

# Semi-analytical Method of Calculating Collision Trajectory in the QCD Phase Diagram

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# Outline

- Importance of nuclear thickness at lower energies
- Calculation of densities  $\varepsilon$  &  $n$  ( $n_B, n_S, n_Q$ )
- Extractions of  $T$  &  $\mu$  ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )
- Collision trajectory in the  $T$ - $\mu_B$  diagram
- Conclusions

Based on

ZWL, Phys. Rev. C 98, 034908 (2018)

Todd Mendenhall & ZWL, Phys. Rev. C 103, 024907 (2021)

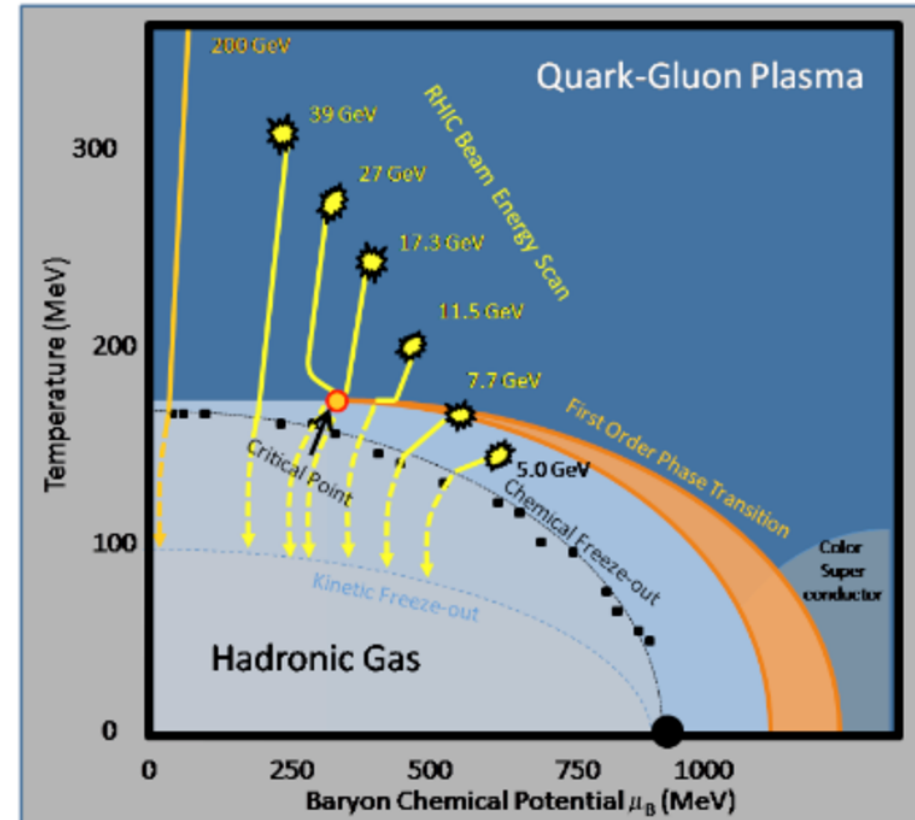
Todd Mendenhall & ZWL, arXiv:2111.13932

Han-Sheng Wang, Guo-Liang Ma, ZWL & Wei-Jie Fu, arXiv:2102.06937v2

# Importance of nuclear thickness at lower energies

from STAR arXiv:1007.2613

- For lower energies such as BES/FAIR, particular interests are in high baryon density physics including the QCD critical end point (CEP).
- Before addressing effects of CEP, we need to know the collision trajectory in the QCD phase diagram, including time evolutions of energy density  $\epsilon$  & net-baryon density  $n_B$  (or  $T$  &  $\mu_B$ )
- The Bjorken energy density formula provides a semi-analytical method:



$$\epsilon(\tau) = \frac{1}{\tau A_T} \frac{dE_T(\tau)}{dy}$$

# Importance of nuclear thickness at lower energies

The nuclear crossing time is

$$d_t = \frac{2R_A}{\sinh y_{CM}} = \frac{2R_A}{\gamma \beta}$$

for central A+A collisions in CM frame.

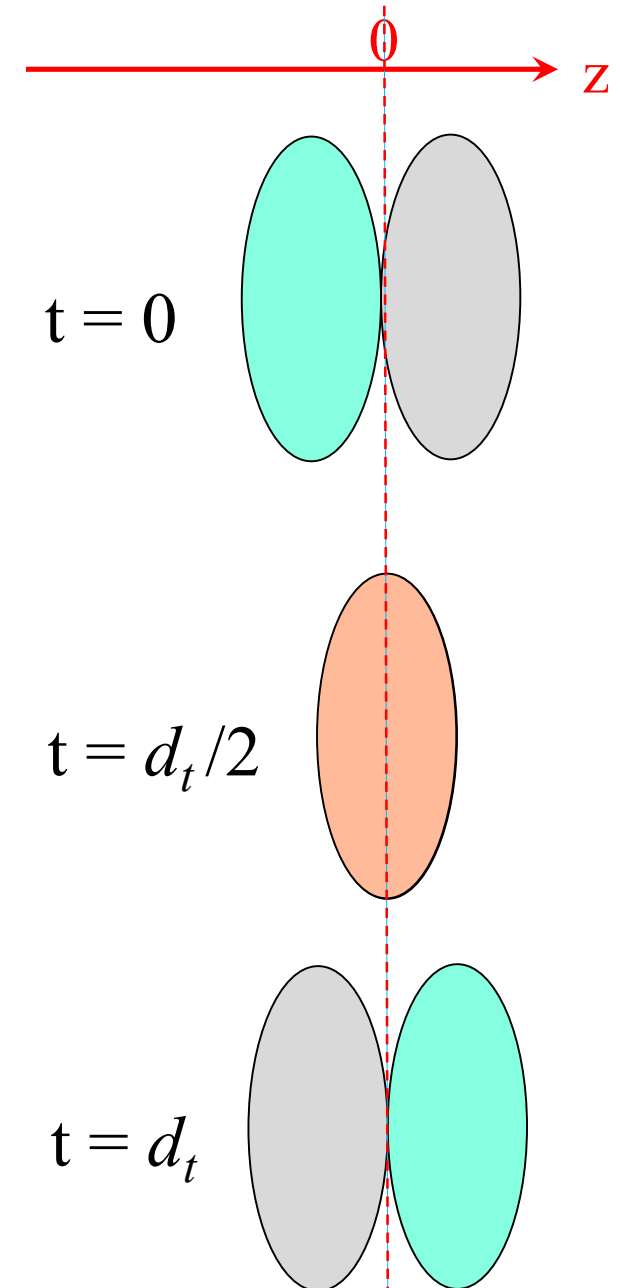
For central Au+Au collisions:

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	3	5	11.5	27	50	200
$d_t$ (fm/c)	10.5	5.3	2.2	0.91	0.49	0.12

→ the Bjorken formula  $\epsilon(\tau) = \frac{1}{\tau A_T} \frac{dE_T(\tau)}{dy}$

is only valid when  $d_t \ll \tau_F$

or  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} > \sim 50$  GeV for  $\tau_F = 0.5$  fm/c



# Extension of Bjorken $\varepsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness

Kajantie et al.  
NPB (1983)

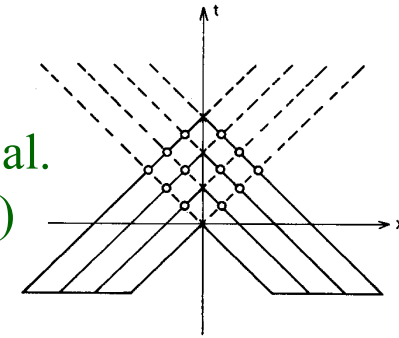


Fig. 5. An alternative description of the A + A collision. In addition to the pairwise N + N collisions on the time axis (crosses), the secondaries may further interact with the incoming nucleons (circles). This would enhance the energy density in the central region.

**A schematic picture:**

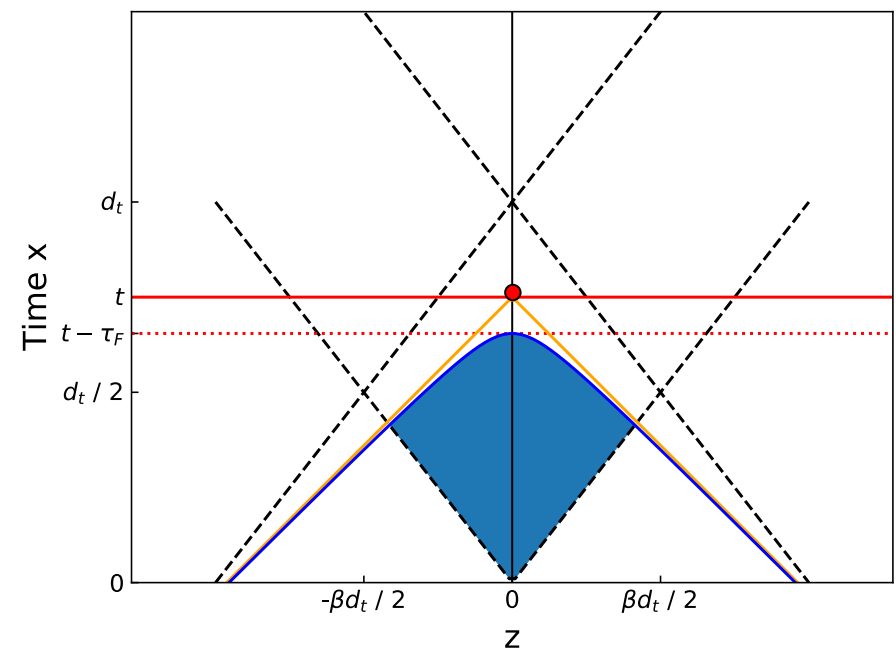
the shaded area

is the primary collision region that can contribute to  $\varepsilon(t)$ , after considering formation time  $t_F = \tau_F \cosh(y)$ .

At late  $t$  ( $> d_t + \tau_F$ ),  $\varepsilon(t)$  comes from the full primary collision region (*the big diamond area*).

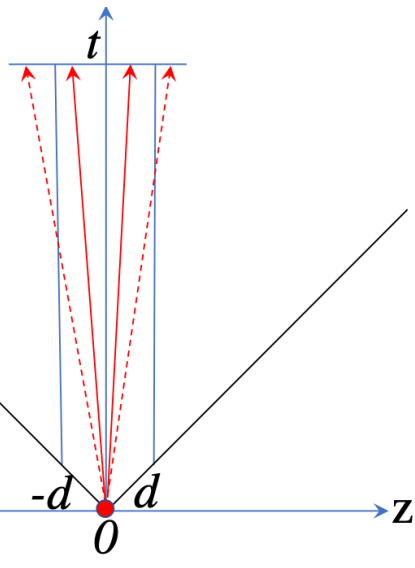
*To do the semi-analytical study, we only consider central region ( $\eta_s \sim 0$ ) of central A+A collisions (Au+Au in this talk) & neglect secondary scatterings or transverse expansion.*

Mendenhall & ZWL, PRC (2021)



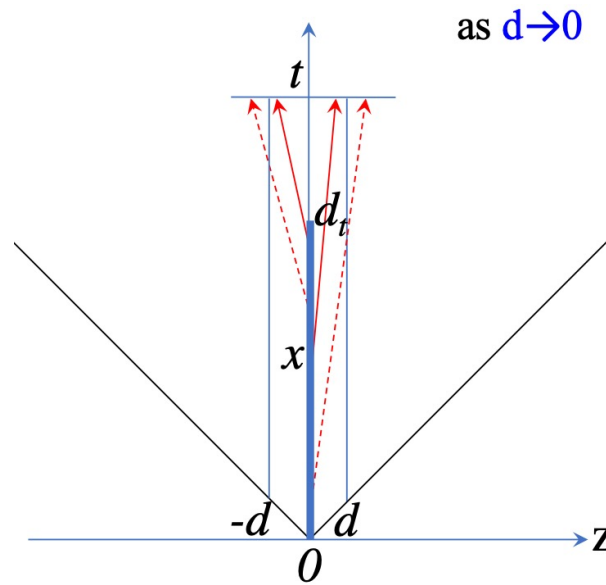
$x$ : production time,  $\in [0, d_t]$

# Extension of Bjorken $\varepsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness



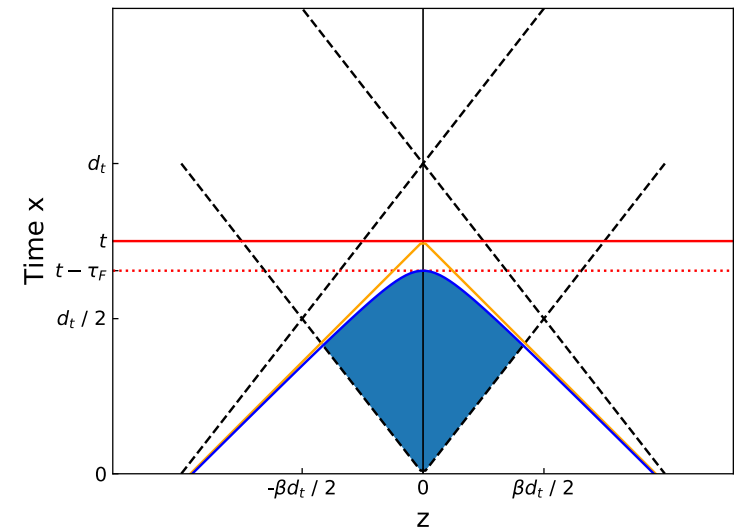
Without finite  $t$  or  $z$ :  
the Bjorken  $\varepsilon$  formula

Bjorken, PRD (1983)



1) With finite  $t$   
(but not finite  $z$ -width)

ZWL, PRC (2018)



2) With both finite  $t$  &  $z$

Mendenhall & ZWL,  
PRC (2021)

We first use the simpler method 1)  
to illustrate the qualitative effect of  
nuclear thickness on  $\varepsilon(t)$

(energy density at mid-pseudorapidity  
averaged over the transverse area)

# Extension of Bjorken $\varepsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness: 1)

$$\rightarrow \varepsilon(t) = \frac{1}{A_T} \int_0^{t-\tau_F} \frac{dx}{(t-x)} \frac{d^2 E_T}{dy_0 dx}$$

1) With finite  $t$   
(but not finite  $z$ -width)

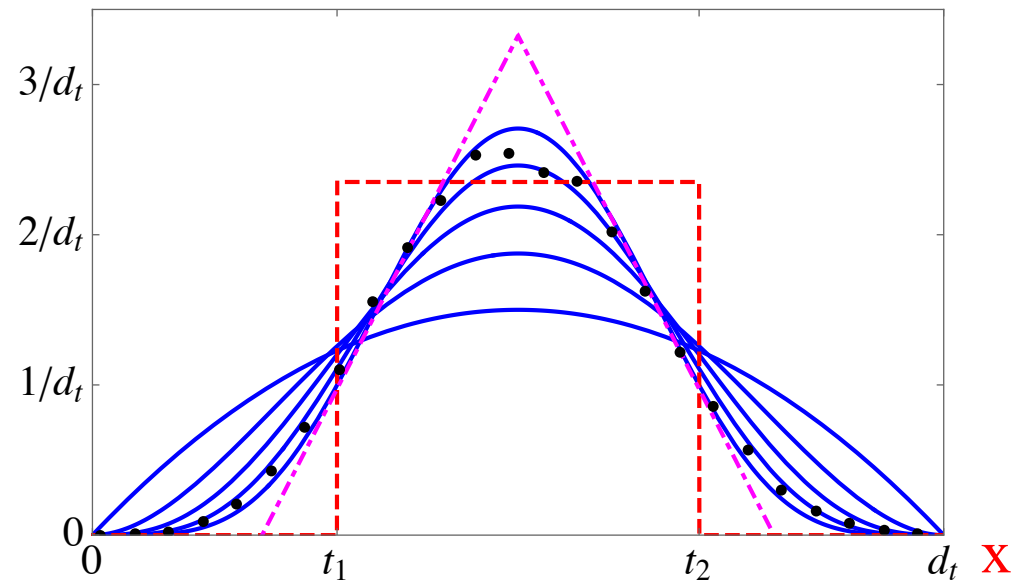
ZWL, PRC (2018)

For the simplest uniform time profile:

initial energy (at  $\eta_s \sim y_0 \sim 0$ )  
is produced uniformly  
in time  $x$  from  $t_1$  to  $t_2$ :

$$\frac{d^2 E_T}{dy_0 dx} = \frac{1}{t_{21}} \frac{dE_T}{dy_0}$$

for  $x \in [t_1, t_2]$



Circles: AMPT results

# Extension of Bjorken $\epsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness: 1)

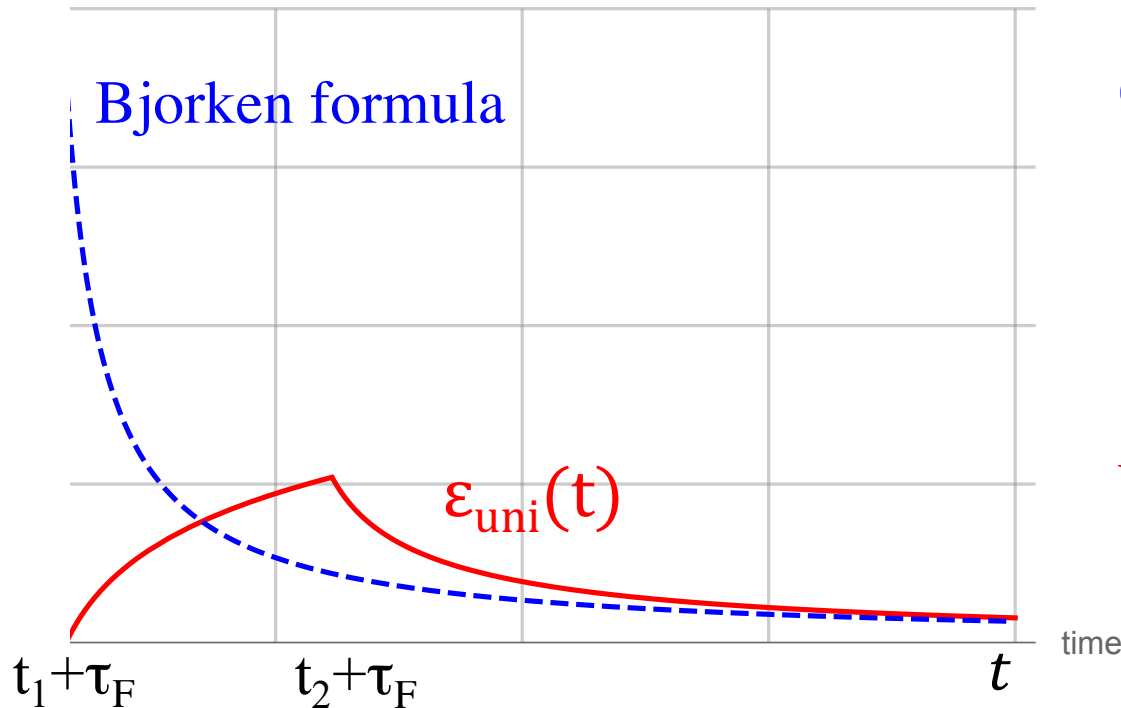
→ solution: 
$$\epsilon_{\text{uni}}(t) = \frac{1}{A_T t_{21}} \frac{dE_T}{dy} \ln\left(\frac{t - t_1}{\tau_F}\right), \text{ if } t \in [t_1 + \tau_F, t_2 + \tau_F];$$

$$= \frac{1}{A_T t_{21}} \frac{dE_T}{dy} \ln\left(\frac{t - t_1}{t - t_2}\right), \text{ if } t \geq t_2 + \tau_F.$$

$t_{21} \equiv t_2 - t_1$

$\epsilon(t)$

Central Au+Au@11.5GeV



- *At high energies* (thin nuclei, or  $t_{21}/\tau_F \rightarrow 0$ ):  $\epsilon_{\text{uni}}(t) \rightarrow \epsilon_{\text{Bj}}(t)$  *analytically.*
- *At lower energies:* *very different from Bjorken.*

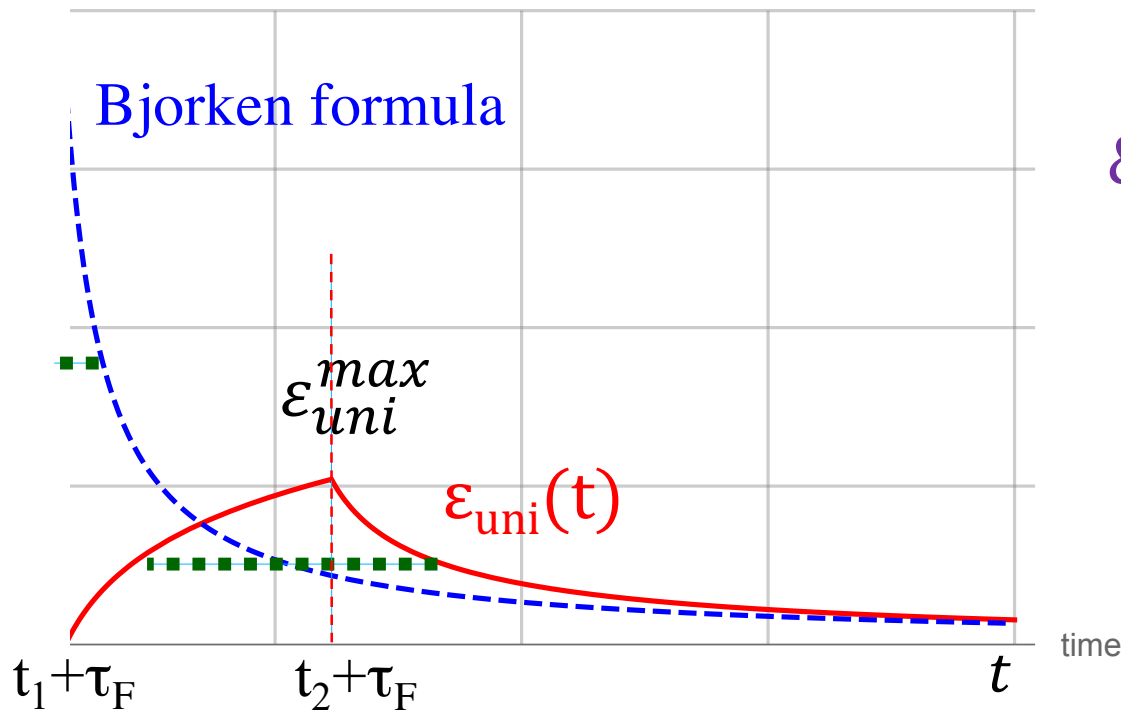


## Extension of Bjorken $\epsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness: 1)

**Peak energy density**  $\epsilon_{\text{uni}}^{\text{max}} = \epsilon_{\text{uni}}(t_2 + \tau_F) = \frac{1}{A_T t_{21}} \frac{dE_T}{dy} \ln\left(1 + \frac{t_{21}}{\tau_F}\right)$

**→ ratio over Bjorken:**  $\frac{\epsilon_{\text{uni}}^{\text{max}}}{\epsilon_{\text{Bj}}(\tau_F)} = \frac{\tau_F}{t_{21}} \ln\left(1 + \frac{t_{21}}{\tau_F}\right) \leq 1$

$\epsilon(t)$  Central Au+Au@11.5GeV



*At very low energies ( $t_{21}/\tau_F \gg 1$ ):*  
ratio over Bjorken  $\rightarrow 0$ ;

$\& \epsilon_{\text{uni}}^{\text{max}} \propto \ln\left(\frac{1}{\tau_F}\right), \quad \text{not } \frac{1}{\tau_F}.$

So the peak energy density

- $\ll$  Bjorken value
- much less sensitive to  $\tau_F$
- FWHM width in  $t \gg$  Bjorken

# Extension of Bjorken $\varepsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness: 2)

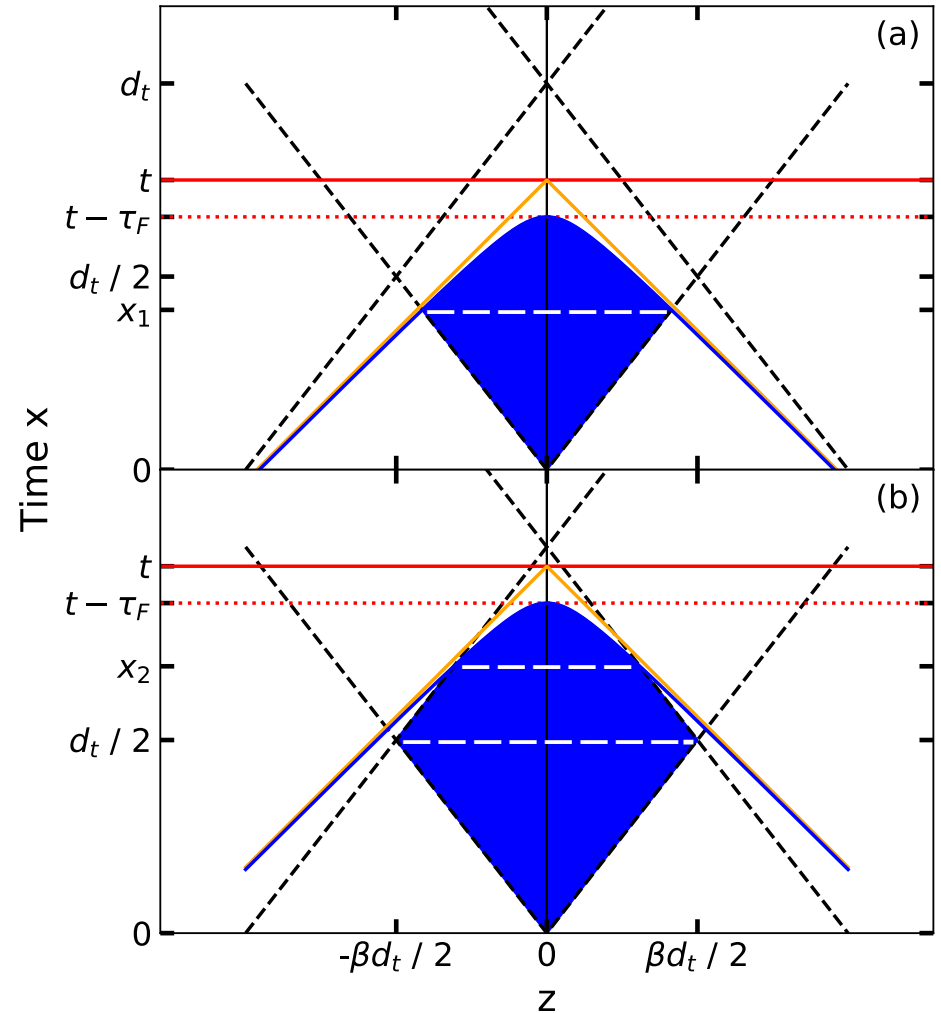
## 2) With both finite $t$ & $z$

Mendenhall & ZWL,  
PRC (2021)

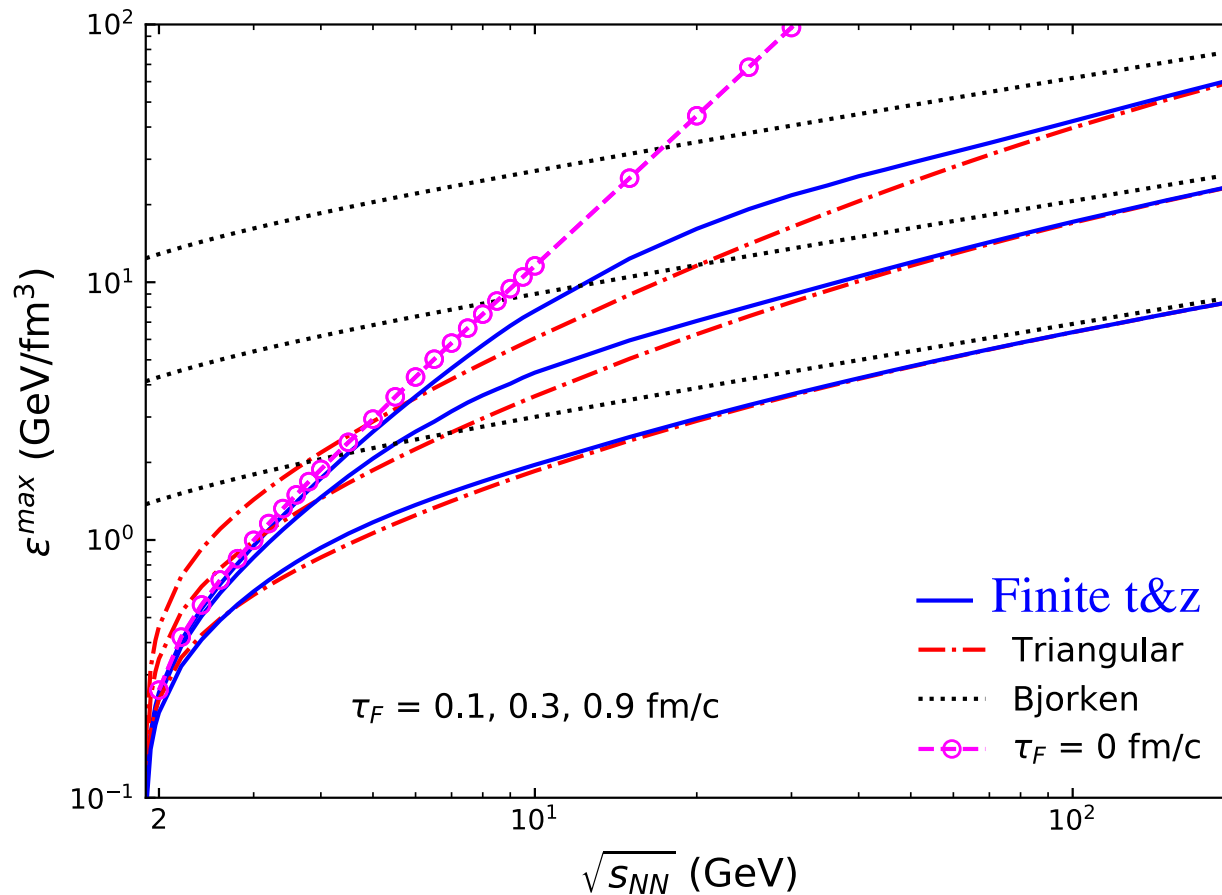
$$\rightarrow \varepsilon(t) = \frac{1}{A_T} \int \int_S \frac{dx dz}{(t-x)} \frac{d^3 m_T}{dy_0 dx dz} ch^3 y_0$$

$S$ : integration area (*shaded*),  
has 2 or 3 pieces depending on  $t$ :

$\frac{d^3 m_T}{dy_0 dx dz}$ :  $m_T$  production density  
in the primary collision region,  
*assumed to be uniform in the  $x$ - $z$  plane.*



## Extension of Bjorken $\varepsilon$ formula with nuclear thickness: 2)



### 2) With both finite t & z

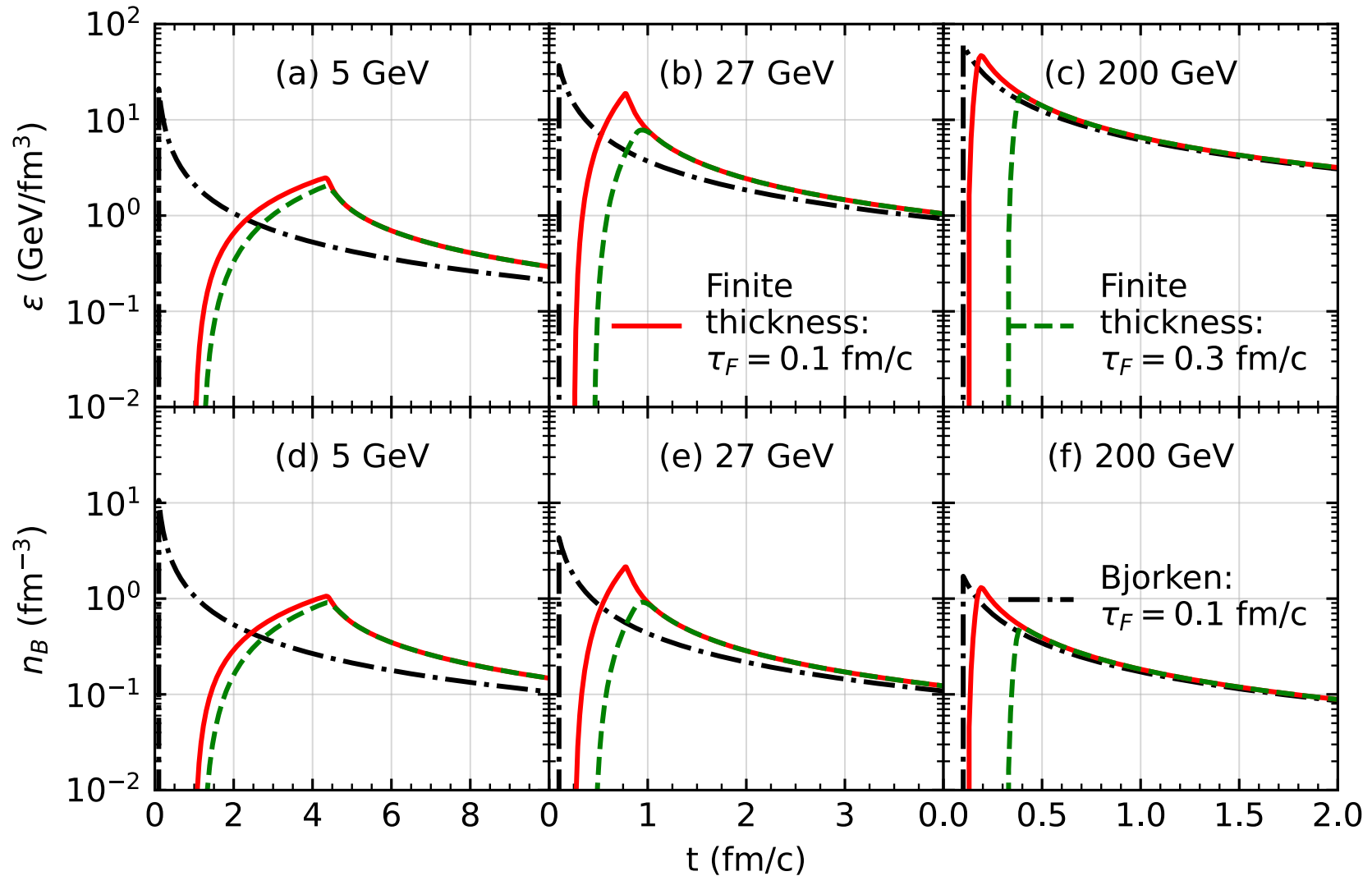
Mendenhall & ZWL,  
PRC (2021)

- Qualitatively similar to earlier study (Triangular) ZWL, PRC (2018)  
 $\varepsilon^{max} \ll$  Bjorken value at low energies,  $\approx$  Bjorken value at high energies;  
 $\varepsilon^{max}$  &  $\varepsilon(t)$  depend on  $\tau_F$  more weakly than Bjorken at lower energies.
- $\varepsilon^{max}$  is **finite** at  $\tau_F = 0$  at any colliding energy (*no divergence*).

# Calculation of Densities $\varepsilon$ & $n$ ( $n_B, n_S, n_Q$ )

We extend the method to calculate conserved-charge (B,S,Q) densities:

Mendenhall & ZWL, arXiv:2111.13932



$$n_Q(t) = \frac{Z}{A} n_B(t), \quad n_S(t) = 0$$

## Extractions of T & $\mu$ ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )

If we consider QGP as non-interacting gluon+3-flavor massless quarks

(quantum stats here):

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon &= \frac{19\pi^2}{12}T^4 + \frac{(\mu_B + 2\mu_Q)^2 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q)^2 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S)^2}{6}T^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{(\mu_B + 2\mu_Q)^4 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q)^4 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S)^4}{108\pi^2}, \\ n_B &= \frac{\mu_B - \mu_S}{3}T^2 + \frac{(\mu_B + 2\mu_Q)^3 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q)^3 + (\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S)^3}{81\pi^2}, \\ n_Q &= \frac{2\mu_Q + \mu_S}{3}T^2 + \frac{2(\mu_B + 2\mu_Q)^3 - (\mu_B - \mu_Q)^3 - (\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S)^3}{81\pi^2}, \\ n_S &= -\frac{\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S}{3}T^2 - \frac{(\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S)^3}{27\pi^2}.\end{aligned}$$

$$n_S(t) = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \quad \epsilon = \frac{19\pi^2}{12}T^4 + 3\frac{(\mu_B - 2\mu_S)^2 + \mu_S^2}{2}T^2 + 3\frac{(\mu_B - 2\mu_S)^4 + \mu_S^4}{4\pi^2},$$

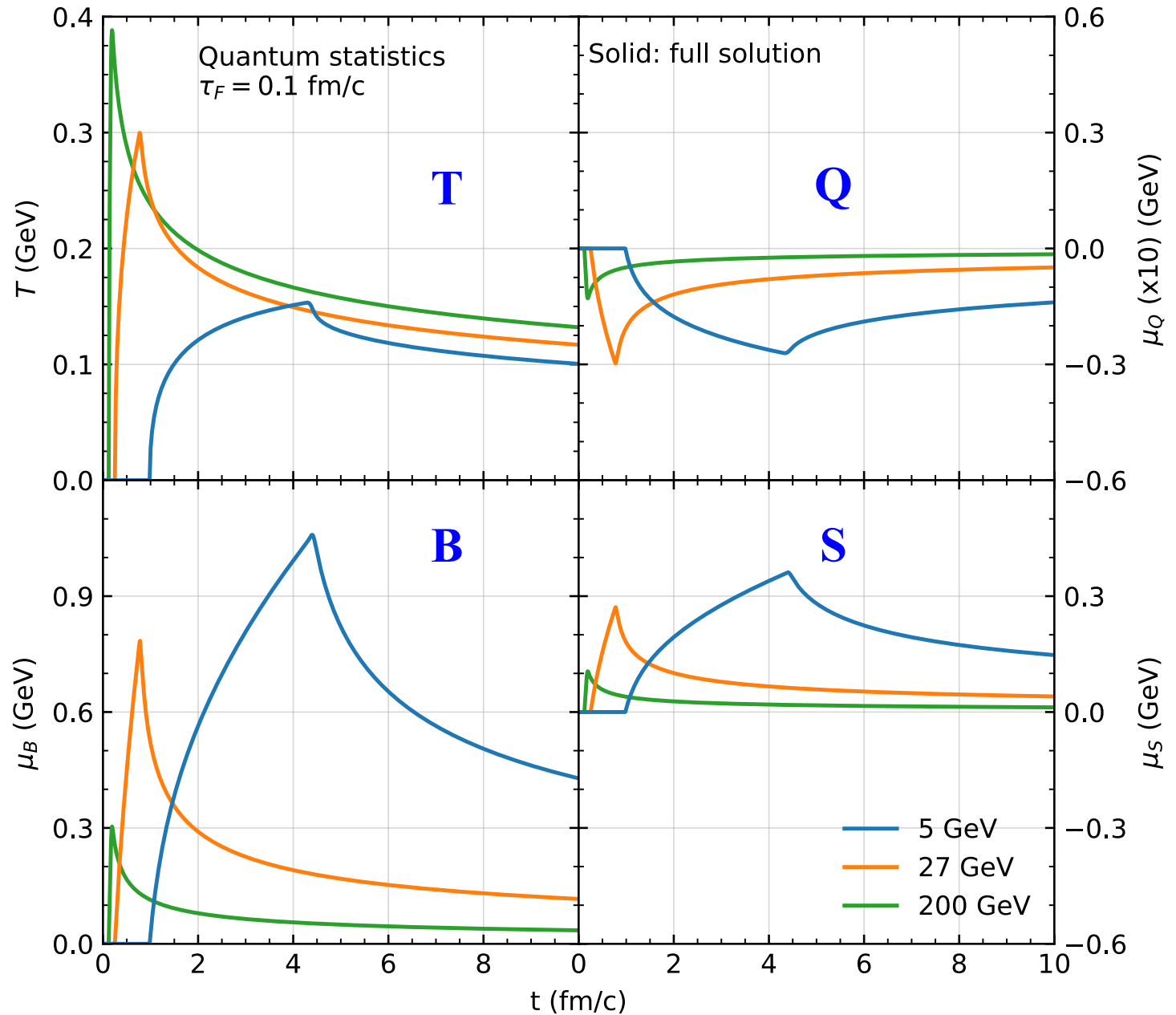
$$n_B = \frac{\mu_B - \mu_S}{3}T^2 + \frac{(\mu_B - 2\mu_S)^3 + \mu_S^3}{3\pi^2},$$

$$n_Q = \frac{2\mu_B - 5\mu_S}{3}T^2 + \frac{2(\mu_B - 2\mu_S)^3 - \mu_S^3}{3\pi^2}.$$

used for extraction of T &  $\mu$

# Extractions of $T$ & $\mu$ ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )

$\varepsilon$  &  $n_B, n_S, n_Q$   
 $\rightarrow T$  &  $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$   
 collision trajectory  
 in 4-d  $T$ - $\mu$  space



# Extractions of $T$ & $\mu$ ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )

Under strangeness  
neutrality

$$n_S(t) = 0:$$

$$\text{if } Z = \frac{A}{2}$$

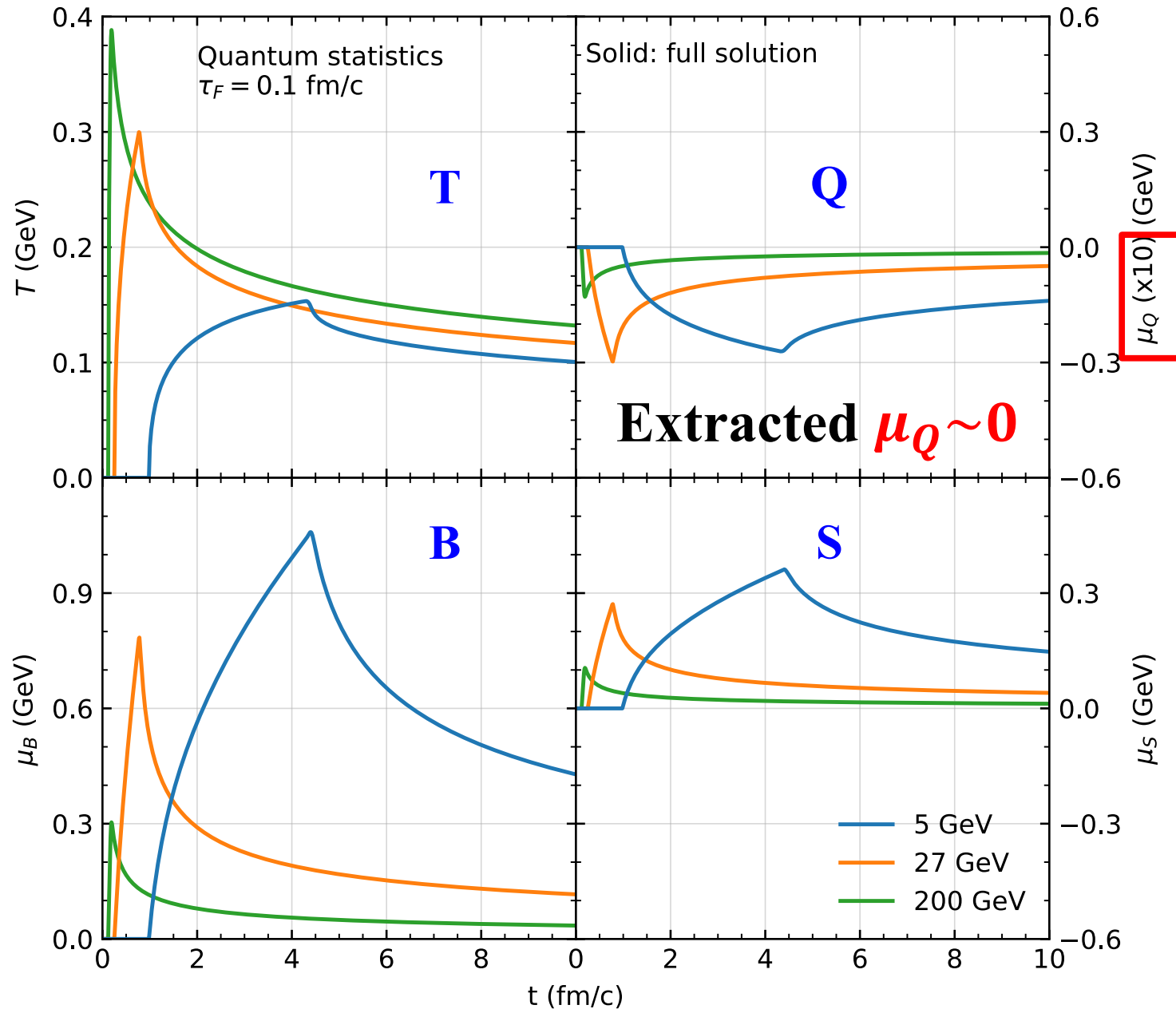
$$\rightarrow n_Q(t) = \frac{n_B(t)}{2}$$

$$\rightarrow \mu_Q(t) = 0$$

So  $\mu_Q \sim 0$  is a result of

$$Z \sim \frac{A}{2}$$

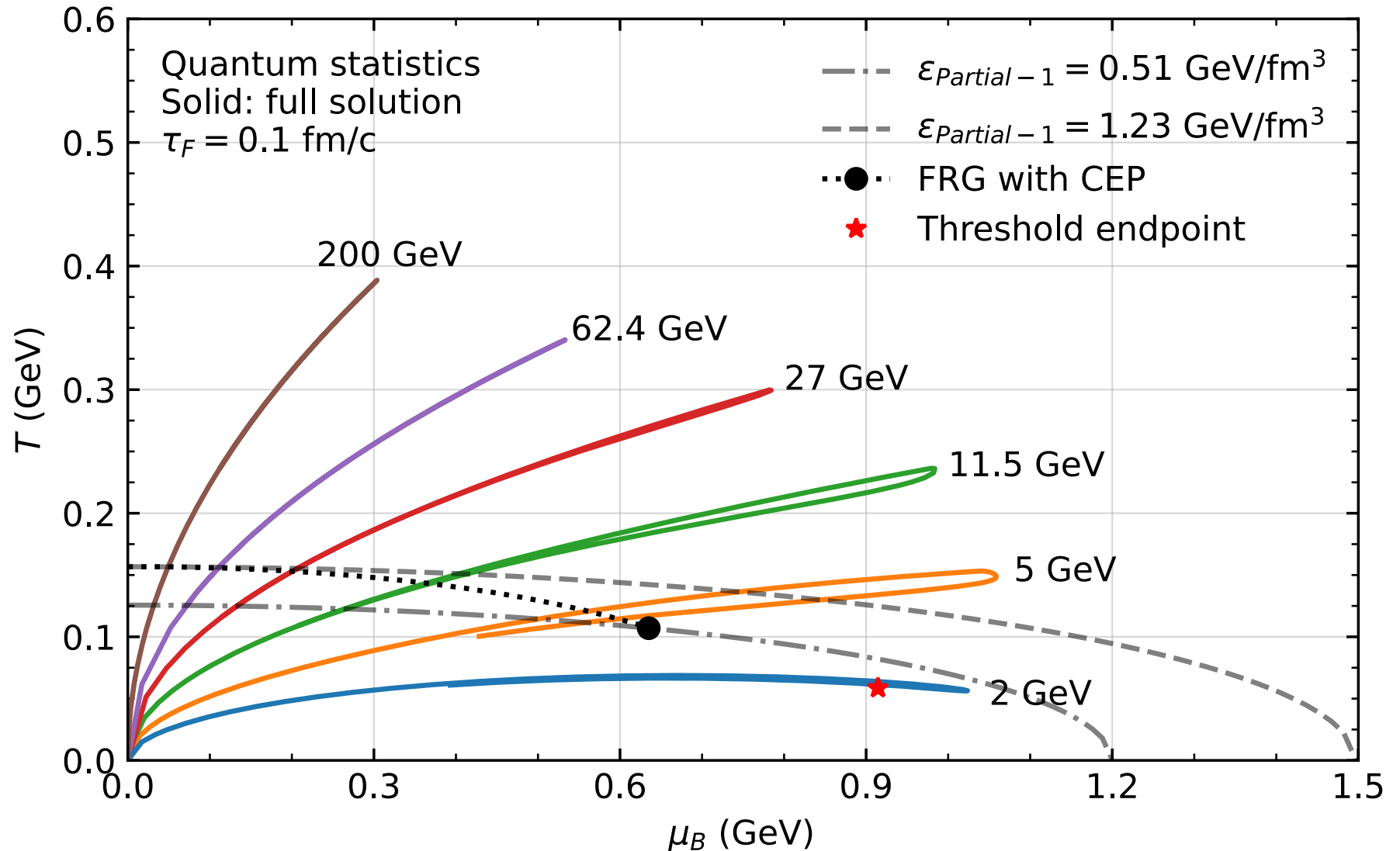
(valid for most nuclei)



# Collision Trajectory in the $T$ - $\mu_B$ Diagram

For central Au+Au collisions:

Mendenhall & ZWL, arXiv:2111.13932

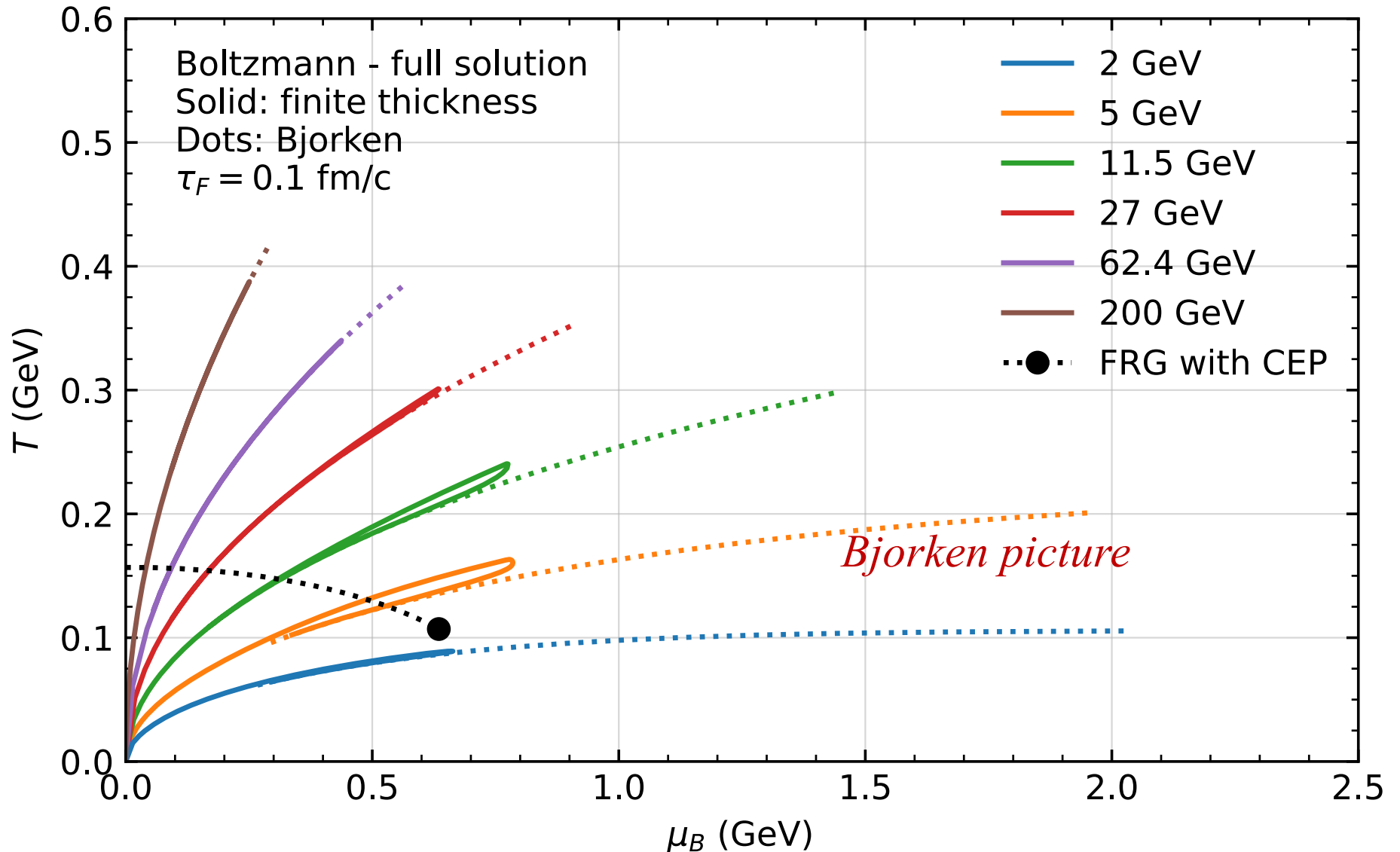


*FRG crossover curve and CEP: from Functional Renormalization Group*  
Fu, Pawłowski & Rennecke, PRD (2020)



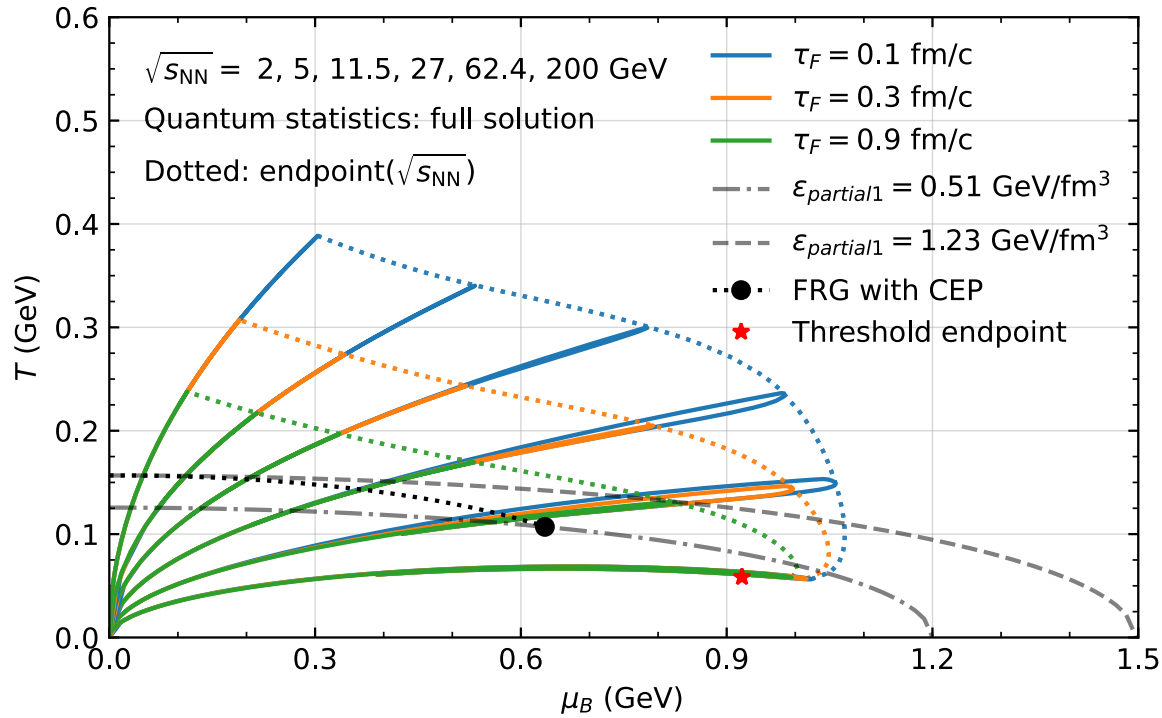
# Collision Trajectory in the $T$ - $\mu_B$ Diagram

Mendenhall & ZWL, arXiv:2111.13932



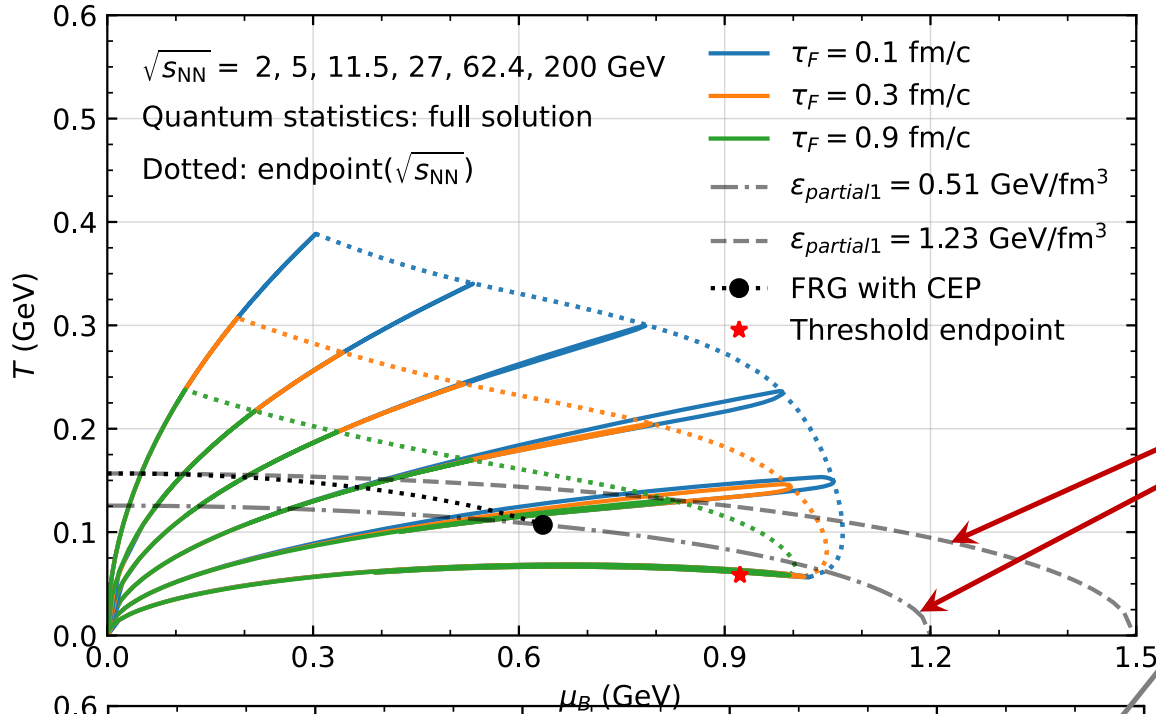
Large effect of finite nuclear thickness on  $T$ - $\mu_B$  trajectory at lower energies

# Collision Trajectory in the T- $\mu_B$ Diagram



$\tau_F$  affects T &  $\mu_B$  peak values, but not much the hadronization point.

# Collision Trajectory in the T- $\mu_B$ Diagram

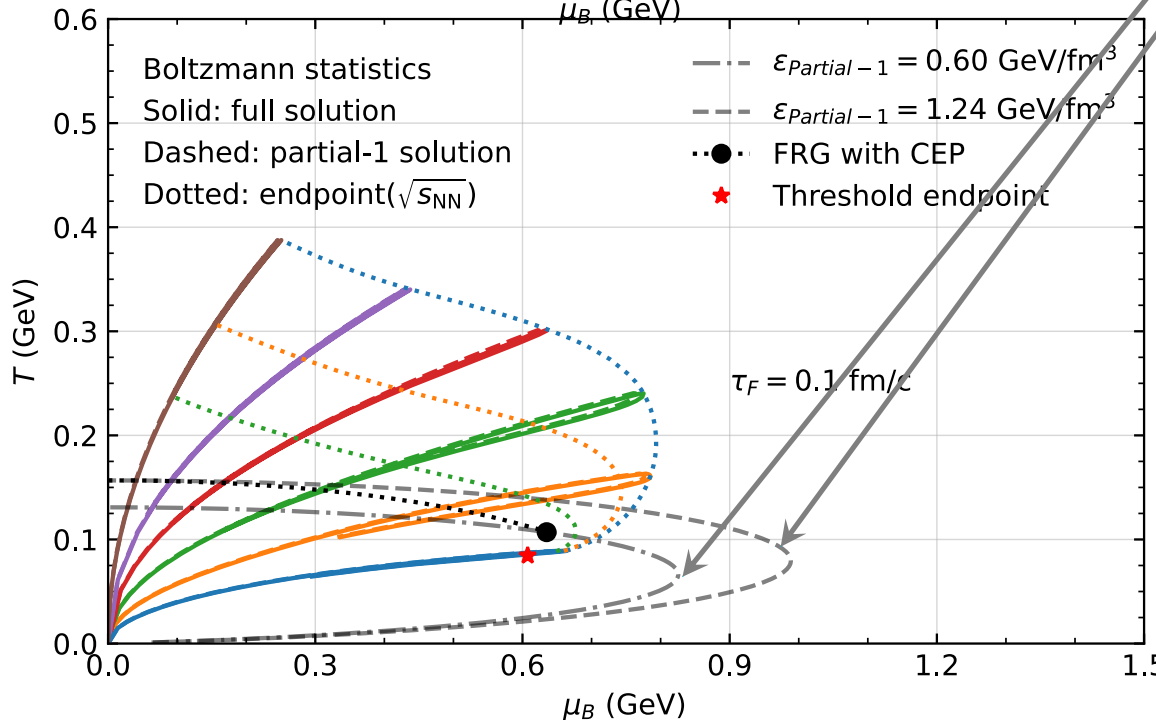


$\tau_F$  affects T &  $\mu_B$  peak values, but not much the hadronization point.

$\epsilon_{partial1}$  given by

$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{19\pi^2}{12} T^4 + \frac{\mu_B^2}{3} T^2 + \frac{\mu_B^4}{54\pi^2}$$

for QGP with quantum stats  
(higher  $\mu_B$  than Boltzmann);

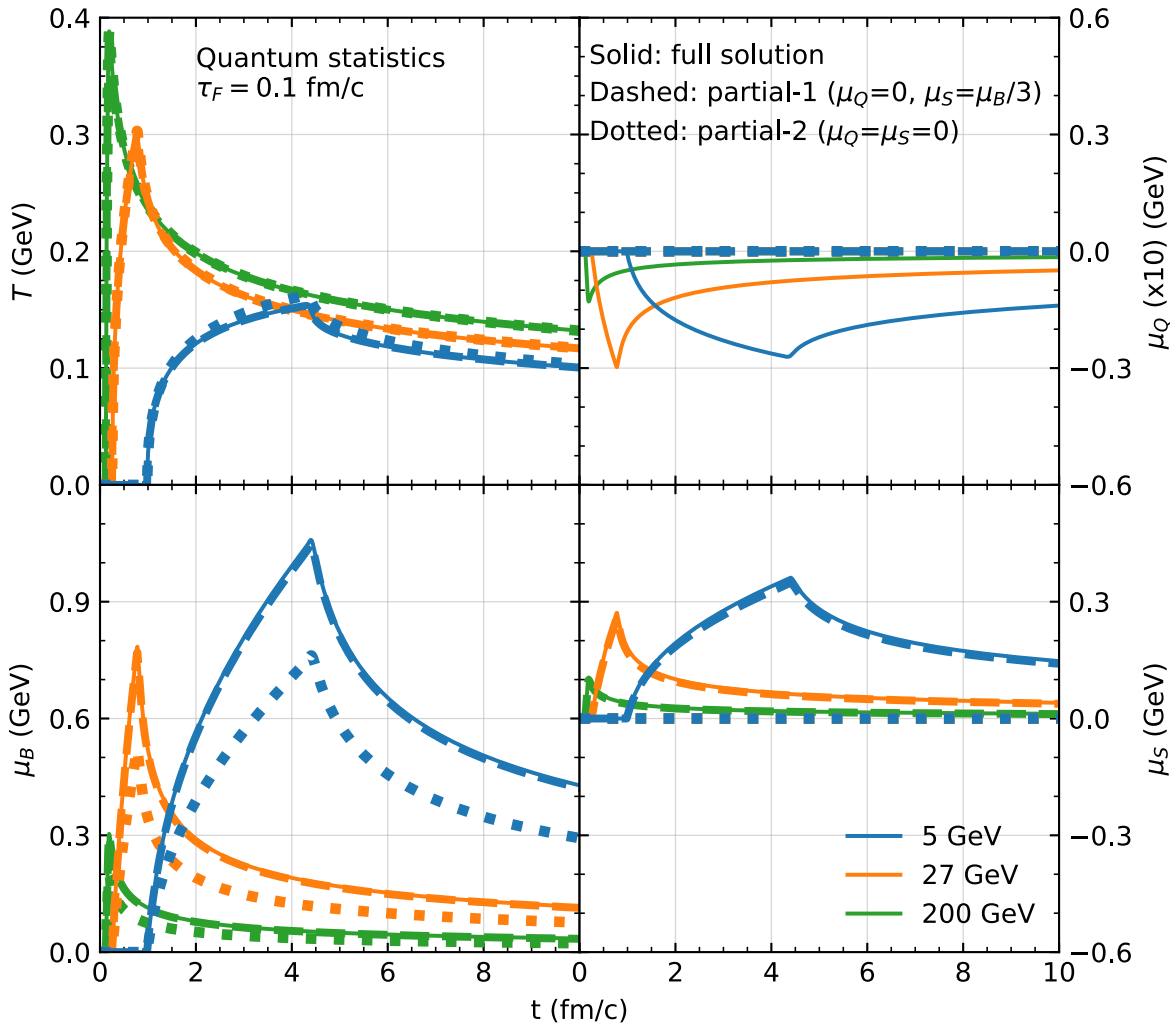


$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{12}{\pi^2} T^4 \left[ 7 + 6 \cosh \left( \frac{\mu_B}{3T} \right) \right]$$

for QGP with Boltzmann stats.

# Extractions of $T$ & $\mu$ ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )

For QGP with quantum stats



See C. Ratti's Tuesday talk  
on  $\mu_Q$  &  $\mu_S$  used in lattice QCD

## Partial-1 solution

assumes  $\mu_Q = 0$  &  $\mu_S = \mu_B/3$

to simplify the problem

$\varepsilon$  &  $n_B, n_S, n_Q \rightarrow T$  &  $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$

to  $\varepsilon$  &  $n_B \rightarrow T$  &  $\mu_B$ :

$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{19\pi^2}{12} T^4 + \frac{\mu_B^2}{3} T^2 + \frac{\mu_B^4}{54\pi^2},$$

$$n_{B,1} = \frac{2\mu_B}{9} T^2 + \frac{2\mu_B^3}{81\pi^2}.$$

## Partial-2 solution:

neglects  $\mu_Q$  &  $\mu_S$  terms in densities,  
equivalent to assuming

$\mu_Q = 0$  &  $\mu_S = 0$ :

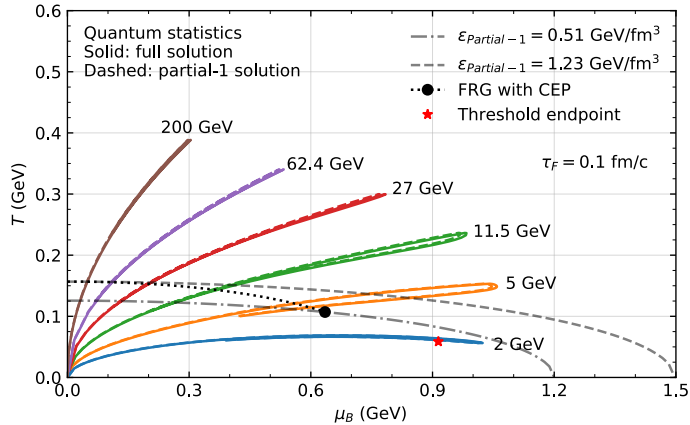
$$\varepsilon_2 = \frac{19\pi^2}{12} T^4 + \frac{\mu_B^2}{2} T^2 + \frac{\mu_B^4}{36\pi^2},$$

$$n_{B,2} = \frac{\mu_B}{3} T^2 + \frac{\mu_B^3}{27\pi^2}.$$

This violates  $\mu_B - \mu_Q - 3\mu_S = 0$   
(or strangeness neutrality)  
and gives bad results on  $\mu_B$ .

# Collision Trajectory in the $T-\mu_B$ Diagram: QGP Lifetime

Mendenhall & ZWL, arXiv:2111.13932

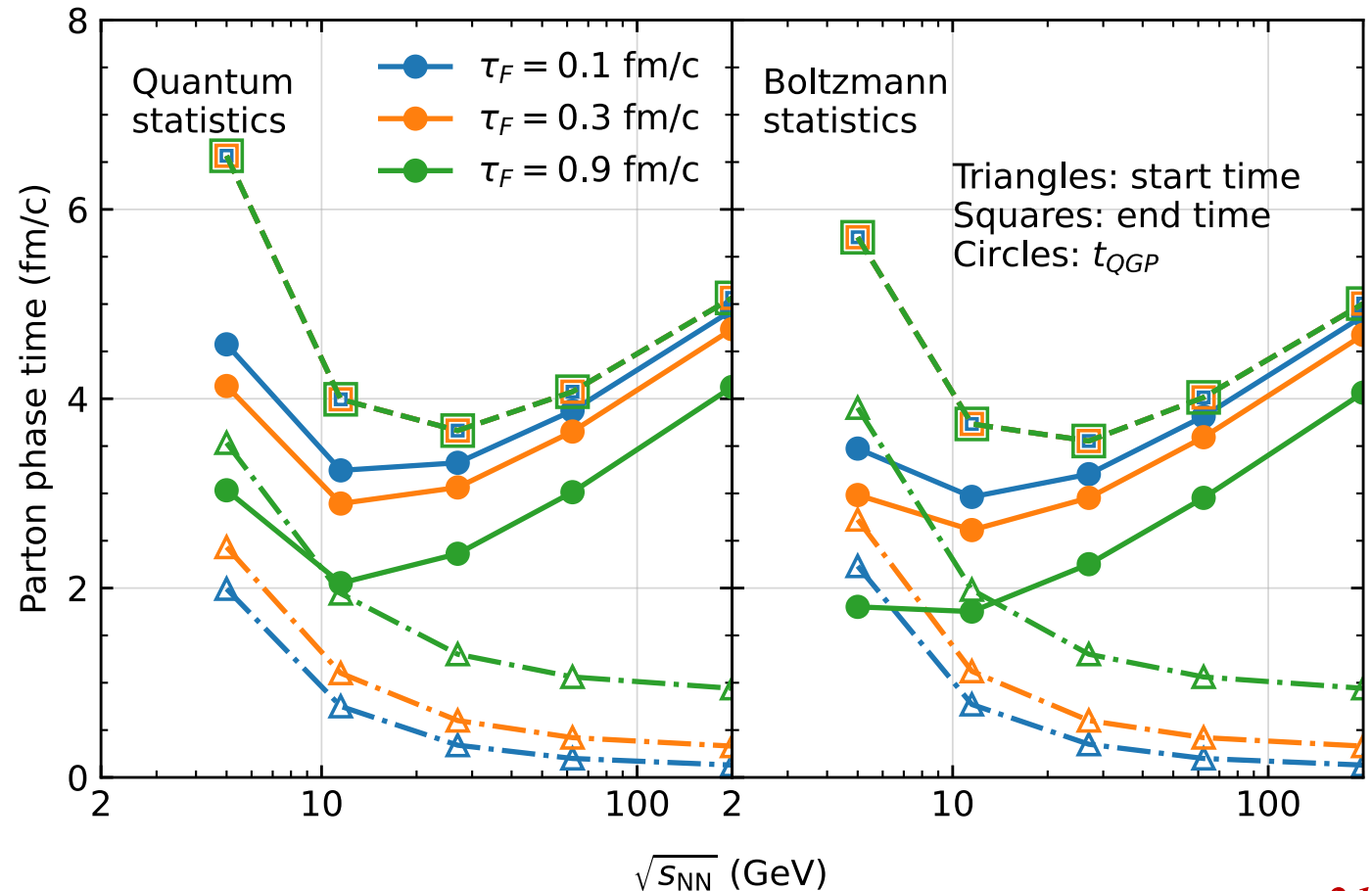


**start time:** time the trajectory first crosses the crossover curve  
**end time:** time the trajectory crosses the crossover curve again  
 $t_{\text{QGP}} = (\text{end time}) - (\text{start time})$

$t_{\text{QGP}}$  at low energies is still big ( $\sim 2-4 \text{ fm/c}$ ),

even shows a rise towards threshold energy.

These are also seen in AMPT model results:  
 Wang, Ma, ZWL & Fu,  
 arXiv:2102.06937v2



# Collision Trajectory in the $T-\mu_B$ Diagram: webpage

Todd Mendenhall has written a web interface

to perform these calculations of  $\varepsilon(t)$  and  $T$  &  $\mu$  ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ )

- Link is also available via <http://myweb.ecu.edu/linz/densities/>  
or bottom of the AMPT webpage <http://myweb.ecu.edu/linz/ampt>
- **Takes input from user:**

Atomic Number (for projectile as well as target):

Atomic Mass Number (for projectile as well as target):

Center-of-Mass Energy per Nucleon Pair (A GeV):

Formation time (fm/c):

Number of times to sample time evolution (an integer between 1 and 100):

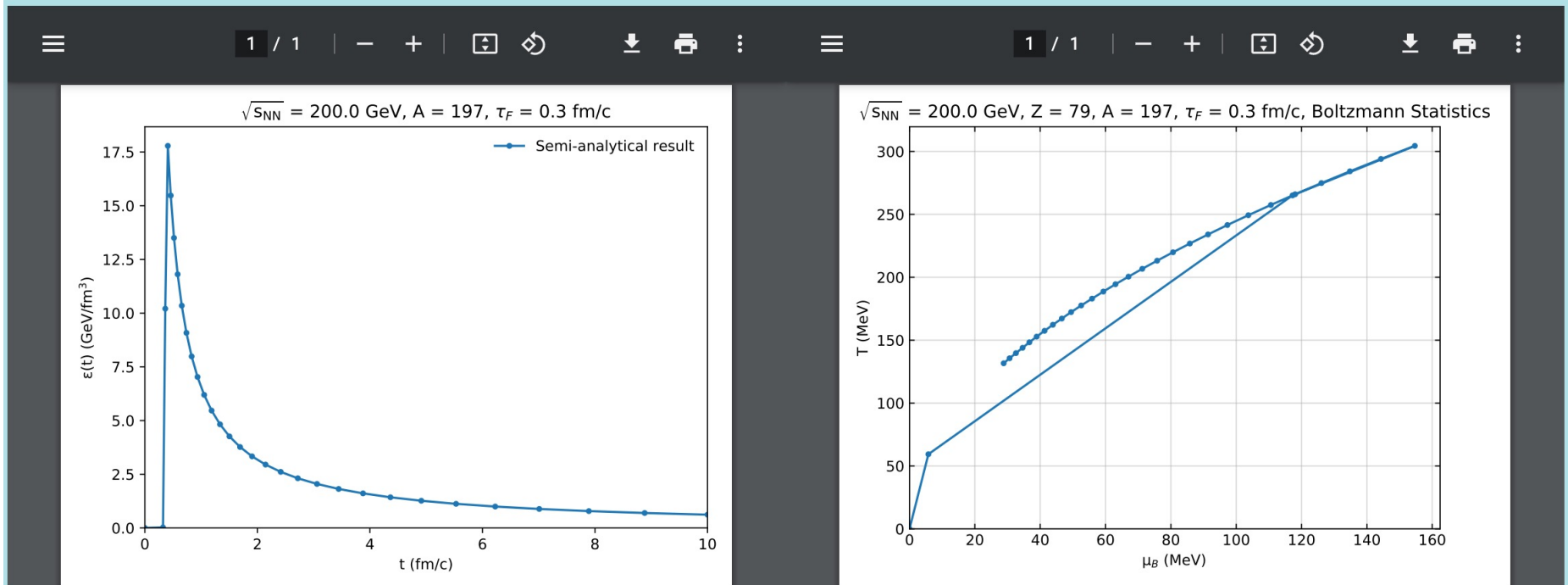
Statistics:  Quantum  Boltzmann

# Collision Trajectory in the $T-\mu_B$ Diagram: webpage

- Plots  $\epsilon(t)$  &  $T-\mu_B$  trajectory, user can download full data file

## Semi-analytical calculation of the average $\epsilon$ and $T - \mu_B$ trajectory of central A+A collisions

(Updated March 1, 2022)

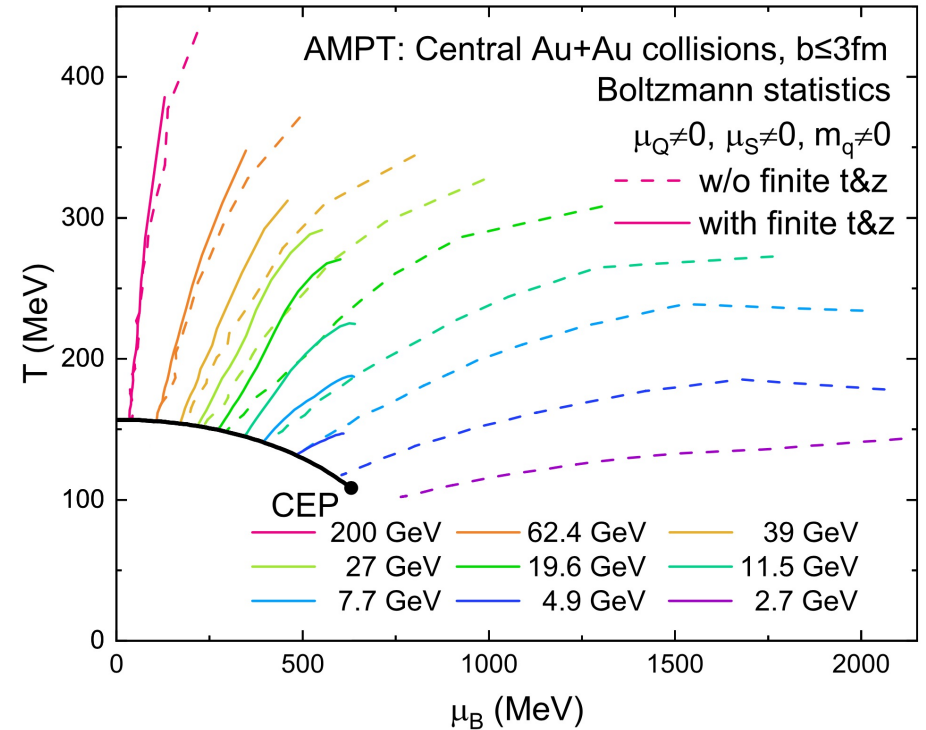
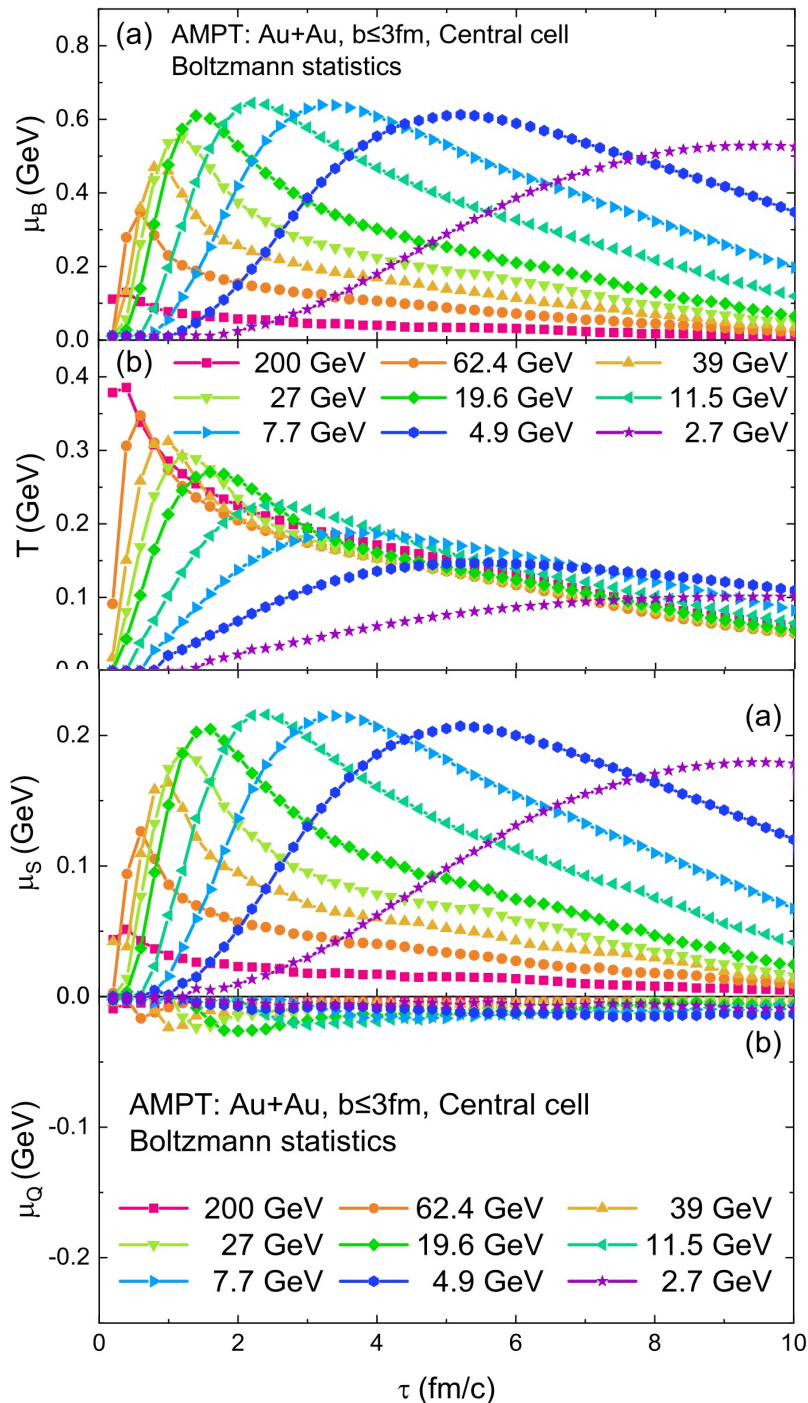


The data file contains the time evolution of the energy density, temperature, and three chemical potentials.

[Download Data File](#)

# Collision Trajectory in the $T$ - $\mu_B$ Diagram: from AMPT

Wang, Ma, ZWL & Fu, arXiv:2102.06937v2



Qualitatively the same  
as semi-analytical results:

- $\mu_Q \sim 0$  &  $\mu_S \sim \mu_B/3$
- Big effect of nuclear thickness  
at lower energies.



# Conclusions

- We have developed a semi-analytical method to calculate densities  $\varepsilon$  &  $\mathbf{n}$  from the initial/primary collisions; the  $\varepsilon$  part = extension of the Bjorken  $\varepsilon$  formula to lower energies by including the finite nuclear thickness.
- At low energies like the BES, finite nuclear thickness has big effects on  $\varepsilon$  &  $\mathbf{n}$  and consequently on event trajectories.
- The method can be used to calculate collision trajectory in the 4-dimensional  $T-\mu$  ( $\mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q$ ) space including the  $T-\mu_B$  plane; a webpage is written to perform these calculations.
- Partial solution ( $\mu_Q = 0$  &  $\mu_S = \mu_B/3$ ) satisfies strangeness neutrality & simplifies the 4d problem to 2d:  
$$\varepsilon \text{ \& } n_B, n_S, n_Q \leftrightarrow T \text{ \& } \mu_B, \mu_S, \mu_Q \quad \text{to} \quad \varepsilon \text{ \& } n_B \leftrightarrow T \text{ \& } \mu_B$$