

# Introduction to Heavy-Ion Physics Part I

Jan Fiete Grosse-Oetringhaus, CERN

Summer Student Lectures 2019



# What is Heavy-Ion Physics?

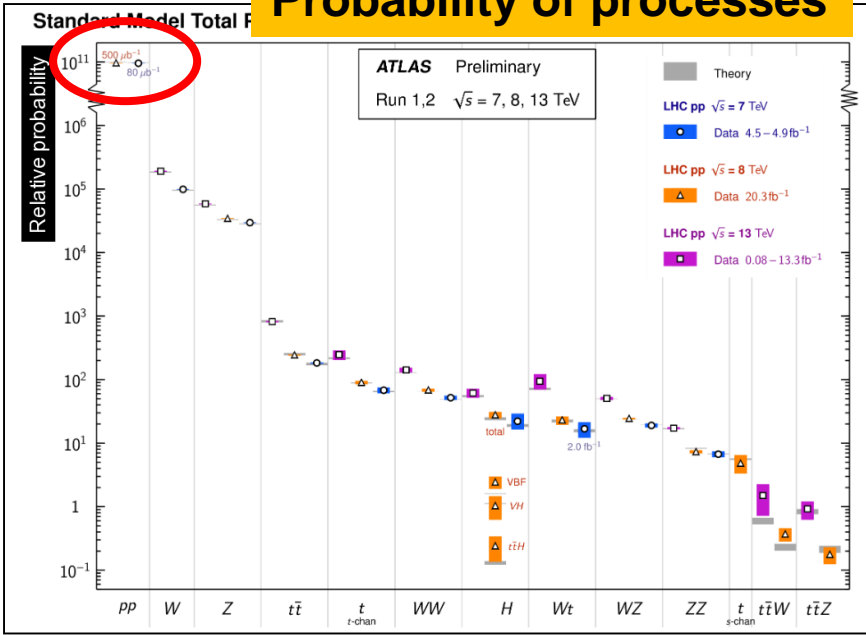
- A way to study **QCD**
  - ... without confinement
  - ... with quarks at their bare masses
- A way to study matter
  - ... at energy densities like 10  $\mu$ s after the Big Bang
  - ... at temperatures  $10^5$  times larger than in the sun core



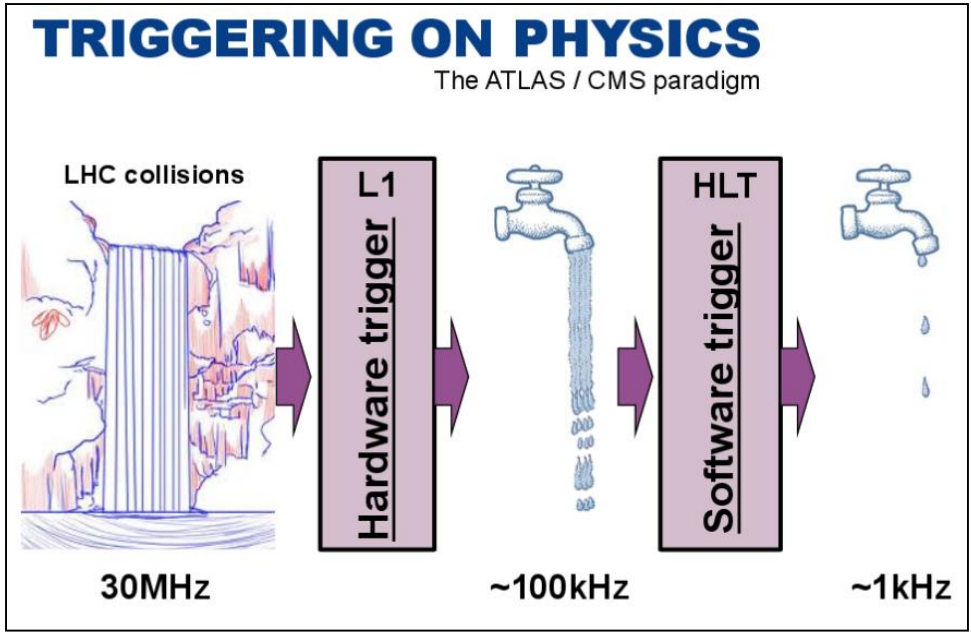


# Motivation

## Probability of processes



shown by Tara Shears, Particle World



from Anna Sfyrla – from Raw Data to Physics Results

- Most searched for signals at the LHC are rare
- Triggers select very small fraction of all collision events

**Today we discuss about the rest – the bulk of all LHC collisions**



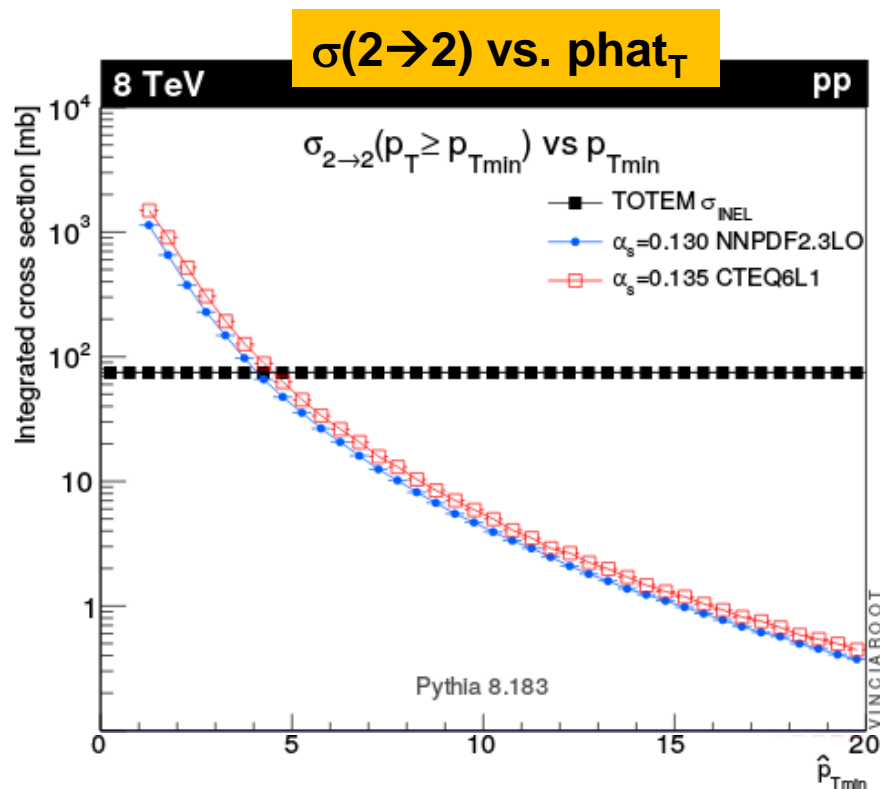
# Bulk of LHC Physics

The bulk is...

... soft (small momentum transfer)

... governed by strong interaction

... in the non-perturbative regime



Skands, Carrazza, Rojo, arXiv:1404.5630

**This lecture discusses how heavy-ion physics helps the understanding of QCD in the non-perturbative regime**



# Strong-Interaction Physics

- Strong interaction
    - binds quarks into hadrons
    - binds protons and neutrons into nuclei
  - QCD is a very successful theory...
    - e.g. for jet production at high  $p_T$  and heavy-flavour production
- ... with some open puzzles

## Confinement

Impossible to find an isolated quark or gluon

Why?

## Hadron Masses

Proton consists of 2 u and 1 d quark  
 $m_p = 938 \text{ MeV} \neq \sim 10 \text{ MeV} = m_{uud}$

Where is the extra mass generated?

**in a regime where perturbative methods are not applicable ... unfortunately !**



# Fundamental Questions

## Yang–Mills theory

---

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Yang–Mills theory** is a **gauge theory** based on the  **$SU(N)$  group**, or more generally any compact, **semi-simple Lie group**. Yang–Mills theory seeks to describe the behavior of elementary particles using these non-Abelian Lie groups and is at the core of the unification of the electromagnetic and weak forces (i.e.  $U(1) \times SU(2)$ ) as well as **quantum chromodynamics**, the theory of the strong force (based on  $SU(3)$ ). Thus it forms the basis of our understanding of particle physics, the **Standard Model**.

### List of unsolved problems in physics

*Yang–Mills theory in the non-perturbative regime*: The equations of Yang–Mills remain unsolved at **energy scales** relevant for describing **atomic nuclei**. How does Yang–Mills theory give rise to the physics of **nuclei** and **nuclear constituents**?

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yang%E2%80%93Mills\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yang%E2%80%93Mills_theory)



# Fundamental Questions (2)

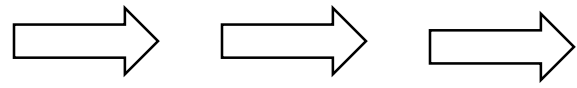
- How do “free” quarks and gluons behave?
- How do quarks and gluons behave when chiral symmetry is restored?
- What generates the constituent masses?
  
- In the early universe a phase with free quarks and gluons and restored chiral symmetry has existed
  - *Quark-gluon plasma* (QGP)
  - Recreate in the laboratory with heavy-ion collisions
  
- How does matter behave at very large densities and temperatures?



# Big Bang

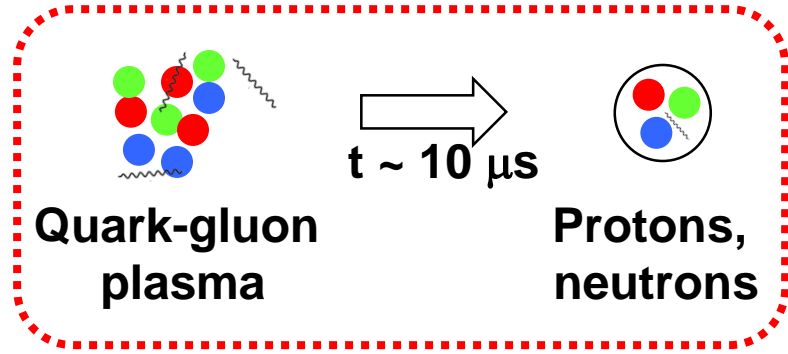


Big Bang



?

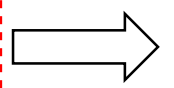
EW symmetry breaking



Quark-gluon plasma

$t \sim 10 \mu s$

Protons, neutrons



Atomic nuclei





# Basic Concepts



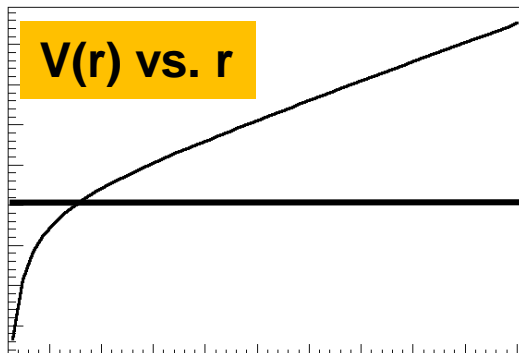
# Confinement

- QCD vacuum
  - Gluon-gluon self-interaction (non-abelian)
  - QCD field lines compressed in flux tube
- Potential grows linearly with distance

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r} + \sigma r$$

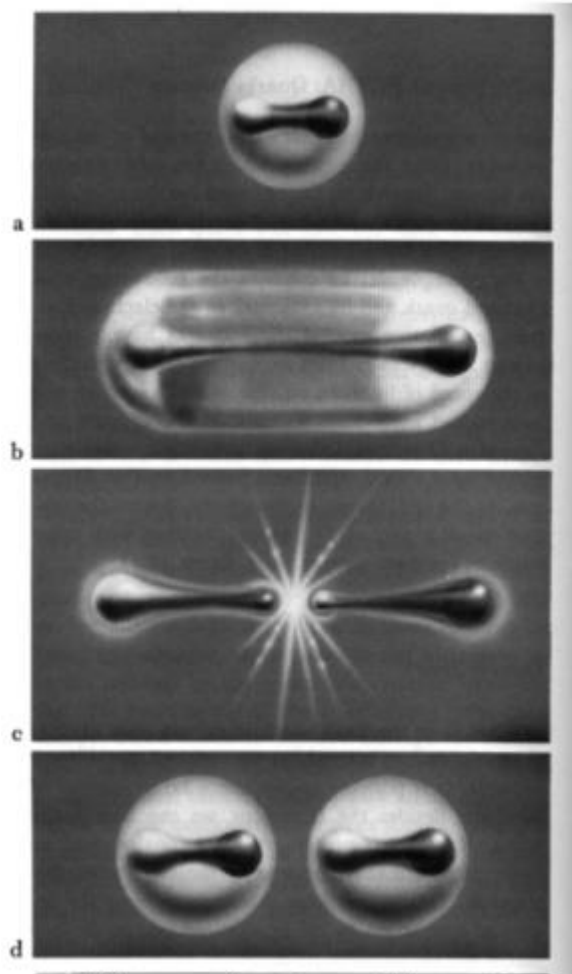
qqg part  
“Coulomb”-like

gg part



- Pulled apart, energy in string increases
- New q-qbar pair is created once energy is above production threshold

**No free quark can be obtained → confinement**

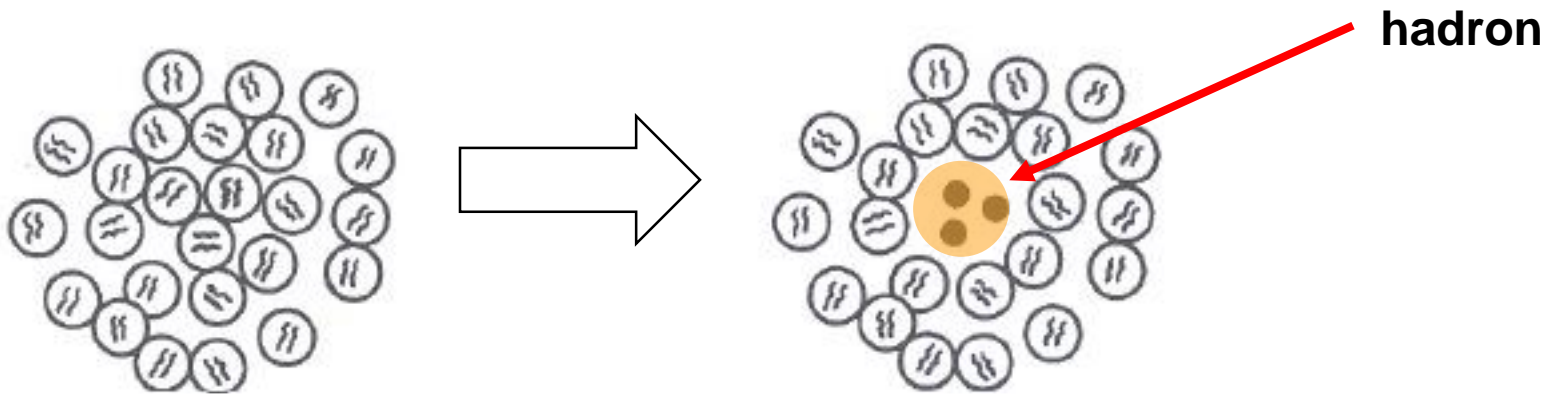


[illustration from Fritzsch]



# Phenomenology of Confinement

- QCD vacuum can be seen as liquid of gluon-gluon pairs
- Why does this create confinement?
- *MIT bag model* : hadrons are confined in bubbles of perturbative (= empty) vacuum
  - Surrounded by QCD vacuum exerting pressure



PRD9, 3471 (1974)



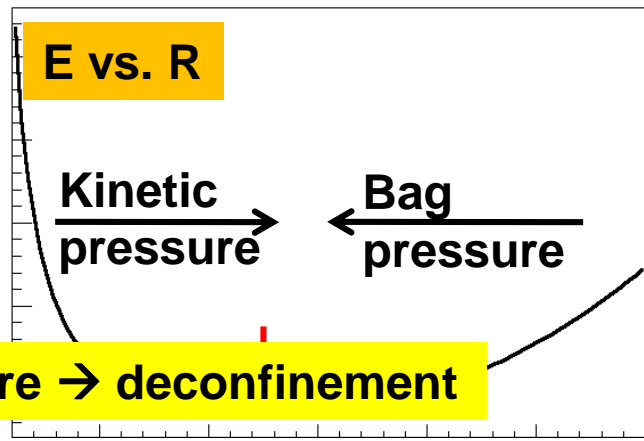
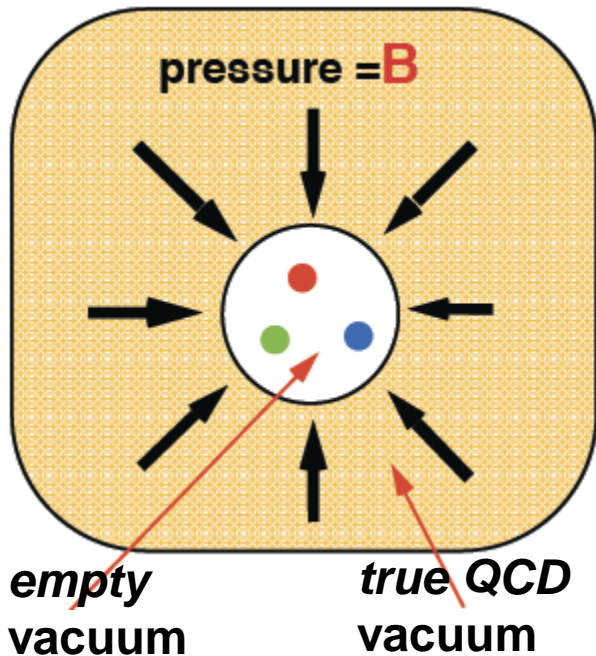
# Bag Model

- Quarks in bubble → kinetic pressure
- QCD vacuum → bag pressure
- Bag pressure = phenomenological quantity for non-perturbative effects of QCD
- Massless fermions in spherical cavity

$$E = \frac{2.04N}{R} + \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 B$$

N quarks  
R radius  
B bag pressure

- Equilibrium defines bag radius
- Proton radius (~0.8 fm)  
→  $B^{1/4} \sim 206 \text{ MeV}$



**If kinetic pressure exceeds bag pressure → deconfinement**

PRD9, 3471 (1974)



# Bag Model (2)

- If kinetic pressure exceeds bag pressure  $\rightarrow$  deconfinement
- Relativistic massless quark gas

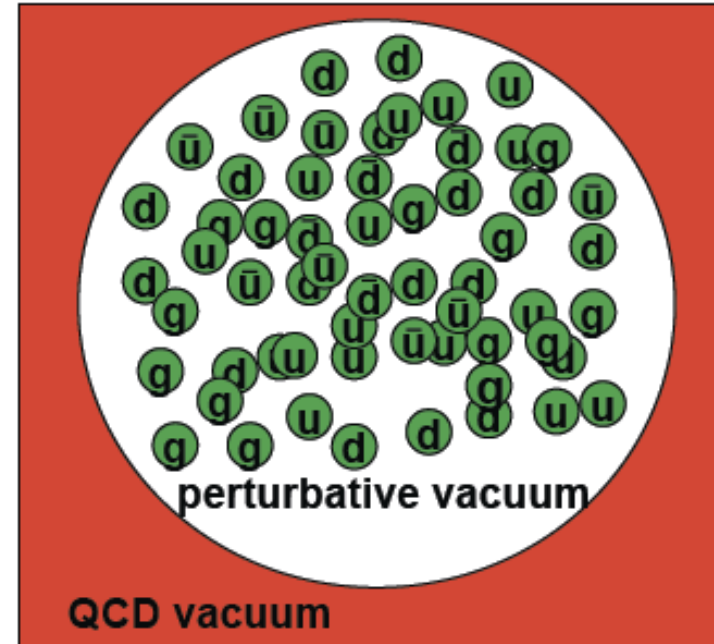
$$p = \left( g_B + \frac{7}{8} g_F \right) \frac{\pi^2 T^4}{90}$$

$$g_B = 16 \quad g_F = 24$$

**8 gluons x 2 spins**

**2 quarks x 2 spins x 3 colors + antiquarks**

- Pressure exceeds bag pressure ( $p > B$ ) at  $T_C \sim 144$  MeV  
– Quark-gluon plasma above  $T_C$

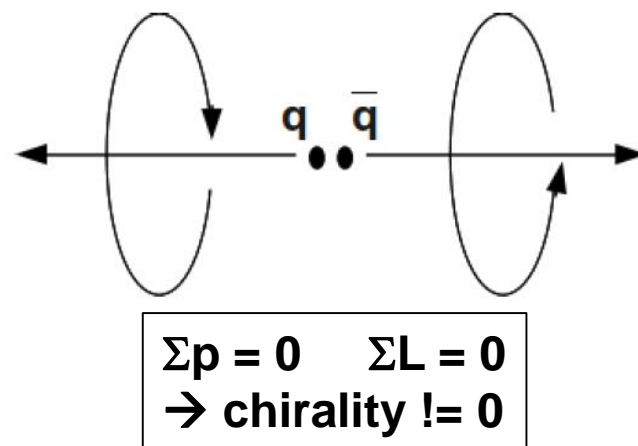


 **More thorough estimate of the phase transition temperature can be done with lattice QCD  $\rightarrow T_C \sim 156$  MeV**



# Chiral Symmetry


- QCD Lagrangian symmetric under  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$
- Light quarks have finite (small) bare masses
  - Explicit chiral symmetry breaking
- Creation of coherent q-qbar pairs in QCD vacuum (compare to cooper pairs in superconductivity)
  - Has a chiral charge
  - Not symmetric under  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ 
    - Spontaneous symmetry breaking (pseudo-goldstone bosons: pions)
- Quarks acquire  $\sim 350$  MeV additional mass
  - *Constituent mass*
  - Relevant only for u, d, s





# Spontaneous Breaking of Chiral Symmetry

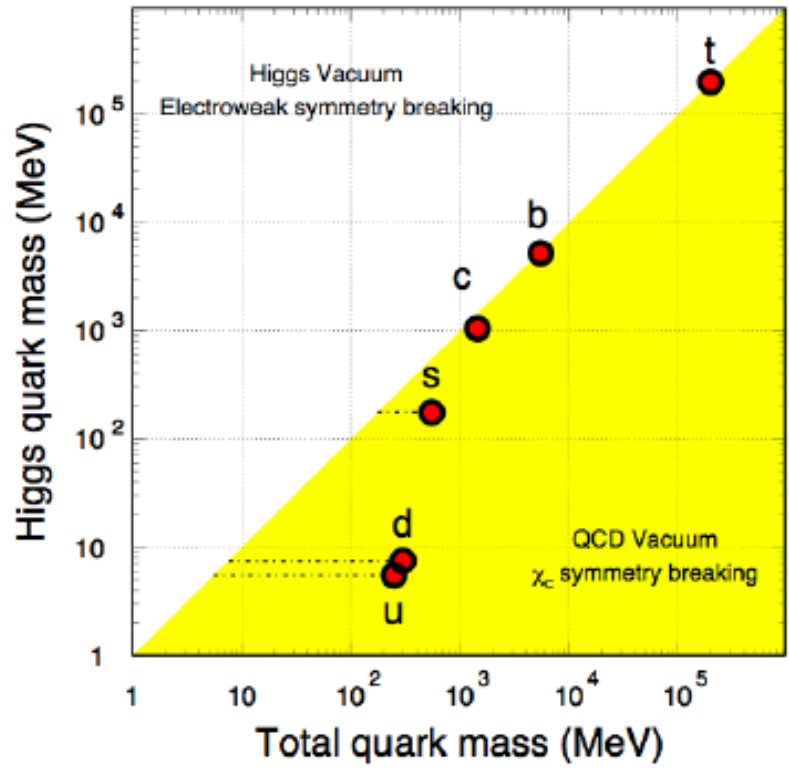
- Consequences
  - $m(u) \approx m(d) \rightarrow$  isospin symmetry

 **Isospin symmetry is not based on a fundamental relation, but an 'accident' because acquired masses are much larger than bare masses**

- $m(p) \gg m(\text{bare } 2u+1d)$   
 $938 \text{ MeV} \gg 10 \text{ MeV}$

- In the QGP, spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking is expected to be restored (*partial restoration*)

**Bare vs. constituent mass**



X.Zhu et al., PLB 647 (2007) 366



# Two Phase Transitions

- Spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry
  - Present below  $T_{SSB}$  ( $\sim 170$  MeV, lattice QCD)
  - Quark masses enhanced to constituent masses
- Confinement/deconfinement transition
  - Confinement scale depends on quark masses

$$\underline{T < T_{SSB}}$$

**Quarks: constituent masses**

**→ Confinement**

$$\underline{T > T_{SSB}}$$

**Quarks: bare masses**

**→ Deconfinement**

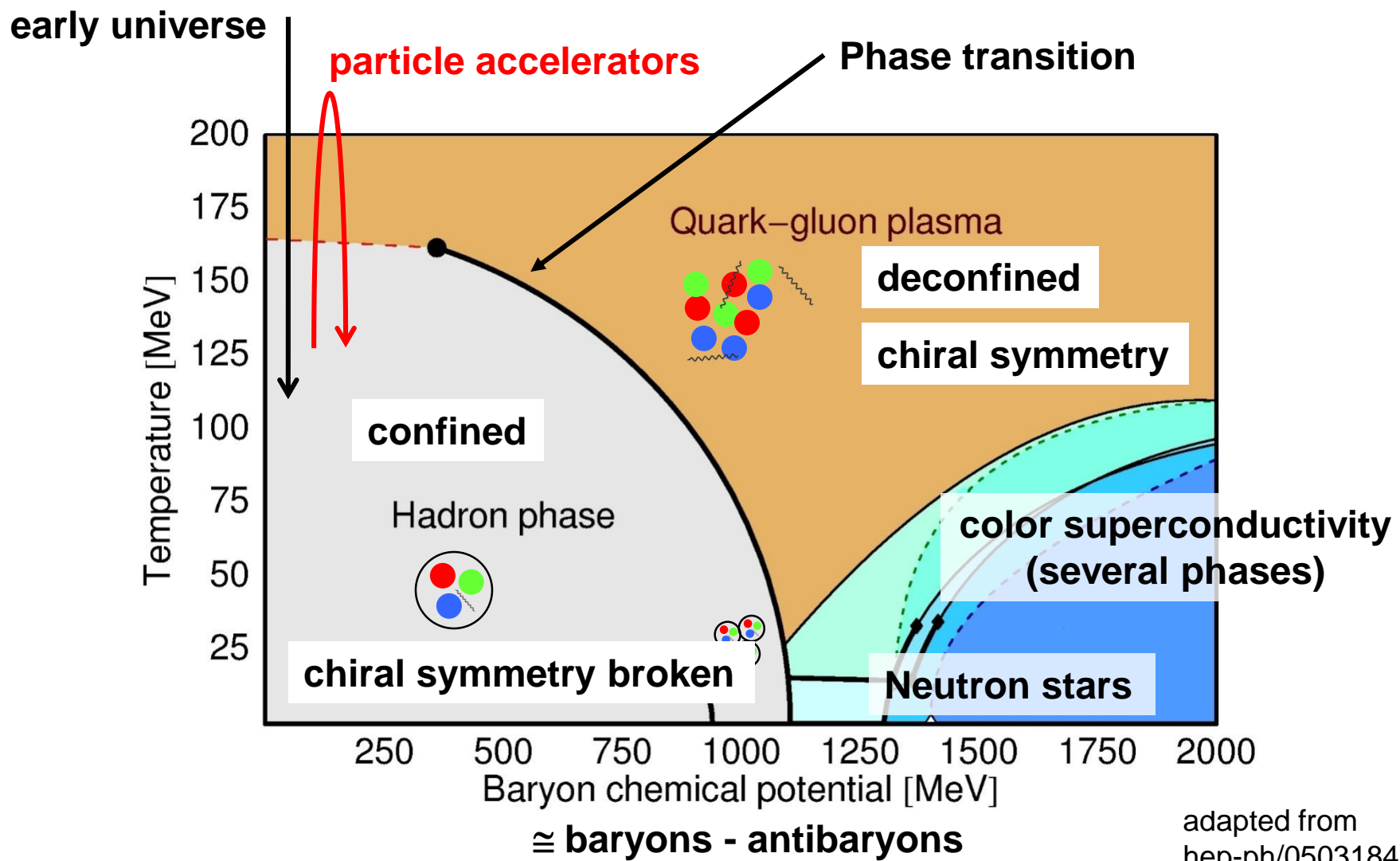


**Both phase transition occur at the same  $T$   
(again an accident – not linked from first principles)**



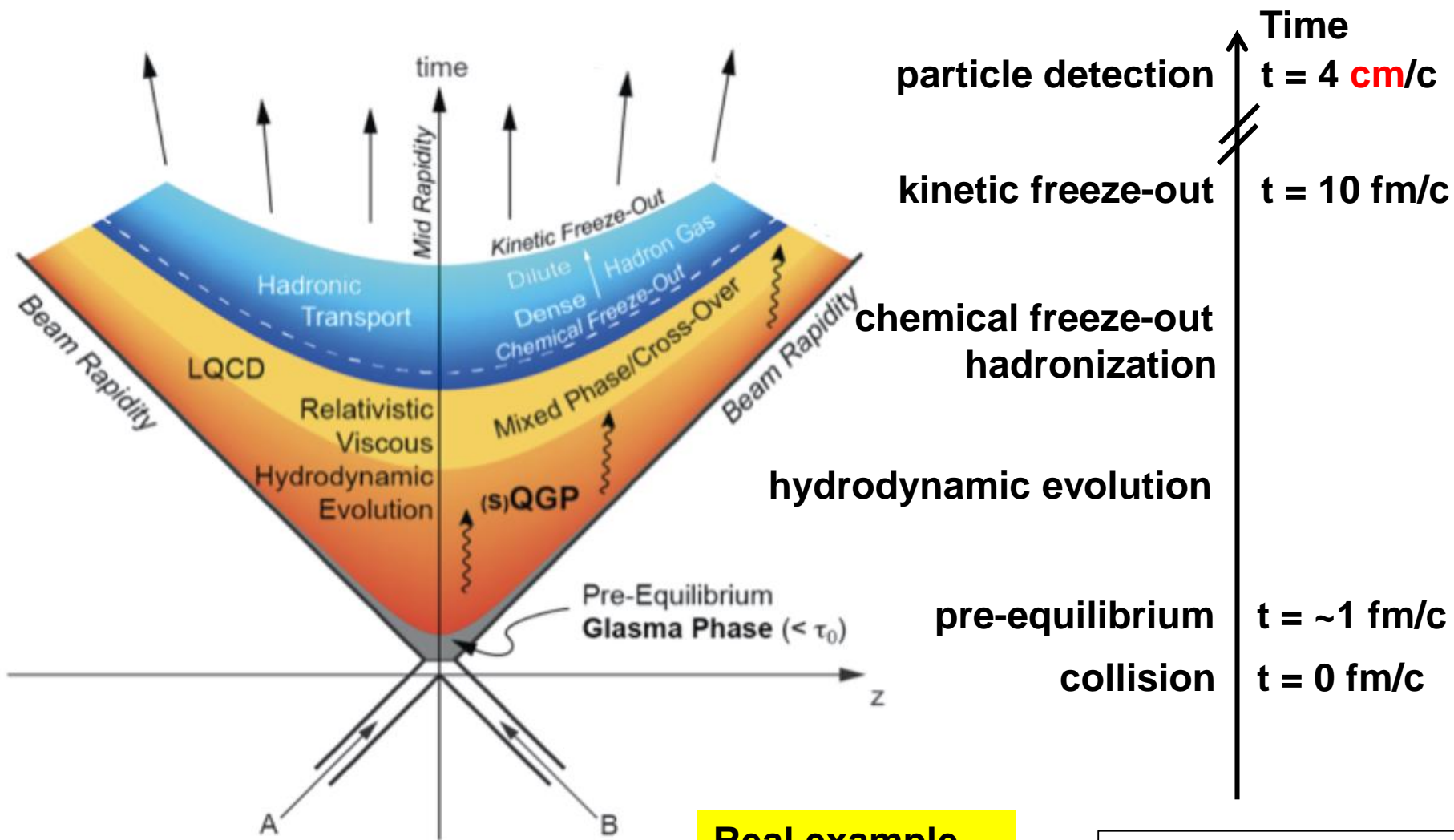


# QCD Phase Diagram





# Phases Heavy-Ion Collision



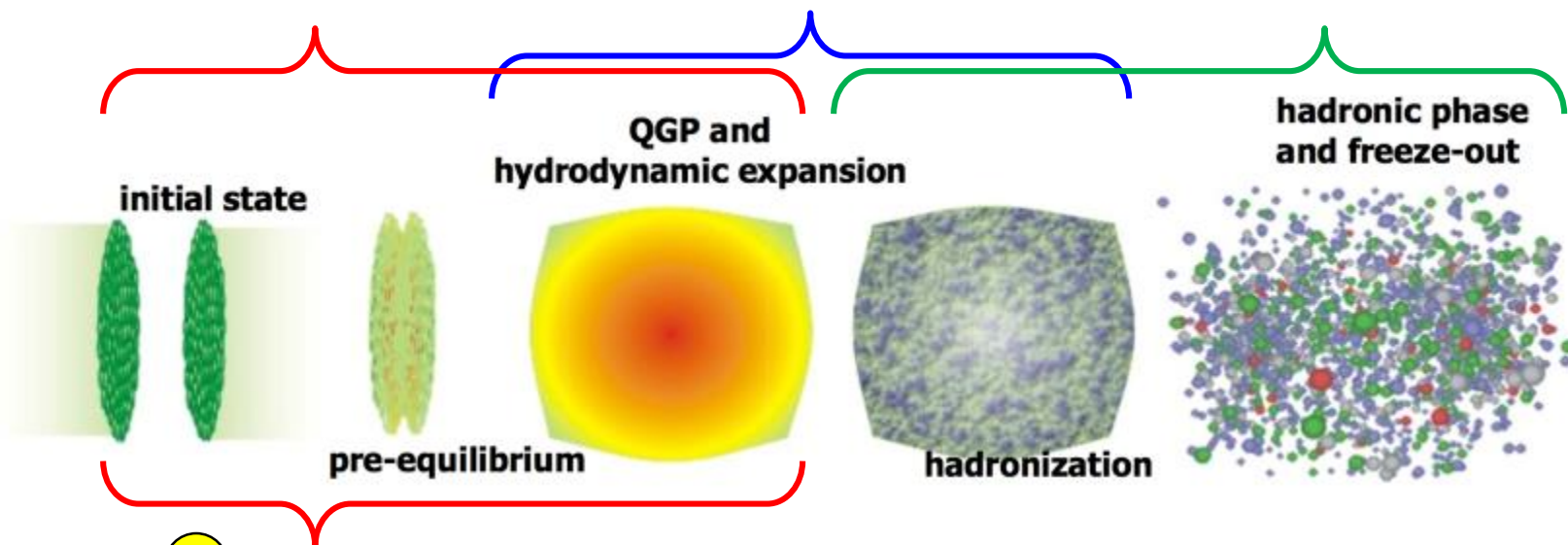
Courtesy B.Hippolyte

**Real example...**

|                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------|
| $1 \text{ fm/c} = 3 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ s}$ |
|-----------------------------------------------|

# Outline of the Lecture

- How to use a particle detector to learn about the QGP?
- This lecture will focus on the main topics



- And ④ Collectivity in small systems the currently *hottest* topic



# Outline of the Lecture

what I have no time to cover...

Direct Photons

Femtoscopy

Nuclear Parton  
Distribution Functions

**Collective flow &  
hydrodynamics**

**Jet quenching, energy  
loss & quarkonia**

**Particle yields &  
Statistical model**

Jet Reconstruction

Higher Moments

Global Event  
properties

Dileptons

Jet Structure

Fragmentation  
Functions

Creating Heavy-  
Ion Beams

Diffraction

Ultra-peripheral  
collisions

**Collectivity in small systems**

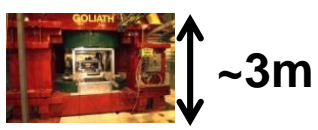
Heavy-Ion  
Experiments



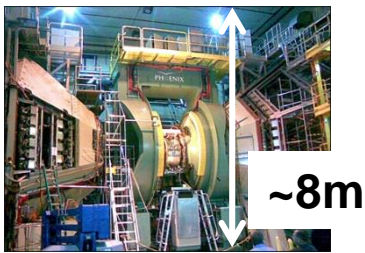
# Accelerators

|                                         | SPS  | RHIC | LHC         |
|-----------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|
| top $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)               | 17   | 200  | 5020 (5500) |
| Volume at freeze-out (fm <sup>3</sup> ) | 1200 | 2300 | 5000        |
| Energy density (GeV/fm <sup>3</sup> )   | 3-4  | 4-7  | 10          |
| Life time (fm/c)                        | 4    | 7    | 10          |

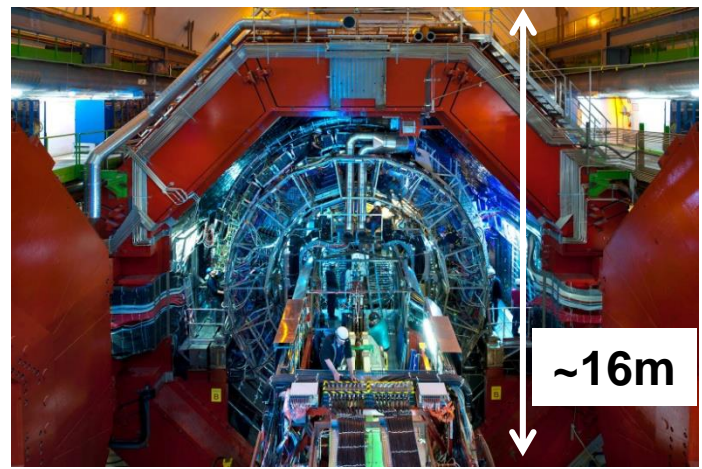
**Heavy-ion collisions:**  
 $\sqrt{s}$  given per nucleon pair ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ )  
 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow \sqrt{s_{Pb-Pb}} = 1040 \text{ TeV}$



NA57 (SPS)



PHENIX (RHIC)



ALICE (LHC)

**ATLAS, ALICE, CMS and LHCb record Pb collision and have a heavy-ion program**



# Literature

- Lectures

- J. Stachel, K. Reygers (2011)  
[http://www.physi.uni-heidelberg.de/~reygers/lectures/2011/qgp/qgp\\_lecture\\_ss2011.html](http://www.physi.uni-heidelberg.de/~reygers/lectures/2011/qgp/qgp_lecture_ss2011.html)
- P. Braun-Munzinger, A. Andronic, T. Galatyuk (2012)  
[http://web-docs.gsi.de/~andronic/intro\\_rhic2012/](http://web-docs.gsi.de/~andronic/intro_rhic2012/)
- Quark Matter Student Day (2014)  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/219436/timetable/#20140518.detailed>
- Quark Matter Student Day (2018)  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/656452/timetable/#20180513.detailed>

- Books

- C.Y. Wong, Introduction to High-Energy Heavy-Ion Collisions, World Scientific, 1994  
<http://books.google.de/books?id=Fnxvr dj2NOQC&printsec=frontcover>
- L. P. Csernai, Introduction to Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions, 1994 (**free as pdf**)  
<http://www.csernai.no/Csernai-textbook.pdf>
- E. Shuryak, The QCD vacuum, hadrons, and superdense matter, World Scientific, 2004  
<http://books.google.de/books?id=rbcQMK6a6ekC&printsec=frontcover>
- Yagi, Hatsuda, Miake, Quark-Gluon Plasma, Cambridge University Press, 2005  
<http://books.google.de/books?id=C2bpxwUXJngC&printsec=frontcover>
- R. Vogt, Ultrarelativistic Heavy-ion Collisions, Elsevier, 2007  
<http://books.google.de/books?id=F1P8WMEsgkMC&printsec=frontcover>
- W. Florkowski, Phenomenology of Ultra-Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions, World Scientific, 2010  
<http://books.google.de/books?id=4glp05n9lz4C&printsec=frontcover>
- S. Sarkar, H. Satz and B. Sinha, The physics of the quark-gluon plasma, Lecture notes in physics, Volume 785, 2010 (**free within CERN/university network**)  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-642-02286-9>

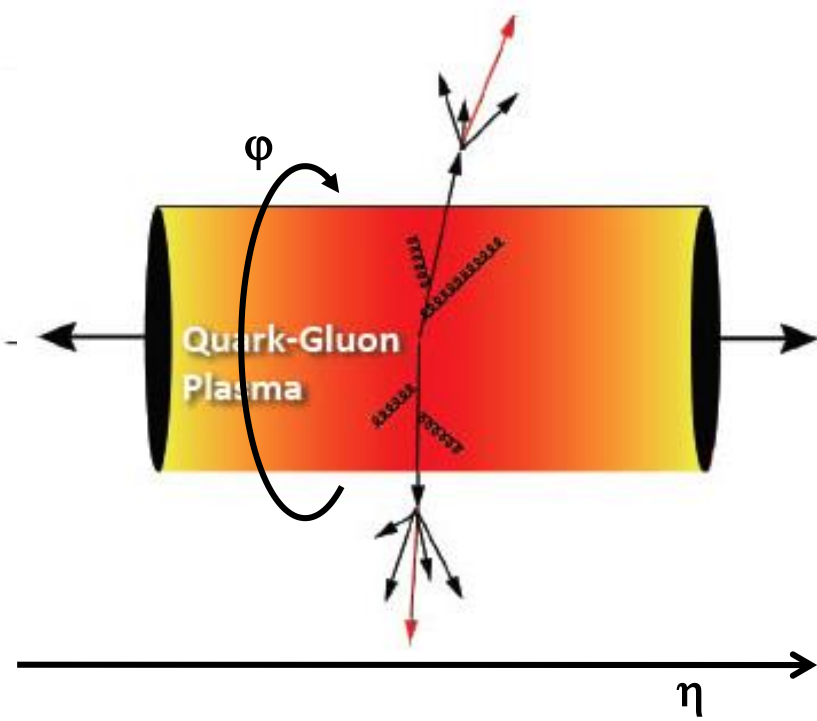


# Jet Quenching & Energy Loss

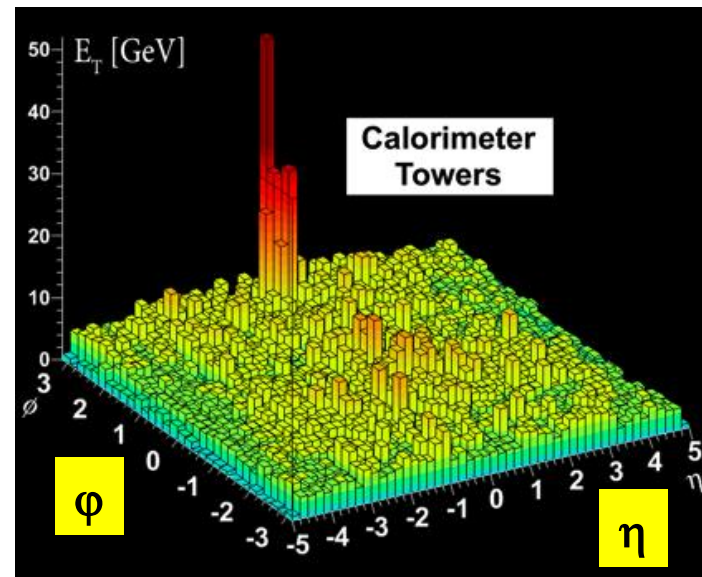
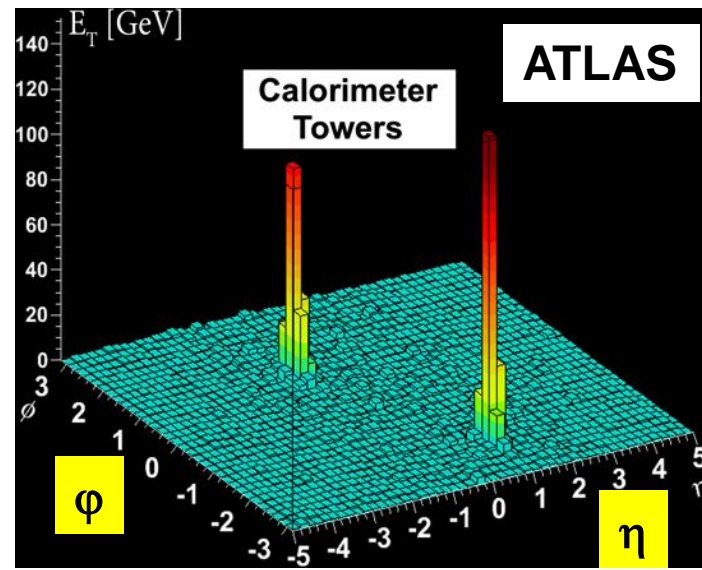
How does a quark-gluon plasma  
affect particles traversing it?



# A Back-to-Back Jet



**One jet disappears in the QGP  
→ “Jet quenching”**



ATLAS, PRL105:252303,2010  
Drawing: A. Mischke





# Dijet Asymmetry

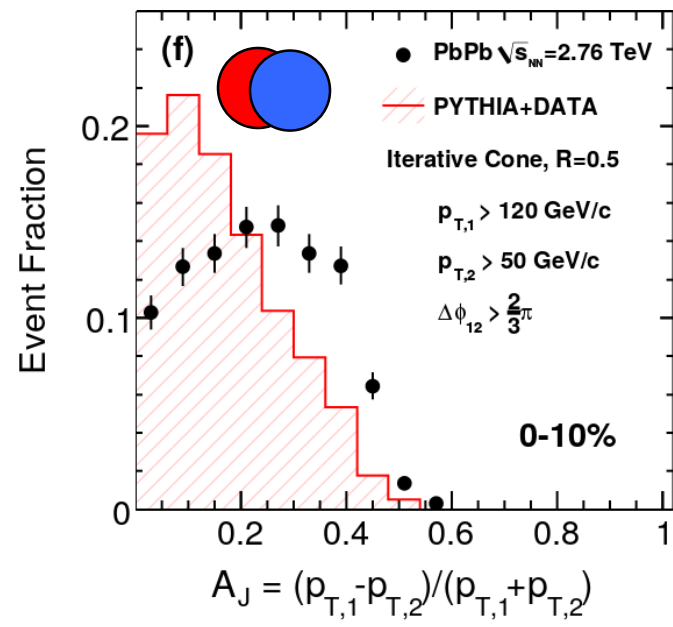
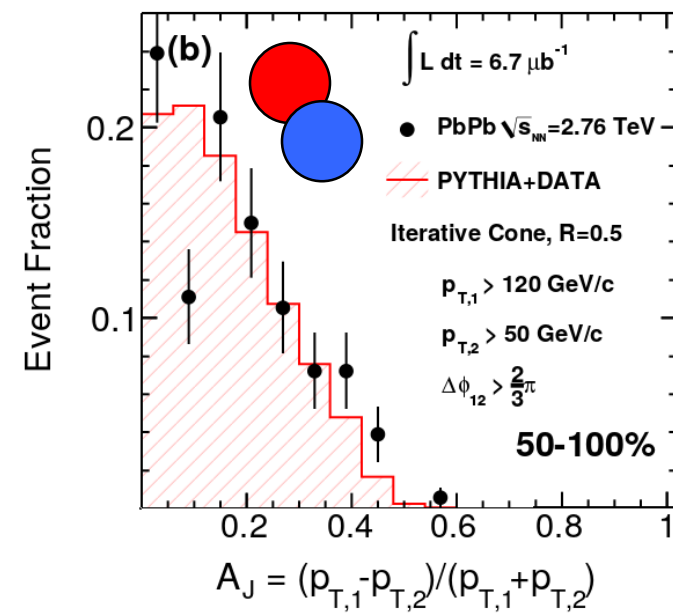
- How often do jets lose lot of energy?
- Quantify by dijet asymmetry
- 2 highest energy jets with  $\Delta\phi > 2\pi/3$

$$A_J = \frac{|p_{T1} - p_{T2}|}{p_{T1} + p_{T2}}$$

$\leftarrow p_{T1} = p_{T2} \rightarrow A_J = 0$   
 $\leftarrow \frac{1}{3} p_{T1} = p_{T2} \rightarrow A_J = 0.5$

- Peripheral collisions: Pb-Pb ~ Pythia
- Central collisions: Significant difference

**Central / peripheral will be introduced soon**



PRC 84 (2011) 024906  
 PRL105:252303,2010

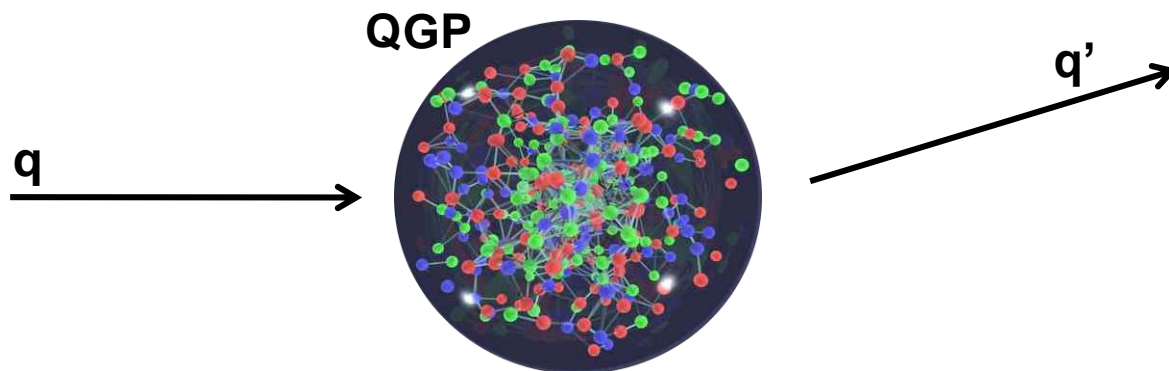


Jets lose up to two thirds of their energy !

Something significant happening  
in heavy-ion collisions !

# Hard Probes

- Ideally : a Rutherford experiment



- But
  - QGP exists in the lab only for  $\sim 10^{-23}$  s
  - No free color charges as probes
- Instead
  - Use probes generated in the heavy-ion collision itself  
 → "self-generated" probes



# Self-Generated Probes

- Produced early, before the plasma forms  
 $t \sim \hbar / Q$        $Q > 2 \text{ GeV}/c \rightarrow t < 0.1 \text{ fm}/c$
- Production rate “known”
  - Ideally calculable perturbatively
  - Not produced in the medium
- Interact with dense medium (QGP)
- Large cross-section

**... as usual there is no such thing as a free lunch ...**

### Per central LHC collision

7 D mesons ( $> 2 \text{ GeV}/c$ )  
0.2 B mesons ( $> 10 \text{ GeV}/c$ )  
 $10^{-3}$  jets above 100 GeV  
 $10^{-6}$  jets above 400 GeV

### LHC Run 1 (~ 150/ub)

$10^8$  D mesons ( $> 2 \text{ GeV}/c$ )  
 $10^7$  B mesons ( $> 10 \text{ GeV}/c$ )  
 $10^5$  jets above 100 GeV  
120 jets above 400 GeV



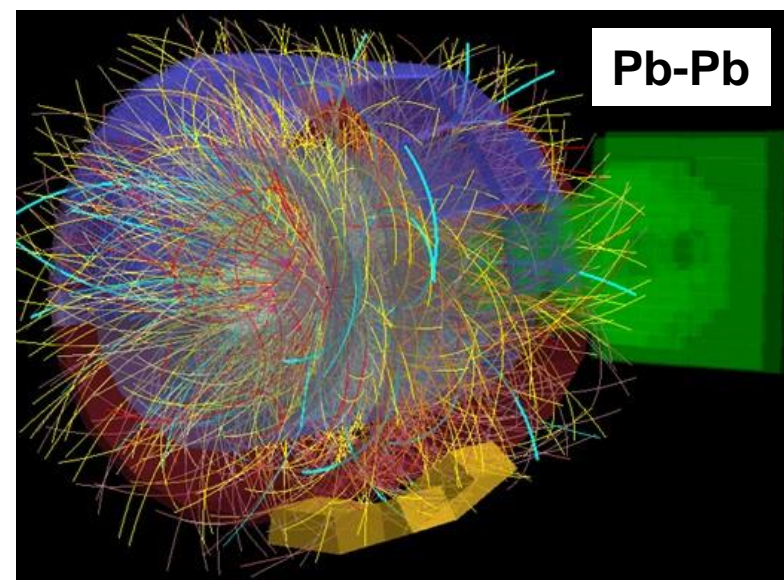
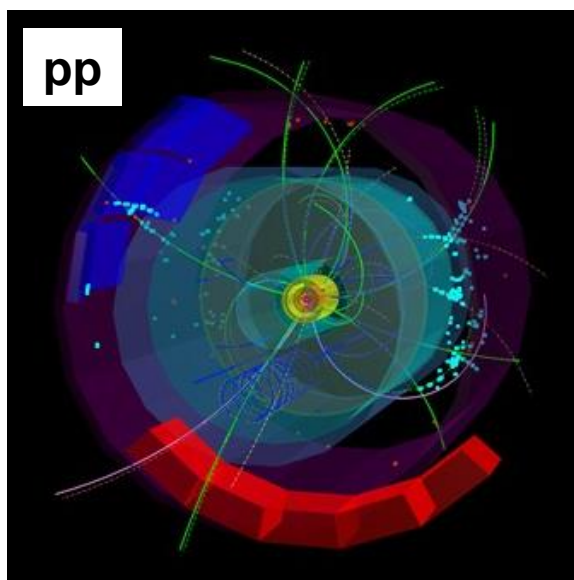
**Rec. efficiency,  
branching ratios  
factors ~ 1000**



# Heavy-Ion Environment

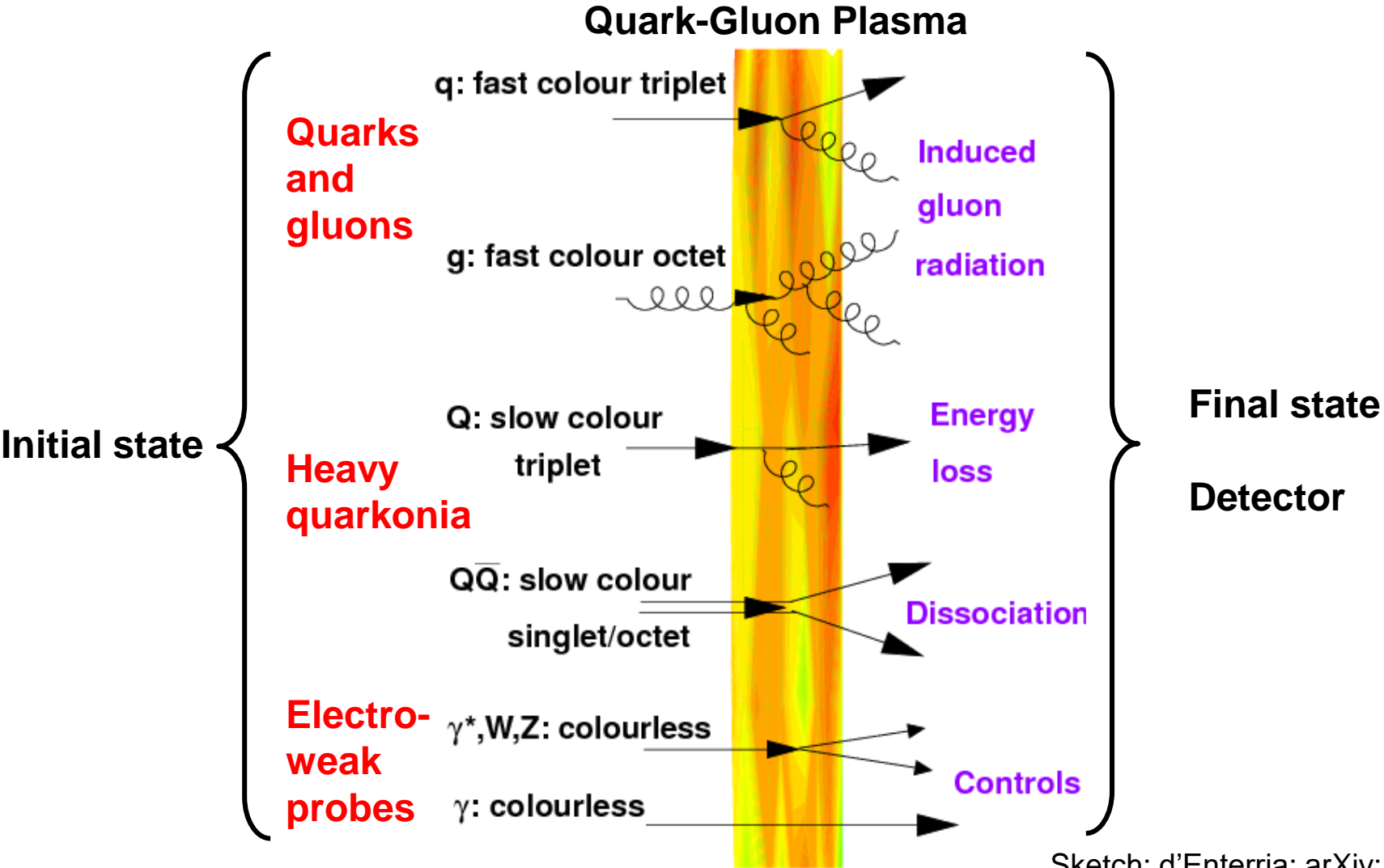
- Measurements in an environment with  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$  up to 1600 ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  TeV)  
= 400 pp MB collisions = 1 event with 399 pile-up events  
(ATLAS/CMS reconstruct up to 100)
- In one collision, there are in the tracker acceptances
  - 3200 tracks in ALICE | 8000 tracks in CMS/ATLAS

for comparison  
pp :  $dN_{ch}/d\eta \sim 4$





# Probes Traverse the QGP

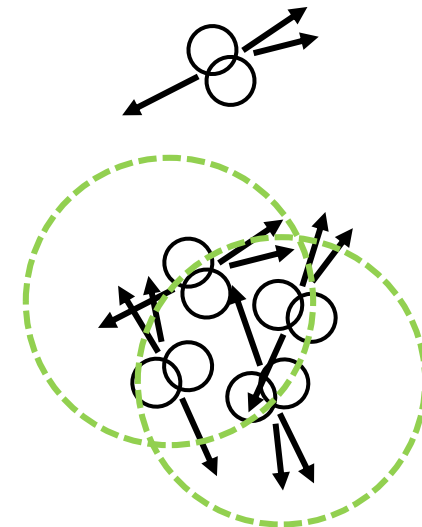


Sketch: d'Enterria: arXiv:1207.4362



# Nuclear-Modification Factor

- Hard processes occur in nucleon-nucleon (NN) collisions
- Heavy-ion collision : many NN collisions
  - Hard process is independent of number of NN collisions
- Without QGP, HI collision is superposition of NN collisions with incoherent fragmentation



$$dN_{AA} / dp_T = \langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T \leftarrow \text{any object, e.g. charged particles, jets, } J/\psi, D, \dots$$

- Let's turn this into an observable

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

$R_{AA} = 1 \rightarrow$  no modification

$R_{AA} \neq 1 \rightarrow$  medium effects



# Nuclear-Modification Factor (2)

- How do we measure this quantity?

For example:

$p_T$  distribution in AA collisions

- Select events
- Select & count tracks
- Correct for detector effects
- Estimate systematic uncertainties

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

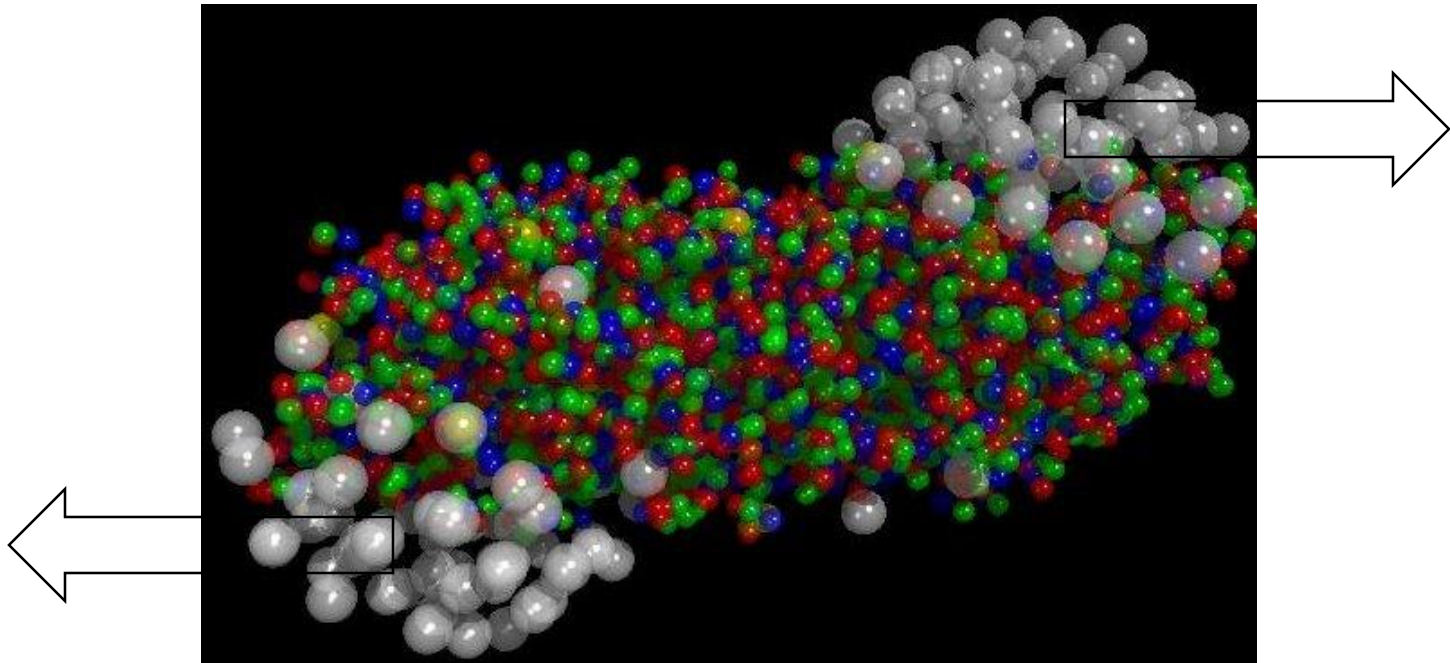
$p_T$  distribution in pp collisions

Number of binary collisions  $N_{coll}$

- Glauber modelling (see next slides)
- Centrality (see next next slides)



# How to Measure $N_{\text{coll}}$ ?



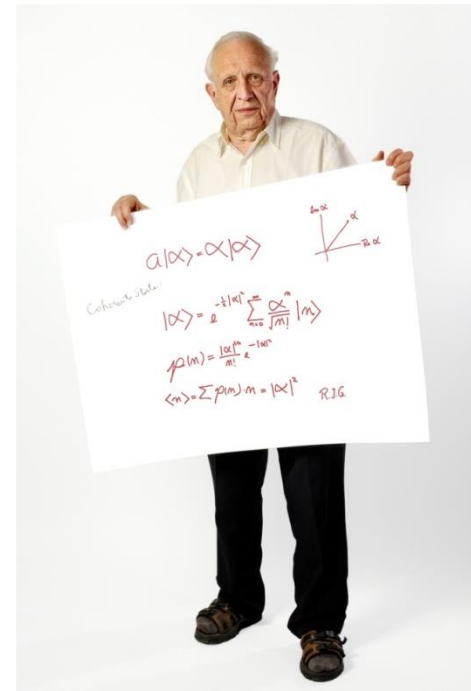
- Each nucleon (Pb-Pb:  $2 \times 208$ ) has momentum and energy
- Calculating the number of collisions is in principle a  $2 \times (208 + 208 + 1) = 834$ -dimensional integral

**Some simplification seems to be needed...**

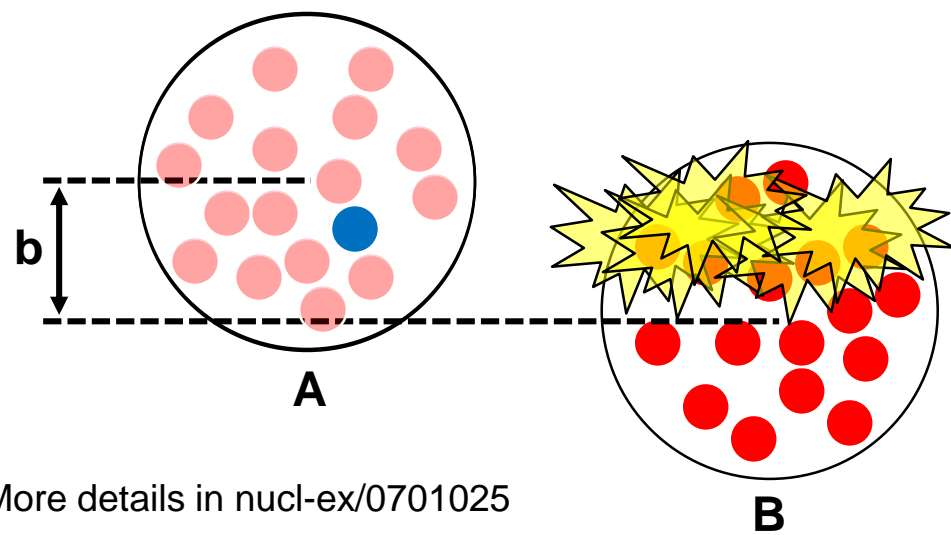


# Glauber Monte Carlo

- Nucleons travel on straight lines
- Collisions do not alter their trajectory (energy of nucleons large enough)
- No quantum-mechanical interference
- Interaction probability for two nucleons is nucleon-nucleon cross-section



Roy Glauber



**“Blue” nucleon has suffered 5 NN collisions**

**Need to repeat for all other nucleons in A**

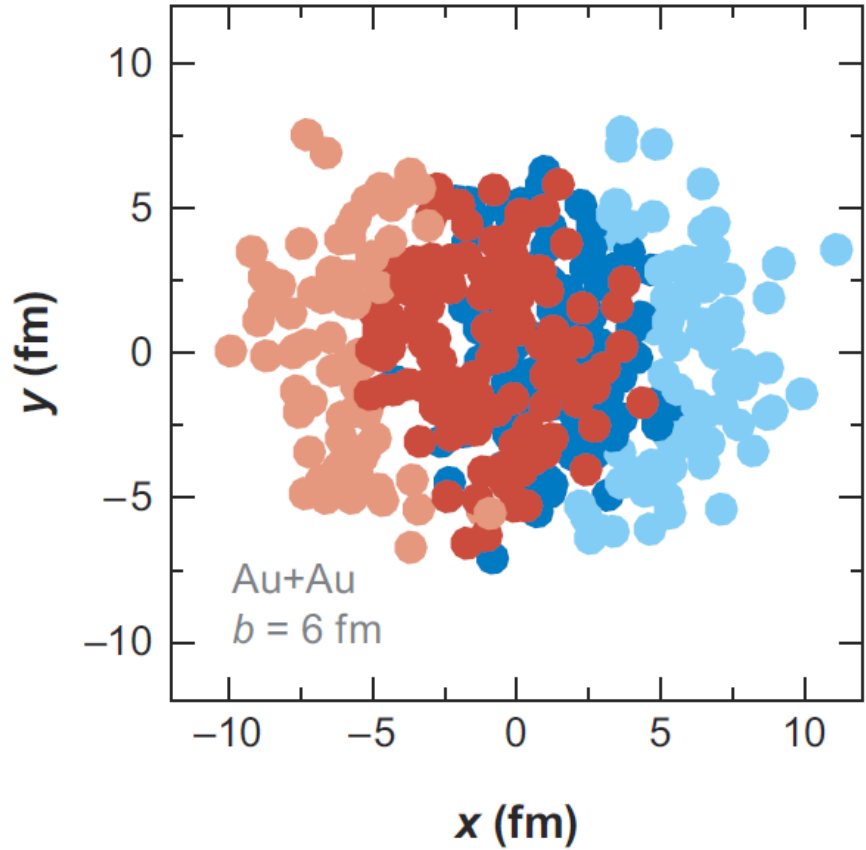
**Strongly dependent on *impact parameter b***

More details in nucl-ex/0701025

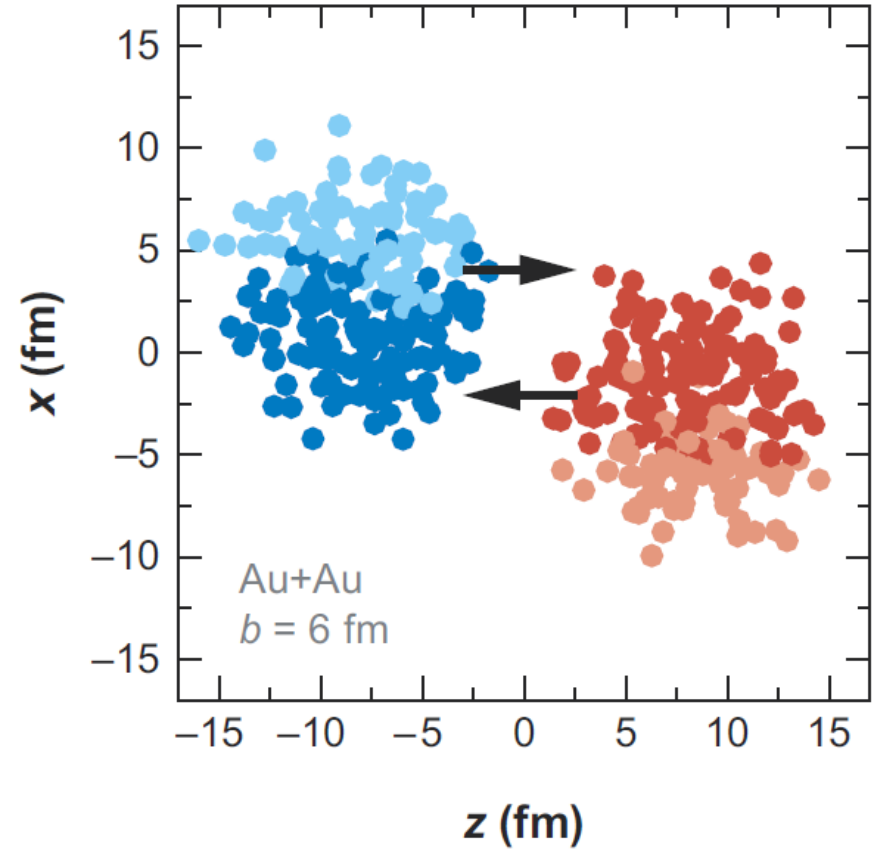


# Realistic Example

Transverse view



Along the beam axis



**light nucleons: have not participated (spectators)**  
**dark nucleons: have participated**

Figure: nucl-ex/0701025



# Input to Glauber MC

- Distribution of nucleons in nuclei
  - Based on nuclear density
  - Typically Woods-Saxon distribution

$$\rho(r) = \rho_0 \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{r-R}{a}\right)}$$

$\rho_0$  → Density in the center

$R$  → Nuclear radius R

$a$  → Skin depth a

- Nucleon-nucleon cross-section
  - From pp measurements / extrapolations

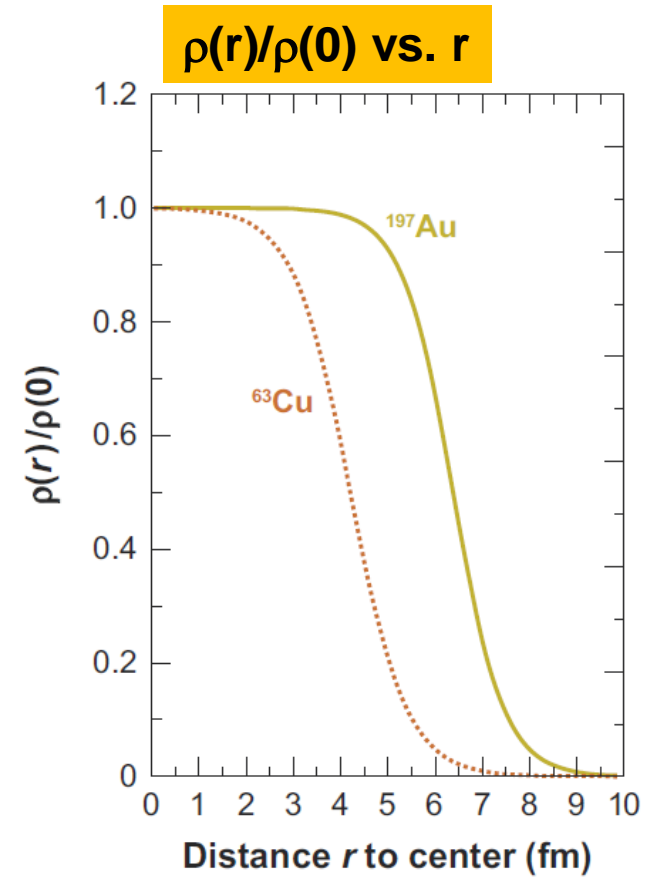
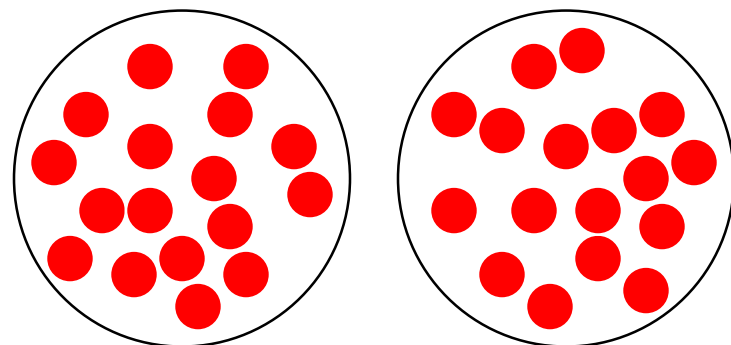


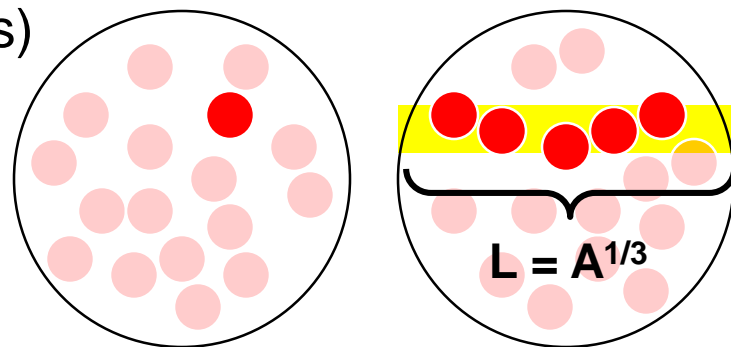
Figure: nucl-ex/0701025

# Glauber MC Output

- Number of spectators
  - Nucleons which did not collide
- Participant/wounded nucleons
  - Collided at least once
  - Called  $N_{\text{part}}$
  - Scale with  $2A$  ( $A$  = number of nucleons)
- Number of binary collisions
  - Called  $N_{\text{coll}}$
  - Scales with  $A^{4/3}$
- Rule of thumb
  - Soft (low  $p_T$ ) observables scale with  $N_{\text{part}}$
  - Hard (high  $p_T$ ) observables scale with  $N_{\text{coll}}$



$$N_{\text{part}} \sim A + A$$

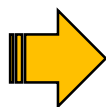
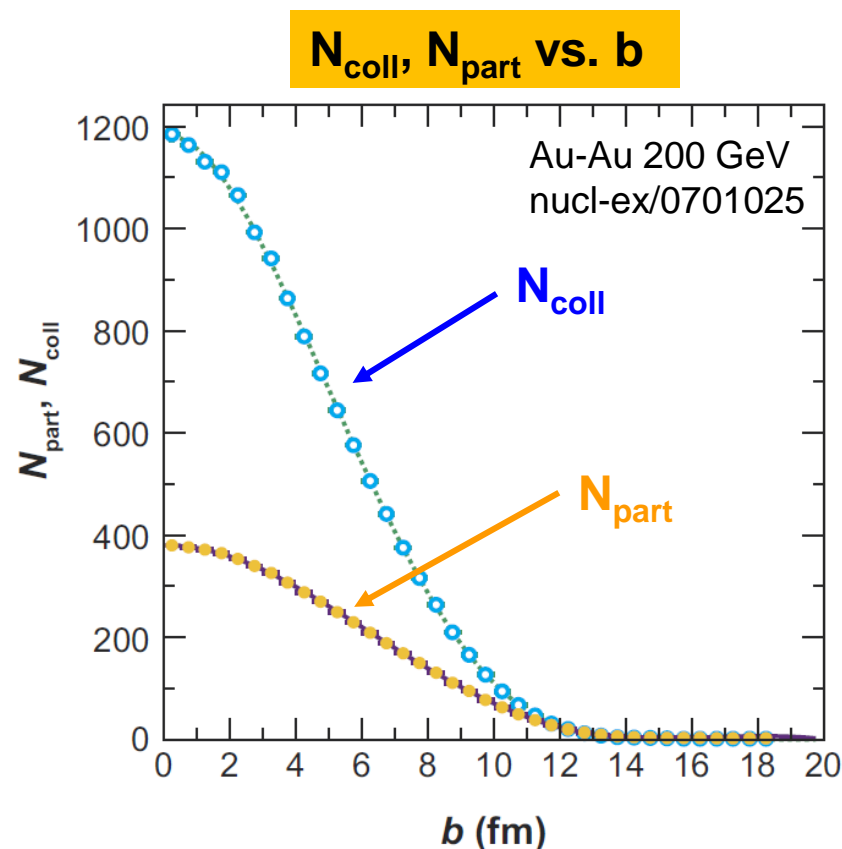


$$N_{\text{coll}} \sim A \cdot L = A^{4/3}$$



# Glauber MC Output (2)

- 10% most central at RHIC (Au-Au, 200 GeV)
  - $N_{\text{coll}} \sim 1200$
  - $N_{\text{part}} \sim 380$
- 5% most central collisions at LHC (Pb-Pb, 5 TeV)
  - $N_{\text{coll}} \sim 1770$
  - $N_{\text{part}} \sim 384$
- Difference mainly due to cross-section increase



Can also be calculated analytically:  
Optical Glauber (see [backup](#))



# Recap

- We are trying to understand heavy-ion collisions
- For that, we are trying to measure the difference between AA and pp collisions, expressed as  $R_{AA}$

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

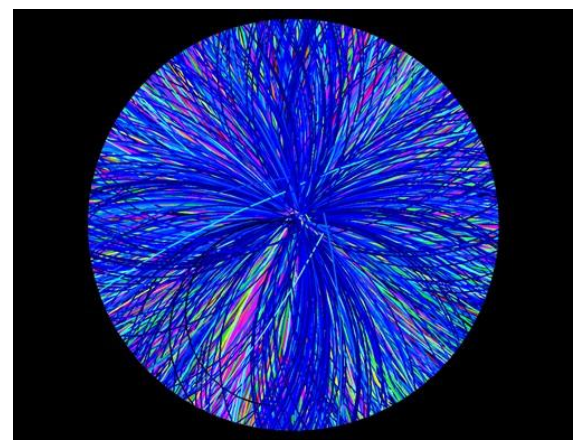
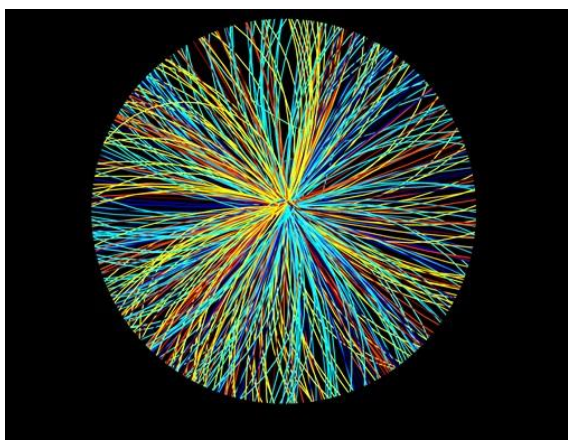
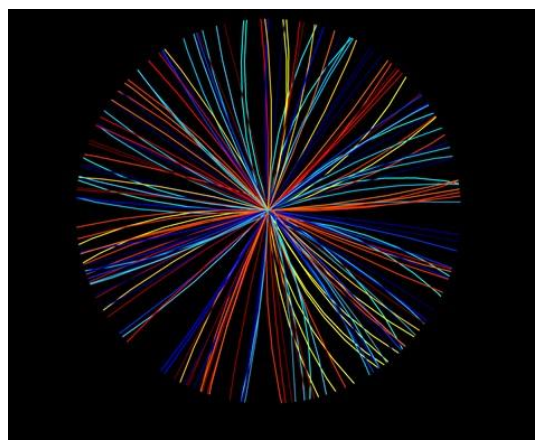
- For that we need to estimate the number of nucleon-nucleon collisions  $N_{coll}$
- Using the Glauber Monte Carlo, for a given impact parameter  $b$ , we are now able to estimate  $N_{coll}$

**How do we measure  $b$ ?**



# Centrality

- How do we measure the impact parameter  $b$ ?



Low multiplicity



High multiplicity

**Striking relation between  $b$  and multiplicity**

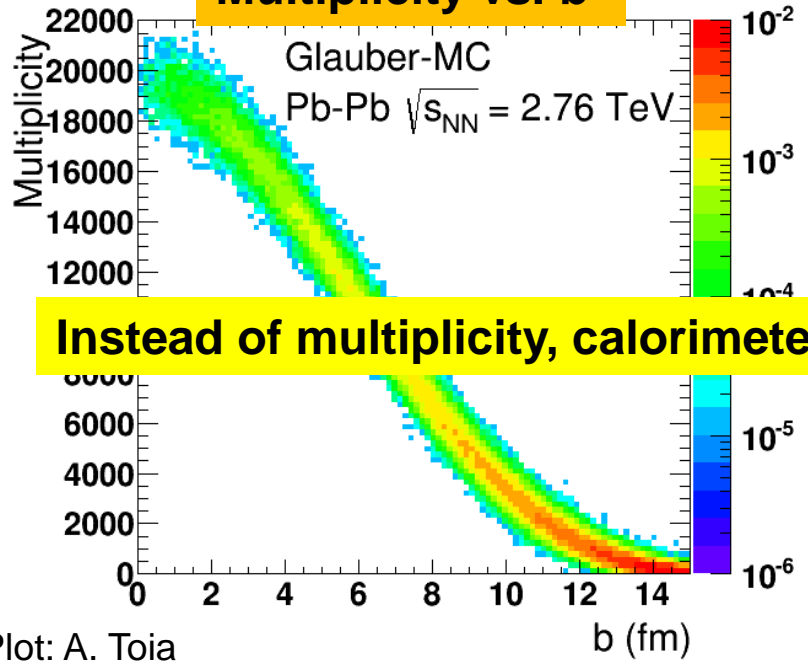




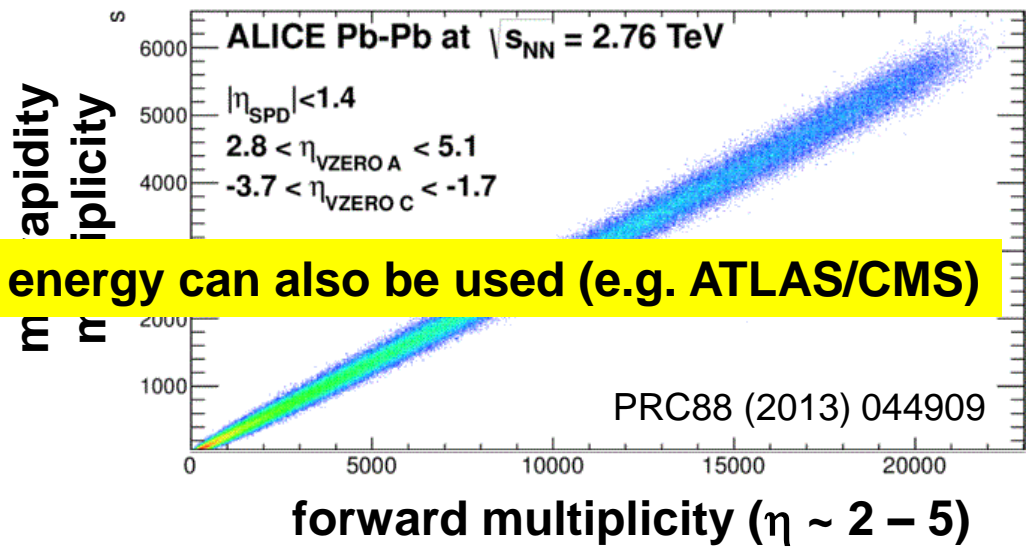
# Centrality (2)

- Multiplicity anti-proportional to  $b$ 
  - Glauber MC + particle production model calculates multiplicity
- Multiplicity correlated in different phase space (e.g. forward and mid rapidity) regions in HI collisions

**Multiplicity vs.  $b$**



**Mid rapidity vs. forward multiplicity**



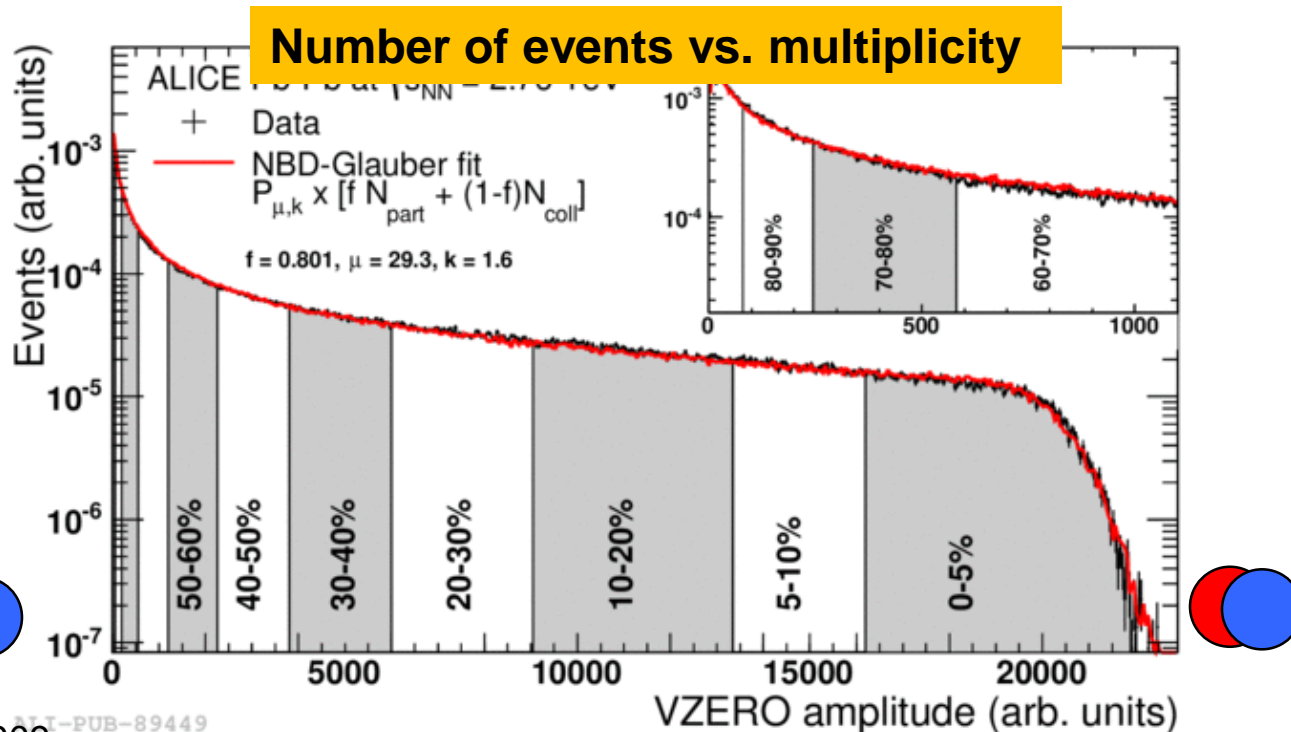
**Instead of multiplicity, calorimeter energy can also be used (e.g. ATLAS/CMS)**

Plot: A. Toia



# Centrality (3)

- Use multiplicity to split events into *classes*
- Called 0-5%, 5-10%, ... 100% (“0%” = most central)
- Glauber MC calculates  $N_{\text{part}}$  and  $N_{\text{coll}}$  per class



PRC88 (2013) 044909

arXiv:1207.4049



# Recap

- We are trying to measure  $R_{AA}$

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

- We will do this in different event classes based on the event multiplicity
- For each class we can estimate the number of nucleon-nucleon collisions  $N_{coll}$  using the Glauber Monte Carlo

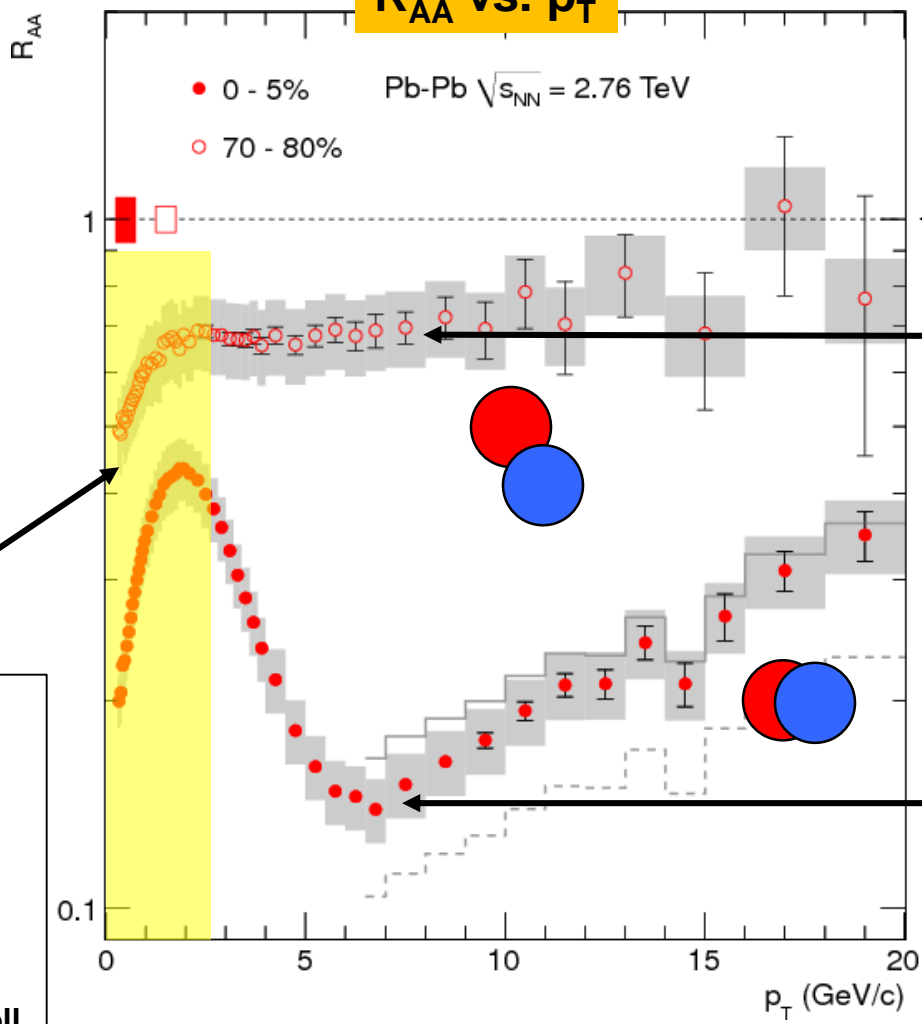
**So... let's go !**



# $R_{AA}$

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

**$R_{AA}$  vs.  $p_T$**




$R_{AA} = 1$   
→ no modification

70-80% (peripheral)  
→  $R_{AA} \sim 0.7$

0-5% (central)  
→  $R_{AA}$  drops to 0.14

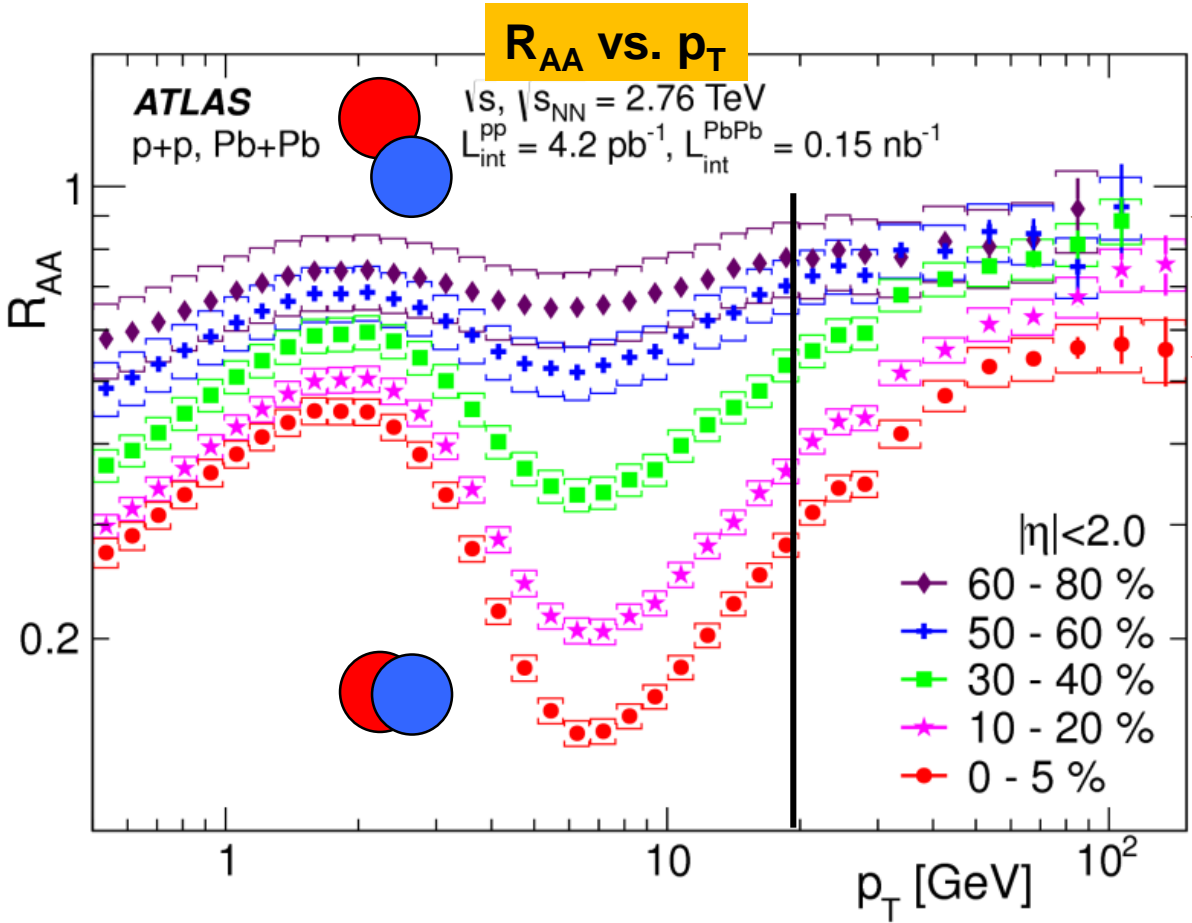
**Drop at low  $p_T$**



**Soft particle production does not scale with  $N_{coll}$**



# $R_{AA}$ at High $p_T$



60-80% (peripheral)  
 →  $R_{AA}$  increases up to 0.9

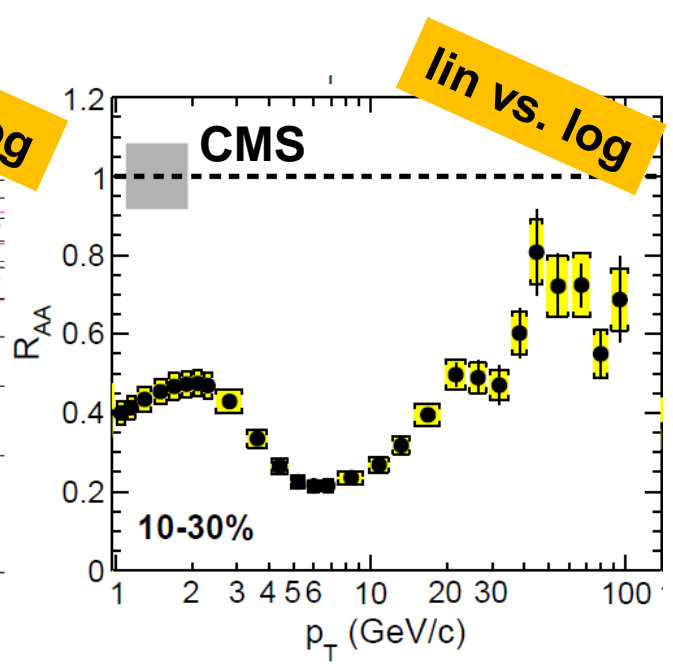
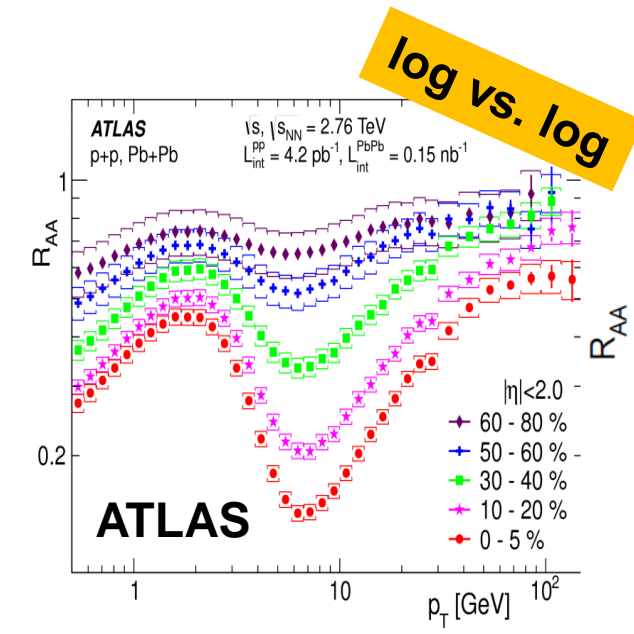
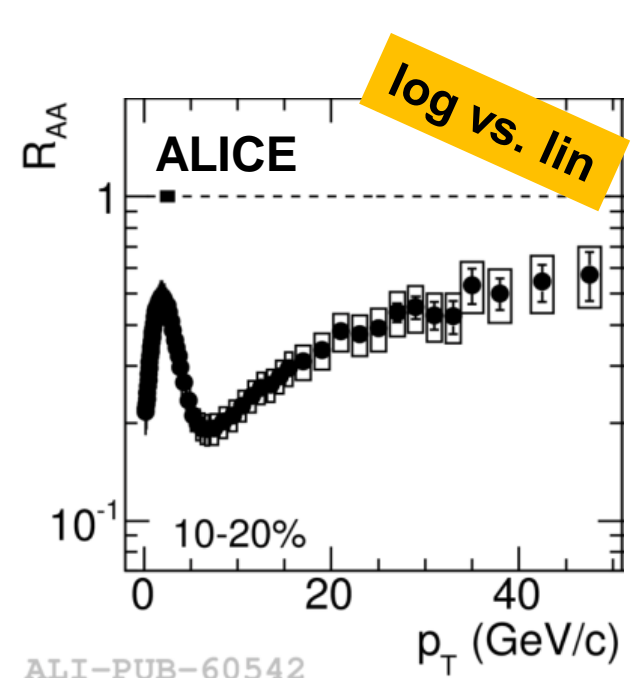
0-5% (central)  
 →  $R_{AA}$  increases up to 0.6

$R_{AA}$  reaches asymptotic value for  $p_T > 50$  GeV/c

ATLAS, JHEP09(2015)050

# Recent $R_{AA}$

- If you were wondering how to compare the plots on the previous slides...

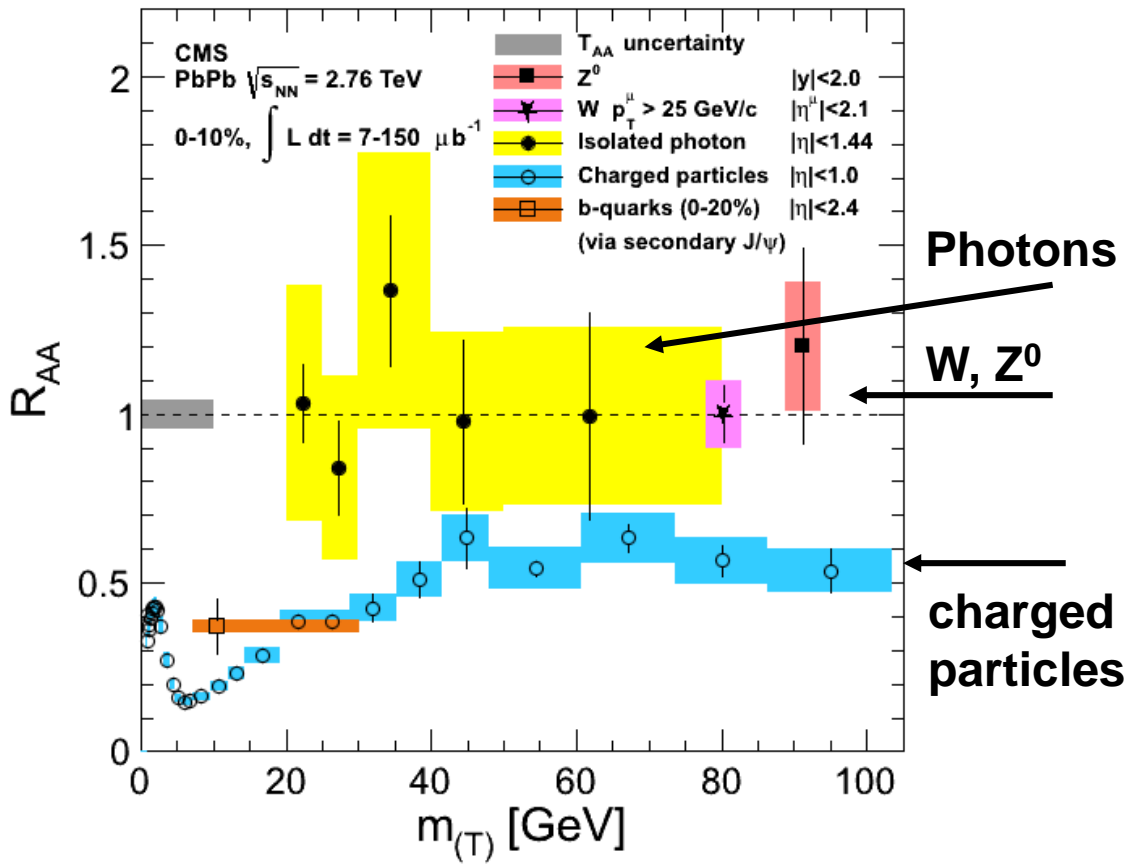


- ... but all consistent 😊

ALICE, PLB720(2013) 52-62  
 ATLAS, JHEP09(2015)050  
 CMS, EPJC 72 (2012) 1945



# $R_{AA}$ for Color-Neutral Probes



**No suppression for color-neutral probes**  
**→ No interaction with QGP**  
**→ Experimental check on  $N_{coll}$  calculation (and nuclear PDFs)**

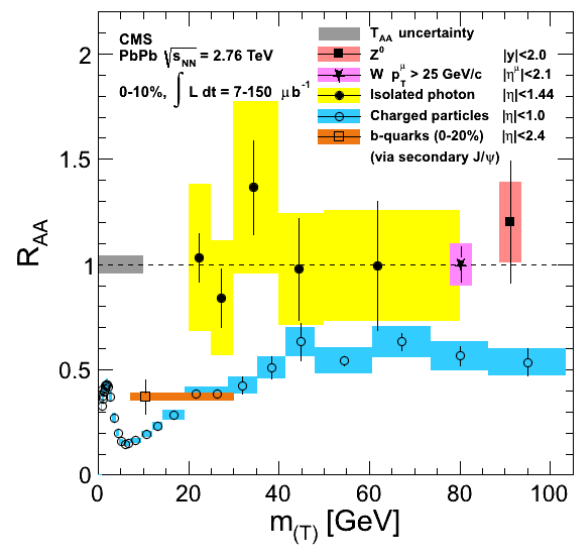
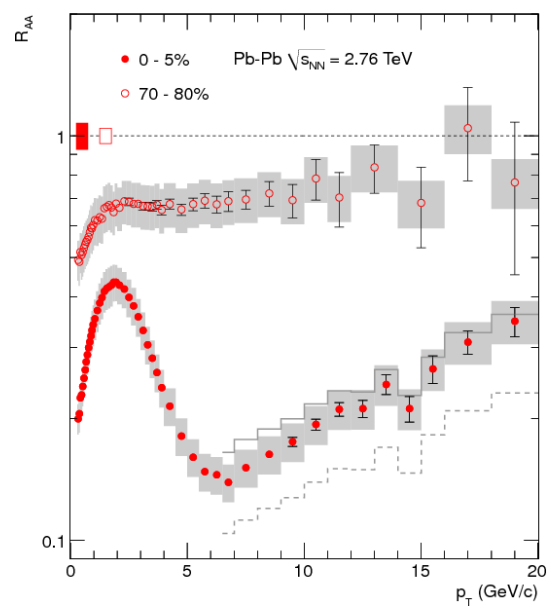


# Recap

- Peripheral collisions
  - $R_{AA} \sim 0.8 - 0.9$  for colored probes
- Central collisions
  - $R_{AA} \sim 0.14$  at  $p_T \sim 6-7$  GeV/c
  - $R_{AA} \sim 0.6$  at high  $p_T$
- $R_{AA} \sim 1$  for color-neutral probes
- Interpretation
  - $R_{AA} \sim 0.14 \sim 1/7 \rightarrow$  naïve conclusion : only 1 out of 7 particles escape the QGP?

 **We are looking at a ratio and the particle spectrum is shifted by energy loss**

**Let's try to understand this in more detail...**







# R<sub>AA</sub> Interpretation

- p<sub>T</sub> spectrum is power law

$$\frac{1}{p_T} \frac{dN}{dp_T} \sim p_T^{-n}$$

**RHIC (200 GeV): n = 7.2**  
**LHC (2.76 TeV): n = 5.4**

- Constant energy loss

$$R_{AA} \approx \left(1 - \frac{\Delta E}{p_T}\right)^n$$

**rising with p<sub>T</sub>**

- Constant *fractional* energy loss ΔE/E

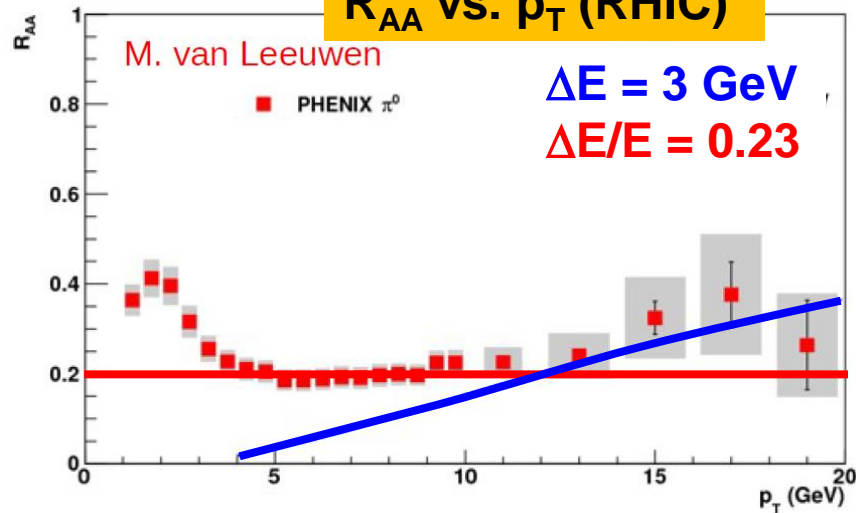
$$R_{AA} \approx \left(1 - \frac{\Delta E}{E}\right)^{n-1}$$

**p<sub>T</sub> independent**

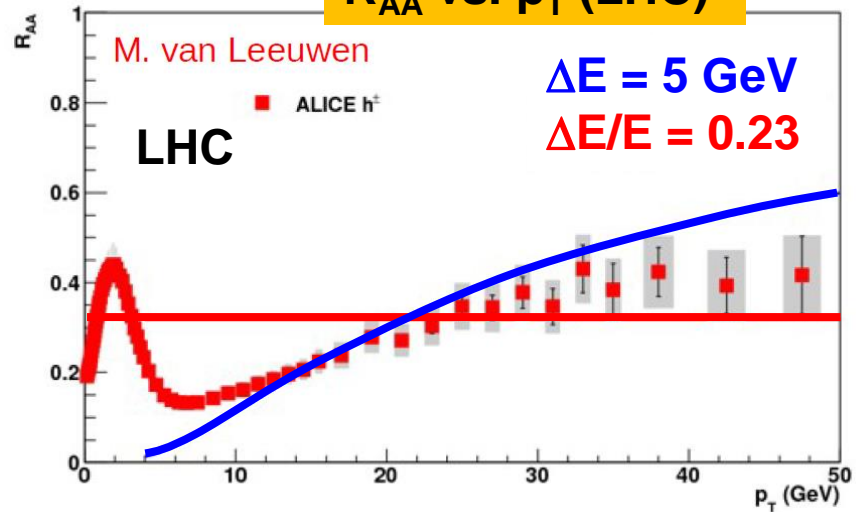
- Steepness of spectra influences R<sub>AA</sub>
- Similar R<sub>AA</sub> does not imply similar energy loss

**Medium energy loss : a few GeV**

**R<sub>AA</sub> vs. p<sub>T</sub> (RHIC)**



**R<sub>AA</sub> vs. p<sub>T</sub> (LHC)**



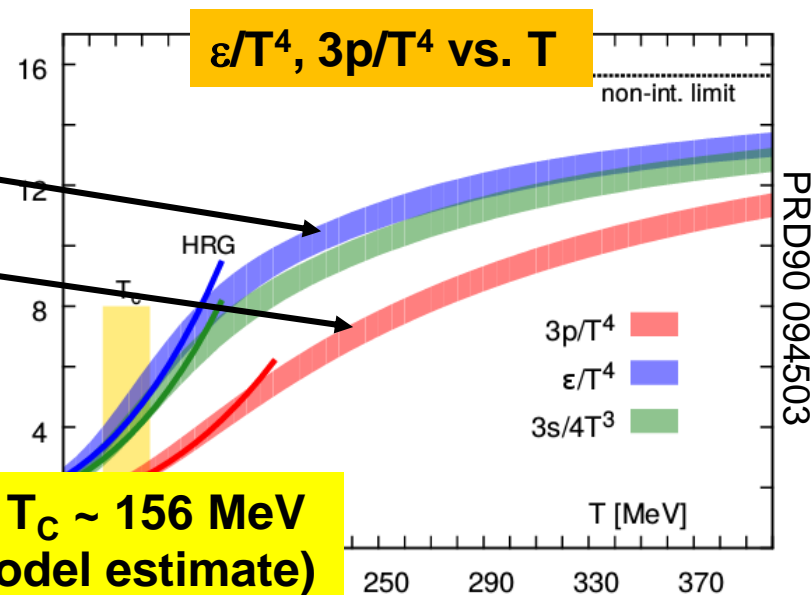


# Backup



# Lattice QCD

- More thorough estimate of the phase transition temperature can be done with lattice QCD
- Approach to solve non-perturbative QCD
- Discretize the QCD Lagrangian on a space-time grid
- Limited to chemical potential  $\mu_B = 0$  (some workarounds exist)
- Calculate T dependence of
  - energy density
  - pressure
- Steep rise = change in number of degrees of freedom  
→ phase transition



**156 MeV  $\approx$  2  $10^{12}$  K**  
**(Sun core: 1.5  $10^7$  K)**

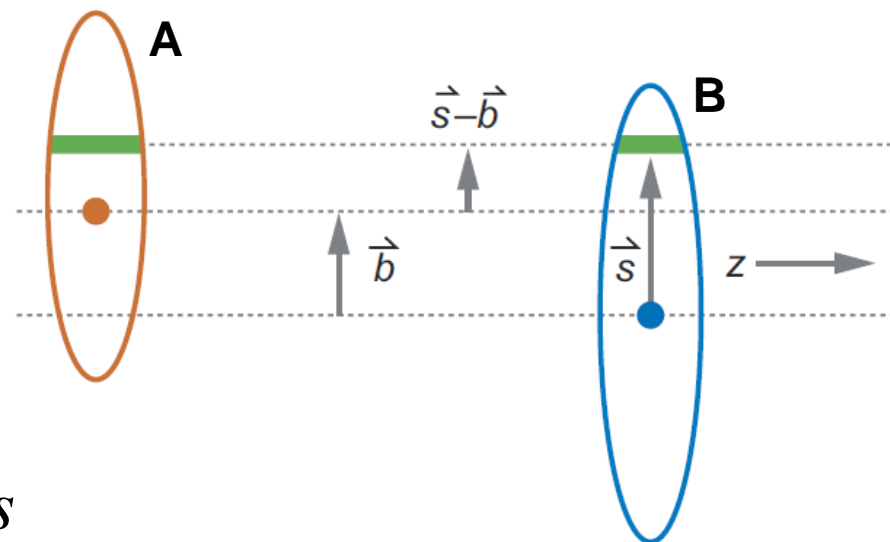
**Transition temperature  $T_c \sim 156$  MeV**  
**(consistent with bag model estimate)**

# Optical Glauber

- Probability to find a specific nucleon at  $s$

$$T_A(s)$$

$$T_B(s)$$



- Overlap function

$$T_{AB}(b) = \int T_A(s-b)T_B(s) ds$$

- Effective overlap area for which a specific nucleon in A can interact with a given nucleon in B

probability that a nucleon in A and in B are “in the same place”

- Probability for interaction

$$T_{AB}(b) \sigma_{NN}$$

Figure: nucl-ex/0701025



# Optical Glauber (2)

- Probability for  $n$  interactions

$$P(n, \mathbf{b}) = \binom{AB}{n} \left[ \hat{T}_{AB}(\mathbf{b}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\text{NN}} \right]^n \left[ 1 - \hat{T}_{AB}(\mathbf{b}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\text{NN}} \right]^{AB-n}$$

**A,B number of nucleons**

- Number of collisions

$$N_{\text{coll}}(b) = \sum_{n=1}^{AB} n P(n, b) = AB \hat{T}_{AB}(b) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\text{NN}}$$

- Number of participants

$$N_{\text{part}}(\mathbf{b}) = A \int \hat{T}_A(\mathbf{s}) \left\{ 1 - \left[ 1 - \hat{T}_B(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\text{NN}} \right]^B \right\} d^2s + B \int \hat{T}_B(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{b}) \left\{ 1 - \left[ 1 - \hat{T}_A(\mathbf{s}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\text{NN}} \right]^A \right\} d^2s$$

**probability for not a single nucleon in a specific place**



# Optical Glauber (3)

- Overlap function  $T_{AA}$  allows to rewrite nuclear-modification factor in terms of pp cross-section

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_{pp} / dp_T}$$

Identical nuclei:  
 $AB \rightarrow A^2$

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{A^2 \langle T_{AA} \rangle d\sigma_{pp} / dp_T}$$

$$N_{coll}(b) = A^2 T_{AA}(b) \sigma^{NN}$$

sometimes factor  $A^2$  included in  $\langle T_{AA} \rangle$

- Reduces uncertainties if cross-section measurement is available



# Optical vs. MC Glauber

- Optical Glauber calculates the average  $N_{\text{coll}} / N_{\text{part}}$  analytically
  - Exact
- MC Glauber arrives within MC approach at same values
- Advantage: Initial state fluctuations can be included (random distributions of nucleons in nuclei)  
→ needed to describe many observables

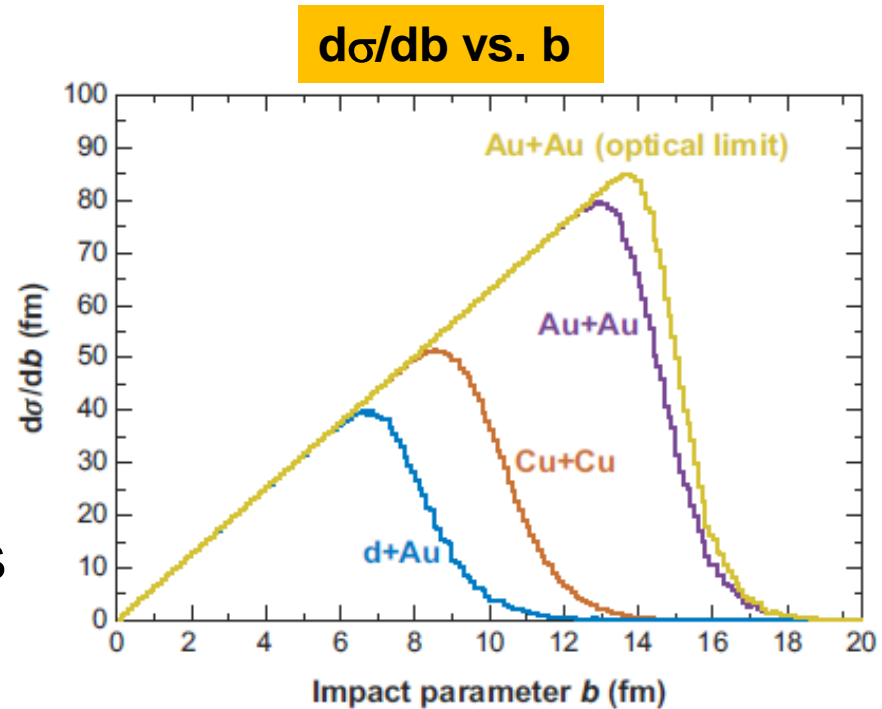


Figure: nucl-ex/0701025