



Modelling Early Time Dynamics of Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions

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(part of)
Catania Transport Group



Plan of the talk

- Relativistic Transport Theory for HICs
- Flux Tube model for early stages
- ***Selected results***
- Conclusions



Boltzmann equation and QGP

In order to *simulate* the temporal evolution of the fireball we solve the *Boltzmann equation* for the parton distribution function f :

$$(p_\mu \partial^\mu + gQ F^{\mu\nu} p_\mu \partial_\nu^p) f = C[f]$$



Field interaction

Collision integral

Field interaction: change of f due to interactions of the partonic plasma with a field (e.g. color-electric field).

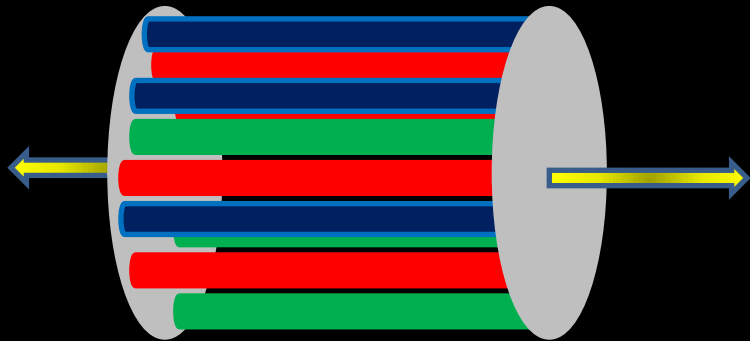
Collision integral: change of f due to collision processes in the phase space volume centered at (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) .

We use the *stochastic method* to compute the collision integral:

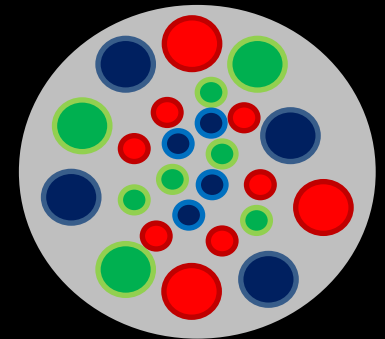
- .) phase space is mapped by test particles
- .) collisions are simulated by means of a probabilistic algorithm

From Glasma to QGP: Schwinger effect

Glasma: Longitudinal view



Glasma: Transverse plane



Problem:

how does the QCD dynamics leads to a thermalized and isotropic QGP, starting from a Glasma?

Schwinger effect + collisions

Based on the assumption that classical color fields decay to a QGP via vacuum tunneling, namely via the **Schwinger effect** (Schwinger, 1951).

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -j_D - j_M$$

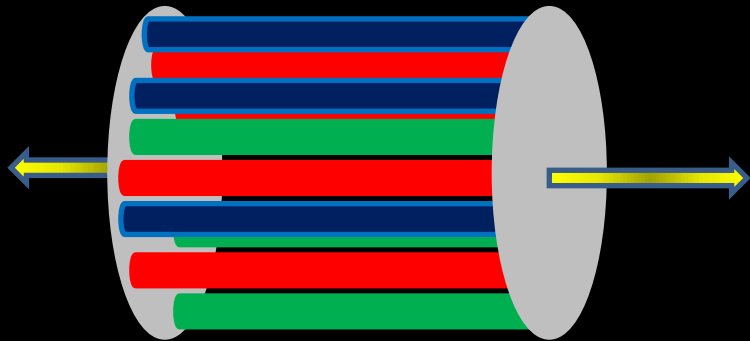
$$j_M = \sum_{\text{species}} g \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} p_z f(|\mathbf{p}|, t)$$

$$j_D \equiv \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \int d^3p g \frac{2E_T}{gE} \times \frac{dN}{d^4x d^3p}$$

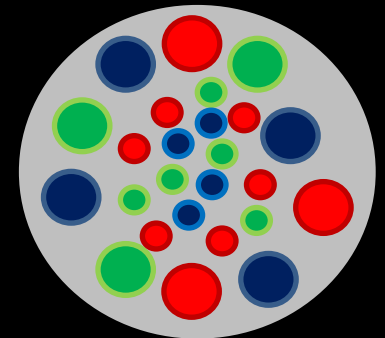


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Schwinger effect

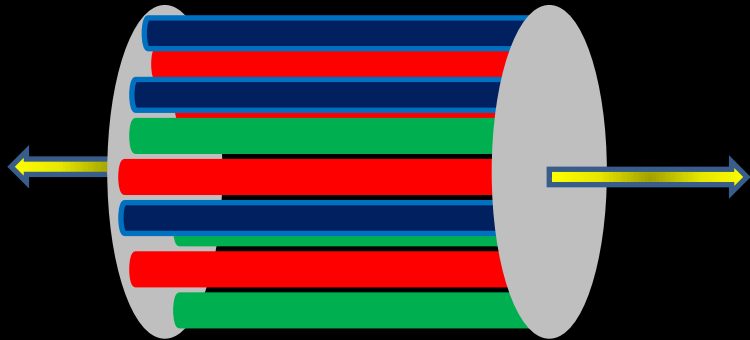
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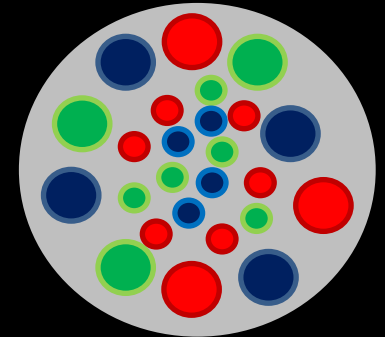


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Conduction

$$j_M = \sum_{\text{species}} g \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} p_z f(|\mathbf{p}|, t)$$

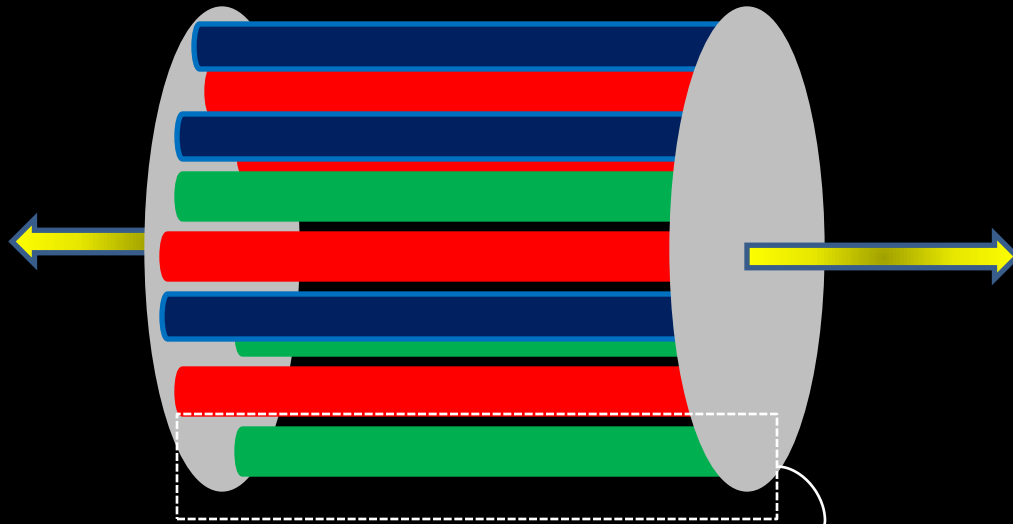
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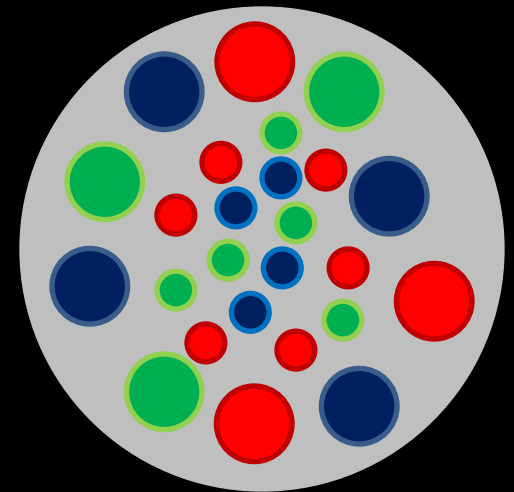
Schwinger effect in Chromodynamics

Abelian Flux Tube Model

Longitudinal view



Transverse plane view



Focus on a single flux tube:



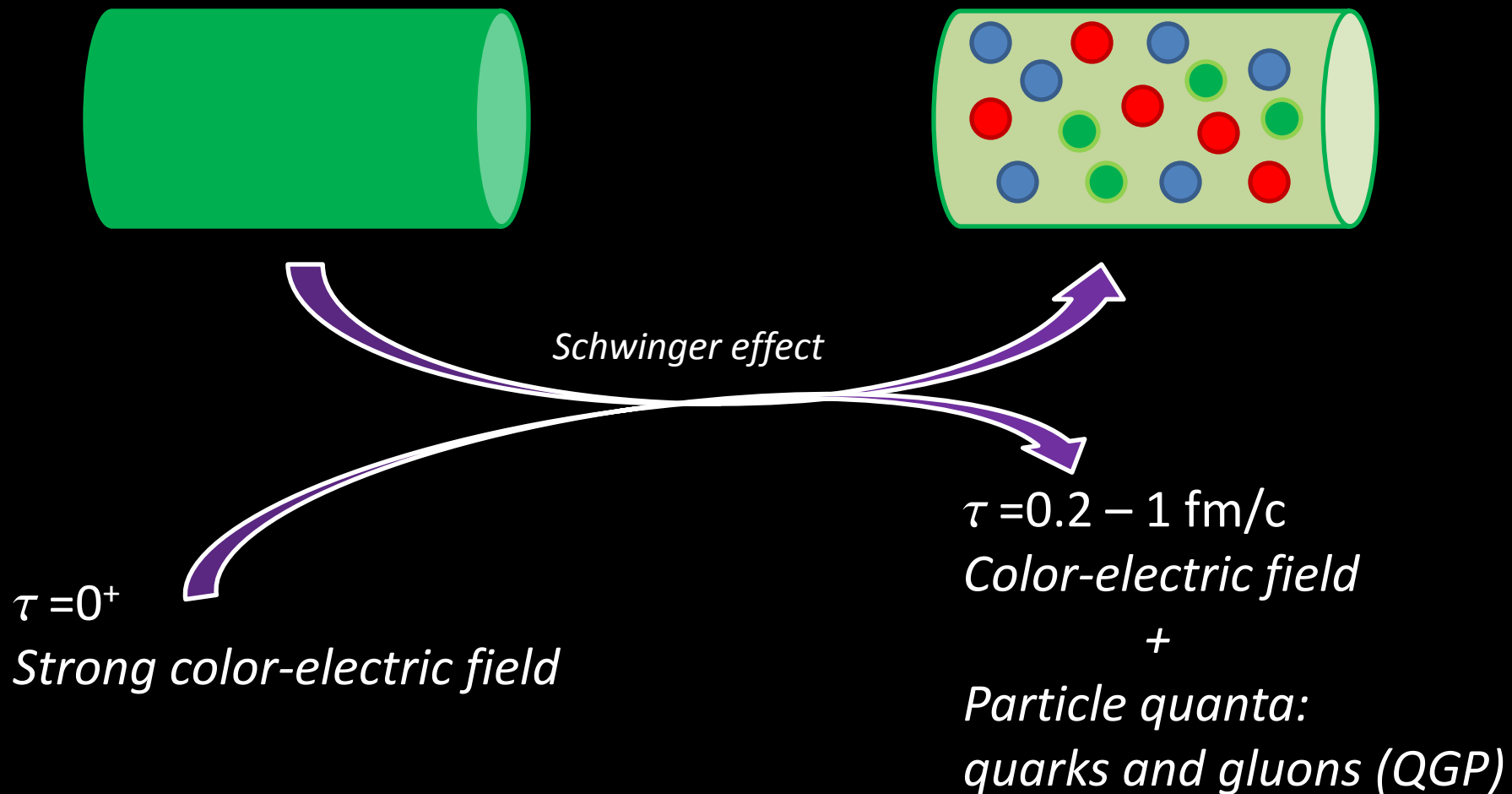
- (.) neglect color-magnetic fields;
- (.) assume *color-electric fields* evolve as *classical abelian fields*;
- (.) initial field is *longitudinal*;
- (.) assume *Schwinger effect* takes place:
Color-electric color field decays into quark-antiquark as well as gluon pairs

*Abelian
Flux
Tube
Model*

Schwinger effect in Chromodynamics

Summary of the dynamics involved

Longitudinal view of a single expanding flux tube



Boltzmann equation and QGP

In order to permit *particle creation* from the vacuum we need to add a *source term* to the rhs of the Boltzmann equation:

$$(p_\mu \partial^\mu + g Q_{jc} F^{\mu\nu} p_\mu \partial_\nu^p) f_{jc} = p_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{dN_{jc}}{d^3x d^3p} + \mathcal{C}[f]$$



Field interaction

Invariant source term

Florkowski and Ryblewski, PRD 88 (2013)



Invariant source term: change of f due to particle creation in the volume at (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) .
IST is implemented stochastically.

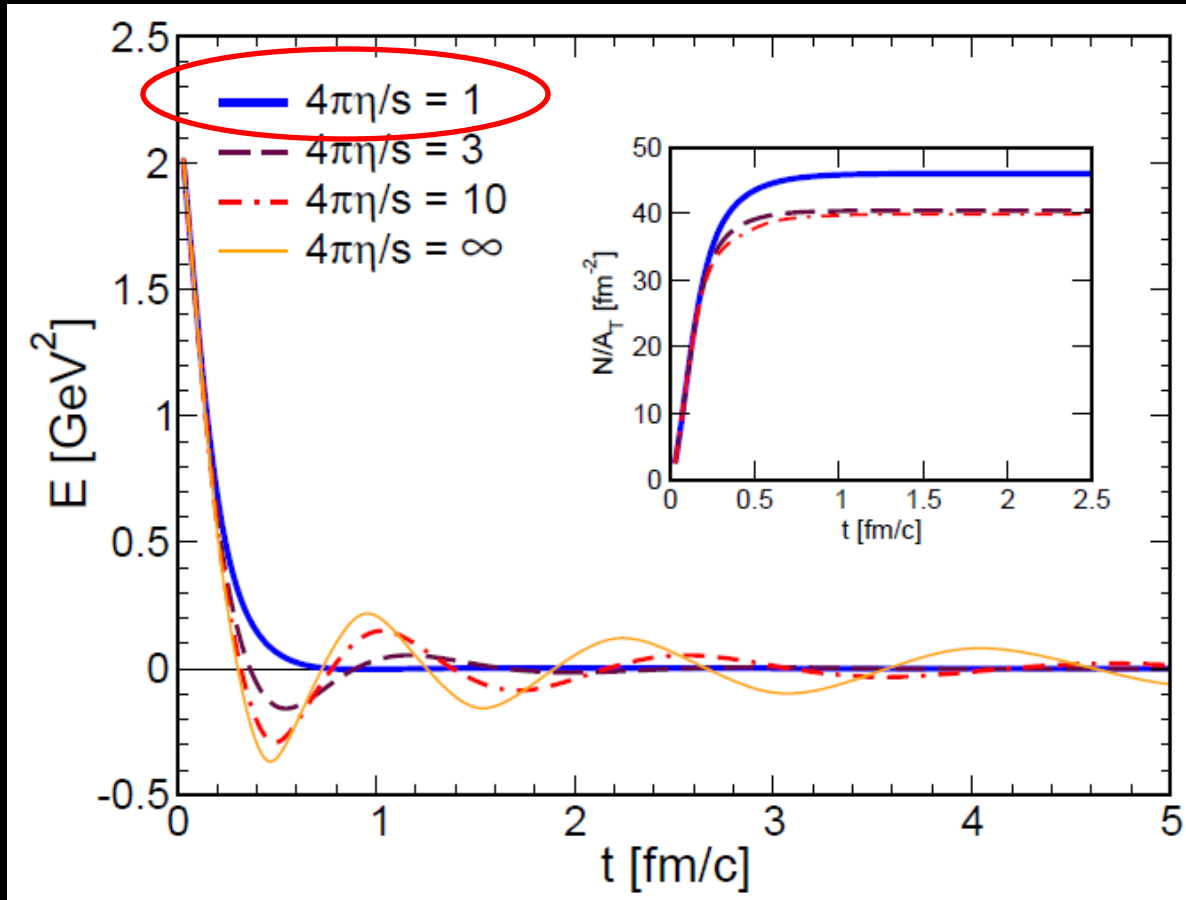
Invariant source term
Field interaction



Link parton distribution function and classical color field evolutions

We have to solve self-consistently *Boltzmann* and *Maxwell equations*

Field decay in 1+1D expansion



ρ electric charge density
 j_M electric current
 j_D polarization current
 ← Schwinger production of plasma

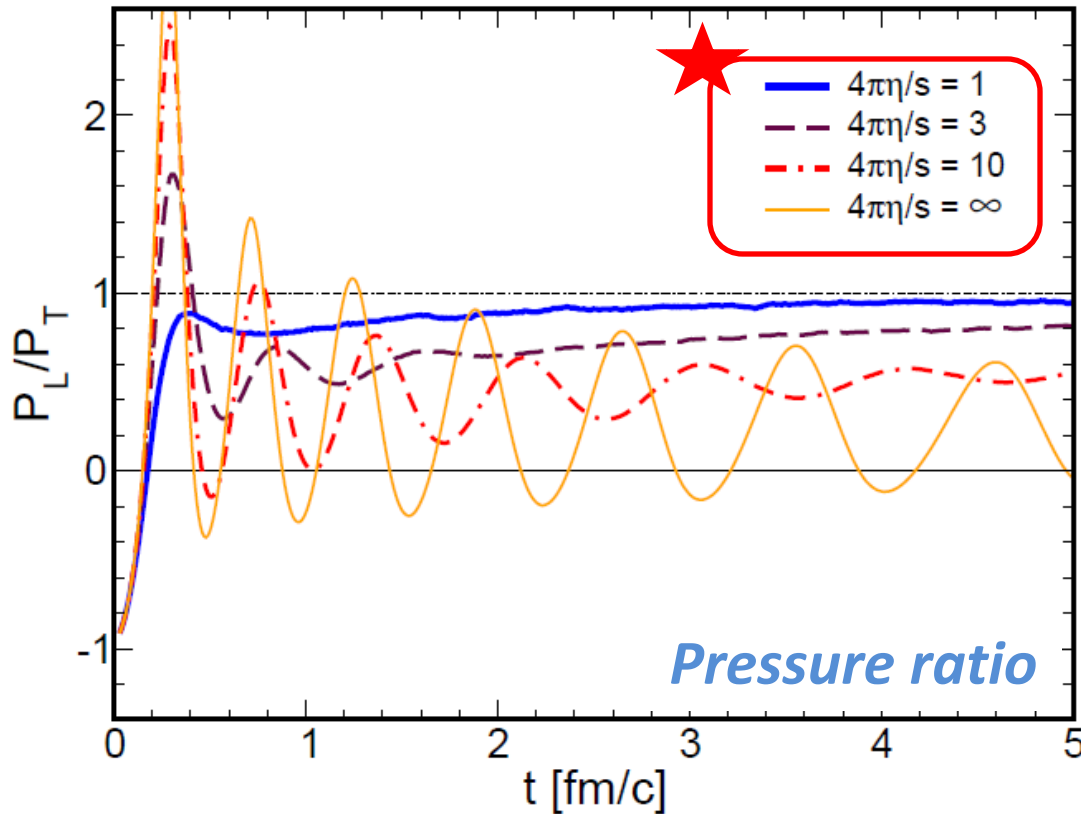
Small η/s

(.) Field decays quickly (power law)

Small η/s implies large scattering rate, meaning efficient randomization of particles momenta in each cell, thus damping ordered particle flow along the field direction (electric current).

Decay controlled by Schwinger effect

Pressure isotropization



$$T_{field}^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(\varepsilon, P_T, P_T, P_L)$$

$$\propto \text{diag}(\mathcal{E}^2, \mathcal{E}^2, \mathcal{E}^2, -\mathcal{E}^2)$$

$$T_{particles}^{\mu\nu} = \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{p^\mu p^\nu}{E} f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p})$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = T_{particles}^{\mu\nu} + T_{field}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$P_L = T_{zz}$$

$$P_T = \frac{T_{xx} + T_{yy}}{2}$$

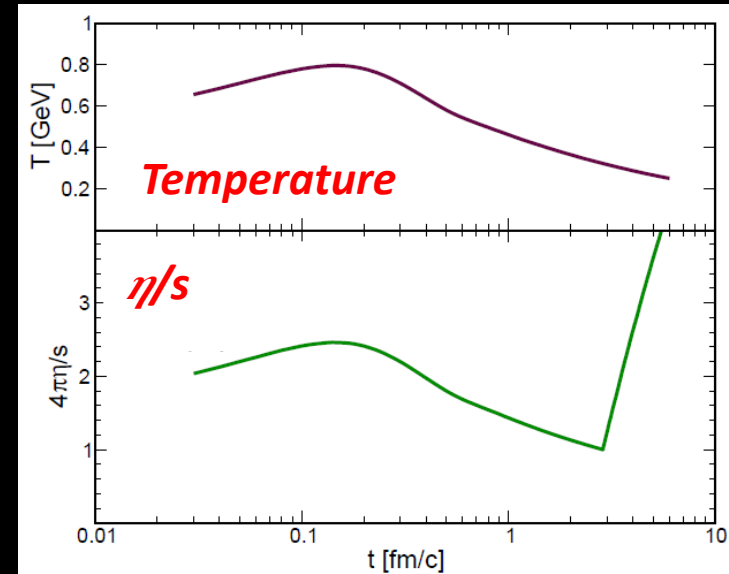
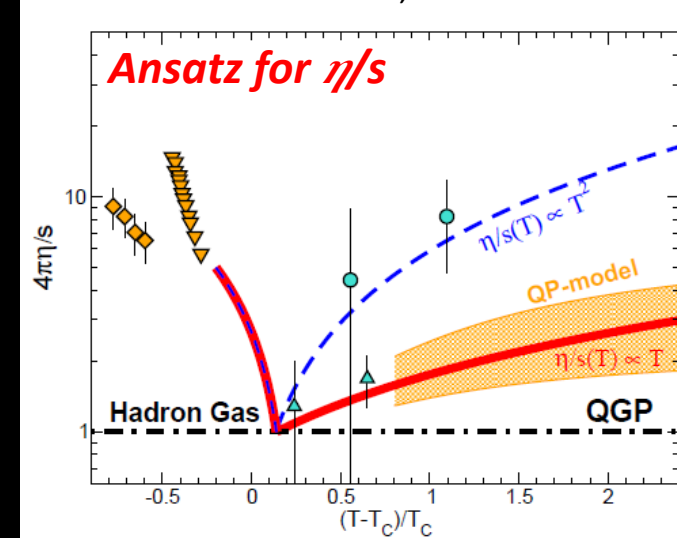
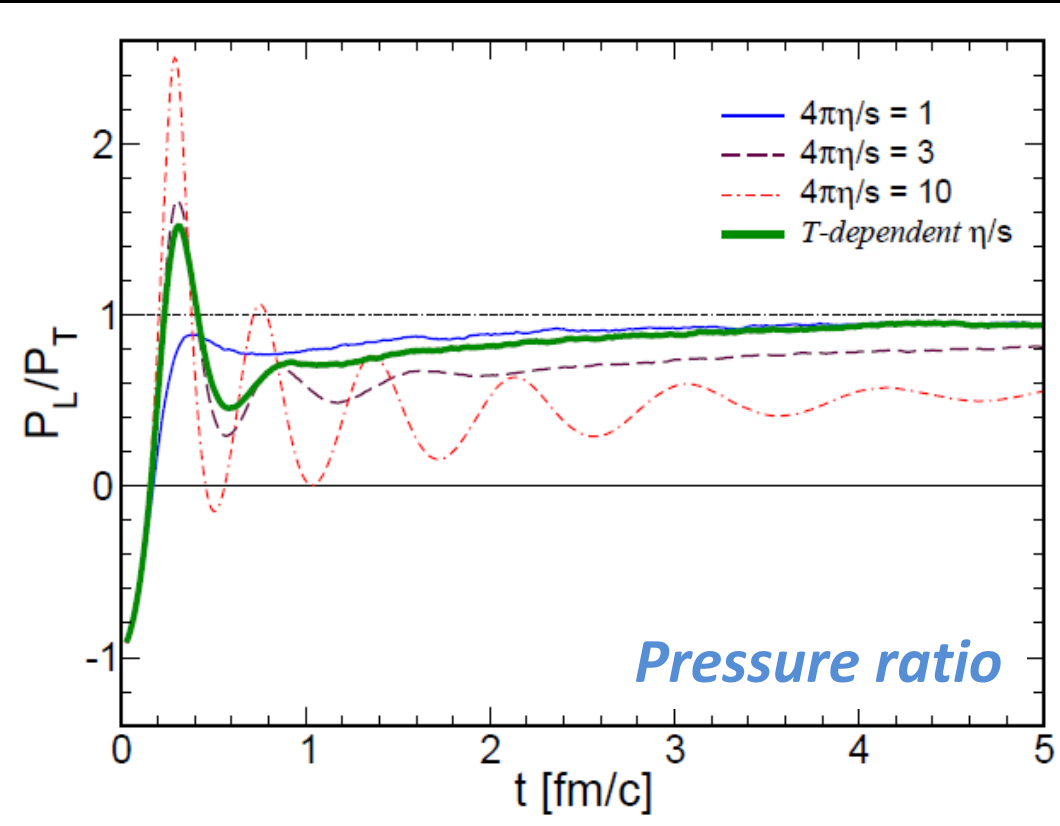
★ **Strong coupling:** isotropization time of about 1 fm/c
Weak coupling: less efficient isotropization

Isotropization for T-dependent η/s

Local temperature in realistic collisions evolves in time:

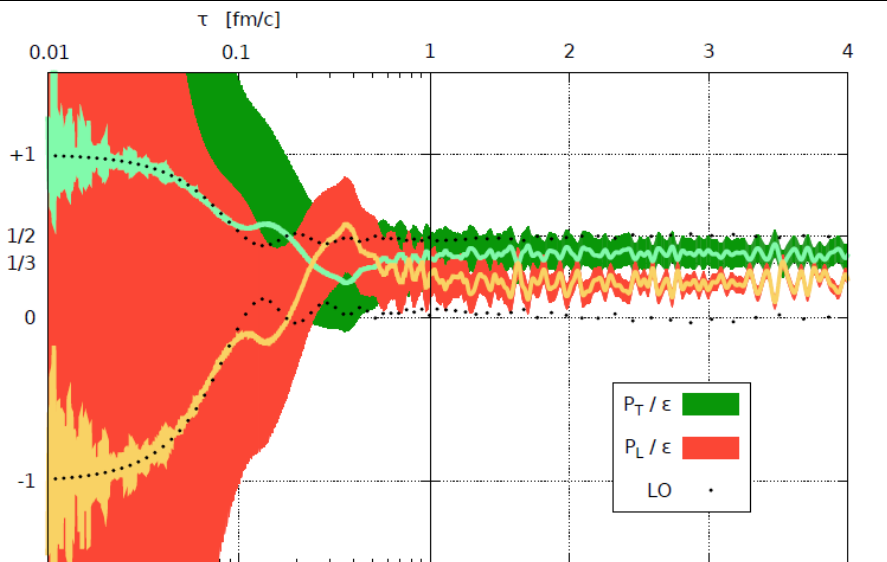
η/s should be time-dependent

Plumari et al., arXiv:1304.6566



Comparison

Classical Yang-Mills dynamics

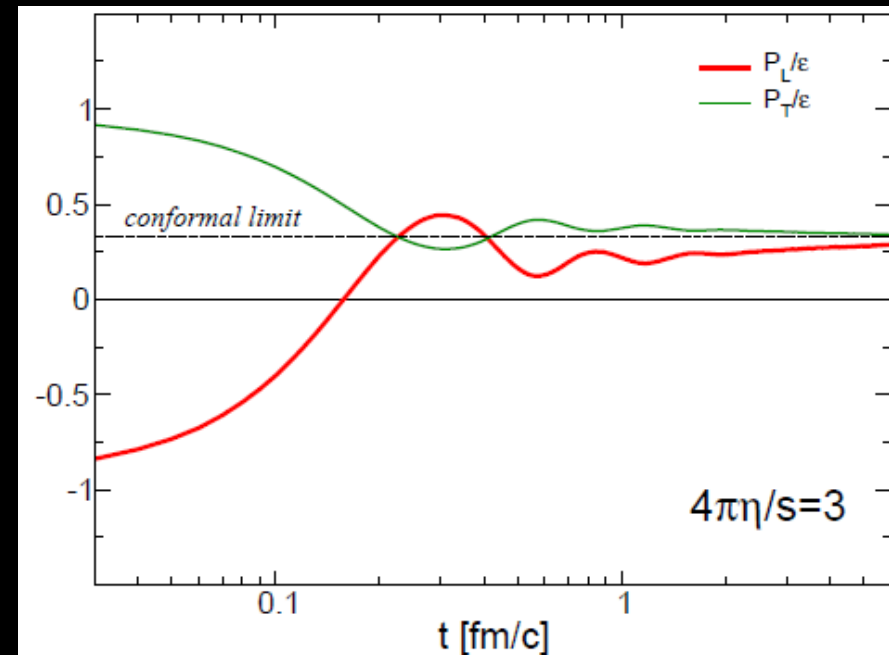


Epelbaum and Gelis, PRL 88 (2013)

(.) Classic Yang-Mills calculation, 3+1D

(.) Quantum fluctuations rather than Schwinger effect

Transport + Abelian fields dynamics



M. R. et al., arXiv:1505.08081

(.) Relativistic Transport+Abelian fields, 1+1D

(.) Schwinger effect to produce particle quanta

Physical mechanism producing isotropy is different, nevertheless final result are in semi-quantitative agreement

Supporting viscous hydro assumptions

Standard assumptions in HICs viscous hydro calculations:

Isotropic, thermalized and chemically equilibrated QGP is formed within 1 fm/c

P. Romatschke, *Int.J.Mod.Phys. E19 (2010)*

D. Teaney, e-Print: [arXiv:0905.2433](https://arxiv.org/abs/0905.2433) [nucl-th]

L. Csernai et al, *Lett.Nuovo Cim. 27 (1980)*

Kolb and Heinz, In *Hwa, R.C. (ed.) et al.: *Quark gluon plasma** 634-714

Our results:

★) *Initial strong color field decays in 0.2-1 fm/c*

★) *Isotropization and thermalization is achieved within 1 fm/c*

.) *Chemical equilibration achieved within 1 fm/c*

M. R. et al., e-Print: [arXiv:1502.04596](https://arxiv.org/abs/1502.04596) [nucl-th]

.) *Proper energy density scaling achieved within 1 fm/c*

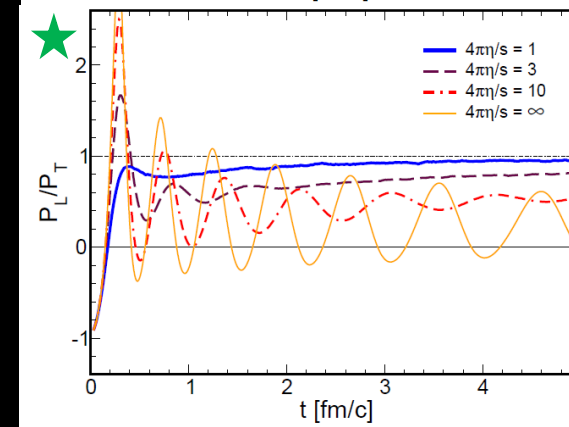
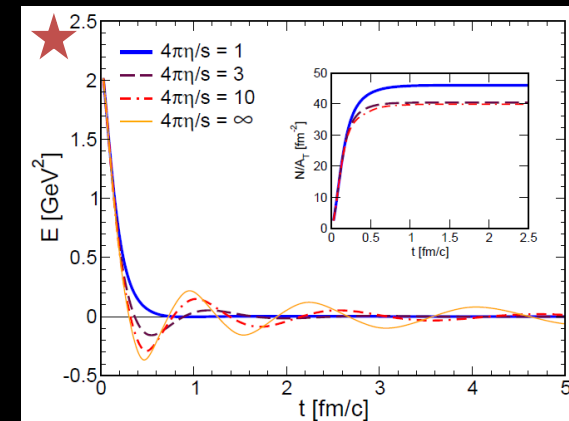
M. R. et al., e-Print: [arXiv:1505.08081](https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.08081) [hep-ph]

In agreement with ideal hydro calculations:

Gatoff et al., *PRD 36 (1987)*

Our results support viscous hydro assumptions:

We obtain, as a result of a calculation, a viscous hydro regime within the appropriate time scale



Conclusions

- **Relativistic Transport Theory, coupled to a decay mechanism for initial color fields, permits to study early times dynamics of heavy ion collisions.**
- **Schwinger tunneling** allows a **fast particle production**, typically a small fraction of fm/c .
- Weakly coupled plasma is characterized by plasma oscillations which are non negligible along the entire evolution of the system.
- **Strongly coupled plasma** does not experience important plasma oscillations, rather a **hydro regime is reached in a very short time**
- Isotropization time is less than $1 fm/c$

The scenario we obtain for the early stages of heavy ion collision is in agreement with, and dynamically justifies, usual assumptions of viscous hydro about

-Isotropization and thermalization

-Chemical equilibration

-QGP time formation

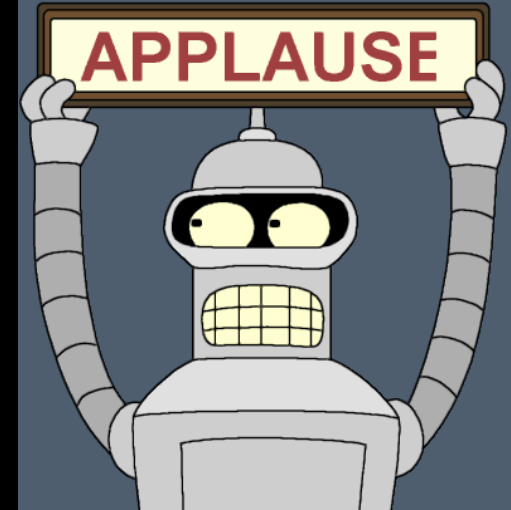
Looking Forward...

Outlook

- 3+1 dimensional simulations
 - Isotropization*
 - Thermalization*
 - Particle production*
 - Flows*
- Flux tubes with realistic profiles
- CYM initializations and early time evolution

H. Iida et al., arXiv:1410.7309





The ability to focus attention on important things is a defining characteristic of intelligence.

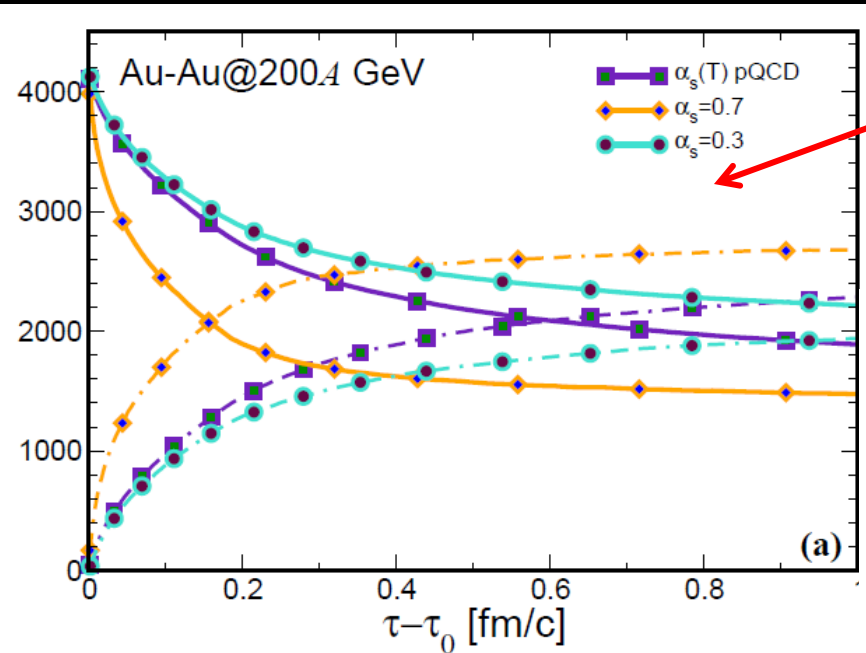
(Robert J. Shiller)

Appendix

APPENDIX

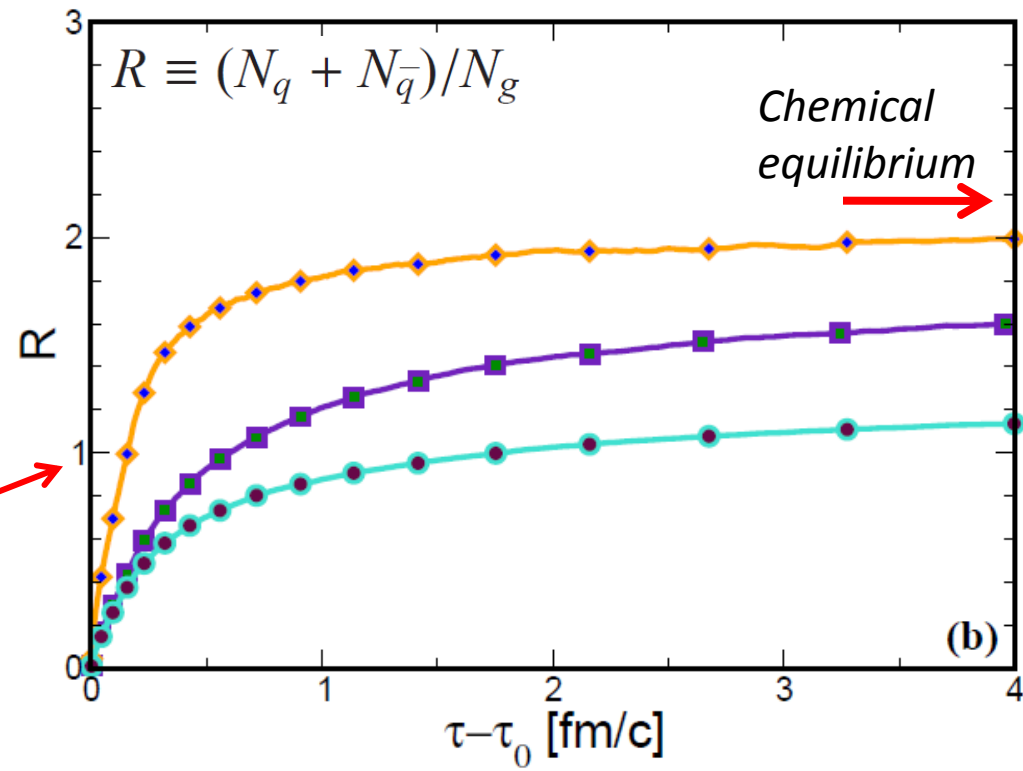
Quark production in QGP

Assume no quarks in the initial stage: *how efficient QCD processes are to produce quarks?*



Quark production by QCD inelastic processes is very fast

Abundant quark production



Pros and cons



- (.) Transport theory is appropriate for studying non-equilibrium phenomena.
- (.) Within a single, self-consistent theoretical framework we can follow the dynamical evolution of QGP from its early life up to final stages.
- (.) It can be easily applied to pA and pp collisions.
- (.) We can study the effects of the initial dynamics on observables:
 - Collective flows*
 - Rapidity distributions*
 - Particle spectra*



- (.) Initial field dynamics ignores the full structure of the glasma flux tubes:
 - Color-magnetic fields*
 - Field fluctuations in rapidity and transverse plane*
- (.) The model ignores the non abelian interactions in the color field sector.

We have a good starting point at hand, quite under control, which we are improving step by step to obtain a more complete description of early stages.

A rough initial field estimate

Naïve calculation
(rough estimate)

*the
naïve
creative*

Multiplicity for a RHIC collision,
 $b=2.5$ fm:

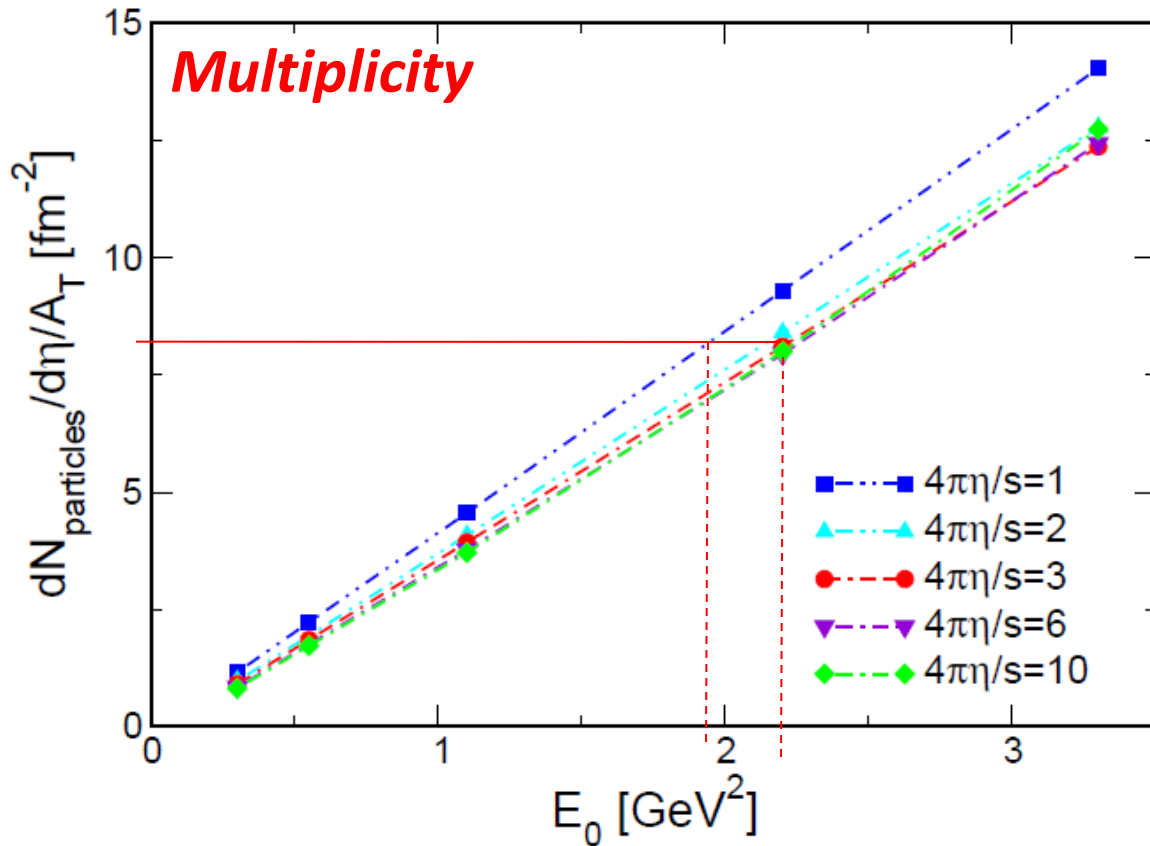
$$\frac{dN}{dy} = \frac{dN}{d\eta} \approx 1040$$

Transverse area:

$$A_T \approx \pi R^2 \approx \pi (6.5)^2 \approx 137 \text{ fm}^2$$

Multiplicity per transverse area:

$$\frac{dN}{A_T d\eta} \approx 8 \text{ fm}^{-2}$$

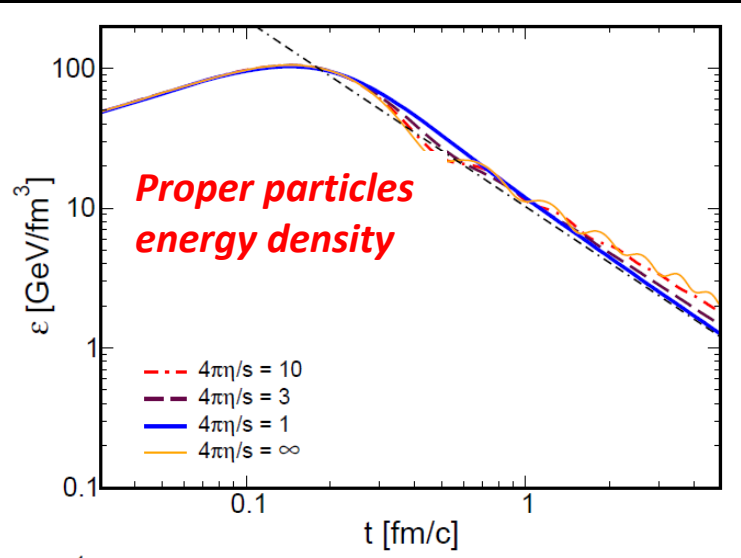


$$E_0 \approx 1.9 \div 2.2 \text{ GeV}^2$$

Very rough estimate:

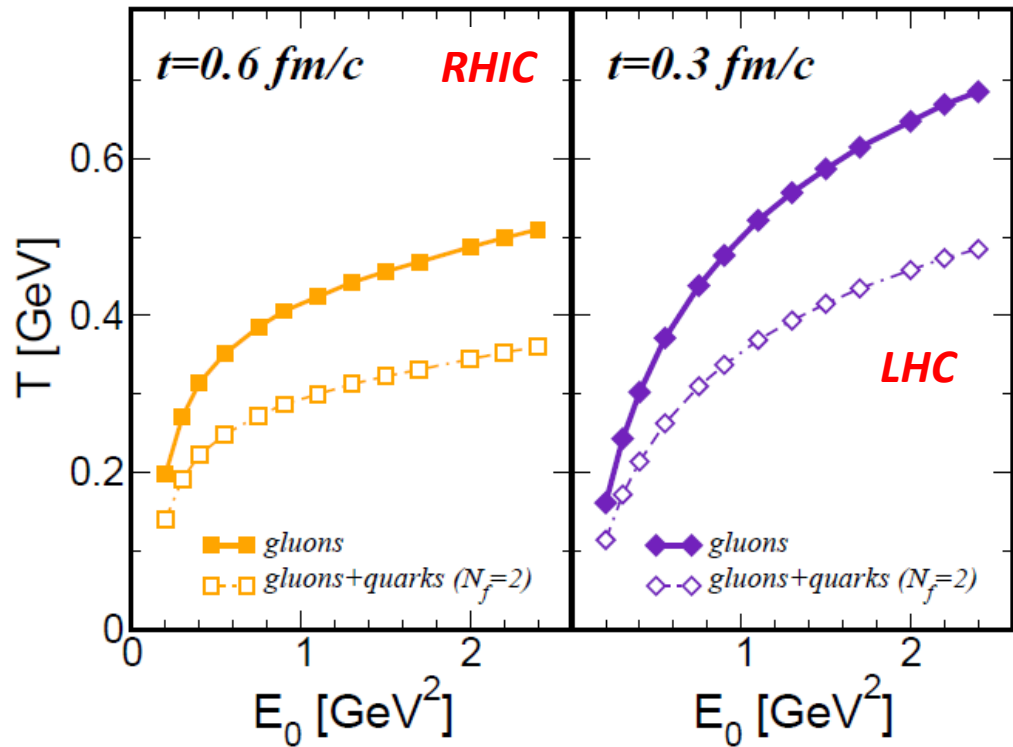
it gives the proper order of magnitude,
leaving the exact number determination to a more
realistic model of the initial tubes distribution

Flux tube evolution: local temperature



$$\varepsilon \propto T^4$$

Temperature estimate

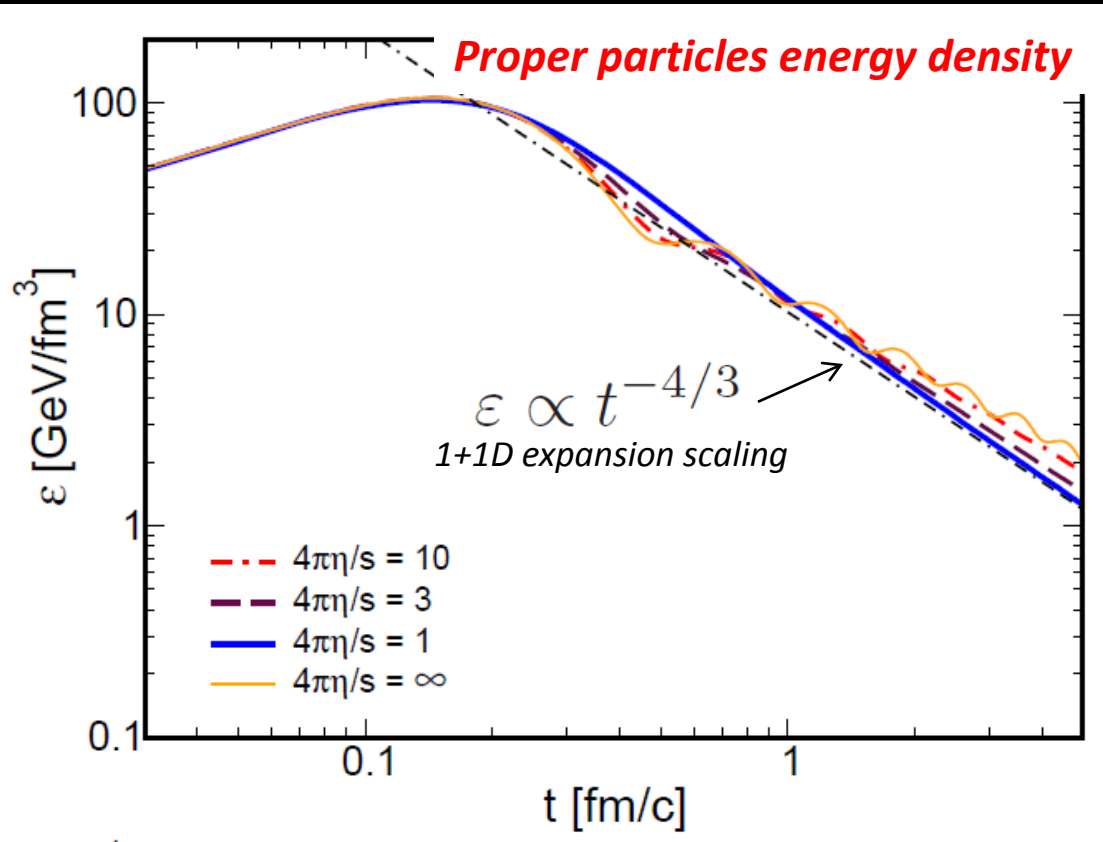


the naive creative

For simulations at RHIC energy:
 (.) free streaming up to $t=0.6$ fm/c
 (.) assume a core temperature $T=0.34$ GeV

For simulations at LHC energy:
 (.) free streaming up to $t=0.3$ fm/c
 (.) assume a core temperature $T=0.5$ GeV

A hydro regime



Small η/s

After a short transient, the hydro regime begins:

$$\varepsilon \propto t^{-4/3}$$

Large η/s

After a short transient:

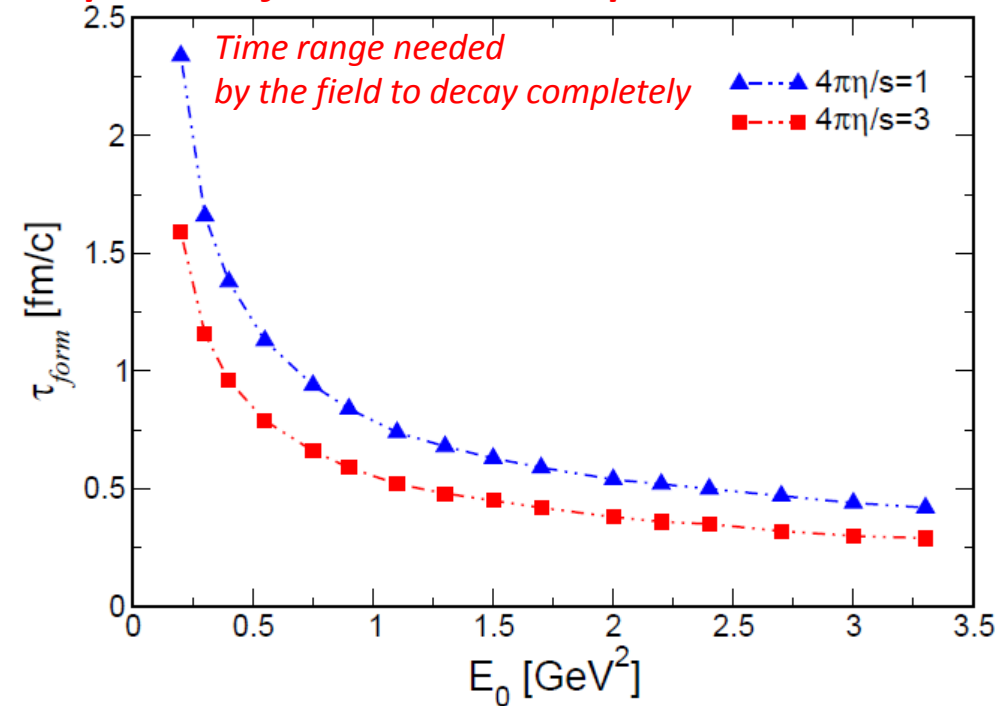
- (.) dissipation keeps the system temperature higher;
- (.) oscillations arising from the field superimpose to power law decay

In agreement with ideal hydro calculations:
Gatoff *et al.*, PRD 36 (1987)

This is quite interesting because it proves that transport theory is capable to describe, even in conditions of quite strong coupling (small η/s), the evolution of physical quantities in agreement with calculations based on hydrodynamics, once the microscopic cross section is put aside in favor of fixing η/s .

Particles formation for 1+1D expansion

Proper time for conversion to particles



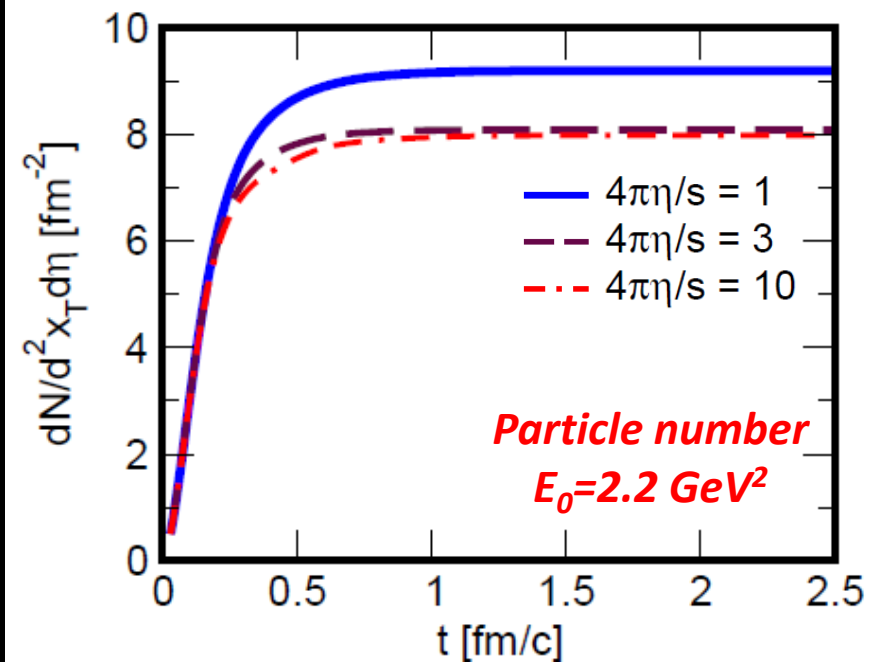
Unless initial field is very small,
formation time is less than 1 fm/c

Typical fireball lifetime: 5-10 fm/c

Field evolution satisfies:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{E^2}{2} \right) = -j \cdot E$$

hence, smaller field implies slower decay.

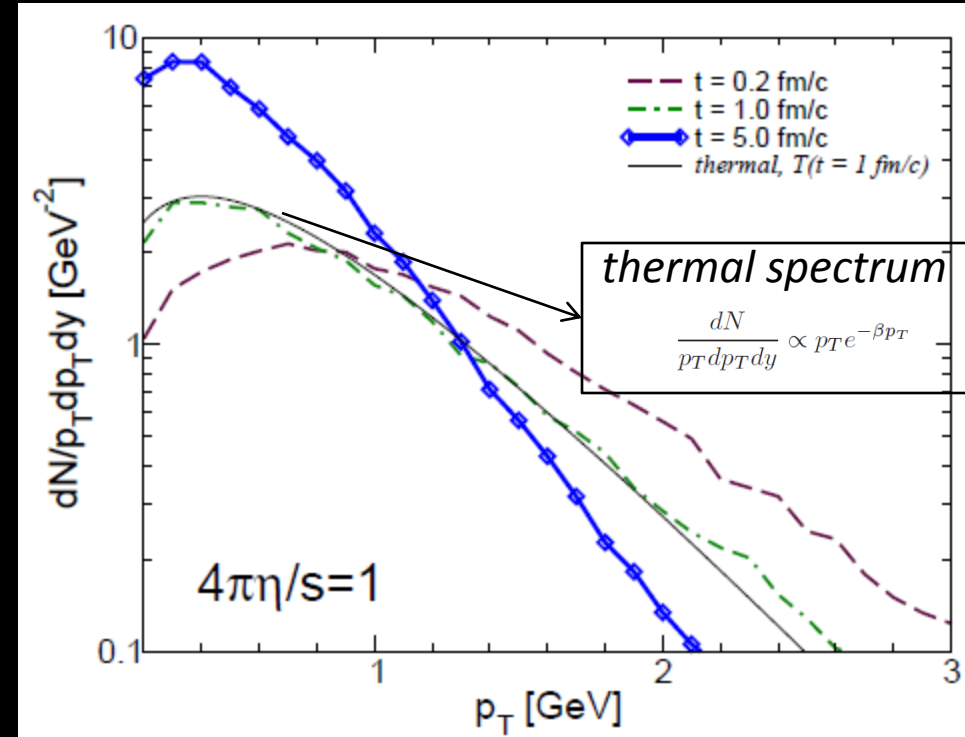
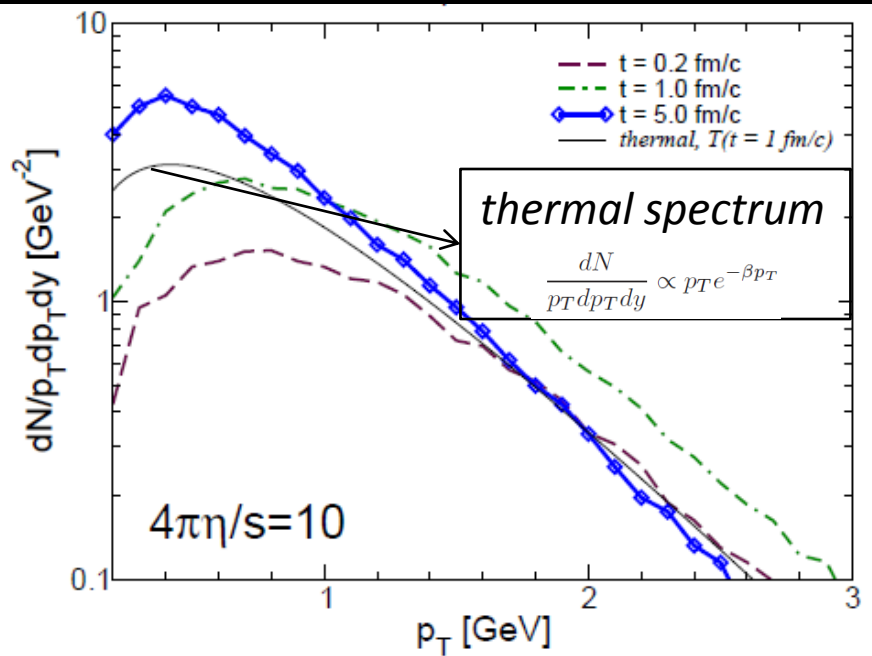


Thermalization

Comparison of *produced particles spectra* with *thermal spectra* at the same energy density.

Small viscosity:

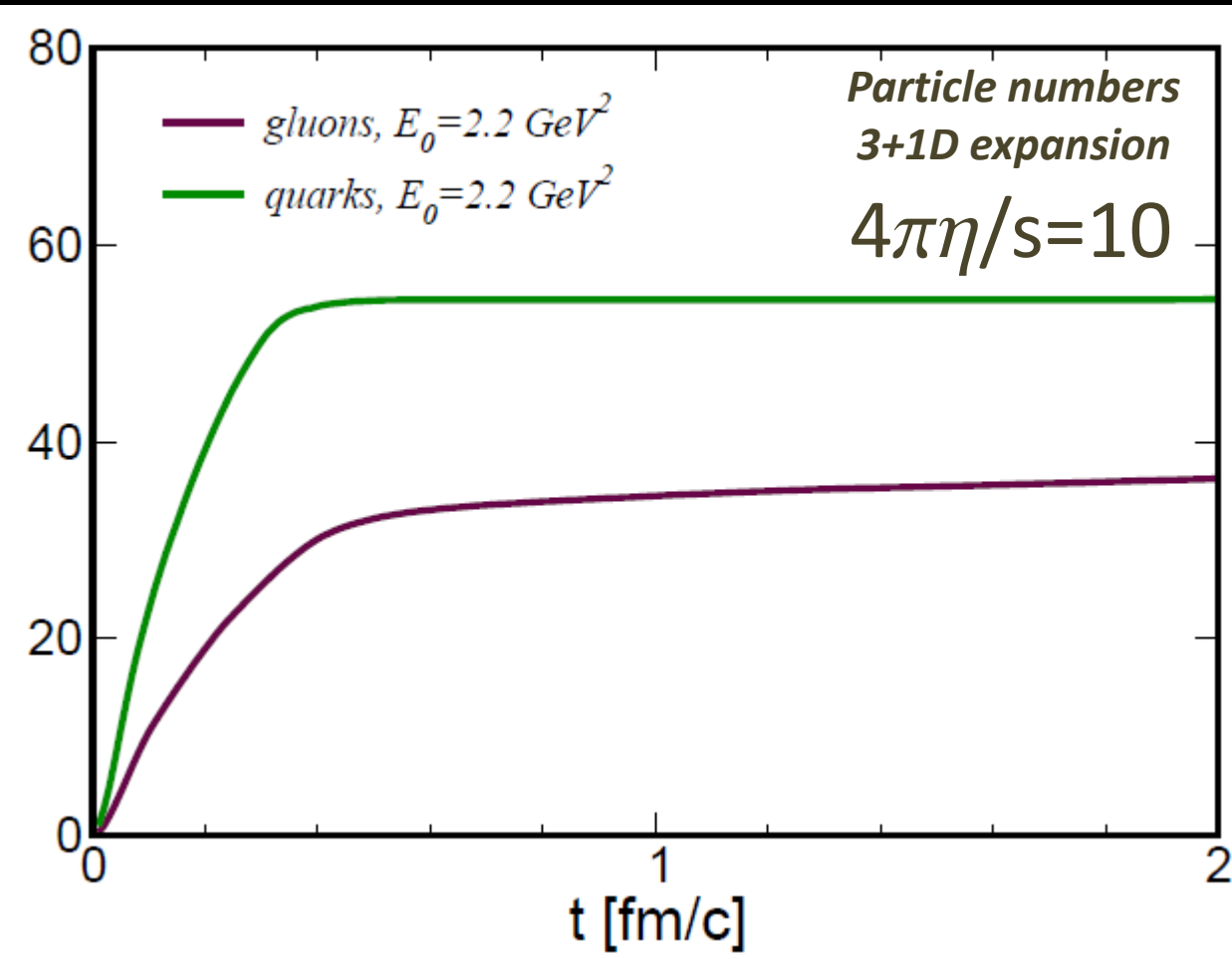
Very fast thermalization $\tau < 1 \text{ fm}/c$



Large viscosity:

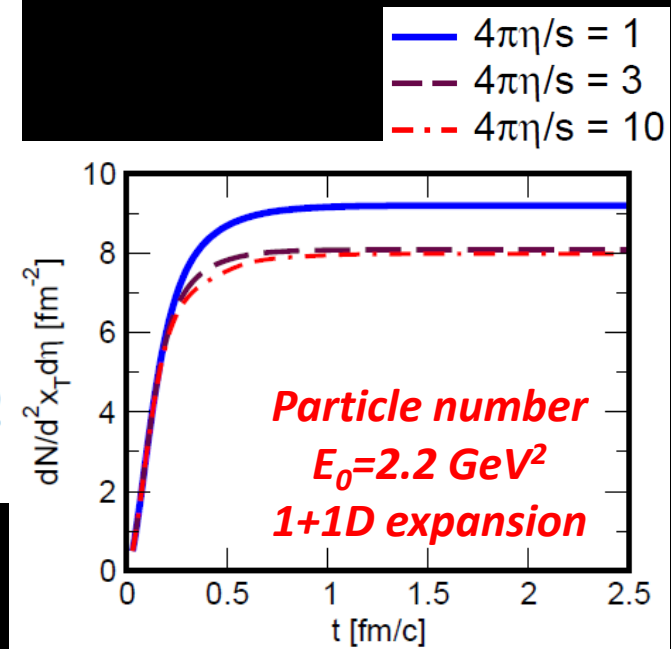
Particle spectra is quite different from the thermal spectrum with the same energy density

Plasma production for 3+1D expansion



An aside:

abundant quarks are produced by the Schwinger effect



Plasma production occurs within 0.3-1 fm/c