

# *IdylliQ matter:*

## Momentum shell in Quarkyonic matter from explicit duality

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Based on: [Y. Fujimoto, T. Kojo, L. McLerran, 2306.04304 \[nucl-th\]](#)

# Quarkyonic duality

Collins, Perry (1974)

Contrary to the common belief of free deconfined quarks at high  $\mu$ ...

**Large- $N_c$  QCD implies:**

McLerran, Pisarski (2007)

Duality between quark matter and baryonic matter

$$r_{\text{Debye}}^{-1} \sim \frac{1}{N_c} \lambda'_{\text{t Hooft}} \mu^2 \quad \dots \text{ Never screened when } N_c \rightarrow \infty$$
$$(\lambda'_{\text{t Hooft}} = g^2 N_c)$$

**Real QCD ( $N_c = 3$ ):**

Confinement when  $r_{\text{Debye}} > r_{\text{conf}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^{-1}$

→ **Quarkyonic** regime:  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \ll \mu \ll \sqrt{N_c} \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

... **Quark** Fermi sea formed but confined (**baryonic**)

# Fermi “shell” picture

McLerran, Pisarski (2007);

see also: Jeong, McLerran, Sen (2019); Koch, Vovchenko (2022)

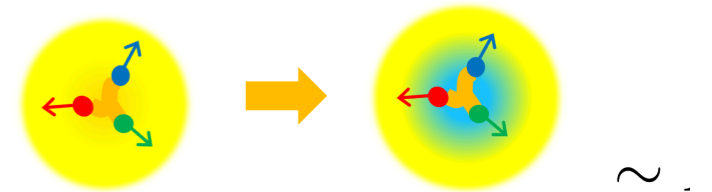
Resolution to the duality paradox is given by assuming the Fermi shell picture

**Fermi sea:** dominated by interaction that is less sensitive to IR  $\rightarrow$  quarks

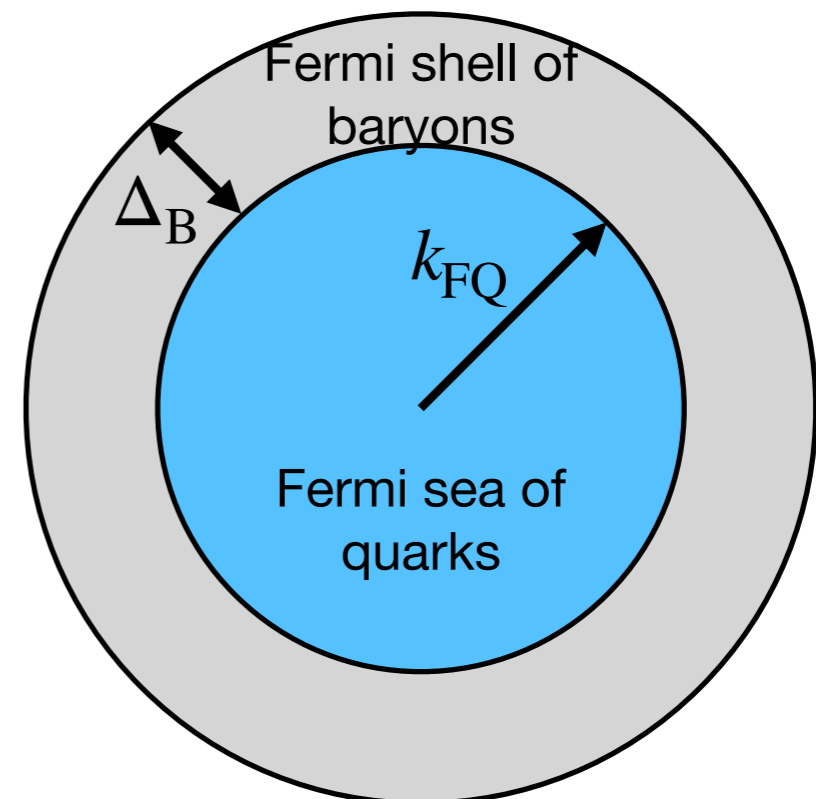
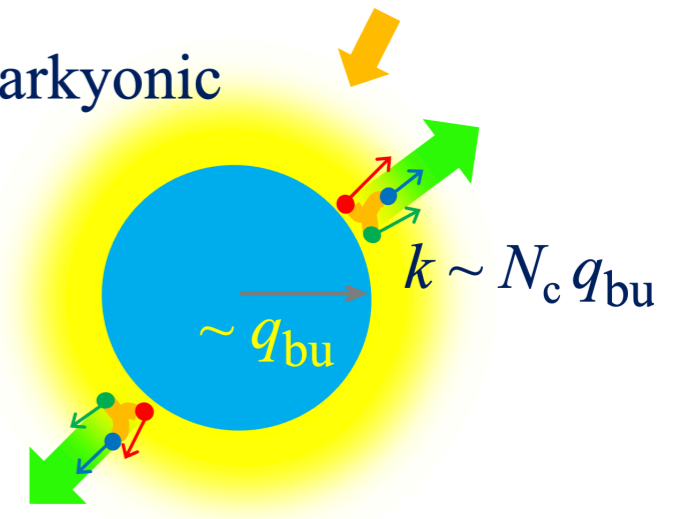
**Fermi shell:** interaction sensitive to IR d.o.f.  $\rightarrow$  baryons, mesons, glues.

**In this talk, we give an alternative explanation to this shell structure based on an explicit duality**

Nuclear

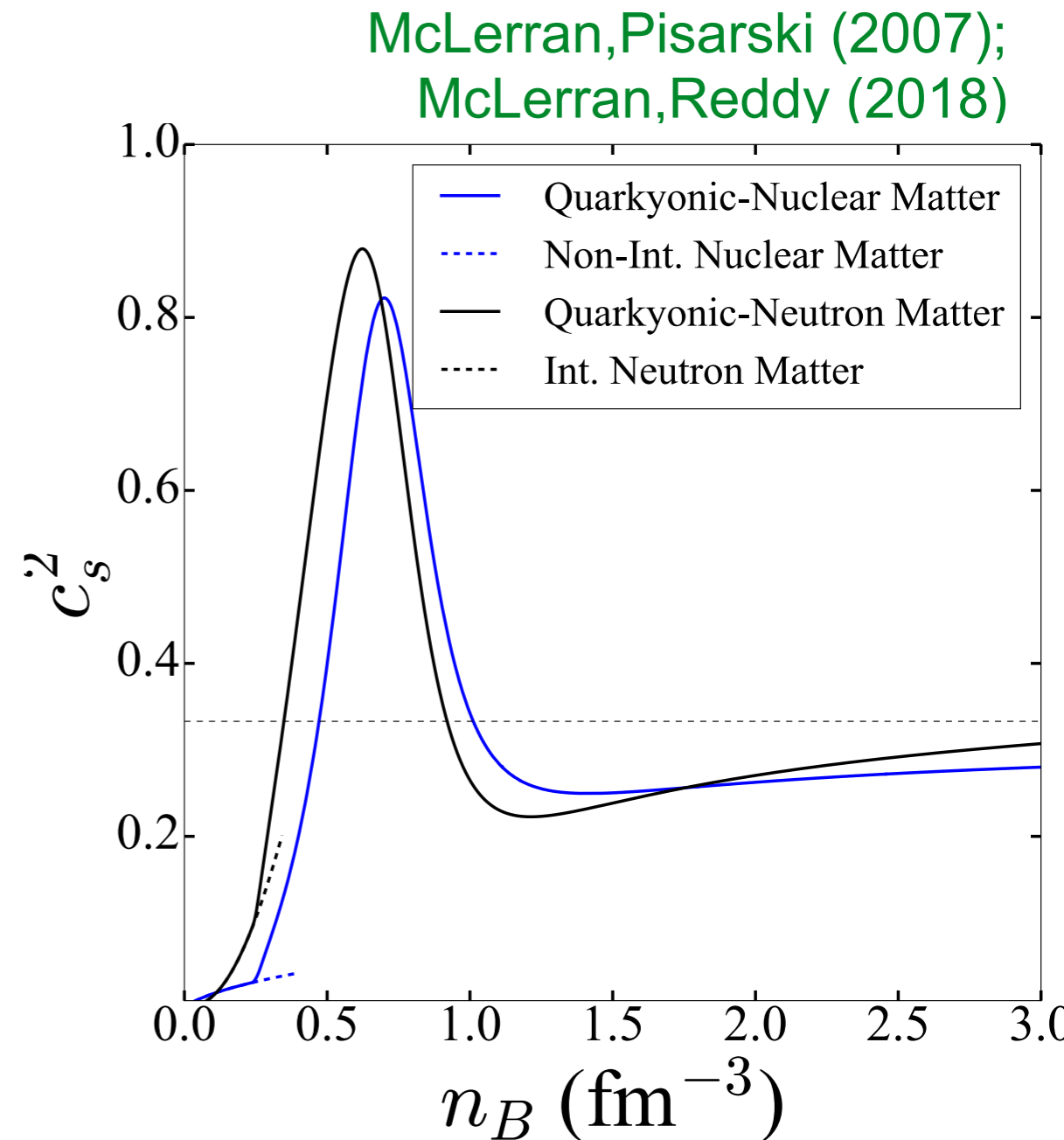


Quarkyonic



# Implication to neutron-star EoS

- Large sound speed at the onset of Quarkyonic matter  
→ Transition is crossover.  
Different from the first-order phase transition.
- Rapid stiffening needed to support  $2M_{\odot}$  neutron stars.
- Approaches to conformality at high density.



# Theory with an explicit duality

Kojo (2021); [Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

Quantum occupation of baryons and quarks in momentum space:

$$0 \leq f_B(k) \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq f_Q(q) \leq 1$$

## - Free energy and density with an explicit duality

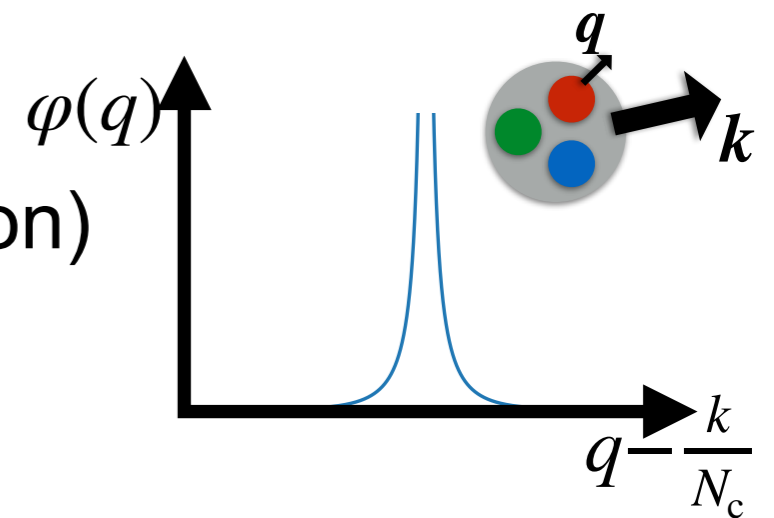
(= described in two ways, i.e., baryons and quarks)

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_B[f_B(k)] = \varepsilon_Q[f_Q(q)], \quad n_B = \int_k f_B(k) = \int_q f_Q(q)$$

## - The duality relation between $f_B$ and $f_Q$

(= probability to find quarks inside a single baryon)

$$f_Q(q) = \int_k \varphi\left(\mathbf{q} - \frac{\mathbf{k}}{N_c}\right) f_B(k)$$



- **Goal:** Minimize  $\varepsilon$  w.r.t.  $f_B$  or  $f_Q \rightarrow$  Variational problem

# IdylliQ matter

Kojo (2021); [Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

## Free energy with an explicit duality

In this work, we use the **ideal** gas expression for baryons

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_B[f_B(k)] = \varepsilon_Q[f_Q(q)]$$

$$\varepsilon_B[f_B(k)] = \int_k E_B(k) f_B(k), \quad (E_B(k) = \sqrt{k^2 + M_N^2})$$

$$\varepsilon_Q[f_Q(q)] = \int_q E_Q(q) f_Q(q)$$

We fix the baryon expression because we know this gives a suitable low-density description. Quark dispersion is fixed via the duality relation.

We name it as **IdylliQ** (Ideal dual Quarkyonic) **matter**

# Explicitly solvable model

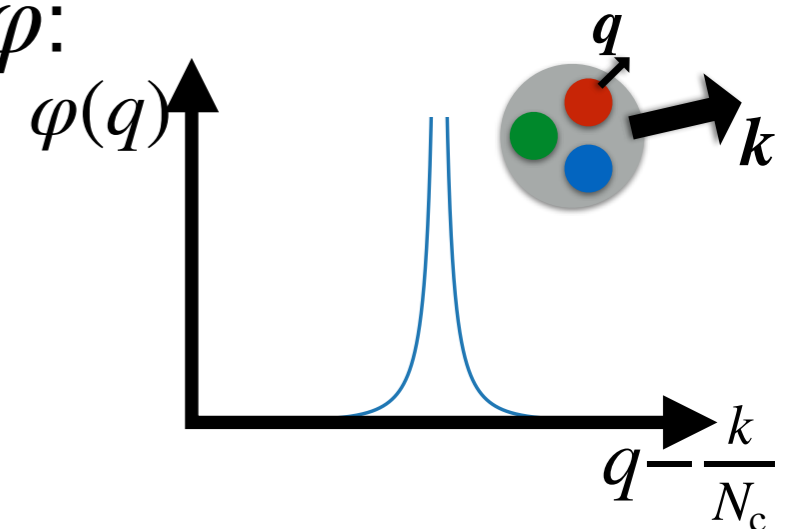
[Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

The duality relation between  $f_B$  and  $f_Q$  (quark model):

$$f_Q(q) = \int \frac{d^d \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^d} \varphi \left( \mathbf{q} - \frac{\mathbf{k}}{N_c} \right) f_B(k)$$

In this work, we assume the specific form for  $\varphi$ :

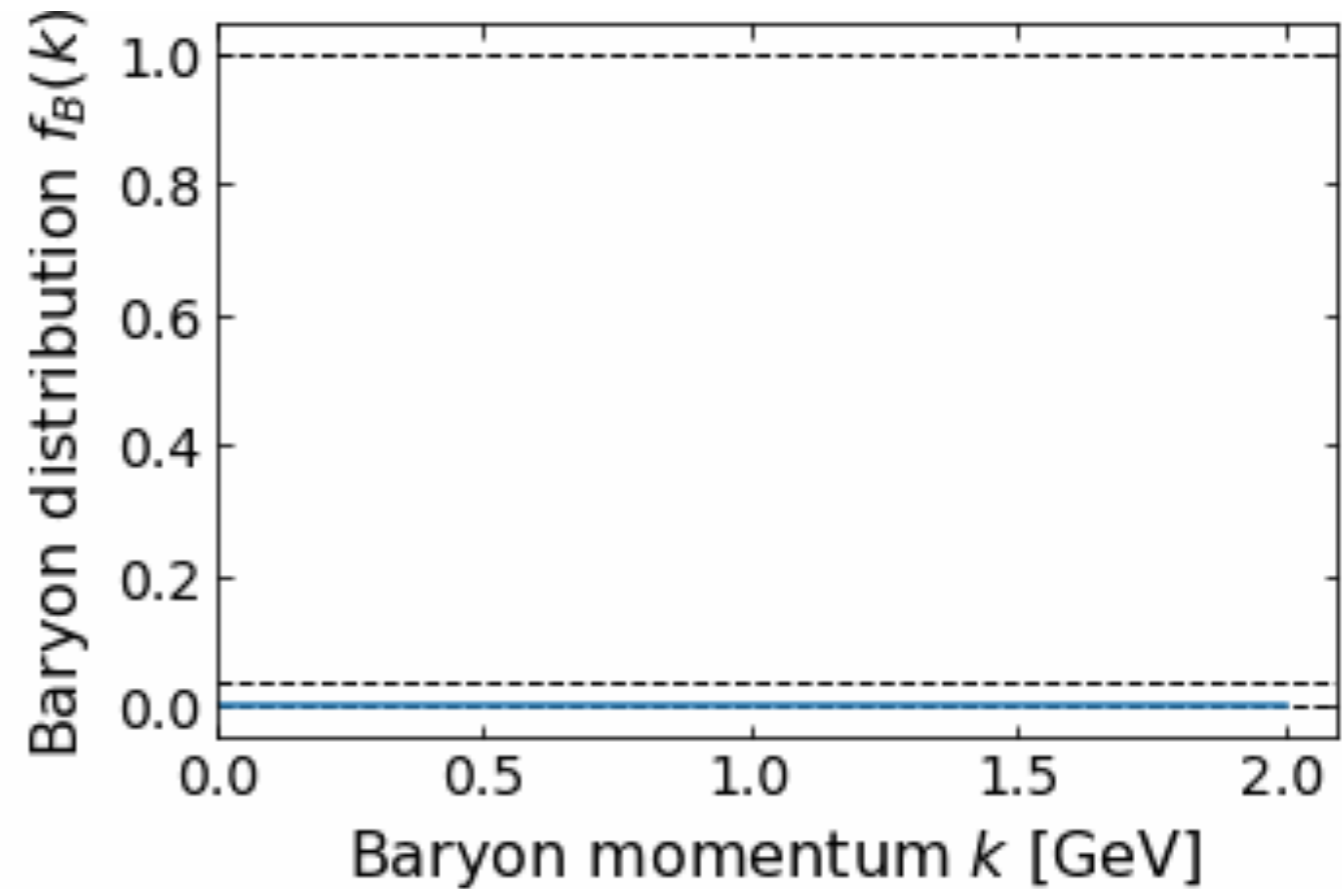
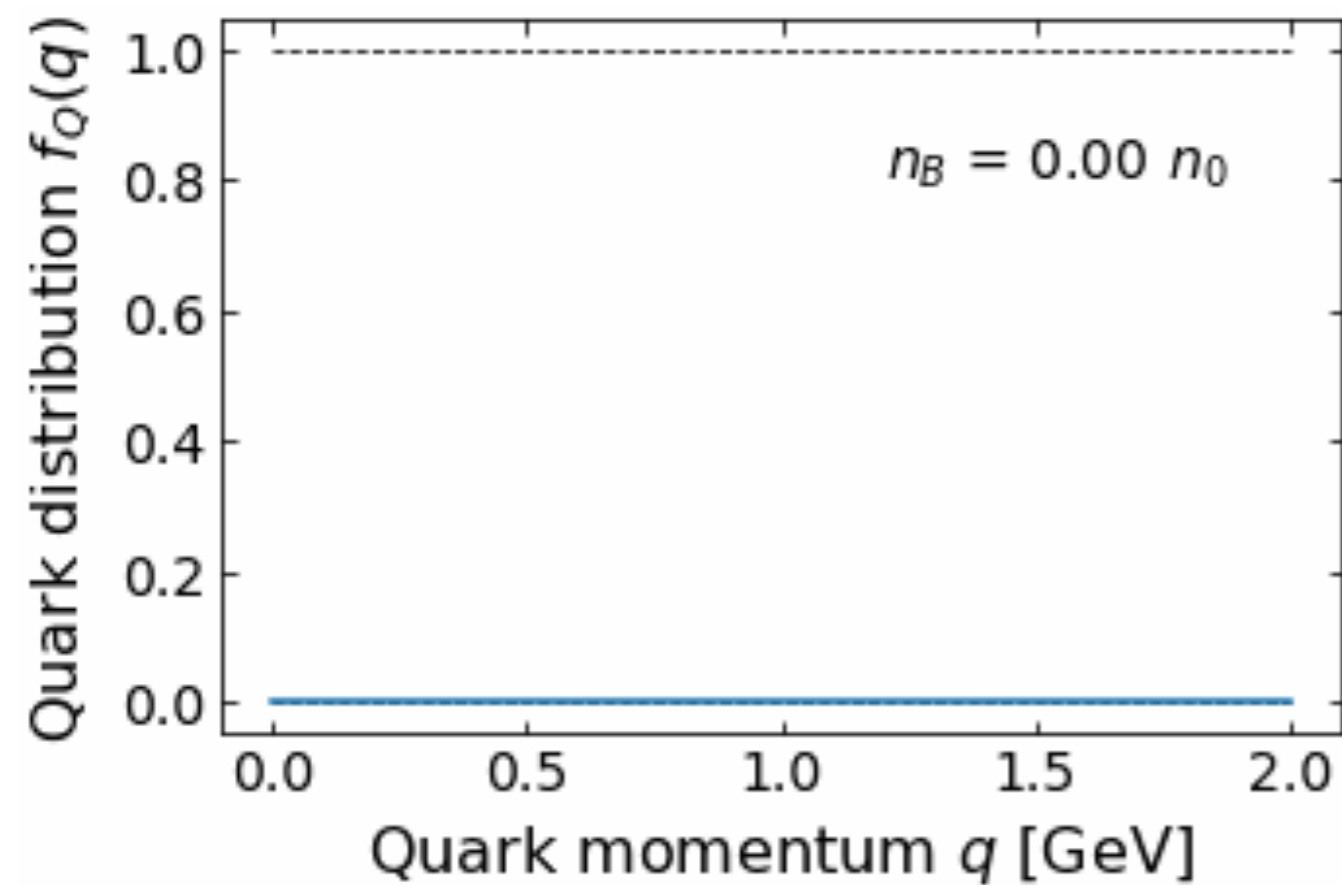
$$\varphi(q) = \frac{2\pi^2 e^{-q/\Lambda}}{\Lambda^2 q} \quad \Lambda: \text{confining scale}$$



This specific choice entails the one-to-one correspondence:

$$f_B(N_c q) = \frac{\Lambda^2}{N_c^3} \left( -\nabla_q^2 + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \right) f_Q(q)$$

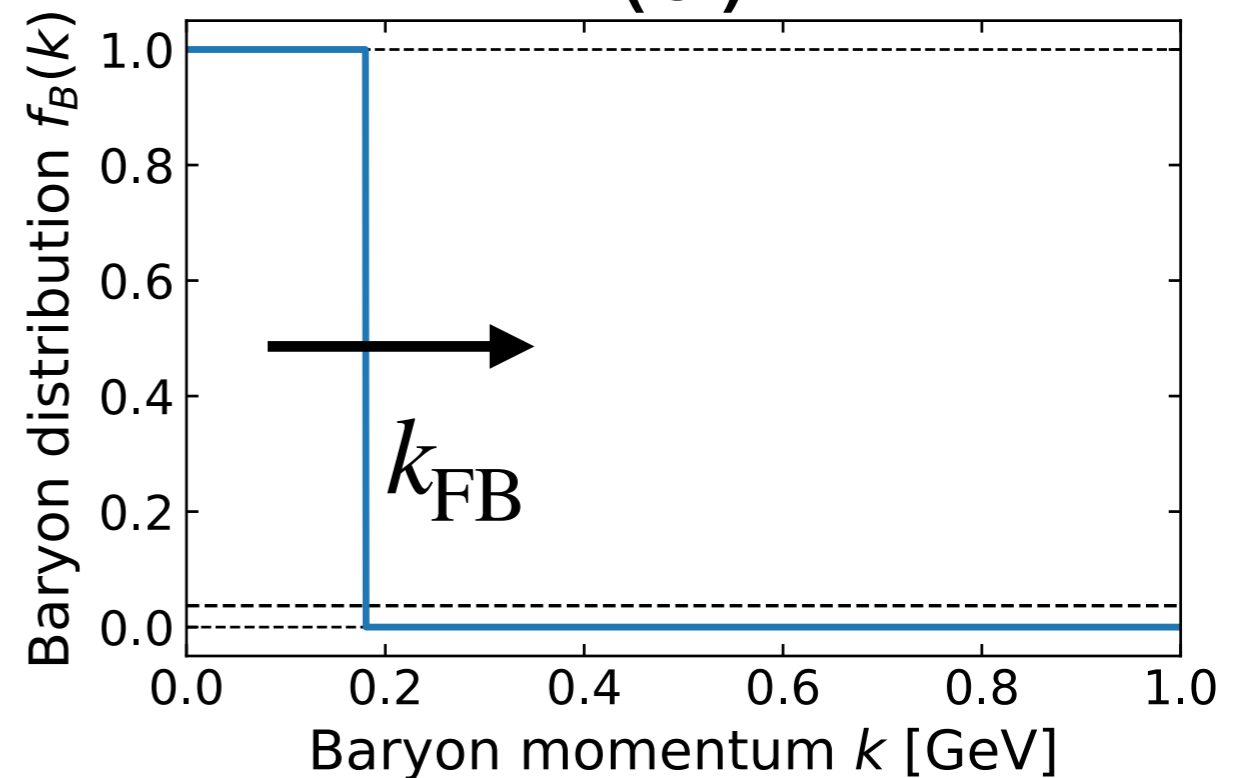
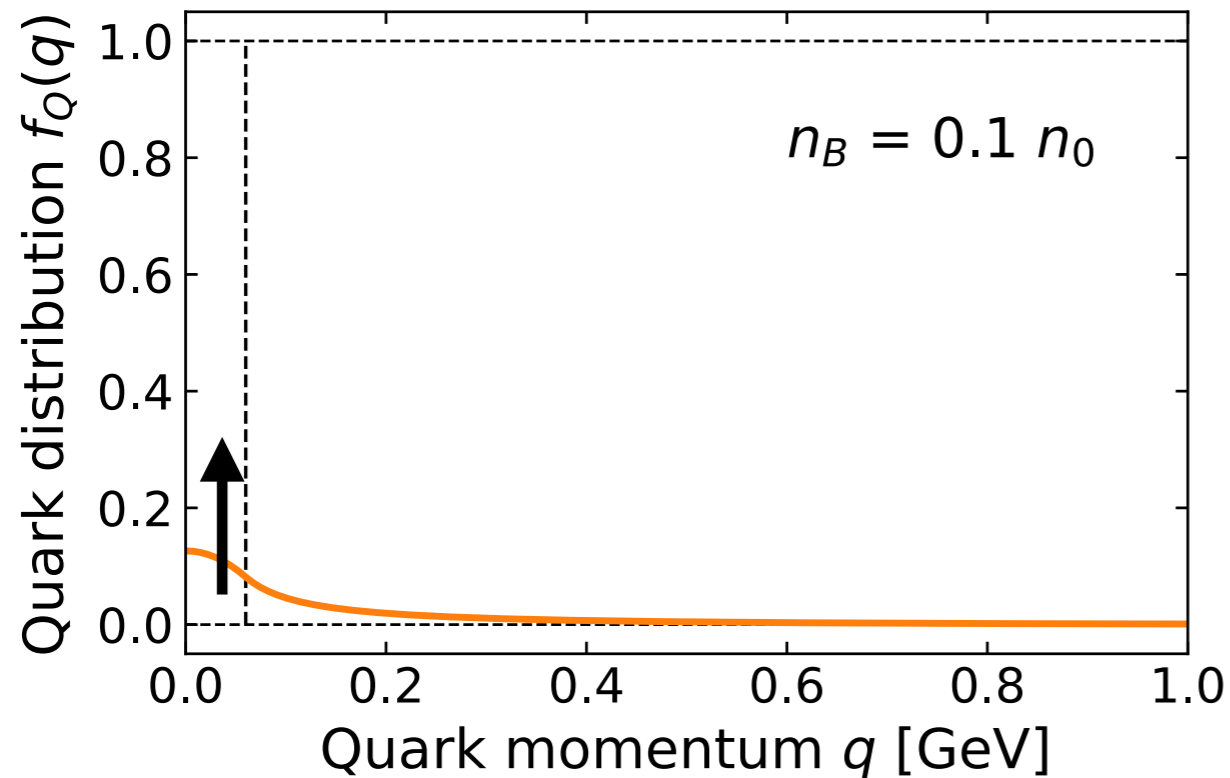
# Overview on the analytic solution





# Solution at low density

Kojo (2021), [Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)

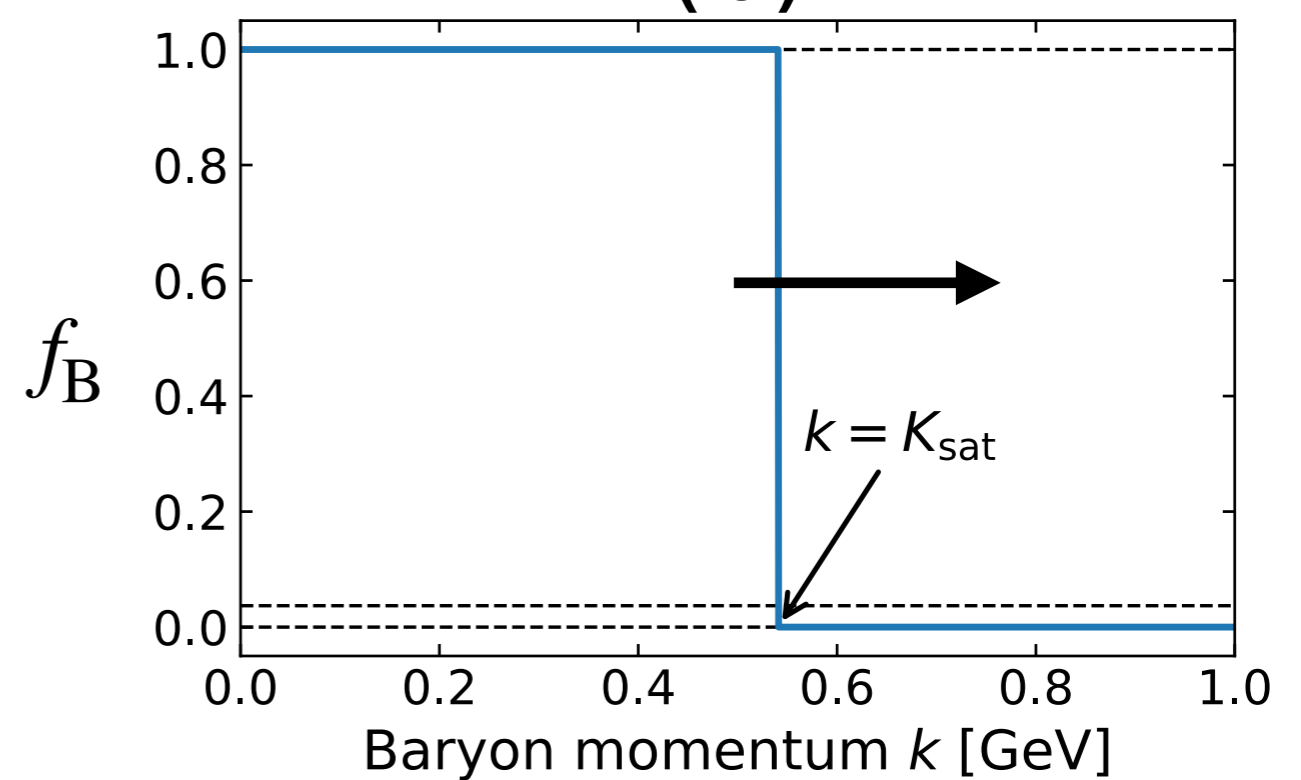
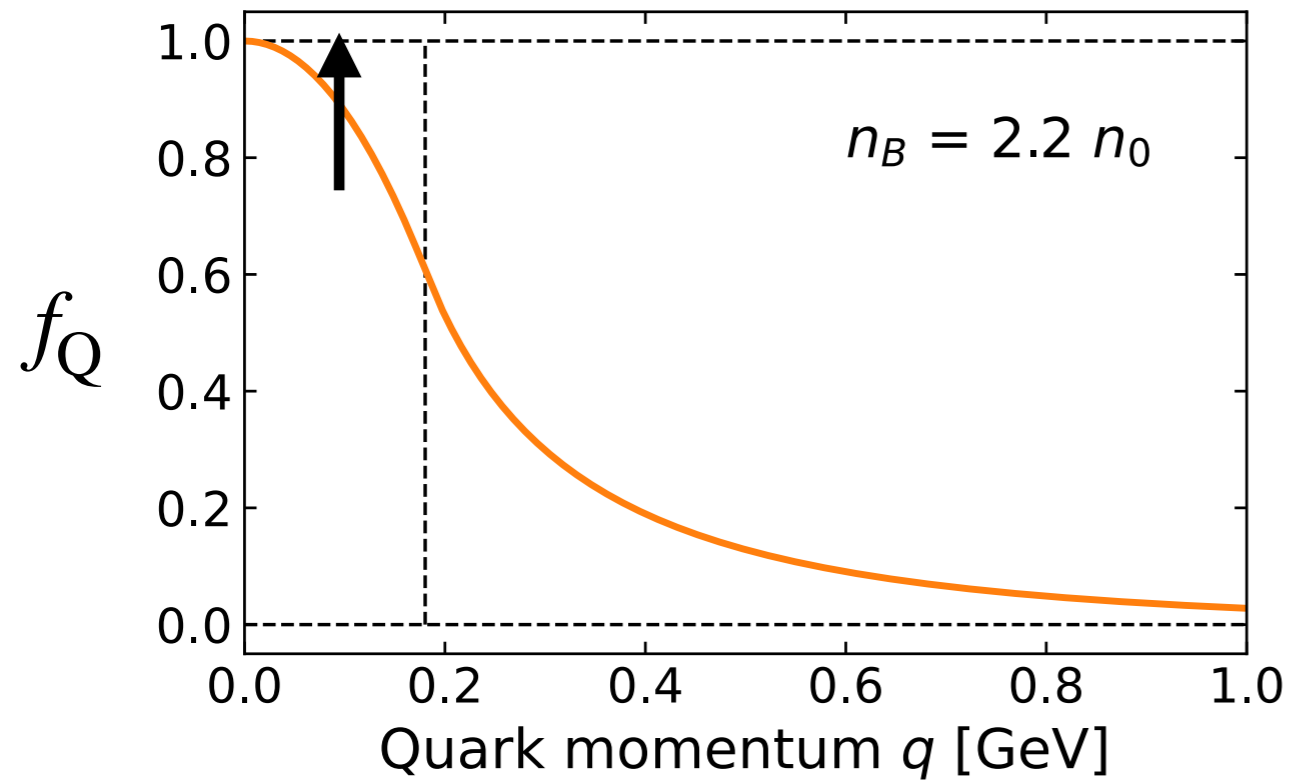


Fermi gas of baryons is formed.

Baryonic Fermi momentum  $k_{FB}$  grows until  $f_Q$  reaches 1

# Saturation of the quark distribution

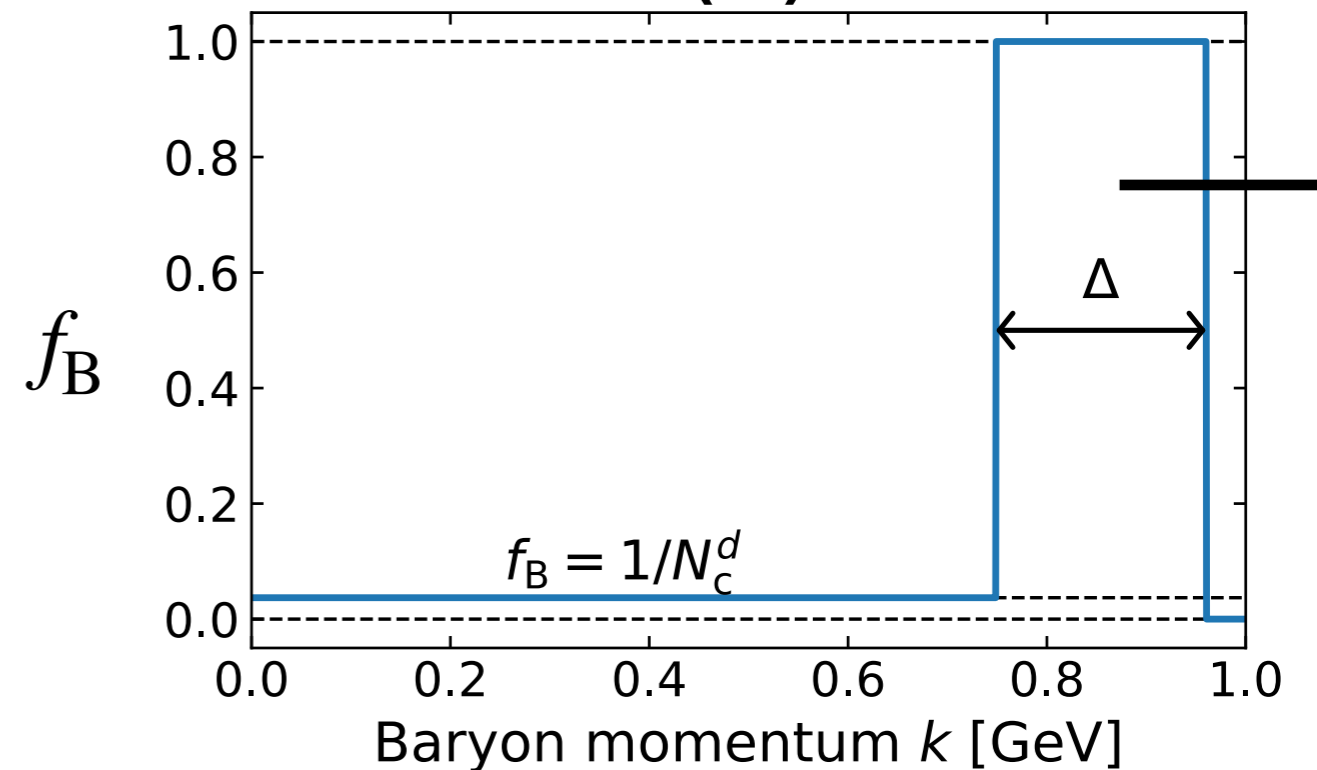
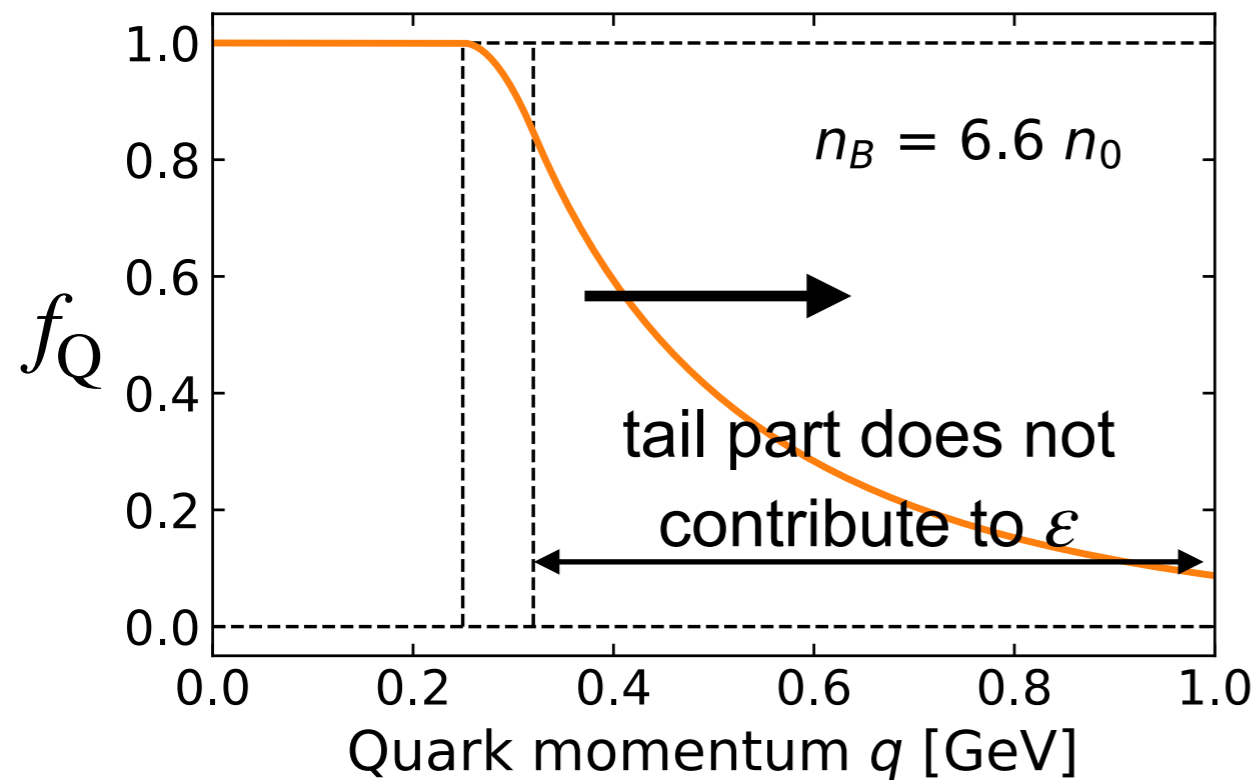
Kojo (2021), [Fujimoto, Kojo, McLerran \(2023\)](#)



At this point,  $f_Q$  “saturates” and Pauli blocking constraint becomes essential.

# Solution at high density

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



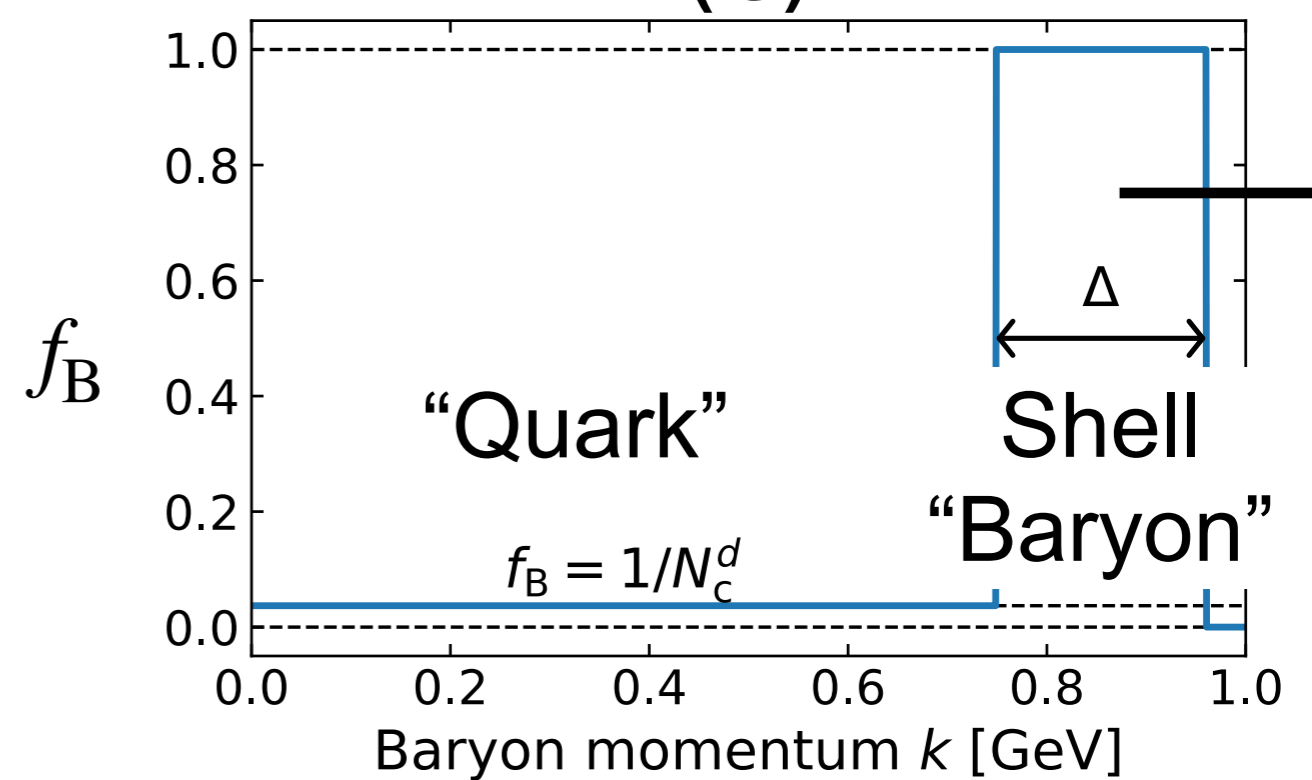
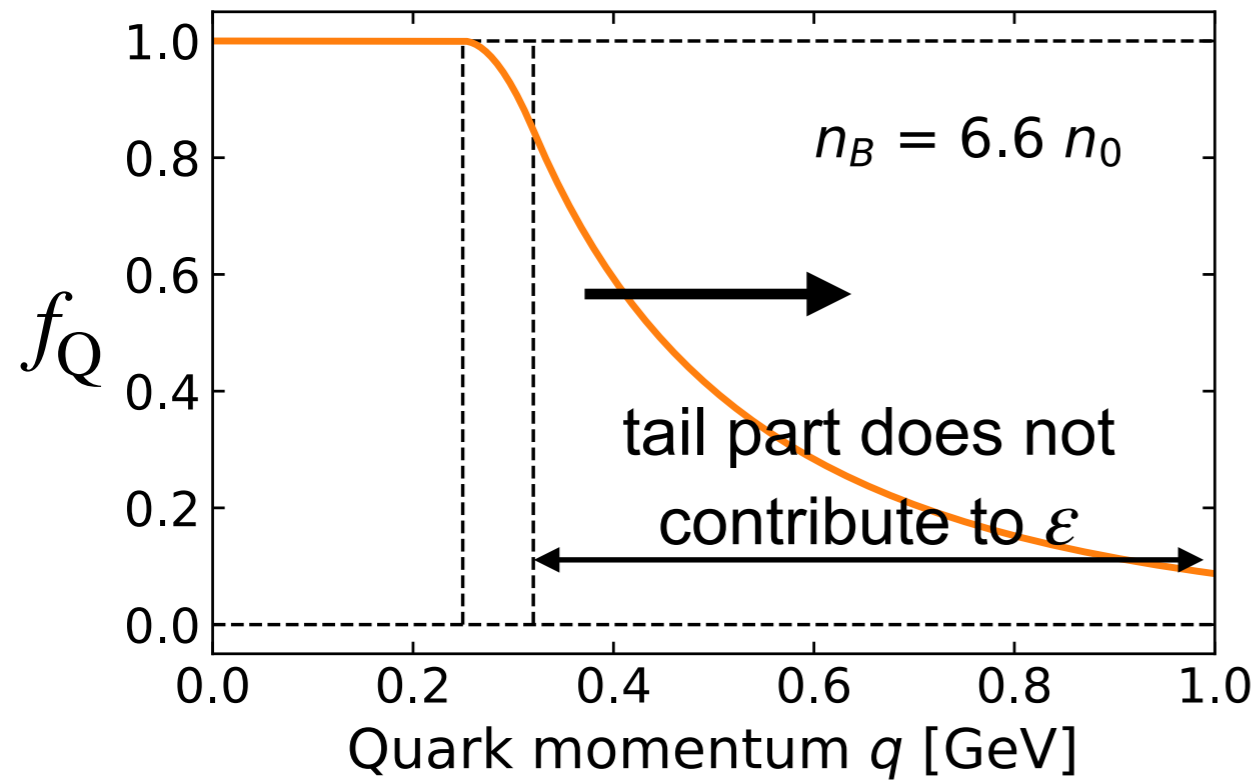
Saturation in low-momentum  $f_Q \rightarrow$  Depletion in  $f_B \sim 1/N_c^3$  (in 3d)

Tail in  $f_Q$  w/ a width  $\sim \Lambda$

$\rightarrow$  Shell formation in high-momentum  $f_B$  w/  $\Delta_B \sim \frac{\Lambda}{N_c^2}$

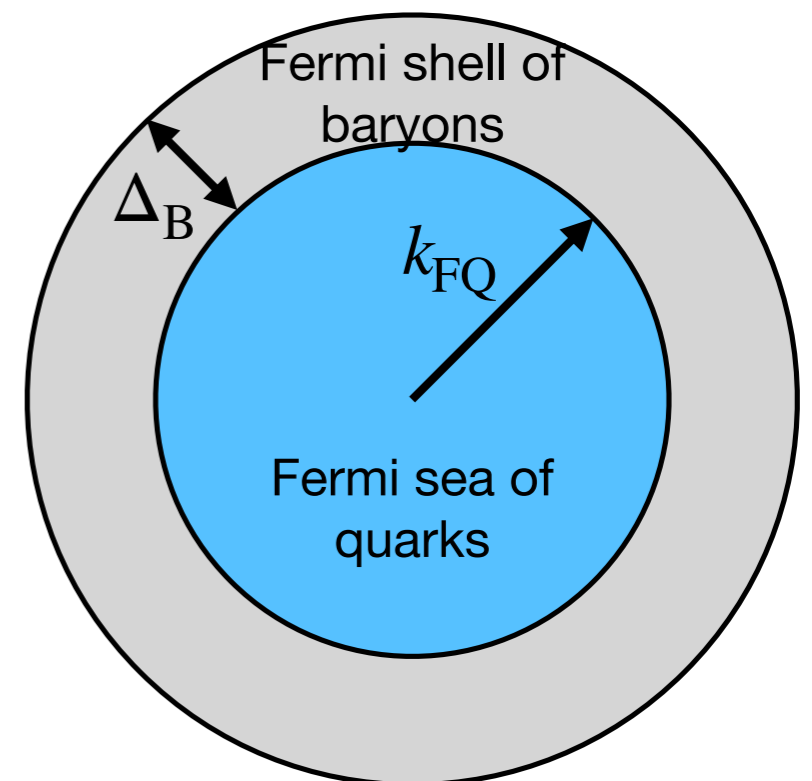
# Solution at high density

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



Fermi shell structure arises in  $f_B$

This picture is equivalent to the McLerran-Pisarski shell picture apart from the behavior of  $\Delta_B$



# Underoccupied $f_B$ and occupied $f_Q$

Baryon number in the bulk “quark” region in the quark language:

$$n_B = \int_0^{k_{FQ}} \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} f_Q(q) \sim k_{FQ}^3 f_Q$$

In the baryon language:

$$n_B = \int_0^{k_{FB}} \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} f_B(k) \sim k_{FB}^3 f_B \sim N_c^3 k_{FQ}^3 f_B$$

where the Fermi momenta are related as  $k_{FB} \sim N_c k_{FQ}$ .

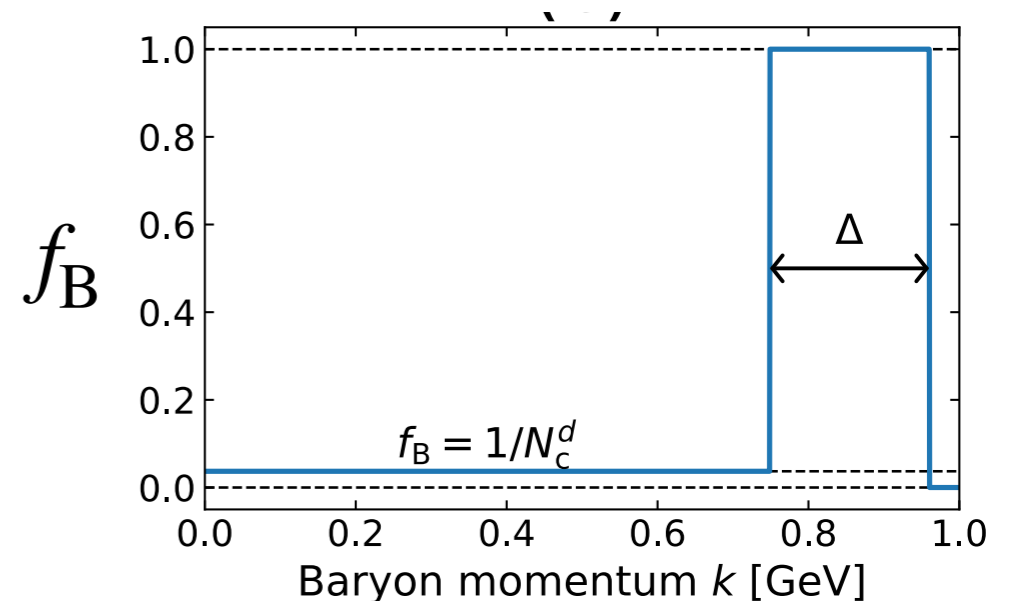
Because  $f_Q \leq 1$ ,  $f_B \sim 1/N_c^3$  ... composite baryon states are underoccupied

# Rapid stiffening in the EoS

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

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

If baryon is underoccupied, the density is does not vary a lot, with the variation of the Fermi energy



# Summary

- We formulate the quantum-mechanical theory of **IdylliQ matter** — Quarkyonic matter with an explicit duality and ideal baryonic dispersion relation
- Previously proposed Fermi “shell” structure of Quarkyonic matter naturally arises in the baryon distribution
- Rapid rise in the sound speed is still there — the observational signature of the Quarkyonic matter