

Breaking the sound barrier from holography

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based on

C. Hoyos, N. Jokela, D. Rodríguez Fernández, A. Vuorinen
[arXiv: 1511.01002](#), [Phys. Rev. D.94.106008](#)

and

C. Ecker, C. Hoyos, N. Jokela, D. Rodríguez Fernández, A.
Vuorinen
Work in progress

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Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon/Portugal.

Summary

① Motivation

Phenomenological
Theoretical

② Speed of sound from a bottom-up model

Set-up

Speed of sound in the probe limit

Probe limit, near extremal

Probe limit, non-near extremal

Backreacted solution

③ Conclusions and future work

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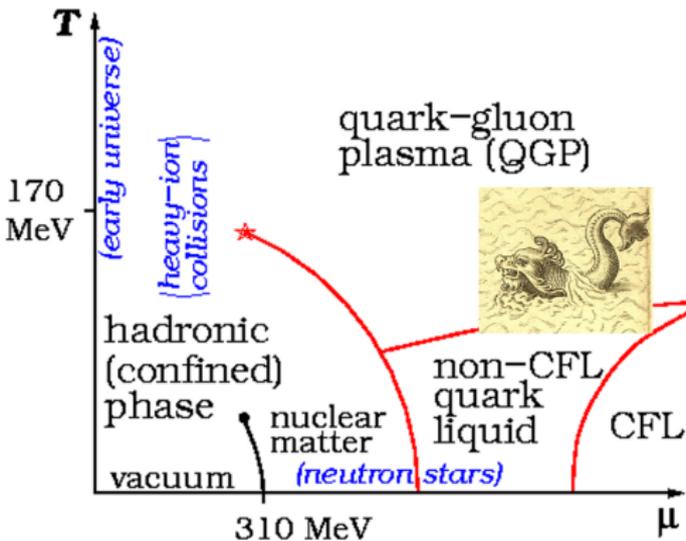
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Phenomenological Motivation



Full phase Diagram of QCD
yet unclear



Intermediate densities?
Neutron Stars

- Not available with CET, pQCD
- Lattice QCD does not work in the $T \ll \mu$ regime
- Phenomenological models must be interpolated

To find a model that can describe **strongly coupled (non perturbative) deconfined matter at those densities**



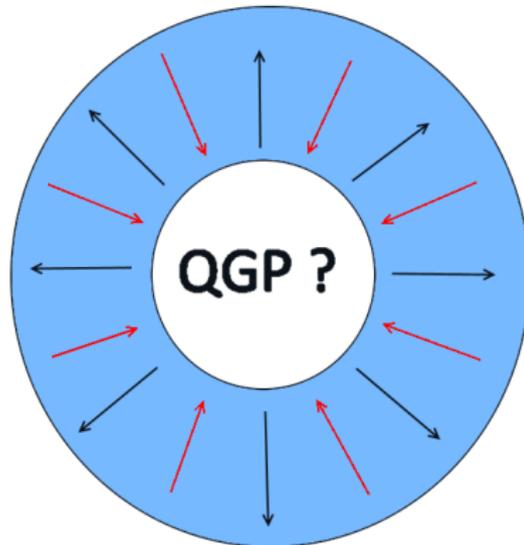
HOLOGRAPHY

Caveats

- Baryons are difficult → Restrict ourselves to the deconfined phase
- Holography not exact QCD: sistematic uncertainty → Universality of the Quark Gluon Plasma

Thermodynamic notions...

- Compress the fluid \implies Increase ε
- P also increases \implies Opposes compression \rightarrow large $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon} \rightarrow$ “Stiff” fluid



To support **gravitational collapse**, Neutron Stars (NS) must have a **stiff EoS**

- 1 No significant amount of quark matter can exist inside a NS
- 2 $(v_s)_{\text{QGP}} > 1/\sqrt{3}$ at those densities

Theoretical Motivation

- No holographic model UV complete found so far that exhibits $v_s > 1/\sqrt{3}$. **Universal Bound?**
- Lifshitz theories, $v_s^2 = z/(d-1) \implies$ Not-relativistic

3 + 1-dimensional D-brane intersections

- $D4 - D6 \rightarrow v_s^2 = 1/2$
- $D5 - D5 \rightarrow v_s = 1$
- $D4 - D8$ (Sakai-Sugimoto model) $\rightarrow v_s^2 = 2/5$

However \rightarrow After compactification to 3 + 1 dimensions, 4-Dim. dynamics entangled with additional d.o.f. from color branes



Not a bona fide 4-dim. QFT?

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Set-up

We start from the action

$$\mathcal{S} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_5} \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} [R - L^2 F^2 - |D\phi|^2 + V(\phi)],$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu - iqA_\mu, \quad V(\phi) = -\frac{12}{L^2} + m^2|\phi|^2, \quad m^2 = \Delta(\Delta - 4),$$

and

$$dS^2 = \frac{L^2}{r^2 f(r)} dr^2 + \frac{r^2}{L^2} e^{2A} (-f(r) dt^2 + dx^i dx^j \delta_{ij}), \quad A_\mu dx^\mu = A_0(r) dt$$

Absence of scalar field \rightarrow AdS-RN solution (CFT) } *Coupled*
 Scalar field alone cannot yield $v_s^2 > 1/3$
 [A.Cherman, T. Cohen, A.Nellore]

We combine both!

The thermodynamical quantities (μ, T) read

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} A_0(r) = \mu, \quad \frac{r_H^2}{4\pi L^2} f'(r_H) e^{A(r_H)} = T,$$

Near the boundary $(\Delta \notin \mathbb{N})$,

$$\phi \sim \left(\frac{L^2}{r}\right)^{4-\Delta} \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)} + \frac{L^2 \Delta}{r \Delta} \phi_{(0,0)} + \dots, \quad f \sim 1 + \frac{L^8}{r^4} f_{(4,0)} + \dots$$

from the AdS/CFT dictionary, $\frac{\delta S_{\text{ren}}}{\delta \gamma_{\mu\nu}}$ yields $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle$,

Renormalized operators

$$\varepsilon = \langle T^{00} \rangle = -\frac{L^3}{16\pi G_5} \left[3f_{(4,0)} - (\Delta - 2)(\Delta - 4) \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)} \phi_{(0,0)} \right]$$

$$P = \langle T^{ii} \rangle = -\frac{L^3}{16\pi G_5} \left[f_{(4,0)} + (\Delta - 2)(\Delta - 4) \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)} \phi_{(0,0)} \right]$$

- 1 Probe approximation, $\phi \ll 1$, $(A, f, A_0) \rightarrow (0, f_{\text{AdSRN}}, A_{0\text{AdSRN}})$.
 $v_s = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \delta v_s$ Analytical ($\mu/T \rightarrow \infty$)/Numerical
- 2 Backreacted solution. Numerical. Maximum v_s ?

Probe limit, near extremal

- Capture the behavior of the speed of sound when $\mu \gg T$
- Black Hole $\sim AdS_2 \times \mathbb{R}^3$
- Analytical solution through the Matching procedure

Probe limit, non-near extremal

- Chance of examining almost the full (μ, T) spectrum
- Check whether instabilities arise at finite μ/T
- Resort to numerics

Non probe limit

Shooting technique + Newton method

Probe limit, near extremal

In the probe approximation, the scalar field decouples from the Einstein equations and,

$$f_{\text{AdSRN}} = 1 + \frac{Q^2}{r^6} - \frac{M}{r^4}, \quad A_{0\text{AdSRN}} = \mu \left(1 - \frac{r_H^2}{r^2} \right), \quad A_{\text{AdSRN}} = 0$$

with only a single D.O.E. to solve ($\nu = \Delta - 2$),

$$\phi'' + \left(\frac{5}{r} + \frac{f'}{f} \right) \phi' + \left(\frac{4 - \nu^2}{r^2 f} + \frac{q^2 L^4}{r^4 f^2} A_0^2 \right) \phi = 0 .$$

In the near extremal limit, we can apply the Matching procedure and obtain an analytical solution, regular at the horizon, provided

$$\Delta > 2 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{q^2}{2}} \geq 3$$

which agrees with the BF condition in AdS_2

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 R_{\text{AdS}_2}^2 \geq -\frac{1}{4}$$

by taking $R_{\text{AdS}_2}^2 = \frac{R^2}{12}$, $m_{\text{eff}}^2 = m^2 - \frac{q^2}{12R^2}$

Isothermal speed of sound

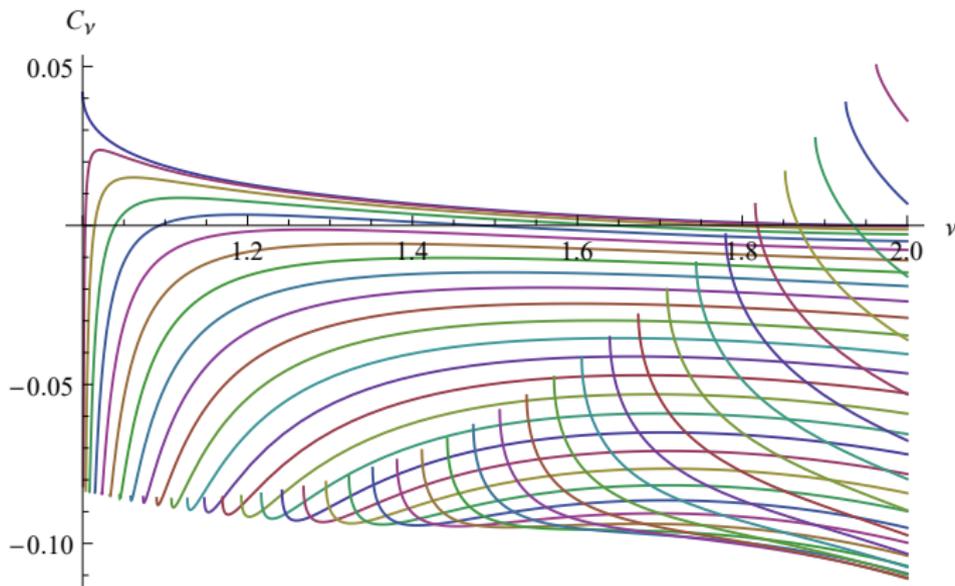
$$v_s^2 = \frac{\partial P_r}{\partial \epsilon_r} = \frac{\partial_{\mu_r} P_r}{\partial_{\mu_r} \epsilon_r}$$

with

$$(\epsilon_r, P_r) = \frac{(\epsilon, P)}{\frac{L^3}{16\pi G_5} \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)}^{\frac{4}{4-\Delta}}}, \quad (\mu_r, t_r) = \frac{(\mu, T)}{\frac{L^3}{16\pi G_5} \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)}^{\frac{1}{4-\Delta}}}$$

Speed of sound in the probe limit, near extremal

$$v_s^2 \sim \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + 4C_v(\Delta, q) \mu_r^{2(\Delta-4)} \right) \implies \text{if } C_v > 0, v_s > 1/\sqrt{3}$$

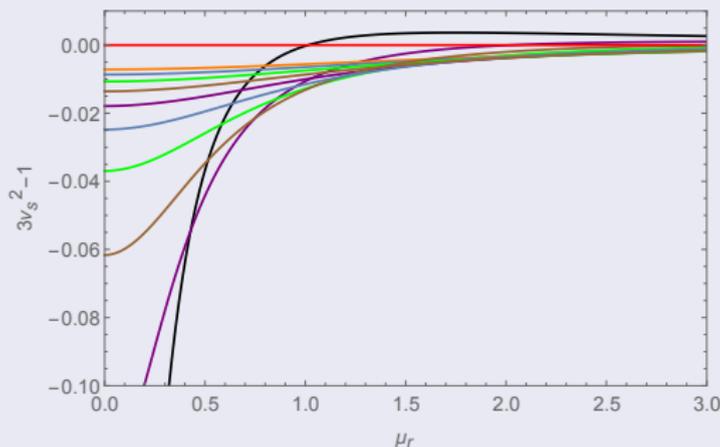


So, there is a region at which $C_v > 0$. If the bound is violated, it will reach $1/\sqrt{3}$ from above.

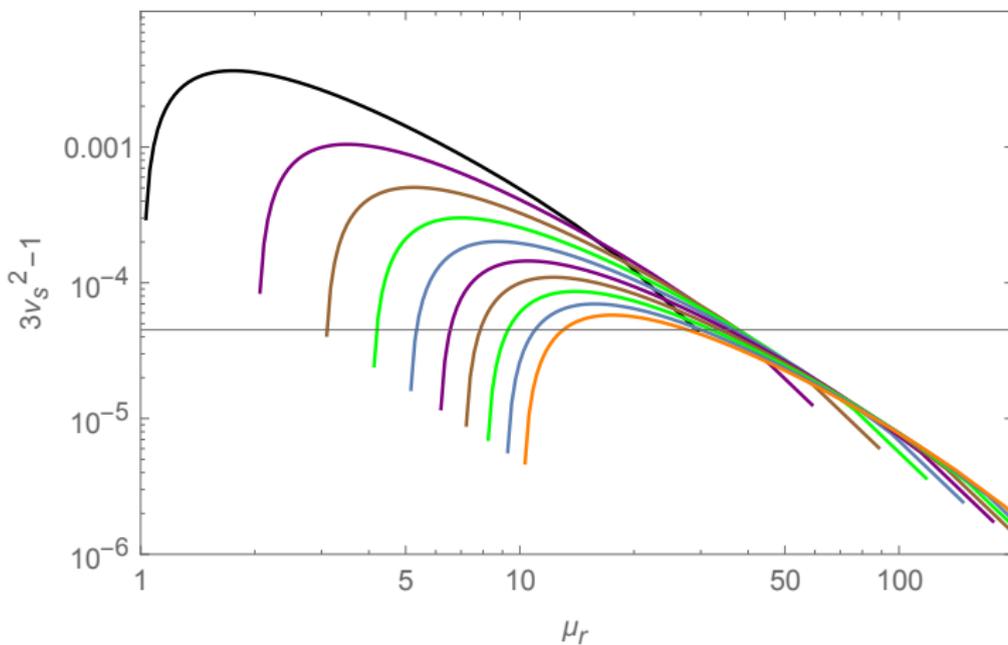
Probe limit, non-near extremal

This time, we numerically solve the scalar equation imposing regularity at the horizon and shoot toward the boundary

Speed of sound in the probe limit, Non-near extremal



$t_r = 0, 1$, $t_r = 1$. Curves in between have intermediate values separated by $\Delta t_r = 0, 1$ steps, $q \approx 10^{-5}$, $\Delta = 3, 1$.



Conformal deviation as a function of μ_r in logarithmic scale

Stability of the solution

We care for physical solutions \rightarrow Check stability!

Stability against formation of an homogeneous condensate

Why?



Is usually the first kind of instability

At $\mu = 0$

- State dual to a thermal state of a CFT \implies Stable
- \nexists regular+normalizable solution at $\omega = 0$



- \exists regular+normalizable solutions at $\omega \in \mathbb{C}^-$

As we increase μ

- The mode will migrate to the upper complex plane \mathbb{C}^+ , until
- A $\omega = 0$ normalizable+regular solution will \exists (massless mode)
- Further increase $\mu \implies \exists$ mode at \mathbb{C}^+

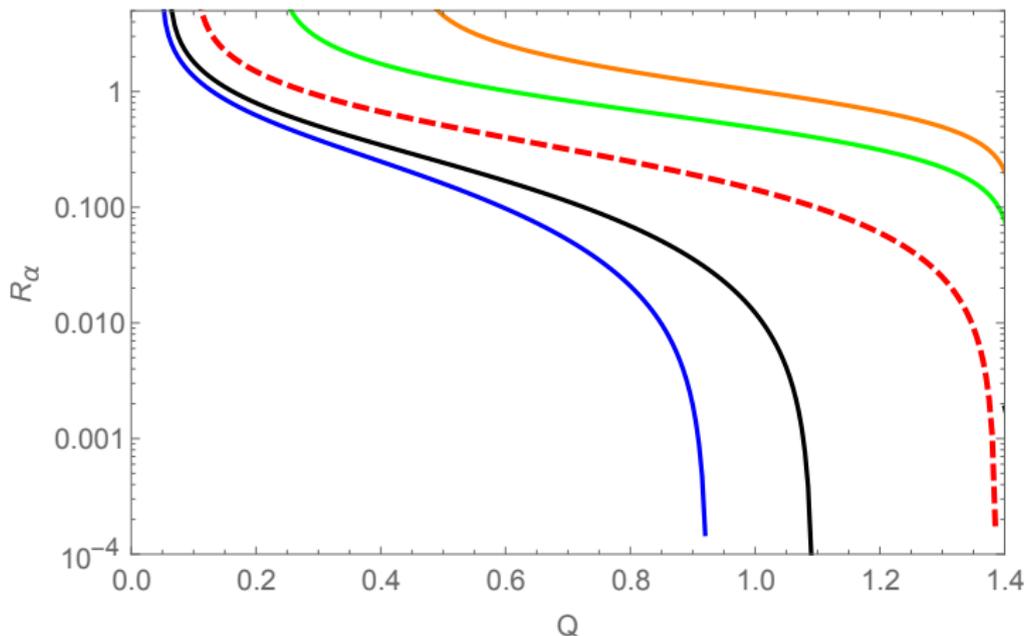


\exists Unstable quasinormal mode

First moment when $\tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)} = 0$ at a certain μ



Onset of the instability!



Ratio non-normalizable/normalizable coefficients as a function of $Q \propto \mu_r/t_r$, $\Delta = 3,1$. $q=0.5$, $q = 1$, $q = 4$, $q = 5$, $q = 1,64 \rightarrow$ critical value at which the first instability appears.

Backreacted solution

ϕ not restricted to be small \implies Full EOMS

- Near the boundary,

$$\phi \sim \left(\frac{L^2}{r}\right)^{4-\Delta} \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)} + \frac{L^{2\Delta}}{r^\Delta} \phi_{(0,0)}, \quad f \sim 1 + \frac{L^8}{r^4} f_{(4,0)},$$

$$A \sim 0, \quad A_0 \sim \mu + \frac{L^4}{r^2} A_{0(2,0)}$$

- Near the horizon,

$$\phi \sim \phi_H^{(0)}, \quad f \sim f_H^{(1)}(r - r_H), \quad A \sim A_H^{(0)} + A_H^{(1)}(r - r_H),$$

$$A_0 \sim A_{0H}^{(1)}(r - r_H)$$

We can employ the shooting technique + Newton method to find the set of constants

$$\left\{ \tilde{\phi}_{(0,0)}, \phi_{(0,0)}, \cancel{f_{(4,0)}}, \cancel{A_{0(2,0)}}, \phi_H^{(0)}, f_H^{(1)}, A_H^{(0)}, \cancel{A_{0H}^{(1)}} \right\}$$

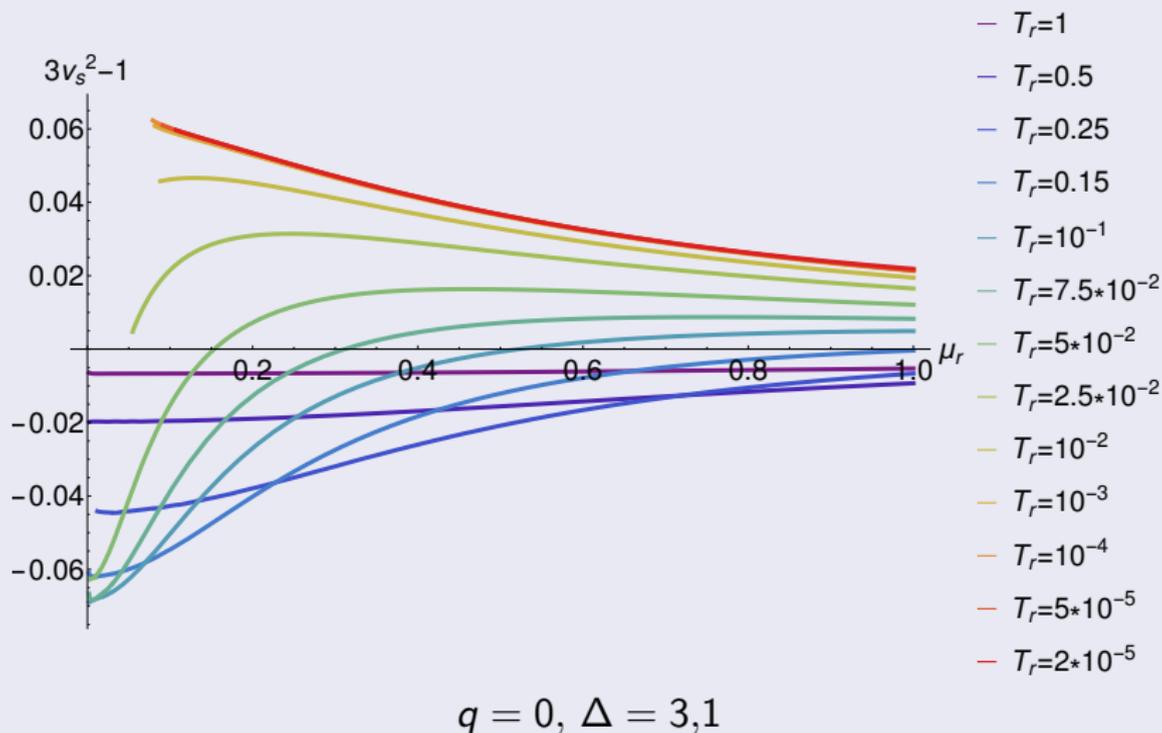
at a given (T, μ)

It is necessary to consider some initial vector

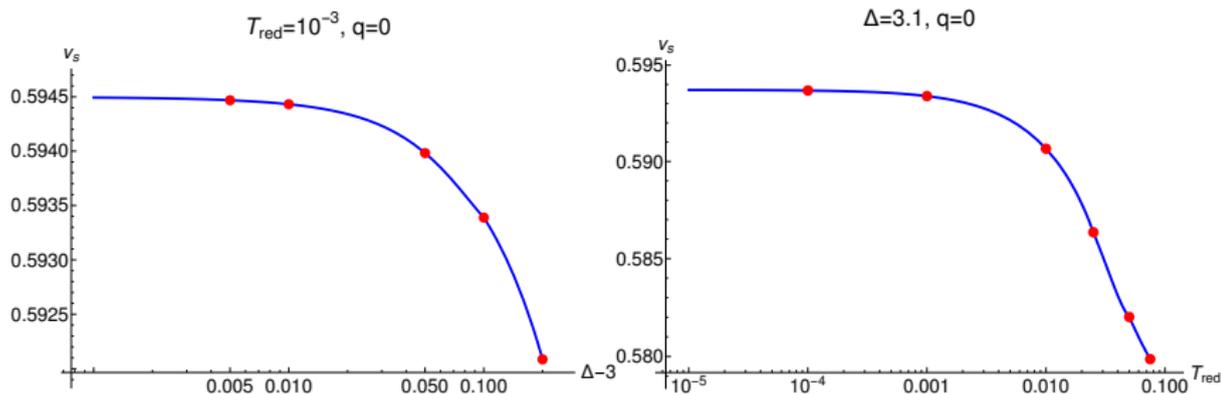
Solutions from probe limit at mild (μ_r, t_r)

Still to examine stability \rightarrow Fluctuations at $k^\mu \neq 0$
Quasinormal modes & transport coefficients? **Work in progress!**

Speed of sound in the non-probe limit



Maximum speed of sound



$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \approx 0,577$, so there is not a large deviation

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Conclusions and future work

- We have found examples of consistent UV complete relativistic theories that can have a speed of sound larger than its conformal value.
- Mixed phases?
- Further models? \rightarrow Find the largest possible speed of sound \implies We can qualitatively describe the “deconfined portion” of a NS
- If one can find an holographic model that fits with the deconfined portion of a NS, one can study its transport phenomena



Love numbers

THANK YOU!