

– Springer Lecture –

# Horizons, Causality and Information Transfer

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based on joint work with

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# Horizons

- In our terrestrial world, horizons are **elusive**:  
    approach a horizon & it recedes, so you cannot cross it.
- In special relativity, speed of light defines **event horizon**  
    separating past, future and elsewhere.
- In general relativity,  $\exists$  event horizon of **black holes**  
    separating inside and outside:  
    you can never see something crossing it, and  
    if you cross it yourself, you can never return.

Horizons were central to human thinking for a long time:

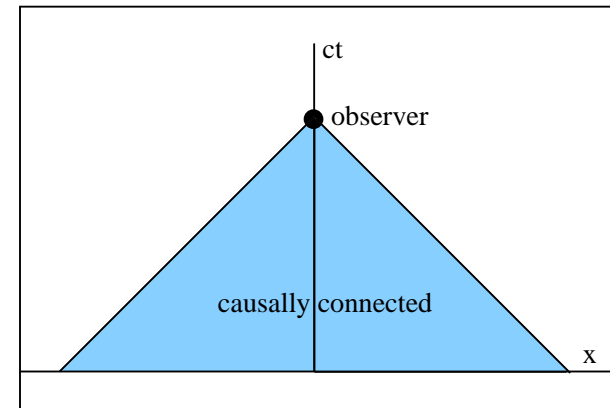
- In Greek mythology  $\exists$  **River Lethe**  
    the river of oblivion, of forgetting,  
    when you cross it, you loose all memory of the past.

Conclude: Horizons are **limits to information transfer**.

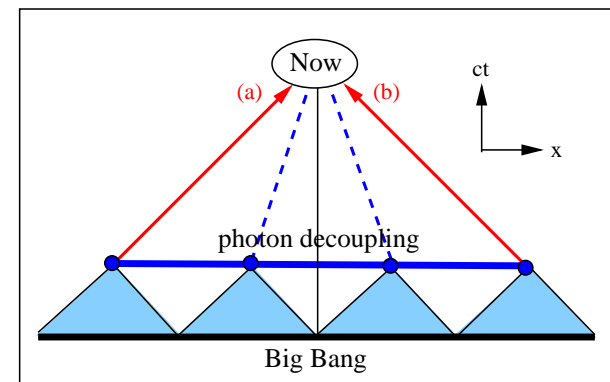
Information transfer  $\sim$  speed of light  $\sim$  causality constraints

Observer at point  $x = 0$  & time  $ct_0$  can receive information only from points  $|x| \leq ct_0 - ct$ ;

all events at  $|x| > ct_0 - ct$  are **causally disconnected**: they are beyond causal horizon.



In cosmology  $\Rightarrow$  **horizon problem**  
photons (a) and (b) come from regions causally disjoint at time of last scattering.



cannot communicate, but both  $\Rightarrow$  temperature  $2.725^\circ\text{K}$ .

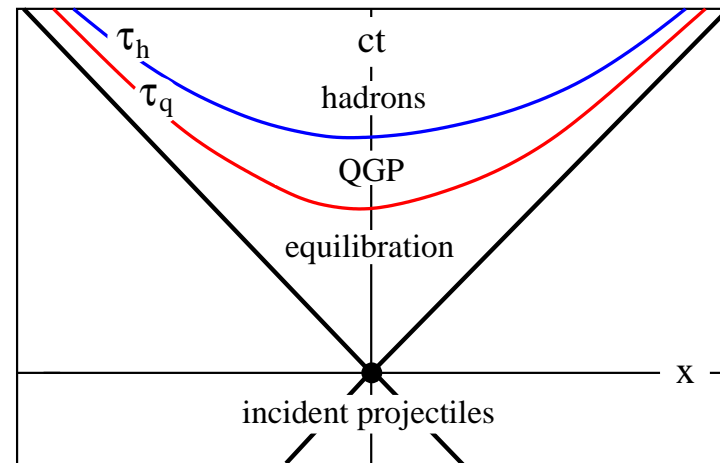
Our topic:

Causality (communication via finite speed of light) divides space-time for strong interactions into regions which cannot communicate with each other.

Consider boost-invariant  
hadron production  
in high energy collision;

QGP formation  $(ct)^2 - x^2 = \tau_q^2$

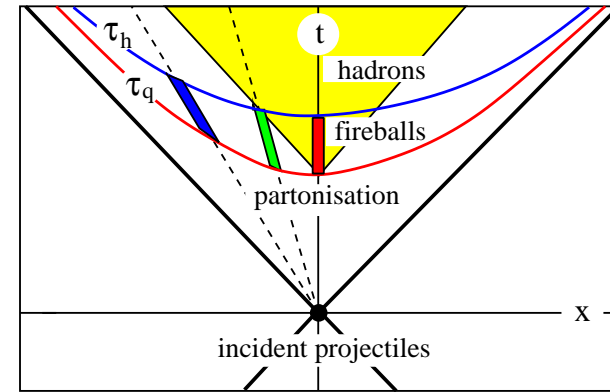
hadronisation  $(ct)^2 - x^2 = \tau_h^2$



Collision produces QGP fireballs, one at rest in CMS and others moving ever faster (“inside-outside cascade”)

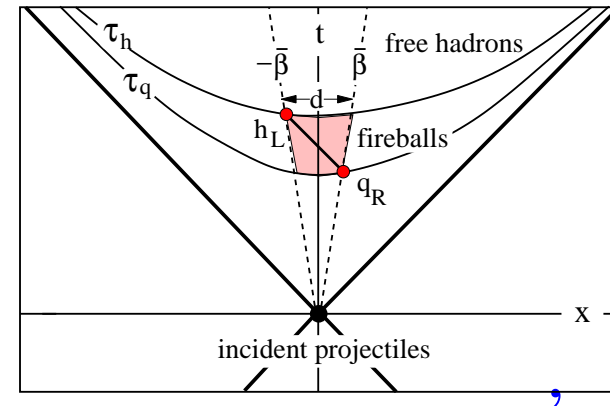
When can these fireballs communicate with each other?

fireballs at large rapidity  
 are beyond causal horizon  
 for fireball at rest in CMS;  
 causal extent of a single fireball?



define “one” fireball as  
 causally connected region:  
 → spatial size

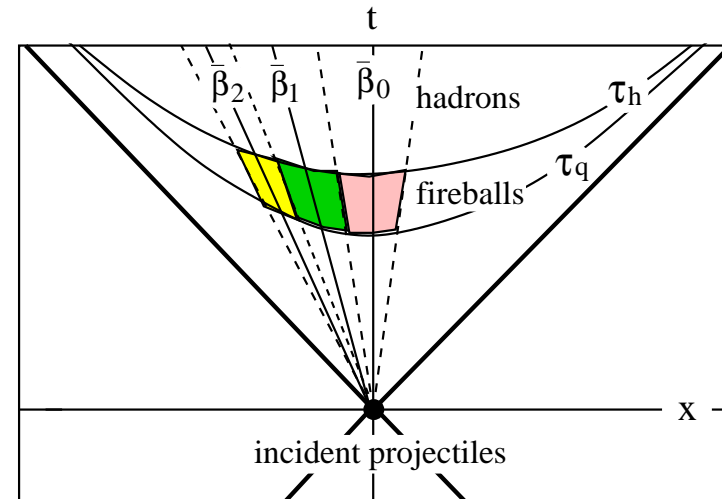
$$d = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q}} (\tau_h - \tau_q)$$



effective fireball size depends on QGP life-time

result:

QGP space-time  
is partitioned into  
causally disjoint regions



Consequence:

local conservation of  
discrete quantum numbers

→ local strangeness compensation

[Hagedorn, Redlich]

strangeness must be conserved within a volume of size

$$d = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q}} (\tau_h - \tau_q) \quad \text{with } V(d) < V(\text{global})$$

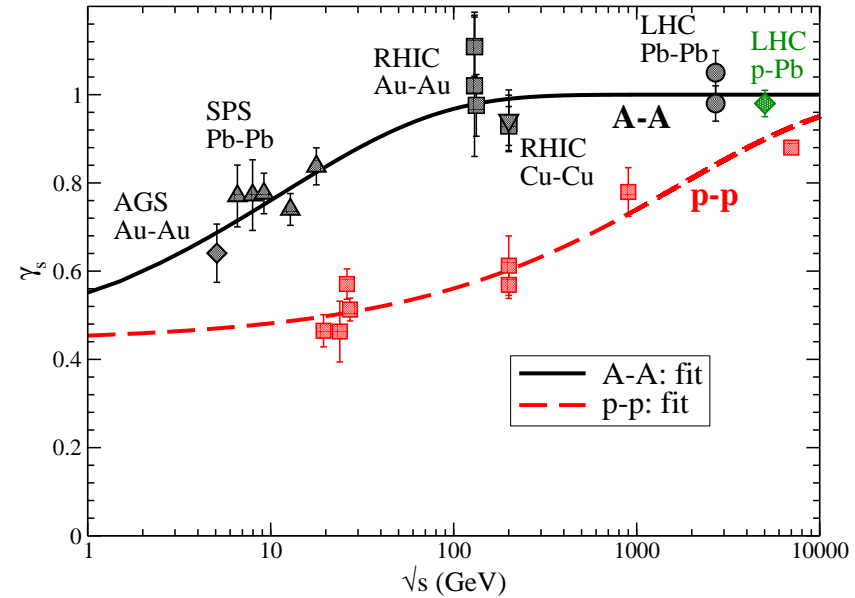
What does that mean?  $\Rightarrow$  effective strangeness suppression

[Hamie,Redlich,Tounsi 2000]

Recall:

- hadron abundances in high energy collisions  
 $\sim$  ideal resonance gas
- strange particle suppression, via  $\gamma_s^n$  for hadrons with  $n$  quarks/antiquarks

NB:  
more suppression  
in  $pp$  than in  $AA$ ;  
why?



Local strangeness conservation implies  $V_c$  plays role of  $\gamma_s$ :

$$Z(T, V, \gamma_s) \sim Z(T, V, V_c)$$

why is  $\gamma_s \sim V_c$  smaller in  $pp$  than in  $AA$  collisions?

Causality  $\rightarrow$  correlation volume

$$d = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q}} (\tau_h - \tau_q) = \text{in terms of measurable quantities?}$$

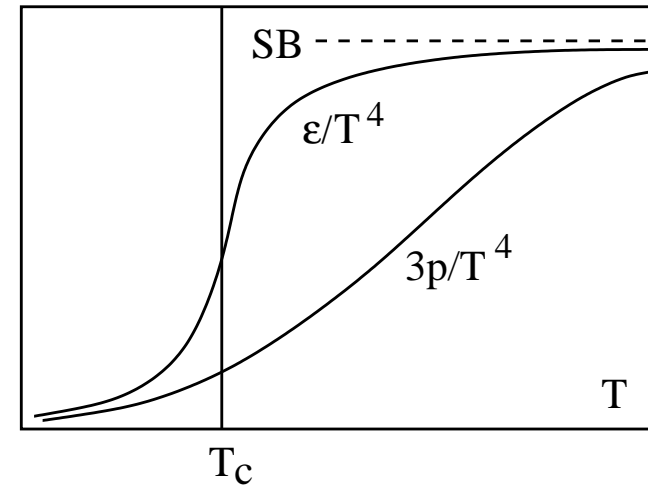
Boost-invariant production  $\rightarrow$  1-d hydrodynamic expansion

$$\frac{d\epsilon}{d\tau} = -\frac{(\epsilon + p)}{\tau}$$

$\rightarrow$  correlation of proper time  $\tau$  & energy density/pressure  
to solve, need **QGP equation of state**



express  $\epsilon(p)$ ,  
 solve hydro eq'n.



- ideal QGP, massless quarks ( $p = \epsilon/3$ ):  $\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q} = \left(\frac{\epsilon_q}{\epsilon_h}\right)^{3/4}$
- neglect pressure ( $p = 0$ ):  $\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q} = \left(\frac{\epsilon_q}{\epsilon_h}\right)$
- get EoS from lattic QCD ( $p = a\epsilon$ ,  $0 < a < 1/3$ )

$$\frac{\tau_h}{\tau_q} = \left(\frac{\epsilon_q}{\epsilon_h}\right)^{1/(1+a)} .$$

hadronisation energy density  $\sim$  universal confinement value

$$\epsilon_h \simeq 0.4 - 0.6 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$$

equilibration time  $\sim$  universal value  $\tau_q$

leads to crucial result, independent of detailed EoS form:

size  $d(s)$  of correlation region is fully determined by  
initial energy density  $\epsilon_q(s)$  at collision energy  $\sqrt{s}$ .

If  $d(s) \sim \gamma_s(s)$  determines strangeness suppression,  
then  $\gamma_s(s)$  must be a universal function of  $\epsilon_q(s)$

• eliminate  $s$  and consider  $\gamma_s(\epsilon_q)$ :

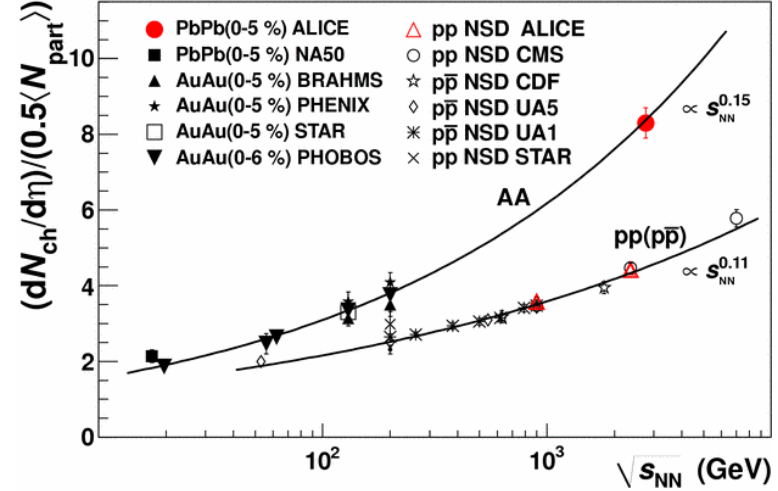
$$\epsilon_q \tau_q \simeq \frac{1.5 m_T}{\pi R_x^2} \left( \frac{dN}{dy} \right)_{y=0}^x, \text{ with } x \sim pp, pA, AA$$

.

multiplicity data as  $f(s)$ :

$$\left(\frac{dN}{dy}\right)_{y=0}^{AA} = a_A(\sqrt{s})^{0.3} + b_A$$

$$\left(\frac{dN}{dy}\right)_{y=0}^{pp} = a_p(\sqrt{s})^{0.22} + b_p$$



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$$a_A = 0.7613, \quad b_A = 0.0534; \quad a_p = 0.797; \quad b_p = 0.04123$$

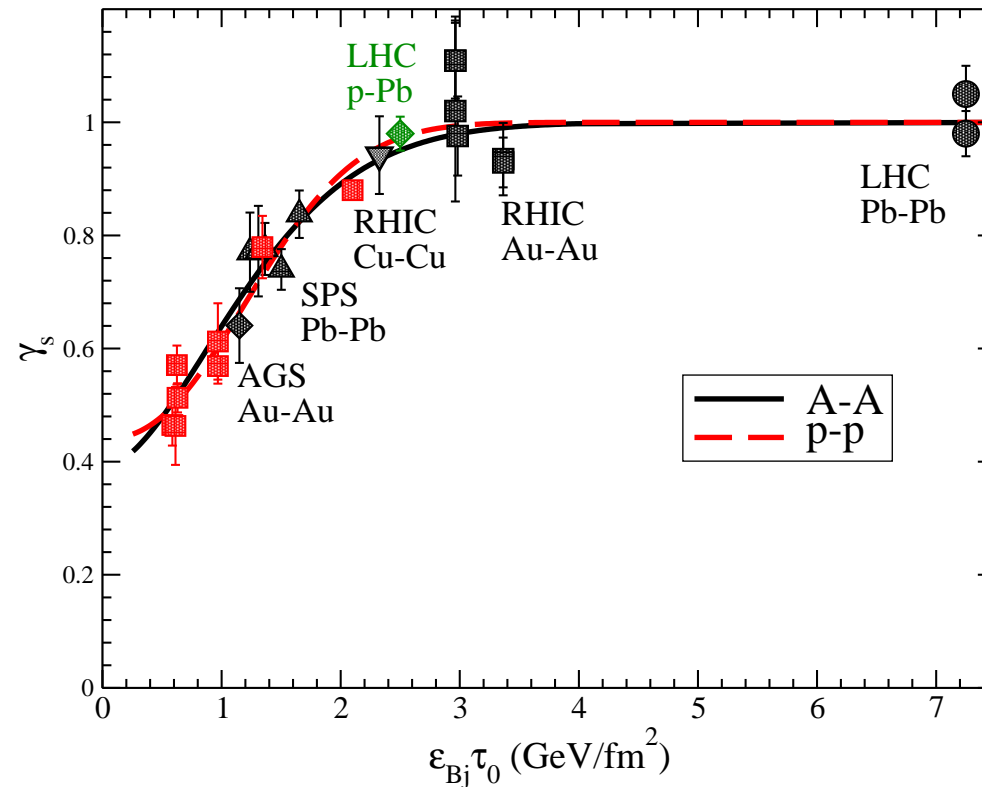
strangeness suppression as  $f(s)$ :

$$\gamma_s^A(s) = 1 - c_A \exp(-d_A \sqrt{A\sqrt{s}})$$

$$\gamma_s^p(s) = 1 - c_p \exp(-d_p s^{1/4}),$$

$$c_A = 0.606, \quad d_A = 0.0209; \quad c_p = 0.5595; \quad d_p = 0.0242$$

Can now plot  $\gamma_s$  vs.  $\epsilon_q$  and compare to  $AA, pA, pp$  data



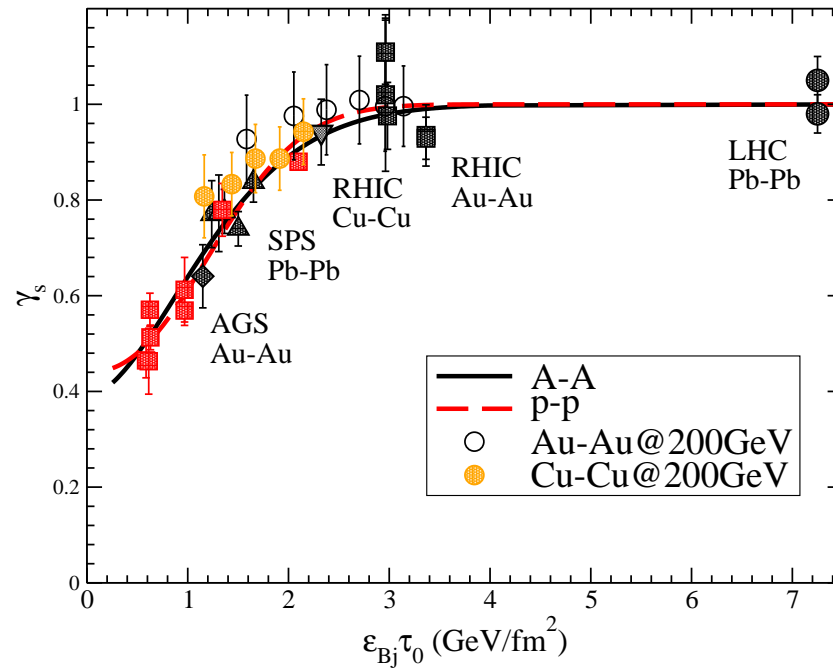
conclude:

- $\gamma_s(\epsilon_q)$  curves for  $pp$  and  $AA$  coincide
- $\gamma_s(\epsilon_q)$  data for  $pp, pA, AA$  agree with prediction

Further test: vary centrality of  $AA$  collision at fixed  $s$

$$\epsilon_0^{N_p} \tau_0 = \frac{1.5 m_T(0.5 N_p)}{\pi R_{N_p}^2} \left( \frac{dN}{dy} \right)_{y=0}^{AA}$$

with  $N_p$  for the number of participants. Compare  $\gamma_s$  to  $\epsilon_0^{N_p}$  for  $Au - Au$  and  $Cu - Cu$  data at 200 GeV (RHIC)



- Conclude:

strangeness suppression is uniquely determined by  
**initial** energy density in *pp*, *pA*, *AA* collisions

- Why?

- strangeness conservation must hold in causally connected space-time regions (“windows” between  $\epsilon_q$  and  $\epsilon_h$ )
- their size is determined by the initial energy density
- their size grows with increasing  $s$ ,  $A$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  grand canonical ensemble, no more strangeness suppression
- corollary: for *pp* at sufficiently large  $s$ ,  $\gamma_s \rightarrow 1$

P. Castorina & H. Satz, Int. J. Mod. Phys. E23 (2014) 1450019.

P. Castorina & H. Satz, arXiv:1601.01454

P. Castorina, S. Plumari and H. Satz, arXiv:1603.06529