

# Heavy quark quenching and elliptic flow from RHIC to LHC: can the experimental results be understood by pQCD?

*Hard Probes 2013; Stellenbosch (SA)*

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SUBATECH, UMR 6457

Ecole des Mines de Nantes, Université de Nantes, IN2P3/CNRS

with

J. Aichelin, Th. Gousset, M. Nahrgang, K. Werner

**Heavy quark quenching and elliptic flow from RHIC  
to LHC: can the experimental  
results be understood by pQCD–**inspired models**  
**using realistic backgrounds ?****

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# Road Map

II. Results with Kolb & Keinz background

Results with EPOS2 Background

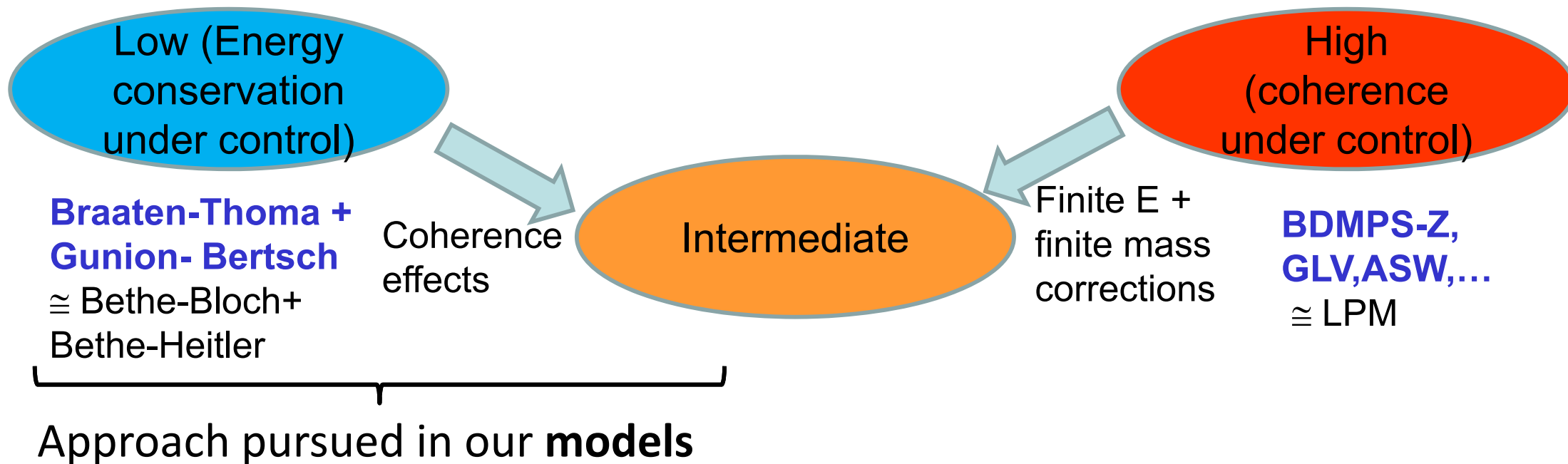
IV. Answer the question  
+ "Perspectives"

Models of HF quenching at intermediate  $p_T$



# Motivation and context

- Most of the *interesting* HF observables so far: located at *intermediate*  $p_T$
- Intermediate  $p_T$ : hope that pQCD (or pQCD inspired models) apply (as compared to low  $p_T$ )
- Intermediate  $p_T$ : mass effect still present and thus hope to learn something more as compared to large  $p_T$

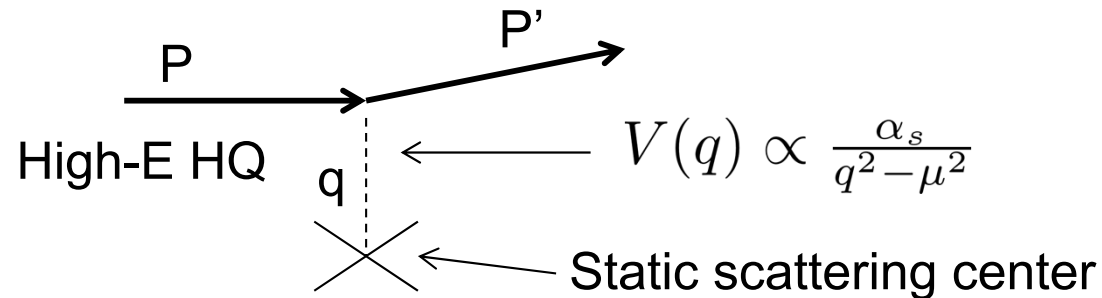


- => Need for falsification

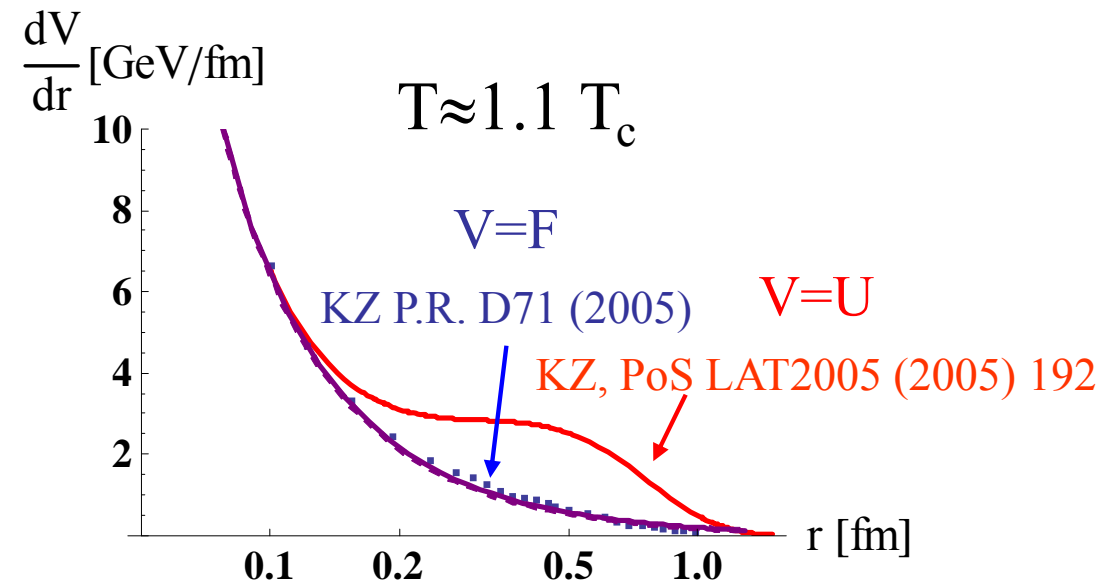
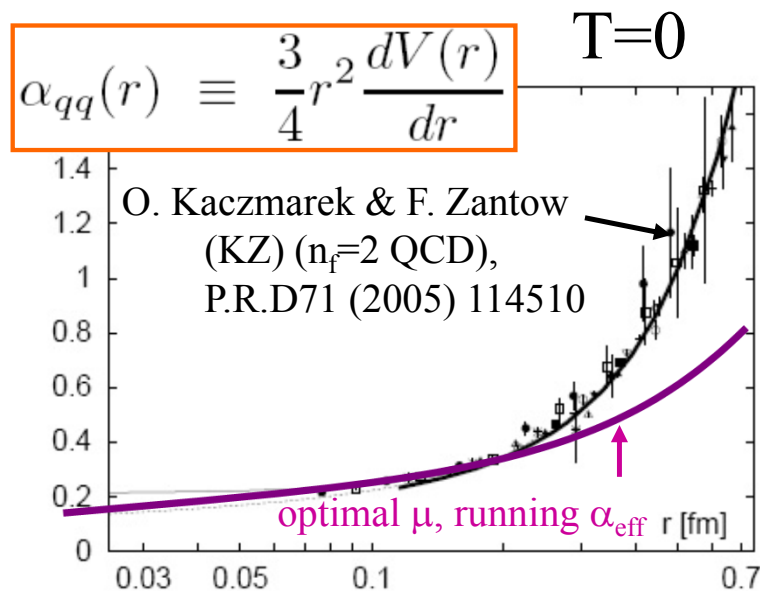
# Insufficient control on energy loss theory in QCD

Basic ingredient in the derivation of QED collisional Eloss; transverse force  
 In QCD: non perturbative « corrections » even at large HQ energy

In most models:



Lattice QCD :



Significant  $r$ -tail in the transverse force acting on the high-E HQ, especially in the  $V=U$  prescription



# Our basic ingredients for HQ energy loss

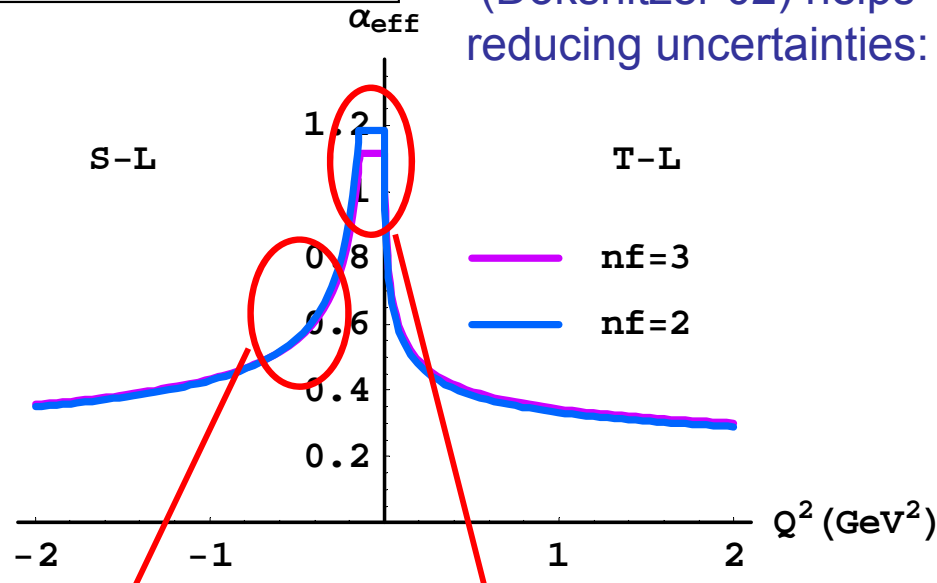
## Elastic

Motivation: Even a fast parton with the largest momentum  $P$  will undergo collisions with moderate  $q$  exchange and large  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$ . The running aspect of the coupling constant has been “forgotten/neglected” in most of approaches

Effective  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$  (Dokshitzer 95, Brodsky 02)

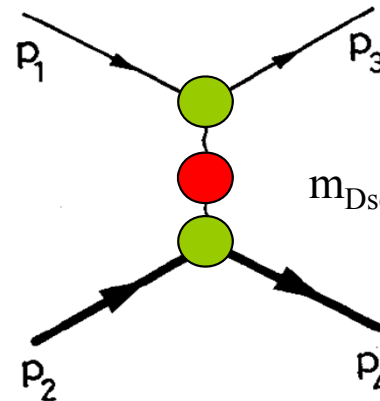
$$\frac{1}{Q_u} \int_{|Q^2| \leq Q_u^2} dQ \alpha_s(Q^2) \approx 0.5$$

“Universality constrain”  
(Dokshitzer 02) helps  
reducing uncertainties:



IR safe.  $Q^2$  close to 0 does not  
contribute to Eloss

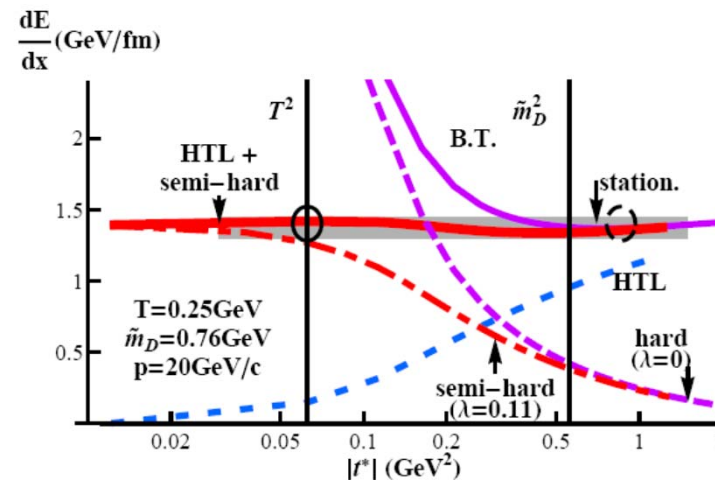
Large values for intermediate momentum-  
transfer => larger cross section



$$m_{Dself}^2(T) = (1+n_f/6) 4\pi\alpha_{eff}(m_{Dself}^2) T^2$$

+ u and s channels

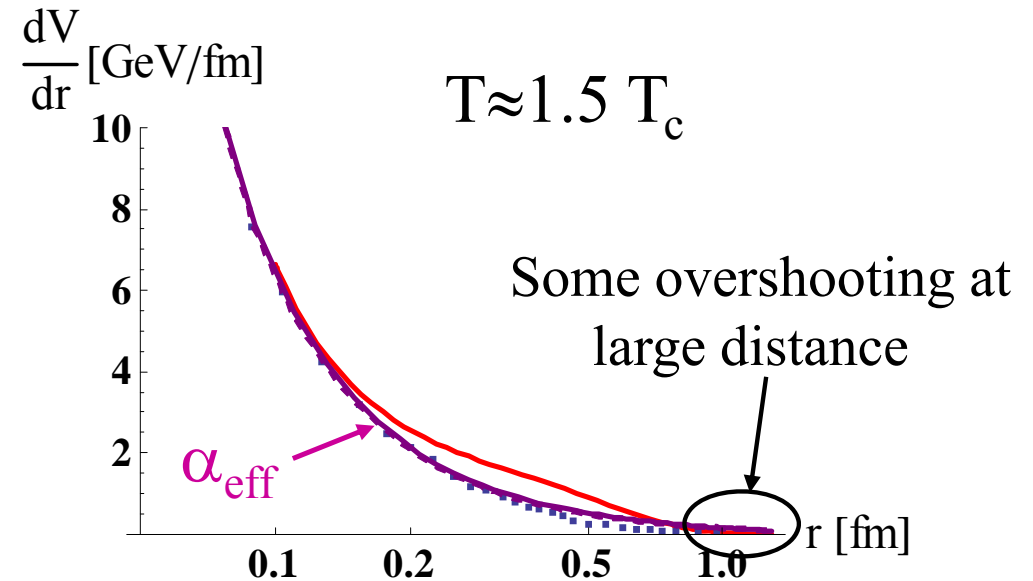
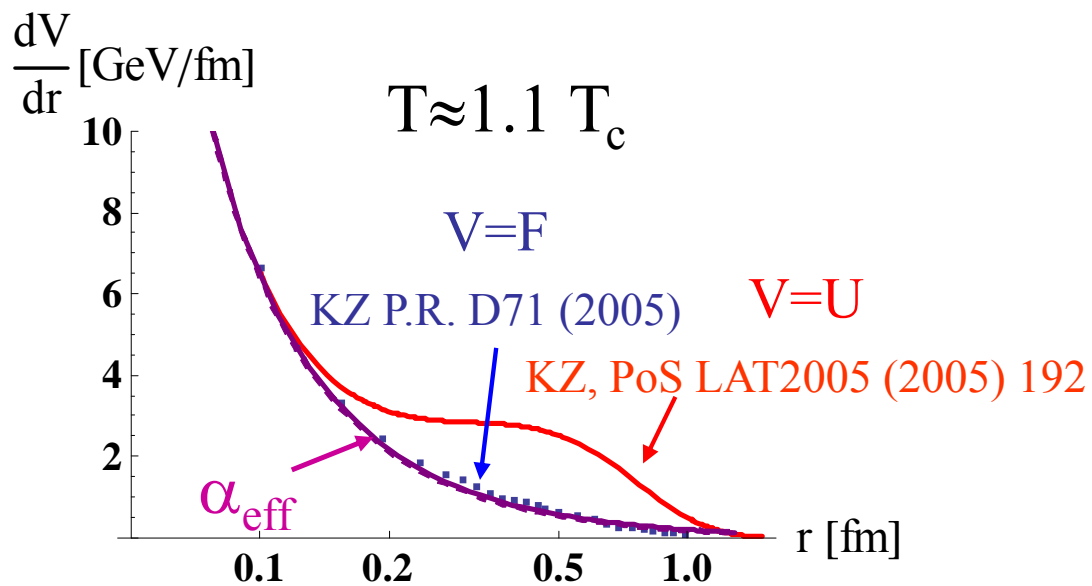
One gluon exchange effective propagator,  
designed in order to guarantee maximal  
insensitivity of  $dE/dx$  in Braaten-Thomas scheme;  
Peshier, Aichelin, Gossiaux (2008)



optimal  $\mu$ :

$$\mu^2 \approx 0.2m_D^2$$

# Insufficient control on energy loss theory



In our model, the force is close to the one extracted from the free energy taken as a potential

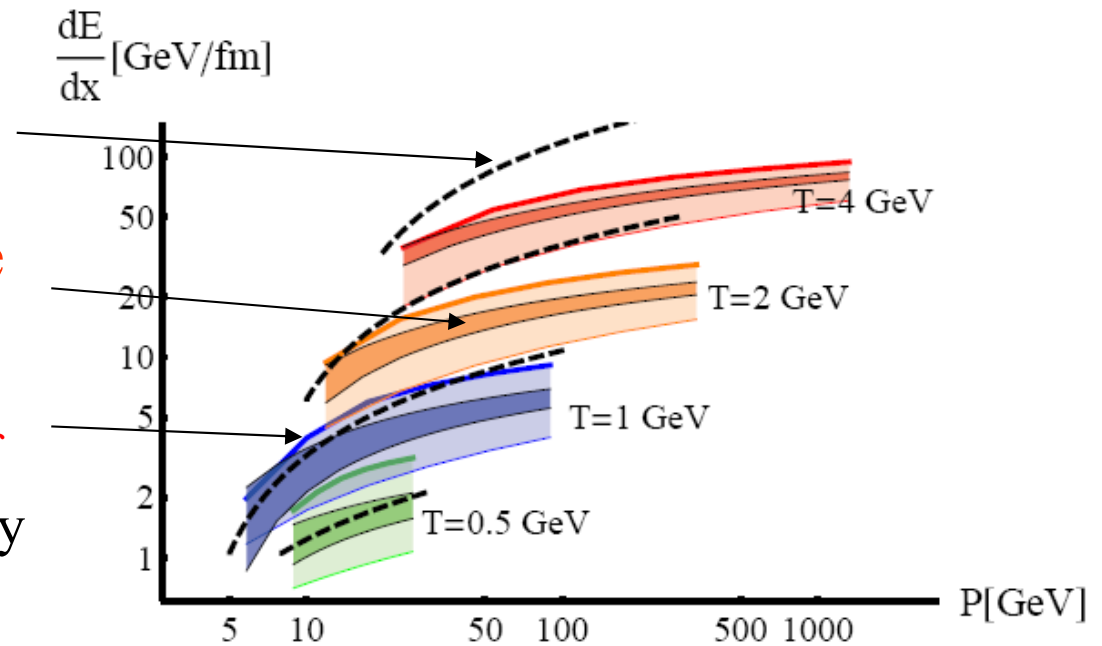
# Correct Contact with pQCD

Braaten-Thoma

Dark bands: Peshier & Peigné  
(2008)

optimal  $\mu$ , running  $\alpha_{\text{eff}}$

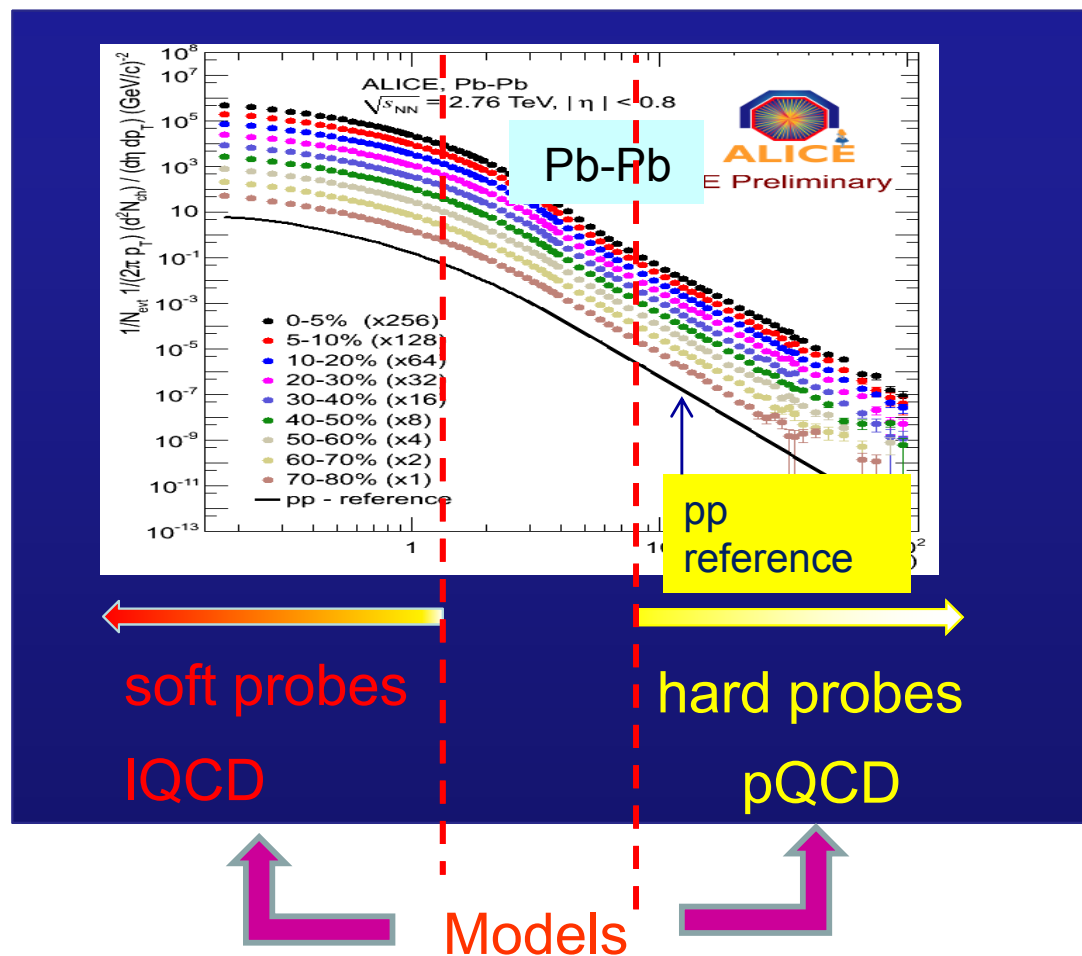
Light bands: theoretical uncertainty  
related to the prescription for the  
HTL-hard transition





# The “Minimal Tuning” Approach

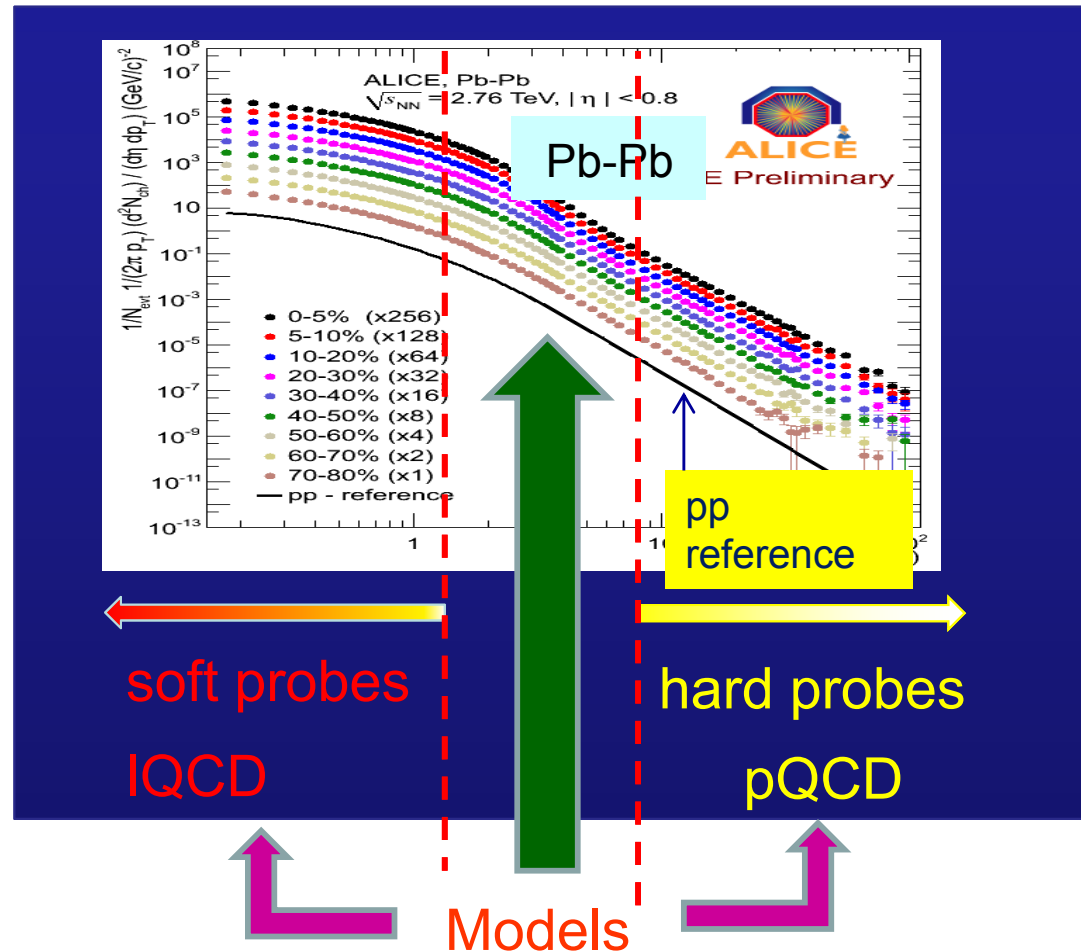
➤ Xin-Nian Wang:



Ideally, models should be constrained by solid link with IQCD and pQCD

# The “Minimal Tuning” Approach

➤ Xin-Nian Wang:



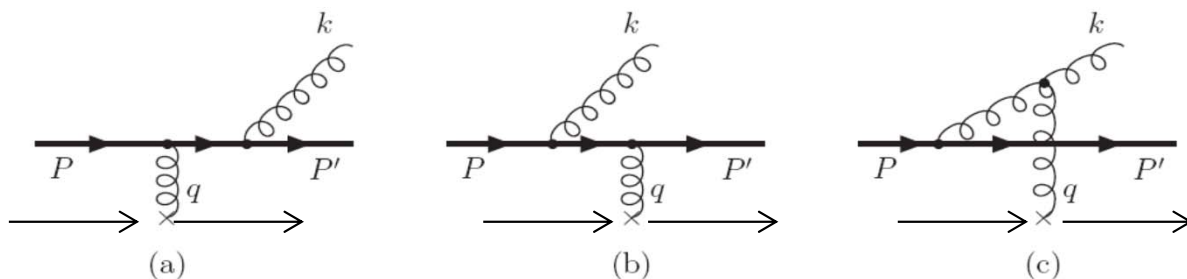
But this not always possible => allow for some “free” parameter, to be fixed by experiment.

In our case: K: multiplicative factor of microscopic cross sections

# Our basic ingredients for HQ energy loss

## Incoherent Induced Radiative

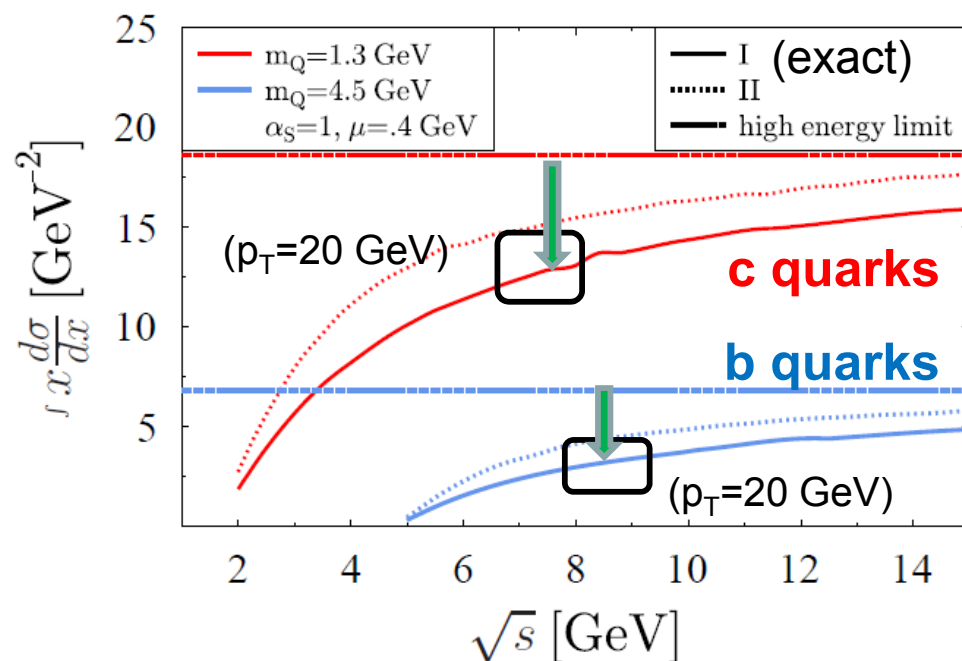
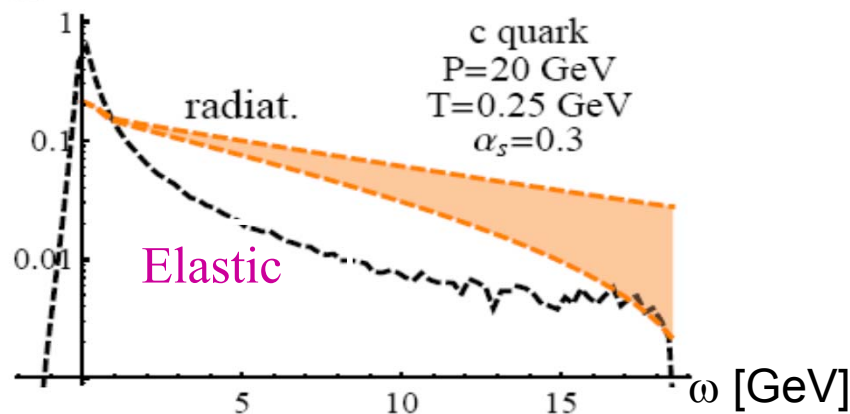
Generalized Gunion-Bertsch for finite mass, finite energy and dynamical light partons [arxiv 1307.5270](#)



$$\omega \frac{d^3 \sigma_{\text{rad}}^{x \ll 1}}{d\omega d^2 k_{\perp} dq_{\perp}^2} = \frac{N_c \alpha_s}{\pi^2} (1-x) \times \frac{J_{\text{QCD}}^2}{\omega^2} \times \boxed{\frac{d\sigma_{\text{el}}^{Qq}}{dq_{\perp}^2}}$$

$$\frac{J_{\text{QCD}}^2}{\omega^2} = \left( \frac{\vec{k}_{\perp}}{k_{\perp}^2 + x^2 M^2 + (1-x)m_g^2} - \frac{\vec{k}_{\perp} - \vec{q}_{\perp}}{(\vec{k}_{\perp} - \vec{q}_{\perp})^2 + x^2 M^2 + (1-x)m_g^2} \right)^2$$

$$\frac{dP(\omega)}{dz} [\text{fm}^{-1}]$$



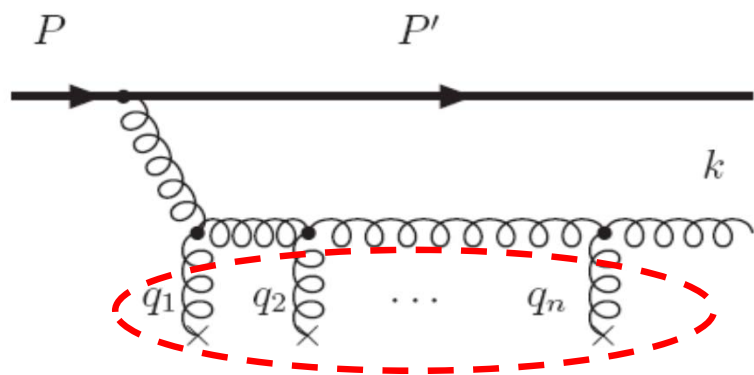
Finite energy lead to strong reduction of the radiative energy loss at intermediate  $p_T$

differential energy loss  $\omega$  per unit length (T,M,...): big differences between the 2 contributions

# Our basic ingredients for HQ energy loss

## Coherent Induced Radiative

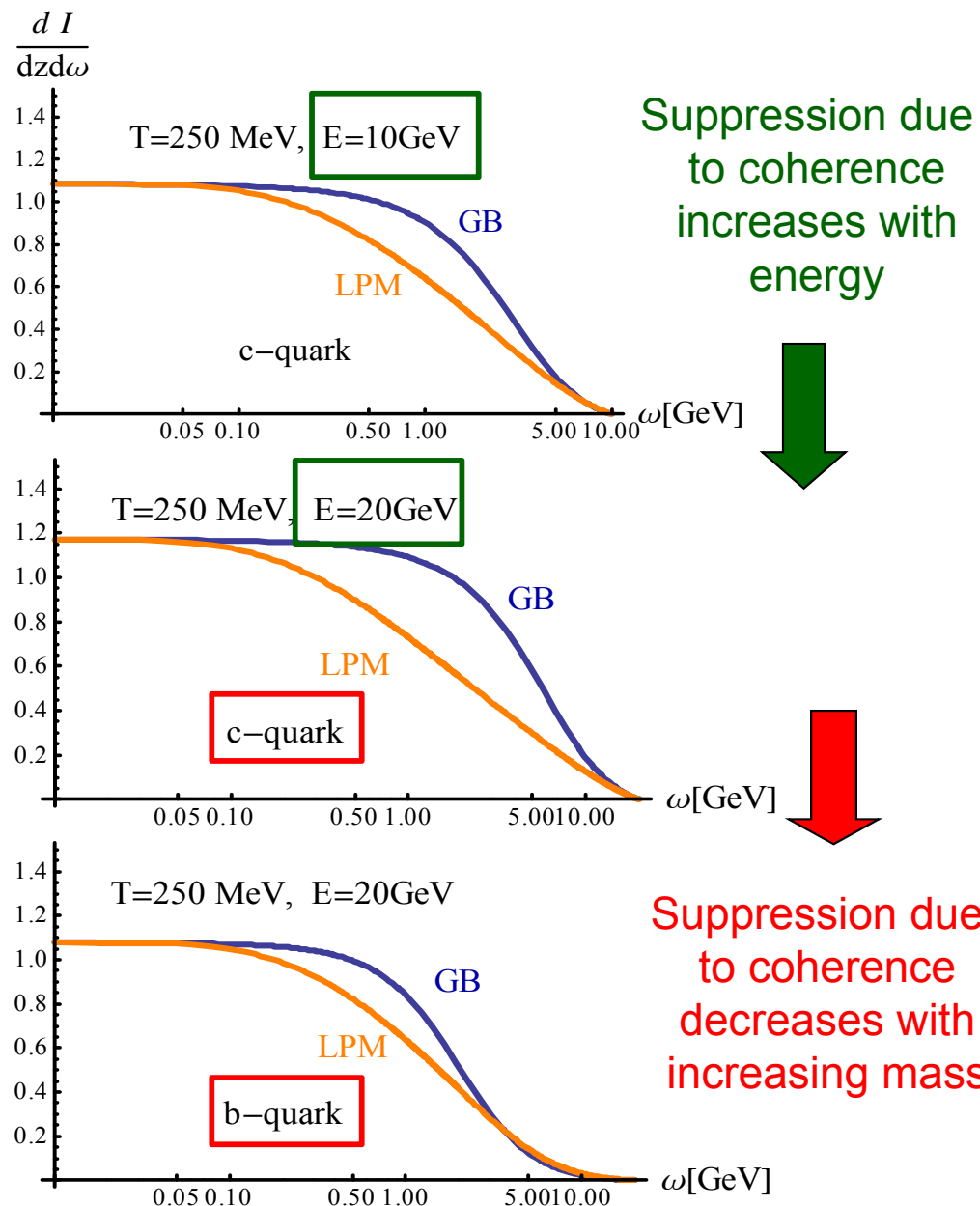
Formation time picture: for  $l_{f,mult} > \lambda$ , gluon is radiated coherently on a distance  $l_{f,mult}$



Model: all  $N_{coh}$  scatterers act as a single effective one with probability  $p_{N_{coh}}(Q_{\perp})$  obtained by convoluting individual probability of kicks

$$\frac{d^2 I_{eff}}{dz d\omega} \sim \frac{\alpha_s}{N_{coh} \tilde{\lambda}} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{N_{coh} \mu^2}{3 (m_g^2 + x^2 M^2 + \sqrt{\omega \hat{q}})} \right)$$

[arXiv:1209.0844] (Hard Probes 2012)



Up to now: no finite path length effect

# Schematic view of « Monte Carlo @ Heavy Quark » generator

**MC@sHQ**

$\Psi$  suppression

**Bulk Evolution: fluid dynamics**  
→  $T(M)$  &  $v(M)$

QGP

MP

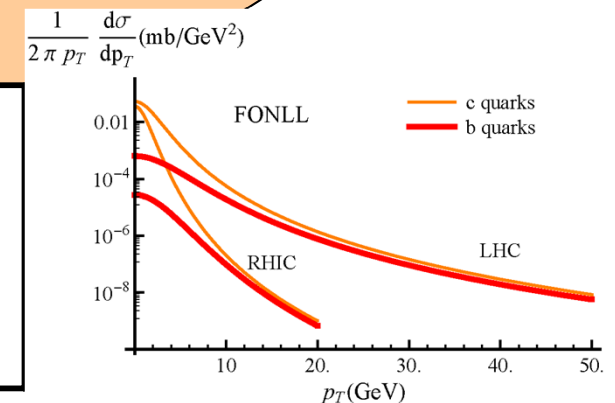
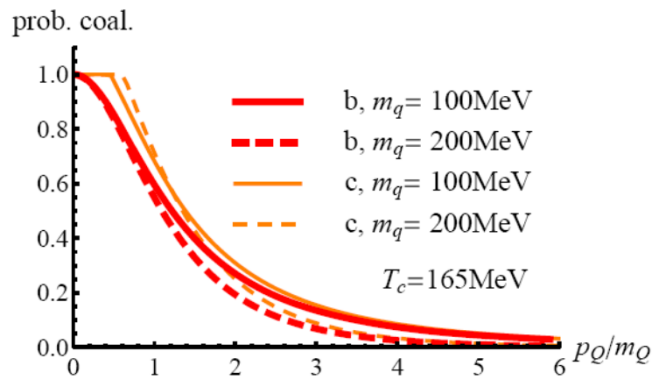
HG

**Evolution of HQ in bulk :**  
**Fokker-Planck or reaction rate**  
**+ Boltzmann**  
**(no hadronic phase)**

Quarkonia formation in QGP through  $c+c \rightarrow \Psi + g$  fusion process

D/B formation at the boundary of QGP (or MP) through coalescence of c/b and light quark (low  $p_T$ ) or fragmentation (high  $p_T$ )

(hard) production of heavy quarks in initial NN collisions +  $k_T$  broad. (0.2 GeV<sup>2</sup>/coll)



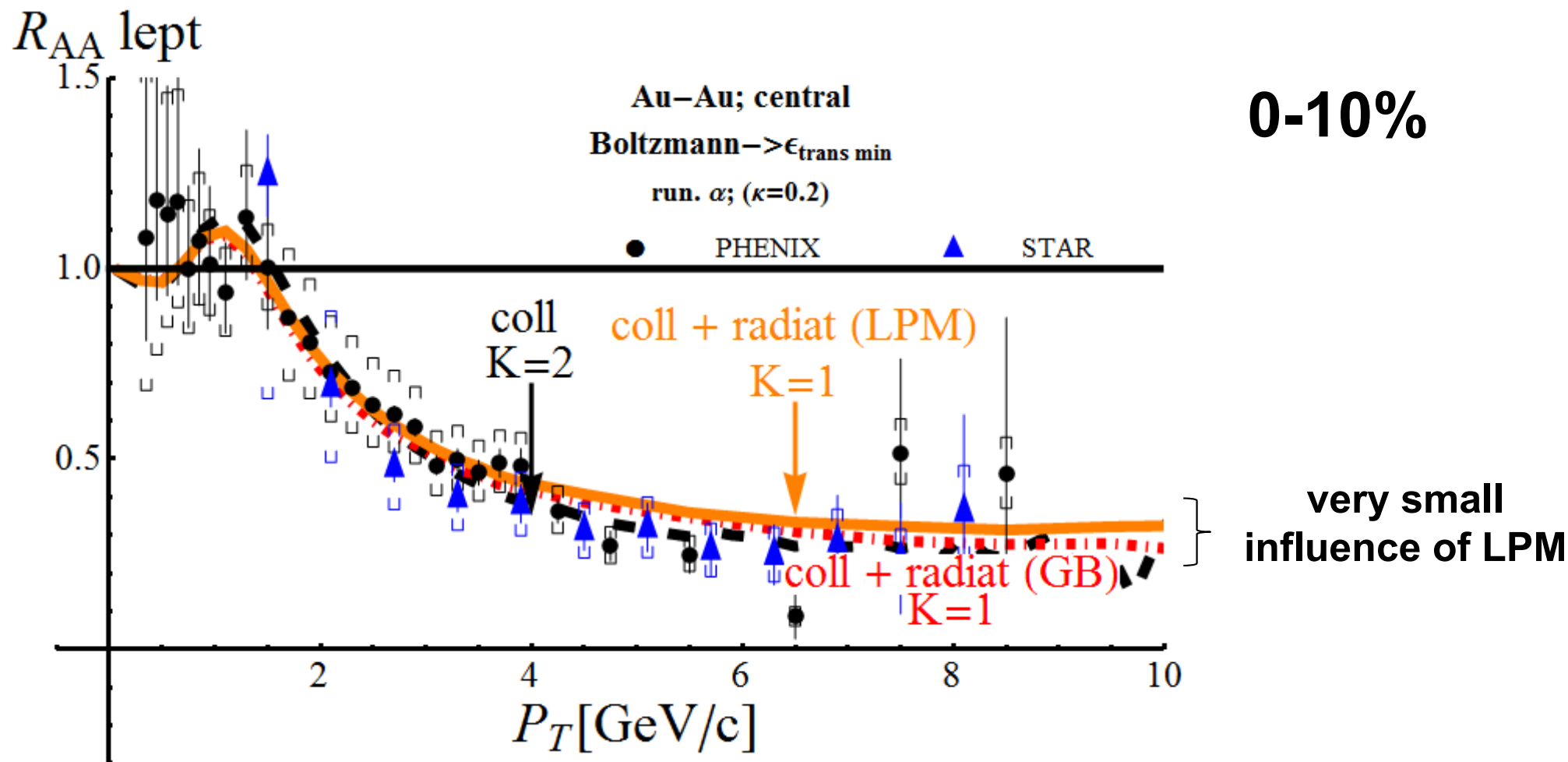
## Results for Heinz-Kolb (ideal hydro) Background



# {Radiative + Elastic} vs Elastic for RAA NPSE @ RHIC

El. and rad. Eloss exhibit very different energy and mass dependences. However...

0-10%



$\sigma_{el}$  alone rescaling:  $K=1.8-2.2$

$\sigma_{el}$  &  $\sigma_{rad}$  cocktail: **NO RESCALING**

**We adjust K on RAA, while BAMPs does it on  $v_2$**

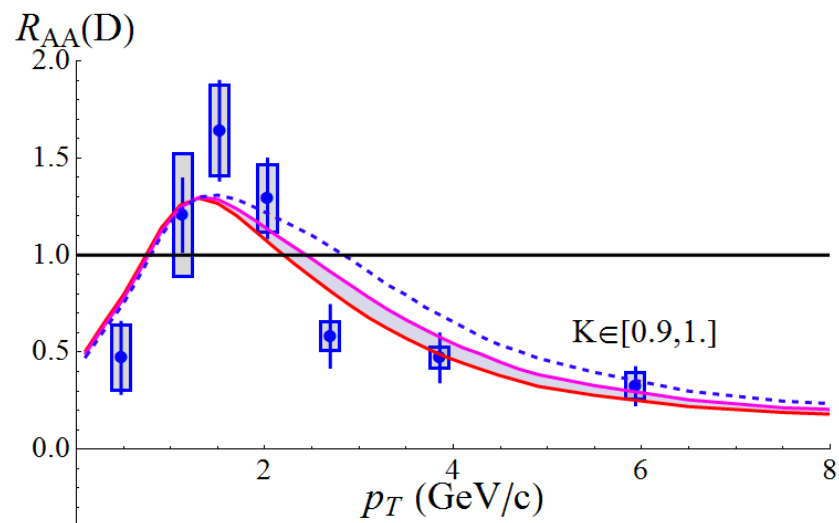
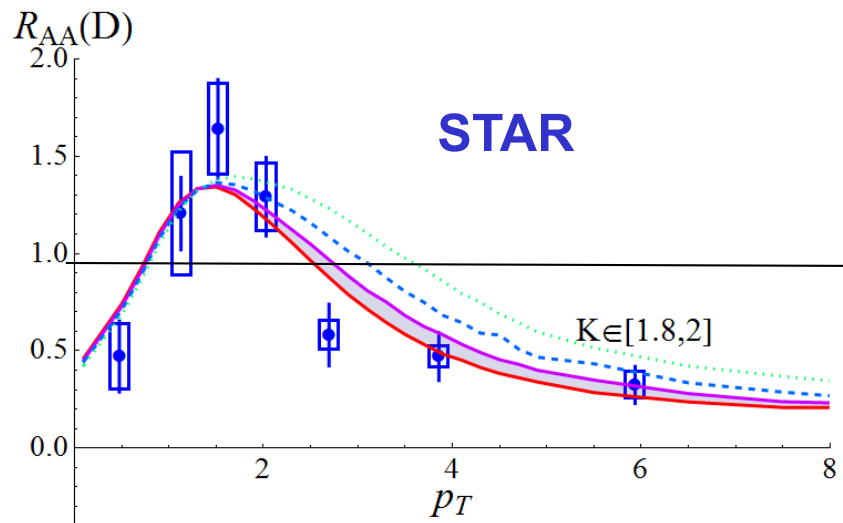
(since last QM: improvement in the phase space boundary for gluon emission; was too permissive ->  $K \approx 0.6$  needed)

# {Radiative + Elastic} vs Elastic D mesons @ RHIC

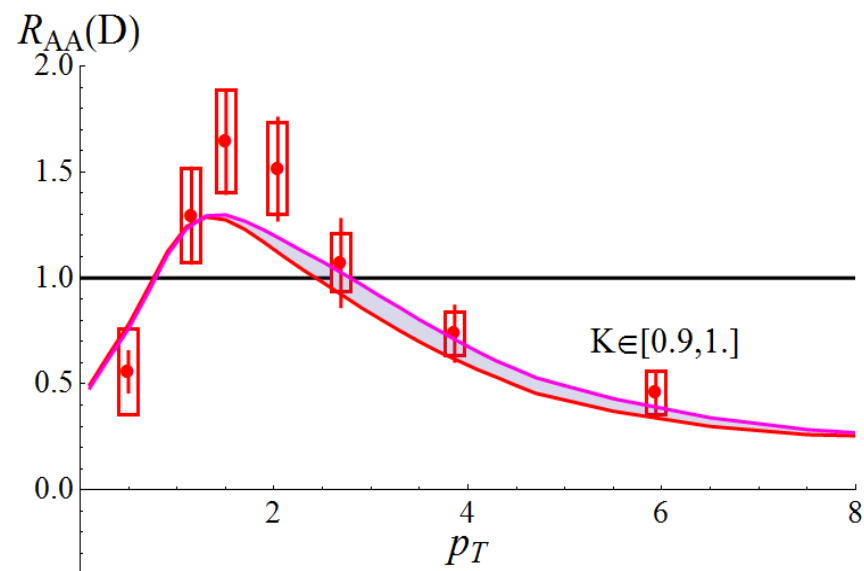
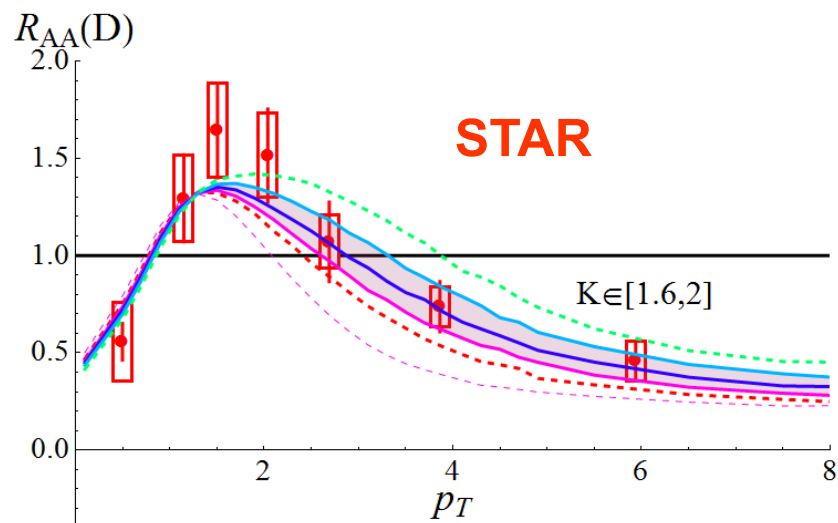
**Elastic**

**Elastic + radiative LPM**

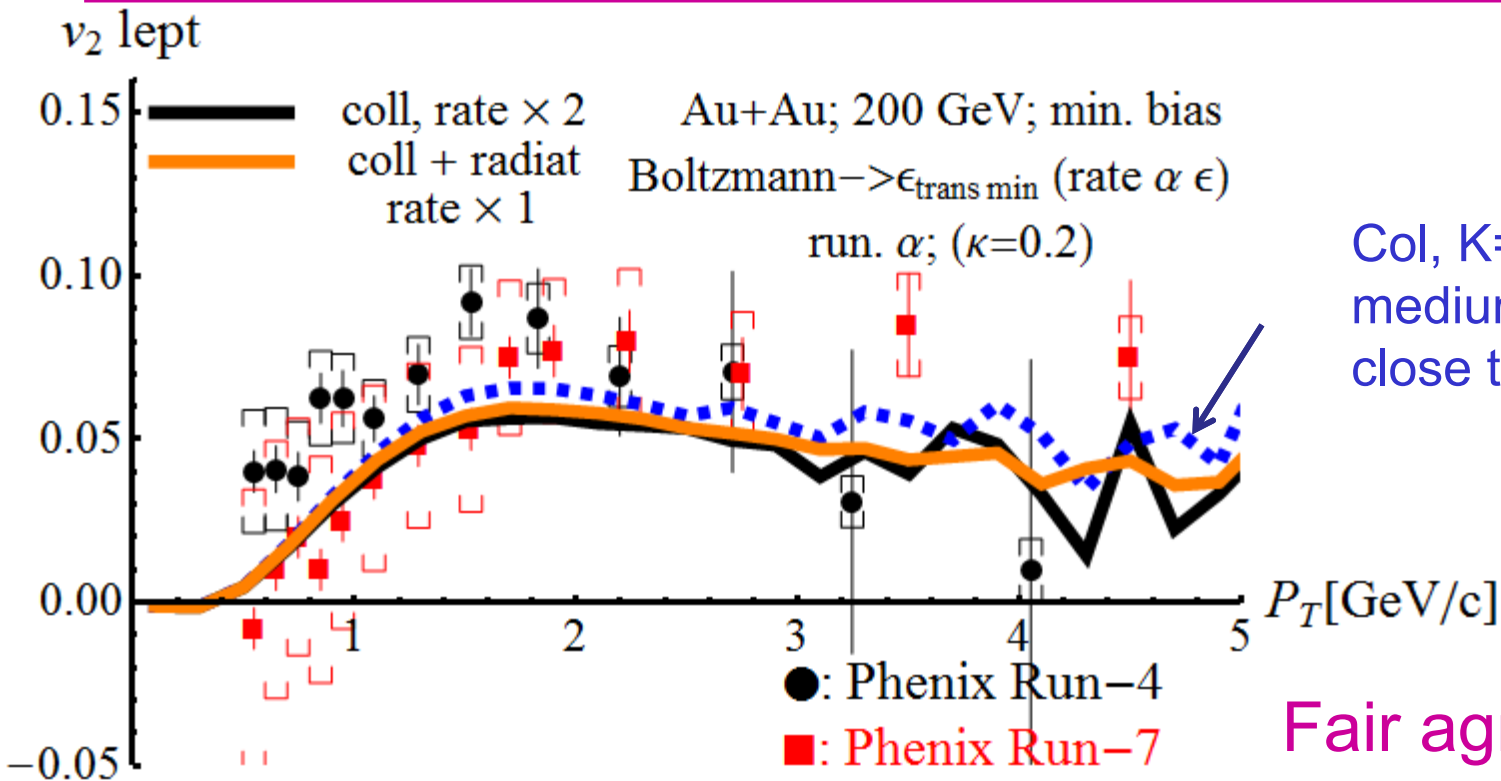
**0-10%**



**0-80%**

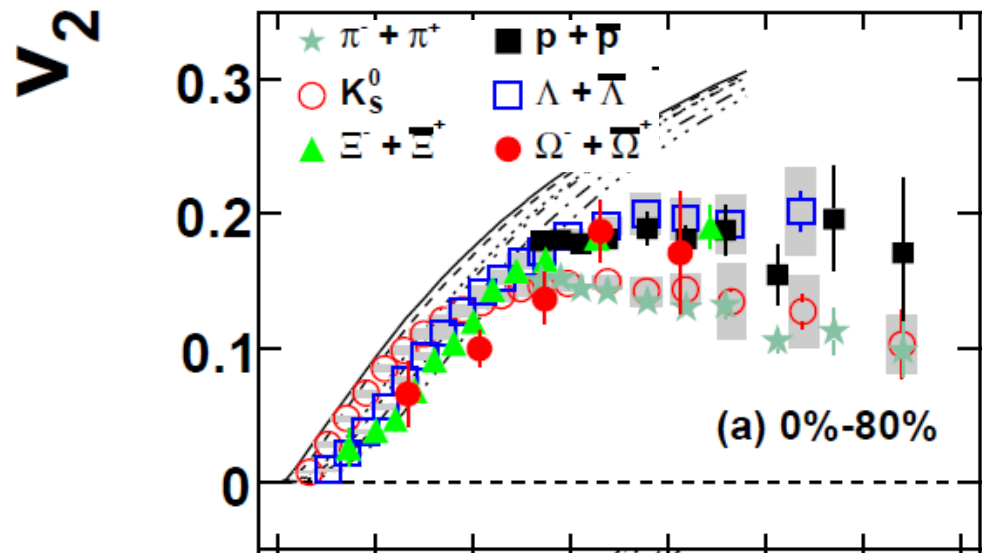


# And the $v_2$ ? (@ RHIC)



Col,  $K=3$  (More coupling to the medium does not help, as HQ are close to thermalized at small  $p_T$ )

Fair agreement with the same  $K$  values, the ideal hydro probably helps a bit



Ideal hydro vs STAR data (2008),  
calculation by P. Huovinen

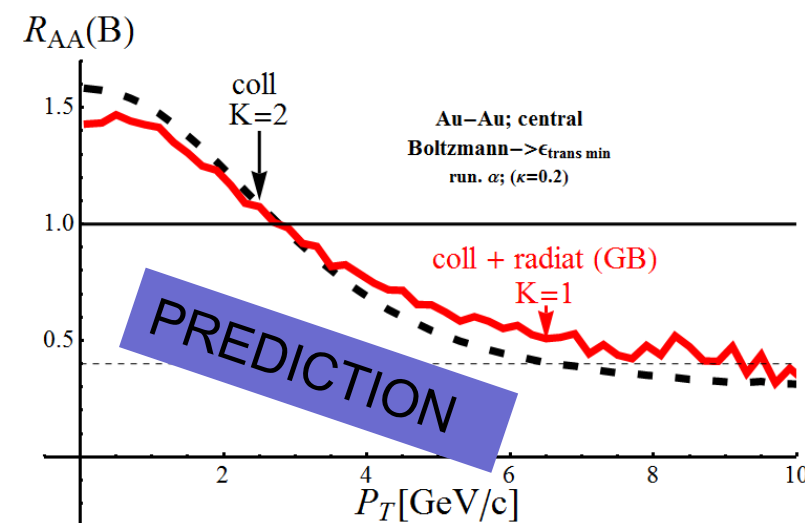
# Conclusions from RHIC

➤ Present data at RHIC cannot decipher between the 3 local microscopic E-loss models (el., el. + rad GB, et. + rad. LPM) ⇒ **Not sensitive to the large- $\omega$  tail of the Energy-loss probability.**

➤ One “explains” all open heavy flavor physics with  $\Delta E \propto L$  (that is, with probabilities per unit length).

➤ Good consistency between NPSE and D mesons (10% difference in K values)...

➤ ... within a model with mass hierarchy



**Elastic + radiative LPM: no need for rescaling**

**Elastic**

K	NPSE RHIC	D STAR central	D STAR min bias
1.4	Wrong	Wrong	Marginal
1.6	Marginal	Marginal	Acceptable
1.8	Acceptable	Good	Good
2.0	Good	Good	Acceptable
2.2	Acceptable	Marginal	Marginal

K	NPSE RHIC	D STAR central	D STAR min bias
0.7		Wrong	
0.8	Wrong	Marginal	Acceptable
0.9	Acceptable	Good	Good
1	Good	Good	Acceptable
1.1	Acceptable	Marginal	Marginal



**Good**



**Acceptable**



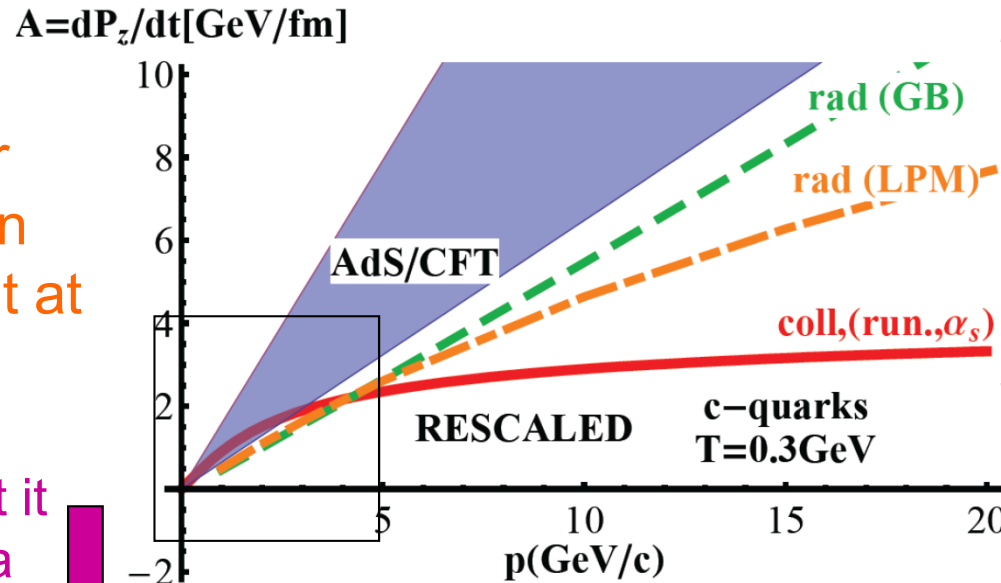
**Marginal**



**Wrong**

# QGP properties from HQ probe at RHIC

Gathering all *rescaled* models (*coll. and radiative*) compatible with RHIC  $R_{AA}$ :

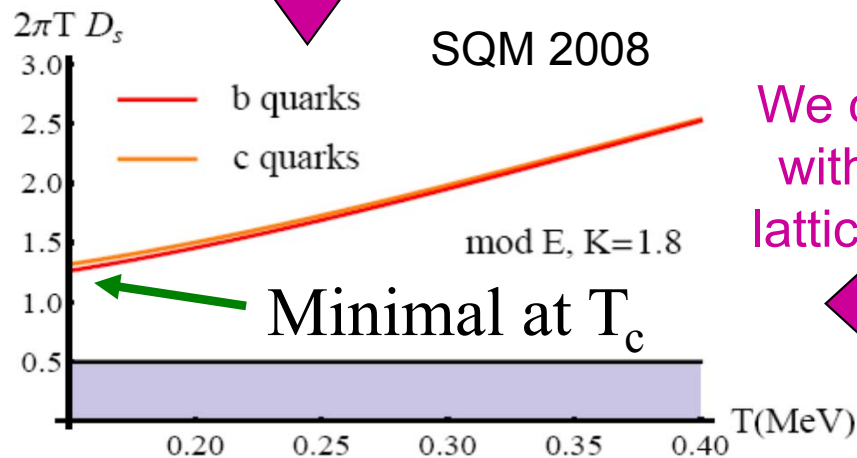


the drag coefficient reflects the average momentum loss (per unit time)  $\Rightarrow$  large weight on  $x \sim 1$

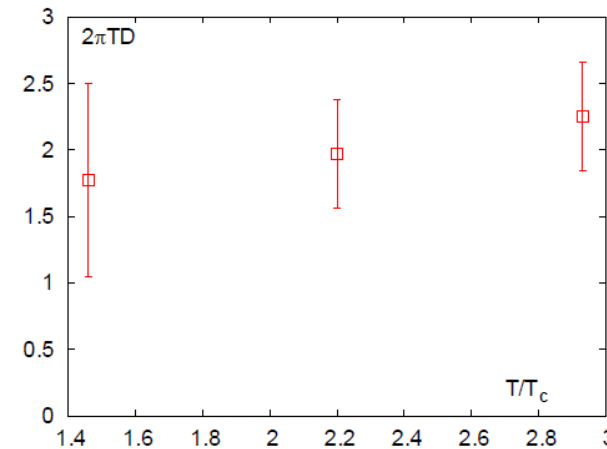
Present RHIC experiments cannot resolve between those various trends

Similar diffusion coefficient at low  $p$

We extract it from data



We compare with recent lattice results



Kaczmarek  
Bad Honnef  
2011

**Lesson**

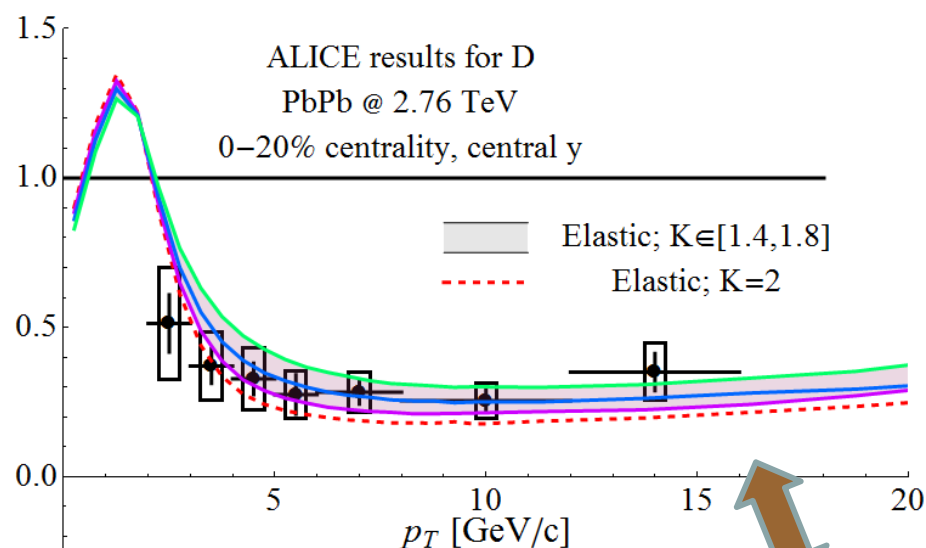
it is possible to reveal some fundamental property of QGP using HQ probes, i.e. to CONTROL the models

# D mesons at LHC (vs ALICE 0%-20%)

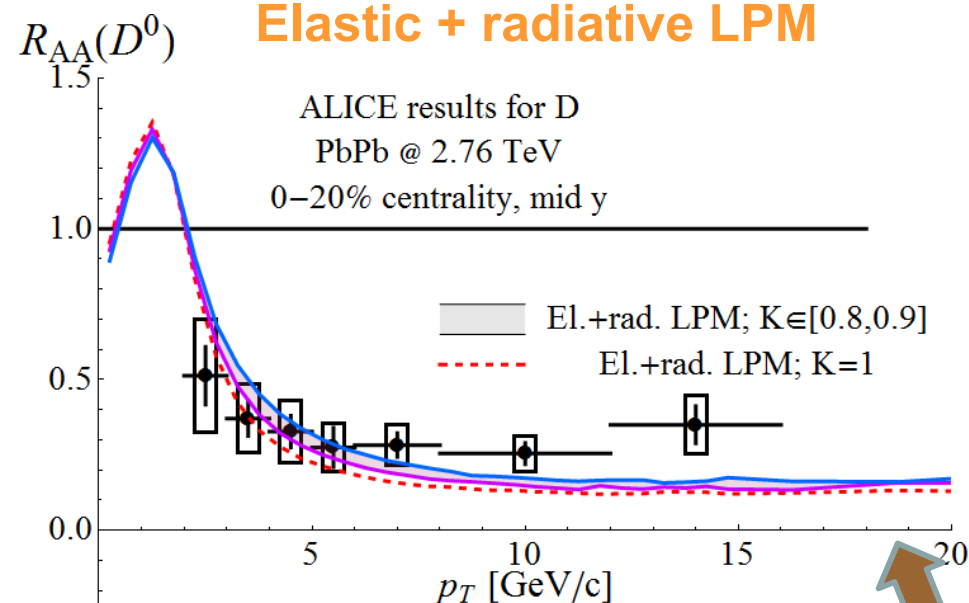
Same microscopic ingredients as for RHIC; **NO SHADOWING** (yet)

Kolb-Heinz Hydro adjusted to  $dN_{ch}/dy = 1600$  ( $s_0=195$ )... at our own risks !

**Elastic**



**Elastic + radiative LPM**



K	NPSE RHIC	D STAR central	D STAR min bias	D ALICE 0-20% ( $p_T < 15 \text{ GeV/c}$ )
1.4				
1.6				
1.8				
2.0				
2.2				

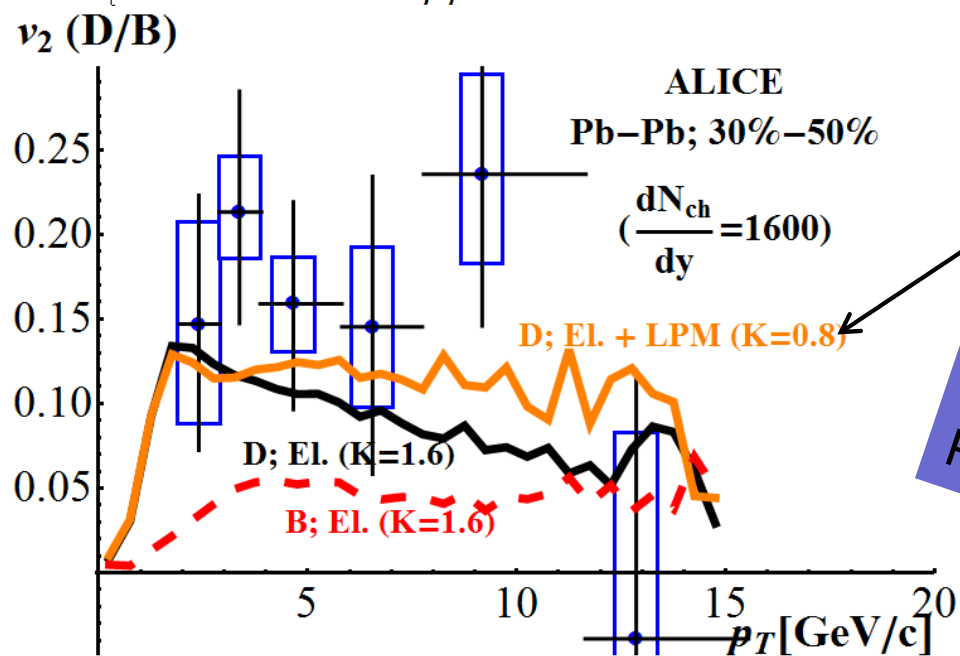
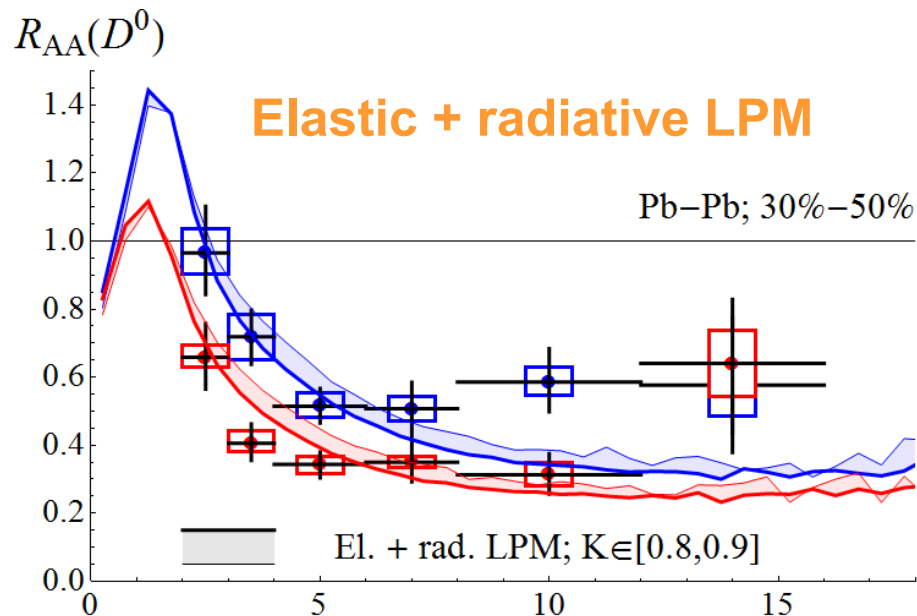
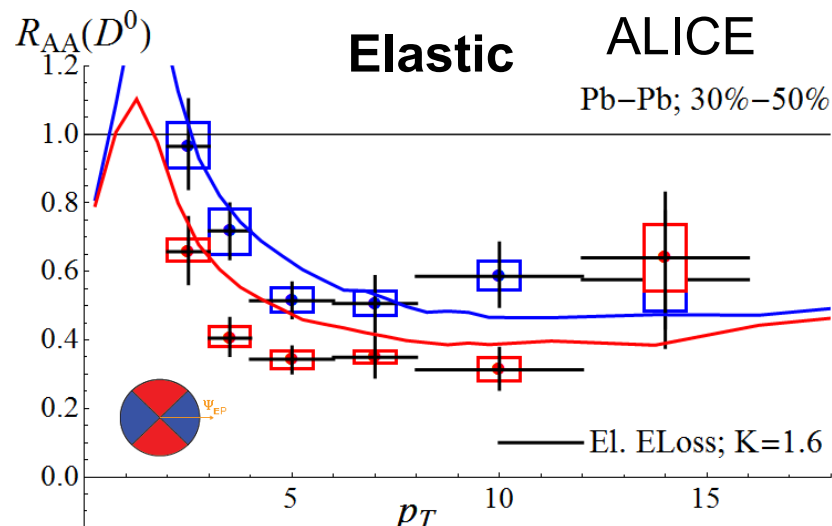
K	NPSE RHIC	D STAR central	D STAR min bias	D ALICE 0-20% ( $p_T < 15 \text{ GeV/c}$ )
0.7				
0.8				
0.9				
1				
1.1				

**Correct agreement with ALICE data; 10-15% decrease of the rates needed for optimal agreement (does not imply the medium is more transparent, as  $T_{LHC} > T_{RHIC}$ )**



# D mesons at LHC (more differential observables)

“in plane” – “out of plane” analysis

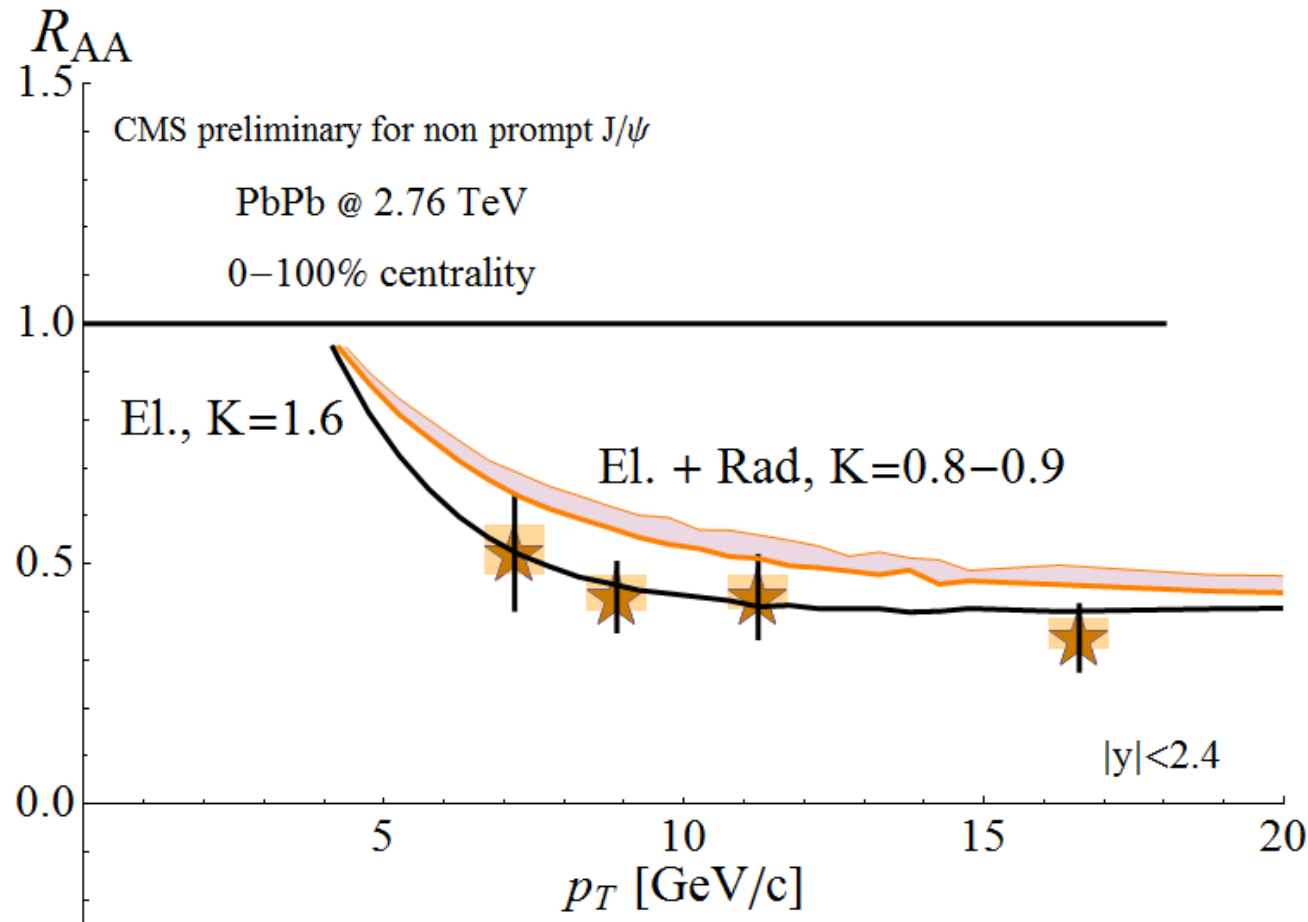


Some systematic trends: el. + rad.  
LPM shows more coupling...  
sensitive to larger  $x$  in the radiation  
spectra

$V_2(B)$ :  
PREDICTION

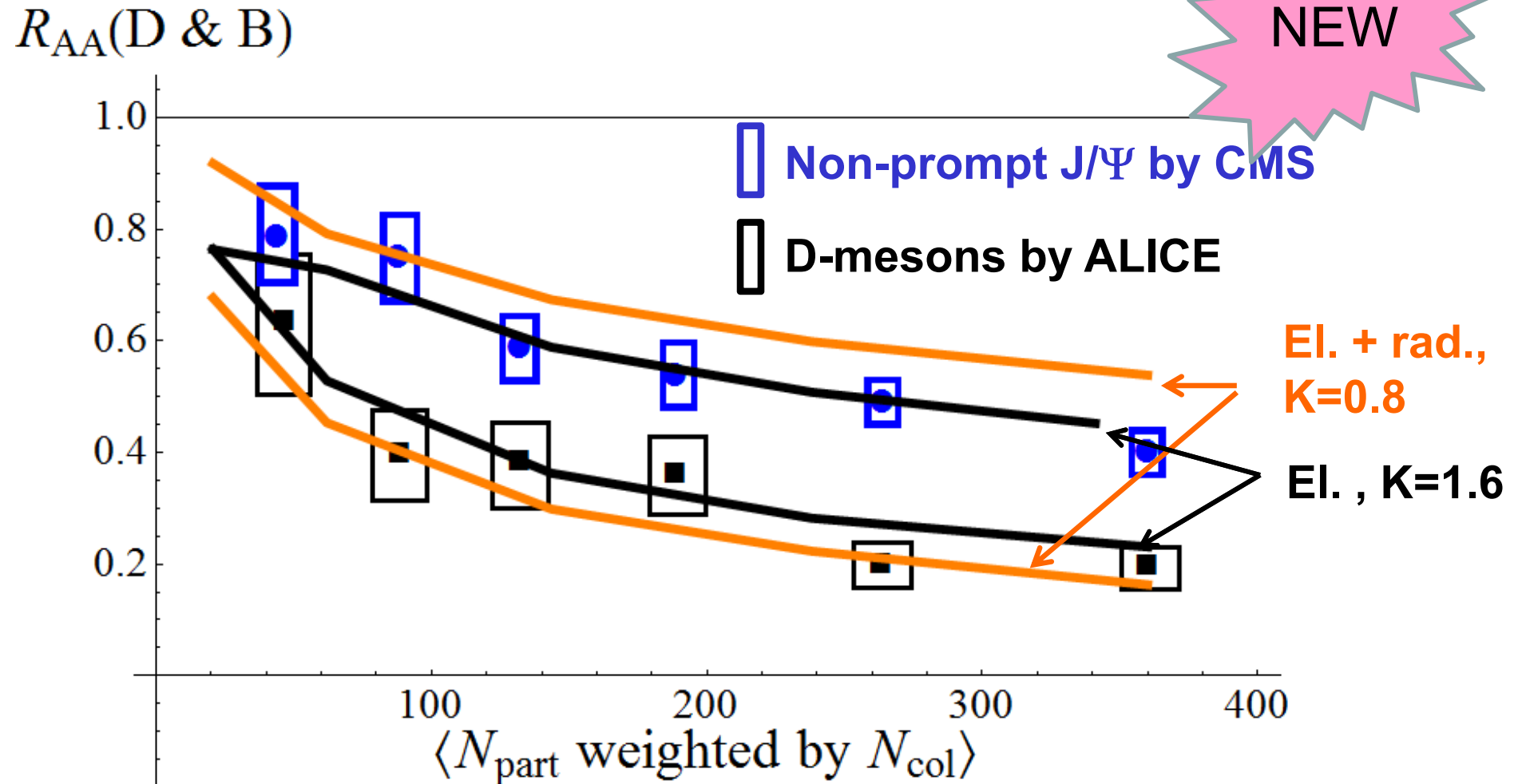
# B mesons at LHC

Same ingredients as for RHIC    Kolb-Heinz Hydro adjusted to  $dN_{ch}/dy = 1600$ ;  
No shadowing



**Need for genuine implementation of the  $B \rightarrow \psi$  feed-down  
in MC@sHQ**

# D & B mesons at LHC



Centrality dependence well reproduced

## Conclusions from LHC (from the KH background)

- Data at intermediate  $p_T$  are well reproduced with minimalistic modifications of the model(s).
- In particular: **NO TENSION** between  $v_2$  and  $R_{AA}$  *in the same  $p_T$  range* !
- D suppression at Large  $p_T$  favors collisional energy loss... or suggests improvements are in order for our treatment of radiative energy loss (finite path length, finite gluon width,...)
- Discrepancy at small  $p_T$  might be explained by shadowing.

However, one should never  
sleep on convenient results....

# Conclusions from LHC (from the KH background)

- Data at intermediate  $p_T$  are well reproduced with minimalistic modifications of the model(s).
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- Discrepancy at small  $p_T$  might be explained by shadowing.

However, one should never  
sleep on convenient results...

... awakening might be bitter!



## Results for EPOS2 Background

A pink starburst graphic with a black outline, containing the word "NEW" in black capital letters.

**NEW**

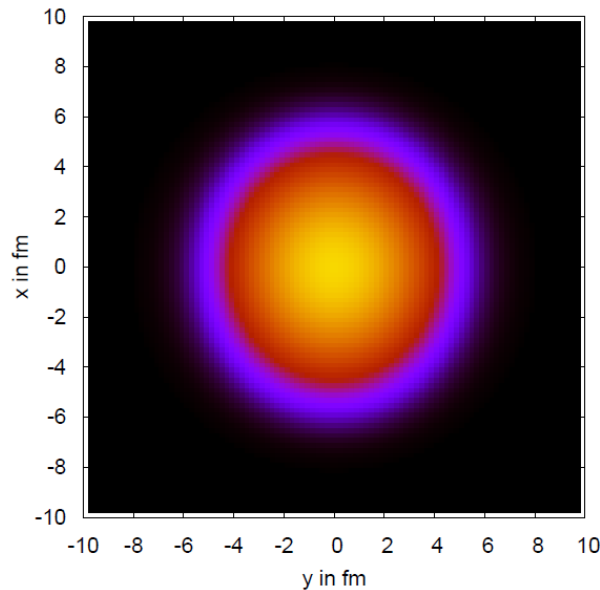
Full manuscript available soon



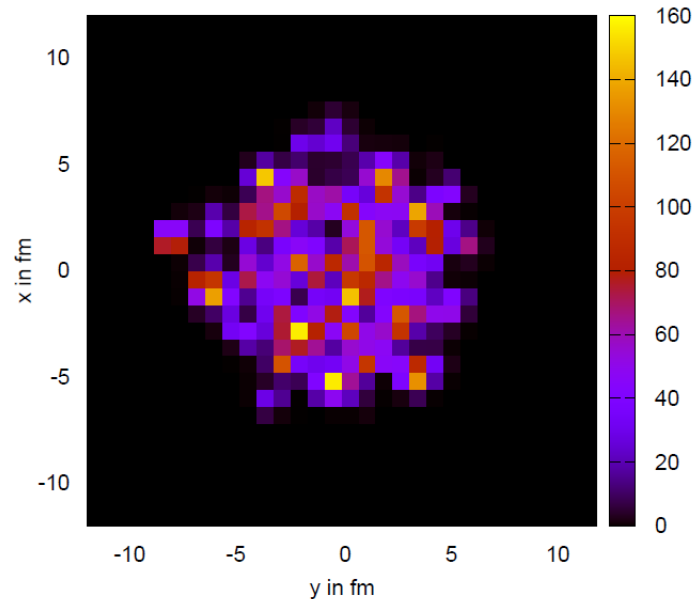
# EPOS as a background for MC@sHQ

EPOS: state of the art framework that encompass pp, pA and AA collisions

Initial energy density @ RHIC (central Au-Au)



Kolb Heinz



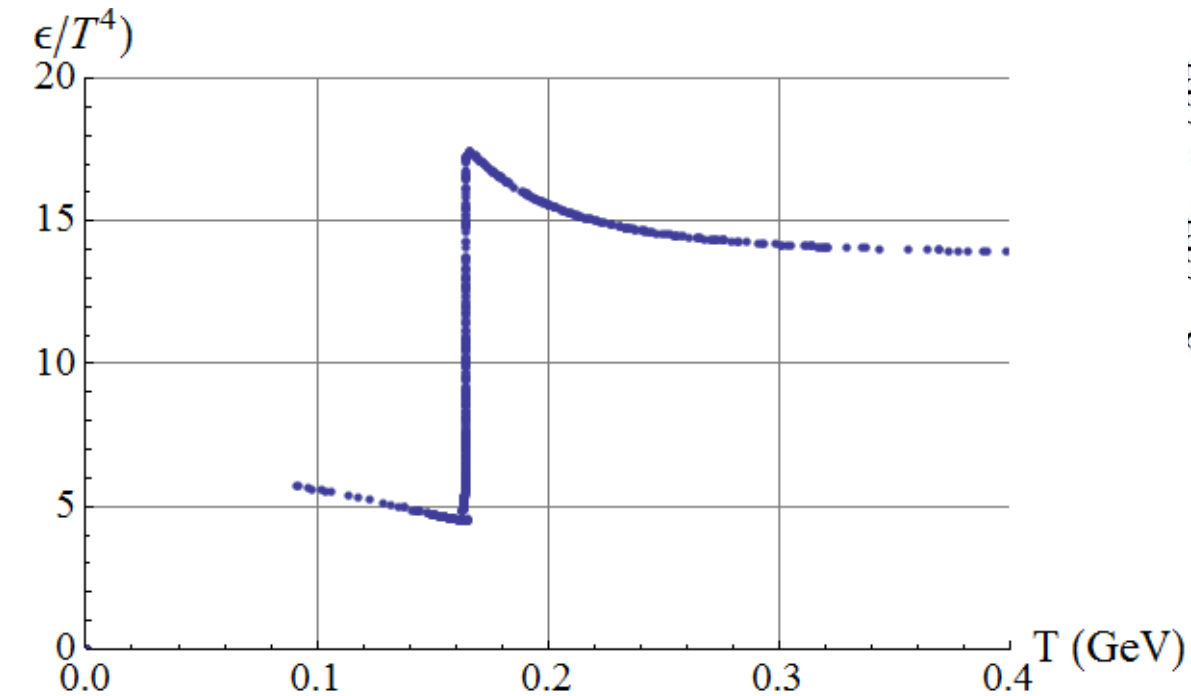
Beware:  $\neq$  color scales

EPOS2 (still ideal hydro; viscous effect modelled by artificially large radius of the flux tubes)

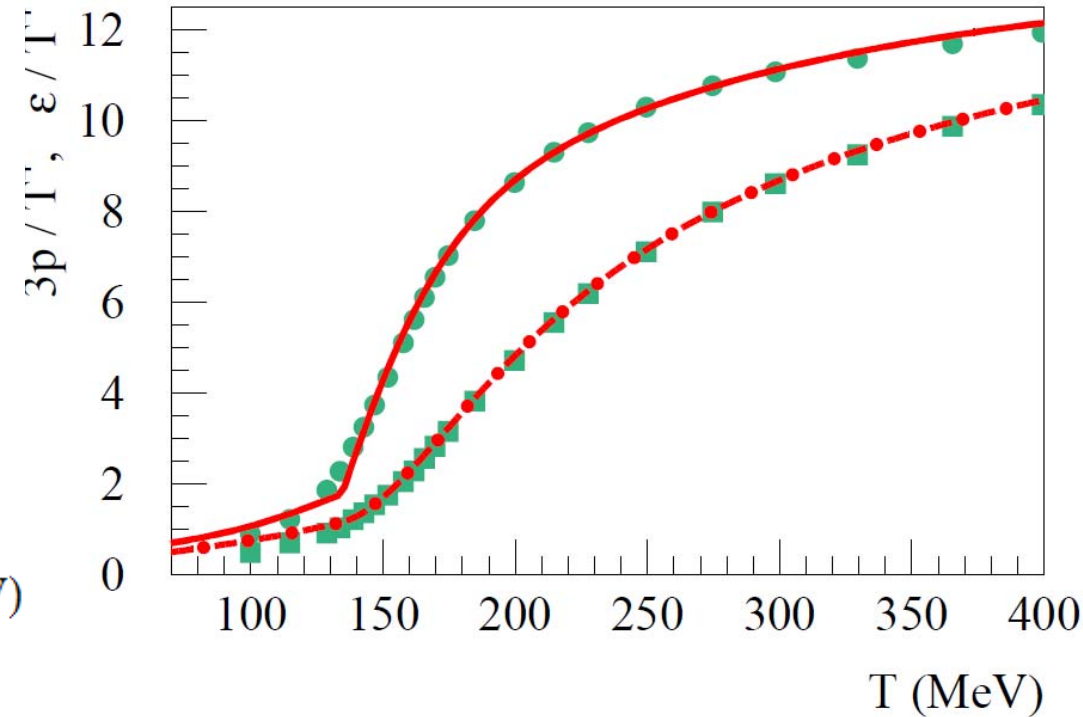
More realistic hydro and initial conditions => original HQ studies as:

- 1) fluctuations in HQ observables (some HQ might « leak » through the « holes » in the QGP)
- 2) correlations between HF and light hadrons

# Large differences in the EOS !

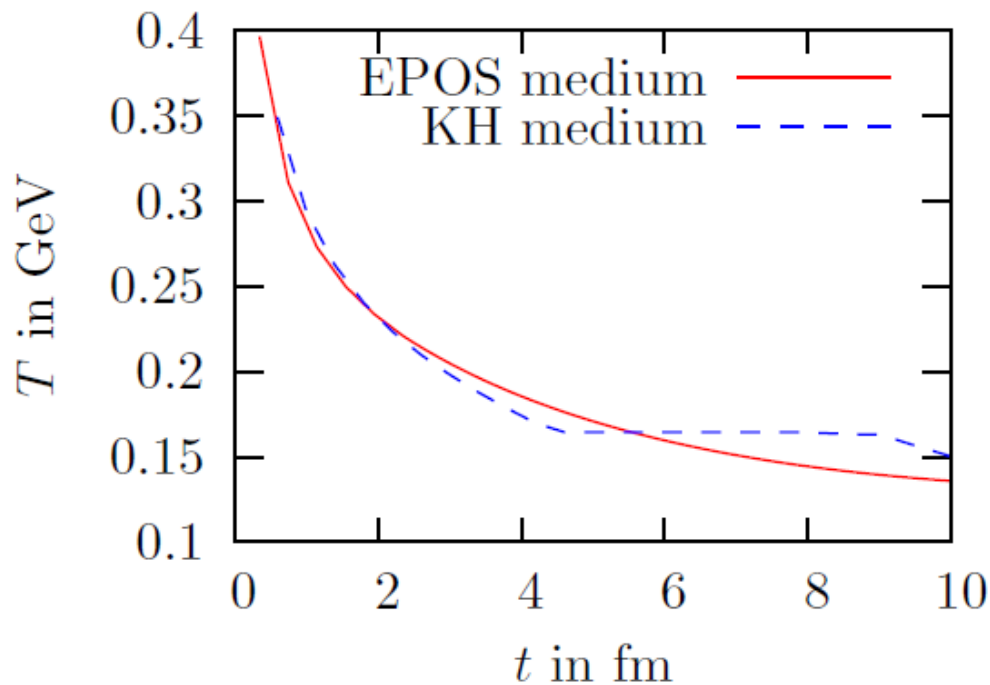


Kolb Heinz: bag model  
(1st order transition  
btwn hadronic phase  
and massless partons)

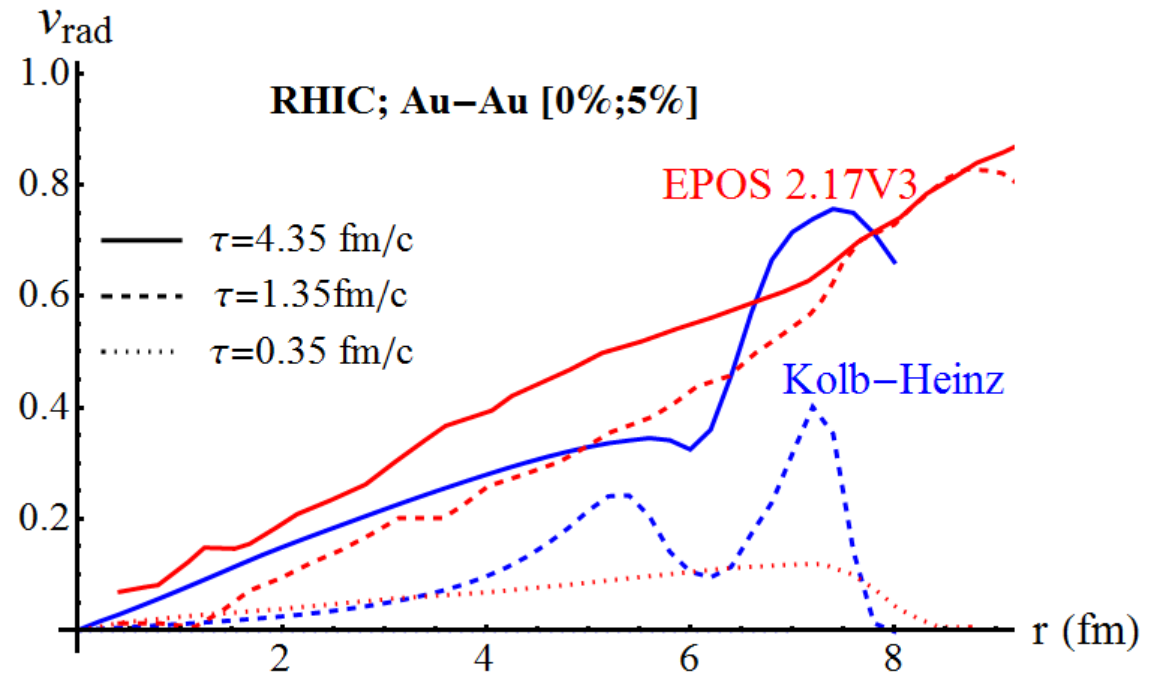


EPOS2: fitted on the  
lattice data from the  
Wuppertal-Budapest  
collaboration

# Medium comparison at RHIC

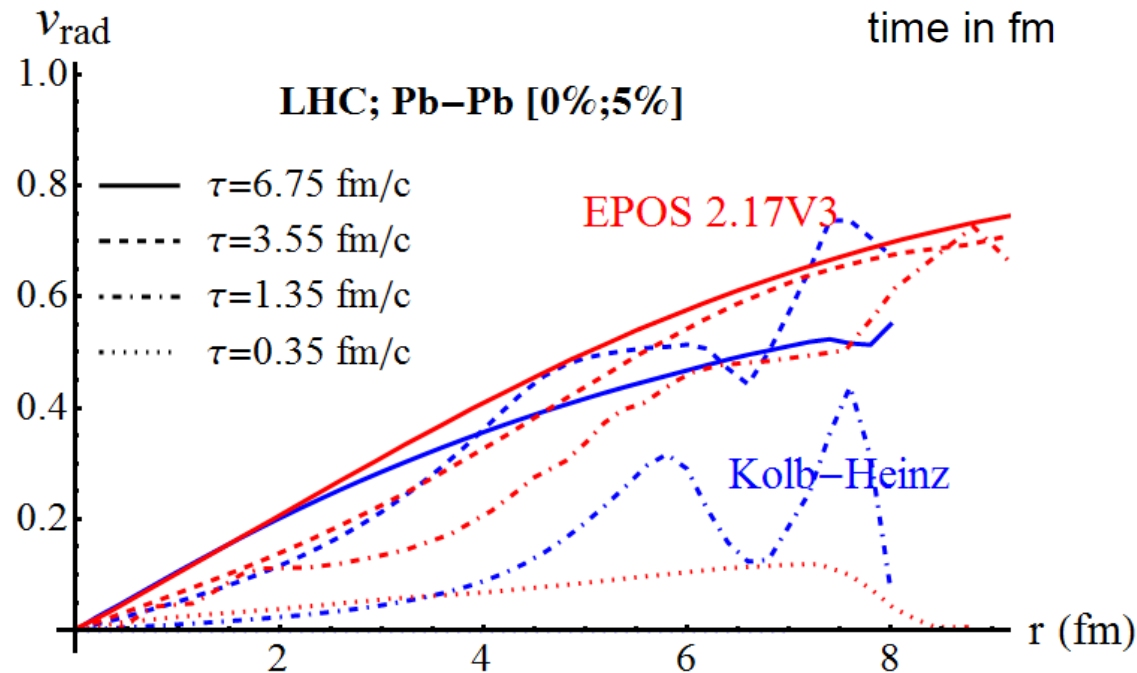
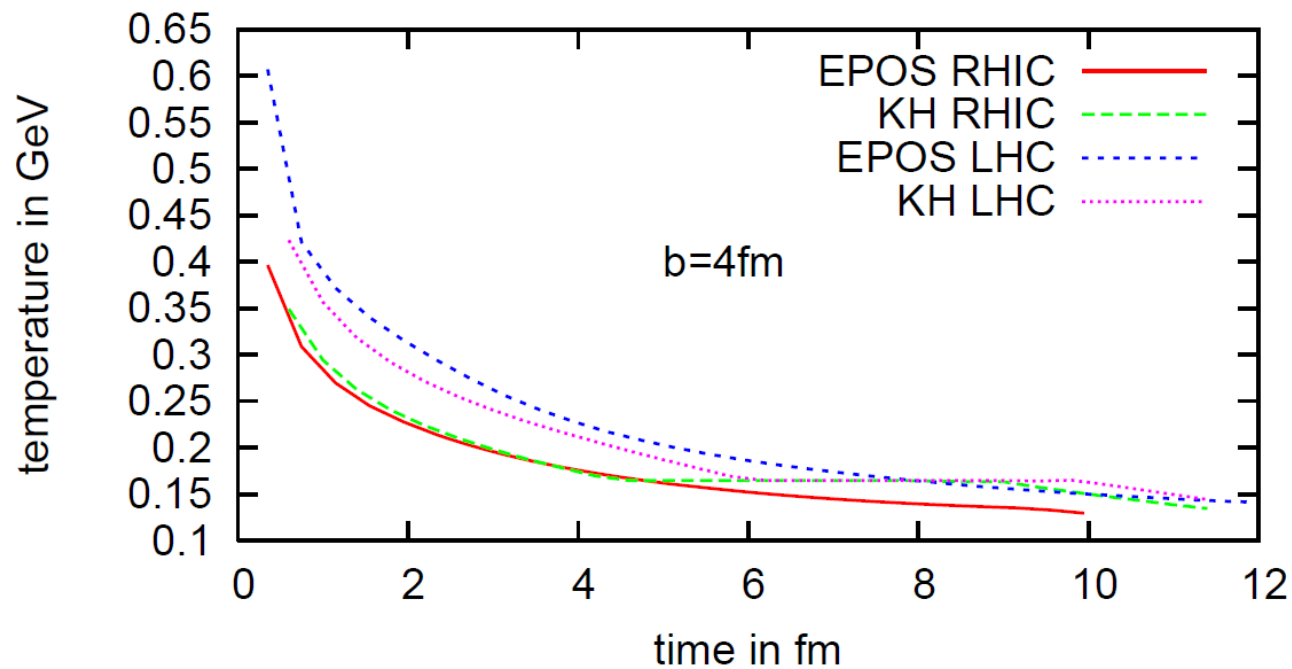


Gross features of  $T$ -evolution are identical in the « plasma » phase ( $T > 200$  MeV)



Radial velocities differ significantly, starting from the earliest times in the evolution

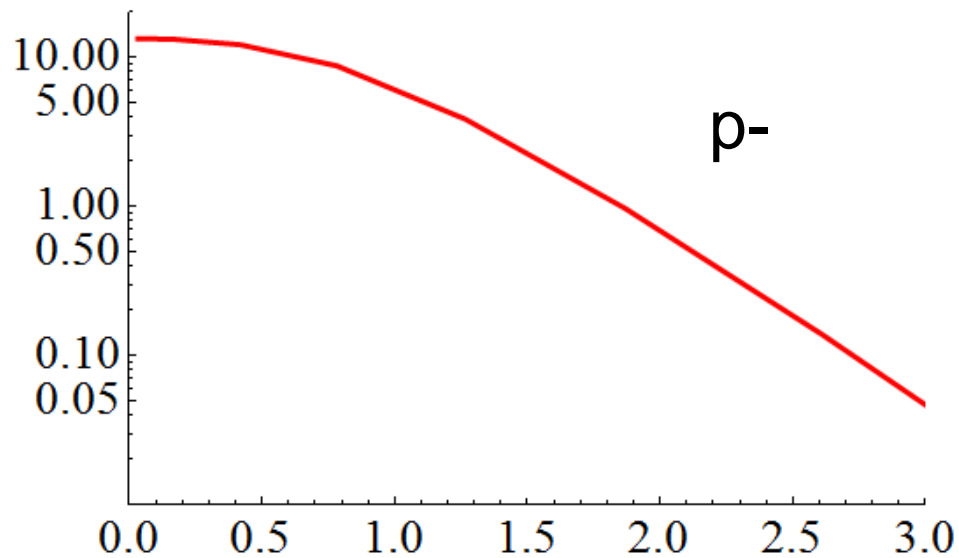
# Medium comparison at LHC



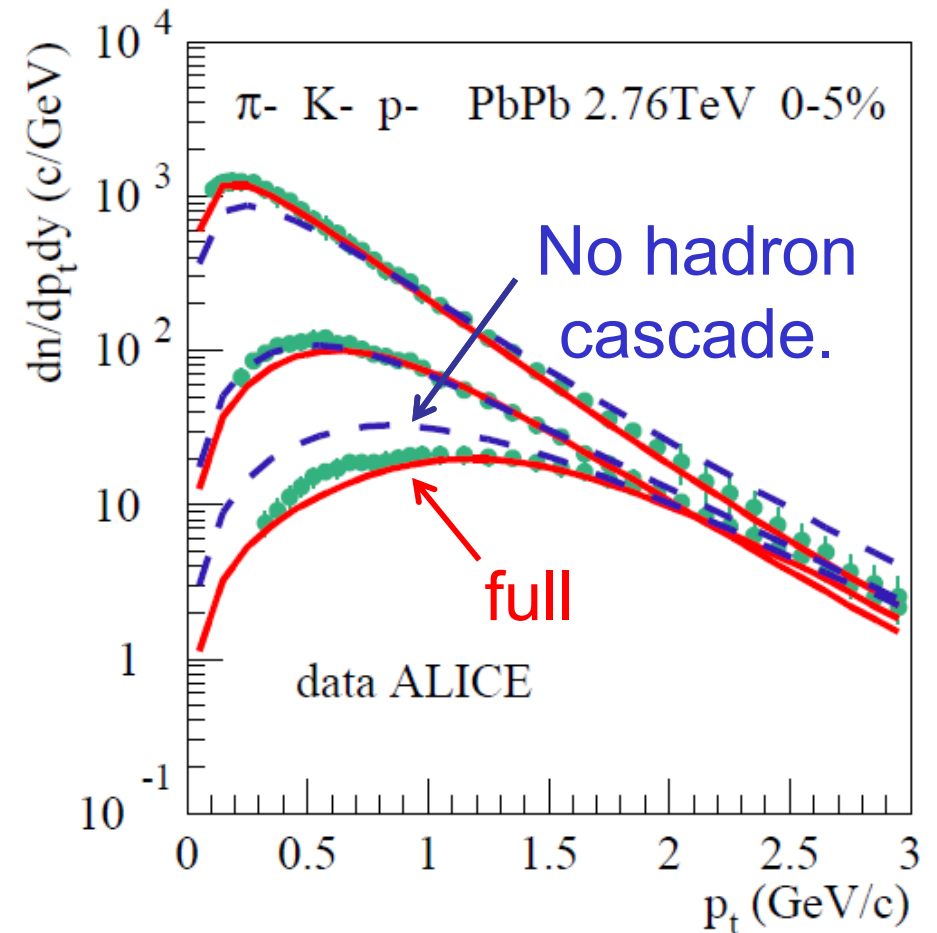
EPOS2 hotter and more explosive than Kolb-Heinz !

# Identified particles spectra at LHC

KH,  $b=3\text{fm}$



EPOS2.17V3



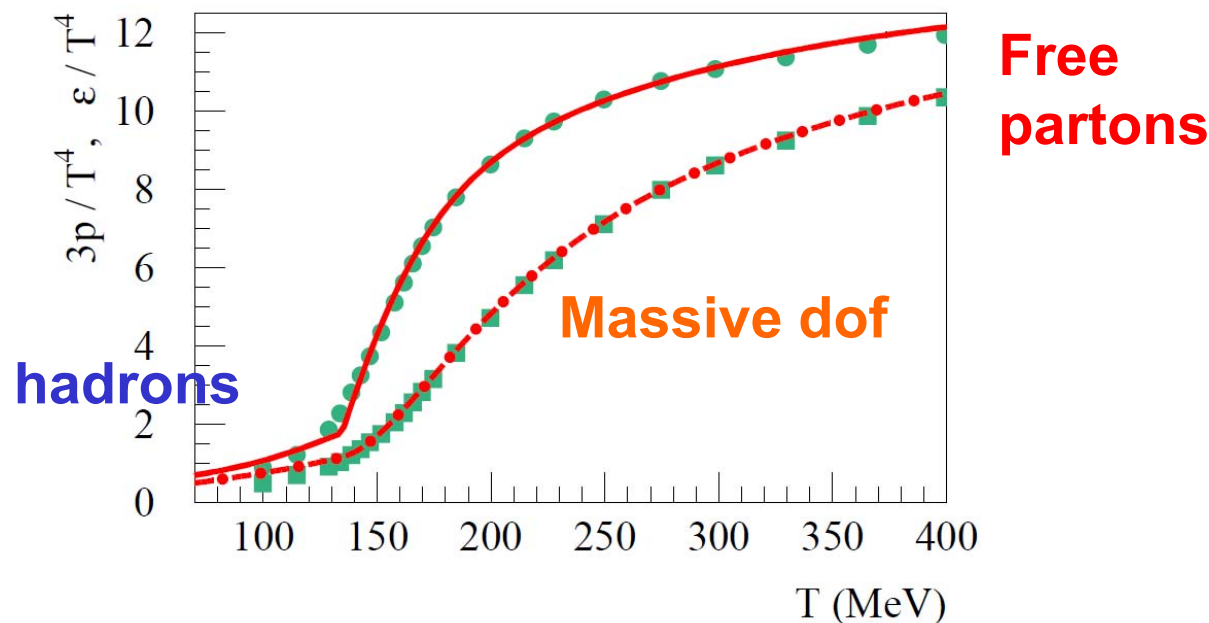
Phys. Rev. C 85, 064907 (2012)

Lack of radial flow in KH has large consequences on observables

# Coupling EPOS and MC@HQ

Two main (physical) issues:

- 1) Generating initial HQ consistently with the multipartonic approach in EPOS (ongoing project)
- 2) Dealing properly with the underlying degrees of freedom in a crossover evolution between hadronic phase and QGP.



See as well: H. Berrehrah (arXiv:1308.5148) Collisional processes of on-shell and off-shell heavy quarks in vacuum and in the Quark-Gluon-Plasma

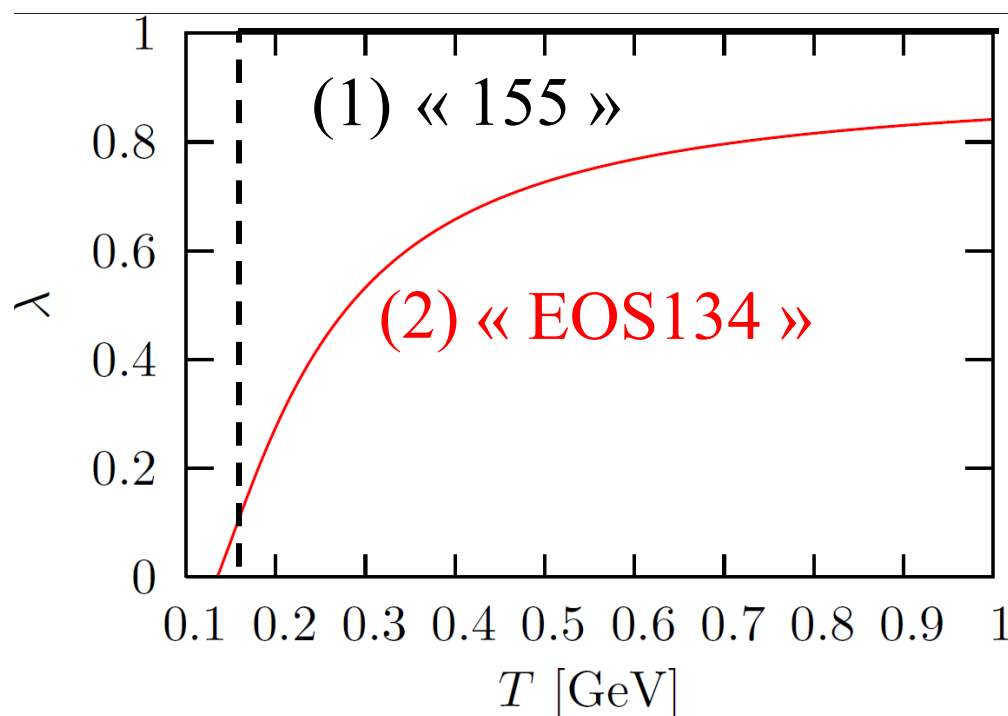




# Coupling EPOS and MC@HQ

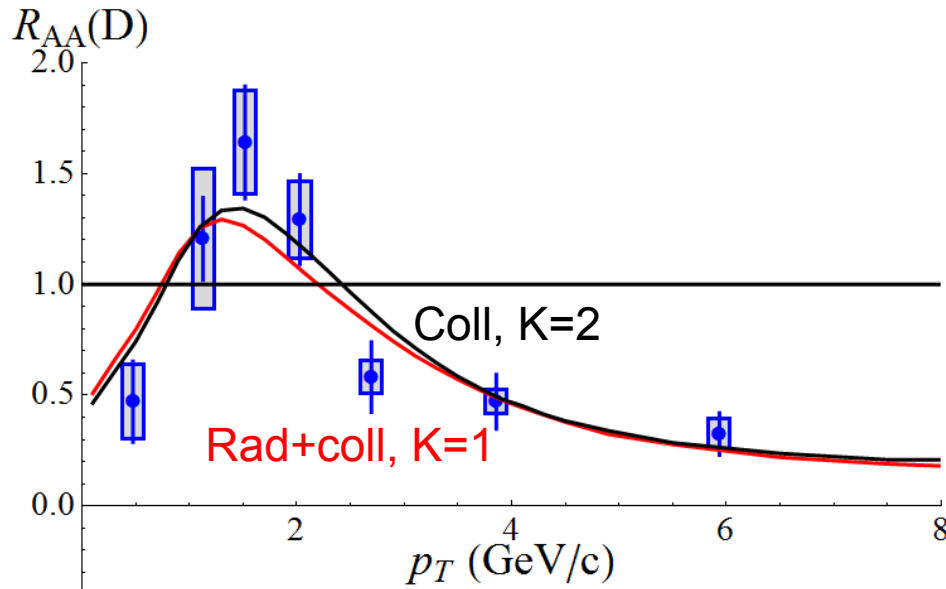
For the time, 2 prescriptions:

- 1) Interactions as in KH medium (evaluated with massless partons) down to  $T_c=155\text{MeV}$  (in the bulk of the range for the transition temperatures given from lattice)... **most conservative**
- 2) Reduction of effective dof ( $1 \rightarrow \lambda$ ) using the EPOS parametrization of the EOS in terms of partonic and hadronic dofs... down to  $T_c=134\text{MeV}$  (value at which  $\lambda=0$ )

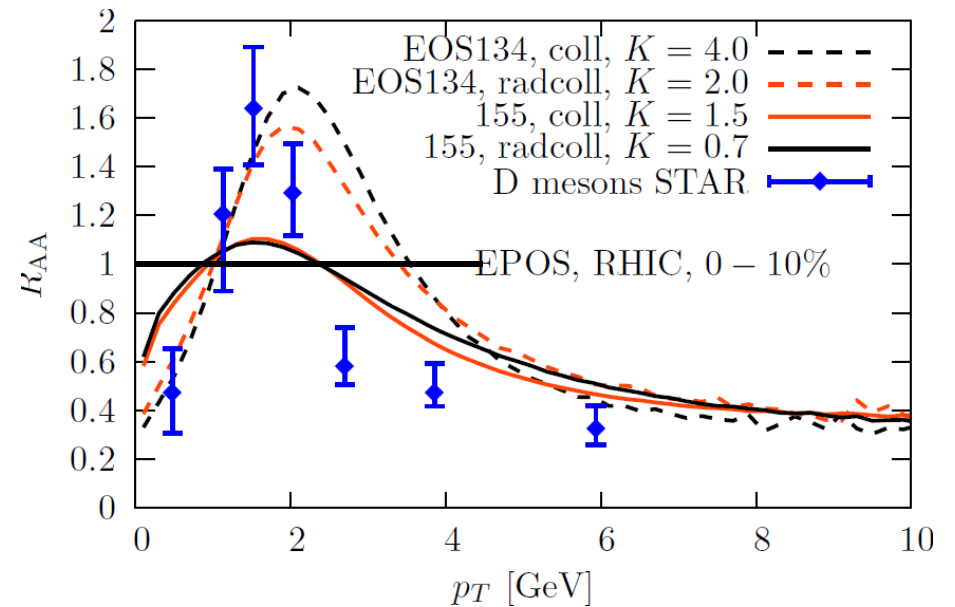


# Some EPOS2+MC@<sub>s</sub>HQ results at RHIC

KH background



EPOS background + reduction of dof



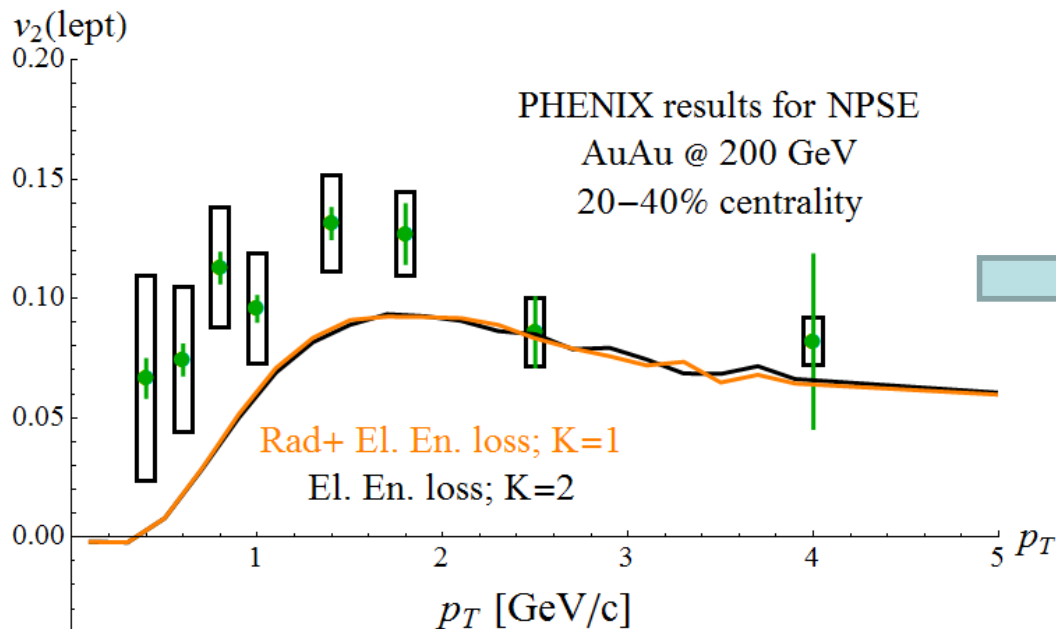
Slightly larger radial flow in EPOS

Both « cocktails » (HF energy loss + background + K factor) provide a fair agreement with the data

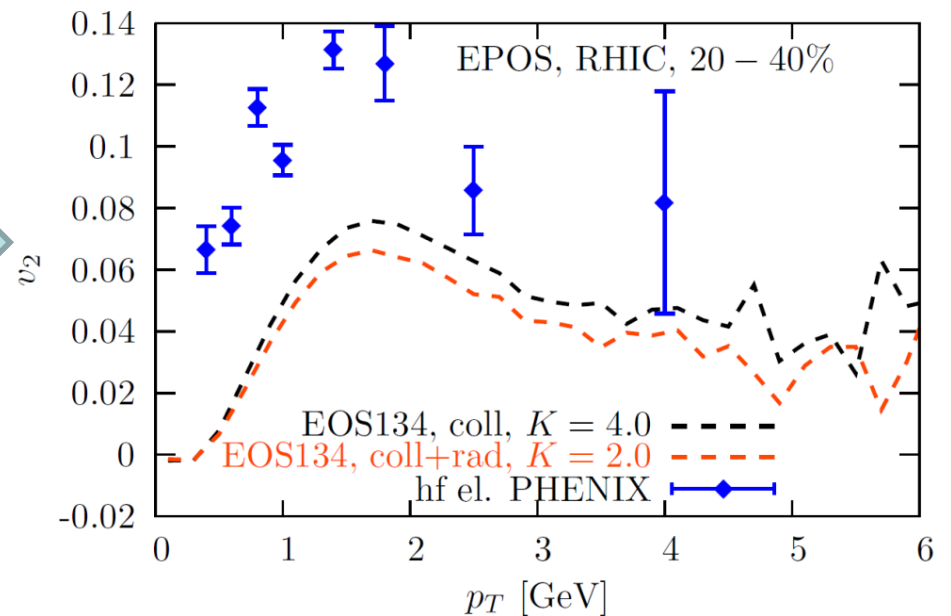
Room to investigate the role of hadronic degrees of freedom above phase space (see also arxiv 1305.6544, accepted for publication in PRC)

# Some EPOS2+MC@sHQ results at RHIC

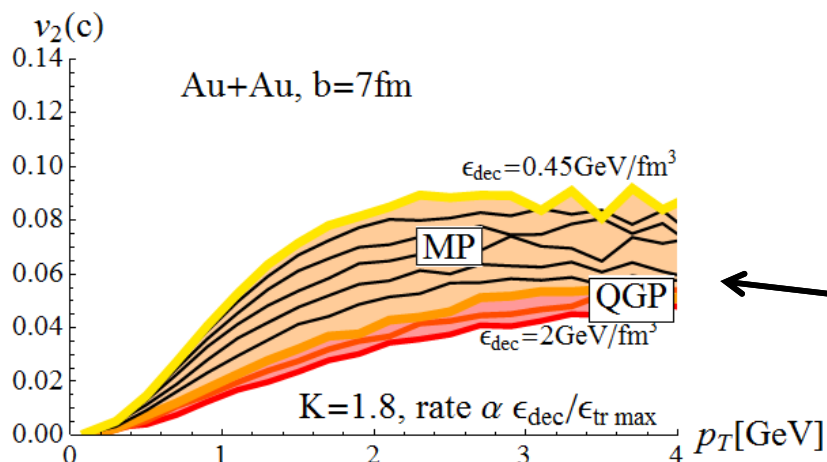
KH background



EPOS background + reduction of dof



Elliptic flow is reduced by  $\approx 1\%$



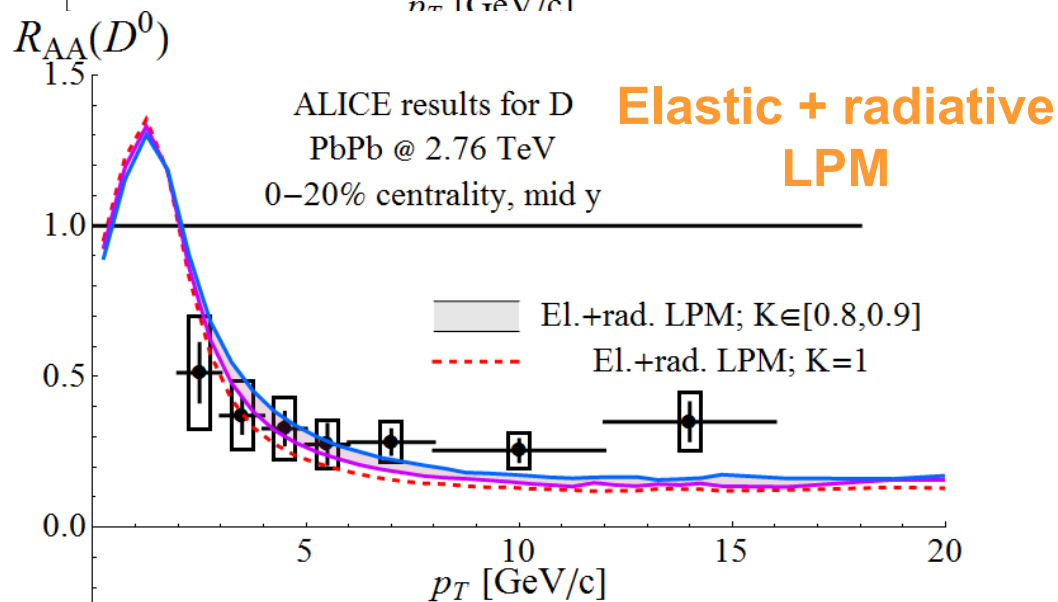
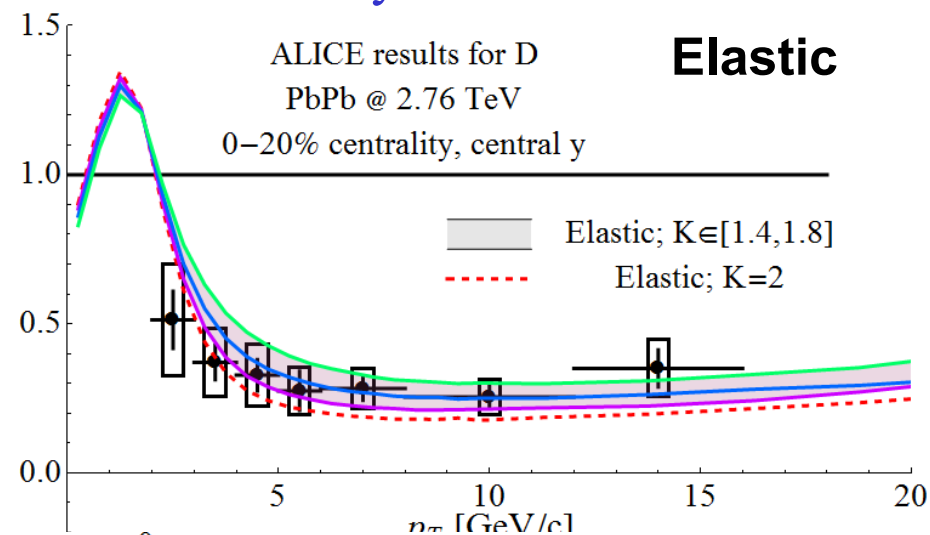
**Systematic underprediction of  $v_2$ , ... which develops continuously in time. Probably need for hadronic afterburner in order to reach experimental values.**

# Some EPOS2+MC@<sub>s</sub>HQ results at LHC

AGAIN: NO SHADOWING (yet)

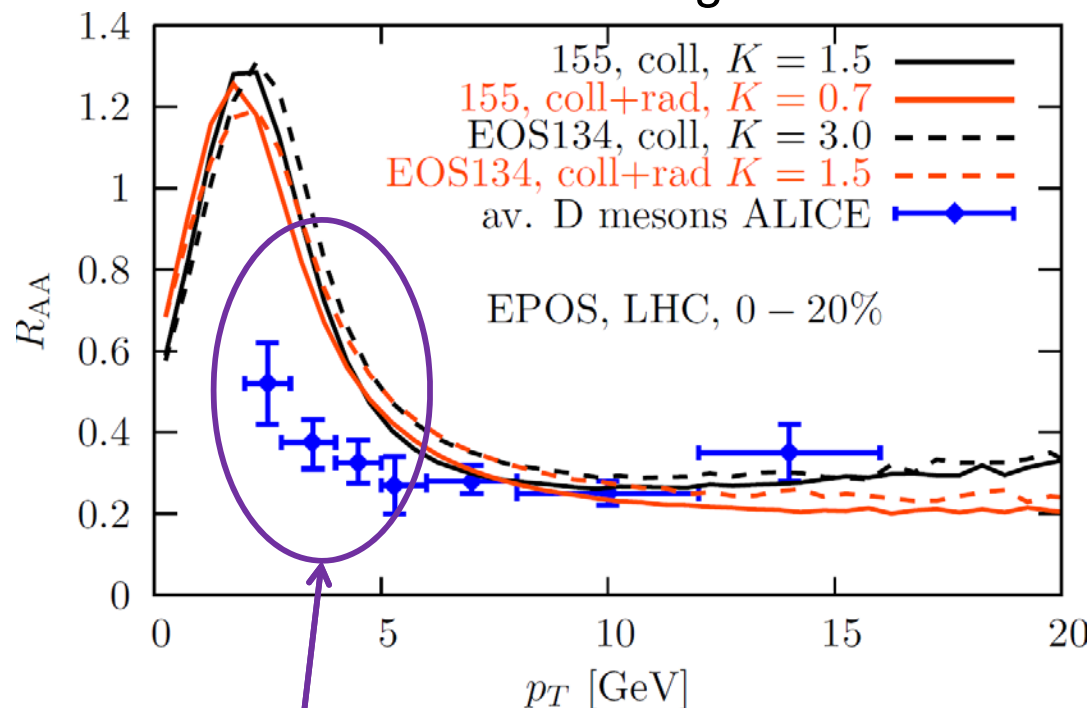
Kolb-Heinz Hydro ( $dN_{ch}/dy = 1600$ )

K close to unity if rad + col considered



EPOS background

K values fixed at  $p_T=10$  GeV/c, x2 if reduction of dof according to EOS134 !



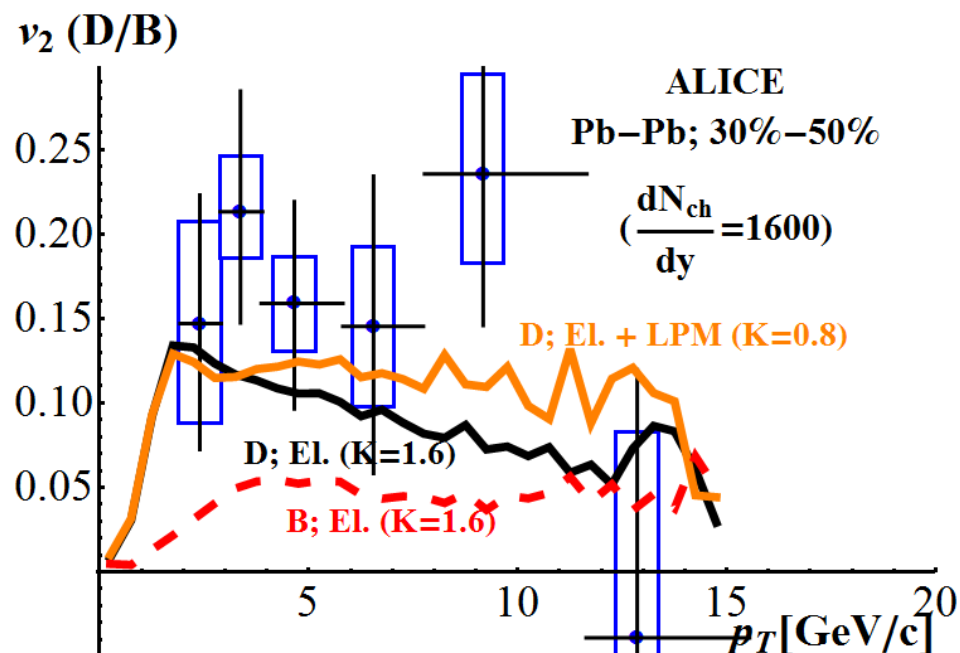
Large push from radial flow; discrepancy unlikely to be explained by shadowing alone.

Concern: Need to revisit the model for small  $p_T$  ?

# Some EPOS2+MC@<sub>s</sub>HQ results at LHC

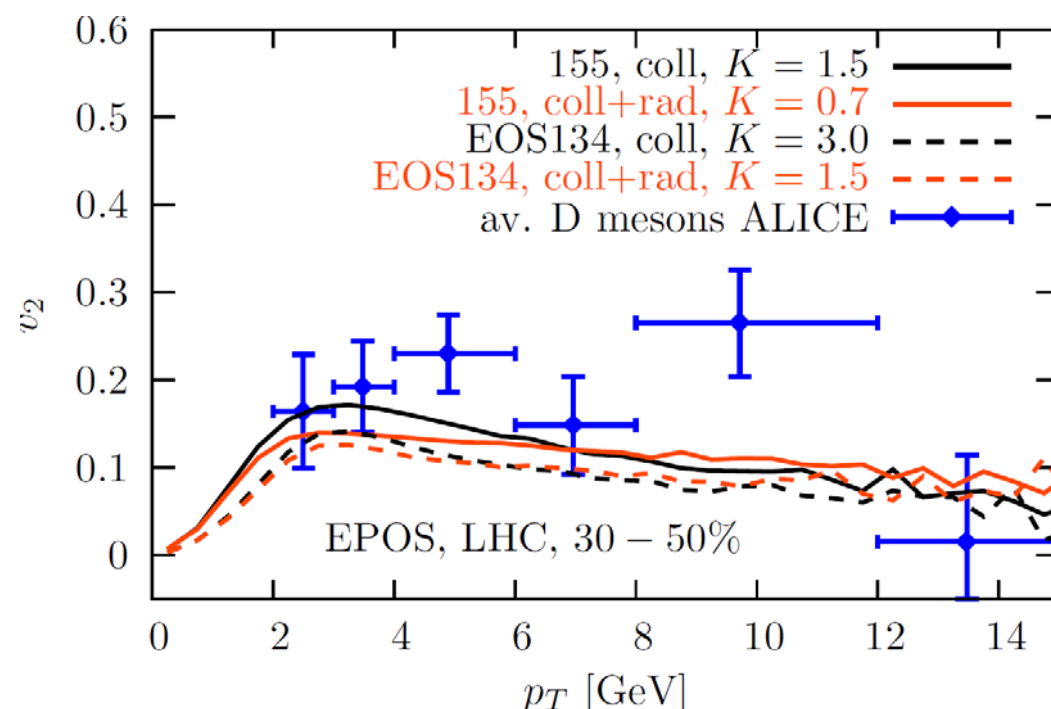
Kolb-Heinz Hydro ( $dN_{\text{ch}}/dy = 1600$ )

K close to unity if rad + col considered



EPOS background

K values fixed at  $p_T=10$  GeV/c, x2 if reduction of dof according to EOS134 !



Concerns: Need to revisit the model for small  $p$  ?... (Bad) consequences for  $v_2$  ?

**Main message: the models of HF energy loss and the background medium (including its microscopic content) are bound together**

# Lessons, Answers & Perspectives

➤ As compared to the experimental data; larger discrepancy at small  $p_T$  using more realistic EPOS2. **Lesson 1: Improving one component of your model does not always help to gain agreement with experiment (GOOD !)**

➤ **Can the experimental HQ results be understood by pQCD-inspired models ?**  
**Mostly YES**

LHC opens the window for disentangling between various models although it requires more precision from the experiments.

➤ **Can the experimental results be understood by pQCD-inspired models using realistic backgrounds ?**

**More challenging! Main message: the models of HF energy loss and the background medium (including its microscopic content) are bound together. Need to study all these components jointly !**

➤ Perspectives: Focus on the role of the background medium. First steps towards the coupling with one state of the art approach (EPOS) offers many future studies (correlations, quantifying HF energy loss in a strongly coupled plasma, viscous medium,...)

# Based on

- *Towards an understanding of the single electron data measured at the BNL Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)*, P.B. Gossiaux & J. Aichelin, Phys. Rev. C **78**, 014904 (2008); [arXiv:0802.2525 ]
- *Tomography of quark gluon plasma at energies available at the BNL Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) and the CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC)*, P.B. Gossiaux, R. Bierkandt & J. Aichelin, Physical Review C **79** (2009) 044906; [arXiv:0901.0946]
- *Tomography of the Quark Gluon Plasma by Heavy Quarks*, P.-B. Gossiaux & J. Aichelin, J. Phys. G **36** (2009) 064028; [arXiv:0901.2462]
- *Energy Loss of Heavy Quarks in a QGP with a Running Coupling Constant Approach*, P.B. Gossiaux & J. Aichelin, Nucl. Phys. A **830** (2009), 203; [arXiv:0907.4329]
- *Competition of Heavy Quark Radiative and Collisional Energy Loss in Deconfined Matter*, P.B. Gossiaux, J. Aichelin, T. Gousset & V. Guiho, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **37** (2010) 094019; [arXiv:1001.4166]
- *Plasma damping effects on the radiative energy loss of relativistic particles*, M. Bluhm, P. B. Gossiaux, & J. Aichelin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107 (2011) 265004 [[arXiv:1106.2856](#)]
- *Theory of heavy quark energy loss*, P.B. Gossiaux, J. Aichelin, T. Gousset, [[arXiv:1201.4038v1](#)]

# Based on

- Radiative and Collisional Energy Loss of Heavy Quarks in Deconfined Matter *Radiative*, J. Aichelin, P.B. Gossiaux, T. Gousset, [[arXiv:1201.4192v1](#)]
- On the formation of bremsstrahlung in an absorptive QED/QCD medium, M. Bluhm, P. B. Gossiaux, T. Gousset & J. Aichelin, [[arXiv:1204.2469v1](#)]
- ... other recent publications all available on arxiv