

# Dense QCD equation of state: duality and implications from lattice QCD

**Yuki Fujimoto**  
**(University of Washington)**

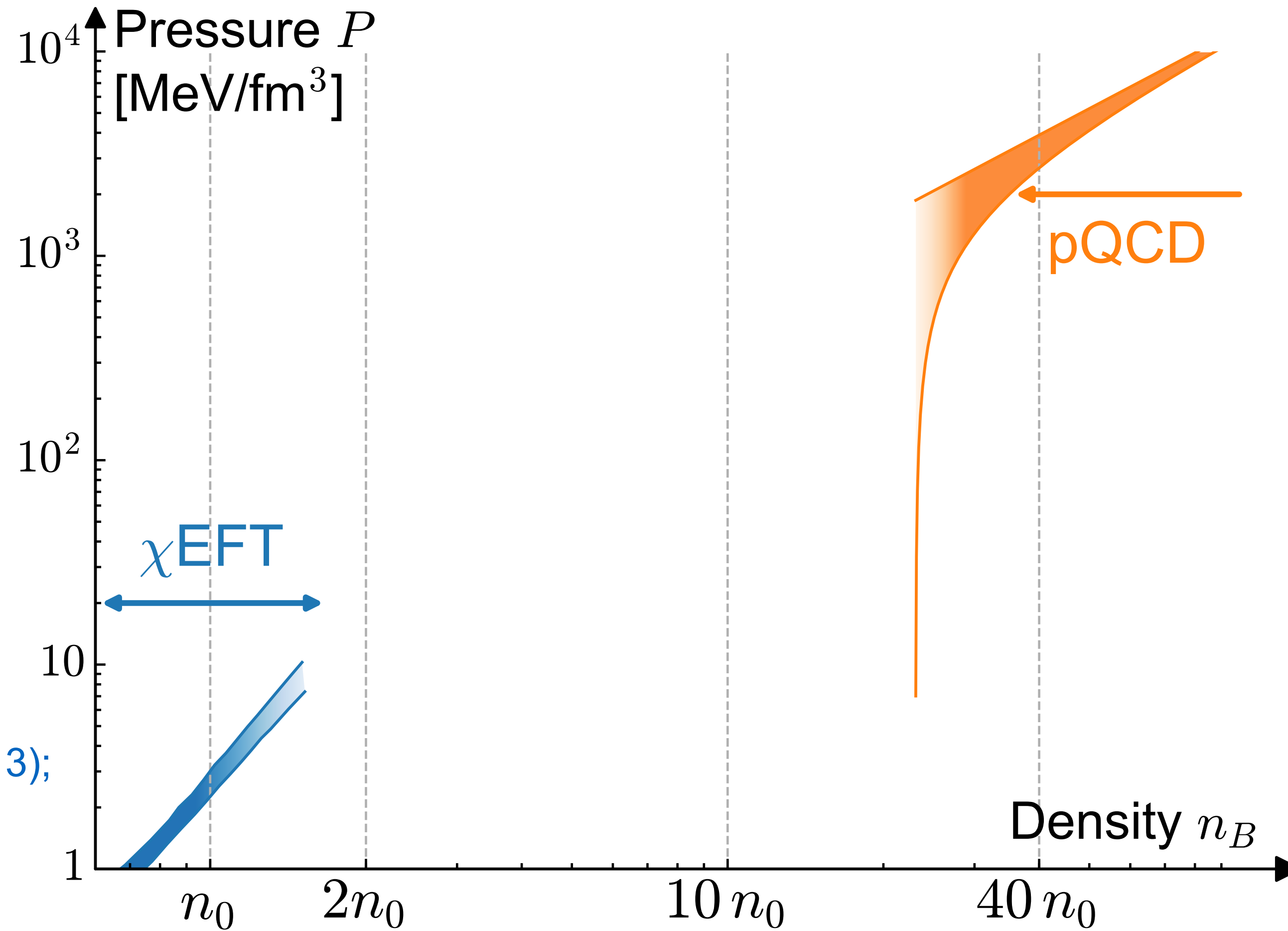


## References:

- [1] [Y. Fujimoto](#), K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL129 (2022) [2207.06753]
- [2] Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, PRL132 (2024) [2306.04304]
- [3] Y. Fujimoto, S. Reddy, PRD 109 (2024) (Selected for Editors' suggestion) [2310.09427]
- [4] [Y. Fujimoto](#), PRD109 (2024) [2312.11443]; to appear [2405.?????]

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran(1978);  
Baluni(1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+(2009-)



Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk(2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl,  
Melendez, Philips(2020);  
Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk(2022);  
& many others

Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

# “Uncertainty” in pQCD

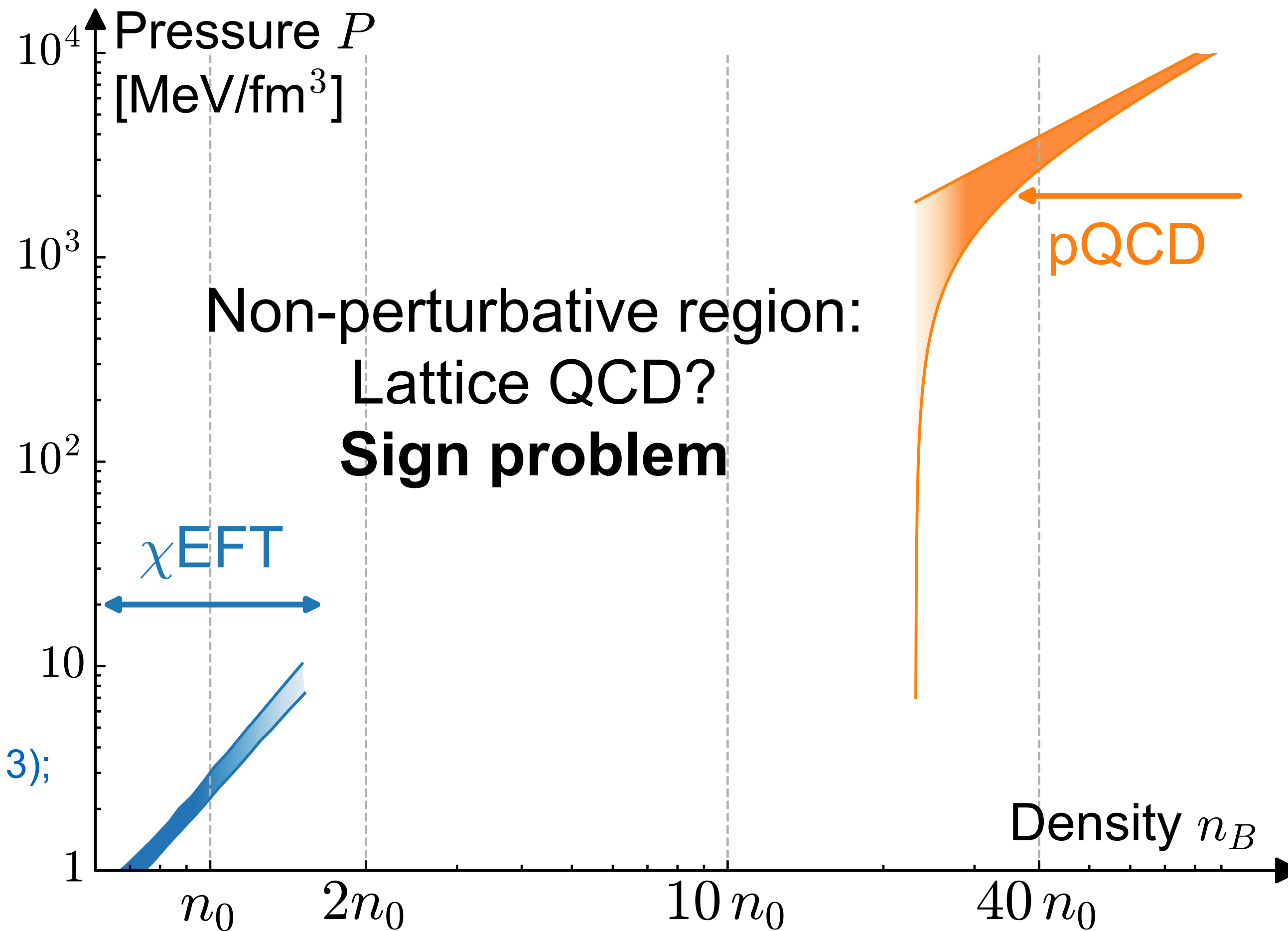
Freedman, McLerran(1978); Fraga, Pisarski, Schaffner-Bielich(2001)

$$P_{\text{pQCD}}(\mu; \bar{\Lambda}) = \frac{3\mu^2}{4\pi^2} \left[ 1 - 2\frac{\alpha_s(\bar{\Lambda})}{\pi} - \left( 2 \ln \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{\Lambda})}{\pi} + \frac{29}{6} \ln \frac{\bar{\Lambda}^2}{(2\mu)^2} + 17.39 \right) \left( \frac{\alpha_s(\bar{\Lambda})}{\pi} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \right]$$

- **$\bar{\Lambda}$ : renormalization scale**
  - ... only ambiguity in pQCD from perturbative series truncation
- Canonical choice:  $\bar{\Lambda} = 2\mu$  (typical hard interaction scale)
- “Uncertainty” quantified by varying by factor 2
  - i.e.  $X \in [1/2, 2]$  with  $X \equiv \bar{\Lambda}/(2\mu)$ 
    - ... ad hoc procedure, purely based on historical practice

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran(1978);  
Baluni(1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+(2009-)

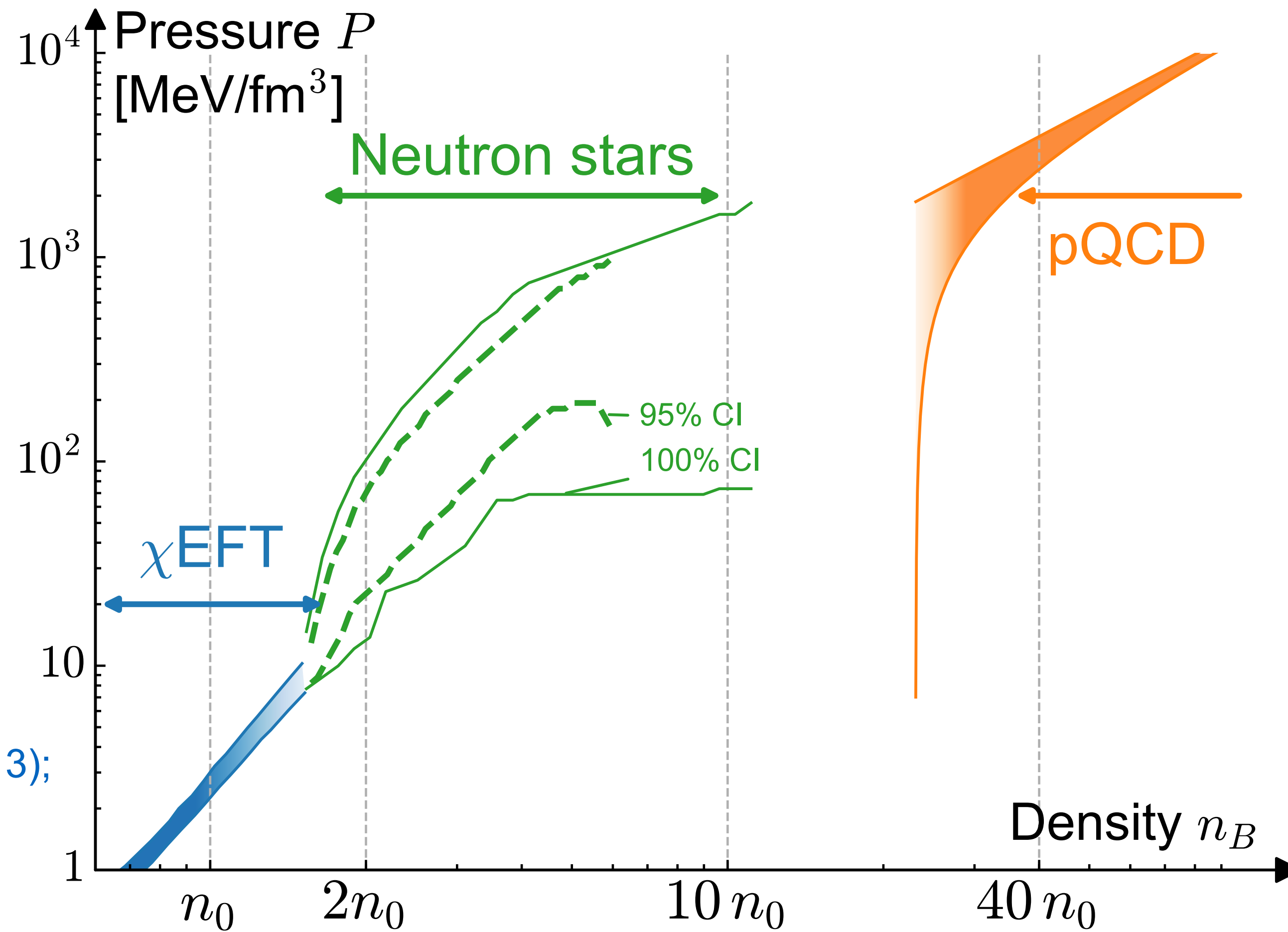


Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk(2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl,  
Melendez, Philips(2020);  
Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk(2022);  
& many others

Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran(1978);  
Baluni(1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+(2009-)

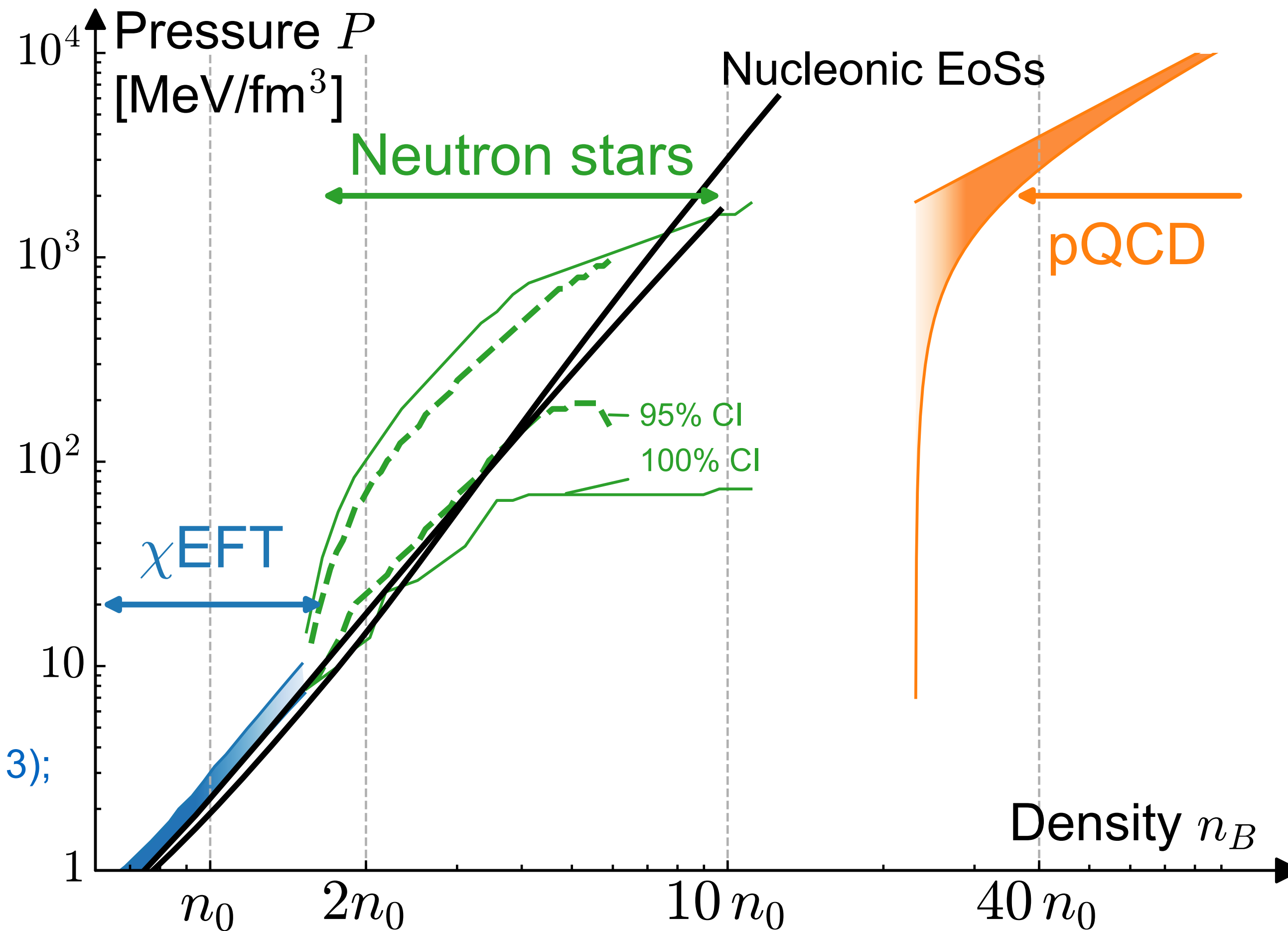


Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk(2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl,  
Melendez, Philips(2020);  
Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk(2022);  
& many others

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran(1978);  
Baluni(1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+(2009-)

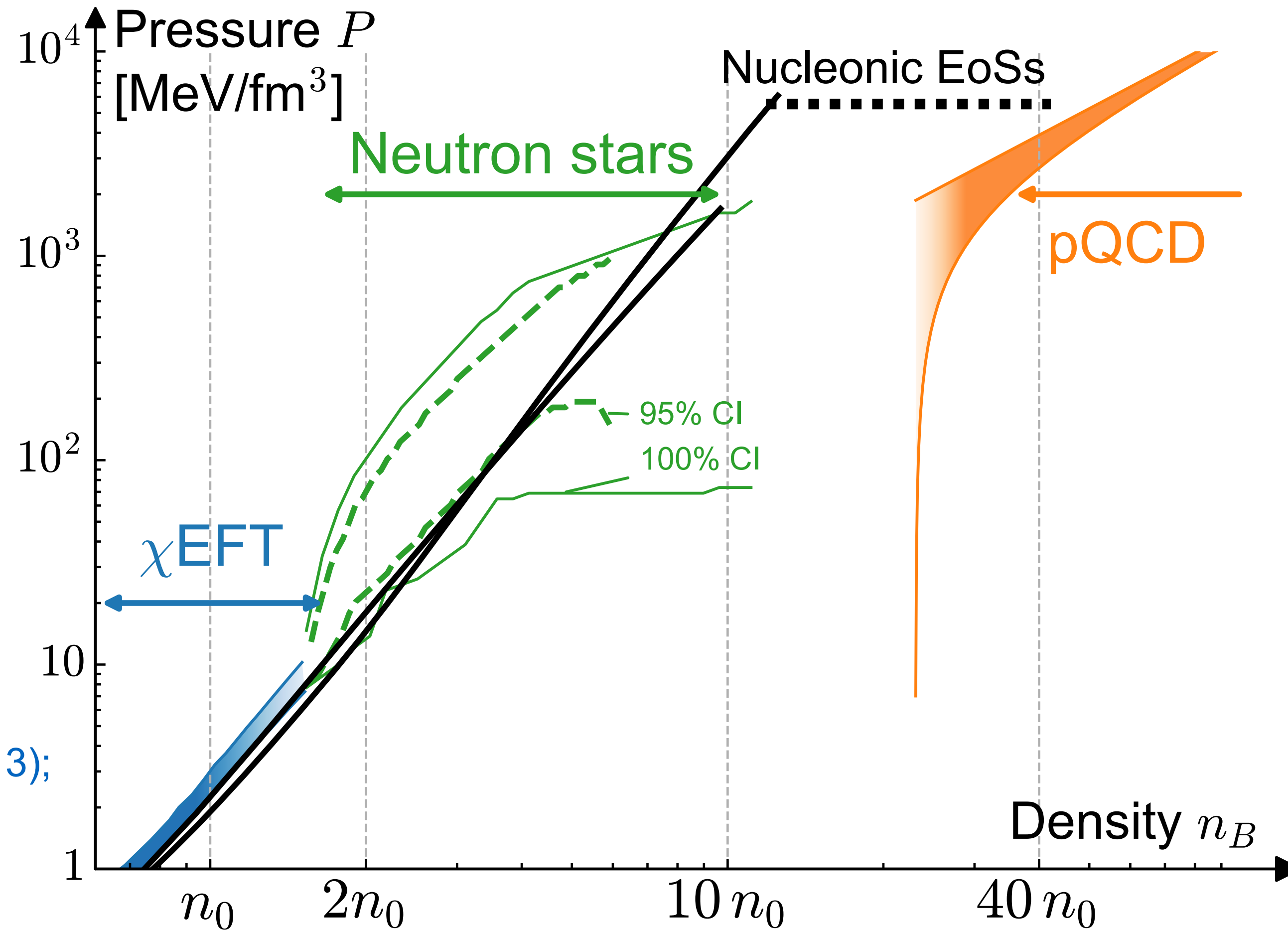


Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk(2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl,  
Melendez, Philips(2020);  
Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk(2022);  
& many others

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran (1978);  
Baluni (1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+ (2009-)

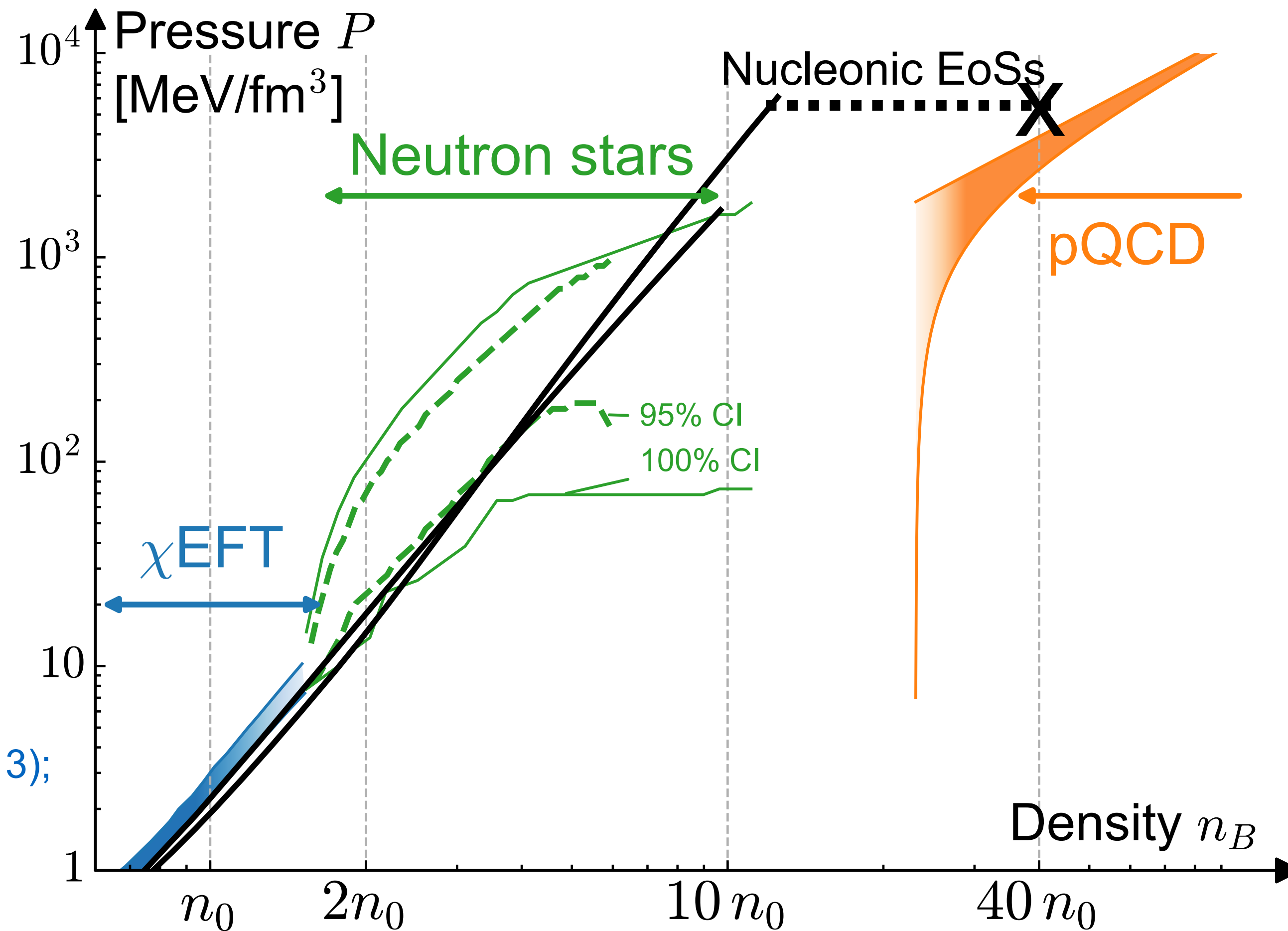


Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk (2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl,  
Melendez, Philips (2020);  
Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk (2022);  
& many others

# QCD equation of state (EoS)

Freedman, McLerran (1978);  
 Baluni (1979);  
 Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen,  
 Gorda, Säppi,  
 Paatelainen, Seppänen+ (2009-)

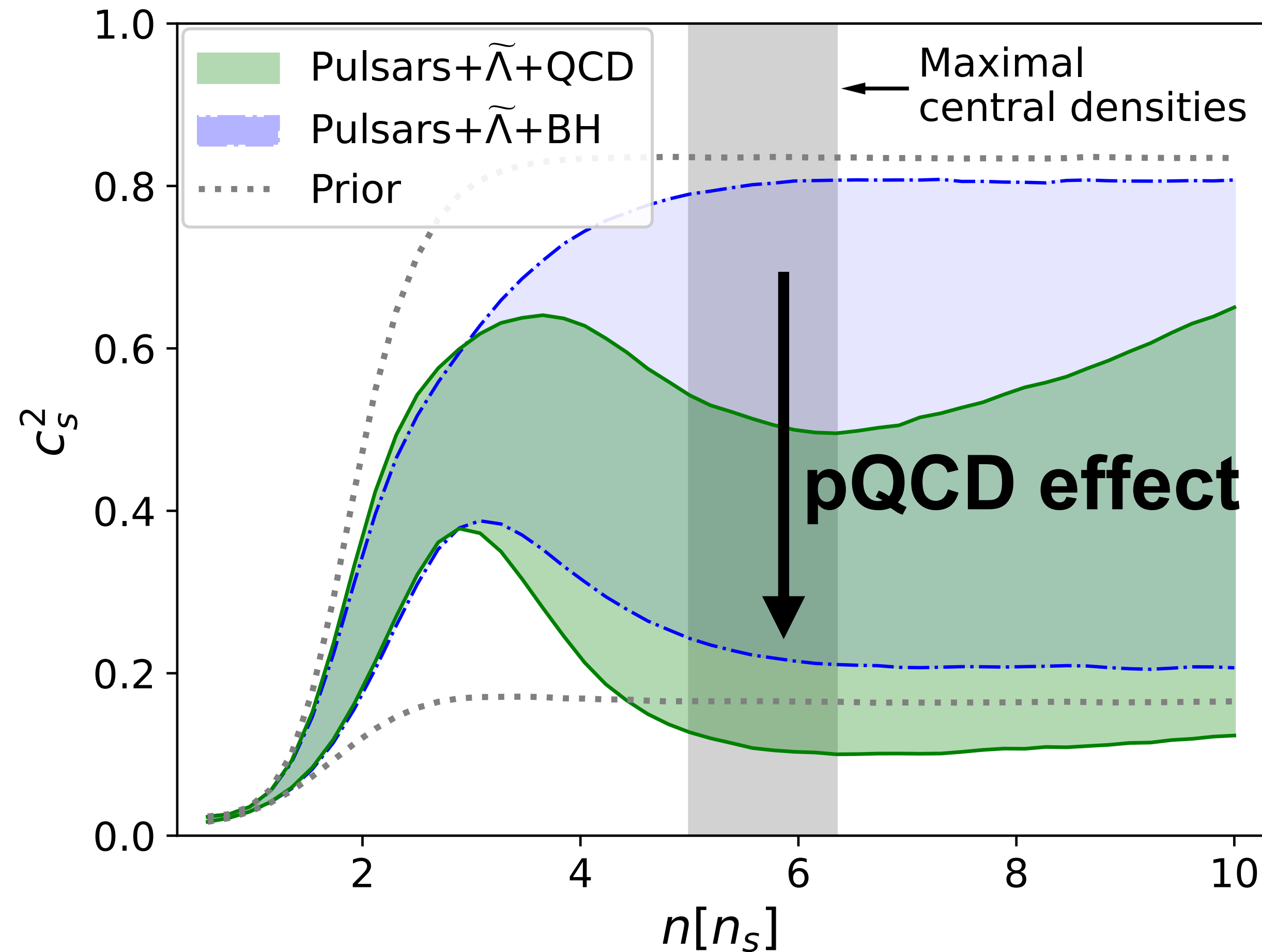


Nuclear density:  $n_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk (2013);  
 Drischler, Furnstahl,  
 Melendez, Philips (2020);  
 Keller, Hebeler, Schwenk (2022);  
 & many others



# The effect of pQCD on the EoS



## Softening at high density

Annala et al.(2020); Gorda,Komoltsev,Kurkela(2022);  
 Altiparmak,Ecker,Rezzola(2022);  
 Fujimoto,Fukushima,McLerran,Praszalowicz(2022);  
 Marczenko,McLerran,Redlich,Sasaki(2022)

cf. no softening

Somasundaram,Margueron,Tews(2022);  
 Brandes,Weise,Kaiser(2023); ...

## Disagreement?

→ No. But, depends on the density up to which the EoS is modeled

Komoltsev,Somasundaram,Gorda,Kurkela,Margueron,Tews(2023)

# QCD at finite isospin density

Alford, Kapustin, Wilczek (1999); Kogut, Sinclair (2002-);  
 Beane, Detmold, Savage et al. (NPLQCD) (2007-);  
 Endrodi et al. (2014-)...

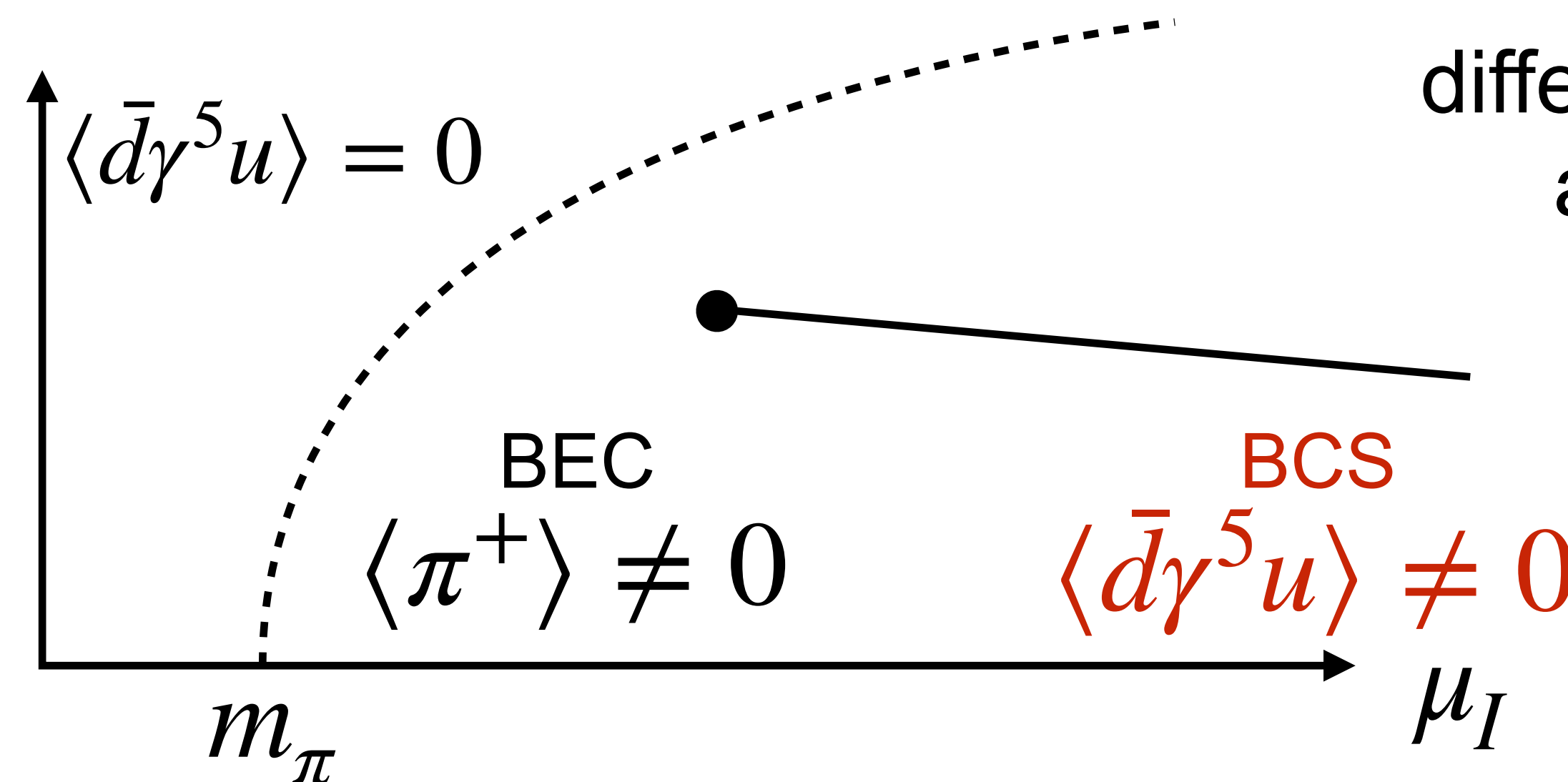
- **No sign problem** → can be simulated on the lattice!

- Isospin chemical potential (conjugate to isospin density  $I_3$ ):

$$\mu_u = \frac{\mu_I}{2}, \quad \mu_d = -\frac{\mu_I}{2} \dots \text{Fermi surface of } u \text{ \& } \bar{d}$$

- Phase structure:

Son, Stephanov (2000)



different from phase structure  
at finite baryon density

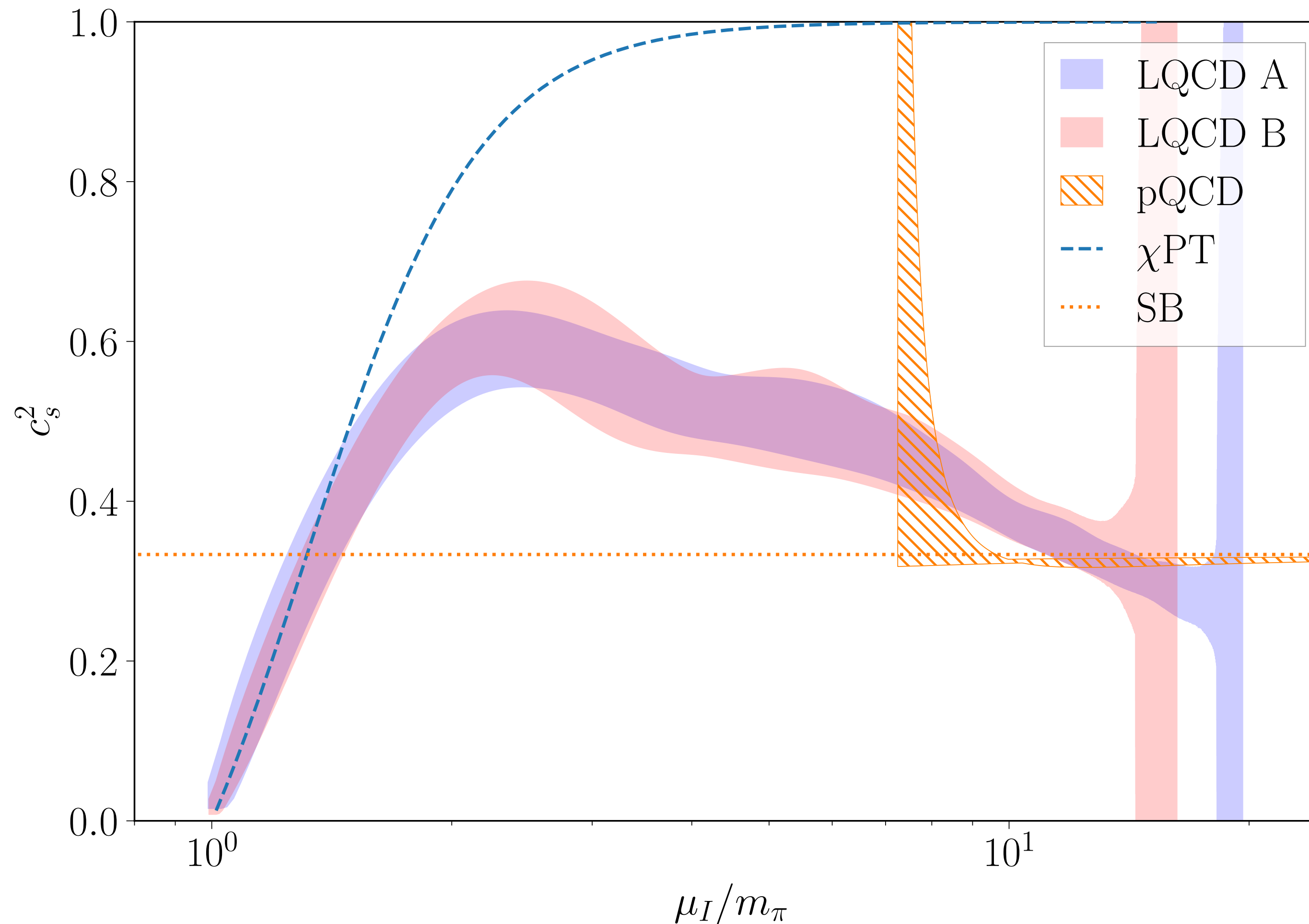
**Cooper pairing**

# QCD EoS at finite isospin density

**Recent impact:**

Abbott et al. (NPLQCD collaboration) (2023)

EoS is calculated up to  $n_I \sim 180 n_{\text{sat}}$  by lattice QCD



# Outline

## 1. Implications from lattice QCD at finite isospin density

a) Bounds on isospin symmetric EoS from QCD inequality

[Y. Fujimoto, S. Reddy, PRD109 \(2024\)](#)

b) Comparison with weak-coupling results

[Y. Fujimoto, PRD109 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, in preparation](#)

## 2. Duality and conformality in dense QCD

Trace anomaly, Quarkyonic matter

[Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, PRL132 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL129 \(2022\)](#)

# Outline

## 1. Implications from lattice QCD at finite isospin density

a) Bounds on isospin symmetric EoS from QCD inequality

[Y. Fujimoto, S. Reddy, PRD109 \(2024\)](#)

b) Comparison with weak-coupling results

[Y. Fujimoto, PRD109 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, in preparation](#)

## 2. Duality and conformality in dense QCD

Trace anomaly, Quarkyonic matter

[Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, PRL132 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL129 \(2022\)](#)

# Notation

- QCD<sub>*I*</sub>: QCD at finite  $\mu_I$  and zero  $\mu_B$
- QCD<sub>*B*</sub>: QCD at finite  $\mu_B$  and zero  $\mu_I$

# QCD inequality

Cohen (2003); [Fujimoto, Reddy \(2023\)](#);  
see also: [Moore, Gorda \(2023\)](#)

- **Dirac operator:**  $\mathcal{D}(\mu) \equiv \gamma^\mu D_\mu + m - \mu\gamma^0$ , **property:**  $\det \mathcal{D}(-\mu) = [\det \mathcal{D}(\mu)]^*$

- **QCD<sub>I</sub>:**  $Z_I(\mu_I) = \int [dA] \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_I}{2}) \det \mathcal{D}(-\frac{\mu_I}{2}) e^{-S_G} = \int [dA] \left| \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_I}{2}) \right|^2 e^{-S_G}$

- **QCD<sub>B</sub>:**  $Z_B(\mu_B) = \int [dA] \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_B}{N_c}) \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_B}{N_c}) e^{-S_G} \stackrel{\text{charge conjugation symmetry } \mu_B \rightarrow -\mu_B}{=} \int [dA] \operatorname{Re} \left[ \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_B}{N_c}) \right]^2 e^{-S_G}$

Note: this is **isospin symmetric** because there is no isospin imbalance

- From the relation  $\operatorname{Re} z^2 \leq |z^2| = |z|^2$ :

$$Z_B(\mu_B) \leq \int [dA] \left| \det \mathcal{D}(\frac{\mu_B}{N_c}) \right|^2 e^{-S_G} = Z_I(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B)$$

# QCD inequality

Cohen (2003); [Fujimoto, Reddy \(2023\)](#);  
see also: Moore, Gorda (2023)

- Take the log of the following inequality:

$$Z_B(\mu_B) \leq Z_I(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B)$$

- QCD inequality for pressure  $P \propto \log Z$ :

$$P_B(\mu_B) \leq P_I(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B)$$

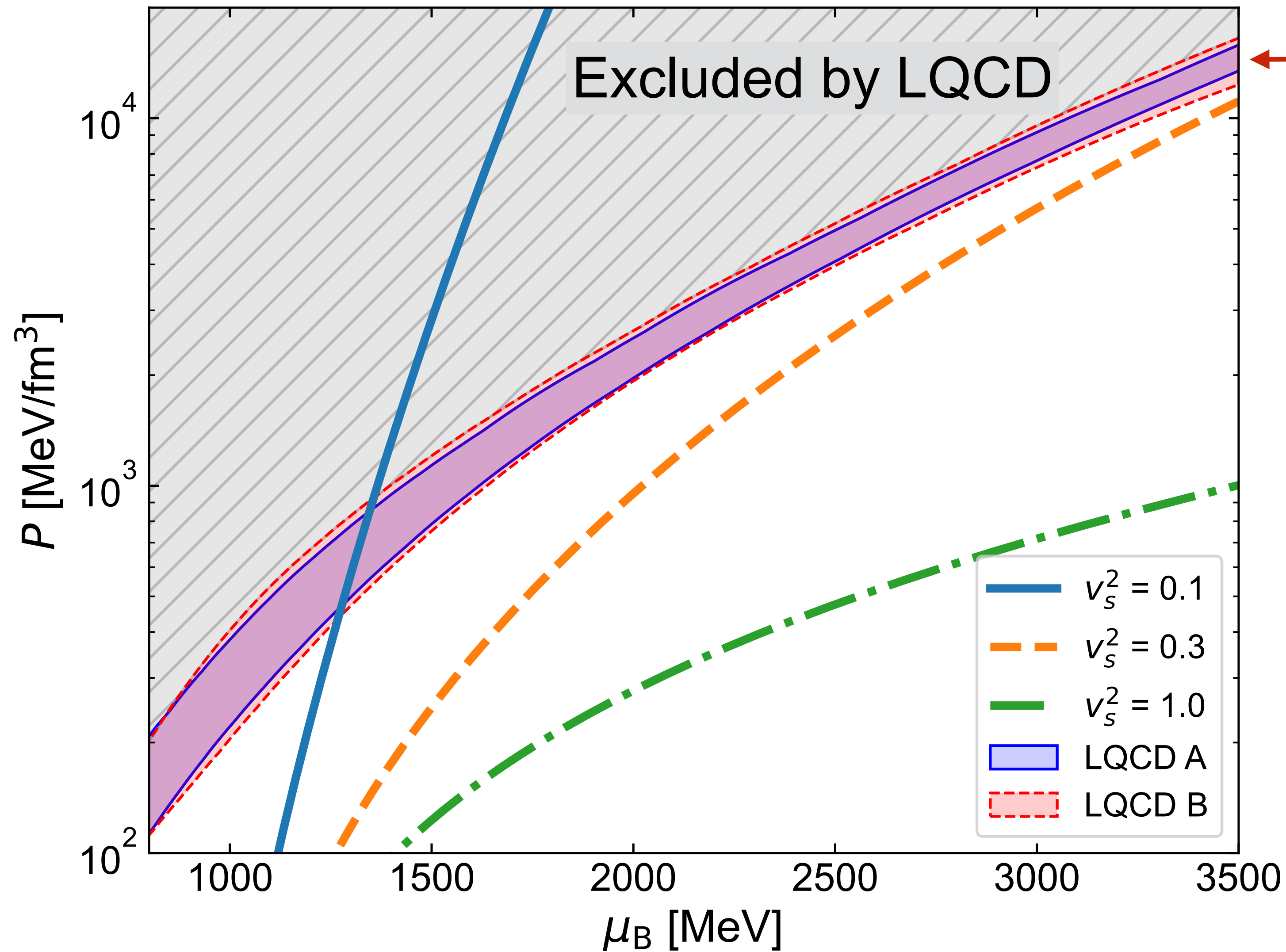
Pressure of dense QCD<sub>B</sub> matter  
(what we want to know)

Pressure of dense QCD<sub>I</sub> matter  
(what we already know  
from lattice QCD)



# Direct use of QCD inequality

Lattice data: [Abbott et al. \(2023\)](#); [Fujimoto, Reddy \(2023\)](#)

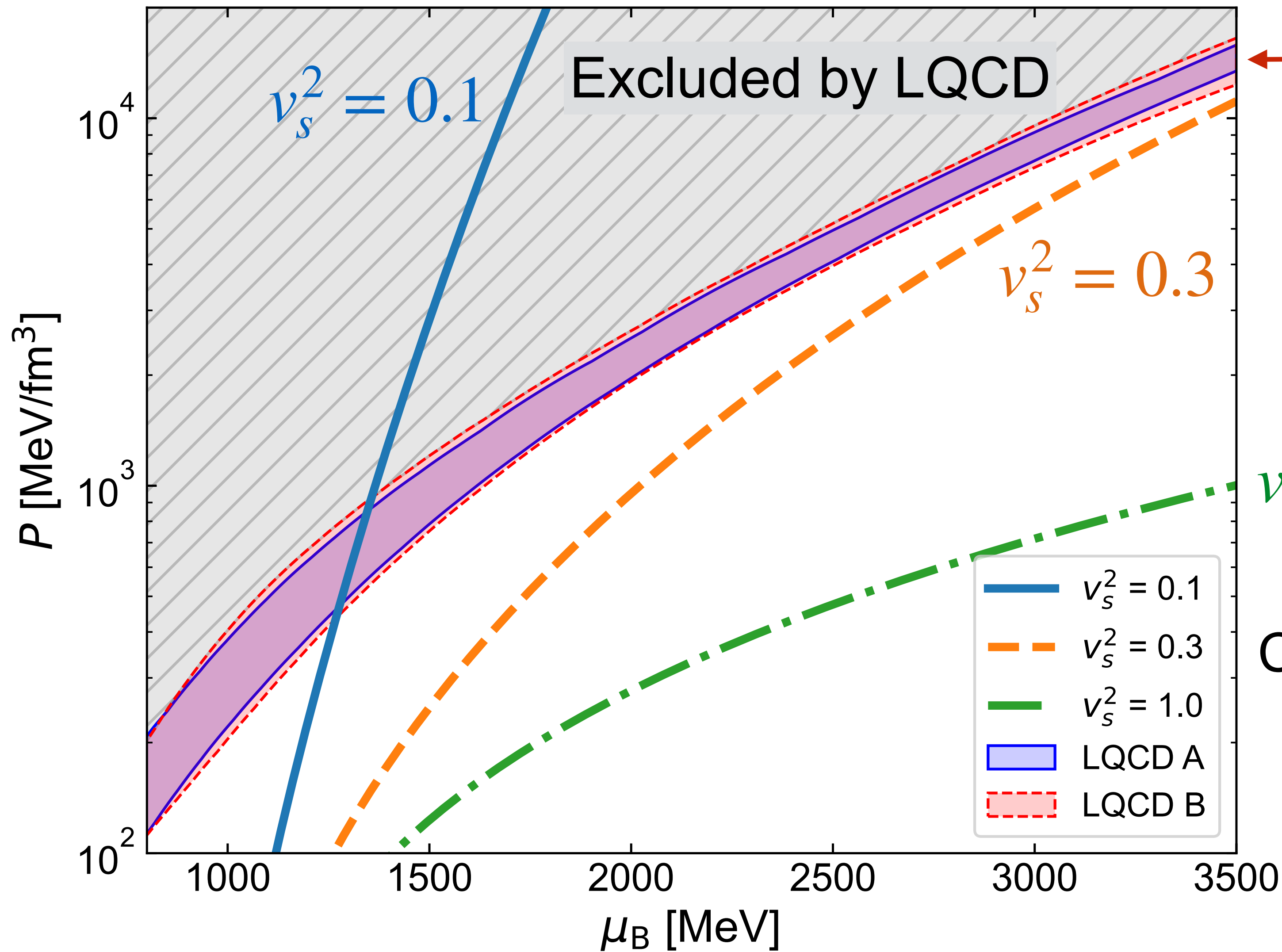


← Lattice data: upper bound

$$P_B(\mu_B) \leq P_I\left(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B\right)$$

# Direct use of QCD inequality

Lattice data: Abbott et al. (2023); Fujimoto, Reddy (2023)



Lattice data: upper bound

$$P_B(\mu_B) \leq P_I\left(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B\right)$$

$v_s^2 = 1.0$

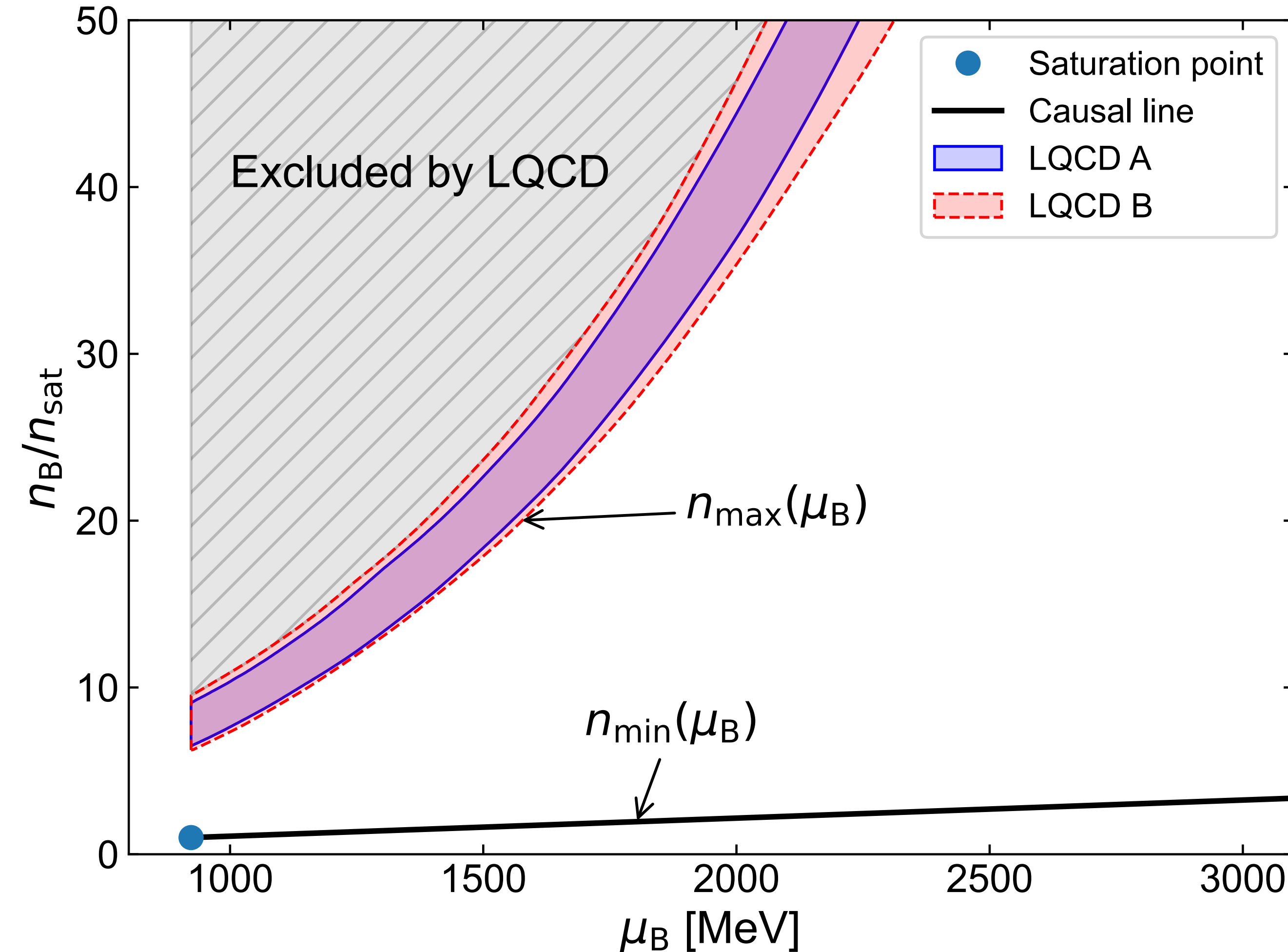
Constant sound speed EoS:  $P(\varepsilon) \propto v_s^2 \varepsilon$

**Soft EoS (smaller  $P$  at a given  $\varepsilon$ ) is excluded**

# Bounds on $n_B(\mu_B)$

Komoltsev, Kurkela (2021); Fujimoto, Reddy (2023)

Properties  $n_B(\mu_B)$  must satisfy:



① Stability:

$$\frac{d^2 P}{d\mu_B^2} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dn_B}{d\mu_B} \geq 0$$

② Causality  $v_s^2 \leq 1$ :

$$v_s^2 = \frac{n_B}{\mu_B} \frac{d\mu_B}{dn_B} \leq 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dn_B}{d\mu_B} \geq \frac{n_B}{\mu_B}$$

③ QCD inequality on the integral:

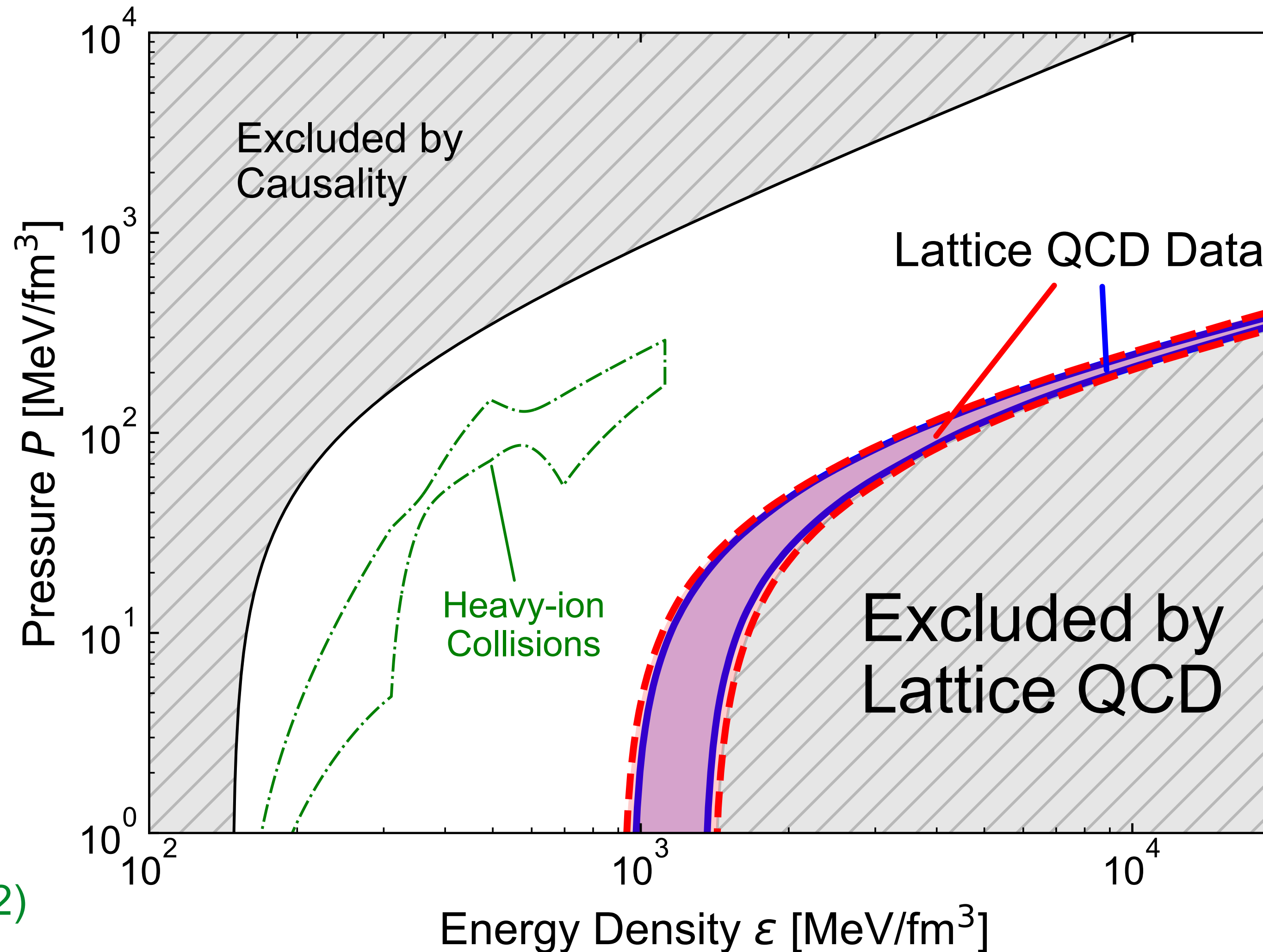
$$\int_{\mu_{\text{sat}}}^{\mu_B} d\mu' n_B(\mu') \leq P_I(\mu_I = \frac{2}{N_c} \mu_B)$$

Lower bound of the integral must be specified  
fix it to the **empirical saturation property**

# Robust bounds on $P(\varepsilon)$

Fujimoto, Reddy (2023)

From the relation  $\varepsilon = -P + \mu_B n_B$ :



Heavy-ion:  
Oliinychenko et al.(2022)

**Soft EoS at large  $\varepsilon$   
is excluded**

# Outline

## 1. Implications from lattice QCD at finite isospin density

a) Bounds on isospin symmetric EoS from QCD inequality

[Y. Fujimoto, S. Reddy, PRD109 \(2024\)](#)

b) Comparison with weak-coupling results

[Y. Fujimoto, PRD109 \(2024\)](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, in preparation](#)

## 2. Duality and conformality in dense QCD

Trace anomaly, Quarkyonic matter

[Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, PRL132 \(2024\)](#);

[Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL129 \(2022\)](#)

# Applicability of weak-coupling results?

Freedman, McLerran (1978); Baluni (1979);  
Kurkela, Romatschke, Vuorinen, Gorda, Säppi,  
Paatelainen, Seppänen+ (2009-)

## Bulk pQCD thermodynamics in weak-coupling $\alpha_s$ expansion:

$$P_{\text{pQCD}}(\mu) = \frac{3\mu^2}{4\pi^2} \left[ 1 - 2\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} - \left( 2 \ln \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} + \frac{29}{6} \ln \frac{\bar{\Lambda}^2}{(2\mu)^2} + 17.39 \right) \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \right]$$

$(N_c = 3, N_f = 3)$

- Convergence seems to be good up to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$
- Valid down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV?
- **Universal for QCD<sub>B</sub> and QCD<sub>I</sub> up to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$**  Moore, Gorda (2023); Navarette, Paatelainen, Seppänen (2024)  
→ **Lattice QCD<sub>I</sub> can be used as benchmark**

# Condensation energy

e.g. Alford, Rajagopal, Schafer, Schmitt (2008); [Fujimoto \(2023\)](#)

## Contribution of the Cooper pairing gap to bulk thermodynamics (pressure)

Difference in pressure w/ and w/o the gap formation:

$$\delta P \equiv P(\Delta \neq 0) - P(\Delta = 0)$$

Weak-coupling expression up to next-to-leading order:

$$\delta P = \frac{3\mu^2}{2\pi^2} \Delta^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\pi}{3} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^{1/2} \right] \dots \text{condensation energy}$$

D.o.S

Pairing gap, weak-coupling formula

# Cooper pairing gap in weak coupling

Son (1998); Schäfer, Wilczek (1999); Pisarski, Rischke (1999);  
Brown, Liu, Ren (1999); Wang, Rischke (2001); ...

- Color-superconducting gap up to next to leading order:

$$\ln \left( \frac{\Delta}{\mu} \right) = - \frac{\sqrt{3} \pi}{2 \sqrt{c_R}} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{5}{2} \ln \left( N_f \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right) + \ln \frac{2^{\frac{13}{2}}}{\pi} - \frac{\pi^2 + 4}{12 c_R} - \zeta + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{\frac{1}{2}})$$

$$c_R = 2/3 \text{ for } \bar{\mathbf{3}}, c_R = 4/3 \text{ for } \mathbf{1} \text{ channel, } \zeta = \frac{1}{3} \ln 2 \text{ for CFL, } \zeta = 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

... this formula is also universal for QCD<sub>B</sub> (color superconductivity)

and QCD<sub>I</sub> (pion condensation-like Cooper pairing) [Fujimoto \(2023\)](#)

→ Lattice QCD<sub>I</sub> can also be used as benchmark



# Cooper pairing gap in weak coupling

Son (1998); Schäfer, Wilczek (1999); Pisarski, Rischke (1999);  
Brown, Liu, Ren (1999); Wang, Rischke (2001); ...

- Color-superconducting gap up to next to leading order:

$$\ln \left( \frac{\Delta}{\mu} \right) = - \frac{\sqrt{3} \pi}{2 \sqrt{c_R}} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{5}{2} \ln \left( N_f \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right) + \ln \frac{2^{\frac{13}{2}}}{\pi} - \frac{\pi^2 + 4}{12 c_R} - \zeta + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^{\frac{1}{2}})$$

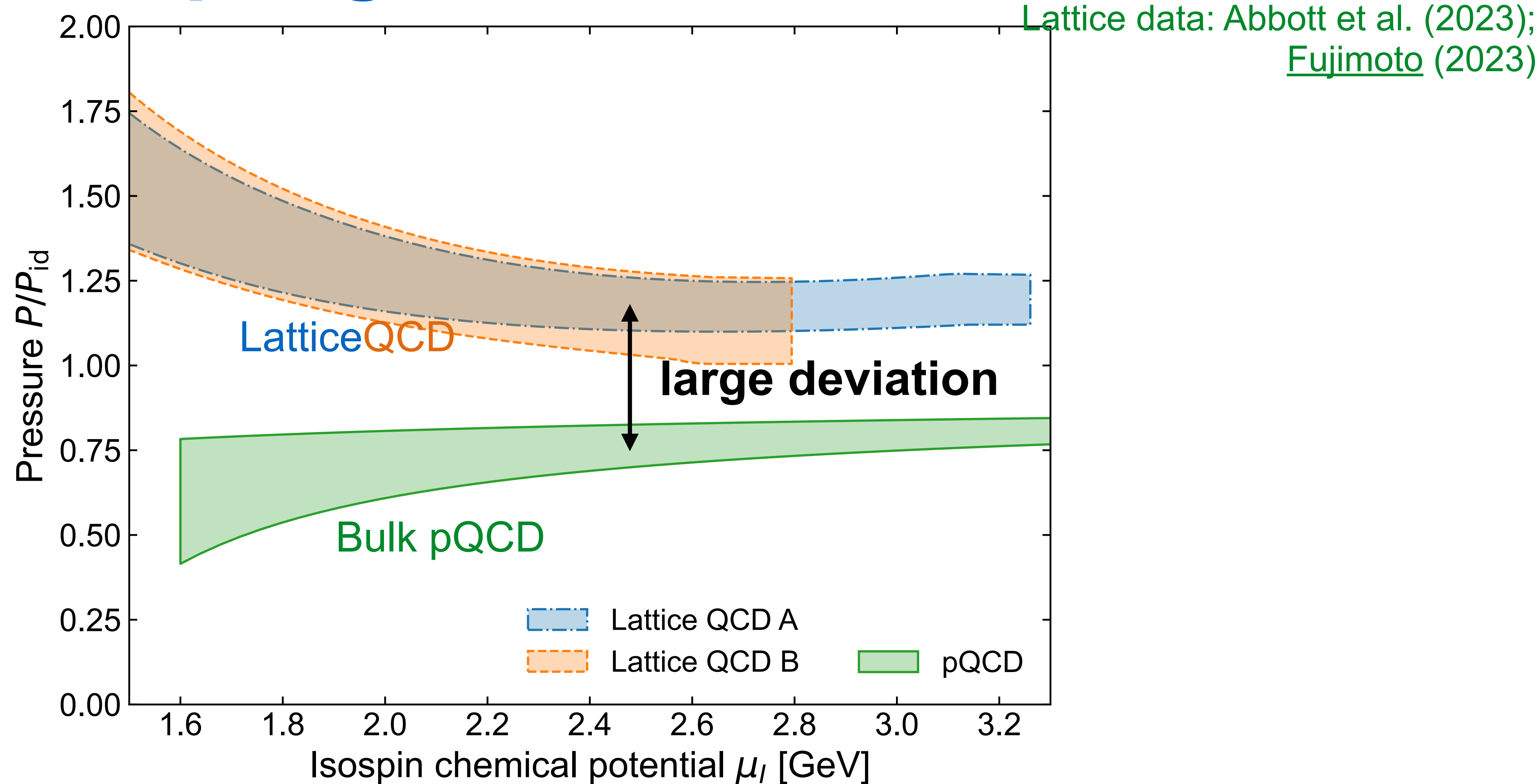
$c_R = 2/3$  for  $\bar{\mathbf{3}}$ ,  $c_R = 4/3$  for  $\mathbf{1}$  channel,  $\zeta = \frac{1}{3} \ln 2$  for CFL,  $\zeta = 0$  otherwise

## Pros and cons for the applicability:

**Con** 👎: - Folklore — only applicable at very large  $\mu$  e.g.  $\mu \sim 10^8$  MeV  
[Rajagopal, Shuster (2000)]

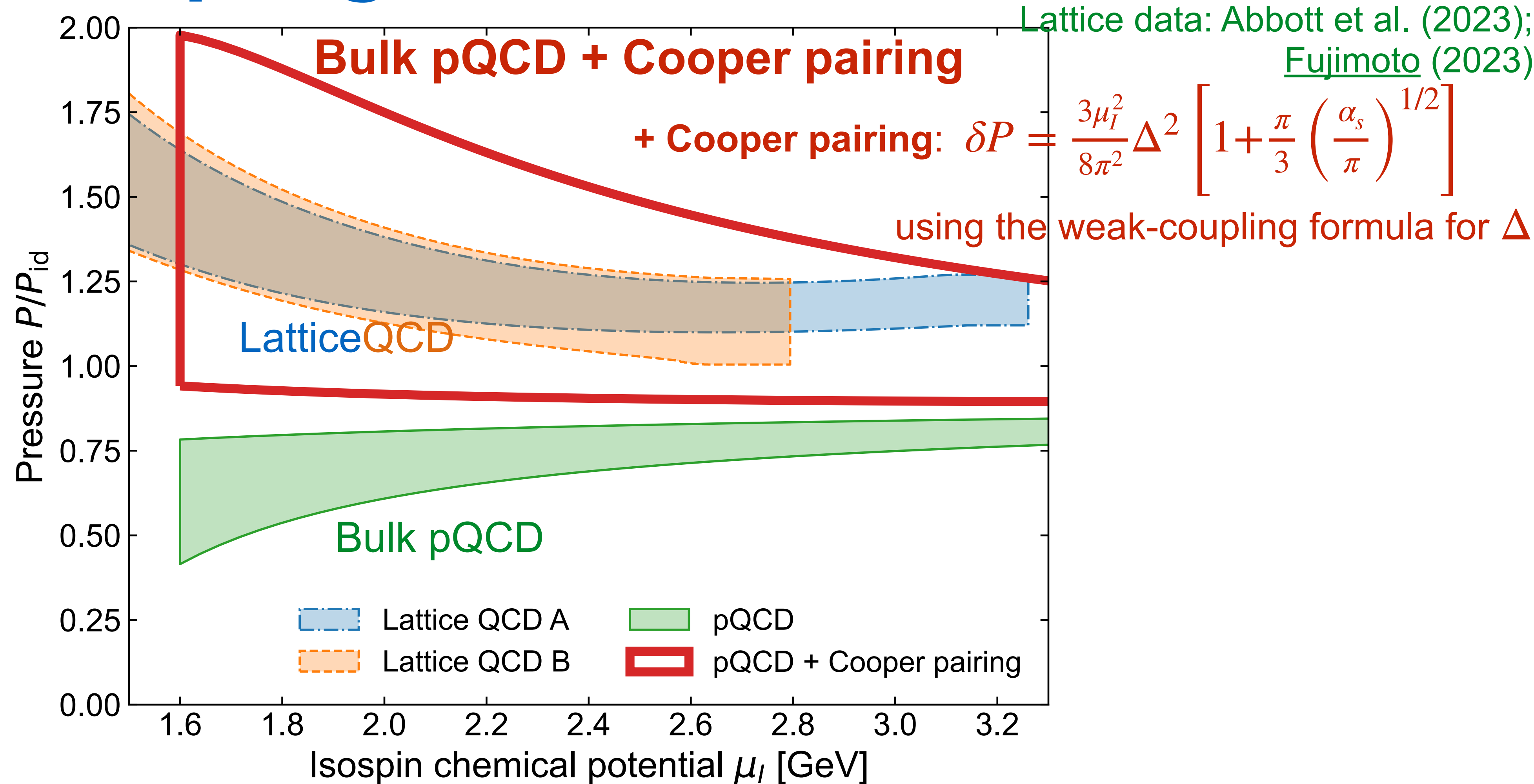
**Pros** 👍: - Standard pQCD (e.g. collider pheno) is valid down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV  
- Derivation of  $\Delta$  is valid as long as  $\Delta \ll m_D \ll \mu$  (scale separation)

# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data



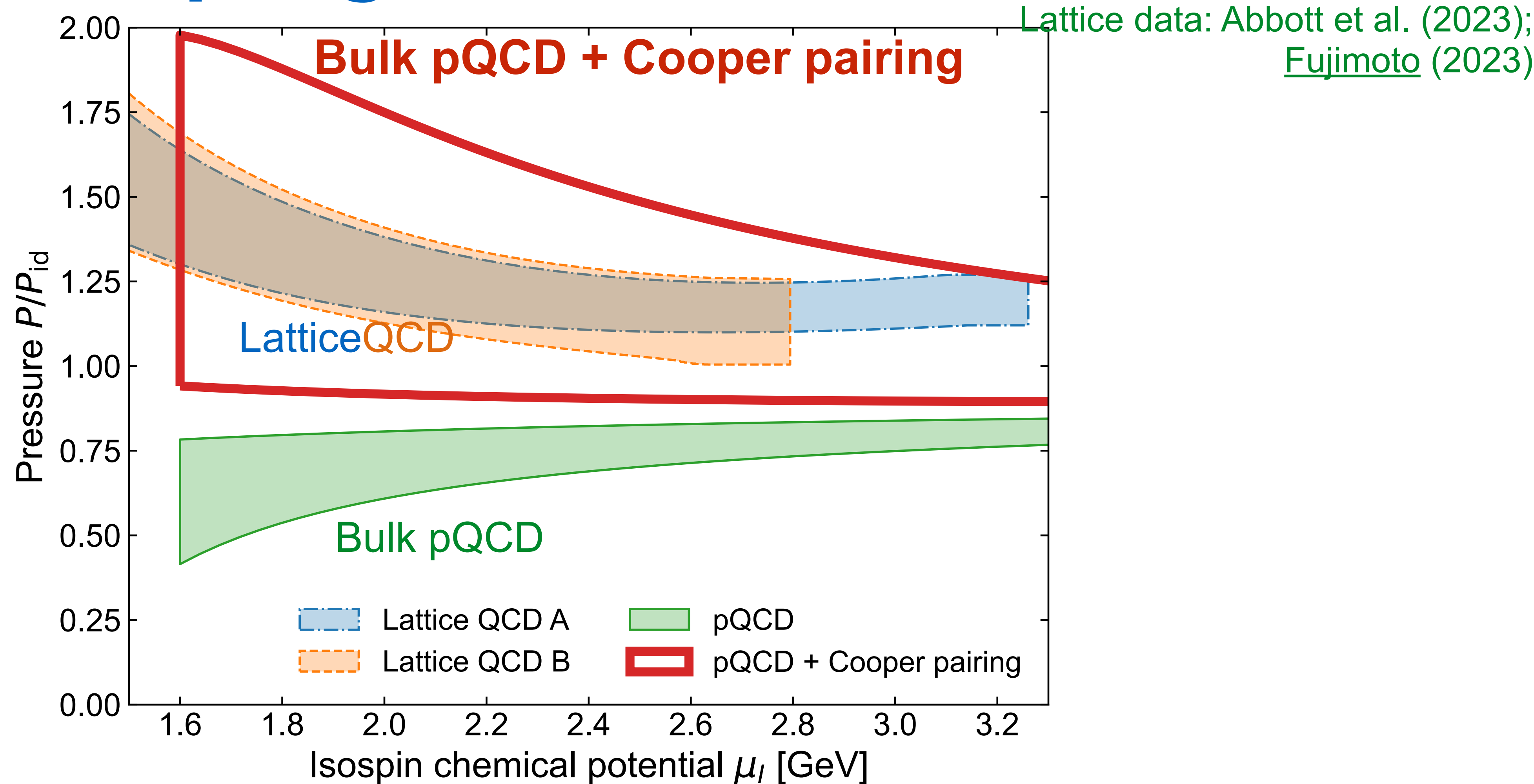
Bulk pQCD pressure: 
$$P_{\text{pQCD}}(\mu) = \frac{3\mu^2}{4\pi^2} \left[ 1 - 2\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} - \left( 2 \ln \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} + \frac{29}{6} \ln \frac{\bar{\Lambda}^2}{(2\mu)^2} + 17.39 \right) \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \right]$$

# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data



$$\text{Bulk pQCD pressure: } P_{\text{pQCD}}(\mu) = \frac{3\mu^2}{4\pi^2} \left[ 1 - 2\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} - \left( 2 \ln \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} + \frac{29}{6} \ln \frac{\bar{\Lambda}^2}{(2\mu)^2} + 17.39 \right) \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3) \right]$$

# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data



**Empirical evidence for the dense-QCD weak-coupling results to be applicable down to  $\mu \sim 800$  MeV**

At least the magnitude is correct

# Is the gap $\Delta$ the only correction?

Alford, Braby, Paris, Reddy (2004)

$$P = a_4 \mu^4 + a_2 \mu^2 - B$$

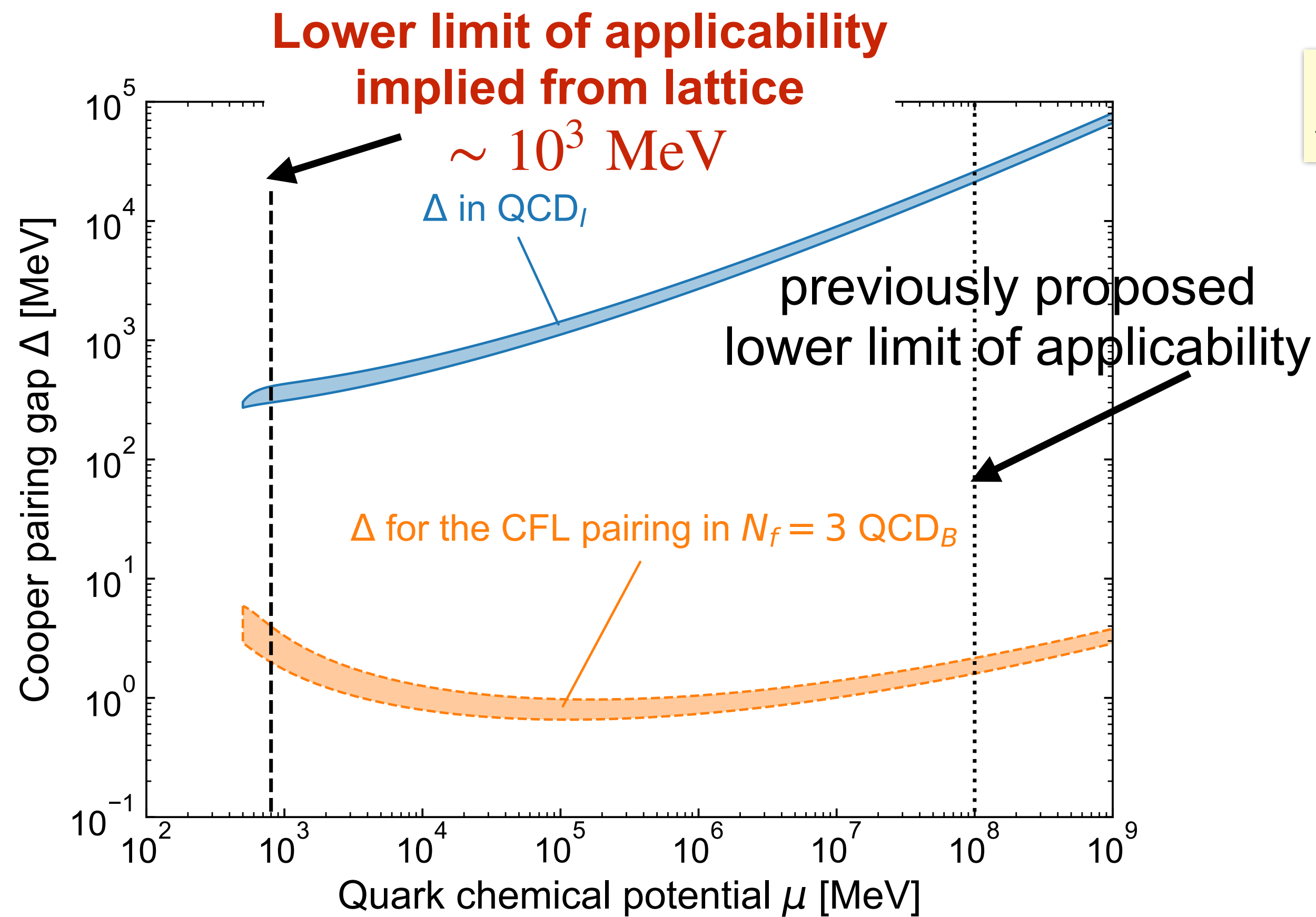
- $a_4$ : Ideal gas behavior + pQCD correction (Dominant)
- $a_2$ : **Gap correction**  $a_2 \propto \Delta^2$  (large, ~20-200%),  
Quark mass  $a_2 \propto -m_f^2$  (small, ~1%)  
Temperature  $a_2 \propto T^2$  (small, ~1%)
- $B$ : Bag constant, typically  $B^{1/4} \simeq 200$  MeV (small, ~0.5%)  
Instantons, suppressed by  $\frac{m_f}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}} \sim 10^{-3}$

Shuryak; Kallman; Abrikosov; de Carvalho; Chemtob; Baluni (late 70s - early 80s)

# Impact on $\text{QCD}_B$ : color superconductivity

Fujimoto, *in prep.* (2024)

Weak-coupling Cooper pairing gap formula is reliable down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV

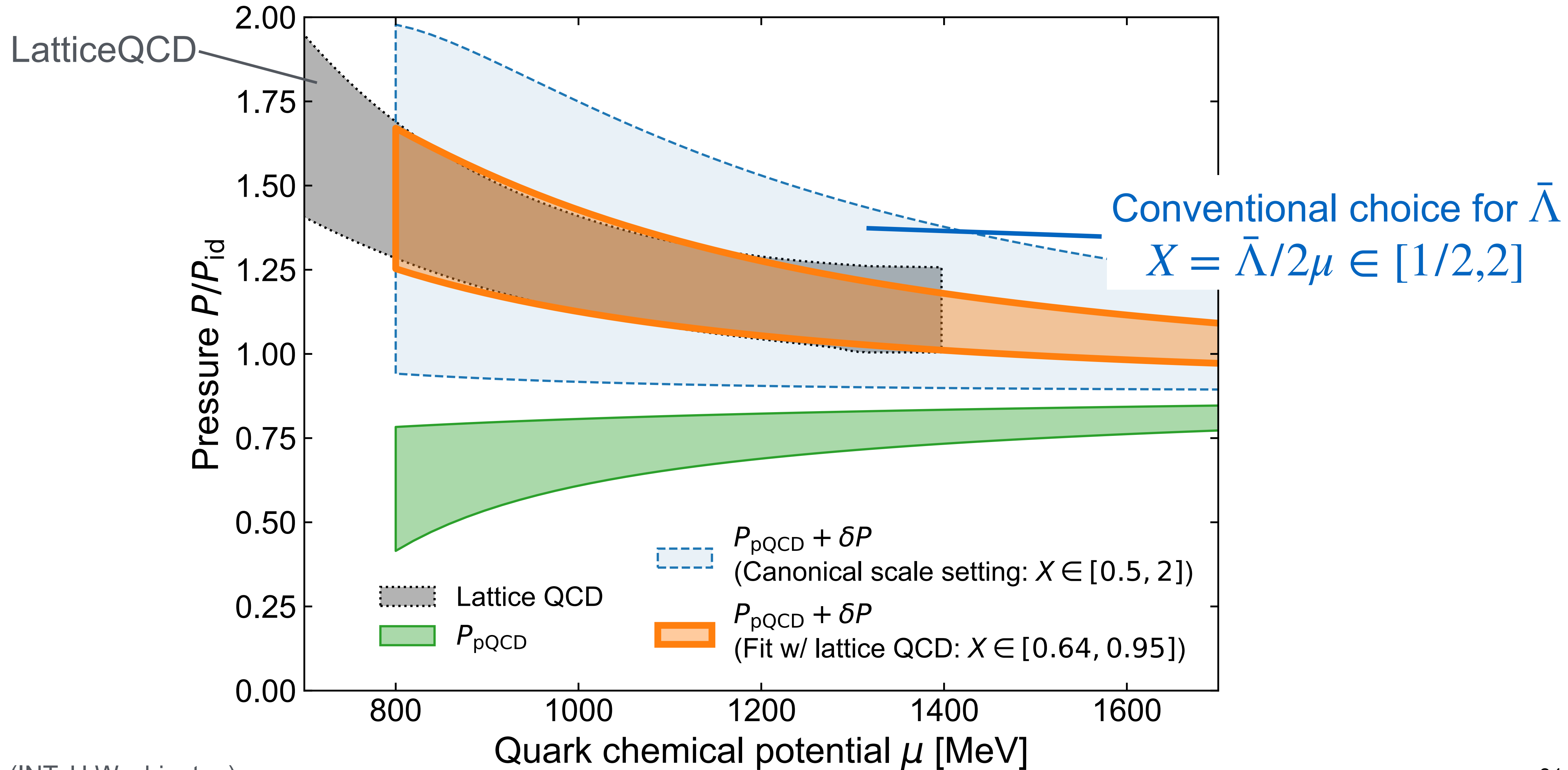


$$\Delta_{\text{CFL}} \sim 2 - 3 \text{ MeV at } \mu = 800 \text{ MeV}$$

- A negligibly **small** contribution to bulk thermodynamics
- Comparable to the stress by strange quark mass:  $\Delta_{\text{CFL}} \sim m_s^2 / 4\mu$   
→ CFL may not be the ground state?

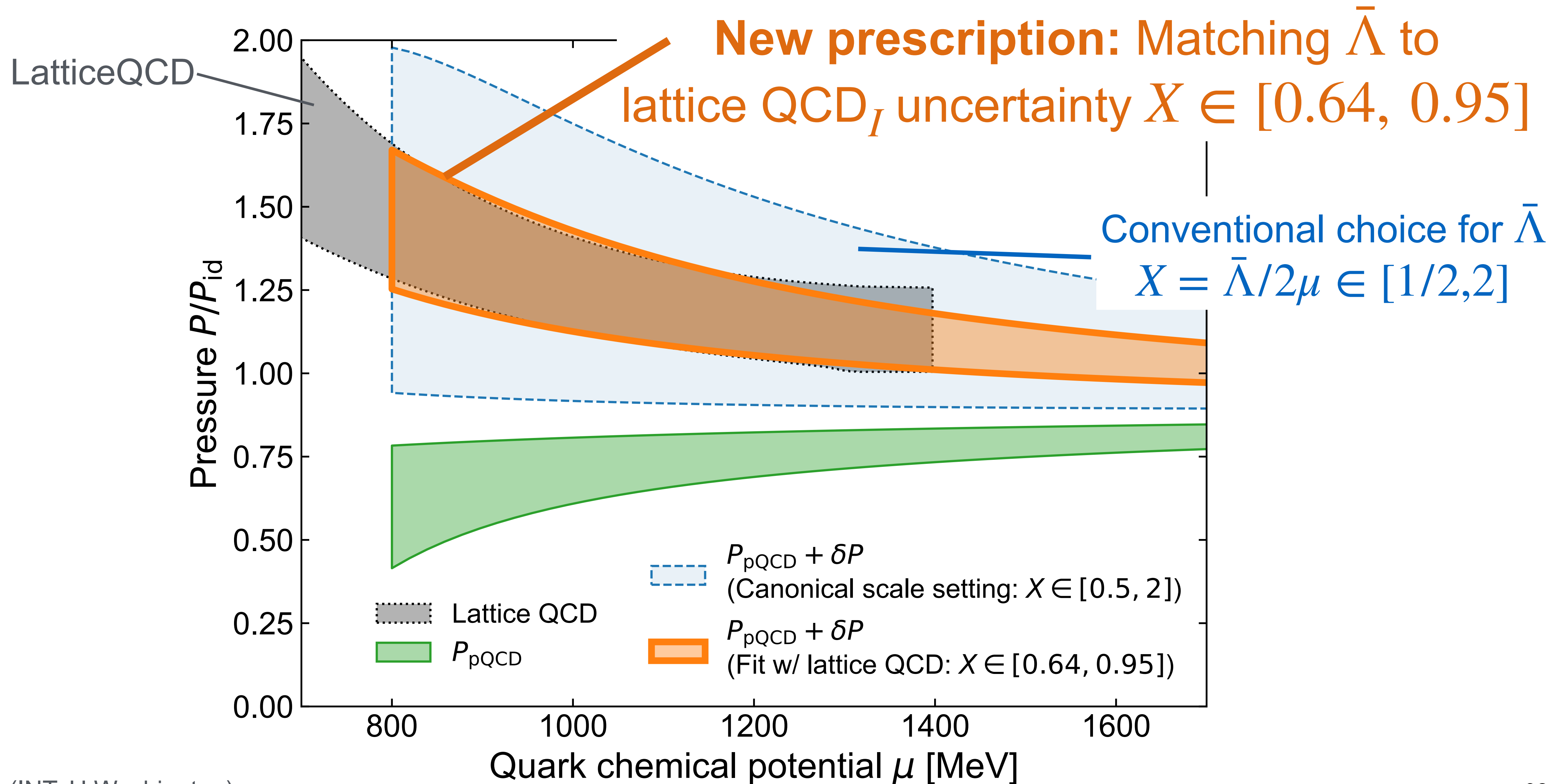
# Prescription for $\bar{\Lambda}$ determination

Fujimoto, *in prep.* (2024)



# Prescription for $\bar{\Lambda}$ determination

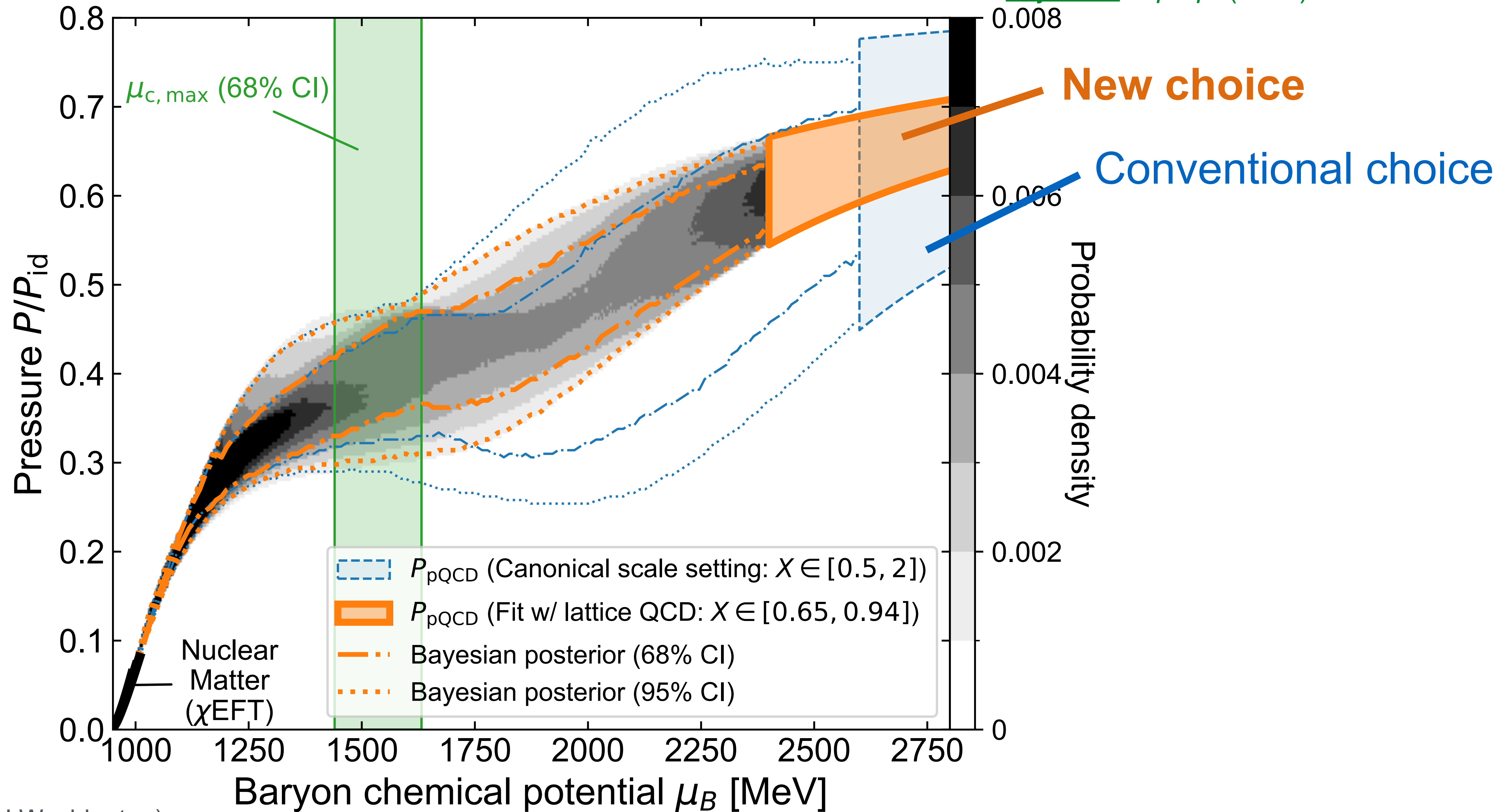
Fujimoto, *in prep.* (2024)





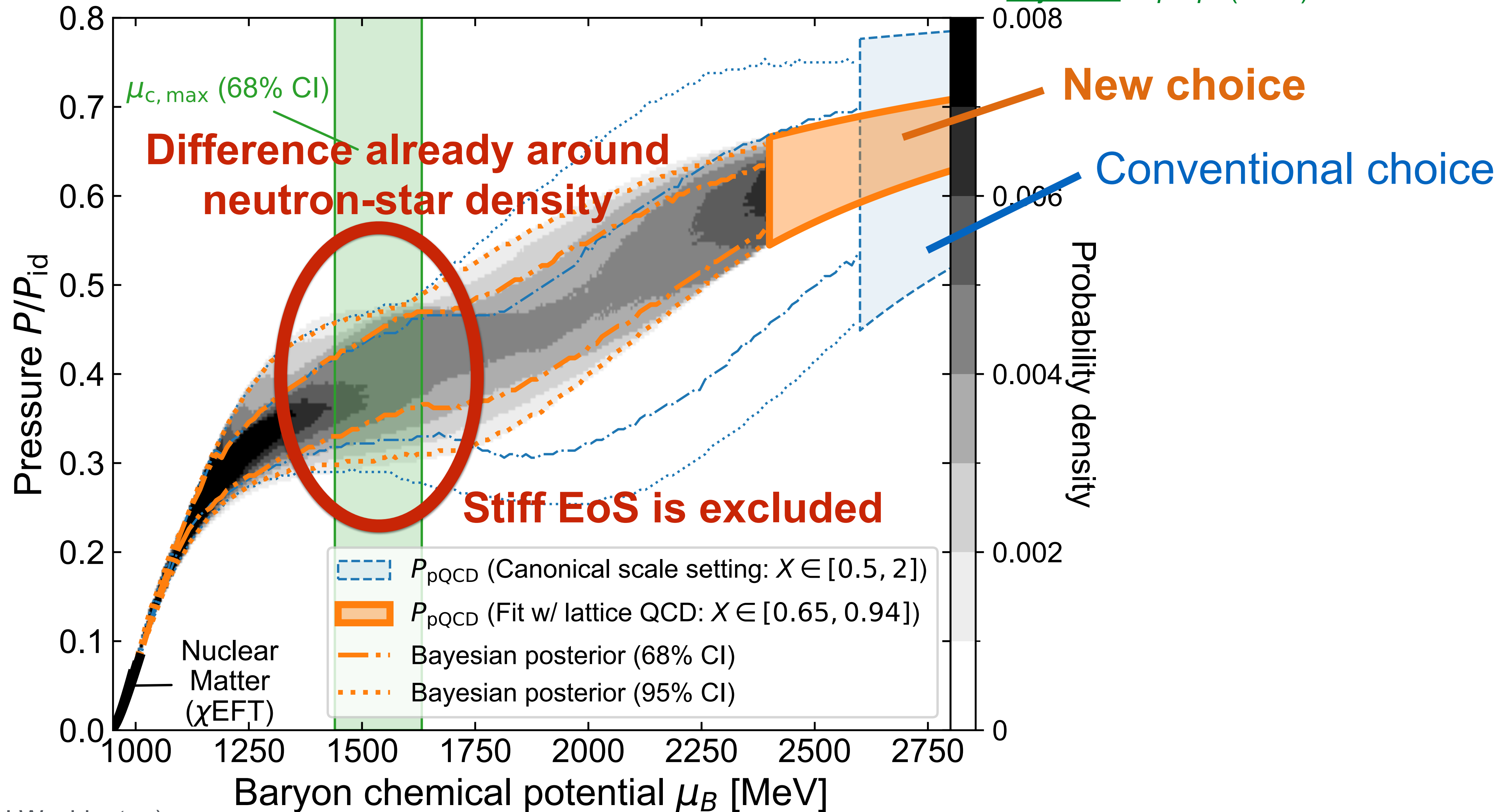
# Impact on $\tilde{QCD}_B$ : NS phenomenology

Fujimoto, *in prep.* (2024)



# Impact on $\underline{QCD}_B$ : NS phenomenology

Fujimoto, *in prep.* (2024)

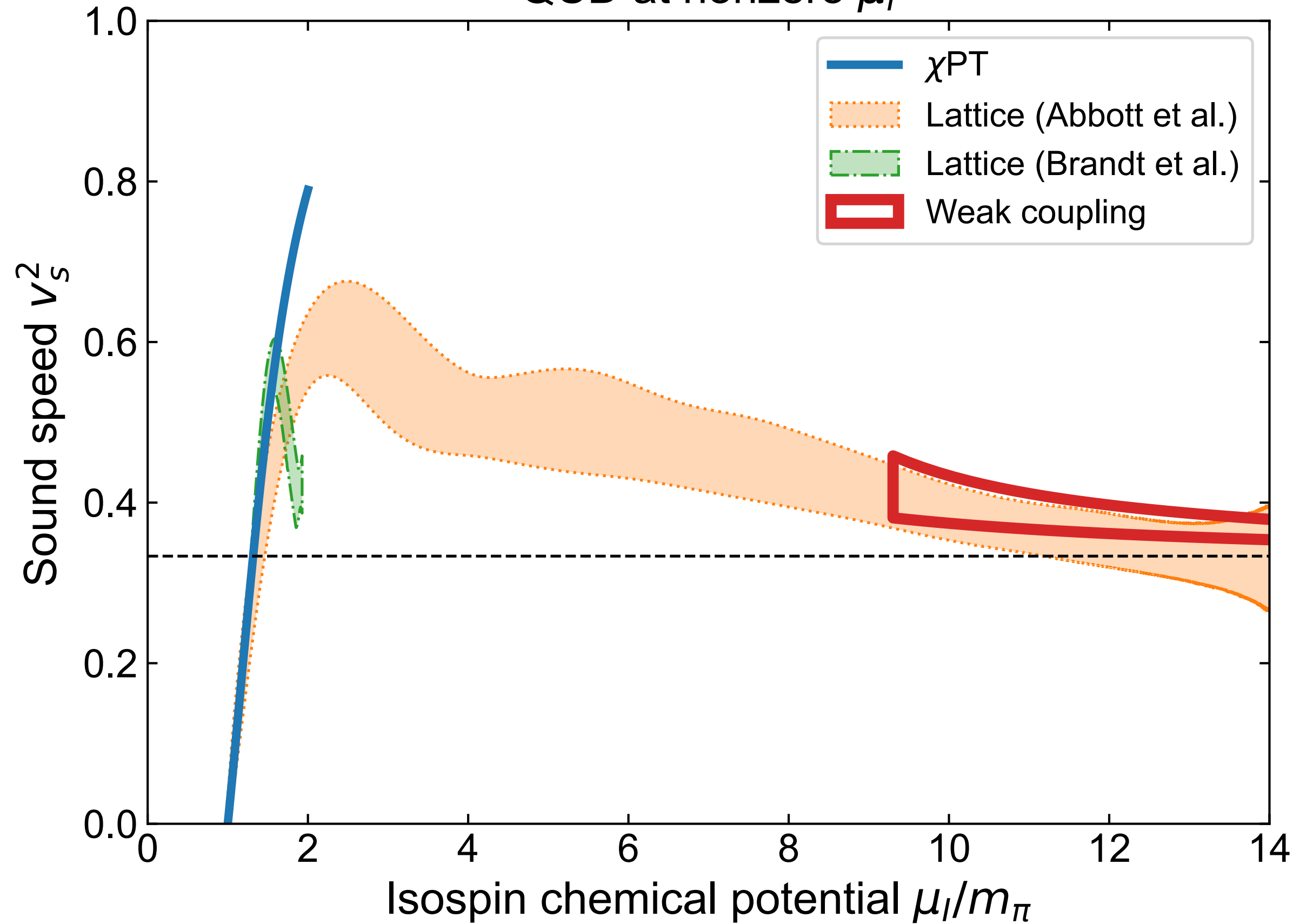


# Outlook: Finite- $\mu$ lattice simulations

*Fujimoto, in prep. (2024)*

## Already calculated

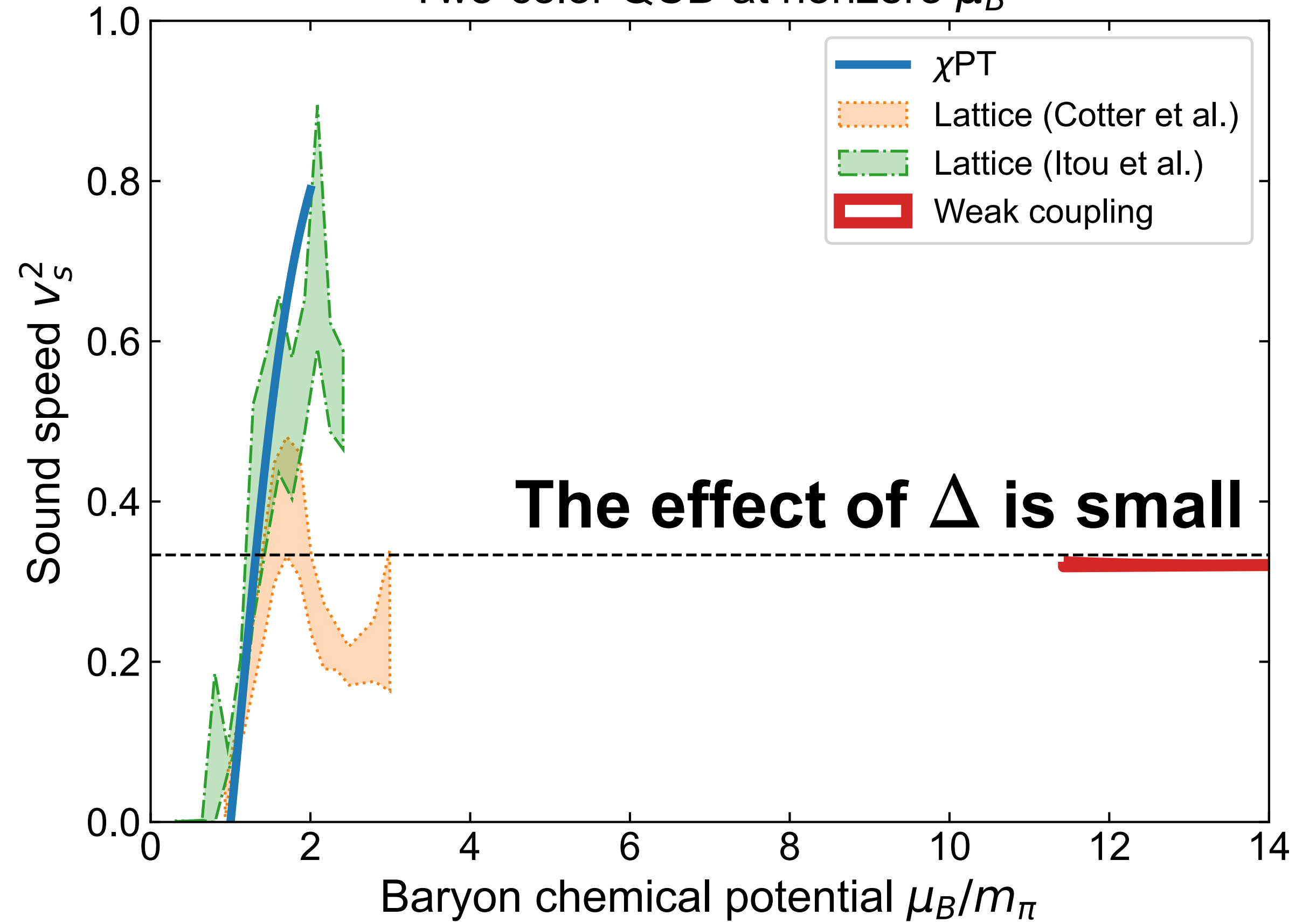
QCD at nonzero  $\mu_I$



QCD<sub>I</sub>

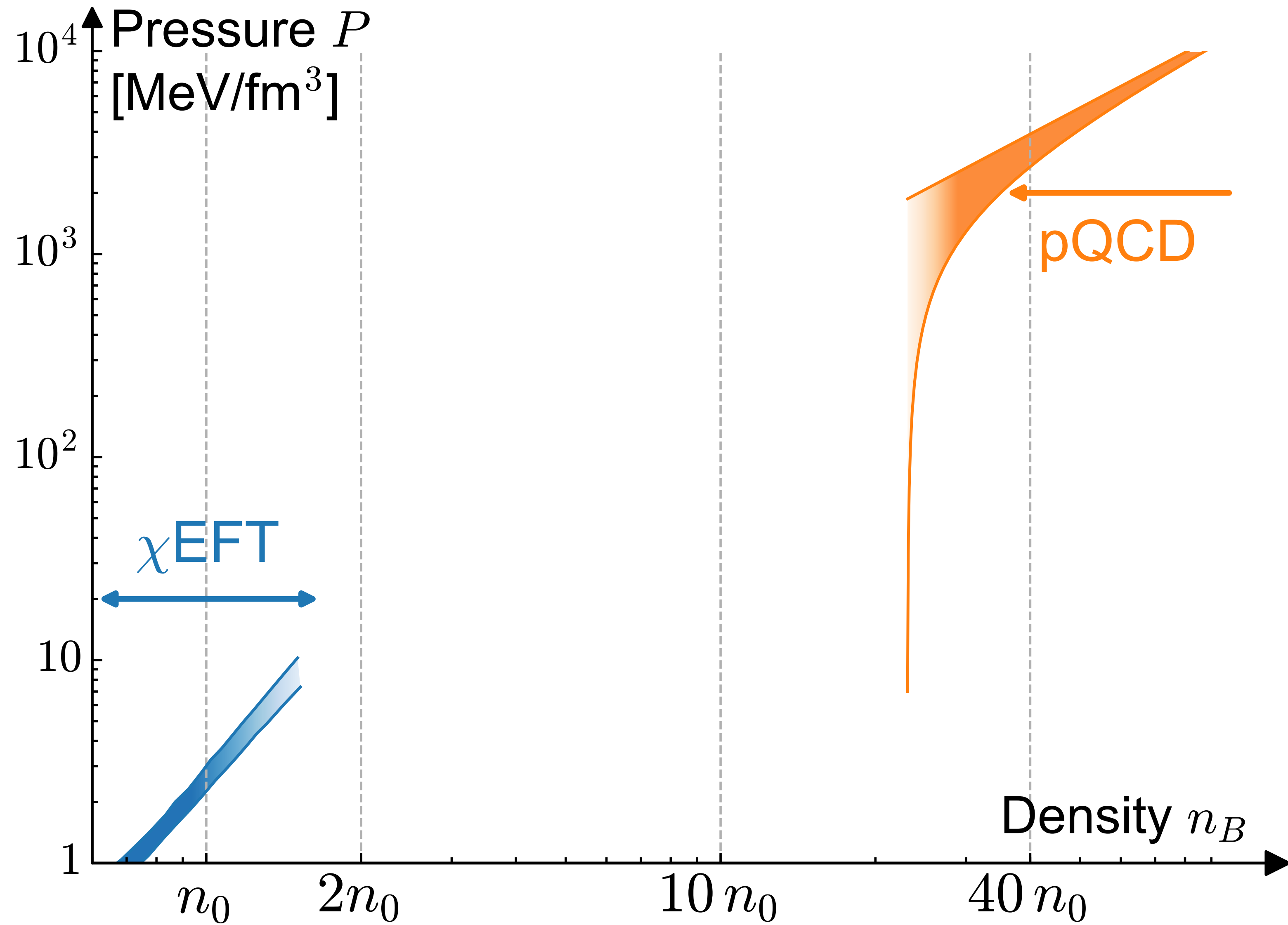
## Calculable w/o the sign problem

Two-color QCD at nonzero  $\mu_B$

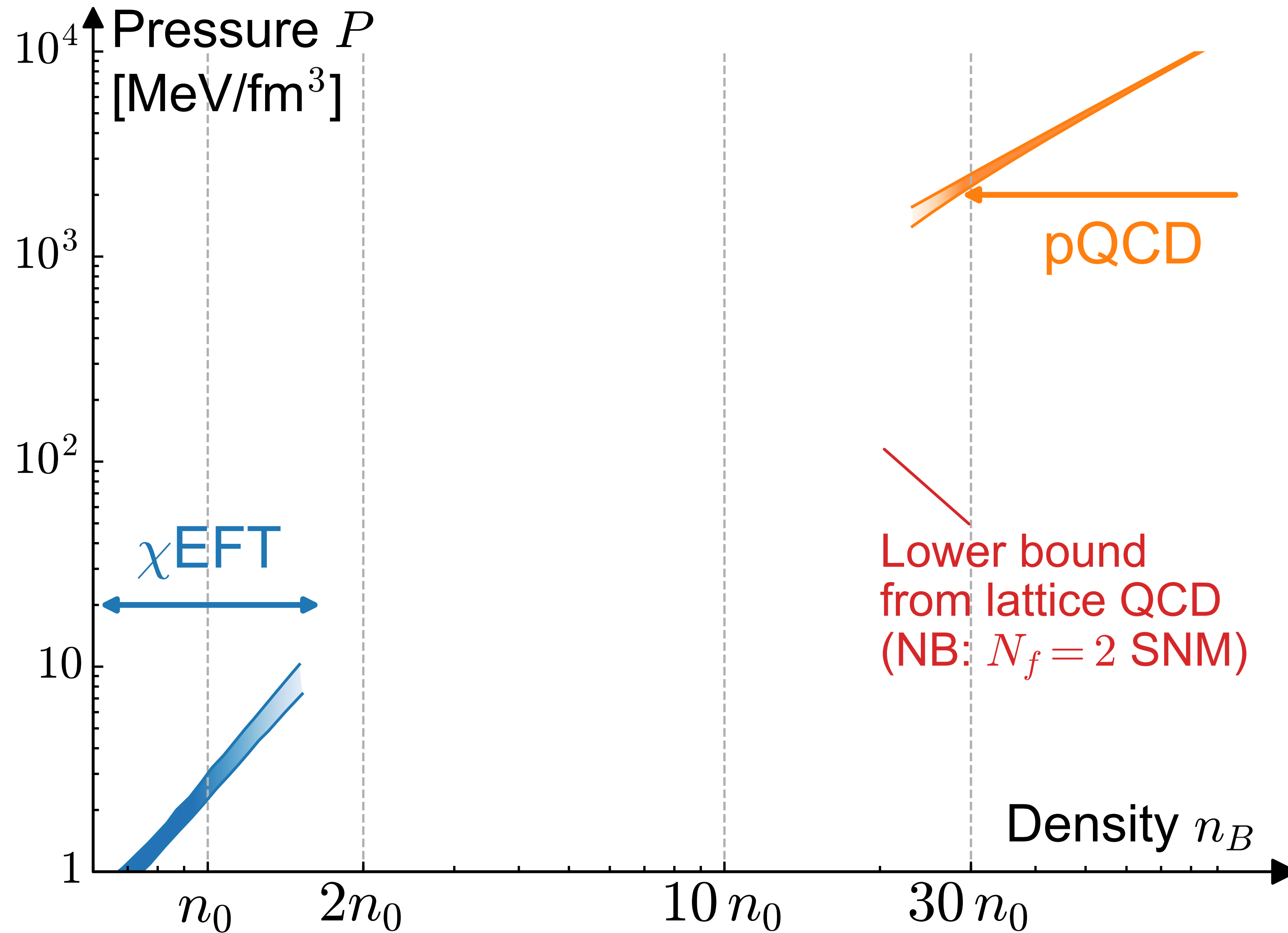


$N_c = 2$  QCD  
at  $\mu_B > 0$

# Summary of Part 1



# Summary of Part 1



- Matched uncertainty w/ lattice QCD<sub>I</sub> data
- Color-superconducting gap  $\Delta$  negligible

# Outline

## 1. Implications from lattice QCD at finite isospin density

a) Bounds on isospin symmetric EoS from QCD inequality

[Y. Fujimoto, S. Reddy, PRD109 \(2024\)](#)

b) Comparison with weak-coupling results

[Y. Fujimoto, PRD109 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, in preparation](#)

## 2. Duality and conformality in dense QCD

Trace anomaly, Quarkyonic matter

[Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, PRL132 \(2024\);](#)

[Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL129 \(2022\)](#)

# Conformal limit

Weak coupling limit  $\alpha_s \rightarrow 0$  is achieved when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow \infty$ .

The pQCD EoS has properties in this **conformal limit** as:

$$\text{Trace anomaly: } \varepsilon - 3P \sim \beta_0 \mu^4 \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Sound speed: } v_s^2 = \frac{dP}{d\varepsilon} \sim \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{1 + \beta_0 \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3}$$

At the intermediate density,  $\varepsilon - 3P = 0$  and  $v_s^2 = 1/3$  are different conditions

# Trace anomaly and effective d.o.f.

[Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL 129 \(2022\)](#)

- Trace anomaly:  
related to the changes in the effective

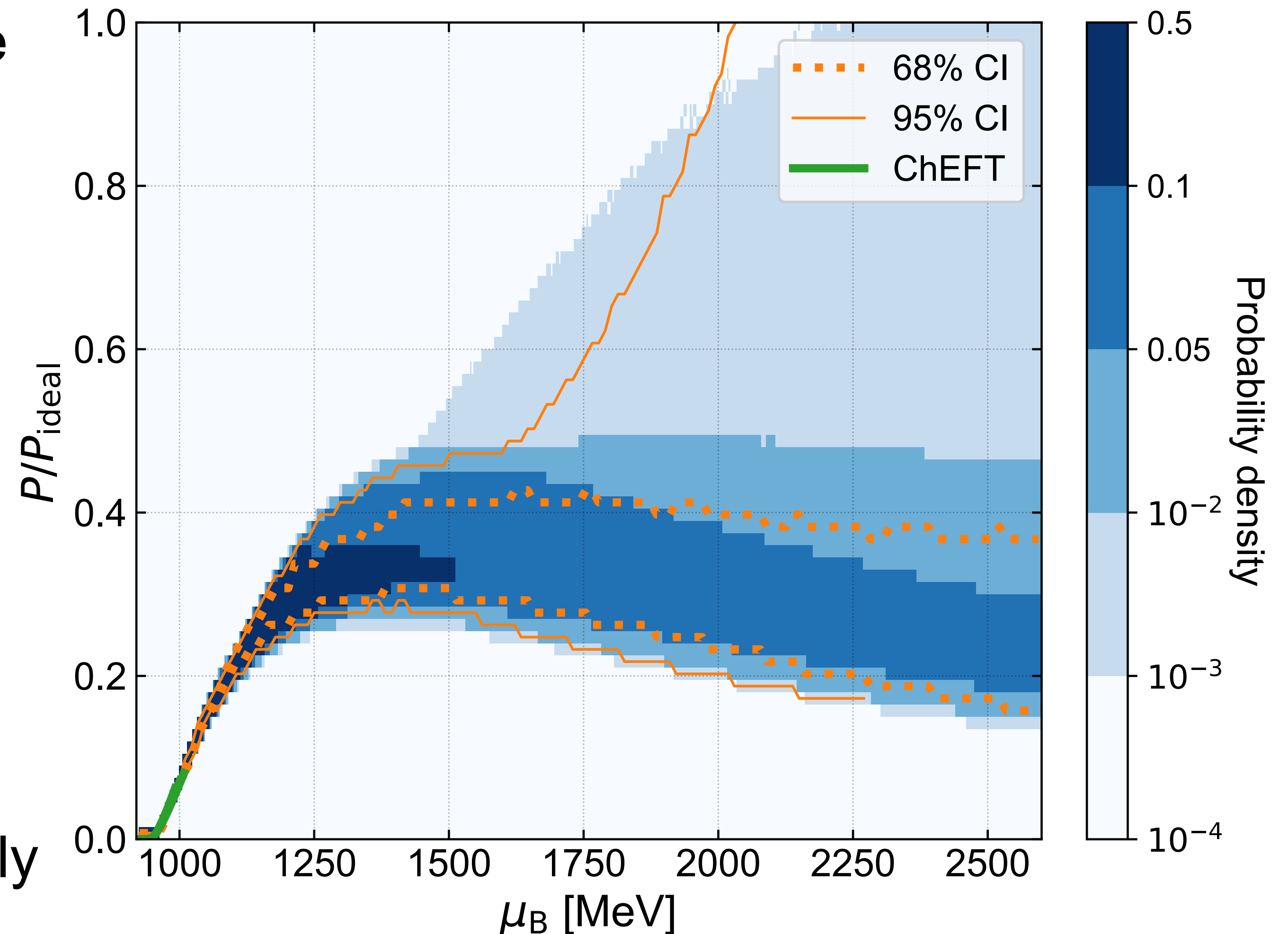
degrees of freedom  $\nu$

$$\frac{\varepsilon - 3P}{P_{\text{ideal}}} = \frac{d\nu}{d \ln \mu}$$

$$(P = \nu P_{\text{ideal}})$$

- $\nu \sim 1$  in quark matter regime
- If  $\nu$  increases: positive trace anomaly  
if  $\nu$  decreases: negative trace anomaly

w/o using pQCD information:





# Trace anomaly and effective d.o.f.

Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL 129 (2022)

- Trace anomaly:  
related to the changes in the effective

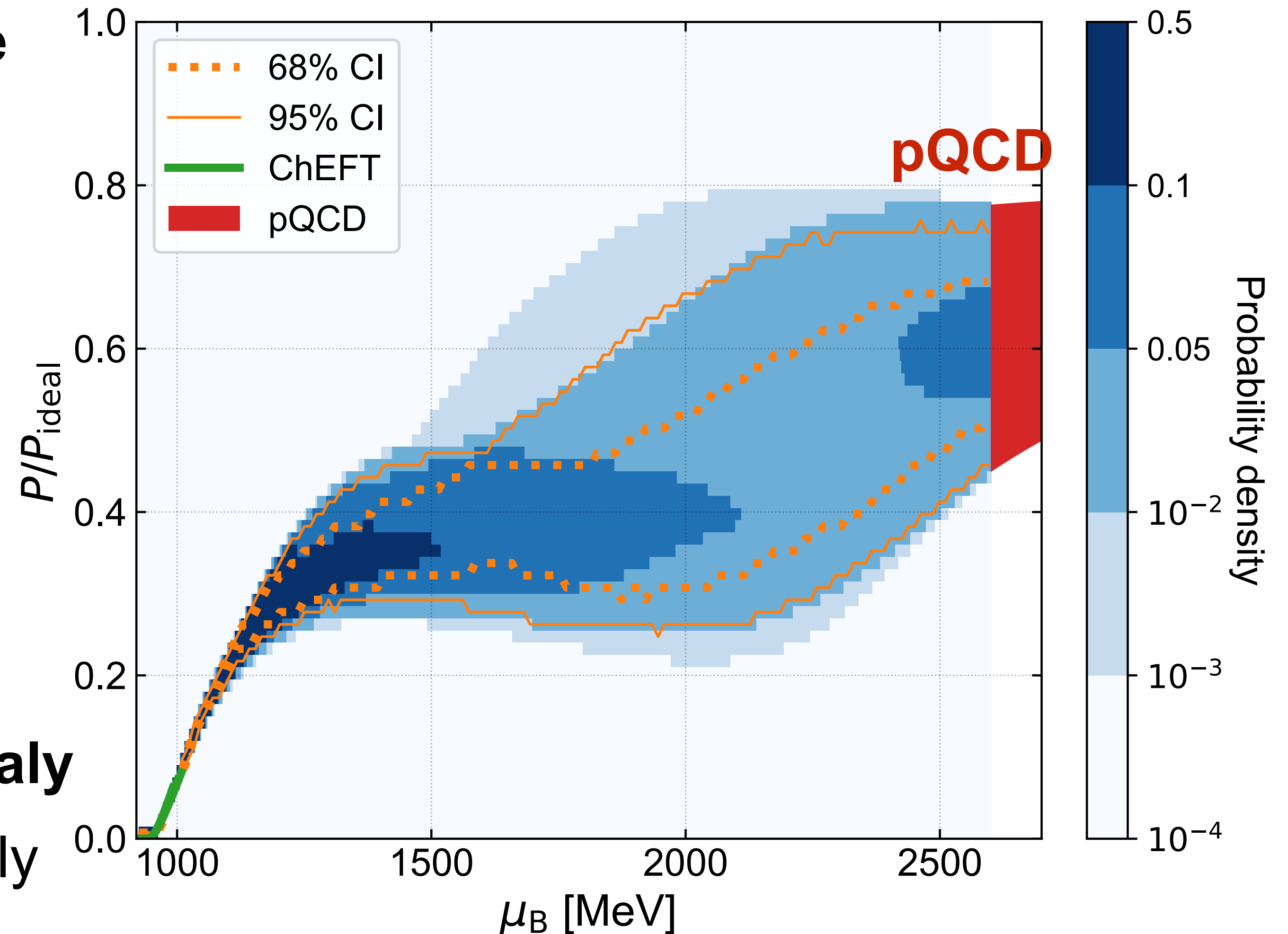
degrees of freedom  $\nu$

$$\frac{\varepsilon - 3P}{P_{\text{ideal}}} = \frac{d\nu}{d \ln \mu}$$

$$(P = \nu P_{\text{ideal}})$$

- $\nu \sim 1$  in quark matter regime
- **If  $\nu$  increases: positive trace anomaly**  
if  $\nu$  decreases: negative trace anomaly

w/ using pQCD information:

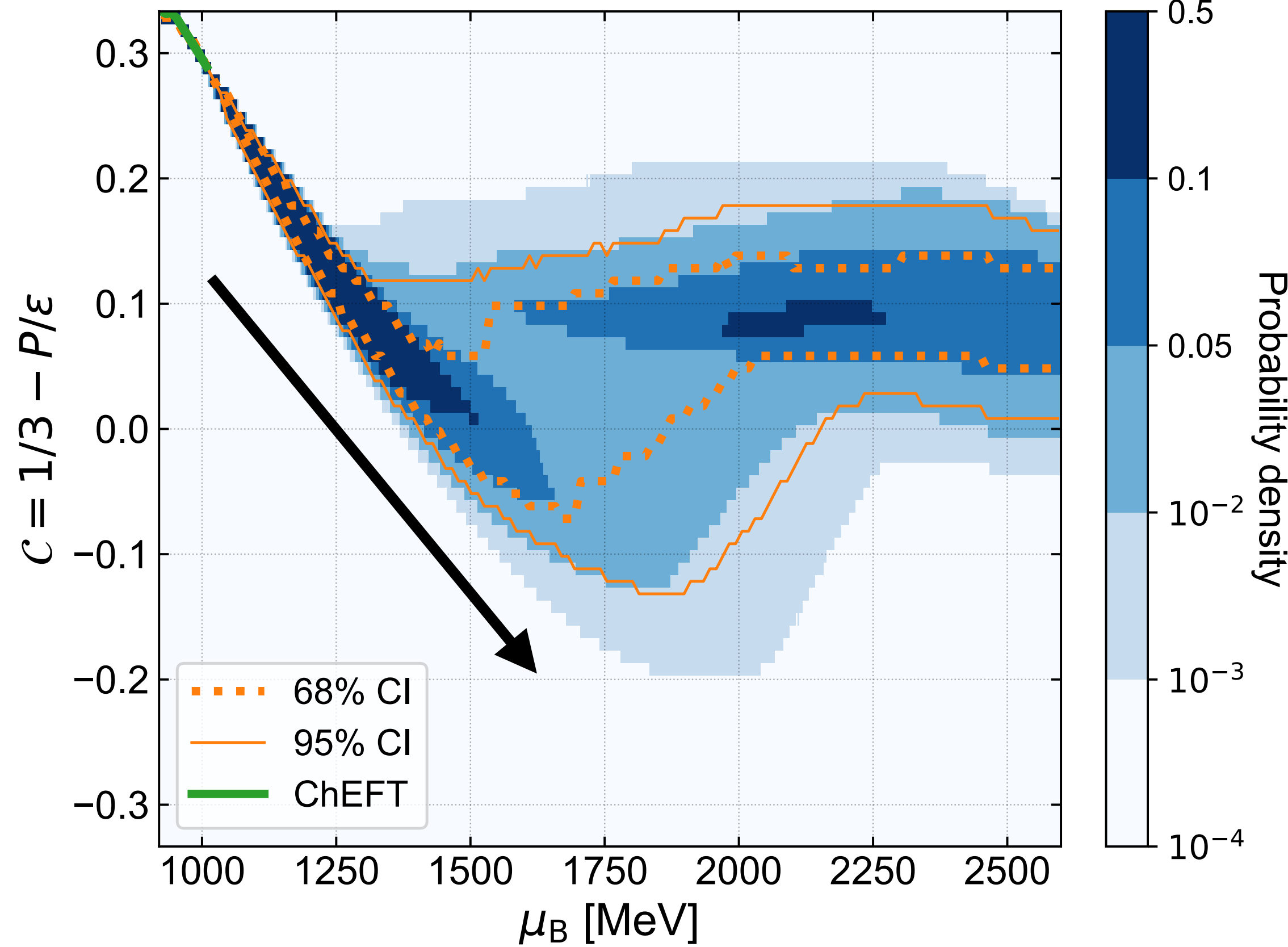


**Positive trace anomaly favored by QCD effect**

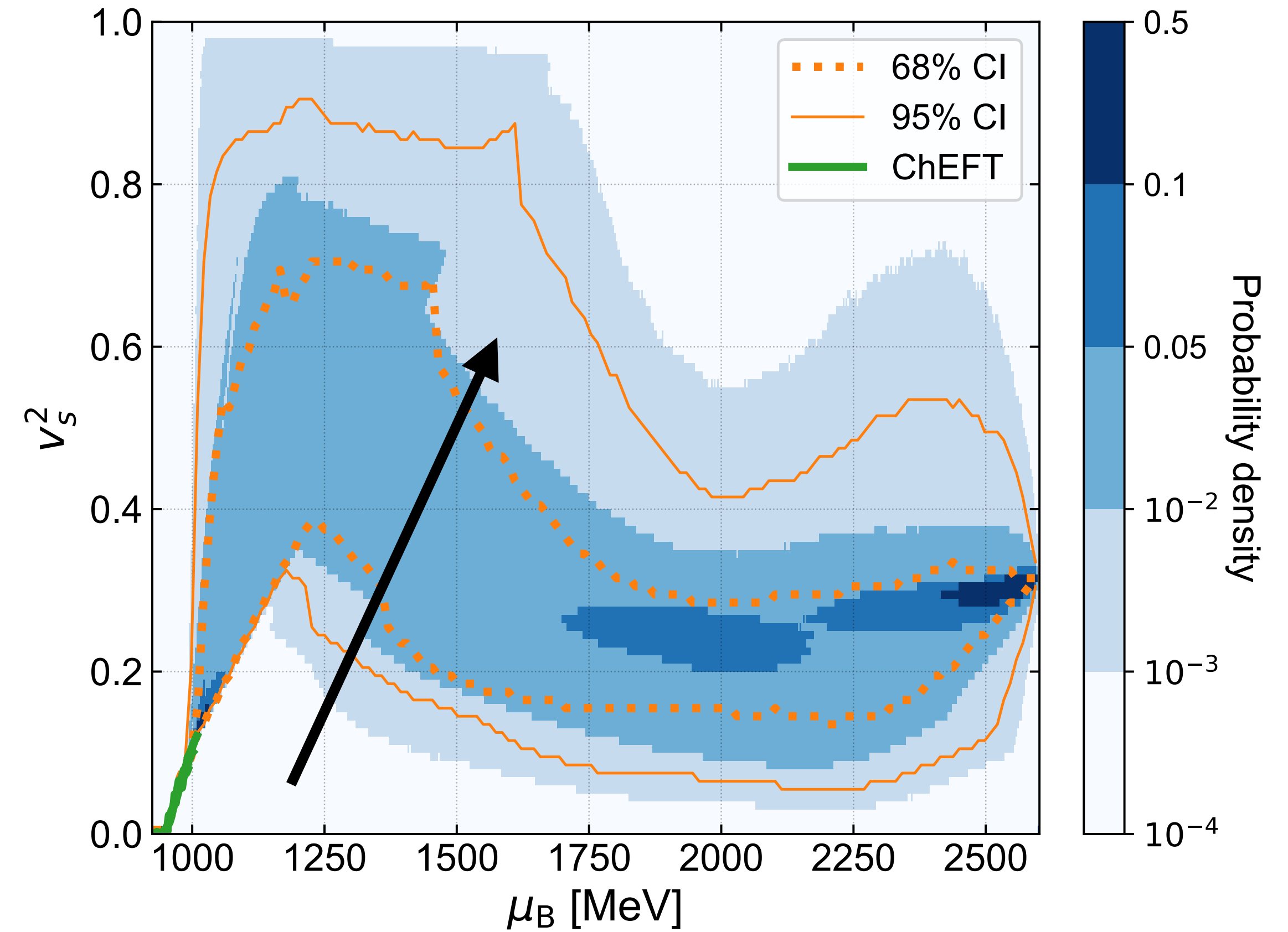
# Trace anomaly and peak in sound speed

Y. Fujimoto, K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz, PRL 129 (2022)

Normalized trace anomaly:  
 $(\varepsilon - 3P)/3\varepsilon$



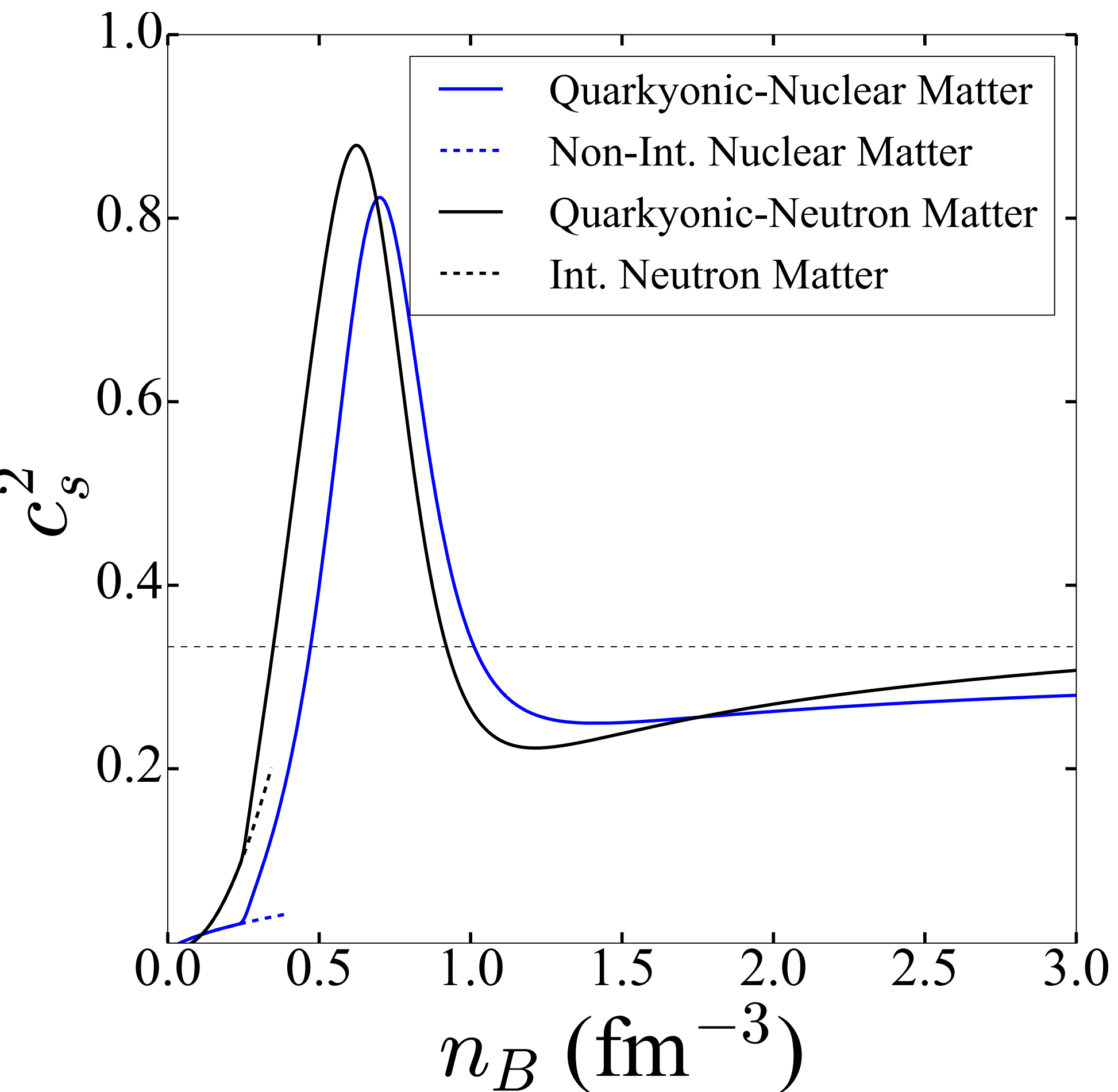
Sound speed:  
 $v_s^2 = dP/d\varepsilon$



**Rapid approach to  $\varepsilon - 3P \rightarrow 0$  drives the peak in  $v_s^2$**

# Quarkyonic matter: EoS model for neutron star

McLerran, Reddy (2018):



This EoS model was derived by assuming the following picture of Fermi baryon “shell”:

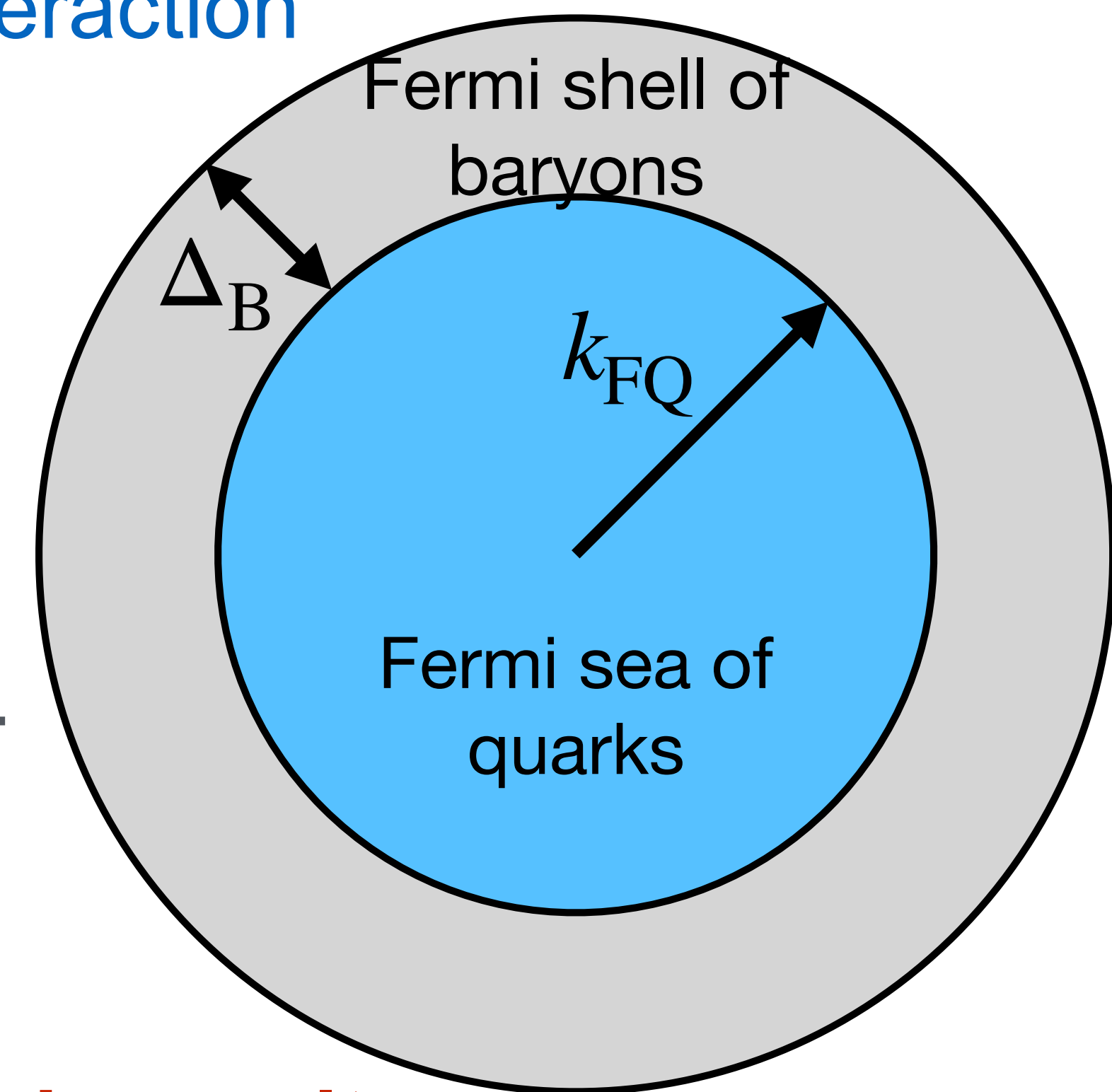
**Fermi sea:** dominated by interaction that is less sensitive to IR

→ quarks

**Fermi shell:** interaction sensitive to IR d.o.f.

→ baryons, mesons, glues...

McLerran, Pisarski (2007)



**This talk: reinterpretation of this result**

# Central tenet of Quarkyonic matter

- **Naive picture of deconfinement at high density:** Collins,Perry (1974)

In weak-coupling regime, quarks are deconfined

... Led by Debye screening of the confinement potential

- **Quarkyonic matter:** Large- $N_c$  QCD implies... McLerran,Pisarski (2007)

Dense QCD matter at high density can be described **either** as

- Confined baryons (because confining interaction is less screened)
- (weakly-coupled) Quarks

→ **implies duality between quark and confined baryonic matter**

# Duality in Fermi gas model

[Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

Implement duality in Fermi gas model  
(= simultaneous description in terms of baryons & quarks)

**Fermi gas model w/ an explicit duality:**

$$\varepsilon = \int_{\mathbf{k}} E_{\text{B}}(\mathbf{k}) f_{\text{B}}(\mathbf{k}) = \int_{\mathbf{q}} E_{\text{Q}}(\mathbf{q}) f_{\text{Q}}(\mathbf{q})$$

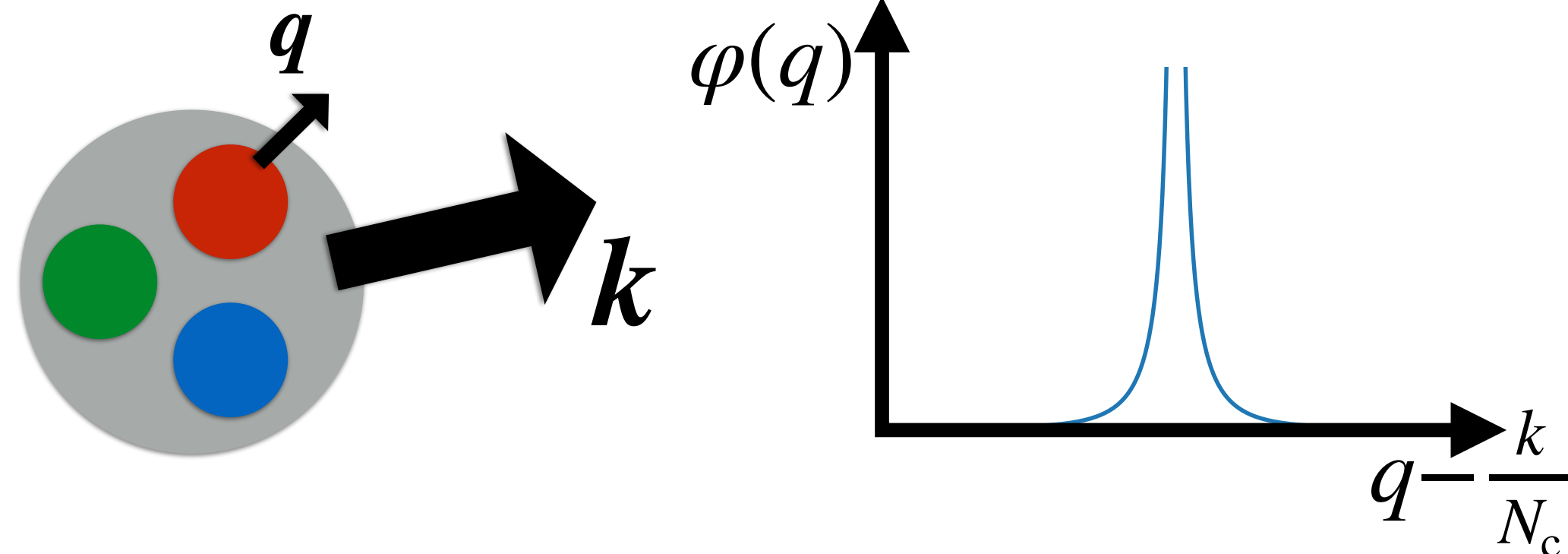
$$n_{\text{B}} = \int_{\mathbf{k}} f_{\text{B}}(\mathbf{k}) = \int_{\mathbf{q}} f_{\text{Q}}(\mathbf{q})$$

$0 \leq f_{\text{B},\text{Q}} \leq 1$  : Pauli exclusion

$E_{\text{B}}(\mathbf{k}) = \sqrt{k^2 + M_N^2}$  : ideal baryon  
dispersion relation

**Modeling of confinement:**

$$f_{\text{Q}}(\mathbf{q}) = \int_{\mathbf{k}} \varphi\left(\mathbf{q} - \frac{\mathbf{k}}{N_c}\right) f_{\text{B}}(\mathbf{k})$$

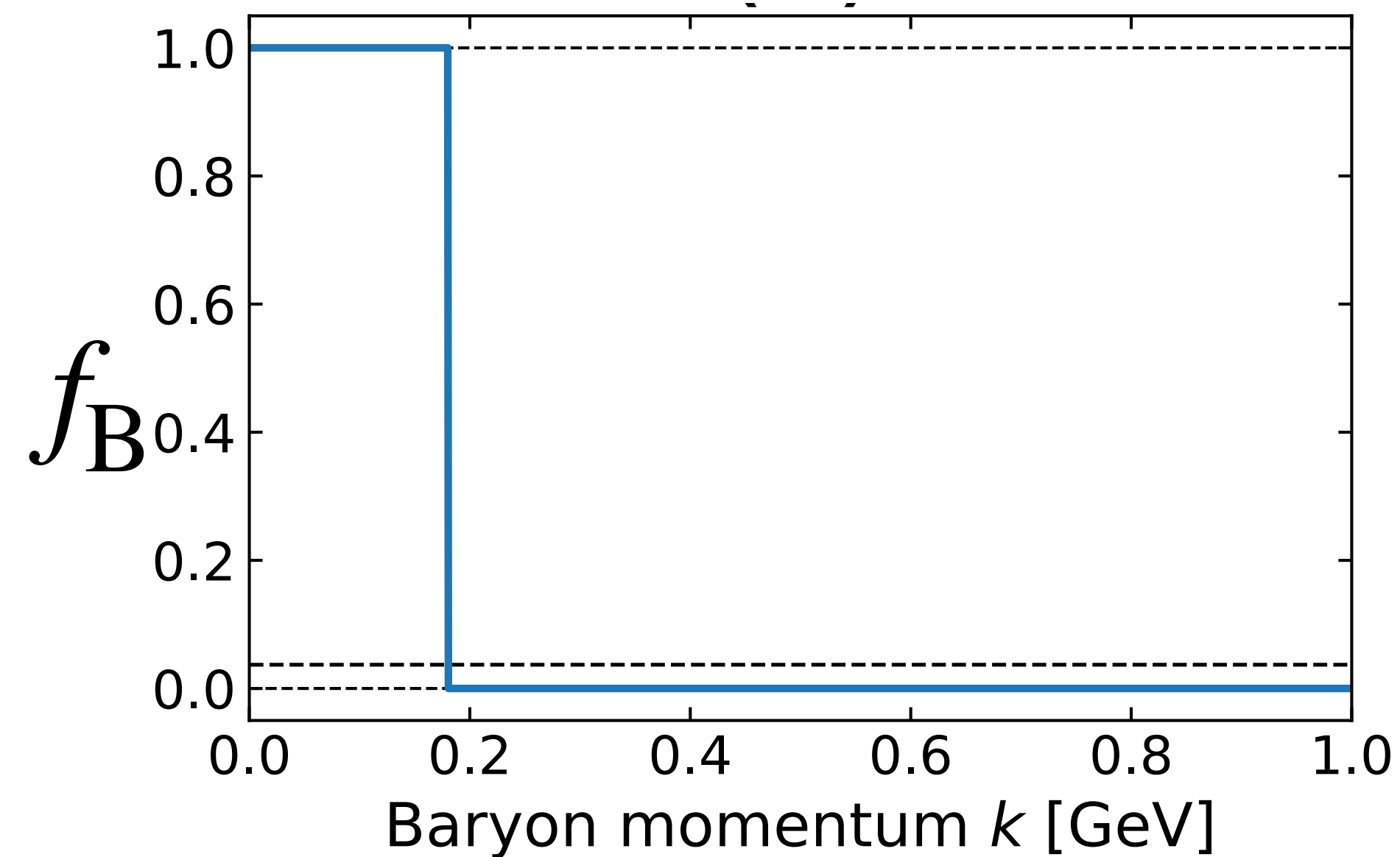


# Duality in Fermi gas model

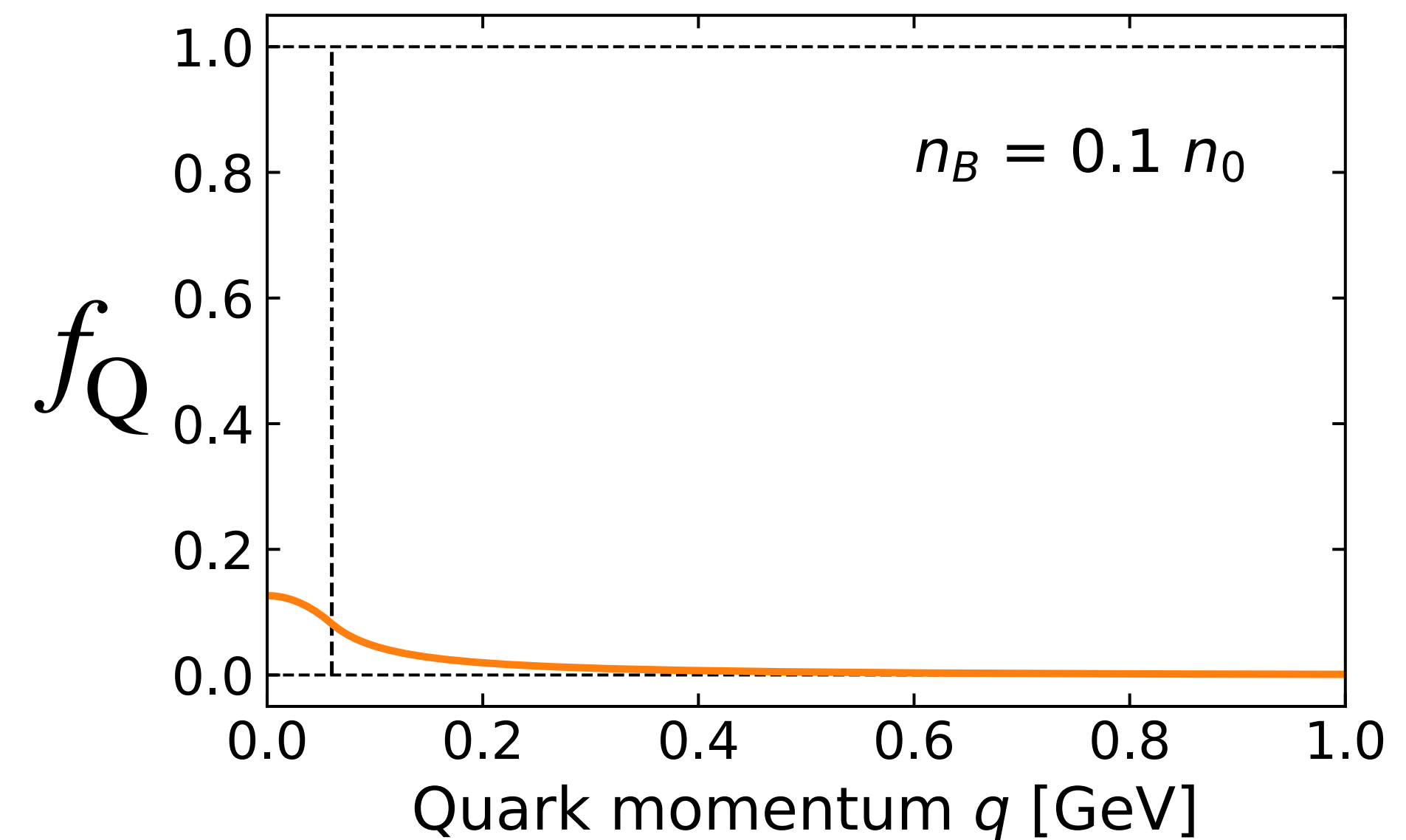
[Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

At low density...

Fermi-Dirac distribution  
for baryons



Quarks do not fill up  
the Fermi sea yet

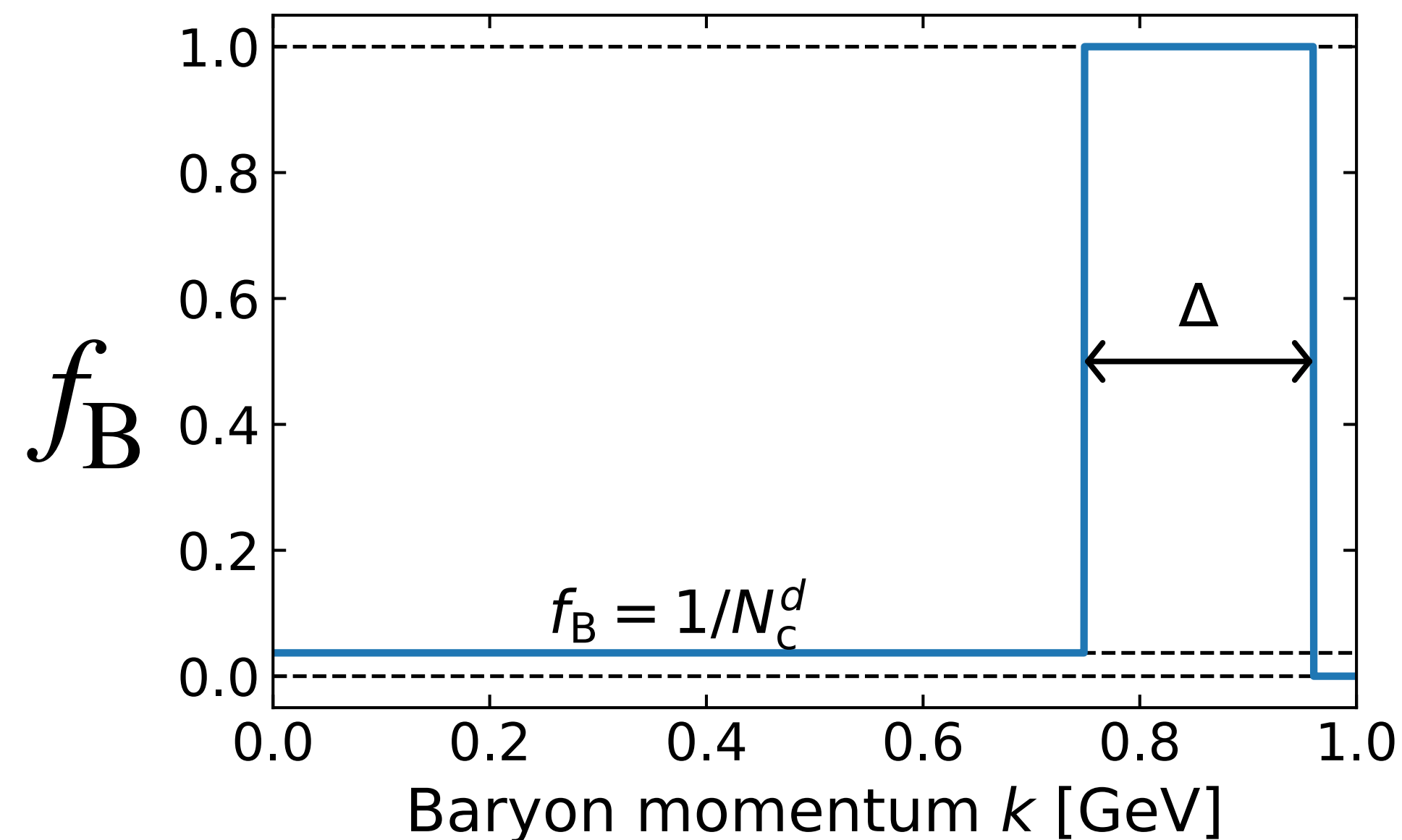


# Duality in Fermi gas model

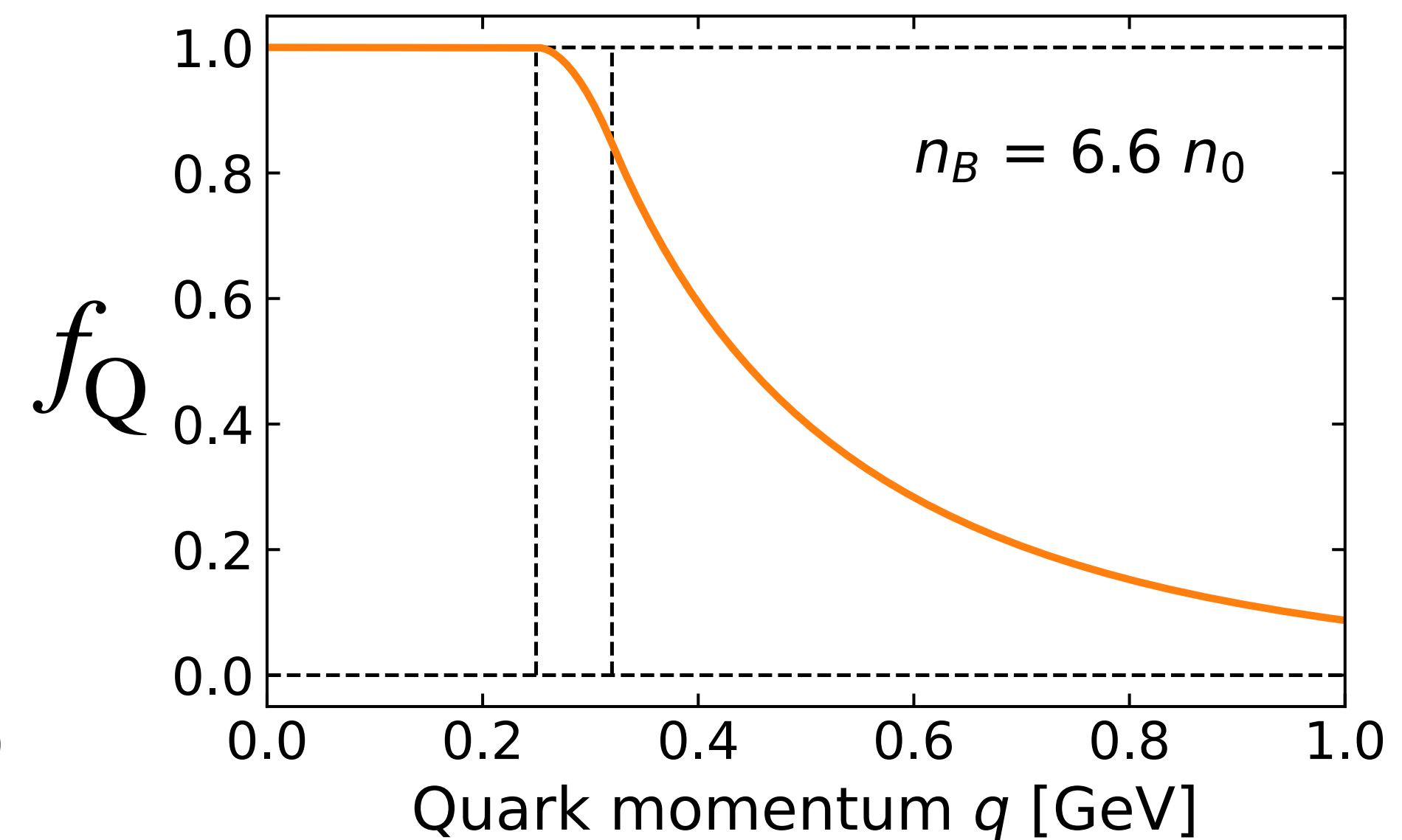
[Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

At sufficiently high density...

**Fermi-Dirac distribution for baryons is modified**



Quark obeys the FD distribution (with a tail from confinement)

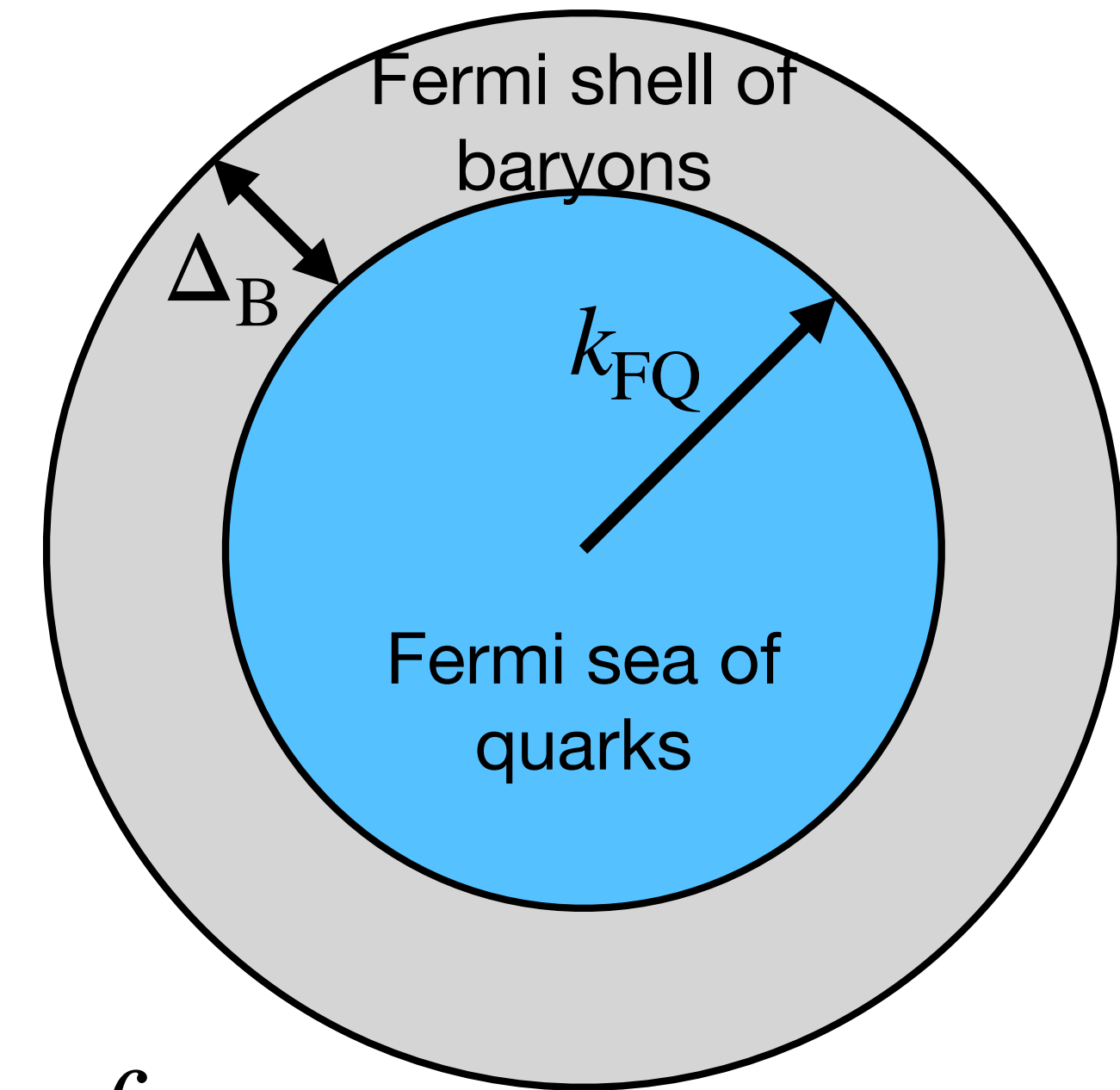
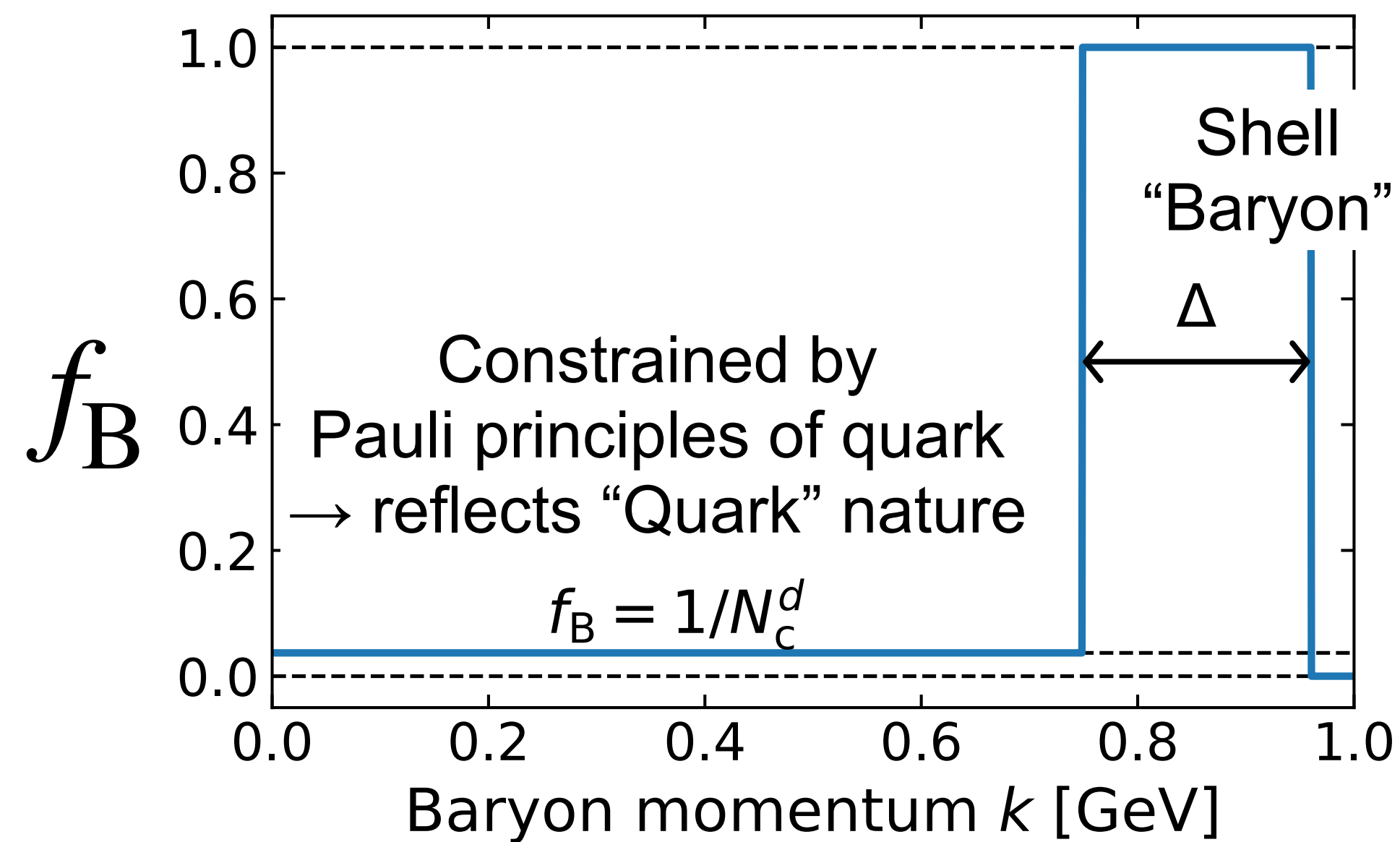


# Equivalence to Quarkyonic model

Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran (2023)

At sufficiently high density...

**Fermi-Dirac distribution for baryons is modified**



McLerran, Pisarski (2007)  
McLerran, Reddy (2018)

Fermi shell structure arises in  $f_B$   
(Note: this is still **pure baryonic description**)

This picture is equivalent to  
McLerran-Reddy model of the EoS  
based on the McLerran-Pisarski shell picture



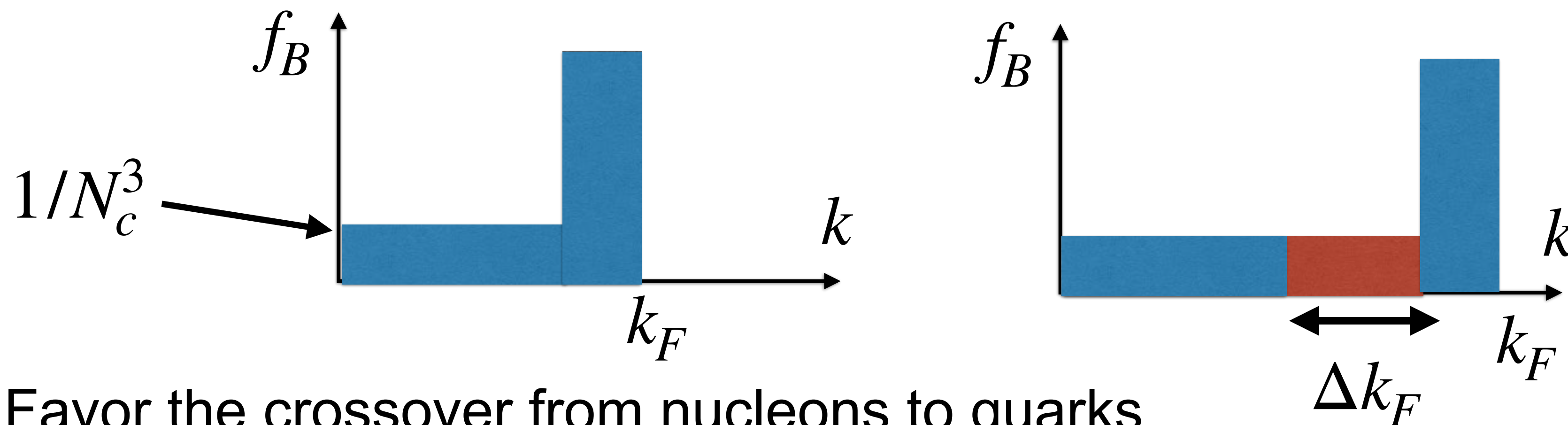
# Rapid stiffening in the EoS

[Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

A partial occupation of available baryon phase space leads to **large sound speed**:

$$v_s^2 = \frac{n_B}{\mu_B dn_B/d\mu_B} \rightarrow \frac{\delta\mu_B}{\mu_B} \sim v_s^2 \frac{\delta n_B}{n_B}$$

If baryons have underoccupied state, the change in density is small while the change in Fermi energy ( $\sim k_F$ ) is large



→ Favor the crossover from nucleons to quarks

# Summary

- **QCD<sub>I</sub>**: a testing ground for QCD<sub>B</sub>. Lattice simulation feasible
- **QCD inequality**: Robust constraints on the symmetric nuclear matter EoS from lattice QCD & saturation property
- **Weak-coupling results**: Matches well with lattice QCD<sub>I</sub>.  
Empirical evidence for the validity down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV.  
Color-superconducting gap negligible at  $\mu \sim 800$  MeV,  
Crosscheck with lattice-QCD can be provided in  $N_c = 2$ .
- **Quarkyonic matter**: reinterpretation as a hadron-quark duality