



Vista



Raimond Snellings for the ALICE group



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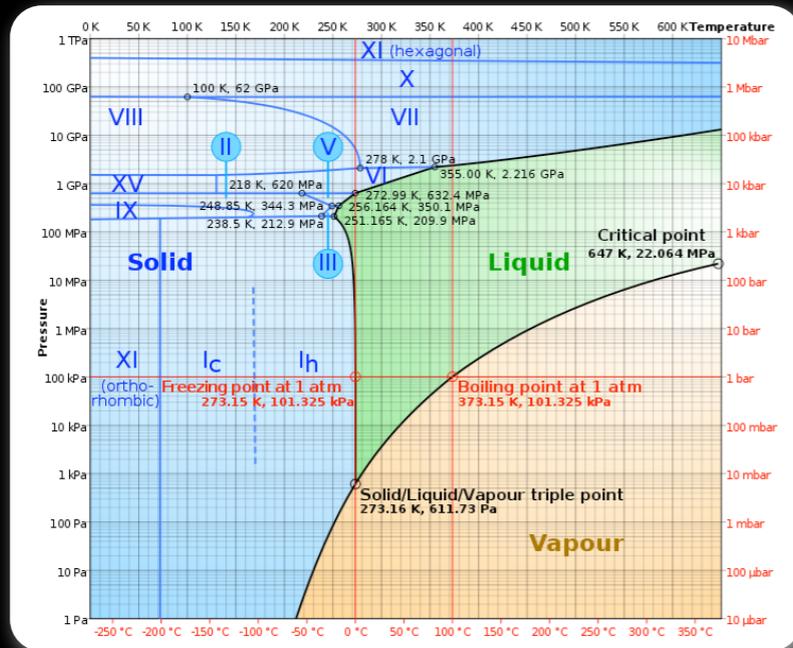
What happens when you heat and compress matter to very high temperatures and densities?

- Lattice QCD predicts a phase transition to a quark gluon plasma at an energy density of about $1 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ and at a temperature of about $\sim 10^{12} \text{ K}$
 - study in the laboratory!
- From this study we learn about:
 - multi-body QCD at strong coupling
 - connection to AdS/CFT
 - Cosmology: early universe, hadronization
 - Astrophysics: neutron stars



our current understanding of this new state of matter is still limited!

QCD Phase Diagram



phase diagram of water

Early Universe Went With the Flow



Posted April 18, 2005 5:57PM

Between 2000 and 2003 the lab's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider repeatedly smashed the nuclei of gold atoms together with such force that their energy briefly generated trillion-degree temperatures. Physicists think of the collider as a time machine, because those extreme temperature conditions last prevailed in the universe less than 100 millionths of a second after the big bang.

Early Universe was a liquid

Quark-gluon blob surprises particle physicists.

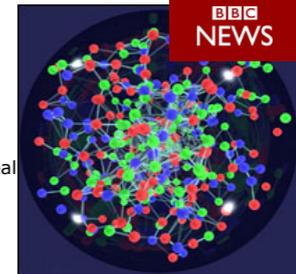
Mark Peplow

nature

The Universe consisted of a perfect liquid in its first moments, according to results from an atom-smashing experiment.

Early Universe was 'liquid-like'

Physicists say they have created a new state of hot, dense matter by crashing together the nuclei of gold atoms.



The high-energy collisions prised open the nuclei to reveal their most basic particles, known as quarks and gluons.

The researchers, at the US Brookhaven National Laboratory, say these particles were seen to behave as an almost perfect "liquid".

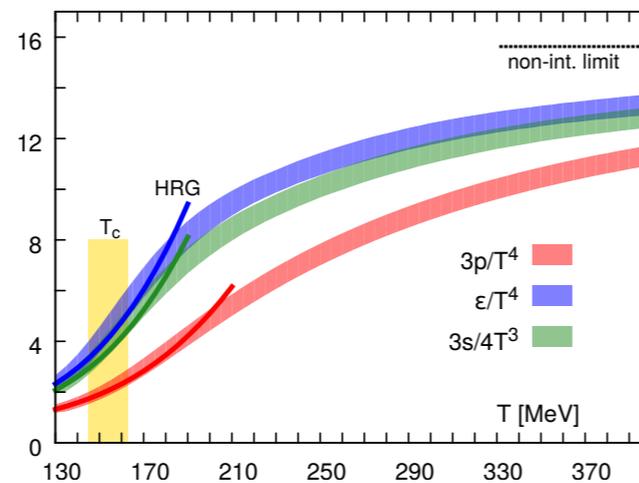
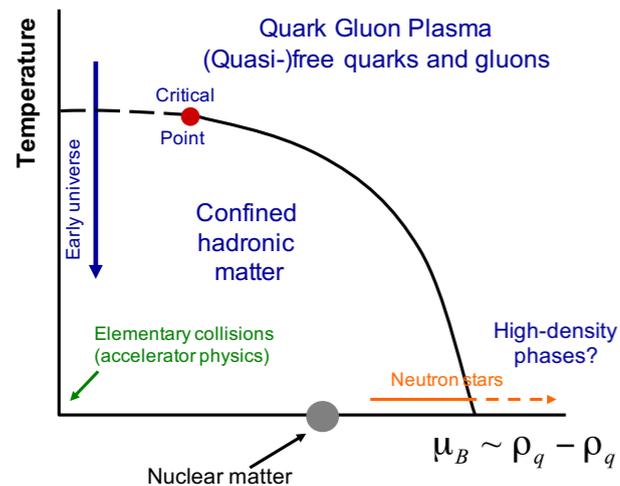
The impression is of matter that is more strongly interacting than predicted

Universe May Have Begun as Liquid, Not Gas

Associated Press
Tuesday, April 19, 2005; Page A05

The Washington Post

New results from a particle collider suggest that the universe behaved like a liquid in its earliest moments, not the fiery gas that was thought to have pervaded the first microseconds of existence.



LHC, RHIC BES, new facilities

paradigm change: matter at almost zero net baryon density exhibits a cross over transition and a strongly interacting almost perfect liquid emerges for which we currently have a "standard" model of its evolution (combined experimental and theoretical effort)

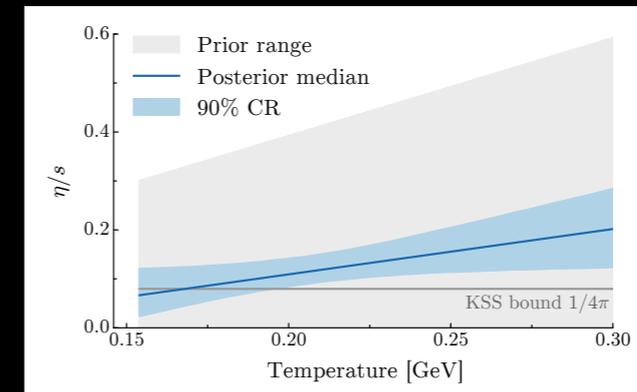
Questions we would like to answer in the ALICE program

- We would like to characterise this complex almost perfect liquid (EoS, transport parameters) and understand how it emerges from multibody QCD (quasi-particles, fields, ...)
 - how does a weakly coupled system evolve into a strongly coupled system very quickly (which can be described by relativistic viscous magnetohydrodynamics)?
 - how does the formation of this system depend on system size?
- Why at the LHC?
 - in this regime lattice QCD calculations under control for thermodynamic properties (providing the much needed theoretical guidance)
 - latest generation of detectors, hard probes (jets and heavy quarks) abundantly produced

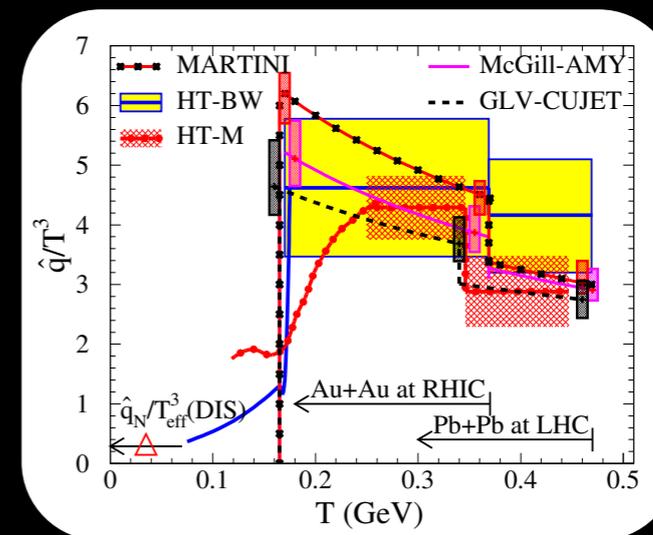
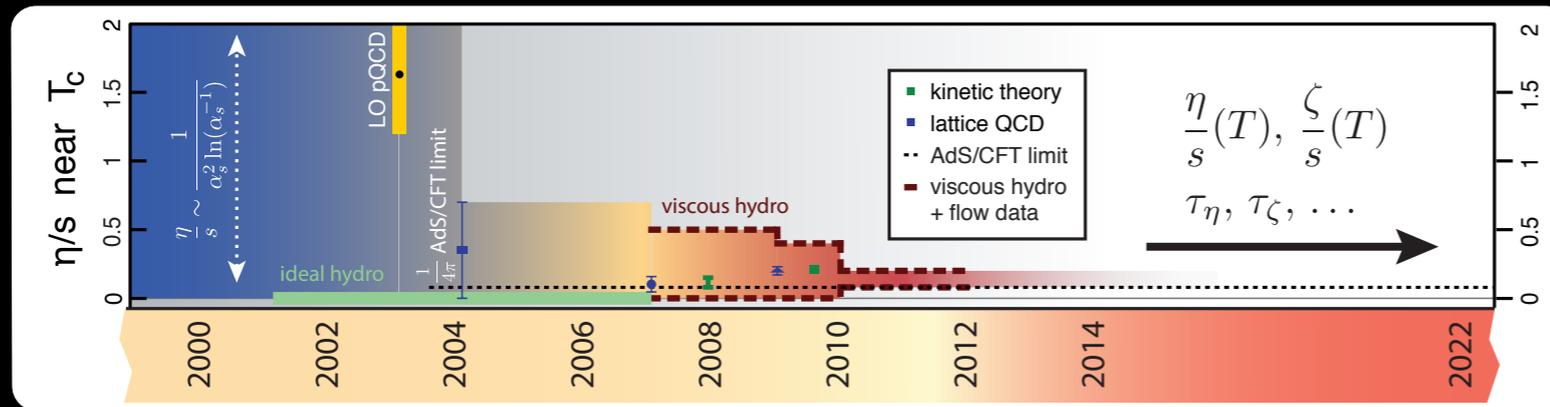
Vista: The next decade

large still growing active experimental (RHIC, LHC) and theoretical community
 many and highly cited papers
 new detectors and new facilities

transport coefficients



bulk observables



hard probes

Analogy: Superconductivity
experimentally discovered 1911:

Heike Kamerlingh Onnes

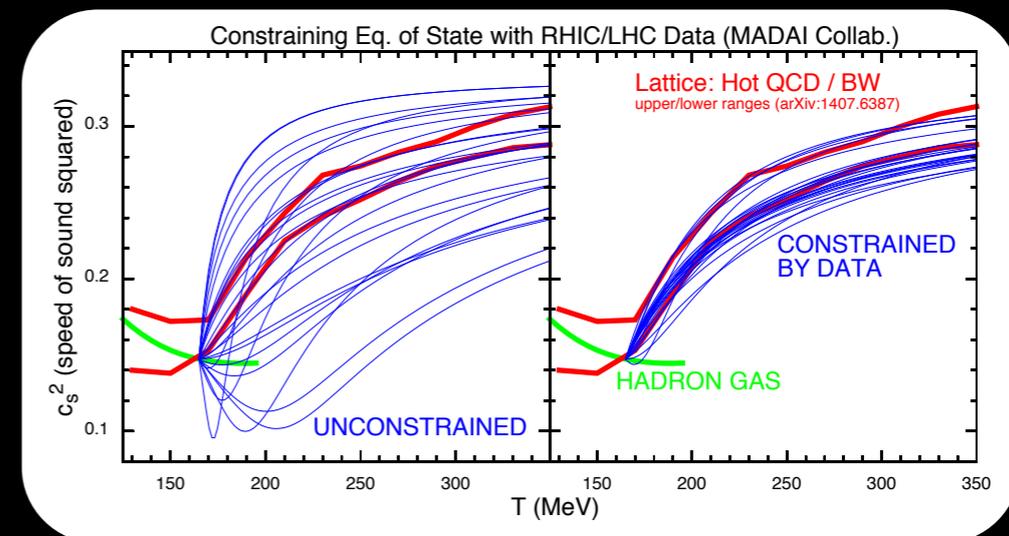
macroscopic theory 1950:

Ginzburg-Landau

microscopic theory 1957:

Bardeen, Cooper and Schrieffer

Surprises?!



EoS



If you dive in a bit deeper you might be surprised with what you encounter and how it changes your view



Thank you for your
attention!

