



# QGP Hydrodynamics

Mahnaz Q. Haseeb  
Department of Physics  
CIIT, Islamabad

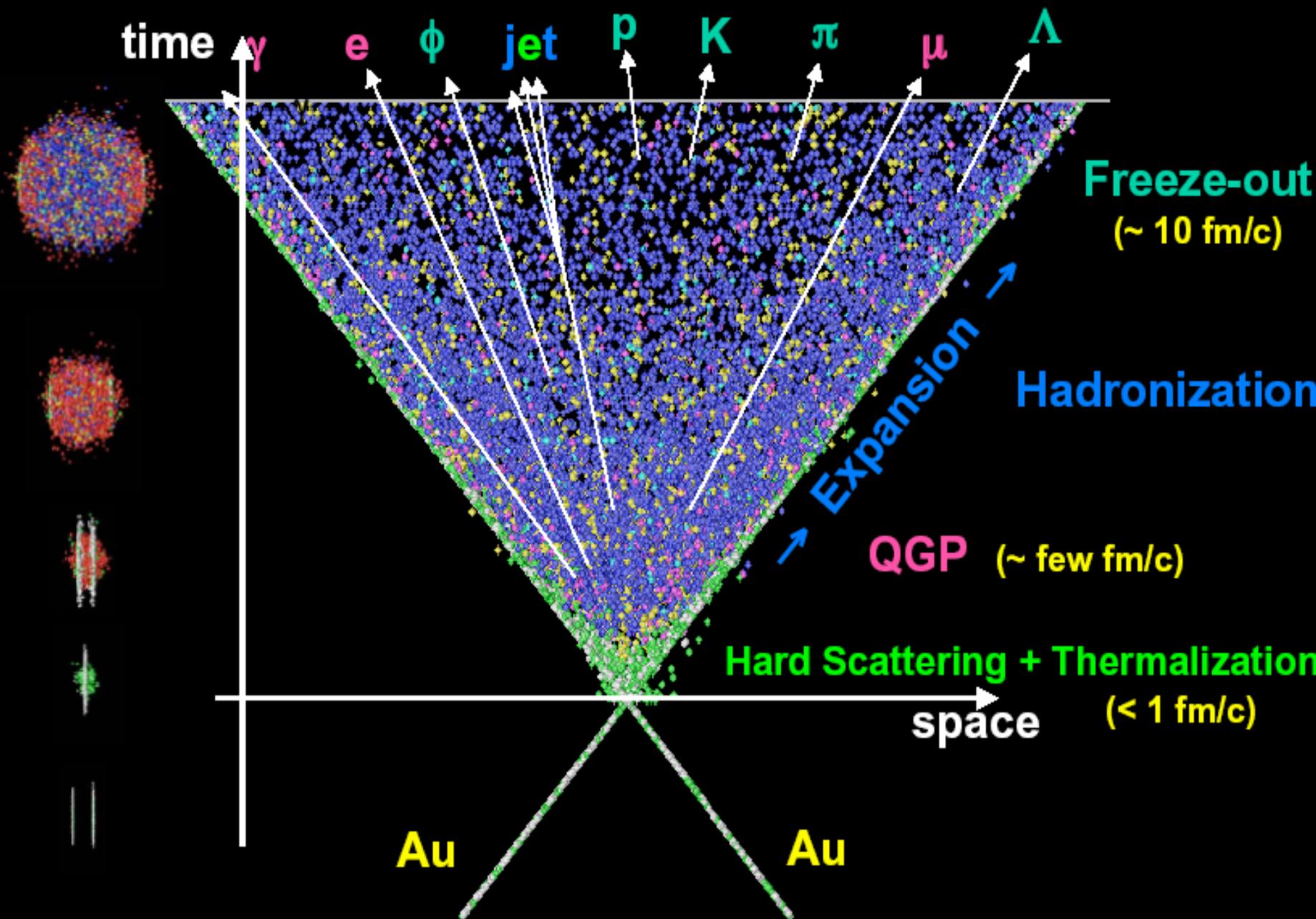
# Outline

- QGP Evolution
- Centrality
- Why Hydrodynamics?
- What is a flow?
- Percolation in QGP

# Study of QGP

- ❑ QGP is mainly defined theoretically by lattice QCD.
- ❑ Fascinating phenomena discovered and studied already
- ❑ Quantitative estimate of some fundamental quantities.
- ❑ Models are used to map the T, S, viscosity, size, time dependence onto observables.
- ❑ Hydrodynamics is a good start

# Space-time Evolution of RHIC Collisions



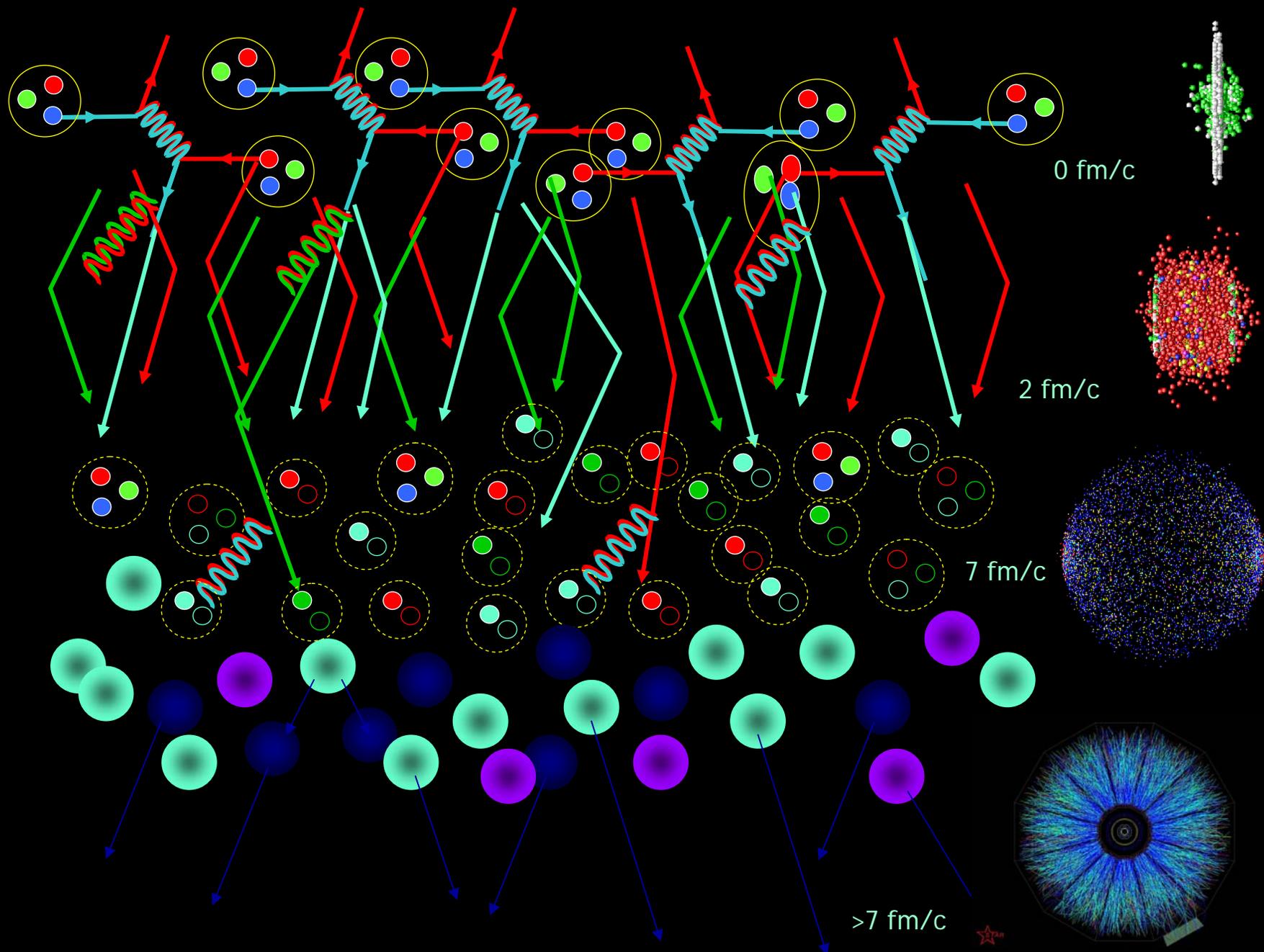
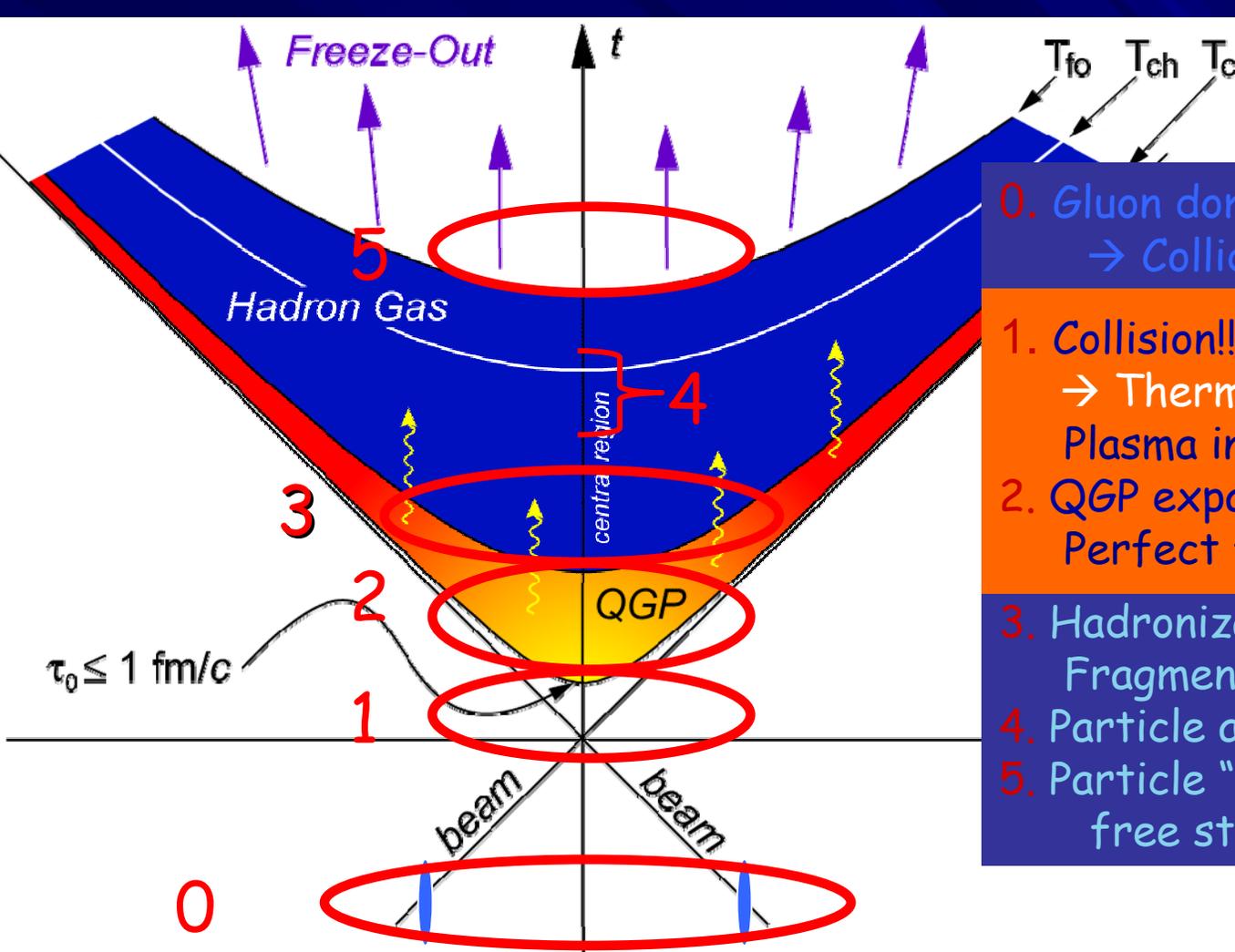
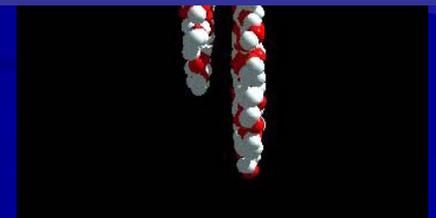
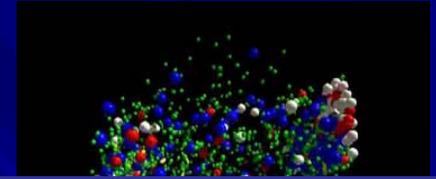


Diagram from Peter Steinberg

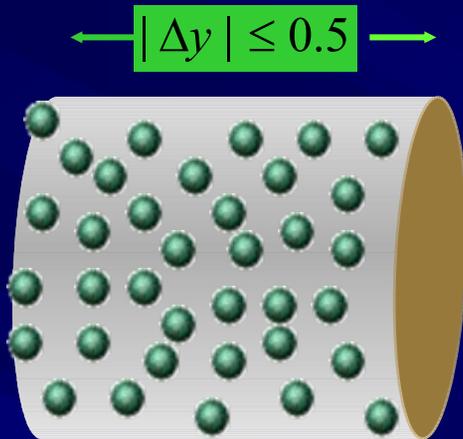
# Details in Heavy Ion Collision



0. Gluon dominant nuclei  
→ Colliding Ions
1. Collision!! Hard Collisions  
→ Thermalization → QGP  
Plasma instabilities??
2. QGP expands and cools down  
Perfect fluid??
3. Hadronization  
Fragmentation vs recombination
4. Particle abundances fixed
5. Particle "freeze out"  
free streaming



# Energy Density



Energy density (Bjorken):

$$\varepsilon = \frac{dE_T}{A_T dz} = \frac{1}{\pi R^2 \tau} \frac{dE_T}{dy}$$

Particle streaming from origin

$$\frac{z}{t} = v_z = \tanh y$$

$$\rightarrow dz = \tau \cosh y dy$$

$$R = 1.18 A^{1/3} \approx 7 \text{ fm}$$

$$\tau_{\text{SPS}} \leq 1 \text{ fm/c}$$

$$\tau_{\text{RHIC}} \leq 0.4 - 1 \text{ fm/c}$$

Estimate  $\varepsilon$  for RHIC:

$$dE_T/dy \sim 720 \text{ GeV}$$

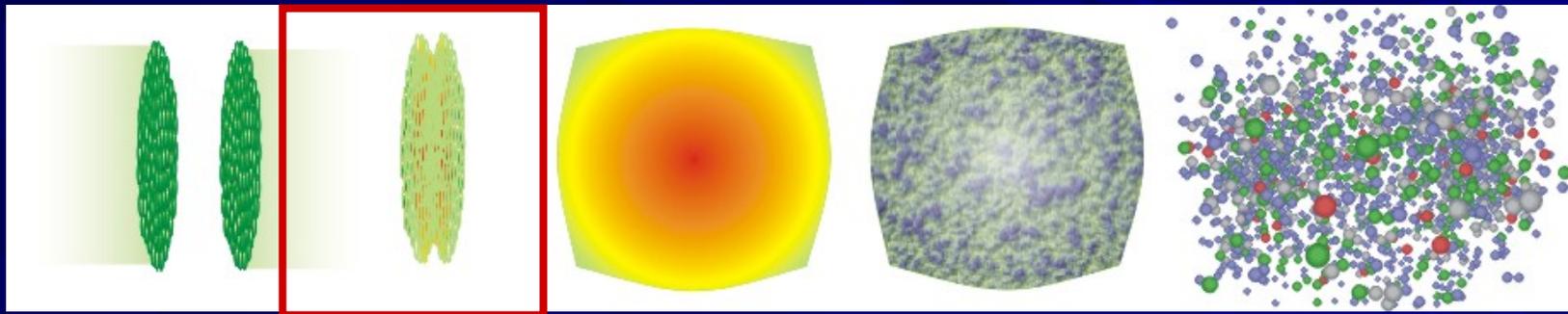
Time estimate from hydro:

$$\tau = 0.6 \text{ fm/c} \Rightarrow \varepsilon \sim 8 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$$

$$\rightarrow T_{\text{initial}} \sim 300-350 \text{ MeV}$$

QGP and  
hydrodynamic expansion

hadronic phase  
and freeze-out



pre-equilibrium

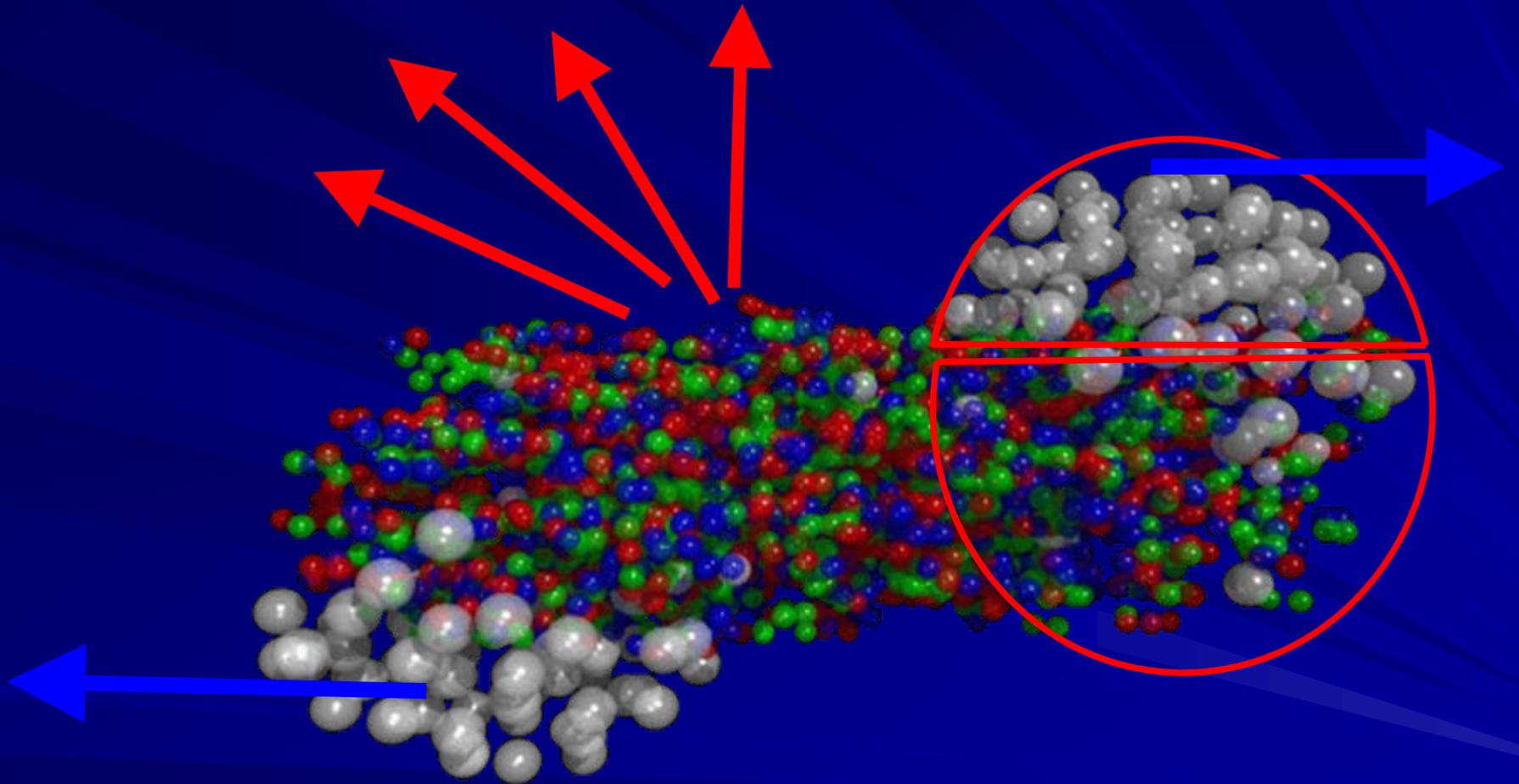
hadronization

high- $p_t$  and early times:  
manifestations of pre-equilibrium

- jet production and quenching
- [photons & leptons]

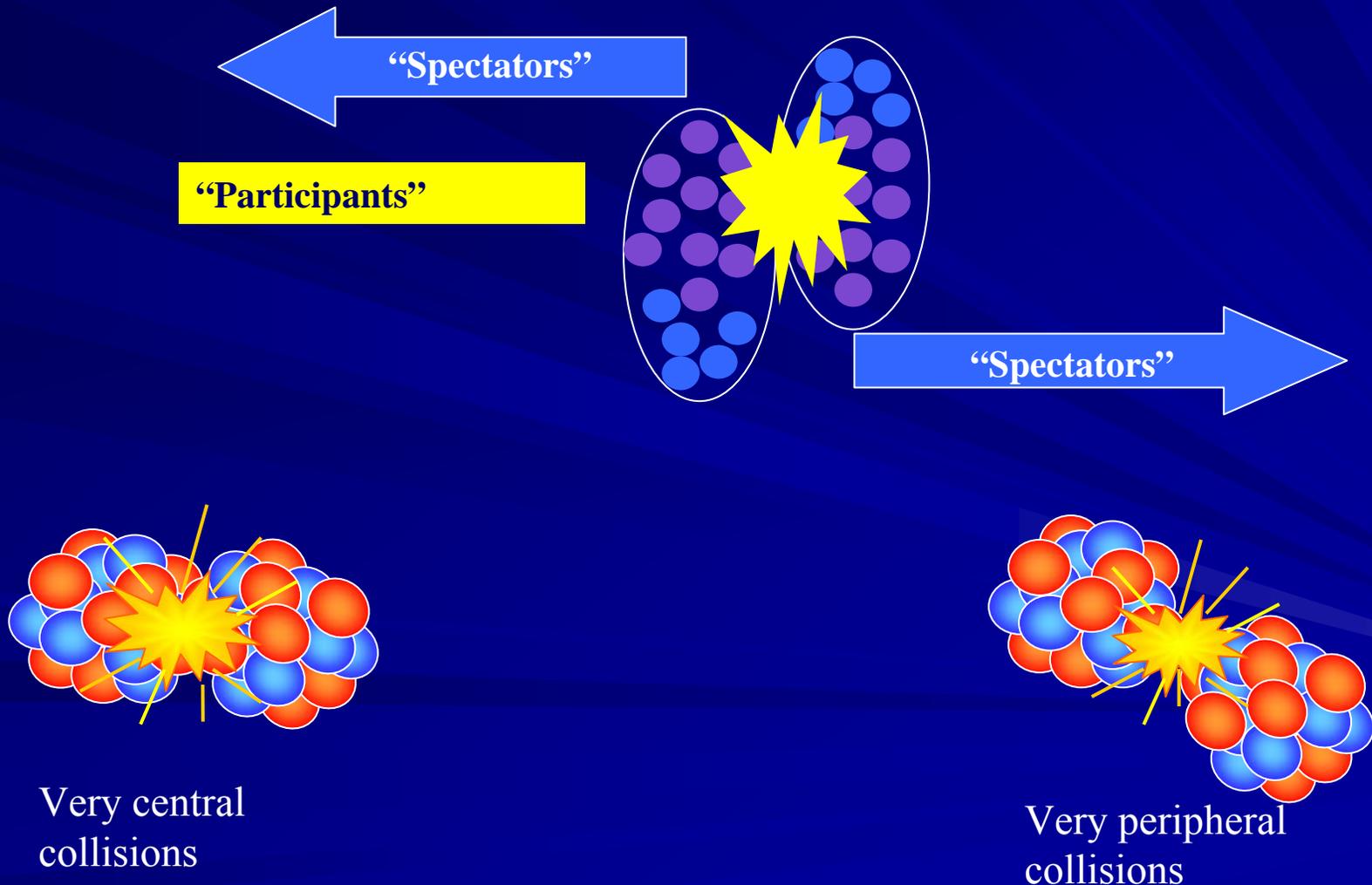
participants

spectators



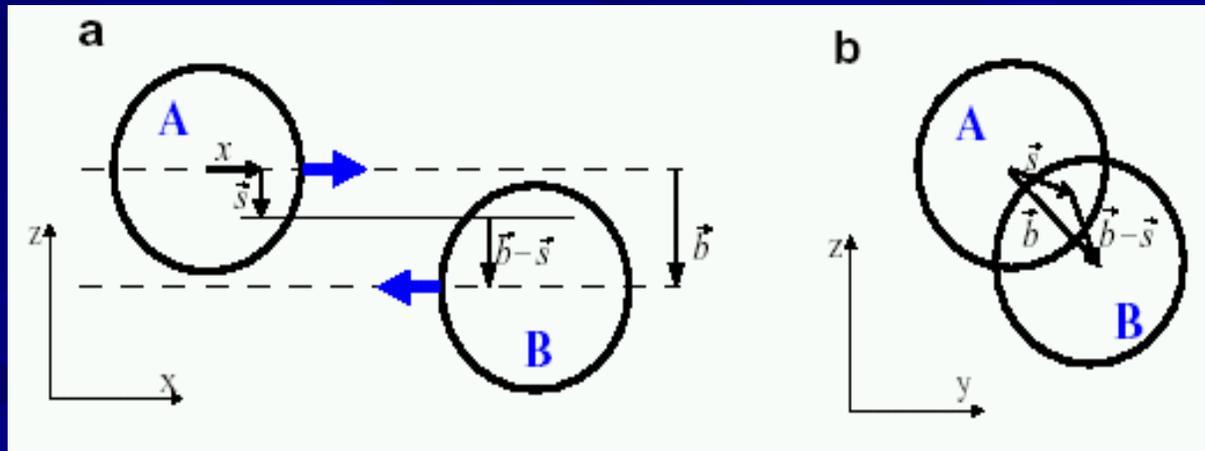
# Centrality

The most central collision, the most dense matter



# Centrality: impact parameter

- In heavy ion collisions the volume and energy of the “fireball” is determined (at given beam energy) mostly by the **number of participating nucleons  $N_{\text{part}}$** , which in turn depends on the **impact parameter  $b$**



x = beam axis

(y,z) = transverse plane

# Centrality: number of collisions

The average number of N-N collisions at impact parameter  $\mathbf{b}$  is:

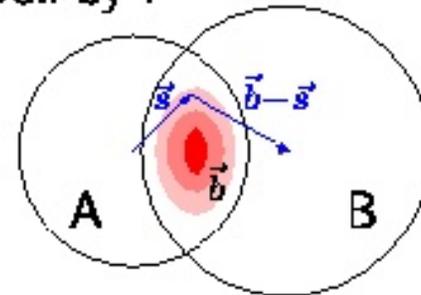
$$\langle \nu(\mathbf{b}) \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^{AB} k P(k, \mathbf{b}) = AB \sigma_0 T_{AB}(\mathbf{b})$$

Under the assumption of an inelastic A-B collision, the average number  $N_{coll}(\mathbf{b})$  of N-N collisions is the same as  $\langle \nu(\mathbf{b}) \rangle$  except for very large  $\mathbf{b}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} N_{coll}(\mathbf{b}) &= \sum_{k=1}^{AB} k P(k, \mathbf{b}) / \sum_{k=1}^{AB} P(k, \mathbf{b}) \\ &= AB \sigma_0 T_{AB}(\mathbf{b}) / \sigma_{AB}(\mathbf{b}) \end{aligned}$$

The local collision density  $n_c(\vec{b}, \vec{s})$  is given by :

$$n_c(\vec{b}, \vec{s}) = \frac{\sigma_0 AB}{\sigma_{AB}(\mathbf{b})} T_A(\vec{s}) T_B(\vec{b} - \vec{s})$$



# Centrality: number of participants

- The number of participants (wounded) nucleons from both nuclei A and B is on average:

$$\begin{aligned} N_W(\mathbf{b}) &= N_A(\mathbf{b}) + N_B(\mathbf{b}) \\ &= [A/\sigma_{AB}(b)] \int T_A(s) \sigma_B(\mathbf{b}-s) d^2s + [B/\sigma_{AB}(b)] \int T_B(\mathbf{b}-s) \sigma_A(s) d^2s \\ &\approx A \int T_A(s) \{1 - [1 - T_B(\mathbf{b}-s) \sigma_0]^B\} d^2s \\ &\quad + B \int T_B(\mathbf{b}-s) \{1 - [1 - T_A(s) \sigma_0]^A\} d^2s \end{aligned}$$

- $N_W$  is the number of nucleons having suffered at least one inelastic collision; there are other ways to count participants, which can lead to different numbers:

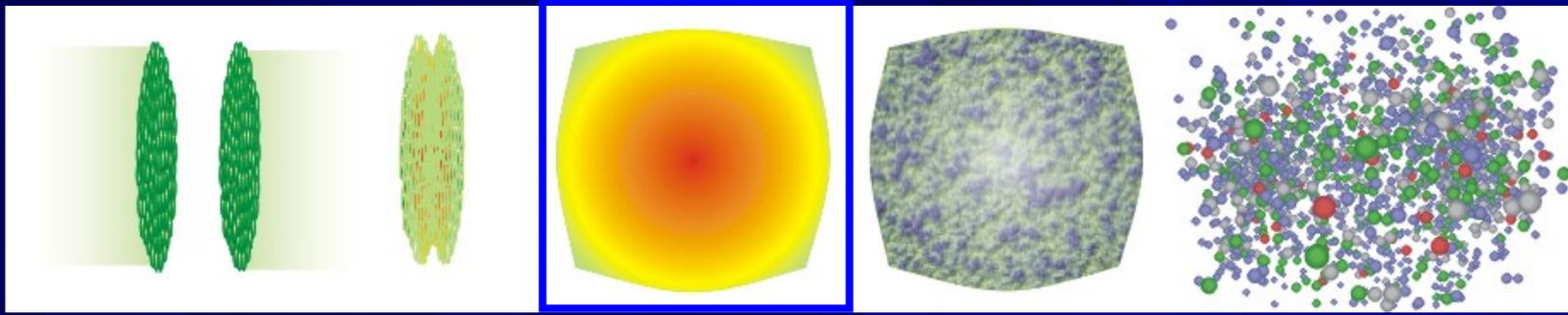
- $N_{part} = A + B - N$  (spectators),

- e.g.:  $N_{part}^{pro} = A(1 - E_F/E_{beam})$

- $N_{part}$  from a dynamical simulation may (or may not) include rescattering with produced particles

QGP and  
hydrodynamic expansion

hadronic phase  
and freeze-out



pre-equilibrium

hadronization

low- $p_t$  and intermediate times:  
creation and evolution of the QGP

- Hydrodynamics and anisotropic flow
- Thermalization

# Why Hydrodynamics?

## Static

- EoS from Lattice QCD
- Finite  $T, \mu$  field theory
- Critical phenomena
- Chiral property of hadron

Energy-momentum:  $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0,$

Conserved number:  $\partial_\mu n_i^\mu = 0$

## Dynamic Phenomena in HIC

- Expansion, Flow
- Space-time evolution of thermodynamic variables

# Hydrodynamic quark model

- ❑ Hydrodynamics provides a direct link between the equation of state (EOS) of the expanding fluid and the flow pattern manifested in the emitted hadron spectra.
- ❑ A quantitative determination of the EOS requires both precision flow data and systematic theoretical studies of the influence of the initial conditions
  - equation of state, non-ideal transport effects and the final decoupling kinetics on the observed hadron spectra.
- ❑ Theoretically limited by the difficulty of computations in *viscous relativistic hydrodynamics*.
- ❑ Determination of the equation of state also a big issue.

Note that the hydrodynamics model also breaks down for more peripheral collisions, lower energy collisions etc.

# Landau Hydrodynamics

Landau, Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR 17, 51 (1953)

Nuovo Ciment, Suppl. 3, 11115 (1956)

pp collision

Initial condition – initial entropy of the system

adiabatic hydrodynamic motion

constant total entropy - constant number of particles

longitudinal expansion followed by transverse expansion

has successfully explained

1. total number of produced charged particles

2. rapidity distribution

$$dN / dy$$

# Hydrodynamic equations

Energy momentum tensor

$$\partial_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = J^{\nu}$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\varepsilon + P)u^{\mu}u^{\nu} - Pg^{\mu\nu}$$

Longitudinal expansion

$$\frac{\partial T^{00}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial T^{01}}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial T^{01}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial T^{11}}{\partial z} = 0$$

Transverse expansion

$$\frac{\partial T^{02}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial T^{22}}{\partial x} = 0$$

constraints:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{\mu}(nu^{\mu}) = 0 \\ \partial_{\mu}(su^{\mu}) = 0 \\ u_{\mu}u^{\mu} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  baryon number conservation

$\Leftrightarrow$  entropy conservation

$\Leftrightarrow$  flow velocity normalization

# Relativistic (Ideal) Hydrodynamics

conservation of energy and momentum

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

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and conserved currents (baryon-number)

$$\partial_\mu j^\mu = 0$$

1

With baryon current

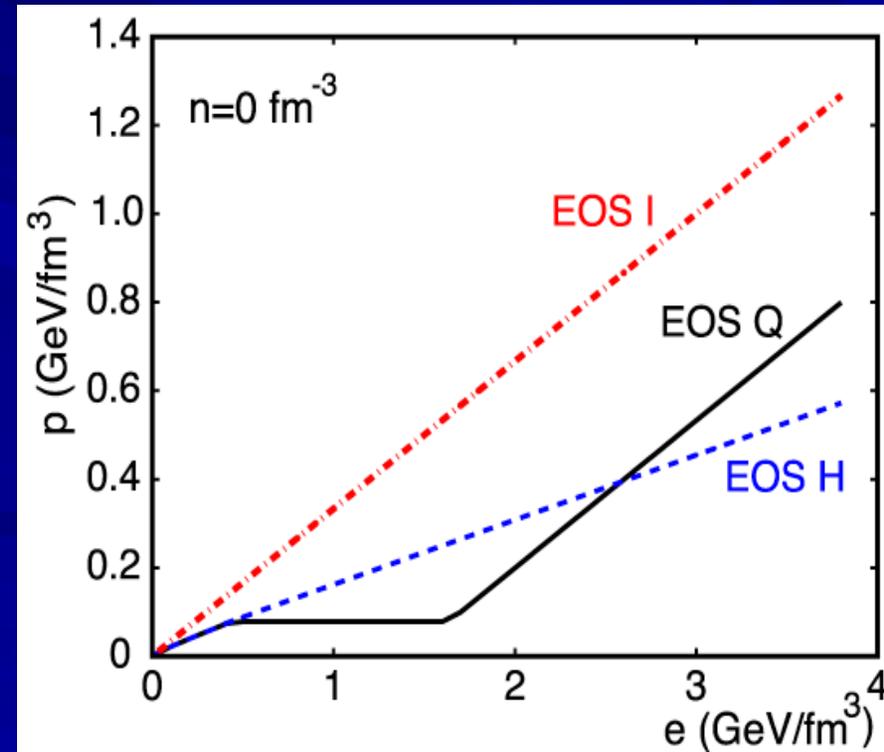
$$j^\mu(x) = n(x)u^\mu(x)$$


$$u^x, u^y, u^z$$

5 equations for 6 fields

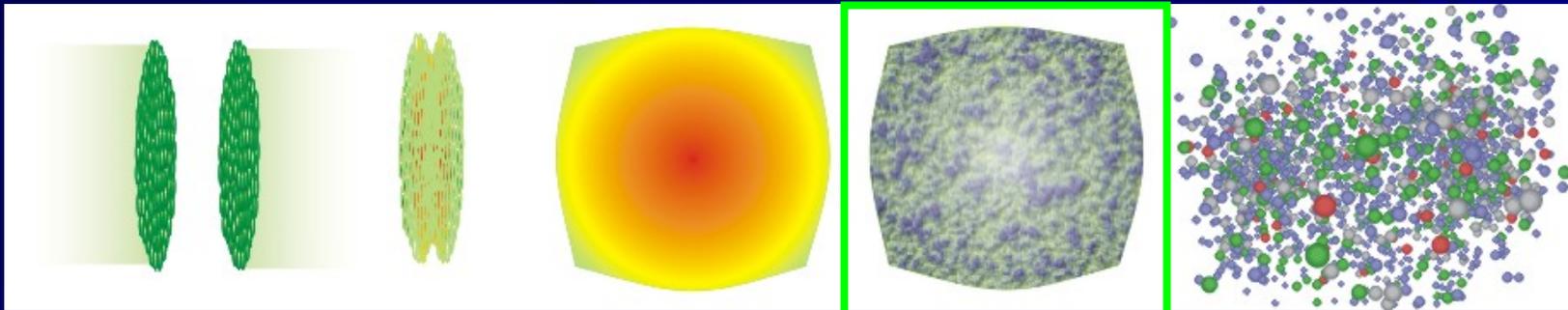
close the system by supplying an equation of state, e.g.

- **EOS I**: ultrarelativistic, ideal gas,  $P = \varepsilon/3$
- **EOS H**: interacting resonance gas,  $P \sim 0.15 \varepsilon$
- **EOS Q**: Maxwell construction of those two:  
critical temperature  $T_{\text{crit}} = 0.165 \text{ MeV}$   
bag constant  $B^{1/4} = 0.23 \text{ GeV}$   
latent heat  $\varepsilon_{\text{lat}} = 1.15 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$



QGP and  
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hadronic phase  
and freeze-out



pre-equilibrium

hadronization

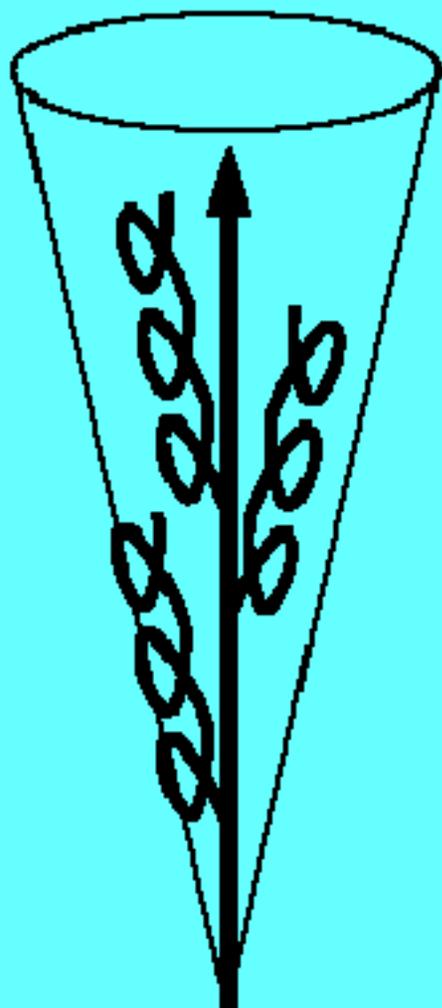
# Intermediate- $p_t$ and late(r) times: dynamics of hadronization

## ➤ Recombination & Fragmentation

- Recombination + Fragmentation Model
- Results: spectra, ratios and elliptic flow
- Challenges: correlations, entropy balance & gluons

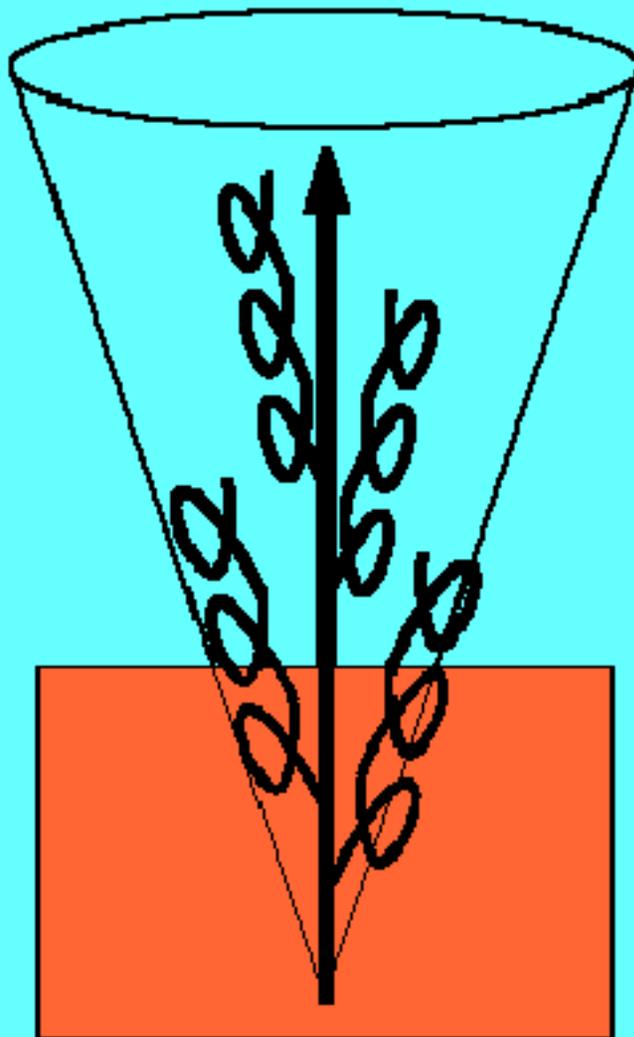
Vacuum

(reference)



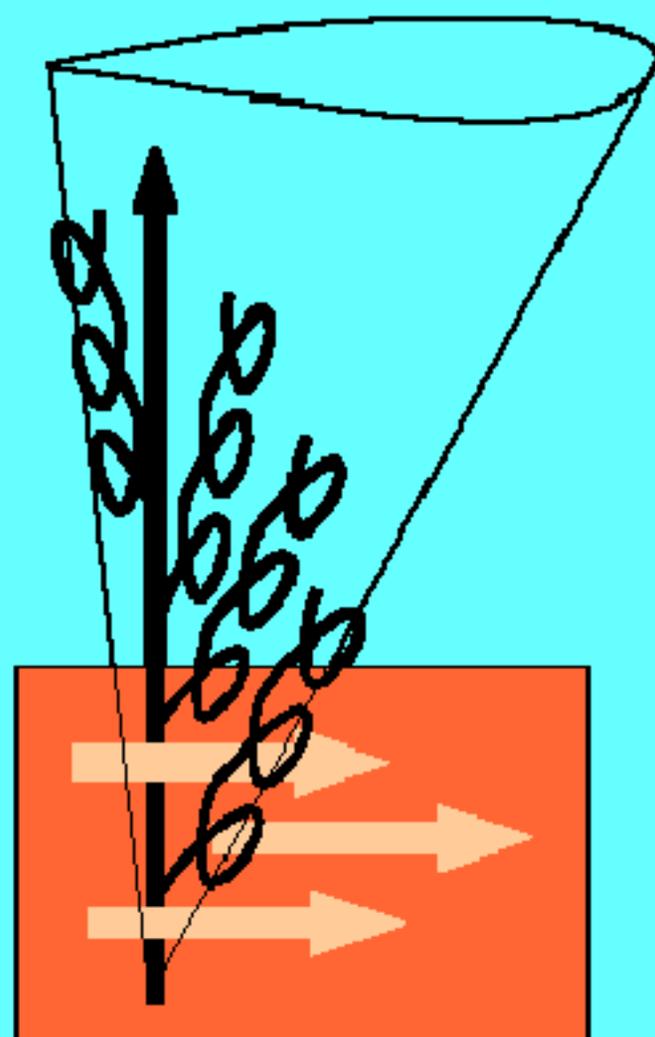
Static medium:

Broadening

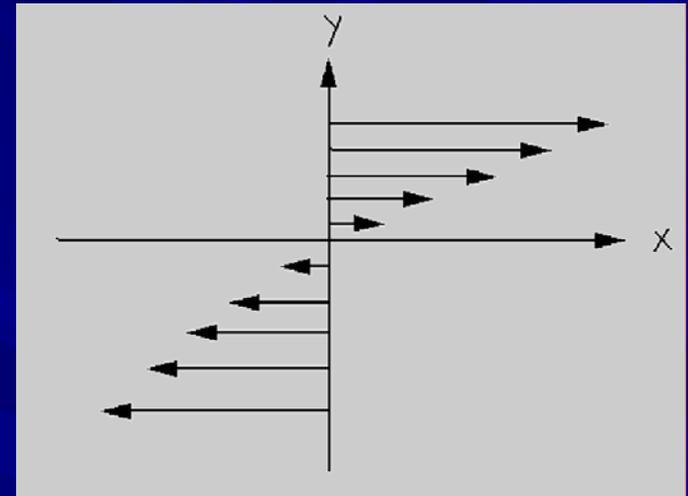


Flowing medium:

Anisotropic shape



# Viscosity



Think of a not-quite-ideal fluid:

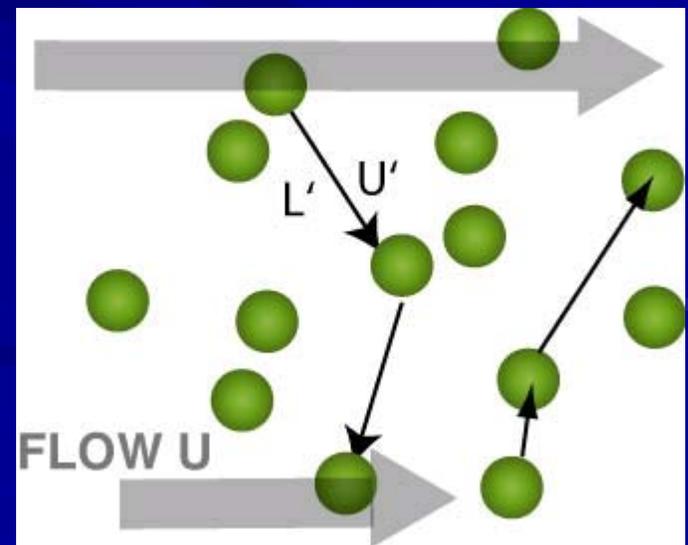
“not-quite-ideal” ≡ “supports a shear stress”

Viscosity  $\eta$  is defined

$$\frac{F_x}{A} = -\eta \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y}$$

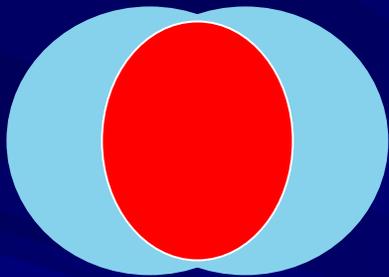
$\eta \approx (\text{momentum density}) \times (\text{mean free path})$

$$\approx n \bar{p} mfp = n \bar{p} \frac{1}{n\sigma} = \frac{\bar{p}}{\sigma}$$

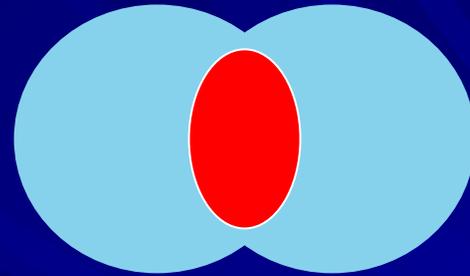


# ■ The event geometry in complicated events

- Degree of overlap

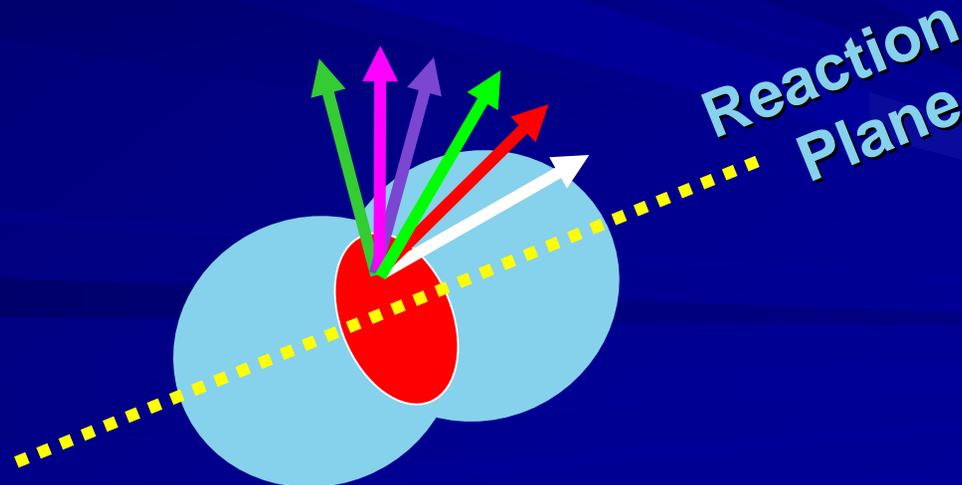


“Central”



“Peripheral”

- Orientation with respect to overlap

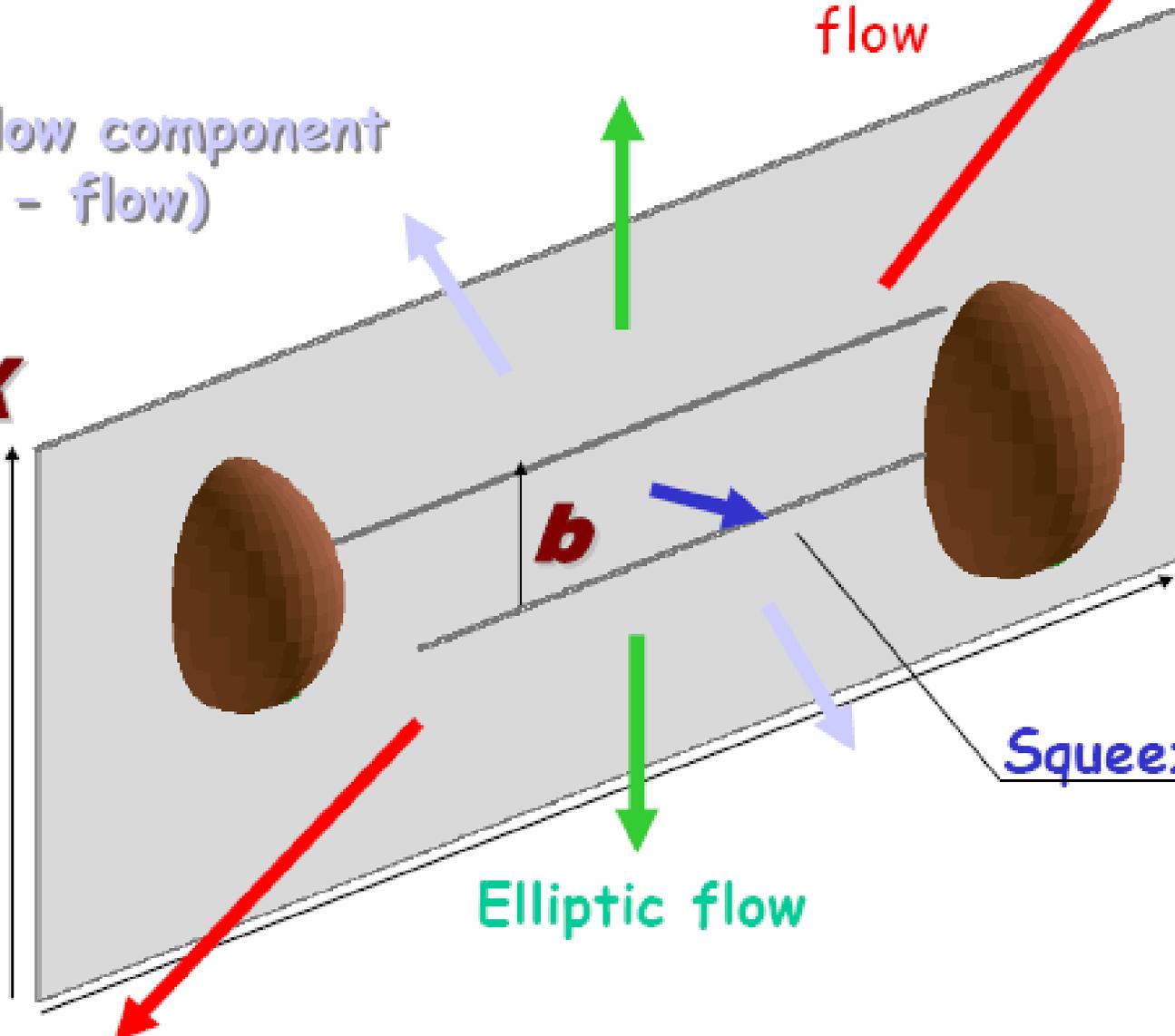


# Global Flow

Directed  
Transverse  
flow

3<sup>rd</sup> flow component  
(anti - flow)

**X**



**Z**

Squeeze out

Elliptic flow

# Types of flow in nuclear collisions

- radial flow

- driven by **pressure gradient**

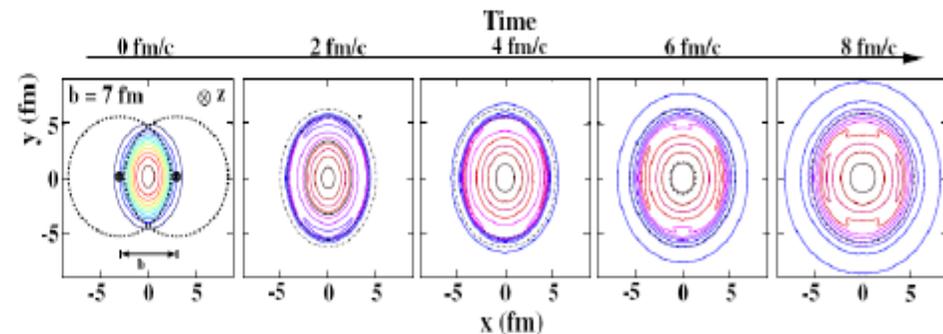
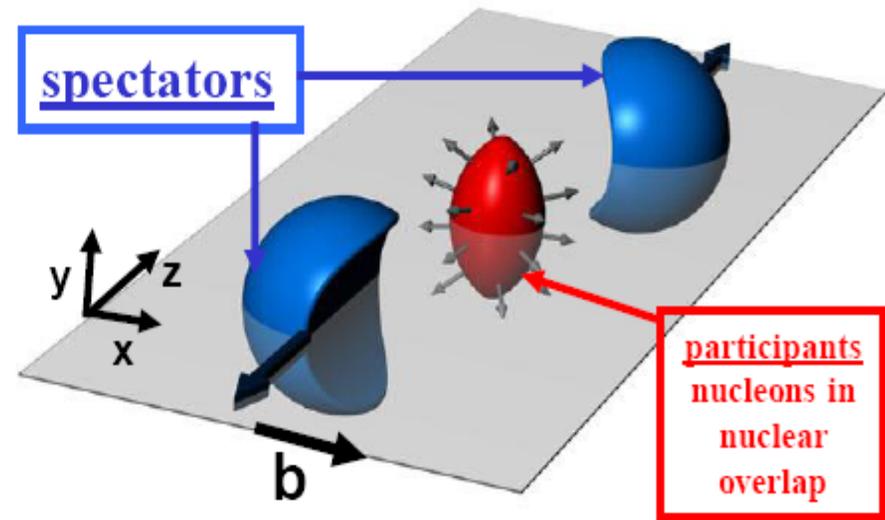
not so interesting

- increases for central collisions
- acts over **long time**
  - until freeze-out

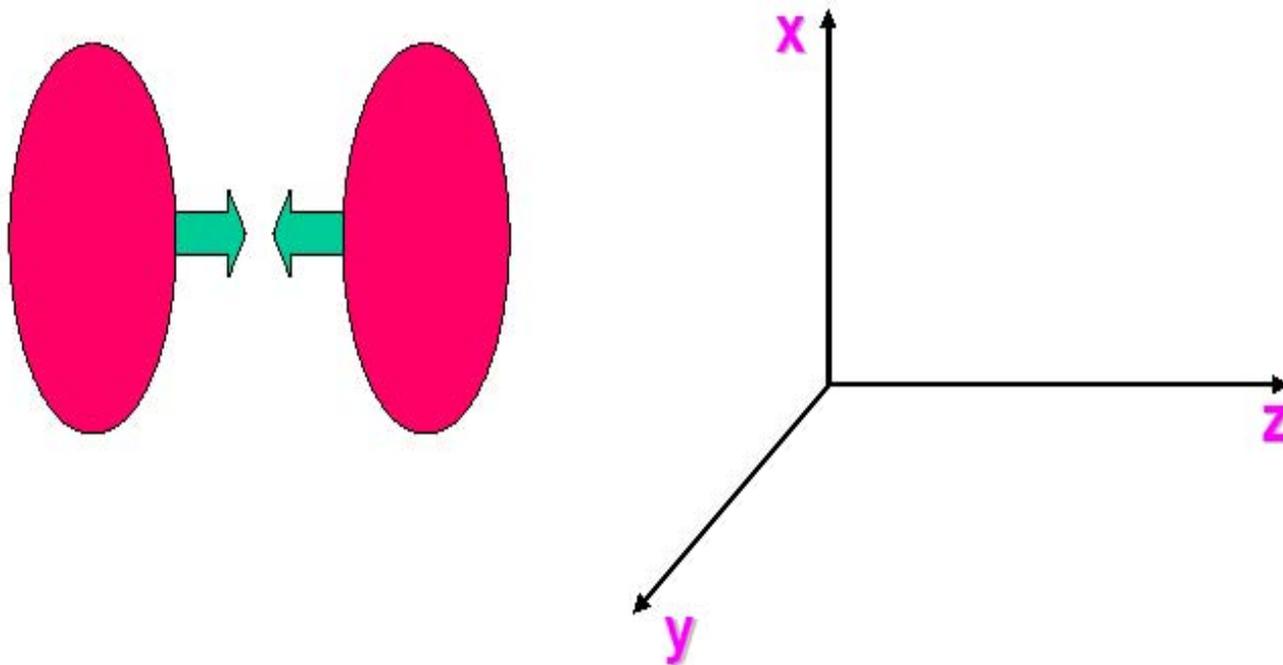
- elliptic flow **very interesting !**

- **spatial anisotropy** => pressure anisotropy

- azimuthal dependence of flow
- strong for peripheral, zero for central
- acts at **early times**
  - until anisotropy disappears

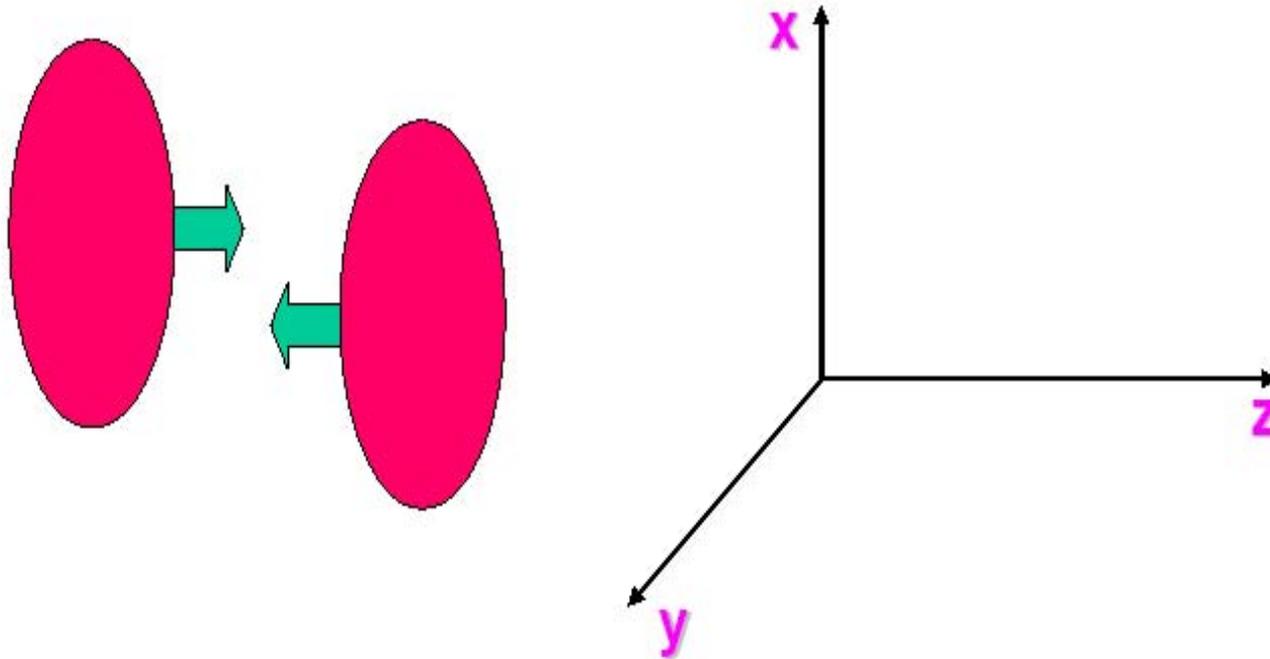


***Definitions. Central Collisions ( $b=0$ )***



**Collective Flow =**  
**Longitudinal Flow + Transverse Radial Flow**  
(isotropic)

***Definitions. Non-central Collisions ( $b > 0$ )***



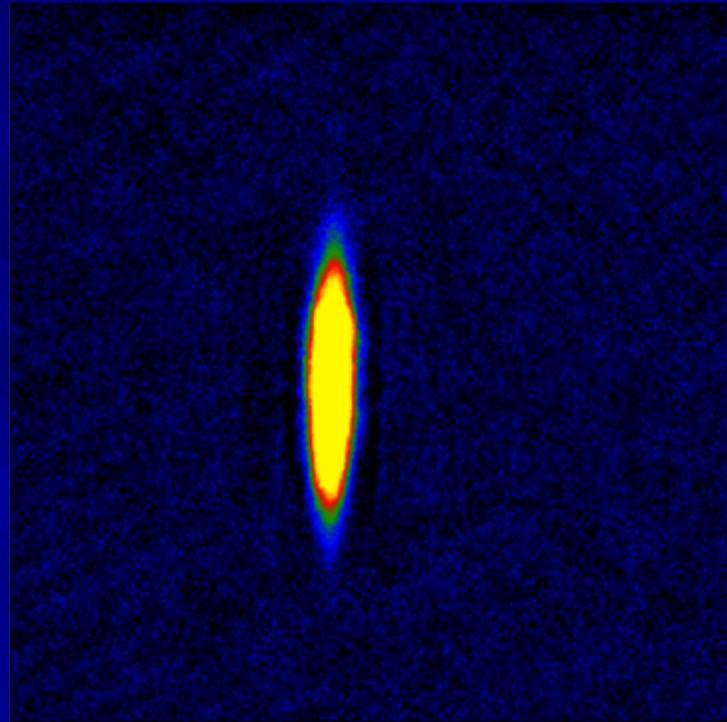
**Collective Flow = Longitudinal Flow  
+ Transverse Radial Flow (isotropic)  
+ Transverse Anisotropic Flow**

# Elliptic flow

- Due to rapid expansion along the beam axis, **an anisotropy in momentum space develops**
- **The elliptic flow is a measure of the anisotropy** for the number of particles produced with respect to  $\varphi$ .
- It arises from the elliptical shape of the overlapping region in colliding nuclei and is usually parameterized with dependencies on parameters  $v_2(p_T)$  and  $\varphi$ .
- The angular dependence is well known so elliptical flow is often used to mean the elliptic flow coefficient  $v_2(p_T)$ ,
  - a measure of “the small differences between the  $p_t$  spectra with momenta pointing into and perpendicular to the reaction plane”.

# Isotropic expansion

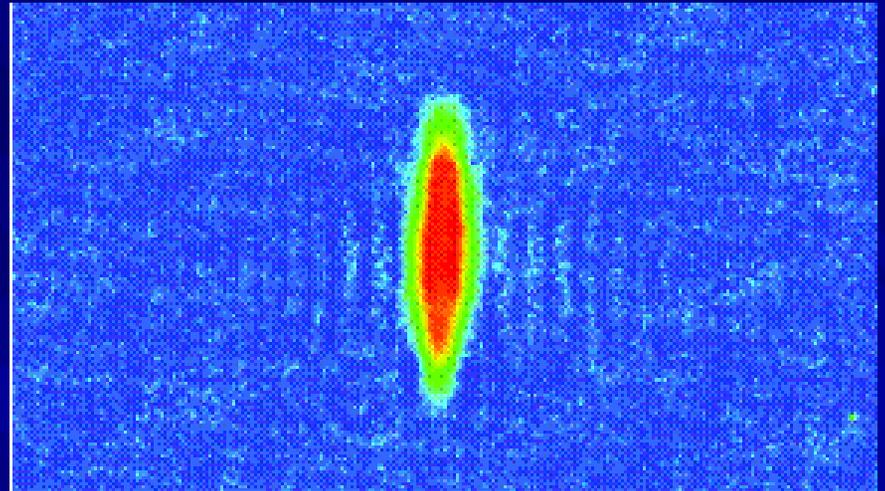
- nano-Kelvin gas of  ${}^6\text{Li}$  atoms
- magnetic trap
- small scattering length leads to viscous hydrodynamics
- isotropic expansion when trapping field dropped



Ken O'Hara (Penn. St.)

# Anisotropic expansion

- resonance tuned for large scattering length
- nearly ideal hydrodynamics
- anisotropic expansion when trapping field dropped



# Azimuthal Angular Distributions

## 1) Superposition of independent p+p:

momenta random  
relative to reaction plane



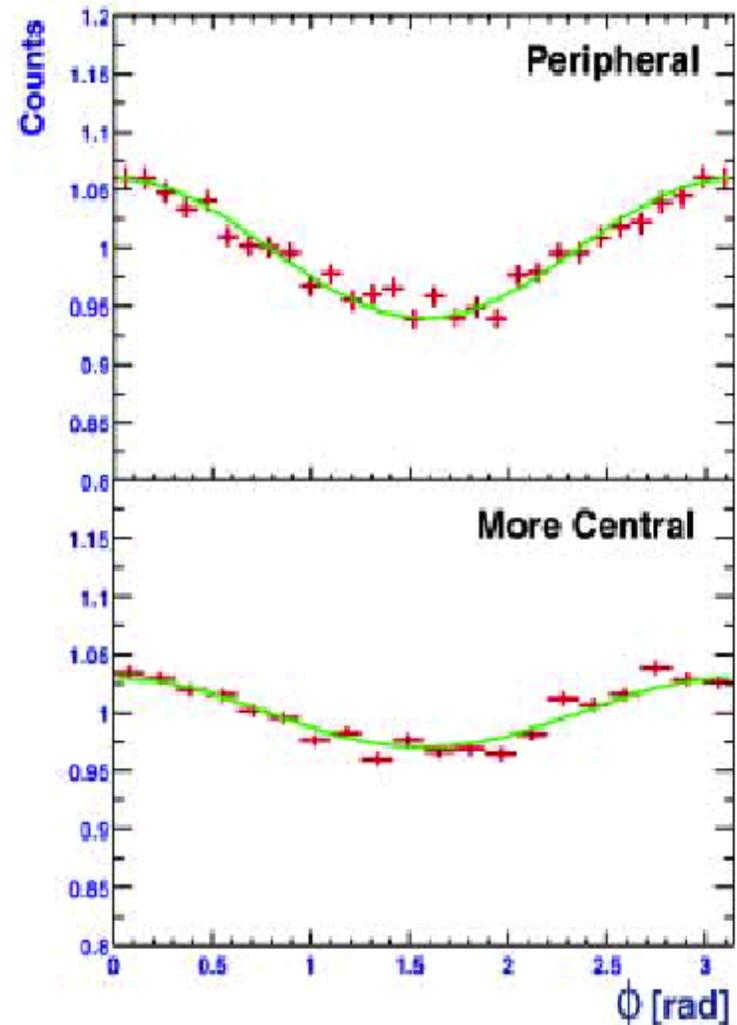
## 2) Evolution as a **bulk system**

Pressure gradients (larger in-plane)  
push bulk "out" → flow



more, faster particles  
seen in-plane

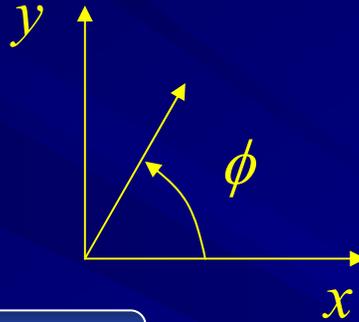
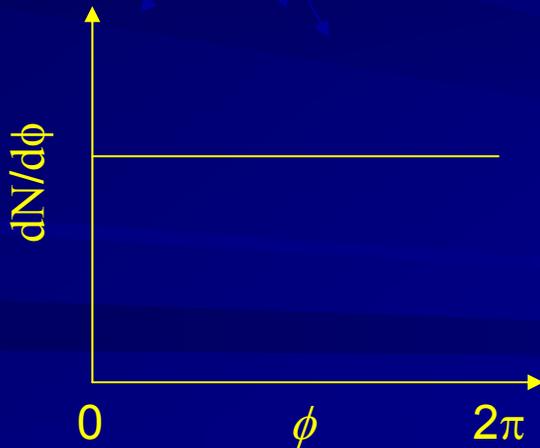
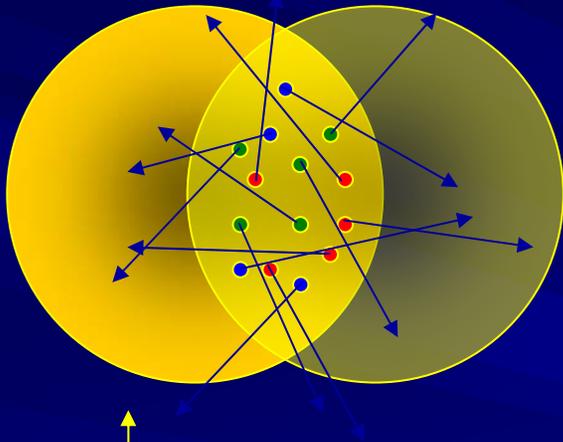
### Particle-Plane Correlation



# How does a system respond to spatial anisotropy?

No secondary interaction

$$\lambda \rightarrow \infty$$



INPUT

Spatial Anisotropy

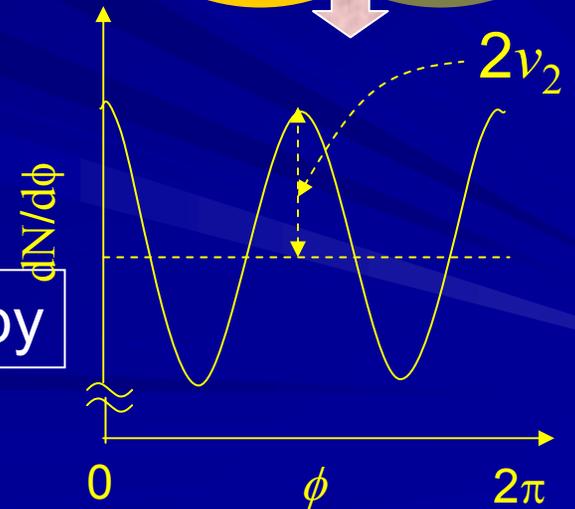
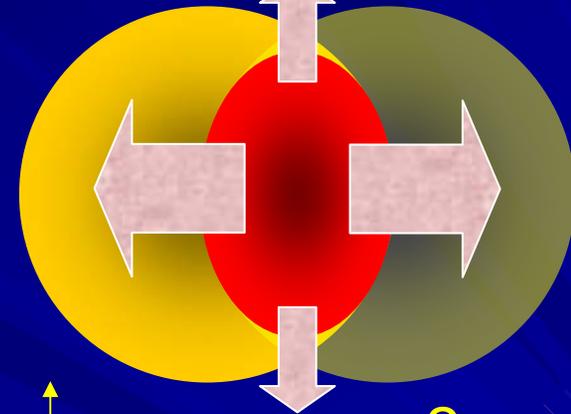
Interaction among produced particles

OUTPUT

Momentum Anisotropy

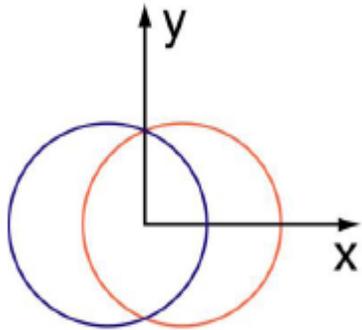
Hydro behavior

$$\lambda = 0$$

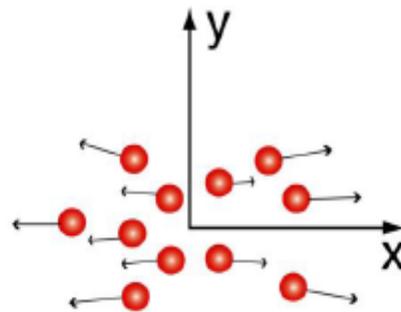


# Particle Production in the Transverse Plane

Coordinate space:  
initial asymmetry



Momentum space:  
final asymmetry



$$\frac{dN}{dp_T d\varphi} = \frac{dN}{dp_T} \left[ 1 + 2 \sum_n v_n \cos(n\varphi) \right]$$

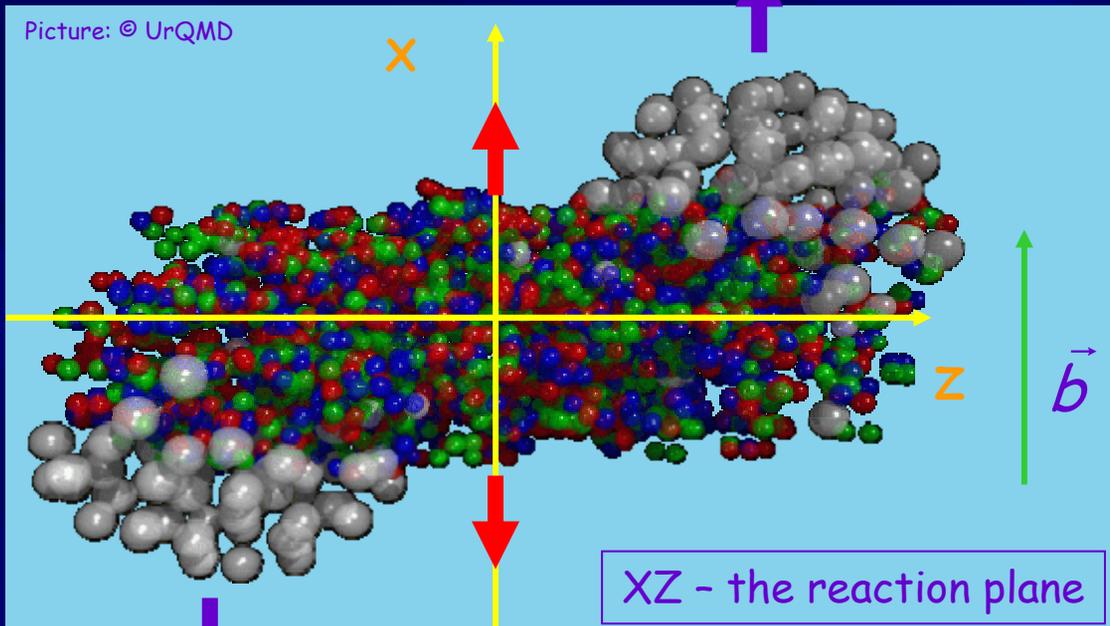
$v_2$  is the 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic Fourier coefficient of the particle distribution in the x-y plane

$$v_2 = \langle \cos 2\varphi \rangle = \left\langle \frac{p_x^2 - p_y^2}{p_x^2 + p_y^2} \right\rangle$$

Collective motion → asymmetric pressure gradients are more effective at pushing particles out along the “reaction plane” direction rather than perpendicular to it, as measured by the elliptic flow  $v_2$

Large  $v_2$  is an indication of early thermalization

# The coefficients $v_1$ and $v_2$



$$v_1 = \left\langle \frac{p_x}{p_t} \right\rangle = \langle \cos(\phi - \Phi_R) \rangle$$

$$v_2 = \left\langle \left( \frac{p_x^2}{p_t^2} - \frac{p_y^2}{p_t^2} \right) \right\rangle = \langle \cos 2(\phi - \Phi_R) \rangle$$

$$p_t = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{p_y}{p_x}$$

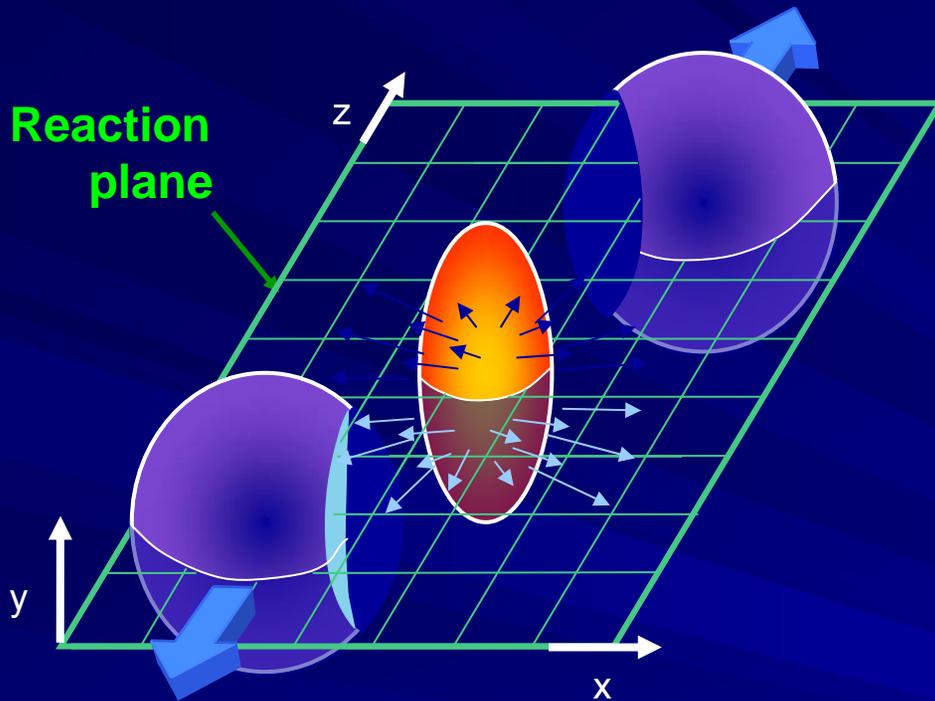
Anisotropic flow  $\equiv$  correlations with respect to the reaction plane

$$\frac{d^3 N}{dp_t dy d\phi} = \frac{d^2 N}{dp_t dy} \frac{1}{2\pi} (1 + 2v_1 \cos(\phi) + 2v_2 \cos(2\phi) + \dots)$$

Directed flow

Elliptic flow

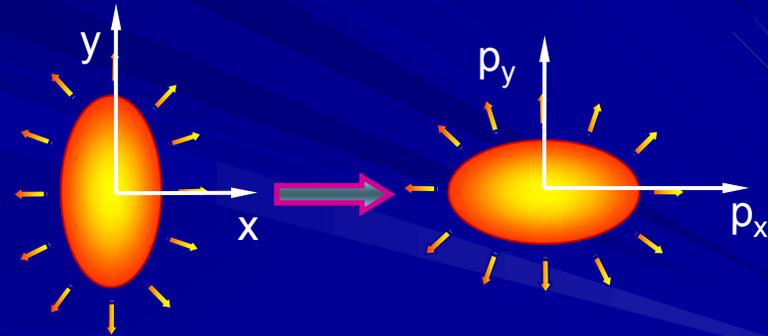
# Collision Geometry: Elliptic Flow



## elliptic flow ( $v_2$ ):

- gradients of almond-shaped surface will lead to preferential emission in the reaction plane
- asymmetry out- vs. in-plane emission is quantified by 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourier coefficient of angular distribution:  $v_2$
- calculable with fluid-dynamics

- The application of fluid-dynamics implies that the medium is in local thermal equilibrium!
- Note that fluid-dynamics cannot make any statements how the medium reached the equilibrium stage...



# Hydrodynamics

(for further reading)

## **Ultrarelativistic Heavy Ion Collisions**

Author: Ramona Vogt

Elsevier (2007)

## **Hydrodynamic Models for Heavy Ion Collisions**

Authors: P. Huovien, P.V. Ruuskanen

An invited review for Nov. 2006 edition of Annual Review of Nuclear and Particle Physics; nucl-th/0605008

## **Hydrodynamic Approaches to Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions**

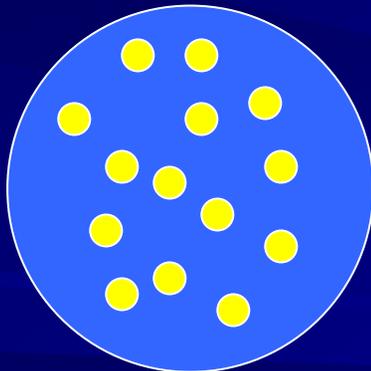
Author: Tetsufumi Hirano, invited talk given at XXXIV

International Symposium on Multiparticle Dynamics, Sonoma, USA, July 26 - August 1, 2004

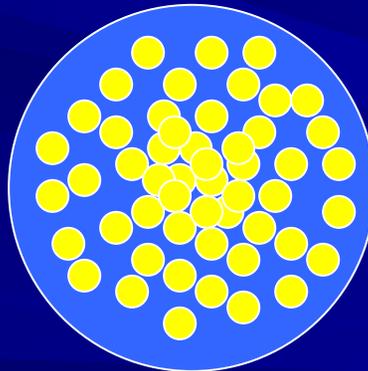
Journal-ref: Acta Phys.Polon. B36 (2005) 187-194; nucl-th/0410017

# Percolation

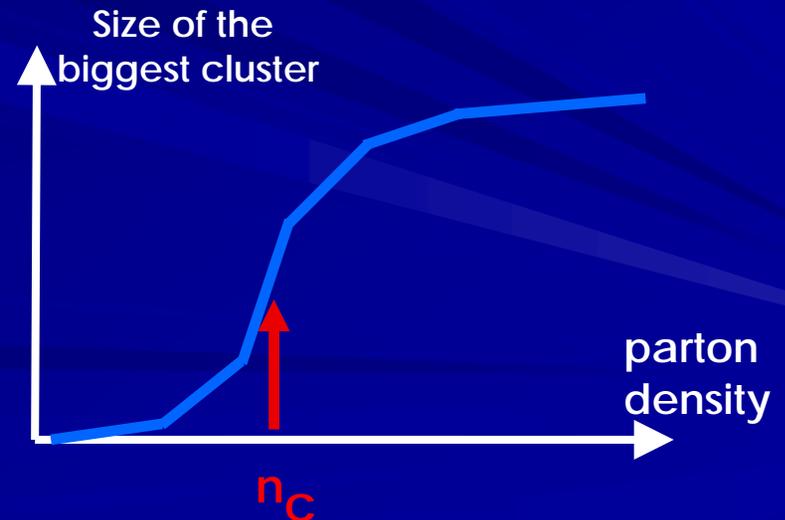
- Parton percolation is a geometric, pre-equilibrium form of deconfinement
- an essential prerequisite for QGP production is cross-talk between the partons from different nucleons



Low parton density

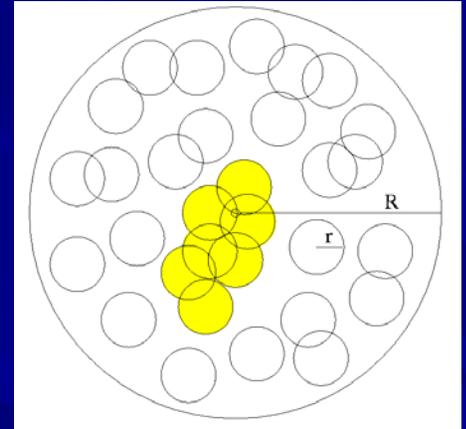


High parton density



# Percolation Model: geometrical transition

- ❑ In Central collisions nucleons undergo several interactions and, since each collision establishes a string, we will obtain a spaghetti like of intertwined overlapping QCD strings.
- ❑ Deconfinement is expected when there is enough interconnecting between nucleons.
- ❑ Deconfinement is a function of string size (QCD) and deconfinement string density



H. Satz, M. Nardi

# Parton Percolation in Nuclear Collisions

- large-scale interconnected system
- partons lose independent existences, knowledge of origin
- onset of color deconfinement
- prerequisite for later thermalization, QGP formation

## Deconfinement and Hadron Percolation

Consider hadrons as spheres of radius  $r_h \simeq 0.8$  fm

percolation occurs for density  $n_c = \frac{0.34}{(4\pi/3)r_h^3} \simeq 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

$\Rightarrow$  formation of hadronic matter

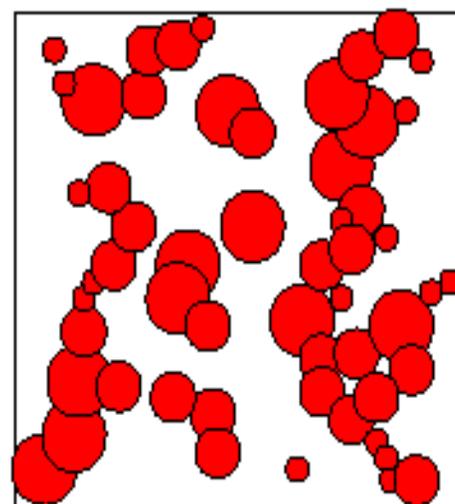
for  $n \leq n_c$ : only isolated hadrons, clusters

for  $n = n_c$ : connected hadronic medium

31 % hadronic clusters

69 % empty space

for  $n \geq n_c$ : both “media” percolate



When does the percolating vacuum disappear? Or, starting from high density side, when does vacuum first percolate?

Percolation condition for

“hadronic size” vacuum bubbles  $\bar{n}_c = \frac{1.24}{(4\pi/3)r_h^3} \simeq 0.58 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

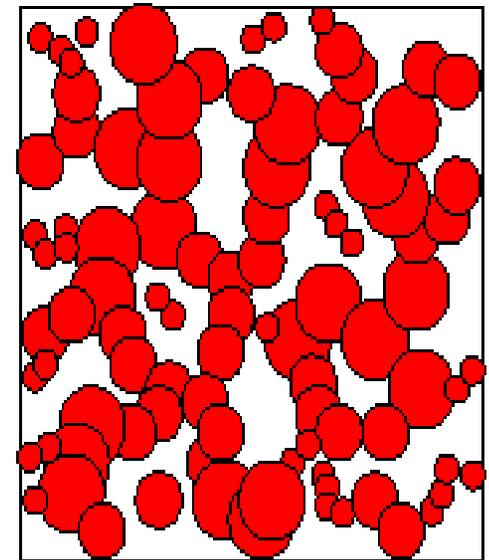
for  $n = \bar{n}_c$ : end of connected vacuum

69 % hadronic clusters

31 % empty space

for  $n \geq \bar{n}_c$ : only isolated vacuum bubbles

in dense interacting matter



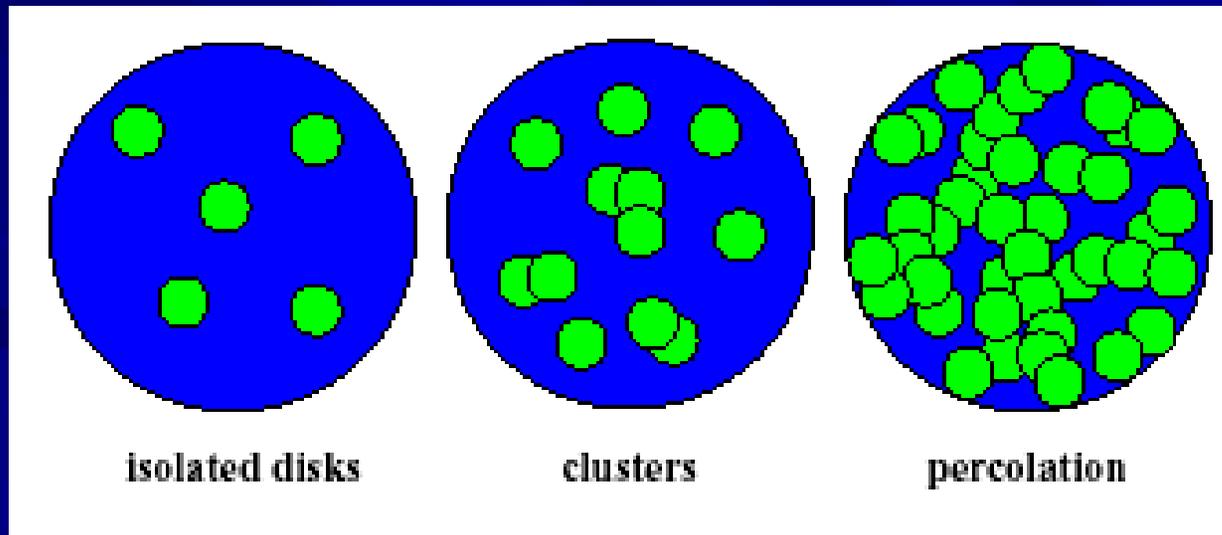
Deconfinement as percolation:

when a hadronic medium becomes so dense that only isolated vacuum bubbles survive, then it becomes a quark-gluon plasma

# Deconfinement and coalescence

## Believe that

- there is a very good chance that the effect of the light nuclei emission in heavy ion collisions may be one of the accompanying effects of percolation cluster formation and decay.
- that light nuclei could be formed as a result of coalescence mechanism.

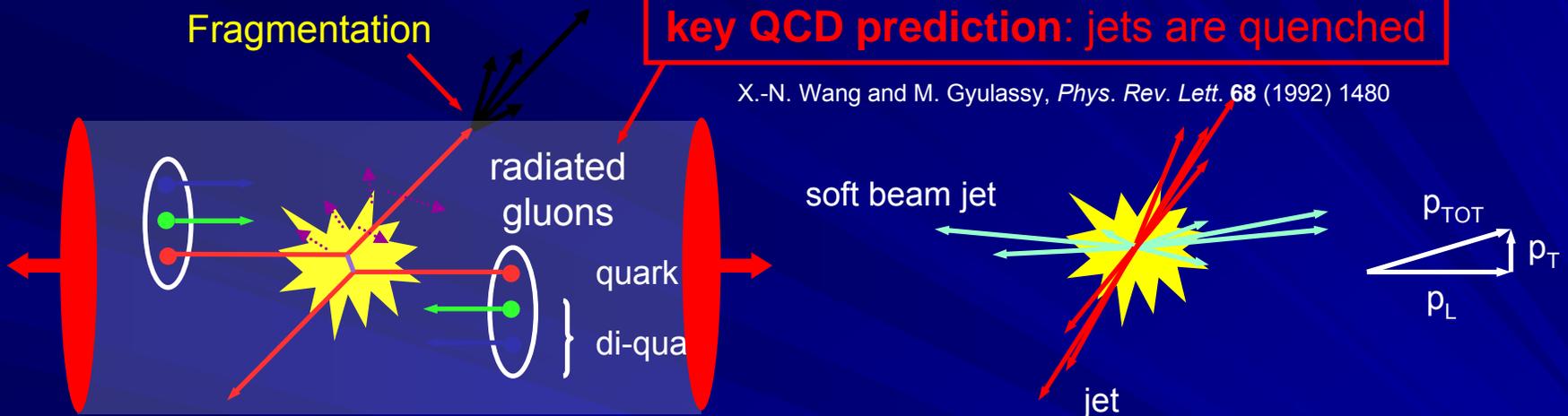


# Jets in heavy ion collisions

## ■ Studying deconfinement with jets

key QCD prediction: jets are quenched

X.-N. Wang and M. Gyulassy, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **68** (1992) 1480



Interaction at the quark (parton) level

The same interaction at the hadron level

### • Models of jet suppression

Various approaches; main points:

$\Delta E_{med}$  is independent of parton energy.

$\Delta E_{med}$  depends on length of medium,  $L$ .

$\Delta E_{med}$  gives access to gluon density  $dN_g/dy$  or transport coefficient

Leads to a deficit of high  $p_t$  hadrons compared to p+p collisions (no medium).

Multiple soft scattering: Weidemann et al.  
Opacity expansion: Gyulassy et al.  
Twist expansion: Wang et al.

$$\hat{q} = \frac{\langle k_T^2 \rangle}{\lambda}$$

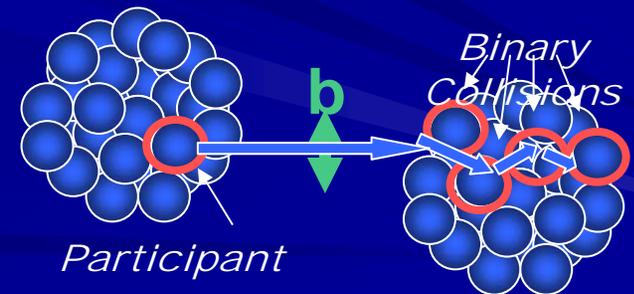
# Jet Suppr. - Nuclear Modification Factor

- We can study jet suppression using leading hadrons
- We define a nuclear modification factor,  $R_{AA}$ , in terms of the ratio of the  $p_t$  spectra in nucleus-nucleus collisions divided by the  $p_t$  spectra in p+p collisions

$$R_{AA} = \frac{1}{T_{AB}} \frac{dN_{AA} / d\eta d^2 p_t}{dN_{pp} / d\eta d^2 p_t} \quad T_{AA} = \langle N_{bin} \rangle / \sigma_{inelastic}^{pp}$$

- We also define a nuclear modification factor,  $R_{CP}$ , in terms of the ratio of the  $p_t$  spectra in central nucleus-nucleus collisions divided by the  $p_t$  spectra in peripheral nucleus-nucleus collisions

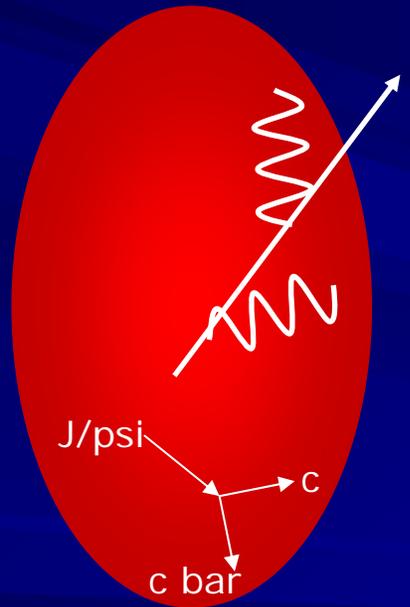
$$R_{CP} = \frac{(d^2 N / d\eta dp_t / N_{bin})_{central}}{(d^2 N / d\eta dp_t / N_{bin})_{peripheral}}$$



- With binary scaling, these factors as a function of  $p_t$  are =1

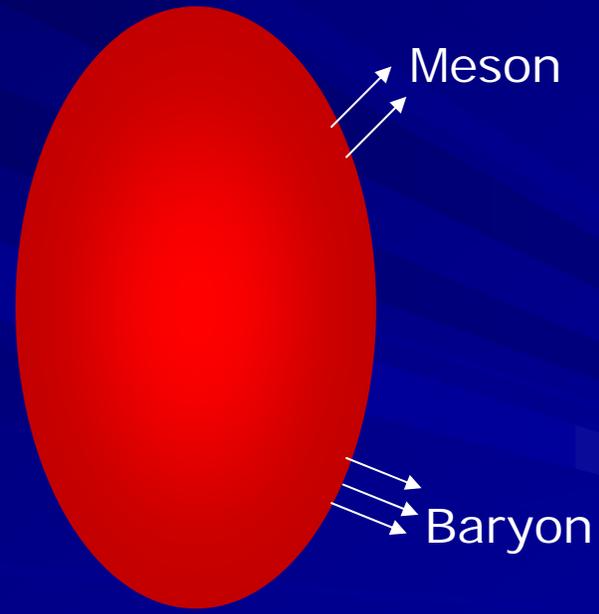
# Utilization of Hydro Results

Jet quenching  
J/psi suppression  
Heavy quark diffusion



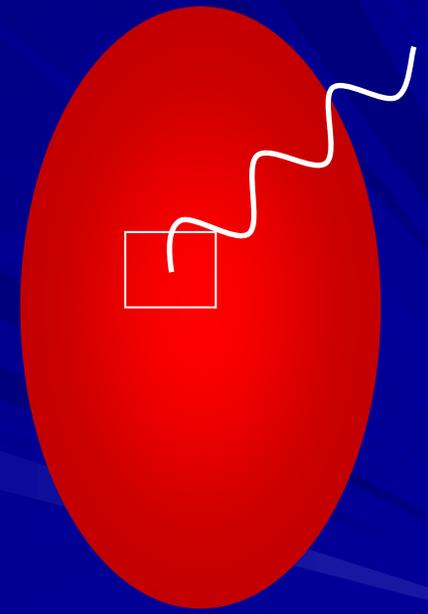
Information  
along a path

Recombination  
Coalescence



Information  
on surface

Thermal  
radiation  
(photon/dilepton)



Information  
inside medium

- Using transparency function the rate of yields can be calculated

$$R = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$$

(here e.g.  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  could be heavy flavor particles yields with fixed values of  $\sqrt{s}$  and  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ) as a function of centrality, the masses and energy, it is expected to get the necessary information on the properties of the nuclear matter.

- With percolation model and experimental data on the behaviour of the nuclear modification factors it is possible to get information on the appearance of the anomalous nuclear transparency as a signal of formation of the percolation cluster.

# @ RHIC

- Deconfined phase is showing unexpected properties
- New phenomena, new probes:
  - jet tomography
  - collective motion
  - b-quarkonia could be a useful probe
- Initial quanta: Color Glass Condensate?
- A very dense, fluid phase: strongly interacting Quarks and Gluons?
- Which excitations populate the QG Liquid?

# High energy limit of QCD

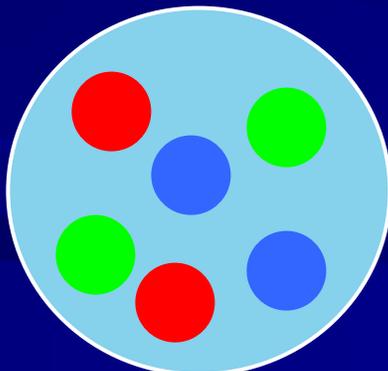
A universal form of matter at high energy

⇒ **Color Glass Condensate (CGC)** !!

Gluons have "color"

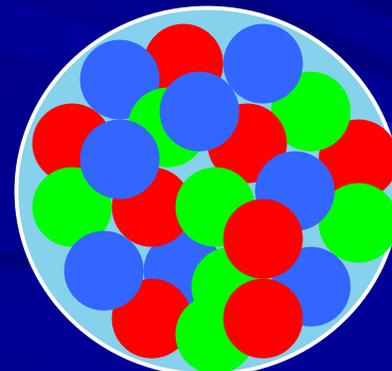
created from "frozen" random color source, that evolves slowly compared to natural time scale

High density !  
occupation number  $\sim 1/\alpha_s$  at saturation



Dilute gas

higher energy



CGC: high density gluons

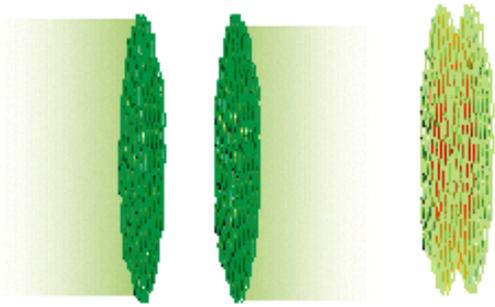
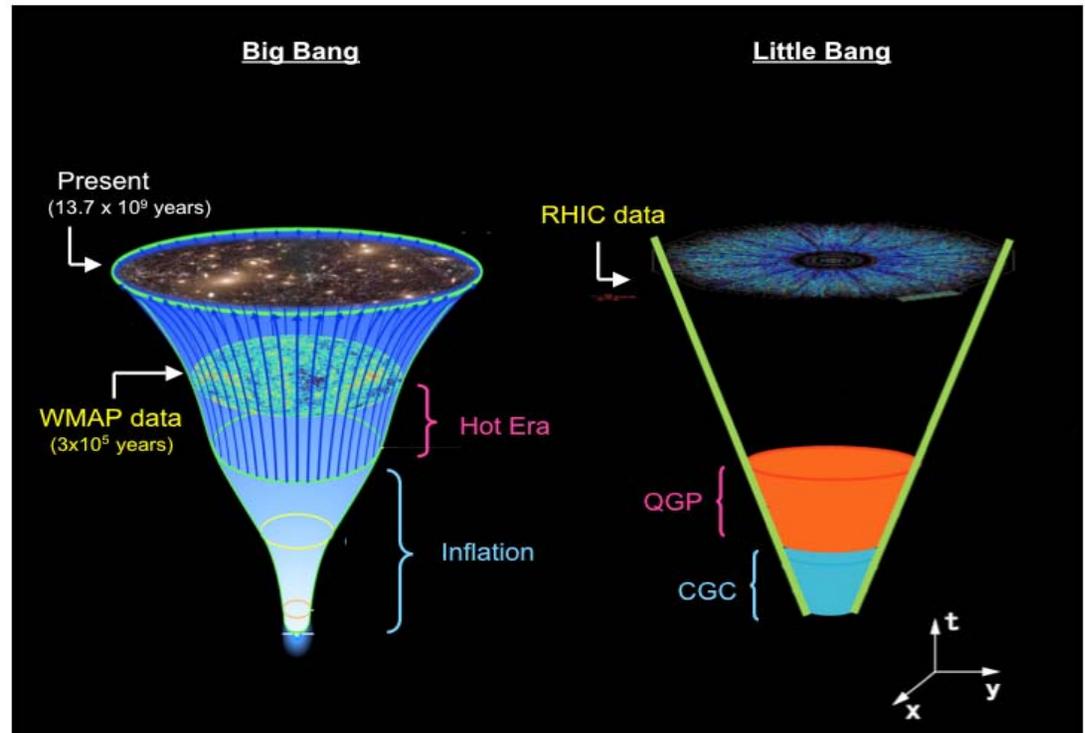
# The Color Glass Condensate and Glasma

What is the high energy limit of QCD?

What are the possible form of high energy density matter?

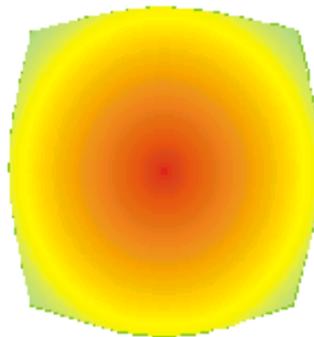
How do quarks and gluons originate in strongly interacting particles?

Art due to Hatsuda and S. Bass

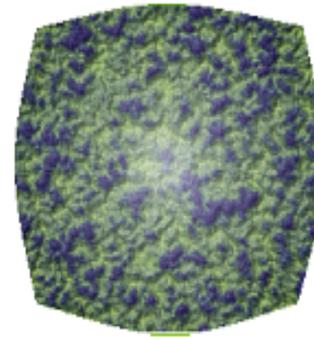


CGC

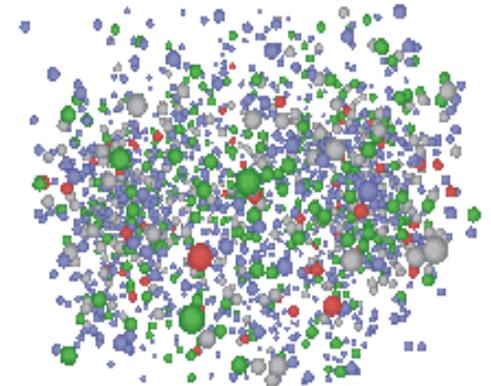
Initial Singularity



Glasma



sQGP



Hadron Gas

*Thank You*

# Extra Slides

# High $p_T$ Particle Production

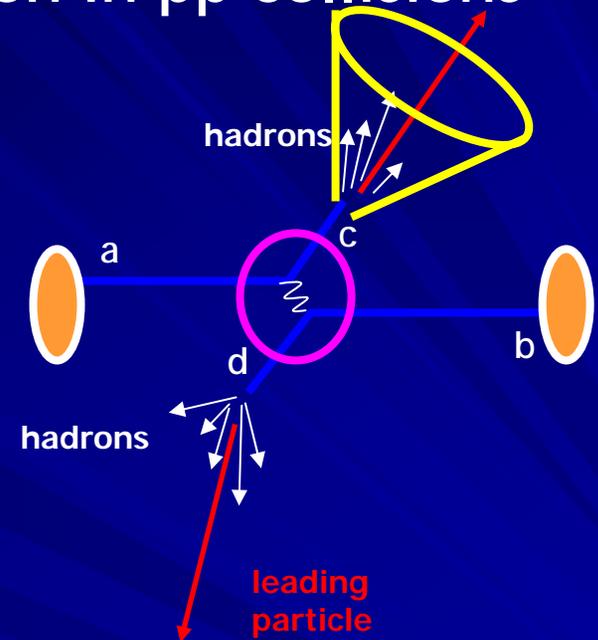
High  $p_T$  ( $\geq 2.0$  GeV/c) hadron production in pp collisions

Jet: A localized collection of hadrons which come from a fragmenting parton

Parton Distribution Functions

Hard-scattering cross-section

Fragmentation Function



$p_{had} = z p_c$ ,  $z < 1$  energy needed to create quarks from vacuum

$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp}^h}{dy d^2 p_T} = K \sum_{abcd} \int dx_a dx_b f_a(x_a, Q^2) f_b(x_b, Q^2) \frac{d\sigma}{d\hat{t}}(ab \rightarrow cd) \frac{D_{h/c}^0}{\pi z_c}$$

*"Collinear factorization"*

# High $p_T$ Particle Production in A+A

$$\frac{dN_{AB}^h}{dy d^2 p_T} = ABK \sum_{abcd} \int dx_a dx_b \int d^2 \mathbf{k}_a d^2 \mathbf{k}_b$$

$$p_c^* = p_c(1 - \varepsilon)$$

$$z_c^* = z_c / (1 - \varepsilon)$$

$$\otimes f_{a/A}(x_a, Q^2) f_{b/B}(x_b, Q^2)$$

Parton Distribution Functions

$$\otimes g(\mathbf{k}_a) g(\mathbf{k}_b)$$

Known from pp and pA  
 Intrinsic  $k_T$ , Cronin Effect  
 Shadowing, EMC Effect

$$\otimes S_A(x_a, Q_a^2) S_B(x_b, Q_b^2)$$

$$\otimes \frac{d\sigma}{d\hat{t}}(ab \rightarrow cd)$$

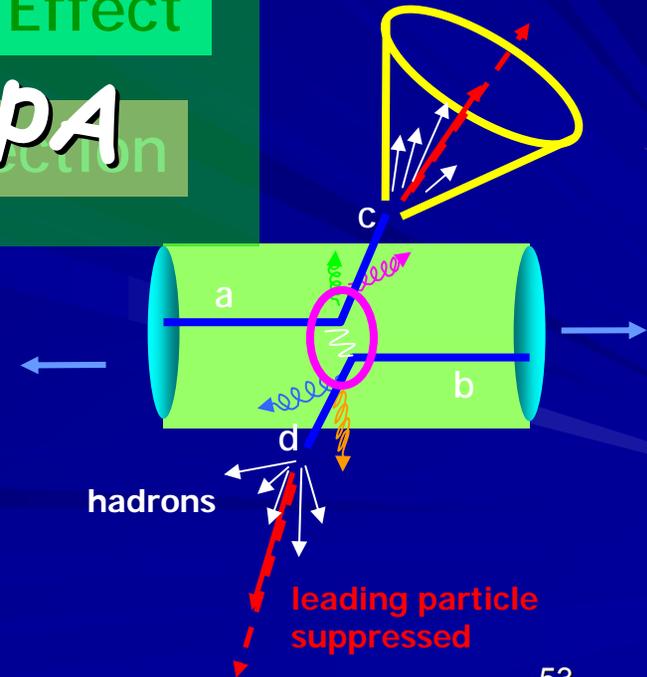
Hard-scattering cross-section

$$\otimes \int_0^1 d\varepsilon P(\varepsilon) \frac{z_c^*}{z_c}$$

Partonic Energy Loss

$$\otimes \frac{D_{h/c}^0(z_c^*, Q_c^2)}{\pi z_c}$$

Fragmentation Function

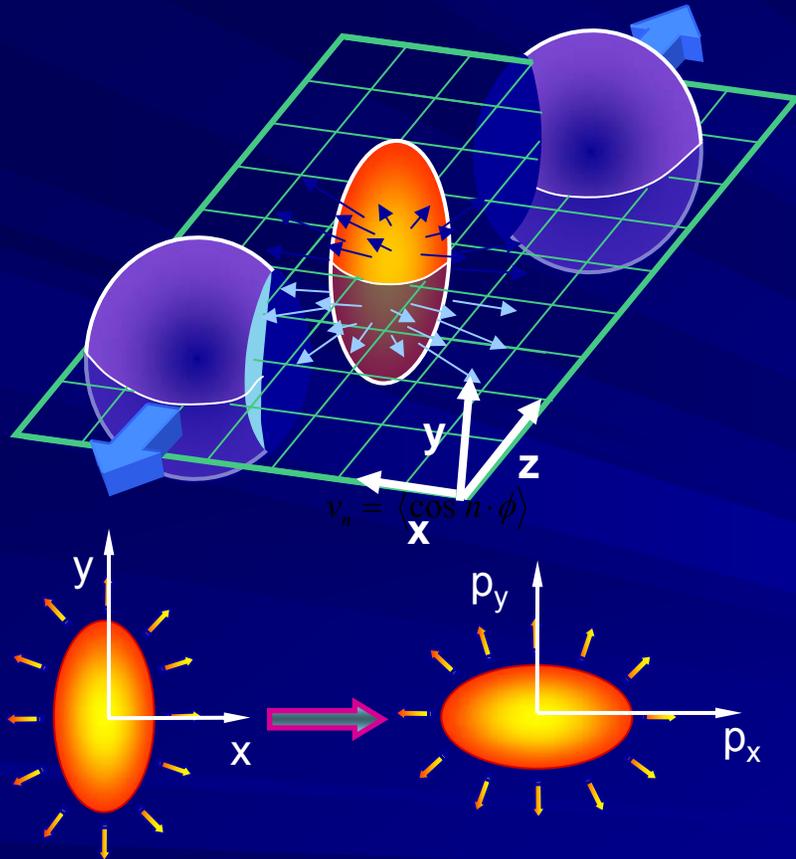


- Expect to get a result which would demonstrate the changing of absorption properties of medium depending on the kinematical characteristics of heavy particles.
- A comparison of yields in different ion systems by using nuclear modification factors such as  $R_{CP}$  (involving Central and Peripheral collisions) should provide information on hadronization.
- $R_{CP}$  highlights the particle type dependence at intermediate  $p_T$  as suggested by coalescence models -- hadrons result from the coalescence of quarks in the dense medium.
- At high  $p_T$ , jet fragmentation becomes the dominant process to explain the hadron formation.
- Thus, the quark constituents may be the relevant degrees of freedom for the description of the collision.

# $p_t$ limit for hydrodynamics

- Particles with very large transverse momenta (jets) are never expected to suffer sufficiently many interactions with the fireball medium to fully thermalize before escaping; hence a hydrodynamic approach can never work at very high  $p_t$ .
- However, we can turn this inescapable failure of hydrodynamics in small collision systems and at high  $p$  to our favour □ :  
since ideal fluid dynamics appears to work well in near-central collisions, and at low  $p_t \leq 1.5\text{-}2 \text{ GeV}/c$  (...),  
we can study its gradual breakdown at larger impact parameters, rapidities and transverse momenta  
in order to learn something about the mechanisms for the approach to thermal equilibrium at the beginning of the collision  
and the decay of thermal equilibrium near the end of the expansion stage,  
Hence about the transport properties of the early quark–gluon plasma and the late hadron resonance gas created in these collisions.
- Breakdown also consistent with the expected behavior of  $v_2$  with varying shear viscosity.

# Elliptic flow



- Look at non-central collisions
- Overlap region is not symmetric in coordinate space
- Almond shaped overlap region
  - Larger pressure gradient in x-z plane than in y direction
- Spatial anisotropy  $\rightarrow$  momentum anisotropy
  - Process quenches itself  $\rightarrow$  sensitive to early time in the evolution of the system
  - Sensitive to the equation of state
- Perform a Fourier decomposition of the momentum space particle distributions in the x-y plane
  - $v_n$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  harmonic Fourier coefficient of the distribution of particles with respect to the reaction plane
    - $v_1$ : directed flow
    - $v_2$ : elliptic flow