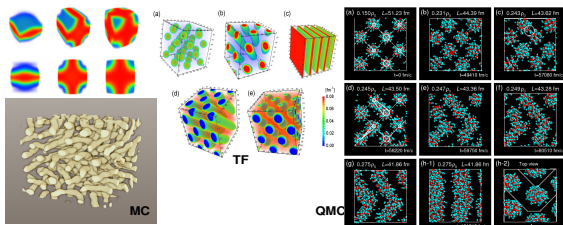
No hyperons

- ▶ **Inner crust:**

neutron drip density $< \rho <$ crust-core transition

$$\sim 0.003 \text{ fm}^{-3} < \rho < \sim 0.08 - 0.1 \text{ fm}^{-3}$$

- ▶ a lattice of heavy and neutron-rich nuclei immersed in a sea of superfluid neutrons and ultrarelativistic electrons
- ▶ **“pasta” phase:** frustrated system that arises in the competition between the strong and the electromagnetic interactions
- ▶ The short- and large-distance scales related to the nuclear and Coulomb interactions are comparable at densities of the order of $10^{13} - 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$



Inner crust

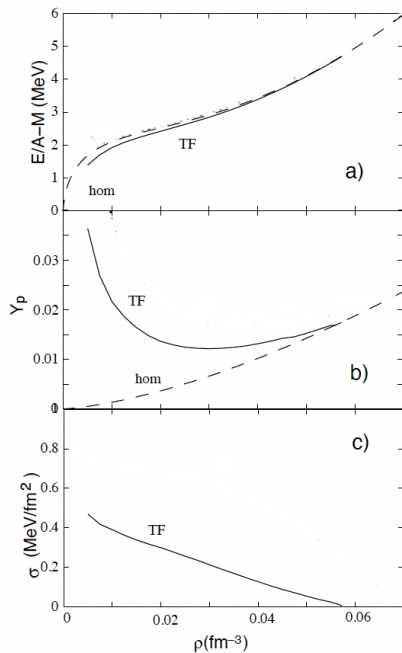
EOS for the inner crust:

- ▶ Bethe, Baym, Pethick (BBP): Compressible Liquid Drop Model
- ▶ Negele & Vautherin (NV): HF calculation for spherical clusters (NPA207, 1973)
- ▶ Shen, Toki, H. Shen, Toki, Oyamatsu, Sumiyoshi (STOS), Thomas-Fermi calculation within TM1, (NPA637, 1998)
- ▶ Douchin & Haensel: Compressible Liquid Drop Model and Sly4 (only spherical) (AA380, 2001)
- ▶ Grill *et al*: Inner crust EOS within Thomas Fermi calculation of pasta (PRC85, 2012)
NL3, TM1, GM1, DDME2, DDH δ , NL3 $\omega\rho$

Pasta phase EOS

- ▶ β -equilibrium non-homogeneous matter within a TF calculation
- ▶ assumed a preferred single geometry (least free energy) for a given T , ρ and y_p
- ▶ only five possible shapes are considered: droplets, rods, slabs, tubes and bubbles
- ▶ β -equilibrium: y_p is very small and only three shapes are energetically favorable: droplets, rods and slabs.
- ▶ a regular lattice in the Wigner-Seitz approximation is considered, the WS cell having the shape of the clusters
- ▶ a fixed Z and N number at a given density determines the WS volume,
- ▶ β -equilibrium condition determines N (number of neutrons

Pasta versus homogeneous NL3 EOS



Pasta phase: Coexisting phases approximation

PRC 91, 055801 2015

- ▶ Separated regions of high (pasta phases) and low (gas) densities
- ▶ Gibbs equilibrium conditions ($T^I = T^{II}$)

$$P^I = P^{II},$$
$$\mu_i^I = \mu_i^{II}, \quad i = p, n$$

- ▶ Finite size effects, a surface and a Coulomb terms, included *a posteriori* after the coexisting phases are achieved.
- ▶ Charge neutrality: $\rho_e = Y_p \rho_B$ (uniform)
- ▶ total free energy density and total proton fraction:

$$\mathcal{F} = f\mathcal{F}^I + (1 - f)\mathcal{F}^{II} + \mathcal{F}_e + \epsilon_{surf} + \epsilon_{Coul},$$
$$\rho_p = Y_p \rho_B = f\rho_p^I + (1 - f)\rho_p^{II},$$
$$\rho_B = f\rho^I + (1 - f)\rho^{II},$$

- ▶ Minimization with respect to the size of the droplet/bubble, rod/tube or slab: $\epsilon_{surf} = 2\epsilon_{Coul}$,

Pasta phase: Compressible liquid drop model

PRC 91, 055801 2015

- ▶ The total free energy density is minimized, including the surface and Coulomb terms.
- ▶ Gibbs equilibrium conditions ($T^I = T^{II}$)

$$\mu_n^I = \mu_n^{II}$$

$$\mu_p^I = \mu_p^{II} - \frac{\varepsilon_{surf}}{f(1-f)(\rho_p^I - \rho_p^{II})}$$

$$P^I = P^{II} - \varepsilon_{surf} \left(\frac{1}{2\alpha} + \frac{1}{2\Phi} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial f} - \frac{\rho_p^{II}}{f(1-f)(\rho_p^I - \rho_p^{II})} \right)$$

Pasta phase: Thomas Fermi

Self-consistent solution:

1. Initial guess for the fields
2. chemical potentials and densities are computed

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_p &= \sqrt{k_{Fp}^2 + M^{*2}} + g_v \omega_0 + \frac{g_\rho}{2} b_0 + e A_0 \\ \mu_n &= \sqrt{k_{Fn}^2 + M^{*2}} + g_v \omega_0 - \frac{g_\rho}{2} b_0\end{aligned}$$

3. new fields: solutions of the field equations

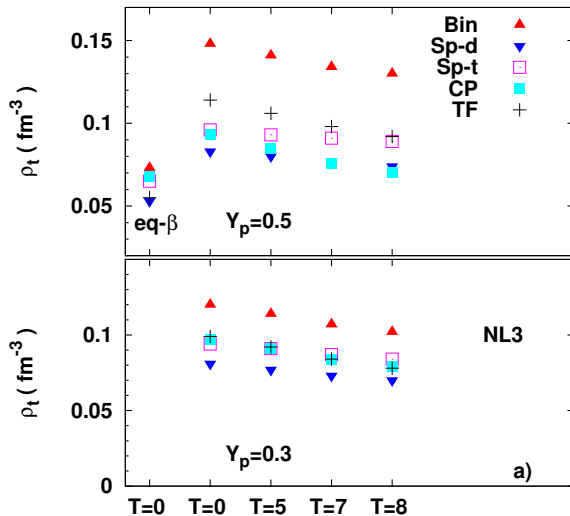
$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 \sigma &= m_s^2 \sigma + \frac{1}{2} \kappa \sigma^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \lambda \sigma^3 - g_s \rho_s, \\ \nabla^2 \omega_0 &= m_v^2 \omega_0 + \frac{\xi g_v^4}{6} \omega_0^3 - g_v \rho_B, \\ \nabla^2 b_0 &= m_\rho^2 b_0 - \frac{g_\rho}{2} \rho_3, \\ \nabla^2 A_0 &= -e \rho_p\end{aligned}$$

4. return to (2)

repeat for several geometries

Crust-core transition

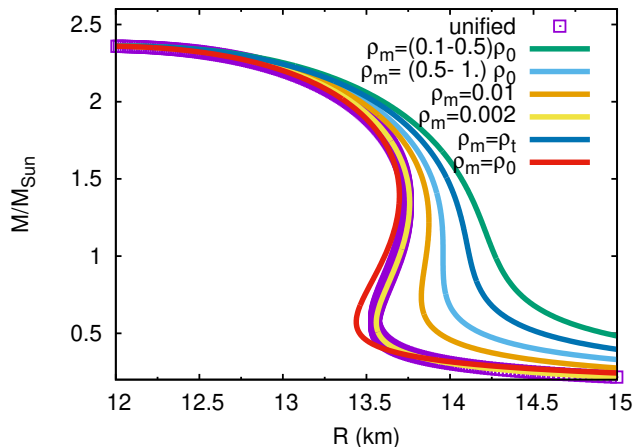
Pasta (TF) versus dynamical and thermodynamical spinodals, $T=0$



(Avancini *et al* PRC82(2010))

Crust and core EOS matching

Non-unified EOS



- ▶ no effect on the maximum mass
- ▶ effect on the radius of mass stars

GM1: $\Delta R(1M_{\odot}) = 0.66\text{km}$, $\Delta R(1.4M_{\odot}) = 0.42\text{km}$

Crust and core EOS matching

Non-unified EOS

Building the stellar matter EOS for the TOV

- ▶ Choose an EOS for the outer crust
 - ▶ choosing BPS or RHS: almost no effect
 - BPS: Baym, Pethick Sutherland ApJ 170 (1971) 299
 - RHS: Ruester, Hempel, Schaffner-Bielich PRC 73 (2006) 035804
- ▶ Choose for the inner crust and EOS with similar nuclear saturation properties
- ▶ Take above crust-core transition, core EOS

Thermodynamic consistency

- ▶ $p(\mu)$ is increasing and convex
 - $\rightarrow \rho = \frac{dp}{d\mu}$ is an increasing function of p

Light clusters

- ▶ **Crust:** matter is inhomogeneous, clusterized into nuclei.
- ▶ **Above the crystallization temperature:**
 - ▶ the crust melts
 - ▶ light clusters contribute to the equilibrium
- ▶ **Perfect conditions for their formation:**
 - ▶ core-collapse supernova environments $T \lesssim 20$ MeV
 - ▶ binary star mergers $T \lesssim 10$ MeV
- ▶ **Important role in cooling neutron star, accreting systems, and binary mergers**

Light clusters: setting the couplings

- ▶ Lagrangian density:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{j=n,p,d,t,h,\alpha} \mathcal{L}_j + \mathcal{L}_\sigma + \mathcal{L}_\omega + \mathcal{L}_\rho + \mathcal{L}_{\omega\rho}.$$

- ▶ Tritons and helions:

$$\mathcal{L}_j = \bar{\psi} \left[\gamma_\mu iD_j^\mu - M_j^* \right] \psi,$$

- ▶ Covariant derivatives for all clusters

$$iD_j^\mu = i\partial^\mu - g_{vj}\omega^\mu - \frac{g_\rho}{2}\tau_j \cdot \mathbf{b}^\mu,$$

$$g_{vj} = A_j g_v$$

Light clusters: effective mass

Pais PhysRevC.97.045805

- ▶ The total binding energy of a light cluster j

$$B_j = A_j m^* - M_j^*, \quad j = d, t, h, \alpha,$$

- ▶ Cluster effective mass:

$$M_j^* = A_j m - g_{sj} \phi_0 - (B_j^0 + \delta B_j),$$

- ▶ $g_{sj} = x_{sj} g_s \rightarrow$ needs to be constrained! \rightarrow Virial EoS
- ▶ Binding energy shift δB_j

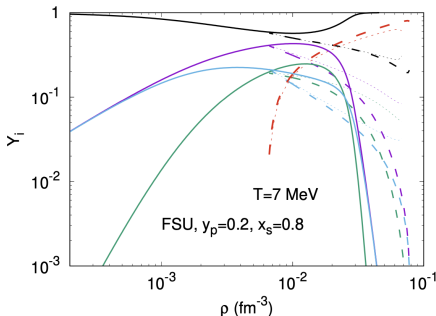
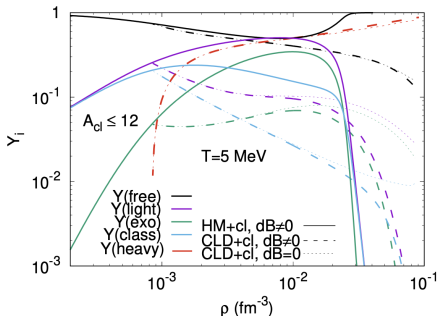
$$\delta B_j = \frac{Z_j}{\rho_0} (\epsilon_p^* - m \rho_p^*) + \frac{N_j}{\rho_0} (\epsilon_n^* - m \rho_n^*)$$

- ▶ the energy states occupied by the gas are excluded: double counting avoided!
- ▶ energetic counterpart of classical exclusion volume mechanism

Cluster fractions - CLD vs HM

from
Helena
Pais

- CLD (heavy cluster) calculation with light clusters with and without δB_j
- Light clusters with $A \geq 12$.

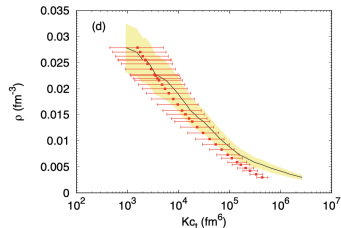
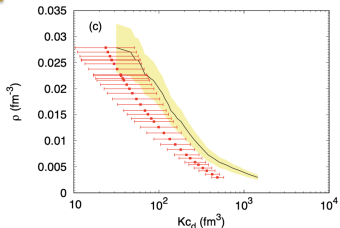
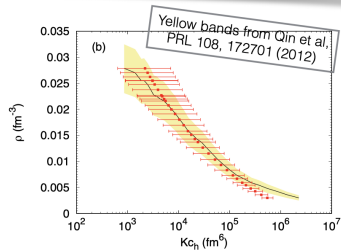
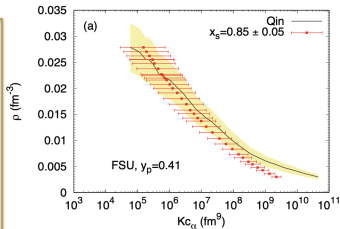


- The heavy cluster (CLD+cl calculation) makes the light clusters less abundant but increases their melting density, as compared with the HM+cl calculation.
- Increasing T makes the onset of both heavy and light clusters to increase in density.

Exp Constraint: Equilibrium constants

PRC 97, 045805 2018

- Yellow bands: exp data from Qin et al
- Red points: RMF model calculated at (T, ρ, y_p) of exp data with $x_s = 0.85 \pm 0.05$



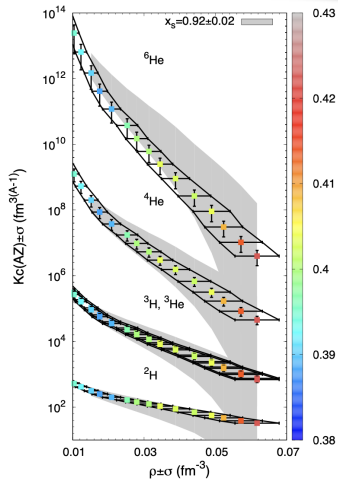
- x_s first fitted to the Virial EoS, model-independent constraint, only depends on exp B and scattering phase shifts. Provides correct zero-density limit for finite-T EoS.

- Our theoretical model describes quite well experimental data, except for deuteron

Equilibrium constants and data from INDRA

from Helena Pais

- This work shows that there are in-medium effects:
- We obtain a higher x_s as compared to the previous fit of Qin et al data:
- The higher the x_s , the bigger the binding energies (and the smaller effect of the medium), and the higher the dissolution densities of the clusters.



Thank you !

