

Measuring nuclei radii in heavy-ion collisions

Interfacing nuclear structure with high-energy nuclear collisions

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The 21st International Conference on Strangeness in Quark Matter
3-7 June 2024, Strasbourg, France



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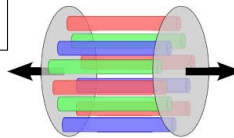


3-7 Jun 2024

Université de Strasbourg / Palais de la Musique et des Congrès

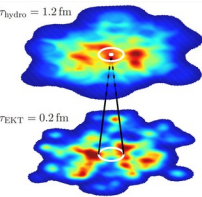
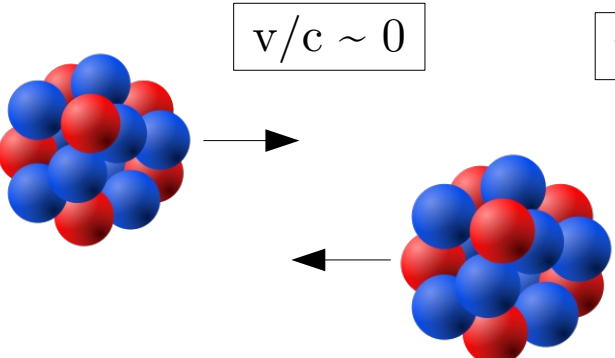
Europe/Paris timezone

2 Effective theory of highly coherent gluon states: "**Glasma**"

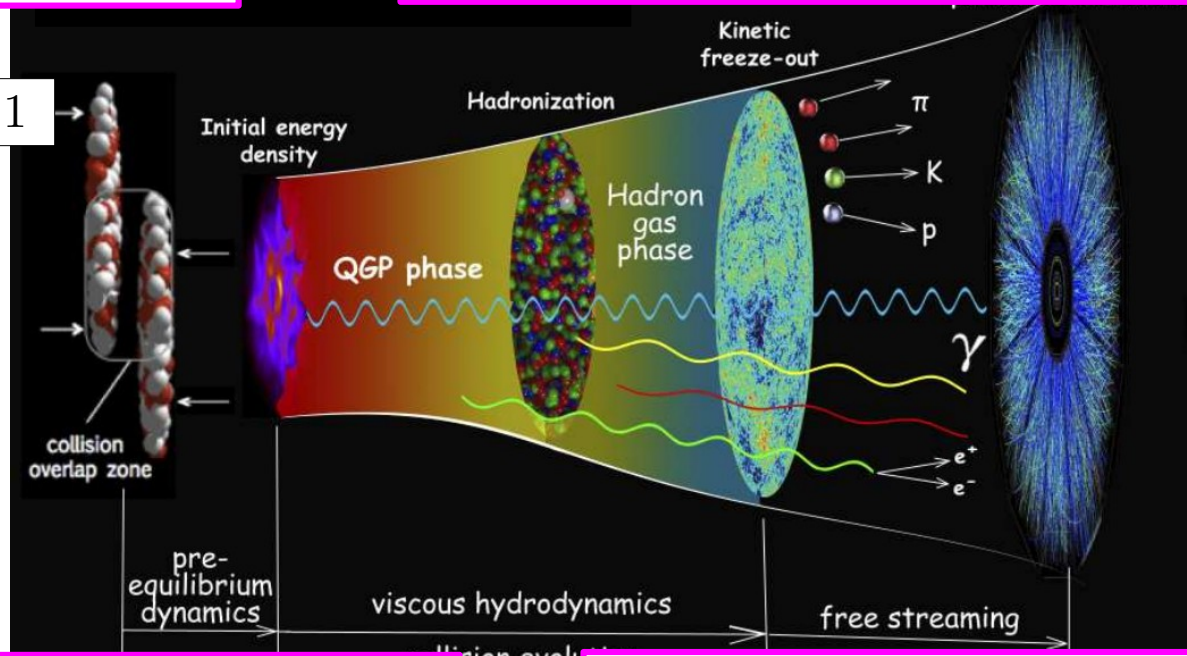


$\langle T^{00} \rangle \propto Q_A^2(\mathbf{x}) Q_B^2(\mathbf{x})$

3 Effective QCD kinetic theory

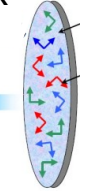
$$\partial_\tau f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} - \frac{p^z}{\tau} \partial_{p^z} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} = -\mathcal{C}_{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}] - \mathcal{C}_{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}]$$



HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS
= **A TOWER OF EFFECTIVE THEORIES**



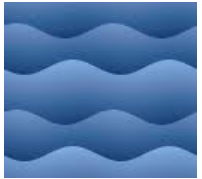
1 Effective theory of small-x degrees of freedom **CGC**

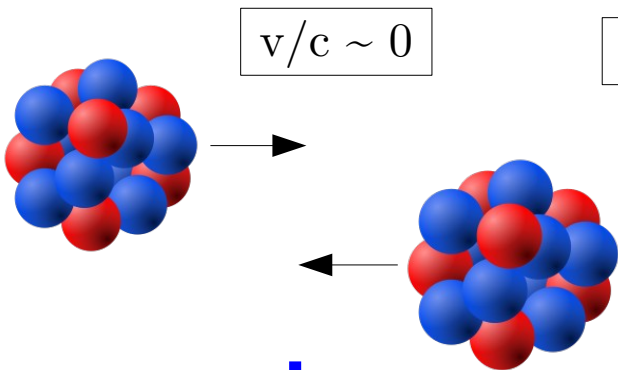
$A_{1,2}^\mu(x) \quad Q_s^2(\mathbf{x})$



4 Effective viscous hydrodynamic description **QGP**

$\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} P \quad \eta/s$



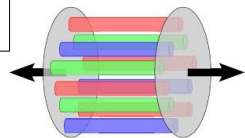


0

THIS TALK

Effective theory of highly coherent gluon states: "**Glasma**"

2

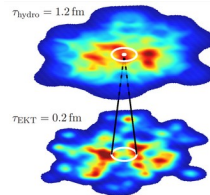


$$\langle T^{00} \rangle \propto Q_A^2(\mathbf{x}) Q_B^2(\mathbf{x})$$

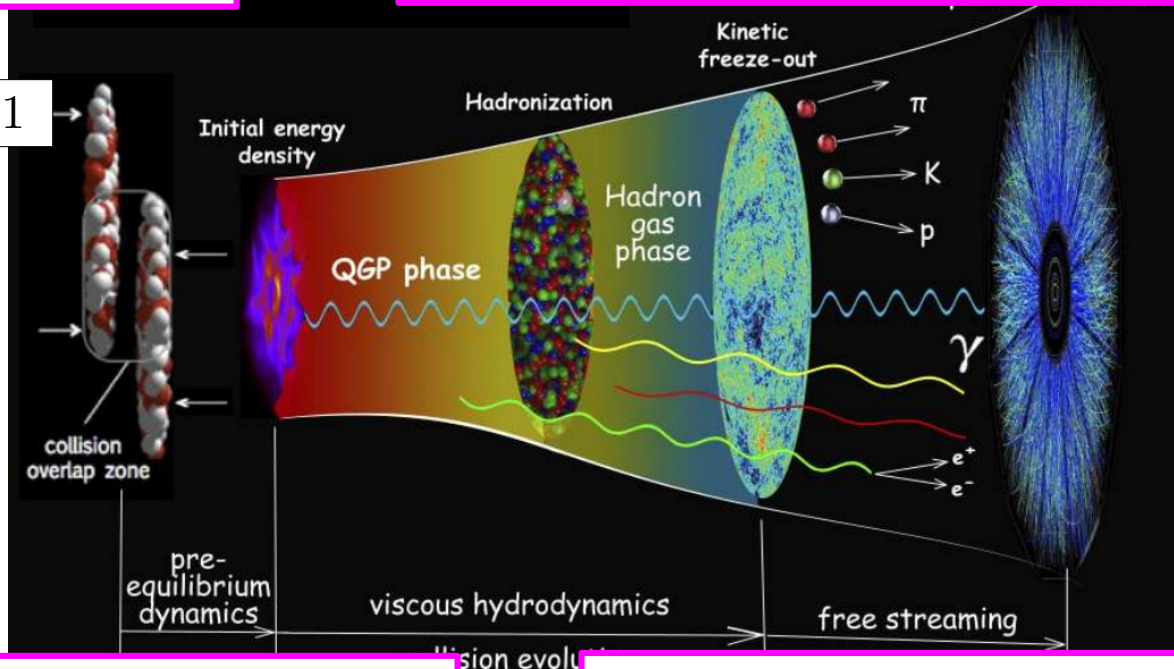
Effective QCD kinetic theory

3

$$\partial_\tau f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} - \frac{p^z}{\tau} \partial_{p^z} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} = -\mathcal{C}_{2 \leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}] - \mathcal{C}_{1 \leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}]$$



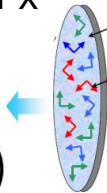
$v/c = 1$



1

Effective theory of small-x degrees of freedom
CGC

$$A_{1,2}^\mu(x) \quad Q_s^2(\mathbf{x})$$



4

Effective viscous hydrodynamic description
QGP

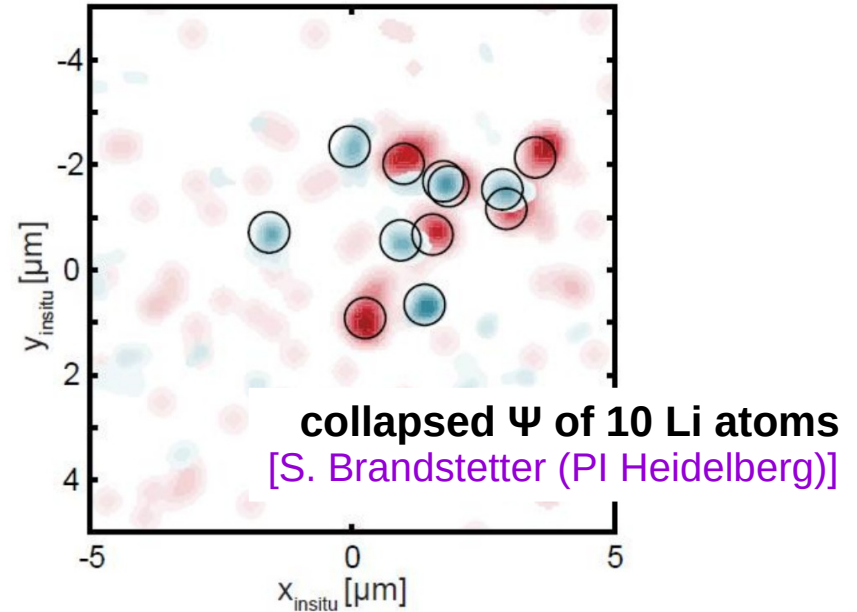
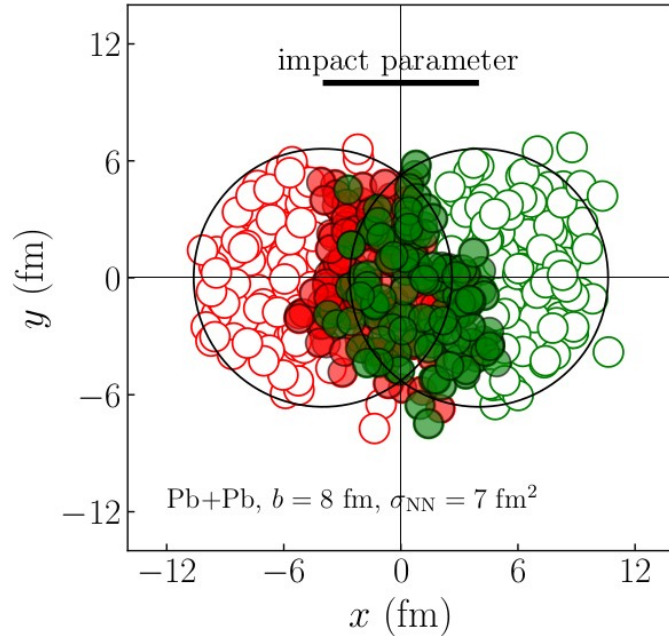
$$\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} P \quad \eta/s$$



PART I – BREAKING THE BARRIER

The paradigm

[Miller *et al.*, Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. **57** (2007) 205-243]
[PHOBOS Collaboration, PRL **98** (2007) 242302]
[Alver, Roland, PRC **81** (2010) 054905]

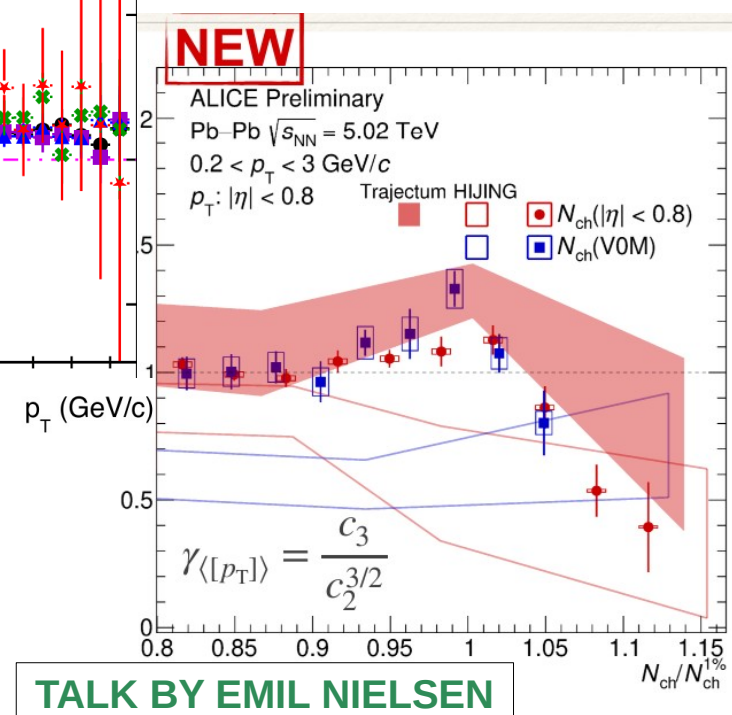
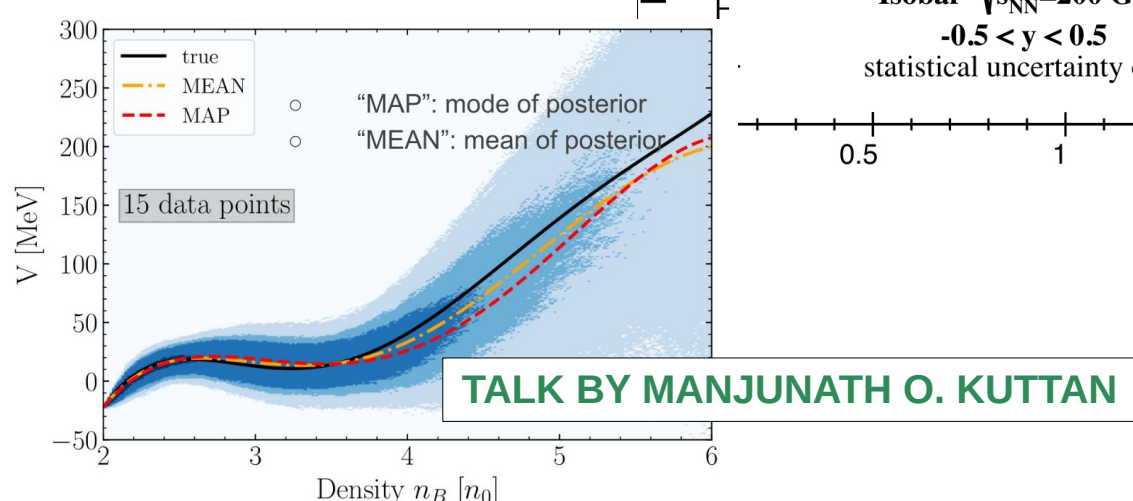
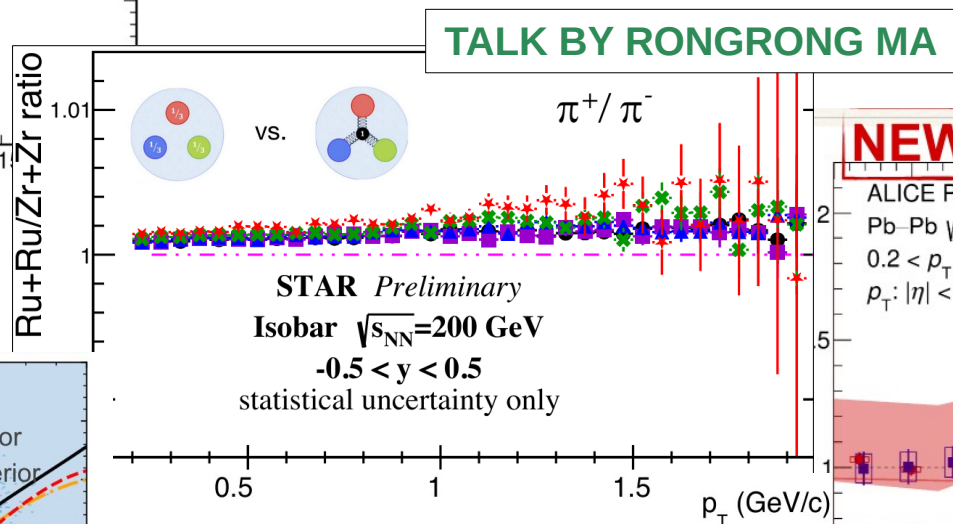
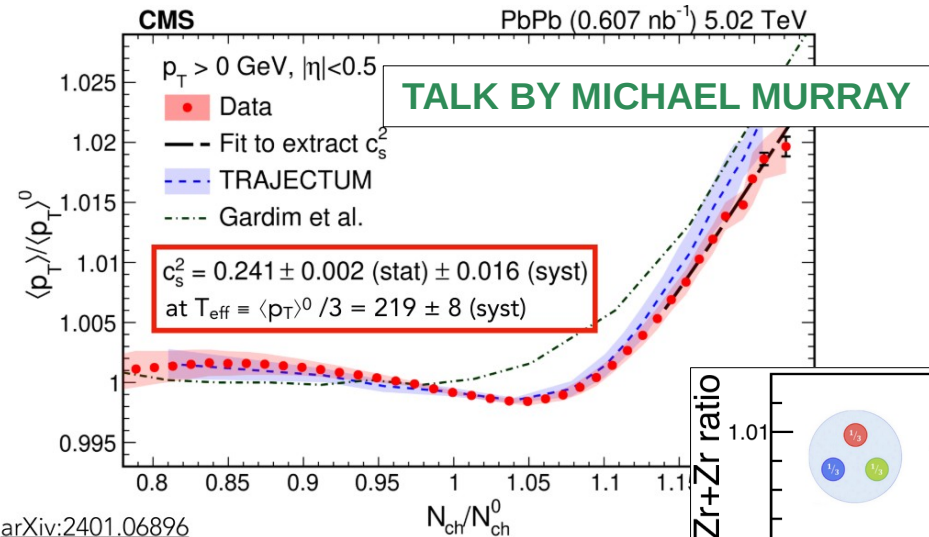


Snapshot of many-body ground state $|\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)|^2$ **KNOWLEDGE OF THIS OBJECT IS IMPORTANT**

NB: same paradigm (nucleons) also at low beam energy / fixed-target

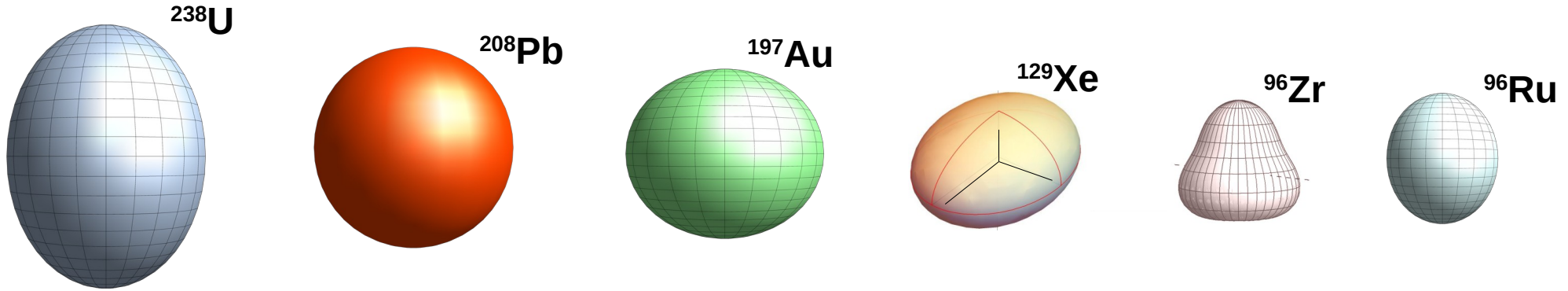
Motivation # 1

Quantitative studies in the soft sector



Motivation # 2 – Many different species available

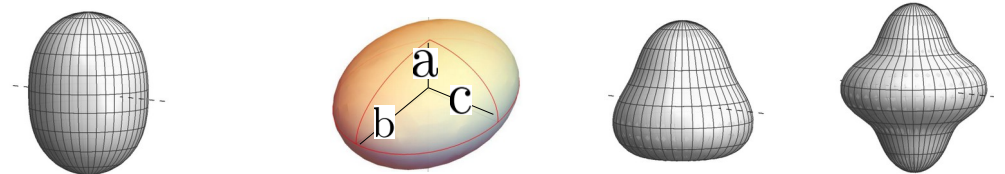
$$|\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)|^2 \quad \text{NUCLEAR SHAPES TO CAPTURE MANY-BODY CORRELATIONS}$$



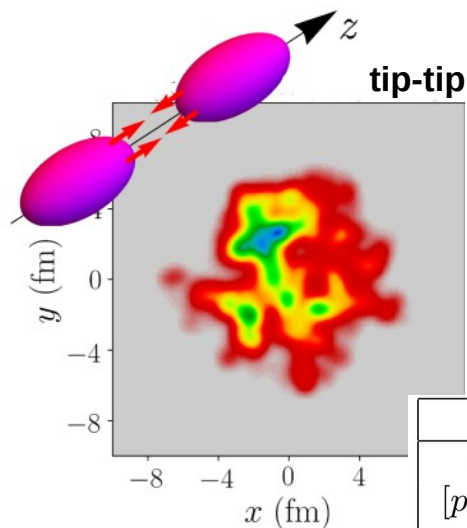
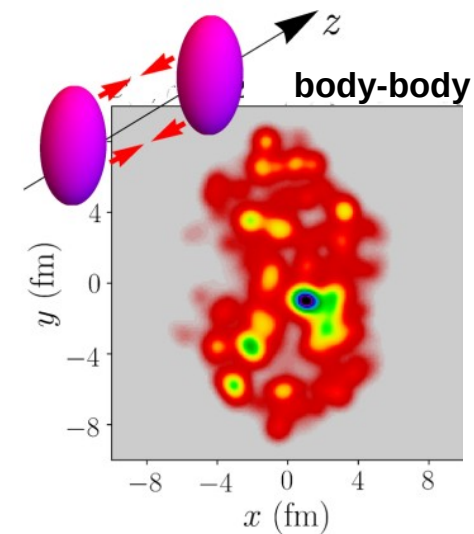
Highly nontrivial parametrizations for nucleon distributions from low-energy physics

$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) \propto \frac{1}{1 + \exp([r - R(\theta, \phi)]/a)} \quad , \quad R(\theta, \phi) = R_0 \left[1 + \beta_2 \left(\cos \gamma Y_{20}(\theta) + \sin \gamma Y_{22}(\theta, \phi) \right) + \beta_3 Y_{30}(\theta) + \beta_4 Y_{40}(\theta) \right]$$

[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]
 [Ryssens *et al.*, PRL **130** (2023) 21, 212302]

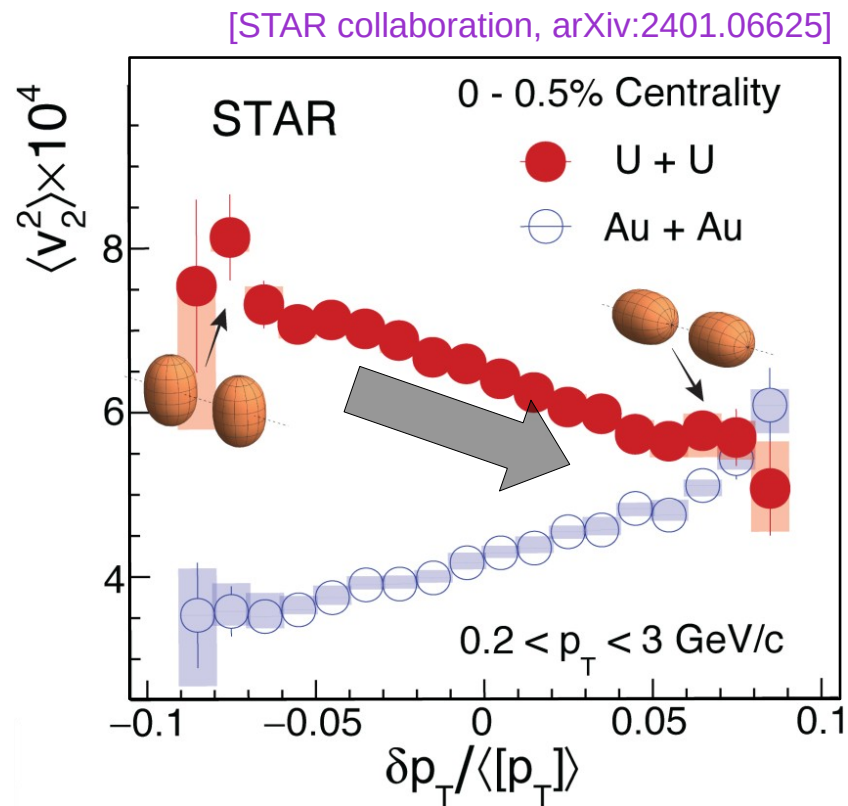


Unambiguous signatures of the shape

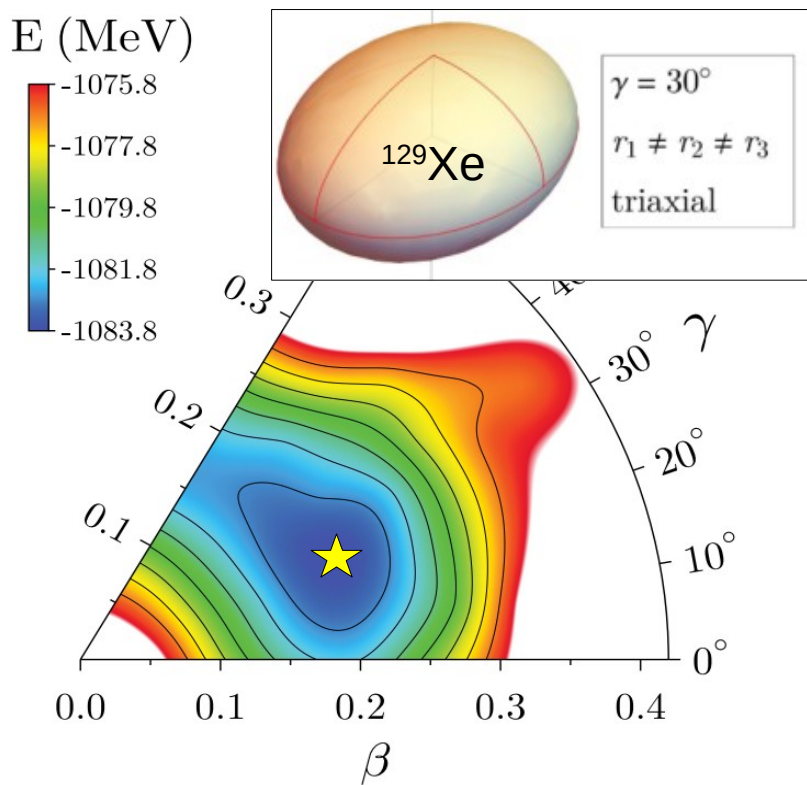


[Giacalone, PRL **124** (2020) 20, 202301
PRC **102** (2020) 2, 024901]

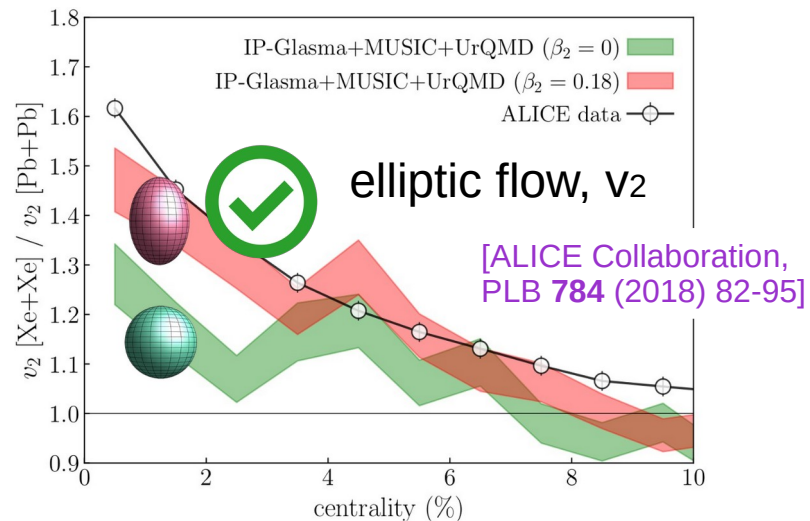
event	body-body	tip-tip
$dN/d\eta$	1296	1280
$[p_t]$ (GeV)	0.587	0.651
v_2	0.083	0.027



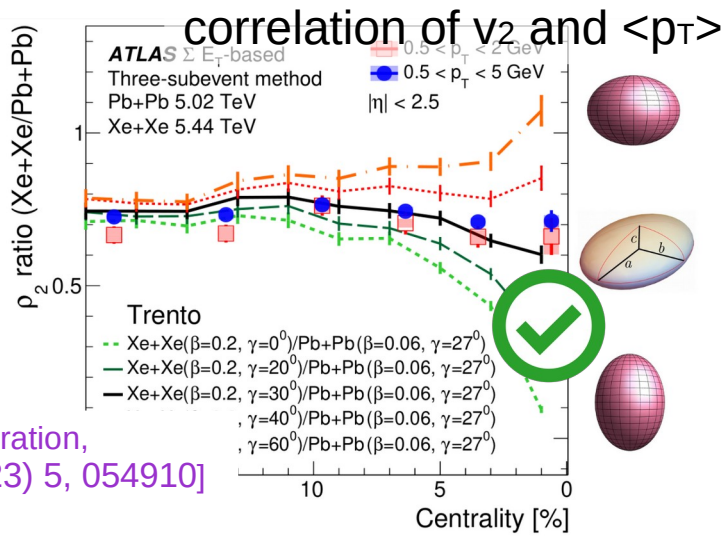
A (seemingly) success story – Understanding Xe-Xe data



[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]
 [Bally, Giacalone, Bender, EPJA **58** (2022) 9, 187]



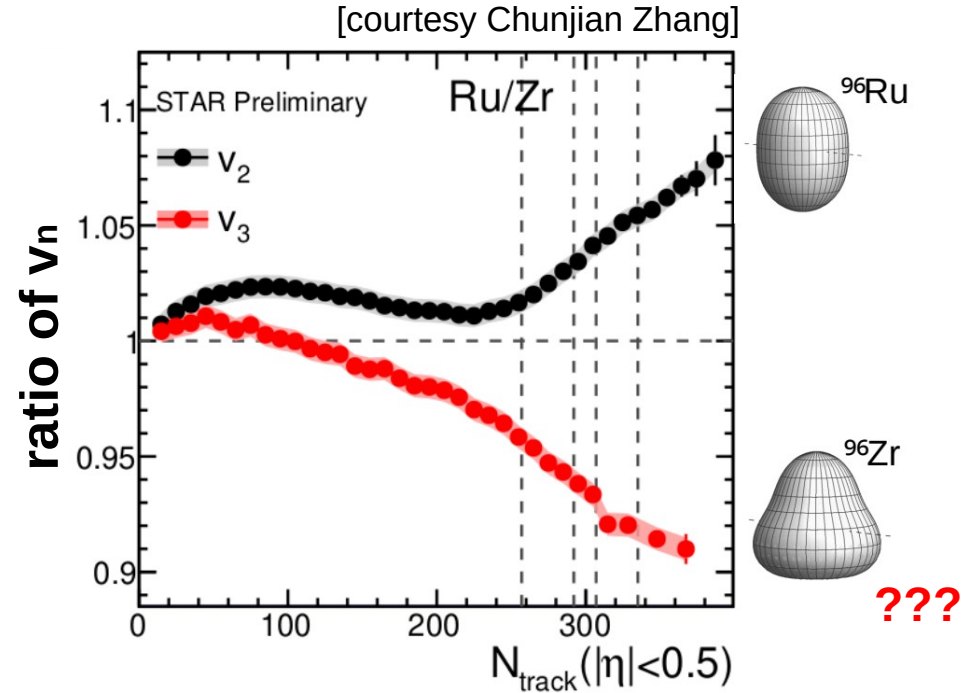
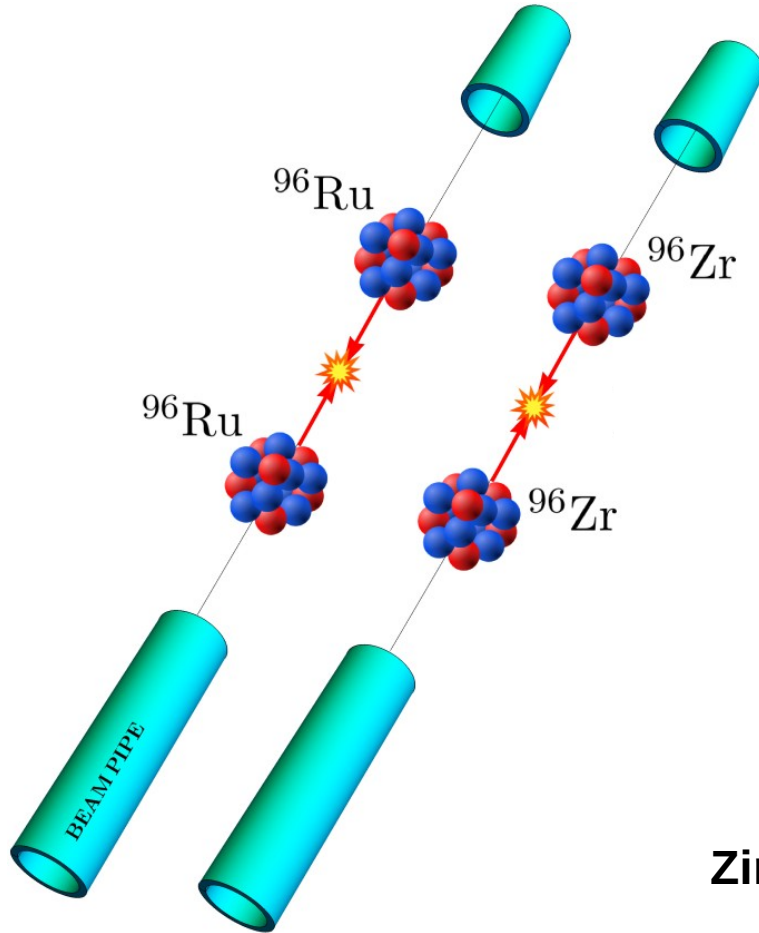
[ALICE Collaboration, PLB **784** (2018) 82-95]



[ATLAS Collaboration, PRC **107** (2023) 5, 054910]

So far so good ... until 2021 and data from “isobar collisions”

[STAR collaboration, PRC 105 (2022) 1, 014901]



Zirconium-96 must have an octupole deformation

[Zhang, Jia, PRL 128 (2022) 2, 022301]

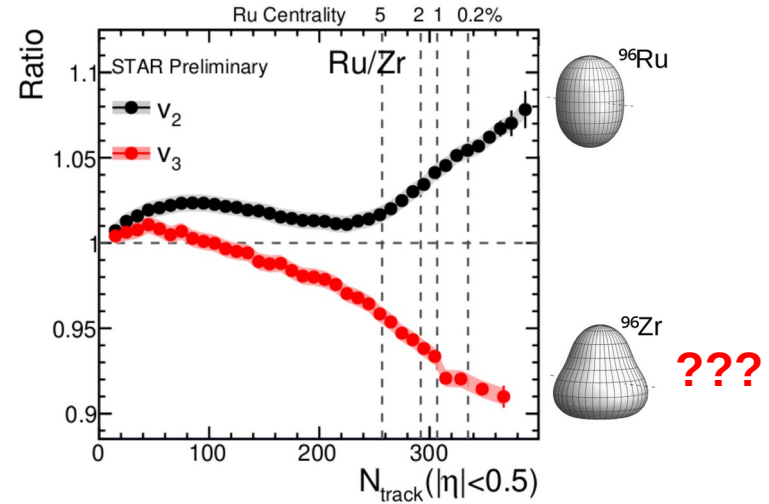
[Nijs, van der Schee, SciPost Phys. 15 (2023) 041]

ExtreMe Matter Institute EMMI

EMMI Rapid Reaction Task Force

Nuclear Physics Confronts Relativistic Collisions of Isobars

Heidelberg University, Germany, May 30 – June 3 & October 12 – 14, 2022



- **Low-energy experiments:** $A \sim 100$ is away from double shell closure. “Difficult” isotopes Ru and Zr have completely different spectra/structures
- **Low-energy theory:** Some indications of octupole deformation in Zr. Little known about Ru
No solid understanding of these nuclei

Possibly the worst choice of nuclei for precision high-energy studies

Precision STAR data is a breakthrough, albeit in a different direction

Starting from scratch – Nuclei directly from high-energy data

BAYESIAN ANALYSIS

$$\Pr(p \& D) = \Pr(p) \times \Pr(D|p) = \Pr(D) \times \Pr(p|D)$$

prior \times likelihood = evidence \times posterior

[e.g. Paquet, arXiv:2310.17618]

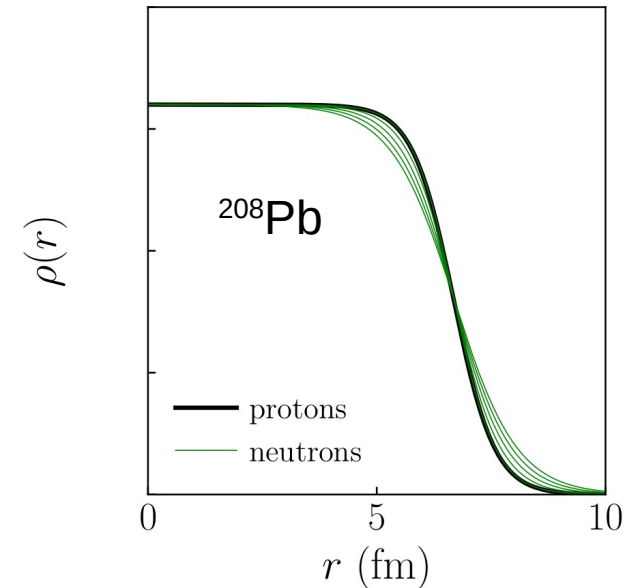
Beautiful example and opportunity: The neutron distribution of ^{208}Pb is poorly known

$$\rho(r) \propto \frac{1}{1 + e^{(r-R)/a}}$$

Protons: density from low-energy scattering

[Zenihro *et al.*, PRC **82** (2010) 044611]

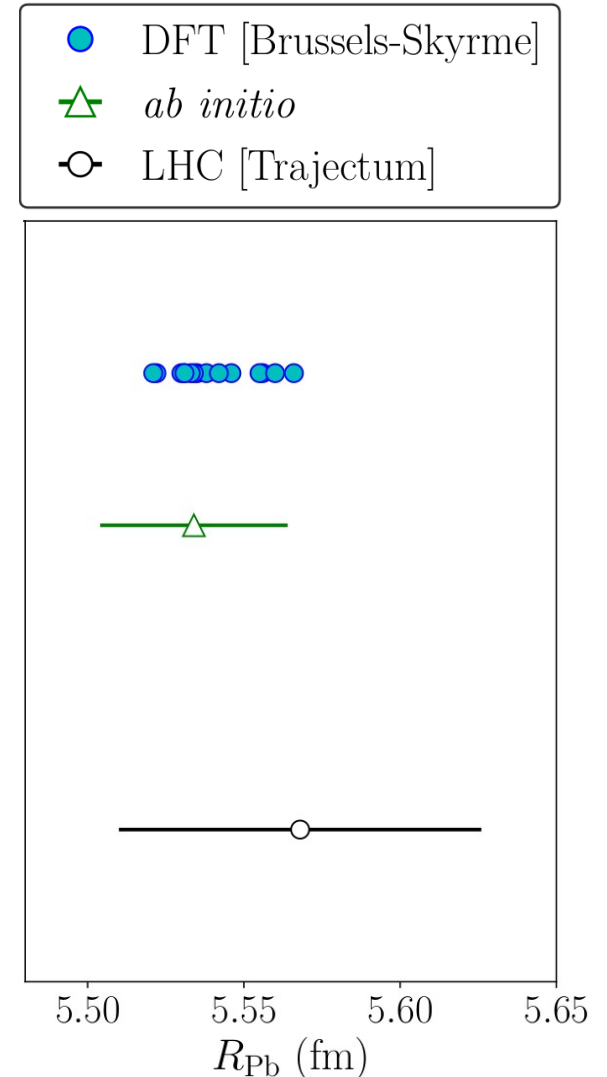
Neutrons: same R as protons, infer a from LHC data



Measuring the total radius of ^{208}Pb

$$R_{\text{Pb}}^2 = \frac{1}{208} \left(\underbrace{126 \langle r_n^2 \rangle}_{\text{LHC data}} + \underbrace{82 \langle r_p^2 \rangle}_{\text{low-energy data}} \right)$$

- 18 tuned EDF Brussels-Skyrme results
[BSKG2 functional by W. Ryssens]
- $R_{\text{Pb}}(ab\text{ initio}) = 5.534 \pm 0.030$ fm
[Hu *et al.*, Nature Phys. **18** (2022) 10, 1196-1200]
- $R_{\text{Pb}}(\text{LHC}) = 5.568 \pm 0.058$ fm
[Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL **131** (2023) 20, 20]



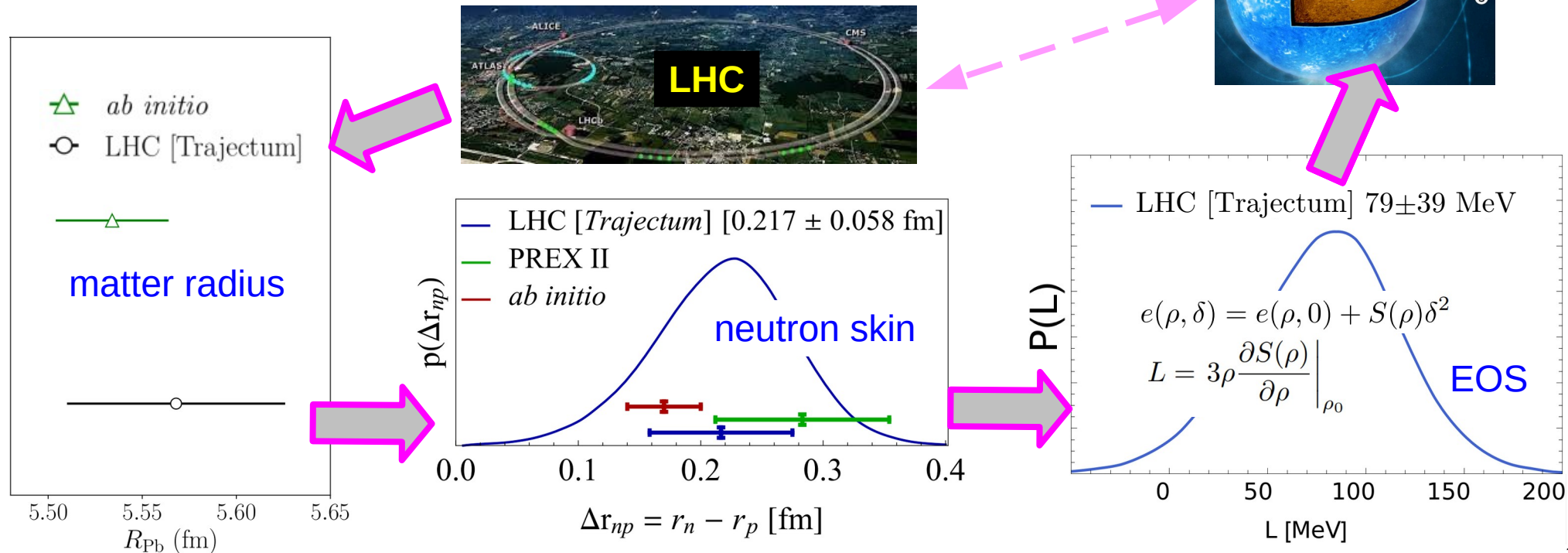
First implication – Independent determination of neutron skin of ^{208}Pb

– Dedicated PREX II experiment at JLAB

[PREX Collaboration, PRL 126 (2021) 17, 172502]

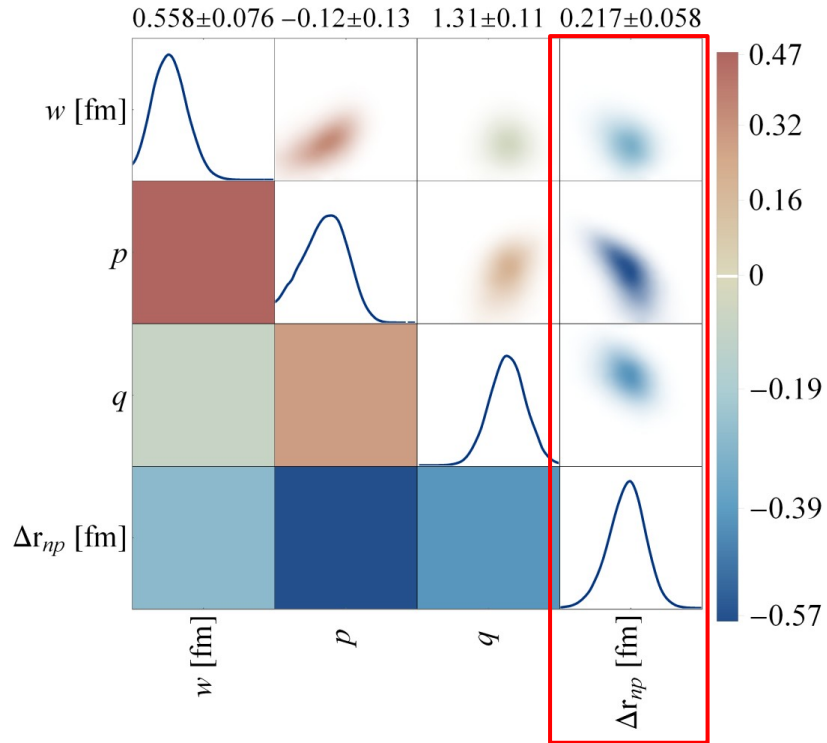
– Determination in the context of *ab initio* nuclear theory

[Hu *et al.*, Nature Phys. 18 (2022) 10, 1196-1200]



Second implication – The barrier is broken in a unified picture

[Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL **131** (2023) 20, 20]



ENERGY DEPOSITION

$$e(x_{\perp}) \propto \left(\frac{\mathcal{T}_L(x_{\perp} - b/2)^p + \mathcal{T}_R(x_{\perp} + b/2)^p}{2} \right)^{q/p}$$

NUCLEON STRUCTURE

w [fm] “gluon size” of the nucleon

Generalize to other parameters (e.g. deformation of ^{129}Xe) – Improve uncertainties

... HOW TO DO THAT SYSTEMATICALLY?

PART II – TOWARDS A UNIFIED MODEL

Modern nuclear structure theory

[Weinberg, PLB **251** (1990) 288-292,
NPB **363** (1991) 3-18]

Effective field theory of low-energy QCD

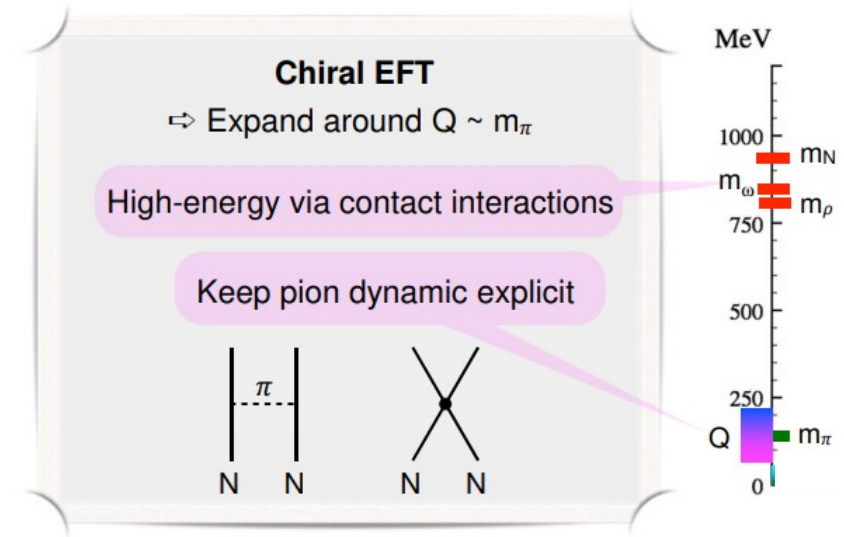
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_i \mathcal{T}_i + \sum_{i<j} V_{ij} + \sum_{i<j<k} V_{ijk} + \dots$$

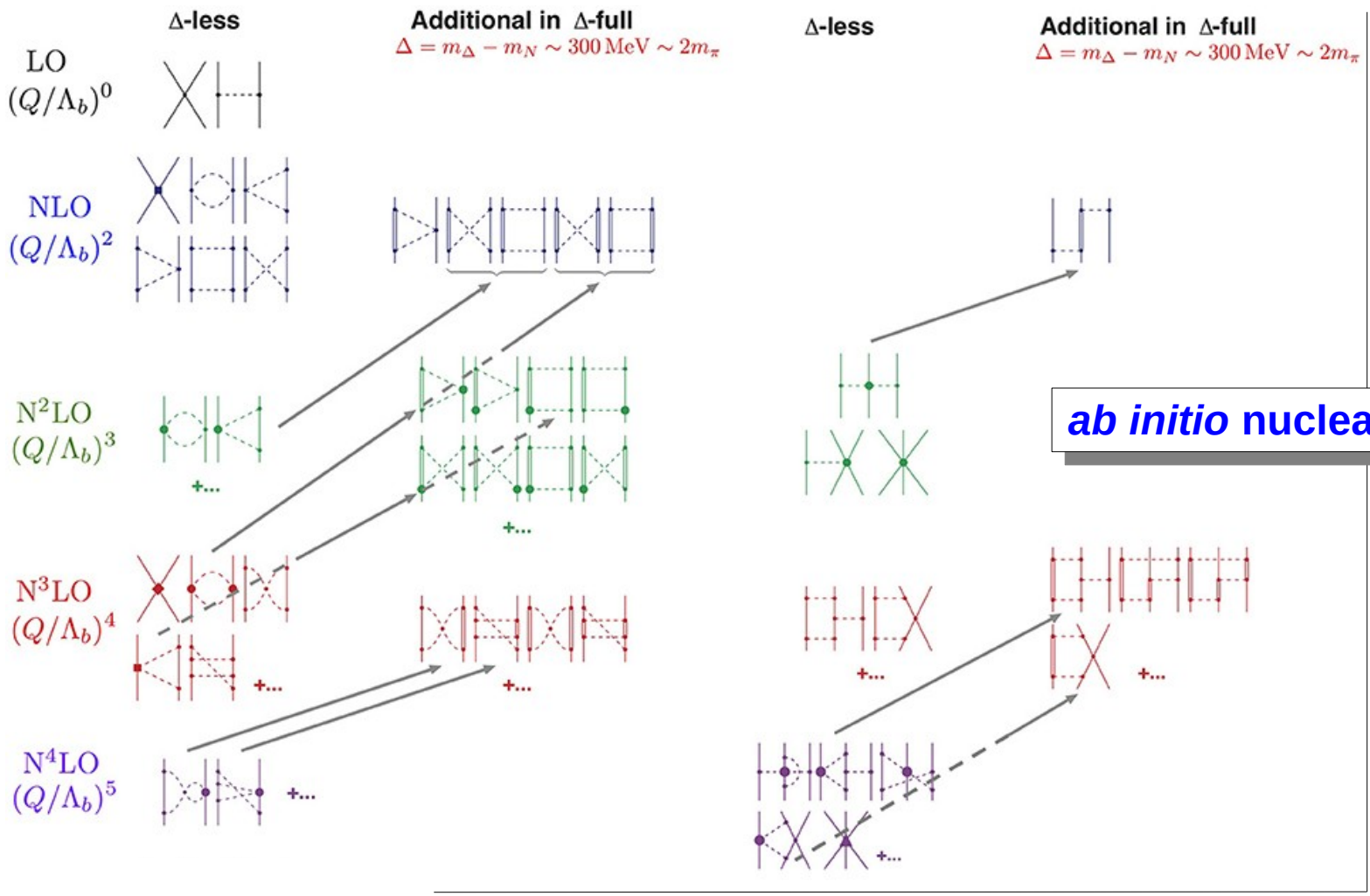
- theory of nucleons and pions
- consistent with symmetries of QCD
- nucleon-nucleon contact interaction proportional to low-energy constants (EFT parameters, from lattice QCD or exp. data)

Power counting enabled by scale separation

$$m_\pi / m_{\text{QCD}} \ll 1$$

[Hammer, König, van Kolck, RMP **92** (2020) 2, 025004]
[Piarulli, Tews, Front.in Phys. **7** (2020) 245]
[Epelbaum, Hammer, Meissner, RMP **81** (2009) 1773-1825]



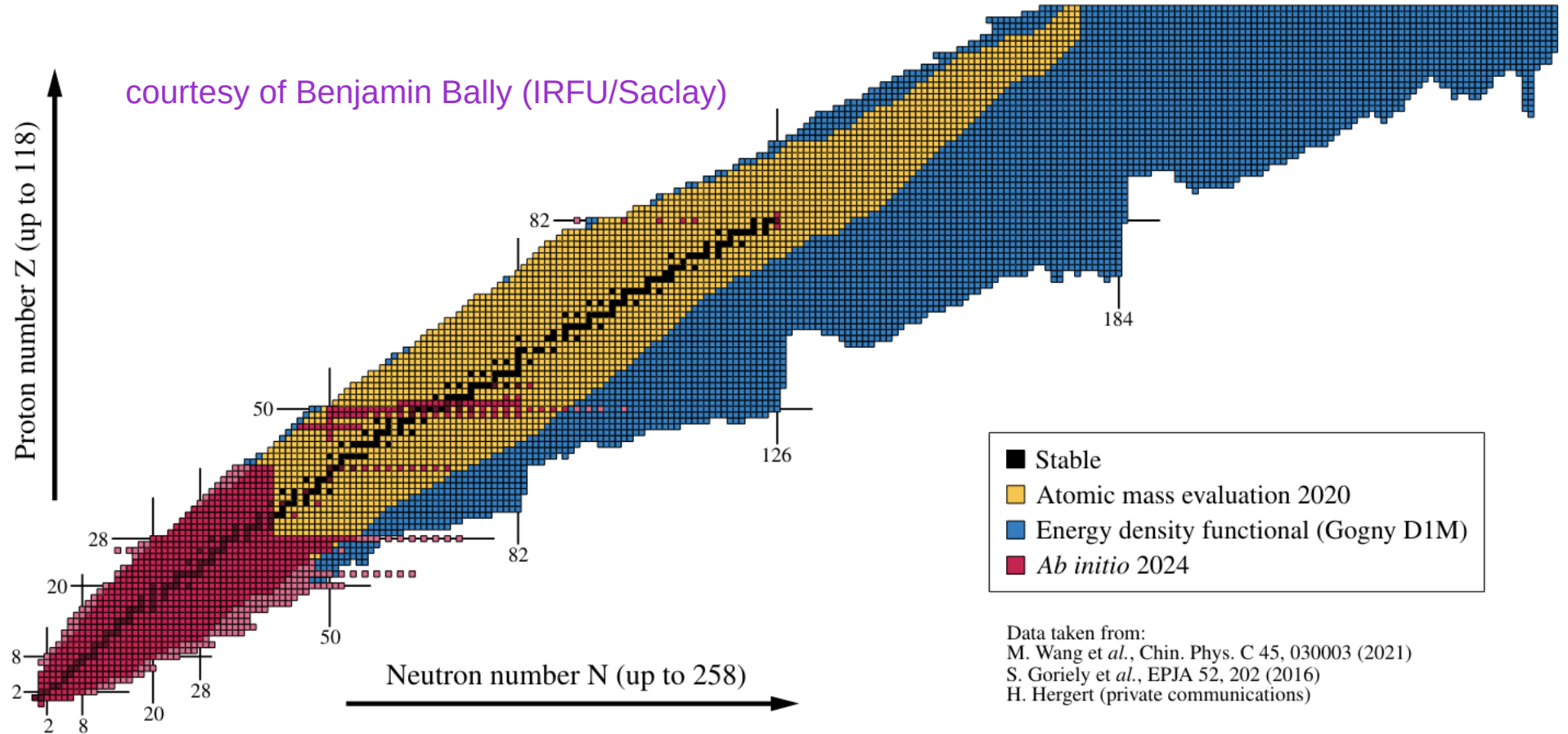


... many-body methods to solve the Schrödinger equation

$$H|\Psi_k^A\rangle = E_k^A|\Psi_k^A\rangle$$

Outstanding effort in low-energy community to reach higher masses / deformed systems

Nuclei relevant for heavy-ion collisions fully within reach in next decade



CURRENT COLLABORATIONS

– Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory (NLEFT)

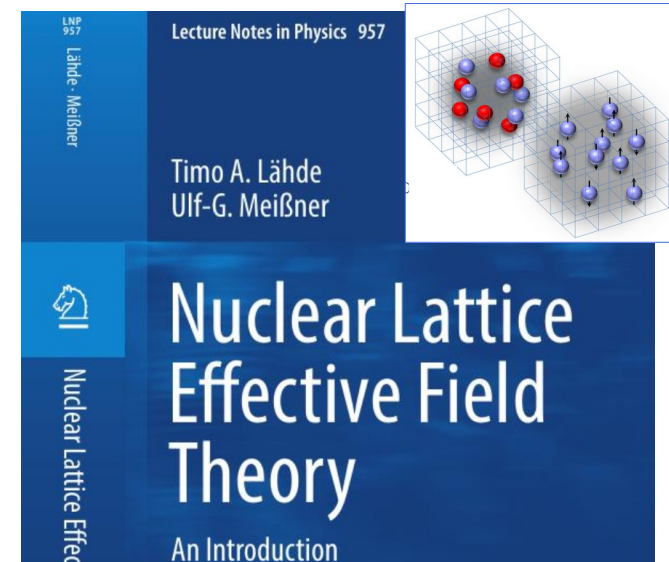
MC solution of Schrödinger equation on a lattice

≈ 15 000 ground-state configurations available

[Lu *et al.*, PLB **797** (2019) 134863]

[Summerfield *et al.*, PRC **104** (2021) 4, L041901]

Nucleons sampled directly from A-body wave function!



– *ab initio* Projected Generator Coordinate Method (PGCM)

Wave function from variational calculation
(as in energy density functional theory)

$$\delta \frac{\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle} = 0$$

[Frosini *et al.*, EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 62
EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 63
EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 64]

Provides a deformed density motivated by chiral EFT

arXiv:2402.05995

The unexpected uses of a bowling pin: exploiting ^{20}Ne isotopes for precision characterizations of collectivity in small systems

Giuliano Giacalone,^{1, *} Benjamin Bally,² Govert Nijs,³ Shihang Shen,⁴
Thomas Duguet,^{5, 6} Jean-Paul Ebran,^{7, 8} Serdar Elhatisari,^{9, 10} Mikael Frosini,¹¹ Timo A. Lähde,^{12, 13}
Dean Lee,¹⁴ Bing-Nan Lu,¹⁵ Yuan-Zhuo Ma,¹⁴ Ulf-G. Meißner,^{10, 16, 17} Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler,¹⁸
Christopher Plumberg,¹⁹ Tomás R. Rodríguez,²⁰ Robert Roth,^{21, 22} Wilke van der Schee,^{3, 23, 24} and Vittorio Somà⁵

 HEAVY IONS

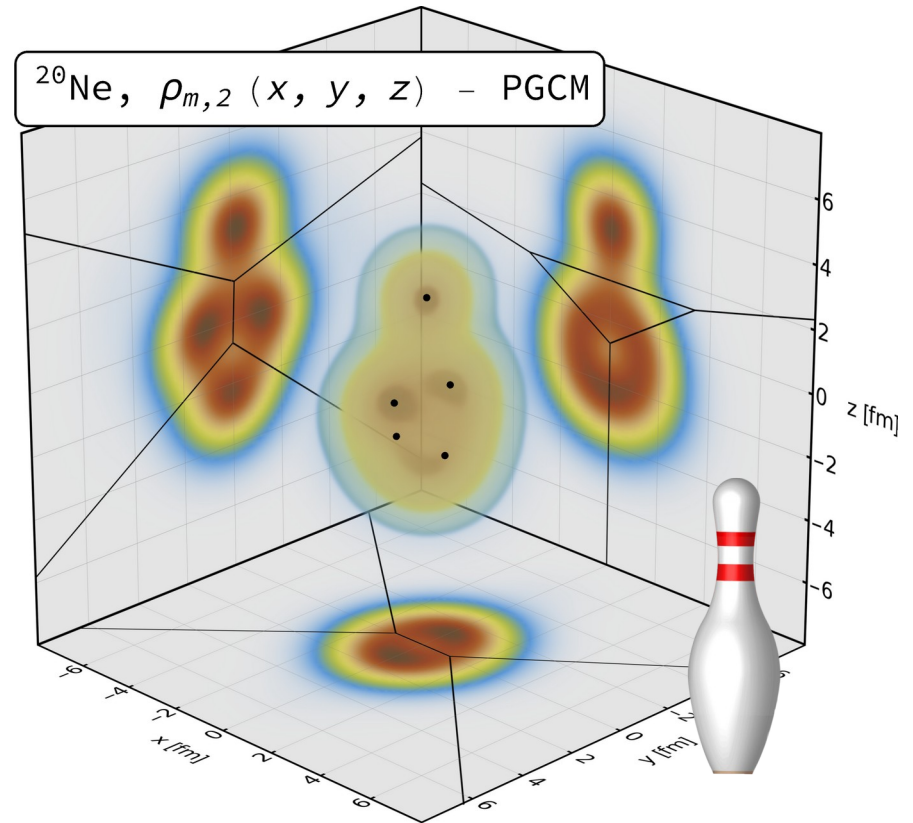
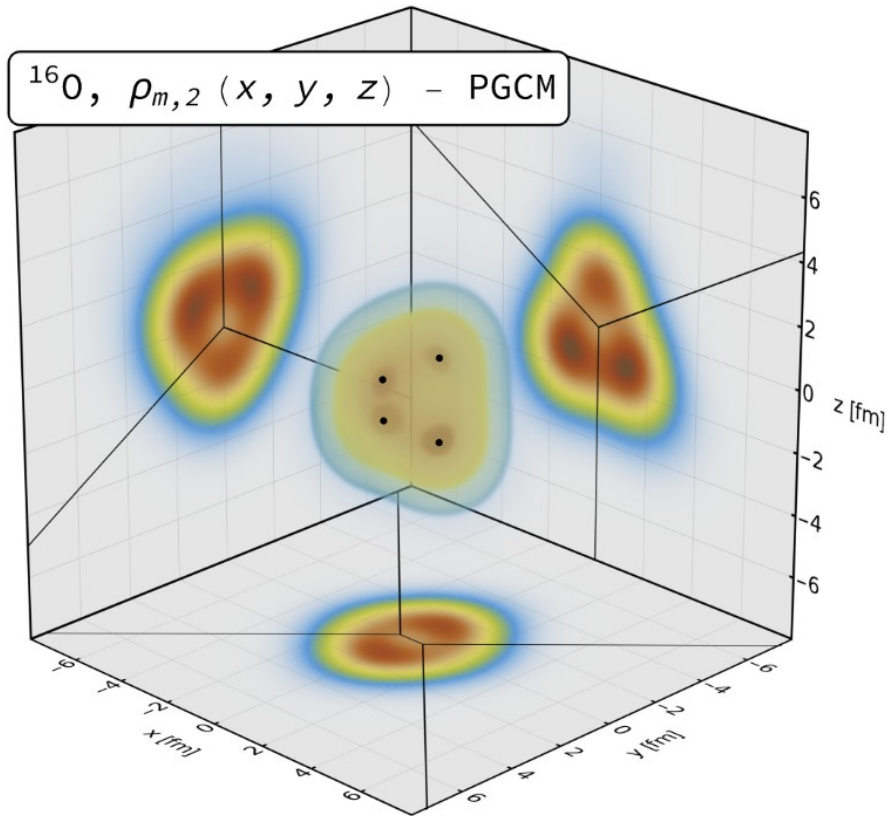
 PGCM

 NLEFT

arXiv:2405.20210

The unexpected uses of a bowling pin: anisotropic flow in fixed-target $^{208}\text{Pb}+^{20}\text{Ne}$ collisions as a probe of quark-gluon plasma

Giuliano Giacalone,^{1, *} Wenbin Zhao,^{2, 3, †} Benjamin Bally,⁴ Shihang Shen,⁵
Thomas Duguet,^{6, 7} Jean-Paul Ebran,^{8, 9} Serdar Elhatisari,¹⁰ Mikael Frosini,¹¹
Timo A. Lähde,^{12, 13} Dean Lee,¹⁴ Bing-Nan Lu,¹⁵ Yuan-Zhuo Ma,¹⁴ Ulf-G. Meißner,^{16, 17, 5}
Govert Nijs,¹⁸ Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler,¹⁹ Christopher Plumberg,²⁰ Tomás R. Rodríguez,²¹
Robert Roth,^{22, 23} Wilke van der Schee,^{18, 24, 25} Björn Schenke,^{26, ‡} Chun Shen,^{27, 28, §} and Vittorio Somà⁶



Ancillary files (details):

- NLEFT_dmin_0.5fm_negativeweights_Ne.h5
- NLEFT_dmin_0.5fm_negativeweights_O.h5
- NLEFT_dmin_0.5fm_positiveweights_Ne.h5
- NLEFT_dmin_0.5fm_positiveweights_O.h5
- PGCM_clustered_dmin0_Ne.h5
- PGCM_clustered_dmin0_O.h5
- PGCM_uniform_dmin0_Ne.h5
- PGCM_uniform_dmin0_O.h5

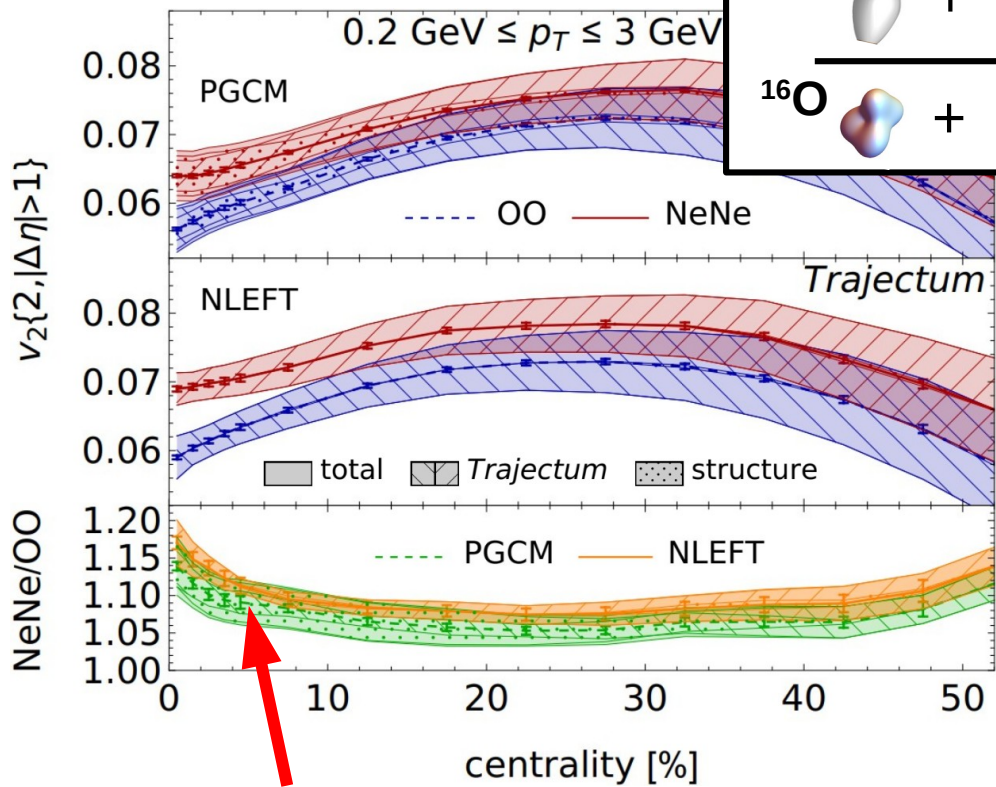
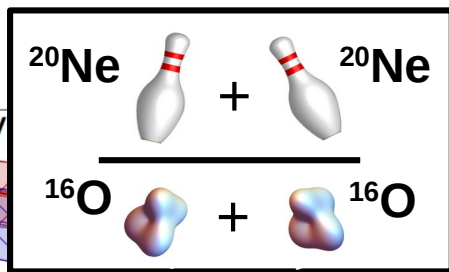
arXiv:2402.05995

Playing bowling at LHCb

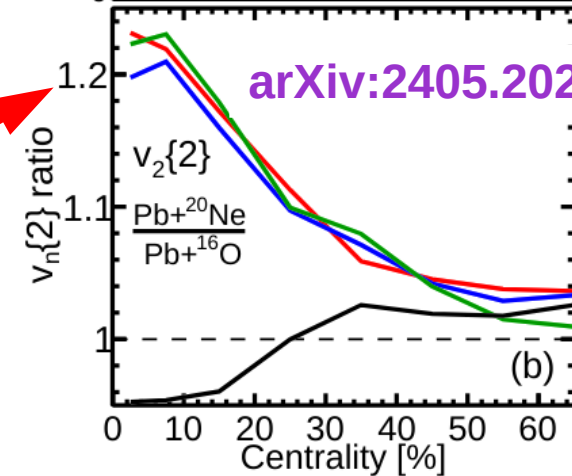
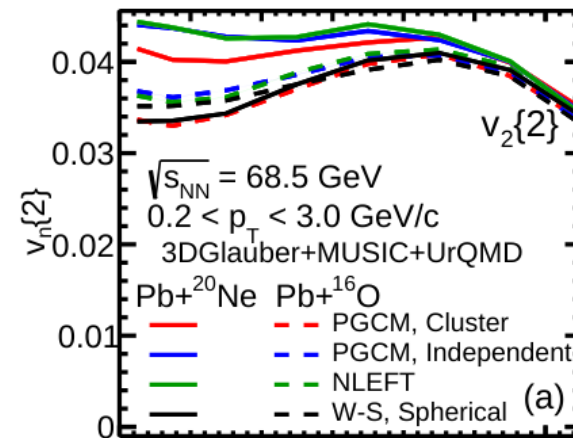


Ne+Ne for precision studies of small-system collectivity

arXiv:2402.05995



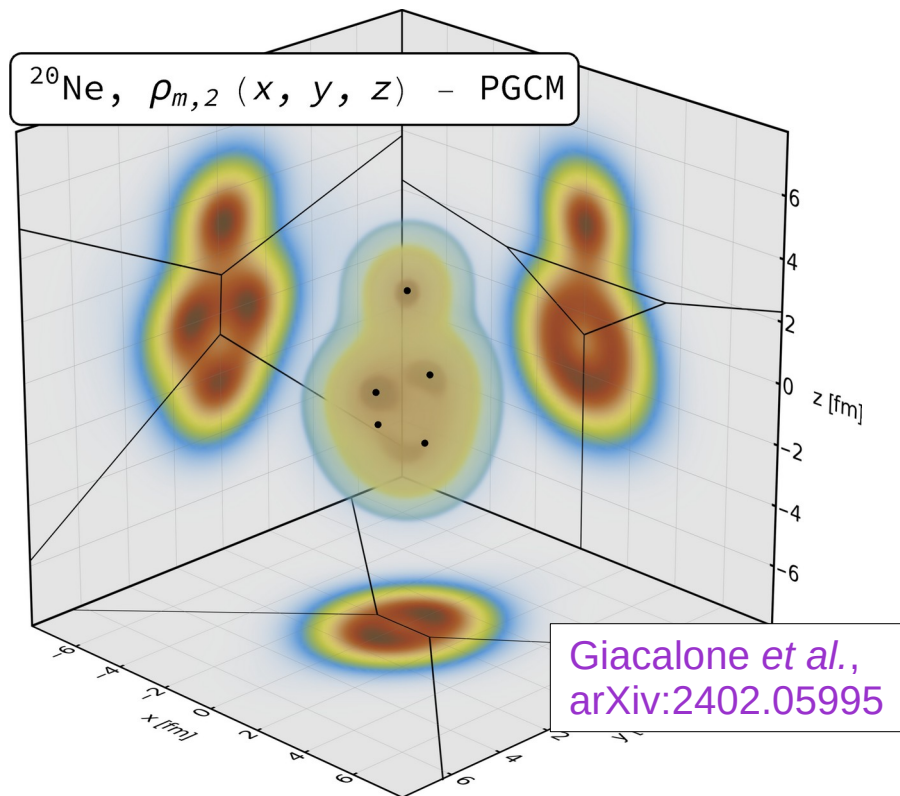
%-level theoretical systematics in small system



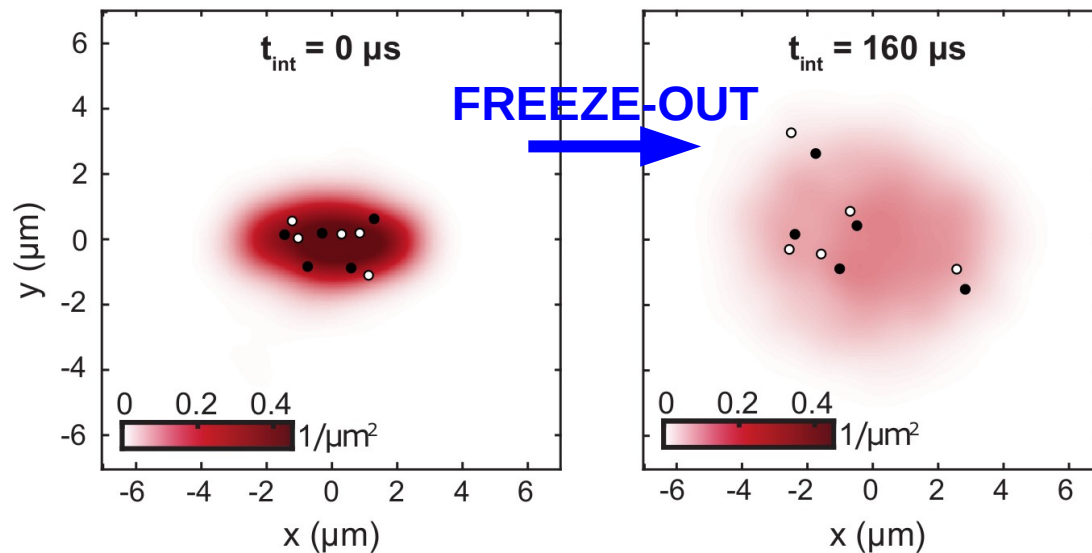
huge signal from SMOG2

SIDE NOTE – STRONGLY CORRELATED MESOSCOPIC QUANTUM SYSTEMS

5 “ α -clusters” (2p+2n) in neon-20



5 clusters in $5(\uparrow)+5(\downarrow)$ cold fermions



[Brandstetter, Lunt, Heintze, Giacalone *et al.*,
arXiv:2308.09699, to appear in Nature Physics]

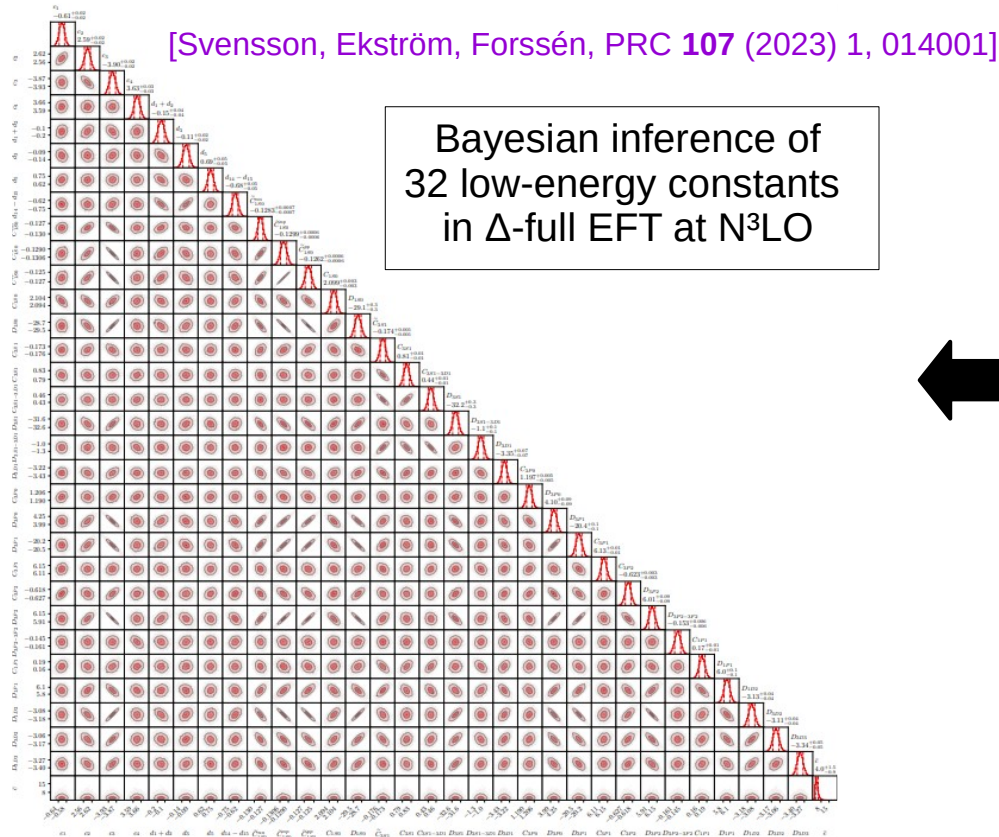
TALK BY LARS HEYEN

NB: We probe clusters in high-energy OO collisions
Unique experimental opportunity

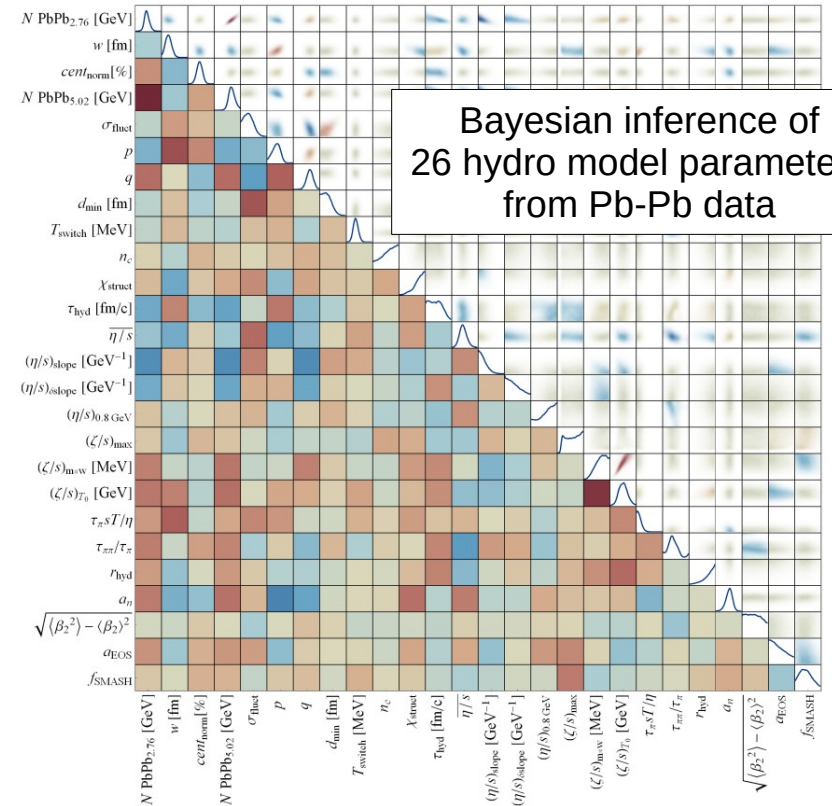
[Yuan *et al.*, PRC **109** (2024) 5, L051904
[Zhao *et al.*, arXiv:2404.09780]
[Zhang *et al.*, arXiv:2404.08385]

Long term goals? Coupling chiral EFT to hydrodynamics

Essential for proper uncertainty quantification



[Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL 131 (2023) 20, 20]



Near future? “Minimal” interaction (pion-less SU(4)-symmetric) in NLEFT

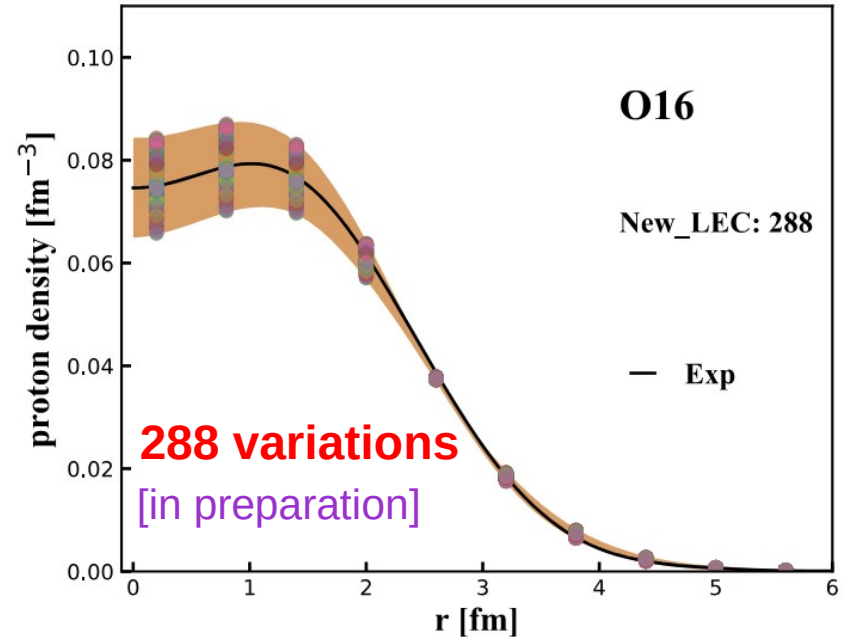
[Lu *et al.*, PLB 797 (2019) 134863]

$$H_{\text{SU}(4)} = H_{\text{free}} + \frac{1}{2!} C_2 \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{1}{3!} C_3 \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n})^3$$

$$\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n}) = \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{n}) \tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}) + s_L \sum_{|\mathbf{n}'-\mathbf{n}|=1} \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{n}') \tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}')$$

$$\tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}) = a_i(\mathbf{n}) + s_{NL} \sum_{|\mathbf{n}'-\mathbf{n}|=1} a_i(\mathbf{n}')$$

lattice coordinates $\mathbf{n} = (n_x, n_y, n_z)$

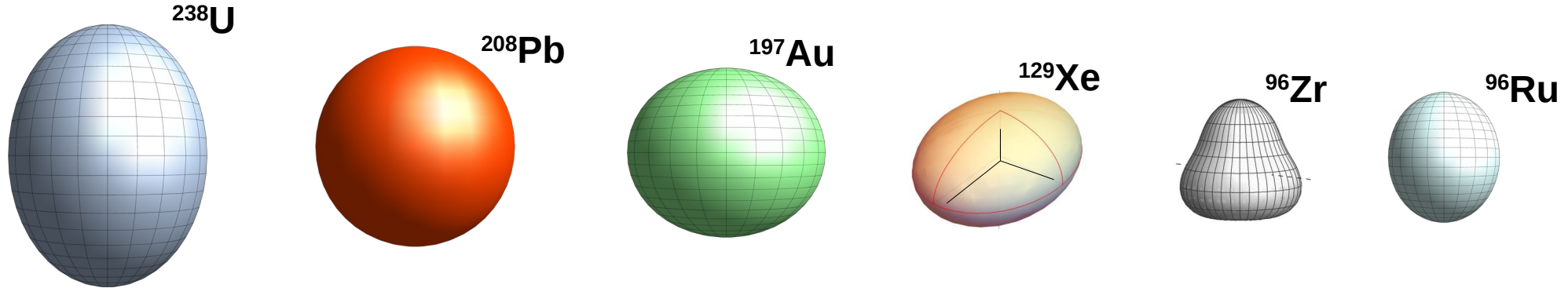


Replacing the Woods-Saxon with a nuclear force inferred from ^{16}O collisions

Akin to femtoscopy studies. Consistency with low-energy physics?

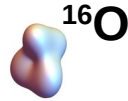
[ALICE collaboration, Nature 588 (2020) 232-238]

Program is feasible – Fully exploiting Run 3+4 data



Planned LHC experiments with novel species:

(Pb+O fixed-target @ 70 GeV,
O+O both collider and fixed-target)



20Ne
(Pb+Ne fixed-target, possibly collider?)

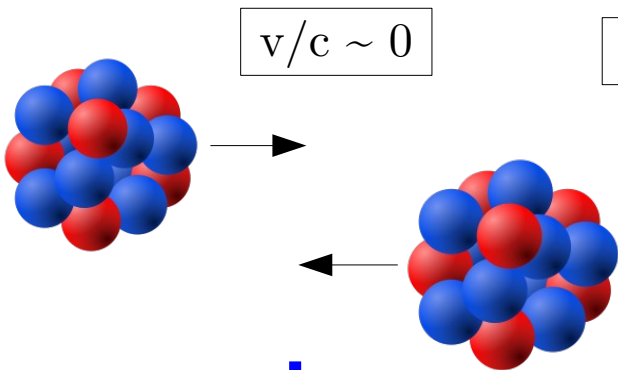
Huge opportunities from LHCb and small systems:

Pb+N, Pb+Ar, Pb+Kr, Pb+Xe (fixed-target) **B+B, Mg+Mg** (will run in SPS, short LHC run?)

Schedule for Run 5+6? Choice of nuclei?

CONCLUSION

COMPLETING THE PICTURE



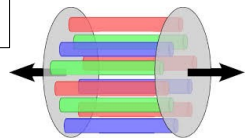
0

Effective theories of low-energy QCD for spatial distribution of large-x partons

cross-disciplinary research

2

Effective theory of highly coherent gluon states: "Glasma"

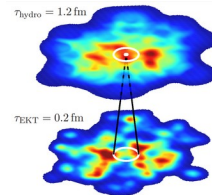


$$\langle T^{00} \rangle \propto Q_A^2(\mathbf{x}) Q_B^2(\mathbf{x})$$

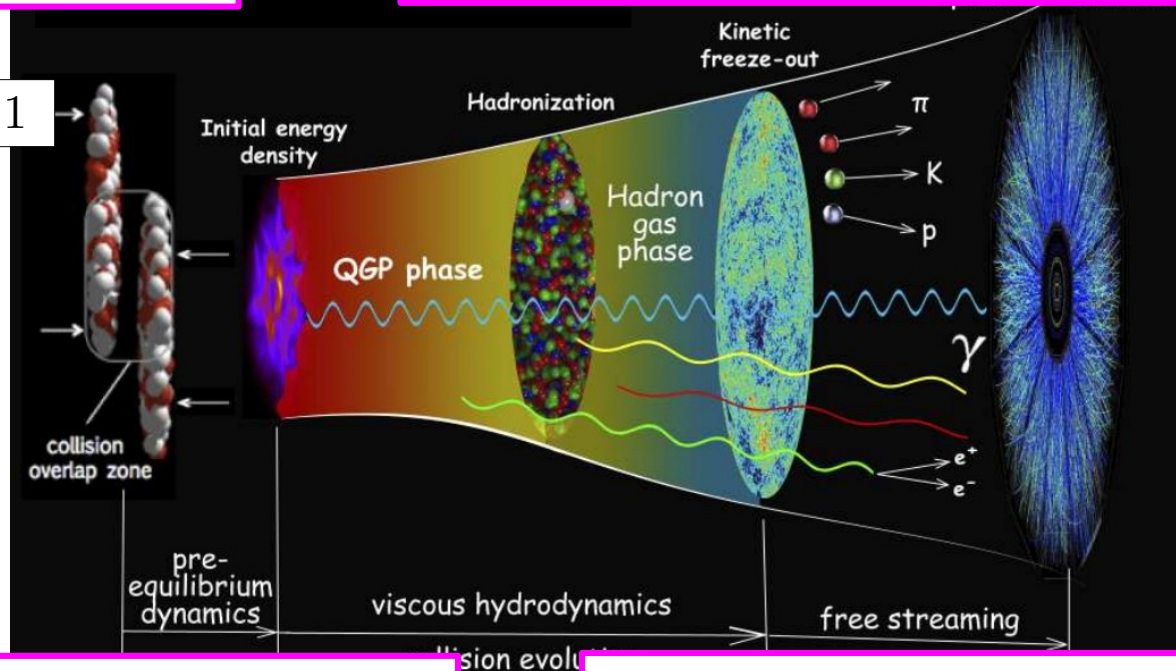
3

Effective QCD kinetic theory

$$\partial_\tau f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} - \frac{p^z}{\tau} \partial_{p^z} f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}} = -\mathcal{C}_{2 \leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}] - \mathcal{C}_{1 \leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{p}}]$$



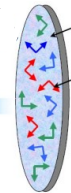
$v/c = 1$



1

Effective theory of small-x degrees of freedom CGC

$$A_{1,2}^\mu(x) \quad Q_s^2(\mathbf{x})$$



4

Effective viscous hydrodynamic description

$$\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} P \quad \eta/s$$

