

# Phase Transitions and the Perfectness of Fluids

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Shear viscosity measures  
how “perfect” a fluid is!

- Kovtun, Son, and Starinets ('05)

Conjecture: Shear viscosity / entropy density

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

- Motivated by AdS/CFT

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

- “QGP” (“quark gluon plasma,” quotation marks added after Nu Xu’s talk) almost saturates the bound @ just above  $T_c$  (Teaney; Romatschke, Romatschke; Song, Heinz )
- LQCD, gluon plasma (Karsch, Wyld; Nakamura, Sakai; Meyer)
  - ➡ QGP near  $T_c$ , a perfect fluid, **SQGP**
- **PQGP**: Asakawa, Bass, Müller; Xu, Greiner

# QCD Phase Diagram

2

*M. Stephanov*

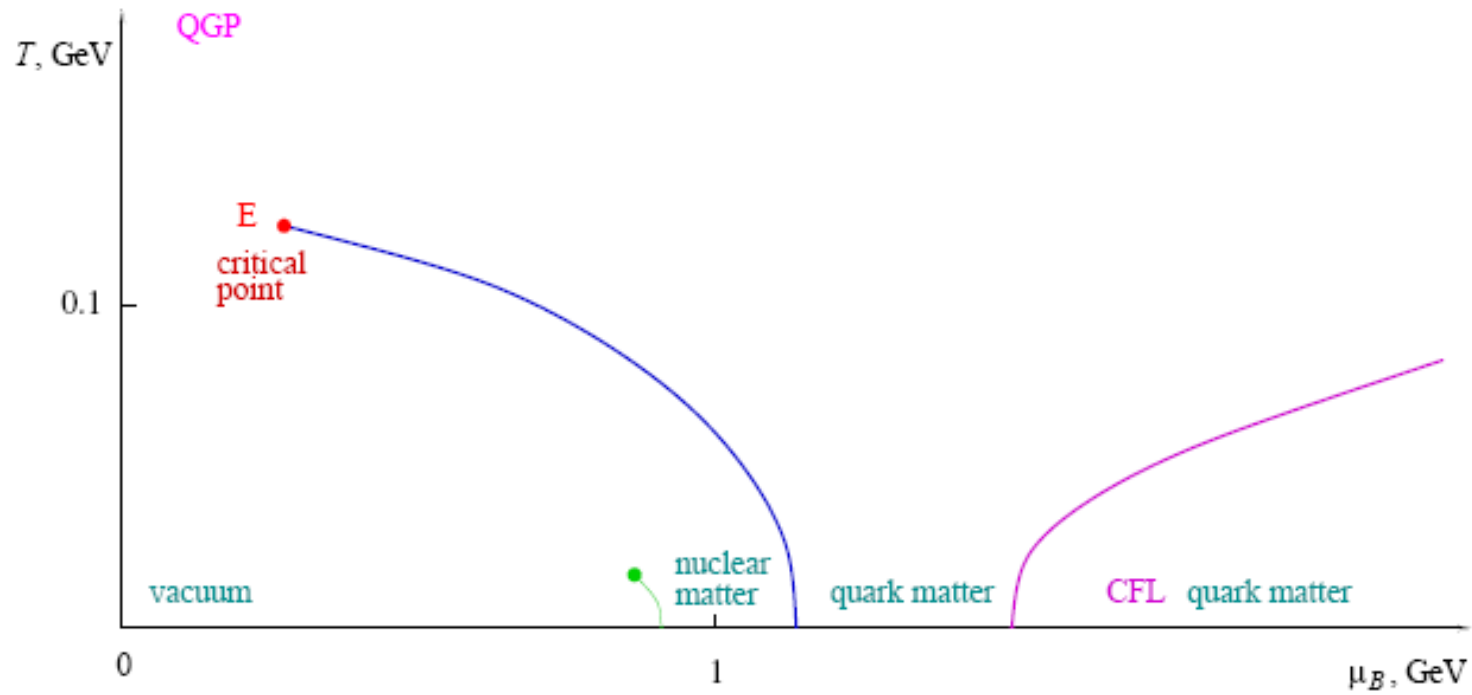


Fig. 1. QCD phase diagram

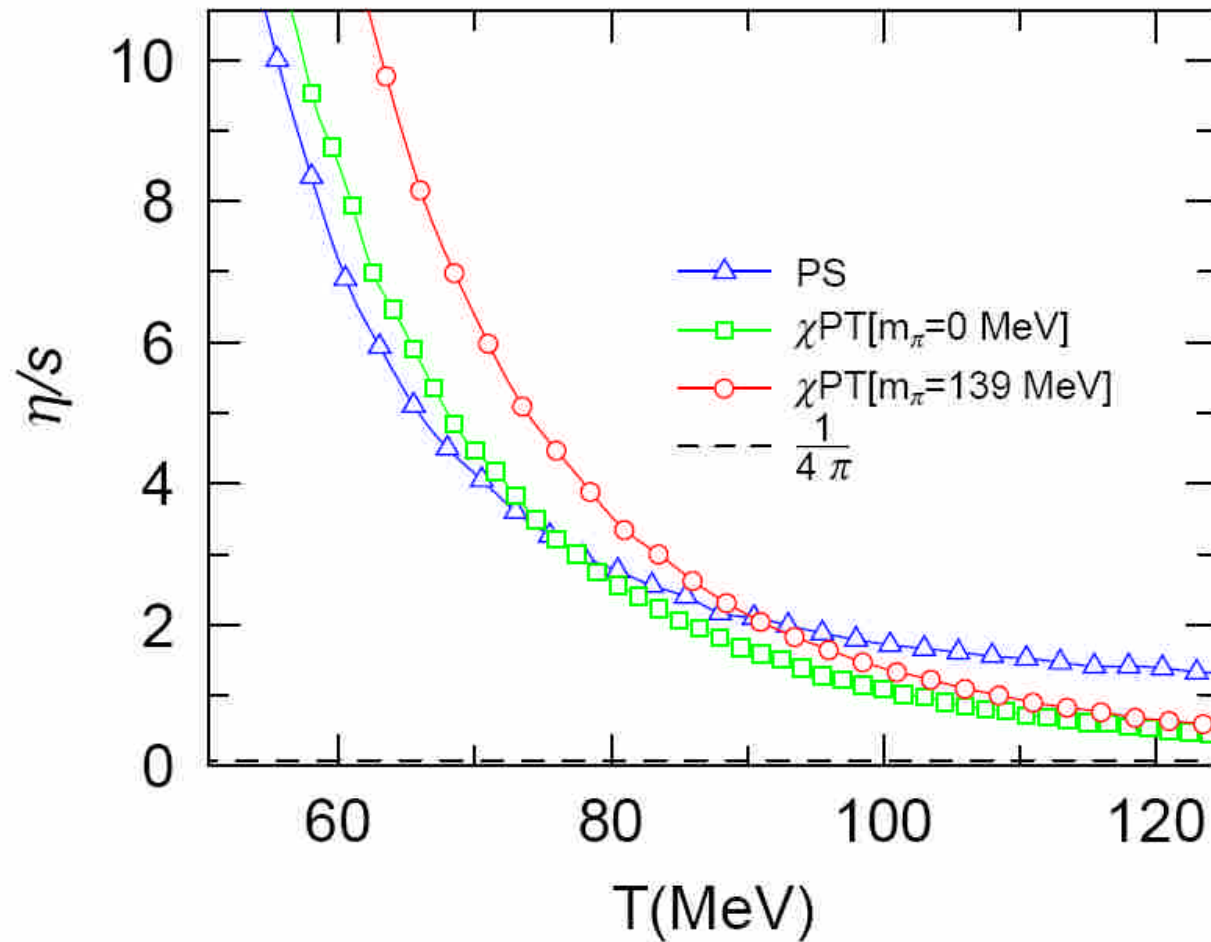
# $\eta/s$ of QCD below $T_c$

- Pion gas  $\Rightarrow$  ChPT (chiral perturbation theory)
- Non-perturbative in coupling  
 $\Rightarrow$  Boltzmann equation

Earlier work: Prakash, Prakash, Venugopalan, Welke;

Dobado, Llanes-Estrada; Csernai, Kapusta, McLerran

# $\eta/s$ of QCD below $T_c$



JWC, Nakano

# QCD Phase Diagram

2

*M. Stephanov*

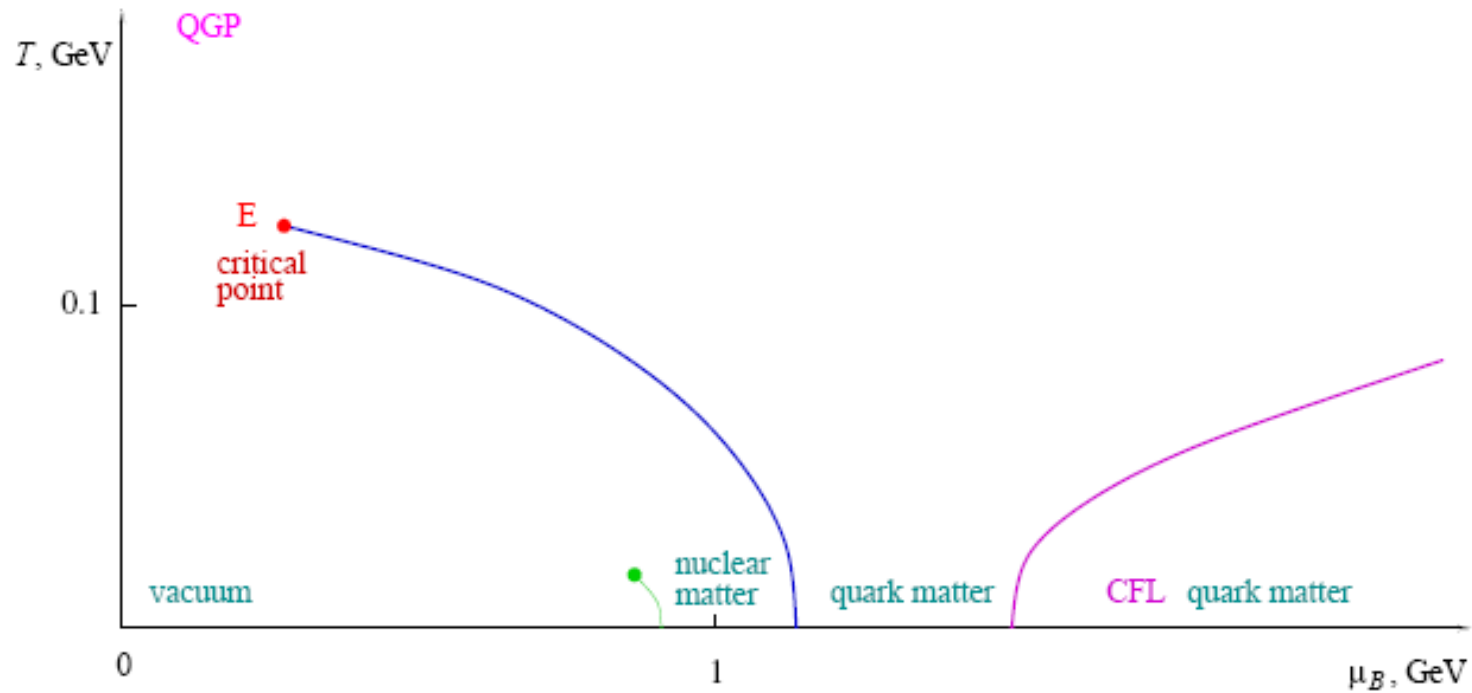
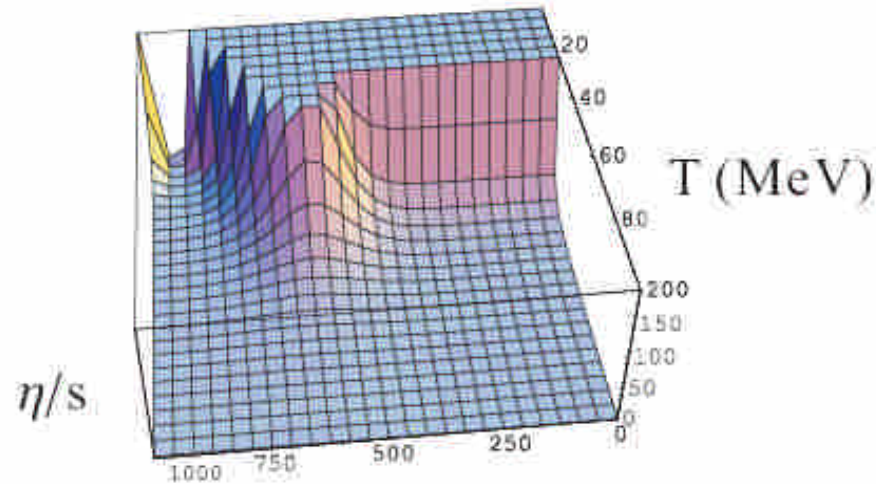


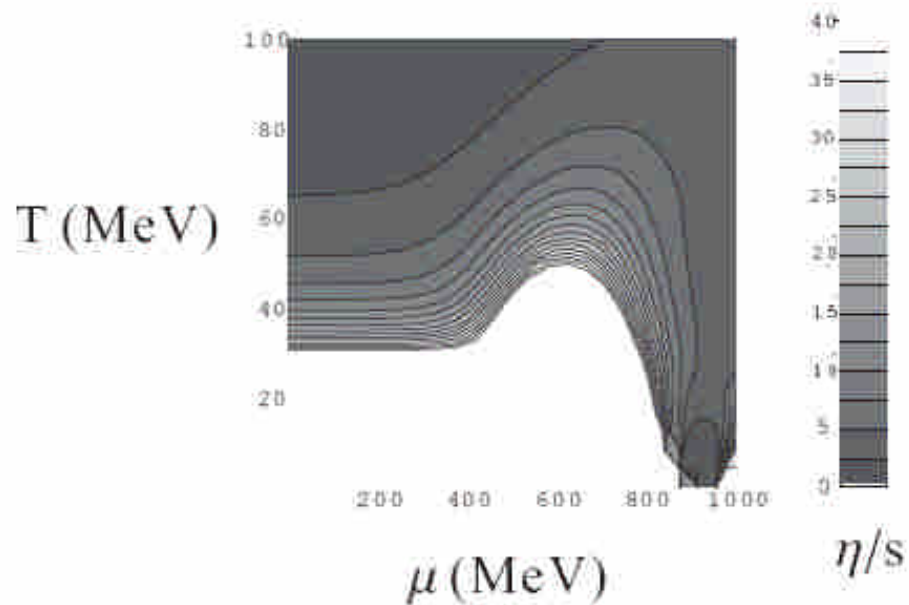
Fig. 1. QCD phase diagram



# The $\eta/s$ “Landscape”

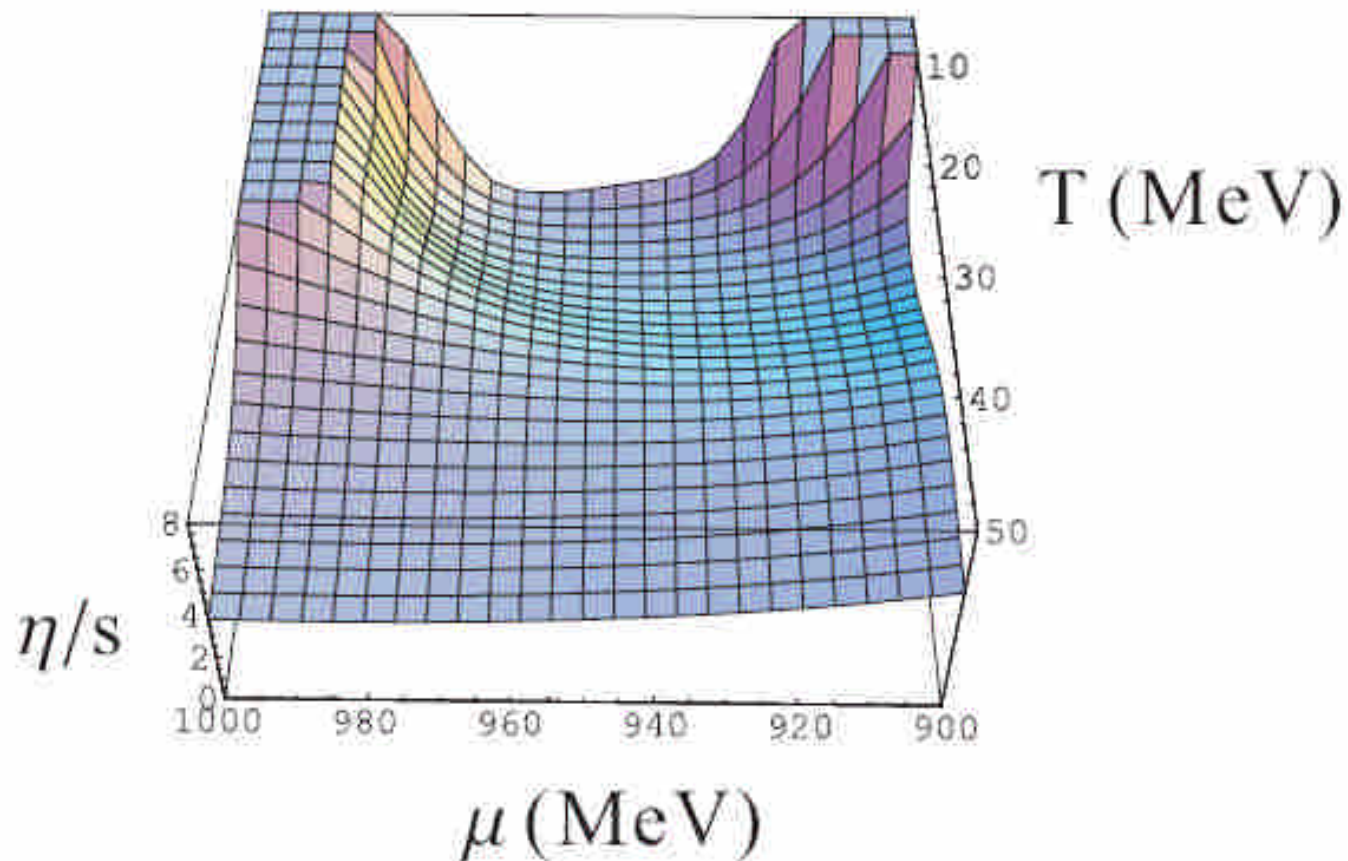


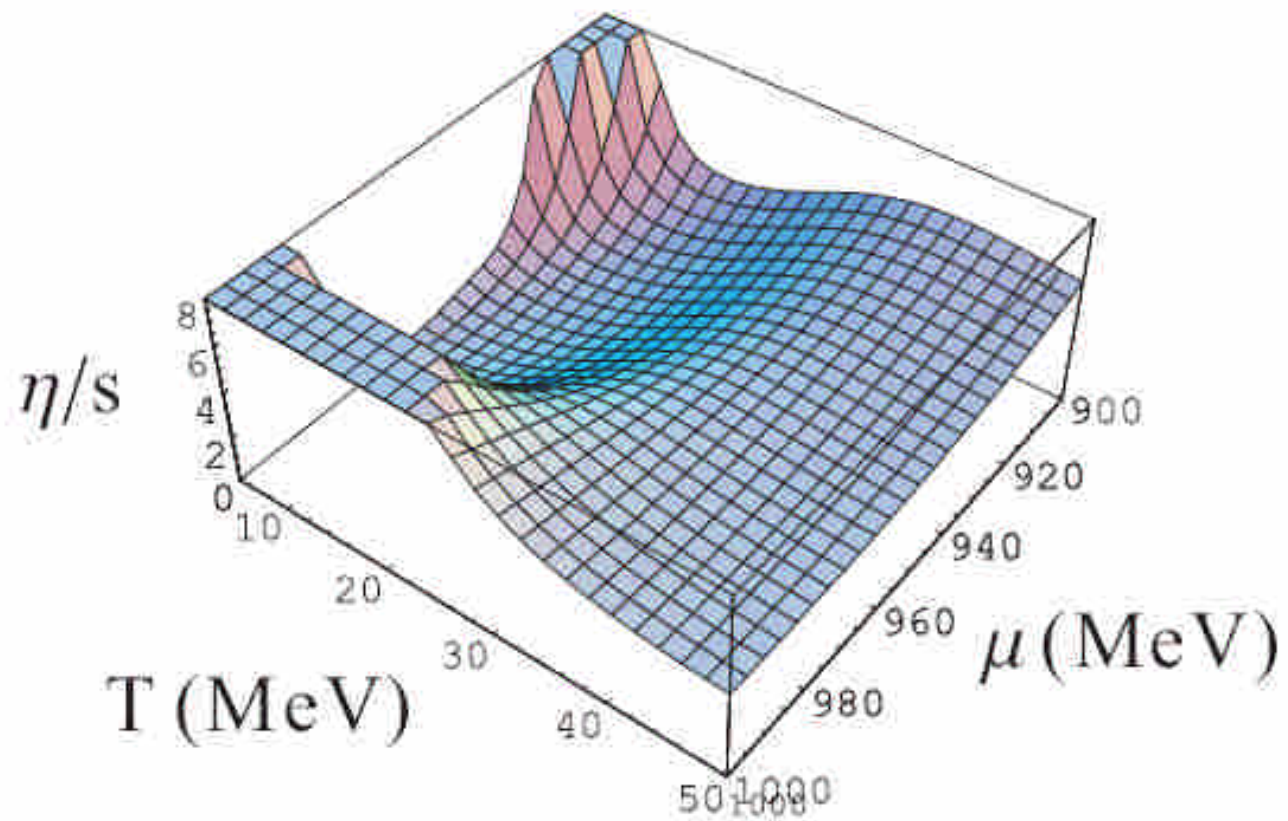
JWC, Li, Liu, Nakano;  
Itakura, Morimatsu,  
Otomo



# The $\eta/s$ “Landscape”

JWC, Li, Liu, Nakano





# QCD Phase Diagram

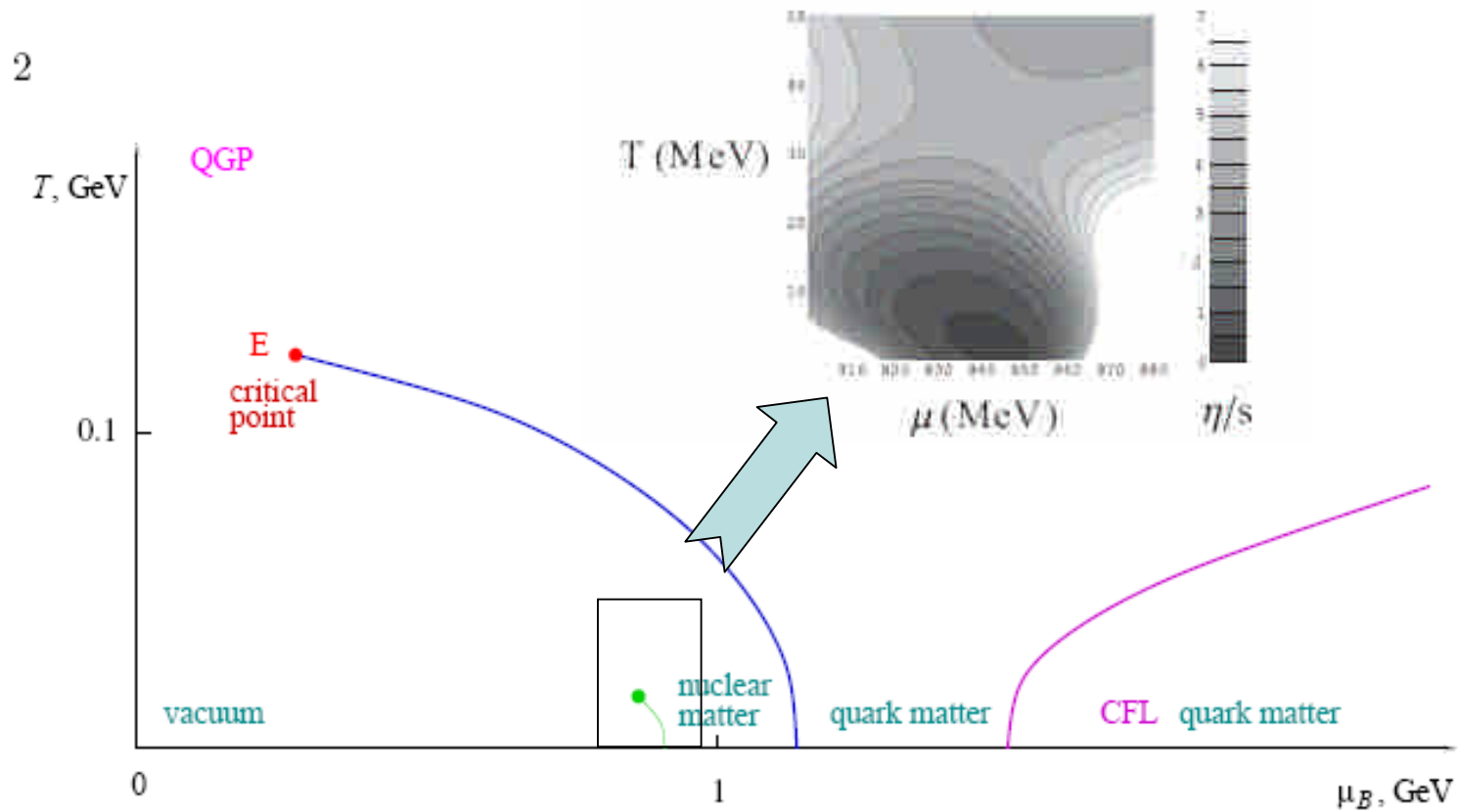
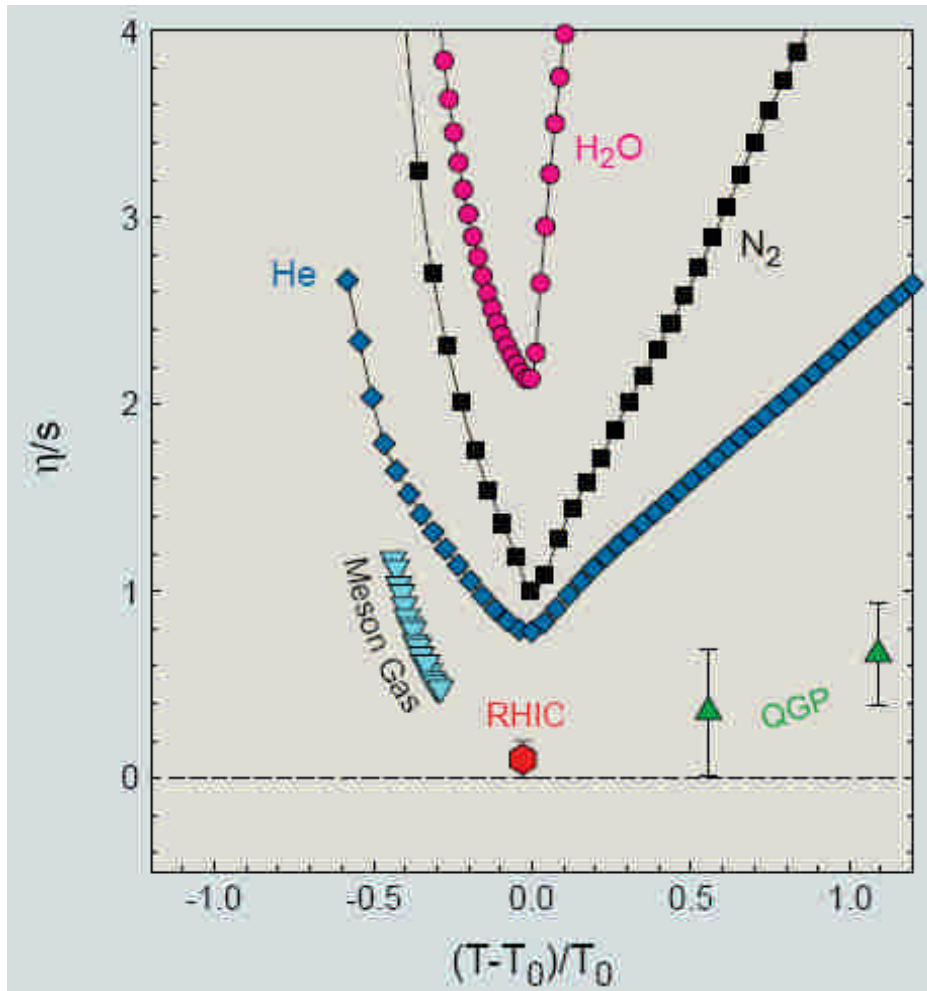
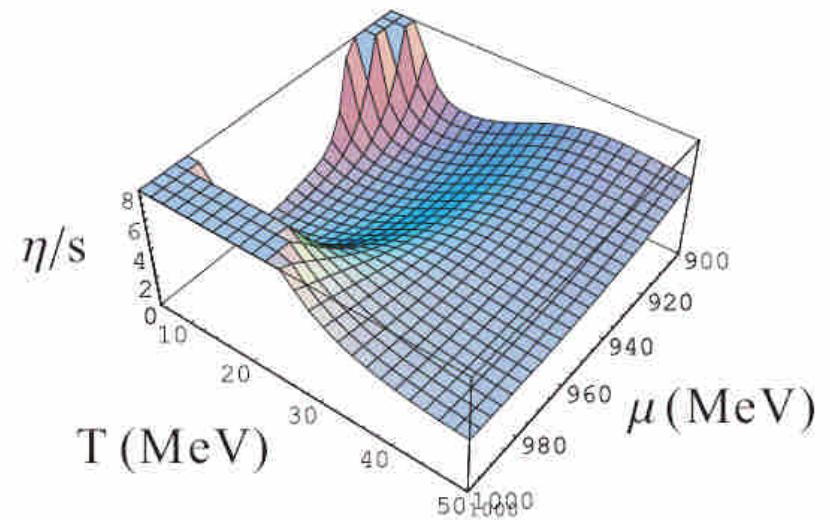
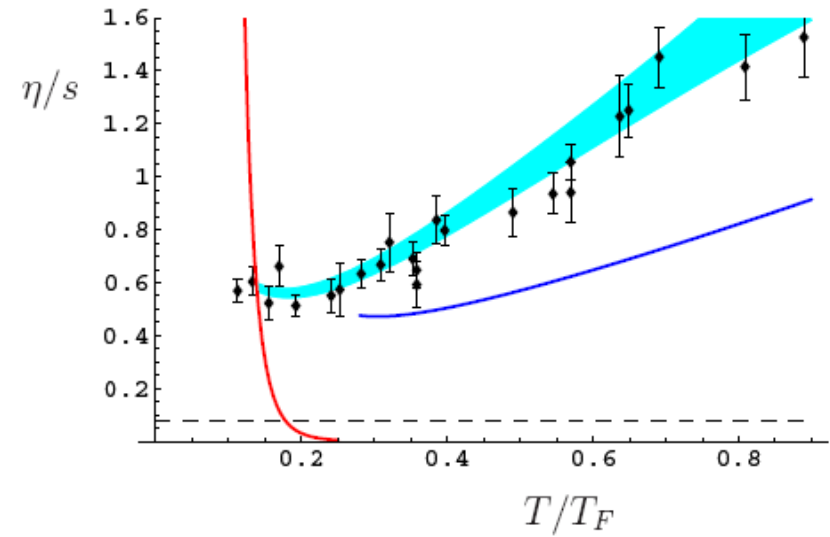


Fig. 1. QCD phase diagram

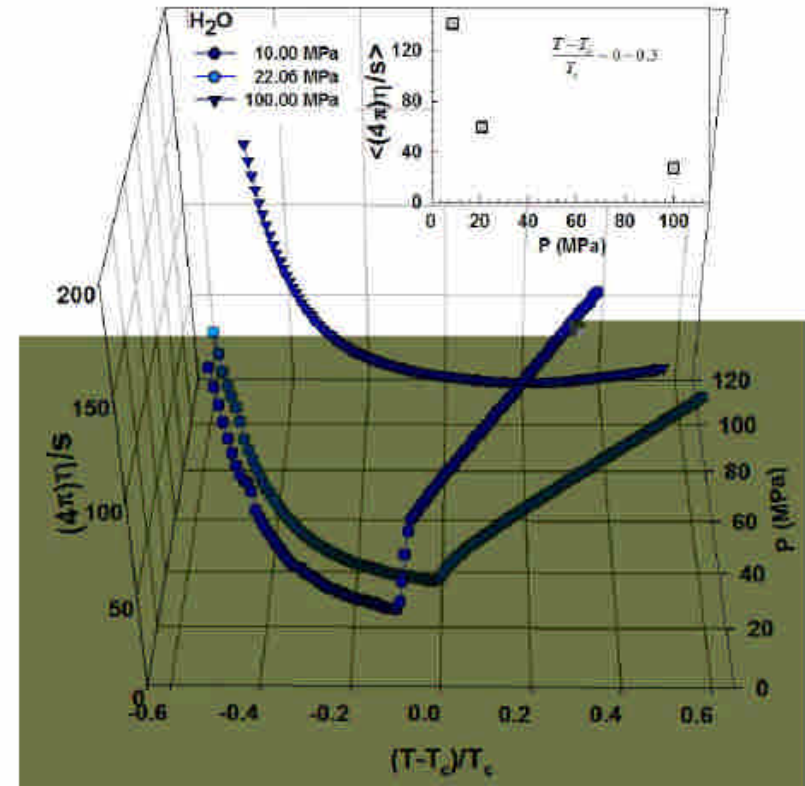
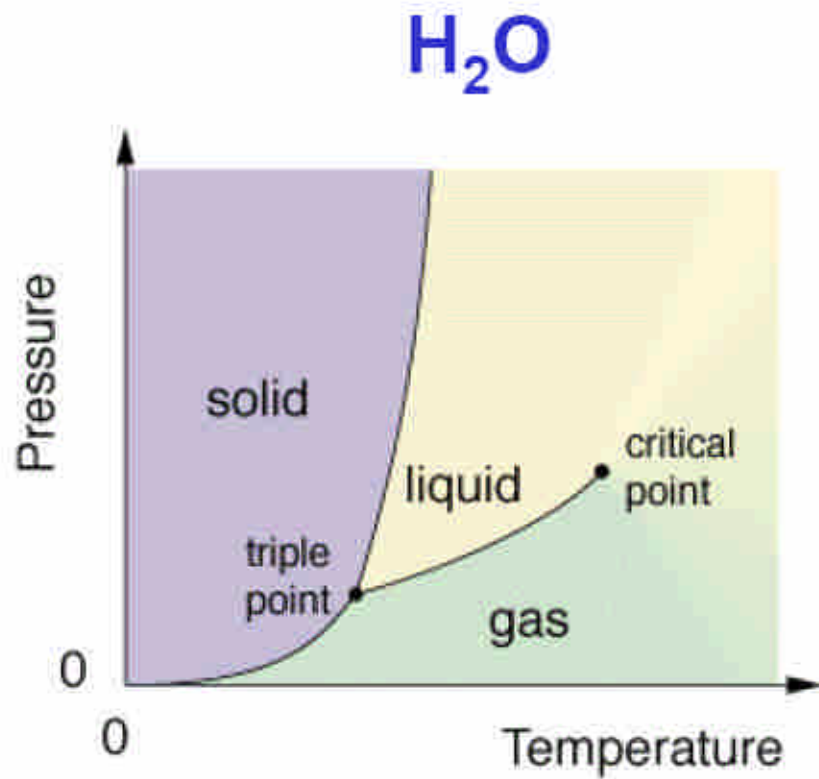


## Cold Unitary Atoms Rupak & Schafer 2007



Lacey et al., PRL 98:092301,2007;  
2007 US Nuclear Science Long  
Range Plan

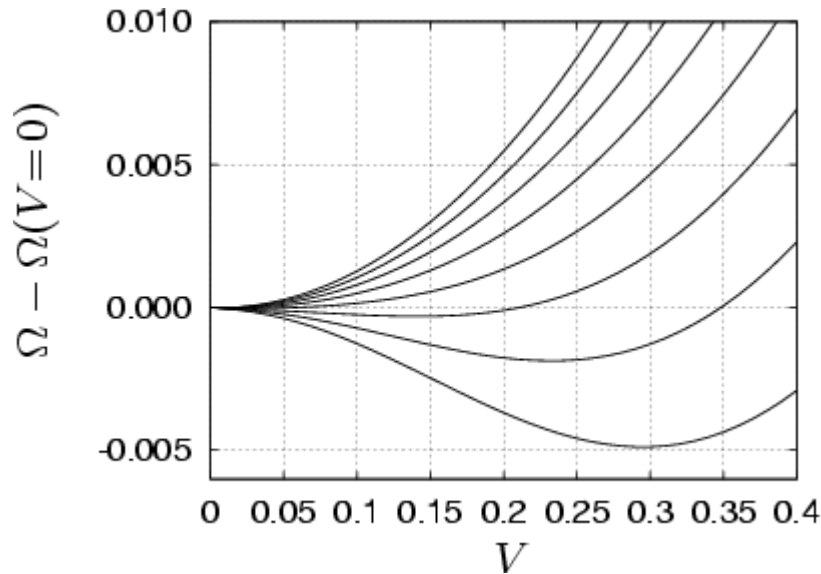
# $\eta/s$ of Water



(Lacey et al.)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}a\phi^2 - \frac{1}{4}b\phi^4 - \frac{1}{6}c\phi^6$$

(JWC, M. Huang, Y.H. Li, E. Nakana, D.L. Yang)

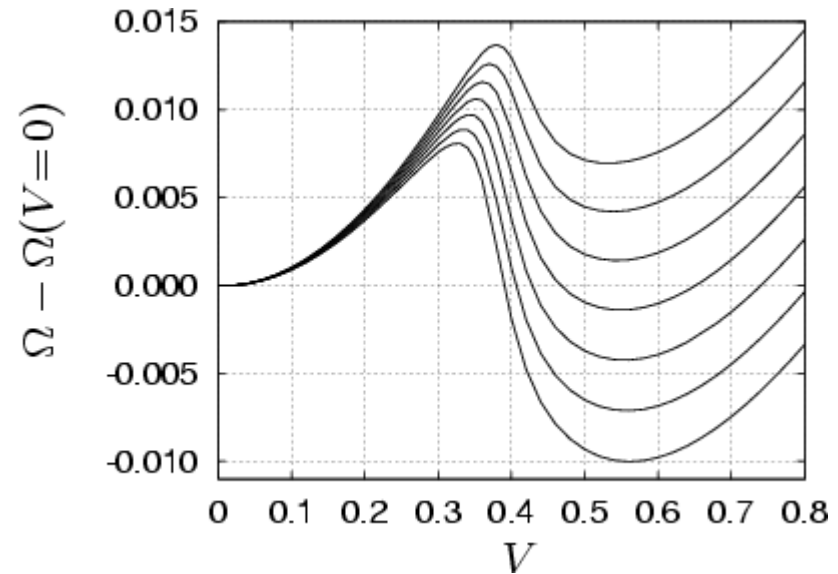


2nd-order p.t.:

$$a < 0, b > 0, c = 0$$

$$\text{crossover: } + \delta\mathcal{L} = H\phi$$

$$\text{No p.t.: } a > 0, b > 0, c = 0$$



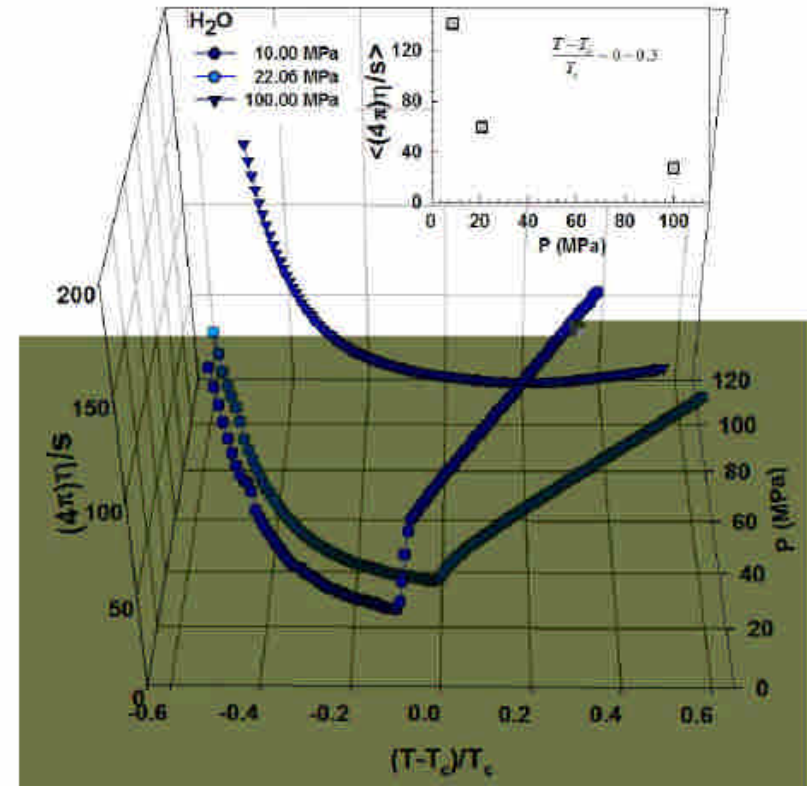
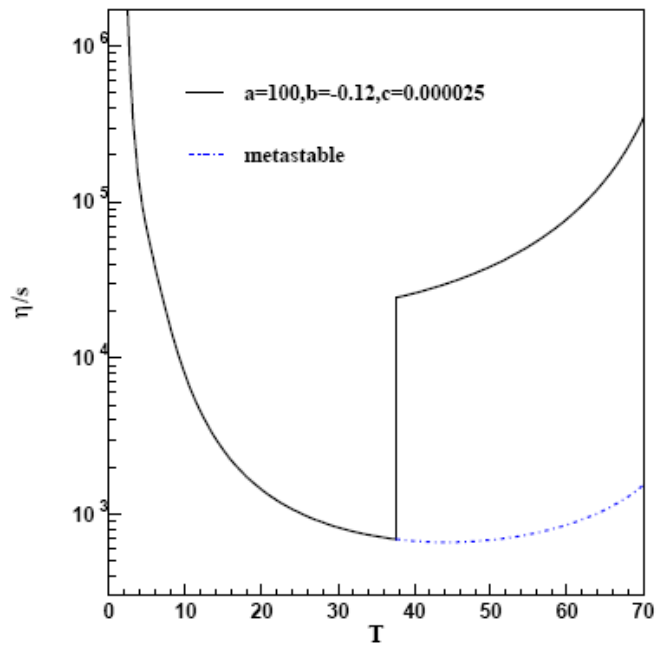
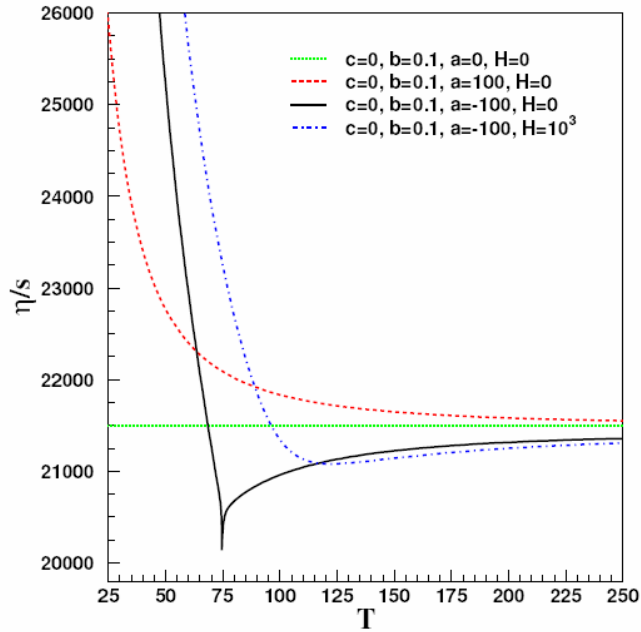
1st-order phase transition

$$a > 0, b < 0, c > 0$$

- Weak coupling, Boltzmann eq.
- Mean field calculation
- CJT formalism (Cornwall, Jackiw, Tomboulis)



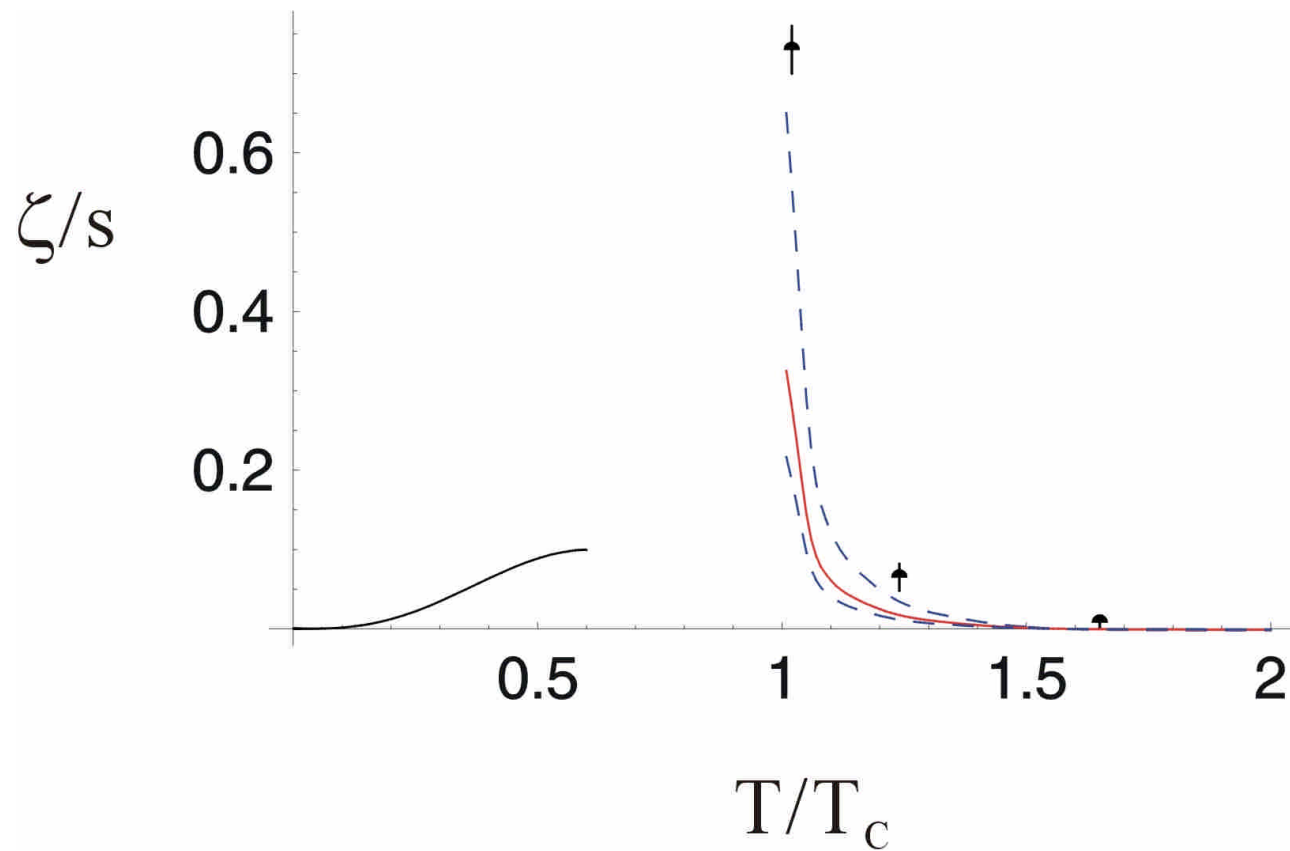
# $\eta/s$ of Water



(Lacey et al.)

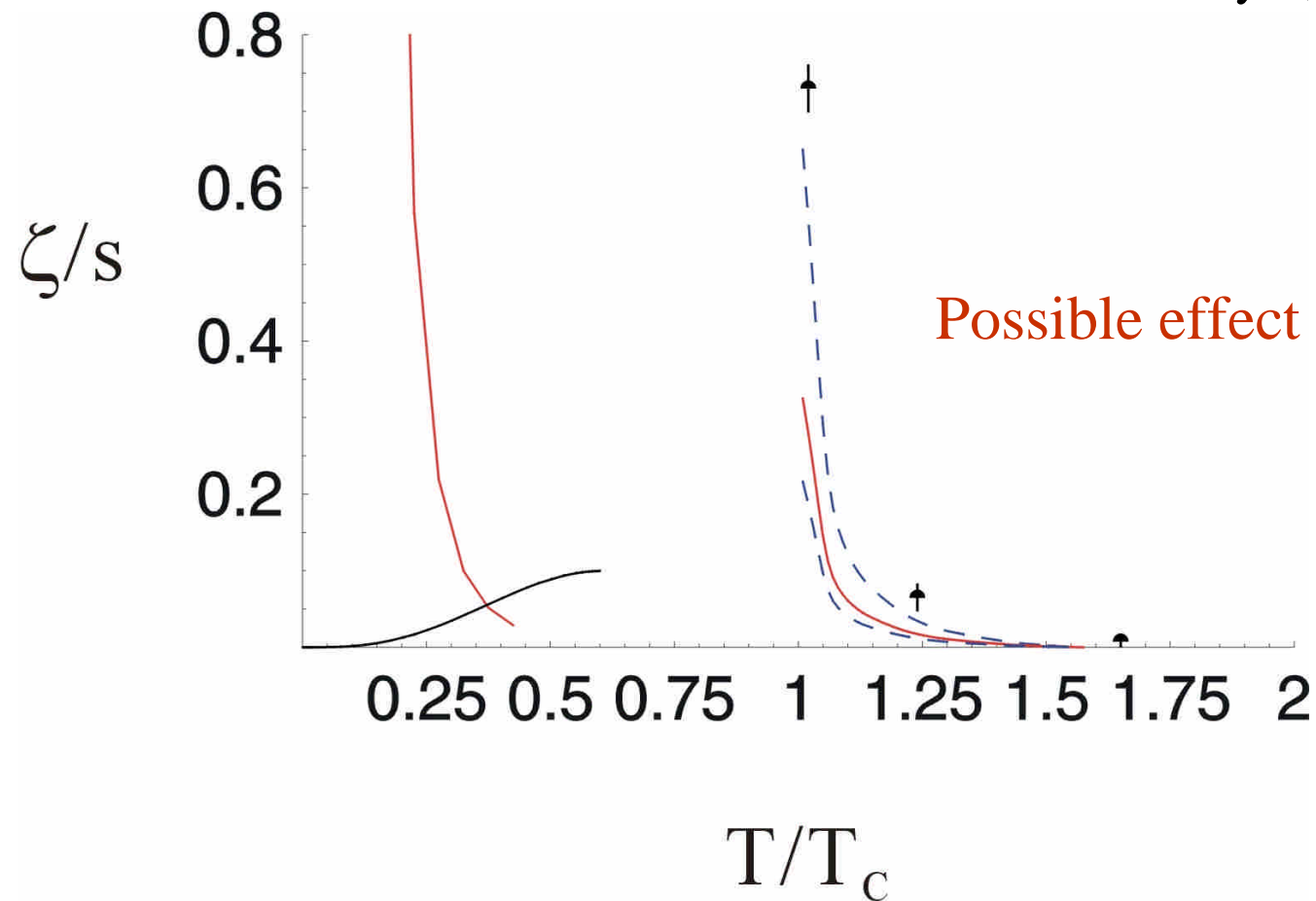
# QCD Bulk Viscosity (Chiral Limit)

Karsch, Kharzeev, Tuchin;  
Meyer; JWC, Wang

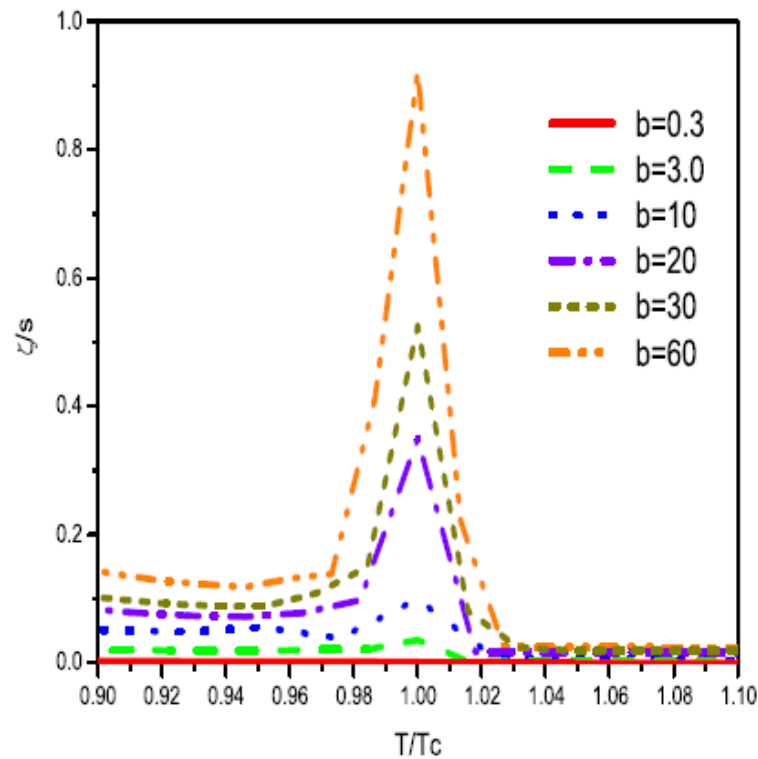


# QCD Bulk Viscosity

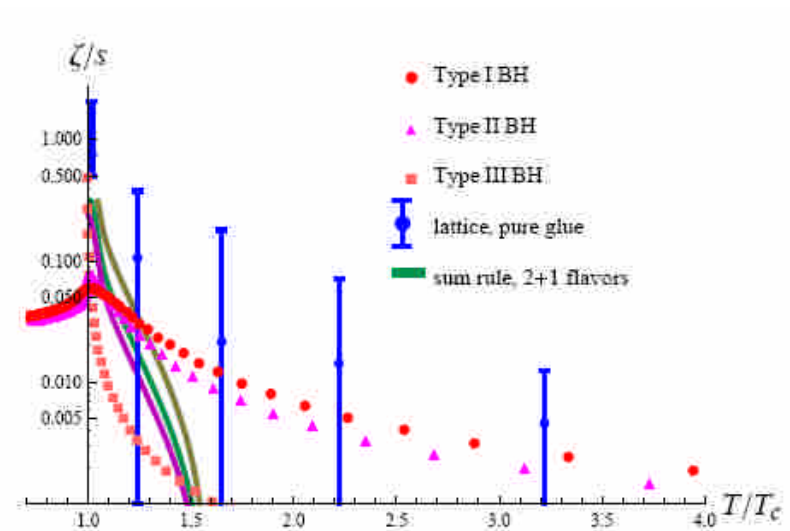
Karsch, Kharzeev, Tuchin;  
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# Bulk Viscosity



Li, Huang



Gubser, Nellore, Pufu, Rocha

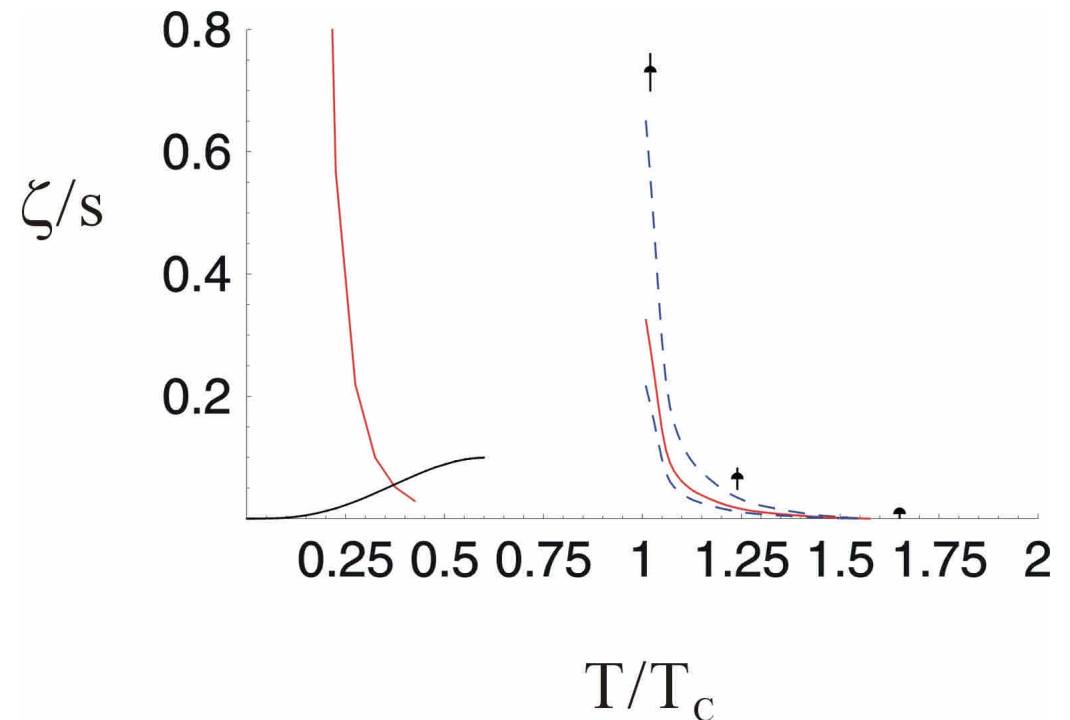
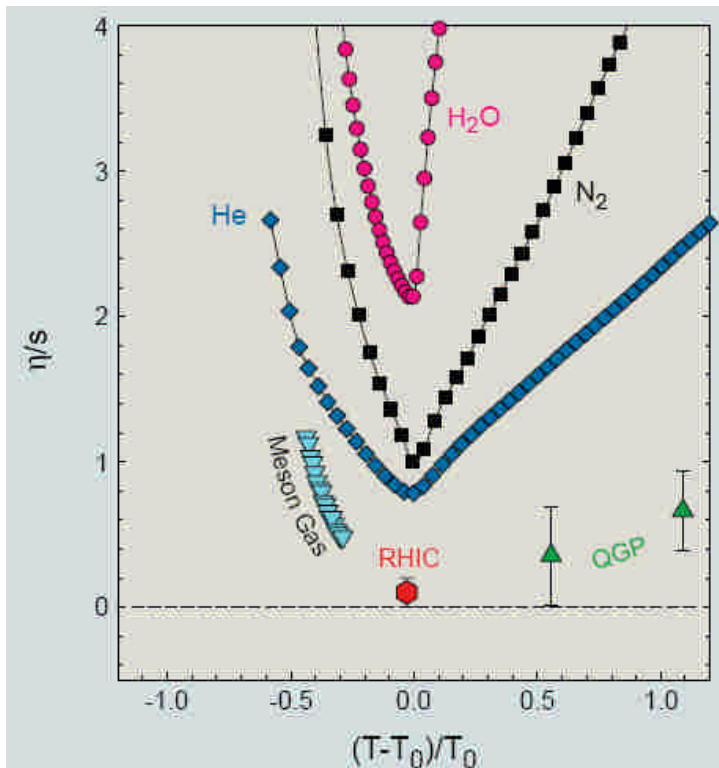
$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

# Outlook I: Universality?

Universal  $\eta/s$  and  $\zeta/s$  behaviors?

(  $\eta/s$  reaches local minimum near p.t.

$\zeta/s$  reaches local maximum near p.t.)



# Mapping QCD phase diagram by $\eta/s$ ?

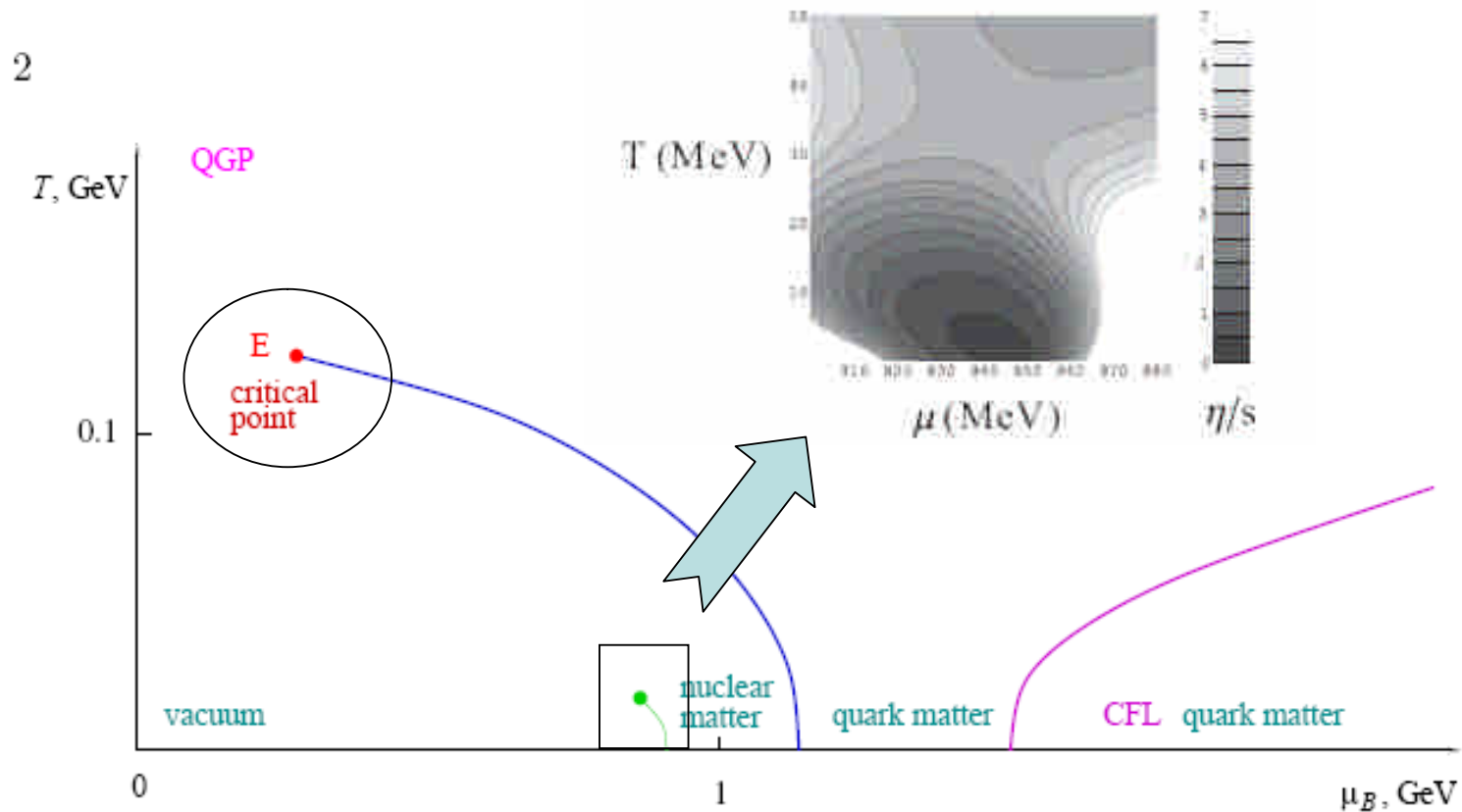


Fig. 1. QCD phase diagram

Locating critical end point (Lacey)

# Outlook II: Invading the Bound

Go metastable (T. Cohen)

$$Q\bar{q} \quad \begin{array}{l} N_Q = N, \quad N_{\bar{q}} = 1 \\ m_Q \propto N, \quad N_c \propto N \end{array}$$

$$\eta/s \propto 1/\ln N$$

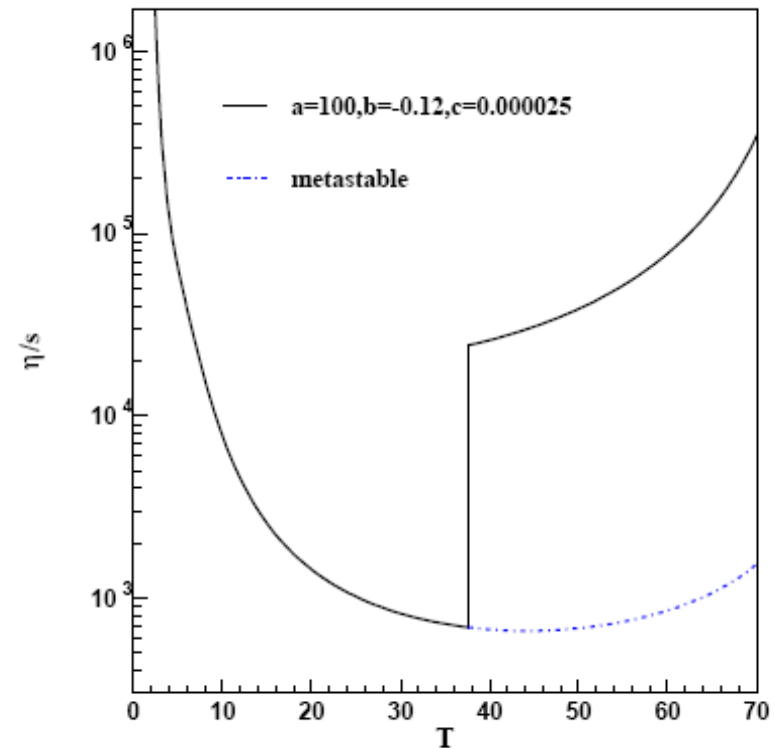
UV complete but metastable

# Outlook

## Invading the bound

$$Q\bar{q} \quad N_Q$$
$$m_Q$$

$$\eta/s \propto 1/\ln N$$



UV complete but metastable



# Go Finite N

- $O(1/N)$  effect, Higher derivative gravity,  
(Brigante, Liu, Myers, Shenker, Yaida; Kats, Petrov)

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{16}{25} \left( \frac{1}{4\pi} \right)$$

# Outlook III: Cold Atoms

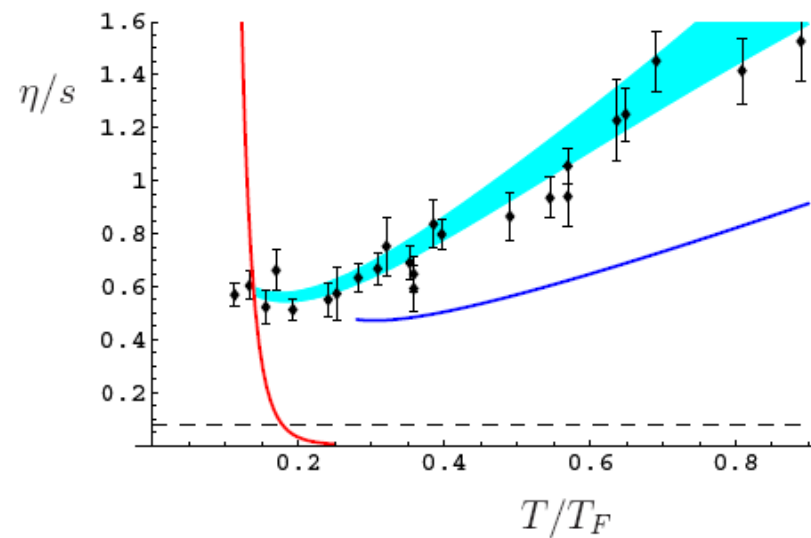
- NR AdS/CFT

Adams, Balasubramanian, McGreevy;  
Maldacena, Martelli, Tachikawa;  
Herzog, Rangamani, Ross, 2008

$$d = 2 + 1$$

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

## Cold Unitary Atoms



# Outlook III: Cold Atoms

- NR AdS/CFT

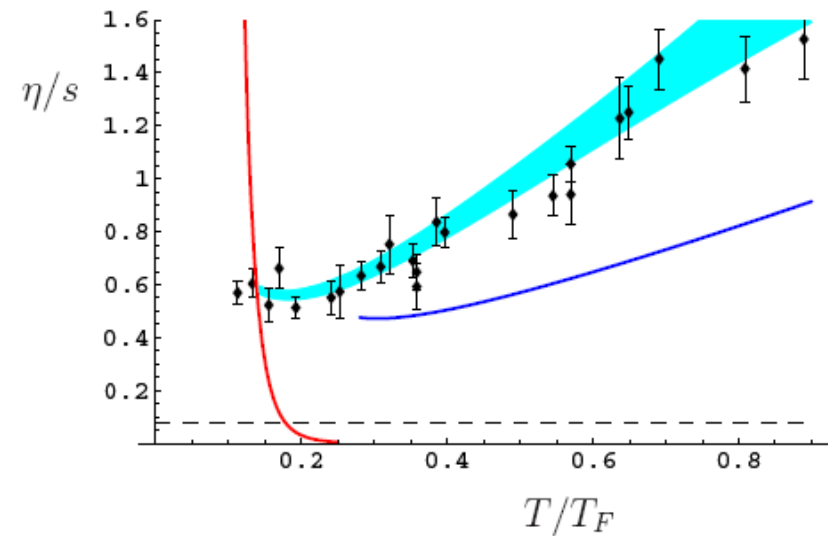
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$$d = 2 + 1$$

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

Not for cold atoms at 2+1 d,  
where unitary fermi gas is a free gas JWC, Wen, 08

## Cold Unitary Atoms



- QCD shear viscosity in the hadronic phase:
  - (a) zero density (w/ Eiji Nakano)
  - (b) nuclear L-G phase transition  
(w/ Yen-Fu Liu, Yen-Han Li, Eiji Nakano)
- Scalar field theory (w/ Mei Huang, Yen-Han Li, Eiji Nakano, Di-Lun Yang)
- Bulk Viscosity (w/ Juven Wang)