

# Azimuthal correlations and hadronic rescattering of heavy quarks in AA collisions

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in collaboration with

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Why heavy quarks are interesting?

Interaction of heavy quarks with the plasma

- different approaches
- our model
  
- is there more than  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$
- correlations between quarks and antiquarks
- hadronic rescattering

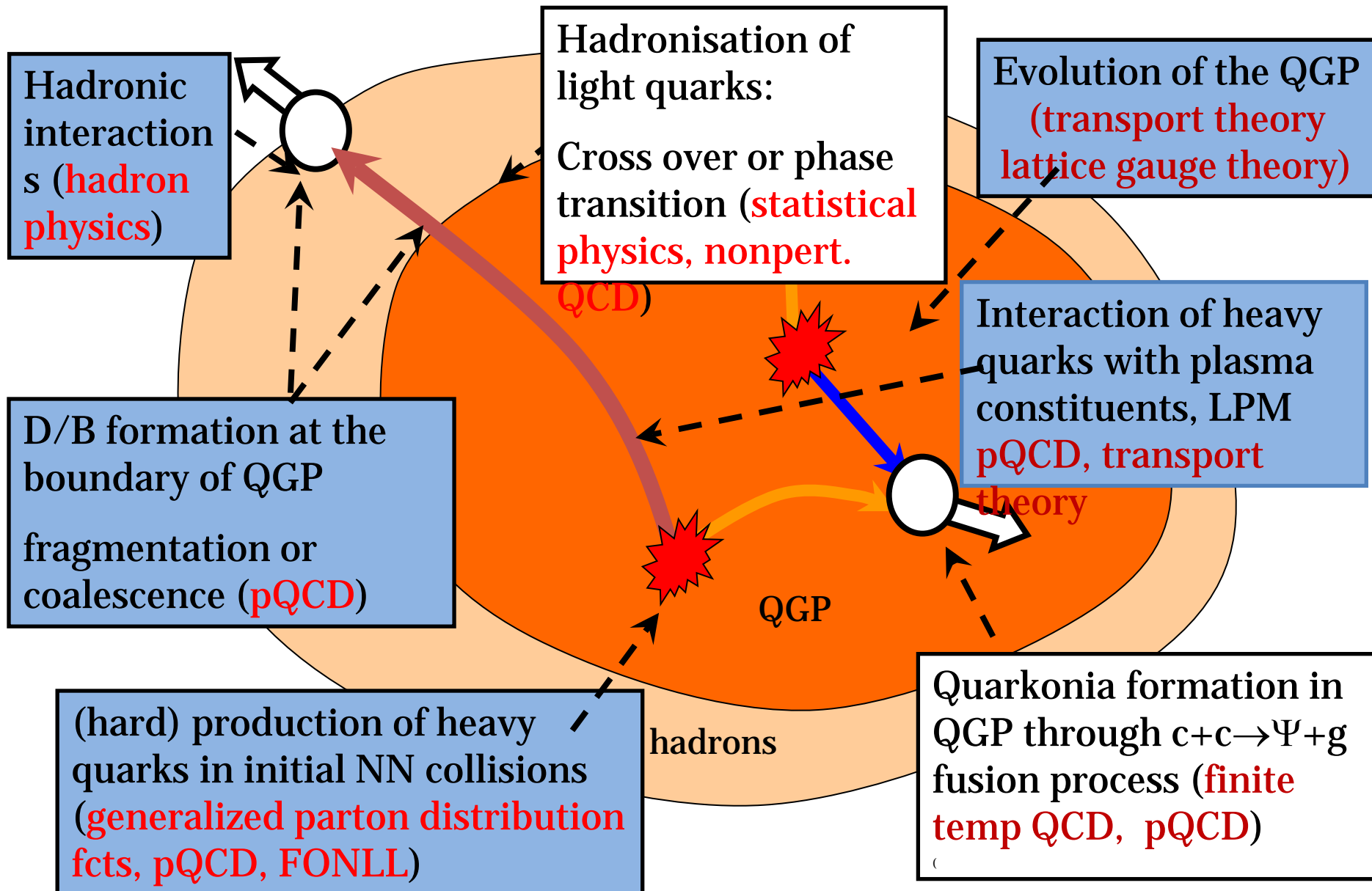
# What makes heavy quarks (mesons) so interesting?

- produced in hard collisions (initial distribution: FONLL confirmed by STAR/Phenix)
- high  $p_T$ : no equilibrium with plasma particles (information about the early state of the plasma)
- not very sensitive to the hadronisation process

Ideal probe to study  
properties of the QGP during its expansion

Caveat: two major ingredients: expansion of the plasma  
and elementary cross section ( $c(b)+q(g) \rightarrow c(b)+q(g)$ )  
difficult to separate (arXiv:1102.1114)

# Complexity of heavy quark physics in a nutshell :



Presently the discussion is centered around **two heavy quark observables**:

I) 
$$R_{AA} = \frac{d\sigma_{AA}/dp_t}{N_{bin}d\sigma_{pp}/dp_t}$$

Low  $p_t$  partial thermalization

High  $p_t$  energy loss due to elastic and radiative collisions

**Energy loss tests the initial phase of the expansion**

II) Elliptic flow  $v_2$  **tests the late stage of the expansion**

**Many models** on the market which describe these observables reasonably well

Mostly based on Fokker Planck approaches

$$\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{p},t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} [A_i(\mathbf{p})f(\mathbf{p},t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p_j} (B_{ij}(\mathbf{p})f(\mathbf{p},t))]$$

which need only a drag  $A_i$  and a diffusion  $B_{ij}$  coefficients

Both related by Einstein correlation (or not)

At most qualitative predictions possible (LPM, elementary cross sections..)

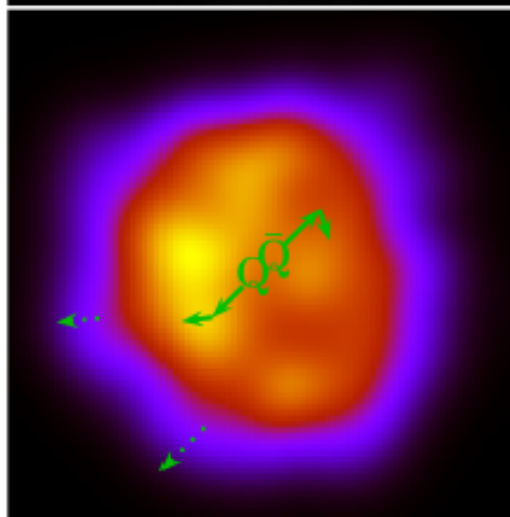
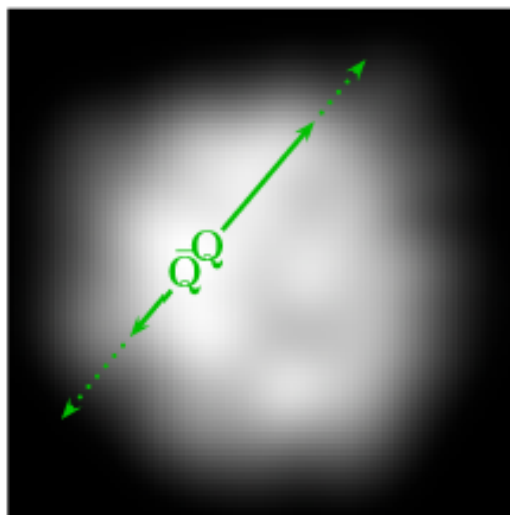
# Our approach :

We want to

- model the reaction with a **minimum of approximations**  
Exact Boltzmann collisions kernel, no Fokker Planck approx
  - take into account **all the known physics** with
  - **no approximations of scattering processes (coll+ radiative)**
  - make connection to the **light quark sector** ( $v_2$ )
- 
- This serves then as a benchmark
  - **deviation from data points towards new physics**

Details of the approach: PB Gossiaux , Saturday 11h

# Heavy-quark propagation in the QGP



## Production:

- FONLL  
⇒ inclusive spectra, no information about correlations → equivalent to a back-to-back initialization of  $Q\bar{Q}$ -pairs.
- Next-to-leading order QCD matrix elements plus parton shower evolution, e. g. POWHEG or MC@NLO  
⇒ exclusive spectra, like  $Q\bar{Q}$  correlations

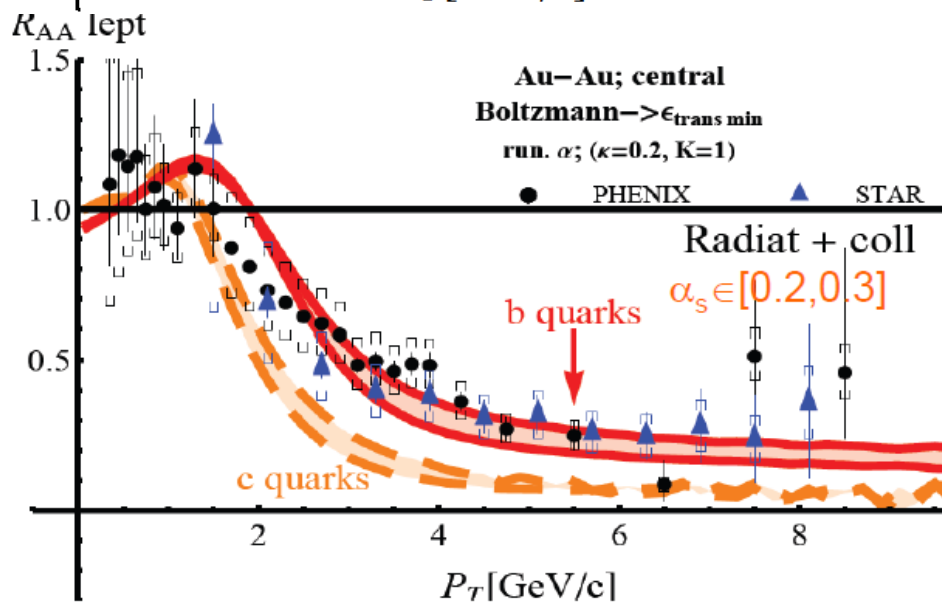
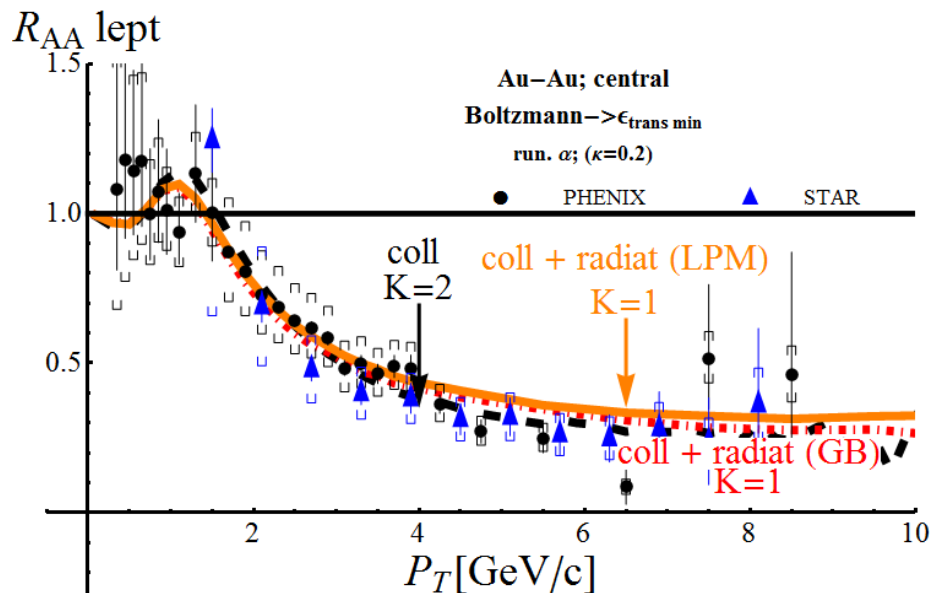
## Interaction with the medium

- Energy loss at high transverse momentum.
- Thermalization at low transverse momentum.
- Different interaction mechanisms: purely **collisional** or **collisional+radiative (+LPM)**.
- Longitudinal vs. transverse dynamics.

## Hadronization:

- Coalescence – predominantly at small  $p_T$ .
- Fragmentation – predominantly at large  $p_T$ .

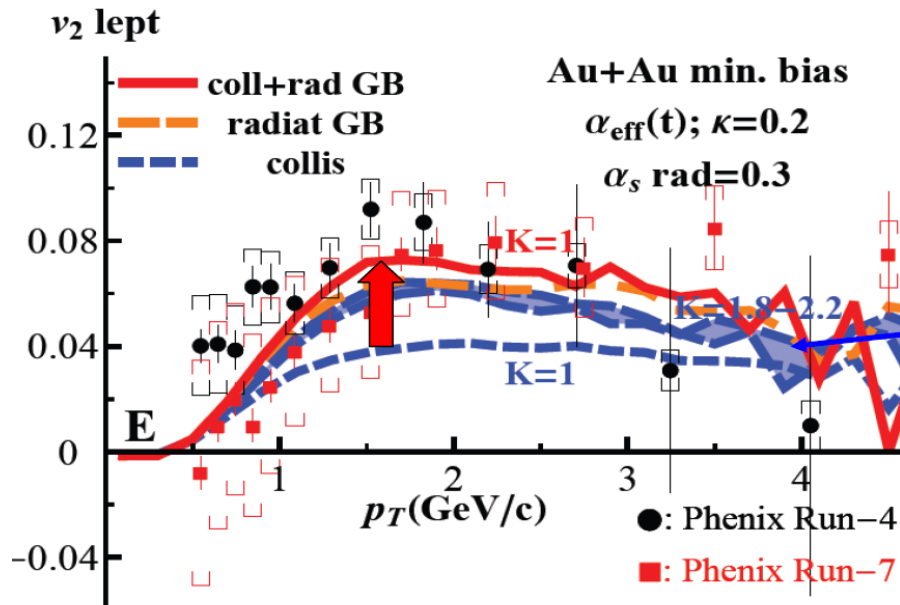
# RHIC Hydro: Kolb Heinz



1. Coll: too little quenching (but very sensitive to freeze out)  $\rightarrow K=2$
2. Radiative Eloss indeed as important as the collisional one
3. Flat experimental shape is well reproduced
4.  $R_{AA}(p_T)$  has the same form for radial and collisional energy loss (at RHIC)

separated  
contributions e from D  
and e from B.

# RHIC



1. Collisional + radiative energy loss + dynamical medium : *compatible* with data
2. To our knowledge, one of the first model using radiative Eloss that reproduces  $v_2$

For the hydro code of Kolb and Heinz:

$K = 1$  compatible with data

$K = 0.7$  best description – remember influence of expansion



Hydro Kolb Heinz a bit outdated, to make progress:

## Marriage of two large simulation programs MC@sHQ and EPOS

### MC@sHQ:

- Evolution by the Boltzmann transport equation.
- Cross sections from the QCD Born approximation with HTL+semi-hard propagators.
- Including a running coupling  $\Rightarrow$  selfconsistently determined Debye mass.
- Radiative corrections from scalar QCD.



### EPOS:

- Initial conditions from a flux tube approach to multiple scattering events.
- 3 + 1 d ideal fluid dynamics.
- Including a parametrization of the equation of state from lattice QCD.
- Finite initial radial velocity.
- Event-by-event fluctuating initial conditions.

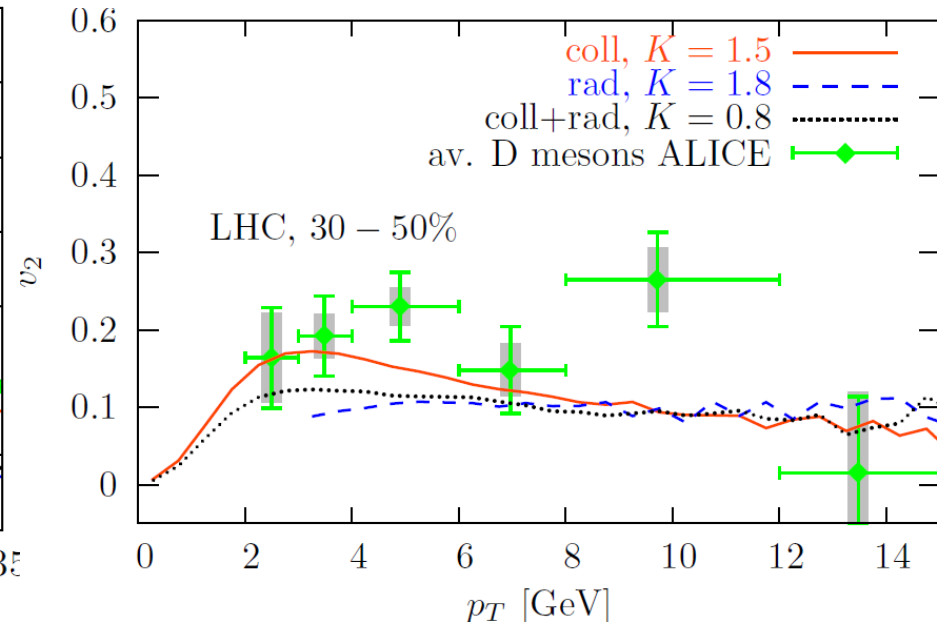
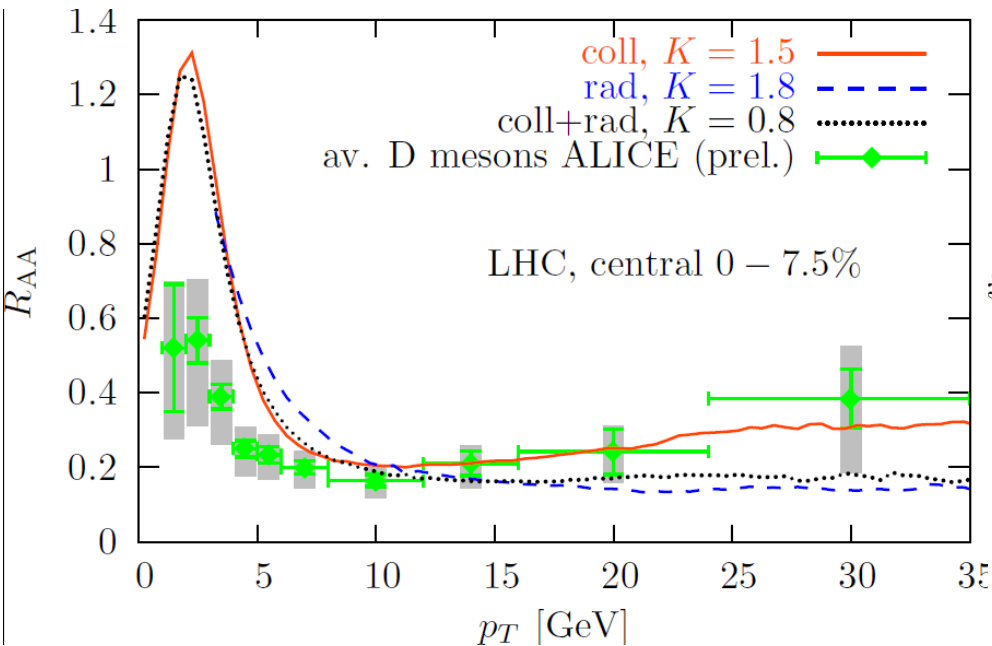
For calibration a global rescaling of the cross sections by a  $K$ -factor is required!

P. B. Gossiaux and J. Aichelin, PRC **78** (2008);

P. B. Gossiaux, J. Aichelin, T. Gousset and V. Guiho, J. Phys. G **37** (2010)

K. Werner, I. Karpenko, M. Bleicher, T. Pierog and S. Porteboeuf-Houssais, PRC **85** (2012)

# Expanding plasma : EPOS event generator



Three options :  
 Collisions only K factor = 1.5  
 Collision and radiation K = 0.8  
 Radiation only K= 1.8

$R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  for coll and coll + radiative about the same

Are there **other observables** which are **sensitive on the interaction mechanism?**

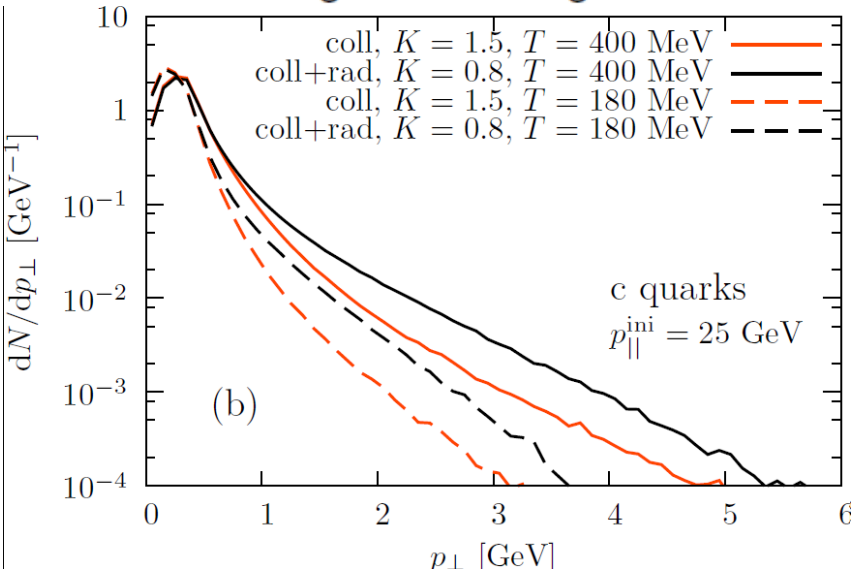
Possible candidate: **heavy flavor correlations**

They may be sensitive to

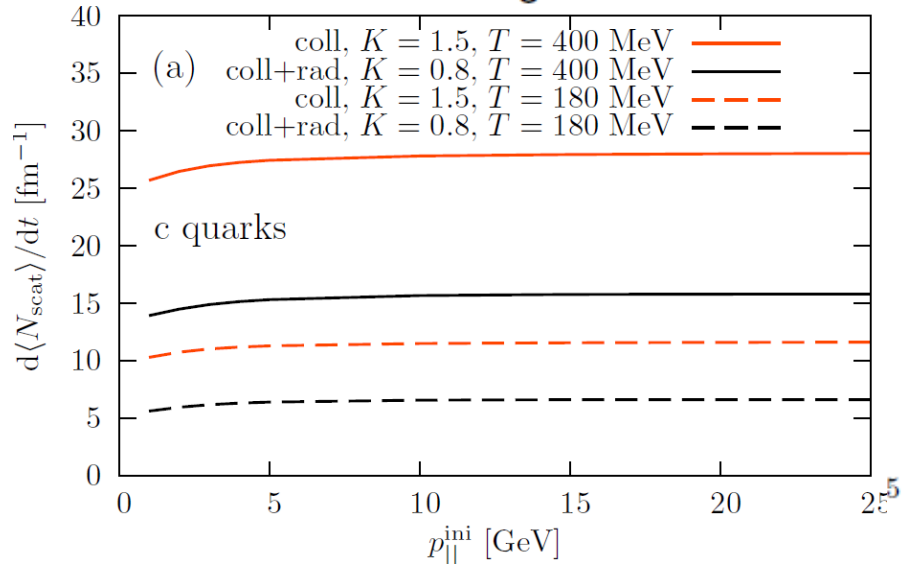
- Properties of the energy loss model: path length dependence?  
Parton mass dependence?
- Properties of the interaction inside a medium: drag coefficient, jet quenching parameter?

WHY?

Single scattering:



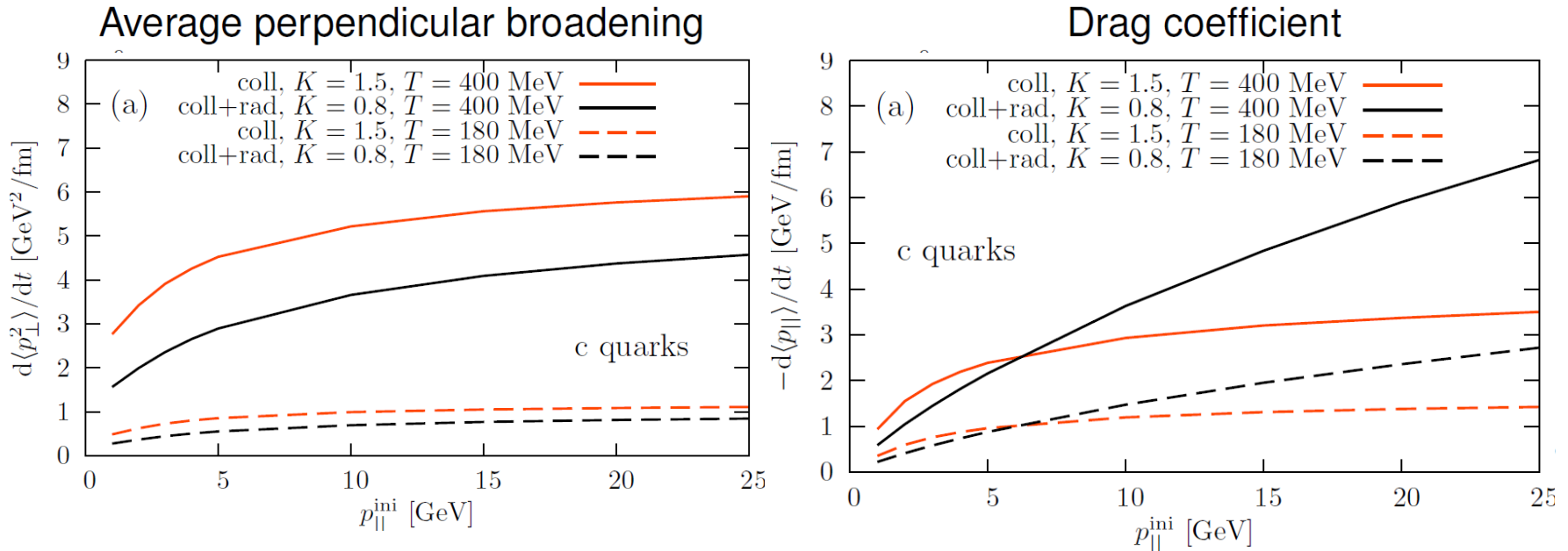
Scattering rate:



- $p_T$ -distribution in a single scattering: larger  $\langle p_T \rangle$  for **coll+rad** ( $K = 0.7$ ).
- Scattering rate is larger for **coll** ( $K = 1.5$ )!

# Properties of the interaction

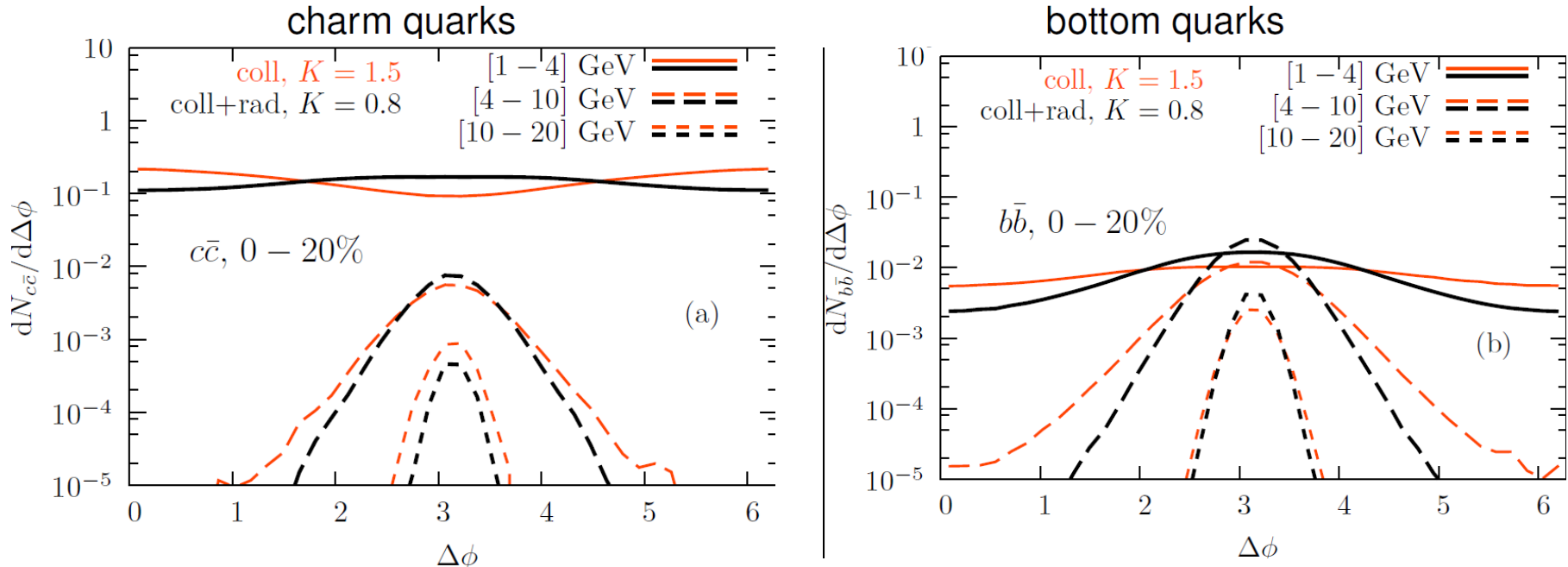
arXiv: 1305.3823  
1310.2218



- The purely **collisional** scatterings lead to a larger average  $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle$  than the **radiative** corrections.
- The final  $p_{\perp}$  also depends indirectly on the drag coefficients.
- The drag coefficients increases faster for the **collisional+radiative** interaction scenario  $\Rightarrow$  A quick loss in longitudinal momentum leads to less perpendicular momentum broadening.
- Expectation: Initial correlations will be broadened more effectively in a purely **collisional** interaction mechanism.

# Heavy-quark azimuthal correlations

central collisions, back-to-back initialization, no background from uncorrelated pairs

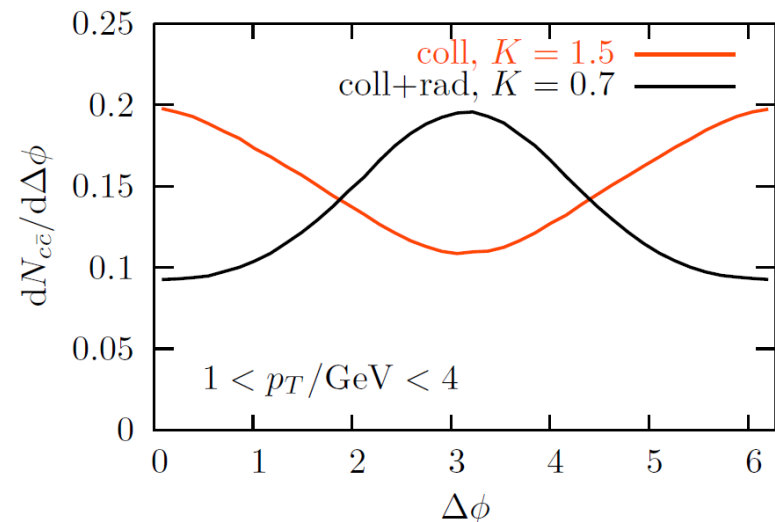
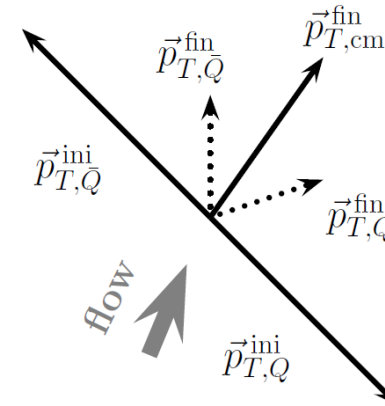


- Stronger broadening in a purely **collisional** than in a **collisional+radiative** interaction mechanism
- Variances in the intermediate  $p_T$ -range:  
**0.18** vs. **0.094** (charm) and **0.28** vs. **0.12** (bottom)
- At low  $p_T$  initial correlations are almost washed out: small residual correlations remain for the **collisional+radiative** mechanism, “partonic wind” effect for a purely **collisional** scenario.
- Initial correlations survive the propagation in the medium at higher  $p_T$ .

# “Partonic wind” effect

X. Zhu, N. Xu and P. Zhuang, PRL **100** (2008)

- Due to the radial flow of the matter low- $p_T$   $c\bar{c}$ -pairs are pushed into the same direction.
- Initial correlations at  $\Delta\phi \sim \pi$  are washed out but additional correlations at small opening angles appear.
- This happens only in the purely **collisional** interaction mechanism!
- No “partonic wind” effect observed in **collisional+radiative** interaction mechanism!



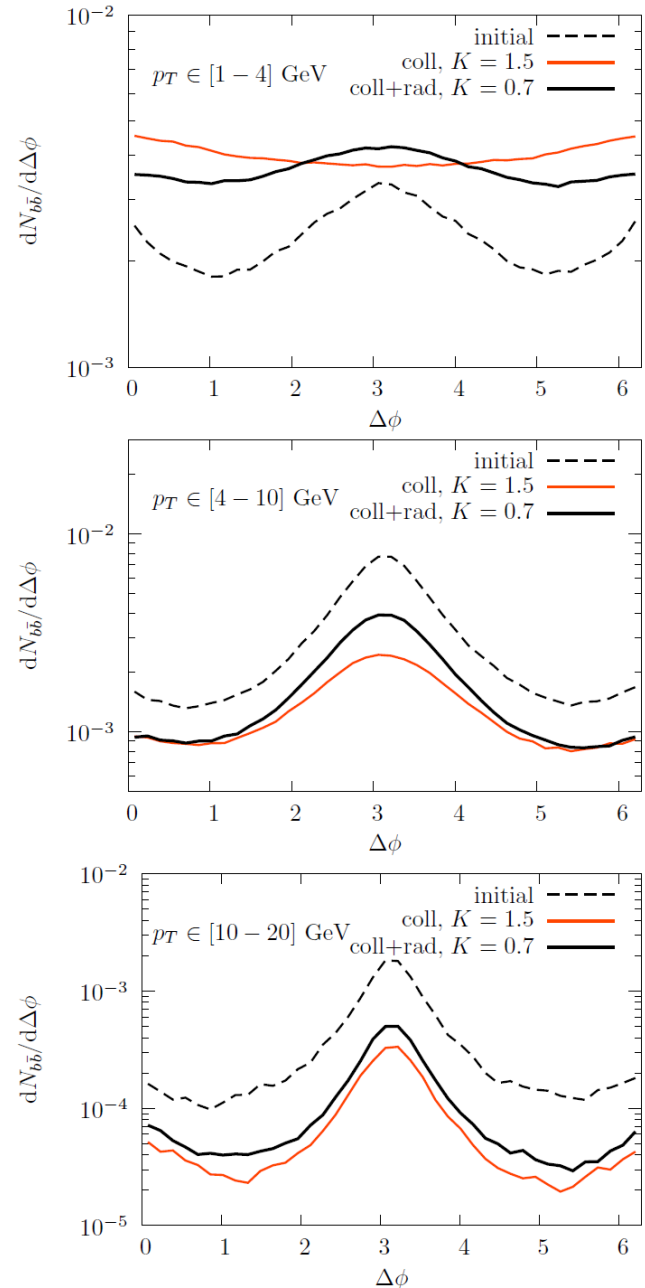
# Realistic initial $b\bar{b}$ distributions - MC@NLO

Next-to-leading order QCD matrix elements coupled to parton shower (HERWIG) evolution: MC@NLO.

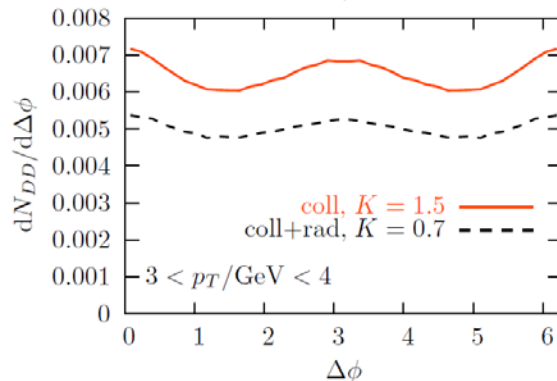
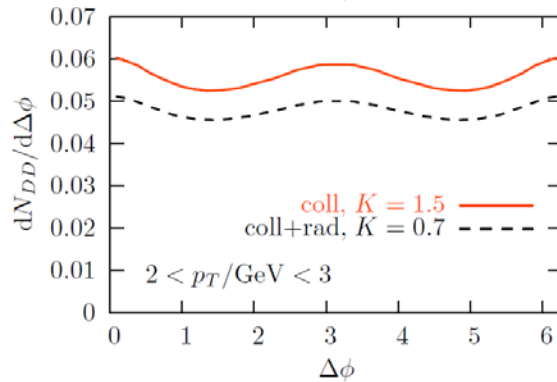
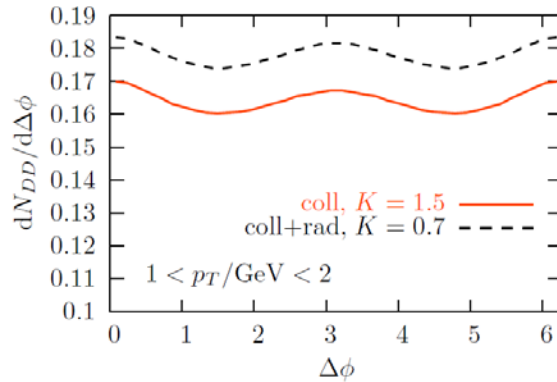
S. Frixione and B. R. Webber, JHEP **0206** (2002)

S. Frixione, P. Nason and B. R. Webber, JHEP **0308** (2003)

- Gluon splitting processes lead to an initial enhancement of the correlations at  $\Delta\phi \approx 0$ .
- For intermediate  $p_T$ : increase of the variances from 0.43 (initial NLO) to 0.51 ( $\sim 20\%$ ) for the purely **collisional** mechanisms and to 0.47 ( $\sim 10\%$ ) for the interaction including **radiative** corrections.
- Correlations at large  $p_T$  seem to be dominated by the initial correlations.
- Different NLO+parton shower approaches agree on bottom quark production, differences remain for charm quark production!

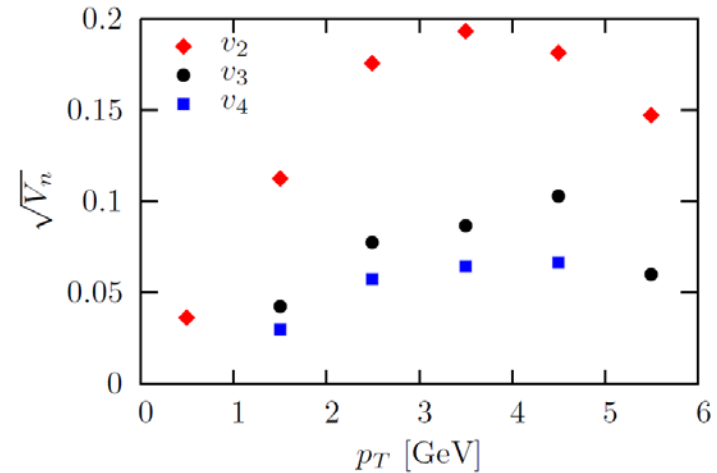


# Azimuthal correlations and flow



- DD correlations, 30-50% central.
- Flow harmonics from 2-particle correlation functions  
 $\propto \frac{N}{2\pi} (1 + 2 \sum V_n \cos(n\Delta\phi))$ .

collisional,  $K = 1.5$

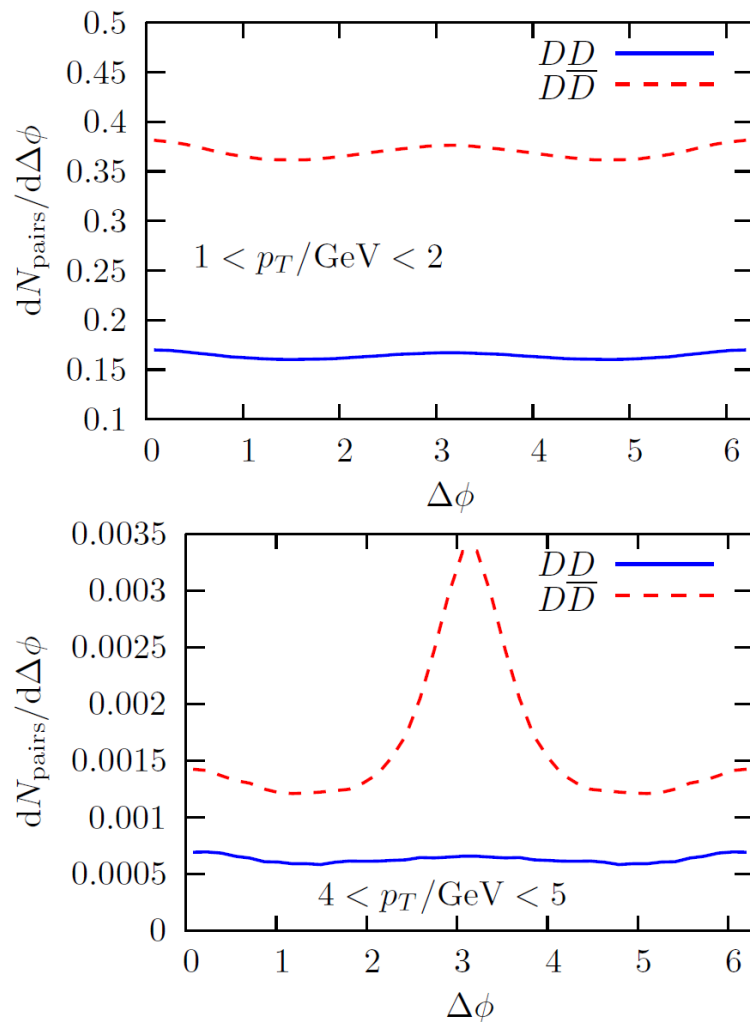


- Similar  $V_n$  for both interaction mechanisms at low  $p_T$ .
- Nonvanishing higher flow coefficients.

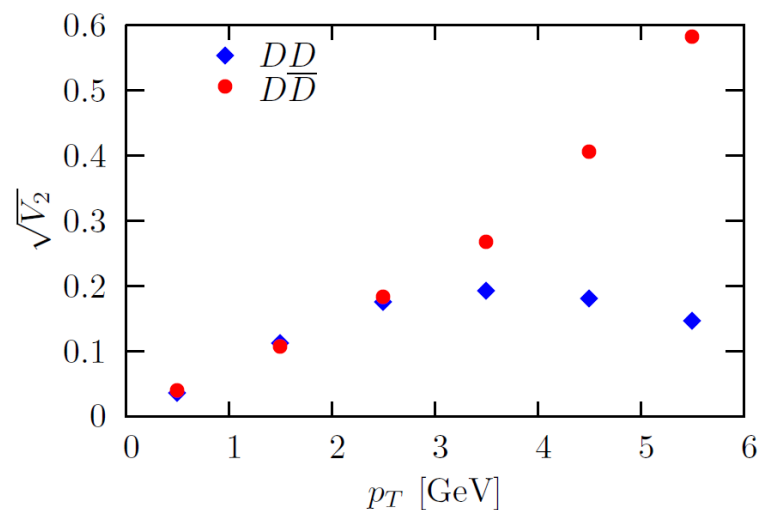


# Azimuthal correlations and flow

as an example collisional,  $K = 1.5$



- Compare  $DD$  correlations to  $D\bar{D}$  correlations to learn about the flow contribution and the degree of isotropization of  $D\bar{D}$  pairs.

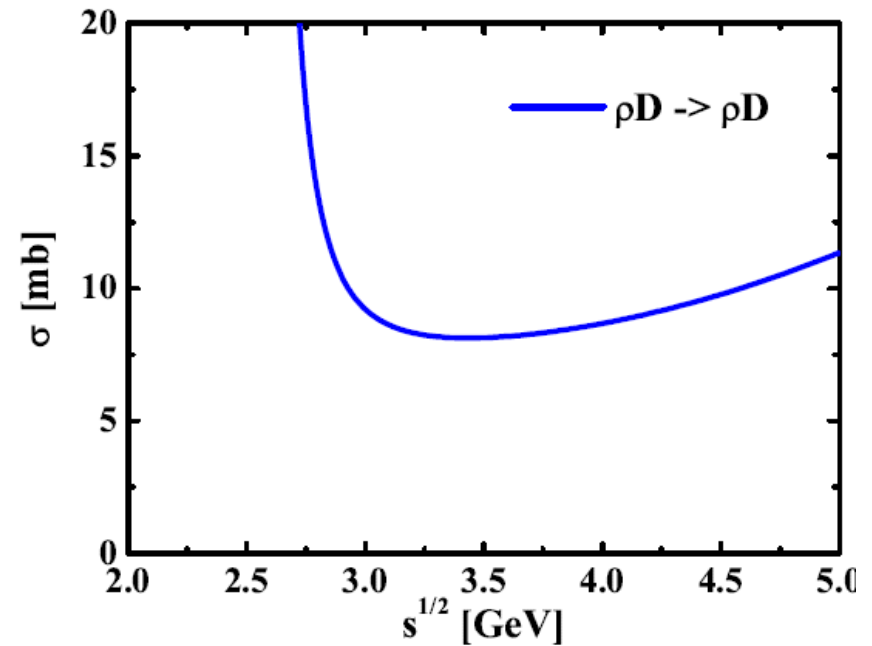
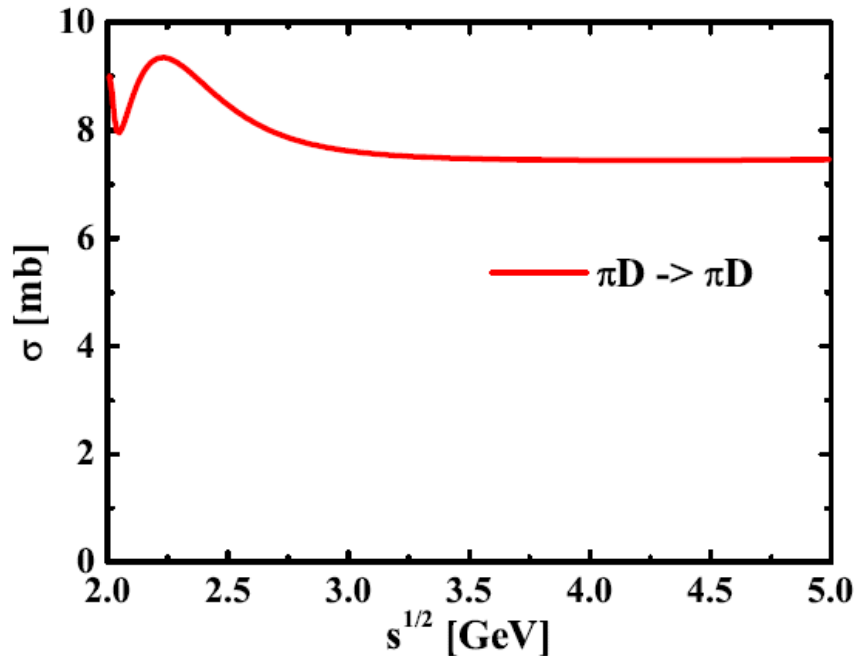


- Similar  $V_2$  for  $DD$  and  $D\bar{D}$  at low  $p_T$ .
- Dominant initial back-to-back correlation in  $D\bar{D}$ -correlations at higher  $p_T$ .

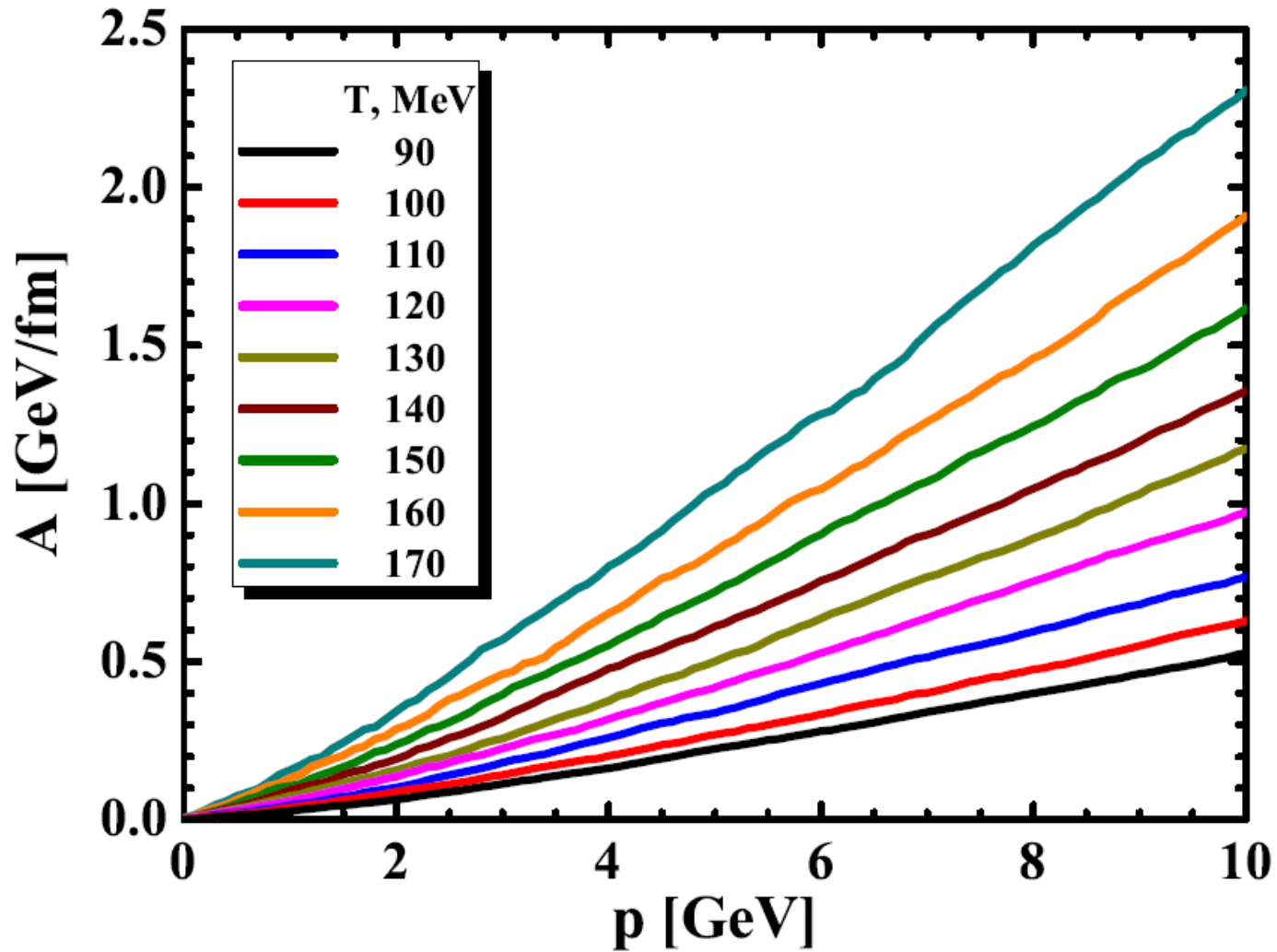
# Hadronic rescattering

Most advanced cross section of D mesons with hadrons  
based on next to leading order chiral Lagrangian

Tolos and Torres –Rincon Phys.Rev. D88 (2013) 074019

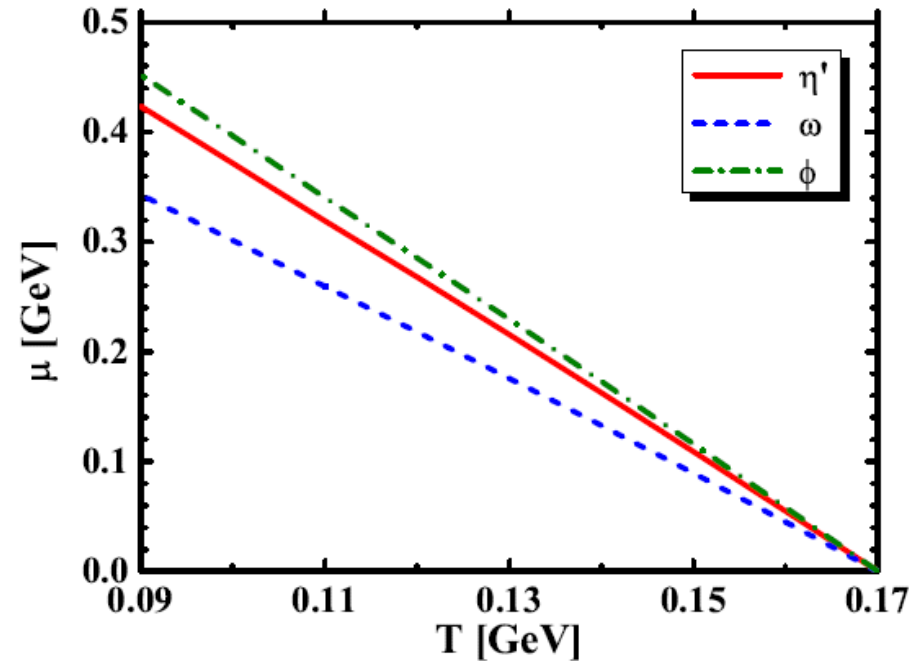
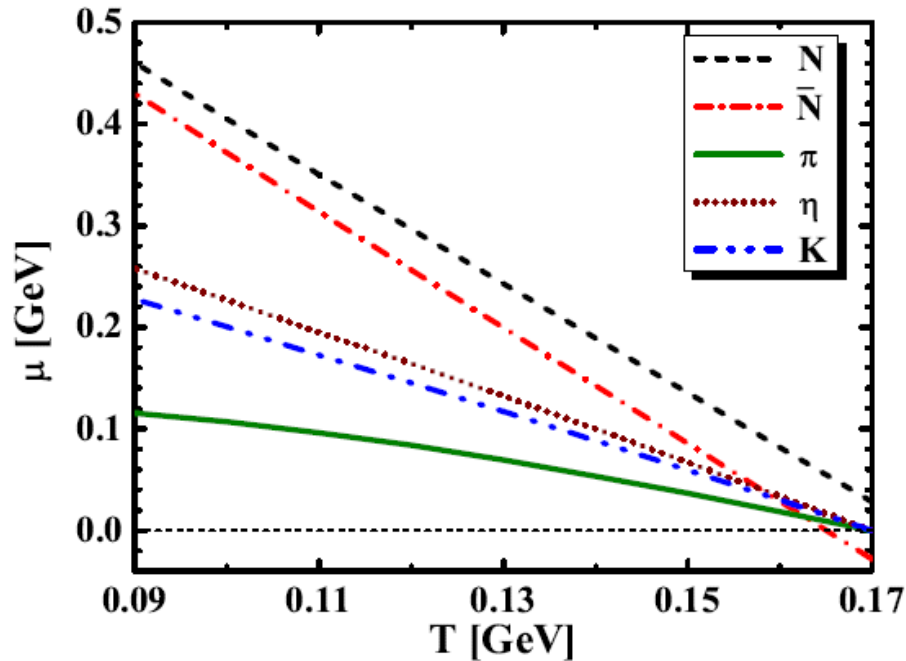


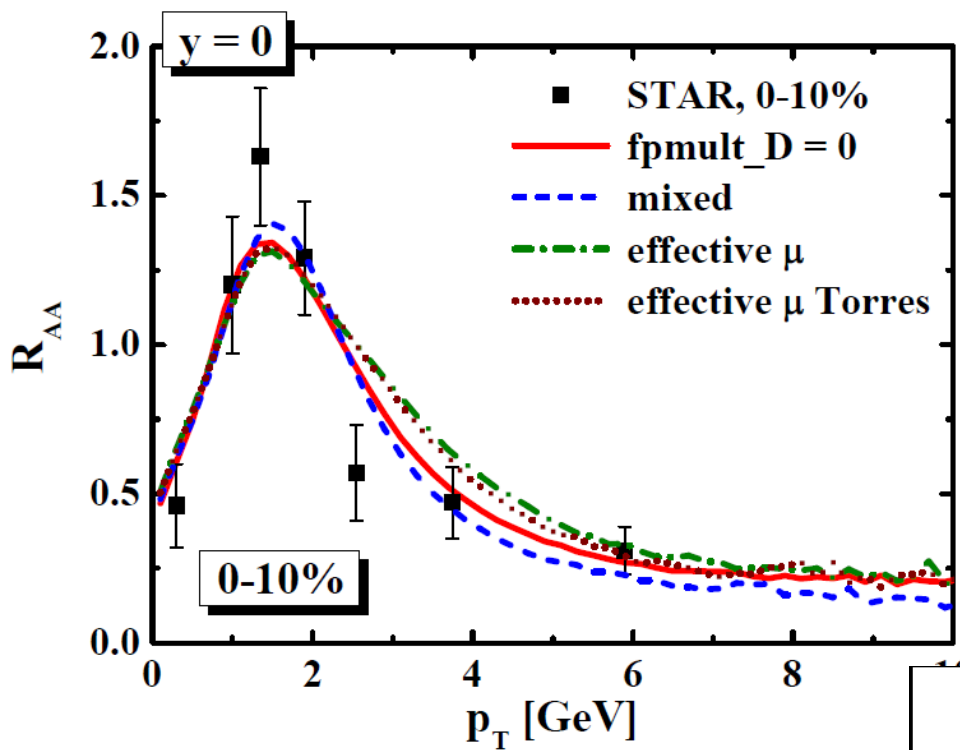
We obtain drag coefficients



Chemical freeze out at  $\epsilon = 0.5 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$   
kinetic freeze out at  $T = 100 \text{ MeV}$

Modeled by effective chemical potentials (Rapp PRC66 017901)

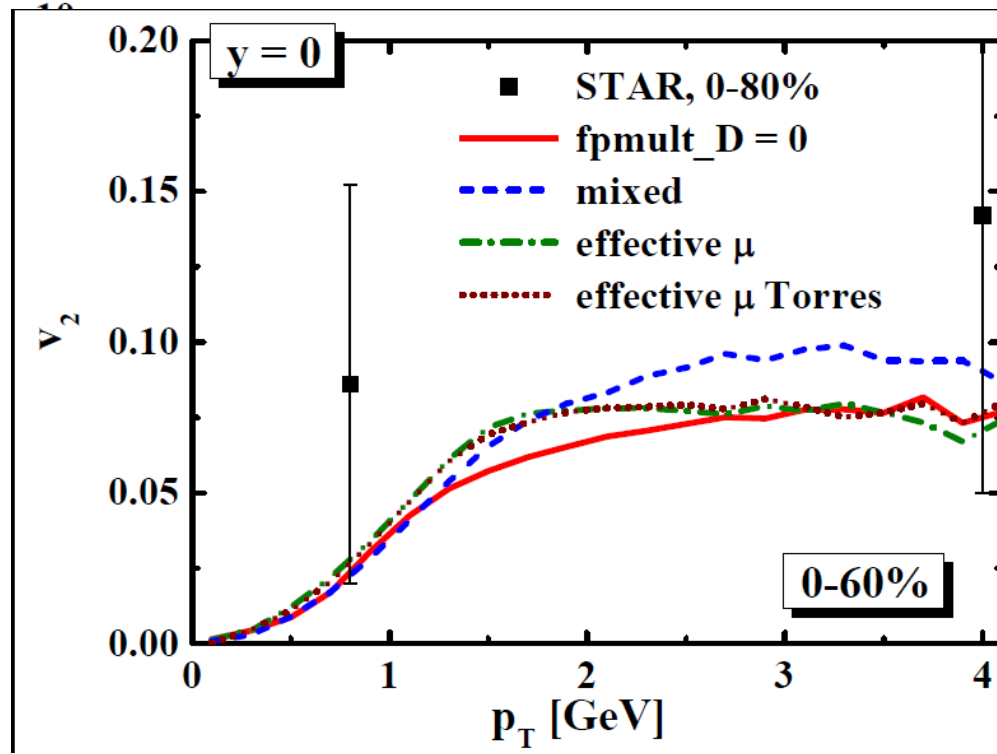




Hadronic rescattering  
in the Fokker Planck approach

Little effect for  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$

If the transition between  
partons and hadrons  
takes place at  $\epsilon = 0.5 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$



## Conclusions:

The present heavy quark data are **do not allow discriminate between radiative and collisional energy loss**

Correlations of  $c$  and  $cbar$  offer more possibilities:

They show that

**low pt** heavy quarks **equilibrate** with the plasma (isotropic azimuthal distribution)

high pt heavy quarks do not equilibrate. **Widening in pt depends on the reaction mechanism.**

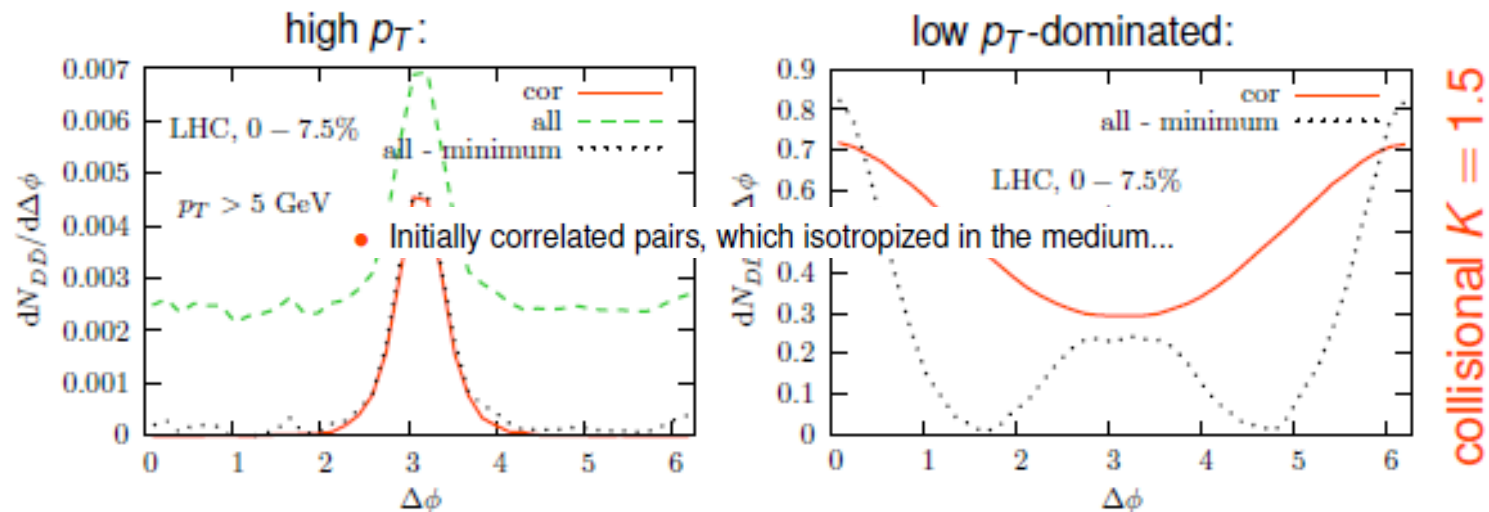
There is hope that this can be measured.

**Hadronic rescattering** has little influence on  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$ .

# Background subtraction

Experimentally impossible to distinguish initially correlated/uncorrelated pairs...  $\Rightarrow$  background!

Naiv subtraction via something like ZYAM:



Background consists of:

- Initially uncorrelated pairs - uninteresting! Can be removed by mixed-event or like-sign,  $DD$  correlations?
- Initially correlated pairs, which isotropized in the medium...



