

Phase transitions in cold dense QCD matter

Bernd-Jochen Schaefer



September 16th, 2022



agenda

- **Hybrid and quark star matter based on a nonperturbative equation of state**

[Konstantin Otto \(Giessen U.\)](#), [Micaela Oertel \(LUTH, Meudon\)](#), [Bernd-Jochen Schaefer \(Giessen U.\)](#)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 101 (2020) 10, 103021 • e-Print: [1910.11929](#) [hep-ph]

- **Nonperturbative quark matter equations of state with vector interactions**

[Konstantin Otto \(Giessen U.\)](#), [Micaela Oertel \(LUTH, Meudon\)](#), [Bernd-Jochen Schaefer \(Giessen U.\)](#)

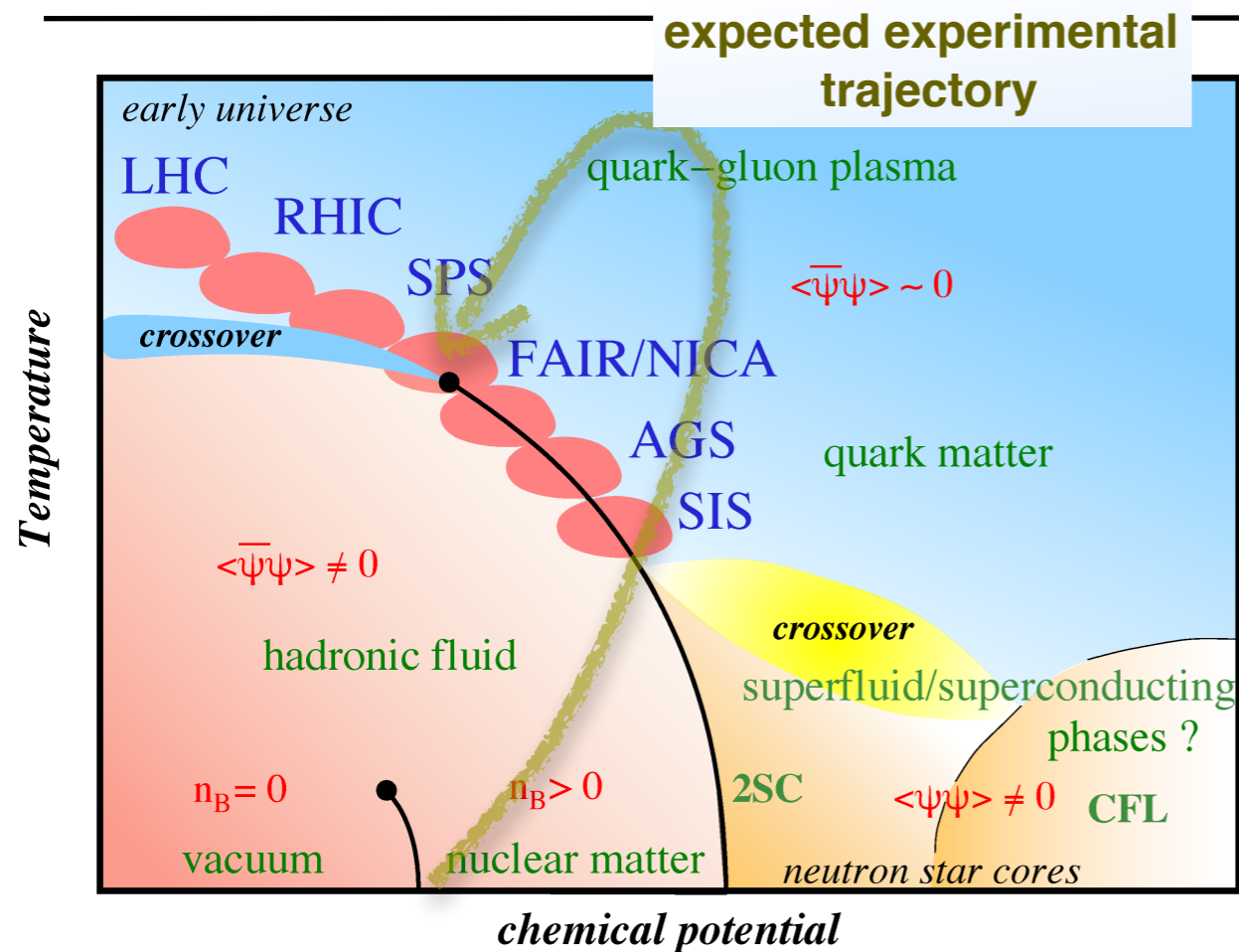
Published in: *Eur.Phys.J.ST* 229 (2020) 22-23, 3629-3649 • e-Print: [2007.07394](#) [hep-ph]

- **Regulator scheme dependence of the chiral phase transition at high densities**

[Konstantin Otto \(Giessen U.\)](#), [Christopher Busch \(Giessen U.\)](#), [Bernd-Jochen Schaefer \(Giessen U.\)](#)

e-Print: [2206.13067](#) [hep-ph]

conjectured QC₃D phase structure

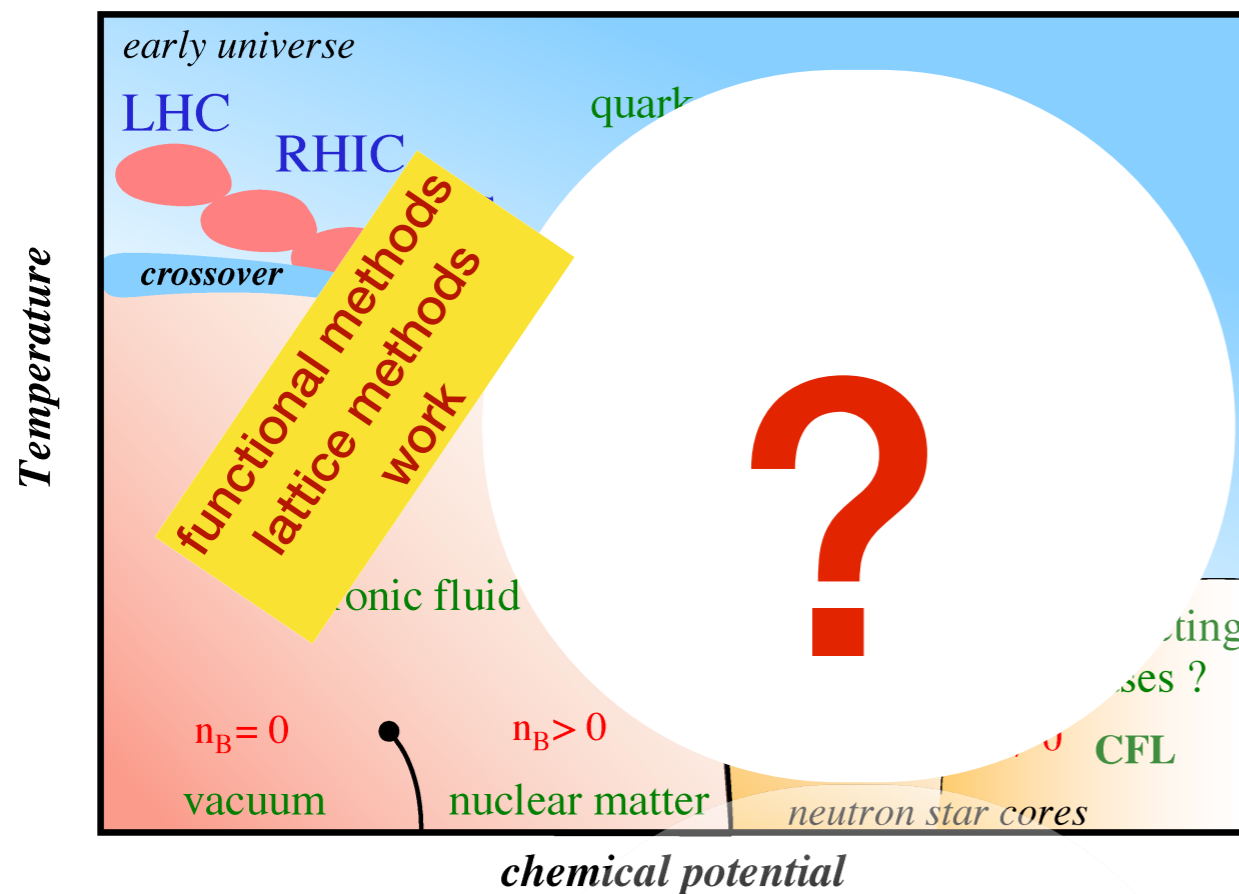


Open issues

- **Critical endpoint (CEP)?** chiral \Leftrightarrow deconfinement?
- **CS symmetry / Quarkyonic phase/s?**
- **inhomogeneous phase/s?**
- **axial anomaly restoration?**
- **finite volume effects?**
- **role of fluctuations?**
- **experimental signatures?**
-

assumptions: equilibrium, homogeneous phases, infinite volume,

conjectured QC₃D phase structure



Open issues

- Critical endpoint (CEP)? chiral \leftrightarrow deconfinement?
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- experimental signatures?
-

basically only corners known from first principle QCD

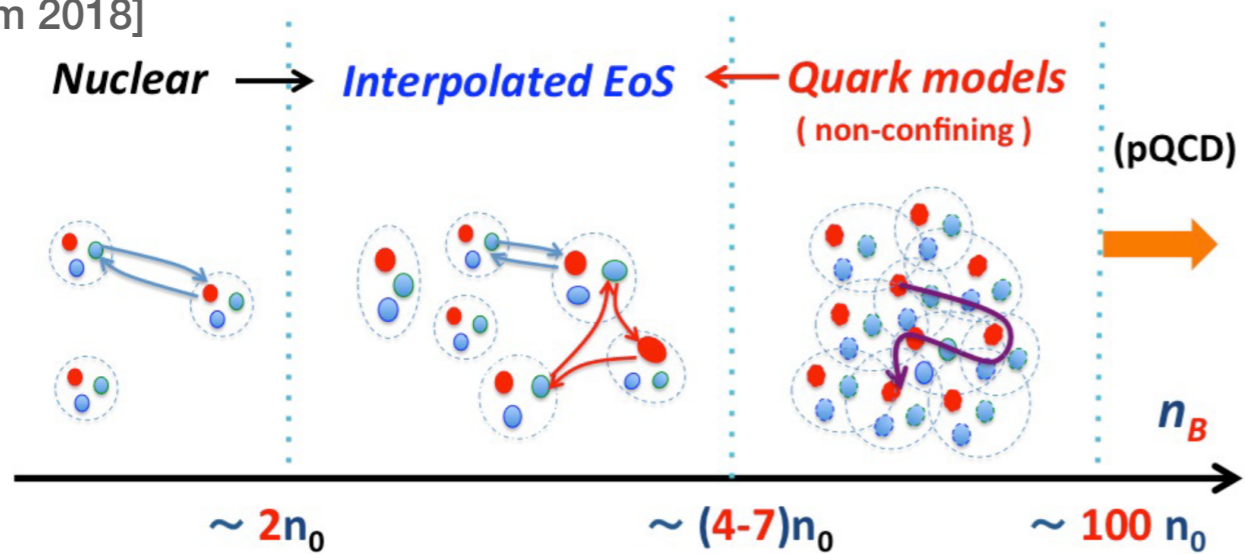
alternative to HIC to probe cold dense QCD matter \rightarrow massive neutron star (e.g. J0348+0432 ,...)

cold dense QCD matter: only effective low-energy realisation of QCD: e.g. (P)QM models

deconfined quarks very likely not a realistic description of neutron stars

Equation of State (EoS) for dense matter

[Baym 2018]



Nuclear phase:
1-2 meson/quark
exchanges

restrictions on EoS
@low densities
from **nuclear physics**

interpolated EoS
many meson/quark
exchanges

system gradually changes
from hadronic to quark matter
- **diquarks, colored quarks virtually ...**
- role of strangeness / hyperons

Quark phase:
quarks no longer specific to baryons

mostly **mean-field investigations**
like NJL-type or phenomenological
models

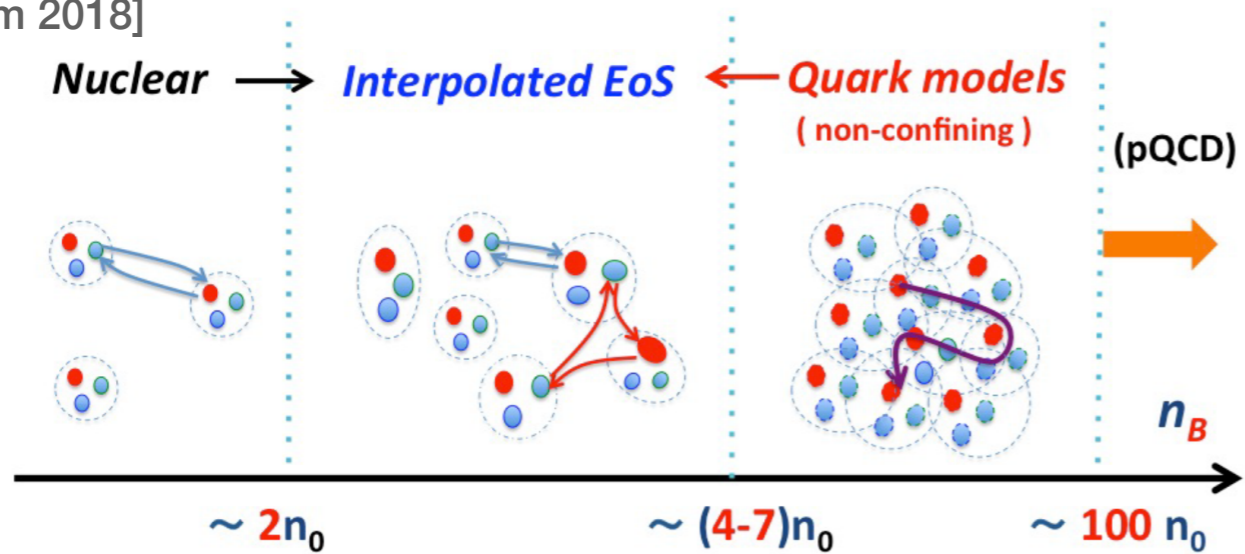
[Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk et al. 2010]

[Schaffner-Bielich et al. 2008]

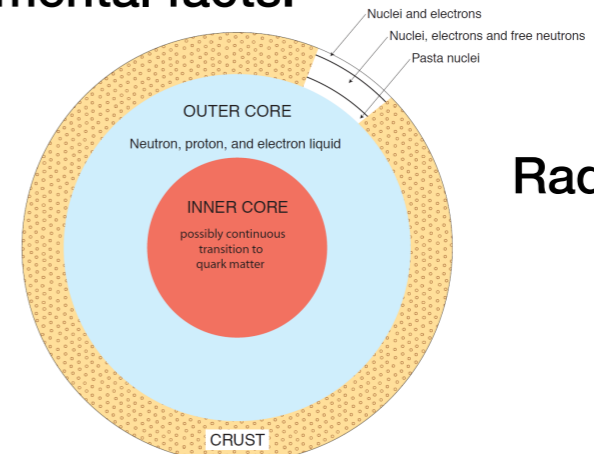
[Blaschke, Fischer, Oertel et al. 2018]

Transition from hadronic to quark matter

[Baym 2018]



Experimental facts:



Radius ~ 10 - 13 km
Mass > 2 Msol

constraints on tidal deformability

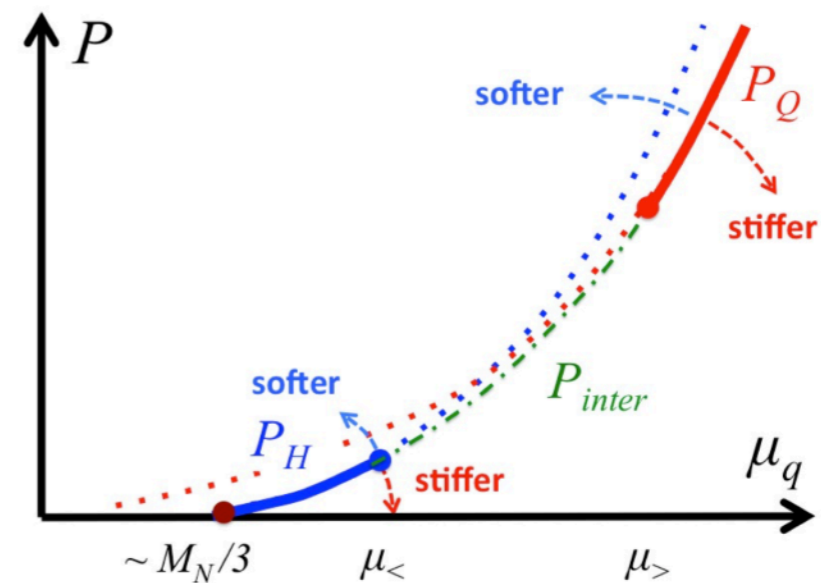
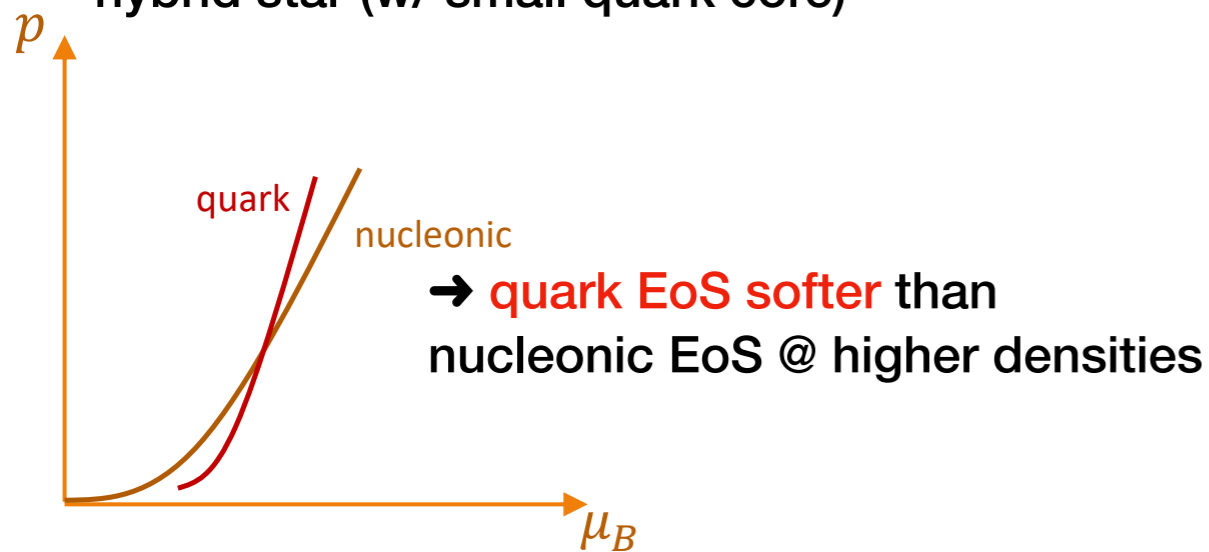
combination: Maxwell construction or continuous interpolation

first-order transition

quark-hadron continuity

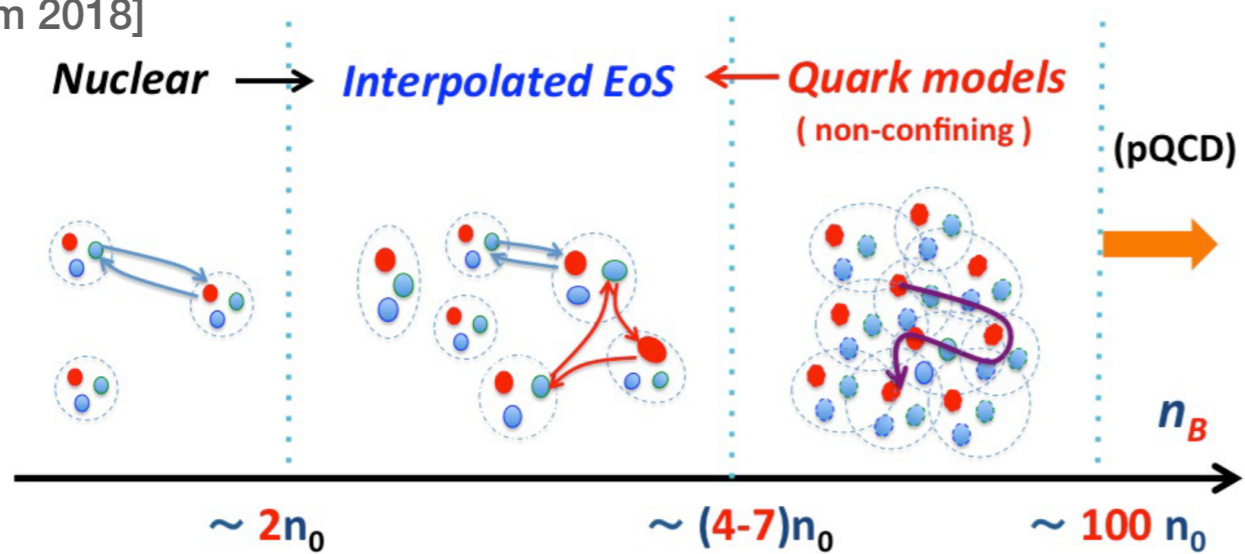


hybrid star (w/ small quark core)

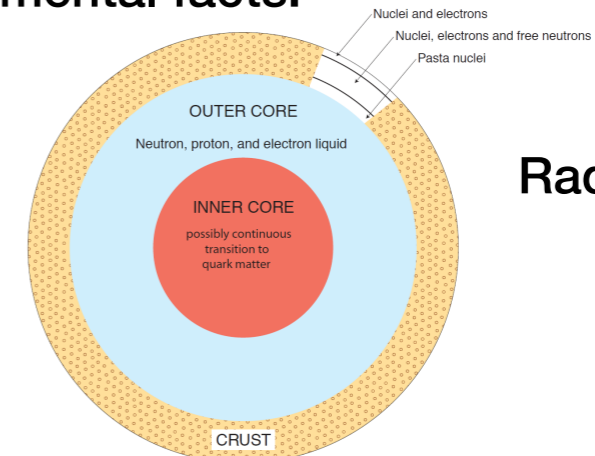


Transition from hadronic to quark matter

[Baym 2018]

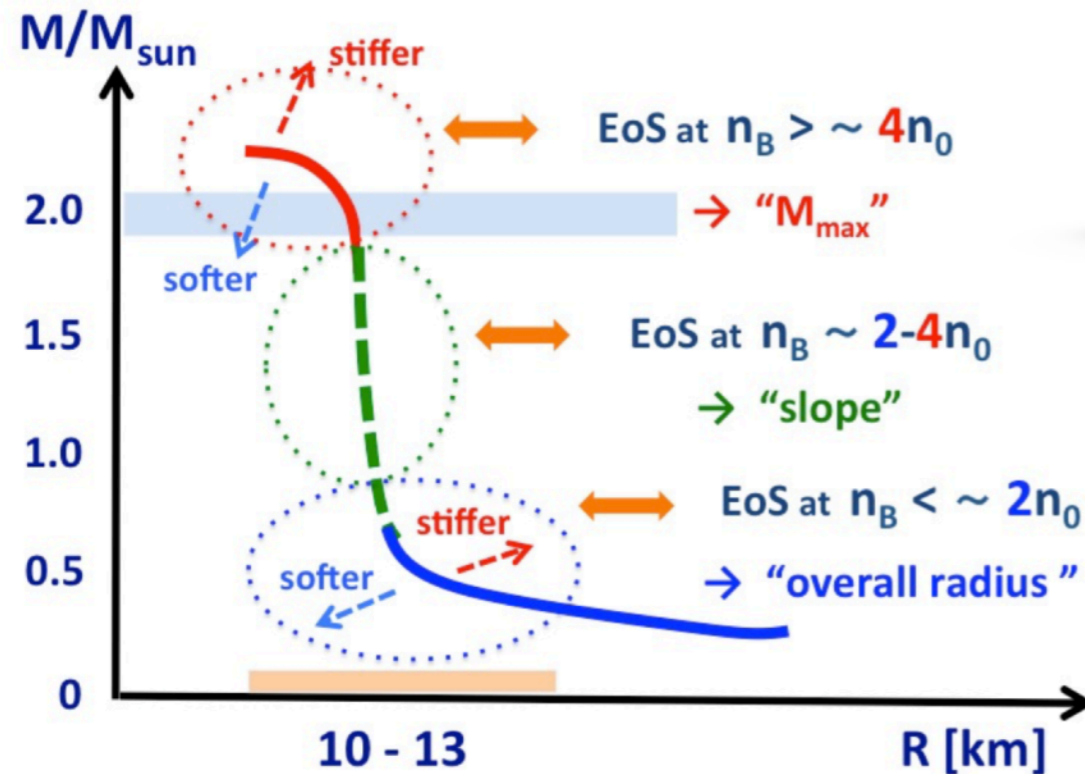


Experimental facts:



Radius $\sim 10 - 13$ km
Mass $> 2 M_{\text{sol}}$

constraints on tidal deformability



EoS \leftrightarrow TOV equation \leftrightarrow M-R relation (observables)

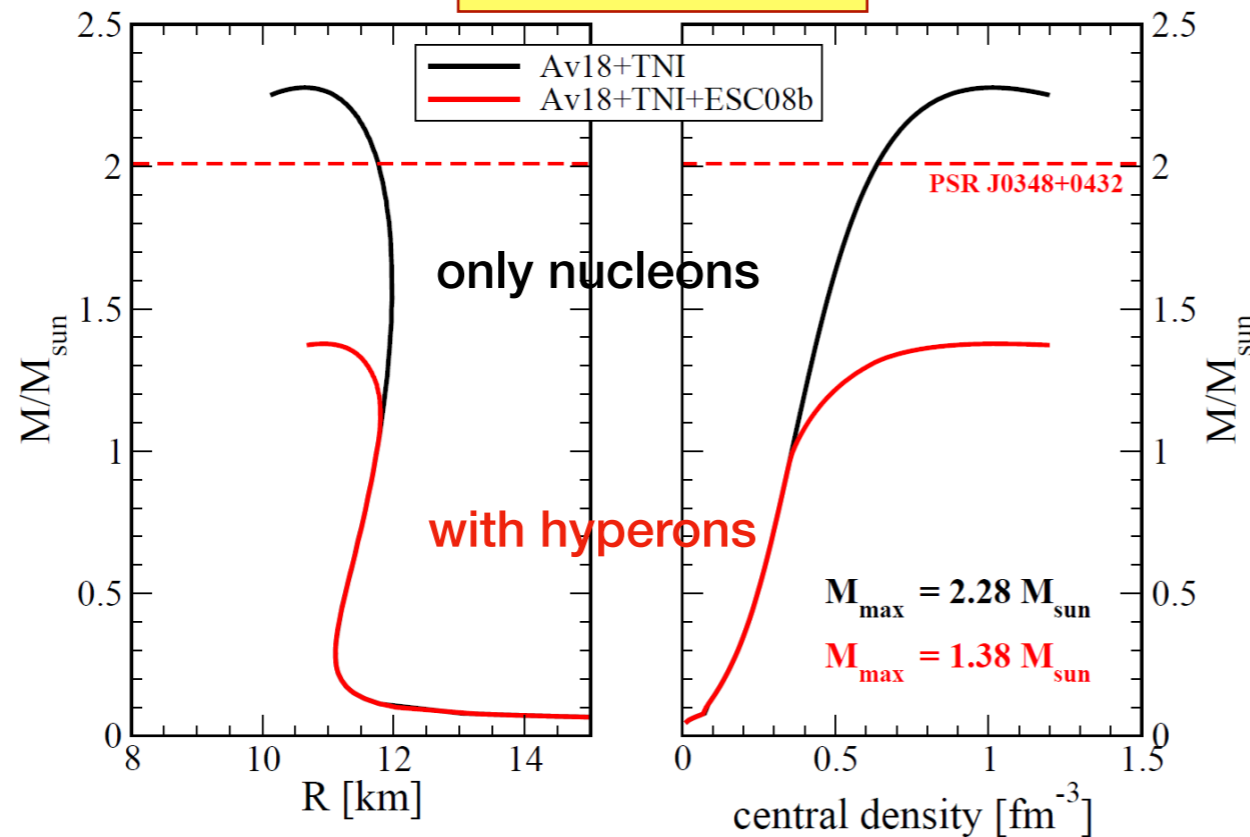
three constraints on the EoS:

1. stiff enough (@high density) $\rightarrow 2M_{\odot}$
2. soft enough (@low density) \rightarrow Radius
3. speed of sound < 1

open issues

[Bombaci 2016]

hyperons puzzle



Further constraints:

causality

charge neutrality: $n_p = n_e + n_\mu$

beta equilibrium: $\mu_n = \mu_p + \mu_e$

simplification:

→ electrons and muons as
free Fermi gas in EoS

General problems (physical theory input required):

→ hyperon puzzle

onset of strangeness in hadronic phase or quark phase

→ soften EoS

[Djapo, BJS, Wambach 2010]

→ masquerade problem

many EoS look similar → hybrid stars have similar M-R relation as Neutron Stars
increasing #dof **soften** EoS,

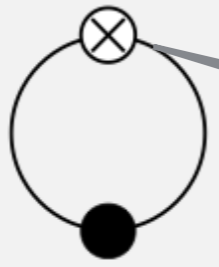
repulsive interactions **stiffen** EoS

[Alvarez-Castillo, Blaschke 2014]

Functional Renormalization Group

Wetterich Equation (average effective action)

$$\partial_t \Gamma_k[\phi] = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \partial_t R_k \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma_k^{(2)} + R_k} \right)$$

$$k \partial_k \Gamma_k[\phi] \sim \frac{1}{2}$$


[Wetterich 1993]

$$t = \ln(k/\Lambda)$$

$$\Gamma_k^{(2)} = \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_k}{\delta \phi \delta \phi}$$

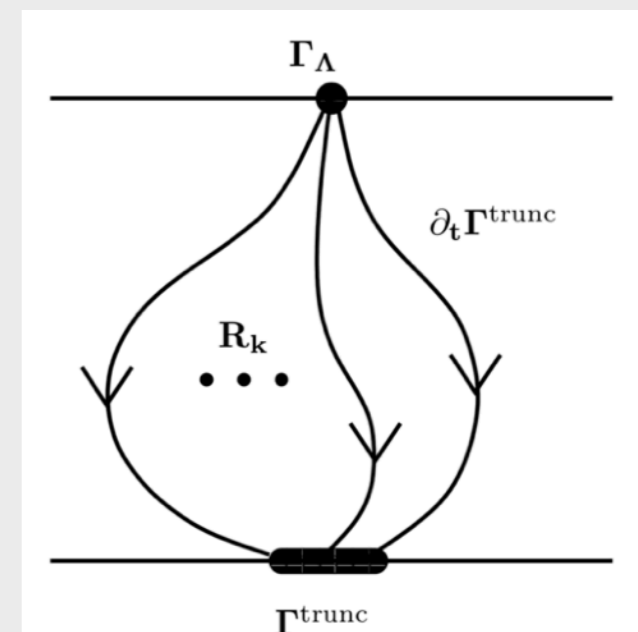
R_k regulators

in practise: several truncations ...

shape function conditions:

$$R_k(p^2) = p^2 r(p^2/k^2)$$

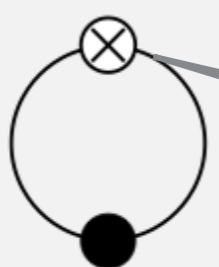
- $\lim_{p^2/k^2 \rightarrow \infty} R_k(p^2) = 0$
- $\lim_{p^2/k^2 \rightarrow 0} R_k(p^2) > 0 (= k^2)$
- $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} R_k(p^2) \rightarrow \infty$



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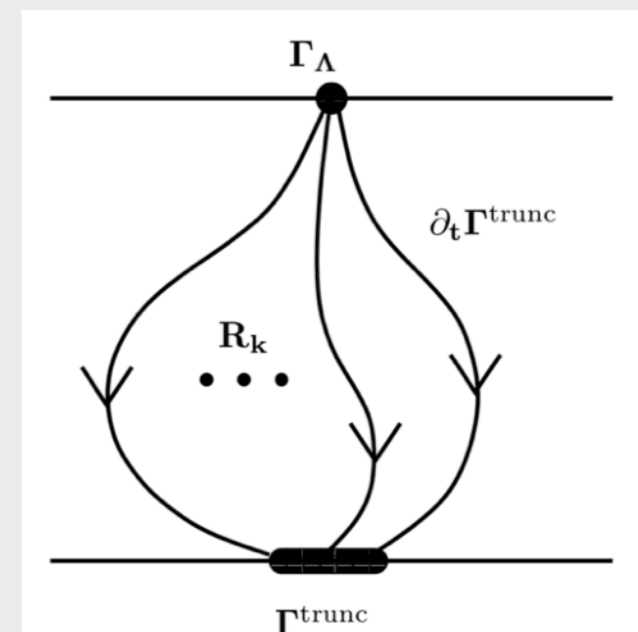
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Ansatz effective action Quark-Meson truncation in LPA (LO derivative expansion)

$$\Gamma_k = \int d^4x \bar{q} [i\gamma_\mu \partial^\mu - g(\sigma + i\vec{\tau}\vec{\pi}\gamma_5)] q + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \sigma)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \vec{\pi})^2 + V_k(\phi^2)$$

$$V_{k=\Lambda}(\phi^2) = \frac{\lambda}{4} (\sigma^2 + \vec{\pi}^2 - v^2)^2 - c\sigma$$

arbitrary potential



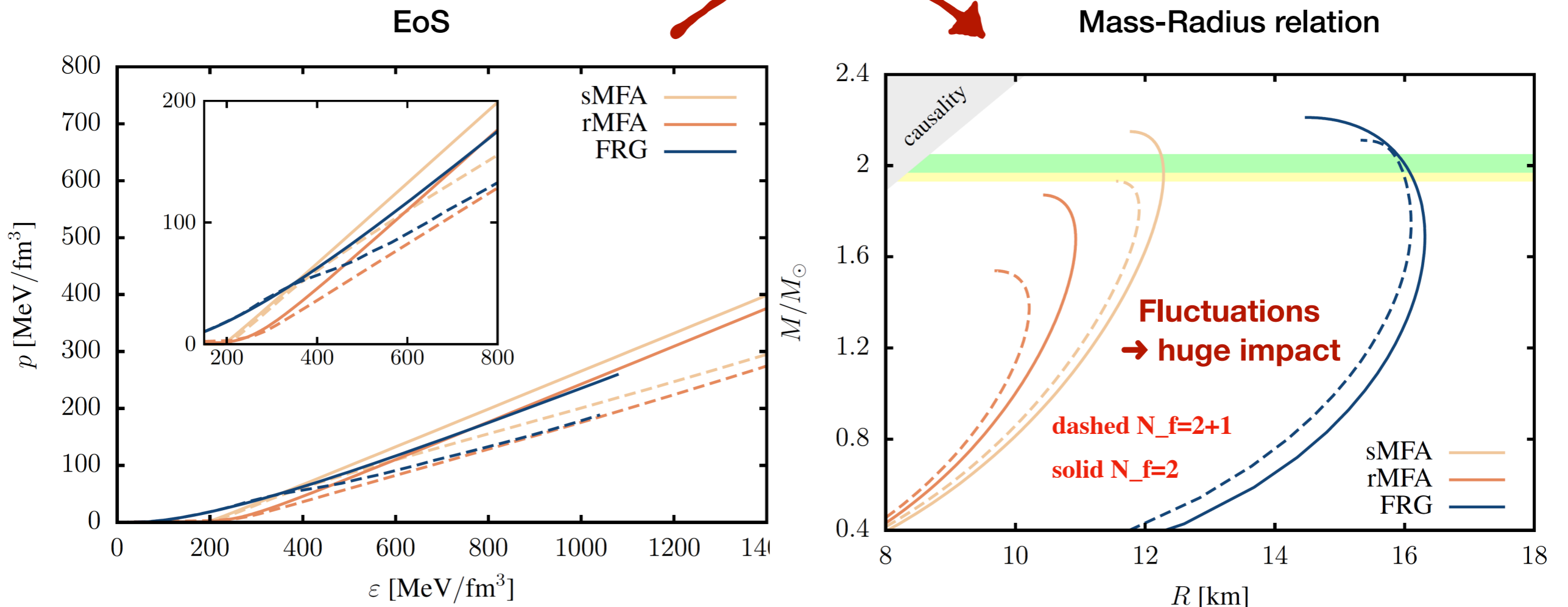
Impact of fluctuations on EoS

[Otto, Oertel, BJS 2020]

Impose beta equilibrium and charge neutrality conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_u &= \mu_q - \frac{2}{3}\mu_e \\ \mu_d &= \mu_q + \frac{1}{3}\mu_e \\ \mu_s &= \mu_q + \frac{1}{3}\mu_e \end{aligned}$$

Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff equations

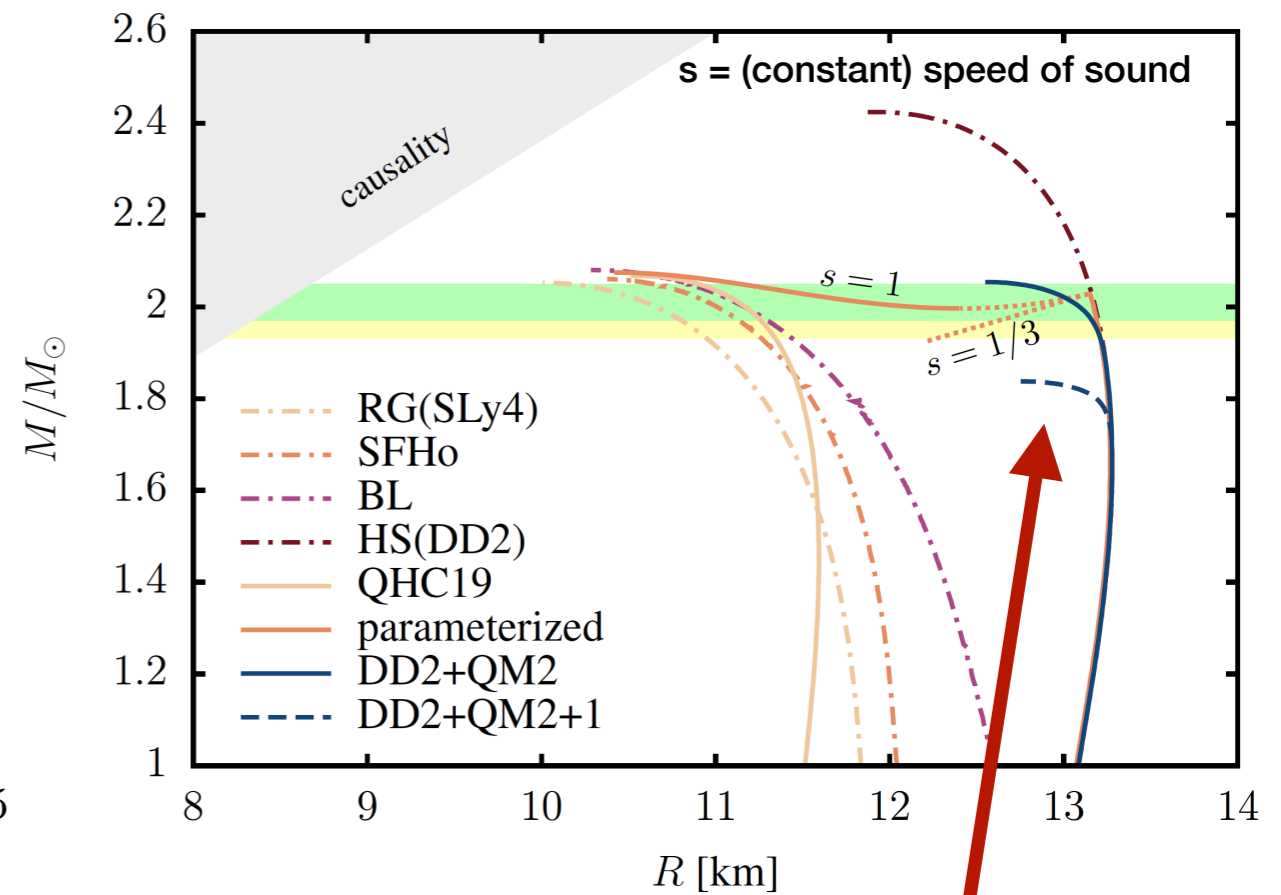
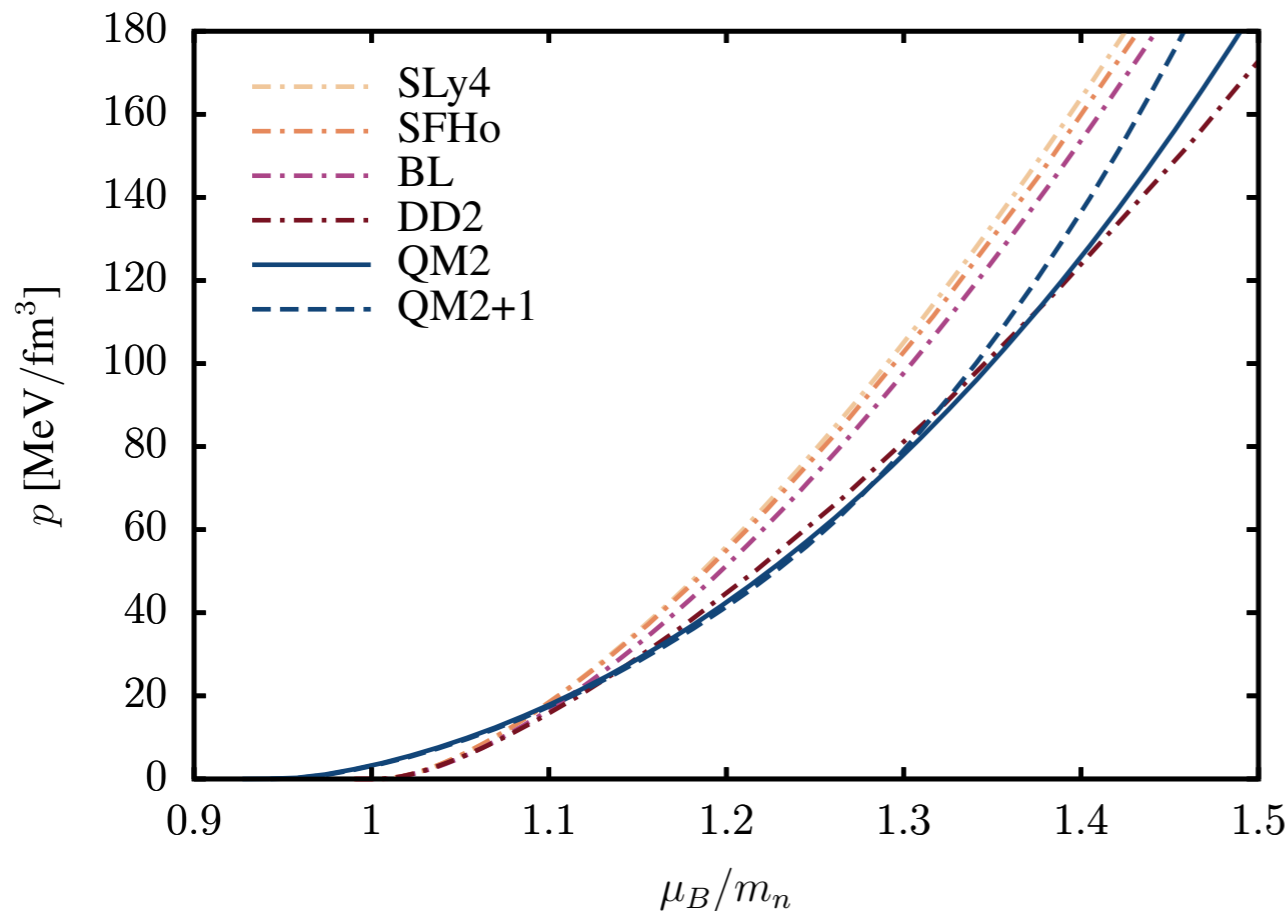


Hybrid star construction possible? - yes

[Otto, Oertel, BJS 2020]

combine nuclear EoS (DD2) with FRG QM truncation

→ continuous nuclear-hybrid branch



2 M_⊙ limit violated for N_f= 2+1

can a repulsive vector interaction remedy this behavior?

Vector mesons to the FRG EoS

[Otto, Oertel, BJS 2020]

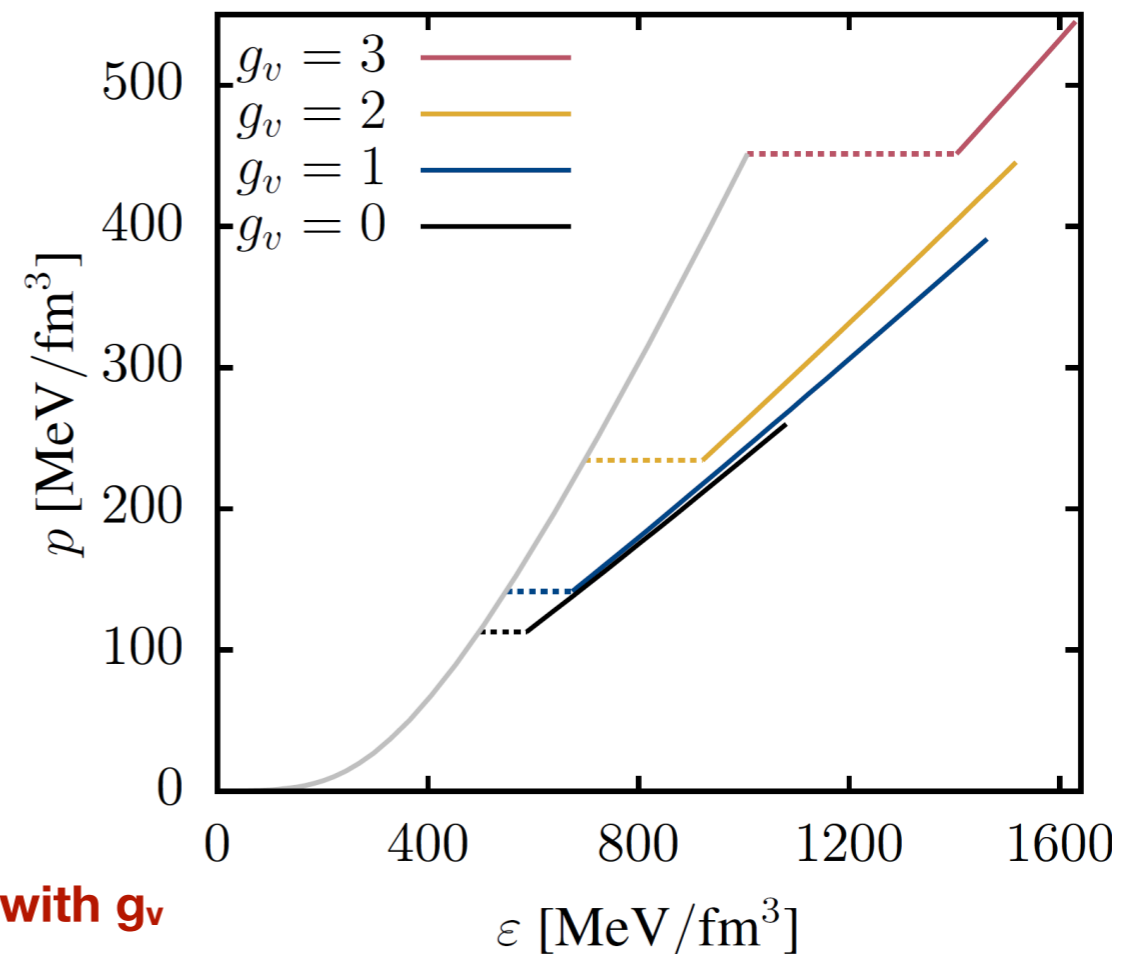
[Rennecke 2015]
[Pereira, Stiele, Costa 2020]

- Yukawa type interaction of temporal component and mean-field potential

$$\Gamma_{\text{vec}} = \int_x \left[\frac{g_v}{2} \bar{q} \gamma_0 \text{diag}_f(\omega, \omega, \sqrt{2}\phi) q - \frac{1}{2} (m_\omega^2 \omega^2 + m_\phi^2 \phi^2) \right]$$

- effectively shifts the chemical potentials:

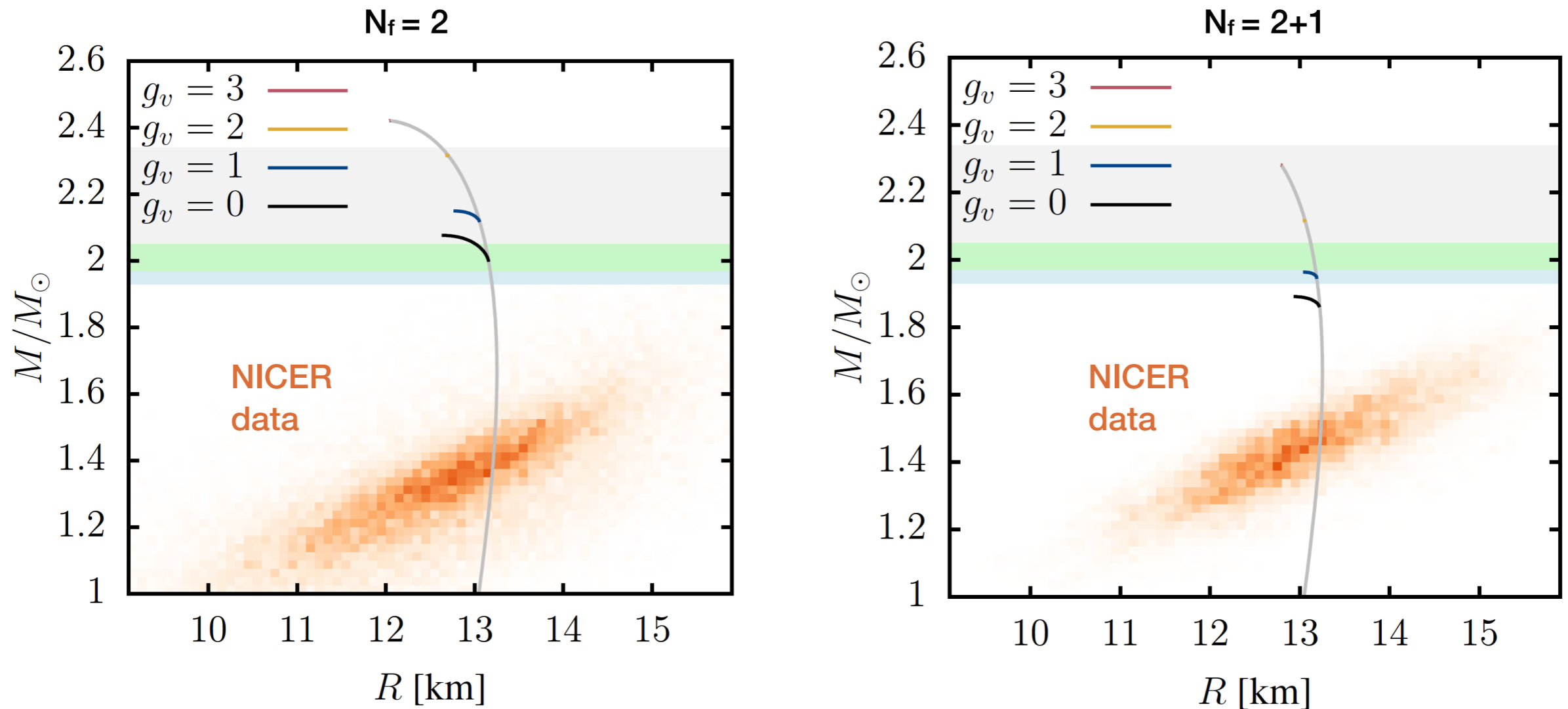
$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mu}_u &= \mu_q - \frac{2}{3}\mu_e - \frac{g_v}{2}\omega \\ \tilde{\mu}_d &= \mu_q + \frac{1}{3}\mu_e - \frac{g_v}{2}\omega \\ \tilde{\mu}_s &= \mu_q + \frac{1}{3}\mu_e - \frac{g_v}{\sqrt{2}}\phi \end{aligned}$$



→ energy gap and transition pressure increases with g_v

Mass-Radius relations

[Otto, Oertel, BJS 2020]



→ including strange quarks: **finite vector coupling is needed to achieve $2M_\odot$ limit**

→ at the same time: **larger vector coupling lead to smaller quark cores!**

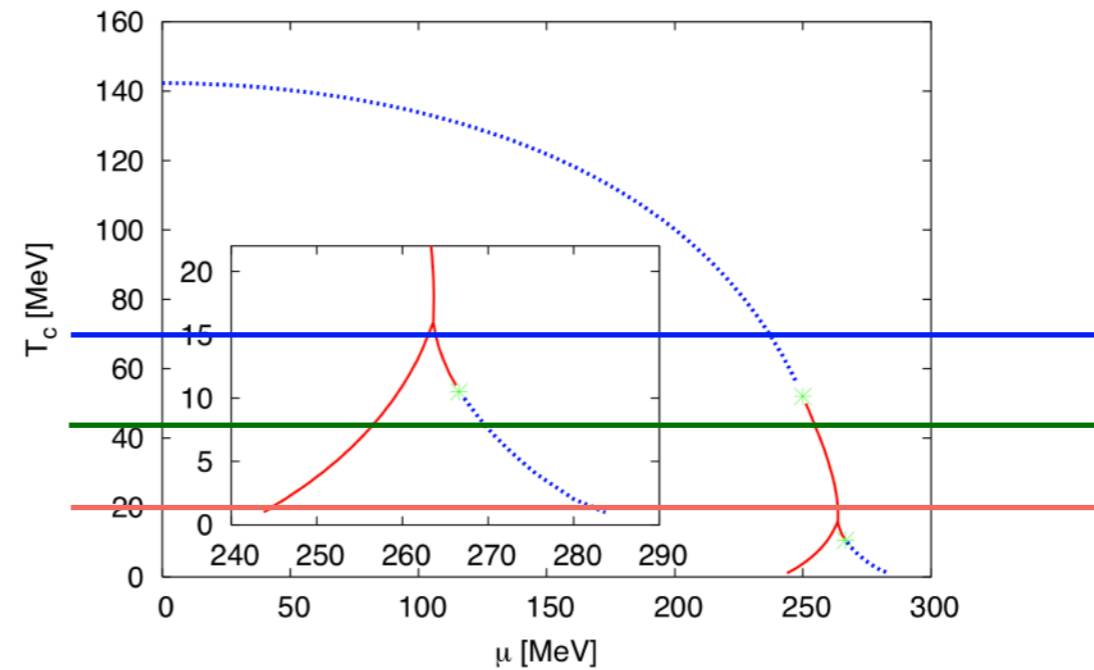
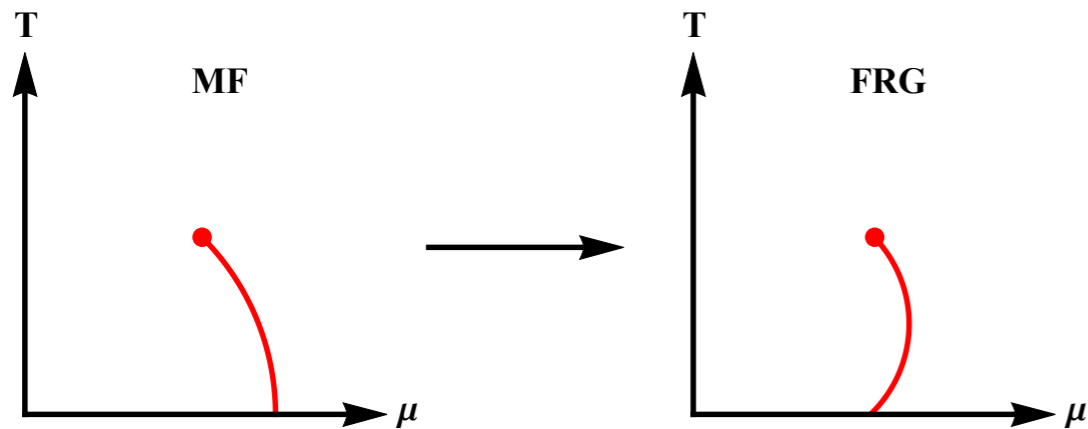
so far so good ... BUT



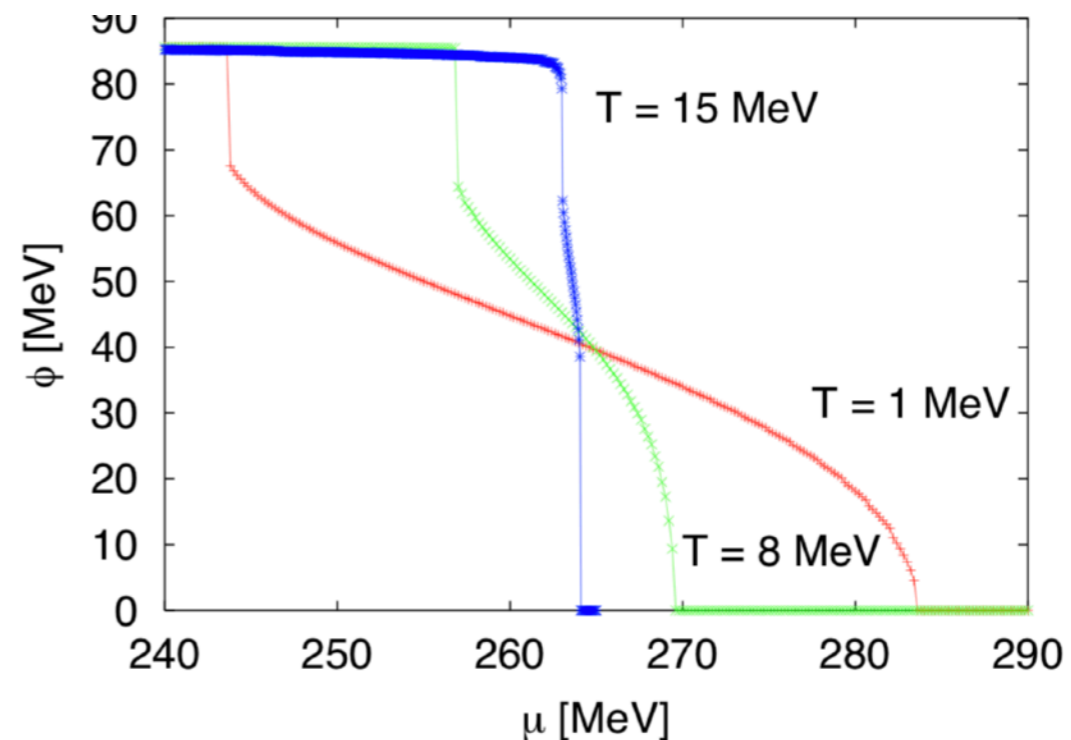
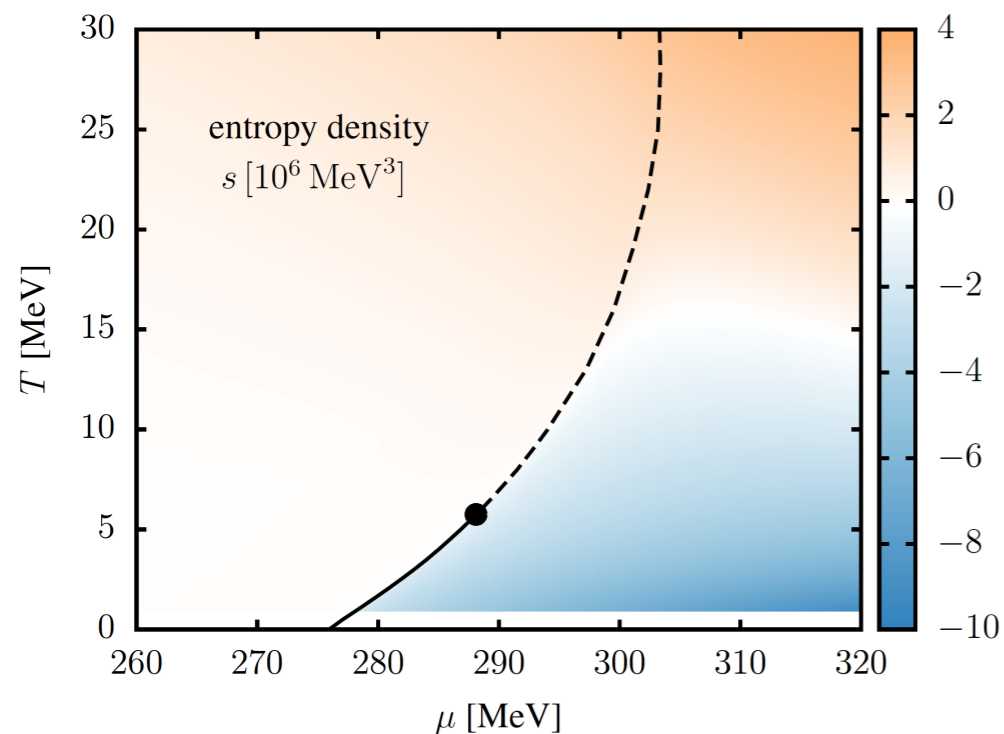
back-bending / negative entropy density

[R-A Tripolt, BJS, L von Smekal, J Wambach 2018]

[BJS, Wambach 2005]

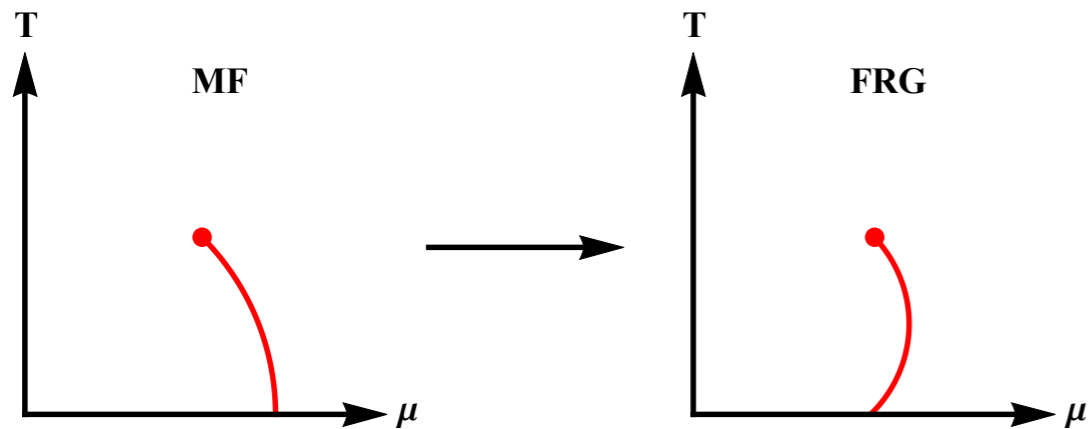


- Phase diagram quark-meson model
- Entropy density: s/T^3

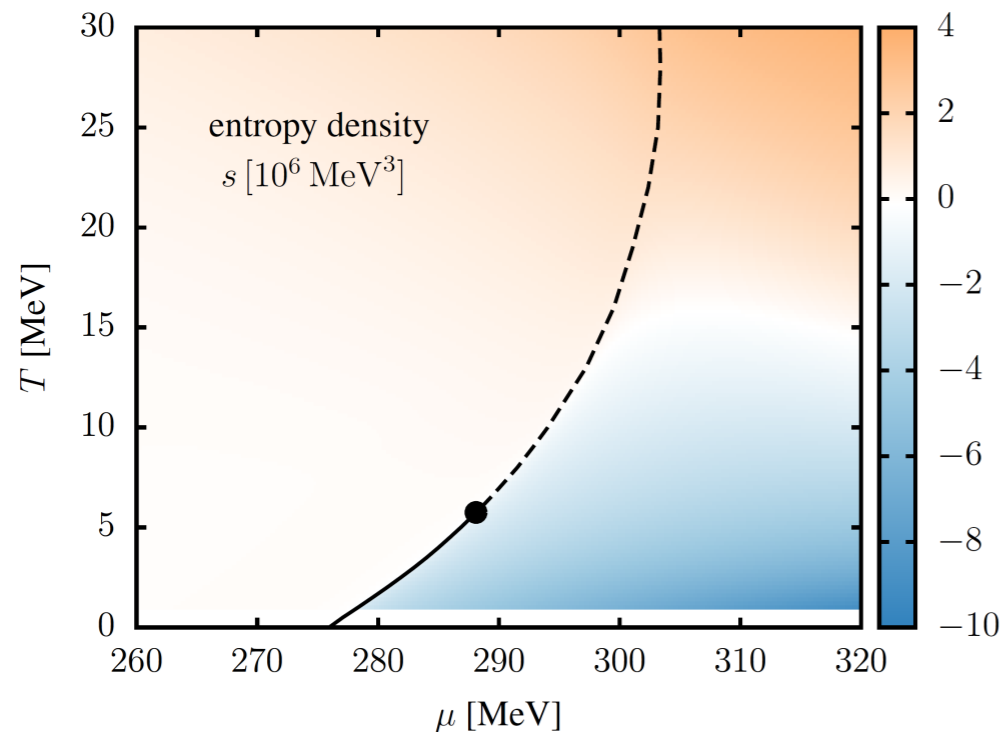


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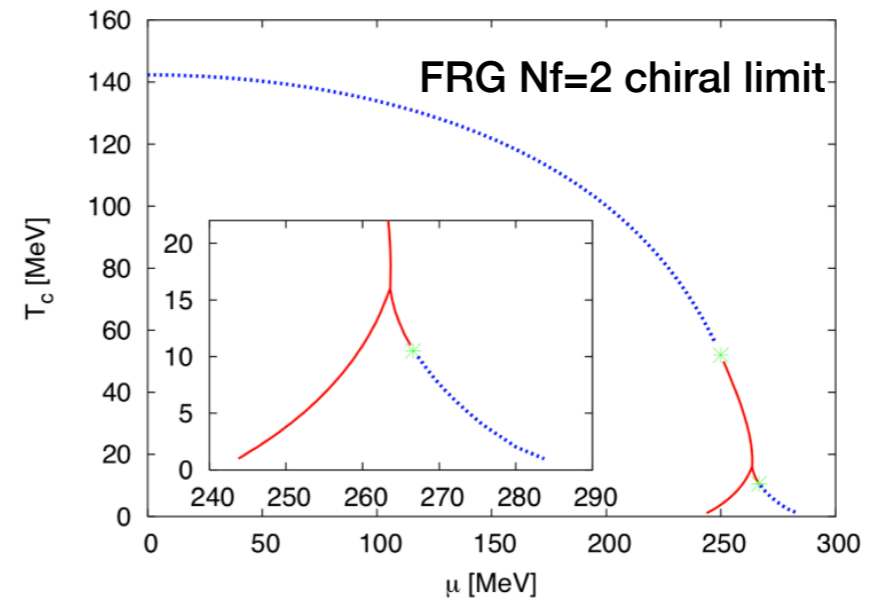
[R-A Tripolt, BJS, L von Smekal, J Wambach 2018]



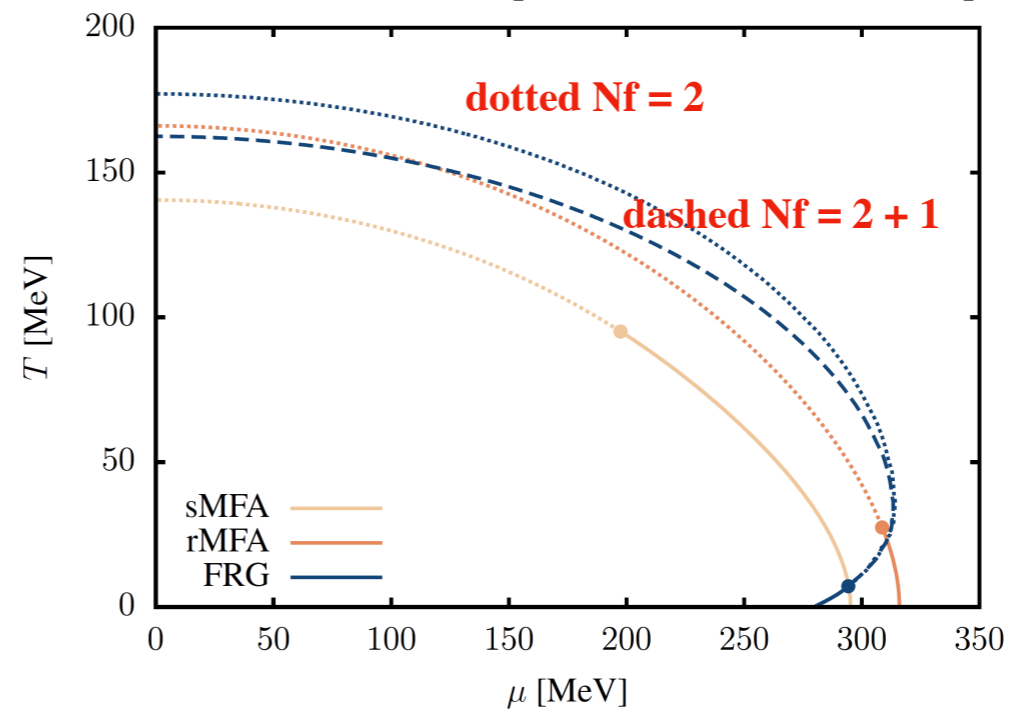
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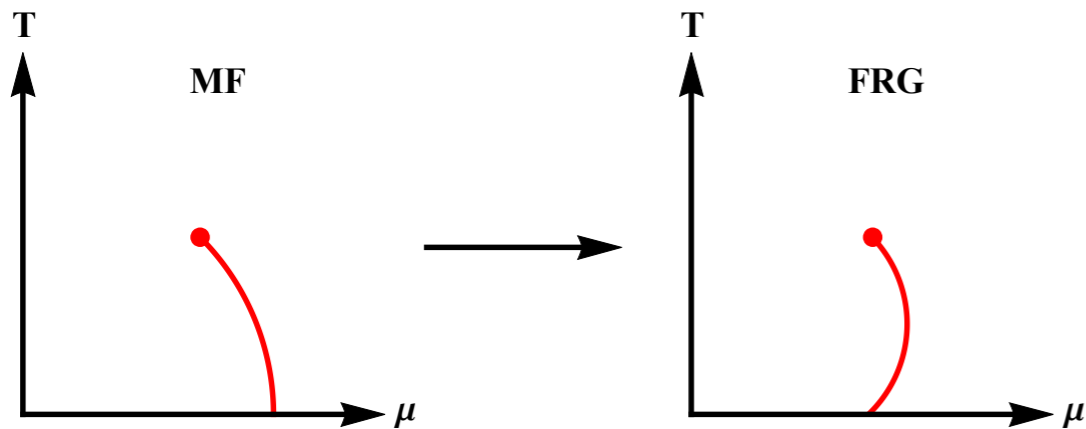


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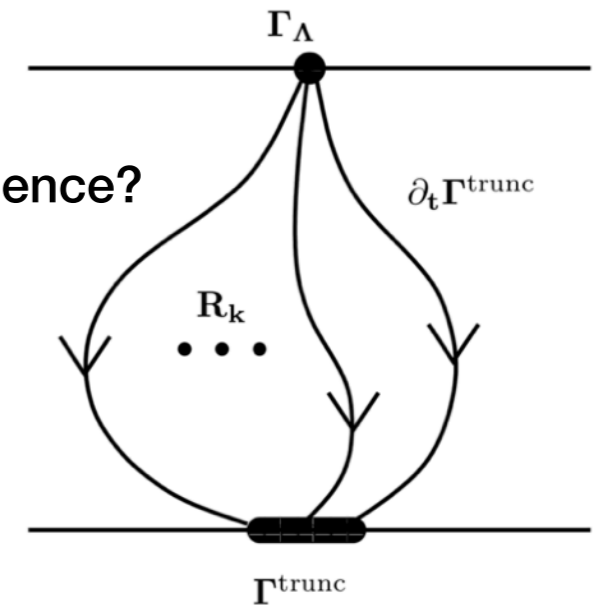
[R-A Tripolt, BJS, L von Smekal, J Wambach 2018]



→ Regulator scheme dependence?

cf talk by Sebastian Töpfel

- fermionic regulator



$$R_k^F(p, \mu) = R_k^F(\tilde{p}, 0) \quad \tilde{p} = \begin{pmatrix} p_0 + i\mu \\ \vec{p} \end{pmatrix}$$

shift required to preserve **Silver Blaze** property (T=0)
(necessary but not sufficient)

- example:

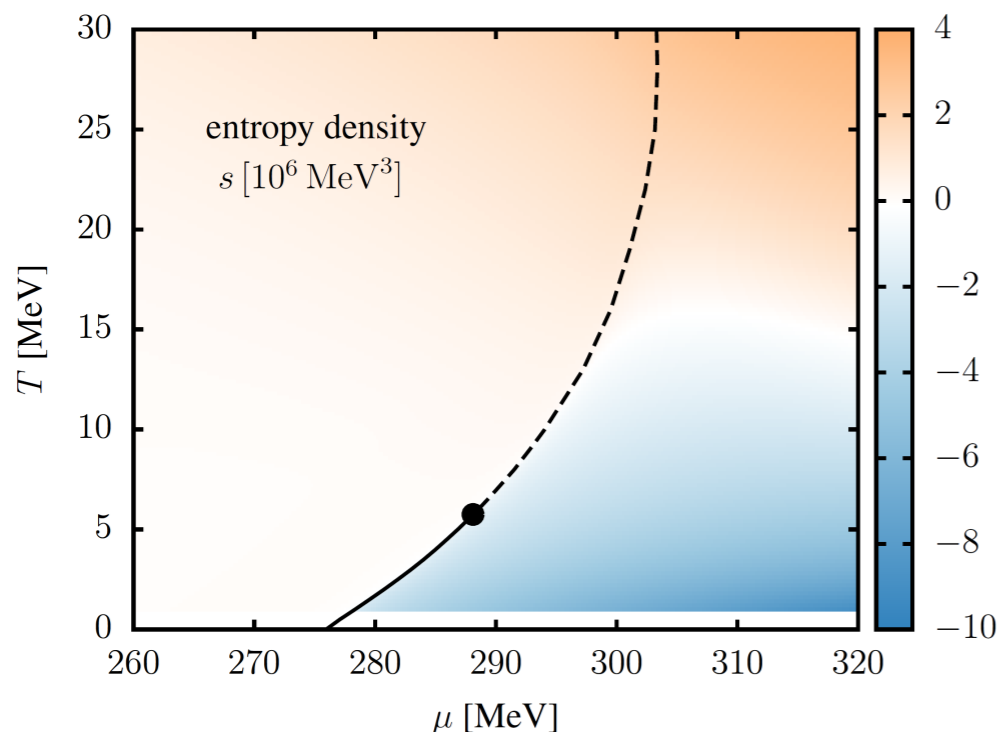
exponential regulator fulfills SB but

→ additional (unphysical)

poles that break Silver Blaze

- Phase diagram quark-meson model

- Entropy density: s/T^3



Callan-Symanzik type regulators

• solution: CS regulator: $R_k(p^2) = k^2$ UV divergent

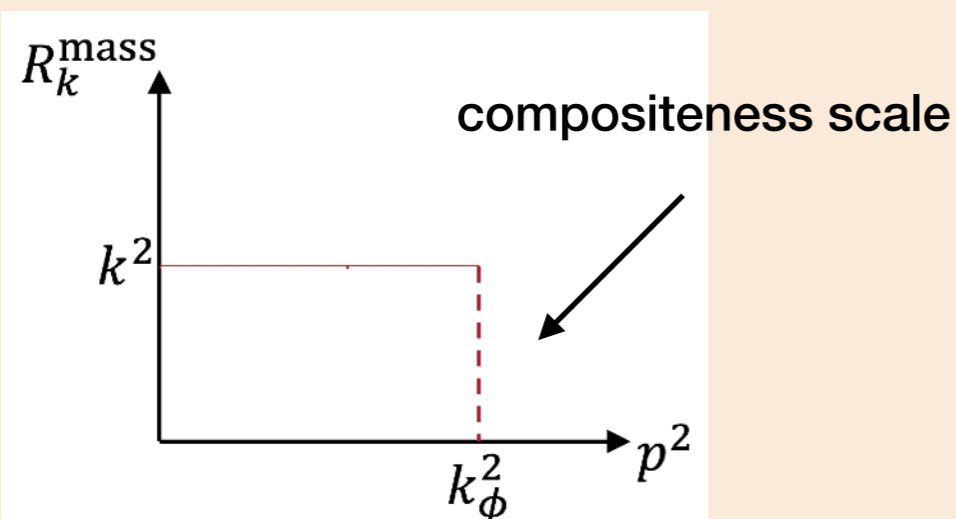
3dim regulators: $R_k(\vec{p}^2)$

• comparison:

CS (mass-like) regulators

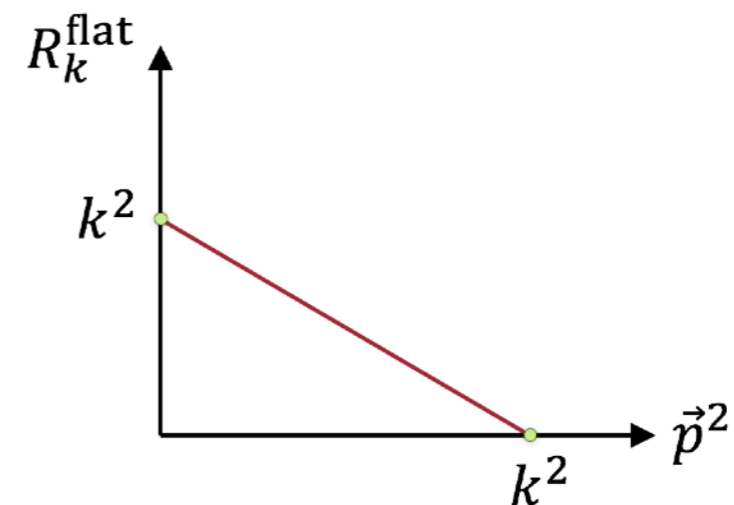
► 4dim: $R_k^{\text{mass}}(p^2) = k^2 \Theta(k_\Phi^2 - p^2)$

► 3dim: $R_k^{\text{mass}}(\vec{p}^2) = k^2 \Theta(k_\Phi^2 - \vec{p}^2)$



3dim flat (Litim) regulators

$R_k^{\text{flat}}(\vec{p}^2) = (k^2 - \vec{p}^2)\Theta(k^2 - \vec{p}^2)$



Partial IR fixed point

- usual UV procedure not applicable :

CS regulator: $R_k(p^2) = k^2$ UV divergent

k_Φ
 ↓
 approximated flow in LPA'
 down
 to chiral sym breaking scale k_χ
 → partial IR fixed point

k_χ
 ↓
 solve flow in LPA
 starting
 at
 fixed point

k_{IR}
 ↓
 adjust IR values by variation of k_Φ and k_χ

- scales around compositeness scale:

- neglect mesons, quarks dominate

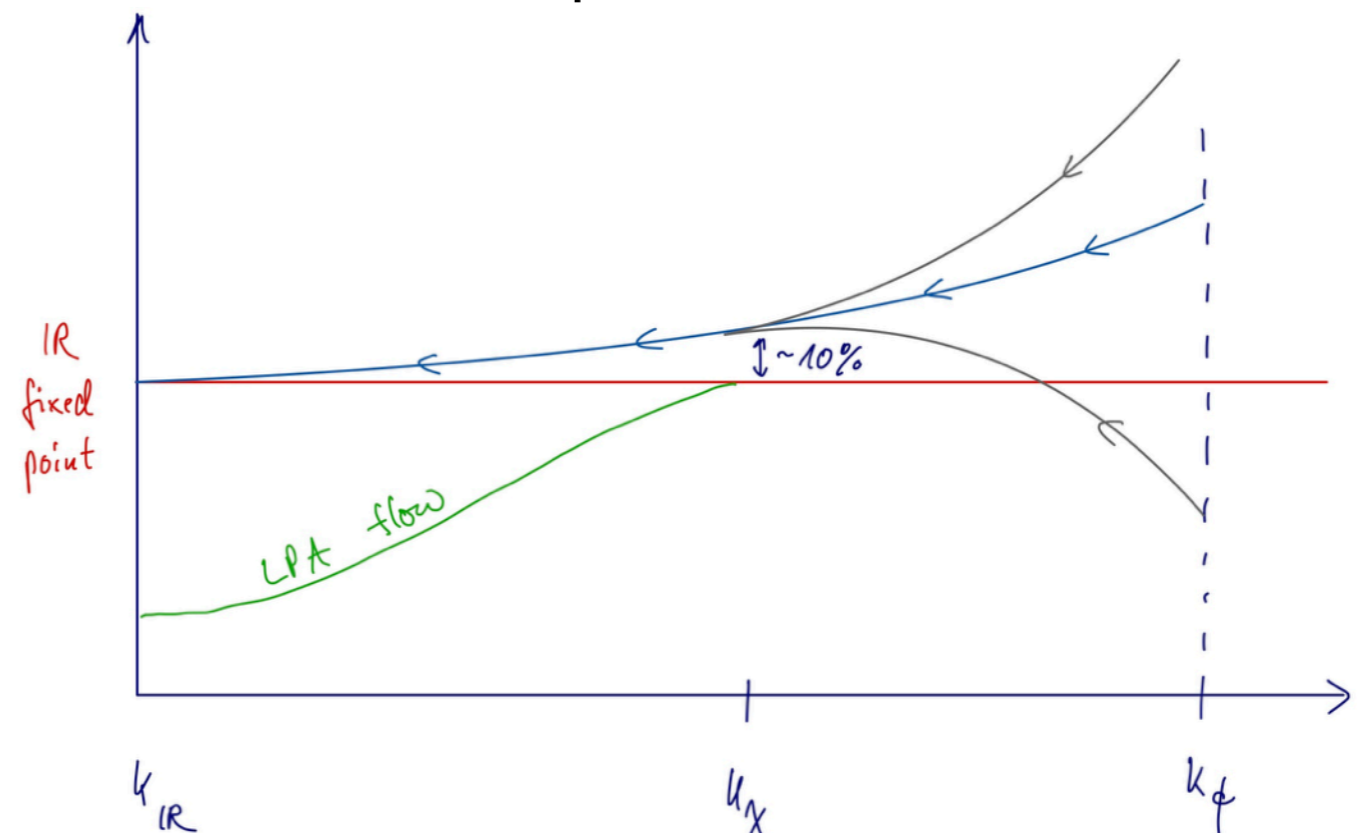
- simple flows for

- ➔ Yukawa coupling

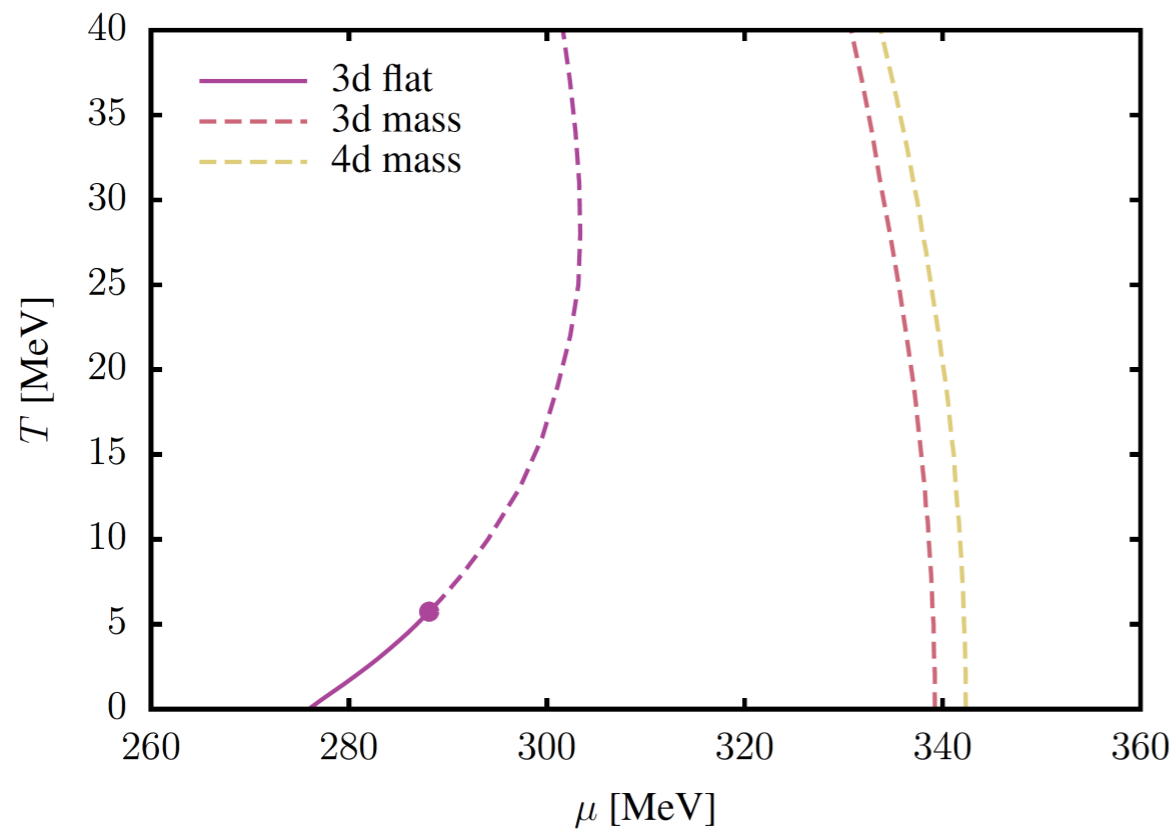
- ➔ mesonic wave function renormalization

- field expansion of (dimless) potential

- ➔ IR fixed point for coefficients $n > 1$



Chiral transition at low temperature



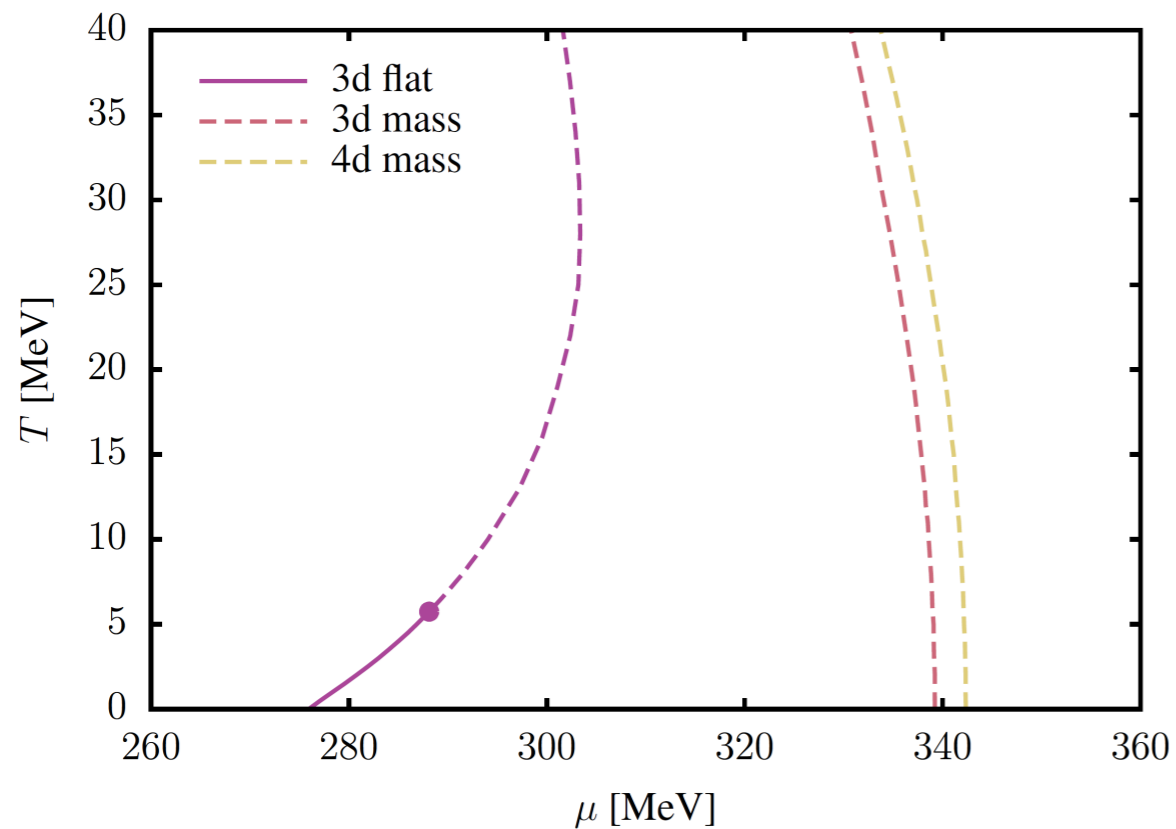
no back-bending with CS mass-like regulator

small differences between 3d and 4d regulators

purely crossover → pseudocritical μ_c larger than m_q

could finite IR cutoff play a role?

Chiral transition at low temperature



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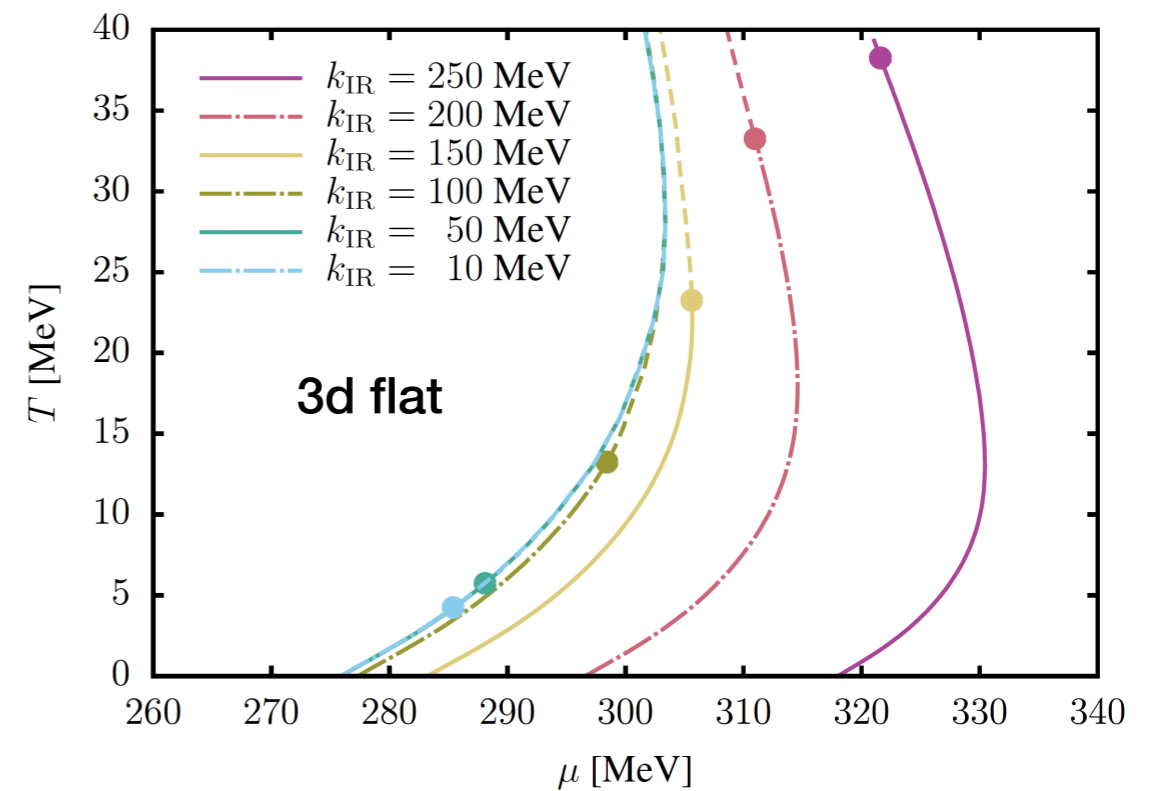
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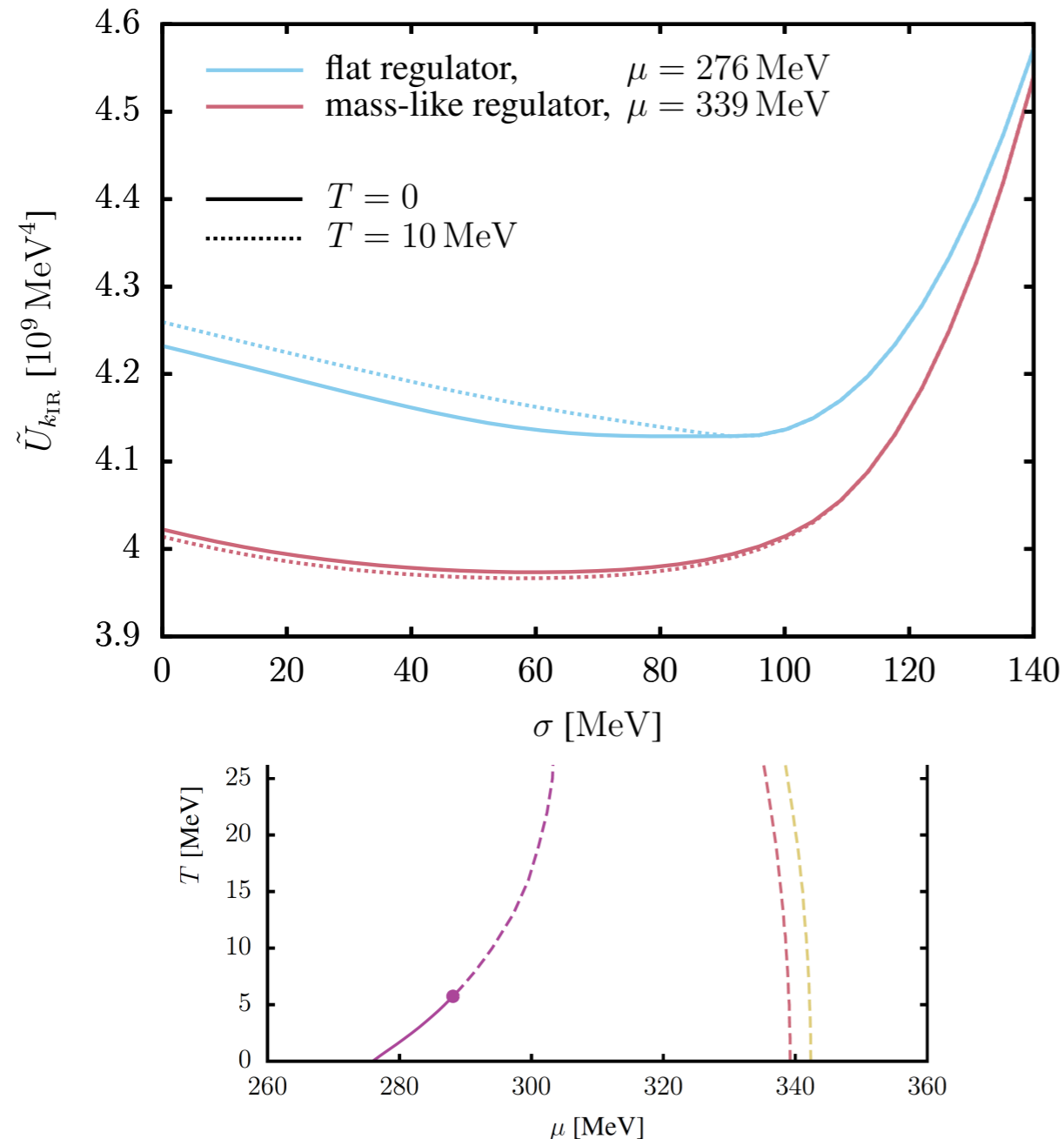
\rightarrow No

transition line shifts and CEP moves down

but back-bending over large k_{IR} range



Origin of back-bending



flat (Litim) regulator

larger variations between two temperatures

potential moves **upwards**

→ chiral symmetry breaking

→ back-bending

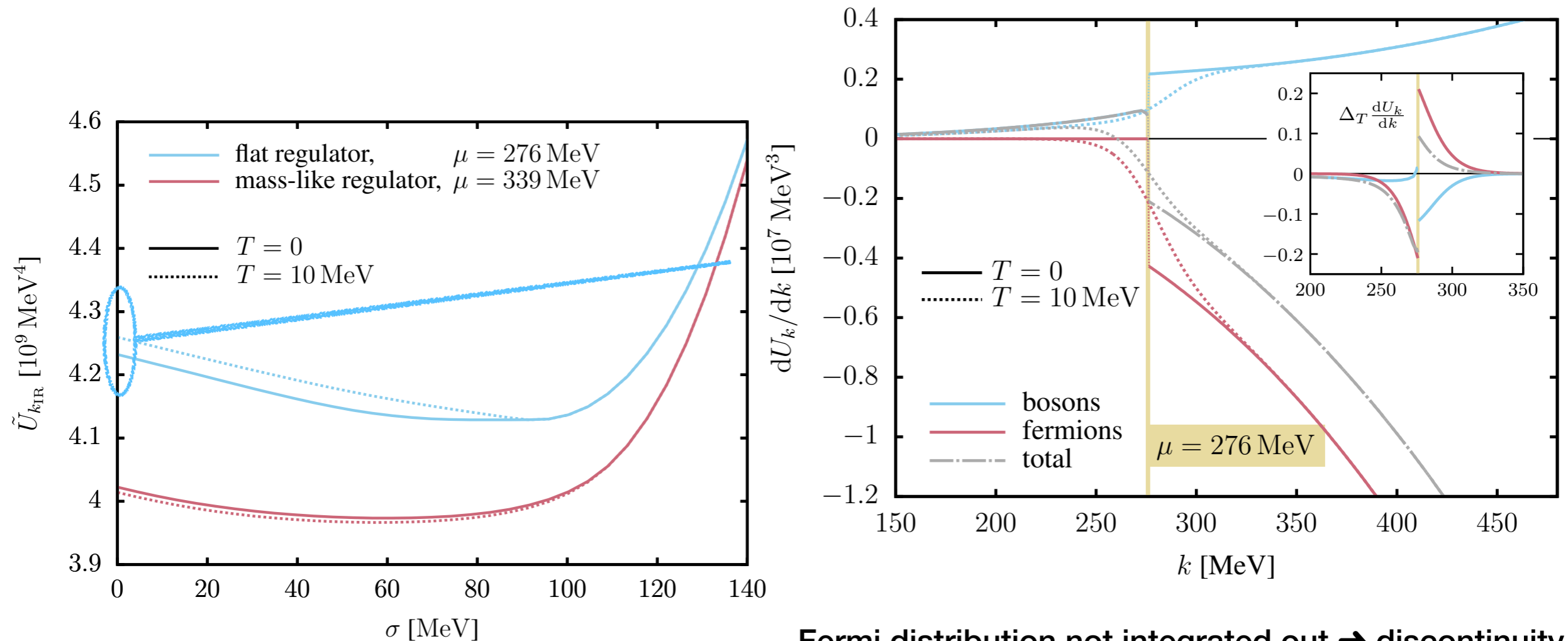
CS mass-like regulator

smaller variations between two temperatures

potential moves **downwards**

→ chiral symmetry restoration

Origin of back-bending



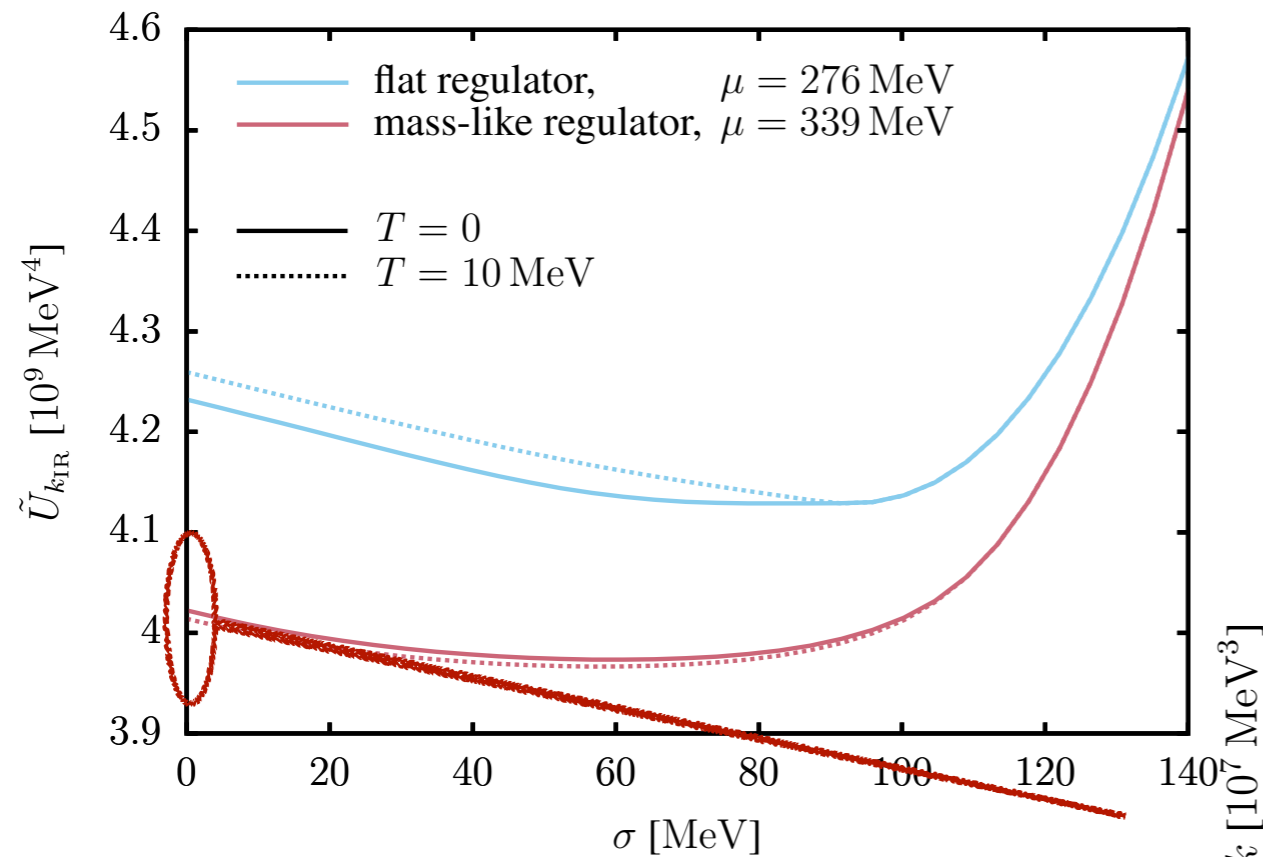
fermionic fluctuations decoupling at $k = \sqrt{\mu^2 - m_q^2}$ Fermi distribution not integrated out \rightarrow discontinuity

mean-field approximation works because net integral of relative flow for fermions close to zero

bosons cannot mimic this behavior, become weaker at finite T

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t U_k^{F,\text{flat}} &= -\frac{N_c N_f k^2}{\pi^2 E_q} \Theta(E_q - \mu) \int_0^k dp p^2 \\ &= -\frac{N_c N_f k^5}{3\pi^2 E_q} \Theta(E_q - \mu) \end{aligned}$$

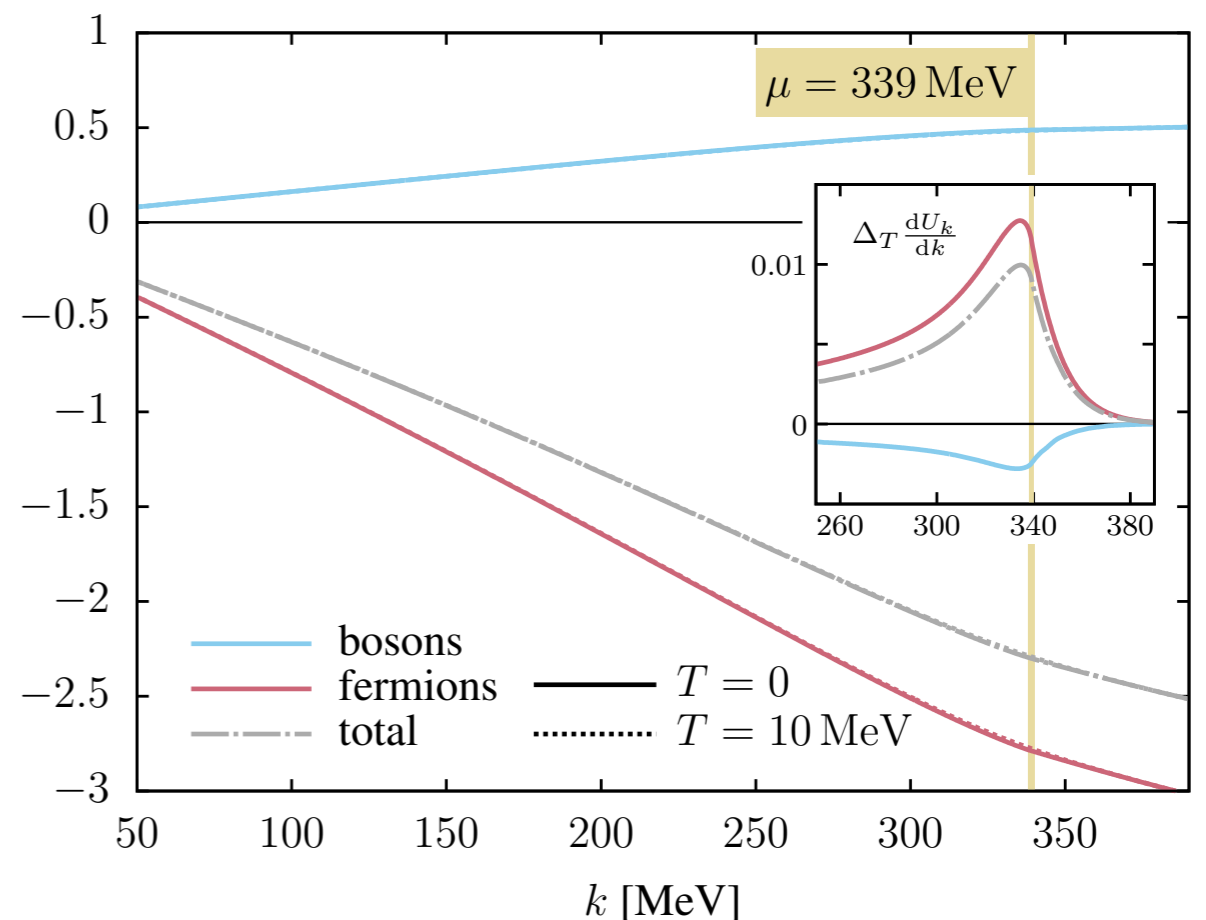
Origin of back-bending



Fermi distribution integrated out in the loop

$$\partial_t U_k^{F,\text{mass}} = -\frac{N_c N_f k^2}{\pi^2} \int_{p_F}^{k_\phi} dp \frac{p^2}{\sqrt{p^2 + k^2 + m_q^2}}$$

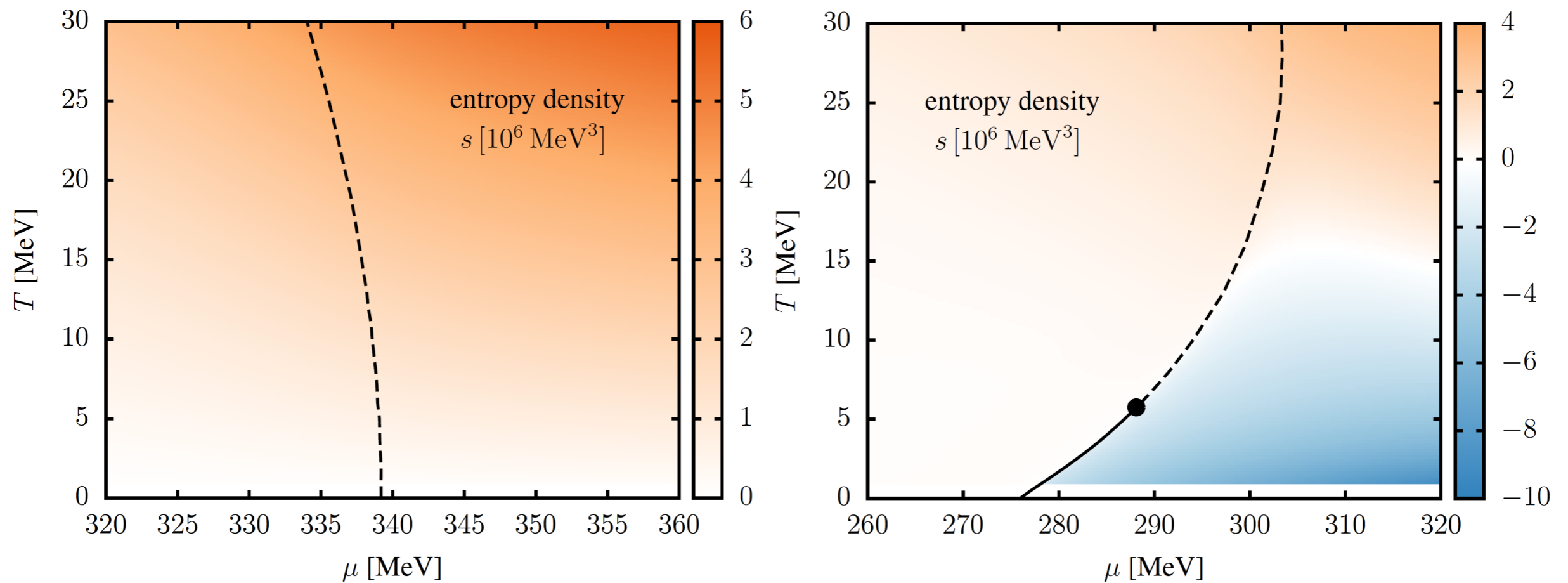
$$p_F := \begin{cases} \sqrt{\mu^2 - k^2 - m_q^2}, & \mu^2 > k^2 + m_q^2 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



fermionic fluctuations decouple for increasing μ

Chiral transition at low temperature

→ no negative entropy density anymore for CS mass-like regulator



why are flows with CS mass-like regulators hard to solve in vacuum?

Pole proximity of vacuum flow

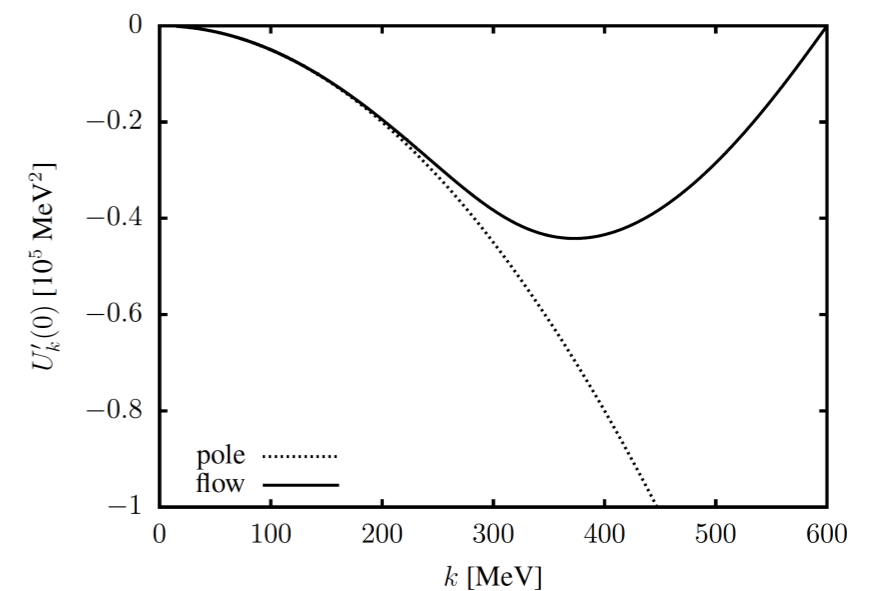
why are flows with CS mass-like regulators hard to solve in vacuum?

example: flat regulator (no problem)

$$\partial_t U_k^{\text{vac,flat}}(0) = \frac{k^5}{12\pi^2} \left(\frac{4}{E_\pi} - \frac{4N_c N_f}{k} \right)$$

$$E_\pi = \sqrt{k^2 + 2U'_k(0)}$$

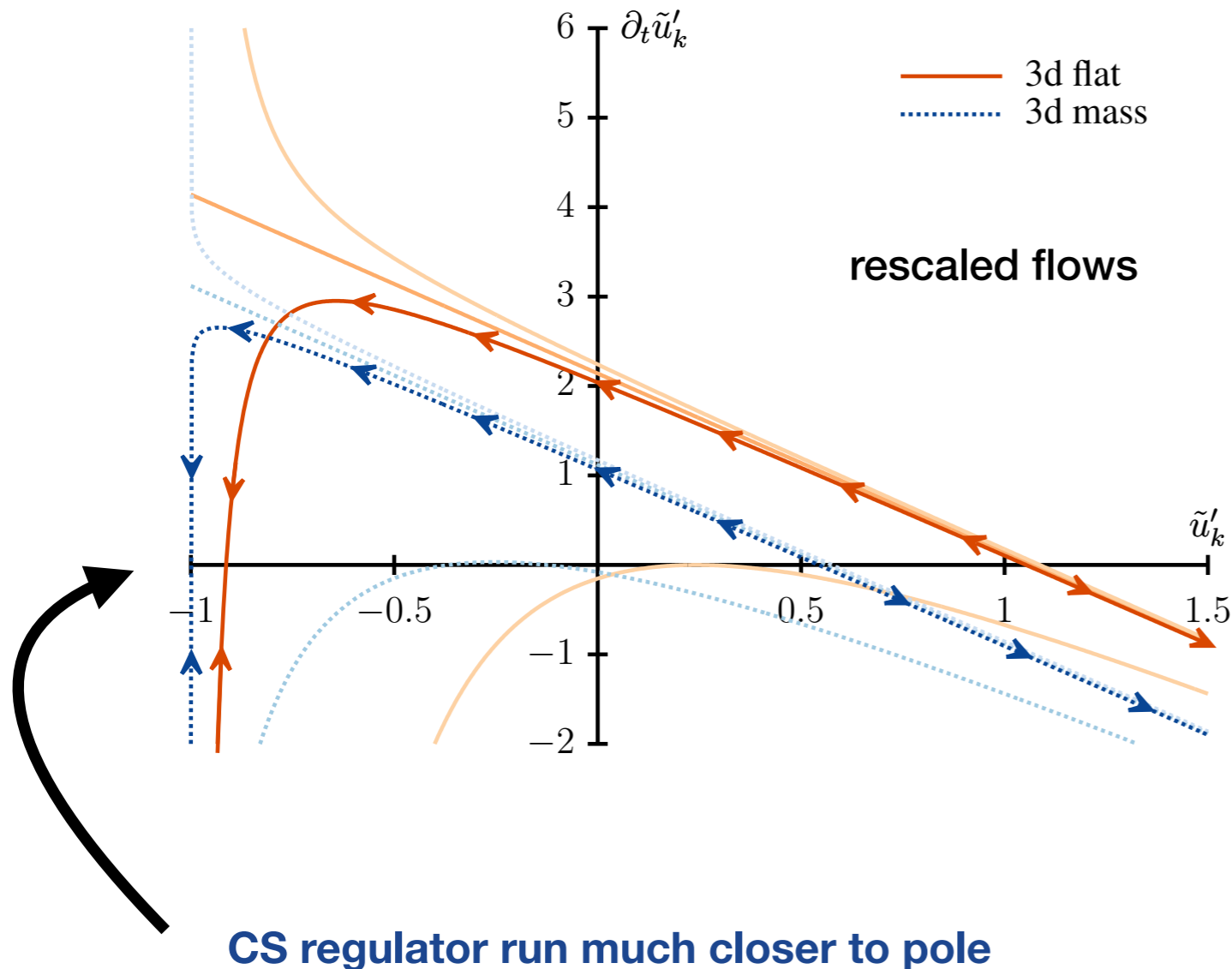
pion pole



Pole proximity of vacuum flow

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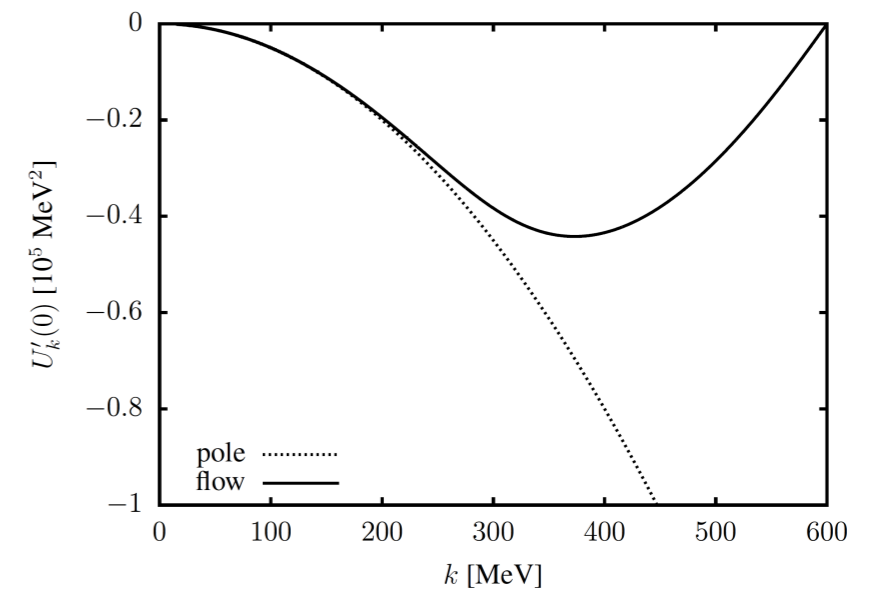
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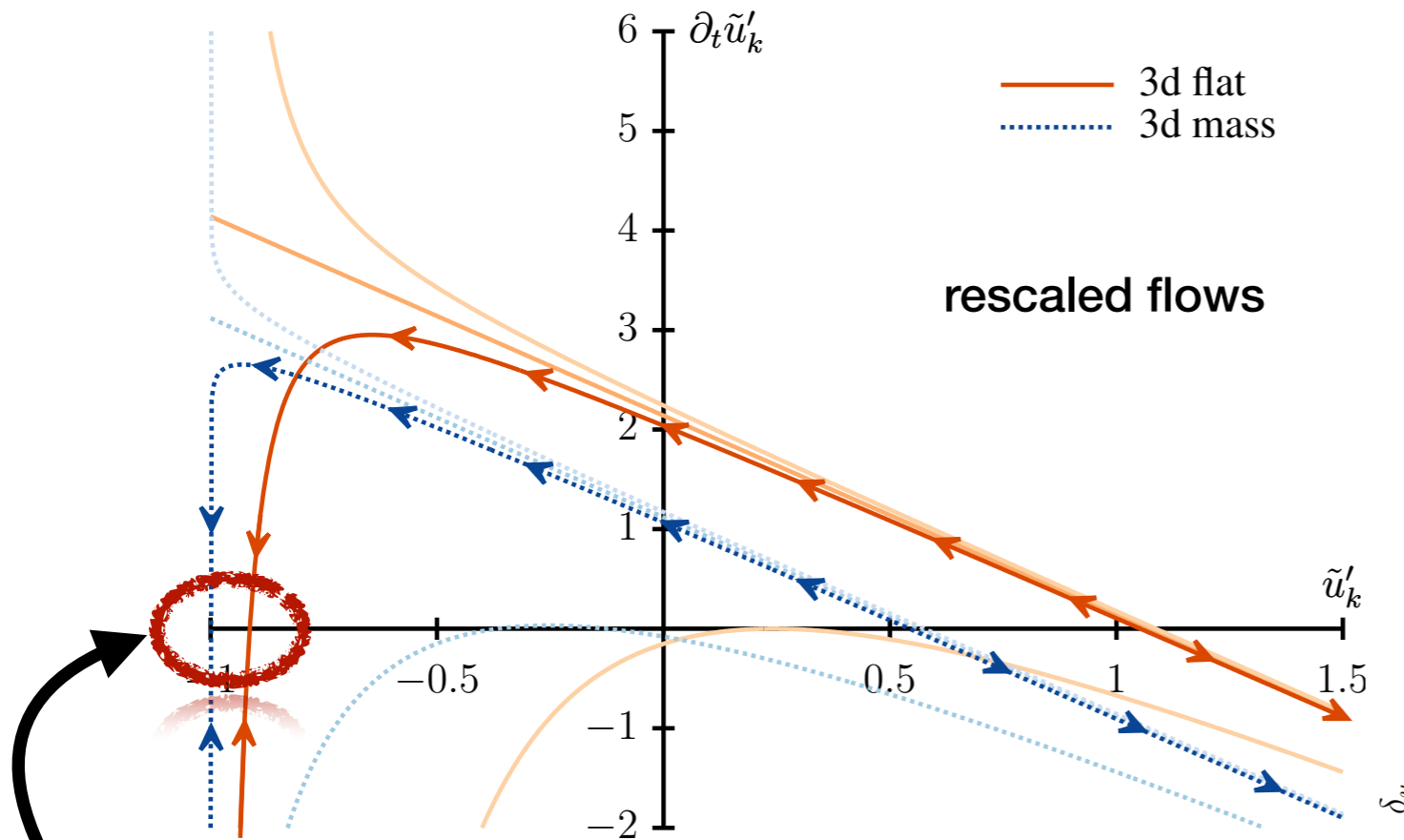
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Pole proximity of vacuum flow

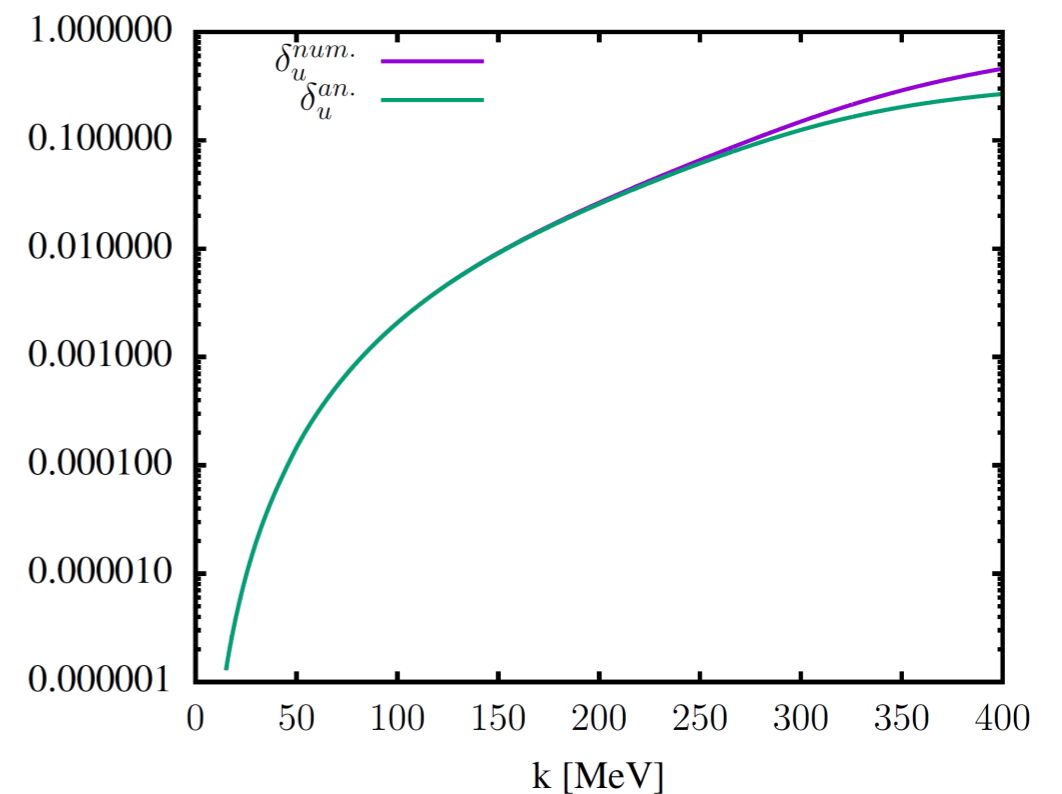
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$$E_\pi = \sqrt{k^2 + 2U'_k(0)}$$



CS regulator run much closer to pole

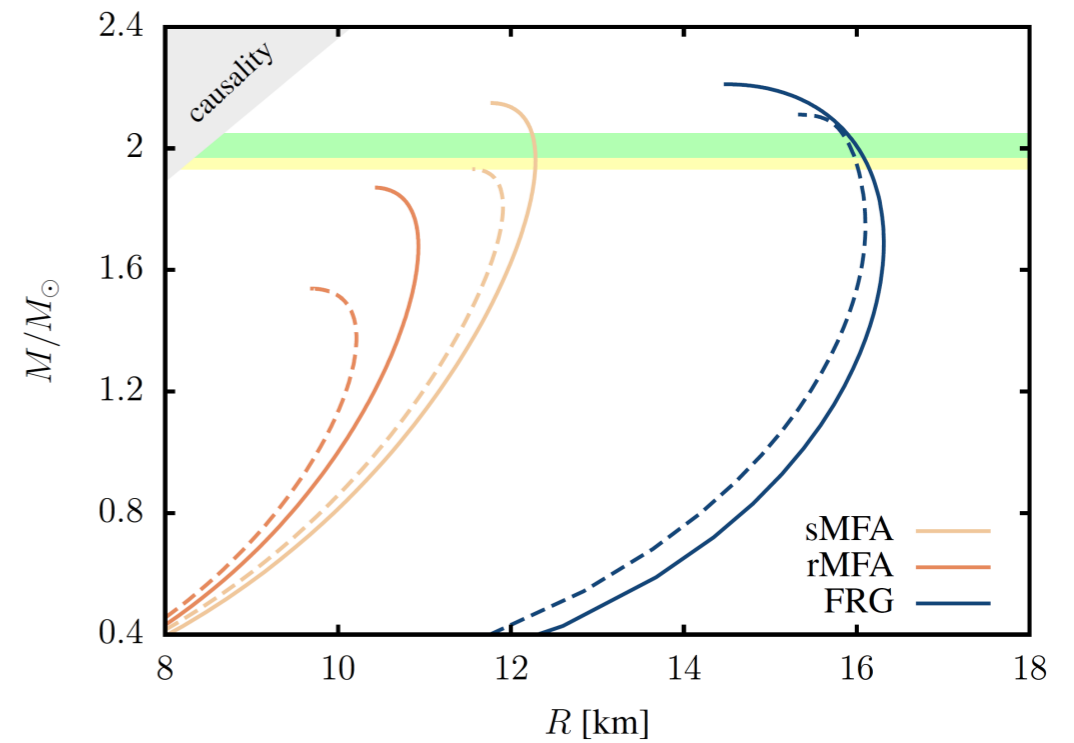
distance to pole: useful as general criterion?

Summary

Three home messages:

1. EoS with the FRG for two and three quark flavor:

→ significant impact of fluctuations on M-R relation for NSs



Summary

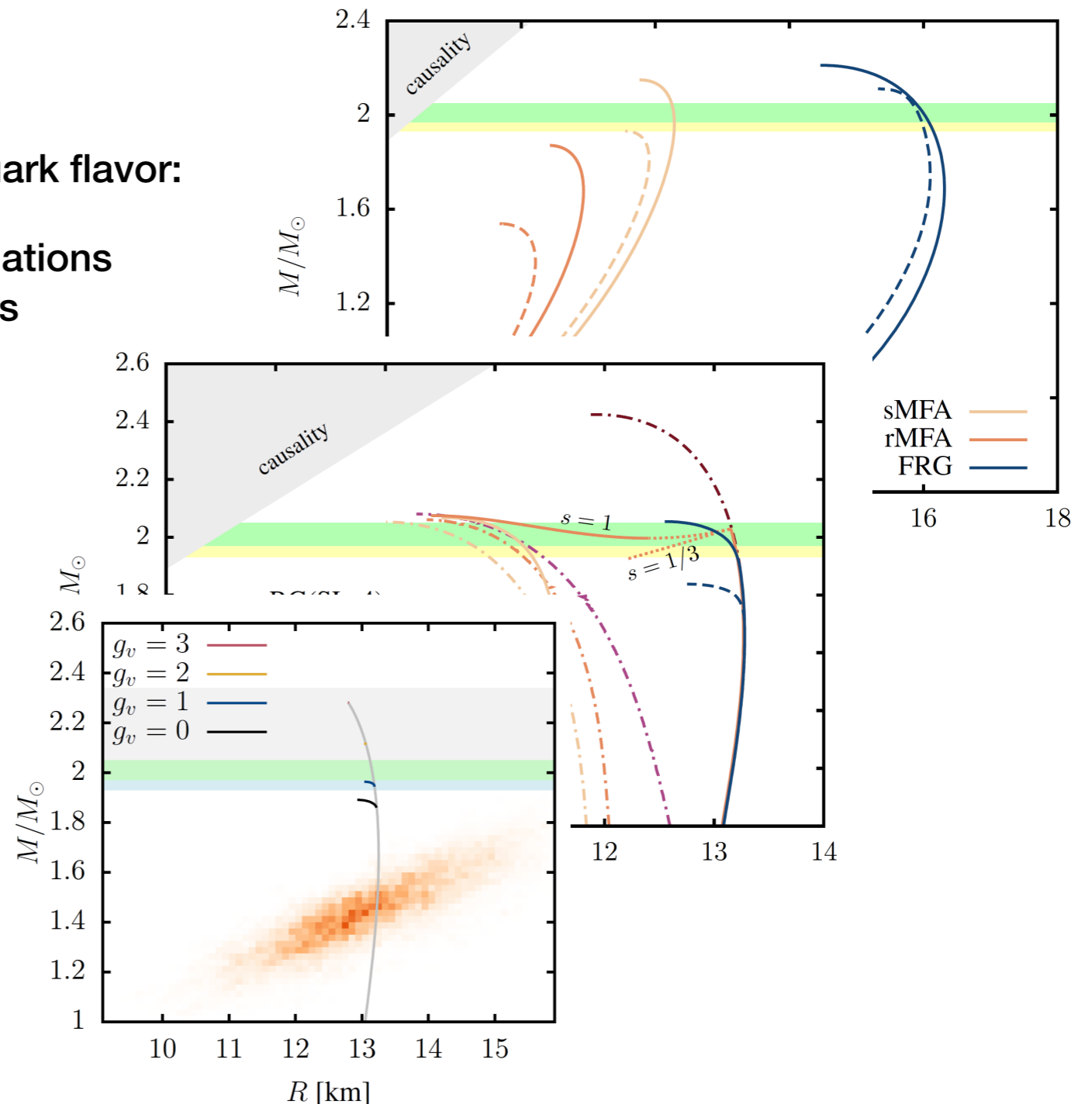
Three home messages:

1. EoS with the FRG for two and three quark flavor:

→ significant impact of fluctuations on M-R relation for NSs

2. hybrid stars are possible

Non-zero vector coupling needed
→ to reach $2 M_{\odot}$ with strangeness



Summary

3. in LPA no back-bending / negative entropy density
for
CS mass-like regulators

CS type regulators closer to
poles compared to flat regulator

→ (vacuum) flows numerically harder

