

Open charm and dileptons from relativistic heavy-ion collisions

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Online



Open charm and electromagnetic probes

□ Dileptons and real photons :

- emitted from different stages of the HIC
- not effected by final-state partonic and hadronic interactions
- promising signal of QGP – ,thermal‘ photons and dileptons

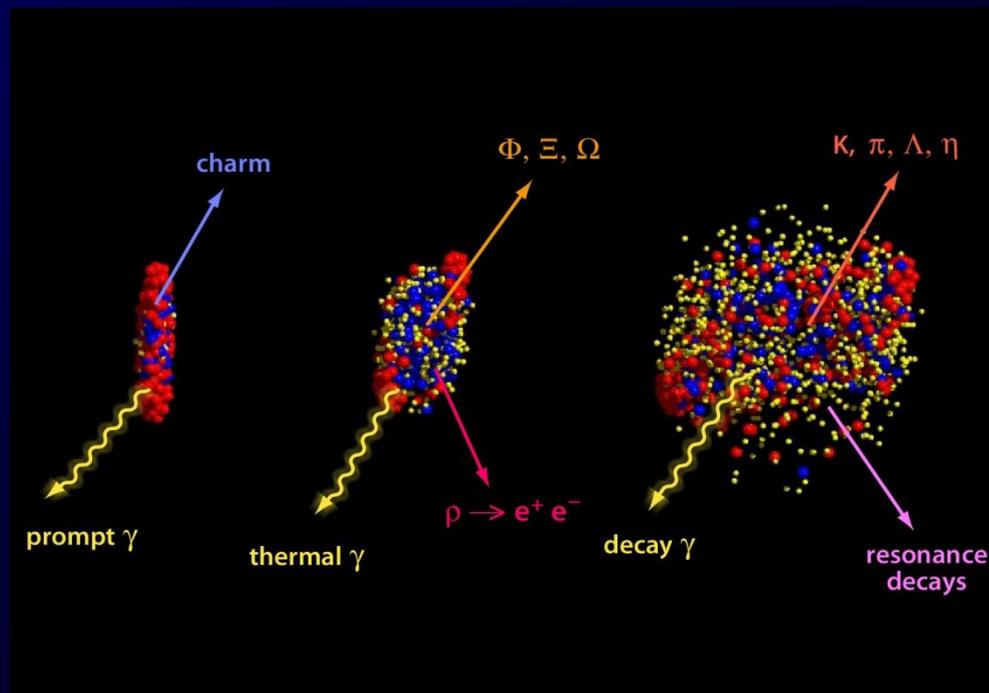
→ Requires **theoretical models** which describe the **dynamics** of heavy-ion collisions during the whole time evolution!



Microscopic transport approaches

□ Heavy quarks (charm, bottom):

- produced at the early stage of the HIC
- interact with QGP and hadronic matter





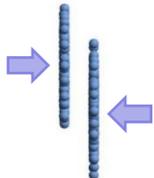
Parton-Hadron-String-Dynamics (PHSD)



PHSD is a **non-equilibrium microscopic transport approach** for the description of **strongly-interacting hadronic and partonic matter** created in heavy-ion collisions

Dynamics: based on the solution of **generalized off-shell transport equations** derived from Kadanoff-Baym many-body theory

Initial A+A collision



Initial A+A collisions :

$N+N \rightarrow$ **string formation** \rightarrow decay to pre-hadrons + leading hadrons

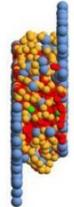
Formation of QGP stage if local $\varepsilon > \varepsilon_{\text{critical}} = 0.5 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$:

dissolution of **pre-hadrons** \rightarrow partons

Partonic phase - QGP:

QGP is described by the **Dynamical QuasiParticle Model (DQPM)** matched to reproduce **lattice QCD EoS** for finite T and μ_B (crossover)

Partonic phase

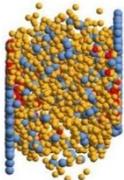


- **Degrees-of-freedom:** strongly interacting quasiparticles:

massive quarks and gluons (g, q, q_{bar}) with sizeable collisional widths in a self-generated mean-field potential

- **Interactions:** (quasi-)elastic and inelastic collisions of partons

Hadronization

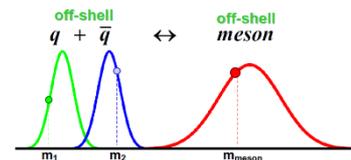
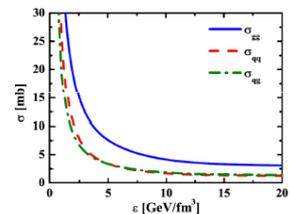
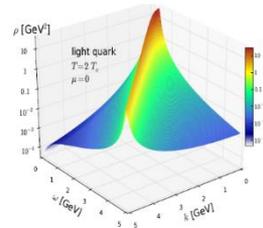
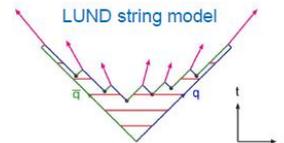
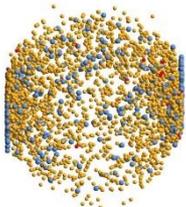


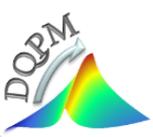
Hadronization to colorless **off-shell mesons and baryons:**

Strict 4-momentum and quantum number conservation

Hadronic phase: **hadron-hadron interactions – off-shell HSD**

Hadronic phase





Dynamical QuasiParticle Model (DQPM)

DQPM – effective model for the description of **non-perturbative** (strongly interacting) QCD based on **IQCD EoS**

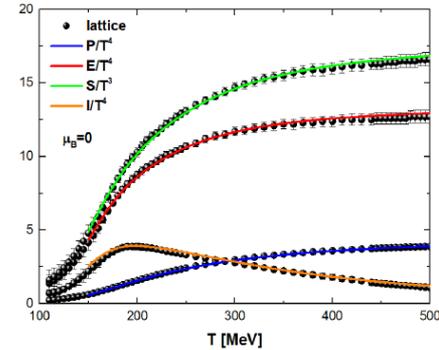
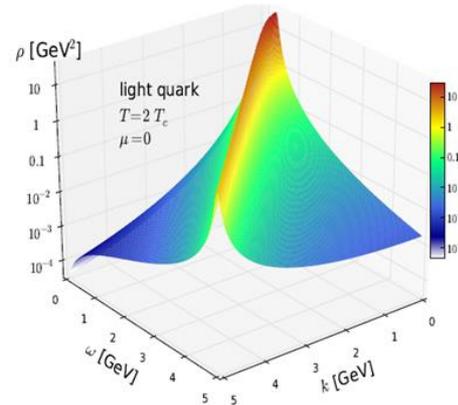
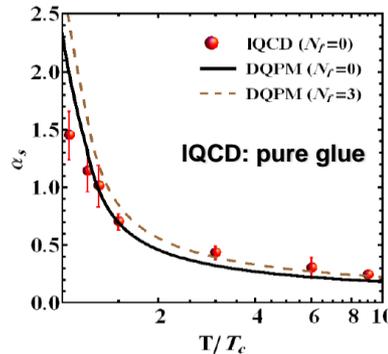
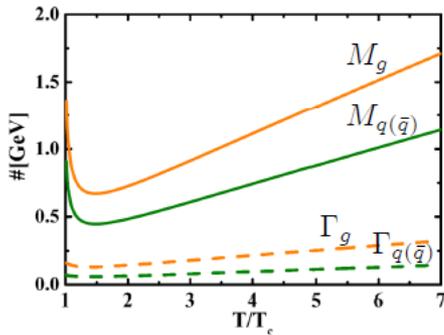
Degrees-of-freedom: strongly interacting **dynamical quasiparticles** - quarks and gluons

Theoretical basis :

□ ,resummed‘ single-particle Green’s functions \rightarrow quark (gluon) propagator (2PI) : $G_q^{-1} = P^2 - \Sigma_q$
Properties of the quasiparticles are specified by scalar **complex self-energies**: $\Sigma_q = M_q^2 - i2\gamma_q\omega$
 $Re\Sigma_q$: **thermal masses** (M_g, M_q); $Im\Sigma_q$: **interaction widths** (γ_g, γ_q) \rightarrow spectral functions $\rho_q = -2ImG_q$

- introduce an **ansatz** (HTL; with few parameters) for the (T, μ_B) dependence of masses/widths
- evaluate the **QGP thermodynamics** in equilibrium using the Kadanoff-Baym theory
- fix DQPM parameters by comparison to the entropy density s , pressure P , energy density ε from DQPM to **IQCD** at $\mu_B = 0$

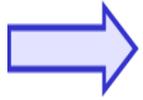
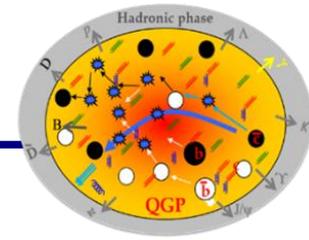
\rightarrow **Quasi-particle properties at (T, μ_B) :**



• **DQPM** provides **mean-fields** (1PI) for q, g and **effective 2-body partonic interactions** (2PI); gives **transition rates** for the formation of hadrons \rightarrow **QGP in PHSD**



Charm dynamics in PHSD



In order to get information about the QGP in HIC via dileptons, the **charm dynamics must be under control**

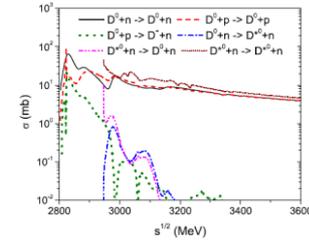
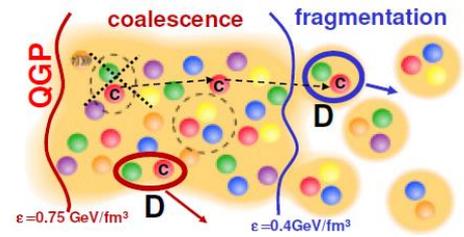
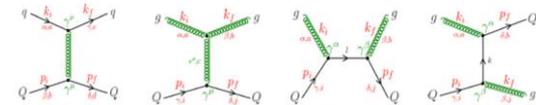
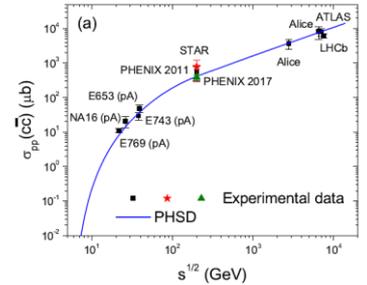
Dynamics of heavy quarks in A+A :

1. **Production** of heavy (charm and bottom) quarks in initial binary collisions + shadowing and Cronin effects

2. **Interactions in the non-perturbative QGP** – according to the DQPM: elastic scattering with off-shell massive partons $Q+q \rightarrow Q+q \rightarrow$ collisional energy loss

3. **Hadronization**: c/cbar quarks $\rightarrow D(D^*)$ -mesons:
Dynamical hadronization scenario for heavy quarks :
coalescence with $\langle r \rangle = 0.9$ fm & **fragmentation**
 $0.4 < \epsilon < 0.75$ GeV/fm³ $\epsilon < 0.4$ GeV/fm³

4. **Hadronic interactions**:
D+baryons; D+mesons based on G-matrix and effective chiral Lagrangian approach with heavy-quark spin symmetry (>200 channels)
(Juan Torres-Rincon, Laura Tolos)



* PHSD references on charm dynamics:
Taesoo Song et al., PRC 92 (2015) 014910, PRC 93 (2016) 034906, PRC 96 (2017) 014905
PRC 97 (2018) 064907; PRC 101 (2020) 044901; PRC 101 (2020) 044903



PHSD vs charm observables at RHIC (highlights)

STAR

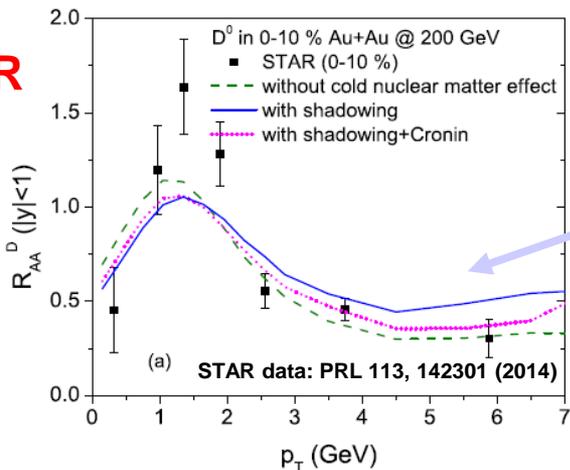
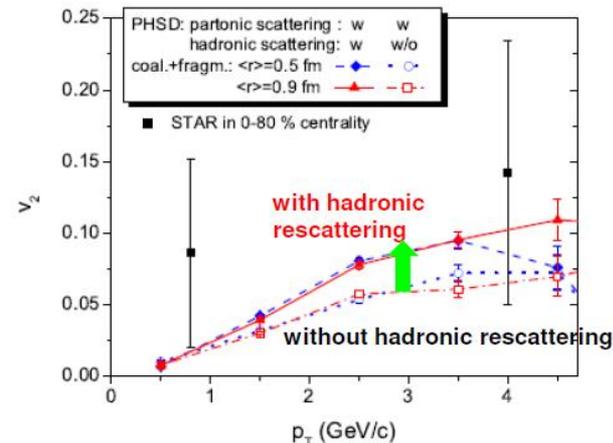
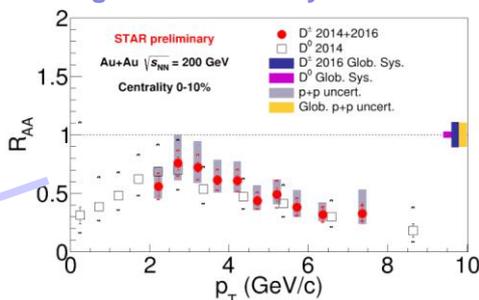
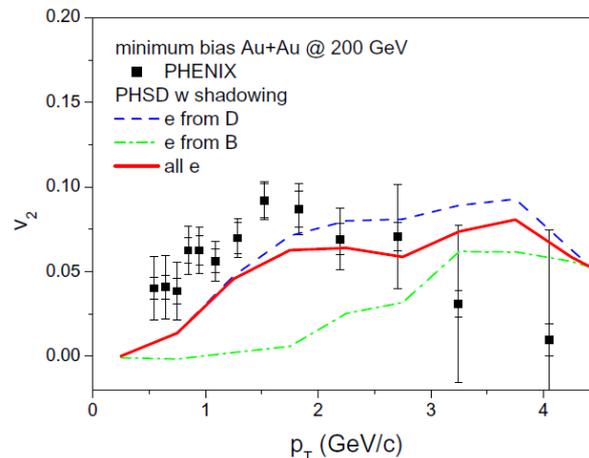
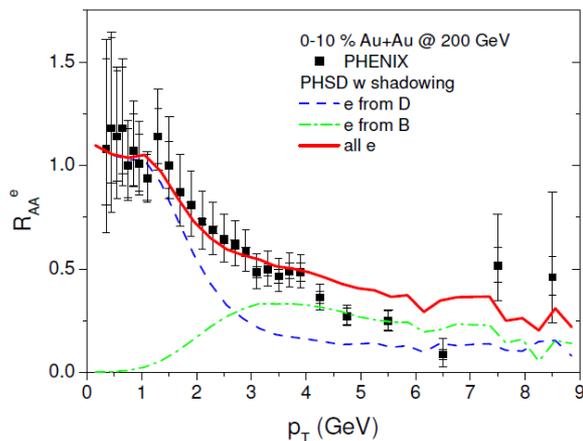


Fig. from the talk by Jan Vanek



PHENIX

R_{AA} and v₂ vs p_T
from single electrons
in Au+Au @ 200 GeV →



- The exp. data for the R_{AA} and v₂ are described in the PHSD by **QGP collisional energy loss** due to **elastic scattering** of charm quarks with massive quarks and gluons in the QGP
- + by the **dynamical hadronization scenario** „coalescence & fragmentation“
- + by **strong hadronic interactions** due to resonant elastic scattering of D, D* with mesons and baryons



PHSD vs charm observables at LHC (highlights)

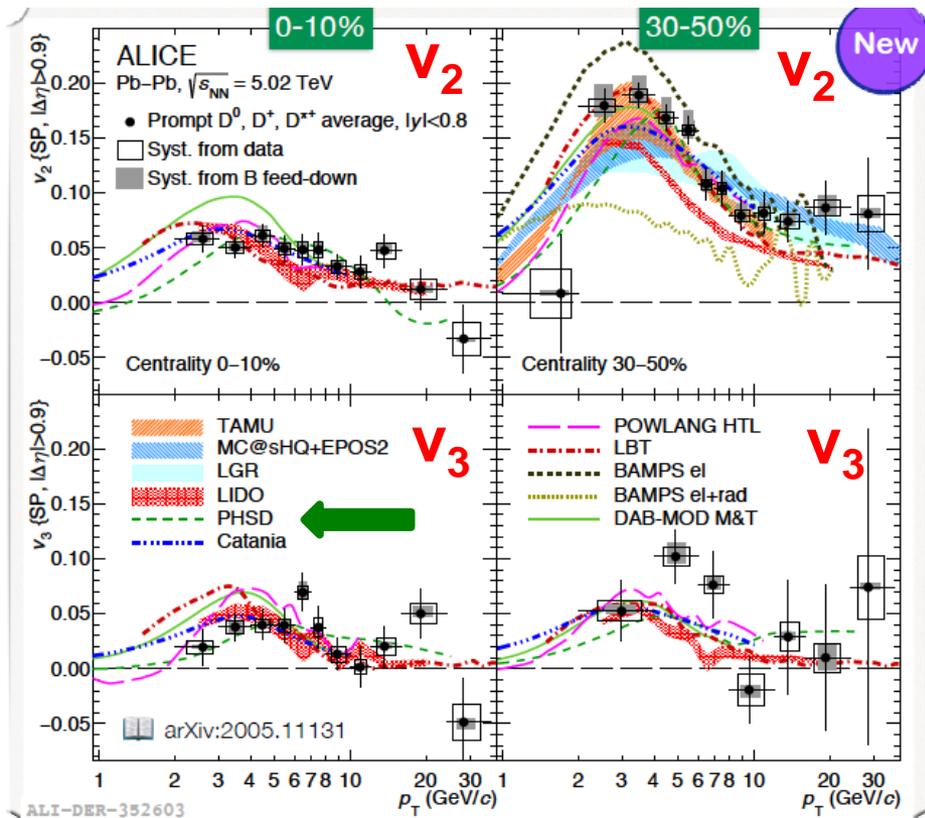
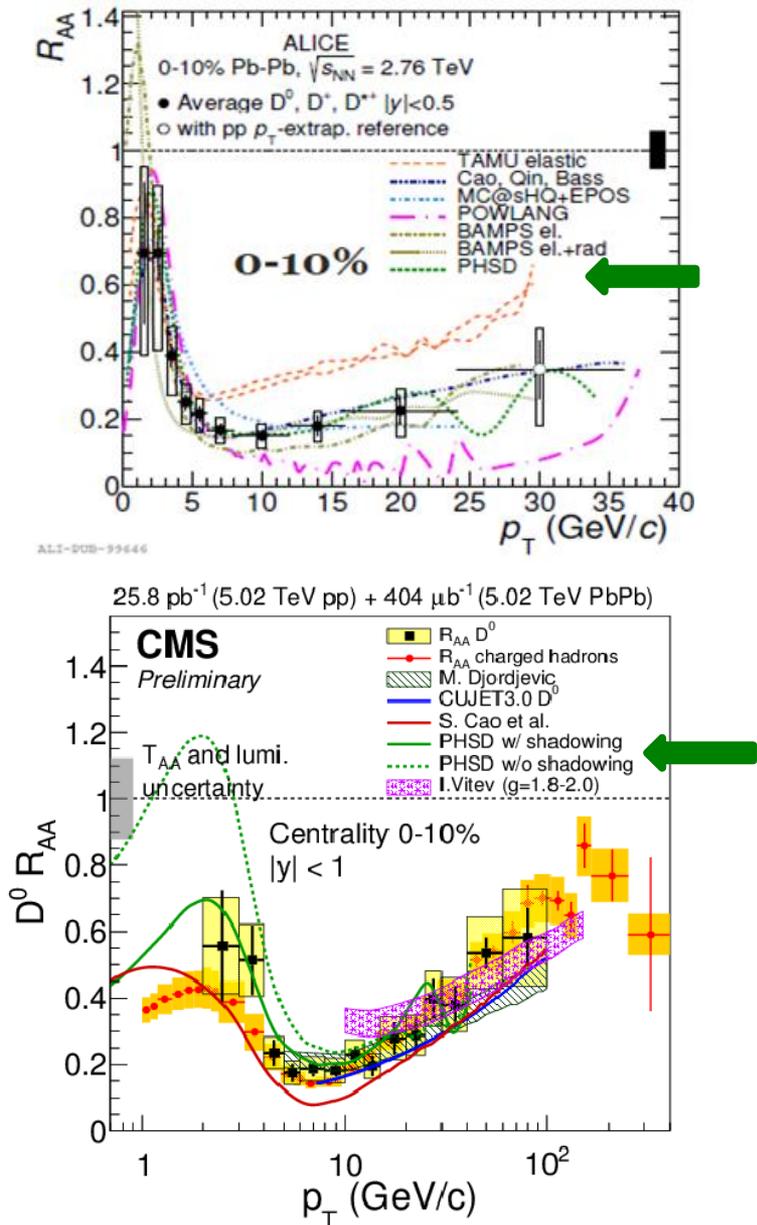
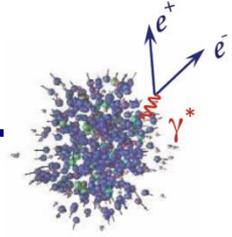


Fig. from the talk by Stefano Trogolo

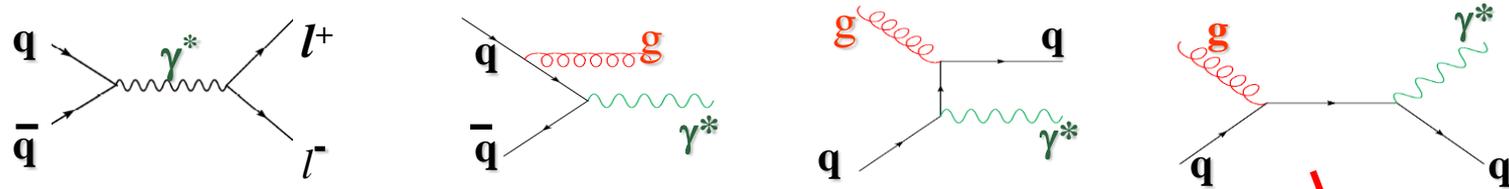
T. Song et al., PRC 92 (2015) 014910,
PRC 93 (2016) 034906, PRC 96 (2017) 014905

Dilepton sources



from the **QGP** via partonic (q,qbar, g) interactions:

PHSD: **non-perturbative QGP** → DQPM



from **hadronic sources**:

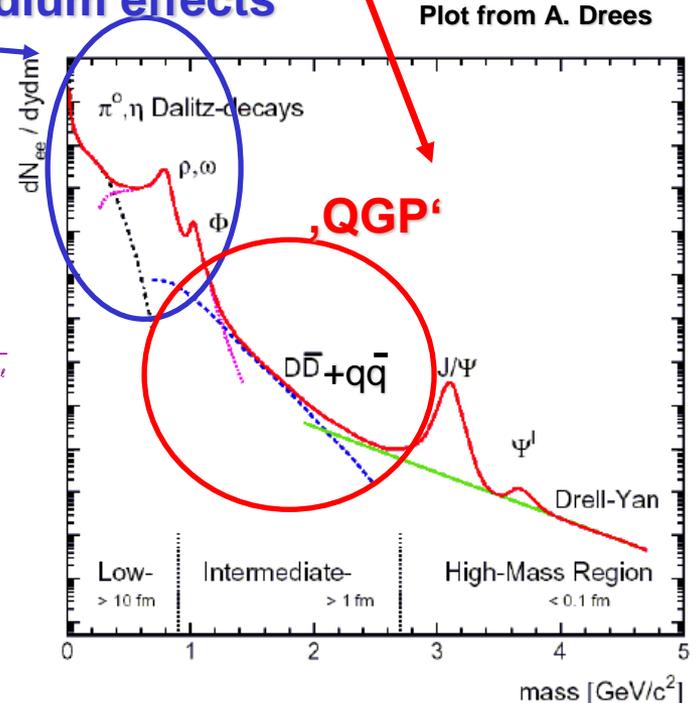
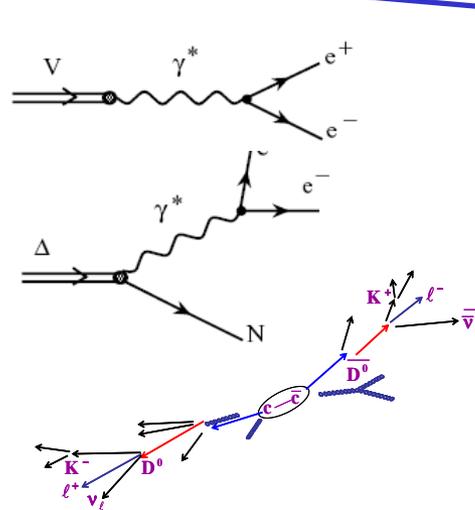
in-medium effects

- **direct decay** of vector mesons ($\rho, \omega, \phi, J/\Psi, \Psi'$)

- **Dalitz decay** of mesons and baryons ($\pi^0, \eta, \Delta, \dots$)

- **correlated D+Dbar pairs**

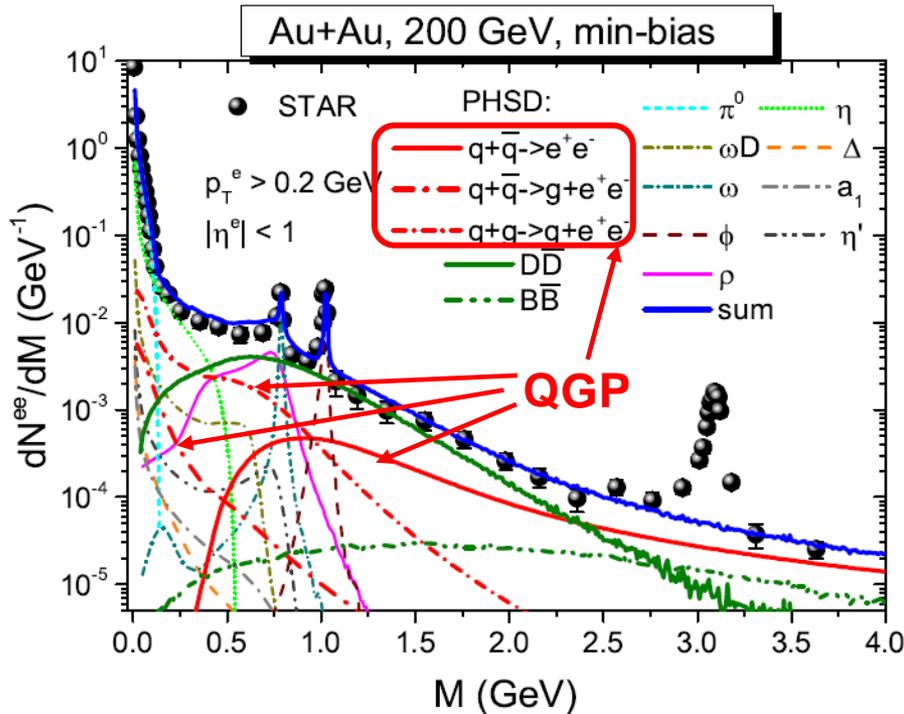
- **radiation from multi-meson reactions** ($\pi+\pi, \pi+\rho, \pi+\omega, \rho+\rho, \pi+a_1$) - **,4 π '**



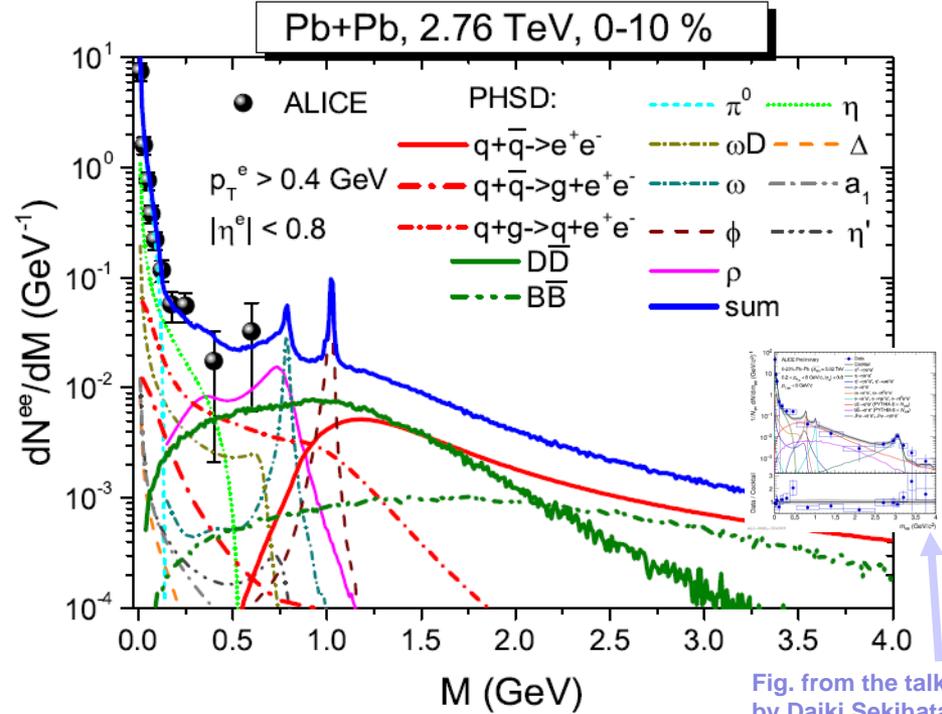
What is the best energy range to observe dileptons from QGP?

Dileptons at RHIC and LHC

RHIC



LHC



Message:

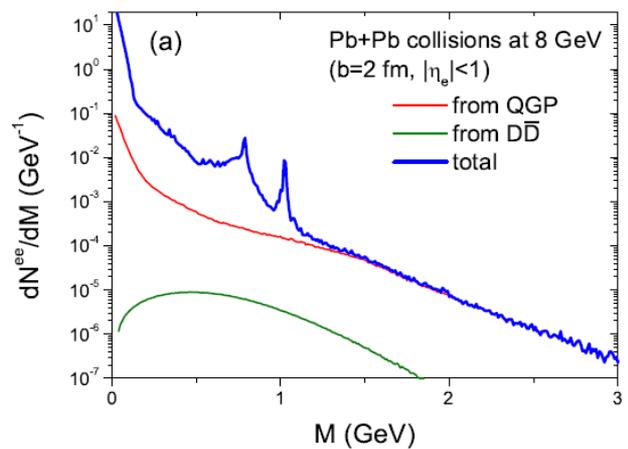
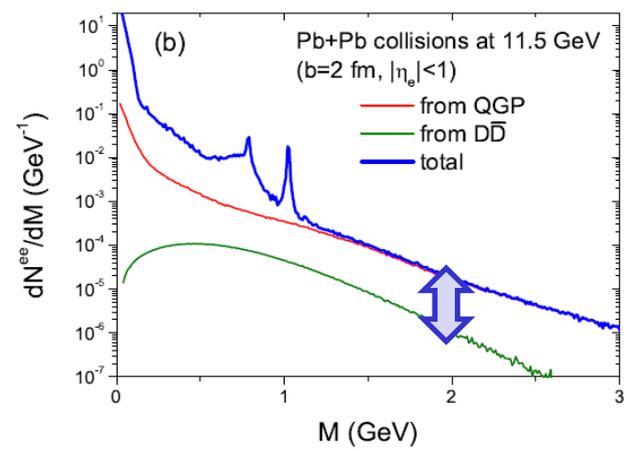
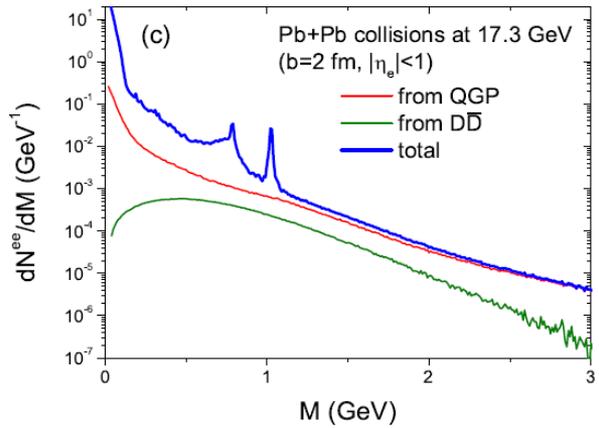
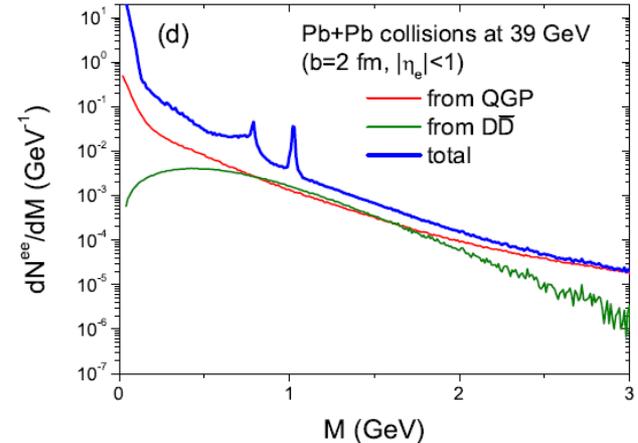
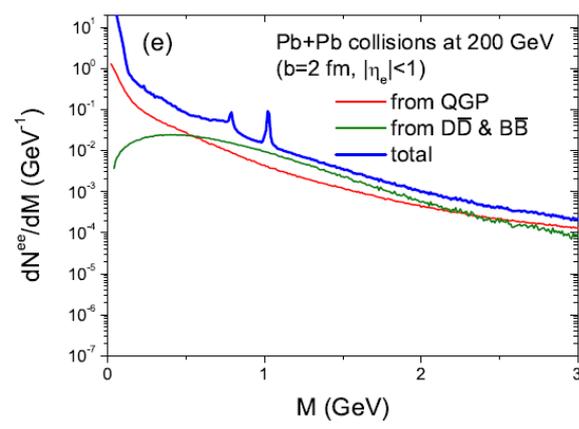
STAR data at 200 GeV and the ALICE data at 2.76 TeV are described by PHSD within

1) a **collisional broadening** scenario for the **vector meson** spectral functions
+ **QGP** + correlated charm

2) **Charm contribution** is dominant for $1.2 < M < 2.5$ GeV



Dileptons at FAIR/NICA energies: predictions



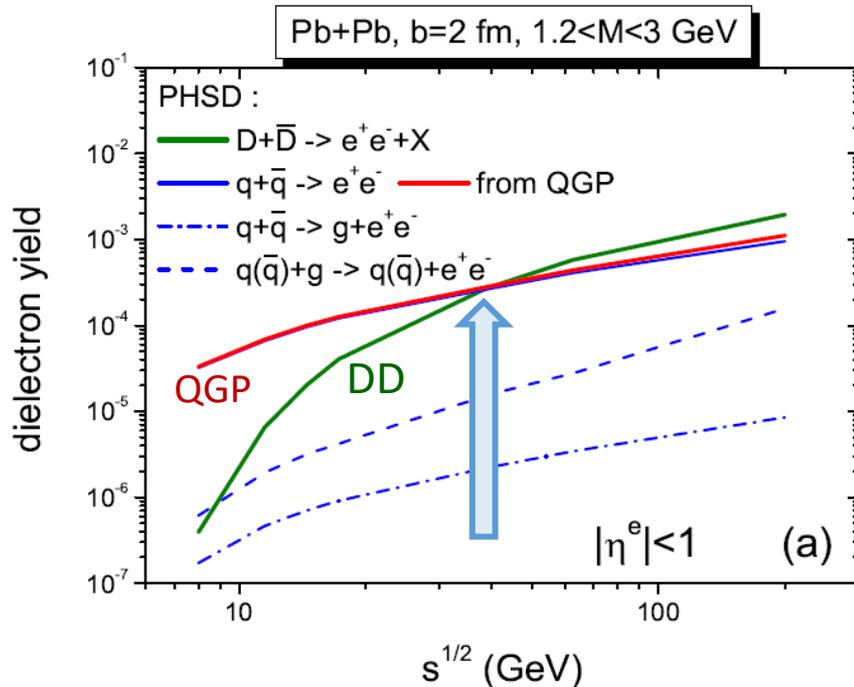
Relative contribution of QGP versus charm increases with decreasing energy!



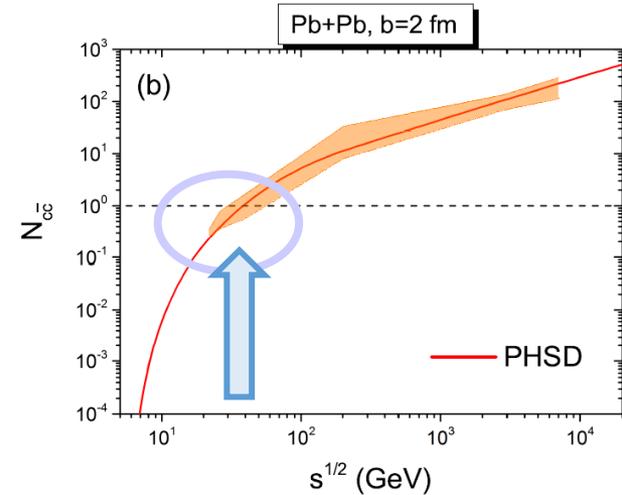
Dileptons: QGP vs charm

Excitation function of dilepton yield integrated for $1.2 < M < 3 \text{ GeV}$

mid-rapidity



The number of primary cc pairs in Pb+Pb collisions at $b=2 \text{ fm}$ as a function of $s^{1/2}$

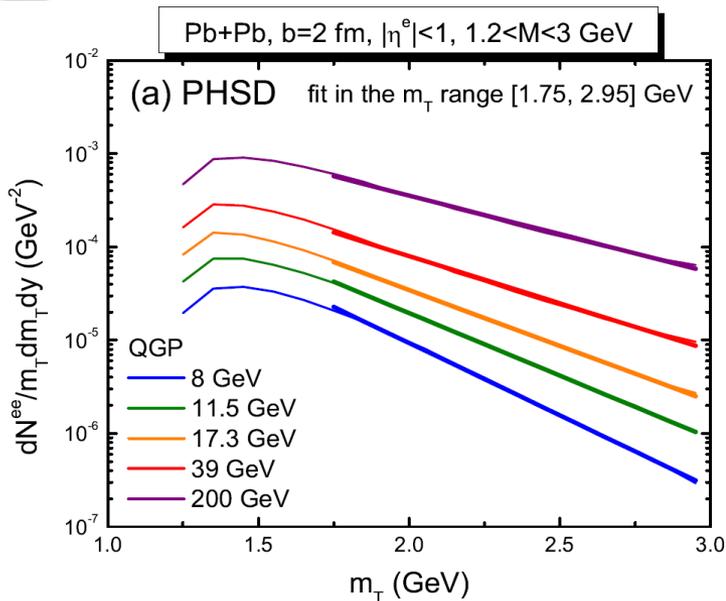


* The shaded area shows the uncertainty in the number of cc pairs in Pb+Pb due to the uncertainty in the charm production cross section in p+p collisions

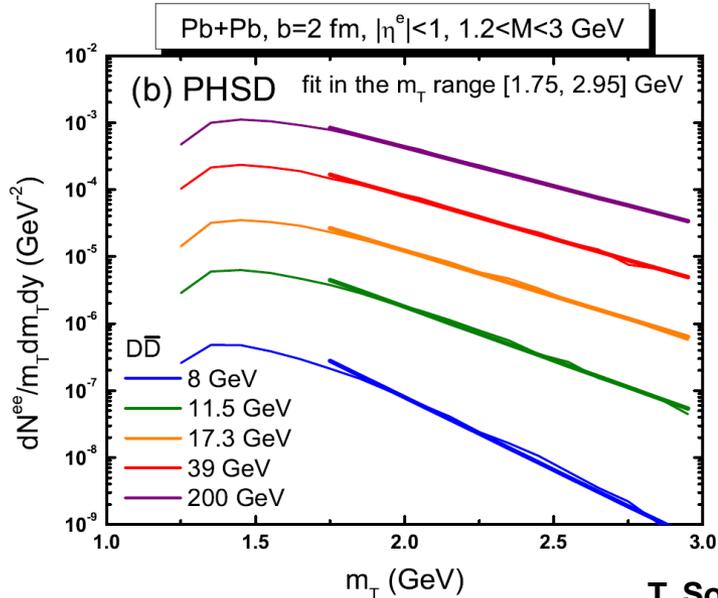
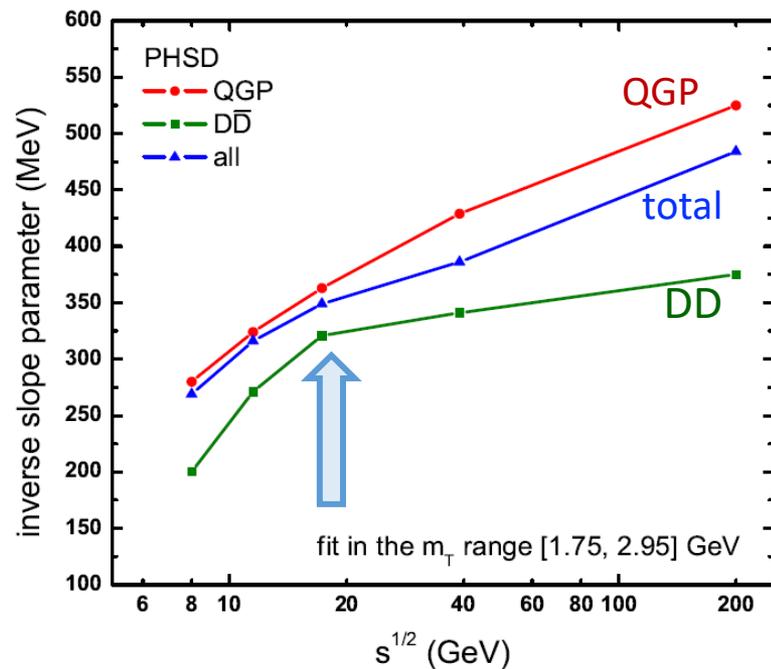
QGP contribution overshines charm with decreasing energy: $\sqrt{s} \leq 30 \text{ GeV}$



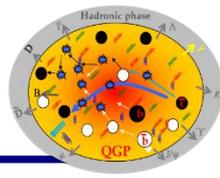
Dilepton transverse mass spectra



The **inverse slope parameter** in the mass range $M=[1.75, 2.95]$



- Inverse slope parameter: QGP contribution is **harder** than that from D-Dbar
- The **excitation function** of the total inverse slope parameter shows **characteristic changes at $s^{1/2} > 20$ GeV**



- **Charm quarks** are **sensitive to the history** of the **QGP evolution** and retain information on the entire time evolution from initial stage up to the late stage of the HIC
 - **heavy quarks are a very suitable probe** to study the QGP properties

- **Intermediate dilepton masses $M > 1.2$ GeV :**
 - Dominant sources : **QGP** (qbar-q) and **correlated charm D/Dbar**
 - Fraction of QGP **grows** with increasing energy; however, the relative contribution of QGP dileptons to **dileptons from charm pairs** increases with decreasing energy

- **QGP contribution overshines charm with decreasing energy**
Good perspectives for FAIR / NICA / BES RHIC !