

# Dense QCD EoS: Conformal limit and weak-coupling results

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Based on: [1] [Y. Fujimoto](#), K. Fukushima, L. McLerran, M. Praszalowicz,  
PRL129, 2207.06753 [nucl-th];  
[2] [Y. Fujimoto](#), to appear in PRD, 2312.11443 [hep-ph];  
[3] [Y. Fujimoto](#), in preparation, 2404.?????

March 18, 2024 - cond-mat.QCD @ YITP, Kyoto U

# Outline

- 1. Conformal limit in dense QCD**
- 2. Confronting weak-coupling vs lattice QCD results at finite isospin density**

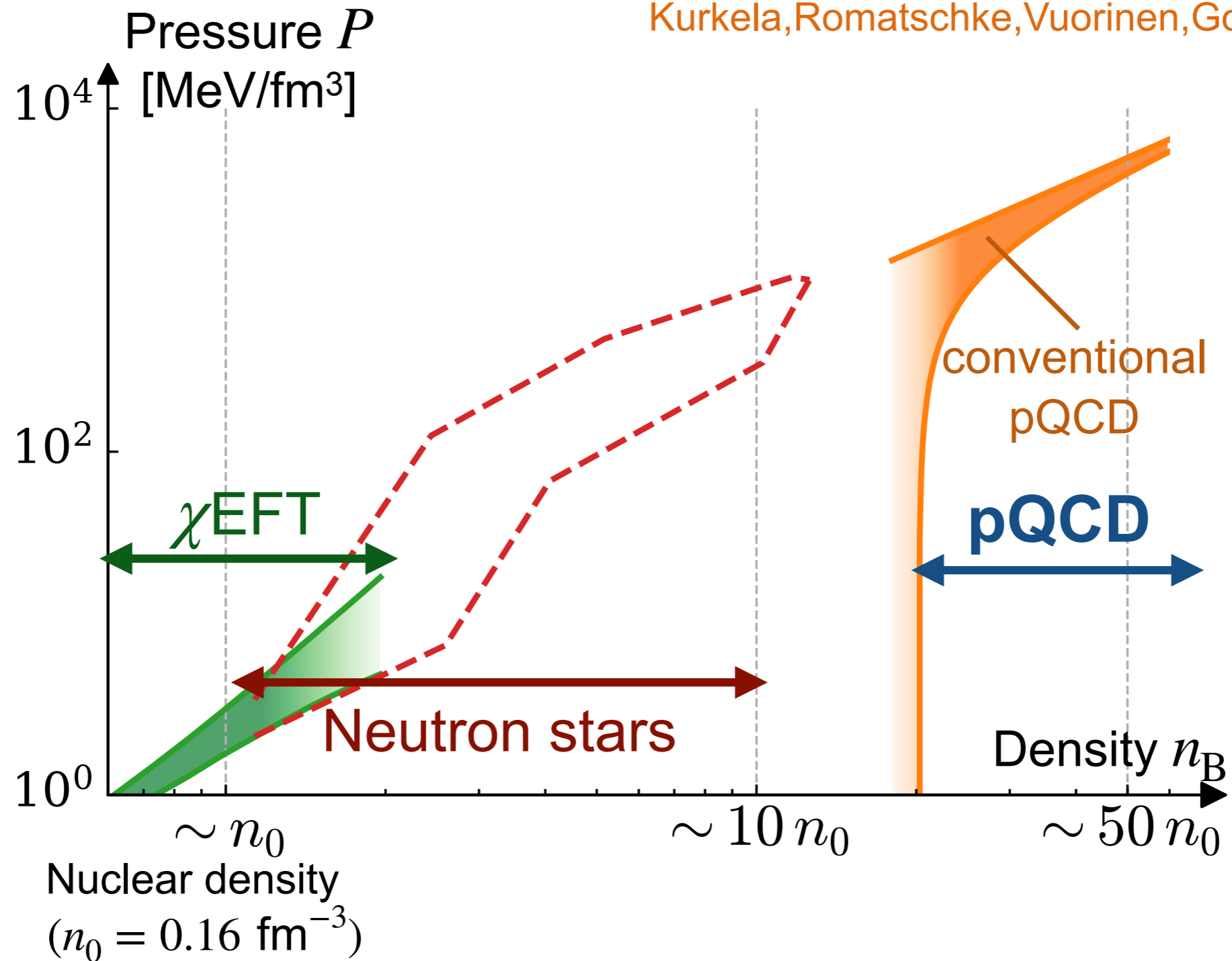
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# Dense matter equation of state (EoS)

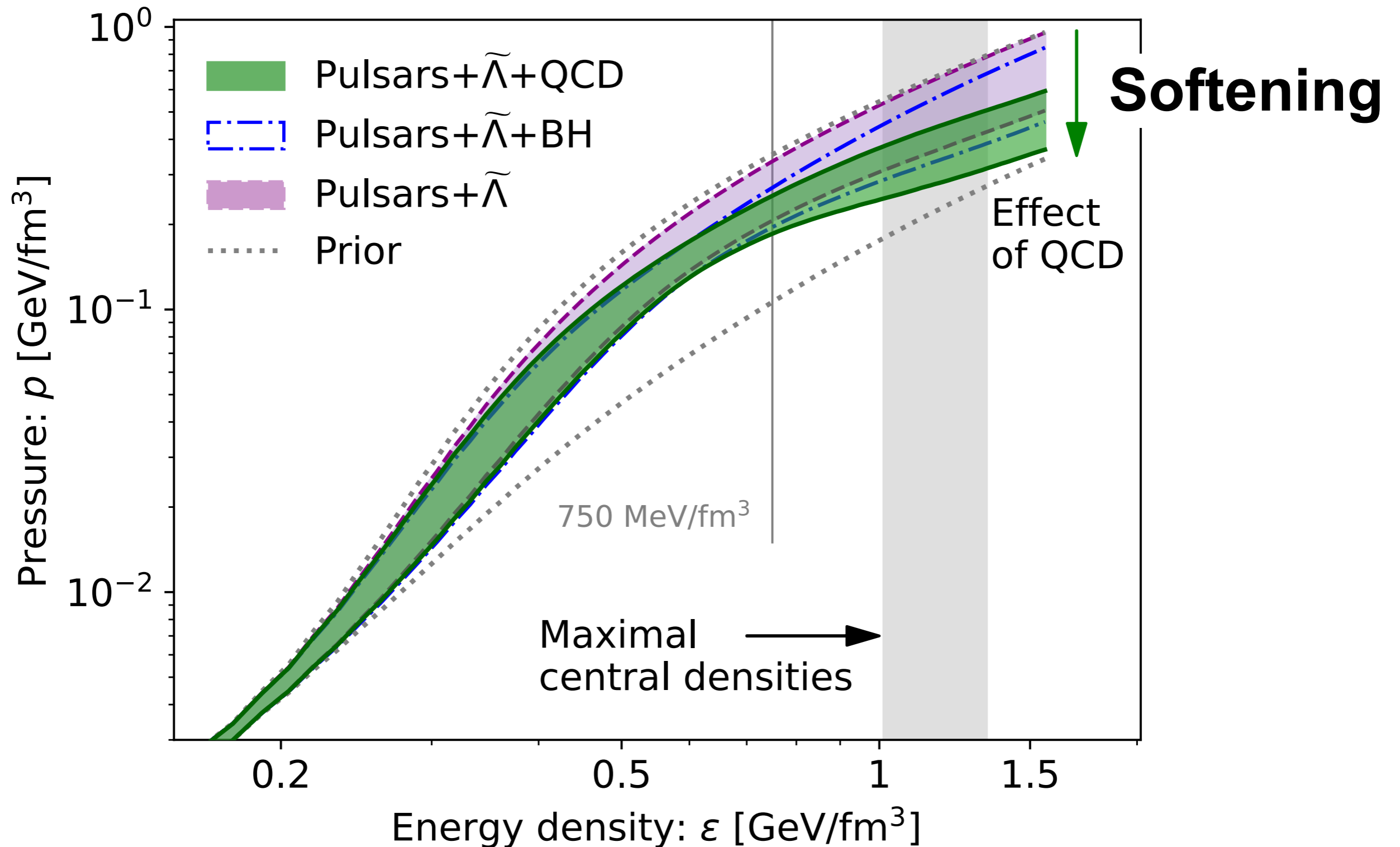
$\chi$ EFT: Tews, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk(2013);  
Drischler, Furnstahl, Melendez, Philips(2020)  
& many others

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



# The effect of pQCD on the NS EoS

Gorda, Komoltsev, Kurkela (2022); Komoltsev, Somasundaram et al. (2023)



# Conformal limit

Coupling goes to  $\alpha_s \rightarrow 0$  when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow \infty$ :

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

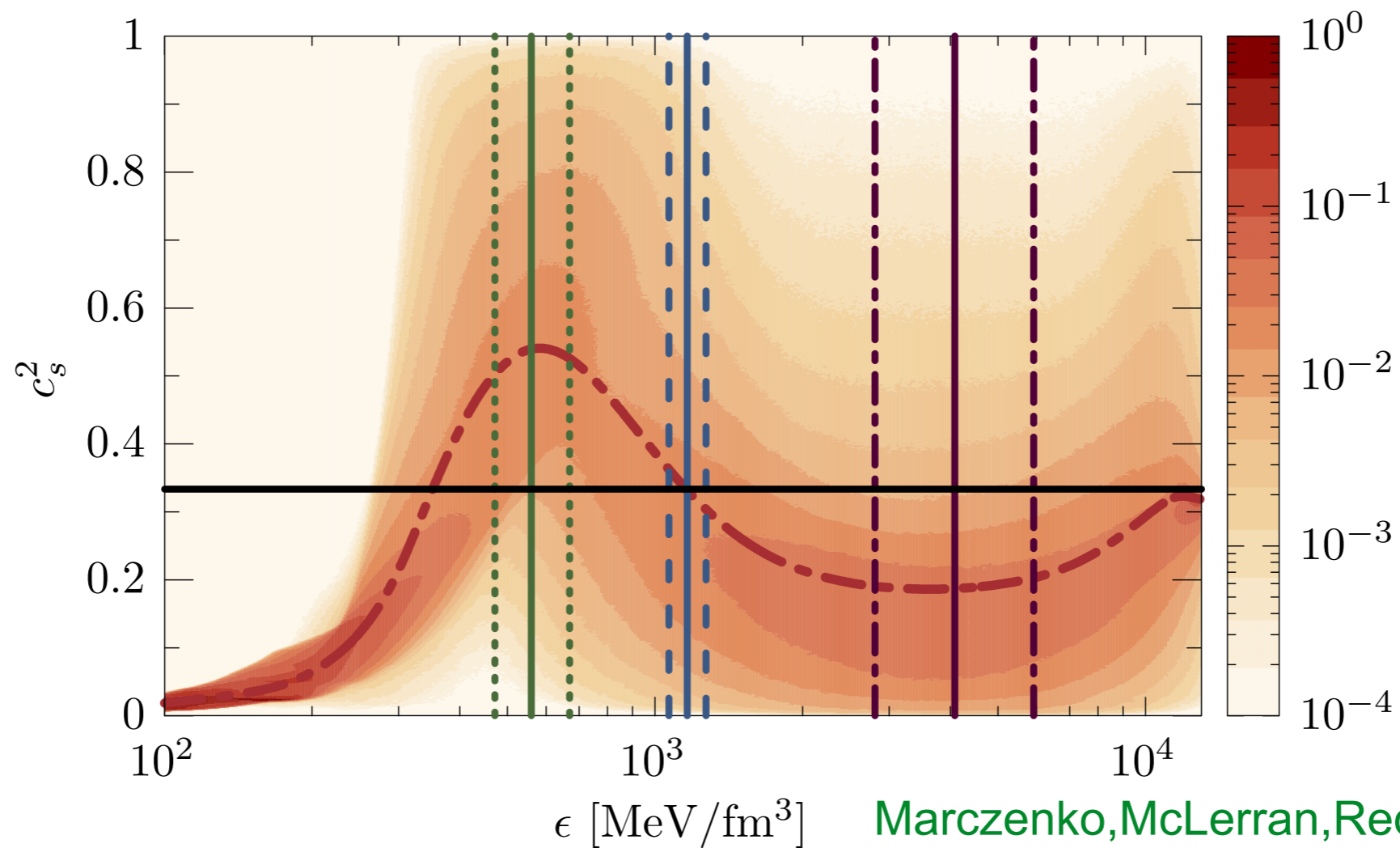
$$v_s^2 = \frac{dP}{d\varepsilon} \sim \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{1 + \beta_0 \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3}$$

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

# Conformal limit for $v_s^2$

Bedaque, Steiner (2014); Tews, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy (2018); Annala+ (2019);  
Altiparmak, Ecker, Rezzolla (2022); Brandes, Weise, Kaiser (2022), and so on...

Crosses the limit  $v_s^2 = 1/3$  at intermediate density



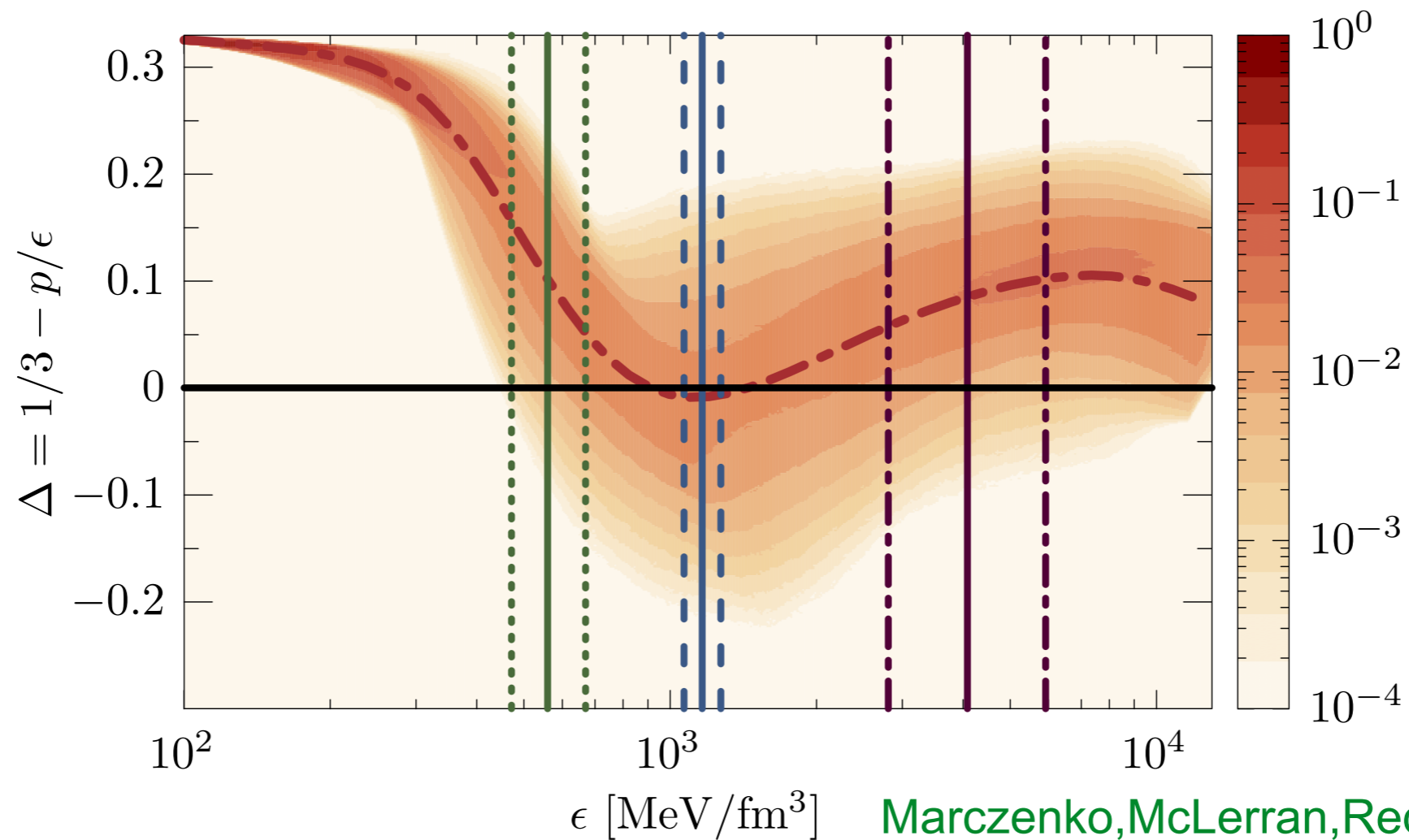
Marczenko, McLerran, Redlich, Sasaki (2022)

Ingredients: ChEFT,  $2M_\odot$  & NICER pulsars, tidal deformability, pQCD

# Conformal limit for $\varepsilon - 3P$

[Fujimoto, Fukushima, McLerran, Praszalowicz \(2022\); Annals+ \(2023\) and so on...](#)

Does not cross the limit  $\varepsilon - 3P = 0$  at intermediate density



**Rapid approach to  $\varepsilon - 3P \rightarrow 0$  drives the peak in  $v_s^2$   
→ Signature of conformality in neutron star?**



# Outline

1. Conformal limit in dense QCD
2. **Confronting weak-coupling vs lattice QCD results at finite isospin density**

# QCD at finite isospin density

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

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

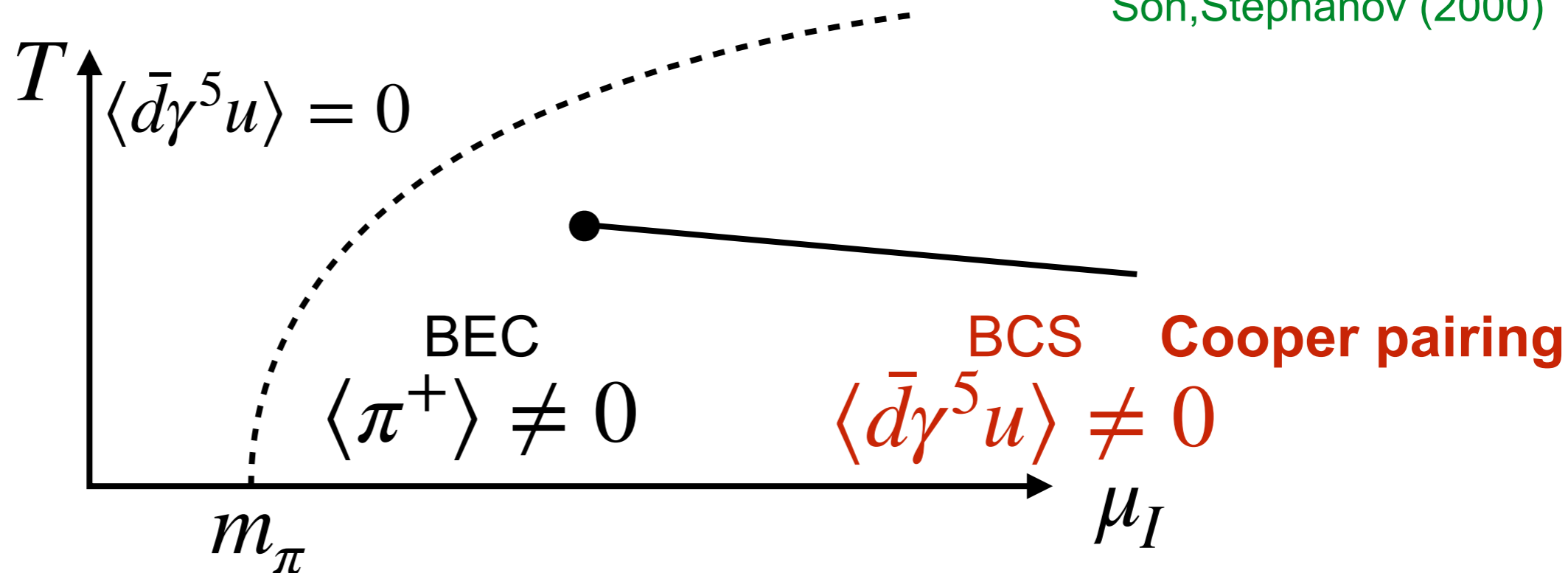
Alford, Kapustin, Wilczek (1999);

Kogut, Sinclair (2002-); Beane, Detmold, Savage+ (2007-); Endrodi+ (2014-)...

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

- Phases

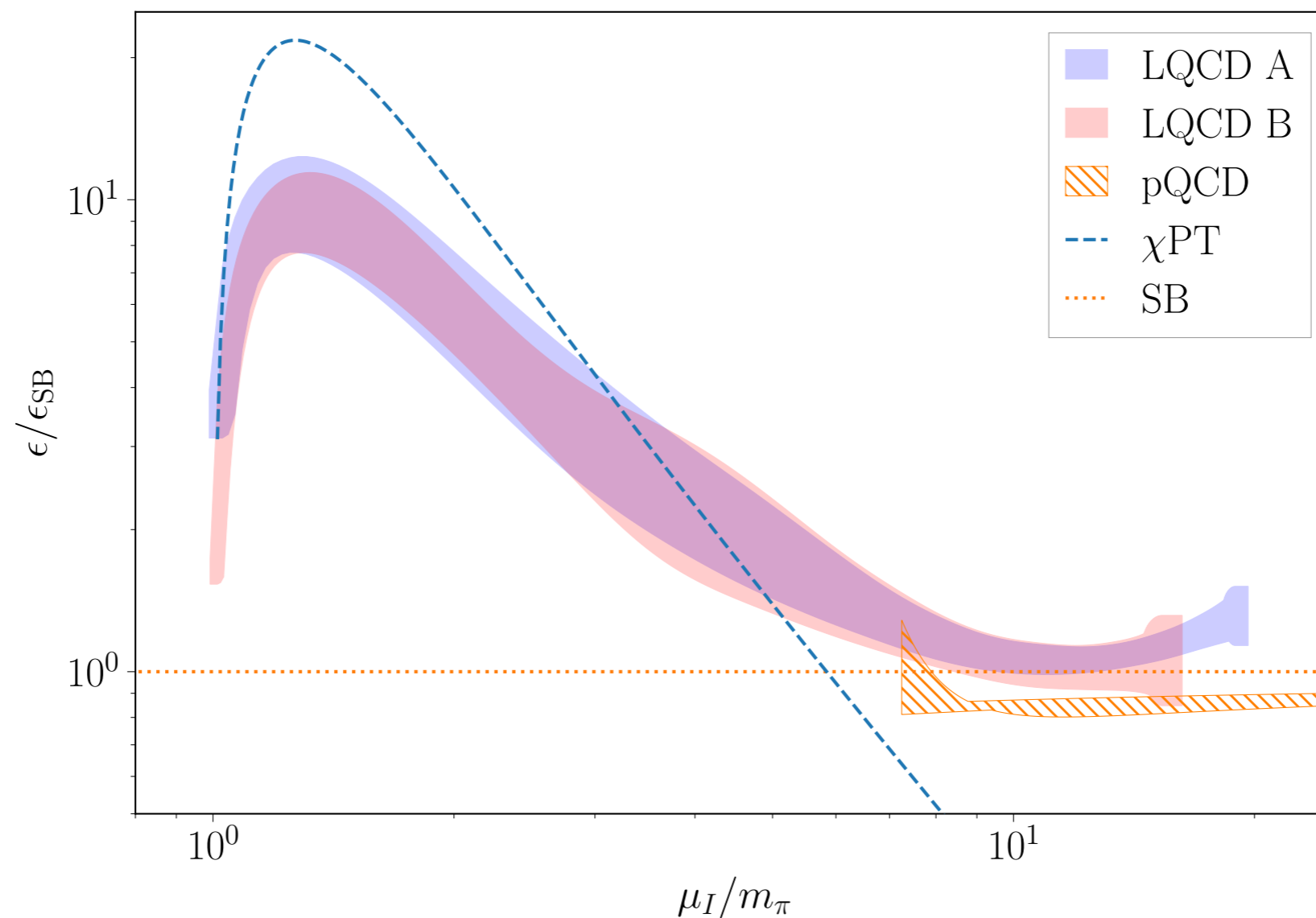
Son, Stephanov (2000)



# Lattice data at finite isospin density

Abbott, Detmold, Romero-López+ (2023)

- Equation of state (EoS) is pinned down up to  $\mu_I \sim 3 \text{ GeV}$



# Notation

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

# 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:

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

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

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

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

# Cooper pairing gap in weak coupling

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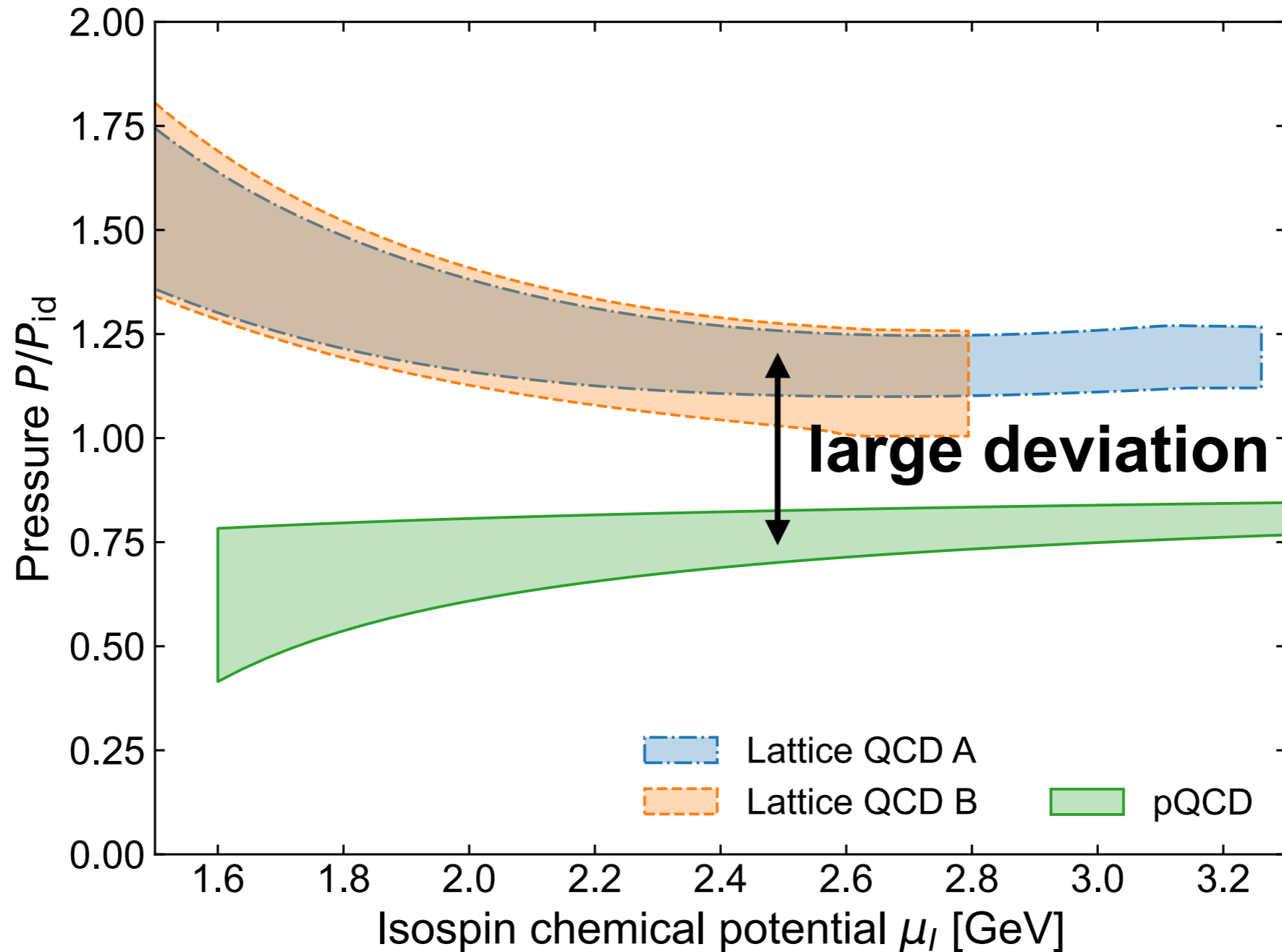
$c_R = 2/3$  for  $\bar{\mathbf{3}}$ ,  $c_R = 4/3$  for  $\mathbf{1}$  channel,  $\zeta = \frac{1}{3} \ln 2$  for CFL,  $\zeta = 0$  otherwise

- Folklore: only applicable at very large  $\mu$  e.g.  $\mu \sim 10^8$  MeV  
[Rajagopal, Shuster (2000)]
- Standard perturbative QCD: valid up to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV

**What is the applicability of this weak-coupling formula?**

# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data

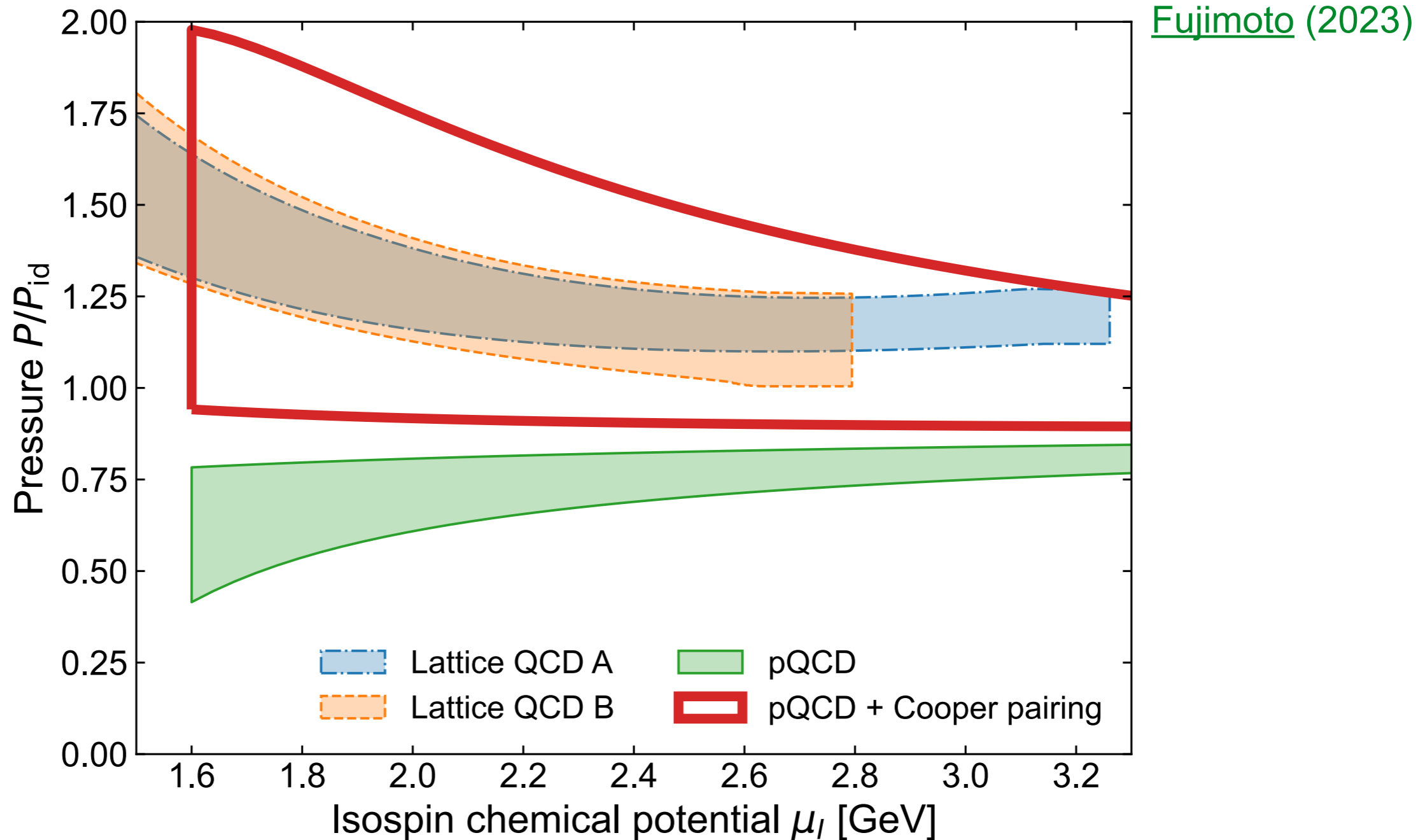
Fujimoto (2023)



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

$$[P_{\text{id}} = \mu_I^4 / (32\pi^2)]$$

# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data

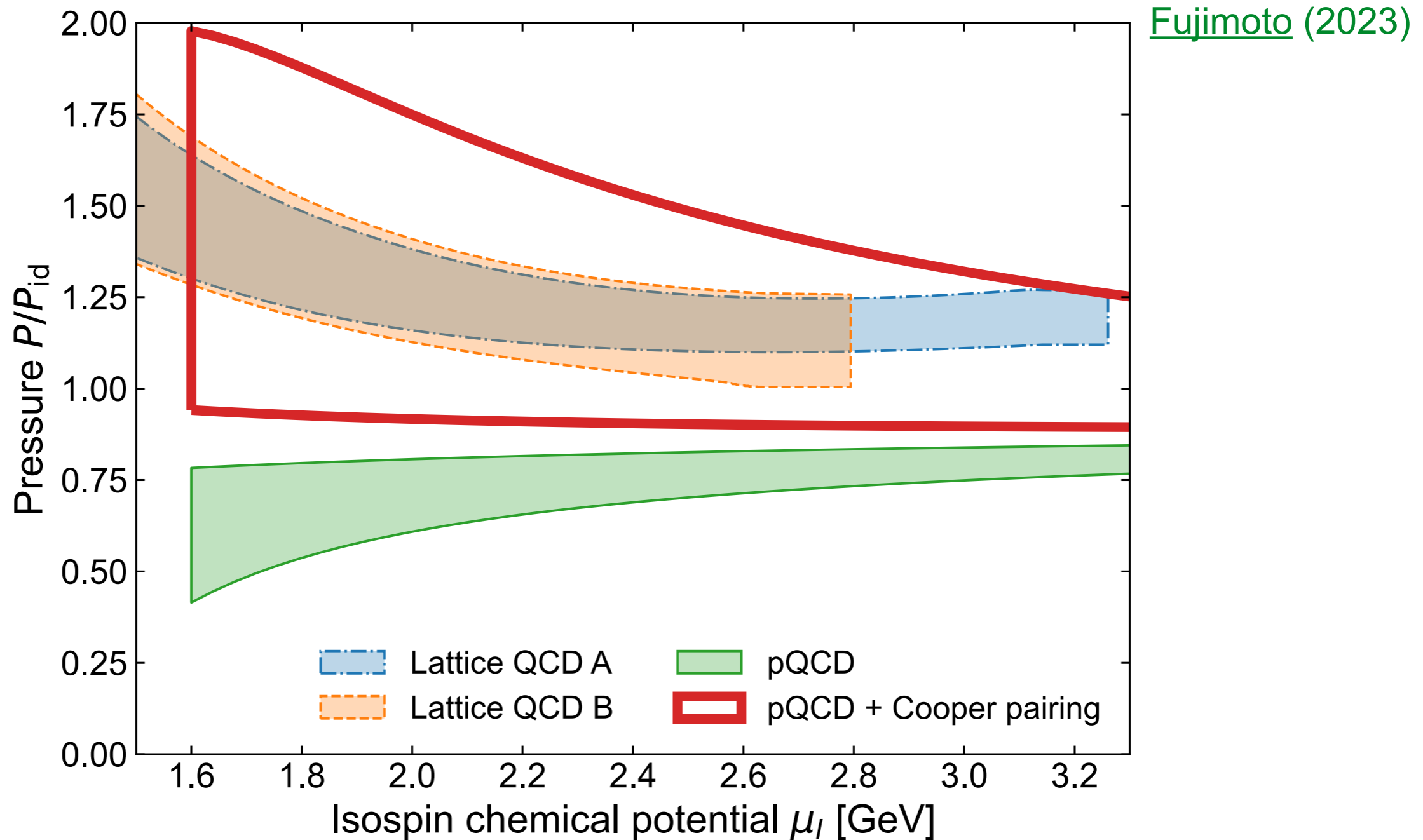


**+ Cooper pairing:** 
$$\delta P = \frac{3\mu_l^2}{8\pi^2} \Delta^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\pi}{3} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^{1/2} \right] \dots \text{condensation energy}$$

using the weak-coupling formula for  $\Delta$



# Weak-coupling results vs lattice data



**Empirical evidence for the weak-coupling Cooper pairing gap to be applicable down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV**

At least the magnitude is correct

# Is the gap the only correction?

Alford, Braby, Paris, Reddy (2004)

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

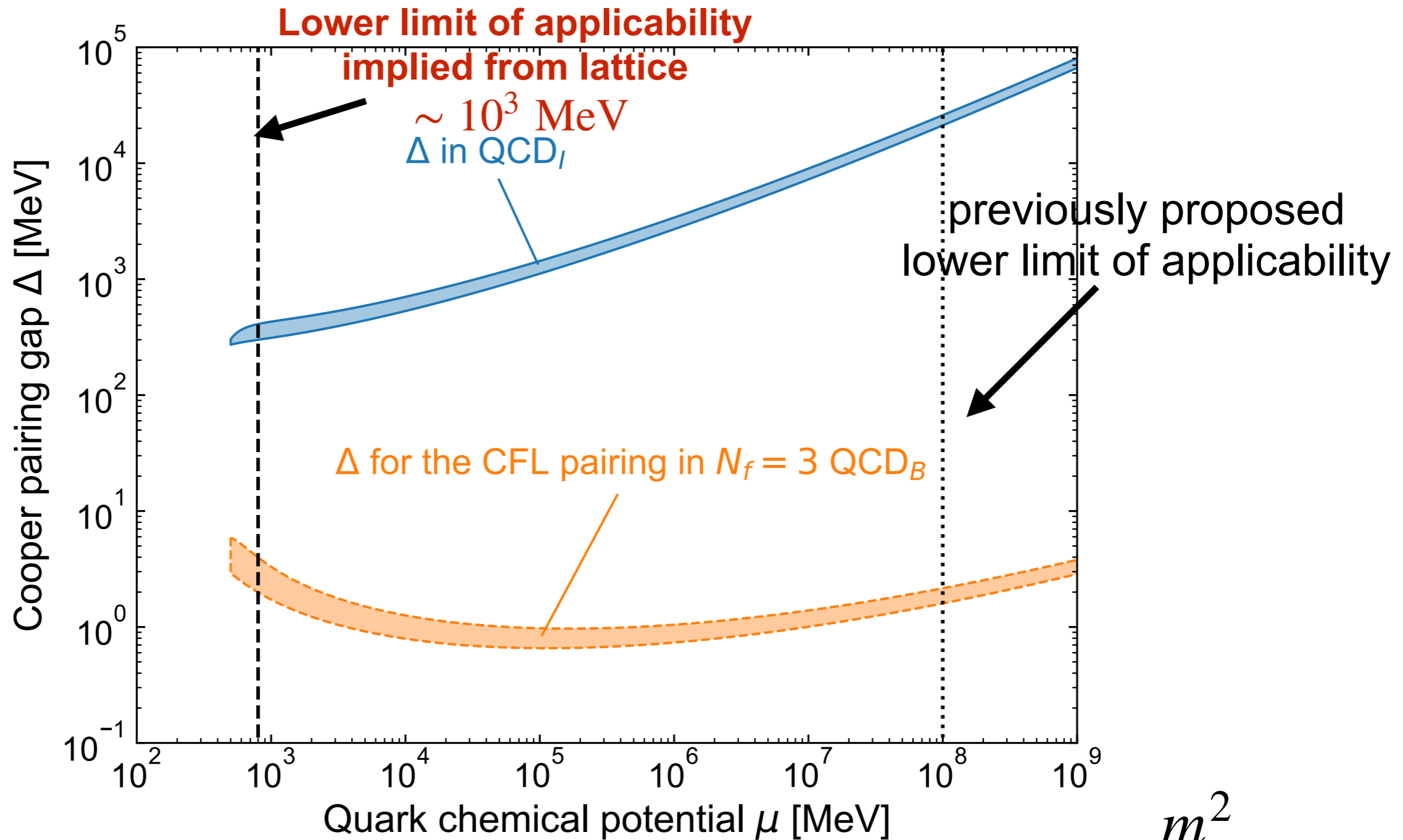
- $a_4$ : Ideal gas behavior + pQCD correction (Dominant)
- $a_2$ : Gap correction  $a_2 \propto \Delta^2$  (large),  
Quark mass  $a_2 \propto -m_f^2$  (small,  $\sim 1\%$ )
- $B$ : Bag constant, typically  $B^{1/4} \simeq 200$  MeV (small,  $\sim 0.5\%$ )  
Instantons, suppressed by  $\frac{m_f}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}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

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

# Implication to color superconductivity

*Fujimoto, in prep. (2024)*

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

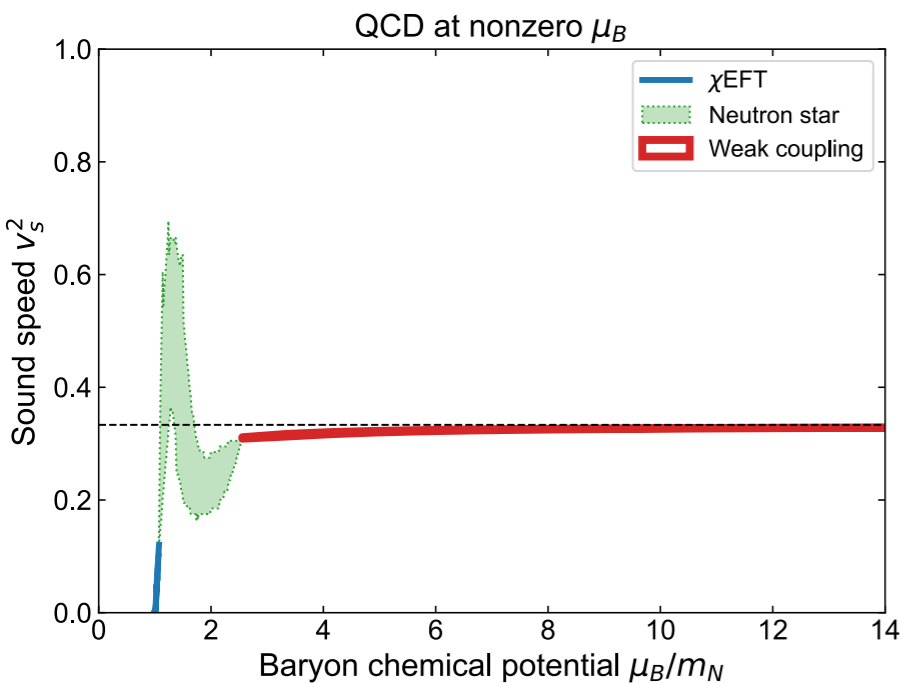


$$\Delta_{\text{CFL}} \sim 2 - 3 \text{ MeV at } \mu = 800 \text{ MeV} \quad \Delta_{\text{CFL}} \sim \frac{m_s^2}{4\mu}$$

# Finite-density lattice simulations

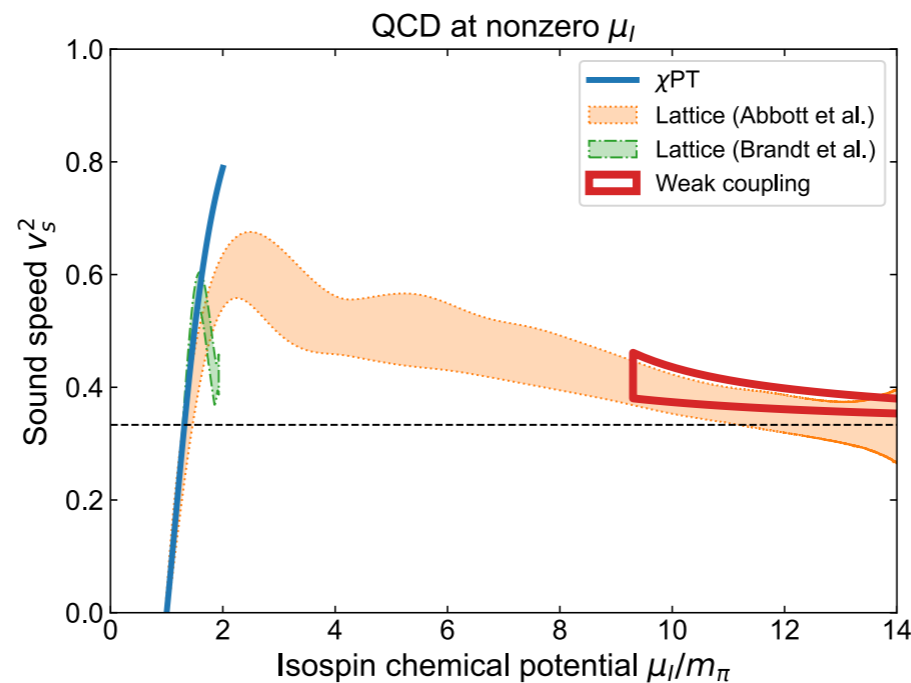
*Fujimoto, in prep. (2024)*

Want to know



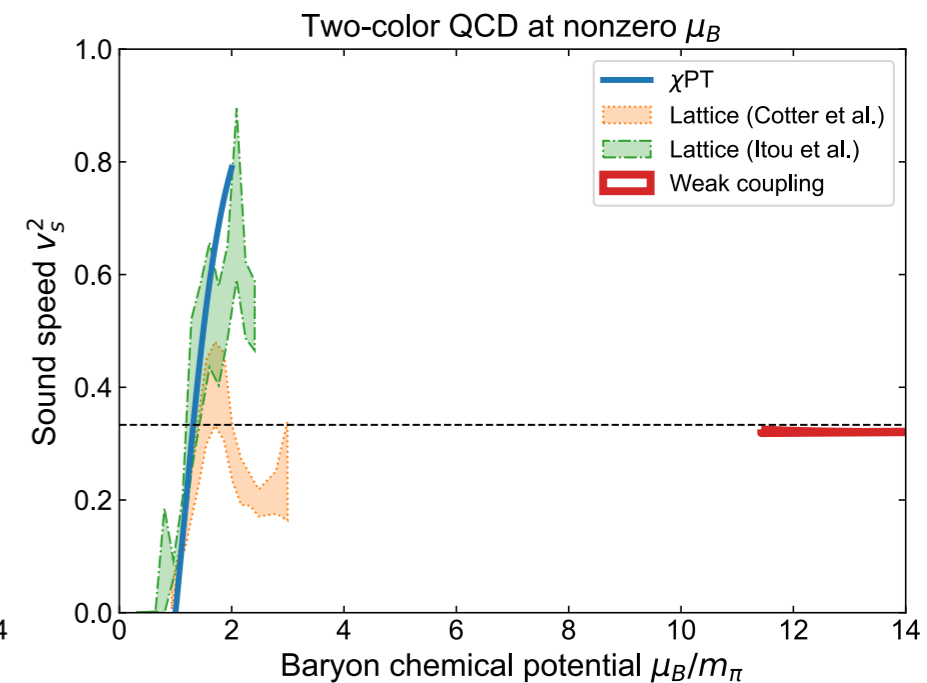
QCD at  $\mu_B > 0$

Already known



QCD at  $\mu_I > 0$

Can in principle know

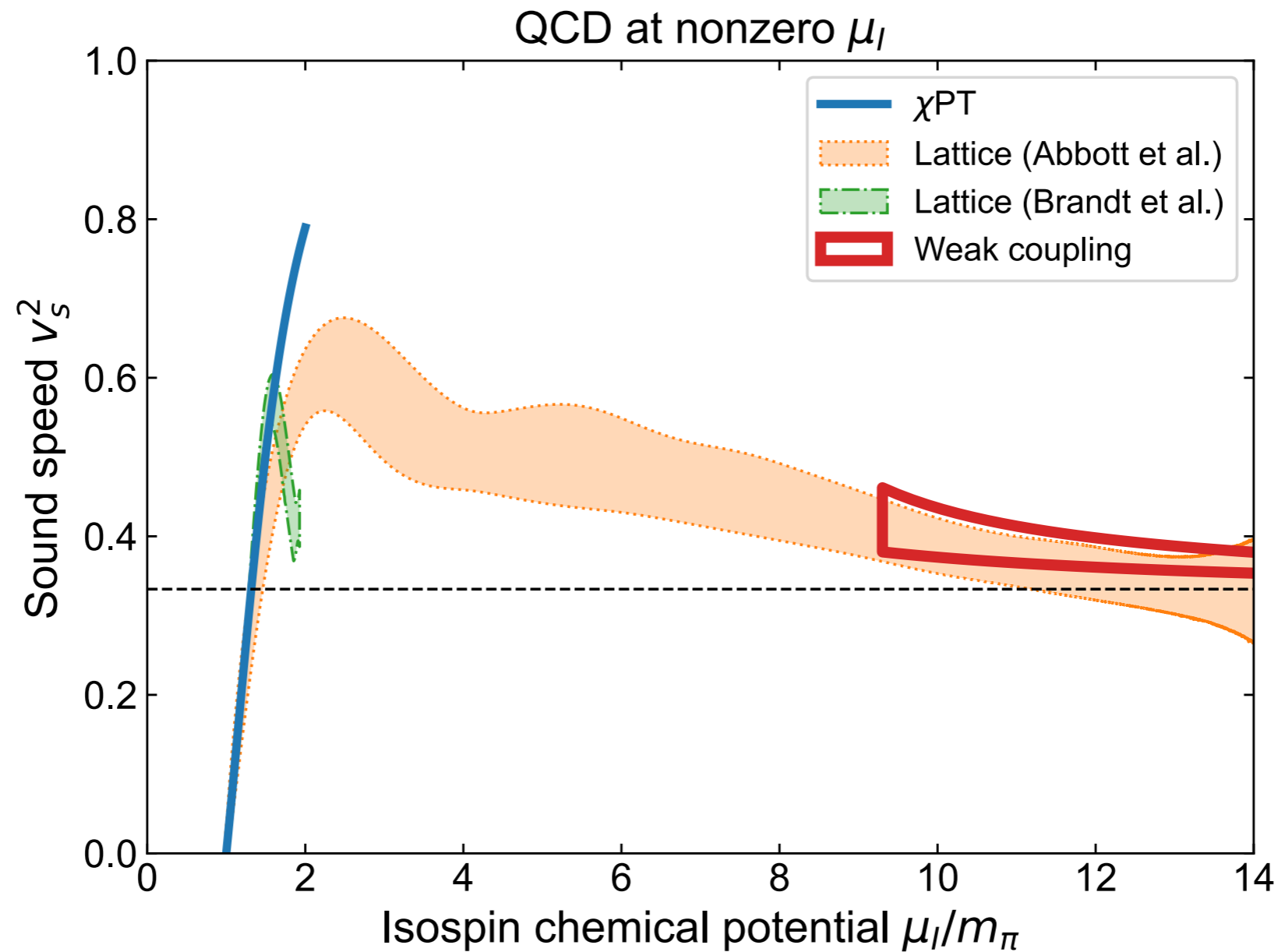


$N_c = 2$  QCD  
at  $\mu_B > 0$

# Finite-density lattice simulations

[Fujimoto, in prep. \(2024\)](#)

Already known



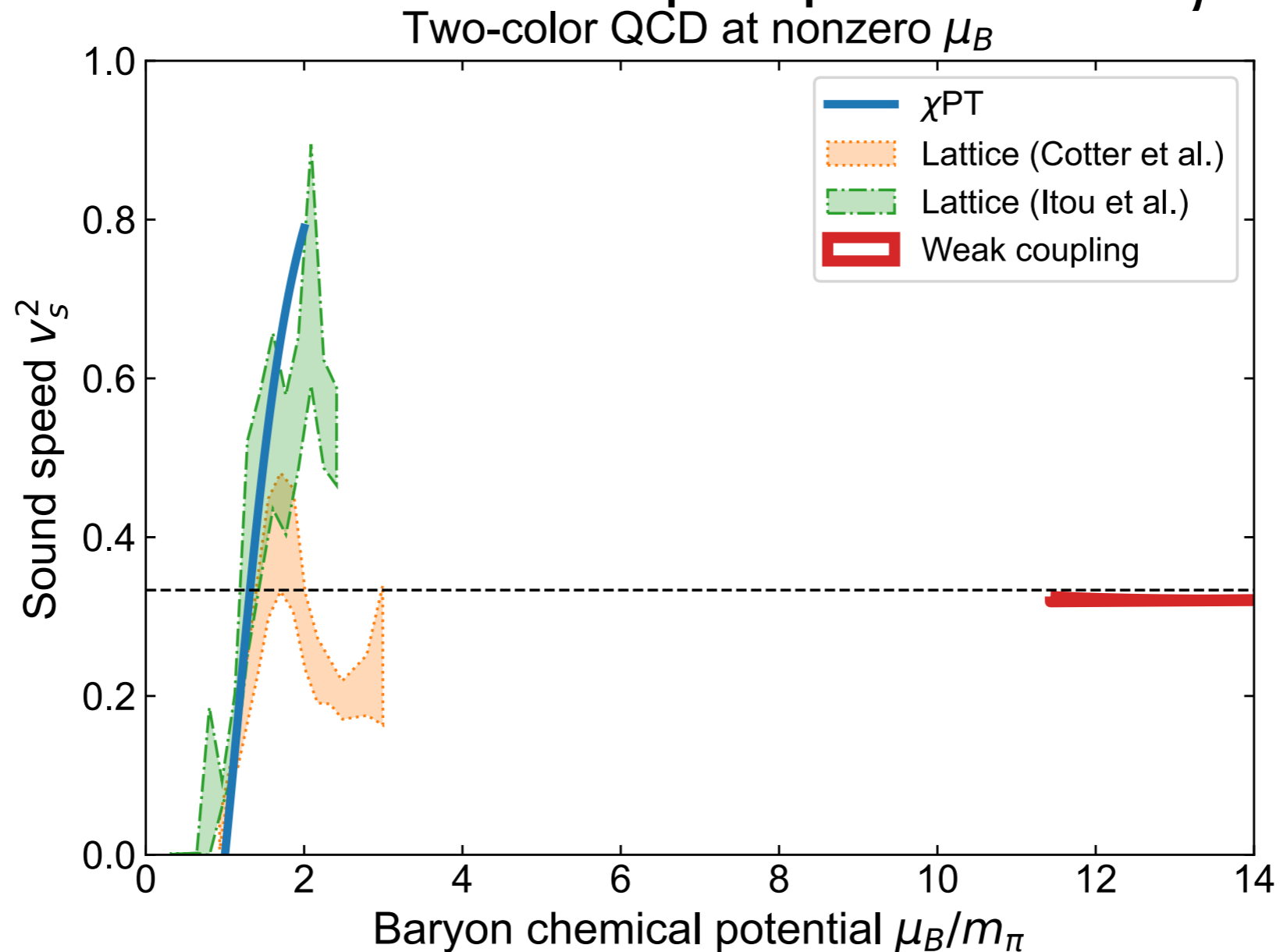
QCD at  $\mu_I > 0$

# Finite-density lattice simulations

[Fujimoto, in prep. \(2024\)](#)

Can in principle know

... Can the simulation extended up to perturbative  $\mu$  ?



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

# Summary

- **QCD<sub>I</sub>**: a testing ground for QCD<sub>B</sub>. Lattice simulation feasible
- **Weak-coupling results** matches well with lattice QCD<sub>I</sub>:  
Empirical evidence for the Cooper-pairing gap formula to be applicable down to  $\mu \sim 10^3$  MeV
- Matching the error with lattice QCD<sub>I</sub>: a prescription for fixing the ambiguity in the weak-coupling formula with less errors
- In principle, another crosscheck with lattice-QCD can be provided in  $N_c = 2$