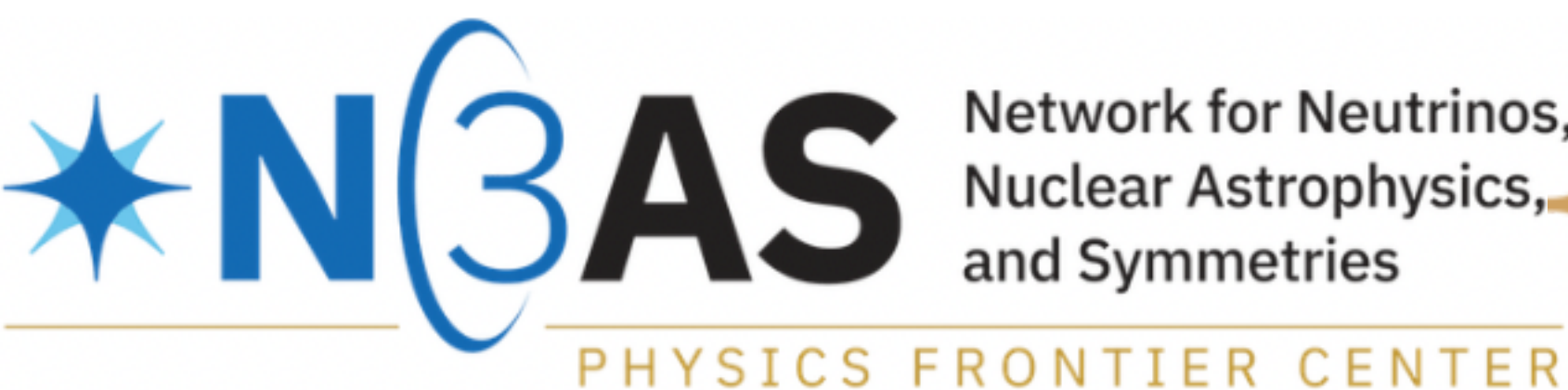


# Phase Transition Scenarios in the Core of Neutron Star

Tianqi Zhao 趙天奇

**Collaborators: Constantinos Constantinou, Mirco Guerrini, Madappa Prakash,  
Sophia Han, Christian Drischler, Sanjay Reddy, James Lattimer**

HHIQCD at YITP, Oct 31, 2024

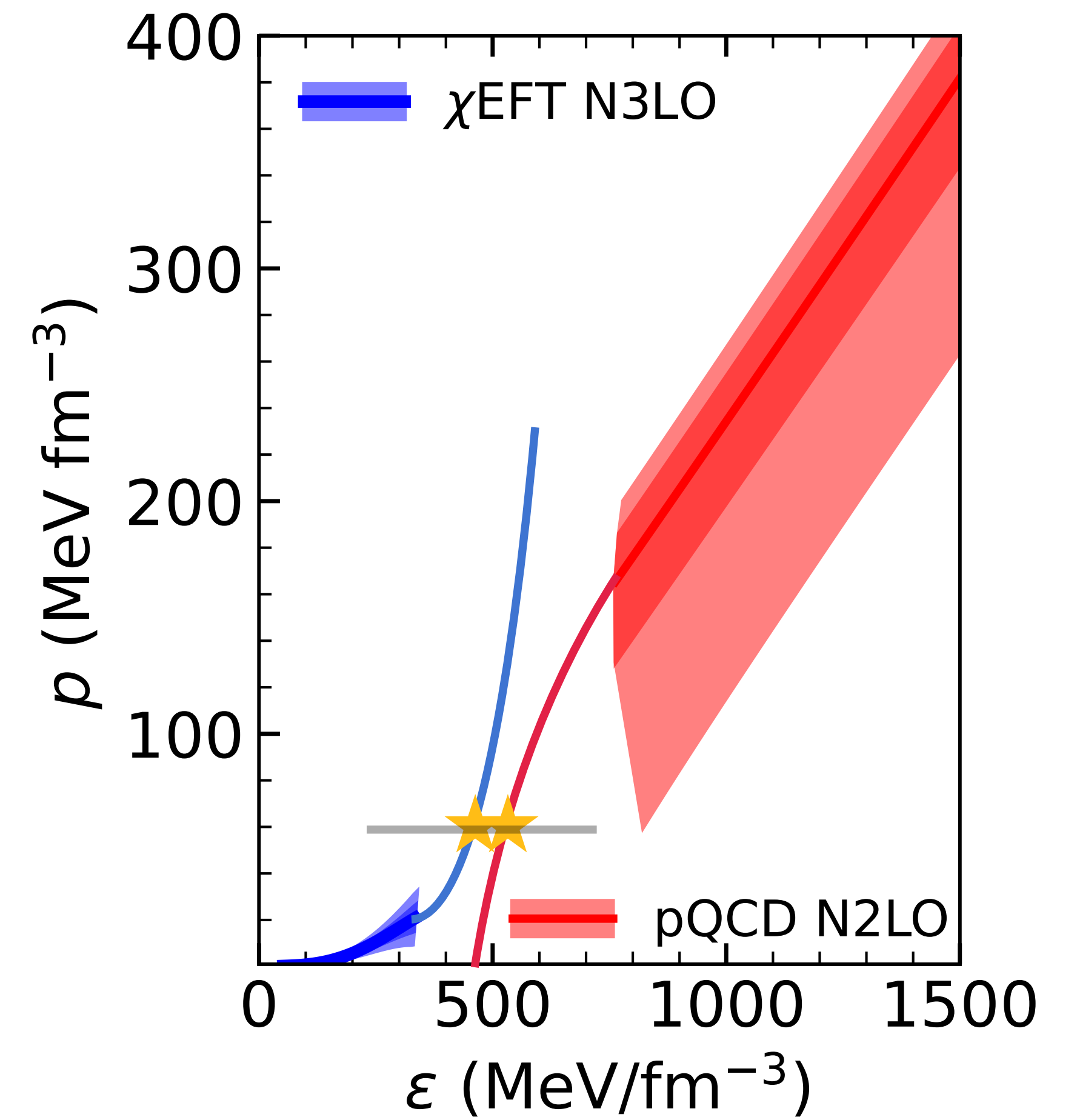
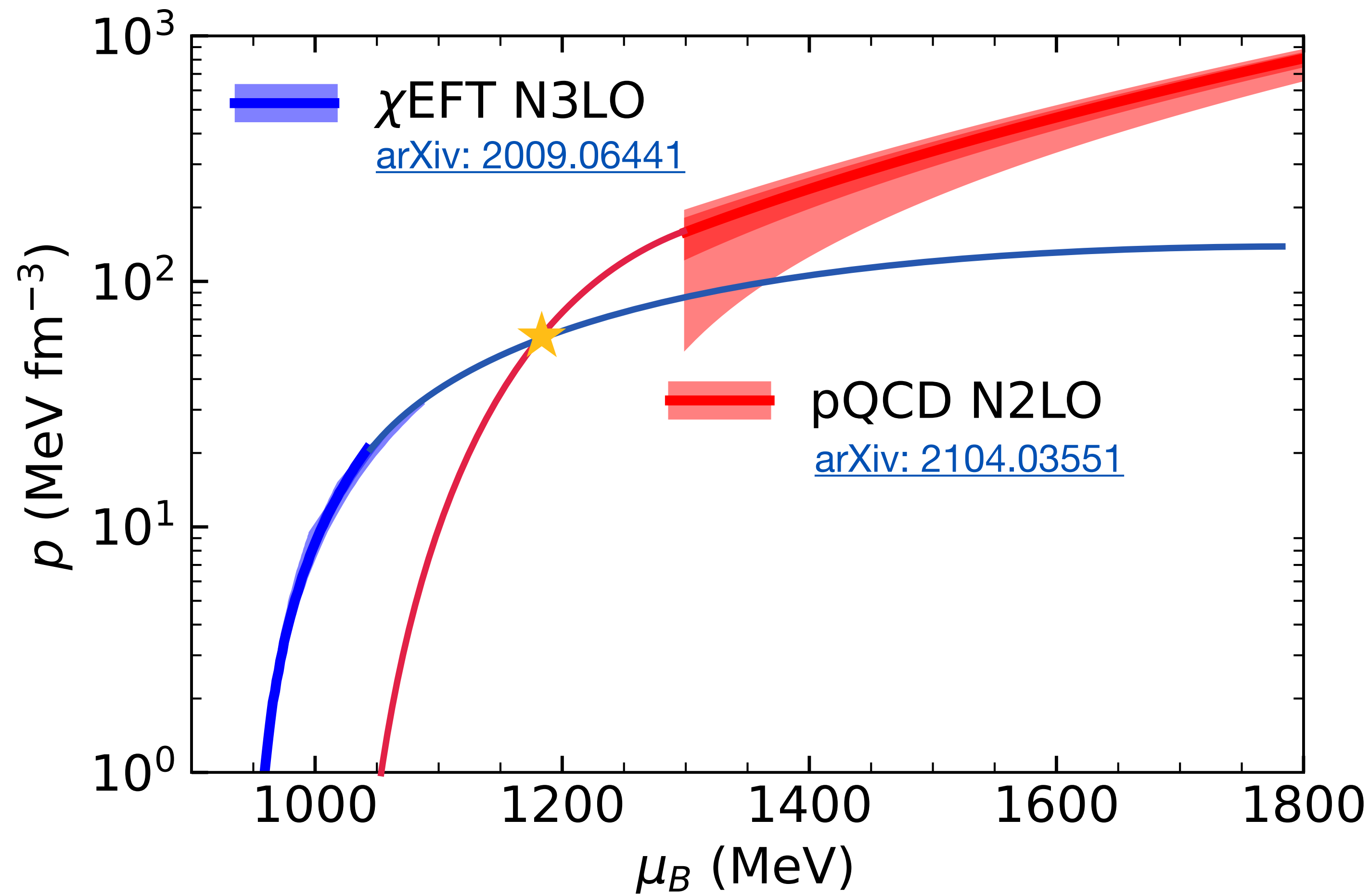


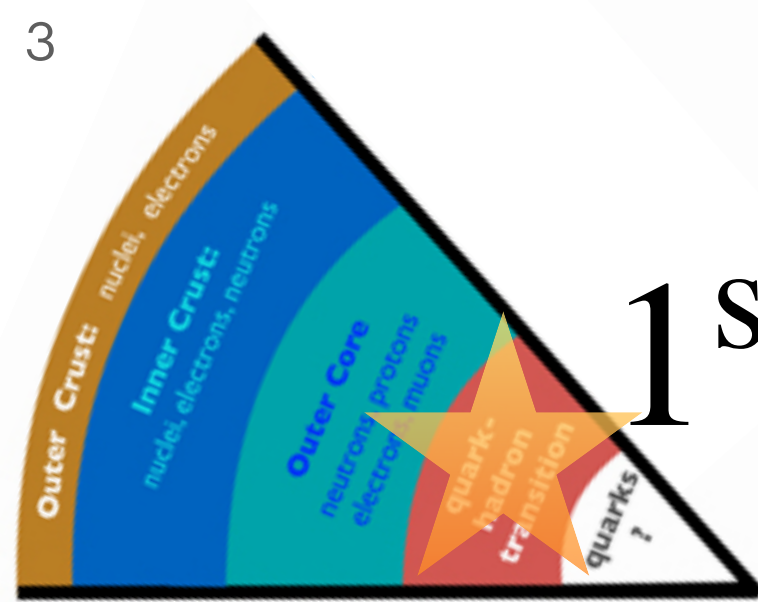
OHIO  
UNIVERSITY



# Maxwell Construction

## Hybrid Neutron Stars





# 1<sup>st</sup>-order Transition

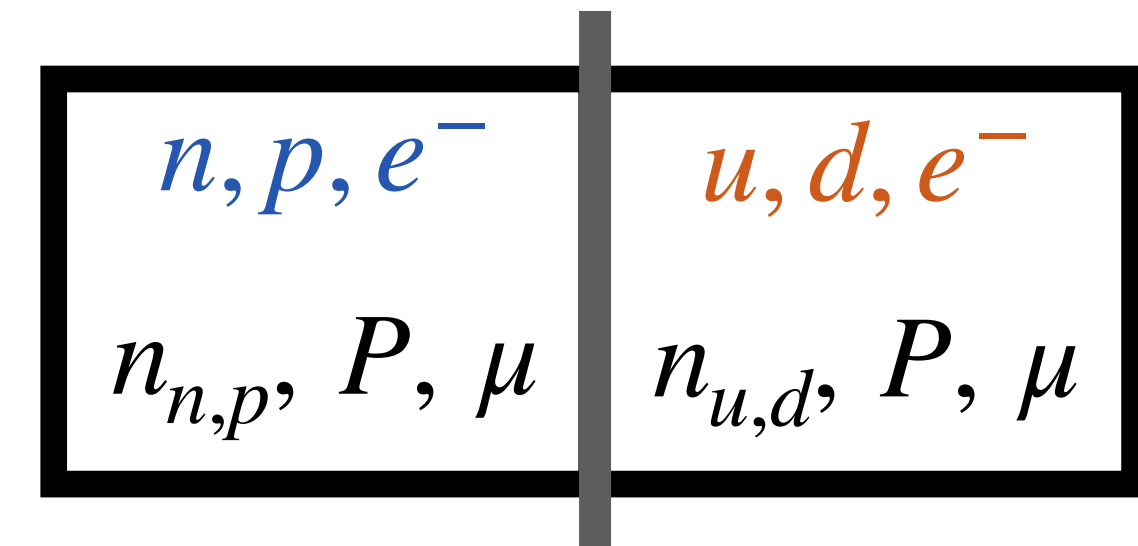
Maxwell construction

- Mechanical equilibrium

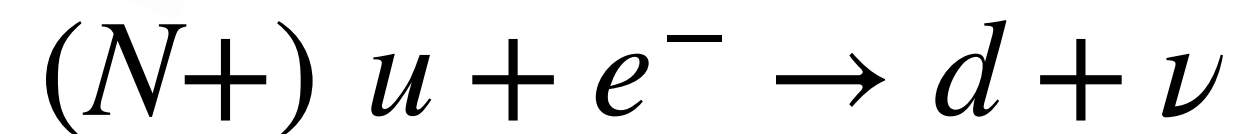
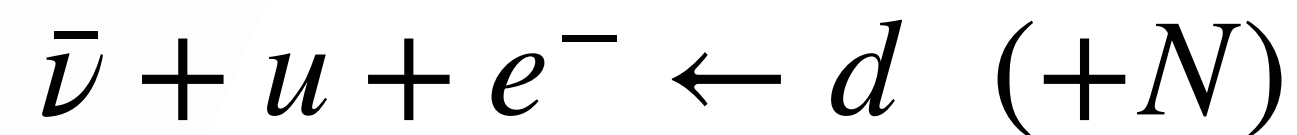
$$P_{npe} = P_{ude} = P$$

- Strong equilibrium

$$\mu_n = \mu_u + 2\mu_d = \mu$$



- (Modified) Urca process



leads to  $\mu_u + \mu_e = \mu_d = \mu_s$

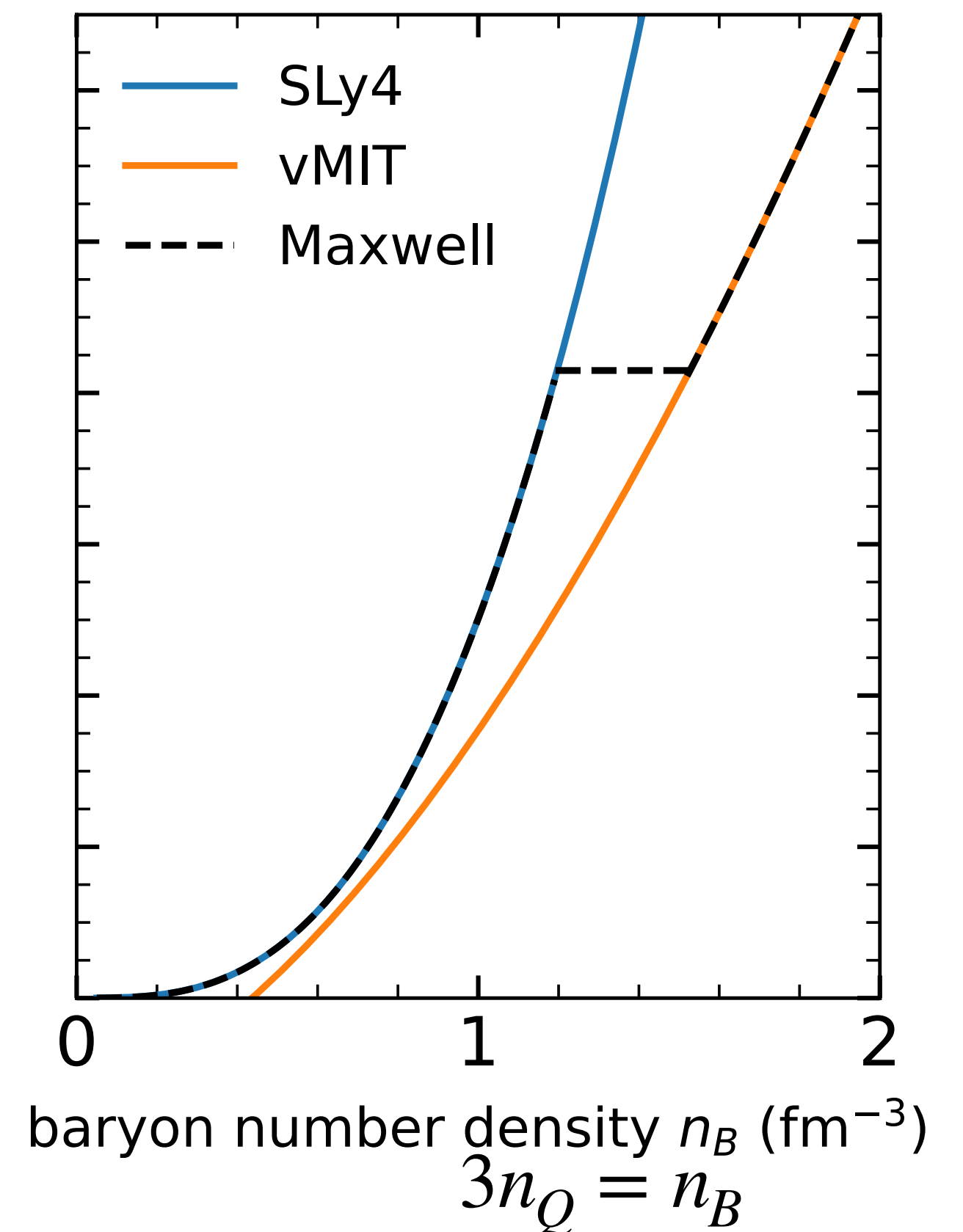
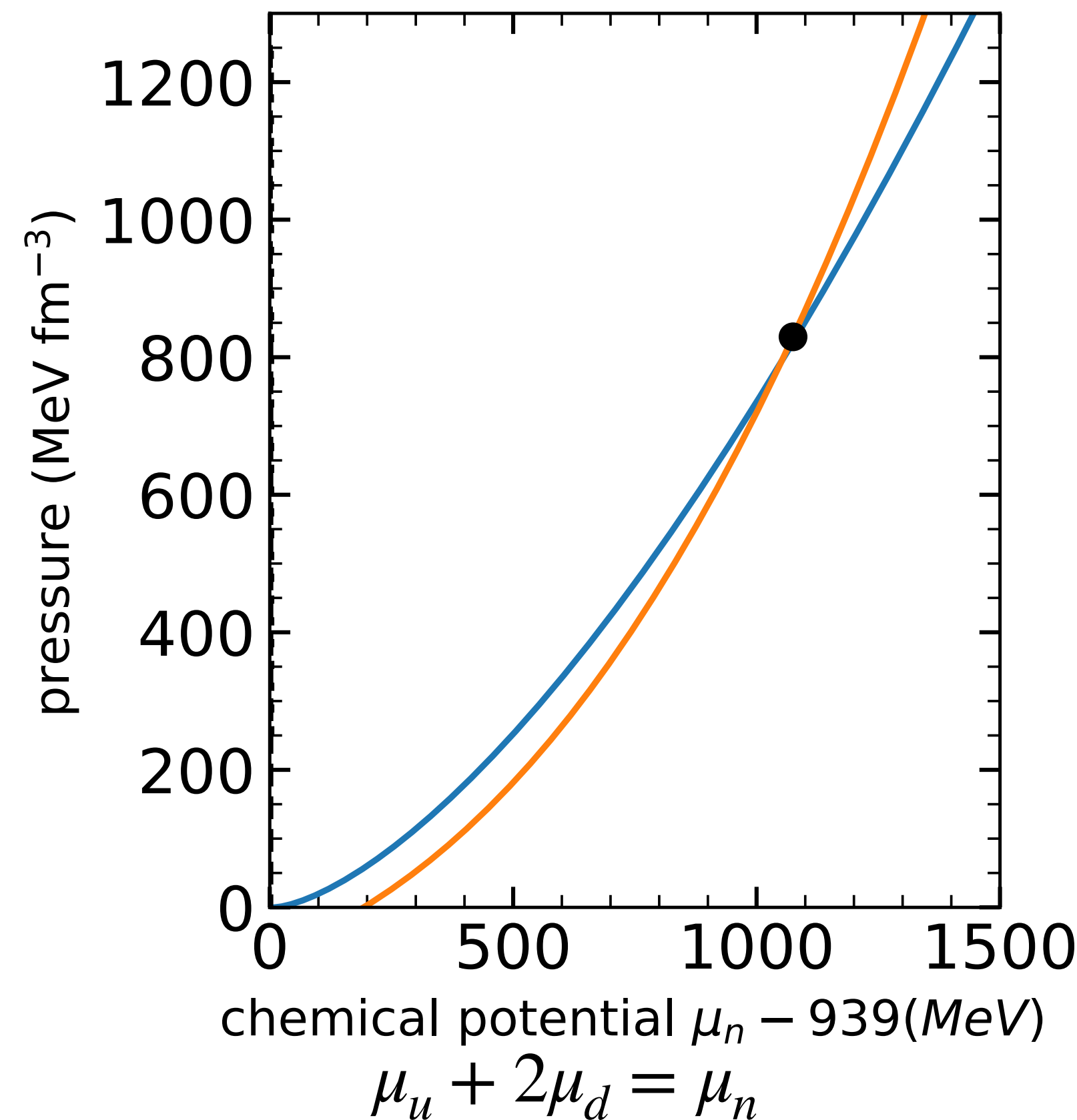
- Baryon number conservation:

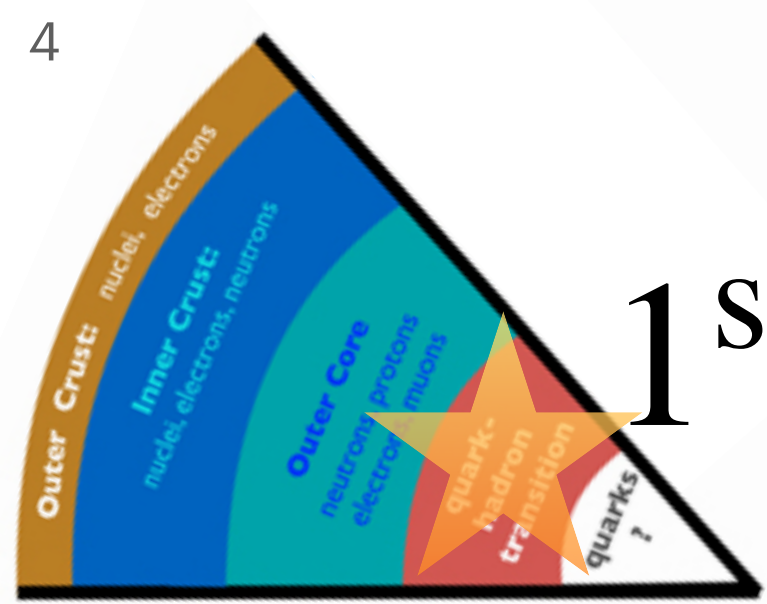
$$n_u + n_d + n_s = n_Q = n_B/3$$

- Local charge neutrality:

$$n_{e,Q} = \frac{2}{3}n_u - \frac{1}{3}n_d - \frac{1}{3}n_s$$

$$n_{e,N} = n_p$$





# 1<sup>st</sup>-order Transition

Maxwell or Gibbs construction

- Local charge neutrality (Maxwell):

$$n_{e,Q} = \frac{2}{3}n_u - \frac{1}{3}n_d - \frac{1}{3}n_s$$

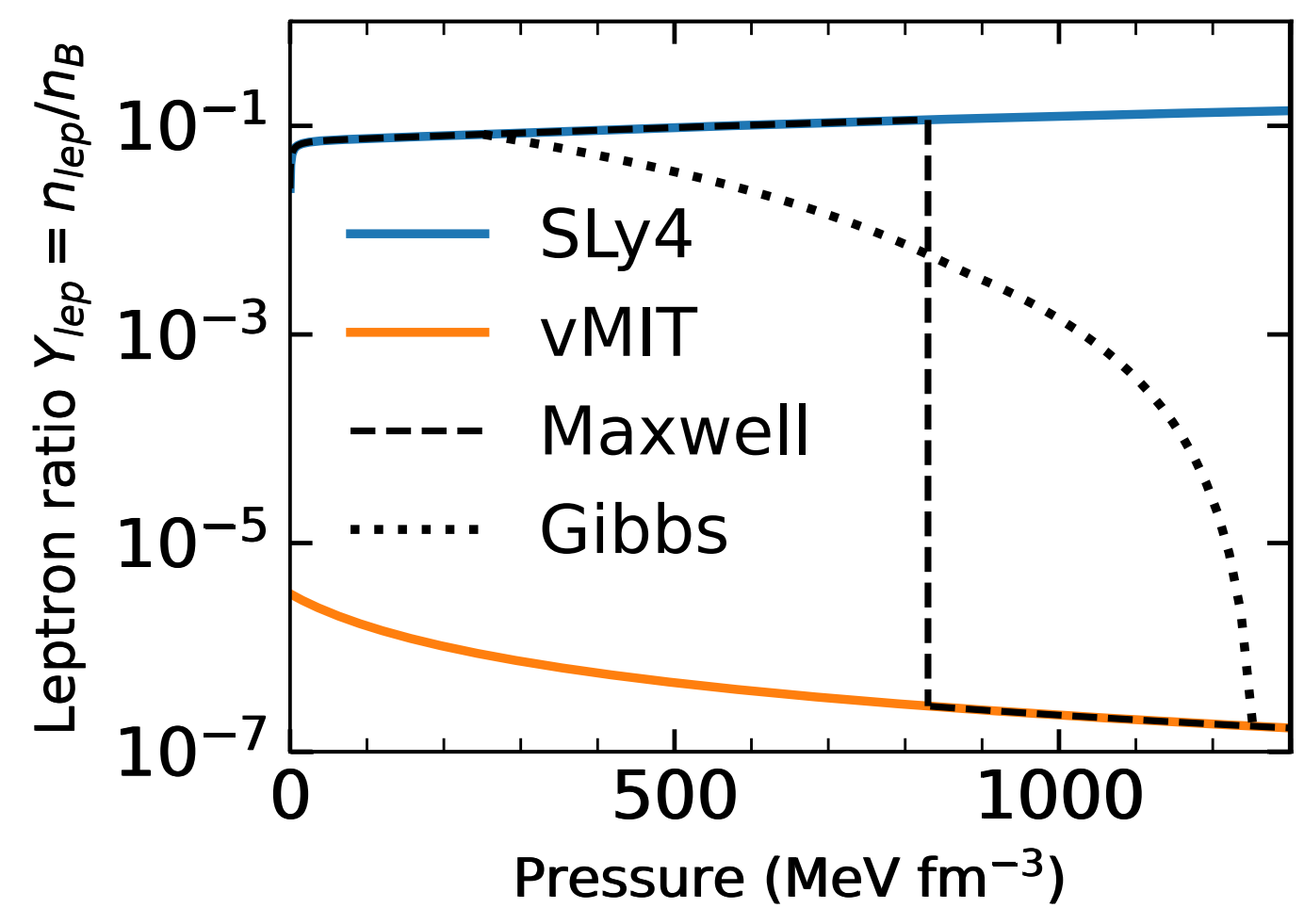
$$n_{e,N} = n_p$$

- Leptons aren't balanced at the interface.*
- Energy isn't minimized!*

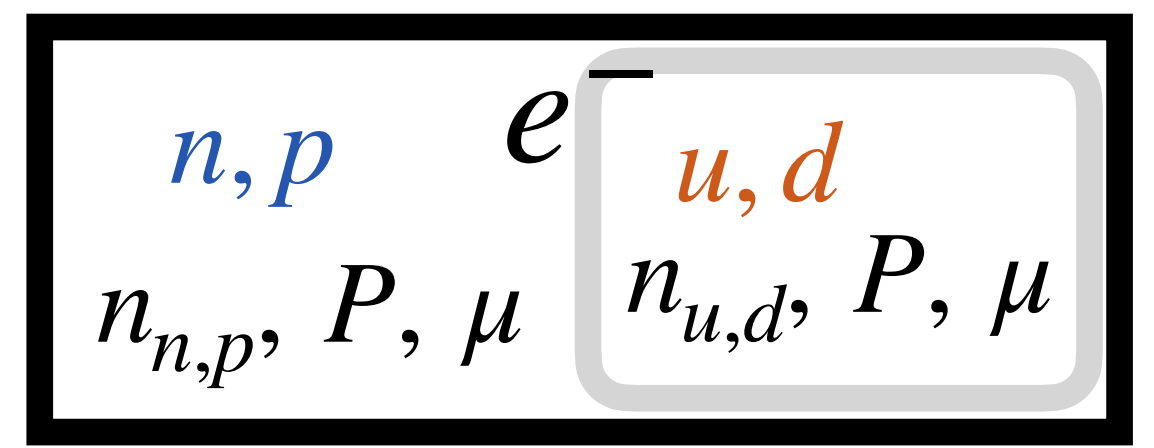
- Global charge neutrality (Gibbs):

$$n_e = fn_{e,N} + (1-f)n_{e,Q}$$

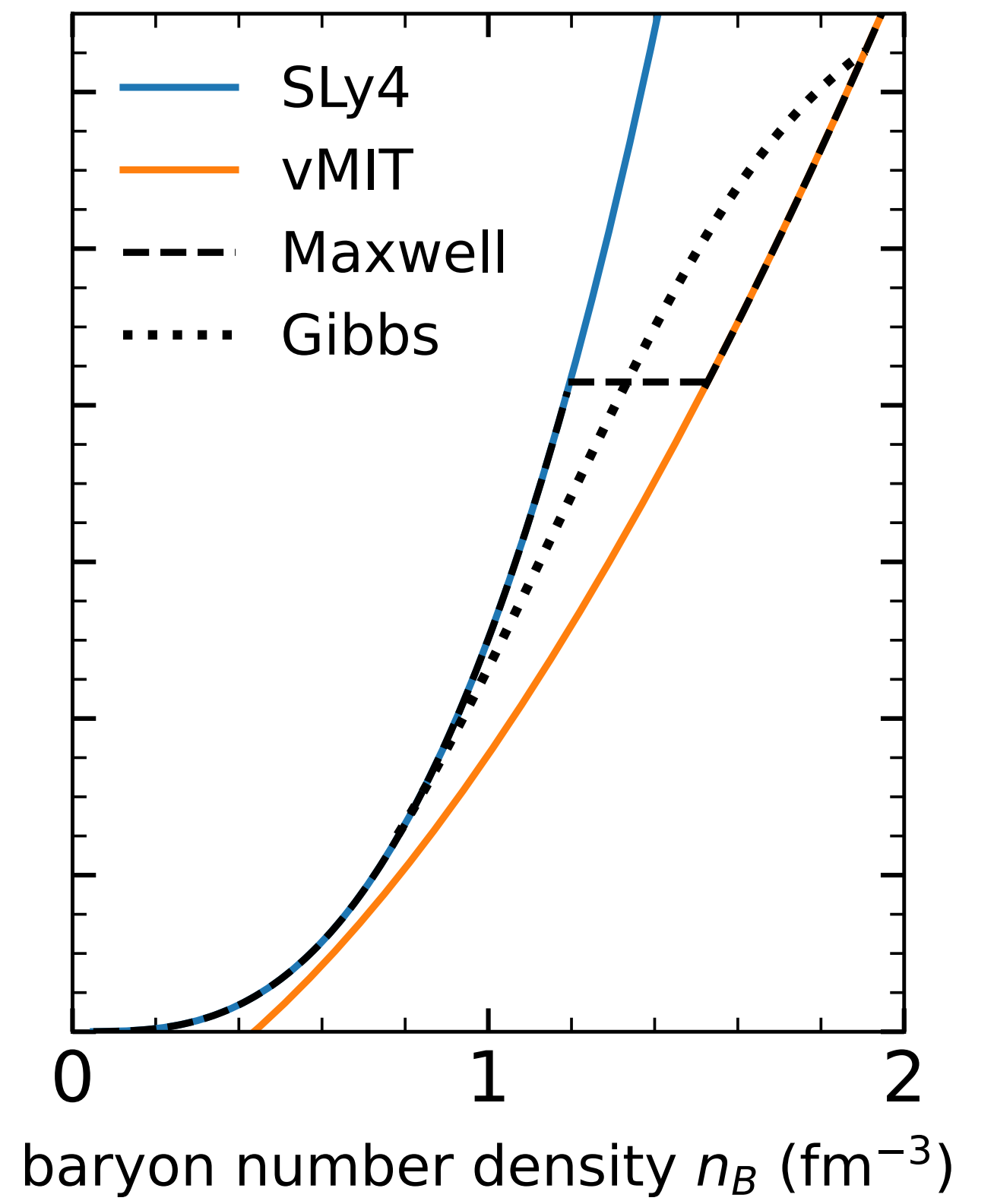
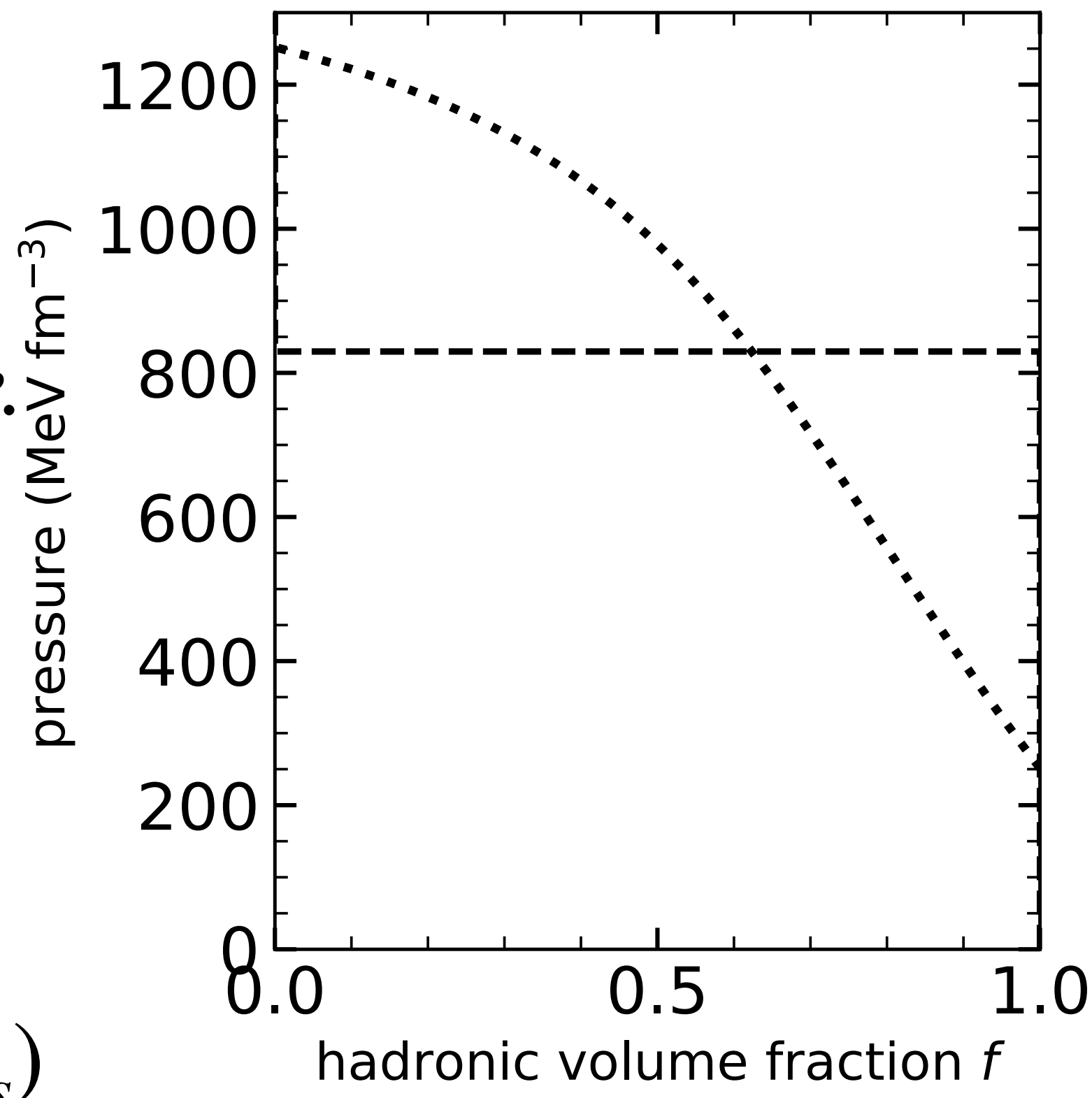
$$n_B = f(n_p + n_n) + \frac{1-f}{3}(n_u + n_d + n_s)$$



## Gibbs construction



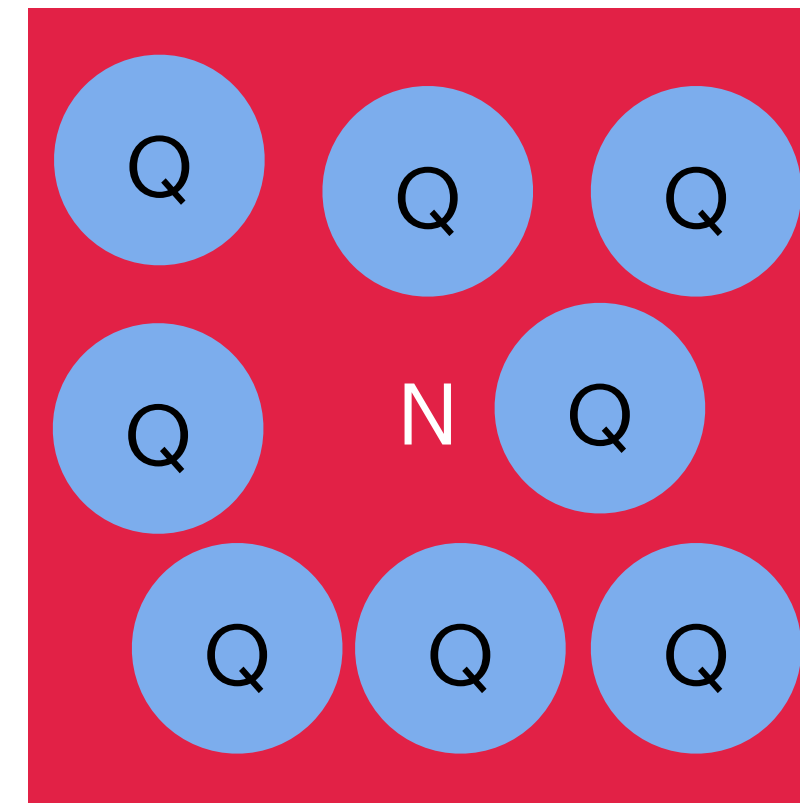
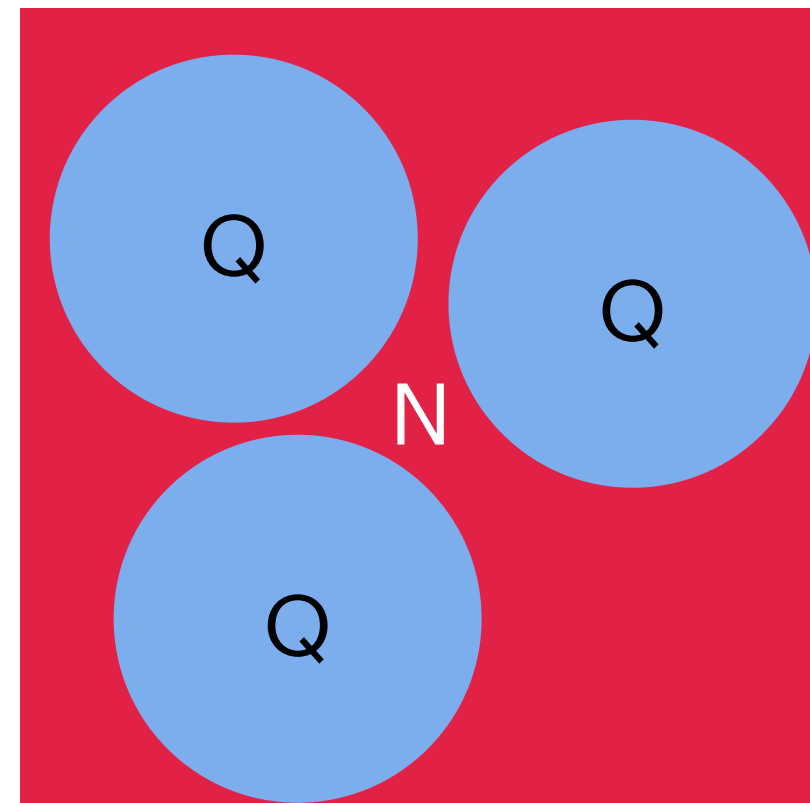
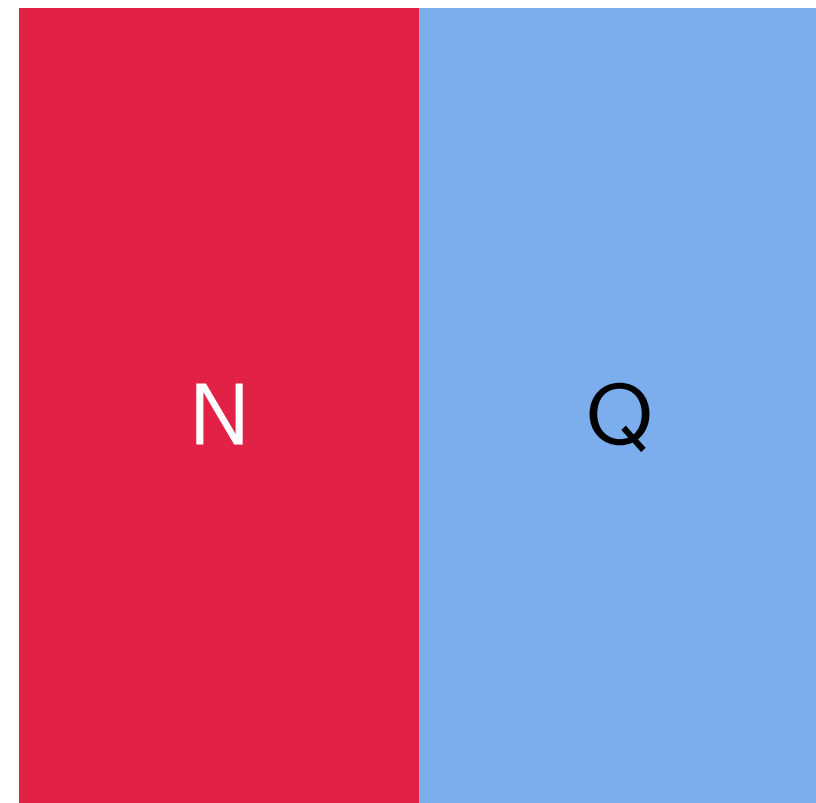
Hadronic fraction  $f$       Quark fraction  $1-f$



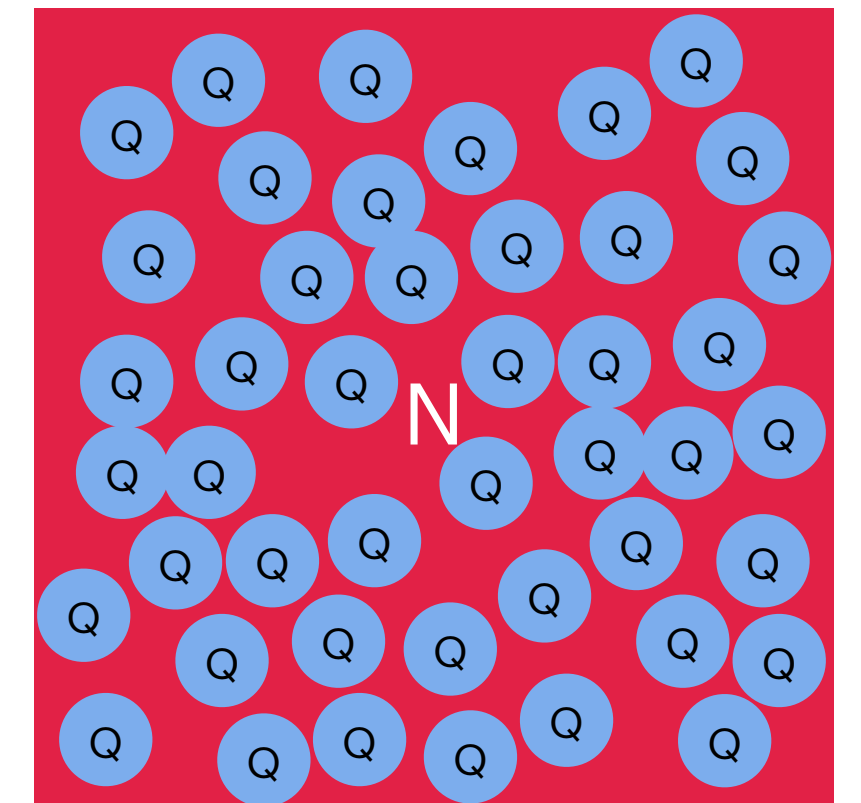
# Problem of Gibbs Construction

- e.g. volume fraction  $f = 0.5$ :

$$n_{e,N} = n_p \quad n_{e,Q} = \frac{2n_u - n_d - n_s}{3}$$



$$n_e = fn_{e,N} + (1 - f)n_{e,Q}$$



Surface energy increases  $\longrightarrow$

$\longleftarrow$  Coulomb energy increases

- Gibbs construction assumes infinite mixing leading to infinite boundary.
- Gibbs construction is realistic only when surface tension is negligibly small.
- (local or global) charge neutrality condition determines the amount of boundary.

# Between Maxwell & Gibbs

Partially local & partially global

- Locally neutral lepton densities:

$$n_{e,N} = n_p, \quad n_{e,Q} = \frac{2}{3}n_u - \frac{1}{3}n_d - \frac{1}{3}n_s$$

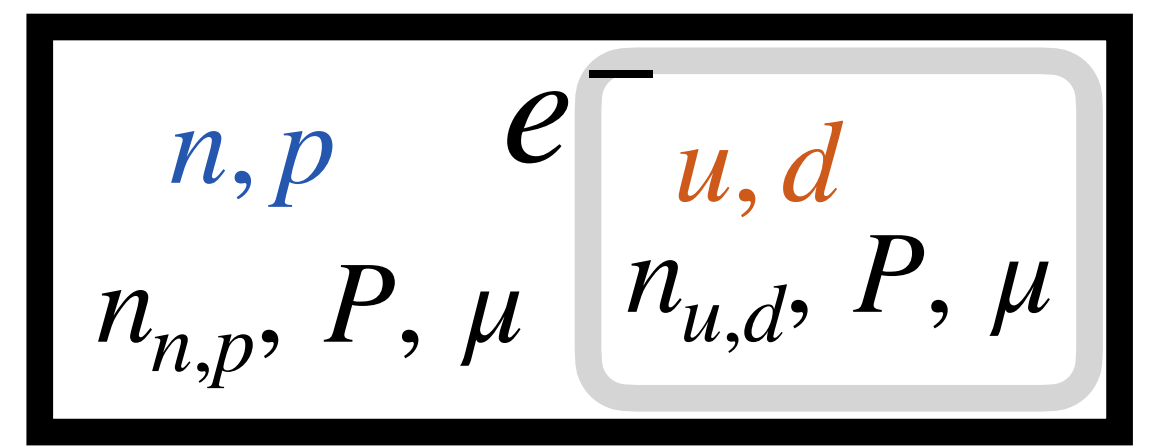
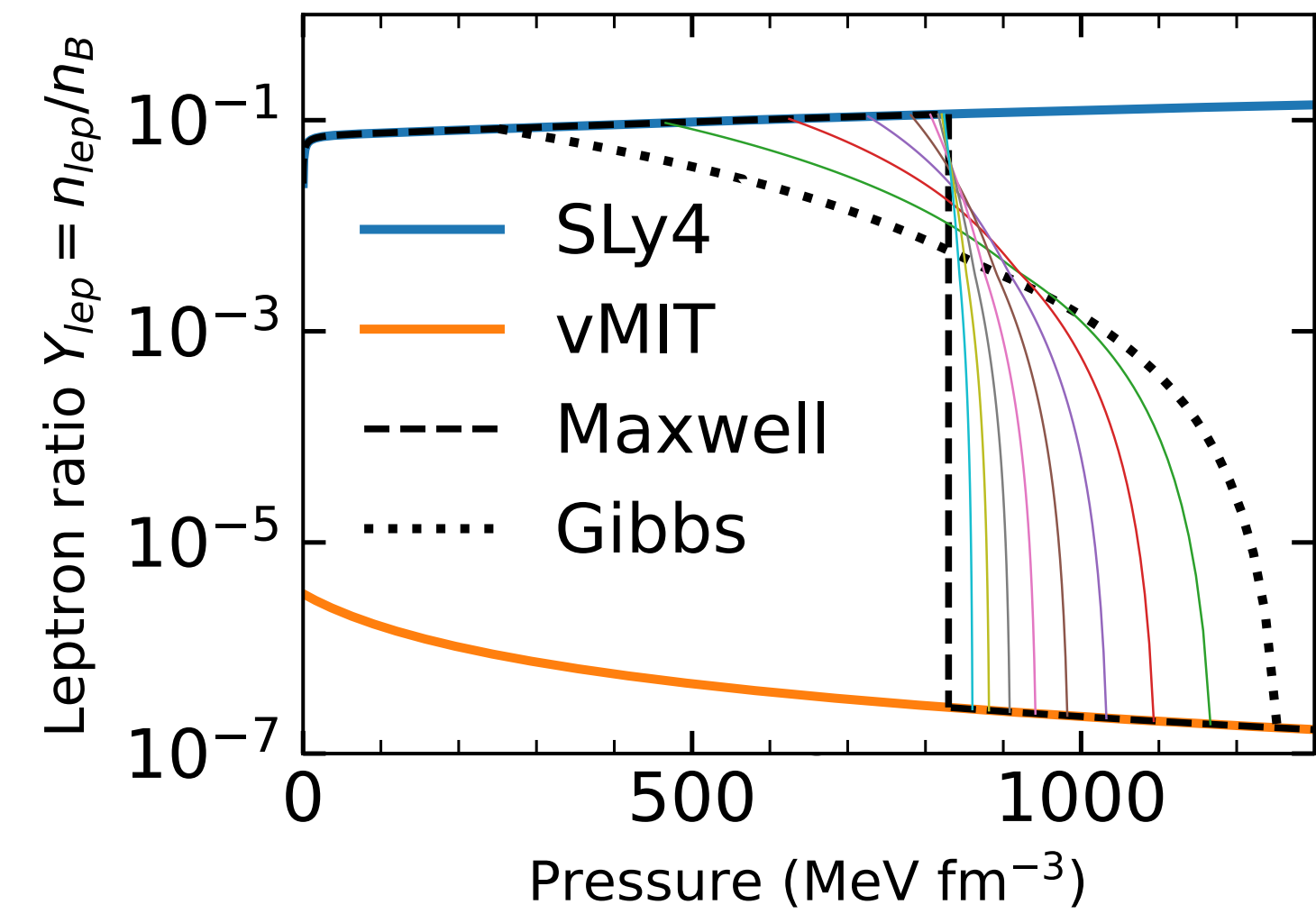
- Global lepton density,  $n_{e,G}$

- Total lepton density:

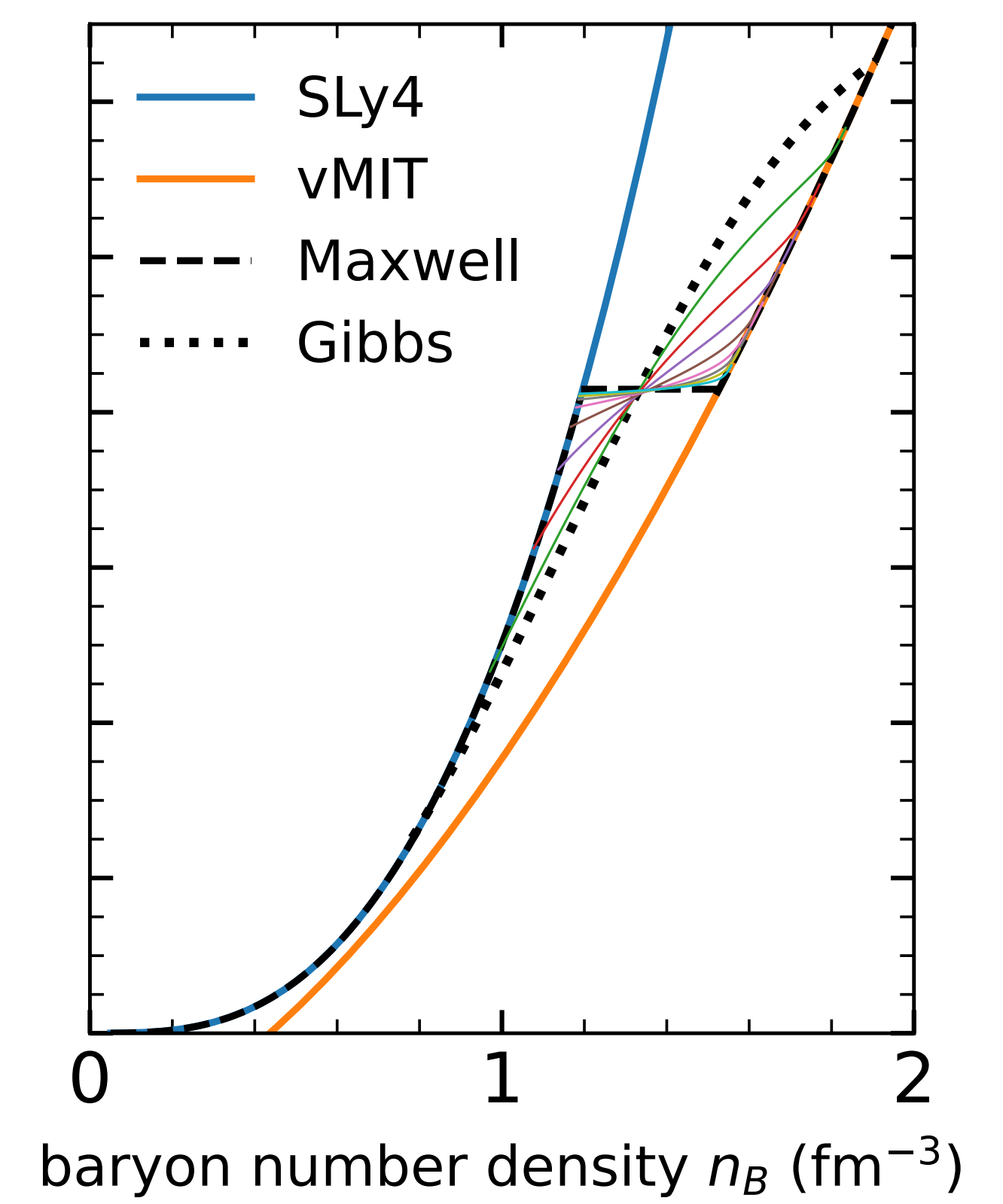
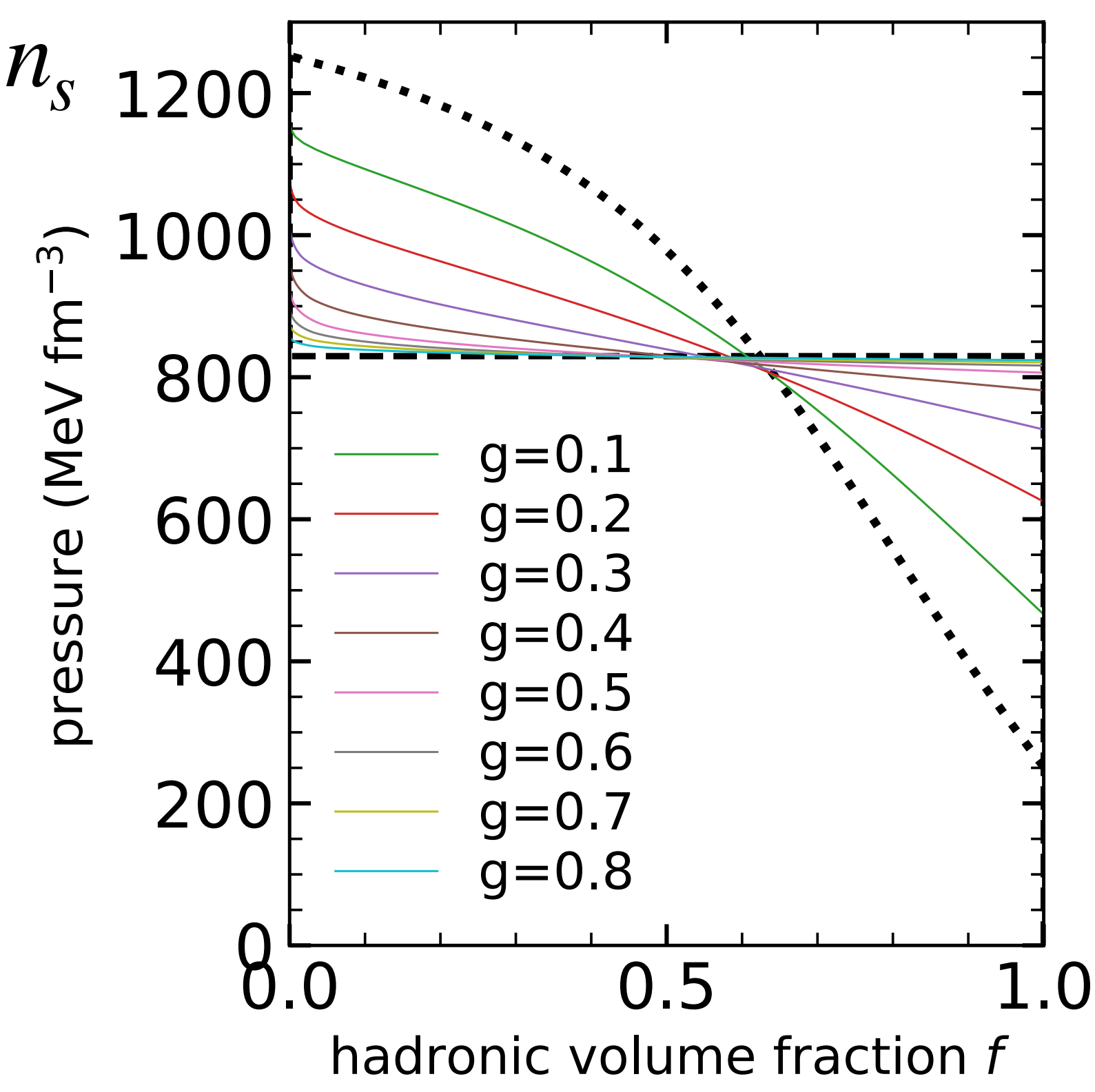
$$n_e = g(fn_{e,N} + (1-f)n_{e,Q}) + (1-g)n_{e,G}$$

- $g = 0 \rightarrow$  Gibbs transition
- $g = 1 \rightarrow$  Maxwell transition

- $g$  could be determined by Surface & Coulomb energy.



Global lepton fraction  
 $1 - g$



# Between Maxwell & Gibbs

Extend to finite temperature:

- Introduce anti-particles as,

$$\mu_{e^-} = -\mu_{e^+}$$

$$\mu_{\mu^-} = -\mu_{\mu^+}$$

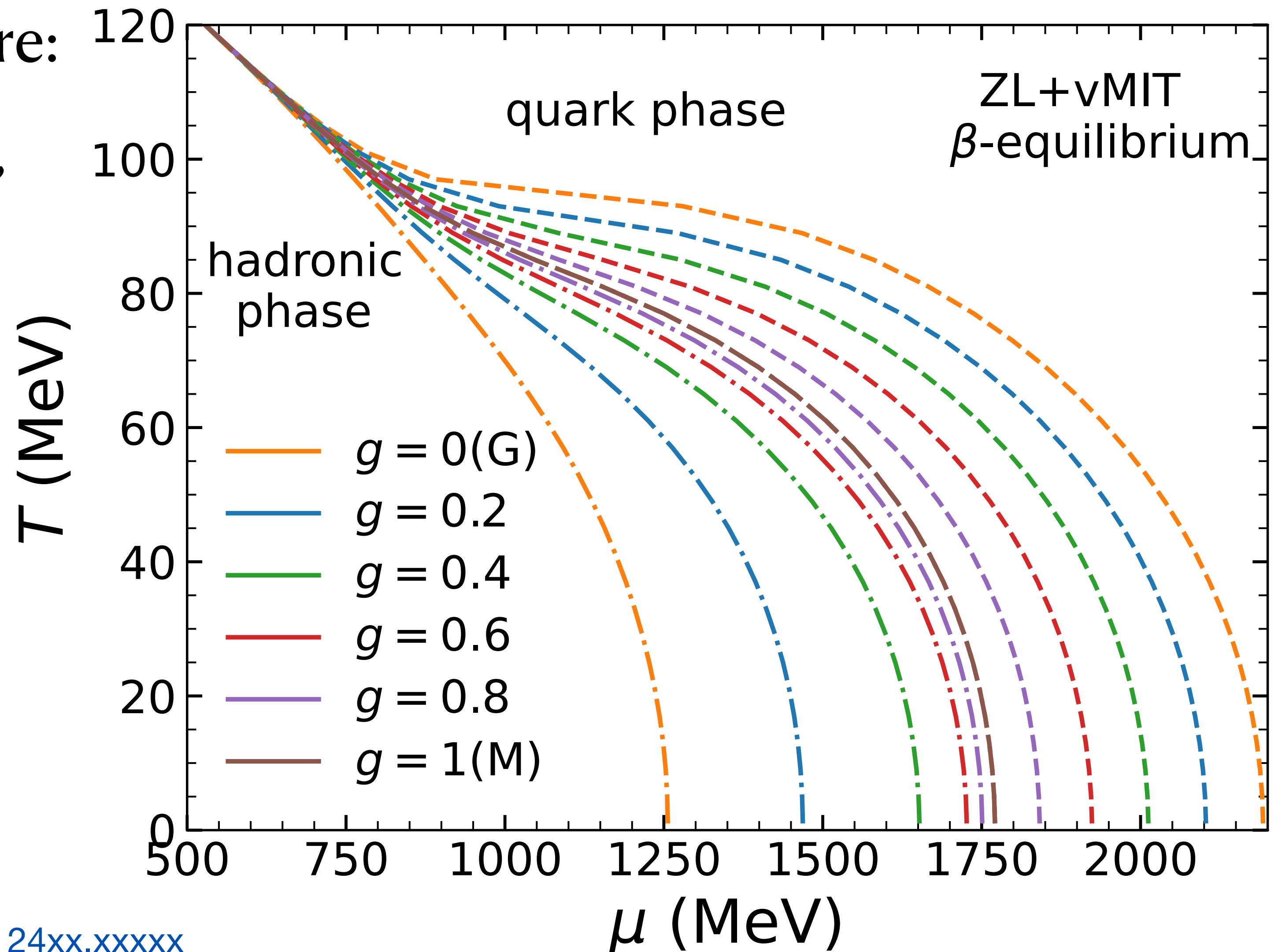
$$\mu_{u^-} = -\mu_{u^+}$$

$$\mu_{d^-} = -\mu_{d^+}$$

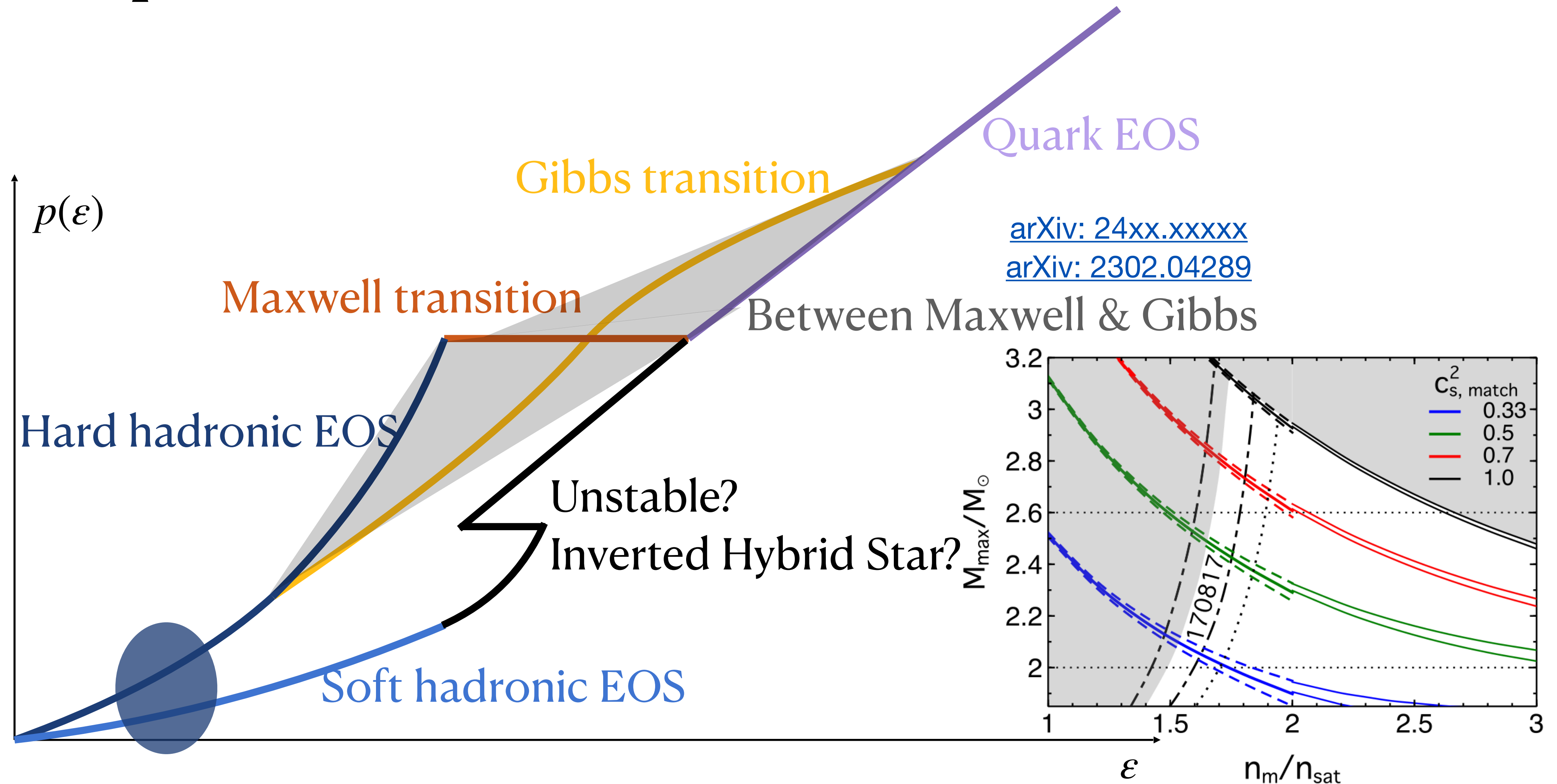
$$\mu_{s^-} = -\mu_{s^+}$$

- Add photon contribution,

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{photon}} \propto T^4$$



# Hadron-quark Transition in Neutron Star Core



Soft hadronic EOSs is flavored by ab-initio calculation, nuclear experiments & neutron star merger observation.

[arXiv: 2406.05267](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.05267)

[arXiv: 1808.02858](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.02858)

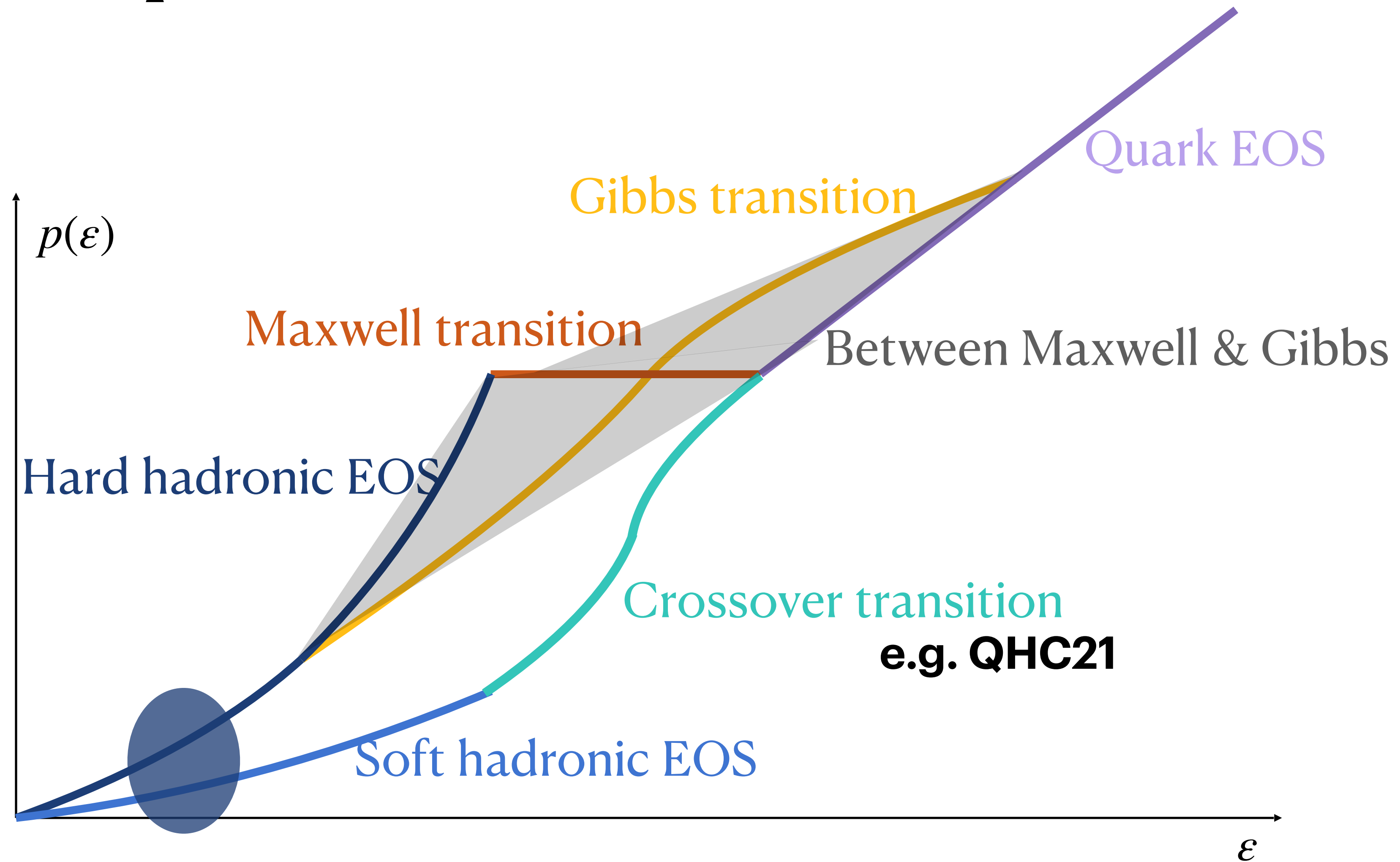
[arXiv: 24xx.xxxxx](https://arxiv.org/abs/24xx.xxxxx)

[arXiv: 2302.04289](https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.04289)

[arXiv: 2009.06441](https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.06441)



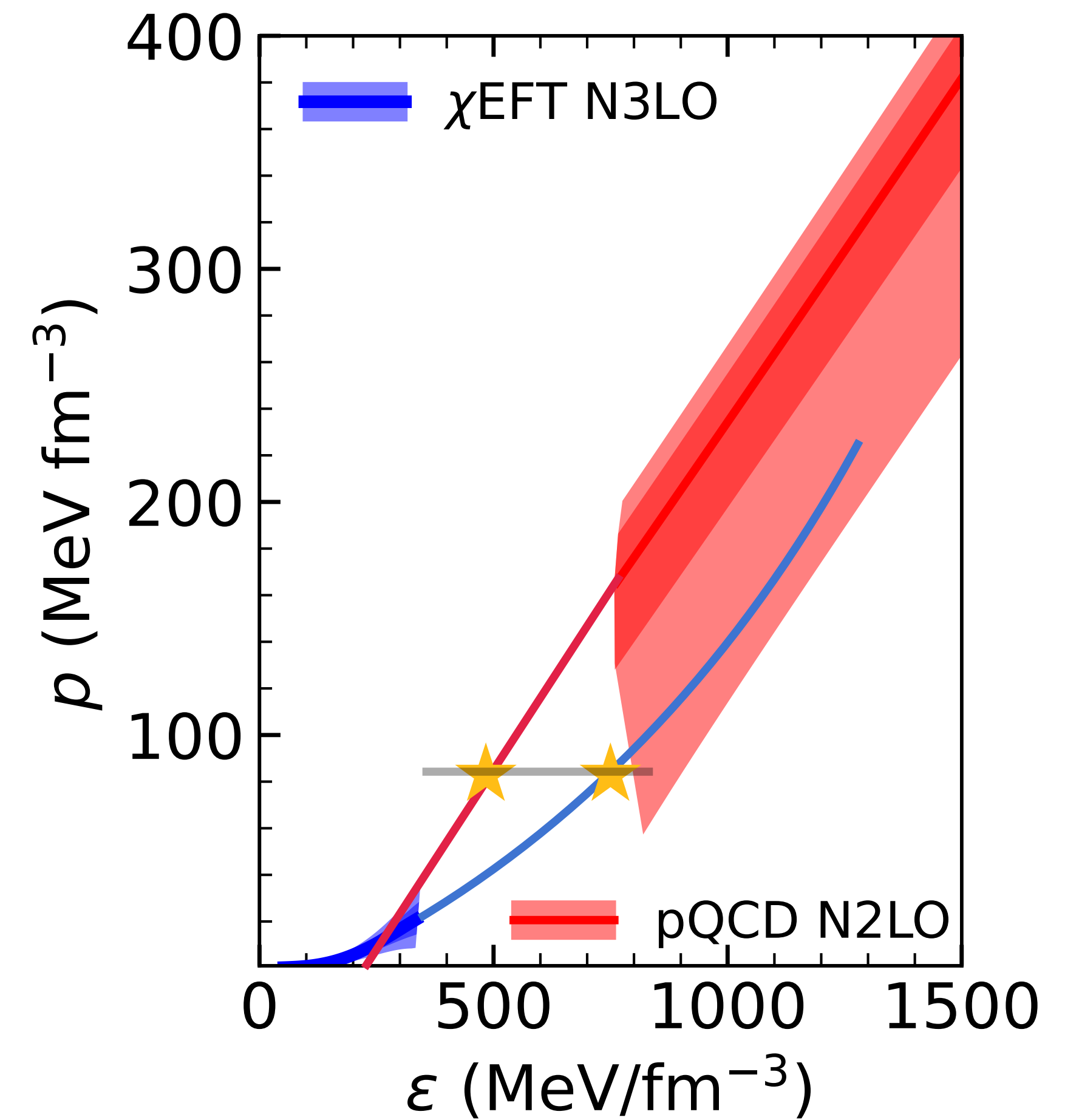
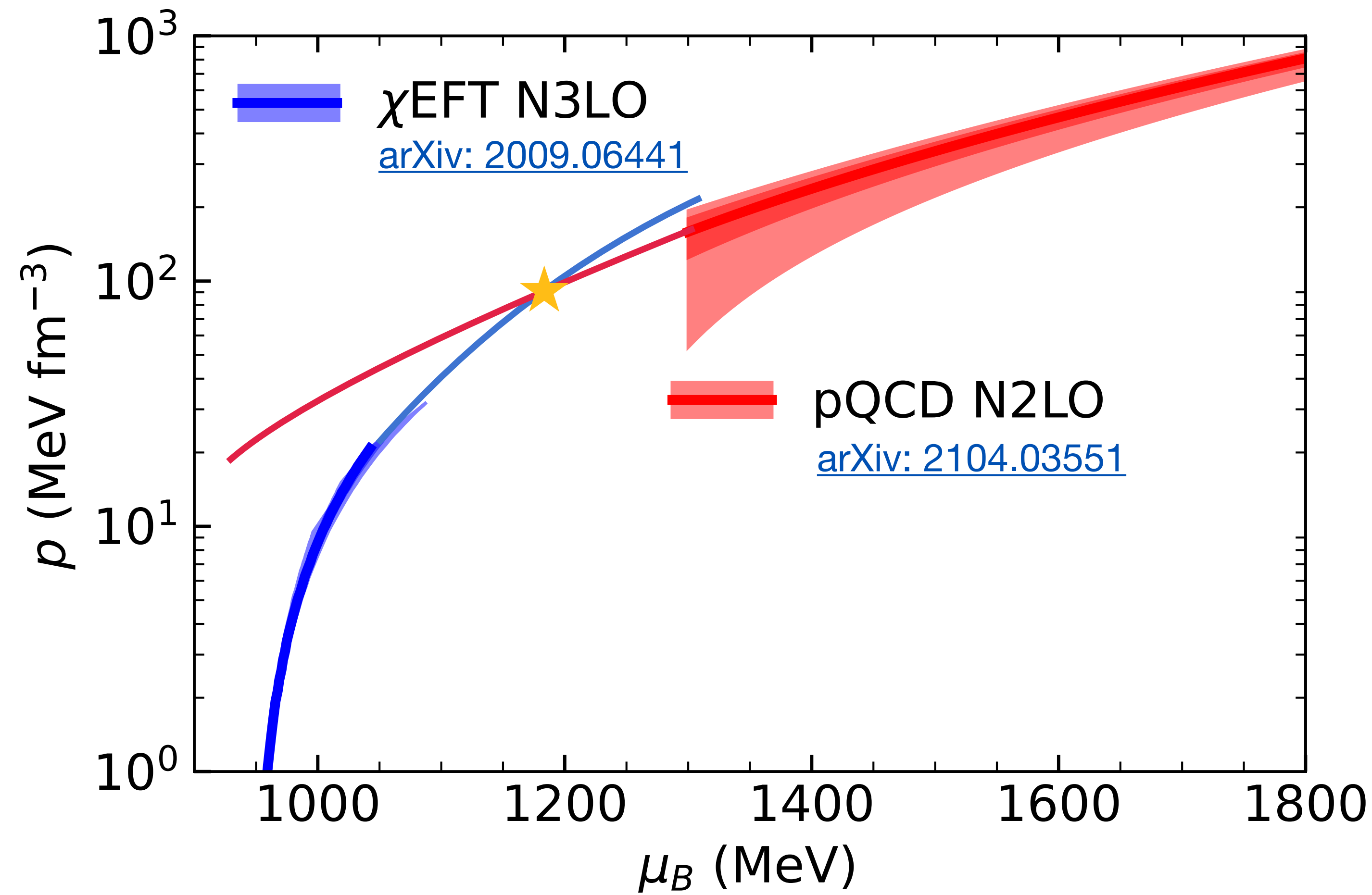
# Hadron-quark Transition in Neutron Star Core



Soft hadronic EOSs is flavored by ab-initio calculation, nuclear experiments & neutron star merger observation.

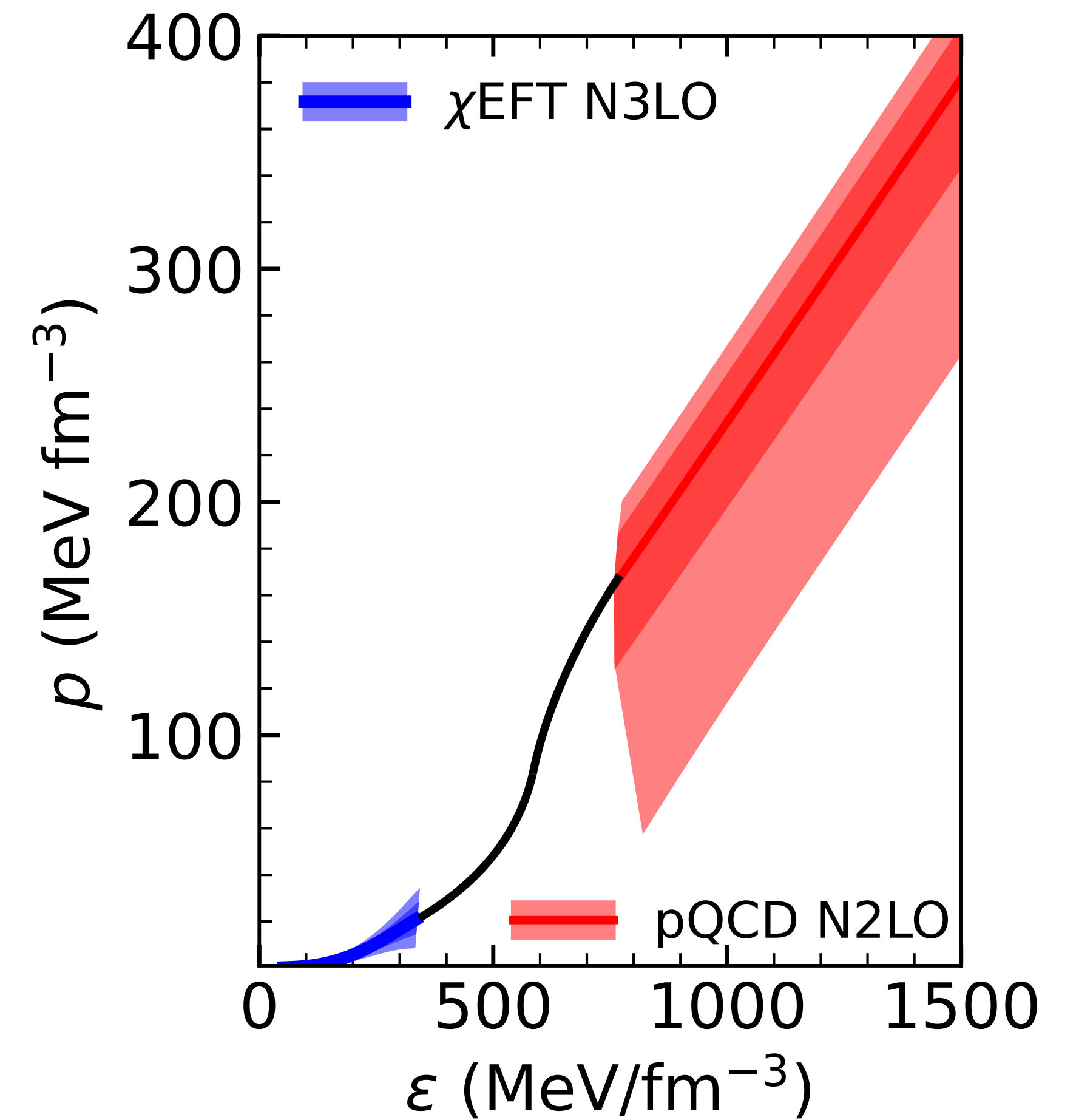
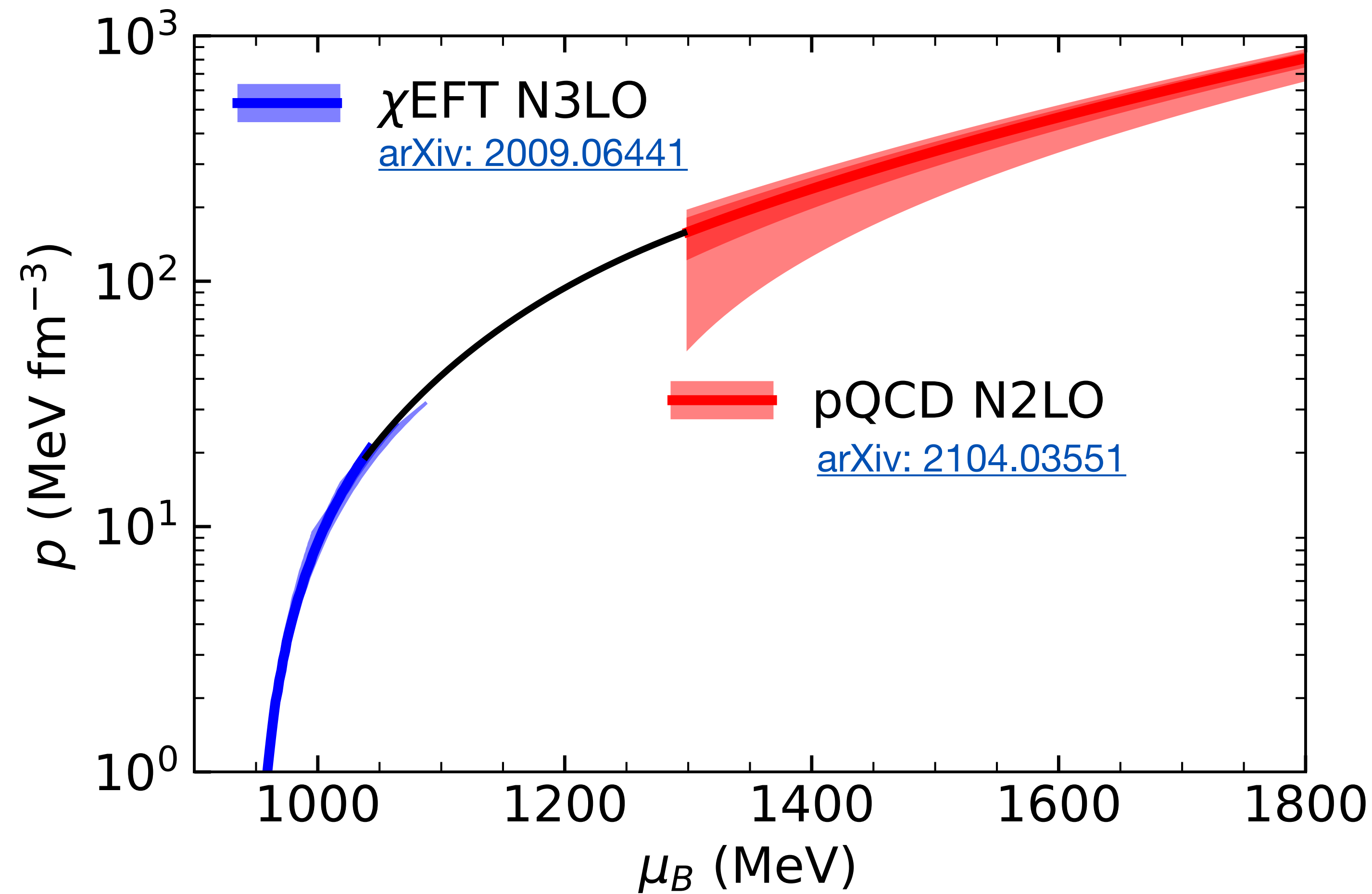
# Maxwell Construction

Inverted Hybrid Star C. Zhang, J. Ren 2023

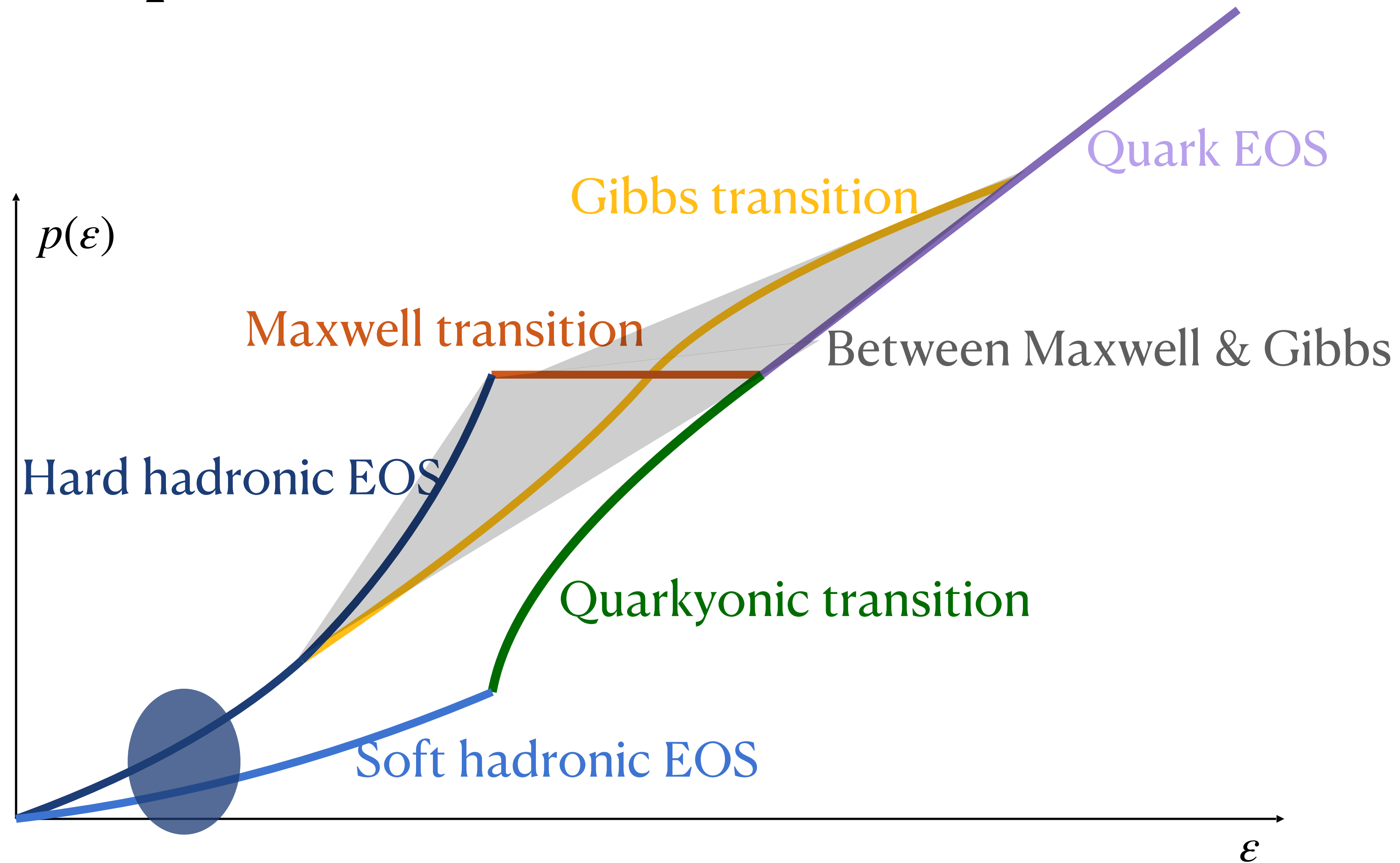


# Crossover Construction

Smooth interpolation Masuda, Hatsuda, Takatsuka 2018  
J. I. Kapusta, T. Welle 2021



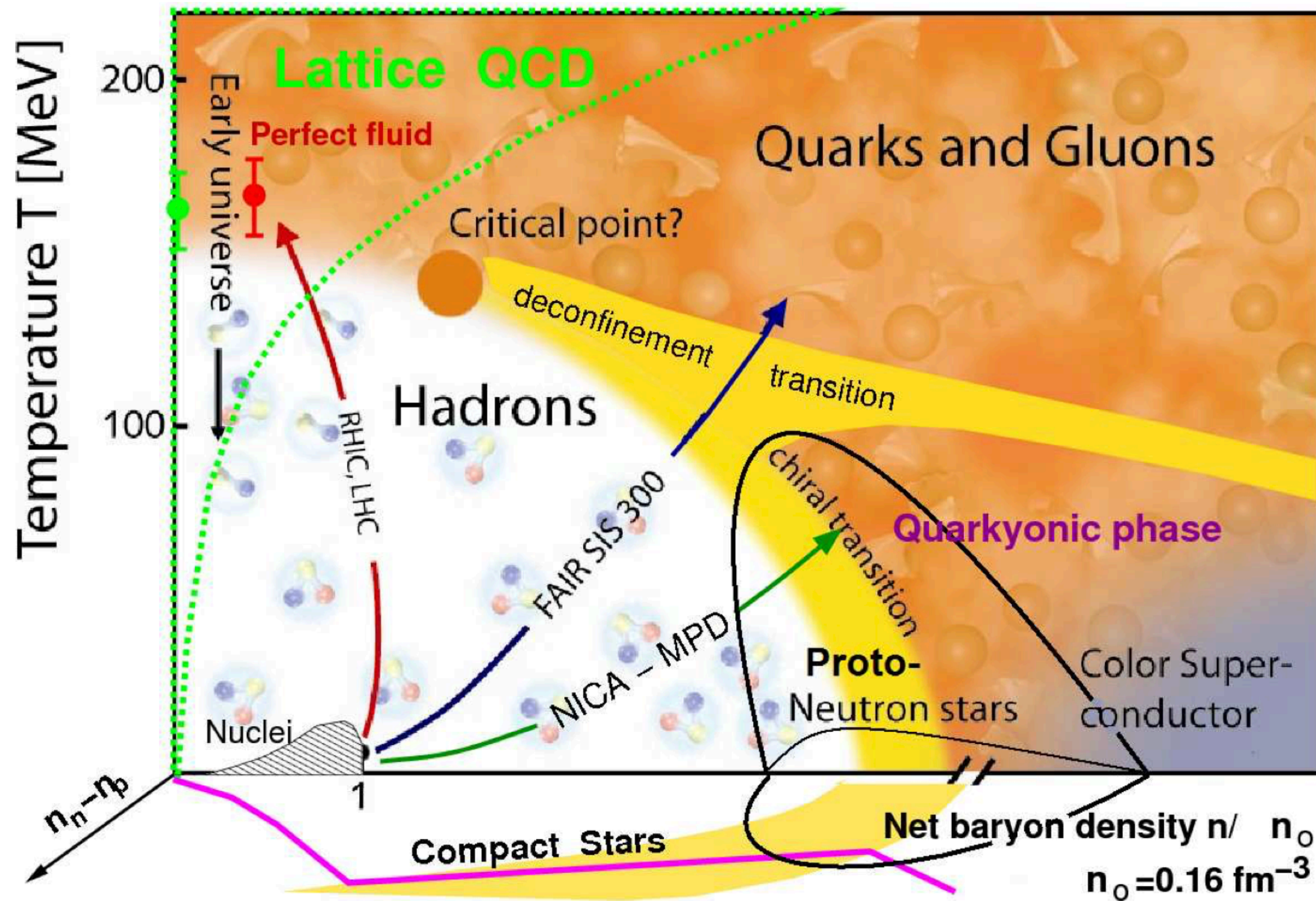
# Hadron-quark Transition in Neutron Star Core



Soft hadronic EOSs is flavored by ab-initio calculation, nuclear experiments & neutron star merger observation.

# Quarkyonic Matter

- The hypothetical phase between hadronic matter and deconfined quark matter, with unclear chiral symmetry.



Credit: figure from David Blaschke

Sanjay and McLerran 2018

## Dynamical realization:

K. Jeong et. al. 2020

T. Kojo & D. Suenaga 2021

Y. Fujimoto et. al. 2023

## Extend isospin, flavor, finite T:

Zhao & Lattimer 2020

S. Sen et. al. 2021

D. Duarte et. al. 2021

J. Margueron et. al. 2021

## Include better hadronic EOS:

G. Cao et. al. 2021

A. Kumar et. al. 2022

C. Xia et. al. 2023

B. Gao & M. Harada 2024

# Asymptotic Free

Gross, Wilczek and Politzer 1973

- QCD beta function:

$$\beta(\alpha_s) = q^2 \frac{\partial \alpha_s}{\partial q^2} = -\beta_0 \alpha_s^2 - \beta_1 \alpha_s^3 - \dots$$

$$\text{where } \alpha_s = \frac{g^2}{4\pi}, \beta_0 = \frac{33 - 2N_f}{12\pi} > 0, \beta_1 = \frac{153 - 19N_f}{24\pi^2} > 0$$

- Keep only the first term on the right-hand side,

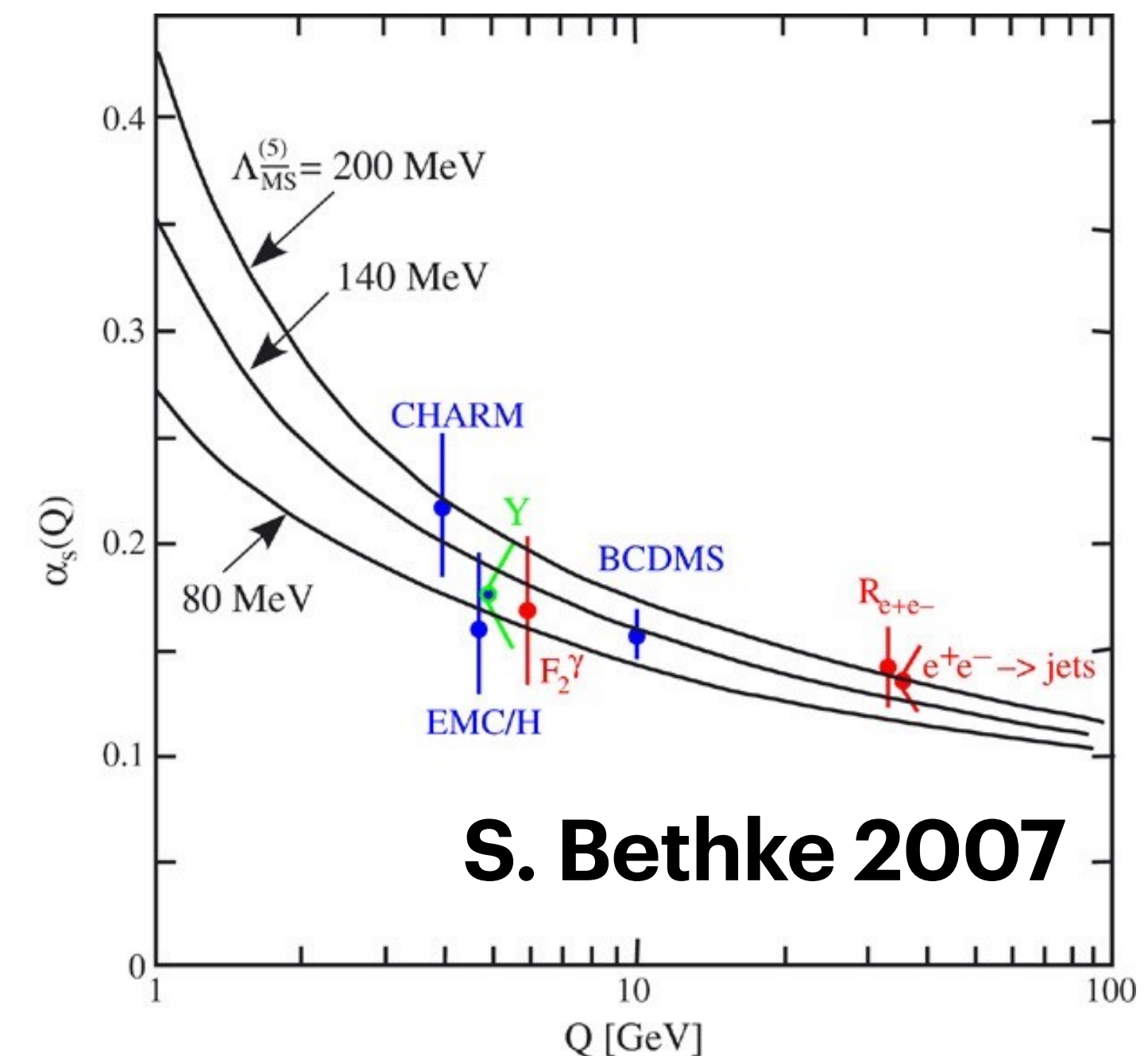
$$\alpha_s \approx \frac{1}{\beta_0 \log q^2 / \Lambda_{QCD}^2}$$

$$\text{therefore } \lim_{q \gg \Lambda_{QCD}} \alpha_s(q) \rightarrow 0$$

- Perturbative QCD:

QCD Lagrangian (quark-gluon coupling)

+ Analytical method (vacuum and ring diagram)

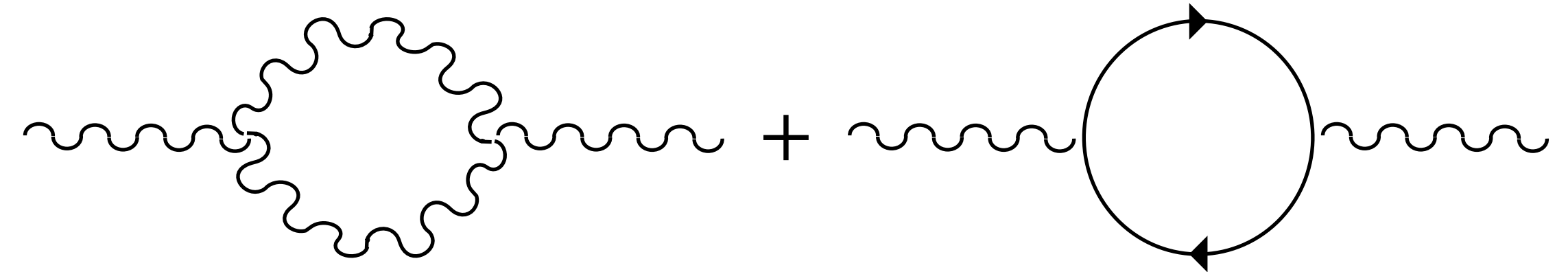


# Speculation from large $N_c$

McLerran & Pisarski 2007

- Confinement due to screening of gluons

$$m_{Debye}^2 \approx \Pi = g^2 \left[ \left( N_c + \frac{N_f}{2} \right) \frac{T^2}{3} + \frac{N_f \mu^2}{2\pi^2} + \dots \right]$$



- Large  $m_{Debye} \longrightarrow$  stronger screening  $\longrightarrow$  weaker long-range interactions  $\longrightarrow$  deconfinement

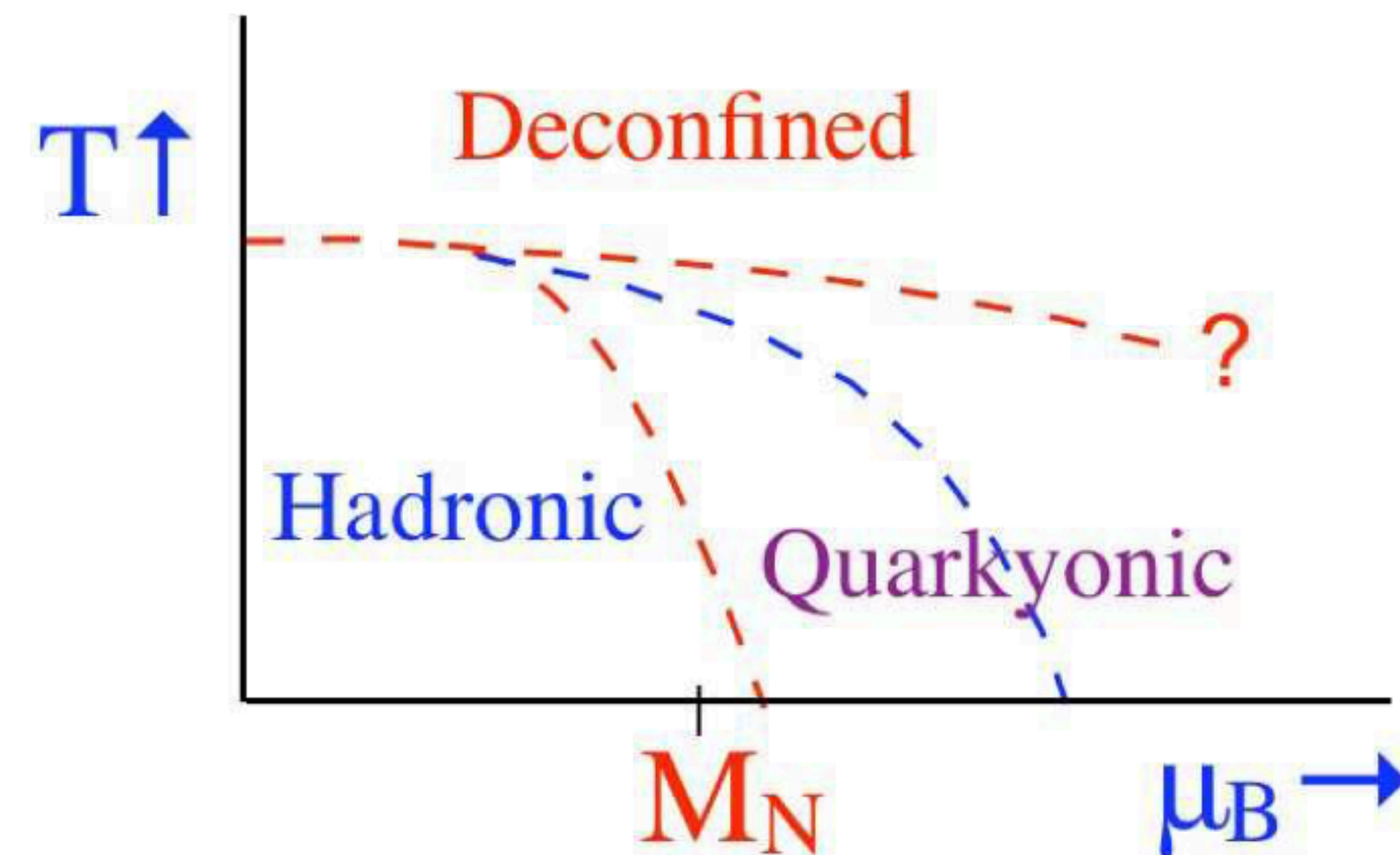
- Large  $N_c$  limit:  $N_c \rightarrow \infty$  while fixing  $\lambda_{tHooft} = g^2 N_c$  and  $N_f$ :

$$m_{Debye}^2 \propto T^2 \text{ for high temperature;}$$

$$m_{Debye}^2 \propto \frac{\mu^2}{N_c} \rightarrow 0 \text{ for high chemical potential.}$$

- Asymptotic free + Confinement (at the same time) ????

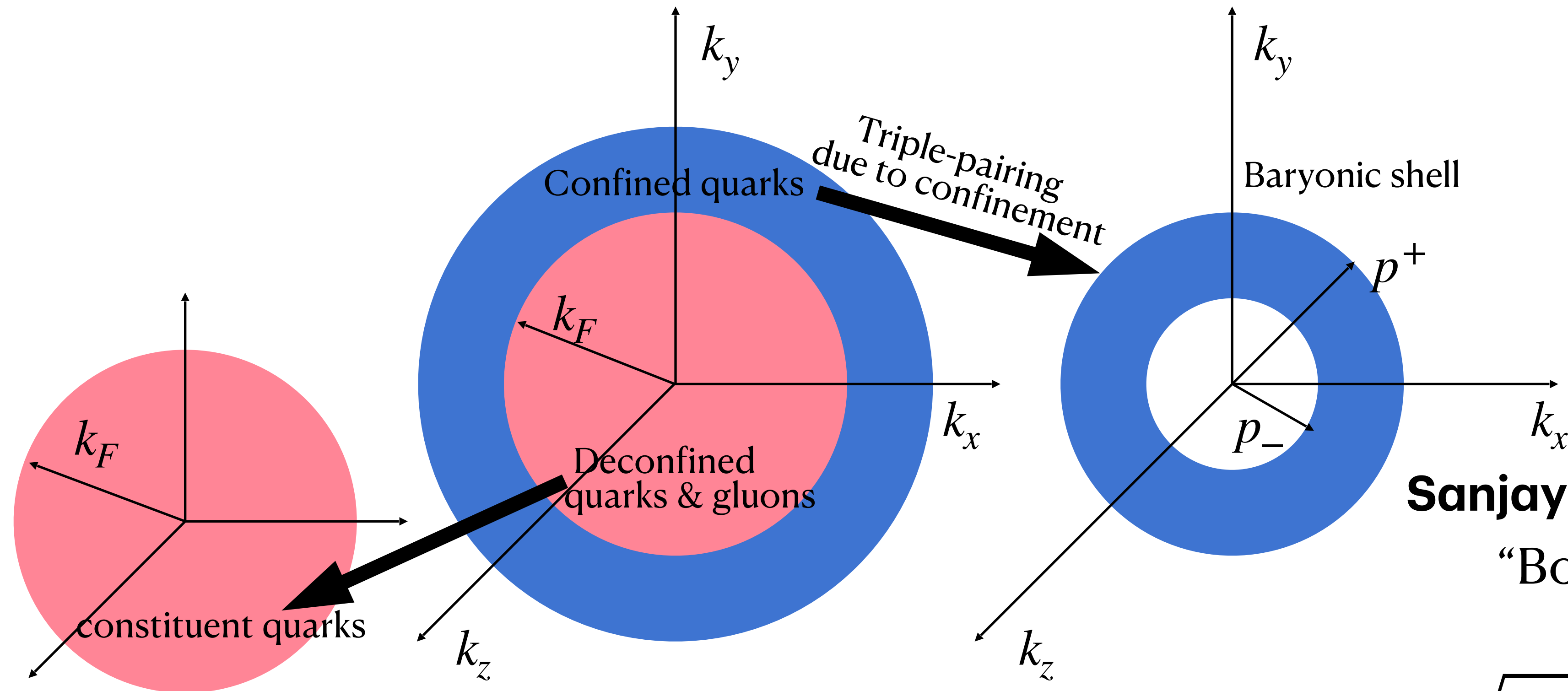
Quark + Baryon = Quarkyonic matter



# Quarkyonic Matter Momentum Space

**Nucleons are degenerate with quarks (quark-hadron duality)**

- Perturbative quarks = quarks deep inside Fermi sphere
- Baryons = triple-pair of quarks near Fermi surface



**Sanjay and McLerran 2018**

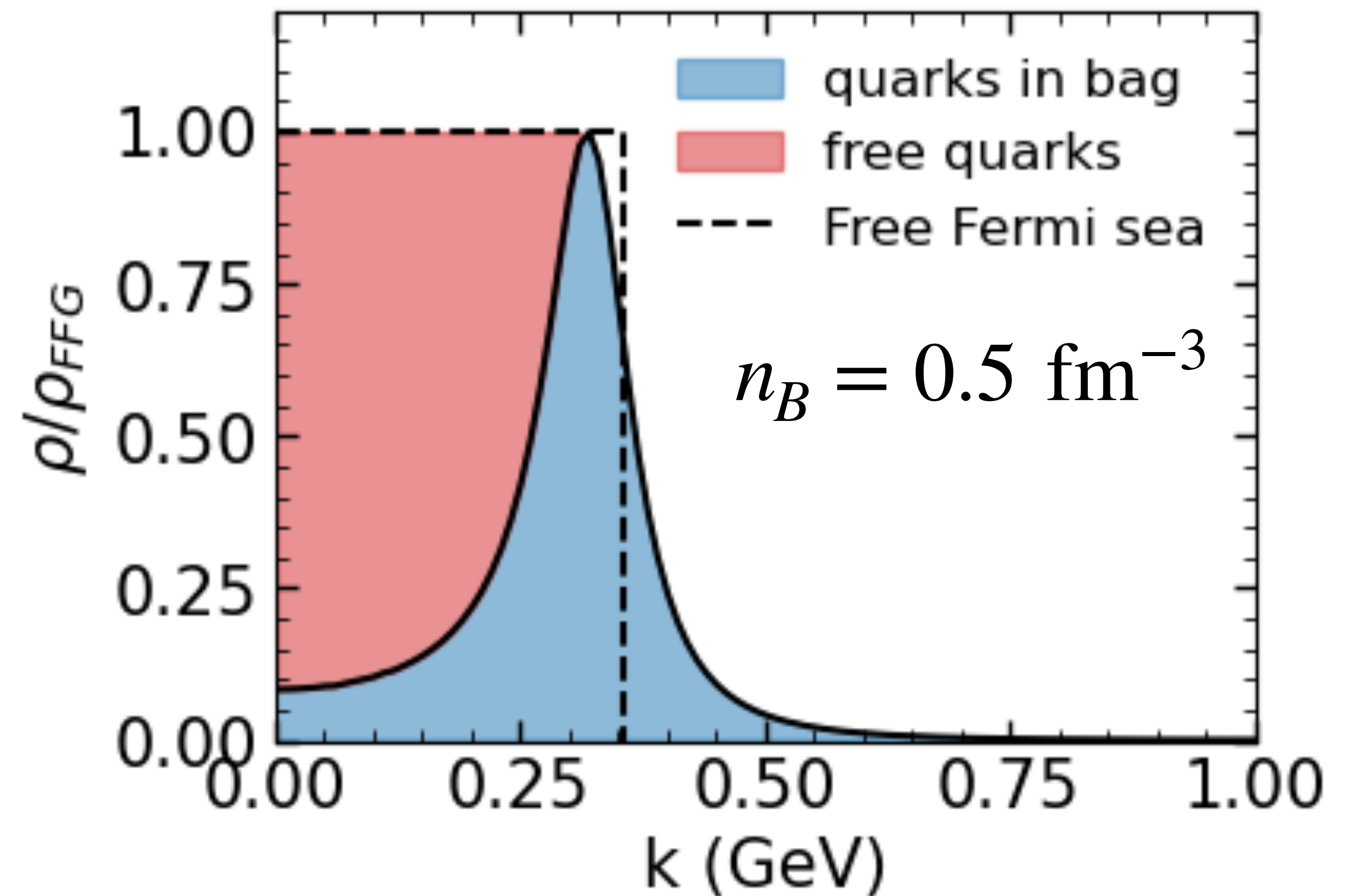
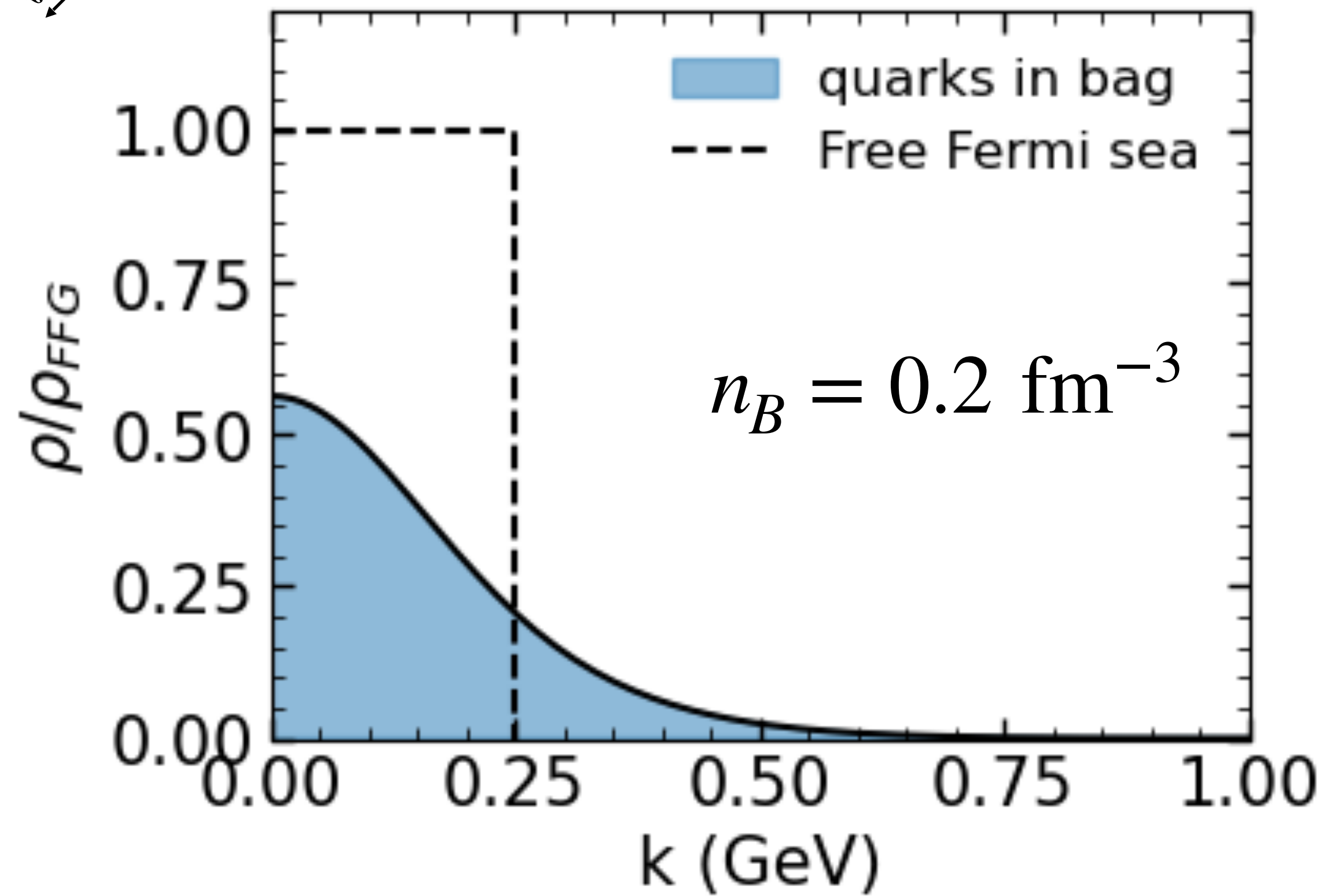
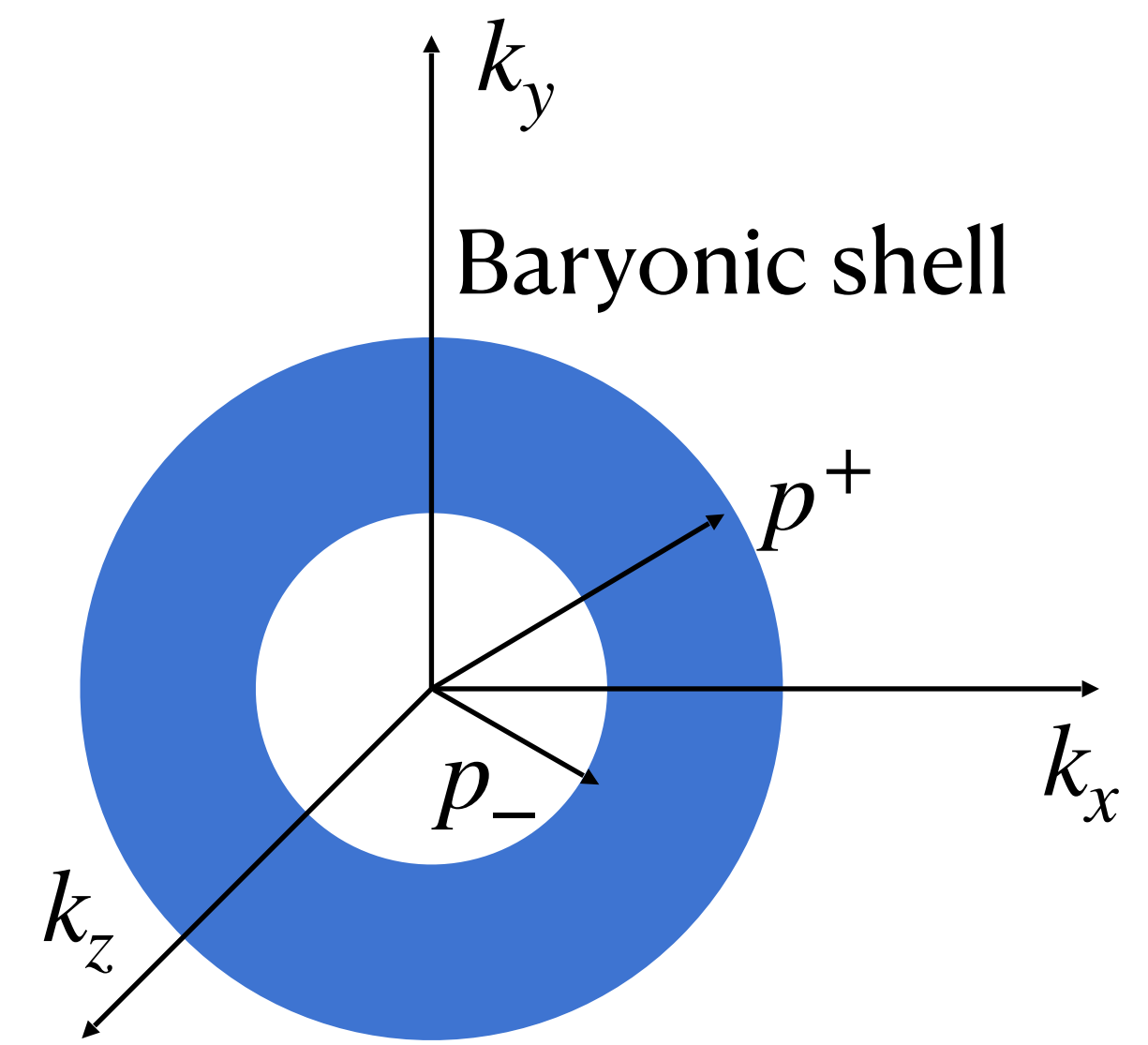
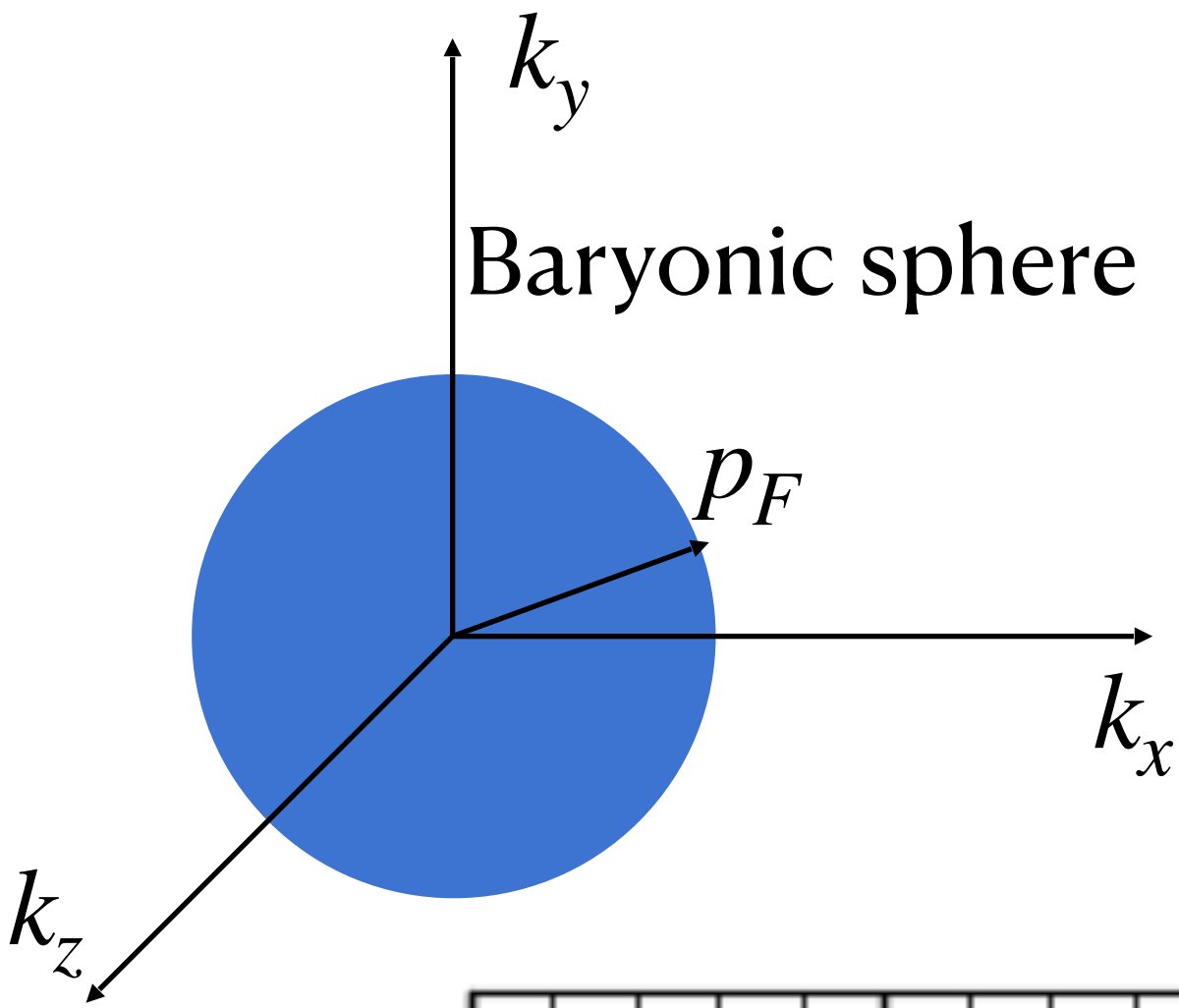
“Bold” Assumption:

$$p_- = 3k_F$$

$$\text{or } \sqrt{p_-^2 + m_N^2} = 3\sqrt{k_F^2 + m_Q^2}$$

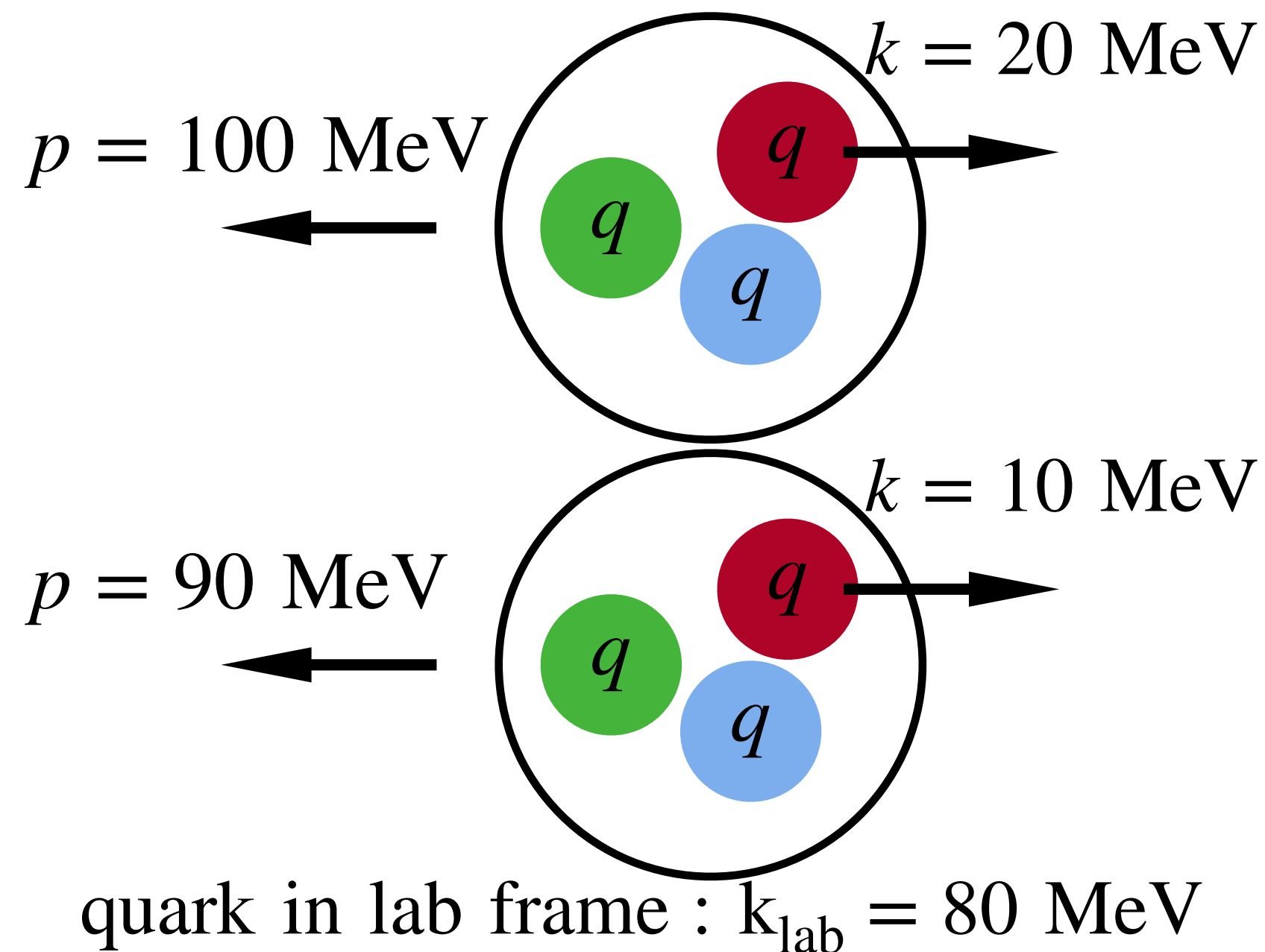


# Hadronic to quarkyonic



# Quark Hadron Duality

Quarks from different baryon may subject to Pauli Blocking



- Gaussian wavepacket for quarks in baryon:  
 $|\psi_Q(k)|^2 \propto e^{-k^2/\Lambda^2}$   
 where  $\Lambda \approx 200$  MeV for  $\langle R^2 \rangle \approx 0.61$  fm
- Baryons cannot follow free Fermi gas at density,

$$n_B^{id,sat} \approx 0.09 \text{ fm}^{-3} \left( \frac{\Lambda}{200 \text{ MeV}} \right)^3$$

**T. Kojo & D. Suenaga 2021**

- Modified Gaussian wavepacket:

$$|\psi_Q(k)|^2 \propto e^{-k^2/\Lambda^2}/k^2$$

**Y. Fujimoto et. al. 2023**

- We apply wavefunction from the Bag model.

**K. Saito & A. W. Thomas 1994**

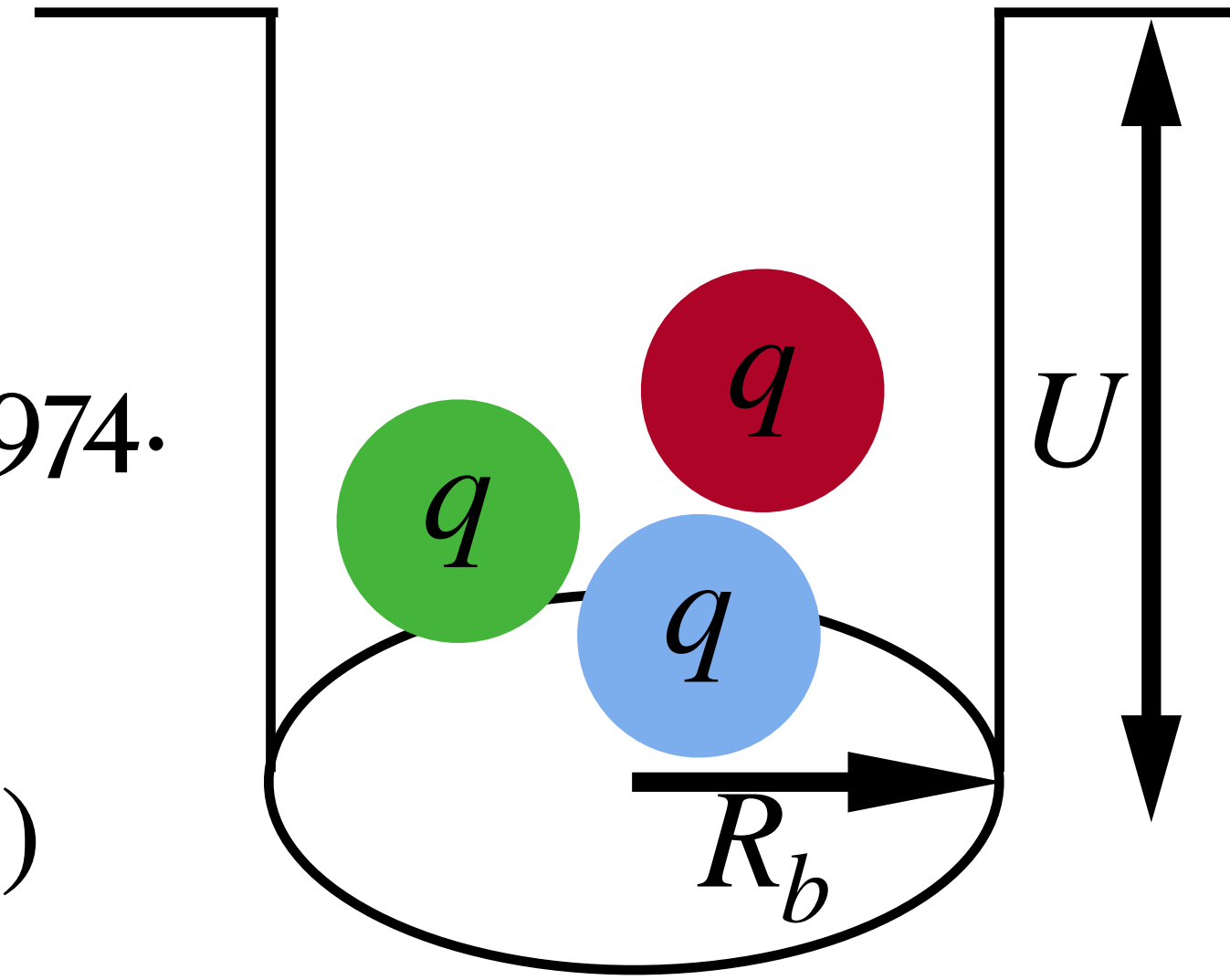
$$|\psi_Q(k_{lab})|^2 \propto \int d^3p |\psi_Q(k = k_{lab} - p)|^2 |\psi_B(p)|^2$$

$|\psi_Q(k_{lab} = 0)|^2$  may exceed that of free Fermi gas

# MIT bag model

- Developed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1974.
- The total energy of the bag,

$$E_b = \frac{4\pi R_b^3}{3} B + \frac{1}{R_b} \sum_q N_q \Omega_q - \frac{Z}{R_b} \quad (1)$$



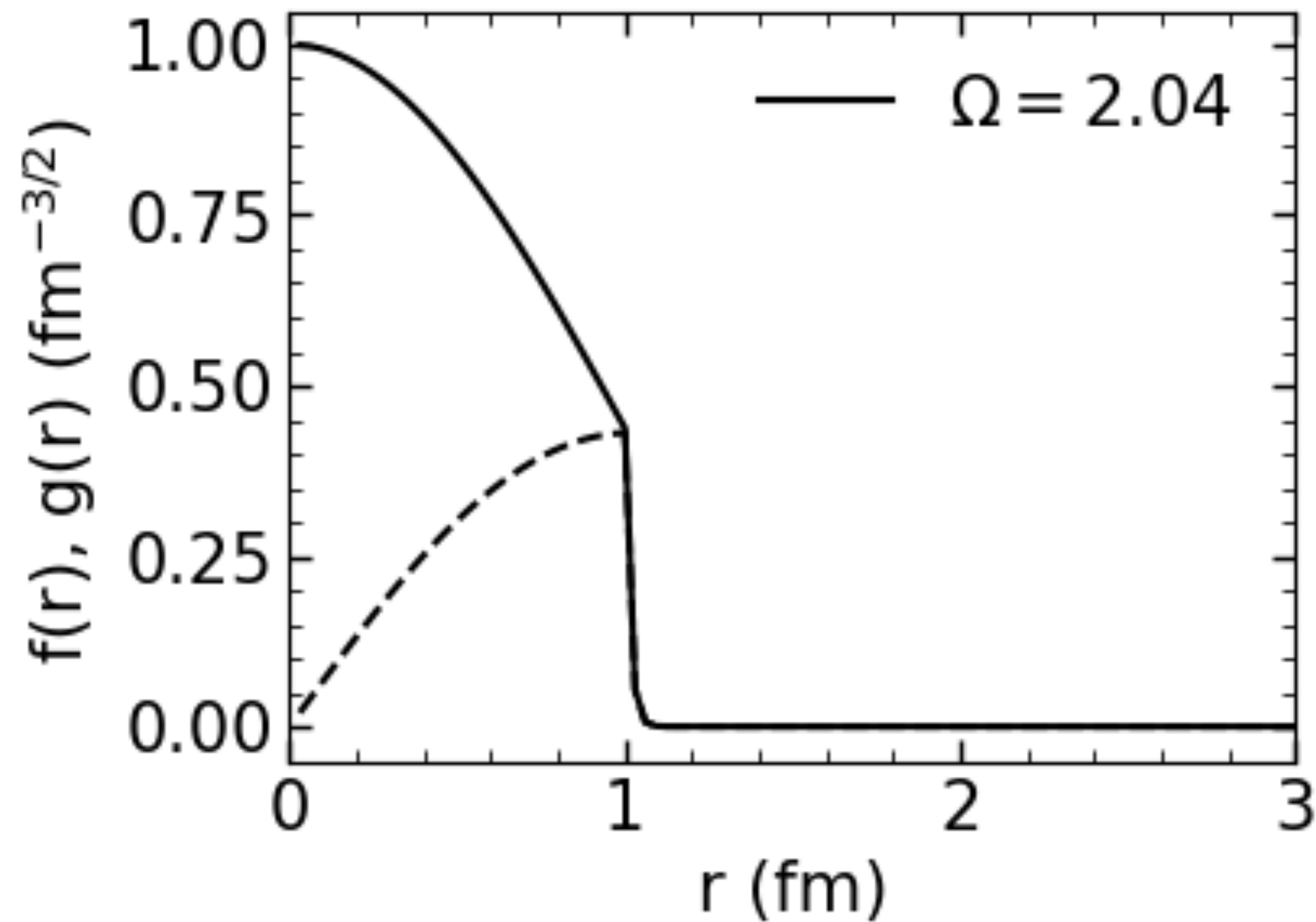
- Solving particles in a spherical infinite potential well,  $\Omega_q = 2.04$  (ground state)

- The bag radius is fixed by minimization,  $\frac{dE_b}{dR_b} = 0 \longrightarrow 4\pi R_b^4 B + Z = \sum_q N_q \Omega_q \quad (2)$

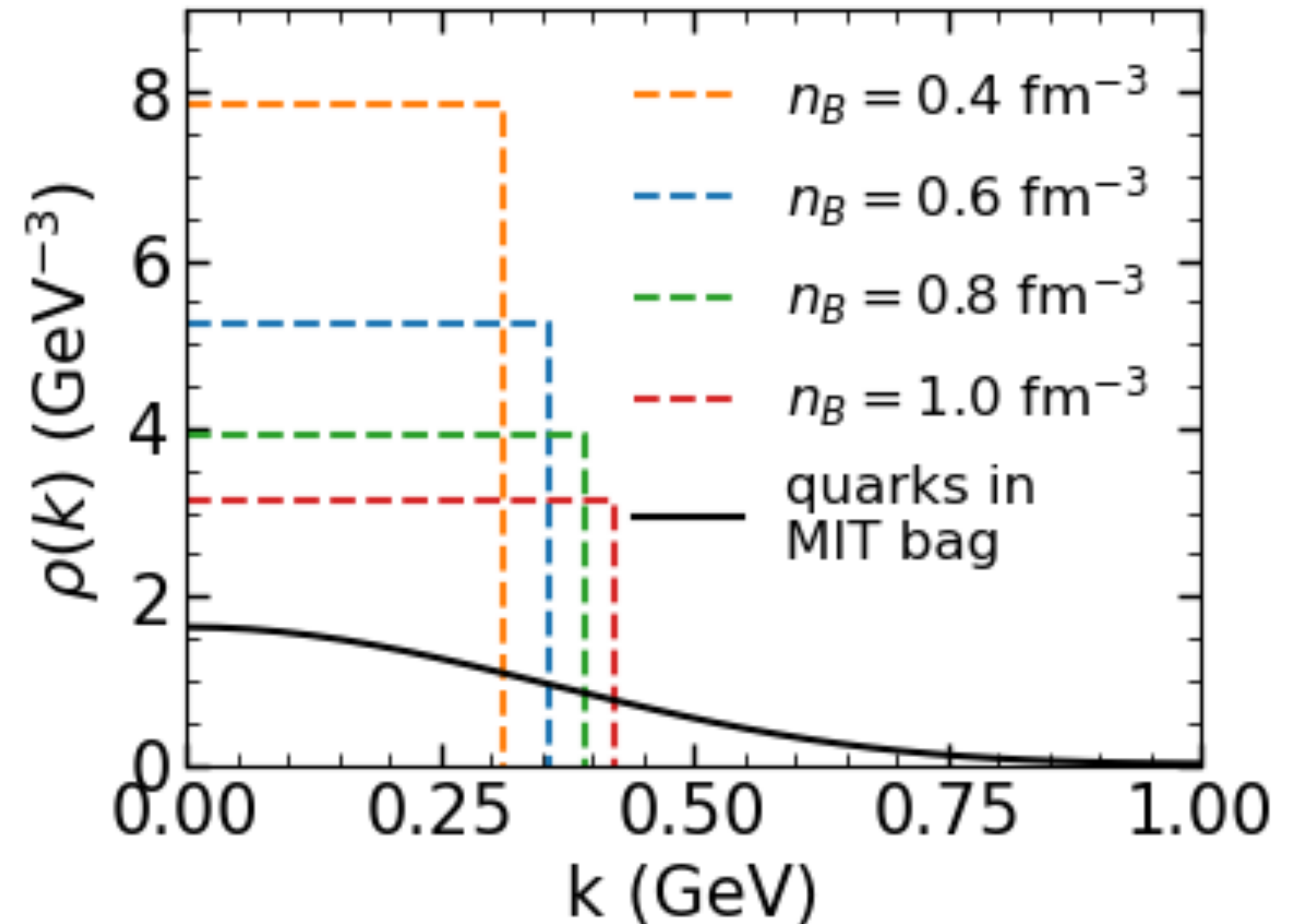
- Bag constant  $B = 0.144 \text{ GeV}^4$ ,  $Z = 2.55$  fixed by  $E_b = 939 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $R_b = 1 \text{ fm}$ .

# Quarks in MIT bag

- Quark wave function:  $f(r), g(r)$

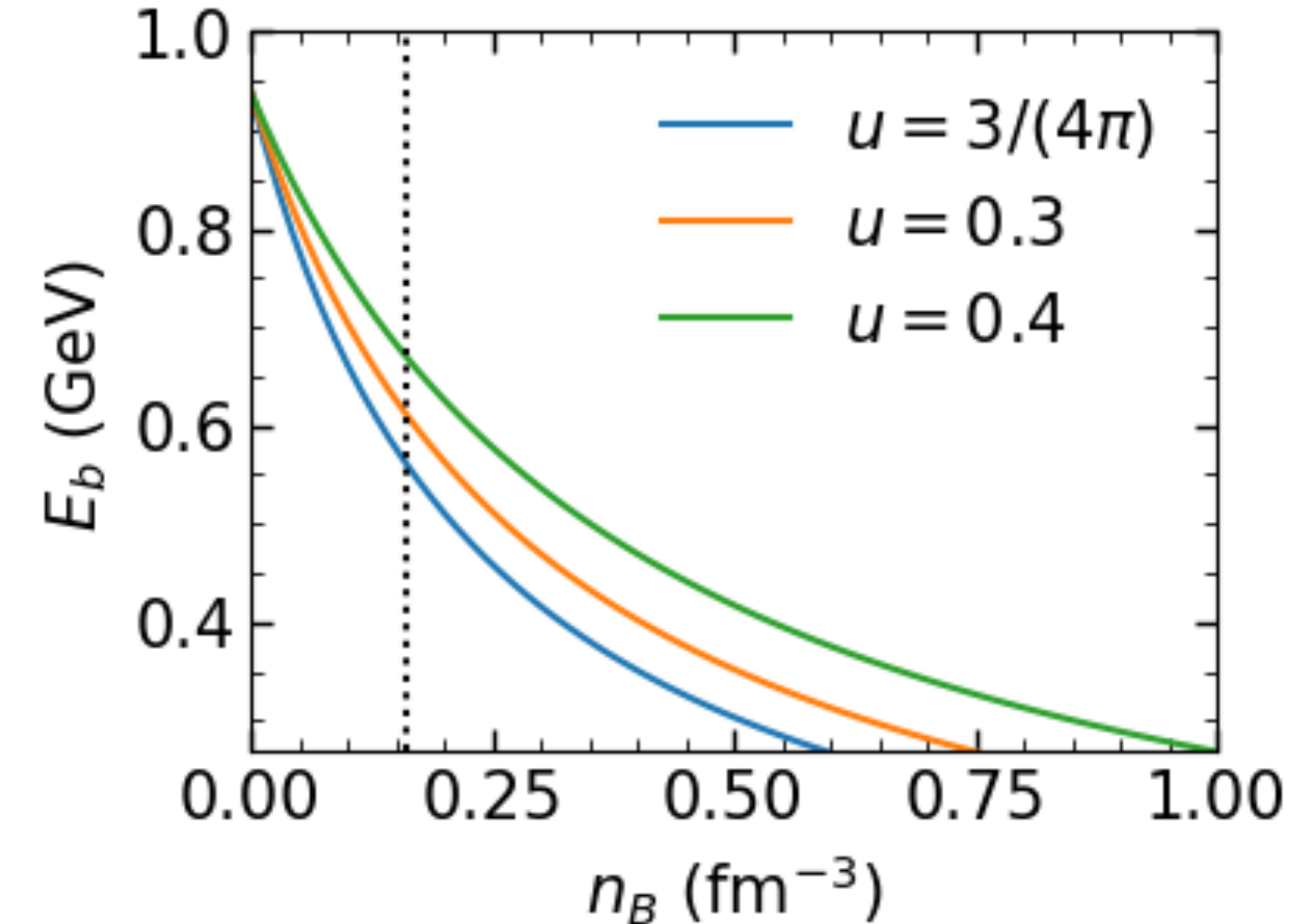
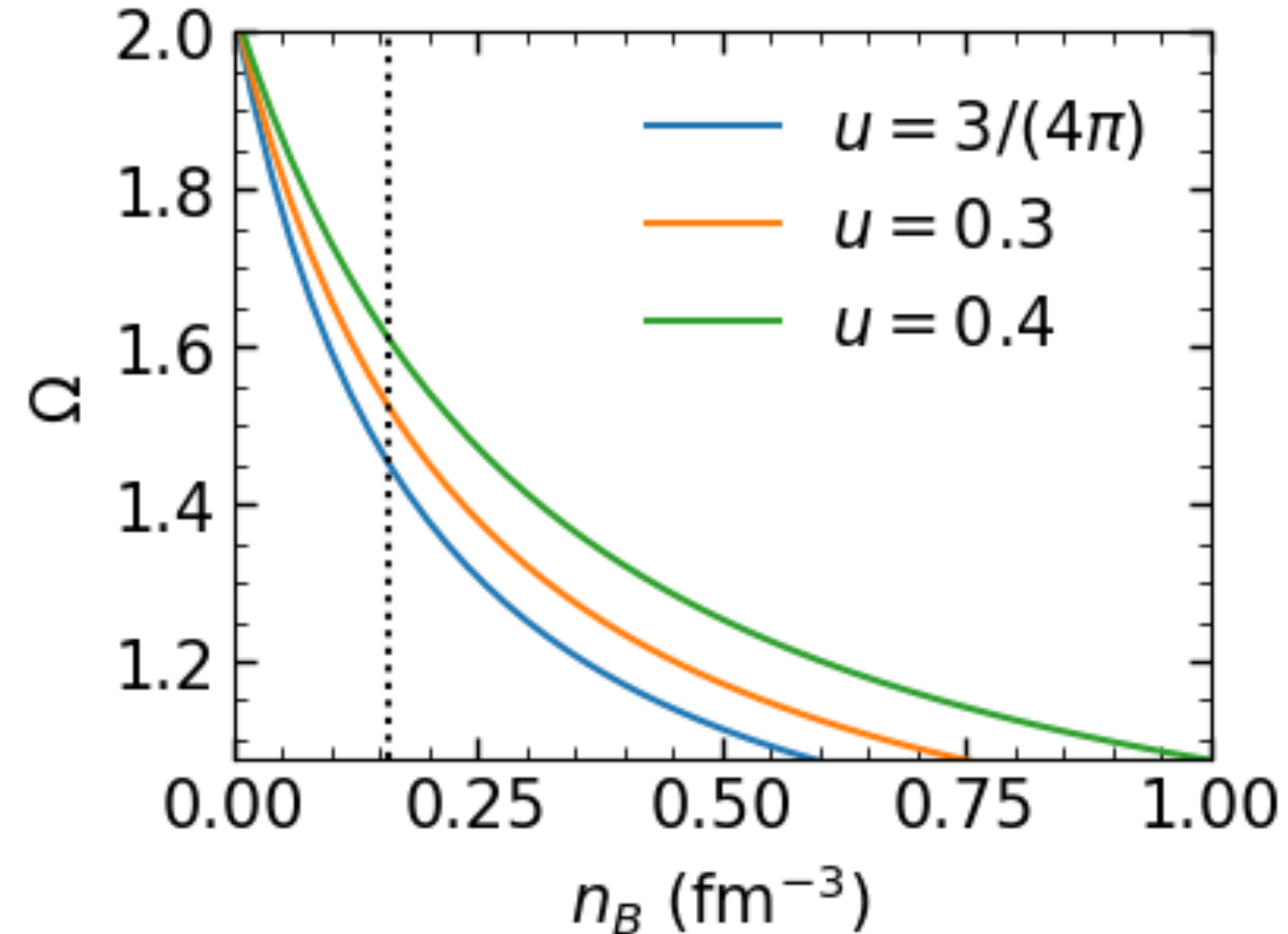
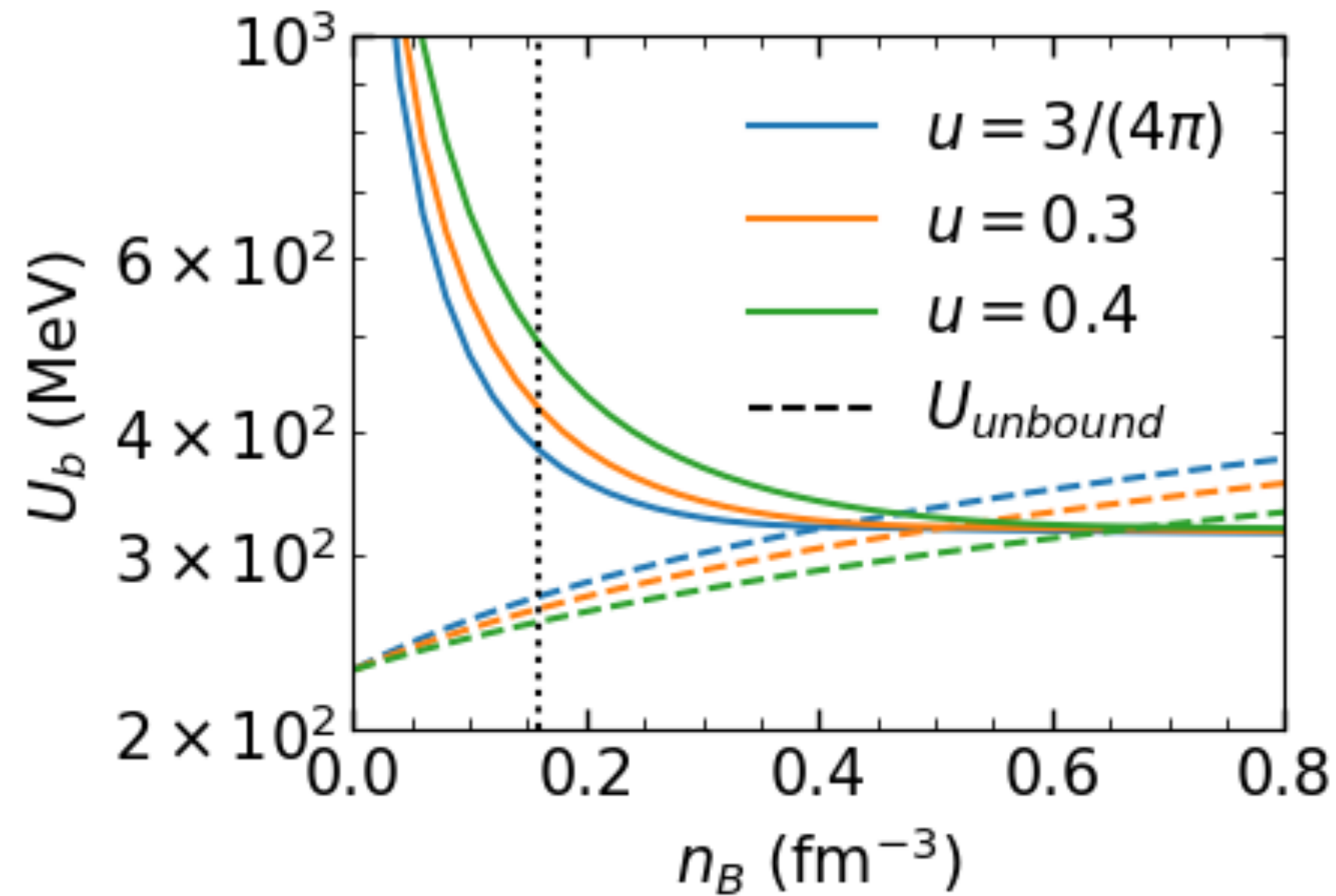
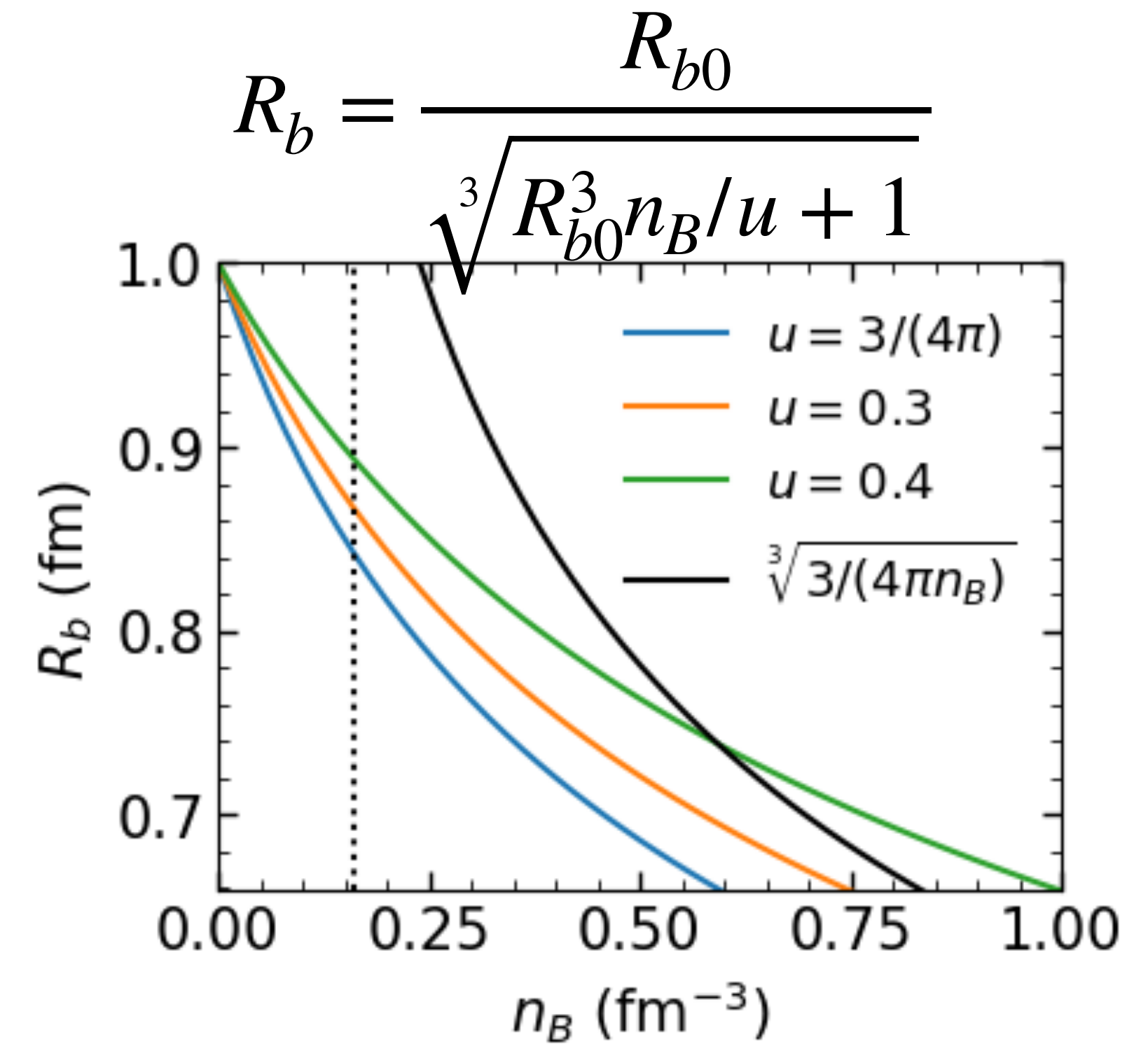


- Momentum space:  $\rho(k) = (\hat{f}^2 + \hat{g}^2)/(32\pi^4)$



# Extended bag model

- Non-overlapping bag,  $R_b \leq \sqrt[3]{3/4\pi n_B}$
- $R_b \longleftrightarrow \Omega \longleftrightarrow E_b$
- Finite potential well  $U_b$  fixed by  $\Omega \leq 2.04$

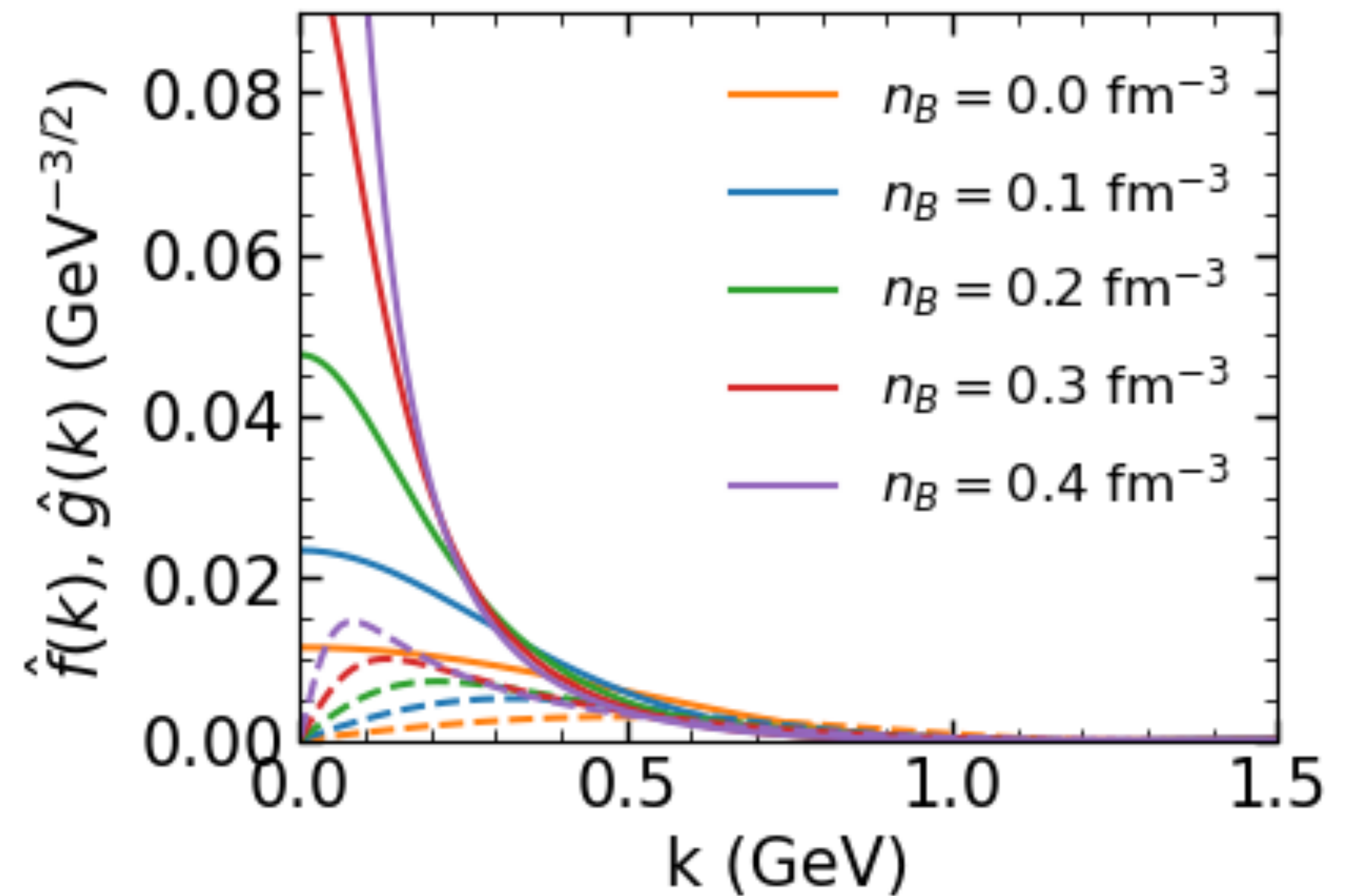
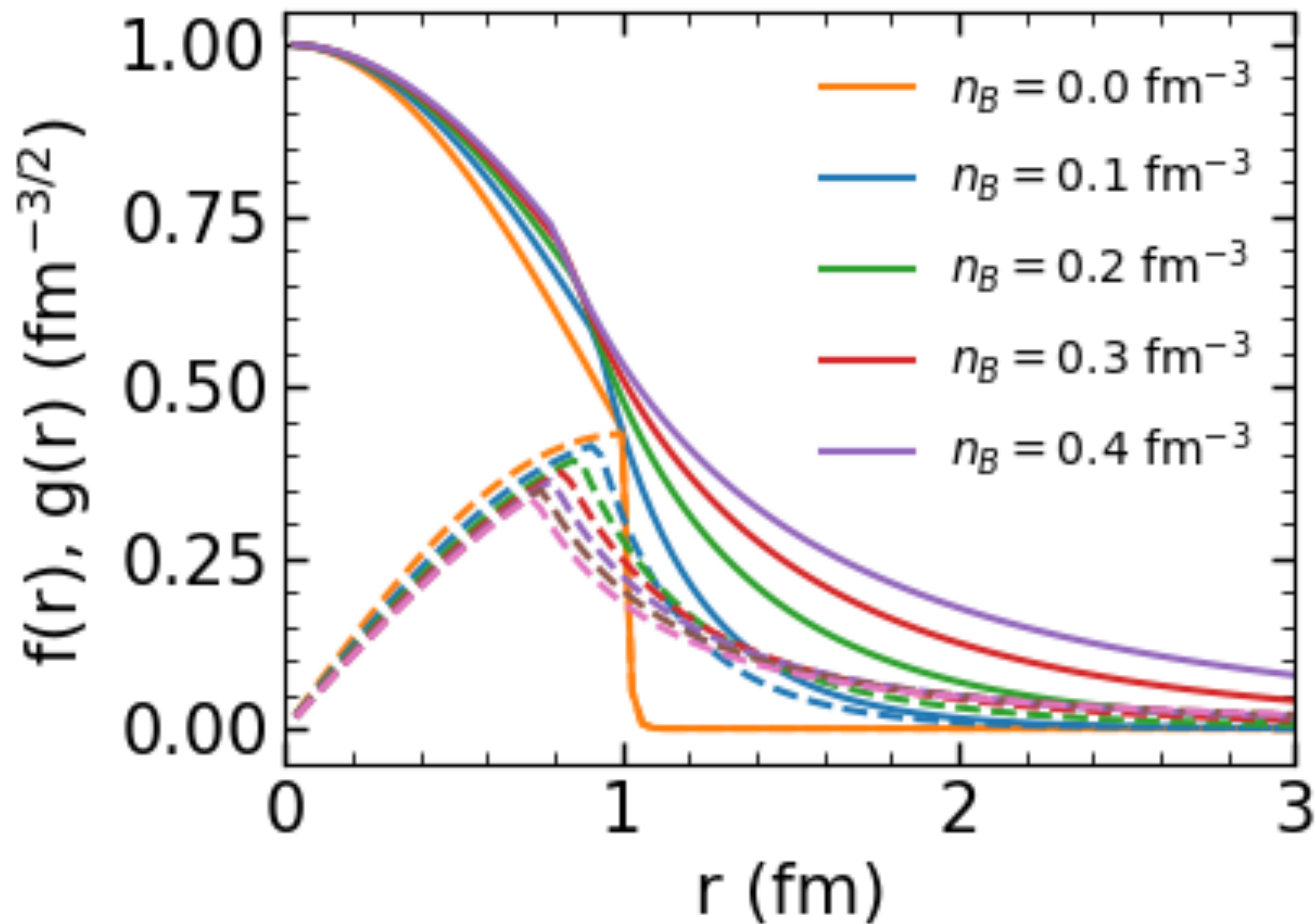


# Quarks in extended MIT bag

Stationary bag (in bag frame)

• Quark wave function:  $f(r), g(r)$

• Momentum space:  $\hat{f}(k), \hat{g}(k)$

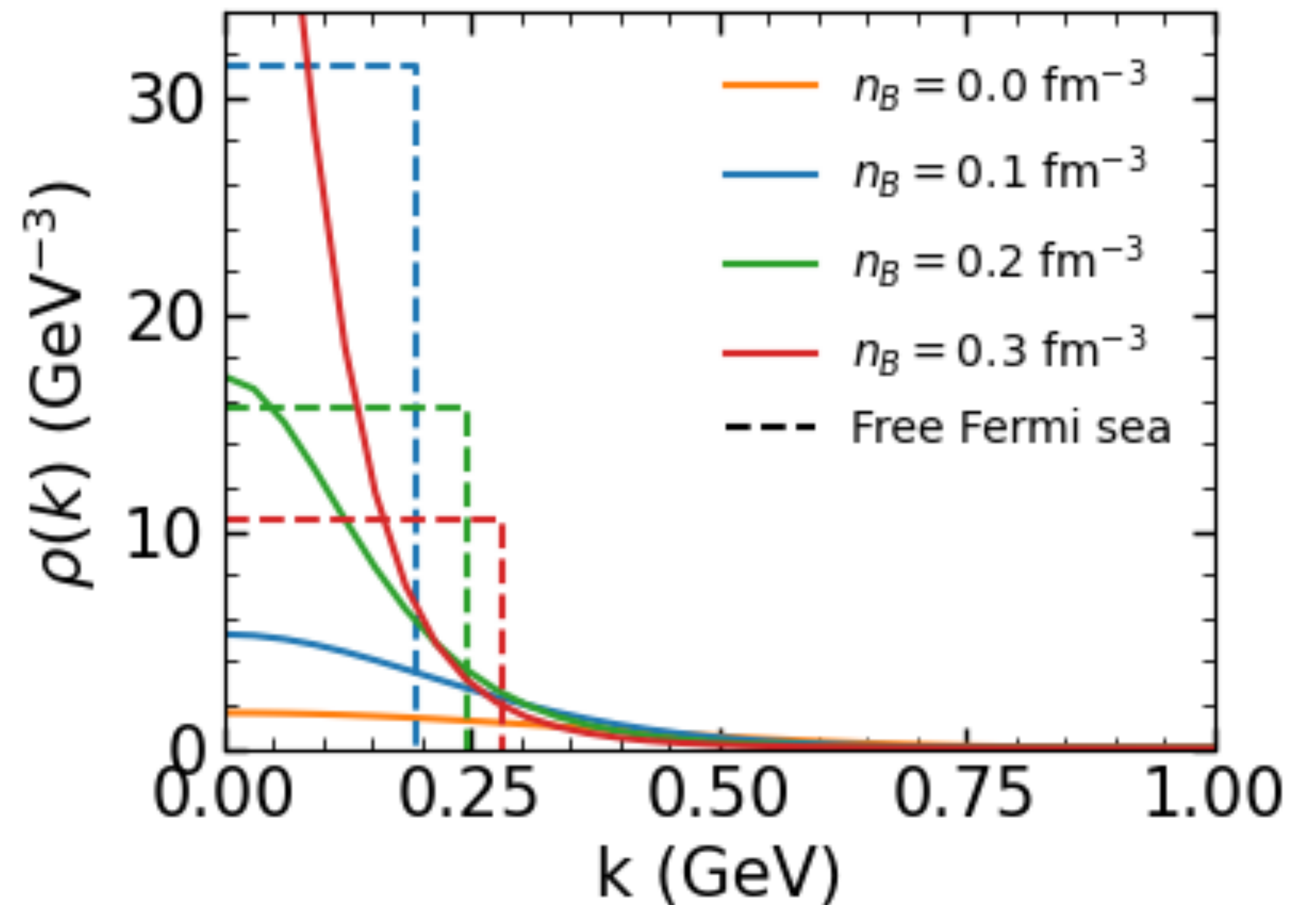
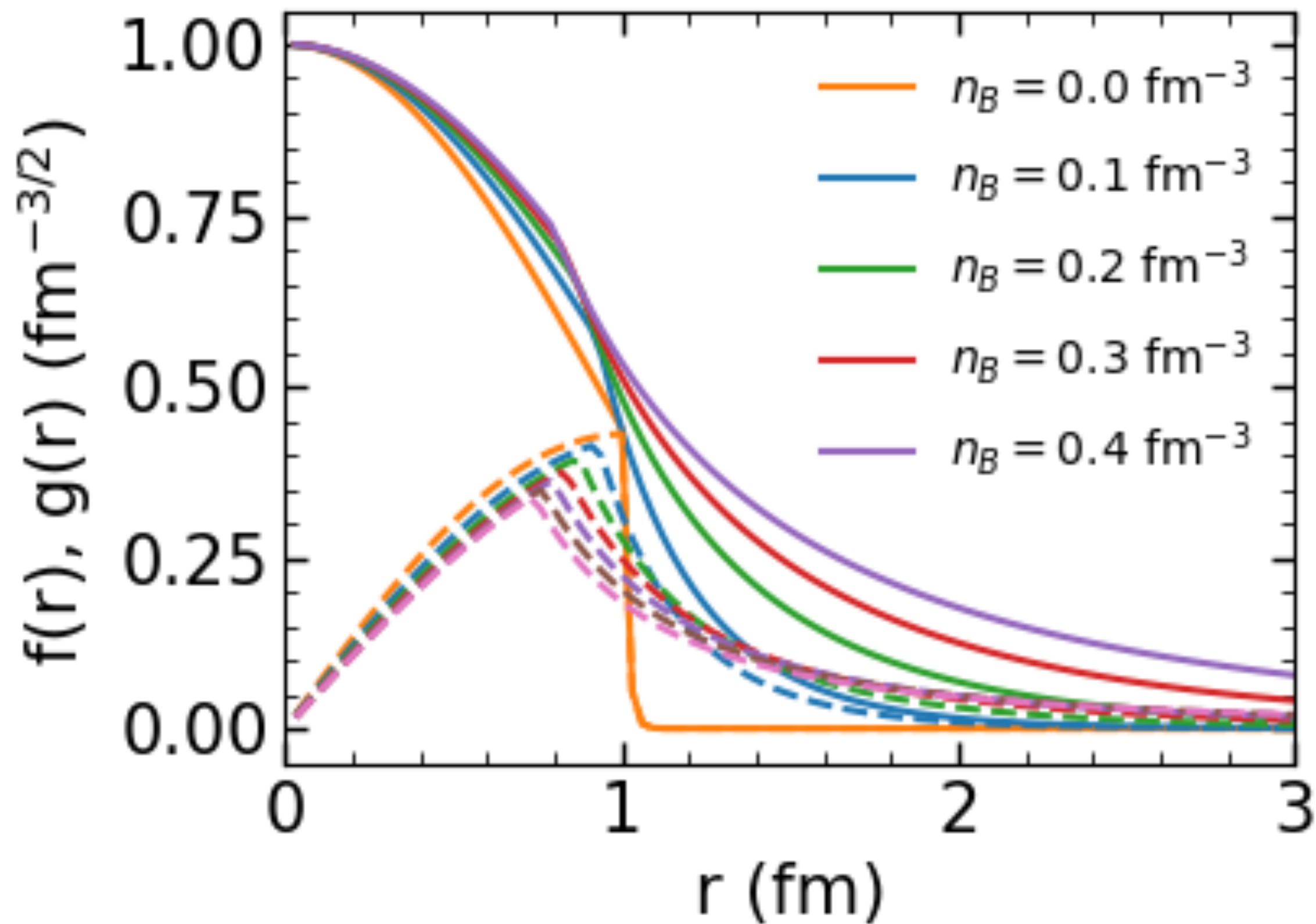


# Quarks in extended MIT bag

Stationary bag (in bag frame)

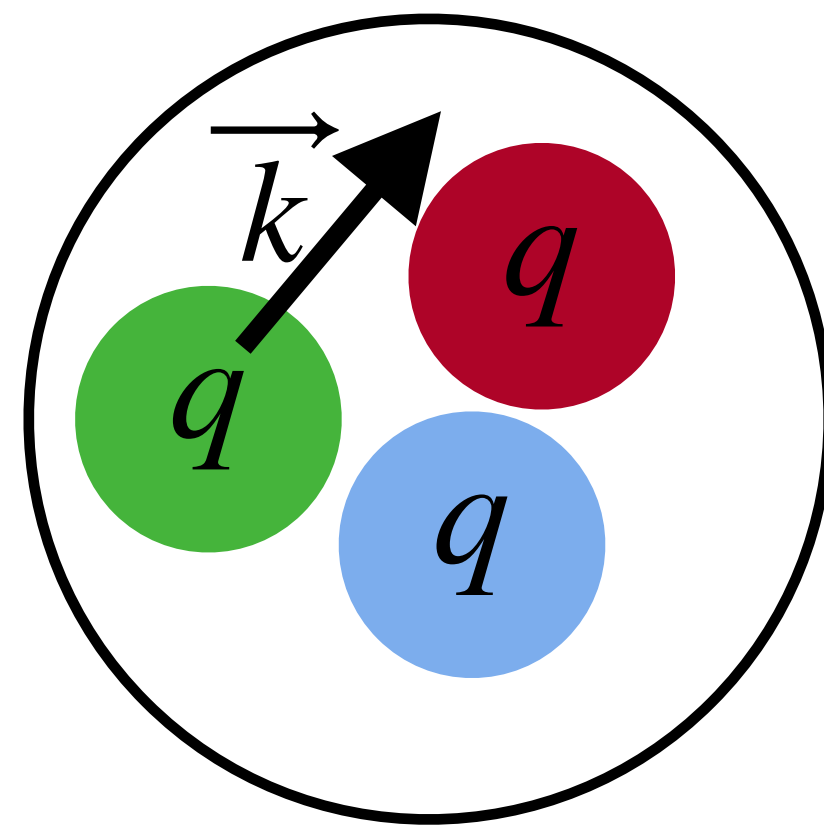
• Quark wave function:  $f(r), g(r)$

• Momentum space:  $\rho(k) = (\hat{f}^2 + \hat{g}^2)/(32\pi^4)$



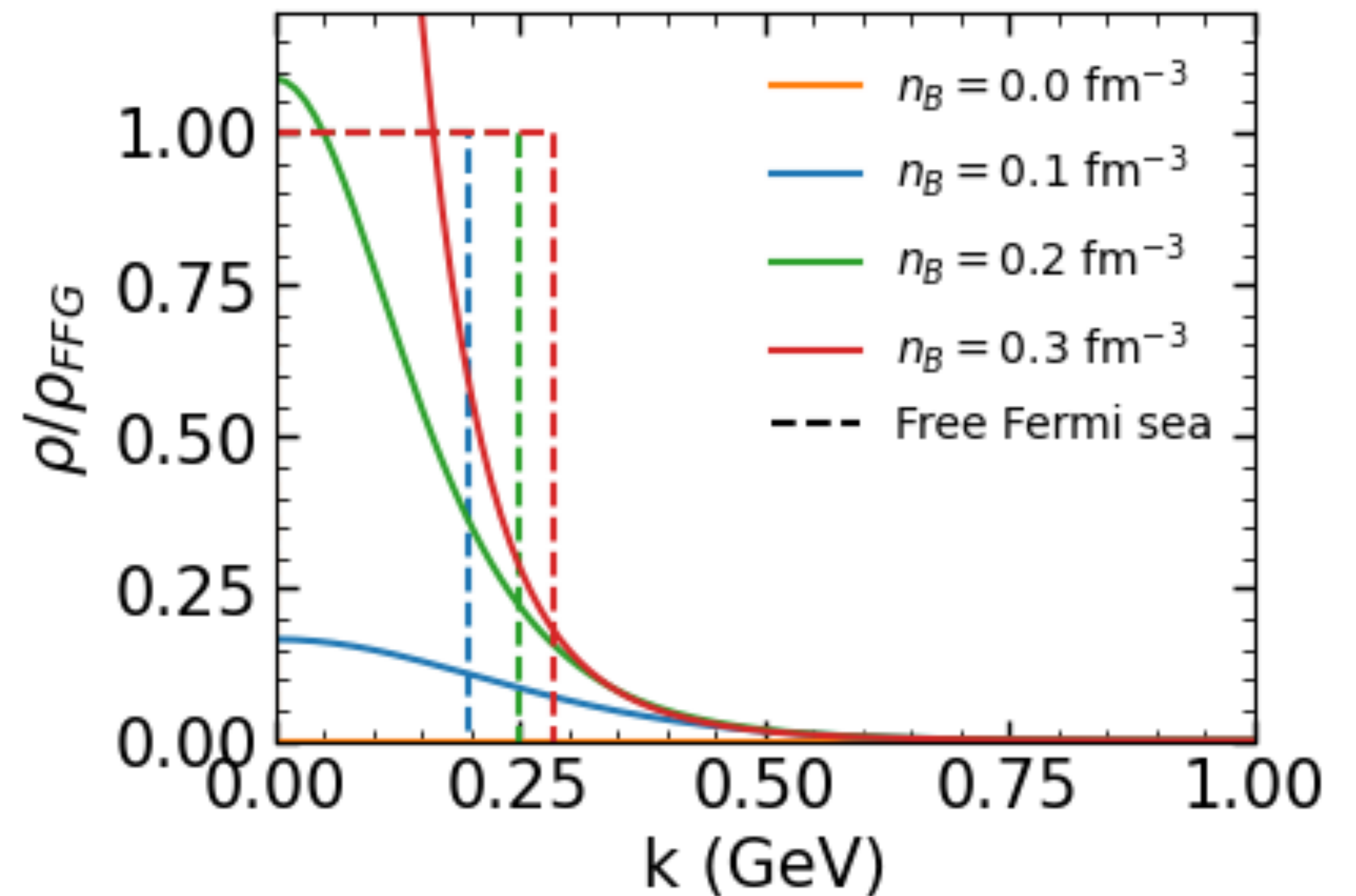
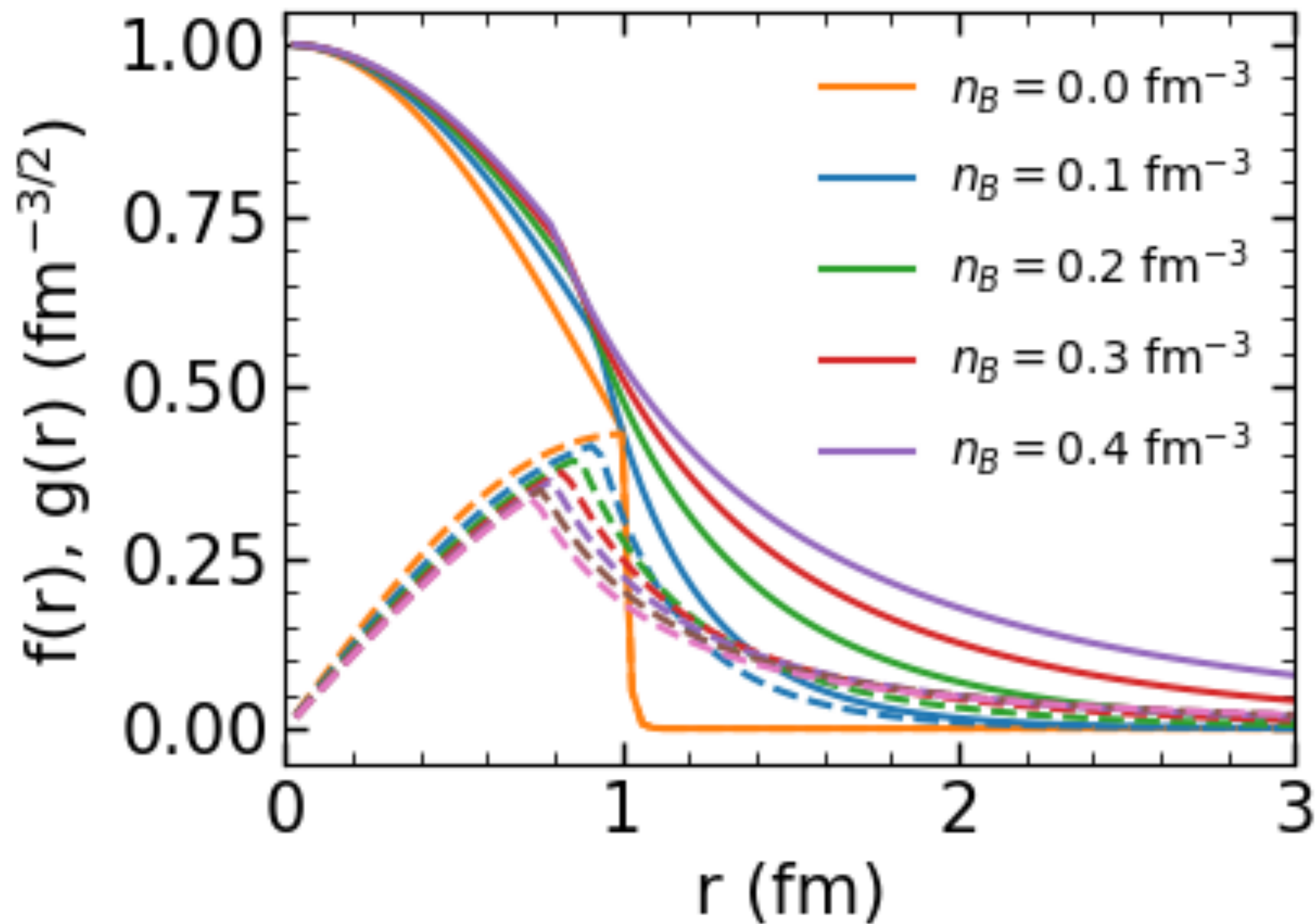
# Quarks in extended MIT bag

Stationary bag (in bag frame)



- Quark wave function:  $f(r), g(r)$

- Momentum space:  $\rho_{FFG}(k) = 3/(4\pi^3 n_B)$

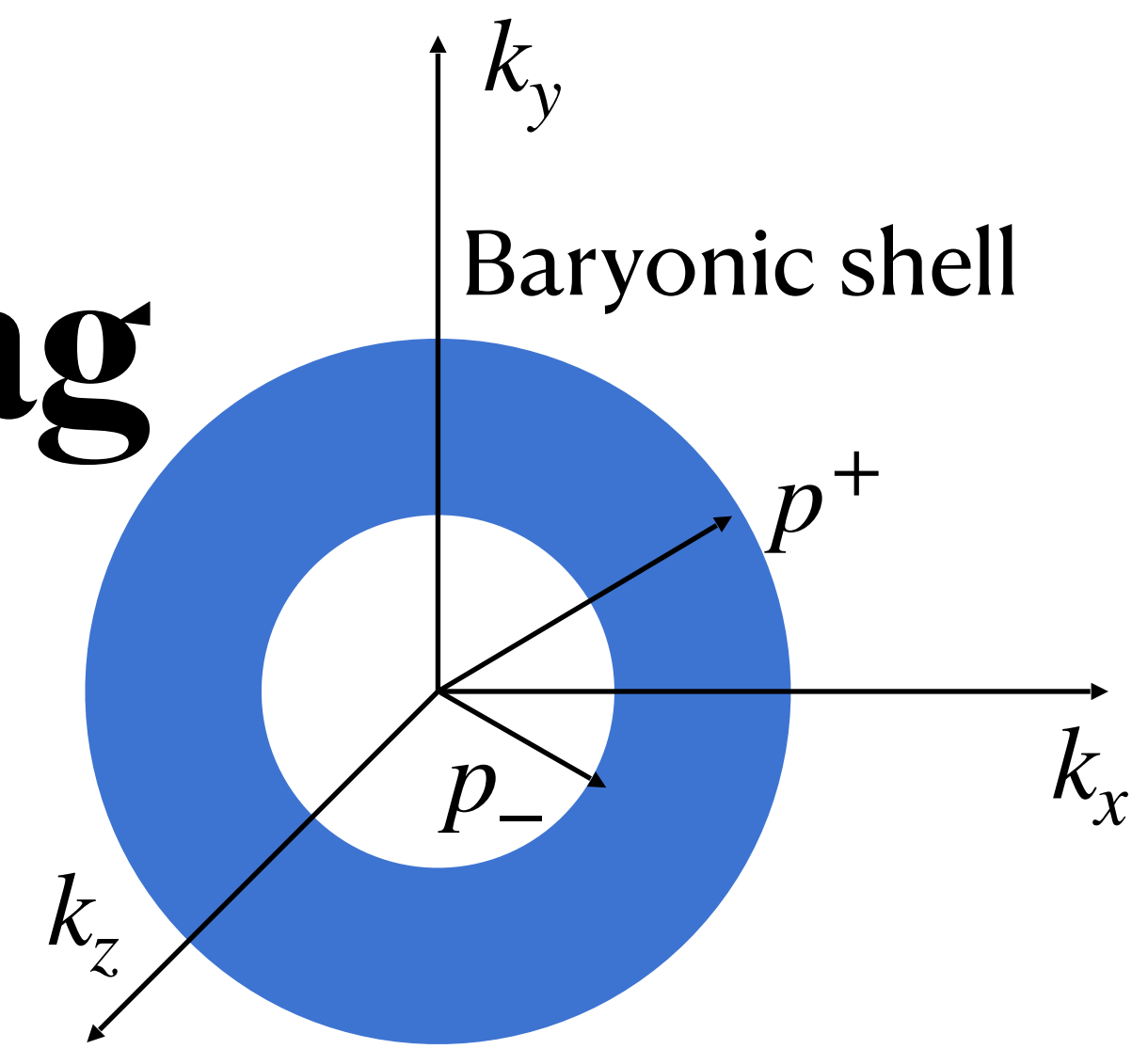






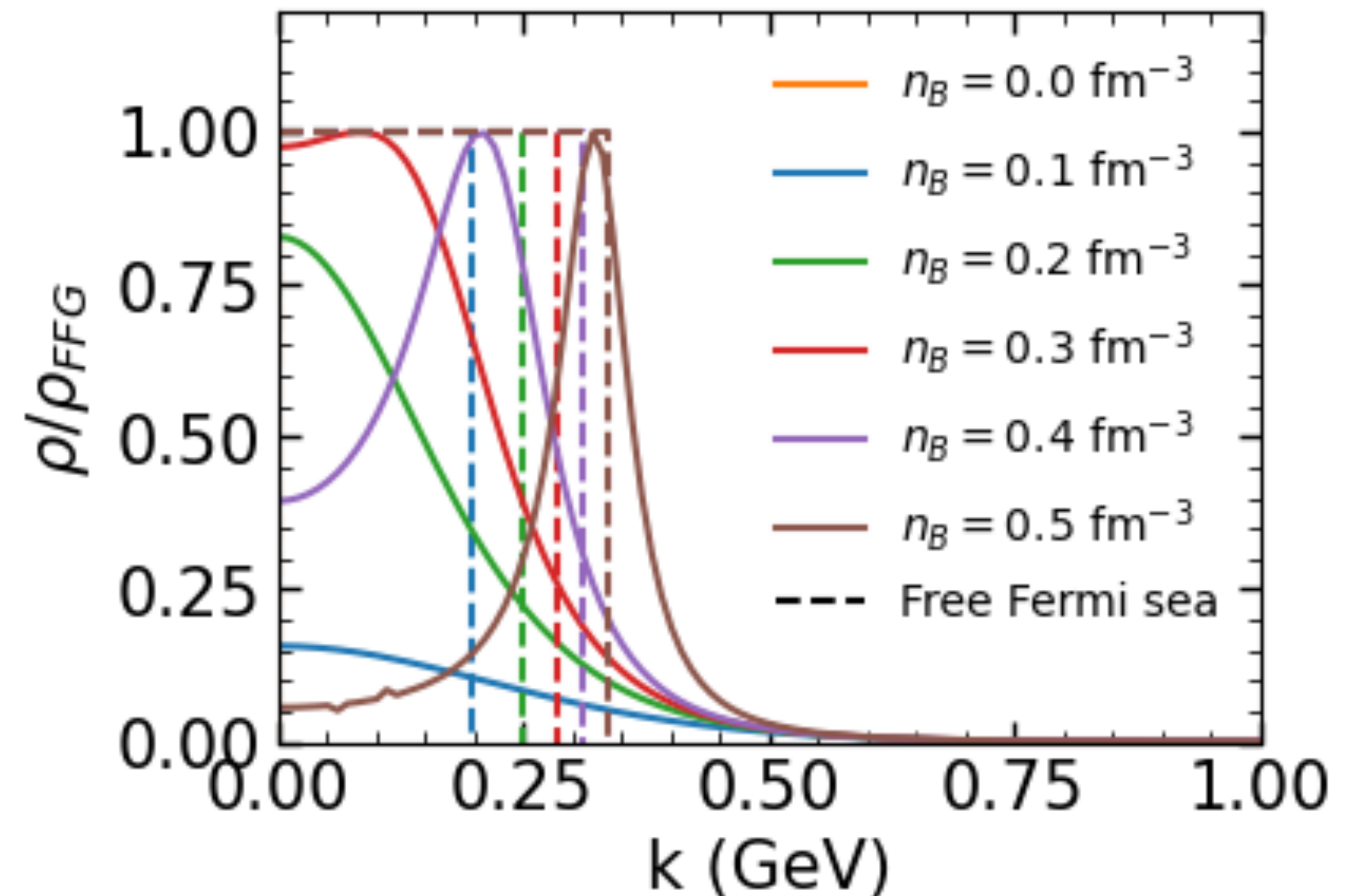
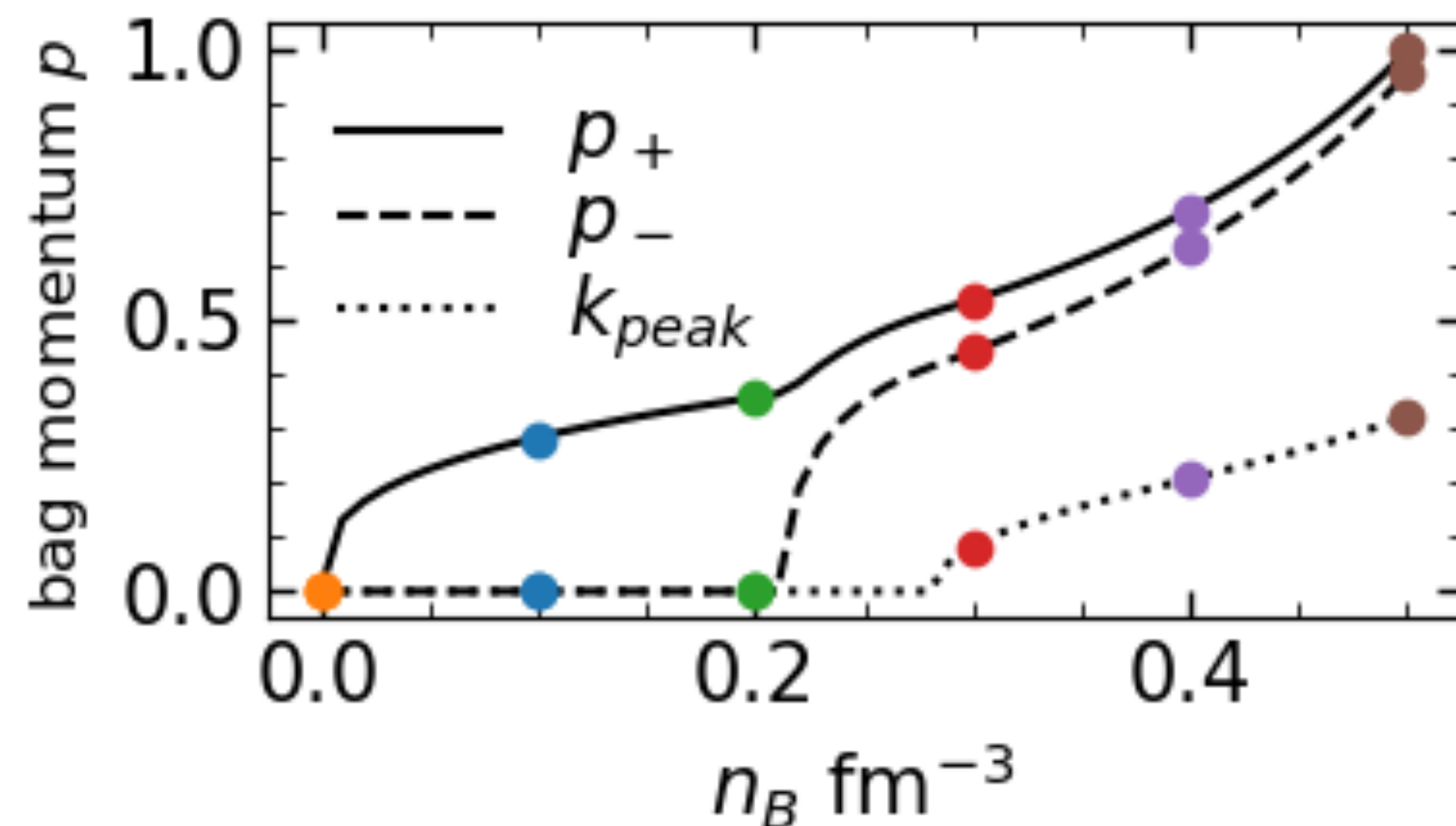
# Quarks in extended MIT bag

Moving bag (in lab frame)



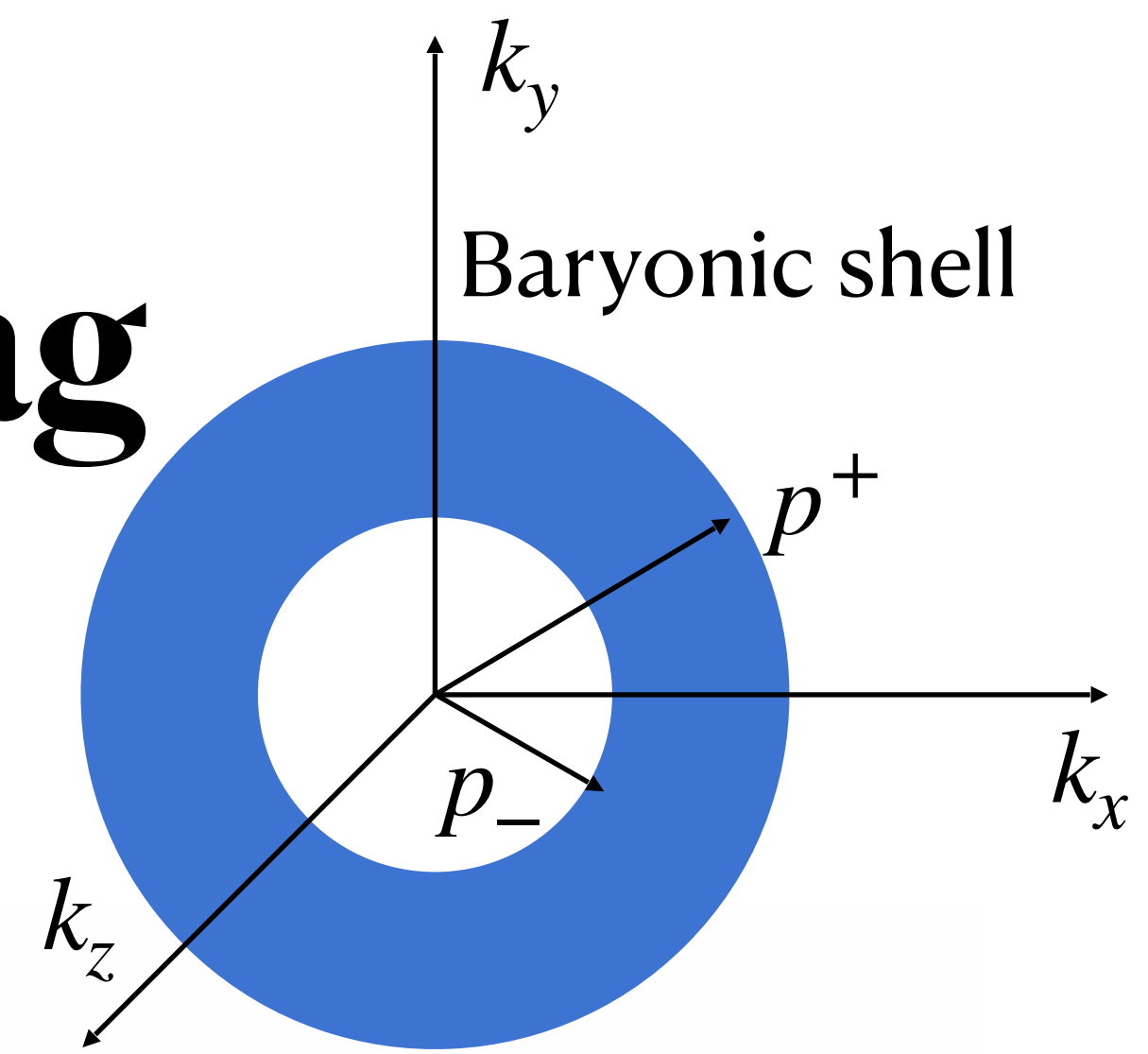
- Bag as nucleon forms its own Fermi Sea  $p \in [p_-, p_+]$ , determined by baryon density  $n_B$ ,

$$n_B = \frac{p_+^3}{3\pi^2} - \frac{p_-^3}{3\pi^2}$$



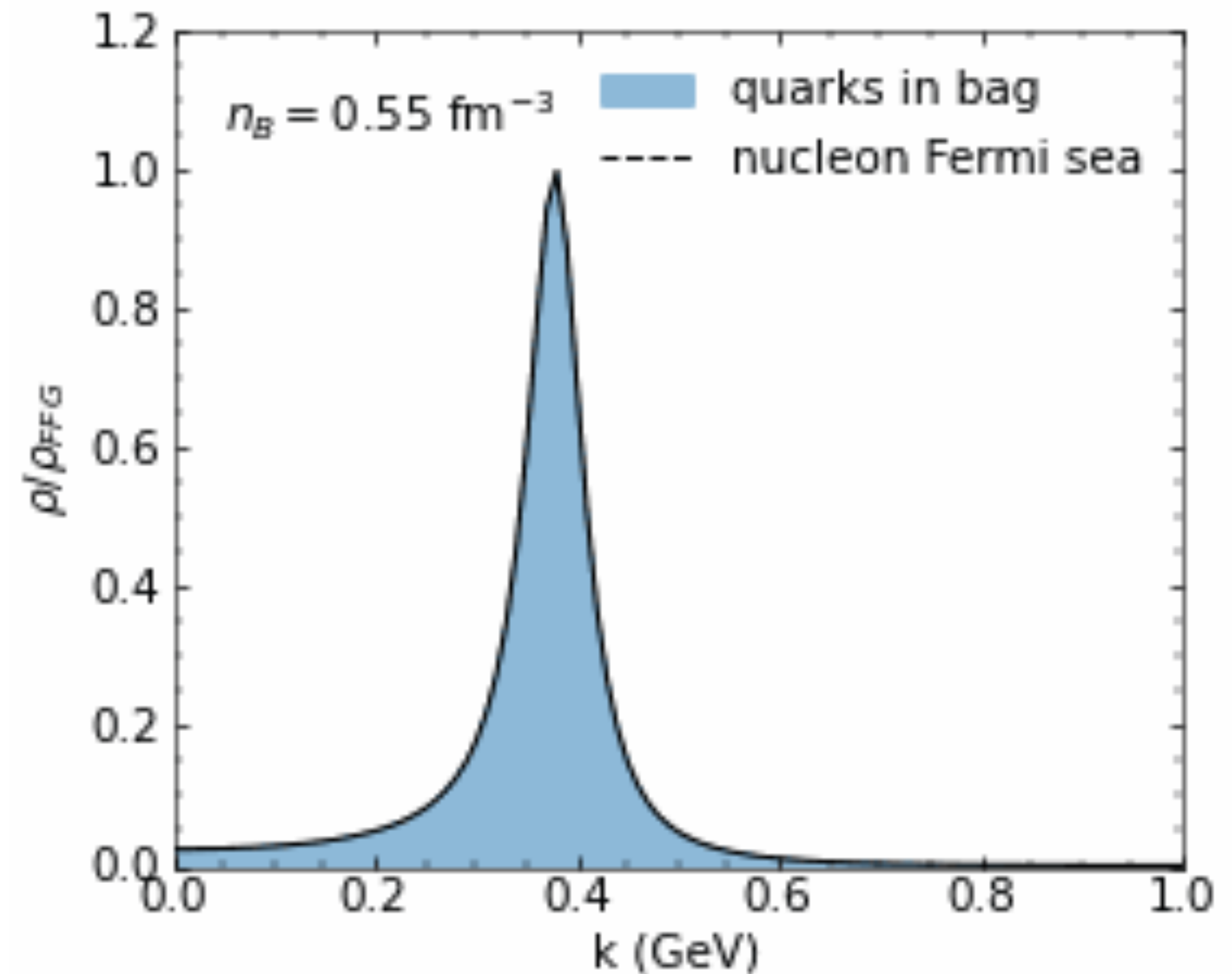
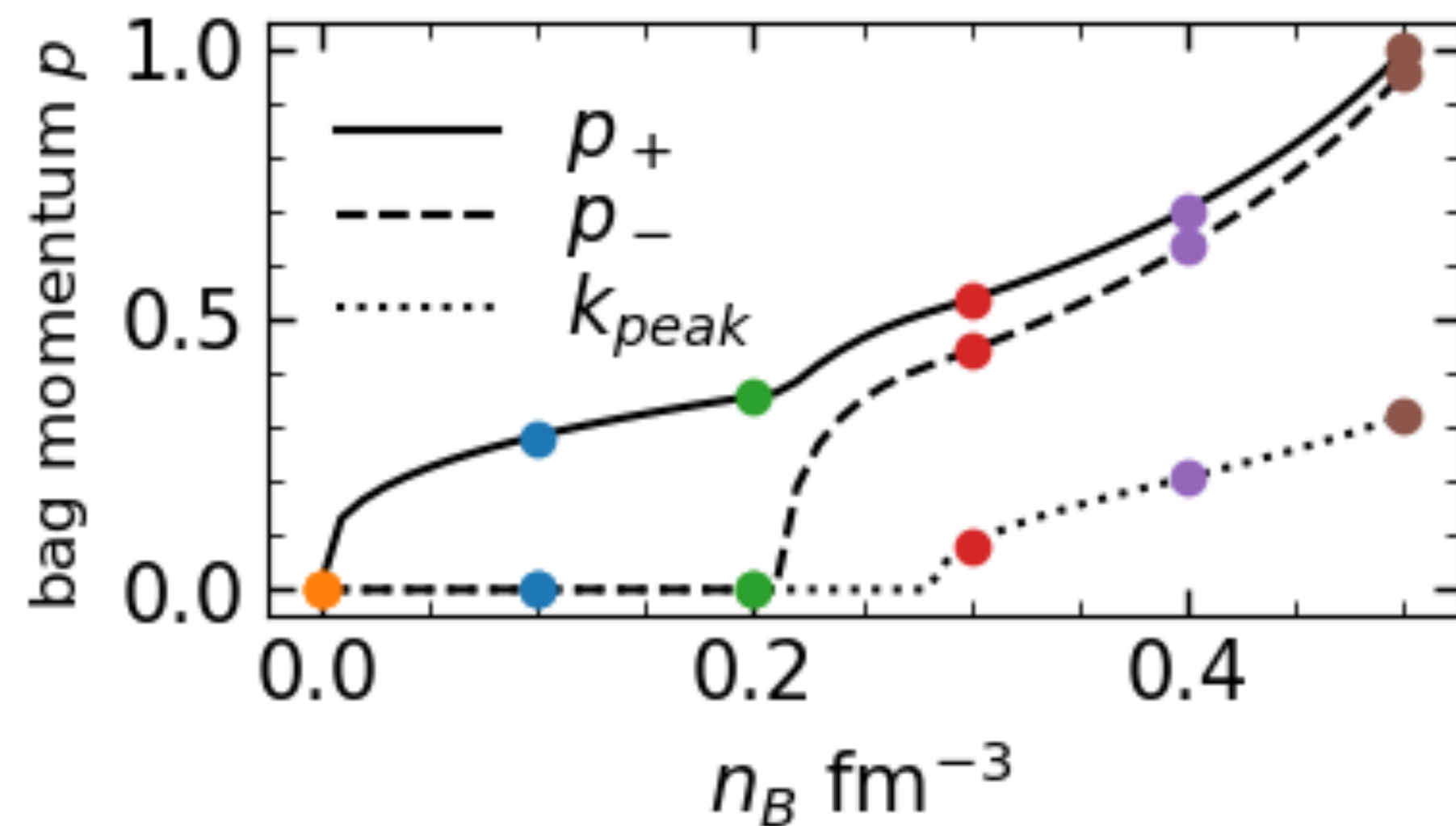
# Quarks in extended MIT bag

Moving bag (in lab frame)

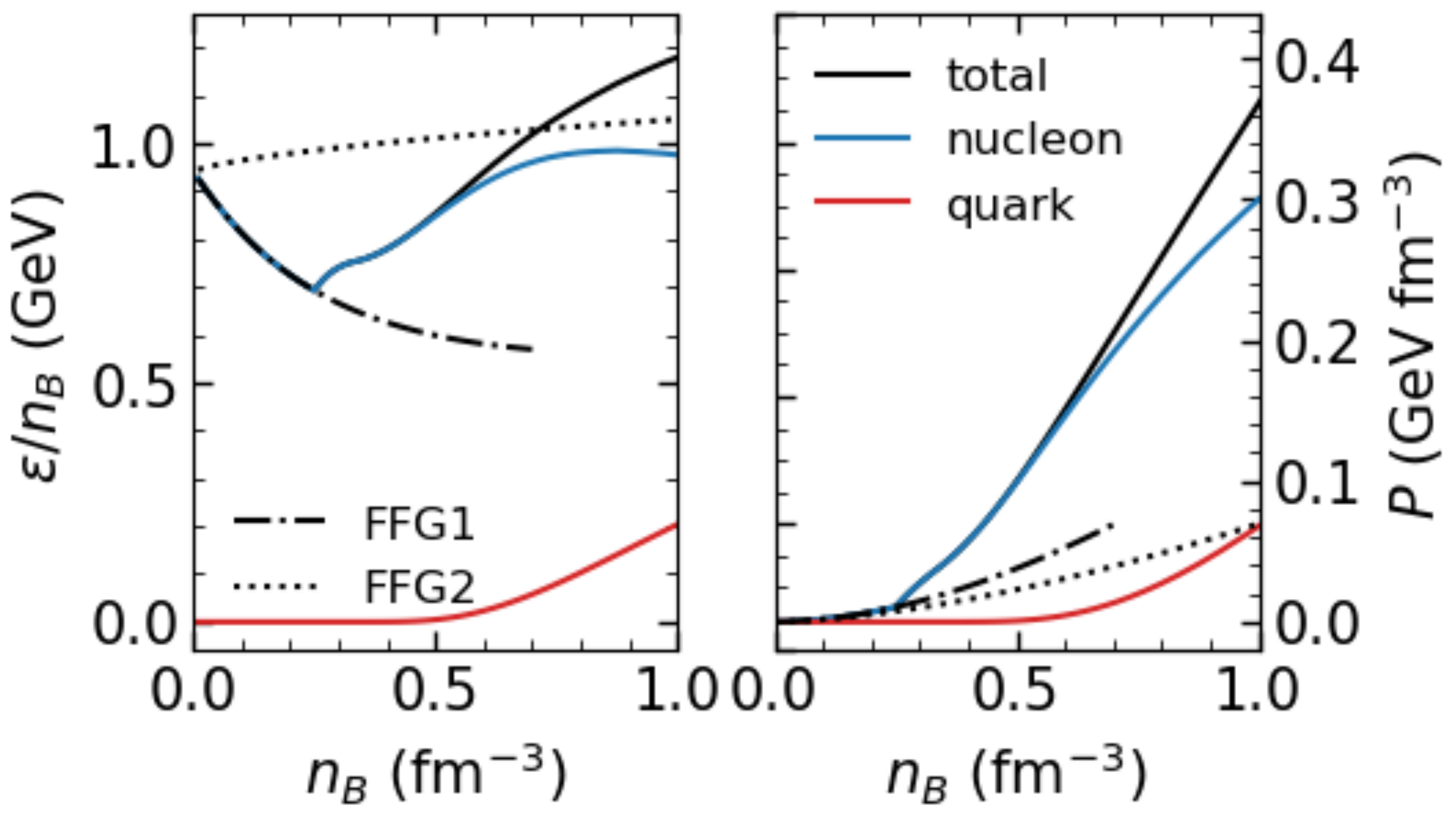


- Bag as nucleon forms its own Fermi Sea  $p \in [p_-, p_+]$ , determined by baryon density  $n_B$ ,

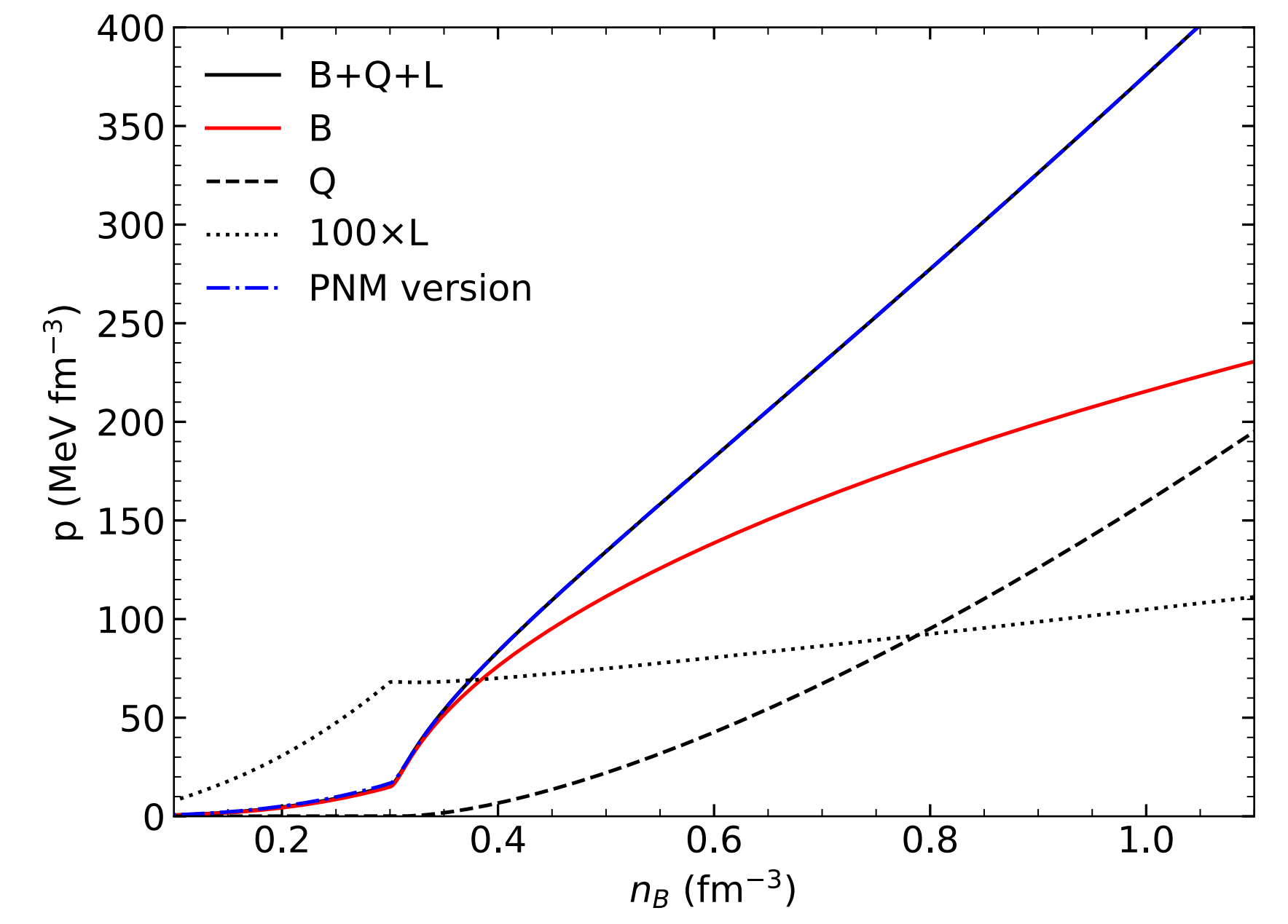
$$n_B = \frac{p_+^3}{3\pi^2} - \frac{p_-^3}{3\pi^2}$$



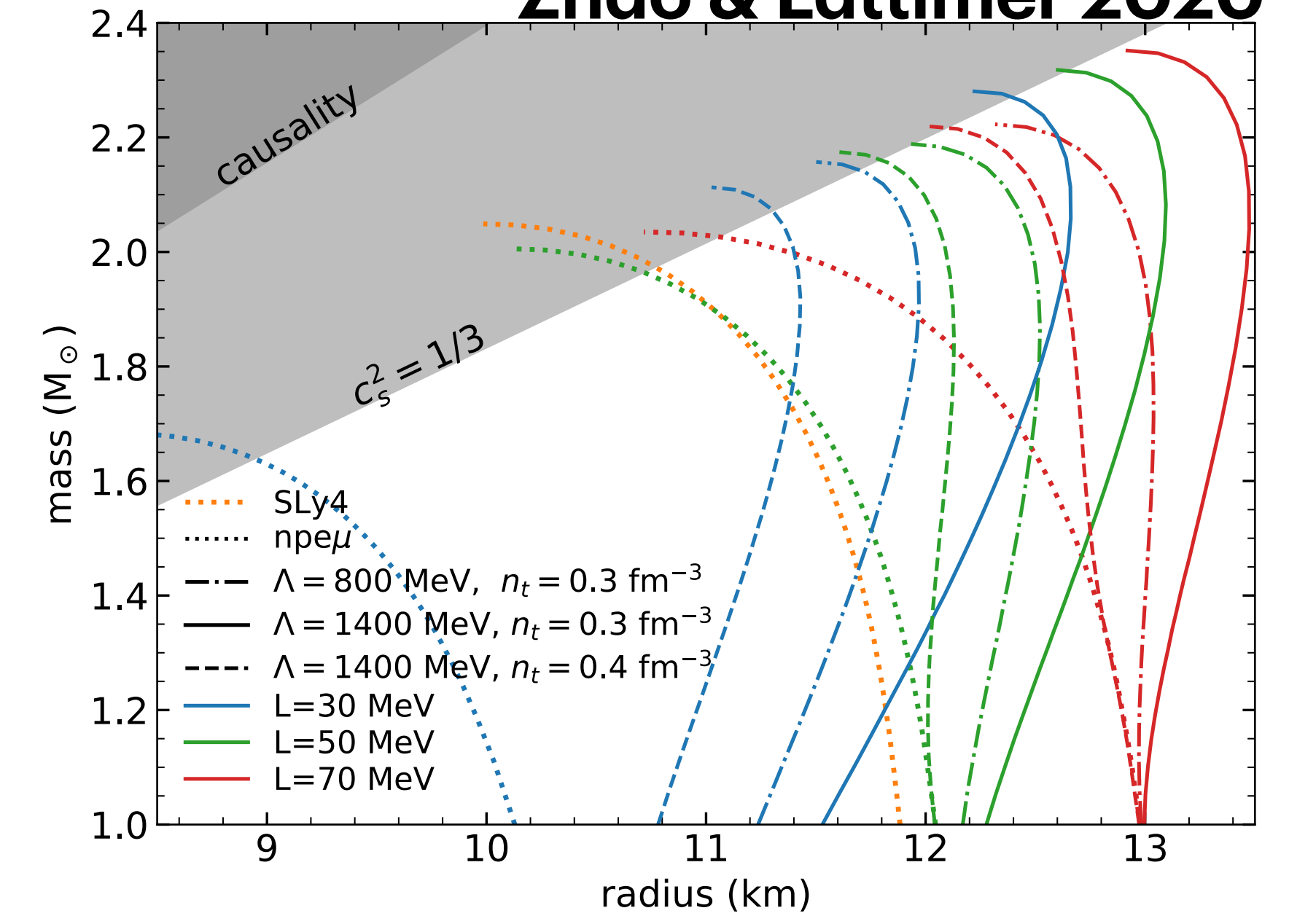
# Quarkyonic EOS



[arXiv: 24xx.xxxxx](https://arxiv.org/abs/24xx.xxxxx)



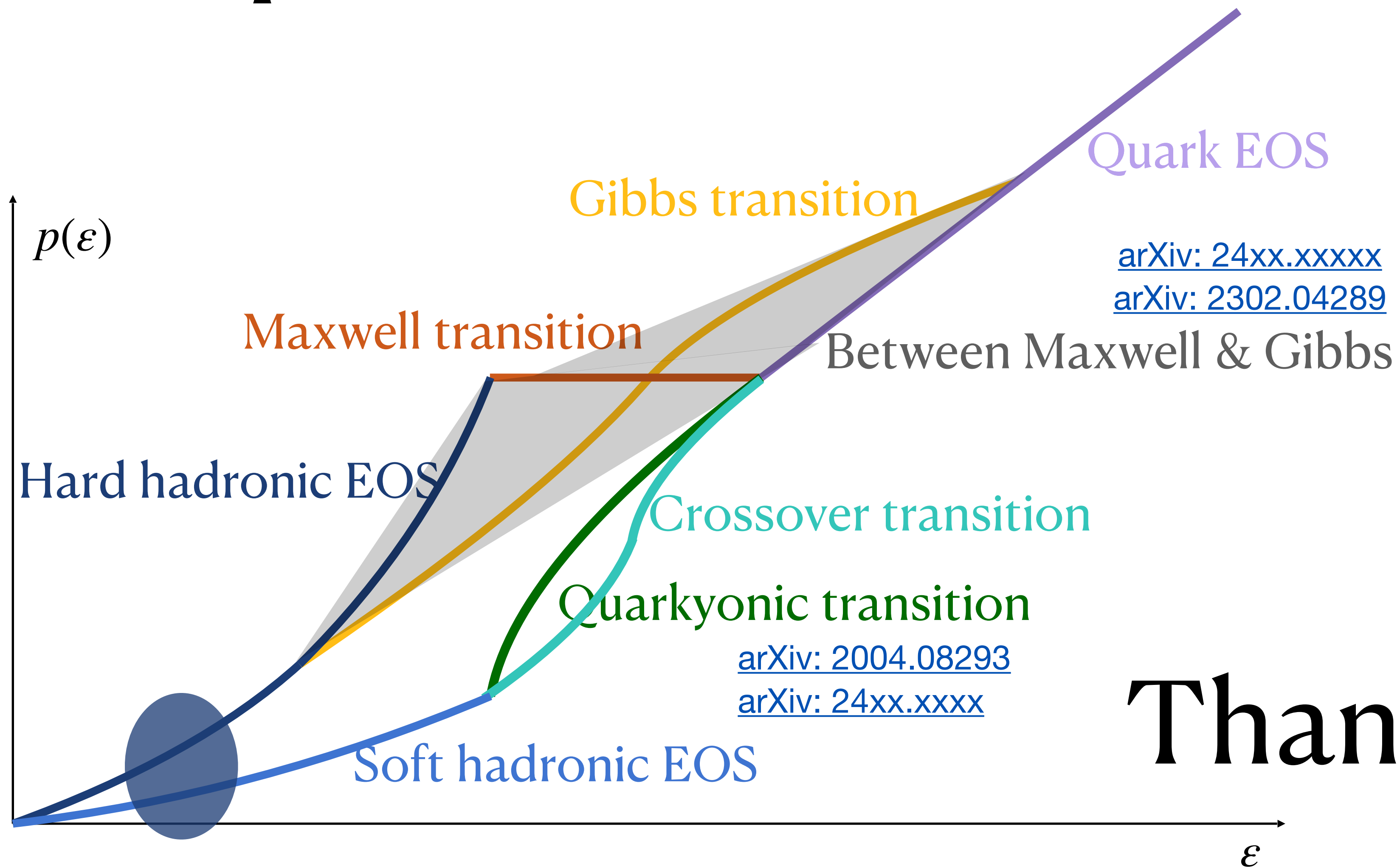
**Zhao & Lattimer 2020**



# Summary

- The traditional MIT bag model can be extended to finite potential.
- Quarks in the extended MIT bag model have lower momentum which can saturate when hadron-to-quark transition begins.
- Due to the Pauli-exclusion of quarks in nucleons, the low momentum states of nucleons are excluded, pushing nucleons to higher energy states.
- Quarkyonic EOS can robustly stiffen a soft hadronic EOS without fine-tuning.

# Hadron-quark Transition in Neutron Star Core



[arXiv: 24xx.xxxxx](#)

[arXiv: 2302.04289](#)

[arXiv: 2004.08293](#)

[arXiv: 24xx.xxxx](#)

# Thank you!

Soft hadronic EOSs is flavored by ab-initio calculation, nuclear experiments & neutron star merger observation. [arXiv: 2009.06441](#)

[arXiv: 2406.05267](#)

[arXiv: 1808.02858](#)