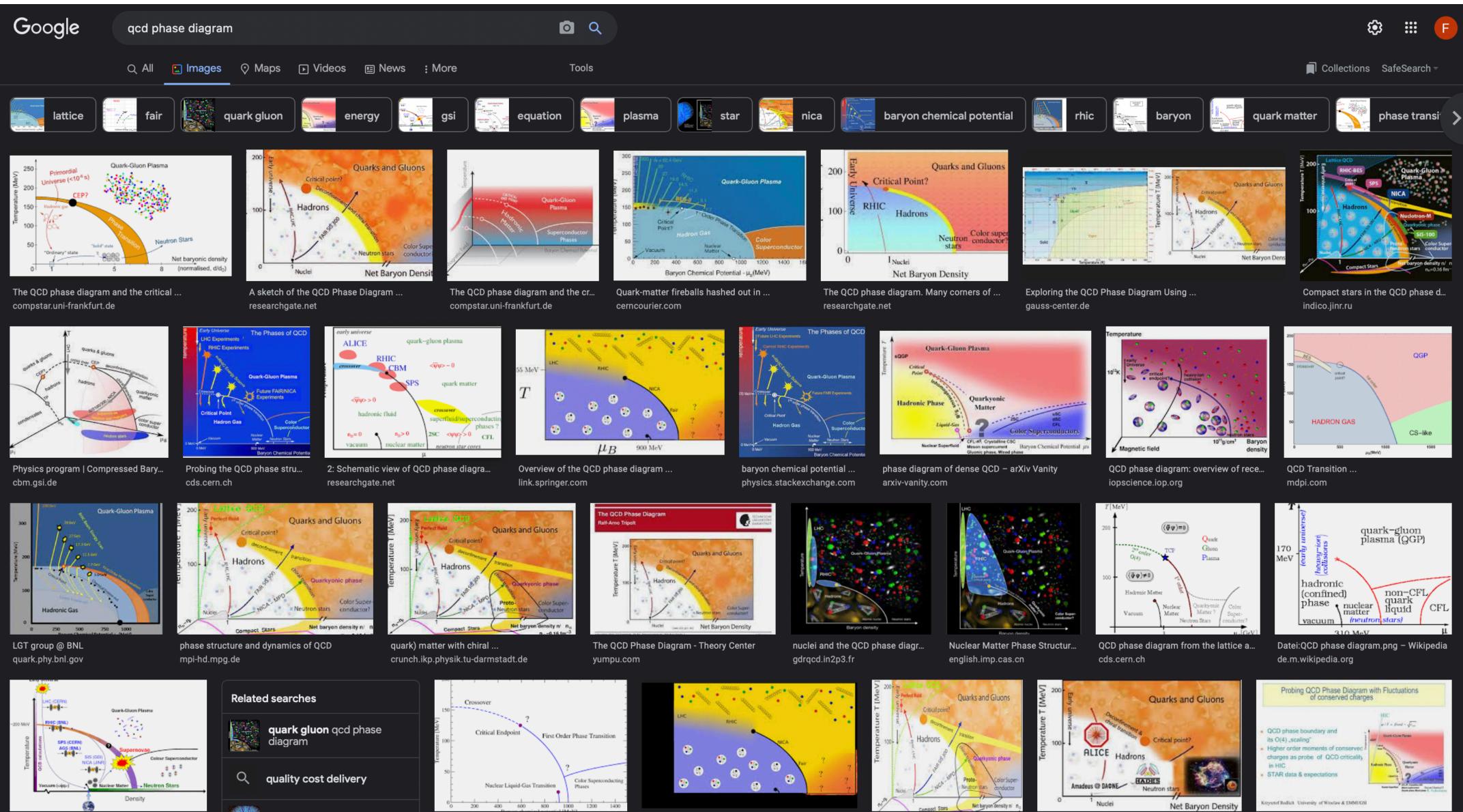
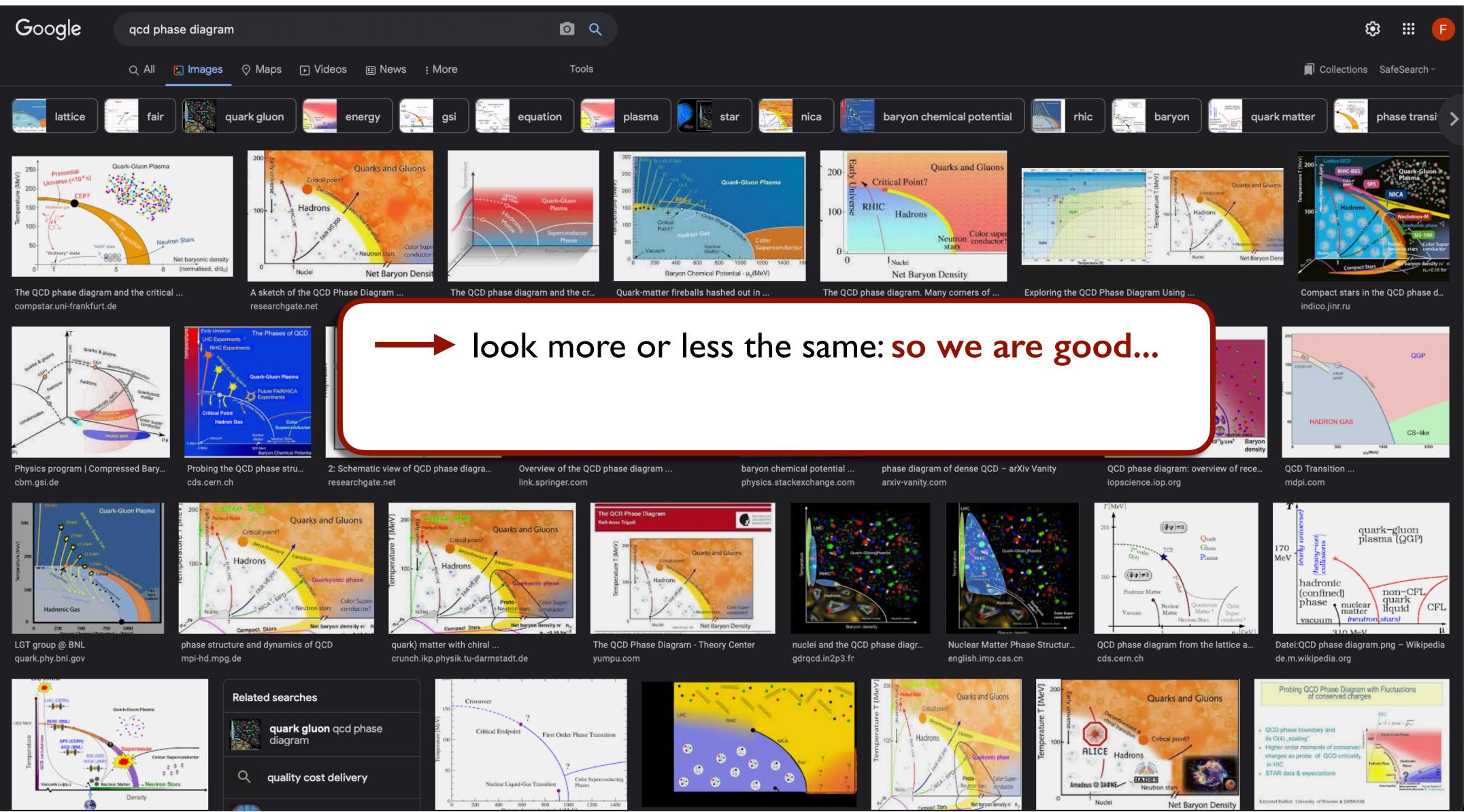
THE QCD PHASE DIAGRAM

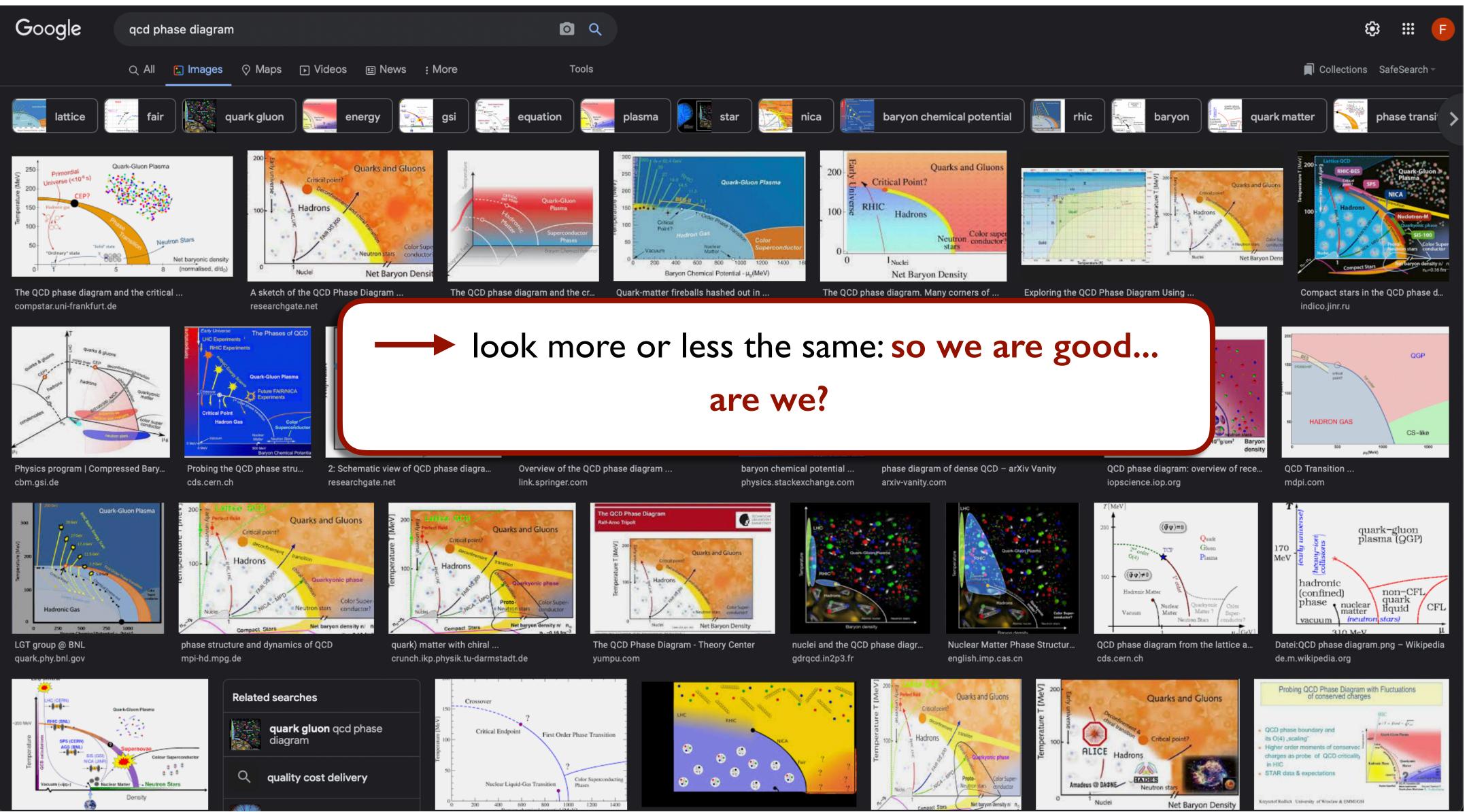
QCD PHASE DIAGRAM



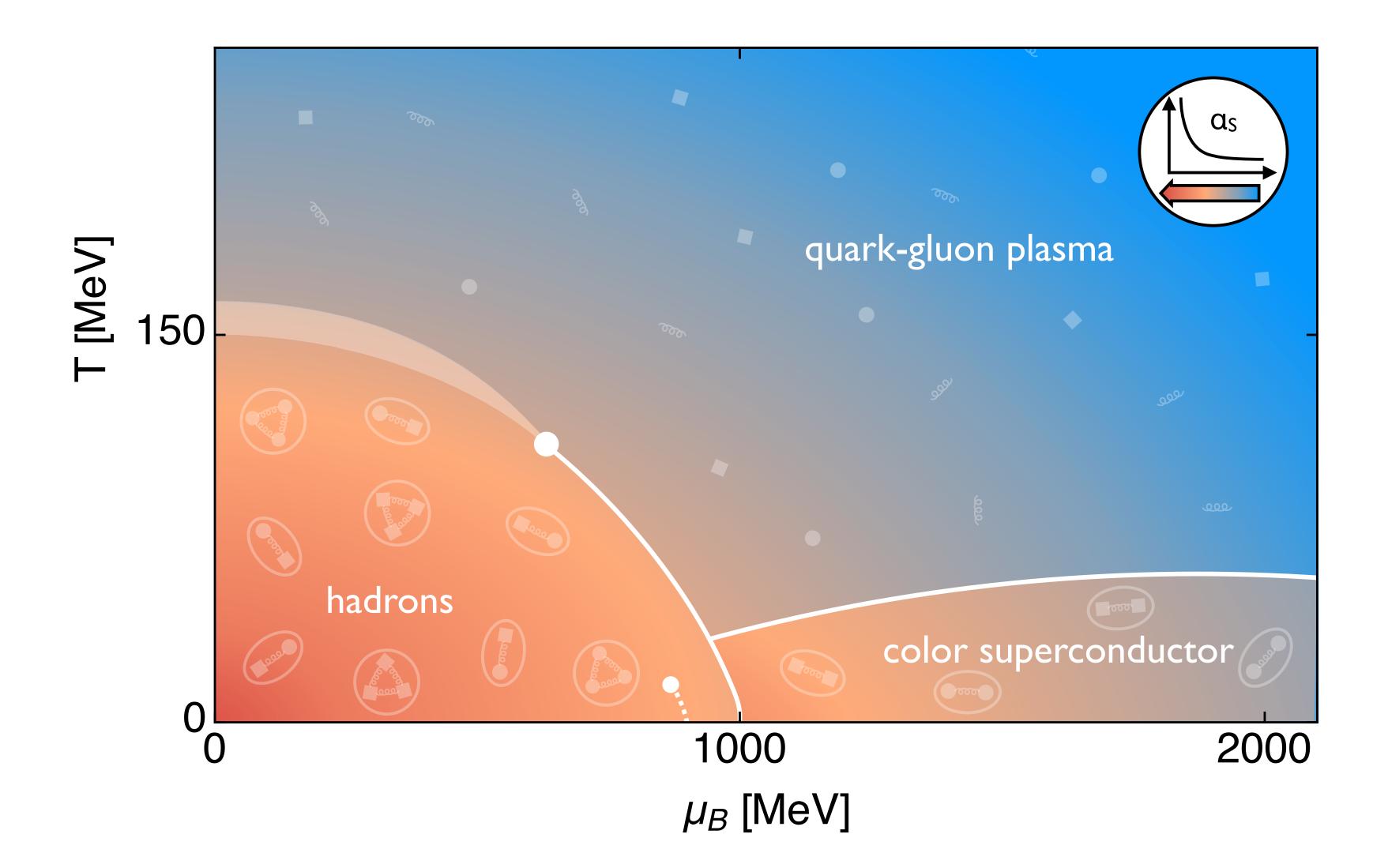
QCD PHASE DIAGRAM



QCD PHASE DIAGRAM

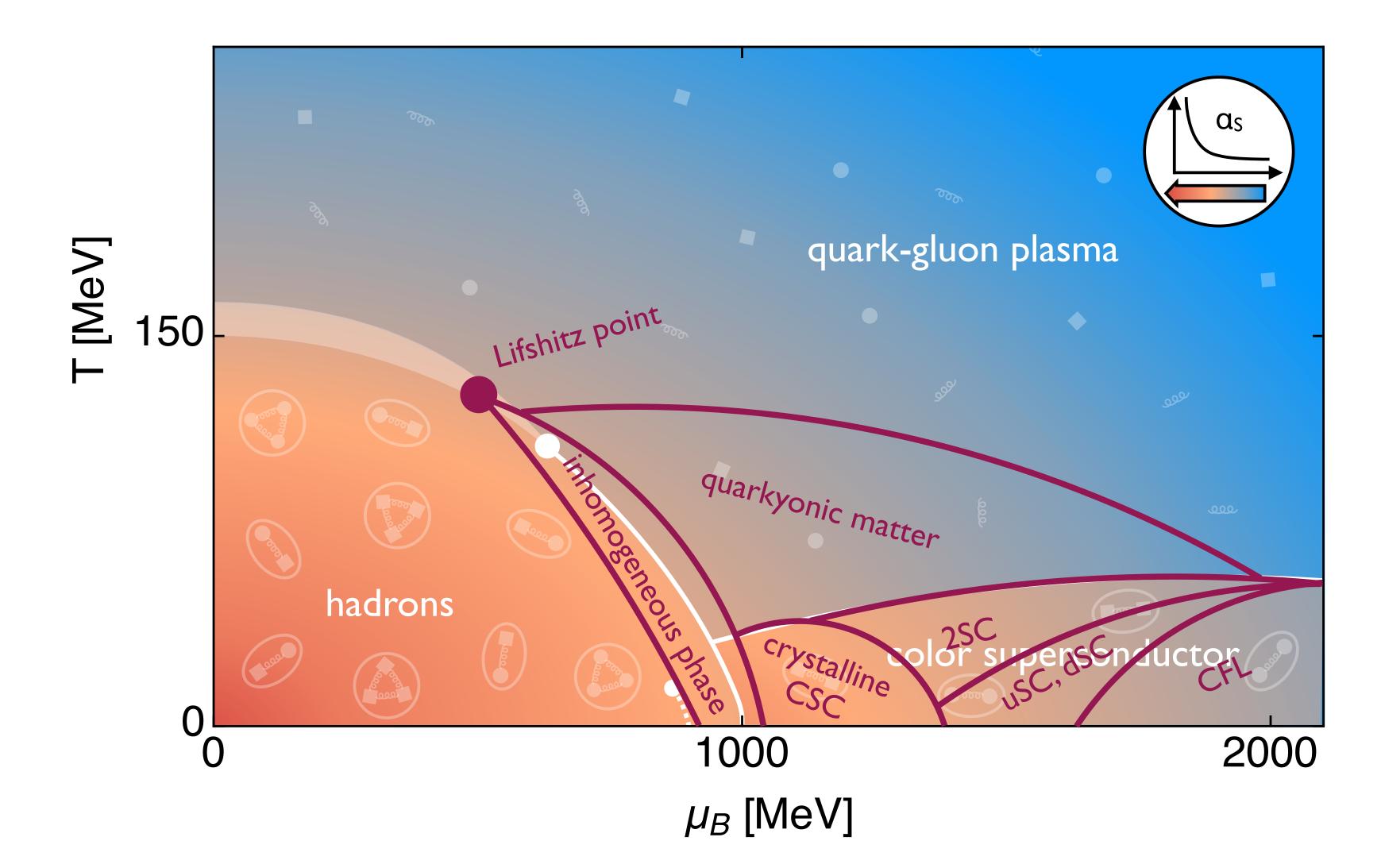


QCD PHASE DIAGRAM: THEORY



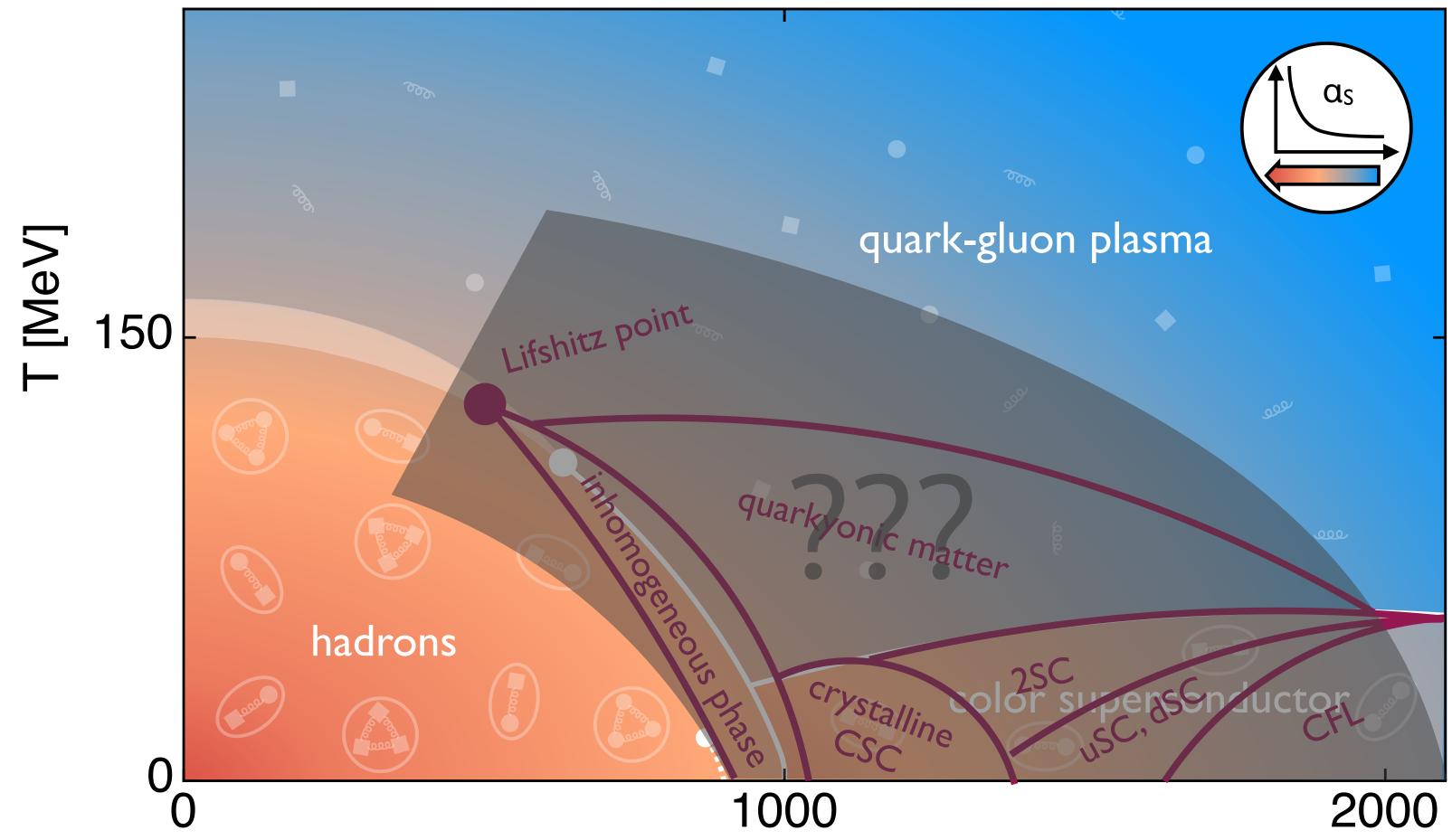


QCD PHASE DIAGRAM: THEORY





QCD PHASE DIAGRAM: THEORY



+ many, many more possibilities all of which are based on model assumptions; no first-principles results





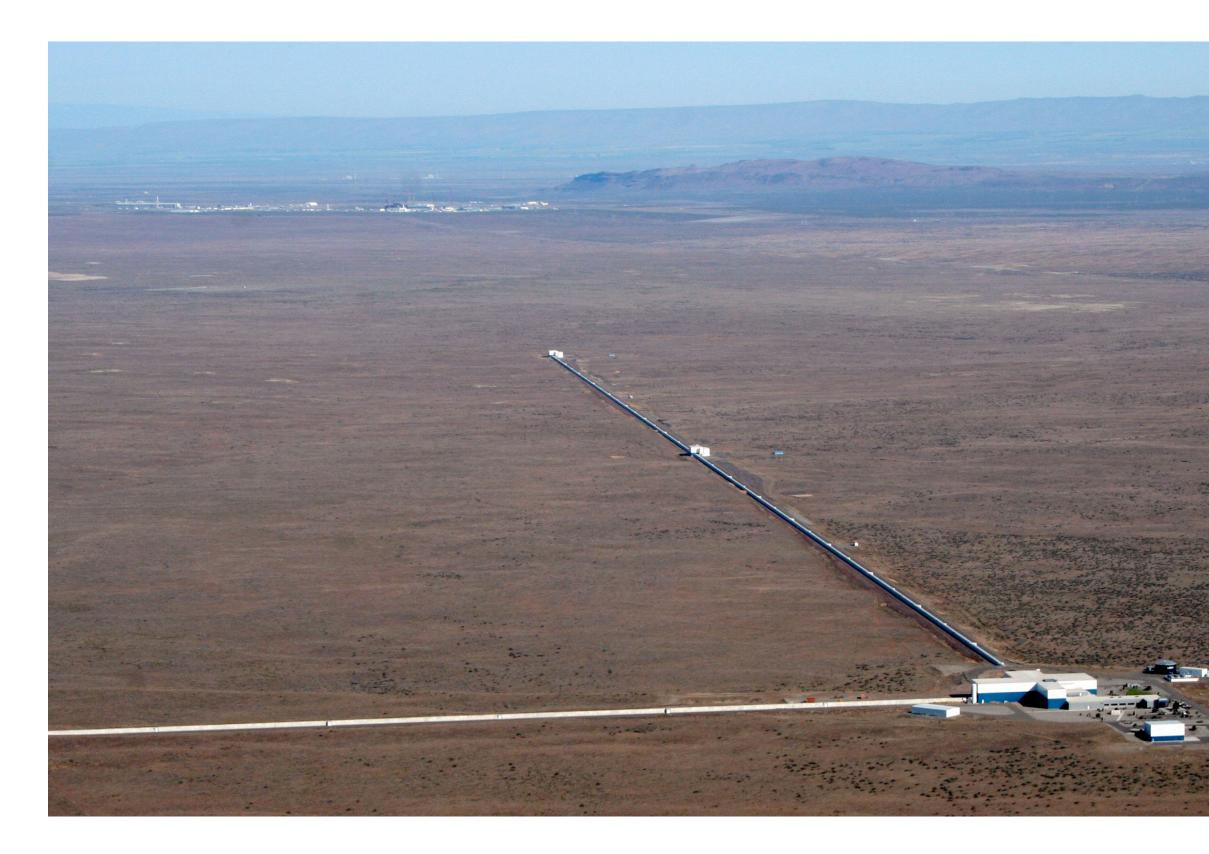
QCD PHASE DIAGRAM: EXPERIMENT



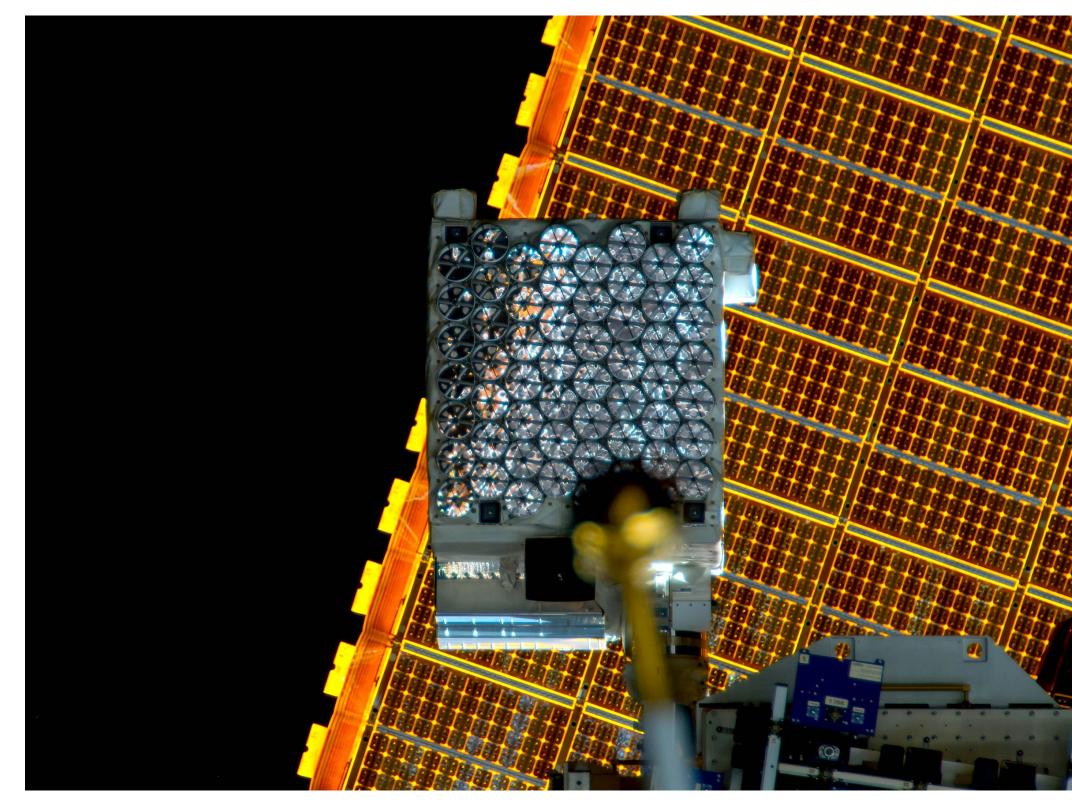
[STAR at RHIC]

[SISI00 at FAIR (as of Oct. 22)]

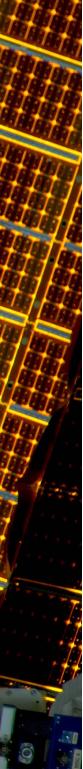
QCD PHASE DIAGRAM: EXPERIMENT







[NICER]





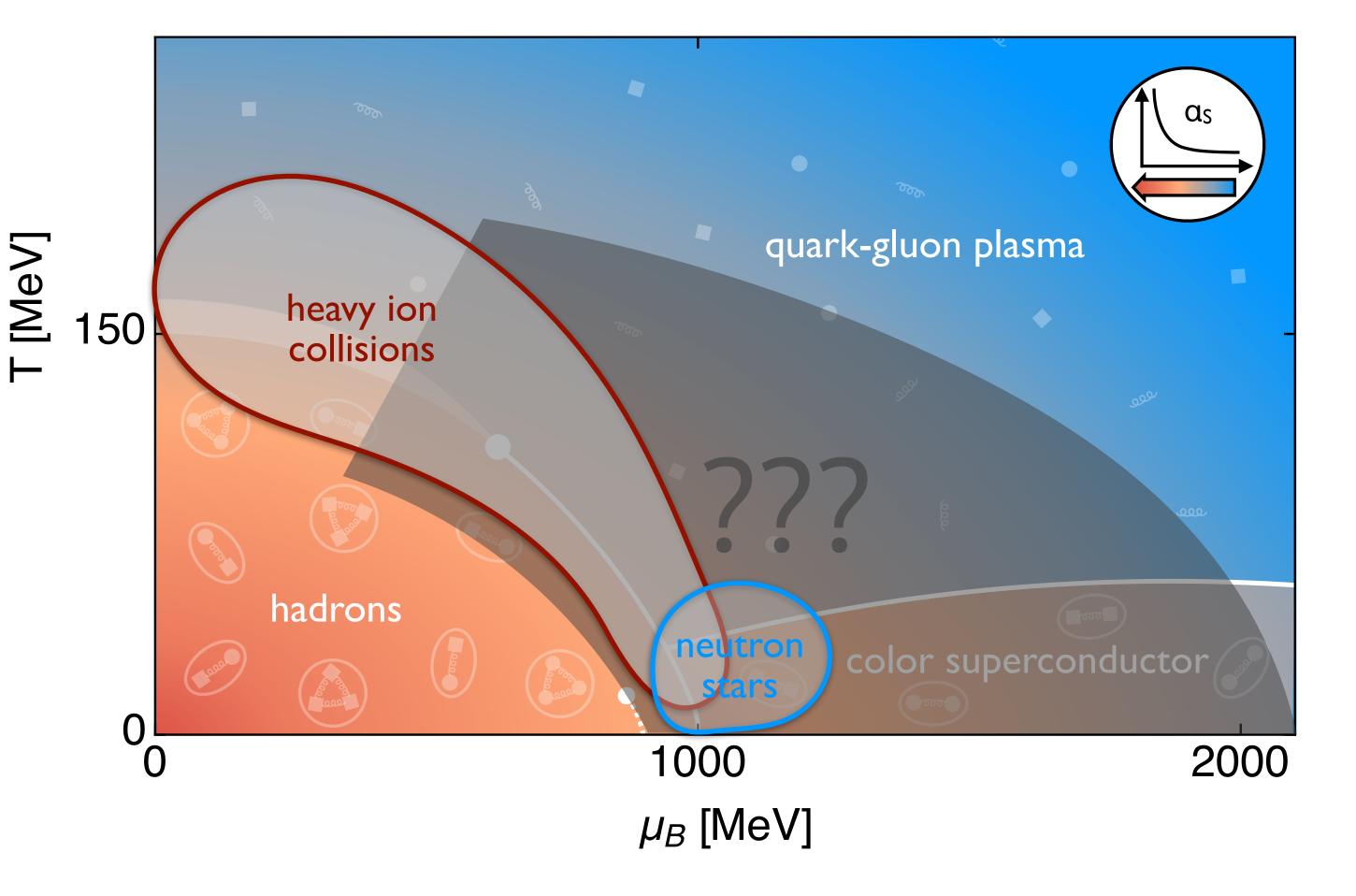
heavy ion collisions particle spectra

neutron stars electromagnetic & gravitational radiation

⊢

phenomenology hydro & transport

theory equation of state & transport coefficients





heavy ion collisions particle spectra

neutron stars electromagnetic & gravitational radiation

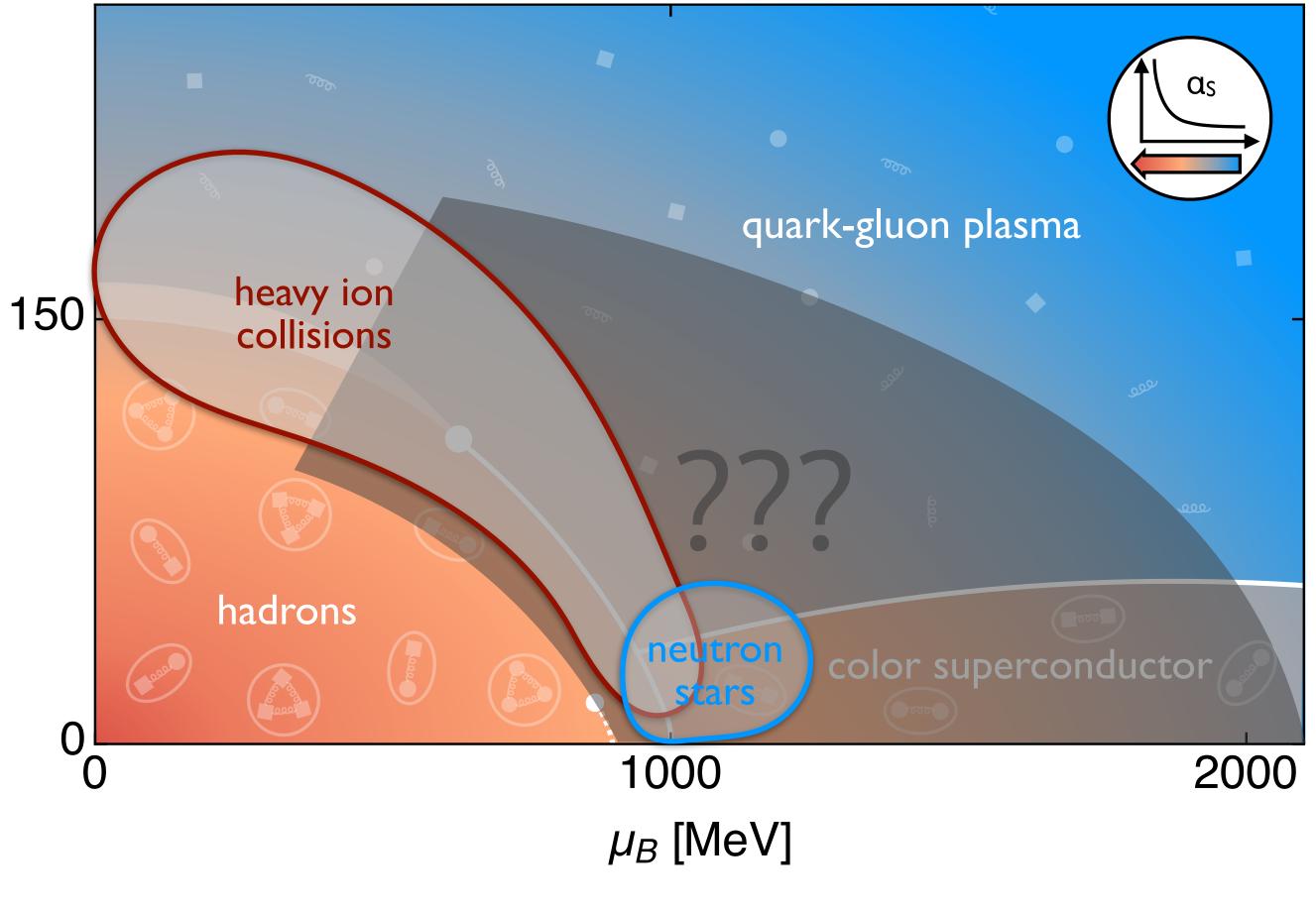
> phenomenology hydro & transport

theory equation of state & transport coefficients



[MeV]

⊢



combined effort necessary!!!

deconfinement • many

many indirect observables

• lattice QCD at $\mu_B = 0$

- observation? smoking guns?
- stringy fluid?

deconfinement

- many indirect observables
- lattice QCD at $\mu_B = 0$
- chiral symmetry \bullet dilepton spectra: ρ peak restoration

 - spectral functions unknown

- observation? smoking guns?
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- models may describe data, but what can we learn from them?
- no smoking gun? (Brown-Rho scaling? melting ρ ? but no a_1 peak)



deconfinement

- many indirect observables
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restoration

- chiral symmetry \bullet dilepton spectra: ρ peak
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equation of state

- many sensitive measurements very little (no) first-principles
- information at $\mu_B > 0$

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- models may describe data, but what can we learn from them?
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- how to get reliable results?
- sensitivity of the data sufficient?
- pheno-EoS useless? (modelling data \neq understanding QCD?)



- many indirect observables • observation? smoking guns? deconfinement • lattice QCD at $\mu_B = 0$ stringy fluid? chiral symmetry \bullet dilepton spectra: ρ peak • models may describe data, but what can we learn from them? restoration spectral functions unknown • no smoking gun? (Brown-Rho scaling? melting ρ ? but no a_1 peak) • how to get reliable results? many sensitive measurements equation of • sensitivity of the data sufficient? very little (no) first-principles state information at $\mu_B > 0$ • pheno-EoS useless? (modelling data \neq understanding QCD?) • too many futile efforts? (CME, CEP, ...) • amazing machines • signatures of new phases buried in noise/washed away? heavy-ion colls.
 - but dirty, noisy and messy

• do we waste a lot of time understanding HIC with very little return regarding fundamental QCD?





deconfinement	• many indirect observables • lattice QCD at $\mu_B = 0$	
chiral symmetry restoration	 dilepton spectra: <i>ρ</i> peak spectral functions unknown 	
equation of state	 many sensitive measurements very little (no) first-principles information at $\mu_B > 0$ 	
heavy-ion colls.	 amazing machines but dirty, noisy and messy 	
lattice QCD	 first principles & systematic sign problem 	

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 - useless without systematic error control?
 - how to control systematic errors?





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should we sit on our hands and wait for quantum computers? And count our losses and do EIC physics?





