

# Dense nuclear matter equation of state from heavy-ion collisions

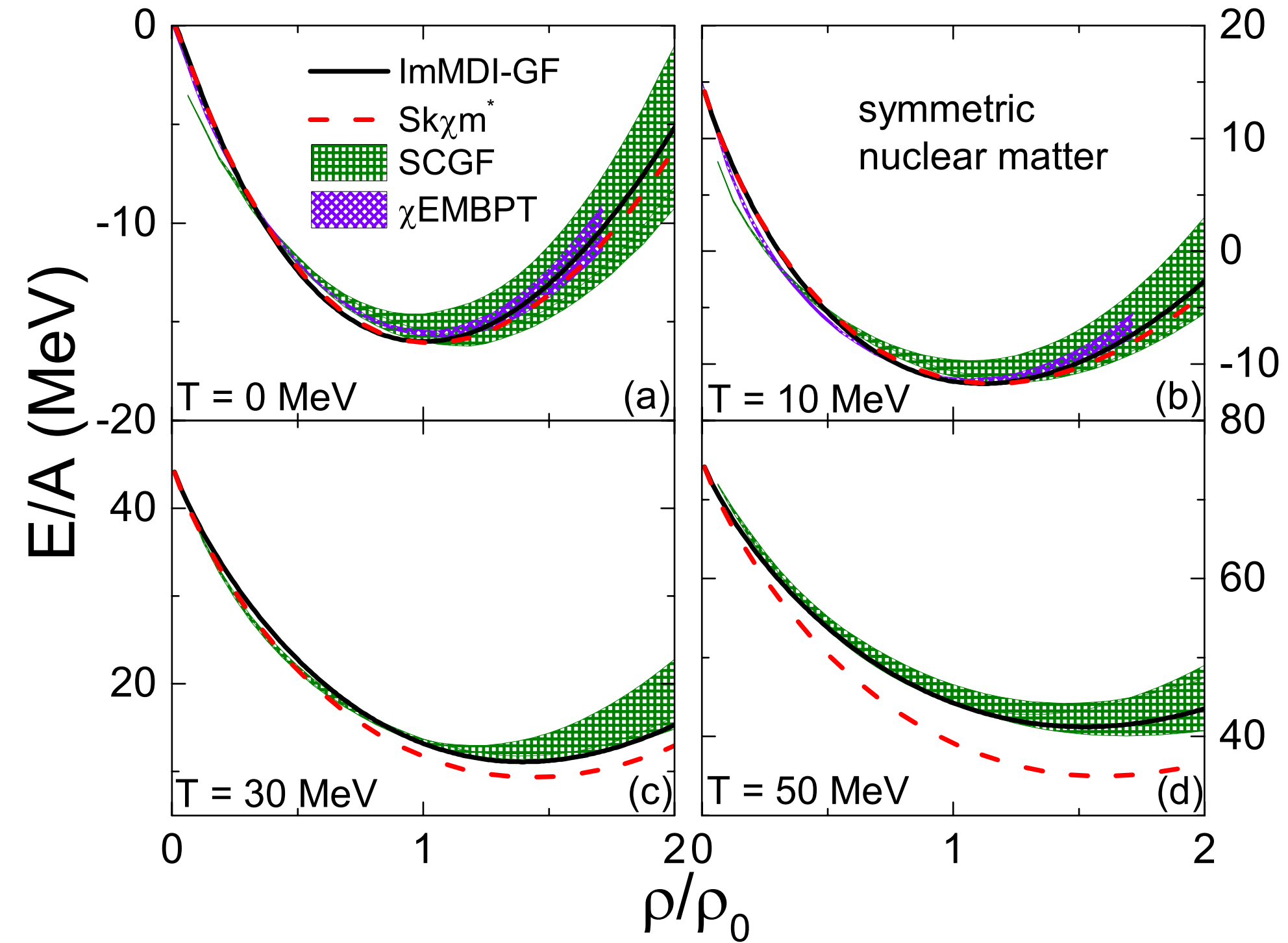
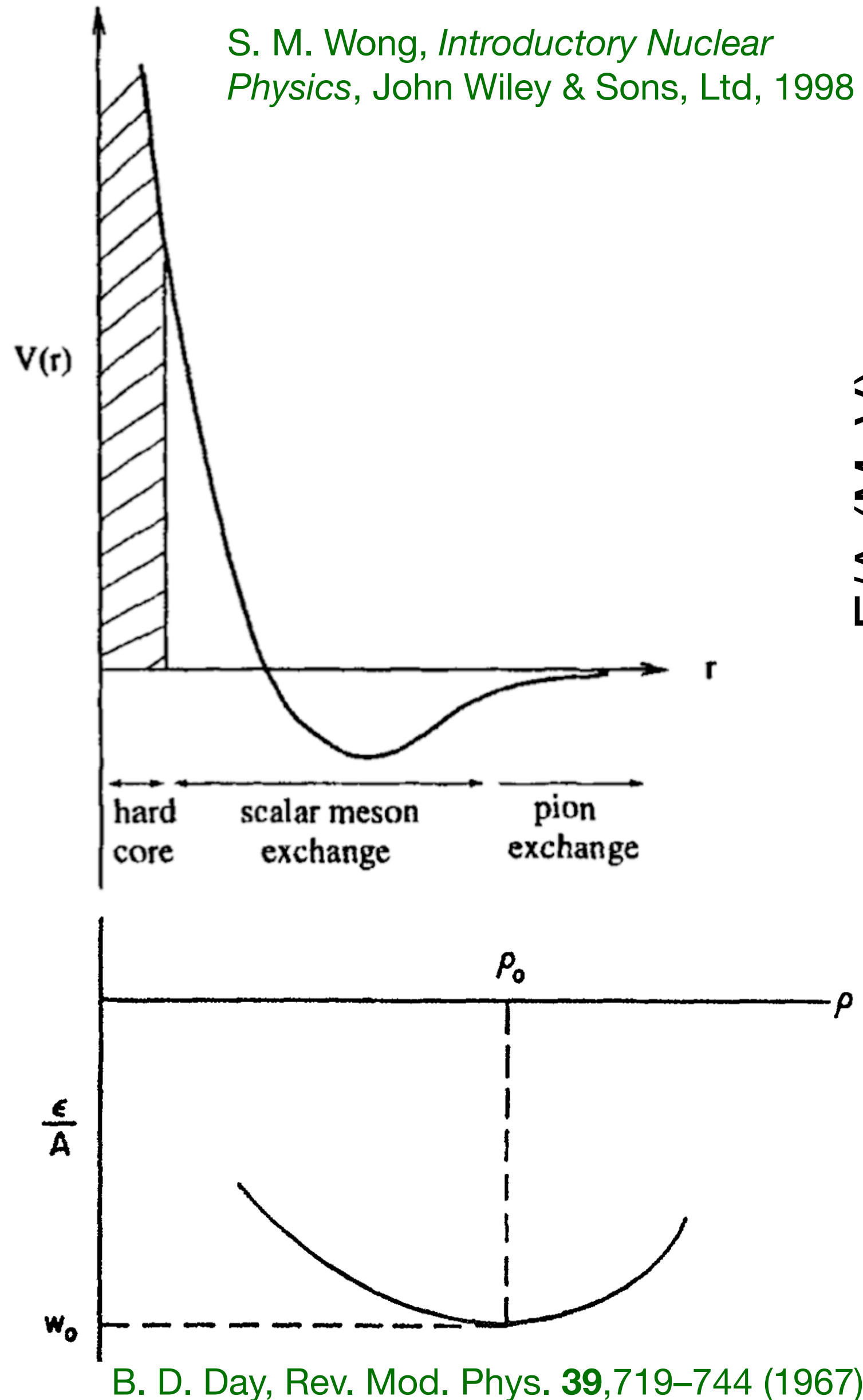
Agnieszka Sorensen

University of Washington

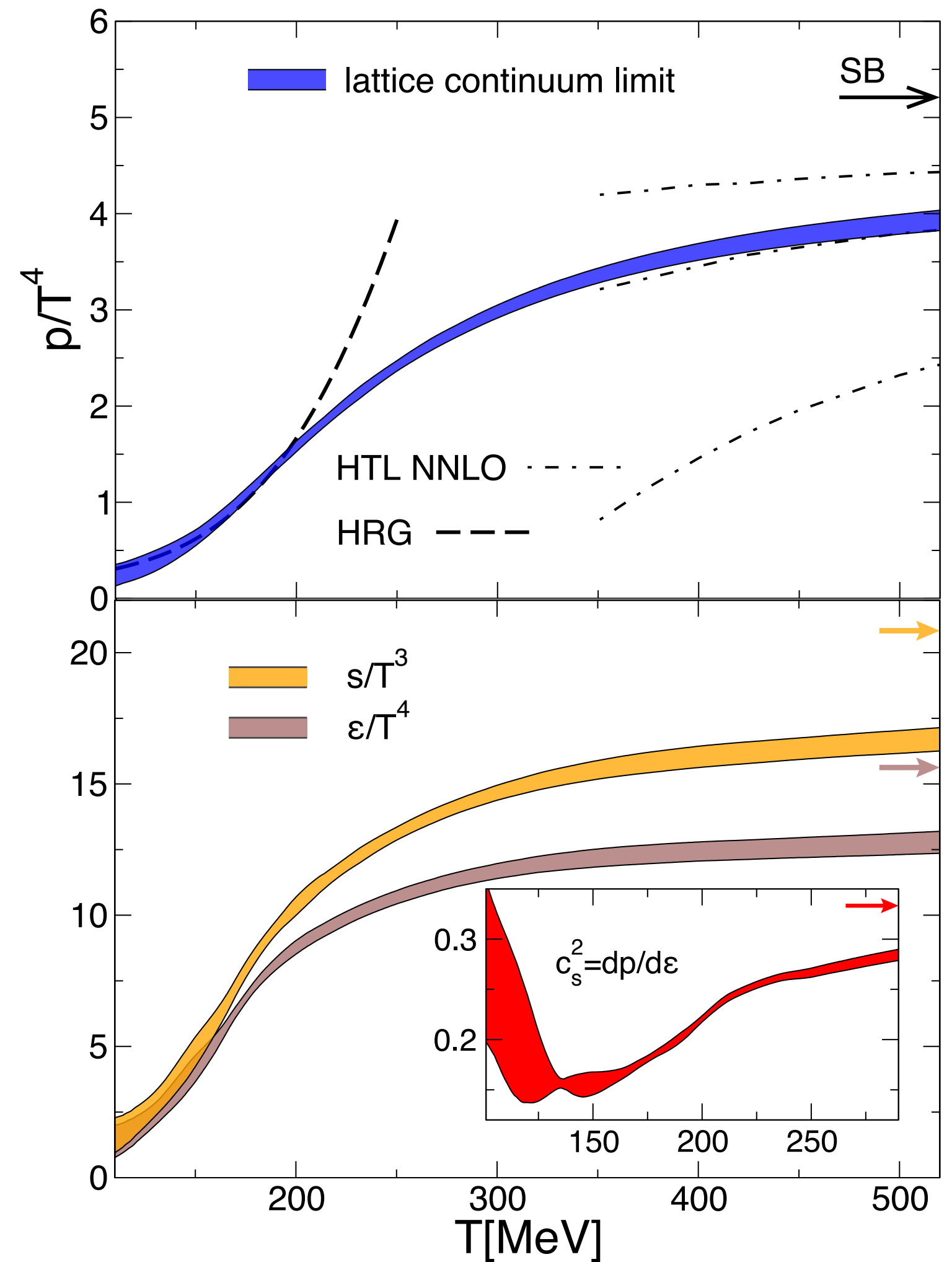


March 14th, 2023

# Properties of nuclear matter are reflected in the EOS



J. Xu, A. Carbone, Z. Zhang, C.-M. Ko,  
*Phys. Rev. C* **100**, 2, 024618 (2019) arXiv:1904.09669



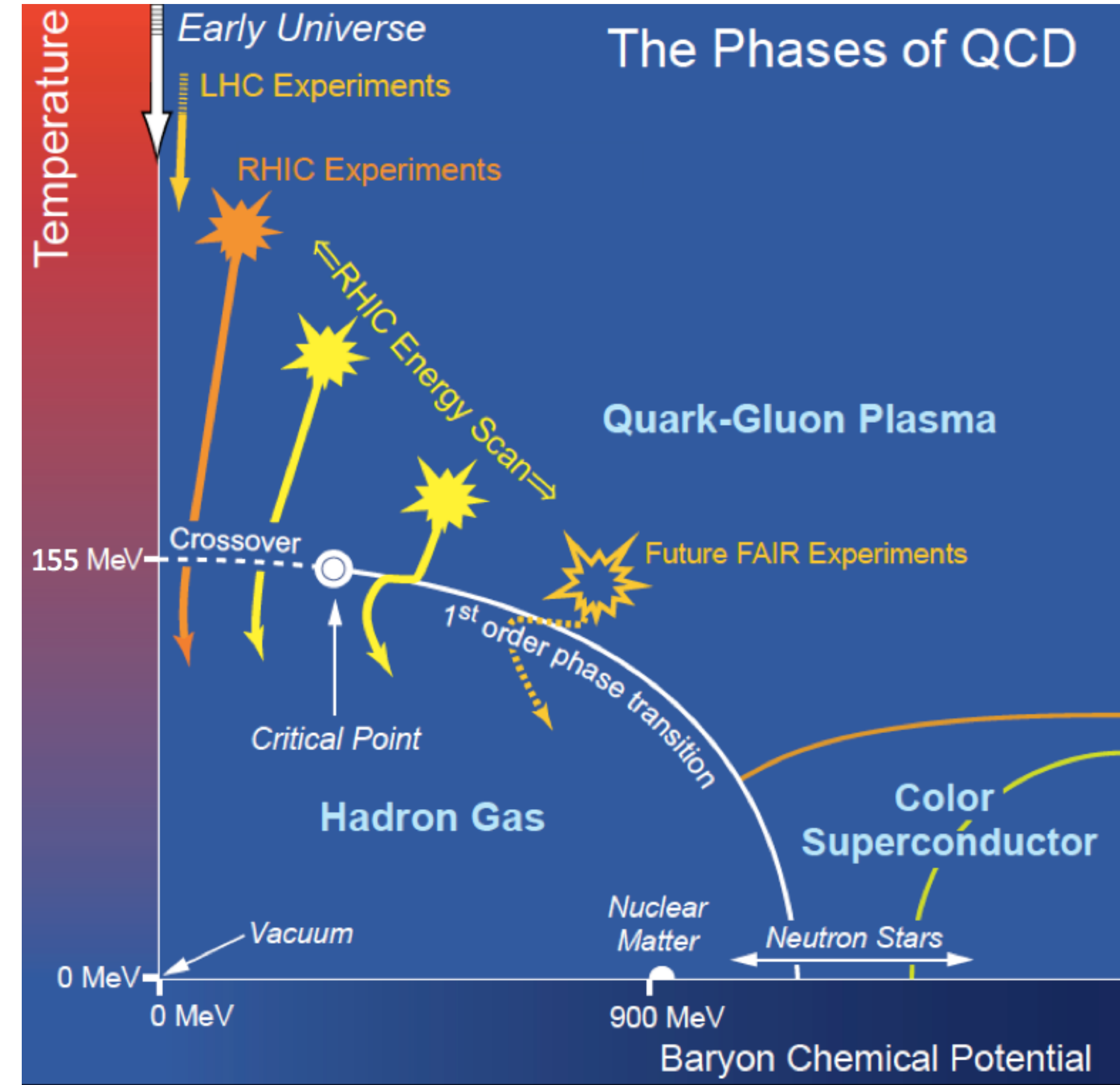
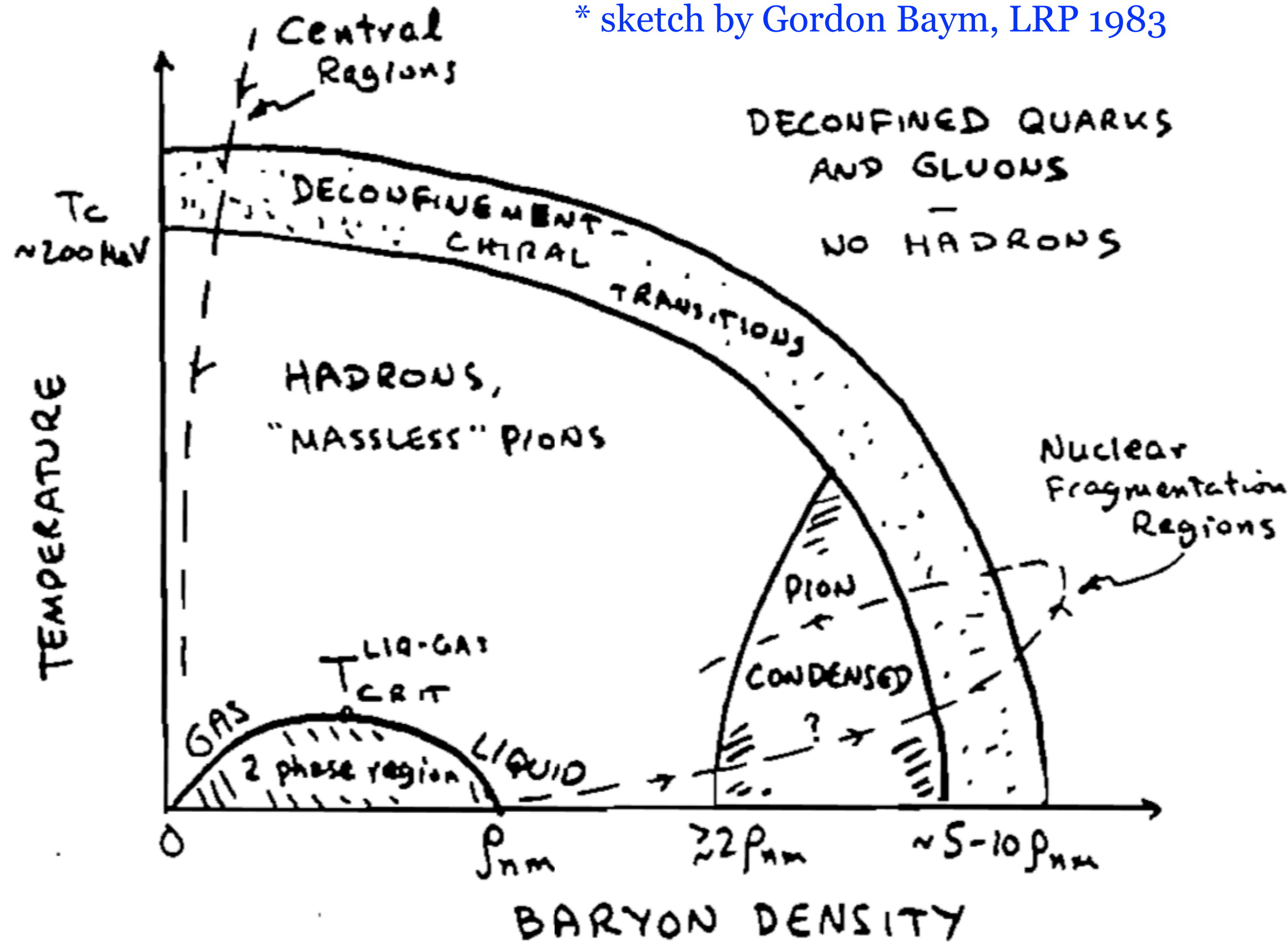
S. Borsanyi, Z. Fodor, C. Hoelbling, S. Katz, S. Krieg, K. K. Szabo,  
*Phys. Lett. B* **730** 99–104 (2014)  
arXiv:1309.5258

# The EOS = key to understanding fundamental properties of QCD matter

1) Uncovering the phase diagram of QCD matter

## PHASE DIAGRAM OF NUCLEAR MATTER \*

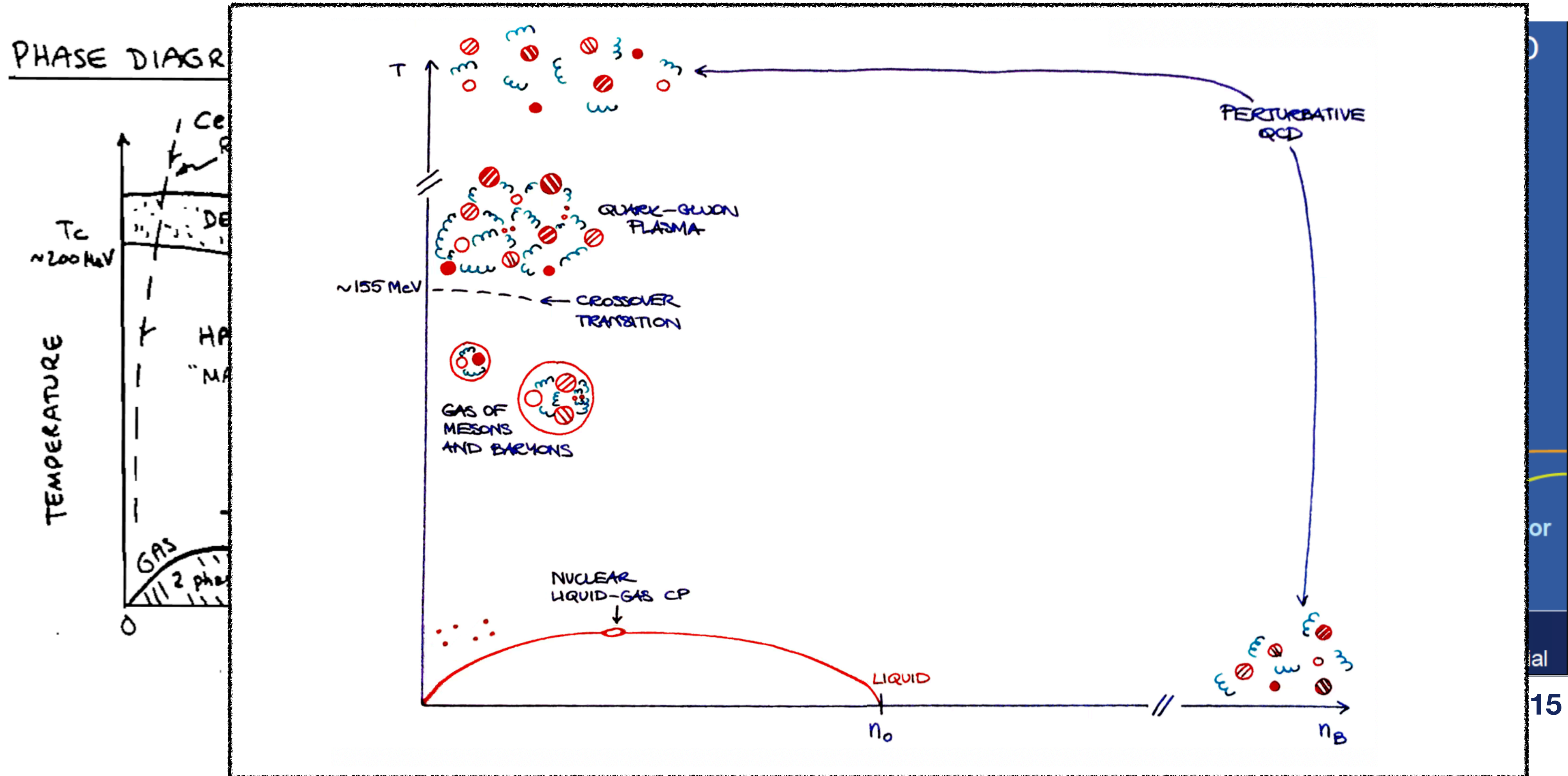
\* sketch by Gordon Baym, LRP 1983



The Hot QCD White Paper for LRP 2015

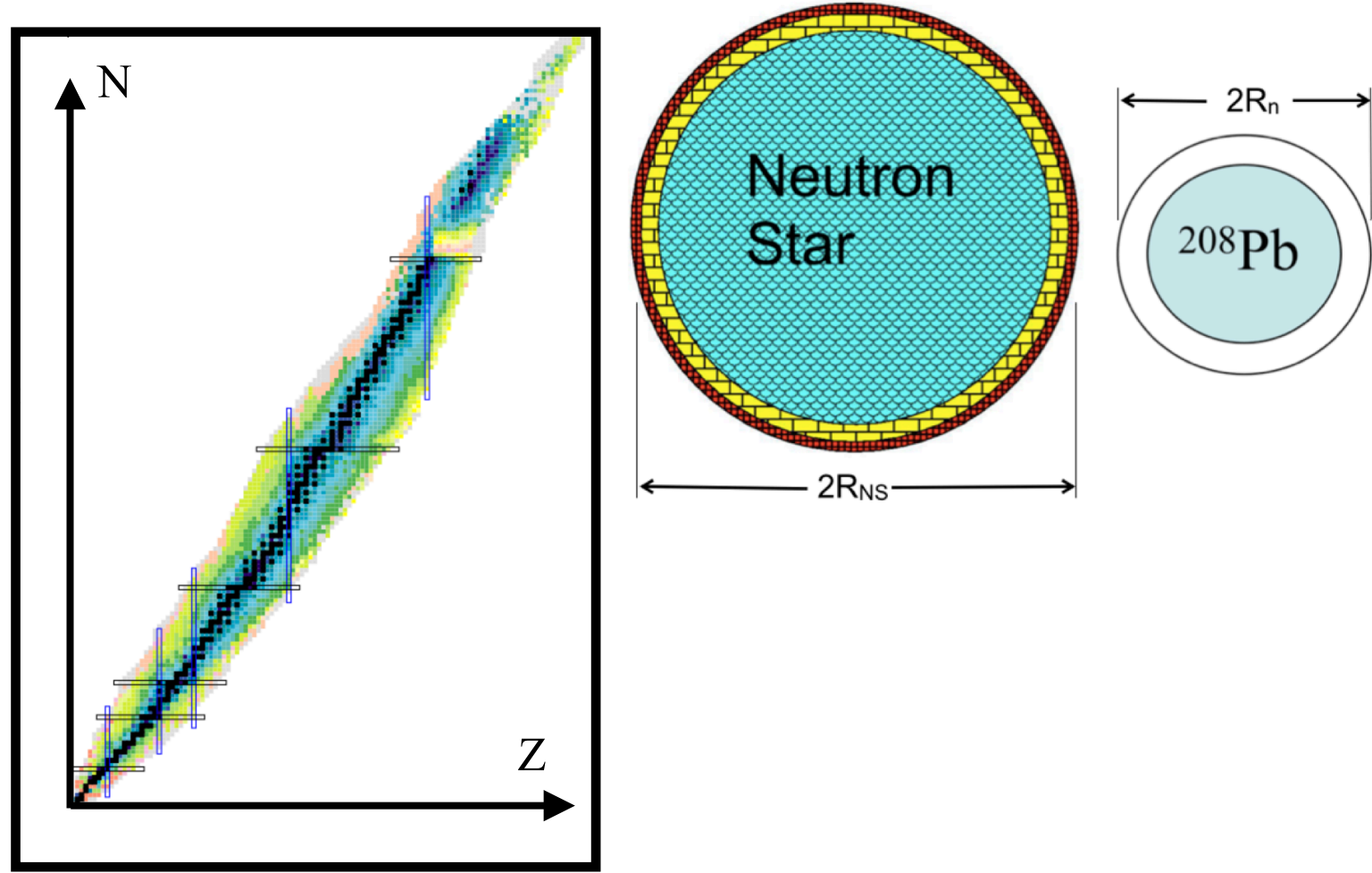
# The EOS = key to understanding fundamental properties of QCD matter

## 1) Uncovering the phase diagram of QCD matter

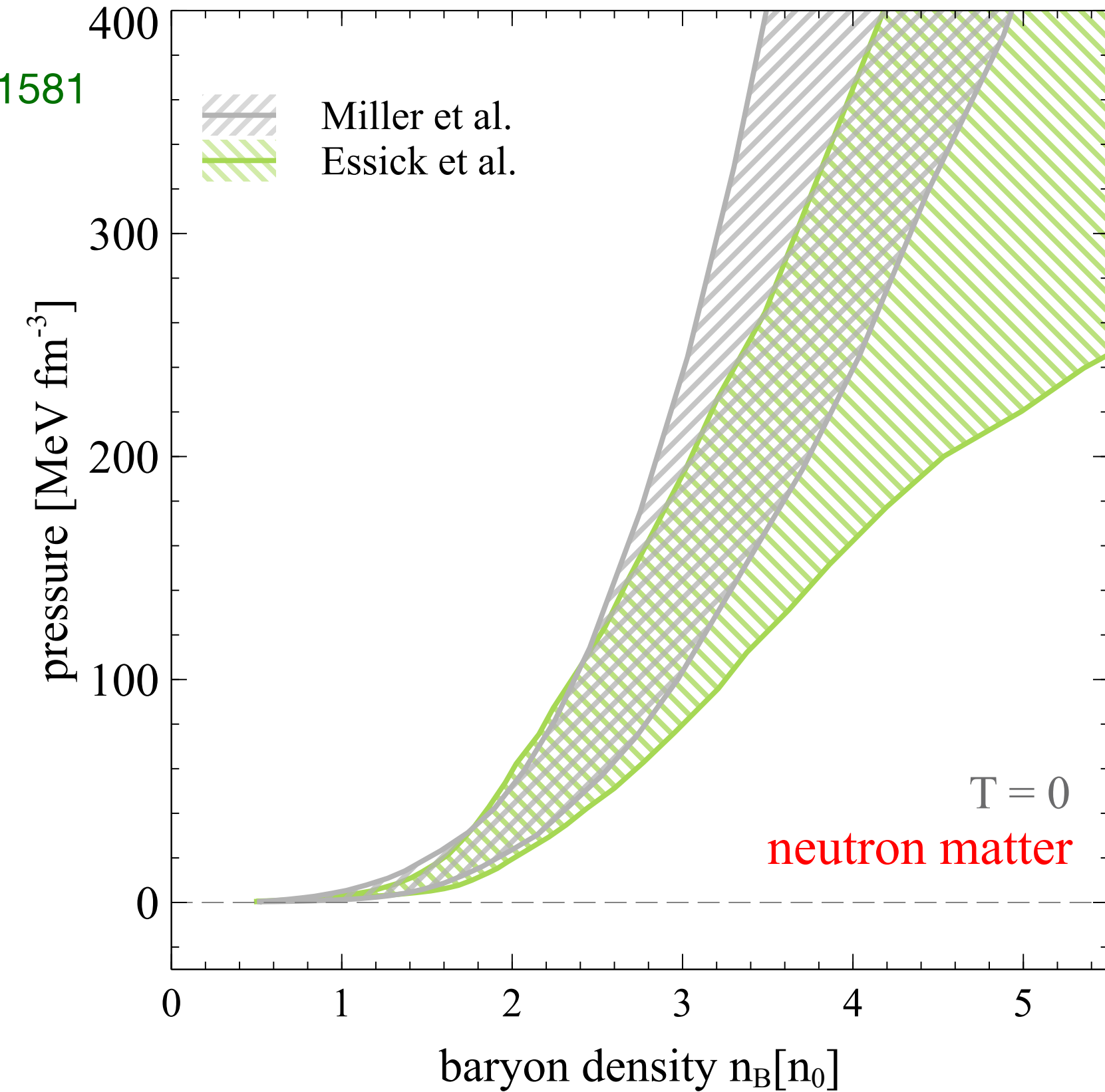
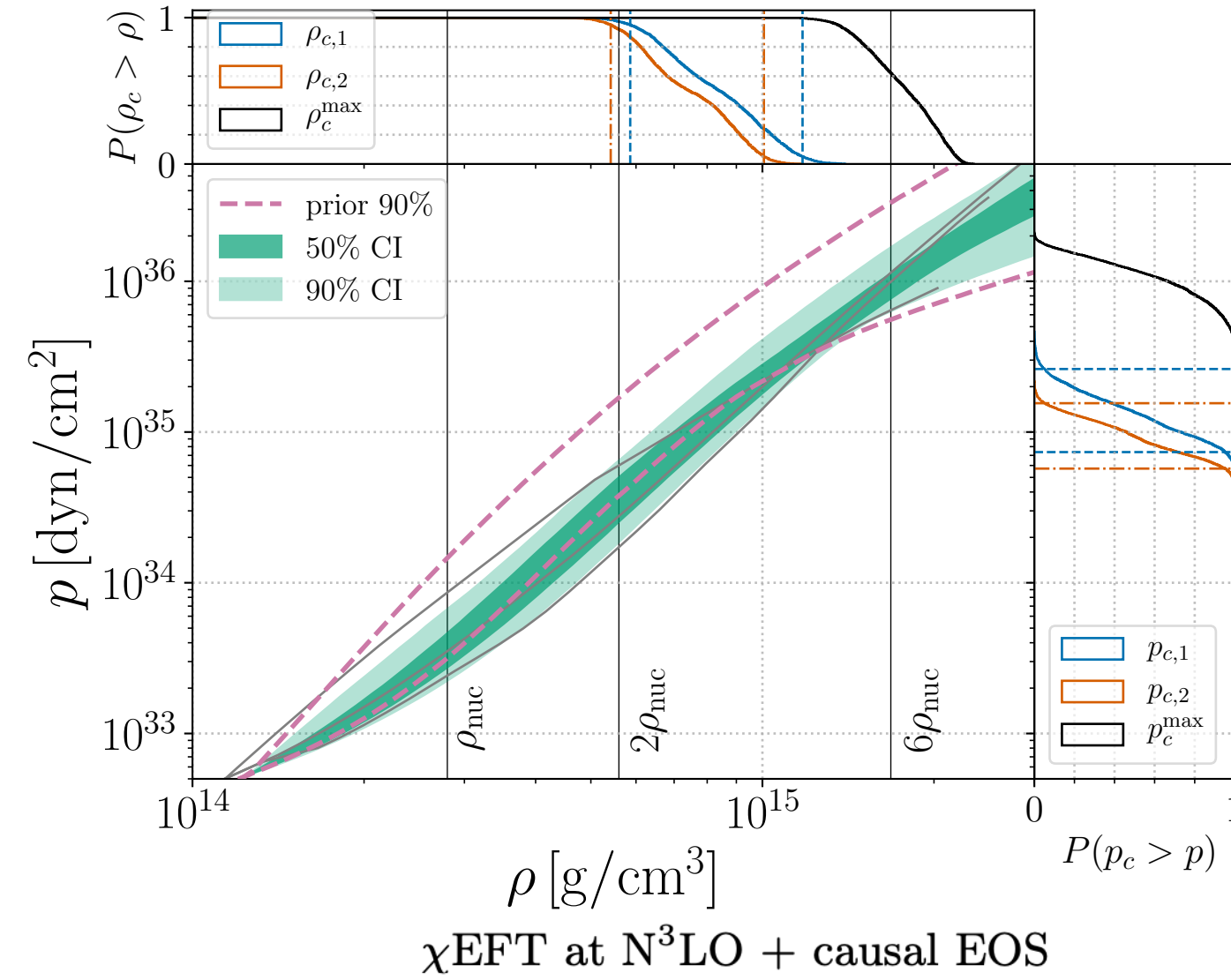


# The EOS = key to understanding fundamental properties of QCD matter

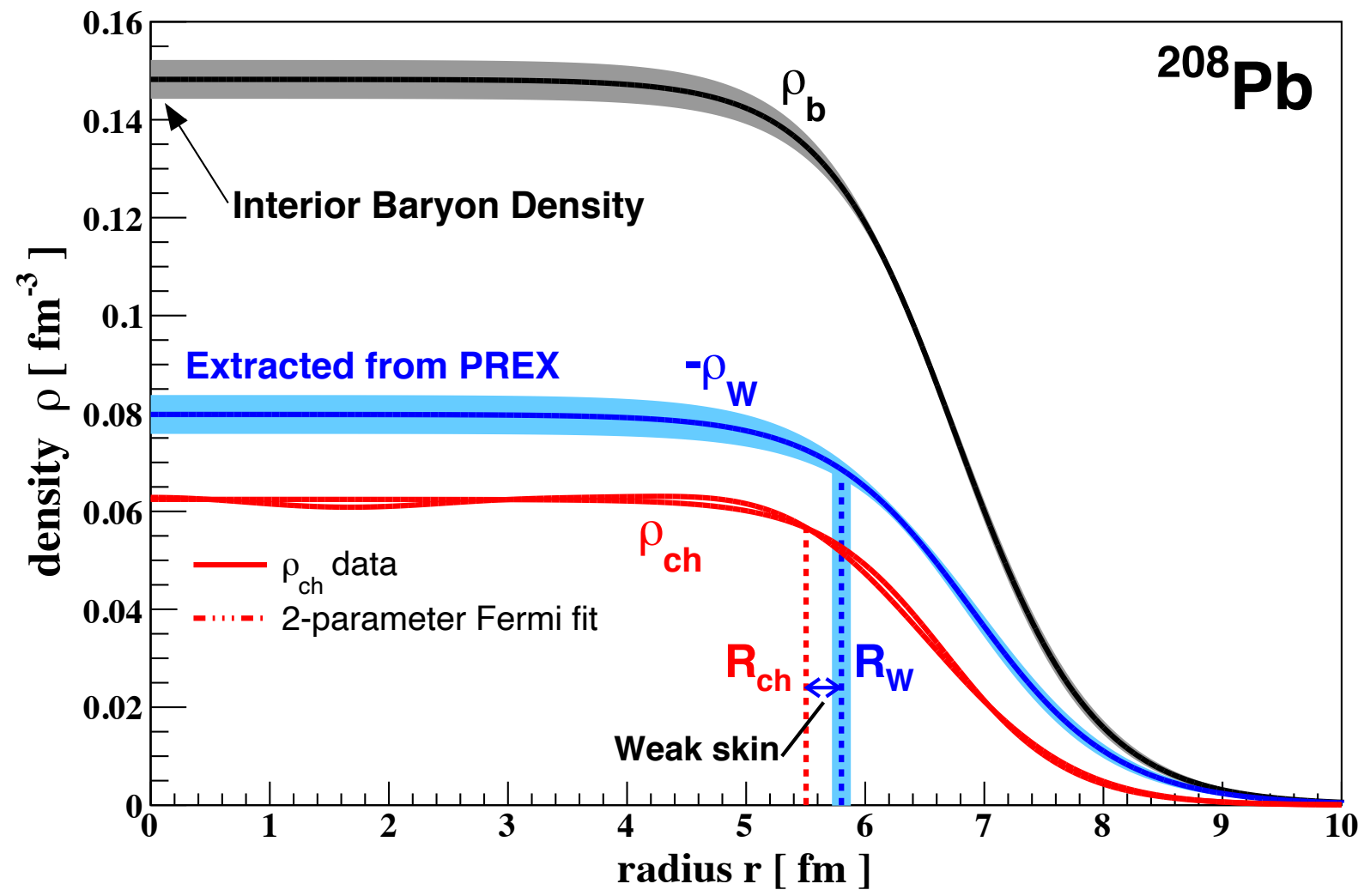
## 2) Uncovering the isospin-dependence of strong interactions



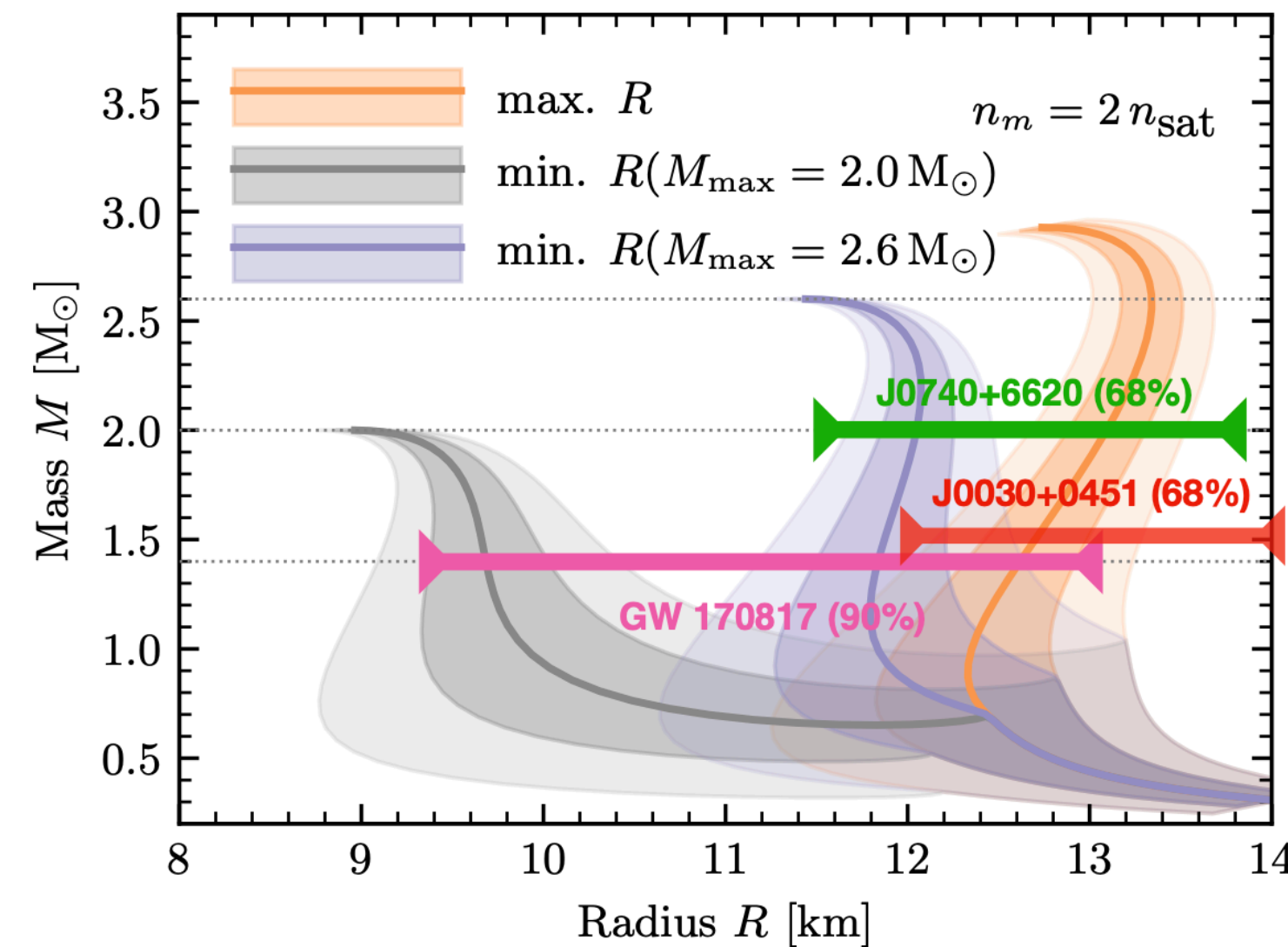
LIGO, Phys. Rev. Lett. **121** 16, 161101 (2018), arXiv:1805.11581



R. Essick, I. Tews, P. Landry, S. Reddy, D. E. Holz, Phys. Rev. C **102**, 055803 (2020), arXiv:2004.07744



D. Adhikari *et al.* (PREX Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. **126** 17, 172502 (2021), arXiv:2102.10767



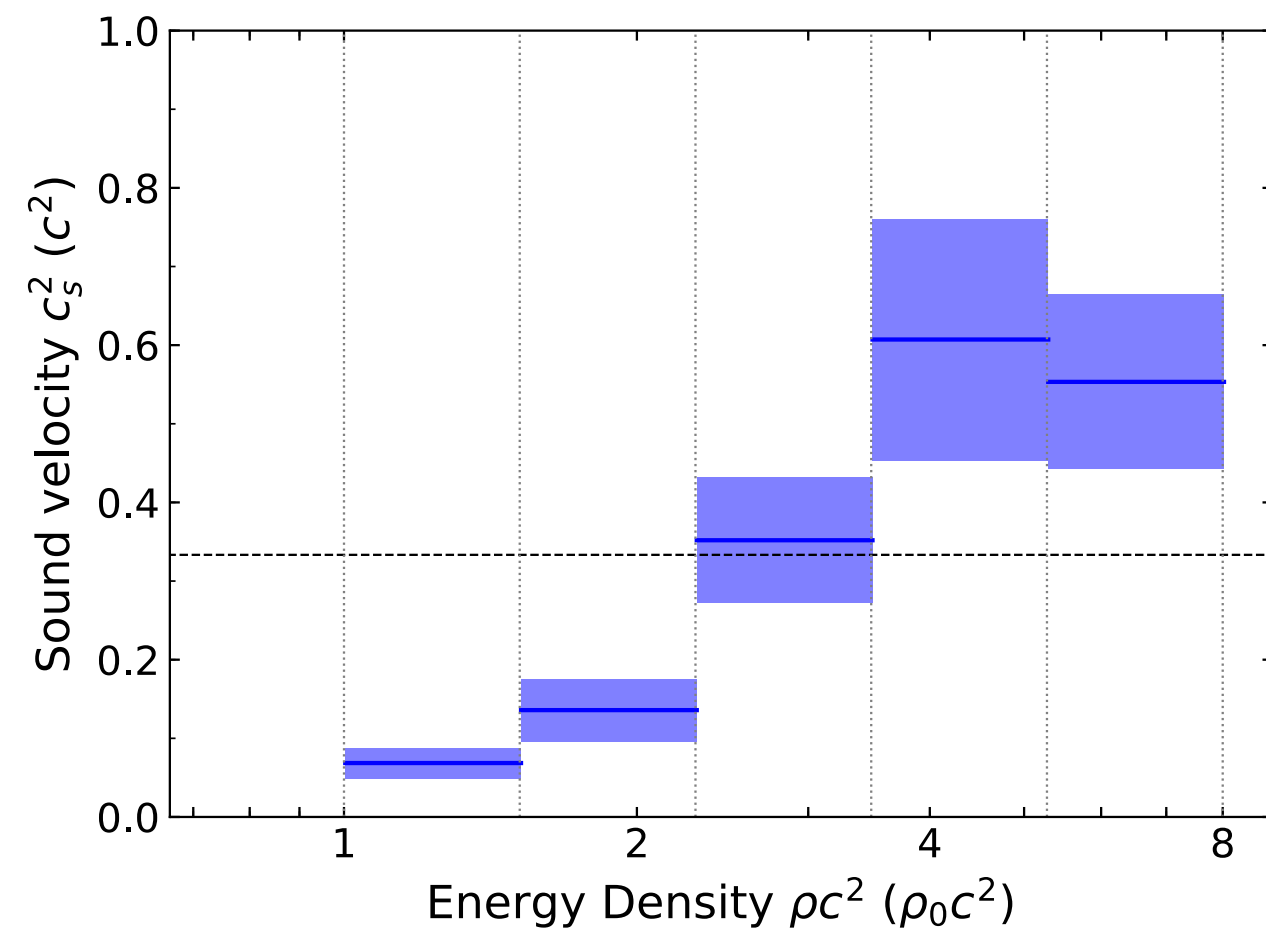
\* from S. Reddy's slides; M-R results:  
C. Drischler, S. Han, J. M. Lattimer, M. Prakash, S. Reddy, T. Zhao, Phys. Rev. C **103** 4, 045808 (2021), arXiv:2009.06441

# The EOS = key to understanding fundamental properties of QCD matter

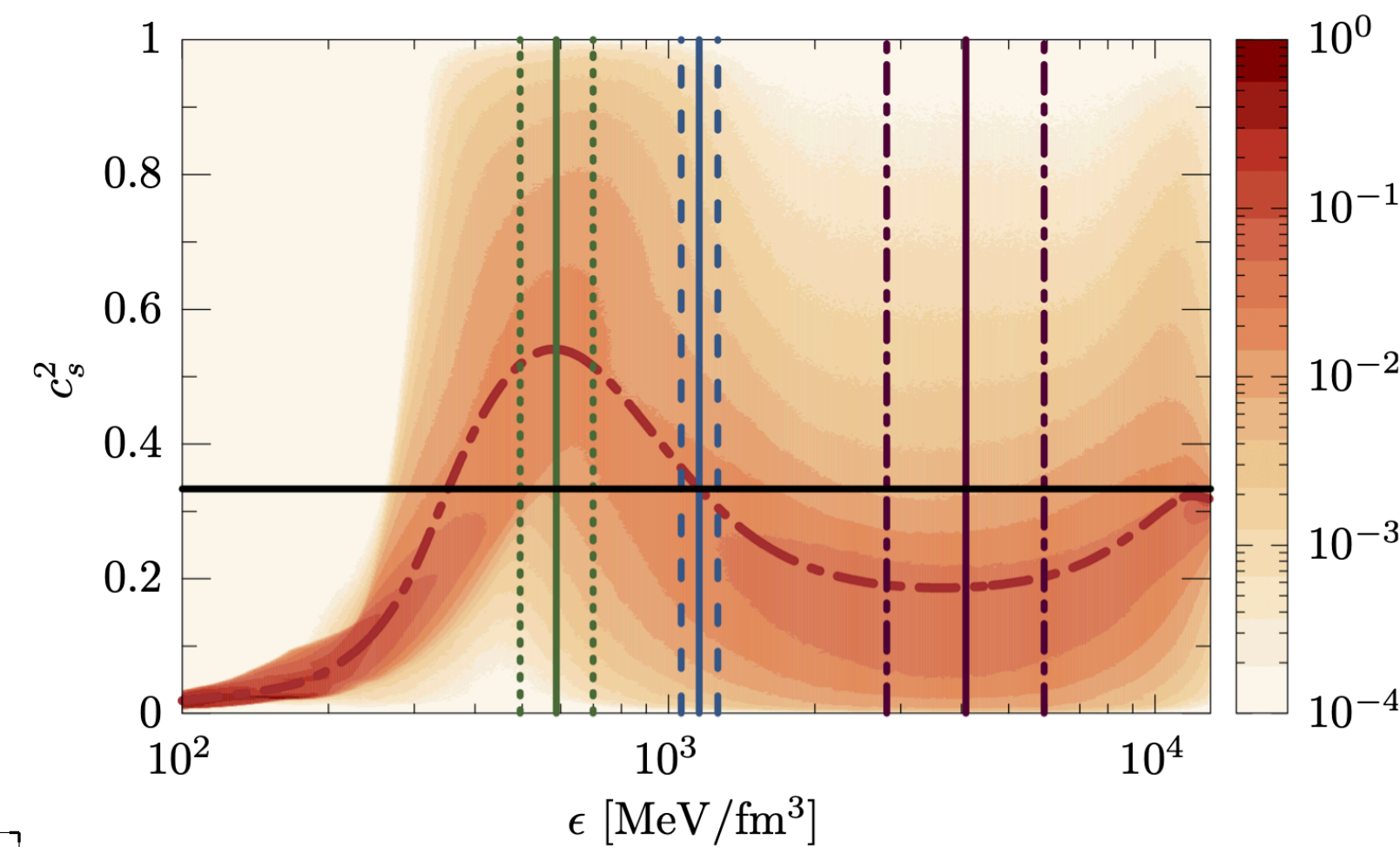
## 3) Understanding extreme behavior at high baryon densities: is $c_s^2 > 1/3$ for symmetric matter?

P. Bedaque and A. W. Steiner, Phys. Rev. Lett. **114**, no.3, 031103 (2015), arXiv: 1408.5116

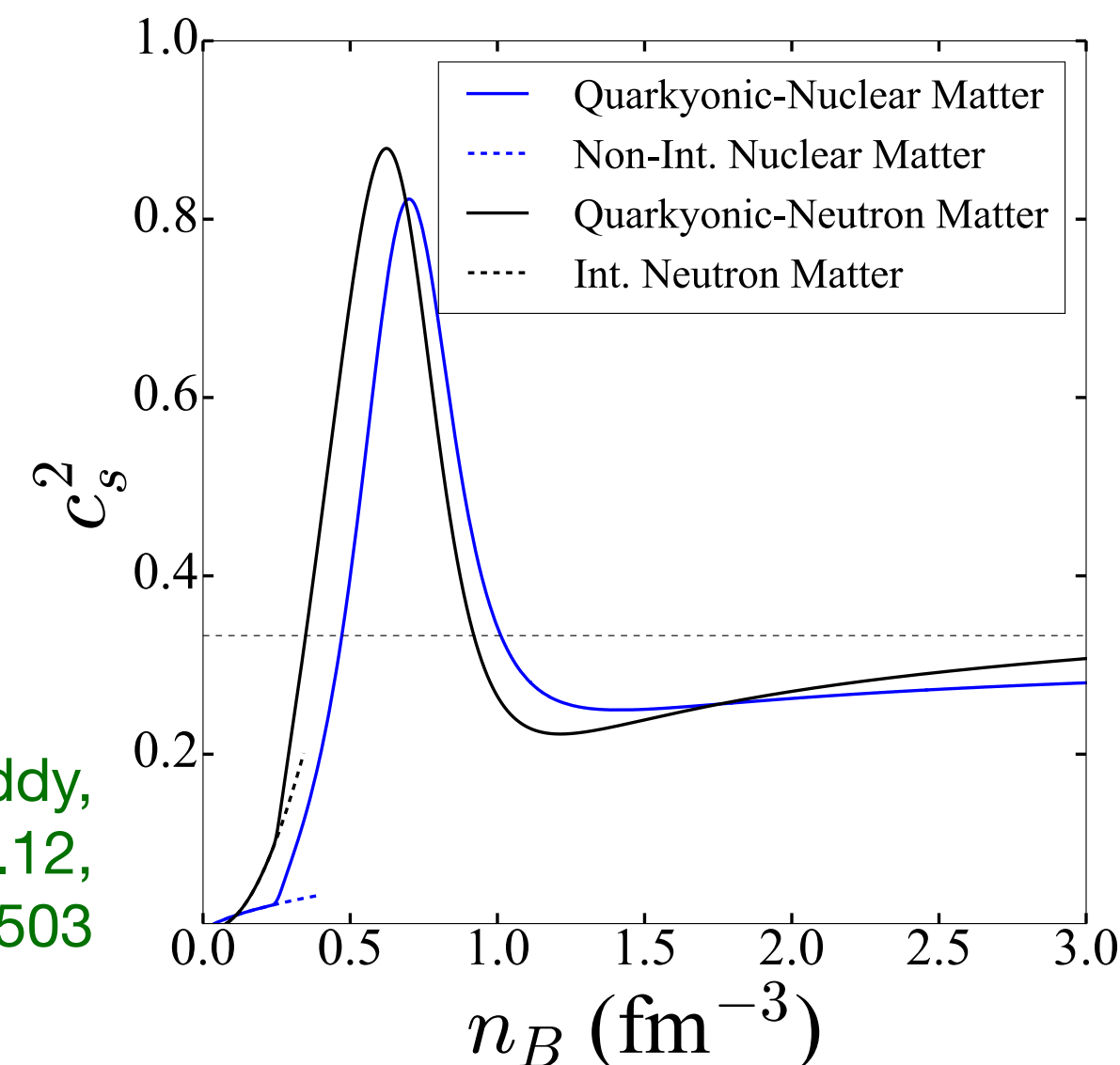
I. Tews, J. Carlson, S. Gandolfi and S. Reddy, Astrophys. J. **860**, no.2, 149 (2018), arXiv:1801.01923



Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, K. Murase, Phys. Rev. D **101**, 5, 054016 (2020), arXiv:1903.03400

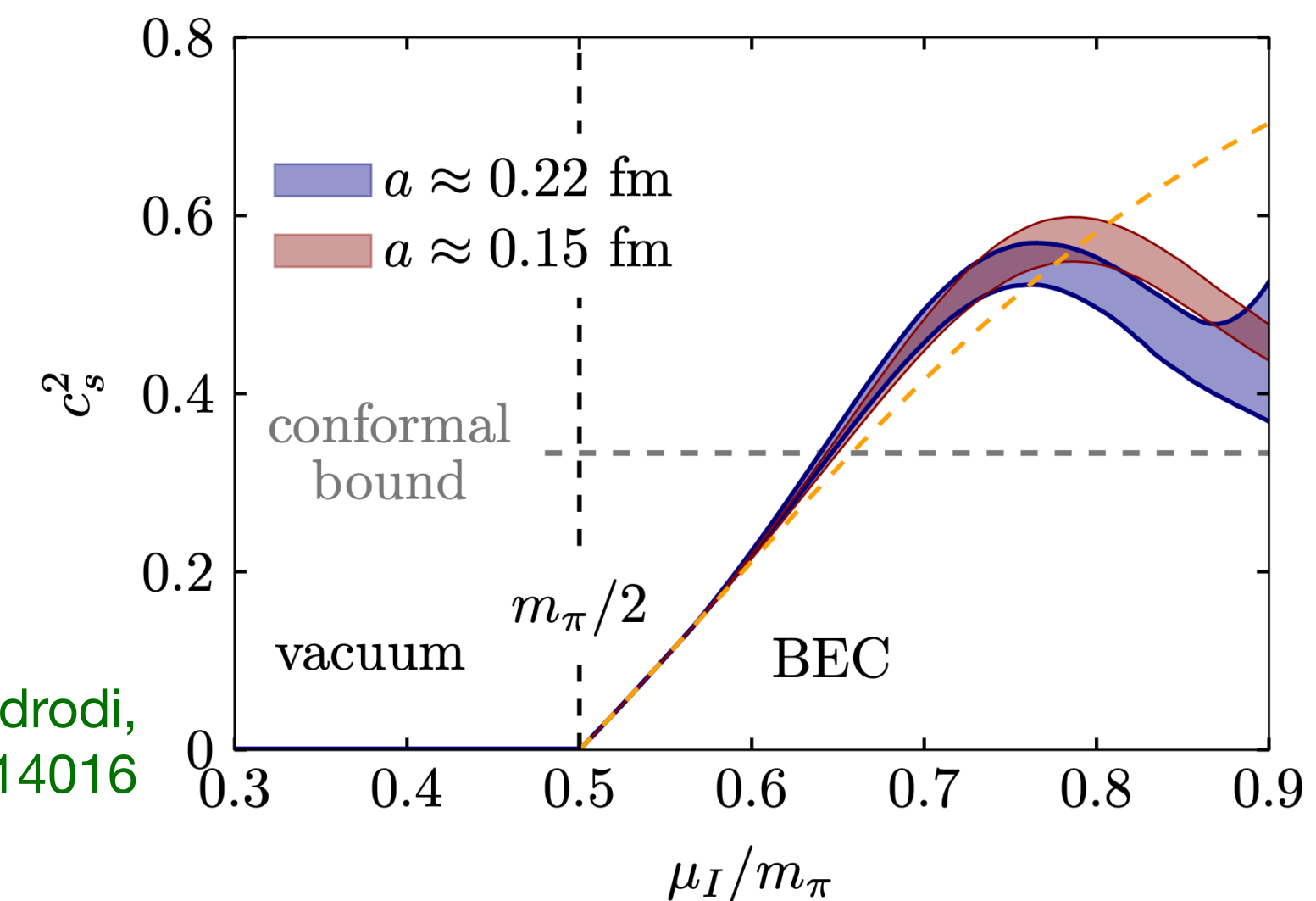


M. Marczenko, L. McLerran, K. Redlich, C. Sasaki, Phys. Rev. C **107**, 2, 025802 (2023) arXiv:2207.13059

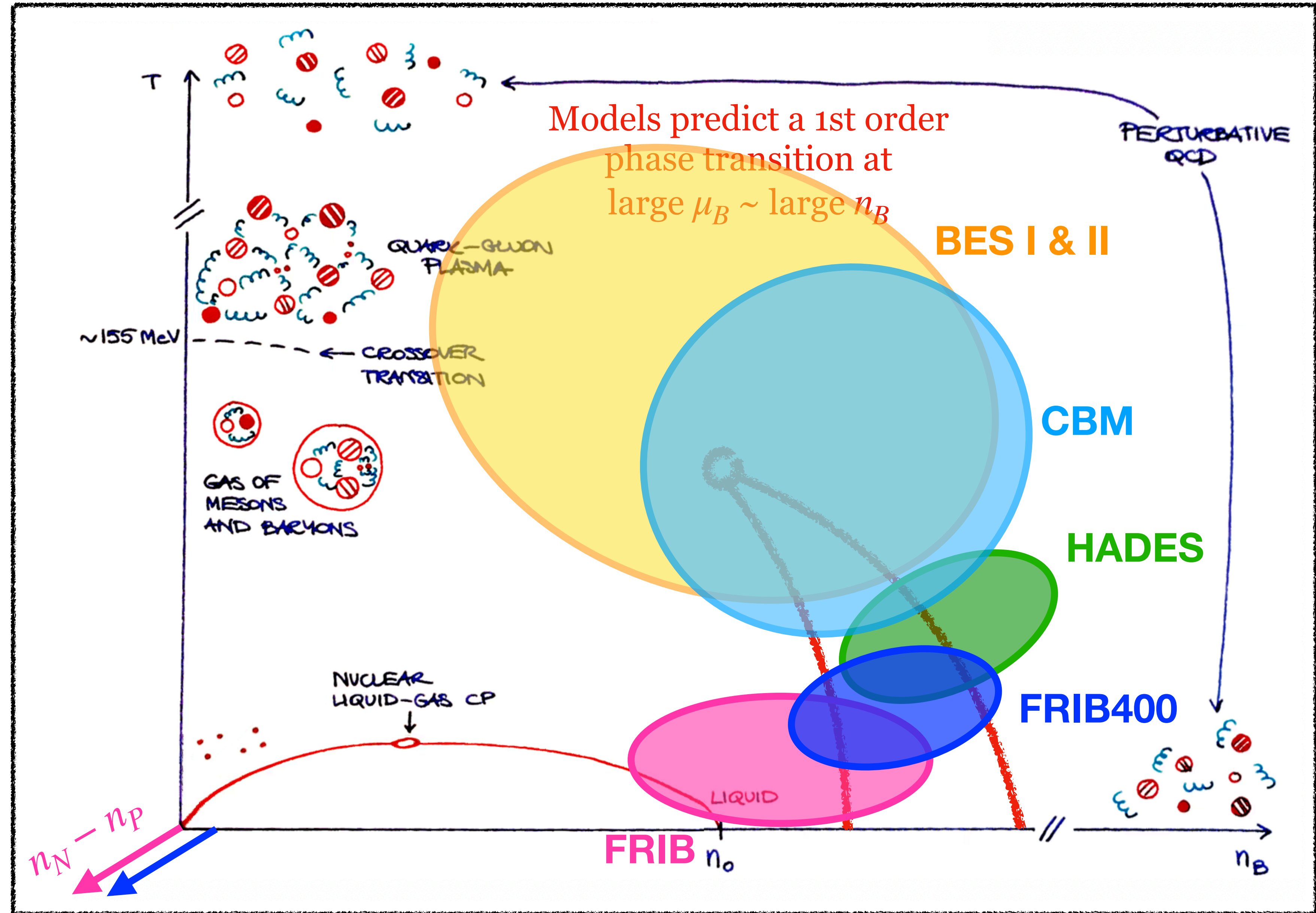


L. McLerran and S. Reddy, Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, no.12, 122701 (2019), arXiv:1811.12503

B. B. Brandt, F. Cuteri, G. Endrodi, arXiv:2212.14016

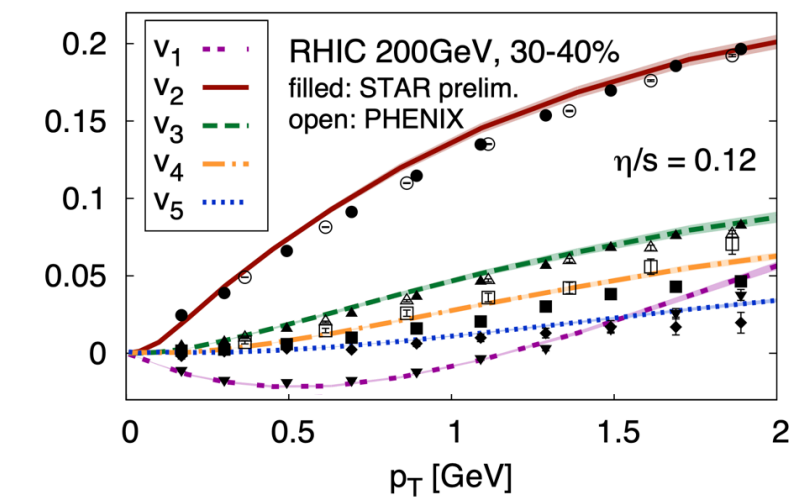


# The QCD phase diagram: enormous interest in behavior at high $n_B$



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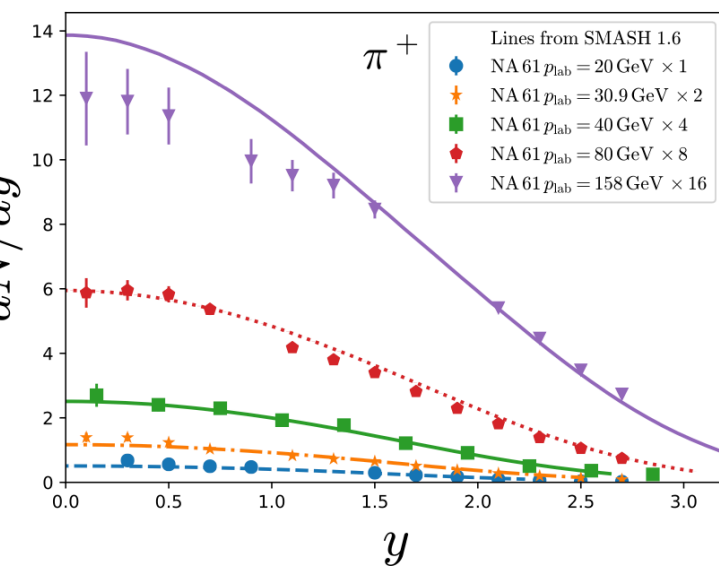
Relativistic viscous hydrodynamic simulations with LQCD EOS: amazing agreement with data from high-energy collisions



C. Gale, S. Jeon, B. Schenke, P. Tribedy, R. Venugopalan, Phys. Rev. Lett. **110** (2013) 1, 012302, arXiv:1209.6330

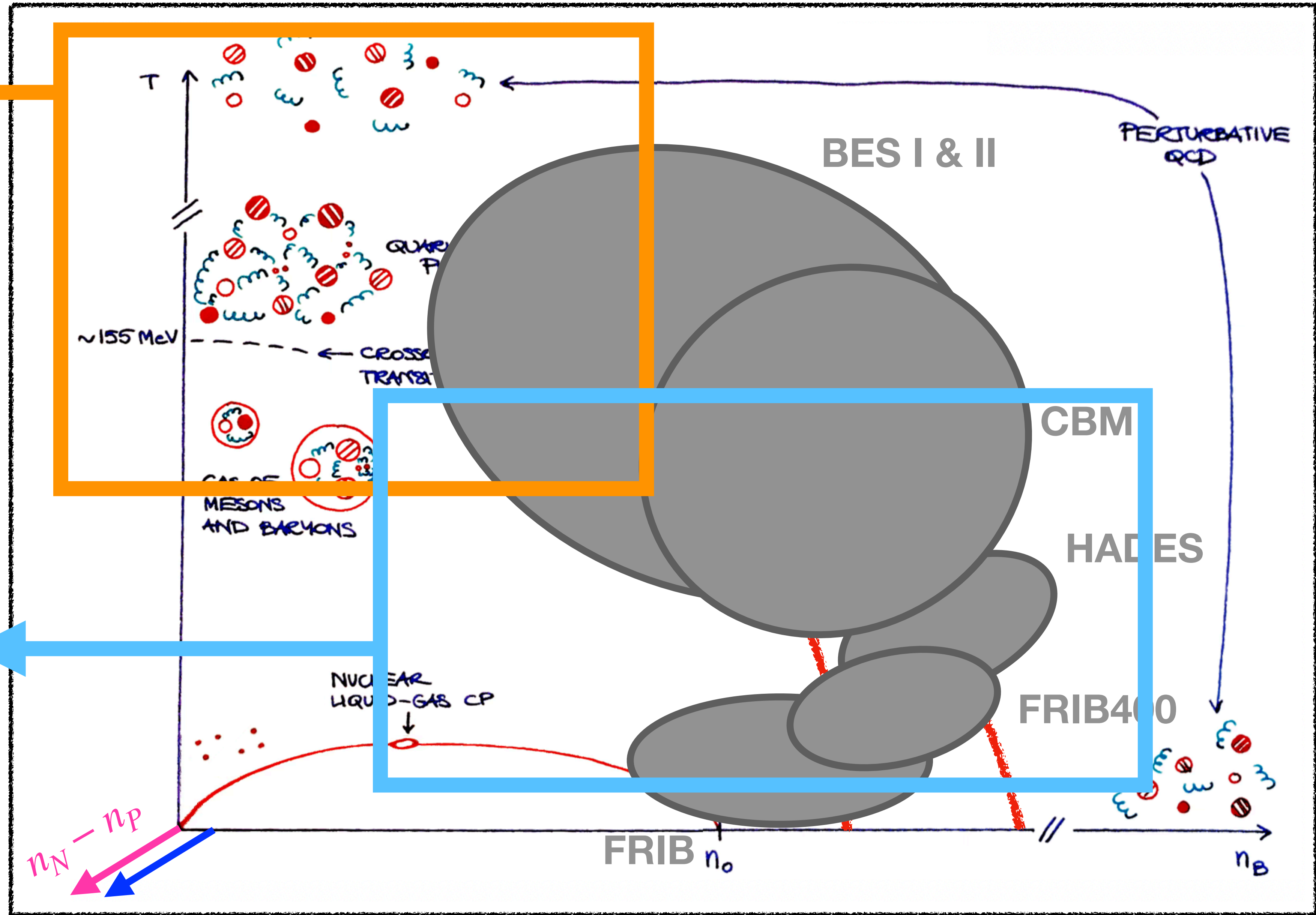
fast equilibration = hydro applies

Hadronic transport simulations:



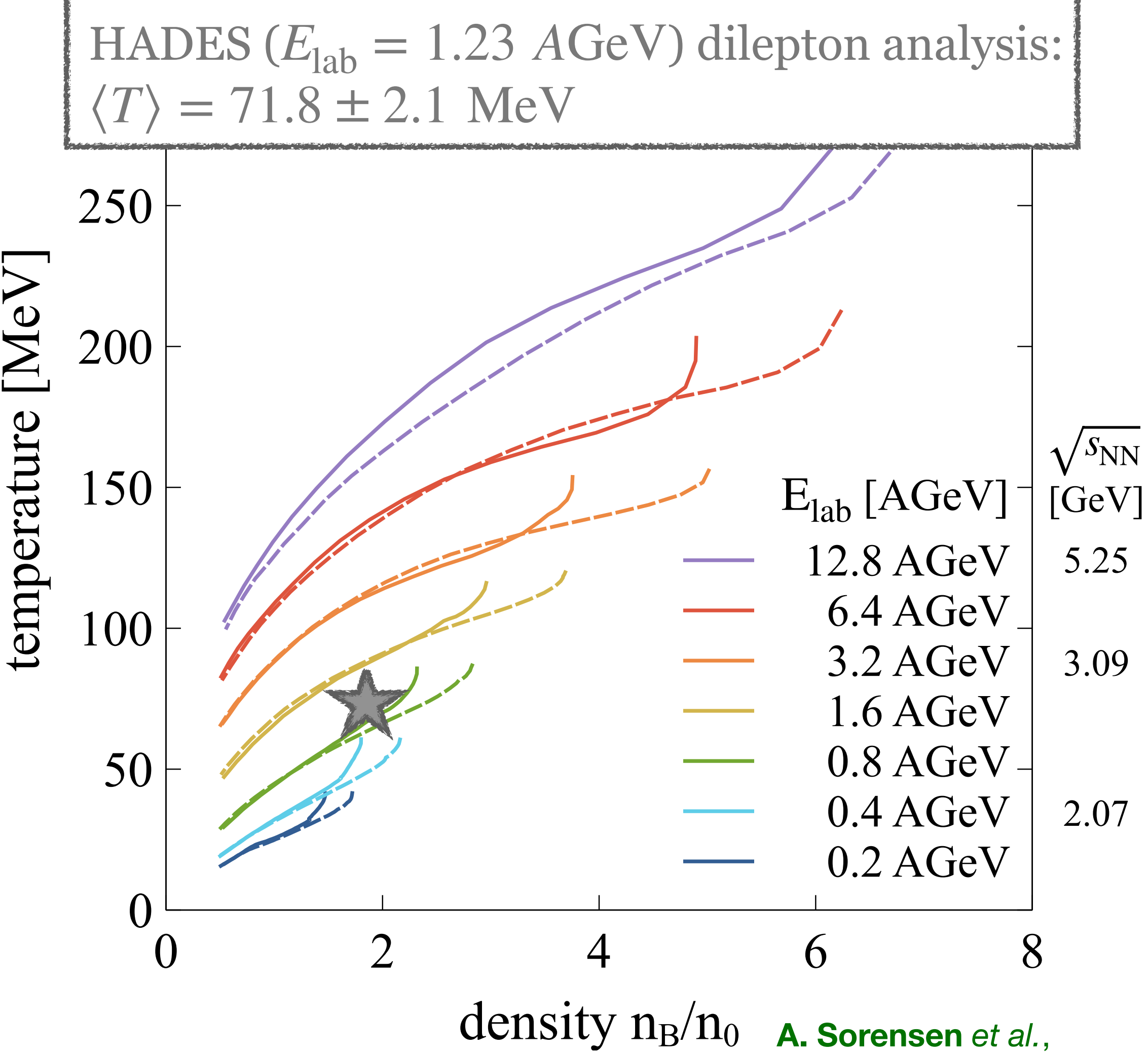
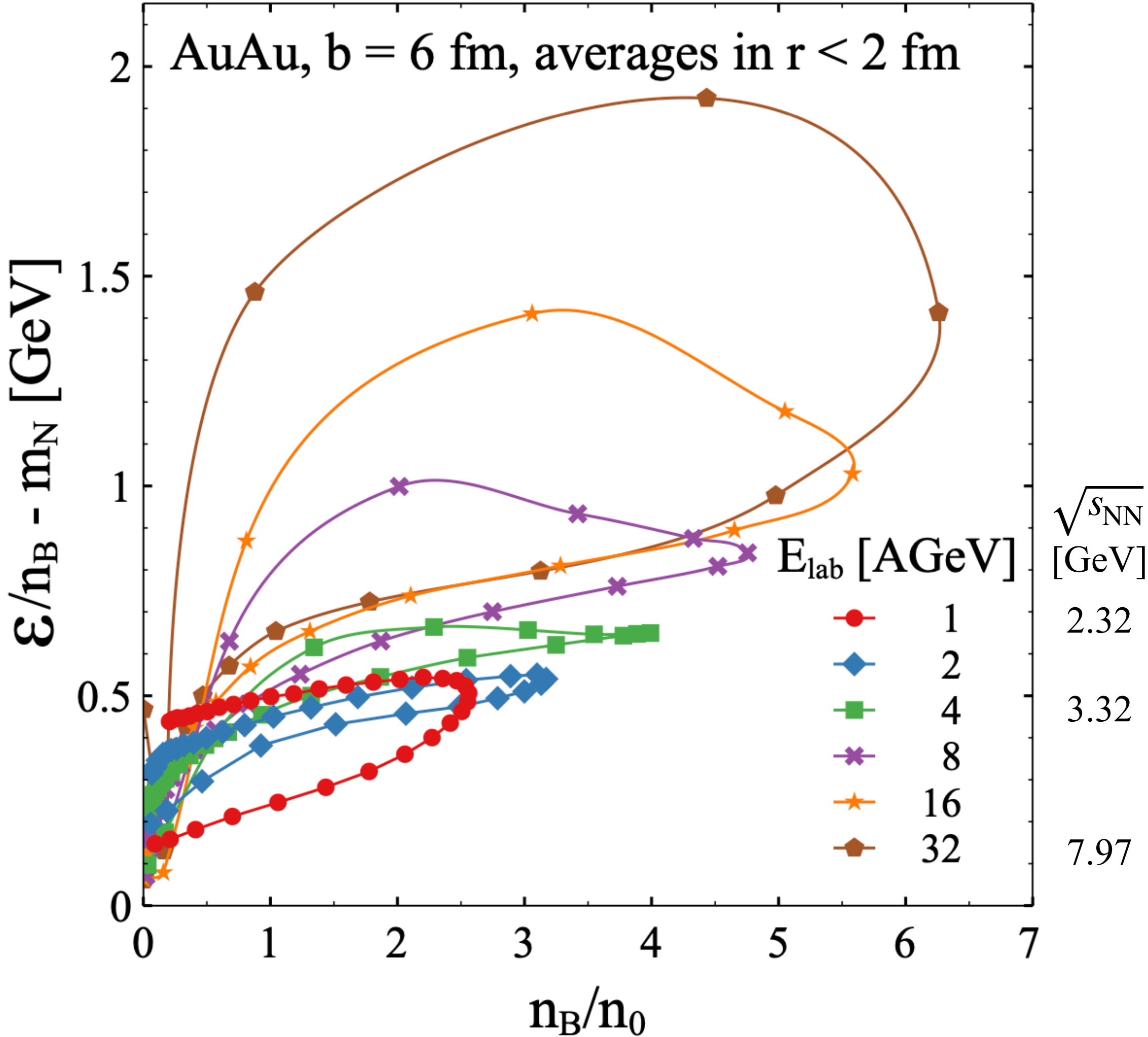
systems out of equilibrium = microscopic approach needed

J. Mohs, S. Ryu, H. Elfner, J. Phys. G **47** (2020) 6, 065101 arXiv:1909.05586





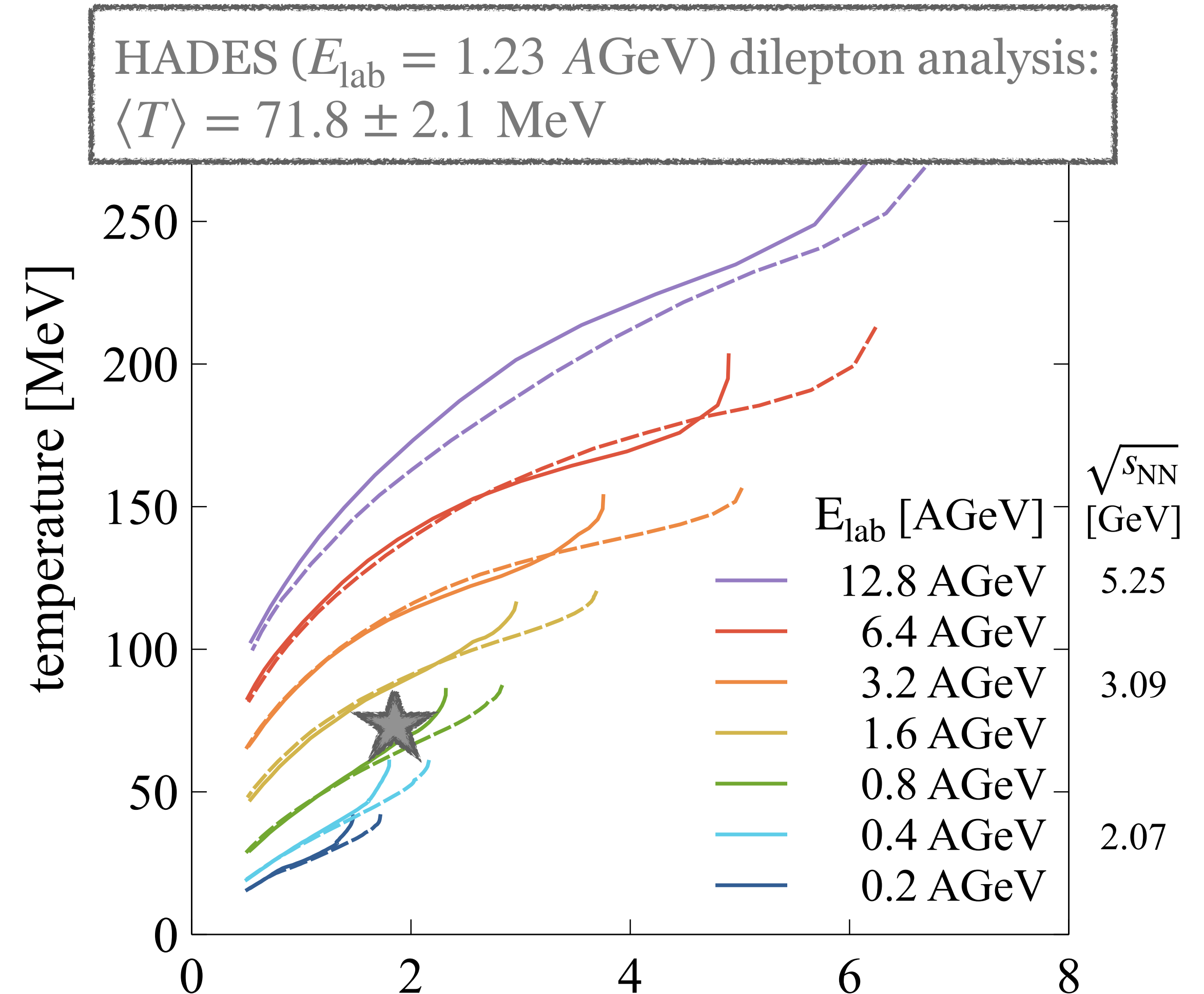
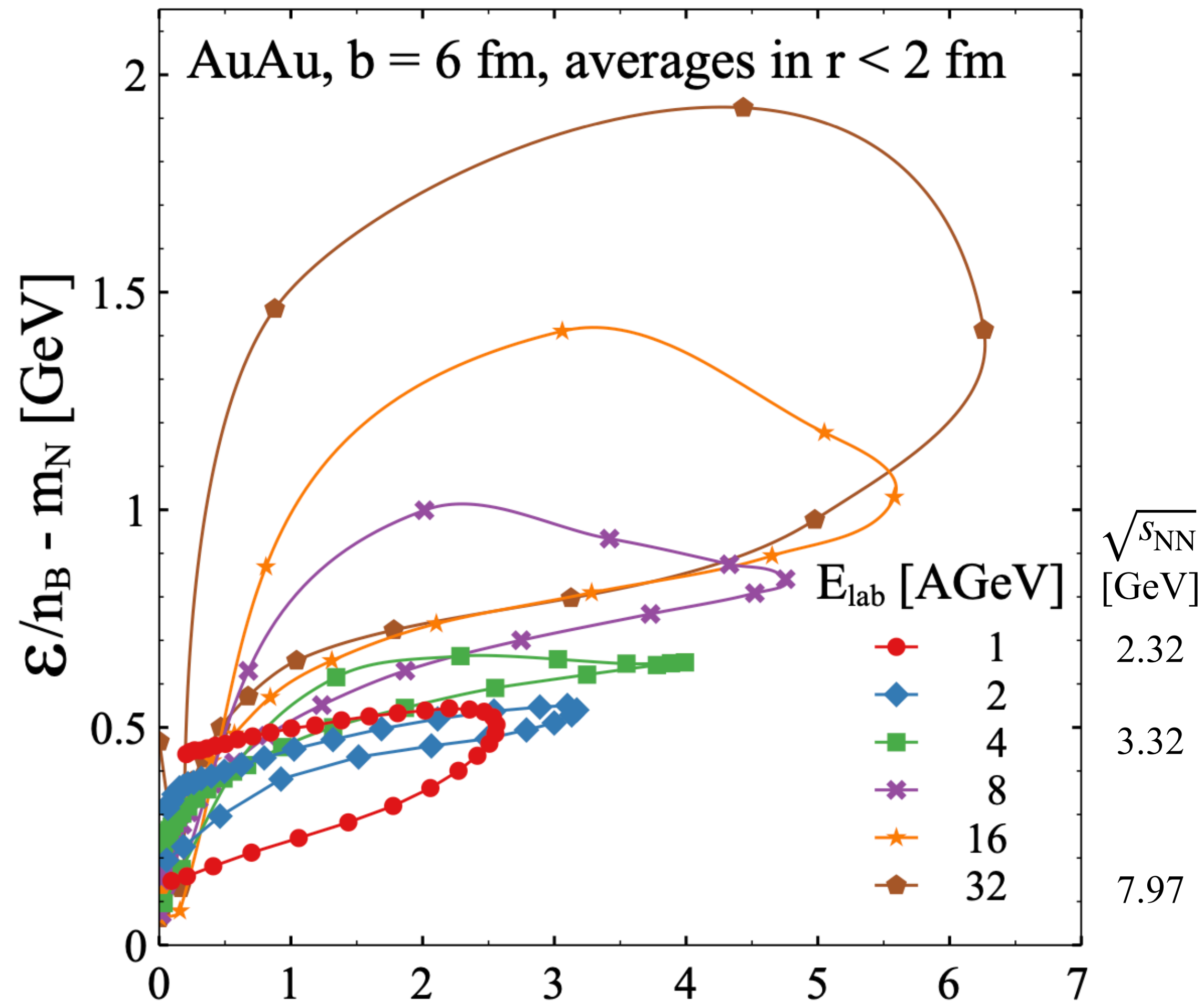
# Intermediate-energy heavy-ion collisions probe wide ranges of density and temperature



D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran,  
 arXiv:2208.11996

**A. Sorensen et al.**,  
 arXiv:2301.13253

# Intermediate-energy heavy-ion collisions probe wide ranges of density and temperature



HICs = the only means to probe densities away from  $n_0$  in controlled terrestrial experiments  
 Hadronic transport is necessary to interpret the results: BES FXT, HADES, CBM, FRIB, FRIB400

# The EOS is a common effort within the nuclear physics community

A. Sorensen *et al.*, arXiv:2301.13253

## Dense Nuclear Matter Equation of State from Heavy-Ion Collisions \*

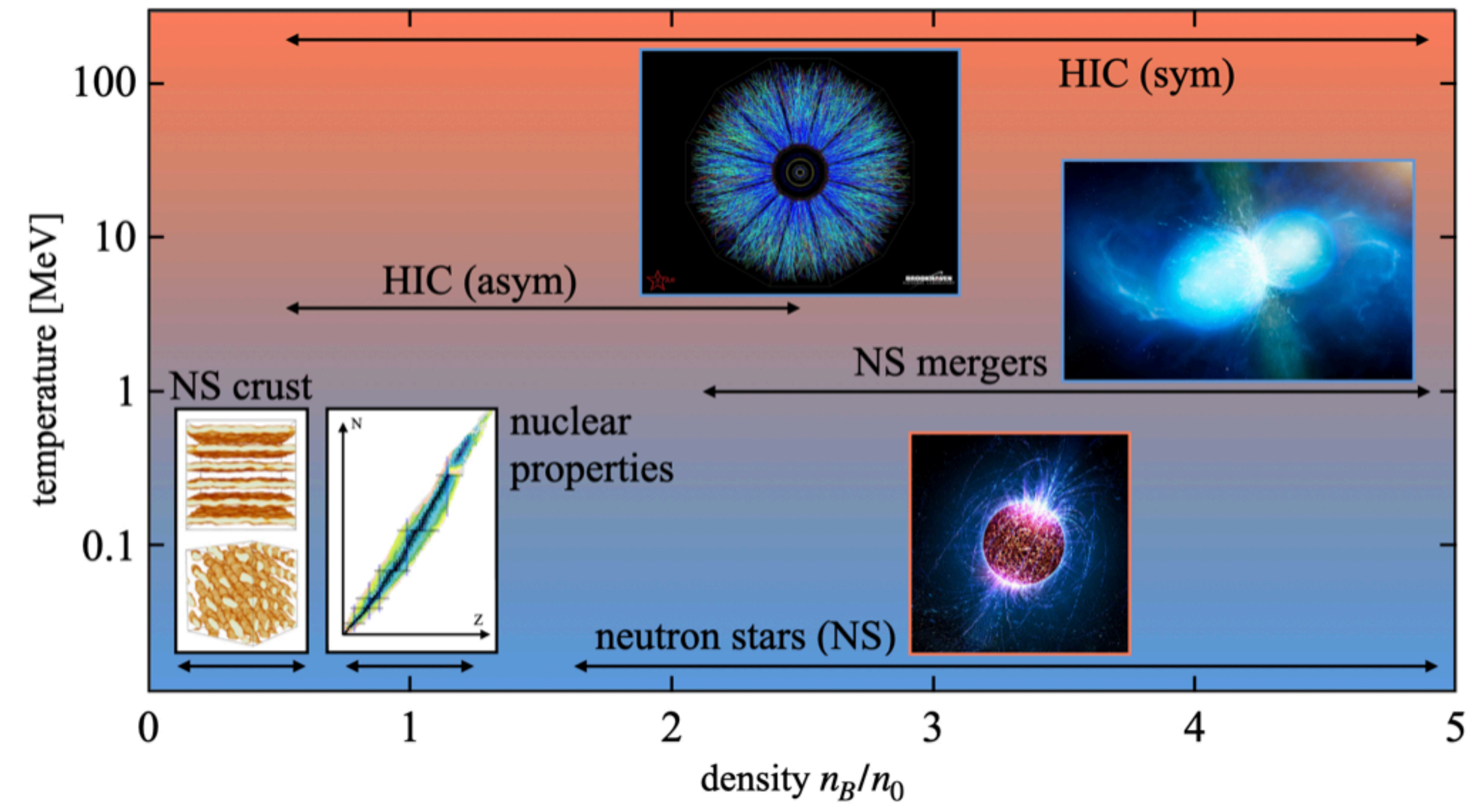
Agnieszka Sorensen<sup>1</sup>, Kshitij Agarwal<sup>2</sup>, Kyle W. Brown<sup>3,4</sup>, Zbigniew Chajecski<sup>5</sup>,  
Paweł Danielewicz<sup>3,6</sup>, Christian Drischler<sup>7</sup>, Stefano Gandolfi<sup>8</sup>, Jeremy W. Holt<sup>9,10</sup>,  
Matthias Kaminski<sup>11</sup>, Che-Ming Ko<sup>9,10</sup>, Rohit Kumar<sup>3</sup>, Bao-An Li<sup>12</sup>, William G. Lynch<sup>3,6</sup>,  
Alan B. McIntosh<sup>10</sup>, William G. Newton<sup>12</sup>, Scott Pratt<sup>3,6</sup>, Oleh Savchuk<sup>3,13</sup>, Maria Stefaniak<sup>14</sup>,  
Ingo Tews<sup>8</sup>, ManYee Betty Tsang<sup>3,6</sup>, Ramona Vogt<sup>15,16</sup>, Hermann Wolter<sup>17</sup>, Hanna Zbroszczyk<sup>18</sup>

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Christian Sturm<sup>14</sup>, Kai-Jia Sun<sup>88</sup>, Aihong Tang<sup>60</sup>, Giorgio Torrieri<sup>89,90</sup>, Wolfgang Trautmann<sup>14</sup>,  
Giuseppe Verde<sup>91</sup>, Volodymyr Vorchenko<sup>77</sup>, Ryoichi Wada<sup>10</sup>, Fuqiang Wang<sup>92</sup>, Gang Wang<sup>54</sup>,  
Klaus Werner<sup>20</sup>, Nu Xu<sup>40</sup>, Zhangbu Xu<sup>60</sup>, Ho-Ung Yee<sup>87</sup>, Sherry Yennello<sup>9,10,93</sup>, Yi Yin<sup>94</sup>

Hot QCD

Low energy + Astro



arXiv:2301.13253v2 [nucl-th] 25 Feb 2023

# Transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions

- Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck (BUU)-type codes:

- solve coupled Boltzmann equations

$$\forall i : \quad \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial t} + \frac{d\mathbf{x}_i}{dt} \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \mathbf{x}_i} + \frac{d\mathbf{p}_i}{dt} \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \mathbf{p}_i} = I_{\text{coll}}^{(i)}$$

with the method of test particles: the distribution is *oversampled* with a *large* number of discrete test-particles, which are evolved according to the single-particle EOMs (test particles probe the evolution in the phase space)

- forces from gradients of single-particle energies (mean-fields: needs a robust density calculation!)

- collision term based on measured cross-sections for scatterings and decays

- Quantum Molecular Dynamics (QMD)-type codes

- solve molecular dynamics problem (evolve nucleons according to their EOMs)

- forces: in principle distance-dependent particle-particle interactions, in practice: often mean-fields!

- collisions based on measured cross-sections for scatterings and decays

# Transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions

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with the method of test particles: the distribution is *oversampled* with a *large* number of discrete test-particles, which are then used to calculate the macroscopic quantities (test particles provide a numerical representation of the distribution function)

- forces from gradients

- collision term based on

Transport ***automatically*** includes:

- non-equilibrium evolution, including triggered by probing unstable regions of the phase diagram
- effects due to the interplay between participants and spectators
- baryon, strangeness, charge transport/diffusion

(density calculation!)

- Quantum Molecular Dynamics (QMD)-type codes

- solve molecular dynamics problem (evolve nucleons according to their EOMs)

- forces: in principle distance-dependent particle-particle interactions, in practice: often mean-fields!

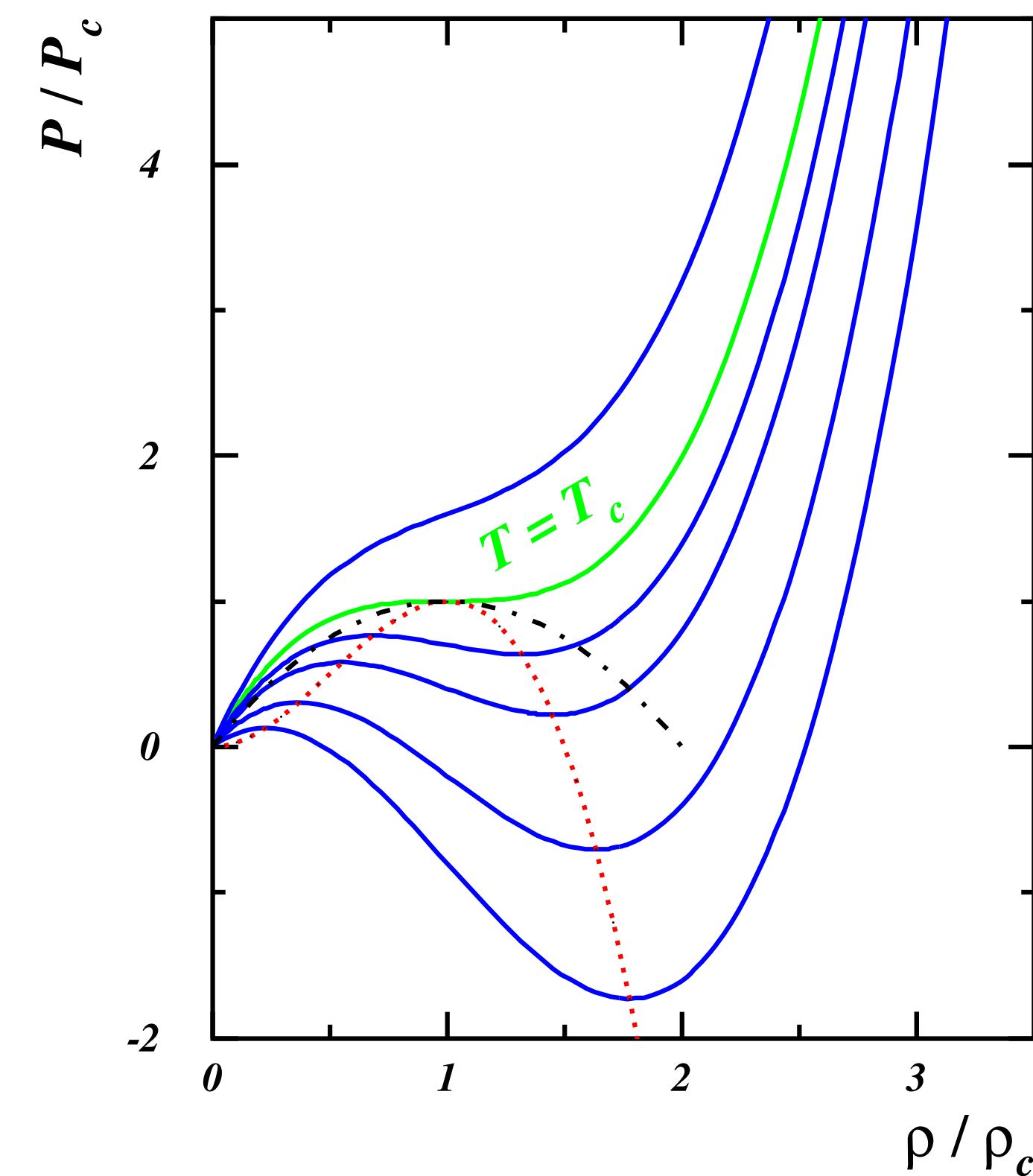
- collisions based on measured cross-sections for scatterings and decays

# Two ways of using hadronic transport

## 1) Use it as a “non-critical baseline”

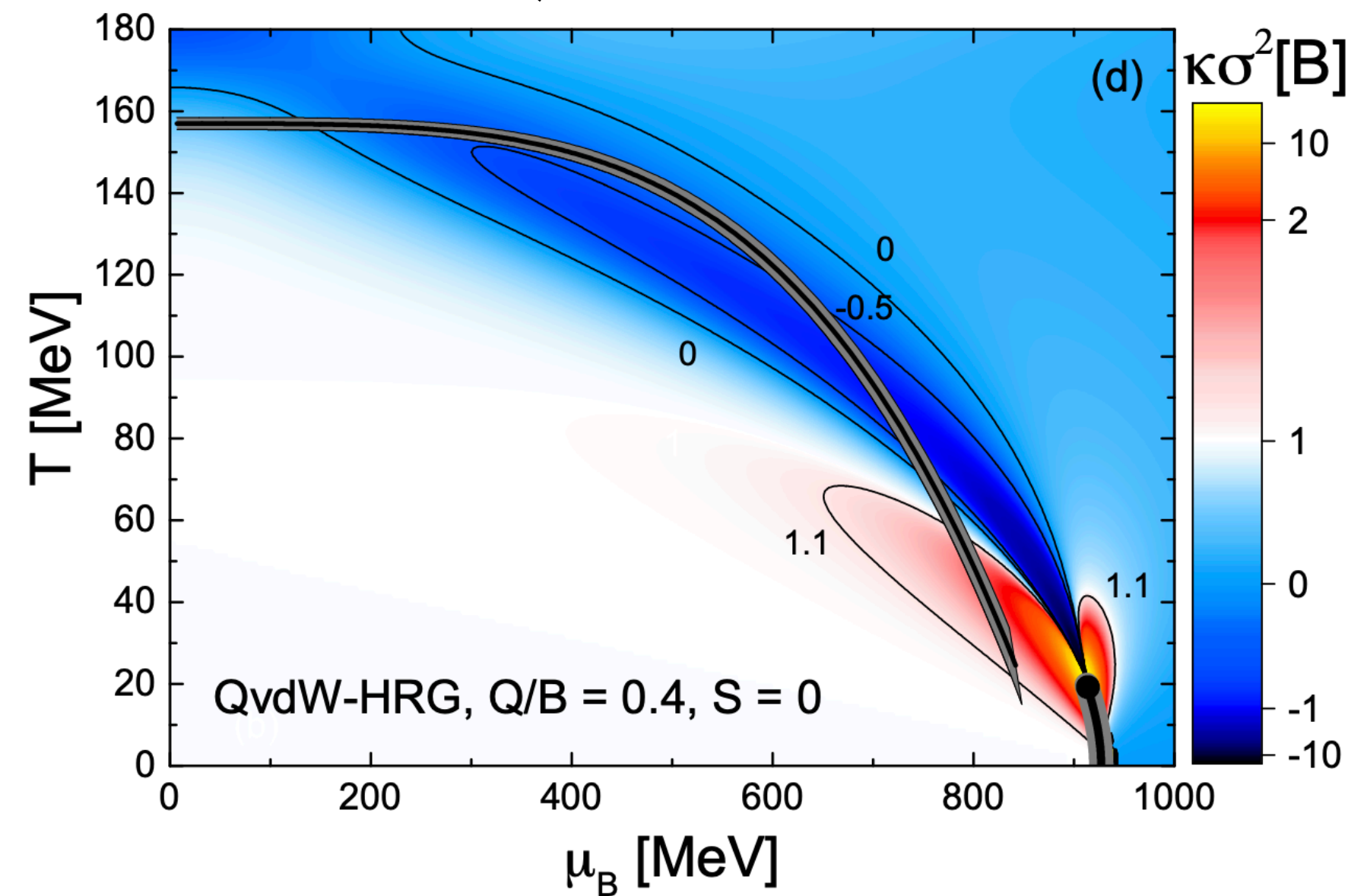
Most would agree this means “perform simulations as if there is no hadron-QGP transition”.  
 BUT that **doesn't mean there are no interactions**.

Consequences of these interactions may be significant over vast ranges of the QCD phase diagram



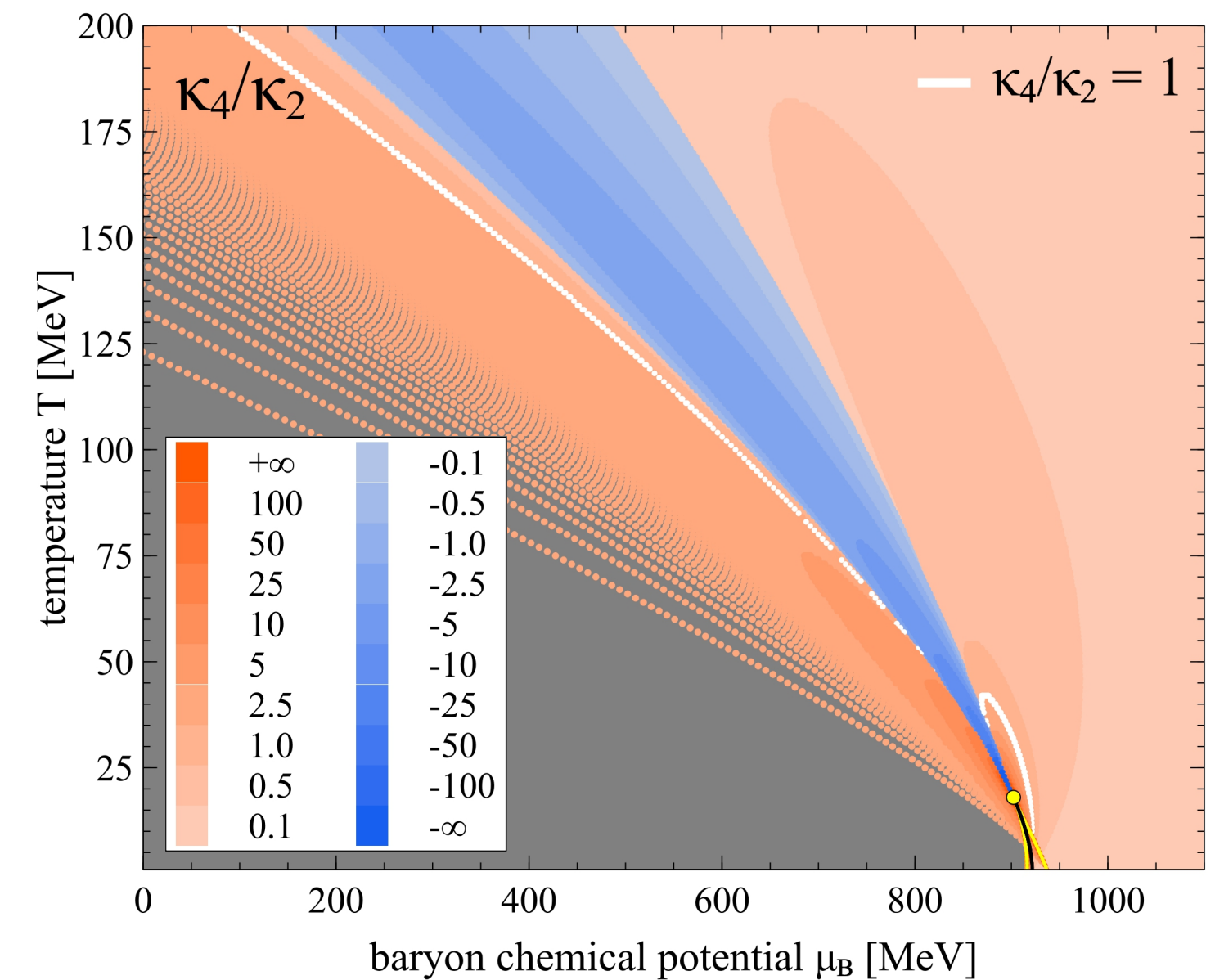
B. Borderie, J.D. Frankland, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **105**, 82-138 (2019), arXiv:1903.02881

## QvdW-HRG model



R. Poberezhnyuk, R. V. Vovchenko, A. Motornenko, M. I. Gorenstein, H. Stoecker, Phys. Rev. C **100** 5, 054904 (2019) arXiv:1906.01954

## VDF model

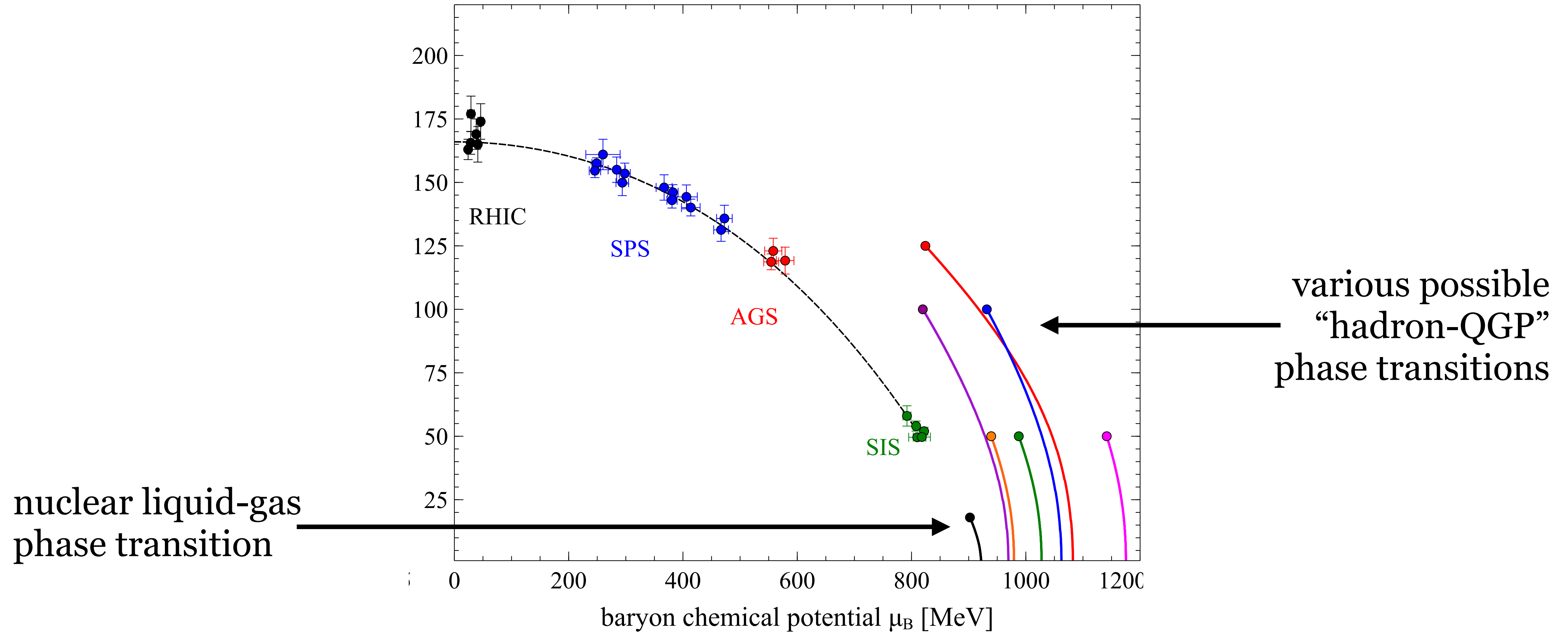


A. Sorensen, V. Koch, Phys. Rev. C **104** (2021) 3, 034904, arXiv:2011.06635

# Two ways of using hadronic transport

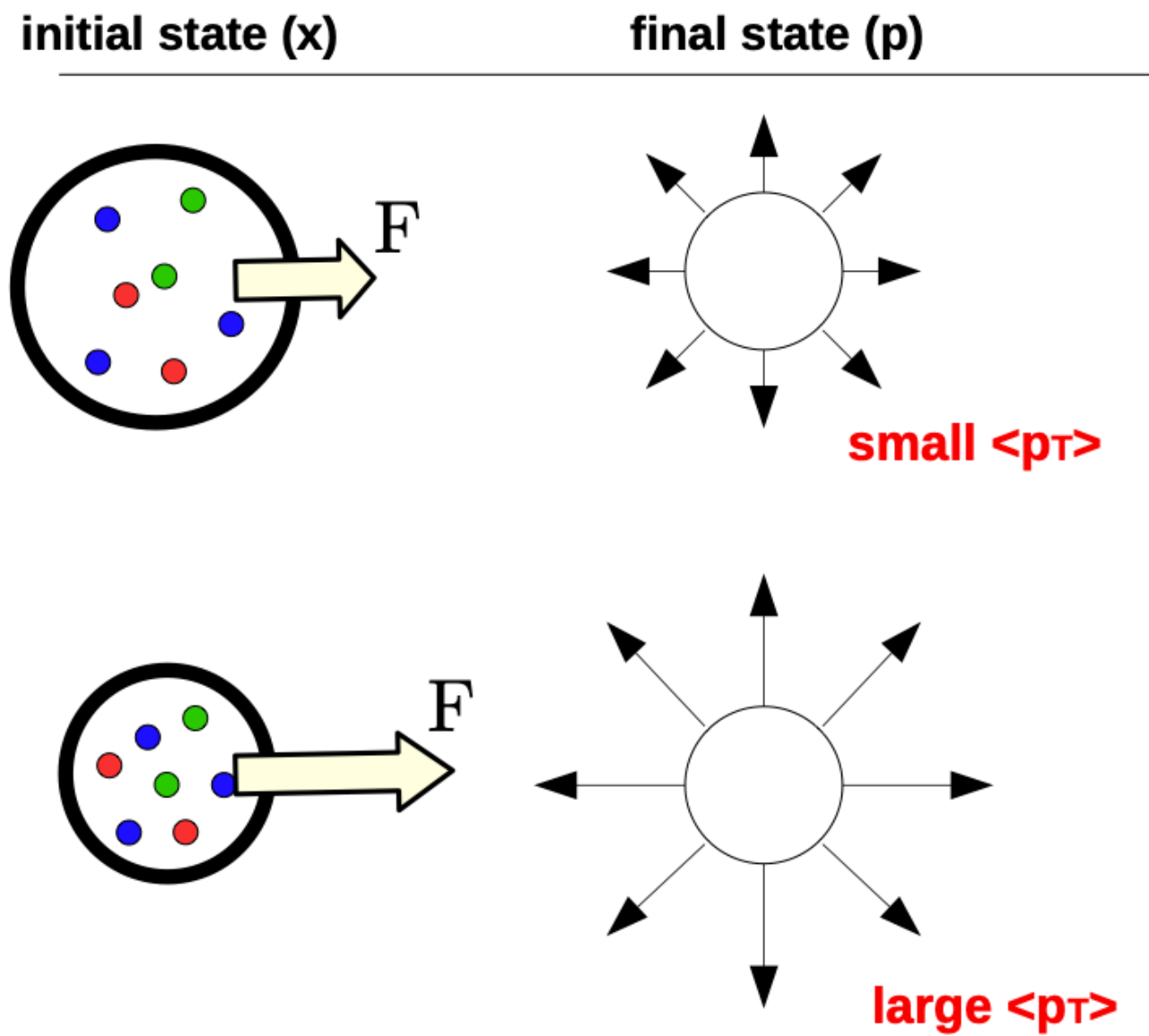
## 2) Use it to map out the QGP-hadron phase transition

e.g., use parametrizable interactions to search for the softening of the EOS



# Flow observables in heavy-ion collisions

Mean transverse momentum  $p_T$

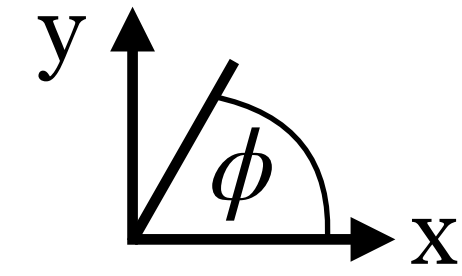


illustrations from a presentation by G. Giacalone

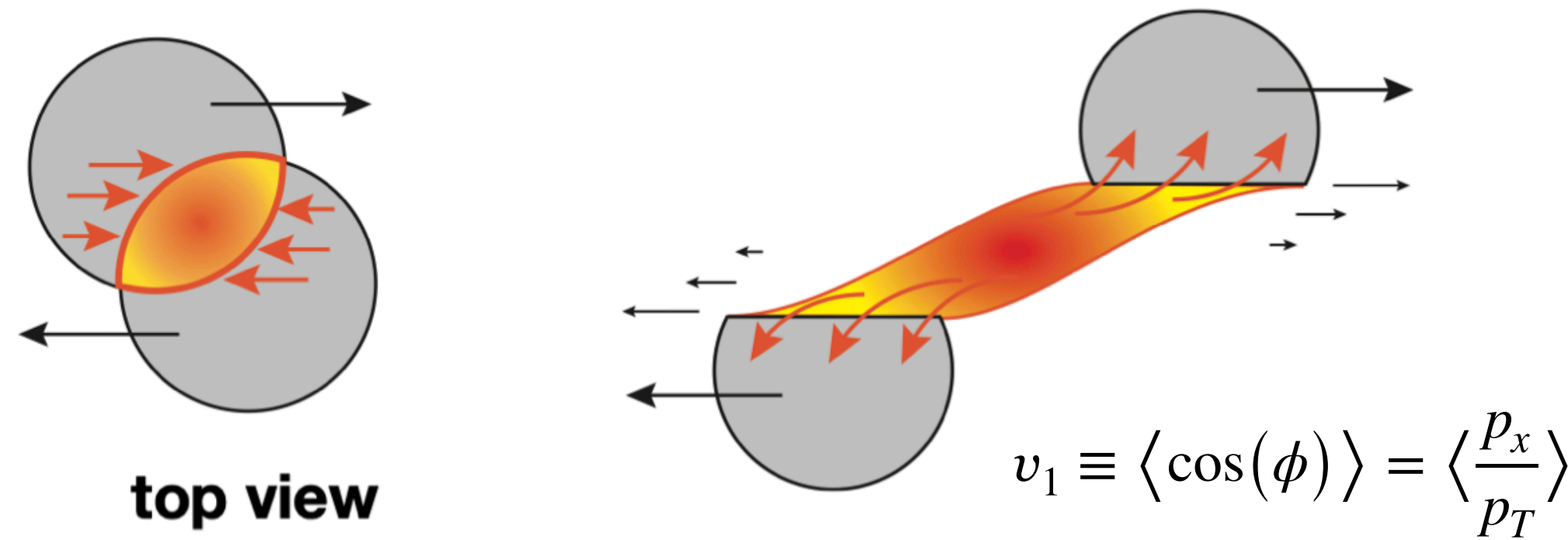
These observables  
are extremely  
sensitive to the EOS

illustrations from a presentation  
by B. Kardan (HADES)

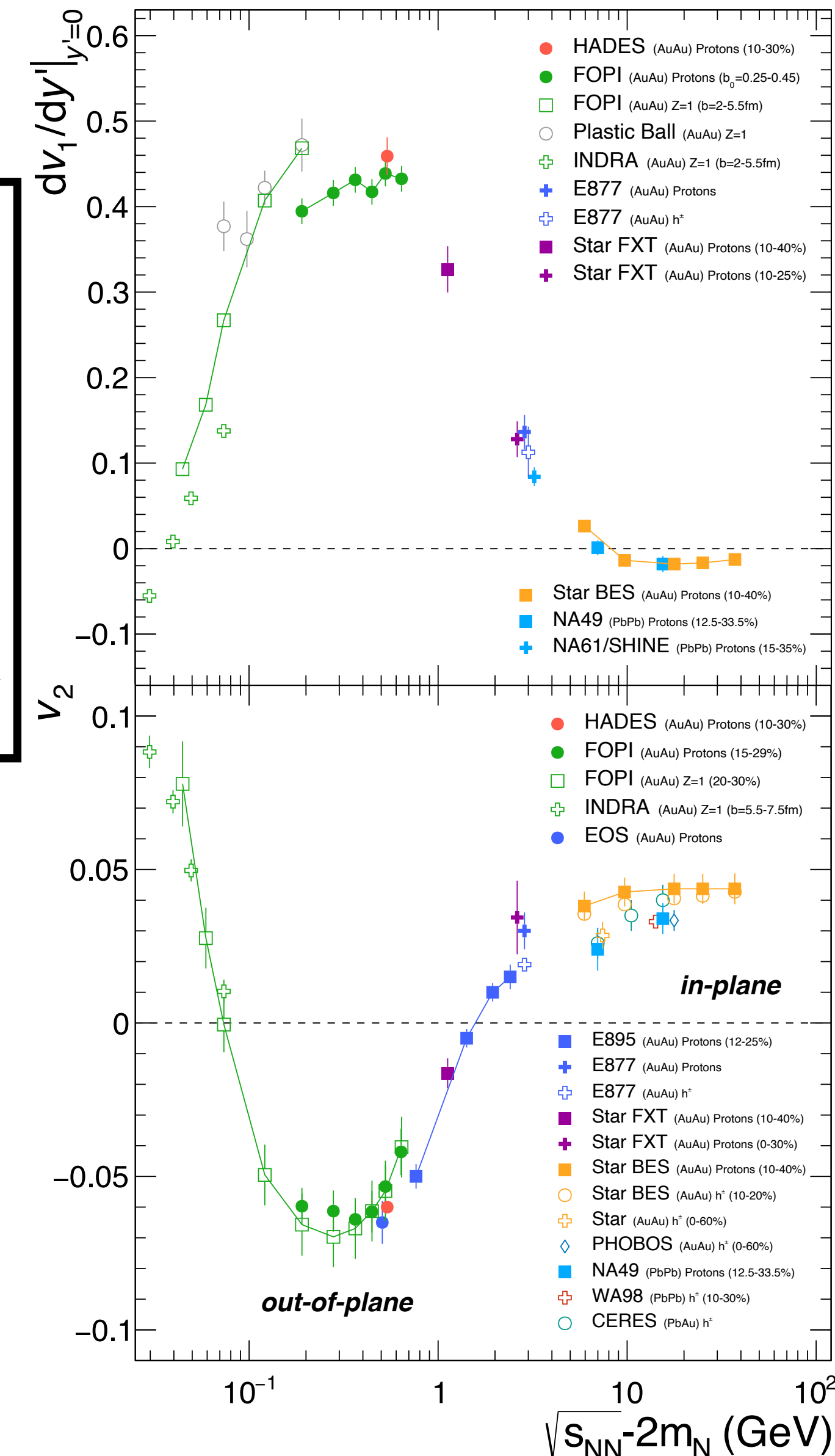
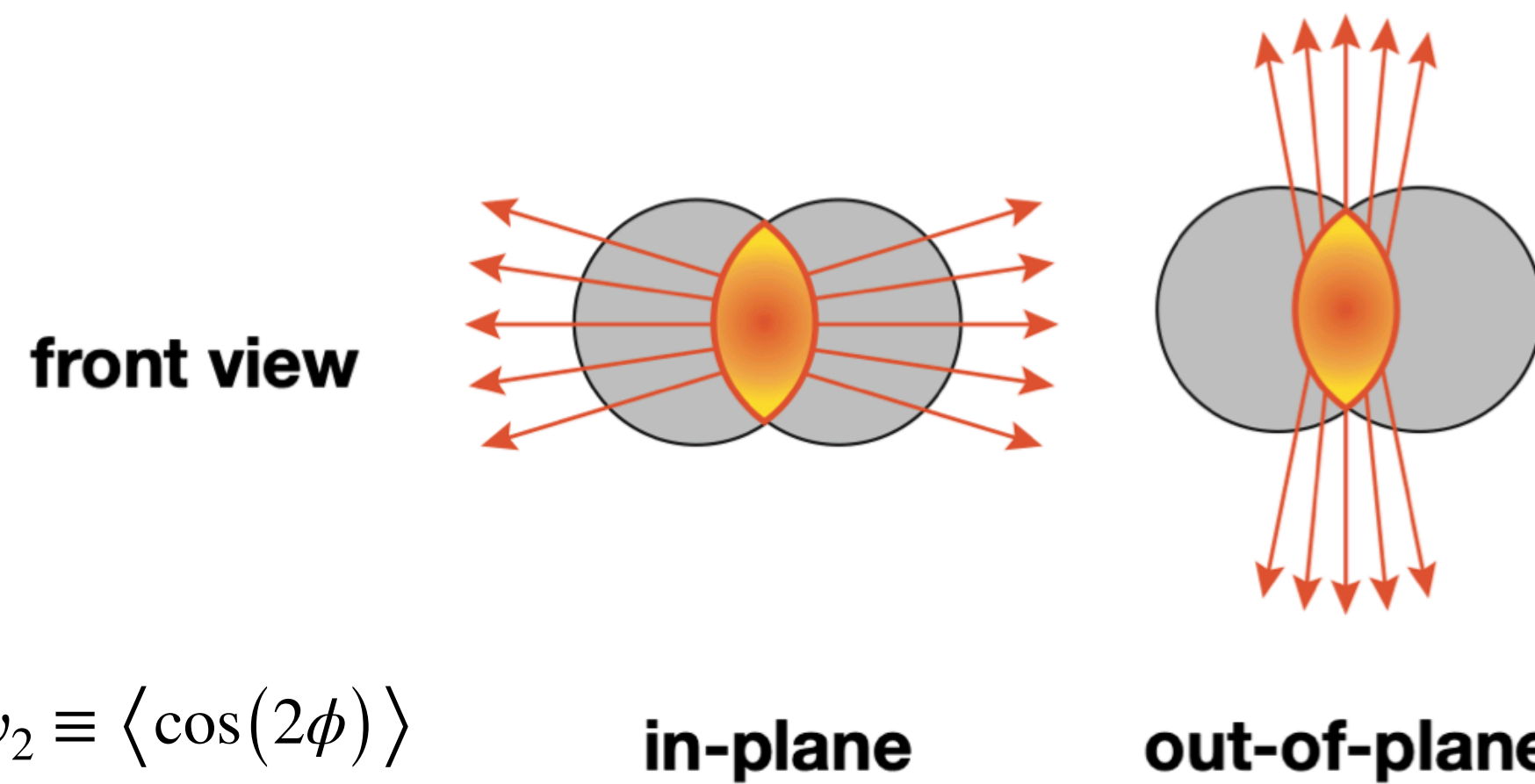
Flow  $v_n \equiv \langle \cos(n\phi) \rangle$



directed flow  $v_1$  ( $dv_1/dy \sim$  longitudinal expansion)



elliptic flow  $v_2$  ( $v_2(y \approx 0) \sim$  midrapidity)

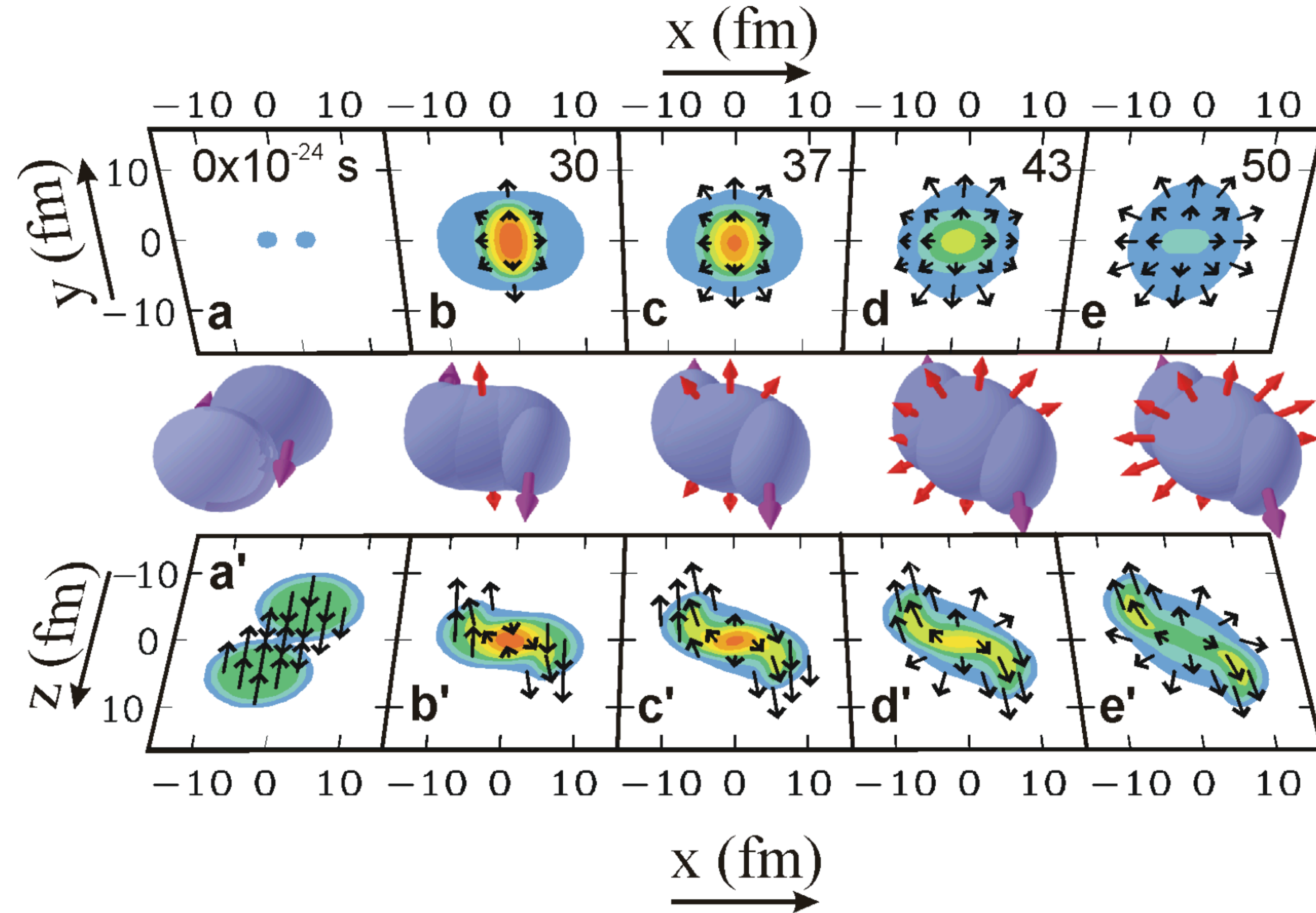


J. Adamczewski-Musch *et al.* (HADES),  
arXiv:2208.02740

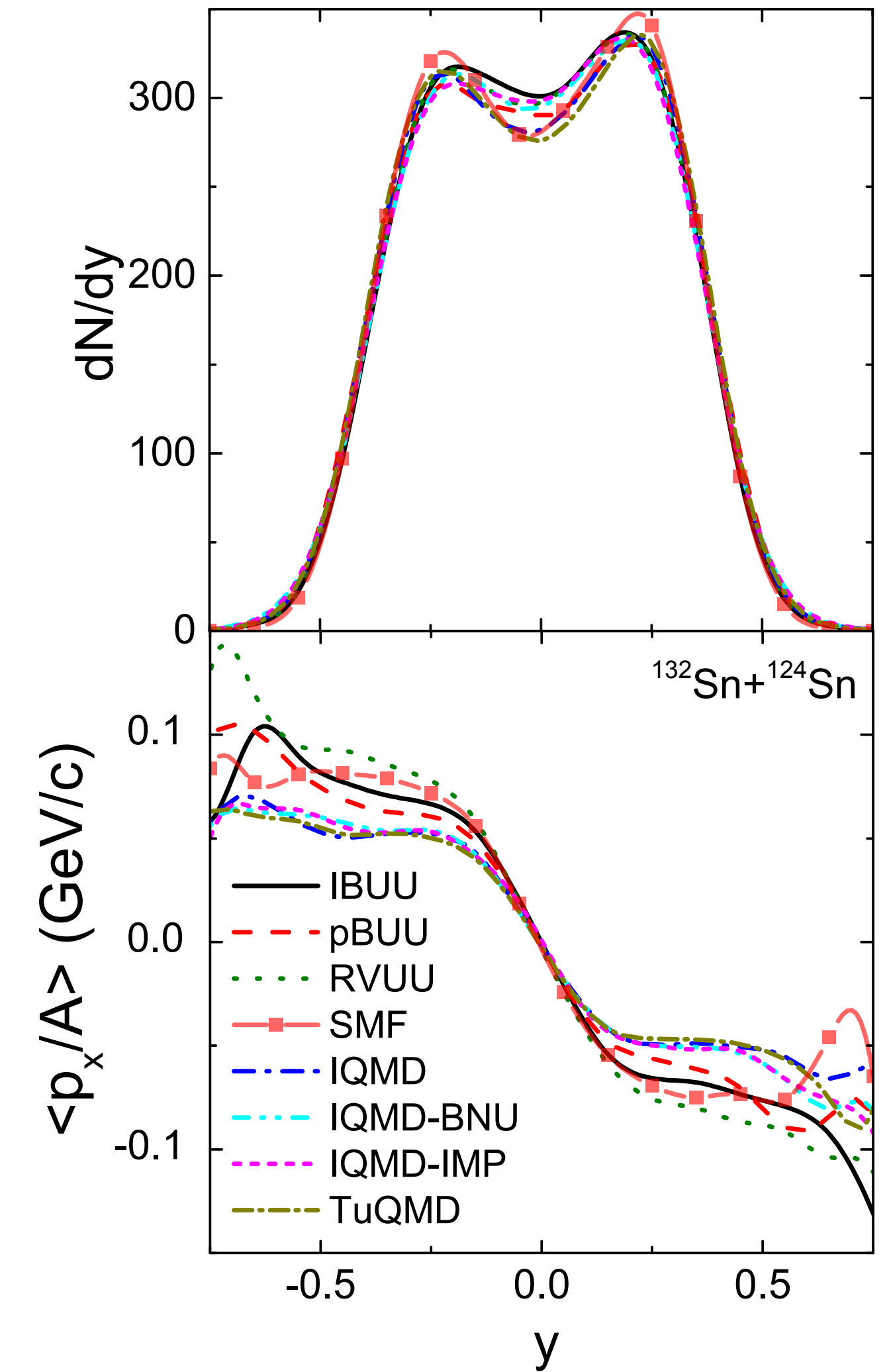


# Flow observables in heavy-ion collisions

Flow observables are the canonical observables for extracting the EOS



There is code-dependence:



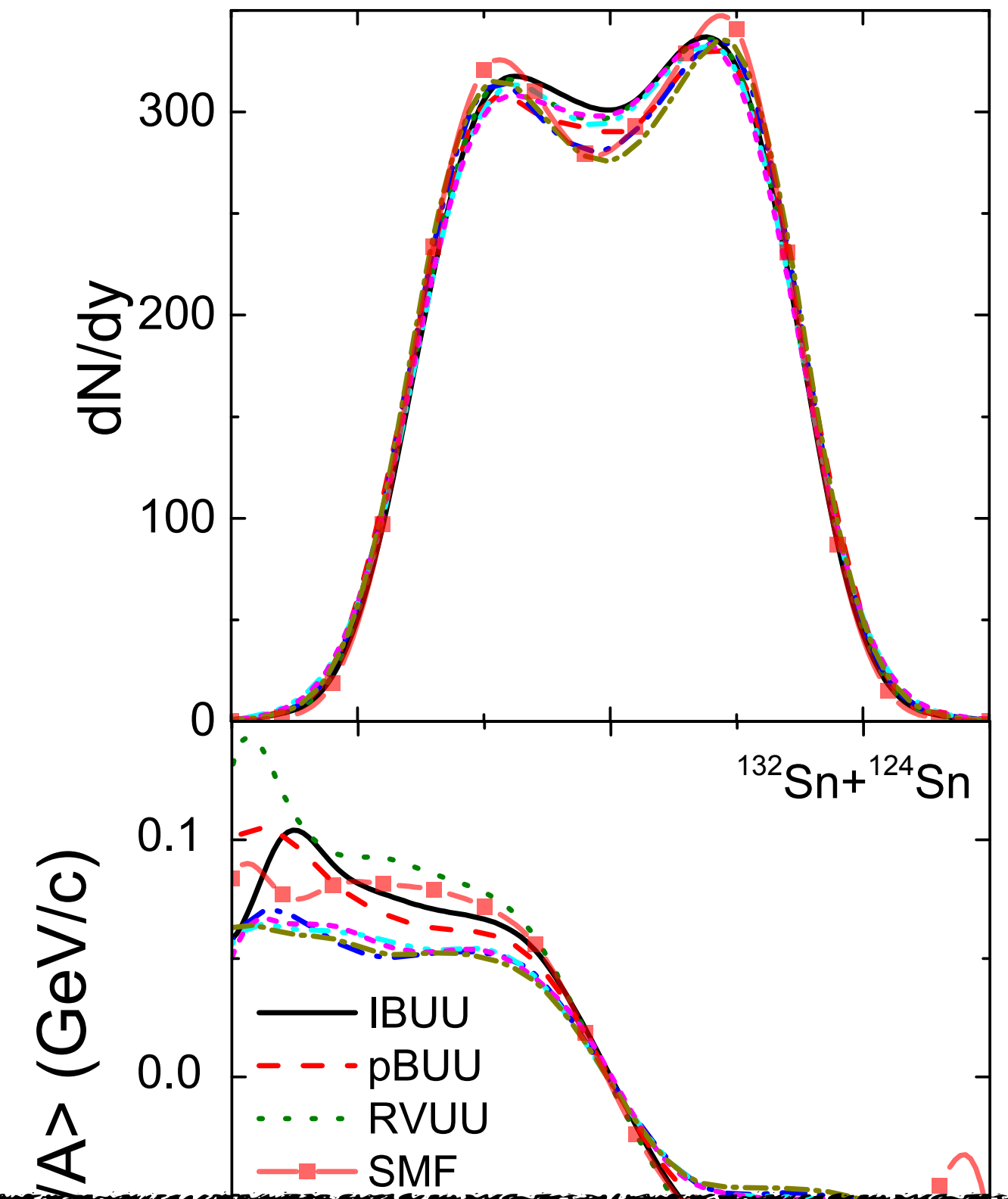
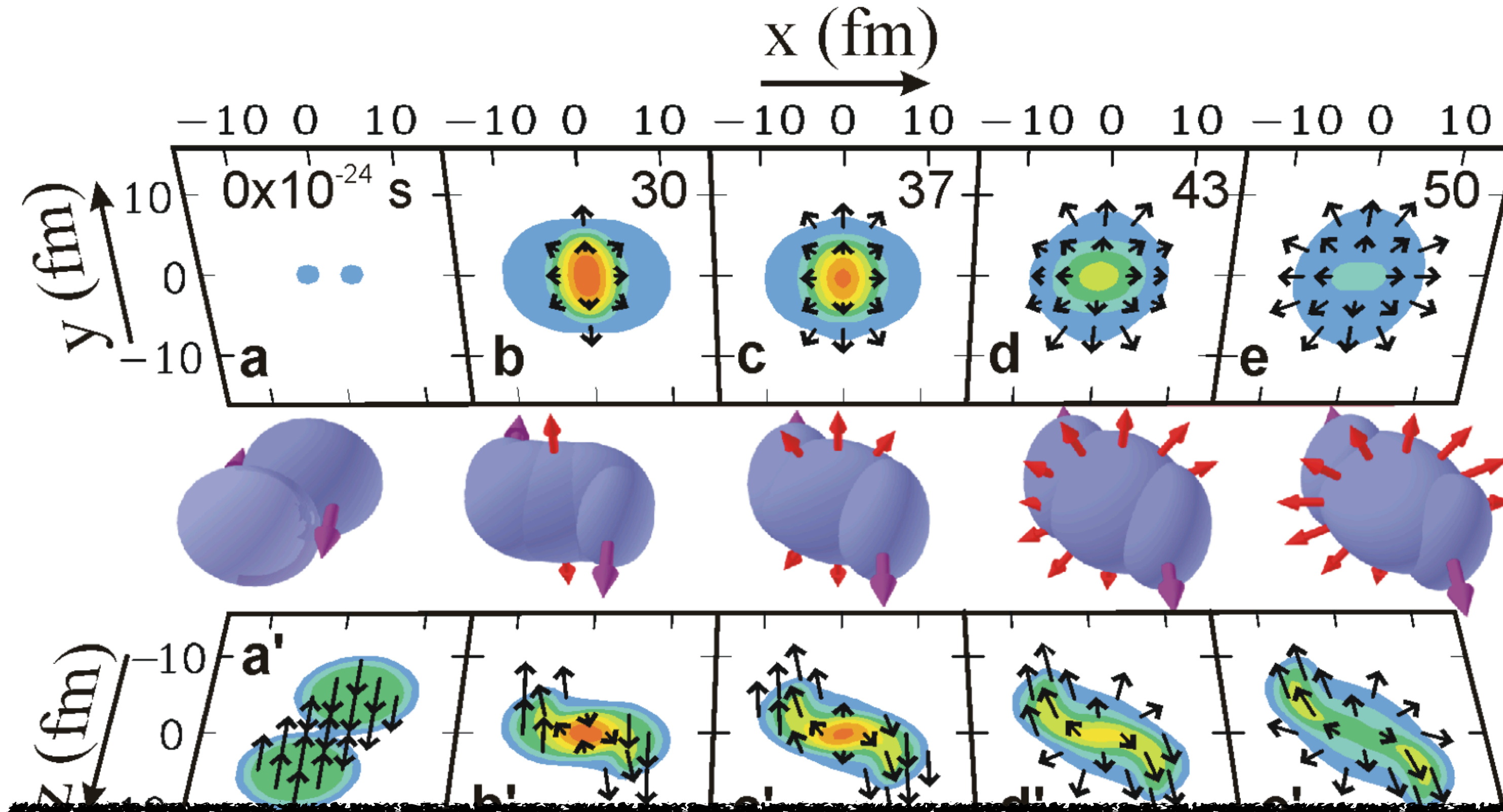
P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, W. G. Lynch,  
 Science **298**, 1592–1596 (2002), arXiv:nucl-th/0208016

J. Xu *et al.* (TMEP Collaboration), *in preparation*

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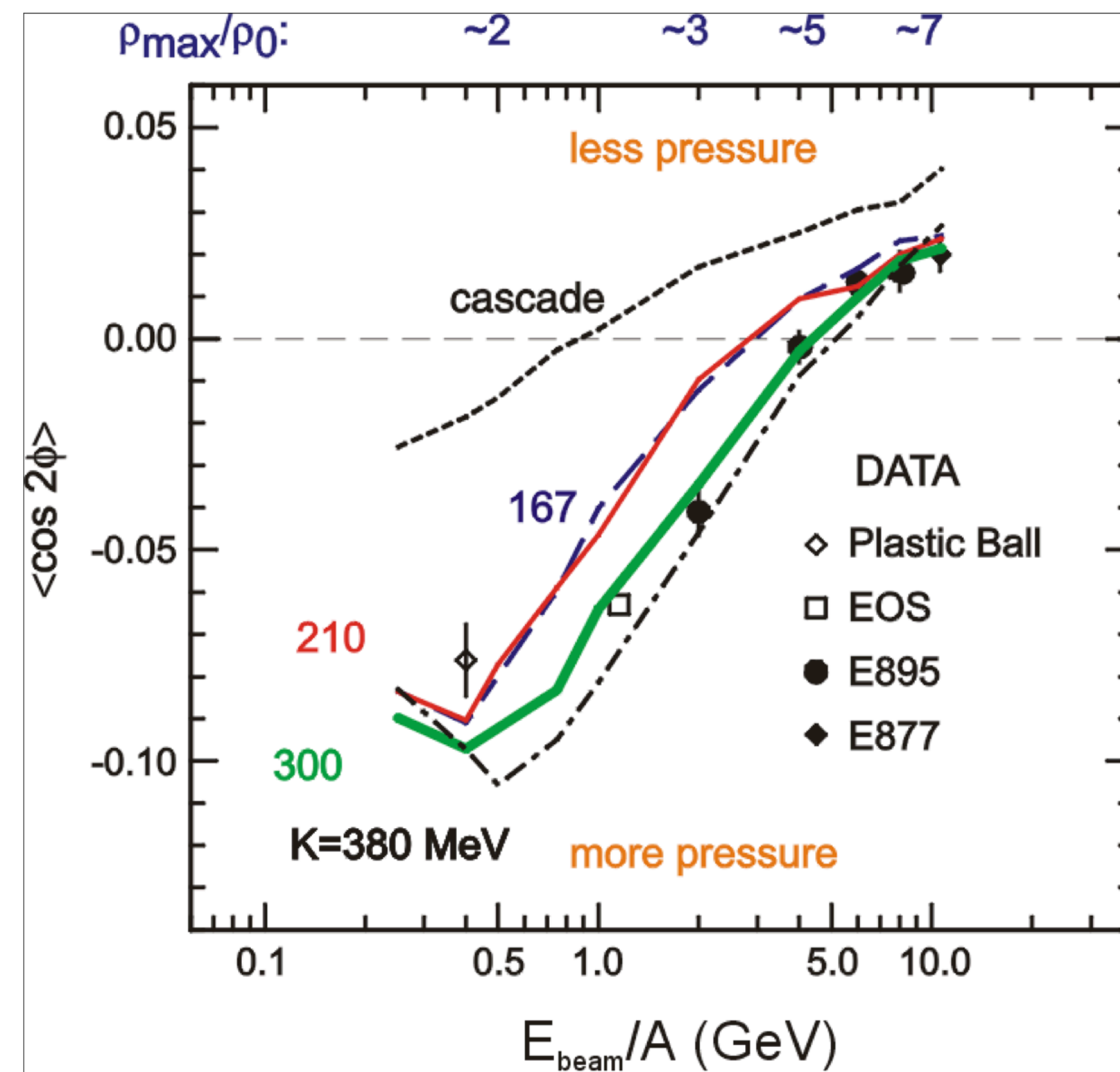
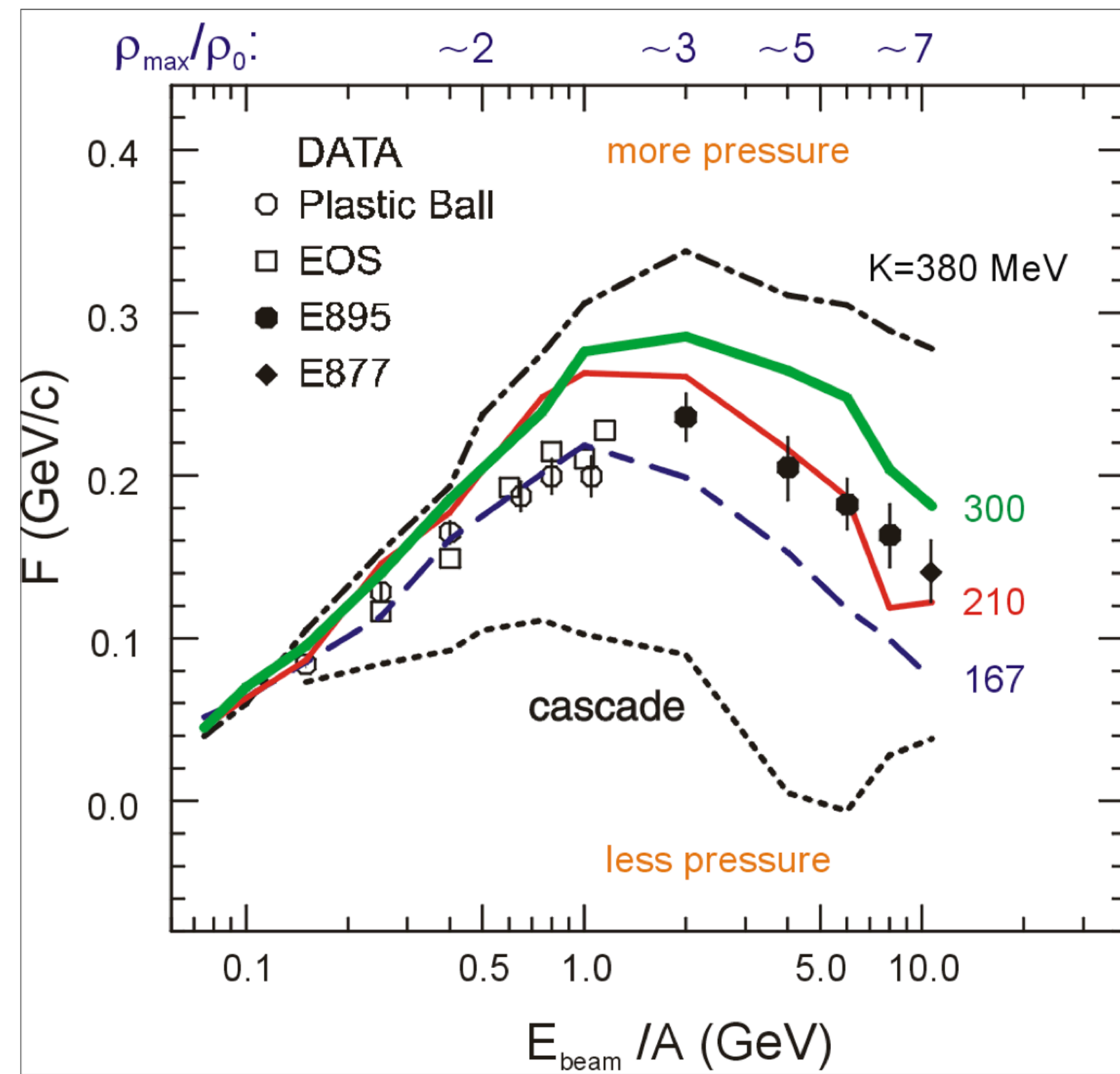


Comparisons between different codes are needed to understand the dependence on:  
 1) different physics assumptions  
 2) different implementation solutions  
 See efforts by, e.g., TMEP collaboration

# Standard way of modeling the EOS: Skyrme potential

The most common form of the EOS is the “Skyrme potential”:  $U(n_B) = A \left( \frac{n_B}{n_0} \right) + B \left( \frac{n_B}{n_0} \right)^\tau$

DLL used something a bit more sophisticated:  $U(n_B) = (an_B + bn_B^\tau) / [1 + (0.4n_B/n_0)^{\tau-1}] + U_p$



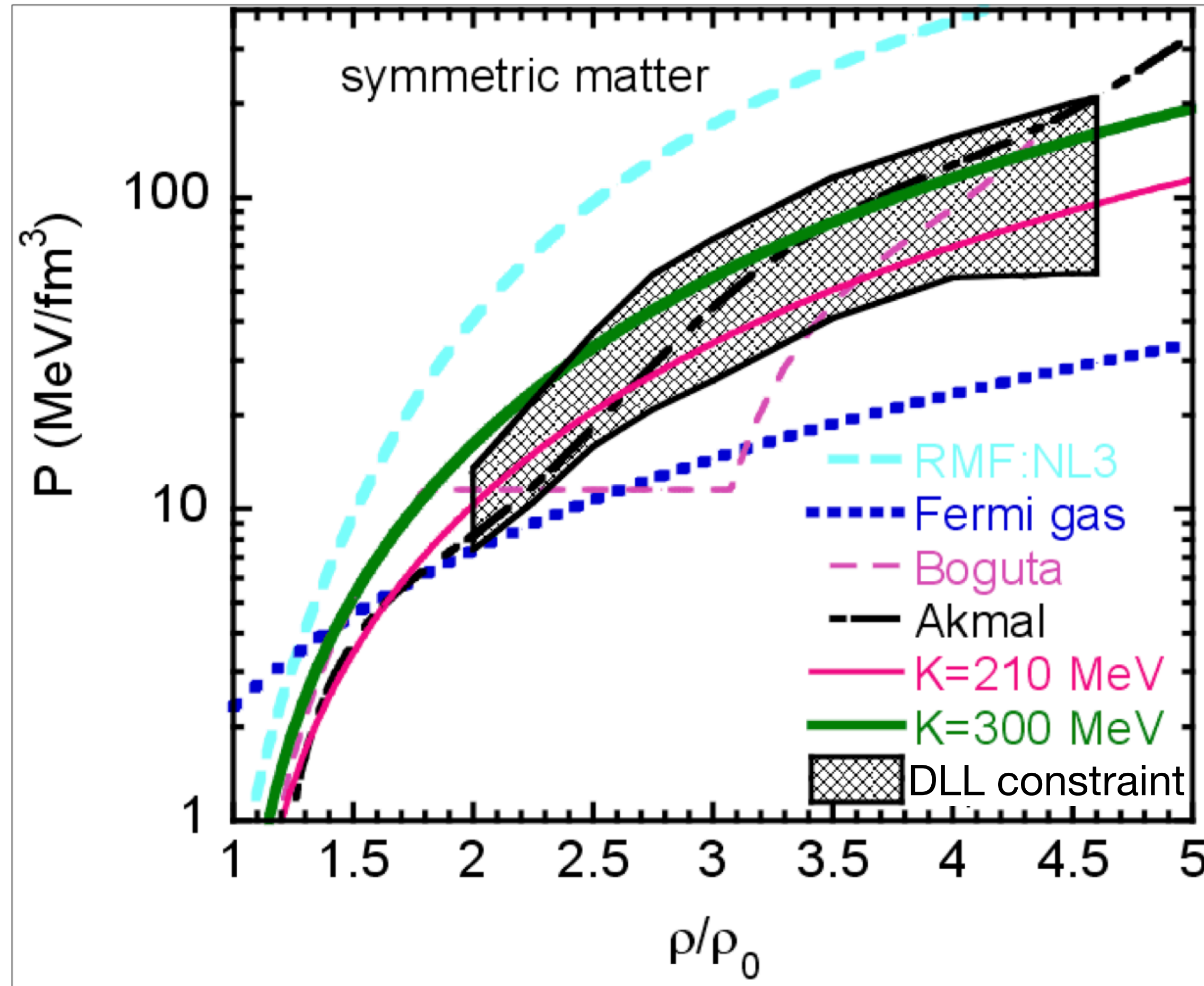
$$F = \left. \frac{d\langle p_x/A \rangle}{d(y/y_{cm})} \right|_{y/y_{cm}=1}$$

P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, W. G. Lynch,  
Science **298**, 1592–1596 (2002), arXiv:nucl-th/0208016

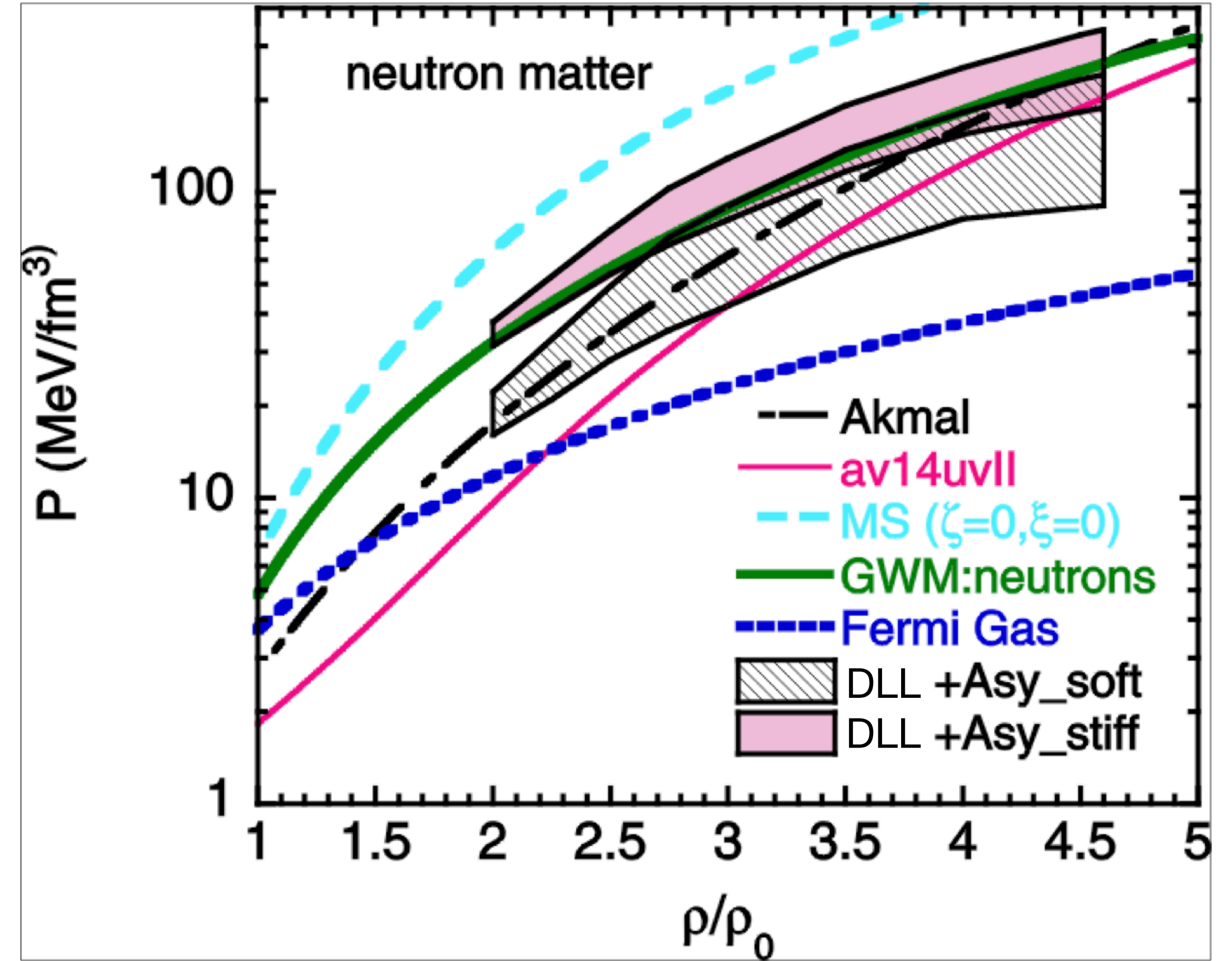
# Standard way of modeling the EOS: Skyrme potential

T

D



“the heavy-ion constraint”



F

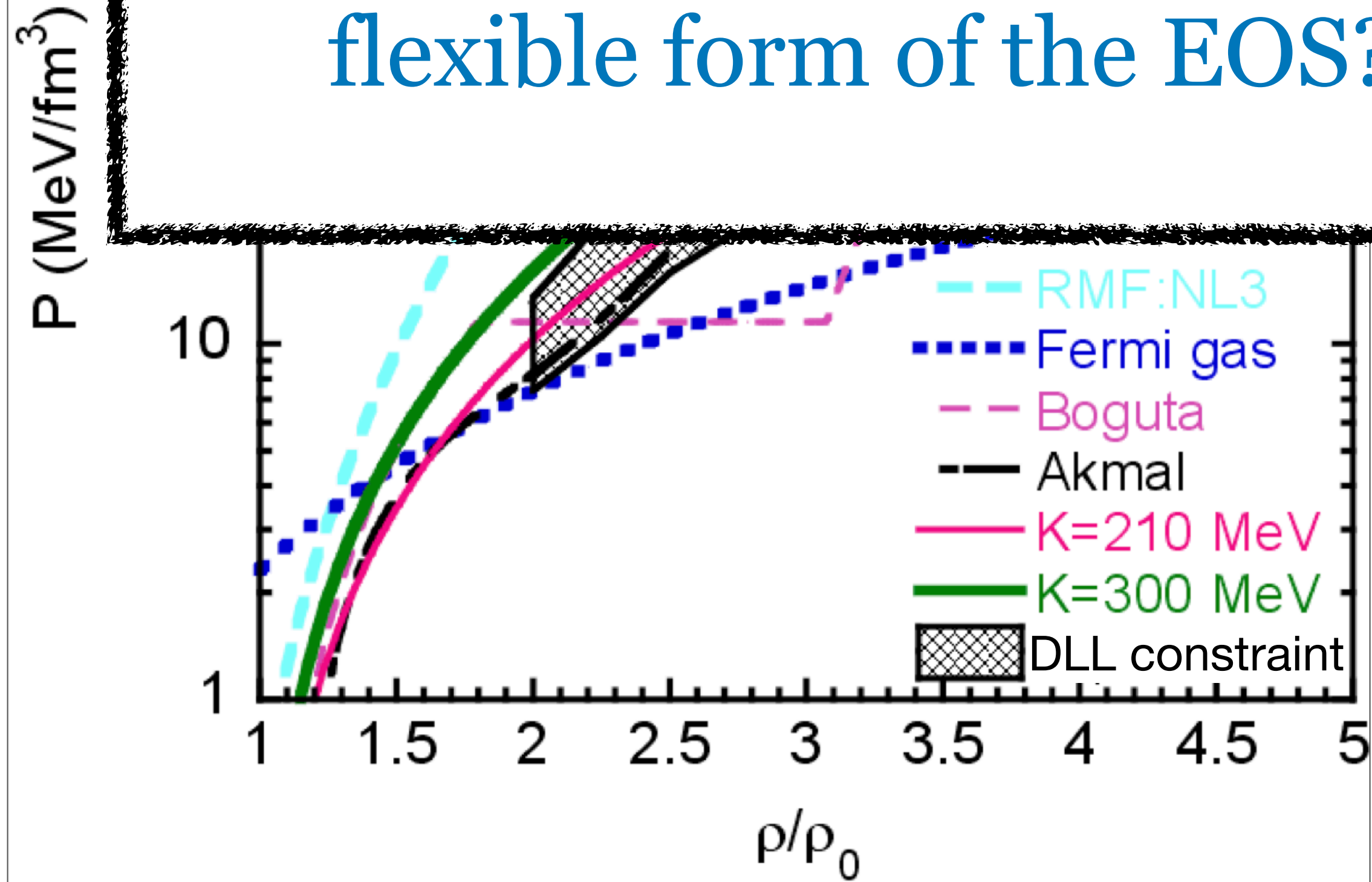
$$F = \left. \frac{d(y/y_{cm})}{dy/y_{cm}} \right|_{y/y_{cm}=1}$$

P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, W. G. Lynch,  
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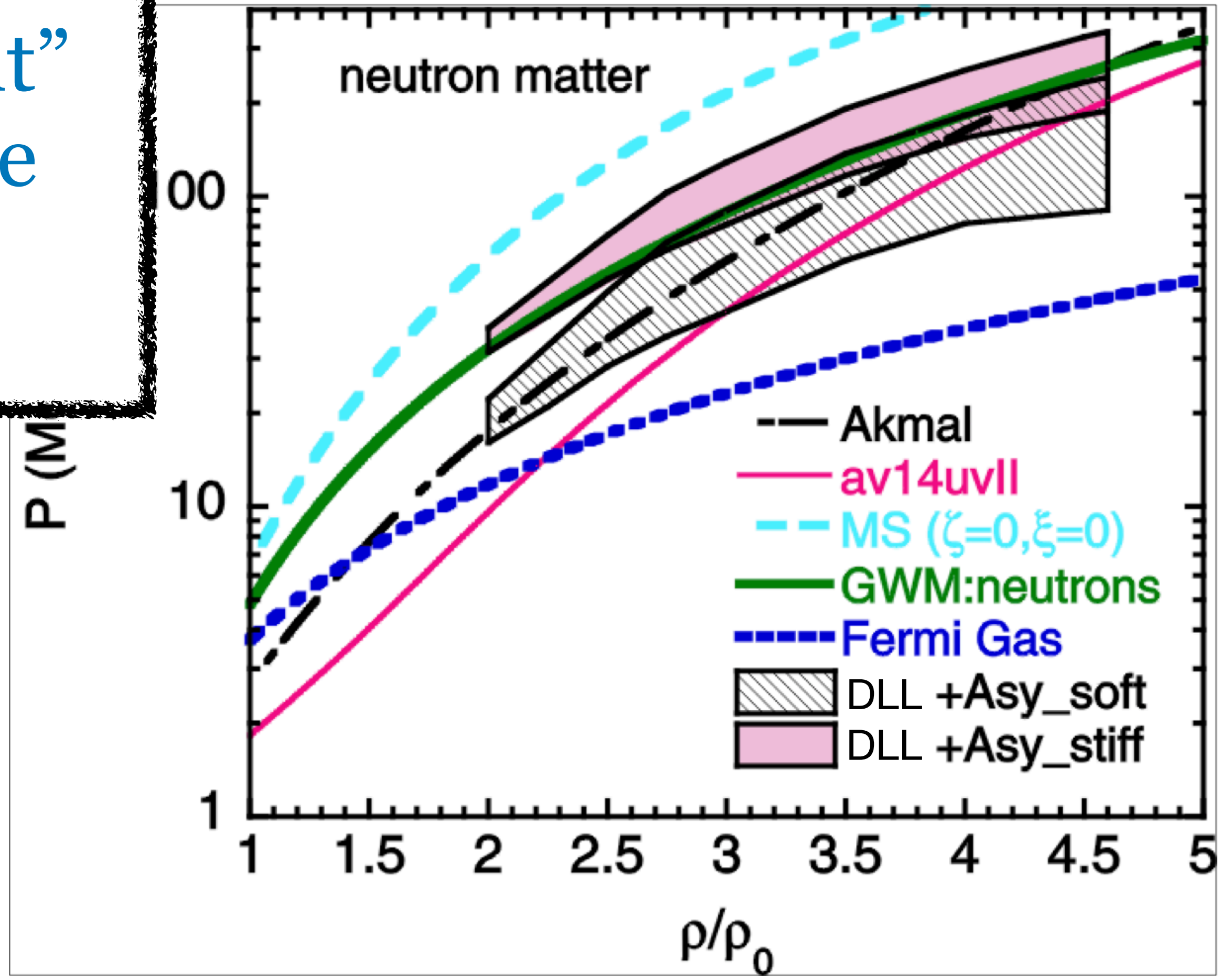
# Standard way of modeling the EOS: Skyrme potential

T  
D

Can the “heavy-ion constraint” be improved by using a more flexible form of the EOS?



“the heavy-ion constraint”



F

$$F = \left. \frac{d(y/y_{cm})}{y/y_{cm}} \right|_{y/y_{cm}=1}$$

P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, W. G. Lynch,  
Science **298**, 1592–1596 (2002), arXiv:nucl-th/0208016

# Relativistic vector density functional (VDF) model

A. Sorensen, V. Koch, Phys. Rev. C **104** (2021) 3, 034904, arXiv:2011.06635

inspired by relativistic Landau Fermi-liquid theory:

G. Baym, S. A. Chin, Nucl. Phys. A **262**, 527 (1976)

1) Postulate the energy density of the system:

$$\mathcal{E}_N = \mathcal{E}_N[f_{\mathbf{p}}] = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \epsilon_{\text{kin}} f_{\mathbf{p}} + \sum_{i=1}^N C_i (j_{\mu} j^{\mu})^{\frac{b_i}{2}-1} \left[ j^0 j^0 - g^{00} \left( \frac{b_i-1}{b_i} \right) j_{\lambda} j^{\lambda} \right] \leftarrow \text{Lorentz covariant}$$

$j_{\mu} j^{\mu} = n_B^2$

$$\epsilon_{\text{kin}} = \sqrt{\left( \vec{p} - \sum_{i=1}^N C_i (j_{\mu} j^{\mu})^{\frac{b_i}{2}-1} \vec{j} \right)^2 + m^2} \quad \mathcal{E}_N \Big|_{\text{rest frame}} = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2} f_{\mathbf{p}} + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{C_i}{b_i} n_B^{b_i} \leftarrow \text{mean-field interactions parameterized by } C_i \text{ and } b_i$$

2) Quasiparticle energy:  $\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}[f_{\mathbf{p}}]}{\delta f_{\mathbf{p}}} = \epsilon_{\text{kin}} + \sum_{i=1}^N C_i (j_{\mu} j^{\mu})^{\frac{b_i}{2}-1} j^0$

**thermodynamic consistency!**

3) Get EOMs  $\frac{dx^i}{dt} \equiv -\frac{\partial \epsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial p_i}, \quad \frac{dp^i}{dt} \equiv \frac{\partial \epsilon_{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial x_i}$   $\leftarrow$  input to transport code; use in Boltzmann eq. to obtain  $T^{\mu\nu}$

4) Use  $T^{\mu\nu}$  to get the pressure:  $P_N = \frac{1}{3} \sum_k T^{kk} \Big|_{\text{rest frame}} = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} T \ln \left[ 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} - \mu_B)} \right] + \sum_{i=1}^N C_i \frac{b_i-1}{b_i} n_B^{b_i}$

# VDF model: two 1st order phase transitions

A. Sorensen, V. Koch, Phys. Rev. C **104** (2021) 3, 034904, arXiv:2011.06635

Systems with two 1st order phase transitions: nuclear and “quark/hadron”, or “QGP-like”

- degrees of freedom: nucleons
- “QGP-like” PT: “more dense” matter coexists with “less dense” matter
- minimal model: 4 interactions terms = 8 parameters to fix:

$$P = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} T \ln \left[ 1 + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_p - \mu_B)} \right] + \sum_{i=1}^{N=4} C_i \frac{b_i - 1}{b_i} n_B^{b_i}$$

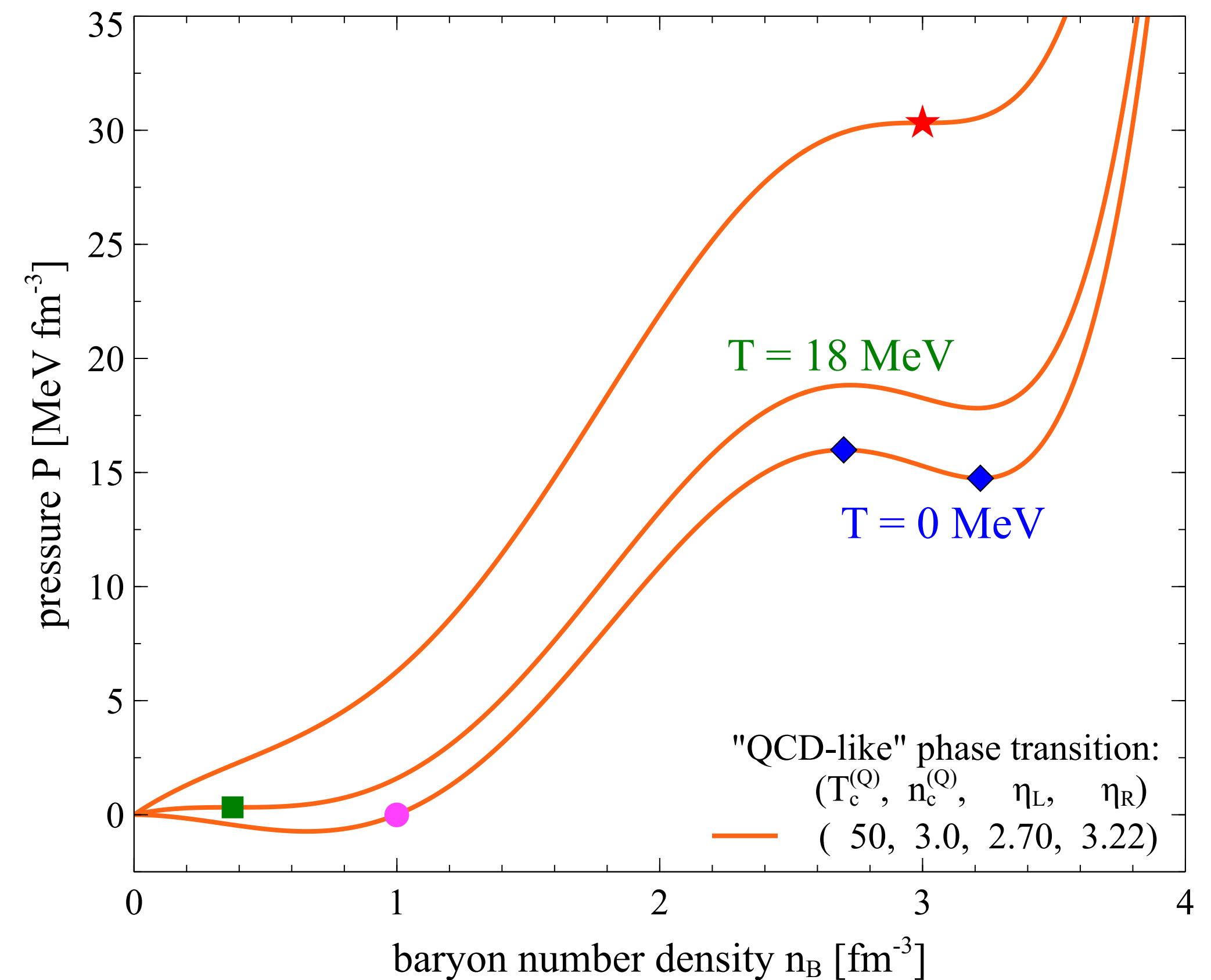
$C_i$  and  $b_i$  are fitted to reproduce:

$n_0 = 0.160 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ ,  $E_B = -16.3 \text{ MeV}$

$T_c^{(N)} = 18 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $n_c^{(N)} = 0.375 n_0$

$T_c^{(Q)} = ?$ ,  $n_c^{(Q)} = ?$

$\eta_L = ?$ ,  $\eta_R = ?$



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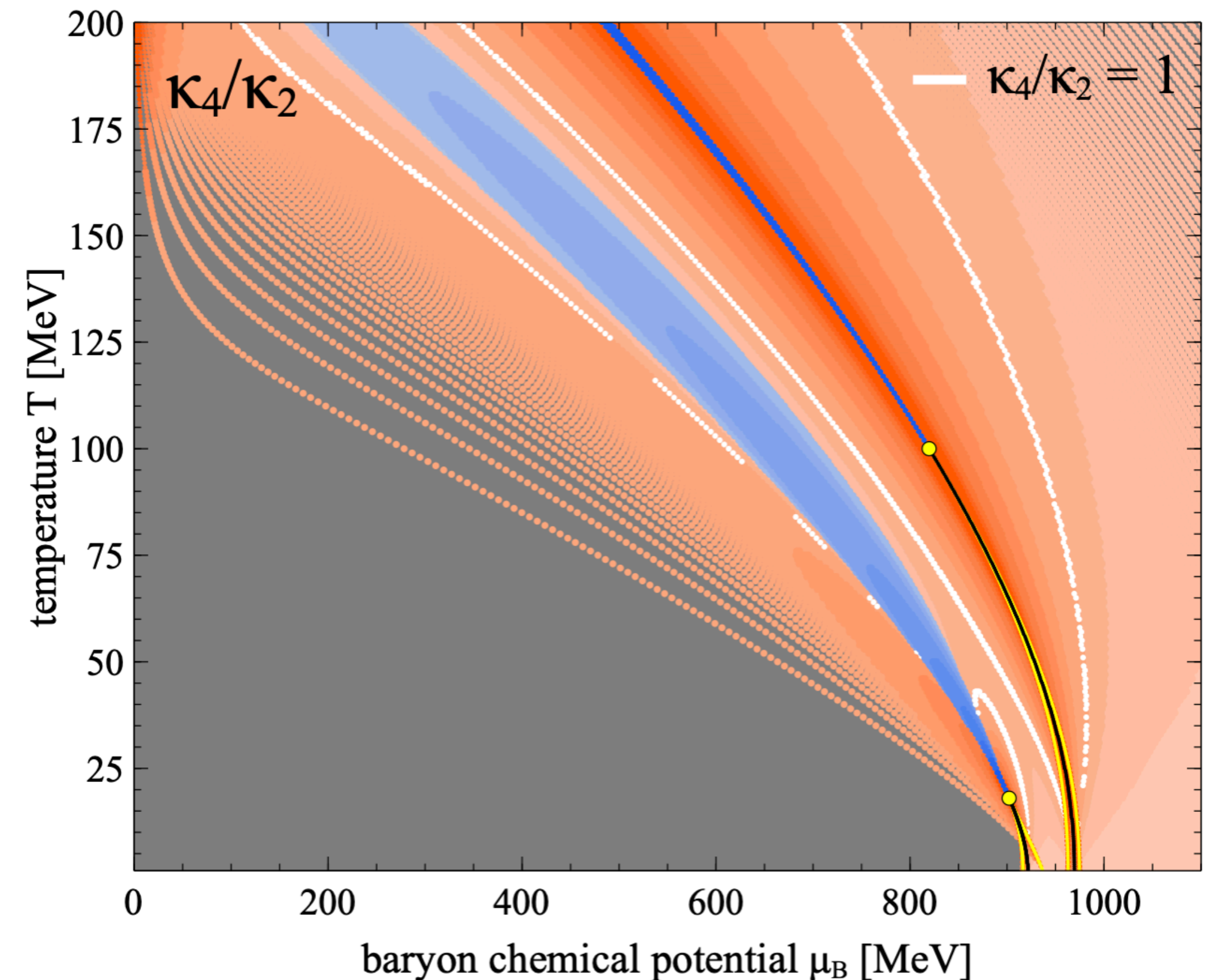
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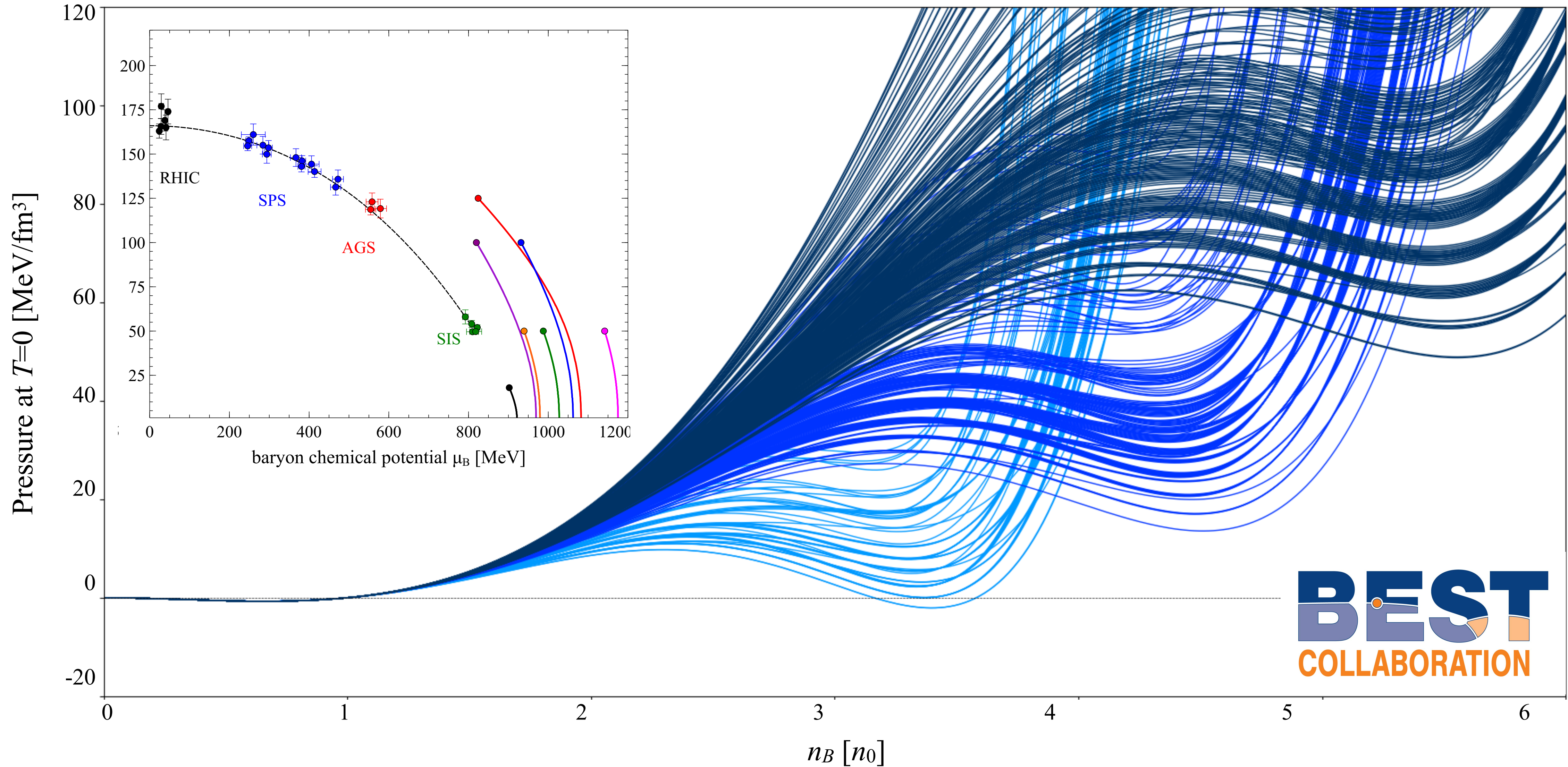
$$\eta_L = ?, \eta_R = ?$$





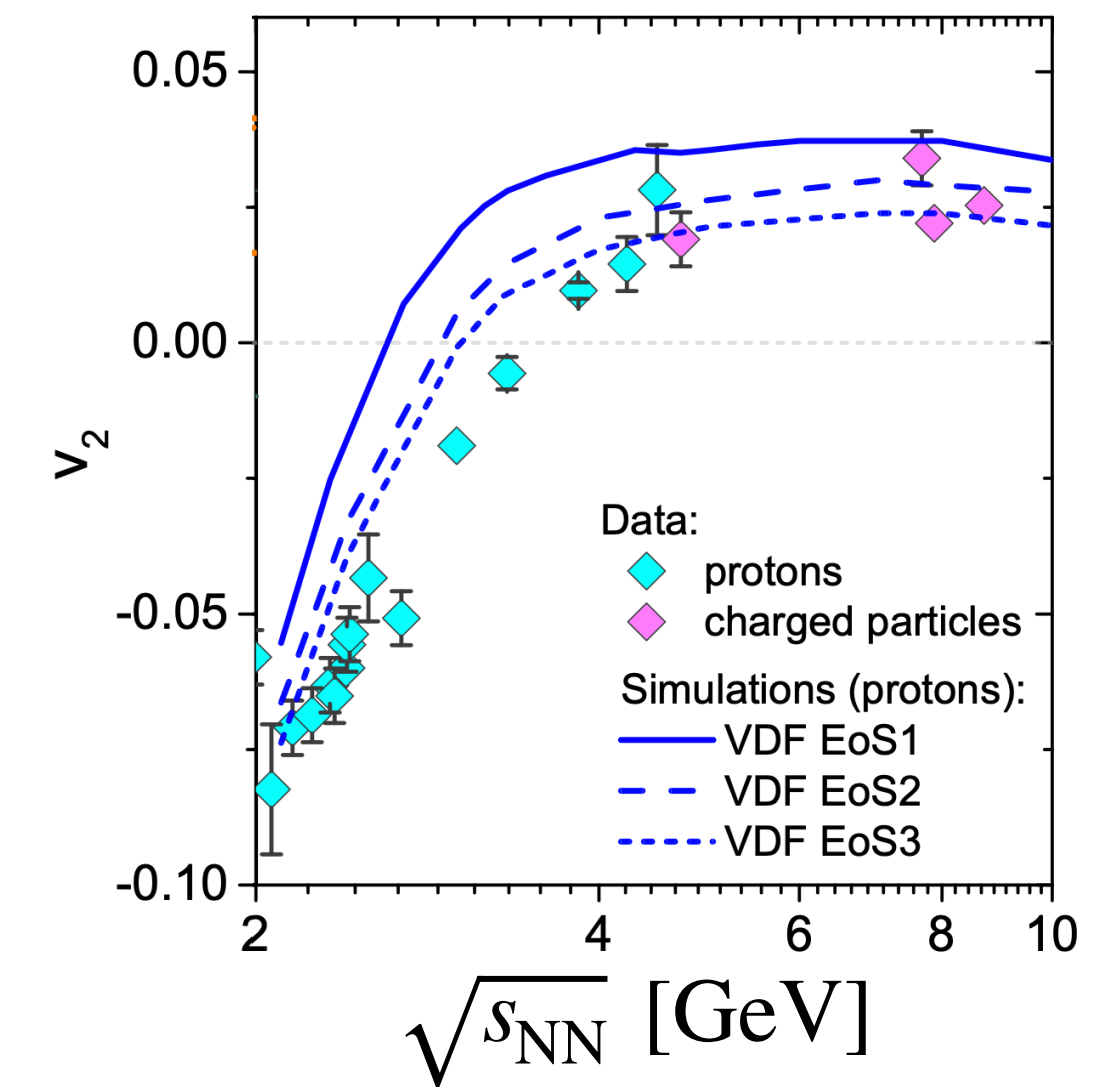
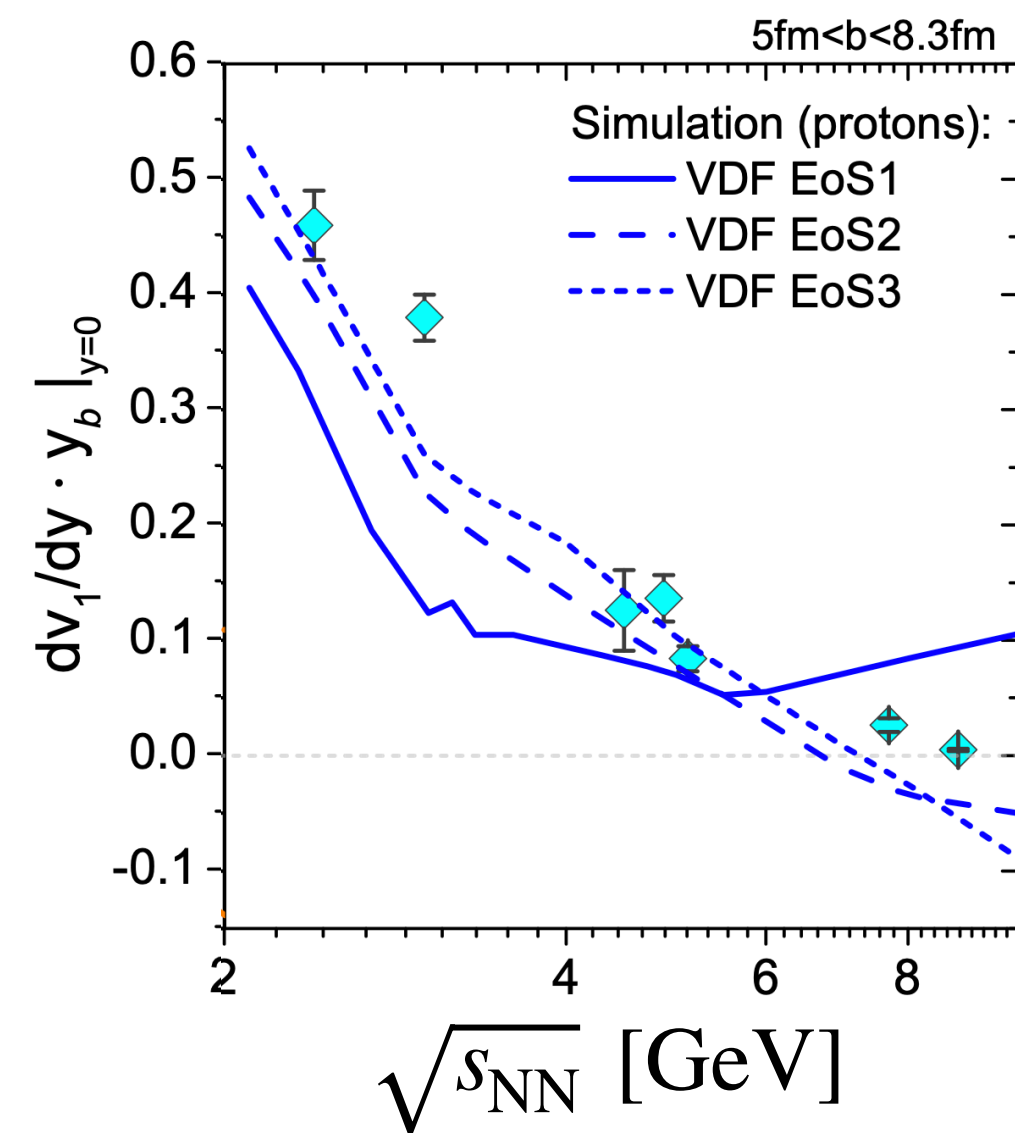
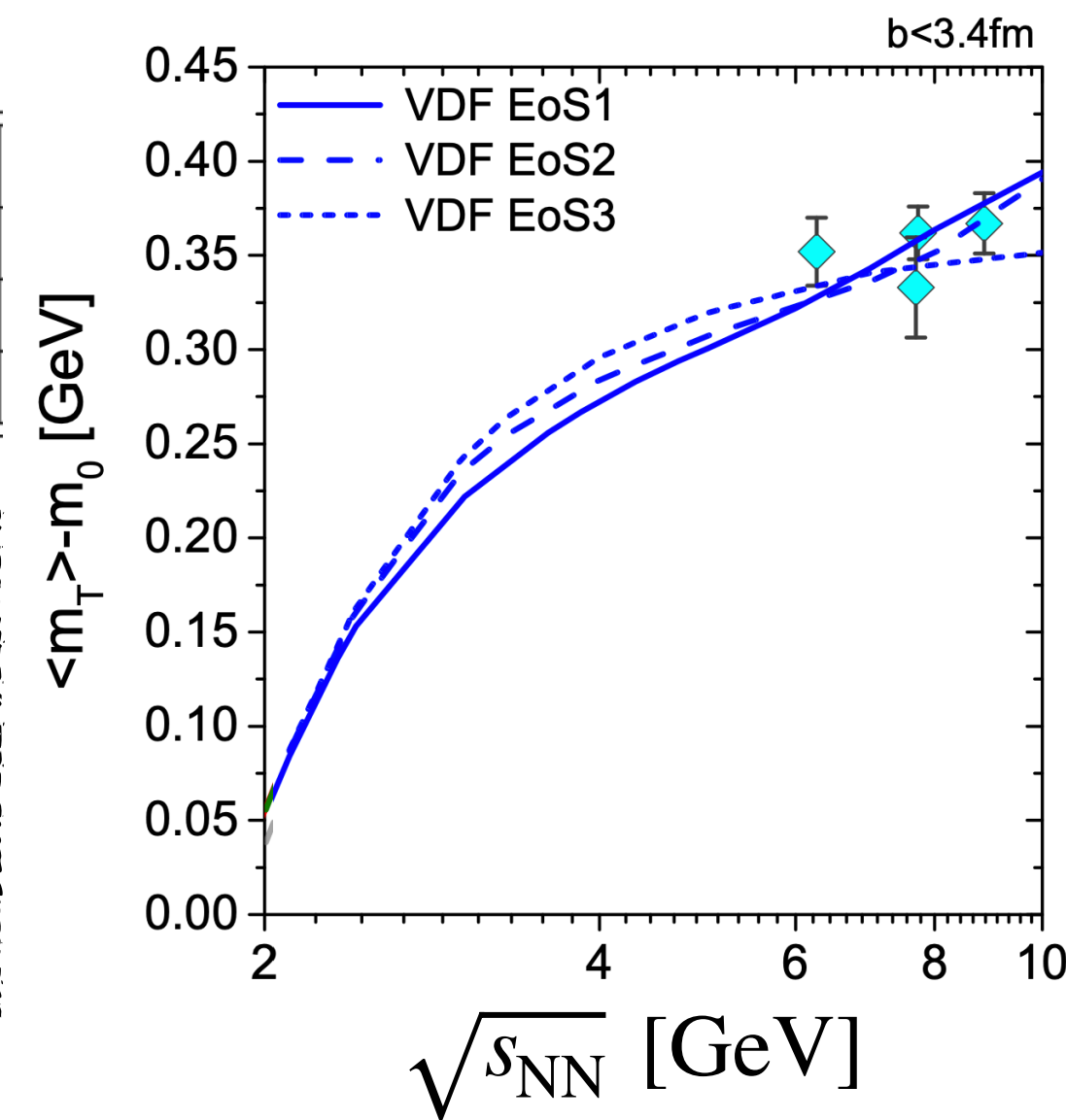
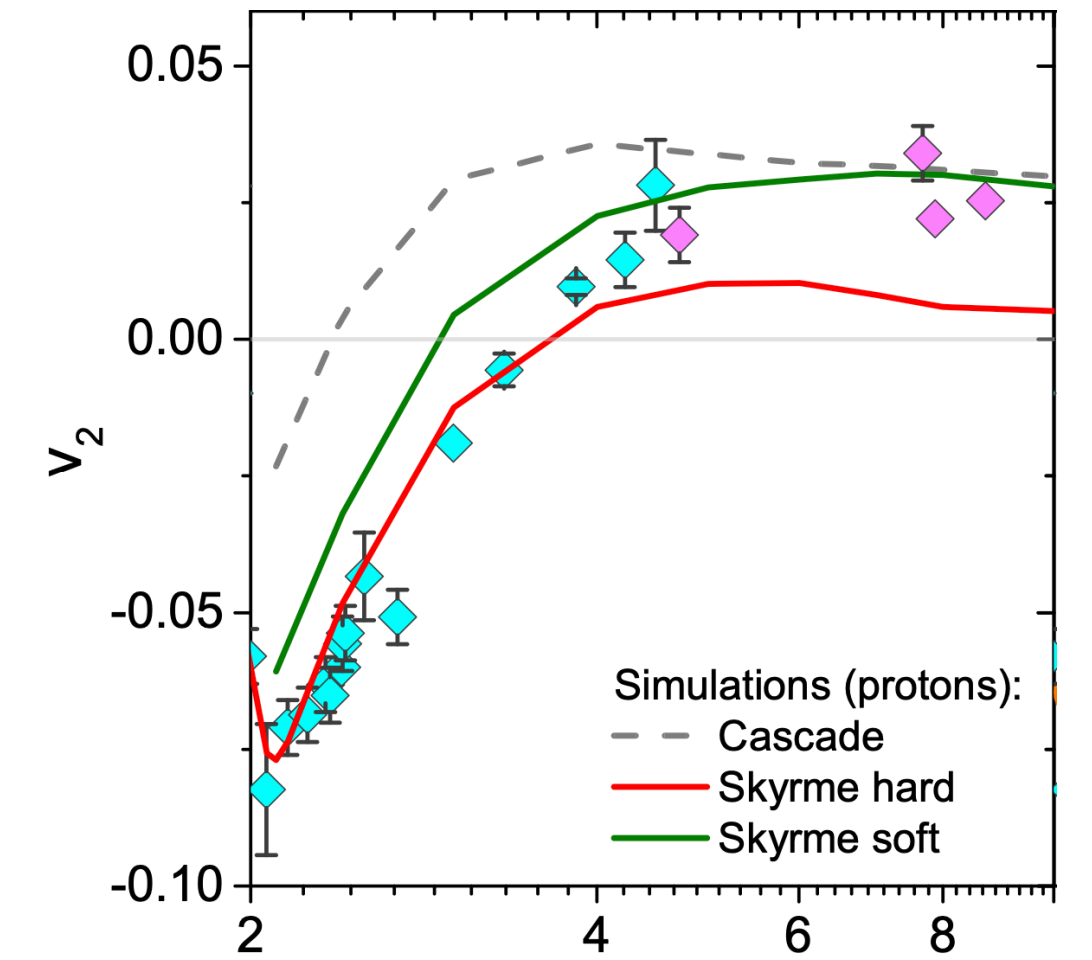
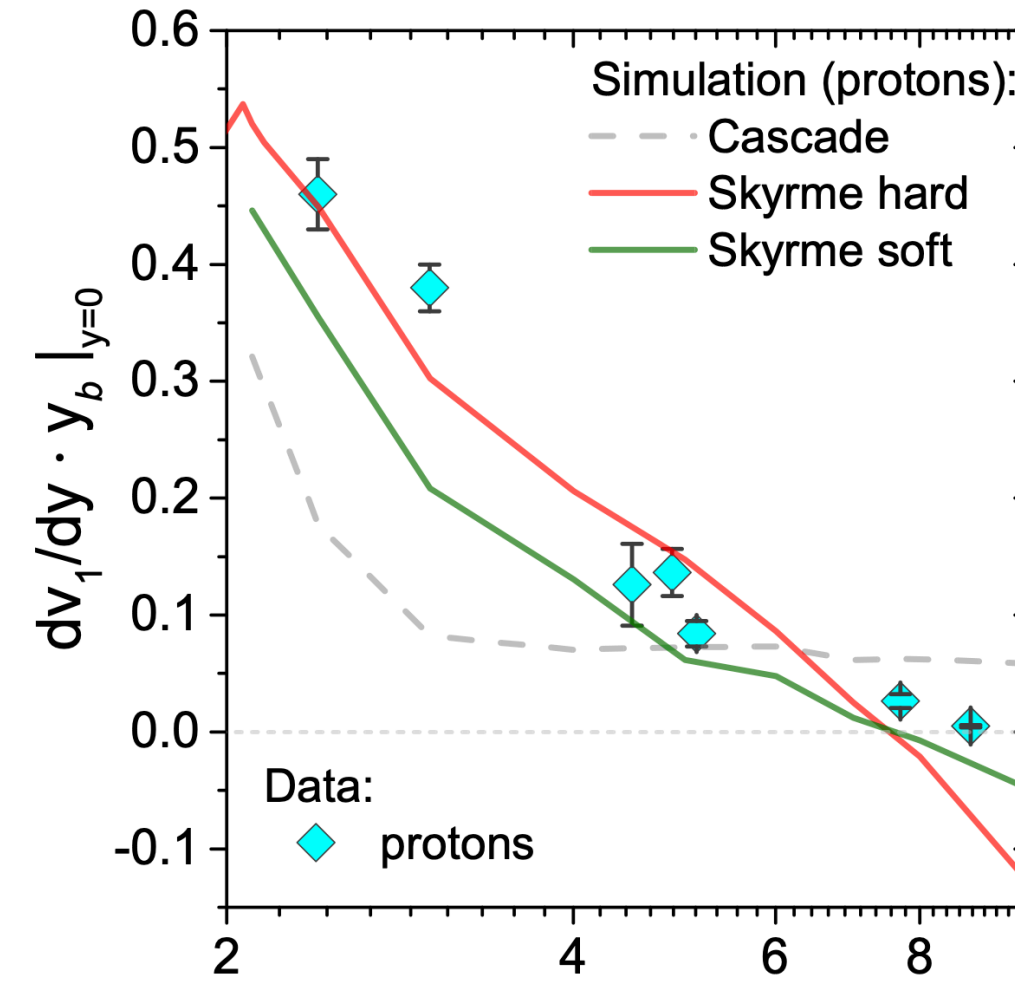
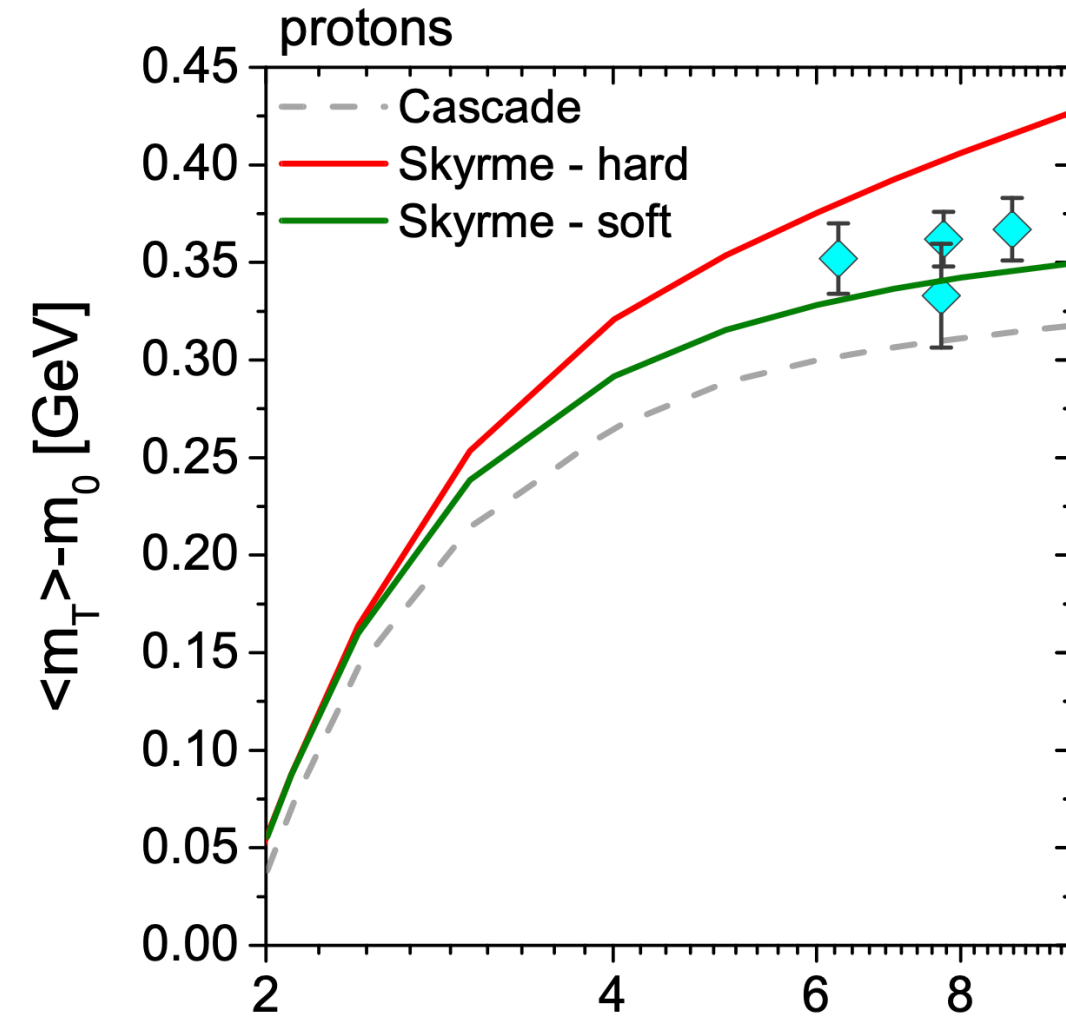
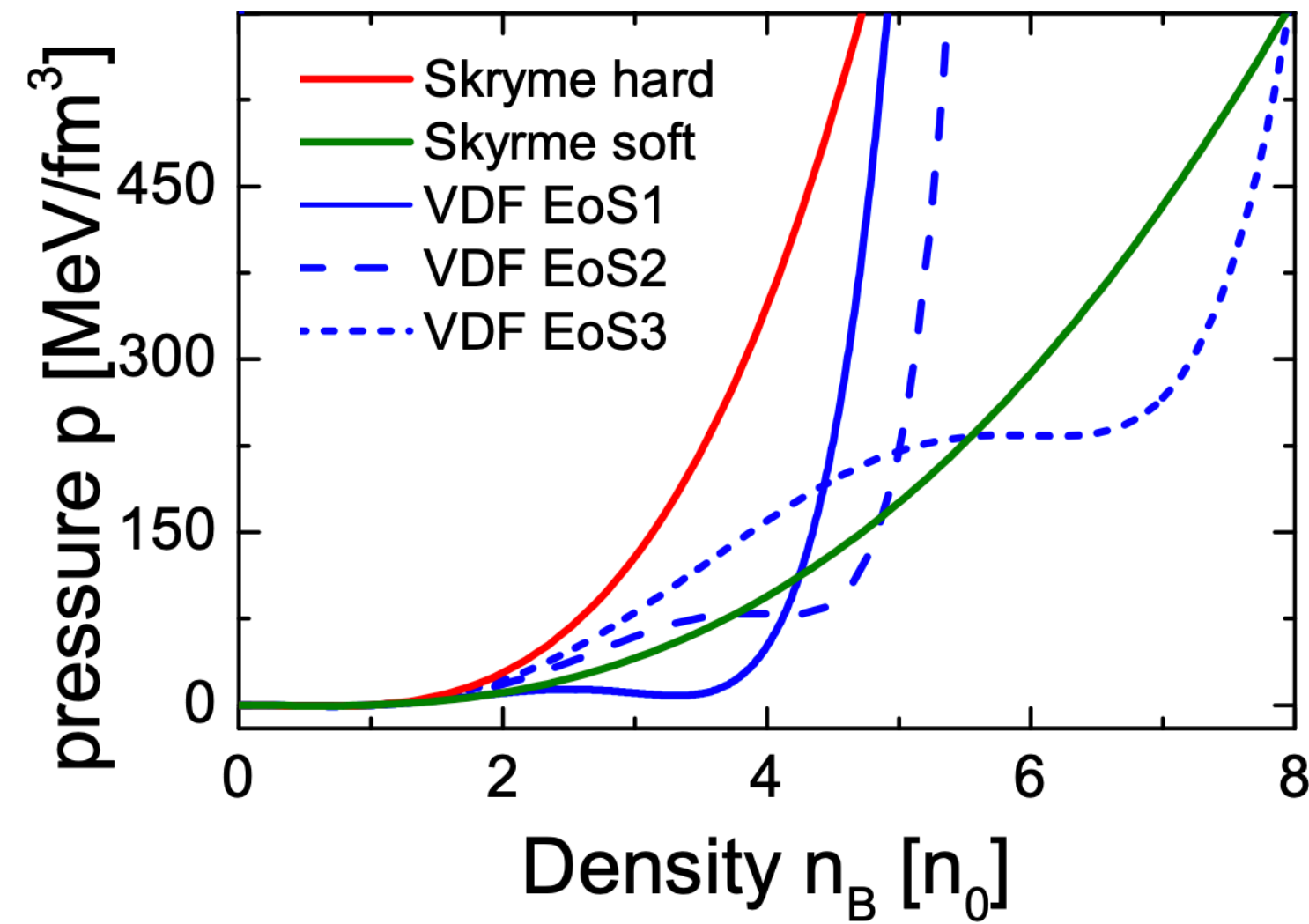
# VDF model: two 1st order phase transitions

A. Sorensen, V. Koch, Phys. Rev. C **104** (2021) 3, 034904, arXiv:2011.06635



# Results from UrQMD with (non-relativistic) VDF

J. Steinheimer, A. Motornenko, **A. Sorensen**, Y. Nara, V. Koch,  
M. Bleicher, Eur. Phys. J. C **82**, 10, 911 (2022) arXiv:2208.12091

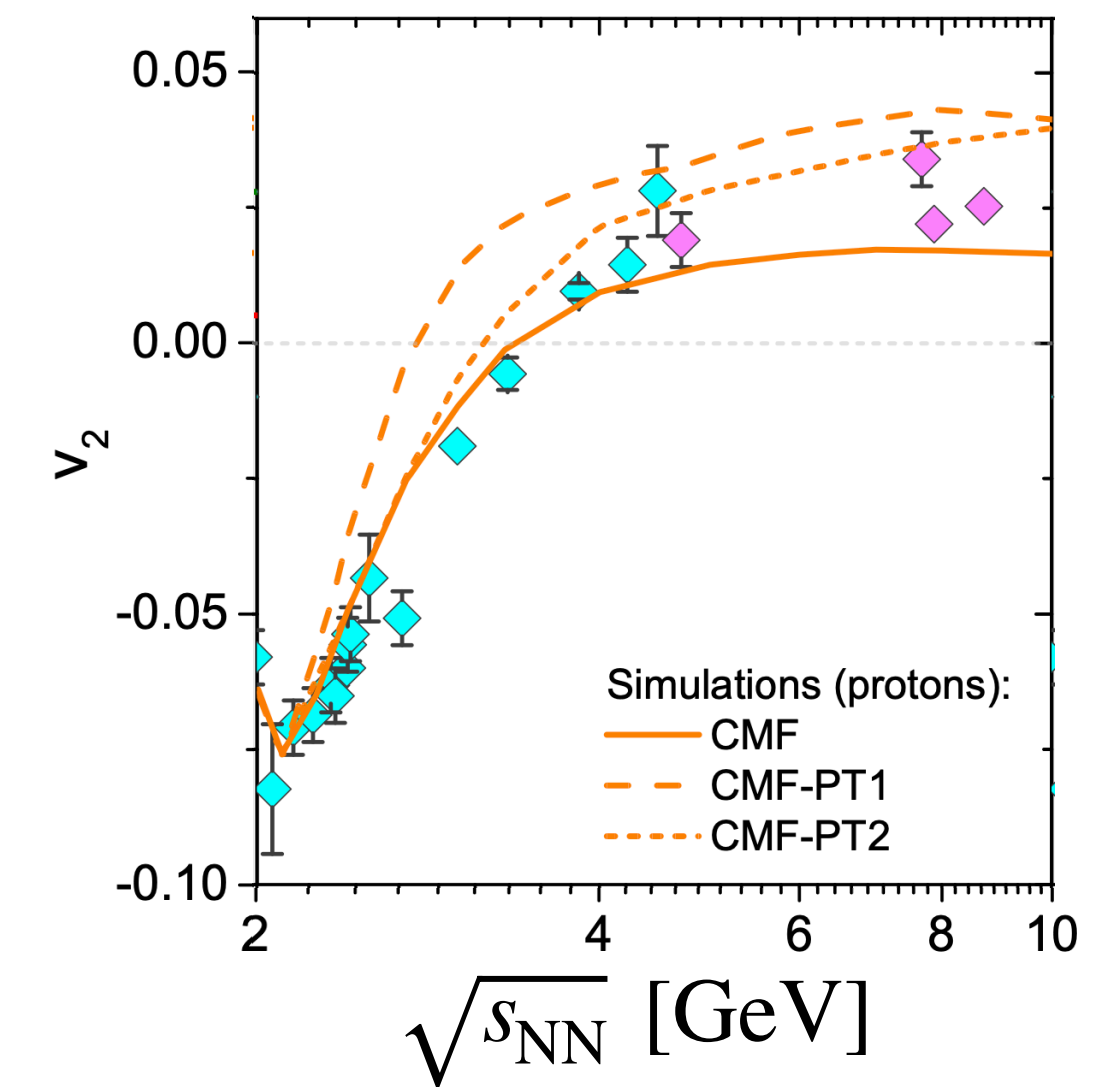
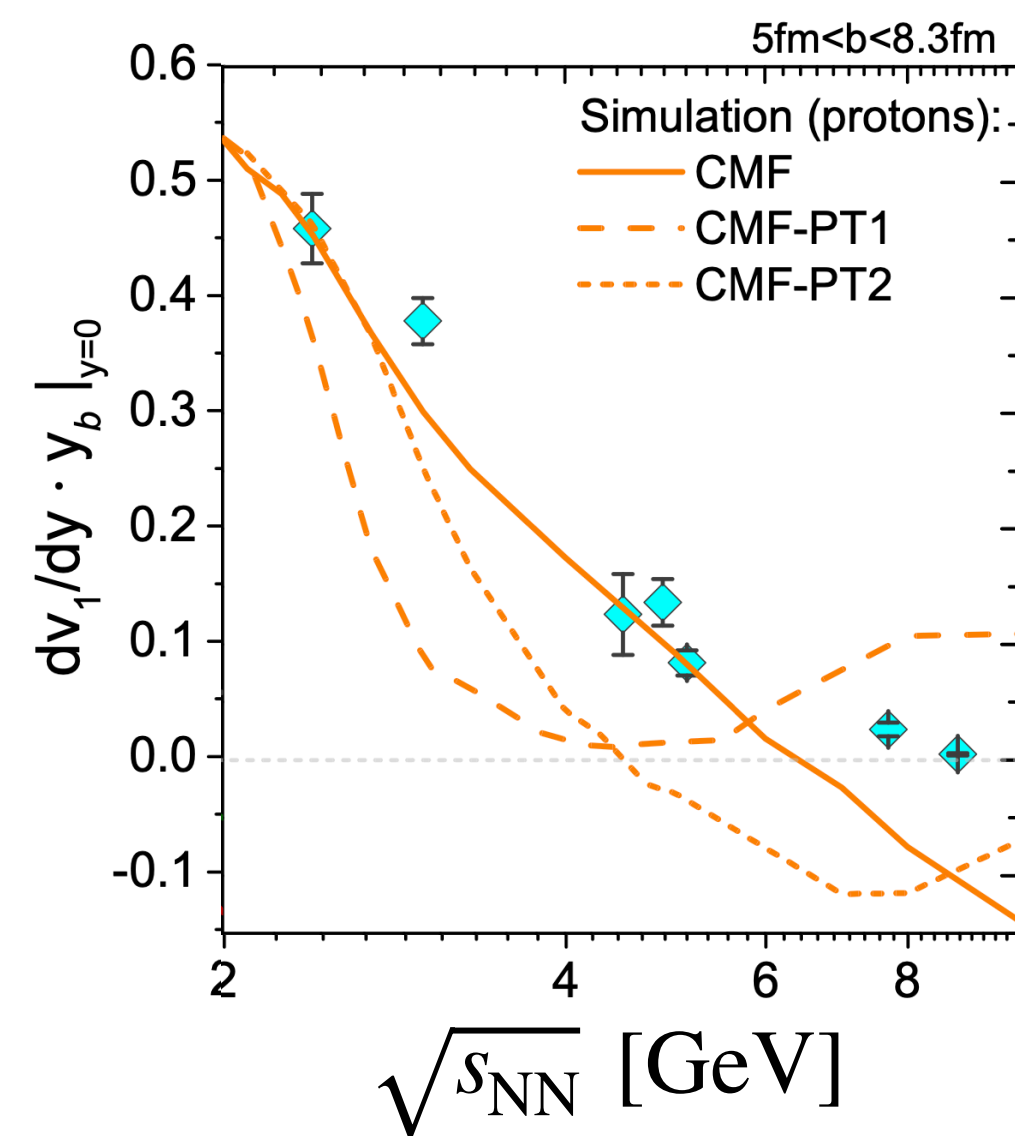
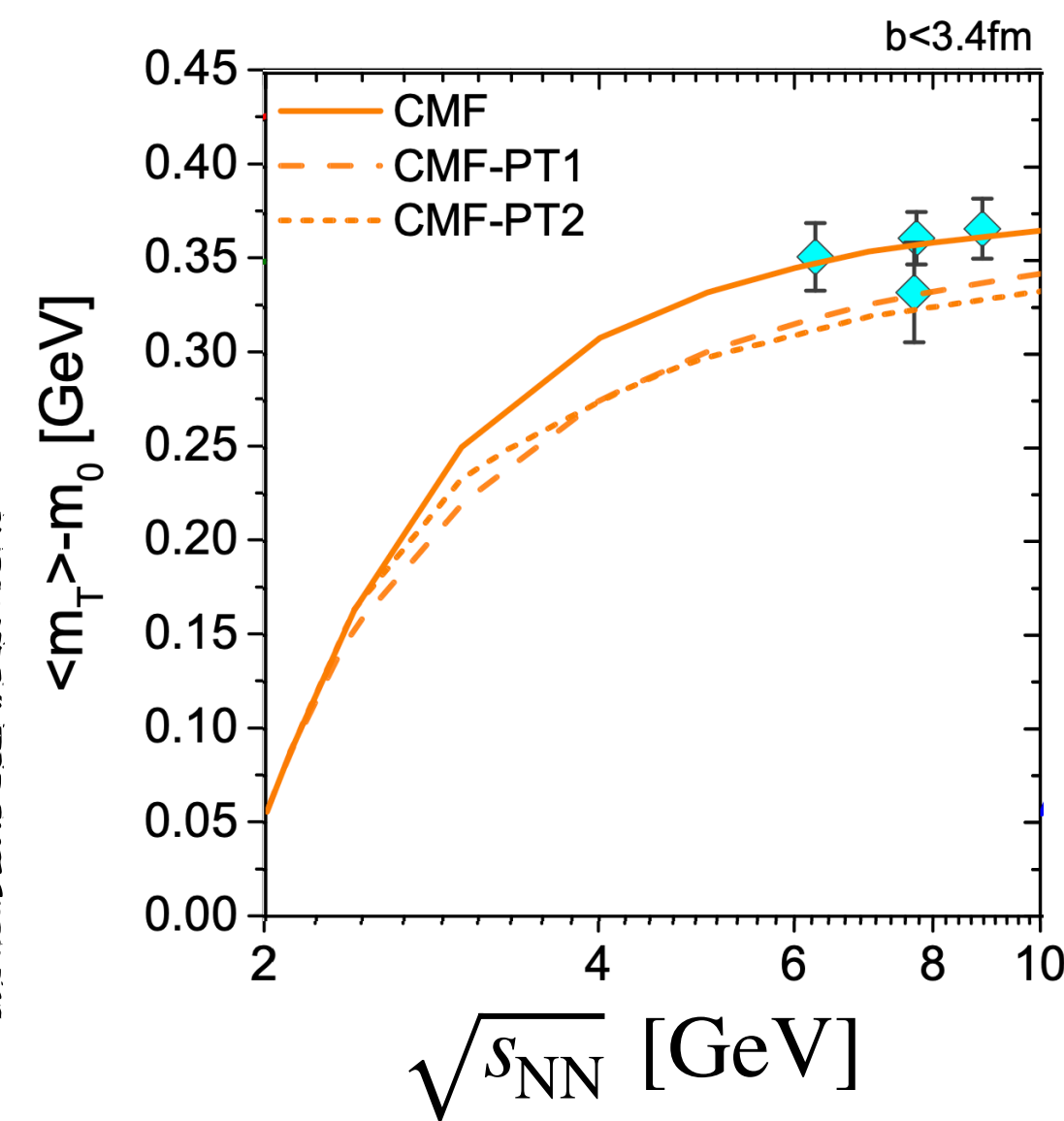
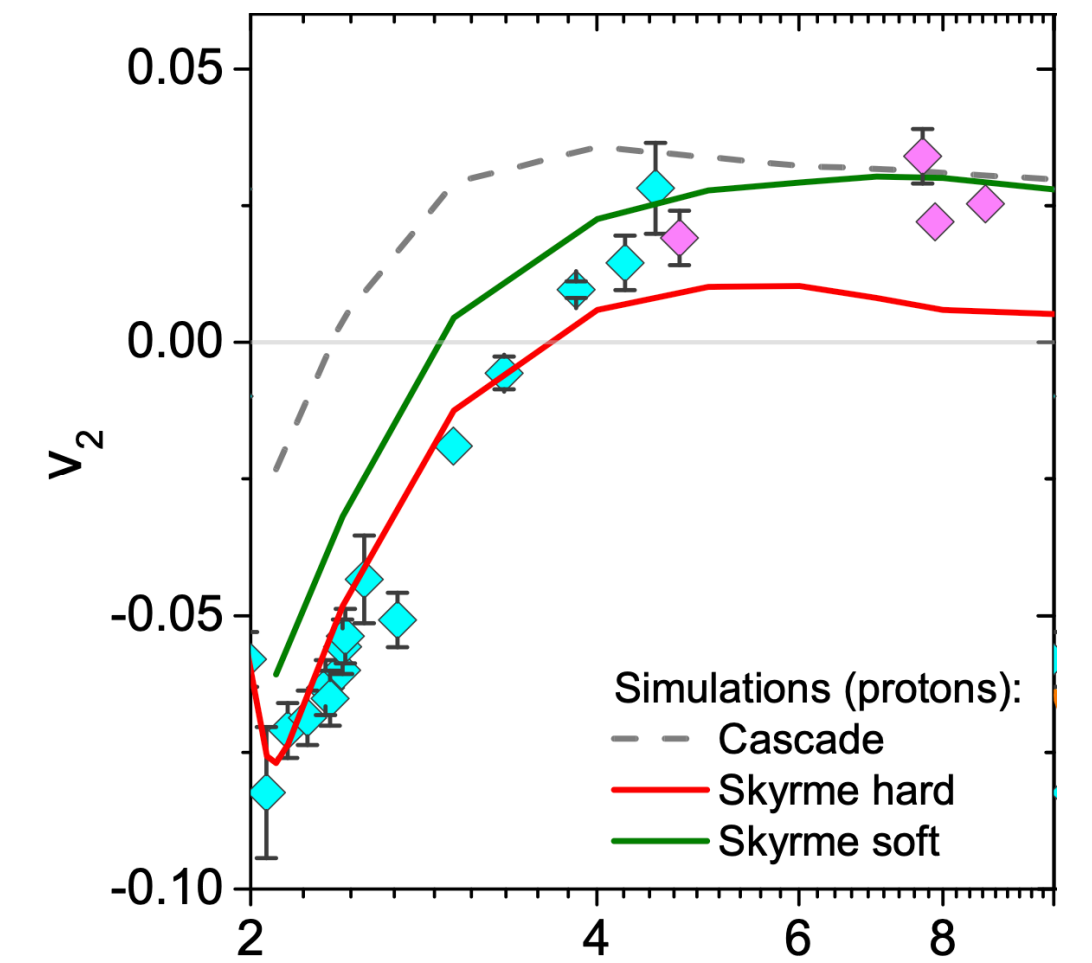
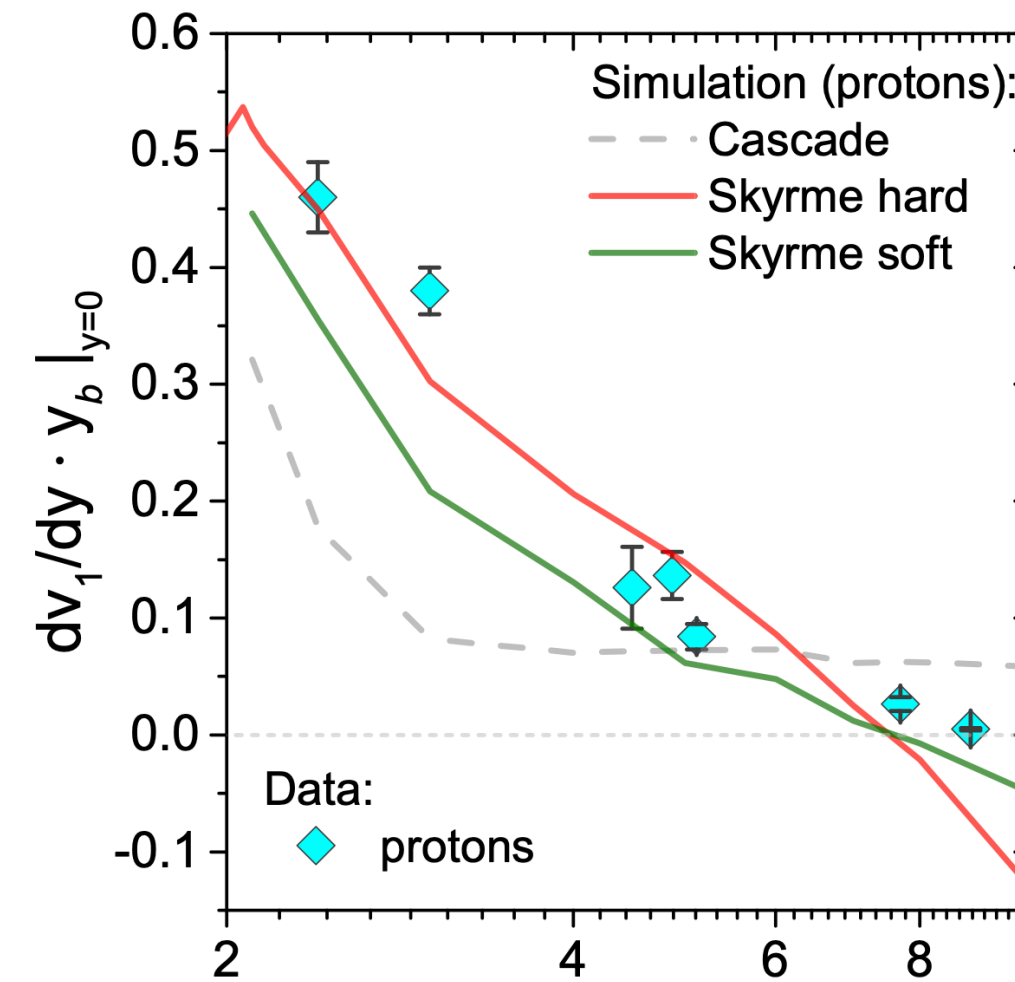
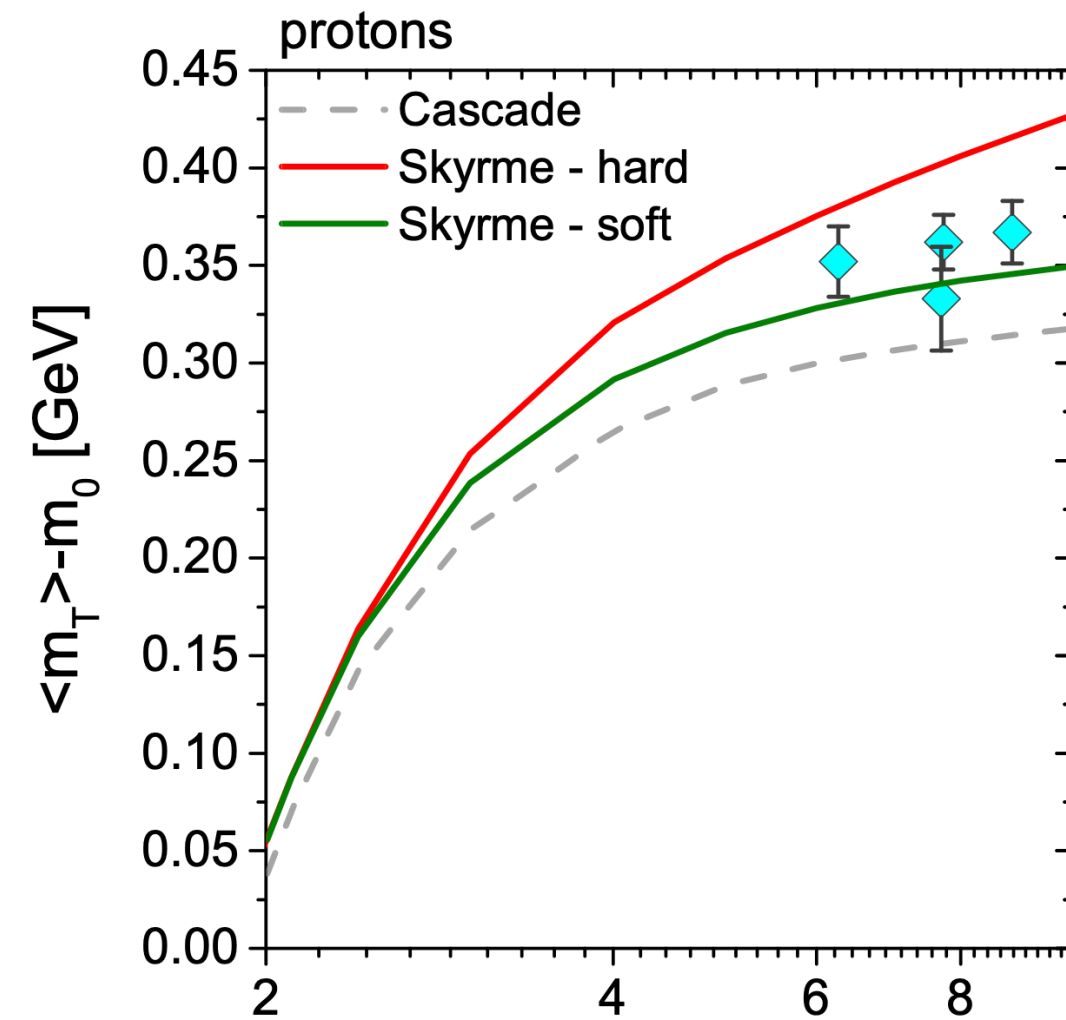
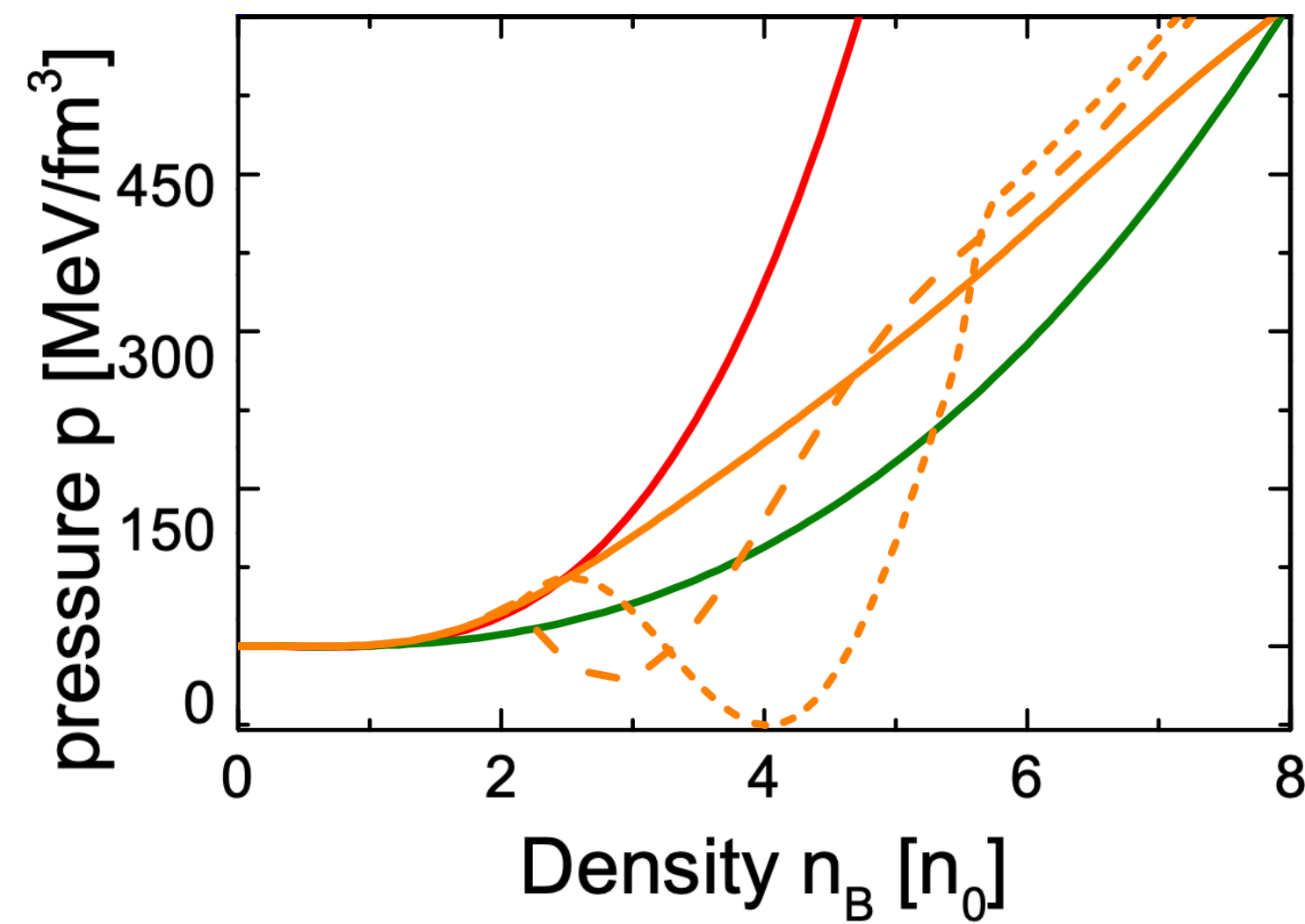


EoS	$T_c^{(N)}$ [MeV]	$n_c^{(Q)}$ [ $n_0$ ]	$T_c^{(Q)}$ [MeV]	$K_0$ [MeV]
VDF1	18	3.0	100	261
VDF2	18	4.0	50	279
VDF3	22	6.0	50	356

Very soft EOS at  $n_B \in (2,3)n_0$   
not supported in VDF+UrQMD

# Results from UrQMD with (non-relativistic) CMF

J. Steinheimer, A. Motornenko, **A. Sorensen**, Y. Nara, V. Koch,  
M. Bleicher, Eur. Phys. J. C **82**, 10, 911 (2022) arXiv:2208.12091



Very soft EOS at  $n_B \in (2,3)n_0$   
not supported in CMF+UrQMD

# Generalized VDF model: custom $c_s^2$

VDF model:

$$\mathcal{E}_N = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \epsilon_{\text{kin}}^* f_{\mathbf{p}} + \sum_{i=1}^N A_k^0 j_0 - g^{00} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{b_i - 1}{b_i} \right) A_k^\lambda j_\lambda \quad j_\mu j^\mu = n_B^2$$

$$\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} = \epsilon_{\text{kin}} + \sum_{i=1}^N A_i^0 \quad A_k^\mu = C_k (j_\lambda j^\lambda)^{\frac{b_k}{2} - 1} j^\mu$$

The distribution (Fermi or Boltzmann) will have factors of  $e^{\beta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{p}} - \mu_B)} = e^{\beta(\epsilon_{\text{kin}} + \sum_{i=1}^N A_i^0 - \mu_B)} = e^{\beta(\epsilon_{\text{kin}} - \mu^*)}$

Assume arbitrary **vector** interactions:  $A^\mu = \alpha(n_B) j^\mu$

The effective chemical potential is  $\mu^* = \mu_B - \alpha(n_B) n_B$

At  $T = 0$ ,  $\epsilon_F = \mu^*$  and the density is given by  $n_B = \frac{g}{6\pi^2} p_F^3 = \frac{g}{6\pi^2} (\mu^{*2} - m^2)^{3/2}$

Combining the two allows one to solve for  $\mu_B(n_B) = \alpha(n_B) n_B + \sqrt{m^2 + \left( \frac{6\pi n_B}{g} \right)^{2/3}}$

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Combining the two allows one to solve for

$$\mu_B(n_B) = \alpha(n_B)n_B + \sqrt{m^2 + \left( \frac{6\pi n_B}{g} \right)^{2/3}}$$

On the other hand,  $c_s^2 \Big|_{T=0} = \frac{d \ln \mu_B}{d \ln n_B}$ , and solving for  $\mu_B$ :  $\mu_B(n_B) = \mu_B(n_B^{(0)}) \exp \left( \int_{n_B^{(0)}}^{n_B} d \ln n \ c_s^2(n) \right)$

Solve for **vector** interactions:  $\alpha(n_B) = \frac{1}{n_B} \left[ \mu_B(n_B^{(0)}) \exp \left( \int_{n_B^{(0)}}^{n_B} d \ln n \ c_s^2(n) \right) - \sqrt{m^2 + \left( \frac{6\pi n_B}{g} \right)^{2/3}} \right]$

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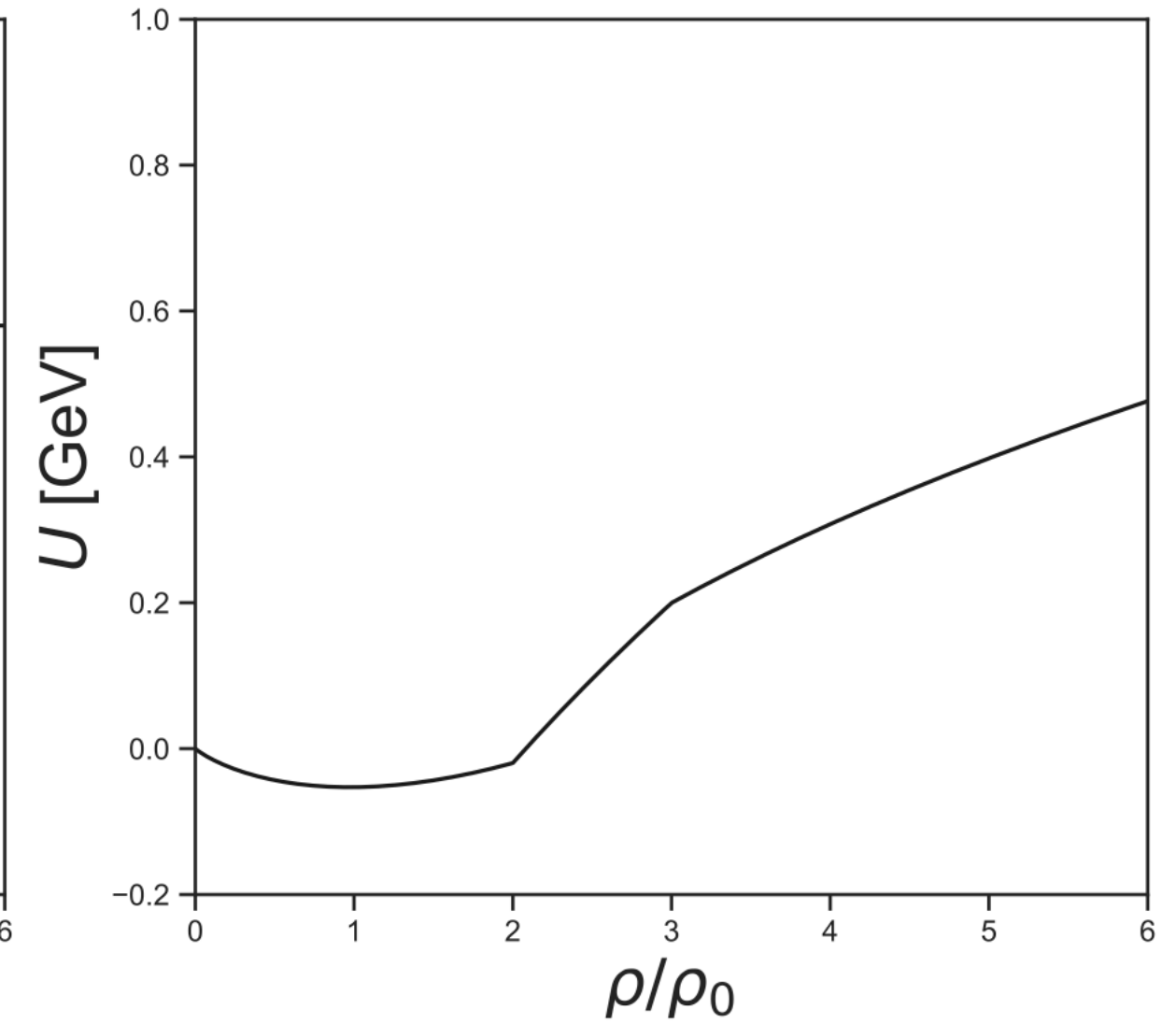
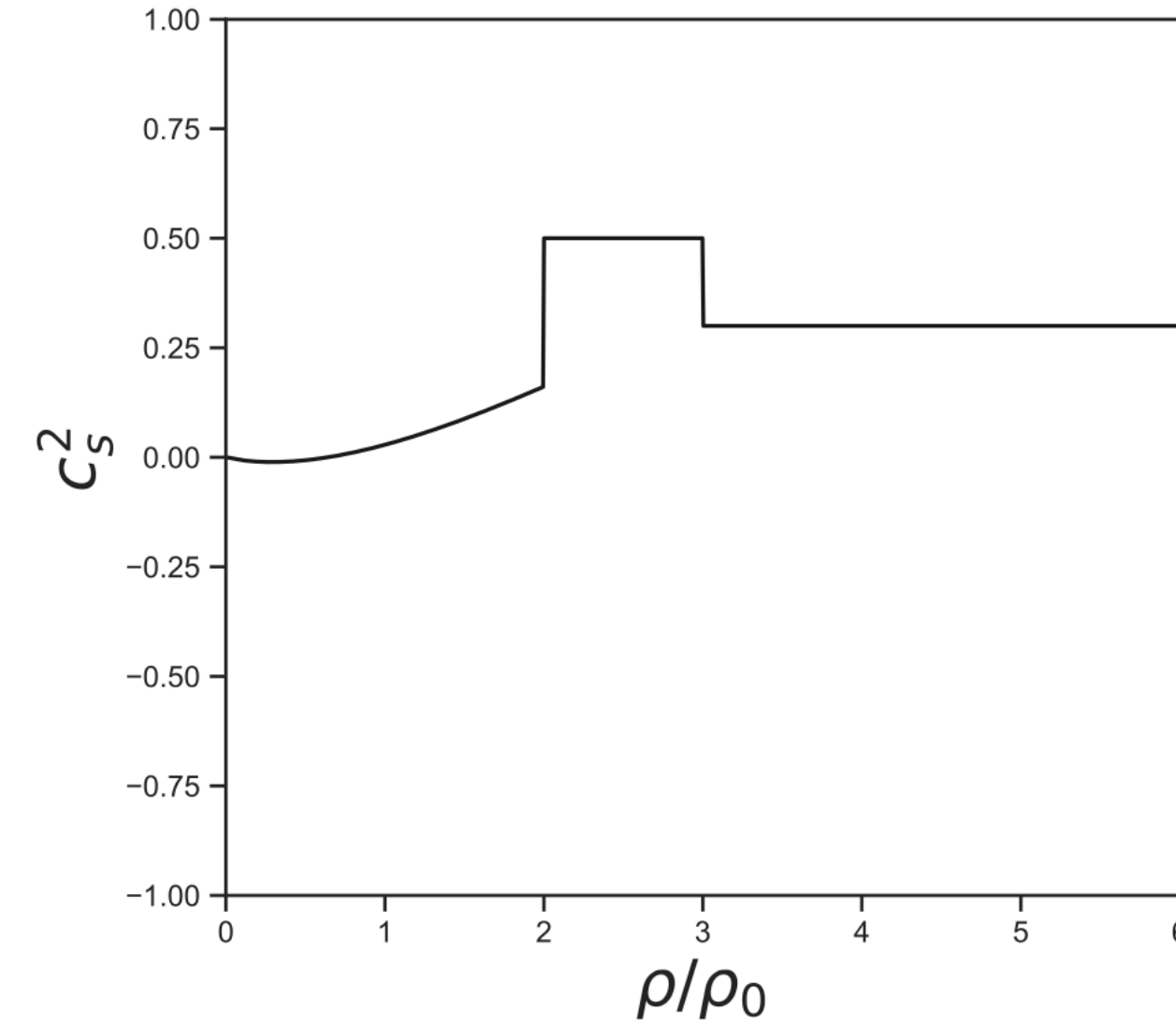
These interactions, parametrized with a chosen shape of  $c_s^2$  as a function of  $n_B$ , can be used in hadronic transport simulations!

Solve for **vector** interactions: 
$$\alpha(n_B) = \frac{1}{n_B} \left[ \mu_B(n_B^{(0)}) \exp\left( \int_{n_B^{(0)}}^{n_B} d \ln n \ c_s^2(n) \right) - \sqrt{m^2 + \left( \frac{6\pi n_B}{g} \right)^{2/3}} \right]$$

# Better suited for detailed studies: piecewise parametrization of $c_s^2$

Piecewise parametrization of  $c_s^2(n_B)$ :

$$c_s^2(n_B) = \begin{cases} c_s^2(\text{Skyrme}), & n_B < n_1 = 2n_0 \\ c_1^2, & n_1 < n_B < n_2 \\ c_2^2, & n_2 < n_B < n_3 \\ \dots & \\ c_m^2, & n_m < n_B \end{cases}$$



Single-particle potential  $U(n_B) = \alpha(n_B)n_B$ :

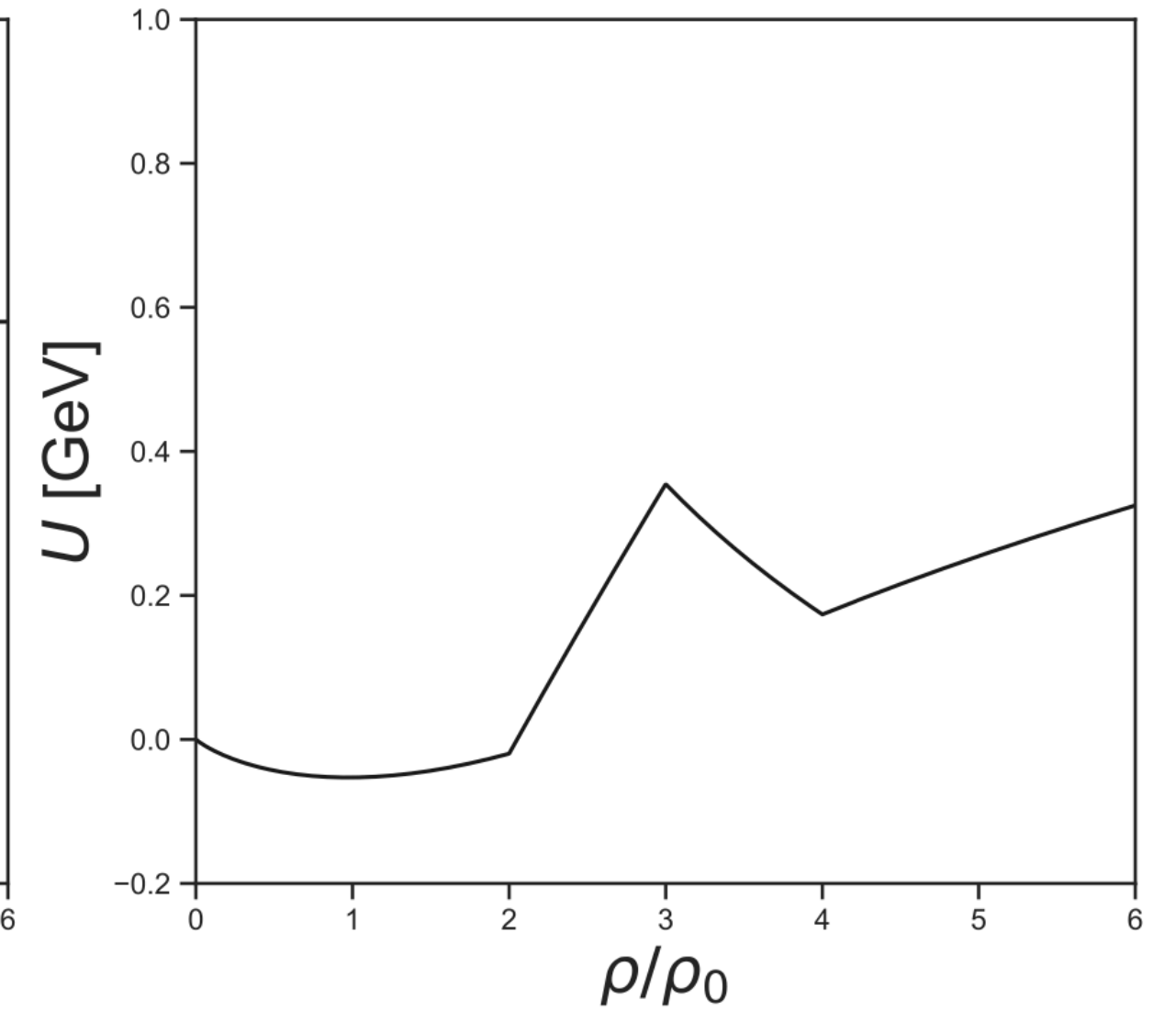
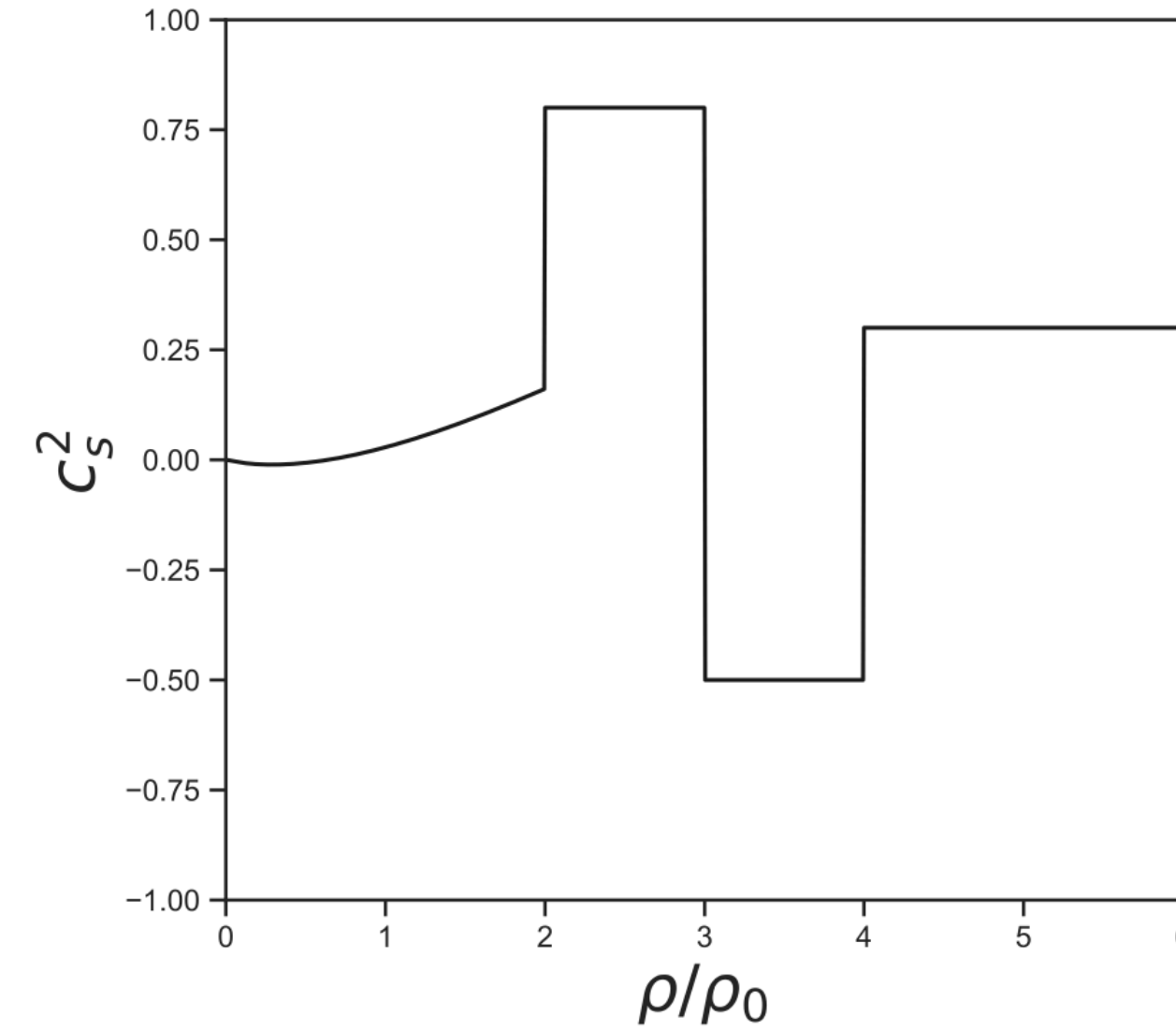
$$U(n_B) = \begin{cases} U_{\text{Sk}}(n_B), & n_B < n_1 = 2n_0 \\ \left[ U_{\text{Sk}}(n_1) + \mu^*(\rho_1) \right] \left( \frac{\rho}{n_1} \right)^{c_1^2} - \mu^*(n_B), & n_1 < n_B < n_2 \\ \left[ U_{\text{Sk}}(n_1) + \mu^*(n_1) \right] \left( \frac{n_B}{n_k} \right)^{c_k^2} \prod_{i=2}^k \left( \frac{n_i}{n_{i-1}} \right)^{c_{i-1}^2} - \mu^*(n_B), & n_k < n_B < n_{k+1} \end{cases}$$

Gradients of  $U(n_B)$  enter the EOMs!

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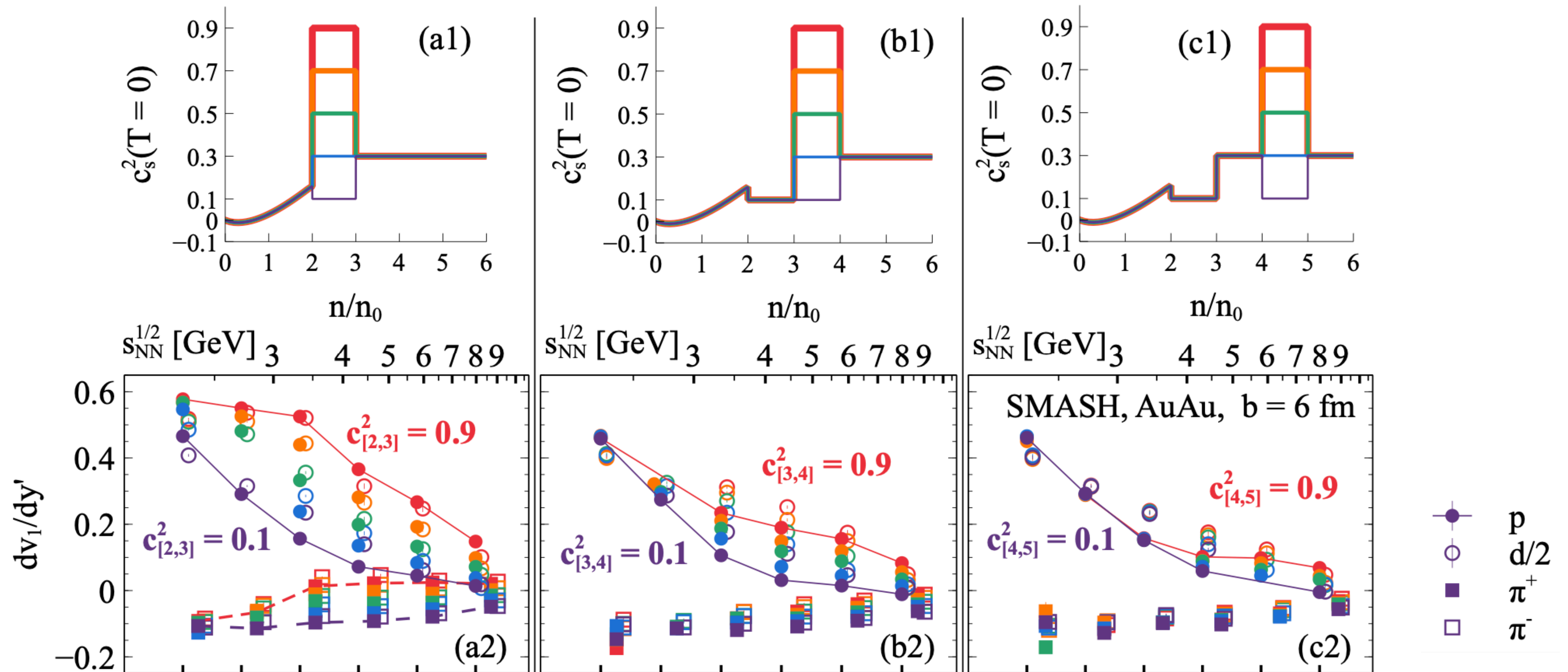


# Hadronic transport with $c_s^2$ -parametrized mean-fields

D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran,  
arXiv:2208.11996

Generalized VDF ( $n_B$ -dependent interaction coefficients):

mean-field potential piecewise parametrized by (constant) values of  $c_s^2$  for  $n_i < n_B < n_j$

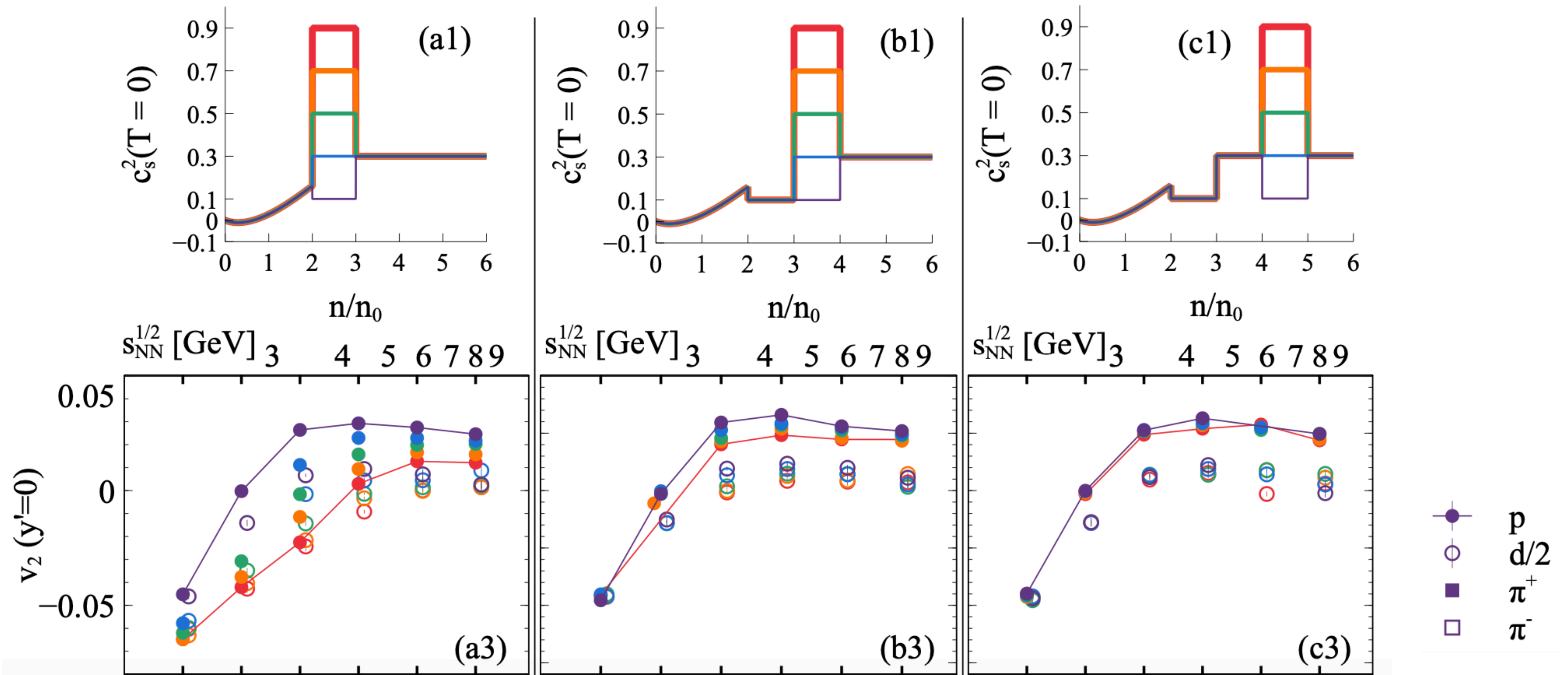


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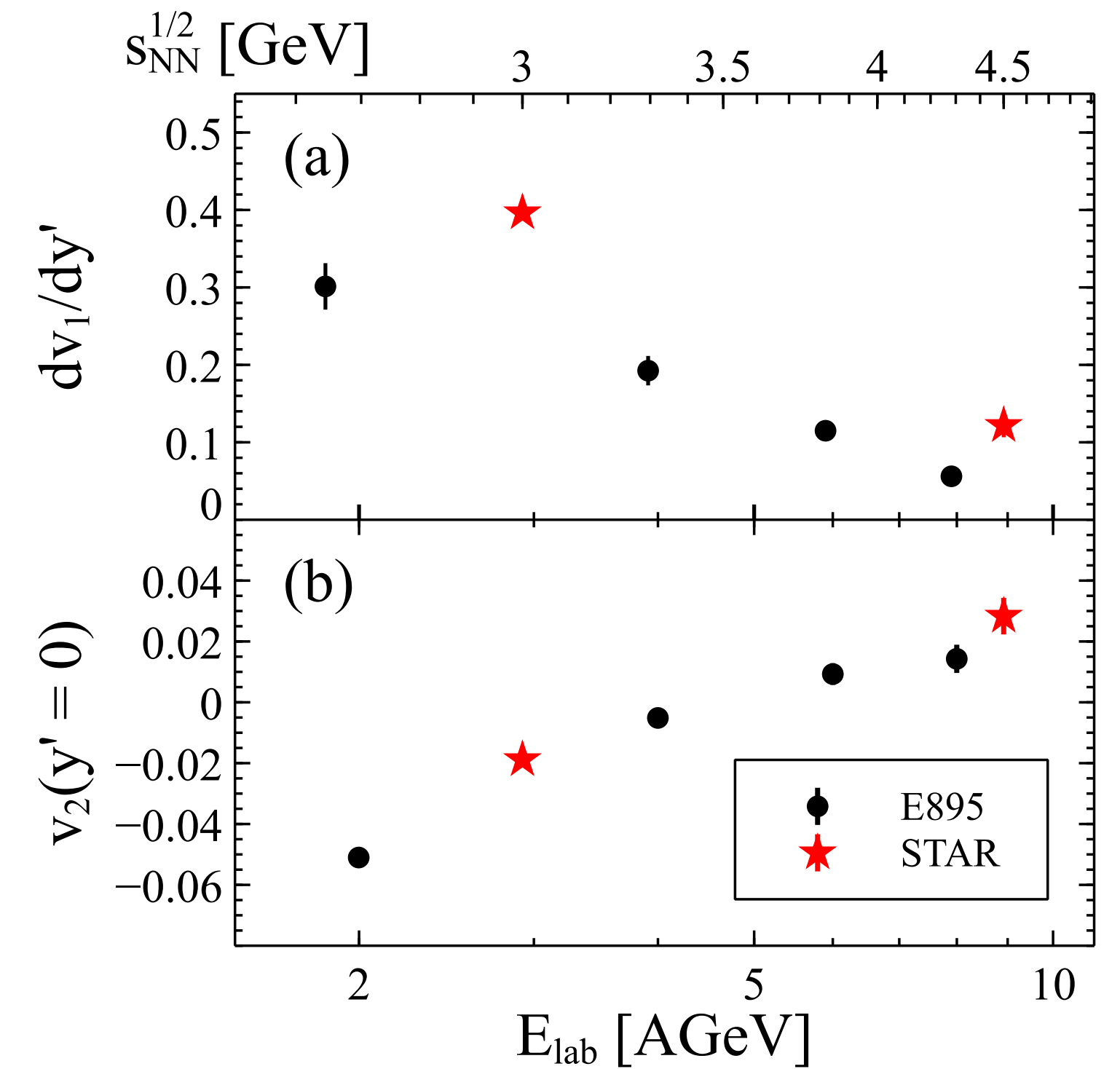
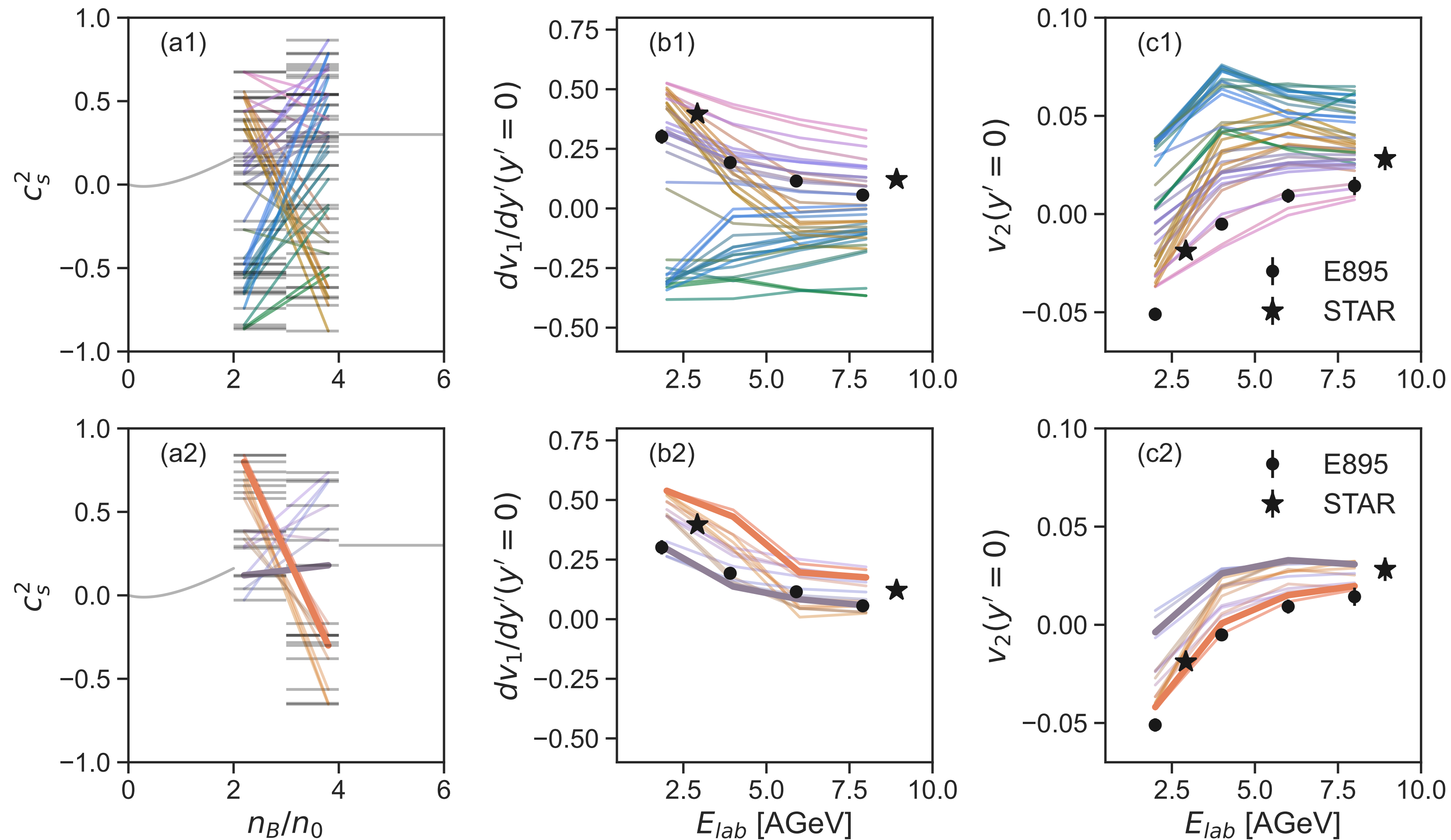
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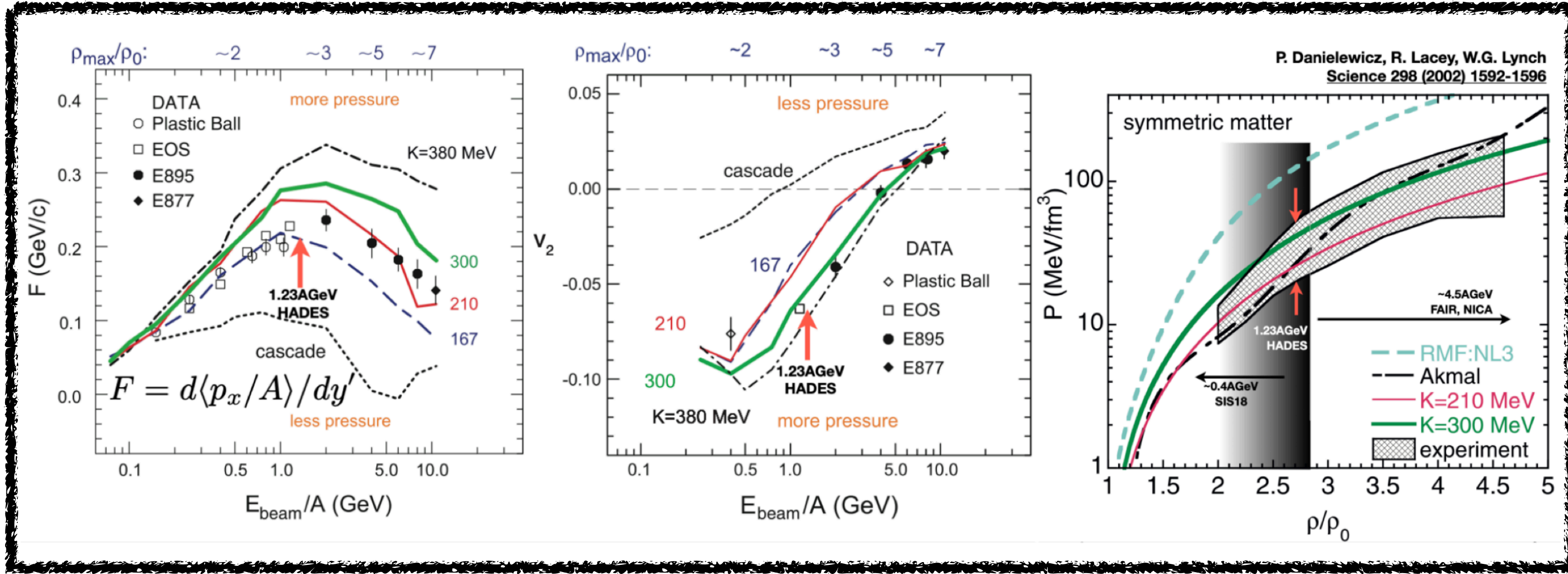


# STAR and E895 data cannot be simultaneously described



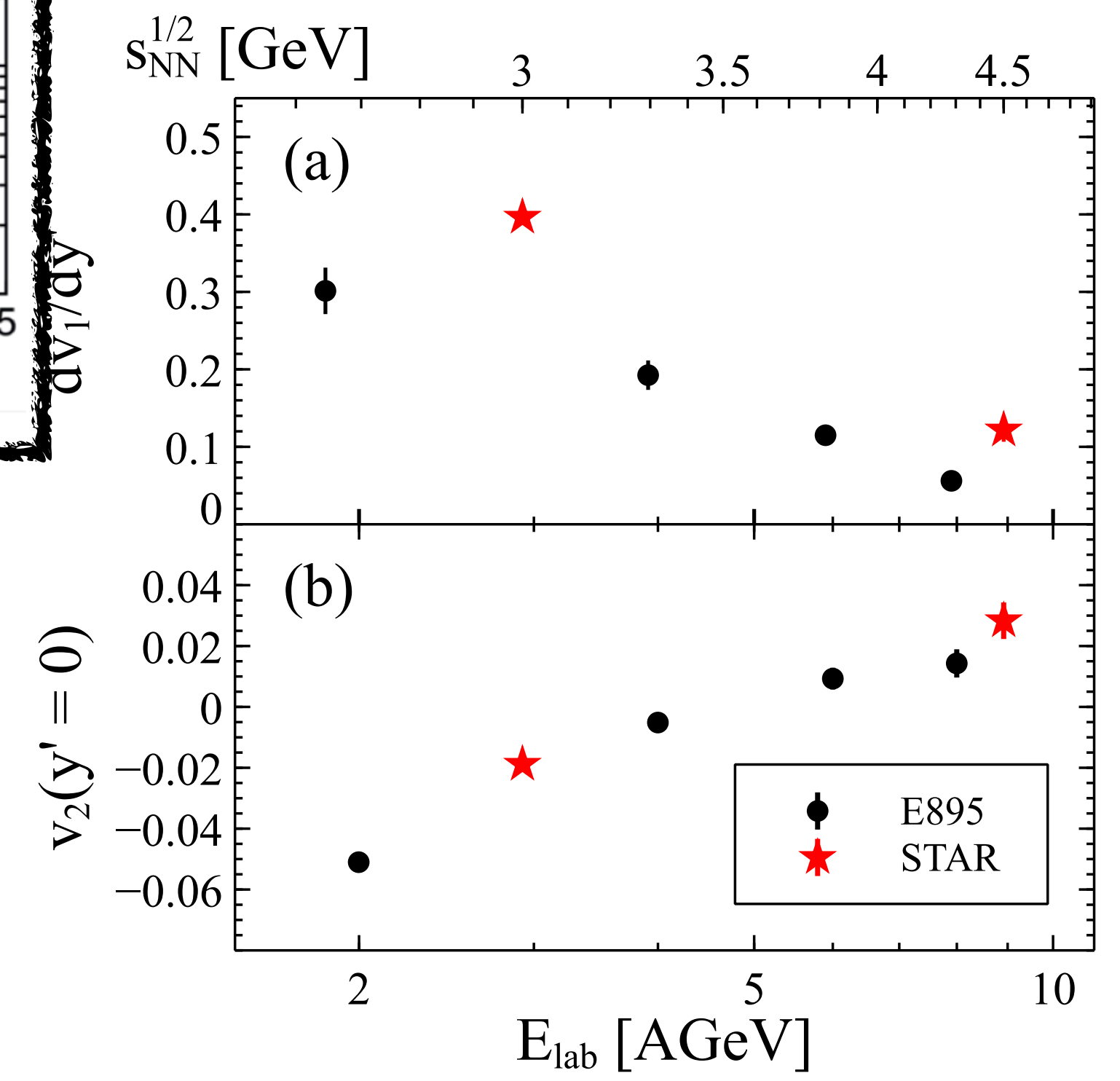
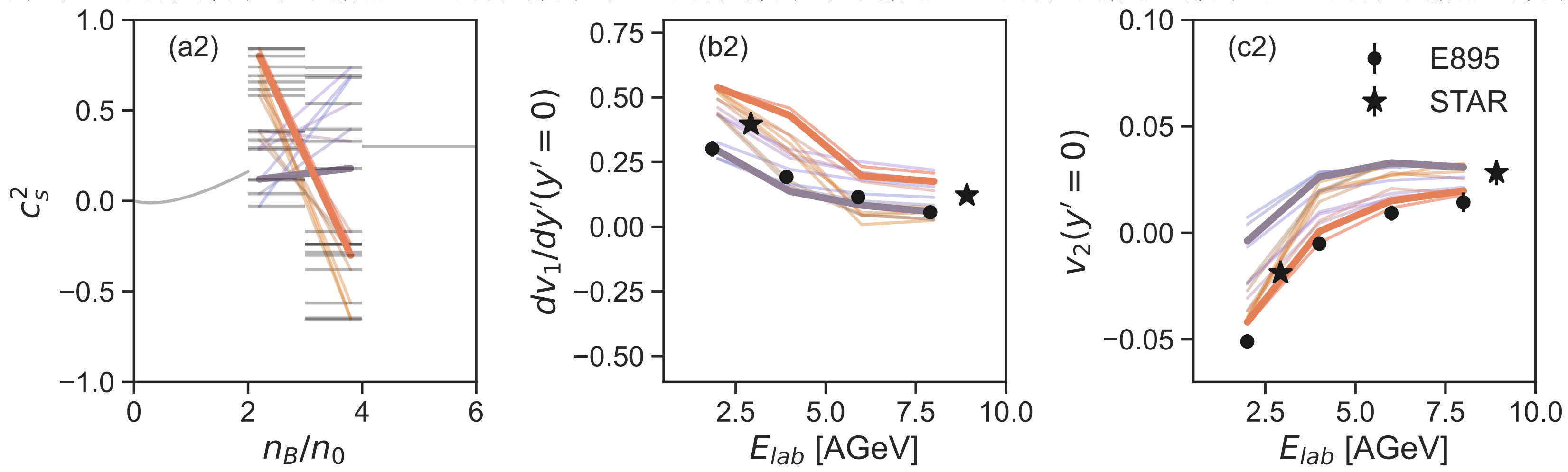
tension between the data sets

# STAR and E895 data cannot be simultaneously described



Same problem as in the DLL constraint!

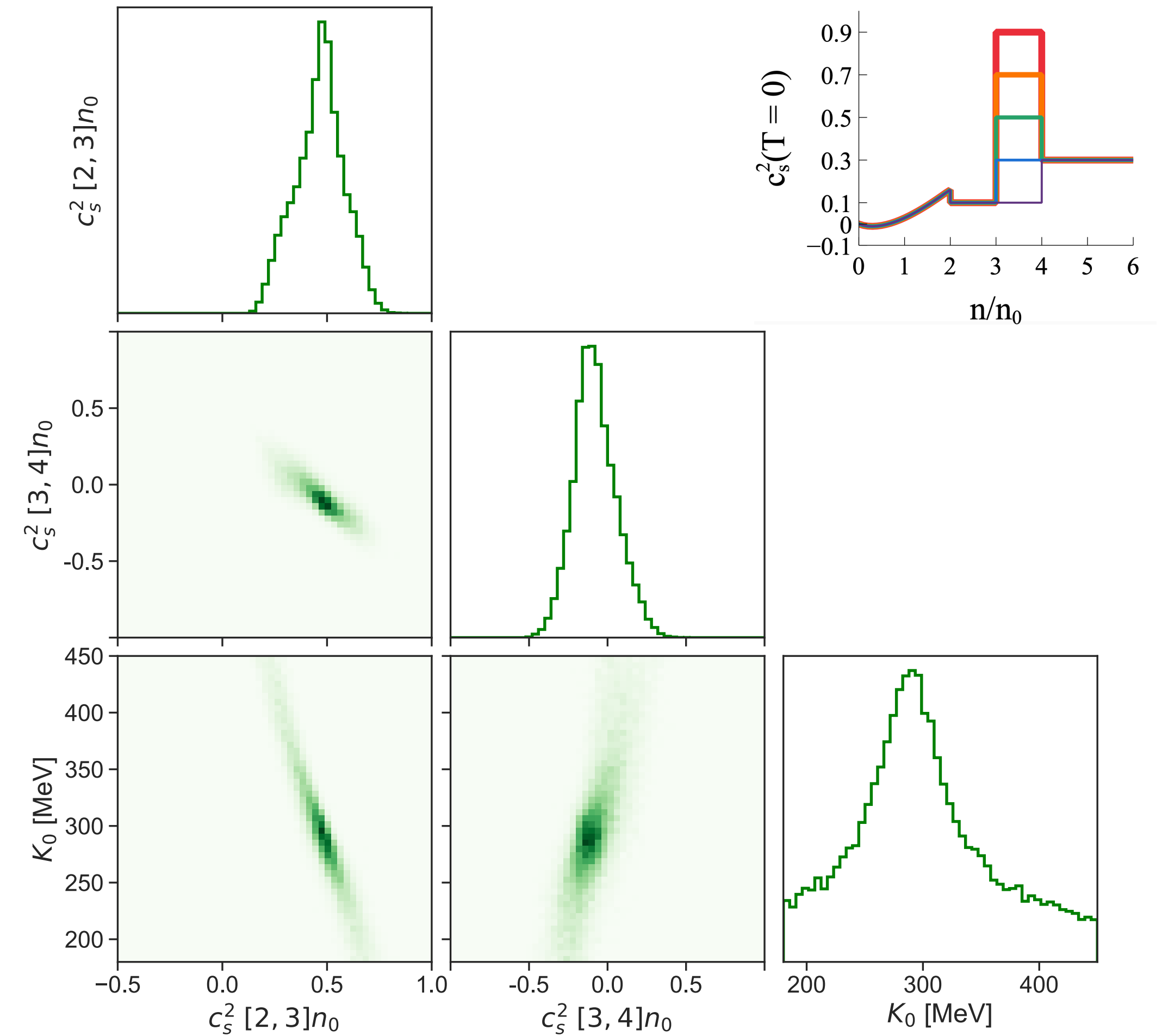
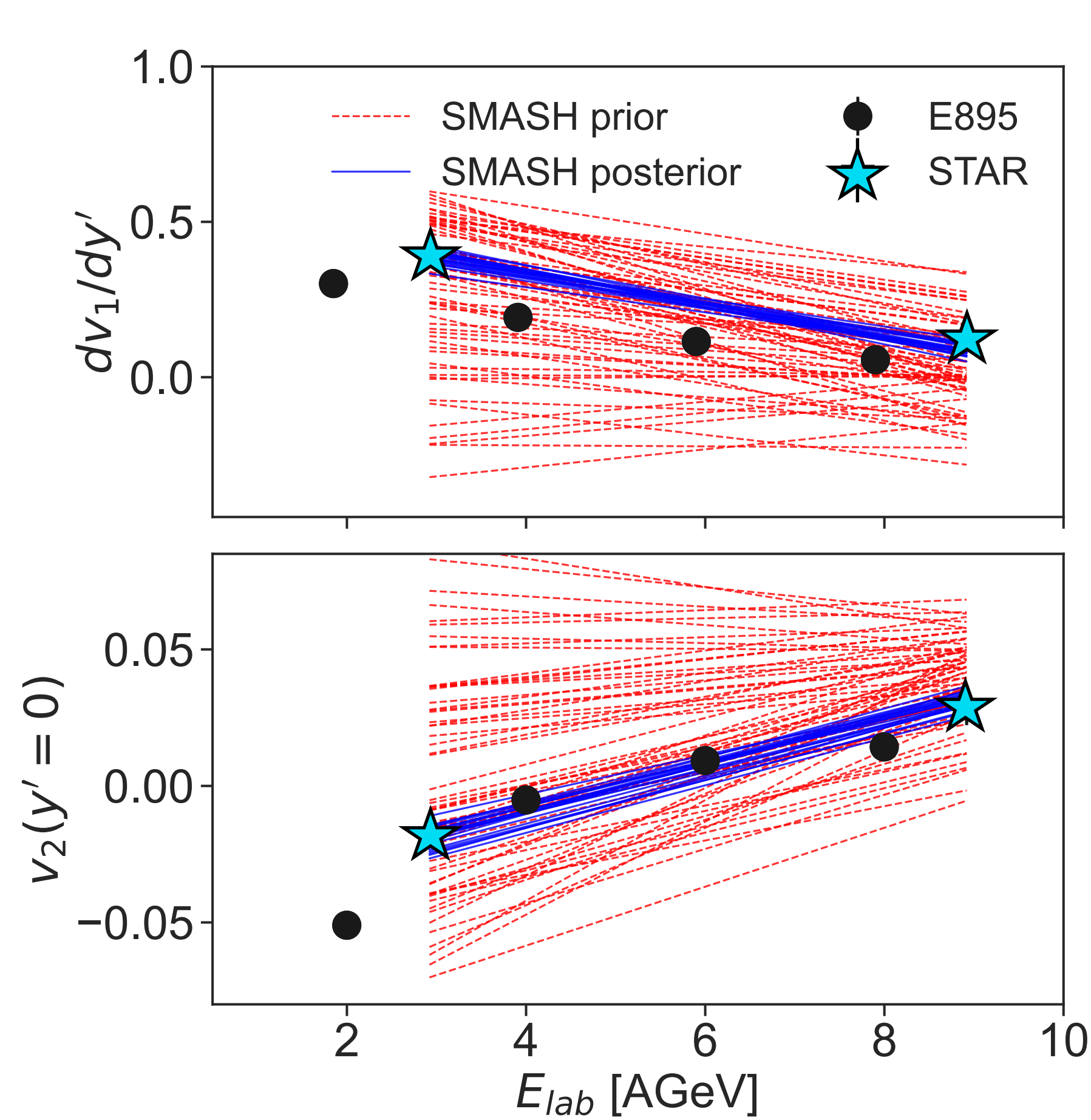
Danielewicz, Lacey, Lynch, Science 298, 1592-1596 (2002)



tension between the data sets

D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

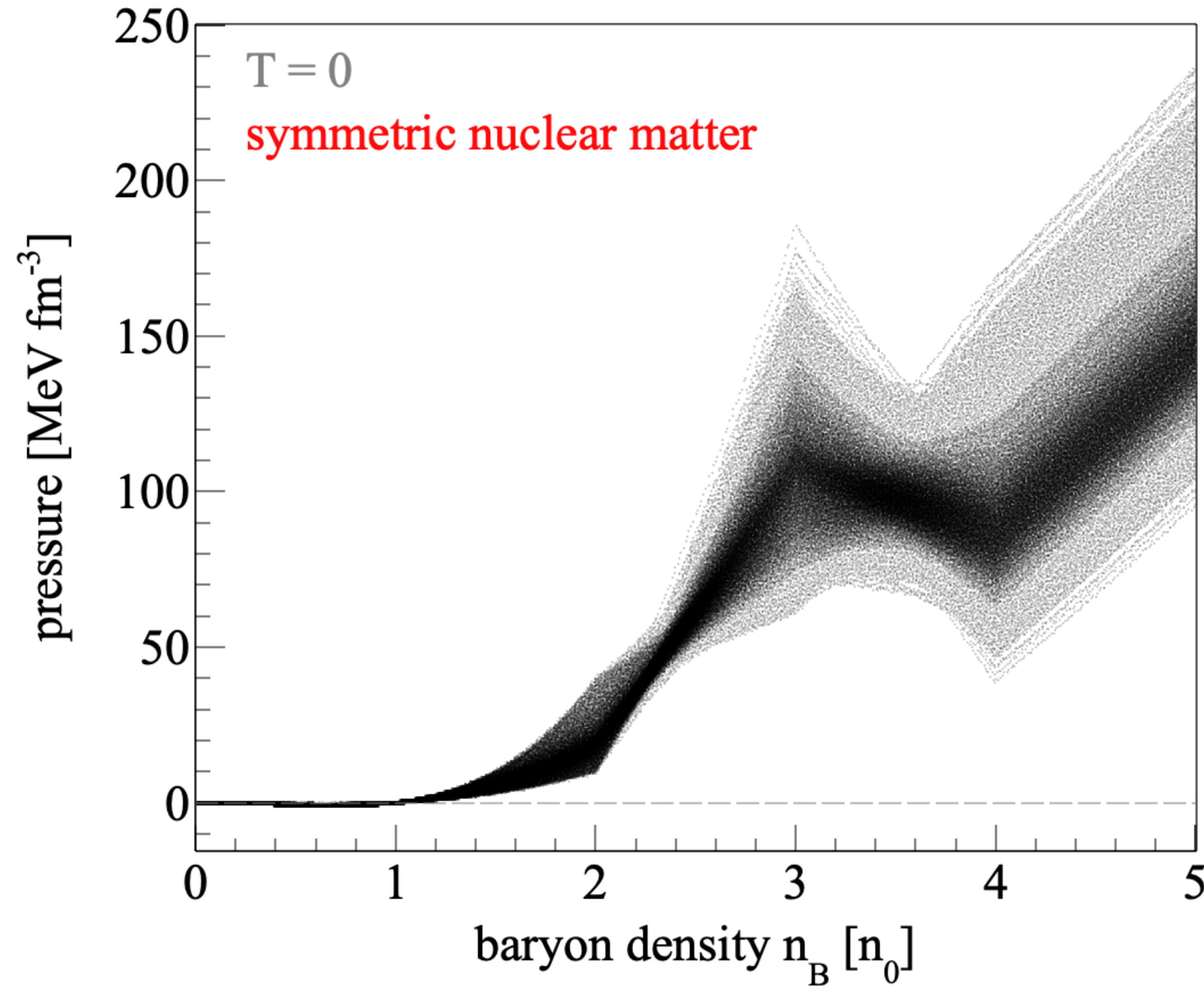
# Bayesian analysis of STAR flow data with varying $K_0$ , $c_{[2,3]n_0}^2$ , $c_{[3,4]n_0}^2$



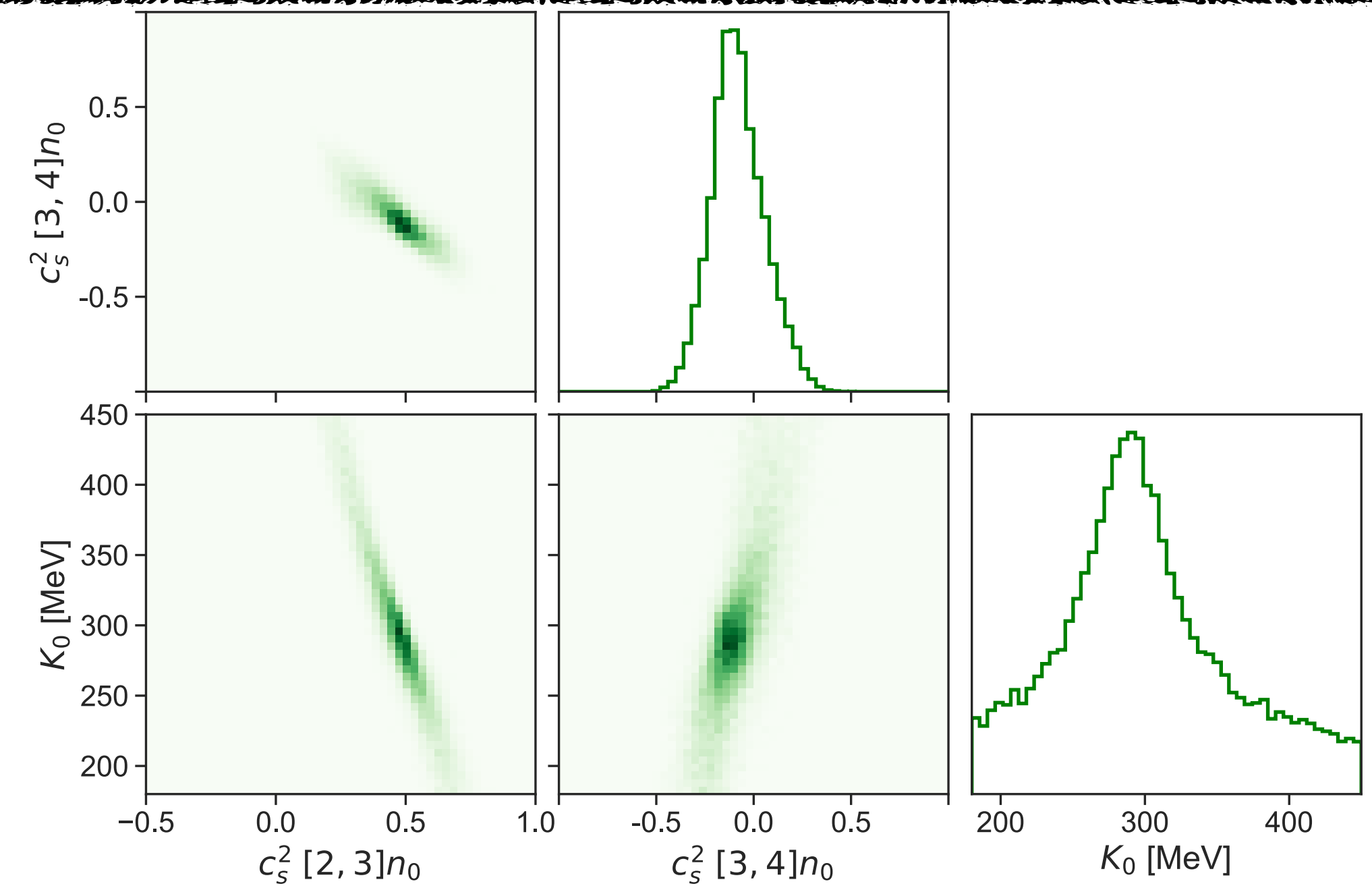
The maximum a posteriori probability (MAP) parameters are  
 $K_0 = 300 \pm 60 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $c_{[2,3]n_0}^2 = 0.47 \pm 0.12$ ,  $c_{[3,4]n_0}^2 = -0.08 \pm 0.14$

D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran,  
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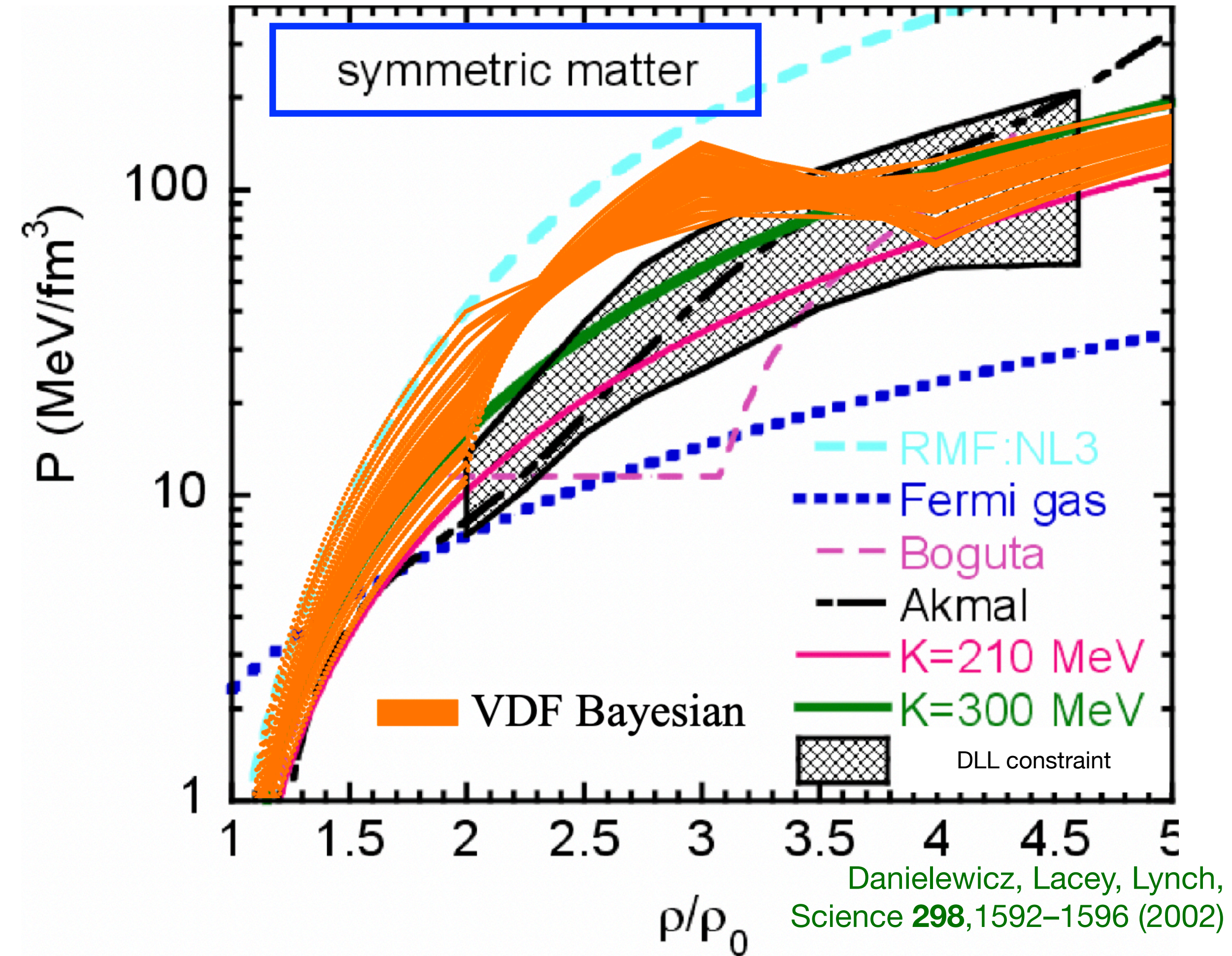
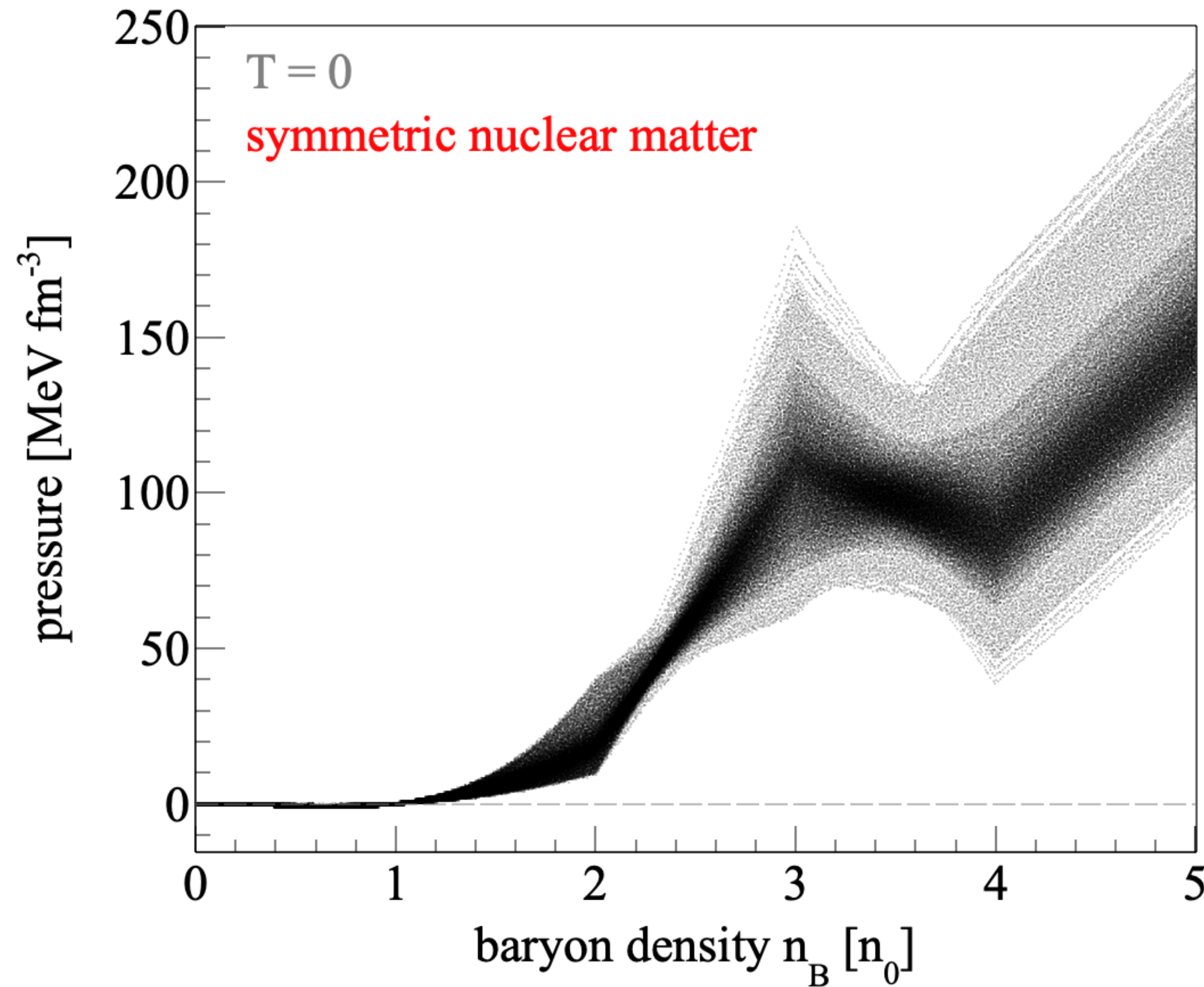
The constrained EOS is very stiff at  $n_B \in (2,3)n_0$  and very soft at  $n_B \in (3,4)n_0$  !



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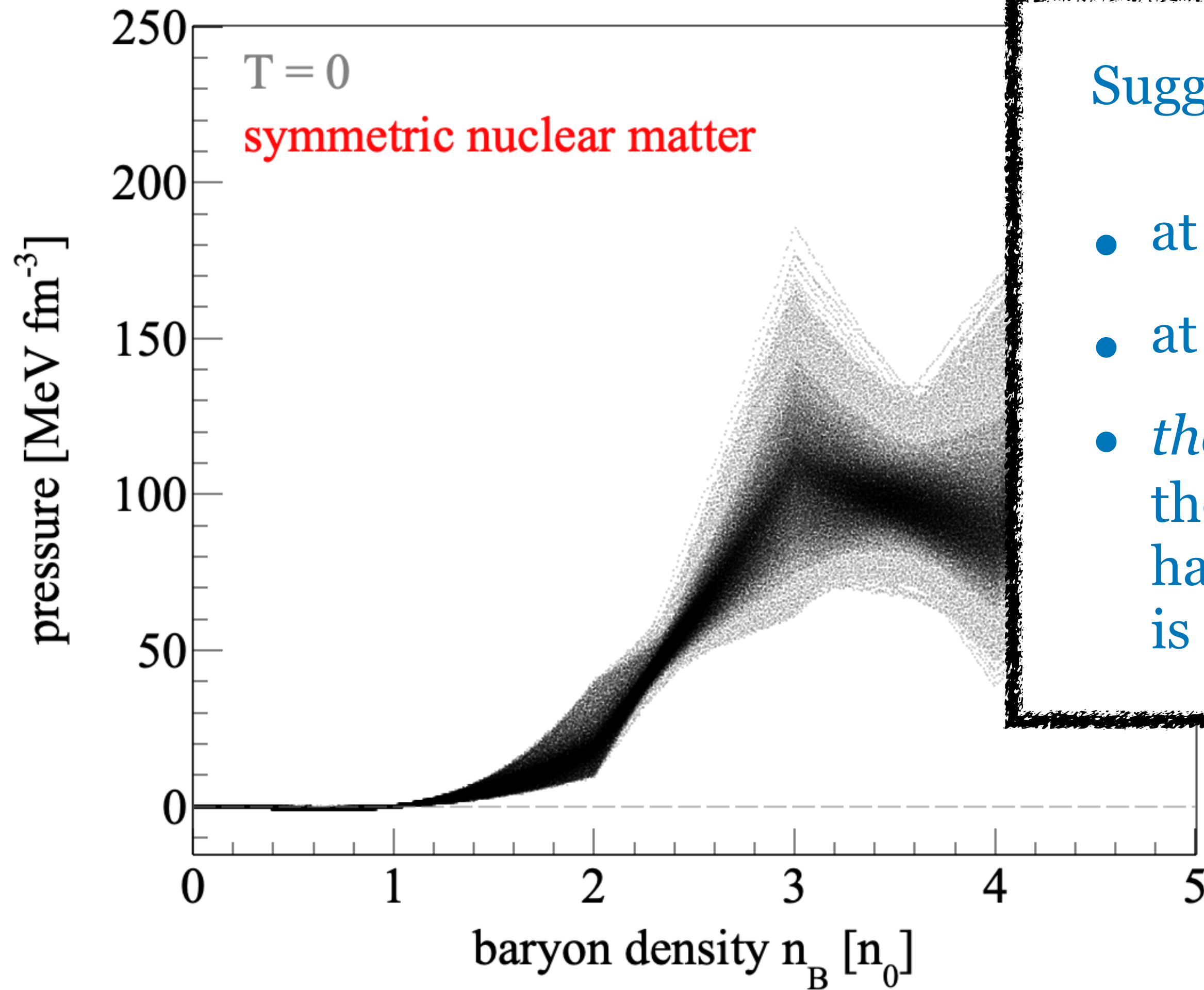
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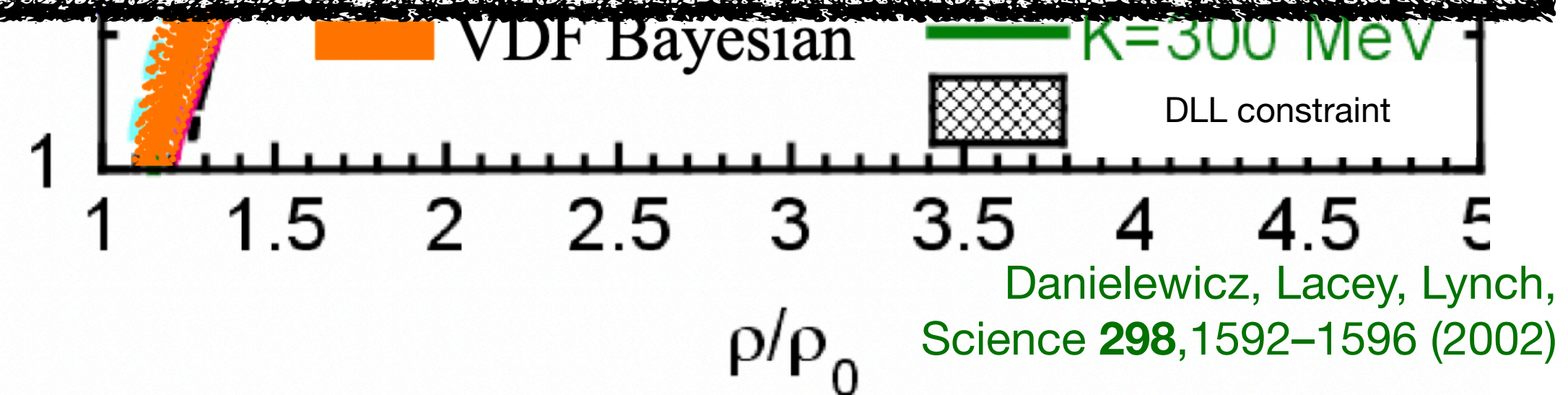
D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran,  
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# Bayesian analysis of STAR flow data with varying $K_0$ , $c_{[2,3]n_0}^2$ , $c_{[3,4]n_0}^2$



Suggests that:

- at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 4.5$  GeV, collisions probe QGP
- at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$  GeV, *some* QGP probed?
- *therefore*, using EOSs parametrized only by  $K_0$  (like the canonical Skyrme soft/hard EOS which doesn't have a QGP-like phase transition) is **NOT ENOUGH** to describe this region



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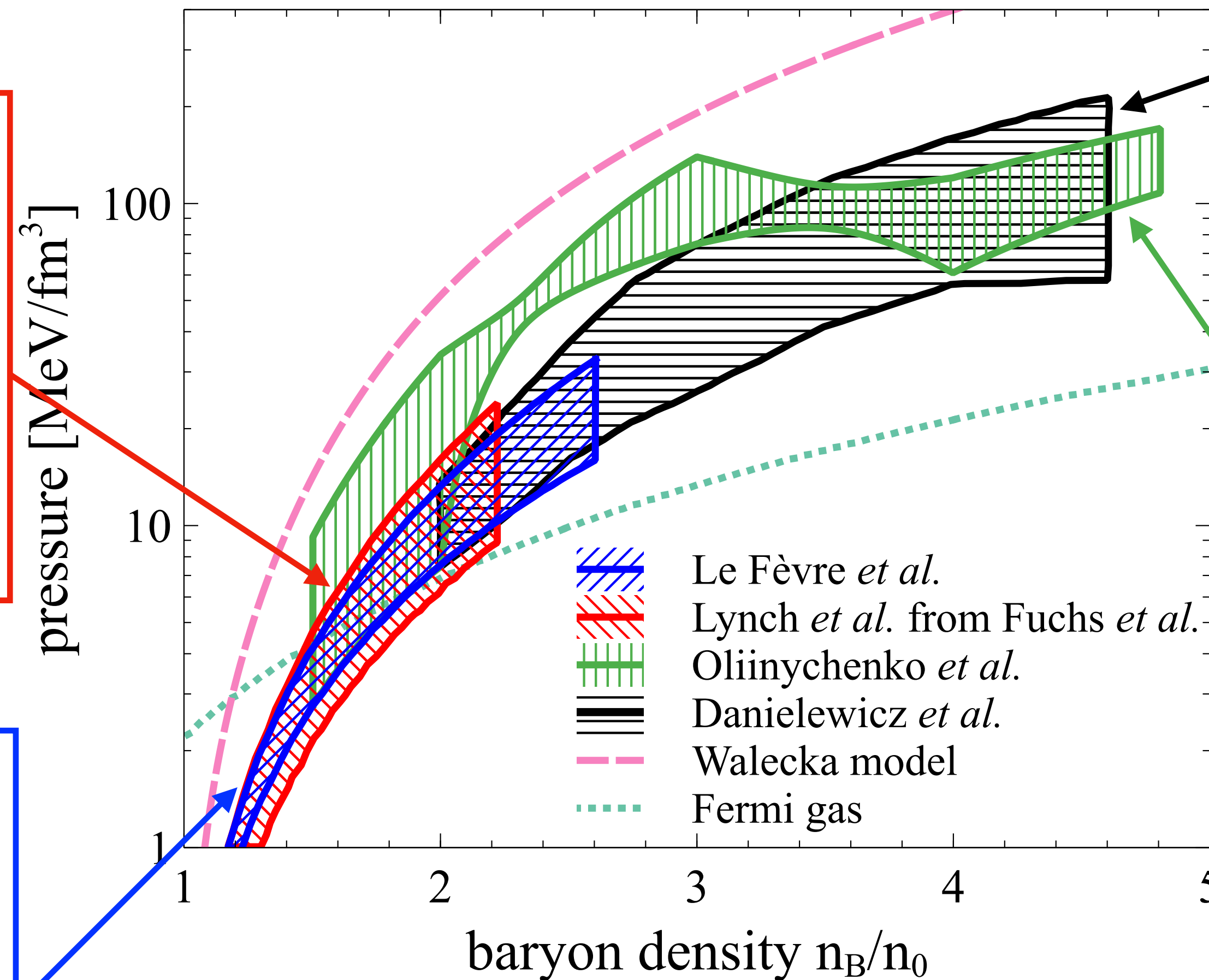


# EOS of symmetric nuclear matter: selected results

## Symmetric nuclear matter

197Au+197Au & 12C+12C @ < 1.5 GeV/u  
 ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 2.5$  GeV)  
 observables: subthreshold kaon production (KaoS)  
 model used: QMD w/ nucleons,  $\Delta$ ,  $N^*(1440)$ , pions, kaons;  
 EOS parametrized by  $K_0$ ;  
 kaon potentials, momentum dependence  
 C. Fuchs *et al.*, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **53**, 113–124 (2004) arXiv:nucl-th/0312052

197Au+197Au @ 0.4–1.5 GeV/u  
 ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.07 - 2.52$  GeV)  
 observables: proton flow (FOPI)  
 model used: isospin QMD (IQMD) w/ nucleons,  $\Delta$ ,  $N^*(1440)$ , deuterons, tritons;  
 EOS parametrized by  $K_0$ ;  
 momentum dependence  
 A. Le Fèvre, Y. Leifels, W. Reisdorf, J. Aichelin, C. Hartnack, Nucl. Phys. A **945**, 112 (2016), arXiv:1501.05246



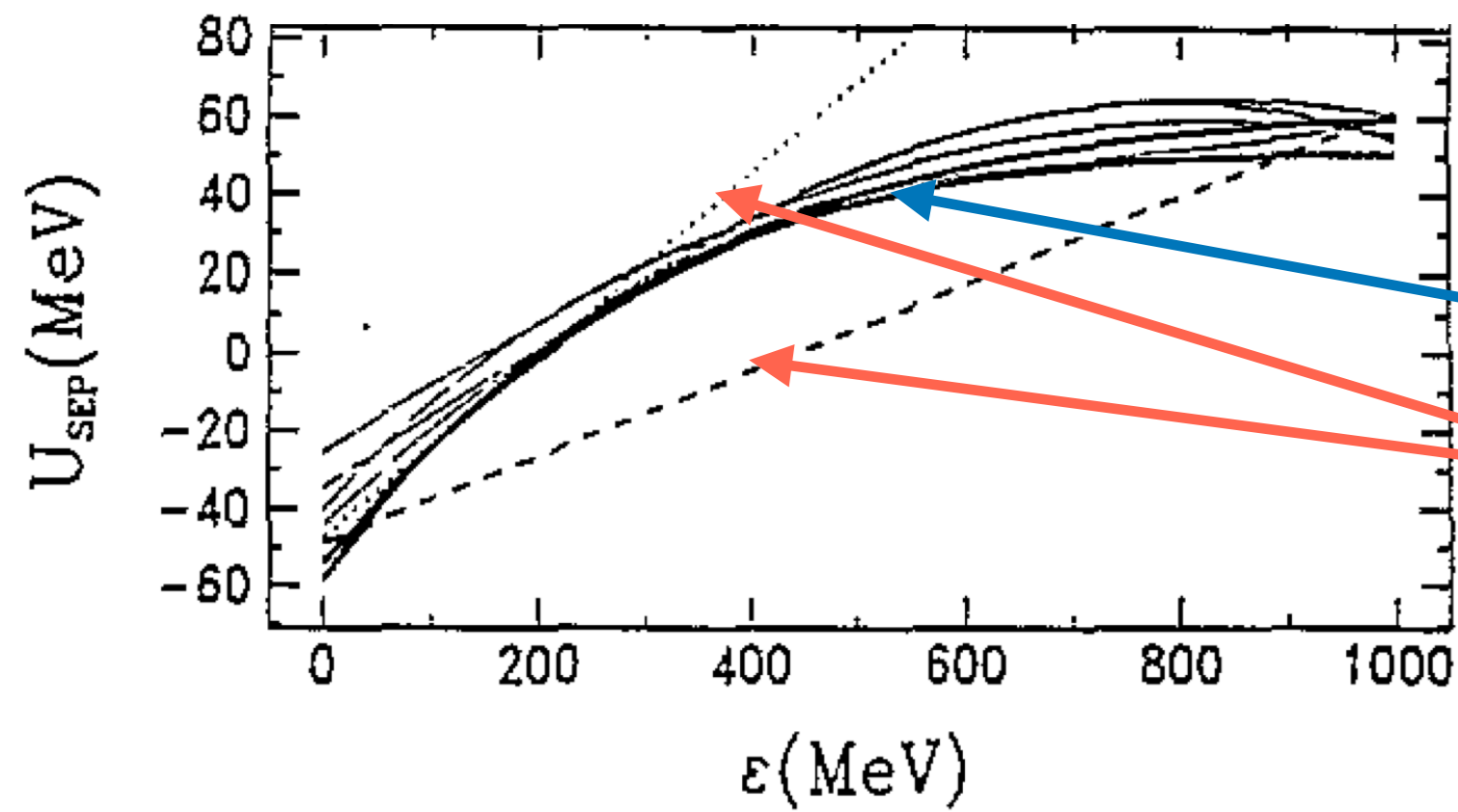
A. Sorensen *et al.*, arXiv:2301.13253

197Au+197Au @ 0.15–10 GeV/u  
 ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 1.95 - 4.72$  GeV)  
 observables: proton flow (Plastic Ball, EOS, E877, E895)  
 model used: pBUU w/ nucleons,  $\Delta$ ,  $N^*(1440)$ , pions;  
 EOS parametrized by  $K_0$ ;  
 momentum dependence  
 Danielewicz, Lacey, Lynch, Science **298**, 1592–1596 (2002)

197Au+197Au @ 2.9–9 GeV/u  
 ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 - 4.5$  GeV)  
 observables: proton flow (STAR)  
 model used: SMASH w/ over 120 hadronic species, including deuterons;  
 relativistic EOS parametrized independently in different density regions;  
**NO momentum dependence**  
 D. Oliinychenko, AS, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

# Momentum-dependent mean-fields are a necessary component

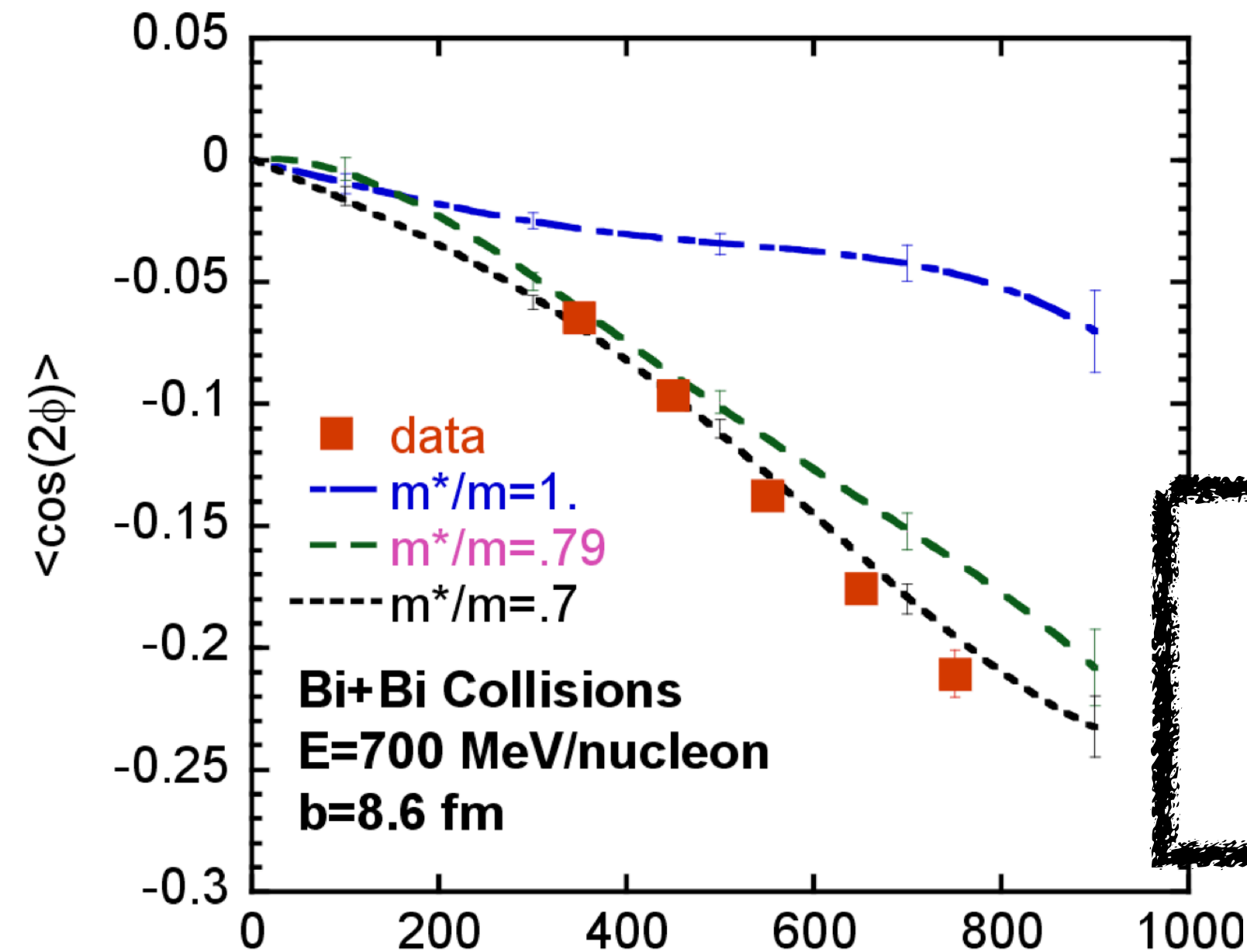
Measured in scattering experiments:



B. Blaettel, V. Koch, U. Mosel,  
Rept. Prog. Phys. **56**,1–62 (1993)

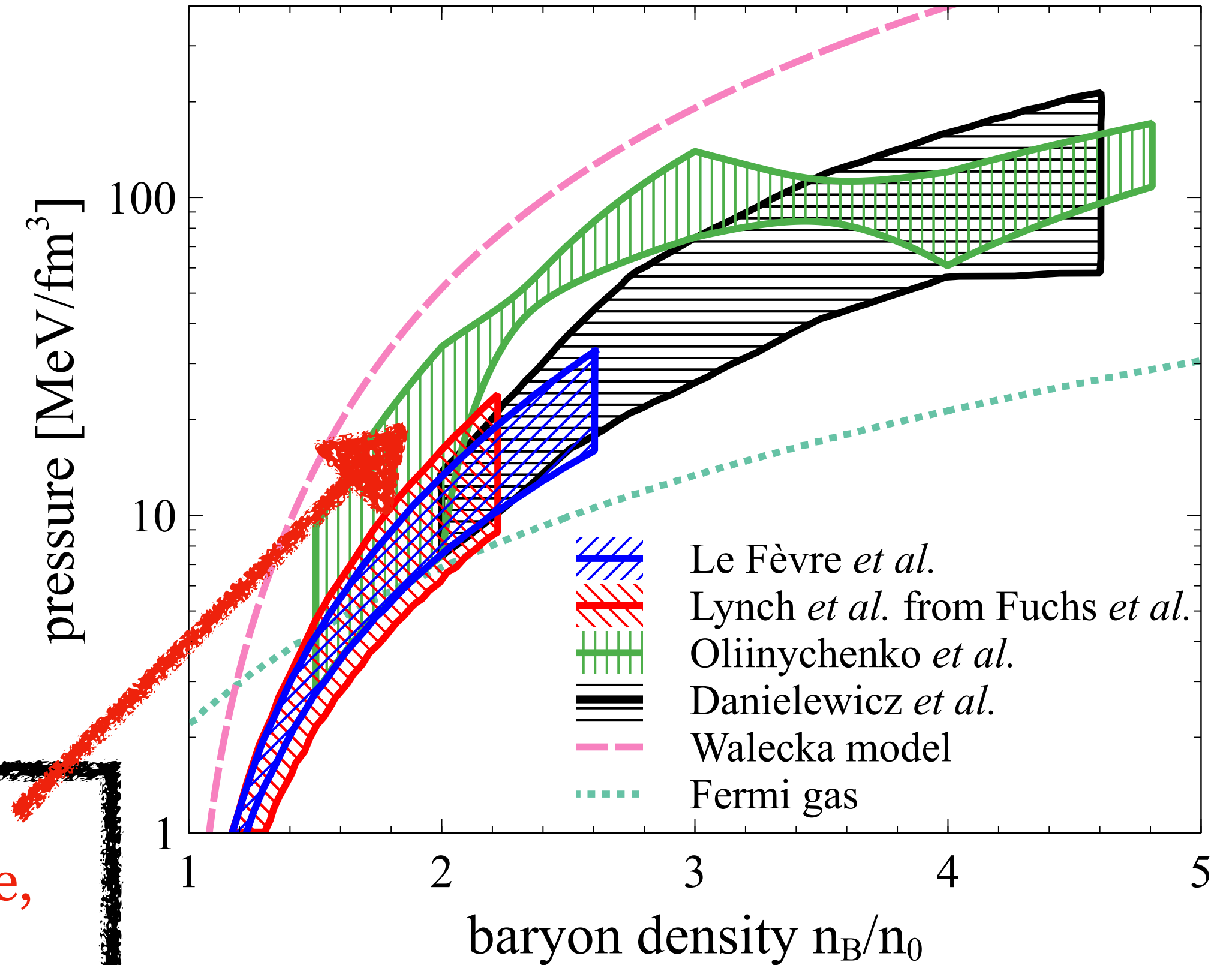
fits to data

parametrizations of  
the Walecka model



Affects the  $p_T$ -dependence  
of the elliptic flow

Without momentum dependence,  
the extracted EOS is too stiff!

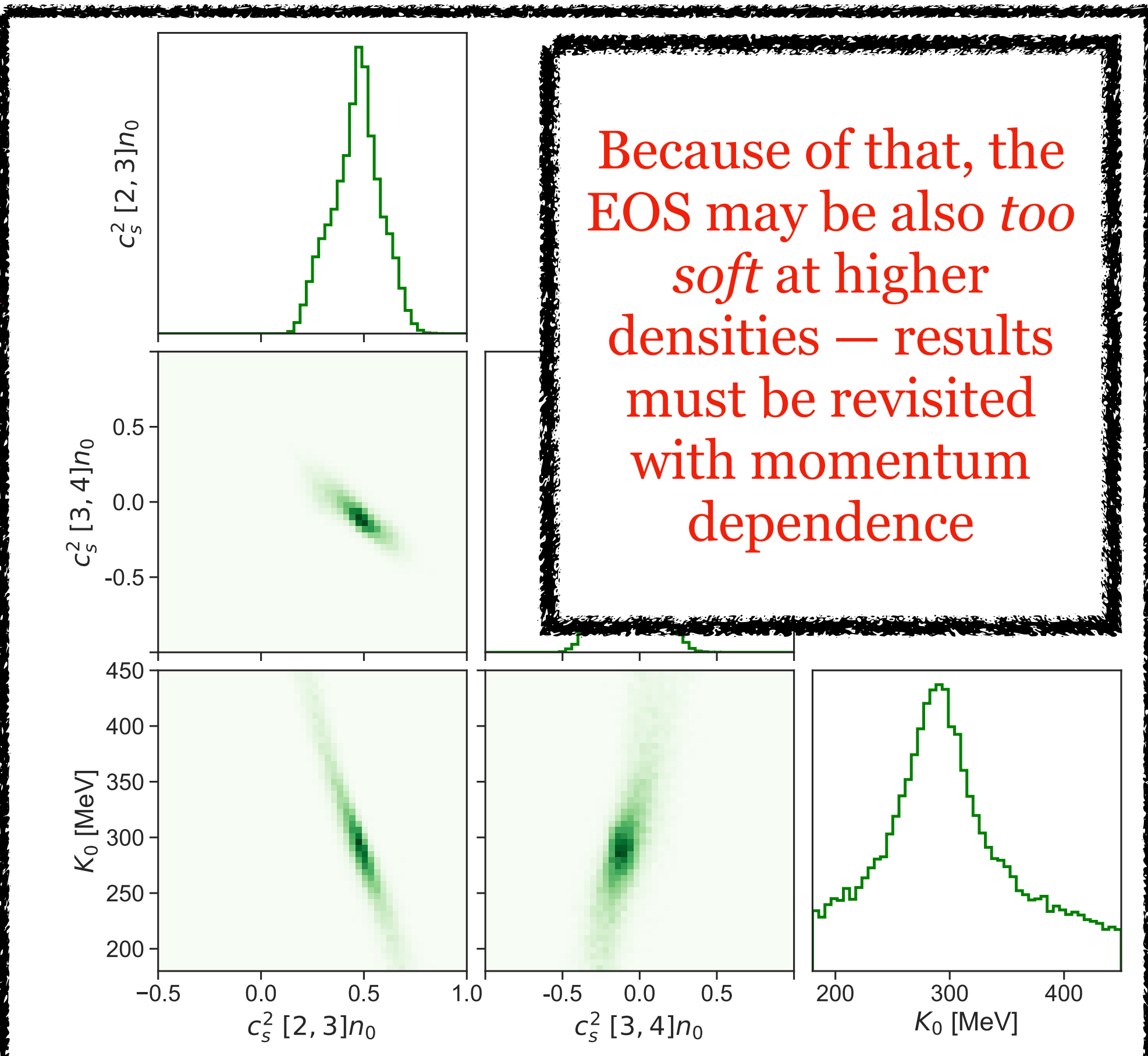
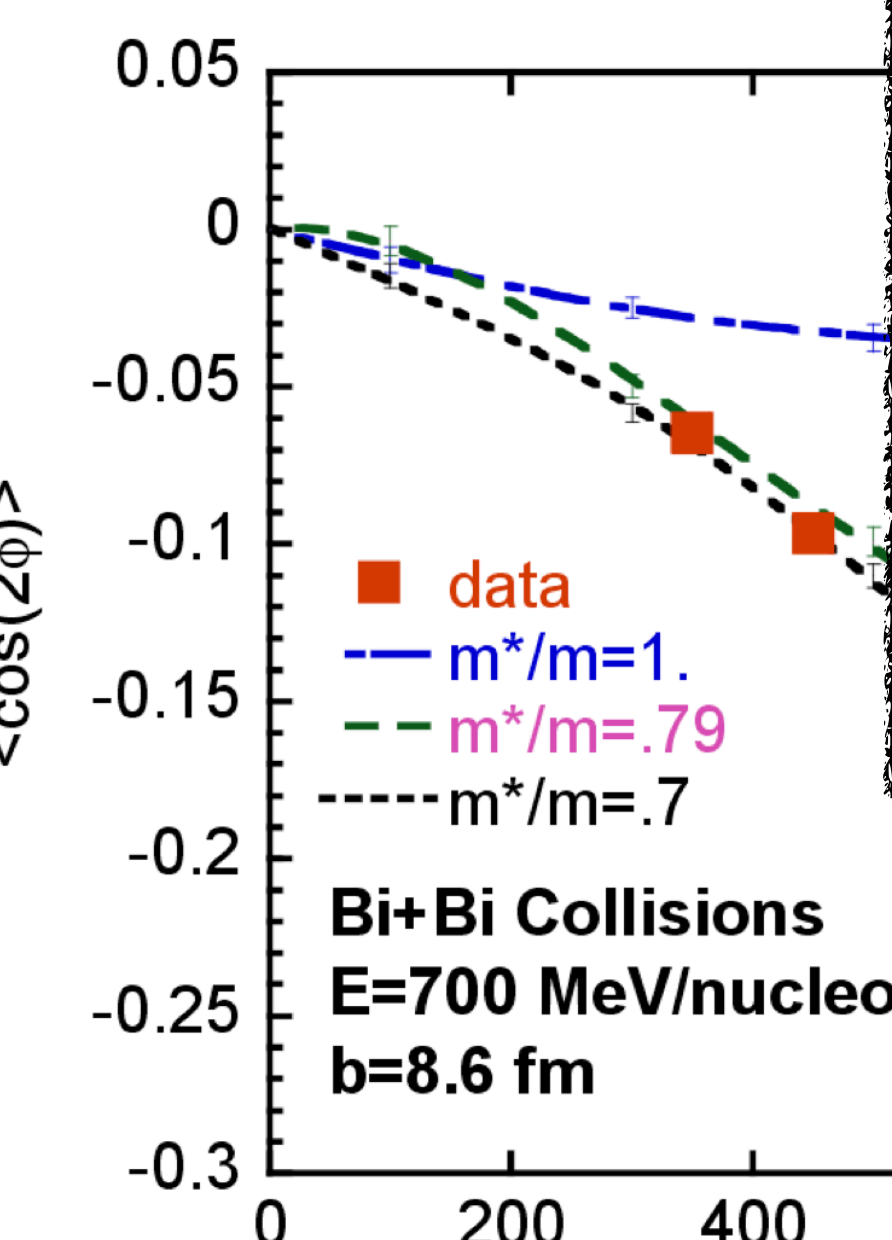
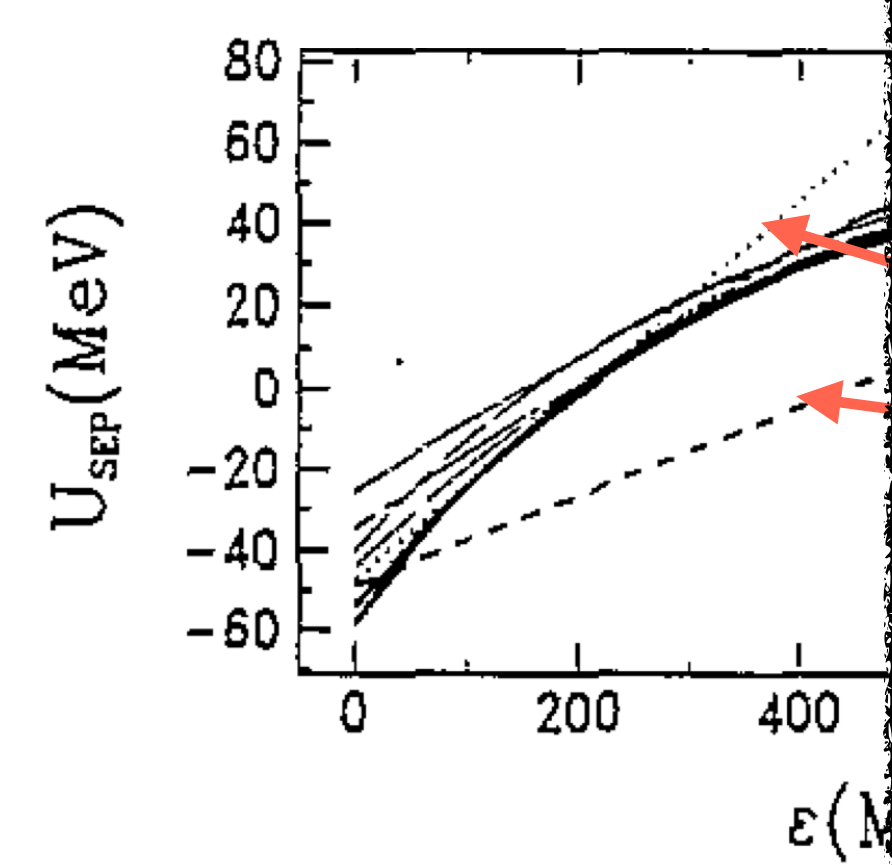


D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran,  
arXiv:2208.11996

$P_T$  (MeV/c) P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, and W. G. Lynch, Science **298**, 1592 (2002), arXiv:nucl-th/0208016

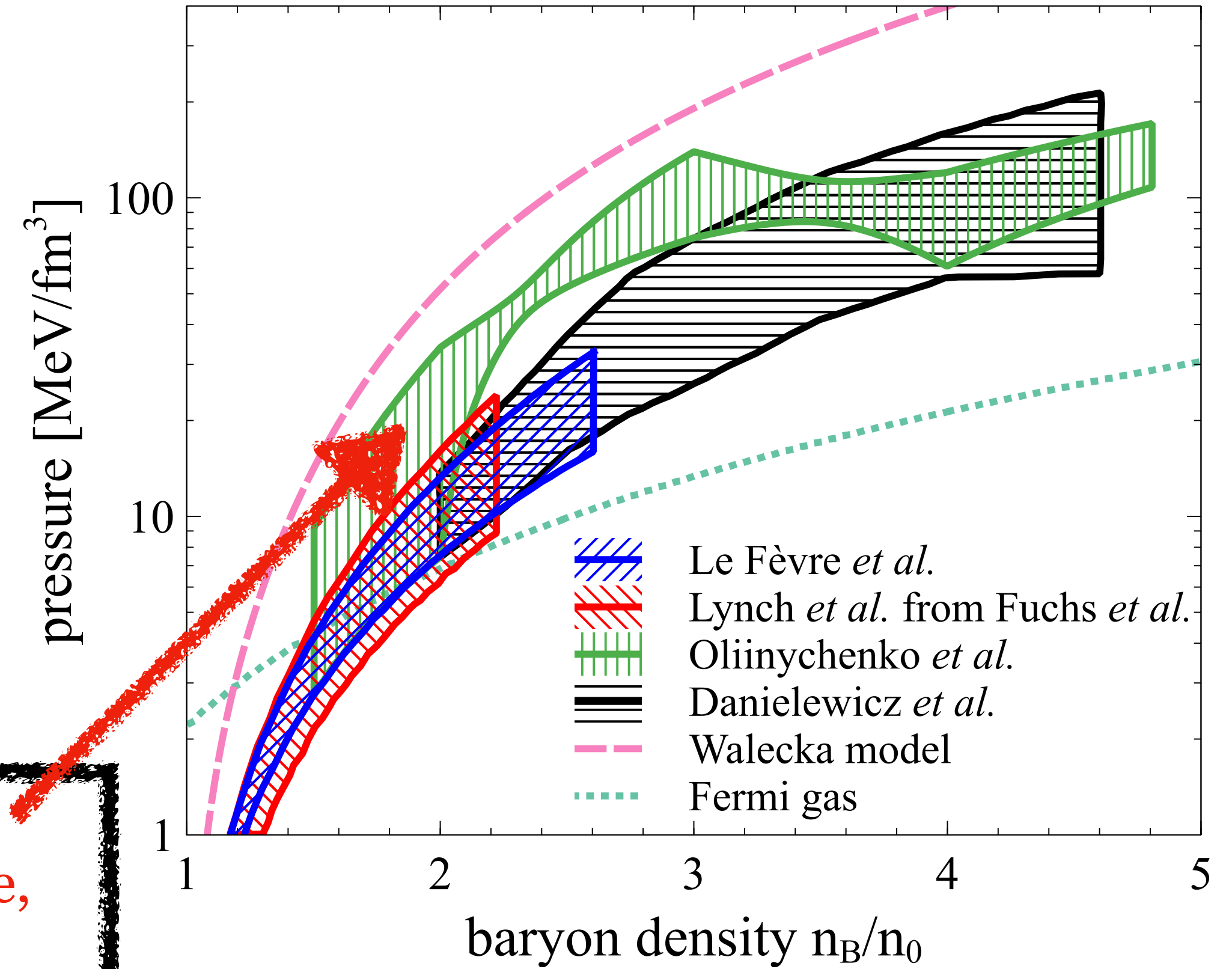
# Momentum-dependent mean-fields are a necessary component

Measured in scattering



Because of that, the EOS may be also *too soft* at higher densities — results must be revisited with momentum dependence

Without momentum dependence, the extracted EOS is too stiff!

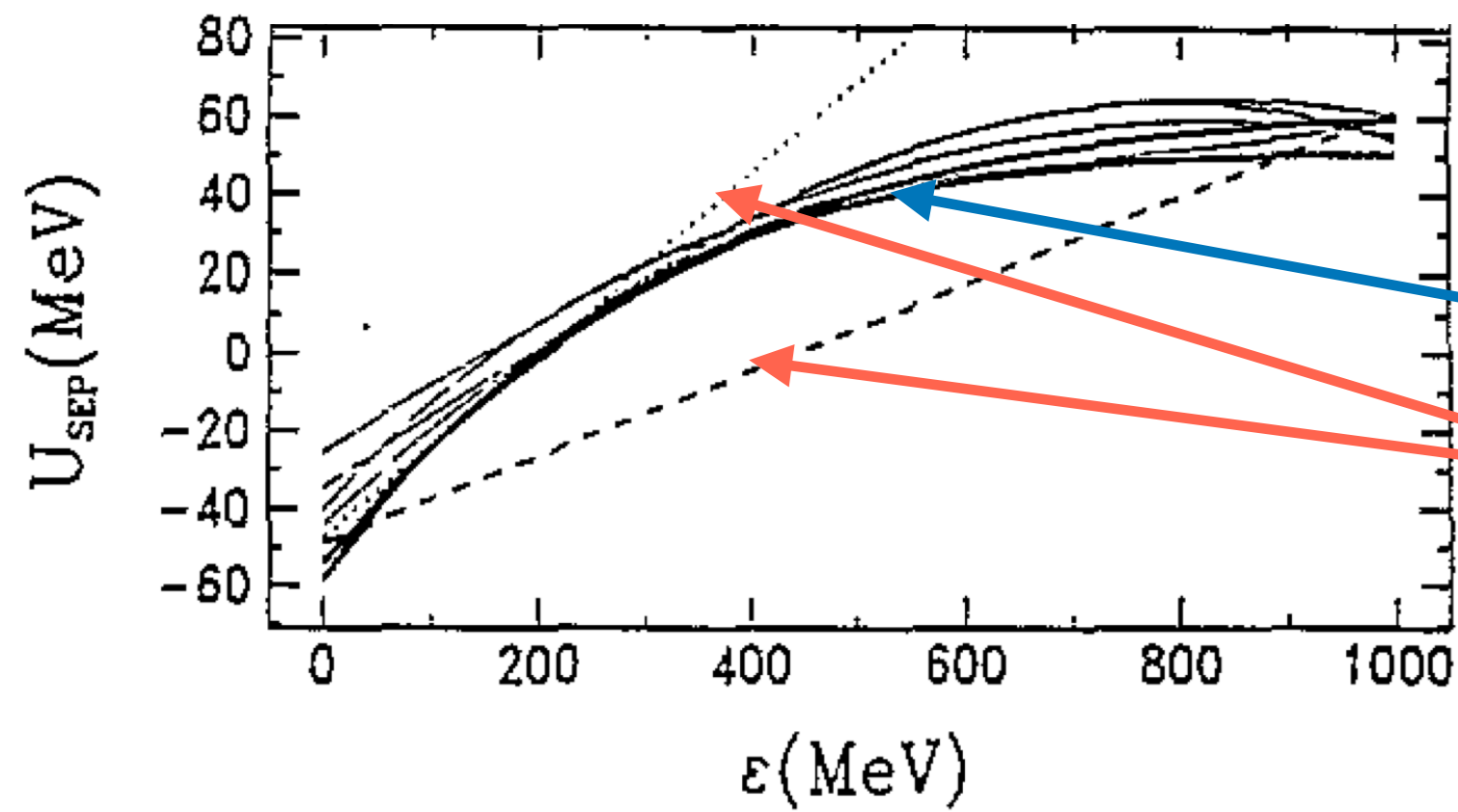


D. Oliinychenko, A. Sorensen, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

$P_T$  (MeV/c) P. Danielewicz, R. Lacey, and W. G. Lynch, Science **298**, 1592 (2002), arXiv:nucl-th/0208016

# Work in progress: Flexible momentum-dependent mean-fields

Measured in scattering experiments:



B. Blaettel, V. Koch, U. Mosel,  
Rept. Prog. Phys. **56**,1–62 (1993)

fits to data

parametrizations of  
the Walecka model

**Solution:**  
vector+scalar density functional model (VSDF)

**Challenge:** scalar fields are costly to compute

**VDF model:**

$$\mathcal{E}_N = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \epsilon_{\text{kin}} f_{\mathbf{p}} + \sum_{i=1}^N A_k^0 j_0 - g^{00} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{b_i - 1}{b_i} \right) A_k^\lambda j_\lambda$$

$$A_k^\mu = C_k (j_\lambda j^\lambda)^{\frac{b_k}{2} - 1} j^\mu, \quad j_\mu j^\mu = n_B^2, \quad j^\mu = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{p^\mu - A^\mu}{\epsilon_{\text{kin}}^*} f_{\mathbf{p}}$$

**VSDF model:**

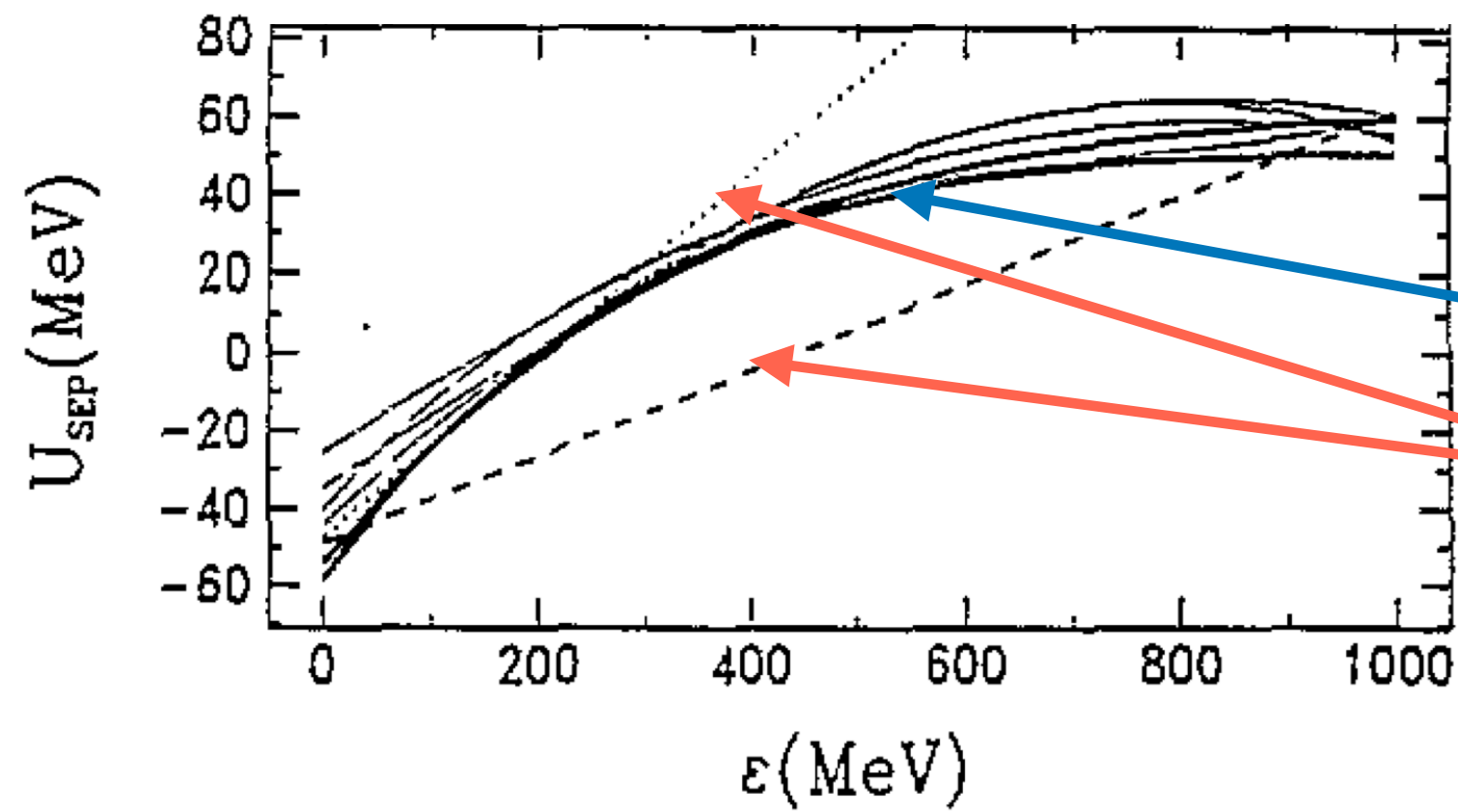
$$\mathcal{E}_{N, M} = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \epsilon_{\text{kin}}^* f_{\mathbf{p}} + \sum_{i=1}^N A_k^0 j_0 - g^{00} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{b_i - 1}{b_i} \right) A_k^\lambda j_\lambda + g^{00} \sum_{m=1}^M G_m \left( \frac{d_m - 1}{d_m} \right) n_s^{d_m}$$

**A. Sorensen**, “Density Functional Equation of State and Its Application to the Phenomenology of Heavy-Ion Collisions,”  
arXiv:2109.08105, Sorensen:2021zxd

$$m^* = m_0 - \sum_{m=1}^M G_M n_s^{d_m - 1} \quad n_s = g \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{m^*}{\epsilon_{\text{kin}}^*} f_{\mathbf{p}}$$

# Work in progress: Flexible momentum-dependent mean-fields

Measured in scattering experiments:



B. Blaettel, V. Koch, U. Mosel,  
Rept. Prog. Phys. **56**,1–62 (1993)

fits to data

parametrizations of  
the Walecka model

**Solution:**  
vector+scalar density functional model (VSDF)

**Challenge:** scalar fields are costly to compute

VDF model

Justin Mohs is currently implementing standard momentum dependence in SMASH:

$$U_{\mathbf{p}} = C \int \frac{d^3 p'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}')}{1 + \left(\frac{\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}'}{\Lambda}\right)^2}$$

$$\frac{p^\mu - A^\mu}{\epsilon_{kin}^*} f_{\mathbf{p}}$$

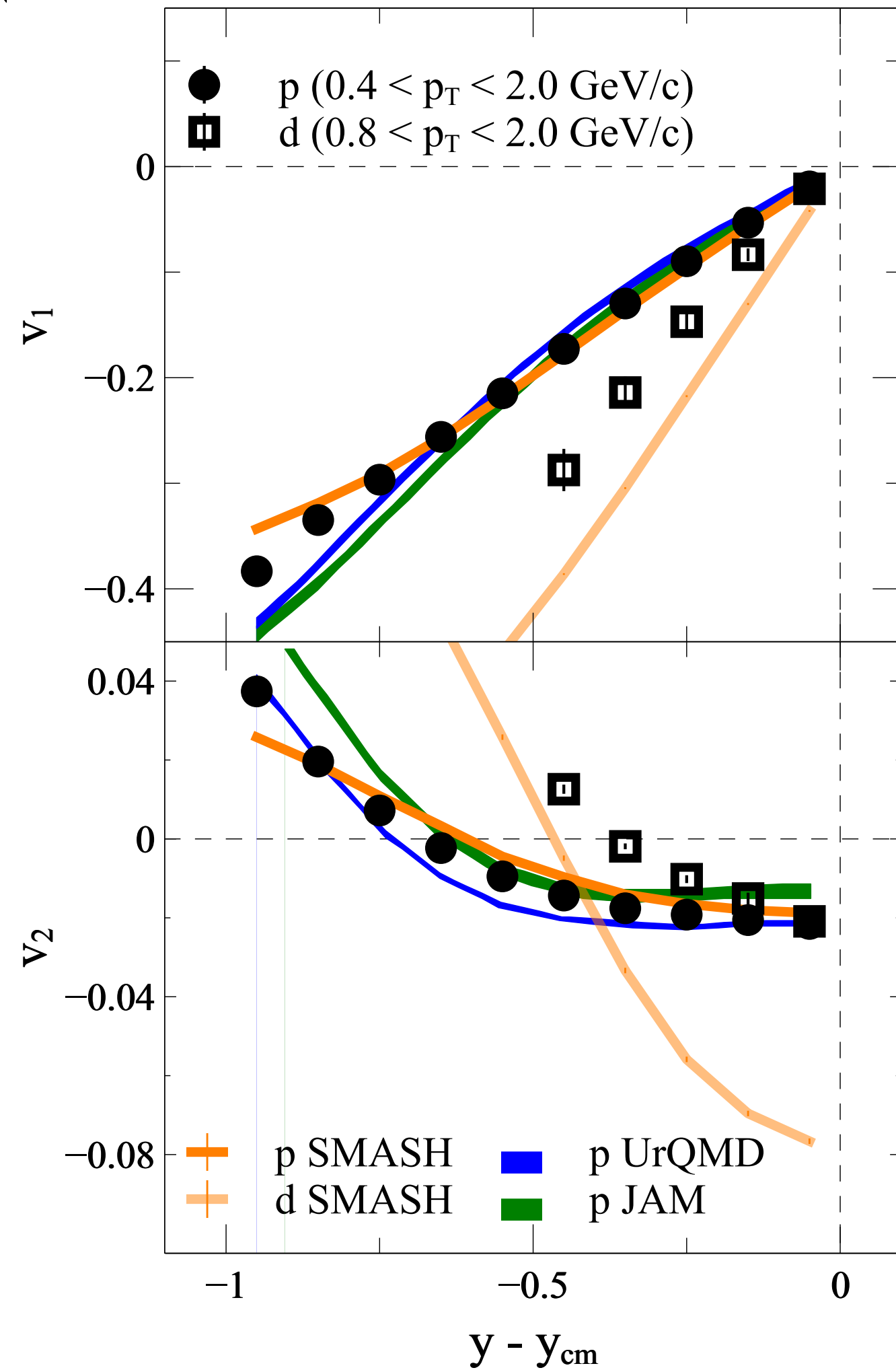
VSDF model

$$m^* = m_0 - \sum_{m=1}^M G_M n_s^{d_m-1} \quad n_s = g \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{m^*}{\epsilon_{kin}^*} f_{\mathbf{p}}$$

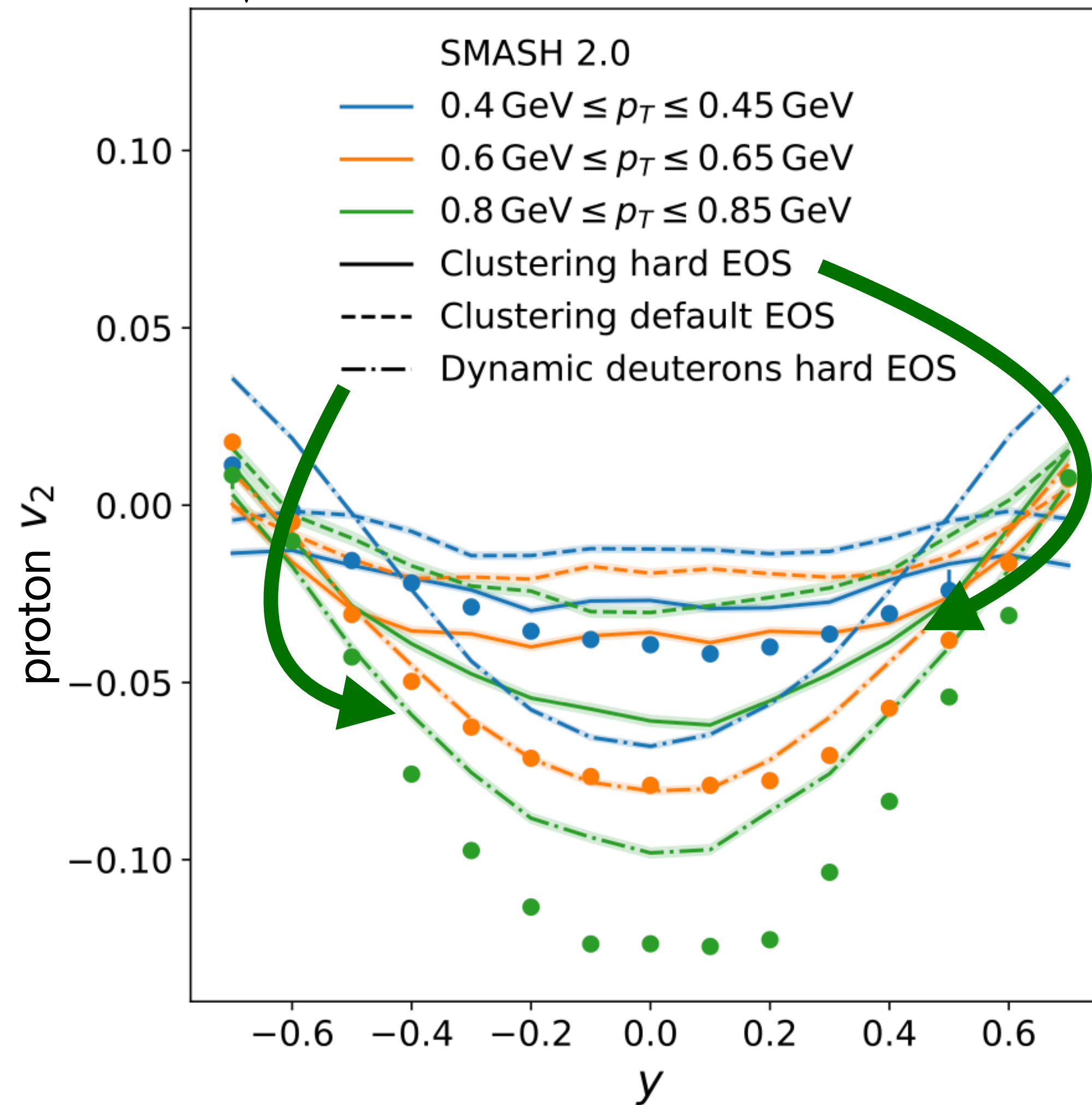
A. Sorensen, "Density Functional Equation of State and Its Application to the Phenomenology of Heavy-Ion Collisions," arXiv:2109.08105, Sorensen:2021zxd

# Describing proton flow is not enough

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 \text{ GeV}$



$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.4 \text{ GeV}$



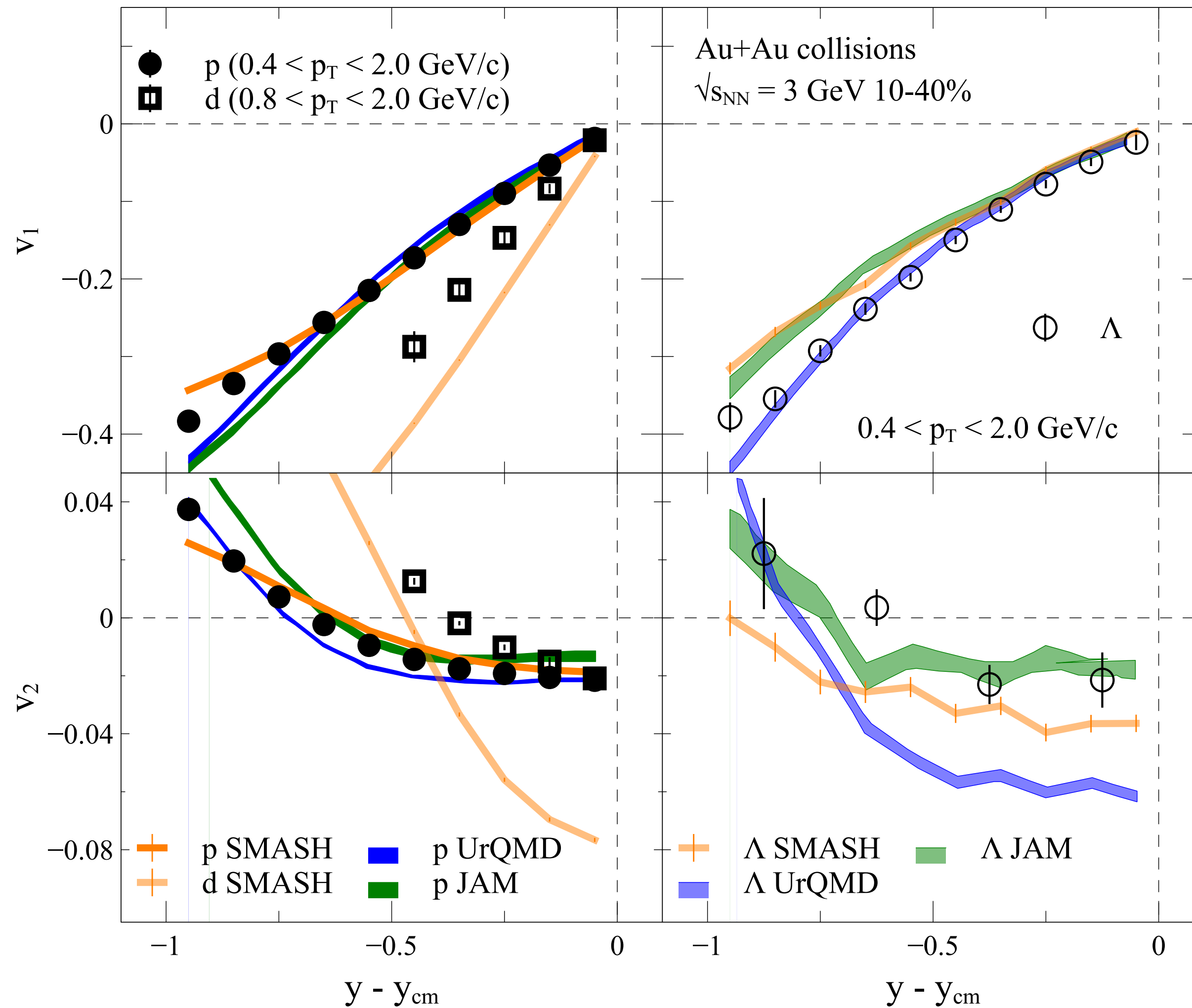
Realistic description of light cluster production needed:

- coalescence: doesn't take into account the dynamic role of light clusters throughout the evolution
- nucleon/pion catalysis: consider as separate degrees of freedom (pBUU, SMASH), produced through  $N$  or  $\pi$  collisions
- the Holy Grail: dynamical production through potentials

STAR, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 137003 (2022) arXiv:2108.00908  
 D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996  
**A. Sorensen et al.**, arXiv:2301.13253

J. Mohs, M. Ege, H. Elfner, M. Mayer,  
 Phys. Rev. C **105** 3, 034906 (2022),  
 arXiv:2012.11454

# Describing proton flow is not enough



Strange baryons are not well described

- the results may depend on:

- nucleon-hyperon and hyperon-hyperon interactions
- in-medium modifications of interactions

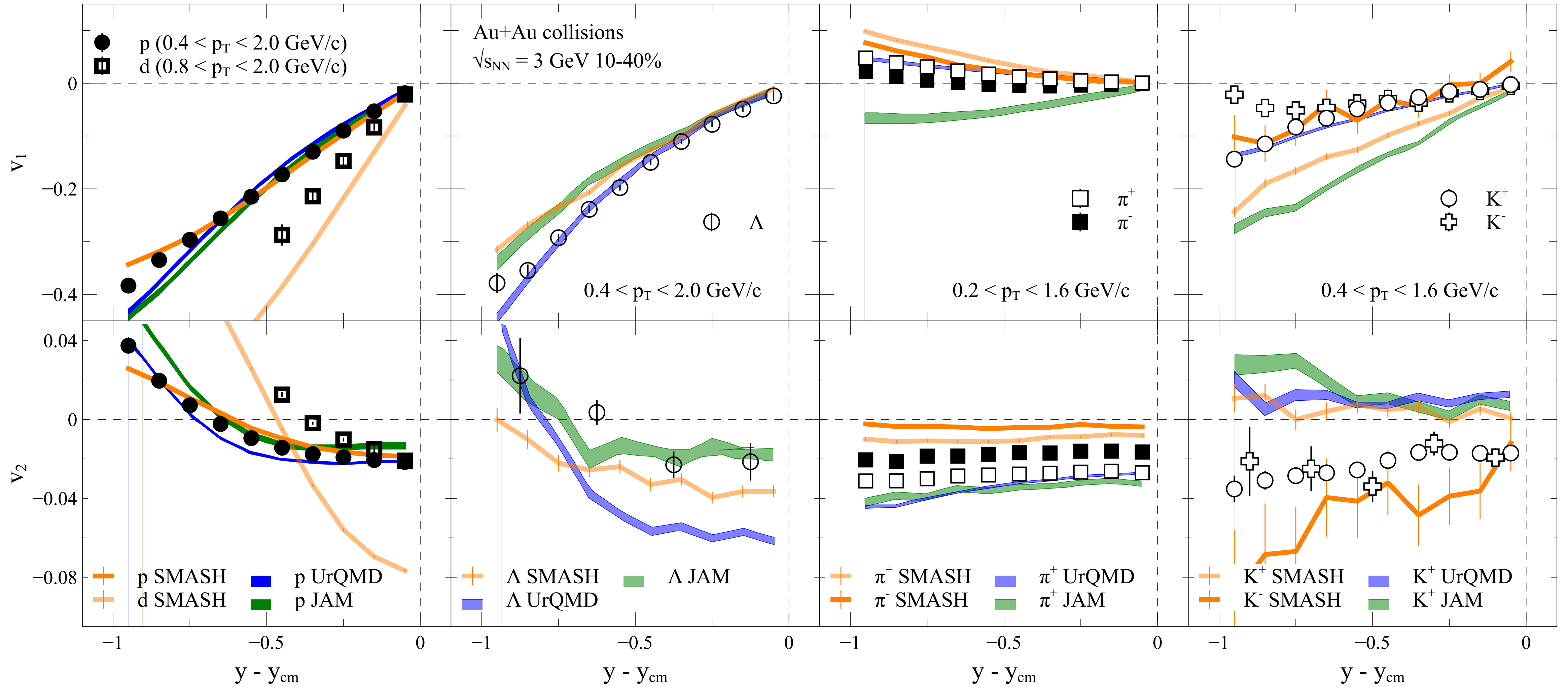
Models of interactions exist and could be tested; interactions could be based on those obtained within first-principle calculations (e.g., HALQCD collaboration HAL QCD, Nucl. Phys. A **998** 121737 (2020), arXiv:1912.08630)

STAR, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 137003 (2022) arXiv:2108.00908

D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

**A. Sorensen et al.**, arXiv:2301.13253

# Describing proton flow is not enough



STAR, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 137003 (2022) arXiv:2108.00908

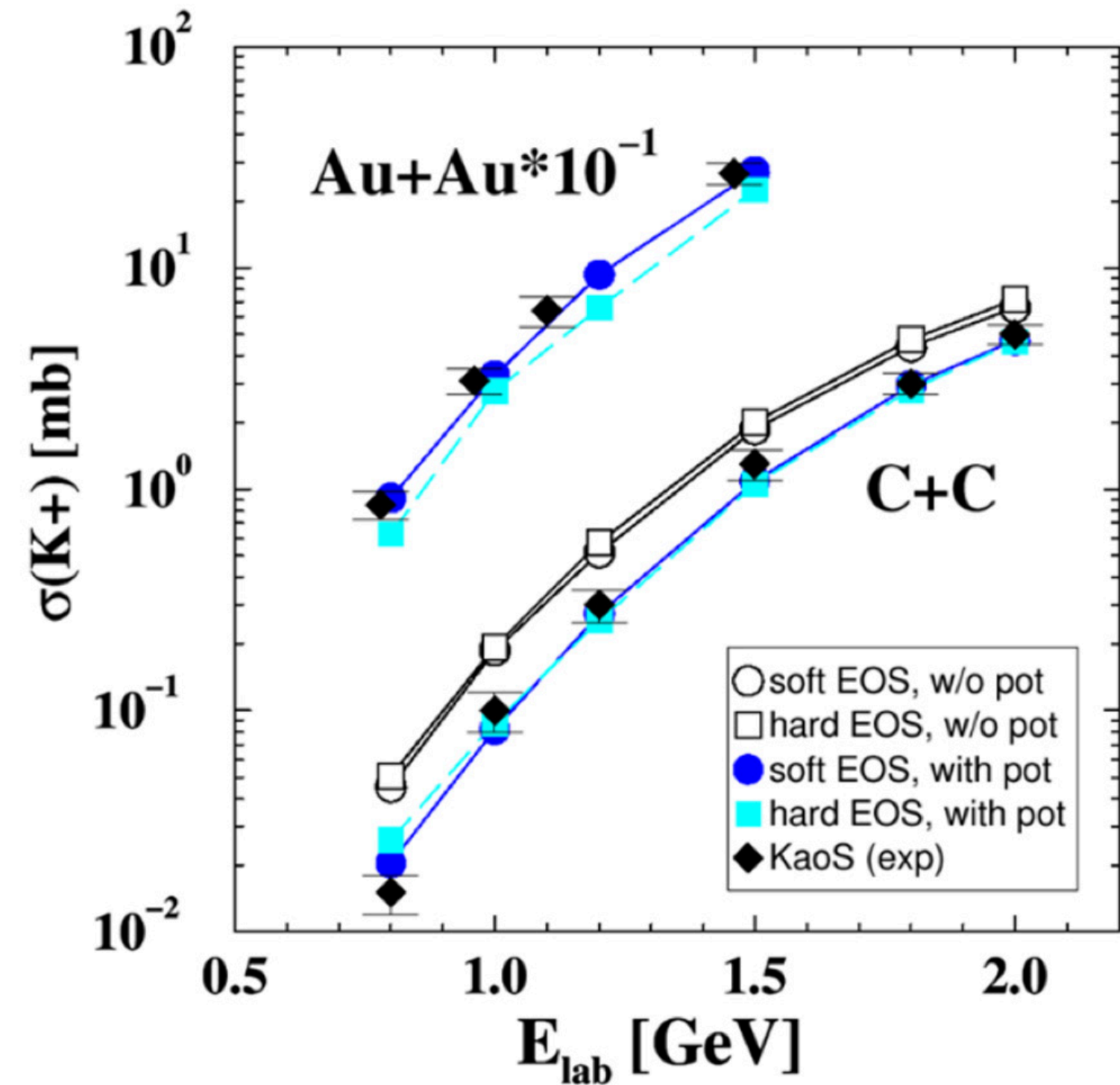
D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

**A. Sorensen et al.**, arXiv:2301.13253



# Describing proton flow is not enough

Pions and kaons NOT described!  
 Not very surprising: UrQMD, JAM, and SMASH don't have mean-fields for mesons

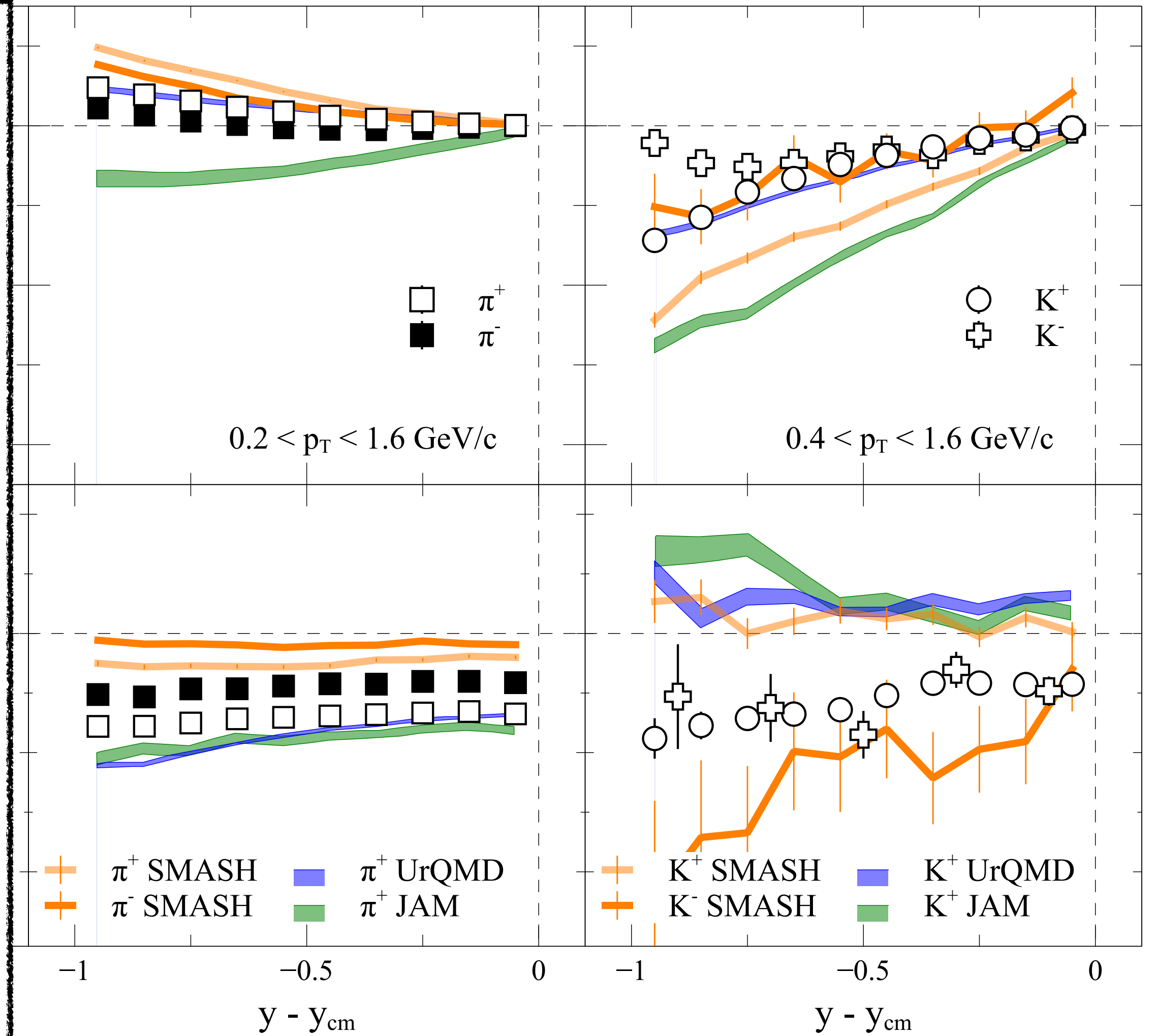


C. Fuchs, PoS CPOD07 060 (2007) arXiv:0711.3367

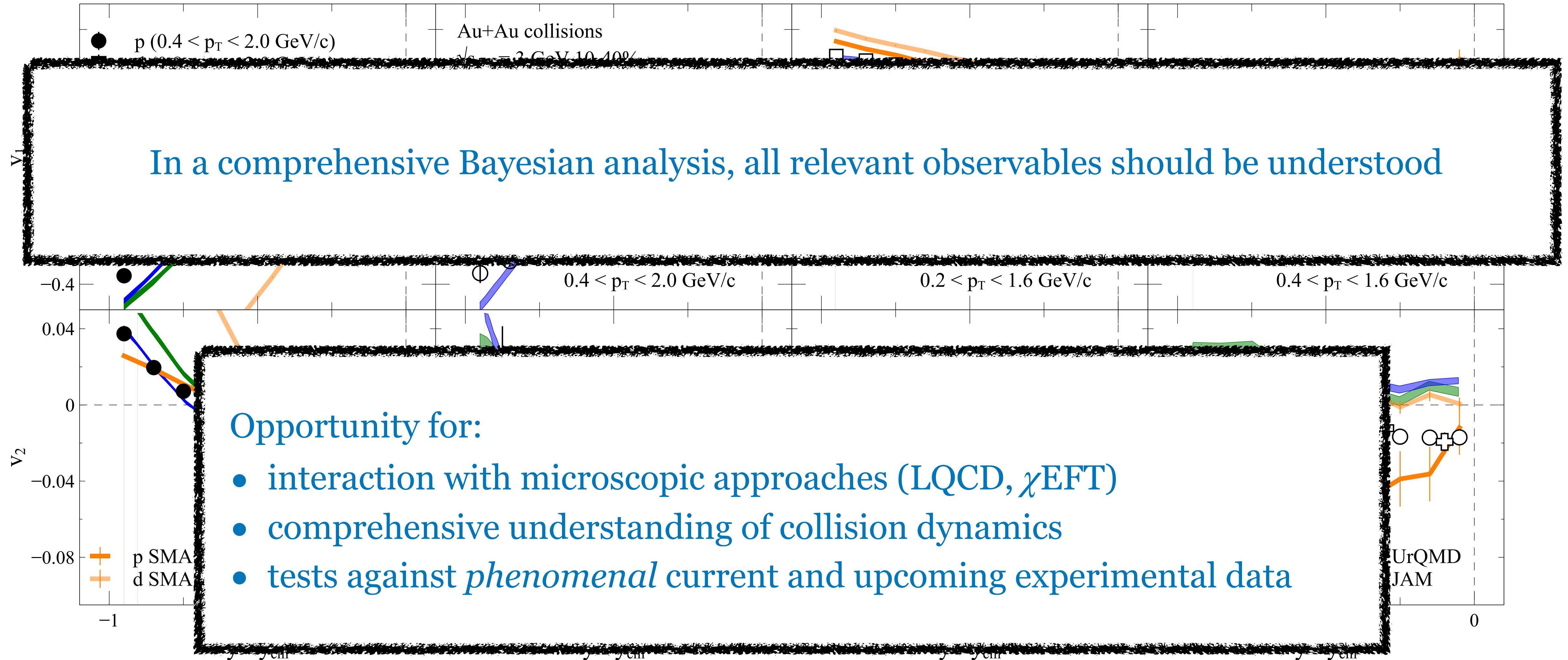
STAR, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 137003 (2022) arXiv:2108.00908

D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

**A. Sorensen et al.**, arXiv:2301.13253



# Describing proton flow is not enough

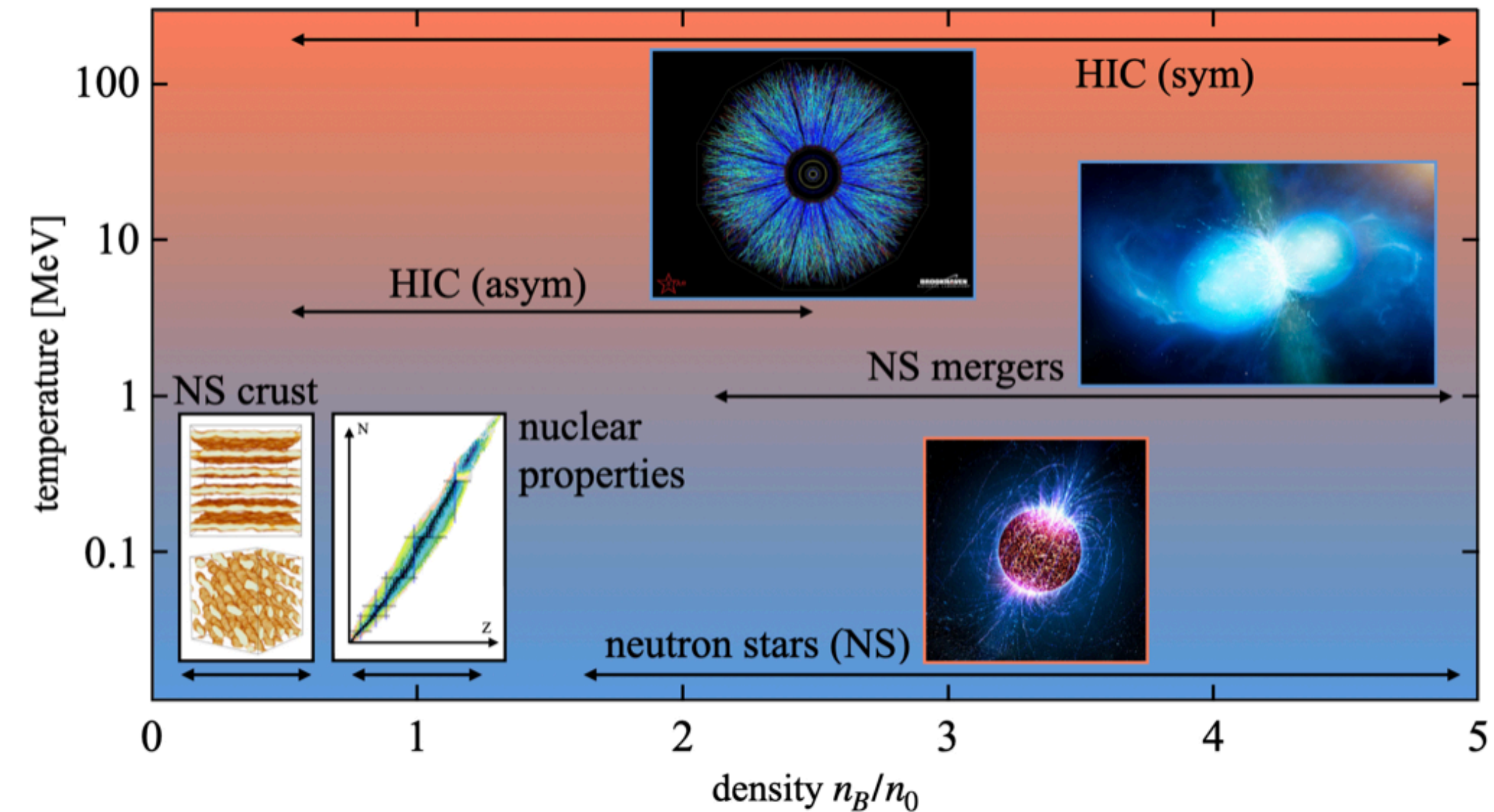


STAR, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 137003 (2022) arXiv:2108.00908

D. Oliinychenko, **A. Sorensen**, V. Koch, L. McLerran, arXiv:2208.11996

**A. Sorensen et al.**, arXiv:2301.13253

# Precision era of heavy-ion collisions needs precision simulations



A. Sorensen *et al.*, arXiv:2301.13253

## Dense Nuclear Matter Equation of State from Heavy-Ion Collisions \*

Agnieszka Sorensen<sup>1</sup>, Kshitij Agarwal<sup>2</sup>, Kyle W. Brown<sup>3,4</sup>, Zbigniew Chajecki<sup>5</sup>, Paweł Danielewicz<sup>3,6</sup>, Christian Drischler<sup>7</sup>, Stefano Gandolfi<sup>8</sup>, Jeremy W. Holt<sup>9,10</sup>, Matthias Kaminski<sup>11</sup>, Che-Ming Ko<sup>9,10</sup>, Rohit Kumar<sup>3</sup>, Bao-An Li<sup>12</sup>, William G. Lynch<sup>3,6</sup>, Alan B. McIntosh<sup>10</sup>, William G. Newton<sup>12</sup>, Scott Pratt<sup>3,6</sup>, Oleh Savchuk<sup>3,13</sup>, Maria Stefaniak<sup>14</sup>, Ingo Tews<sup>8</sup>, ManYee Betty Tsang<sup>3,6</sup>, Ramona Vogt<sup>15,16</sup>, Hermann Wolter<sup>17</sup>, Hanna Zbroszczyk<sup>18</sup>

### Endorsing authors:

Navid Abbasi<sup>19</sup>, Jörg Aichelin<sup>20,21</sup>, Anton Andronic<sup>22</sup>, Steffen A. Bass<sup>23</sup>, Francesco Becattini<sup>24,25</sup>, David Blaschke<sup>26,27,28</sup>, Marcus Bleicher<sup>29,30</sup>, Christoph Blume<sup>31</sup>, Elena Bratkovskaya<sup>14,29,30</sup>, B. Alex Brown<sup>3,6</sup>, David A. Brown<sup>32</sup>, Alberto Camaiani<sup>33</sup>, Giovanni Casini<sup>25</sup>, Katerina Chatziioannou<sup>34,35</sup>, Abdelouahad Chbihi<sup>36</sup>, Maria Colonna<sup>37</sup>, Mircea Dan Cozma<sup>38</sup>,

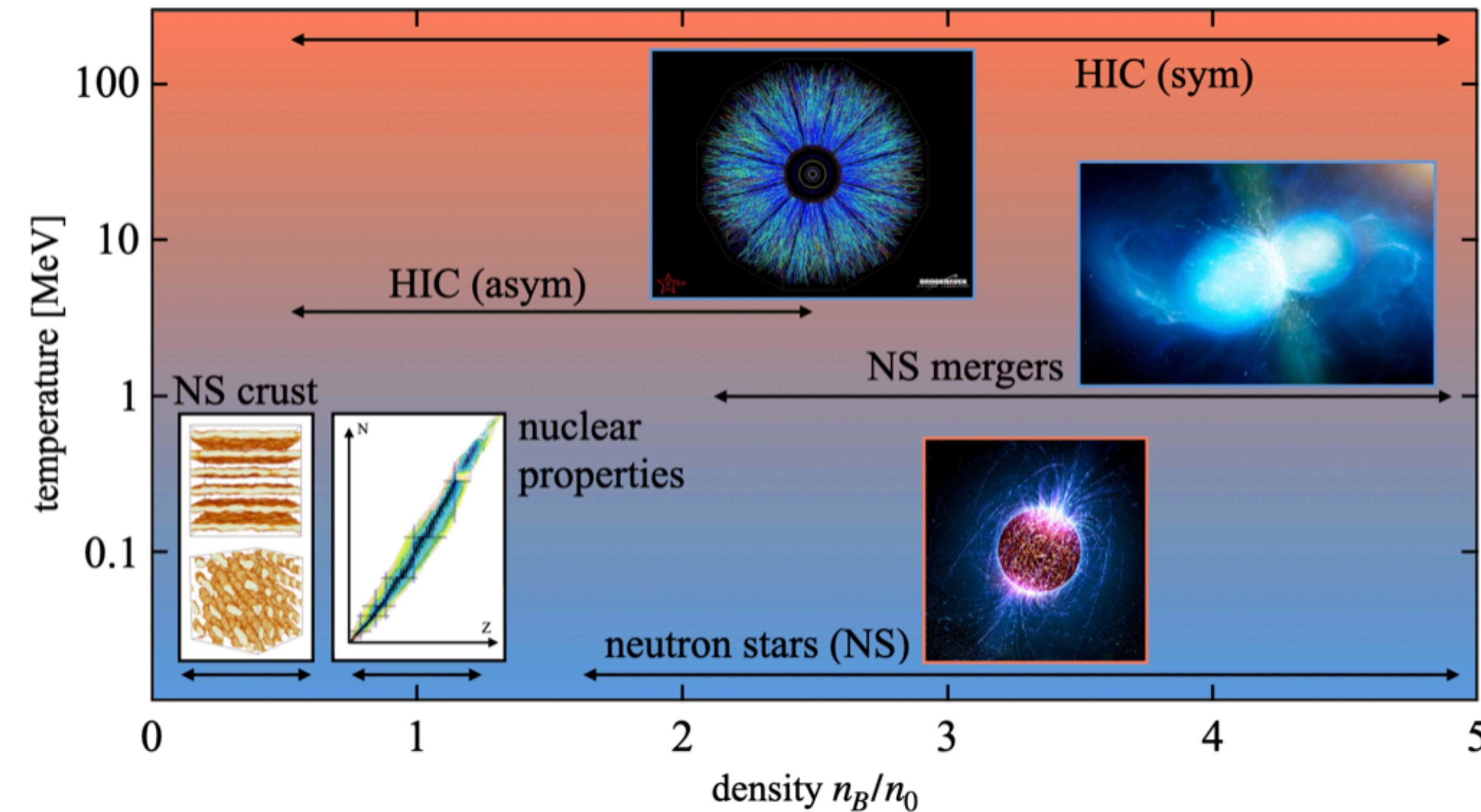
## II. THE EQUATION OF STATE FROM 0 TO $5n_0$

### A. Transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions

#### 3. Challenges and opportunities

Selected results presented in Fig. 9 showcase significant achievements in determining the EOS and, simultaneously, the need to develop improved transport models to obtain tighter and more reliable constraints. Answering this need will require support for a sustained collaborative effort within the community to address remaining challenges in modeling collisions, in particular in the intermediate energy range ( $E_{\text{lab}} \approx 0.05\text{--}25$  AGeV, or  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \approx 1.9\text{--}7.1$  GeV). In the following, we will address selected areas where we see the need for such developments: (1) comprehensive treatment of both mean-field potentials and the collision term in transport codes, (2) use of microscopic information on mean fields and in-medium cross sections, such as discussed in Section II B, in transport, (3) better description of the initial state of heavy-ion collisions in hadronic transport codes, (4) deeper understanding of fluctuations in transport approaches, which affect many aspects of simulations, (5) inclusion of correlations beyond the mean field into transport, which is crucial for a realistic description of, e.g., light-cluster production, (6) treatment of short-range-correlations in transport, which are tightly connected to multi-particle collisions as well as off-shell transport, (7) sub-threshold particle production, (8) connections between quantum many-body theory and semiclassical transport theory, (9) investigations focused on extending the limits of applicability of hadronic transport approaches, (10) studies of new observables, e.g., azimuthally resolved spectra, to obtain tighter constraints on the EOS, (11) the question of quantifying the uncertainty of results obtained in transport simulations, and (12) the use of emulators and flexible parametrizations for wide-ranging explorations of all possible EOSs. Fortunately, advances in transport theory as well as the greater availability of high-performance computing make many of these improvements possible. Support for these developments will lead to a firm control and greater understanding of multiple complex aspects of the collision dynamics, allowing comparisons of transport model calculations and heavy-ion experiment measurements to provide an important contribution to the determination of the EOS of dense nuclear matter, which, in particular, cannot be determined by any other method at intermediate densities  $(1\text{--}5)n_0$ .

# Precision era of heavy-ion collisions needs precision simulations



**A. Sorensen et al., arXiv:2301.13253**

## Dense Nuclear Matter Equation of State from Heavy-Ion Collisions \*

Agnieszka Sorensen<sup>1</sup>, Kshitij Agarwal<sup>2</sup>, Kyle W. Brown<sup>3,4</sup>, Zbigniew Chajecki<sup>5</sup>, Paweł Danielewicz<sup>3,6</sup>, Christian Drischler<sup>7</sup>, Stefano Gandolfi<sup>8</sup>, Jeremy W. Holt<sup>9,10</sup>, Matthias Kaminski<sup>11</sup>, Che-Ming Ko<sup>9,10</sup>, Rohit Kumar<sup>3</sup>, Bao-An Li<sup>12</sup>, William G. Lynch<sup>3,6</sup>, Alan B. McIntosh<sup>10</sup>, William G. Newton<sup>12</sup>, Scott Pratt<sup>3,6</sup>, Oleh Savchuk<sup>3,13</sup>, Maria Stefaniak<sup>14</sup>, Ingo Tews<sup>8</sup>, ManYee Betty Tsang<sup>3,6</sup>, Ramona Vogt<sup>15,16</sup>, Hermann Wolter<sup>17</sup>, Hanna Zbroszczyk<sup>18</sup>

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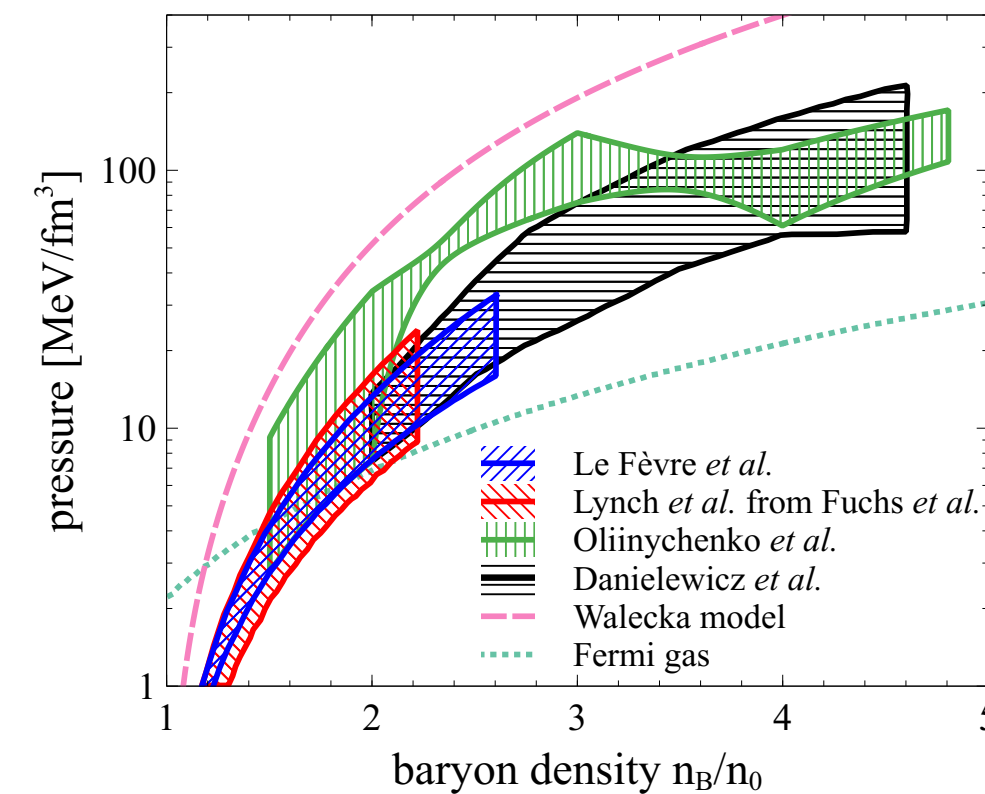
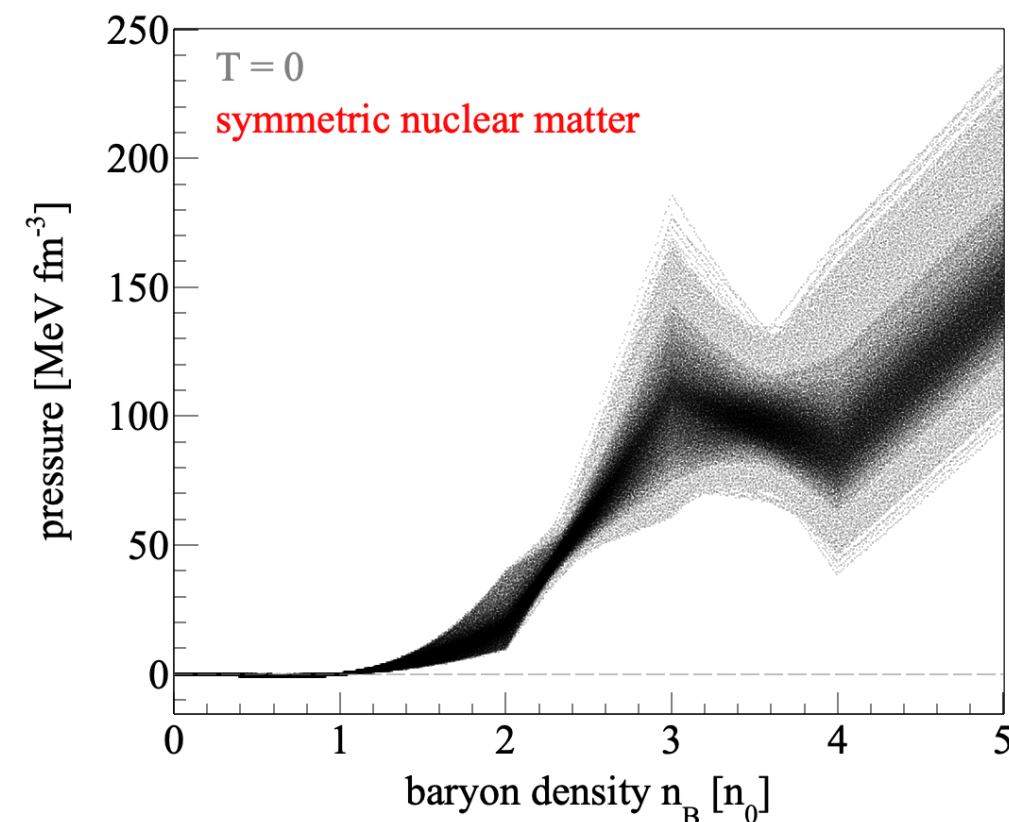
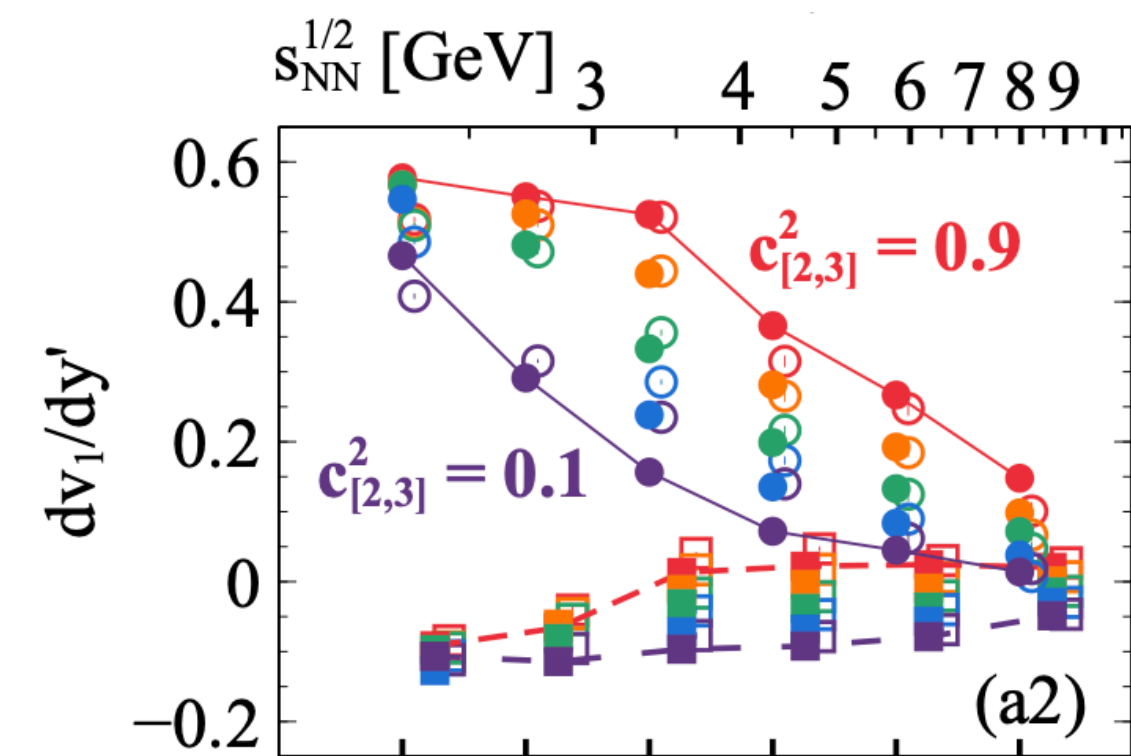
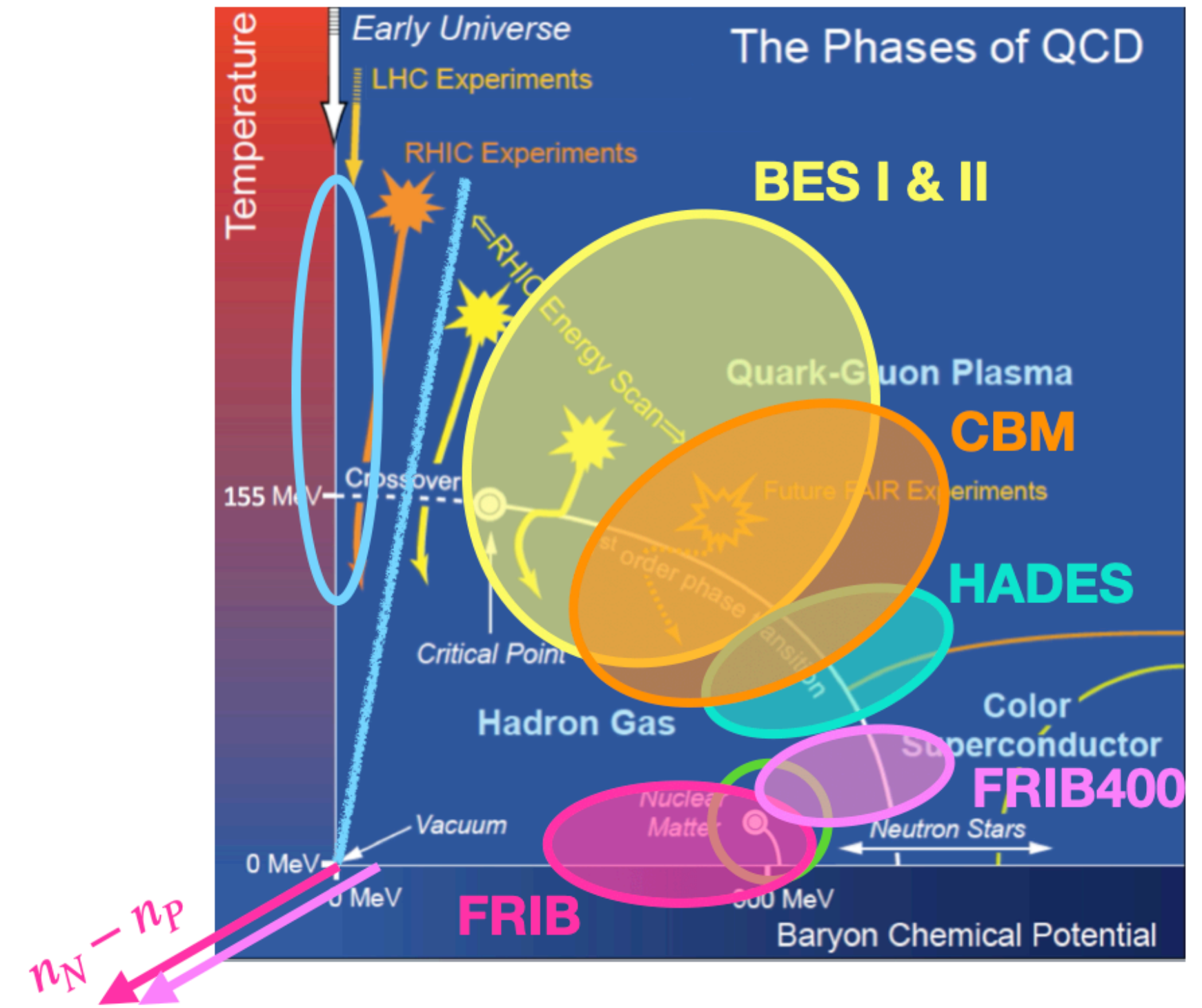
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# Summary

What's different, new, exciting about *now*?

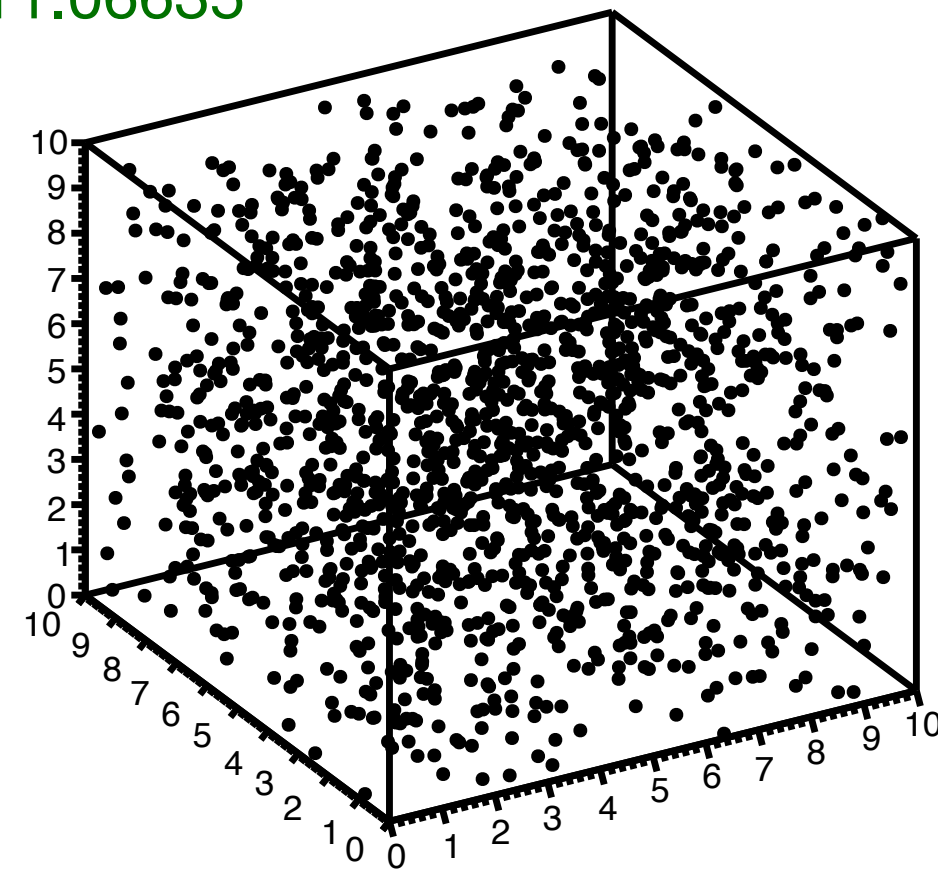
- **New analyses, new understanding:** e.g., triangular flow, quark number scaling, cumulants
- **New detectors, new data:** unprecedented measurements, from ultra-precise triple-differential flow observables to hyperon-hyperon interactions
- **New computing capabilities:** large-scale simulations possible with state-of-the-art, benchmarked hadronic transport codes
- **New approach to constraining the EOS:** Bayesian analyses using flexible parametrizations of the EOS



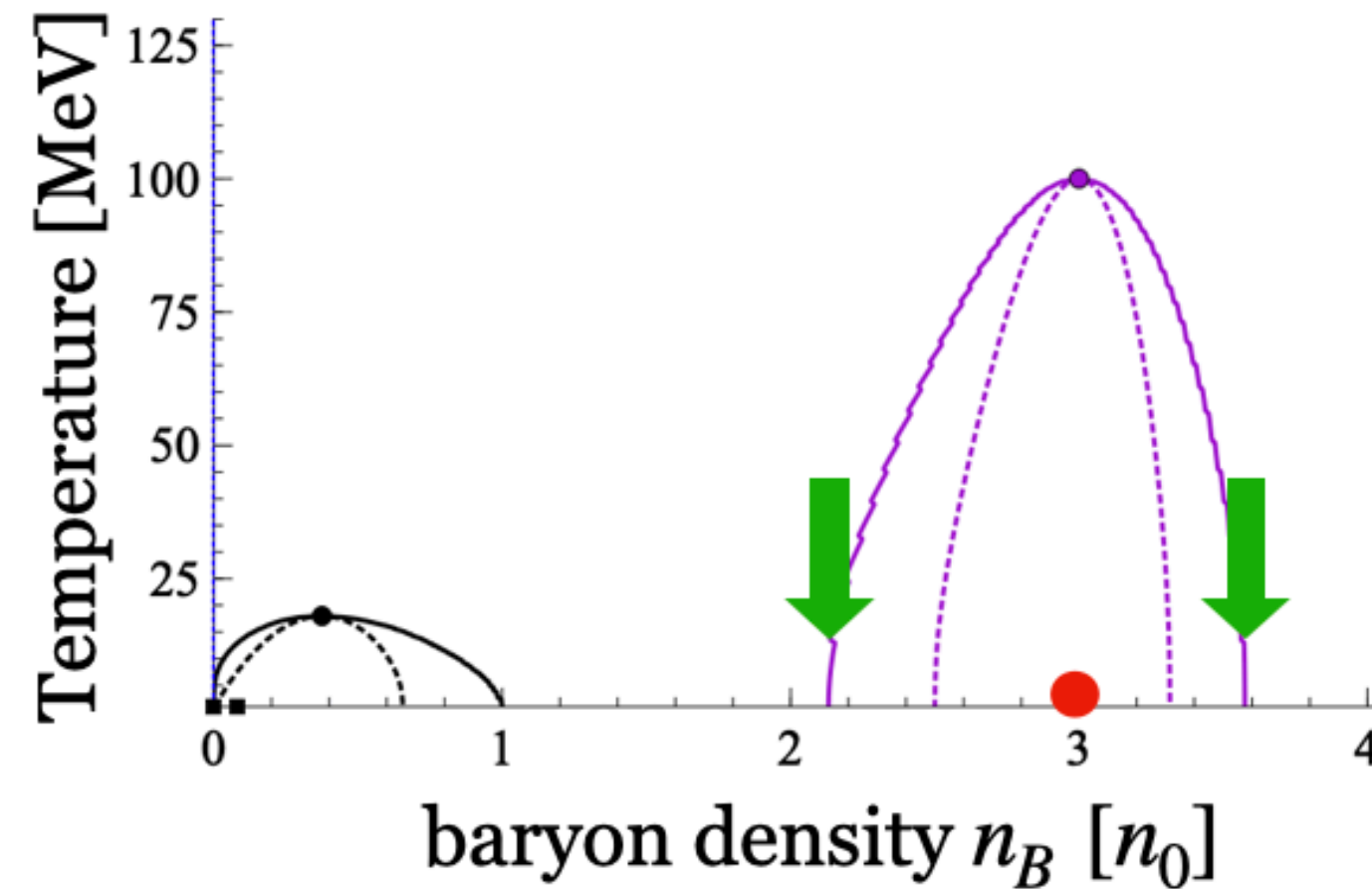
Thank you for your attention

# VDF in SMASH: tests in the spinodal region

A. Sorensen, V. Koch, Phys. Rev. C **104**, 3, 034904 (2021)  
arXiv:2011.06635



$t = 0$  fm/c



Simulation info for practitioners:

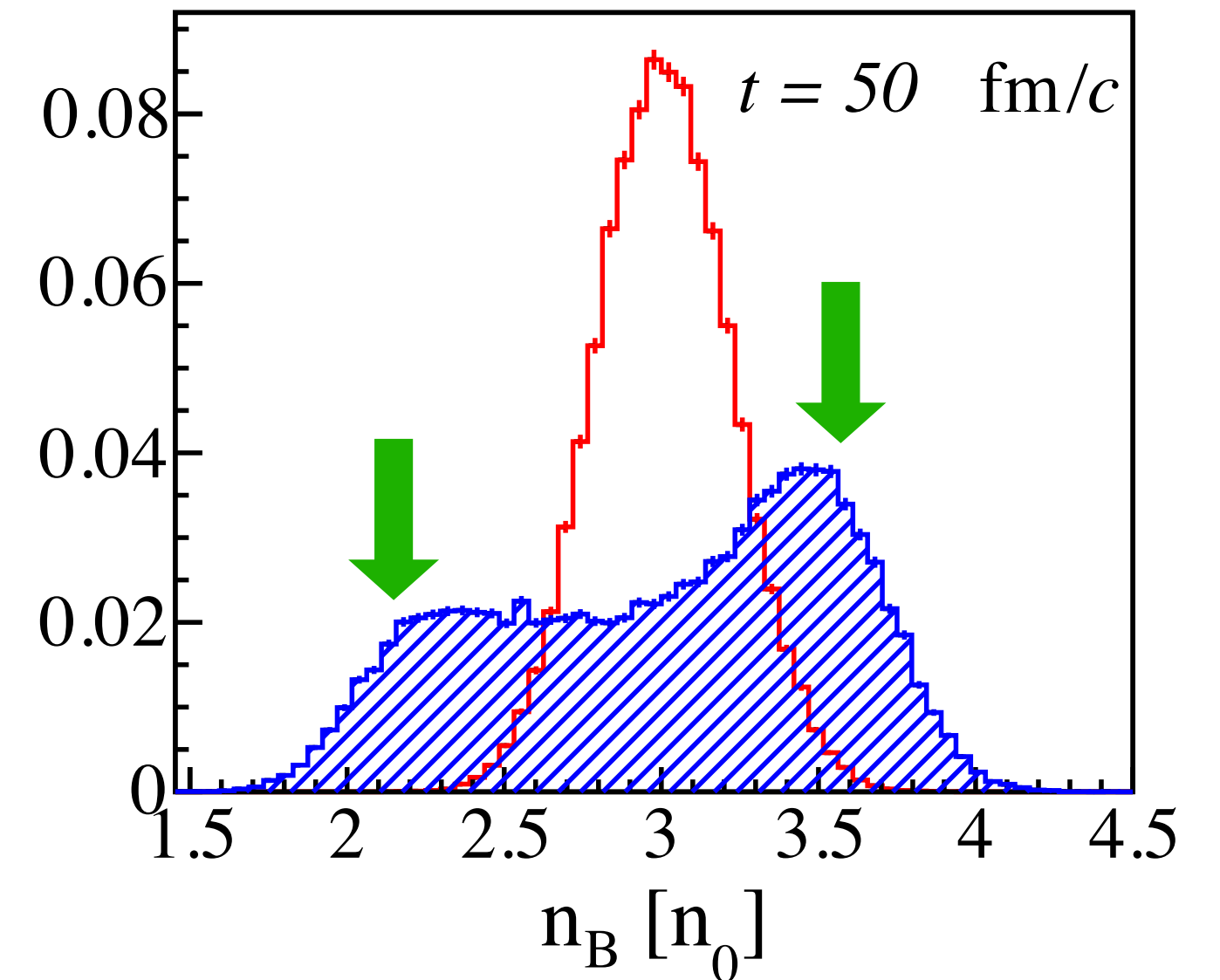
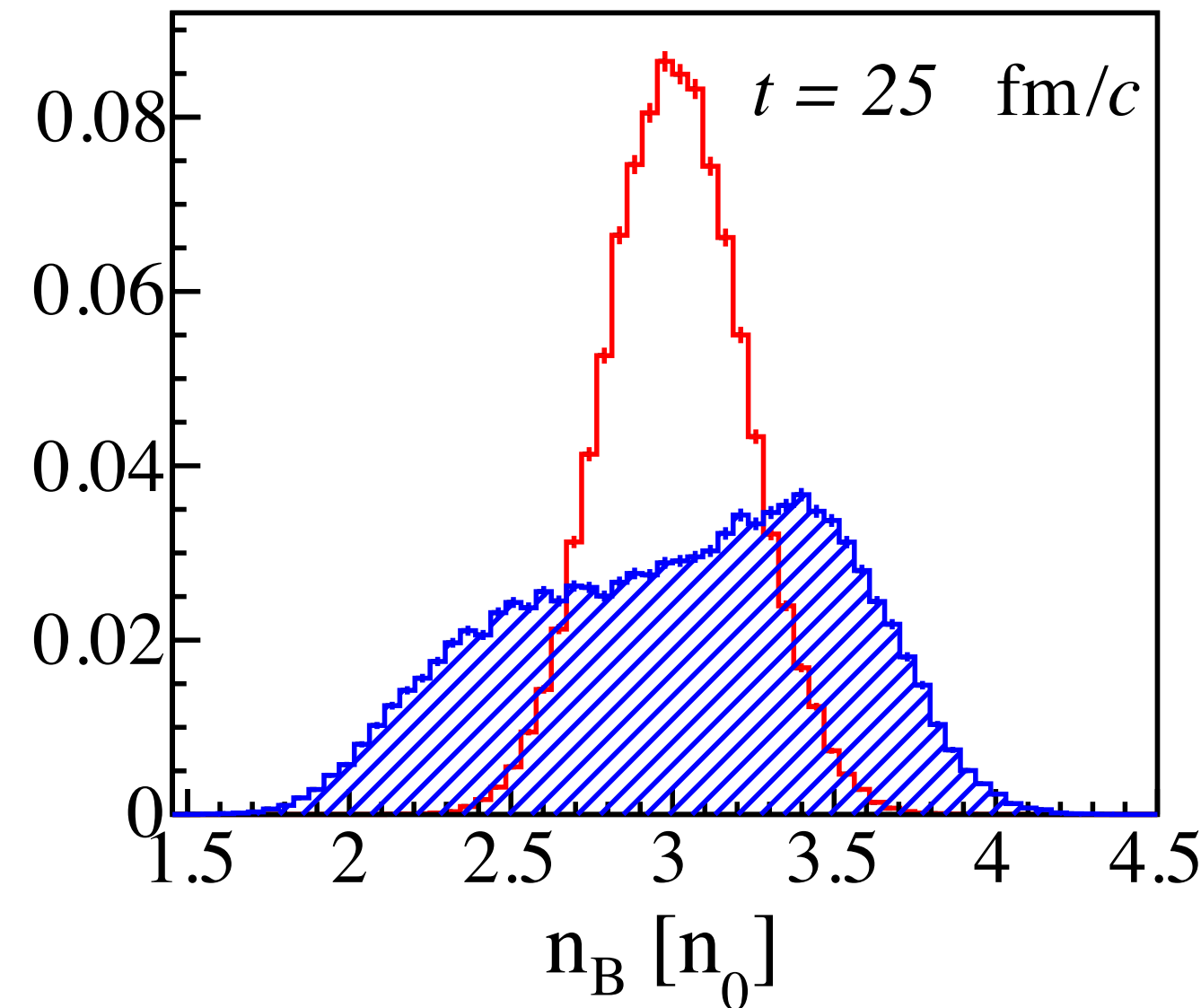
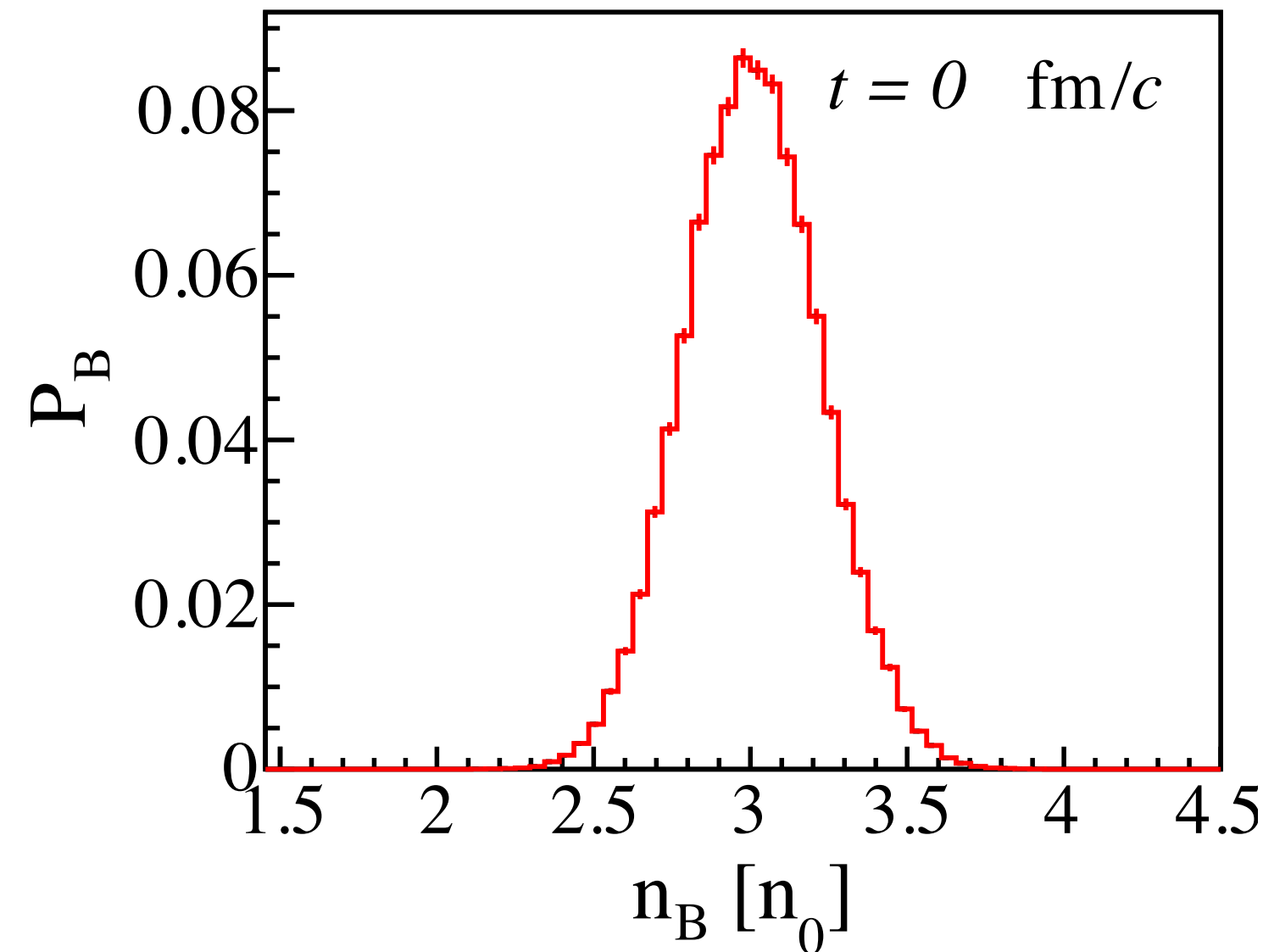
time step: 0.1 fm/c

smearing: triangular with range 2 fm

lattice: cubic cells with 1 fm on a side

collisions: off

500 events  
bin width = 2 fm



The **distribution** becomes **bimodal** as the system separates!