



# Quarkyonic or Baryquark matter?

On the dynamical generation of momentum space shell structure

Volodymyr Vovchenko (University of Houston)

*The 38<sup>th</sup> Winter Workshop on Nuclear Dynamics*

**February 9, 2022**

Based on V. Koch, VV, [arXiv:2211.14674](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.14674)



# QCD phase diagram

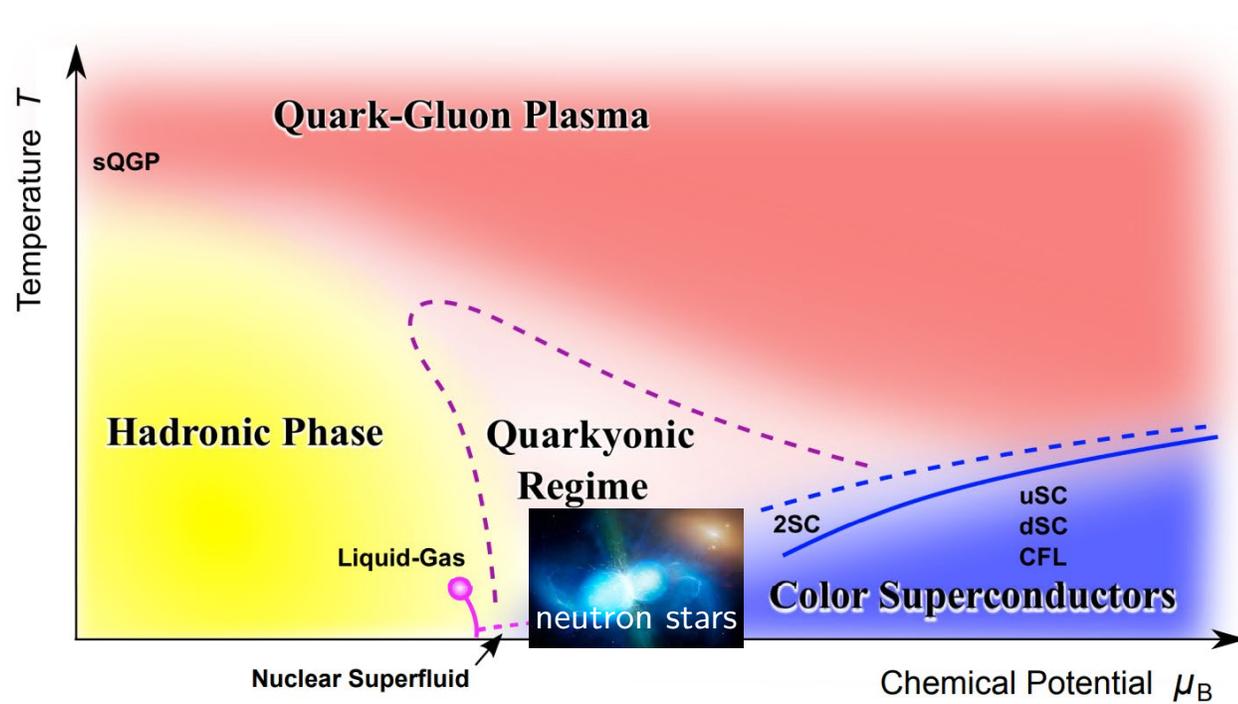
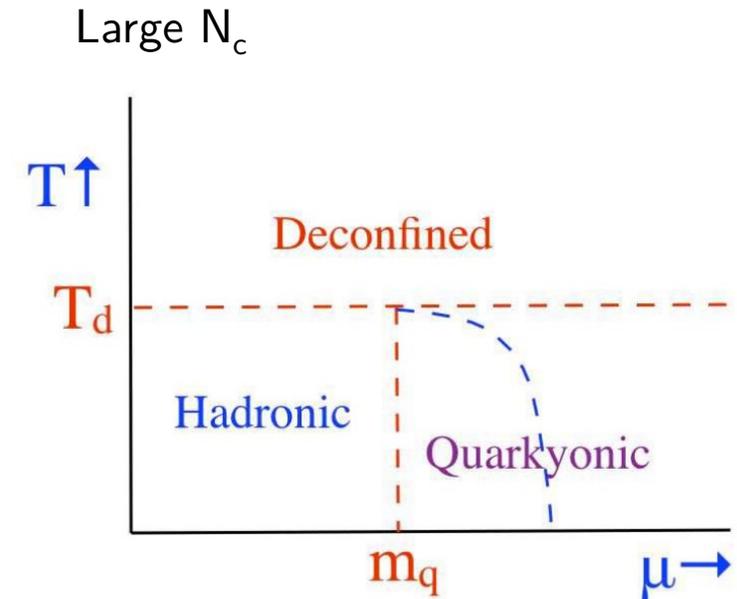


Figure adapted from Fukushima, Sasaki, PPNP '13



McLerran, Pisarski, NPA '07

- Low  $\rho_B$ , meson-dominated, (crossover) transition to QGP at  $\sim \text{const } T \sim 160 \text{ MeV}$
- Large  $\rho_B$ , baryon-dominated, transition to quarkyonic(?) matter at  $\sim \text{const } \rho_B \sim \text{several } \rho_0$
- **Quarkyonic matter:** baryon-quark coexistence, baryonic excitations around the Fermi surface

McLerran, Pisarski, NPA 796, 83 (2007)

# QCD EoS in the cold and dense regime from neutron stars

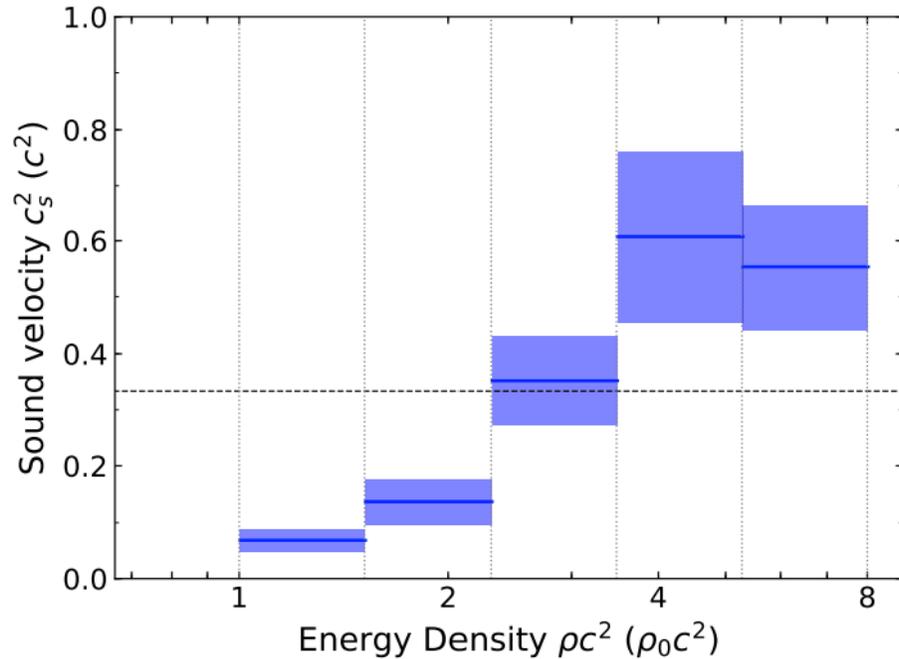


Figure from Fujimoto, Fukushima, Phys. Rev. D (2020)

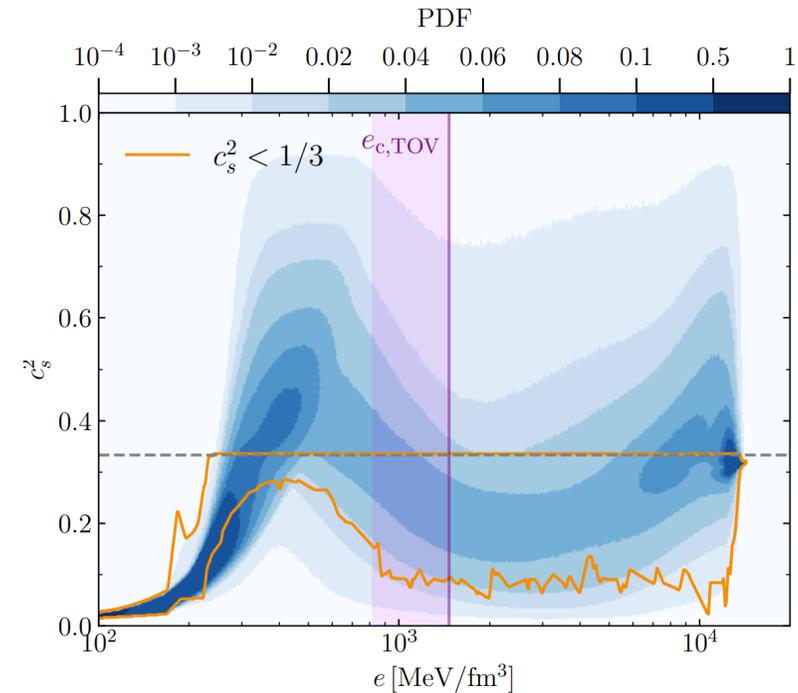


Figure from Altiparmak, Ecker, Rezzolla, ApJL (2022)

Many constraints from neutron star observations indicate a strong rise of  $c_s^2$  beyond the conformal limit

Tews, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, ApJ 860 (2018) 149;

Fujimoto, Fukushima, PRD 101 (2020) 054016;

Tang, Noronha-Hostler, Yunes, PRL 125 (2020) 261104;

Altiparmak, Ecker, Rezzolla, ApJL 939 (2022) L34;

...

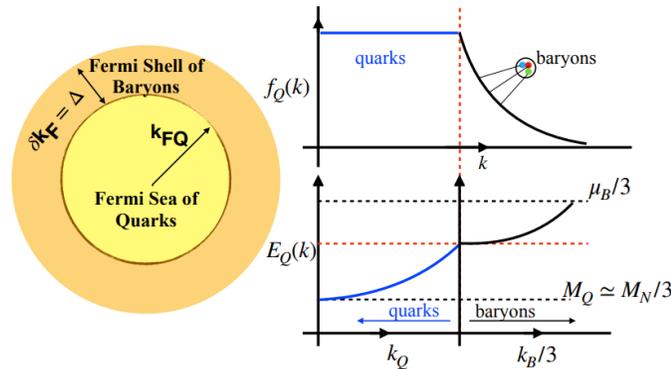
# Quarkyonic matter and neutron stars

First(?) practical realization of quarkyonic matter (T=0)

[McLerran, Reddy, PRL 122, 122701 (2019)]

Mixture of “confined” quarks (baryons) and deconfined quarks with Pauli principle\*

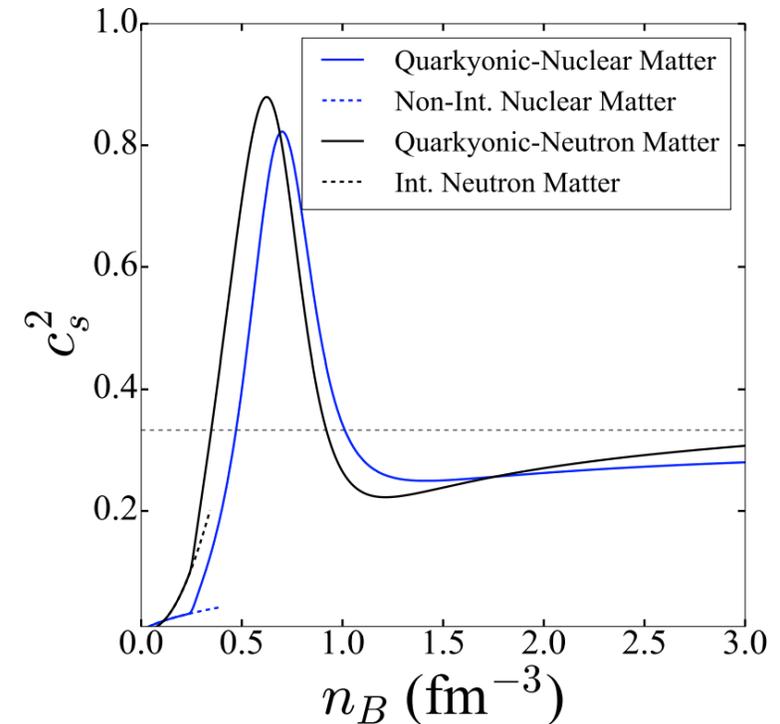
Enforce *momentum space shell structure* (baryonic Fermi surface) and its density evolution



$$\Delta = \frac{\Lambda^3}{k_{FB}^2} + \kappa \frac{\Lambda}{N_c^2} \quad m_N = N_c m_Q$$

$$\epsilon(n_B) = 4 \int_{N_c k_{FQ}}^{k_{FB}} \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \sqrt{k^2 + M_n^2},$$

$$+ 2 \times N_c \int_0^{k_{FQ}} \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \sqrt{k^2 + M_q^2}$$



\*Due to coinciding spin-isospin degeneracies, baryon and quark states cannot overlap

# Dynamical generation of momentum space shell structure

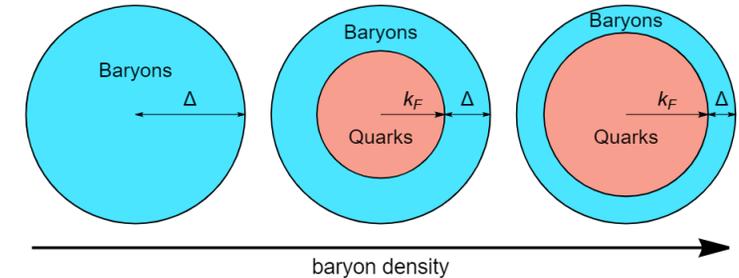
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **101**, 035201 (2020)

## Dynamically generated momentum space shell structure of quarkyonic matter via an excluded volume model

Kie Sang Jeong<sup>1,2</sup>, Larry McLerran<sup>2</sup> and Srimoyee Sen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Asia Pacific Center for Theoretical Physics, Pohang, Gyeongbuk 37673, Republic of Korea

<sup>2</sup>Institute for Nuclear Theory, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA



## AN EXCLUDED VOLUME THEORY OF NUCLEAR INTERACTIONS

$$n_{ex}^N = \frac{n_N^N}{1 - n_N^N/n_0}$$

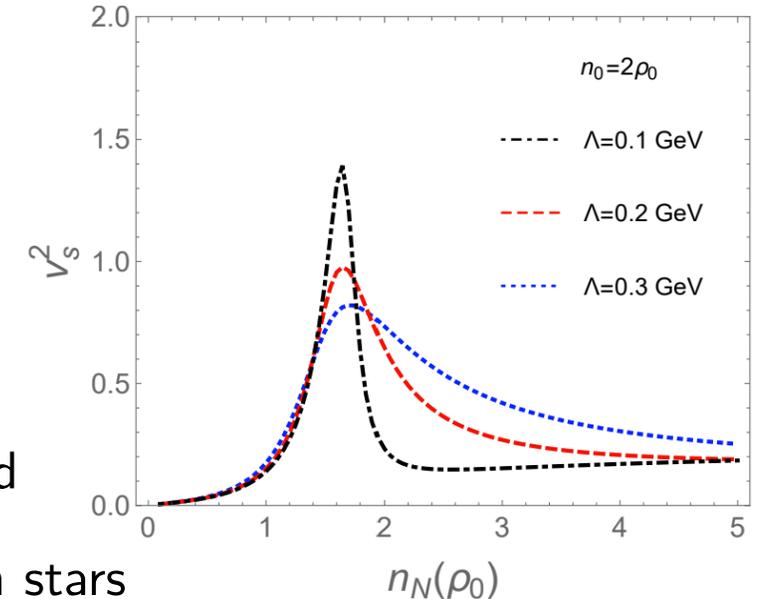
Minimize energy density at fixed  $n_B$  to find  $k_F$  and  $\Delta$

$$\tilde{\epsilon} = 4 \left( 1 - \frac{n_N^N}{n_0} \right) \int_{k_F}^{k_F+\Delta} \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left( (N_c m_Q)^2 + k^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{2N_c}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F/N_c} dk k (\Lambda^2 + k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (m_Q^2 + k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Requires infrared regulator to avoid superluminal speed of sound

Extendable to strange quarks, works reasonably well for neutron stars

Duarte, Hernandez-Ortiz, Jeong, PRC 102 (2020) 025203; PRC 102 (2020) 065202



# Dynamical generation of momentum space shell structure

---

The excluded volume mechanism applied to baryon-quark mixture

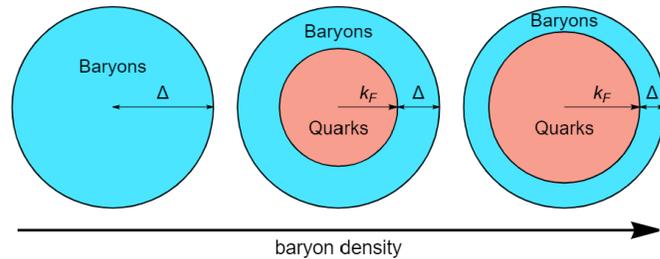
- Helps to explain how quarks appear with baryon density
  - When baryon cores start to overlap, it becomes energetically unfavorable to have nucleons only
- Does not explain why quarks are in the Fermi sea and baryons are on the Fermi surface
- Requires infrared regulator

**Key question:** Is quarkyonic matter momentum shell structure the energetically preferred state of dense QCD matter? Will it emerge in a true dynamical mechanism (e.g. transport simulations)?

# Quarkyonic vs baryquark matter

Two opposite scenarios for the realization of Pauli exclusion principle in baryon-quark mixture

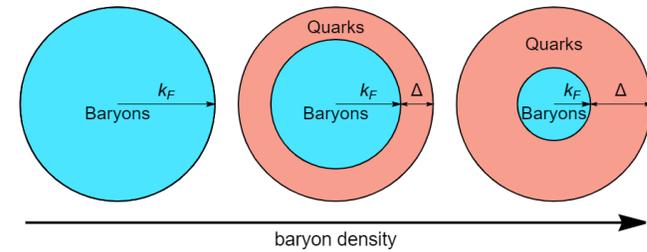
## Quarkyonic



$$n_B = n_N + n_Q$$

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_N + \varepsilon_Q$$

## Baryquark



$$n_Q = \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F/N_c} dk k^2 = \frac{2 k_F^3}{3\pi N_c^3}$$

$$n_N = f_{\text{ev}} \int_{k_F}^{k_F+\Delta} dk k^2 = f_{\text{ev}} \frac{2[(k_F + \Delta)^3 - k_F^3]}{3\pi^2}$$

$$\varepsilon_Q = \frac{2N_c}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F/N_c} dk k^2 \sqrt{m_Q^2 + k^2},$$

$$\varepsilon_N = f_{\text{ev}} \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_{k_F}^{k_F+\Delta} dk k^2 \sqrt{m_N^2 + k^2}.$$

$$n_Q = \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_{k_F/N_c}^{(k_F+\Delta)/N_c} dk k^2 = \frac{2[(k_F + \Delta)^3 - k_F^3]}{3\pi N_c^3}$$

$$n_N = f_{\text{ev}} \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F} dk k^2 = f_{\text{ev}} \frac{2 k_F^3}{3\pi}.$$

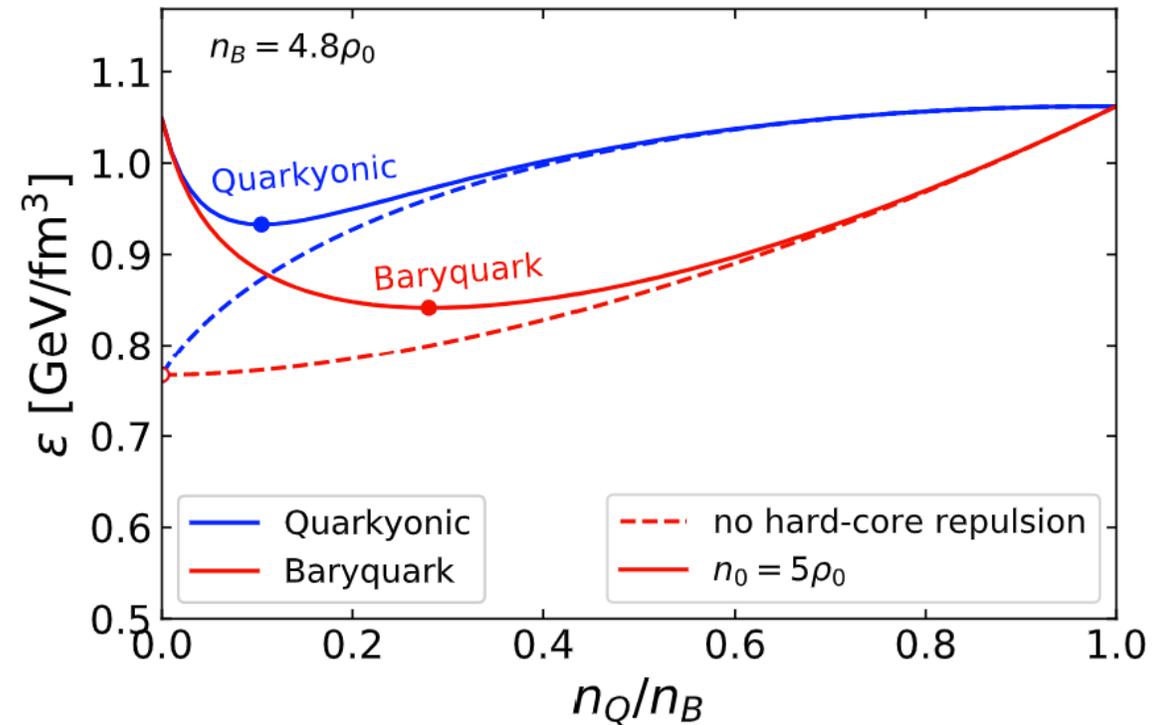
$$\varepsilon_Q = \frac{2N_c}{\pi^2} \int_{k_F/N_c}^{(k_F+\Delta)/N_c} dk k^2 \sqrt{m_Q^2 + k^2}$$

$$\varepsilon_N = f_{\text{ev}} \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_F} dk k^2 \sqrt{m_N^2 + k^2}.$$

$$f_{\text{ev}} = (1 - n_N/n_0)$$

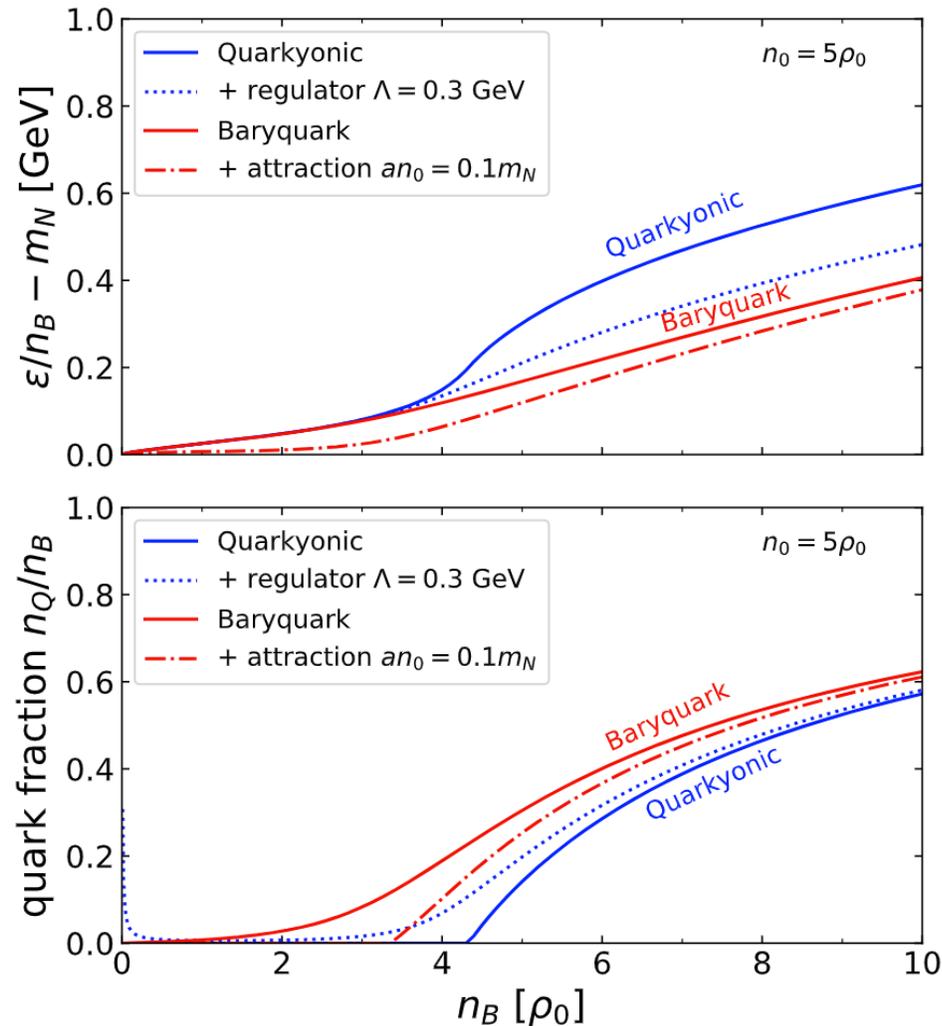
# Quarkyonic vs baryquark matter: energy minimization

At each baryon density  $n_B$  minimize energy density wrt to quark fraction  $n_Q/n_B$



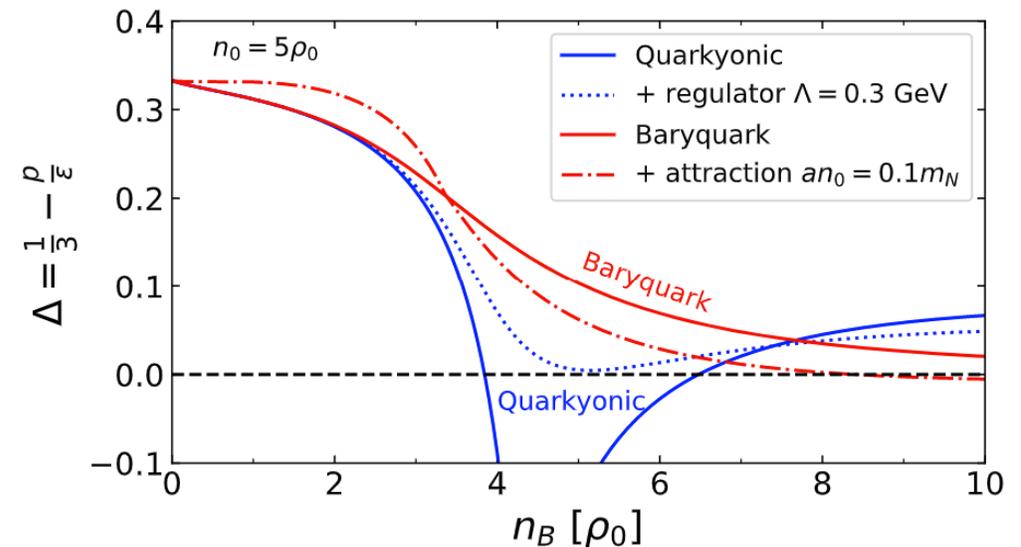
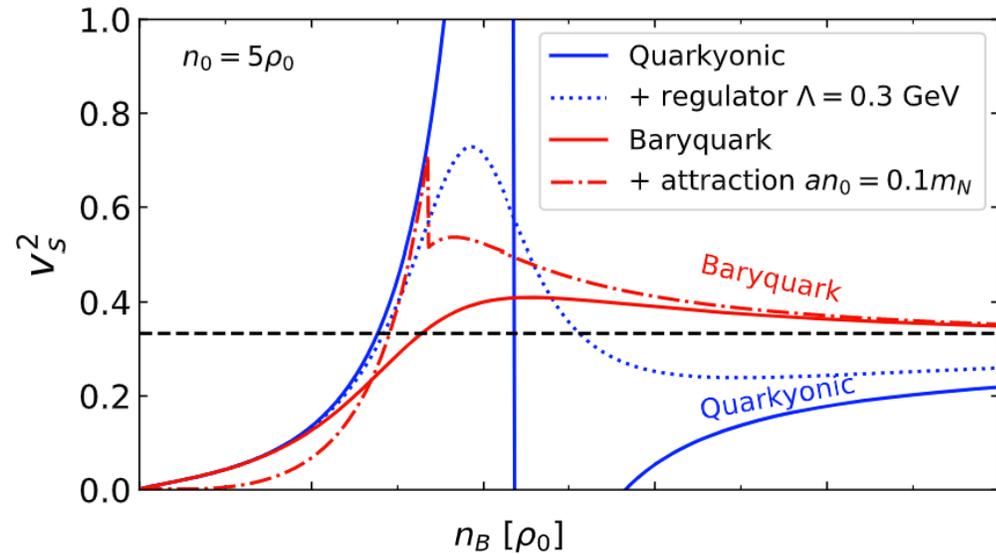
- Without excluded volume, the pure nucleon phase is always preferred
  - Already in this limit evident that adding quarks to the surface is energetically favorable
- With hard-core repulsion minimum may be at finite  $n_Q/n_B$ , baryquark has a deeper minimum

# Quarkyonic vs baryquark matter: equation of state



- Non-zero quark fraction emerges at a certain density as a result of energy minimization
  - For most parameter setups the quark onset corresponds to a 2<sup>nd</sup>-order phase transition
- “Early” appearance of quarks
  - In baryquark matter likely an artifact of missing nucleon attraction,  $\varepsilon_N \rightarrow \varepsilon_N - an_N^2$
  - In quarkyonic matter appears due to infrared regulator

# Quarkyonic vs baryquark matter: speed of sound, conformality



- In quarkyonic matter need to introduce regulator to obtain physically acceptable speed of sound
- In baryquark matter the behavior is acceptable without the need to introduce regulators
- The speed of sound exceeds the conformal limit in all cases
- Trace anomaly: exceeding the conformal limit is less obvious

# Summary

---

- Equation of state of baryon-quark mixture with Pauli principle and baryonic hard-core
  - Disfavors **quarkyonic matter** momentum shell structure (**baryonic Fermi surface**) compared to **baryquark matter** (**quark Fermi surface**)
  - Qualitative behavior of the EoS is sensitive to the appearance of quarks but less so to their momentum space structure
- Existing quarkyonic matter descriptions will require modifications if this picture is to be preserved, e.g.
  - Momentum-dependence nuclear interactions
  - Abandon the quasiparticle picture (too naïve)
- **Outlook:**
  - Match to realistic low-density EoS [R. Poberezhnyuk, VV, in progress]
  - Isospin asymmetry and neutron stars

**Thanks for your attention!**