

# From full stopping to transparency in a holographic model of heavy ion collisions

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based on

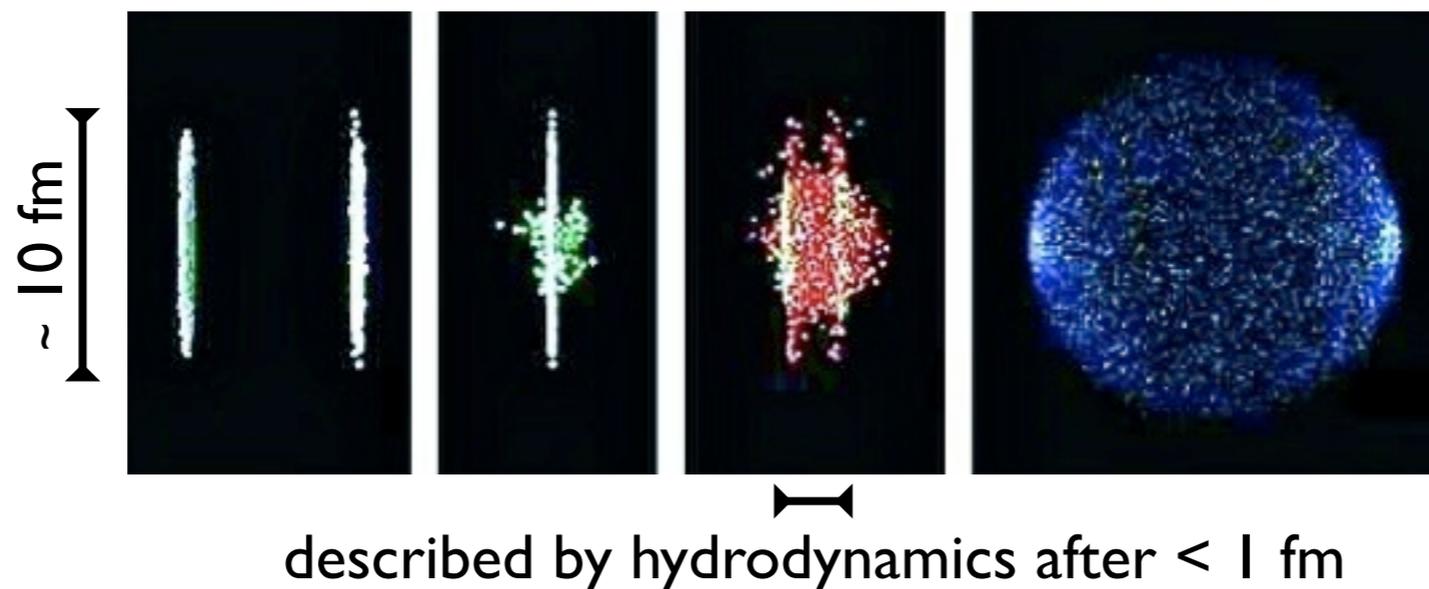
**1305.4919 [hep-th]** J. Casalderrey-Solana, MPH, D. Mateos, W. van der Schee

# Fast “Thermalization” at RHIC and LHC

Heinz [nucl-th/0407067]

There are overwhelming evidences that relativistic heavy ion collision programs at RHIC and LHC created strongly coupled quark-gluon plasma (sQGP)

Successful description of experimental data is based on hydrodynamic simulations of an almost perfect fluid of  $\eta/s = 0 (1/4\pi)$  starting on very early ( $< 1$  fm)



# “Thermalization” at strong coupling

Recent progress in numerical relativity in AdS opened a possibility to study equilibration processes in holographic (strongly coupled) gauge theories

0812.2053 [hep-th], 0906.4426 [hep-th], 1011.3562 [hep-th] P. Chesler & L. Yaffe

1103.3452 [hep-th], 1203.0755 [hep-th] MPH, R. A. Janik, P. Witaszczyk

1202.0981 [hep-th], 1304.5172 [hep-th] MPH, D. Mateos, W. van der Schee + others

...

The key lesson from these developments is that “thermalization” at strong coupling proceeds over a time scale set by the inverse of the “final” temperature

holography:  $t_{equil} \times T_{final} \Big|_{\lambda=\infty} = \mathcal{O}(1)$  (LHC estimate:  $0.25 \text{ fm} \times 500 \text{ MeV} = 0.63$ )

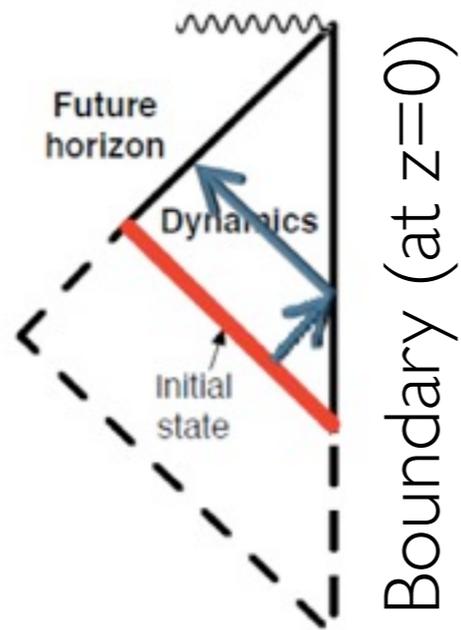
From this perspective, fast applicability of hydrodynamics at RHIC and LHC might not be so surprising given that the coupling there is not parametrically small

# A typical holographic thermalization process

1202.0981 [hep-th]

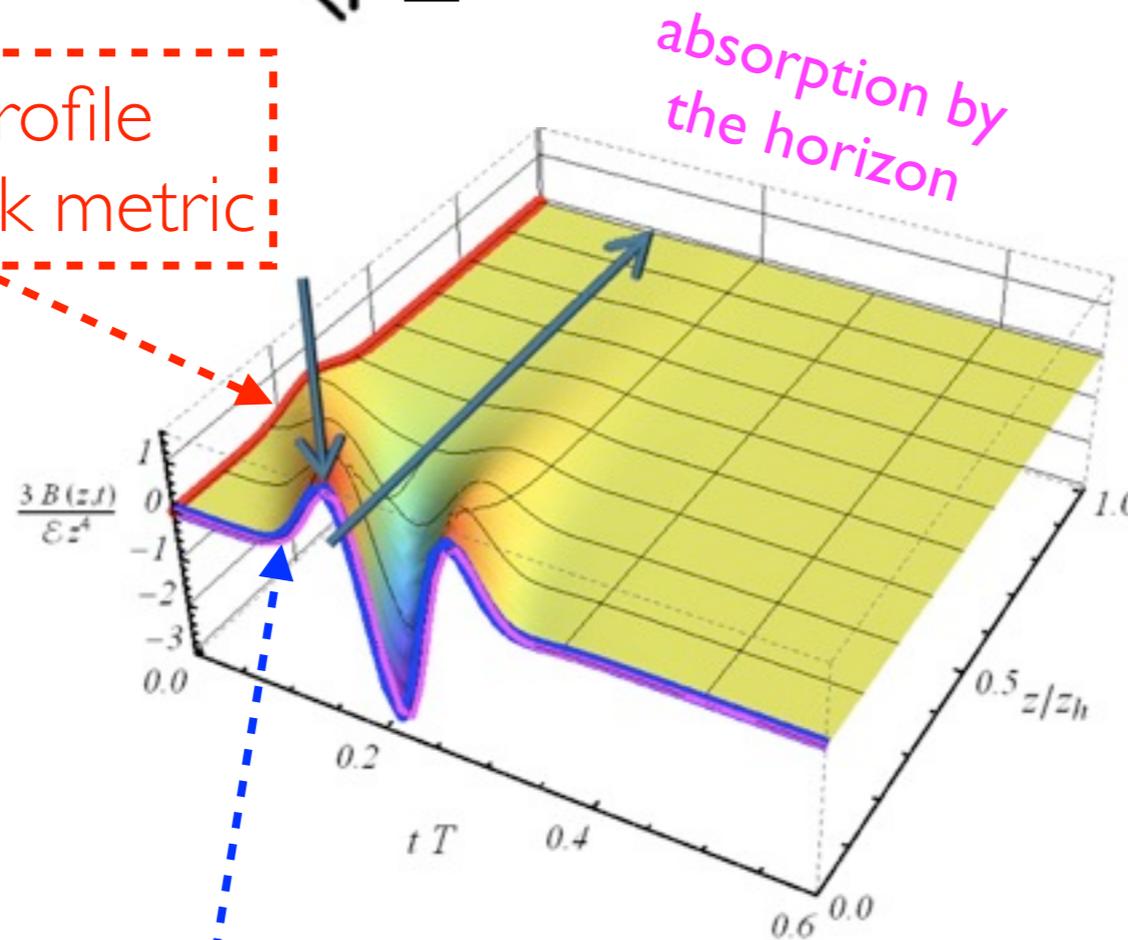
MPH, D. Mateos, W. van der Schee, D. Trancanelli

Theory:

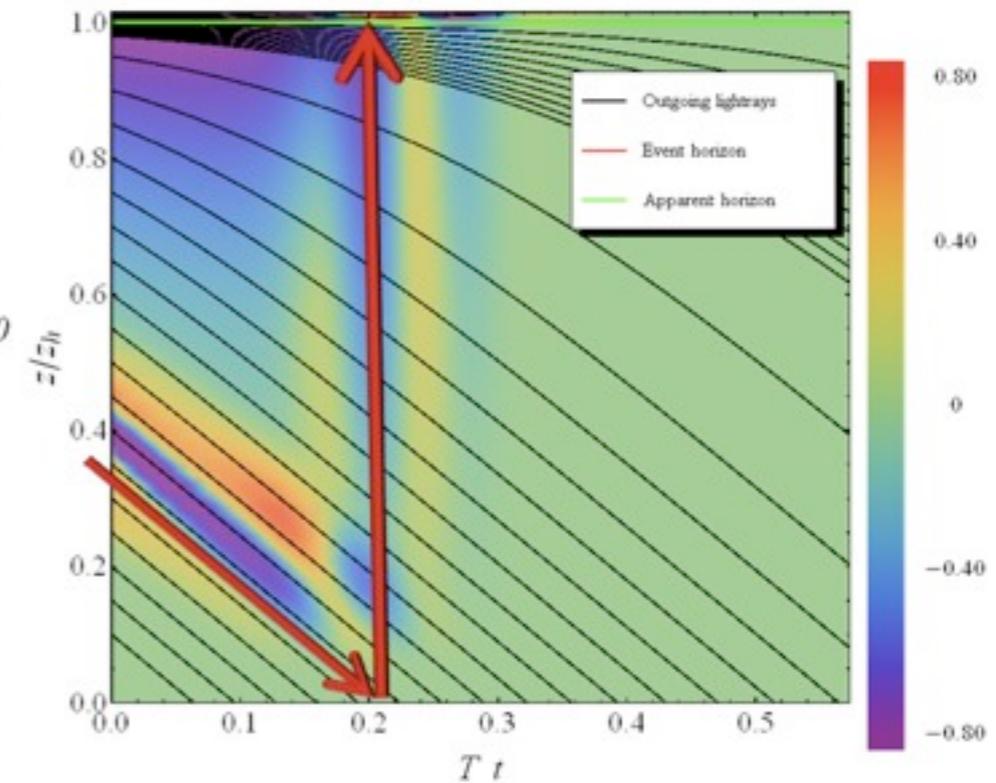


initial profile  
for the bulk metric

Numerical  
experiment:

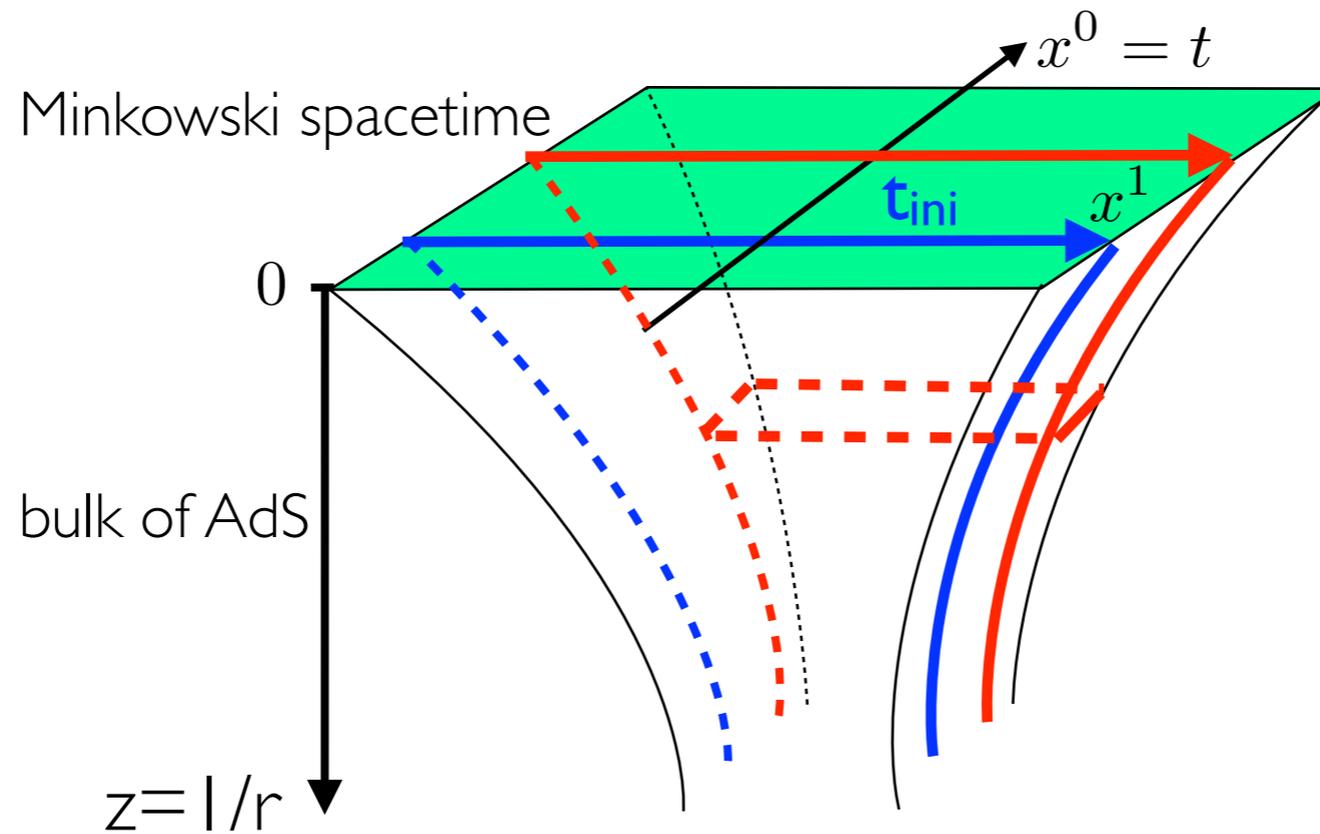


Curvature (BH subtracted)



$$\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle = \text{diag} \left\{ \epsilon, \frac{1}{3}\epsilon - \frac{2}{3}\Delta P(t), \frac{1}{3}\epsilon + \frac{1}{3}\Delta P(t), \frac{1}{3}\epsilon + \frac{1}{3}\Delta P(t) \right\}$$

# The main problem



HUGE FREEDOM OF CHOICE

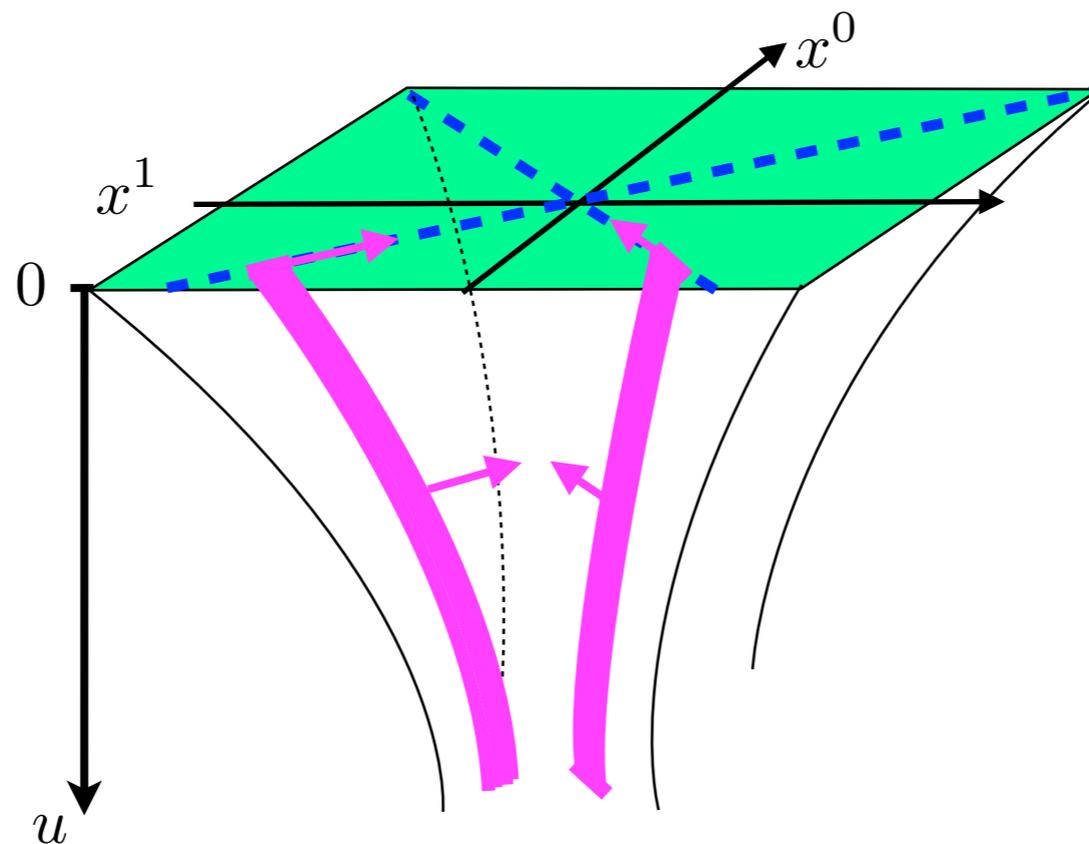
Which far from equilibrium initial condition is the closest to the experiment?

# Towards a holographic „heavy ion collision”

Operational view:

collide holographically two lumps of matter moving at relativistic speeds

↑  
unfortunately necessarily deconfined, i.e. with  $\langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle = \mathcal{O}(N_c^2)$



State of the art as of July 2013: colliding gravitational shock wave solutions

# Gravitational shock wave solutions

Janik & Peschanski [hep-th/0512162]

Chesler & Yaffe 1011.3562 [hep-th]

dual stress tensor:

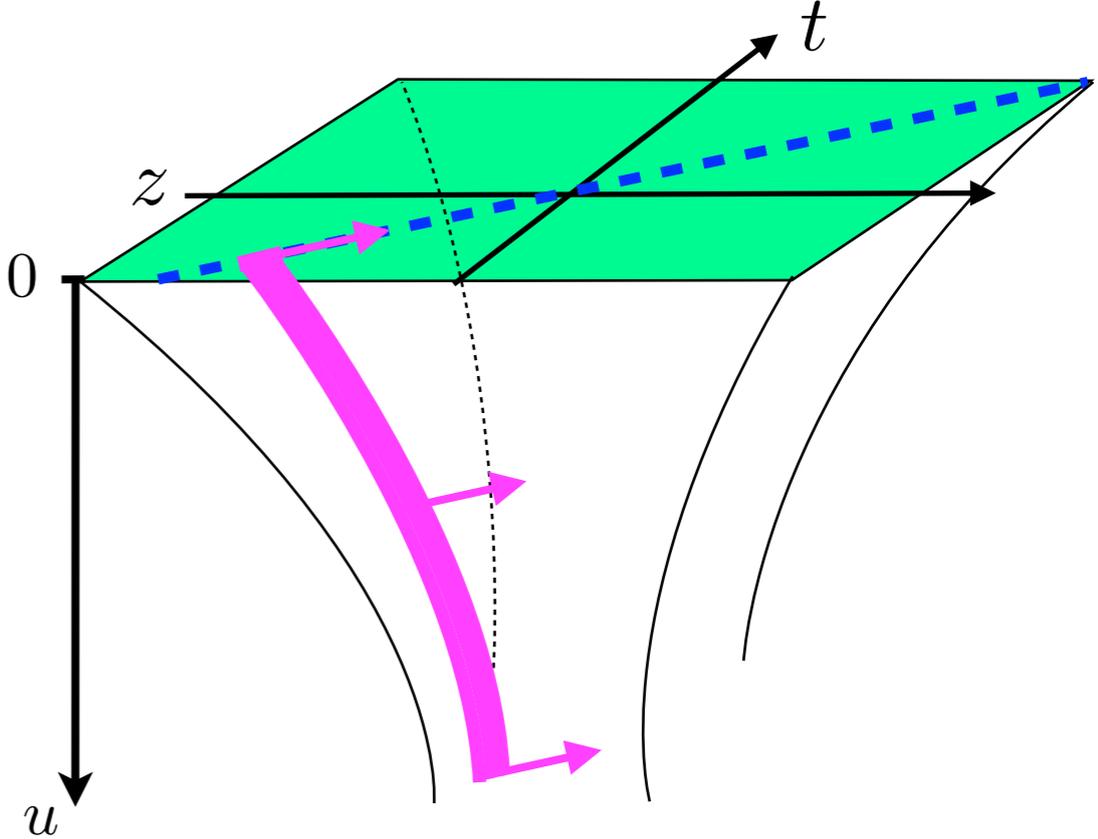
$$T^{tt} = T^{zz} = +T^{tz} = \frac{N_c^2}{2\pi^2} h(t - z)$$

shock wave disturbance moving with the speed of light

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{u^2} (du^2 + \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu) + u^2 h(x_-) dx_-^2$$

Poincare patch vacuum AdS

Solution of Einstein's equations with the negative CC for any longitudinal profile  $h(x_-)$



We will specialize to  $h(t \pm z) = \mathcal{E}_0 \exp[-(t \pm z)^2 / 2\sigma^2]$ . But we're in a CFT, so the only qty that matters is

$$e = \mathcal{E}_0^{1/4} \sigma \quad (\text{in real HIC } e \sim \gamma^{-1/2})$$

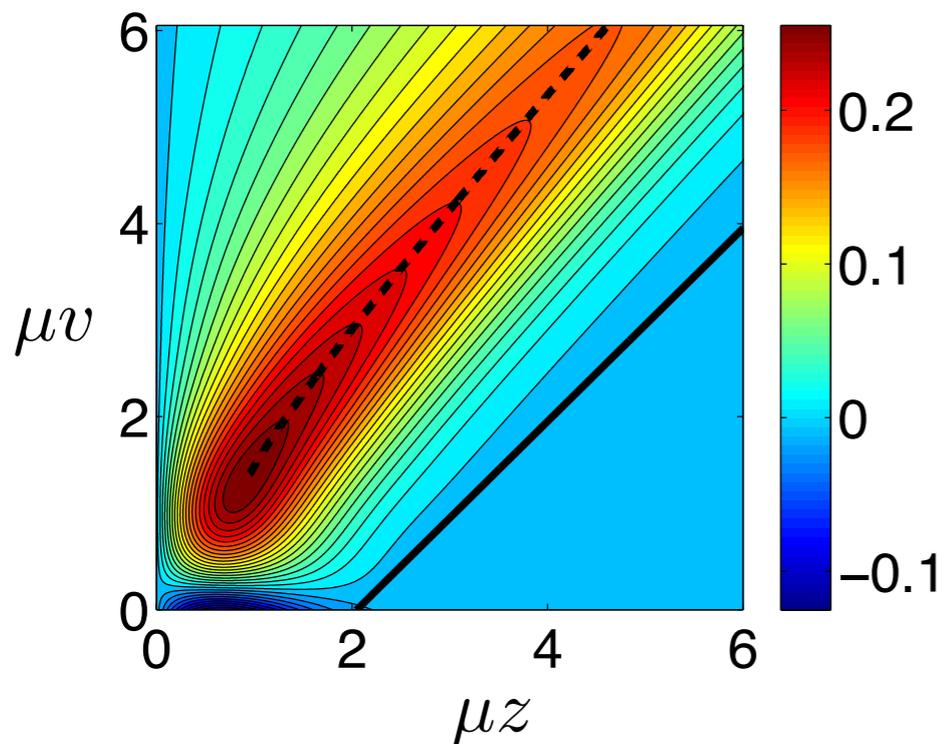
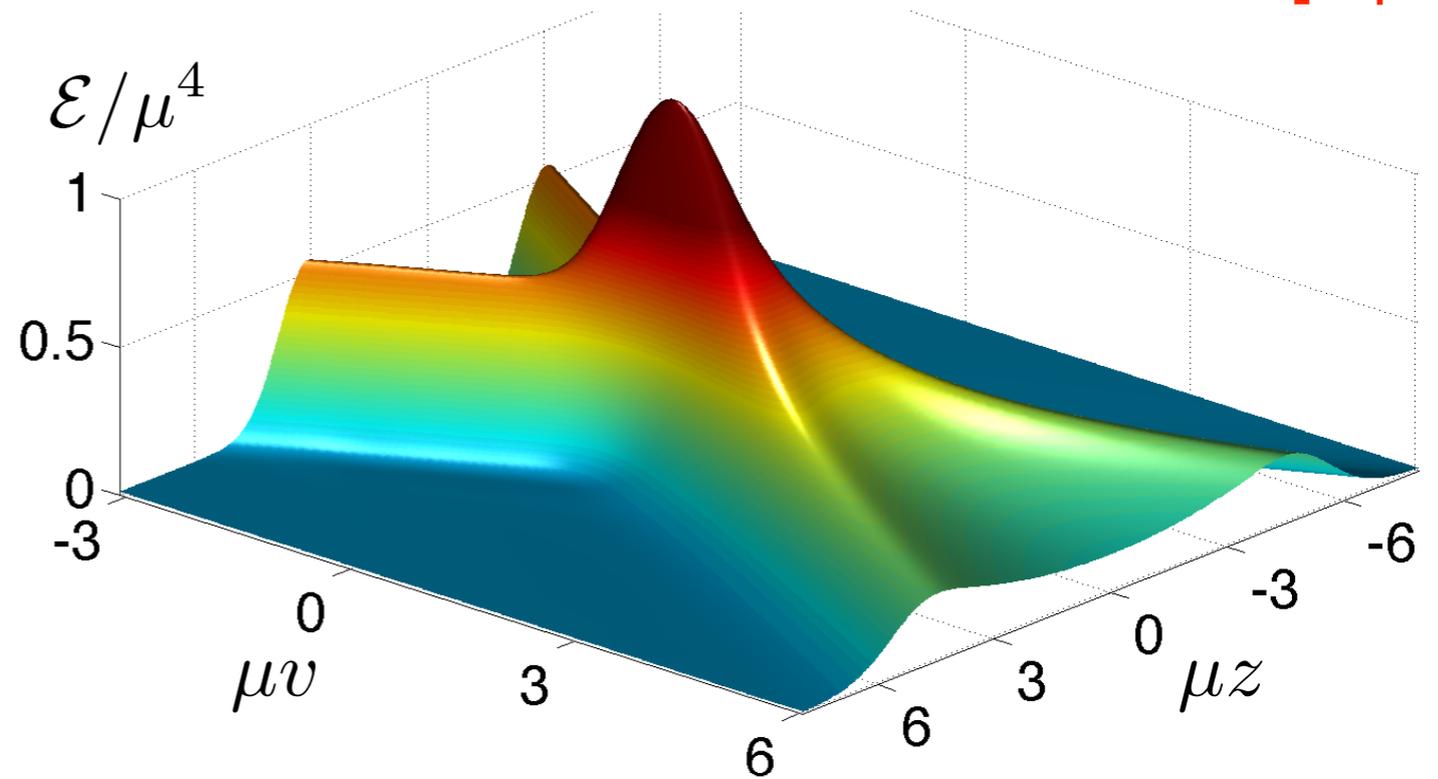
# Colliding shocks at $e_{CY} \simeq 0.64$

Chesler & Yaffe 1011.3562 [hep-th]

$e_{CY} \simeq 0.64$  is roughly the value corresponding to Pb nuclei boosted to RHIC energies

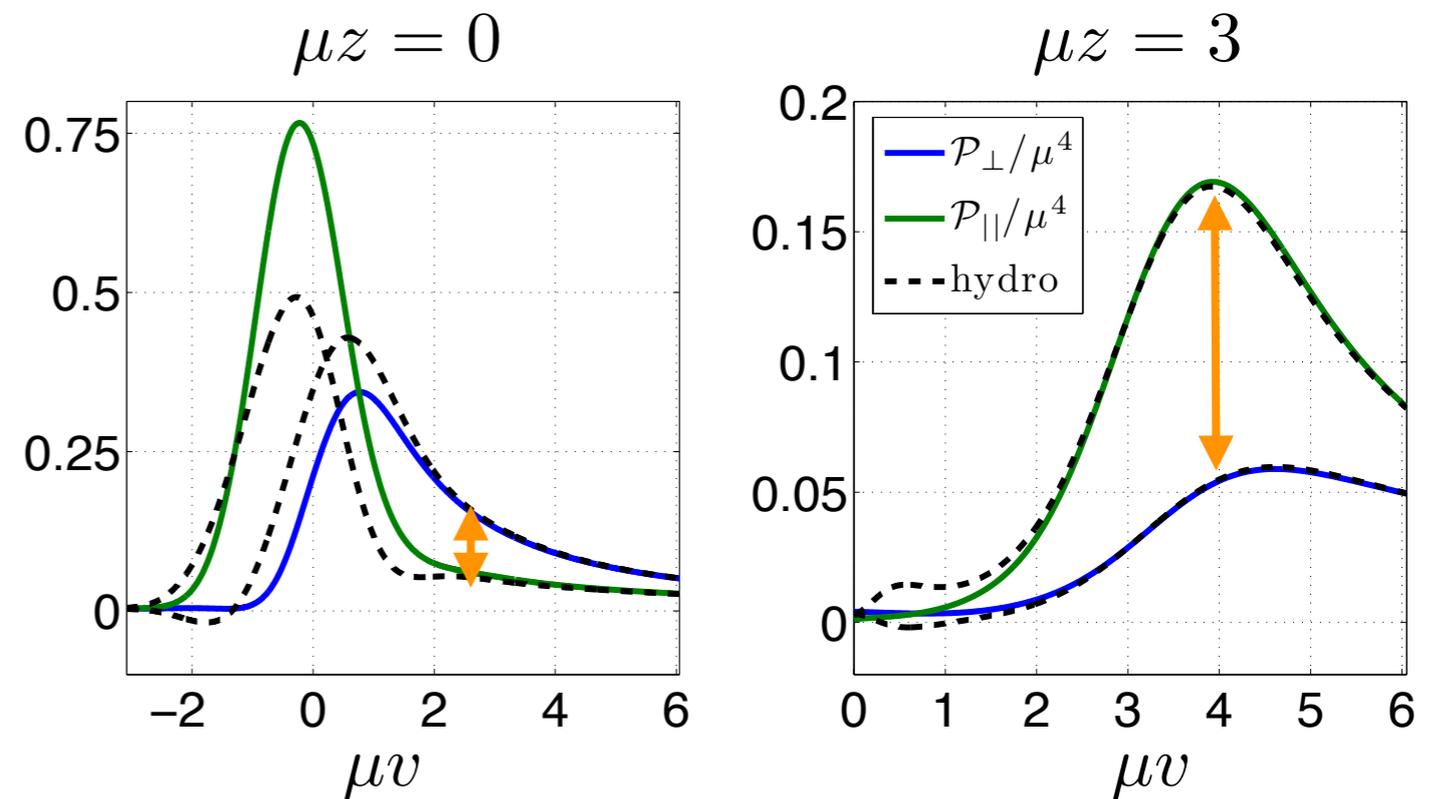
$$\mu \sim \text{total energy}^*$$

$$\mathcal{E} \sim T^{00}$$



significant stopping:  
15% slow-down of  $T^{00}$  maxima

is it the full story?



large anisotropy at hydrodynamization!

# Dynamical crossover

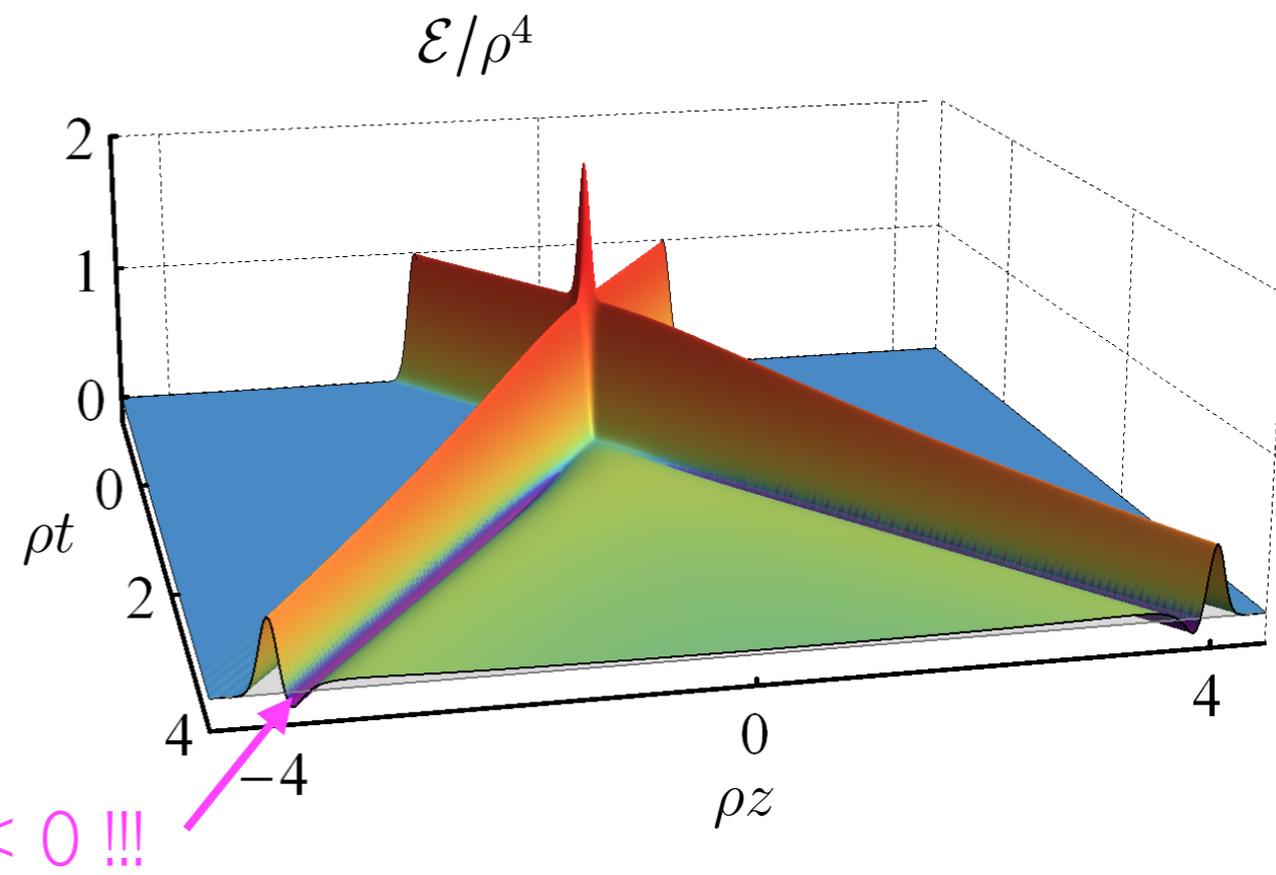
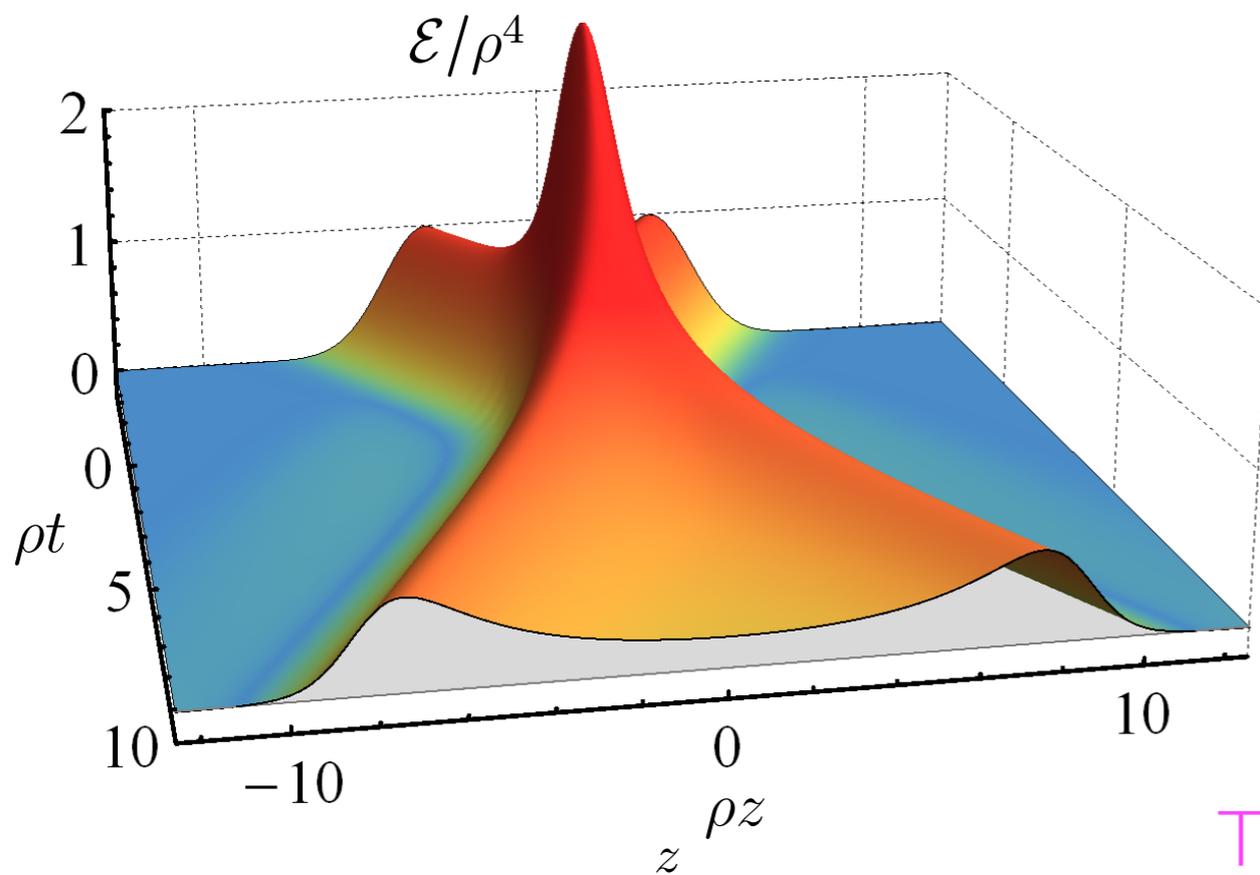
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$$e_{left} = 2 e_{CY}$$

„low energy”

$$e_{right} = \frac{1}{8} e_{CY}$$

„high energy”



again, significant stopping:  
12% slow-down of  $T^{00}$  maxima ( $v \approx 0.88$ )

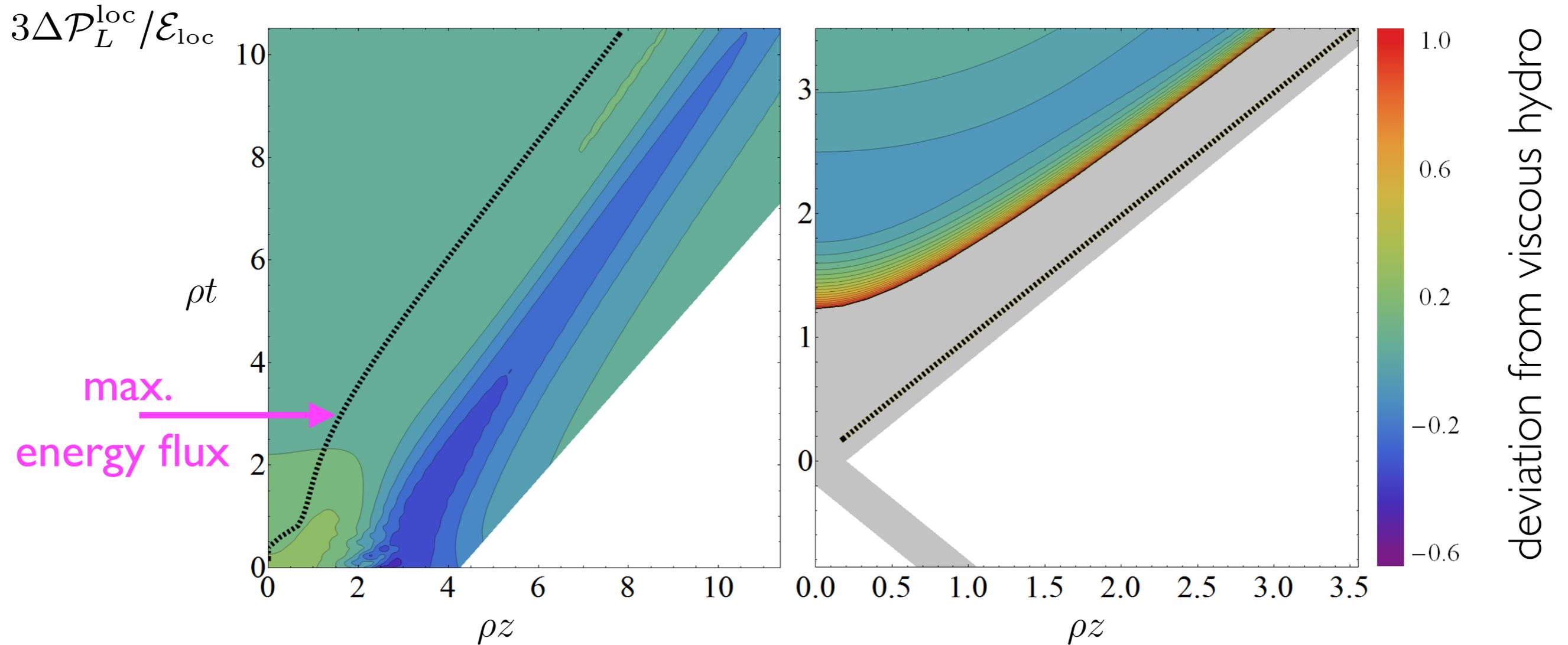
no stopping:  
 $T^{00}$  maxima move with  $v \approx 1$

# Dynamical crossover

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$e_{left} = 2 e_{CY}$   
 „low energy”

$e_{right} = \frac{1}{8} e_{CY}$   
 „high energy”



hydro kicks in soon after the  
 outer parts of incoming shocks meet

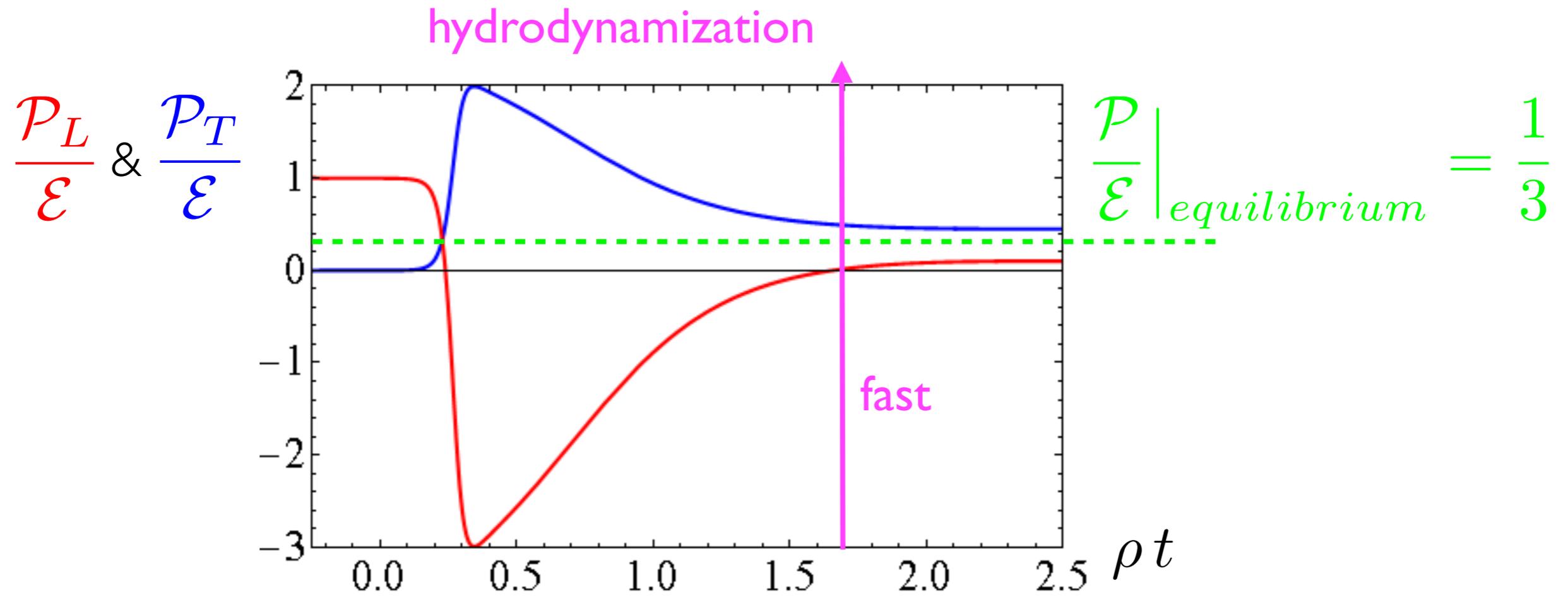
more like the old Landau picture  
 (at  $\rho t = 0.58$  (max.  $\mathcal{E}$ )  $v < 0.1$ )

hydro applicable only at mid-  
 rapidities and late enough!!!

more like what seems to be  
 happening at RHIC and LHC

# Plasma creation for thin shocks collision

1305.4919 [hep-th] Casalderrey-Solana, MPH, Mateos, van der Schee



Assume boost-invariance:  $\mathcal{P}_L = -\mathcal{E} - \tau \mathcal{E}'$  and  $\mathcal{P}_T = \mathcal{E} + \frac{1}{2} \tau \mathcal{E}'$

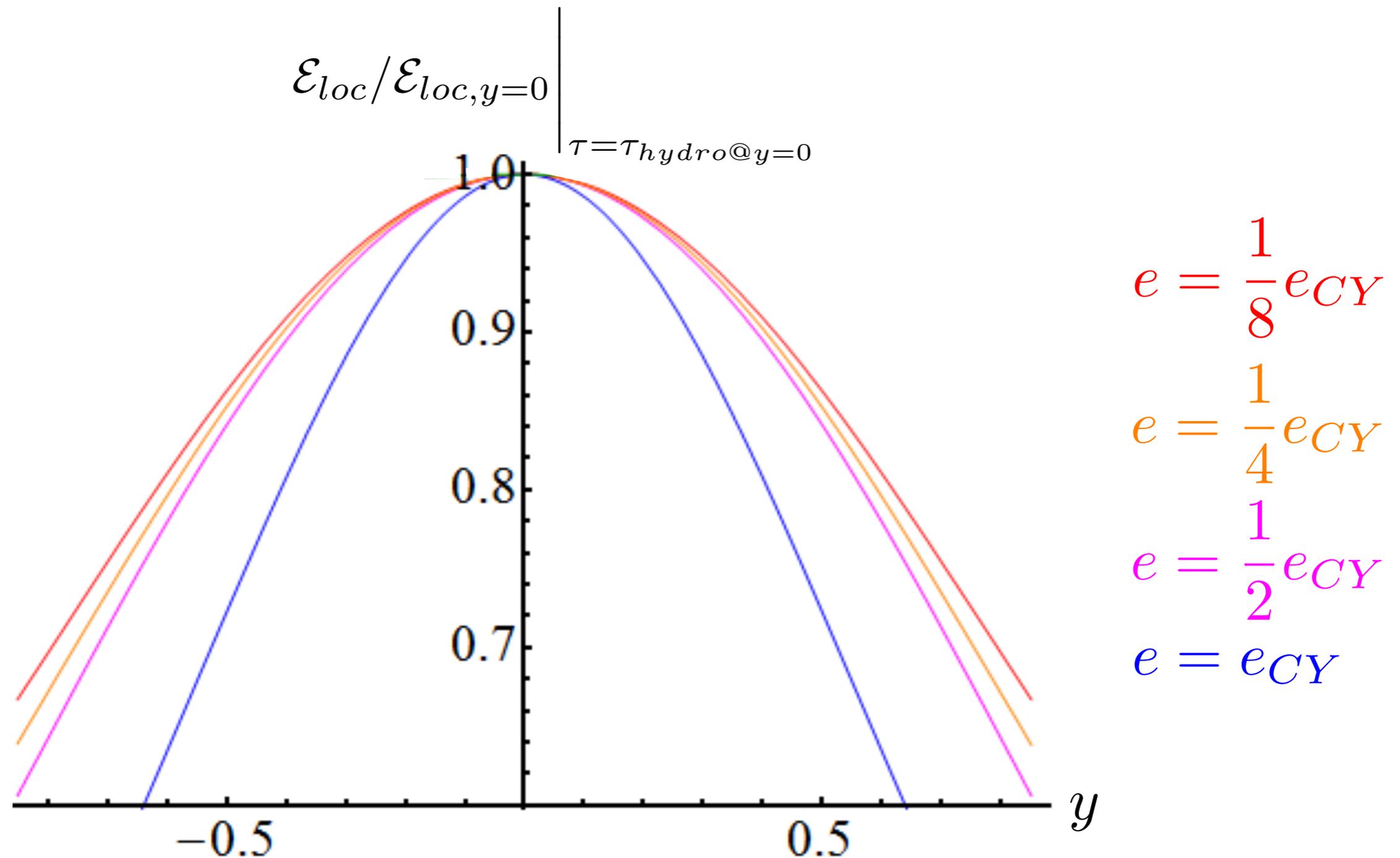
$\mathcal{E} \Big|_{\tau=0} \sim 1$  leads to  $\frac{\mathcal{P}_L}{\mathcal{E}} \Big|_{\tau=0} = -1$  and  $\frac{\mathcal{P}_T}{\mathcal{E}} \Big|_{\tau=0} = 1$

$\mathcal{E} \Big|_{\tau=0} \sim \tau^2$  leads to  $\frac{\mathcal{P}_L}{\mathcal{E}} \Big|_{\tau=0} = -3$  and  $\frac{\mathcal{P}_T}{\mathcal{E}} \Big|_{\tau=0} = 2$

plasma  
creation!

# Rapidity distribution at hydrodynamization

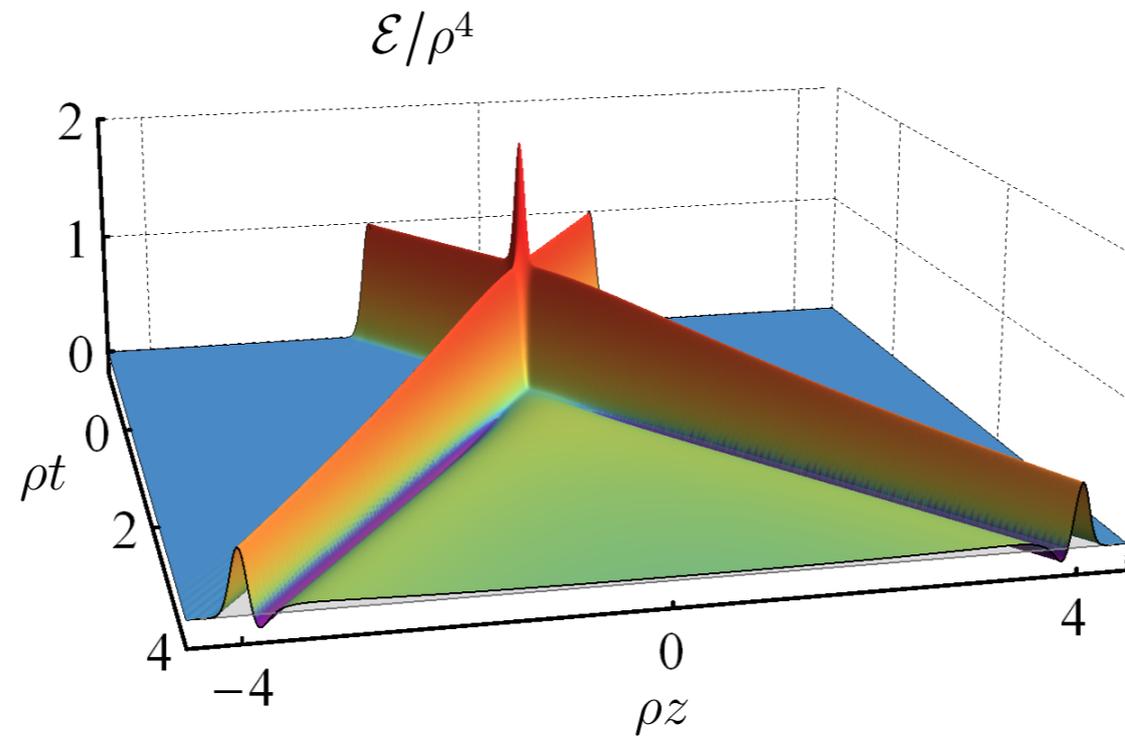
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The dynamics is not boost-invariant in the sense introduced by Bjorken but nevertheless with decreasing  $e$  the rapidity distribution flattens out.

# Summary

Dispels the myth that strong coupling necessarily leads to stopping\*



Plasma creation and hydrodynamization ( $\neq$  isotropization!)

