



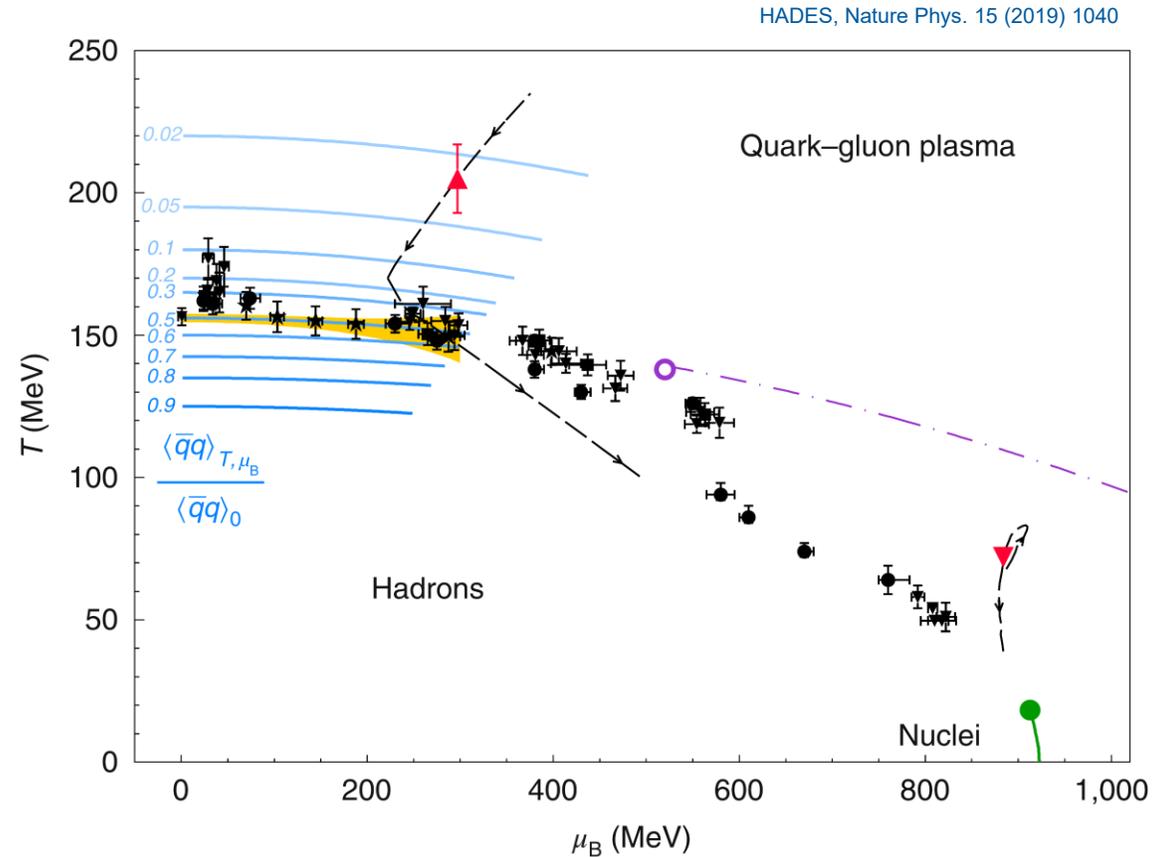
DECODING THE COMPOSITION OF QCD MATTER WITH THERMAL DILEPTONS

Florian Seck
(TU Darmstadt)

Dense Nuclear Matter EOS from Theory and Experiments
October 28 – November 01, FRIB

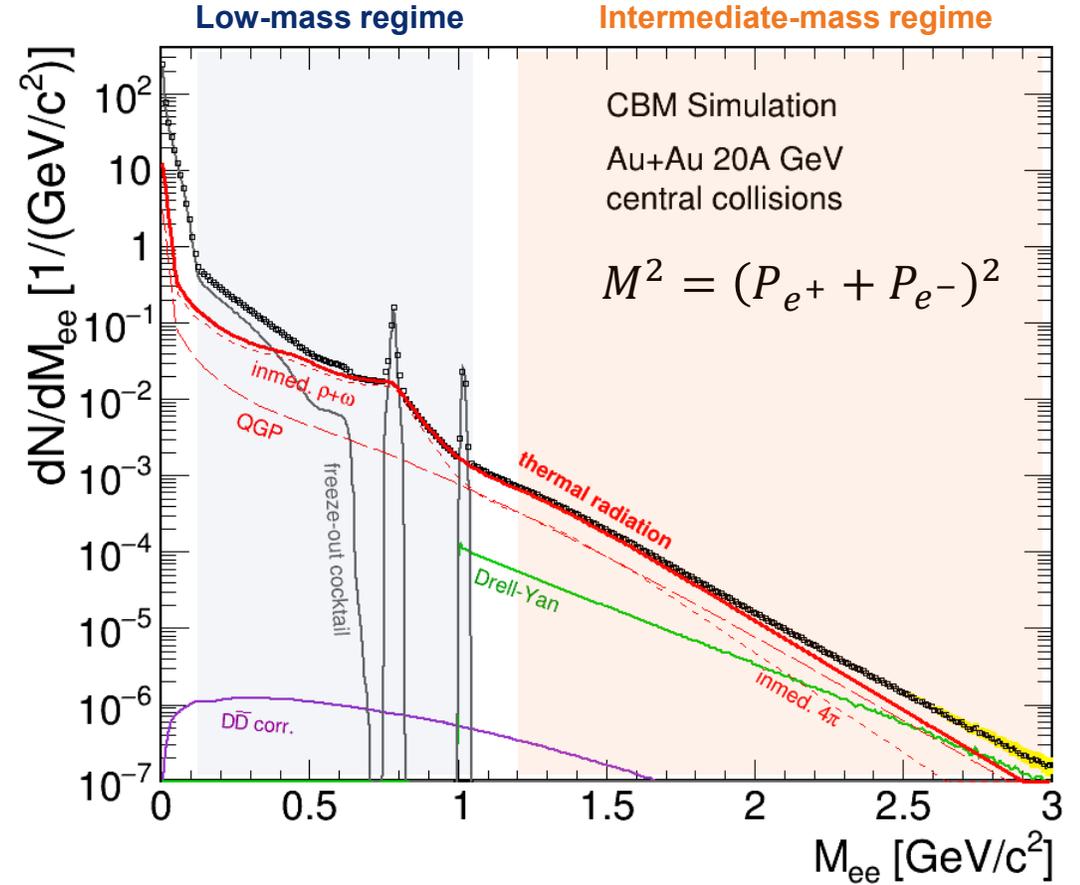
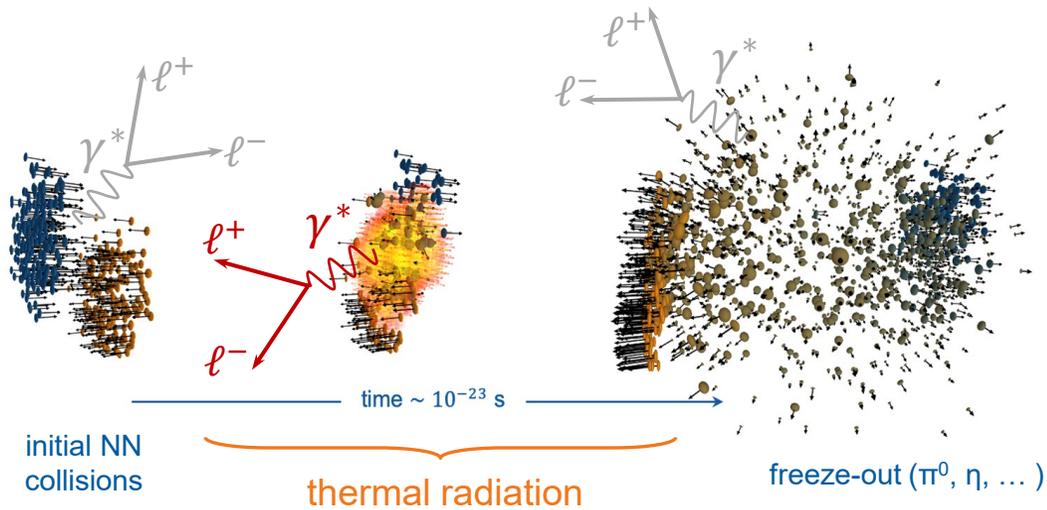
SEARCH FOR LANDMARKS IN THE QCD PHASE DIAGRAM

- Search for
 - Phase boundaries
 - Changes in microscopic degrees of freedom
 - Restoration of chiral symmetry
- Bulk observables and rare probes offer different tools to understand the nature of the matter created in HIC
- Electromagnetic radiation (γ, γ^*)
 - Reflects the whole history of a collision
 - No strong final state interaction
 - \leadsto leaves reaction volume undisturbed
 - Virtual photons reconstructed via their dilepton decay
 - \leadsto extra information: invariant mass



EXPERIMENTAL CHALLENGES

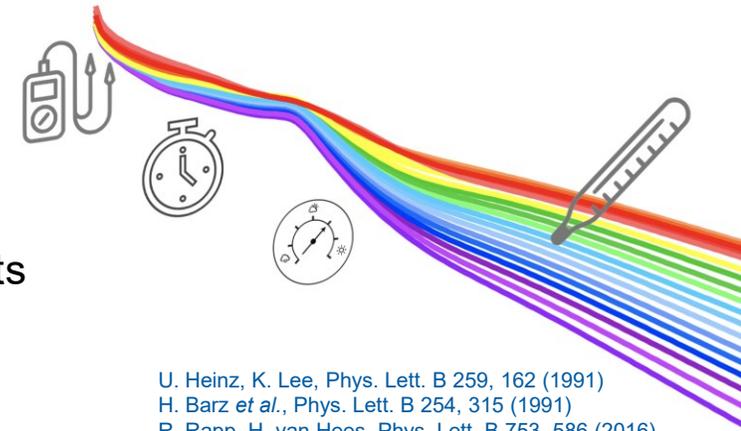
- Dileptons are rare probes
 - High interaction rates
 - Good signal-to-combinatorial background ratio (S/CB)
 - High acceptance (Mid-rapidity, low- $M_{\ell\ell}$, low- p_T coverage)
- Isolation of **thermal radiation** by subtraction of measured decay cocktail ($\pi^0, \eta, \omega, \varphi$), **Drell-Yan**, $c\bar{c}$ ($b\bar{b}$)



THERMAL DILEPTON RADIATION AS MULTIMETER OF THE FIREBALL



- Lifetime via low-mass yield
→ search for "extra radiation" due to latent heat around phase transition (& critical point?)
- Temperature via slope of invariant mass spectrum
→ flattening of caloric curve (T vs ε) sign for a phase transition
- Pressure anisotropies via dilepton flow
→ access to EoS at high baryon density via multi-differential measurements
- Spin polarization allows to distinguish different sources of thermal dileptons
→ access information on production mechanism
- Electric conductivity probed in the limit $p_{ee} = 0$ MeV/c, $M_{ee} \rightarrow 0$ MeV/c²
→ access to transport properties of QCD matter
- Access to exotic QCD phases
→ yield enhancement in vicinity of color superconducting phase (?)



U. Heinz, K. Lee, Phys. Lett. B 259, 162 (1991)
H. Barz *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 254, 315 (1991)
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)
T. Galatyuk, JPS Conf. Proc. 32 (2020), 010079
F. Seck *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022), 014904
O. Savchuk *et al.*, J. Phys G 104537 R2 (2023)

R. Chatterjee *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 75 (2007), 054909
G. Vujanovic *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 89 (2014), 034904
T. Reichert *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 841 (2023) 137947
R. Hirayama, H. Elfner, arXiv:2408.16603

G. Moore, J. Robert, arXiv:hep-ph/0607172 (2006)
J. Atchison, R. Rapp, Nucl. Phys. A 1037 (2023) 122704
S. Flörchinger *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 837 (2023) 137647
R. Rapp, arXiv: 2406.14656

E. Bratkovskaya *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 376, 12 (1996)
E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)
S. Hauksson, C. Gale, Phys. Rev. C 109, 034902 (2024)

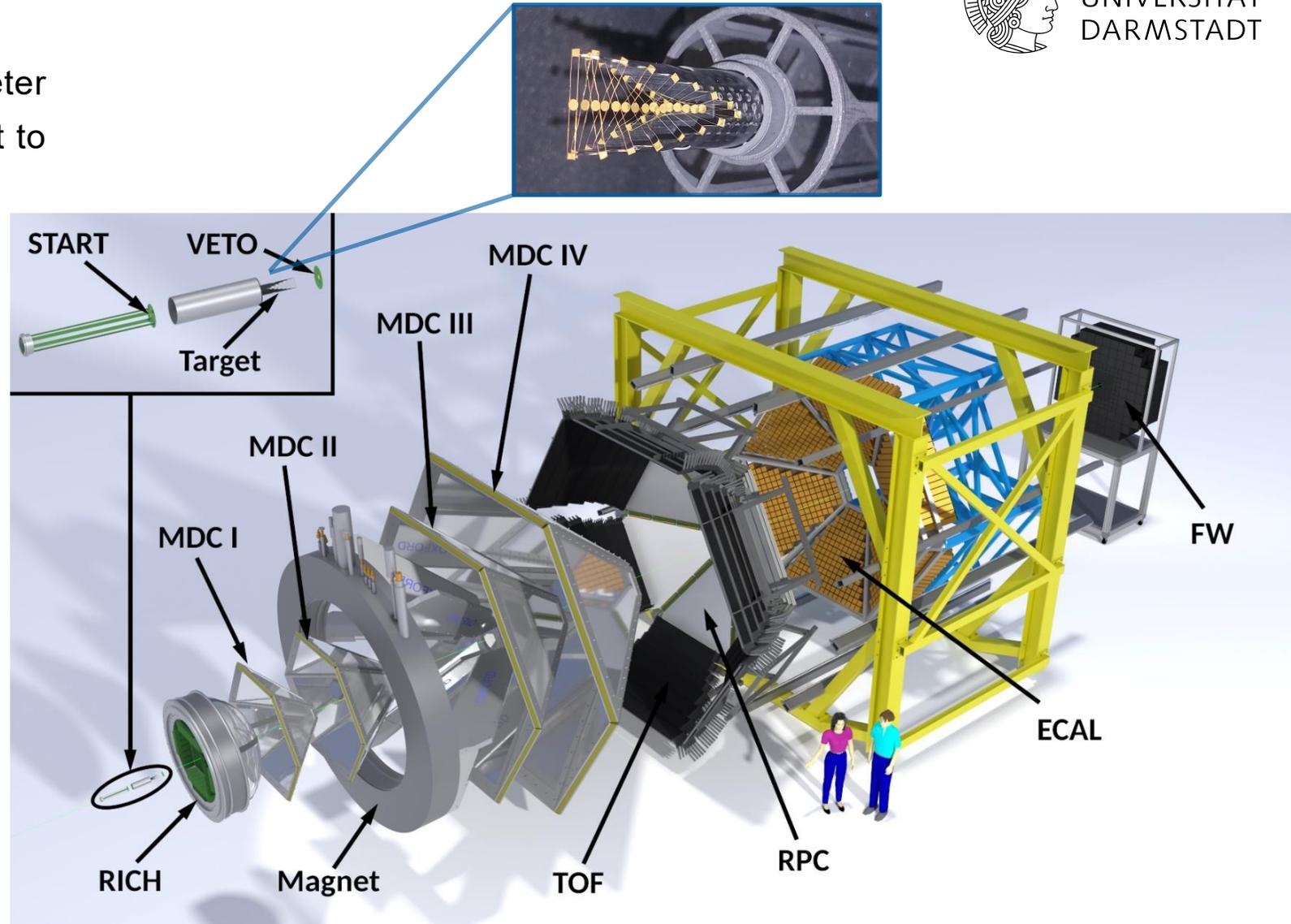
T. Nishimura *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. A 60, 82 (2024)

Dileptons are rare probes → high-rate, high-efficiency detectors
→ HADES at GSI, CBM at FAIR

HADES EXPERIMENT AT GSI

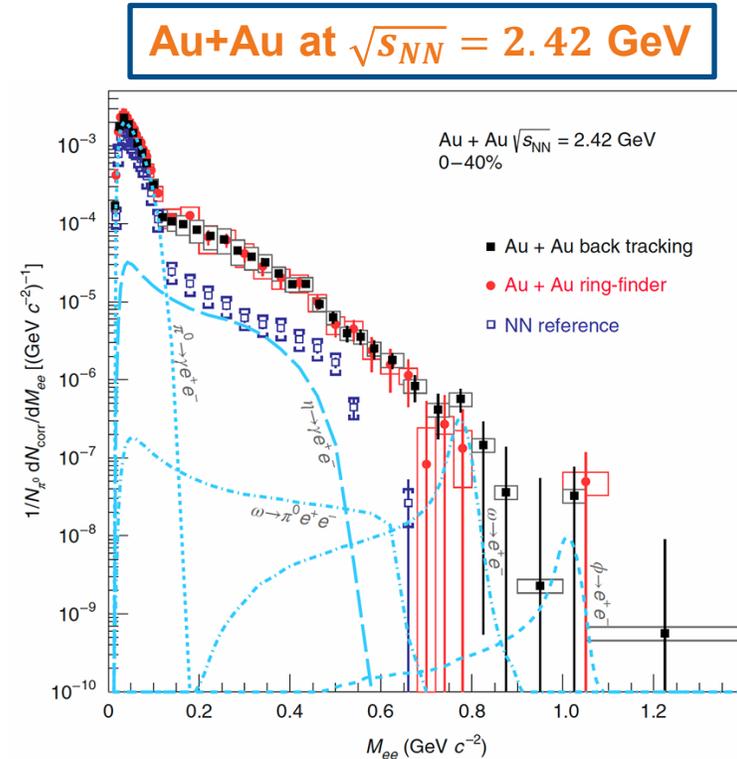
- High-Acceptance Di-Electron Spectrometer
- Designed with a minimal material budget to reduce conversion
- Large angular coverage:
 - $15^\circ < \theta < 85^\circ$
 - $0^\circ < \phi < 360^\circ$
- Accepted trigger rate up to
 - 16 kHz for heavy-ion collisions
 - 50 kHz with proton/pion beam
- Dedicated components for e^+/e^- :
 - Time-of-Flight measurements
 - Ring-Imaging Cherenkov Detector
 - Electromagnetic Calorimeter

HADES allows for high efficiency and high purity electron sample



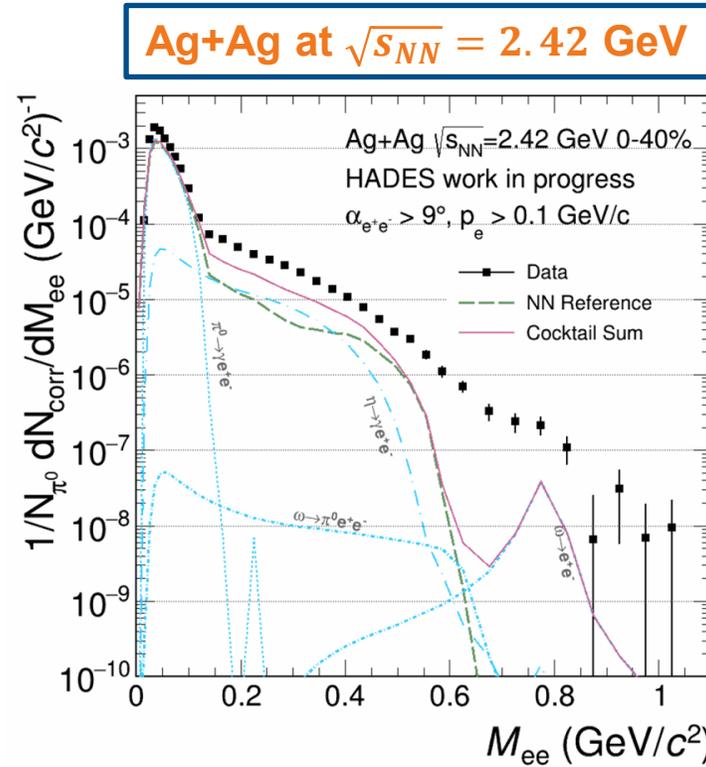
DILEPTON INVARIANT MASS SPECTRA FROM HADES

- Clear excess visible above contributions from initial NN reference and freeze-out cocktail

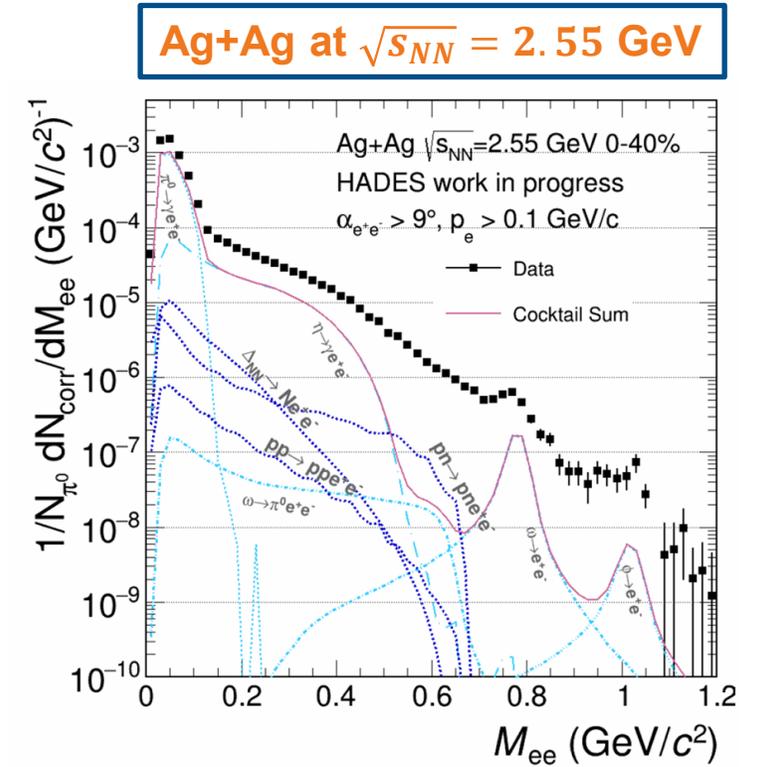


HADES, Nature Phys. 15 (2019) 1040

measured NN reference



measured NN reference

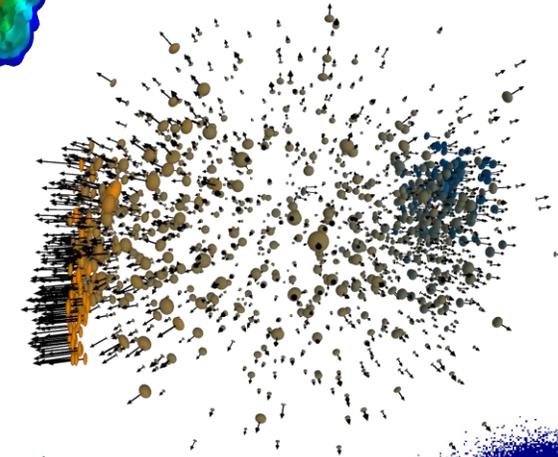
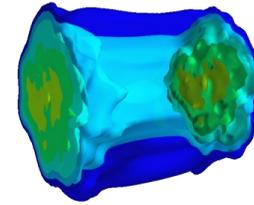


simulated reference (GiBUU)
→ analysis of NN measurement at the
same collision energy ongoing

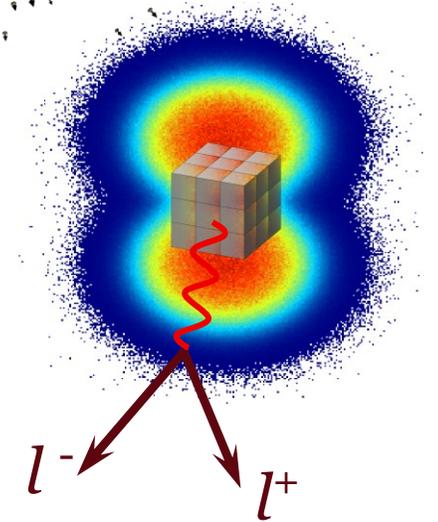


DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE-TIME EVOLUTION

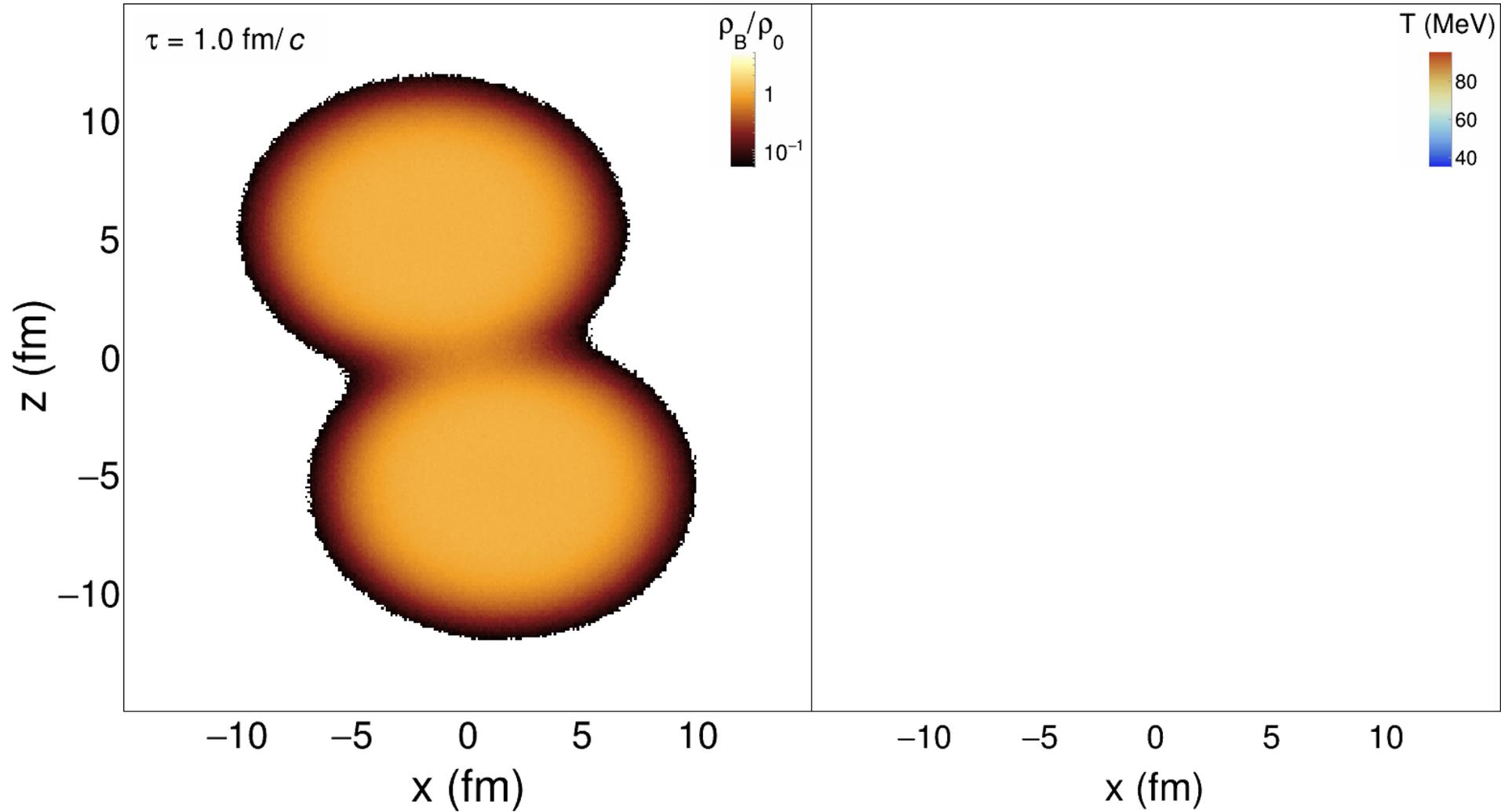
- Bulk observables are reasonably well described by simulations
 - Hydrodynamics at high collision energies
 - Microscopic transport model at low collision energies
- Pure transport simulations struggle to describe dilepton data
 - “shining” or time-integration method
- “Combination” of hydrodynamics and transport model: **coarse-grained transport**



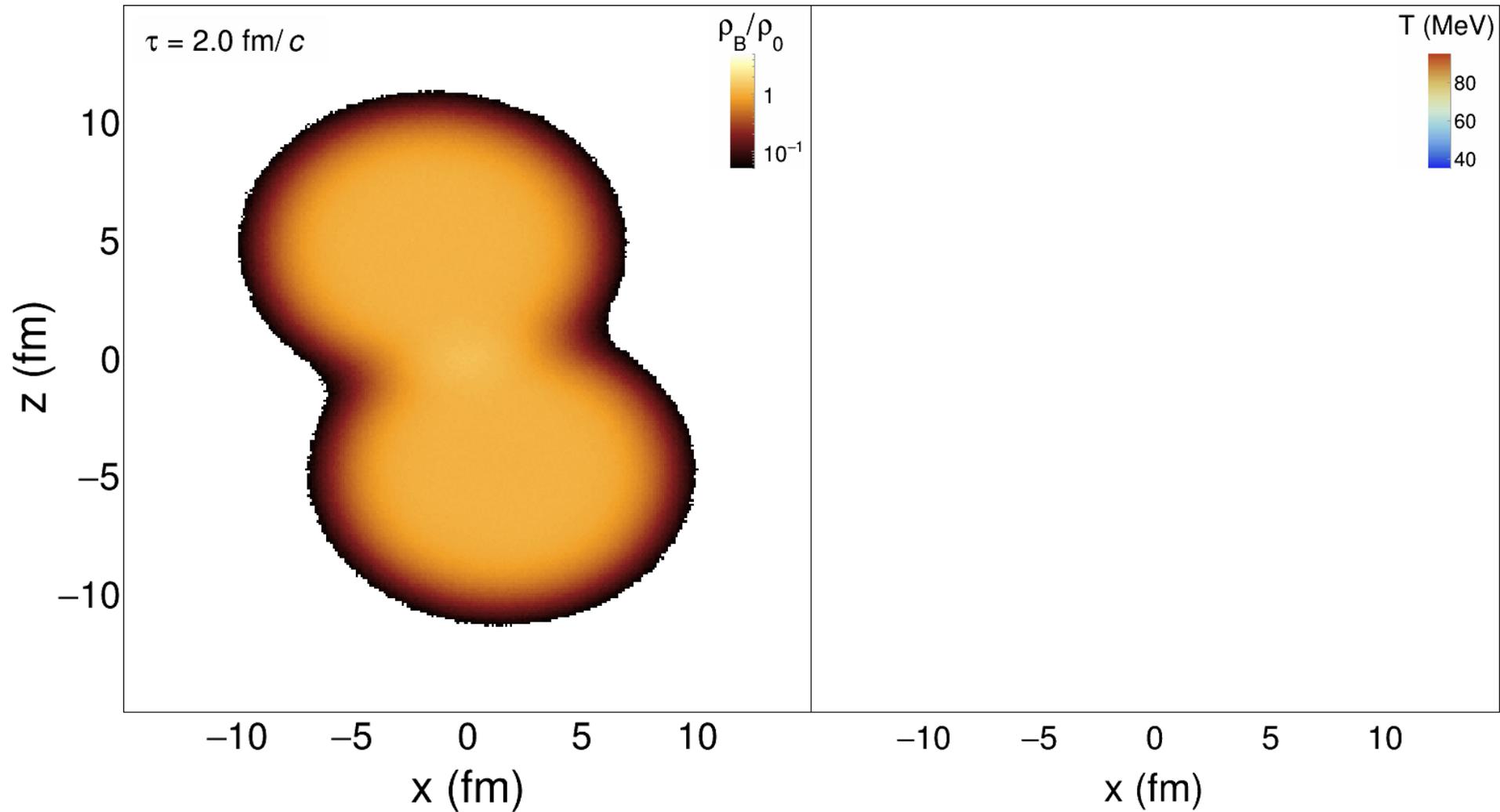
- Simulate events with a transport model & take ensemble average to obtain smooth space-time distributions
- Divide space-time into 4-dim. cells
- Check if cell is thermalized (\rightarrow enough interactions)
- Extract baryon density ρ_B , medium velocity \vec{u} , and temperature T ($\rightarrow m_\pi$ spectra of pions)
- Calculate dilepton rates based on these inputs per cell
- Space-time integration via summation of the contributions from all cells



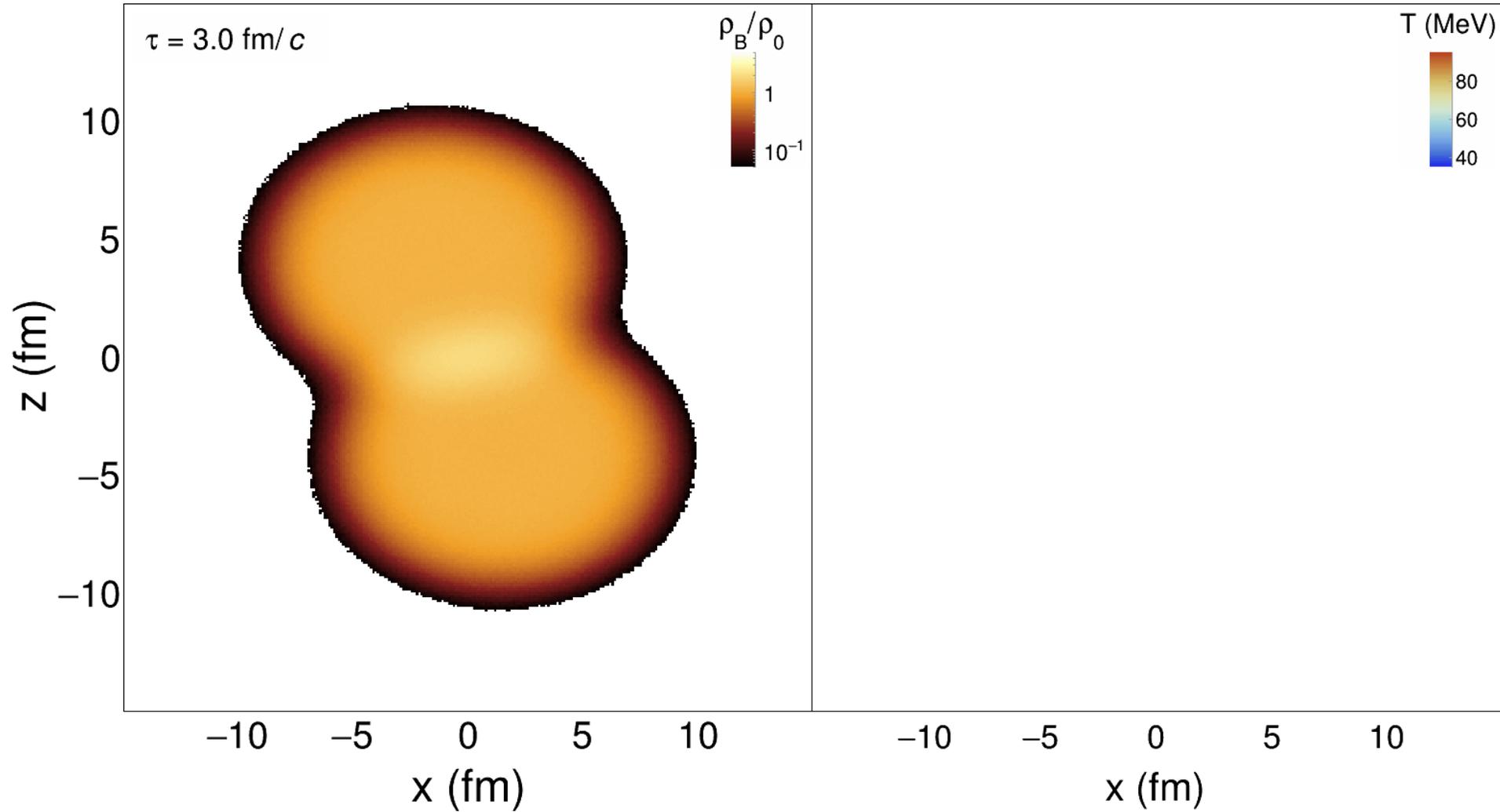
BARYON DENSITY AND TEMPERATURE PROFILE IN AU+AU AT 1.23 AGEV



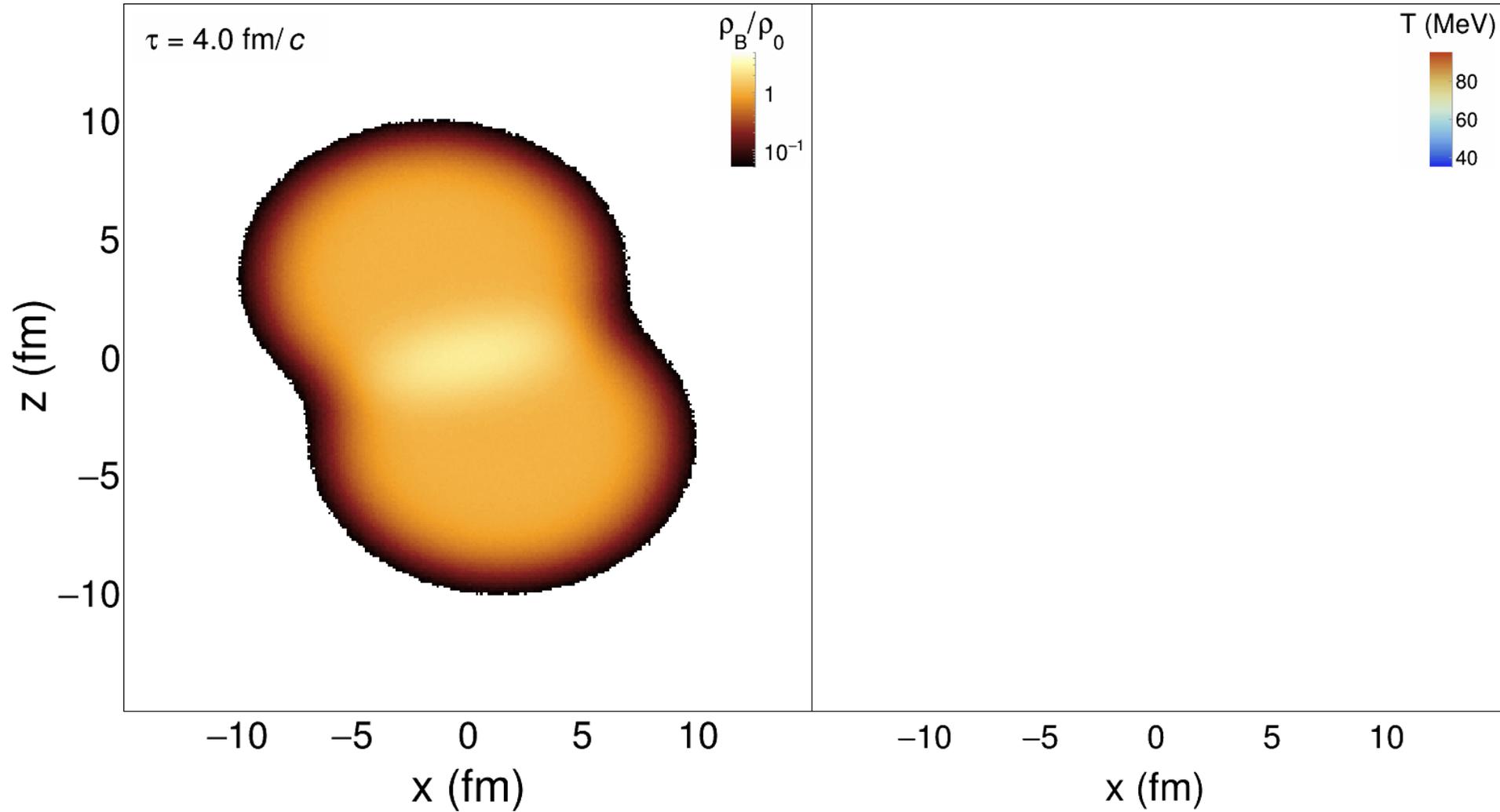
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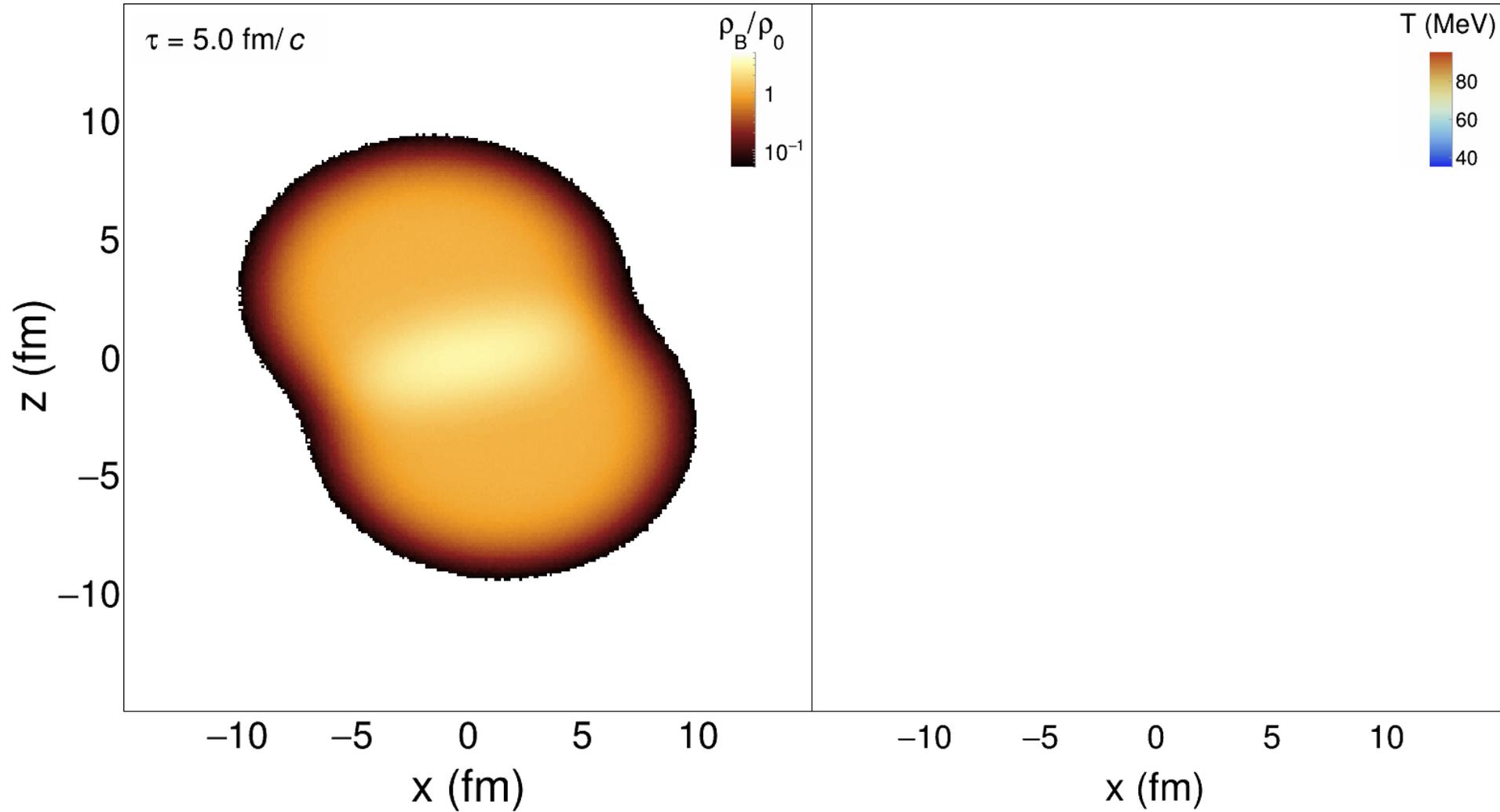
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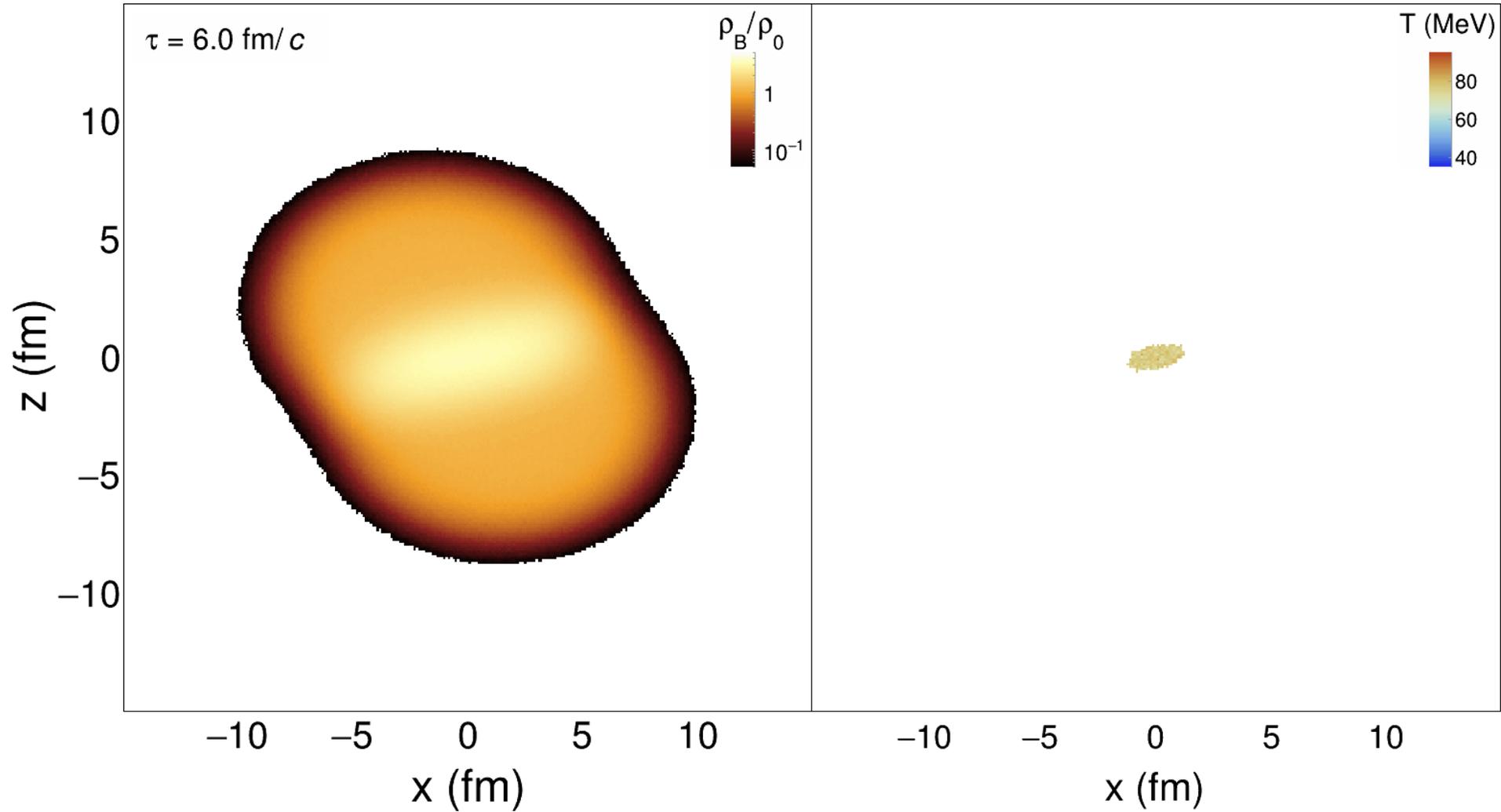
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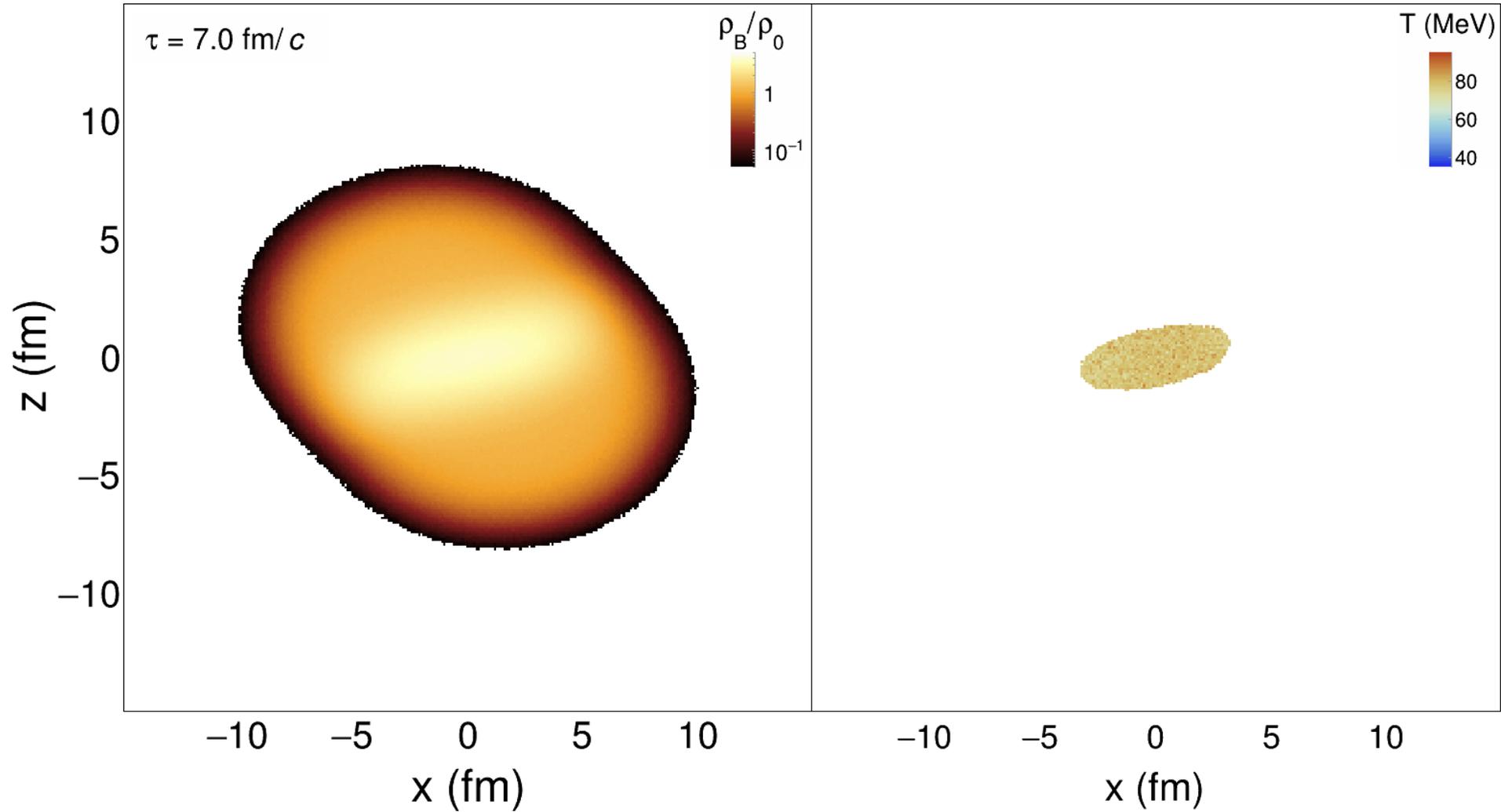
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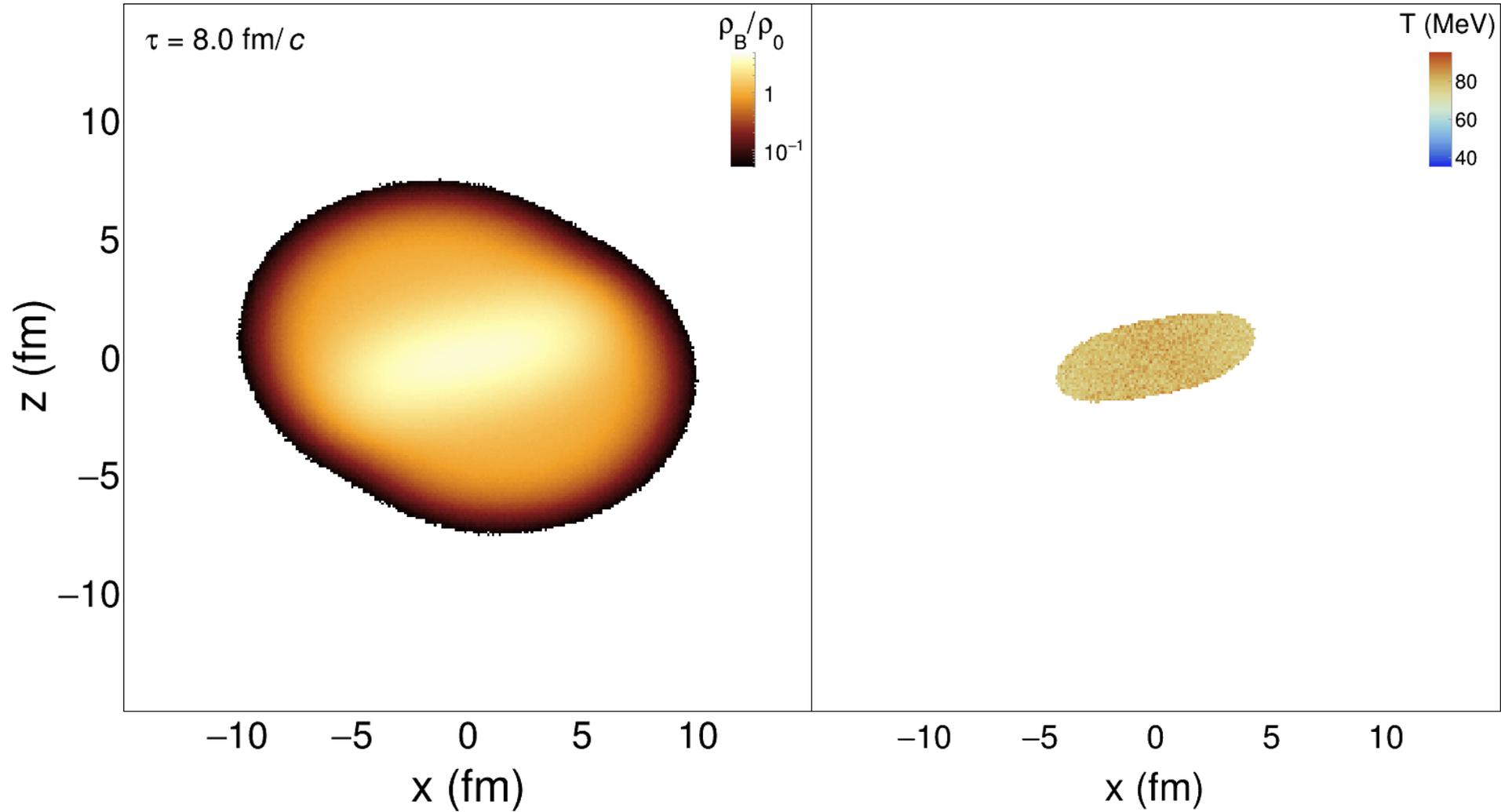
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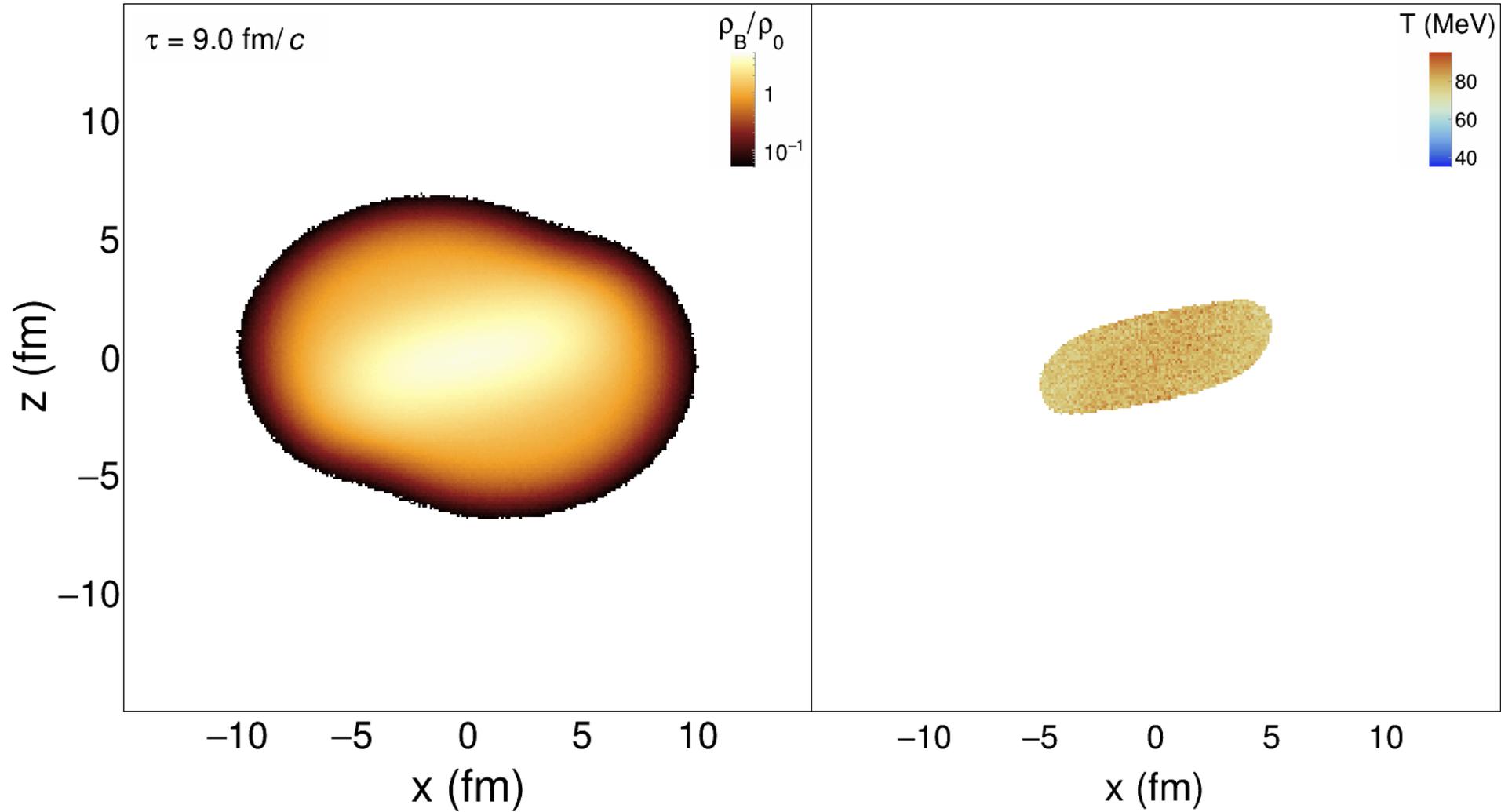
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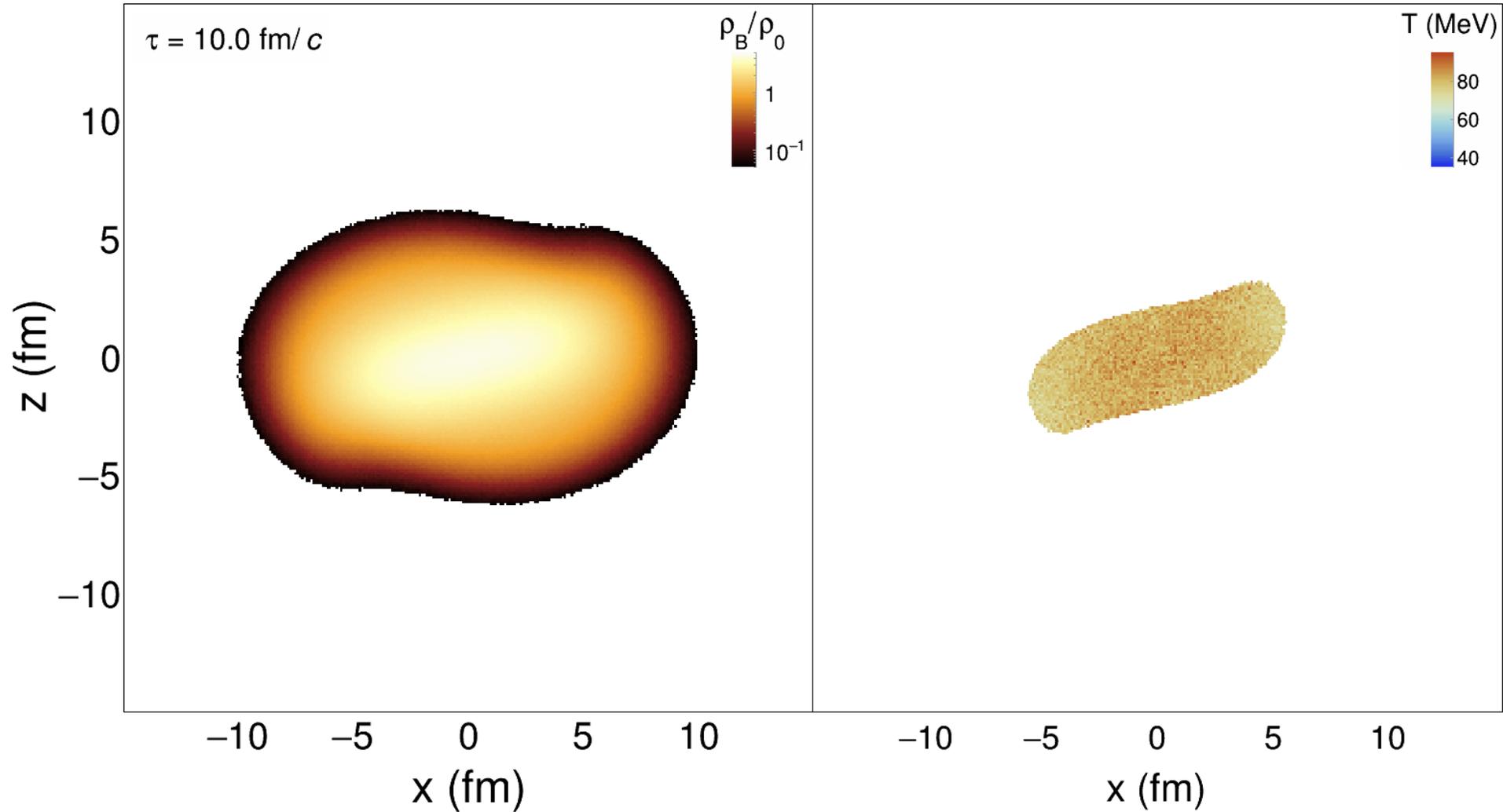
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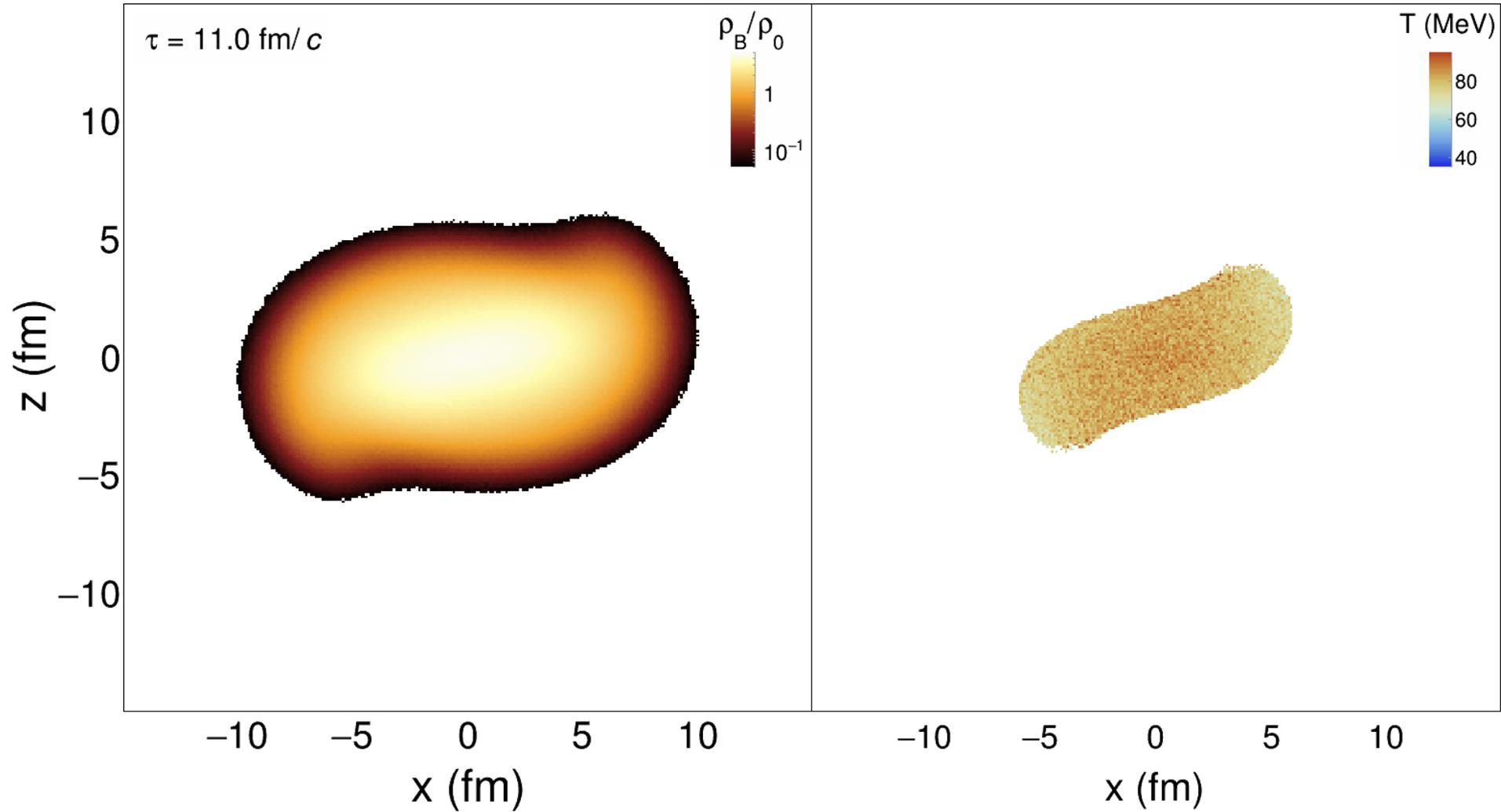
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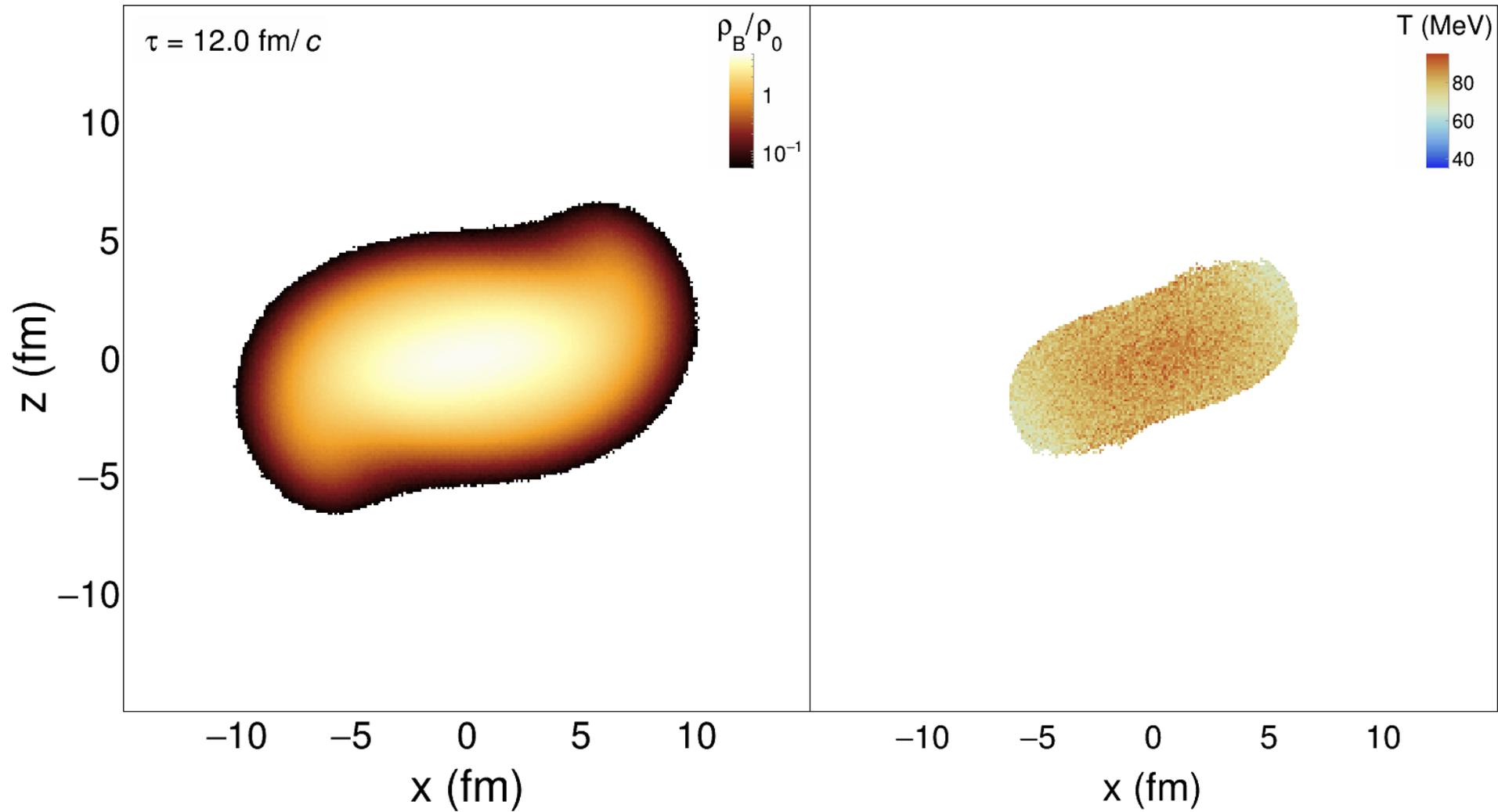
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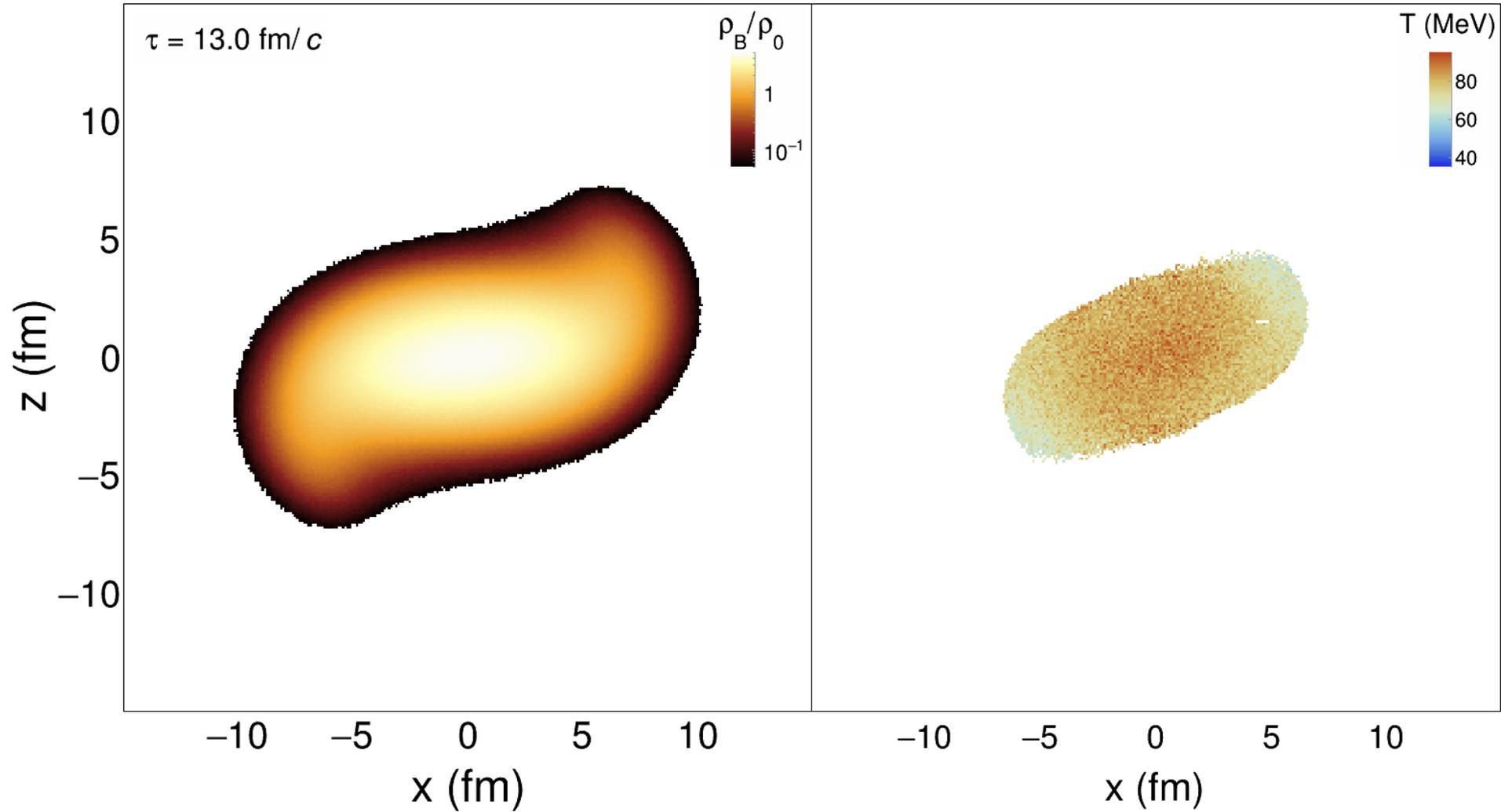
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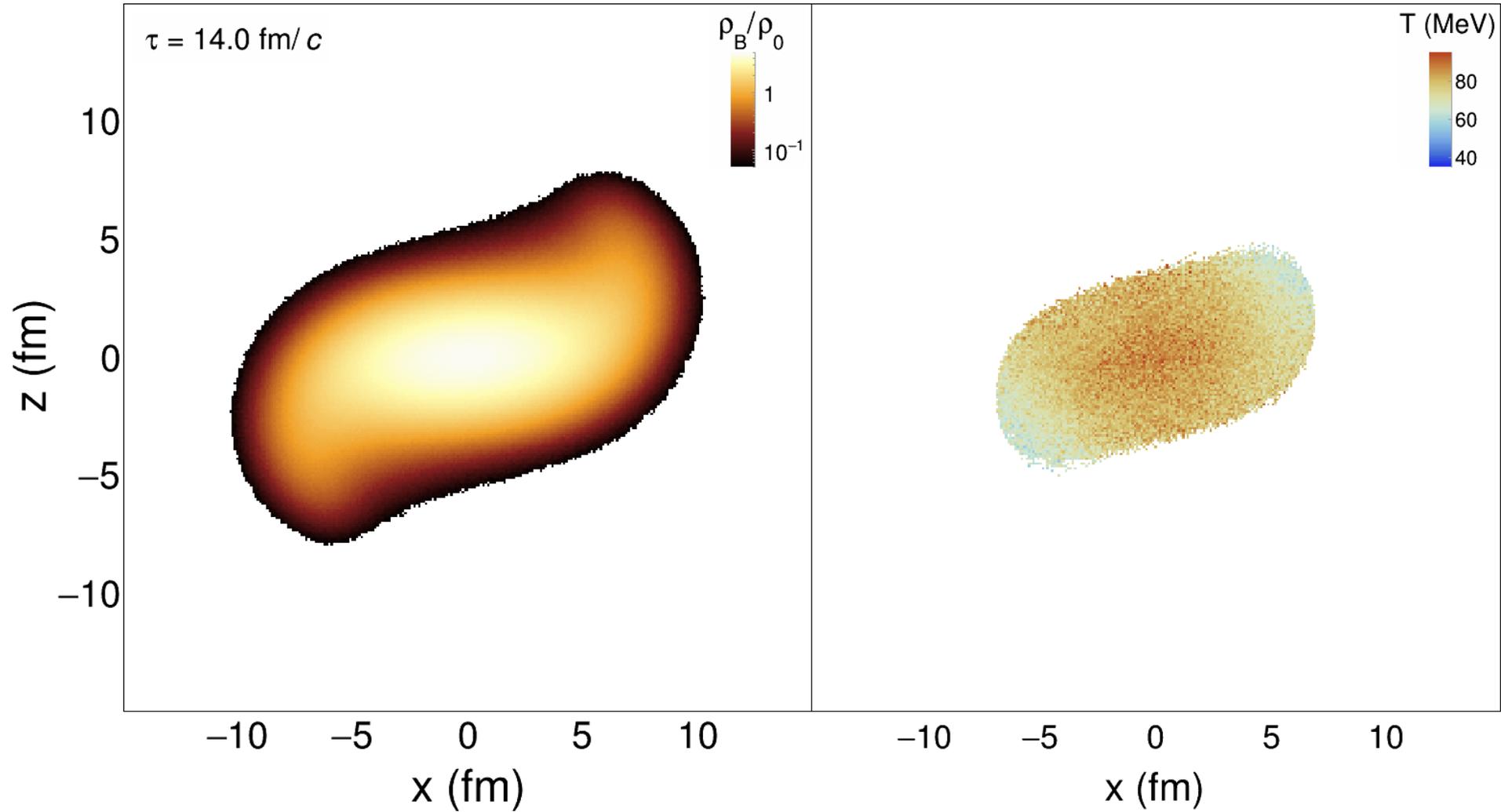
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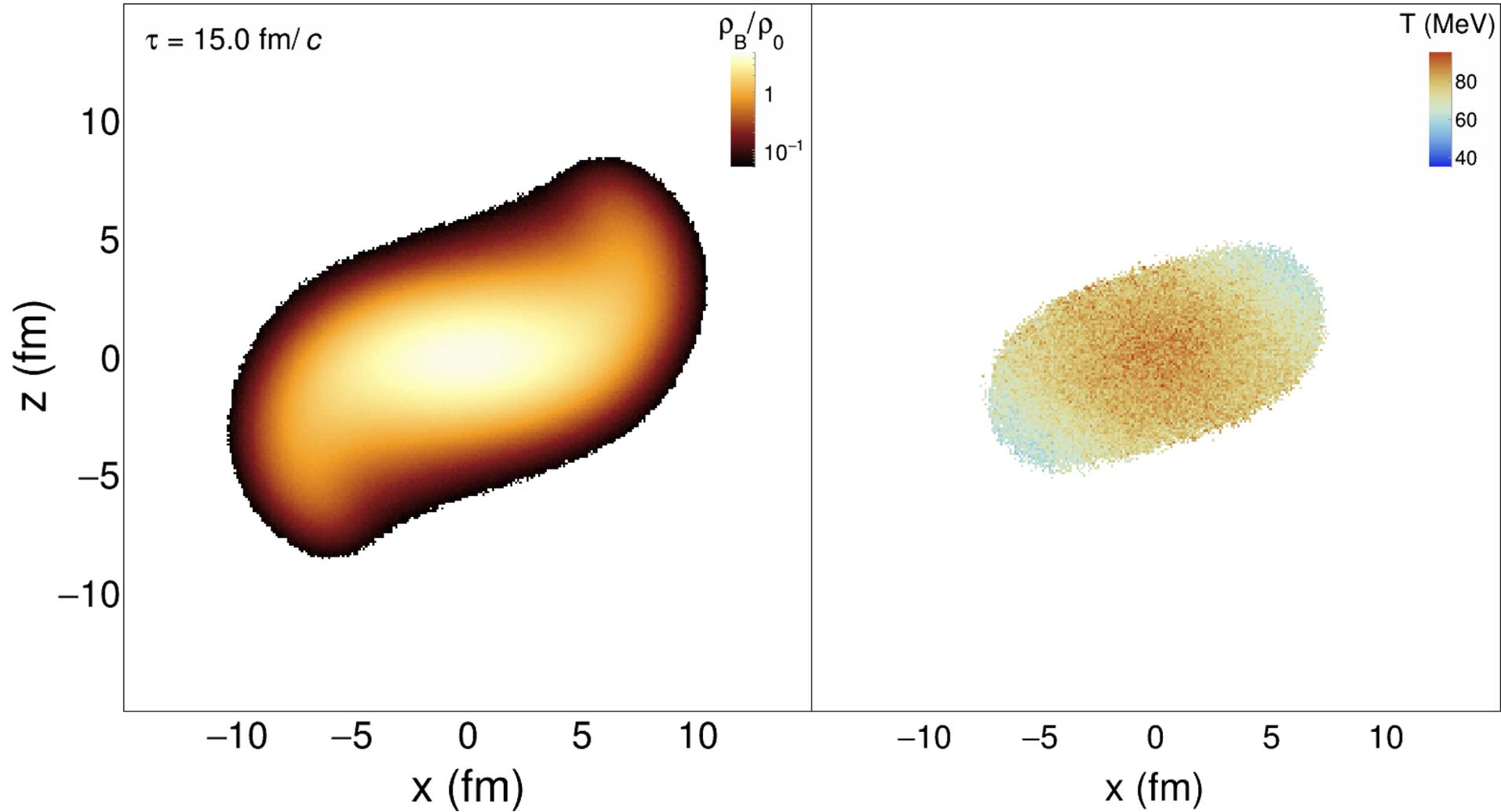
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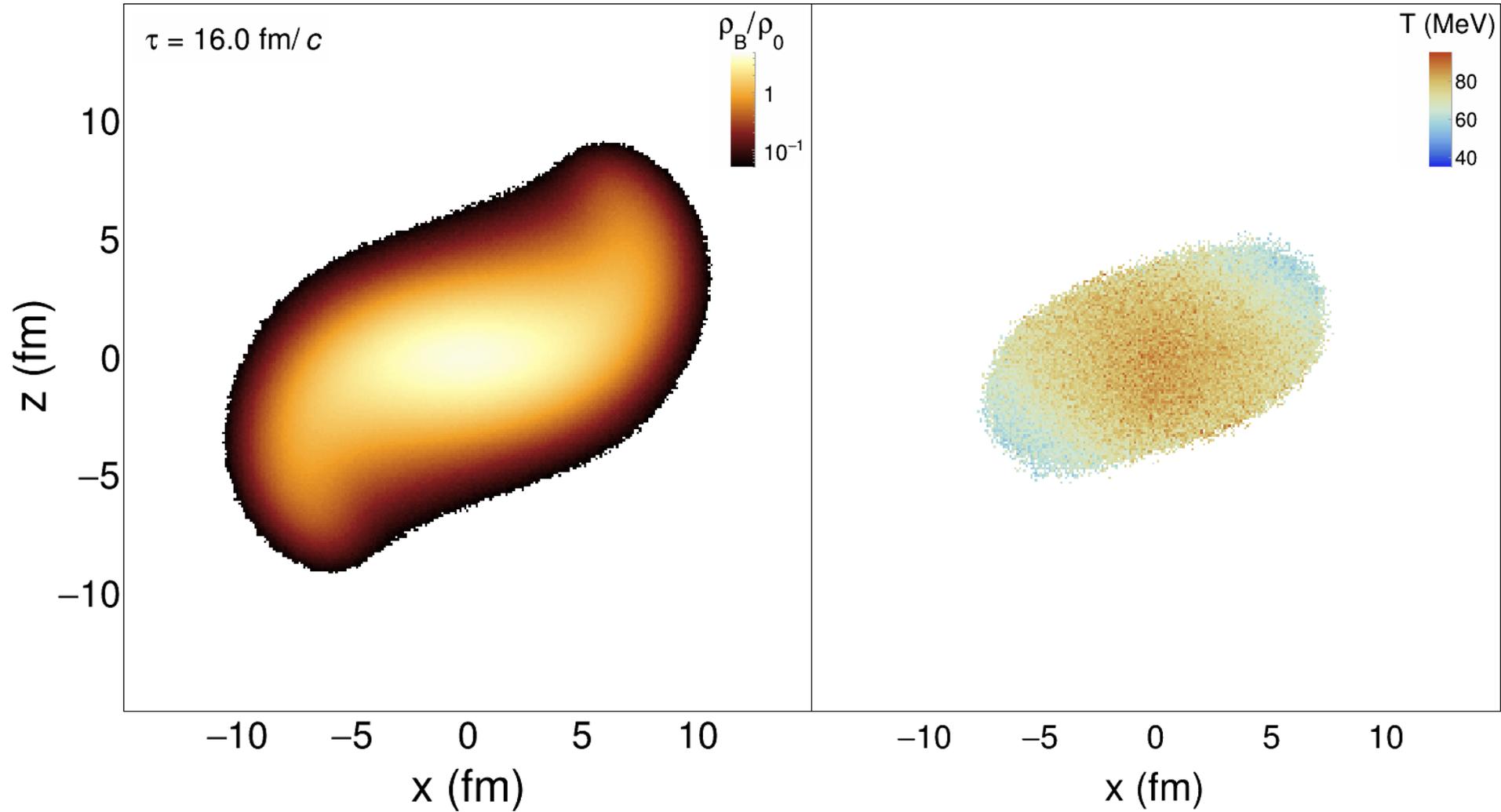
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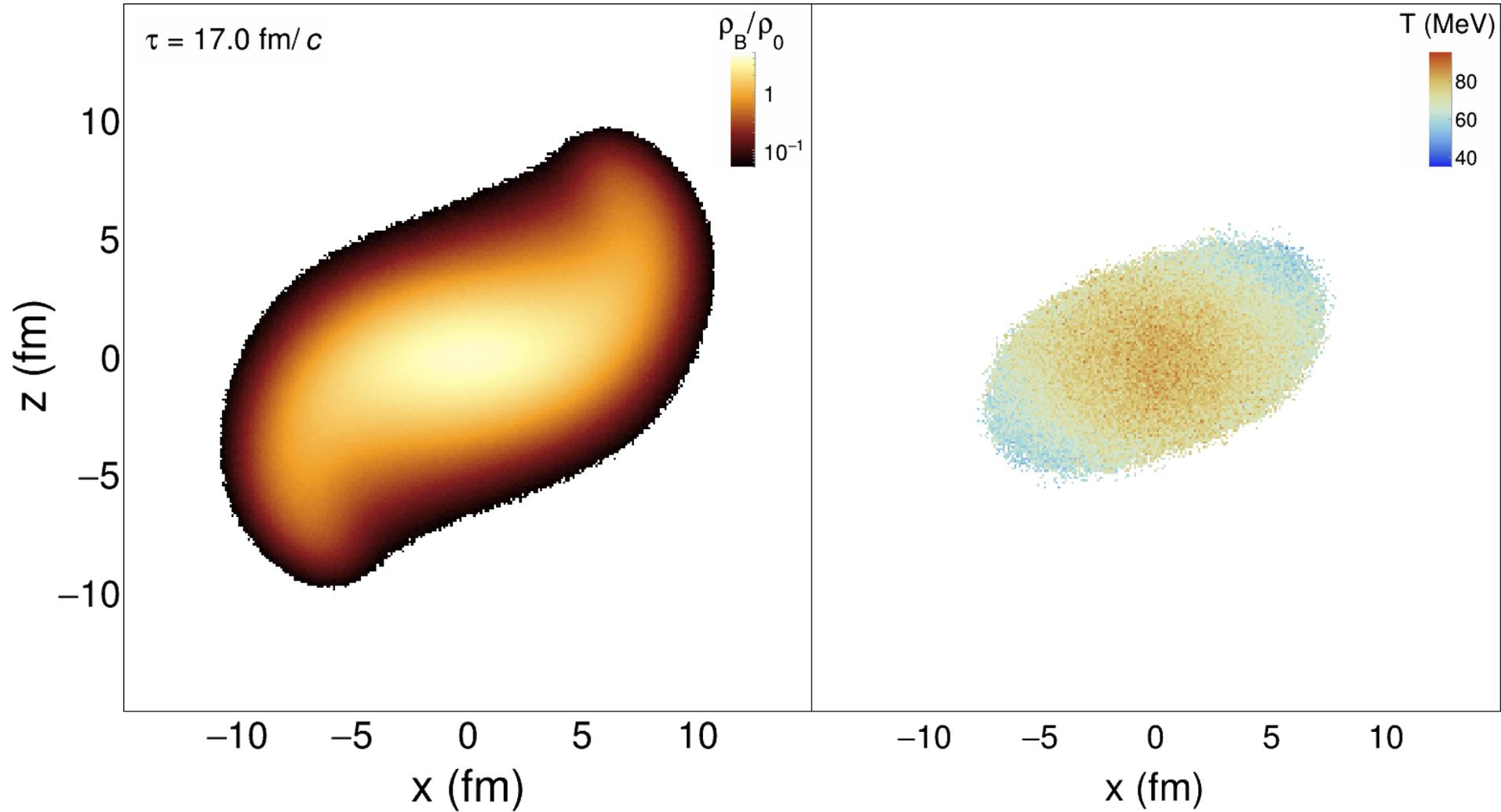
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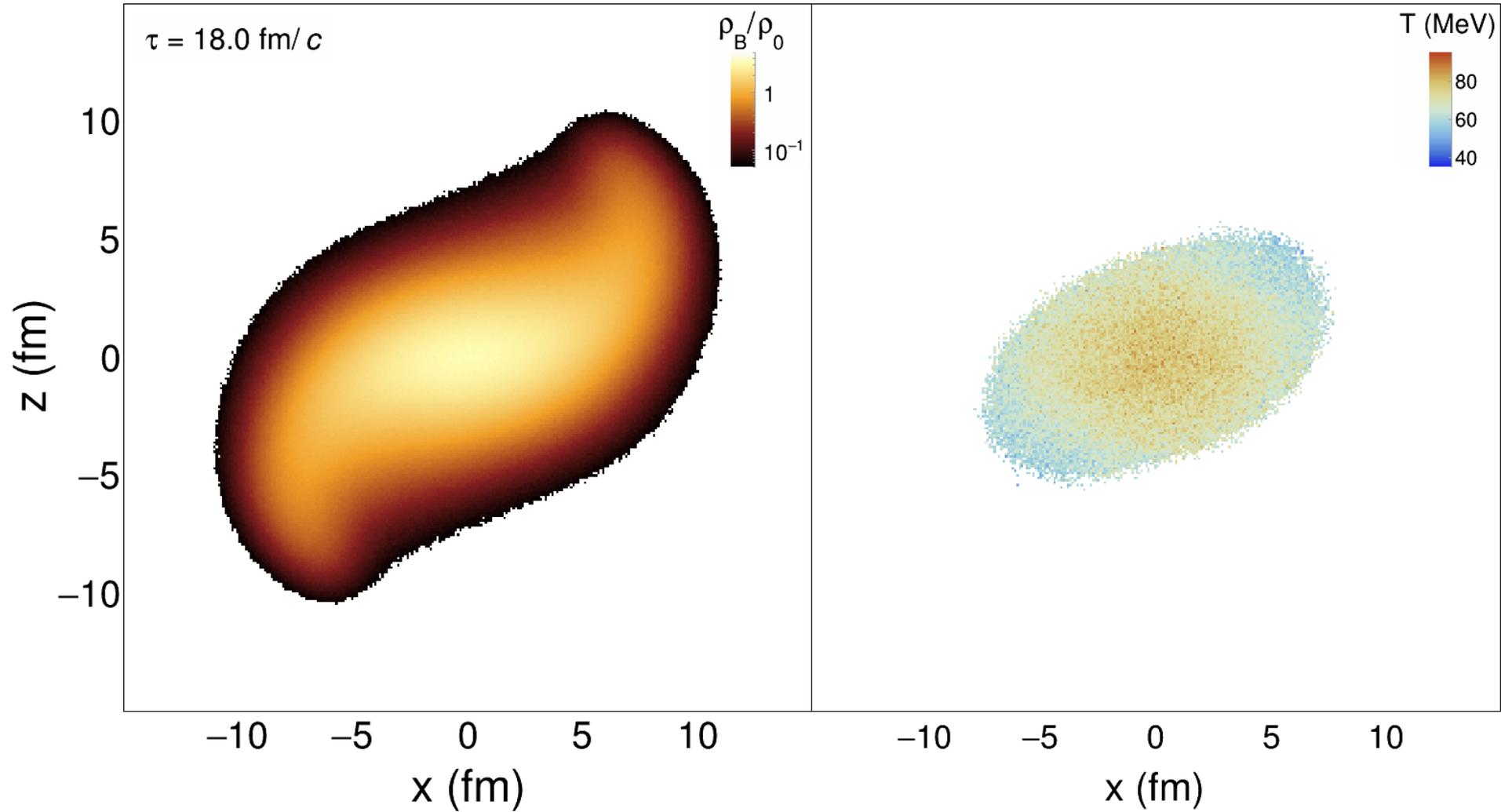
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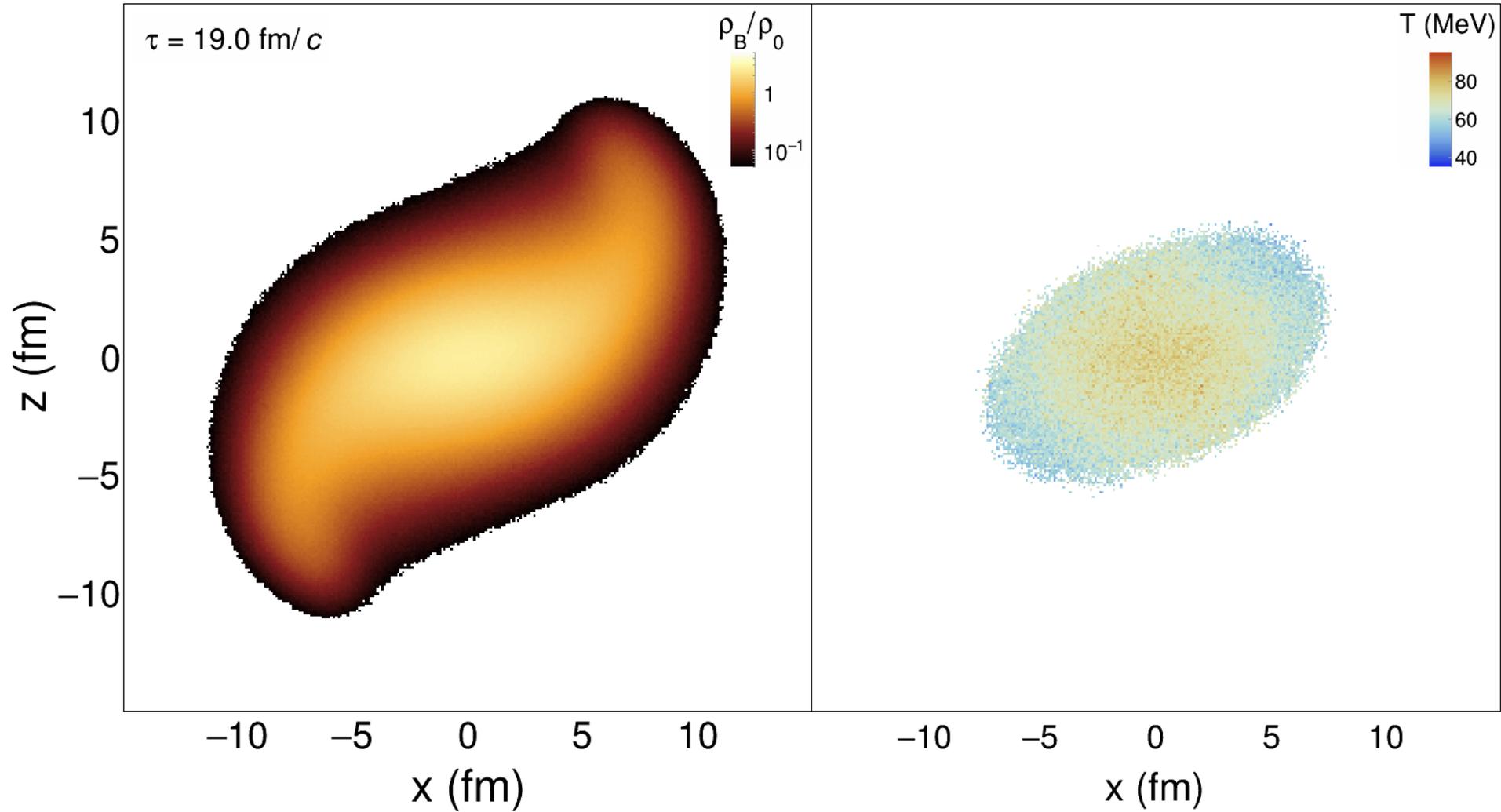
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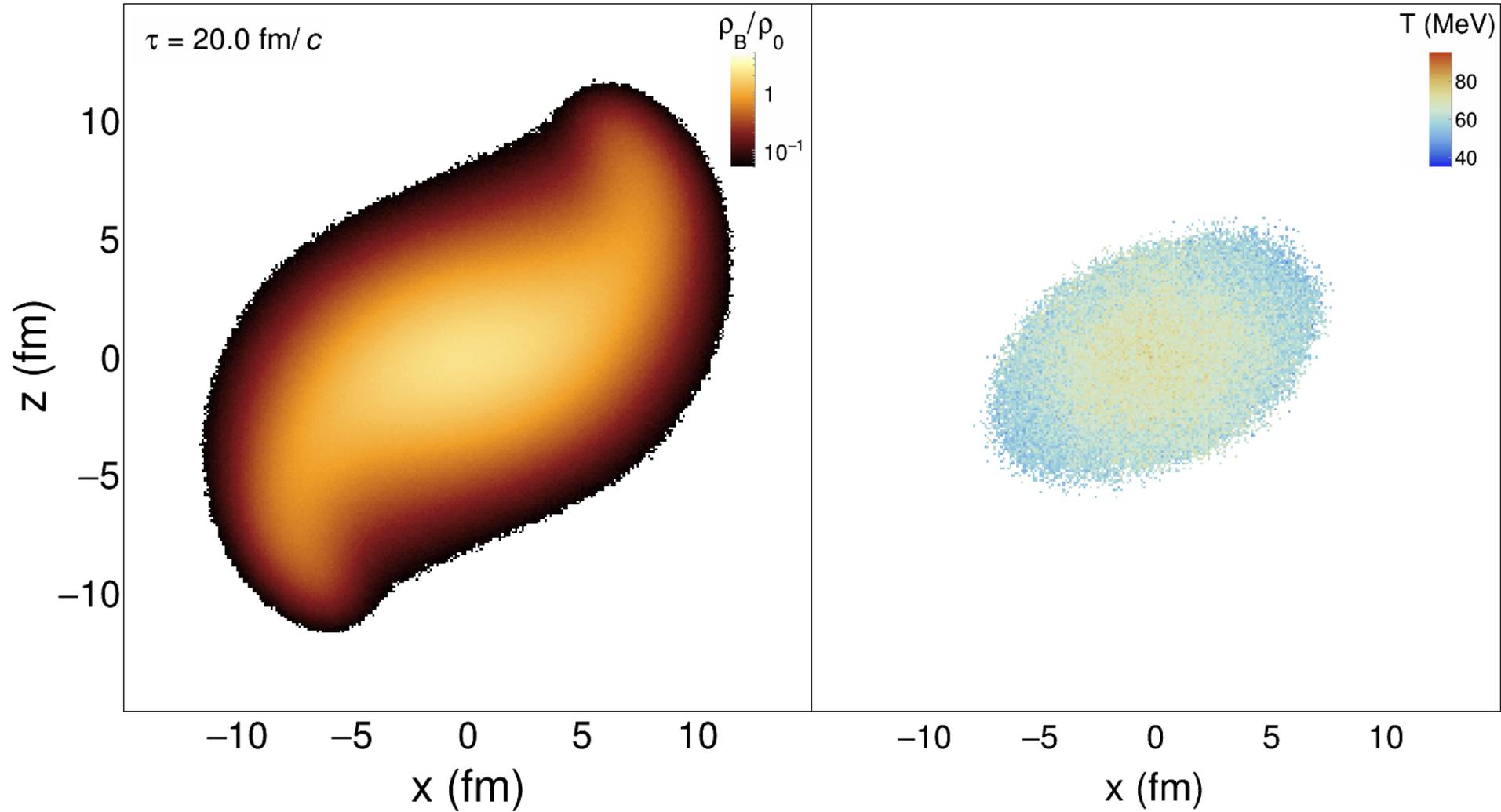
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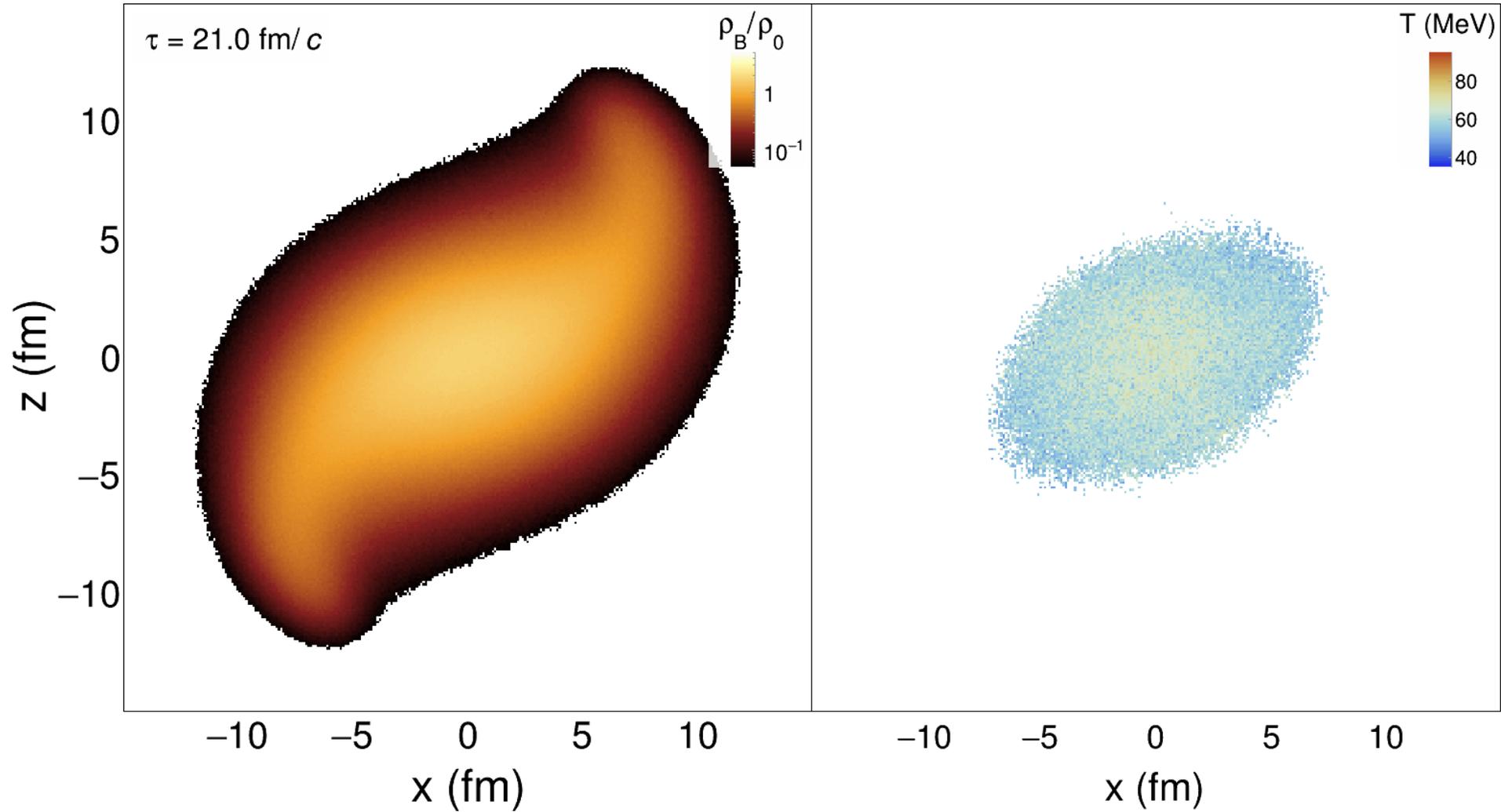
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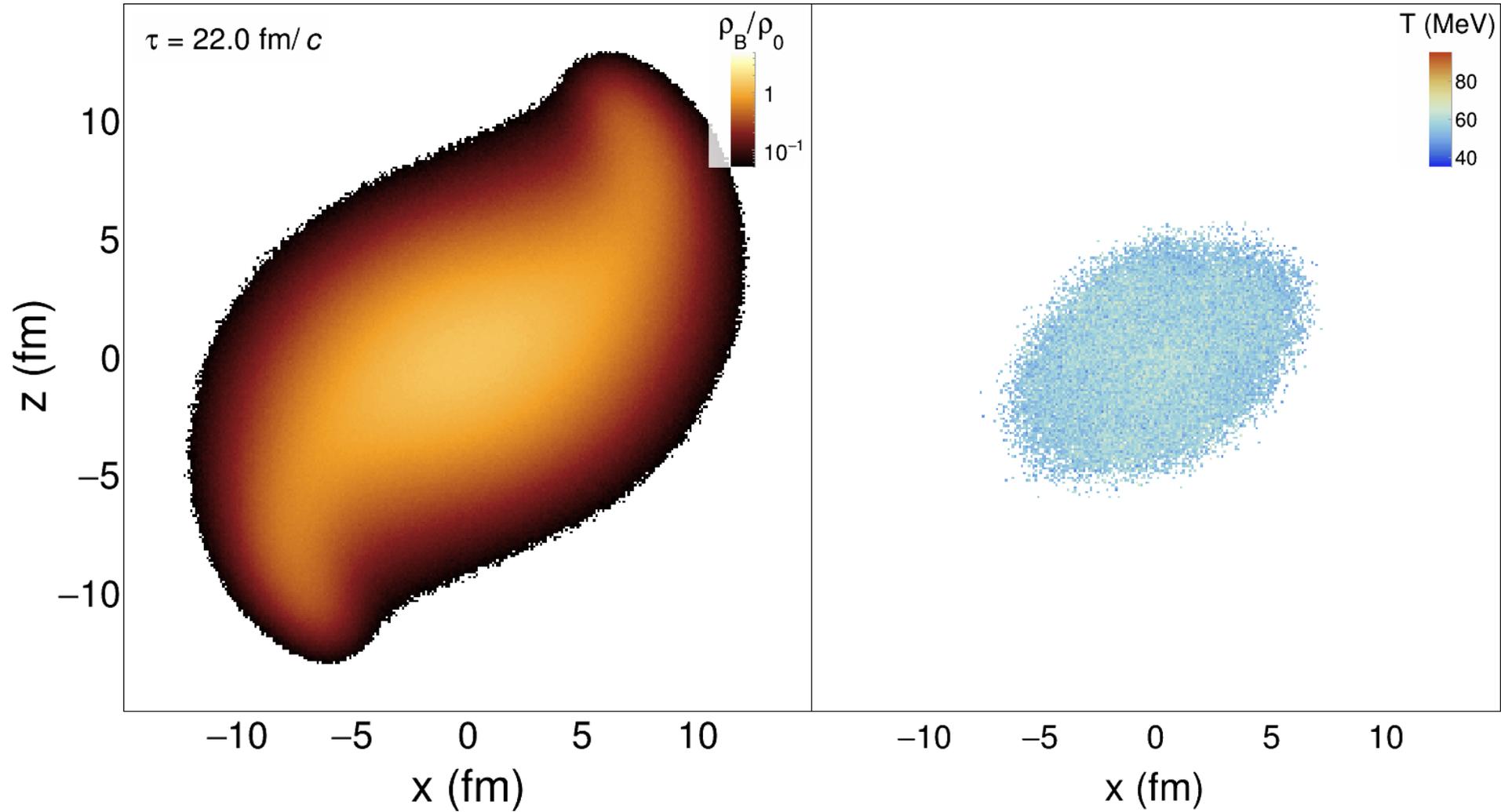
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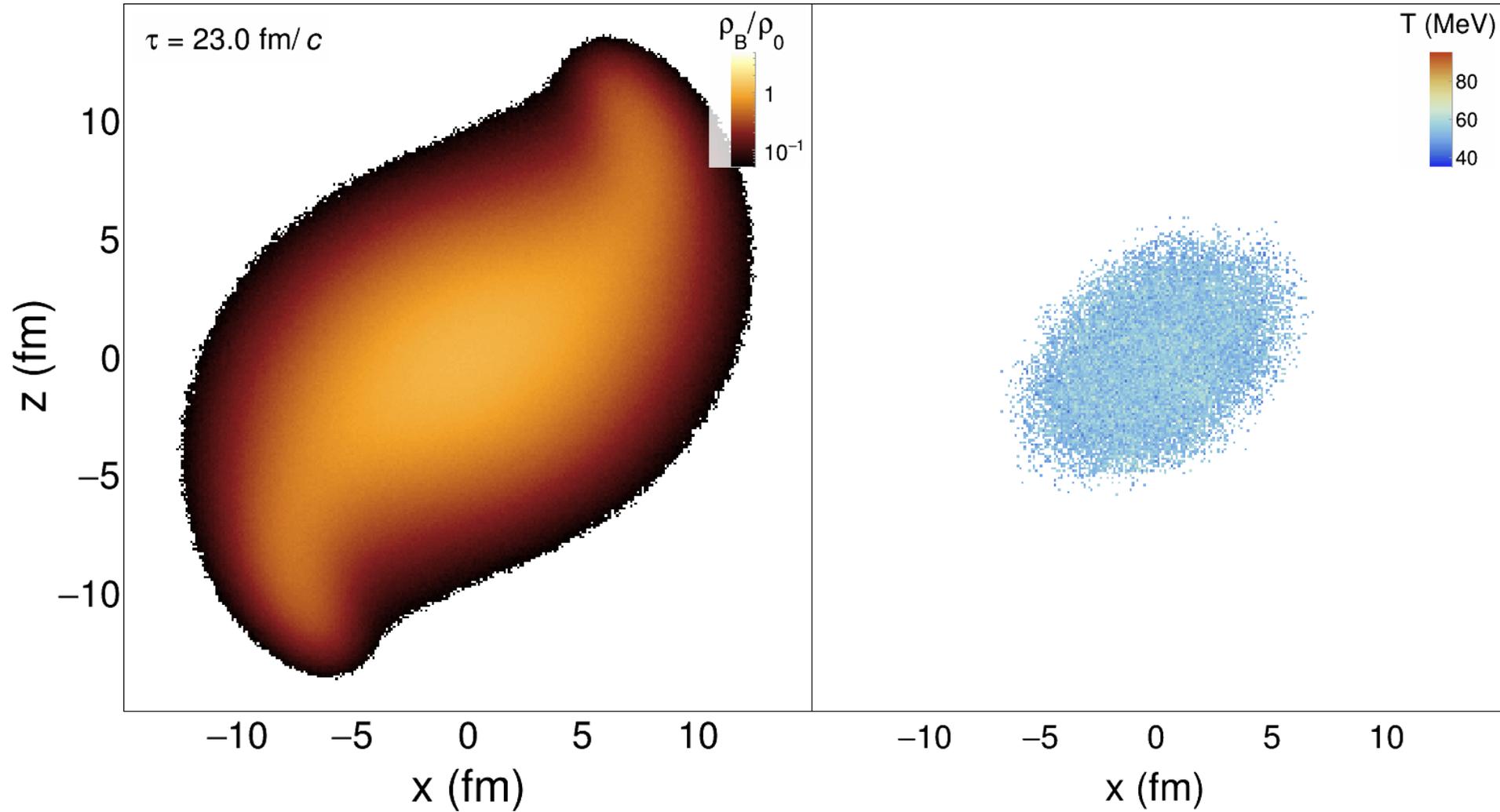
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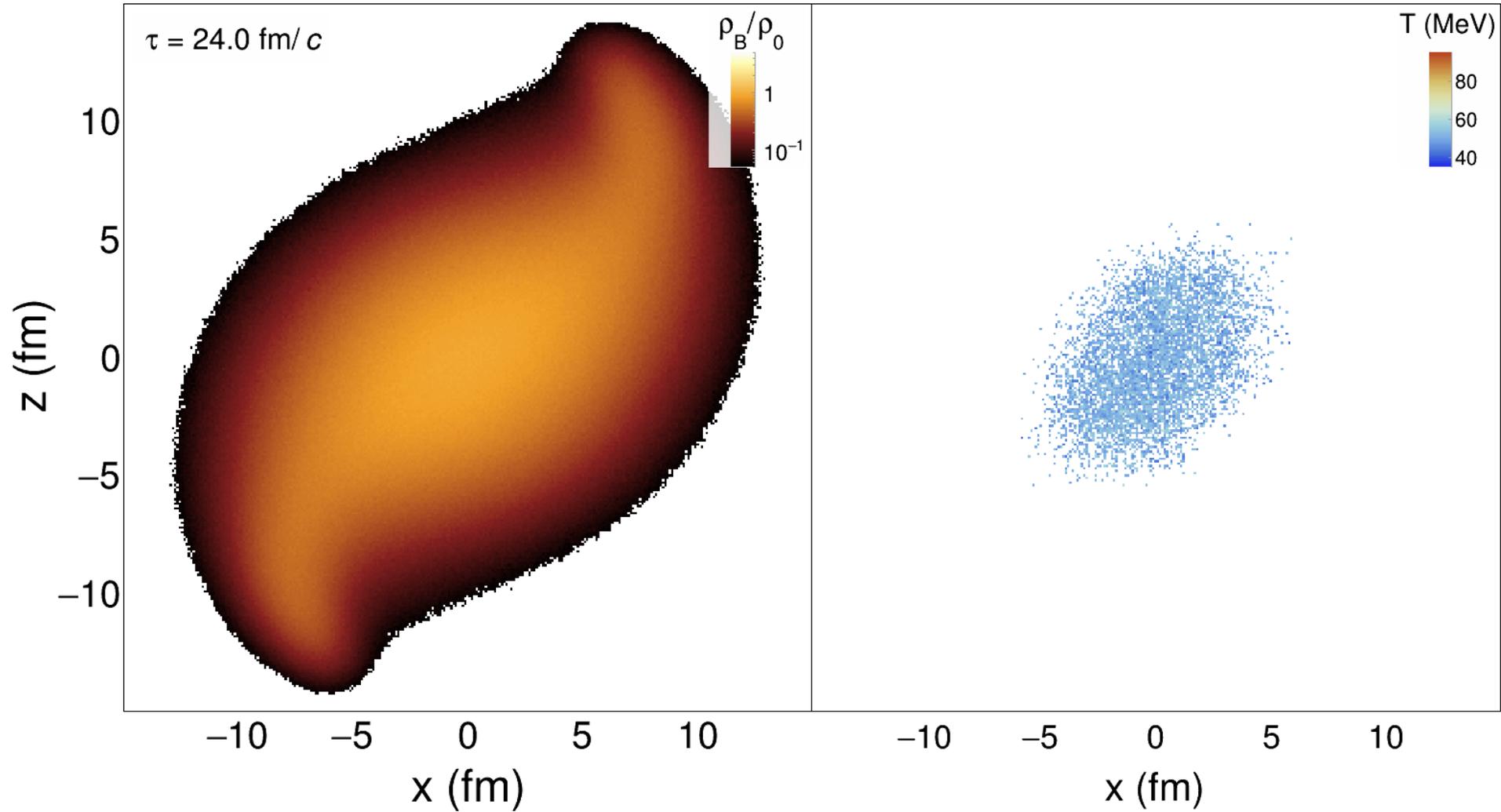
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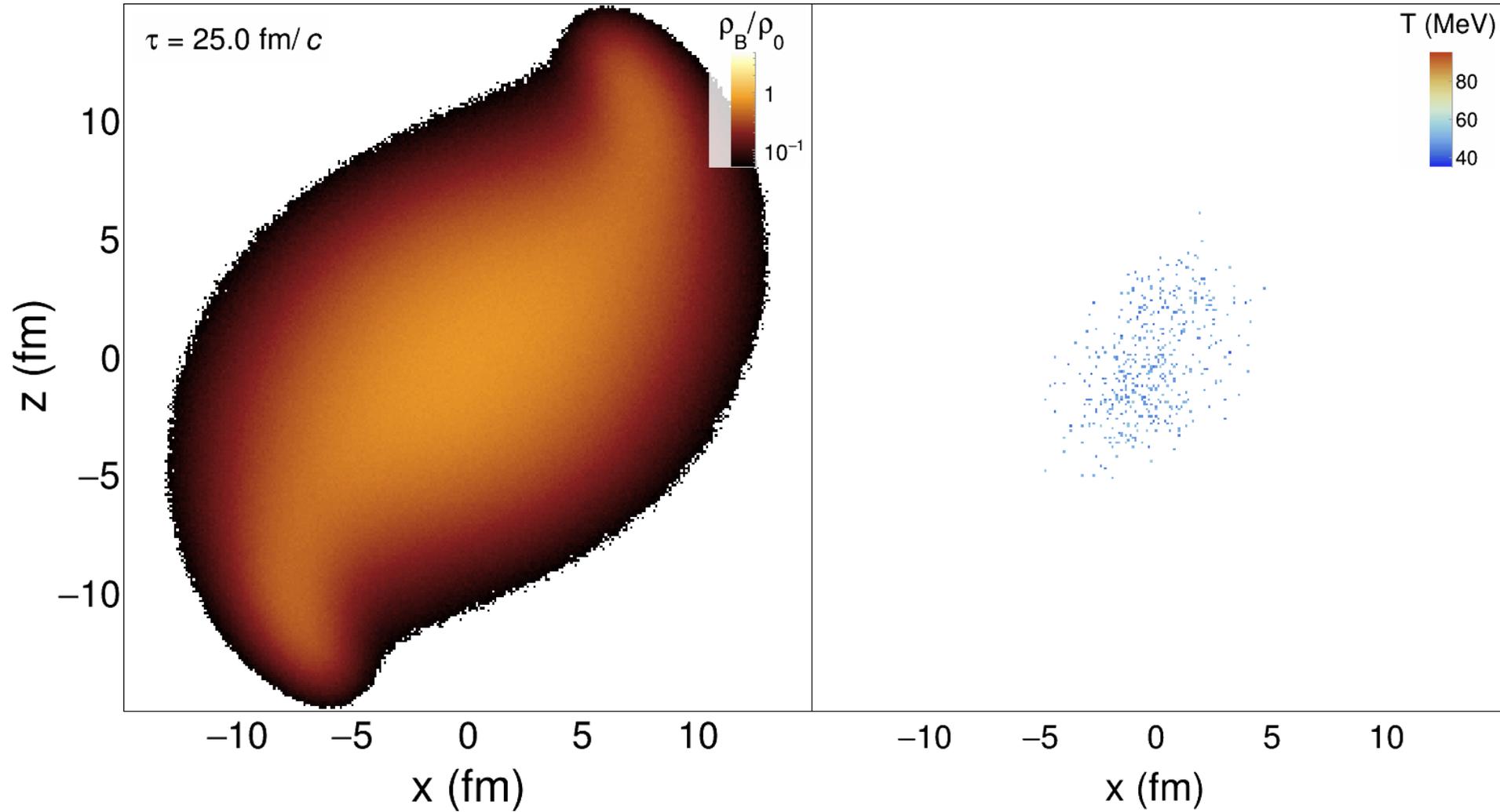
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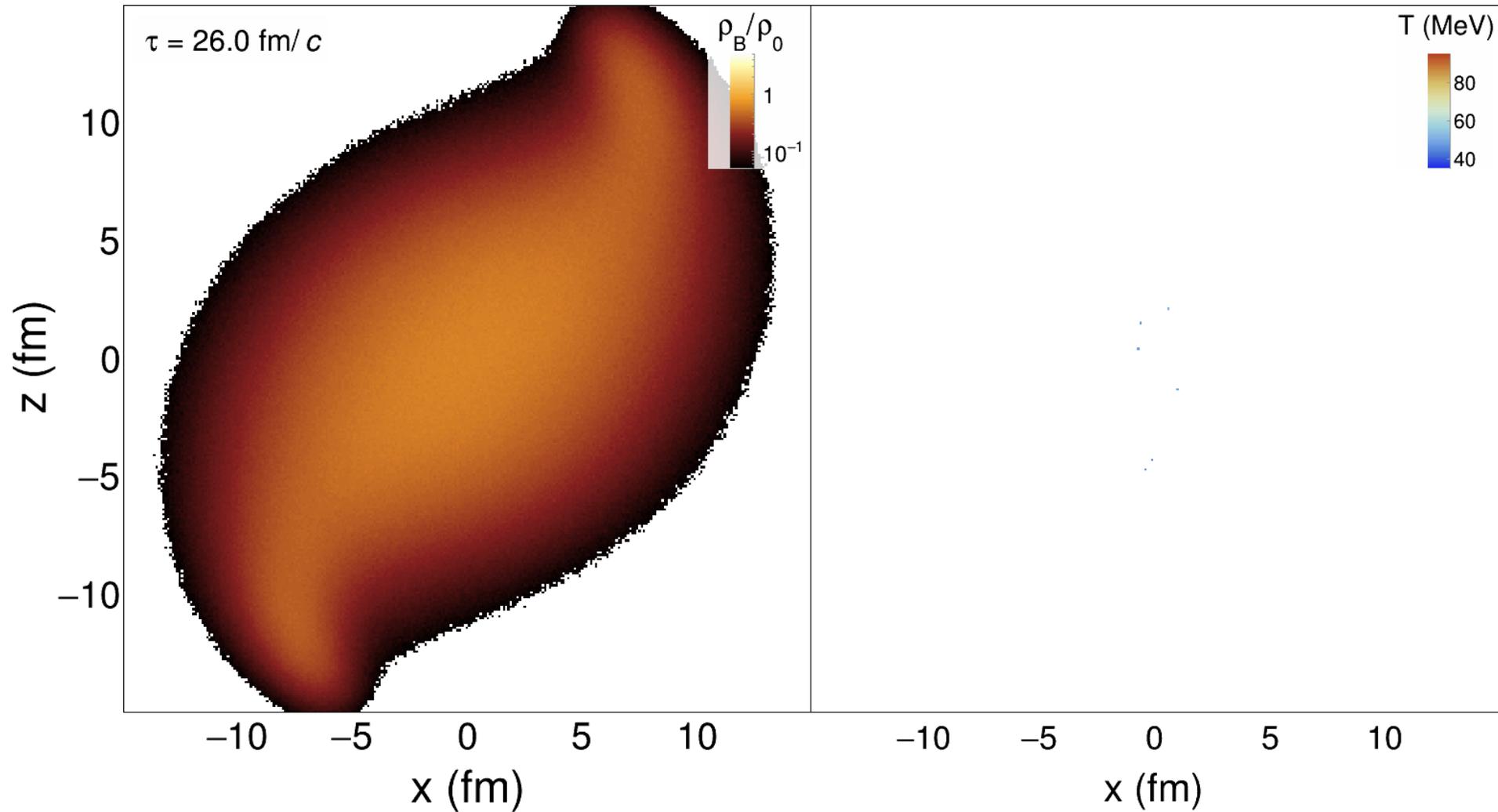
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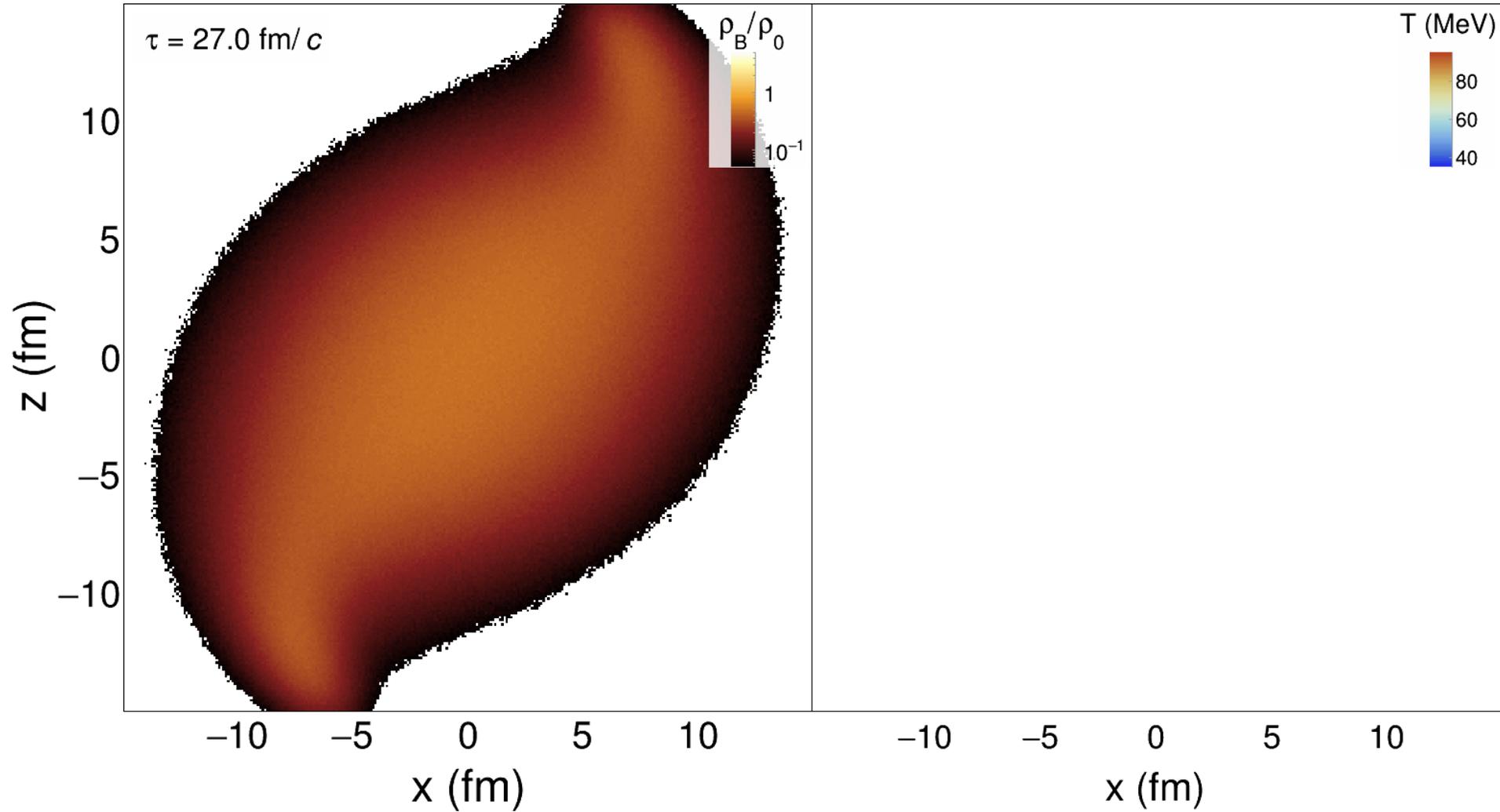
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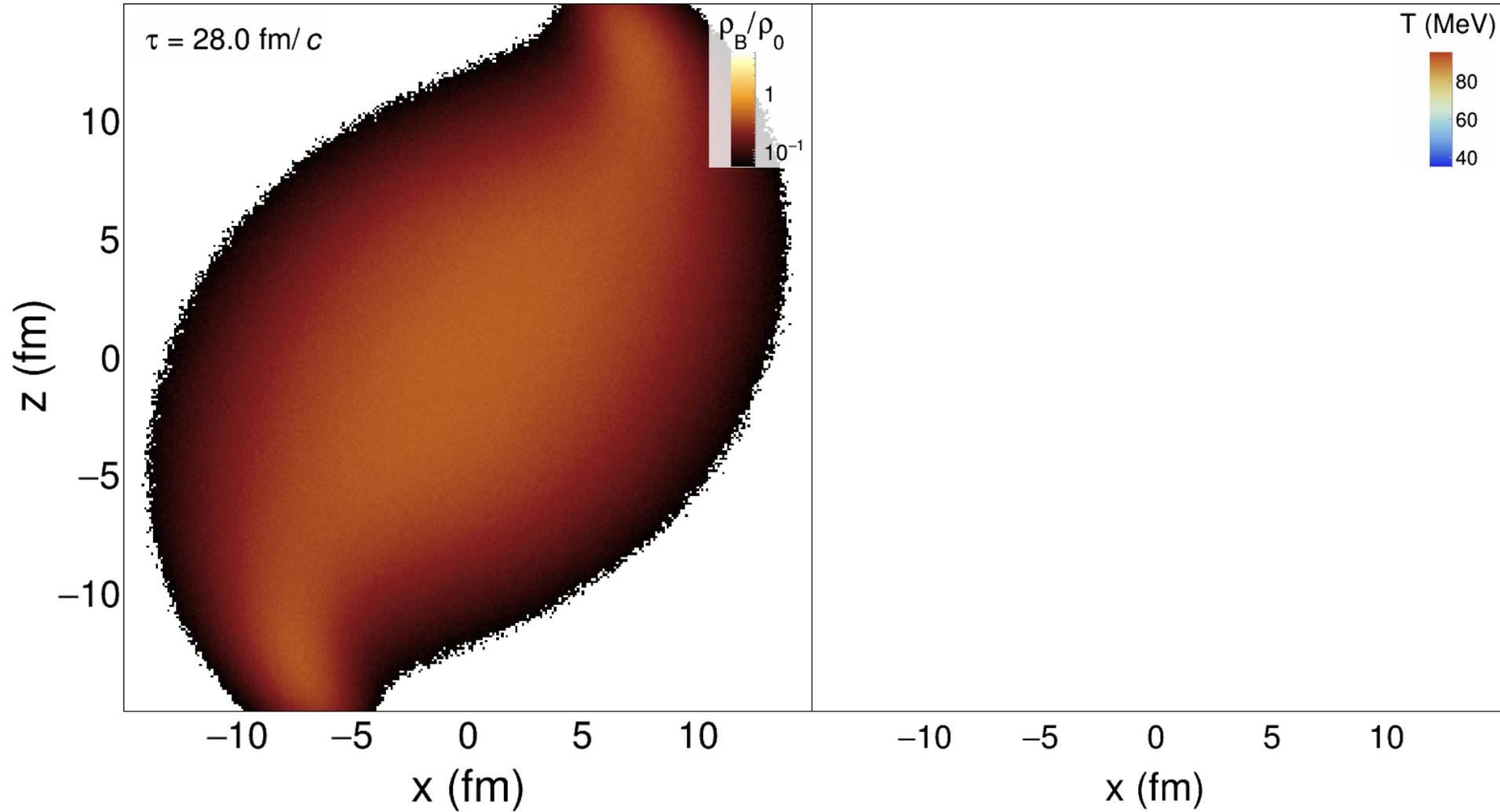
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BARYON DENSITY AND TEMPERATURE PROFILE IN AU+AU AT 1.23 AGEV



BARYON DENSITY AND TEMPERATURE PROFILE IN AU+AU AT 1.23 AGEV



THERMAL DILEPTON PRODUCTION

- McLerran-Toimela formula
$$\frac{dN_{ll}}{d^4q d^4x} = -\frac{\alpha_{em}^2 L(M^2)}{\pi^3 M^2} f^B(q_0, T) \text{Im}\Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)$$

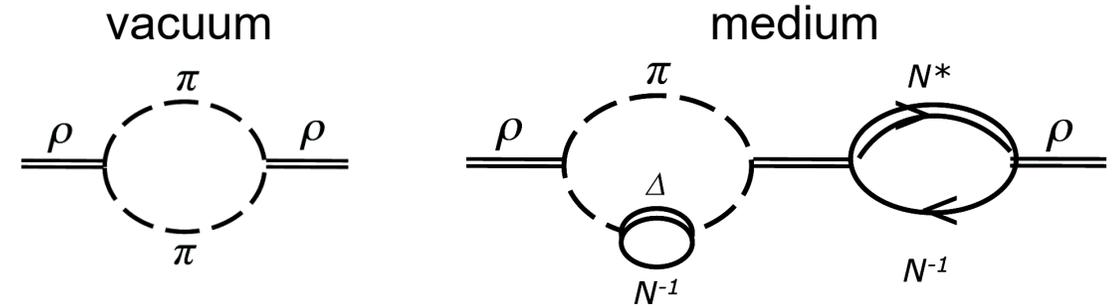
L. McLerran, T. Toimela, Phys. Rev. D 31 (1985) 545

- ρ-meson spectral function broadens
 - Additional contributions to the self-energy in the medium through coupling to (anti-)baryons and mesons

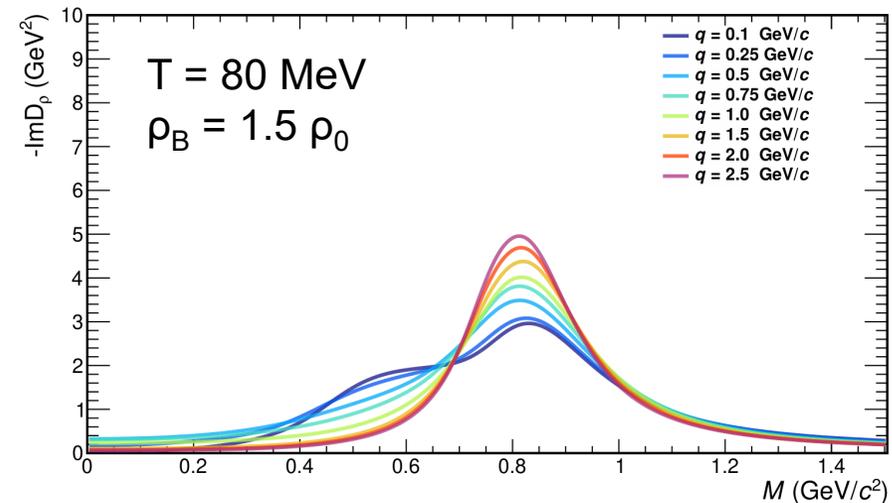
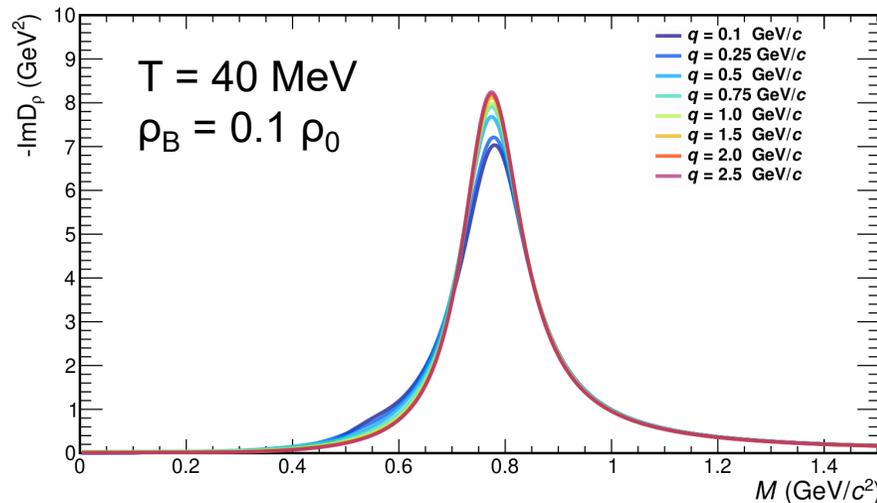
$$D_\rho(M, q; \mu_B, T) = \frac{1}{M^2 - m_\rho^2 - \Sigma_{\rho\pi\pi} - \Sigma_{\rho B} - \Sigma_{\rho M}}$$

- If $\frac{\text{Im}\Pi_{EM}}{M^2} \sim \text{const.} \rightarrow$ thermometer

Bose-Einstein distribution
electromagnetic spectral function



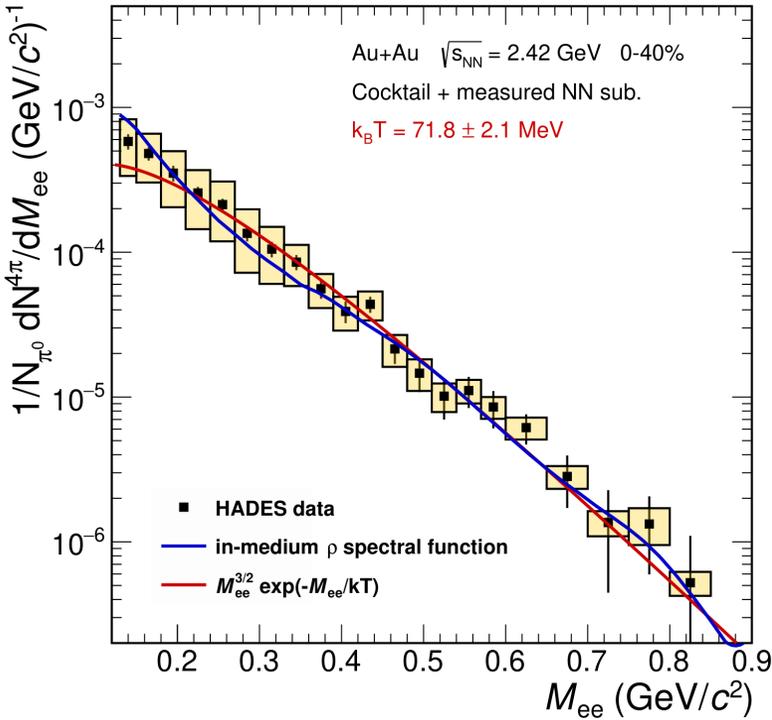
R. Rapp, J. Wambach: Eur. Phys. J. A 6 (1999) 415



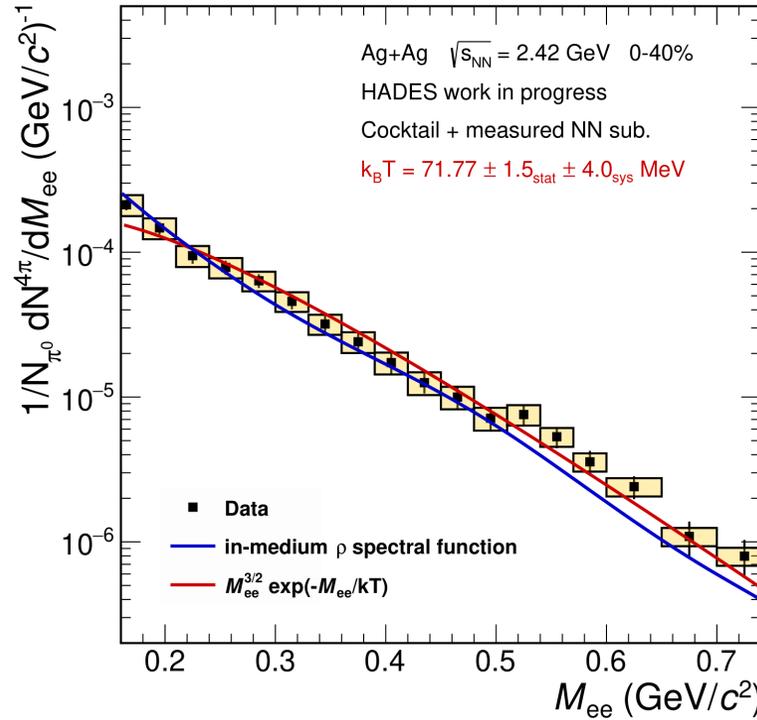
COMPARISON OF THERMAL EXCESS DATA WITH THEORY

- Good agreement between experiment and theory for excess radiation

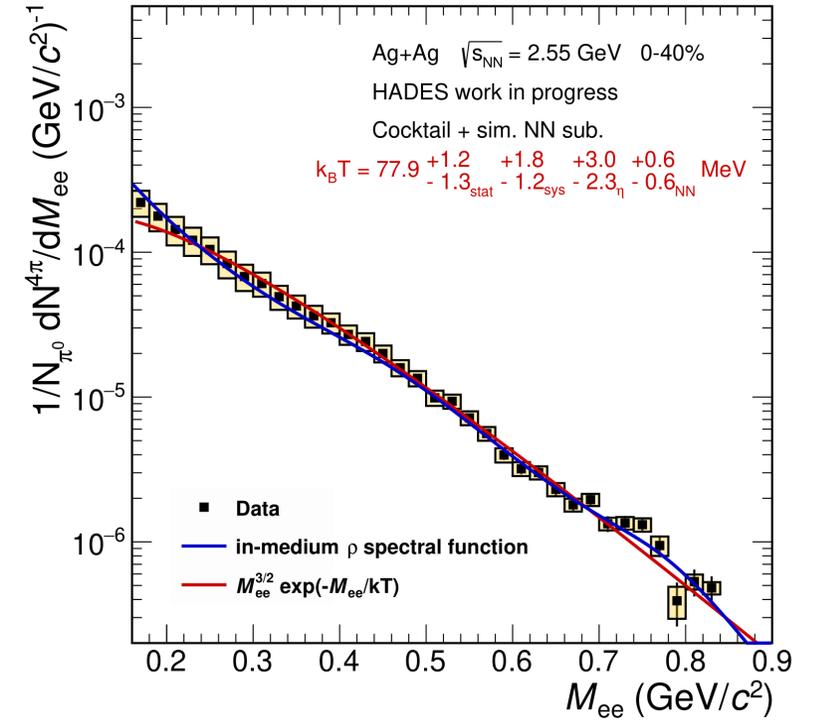
Au+Au at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$ GeV



Ag+Ag at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$ GeV



Ag+Ag at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV



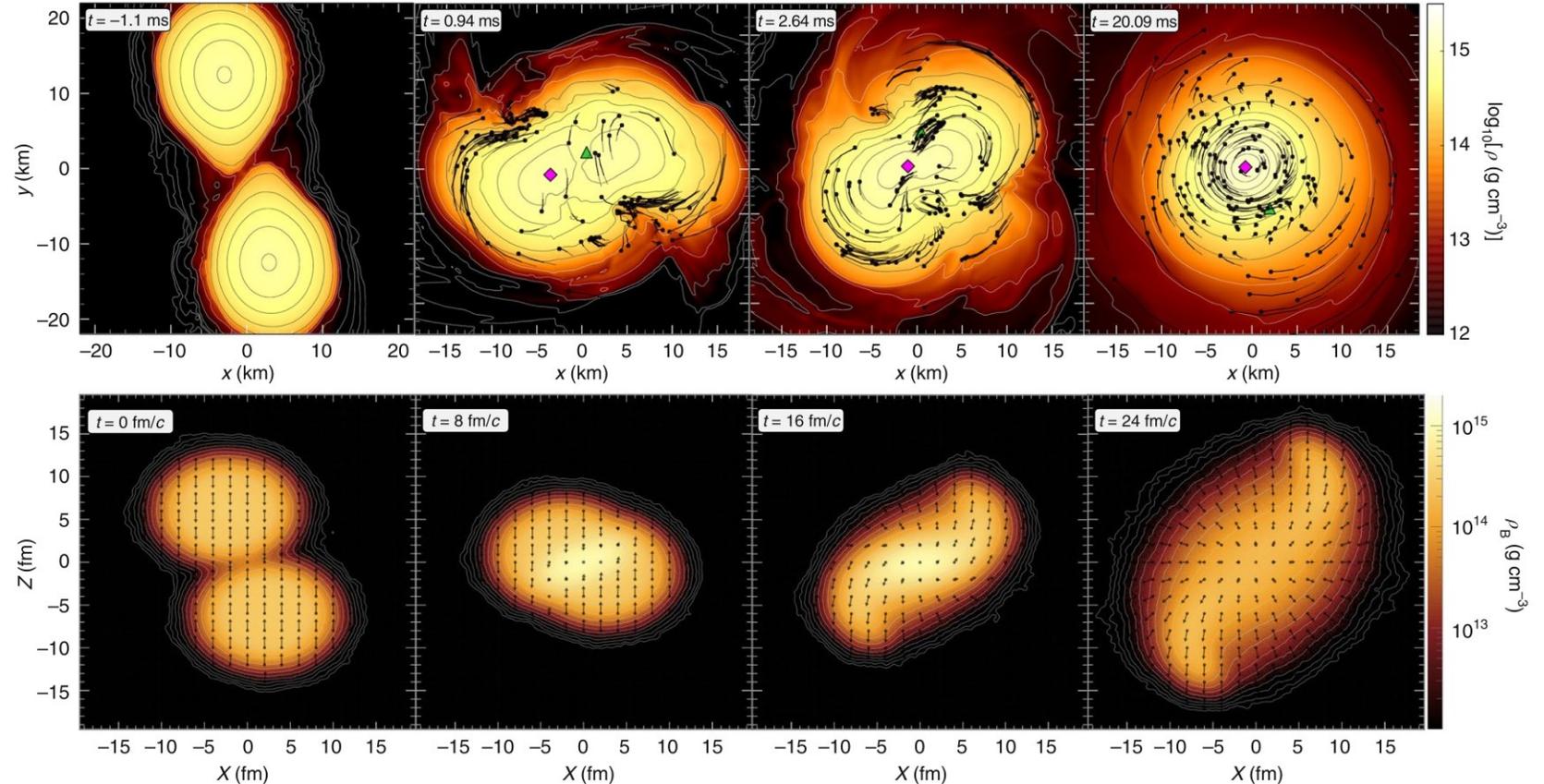
COSMIC MATTER IN THE LABORATORY

- Remarkable similarities between matter in neutron star mergers and HIC in the few GeV regime

- Laboratory studies of the matter properties (EoS) in compact stellar objects (neutron star mergers)

M. Hanauske *et al.*, *Particles* 2 (2019) no.1
 L. Rezzolla *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 122 (2019) no. 6, 061101
 E. Most *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. D* 107 (2023) 4, 043034

- What are the measurable consequences of phase transition and critical point in the QCD phase diagram?



HADES, *Nature Phys.* 15 (2019) 1040

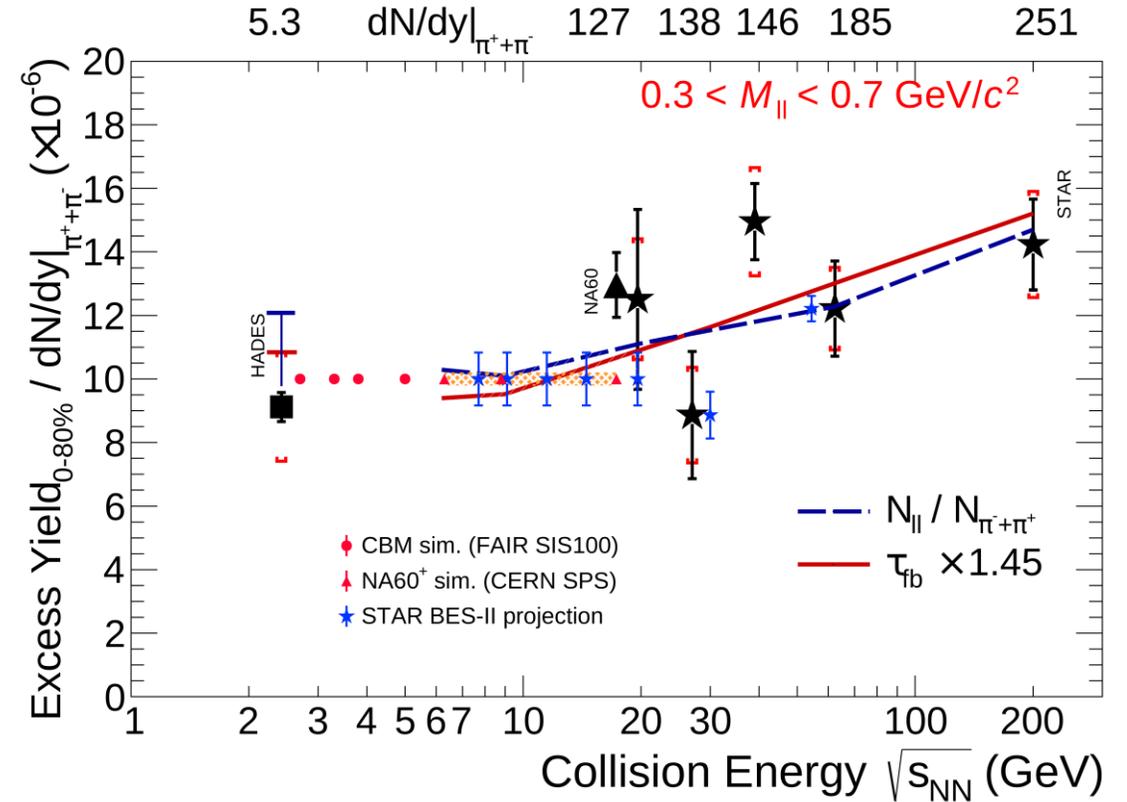
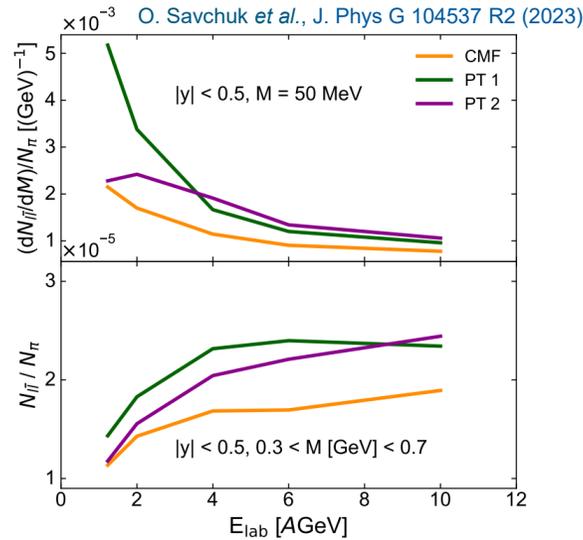
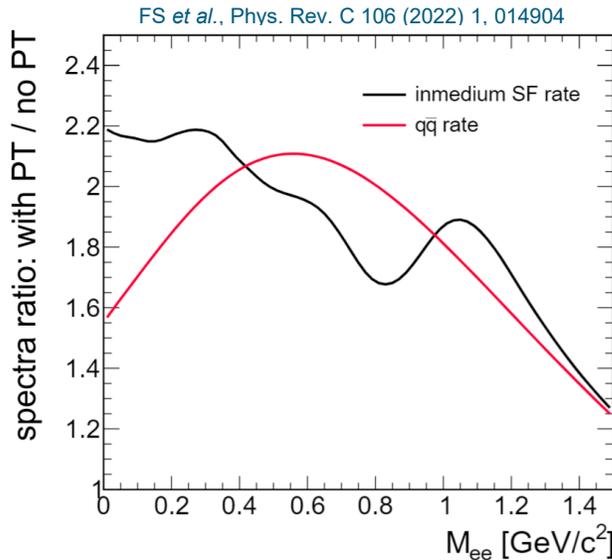
EXCITATION FUNCTION OF THE LIFETIME OF THE FIREBALL

- Excess yield in LMR tracks fireball lifetime

$$\tau_{Life} \propto \frac{N_{ll}}{N_{charged\ pions}}$$

R. Rapp & H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753 (2016) 586-590

- Search for "extra radiation" due to latent heat around phase transition (& critical point?)
- 1st order phase transition could result in factor 2 larger yield
 - Detectable by current & future experiments



EXCITATION FUNCTION OF THE TEMPERATURE OF THE FIREBALL

- Invariant mass slope measures radiating source temperature (free from blue-shift effects)

$$\frac{dN_{ll}}{dM} \propto (MT)^{\frac{3}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{M}{T}\right)$$

R. Rapp & H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753 (2016) 586-590

„black body radiation“

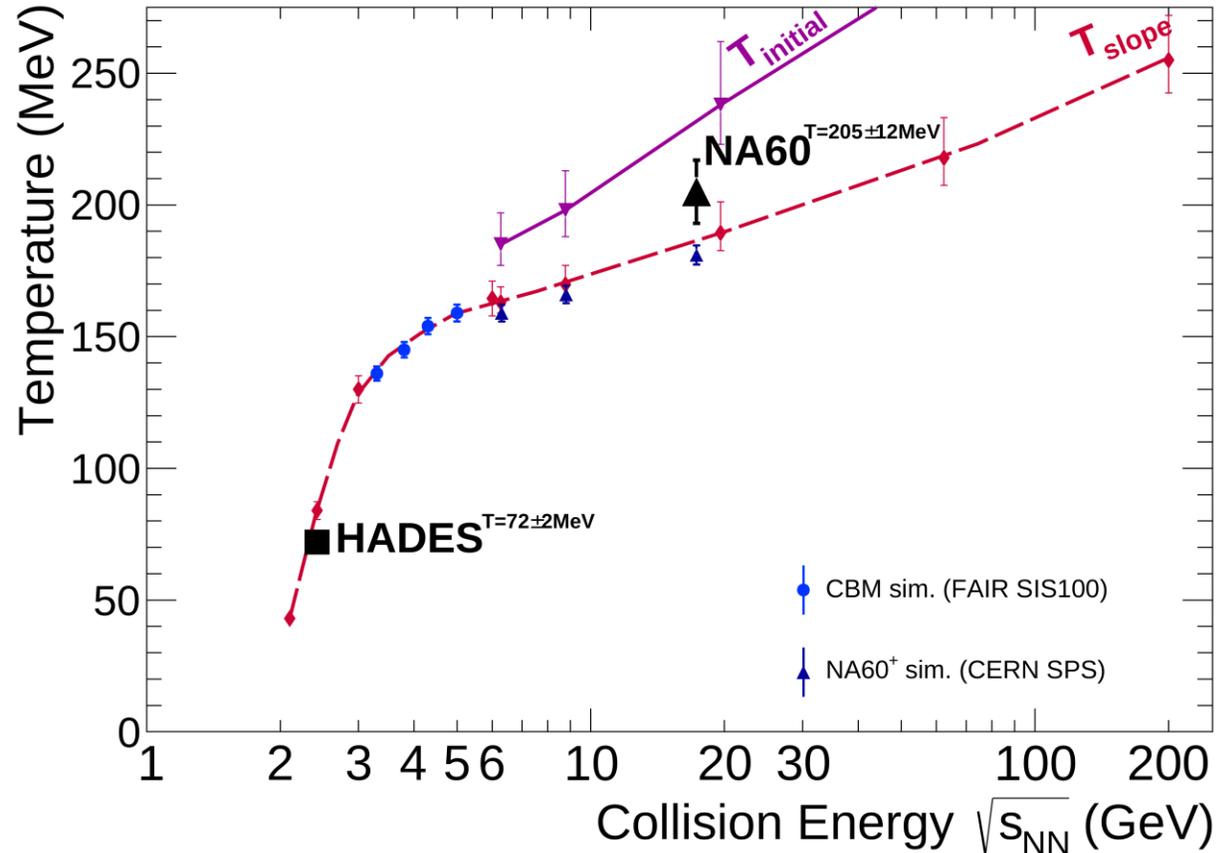
- Assumption: $\frac{Im\Pi_{EM}}{M^2} \sim \text{constant}$
 - Generally justified in the IMR ($M_{ee} > 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
 - Strong melting of ρ meson allows temperature extraction in the LMR ($M_{ee} = 0.3\text{-}0.7 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)

FS, T. Galatyuk et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 52 (2016) 5, 131

- T_{LMR} and T_{IMR} different:
 - T_{IMR} probes hottest regions
 - T_{LMR} probes average fireball temperature

Flattening of caloric curve (T vs ε)

→ evidence for a **phase transition**



NA60, AIP Conf. Proc. 1322 (2010) 1.
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753 (2016) 586-590
HADES, Nature Phys. 15 (2019) 1040

DILEPTON FLOW

- Azimuthal anisotropies with respect to reaction plane

$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto (1 + 2 \sum_n v_n \cos(n\phi)), \text{ with } v_n = \langle \cos(n\phi) \rangle$$

- Interplay between medium 4-velocity u and temperature T

$$\frac{dN_{l\bar{l}}}{d^4q d^4x} = -\frac{\alpha_{em}^2 L(M^2)}{\pi^3 M^2} f^B(q \cdot u, T) \text{Im} \Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)$$

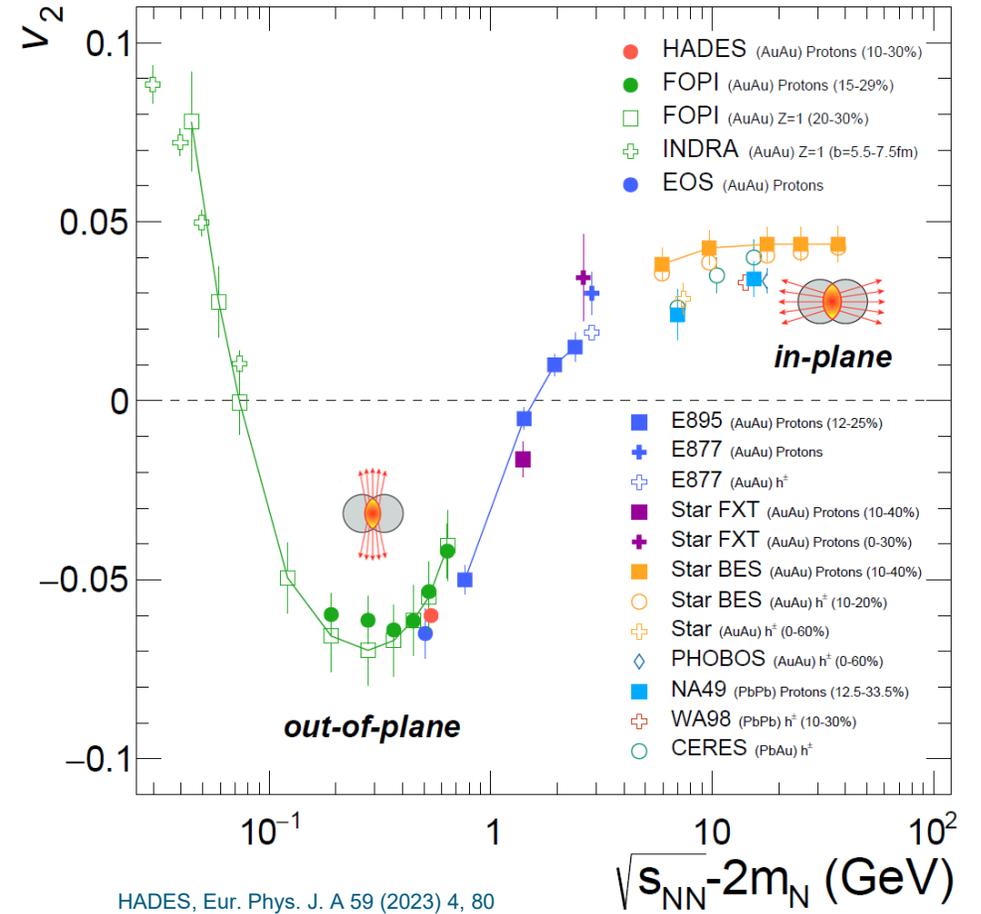
R. Chatterjee et al, Phys. Rev. C 75 (2007) 054909
 G. Vujanovic et al., Phys. Rev. C 89 (2014) 3, 034904

- Pressure anisotropies in underlying space-time evolution
 → collective velocities of medium cells
- Dileptons probe earlier times (high ρ_B , high T) compared to hadron flow

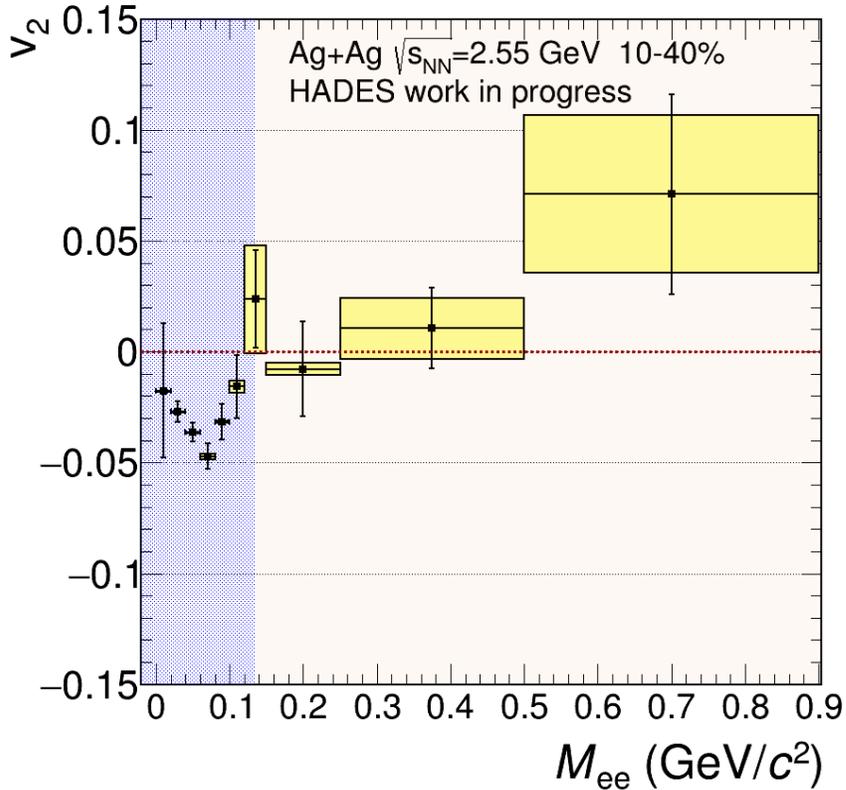
Possible sensitivity to the EoS at high density

T. Reichert et al., Phys.Lett.B 841 (2023) 137947

proton v_2

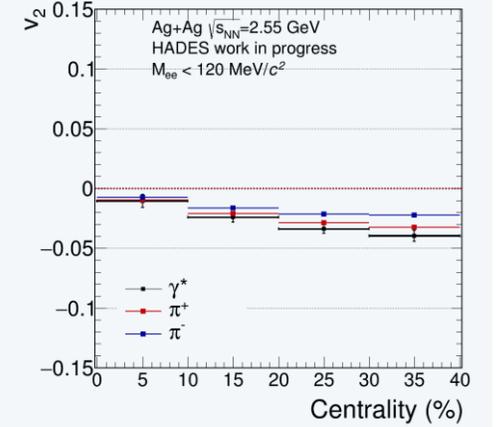
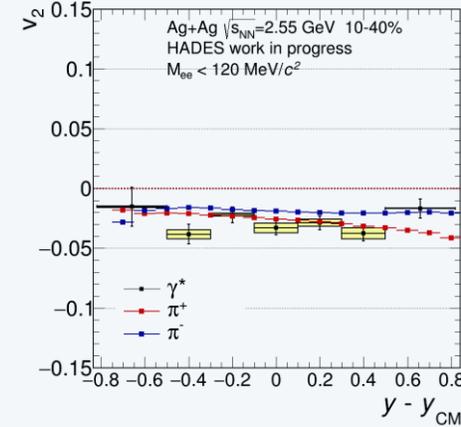
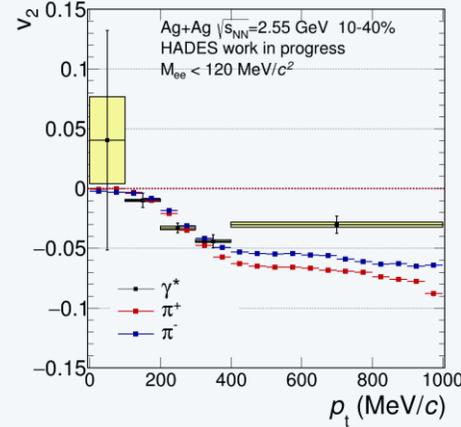


DILEPTON v_2 IN AG+AG COLLISIONS



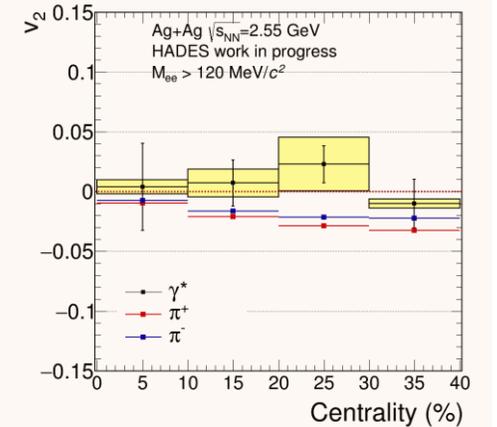
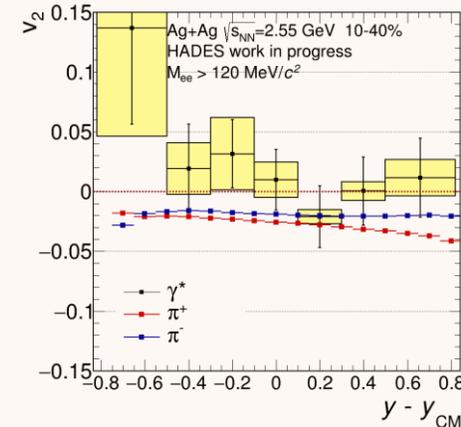
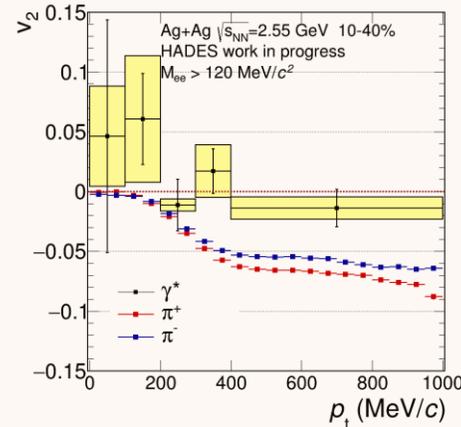
$M_{ee} < 0.12 \text{ GeV}/c^2$: inclusive yield dominated by π^0 decays

- Dilepton v_2 consistent with charged pion v_2



$M_{ee} > 0.12 \text{ GeV}/c^2$: inclusive yield dominated by thermal radiation

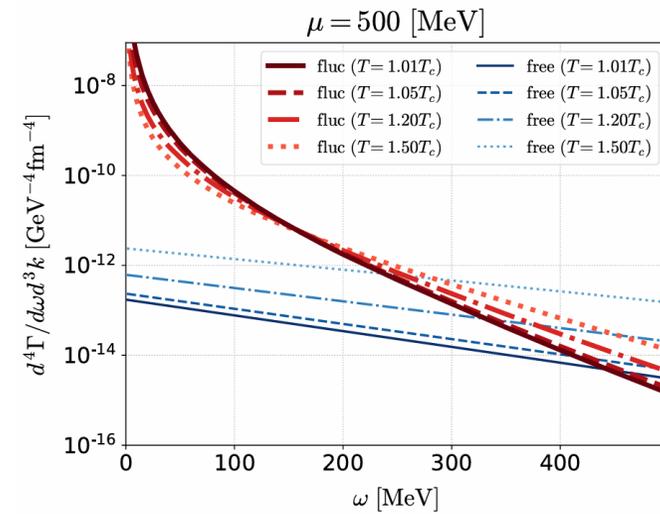
- Dilepton v_2 consistent with zero \rightarrow early emission



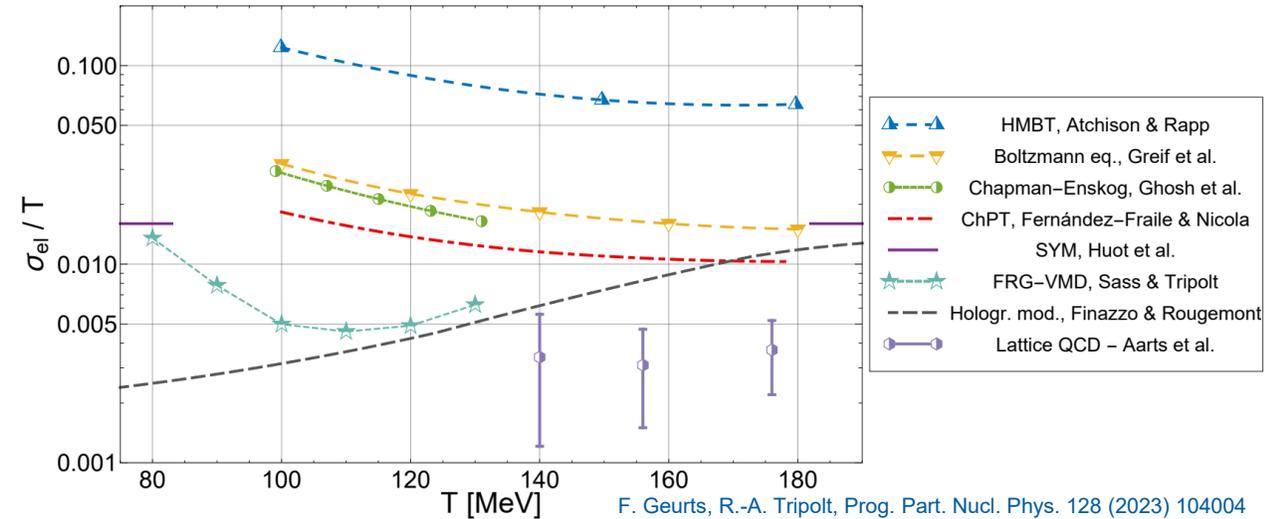


LOW-MASS LOW-MOMENTUM DILEPTONS

- Color superconductivity could manifest itself in an enhanced yield of low-energy dileptons
- Thermal dileptons encode information on matter properties
 - yield in $p_{ee} = 0 \text{ MeV}/c$, $M_{ee} \rightarrow 0 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ limit proportional to electrical conductivity
- Large **theoretical uncertainty**
 - **experimental constraints** highly desirable
- Determines time evolution of electromagnetic fields generated by spectators
 - Important for effects related to presence of strong magnetic fields



T. Nishimura *et al.*, PTEP 2022 (2022) 9, 093D02
arXiv:2201.01963



F. Geurts, R.-A. Tripolt, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 128 (2023) 104004

electrical conductivity

$$\sigma_{el}(T) = -e^2 \lim_{q_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\rho_{EM}(q_0, \vec{q} = 0, T, \mu_B)}{q_0}$$

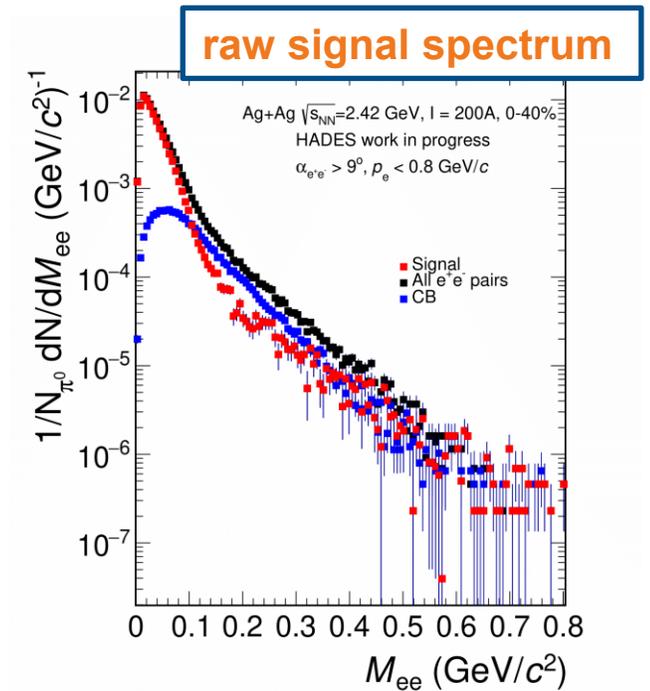
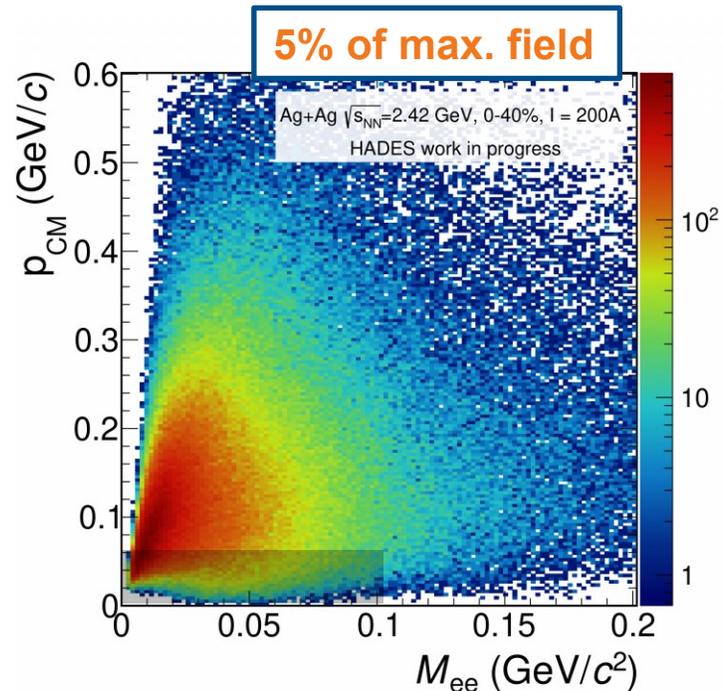
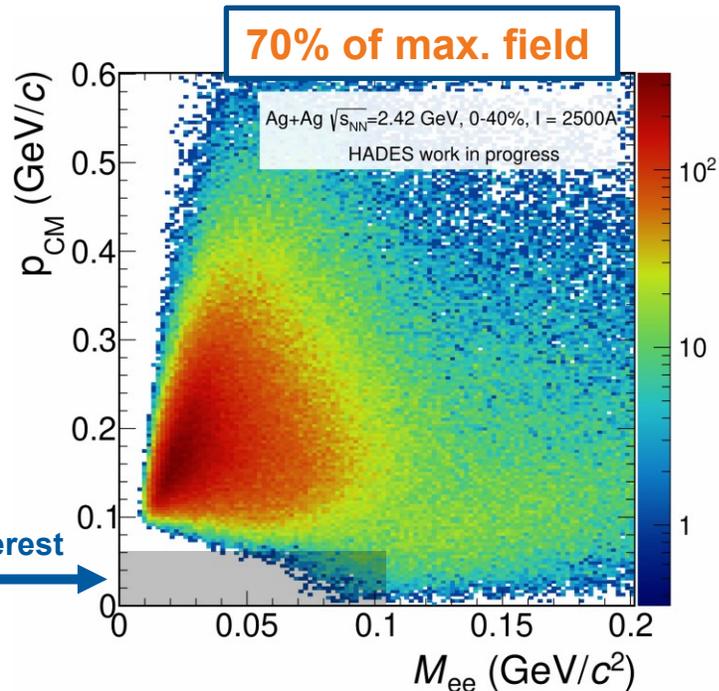
R. Kubo, J. Phys. Soc. Jap. 12 (1957) 570-586
G. Moore, J. Robert, arXiv:hep-ph/0607172 [hep-ph]

thermal dilepton emission rate

$$\frac{d^8 N}{d^4 q d^4 x} = \frac{-\alpha_{EM}^2}{\pi^3 M^2} f_B(q_0, T) \underbrace{Im \Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)}_{\rho_{EM}}$$

EXPERIMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Low momentum lepton tracks bent out of acceptance by magnetic field
- Photon conversion suppressed via opening angle cut
- Physical background of π^0 and η mesons
- Step towards measurement:
 - Dedicated Ag+Ag test run at HADES with low magnetic field
 - New Au+Au at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.23$ GeV data recorded this year with 50% B-field + low field run (5%) scheduled for 2025



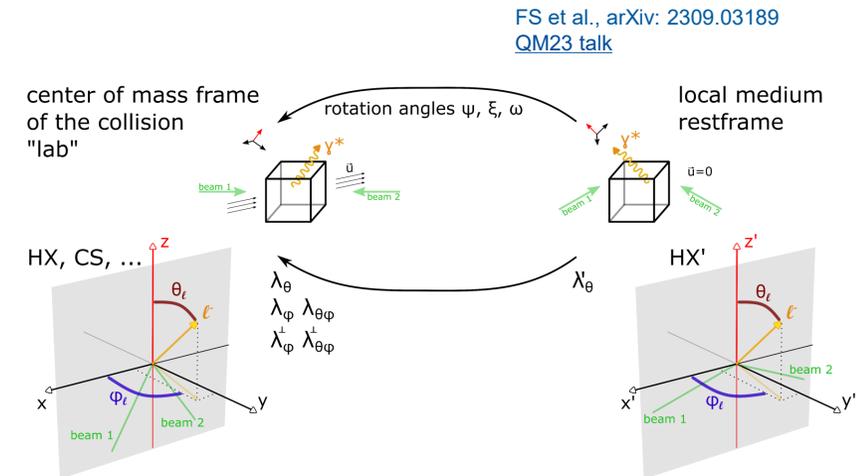
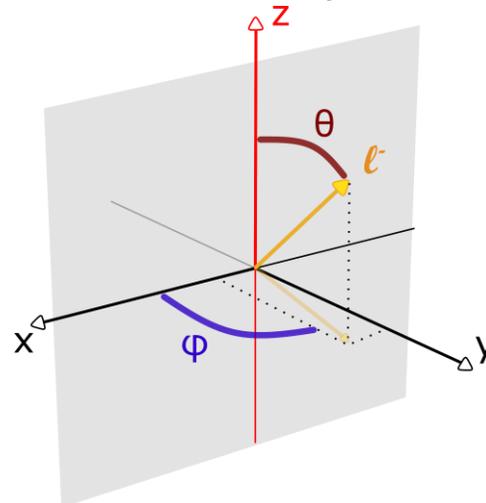
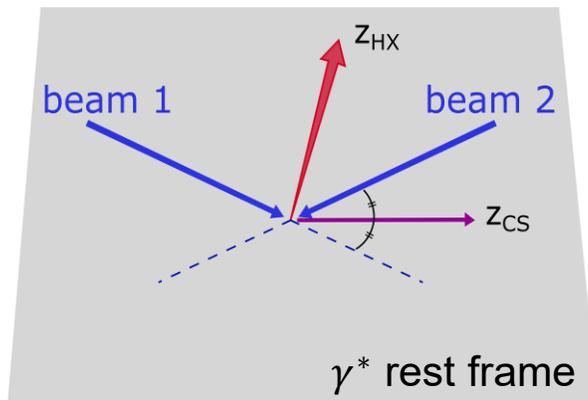
VIRTUAL PHOTON POLARIZATION

- Decompose spectral function using projectors for a spin-1 particle $\rho_{EM}^{\mu\nu} = \rho_L P_L^{\mu\nu} + \rho_T P_T^{\mu\nu}$ with $g_{\mu\nu} \rho_{EM}^{\mu\nu} = \rho_L + 2\rho_T$
- Angular distribution of single lepton in γ^* rest frame depends on polarization of γ^*

$$\frac{dN}{d^4x d^4q d\Omega} = \mathcal{N} (1 + \lambda_\theta \cos^2 \theta + \lambda_\varphi \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\varphi + \lambda_{\theta\varphi} \sin 2\theta \cos \varphi)$$

E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)
E. Bratkovskaya *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 376, 12 (1996)

- Different virtual photon **production mechanisms** imprint different anisotropy parameters λ
- λ coefficients related to **difference** between **longitudinal and transverse components** of spectral function: $\lambda_\theta = \frac{\rho_T - \rho_L}{\rho_T + \rho_L}$
- Rotational symmetry of static thermal medium broken by virtual photon's momentum direction
- For moving medium: transform local coefficients to global frame accessible in experiment \rightarrow comparison to data



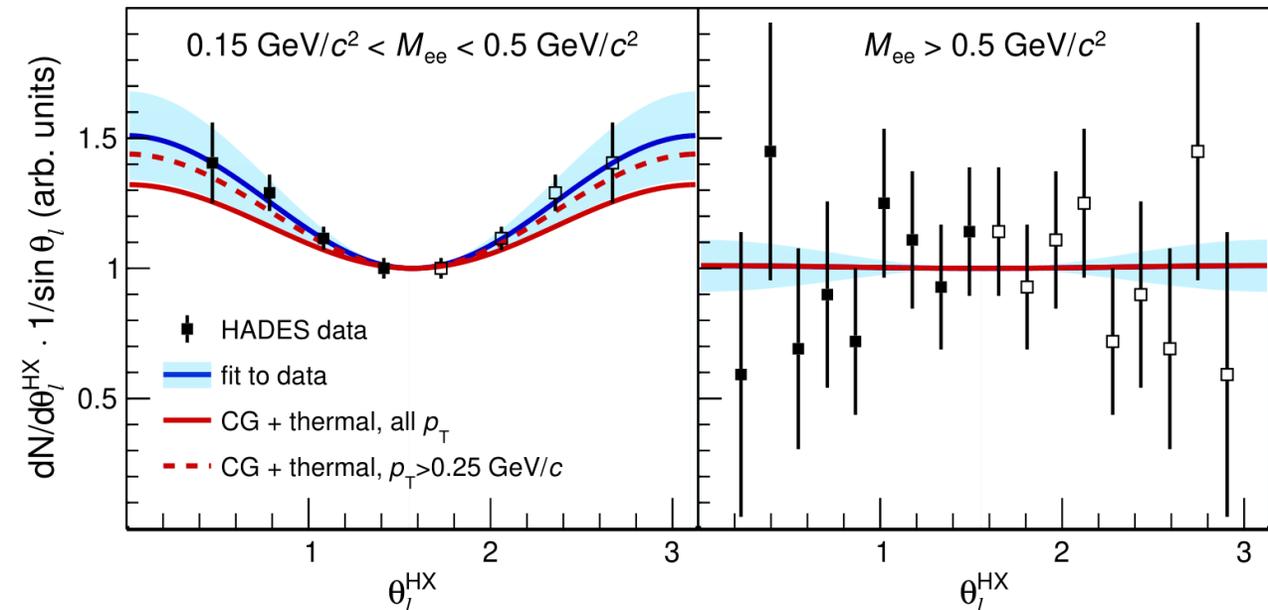
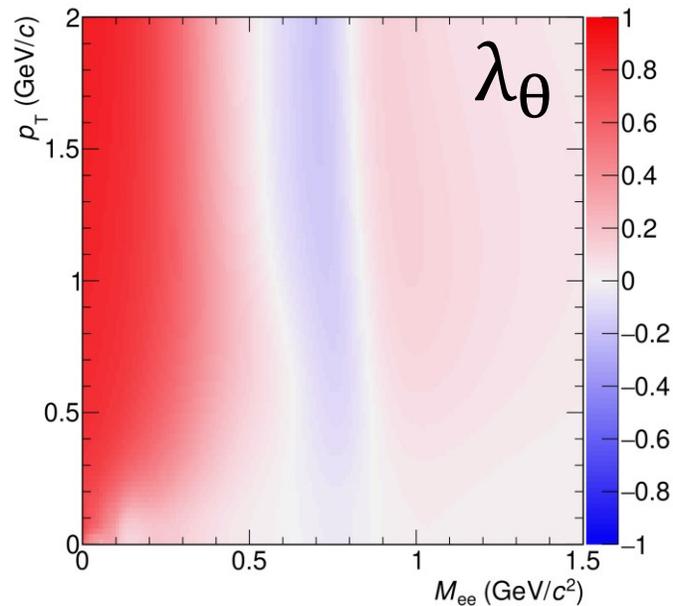
COMPARISON TO HADES DATA

- HADES measured anisotropy coefficient λ_θ of excess radiation in Ar+KCl collisions at 1.76 AGeV ($\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.62$ GeV)
- Polarization largely survives evolution of the expanding medium
- **Best fit** to data gives $\lambda_\theta = 0.51 \pm 0.17$ and $\lambda_\theta = 0.01 \pm 0.10$ in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** result gives $\lambda_\theta = 0.32$ and $\lambda_\theta = 0.01$ respectively

HADES, Phys. Rev. C 84, 014902 (2011)

T. Galatyuk *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. A 52, 131 (2016)

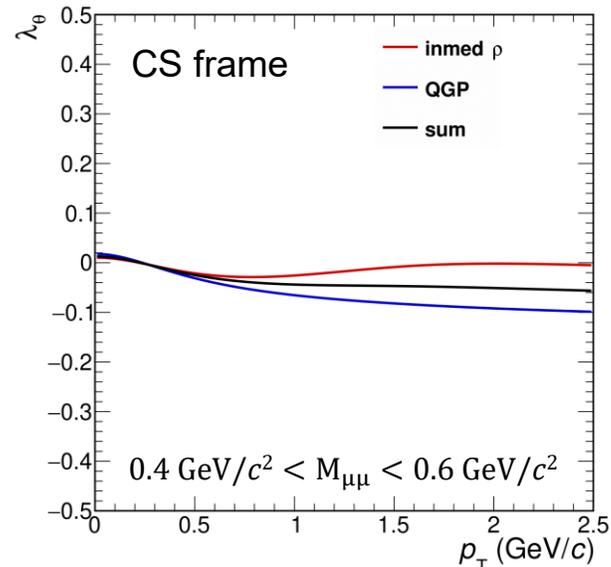
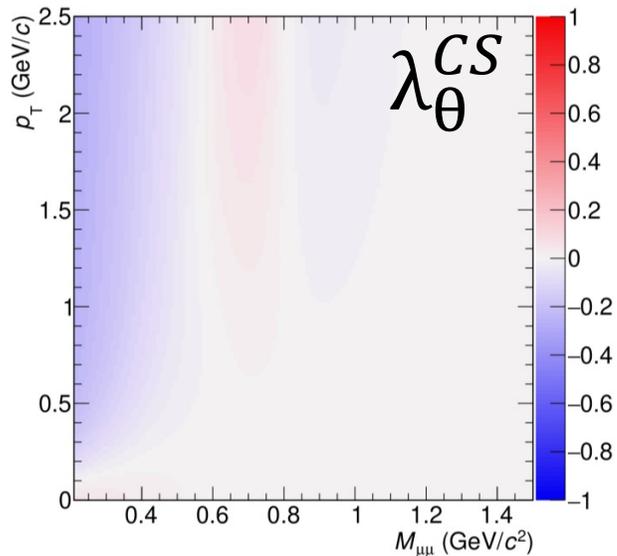
FS *et al.*, arXiv: 2309.03189



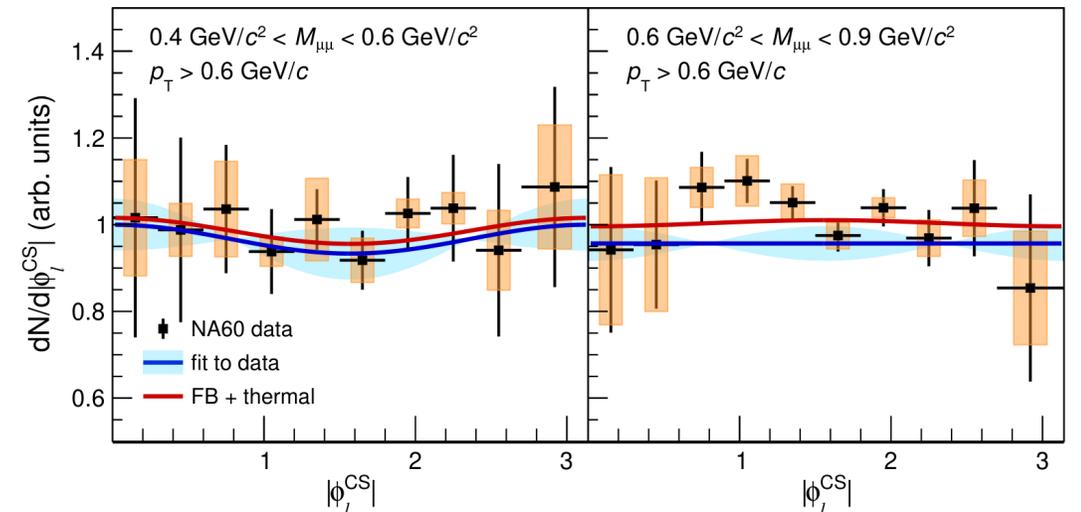
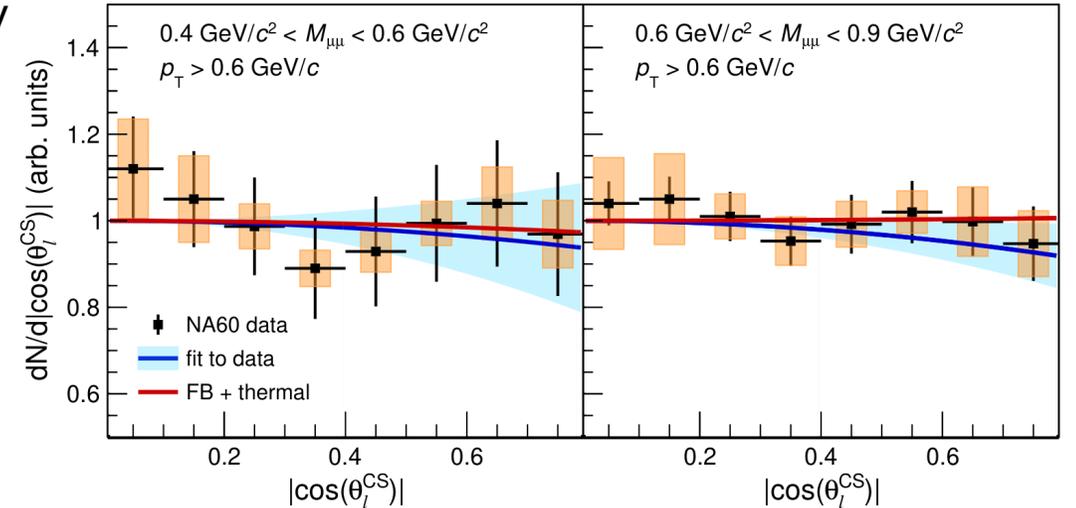
COMPARISON TO NA60 DATA

- NA60 measured polarization coefficients λ_θ , λ_φ and $\lambda_{\theta\varphi}$ of excess radiation in the CS frame in In+In collisions at 158 AGeV
- Space-time evolution via isentropic fireball model with transition from QGP to hadronic rates at $T=170$ MeV
- Good agreement between data and theory \rightarrow size and trend
- Near absence of a net polarization not related to thermal isotropy arguments

NA60, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 162302 (2006)
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)



data points: NA60, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 222301 (2009)



SUMMARY

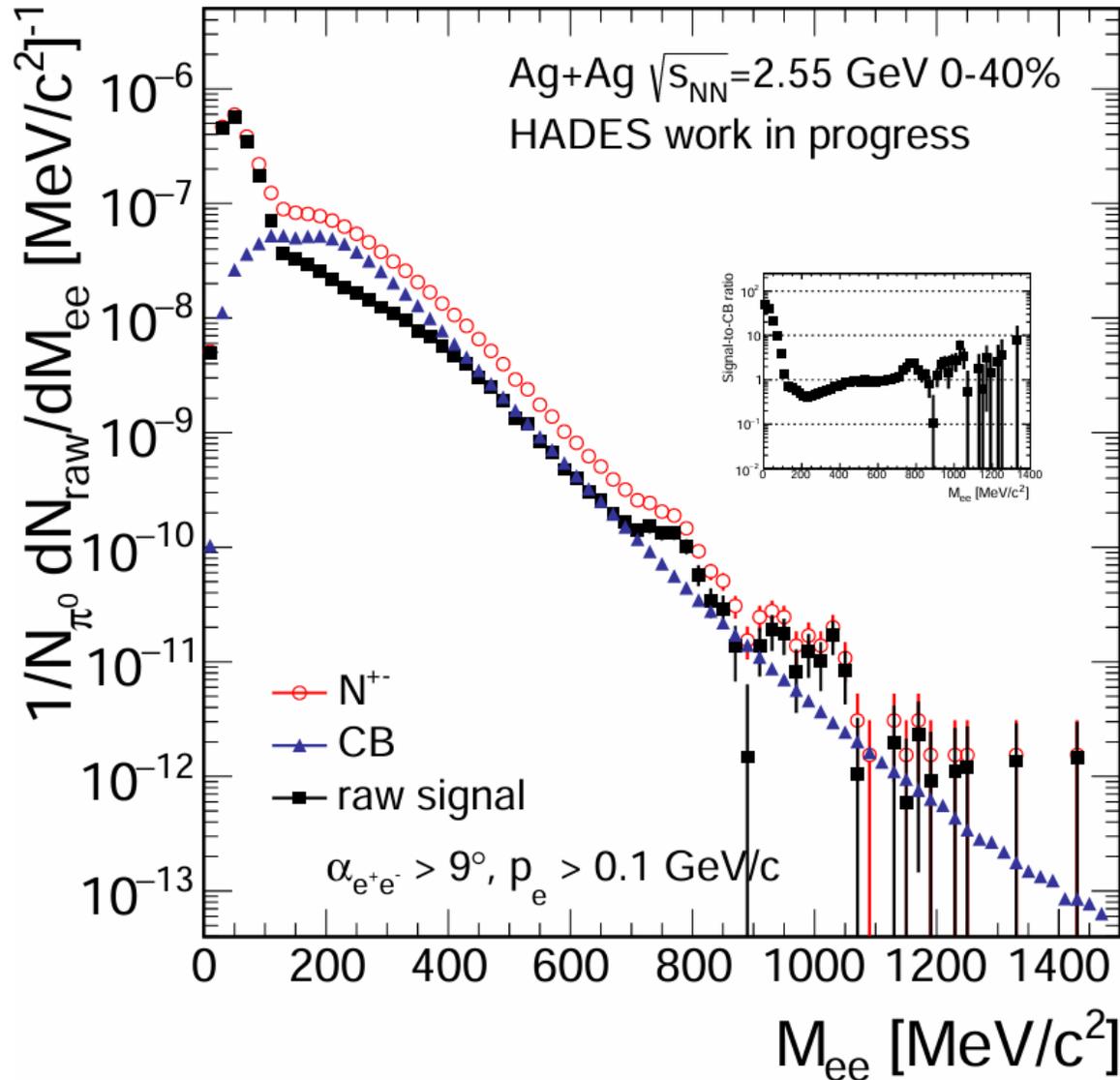
- Unique possibility of characterizing the properties of baryon-rich matter with multi-differential measurements of penetrating probes
 - Establish thermal nature of the radiation
 - Flow, polarization, transport coefficients
 - Microscopic degrees of freedom and possible new phases at high μ_B
- HADES provides high-quality data of the di-electron production in heavy-ion collisions at SIS energy regime
 - (+ proton and light nuclei flow coefficients $v_1 - v_6$)
 - Au+Au at 1.23A GeV, Ag+Ag at 1.58 and 1.23A GeV
 - Energy scan: Au+Au at 200-400-600-800A MeV in March 2025 (including a dedicated run with low magnetic field)
- Big discovery potential with CBM in the near future



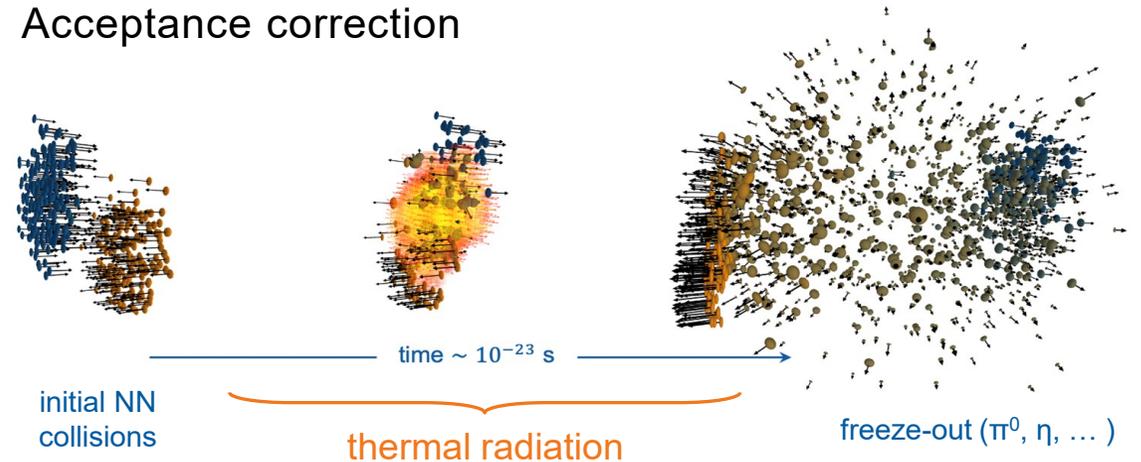
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BACKUP

STEPS TO ISOLATE THERMAL RADIATION

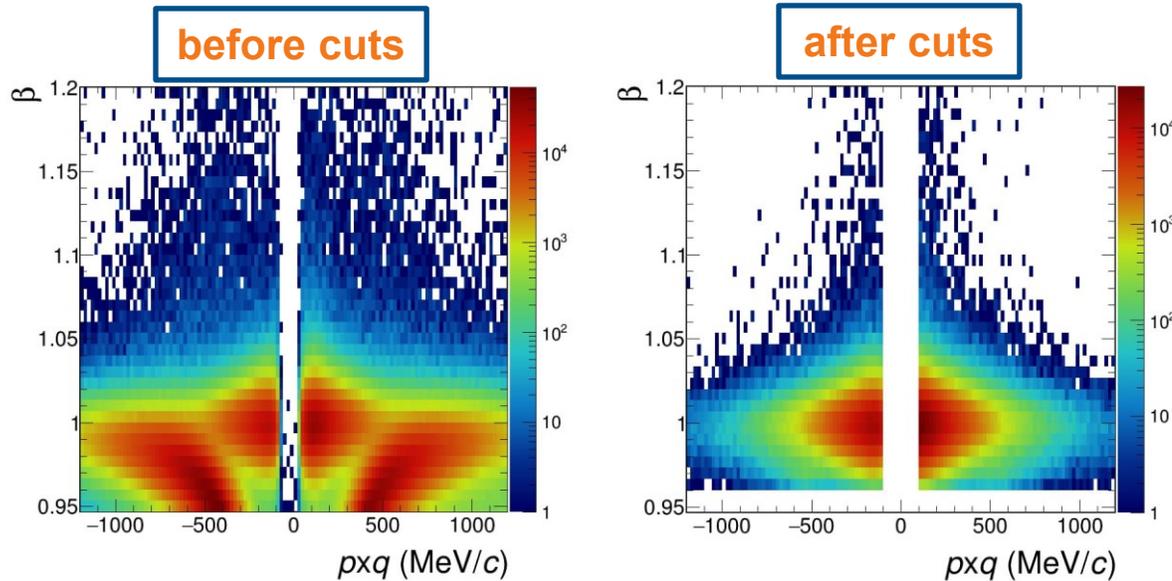
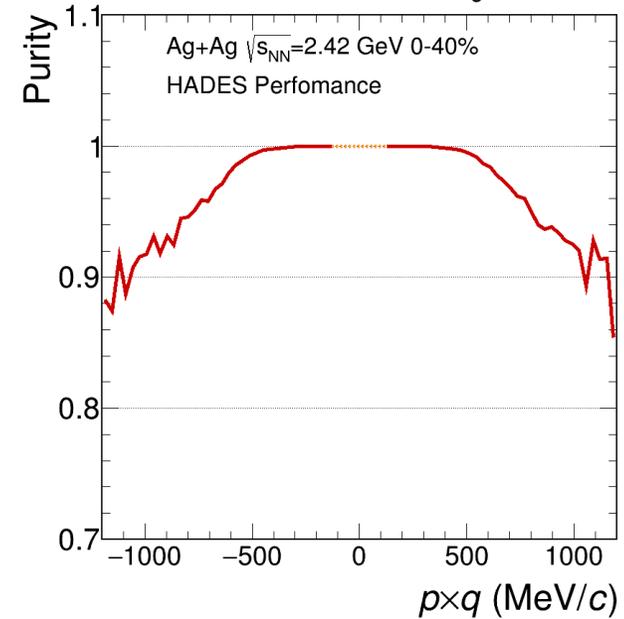
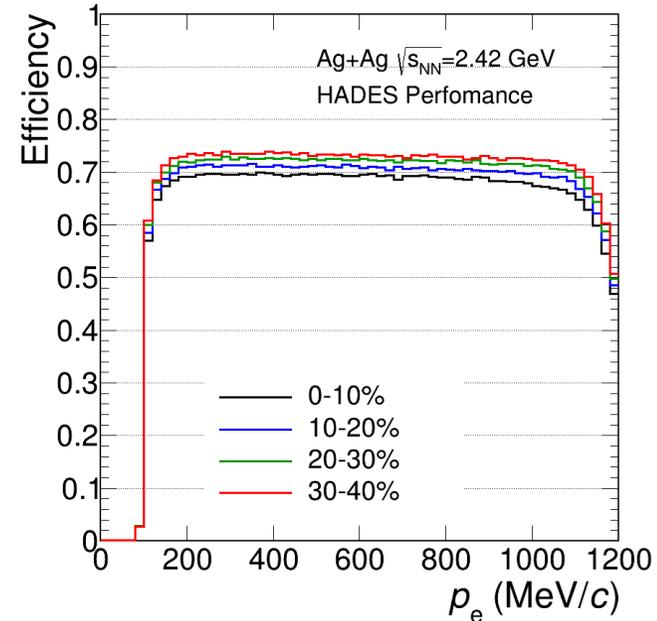


- RICH photodetector upgrade
 - Employing CBM at FAIR technology (CBM FAIR phase-0)
- Efficiency correction
- NN reference subtraction
- Freeze-out cocktail subtraction
 - Simulated using Pluto event generator with measured/estimated multiplicities
- Acceptance correction



HADES LEPTON IDENTIFICATION PERFORMANCE

- Reconstruction efficiency $\sim 70\%$
- Purity above 90%
- Hadron suppression of $\sim 10^{-5}$
- Ag+Ag run in 2019
 - $N_{y_*}^{rec} \approx 1.5 \cdot 10^6$ for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV (28 days)
 - $N_{y_*}^{rec} \approx 1.5 \cdot 10^5$ for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$ GeV (3 days)

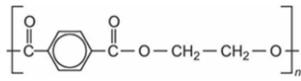


MEASUREMENT OF NN REFERENCE IN HADES

- p+p and d+p collisions at $E_{kin} = 1.25$ GeV
- n+p reaction tagged by triggering on proton spectator

HADES, Phys. Lett. B 690 (2010) 118
 A. Larionov et al., Phys. Rev. C 102 (2021), 064913

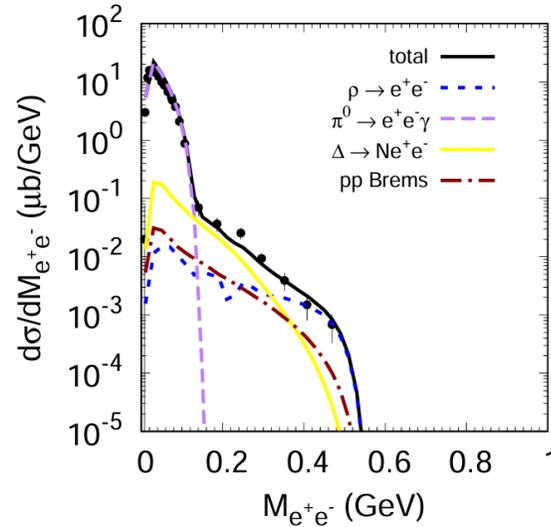
- Ongoing analysis of p+p at $E_{kin} = 1.58$ GeV and 4.5 GeV
- Empty target run p+C/p/O as proxy for p+p/p+n



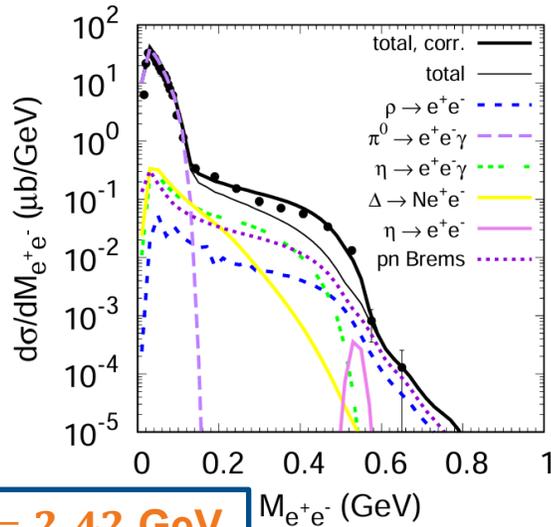
Mylar

reference for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$ GeV

p + p, $E = 1.25$ GeV

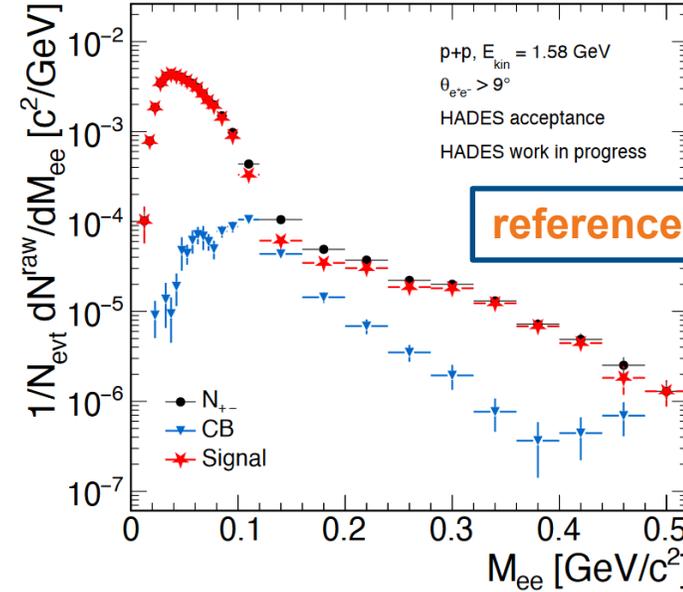


d + p, $E = 1.25$ A GeV

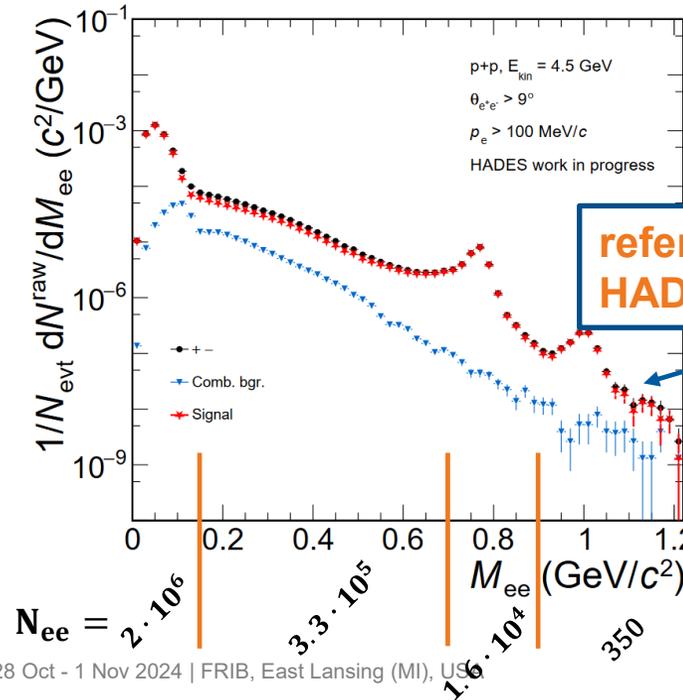


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reference for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV

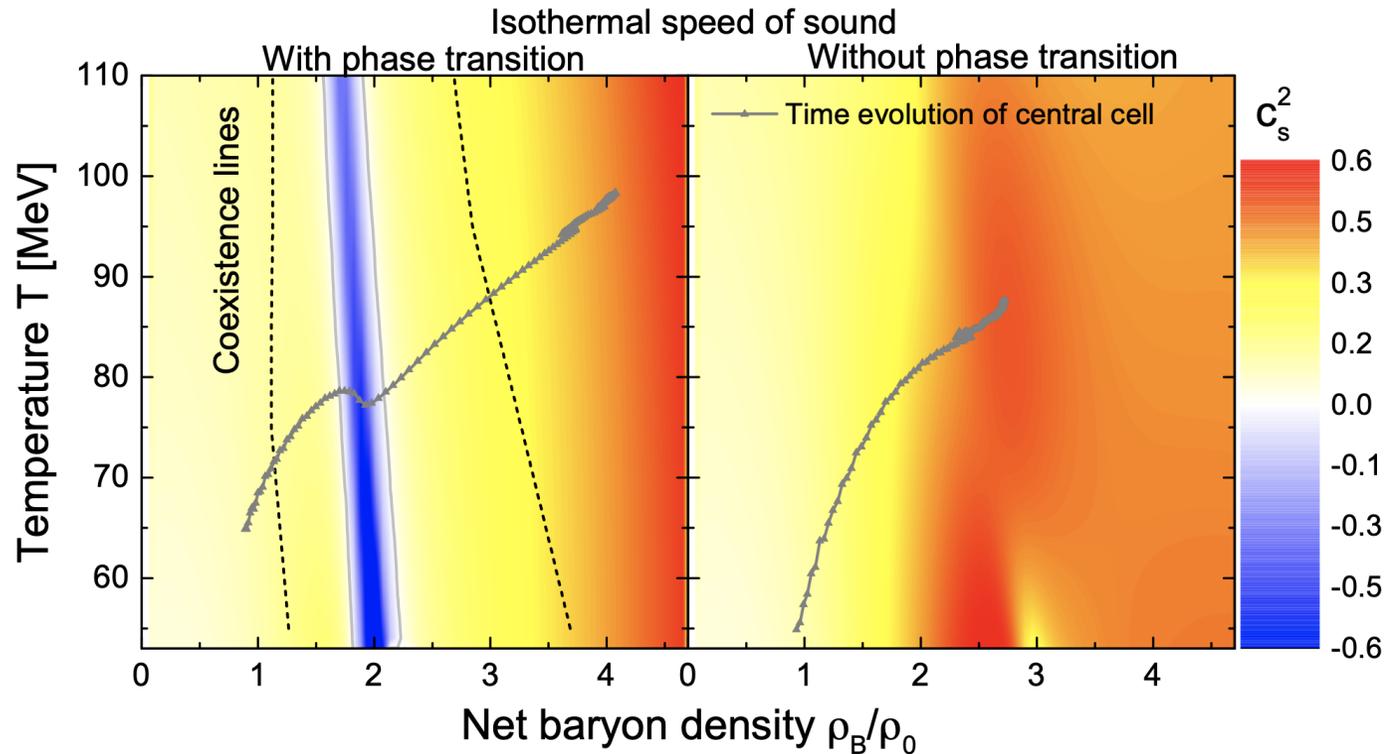


reference for future
 HADES/CBM runs at FAIR

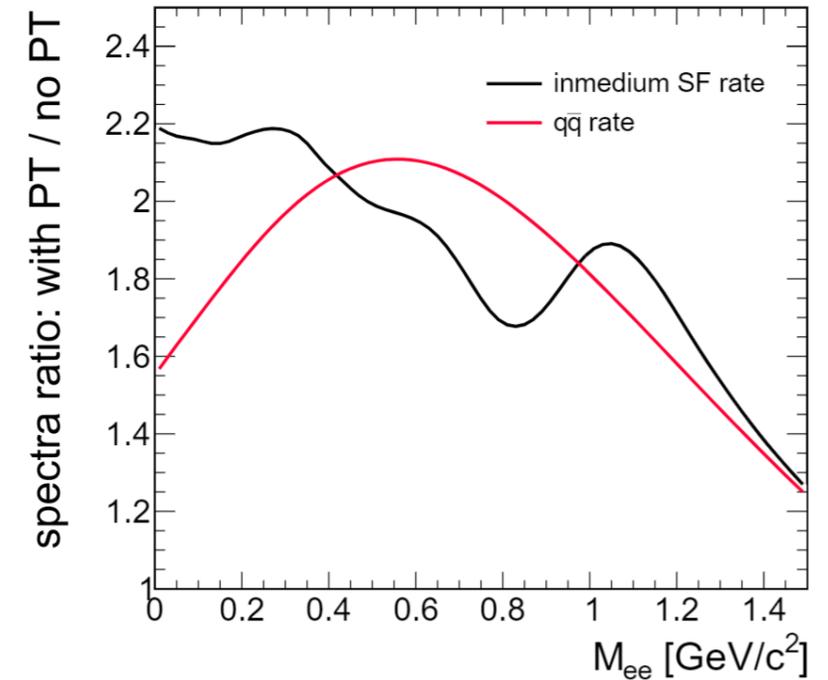


DILEPTON SIGNATURE OF A FIRST ORDER PHASE TRANSITION

- Ideal hydro simulations with and w/o first order nuclear matter – quark matter phase transition
- Chiral Mean Field model that matches lattice QCD at low μ_B and neutron-star constraints at high density



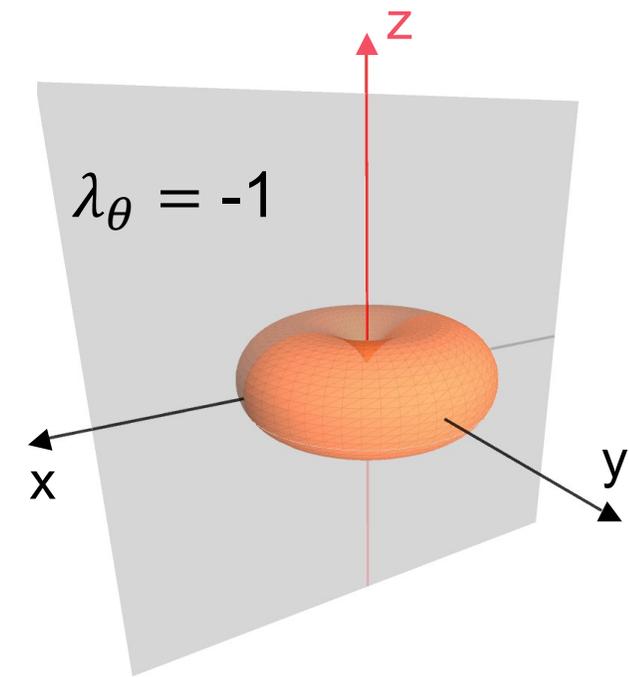
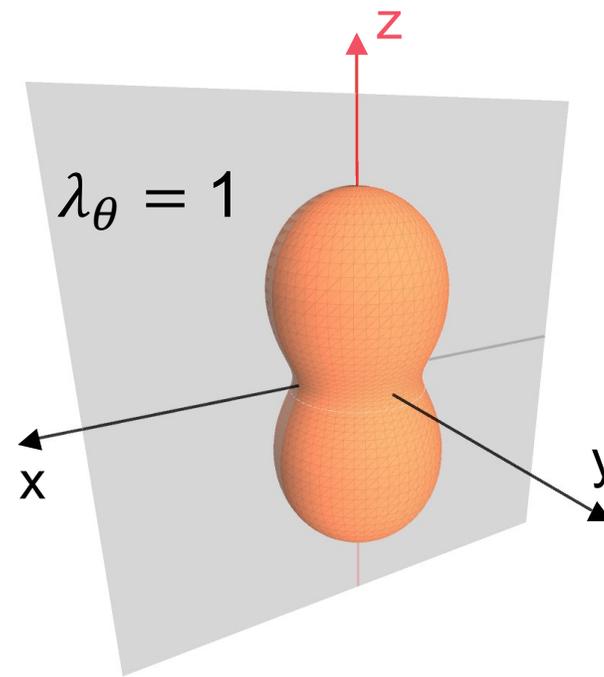
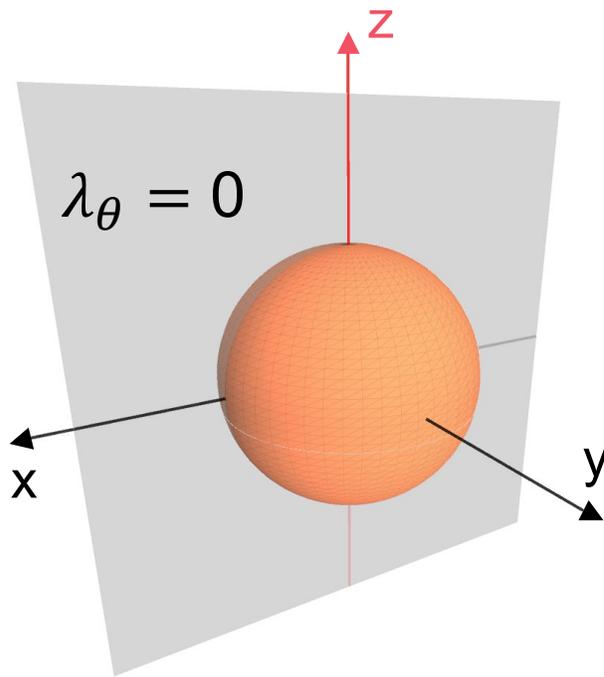
FS et al., Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022) 1, 014904



STATIC THERMAL MEDIUM

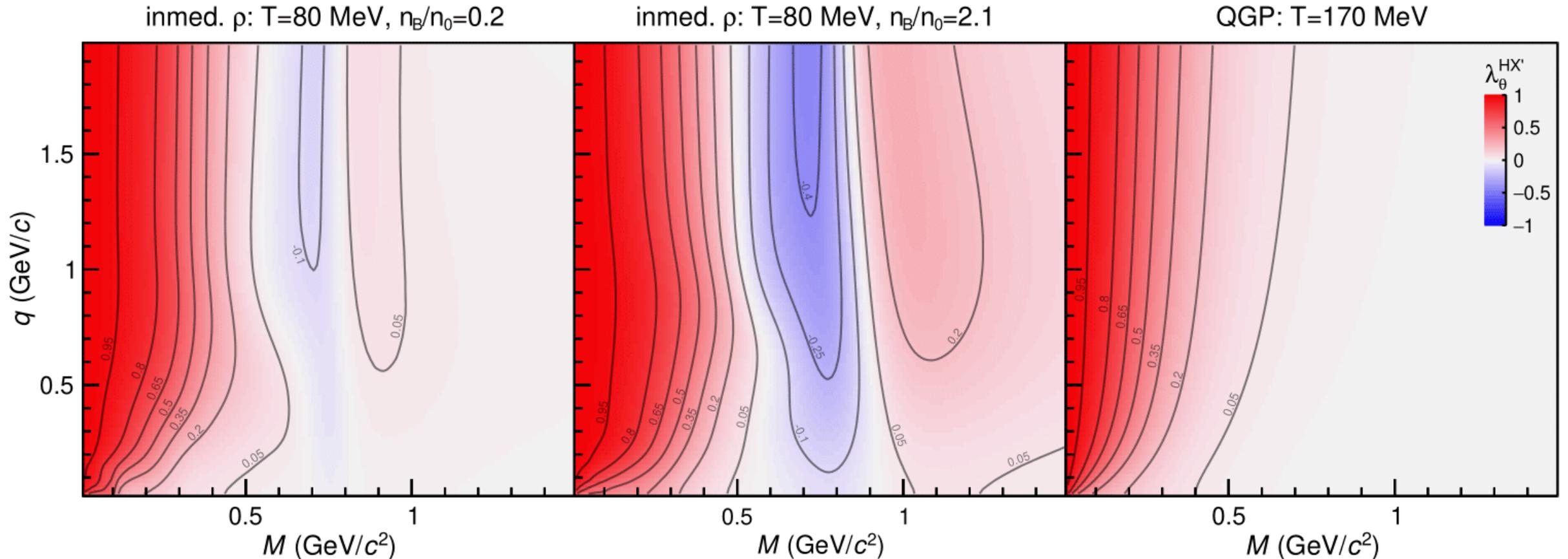
- Rotational symmetry only broken by virtual photon's momentum direction
- In the helicity frame HX the only non-zero coefficient is $\lambda_\theta = \frac{\rho_T - \rho_L}{\rho_T + \rho_L}$

E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)



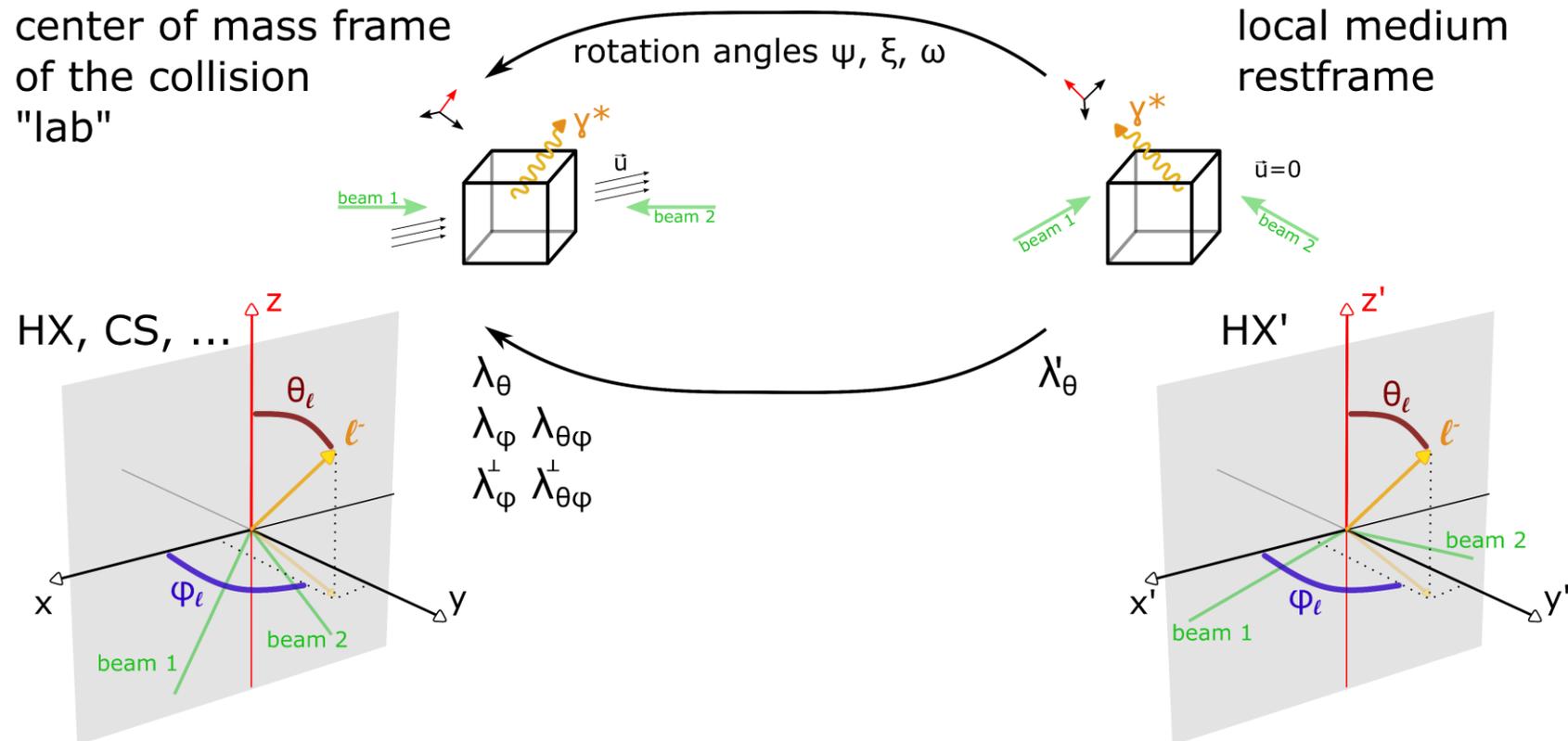
POLARIZATION IN STATIC MEDIUM

- Strong dependence on mass, momentum and baryon density for hadronic medium
- Rather small polarization for QGP except for $M_{ee} < 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ approaching the photon point



POLARIZATION IN MOVING MEDIUM

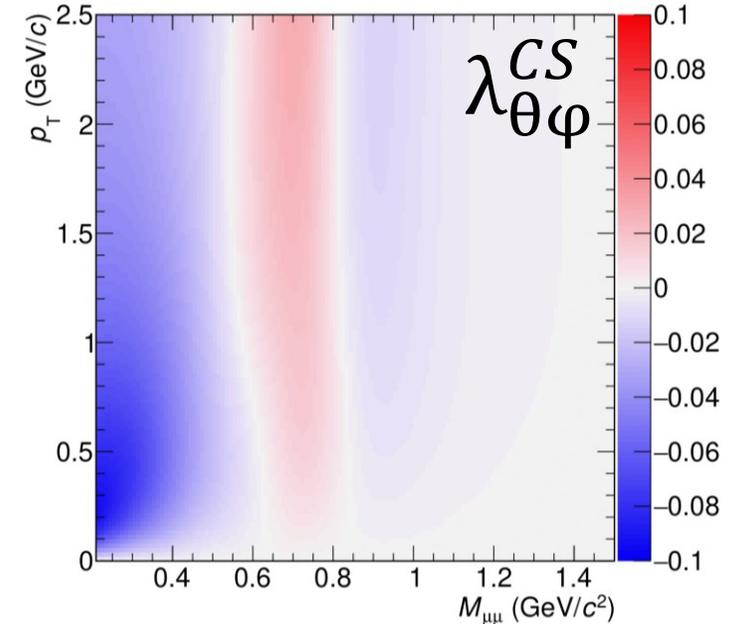
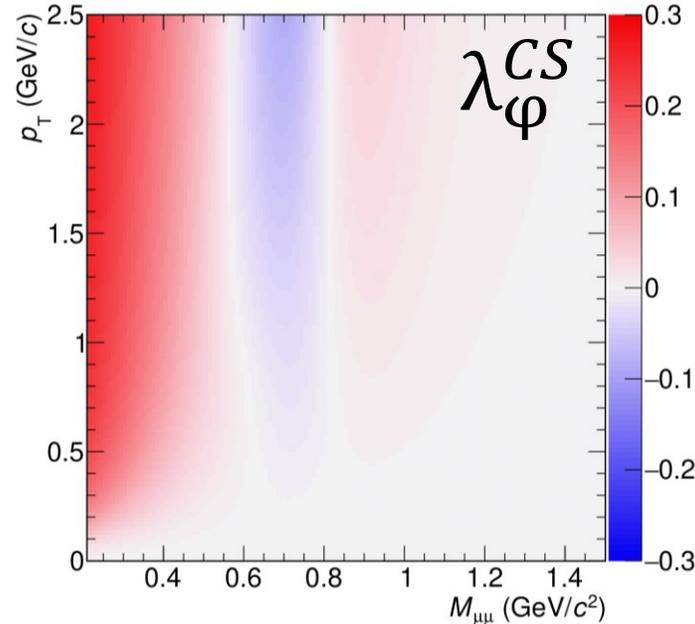
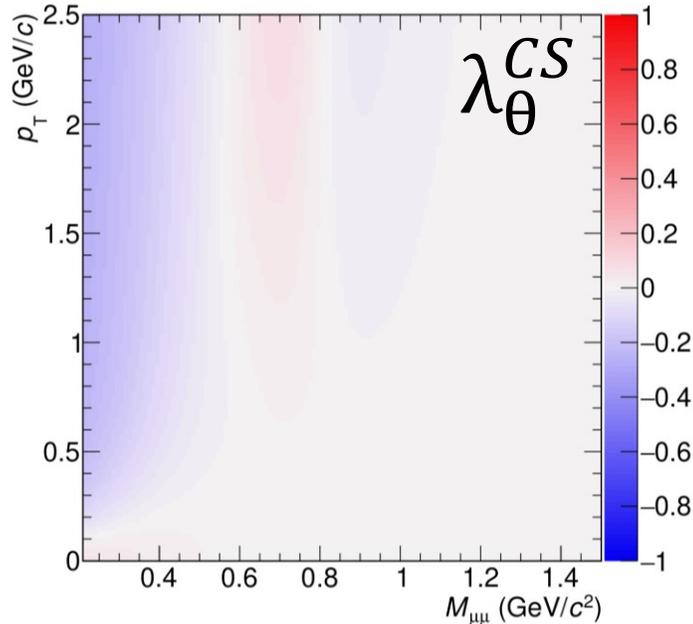
- Helicity frames (HX') of individual local fluid cells misaligned
- Transform local coefficients to global frame \rightarrow accessible to experiment: HX, CS, ...



RESULTS FOR IN+IN COLLISIONS AT SPS ENERGIES

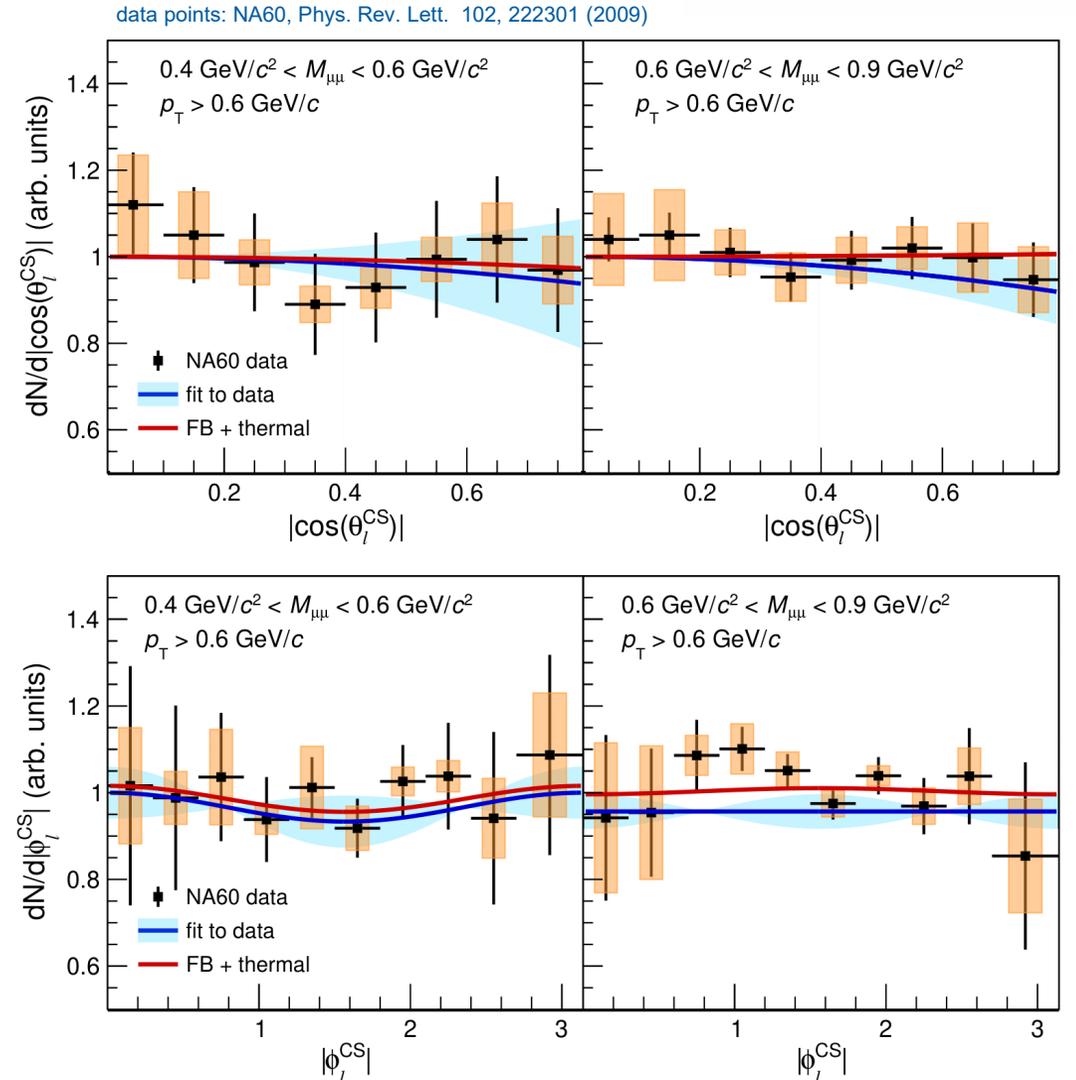
- NA60 measured polarization coefficients λ_θ , λ_φ and $\lambda_{\theta\varphi}$ of excess radiation in the CS frame in In+In collisions at 158 AGeV beam energy
- Space-time evolution via isentropic fireball model with transition from QGP to hadronic rates at $T=170$ MeV
- Strong dependence on the polarization frame as function of mass and momentum

NA60, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 162302 (2006)
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)



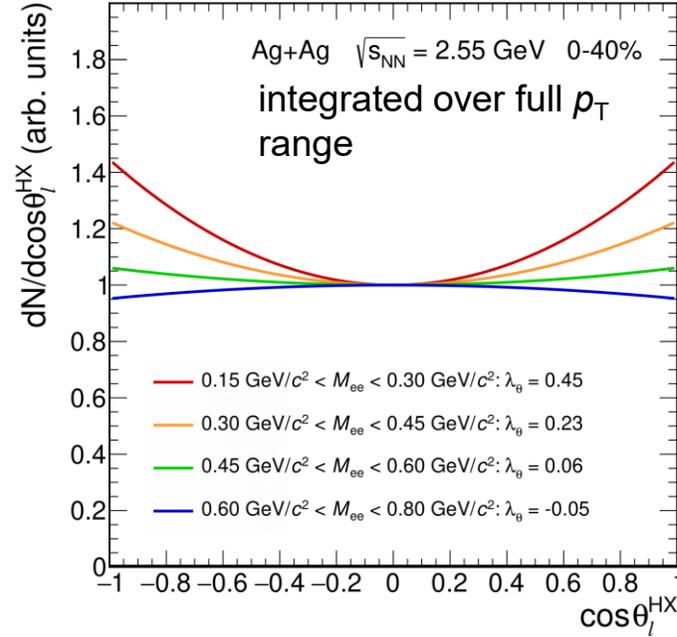
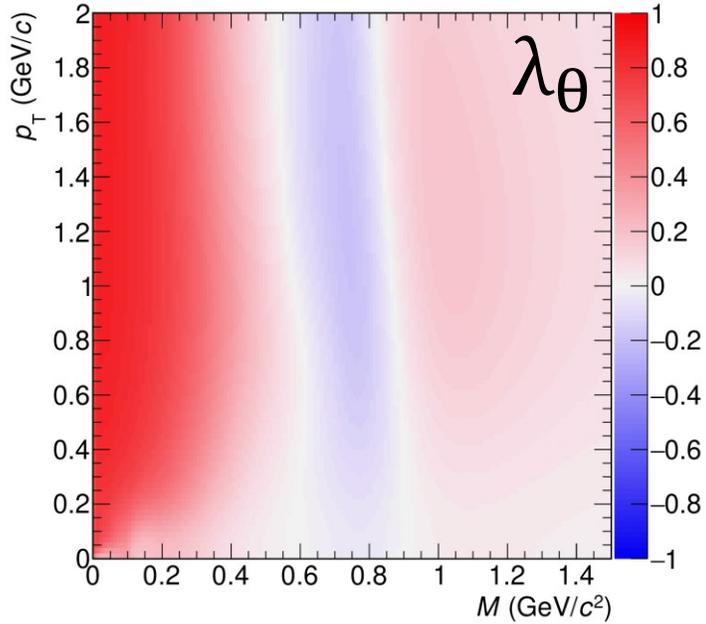
COMPARISON TO NA60 DATA

- Good agreement between data and theory → size and trend
- Near absence of a net polarization
 - not related to thermal isotropy arguments
 - thermal properties of the EM spectral function
- **Best fit** to data gives $\lambda_\theta = -0.10 \pm 0.24$ and $\lambda_\theta = -0.13 \pm 0.12$ in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in $\lambda_\theta = -0.04$ and $\lambda_\theta = 0.01$ respectively
- **Best fit** to data gives $\lambda_\phi = 0.05 \pm 0.09$ and $\lambda_\phi = 0.00 \pm 0.06$ in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in $\lambda_\phi = 0.04$ and $\lambda_\phi = -0.01$ respectively
- **Best fit** to data gives $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = -0.04 \pm 0.10$ and $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = 0.05 \pm 0.03$ in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = -0.02$ and $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = 0.01$ respectively

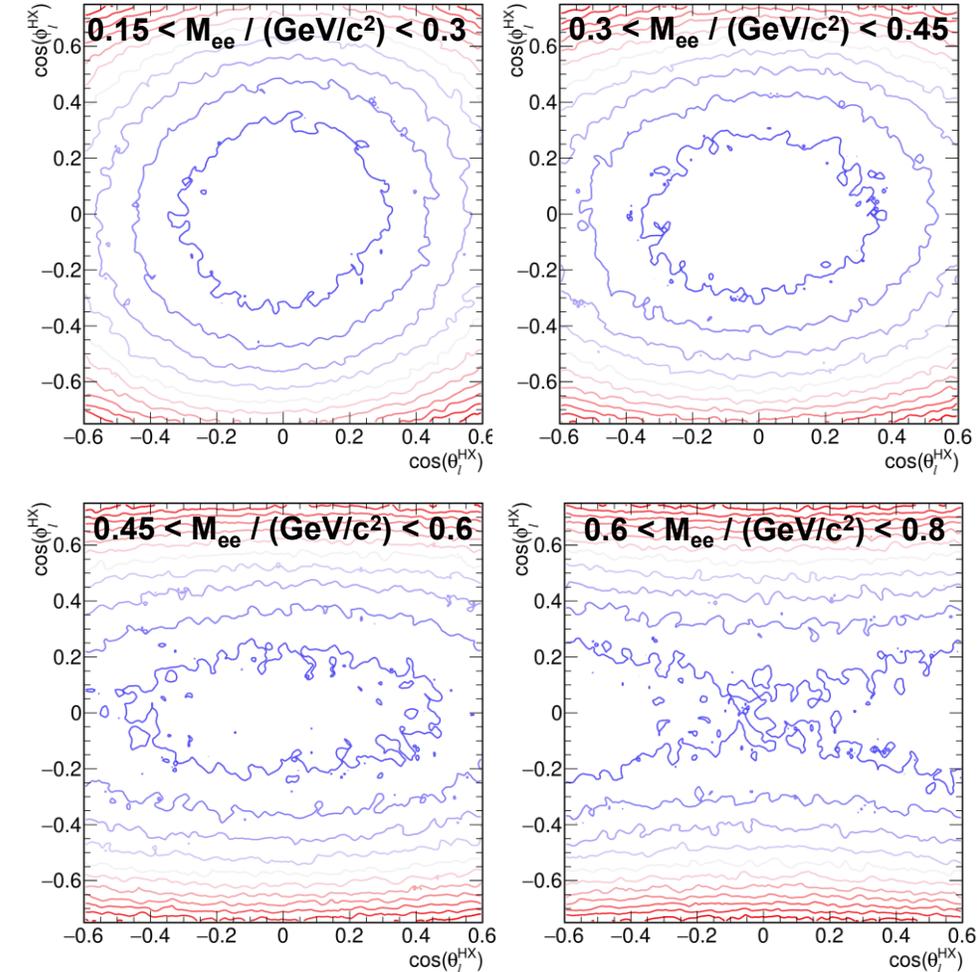


PREDICTIONS FOR AG+AG COLLISIONS & FUTURE EXPERIMENTS

- Predictions for λ_θ in Ag+Ag at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV
- Anisotropy coefficients integrated over p_T in several mass ranges



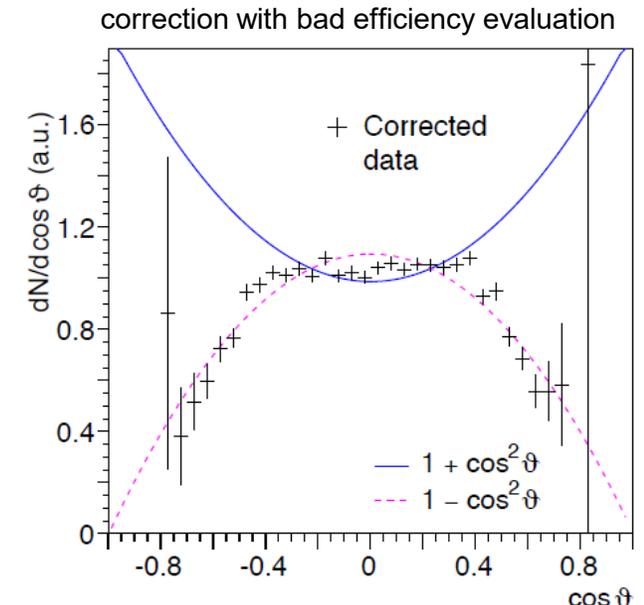
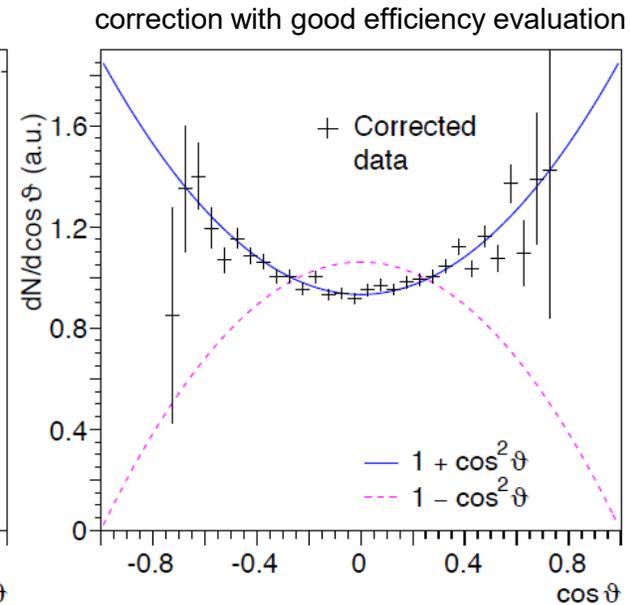
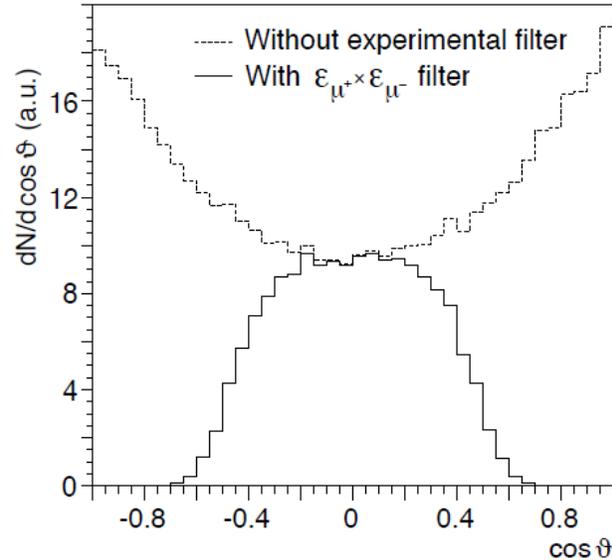
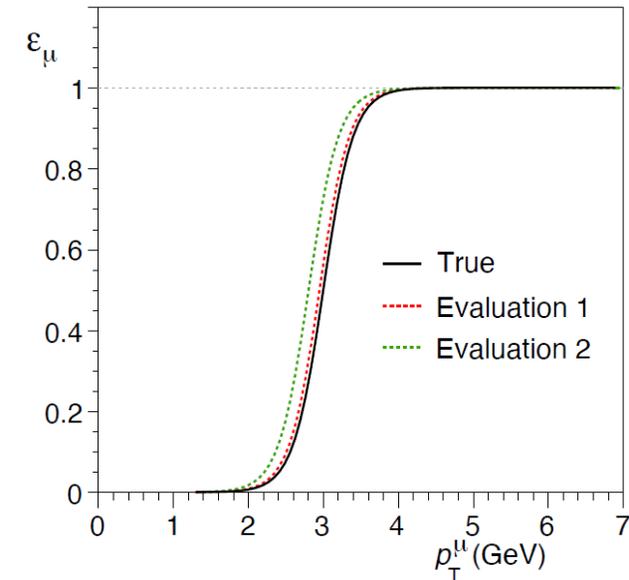
$p_T > 0.5$ GeV/c



- Multi-differential measurements of the virtual photon polarization
 - large datasets needed: CBM, NA60+ and ALICE3
 - Search for onset of QGP
 - ρ - a_1 mixing vs. QGP around $M_{ee} \sim 1.1$ GeV

EXPERIMENTAL DIFFICULTIES

- Virtual photon polarization influences detection efficiency
- Efficiency + acceptance corrections need to be done carefully
- Wrong efficiency evaluation can lead to wrong sign of polarization



PROSPECT OF DISENTANGLING HADRONIC AND PARTONIC SOURCES

- Polarization plays important role in exploring the mechanisms underlying EM emission
- Multi-differential measurements of the virtual photon polarization
 - resolve mass, p_T , rapidity, lepton emission angles $\theta_l, \varphi_l \rightarrow$ large datasets needed
 - future high-rate experiments CBM, NA60+ and ALICE3

