

Report on LNS theory group (GR4) activity



Danilo Gambacurta
Laboratori Nazionali del Sud (Catania)

Presentazione Attività e Preventivi 2025
10 e 11 Luglio 2025

Iniziative Specifiche di CSN4@LNS:

- MONSTRE
- SIM



MONSTRE

Unità: **LNS**, Bologna, CT, Milano, Padova, Trento
FTE totale: ≈ 30 , FTE (LNS) ≈ 3.6

Responsabile Nazionale: Danilo Gambacurta (LNS)

Responsabile Locale: Stefano Burrello

Collaborazioni: LNS+CT (Chimera, Medea, NUMEN, ASFIN), Firenze, Napoli, Genova, IPN-Orsay, GANIL, GSI, Monaco, Bucharest, Giessen, Darmstadt, Siviglia, MSU, Pechino, Lanzhou, Rio de Janeiro, RIKEN, ...

Obiettivi generali:

Modeling nuclear structure and reaction properties

Four WorkPackages (WPs)

- WP1: ***Ab initio* many body methods for nuclei and nuclear matter:** increasing the accuracy and predictive power
- WP2: **Advanced theoretical studies of nuclear phenomena:** addressing the experimental challenges
- WP3: **Nuclear matter under extreme conditions:** from nuclear dynamics to compact objects
- WP4: **Emerging computational technologies:** quantum information and machine learning techniques

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LNS Activities: Nuclear Structure and Reaction Studies

Theoretical Models and Techniques

- ✓ **Energy Density Functional for Ground state (HF, HF+BCS, HFB) and Excited states:** (RPA, QRPA, SRPA, TDHF)
- ✓ **Transport theories based on EDF** (including clusters d.o.f. , short range correlations, many-body correlations , ...)
- ✓ **DWBA and/or coupled channel calculations**
- ✓ **Formulation of scattering theories and methods** (Double-Charge reactions)

Main Physical Cases of Interest

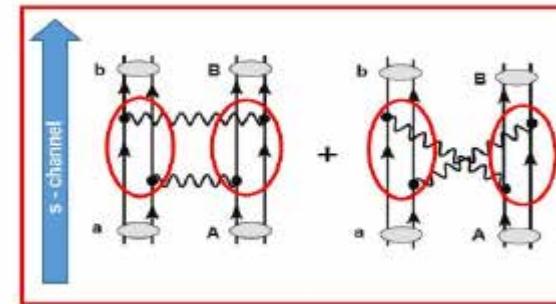
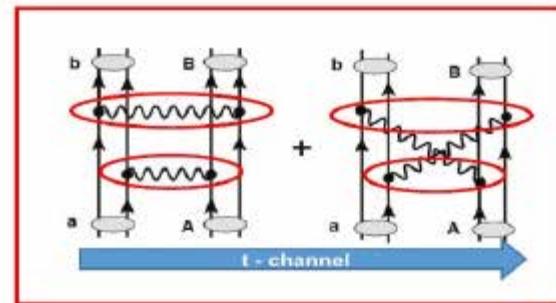
- ✓ **Collective nuclear excitations**, especially in neutron-rich and exotic nuclei
- ✓ **EoS of asymmetric matter** (from nuclear structure and reaction studies)
- ✓ **Charge exchange excitations** (Gamow-Teller, Fermi, etc,) and **Beta Decay** (single and double)
- ✓ **Nuclear reactions at Fermi/intermediate energies** and **Direct reaction** (transfer, charge exchange, probing spin-isospin channels)
- ✓ **Reactions for astrophysical studies** (light systems, cluster structure)

Heavy-ion double-charge-exchange reactions as probes for two-body transition densities

Jessica I. Bellone^{1,2,*}, Maria Colonna^{1,†}, Danilo Gambacurta^{1,‡}, and Horst Lenske^{3,§}

➤ Double Charge Exchange (**DCE**) as a sequential two-step process (DSCE) → *Second order DWBA*
[→ J.Bellone, M.Colonna, D.Gambacurta, H.Lenske]

arXiv:2505.24753, Phys. Rev. C 111, L061602 (2025)



TME

$$M_{\beta\alpha}^{(2)}(\mathbf{k}_\beta, \mathbf{k}_\alpha) \simeq L_\gamma^{(+)}(\omega_\alpha) \sum_{S_1, S_2} \sum_{S, M} (-1)^{S_1 + S_2 + S - M} \\ \sum_{c,C} \int d^3 q F_{SM}^{(BCA)}(\mathbf{q}) F_{S-M}^{(bca)}(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{V}_{S_1 S_2 T}^{DSCE}(q) D_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q})$$

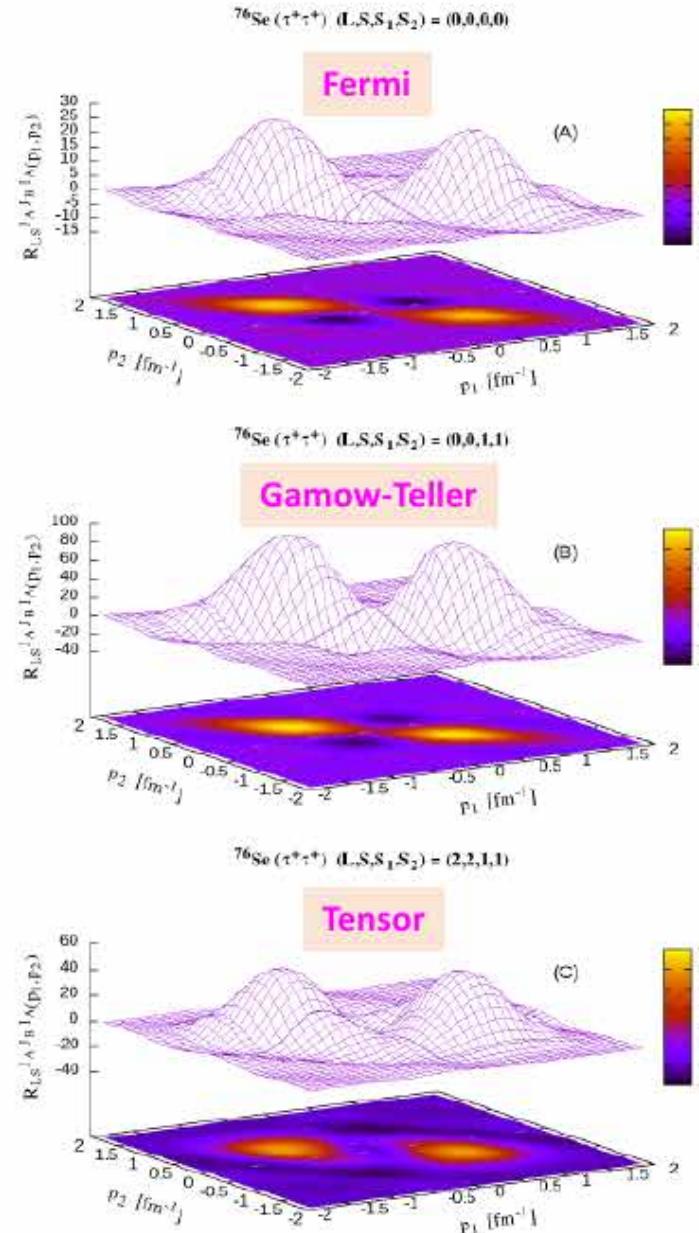
DCE form factors (2BTDs)

rank-2 NN interactions

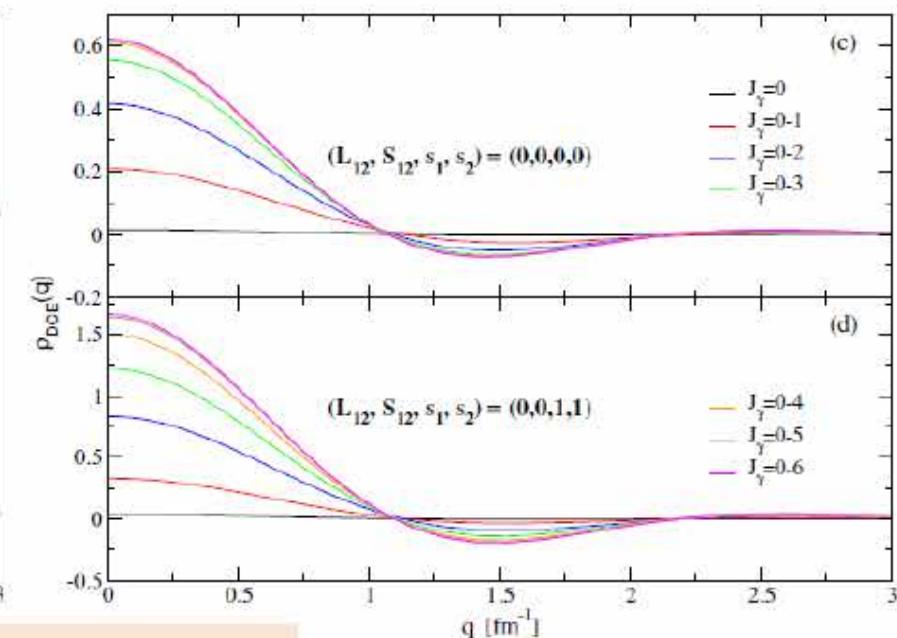
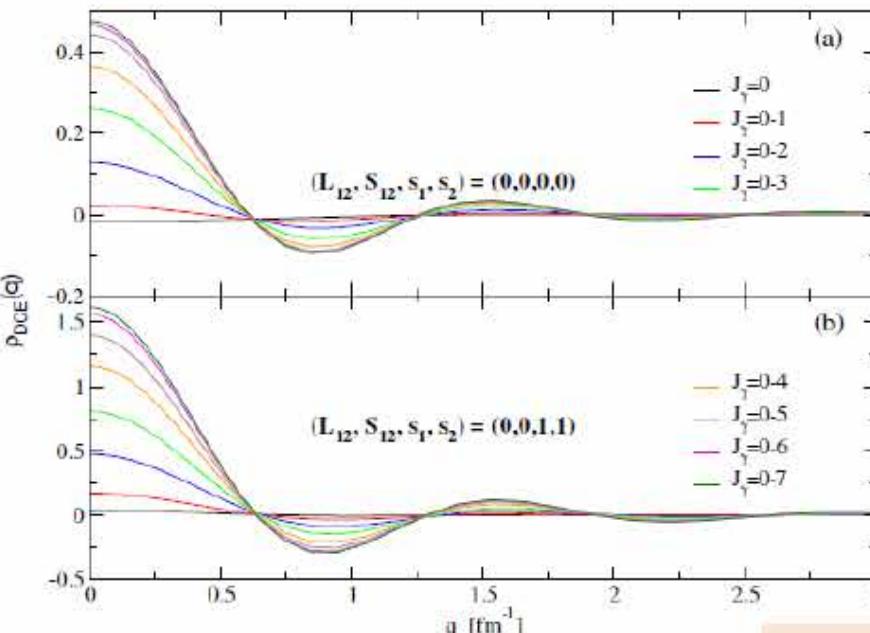
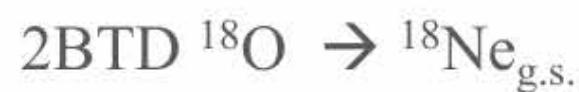
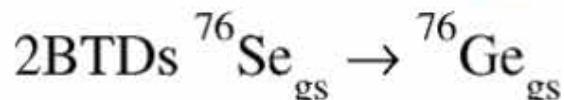
S-channel:
separation and factorization of the 2-step process in target and projectile
=> Selective information on target and projectile

► $^{76}\text{Se}(\gamma^*, \gamma^*)^{76}\text{Ge}_{\text{g.s.}}$ – DCE NMEs (2BTD)

Two-body transition densities



approximation



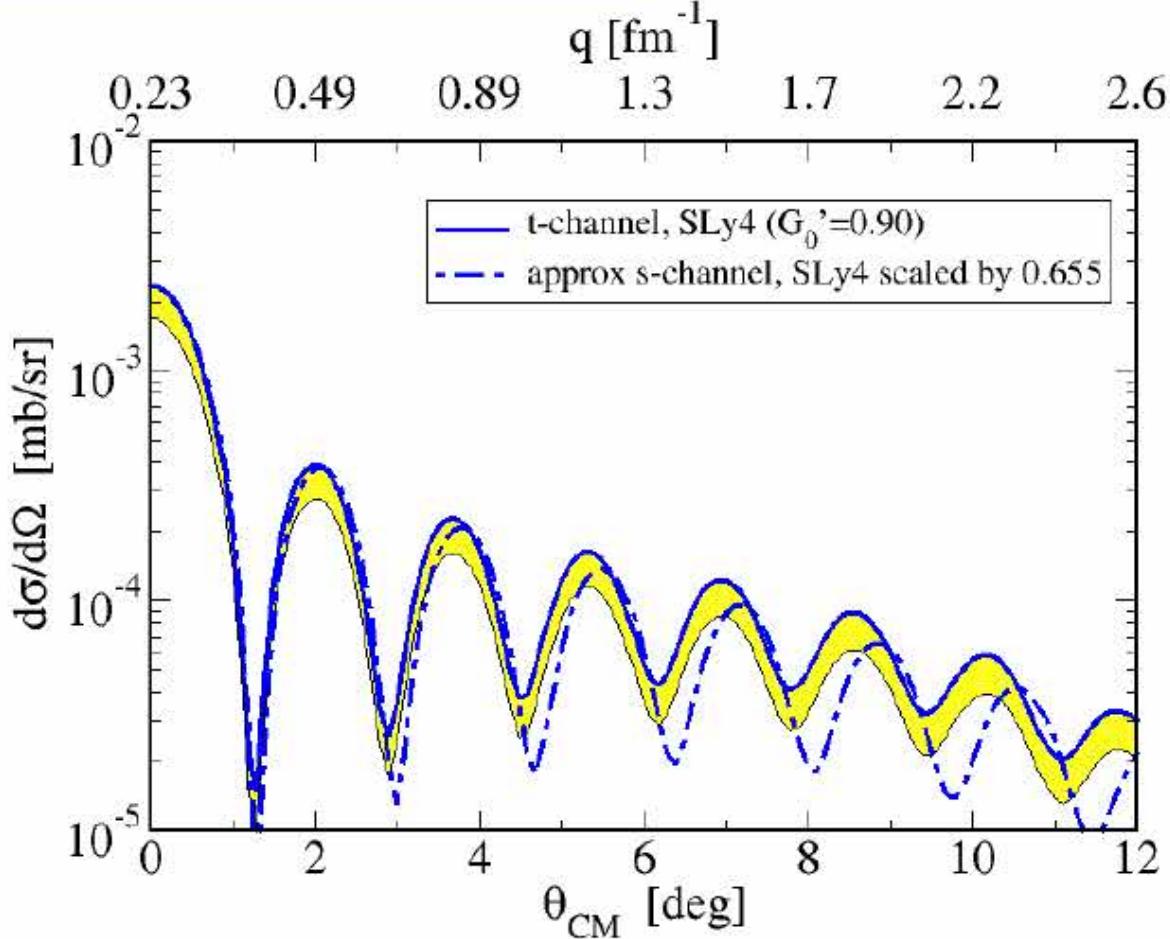
$E_{\text{max}} = 50 \text{ MeV}$

Two-body transition densities in
approx. s-channel representation

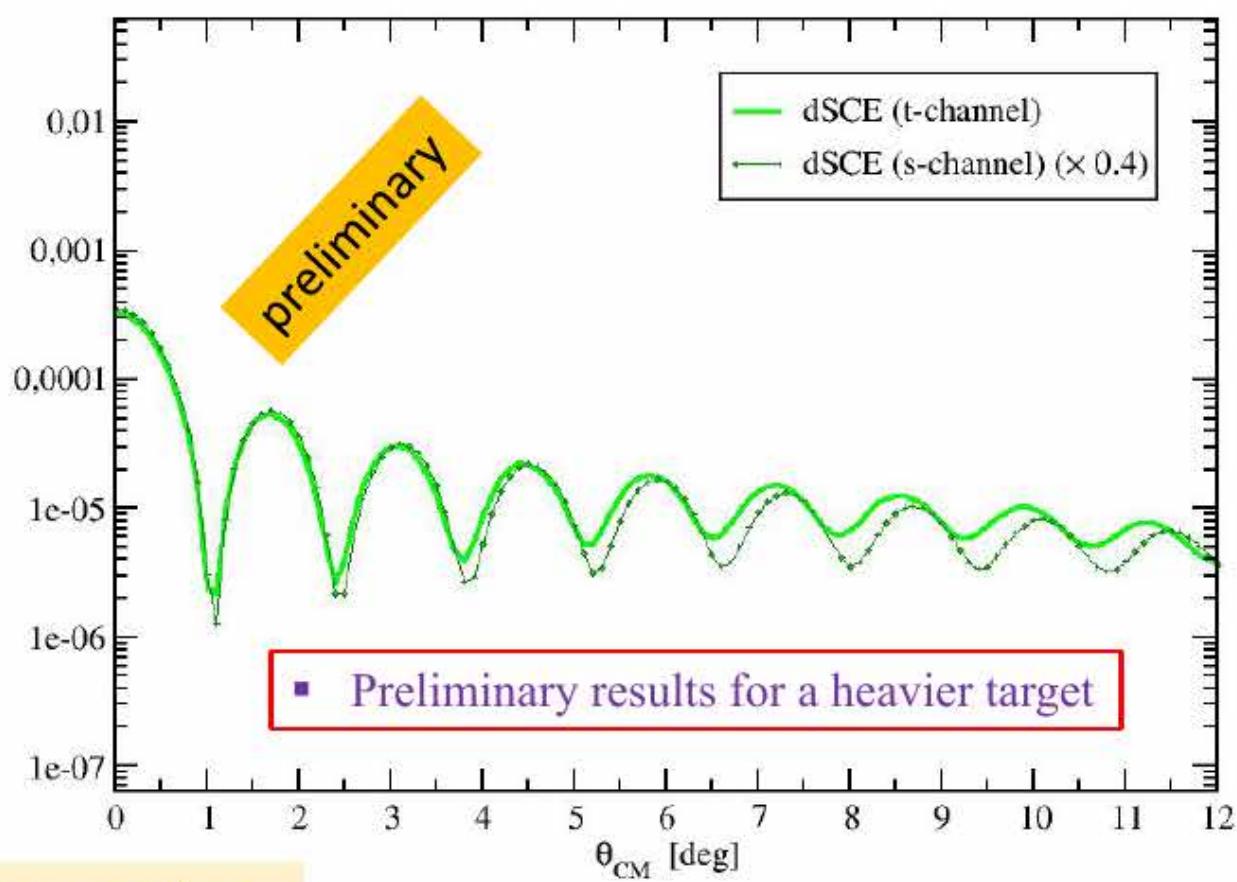
QRPA calculations
Sly4 Skyrme interaction

Bellone, Colonna, Gambacurta, Lenske
Phys. Rev. C 111, L061602 (2025)

► s-channel results for cross sections



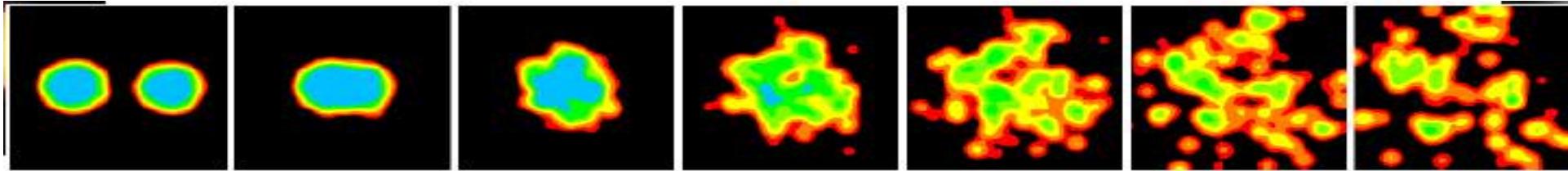
→ $^{116}\text{Cd}(\text{O}, \text{Ne})^{116}\text{Sn}$ @ 15.3 AMeV



DSCE cross section

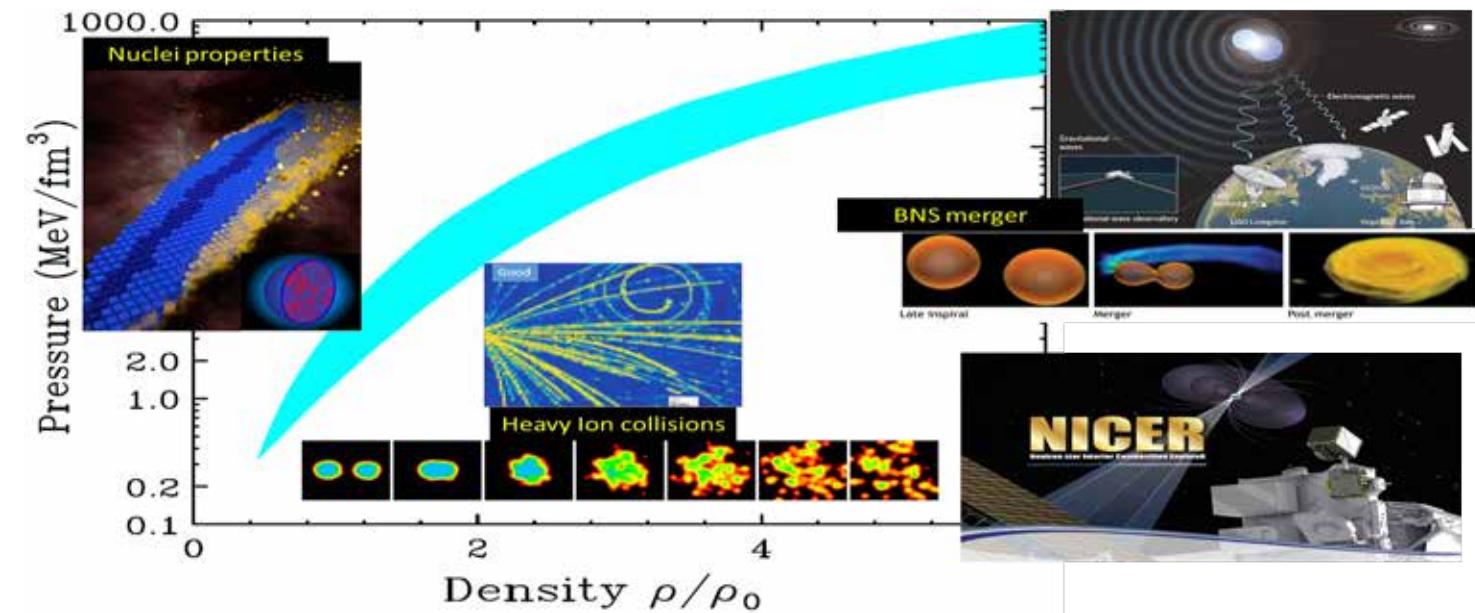
Dissipative reactions provide a unique opportunity to create nuclear matter in several conditions of density and temperature in laboratory

Femto-nova explosion created by heavy ion collisions !



from A. Ono

- Explore the nuclear matter **phase diagram** and access the nuclear **Equation of State (EOS)**



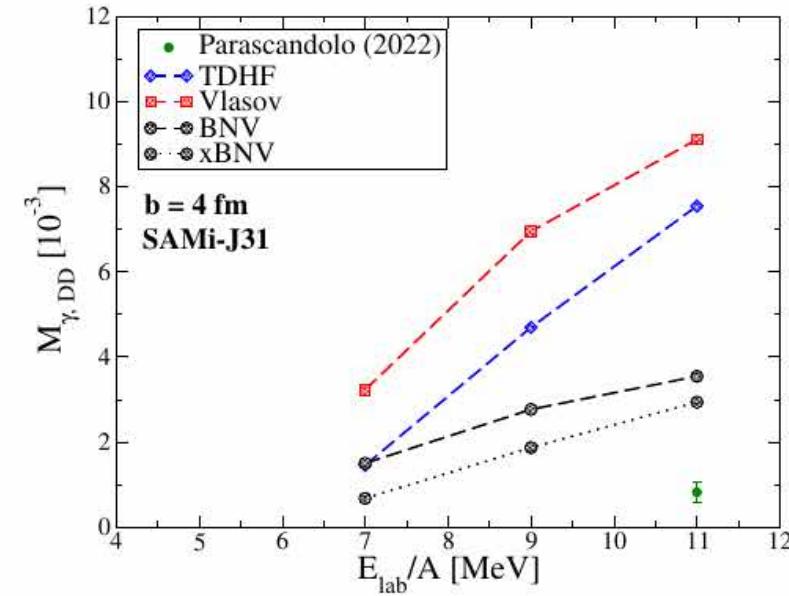
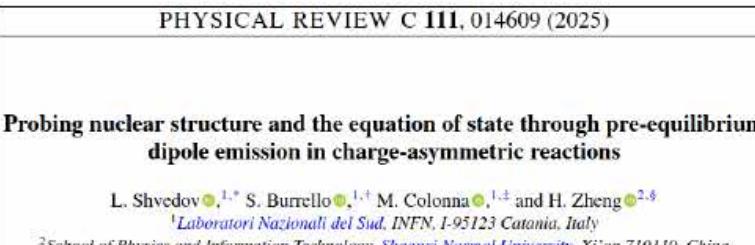
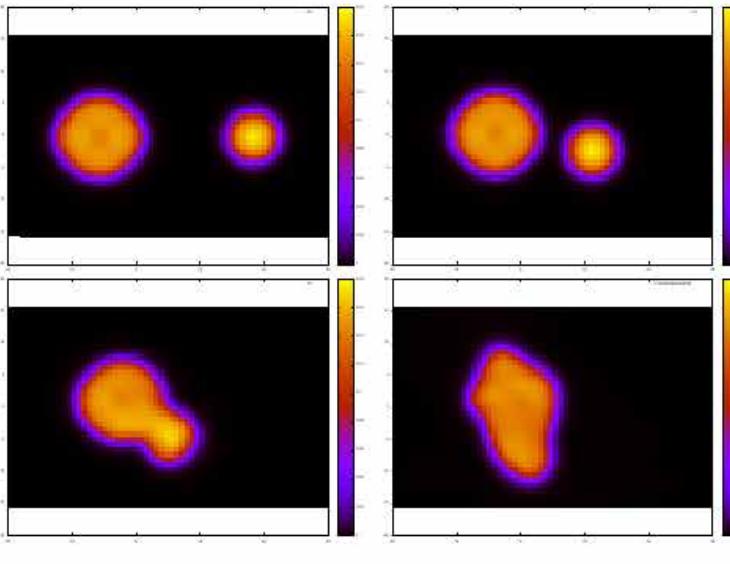
The EOS of asymmetric nuclear matter

Dynamics of low-energy heavy-ion collisions (HIC)

- Mean-field models based on (**Skyrme-like**) energy density functionals (**EDFs**)
 - Time-Dependent Hartree-Fock (**TDHF**) theory (or **semi-classical** counterpart)

$$i\hbar\dot{\hat{\rho}}(t) + \left[\hat{\rho}, \hat{H}_{\text{eff}}[\rho] \right] = 0$$

- **Equilibration** mechanisms in **charge-asymmetric** reactions around **Coulomb** barrier
 - Pre-equilibrium emission in $^{40}\text{Ca} + ^{152}\text{Sm}$ at $E_{\text{beam}} = 11 \text{ AMeV} \Rightarrow$ **Dynamical dipole**



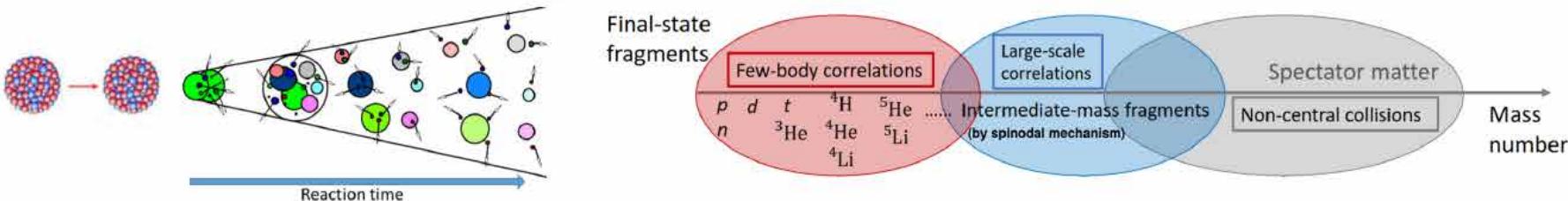
	TDHF	BNV	xBNV	
$M_{\gamma, \text{DD}} [\text{MeV}]$	$b = 4 \text{ fm}$	7.59	3.63	3.02
	$b = 6 \text{ fm}$	3.15	1.99	1.25
$\langle b \rangle_{\text{expt}}$	$\simeq 5 \text{ fm}$	0.82 ± 0.24 (Ref. [43])		

Improving models for HIC at intermediate energies

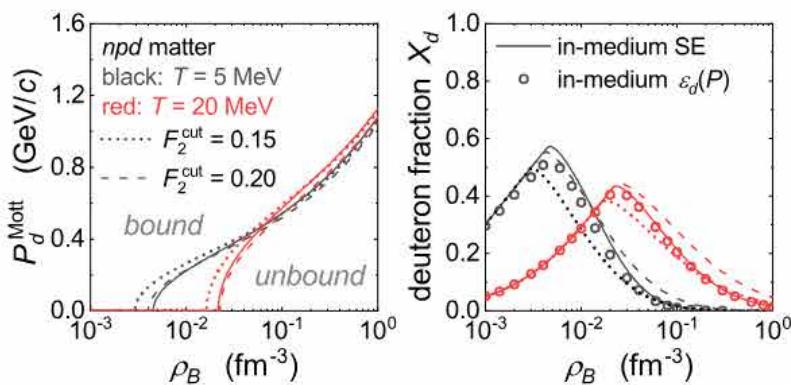
- Kinetic approach for **HIC** at $E_{\text{beam}} \approx (30 - 300) \text{ AMeV} \Rightarrow$ (beyond) Boltzmann eqs.

$$(\partial_t + \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} \varepsilon_{\tau} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} - \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \varepsilon_{\tau} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{p}}) f_{\tau} = I_{\tau}^{\text{coll}}[f_n, f_p, \dots], \quad \tau = n, p, d, t, h, \alpha$$

- Consistent description of light clusters (+ in-medium effects) and fragments



- Embedding Mott (Pauli-blocking) effect from in-medium Schrödinger equation (**SE**)



arXiv > nucl-th > arXiv:2506.16437

Nuclear Theory

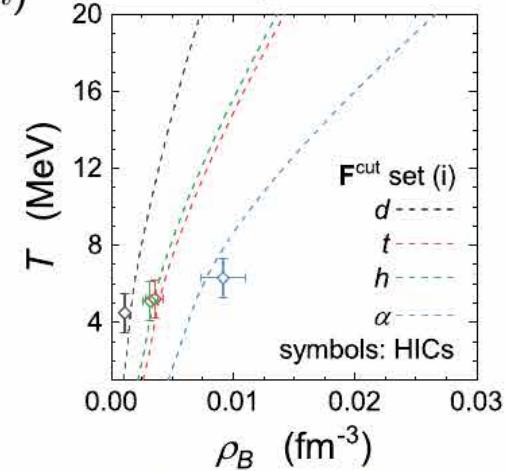
[Submitted on 19 Jun 2025]

Phase-space excluded-volume approach for light clusters in nuclear medium

Rui Wang, Zhen Zhang, Stefano Burrello, Maria Colonna, Edoardo G. Lanza

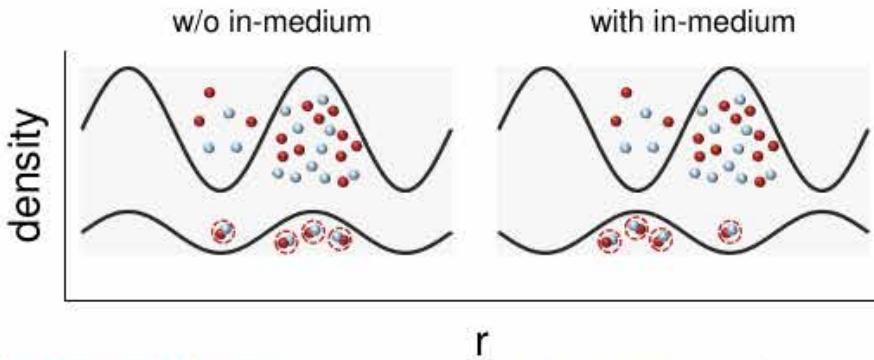
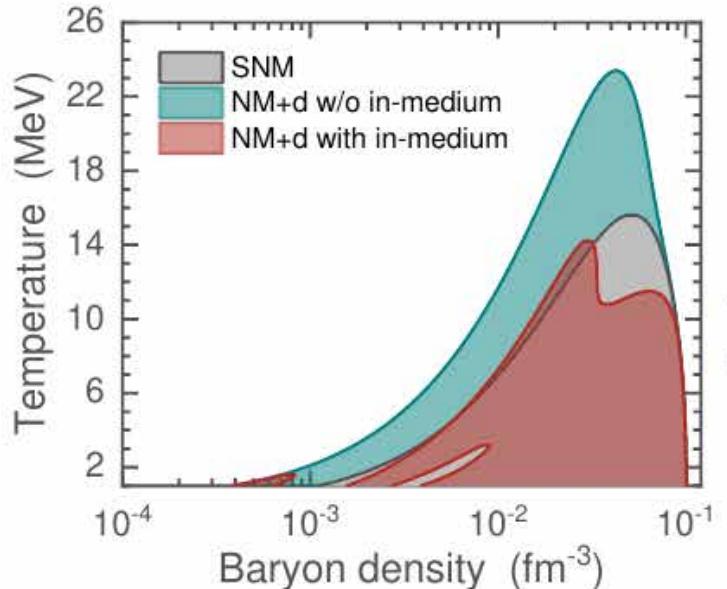
- Phase-space excluded-volume approach

$$\langle f_{\tau} \rangle_{\nu}(\vec{P}) \equiv \int \frac{d\vec{p}}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} f_{\tau}^{\text{tot}}(\vec{p}) |\tilde{\phi}_{\nu, \vec{P}}(\vec{p})|^2 < F_A^{\text{cut}}$$



Dynamics of dilute nuclear matter with clusters

- Linear response to **collision-less** Boltzmann \Rightarrow linearized **Vlasov** eqs. ($\omega = \omega(k)$)
- $\omega = \text{Im}(\omega) \Leftrightarrow$ **spinodal region**



- **w/o in-medium:** clusters **cooperate** to fragments
- **with in-medium:** clusters **separately** emitted

Editors' Suggestion Letter

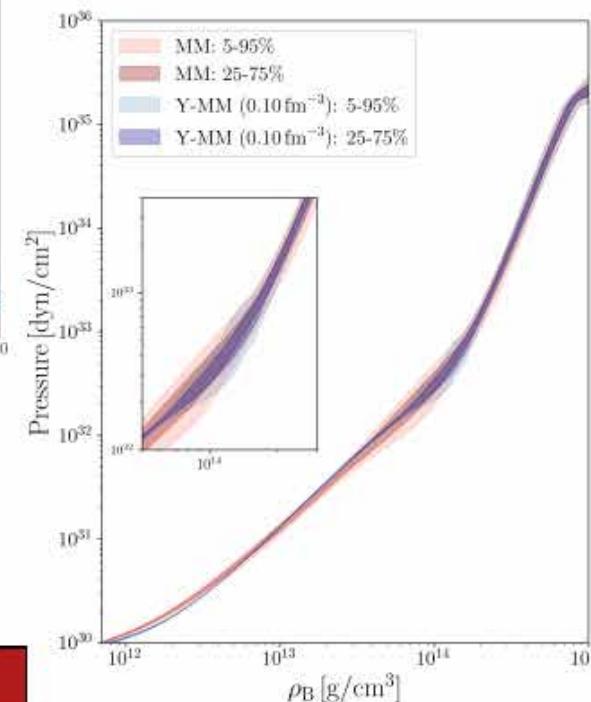
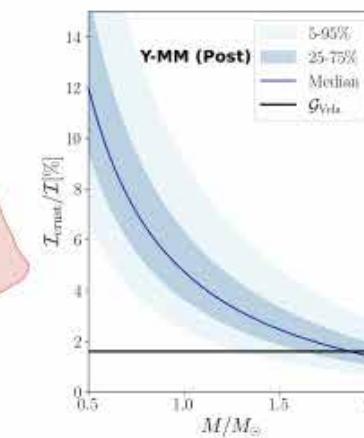
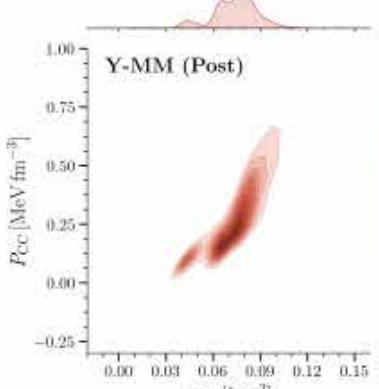
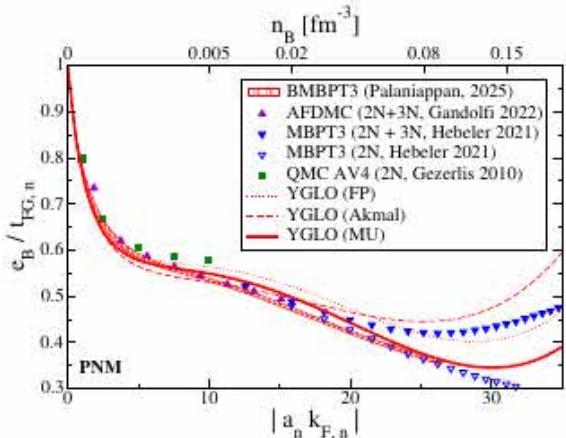
Dynamics of dilute nuclear matter with light clusters and in-medium effects

Rui Wang, Stefano Burrello, Maria Colonna, and Francesco Matera
Phys. Rev. C **110**, L031601 – Published 16 September 2024

- Further **developments** (stay tuned!):
 - **Interplay** among cluster species ($d + \alpha$) & connection with **hydrodynamics**
[Carmelo Piazza's Master's Thesis work]
 - **Microscopic** description of in-medium effects from **in-medium SE**
[Pablo Nieto Gallego's Master's Thesis work]
 - **Implementation** within **transport** models [Rui Wang's postdoctoral project]
 \Rightarrow Development of **emulators** to **constrain** equation of state (**EOS**) from **HI**

EOS and modelization of compact stellar objects

- Unified neutron star (NS) EDF-based modeling (Ligo-Virgo-Kagra (LVK) coll.)
⇒ meta-model (MM) [J. Margueron, R. H. Casali & F. Gulminelli, Phys. Rev. C 97, 025805 (2018)]
- Refined meta-model (Y-MM) approach at low-density
 - Consistency with ab-initio neutron matter calculations



- Crust-core (CC) transition & moment of inertia $\mathcal{I}_{\text{crust}}$
 - CC transition density n_{CC} & pressure P_{CC} estimation
 - Compatibility with Vela pulsar glitches $\left(\frac{\mathcal{I}_{\text{crust}}}{\mathcal{I}} > \mathcal{G}_{\text{Vela}} \right)$

arXiv > nucl-th > arXiv:2506.05603

Nuclear Theory

(Submitted on 5 Jun 2025)

Bayesian inference of neutron star crust properties using an ab initio-benchmarked meta-model

S. Burrello, F. Gulminelli, M. Antonelli, M. Colonna, A. Fantina

- Theoretical support for interpreting gravitational wave signals (Einstein Telescope)



Improving beta decay half-lives description

Eur. Phys. J. A (2025) 61:146
<https://doi.org/10.1140/epja/s1050-025-01611-8>

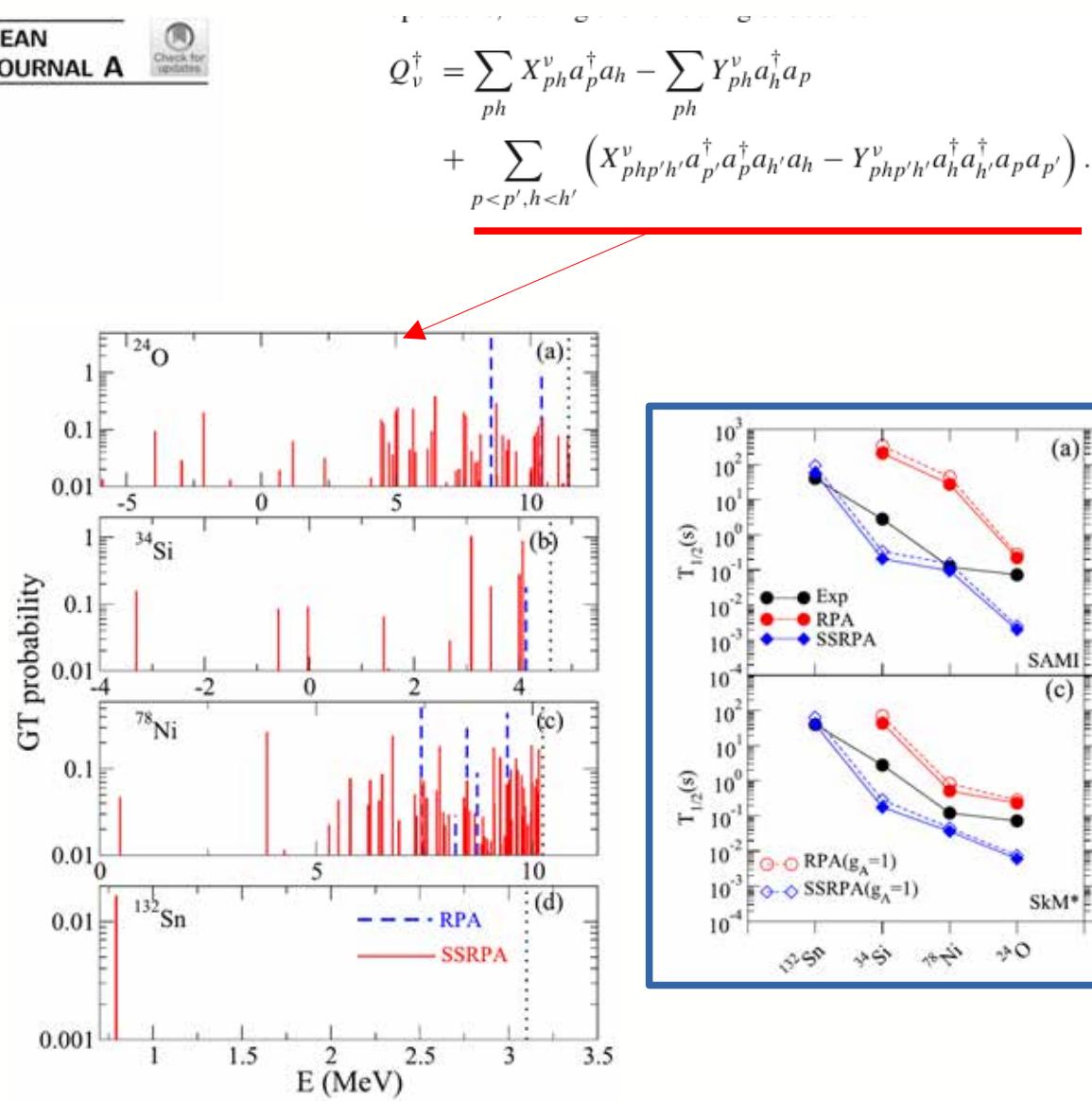
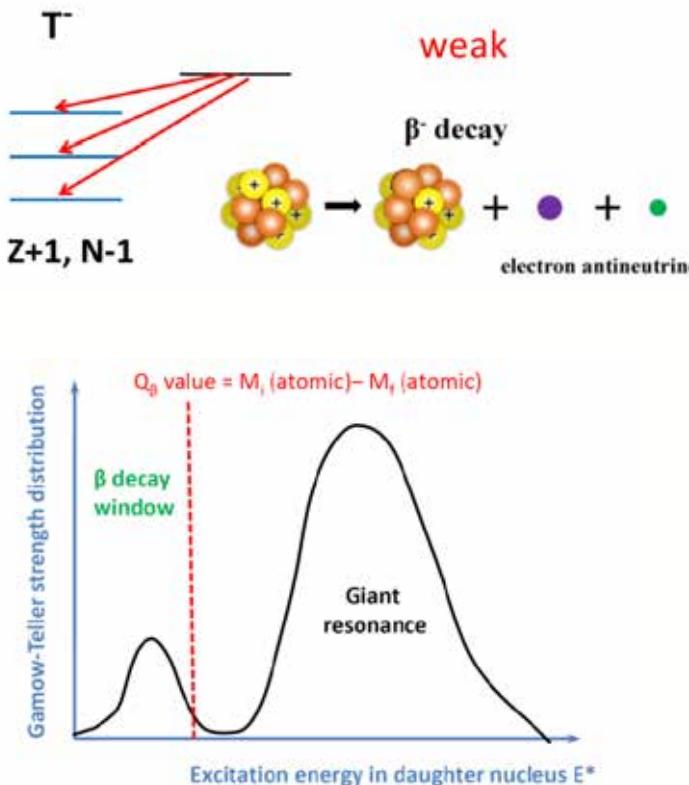
THE EUROPEAN
PHYSICAL JOURNAL A



Regular Article - Theoretical Physics

Nuclear β -decay half-lives within the subtracted second random-phase approximation

D. Gambacurta^{1,a}, M. Grasso²



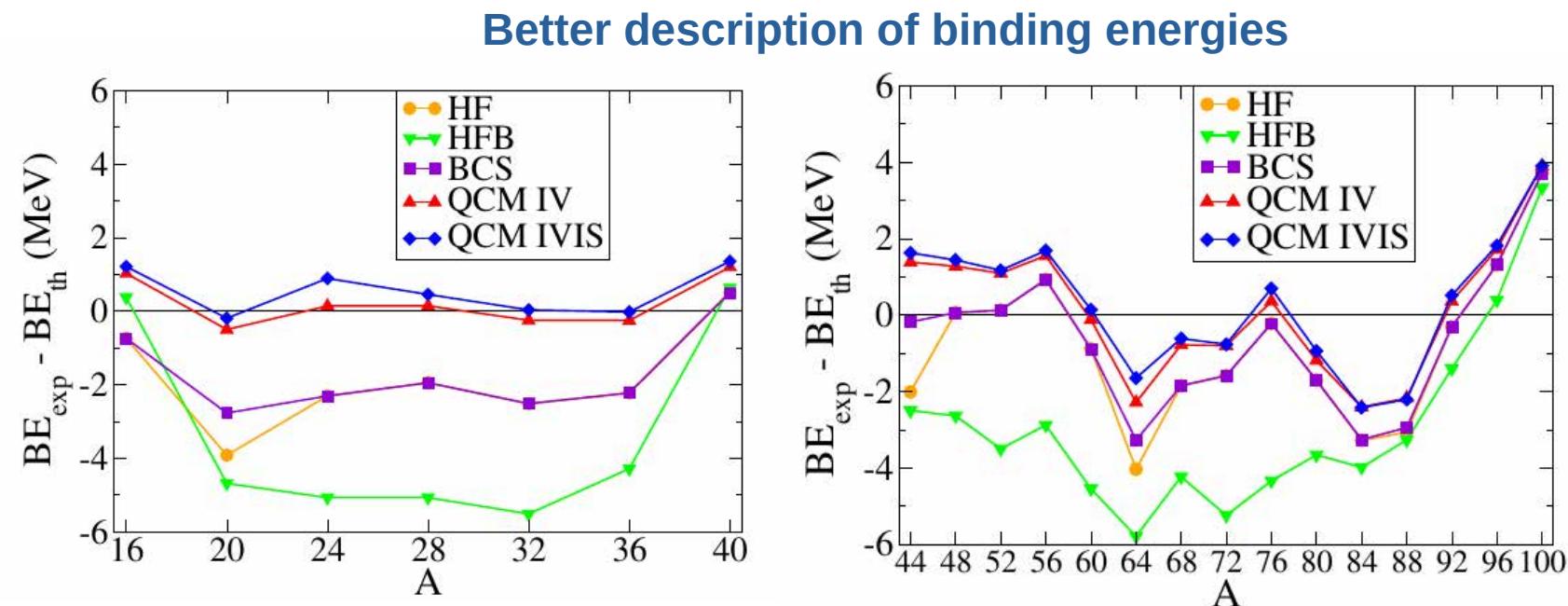
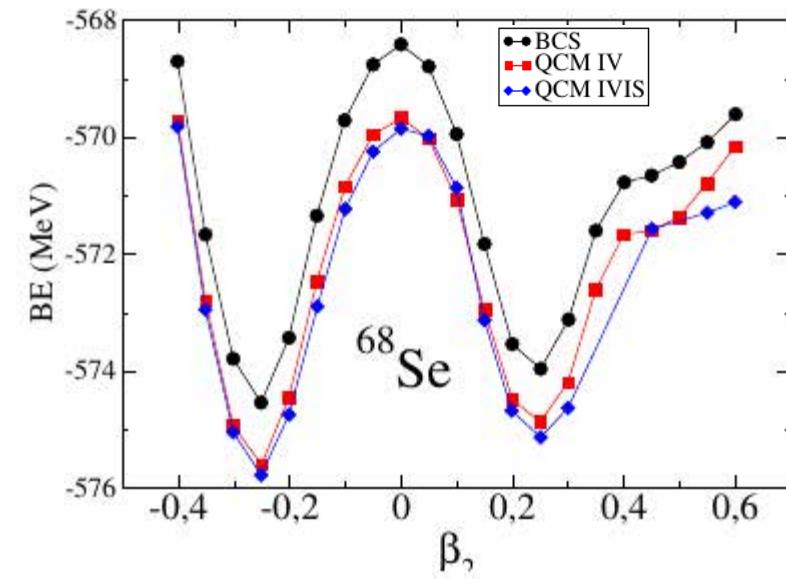
Implications for NME in neutrino-less double- β decay, PANDORA and NUMEN project

Quark Meson Coupling calculations with proton-neutron pairing:

$N = Z$ nuclei

Proton-neutron pairing in even-even $N = Z$ nuclei $20 \leq A \leq 120$ mass region using a energy density functional based on the Quark Meson Coupling model. Pairing described qithin the **Quartet Condensation Model** beyond BCS

- ✓ Isoscalar (IS) and isovector (IV) pairing described simultaneously (and consistently)
- ✓ Isospin and particle number symmetries are preserved
- ✓ Pairing and deformation interplay



Attività 2026: MONSTRE

- Single and double beta decay studies (RPA, QRPA and Second RPA)
- Proton-neutron pairing studies
- Transport theories: formation of light clusters, treated as explicit degrees of freedom
- Equation of State including light clusters, short range correlations, ... (Einstein Telescope physics)
- Emulators (based on Machine Learning) for transport codes
(combining heavy-ions and astrophysical constraints for EoS)
- Charge Exchange: Systematic studies and use of different structure model inputs (shell model vs. QRPA)
- Consistent description of competing channels (multi-nucleon transfer) and, more in general, of all open reaction channels (multi-channel approach)

FTE: MONSTRE (3.55)^{4.4 in 2024}

cognome	nome	contratto	profilo	perc	sezione
Bonaccorso	Angela	Associato	Associazione Senior	0%	Pisa
Bonasera	Aldo	Associato	Associazione Senior	45%	LNS
Burrello	Stefano	Dipendente	Ricercatore	70%	LNS
Colonna	Maria	Dipendente	Dirigente di Ricerca	60%	LNS
Gambacurta	Danilo	Dipendente	Primo Ricercatore	80%	LNS
Gargano	Angelina	Dipendente	Primo Ricercatore	0%	Napoli
Rui	Wang	Dipendente	Assegno di Ricerca	100%	LNS

SIM: Strongly Interacting Matter at high density and temperature

Units: Catania, Firenze, LNS, Torino,

FTE totale: ≈ 20

FTE (LNS) ≈ 5.1

Responsabile Nazionale: Andrea Beraudo (TO)

Responsabile Locale: Vincenzo Greco/Salvatore Plumari

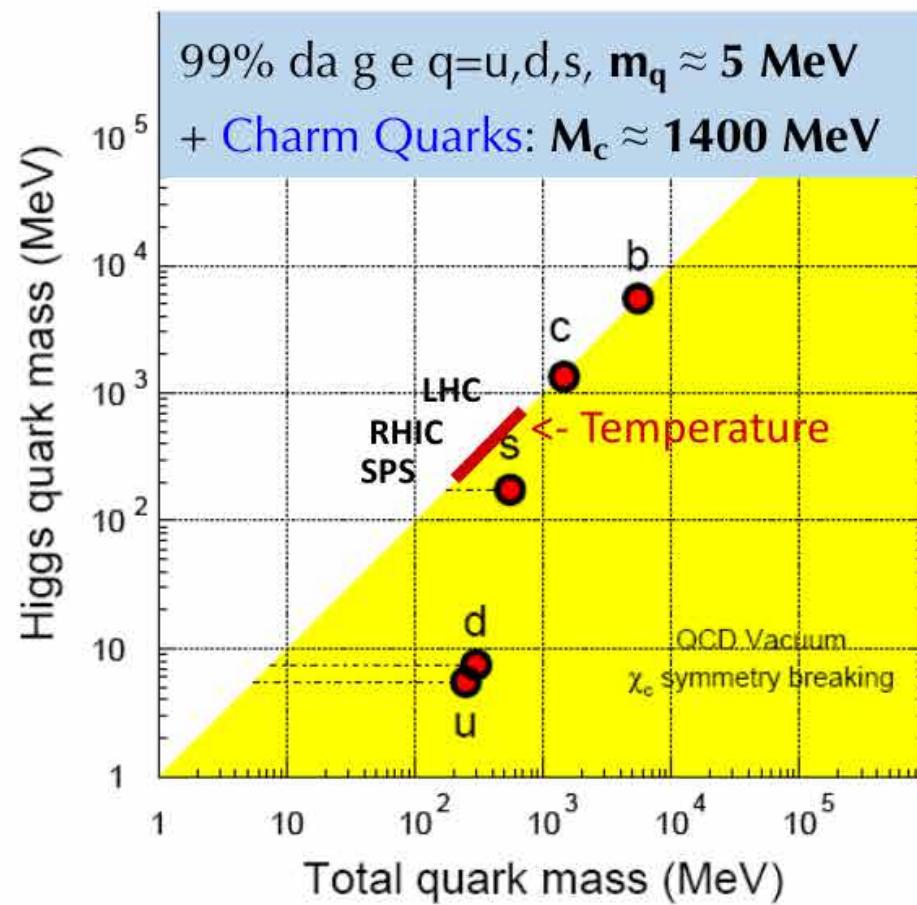
Collaborazioni: CT, TO, Francoforte, Nantes, CERN, Berkeley LBL, Texas A&M, Duke U., Lanzhou University, University of Barcellona, IIT Ghora, Jyväskylä , ...

Obiettivi generali:

Study of strongly interacting matter at high density and temperature

- Fenomenologia del Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP)
- Dinamica dei quarks e meccanismi di adronizzazione
- Equazioni del trasporto per i partoni (beyond hydrodynamics):
- Dinamica dei quark pesanti: charm e bottom
- Early stage, dinamica di non-equilibrio AA, pA e pp

An elephant in the liquid: Heavy Charm Quark



Heavy because:

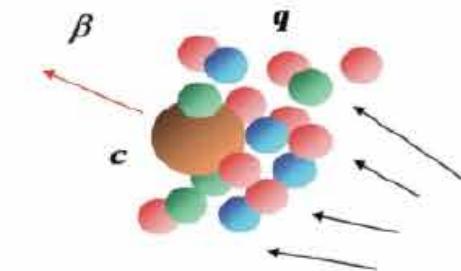
- ✧ $M \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ (particle physics)
- ✧ $M \gg T$ (plasma physics)

Fokker-Planck Equation – Brownian motion

$$\frac{\partial f_{c,b}}{\partial t} = \gamma \frac{\partial(p f_{c,b})}{\partial p} + D \frac{\partial^2 f_{c,b}}{\partial p^2}$$

$\langle p \rangle$
Drag

$\langle \Delta p^2 \rangle$
Diffusion



→ Poorly dragged & long thermalization time (!?)

$$\tau_{C,\text{therm}} \approx O(10^2) \gg \tau_{\text{QGP}} \gg \tau_{q,\text{therm}} \approx O(1) \text{ fm/c}$$

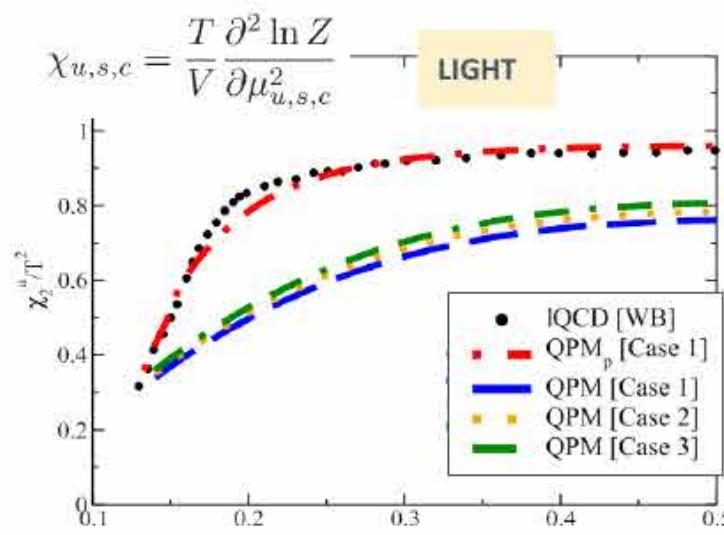
Goal : determine strength of QCD interaction and thermalization time of Heavy quarks
Long stand problem → reproduce both p_T spectra (R_{AA}) and elliptic flow (v_2)

Momentum dependent masses : $p \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ $m_{u,d,s} \rightarrow$ current masses

$$M_g(T, \mu_q, p) = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \left(\frac{g^2(T^*/T_c(\mu_q))}{6}\right) \left[\left(N_c + \frac{1}{2}N_f\right) T^2 + \frac{N_c}{2} \sum_q \frac{\mu_q^2}{\pi^2} \right] \left[\frac{1}{1 + \Lambda_g(T_c(\mu_q)/T^*) p^2} \right]^{1/2} + m_{\chi_g}$$

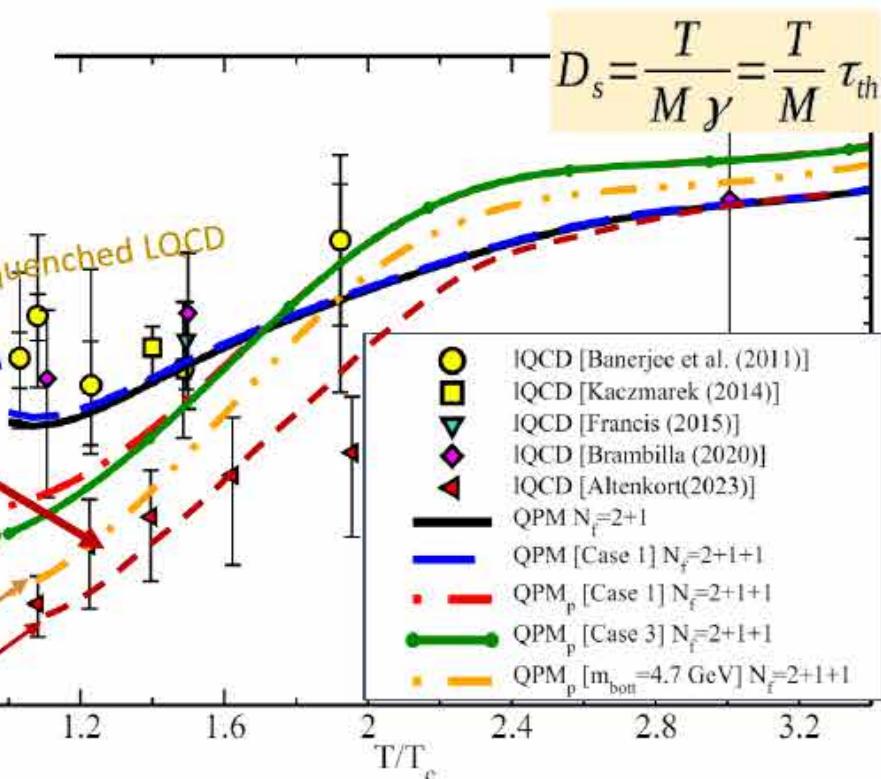
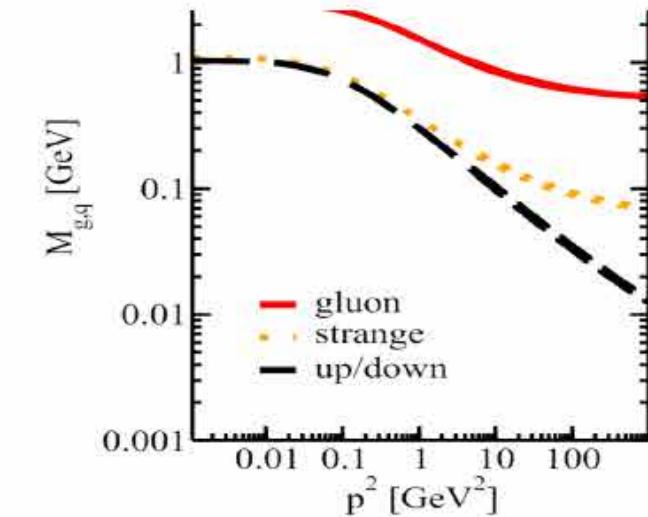
$$M_{q,\bar{q}}(T, \mu_q, p) = \left(\frac{N_c^2 - 1}{8N_c}\right) g^2(T^*/T_c(\mu_q)) \left[T^2 + \frac{\mu_q^2}{\pi^2} \right] \left[\frac{1}{1 + \Lambda_q(T_c(\mu_q)/T^*) p^2} \right]^{1/2} + m_{\chi_q}$$

$m_{u,d,s}(p)$ expected on theoretical ground \rightarrow susceptibilities...

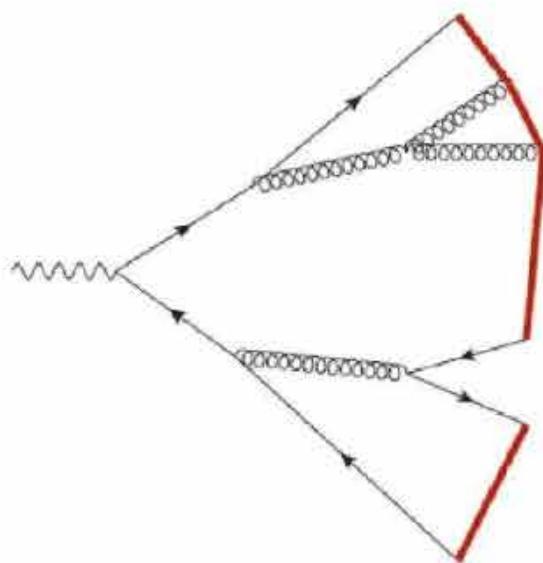


➤ QPMP describes $\epsilon, P, \chi_q, \chi_s$ of LQCD
+ closer than QPM to D_s to new
LQCD with dynamical fermions

➤ Can this new $D_s(T)$ generate predictions for R_{AA}, v_2, v_3
in agreement with experimental data?

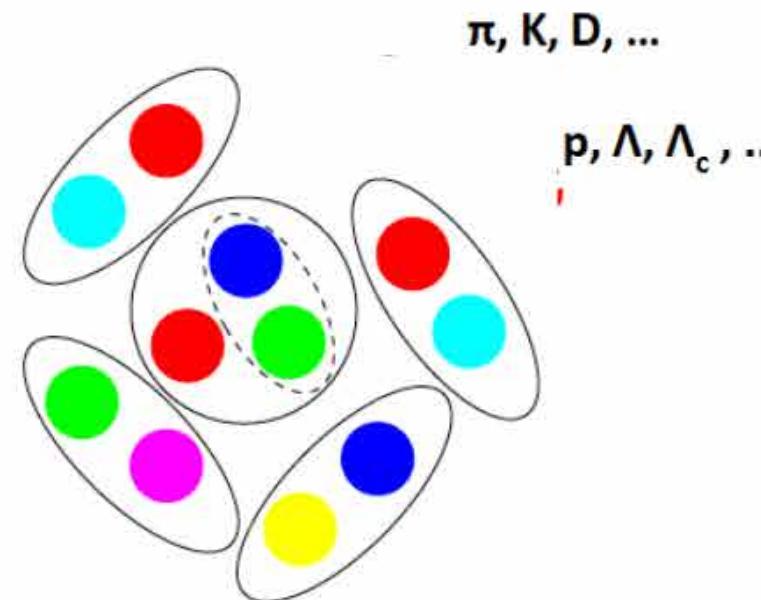


Hadronization from e^+e^- to pp and AA



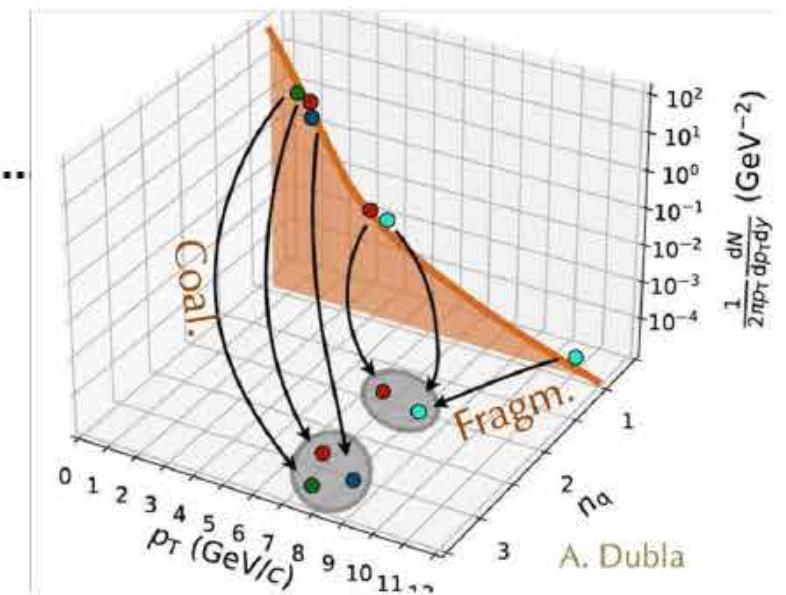
Fragmentation

$$f_H(P_H = z p_T) = f_{q,g}(p_T) \otimes D_{q,g \rightarrow H}(z) \quad , z < 1$$

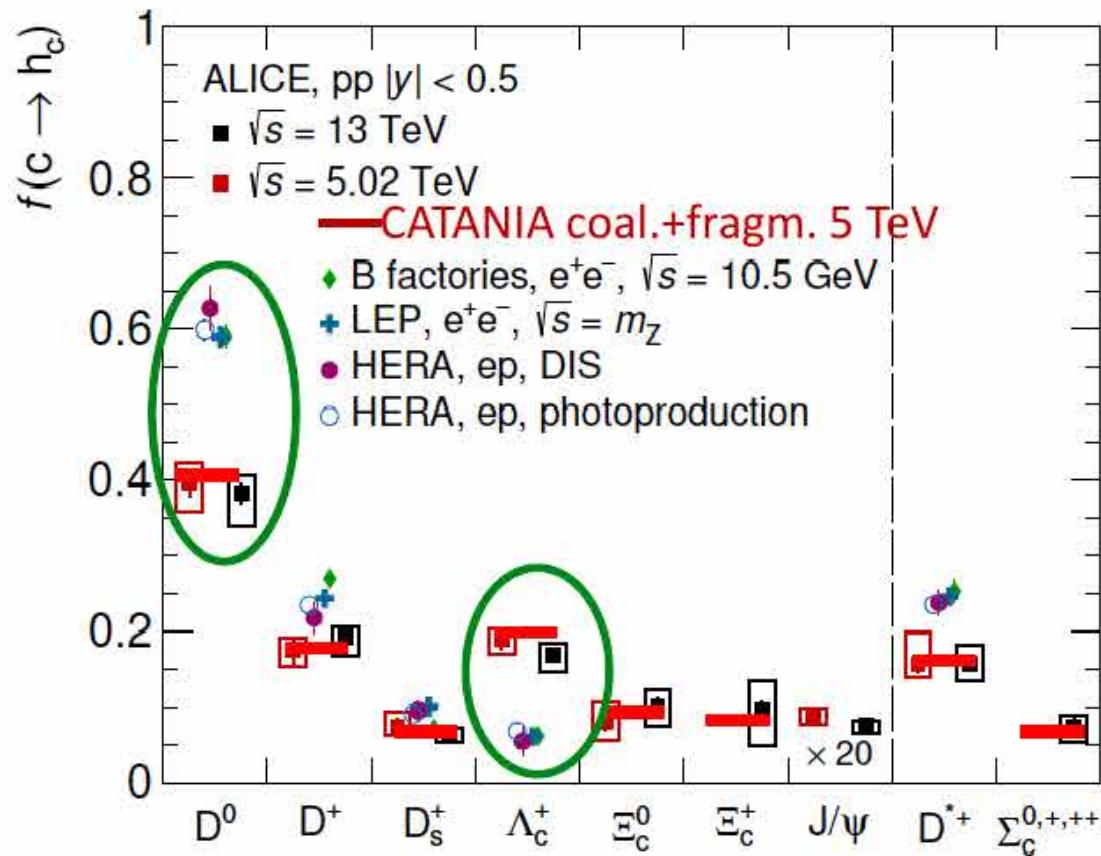


Coalescence

$$f_M \approx f_q \otimes f_{\bar{q}} \otimes \Phi_M \cdot \delta(\vec{p}_M - \vec{p}_q - \vec{p}_{\bar{q}})$$



“Fragmentation” Fractions in pp Catania Coalescence



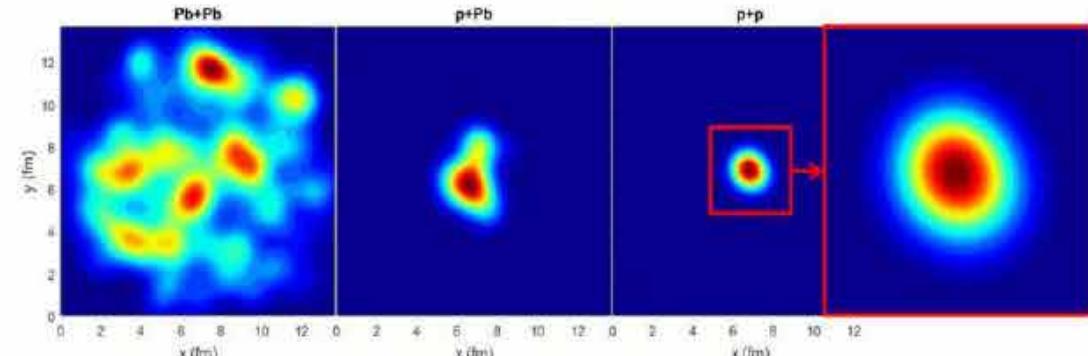
ALICE-PUB-567906

Altmann, Dubla, Greco, Rossi & Skands, [arXiv:2405.19137](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.19137)

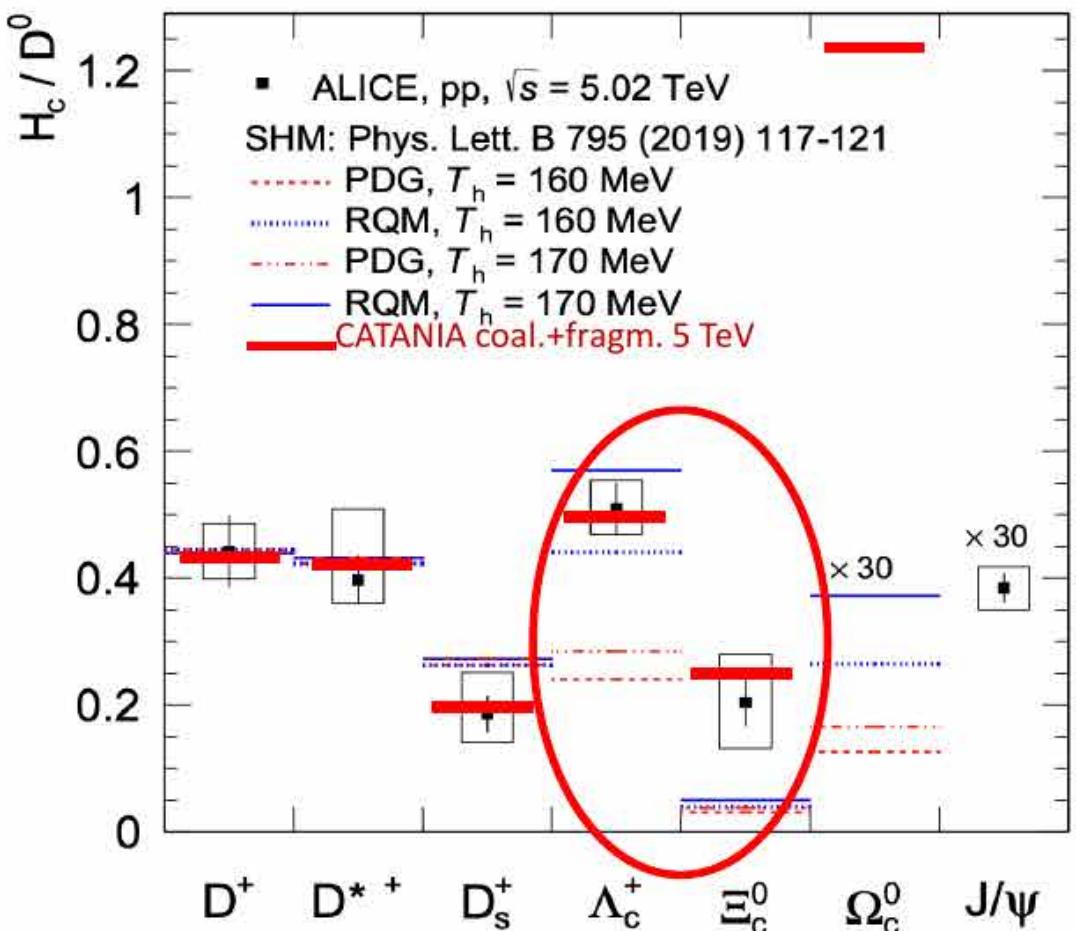
- Evidence of different “Fragmentation” Fractions in pp at LHC wrt e^+e^- (e^-p) collisions while very similar to AA collisions
- Catania Coal+Fragm. : same approach to pp and AA: pp@TeV like a little drop of AA

$$\text{Coalescence } f_M \approx f_q \otimes f_{\bar{q}} \otimes \Phi_M \cdot \delta(\vec{p}_M - \vec{p}_q - \vec{p}_{\bar{q}})$$

Daring to assume a small fireball according viscous hydro applied to pp as in AA, but size, time, flow given by hydro for pp



“Fragmentation” Fractions in pp Catania Coalescence

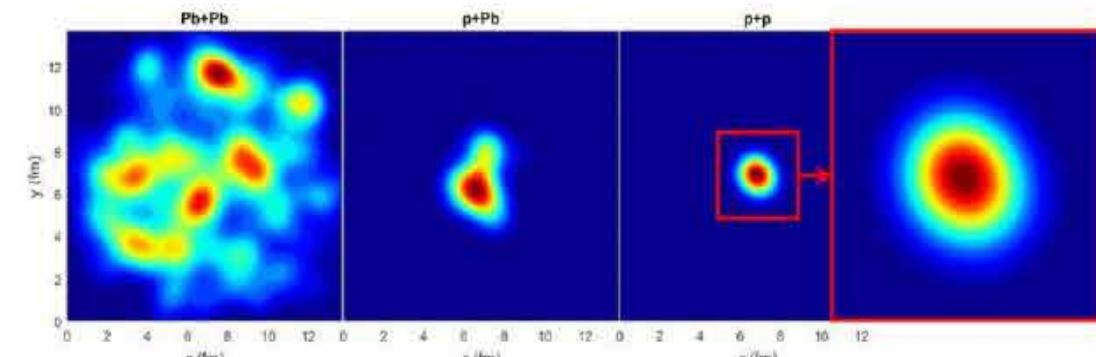


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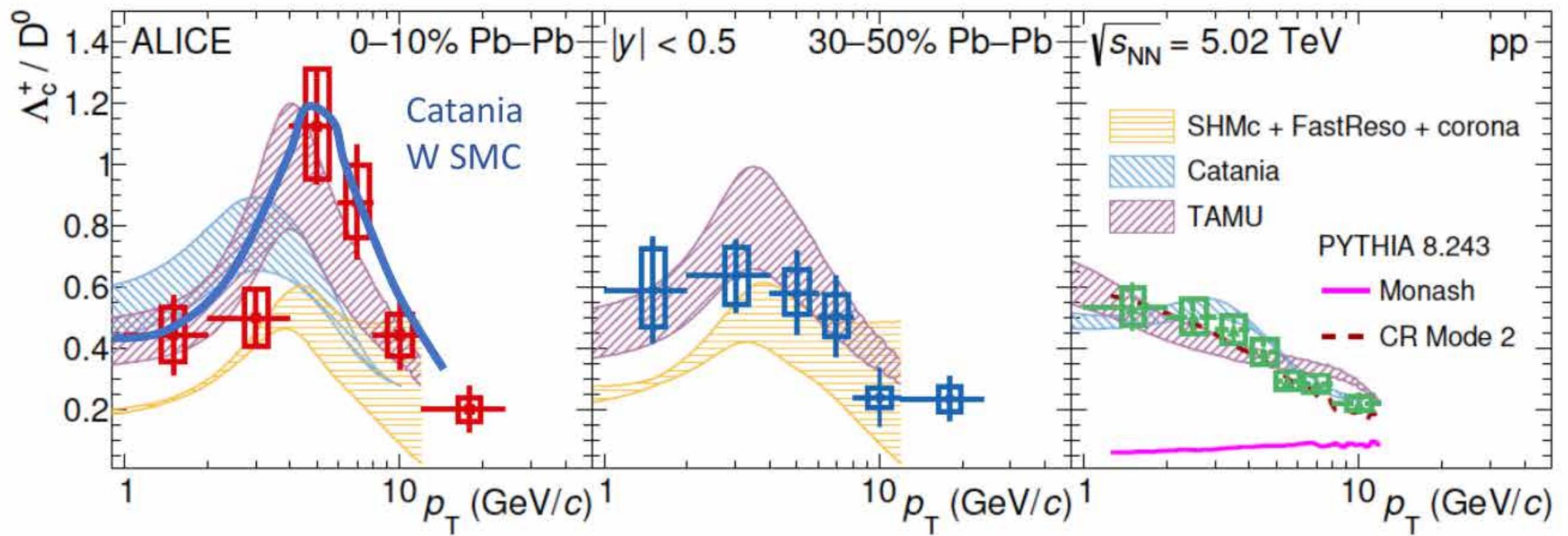
Altmann, Dubla, Greco, Rossi & Skands, [arXiv:2405.19137](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.19137)

- Evidence of different “Fragmentation” Fractions in pp at LHC wrt e^+e^- (e^-p) collisions while very similar to AA collisions
- Catania Coal+Fragm. : same approach to pp and AA: pp@TeV like a little drop of AA

$$\text{Coalescence } f_M \approx f_q \otimes f_{\bar{q}} \otimes \Phi_M \cdot \delta(\vec{p}_M - \vec{p}_q - \vec{p}_{\bar{q}})$$

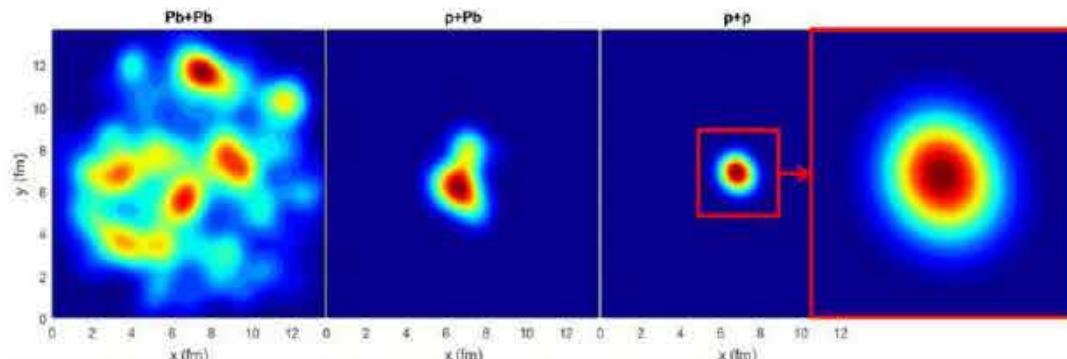


From AA to pp baryon/meson vs p_T



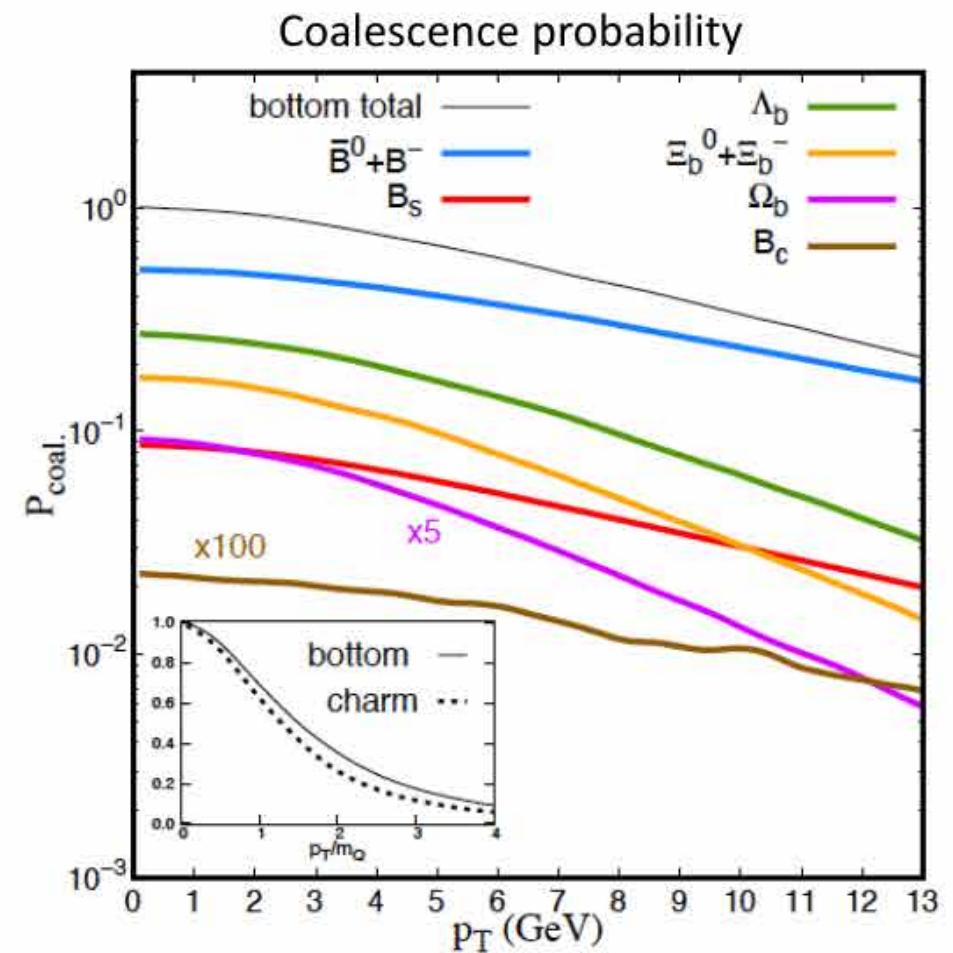
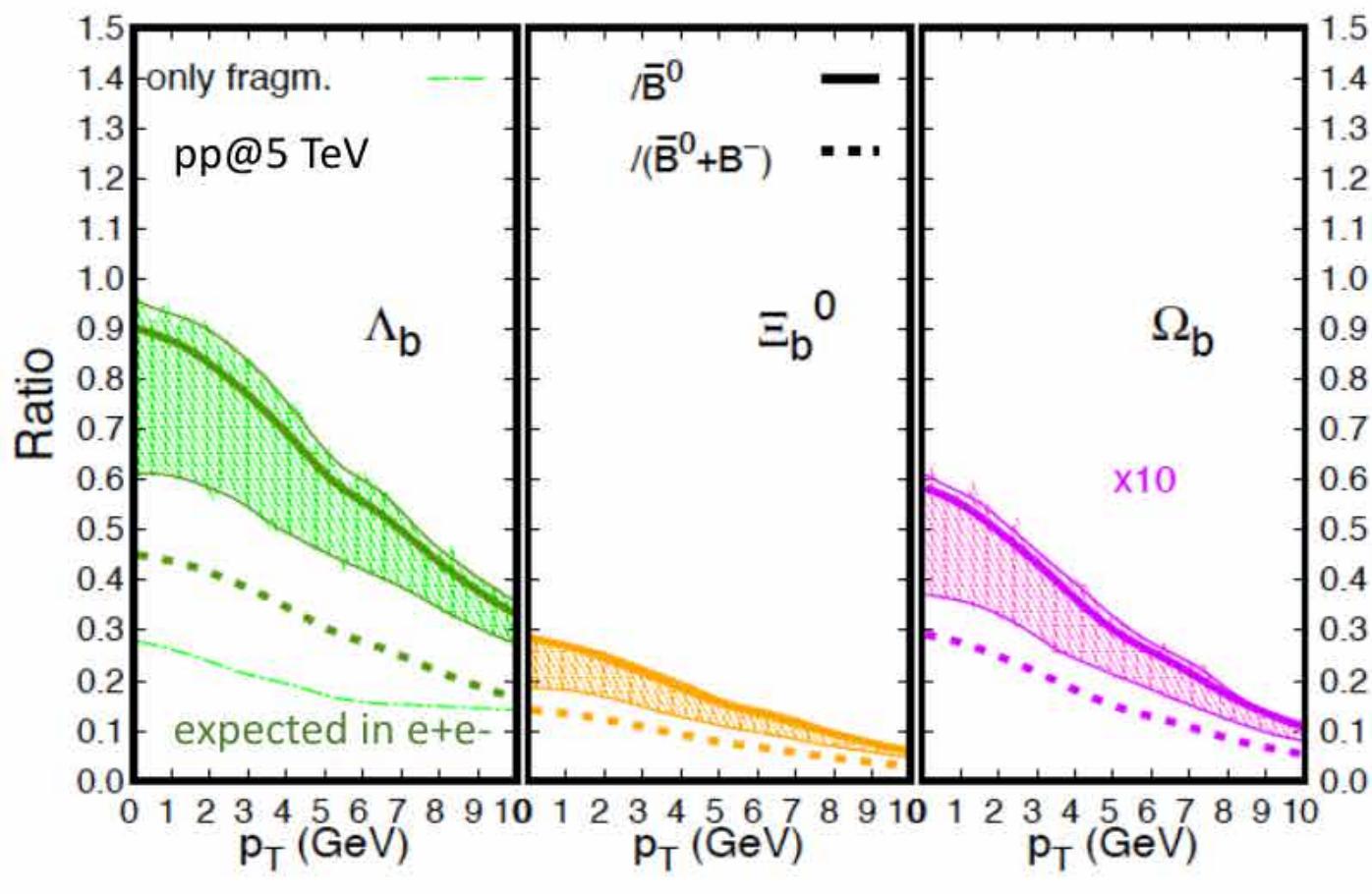
Same hadronization approach in pp and AA:
pp@TeV like a drop of AA with smaller size & radial flow

SMC: Space-Momentum correlation



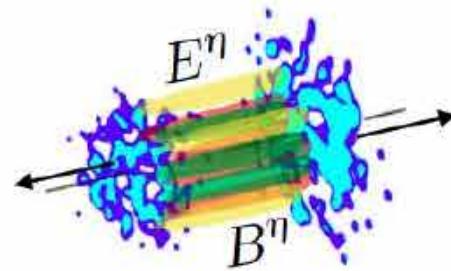
“Extension to bottom baryons

V. Minissale et al., PLB 860 (2025), 139190



- Similar but even larger Λ_b/B than Λ_c/D
- Extension of coalescence probability in p_T about proportional to the heavy quark mass

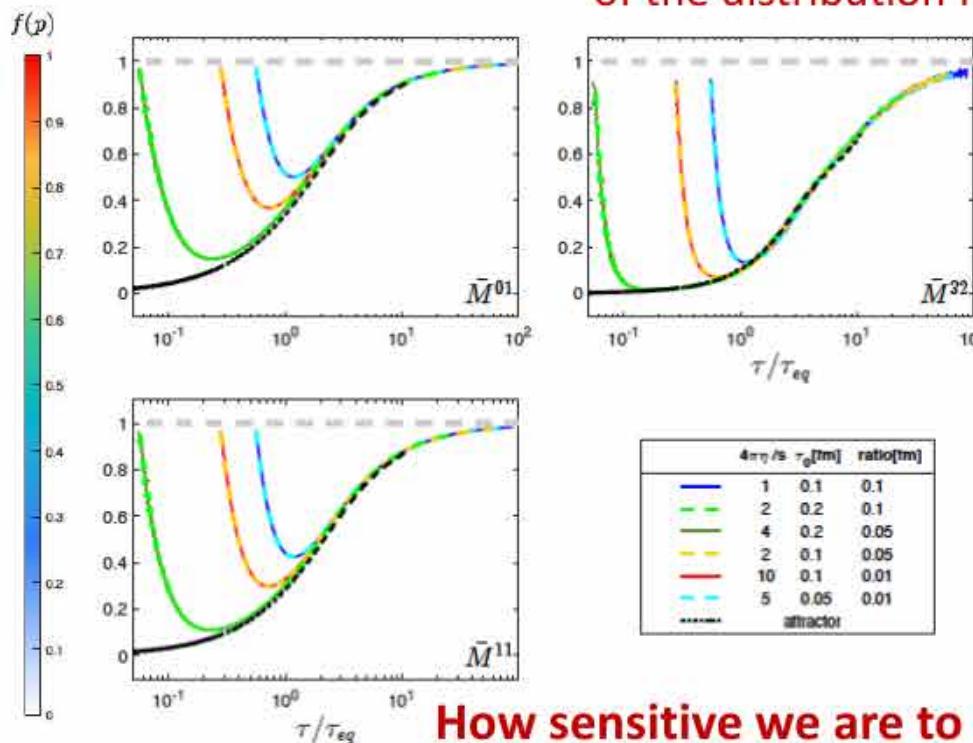
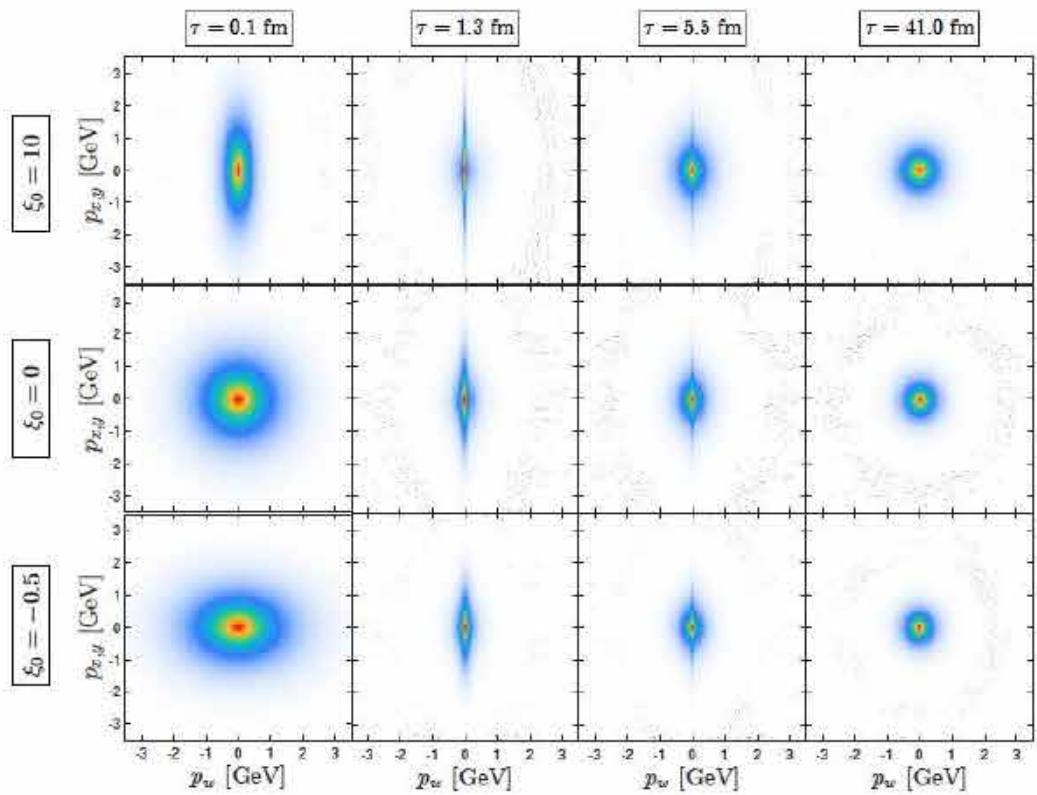
Very early stage dynamics



$$p^\mu \partial_\mu f_q(x, p) + m(x) \partial_\mu^x m(x) \partial_p^\mu f_q(x, p) = C[f_q, f_g]$$

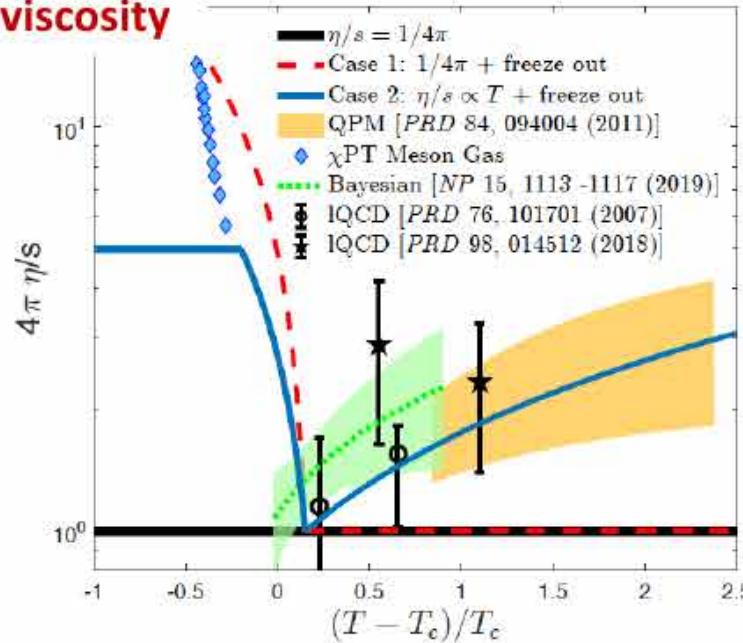
$$\mathcal{M}^{mn}(\tau) = \int dP (p \cdot u)^n (p \cdot z)^{2m} f(\tau, p).$$

transverse to flow* longitudinal



Impact of transition to hadronic matter

Shear viscosity

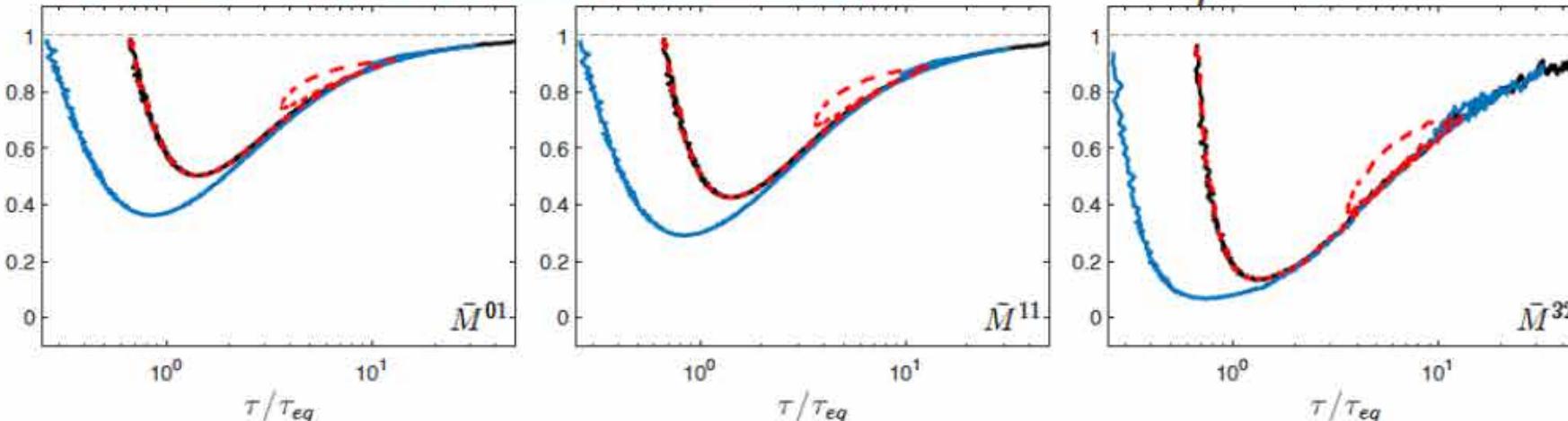


Even the strong rise of the shear viscosity at the transition to hadronic matter (\rightarrow increase of equil. time) does not break the evolution toward equilibration

$$\tau_{eq} = 5(\eta/s)/T(\tau)$$

V. Nugara et al., EPJC 84 (2024) 8, 861;

Moments M^{mn} normalized to equilibrium values



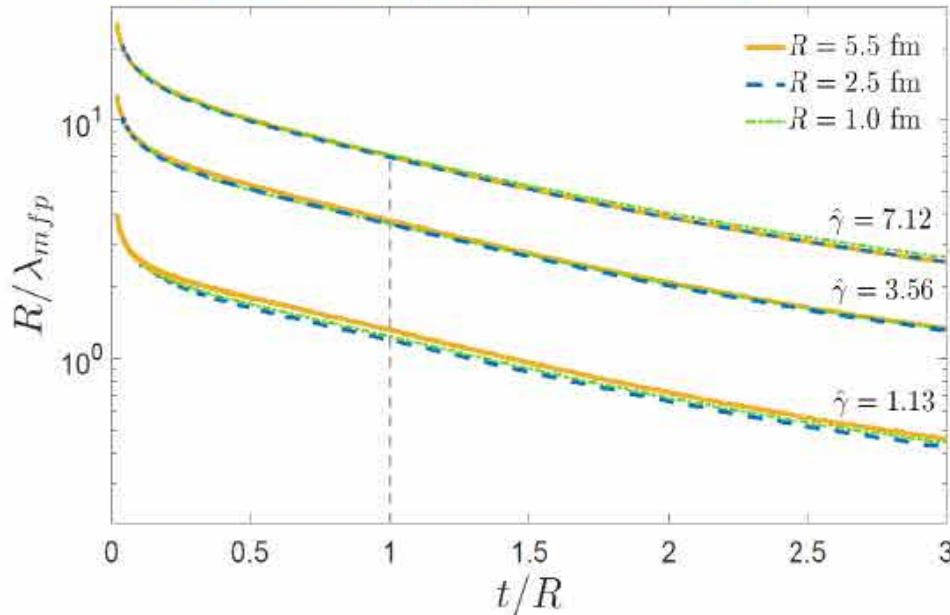
$$\mathcal{M}^{mn}(\tau) = \int dP (p \cdot u)^n (p \cdot z)^{2m} f(\tau, p).$$

Extension to 3+1D

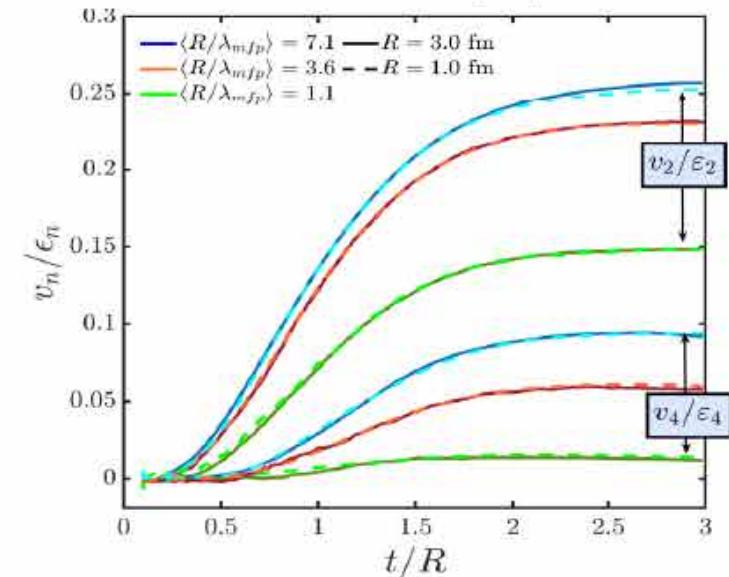
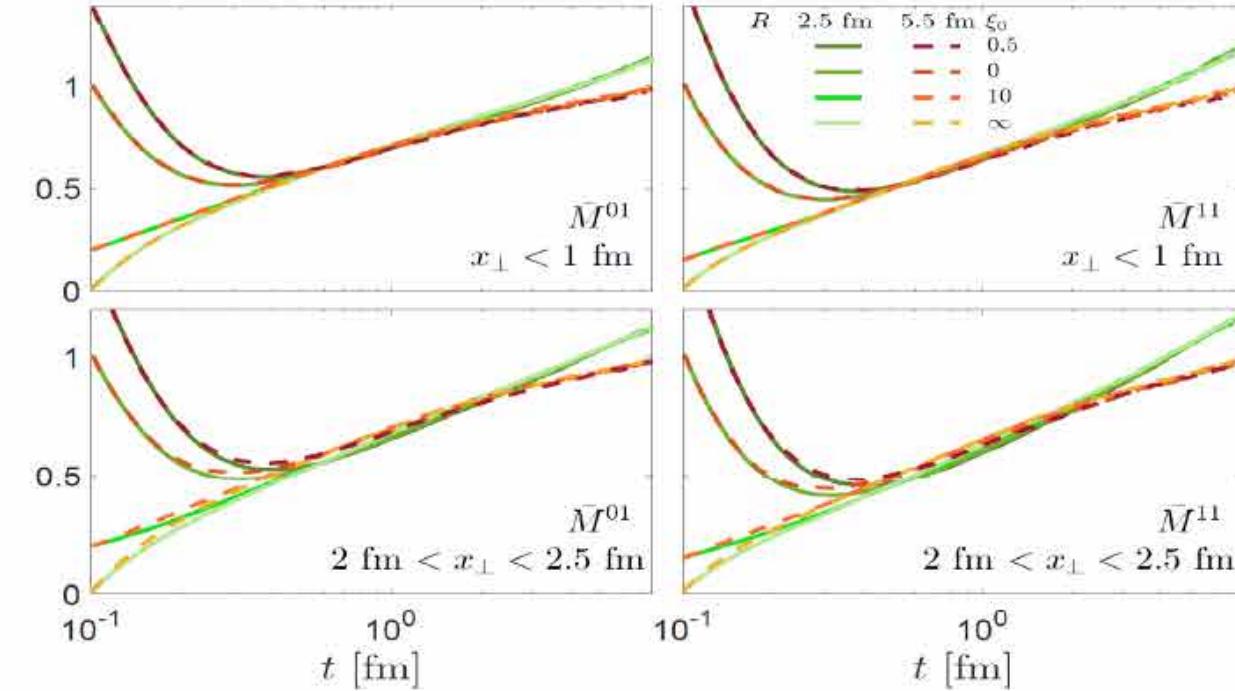
V. Nugara et al., EPJC 85 (2025) 3, 311

- Same trend of 1D: attractor due to **initial longitudinal expansion** (identical in 1D and 3D)
- Reached at same t for different R (transverse size doesn't matter)
- Differentiate when transverse expansion starts to play a role

Universality classes in R/λ_{mfp}



Universality of collective flows
w.r.t Knudsen number!

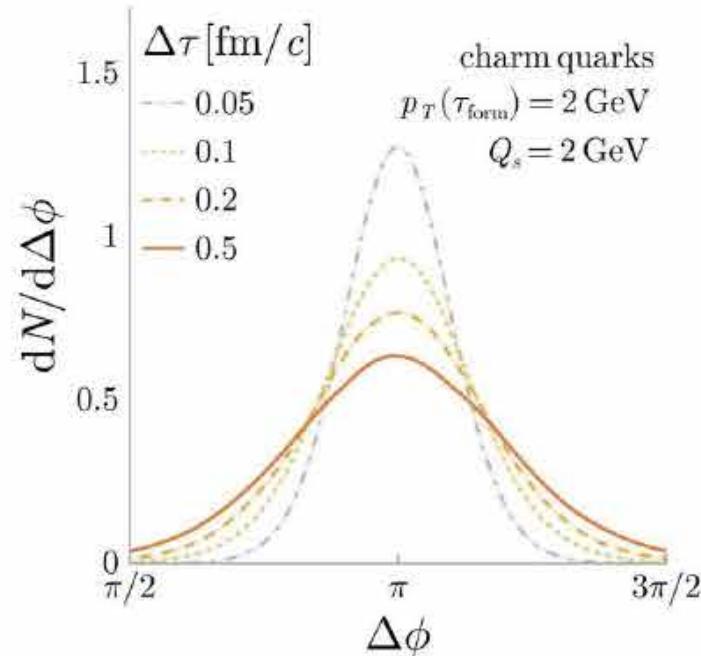
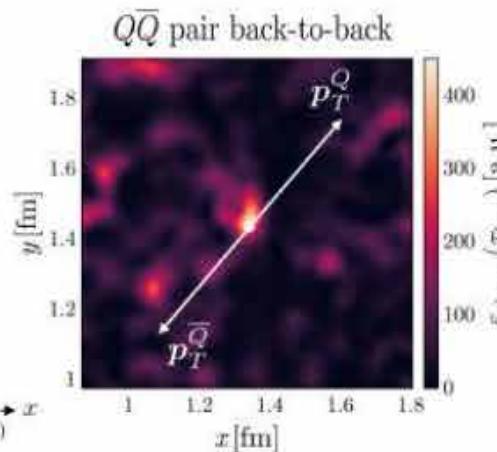


Glasma impact on angular $Q\bar{Q}$

First study of azimuthal $Q\bar{Q}$ correlation: large decorrelation **in only 0.2 fm/c**

Calculation in **SU(3) + longitudinal expansion**

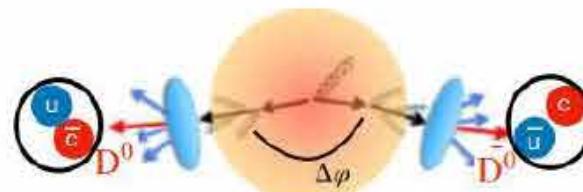
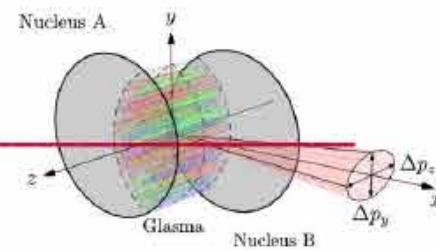
D. Avramescu et al., PRL 134 (2025)



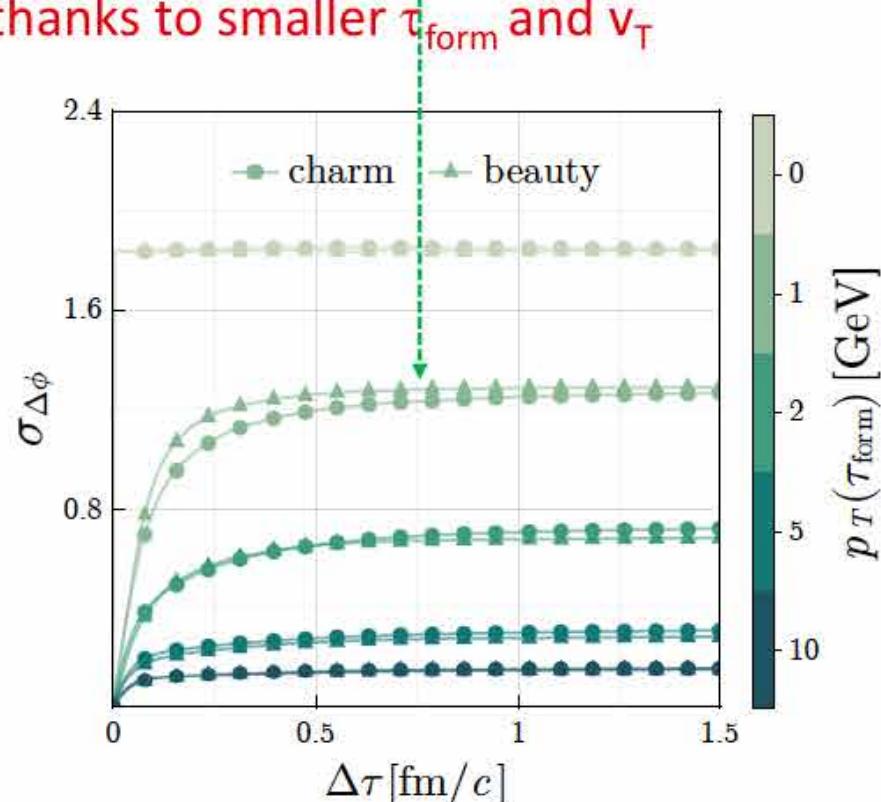
Significant effect of glasma on HQ! Quite Stronger than on R_{AA}

Width at $t \sim 0.2 \text{ fm/c}$ comparable that induced by QGP in AA

M. Nahrgang et al., PRC90 (2014)

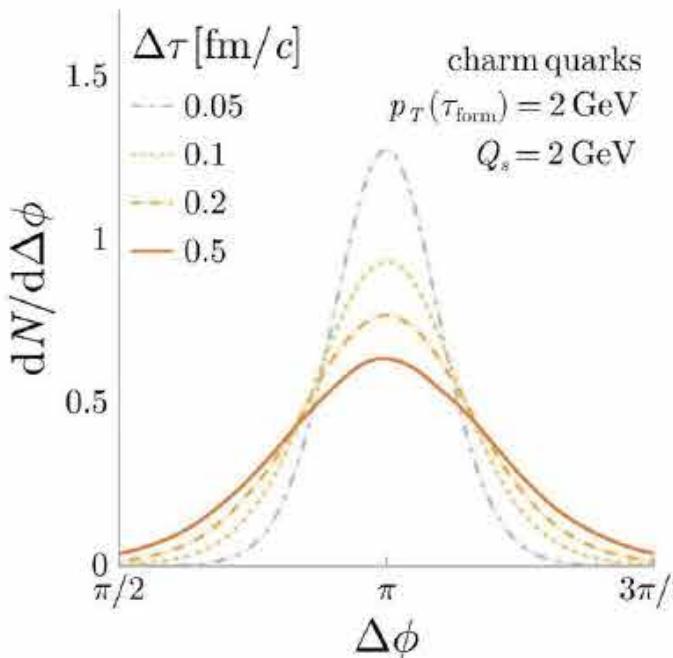


Nearly **identical for bottom**, despite larger mass thanks to smaller τ_{form} and v_T



Glasma impact on angular $Q\bar{Q}$

D. Avramescu et al., PRL 134 (2025)



In pA smaller width wrt AA may allow to:

- solve the puzzle od $R_{pA} \sim 1$ and v_2 large ?
- disentangle shadowing from glasma ?

To be done toward a full realistic calculation:

- beyond back-to-back : flavor excitation, gluon splitting
- Matching with QGP kinetic transport
- Inclusion of hadronization [mainly p_T reshaping]

Is τ_{th} of charm (bottom) sufficiently large to keep memory of early stage dynamics?

New estimate of $\tau_{\text{th}}(\text{charm}) \sim 1 \text{ fm}/c$ from $2\pi TD_s$ from LQCD, to answer is not trivial

It is likely necessary to go to:

- Small systems like OO and pA
- Bottom less affected by flavor excitation and gluon splitting

Attività SIM 2025-26

- ❖ Develop a relativistic event-by-event transport theory suitable to perform realistic simulations of relativistic HIC's from AA to pA collisions.
 - Study the existence of dynamical attractors in 3+1 D: **impact on observables**
 - Heavy Quark dynamics in a unified frameworks in pA and AA (extension to b quarks)
 - Early stage Heavy Quark in the Glasma (collaboration with INFN-CT):
solve the puzzle of $R_{pA} \sim 1$ [no change in dN/dp_T] but a large elliptic flow v_2
- Explore impact of open quantum system techniques in high energy physics on quantum computing (NQSTI – PNRR)

FTE: SIM (5.1) *6.0 in 2024*

cognome	nome	contratto	profilo	perc	sezione
Coci	Gabriele	Associato	RTDA-PNRR	10%	LNS
Greco	Vincenzo	Associato	Prof. Ordinario	100%	LNS
Nugara	Vincenzo	Associato	Dottorando III	100%	LNS
Parisi	Gabriele	Associato	Dottorando III	100%	LNS
Plumari	Salvatore	Associato	Prof. Associato	100%	LNS
Sambataro	Maria Lucia	Associato	Assegnista	100%	LNS

Budget (in k€)

	Missioni	Inviti	Seminari	Consumi	Inventariabile	Totale
Dotazioni	9	5	4	4	7	29
MONSTRE	7	-	-	-	-	7
SIM	12	-	-	-	-	12
Total	28	5	4	4	7	48