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ELECTROMAGNETIC AND WEAK PROBES: THEORY

**THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HARD AND ELECTROMAGNETIC PROBES
OF HIGH-ENERGY NUCLEAR COLLISIONS**

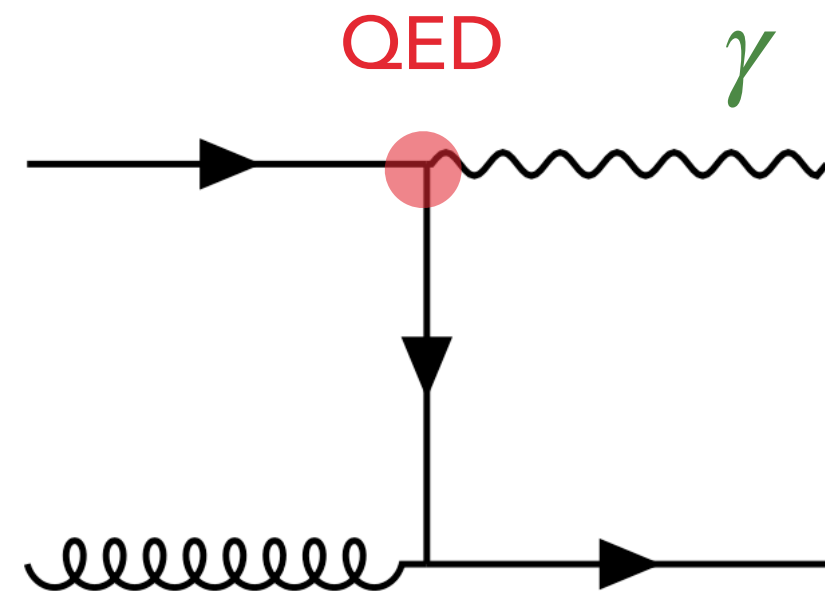
NAGASAKI, JAPAN

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

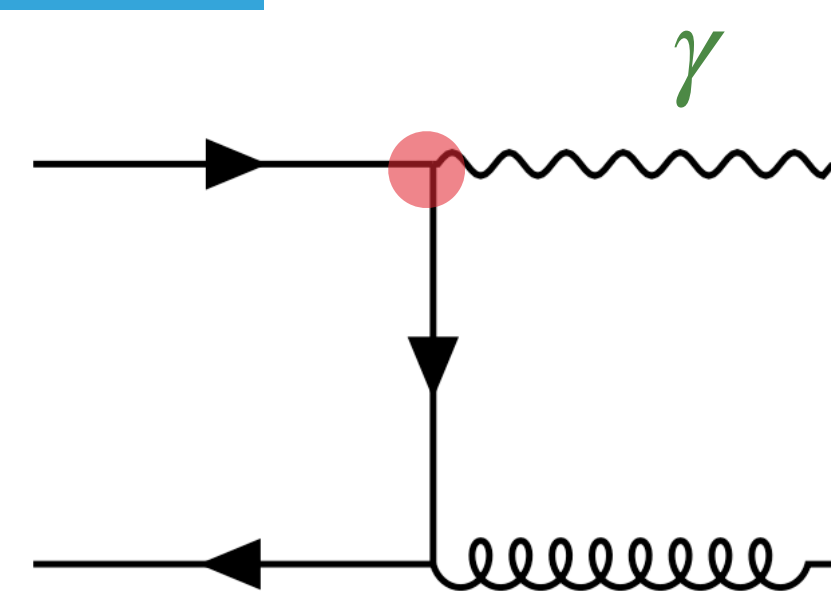
Weak probes covered in *Nuclear PDFs* by Petja Paakkinen

INTRODUCTION

real photon

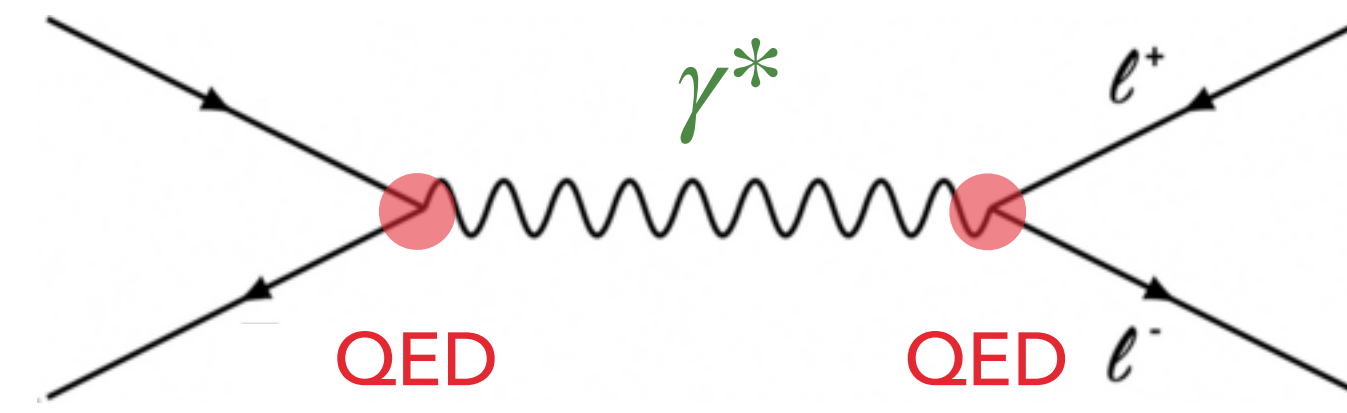


Compton scattering



quark-antiquark annihilation

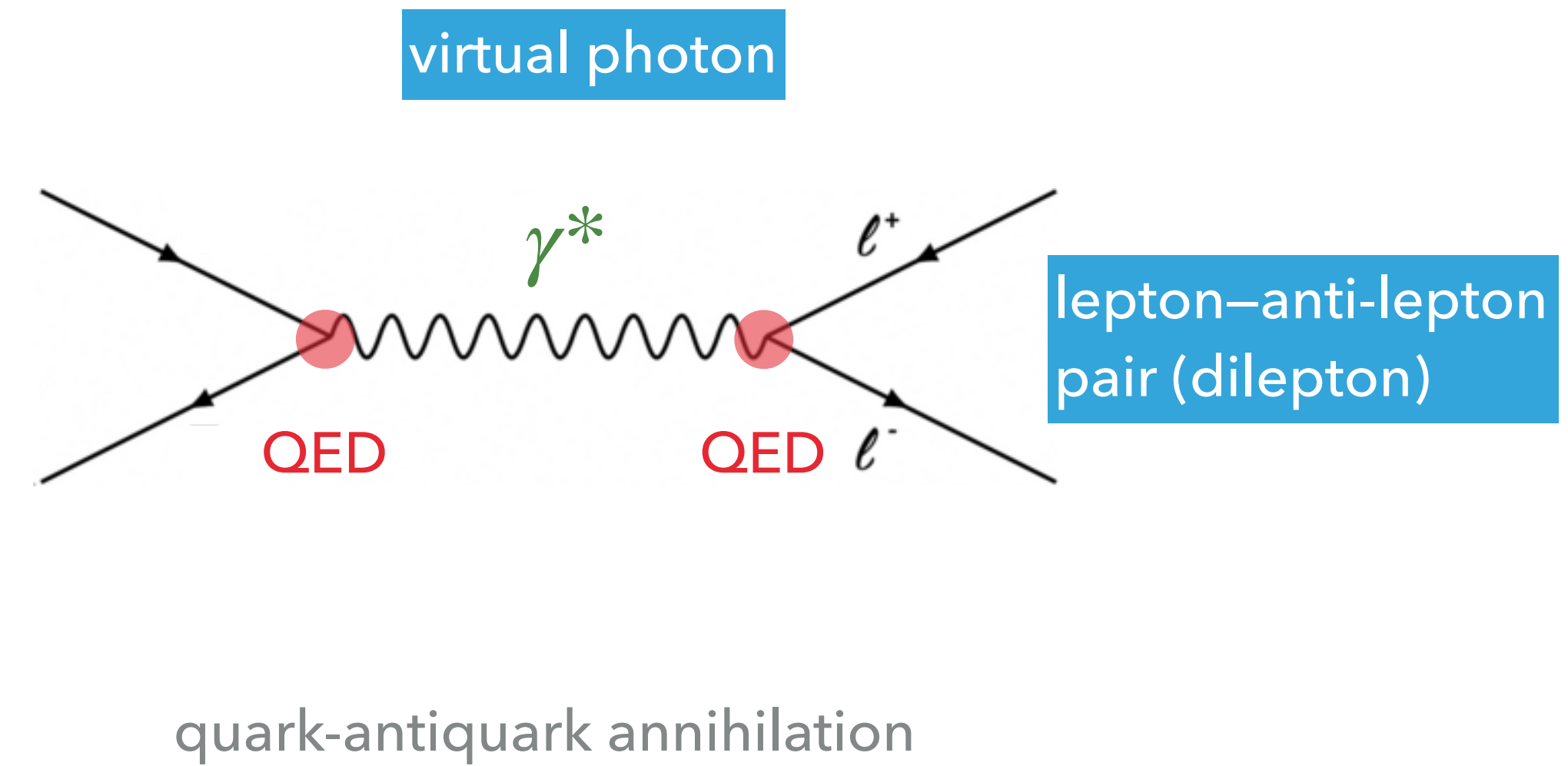
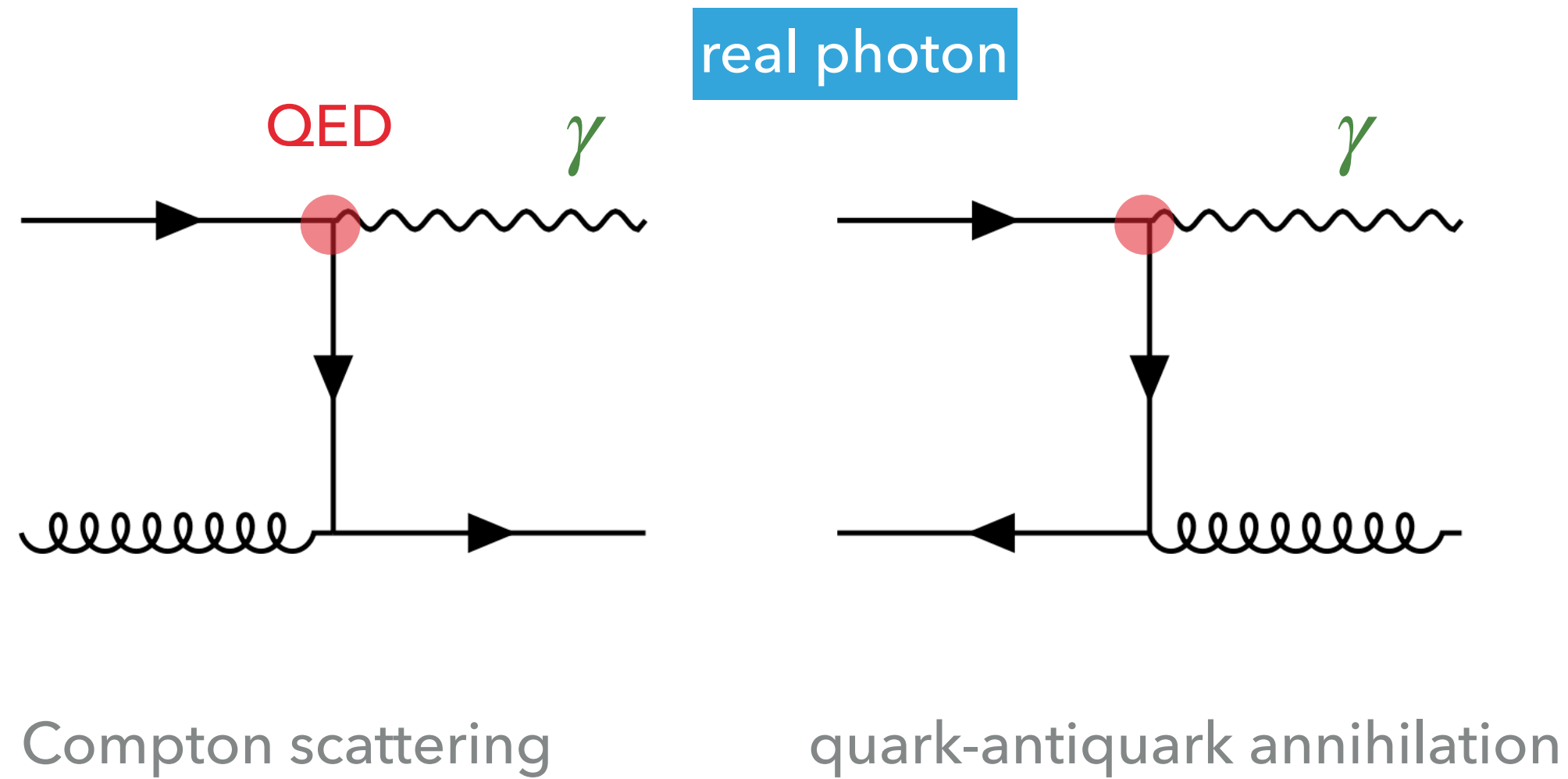
virtual photon



lepton-anti-lepton pair (dilepton)

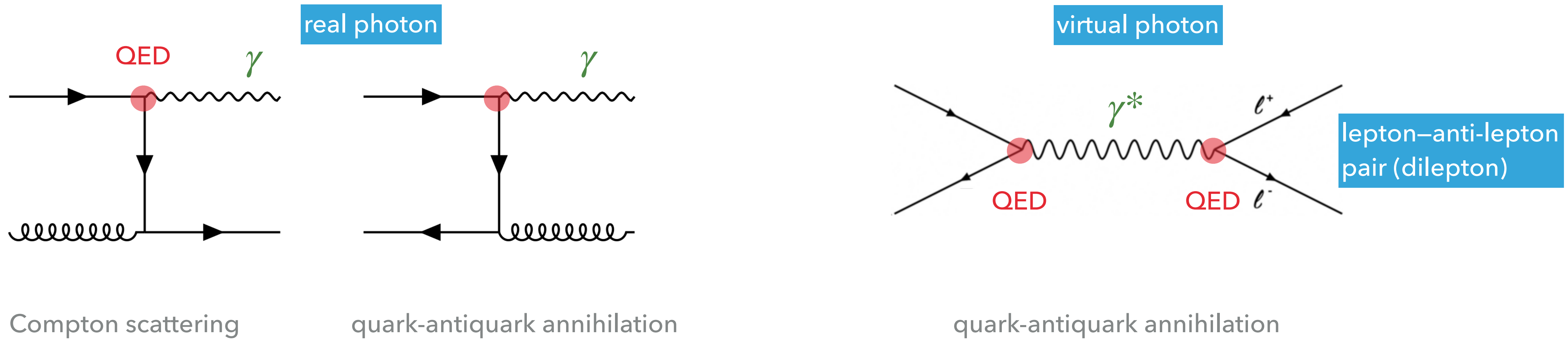
quark-antiquark annihilation

Four momentum $K^\mu = (\omega, \mathbf{k})$. real photon: massless, $\omega = k$; dilepton: invariant mass $M = \sqrt{\omega^2 - k^2}$



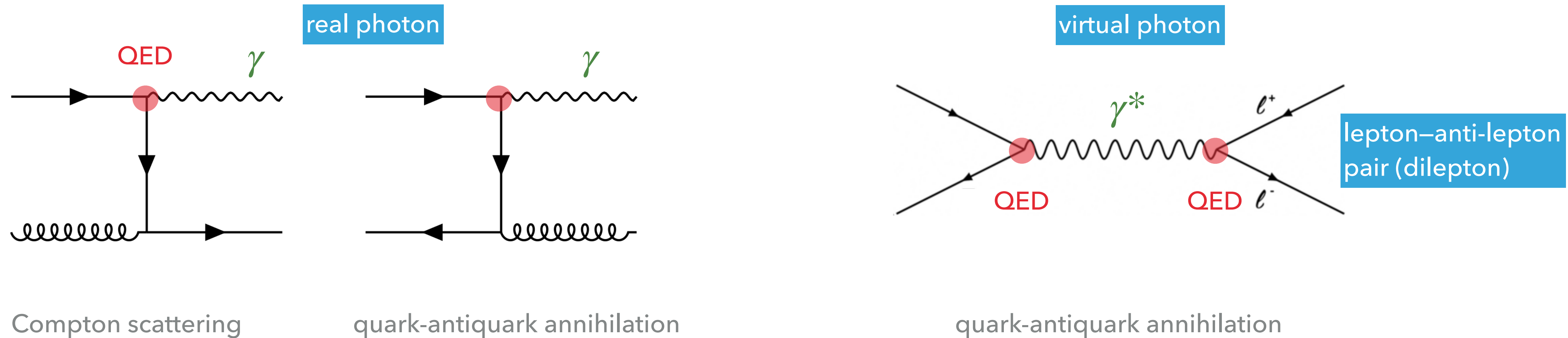
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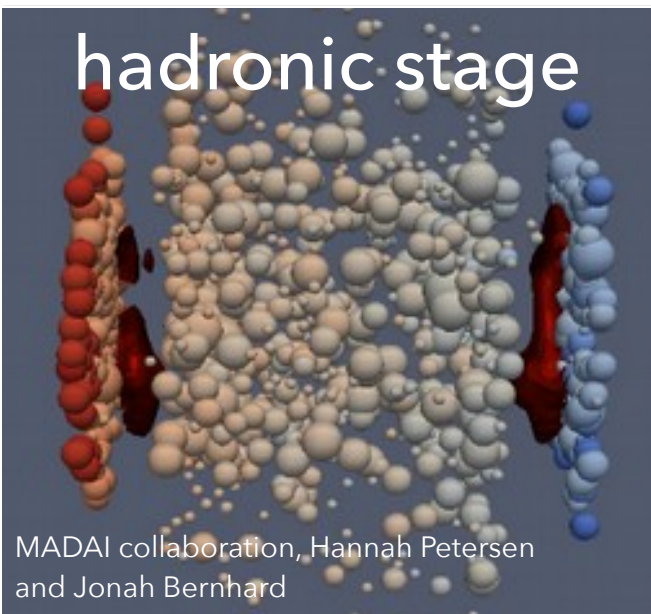
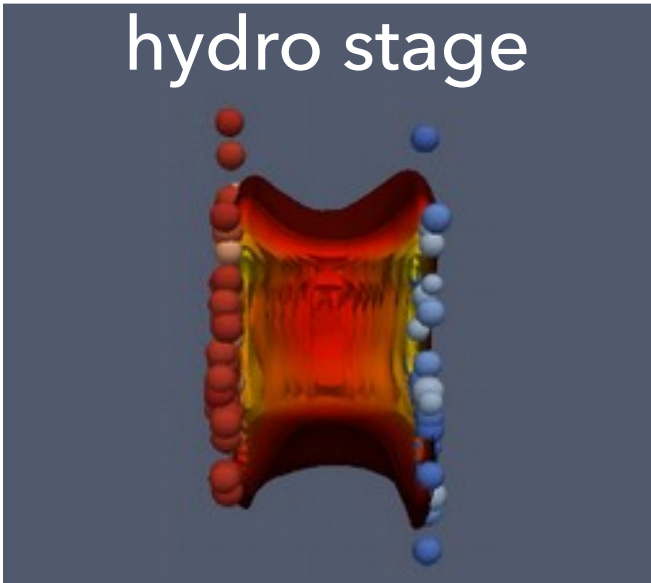
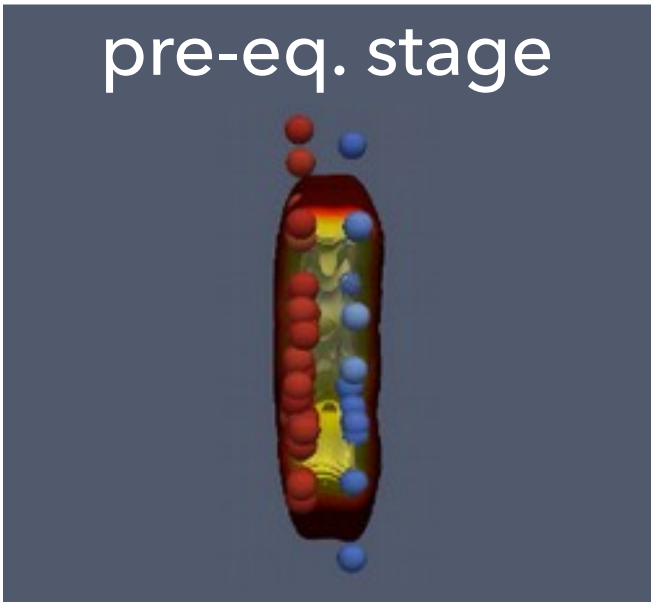
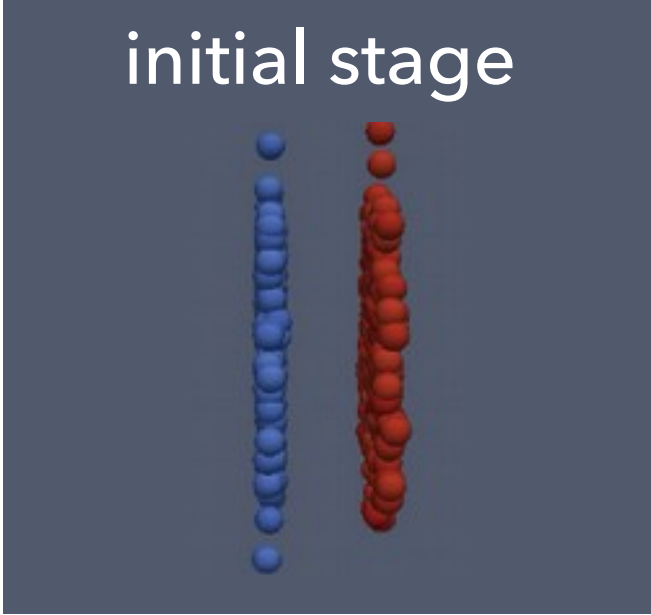
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- ▶ The electromagnetic (EM) interaction is much weaker than the strong interaction; $L_{\text{mfp}}^{\text{em}} \gg$ system size.
- ▶ EM probes penetrate the QCD environment undisturbed, carrying information at their production points.

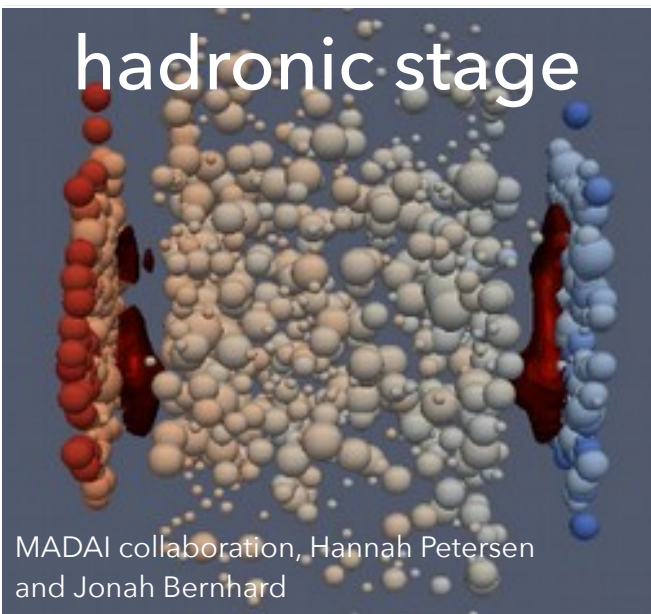
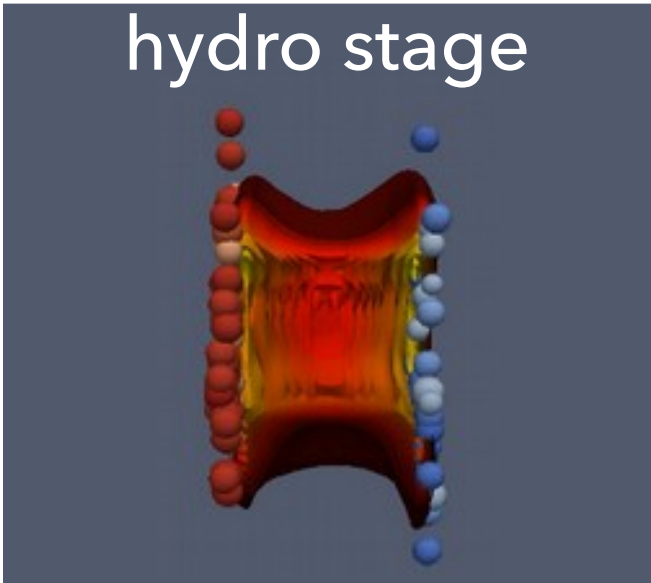
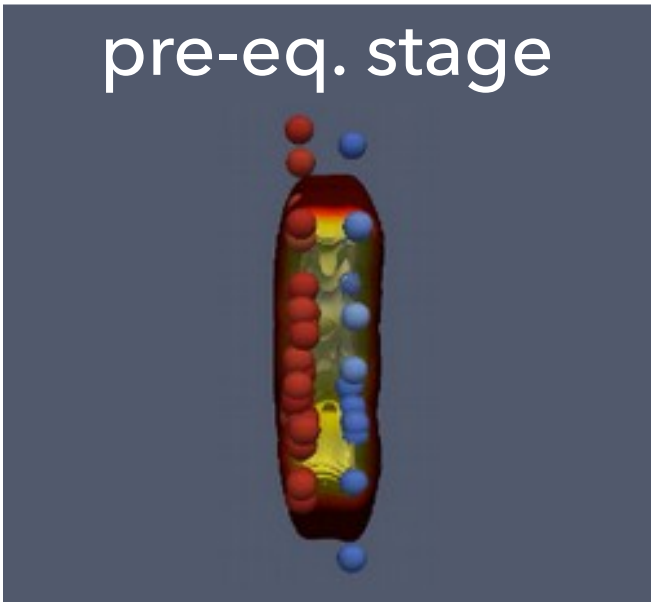
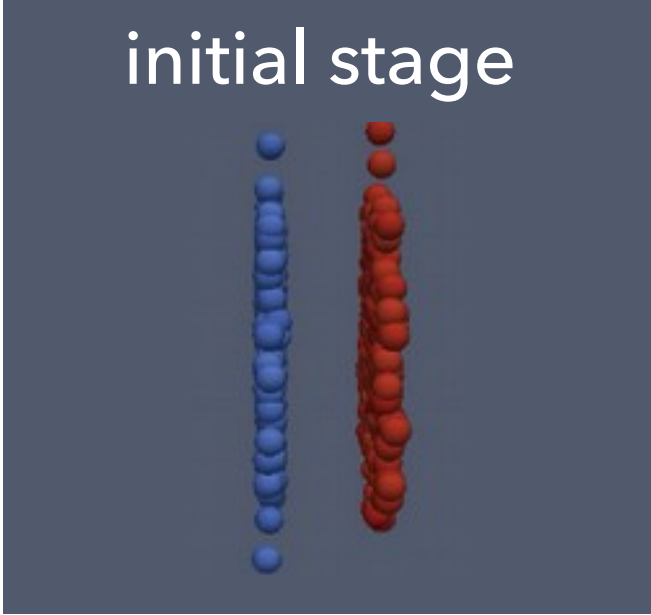


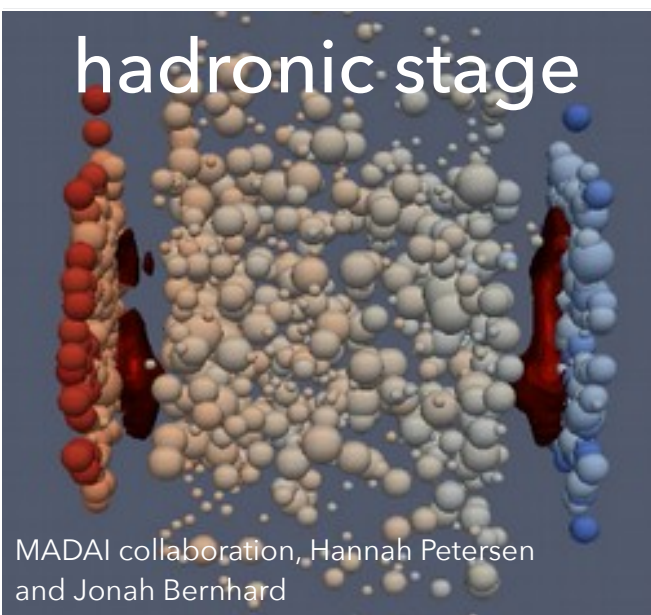
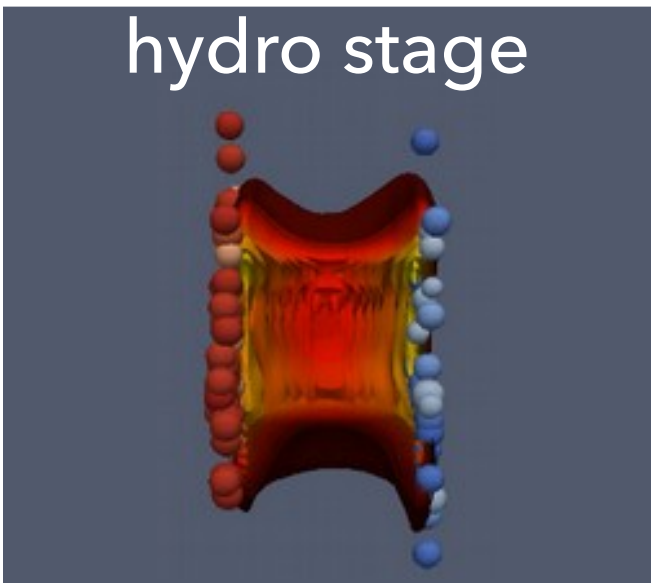
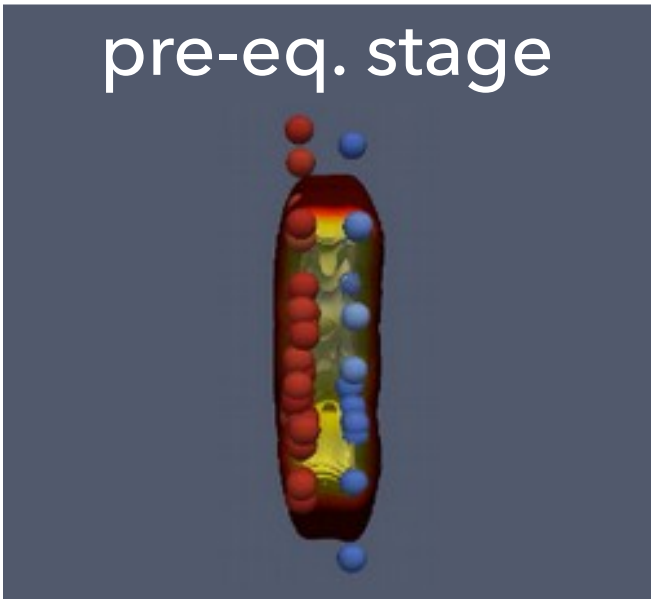
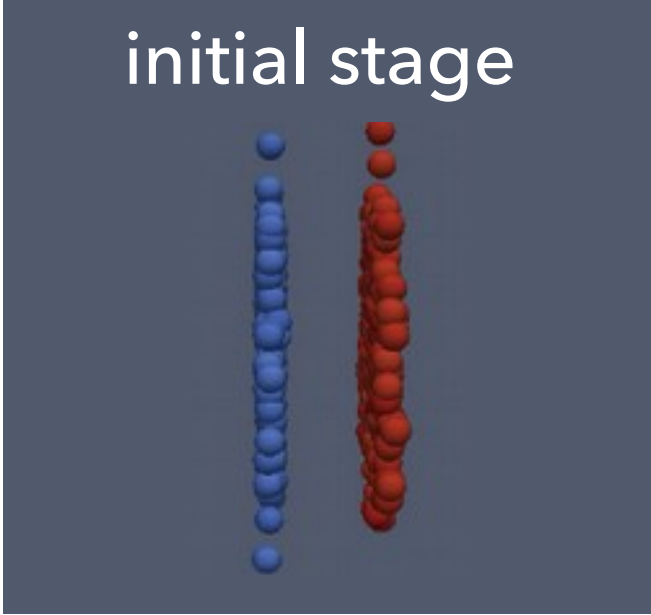
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- ▶ EM probes penetrate the QCD environment undisturbed, carrying information at their production points.
- ▶ Dilepton M -spectra are unaffected by the dynamics and thus not blue-shifted.



photon

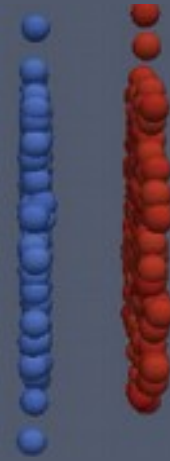




- ▶ initial hard scattering or fragmentation (‘prompt’ photons)

photon

initial stage



- ▶ initial hard scattering or fragmentation ('prompt' photons)

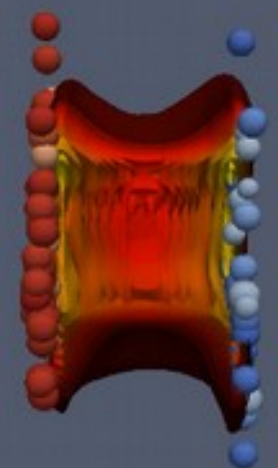
photon

pre-eq. stage

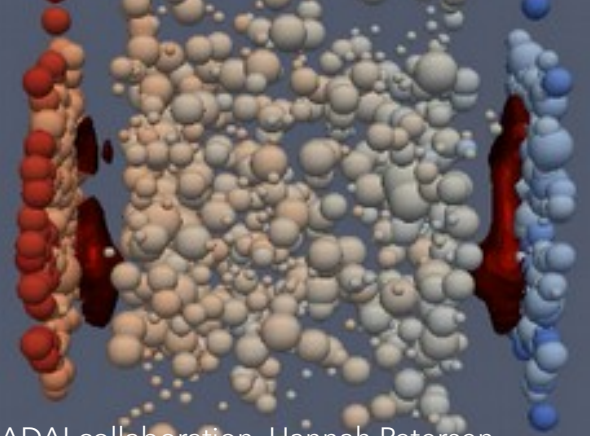


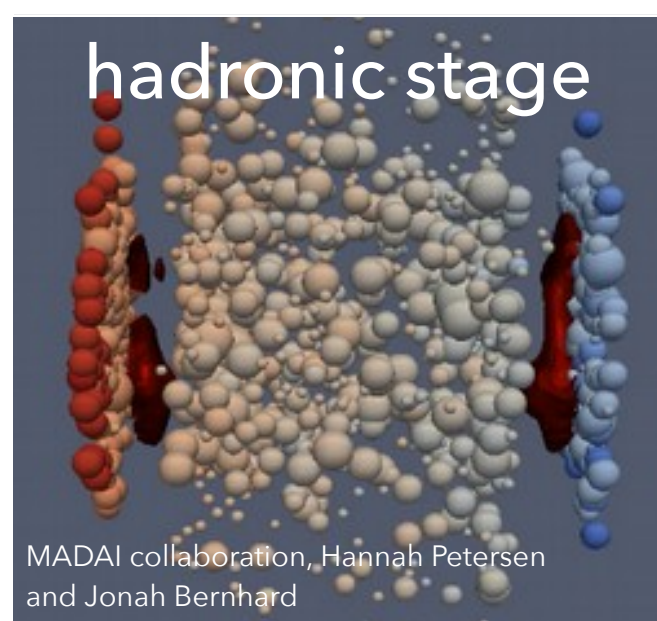
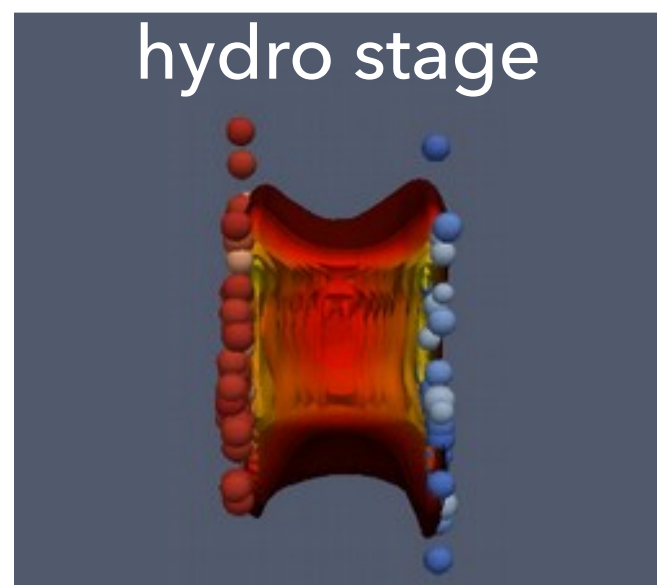
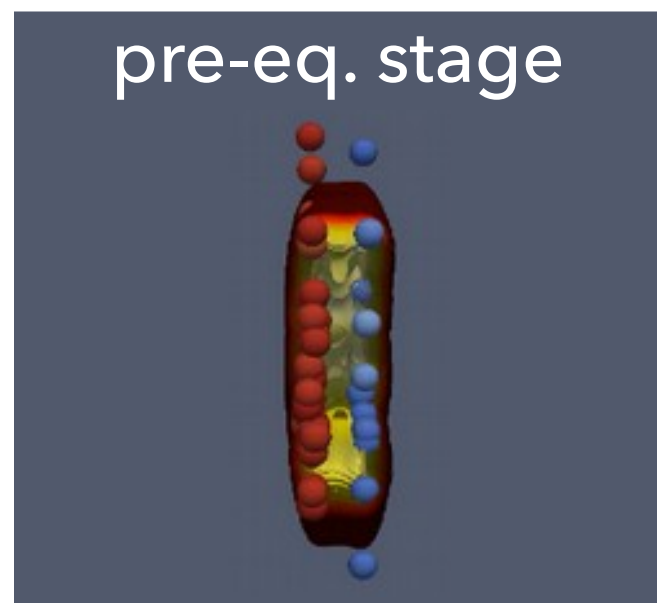
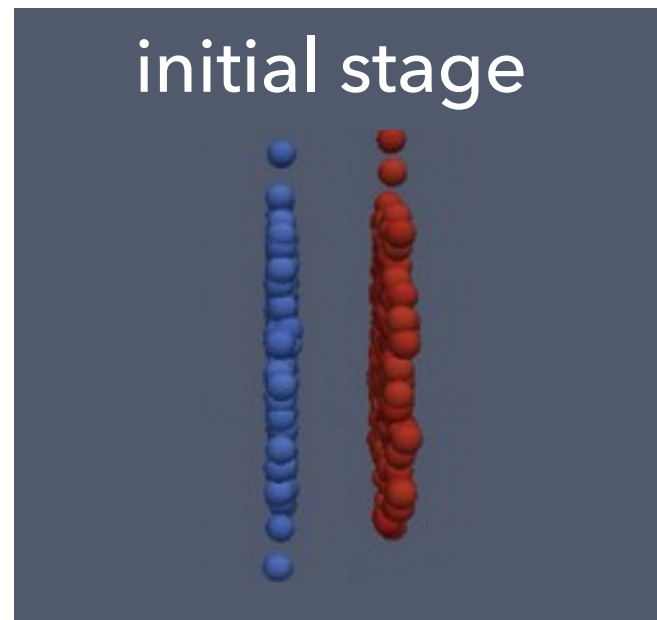
- ▶ pre-equilibrium photons

hydro stage



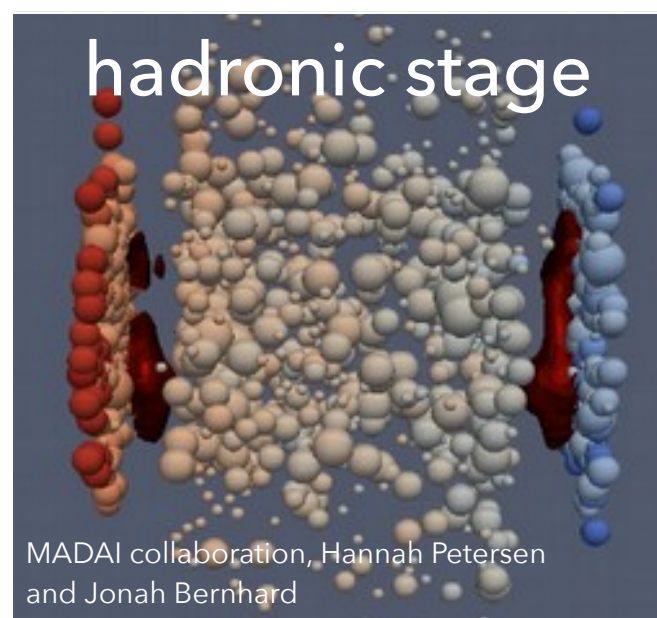
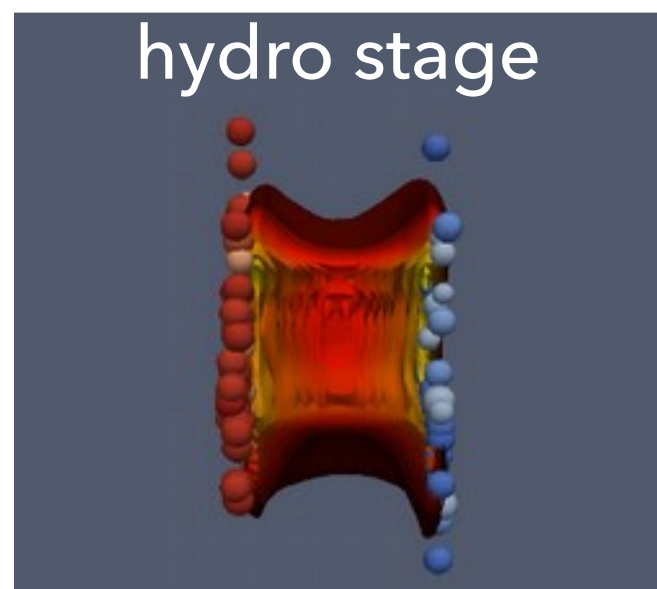
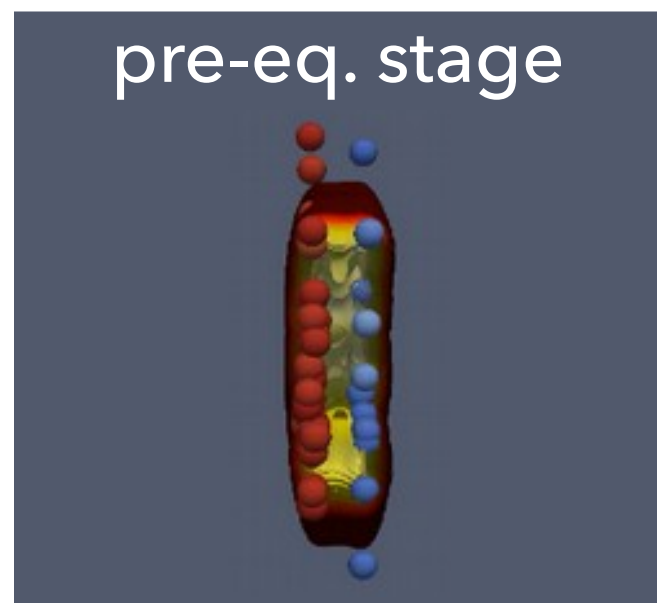
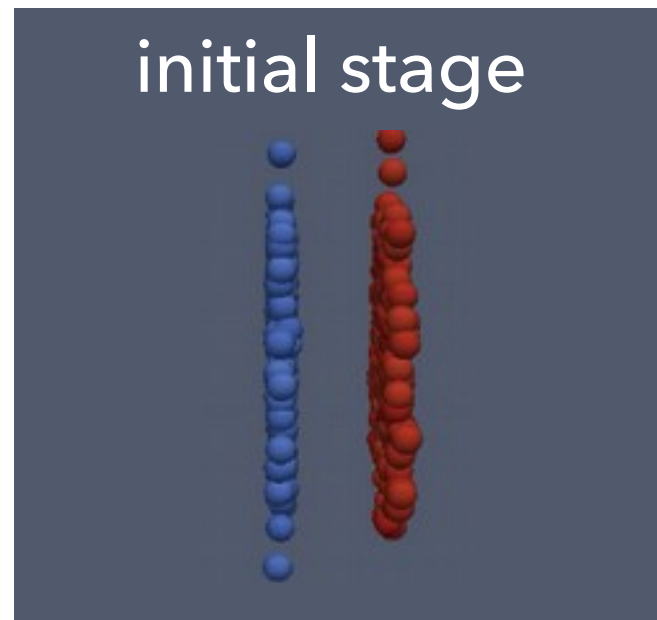
hadronic stage





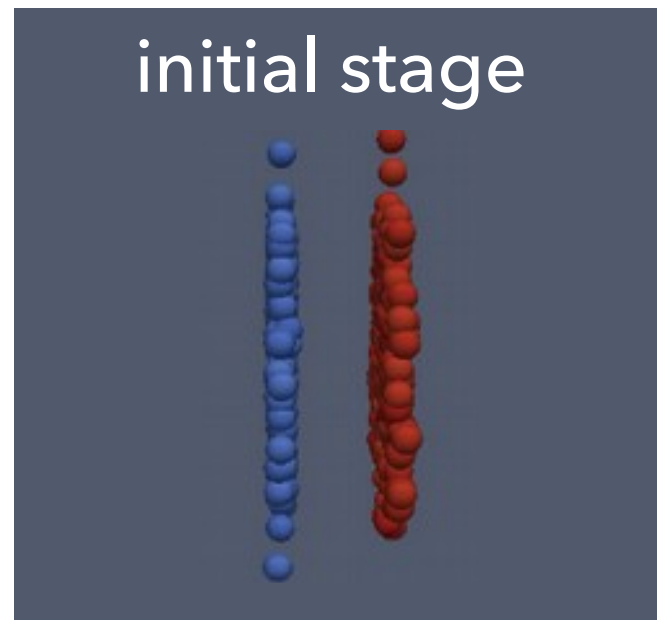
photon

- ▶ initial hard scattering or fragmentation ('prompt' photons)
- ▶ pre-equilibrium photons
- ▶ thermal emission from QGP
- ▶ jet-medium interaction

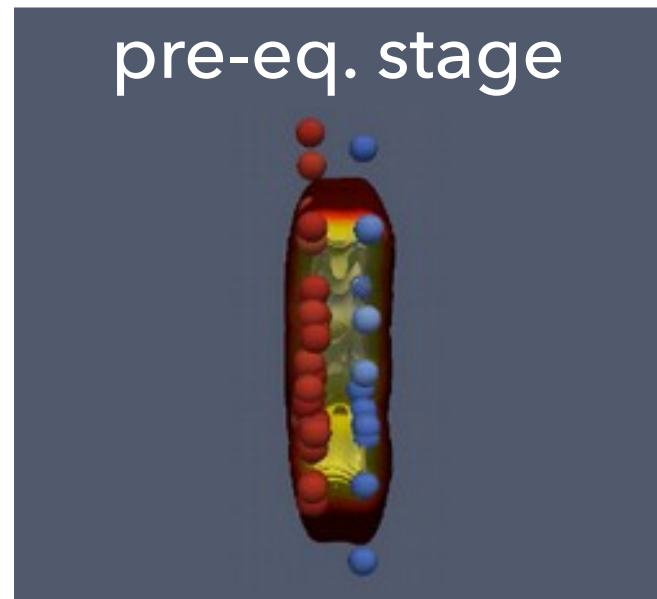


photon

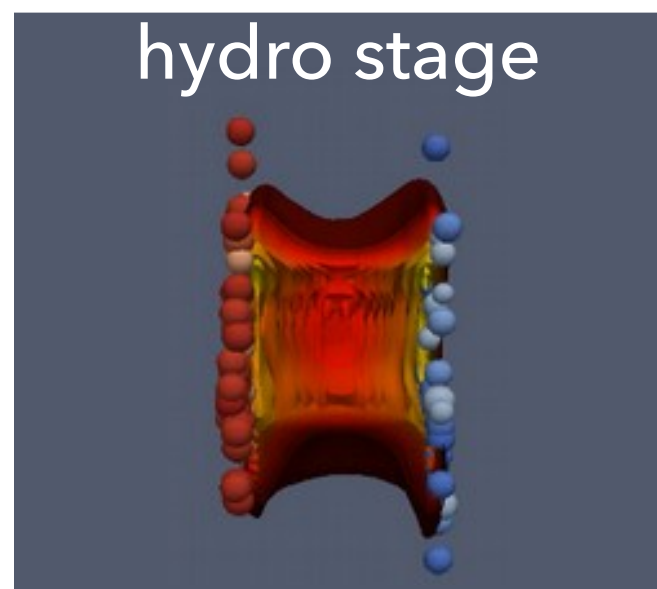
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- ▶ thermal emission from hadronic matter
- ▶ hadronic decays



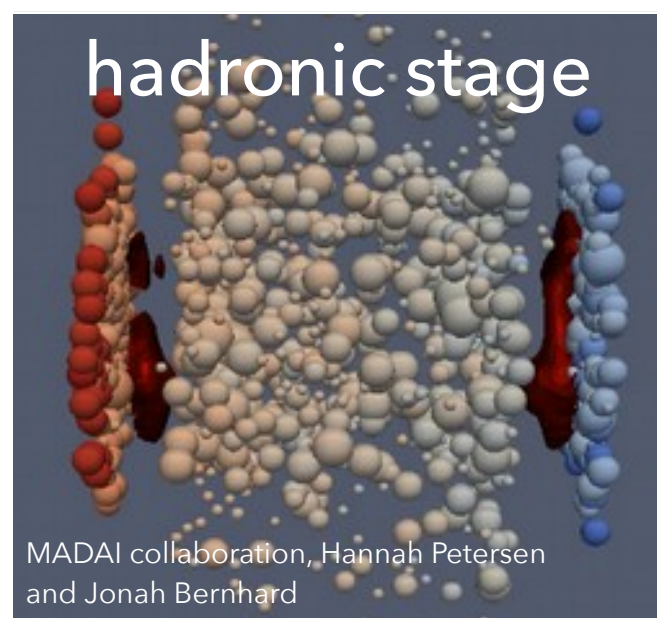
initial stage



pre-eq. stage



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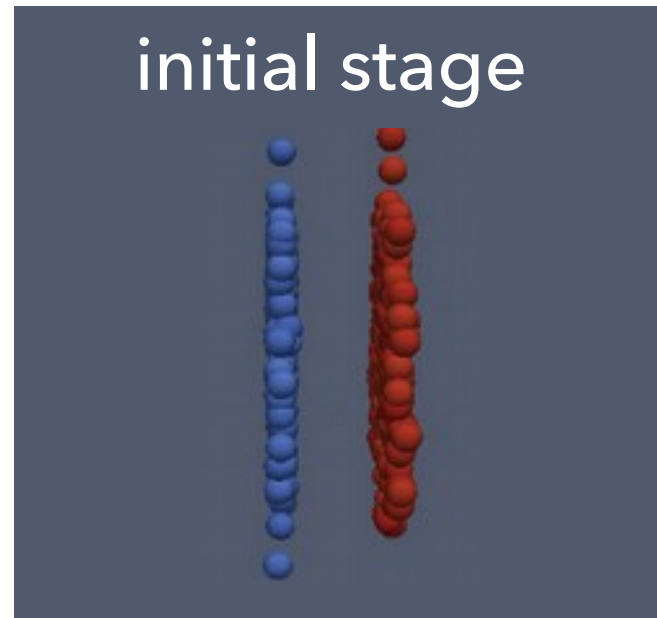
dilepton

- ▶ Drell-Yan process

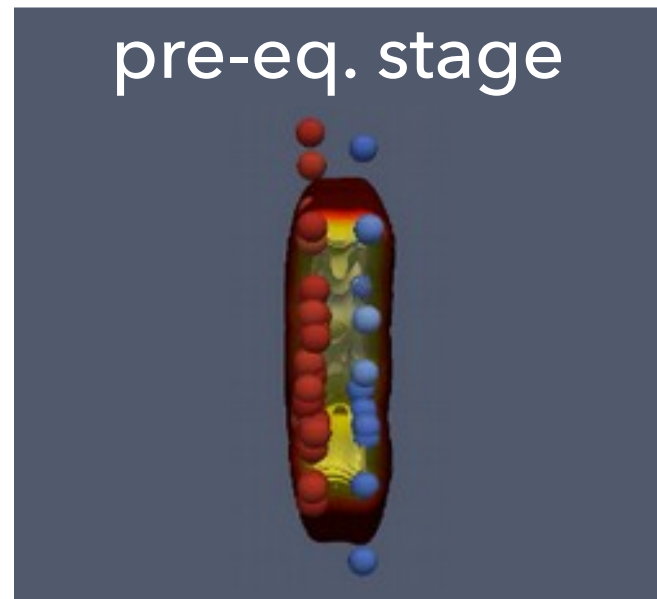
- ▶ pre-equilibrium dileptons

- ▶ thermal emission from QGP
- ▶ semi-leptonic decays of open heavy flavor

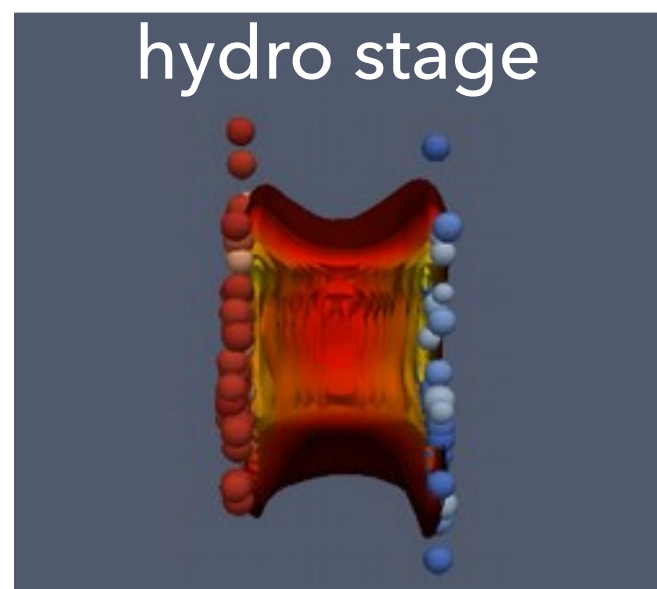
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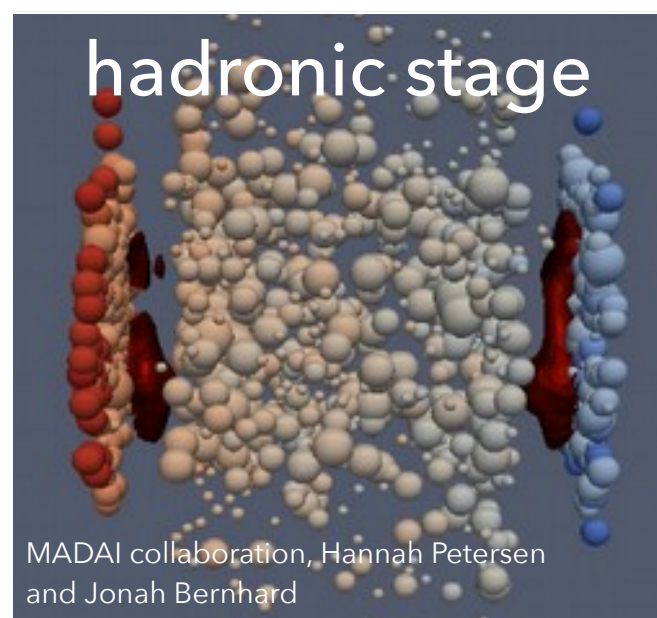
initial stage



pre-eq. stage



hydro stage



hadronic stage

- ▶ initial hard scattering or fragmentation ('prompt' photons)

photon

- ▶ pre-equilibrium photons

pre-eq.: provide information on thermalization and equilibration

- ▶ thermal emission from QGP
- ▶ jet-medium interaction

- ▶ thermal emission from hadronic matter
- ▶ hadronic decays

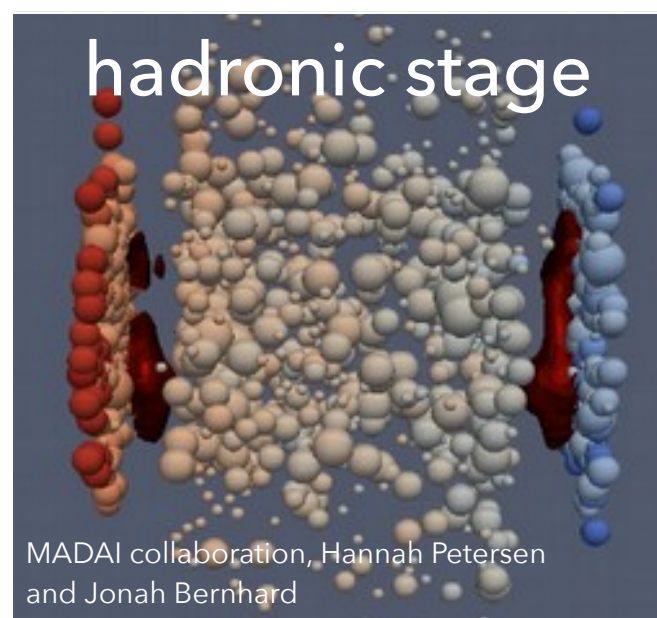
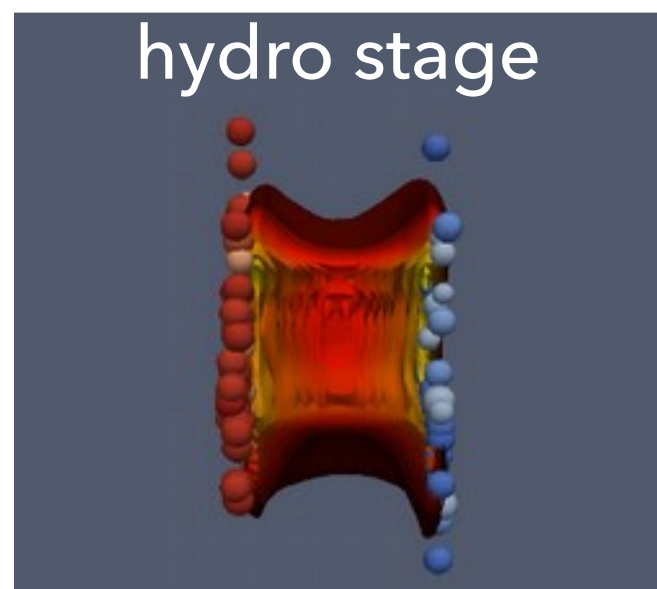
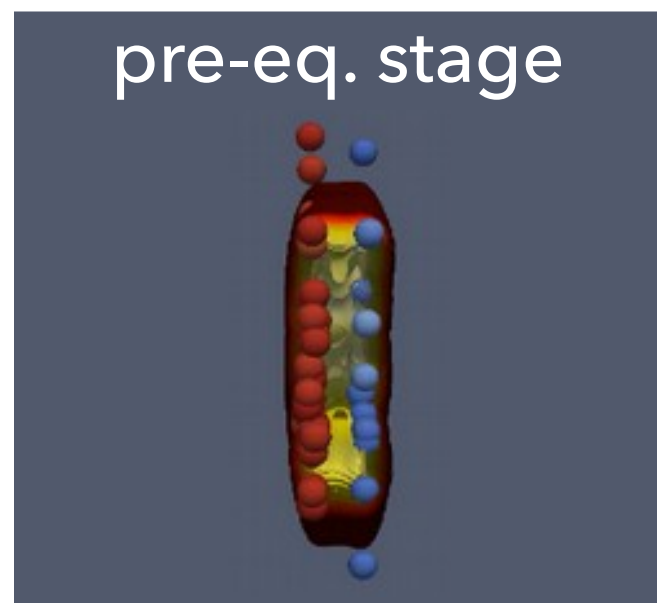
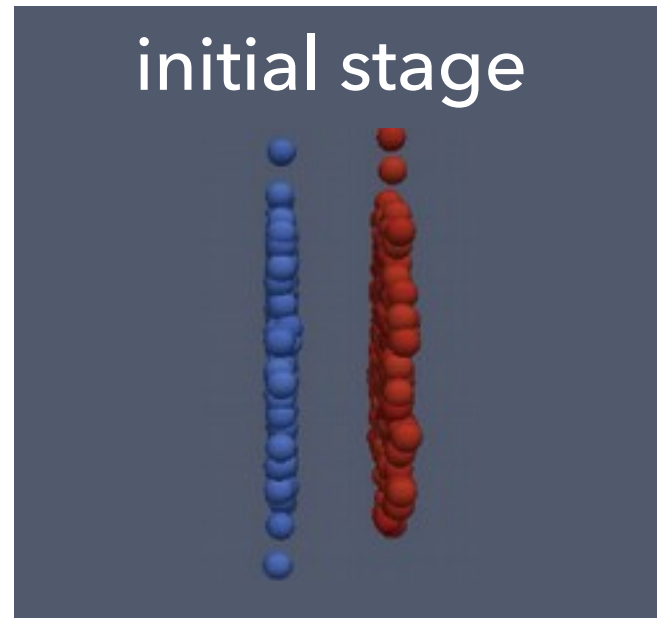
- ▶ Drell-Yan process

dilepton

- ▶ pre-equilibrium dileptons

- ▶ thermal emission from QGP
- ▶ semi-leptonic decays of open heavy flavor

- ▶ thermal emission from hadronic matter
- ▶ hadronic decays



- ▶ initial hard scattering or fragmentation ('prompt' photons)

photon

- ▶ pre-equilibrium photons

pre-eq.: provide information on thermalization and equilibration

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- ▶ jet-medium interaction

thermal: provide information on thermodynamic properties

- ▶ thermal emission from hadronic matter
- ▶ hadronic decays

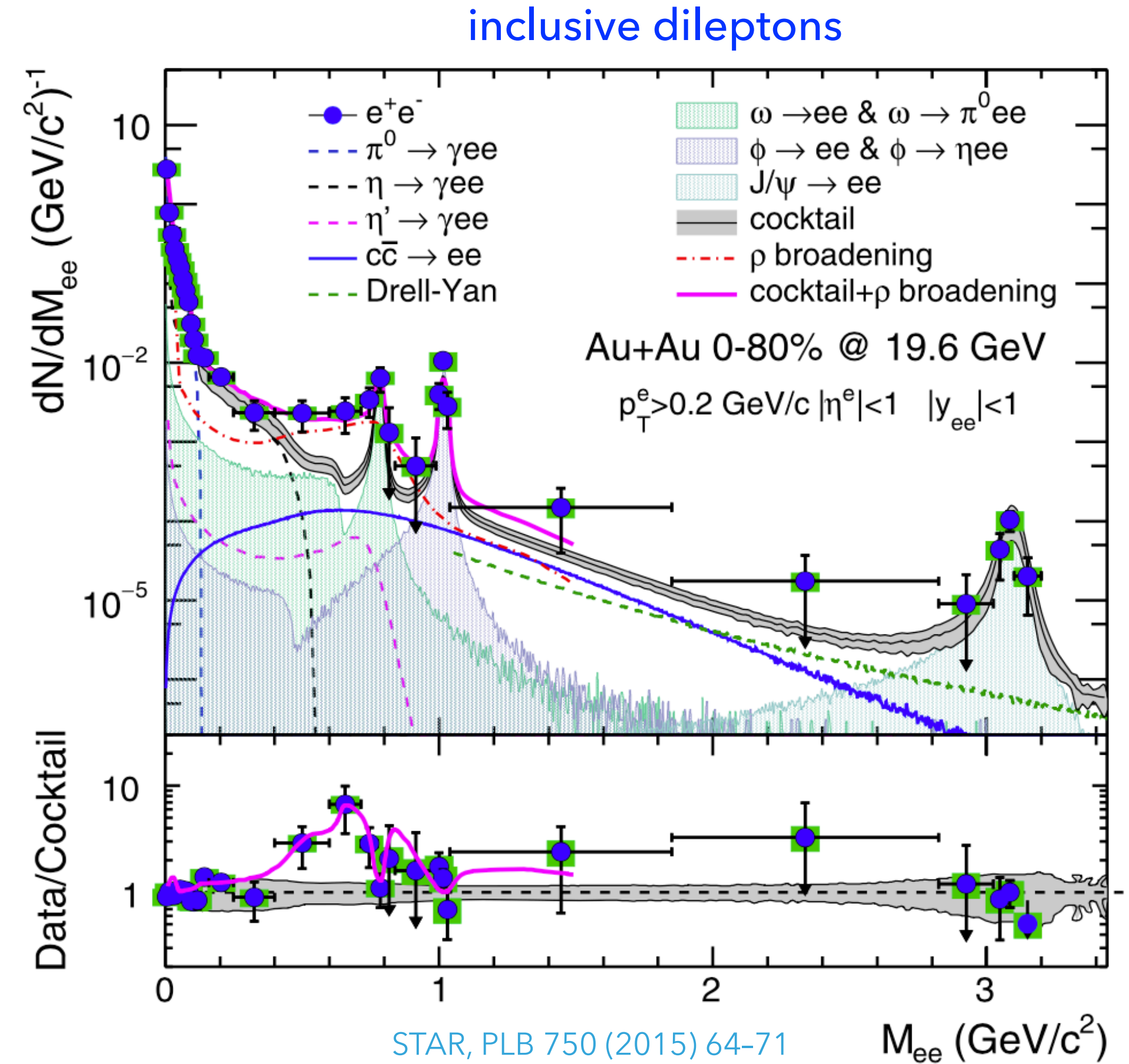
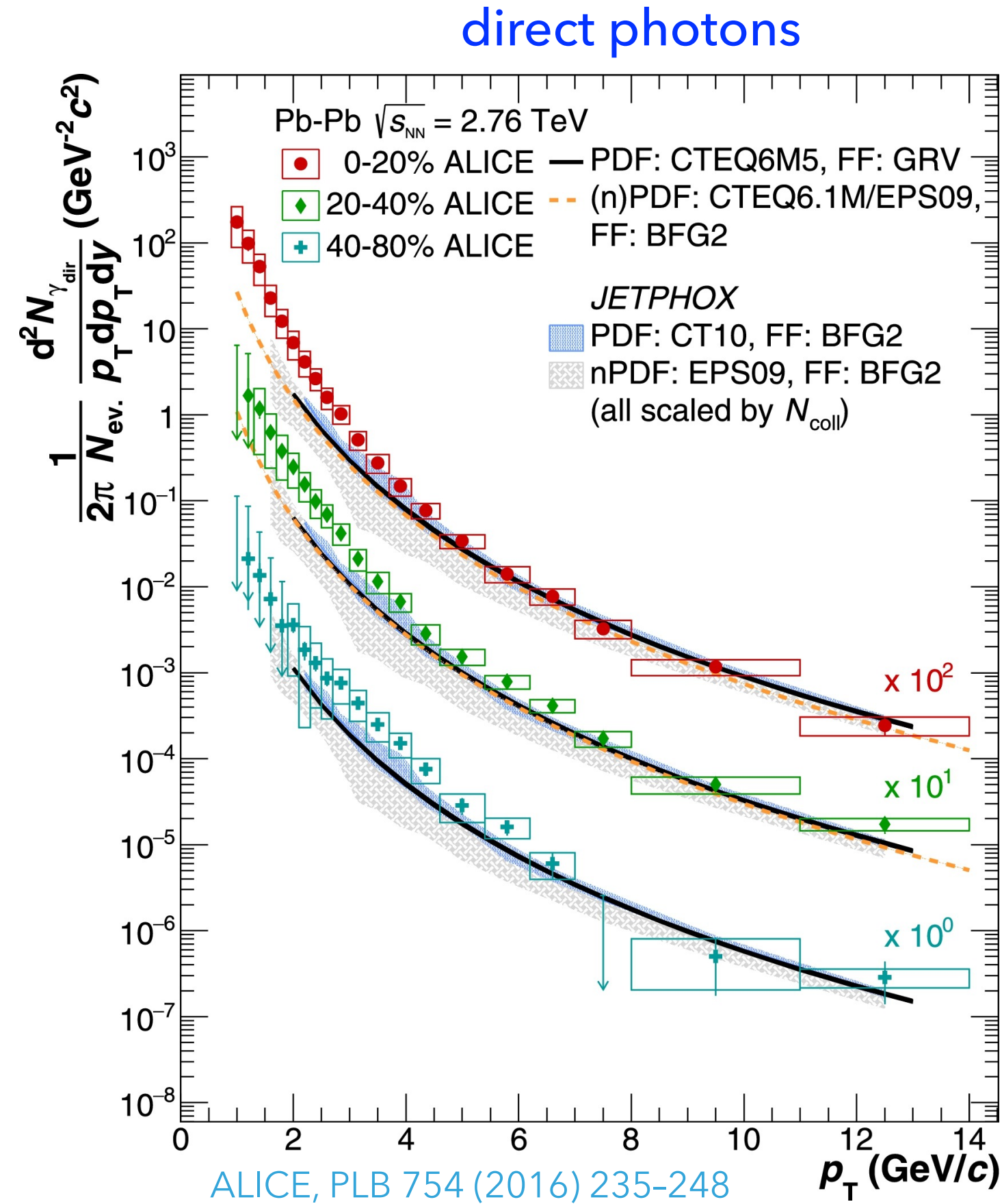
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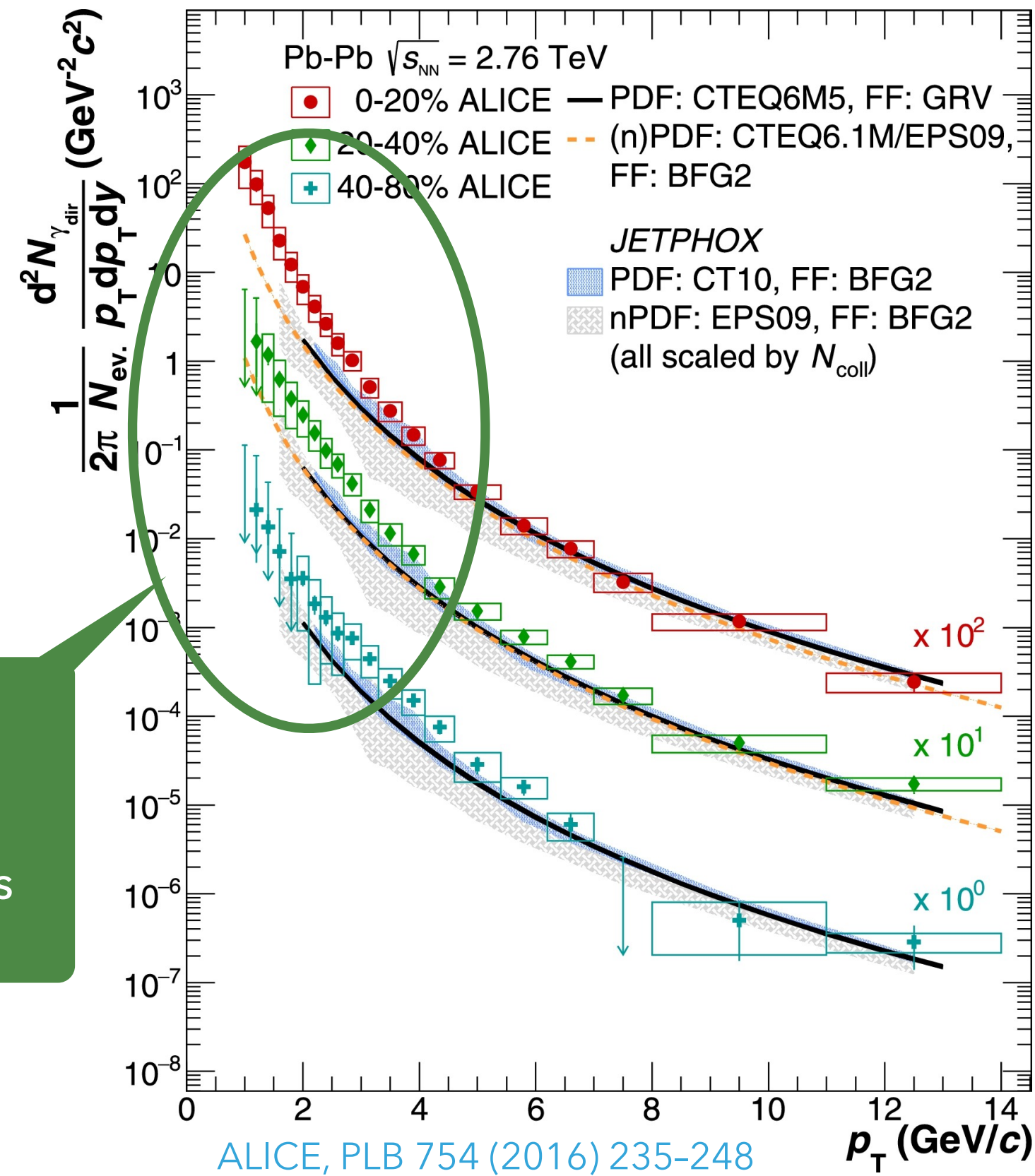
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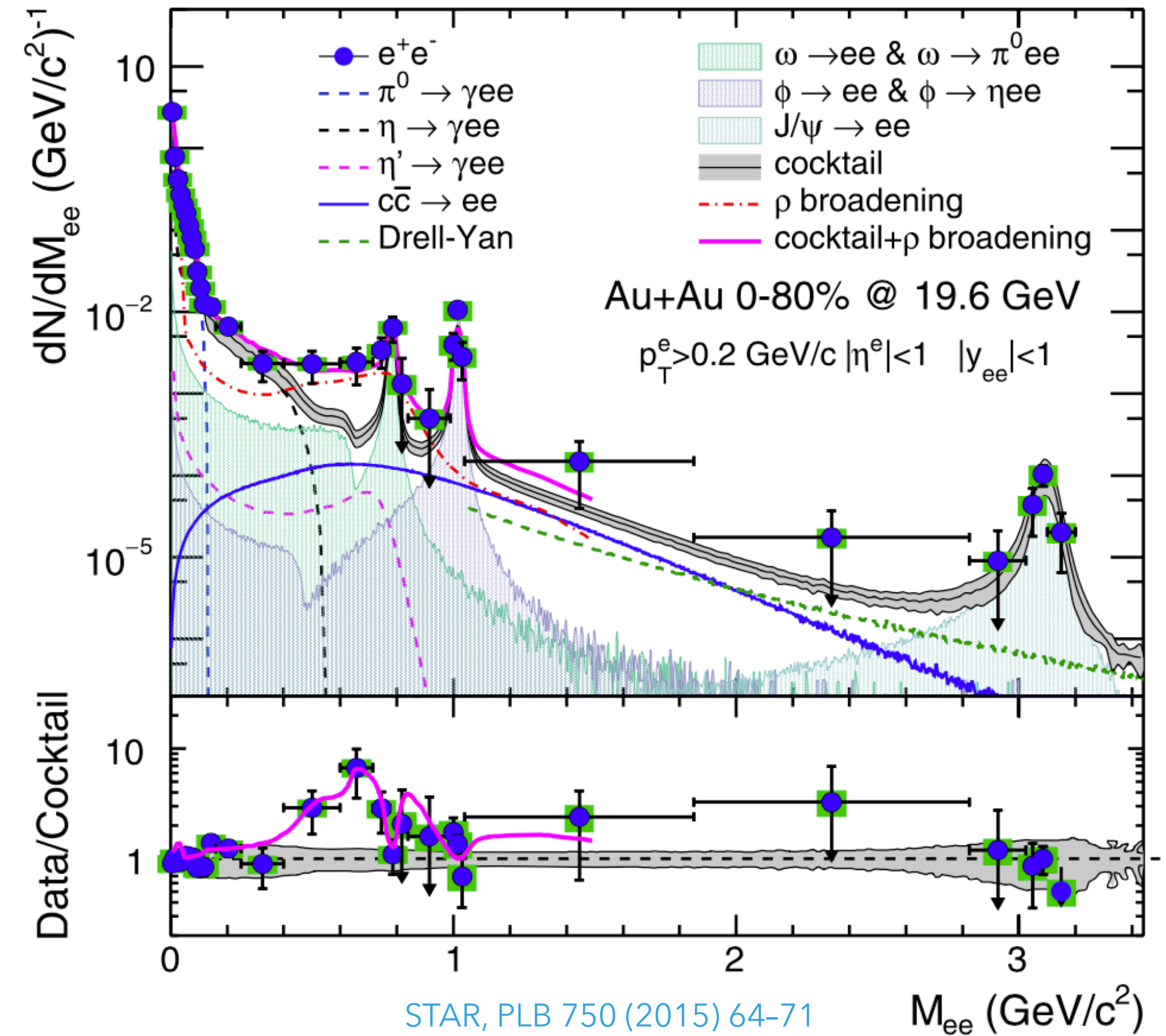
- ▶ EM are produced throughout the evolution, so isolating productions from different stages is challenging.
- ▶ However, selecting p_T or M windows can be helpful. On average, the larger p_T or M the EM probes have, the earlier they are produced.

direct photons



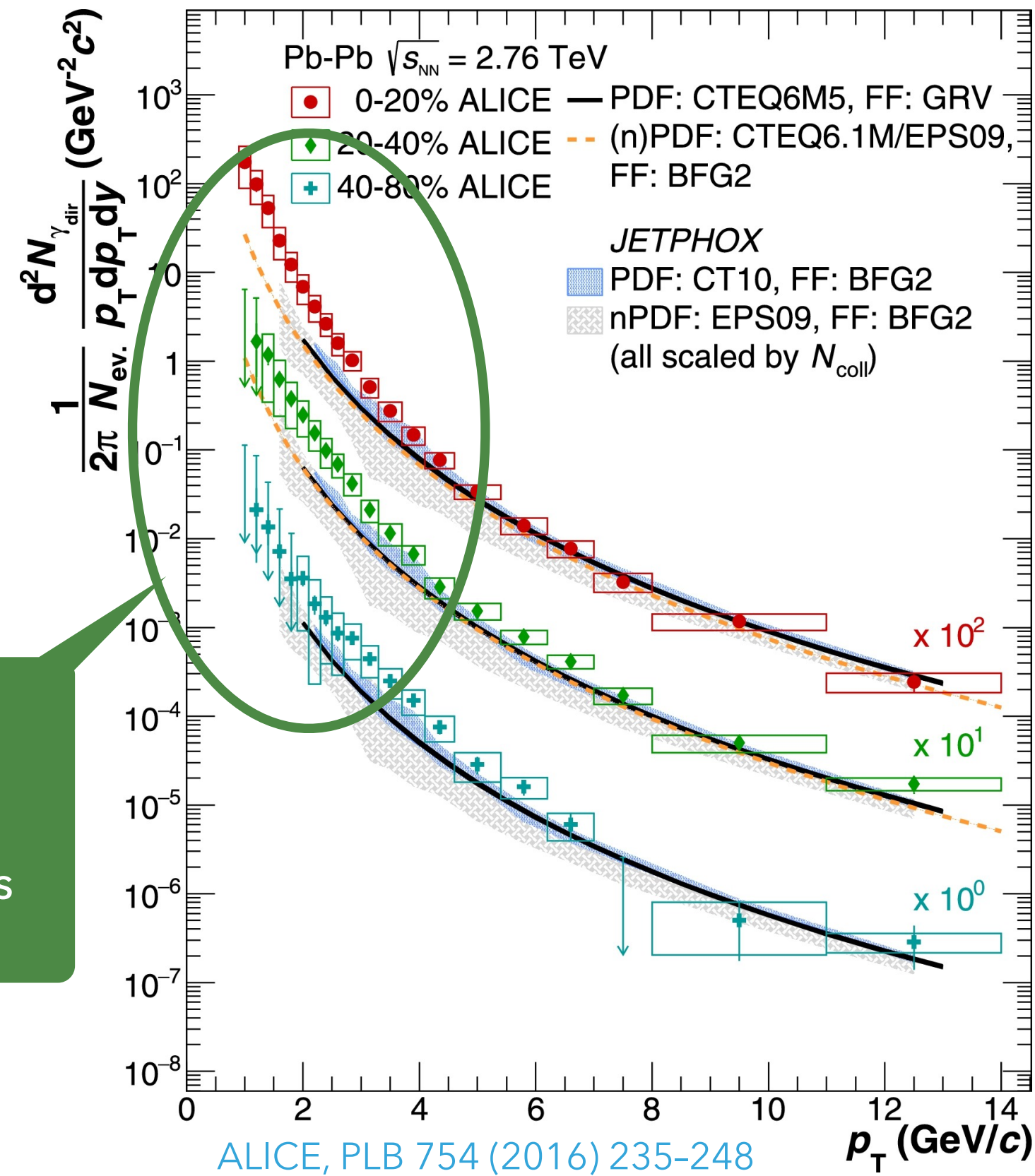
Excess of direct photons over prompt photons

inclusive dileptons



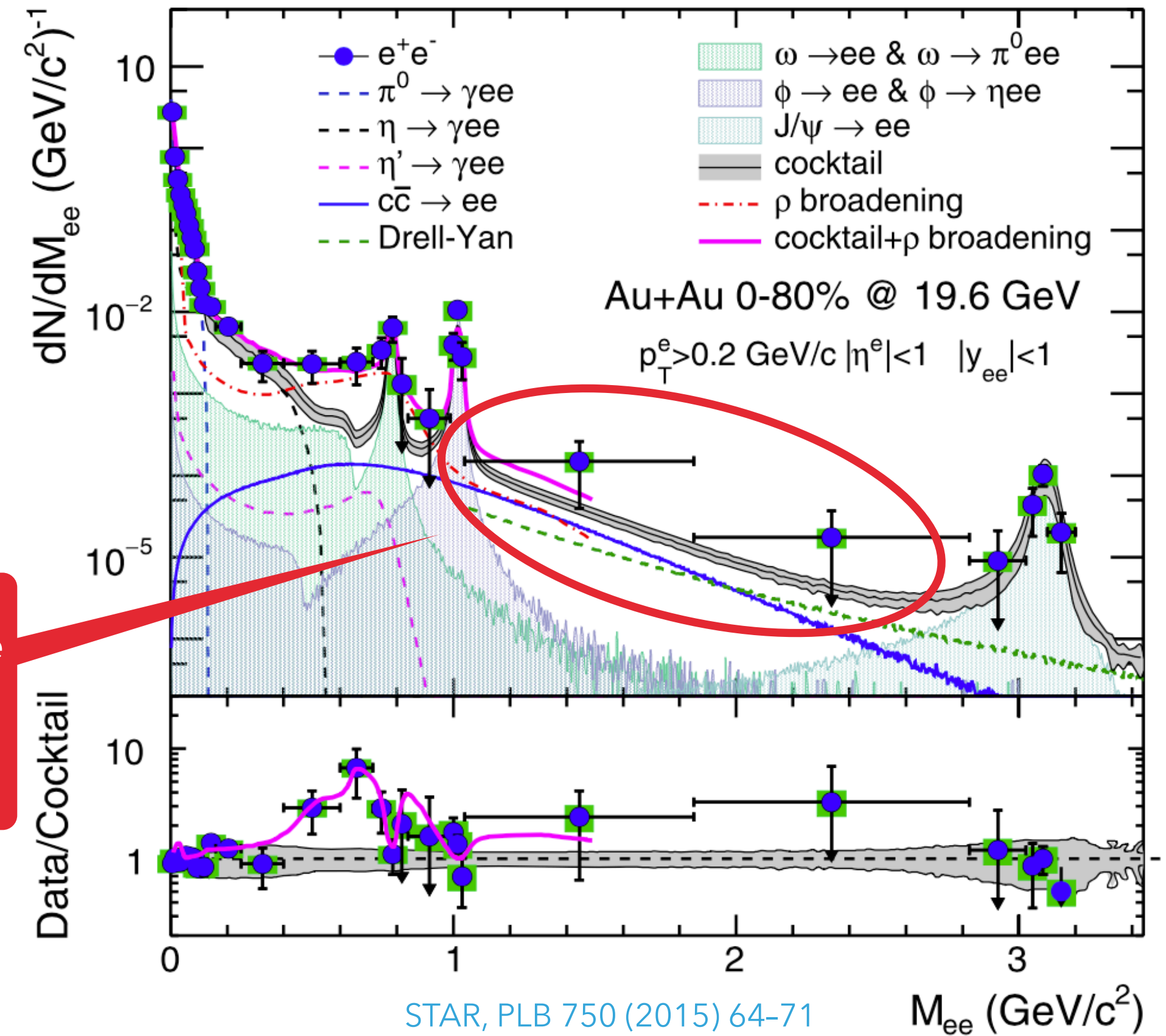
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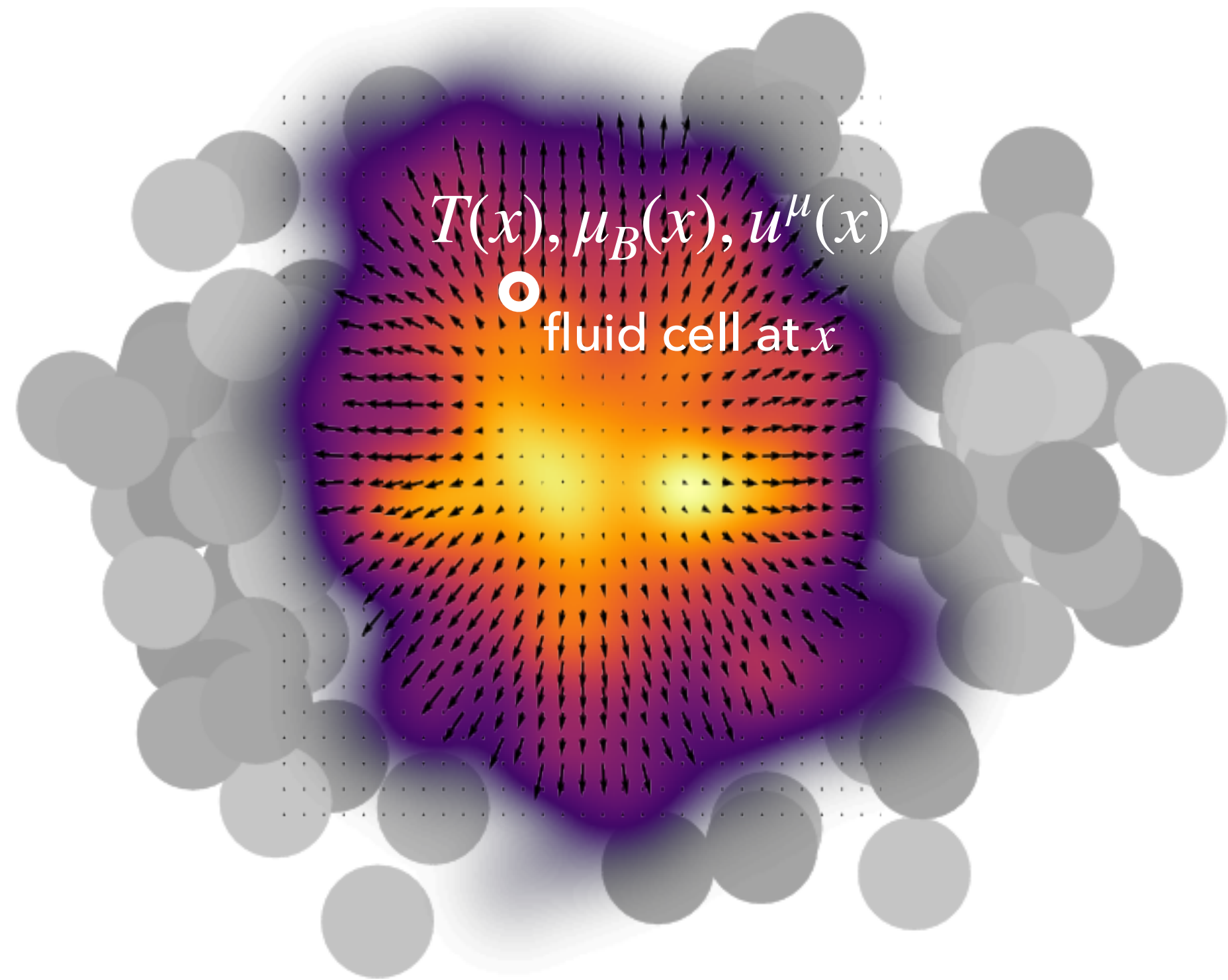
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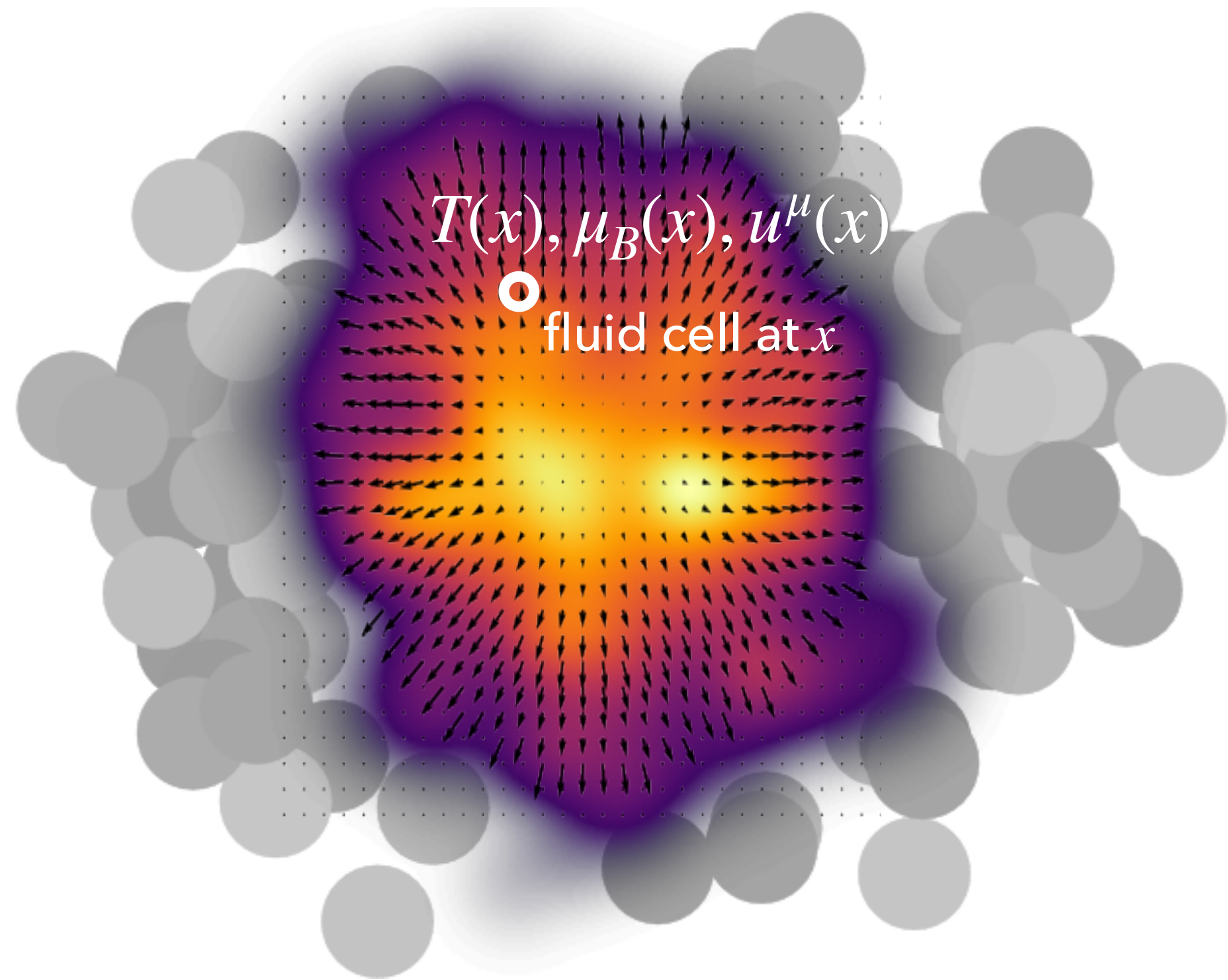
inclusive dileptons



Excess of inclusive dileptons over the cocktail

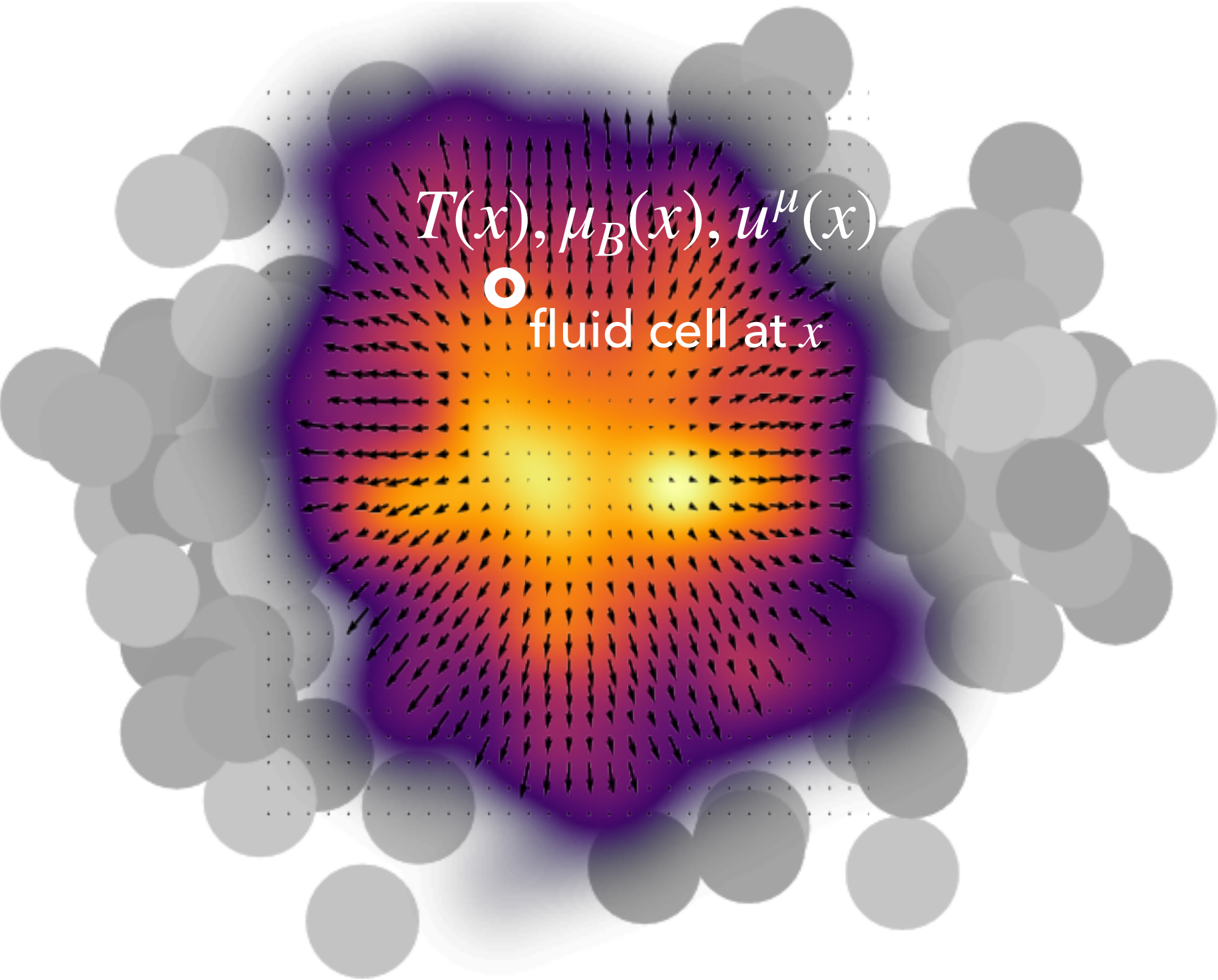
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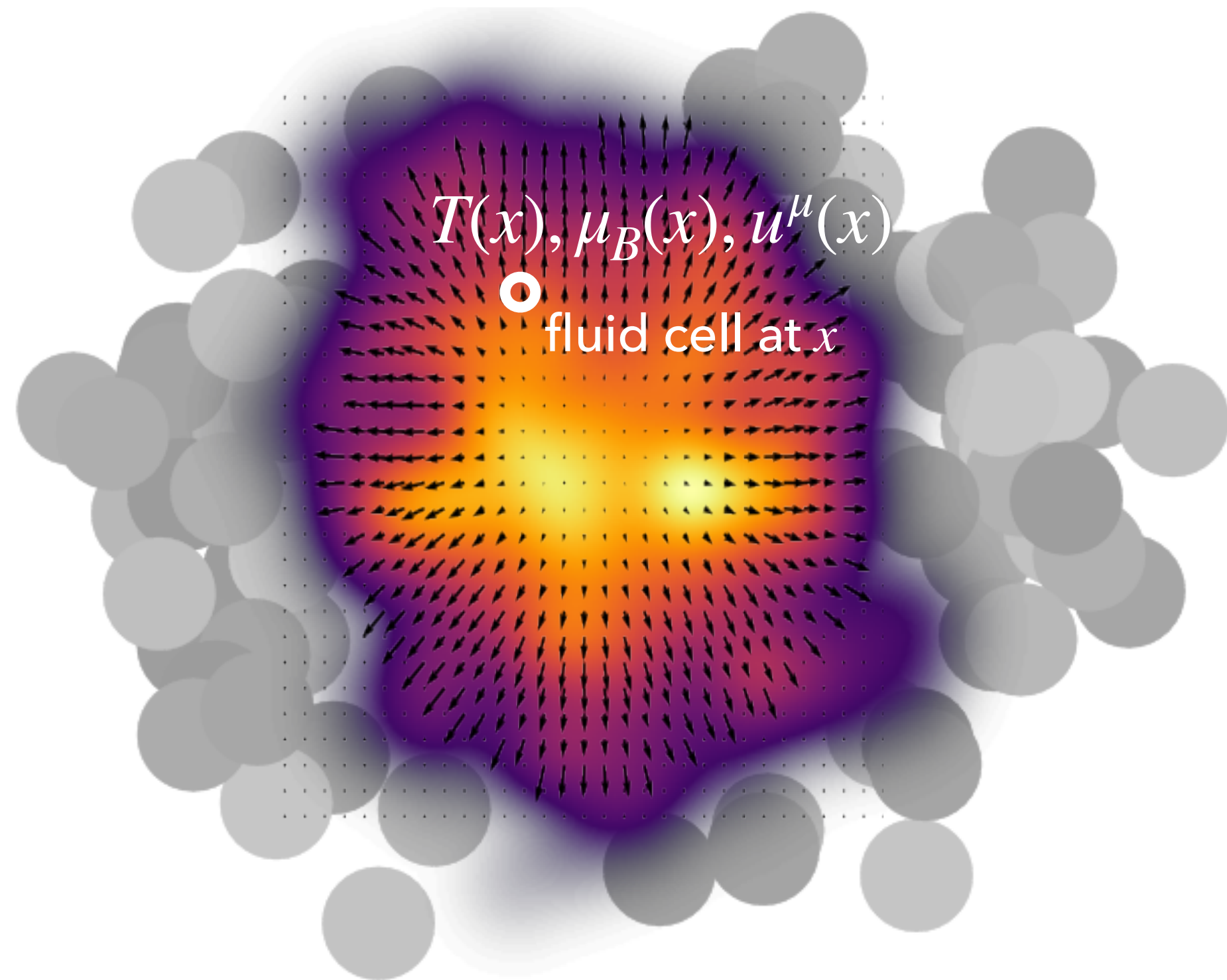
- ▶ Fully differential (dilepton) production rate of a static thermal source

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d\omega d^3k} = \frac{dN_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{dt d^3x d\omega d^3k} = \frac{2\alpha_{\text{em}}^2 f_B(\omega)}{9\pi^3 M^2} B\left(\frac{m_l^2}{M^2}\right) \rho_{\text{em}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}; T, \mu_B)$$



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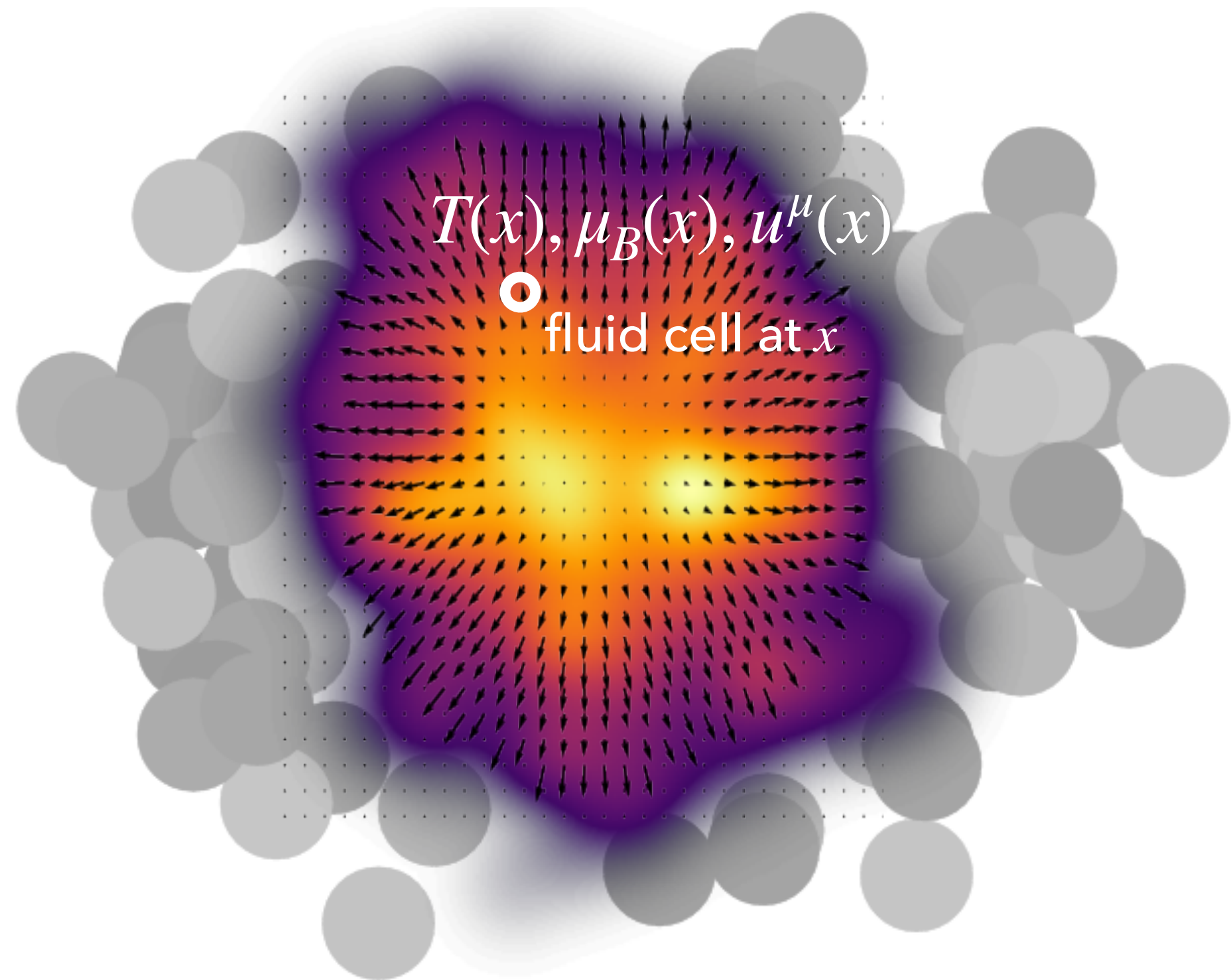


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- ▶ Emission rate in the lab frame

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d^4K'} = \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d\omega d^3k} \Bigg|_{K^\mu = \Lambda^{\mu\nu} K'_\nu}$$

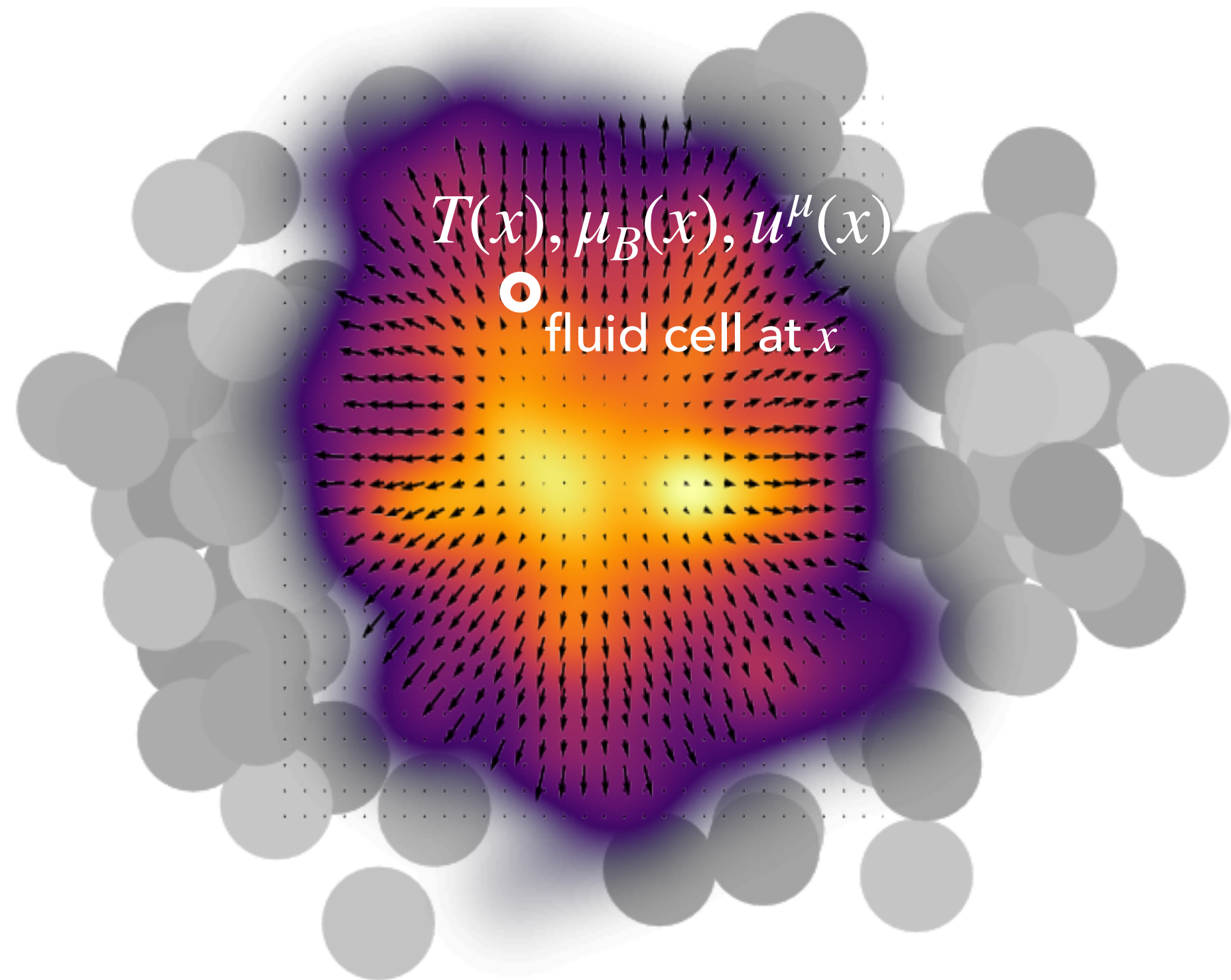


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- Emission rate in the lab frame Local rest frame

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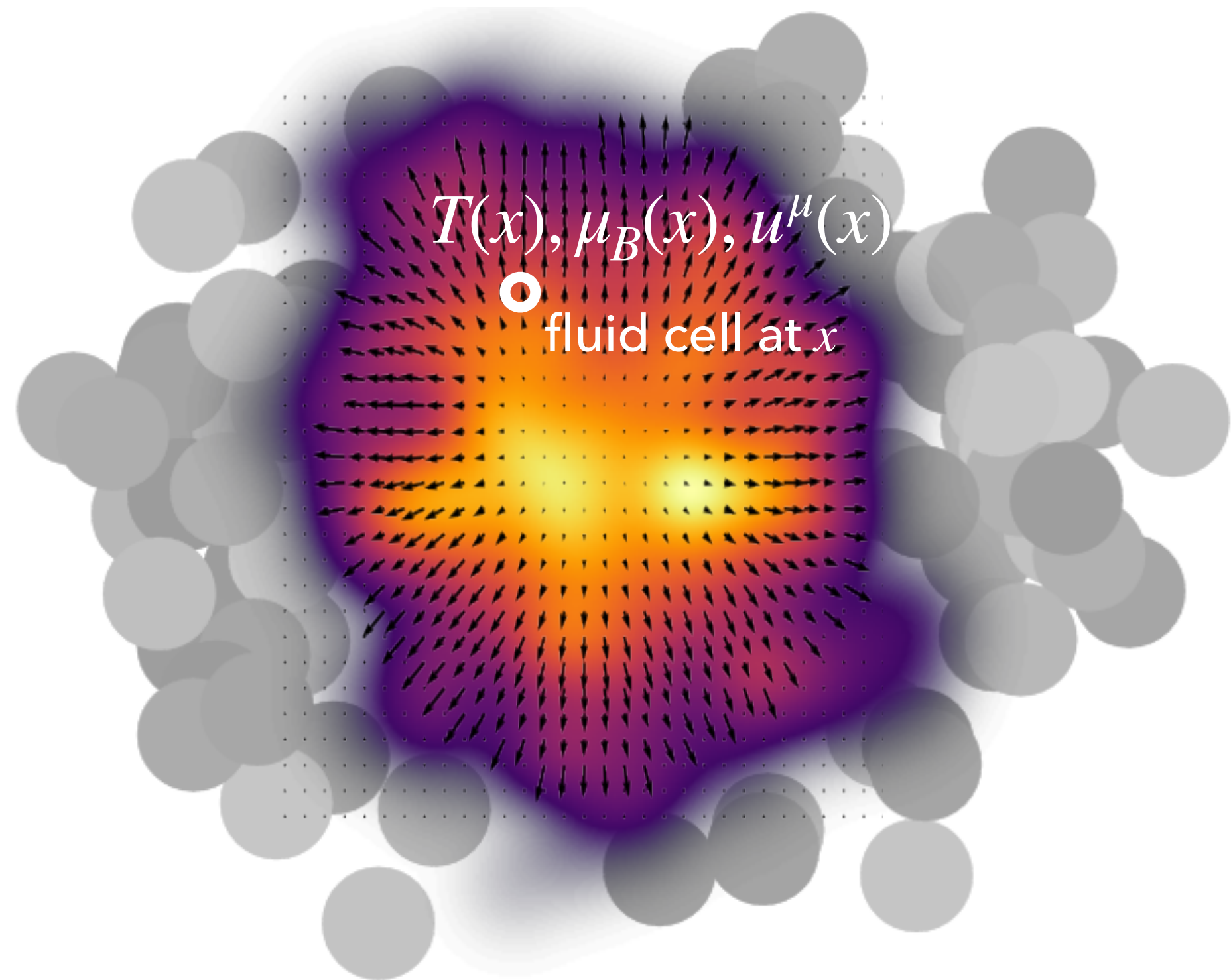
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- Emission rate in the lab frame

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essential for p_T spectra, anisotropic flows v_n , and correct kinematics



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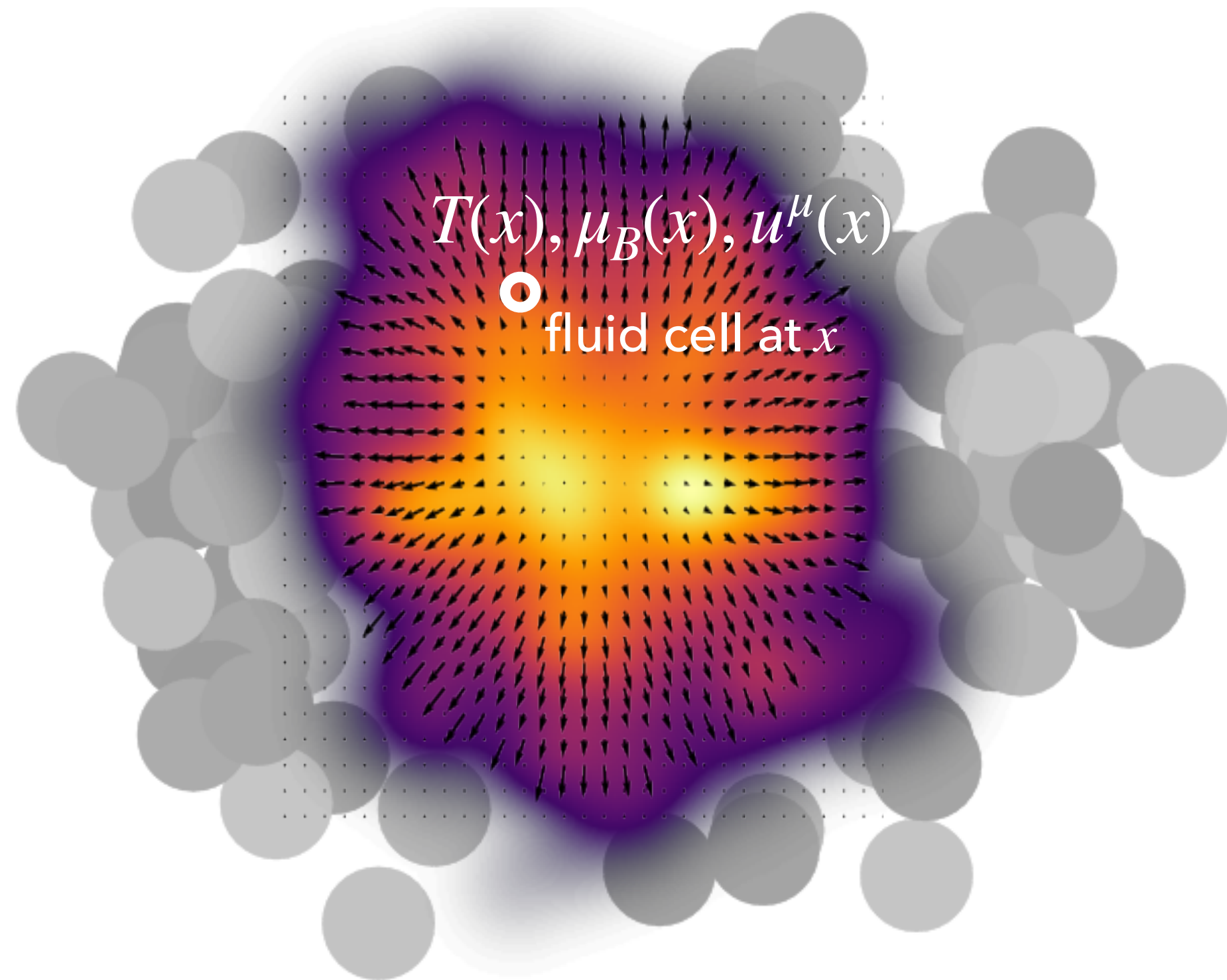
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essential for p_T spectra, anisotropic flows v_n , and correct kinematics

- Spectra in the lab frame

$$\frac{dN_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{dM dy} = M \int_{k_{\text{min}}}^{k_{\text{max}}} dk_\perp k_\perp \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int d^4x \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d^4K'}$$



- Fully differential (dilepton) production rate of a static thermal source

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all the QCD information

- Emission rate in the lab frame

Local rest frame

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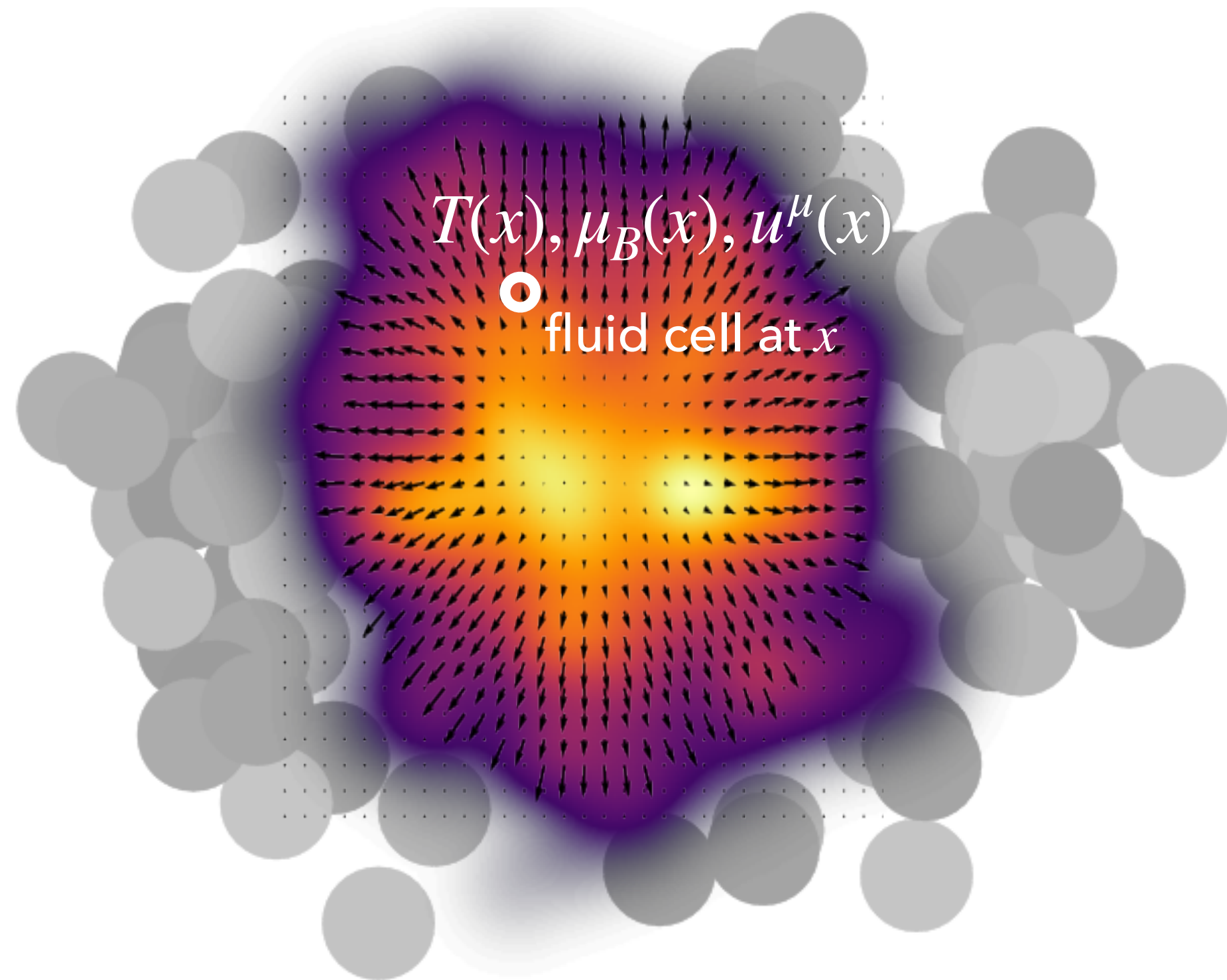
Lorentz boost

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match experimental kinematic cuts



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Lorentz boost

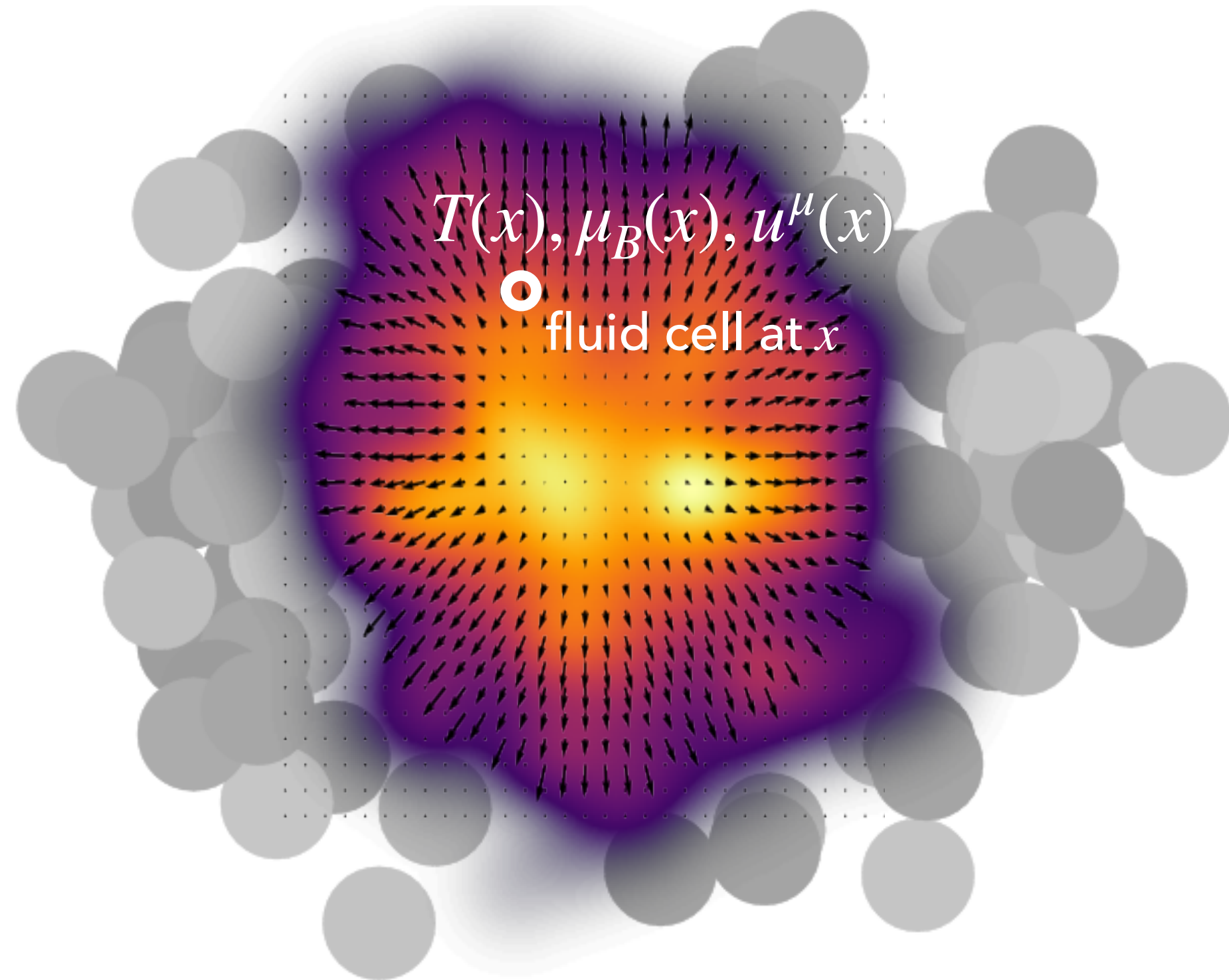
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$$\frac{dN_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{dM dy} = M \int_{k_{\text{min}}}^{k_{\text{max}}} dk_{\perp} k_{\perp} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int d^4x \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d^4K'}$$

match experimental kinematic cuts

- In non-relativistic approximation ($M \gg T$), the emission rate of dileptons $\propto (MT)^{3/2} e^{-M/T}$; similarly, for photons, when $p_T \gg T$, the rate $\propto e^{-p_T/T}$; the exponential term is from $f_B(\omega) = 1/(e^{\omega/T} - 1)$.



- Fully differential (dilepton) production rate of a static thermal source

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d\omega d^3k} = \frac{dN_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{dt d^3x d\omega d^3k} = \frac{2\alpha_{em}^2 f_B(\omega)}{9\pi^3 M^2} B\left(\frac{m_l^2}{M^2}\right) \rho_{em}(\omega, \mathbf{k}; T, \mu_B)$$

all the QCD information

- Emission rate in the lab frame

Local rest frame

$$\text{Lab frame } \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d^4K'} = \left. \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d\omega d^3k} \right|_{K^\mu = \Lambda^{\mu\nu} K'_\nu}$$

Lorentz boost

essential for p_T spectra, anisotropic flows v_n , and correct kinematics

- Spectra in the lab frame

$$\frac{dN_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{dM dy} = M \int_{k_{min}}^{k_{max}} dk_\perp k_\perp \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int d^4x \frac{d\Gamma_{\ell\bar{\ell}}}{d^4K'}$$

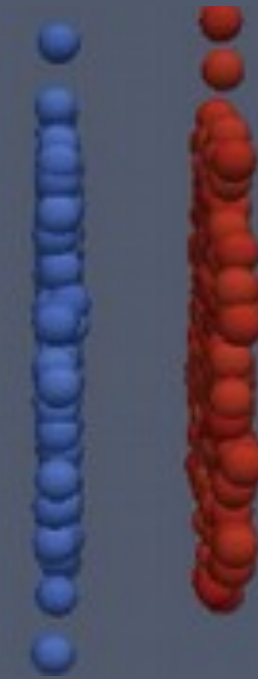
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- Off-equilibrium corrections (such as viscous effects, B -field); ... Han Gao, 9:20 am, Tue

PRE-HYDRO STAGE

initial stage



pre-eq. stage

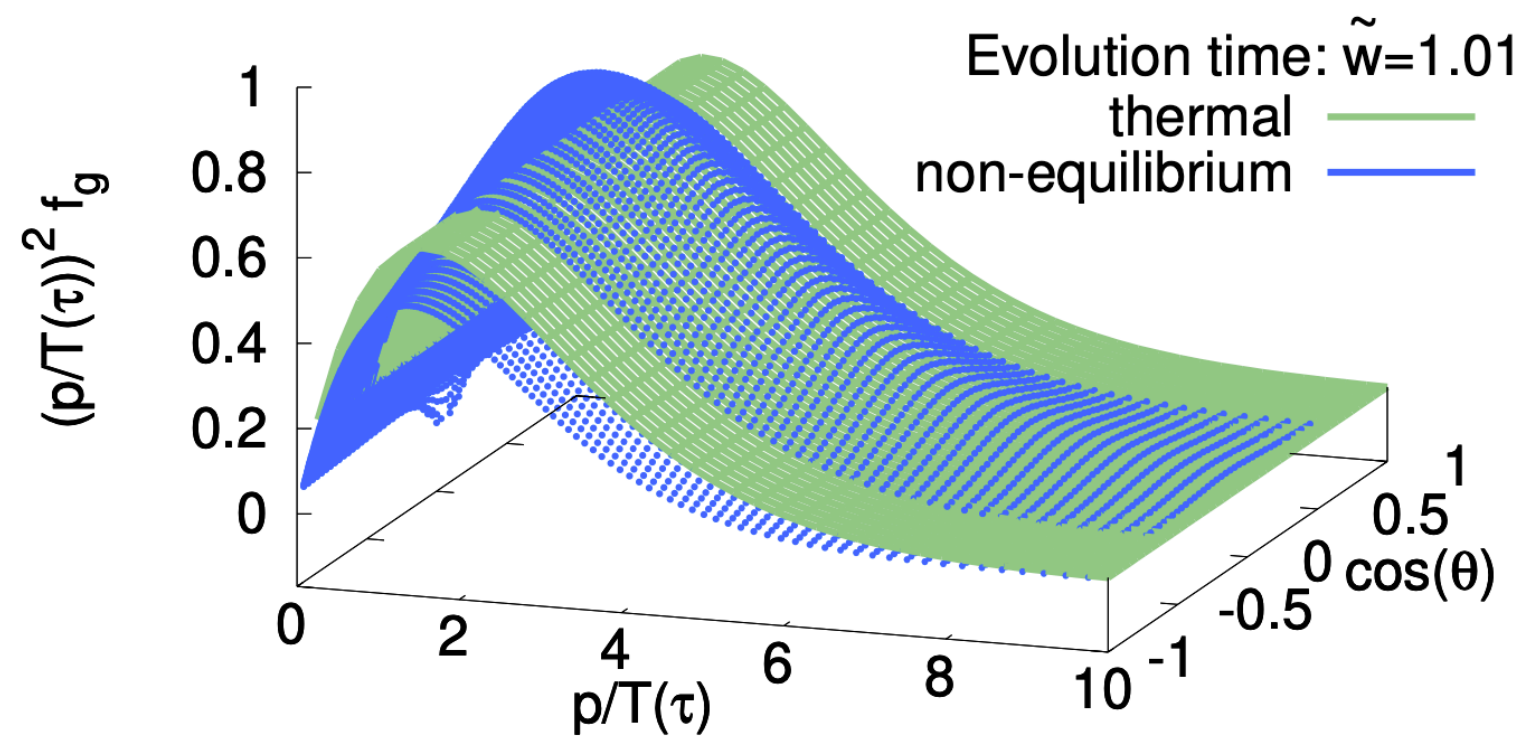
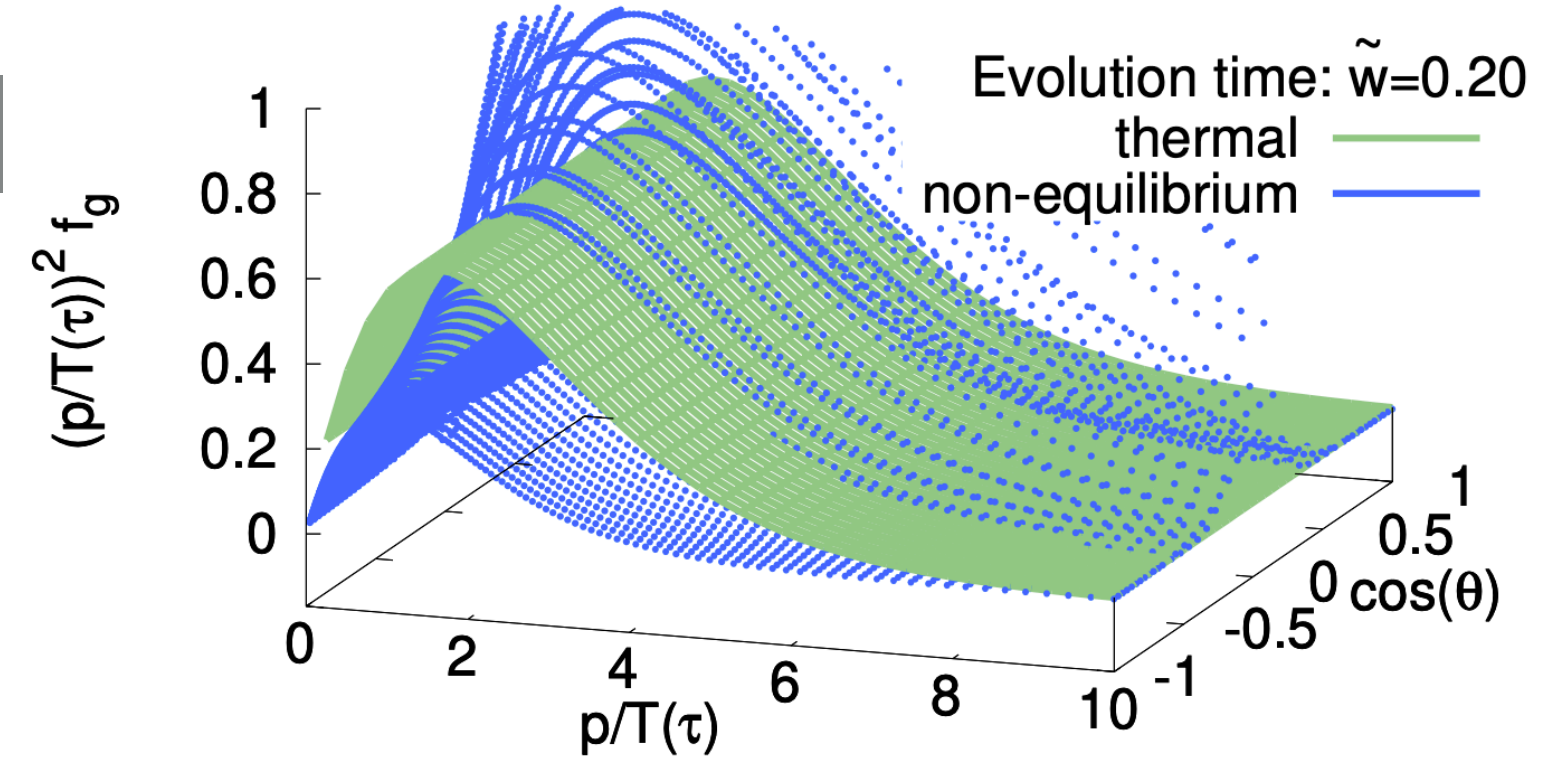
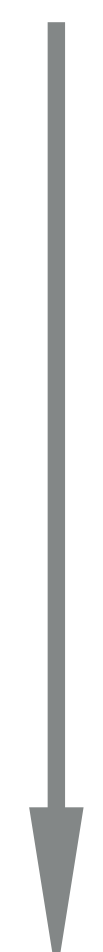


$$\cos \theta = p_z/p$$

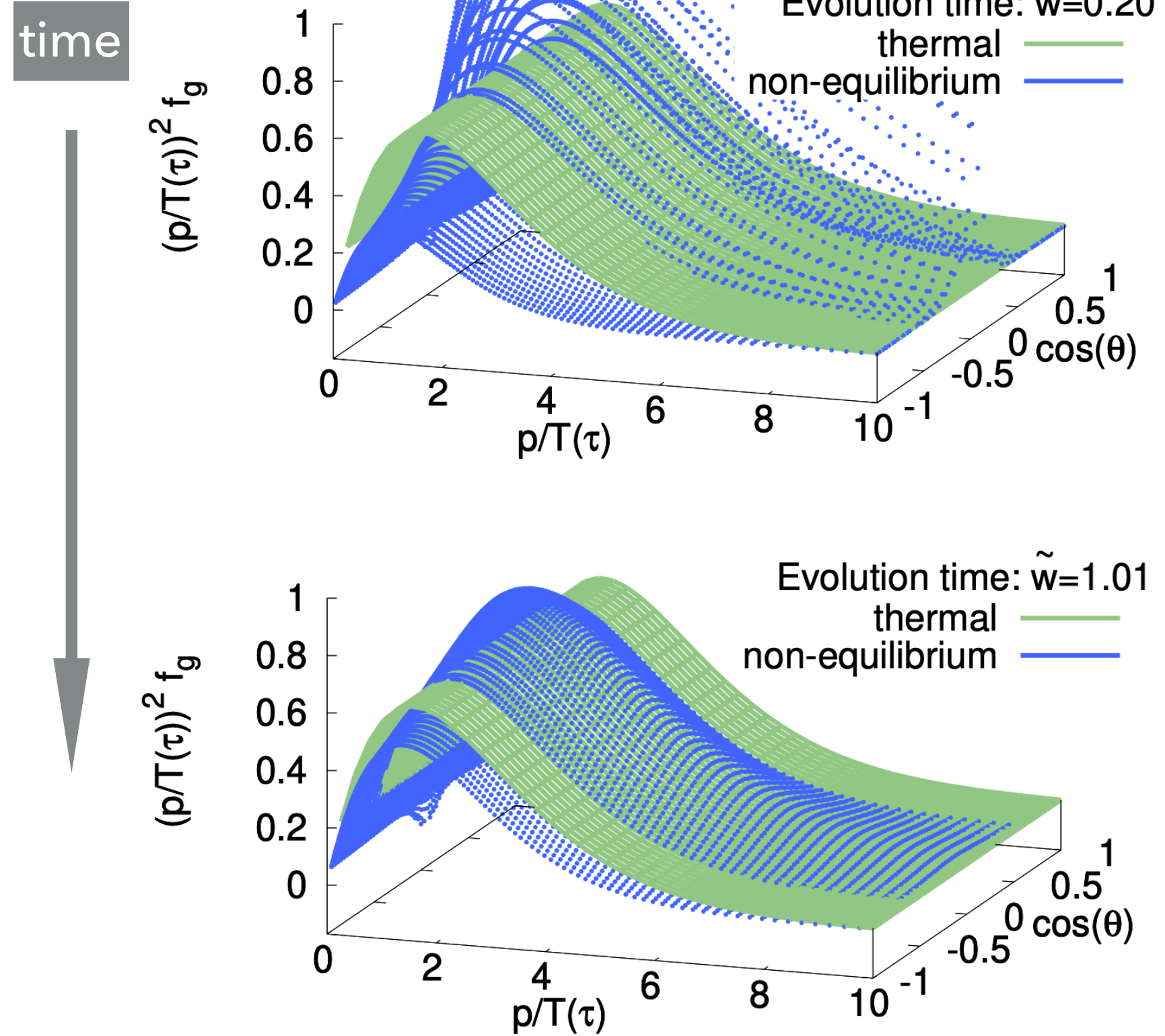
thermal | non-equilibrium

Gluon evolution

time



Gluon evolution

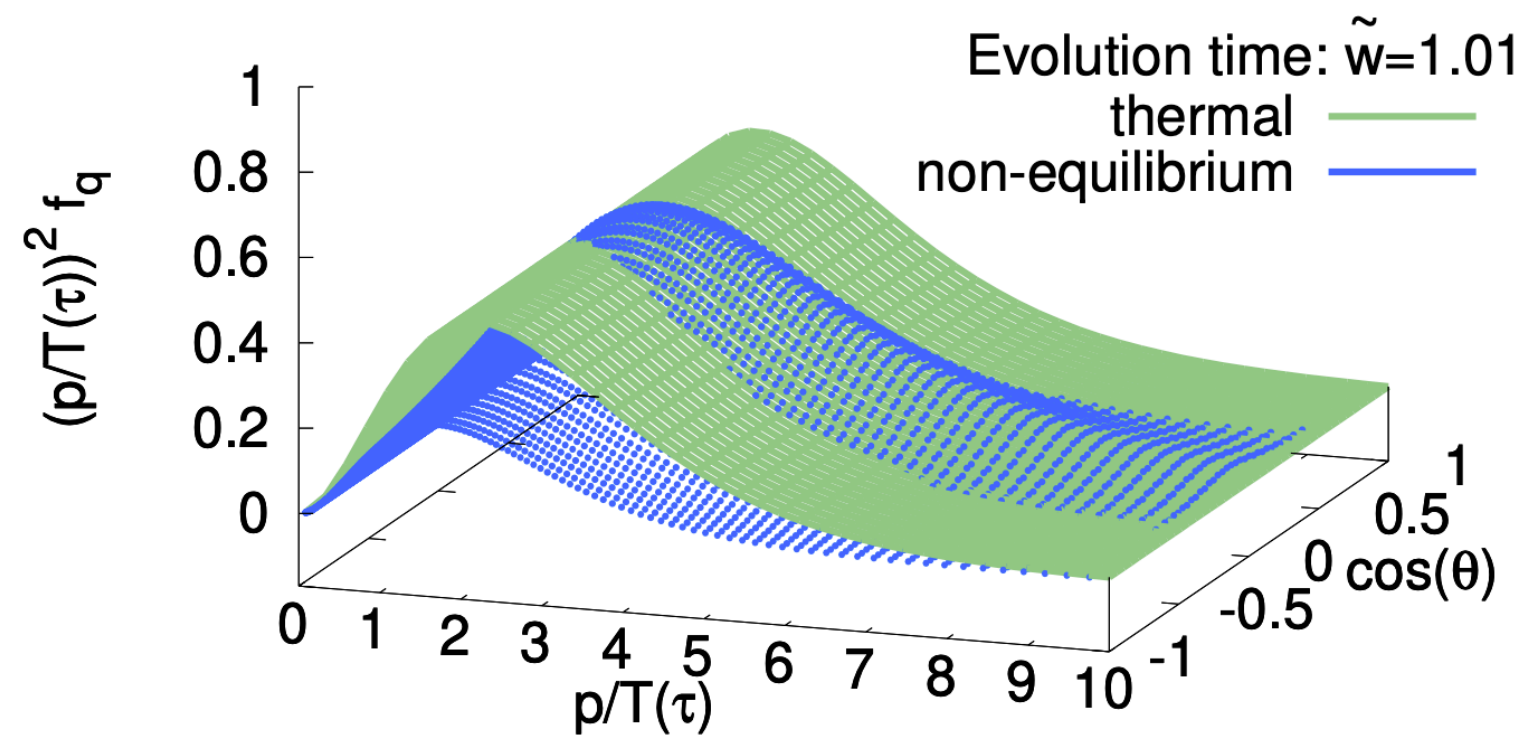
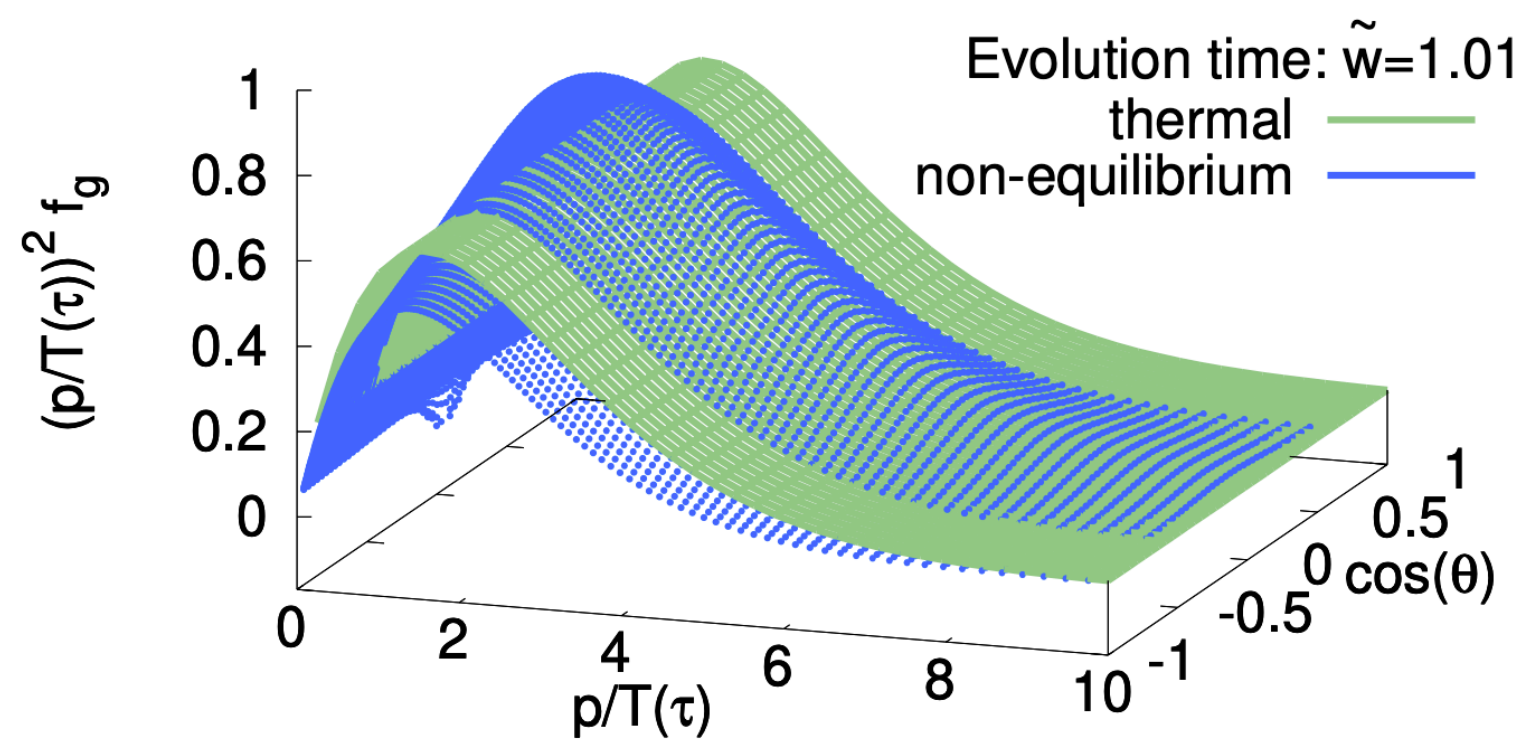
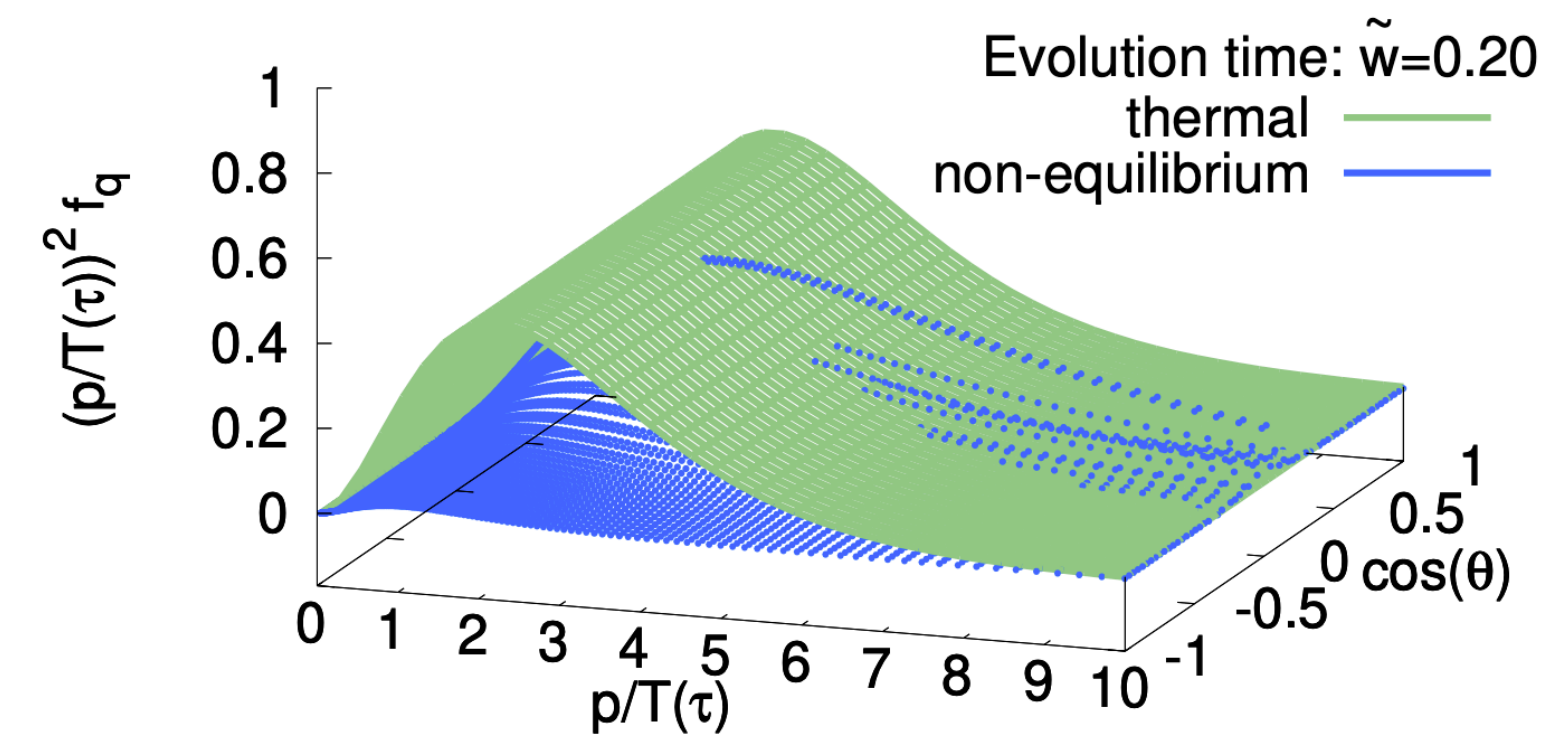
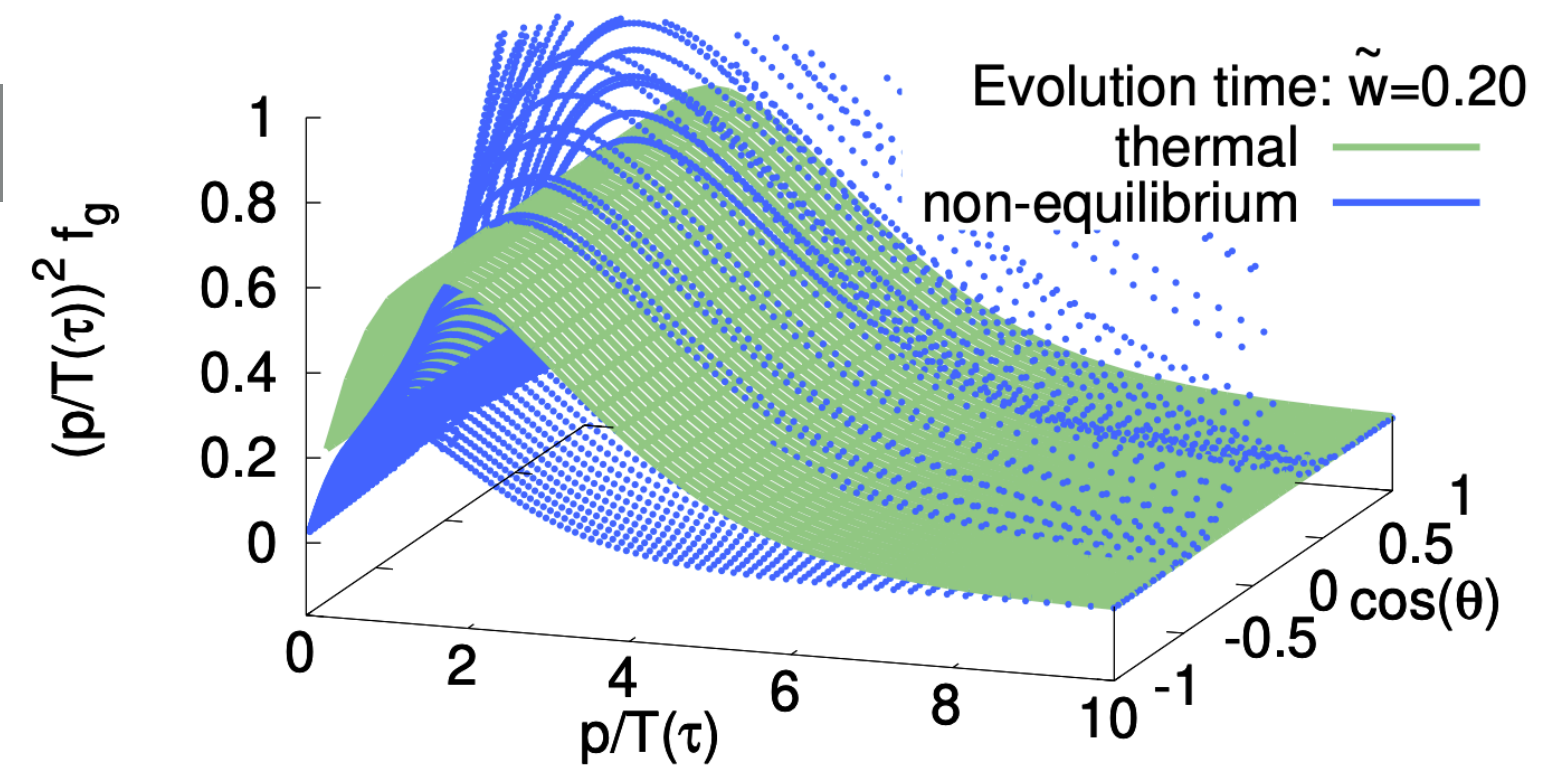


- ▶ The system starts with a gluon-dominated initial state; quarks are produced via gluon fusion $gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ and gluon splitting $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$.

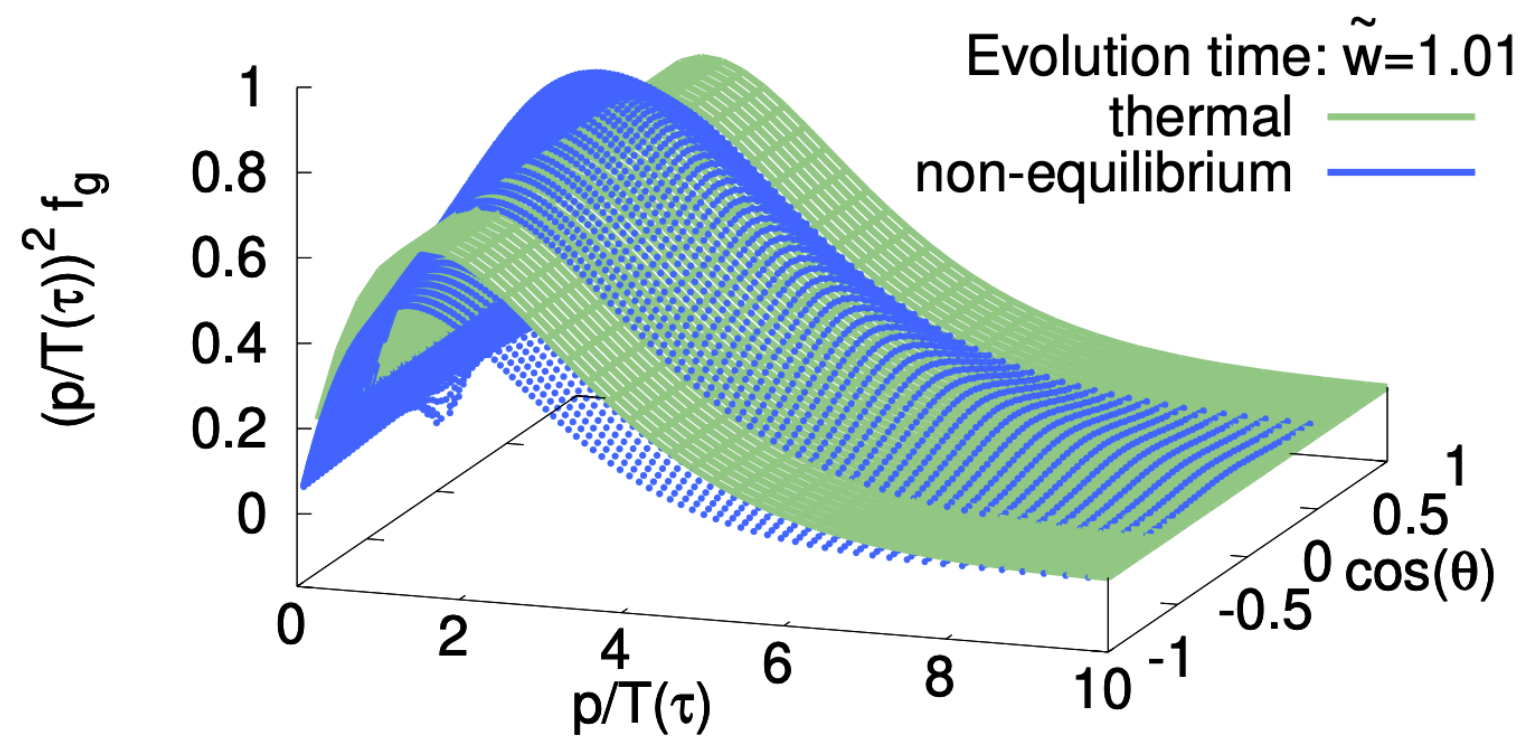
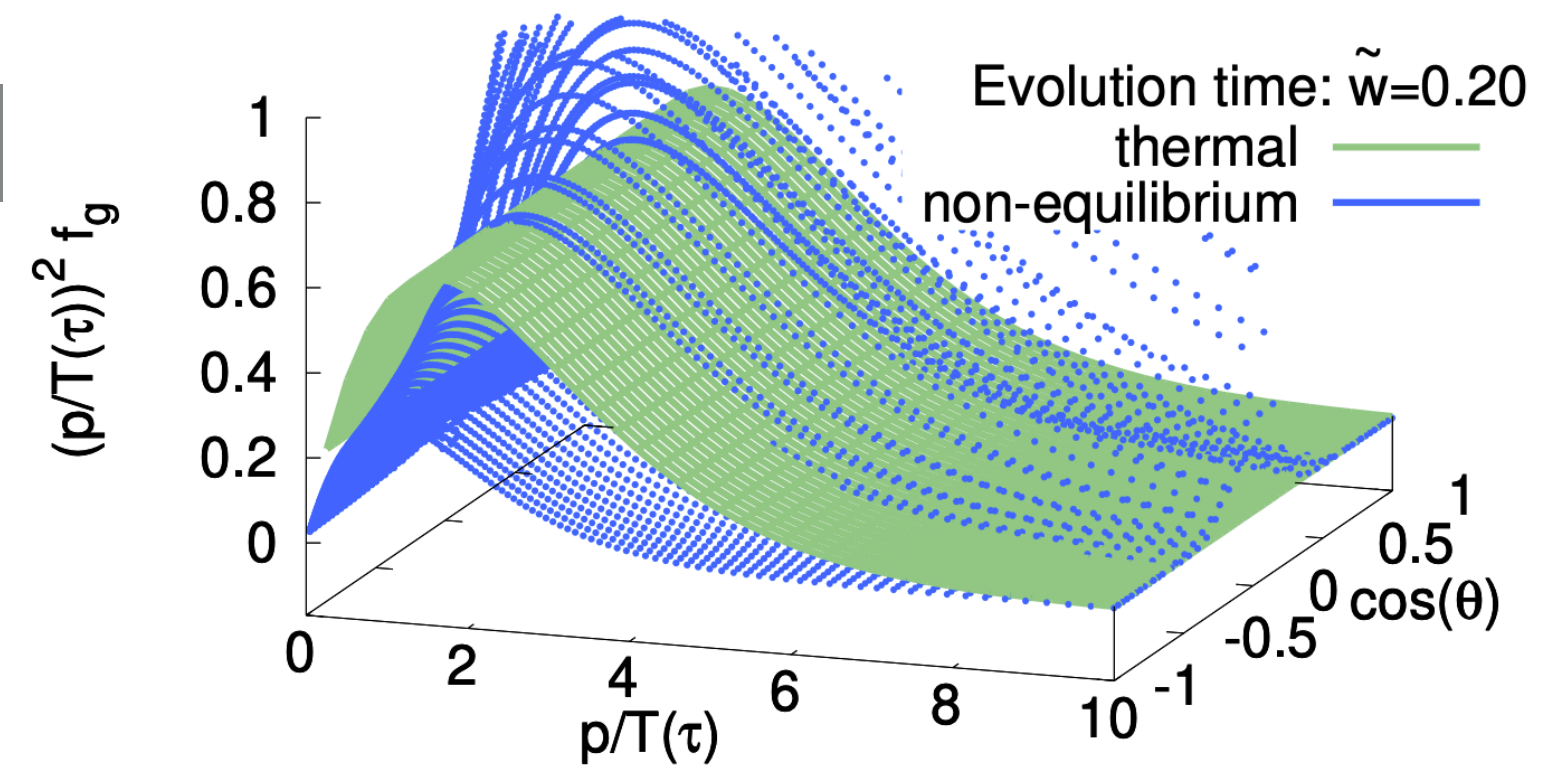
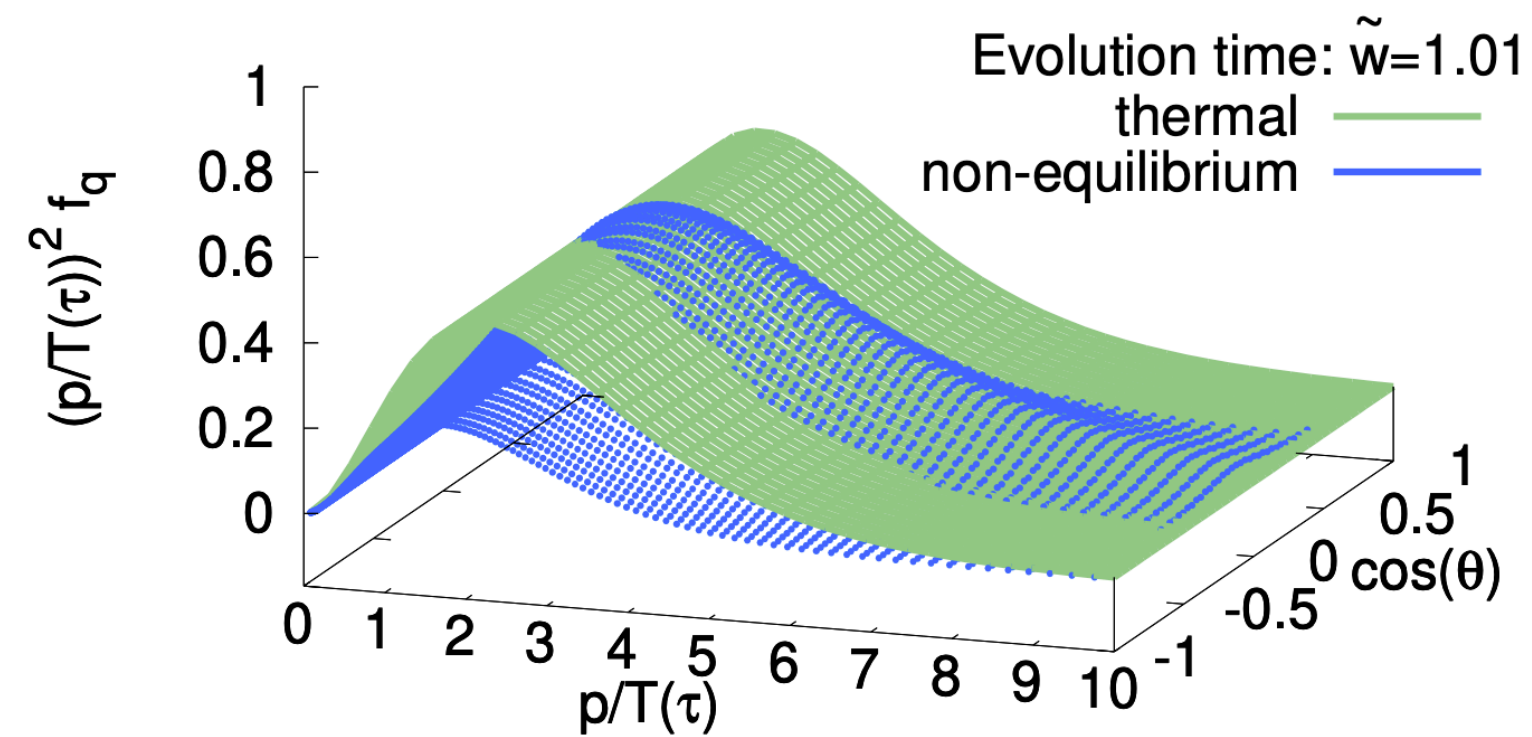
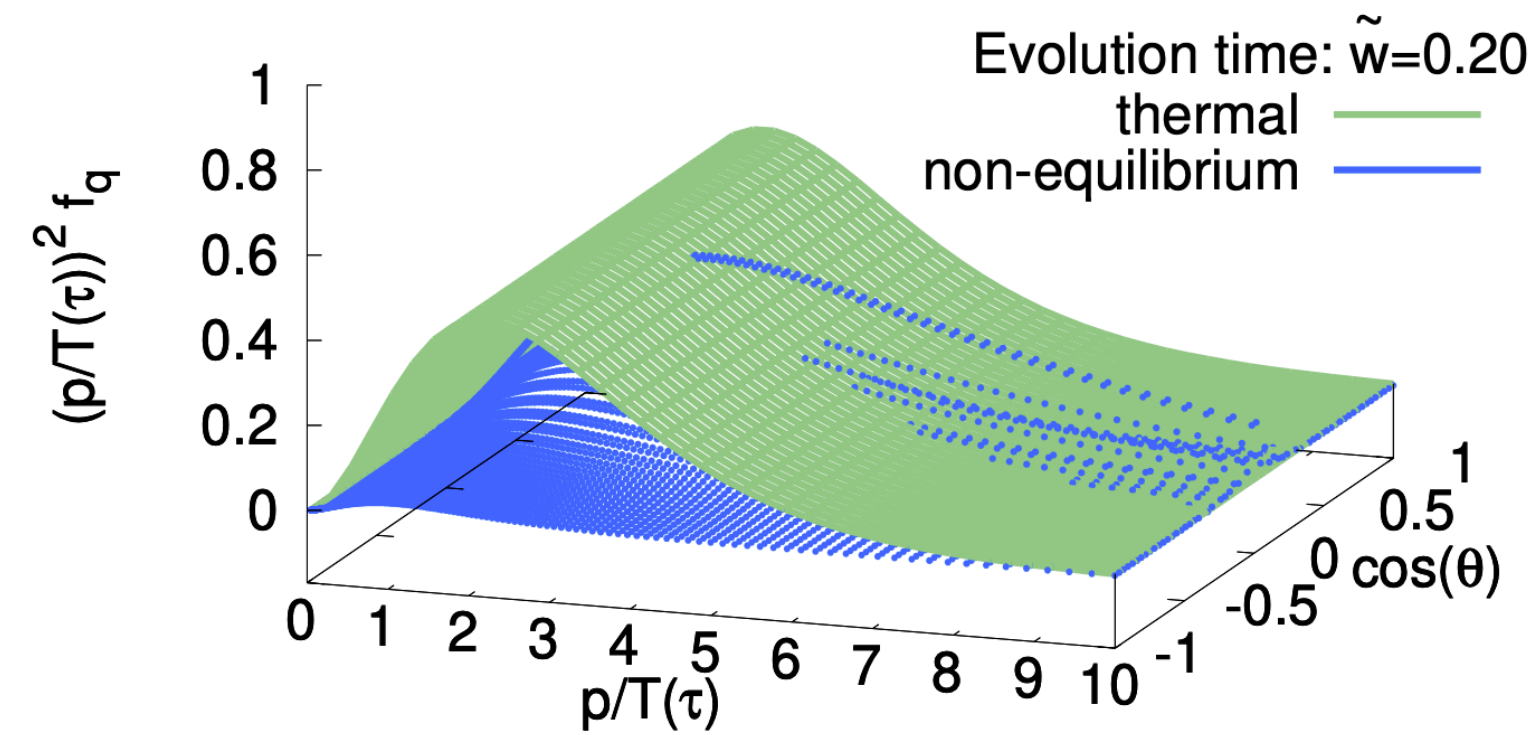
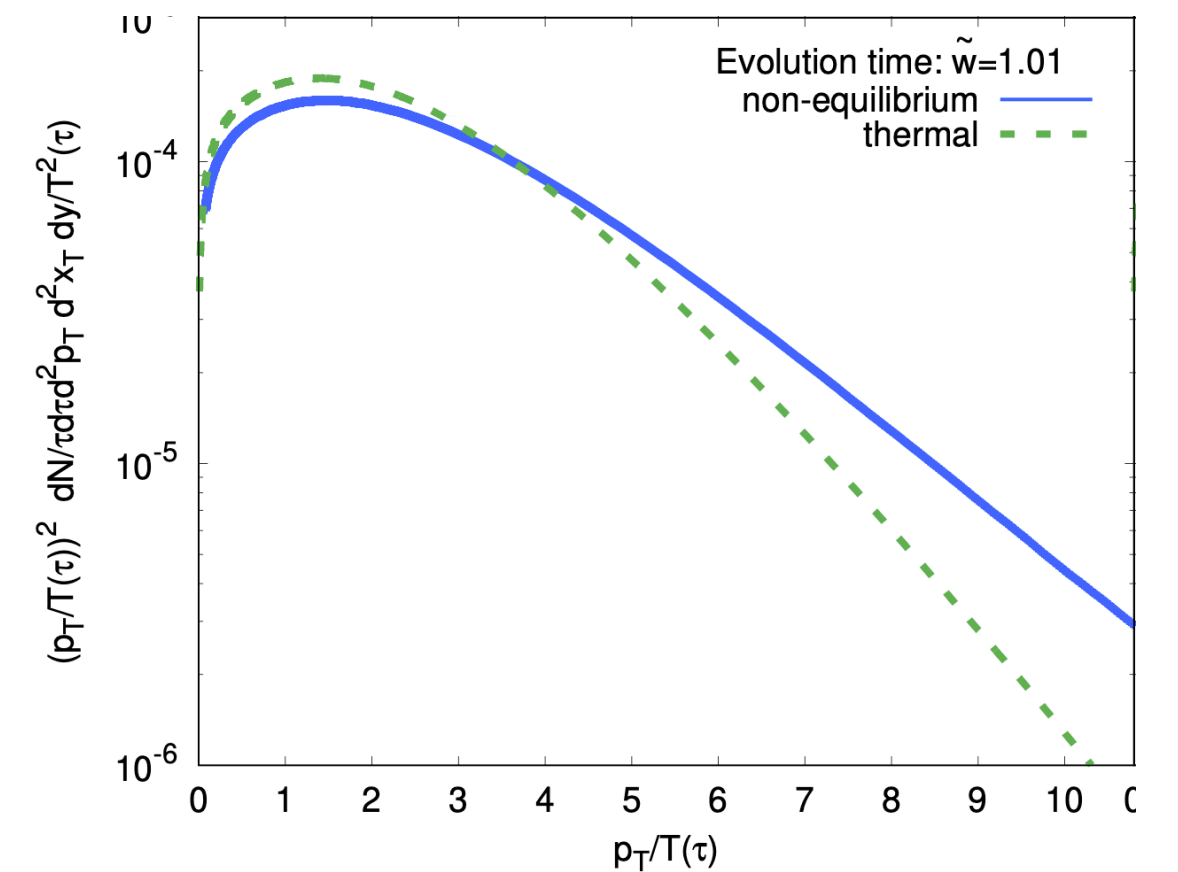
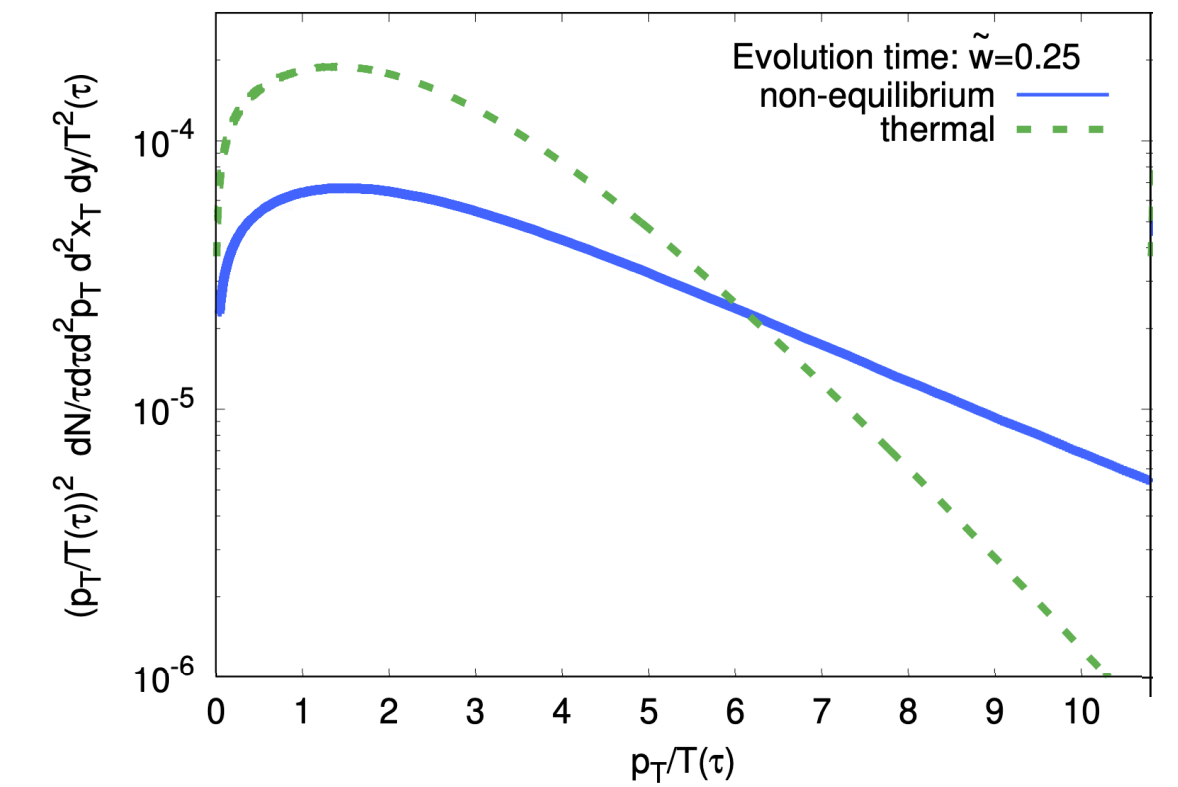
Gluon evolution

Quark evolution

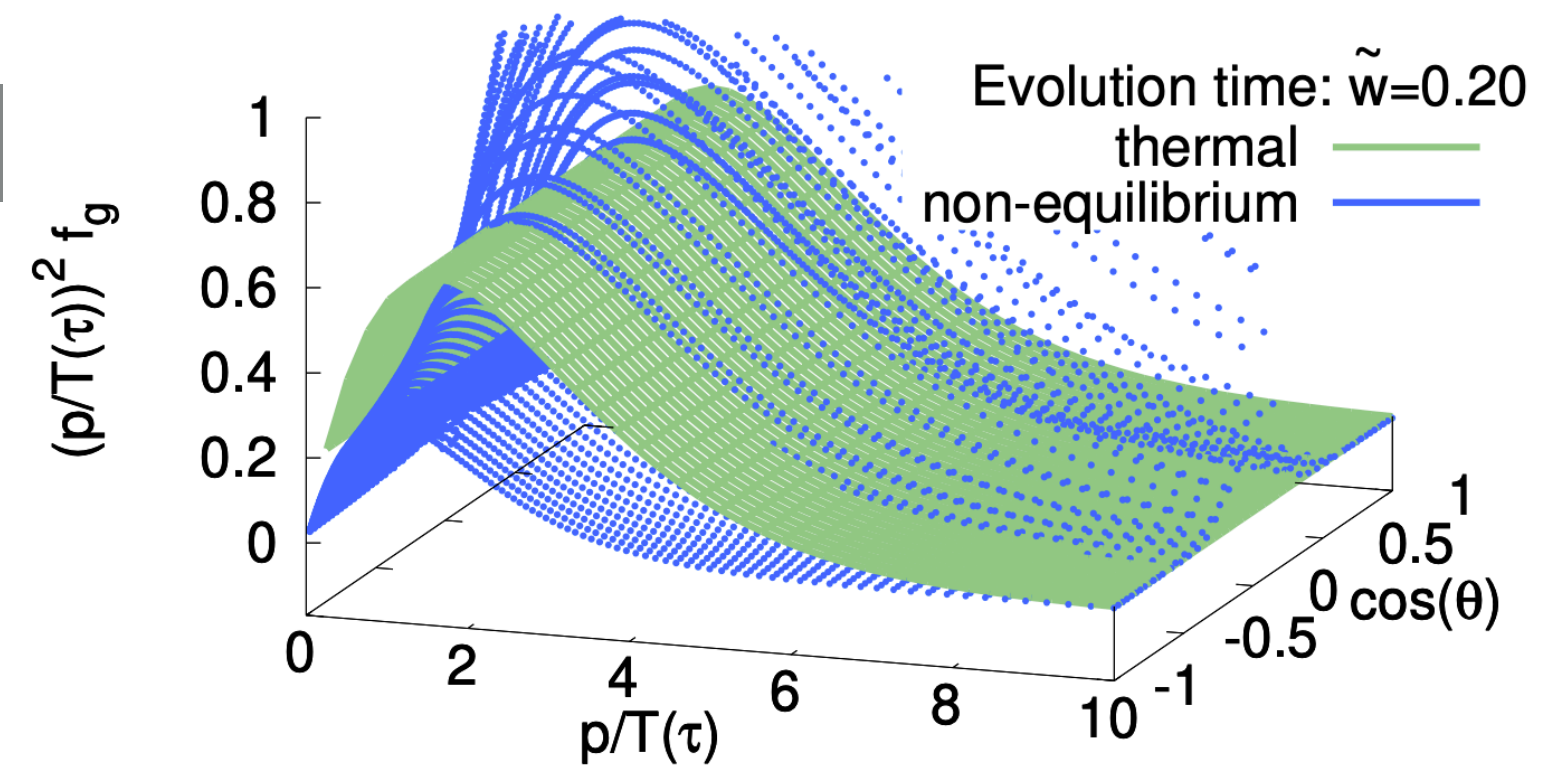
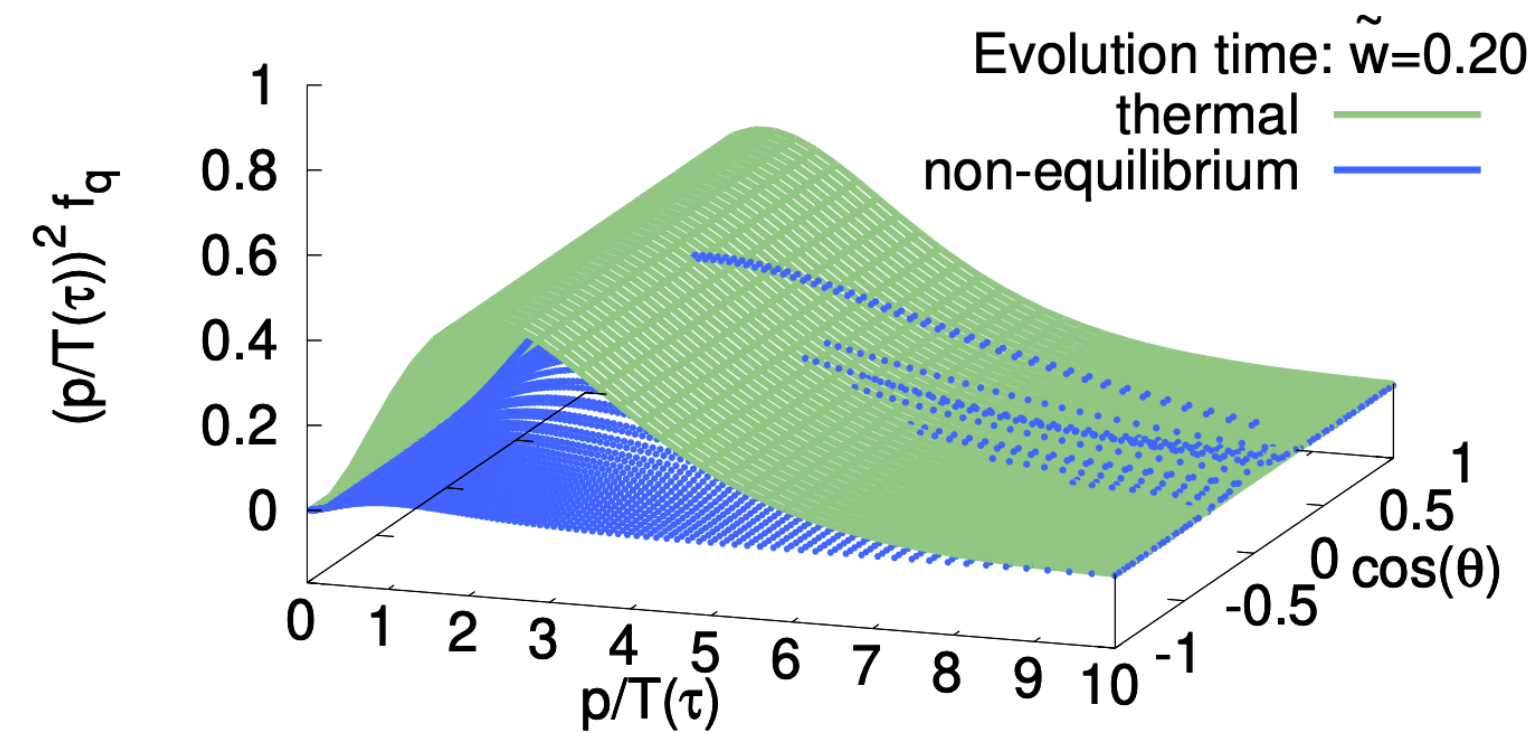
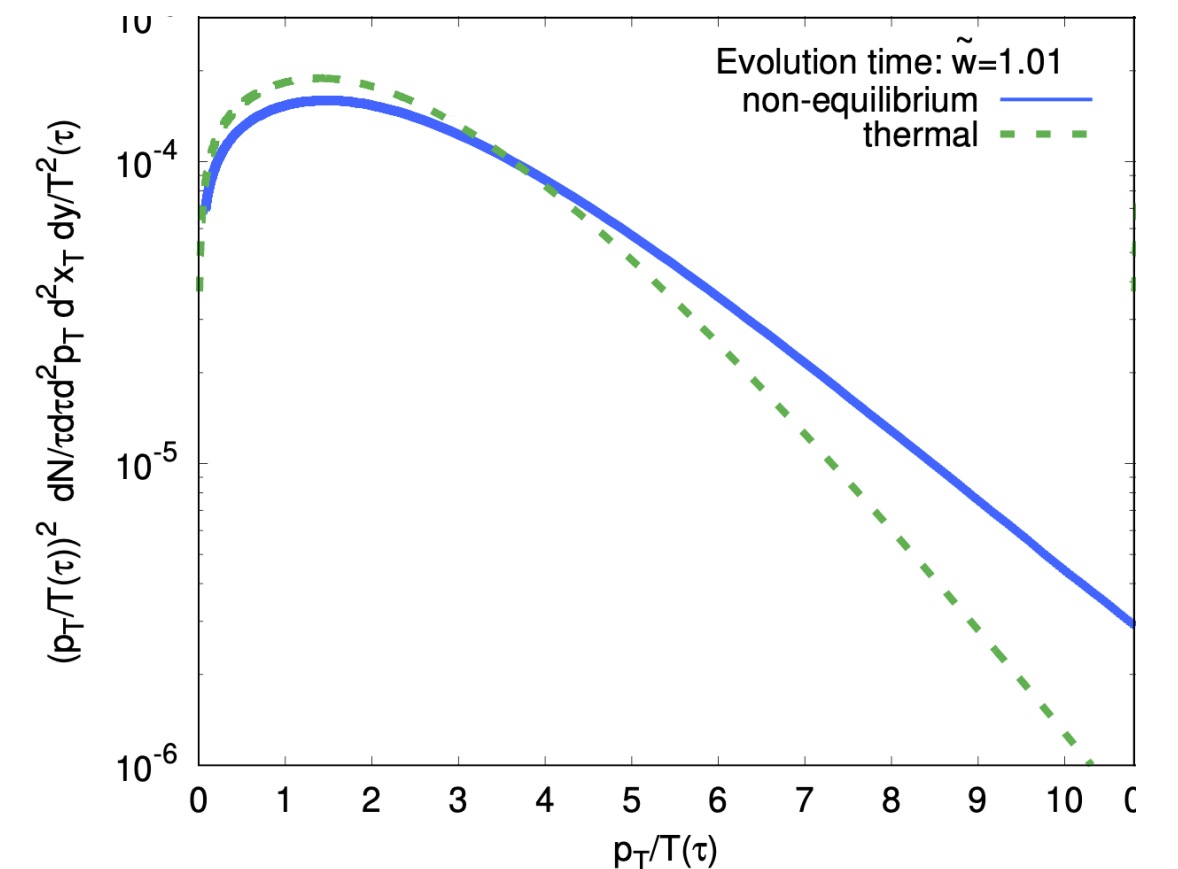
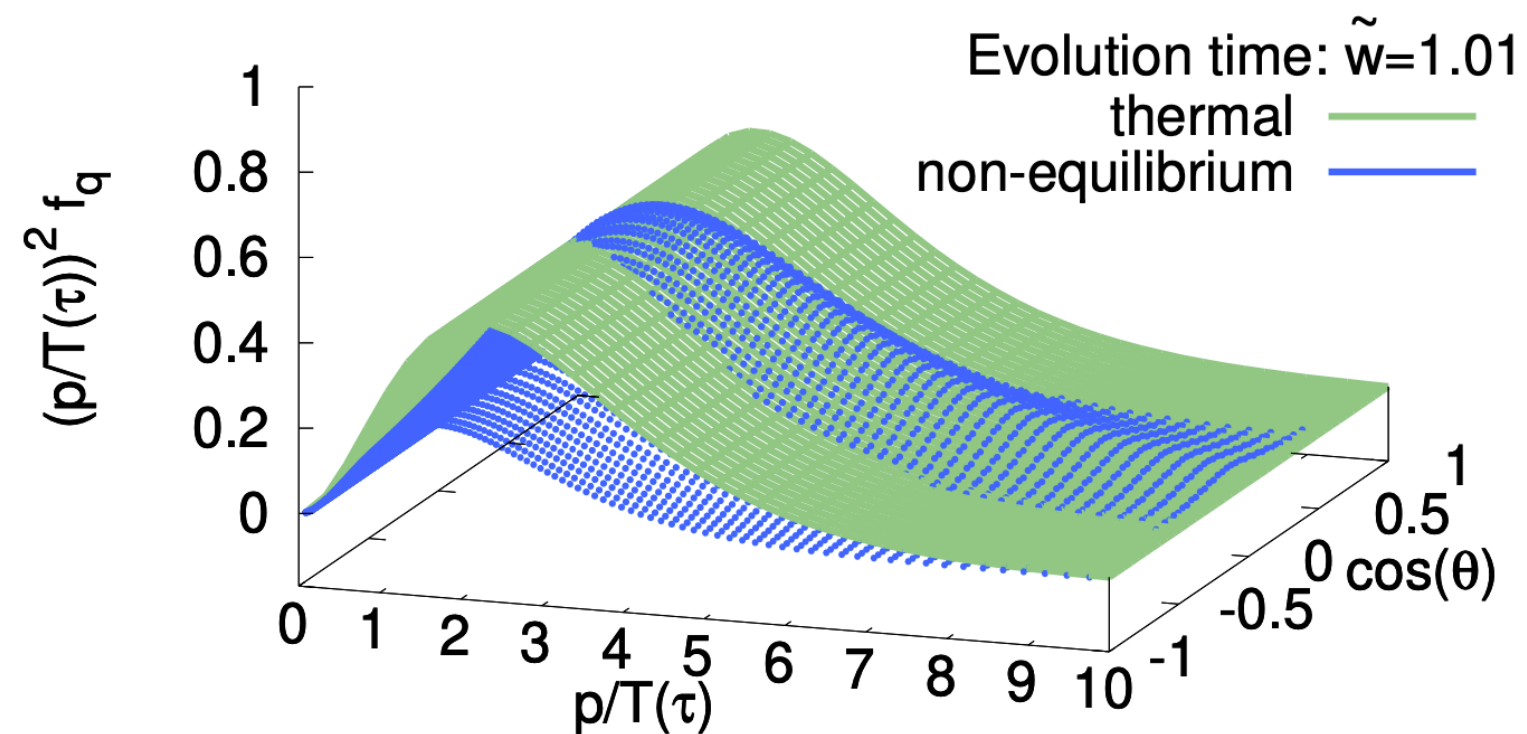
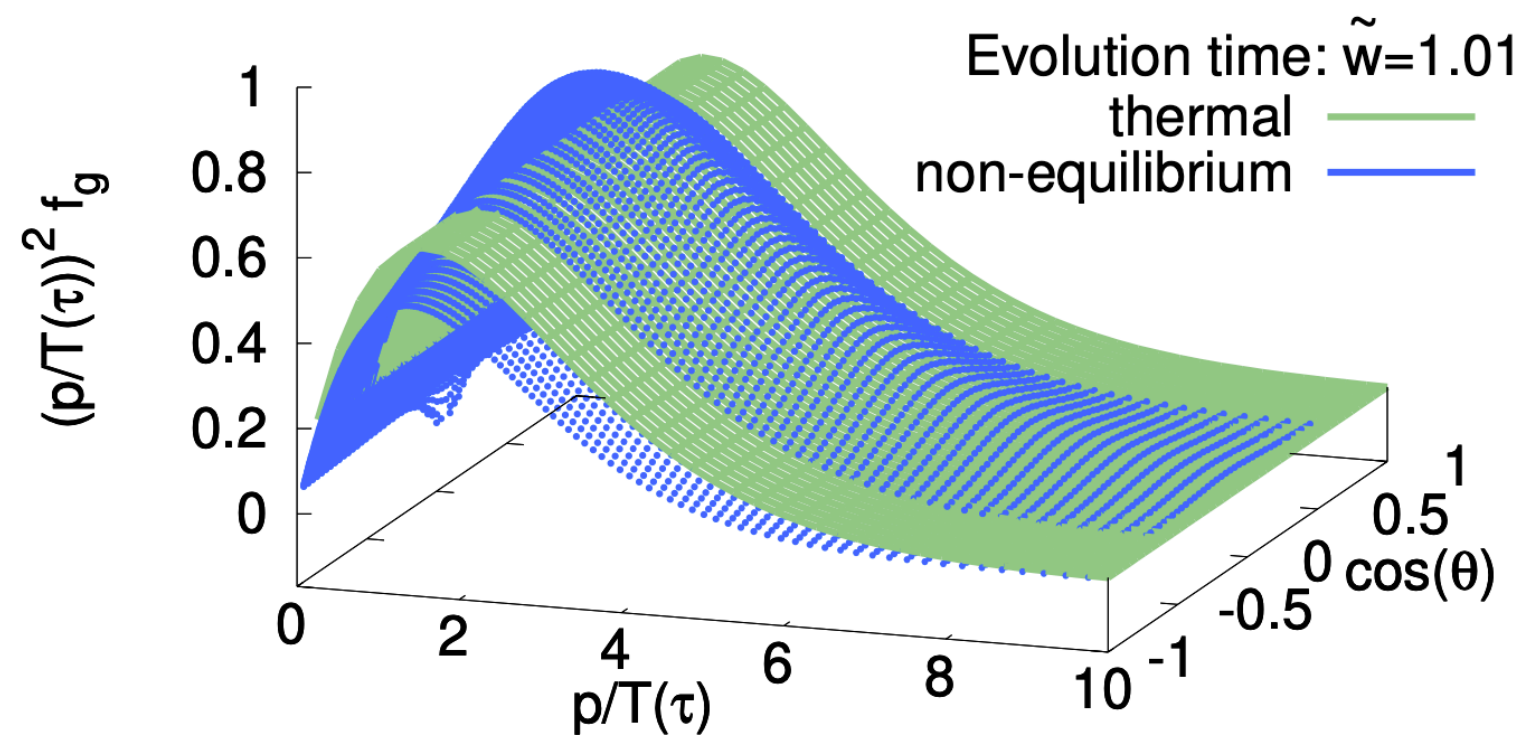
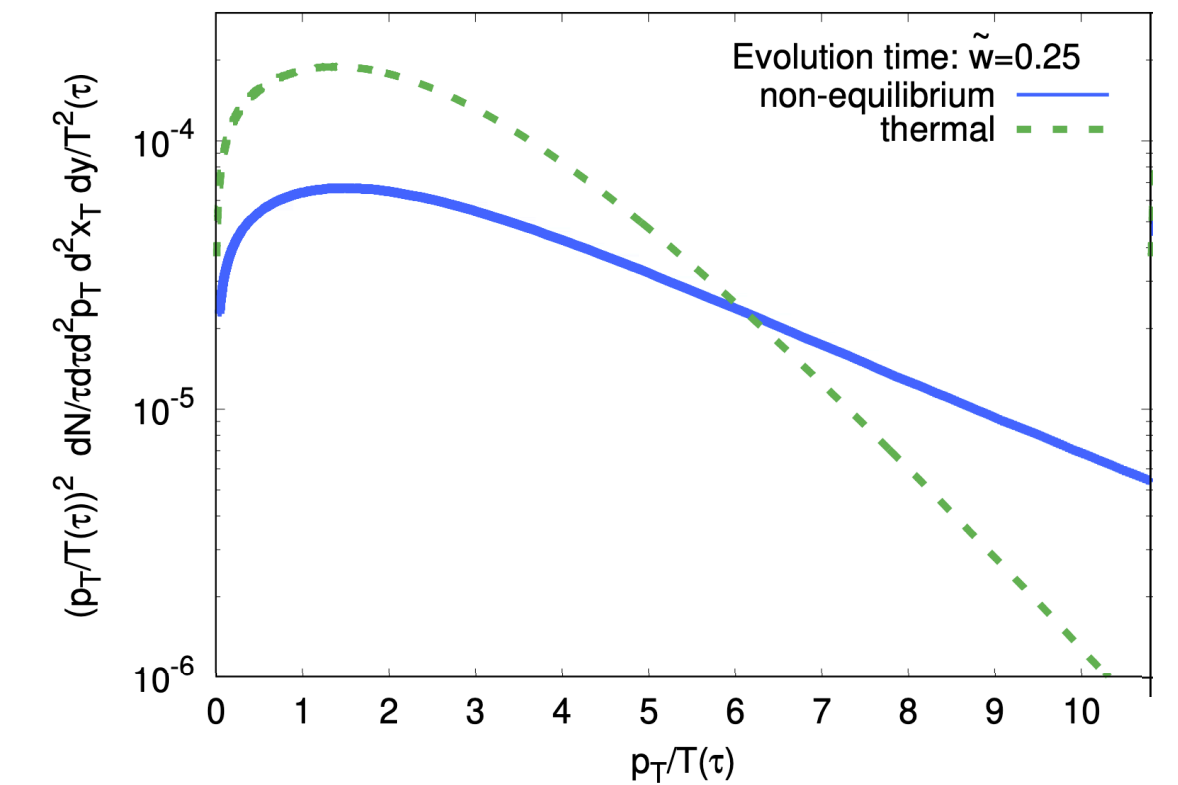
time



- ▶ The system starts with a gluon-dominated initial state; quarks are produced via gluon fusion $gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ and gluon splitting $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$.

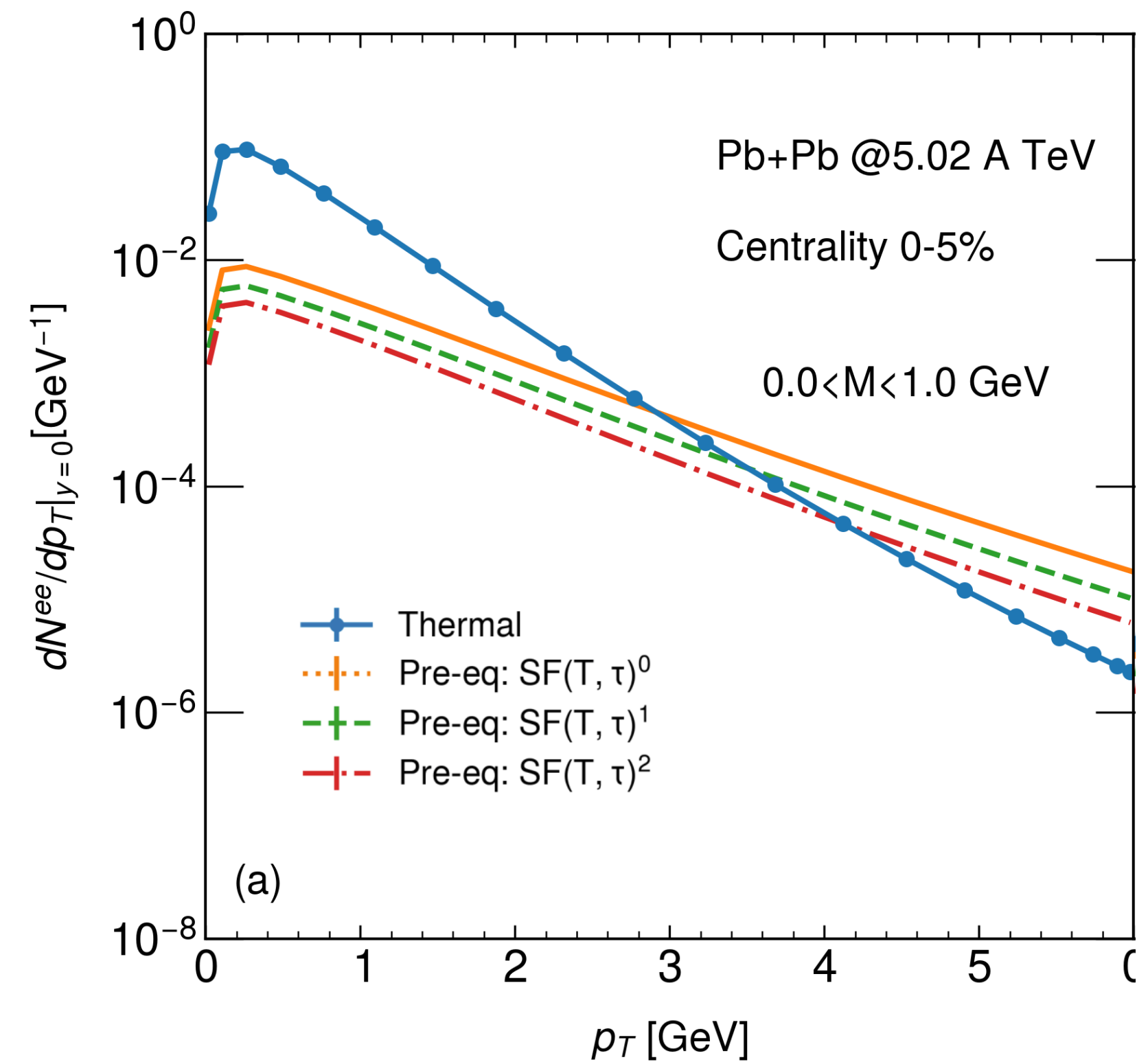
Gluon evolution

Quark evolution

Photon emission rate


► The system starts with a gluon-dominated initial state; quarks are produced via gluon fusion $gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ and gluon splitting $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$.

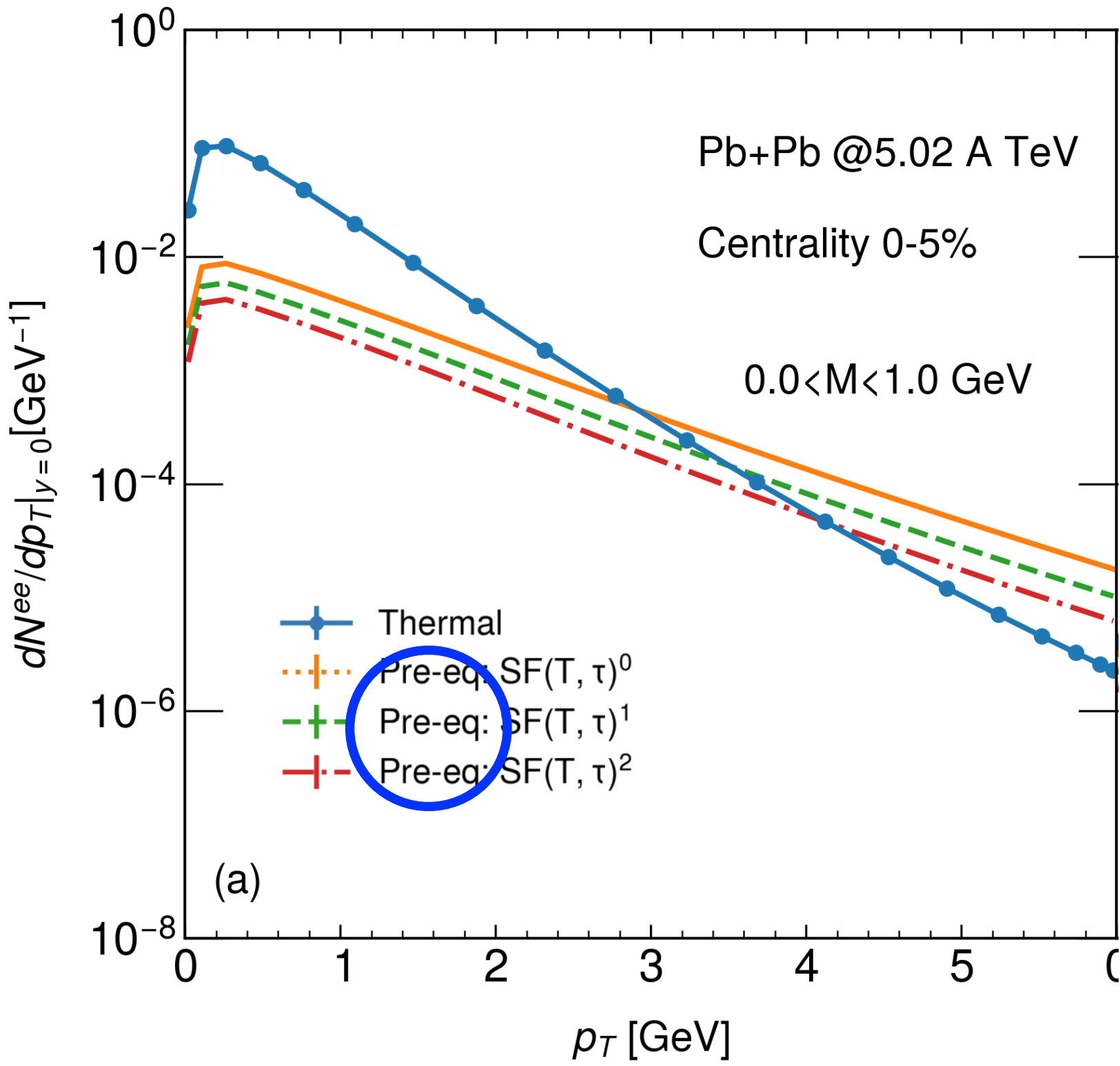
Gluon evolution

Quark evolution

Photon emission rate


- ▶ The system starts with a gluon-dominated initial state; quarks are produced via gluon fusion $gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ and gluon splitting $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$.
- ▶ Non-equilibrium spectrum is well below the thermal spectrum at low p_T and is much harder; thermalization is first achieved in the soft regime. [Note the p_T -dependence!]

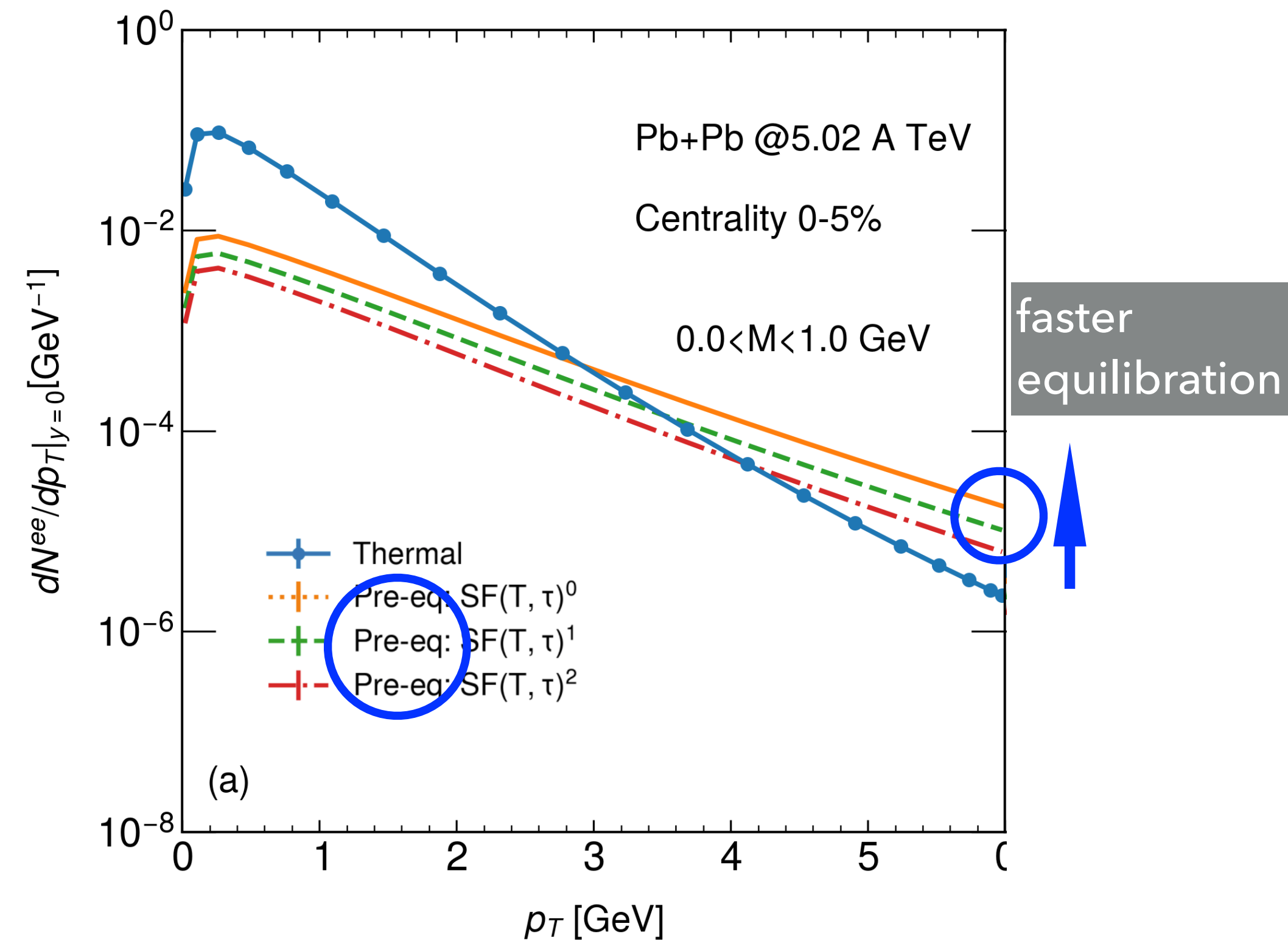
Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration



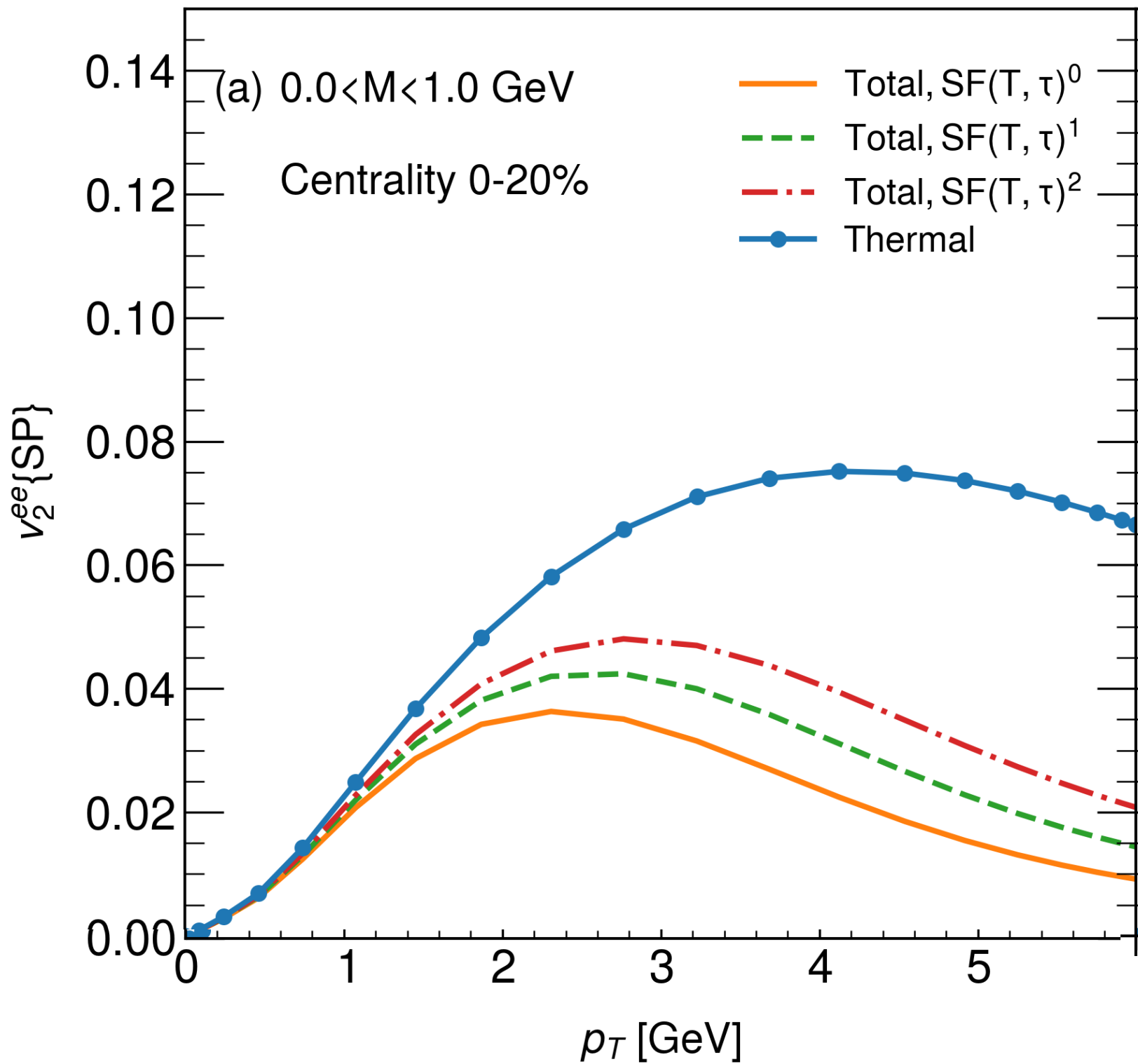
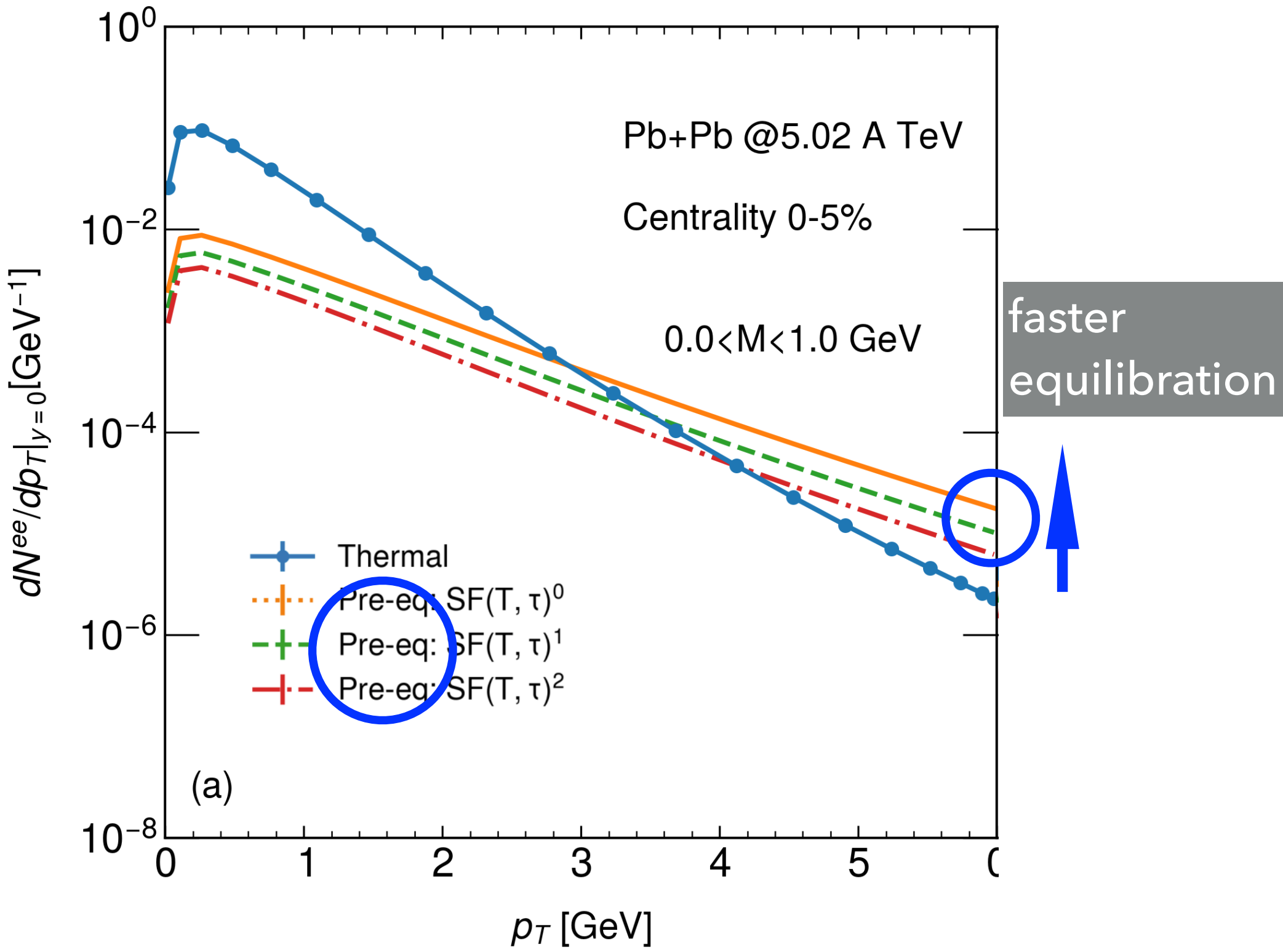
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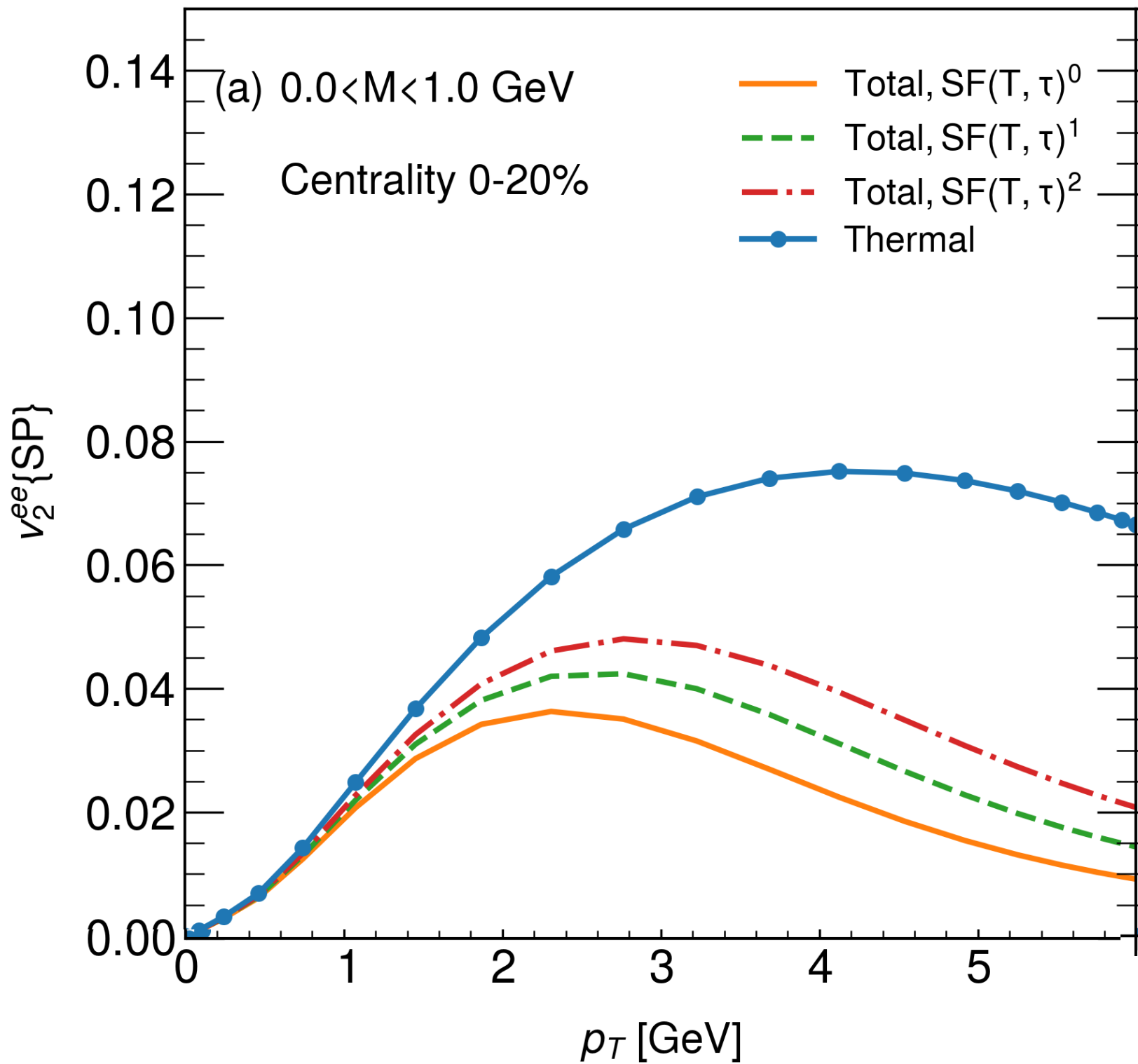
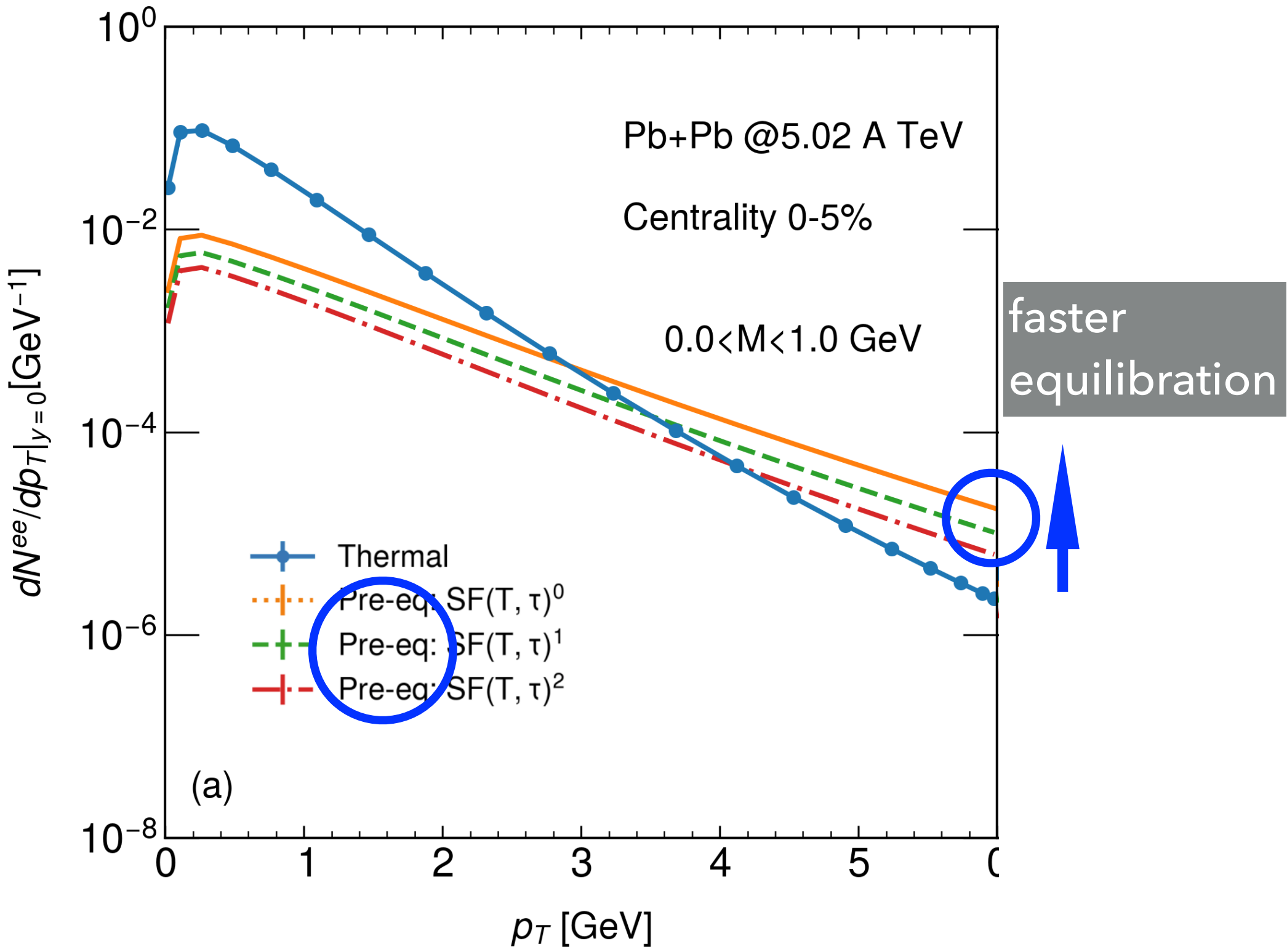
Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration



Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration

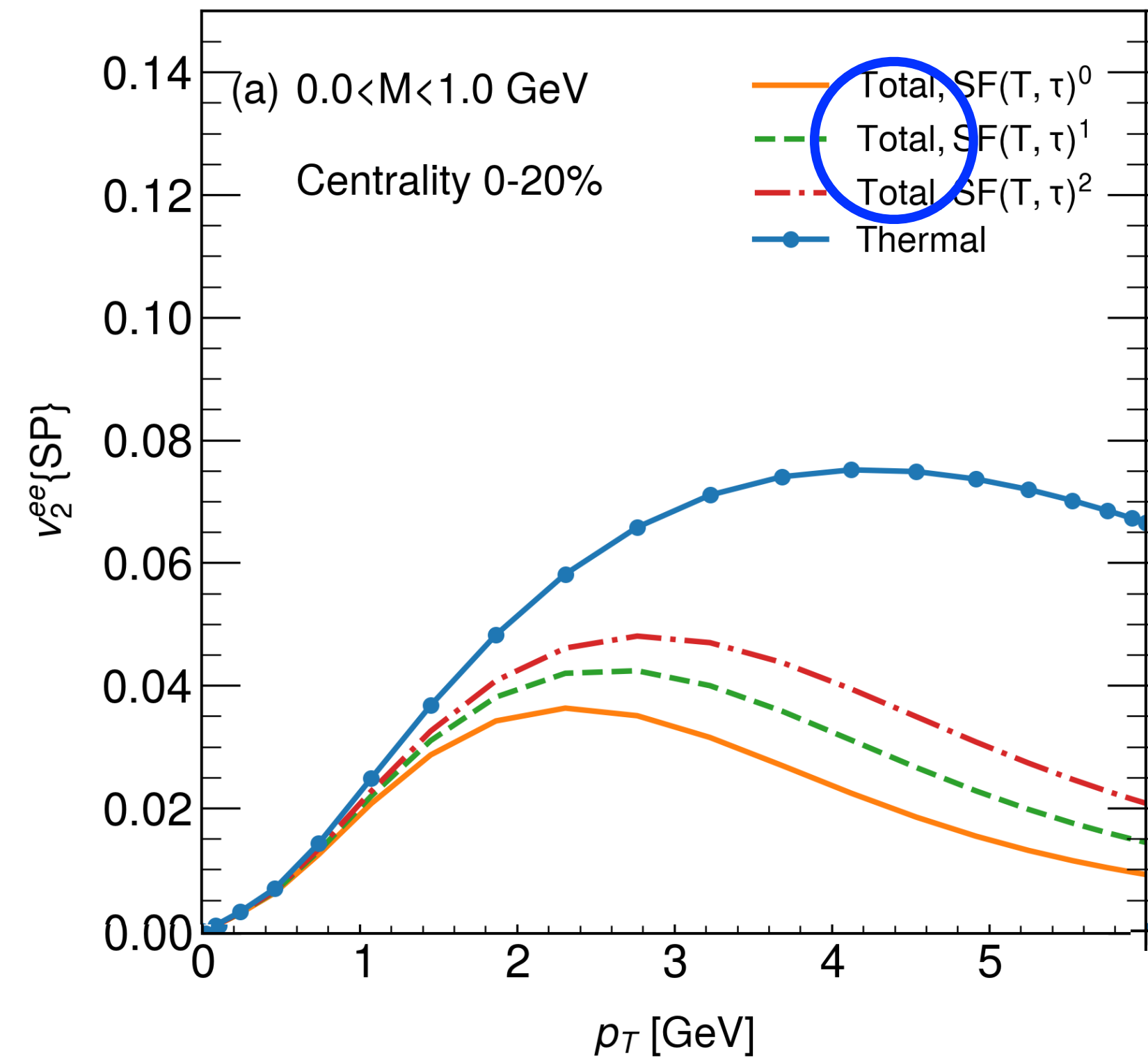
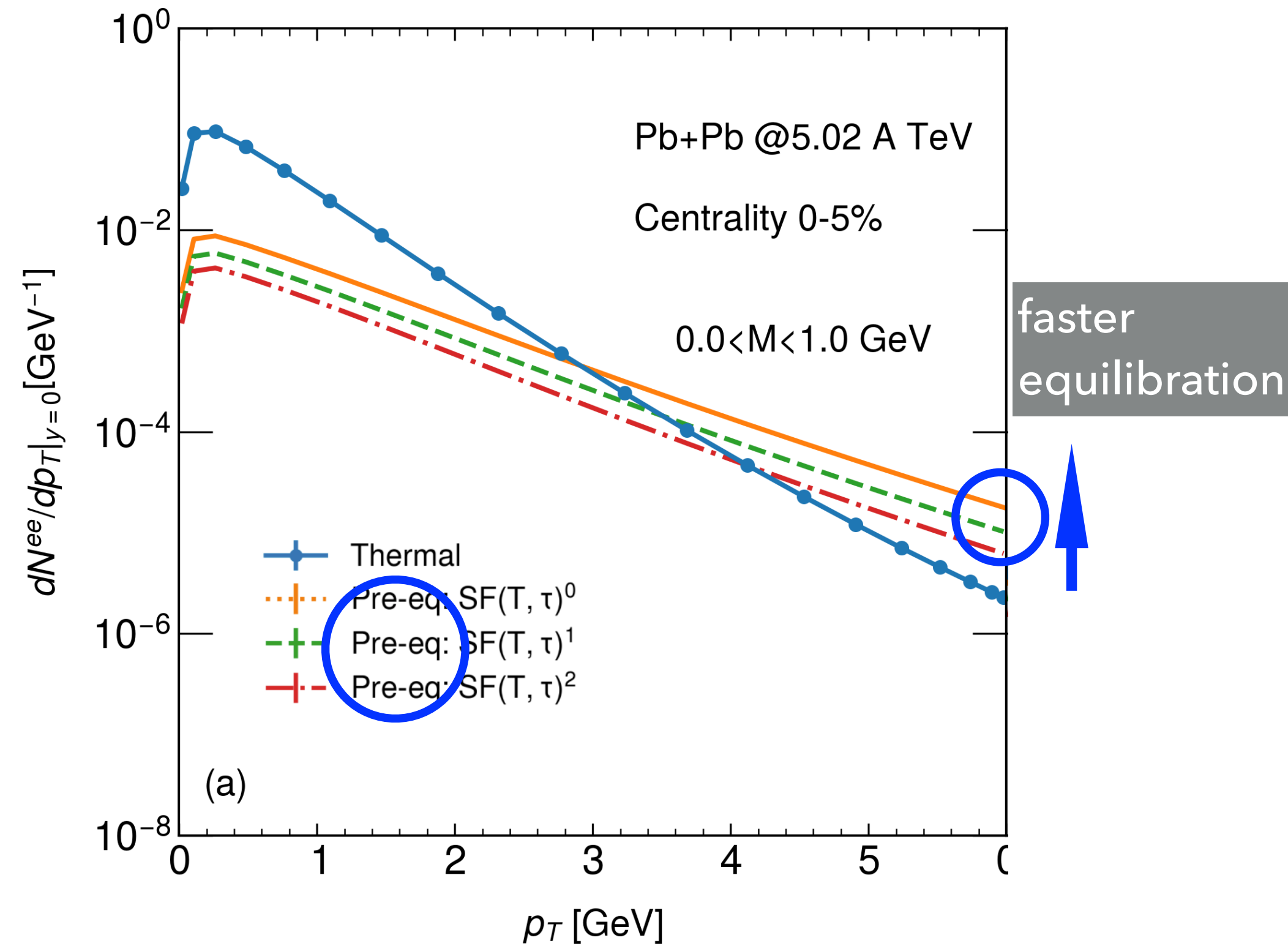


Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration



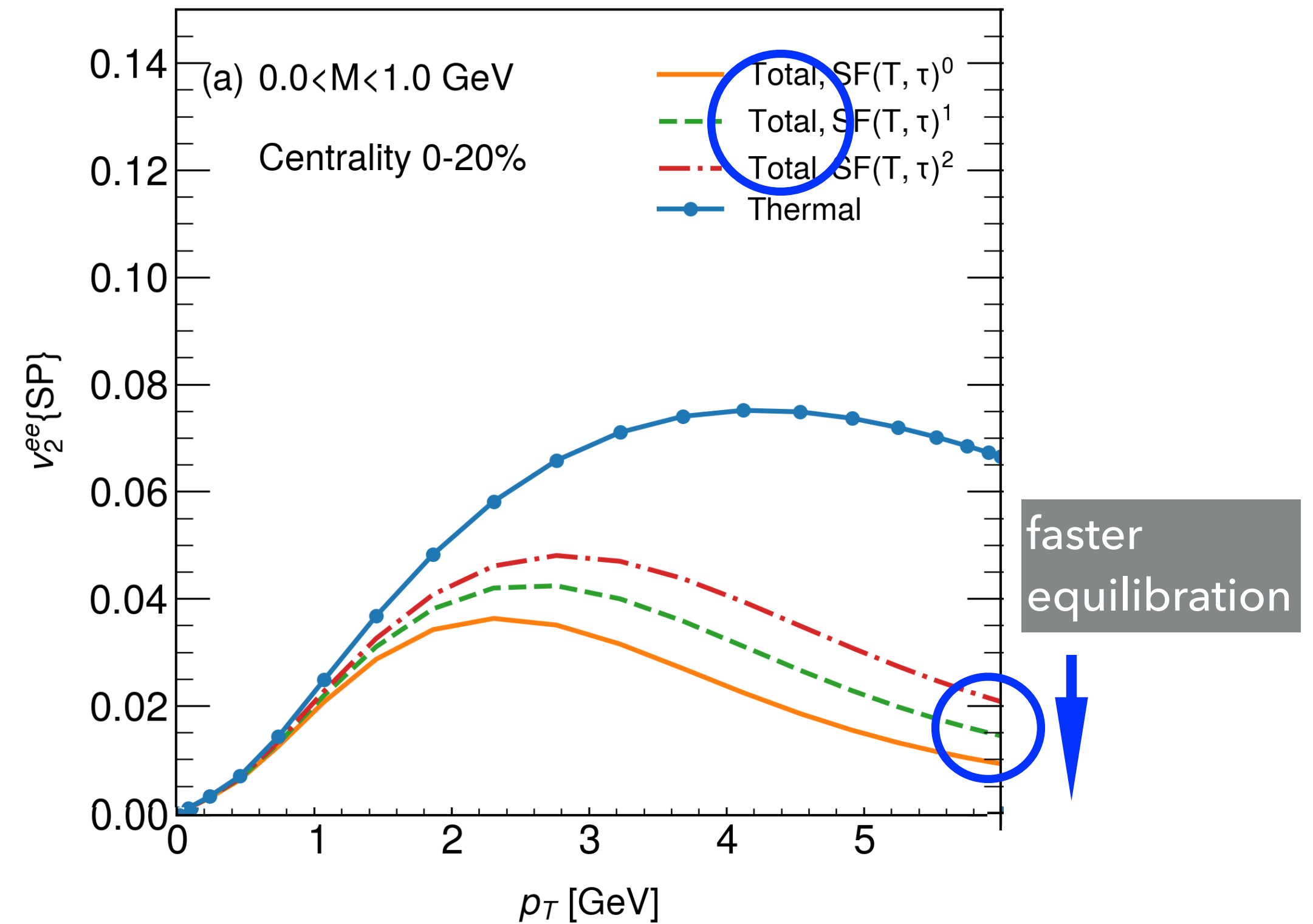
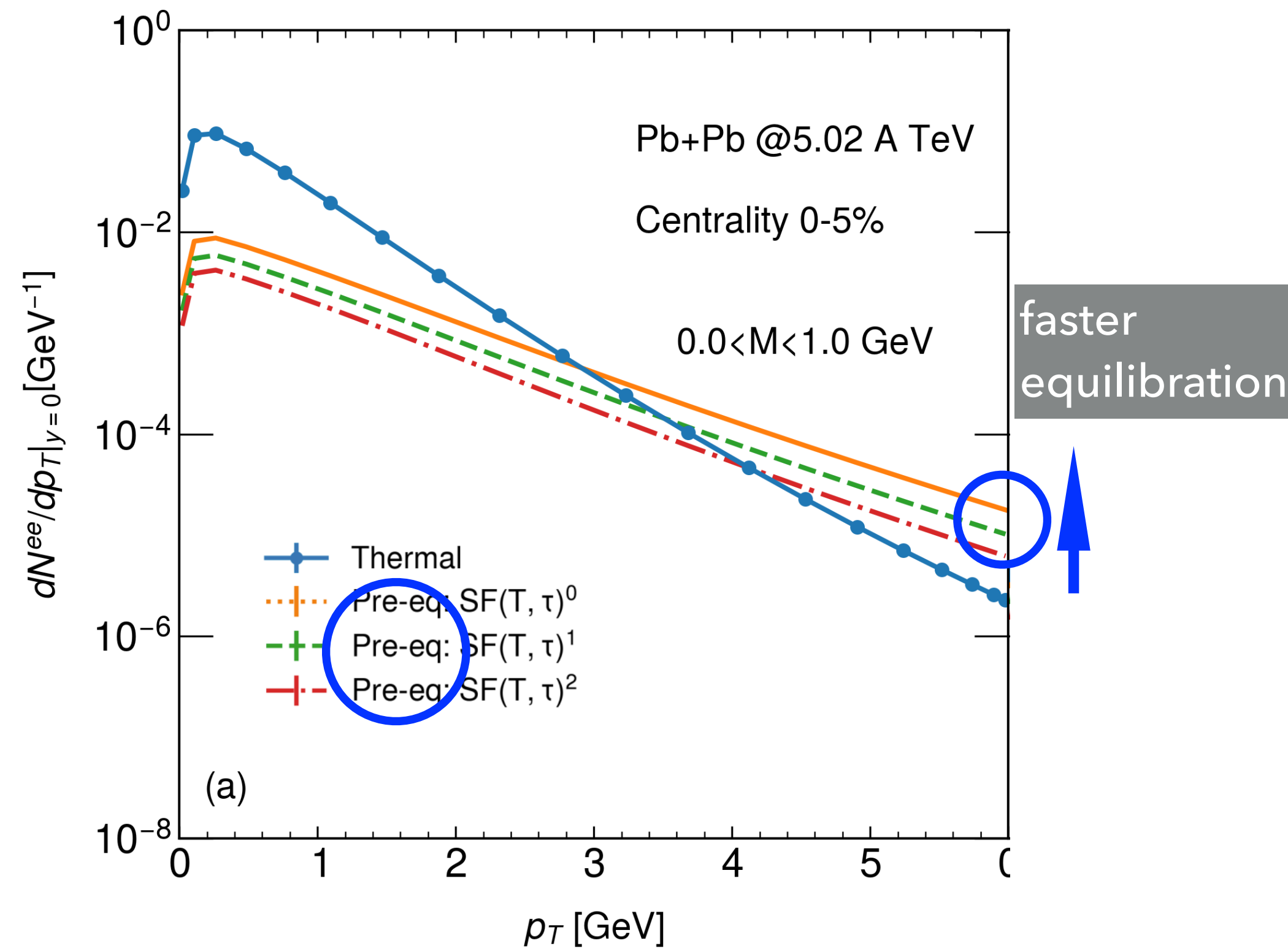
► EM radiations are penetrating but can obtain non-zero v_n , because of the anisotropically expanding emission source. [same as hadrons]

Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration

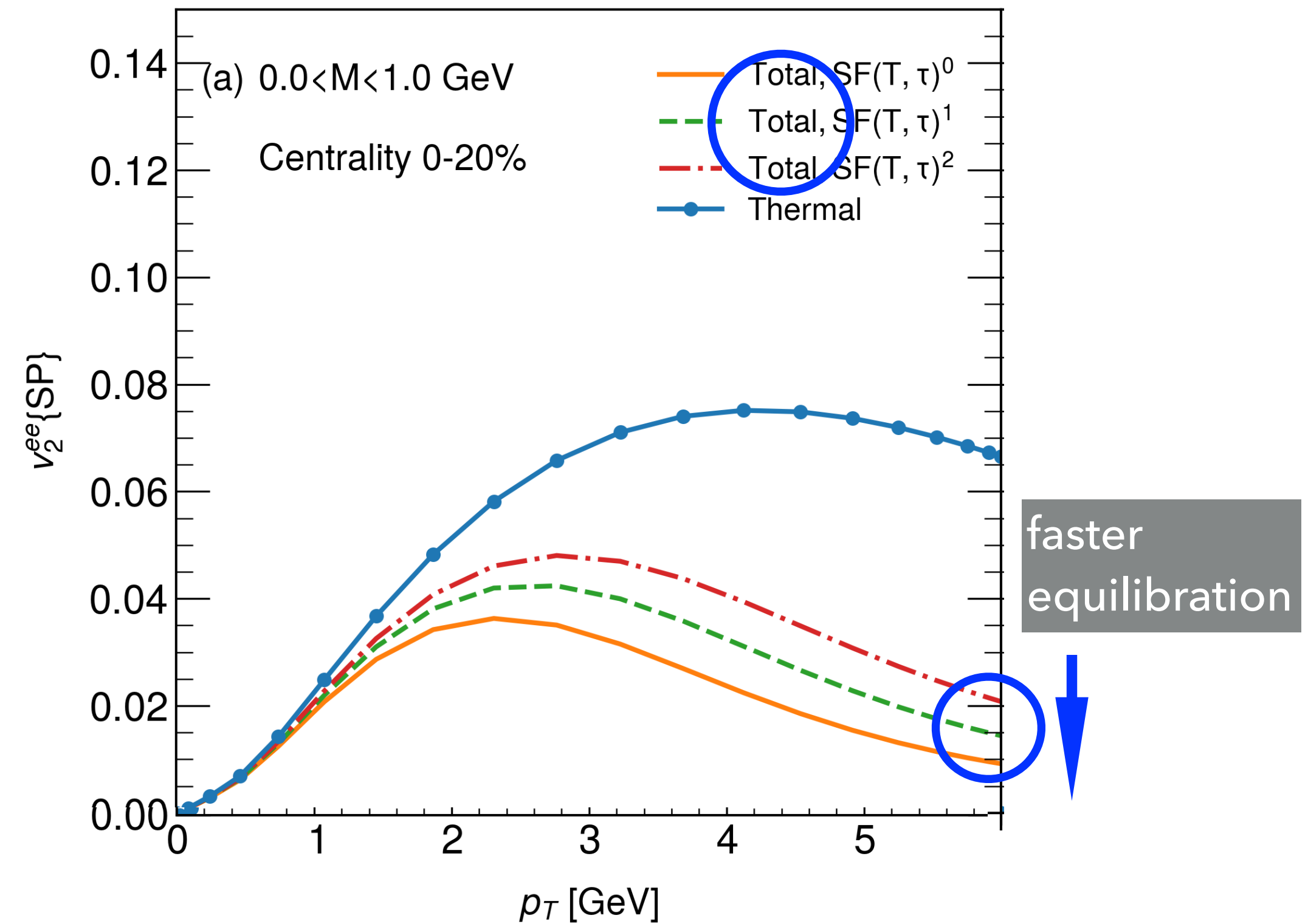
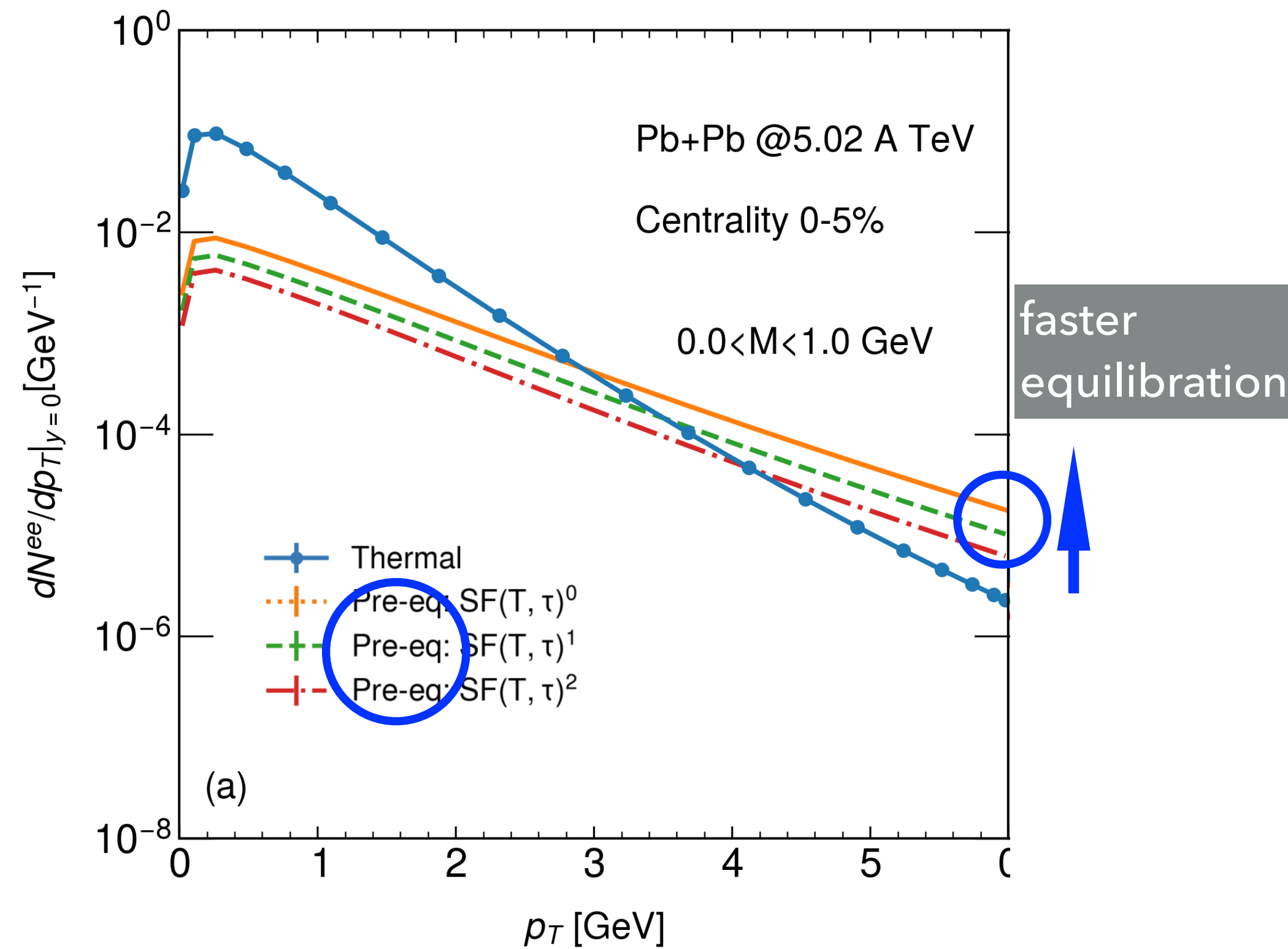


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Anisotropic flows v_n as probe of equilibration

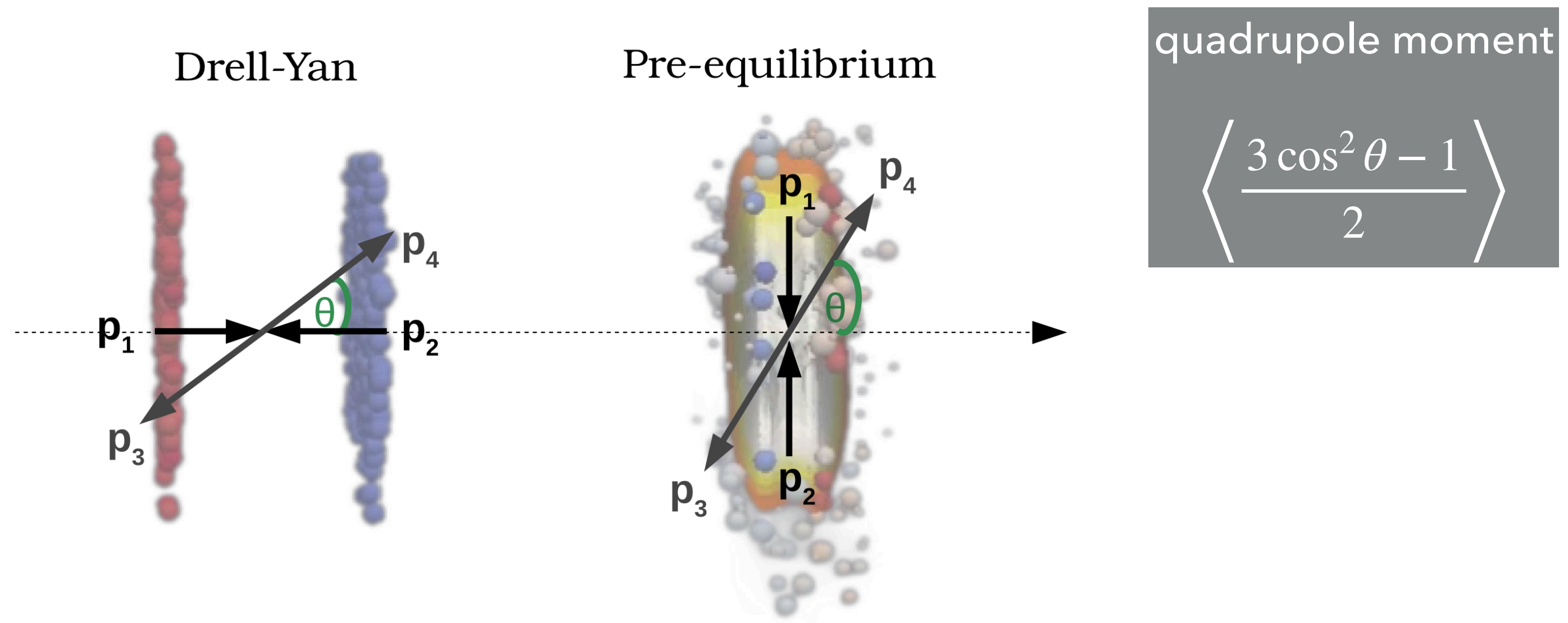


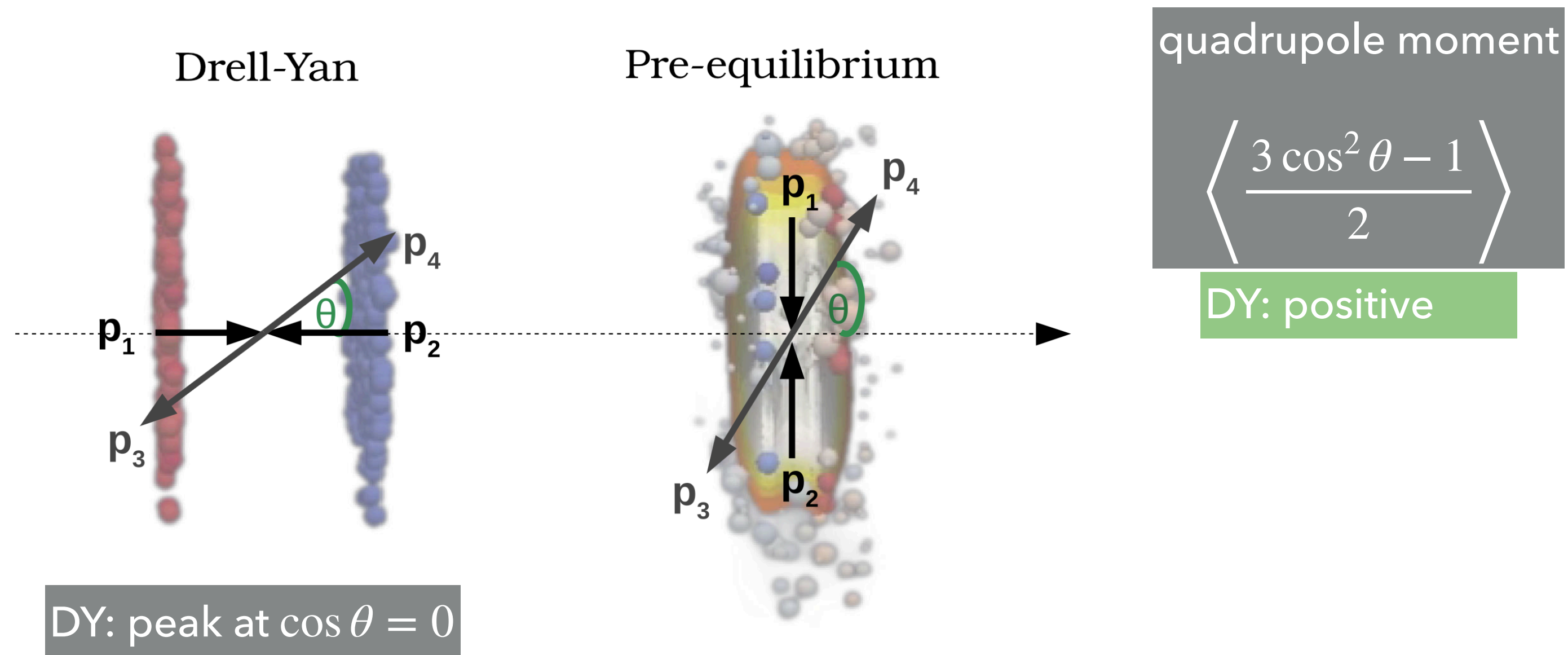
- ▶ EM radiations are penetrating but can obtain non-zero v_n , because of the anisotropically expanding emission source. [same as hadrons]
- ▶ After accounting for pre-equilibrium dileptons, the total dilepton flow is significantly suppressed relative to the thermal dilepton flow; the faster the equilibration is, the smaller the $v_n(p_T)$ are.



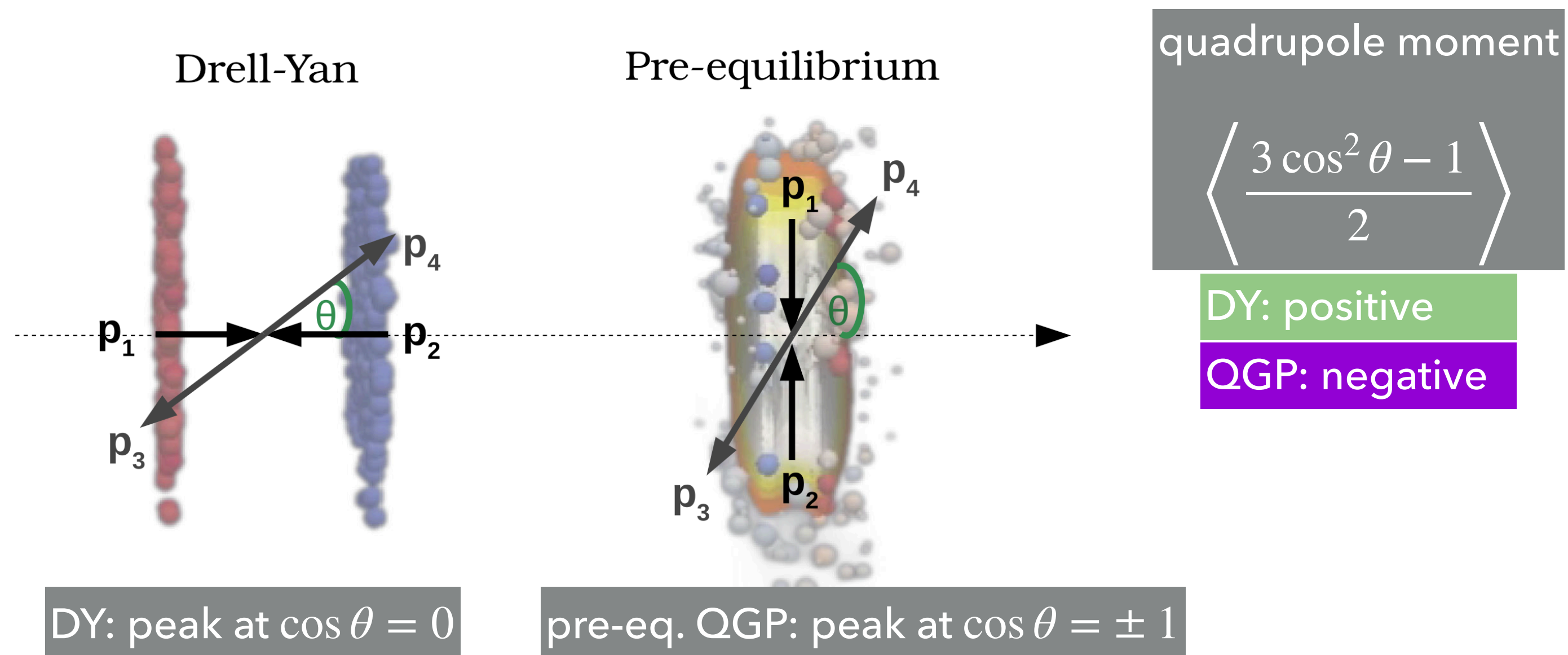
- ▶ EM radiations are penetrating but can obtain non-zero v_n , because of the anisotropically expanding emission source. [same as hadrons]
- ▶ After accounting for pre-equilibrium dileptons, the total dilepton flow is significantly suppressed relative to the thermal dilepton flow; the faster the equilibration is, the smaller the $v_n(p_T)$ are.
- ▶ Combining spectra and anisotropic flows helps to probe the equilibration. [similar story in photons]

Angular distribution as probe of equilibration

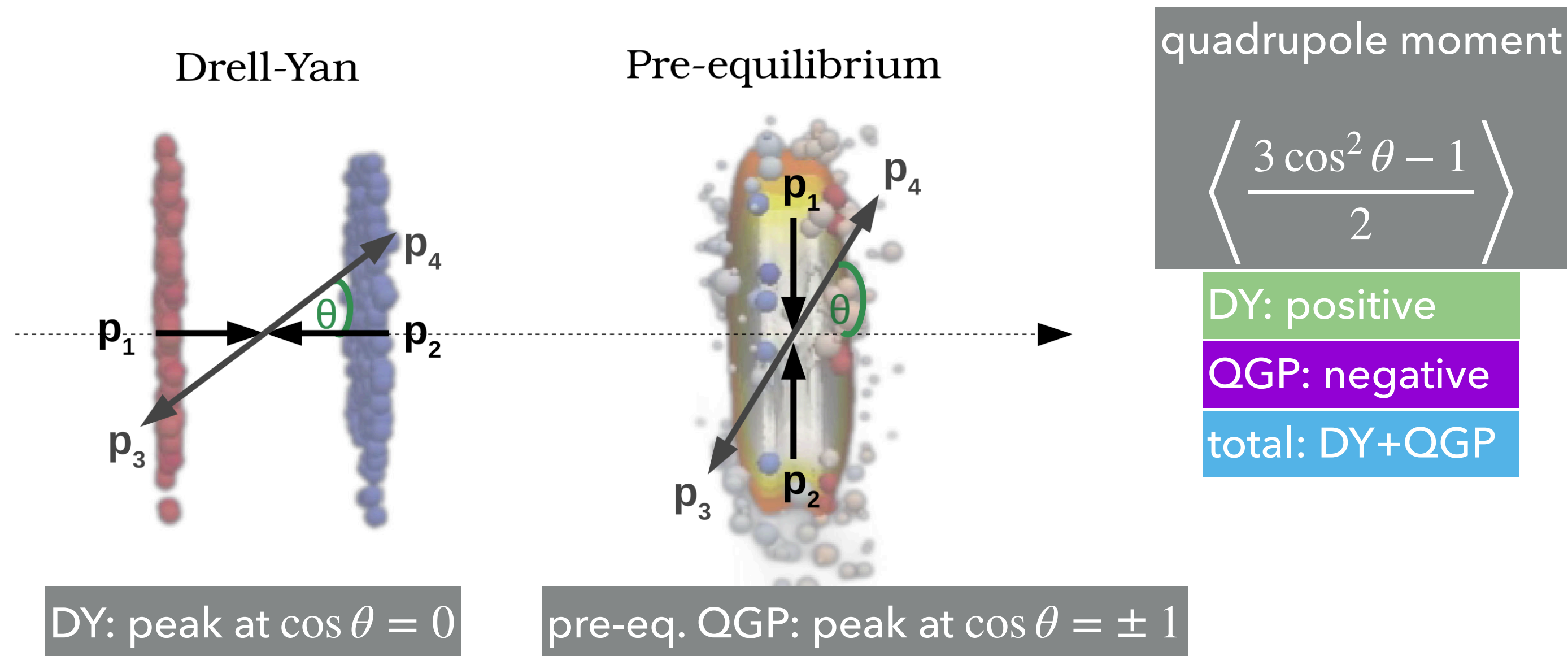




- **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.

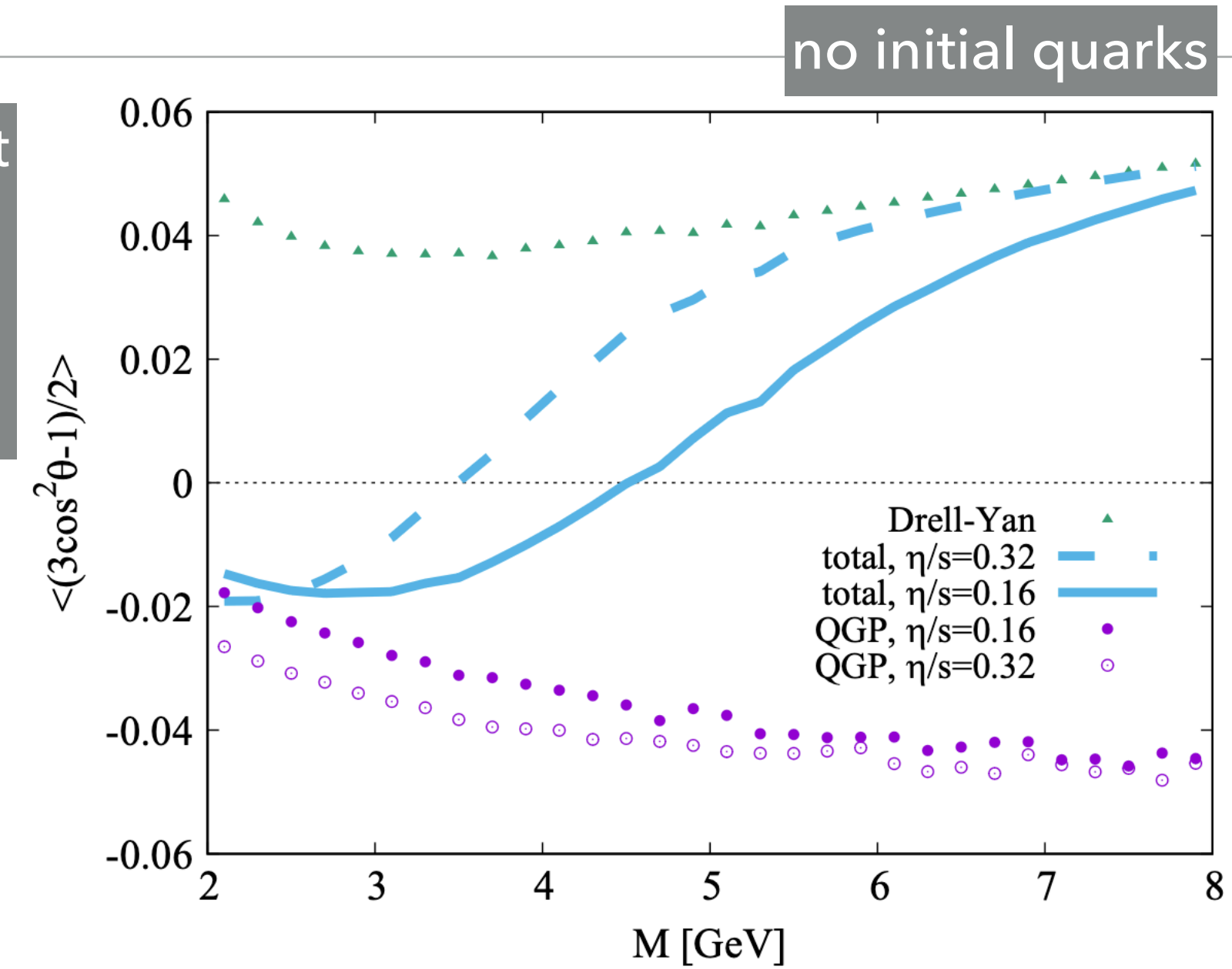
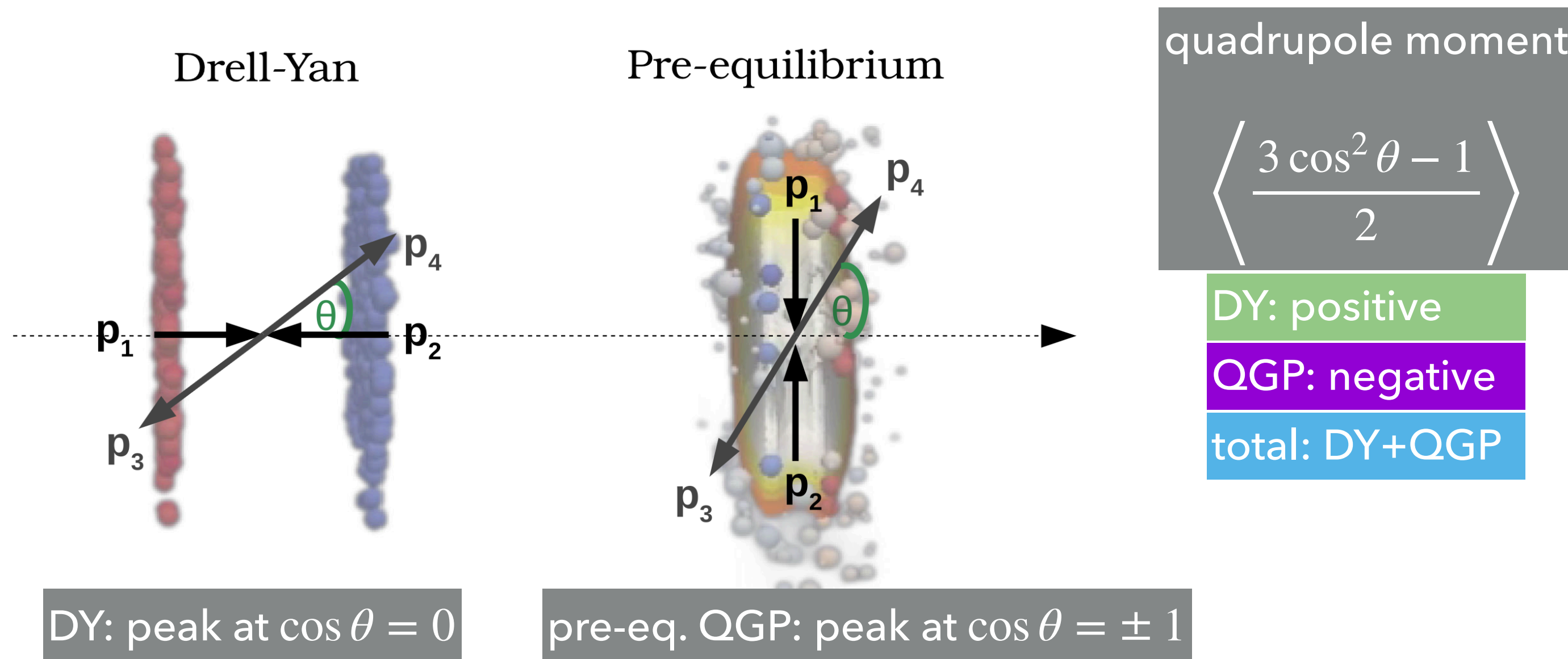


- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
- ▶ **Pre-eq. QGP**: quark momenta are mostly transverse; preferential emission of transverse leptons; positive quadrupole moment.



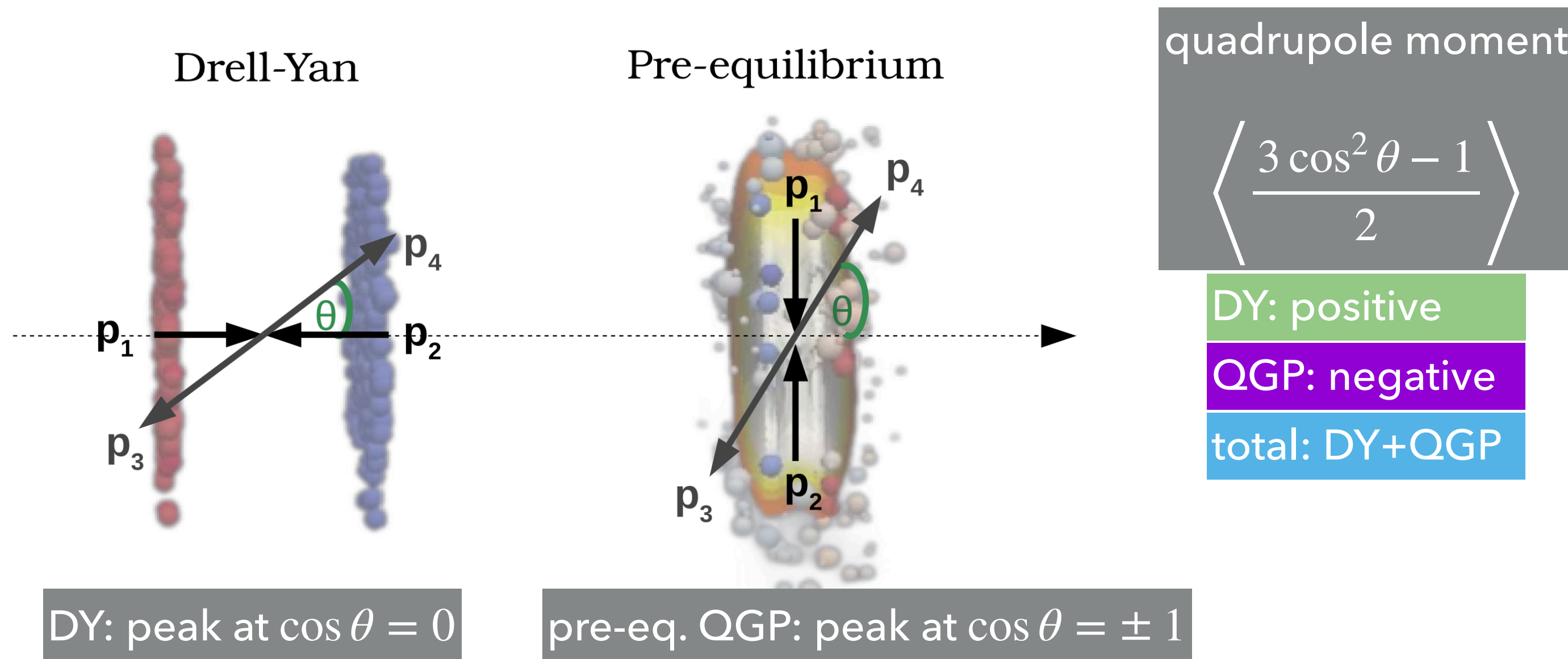
- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
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Angular distribution as probe of equilibration

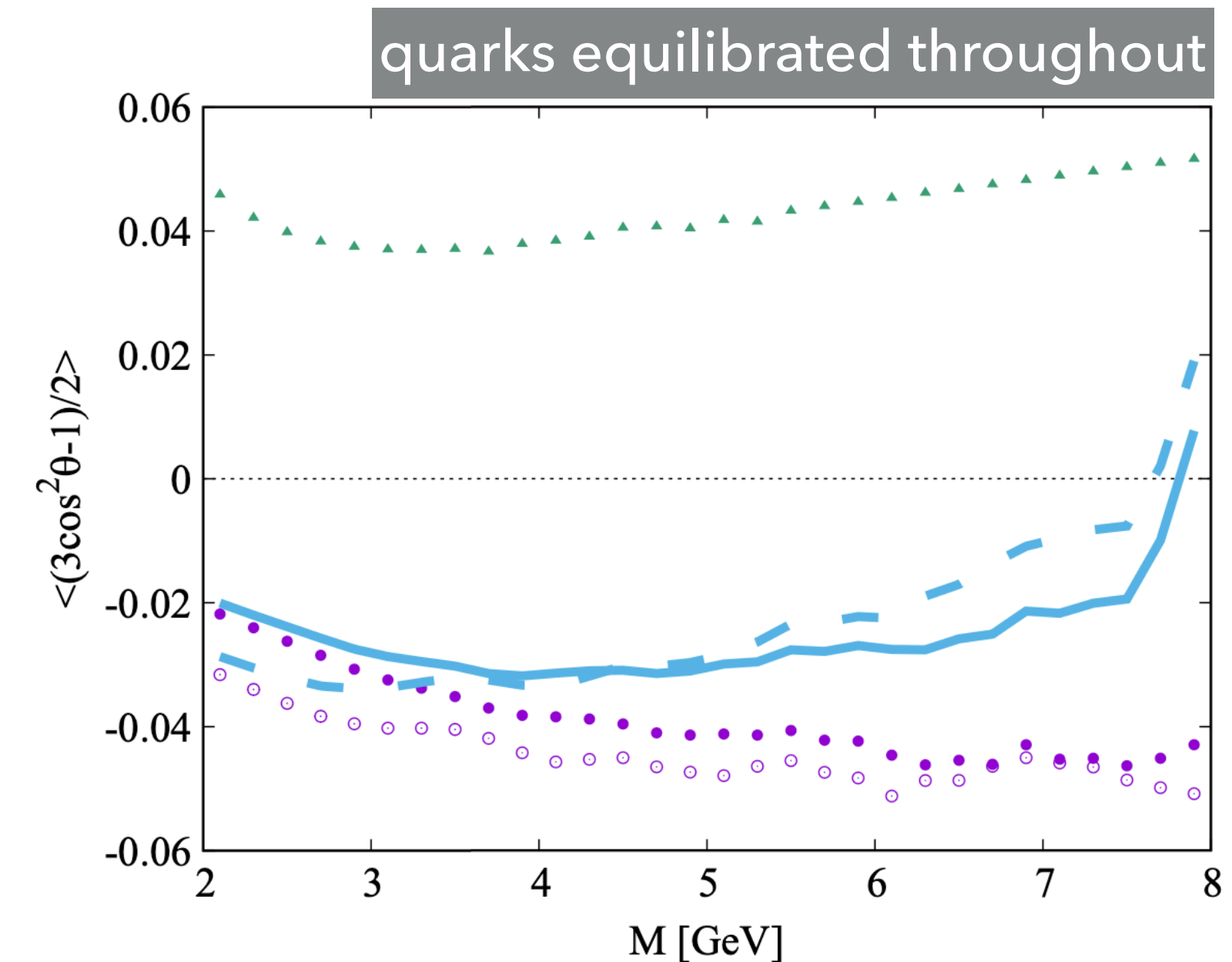
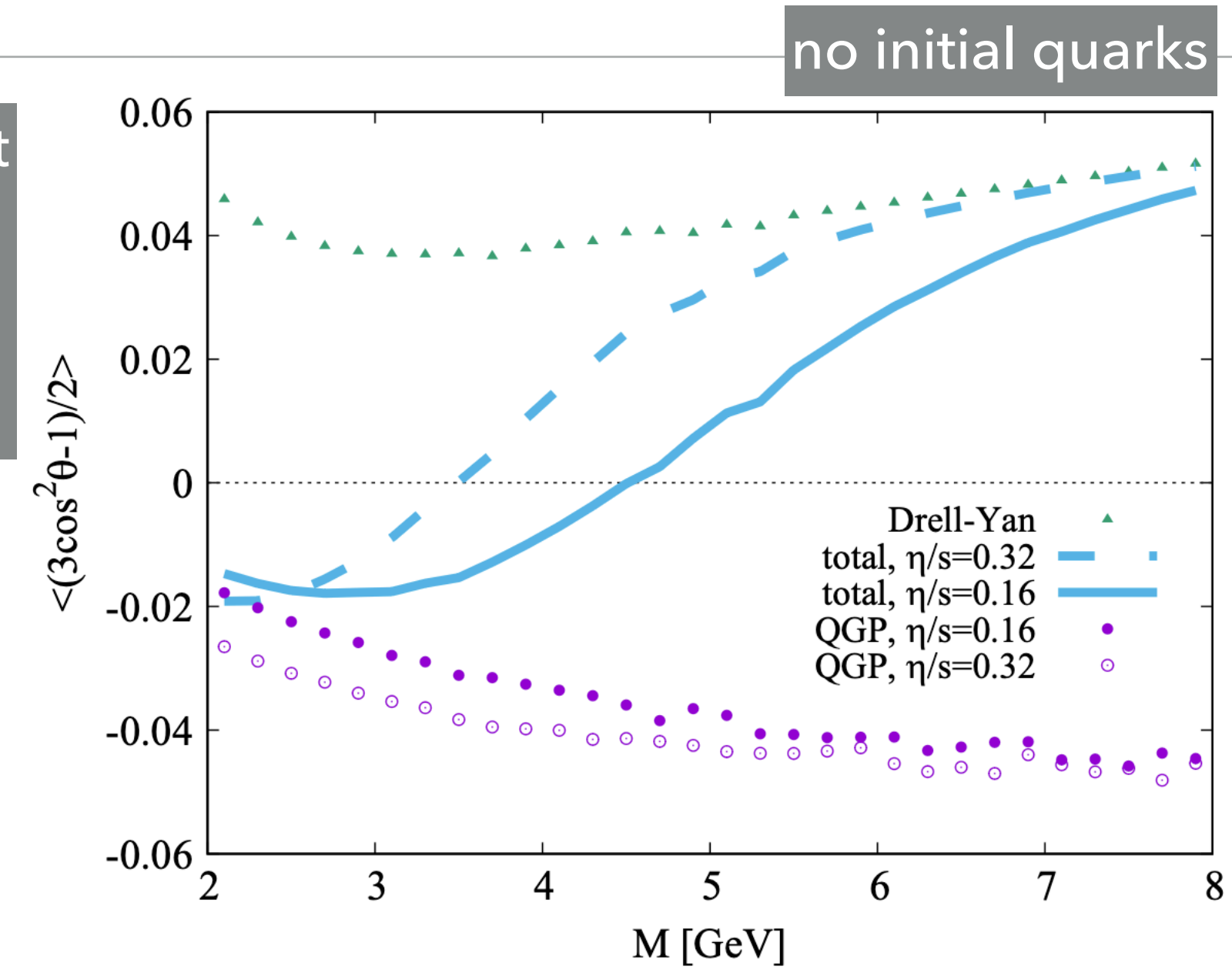


- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
- ▶ **Pre-eq. QGP**: quark momenta are mostly transverse; preferential emission of transverse leptons; positive quadrupole moment.

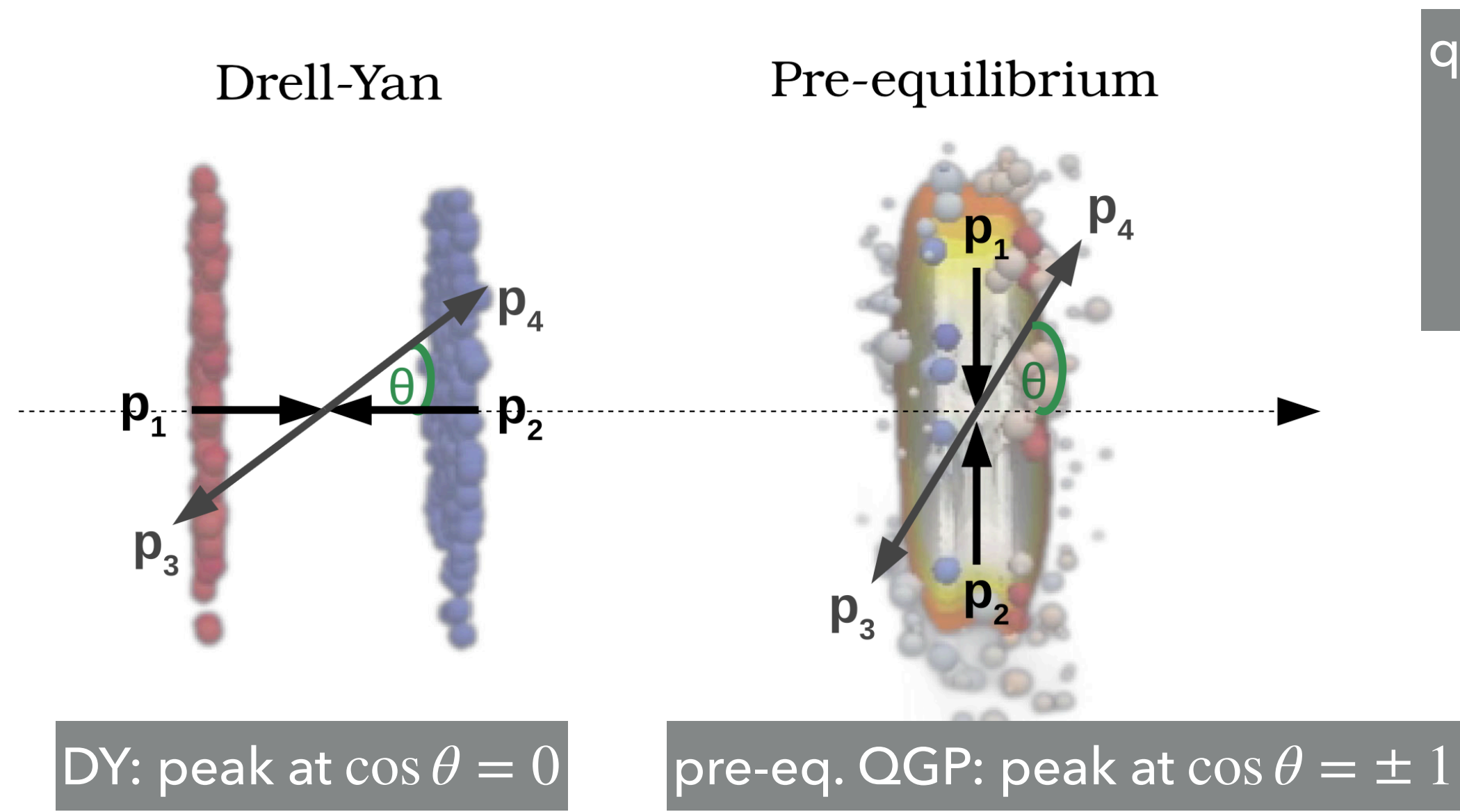
Angular distribution as probe of equilibration



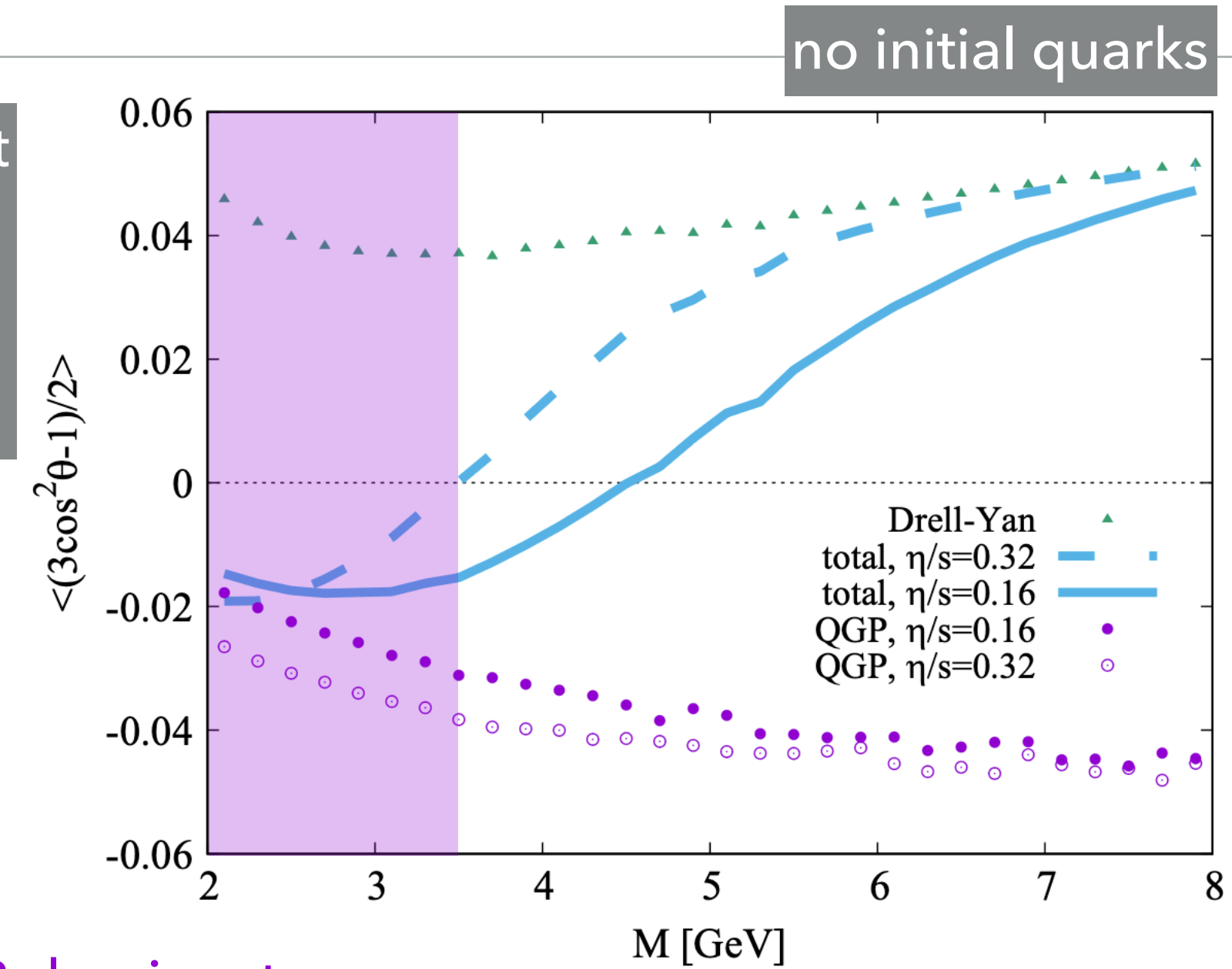
- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
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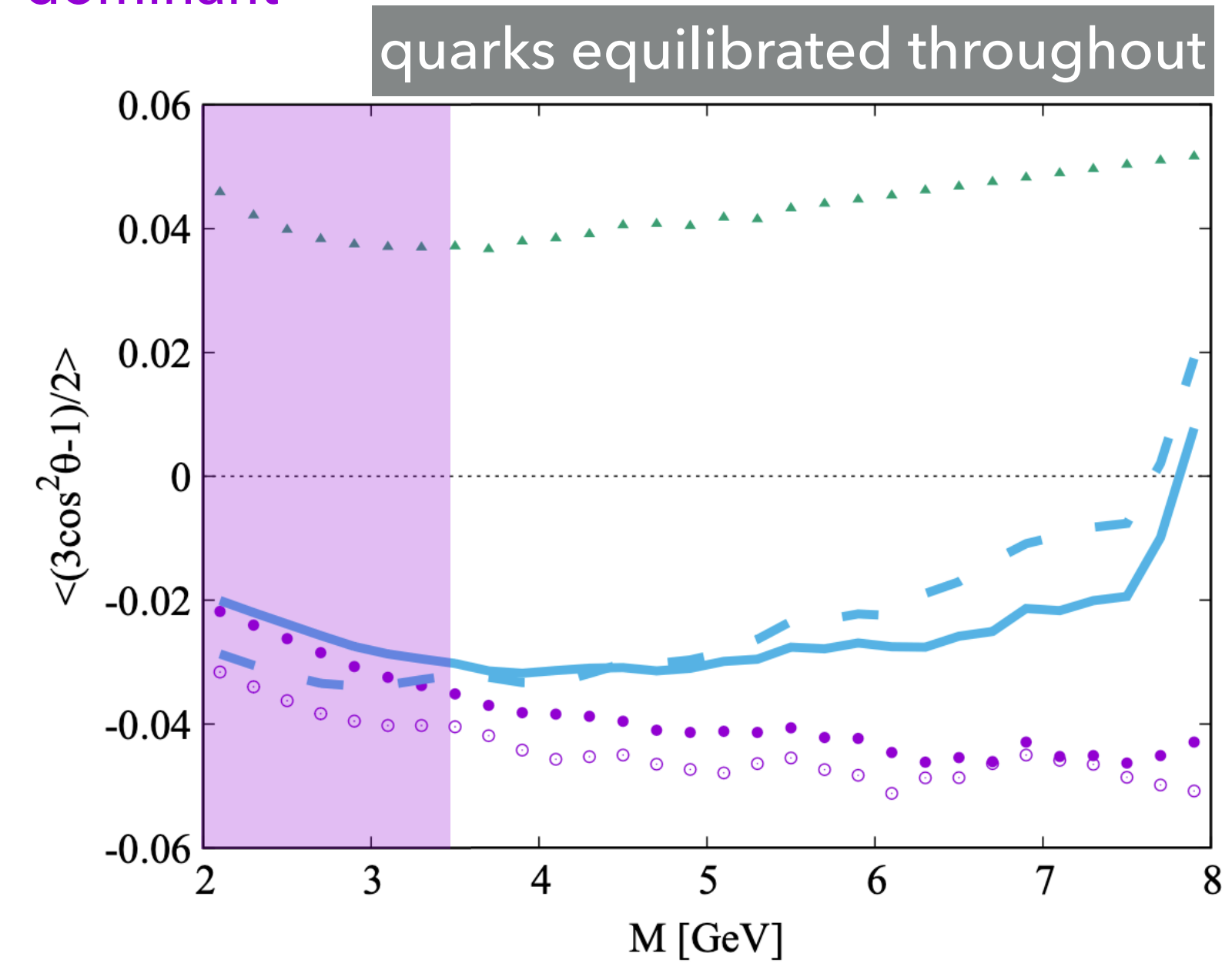
Angular distribution as probe of equilibration



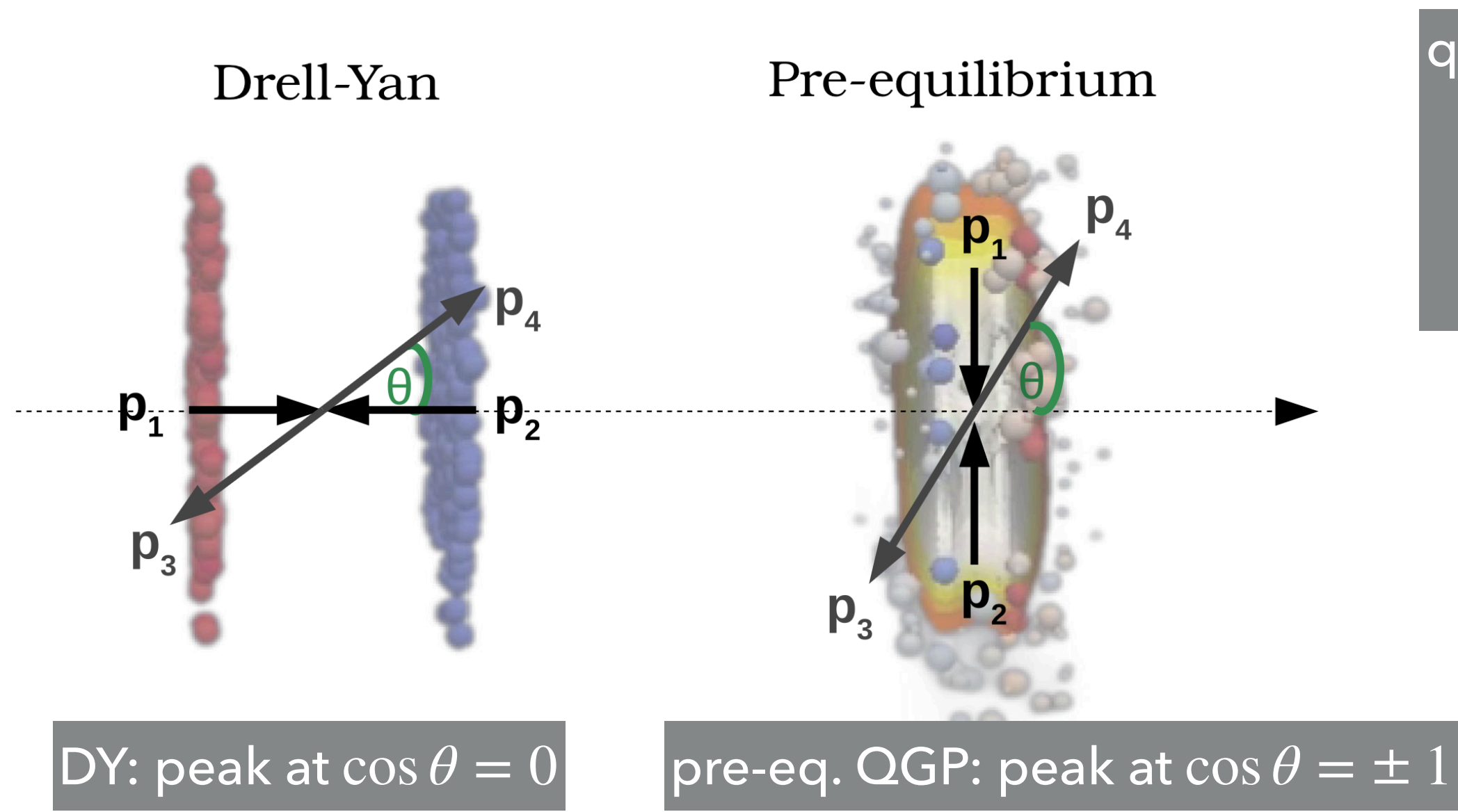
- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
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QGP-dominant



Angular distribution as probe of equilibration



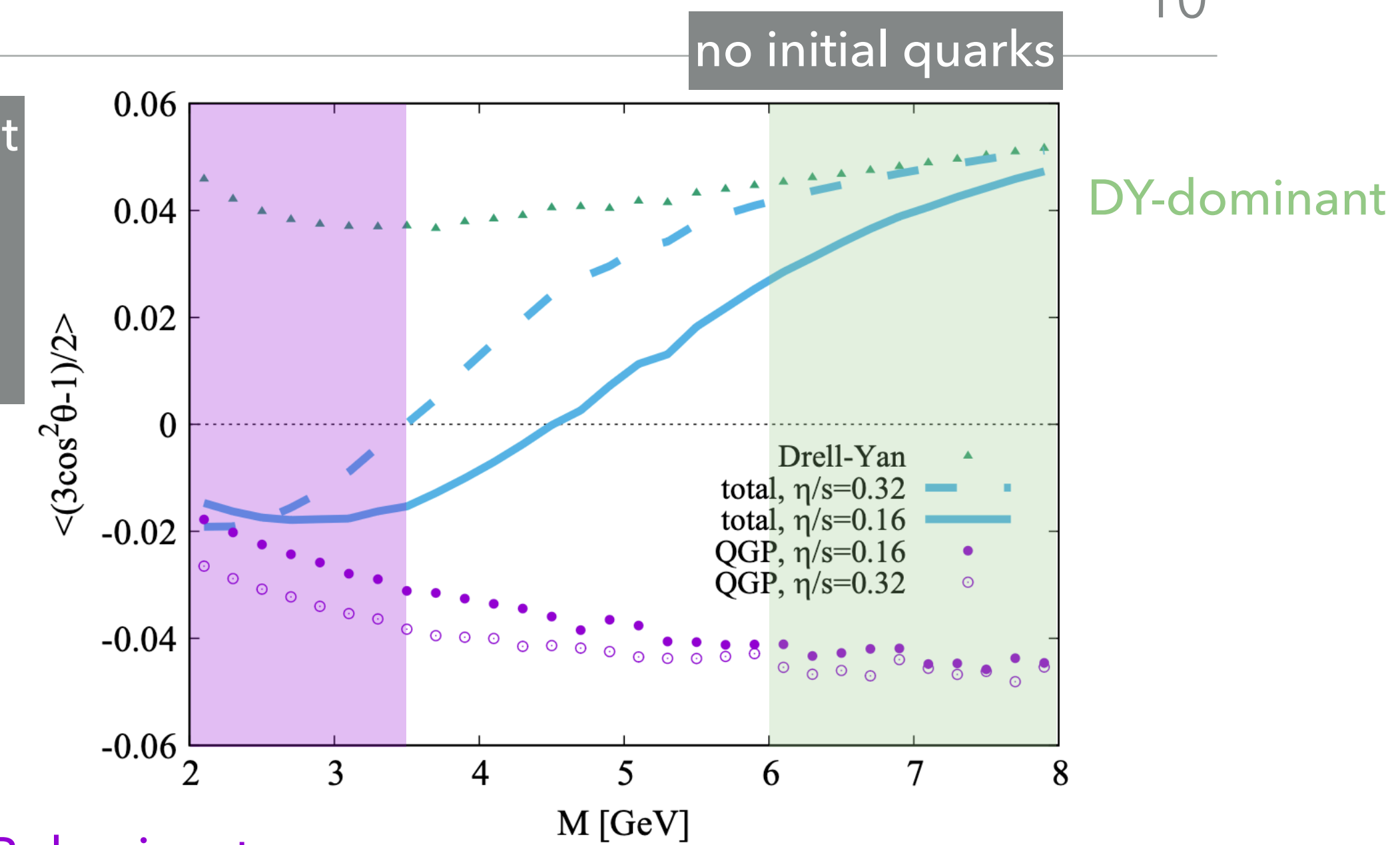
quadrupole moment

$$\left\langle \frac{3 \cos^2 \theta - 1}{2} \right\rangle$$

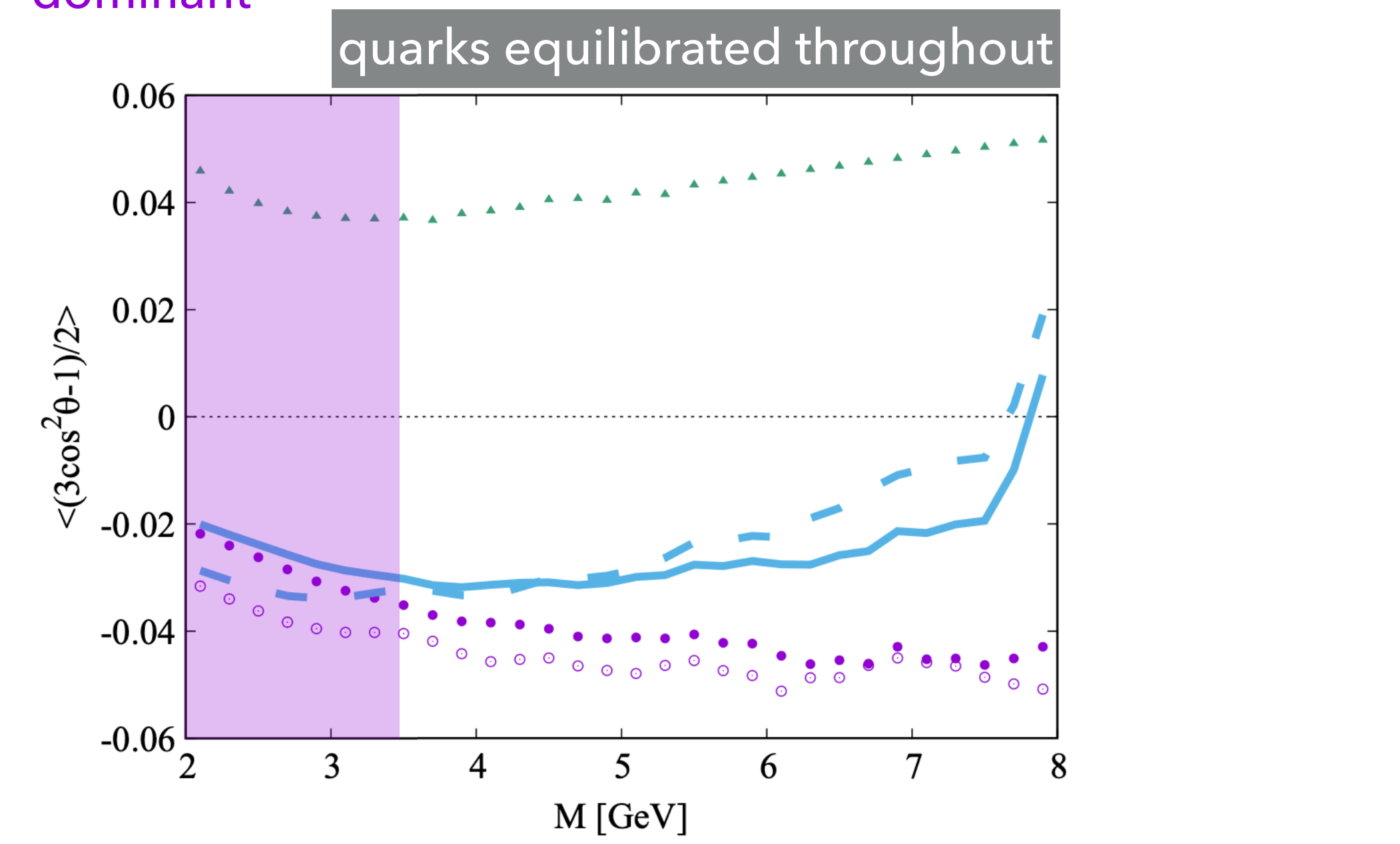
DY: positive

QGP: negative

total: DY+QGP

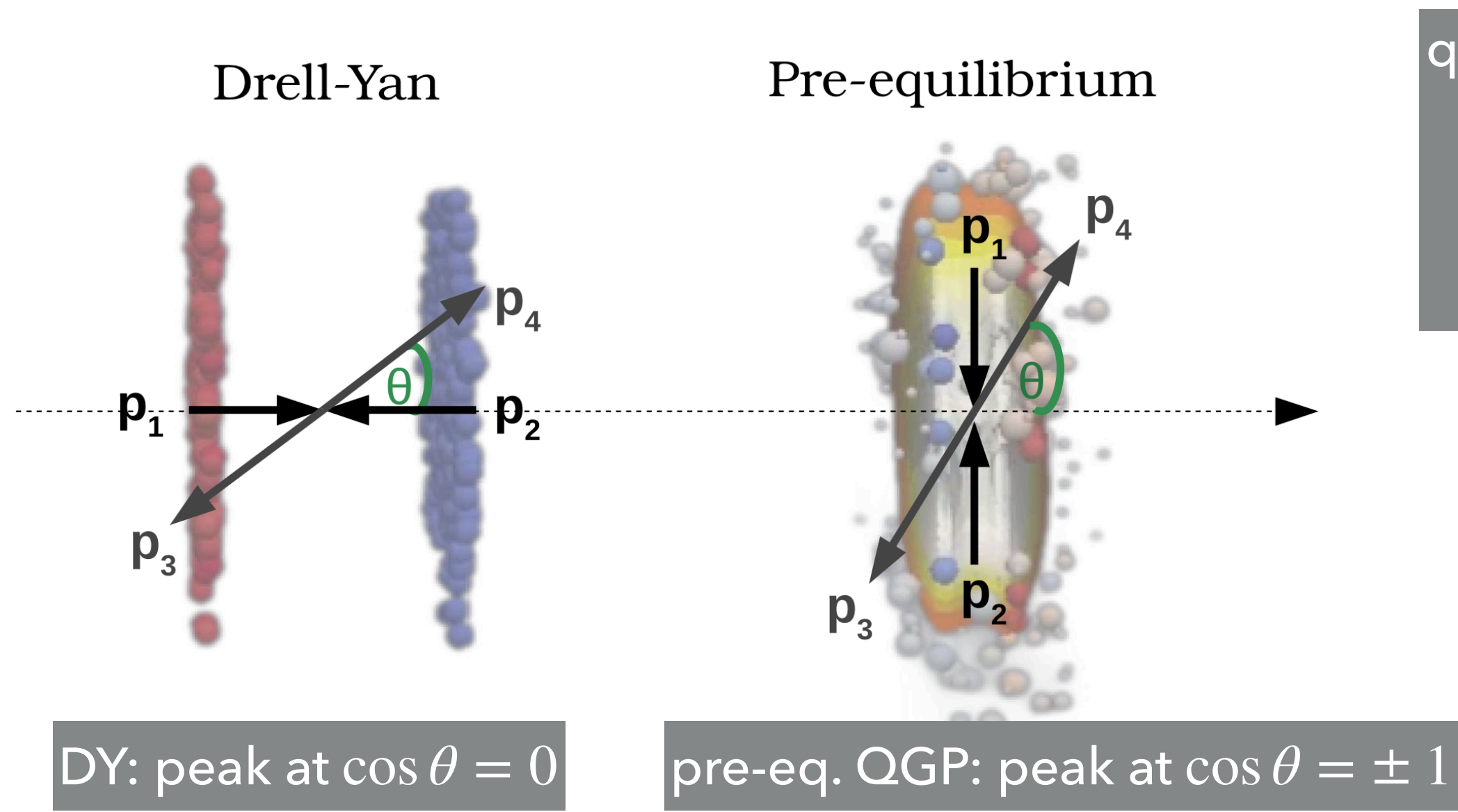


- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
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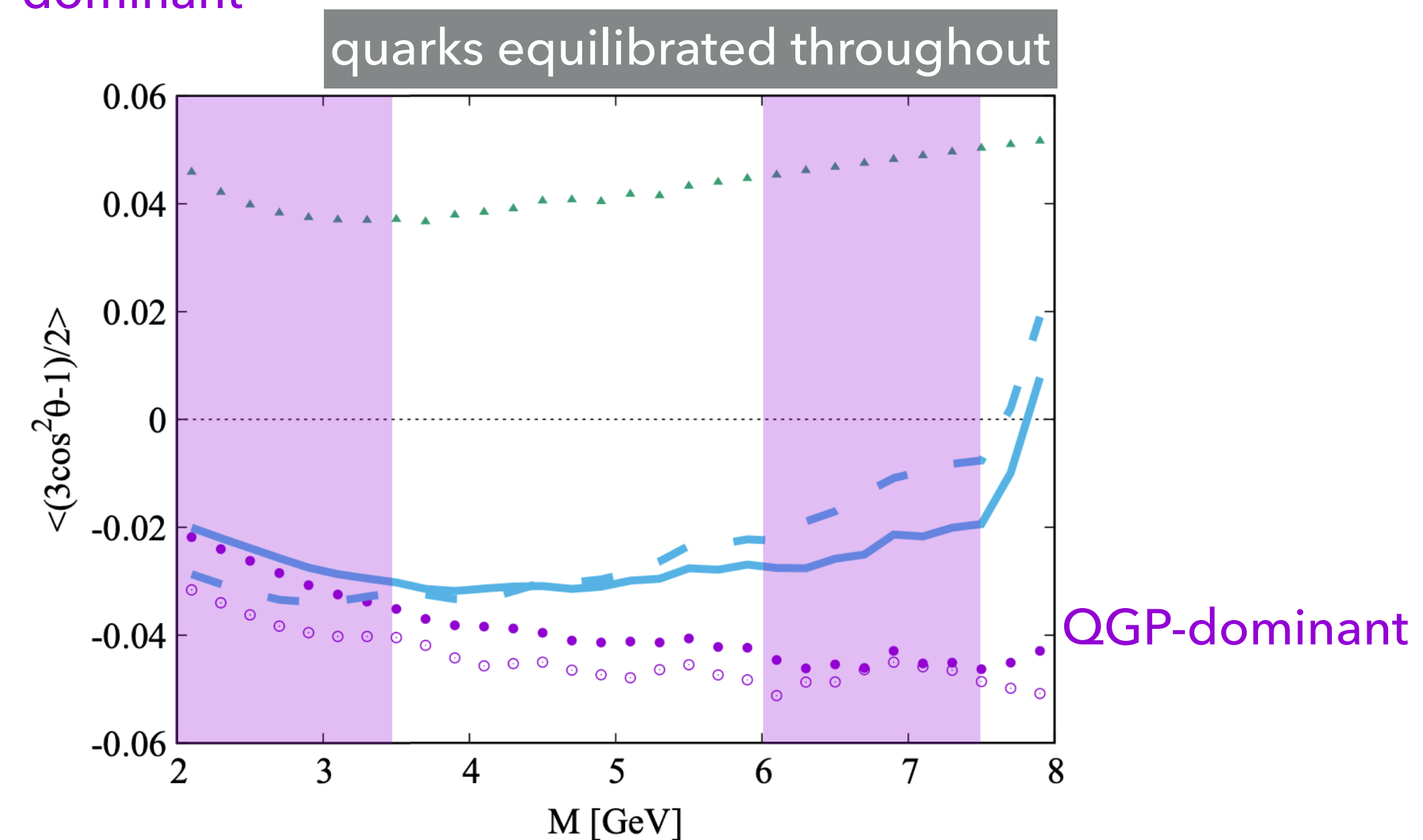
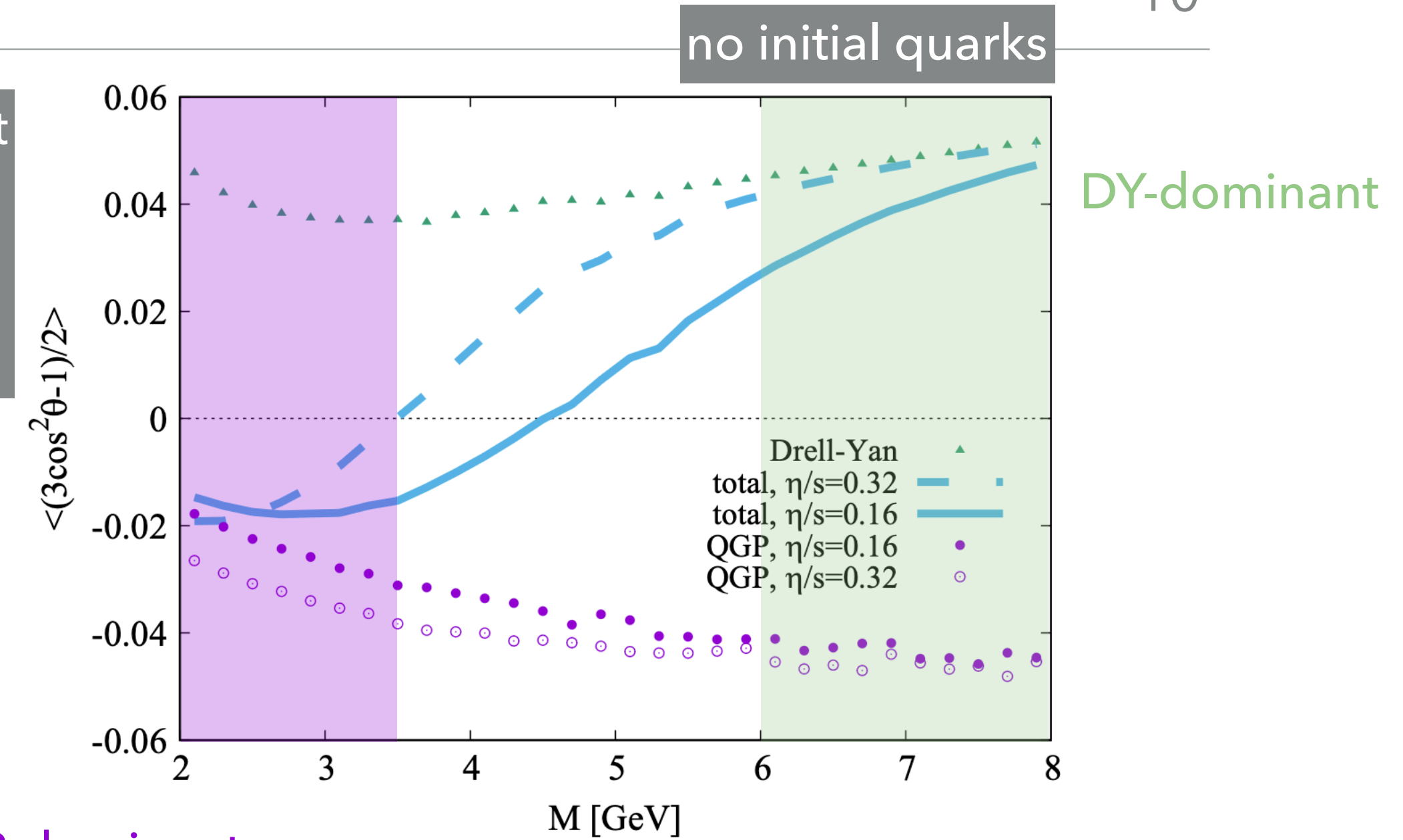


Coquet, Winn, X. Du, Ollitrault, Schlichting, PRL 132, 232301 (2024); see also: Seck, Friman, Galatyuk, van Hees, Speranza, Rapp, Wambach, 2309.03189

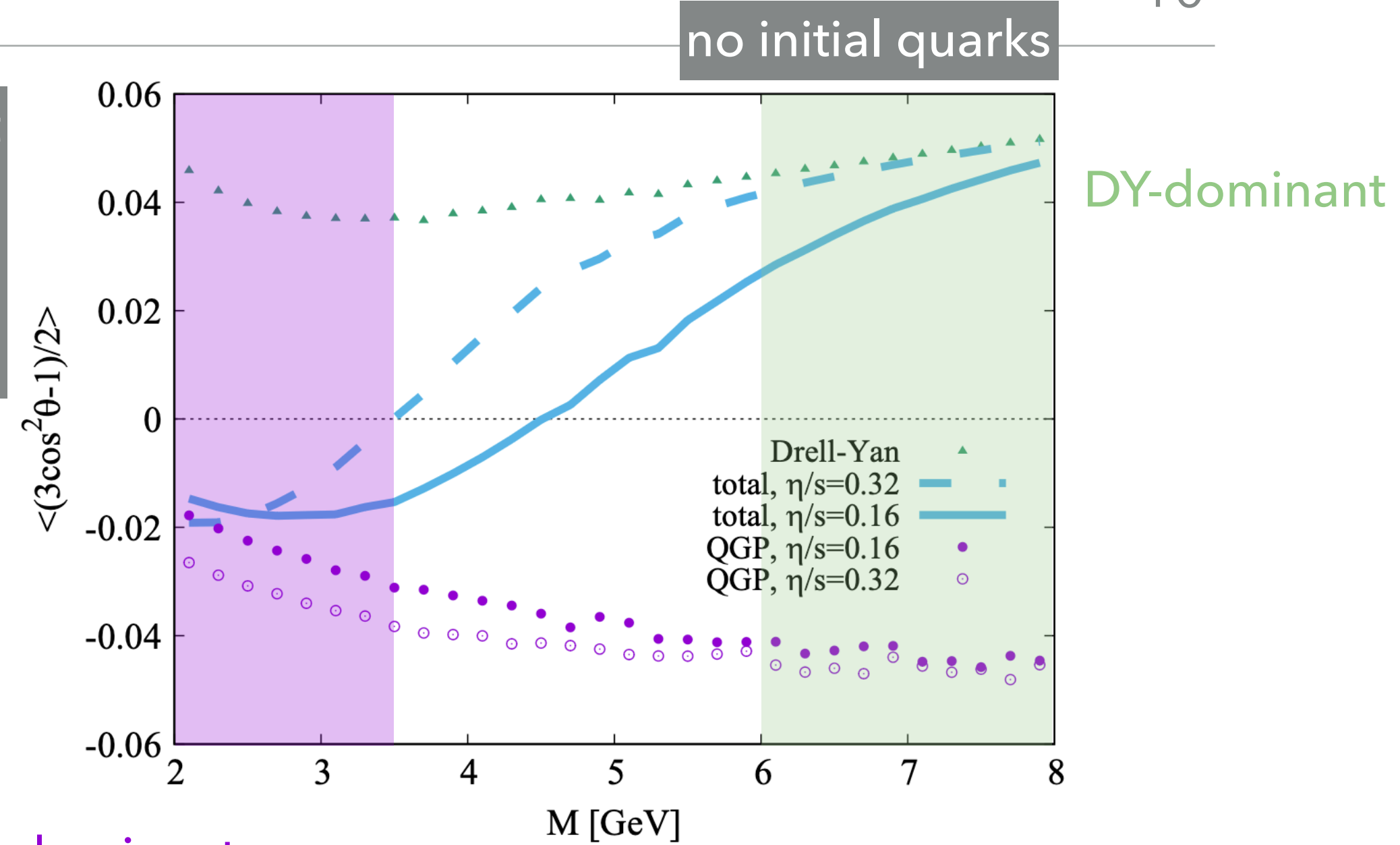
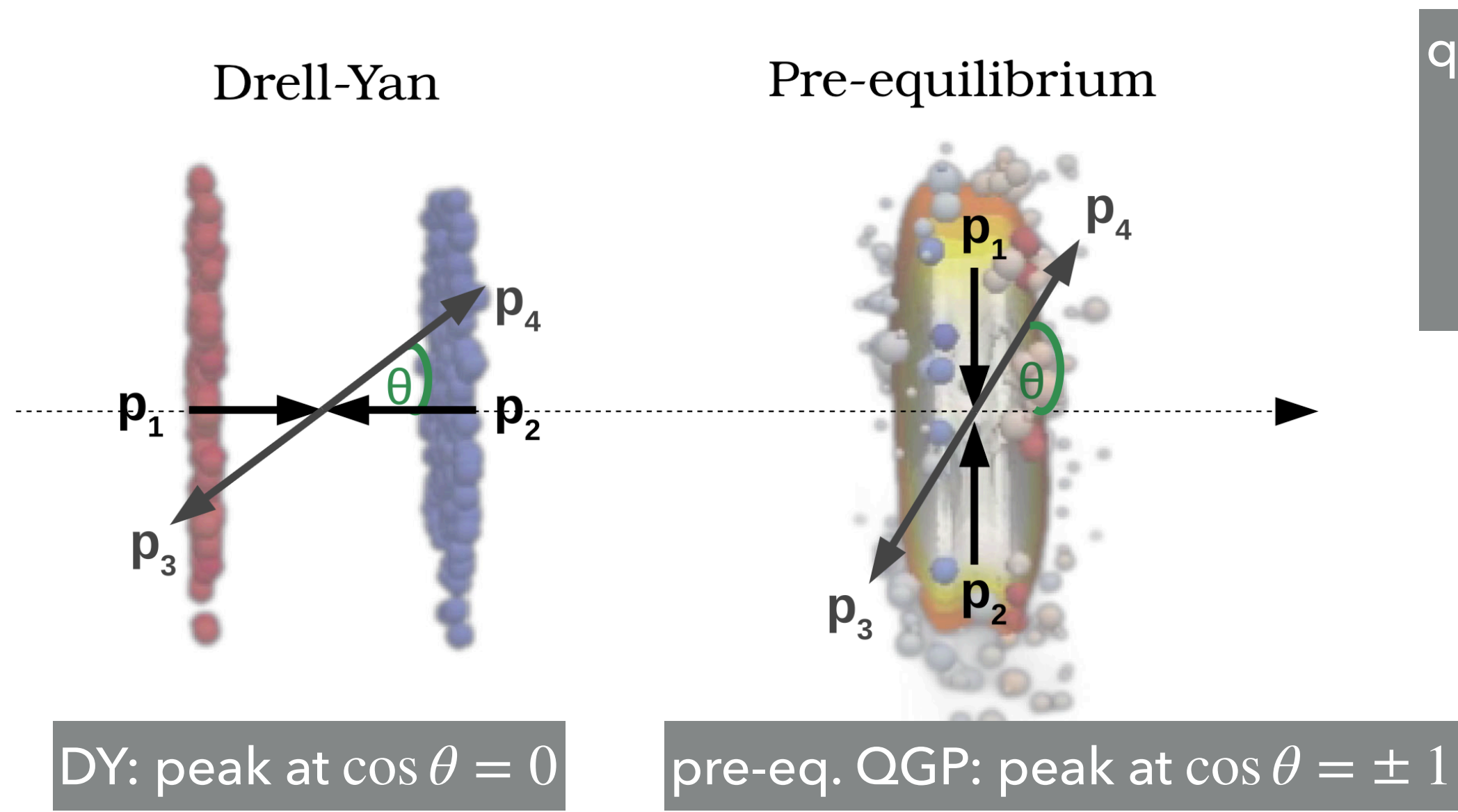
Angular distribution as probe of equilibration



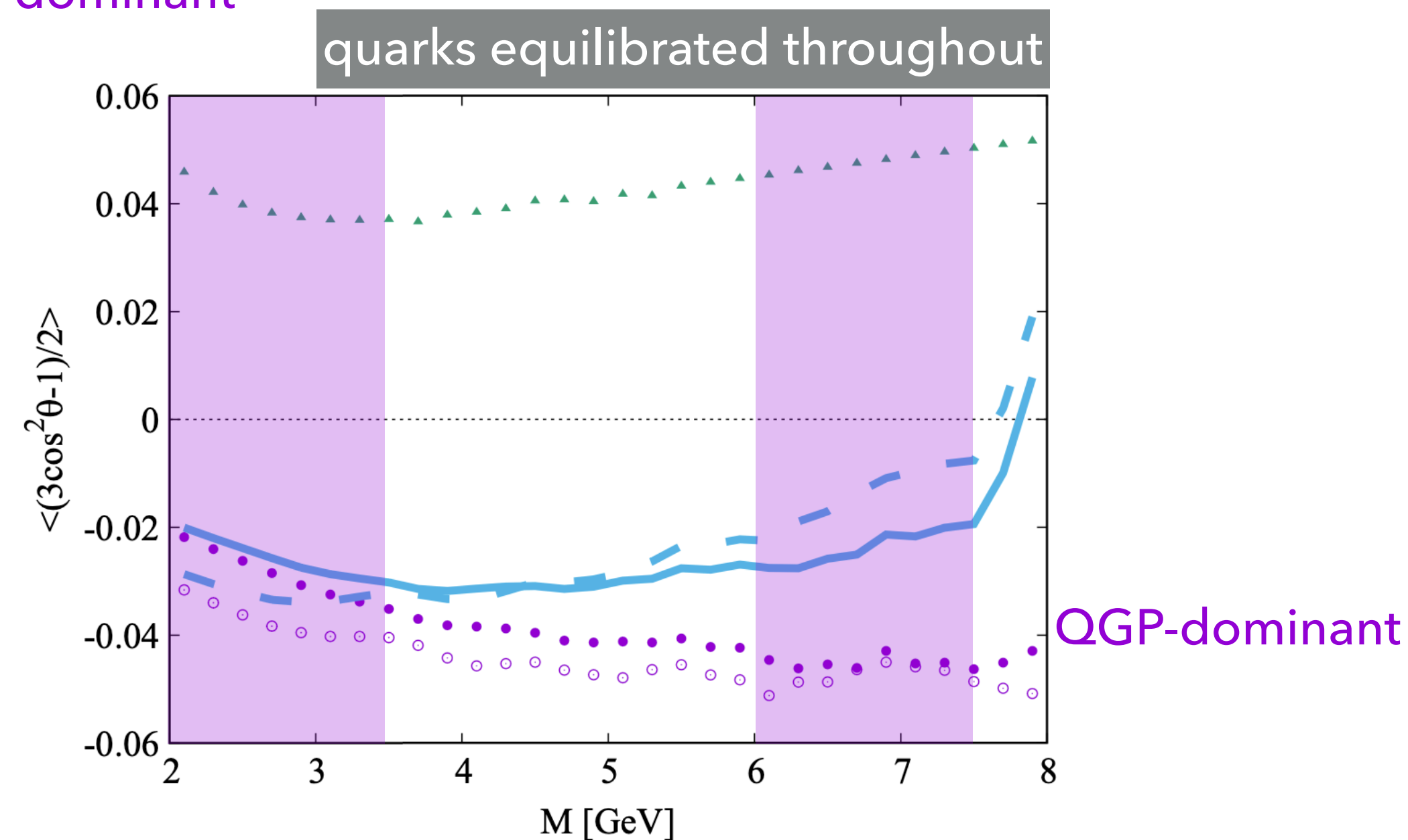
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Angular distribution as probe of equilibration

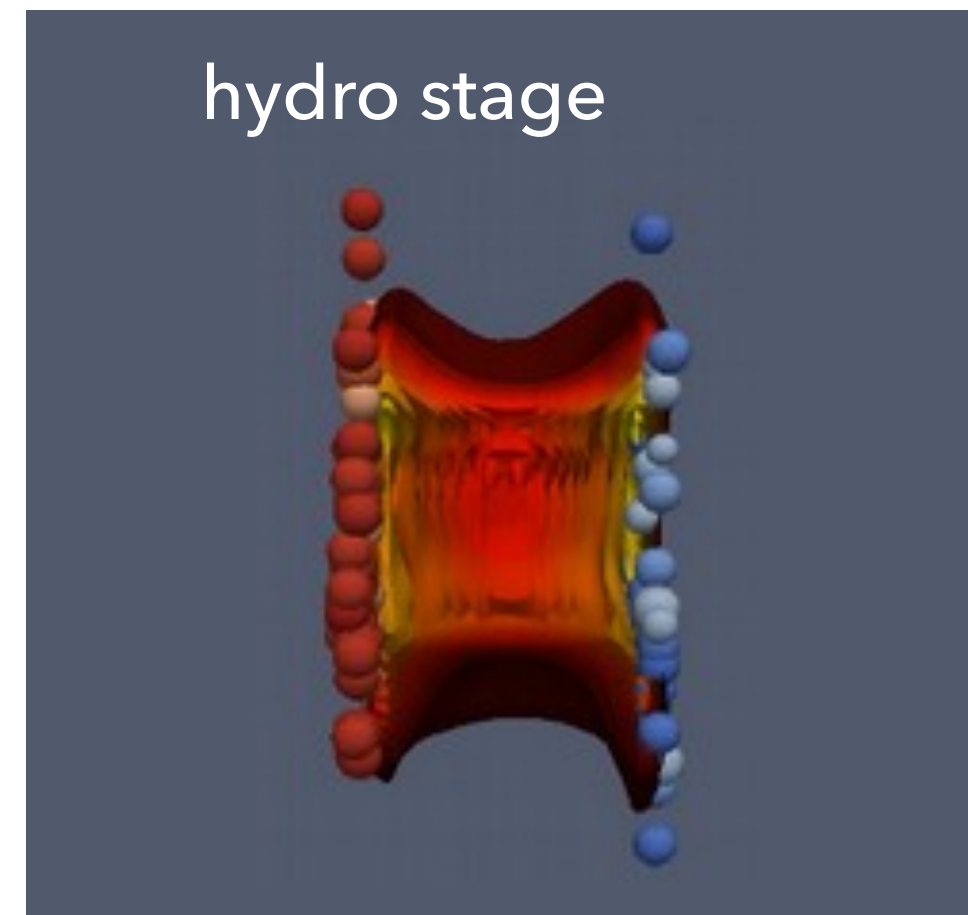


- ▶ **Drell-Yan**: quark momenta are mostly longitudinal; preferential emission of longitudinal leptons; negative quadrupole moment.
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- ▶ **Total**: at large values of M , the sign of the quadrupole moment changes, depending on the dominance of the pre-eq. QGP emission, which further depends on the equilibration.

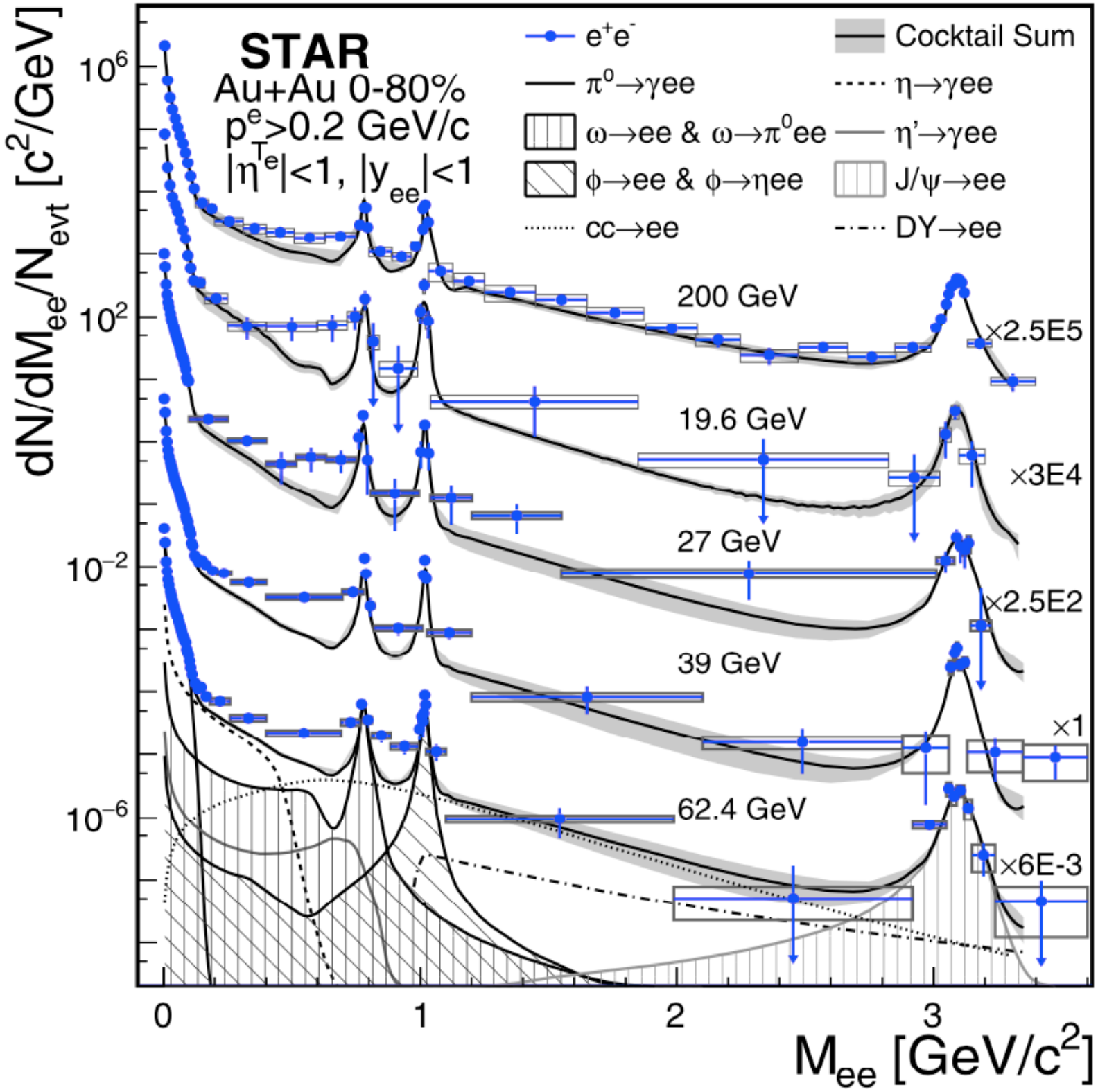


Coquet, Winn, X. Du, Ollitrault, Schlichting, PRL 132, 232301 (2024); see also: Seck, Friman, Galatyuk, van Hees, Speranza, Rapp, Wambach, 2309.03189

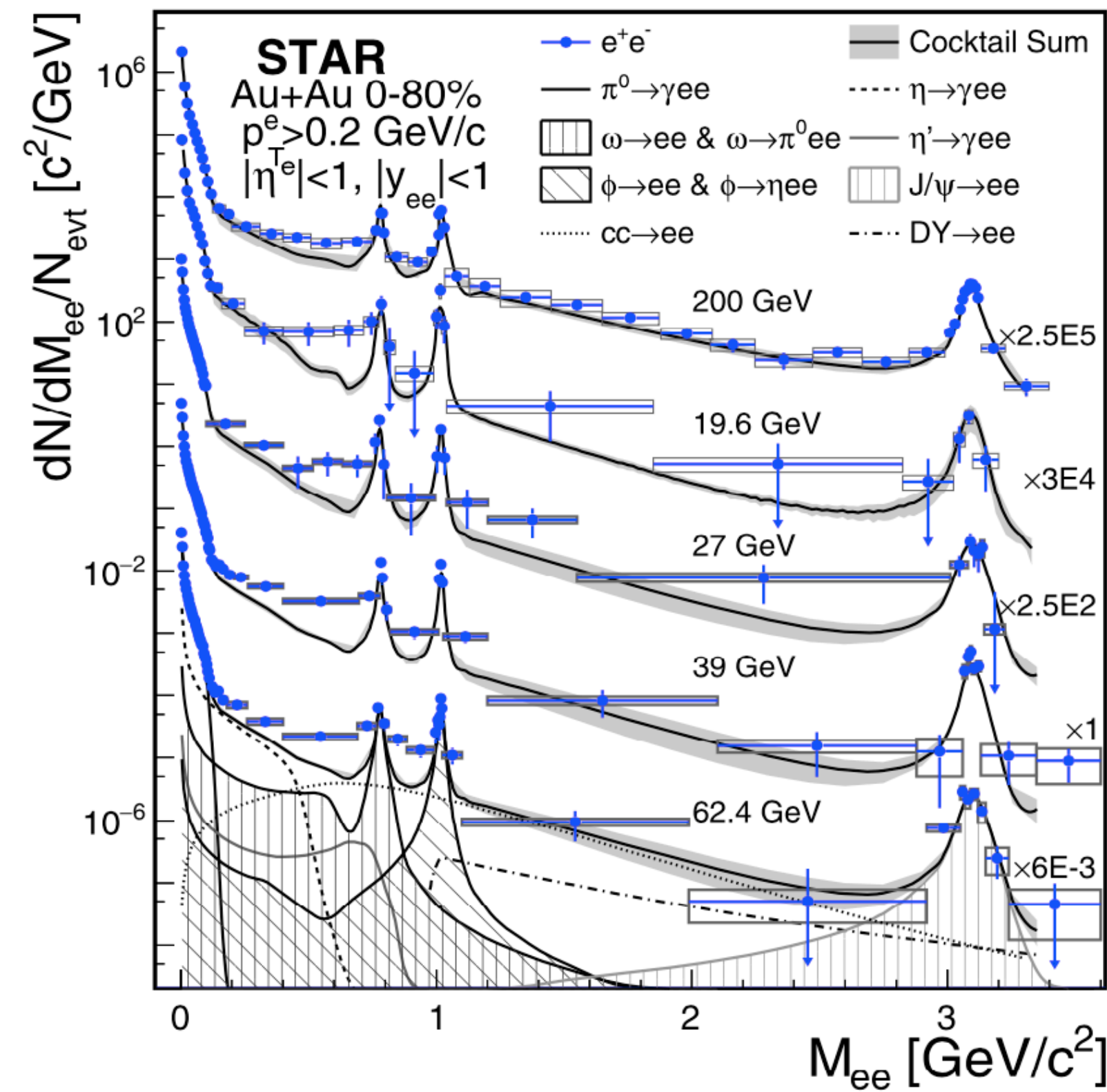
HYDRO STAGE



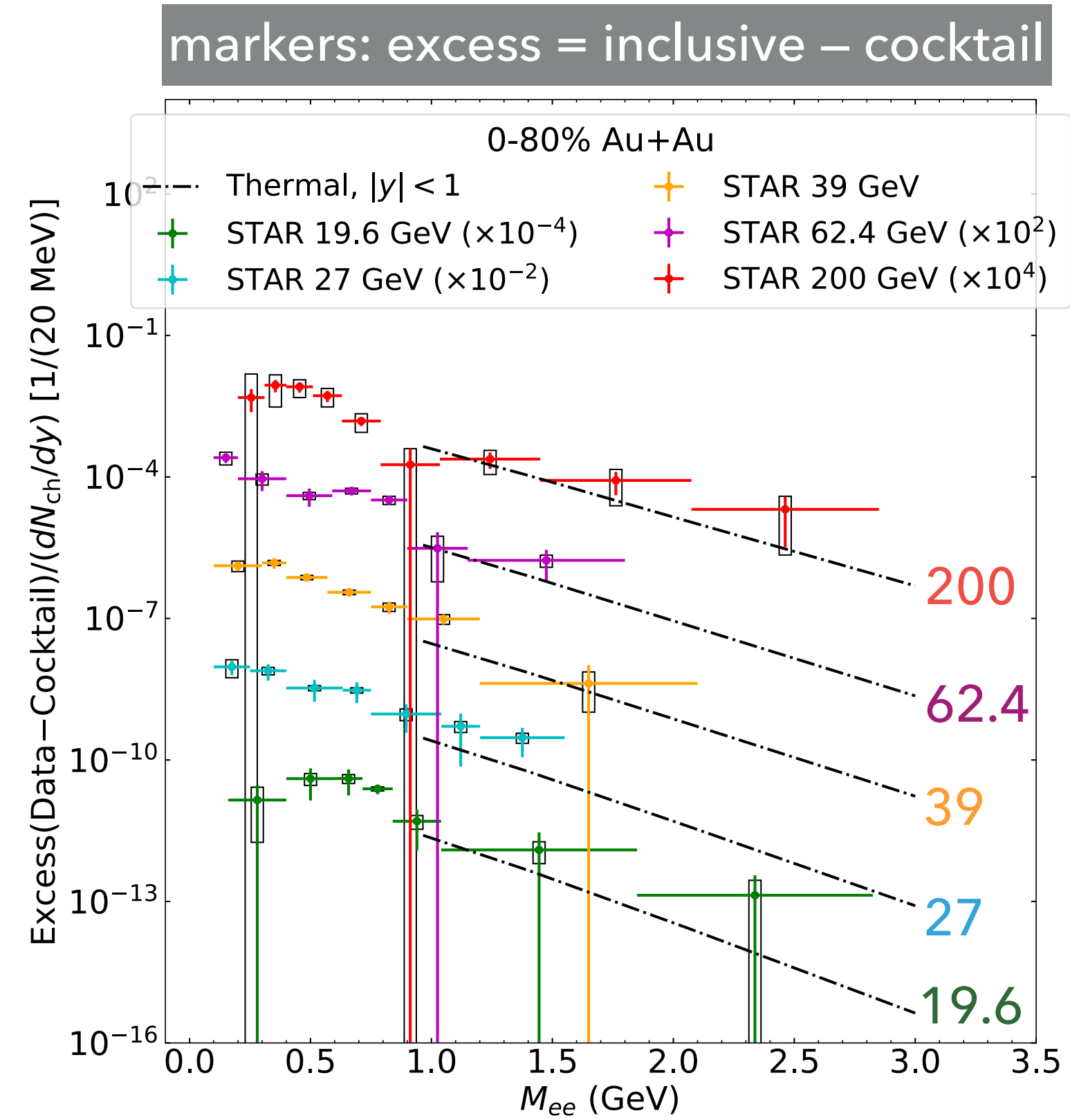
Thermal QGP dilepton production



STAR, PRL113, 022301 (2014); PRC 92, 024912 (2015); PLB 750 (2015) 64-71; PRC 107, L061901 (2023); 2402.01998.



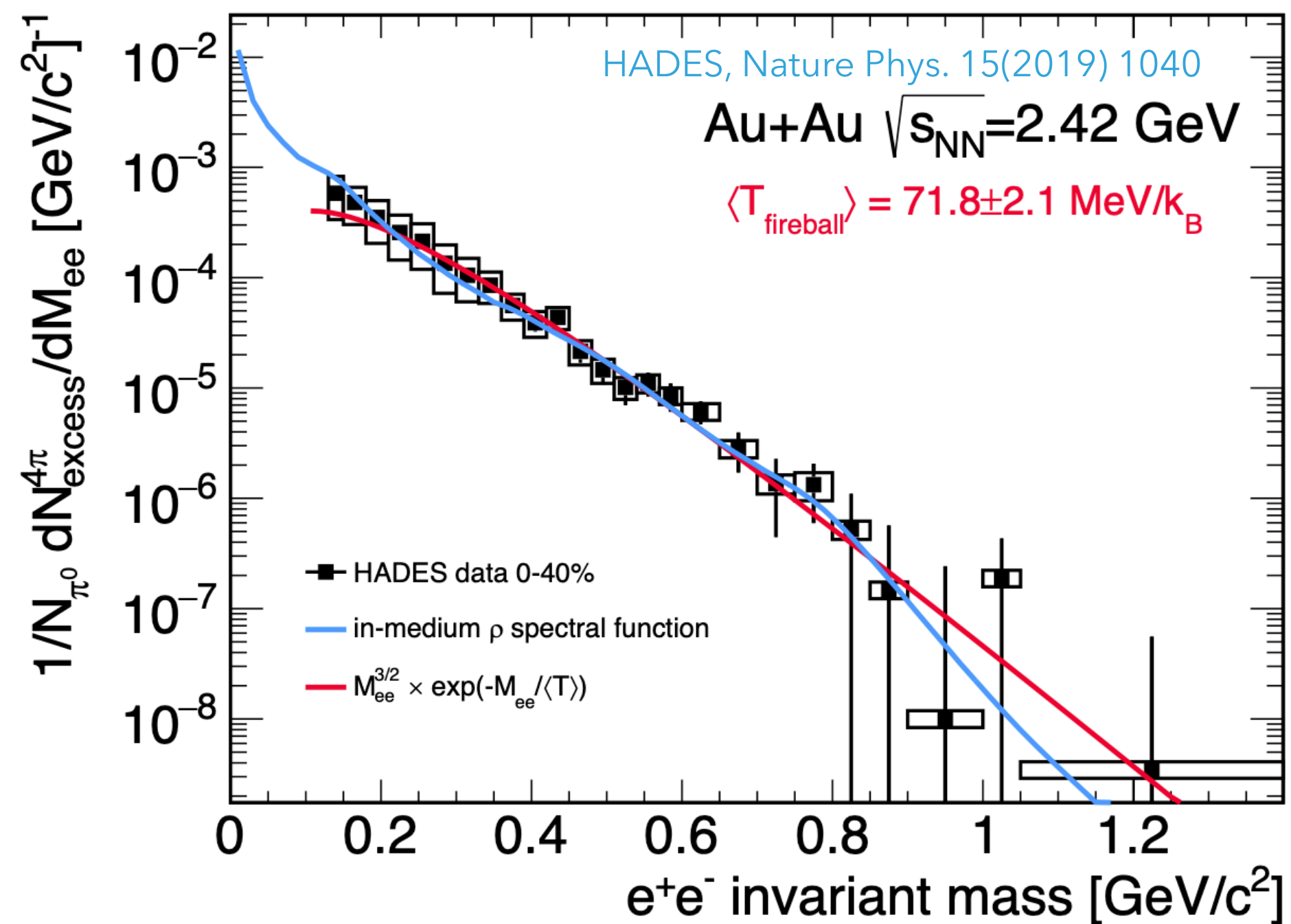
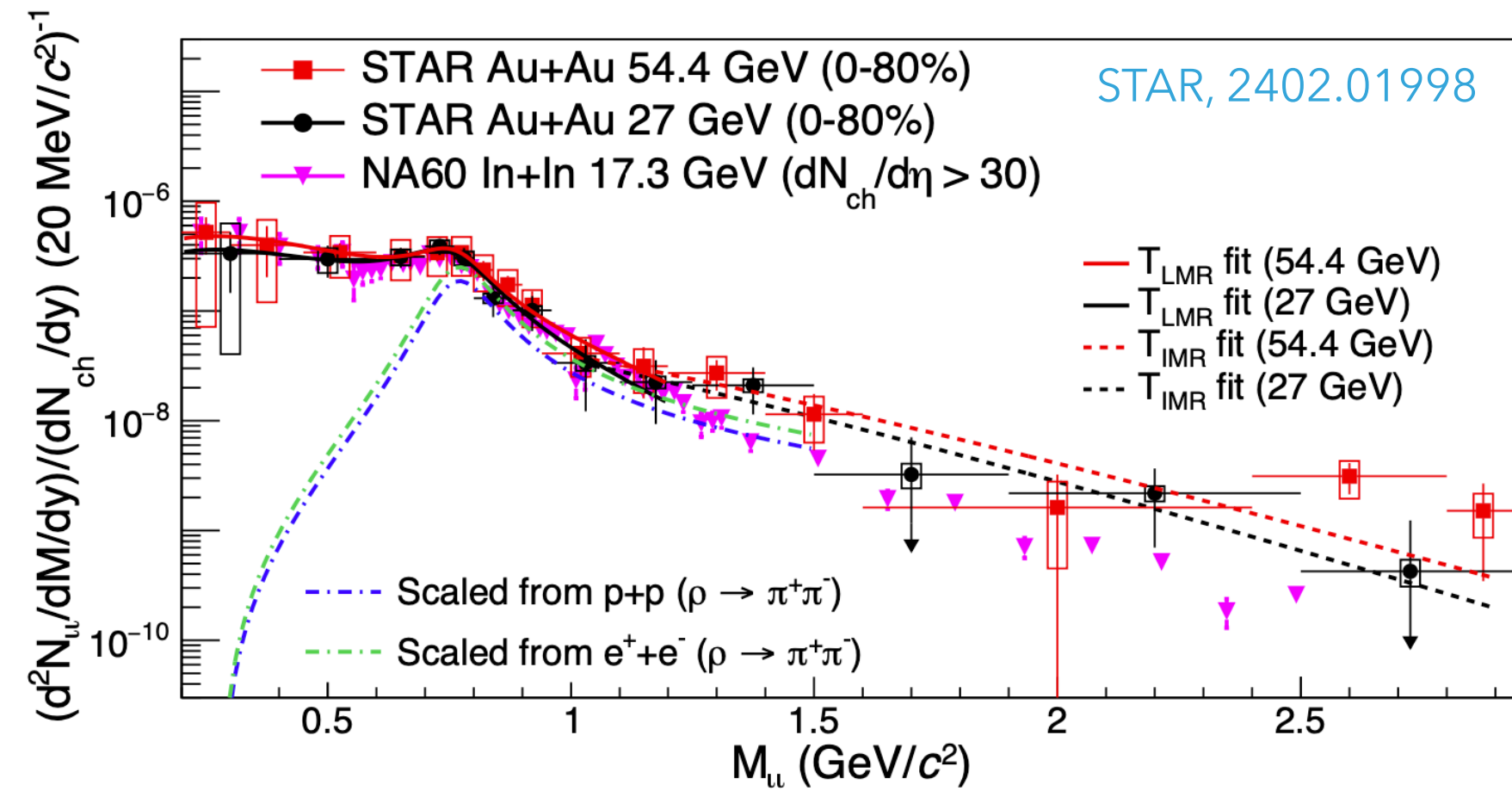
STAR, PRL113, 022301 (2014); PRC 92, 024912 (2015); PLB 750 (2015) 64-71; PRC 107, L061901 (2023); 2402.01998.



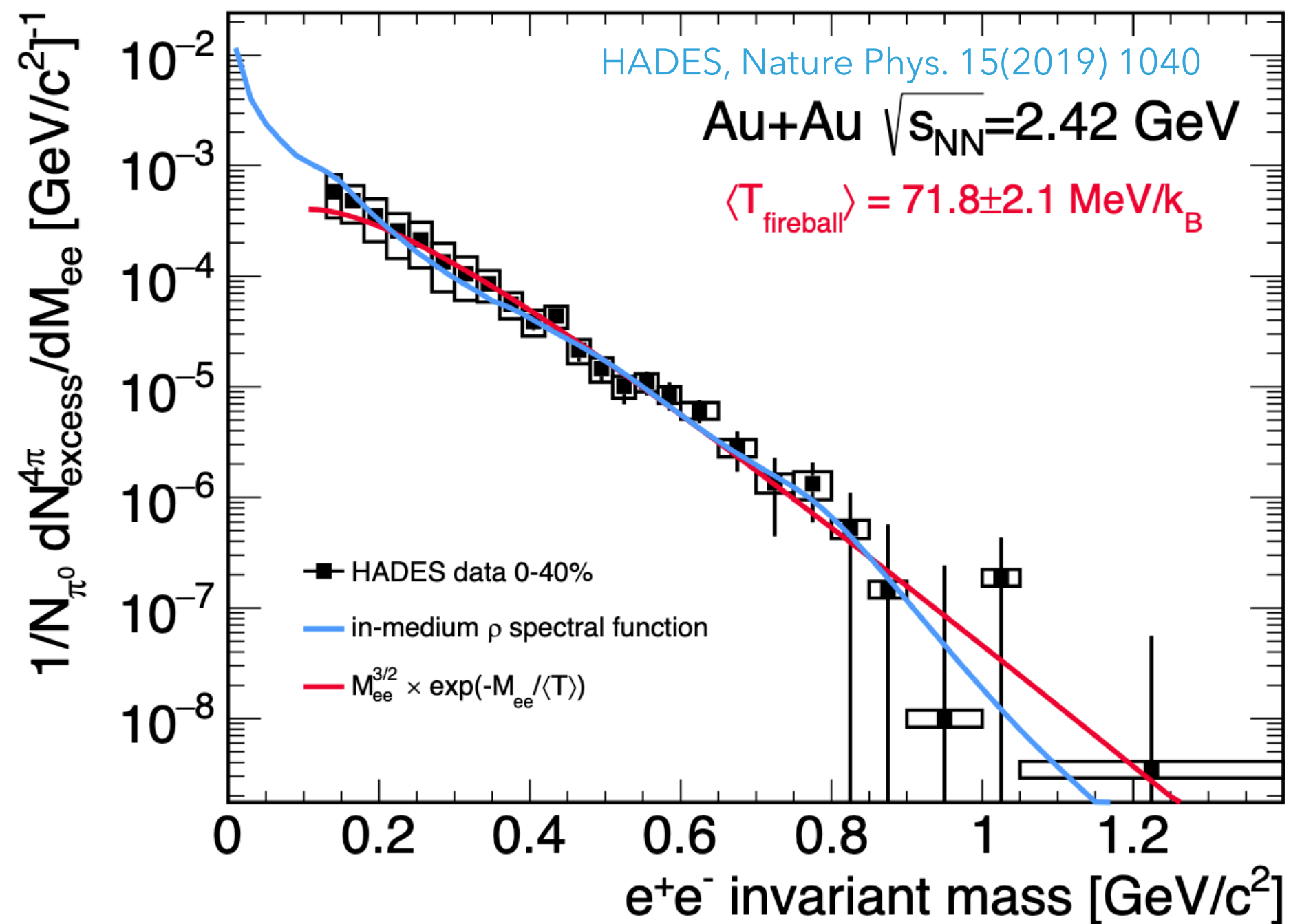
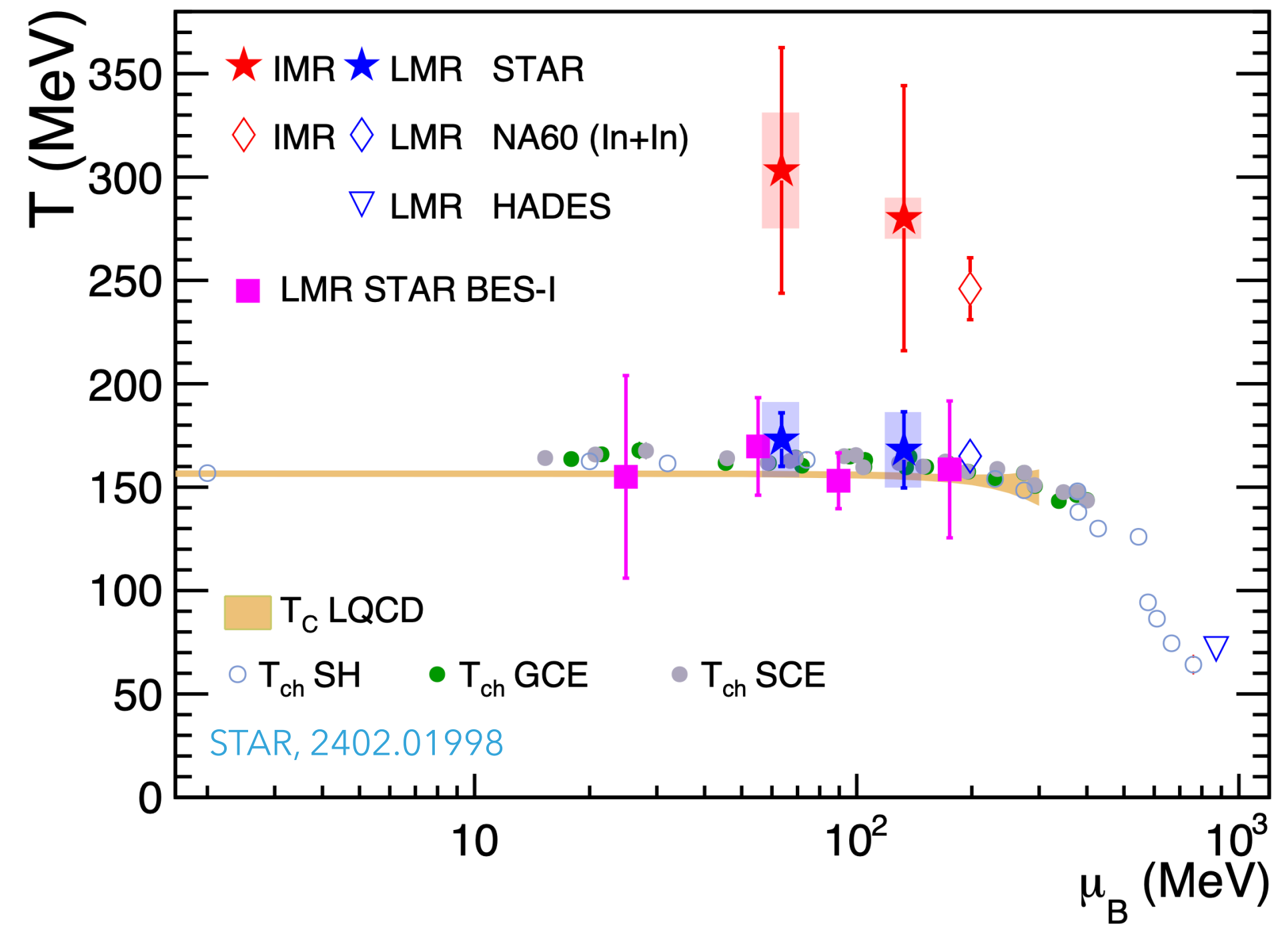
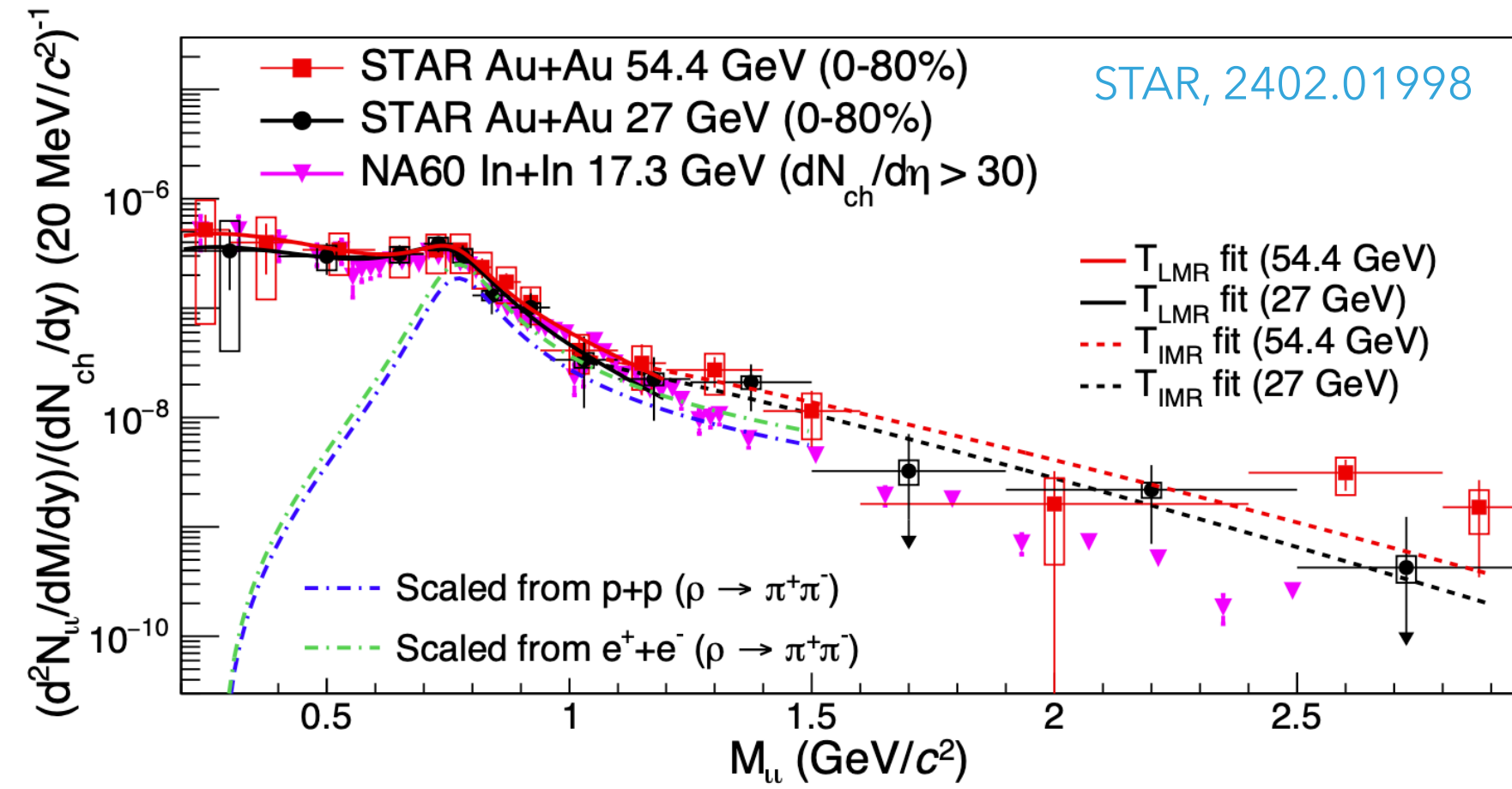
<https://github.com/LipeiDu/DileptonEmission>

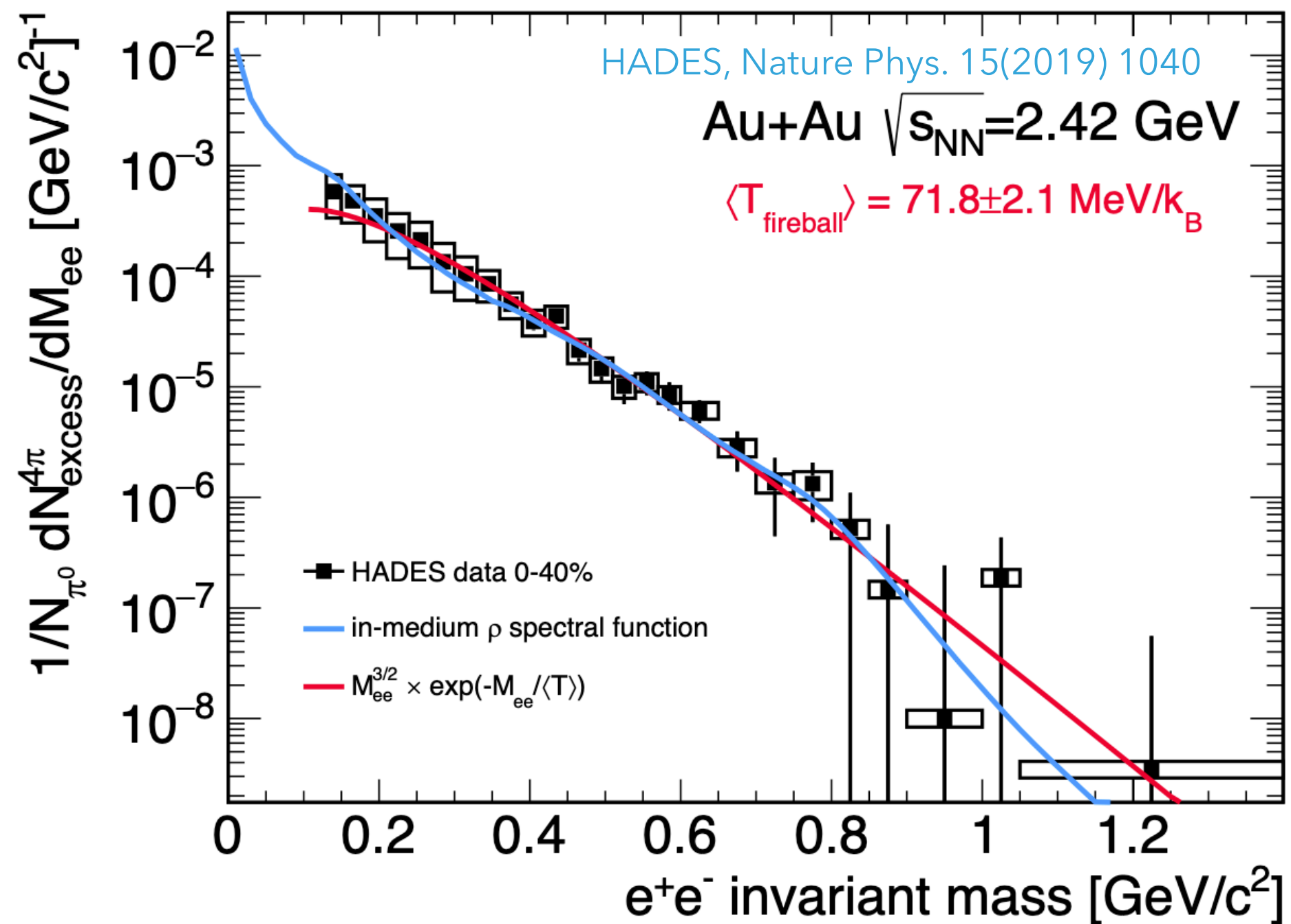
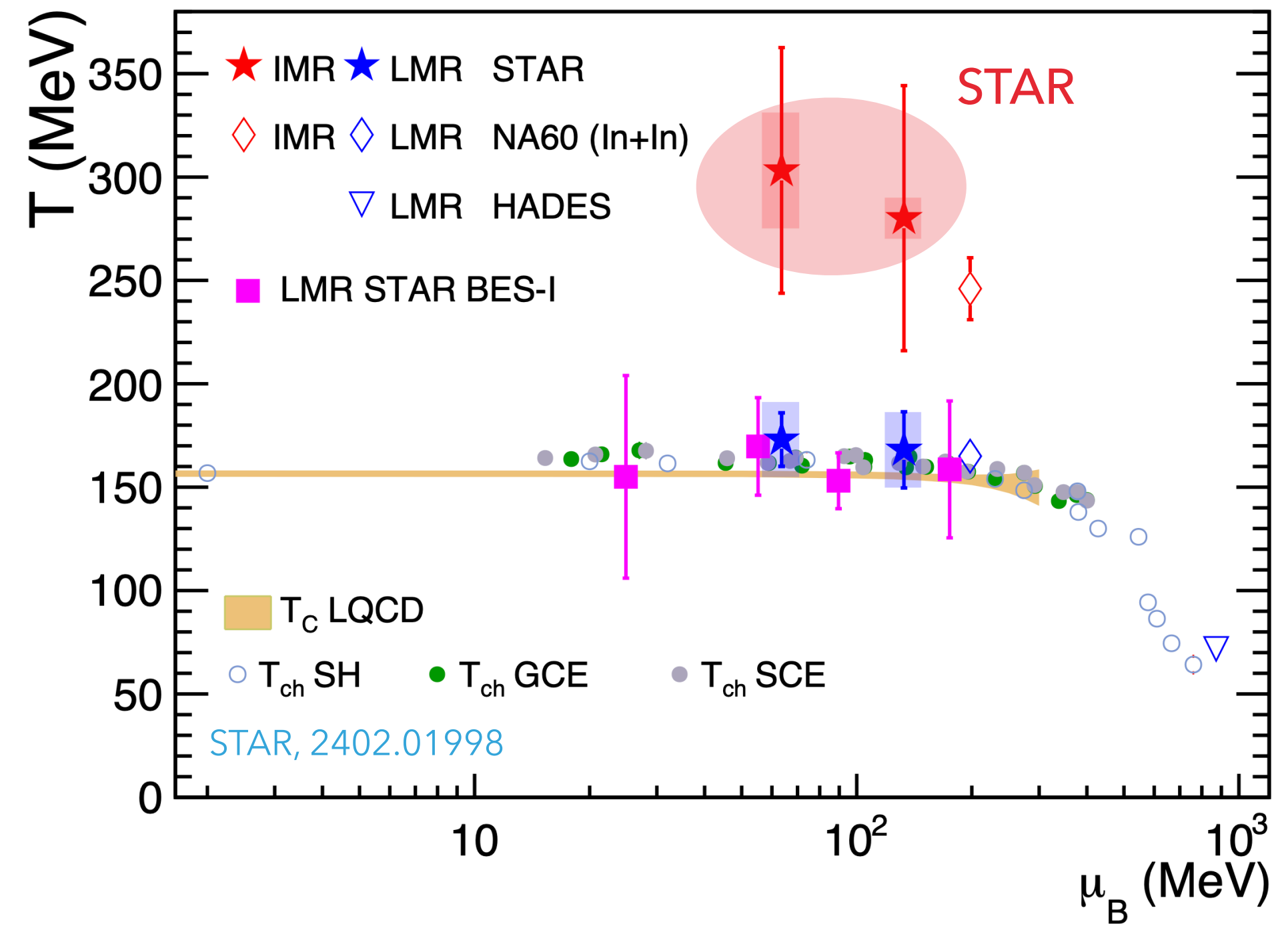
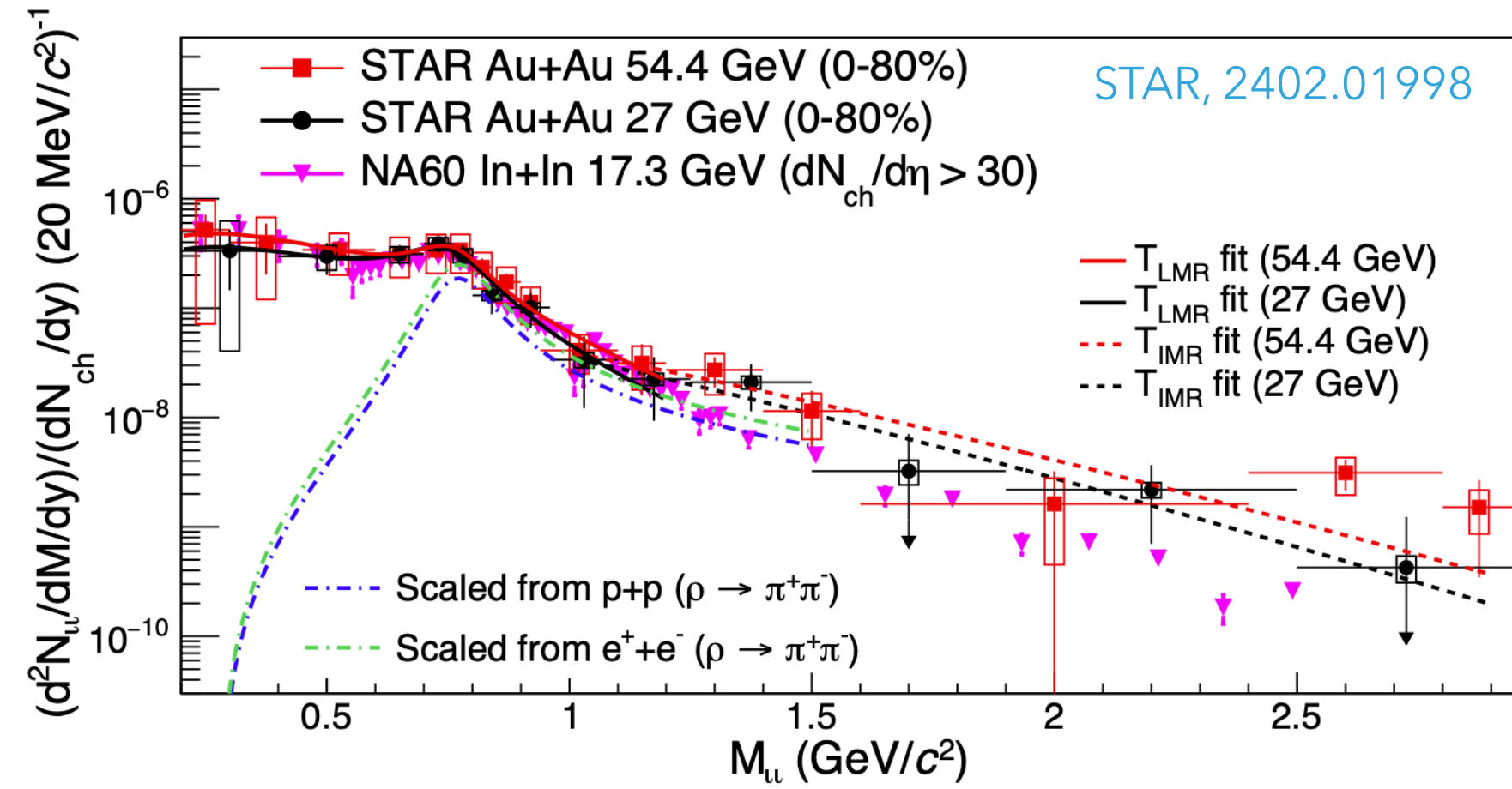
Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)

- ▶ First estimate of NLO dilepton emission at nonzero μ_B with (3+1)D multistage hydrodynamic model;
- ▶ The multistage model is calibrated using rapidity-dependent hadronic observables from the Beam Energy Scan.

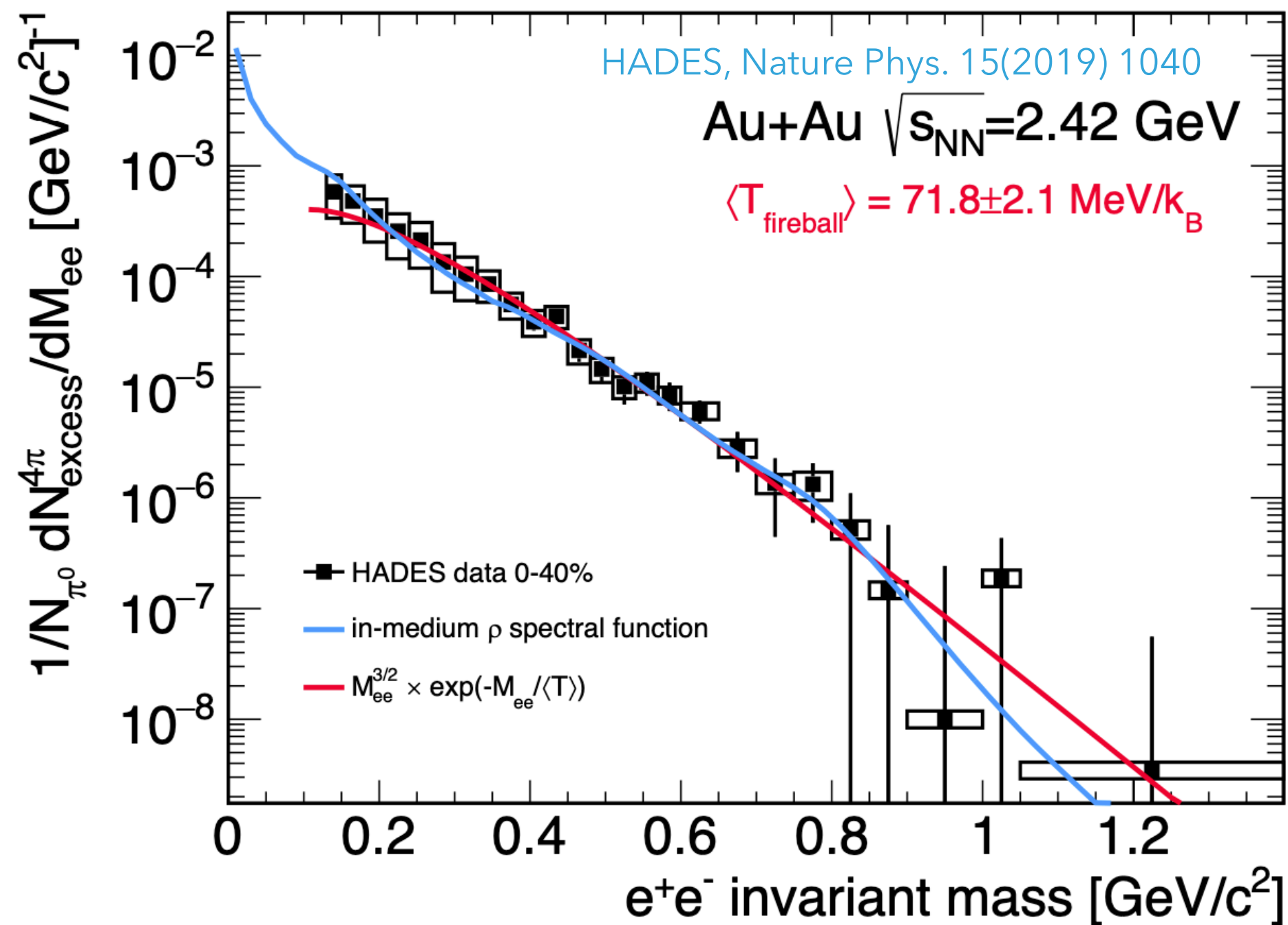
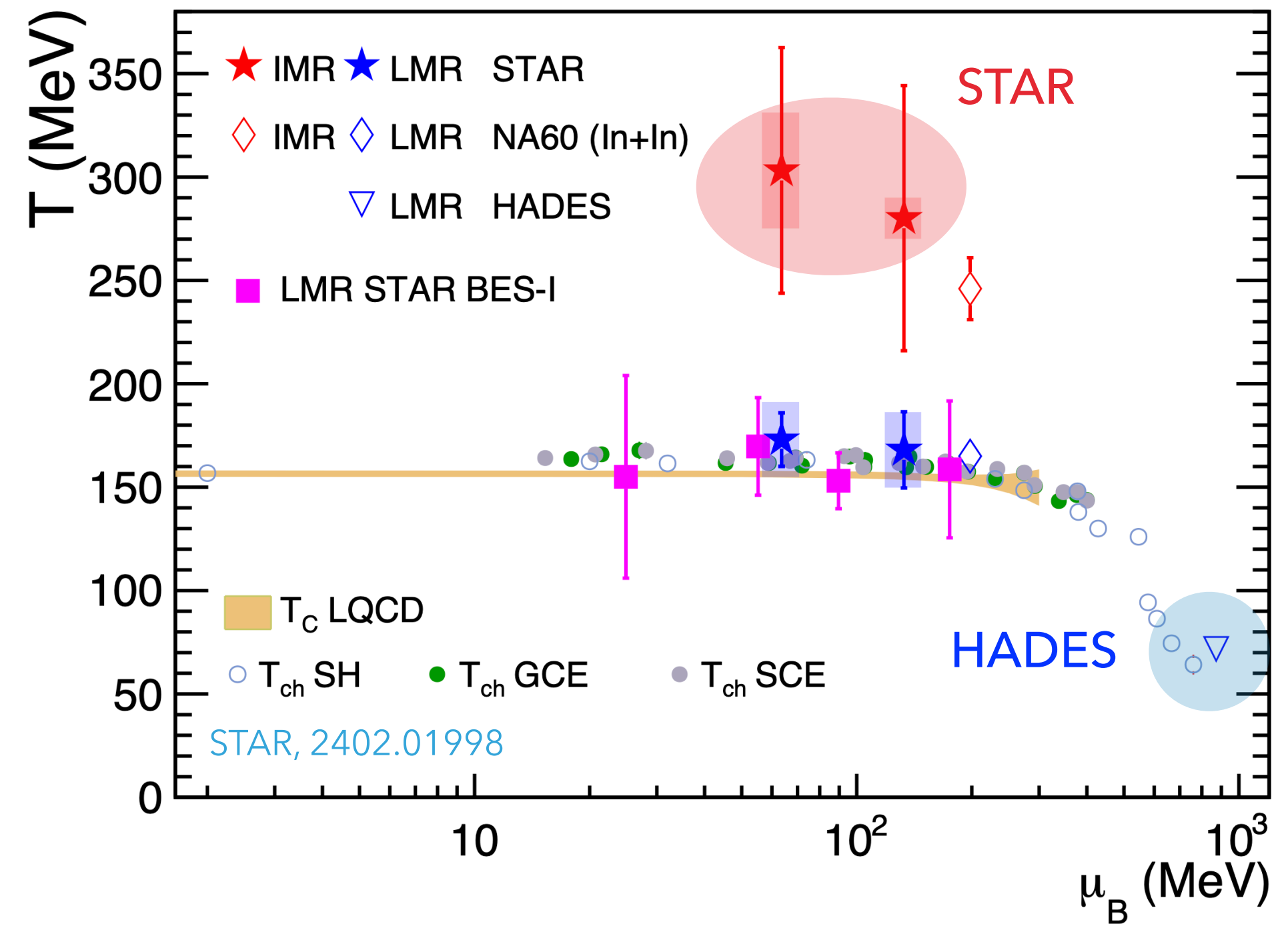
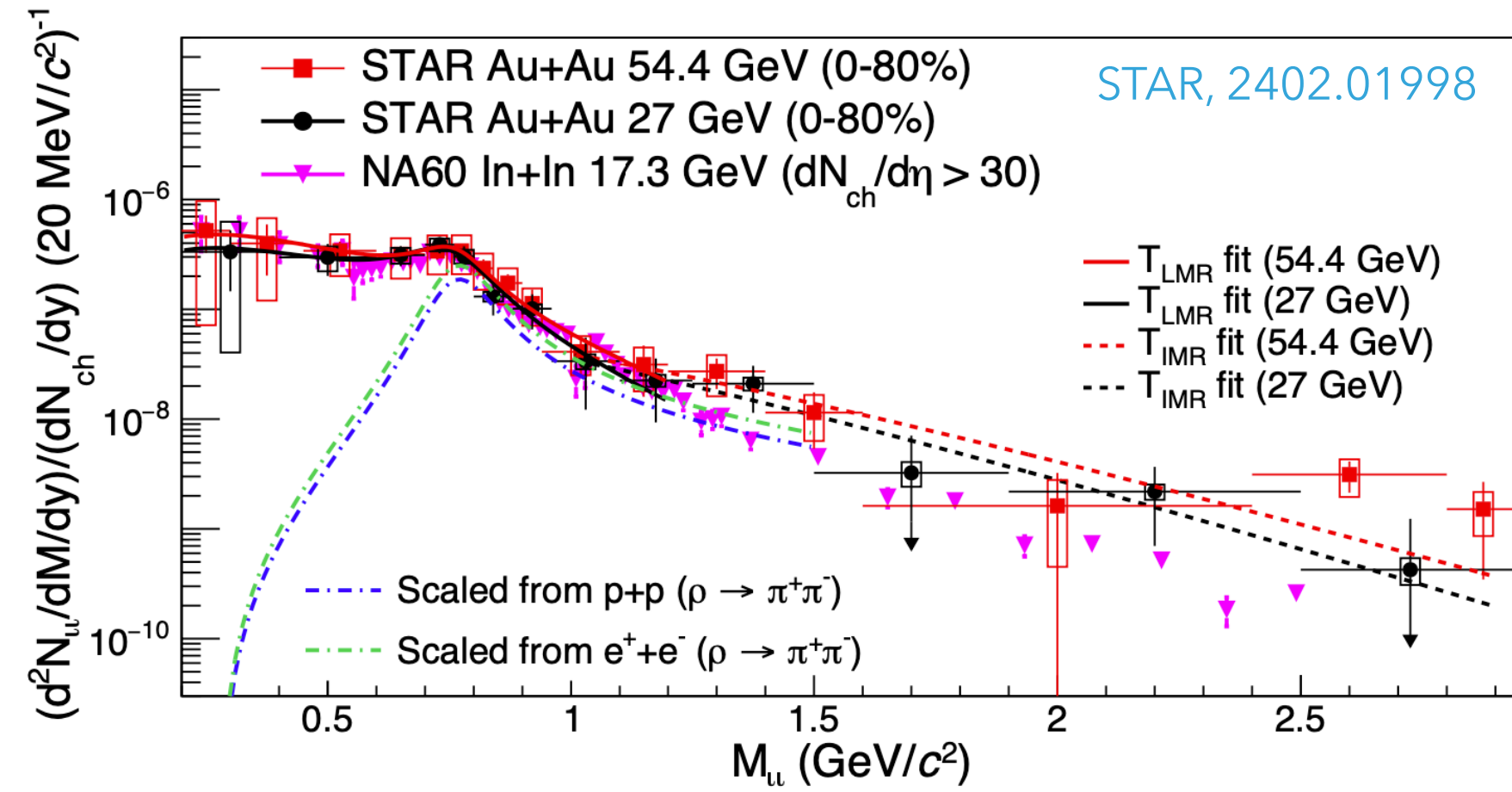


QCD thermometer: experiments

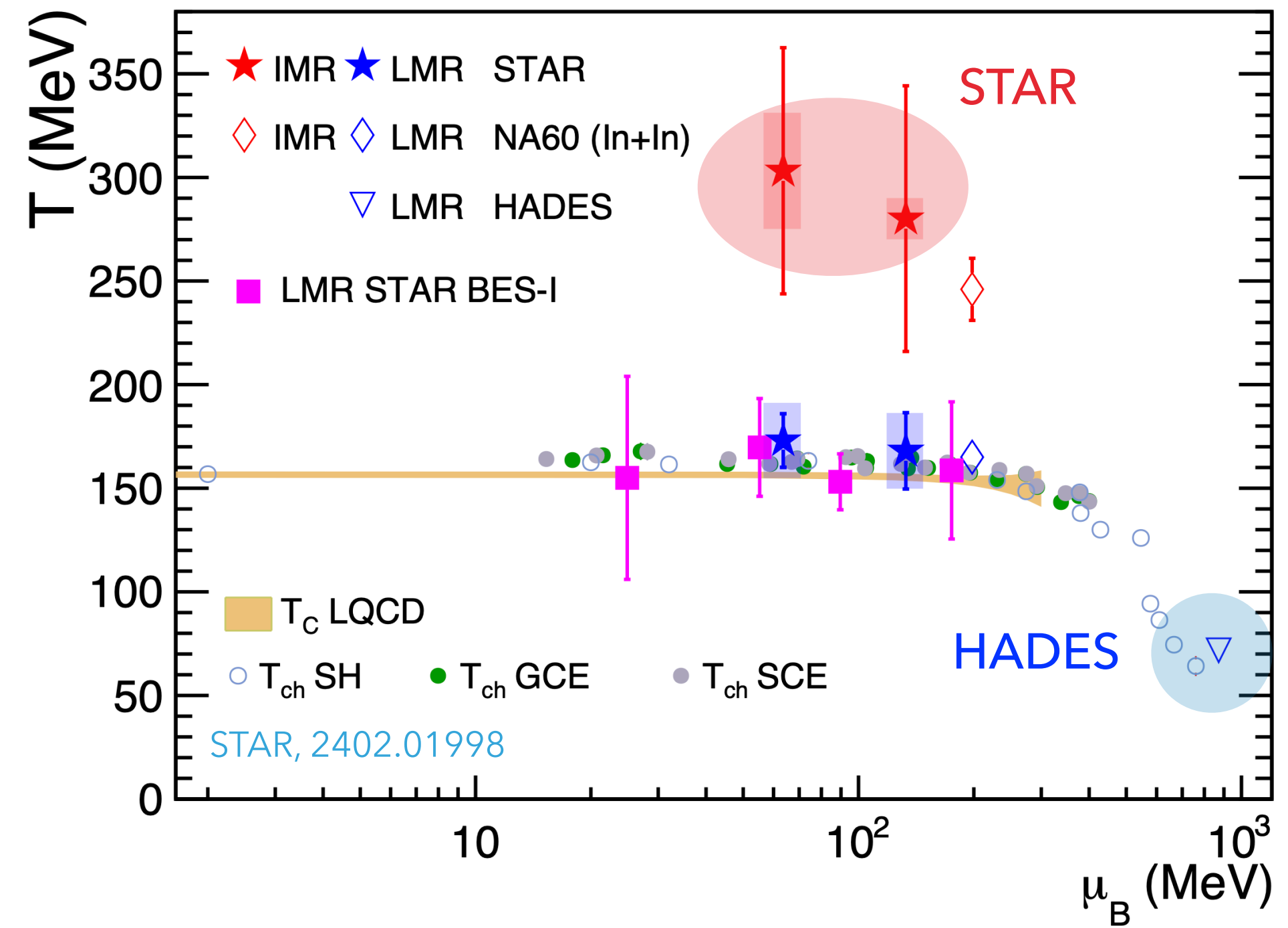
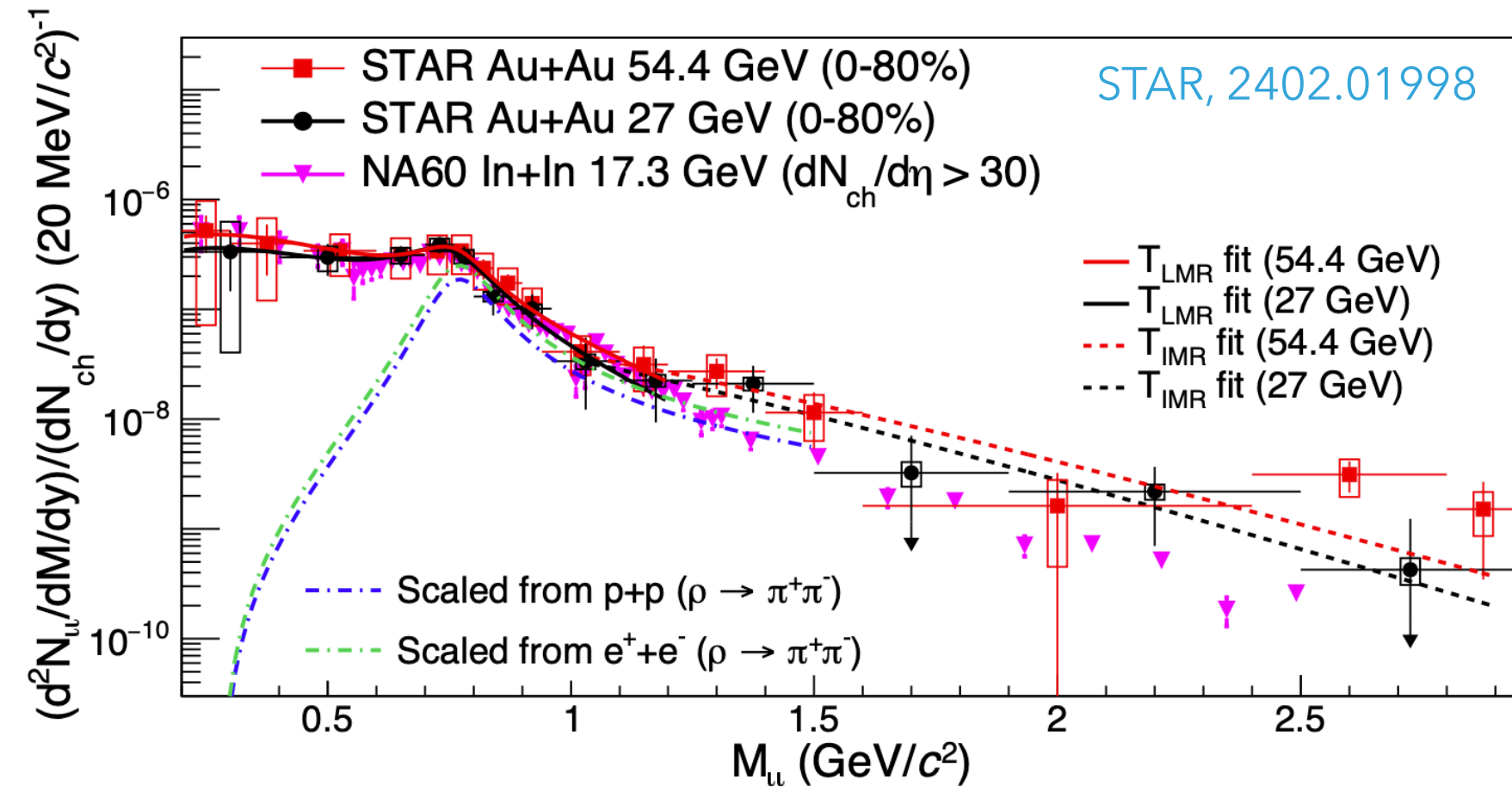




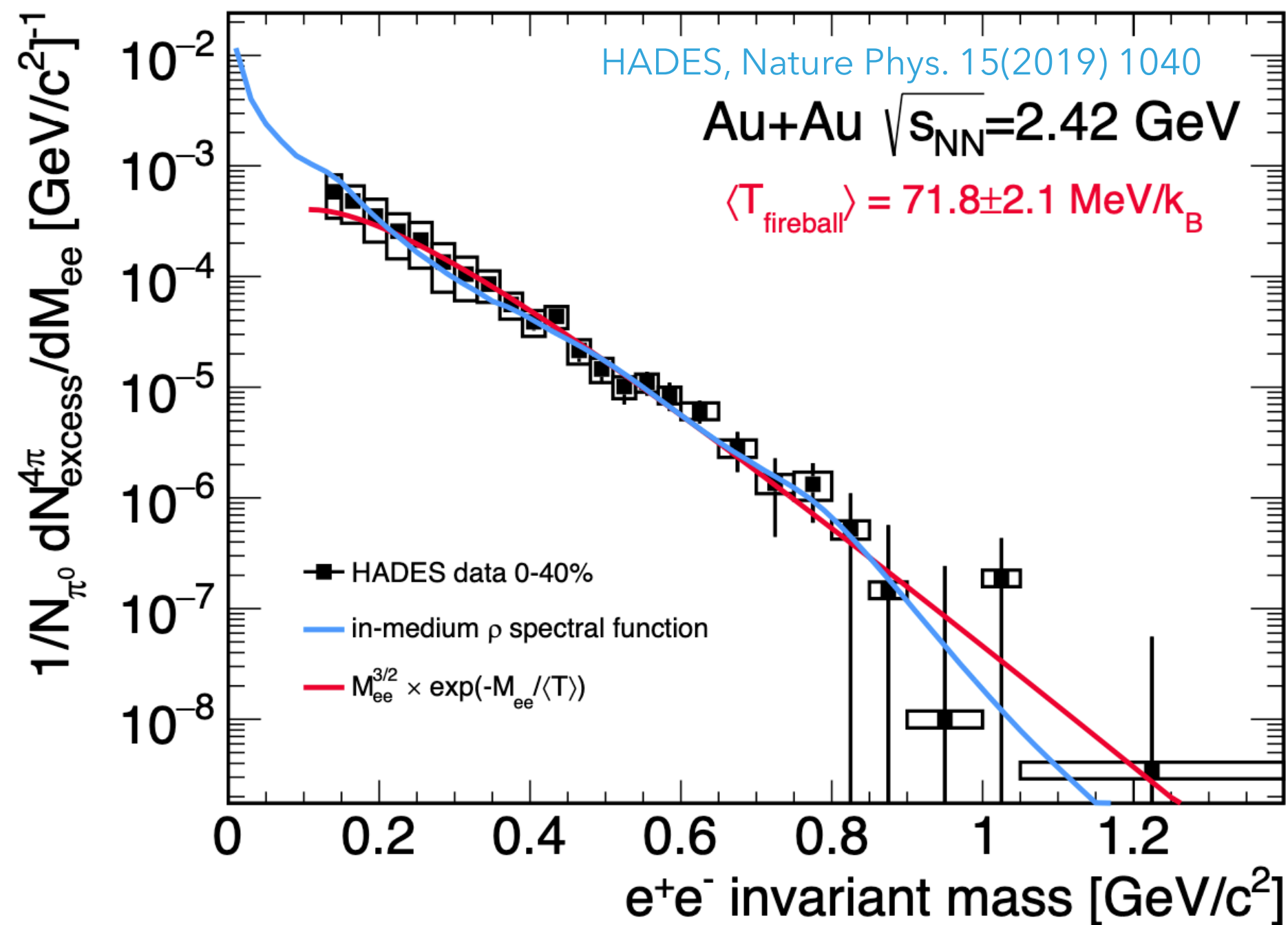
QCD thermometer: experiments

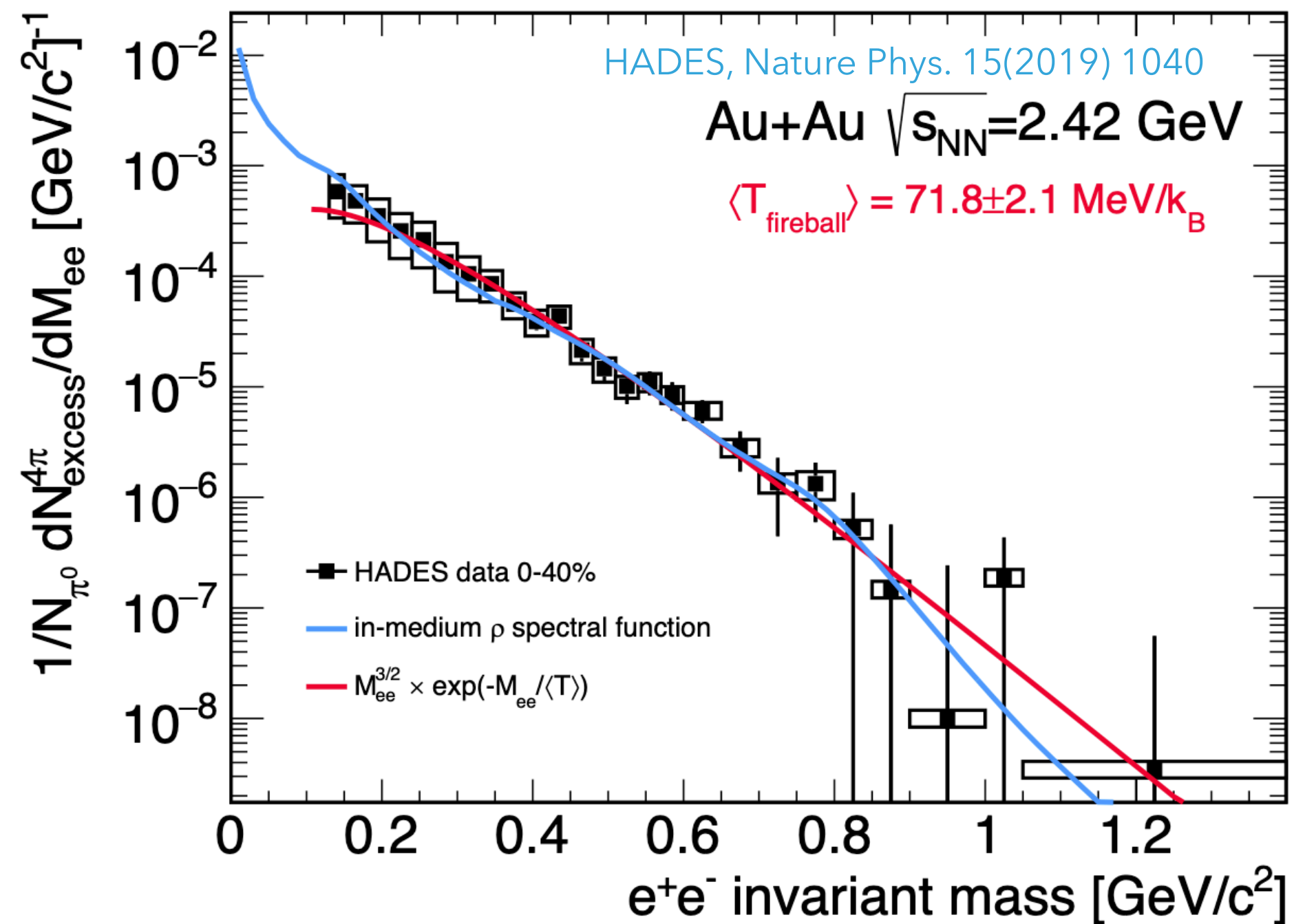
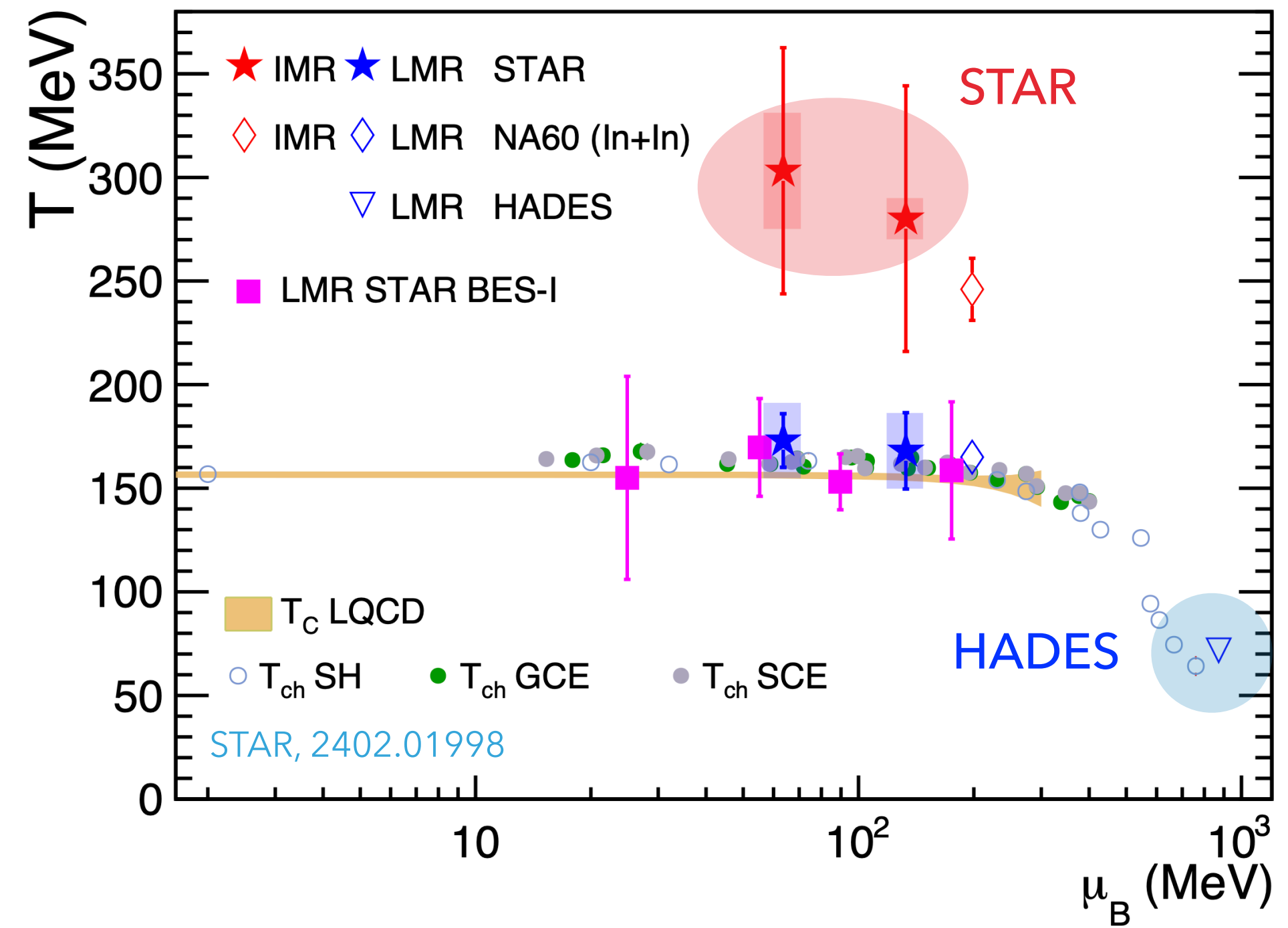
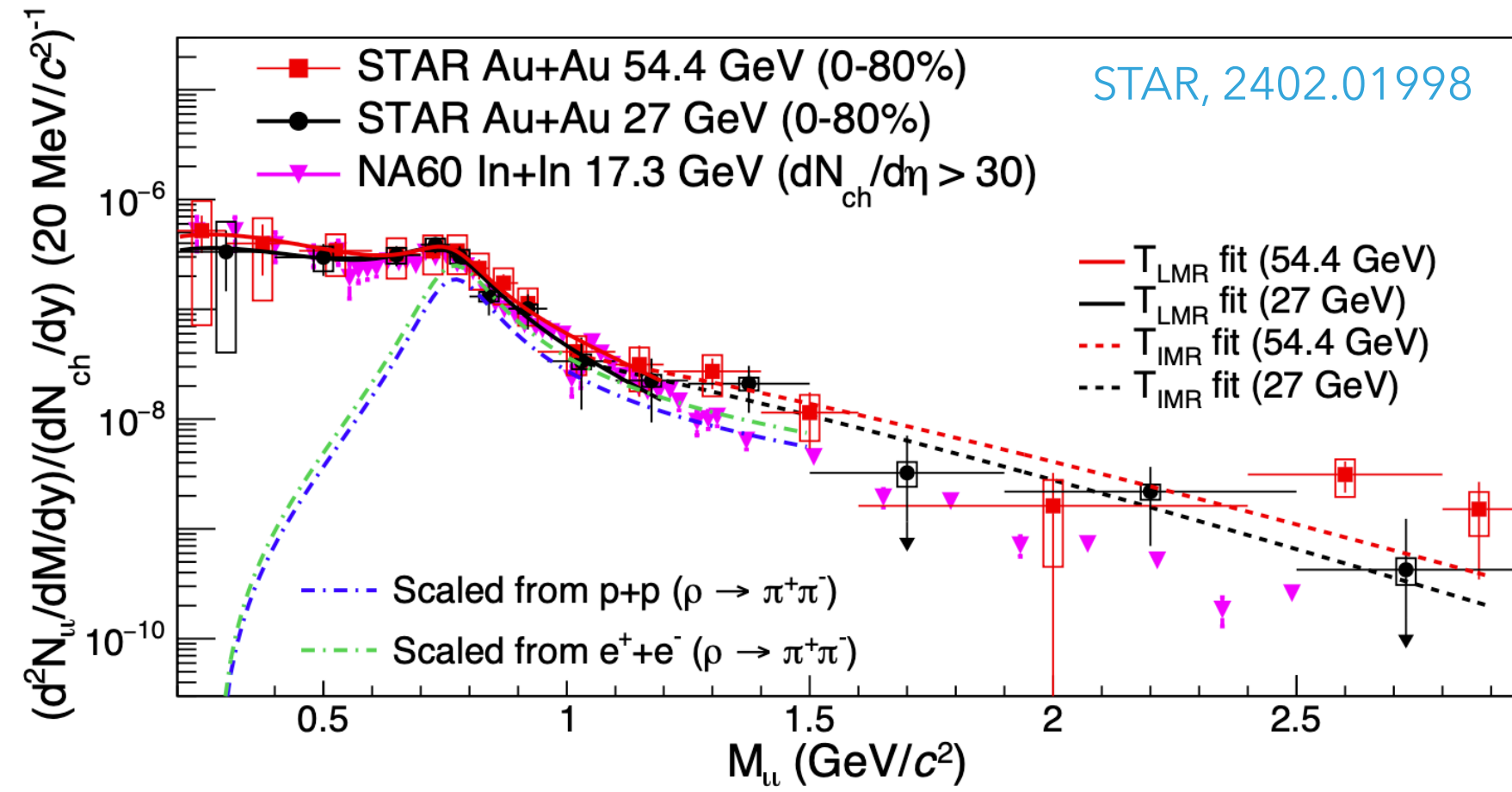


QCD thermometer: experiments



Questions:

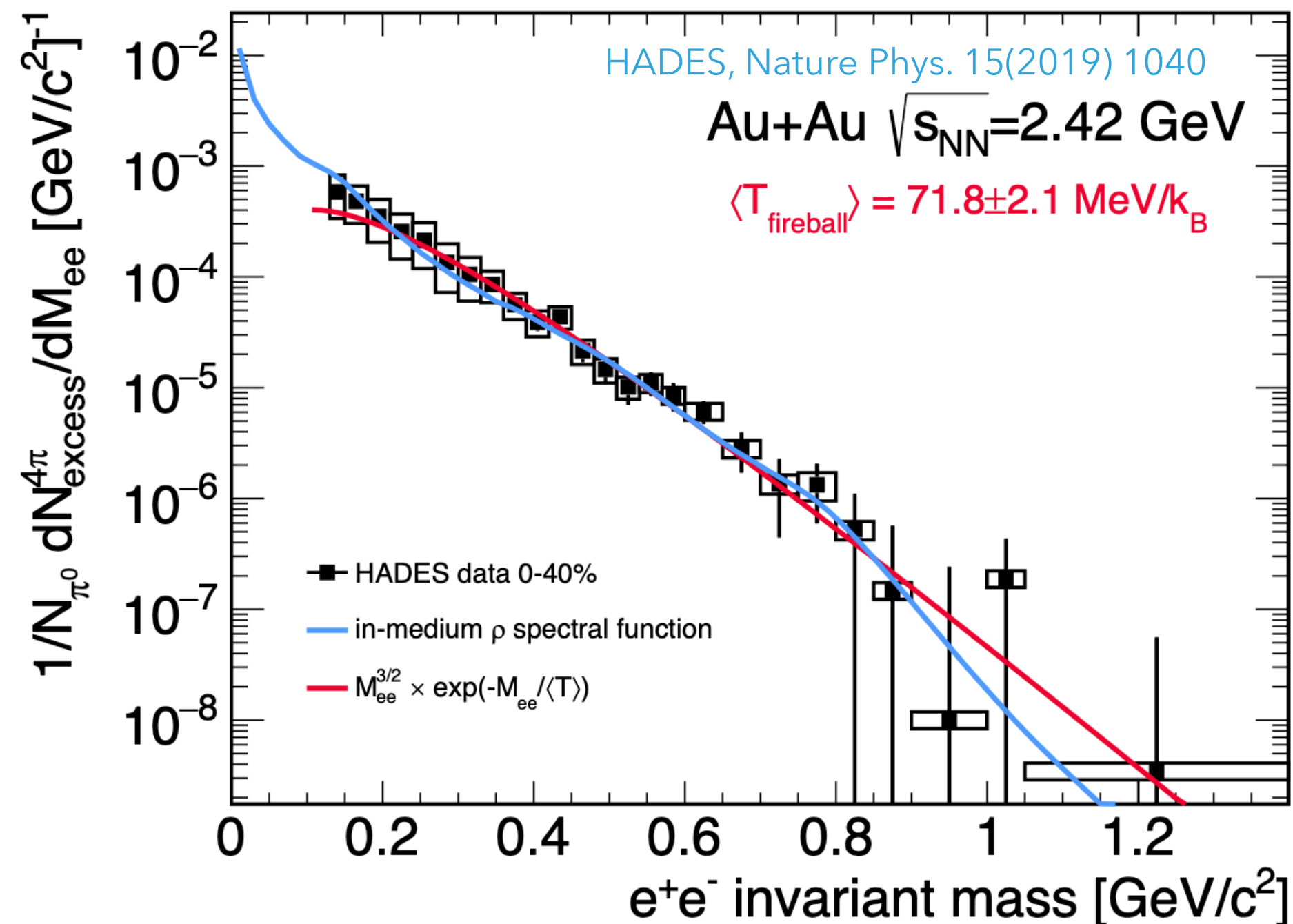
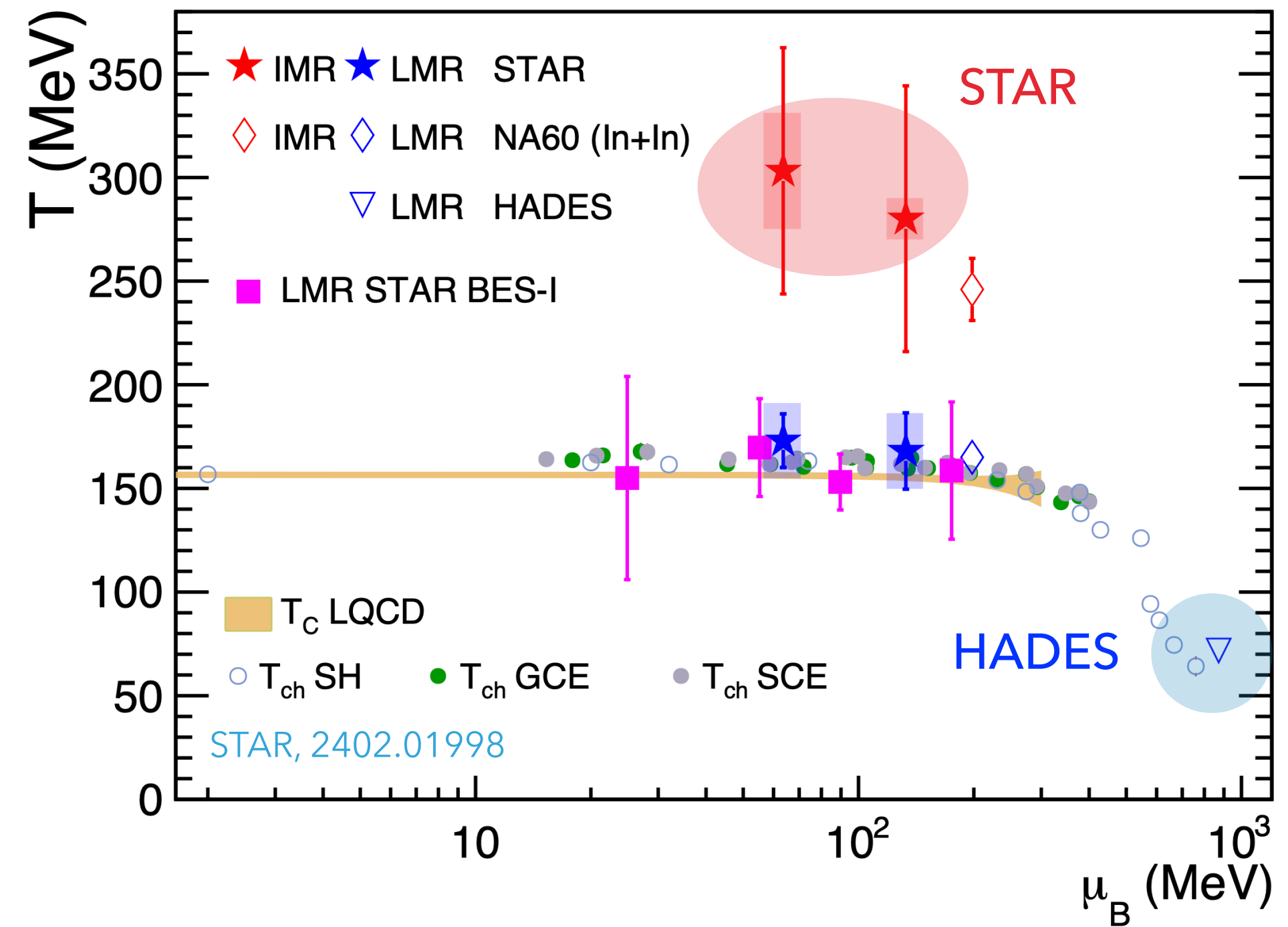
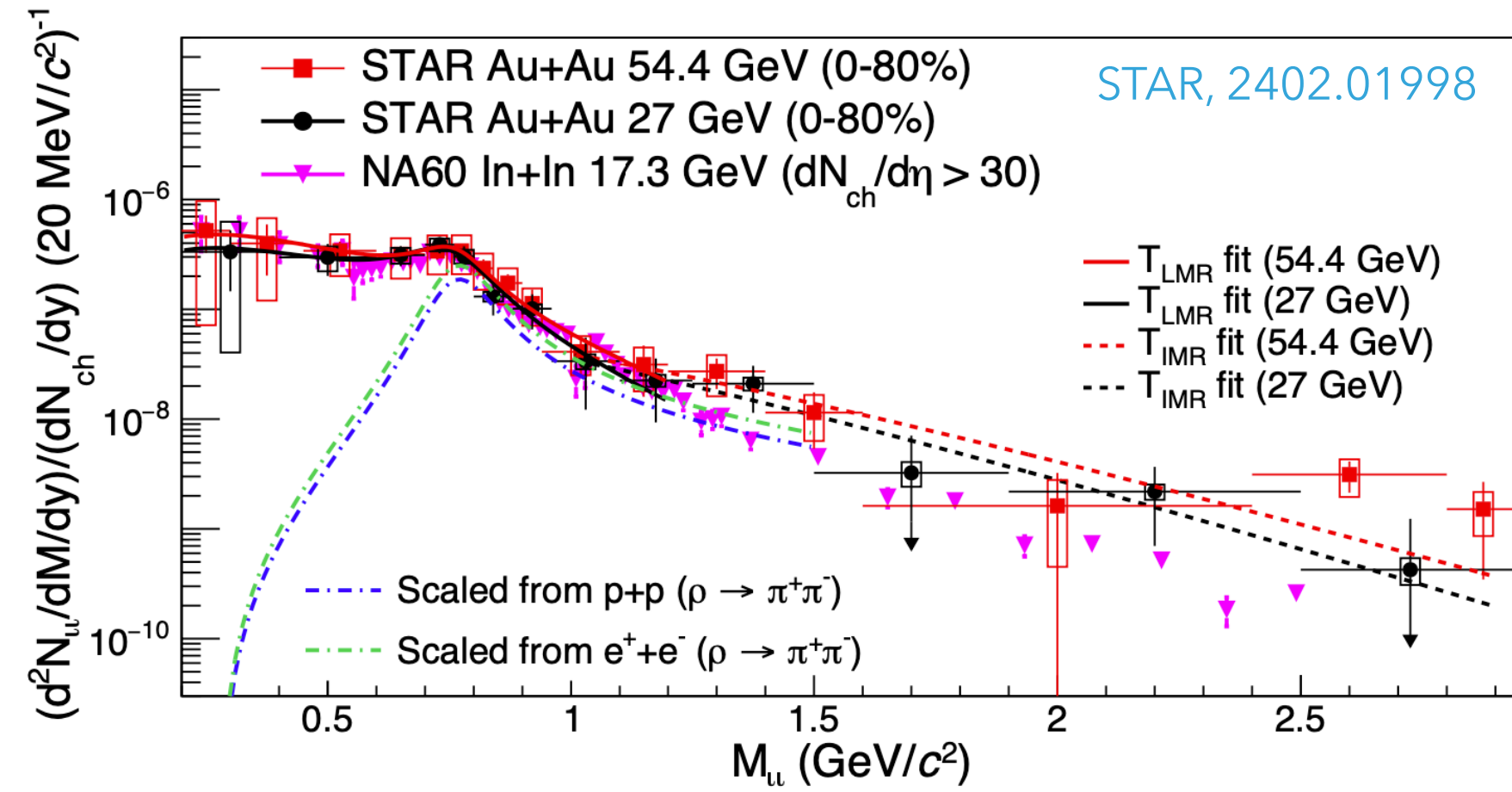




Questions:

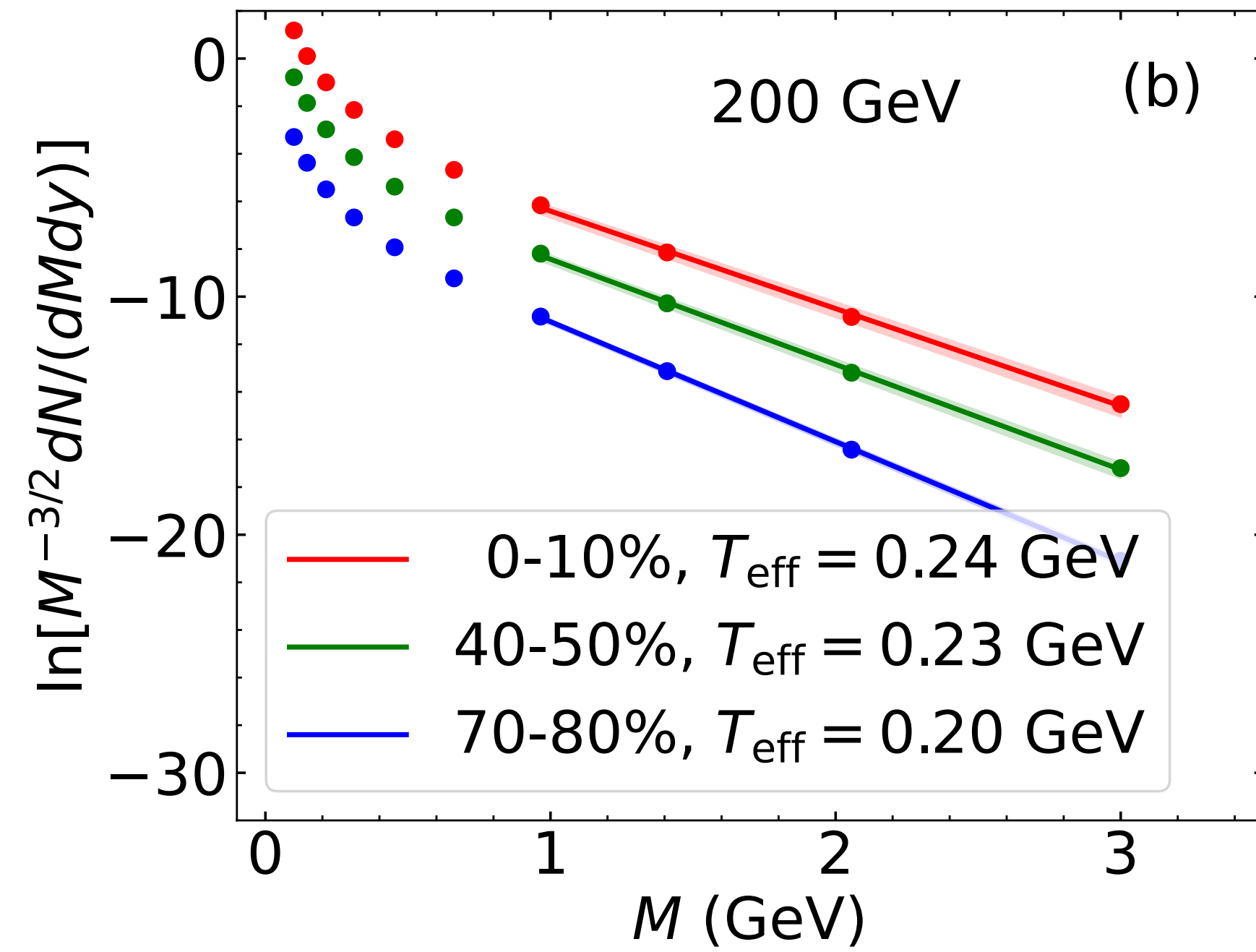
- ▶ How do we know if the fitting method using

$$\frac{dN}{dM} \propto (MT)^{3/2} e^{-M/T} \text{ works?}$$

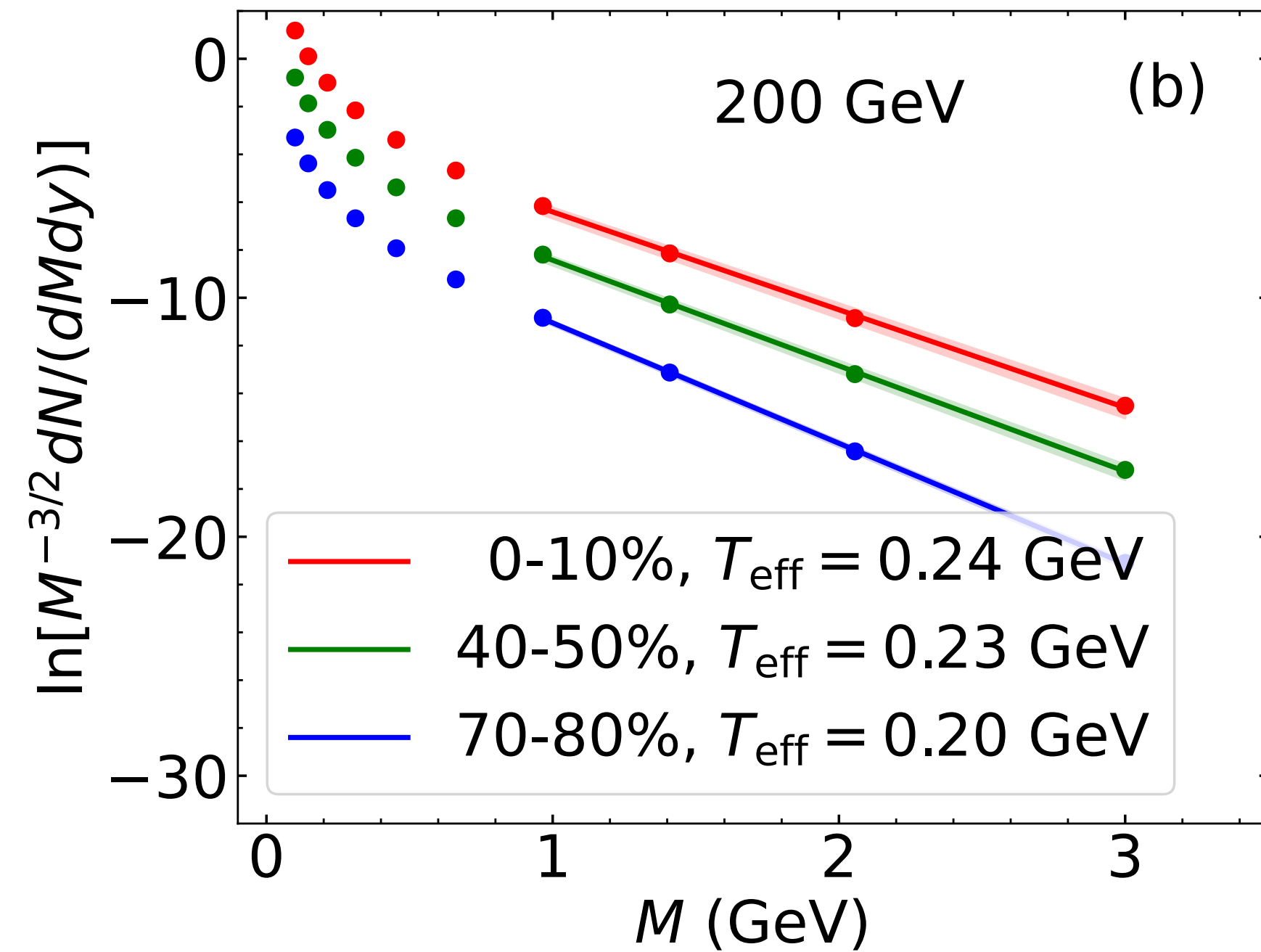


Questions:

- ▶ How do we know if the fitting method using $\frac{dN}{dM} \propto (MT)^{3/2} e^{-M/T}$ works?
- ▶ How do we interpret the extracted temperature?

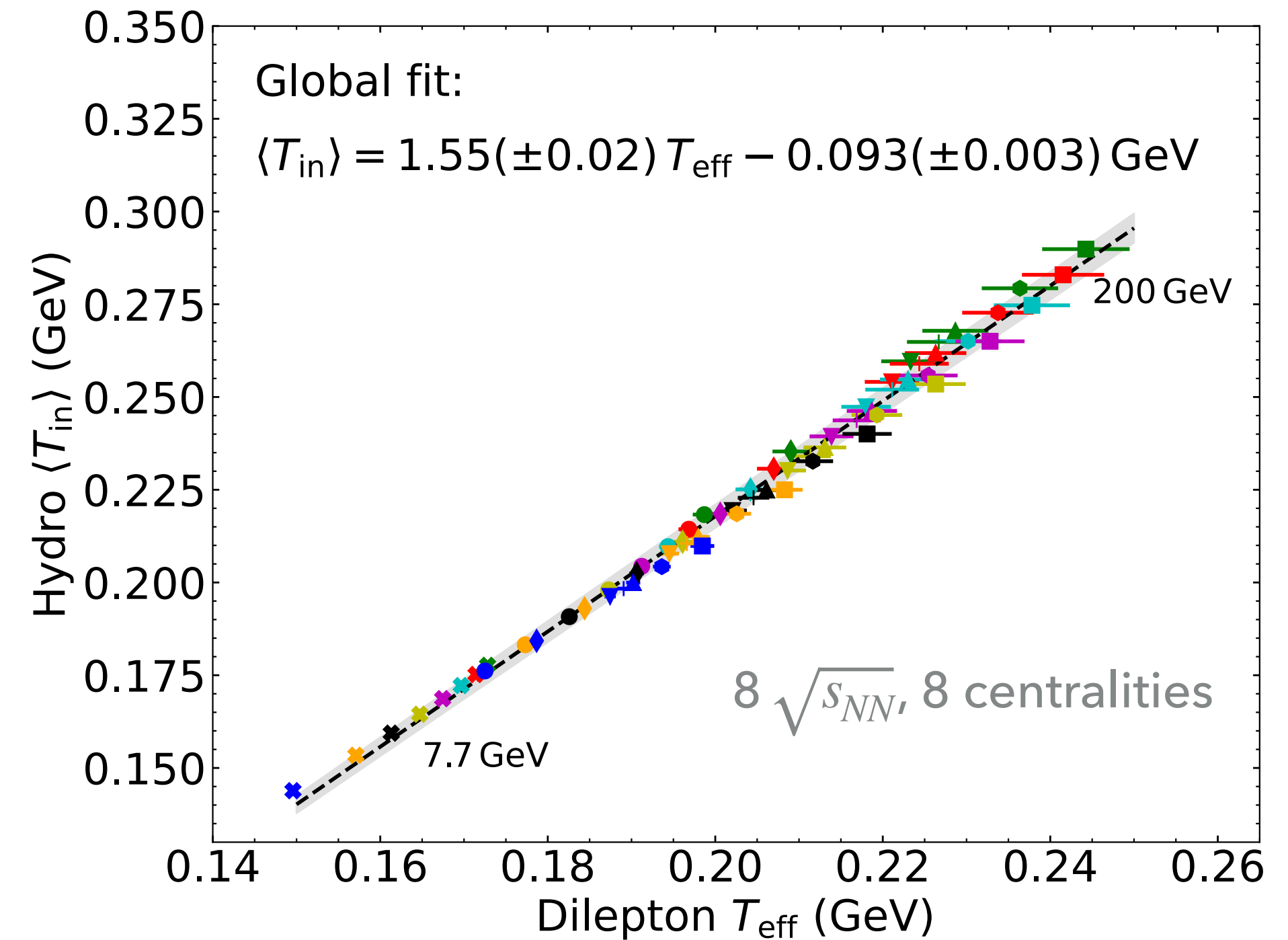
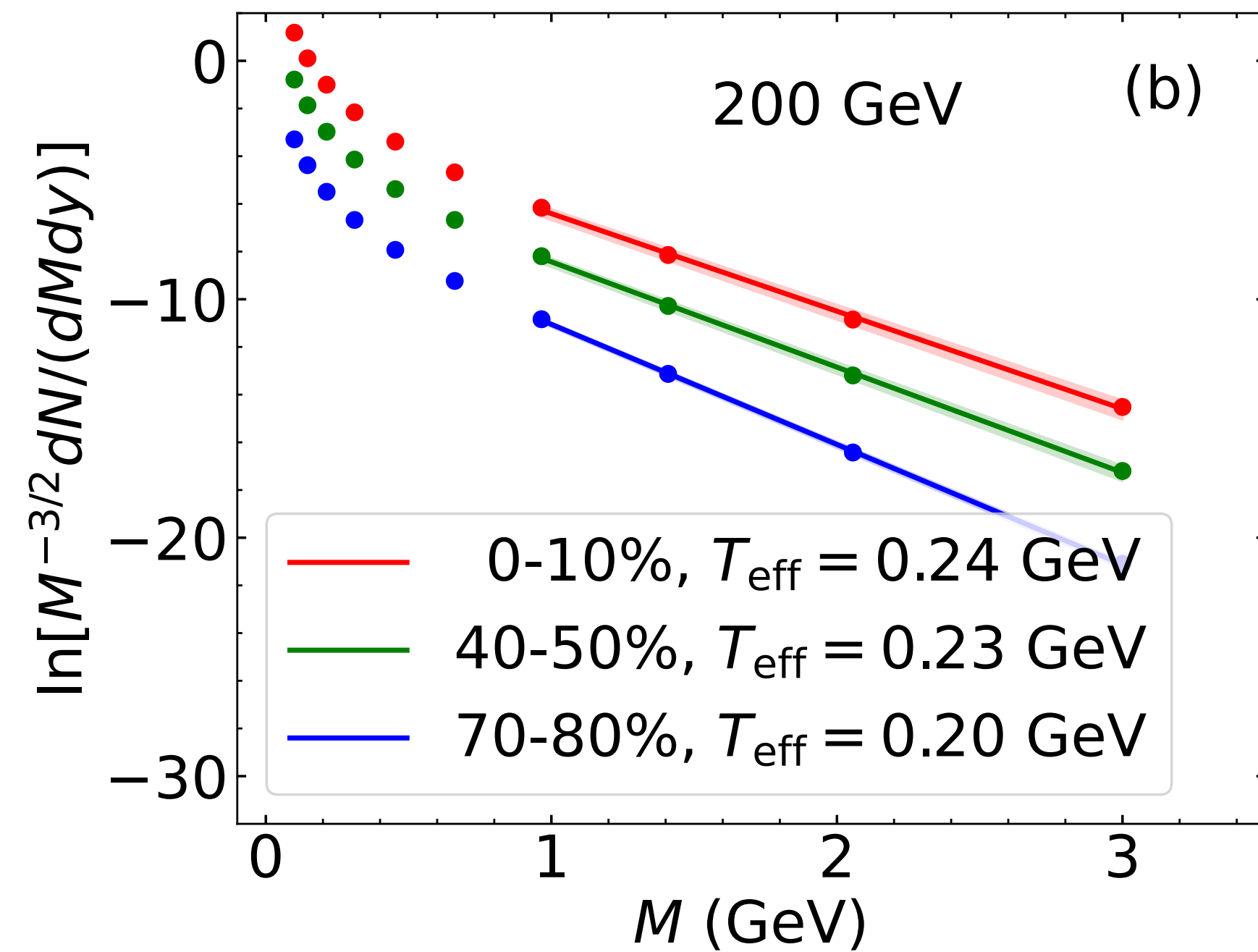


Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)



Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)

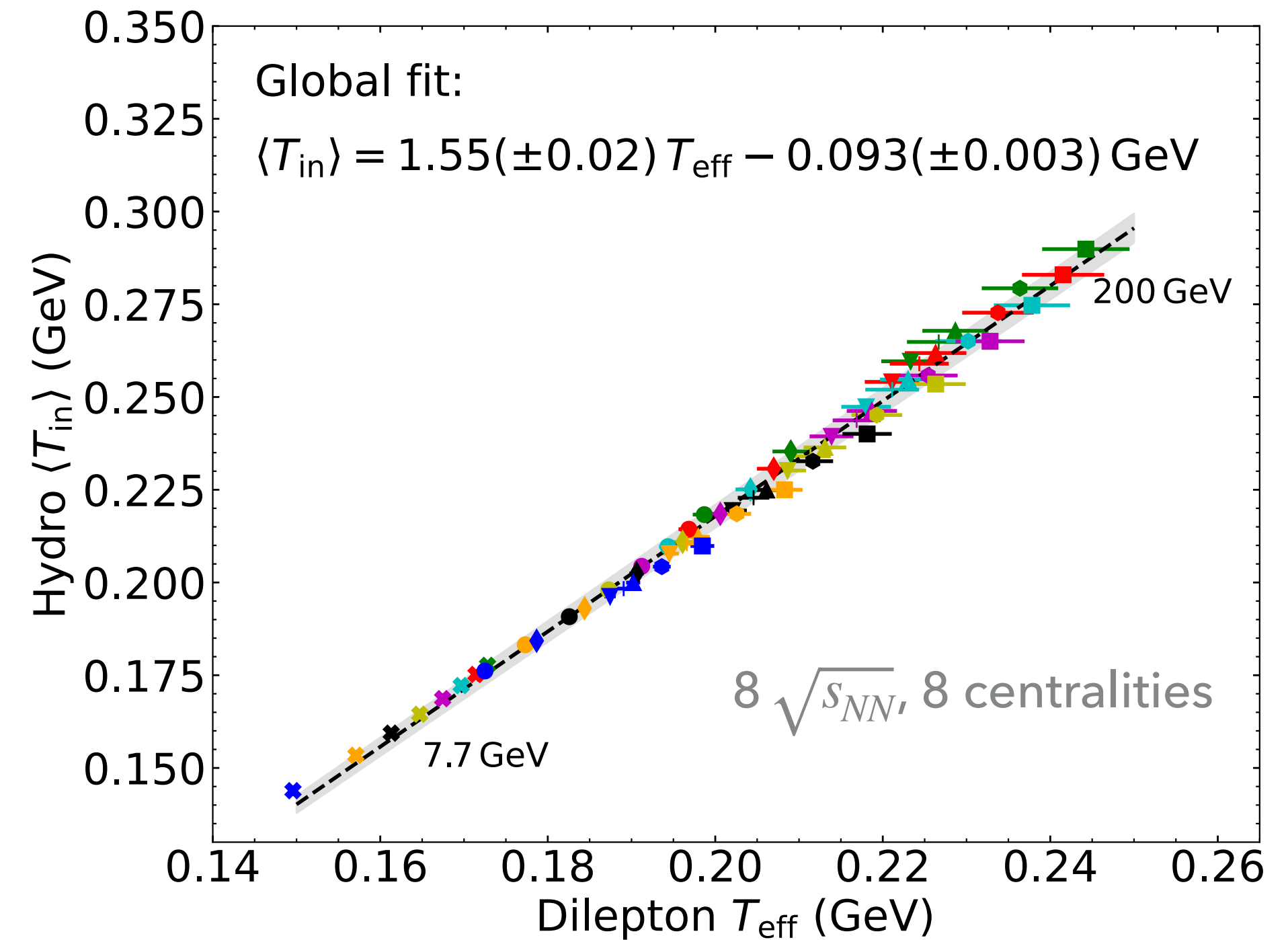
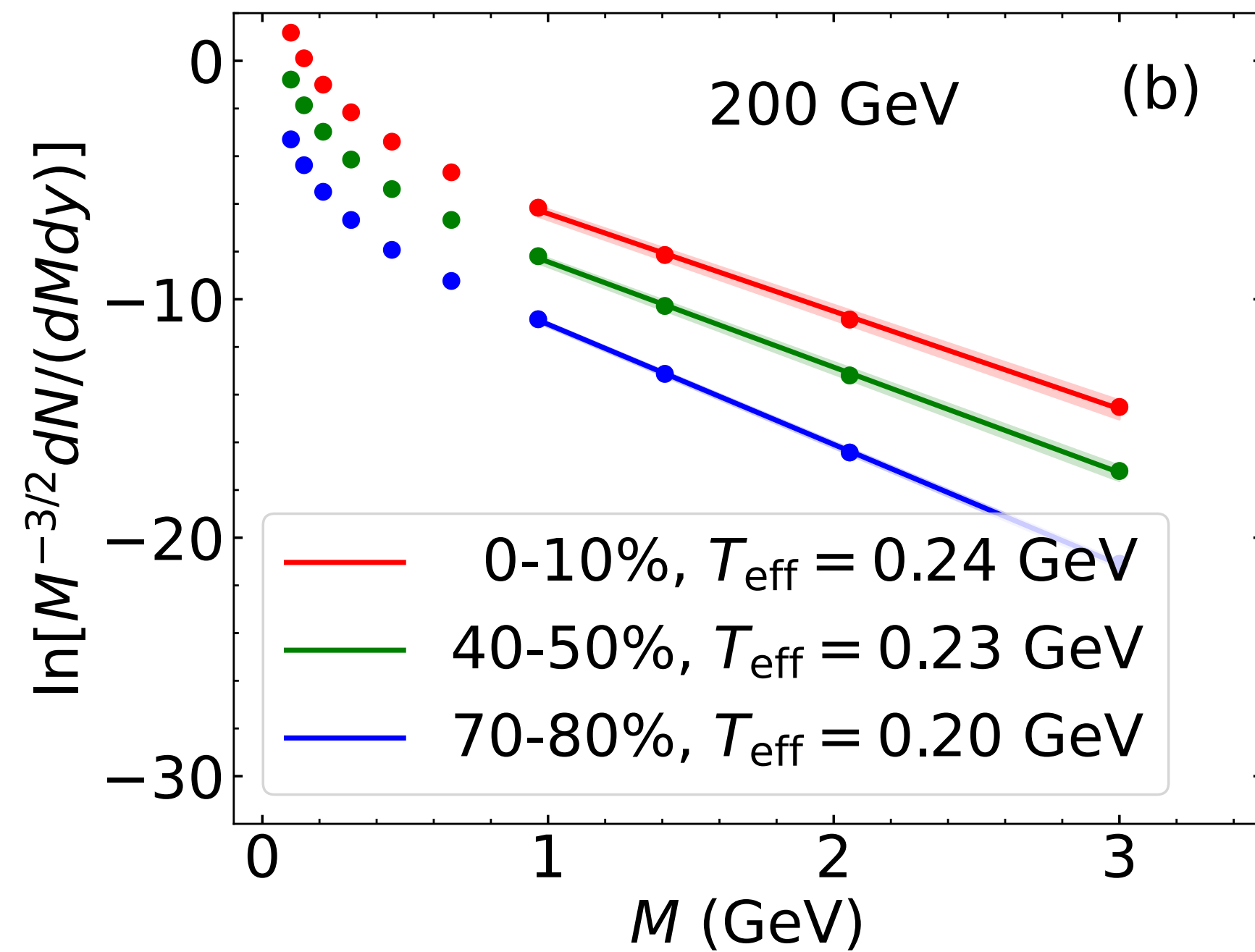
- ▶ The fit quality of the exponential ansatz is good [✓ fitting method verified!]. Uncertainties are larger at higher beam energies and in central collisions since the fireball has larger temperature variations.



Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)

<https://github.com/LipeiDu/DileptonEmission>

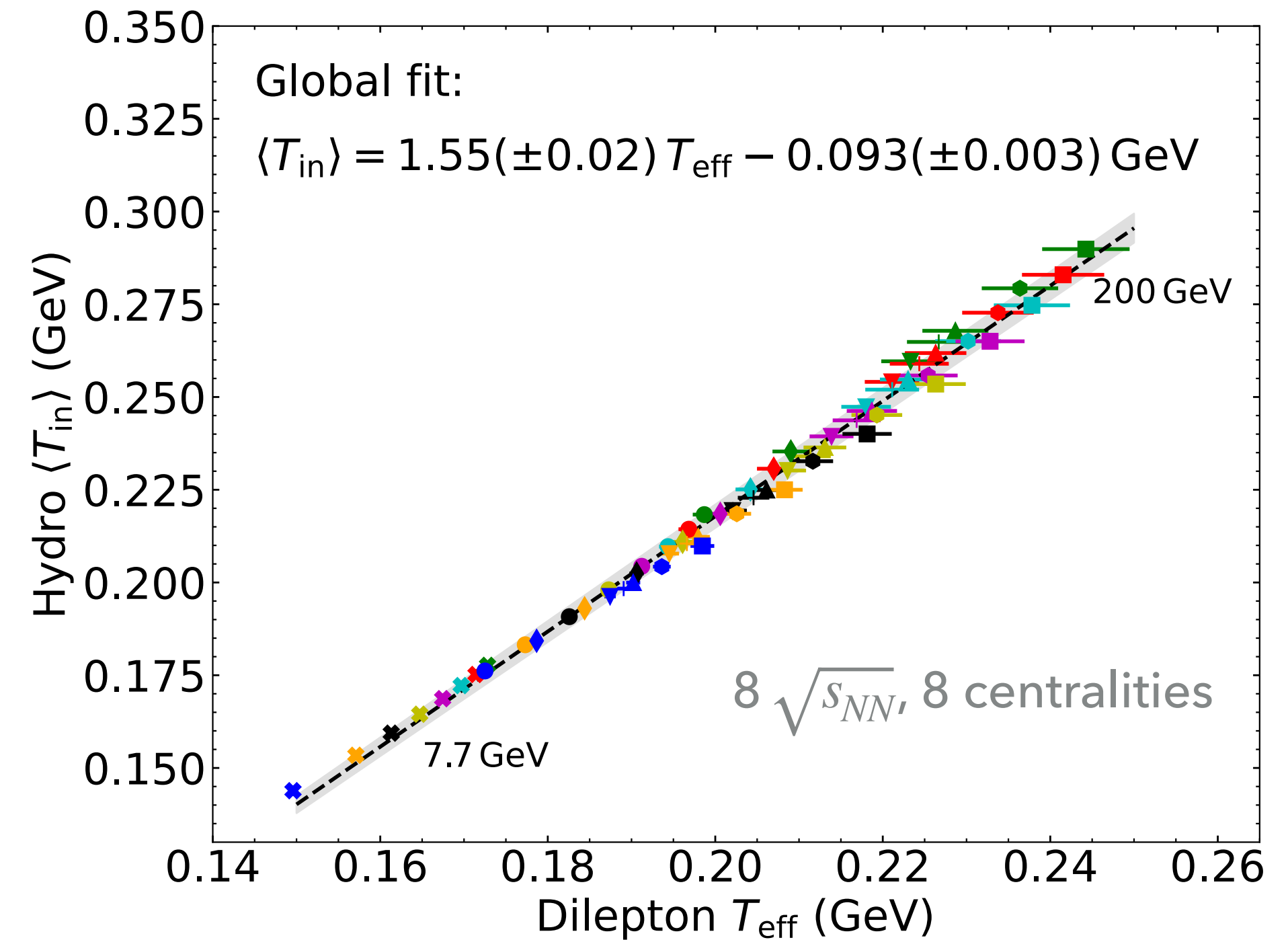
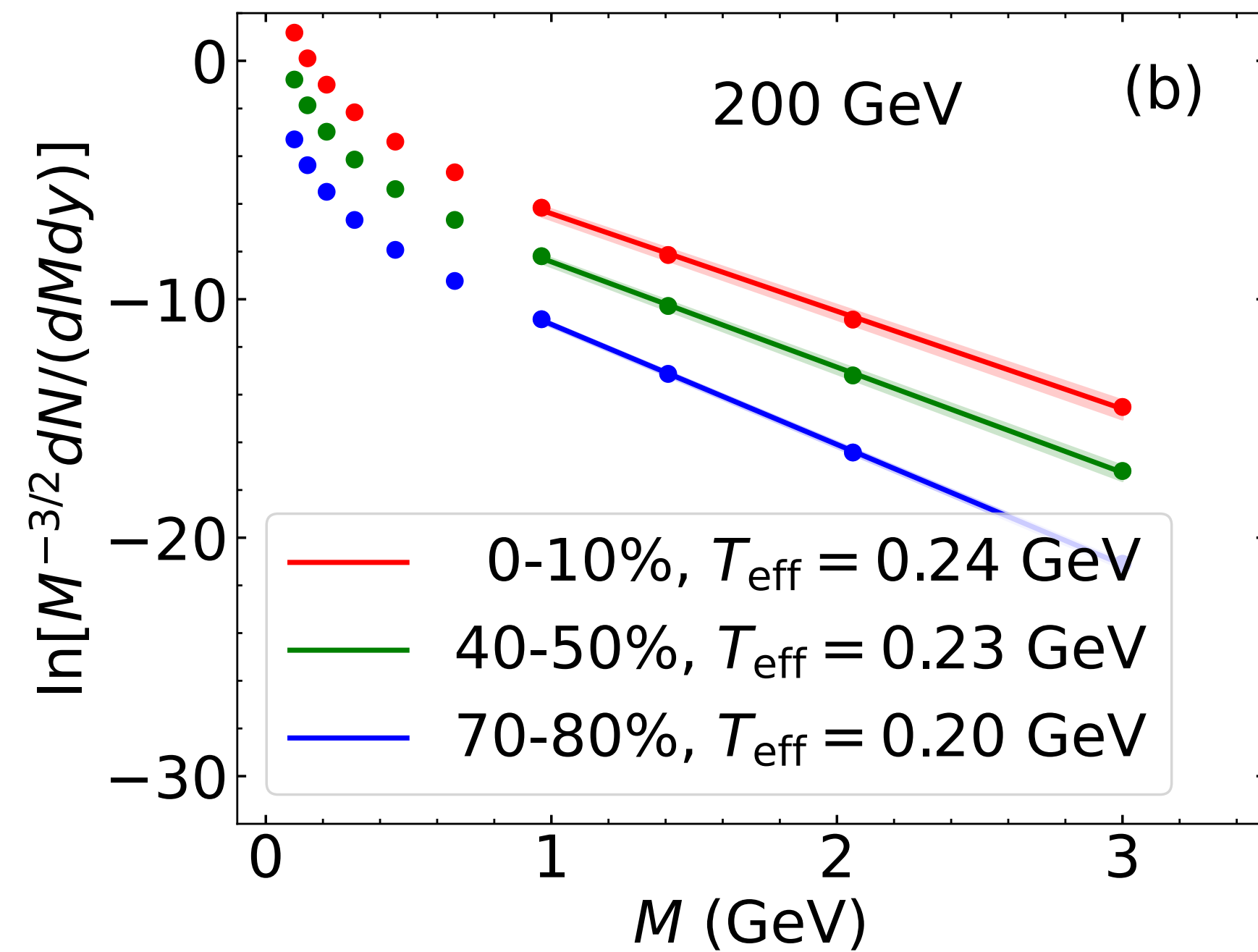
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Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)

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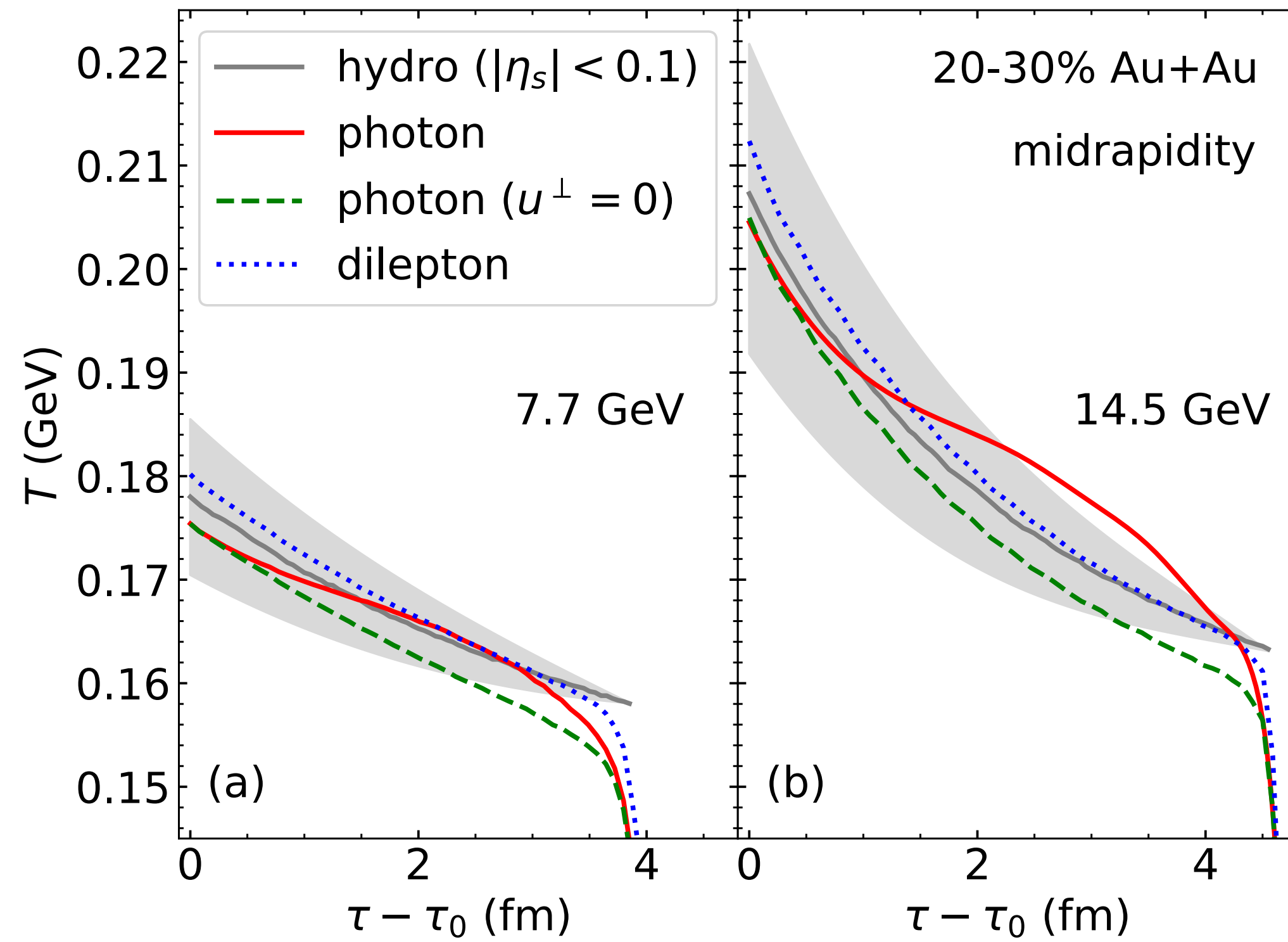
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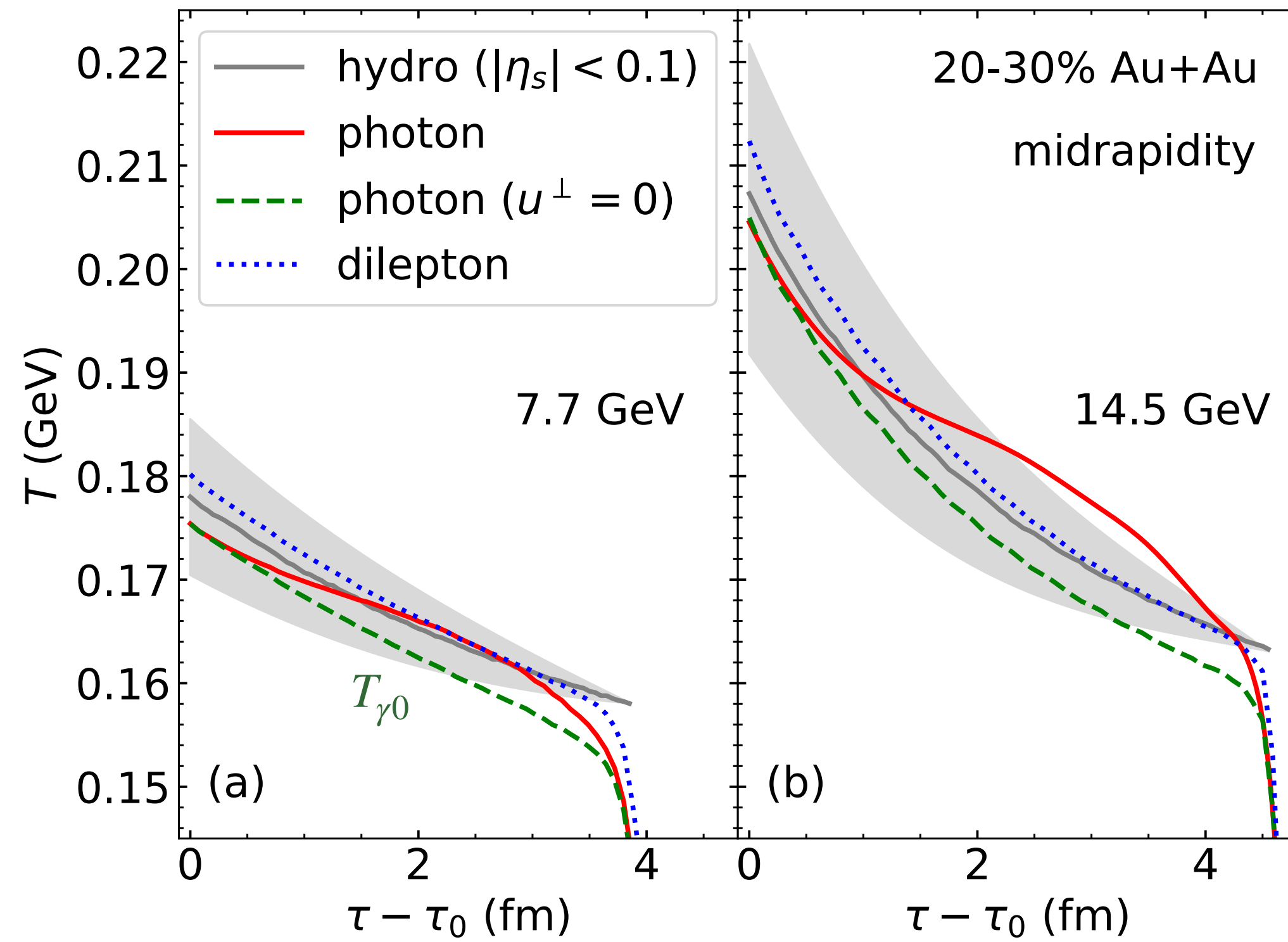
Churchill, LD, Gale, Jackson, Jeon, PRC 109, 044915 (2024), PRL 132, 172301 (2024)

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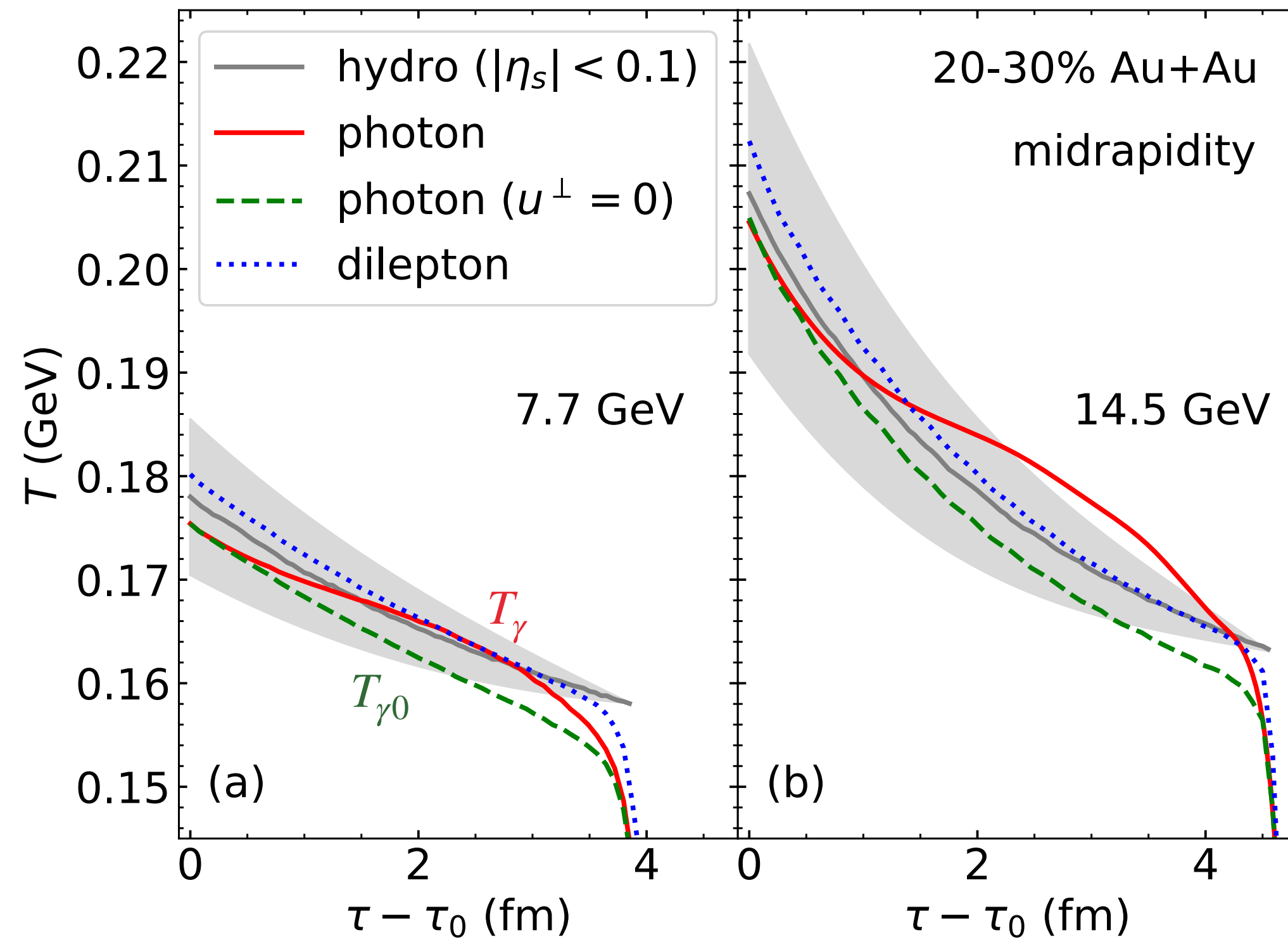
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- ▶ Measure the initial temperature of the evolving QCD fireball in a way that is unaffected by dynamical distortions.



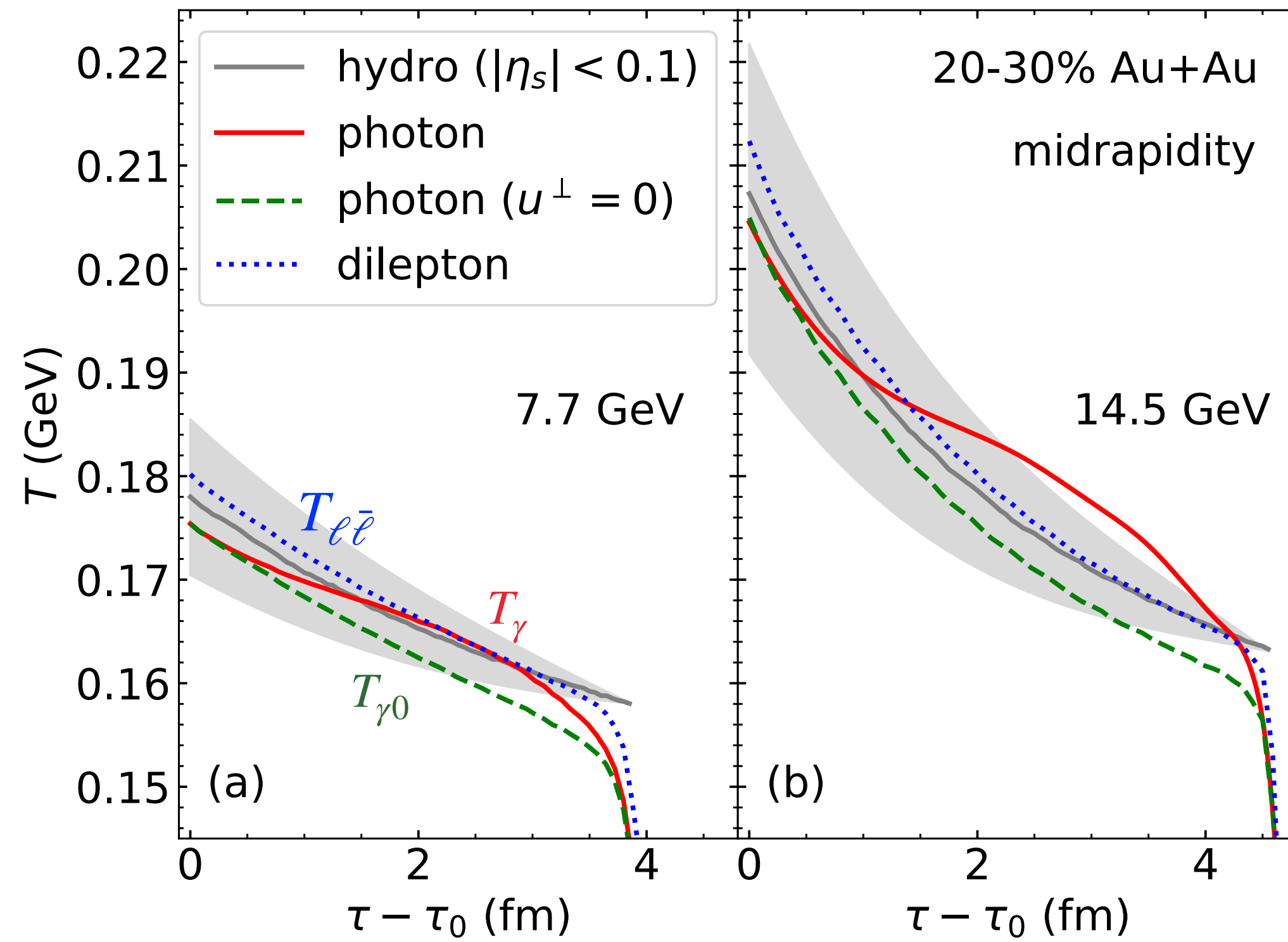
LD, arXiv: 2408.08501



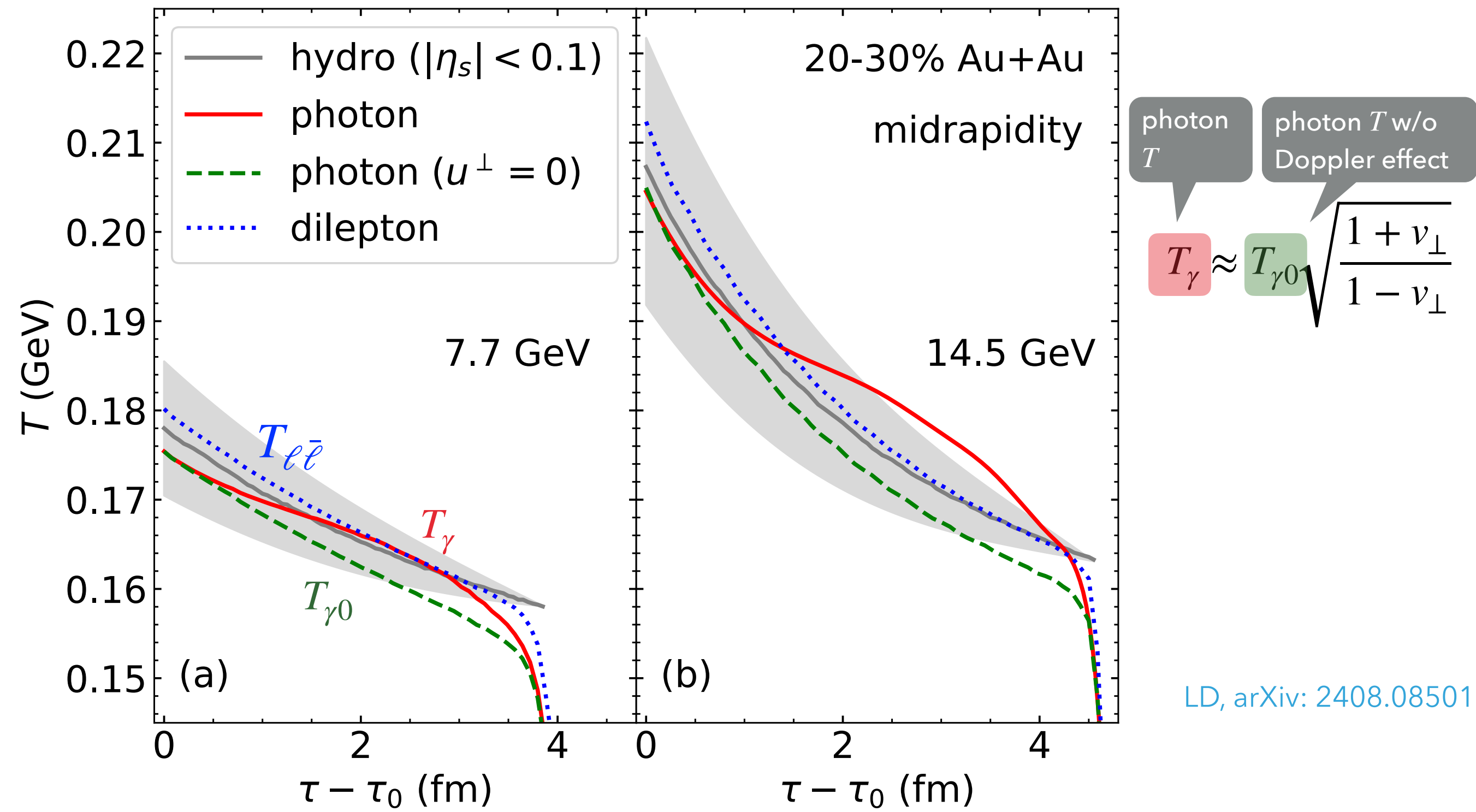
LD, arXiv: 2408.08501

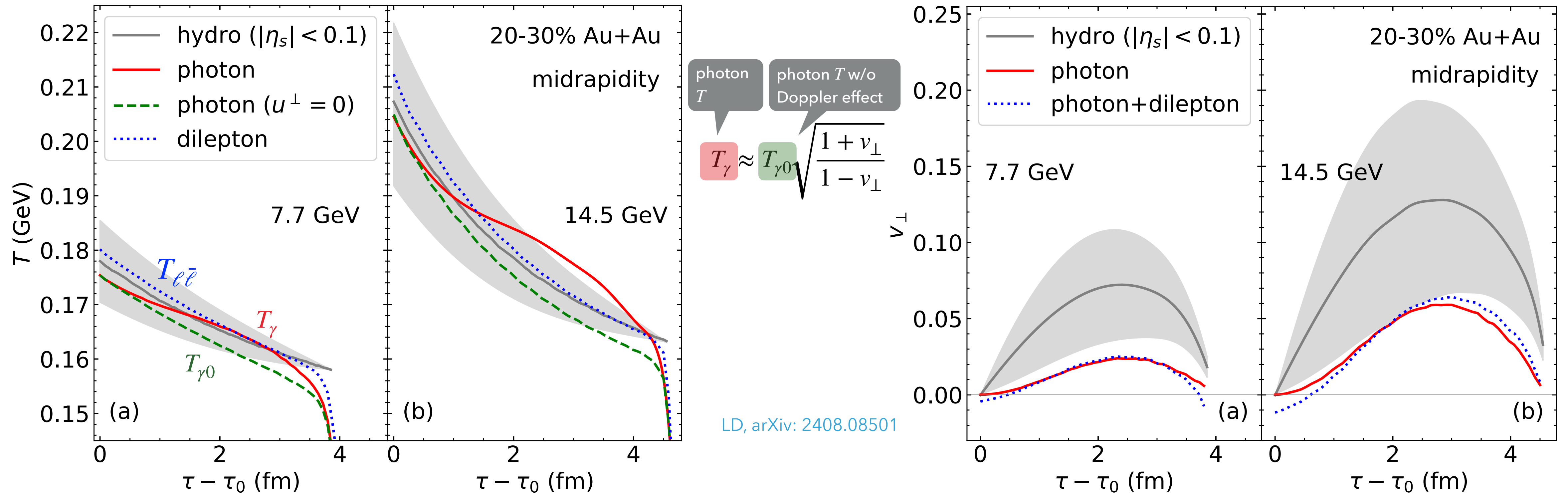


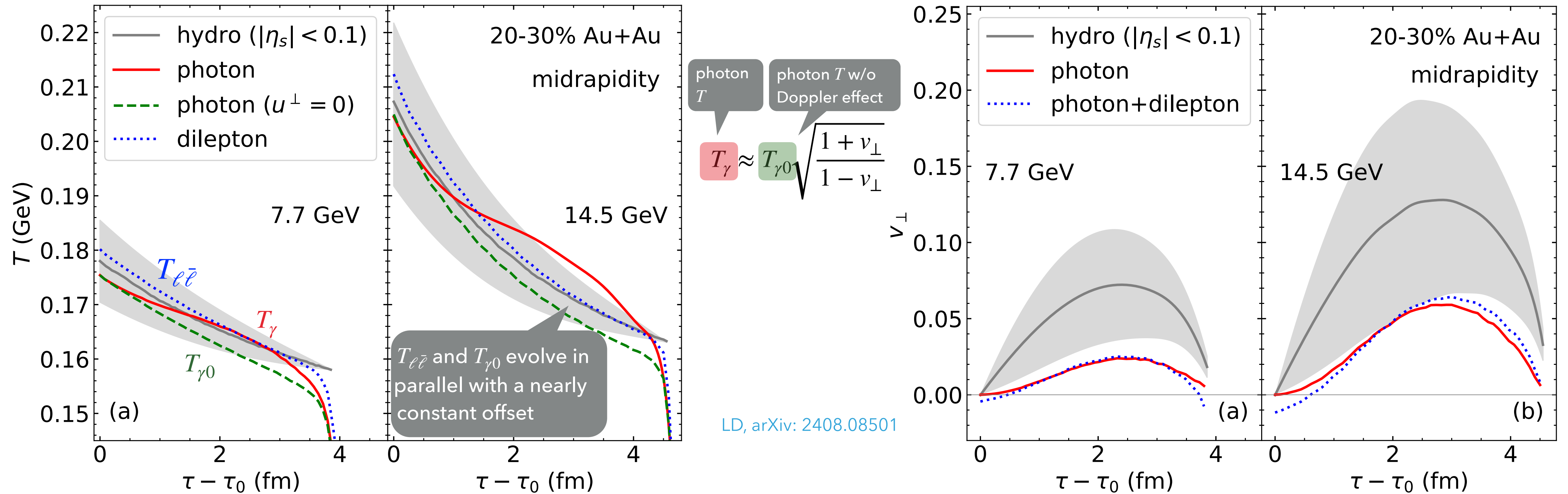
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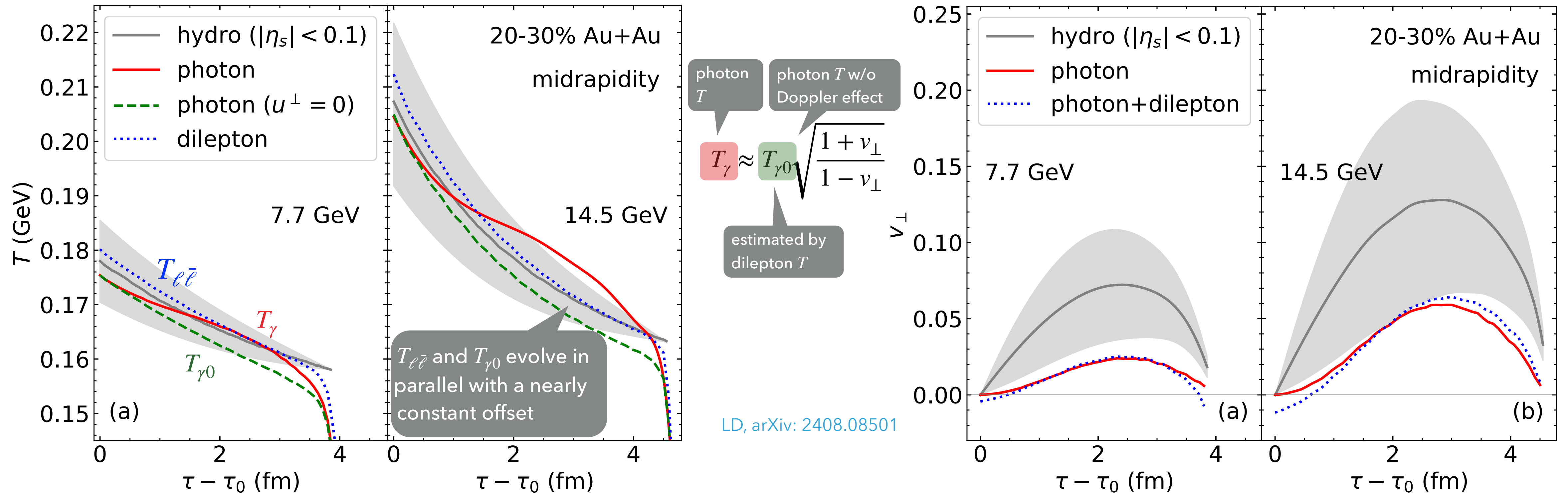


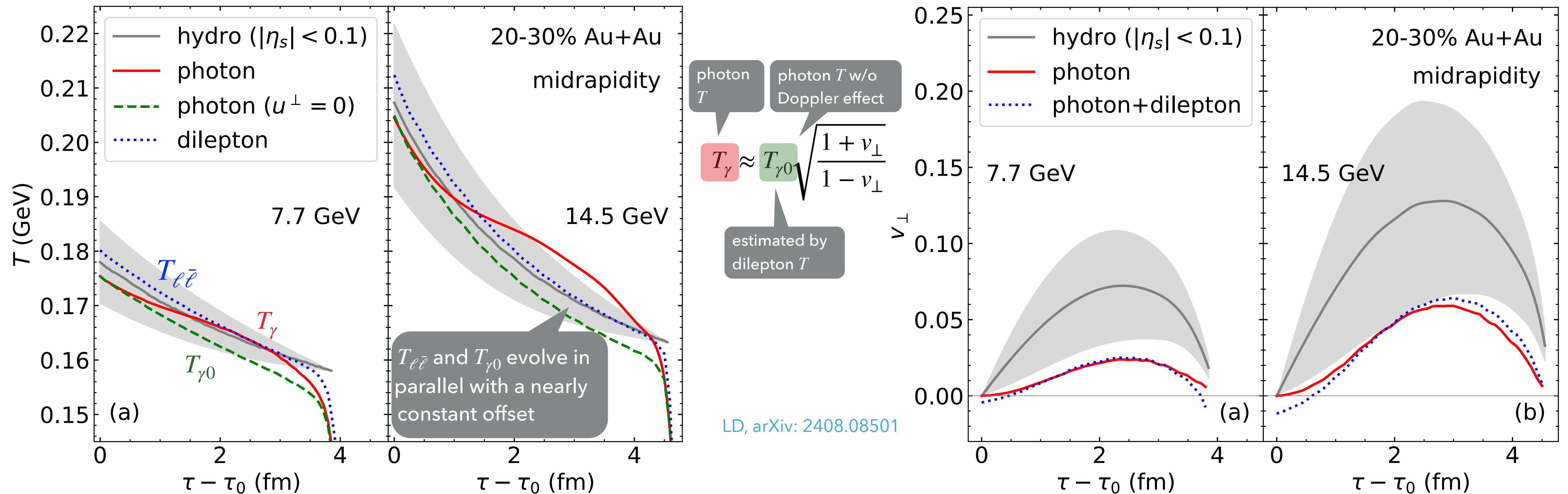
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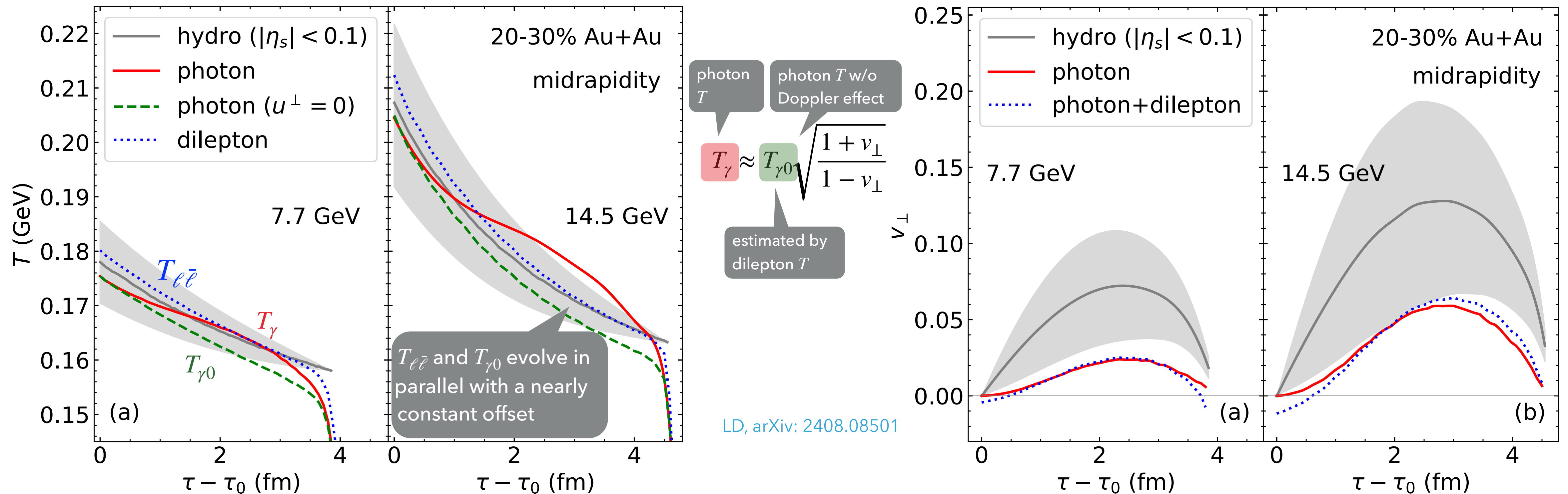








- ▶ A correlation between the temperatures extracted from photon spectra (without Doppler shift) and dilepton spectra is identified, leading to the possibility of combining measurable photon and dilepton spectra to extract radial flow.



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- ▶ Measuring the thermodynamic properties of the created systems in heavy-ion collisions using multiple messengers through two fundamental interactions within the same framework.

SUMMARY

- ▶ EM radiations from the early stages offer insights into thermalization and chemical equilibration processes.
- ▶ EM radiation from both the QGP and hadronic matter reveals the thermodynamic properties of QCD matter.
 - ▶ Various thermodynamic measures have been proposed; they should be examined in realistic simulations.
- ▶ We are entering [a new era of multi-messenger studies](#) in heavy-ion collisions.
 - ▶ More systematic measurements: hadrons, photons, and dileptons
 - ▶ More advanced theoretical modeling

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Application of perturbative QCD

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\sum \mathcal{M}|^2 &= \left| \text{Drell-Yan} \right|^2 \\
 &+ \left| \text{Compton, annihilation, ...} \right|^2 + \dots \\
 &+ \left[\text{Drell-Yan} \right] \left[\text{Compton, annihilation, ...} \right]^* + \text{c.c.} \\
 &+ \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Drell-Yan

Compton, annihilation, ...

interference



Application of perturbative QCD

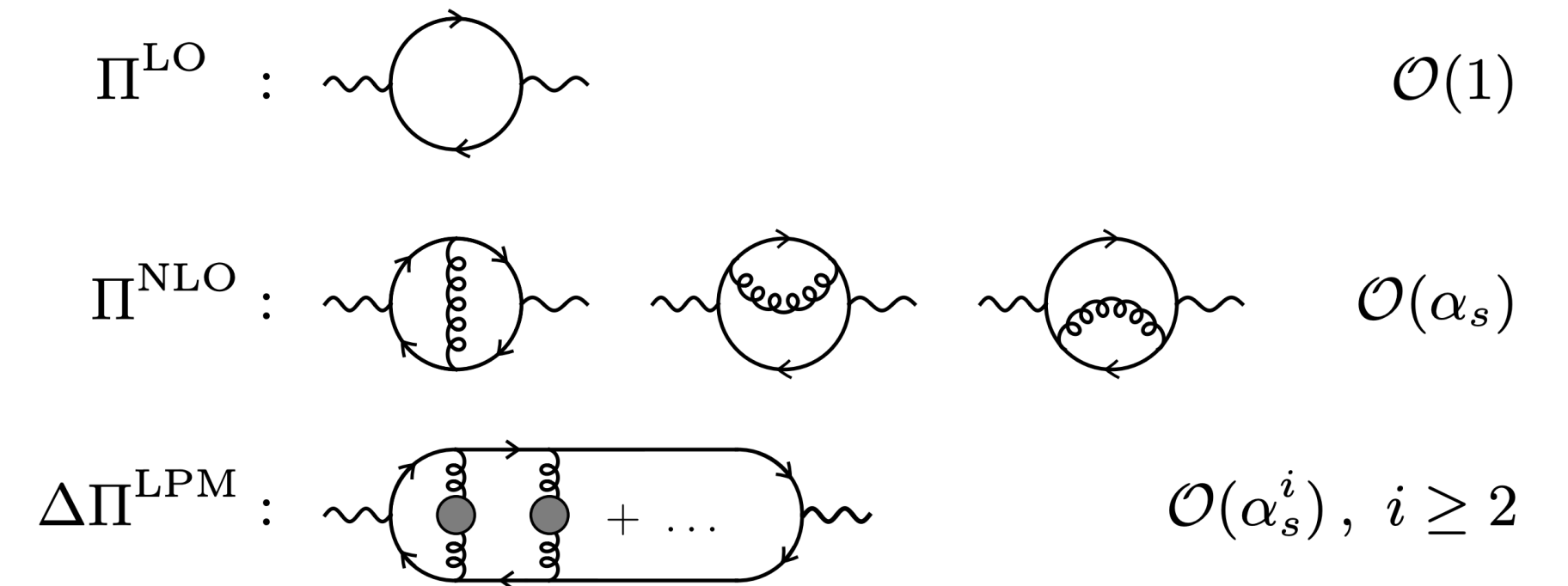
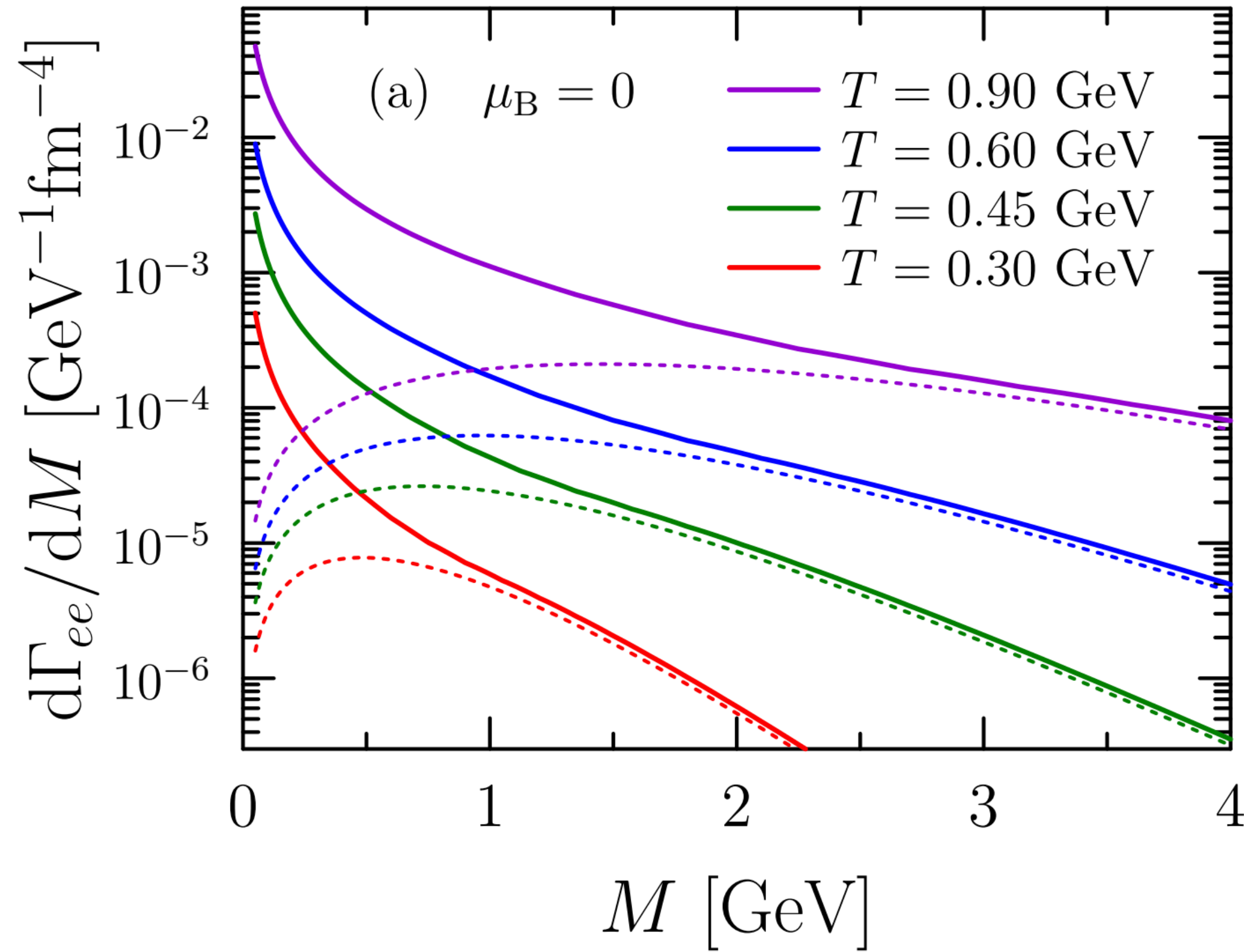
$$\text{Im} \left[\text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \dots \right]$$

self-energy, $\Pi_{\mu\nu}$

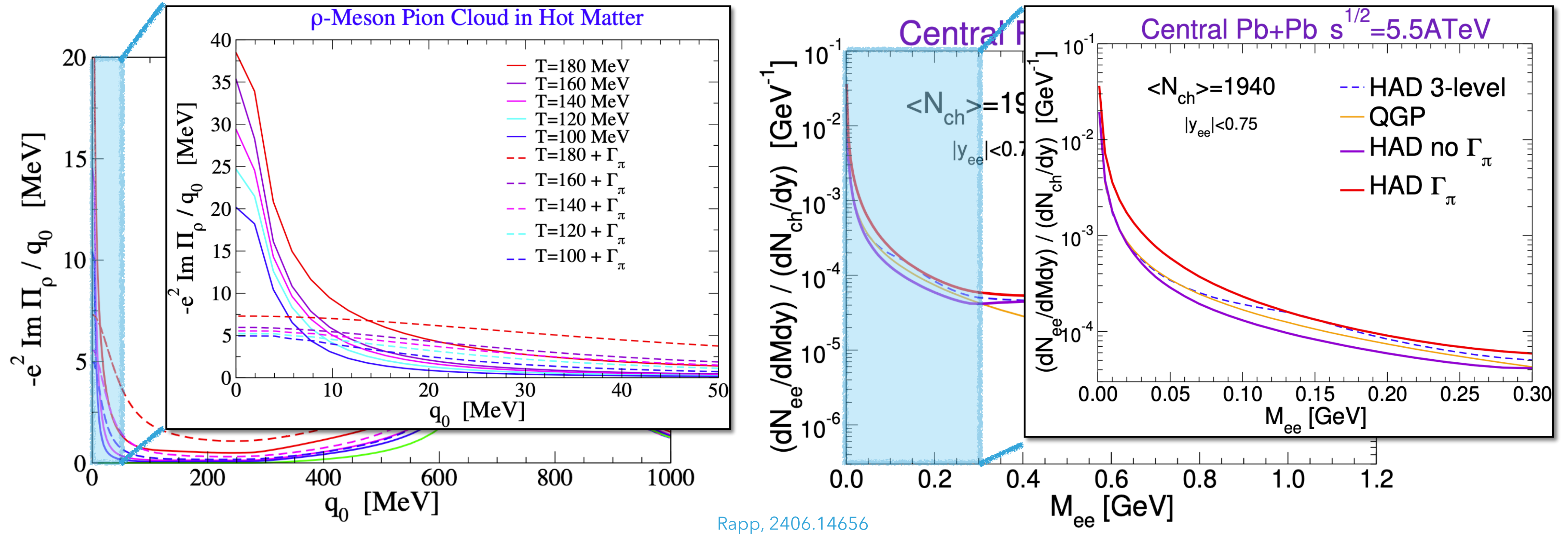


[Weldon (1990)] , [Bödeker, Sangel, Wörmann (2015)]

NLO emission rates



Extraction of electric conductivity σ_{el}



- ▶ Electric conductivity σ_{el} manifests in low-mass thermal dilepton spectra: $\sigma_{el}(T) = \frac{e^2}{2} \lim_{q_0 \rightarrow 0} \rho_{em}(q_0, q = 0)/q_0$
- ▶ The inclusion of thermal pion widths significantly broadens the conductivity peak near zero energy.
- ▶ A key signature of a small conductivity is the enhanced dilepton yields in the very-low-mass region.