

# Holography and heavy ion collisions

Derek Teaney

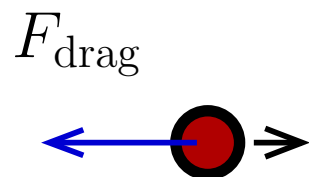
SUNY Stonybrook and RBRC Fellow



Special thanks to P. Arnold, M. Heller, P. Chesler, W. Horowitz, A. Ficnar, B. Muller

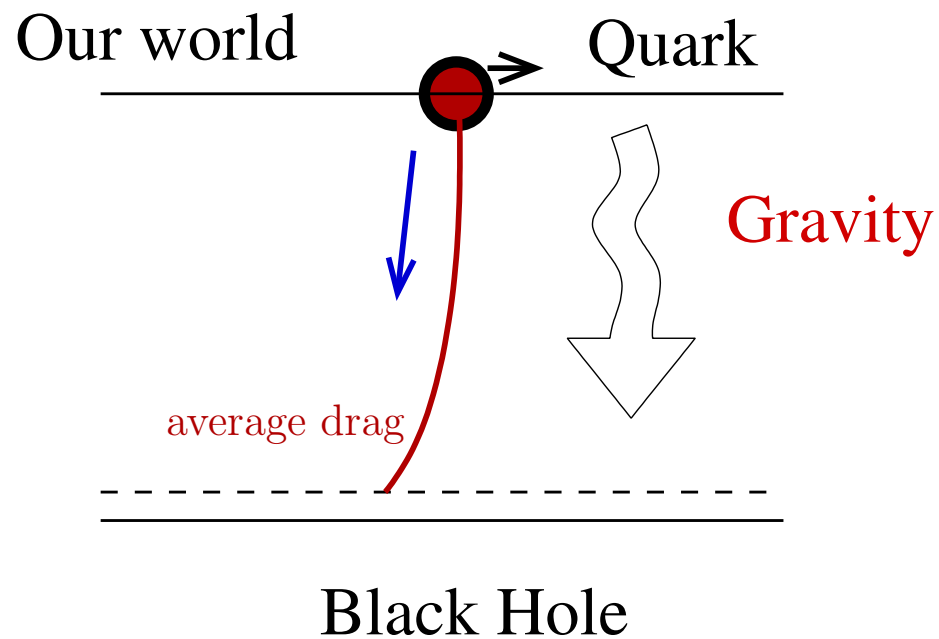
## The AdS/CFT Correspondence:

Quark Drag



$$M \frac{dv}{dt} = -\eta v$$

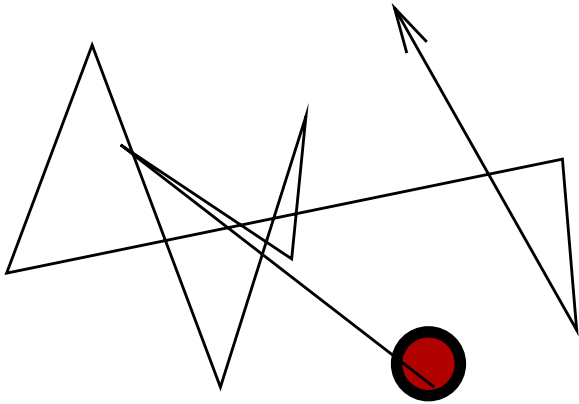
String Pulling on Quark



Its physics not math!

# The AdS/CFT Correspondence

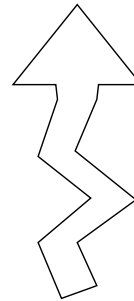
## Brownian Quark



$$M \frac{dv}{dt} = -\eta v + \xi(t)$$

## Stochastic String Pulling on Quark

Hawking Radiation



Our world

Quark

random force

average drag

Gravity

Black Hole

5D equilibrium is a competition between dissipative gravity and hawking radiation:

$$\text{classical probability} \propto e^{-\beta H[x, \pi_x]}$$

Again, its physics not math!

## Outline:

1. What are strong strongly coupled plasma like?
  - What are QCD plasmas like? Lattice spectral densities
2. Thermalization of strongly coupled plasmas
  - Hydro everywhere, but viscous corrections important
3. Equilibration of high (???) momentum modes
  - Limitations – Large  $N_c$  and  $\lambda$

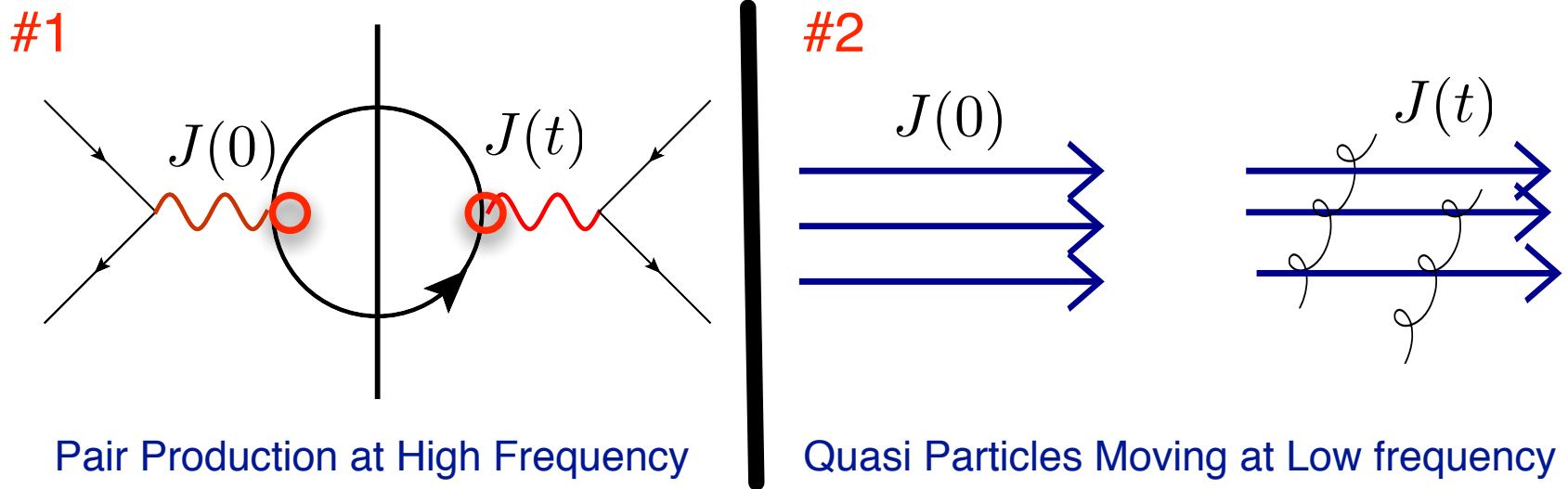
## Strongly Coupled Plasmas and Lattice

## QCD Lattice – Weak versus strong coupling how to tell?

- Lattice “measures” current-current correlation functions

$$\rho_{JJ} = \langle [J(t), J(0)] \rangle$$

- Weakly coupled picture consists of two processes:



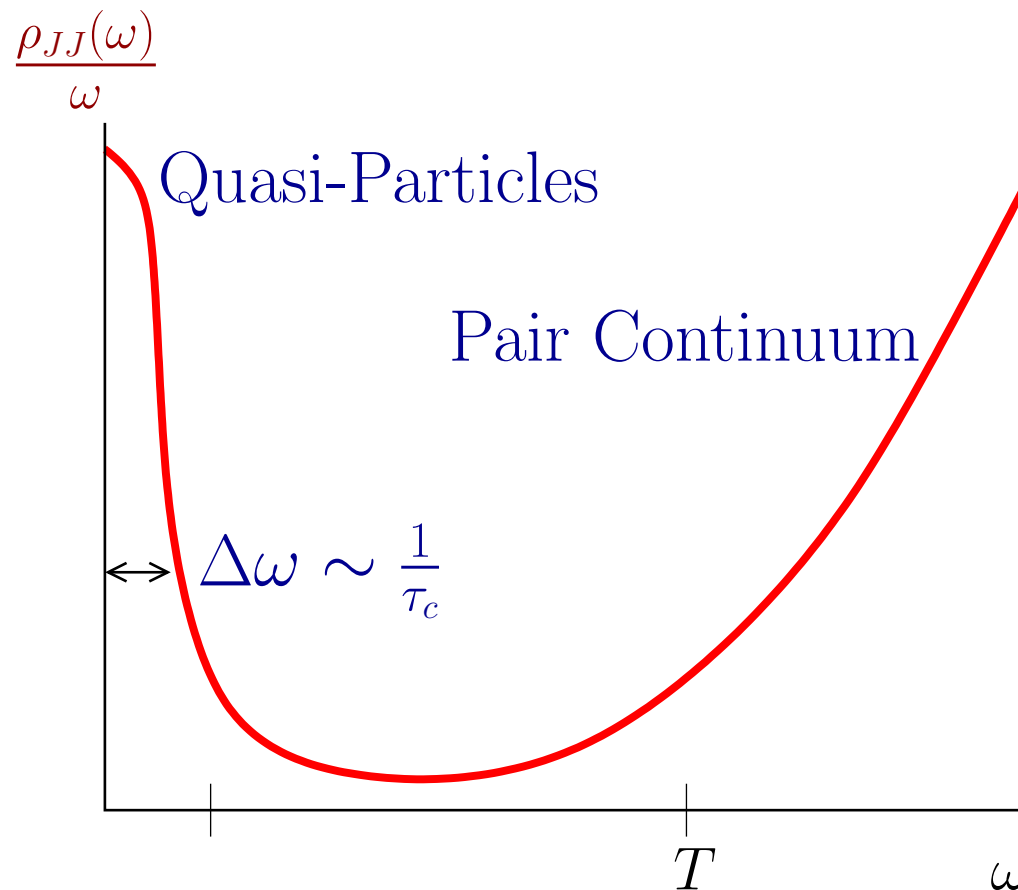
Duration that quasi-particles move set by the collisional time scale

$$\tau_c \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_s^2 T}$$

## Spectral functions weak and strong coupling

$$\rho_{JJ}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \langle [J(t), J(0)] \rangle$$

Weak Coupling

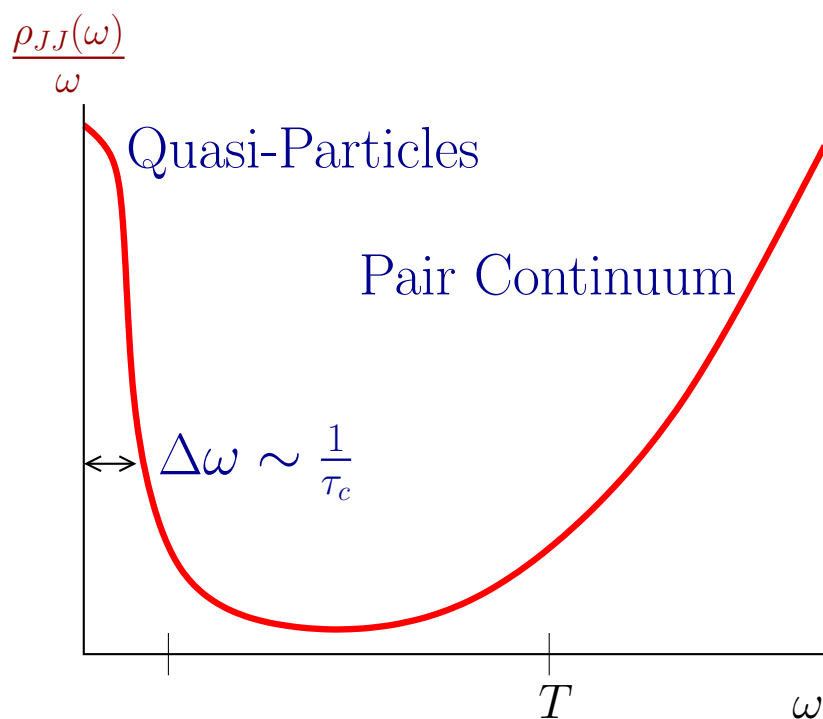


Width of peak set by collisional time scale  $\frac{1}{\tau_c} \propto \alpha_s^2$

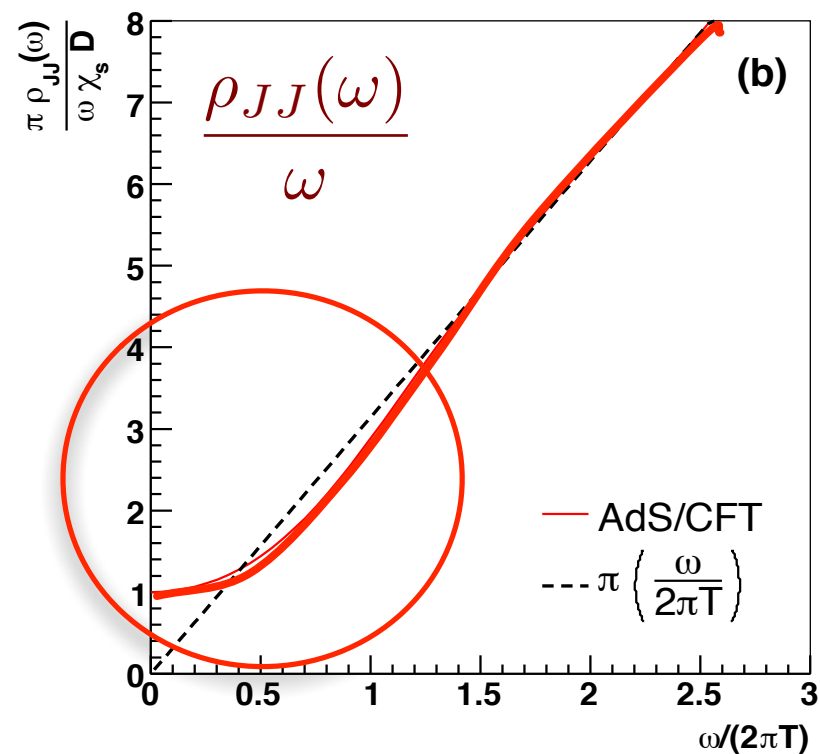
## Spectral functions weak and strong coupling

$$\rho_{JJ}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \langle [J(t), J(0)] \rangle$$

Weak Coupling



Strong Coupling



No distinction between transport and continuum!

The most important strong coupling prediction!



## Lattice Measurements

1. Lattice measures integrals of  $\rho$

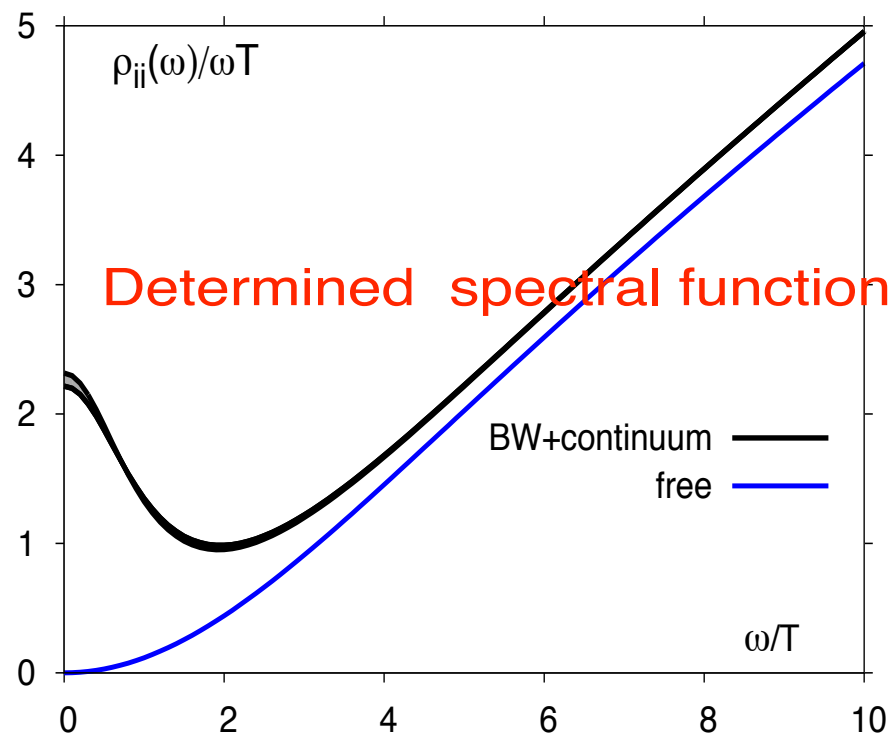
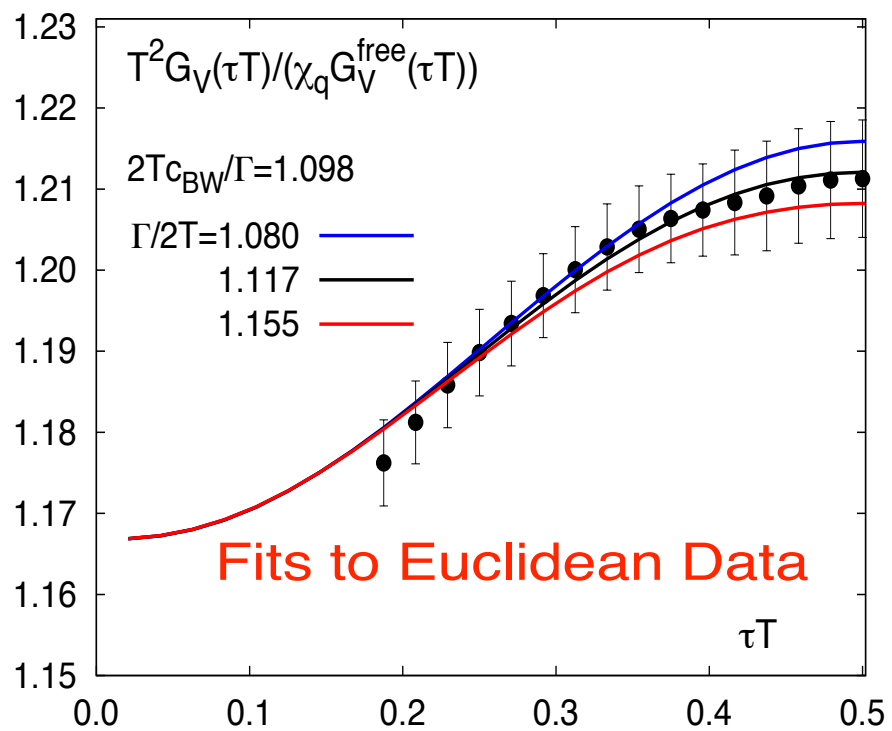
$$\underbrace{G_{JJ}(\tau)}_{\text{lattice measurements}} = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \underbrace{\frac{\rho_{JJ}(\omega)}{\omega}}_{\text{what we want}} \frac{\omega \cosh \omega(\tau - 1/2T)}{\sinh(\omega/2T)}$$

2. Always suffers from systematics

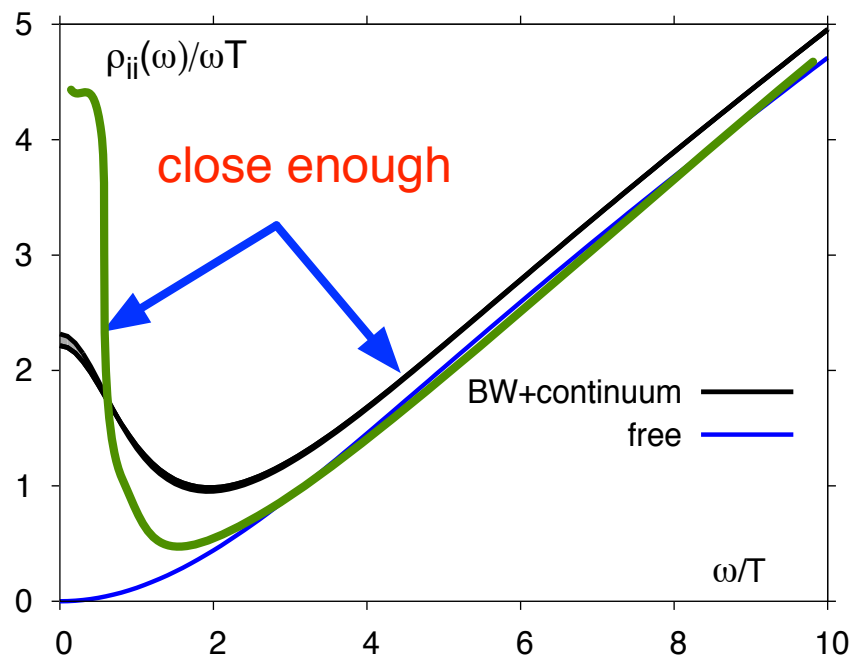
3. As good as it will get for a good while:

Brookhaven-Bielefeld group, Ding et al arXiv:1012.4963

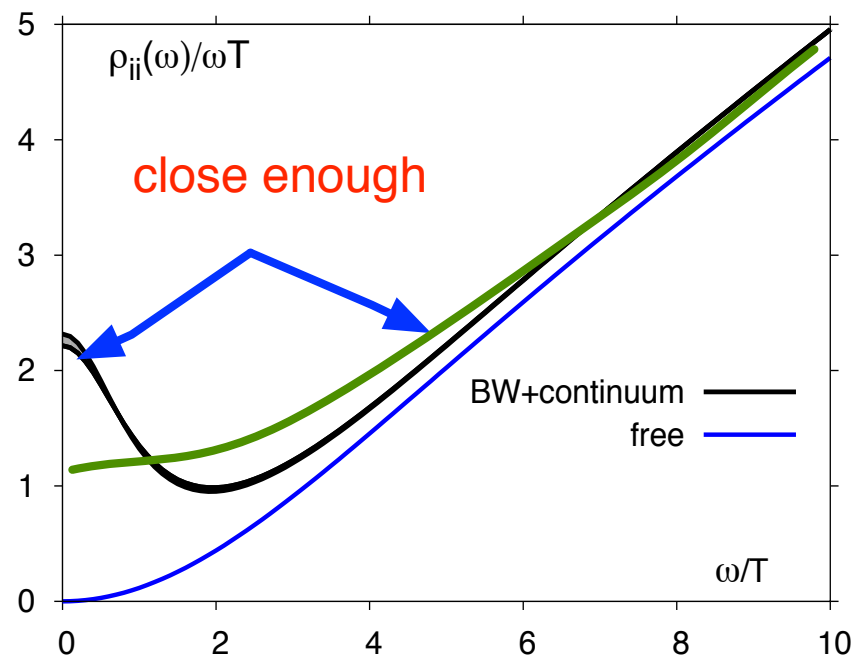
-  $128^3 \times 48$  lattice. Very precise  $\lesssim 1\%$ . Continuum extrapolated



## Weak View



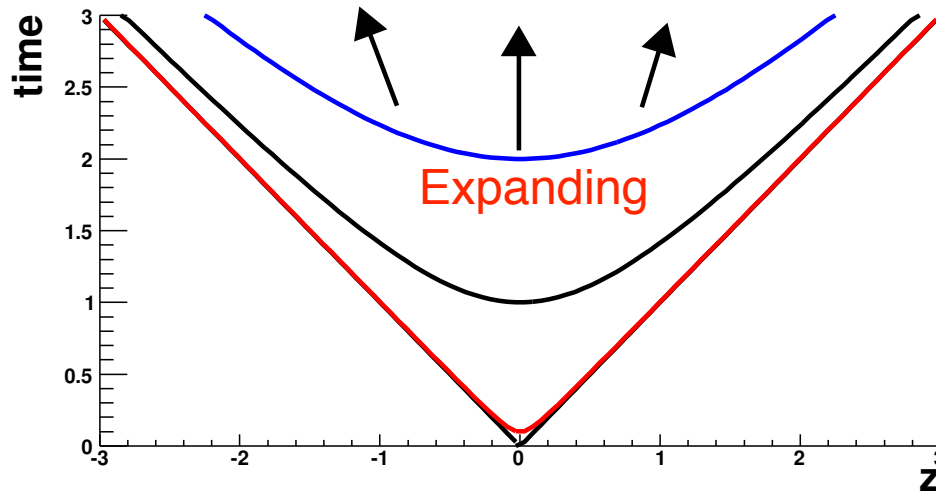
## Strong View



Lattice data are disastrously in between weak and strong

# Thermalization of Strongly Coupled Plasmas

## Bjorken Expansion at weak coupling:



- Condition for hydro to apply:

$$\underbrace{\text{Collision rate}}_{\sim \alpha_s^2 T_o} \gg \underbrace{\text{Expansion Rate}}_{\sim 1/\tau_o}$$

Find:

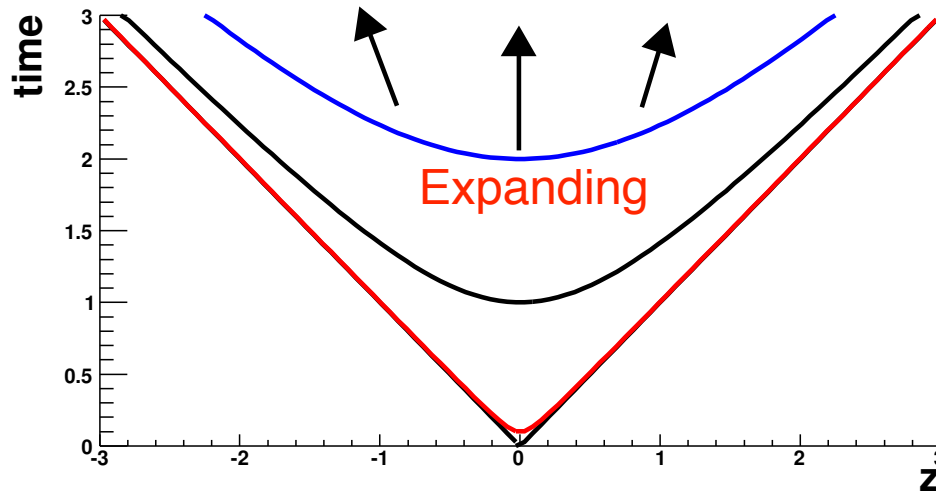
- Not easy to reconcile with weak coupling with hydro

$$\alpha_s^2 \gg 0.66 \times \frac{(1 \text{ fm})(300 \text{ MeV})}{\tau_o T_o}$$

- For a fixed coupling  $\alpha_s$ , need  $T\tau$  larger enough to have hydro

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_s^2} \ll \tau T$$

## Bjorken Expansion at weak coupling:



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What about when  $\alpha_s \rightarrow \infty$  ???

Strong coupling answer:

(M. Heller et al, PRL)

- Find at strong coupling must have

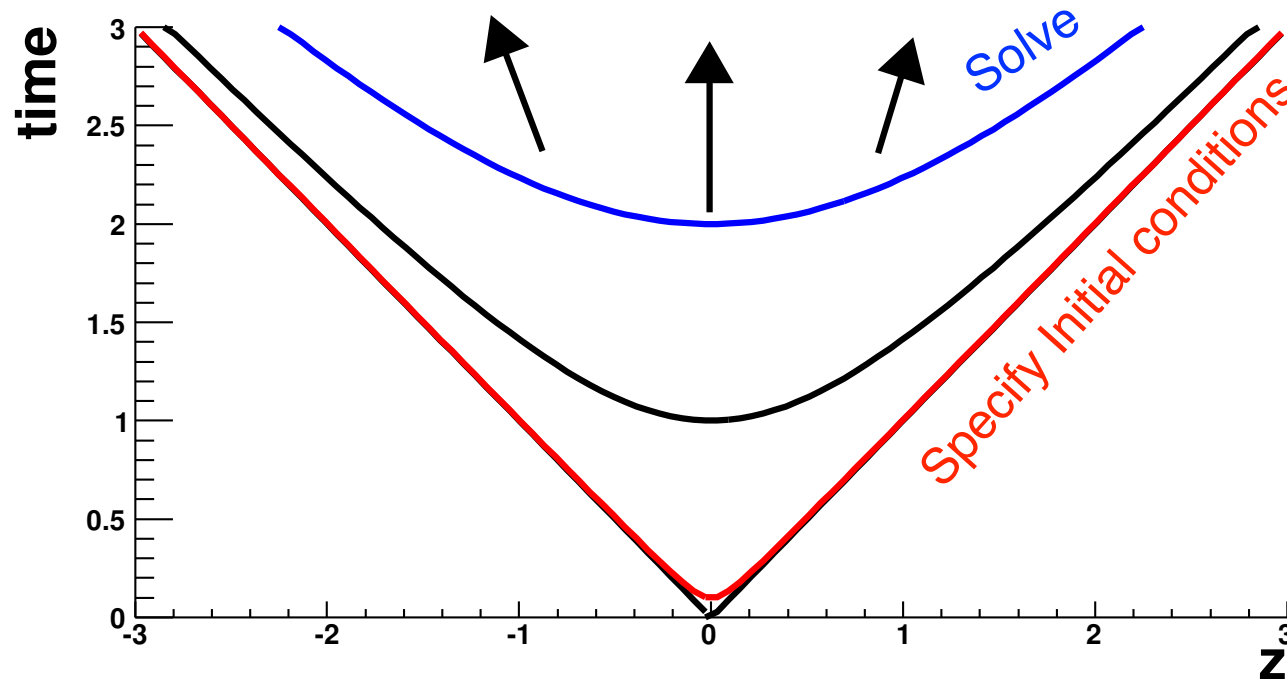
$$0.65 \lesssim \tau_o T_o$$

before we can use (viscous) hydro

- I will review work of Michal Heller, R. Janik, R. Pechanski
- See also [P. Chesler](#) and L. Yaffe, lots of PRLs

## The setup

- Specify initial conditions and solve

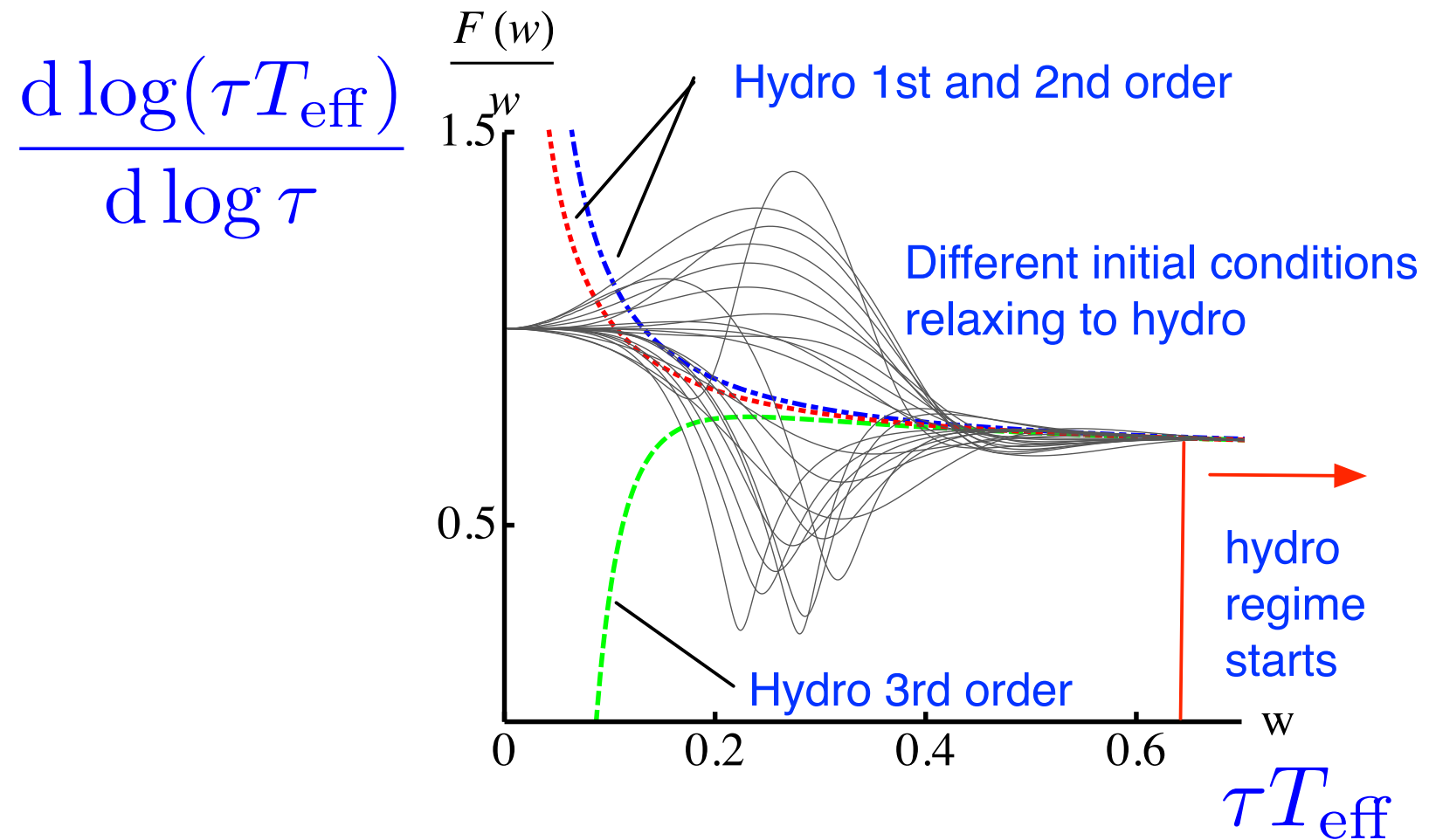


- Immense number of initial conditions with the same initial energy density
  - \* Specify initial conditions in the fifth dimension
- Specify an effective temperature  $T_{\text{eff}}(\tau)$  from the EOS at all times

$$\text{energy density}(\tau) \propto (T_{\text{eff}}(\tau))^4$$

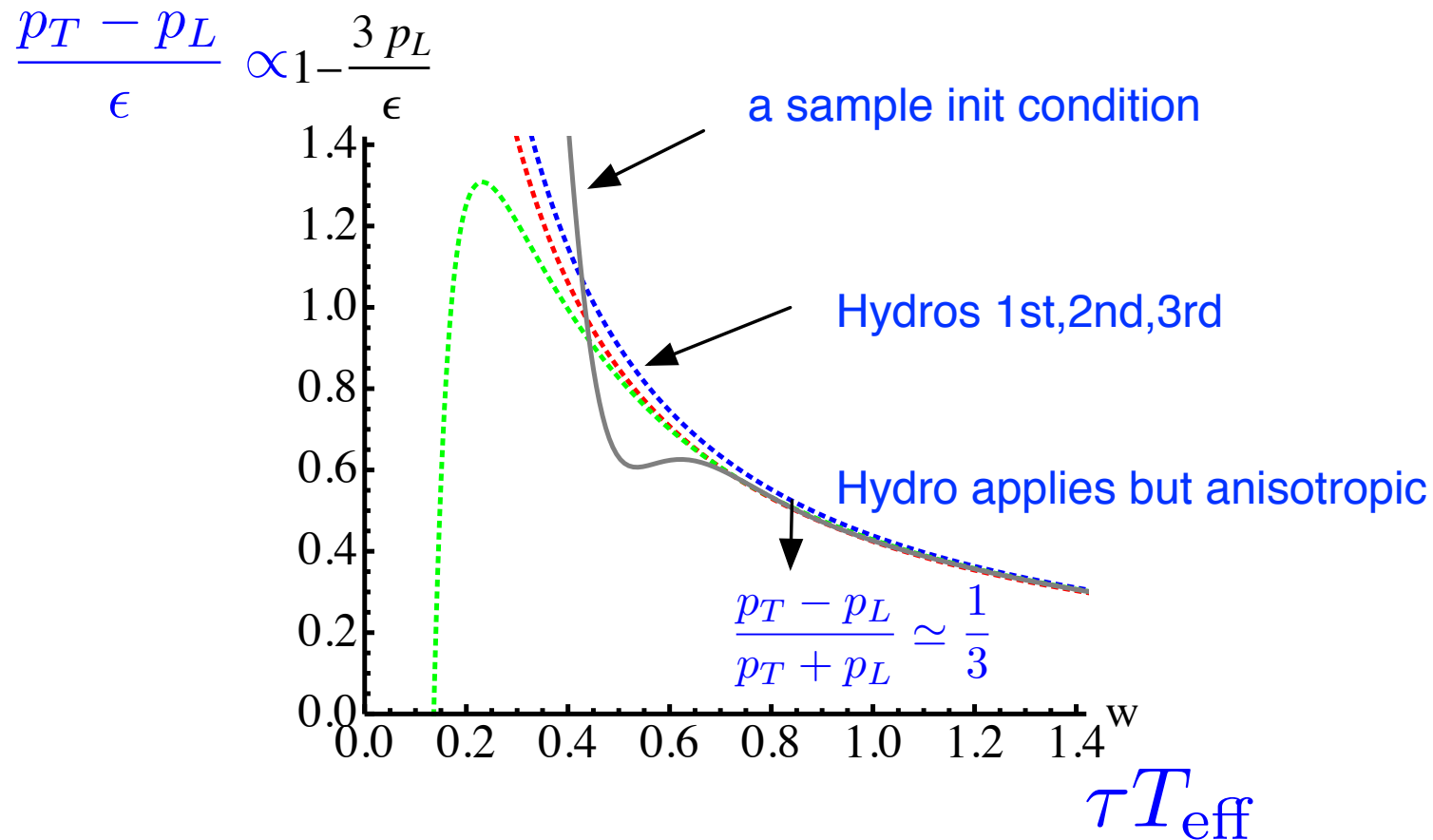


Result:



Remarkably fast convergence to the universal hydro regime

But, viscous corrections are important for everything



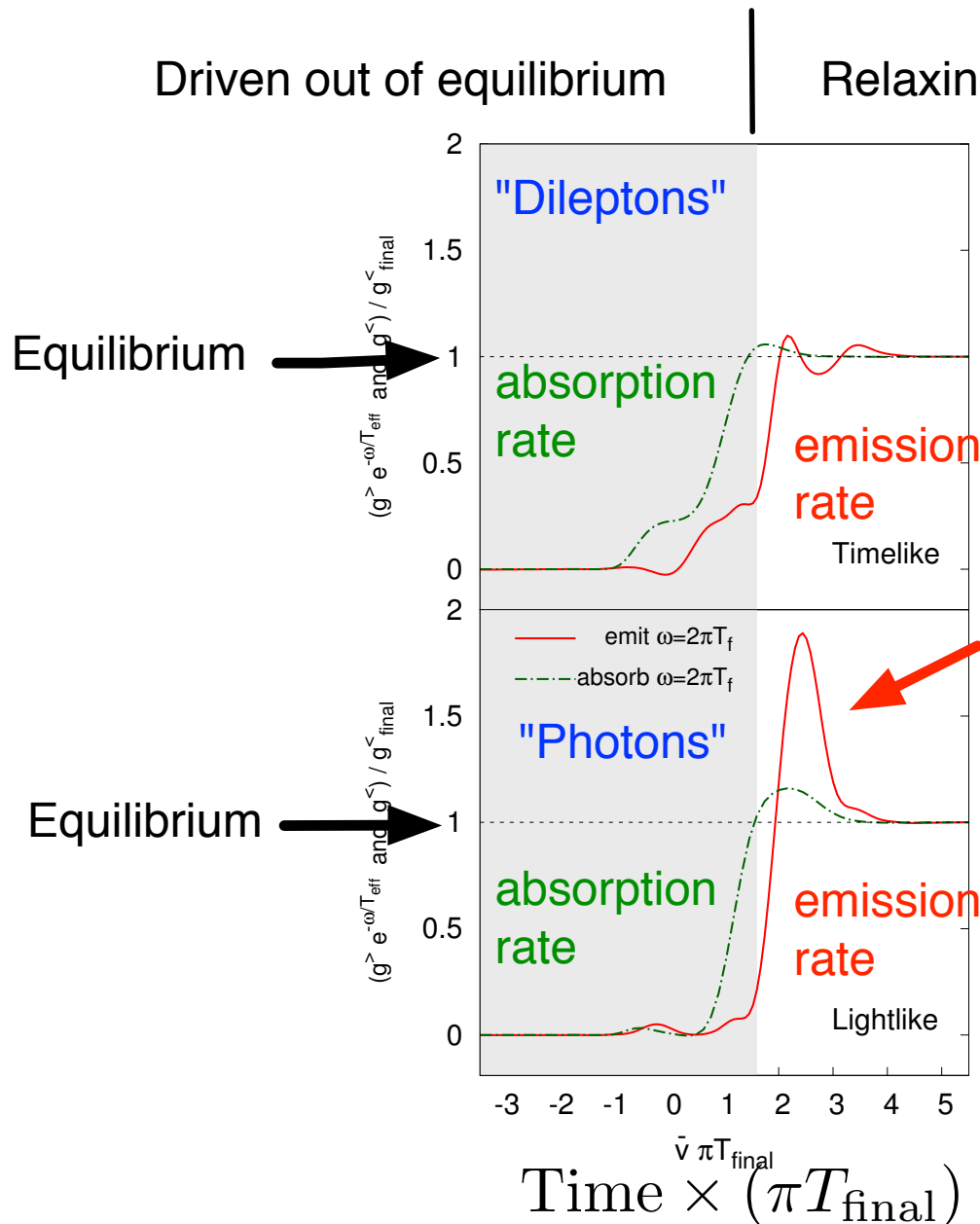
Viscous corrections are important for all observables

- Photon production has important viscous correction (Dusling and Shu)
- Jet quenching parameters, *i.e.*  $\hat{q}$ , gets important-anisotropic viscous corrections

# Emission rate of non-equilibrium “Photons” and “Dileptons”

(P. Chesler and DT)

- In equilibrium – Rate to emit =  $e^{-\omega/T} \times$  Rate absorb



Hawking emission rate of hard "photons" equilibrates last

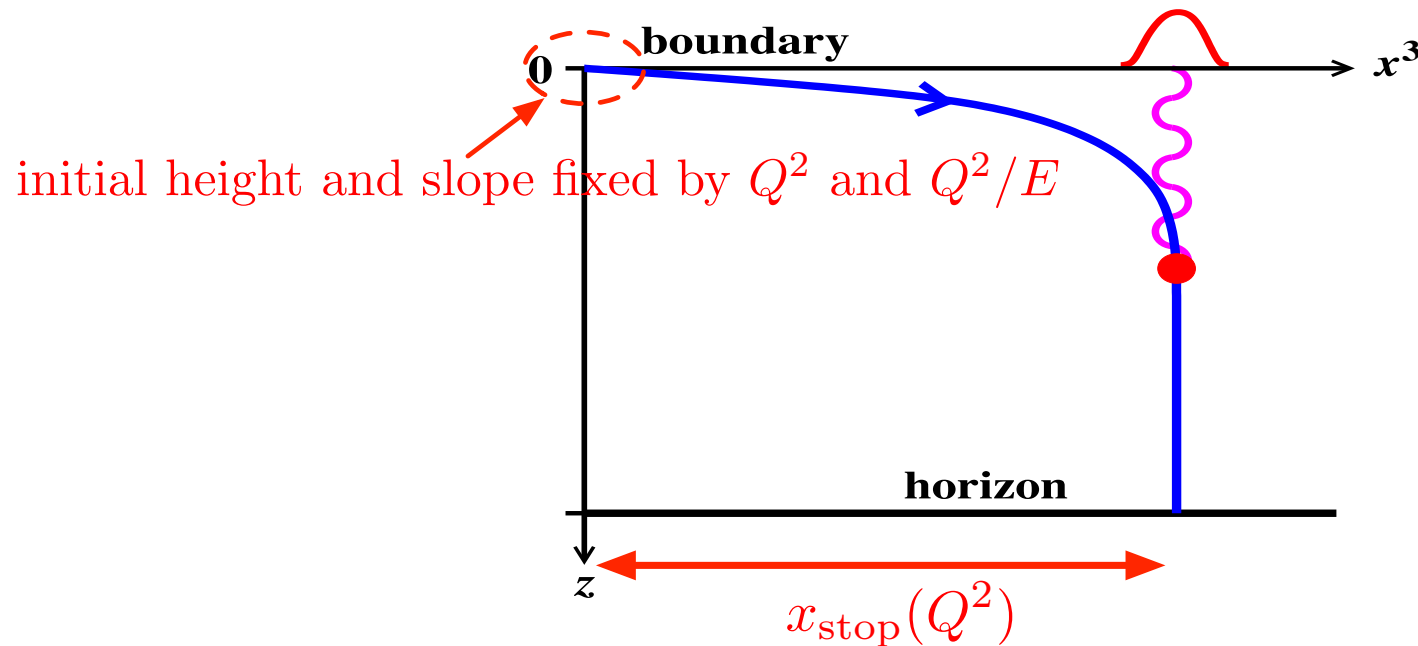
High momentum lightlike modes and “Jets”

- Construct a wave packet with energy  $E$  and virtuality  $Q$  in boundary theory

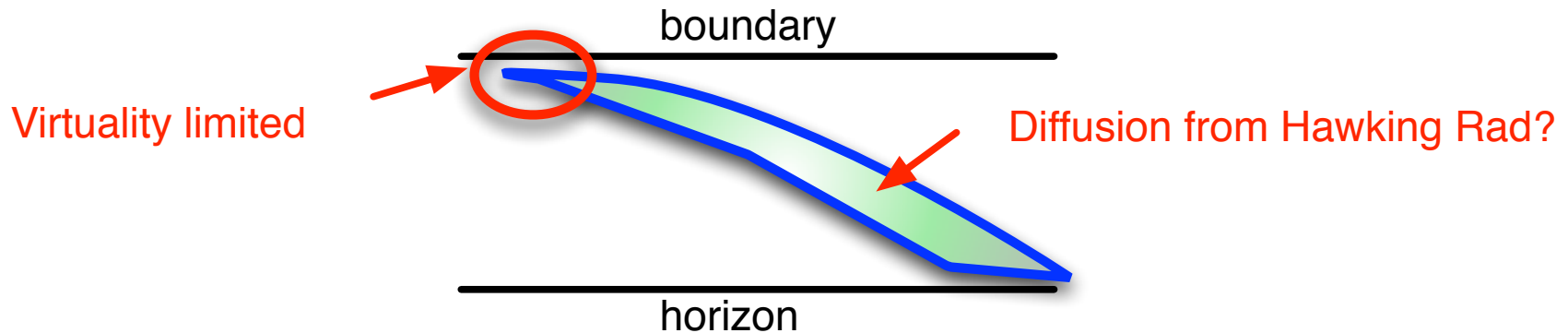
$$Q^\mu = (E + \epsilon, 0, 0, E - \epsilon) \Rightarrow Q^2 \simeq 4E\epsilon$$

- This wave packet maps to a bulk wave-packet which follows geodesics

$$x_{\text{stop}}(Q^2) \propto \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{E^2}{Q^2} \right)^{1/4} \propto \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{E}{\epsilon} \right)^{1/4}$$



## Additional points about AdS theory of Jets



1. For  $Q^2$  large enough classical AdS theory doesn't apply: (P. Arnold, D. Vaman, P. Szepietowski )

- All curvature higher corrections, e.g.  $R^4$ , are the same size

$$\sqrt{Q^2} \ll \sqrt{\lambda} T \left( \frac{E}{\sqrt{\lambda} T} \right)^{1/3}$$

2. Maximum stopping distance set by smallest possible virtuality

$$\text{size of wave-packet} \simeq x_{\text{stop}}^{\text{max}} \propto \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{E}{T} \right)^{1/3}$$

## AdS/CFT Jet Phenomenology

- What is high momentum?

$$\frac{p}{T} \gg 1$$

- But we have taken:

$$\sqrt{\lambda} \rightarrow \infty \quad N_c^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

- This means that we are normally working in a regime where

$$\frac{p}{T\sqrt{\lambda}} \ll 1 \quad \frac{p}{TN_c^2} \ll 1$$

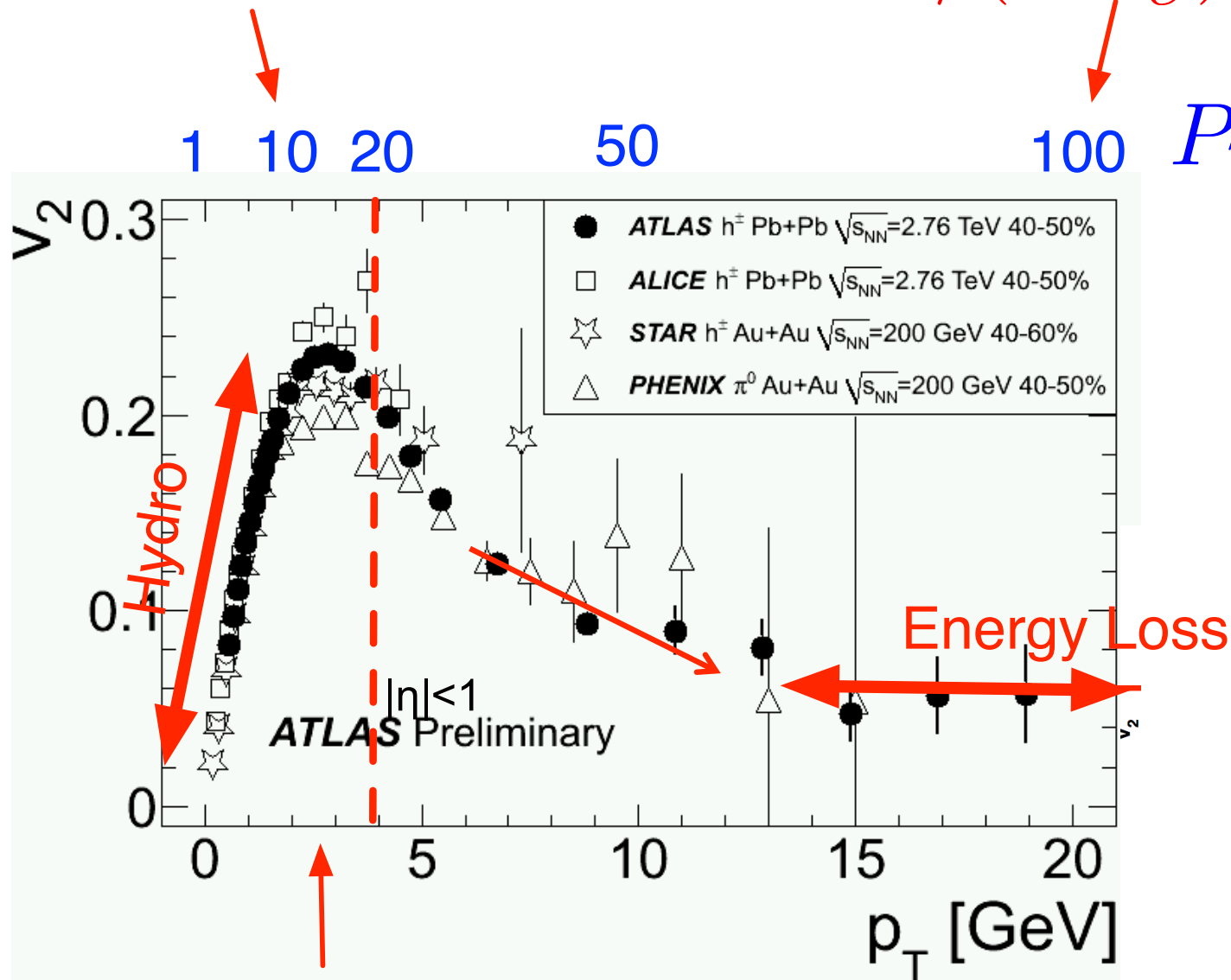
When  $\frac{p}{TN_c^2} \gg 1$  it is largely unknown how to calculate.

AdS Phenom for the timid

Ads Phenom for the Brave!

$$P/(T\sqrt{\lambda}) < 1?$$

$$P/(TN_c^2) \gg 1!!!$$

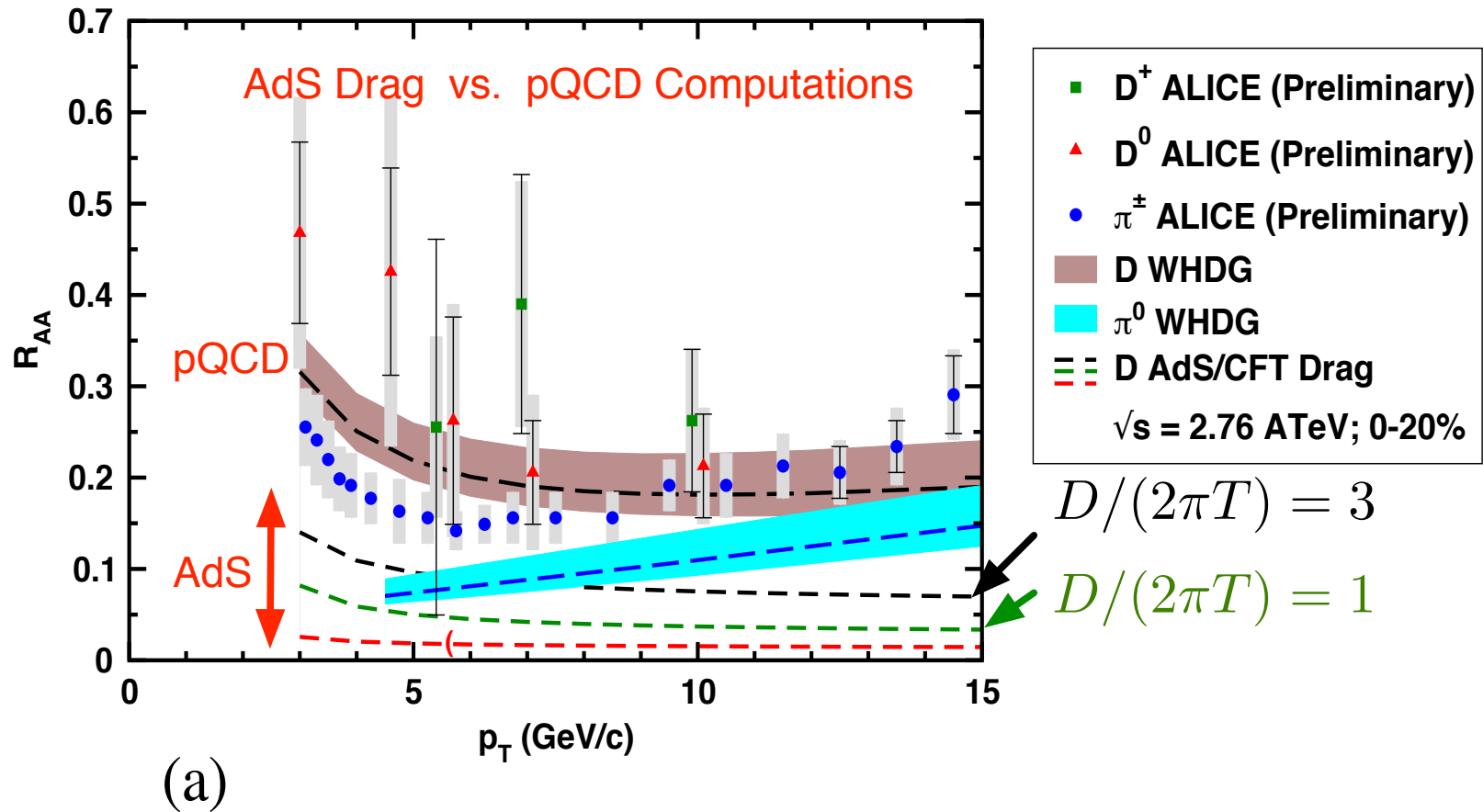


Use AdS light quark e-loss results here?



## AdS/CFT vs. Perturbation Theory for heavy quarks – Slide by W. Horowitz

- Comparison with ALICE data – I kind of hoped it would work better



How much do (strong) longitudinal fluctuations effect this result?

## Conclusions

1. Holography can be a useful foil to perturbative thinking about plasma physics
  - Are there soft quark and gluons quasi-particles?
2. Holography yields valuable insight into thermalization and hydrodynamics
3. Real QCD jets are not well described by holography.
4. Need to see holography “break-down” in a systematic way:
  - Increased fluctuations at higher  $p_T$