#### Heavy-ion physics everything you always wanted to know about QCD and parton energy loss (and more)



### THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

Redmer Alexander Bertens - University of Knoxville, Tennessee Forschung trifft Schule: CERN Summer School

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### 'Heavy-ion physics' ?

### physics of the strong interaction

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### 'Heavy-ion physics' ?

physics of the strong interaction 1) What do we study? 2) QCD crash course 3) Heavy-ion collisions 4) What did we learn so far ?

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# HARD PROBES 2018







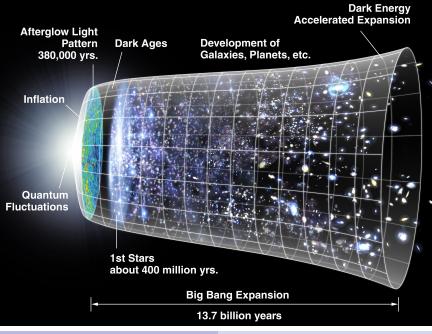
### Chapter 1)

### What do we study ?

## 'The history of the universe in the lab' (or just to learn about QCD)

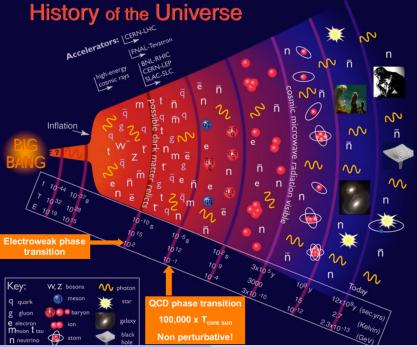
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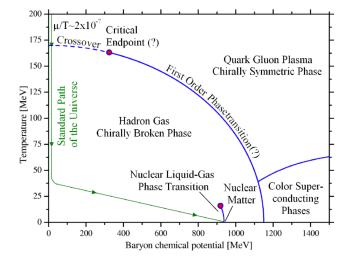
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at very high temperatures and densities a phase transition to **deconfined** matter occurs, where quarks and gluons are 'free' the **Quark Gluon Plasma** 

### Heavy-ion physics

## (re)create a **quark gluon plasma** by colliding heavy ions

## study QGP properties governed by **strong interaction**

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### Chapter 2)

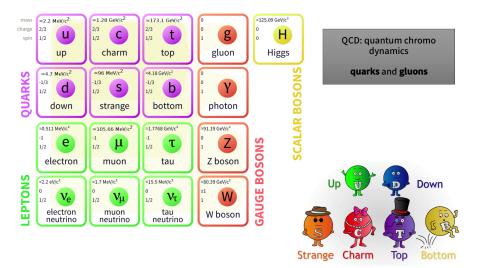
### Crash course QCD

### running coupling? deconfinement?

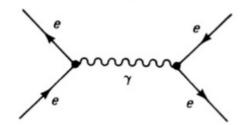
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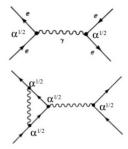


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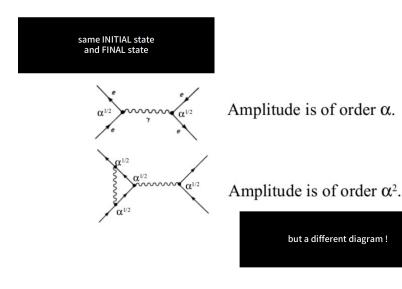




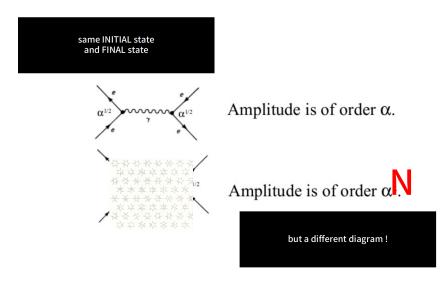
Amplitude is of order  $\alpha$ .

Amplitude is of order  $\alpha^2$ .













'virtual particles renormalize the coupling and make it dependent on the energy scale, μ , at which one observes the coupling'

complicated way of saying: the coupling strength ('constant') is not really constant

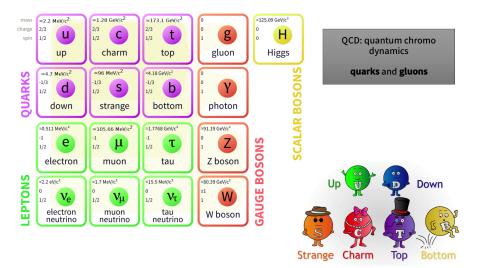
QED is easy: higher-order processes contribute with  $\alpha^{\scriptscriptstyle N}\sim(1/137)^{\scriptscriptstyle N}$   $\alpha(Q^2)=\alpha_0+\ \Sigma_N\,\alpha_0^{\scriptscriptstyle N}\sim \alpha_0$ 

in practice: at Q\*Q = 1TeV (= 100000000000 eV) this is a 1% correction ...

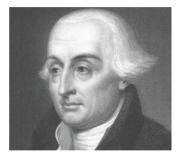
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but a different diagram !

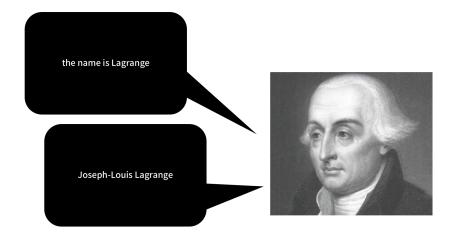










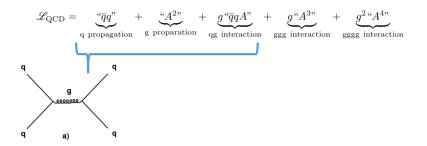




FAFALF + i F D y + h.c. $\mathcal{F}_{i} \mathcal{G}_{ij}$ h,c.

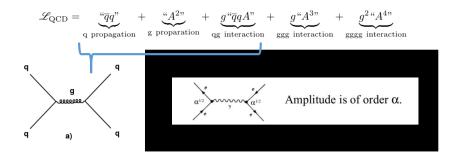


$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \overline{q}(i\gamma^{\mu}d_{\mu} - m)q - g(\overline{q}\gamma^{\mu}\lambda_{a}q)A^{a}_{\mu} - \frac{1}{4}G^{a}_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}_{a}$$
$$G^{a}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}A^{a}_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}A^{a}_{\mu} - gf_{abc}A^{b}_{\mu}A^{c}_{\nu}$$



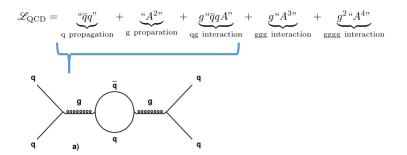


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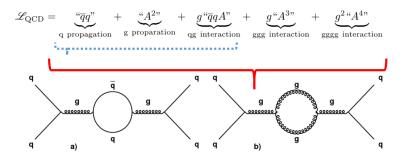


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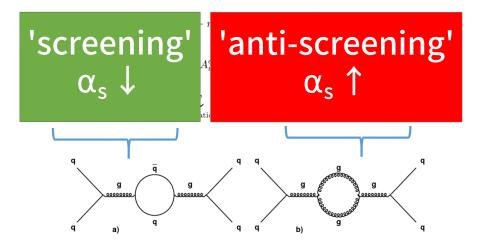




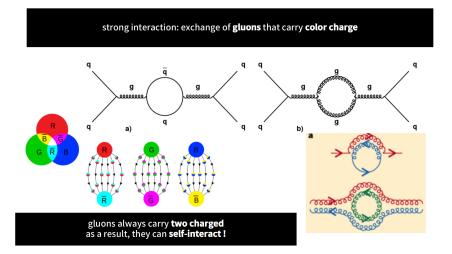
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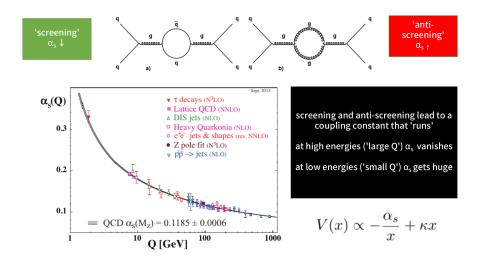




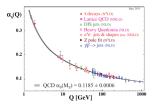


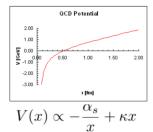








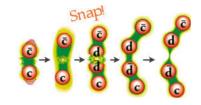




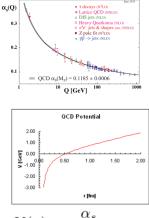
#### **QCD CONFINEMENT**

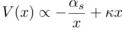
QED-like at short distance r≤0.1 fm Quarks are tightly bound  $\alpha_s \approx 0.2$  .. 0.3 String tension -> Potential increases linearly

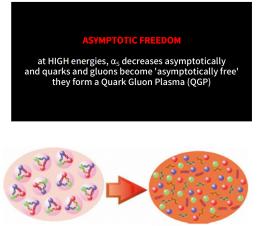
Quarks are **confined** into **baryons** (qqq) and **mesons** (qq) collectively called **hadrons**, like in **LHC** 





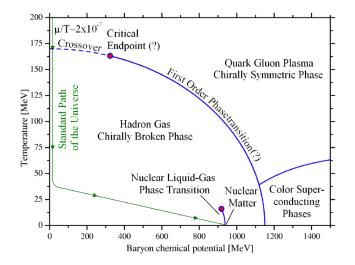






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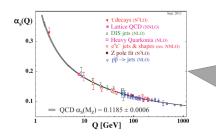


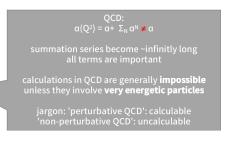
now we know why at very high temperatures and densities a phase transition to **deconfined** matter occurs, where quarks and gluons are 'free'

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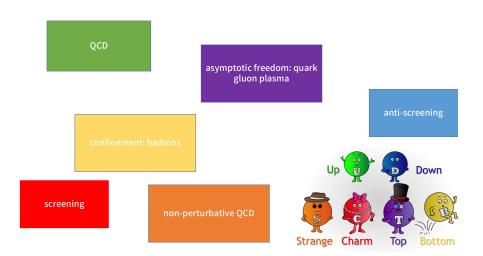


#### `QED is easy: higher-order processes contribute with $a^{N} \sim (1/137)^{N}$ $a(Q^{2}) = a_{0} + \Sigma_{N} a_{0}^{N} \sim a_{0}$ '









### Chapter 3)

### Heavy-ion collisions in practice

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### What do we need for a QGP?

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# dense matter : heavy ions

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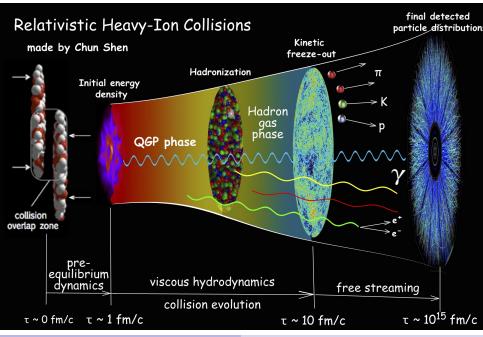
# dense matter : heavy ions high energy/temperature : accelerators

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dense matter : heavy ions high energy/temperature : accelerators collisions : create a QGP detectors to 'look' at the collisions

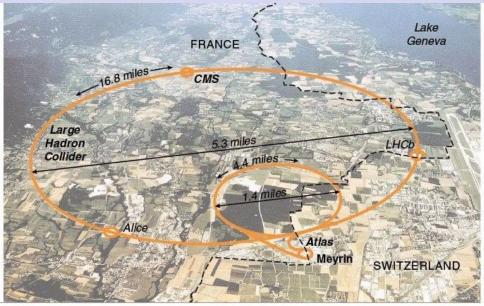
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#### The Large Hadron Collider at CERN

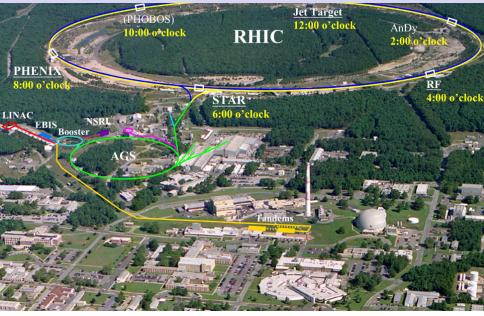




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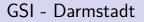
#### RHIC at BNL





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#### Where it all starts ... (LHC perspective)





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Where do we get our ions from ?

- Solid lead-208 is heated until it vaporizes at  $\approx$  800 degrees Celsius (1472 Fahrenheit)
- Vapor is ionized
- Ions are carried away by a EM field

#### Where it all starts ... (LHC perspective)







Where do we get our ions from ?

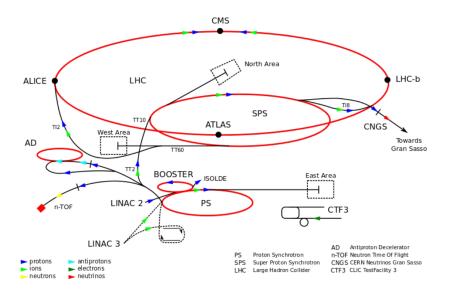
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The LHC accelerates lead ions for  $\ \approx 1$  month per year

- Billions of collisions
- Analysis for 1000s of physicists
- Costs pprox 5 grams of lead

#### And where it all goes







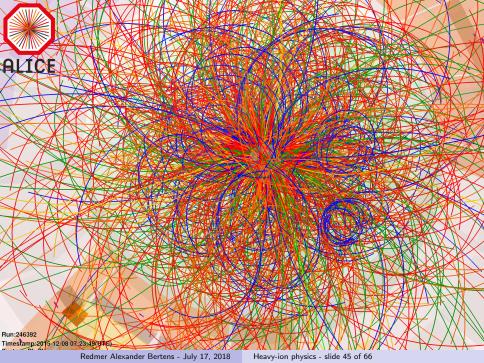
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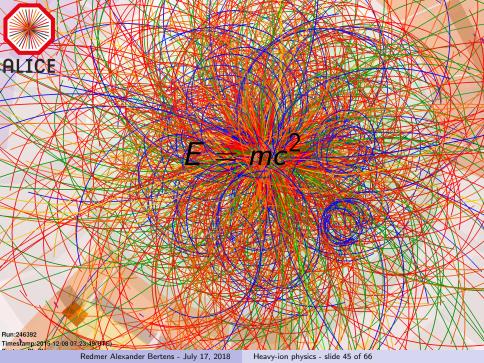


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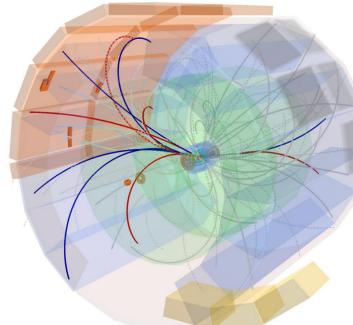
# but true beauty is found on the inside

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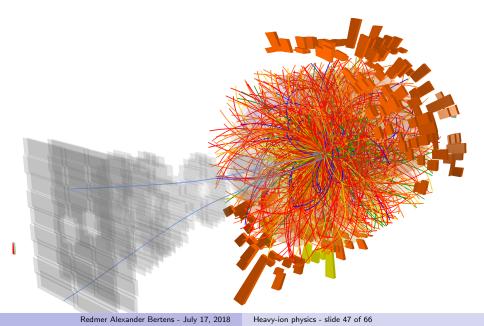


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#### Let's zoom out a bit





# Chapter 4)

# time for some actual experimental physics

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#### QGP is a plasma a plasma has a certain **viscosity** ('internal friction'), density, temperature, EOS, etc ...

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QGP is a plasma a plasma has a certain **viscosity** ('internal friction'), density, temperature, EOS, etc ...

QCD is (largely) non-perturbative, math doesn't help us

brute force approach: what about shooting particles through the plasma and seeing if they slow down ?

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Hard probes - what and why?

**Tomography** 'imaging through **modification** of penetrating wave'



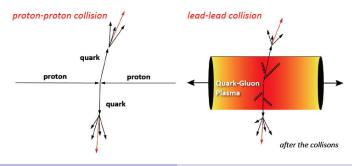


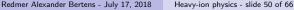
#### Hard probes - what and why?

#### **Tomography** 'imaging through modification of penetrating wave'

'Hard probe means highly energetic particle

- Small  $\alpha_s$ , properties known from QCD
- Deduce QGP properties from modification of the probe by the QGP
- Similar to x-ray : modification of  $\gamma$  wavelength by tissue











'Simplest' probe: (high- $p_T$ ) particle production in vacuum vs. in plasma

$$R_{\rm AA} = \frac{d^2 N^{\rm AA}/dp_{\rm T} d\eta}{\langle T_{\rm AA} \rangle \cdot d^2 \sigma_{\rm pp}/dp_{\rm T} d\eta} \approx \frac{\rm QCD \ medium}{\rm QCD \ vacuum}$$

 $\langle {\it T}_{AA} \rangle \propto \langle {\it N}_{coll} \rangle =$  no. of binary nucleon-nucleon collisions

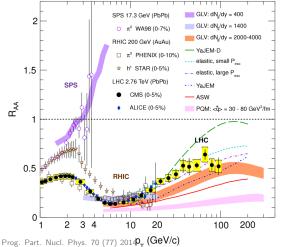
#### Possible scenarios



 $\blacksquare R_{AA} < 1$ 

#### $R_{AA}$ - from SPS to RHIC to LHC





Results from LHC and RHIC are qualitatively similar

*R*<sub>AA</sub> < 1 points at energy loss</p>

Decrease of  $R_{\rm AA}$  with increasing  $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}$ 

 Indicative of higher plasma density at the LHC compared to RHIC

Data (and models) suggest decrease of relative e-loss at high  $p_{\rm T}$ 

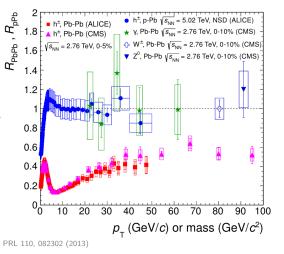
### so the $R_{AA}$ s a nice 'educational' tool



 $R_{pPb}$  is expected to be sensitive to initial state, but not final state effects

- $R_{\rm pPb}$  is consistent with unity for  $p_{\rm T}>2~{\rm GeV}/c$ 
  - Small Cronin-like enhancement visible at low p<sub>T</sub>
  - Consistent with R<sub>AA</sub> of particles which are not sensitive to QGP dynamics (γ, W<sup>±</sup>, Z<sup>0</sup>)

Suppression of hadron production in Pb–Pb collisions is *final* state effect



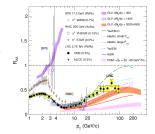
#### ... we're off to a good start ...



 $R_{AA}$  gives us an intuitive **tomographic** picture

- The energy of our probe is **absorbed** in the plasma ( $R_{\sf AA}$  < 1)
- With a bit of confidence we can say: 'partons lose energy in QGP,  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  and density dependent'

But that statement is still not very precise ...



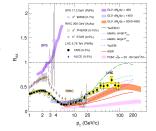
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If we want to learn more, we need to

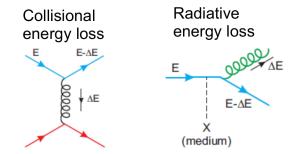
- Investigate the energy loss mechanisms that we can expect
- Perform calculations using these mechanisms
- Define a universal 'interface' (a plasma property) that we'll use to quantify the energy loss
- Make a systematic comparison of models to available data

Let's look at all this in some more detail

How do 'hard probes' lose energy?

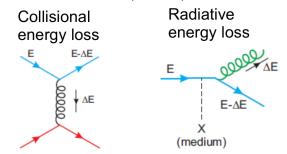


in the 'classic' (vs. AdS/CFT) QCD picture energy loss is either collisional or (induced) radiative





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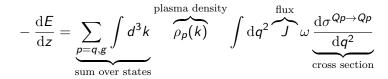


**both** mechanisms have an explicit dependence on the **length** of the parton's tracjectory through the QGP (L,  $L^2$ ) and plasma **density** 

#### Collisional energy loss - an incomplete picture



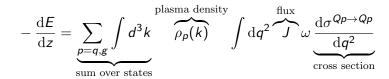
As a 'back of the envelope' thought, ingredients for **collisional** energy loss where  $\omega = E^{\text{initial}} - E^{\text{final}}$  is transferred one can write



#### Collisional energy loss - an incomplete picture TEN



As a 'back of the envelope' thought, ingredients for **collisional** energy loss where  $\omega = E^{\text{initial}} - E^{\text{final}}$  is transferred one can write



with a some trickery this can be integrated

$$-\frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}z} = \pi \alpha_s^2 \sum_p C_p \int \frac{d^3k}{k} \rho_p(k) \ln\left(\frac{q_{\max}^2}{q_{\min}^2}\right)$$
$$\simeq \frac{4\pi \alpha_s^2 T^2}{3} \left(1 + \frac{N_f}{6}\right) \ln\left(\frac{cE}{\alpha_s T}\right)$$

do not try to remember this !



The energy loss for radiative processes is directly connected to the energy of the radiated gluon  $\omega$ 

$$\langle \Delta E \rangle = \int \mathrm{d}\omega \mathrm{d}z \,\, \omega \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 I}{\mathrm{d}\omega \mathrm{d}z}$$



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The difficulty enters here: gluons have a finite **formation time** during which the parent particle and gluon are still a **coherent** object

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if parent particle and gluon are still in a **coherent state** further radiation is **suppressed** - this effect is known as **LPM** interference

### LPM interference in radiative processes



Because of the finite  $\tau_f$  the gluon spectrum has **three** distinct regimes depending on mean free path  $\lambda$  and screening mass  $\mu$ 

$$\omega \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 I}{\mathrm{d}\omega \mathrm{d}z} \simeq \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha_s}{\lambda} & \omega < \omega_{\mathrm{BH}} \\ \frac{\alpha_s}{\lambda} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda \mu^2}{\omega}} & \omega_{\mathrm{BH}} < \omega < \omega_{\mathrm{fact}} \\ \frac{\alpha_s}{L} & \omega_{\mathrm{fact}} < \omega < E \end{cases}$$

**1** Low gluon energies: all constituents act as single sources of radiation

- Intermediate energies: multiple constituents act as a coherent scattering source (LPM interference)
- **Highest** energies: the entire plasma acts as **one** scattering center

$$\langle \Delta E \rangle (L) \sim c_1 \alpha_s E + c_2 \alpha_s \frac{\mu^2 L^2}{\lambda}$$

remember that we can do these calculations because our 'hard probe' has large energy: perturbation theory works

how do we relate it to a macroscopic plasma property ?



In the most general sense, a **transport coefficient**  $\gamma$  measures how rapidly a perturbed system returns to equilibrium ...

$$\gamma = \int_0^\infty \langle \dot{A}(t) \dot{A}(0) 
angle$$



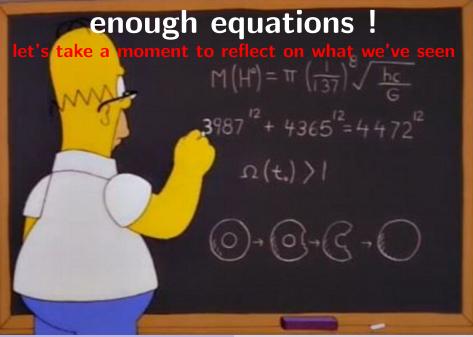
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$$\gamma = \int_0^\infty \langle \dot{A}(t) \dot{A}(0) 
angle$$

... but I (I don't do quantum mechanics every day ... ) know them best as viscosity  $\eta$  or the transverse momentum diffusion coefficient  $\hat{q}$ 

$$\hat{q} = \frac{\langle q_{\perp}^2 \rangle}{\lambda} \qquad \qquad \underbrace{\Delta E}_{\parallel \parallel} \simeq \alpha_s \hat{q} L^2$$

 $\hat{q}$  quantifies momentum diffusion between a probe particle and a given material as the average squared momentum transfer  $\langle q_{\perp}^2 \rangle$  per unit length  $\lambda$ , where  $_{\perp}$  is perpendicular to the partons' trajectory



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enough equations ! let's take a moment to reflect on what we've seen hard probes can be used to probe the QGP via probe-medium interactions

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n(t.) >1

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n(t))

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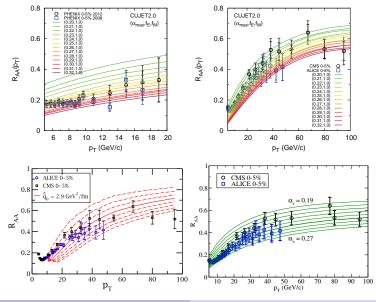
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### The tuning process

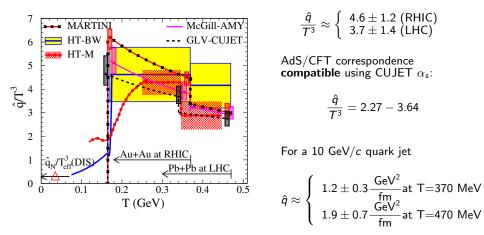




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### ... to arrive at a common $\hat{q}$





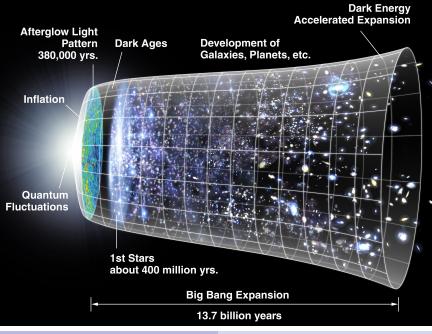
 $\hat{q}$  determined with pprox 35% certainty

#### combined effort of five theory groups, RHIC and LHC

# ... so ... $\hat{q} \approx 2$ ... doesn't sound too impressive ...

but realize that this is 20 years or RHIC / 20 years of LHC / 20 years of theory and a first **'telescope'** to the very early universe

that teaches us about temperature, density, viscosity, EOS of the QGP



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# if you are still awake ... ) Jets

so in summary,  $R_{AA}$  teaches us a lot - but it has it's limitations because we look at **hadronized** particles, not **partons**, and we don't know what **'path'** the parton took through the plasma

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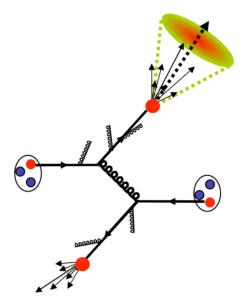
to **understand** the nature of energy loss, experiments must get as close to **partons** as possible, constrain the **trajectory** and measure the **shape** of the e-loss distribution

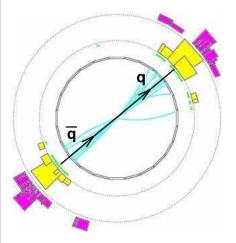
### Jets in heavy-ion collisions in a nutshell



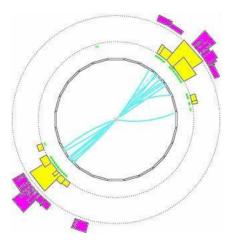
Hard scattering  $(Q^2 > 1 (GeV/c)^2)$ 

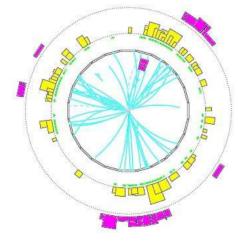
- Parton travels through the QGP, scattering and radiation of quarks and gluons
- Hadronization into colorless spray: 'jet'
- Reconstructed jet: as close as one can experimentally get to original parton (the scattered quark or gluon
- 'Removes' ill-understood hadronization from modeling
- But jet analysis is tricky!





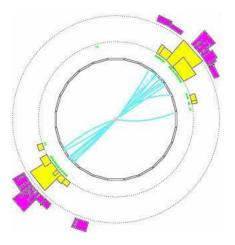
How many jets do you see? Do you really want to ask yourself this question for 10<sup>9</sup> events?

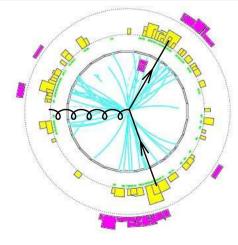




### How many jets do you see?

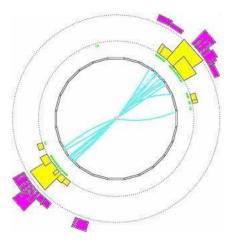
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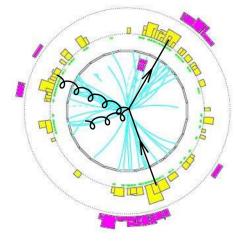




### How many jets do you see?

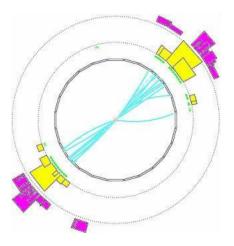
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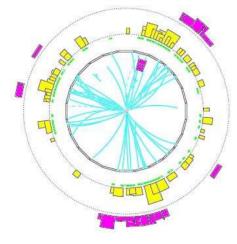




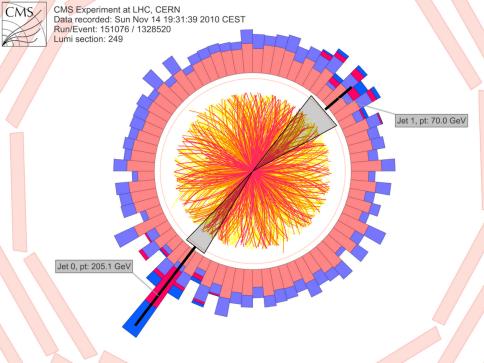
### How many jets do you see?

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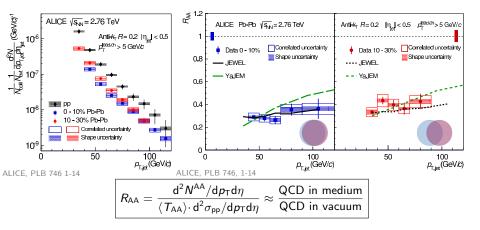
How many jets do you see? Do you really want to ask yourself this question for  $10^9$  events?



# so if time permits, two questions

are jets **quenched**? can we determine the **path** of the jet through the plasma?

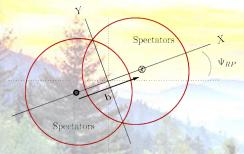
### Out-of-cone radiation: $R_{AA}$ of jets



Strong suppression in central and semi-central colisions

Resonable model agreement (JEWEL<sup>1</sup>, YaJEM<sup>2</sup>) Indication of **out-of-cone** radiation

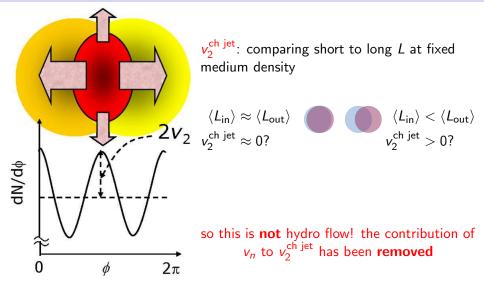
# what **path** did the jet take through the plasma?



# event-plane dependence of jet production

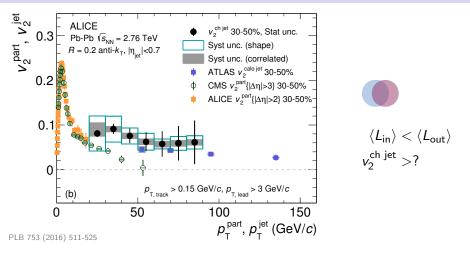
# $v_2^{\text{ch jet}}$ : 'selecting' path lengths





# $v_2^{\text{ch jet}}$ in semi-central collisions





**Non-zero**  $v_2^{\text{ch jet}}$  over full  $p_{\text{T}}$  range - strong path length dependence **Good agreement** between measurements of ALICE, ATLAS, CMS

### Path-length dependence: di-jet systems



'so to **understand** the nature of energy loss, we must get as close to **partons** as possible, constrain the **trajectory** and measure the **shape** of the e-loss distribution'

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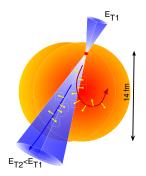
Di-jet system:  $2 \longrightarrow 2$  process

- Jets traveling in **opposite** direction with **equal** initial transverse momentum  $p_{T1} = p_{T2}$
- $L_1 \neq L_2$
- $\Delta E_1 \neq \Delta E_2$
- Final state  $p_T$  is not equal  $p_{T1} \neq p_{T2}$

Some caveats ... in all collision systems  $p_{T1} \neq p_{T2}$ 

- pp: recoil, out-of-cone radiation (vacuum fluctuations)
- AA: energy loss fluctuations, different path-lengths

 $A_{J} = \frac{p_{T1} - p_{T2}}{p_{T1} + p_{T2}}$  $x_{j} = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 



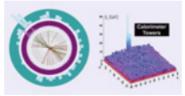


### CERN COURIER

#### Jan 25, 2011

## ATLAS observes striking imbalance of jet energies in heavy ion collisions

The ATLAS experiment has made the first observation of an unexpectedly large imbalance of energy in pairs of jets created in lead-ion collisions at the LHC (G Aad *et al.* 2010). This striking effect, which is not seen in proton–p

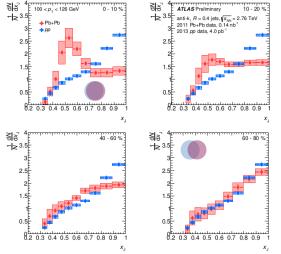


Highly asymmetric dijet event

effect, which is not seen in proton-proton collisions, may be a sign of strong interactions between jets and a hot, dense medium

### Di-jet imbalance $x_j = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$





Asymmetry quantified as

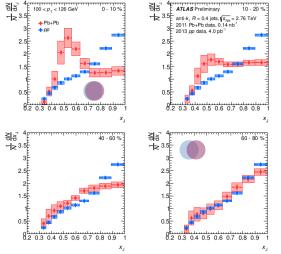
$$x_j = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$$

#### Fully unfolded

- Direct comparison to **theory**
- ... and (eventually) other experiments

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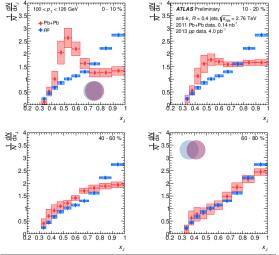
- Direct comparison to theory
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#### In pp

• most probable dijet configuration:  $x_j \approx 1$ 

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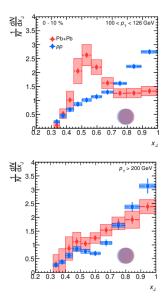
#### In Pb-Pb

 most probable configuration: subleading jet has half as much energy as leading jet

Strong **centrality** dependence

Di-jet imbalance  $x_j = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 



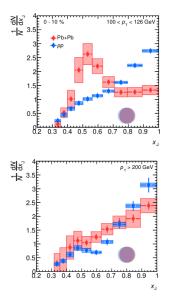


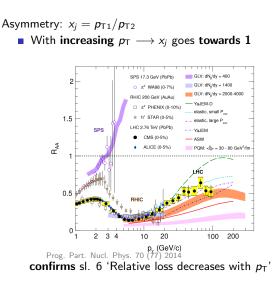
Asymmetry:  $x_j = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 

• With increasing  $p_T \longrightarrow x_j$  goes towards 1

Di-jet imbalance  $x_i = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 

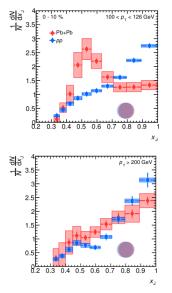






Di-jet imbalance  $x_i = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 





In summary

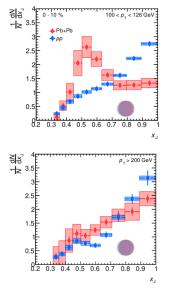
- *R*<sub>AA</sub>: moderate **average** energy loss
- di-jets: wide variation in possible energy loss

So di-jet asymmetry very nicely illustrates

- centrality dependence hints on path length dependence
- e-loss is a distribution

Di-jet imbalance  $x_i = p_{T1}/p_{T2}$ 





In summary

- *R*<sub>AA</sub>: moderate **average** energy loss
- di-jets: wide variation in possible energy loss

So di-jet asymmetry very nicely illustrates

- centrality dependence hints on path length dependence
- e-loss is a distribution

But it doesn't tell what the **balance** is between

- **per-jet** energy loss **fluctuations**? (analogous to fluctuations in vacuum radiation)
- average energy loss from kinematics, medium compisition and geometry?

'to **understand** the nature of energy loss, experiments must get as close to **partons** as possible, constrain the **trajectory** and measure the **shape** of the e-loss distribution' 'to **understand** the nature of energy loss, experiments must get as close to **partons** as possible, constrain the **trajectory** and measure the **shape** of the e-loss distribution'

so let's give that a go from both the **experimental** and **theory** side

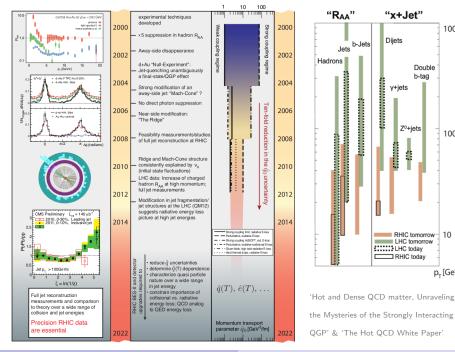
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How-to: constrain QGP properties ? Which processes is dominant? (radiative, elastic) Where does radiated energy go ? #questions ≫ #answers



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Heavy-ion physics - slide 88 of 66

1000

100

p\_[GeV]

Double

b-tag

RHIC tomorrow-10

Z<sup>0</sup>+jets

# fin thanks for your attention / patience

# BACKUP