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### Baryonic and quarkyonic matter

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During the last years it has become possible to address the nuclear liquid gas transition in QCD directly for sufficiently heavy quarks, where combined strong coupling and hopping expansions are convergent. In this contribution we study the  $N_c$ -dependence of the liquid gas transition and the equation of state of baryonic matter. We find the transition to become more strongly first order with growing  $N_c$ , suggesting that in the large

$N_c$  limit its critical endpoint moves to high temperatures.

This suggests that baryonic and quarkyonic matter might be the same at large  $N_c$ .

**Primary authors:** Prof. PHILIPSEN, Owe (Goethe University Frankfurt); Dr SCHEUNERT, Jonas

**Presenter:** Prof. PHILIPSEN, Owe (Goethe University Frankfurt)

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