

# Hot and dense QCD in high-energy colliders and neutron stars

Carlota Andres (she/her)

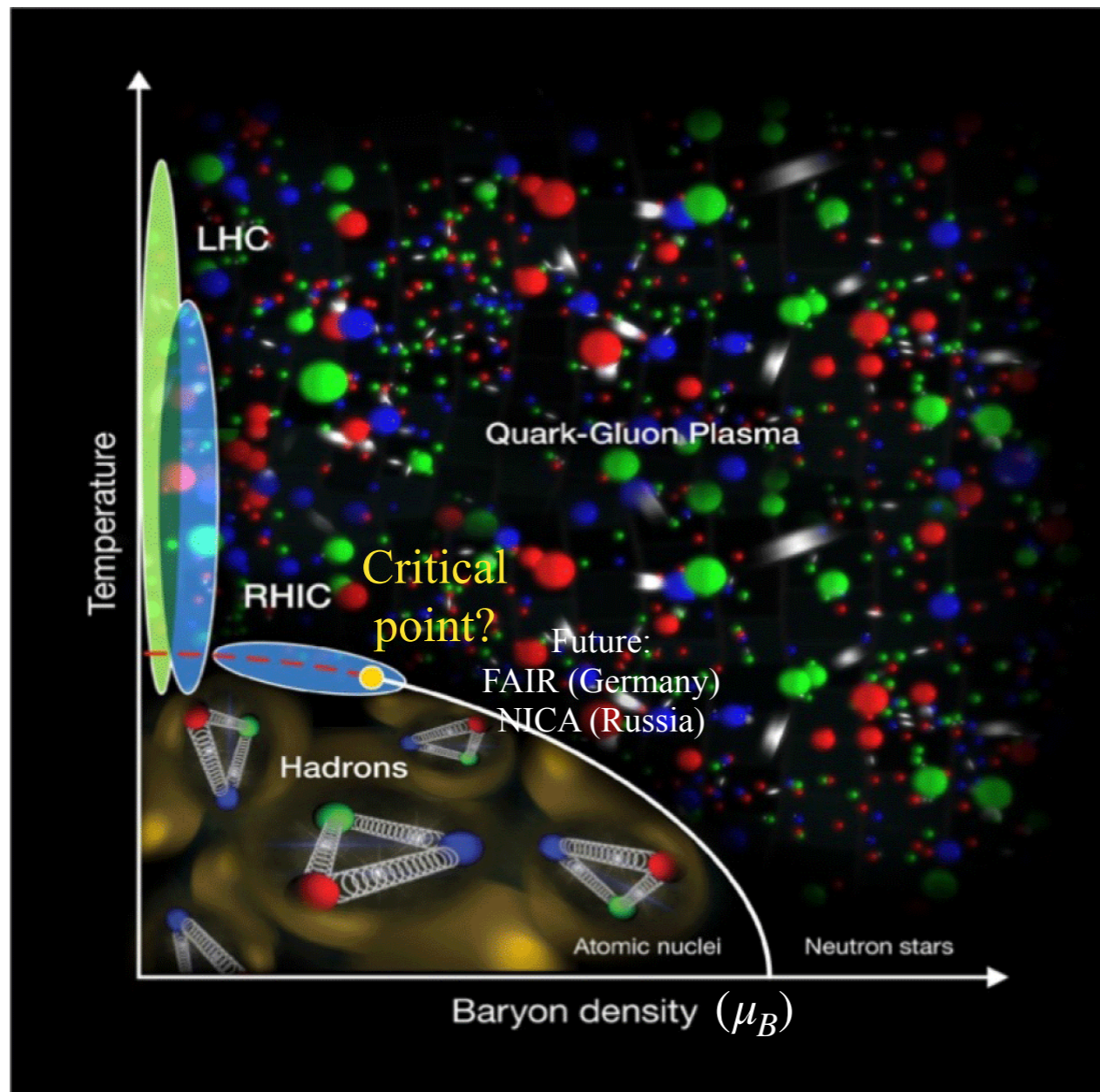
CPHT, École polytechnique

L International Meeting on Fundamental Physics and XV CPAN days  
Santander, October 2-6, 2023



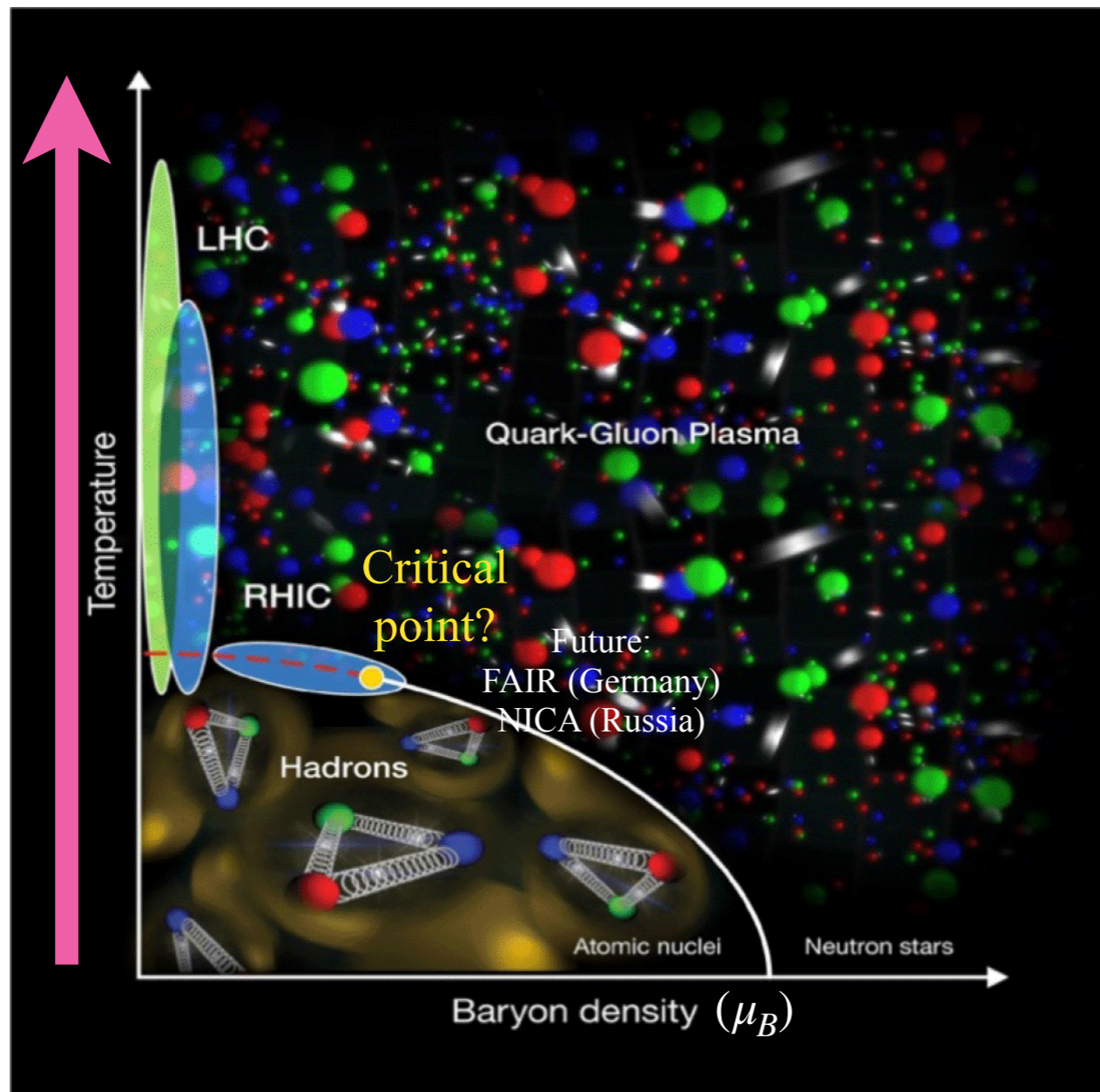
# QCD phase diagram

- Hot QCD emergent dynamics at reach in collider experiments!



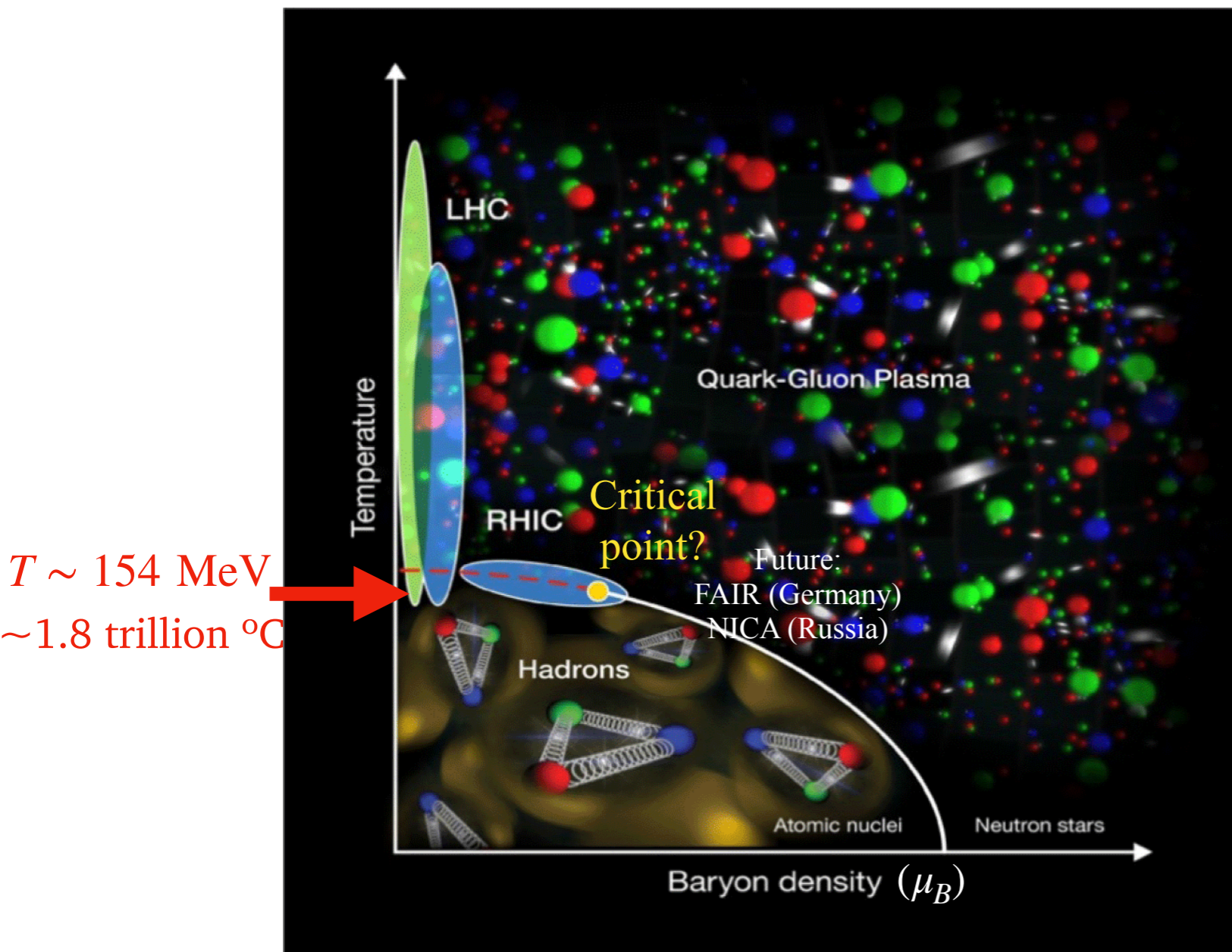
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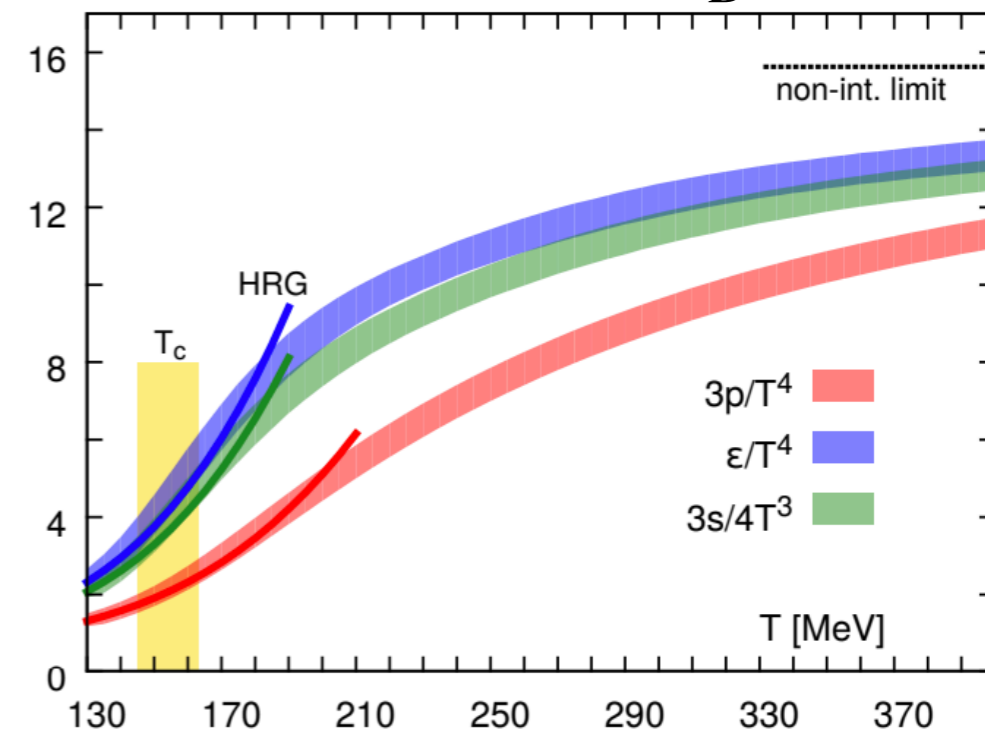


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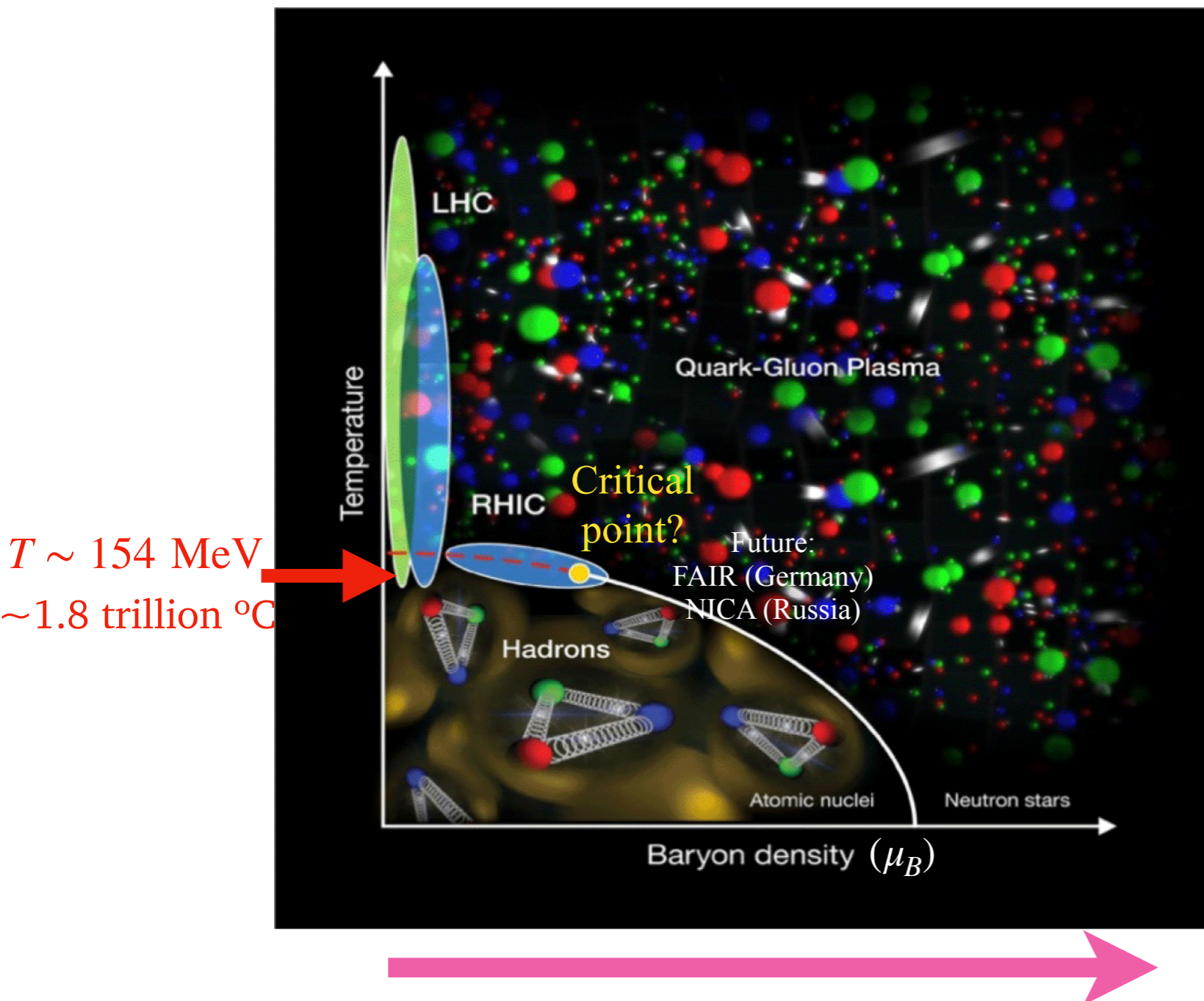
Lattice QCD ( $\mu_B = 0$ )



HotQCD Collaboration  
 Phys. Rev. D 90 (2014) 094503

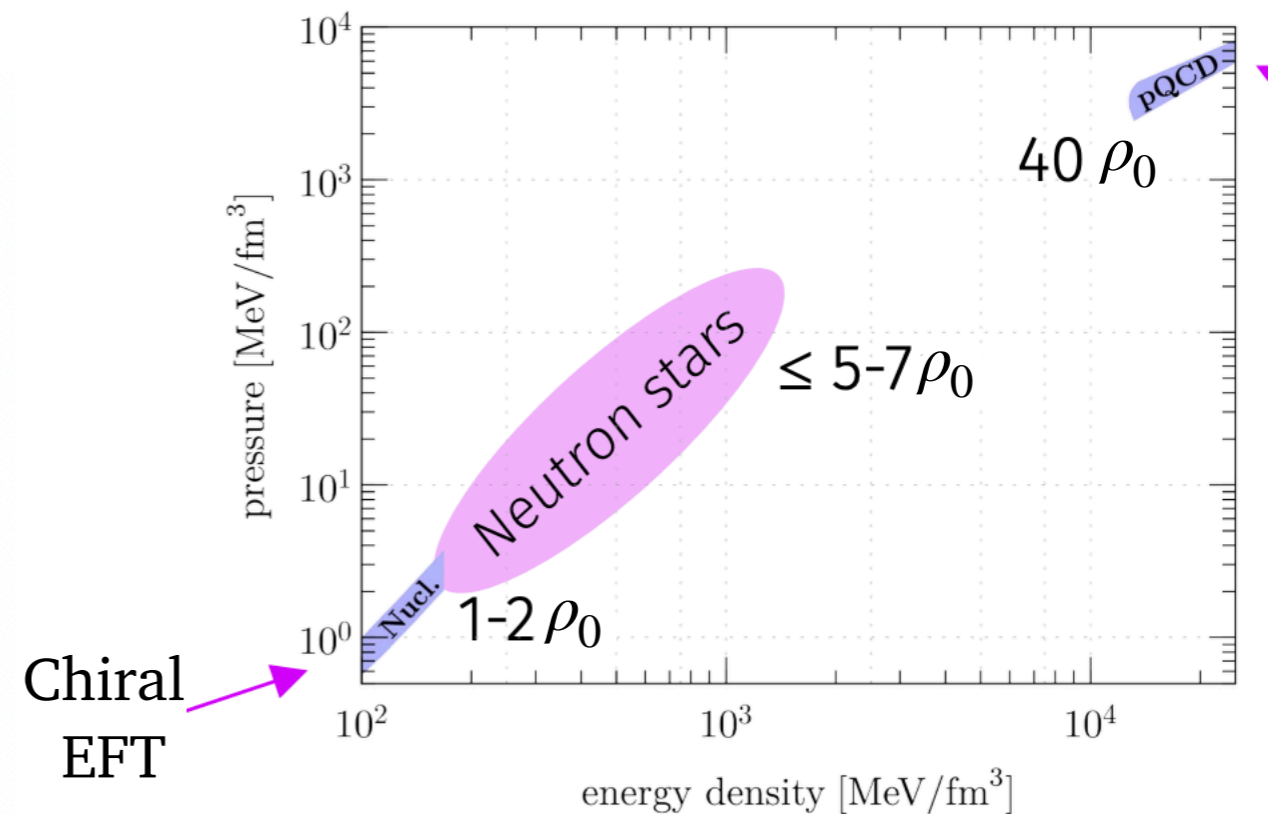
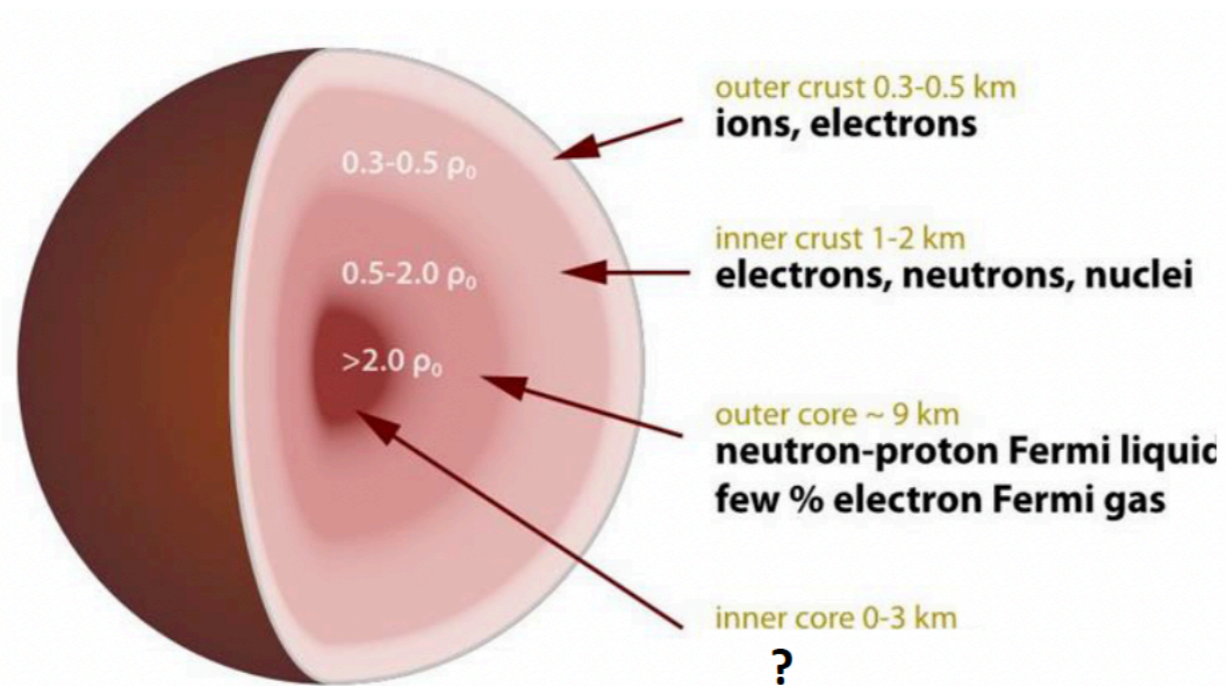
# QCD phase diagram

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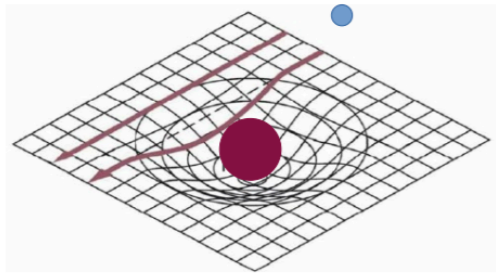
# Neutron stars

- At  $T=0$ : No Lattice. But we have astrophysics and both particle and nuclear physics

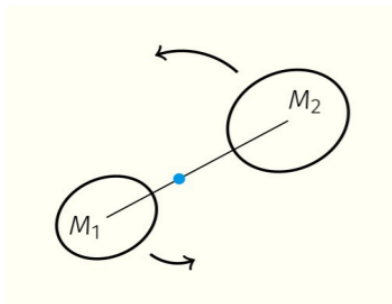


- EoS of the inner core? Upper and lower bound from pQCD and Chiral EFT + **astrophysical measurements** (including **GW data** from binary neutron star mergers)

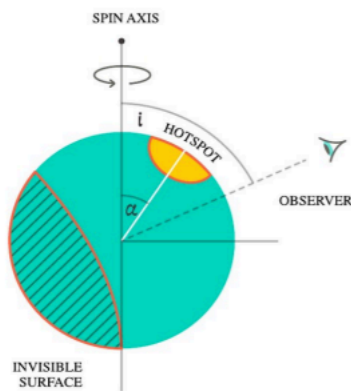
# Neutron stars: EoS



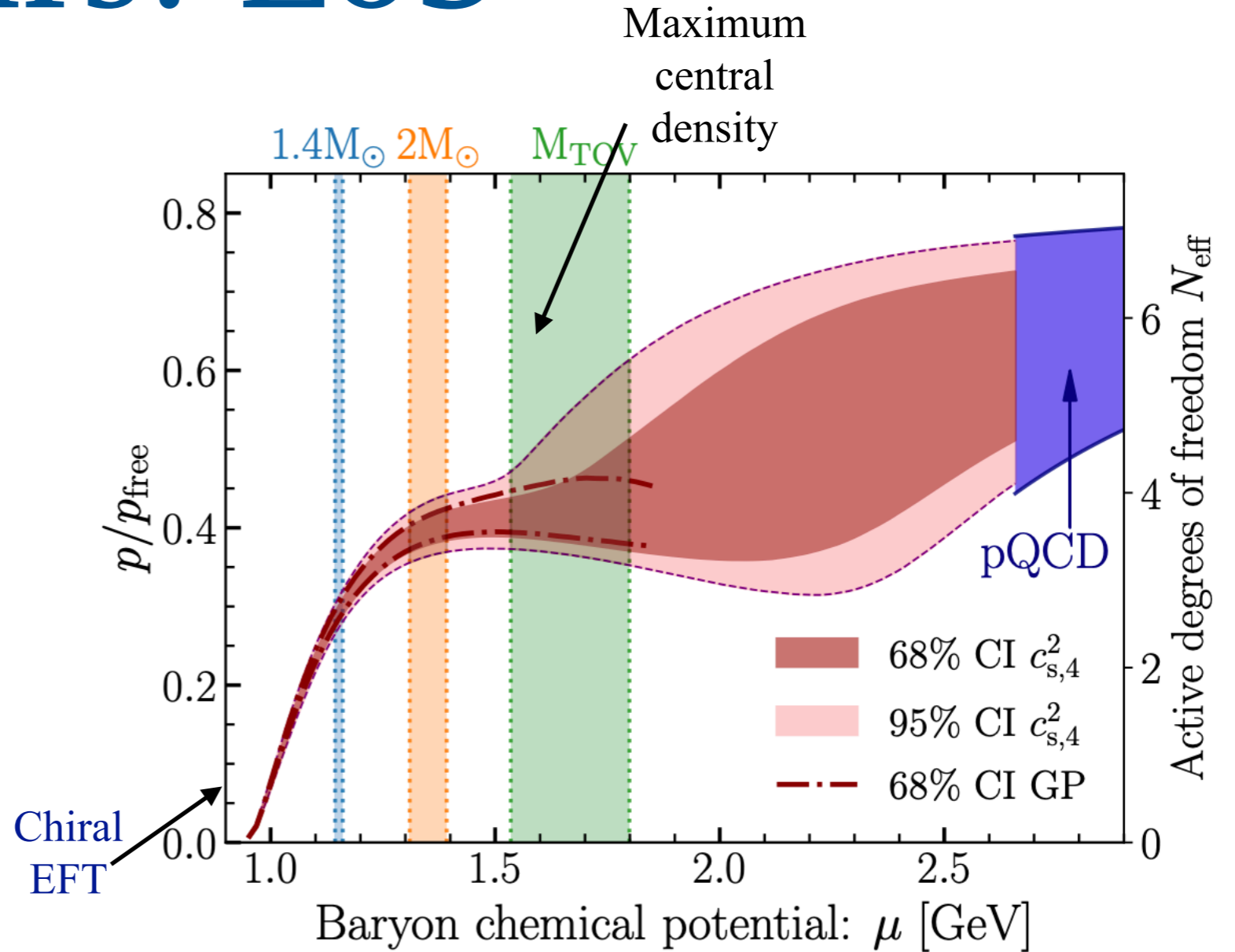
Masses



Deformabilities



Radii, compactness



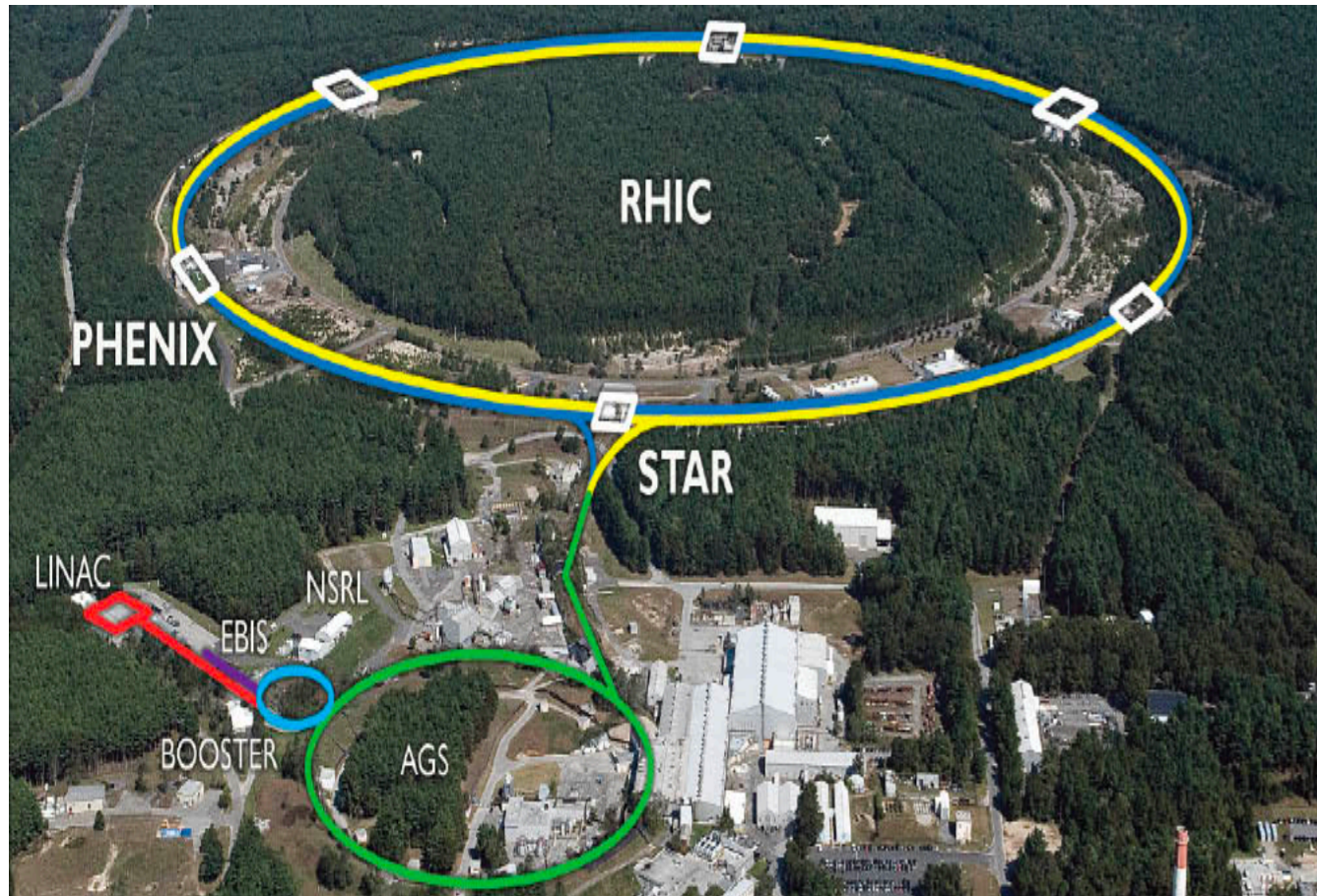
Annala, Gorda, Hirvonen, Komoltsev, Kurkela, Nättilä, Vuorinen, [2303.11356](#)

Number of degrees of freedom  
**consistent with deconfined quark matter!**

# Hot QCD in colliders



# Where?



## Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)

Au-Au collisions

$$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7 - 200 \text{ GeV}$$

(Also d-Au, He-Au, Cu-Cu, O-O...)

## Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

Pb-Pb collisions

$$2010 - 2011 : \sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76 \text{ TeV}$$

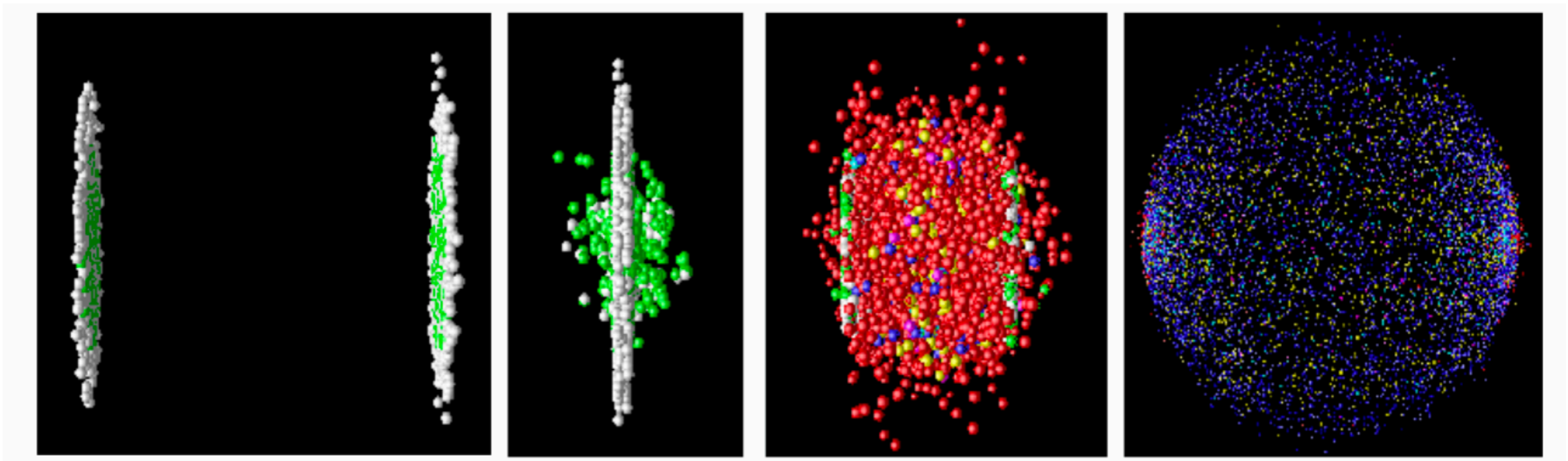
$$2011 - 2015 : \sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$$

$$2023 - 2025 : \sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.36 \text{ TeV}$$

(Also p-Pb, Xe-Xe)

# Heavy-ion program

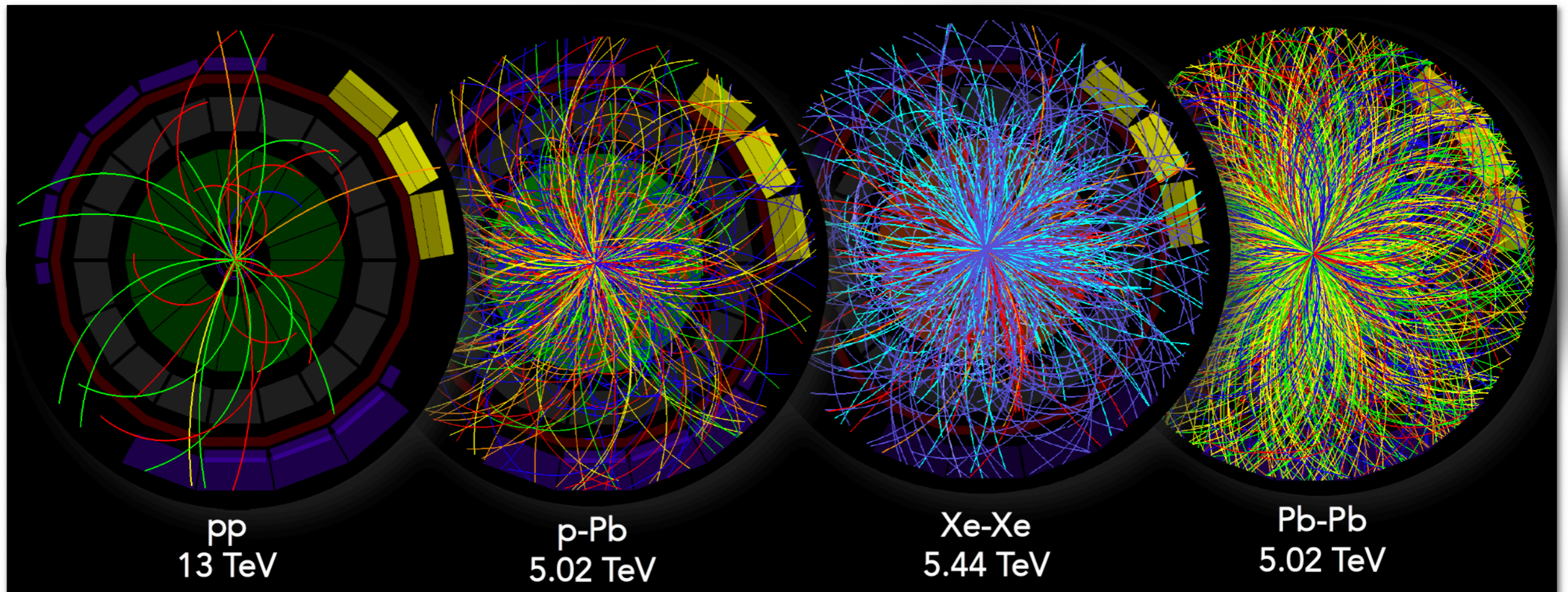
- The LHC does not only collide protons on protons
- One month of running time per year is dedicated to **the Pb-Pb program**



- Other (lighter) ions runs (O-O) in Run 3

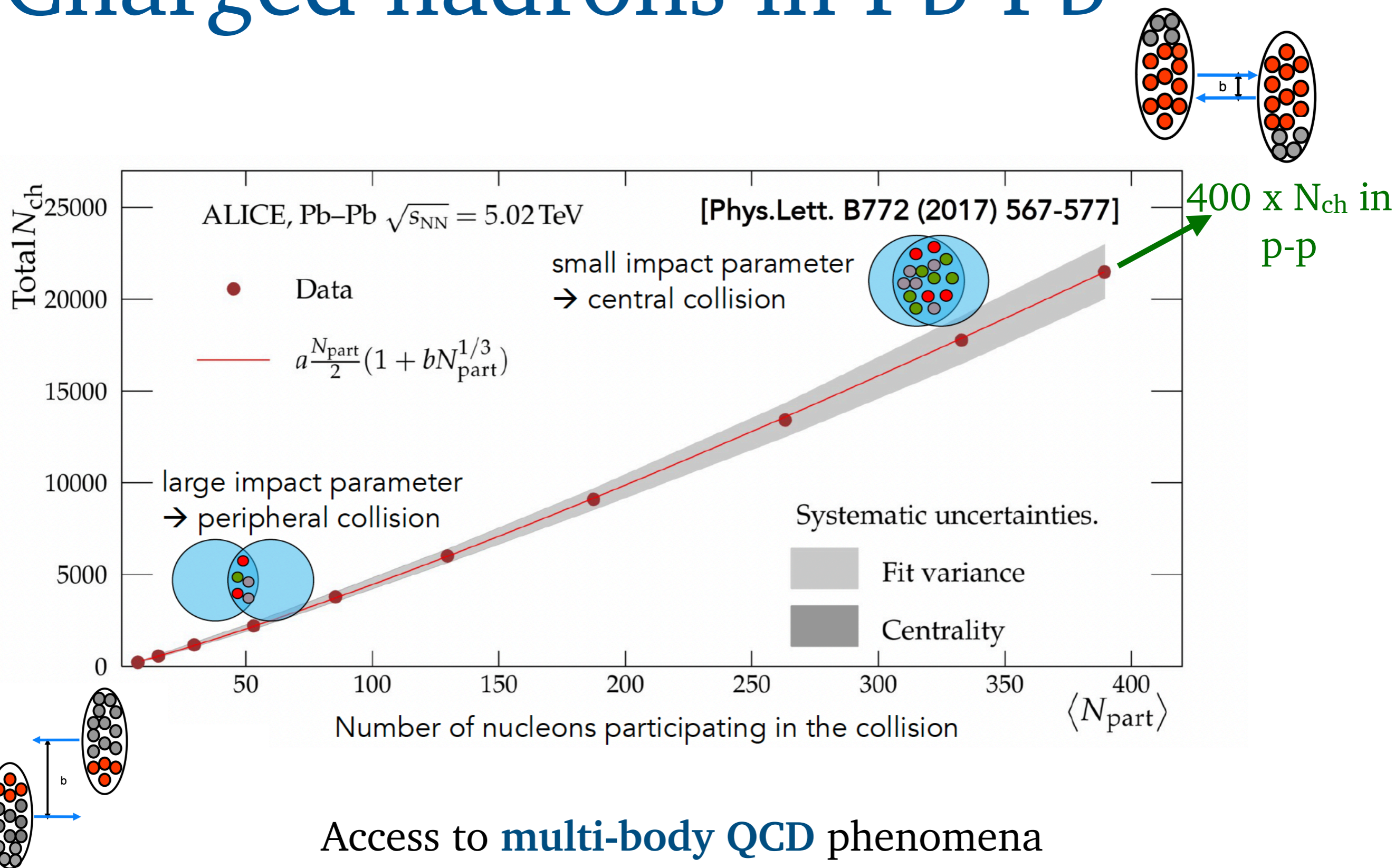
# Heavy-ion program

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# Charged hadrons in Pb-Pb



# Harmonics [simplified]

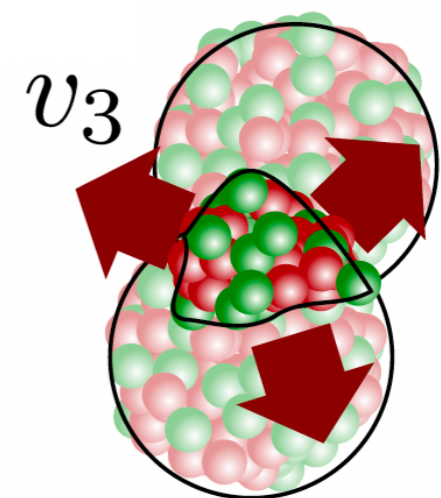
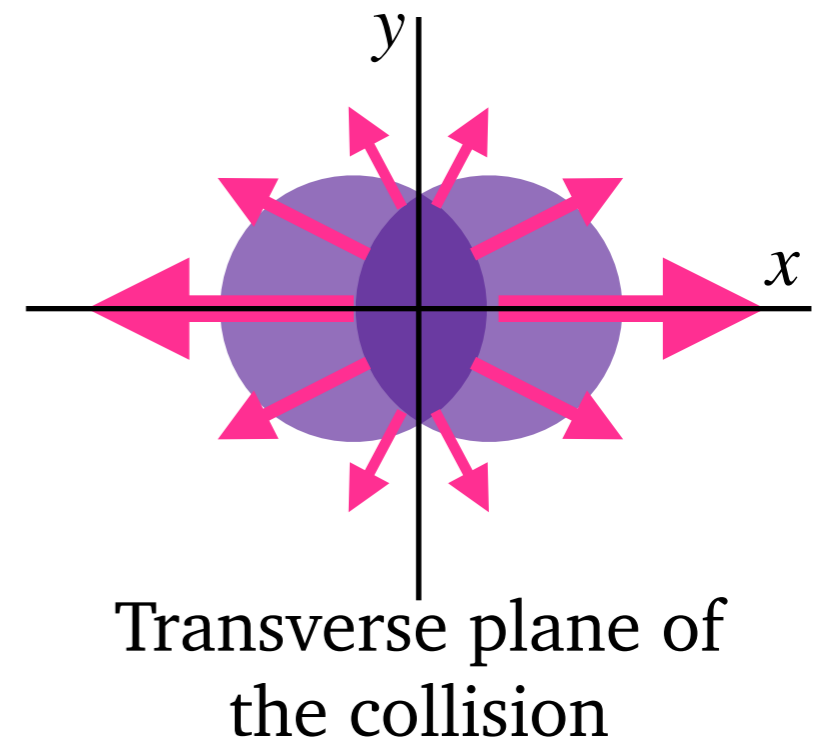
- **Spatial anisotropy** of the initial state induces **momentum anisotropy** in the **final state**

- Final state anisotropies are **measurable**

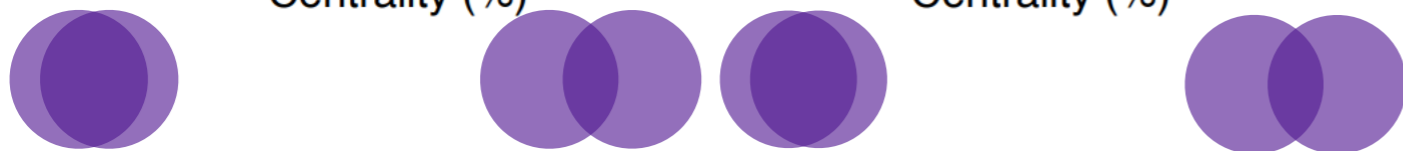
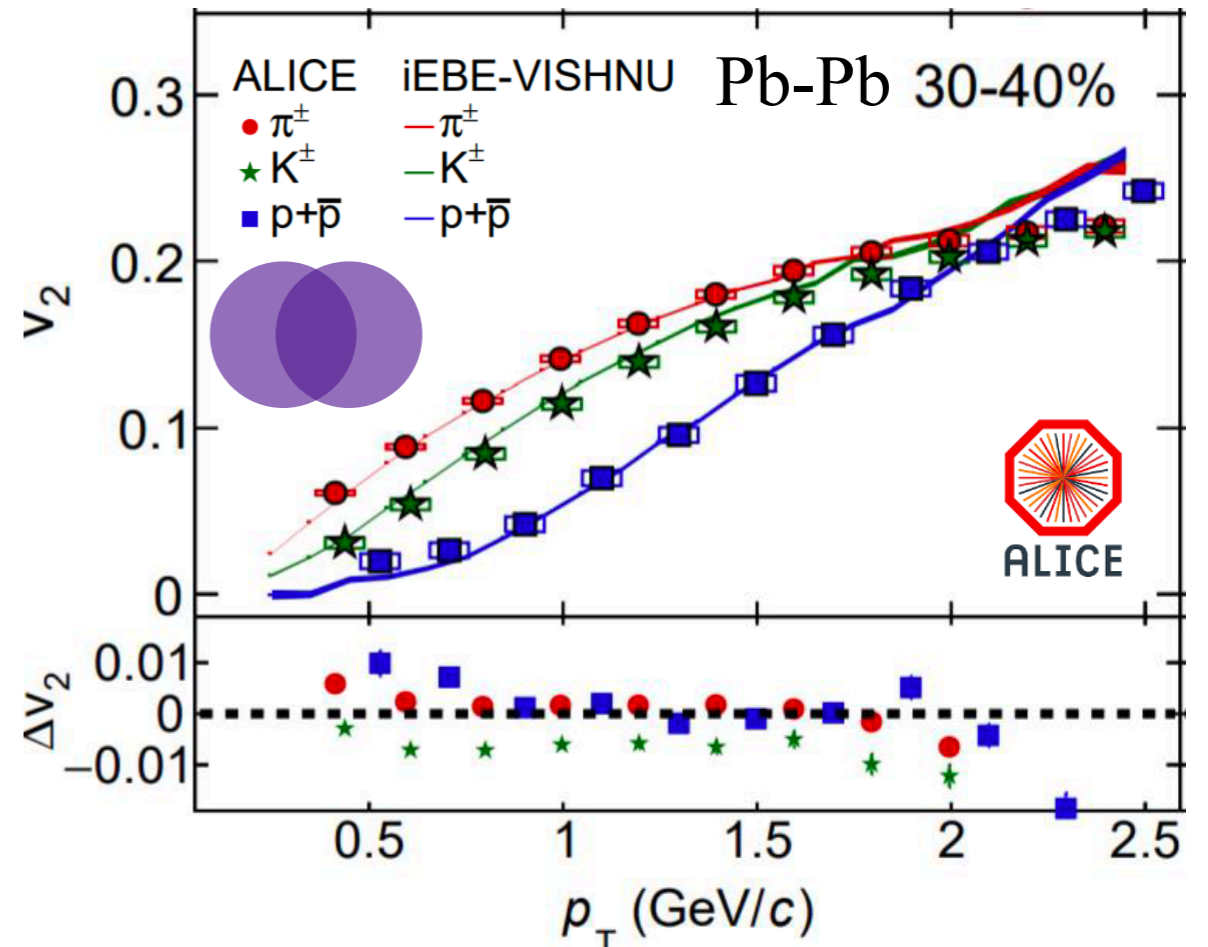
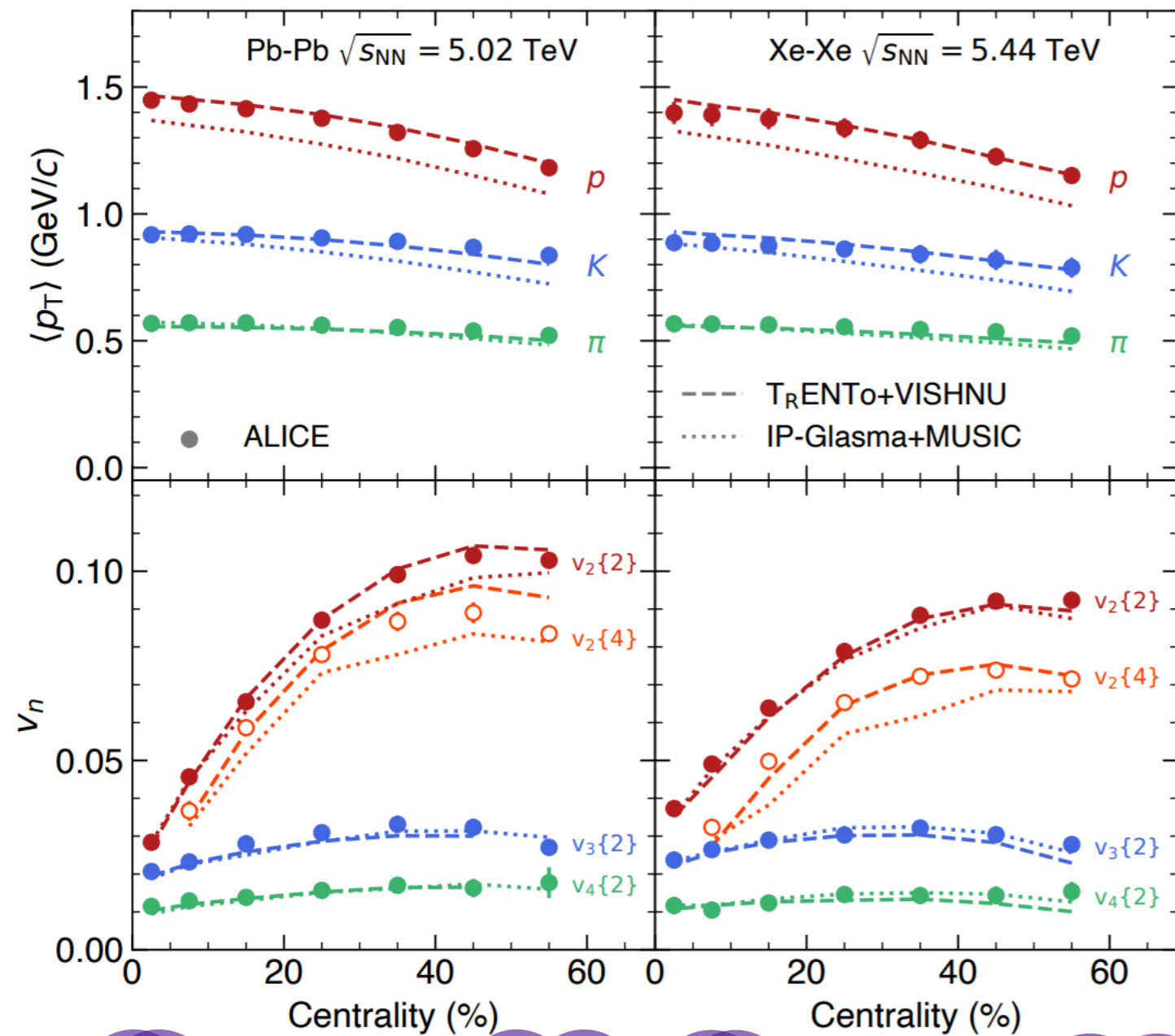
$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2v_n(p_T) \cos(n(\phi - \Psi_n))$$

- Elliptic flow:  $v_2 > 0$  : collective expansion

- Higher harmonics: due to fluctuations in the initial state



# Harmonics in HICs



# Relativistic hydrodynamics

Solve numerically:  $\delta_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$

Input: EoS  
from Lattice

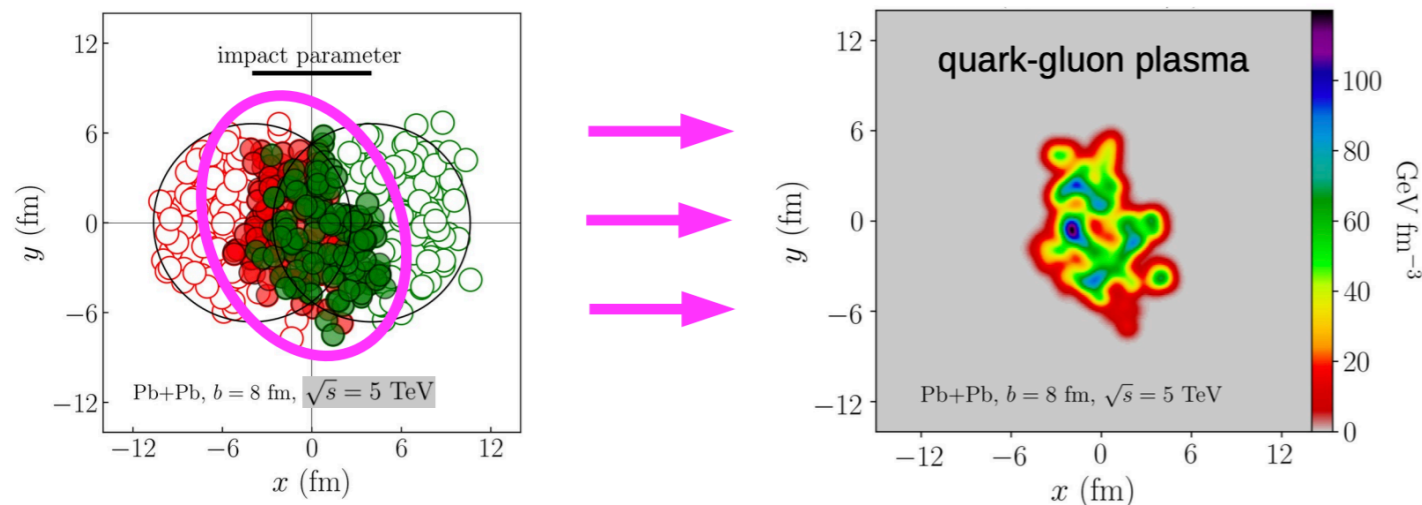
Output: extracted  
from data

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon u_\mu u_\nu + p[\varepsilon] \Delta_{\mu\nu} - \eta[\varepsilon] \sigma_{\mu\nu} - \zeta[\varepsilon] \Delta_{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu u^\mu + \mathcal{C}$$

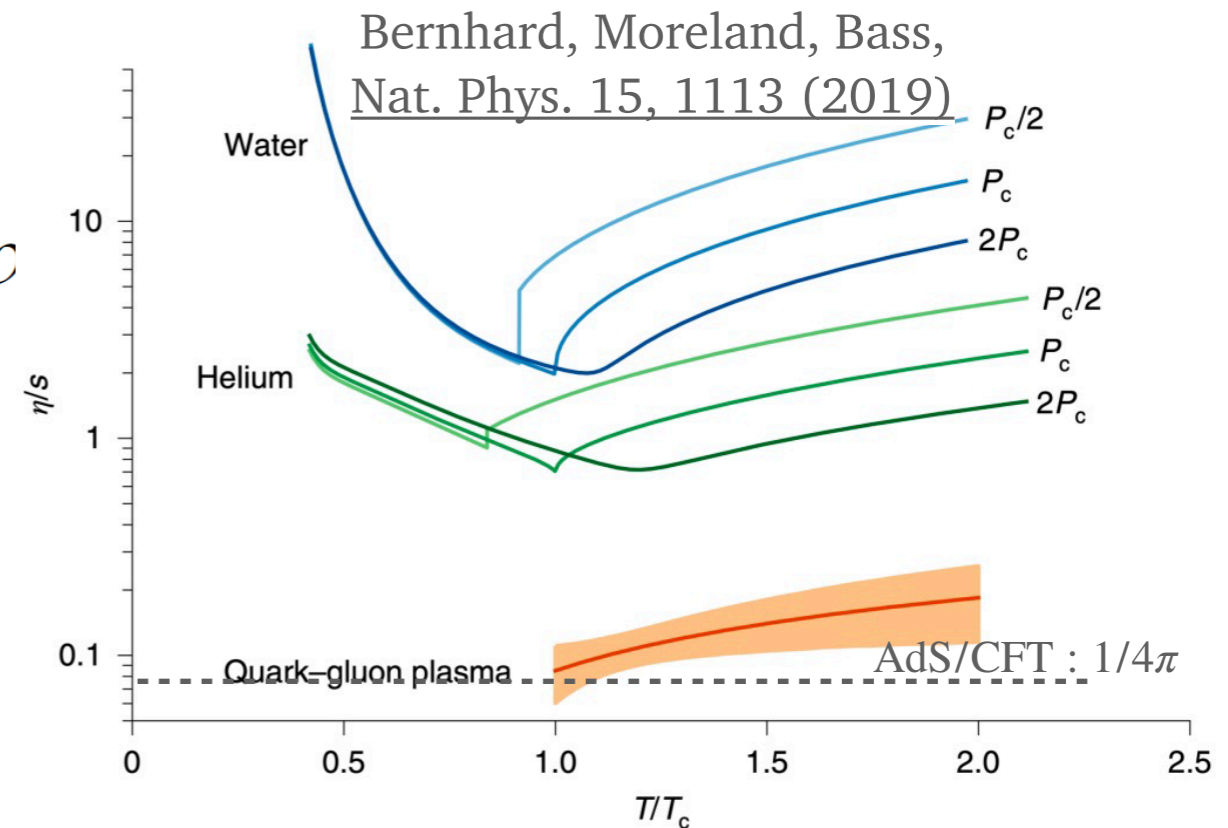
$$\sigma_{\mu\nu} = \Delta_{\mu\alpha} \Delta_{\nu\beta} (\nabla^\alpha u^\beta + \nabla^\beta u^\alpha) - \frac{2}{3} \Delta_{\mu\nu} \Delta_{\alpha\beta} \nabla^\alpha u^\beta,$$

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} + u_\mu u_\nu,$$

+ initial condition



## Global fits



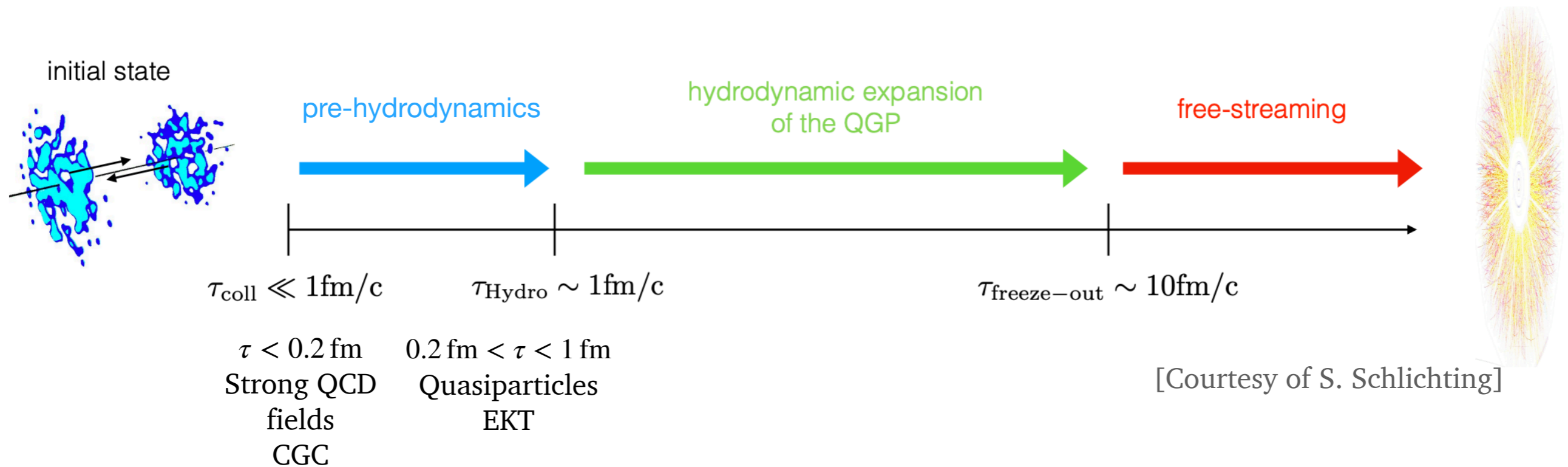
See also:  
 Schenke, Shen, Tribedy, Phys. Rev. C 102 (2020) 044905  
 JETSCAPE, Phys. Rev. C 103 (2021) 054904  
 Nijs, van der Schee, Gürsoy, Snellings, Phys. Rev. C 103 (2021) 054909

Very small  $\eta/s$ : **most perfect** fluid in Nature

Current focus: increasing precision, reducing systematics, accessing new properties

# Heavy-ion collisions

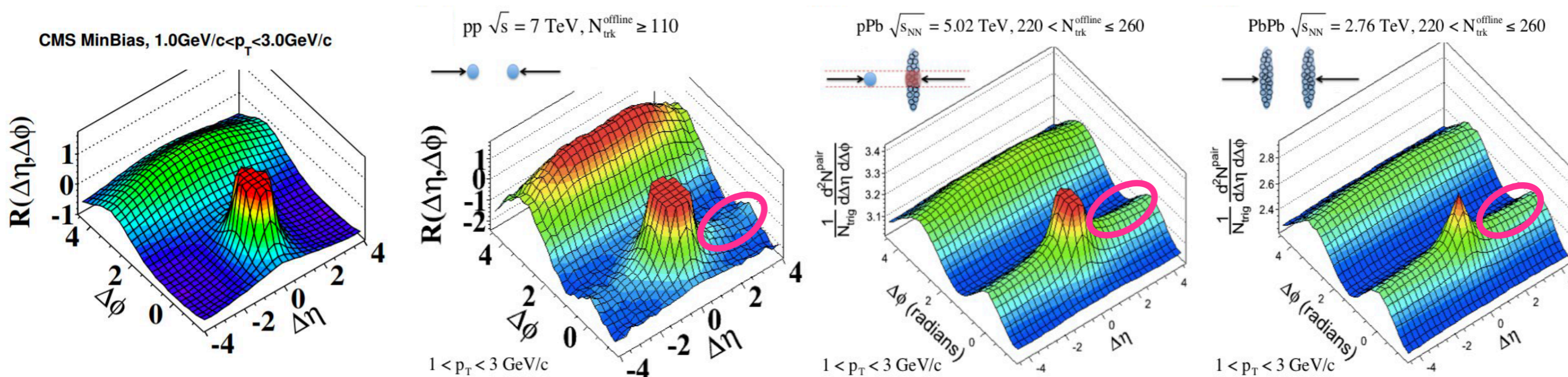
- Dynamical description of heavy-ion collisions from underlying theory of QCD remains a challenge
- Standard picture based on **effective descriptions of QCD** exploiting the clear separation of time scales



- Significant **progress** on understanding kinetic & chemical **equilibration** and incipient phenomenology in the pre-hydrodynamics stages



# Collectivity in small systems



CMS, [JHEP 09 \(2010\) 091](#)

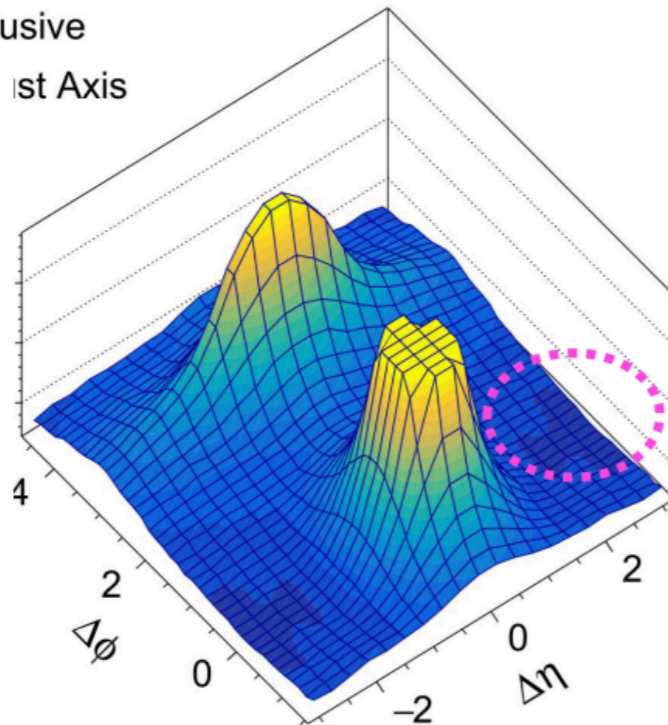
[1146 citations!]

- Near-side ridge observed in p-Pb and d-Au by all RHIC and LHC experiments
- Hydro simulations able to describe the harmonics from these data
- The origin **may not necessary be hydrodynamics** (pre-equilibrium effects?)

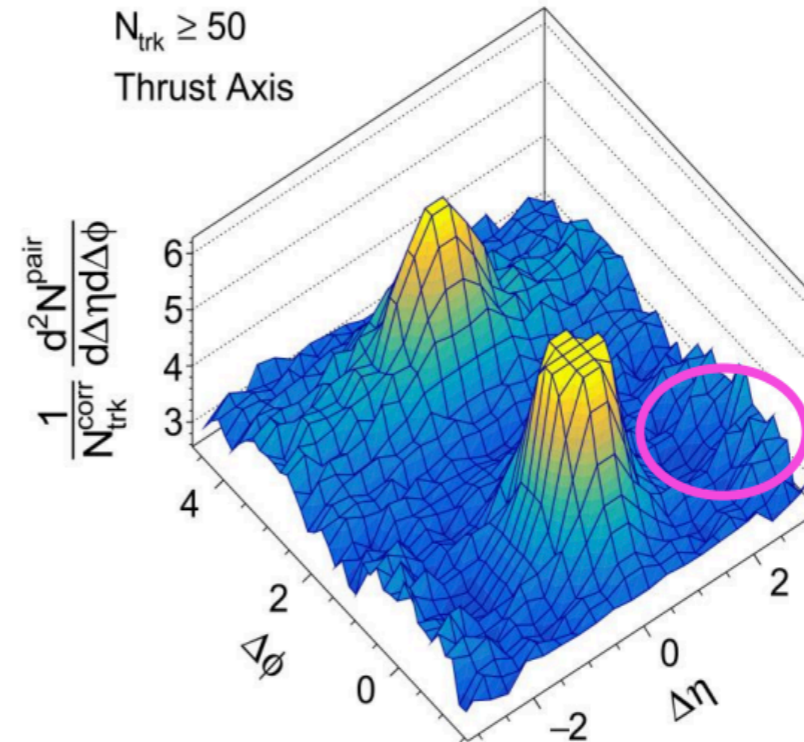
# Collectivity in small systems

## Re-analysis of ALEPH LEP2 data

ALEPH  $e^+e^-$ ,  $\sqrt{s}=183\text{-}209$  GeV  
Inclusive  
1st Axis



ALEPH  $e^+e^-$ ,  $\sqrt{s}=183\text{-}209$  GeV  
 $N_{\text{trk}} \geq 50$   
Thrust Axis

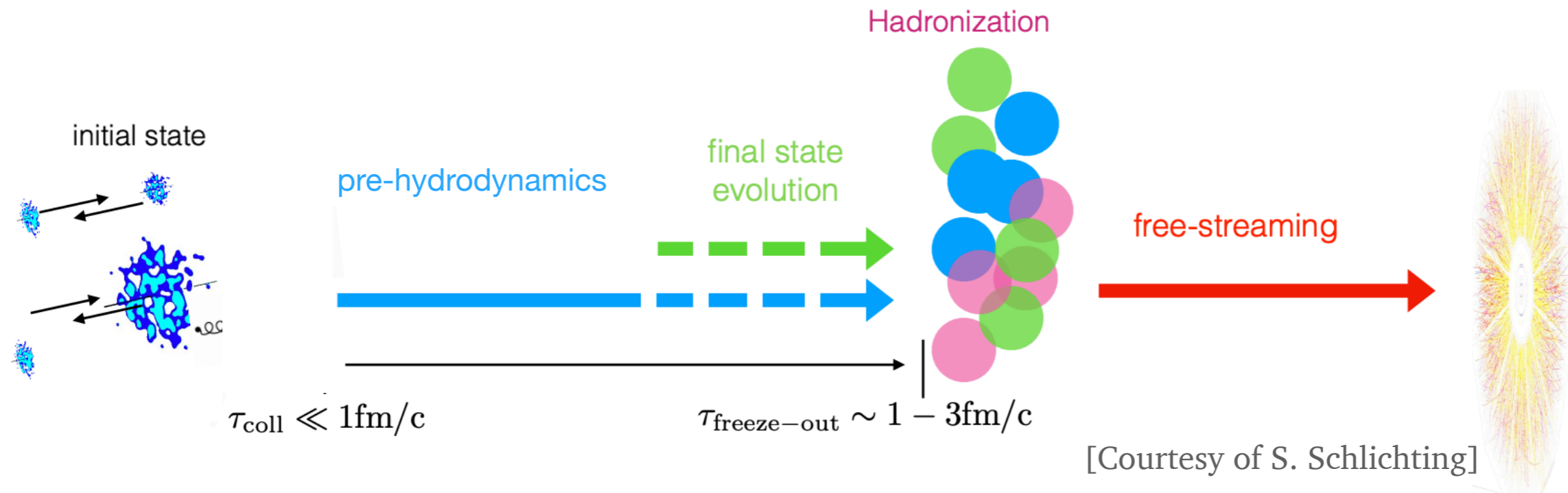


Chen Lee, Chen, Chang, McGinn, Sheng, Innocenti, Maggi,  
[arXiv.2309.09874](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.09874)

Data suggest that small systems lacking hadronic initial state effects could still yield a ridge-like signal

# Small systems

- Shorter lifetime: **larger sensitivity to pre-hydrodynamization**



- System can fall apart before hydrodynamics start to apply!

Ambruş, Schlichting, Werthmann, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 \(2023\)152301](#)

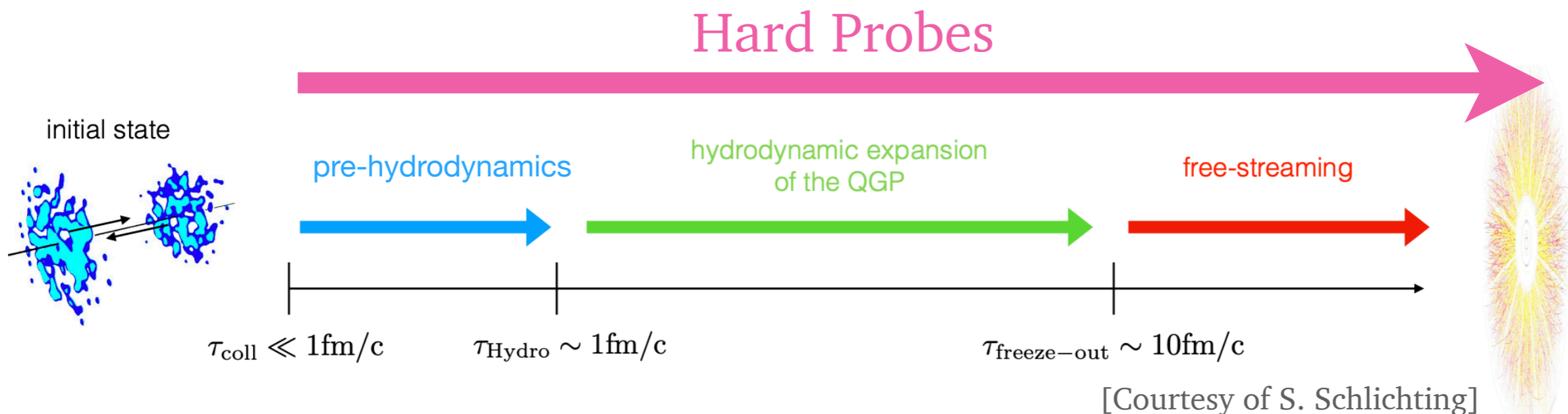
- No jet quenching found in small systems!

# Hard probes

- Hard probes ( $Q \sim p_T, M_Q$ ) are **produced** in the **initial hard scattering**

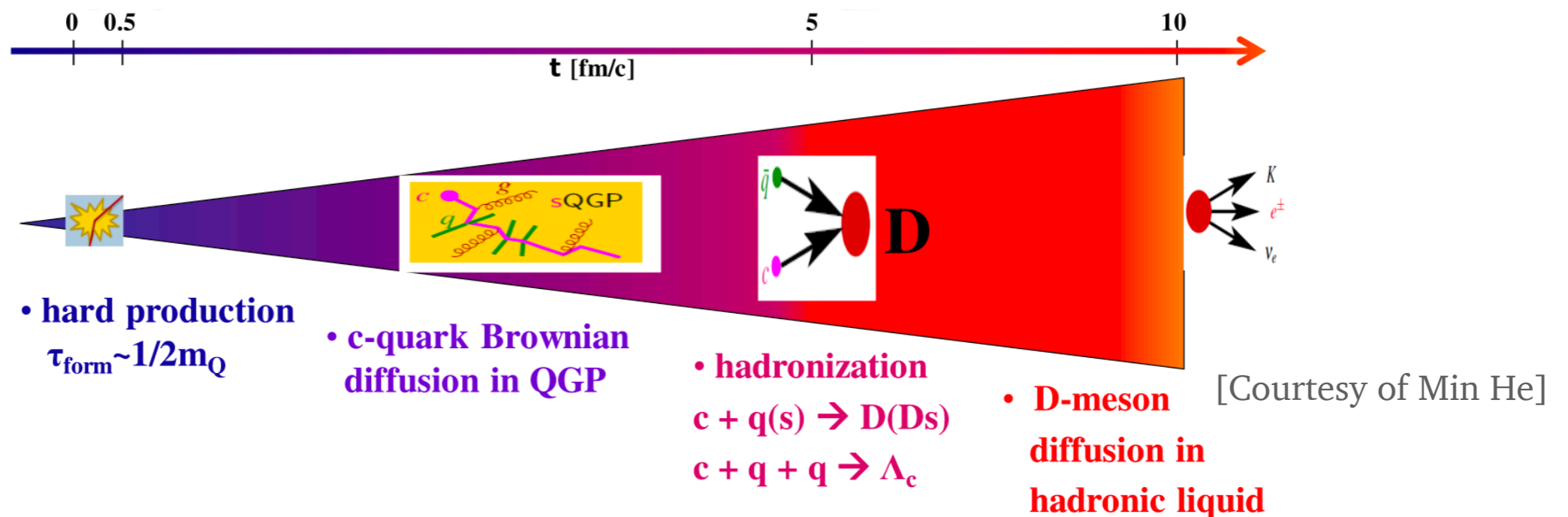
$$\tau_p \sim \frac{1}{Q} \ll \frac{1}{Q_s} \ll \tau_{\text{hydro}}$$

- $Q \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ : their production is perturbative
- $Q \gg T$ : their production is not affected by the medium



# Open heavy flavor

- Hadrons that carry one charm or beauty quark
- At low  $p_T$ : **Brownian motion** due to kicks with the medium constituents

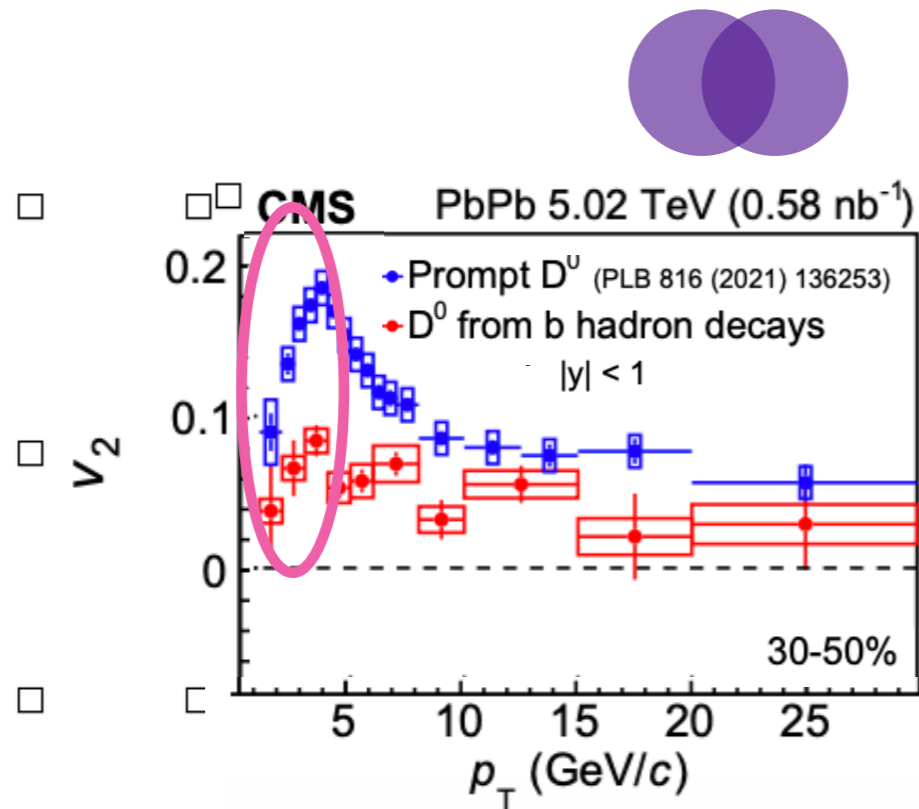


- Flavor preserved — they can be tagged

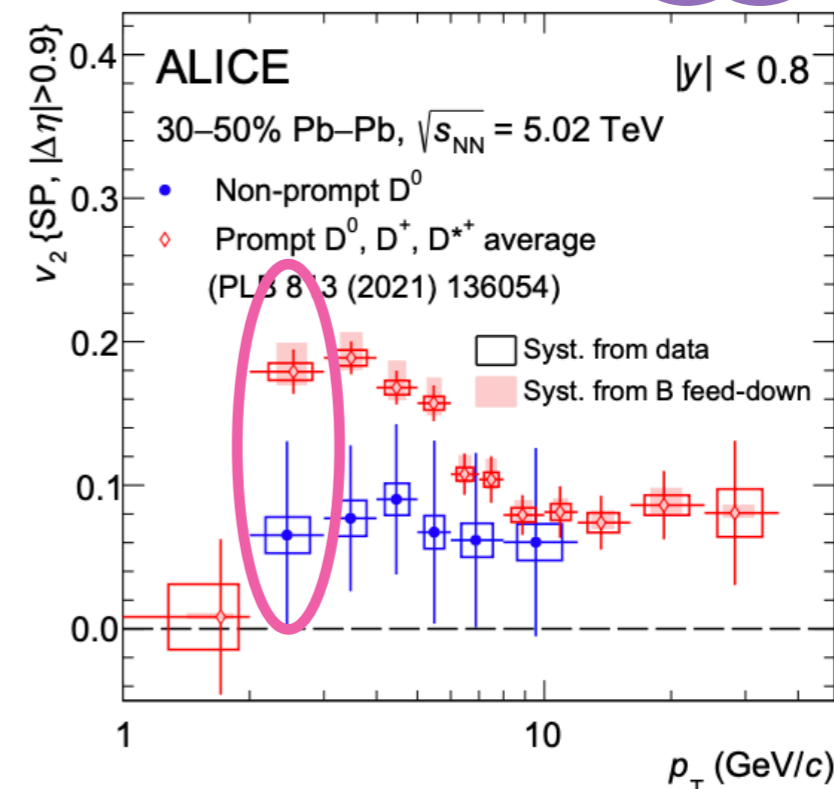
Focus on understanding **heavy quark co-flow with the medium**

# Open heavy flavor

- Due to their large mass, they need to experience many kicks to flow with the QGP bulk



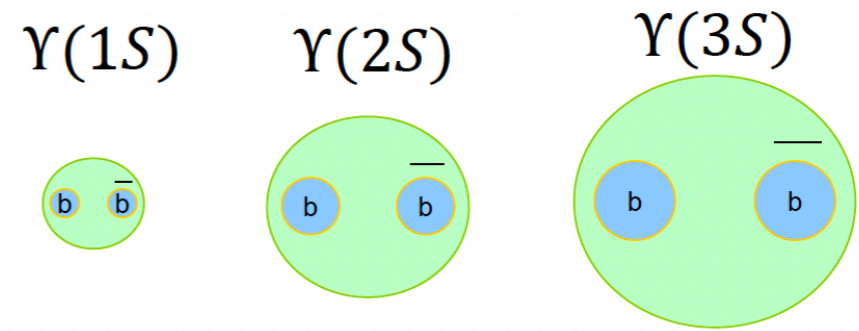
CMS Collaboration, [arXiv:2212.01636](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.01636)



ALICE Collaboration, [arXiv:2307.14084](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.14084)

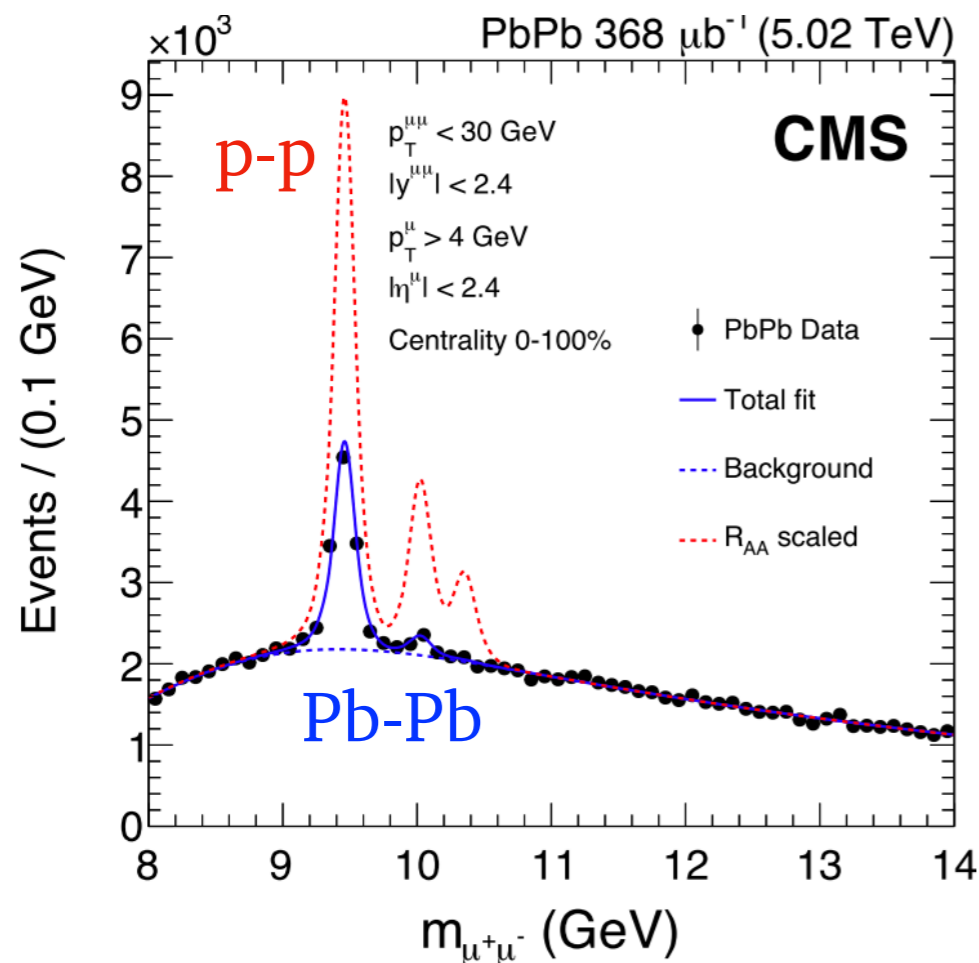
- Charm quark flows
- Possible flow of beauty quark in the QGP?

# Quarkonia

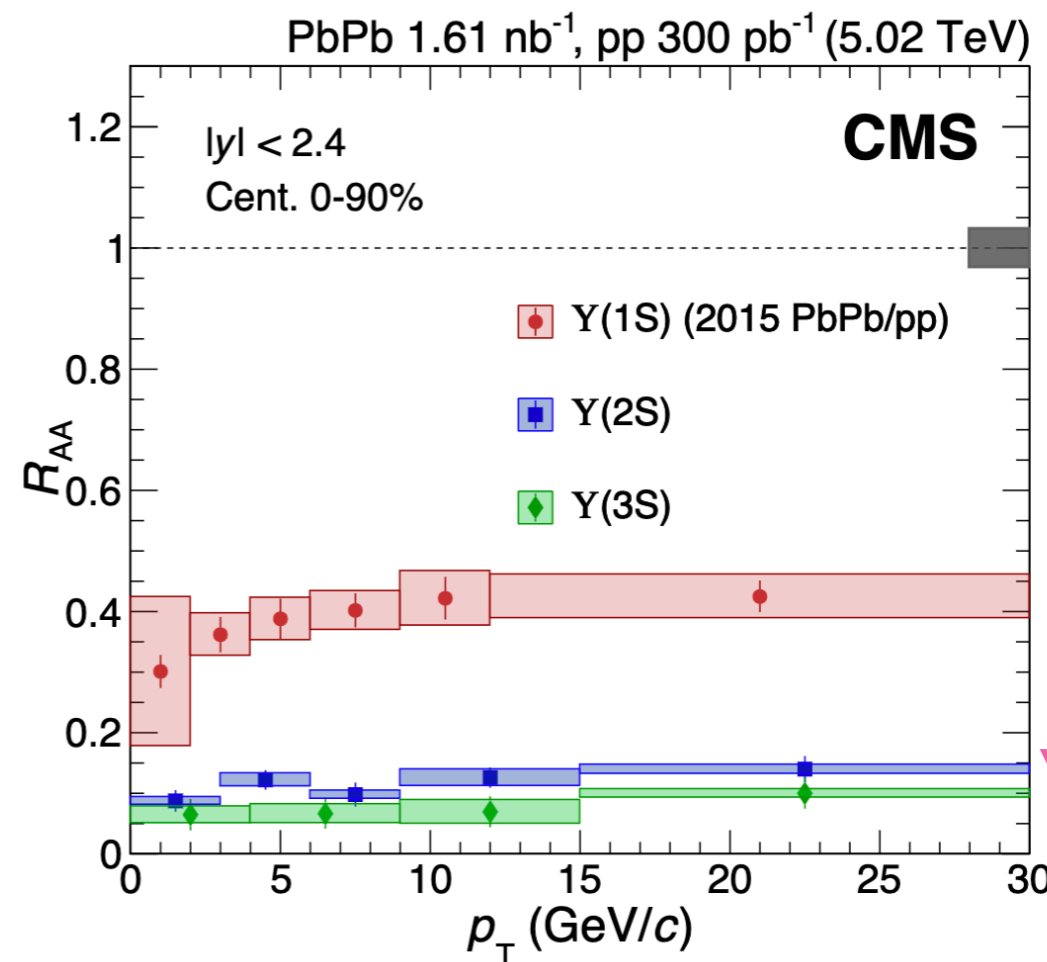


- **Sequential suppression of bottomonia:** less tightly bound states are more suppressed

$$R_{AA} = \frac{\text{Pb-Pb } \bigcirc}{\text{scaled } \otimes \text{pp } \bullet \leftarrow \bullet}$$

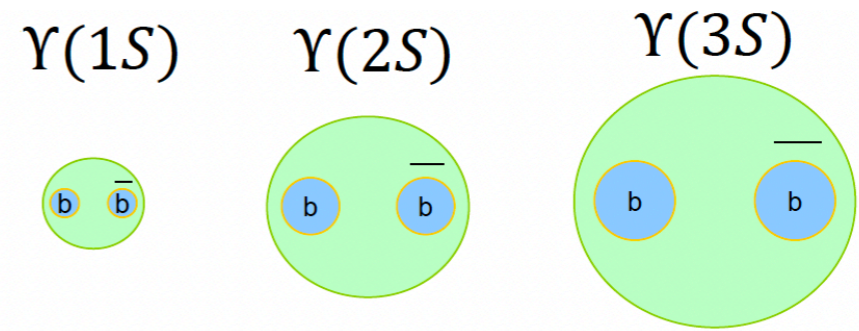


CMS, *Phys Lett. B* 790 (2019) 270



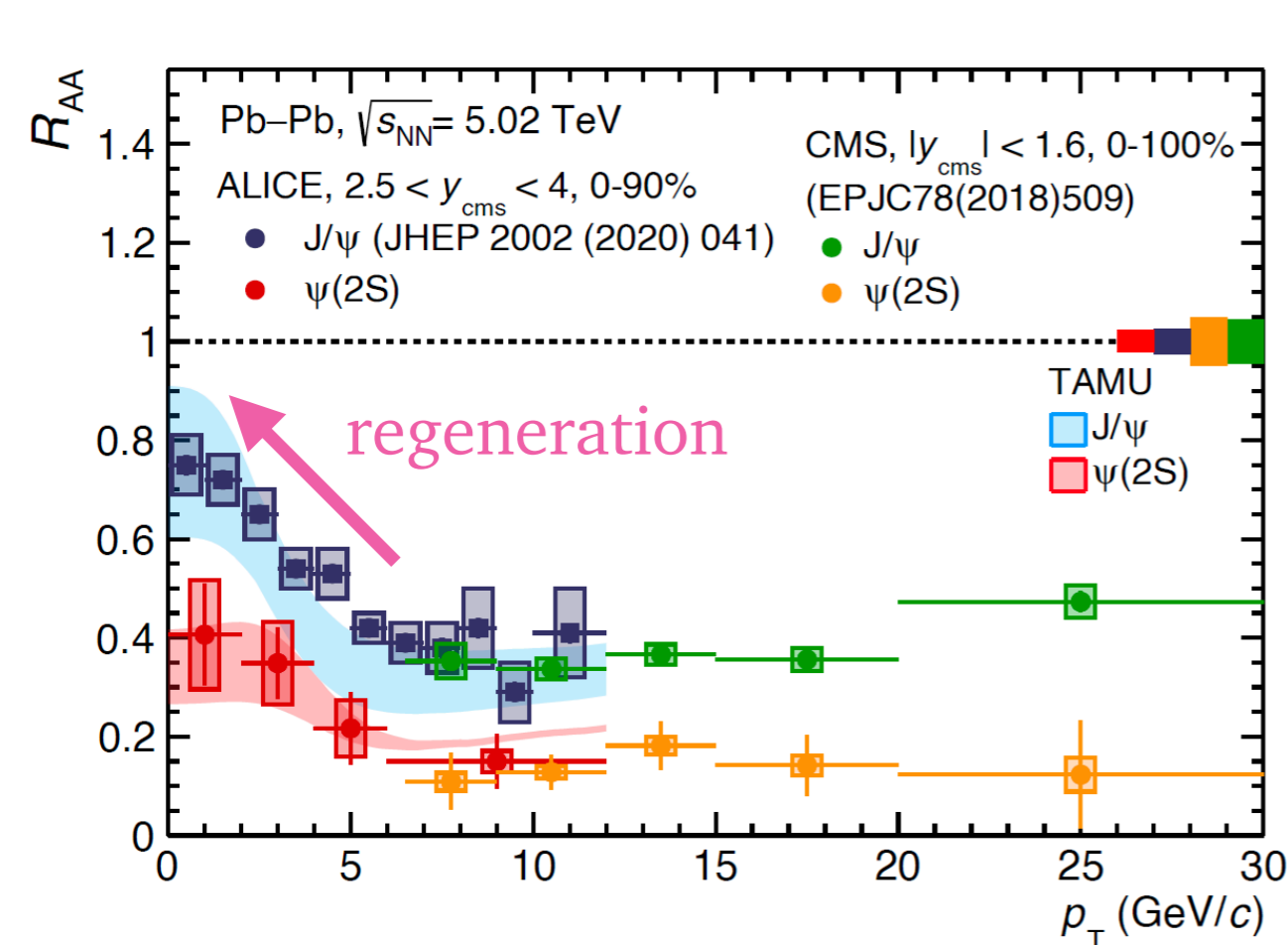
CMS Collaboration, [arXiv.2303.17026](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.17026)

# Quarkonia

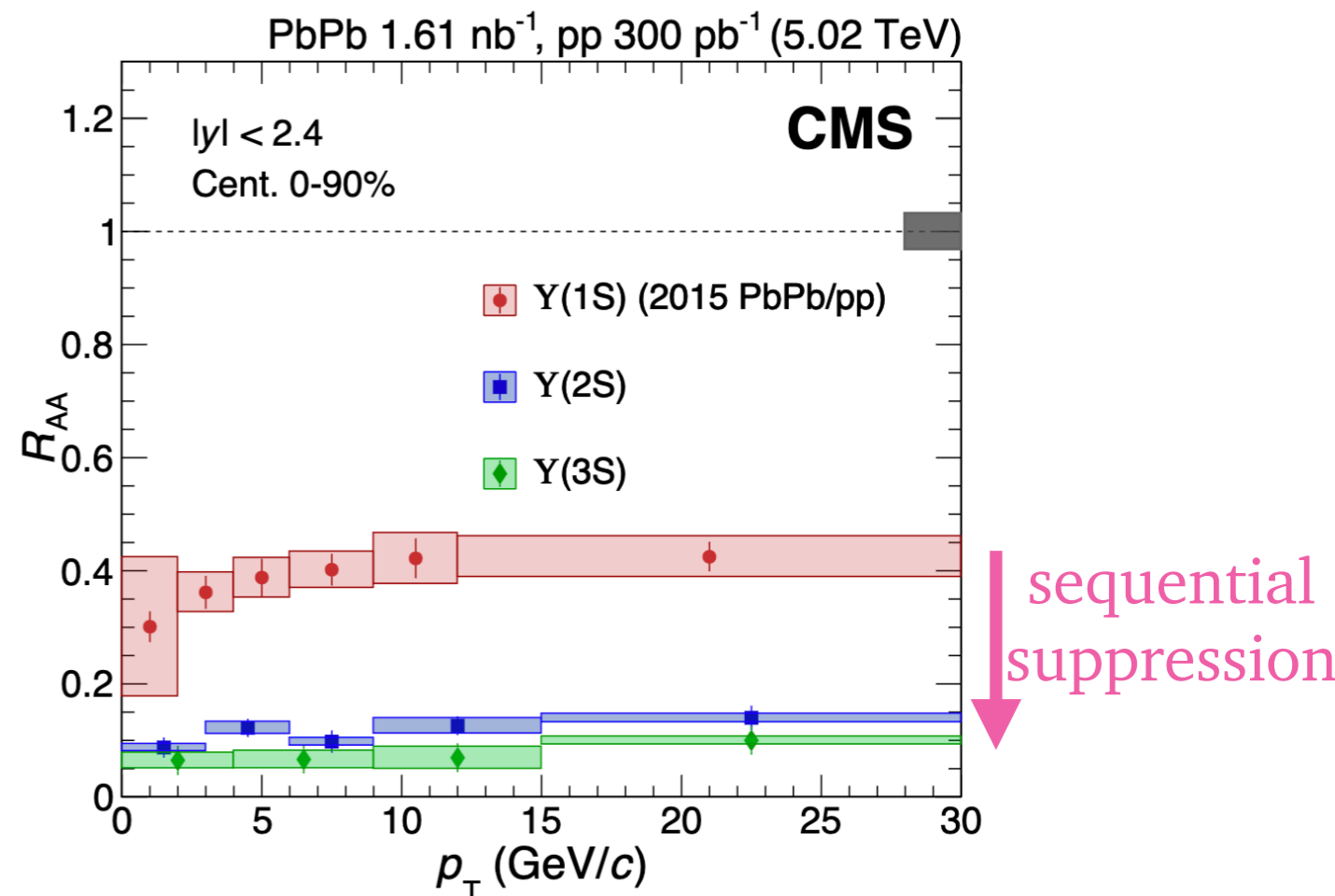


- **Sequential suppression of bottomonia:** less tightly bound states are more suppressed
- Charmonia: sequential suppression + regeneration

$$R_{AA} = \frac{\text{Pb-Pb}}{\text{scaled pp}}$$



ALICE Collaboration, [arXiv:2210.08893](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.08893)

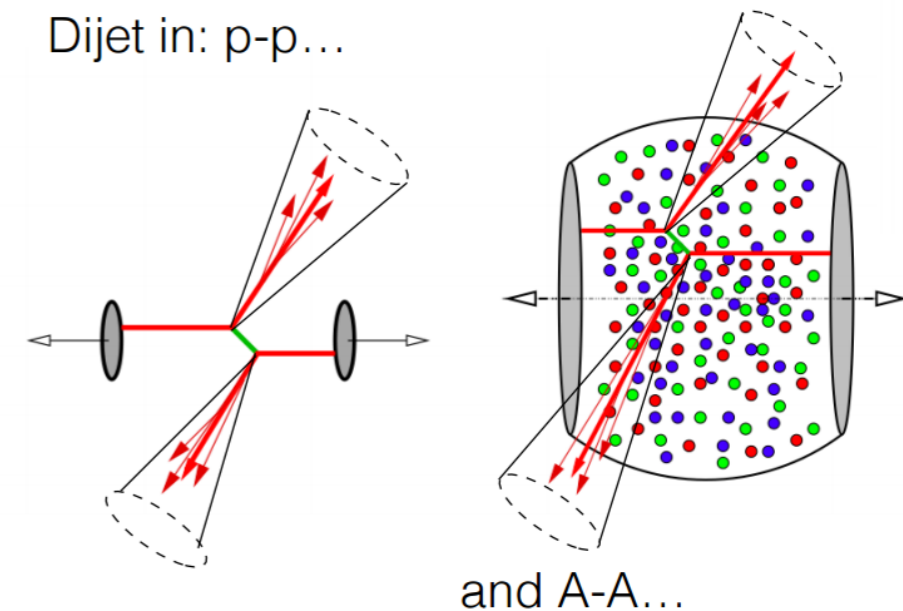


CMS Collaboration, [arXiv.2303.17026](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.17026)

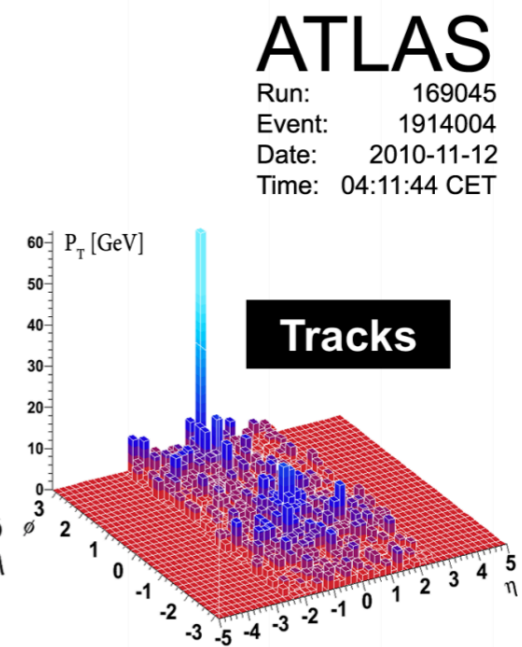
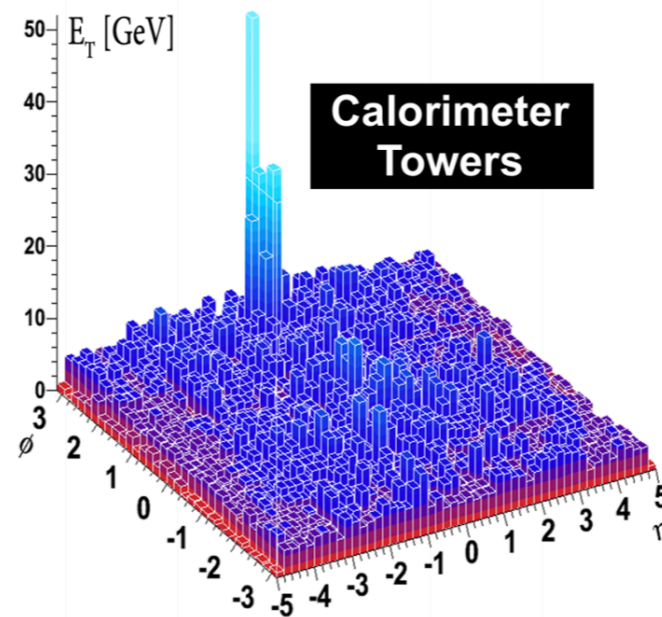
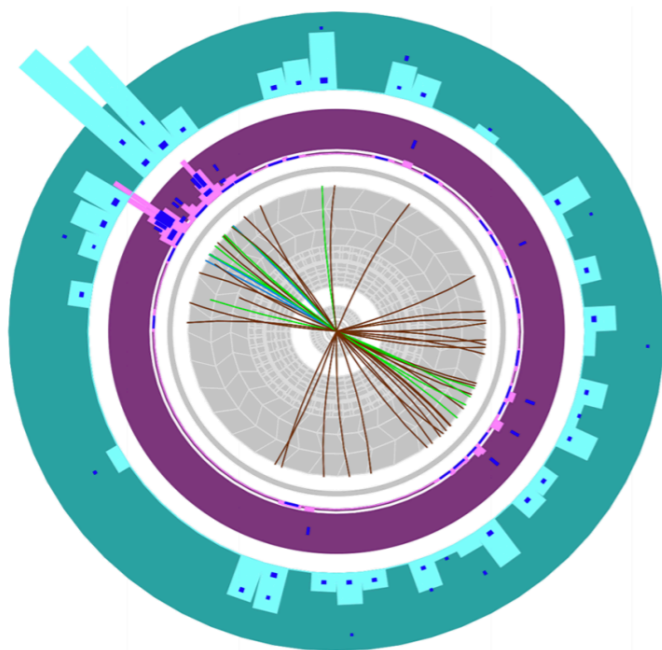
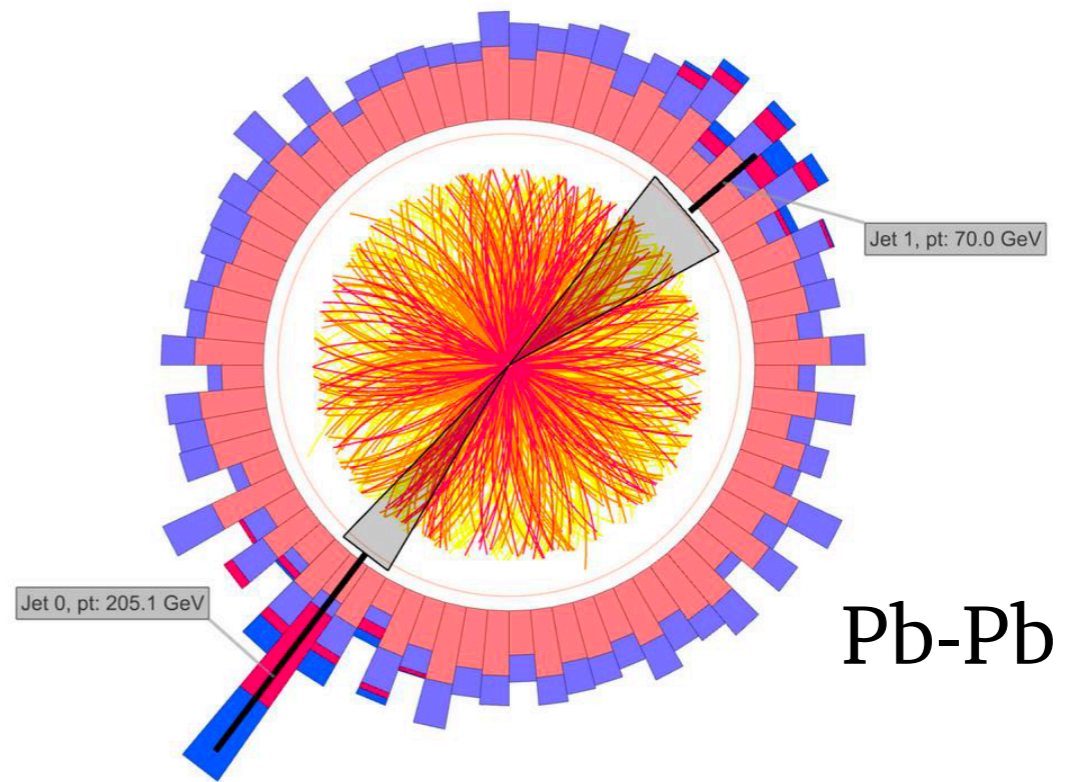
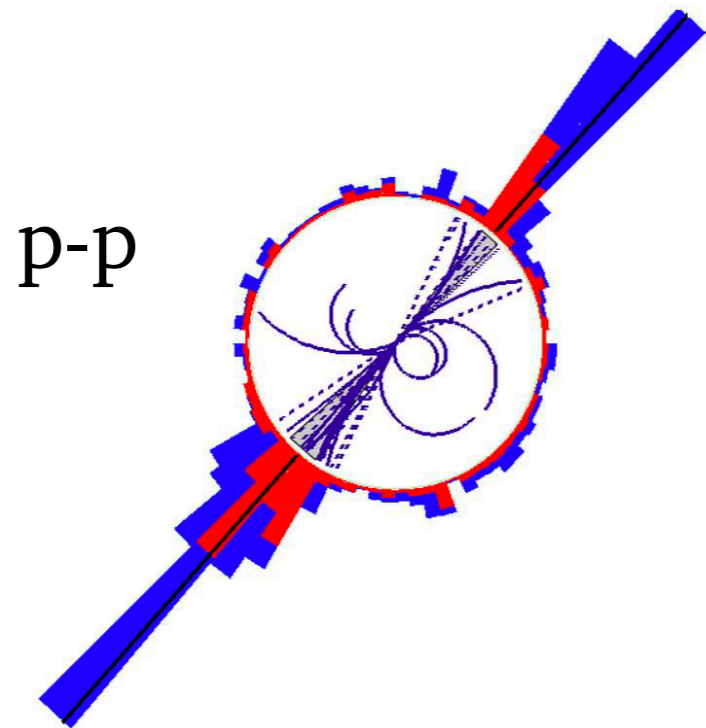


# Why jets?

- Production of high-energy partons unlikely to interfere with the medium formation
- Sensitive to the QGP dynamics through **jet quenching: jets interact with the QGP getting modified w.r.t p-p jets**
  - In principle: under control in p-p collisions
- They witness the full system evolution
- **Multi-scale** objects: access to **different time** and **energy scales**



# Jet quenching

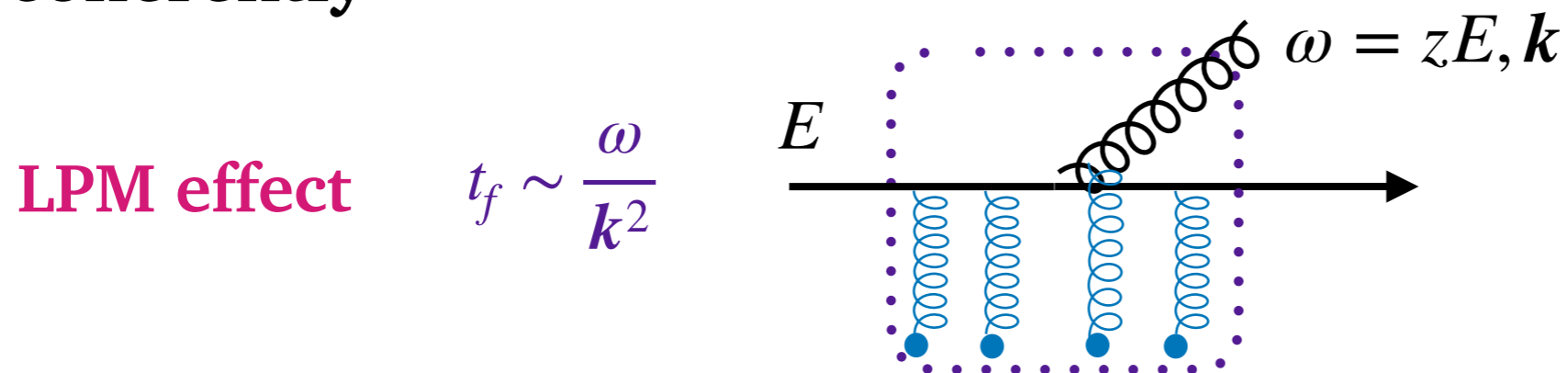


# Medium-induced radiation

- The main contribution to energy loss in the **QGP** is radiative energy loss  
Dominant for light quarks and gluons

High-energy partons experience **multiple scatterings with the medium** which induce **extra gluon radiation** (w.r.t. p-p)

- During the formation time of the gluon **multiple scatterings act coherently**

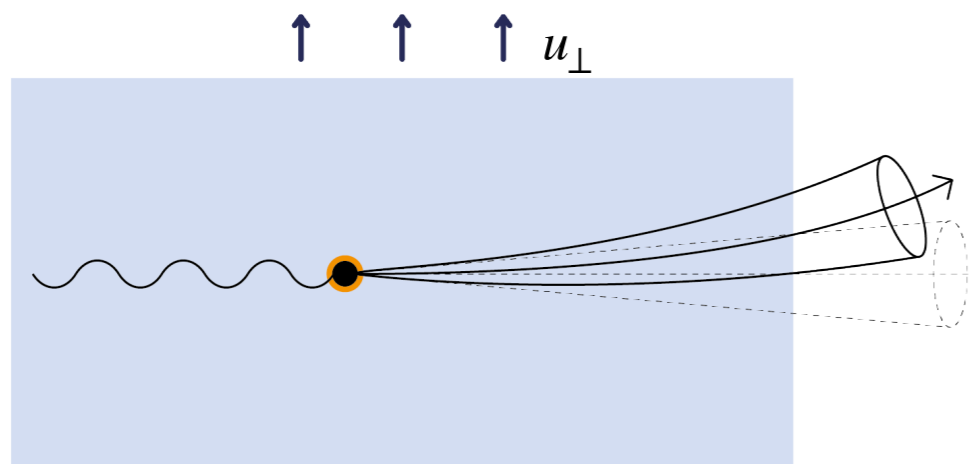


**Suppression of the spectrum for large formation times**

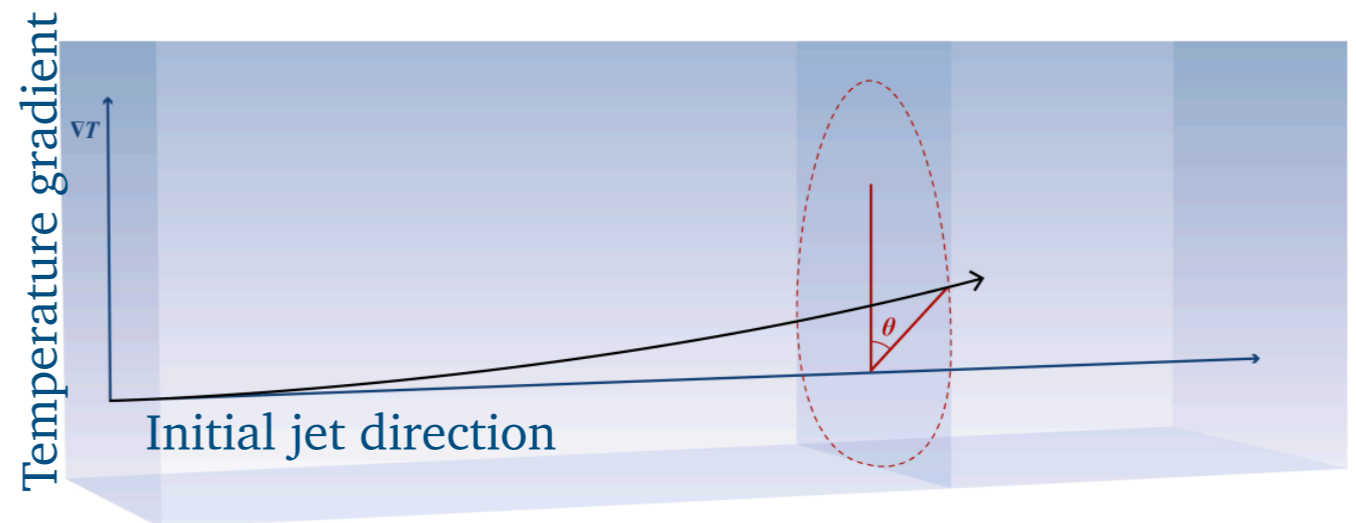
- Resummation of multiple scatterings: **BDMPS-Z formalism (1990's)**

# Medium-induced radiation and transverse dynamics

- Jets decouple from the medium transverse dynamics in the **usual** (*eikonal*) medium-induced approaches



Uniform transverse flow



Transverse temperature gradients

- Need of **generalizing** the medium-induced formalisms to account for  $\mathcal{O}(1/\omega)$  (*subeikonal*) terms

Sadofyev, Sievert, Vitev, [2104.09513](#)

CA, Dominguez, Sadofyev, Salgado, [2207.07141](#)

Barata, Sadofyev, Wang [2210.06519](#)

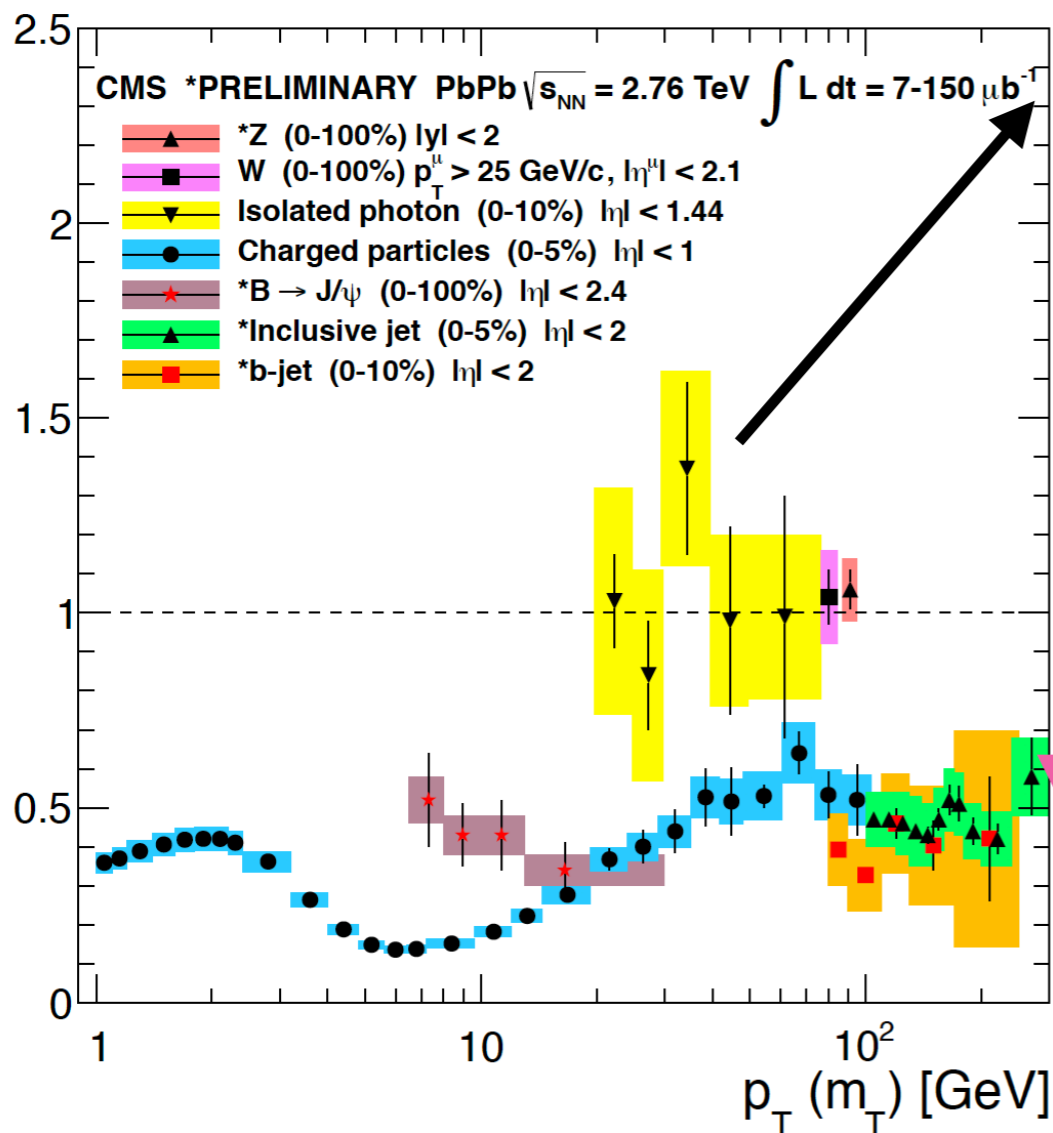
Barata, Mayo López, Sadofyev, Salgado, [2304.03712](#)

Kuzmin, Mayo López, and Reiten, and Sadofyev, [2309.00683](#)

# Jet quenching

- Traditionally, jet quenching aims at extracting **properties of the QGP**
- $\hat{q}$ : average transverse momentum transfer per unit length

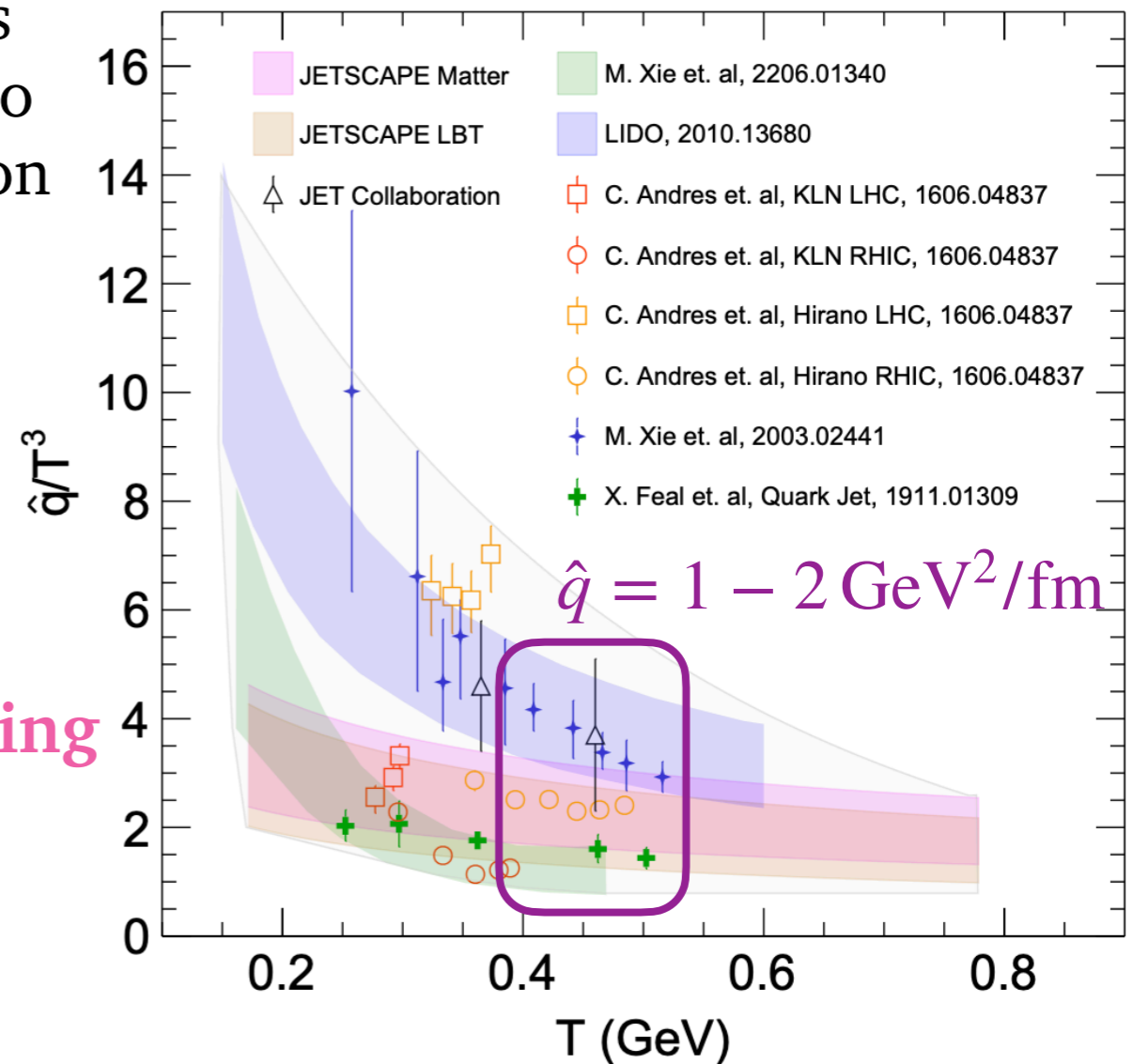
$$R_{AA} = \frac{\text{Pb-Pb } \bigcirc}{\text{scaled } \otimes \text{pp } \bullet \rightarrow \bullet}$$



Colorless probes: no suppression

[A. Florent - Hard Probes 2013]

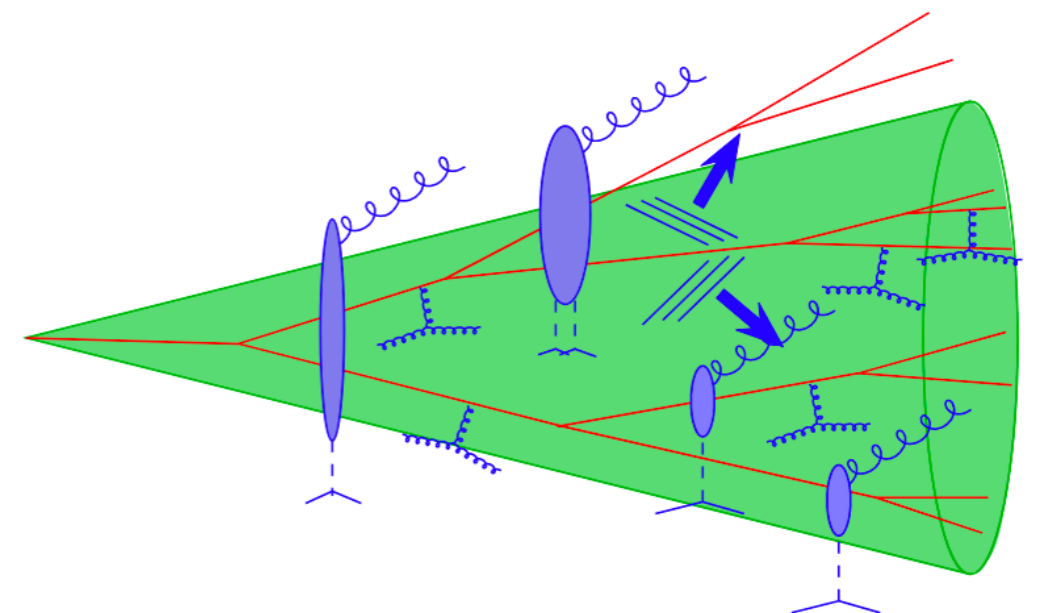
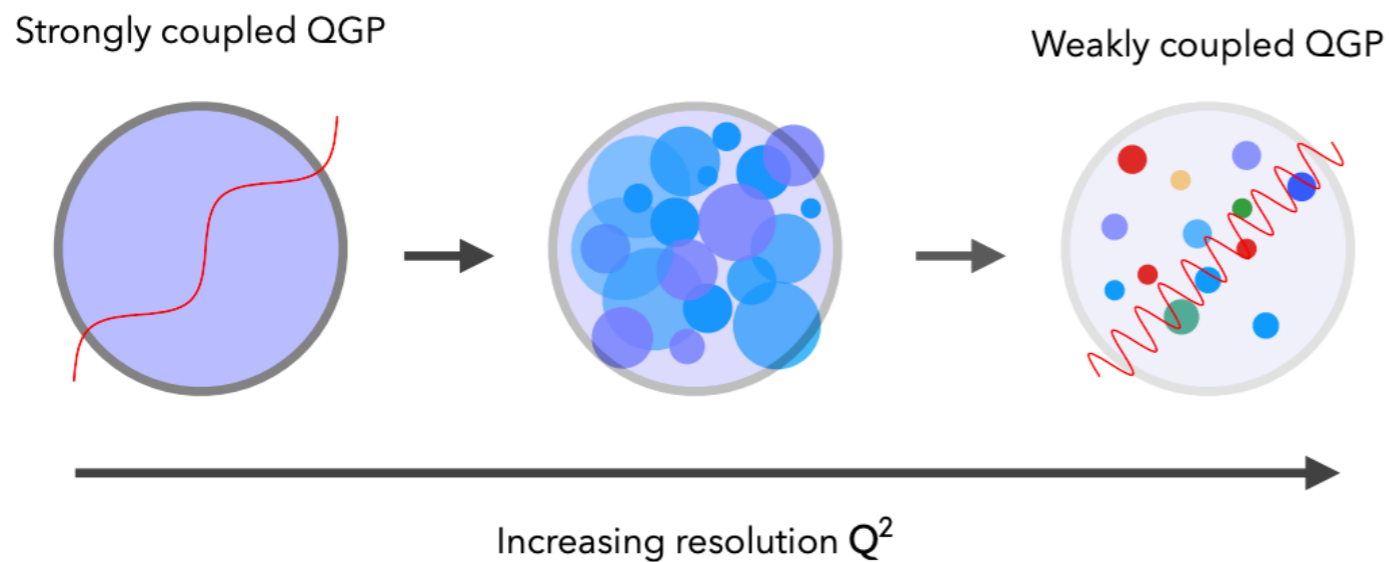
Jet quenching



Apolinario, Lee, Winn, [2203.16352](#)

# Jet substructure

How does a **strongly-coupled fluid** emerge from the **weakly-coupled quarks and gluons**?



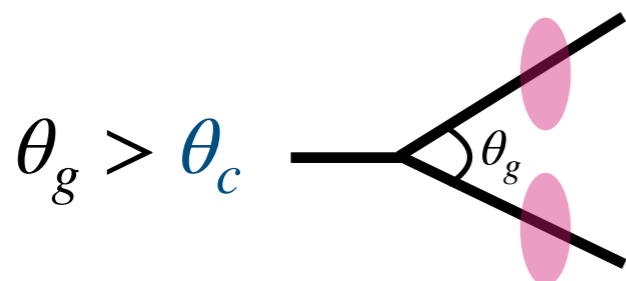
[Courtesy of K. Zapp]

Use **jets' inner structure** to probe the QGP at **various length scales**

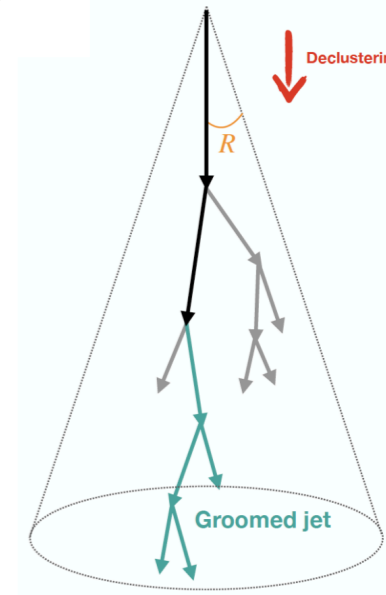
# Color coherence

Mehtar-Tani, Salgado, Tywoniuk, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 106 (2011) 122002,  
*Phys. Lett B* 707 (2012) 156, *JHEP* 10 (2012) 197  
 J. Casalderrey-Solana and E. Iancu, *JHEP* 08 (2011) 015

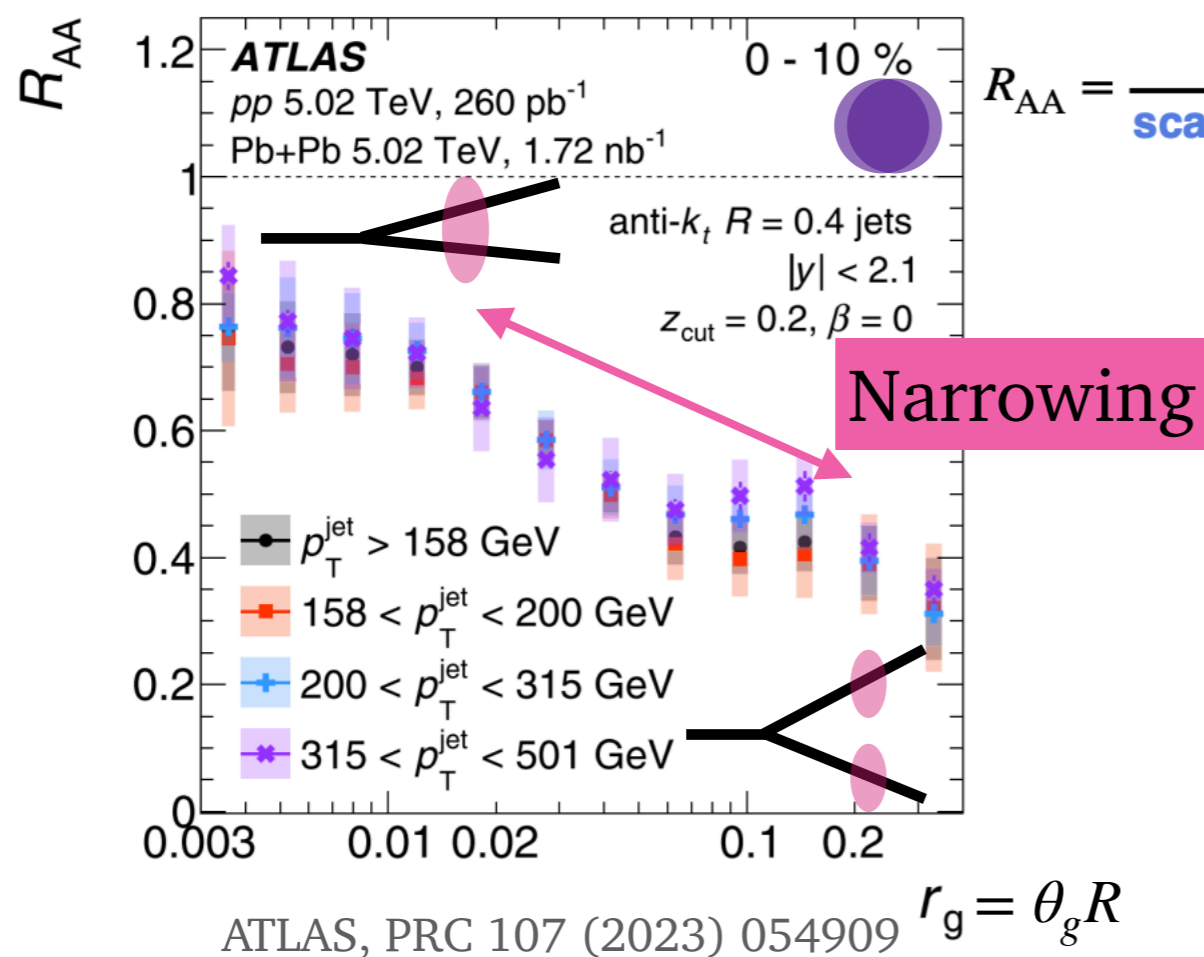
- Splittings with small opening angle cannot be resolved by the medium:



Groomed jet radius

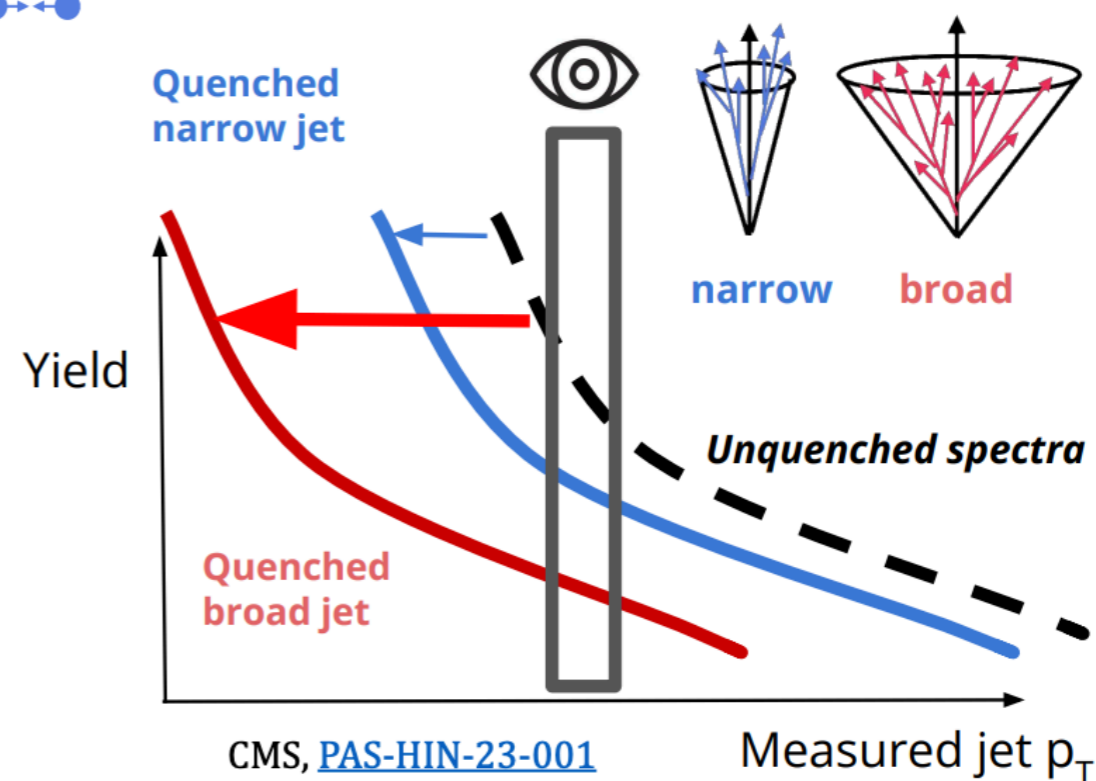


Sketch by Rey Torres



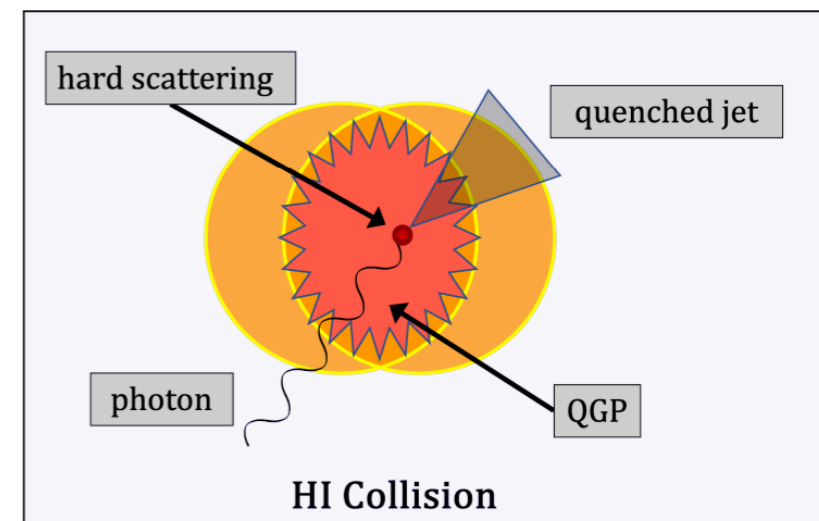
$$R_{AA} = \frac{\text{Pb-Pb}}{\text{scaled } \otimes \text{ pp}}$$

Jet quenching bias

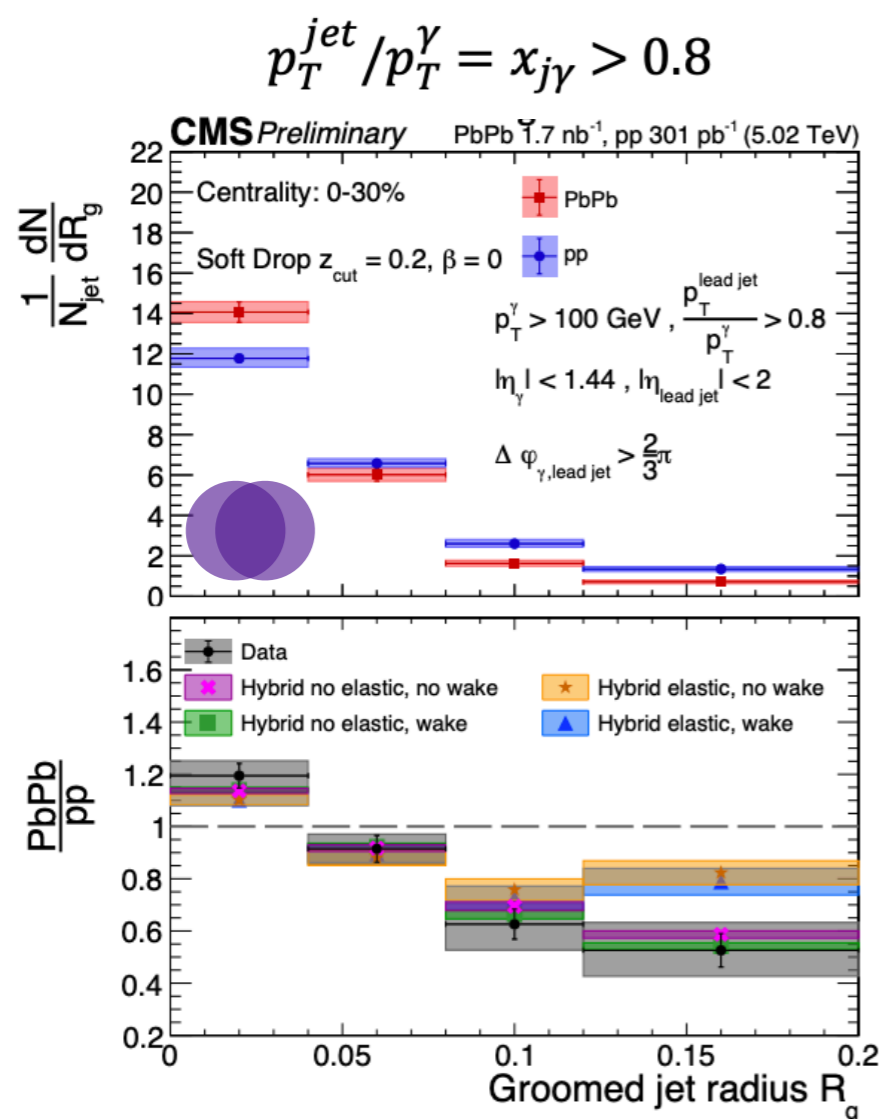


# Color coherence

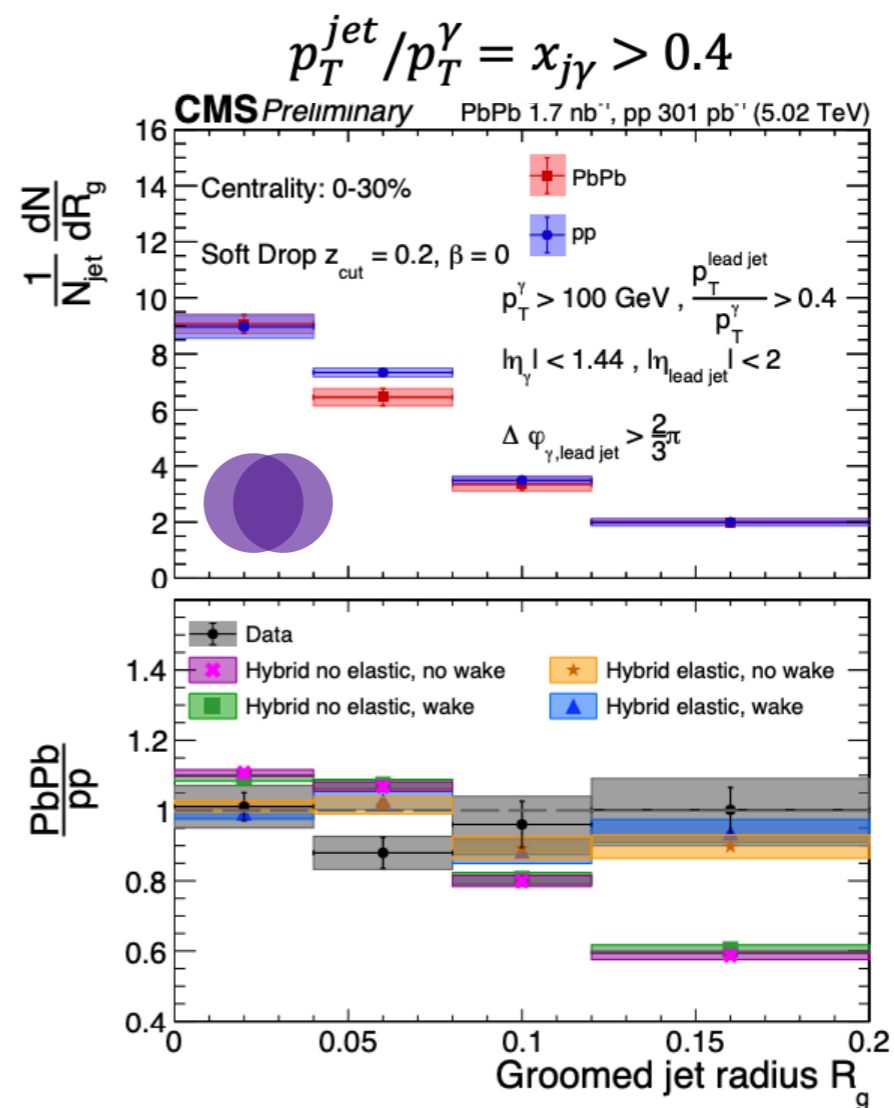
- Use photon-tagged jets



CMS-PAS-HIN-23-001



Less quenched jets  
Narrowing

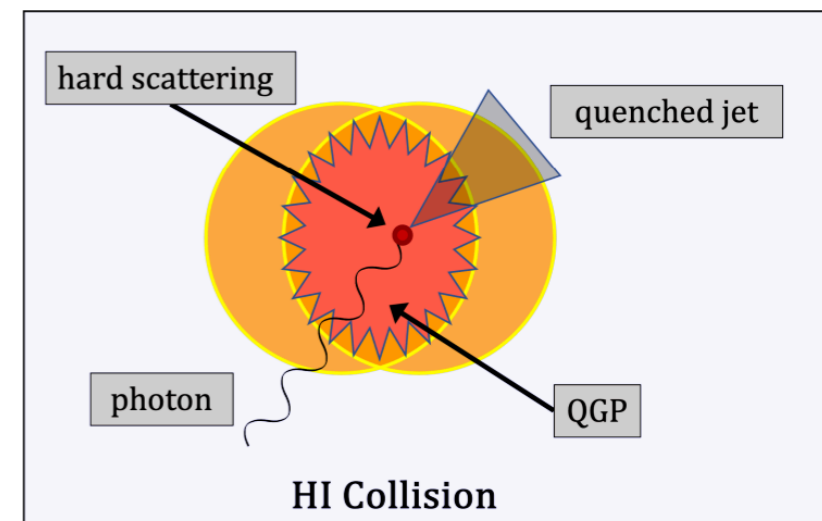


Quenched and unquenched jets  
No narrowing



# Color coherence

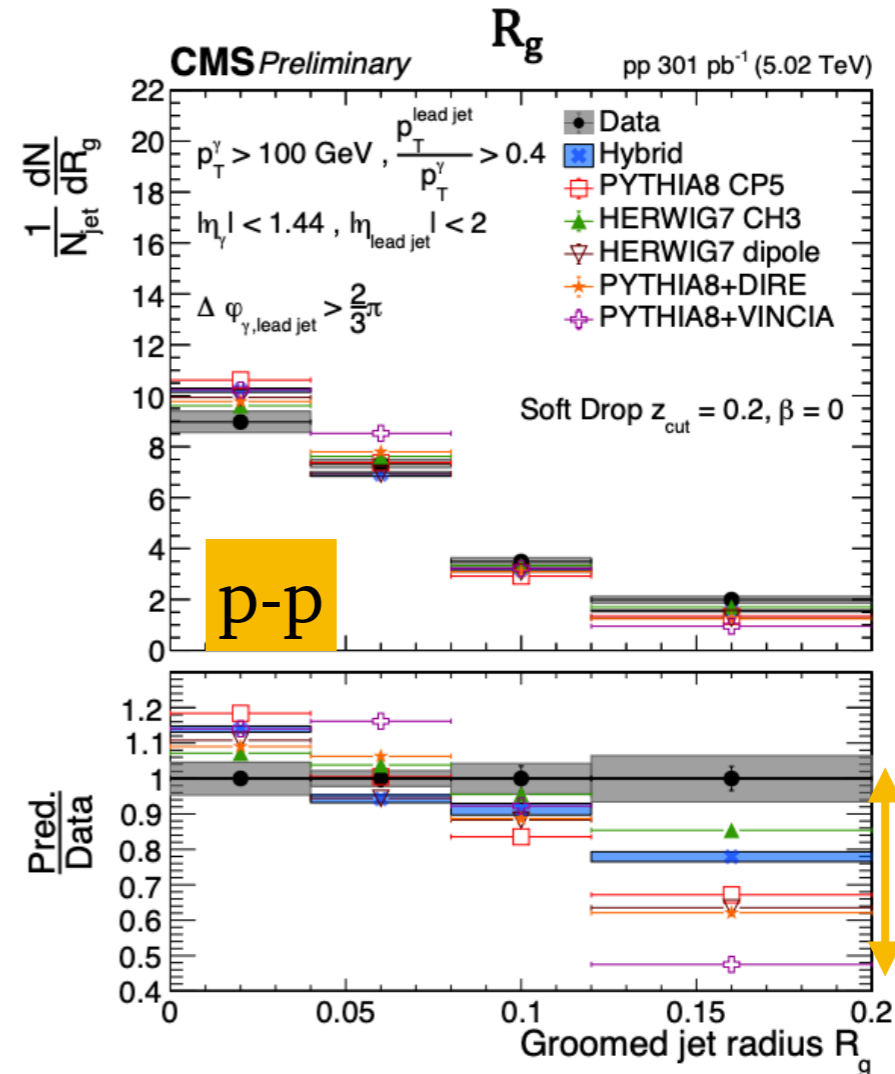
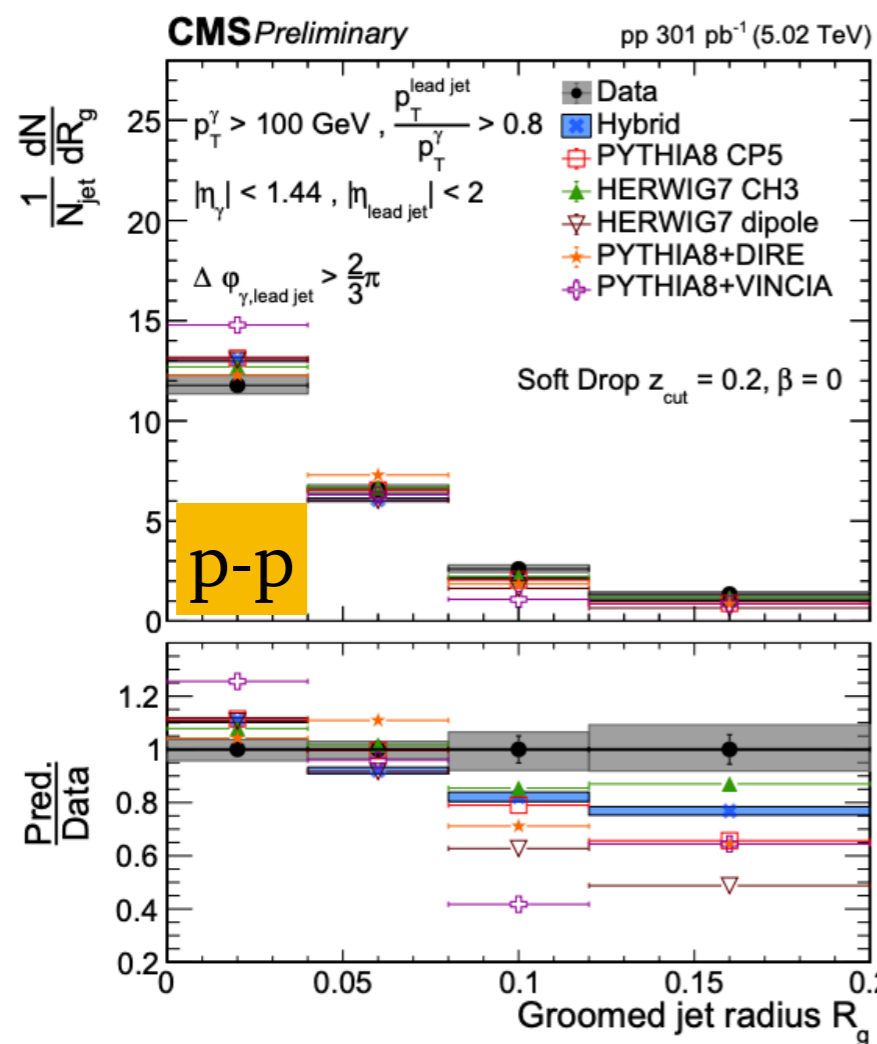
- Use photon-tagged jets



CMS-PAS-HIN-23-001

$$p_T^{jet} / p_T^\gamma = x_{j\gamma} > 0.8$$

$$p_T^{jet} / p_T^\gamma = x_{j\gamma} > 0.4$$

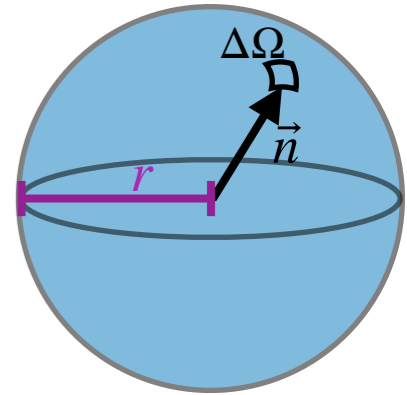


**p-p baseline not under control!**

# New tools: energy correlators

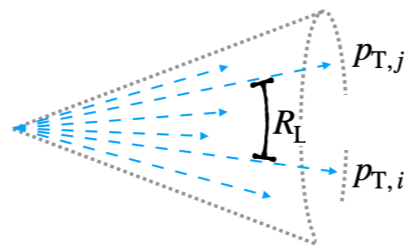
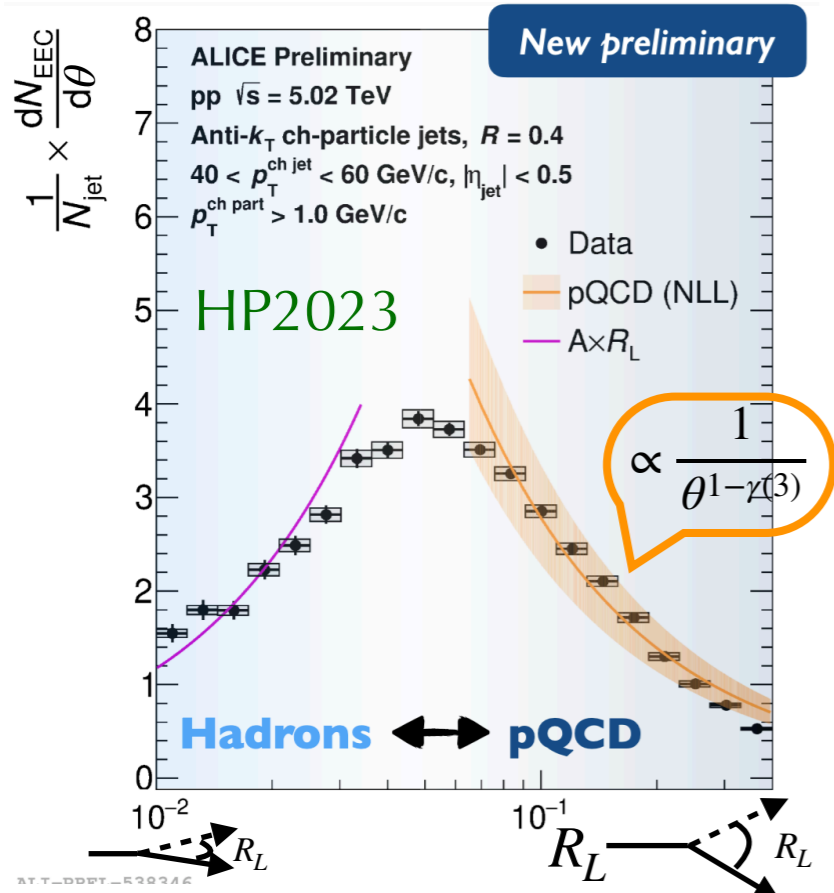
- Correlators  $\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_k) \rangle$  of the **energy flux**:
- Substructure without declustering
- Well-controlled p-p baseline (measured this year for the first time)

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int dt r^2 n^i T_{0i}(t, r\vec{n})$$



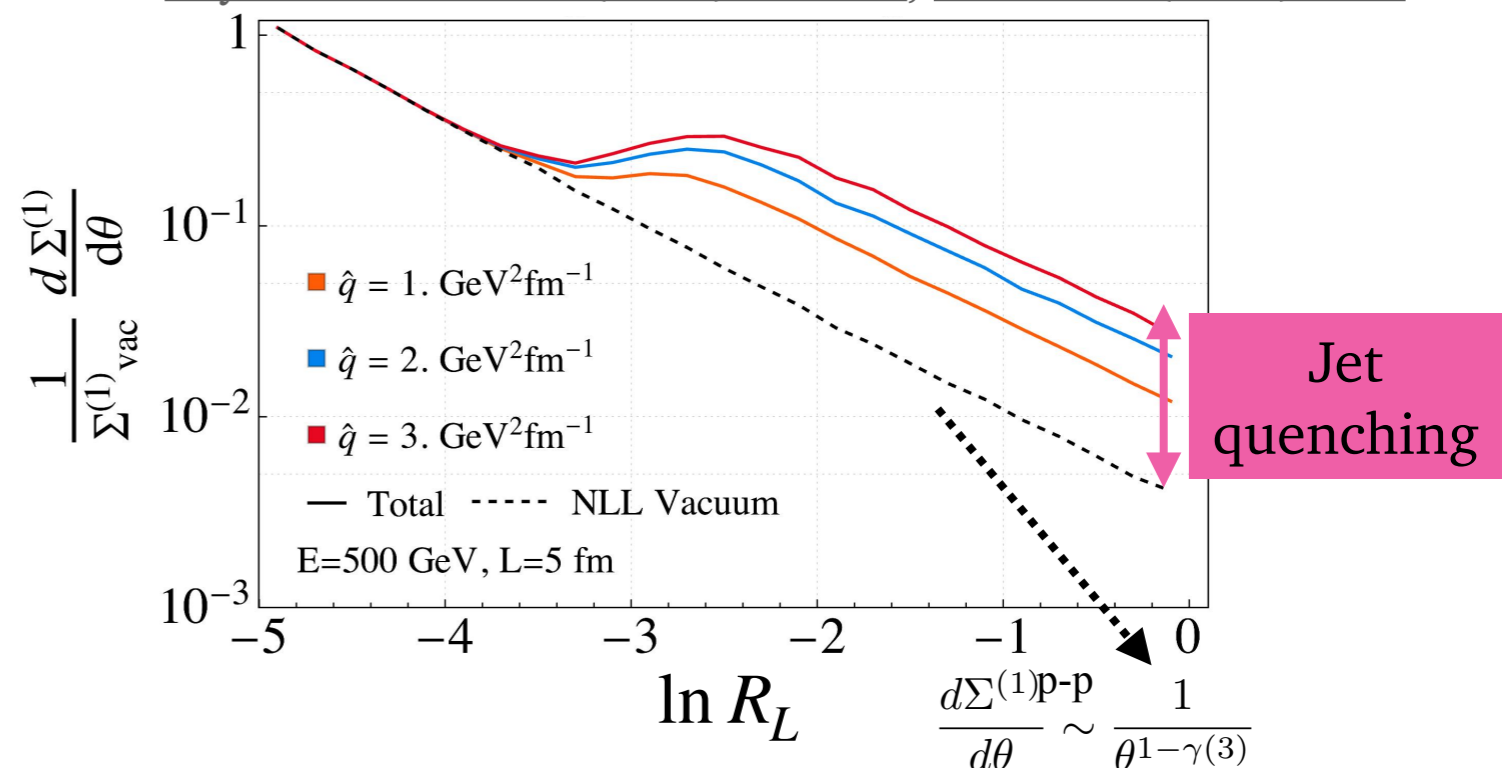
Komiske, Mout, Thaler, Zhu, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 130 (2023) 051901

## 2-point EEC in p-p



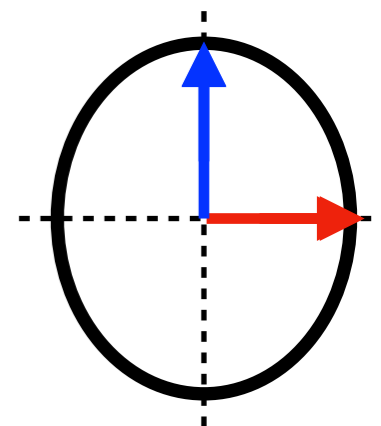
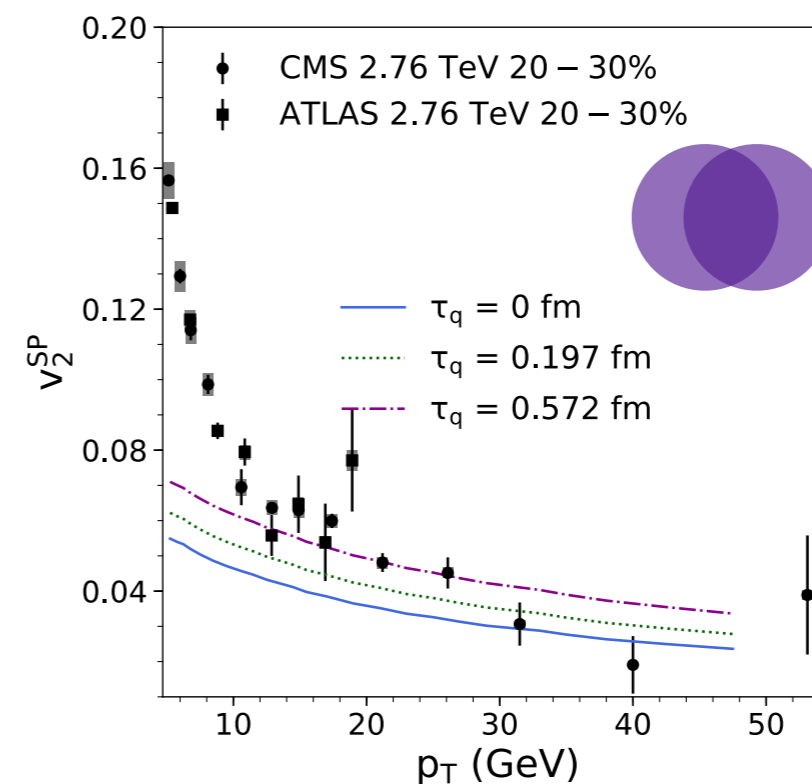
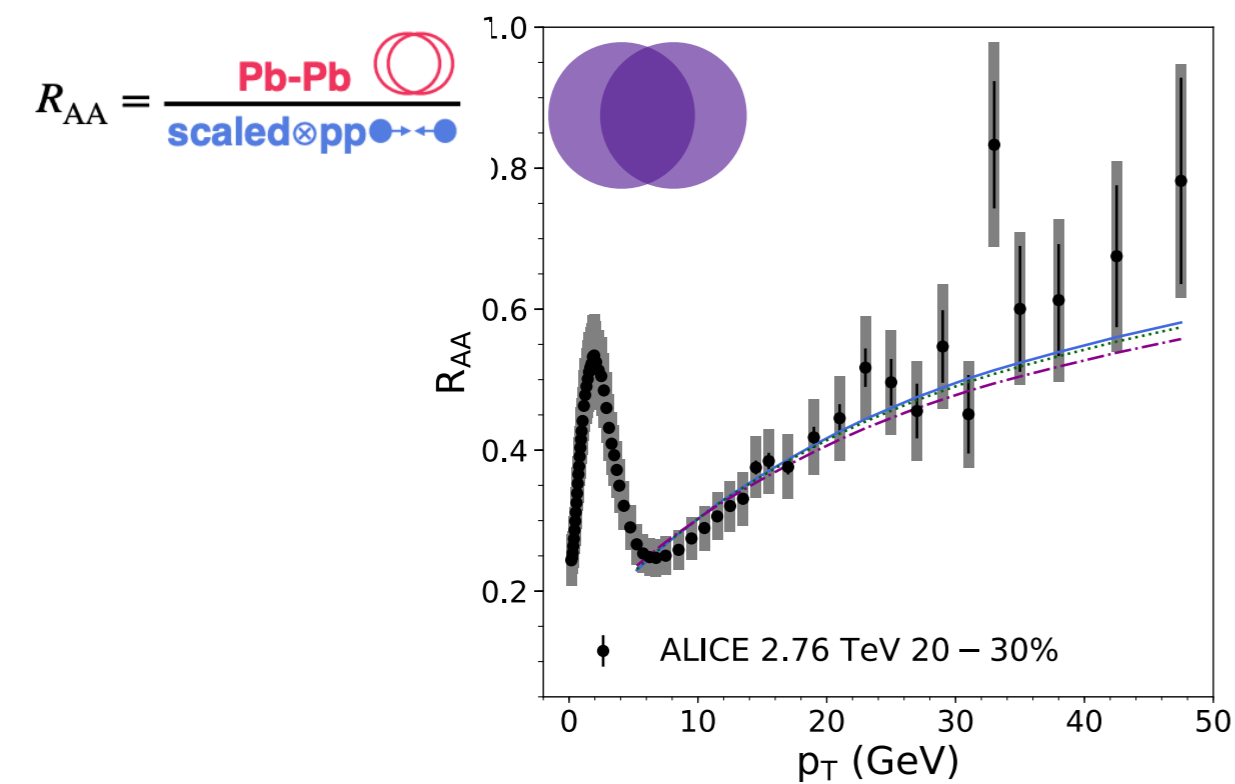
## 2-point EEC in A-A

CA, Dominguez, Elayavalli, Holguin, Marquet, Mout, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 130 (2023) 262301, *JHEP* 09 (2023) 088



# Jet quenching in the initial stages?

- Jet quenching not (yet?) observed in small systems
- In small systems the **pre-hydrodynamics stages** are specially important
- Jets **sensitive to the pre-hydrodynamics** stages

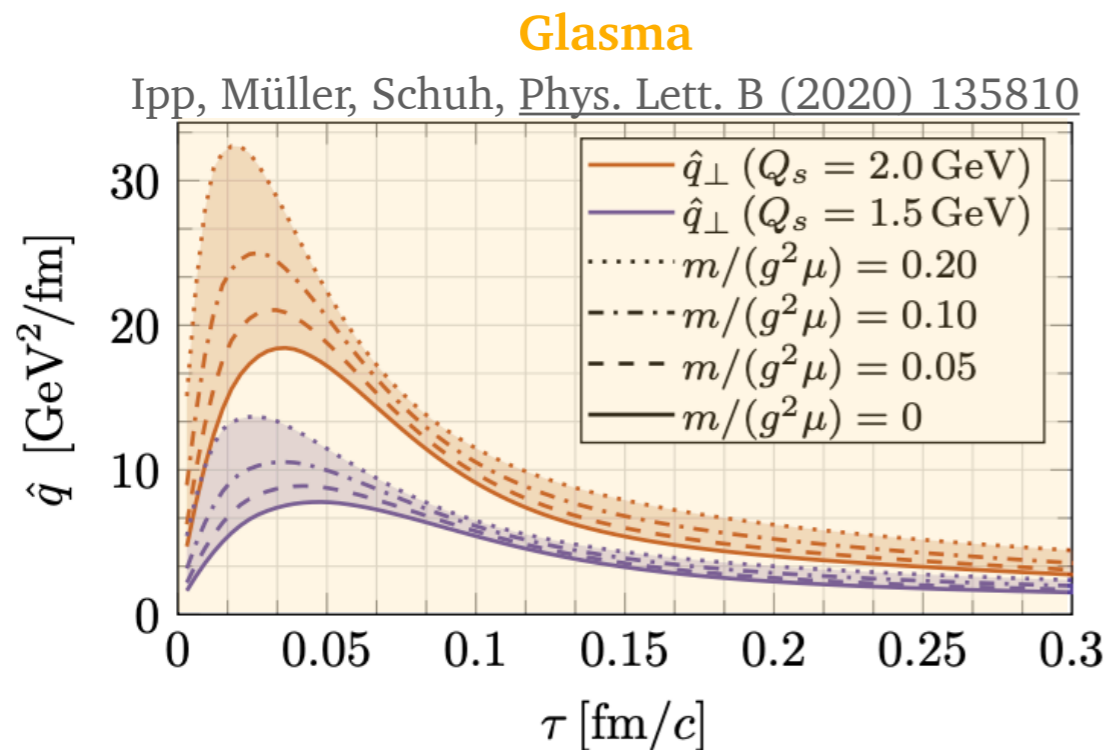


CA, Armesto, Niemi, Paatelainen, Salgado, *Phys. Lett. B* 803 (2020) 135318

**Understanding jet quenching in these stages becomes crucial!**

# Jet quenching in the initial stages?

- Many new developments in the computation of the **broadening in the pre-hydrodynamic stages**

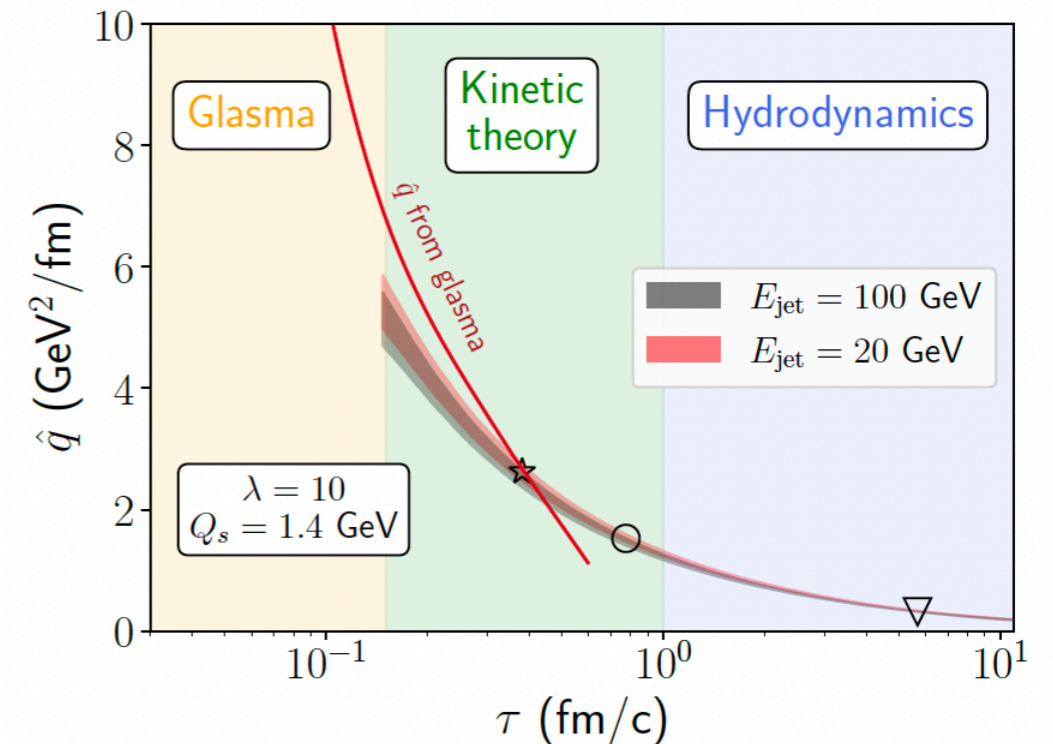


In the Glasma phase:

Ipp, Müller, Schuh,  
Phys. Rev. D 102, 074001 (2020)  
Phys. Lett. B 810 (2020) 135810

Carrington, Czajka, Mrówczyński,  
Phys. Lett. B 834 (2022) 137464  
Phys Rev C. 105 (2022) 6, 064910

Avramescu, Baran, Greco, Ipp, Müller,  
 Ruggieri, Phys. Rev. D 107 (2023), 114021



Within Kinetic theory

Boguslavski, Kurkela, Lappi,  
 Lindenbauer, Peuron, 2303.12595

$\hat{q}$  relatively large!

# Conclusions

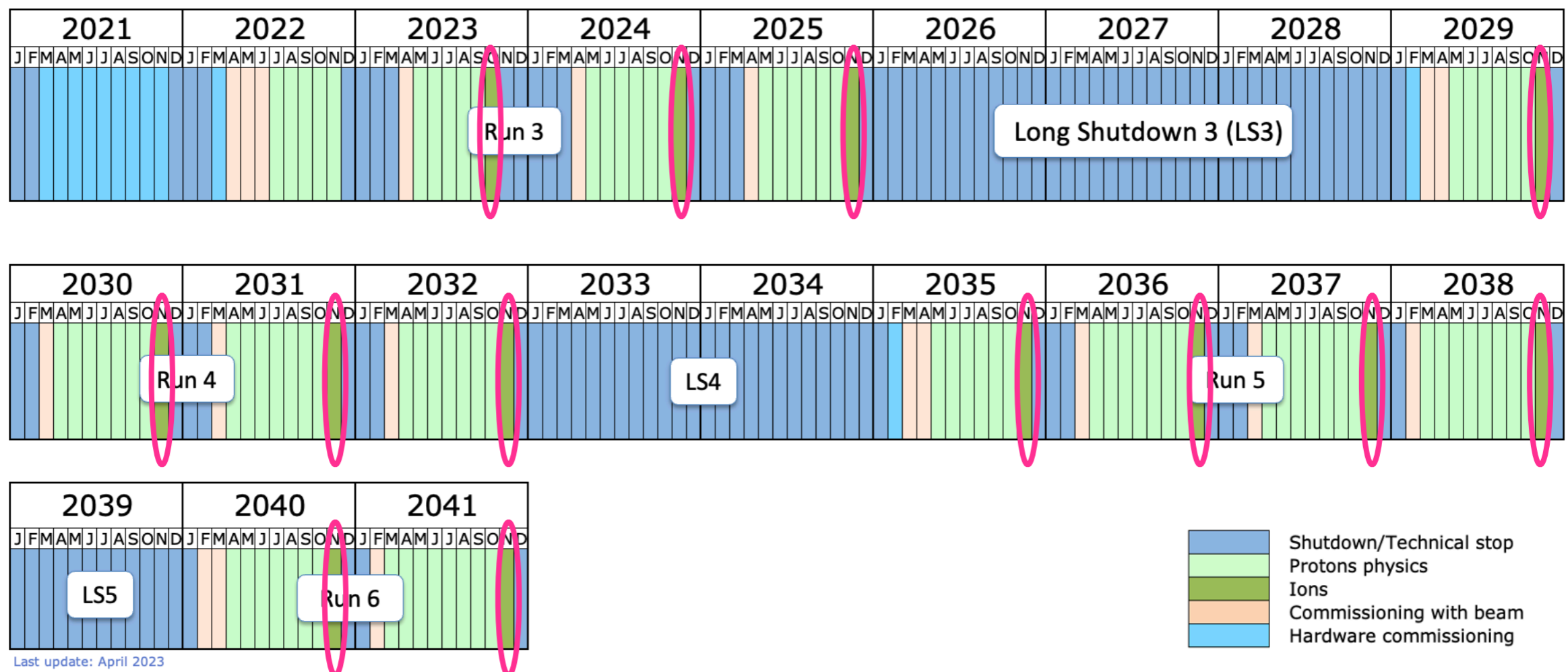
- QCD has a **rich dynamics** within experimental reach
- QCD **EoS for both hot and cold dense matter** can be studied using different experimental tools
  - Heavy-ion colliders: for hot and low baryon chemical potential
  - First constraints from **gravitational waves** on EoS of the core of **neutron stars**
- Hot QCD at RHIC and at the LHC
  - Continuous progress on the characterization of the QGP
  - Many interesting questions to be answered in the next decade

**How does a strongly-coupled fluid emerge from an asymptotically free gauge theory?**

# Future of HICs

- sPHENIX experiment at RHIC (BNL): HI runs up to 2025
- HI runs at the LHC (CERN) up to 2041!

18 more years of heavy-ion physics at the LHC!



- New ion facilities: FAIR (Germany), NICA (Russia), EIC (USA)

Gracias!