

# Influence of temperature dependent shear-viscosity on the elliptic flow at back- and forward rapidities in ultrarelativistic heavy-ion collisions

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with:

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based on [arXiv:1407.8152](https://arxiv.org/abs/1407.8152)

special thanks to G. S. Denicol and D. H. Rischke

# Introduction and Motivation

## Strongly Interacting Low-Viscosity Matter Created in Relativistic Nuclear Collisions

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Substantial collective flow is observed in collisions between large nuclei at BNL RHIC (Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider) as evidenced by single-particle transverse momentum distributions and by azimuthal correlations among the produced particles. The data are well reproduced by perfect fluid dynamics. A calculation of the dimensionless ratio of shear viscosity  $\eta$  to entropy density  $s$  by Kovtun, Son, and Starinets within anti-de Sitter space/conformal field theory yields  $\eta/s = \hbar/4\pi k_B$ , which has been conjectured to be a lower bound for any physical system. Motivated by these results, we show that the transition from hadrons to quarks and gluons has behavior similar to helium, nitrogen, and water at and near their phase transitions in the ratio  $\eta/s$ . We suggest that experimental measurements can pinpoint the location of this transition or rapid crossover in QCD.

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PACS numbers: 12.38.Mh, 24.10.Nz, 25.75.Nq, 51.20.+d

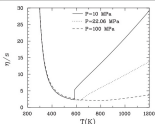


FIG. 3. The ratio  $\eta/s$  as a function of  $T$  for water with  $s$  normalized such that  $s(T=0) = 0$ . The curves correspond to fixed pressures, one of them being the critical pressure, and the others being greater (100 MPa) and the other smaller (10 MPa). Below the critical pressure there is a jump in the ratio, and above the critical pressure there is only a broad minimum. They were constructed using data from NIST and CODATA.

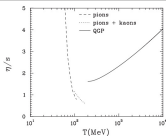


FIG. 4. The ratio  $\eta/s$  for the low temperature hadronic phase and for the high temperature quark-gluon phase. Neither calculation is very reliable in the vicinity of the critical or rapid crossover temperature.

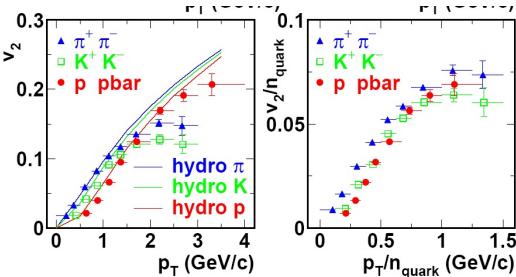


# Perfect Liquid II.

**RHIC Scientists Serve Up "Perfect" Liquid**  
New state of matter more remarkable than predicted -- raising many new questions  
April 18, 2005

Hunting the Quark Gluon Plasma

Science Daily



Early Universe Went With the Flow

Posted April 18, 2005 1:50PM

Between 2000 and 2003 the Large Hadron Collider's heavy ion collisions revealed the existence of a new state of matter called the quark-gluon plasma (QGP). It is a state of matter in which the quarks and gluons are no longer confined inside protons and neutrons, but move about as a fluid of free particles.

科学家称初生宇宙可能是液体状的非气体状

BNL

ORF.at

Das Universum war am Anfang "flüssig"

Mit seiner enormen Kollisionsenergie bildet der RHIC rund 1.000-Milliarden Grad Celsius heiße Urmaterie (QGP) im Inneren der Zelle nur für 10<sup>-10</sup> Sekunden.

Magyar nyelvészeti Intézet fel is az univerzum őszeregyét

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS  
week ending 25 MARCH 2005

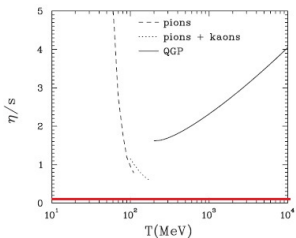
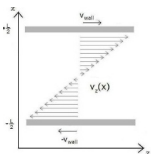
PHIL 94, 111601 (2005)  
Viscosity in Strongly Interacting Quantum Field Theories from Black Hole Physics

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(Received 20 December 2004; published 22 March 2005)

The ratio of shear viscosity to volume density of entropy can be used to characterize how close a given fluid is to being perfect. Using string theory methods, we show that this ratio is equal to a universal value of  $\hbar/4\pi k_B$  for a large class of strongly interacting quantum field theories whose dual description involves black holes in anti-de Sitter space. We provide evidence that this value may serve as a lower bound for a wide class of systems, thus suggesting that black hole horizons are dual to the most ideal fluids.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.94.111601  
PACS numbers: 11.10.Wx, 04.70.Dy, 11.25.Tq, 47.75.+f

## Shear Viscosity



## Kinetic theory

$$\pi_{NS}^{xz} = -\eta \frac{\partial v_z(x)}{\partial x}$$

$$\eta \simeq 1.2T/\sigma = 1.2T\lambda_{mfp}n$$

$$\eta/s \approx T\lambda_{mfp}$$

(Dilute) Gases may have  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$  hence  $\eta \rightarrow \infty$  ideal gas!

$$\eta_{Air} \approx 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{Pa}\cdot\text{s} \quad (T \sim 20C^\circ)$$

Fluids (liquids),  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  or  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$  hence  $\eta \rightarrow 0$  ideal fluid (liquid)!

$$\eta_{Water} \approx 50 \times \eta_{Air} = 9 \times 10^{-4} \text{Pa}\cdot\text{s}$$

$\eta_{gas}(T)$  *increases* with increasing  $T$

$\eta_{liquid}(T)$  *decreases* with increasing  $T$

## Csernai et.al. PRL (2006)

$$\left(\frac{\eta}{s}\right)_\pi = \frac{15}{16\pi} \frac{f_\pi^4}{T^4}$$

$$\left(\frac{\eta}{s}\right)_{QCD} = \frac{5.12}{g^4 \ln(2.42g)} > 1$$

$$\left(\frac{\eta}{s}\right)_{ADS/CFD} = \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

$f_\pi$  pion decay constant

$g$  QCD coupling constant

## Ideal Fluids I.

Conservation laws for a simple (single component) perfect fluid (no dissipation)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu N_0^\mu &= 0 & \text{charge conservation} & \Rightarrow \mathbf{1 \text{ eq.}} \\ \partial_\mu T_0^{\mu\nu} &= 0 & \text{energy-momentum conservation} & \Rightarrow \mathbf{4 \text{ eqs.}} \end{aligned}$$

Perfect fluid decomposition with respect to  $u^\mu$

$$\begin{aligned} N_0^\mu &= n_0 u^\mu \\ T_0^{\mu\nu} &= e_0 u^\mu u^\nu - p_0 \Delta^{\mu\nu} \\ n_0 &= N_0^\mu u_\mu & \text{(net)charge density} \\ e_0 &= T_0^{\mu\nu} u_\mu u_\nu & \text{energy density} \\ p_0 &= -\frac{1}{3} \Delta_{\mu\nu} T_0^{\mu\nu} & \text{equilibrium pressure} \end{aligned}$$

- The time-like normalized flow velocity is  $u^\mu(t, \vec{x})$ , where  $u^\mu u_\mu = 1$
- Projection tensor  $\Delta^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} - u^\mu u^\nu$ , where  $g^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1)$
- We have **5** equations for **6** unknowns *not closed*:  $n_0(1)$ ,  $e_0(1)$ ,  $p_0(1)$  and  $u^\mu(3)$ .

## Ideal Fluids II.

- The assumption of local thermal equilibrium provides *closure*:

## Equation of State (EoS)

$$p_0 = p_0(e_0, n_0) \quad \text{EoS} \Rightarrow \mathbf{1 \text{ eq.}}$$

and/or  $p(T, \mu)$  or  $s = s(e, n)$ .

- $S_0^\mu = s_0 u^\mu$ , where  $s_0 = S_0^\mu u_\mu$ , and **for continuous solutions**

$$\partial_\mu S_0^\mu = 0$$

entropy is maximum in local thermal equilibrium

## Thermodynamics

$$Ts = e + p - \mu n$$

$$T\dot{s} = \dot{e} - \mu\dot{n}$$

$$\dot{p} = s\dot{T} + n\dot{\mu}$$

- The fundamental thermodynamic relations are derived from,  
 $T\partial_\mu(su^\mu) = \partial_\mu(eu^\mu) + p(\partial_\mu u^\mu) - \mu\partial_\mu(nu^\mu)$

## Dissipative Fluids I.

Conservation laws for a simple (single component) dissipative fluid

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu N^\mu &= 0 & \text{charge conservation} & \Rightarrow \mathbf{1 \text{ eq.}} \\ \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} &= 0 & \text{energy-momentum conservation} & \Rightarrow \mathbf{4 \text{ eqs.}} \end{aligned}$$

General decomposition  $N^\mu = N_0^\mu + \delta N^\mu$  and  $T^{\mu\nu} = T_0^{\mu\nu} + \delta T^{\mu\nu}$ 

$$\begin{aligned} N^\mu &= n u^\mu + V^\mu \\ T^{\mu\nu} &= e u^\mu u^\nu - (p + \Pi) \Delta^{\mu\nu} + W^\mu u^\nu + W^\nu u^\mu + \pi^{\mu\nu} \\ n &= N^\mu u_\mu & \text{charge density} \\ e &= T^{\mu\nu} u_\mu u_\nu & \text{energy density} \\ p &= -\frac{1}{3} \Delta_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} & \text{isotropic pressure} \\ V^\mu &= \Delta^{\mu\alpha} N_\alpha & \text{charge flow} \\ W^\mu &= \Delta^{\mu\alpha} u^\beta T_{\alpha\beta} & \text{energy-momentum flow} \\ \pi^{\mu\nu} &= \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \Delta^{\mu\alpha} \Delta^{\nu\beta} + \Delta^{\mu\beta} \Delta^{\alpha\nu} \right) - \frac{1}{3} \Delta^{\mu\nu} \Delta^{\alpha\beta} \right] T_{\alpha\beta} & \text{stress tensor} \end{aligned}$$

- We only have **5** equations for **17** unknowns,  $n(1)$ ,  $e(1)$ ,  $p(1)$ ,  $u^\mu(3)$  and  $V^\mu(3)$ ,  $W^\mu(3)$ ,  $\pi^{\mu\nu}(5)$ .



## Dissipative Fluids II.

## Simplifications (I): Matching to equilibrium and the EOS

$$n = n_0, \quad e = e_0, \quad p(e, n) = p_0(e_0, n_0) + \Pi$$

- $\Pi = p - p_0 = -\frac{1}{3}\Delta_{\mu\nu}\delta T^{\mu\nu}$  is the bulk viscosity
- $T = T_0$  and  $\mu = \mu_0$ , while  $s = s_0 + \delta s$ !

## Simplifications (II): Fixing the Local Rest Frame

$$u_E^\mu = N^\mu/n \Leftrightarrow V^\mu = 0 \Rightarrow q^\mu = W^\mu \quad \text{Eckart}$$

$$u_L^\mu = T^{\mu\nu}u_{L\nu}/e \Leftrightarrow W^\mu = 0 \Rightarrow q^\mu = -\frac{e+p}{n}V^\mu \quad \text{Landau \& Lifsit}$$

- Now, we are left with 14 unknowns!  $n(1)$ ,  $e(1)$ ,  $u^\mu(3)$  and  $\Pi(1)$ ,  $q^\mu(3)$ ,  $\pi^{\mu\nu}(5)$ .
- The definition of entropy is also modified  $S^\mu \equiv S_0^\mu + \delta S^\mu = (s_0 + \delta s)u^\mu + \Phi^\mu$

## 2nd law of thermodynamics

$$\partial_\mu S^\mu = -\frac{q^\mu}{T} \left( \frac{1}{T} \partial_\mu T - \dot{u}_\mu \right) - \frac{\Pi}{T} \partial_\mu u^\mu + \frac{\pi^{\mu\nu}}{T} \partial_\mu u_\nu \geq 0$$

## Dissipative Fluids III.

## Solution (I): The relativistic Navier-Stokes equations

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi_{NS} &= -\zeta \nabla_{\mu} u^{\mu} \\ q_{NS}^{\mu} &= -\kappa T \frac{T n}{e + p} \nabla^{\mu} \left( \frac{\mu}{T} \right) \\ \pi_{NS}^{\mu\nu} &= 2\eta \nabla^{\langle\mu} u^{\nu\rangle}\end{aligned}$$

- $\zeta \geq 0, \kappa \geq 0, \eta \geq 0$  coefficient of bulk viscosity, thermal conductivity and shear viscosity.
- Now, the equations of fluid dynamics are closed, but the relativistic Navier-Stokes theory leads to acausal signal propagation and stability issues.

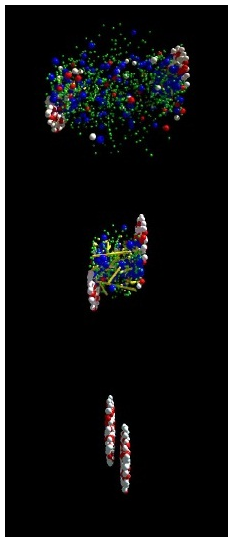
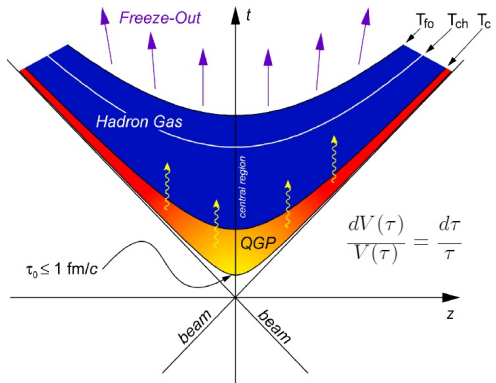
## Solution (II): Relaxation equations (Israel 1976, Israel and Stewart 1979)

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\Pi} \dot{\Pi} + \Pi &= \Pi_{NS} + l_{\Pi q} \nabla_{\mu} q^{\mu} \\ \tau_q \Delta_{\alpha}^{\mu} \dot{q}^{\alpha} + q^{\mu} &= q_{NS}^{\mu} + l_{q\Pi} \nabla^{\mu} \Pi - l_{q\pi} \Delta_{\alpha}^{\mu} \partial_{\nu} \pi^{\alpha\nu} \\ \tau_{\pi} \dot{\pi}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} + \pi^{\mu\nu} &= \pi_{NS}^{\mu\nu} + l_{\pi q} \nabla^{\langle\mu} q^{\nu\rangle}\end{aligned}$$

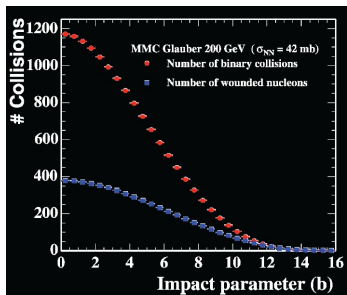
- The relaxation equations determine the time evolution of  $\Pi$ ,  $q^{\mu}$ , and  $\pi^{\mu\nu}$
- The **relativistic Navier-Stokes theory** appears if the relaxation times and length scales  $\tau_i \rightarrow 0$ ,  $l_i \rightarrow 0$  with  $\zeta$ ,  $\eta$  and  $\kappa_q$  fixed

# Parameters and Setup

## Space-time evolution of matter in heavy-ion collisions.



## Initial condition - Transverse profile



- Nr. wounded nucleons  $N_{WN} \sim 2A$
- Nr. binary collisions  $N_{BC} \sim A^{4/3}$
- $n_{BC}(x, y, b) = \sigma_{NN} T_A(x + b/2, y) T_B(x - b/2, y)$
- $T_A(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \rho_A(x, y, z)$
- $\rho_A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp[(r - R_A)/d]}$

## Initial conditions

- Centrality selection according to multiplicity
- $f_{BC}(n_{BC}, n_{WN}) = n_{BC} + c_1 n_{BC}^2 + c_2 n_{BC}^3$
- $e_T(\tau_0, x, y, b) = C_e(\tau_0) f(n_{BC}, n_{WN})$

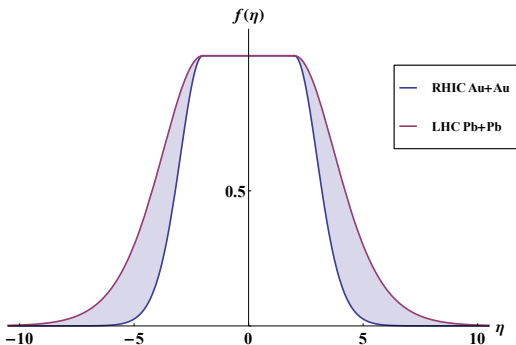
## RHIC

- ideal fluid:  $e_0 = 17.0$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>
- LH-LQ and HH-LQ:  $e_0 = 15.8$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>
- LH-HQ and HH-HQ:  $e_0 = 14.9$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>

## LHC

- ideal fluid:  $e_0 = 57.5$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>
- LH-LQ and HH-LQ:  $e_0 = 54.5$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>
- LH-HQ and HH-HQ:  $e_0 = 49.5$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>

## Initial condition - Longitudinal profile

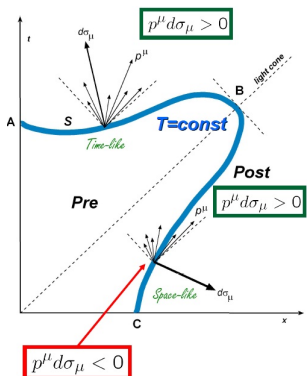


$$e_L(\eta) = \exp\left(-2c_\eta \sqrt{1 + \frac{(|\eta| - \eta_0)^2}{2c_\eta \sigma_\eta^2}} \Theta(|\eta| - \eta_0) + 2c_\eta\right) \quad \text{where } \eta_0 = 2.0$$

**RHIC Au+Au 200 GeV**     $c_\eta = 4.0$      $\sigma_\eta = 1.0$

**LHC Pb+Pb 2760 GeV**     $c_\eta = 2.0$      $\sigma_\eta = 1.8$

## Freeze-out



Correction by Bugaev 1996

$\Theta(p^\mu d\sigma_\mu)$

Gradual freeze-out (Grassi et al. 1995, Csernai et.al. 1999)

Cooper-Frye freeze-out for particle  $i$ 

$$E \frac{dN}{d^3\mathbf{k}} = \frac{g_i}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\Sigma} d\sigma^\mu k_\mu f_i(x, \mathbf{k})$$

where

$$f_i(x, k) = f_{0i} \left[ 1 + \left( 1 \mp \frac{(2\pi)^3}{g_i} f_{0i} \right) \frac{k_i^\mu k_i^\nu \pi_{\mu\nu}}{2T^2 (e + p)} \right]$$

and

$$f_{0i}(x, k) = \frac{g_i}{(2\pi)^3} \left[ \exp \left( \frac{k_i^\mu u_\mu - \mu_i}{T} \right) \pm 1 \right]^{-1}$$

- Constant Temperature hypersurface,  $T_{dec}$
- Constant Knudsen number hypersurface

$$\text{Kn} = \tau_\pi \theta \sim \frac{\lambda_{mfp}}{L} \sim 1$$

where e.g.,  $\text{Kn}_{dec} = 0.8 \simeq T_{dec} \in [115, 165]$

# Equations of motion

## Conserved Quantities

$$\begin{aligned} T^{\mu\nu} &= e_0 u^\mu u^\nu - p_0 \Delta^{\mu\nu} + \pi^{\mu\nu}, \\ N^\mu &= 0, \quad \Pi = 0, \quad q^\mu = 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Equations of motion - Denicol et al. PRD(2012)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\mu N^\mu &= 0, \quad \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0, \\ \tau_\pi D\pi^{\mu\nu} &= 2\eta_s \sigma^{\mu\nu} - \pi^{\mu\nu} - \tau_\pi \left( \pi^{\lambda\mu} u^\nu + \pi^{\lambda\nu} u^\mu \right) Du_\lambda \\ &\quad - \delta_{\pi\pi} \pi^{\mu\nu} \theta - \tau_{\pi\pi} \pi_\lambda^{\langle\mu} \sigma^{\nu\rangle\lambda} \\ &\quad + 2\tau_\pi \pi_\lambda^{\langle\mu} \omega^{\nu\rangle\lambda} + \varphi_7 \pi_\lambda^{\langle\mu} \pi^{\nu\rangle\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

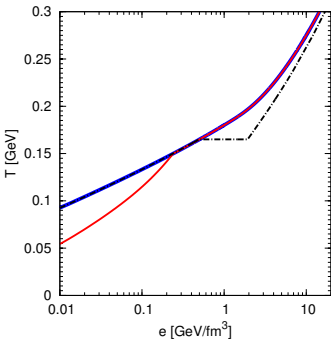
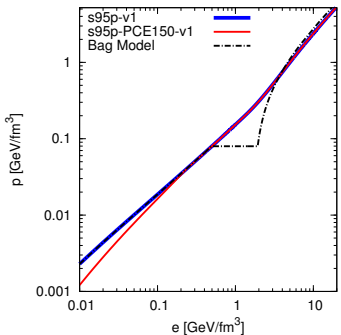
$$\tau_\pi = 5\eta_s / (e + p), \quad \tau_\pi = \frac{5}{3} \lambda_{mfp}, \quad \delta_{\pi\pi} = (4/3) \tau_\pi, \quad \tau_{\pi\pi} = (10/7) \tau_\pi, \quad \varphi_7 = (9/70) / p_0$$

## Initial values

- Energy density at  $\tau_0 = 1$  fm/c is  $e(\tau_0, x, y, \eta, b) = e_T(\tau_0, x, y, b) e_L(\eta)$
- Initial velocities:  $v_x = v_y = 0$ , Bjorken scaling flow  $v_z = \frac{z}{t}$  that is  $v_\eta = 0$
- Initial shear-stress:  $\pi^{\mu\nu} = 0$



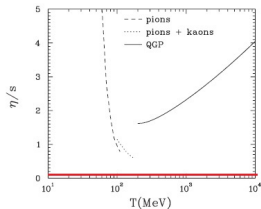
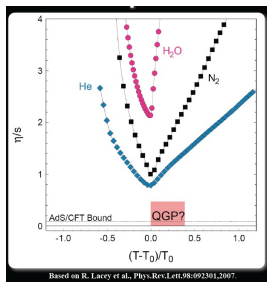
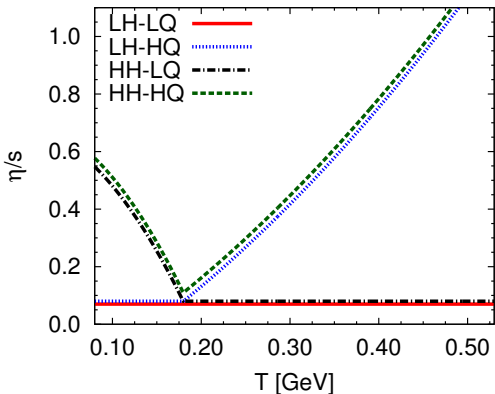
## Equation of State



EoS - Lattice parametrization by Petreczky and Huovinen Nucl. Phys. A (2010)

- Chemical Equilibrium (s95p-v1)
- (Partial) Chemical Equilibrium with chemical freeze-out at  $T_{ch} = 150$  MeV (s95p-PCE150-v1)
- Hadron Resonance Gas (HRG) includes all hadronic states up to  $m \sim 2$  GeV

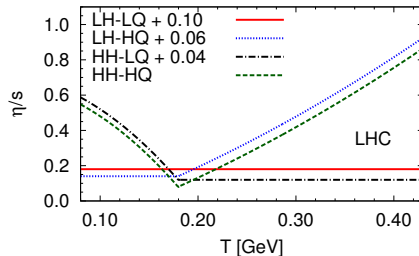
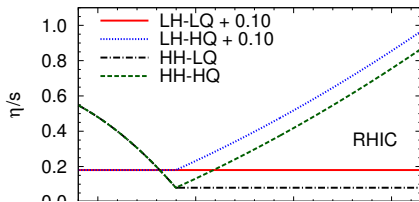
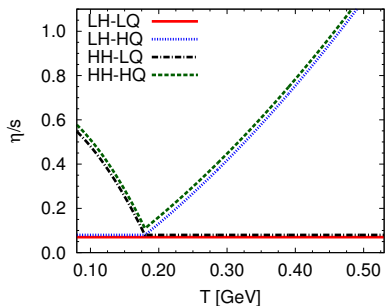
# Temperature dependent $\eta/s$ I.



Niemi et al. PRL (2011)

- Can we separate hadronic viscosity from the QGP viscosity?

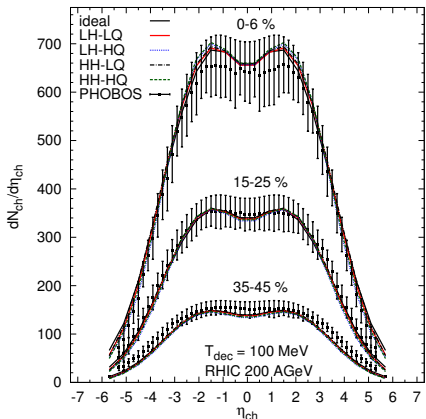
# Temperature dependent $\eta/s$ II. - Scaled Parametrizations



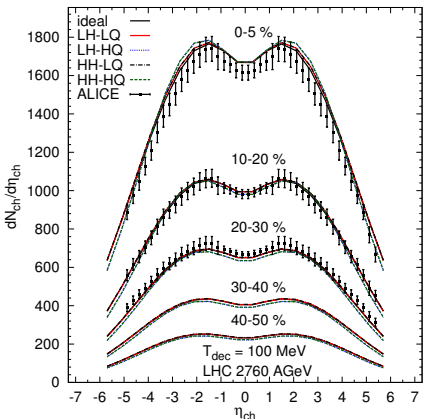
- Can we study the influence of viscosity at and near the QCD-transition point ?

# Results I. - Spectra and flow at RHIC and at the LHC

# Multiplicity

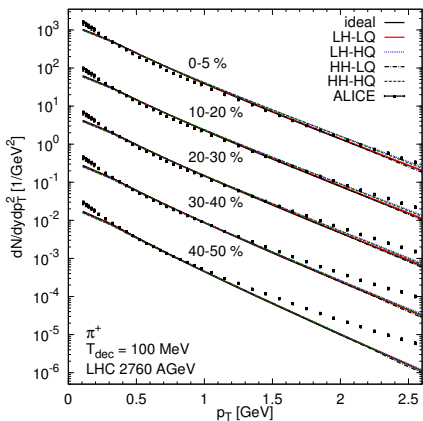
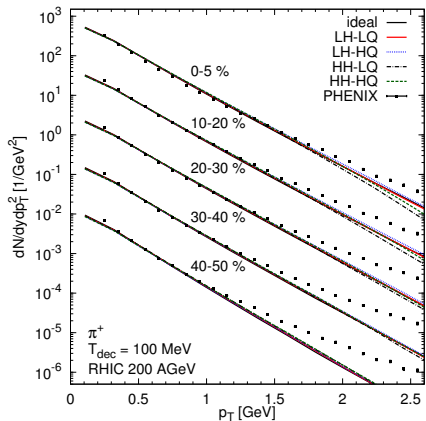


- Multiplicity at RHIC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization and decoupling temperature  $T_{dec} \in [80, 140] \text{ MeV}$  for EoS [s95p-PCE150-v1](#)



- Multiplicity at the LHC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization and decoupling temperature  $T_{dec} \in [80, 140] \text{ MeV}$  for EoS [s95p-PCE150-v1](#)

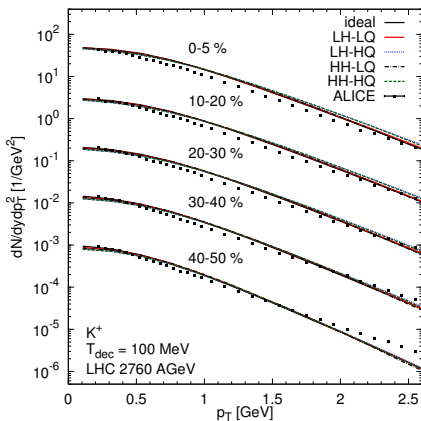
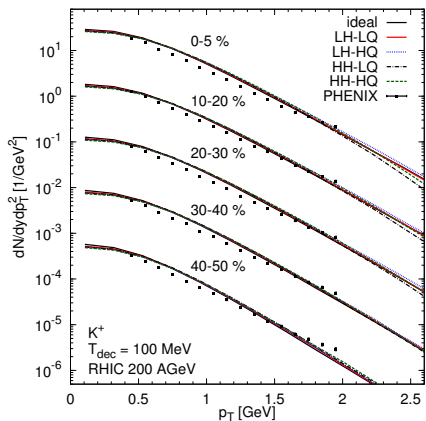
# Pion Spectra



- Spectra at RHIC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization

- Spectra at the LHC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization

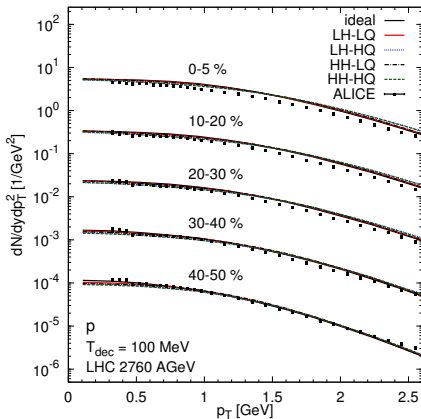
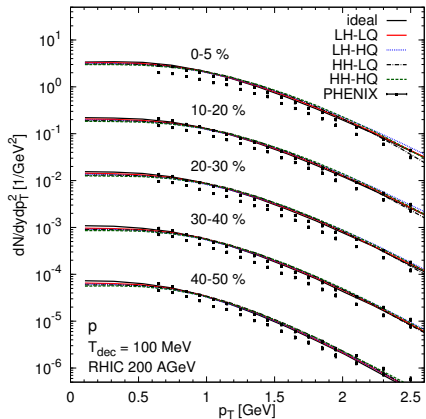
# Kaon Spectra



- Spectra at RHIC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization

- Spectra at the LHC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization

## Proton Spectra

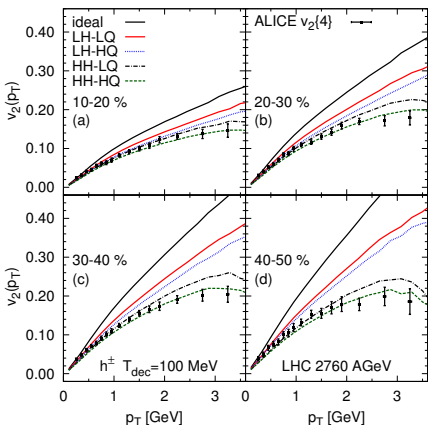
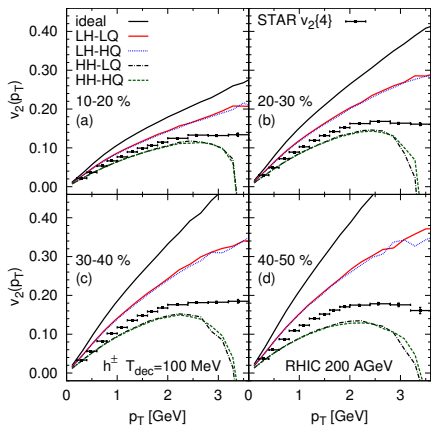


- Spectra at RHIC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization

- Spectra at the LHC independent of  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrization



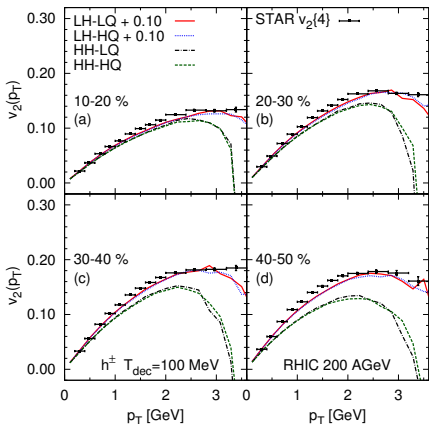
# Elliptic Flow I.



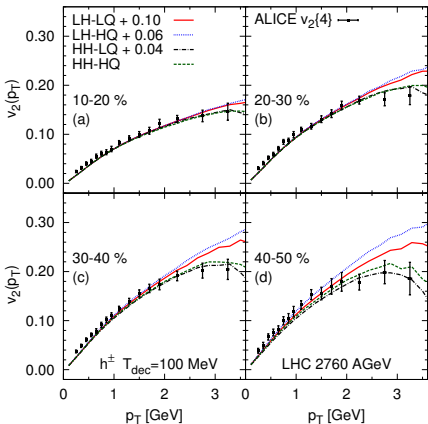
- $v_2(p_T)$  at RHIC decreases and separates according to the low-temperature ( $\eta/s$ ) but independent of the high-temperature ( $\eta/s$ )-parametrization

- $v_2(p_T)$  at the LHC equally depends on both the low- and the high-temperature ( $\eta/s$ )-parametrizations

# Elliptic Flow I. - Scaled

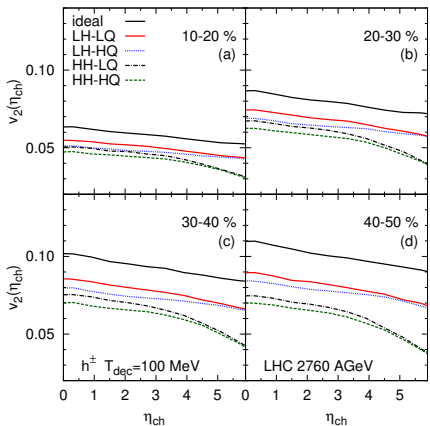
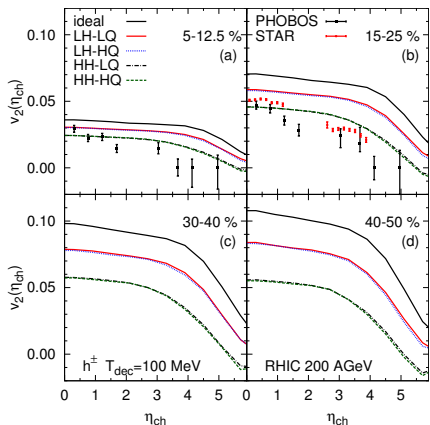


- Scaling the low-temperature ( $\eta/s$ )-parametrizations, the QCD-transition region also shows its effect on  $v_2(p_T)$



- Differences are modest but increasing with centrality and  $v_2(p_T)$  is ordered by increasing hadronic viscosity

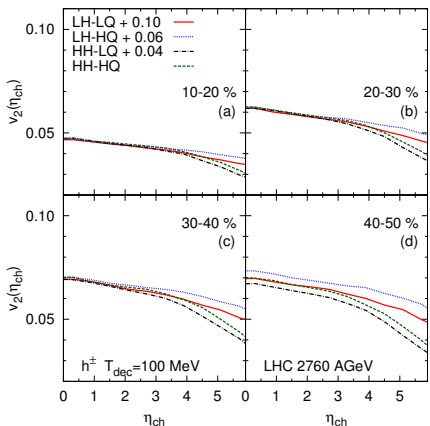
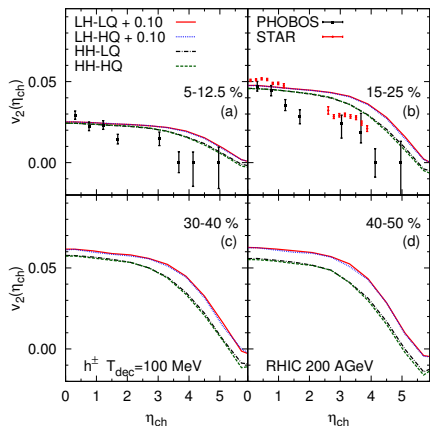
## Elliptic Flow II.



- $v_2(\eta_{ch})$  at RHIC decreases and separates according to the low-temperature ( $\eta/s$ ) similarly to  $v_2(p_T)$  at mid-rapidity!

- With increasing centrality and rapidity,  $v_2(\eta_{ch})$  at the LHC, starts to behave like the matter at RHIC

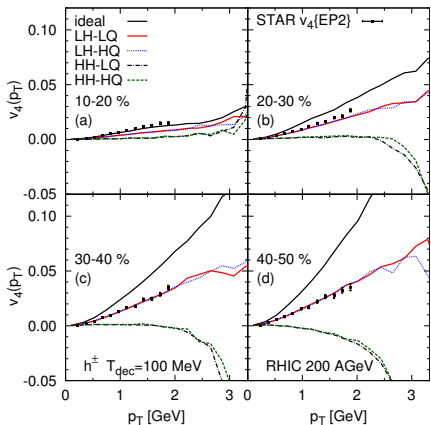
# Elliptic Flow II. - Scaled



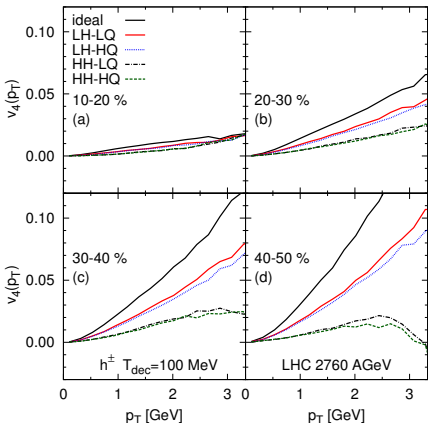
- Scaled  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrizations only show differences with increasing centrality and rapidity

- Scaled  $(\eta/s)$ -parametrizations show only modest differences with increasing centrality and rapidity

# Quadrangular Flow I.

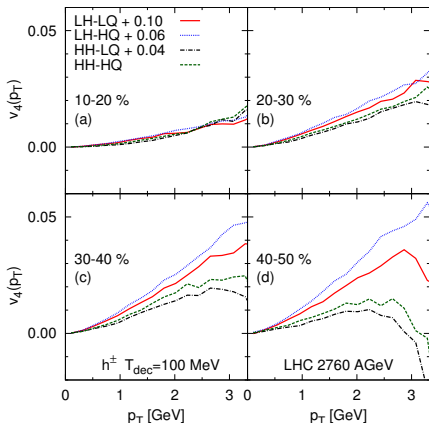
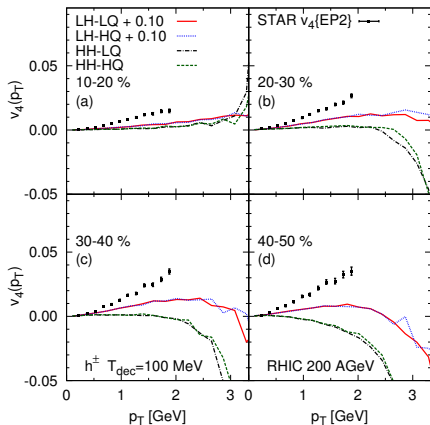


- $v_4(p_T)$  behaves similarly to  $v_2(p_T)$  (at RHIC)
- Difference in experimental and theoretical plots, due to different methods!



- $v_4(p_T)$  at the LHC behaves similarly to the  $v_2(p_T)$  at RHIC (note the grouping)
- $v_4(p_T)$  is more sensitive to the low-temperature part than  $v_4(p_T)$

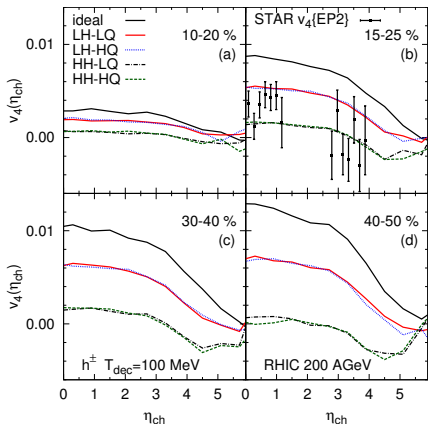
# Quadrangular Flow I. - Scaled



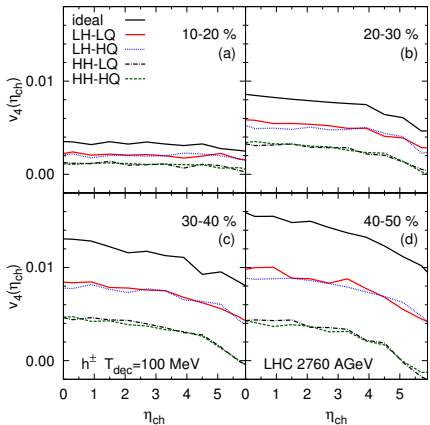
- $v_4(p_T)$  behaves similarly to  $v_2(p_T)$

- $v_4(p_T)$  is more sensitive than  $v_2(p_T)$  to the different  $(\eta/s)$  parametrizations

# Quadrangular Flow II.



- $v_4(\eta_{ch})$  at RHIC decreases and separates according to the low-temperature ( $\eta/s$ ) similarly to  $v_2(\eta_{ch})$

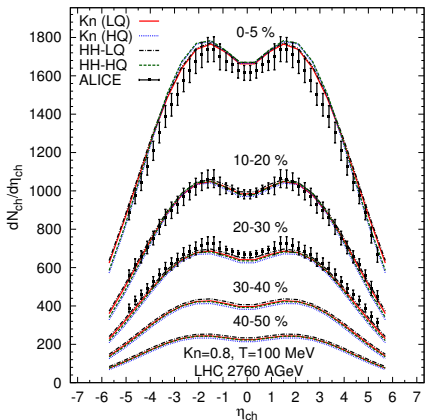
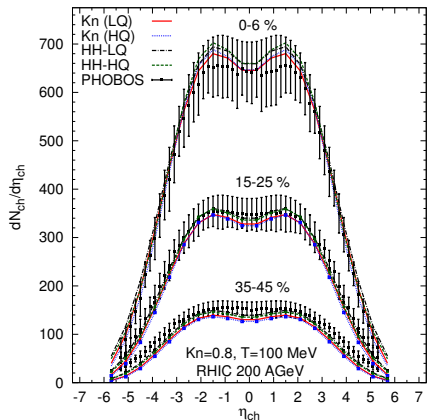


- The same observation holds at the LHC!

# Different freeze-out criterion



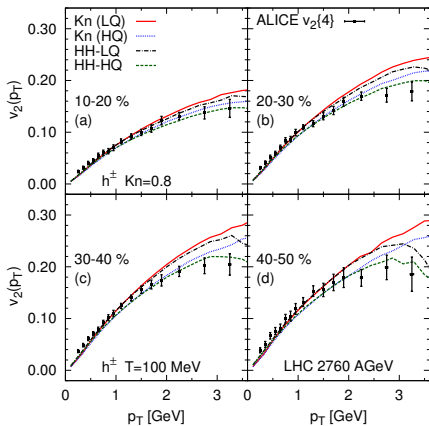
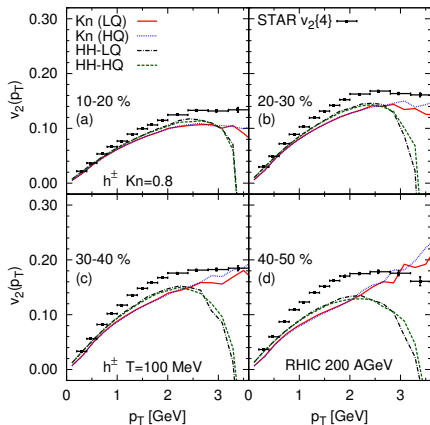
# Multiplicity II.



- Multiplicity at RHIC independent of freeze-out criteria  $T_{dec} = 100$  MeV  
 $\sim Kn_{dec} = 0.8$

- Multiplicity at the LHC independent of freeze-out criteria  $T_{dec} = 100$  MeV  
 $\sim Kn_{dec} = 0.8$

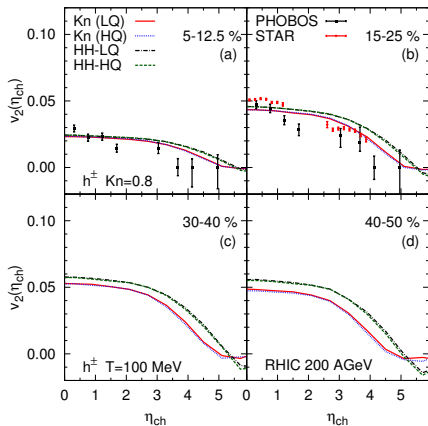
## Elliptic Flow III.



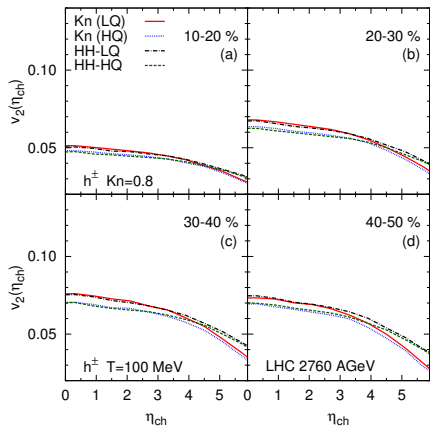
- $v_2(p_T)$  shows little sensitivity to the decoupling criteria

- Similarly at the LHC!

## Elliptic Flow III.



- $v_2(\eta_{ch})$  at RHIC shows some sensitivity at large rapidity



- Similarly at the LHC!

## Conclusions ...

- At RHIC the suppression of the elliptic flow,  $v_2$ , strongly depends on the viscosity at and after the QCD transition (hadronic viscosity)
- At the LHC the viscous suppression of elliptic flow,  $v_2$ , at midrapidity is affected by both hadronic and QGP viscosities
- Towards back- and forward rapidities, hadronic viscosity becomes more and more dominant and so the matter at the LHC behaves like at RHIC
- $v_n$  as function of transverse momentum, rapidity, centrality and collision energy provide a way to distinguish between different parametrizations of  $(\eta_s/s)(T)$
- Decoupling at constant temperature and at constant Knudsen number lead to very similar anisotropies at midrapidity, but at lower collision energies the results may be more sensitive to the freeze-out criterion.