

# Quark Matter 2019 - the XXVIIIth International Conference on Ultra-relativistic Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions



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## How to infer the shape of the QGP droplet from high pt data

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The spatial anisotropy of QGP, formed in ultrarelativistic heavy-ion collisions, is commonly inferred from models of early QGP evolution. These studies (e.g. MC-Glauber, EKRT, IP-Glasma, MC-KLN), based on different methods, lead to notably different predictions, with a notable effect in the resulting predictions for both low and high pt data. On the other hand, energy loss of high-pt particles traversing QCD medium is an excellent probe of QGP properties, particularly since there is a wealth of accumulated high pt experimental data. Therefore, as a novel and complementary approach, we here propose using high pt theory and data to infer the shape of initial QGP droplet.

To achieve this, we use DREENA framework, which is fully optimized computational procedure based on our state-of-the-art dynamical energy loss formalism. Our most recent results show that, when embedded in 3+1D hydro medium model, DREENA provides a very good joint agreement with both  $v_2$  and  $R_{AA}$  data, contrary to the  $v_2$  puzzle faced by models with simpler energy loss mechanisms. This, together with good joint agreement of our model with a wide range of  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  data (obtained with no fitting parameters used in model testing) shows that DREENA can realistically describe high pt parton-medium interactions. By using DREENA framework, we show, through analytical arguments, numerical calculations, and comparison with experimental data, that  $v_2/(1-R_{AA})$  reaches a well-defined saturation value at high pt, which is in turn proportional to the initial anisotropy. We provide first anisotropy estimates from our approach, and compare them with the predictions of early QGP evolution models. With expected future significant reduction of experimental errors, the anisotropy extracted from experimental data will strongly constrain the calculations of initial particle production in heavy-ion collisions, and thus test our understanding of QGP physics.

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