

**HFHF** Helmholtz  
Forschungsakademie  
Hessen für FAIR

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

**CRC-TR 211**

**STRONG**  
2020

**GOETHE**  
UNIVERSITÄT  
FRANKFURT AM MAIN

# Dynamics of strongly interacting matter

Elena Bratkovskaya

(GSI, Darmstadt & Uni. Frankfurt)



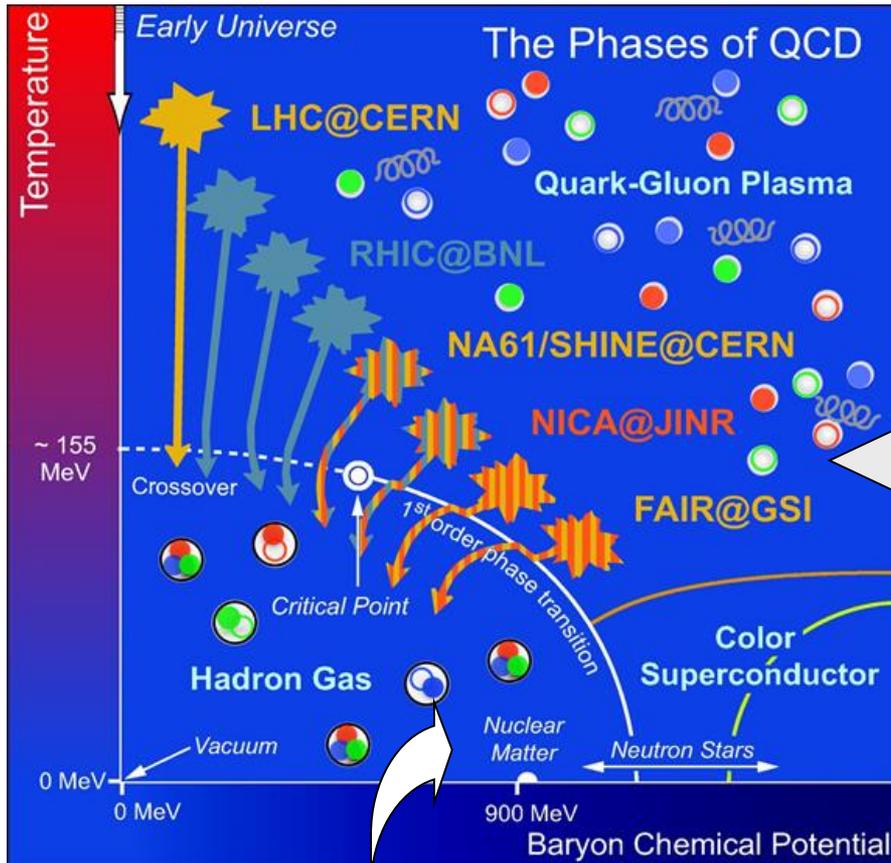
**HFHF Theory Retreat**

**12 - 16 September, 2022, Castiglione della Pescaia, Italy**

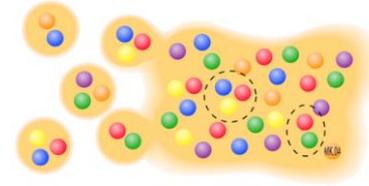


# The ,holy grail‘ of heavy-ion physics:

The phase diagram of QCD → thermal properties of QCD in the  $(T, \mu_B)$  plain



- **Equation-of-State** of hot and dense matter?
- Study of the **phase transition** from hadronic to partonic matter – **Quark-Gluon-Plasma**



- Search for a **critical point**
- Search for signatures of **chiral symmetry restoration**
- Study of the **in-medium properties of hadrons** at high baryon density and temperature

# Dynamical description of heavy-ion collisions

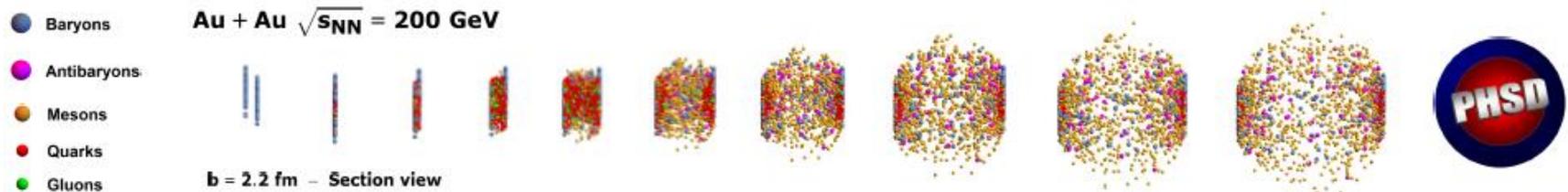
## The goal:

to study the properties of **strongly interacting matter** under extreme conditions from **a microscopic point of view**

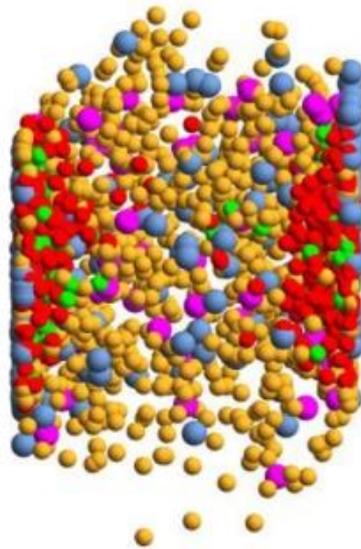
## Realization:

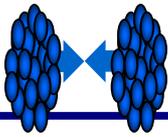
to develop a **dynamical microscopic transport approach**

- 1) applicable for **strongly interacting systems**, which includes:
- 2) **phase transition** from hadronic matter to QGP
- 3) **chiral symmetry restoration**



**Development fo the microscopic transport  
theory:  
from BUU to Kadanoff-Baym dynamics**





# History: semi-classical BUU equation



Ludwig Boltzmann

**Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck equation** (non-relativistic formulation)  
 - propagation of particles in the **self-generated Hartree-Fock mean-field potential**  $U(r,t)$  with an **on-shell collision term**:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) + \frac{\vec{p}}{m} \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{r}} f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) - \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{r}} U(\vec{r}, t) \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{p}} f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right)_{coll}$$

**collision term:**  
 elastic and inelastic reactions

$f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t)$  is the **single particle phase-space distribution function**  
 - probability to find the particle at position  $r$  with momentum  $p$  at time  $t$

□ **self-generated Hartree-Fock mean-field potential:**

$$U(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \sum_{\beta_{occ}} \int d^3 r' d^3 p V(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t) f(\vec{r}', \vec{p}, t) + (Fock \text{ term})$$

□ **Collision term for 1+2→3+4 (let's consider fermions) :**

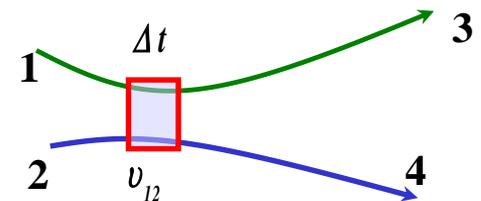
$$I_{coll} = \frac{4}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 p_2 d^3 p_3 \int d\Omega |v_{12}| \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_4) \cdot \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} (1+2 \rightarrow 3+4) \cdot P$$

**Probability including Pauli blocking of fermions:**

$$P = \underbrace{f_3 f_4 (1 - f_1) (1 - f_2)}_{\text{Gain term}} - \underbrace{f_1 f_2 (1 - f_3) (1 - f_4)}_{\text{Loss term}}$$

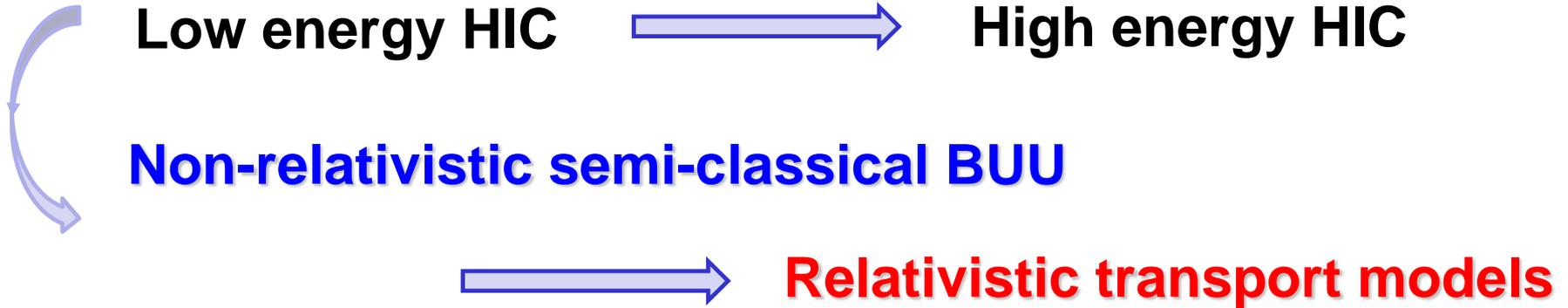
**Gain term: 3+4→1+2**

**Loss term: 1+2→3+4**



# History: developments of relativistic transport models

---



‘Numerical simulation of medium energy heavy ion reactions’,  
J. Aichelin and G. Bertsch, *Phys.Rev.C* 31 (1985) 1730-1738



‘Relativistic Vlasov-Uehling-Uhlenbeck model for heavy-ion collisions’  
Che-Ming Ko, Qi Li, *Phys.Rev. C*37 (1988) 2270

‘Covariant Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck approach for heavy-ion collisions’  
Bernhard Blaettel, Volker Koch, Wolfgang Cassing, Ulrich Mosel, *Phys.Rev. C*38 (1988) 1767;  
‘Relativistic BUU approach with momentum dependent mean fields’  
T. Maruyama, B. Blaettel, W. Cassing, A. Lang, U. Mosel, K. Weber, *Phys.Lett. B*297 (1992) 228

‘The Relativistic Landau-Vlasov method in heavy ion collisions’  
C. Fuchs, H.H. Wolter, *Nucl.Phys. A*589 (1995) 732

■ ■ ■

Alternative: **QMD** (cf. talks by Marcus Bleicher (UrQMD) and Gabriele Coci (PHQMD))

# Covariant transport equation



## □ Covariant relativistic on-shell BUU equation :

from many-body theory by connected Green functions in phase-space + mean-field limit for the propagation part (VUU)

$$\left\{ \left( \Pi_\mu - \Pi_\nu (\partial_\mu^p U_\nu^p) - m^* (\partial_\mu^p U_S^p) \right) \partial_x^\mu + \left( \Pi_\nu (\partial_\mu^x U_\nu^p) + m^* (\partial_\mu^x U_S^p) \right) \partial_p^\mu \right\} f(x, p) = I_{coll}$$

$$I_{coll} \equiv \sum_{2,3,4} \int d2 d3 d4 [G^+ G]_{1+2 \rightarrow 3+4} \delta^4(\Pi + \Pi_2 - \Pi_3 - \Pi_4)$$

$$d2 \equiv \frac{d^3 p_2}{E_2}$$

$$\times \{ f(x, p_3) f(x, p_4) (1 - f(x, p)) (1 - f(x, p_2))$$

Gain term  
3+4 → 1+2

$$- f(x, p) f(x, p_2) (1 - f(x, p_3)) (1 - f(x, p_4)) \}$$

Loss term  
1+2 → 3+4

where  $\partial_\mu^x \equiv (\partial_t, \vec{\nabla}_r)$

$$m^*(x, p) = m + U_S(x, p) \quad - \text{effective mass}$$

$$\Pi_\mu(x, p) = p_\mu - U_\mu(x, p) \quad - \text{effective momentum}$$

$U_S(x, p)$ ,  $U_\mu(x, p)$  are scalar and vector part of particle self-energies

$\delta(\Pi_\mu \Pi^\mu - m^{*2})$  – mass-shell constraint

# Dynamical transport model: collision terms

□ BUU eq. for **different particles of type  $i=1, \dots, n$**

$$Df_i \equiv \frac{d}{dt} f_i = I_{coll} [f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n]$$

Drift term=Vlasov eq.      collision term

$i$  : *Baryons* :  $p, n, \Delta(1232), N(1440), N(1535), \dots, \Lambda, \Sigma, \Sigma^*, \Xi, \Omega; \Lambda_c$

*Mesons* :  $\pi, \eta, K, \bar{K}, \rho, \omega, K^*, \eta', \phi, a_1, \dots, D, \bar{D}, J / \Psi, \Psi', \dots$

→ **coupled set of BUU equations** for different particles of type  $i=1, \dots, n$

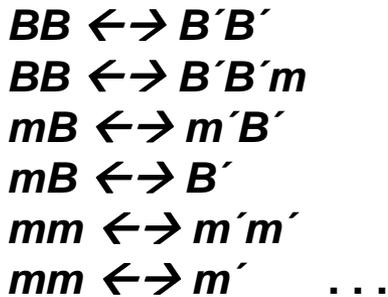
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Df_N = I_{coll} [f_N, f_\Delta, f_{N(1440)}, \dots, f_\pi, f_\rho, \dots] \\ Df_\Delta = I_{coll} [f_N, f_\Delta, f_{N(1440)}, \dots, f_\pi, f_\rho, \dots] \\ \dots \\ Df_\pi = I_{coll} [f_N, f_\Delta, f_{N(1440)}, \dots, f_\pi, f_\rho, \dots] \\ \dots \end{array} \right.$$

# Elementary hadronic interactions

Consider **all possible interactions** – **elastic and inelastic collisions** - for the system of  $(N,R,m)$ , where  $N$ -nucleons,  $R$ -resonances,  $m$ -mesons, and **resonance decays**

## Low energy collisions:

- binary  $2 \leftrightarrow 2$  and  $2 \leftrightarrow 3(4)$  reactions
- $1 \leftrightarrow 2$  : formation and **decay** of baryonic and mesonic resonances

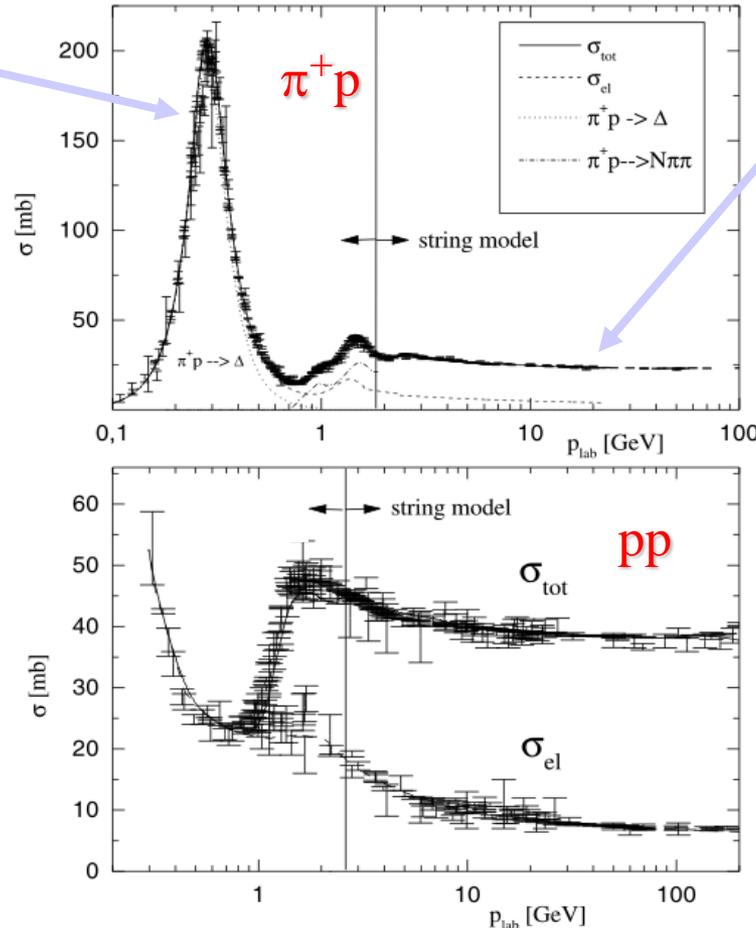


## Baryons:

$B = p, n, \Delta(1232),$   
 $N(1440), N(1535), \dots$

## Mesons:

$M = \pi, \eta, \rho, \omega, \phi, \dots$



## High energy collisions: (above $s^{1/2} \sim 2.5$ GeV)

Inclusive particle production:

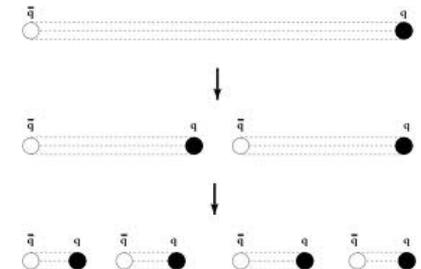
$BB \rightarrow X, mB \rightarrow X, mm \rightarrow X$

$X = \text{many particles}$

described by

**string formation and decay**  
 (string = excited color singlet states  $q-q\bar{q}$ ,  $q-q\bar{q}$ )

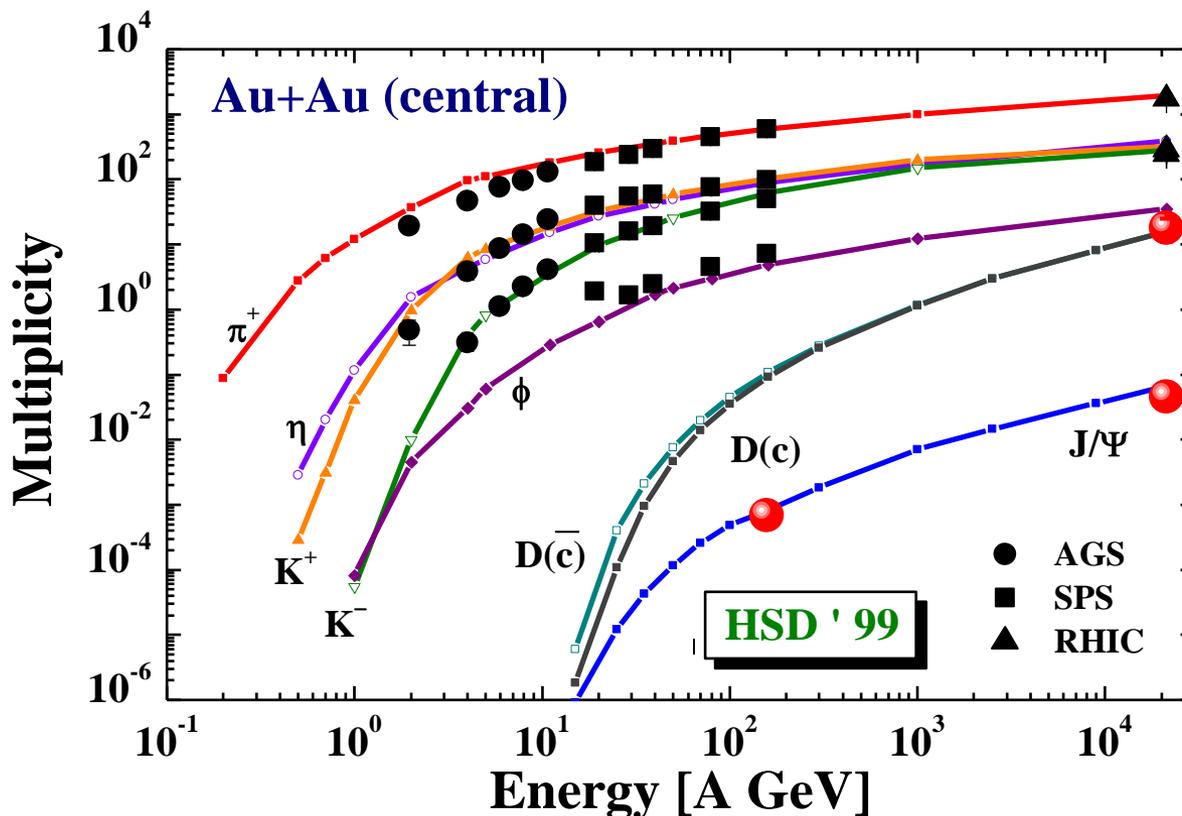
using **LUND string model**





# Hadron-String-Dynamics – a microscopic transport model for heavy-ion reactions

- very good description of particle production in **pp, pA, pA, AA reactions**
- unique description of nuclear dynamics from **low (~100 MeV) to ultrarelativistic (>20 TeV) energies**



# From weakly to strongly interacting systems

Properties of matter (on hadronic and partonic levels) in heavy-ion collisions:

**QGP** – strongly interacting system! Degrees of freedom – dressed partons

**Hadronic matter** – in-medium effects – modification of hadron properties at finite  $T, \mu_B$  (vector mesons, strange mesons)

Many-body theory:

**Strong interaction** → large width = short life-time

→ broad spectral function → **quantum object**

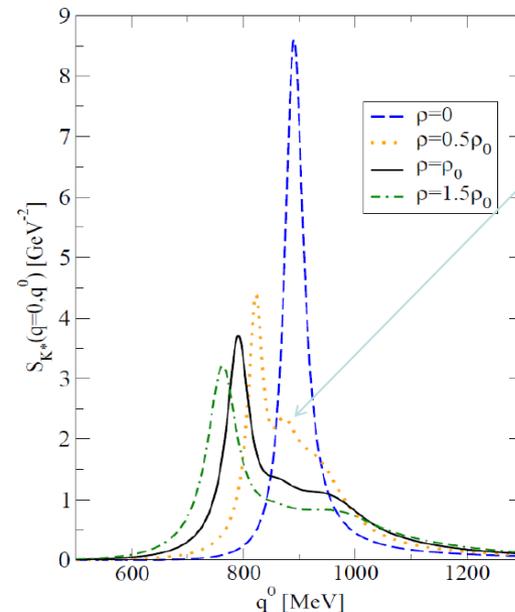
▪ How to describe the dynamics of broad strongly interacting quantum states in transport theory?

□ semi-classical BUU

first order gradient expansion of quantum Kadanoff-Baym equations

□ generalized transport equations based on Kadanoff-Baym dynamics

Kbar\* spectral function



$\Lambda(1783)N^{-1}$   
and  
 $\Sigma(1830)N^{-1}$   
excitations

# Dynamical description of strongly interacting systems

## Quantum field theory →

**Kadanoff-Baym dynamics** for resummed single-particle Green functions  $S^<$

$$\hat{S}_{0x}^{-1} S_{xy}^< = \sum_{xz}^{ret} \odot S_{zy}^< + \sum_{xz}^< \odot S_{zy}^{adv}$$

(1962)

Green functions  $S^</math> / self-energies  $\Sigma$  :$

Integration over the intermediate spacetime

$$iS_{xy}^< = \eta \langle \{ \Phi^+(y) \Phi(x) \} \rangle$$

$$S_{xy}^{ret} = S_{xy}^c - S_{xy}^< = S_{xy}^> - S_{xy}^a \quad - \text{retarded}$$

$$\hat{S}_{0x}^{-1} \equiv -(\partial_x^\mu \partial_\mu^x + M_0^2)$$

$$iS_{xy}^> = \langle \{ \Phi(y) \Phi^+(x) \} \rangle$$

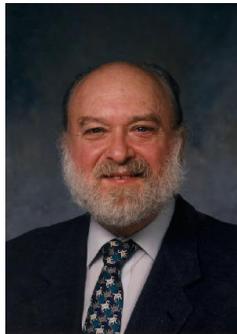
$$S_{xy}^{adv} = S_{xy}^c - S_{xy}^> = S_{xy}^< - S_{xy}^a \quad - \text{advanced}$$

$$iS_{xy}^c = \langle T^c \{ \Phi(x) \Phi^+(y) \} \rangle \quad - \text{causal}$$

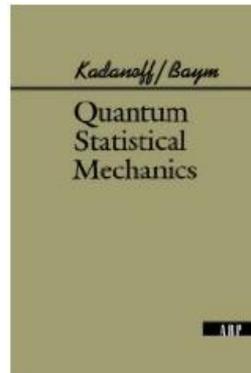
$$\eta = \pm 1 (\text{bosons / fermions})$$

$$iS_{xy}^a = \langle T^a \{ \Phi(x) \Phi^+(y) \} \rangle \quad - \text{anticausal}$$

$$T^a (T^c) - (\text{anti-})\text{time - ordering operator}$$



Leo Kadanoff



Gordon Baym

1<sup>st</sup> application for spacially homodeneous system with deformed Fermi sphere:

P. Danielewicz, Ann. Phys. 152, 305 (1984); ... H.S. Köhler, Phys. Rev. 51, 3232 (1995); ...

# Wigner transformation of the Kadanoff-Baym equation

- do **Wigner transformation** of the Kadanoff-Baym equation

$$F_{XP} = \int d^4(x-y) e^{iP_\mu(x^\mu - y^\mu)} F_{xy}$$

For any function  $F_{XY}$  with  $X=(x+y)/2$  – space-time coordinate,  $P$  – 4-momentum

**Convolution integrals** convert under Wigner transformation as

$$\int d^4(x-y) e^{iP_\mu(x^\mu - y^\mu)} F_{1,xz} \odot F_{2,zy} = e^{-i\diamond} F_{1,PX} F_{2,PX}$$

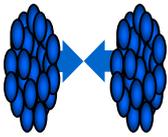
Operator  $\diamond$  is a 4-dimensional generalization of the Poisson-bracket:

$$\diamond \{F_1\} \{F_2\} := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial X_\mu} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial P^\mu} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial P_\mu} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial X^\mu} \right)$$

an infinite series in the differential operator  $\diamond$

- **consider only contribution up to first order in the gradients**

= a standard approximation of kinetic theory which is justified if the gradients in the mean spacial coordinate  $X$  are small



# From Kadanoff-Baym equations to generalized transport equations

After the first order gradient expansion of the Wigner transformed Kadanoff-Baym equations and separation into the real and imaginary parts one gets:

## Generalized transport equations (GTE):

$$\underbrace{\diamond \{ P^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re} \Sigma_{XP}^{\text{ret}} \}}_{\text{drift term}} \underbrace{\{ S_{XP}^< \}}_{\text{Vlasov term}} - \underbrace{\diamond \{ \Sigma_{XP}^< \} \{ \text{Re} S_{XP}^{\text{ret}} \}}_{\text{backflow term}} = \frac{i}{2} [ \Sigma_{XP}^> S_{XP}^< - \Sigma_{XP}^< S_{XP}^> ] \quad \text{collision term} = \text{,gain' - ,loss' term}$$

**Backflow term** incorporates the **off-shell** behavior in the particle propagation  
**! vanishes in the quasiparticle limit**  $A_{XP} \rightarrow \delta(p^2 - M^2)$

□ GTE: Propagation of the Green's function  $iS_{XP}^< = A_{XP} N_{XP}$ , which carries information not only on the **number of particles** ( $N_{XP}$ ), but also on their **properties**, interactions and correlations (via  $A_{XP}$ )

Botermans-Malfliet (1990)

□ **Spectral function:**

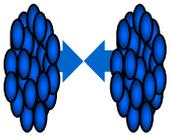
$$A_{XP} = \frac{\Gamma_{XP}}{(P^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re} \Sigma_{XP}^{\text{ret}})^2 + \Gamma_{XP}^2/4}$$

$\Gamma_{XP} = -\text{Im} \Sigma_{XP}^{\text{ret}} = 2 p_0 \Gamma$  - **,width' of spectral function**  
**= reaction rate** of particle (at space-time position X)

4-dimensional generalization of the Poisson-bracket:

$$\diamond \{ F_1 \} \{ F_2 \} := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial X_\mu} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial P^\mu} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial P_\mu} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial X^\mu} \right)$$

□ **Life time**  $\tau = \frac{\hbar c}{\Gamma}$



# General testparticle off-shell equations of motion

W. Cassing , S. Juchem, NPA 665 (2000) 377; 672 (2000) 417; 677 (2000) 445

□ Employ **testparticle Ansatz** for the real valued quantity  $i S_{XP}^<$

$$F_{XP} = A_{XP} N_{XP} = i S_{XP}^< \sim \sum_{i=1}^N \delta^{(3)}(\vec{X} - \vec{X}_i(t)) \delta^{(3)}(\vec{P} - \vec{P}_i(t)) \delta(P_0 - \epsilon_i(t))$$

insert in generalized transport equations and determine **equations of motion !**

➔ **Generalized testparticle Cassing-Juchem off-shell equations of motion for the time-like particles:**

$$\frac{d\vec{X}_i}{dt} = \frac{1}{1 - C_{(i)}} \frac{1}{2\epsilon_i} \left[ 2\vec{P}_i + \vec{\nabla}_{P_i} \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}} + \frac{\epsilon_i^2 - \vec{P}_i^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}}}{\Gamma_{(i)}} \vec{\nabla}_{P_i} \Gamma_{(i)} \right],$$

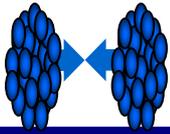
$$\frac{d\vec{P}_i}{dt} = -\frac{1}{1 - C_{(i)}} \frac{1}{2\epsilon_i} \left[ \vec{\nabla}_{X_i} \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}} + \frac{\epsilon_i^2 - \vec{P}_i^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}}}{\Gamma_{(i)}} \vec{\nabla}_{X_i} \Gamma_{(i)} \right],$$

$$\frac{d\epsilon_i}{dt} = \frac{1}{1 - C_{(i)}} \frac{1}{2\epsilon_i} \left[ \frac{\partial \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}}}{\partial t} + \frac{\epsilon_i^2 - \vec{P}_i^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}}}{\Gamma_{(i)}} \frac{\partial \Gamma_{(i)}}{\partial t} \right],$$

with  $F_{(i)} \equiv F(t, \vec{X}_i(t), \vec{P}_i(t), \epsilon_i(t))$

$$C_{(i)} = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_i} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_i} \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}} + \frac{\epsilon_i^2 - \vec{P}_i^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re}\Sigma_{(i)}^{\text{ret}}}{\Gamma_{(i)}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_i} \Gamma_{(i)} \right]$$

**Note: the common factor  $1/(1-C_{(i)})$  can be absorbed in an ,eigentime‘ of particle (i) !**



# Collision term in off-shell transport models

**Collision term for reaction 1+2->3+4:**

$$I_{coll}(X, \vec{P}, M^2) = Tr_2 Tr_3 Tr_4 \underbrace{A(X, \vec{P}, M^2) A(X, \vec{P}_2, M_2^2) A(X, \vec{P}_3, M_3^2) A(X, \vec{P}_4, M_4^2)}_{|G((\vec{P}, M^2) + (\vec{P}_2, M_2^2) \rightarrow (\vec{P}_3, M_3^2) + (\vec{P}_4, M_4^2))|_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{S}}^2} \delta^{(4)}(P + P_2 - P_3 - P_4)$$

$$[ \underbrace{N_{X\vec{P}_3 M_3^2} N_{X\vec{P}_4 M_4^2} \bar{f}_{X\vec{P} M^2} \bar{f}_{X\vec{P}_2 M_2^2}}_{\text{,gain' term}} - \underbrace{N_{X\vec{P} M^2} N_{X\vec{P}_2 M_2^2} \bar{f}_{X\vec{P}_3 M_3^2} \bar{f}_{X\vec{P}_4 M_4^2}}_{\text{,loss' term}} ]$$

with  $\bar{f}_{X\vec{P} M^2} = 1 + \eta N_{X\vec{P} M^2}$  and  $\eta = \pm 1$  for bosons/fermions, respectively.

**The trace over particles 2,3,4 reads explicitly**

**for fermions**

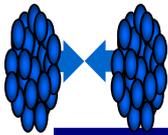
$$Tr_2 = \sum_{\sigma_2, \tau_2} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^3 P_2 \frac{dM_2^2}{2\sqrt{\vec{P}_2^2 + M_2^2}}$$

**for bosons**

$$Tr_2 = \sum_{\sigma_2, \tau_2} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^3 P_2 \frac{dP_{0,2}^2}{2}$$

additional integration

The transport approach and the particle spectral functions are fully determined once the **in-medium transition amplitudes G** are known in their **off-shell dependence!**



# In-medium transition rates: G-matrix approach

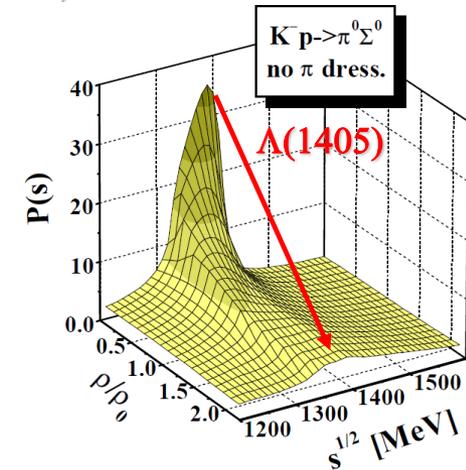
**Need to know** in-medium transition amplitudes **G** and their off-shell dependence

$$|G((\vec{P}, M^2) + (\vec{P}_2, M_2^2) \rightarrow (\vec{P}_3, M_3^2) + (\vec{P}_4, M_4^2))|_{\mathcal{A},S}^2$$

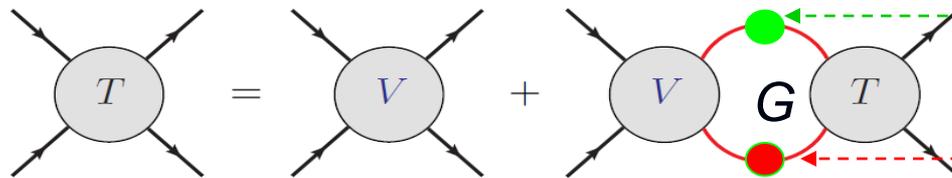
**Coupled channel G-matrix approach**

**Transition probability :**

$$P_{1+2 \rightarrow 3+4}(s) = \int d \cos(\theta) \frac{1}{(2s_1 + 1)(2s_2 + 1)} \sum_i \sum_\alpha G^\dagger G$$



with **G(p,ρ,T)** - **G-matrix** from the solution of **coupled-channel equations**:



● Meson selfenergy and spectral function

● Baryons: Pauli blocking and potential dressing

$$\blacksquare T_{ij}(\rho, T) = V_{ij} + V_{il} G_l(\rho, T) T_{lj}(\rho, T)$$

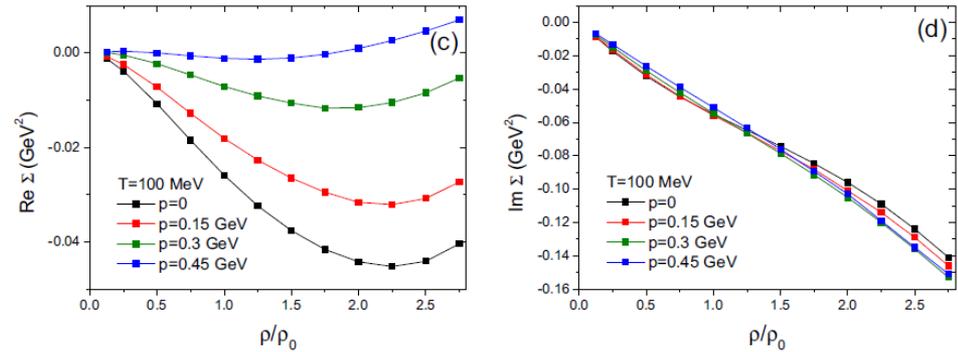
For strangeness:

D. Cabrera, L. Tolos, J. Aichelin, E.B., PRC C90 (2014) 055207; W. Cassing, L. Tolos, E.B., A. Ramos, NPA727 (2003) 59; T. Song et al., PRC 103, 044901 (2021)

Spectral function of  $K^-$  within the G-matrix approach:

$$S_{\bar{K}}(k_0, \vec{k}; T) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\text{Im} \Sigma_{\bar{K}}(k_0, \vec{k}; T)}{|k_0^2 - \vec{k}^2 - m_{\bar{K}}^2 - \Sigma_{\bar{K}}(k_0, \vec{k}; T)|^2}$$

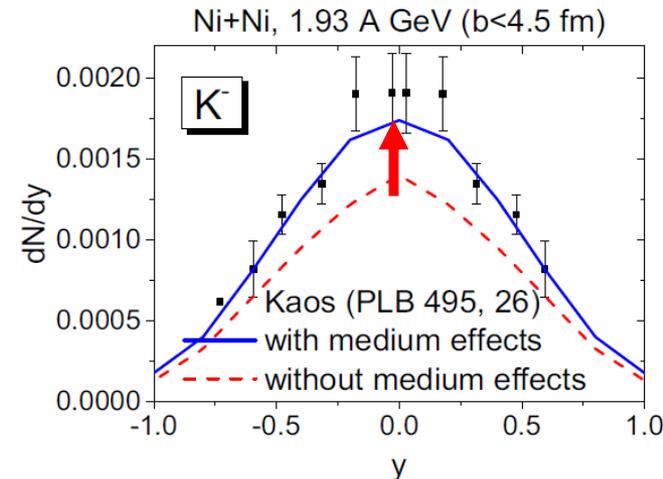
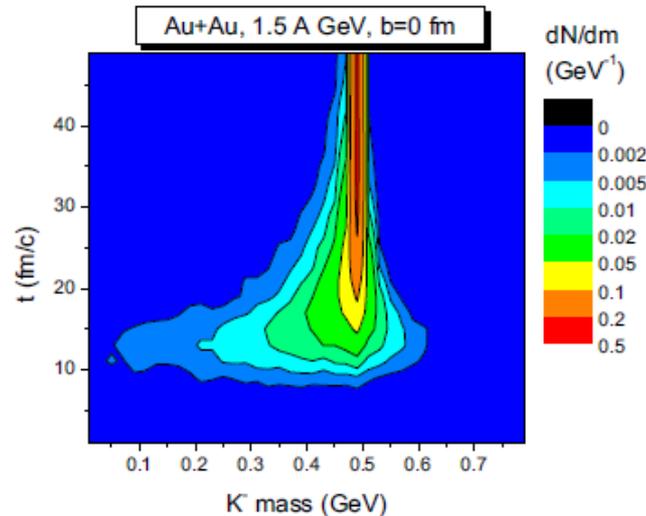
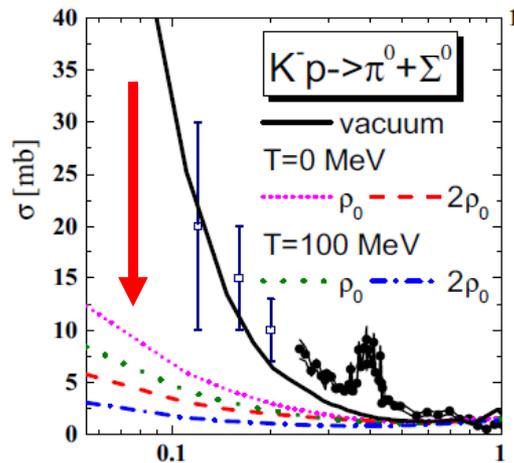
D. Cabrera et al., Phys.Rev.C 90 (2014) 055207



In-medium cross sections for  $K^-$  production and absorption are strongly modified in the medium:

Time evolution of the  $K^-$  masses

In-medium effects are mandatory for the description of experimental  $K^-$  spectra

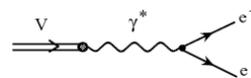


In-medium  
 $\rho \gg \rho_0$

# Off-shell vs. on-shell transport dynamics

Time evolution of the mass distribution of  $\rho$  and  $\omega$  mesons for central C+C collisions at 2 A GeV for **dropping mass + collisional broadening scenario**

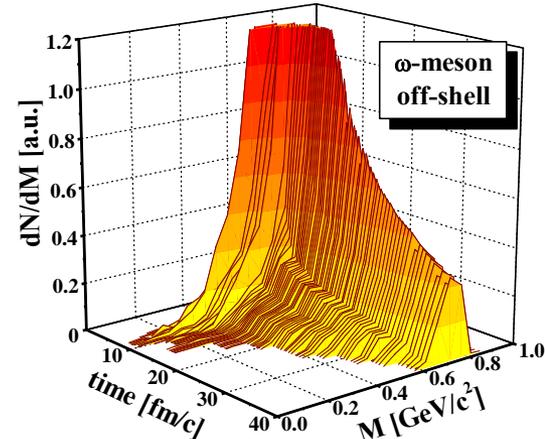
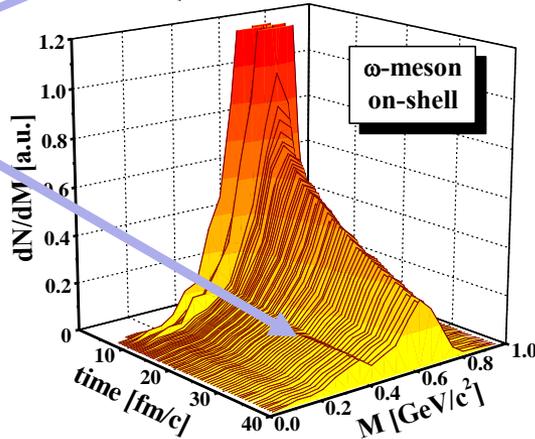
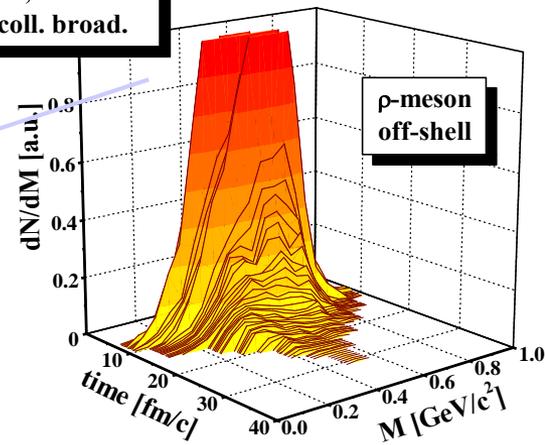
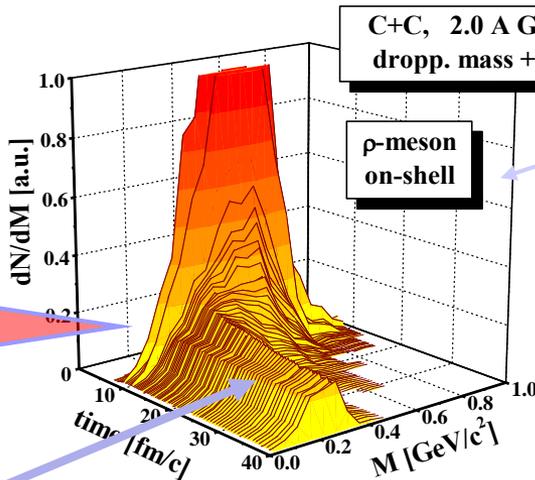
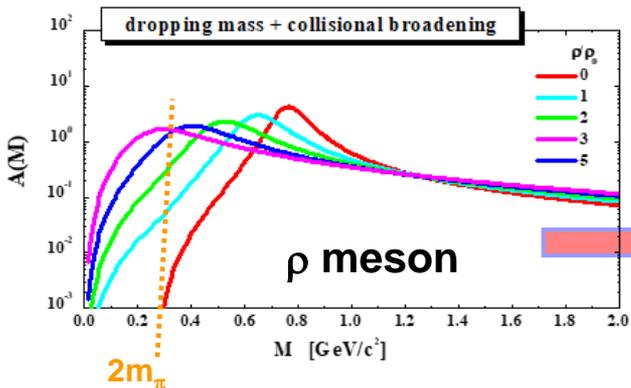
$$A(M, p, \rho) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{M^2 \Gamma_{\text{tot}}(M, p, \rho)}{(M^2 - M_0^2 - \text{Re}\Sigma^{\text{ret}}) + (M\Gamma_{\text{tot}}(M, p, \rho))^2},$$



On-shell

Off-shell

width  $\Gamma \sim -\text{Im} \Sigma^{\text{ret}} / M$



**On-shell BUU:**  
 low mass  $\rho$  and  $\omega$  mesons live forever (and shine ,fake' dileptons)!

The off-shell spectral function becomes **on-shell** in the vacuum **dynamically** by propagation through the medium!

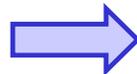
# Advantages of Kadanoff-Baym dynamics vs Boltzmann

## Kadanoff-Baym equations:

- propagate two-point Green functions  $G^<(x,p) \rightarrow A(x,p) * N(x,p)$  in 8 dimensions  $x=(t,\vec{r})$   $p=(p_0,\vec{p})$
- $G^<$  carries information not only on the occupation number  $N_{XP}$ , but also on the particle properties, interactions and correlations via spectral function  $A_{XP}$
- Applicable for strong coupling = strongly interaction system
- Includes memory effects (time integration) and off-shell transitions in collision term
- Dynamically generates a broad spectral function for strong coupling
- KB can be solved exactly for model cases as  $\Phi^4$  – theory
- KB can be solved in 1<sup>st</sup> order gradient expansion in terms of generalized transport equations (in test particle ansatz) for realistic systems of HICs

## Boltzmann equations

- propagate phase space distribution function  $f(\vec{r},\vec{p},t)$  in 6+1 dimensions
- works well for small coupling = weakly interacting system,  $\rightarrow$  on-shell approach



# Detailed balance on the level of $2 \leftrightarrow n$ : treatment of multi-particle collisions in transport approaches

W. Cassing, NPA 700 (2002) 618

**Generalized off-shell collision integral for  $n \leftrightarrow m$  reactions:**

$$I_{coll} = \sum_n \sum_m I_{coll}[n \leftrightarrow m]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{coll}^i[n \leftrightarrow m] = & \\
 & \frac{1}{2} N_n^m \sum_\nu \sum_\lambda \left( \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \right)^{n+m-1} \int \left( \prod_{j=2}^n d^4 p_j A_j(x, p_j) \right) \left( \prod_{k=1}^m d^4 p_k A_k(x, p_k) \right) \\
 & \times A_i(x, p) W_{n,m}(p, p_j; i, \nu \mid p_k; \lambda) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p^\mu + \sum_{j=2}^n p_j^\mu - \sum_{k=1}^m p_k^\mu) \\
 & \times [\tilde{f}_i(x, p) \prod_{k=1}^m f_k(x, p_k) \prod_{j=2}^n \tilde{f}_j(x, p_j) - f_i(x, p) \prod_{j=2}^n f_j(x, p_j) \prod_{k=1}^m \tilde{f}_k(x, p_k)].
 \end{aligned}$$

$\tilde{f} = 1 + \eta f$  is Pauli-blocking or Bose-enhancement factors;  
 $\eta=1$  for bosons and  $\eta=-1$  for fermions

$W_{n,m}(p, p_j; i, \nu \mid p_k; \lambda)$  is a **transition matrix element squared**

# Multi-meson fusion in heavy-ion reactions

W. Cassing, NPA 700 (2002) 618

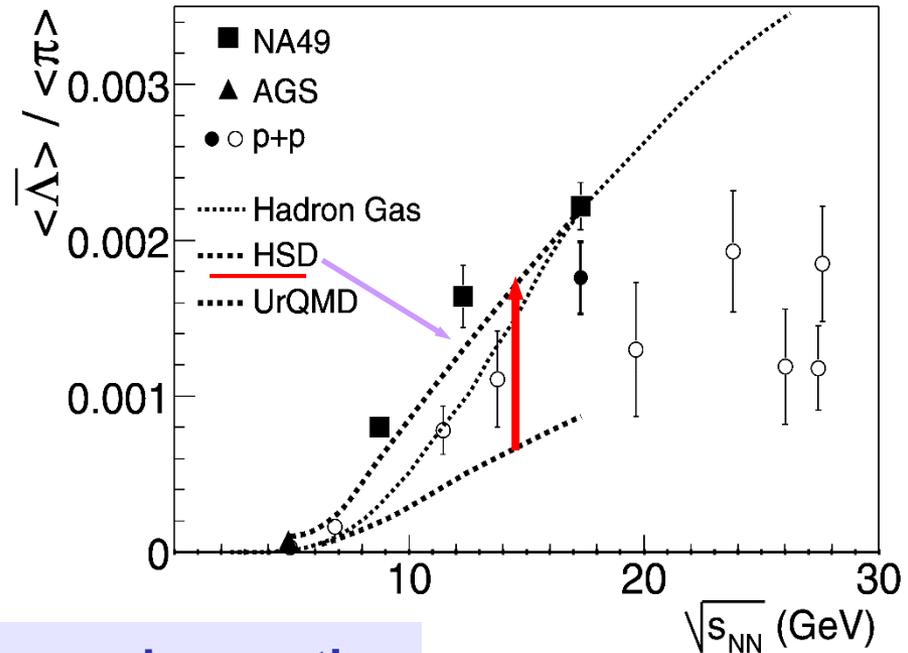
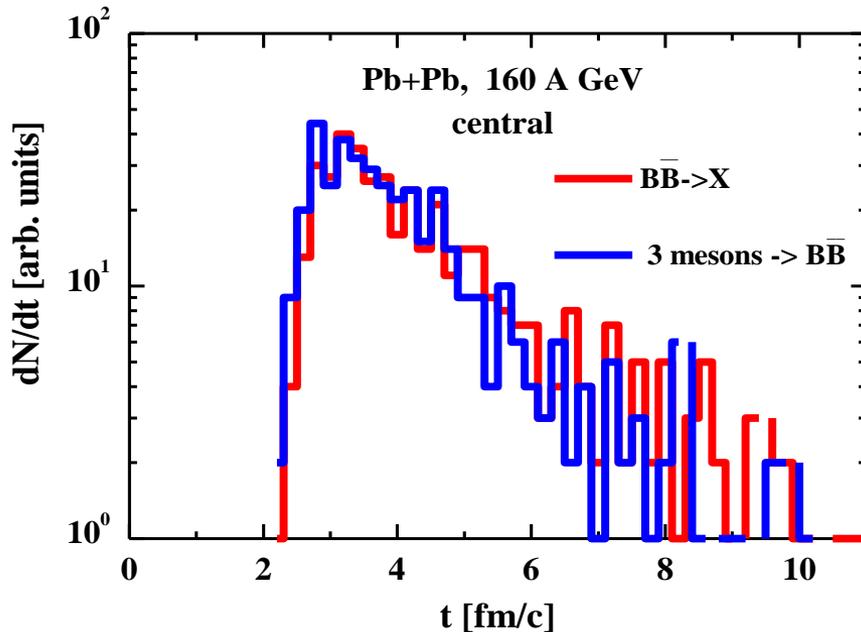
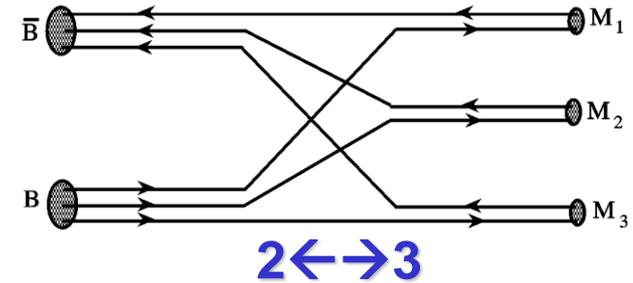
E. Seifert, W. Cassing, PRC 97 (2018) 024913, (2018) 044907

## Multi-meson fusion reactions

$$m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n \leftrightarrow B + B\bar{b}$$

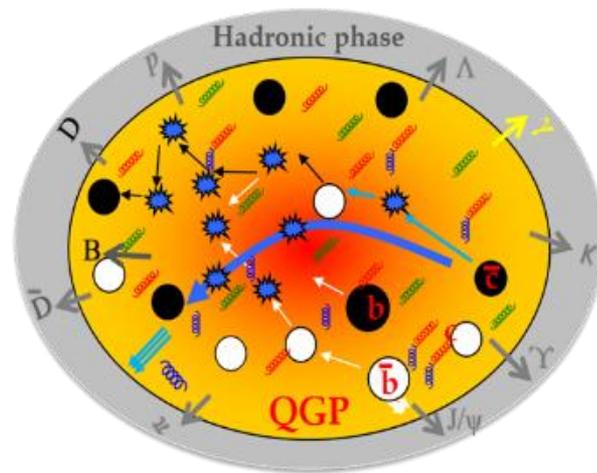
$m = \pi, \rho, \omega, \dots$   $B = p, \Lambda, \Sigma, \Xi, \Omega$ , (>2000 channels)

□ important for anti-proton, anti- $\Lambda$ , anti- $\Xi$ , anti- $\Omega$  dynamics !

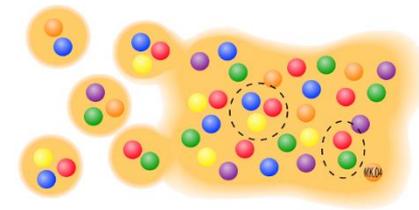


→ approximate equilibrium of annihilation and recreation

# Modeling of sQGP in microscopic transport theory



# Goal: microscopic transport description of the **partonic** and **hadronic phase**



- Problems:**
- ❑ How to model a **QGP phase** in line with IQCD data?
  - ❑ How to solve the **hadronization problem**?

## Ways to go:

### **pQCD based models:**

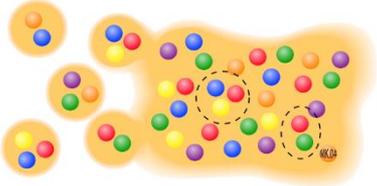
- **QGP phase:** pQCD cascade
  - **hadronization:** quark coalescence
- AMPT, HIJING, BAMPS

### **„Hybrid“ models:**

- **QGP phase:** **hydro** with QGP EoS
  - **hadronic freeze-out:** after burner - hadron-string transport model
- Hybrid-UrQMD

- **microscopic** transport description of the **partonic** and **hadronic phase** in terms of strongly interacting dynamical **quasi-particles** and off-shell hadrons

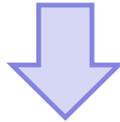
→ PHSD



# Degrees-of-freedom of QGP

For the microscopic transport description of the system one **needs to know all degrees of freedom** as well as their properties and interactions!

❖ IQCD gives QGP EoS at finite  $\mu_B$



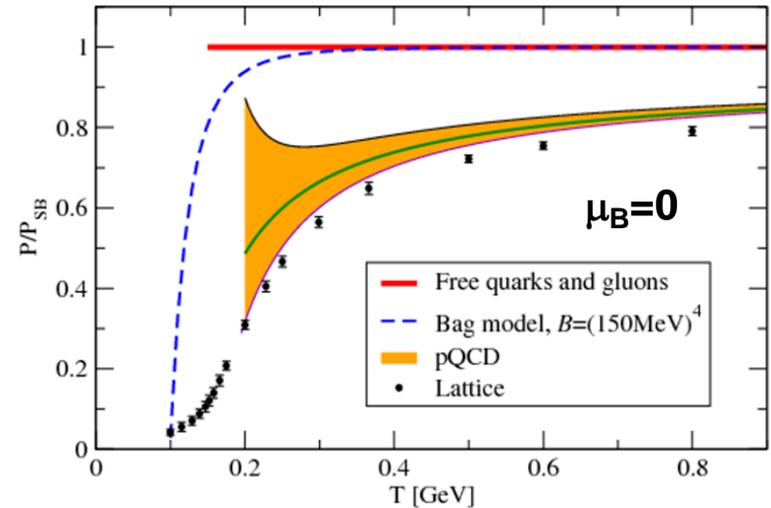
**! need to be interpreted in terms of degrees-of-freedom**

**pQCD:**

- weakly interacting system
- massless quarks and gluons

How to learn about the degrees-of-freedom of QGP from HIC?

- ➔ microscopic transport approaches
- ➔ comparison to HIC experiments

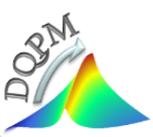


Non-perturbative QCD ← pQCD

**Thermal QCD**

= QCD at high parton densities:

- strongly interacting system
- massive quarks and gluons
- ➔ quasiparticles
- = effective degrees-of-freedom



# Dynamical QuasiParticle Model (DQPM)

**DQPM** – effective model for the description of **non-perturbative** (strongly interacting) QCD based on **IQCD EoS**

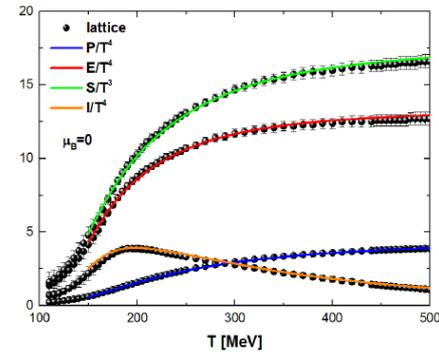
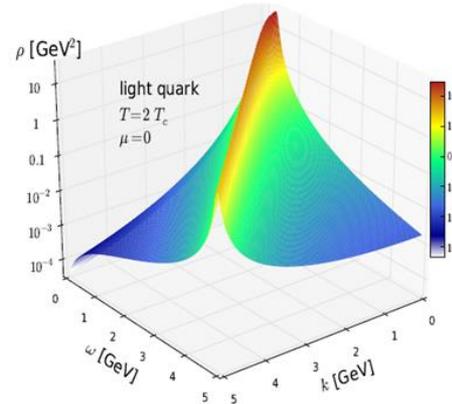
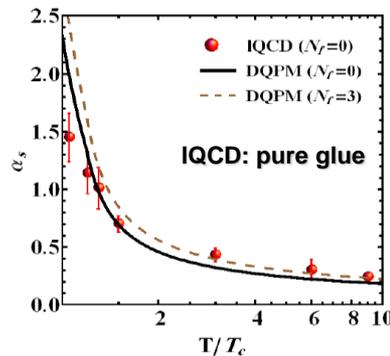
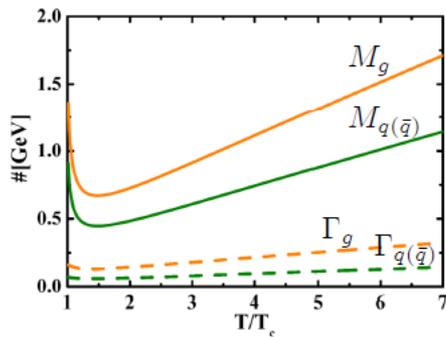
**Degrees-of-freedom**: strongly interacting **dynamical quasiparticles** - quarks and gluons

**Theoretical basis** :

□ ,resummed‘ single-particle Green’s functions  $\rightarrow$  quark (gluon) propagator (2PI) :  $G_q^{-1} = P^2 - \Sigma_q$   
**Properties of the quasiparticles** are specified by scalar **complex self-energies**:  $\Sigma_q = M_q^2 - i2\gamma_q\omega$   
 $Re\Sigma_q$ : **thermal masses** ( $M_g, M_q$ );  $Im\Sigma_q$ : **interaction widths** ( $\gamma_g, \gamma_q$ )  $\rightarrow$  spectral functions  $\rho_q = -2ImG_q$

- introduce an **ansatz** (HTL; with few parameters) for the  $(T, \mu_B)$  dependence of masses/widths
- evaluate the **QGP thermodynamics** in equilibrium using the Kadanoff-Baym theory
- fix DQPM parameters by comparison to the entropy density  $s$ , pressure  $P$ , energy density  $\varepsilon$  from DQPM to **IQCD** at  $\mu_B = 0$

$\rightarrow$  **Quasi-particle properties at  $(T, \mu_B)$**  :



• **DQPM** provides **mean-fields** (1PI) for  $q, g$  and **effective 2-body partonic interactions** (2PI); gives **transition rates** for the formation of hadrons  $\rightarrow$  **QGP in PHSD**



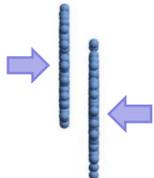
# Parton-Hadron-String-Dynamics (PHSD)



**PHSD** is a **non-equilibrium microscopic transport approach** for the description of **strongly-interacting hadronic and partonic matter** created in heavy-ion collisions

**Dynamics:** based on the solution of **generalized off-shell transport equations** derived from Kadanoff-Baym many-body theory

Initial A+A collision

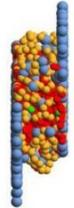


□ **Initial A+A collisions** :  
 $N+N \rightarrow$  **string formation**  $\rightarrow$  decay to pre-hadrons + leading hadrons

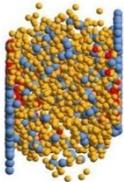
□ **Formation of QGP stage** if local  $\varepsilon > \varepsilon_{\text{critical}}$  :  
 dissolution of **pre-hadrons**  $\rightarrow$  partons

□ **Partonic phase - QGP:**  
 QGP is described by the **Dynamical QuasiParticle Model (DQPM)** matched to reproduce **lattice QCD EoS** for finite  $T$  and  $\mu_B$  (crossover)

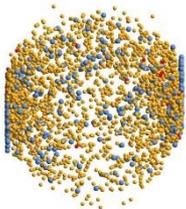
Partonic phase



Hadronization



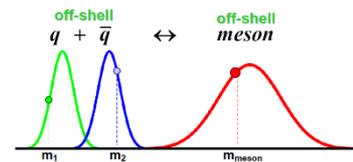
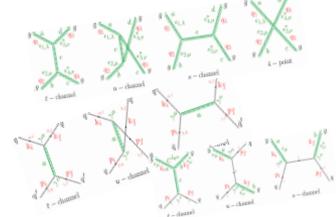
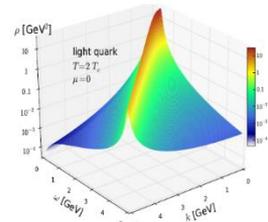
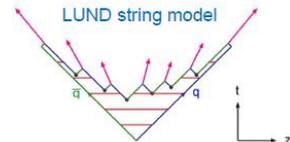
Hadronic phase



- **Degrees-of-freedom:** strongly interacting quasiparticles: **massive quarks and gluons ( $g, q, q_{\text{bar}}$ )** with sizeable collisional widths in a self-generated mean-field potential
- **Interactions:** (quasi-)elastic and inelastic collisions of partons

□ **Hadronization** to colorless **off-shell mesons and baryons:**  
 Strict 4-momentum and quantum number conservation

□ **Hadronic phase:** hadron-hadron interactions – **off-shell HSD**

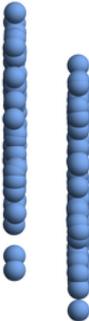


# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 0.05 \text{ fm}/c$



$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$   
 $b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  – Section view



-  Baryons (394)
-  Antibaryons ( 0)
-  Mesons ( 0)
-  Quarks ( 0)
-  Gluons ( 0)

# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 1.6512 \text{ fm}/c$



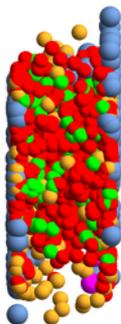
$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  – Section view

-  Baryons (394)
-  Antibaryons ( 0)
-  Mesons (1523)
-  Quarks (4553)
-  Gluons (368)

# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 3.91921 \text{ fm}/c$



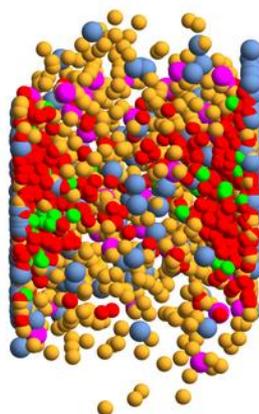
$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  – Section view

-  Baryons (426)
-  Antibaryons ( 29)
-  Mesons (1189)
-  Quarks (4459)
-  Gluons (783)

# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 7.31921 \text{ fm}/c$



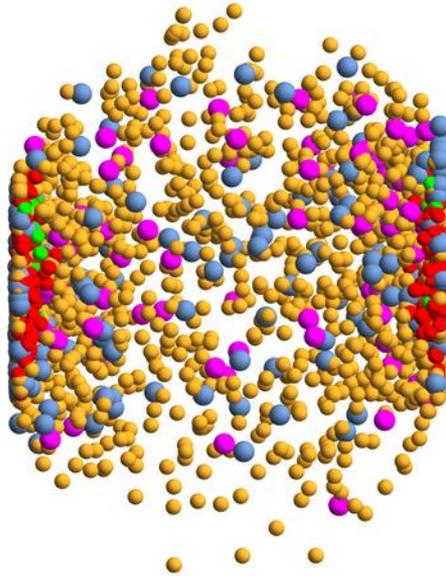
$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  – Section view

-  Baryons (540)
-  Antibaryons (120)
-  Mesons (2481)
-  Quarks (2901)
-  Gluons (492)

# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 12.0192 \text{ fm}/c$



$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  – Section view

 Baryons (626)

 Antibaryons (202)

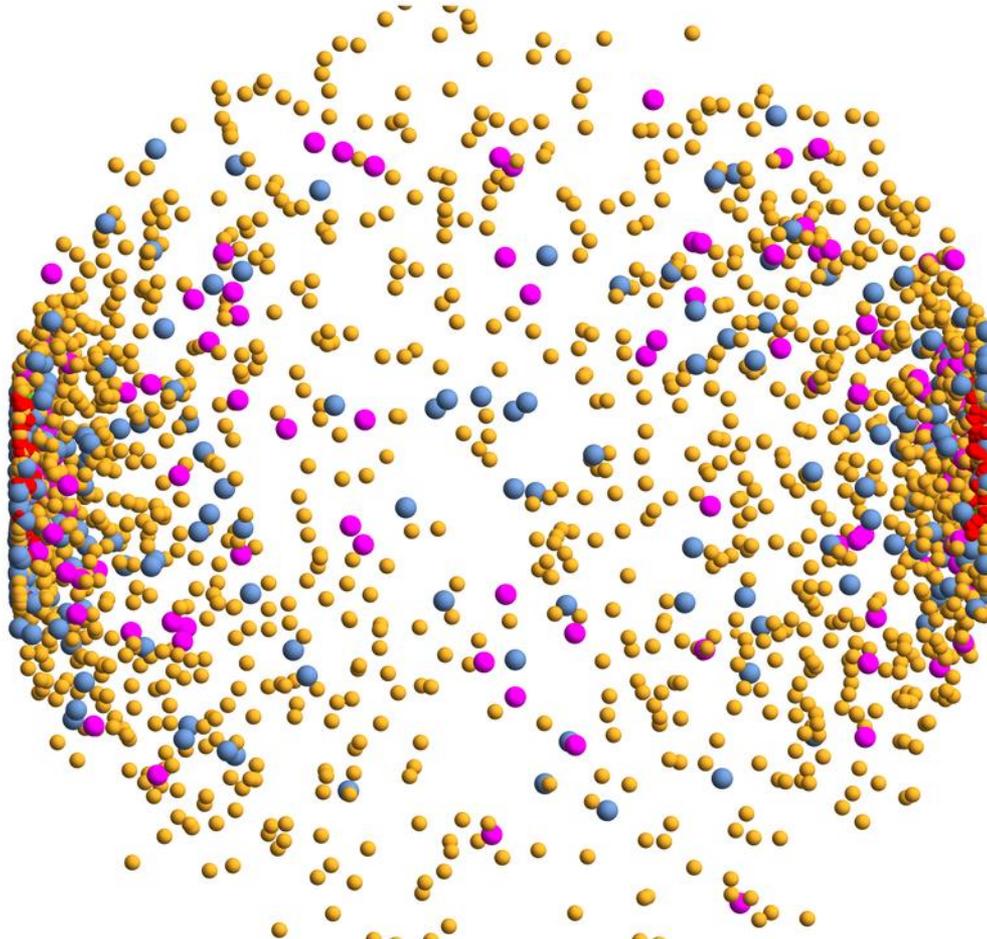
 Mesons (3357)

 Quarks (1835)

 Gluons (269)

# Stages of a collision in PHSD

$t = 25.5191 \text{ fm}/c$



$\text{Au} + \text{Au} \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$b = 2.2 \text{ fm}$  - Section view

 Baryons (710)

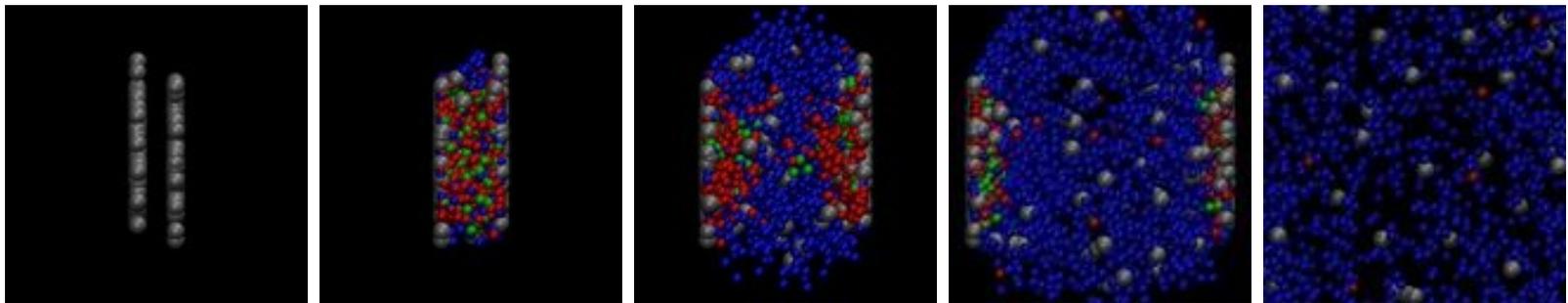
 Antibaryons (272)

 Mesons (4343)

 Quarks ( 899)

 Gluons ( 46)

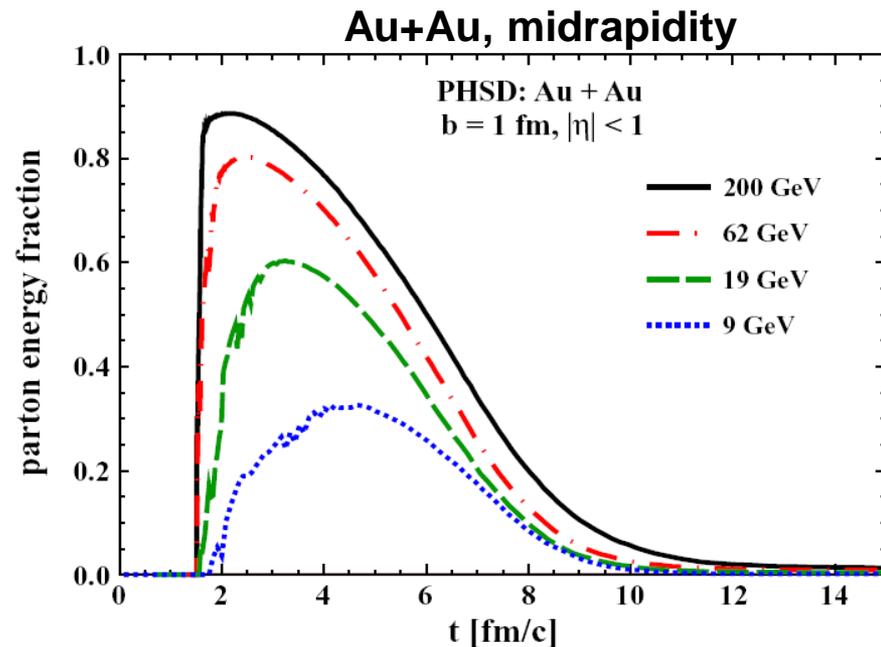
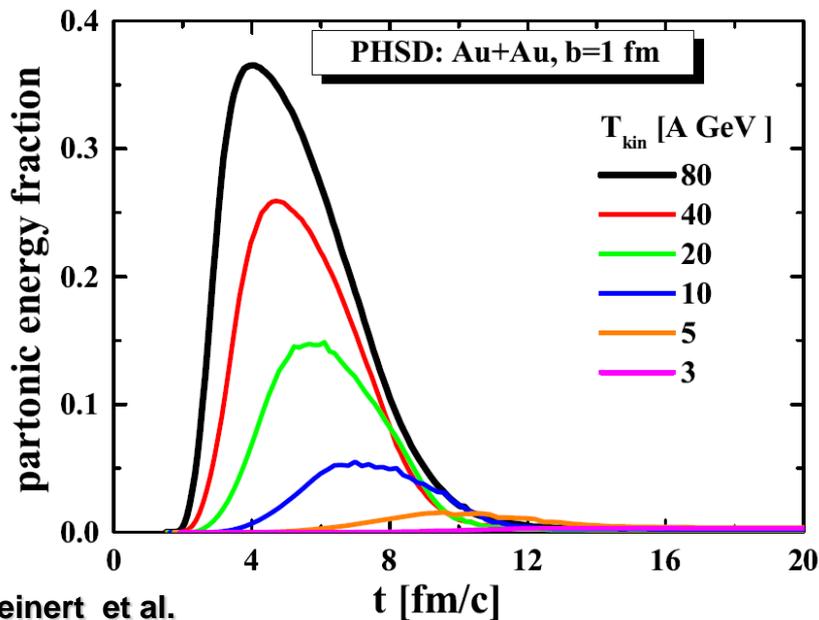
# Traces of the QGP in observables in high energy heavy-ion collisions



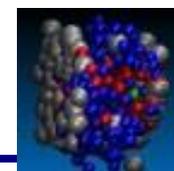


# Partonic energy fraction in central A+A

## Time evolution of the partonic energy fraction vs energy

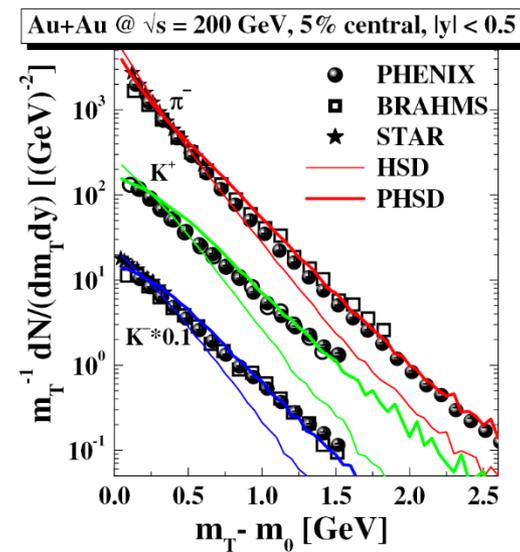
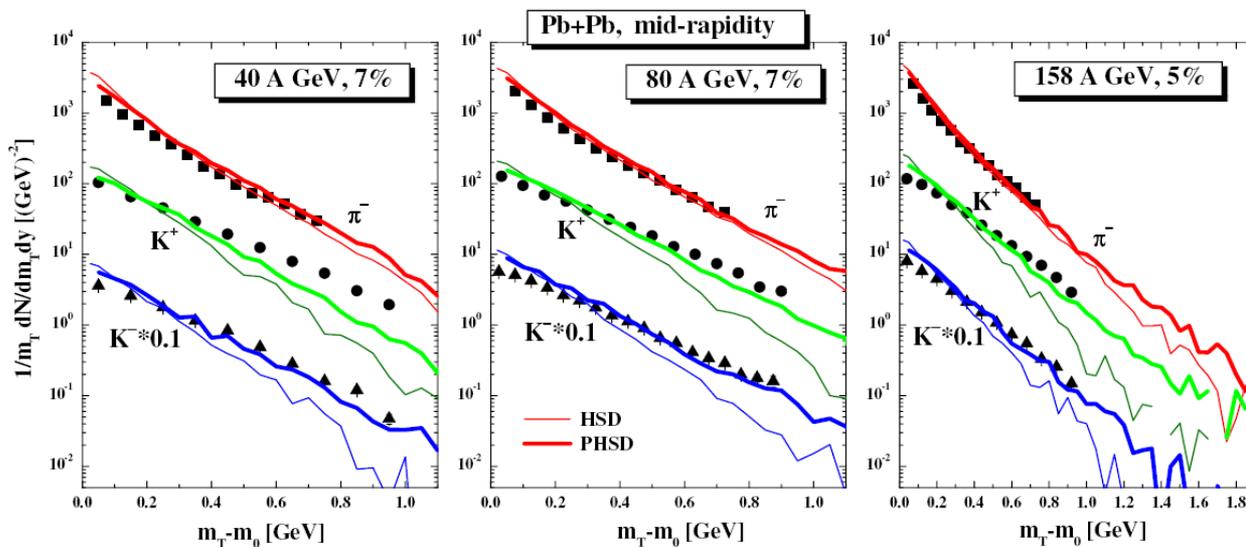


- Strong increase of partonic phase with energy from AGS to RHIC
- SPS: Pb+Pb, 160 A GeV: only about 40% of the converted energy goes to partons; the rest is contained in the large hadronic corona and leading partons
- RHIC: Au+Au, 21.3 A TeV: up to 90% - QGP



## Central Pb + Pb at SPS energies

## Central Au+Au at RHIC



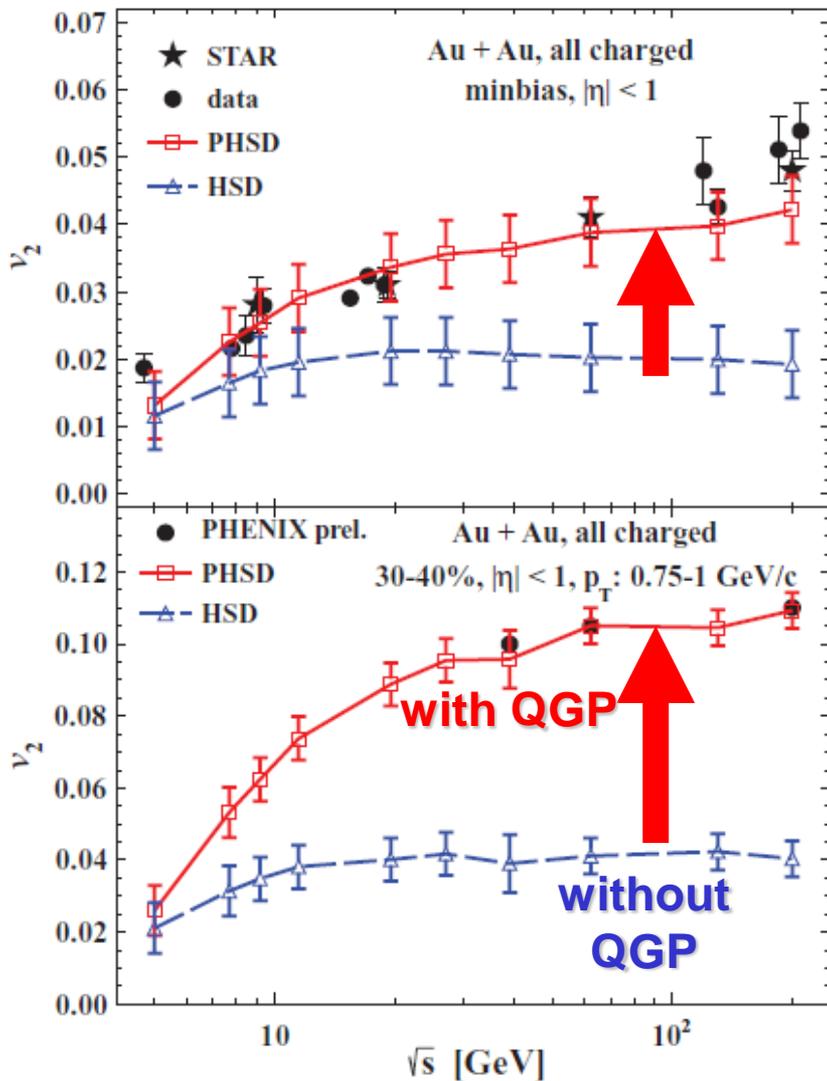
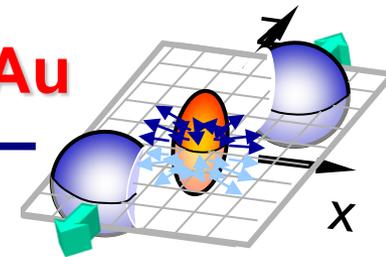
- PHSD gives **harder  $m_T$  spectra** and works better than HSD (wo QGP) at high energies – RHIC, SPS (and top FAIR, NICA)
- however, at **low SPS** (and low FAIR, NICA) energies the **effect of the partonic phase decreases** due to the decrease of the partonic fraction

W. Cassing & E. Bratkovskaya, NPA 831 (2009) 215

E. Bratkovskaya, W. Cassing, V. Konchakovski, O. Linnyk, NPA856 (2011) 162

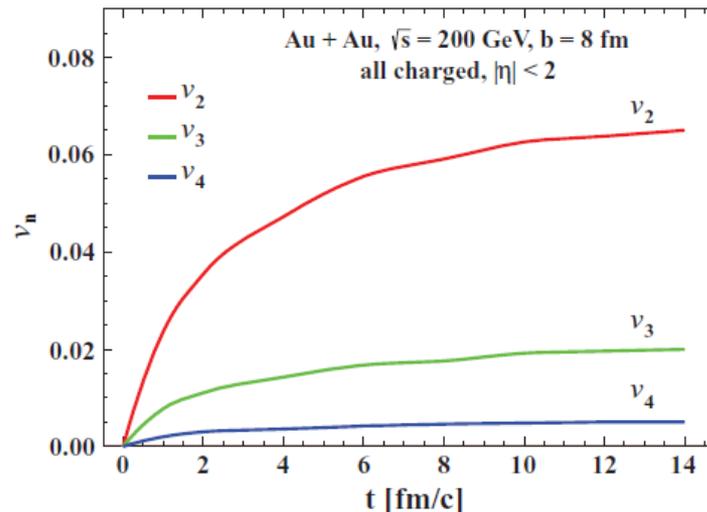


# Elliptic flow $v_2$ vs. collision energy for Au+Au



$$\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto \left( 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} v_n \cos[n(\varphi - \psi_n)] \right)$$

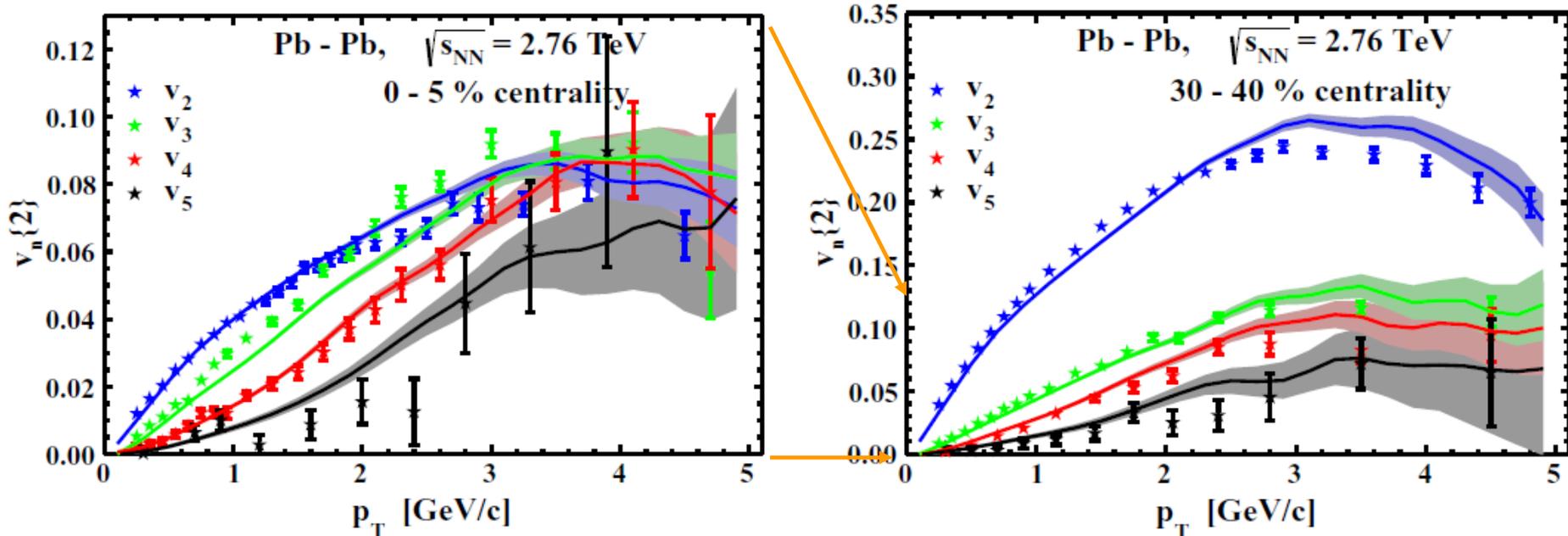
$$v_n = \langle \cos n(\varphi - \psi_n) \rangle, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$



- $v_2$  in PHSD is larger than in HSD due to the repulsive scalar mean-field potential  $U_s(\rho)$  for partons
- $v_2$  grows with bombarding energy due to the increase of the parton fraction



# $V_n$ ( $n=2,3,4,5$ ) of charged particles from PHSD at LHC

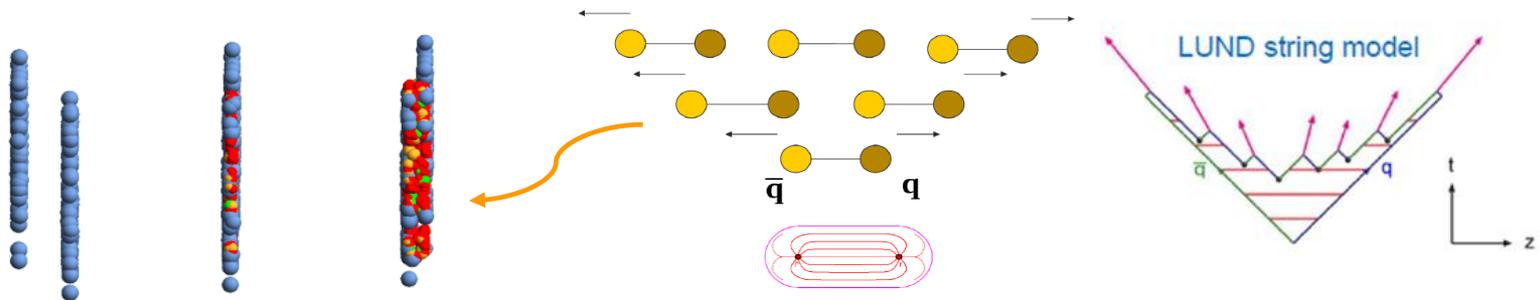


- PHSD: increase of  $v_n$  ( $n=2,3,4,5$ ) with  $p_T$
- $v_2$  increases with decreasing centrality
- $v_n$  ( $n=3,4,5$ ) show weak centrality dependence

symbols – ALICE  
PRL 107 (2011) 032301  
lines – PHSD (e-by-e)

$v_n$  ( $n=3,4,5$ ) develops by interaction in the QGP and in the final hadronic phase

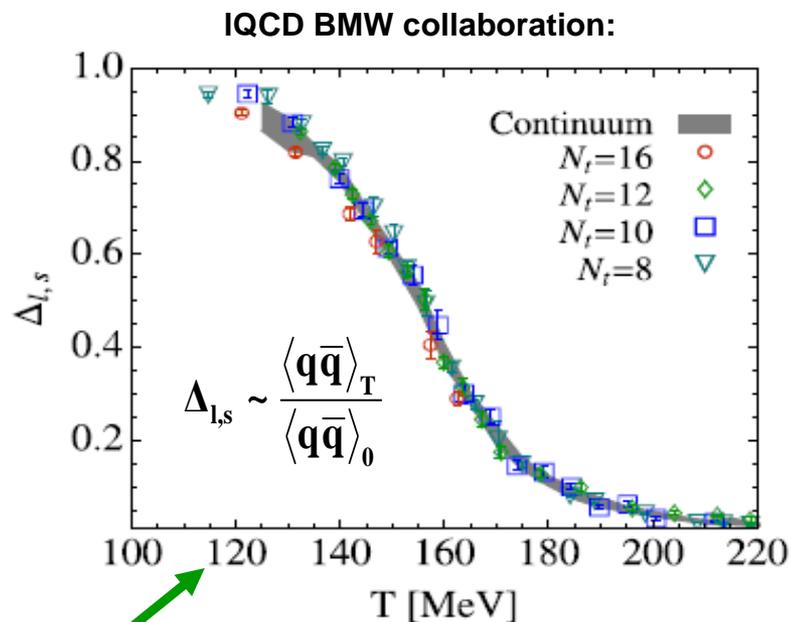
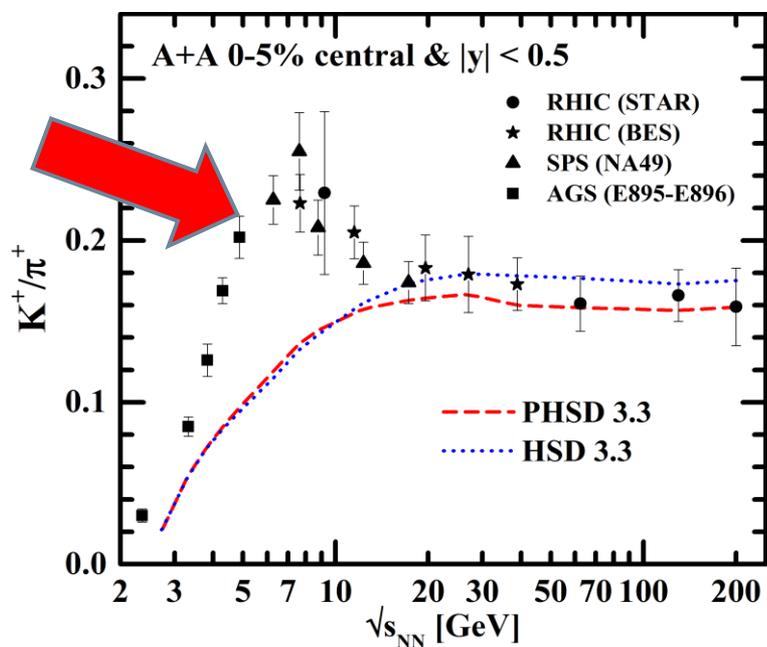
# Modeling of the chiral symmetry restoration via Schwinger mechanism for string fragmentation in the initial phase of HIC



# 'Flavour chemistry' of HIC: $K^+/\pi^+$ ,horn' – 2015

**PHSD:** even when considering the creation of a QGP phase, the  $K^+/\pi^+$  ,horn' seen experimentally by NA49 and STAR at a bombarding energy  $\sim 30$  A GeV (FAIR/NICA energies) remained unexplained (2015)!

→ The origin of the 'horn' is not traced back to deconfinement ?!



Can it be related to **chiral symmetry restoration** in the **initial hadronic phase**?!

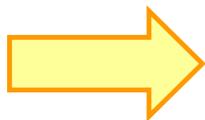


# Scalar quark condensate in HIC

PHSD:  
Ratio of the scalar quark condensate

$$\frac{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle}{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V}$$

compared to the vacuum as a function of  $x, z$  ( $y=0$ ) at different time  $t$  for central Au+Au collisions at 30 AGeV

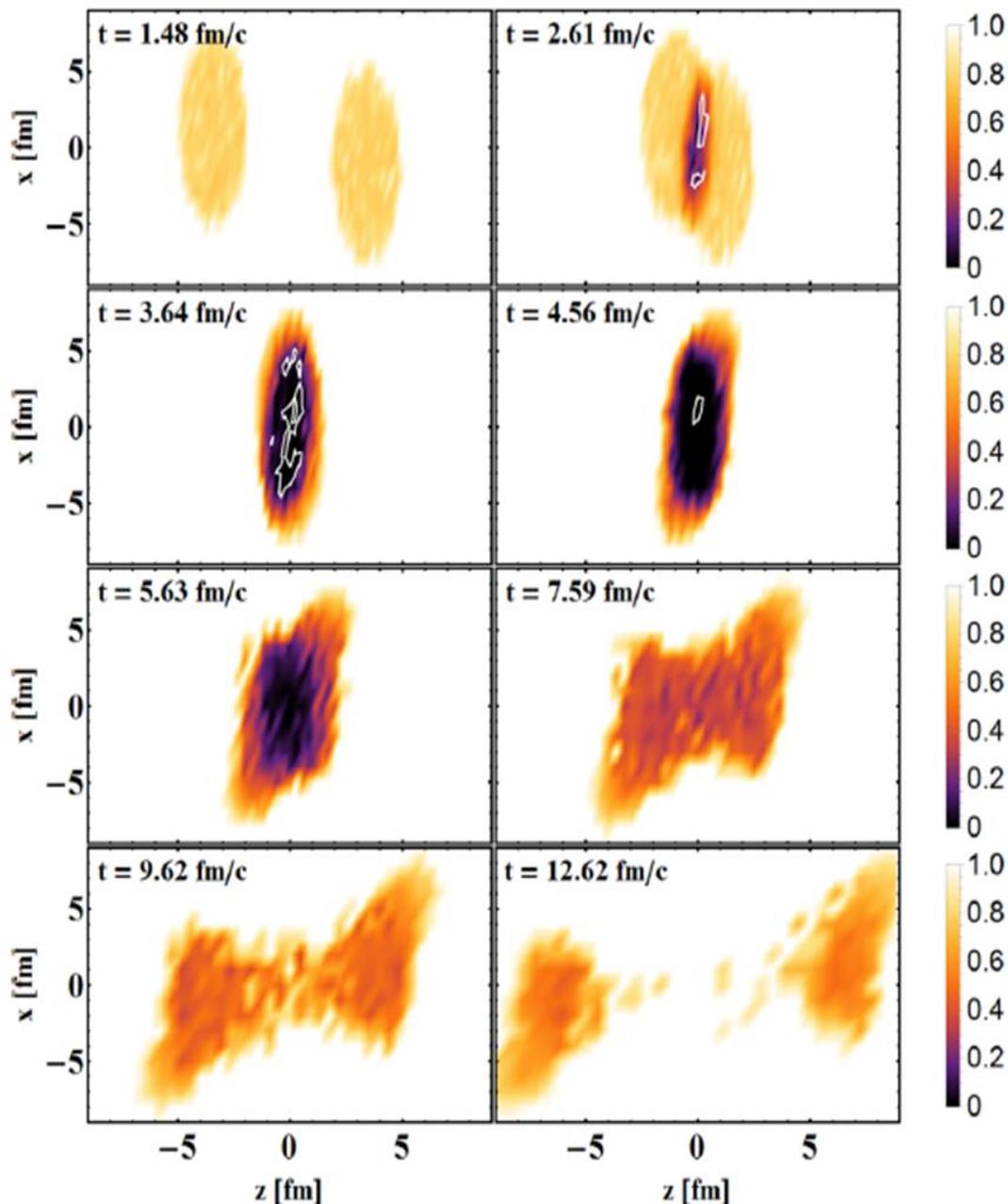


□ restoration of chiral symmetry:

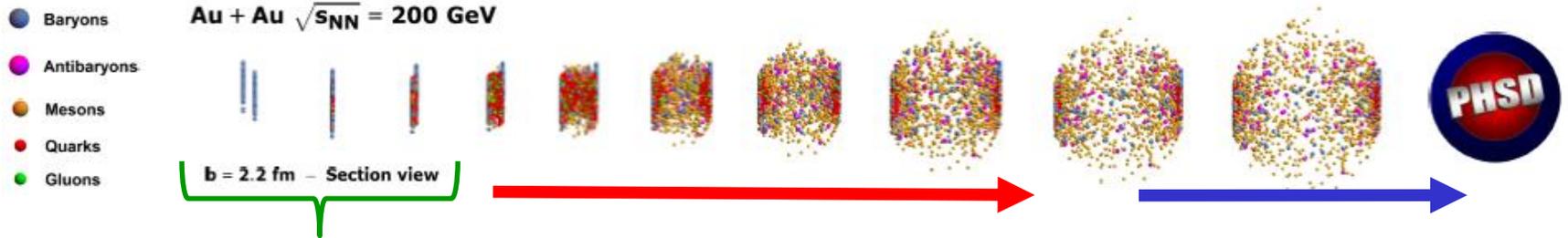
$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle / \langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V \rightarrow 0$$

PHSD: Au+Au @ 30 AGeV,  $b = 2.2$  fm

$$\frac{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle}{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V}$$

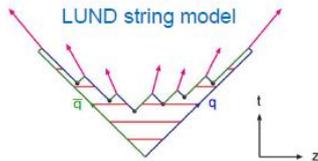


# Chiral symmetry restoration vs. deconfinement



## I. Initial stage of HICs:

Hadronic matter  $\rightarrow$  string formation



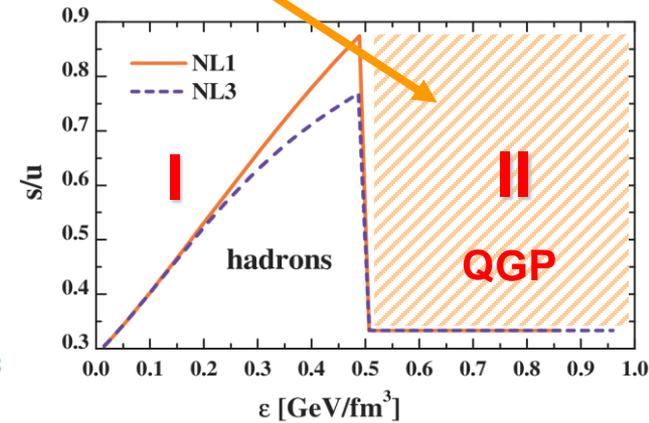
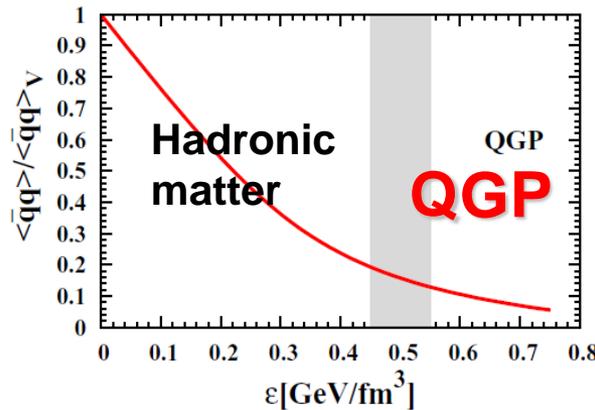
$$\frac{P(s\bar{s})}{P(u\bar{u})} = \frac{P(s\bar{s})}{P(d\bar{d})} = \gamma_s = \exp\left(-\pi \frac{m_s^{*2} - m_q^{*2}}{2\kappa}\right)$$

$$m_q^* = m_q^0 + (m_q^V - m_q^0) \frac{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle}{\langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V}$$

## II. QGP

(time-like partons, explicit partonic interactions)

## III. Hadronic phase



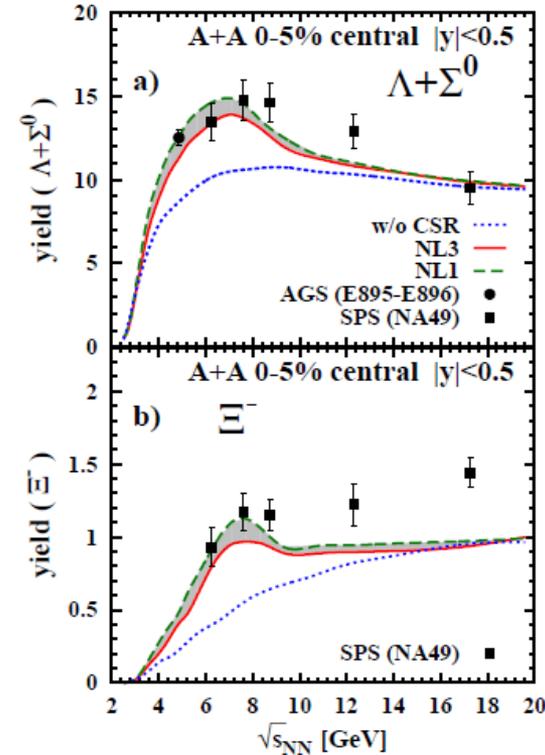
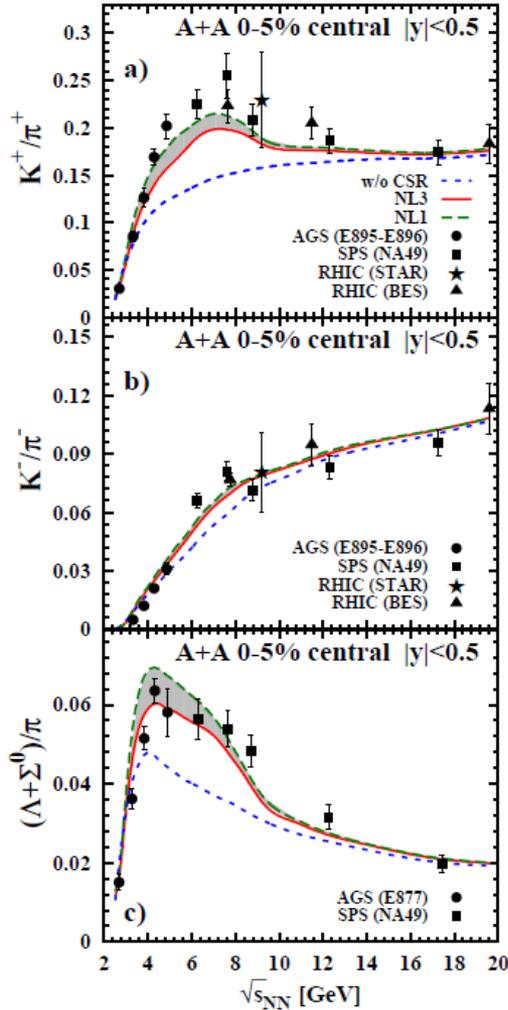
□ Chiral symmetry restoration via Schwinger mechanism (and non-linear  $\sigma - \omega$  model) changes the „flavour chemistry“ in string fragmentation (1PI):

$$\langle q\bar{q} \rangle / \langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V \rightarrow 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad m_s^* \rightarrow m_s^0 \quad \rightarrow \quad s/u \text{ grows}$$

$\rightarrow$  the strangeness production probability **increases** with the local energy density  $\epsilon$  (up to  $\epsilon_C$ ) due to the partial **chiral symmetry restoration!**

# Excitation function of hadron ratios and yields

A. Palmese et al., PRC94 (2016) 044912, arXiv:1607.04073



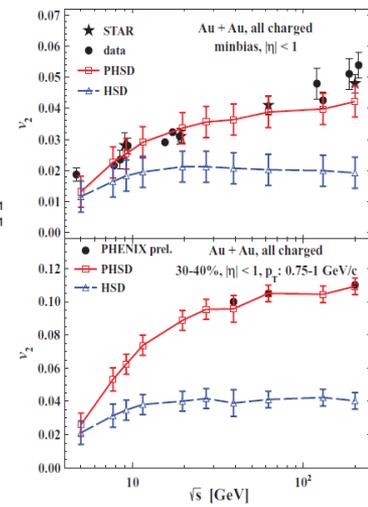
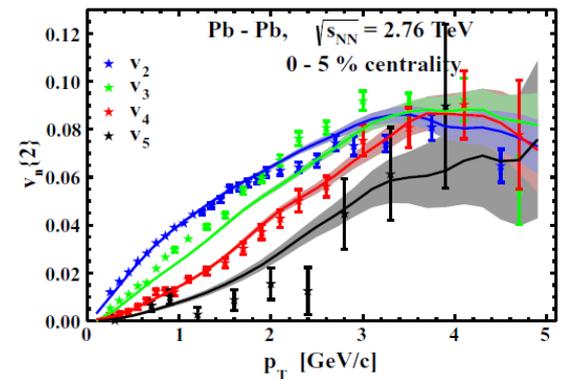
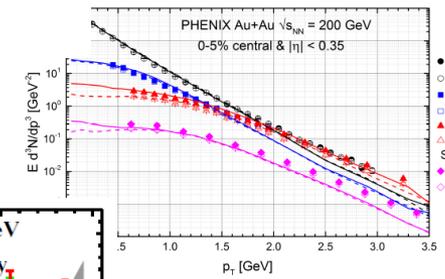
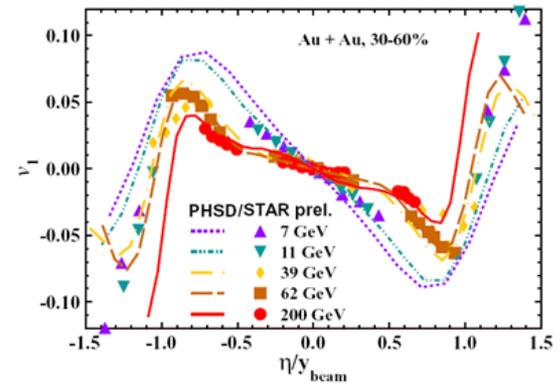
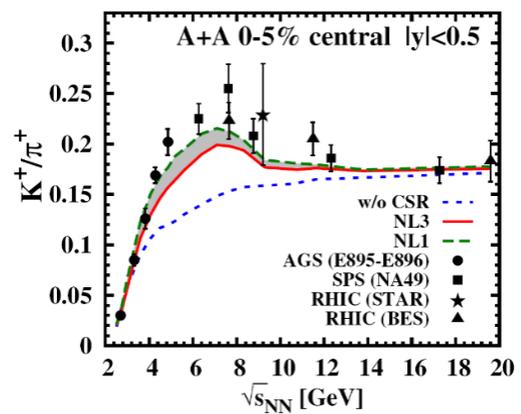
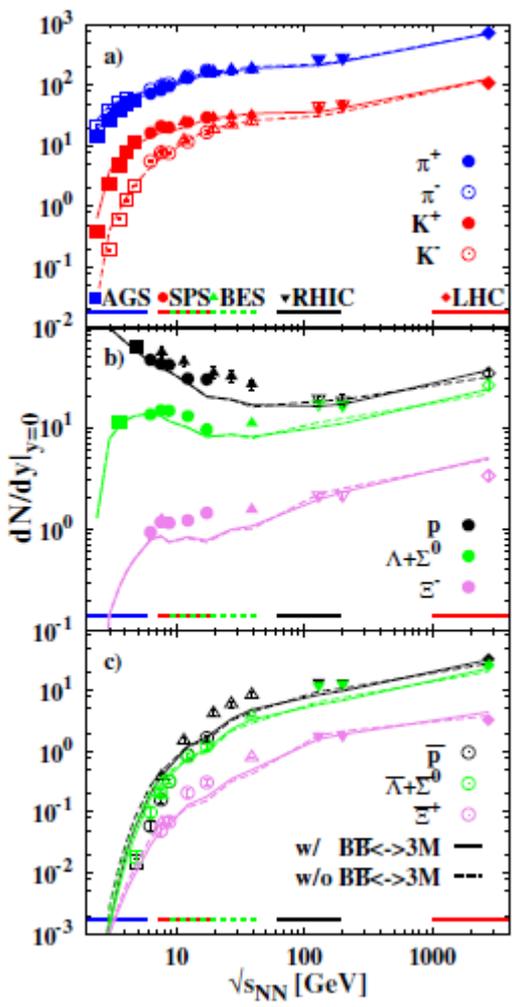
- Influence of EoS: NL1 vs NL3 → **low sensitivity to the nuclear EoS**
- Excitation function of the hyperons  $\Lambda + \Sigma^0$  and  $\Xi^-$  show analogous peaks as  $K^+/\pi^+$ ,  $(\Lambda + \Sigma^0)/\pi$  ratios due to CSR

Chiral symmetry restoration leads to the **enhancement of strangeness production** in string fragmentation in the beginning of HICs in the hadronic phase.  
 → The „horn“ structure is due to the interplay between CSR and deconfinement (QGP)



# Non-equilibrium dynamics: description of A+A with PHSD

## PHSD: highlights



PRC 85 (2012) 011902; JPG42 (2015) 055106

arXiv:1801.07557

**PHSD provides a good description of 'bulk' observables ( $y$ -,  $p_T$ -distributions, flow coefficients  $v_n, \dots$ ) from SIS to LHC**

# Summary

The **developments in the microscopic transport theory** in the last decades - based on the solution of generalized transport equations derived from **Kadanoff-Baym dynamics** - made it **applicable** for the description of **strongly-interaction hadronic and partonic matter** created in heavy-ion collisions from SIS to LHC energies

Note: for the consistent description of HIC the **input from IQCD and many-body theory** is mandatory:  
properties of partonic and hadronic degrees-of-freedom and their in-medium interactions

