

# **The earliest phase of relativistic heavy-ion collisions**

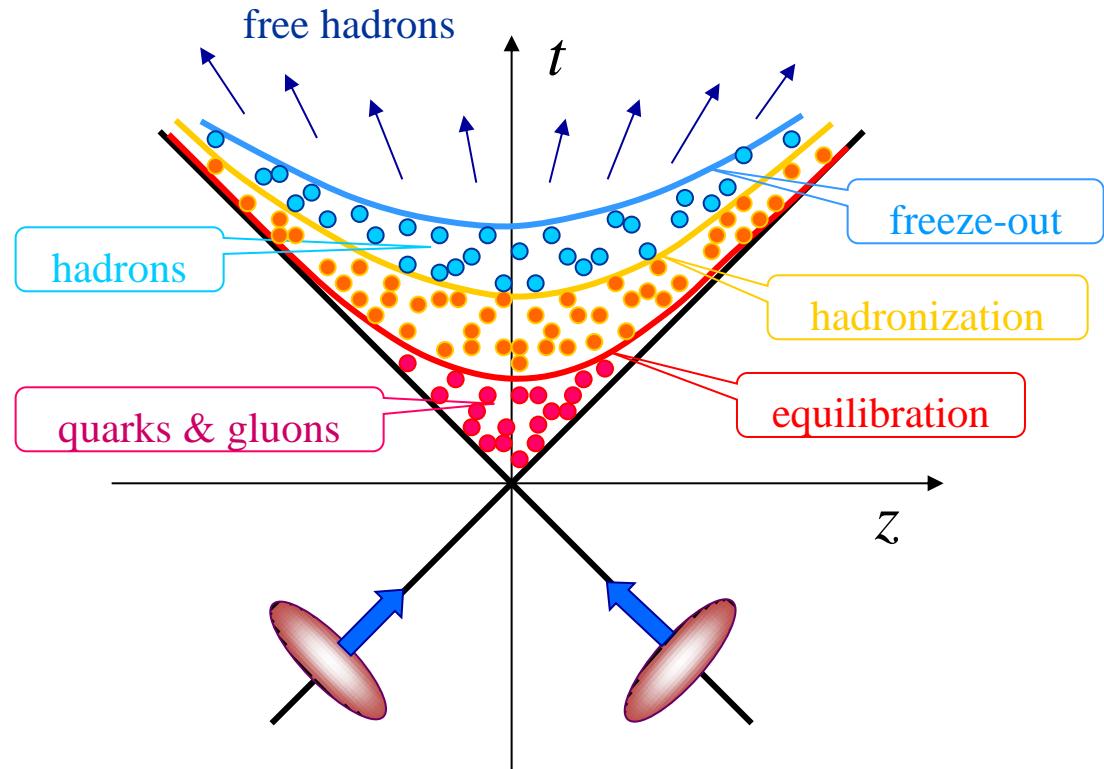
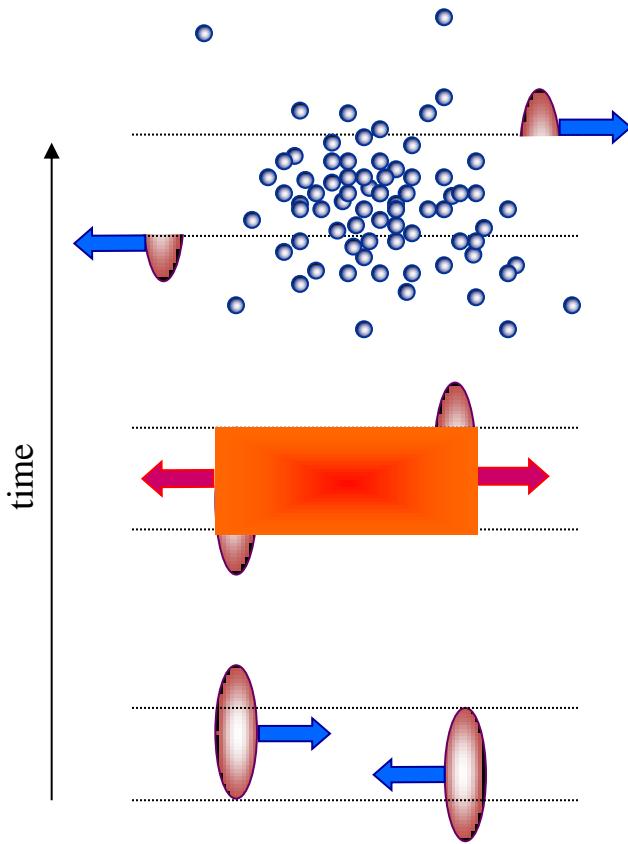
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**Alina Czajka, Wade Cowie, Bryce Friesen,  
Jean-Yves Ollitrault and Doug Pickering**

# Scenario of relativistic heavy-ion collisions

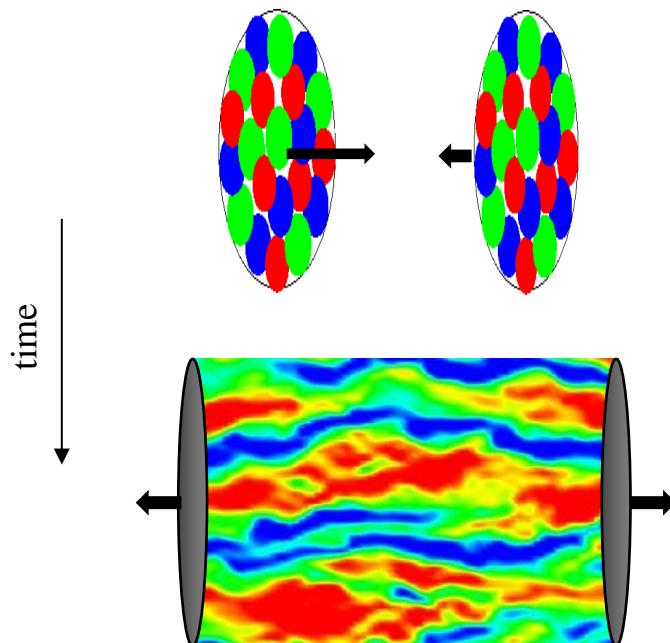


# Leitmotif of this talk

*The earliest phase of relativistic heavy-ion collisions, when the produced matter is maximally anisotropic, has record high energy density, and its dynamics is strongly nonlinear, does not merely provide the initial condition for the further hydrodynamic evolution of the system, but many phenomena observed in the collision final state have their origin in this phase.*

# Color Glass Condensate

Color charges confined in the colliding nuclei generate **glasma** – the system of strong mostly classical chromodynamic fields which evolves towards equilibrium.



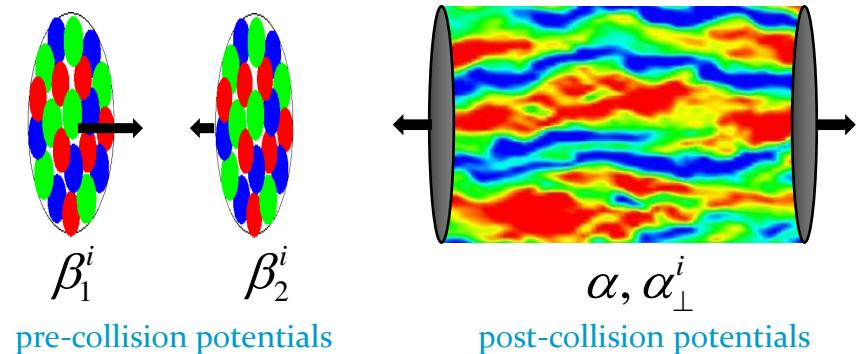
# Color Glass Condensate

Classical Yang-Mills equation

$$D_\mu F^{\mu\nu}(x) = j^\nu(x)$$

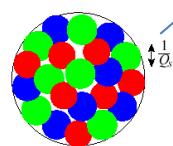
$$j^\mu(x) = j_1^\mu(x) + j_2^\mu(x)$$

$$j_{1,2}^\mu(x) = \pm \delta^{\mu\mp} \delta(x^\pm) \rho_{1,2}(\mathbf{x}_\perp)$$



Ansatz of gauge potentials

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A^+(x) = \Theta(x^+) \Theta(x^-) x^+ \alpha(\tau, \mathbf{x}_\perp) \\ A^-(x) = -\Theta(x^+) \Theta(x^-) x^- \alpha(\tau, \mathbf{x}_\perp) \\ A^i(x) = \Theta(x^+) \Theta(x^-) \alpha_\perp^i(\tau, \mathbf{x}_\perp) \\ \quad + \Theta(-x^+) \Theta(x^-) \beta_1^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) + \Theta(x^+) \Theta(-x^-) \beta_2^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \end{array} \right.$$



Boundary condition

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha(0, \mathbf{x}_\perp) = \beta_1^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) + \beta_2^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \\ \alpha_\perp^i(0, \mathbf{x}_\perp) = -\frac{ig}{2} [\beta_1^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp), \beta_2^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp)] \end{array} \right.$$

Gauge condition

$$x^+ A^- + x^- A^+ = 0$$

# Proper time expansion

$$\alpha(\tau, \mathbf{x}_\perp) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau^n \alpha_{(n)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp), \quad \alpha_\perp^i(\tau, \mathbf{x}_\perp) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau^n \alpha_{\perp(n)}^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp)$$

Proper time  $\tau$  is treated as a small parameter  $\tau \ll Q_s^{-1}$

Yang-Mills equations for the expanded potentials are solved recursively

$$\alpha_{(n)} = \alpha_{\perp(n)}^i = 0 \quad \text{for } n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

0th order - oboundary conditions

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha_{(0)} = -\frac{ig}{2} [\beta_1^i, \beta_2^i] \\ \alpha_{\perp(0)}^i = \beta_1^i + \beta_2^i \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Post-collision potentials are expressed} \\ \text{through pre-collision potentials} \end{array}$$

2nd order

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha_{(2)} = -\frac{ig}{16} [D^j, [D^j, [\beta_1^i, \beta_2^i]]] \\ \alpha_{\perp(2)}^i = \frac{ig}{4} \epsilon^{zij} \epsilon^{zkl} [D^j, [\beta_1^k, \beta_2^l]] \end{array} \right. \quad D^i \equiv \partial^i - ig(\beta_1^i + \beta_2^i)$$

Fully analytic approach!

R. J. Fries, J. I. Kapusta, and Y. Li, arXiv:nucl-th/0604054

G.Chen, R.J. Fries, J.I. Kapusta and Y. Li, Physical Review D 92, 064912 (2015)

# Energy-momentum tensor

►  $T^{\mu\nu} = 2\text{Tr}[F^{\mu\rho}F_\rho^\nu + \frac{1}{4}g^{\mu\nu}F^{\rho\sigma}F_{\rho\sigma}]$

►  $F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu - ig[A^\mu, A^\nu]$

The energy-momentum tensor is symmetric, gauge invariant and obeys

►  $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$

$T^{00}$  - energy density

$T^{0i}$  - energy flux, Poynting vector

$T^{xx}, T^{yy}, T^{zz}$  - pressures

$T^{ij}$  - momentum flux

# Averaging over collisions

$$T^{\mu\nu} \sim \sum \partial^i \partial^j \beta^k \beta^l \dots \beta^m \Rightarrow \langle T^{\mu\nu} \rangle \sim \sum \partial^i \partial^j \langle \beta^k \beta^l \dots \beta^m \rangle$$

The pre-collision potentials in covariant gauge  $\partial_\mu \beta^\mu = 0$  obey

$$-\nabla^2 \beta^+ (\mathbf{x}_\perp) = \rho(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \Rightarrow \beta^+ (\mathbf{x}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2 x'_\perp K_0(m |\mathbf{x}_\perp - \mathbf{x}'_\perp|) \rho(\mathbf{x}'_\perp)$$

IR regulator  $m = \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

The potentials are transformed from the covariant to light-cone gauge  $\beta_1^+ = \beta_2^- = 0$

Wick theorem

$$\boxed{\langle \rho_a^k(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \rho_b^l(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \dots \rho_c^m(\mathbf{z}_\perp) \rangle = \sum \prod \langle \rho_a^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \rho_b^j(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \rangle}$$

Glasma graph approximation

$$\langle \beta_a^k(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \beta_b^l(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \dots \beta_c^m(\mathbf{z}_\perp) \rangle = \sum \prod \langle \beta_a^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \beta_b^j(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \rangle = \sum \prod B_{ab}^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, \mathbf{y}_\perp)$$

# Basic correlator

$$B_{ab}^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, \mathbf{y}_\perp) \equiv \langle \beta_a^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \beta_b^j(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \rangle = \int d^2x'_\perp d^2y'_\perp \dots \dots \langle \rho_a^i(\mathbf{x}'_\perp) \rho_b^j(\mathbf{y}'_\perp) \rangle$$

$$\langle \rho_a^i(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \rho_b^j(\mathbf{y}_\perp) \rangle = g^2 \mu(\mathbf{x}_\perp) \delta^{ab} \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp - \mathbf{y}_\perp)$$

color charge surface density  
 $\mu = g^{-4} Q_s^2$

Projected Woods-Saxon distribution

$$\mu(\mathbf{x}_\perp) = \frac{\bar{\mu}}{\ln(1 + e^{R_A/a})} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{1 + \exp\left[\left(\sqrt{\mathbf{x}_\perp^2 + z^2} - R_A\right)/a\right]}$$

System uniform in the transverse plane

$$B_{ab}^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, \mathbf{y}_\perp) = \delta^{ab} f^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_\perp - \mathbf{y}_\perp) = \delta^{ab} f^{ij}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_\perp + \mathbf{y}_\perp) \\ \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x}_\perp - \mathbf{y}_\perp \end{cases}$$

System weakly nonuniform in the transverse plane

$$B_{ab}^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, \mathbf{y}_\perp) = \delta^{ab} f^{ij}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}) \approx \text{``gradient expansion in } \mathbf{R''}$$

# Numerical results

Pb-Pb collisions at LHC

$$N_c = 3$$

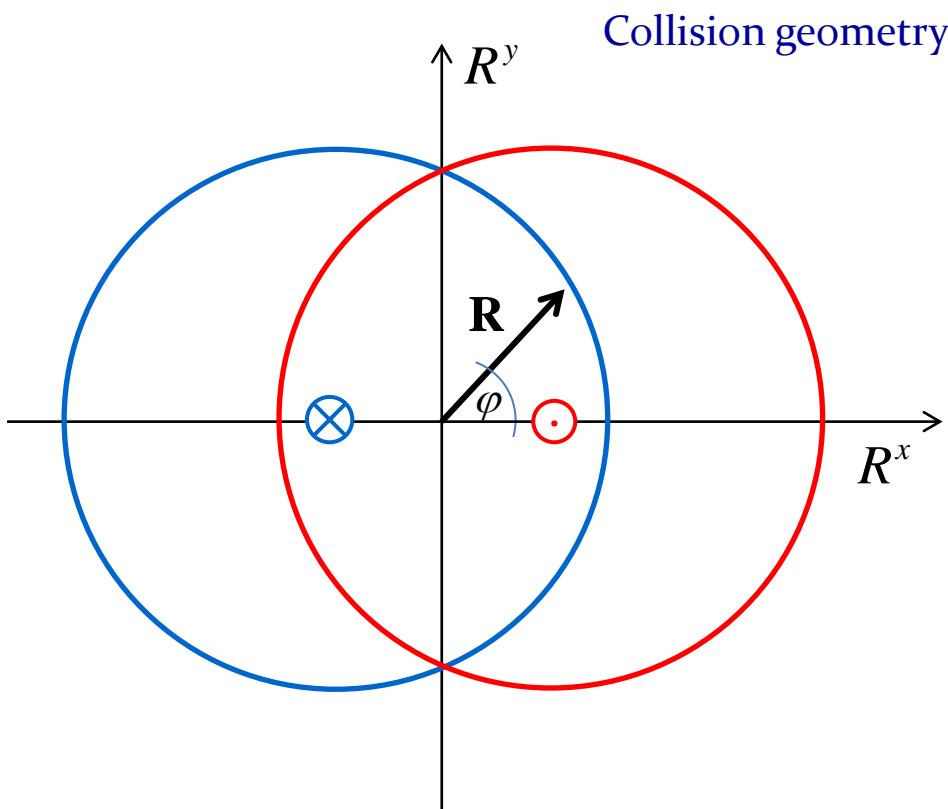
$$g = 1$$

$$Q_s = 2 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m = 0.2 \text{ GeV}$$

$$R_A = 7.4 \text{ fm}$$

$$a = 0.5 \text{ fm}$$

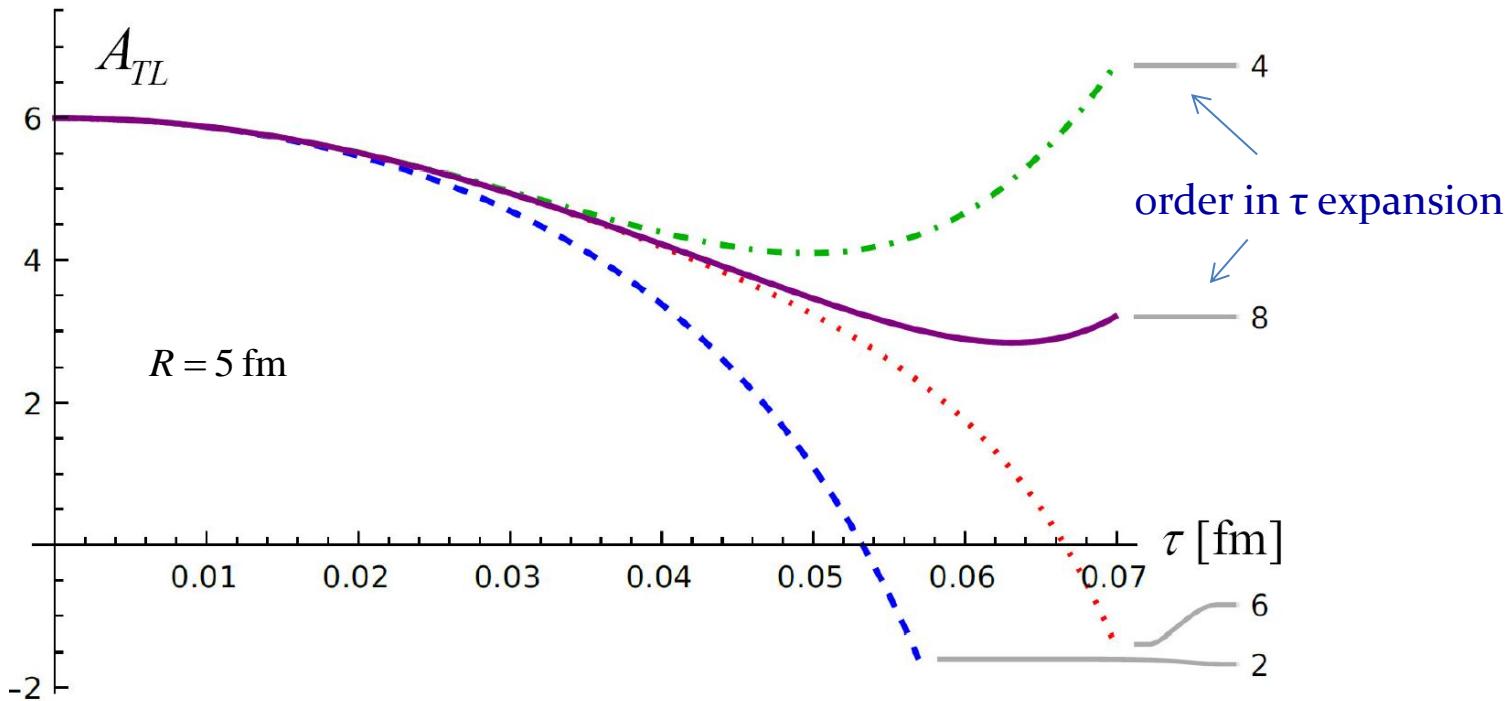


# Anisotropy

Central Pb-Pb collisions

$$A_{TL} \equiv \frac{3(p_T - p_L)}{2p_T + p_L} \quad p_T \equiv \langle T^{xx} \rangle, \quad p_L \equiv \langle T^{zz} \rangle$$

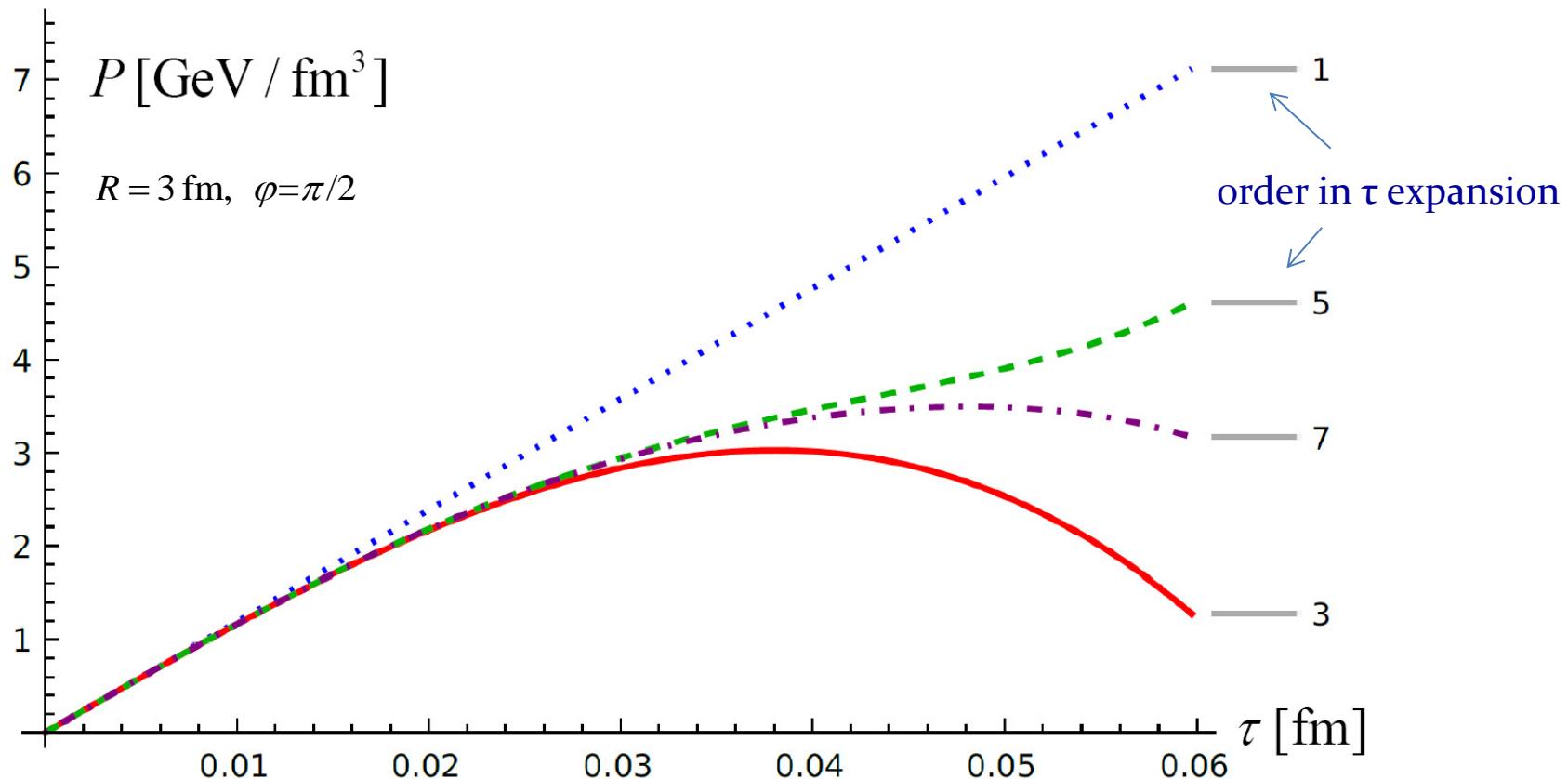
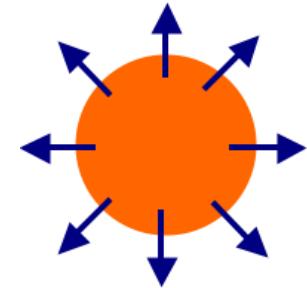
$$\tau = 0 \Rightarrow p_T = -p_L = \varepsilon \Rightarrow A_{TL} = 6$$



# Radial flow

Pb-Pb collisions at  $b = 6$  fm

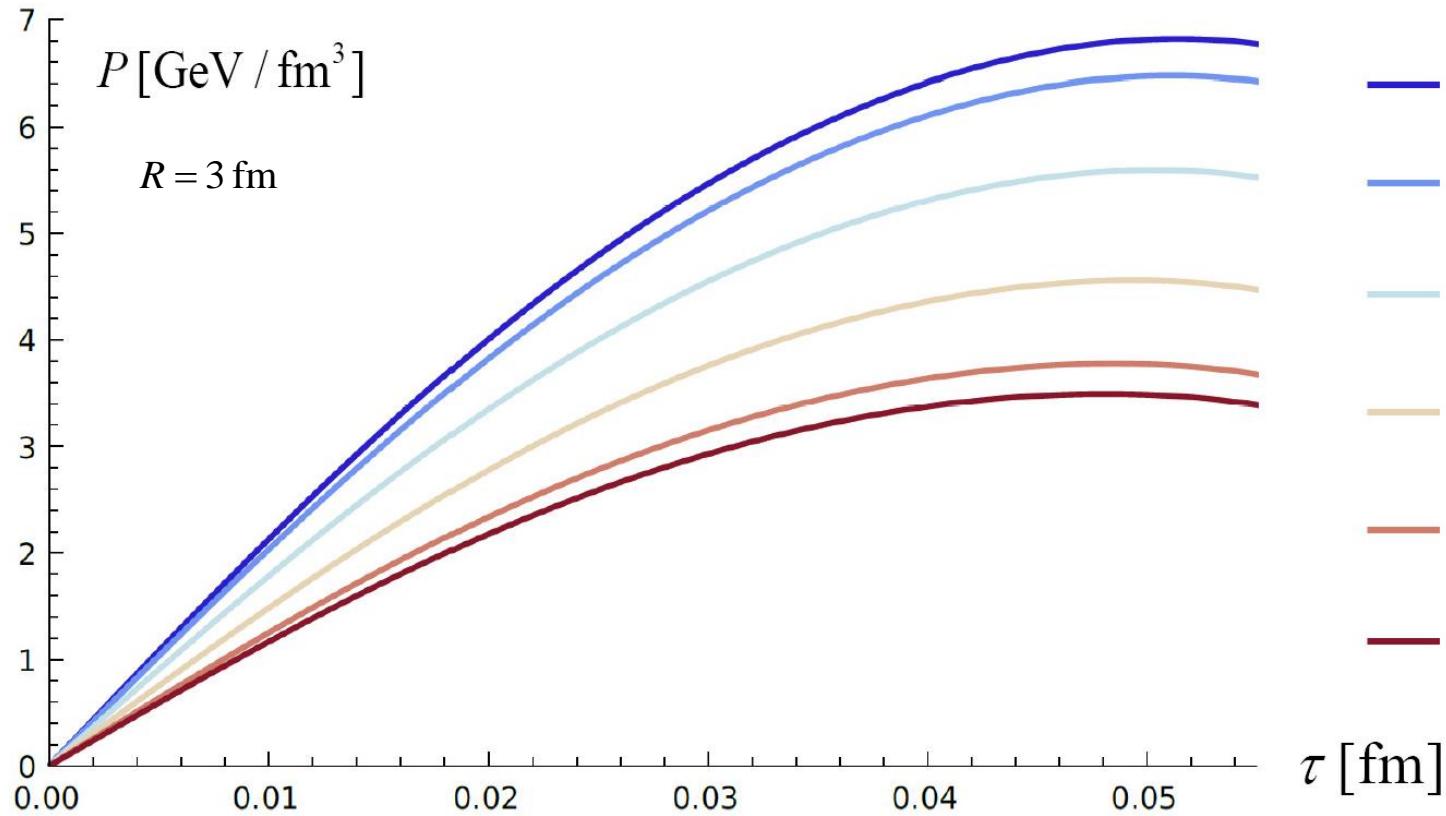
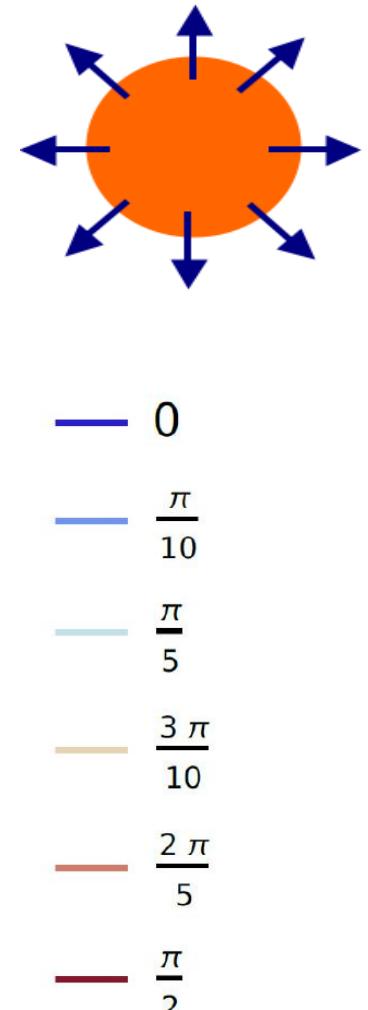
$$P \equiv R^i T^{0i}$$



# Radial flow cont.

Pb-Pb collisions at  $b = 6$  fm

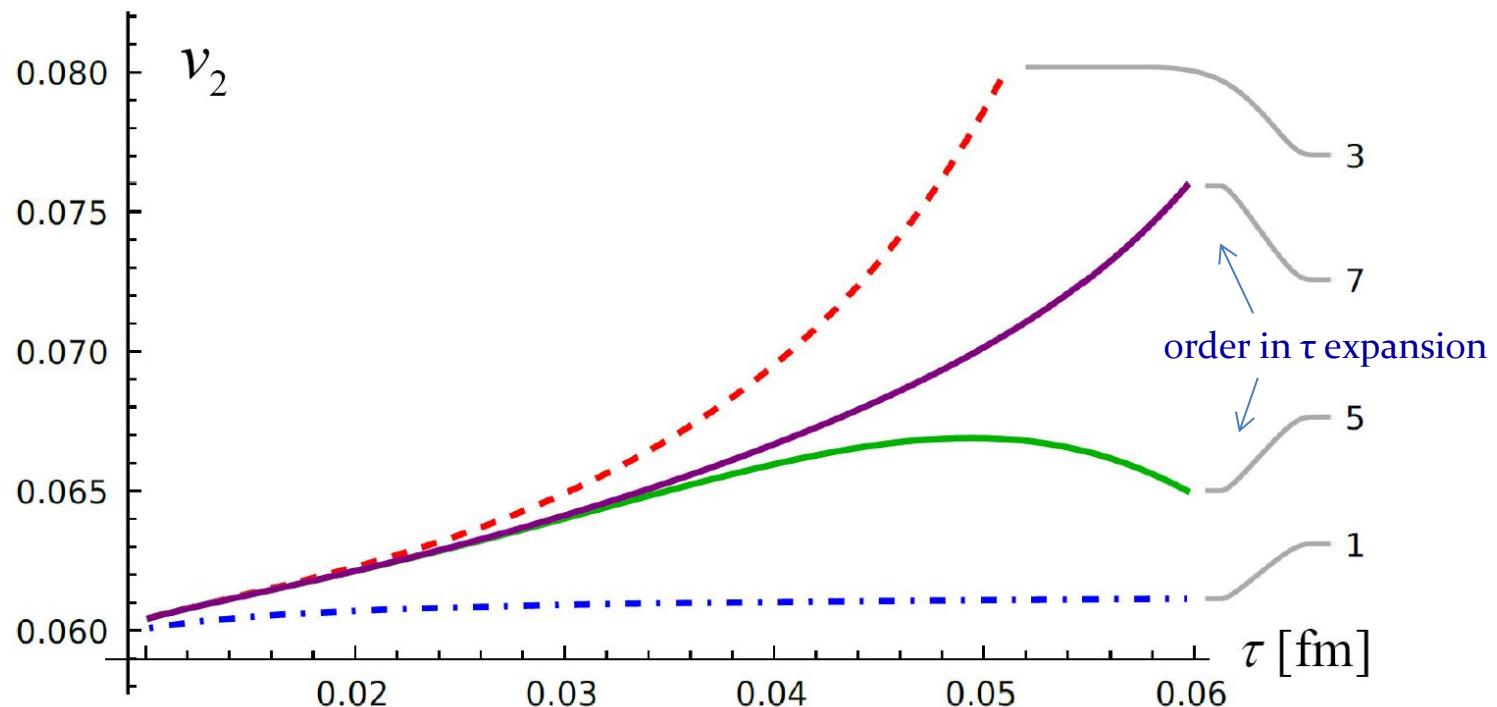
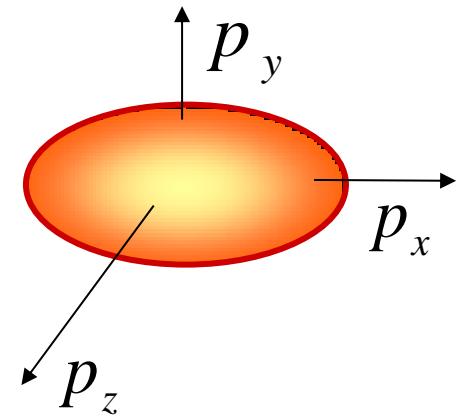
$$P \equiv R^i T^{0i}$$



# Elliptic flow

Pb-Pb collisions at  $b = 2$  fm

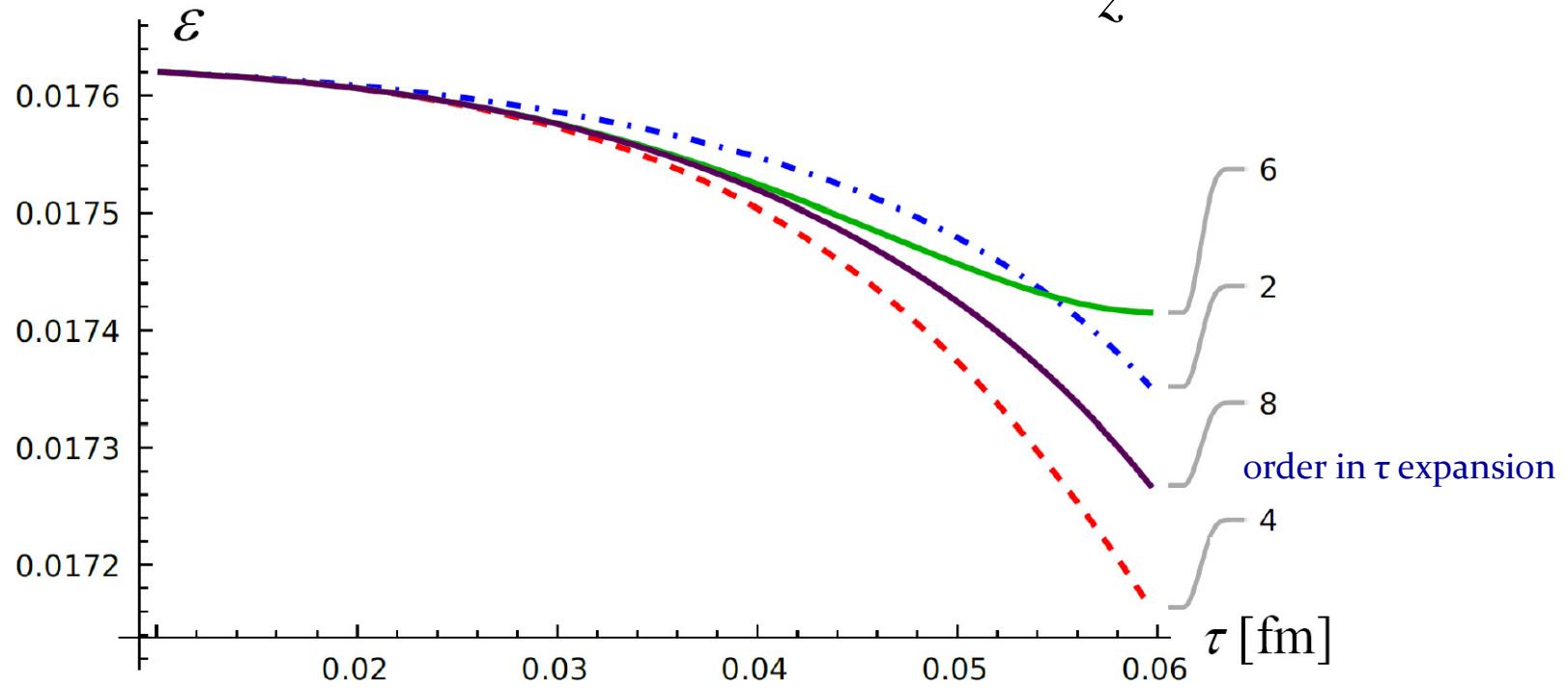
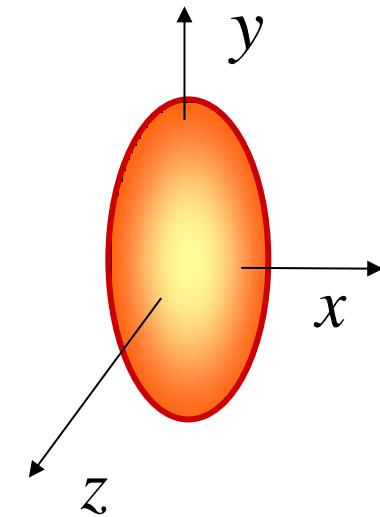
$$v_2 = \frac{\int d^2R \frac{T_{0x}^2 - T_{0y}^2}{\sqrt{T_{0x}^2 + T_{0y}^2}}}{\int d^2R \sqrt{T_{0x}^2 + T_{0y}^2}}$$



# Eccentricity

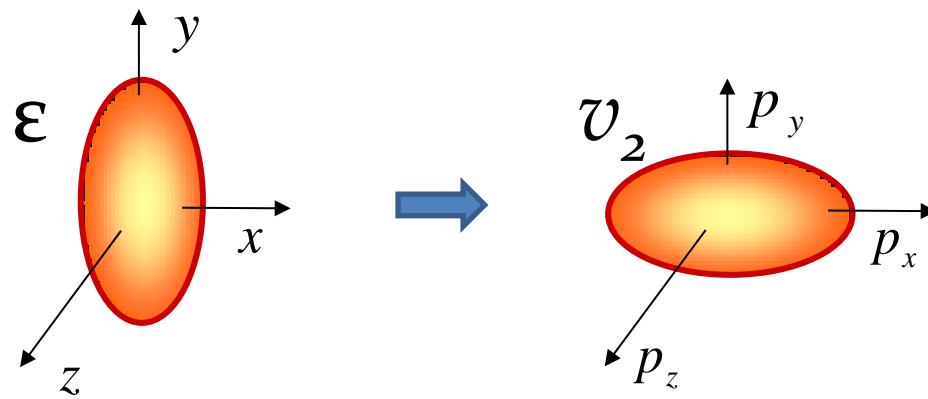
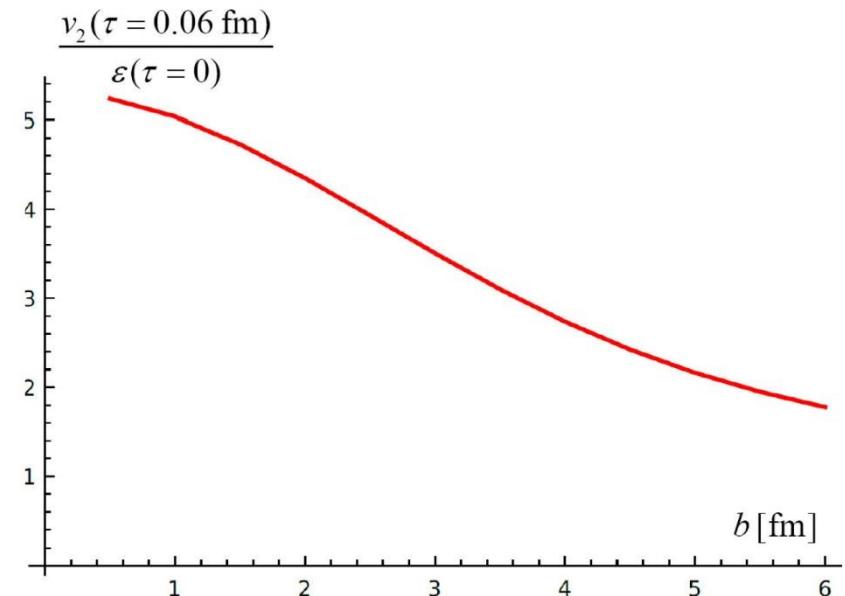
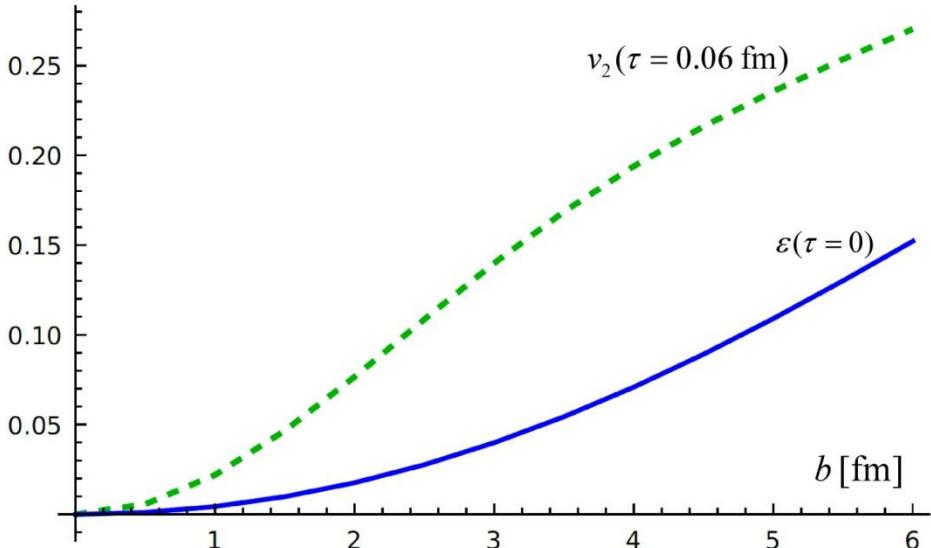
Pb-Pb collisions at  $b = 2$  fm

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\int d^2R \frac{R_x^2 - R_y^2}{\sqrt{R_x^2 + R_y^2}} T^{00}}{\int d^2R \sqrt{R_x^2 + R_y^2} T^{00}}$$



# Hydrodynamic-like behavior

Pb-Pb collisions



# Universal flow

Continuity equation:  $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$

- short-time evolution
- $T^{\mu\nu}(\tau = 0) = \text{diag}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon, \varepsilon, -\varepsilon)$
- boost invariance

$$T^{tx} \approx -\frac{1}{2}\tau \frac{\partial T^{tt}}{\partial x}$$

## Universal flow of glasma

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tau^n T_n^{\mu\nu}$$

$$T_{n+1}^{tx} = -\frac{1}{2}\tau \frac{\partial T_n^{tt}}{\partial x}$$

$$n = 1, 2, \dots 7$$

J. Vredevoogd and S. Pratt,  
Phys. Rev. C 79, 044915 (2009)

M. Carrington, St. Mrówczyński and  
J.-Y. Ollitrault, Phys. Rev. C 110, 054903 (2024)

# Hydrodynamic-like behavior

Mapping of glasma  $T_{\text{glasma}}^{\mu\nu}(\tau, \mathbf{x}_T)$  on hydrodynamic  $T_{\text{hydro}}^{\mu\nu}(\tau, \mathbf{x}_T)$

Eigenvalue problem:

$$T_{\text{glasma}}^{\mu\nu} w_\nu = \lambda w^\mu$$

Ideal hydrodynamics

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\varepsilon + p)u^\mu u^\nu - p g^{\mu\nu} \quad T^\mu{}_\mu = 0 \Rightarrow p = \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} u_\nu = \varepsilon u^\mu$$

Anisotropic hydrodynamics

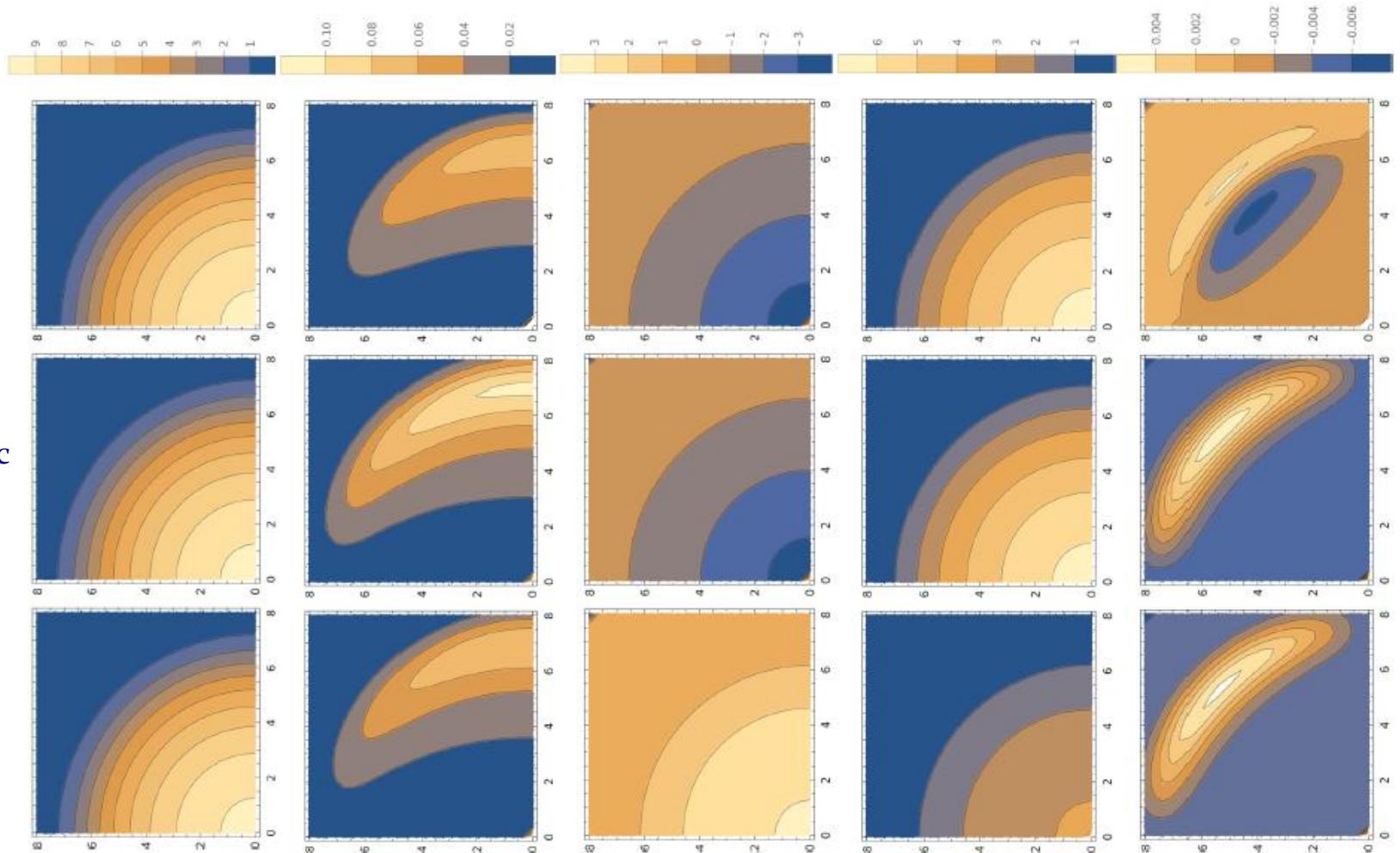
$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\varepsilon + p_T)u^\mu u^\nu - p_T g^{\mu\nu} - (p_T - p_L)z^\mu z^\nu \quad T^\mu{}_\mu = 0 \Rightarrow p_L = \varepsilon - 2p_T$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} u_\nu = \varepsilon u^\mu, \quad T^{\mu\nu} z_\nu = -p_L z^\mu$$

W. Florkowski & R. Ryblewski, Phys. Rev. C **83**, 034907 (2011)  
M. Martinez & M. Strickland, Nucl. Phys. A **848**, 183 (2010)

# Hydrodynamic-like behavior

plasma



$$\tau = 0.06 \text{ fm}$$

$$T^{tt} = \varepsilon$$

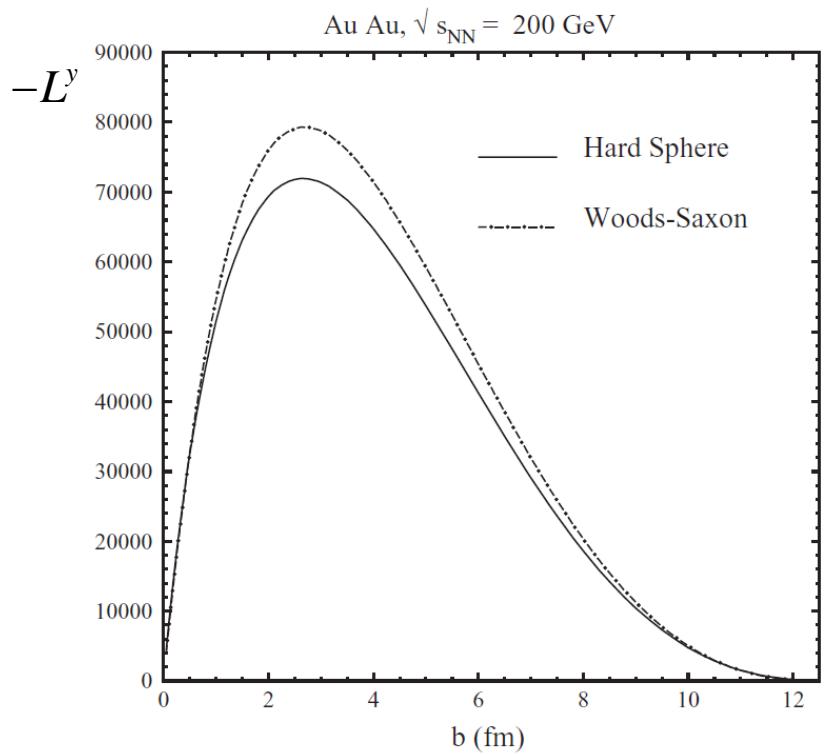
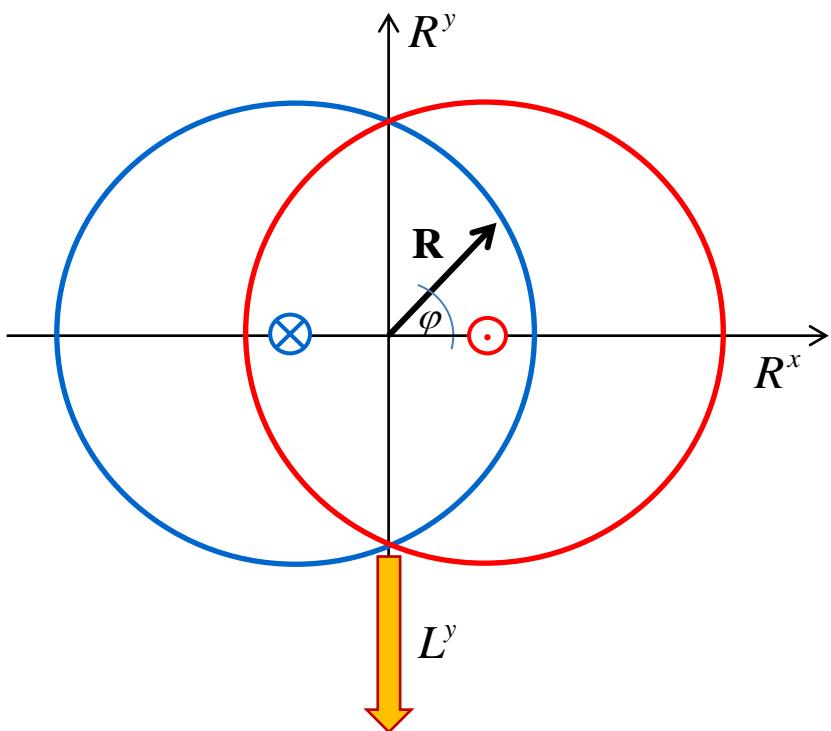
$$T^{tx}$$

$$T^{zz}$$

$$T^{xx}$$

$$T^{xy}$$

# Angular momentum

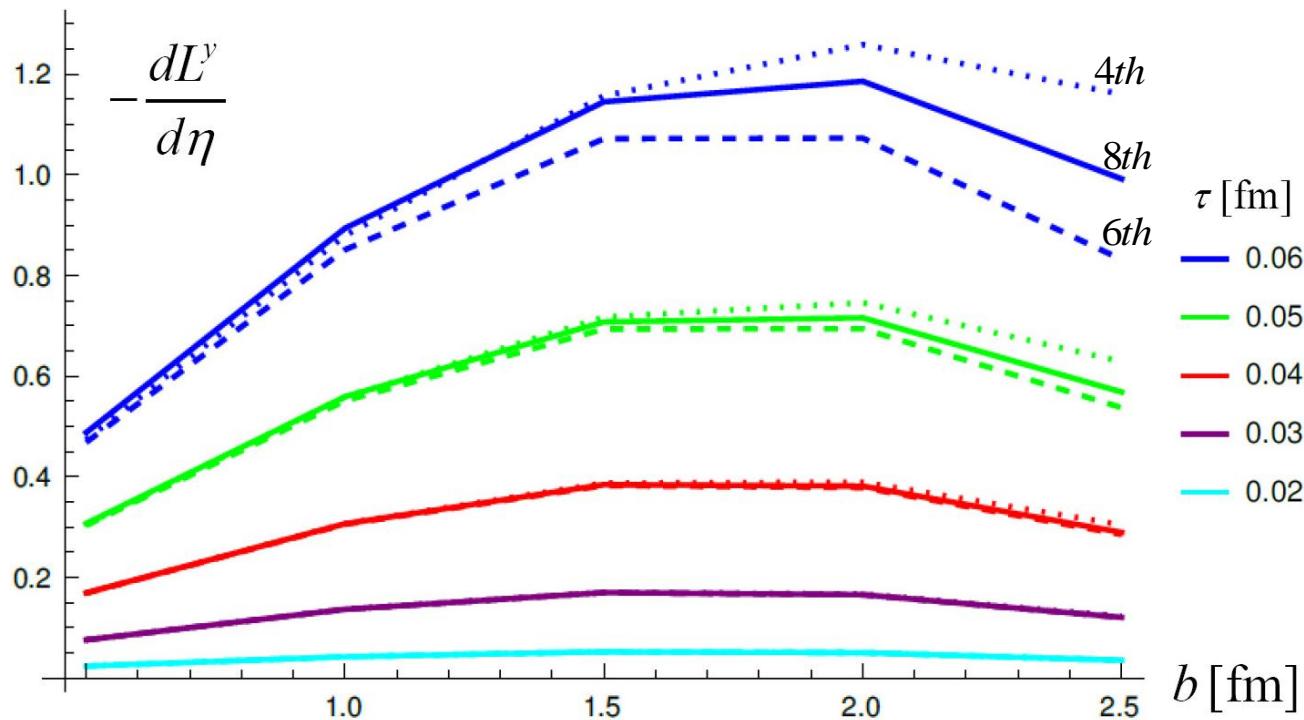


$L^y \sim 10^7 \hbar @ \text{LHC} ?$

# Angular momentum cont.

Pb-Pb collisions at  $b = 2$  fm

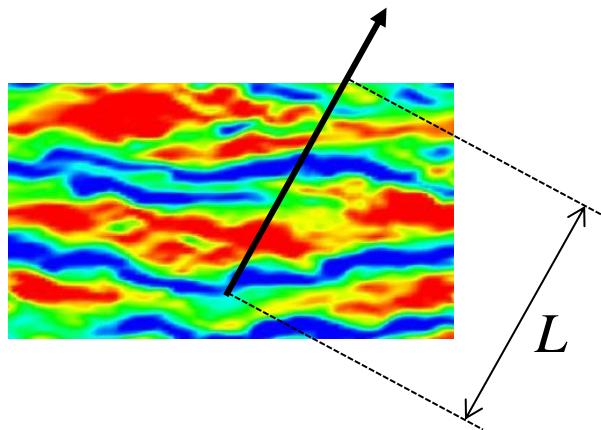
$$\frac{dL^\eta}{d\eta} = -\tau^2 \int d^2 R R^x T^{\tau\eta} \quad \text{Milne coordinates}$$



Glasma does not rotate!

# Jet quenching in plasma

How hard probes propagate through the plasma?



$$\frac{dE}{dx}, \hat{q} \ ?$$

$\frac{dE}{dx}$  - collisional energy loss

$\hat{q}$  - transverse momentum broadening

$$\frac{dE^{\text{rad}}}{dx} = -\frac{1}{8} \alpha_s N_c \hat{q} L \text{ - radiative energy loss}$$

# Fokker-Planck equation

- Transport of hard probes can be described using the Fokker-Planck equation.

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \right) n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \left( \nabla_p^i X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}) \nabla_p^j + \nabla_p^i Y^i(\mathbf{v}) \right) n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$$

$n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$  - distribution function of hard probes

$$\mathbf{v} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{p}}{E_p}, \quad \nabla^i{}_p \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i}$$

$$X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}), Y^i(\mathbf{v}) \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dE}{dx} = -\frac{\mathbf{v}^i}{\mathbf{v}} Y^i(\mathbf{v}) \quad \text{collisional energy loss} \\ \hat{q} = \frac{2}{\mathbf{v}} \left( \delta^{ij} - \frac{\mathbf{v}^i \mathbf{v}^j}{\mathbf{v}^2} \right) X^{ji}(\mathbf{v}) \quad \text{momentum broadening} \end{array} \right.$$

$$n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = n_{\text{eq}}(\mathbf{p}) \sim e^{-\frac{E_{\mathbf{p}}}{T}}$$

solves FK equation

$$Y^j(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{\mathbf{v}^i}{T} X^{ij}(\mathbf{v})$$

# Fokker-Planck equation of a hard probe in glasma

- ▶ Lorentz force  $\mathbf{F} \equiv g(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$
- ▶  $\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \right) n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \left( \nabla_p^i X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}) \nabla_p^j + \nabla_p^i Y^i(\mathbf{v}) \right) n(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$
- ▶  $X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{N_c} \int_0^t dt' \langle F^i(t, \mathbf{r}) F^j(t', \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}(t-t')) \rangle, \quad Y^j(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{\mathbf{v}^i}{T} X^{ij}(\mathbf{v})$
- ▶ The collision term is given by field correlators  $\langle E^i E^j \rangle, \langle B^i E^j \rangle, \langle B^i B^j \rangle$
- ▶ Gauge covariance requires:  $\langle E_a^i(t, \mathbf{r}) E_a^j(t', \mathbf{r}') \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_a^i(t, \mathbf{r}) \Omega_{ab}(t, \mathbf{r} | t', \mathbf{r}') E_b^j(t', \mathbf{r}') \rangle$

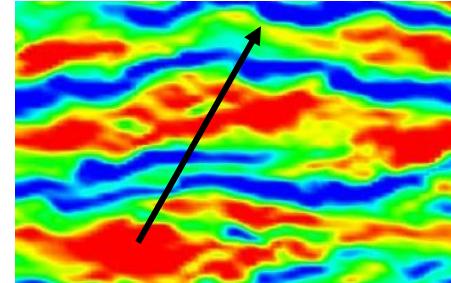
$$\Omega(t, \mathbf{r} | t', \mathbf{r}') \equiv P \exp \left[ i g \int_{(t', \mathbf{r}')}^{(t, \mathbf{r})} ds_\mu A^\mu(s) \right]$$

# Transport of hard probes in plasma

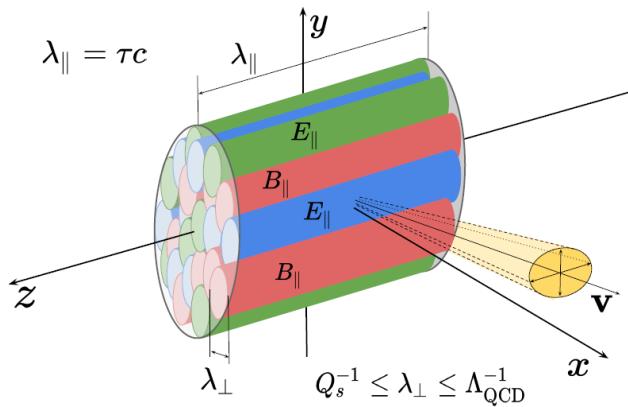
$$X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{g}{N_c} \int_0^t dt' \left\{ \left\langle E^i(t, \mathbf{r}) E^j(t', \mathbf{r}') \right\rangle + \epsilon^{jkl} v^k \left\langle E^i(t, \mathbf{r}) B^l(t', \mathbf{r}') \right\rangle \right. \\ \left. + \epsilon^{ikl} v^k \left\langle B^l(t, \mathbf{r}) E^j(t', \mathbf{r}') \right\rangle + \epsilon^{ikl} \epsilon^{jmn} v^k v^m \left\langle B^l(t, \mathbf{r}) B^n(t', \mathbf{r}') \right\rangle \right\}$$

$$\mathbf{r}' \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}(t - t')$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{q} = \frac{2}{v} \left( \delta^{ij} - \frac{v^i v^j}{v^2} \right) X^{ji}(\mathbf{v}) \\ \frac{dE}{dx} = - \frac{v^i v^j}{vT} X^{ij}(\mathbf{v}) \end{array} \right.$$

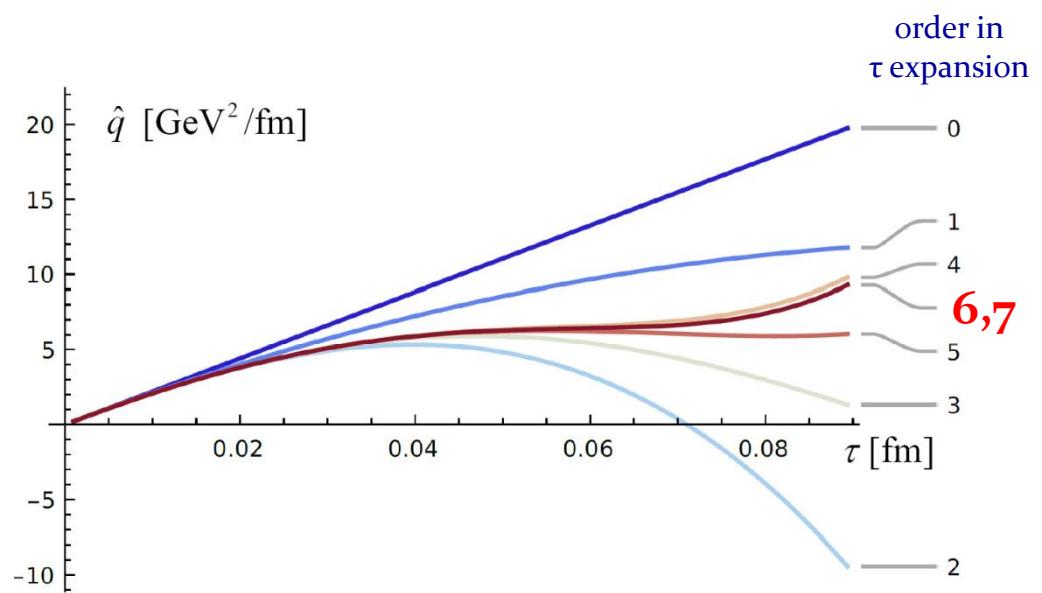


# Hard probes in plasma - $\hat{q}$



$$\hat{q} = \frac{2}{\mathbf{v}} \left( \delta^{ij} - \frac{\mathbf{v}^i \mathbf{v}^j}{\mathbf{v}^2} \right) X^{ji}(\mathbf{v})$$

$N_c = 3, g = 1$   
 $Q_s = 2 \text{ GeV}$   
 $m = 0.2 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_{\perp} = 1$



# Glasma impact on jet quenching

Glasma

$$\hat{q}_{\max} = 6 \text{ GeV}^2 / \text{fm}$$

$$t_{\max} = 0.06 \text{ fm}$$

Equilibrium QGP

$$\hat{q} = 3T^3$$

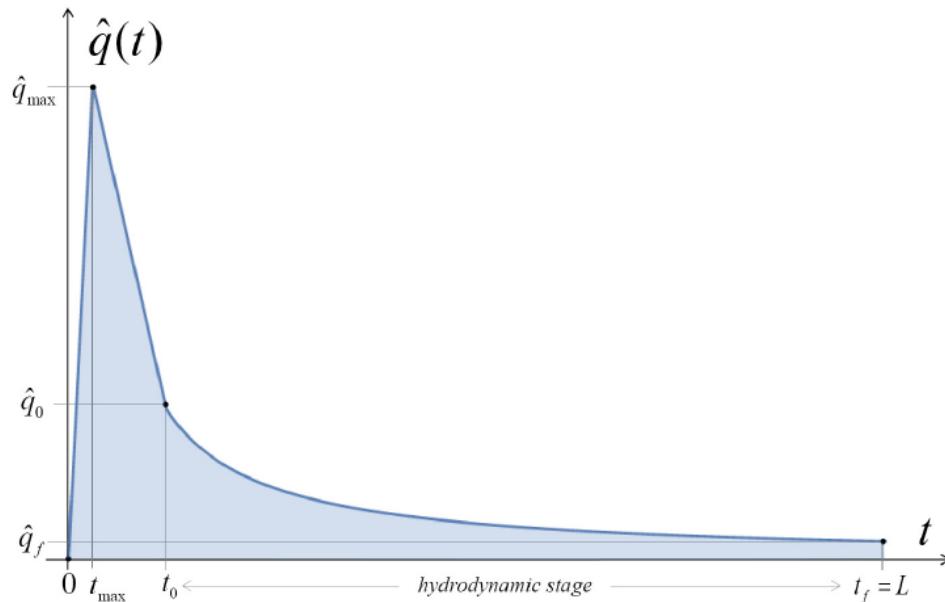
$$t_0 = 0.6 \text{ fm}$$

$$T_0 = 450 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\hat{q}_0 = 1.4 \text{ GeV}^2 / \text{fm}$$

$$T = T_0 \left( \frac{t_0}{t} \right)^{1/3}$$

$$L = 10 \text{ fm}$$



$$\Delta p_T^2 \Big|_{\text{non-eq}} = \int_0^{t_0} dt \hat{q}(t)$$

$$\Delta p_T^2 \Big|_{\text{eq}} = \int_{t_0}^L dt \hat{q}(t)$$

$$\frac{\Delta p_T^2 \Big|_{\text{non-eq}}}{\Delta p_T^2 \Big|_{\text{eq}}} = 0.93$$

M. Carrington, A. Czajka & St. Mrówczyński, Physics Letters B **834**, 137464 (2022)

M. Carrington, A. Czajka & St. Mrówczyński, Physical Review C **105**, 064910 (2022)

# Conclusions

- ▶ The glasma evolves in a hydrodynamic-like way.
- ▶ The glasma's orbital momentum is small, the system does not rotate.
- ▶ Momentum broadening and energy loss in the glasma are significantly bigger than in equilibrated QGP.
- ▶ In spite of its short lifetime the glasma provides a significant contribution to the jet quenching.