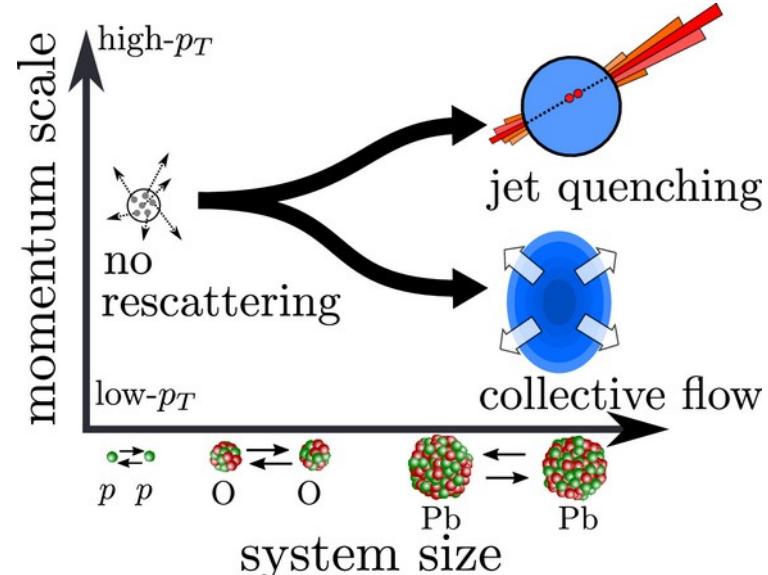


# Many-body phenomena in quantum systems

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Institute for Theoretical Physics, Heidelberg University

December 06, 2024 KHuK Jahrestagung



[aleksas.eu](http://aleksas.eu)

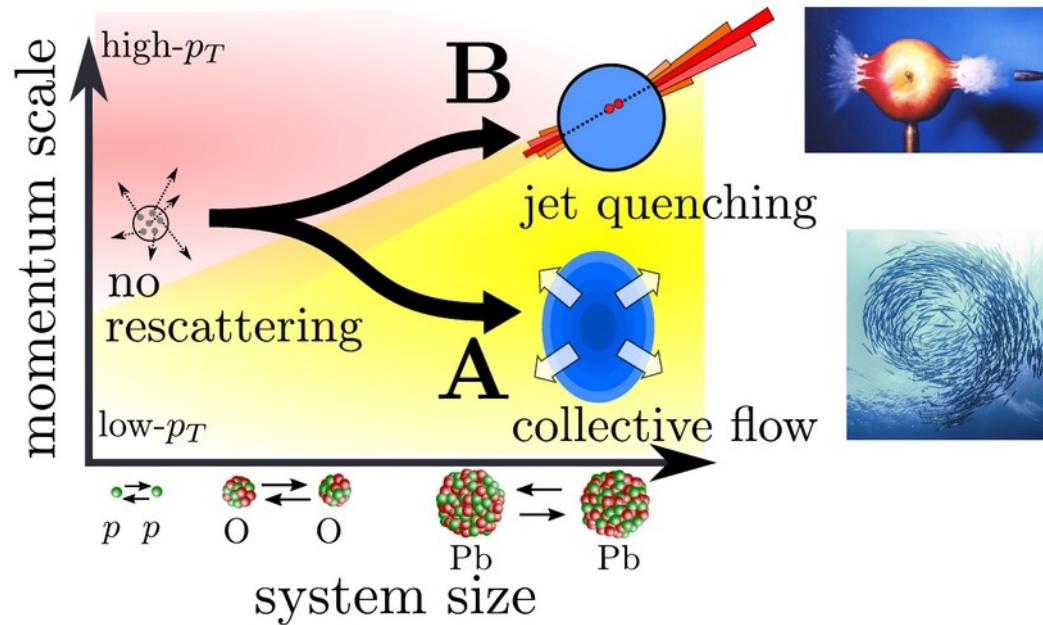


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[www.isoquant-heidelberg.de](http://www.isoquant-heidelberg.de)

# Many-body QCD phenomena



2022-2028



## Main research directions:

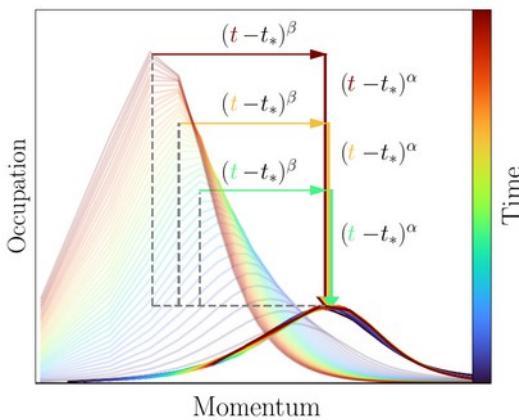
- A Uncovering origins of collectivity in small systems.
- B Discovering energy loss effects in small systems.

Postdoc opening: <https://inspirehep.net/jobs/2846988>

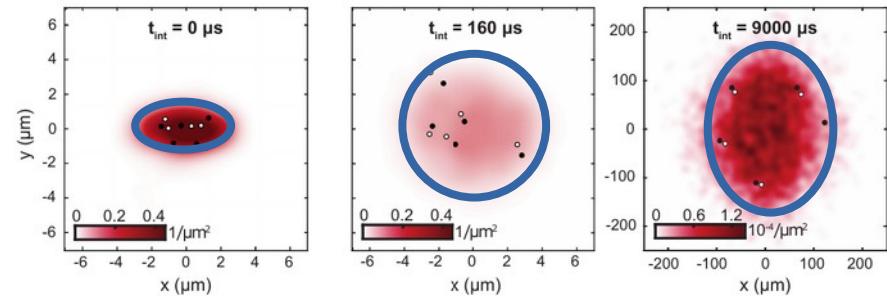
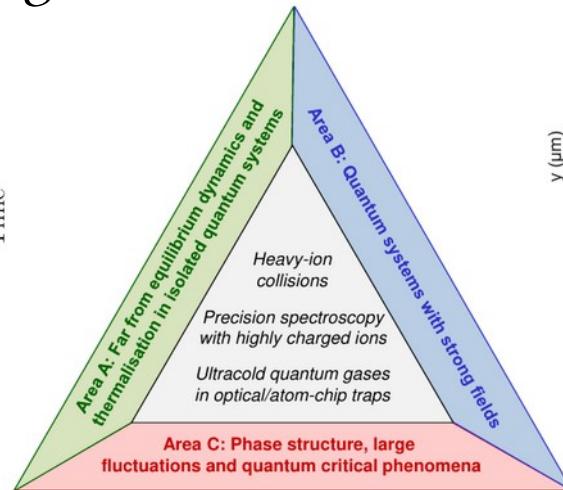
# Isolated quantum systems in extreme conditions

Jochim lab, 2308.09699

## Self-similar scaling of gluons



Heller, AM, Preis, PRL (2024)



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## Projects:

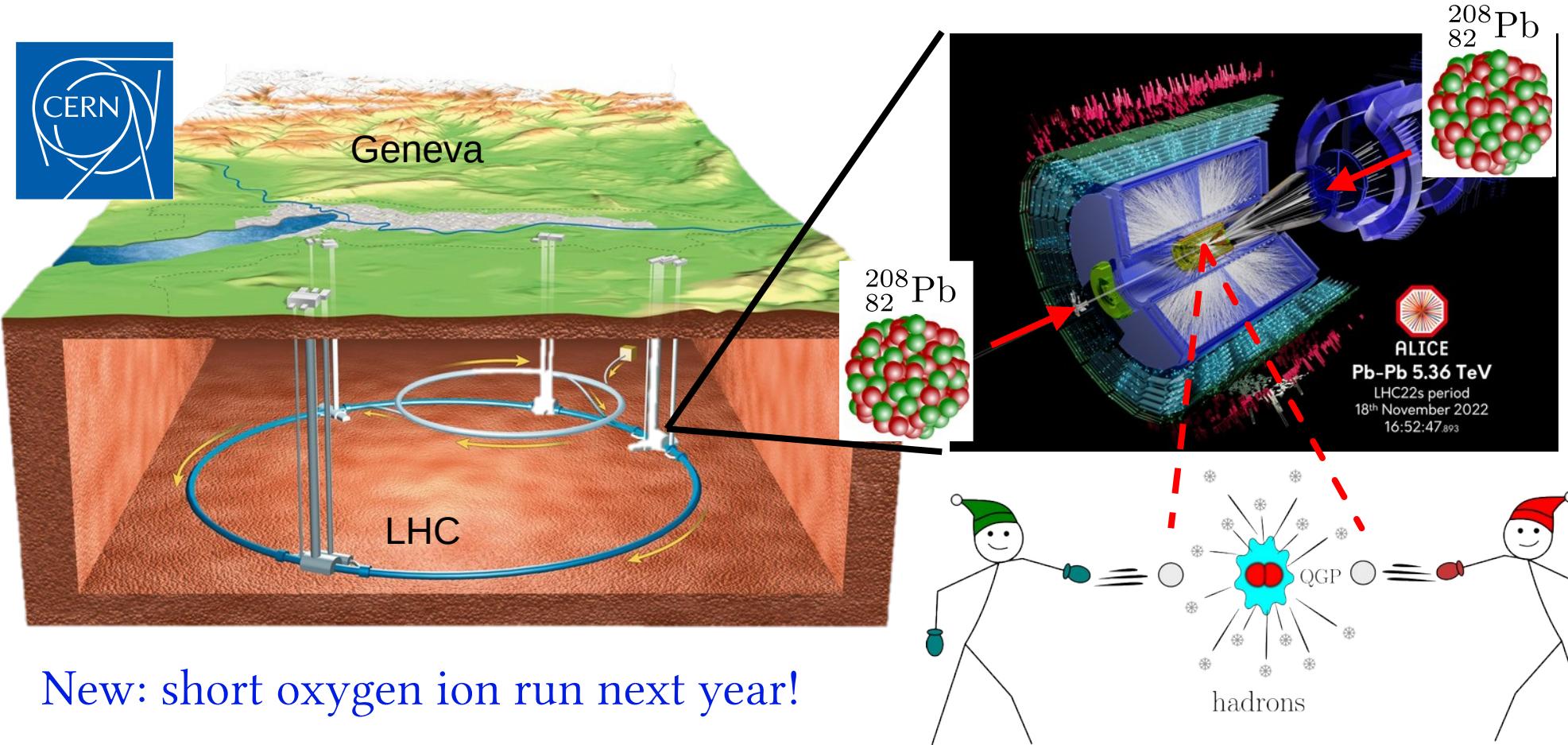
A01 Scaling and attractor phenomena

ABC Collectivity with few ultracold fermionic atoms



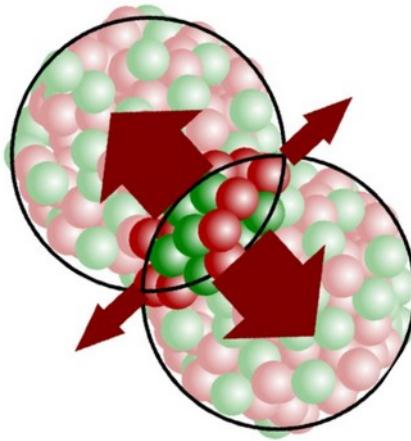
# QCD thermalisation

# Ion collisions at the Large Hadron Collider

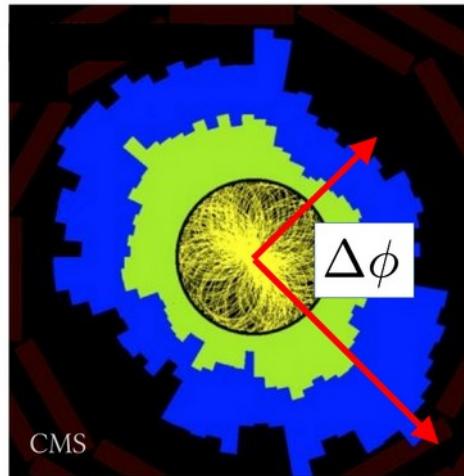


# Collective phenomena in nuclear collisions

Elliptic flow



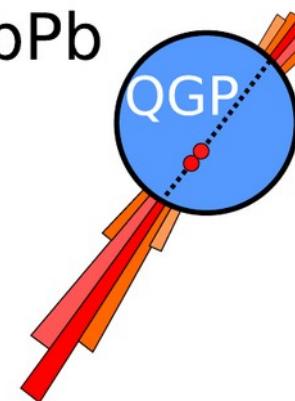
hydro expansion



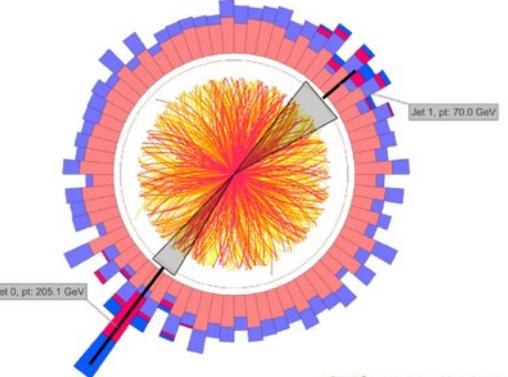
Elliptic flow

Jet quenching

PbPb



path length



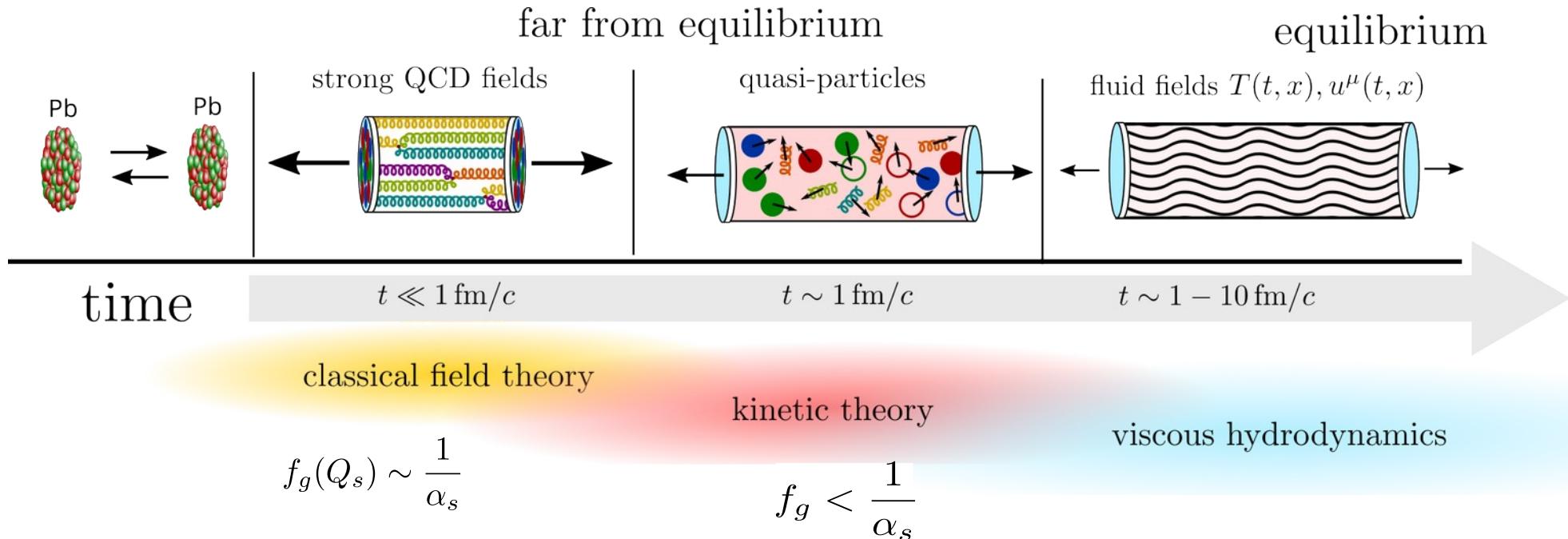
CMS event displays

Strong experimental evidence for QCD medium created in heavy ion collisions

# QCD thermalisation

Berges, Heller, AM, Venugopalan RMP (2021)

High-energy limit  $\alpha_s \ll 1$  of QCD



QCD effective kinetic theory – bridge between initial state and equilibrium.

# QCD effective kinetic theory

Arnold, Moore, Yaffe JHEP (2003)

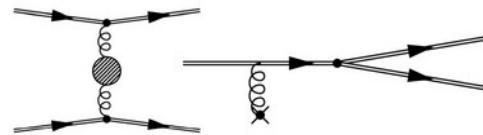
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \bar{q} (i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - m) q - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu}$$

2-point correlations → phase-space distribution of quarks and gluons

$$\partial_t f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|p|} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) = -\mathcal{C}_{2 \leftrightarrow 2}[f] - \mathcal{C}_{1 \leftrightarrow 2}[f]$$

Leading order processes:

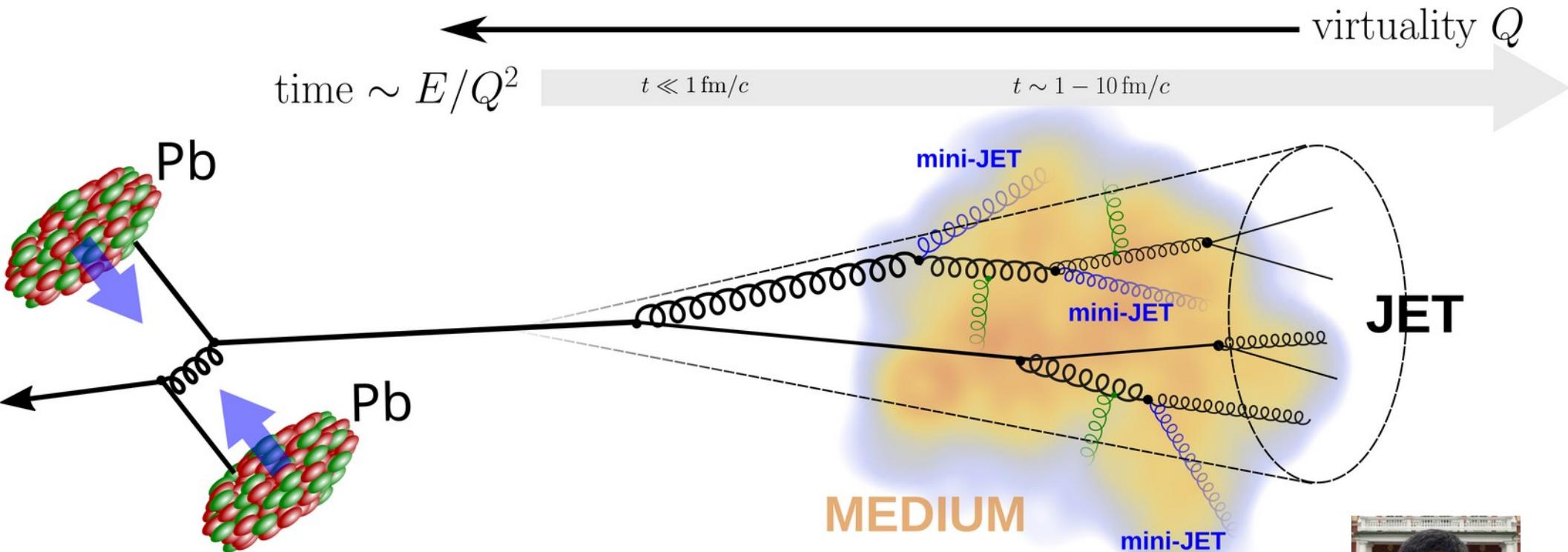
- Elastic scattering
- Medium induced radiation



Low-momentum thermalisation  $\iff$  high-momentum energy loss  
in quark-gluon plasma (QGP)

Kurkela, Zhu PRL (2015), Keegan, Kurkela, AM and Teaney JHEP (2016), Kurkela, AM, Paquet, Schlichting and Teaney PRL (2018)

# Minijet quenching in QGP



Goal: how energetic partons (minijets) thermalise in QGP

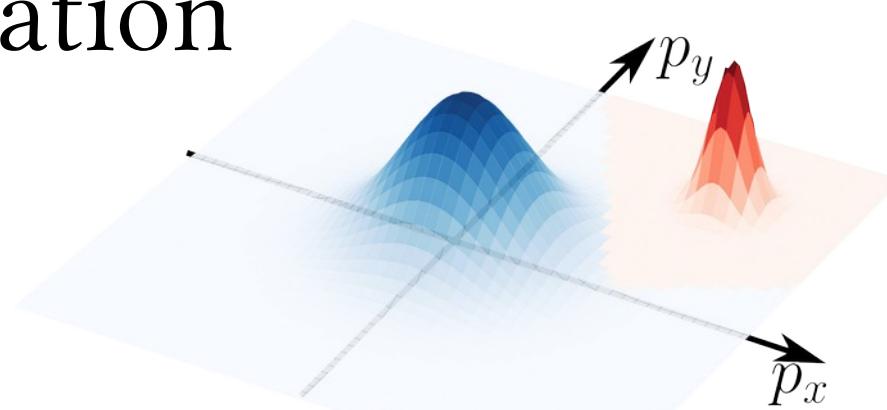
Zhou, Brewer, AM JHEP (2024)



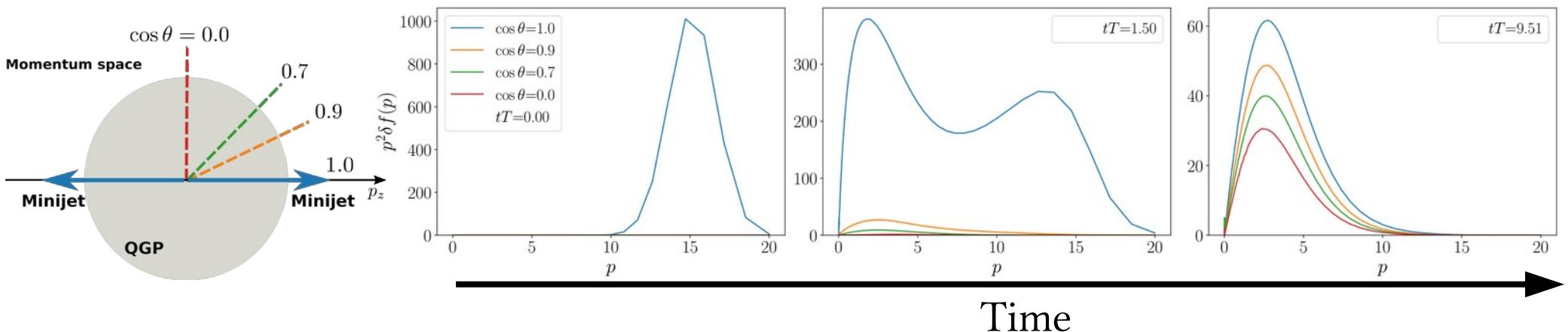
# Angle resolved thermalisation

$$f(\tau, \mathbf{p}) = \bar{f}(\tau, \mathbf{p}) + \delta f(\tau, \mathbf{p})$$

background    perturbation



Angular slices



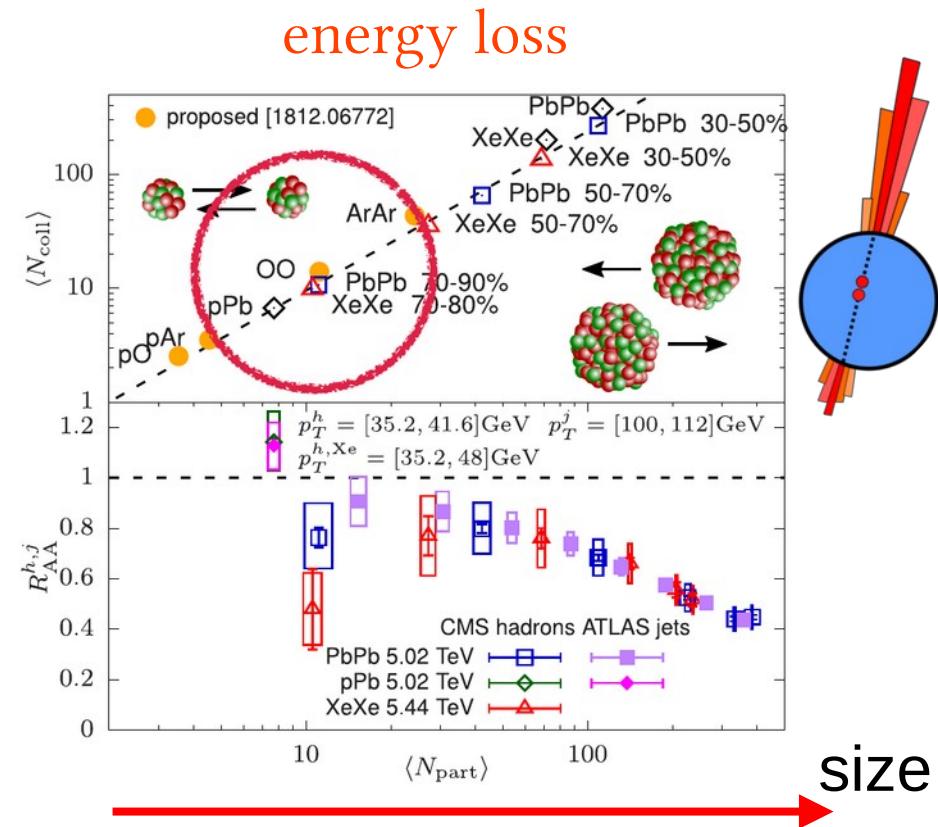
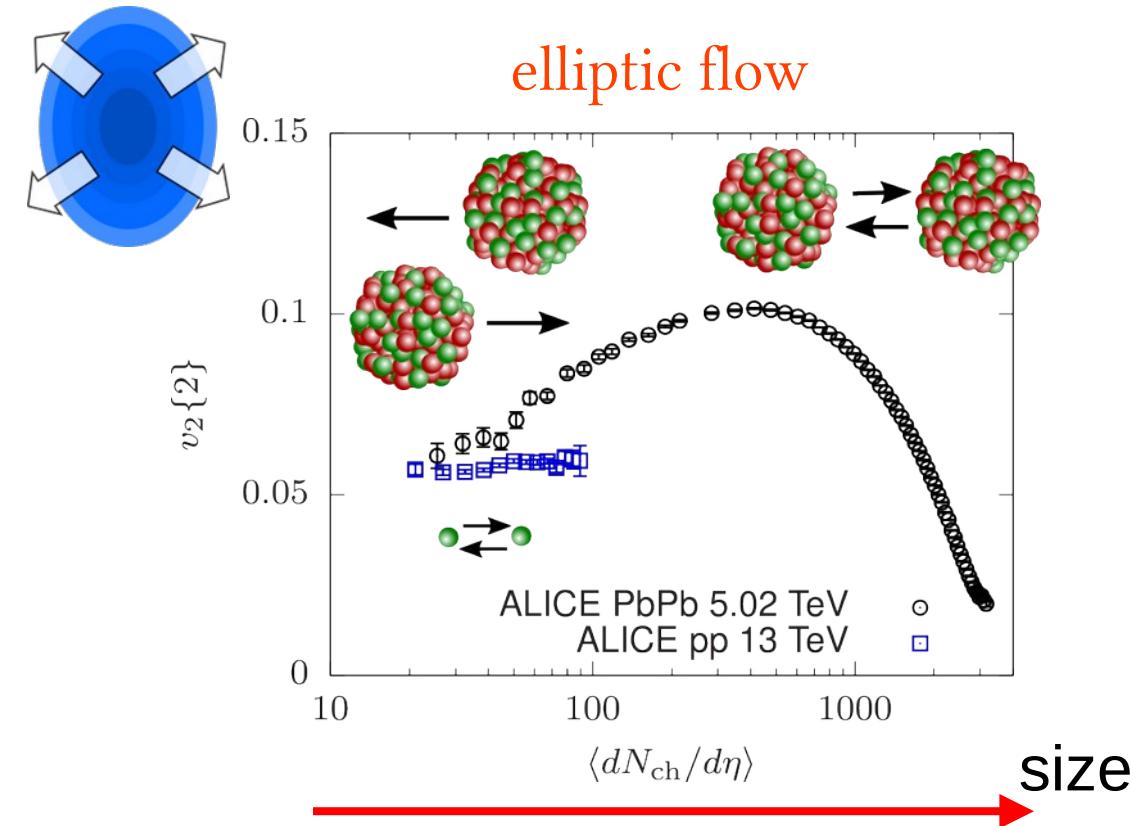
Zhou, Brewer, AM JHEP (2024)

Each angular slice thermalises first, before isotropising!

Small system puzzle

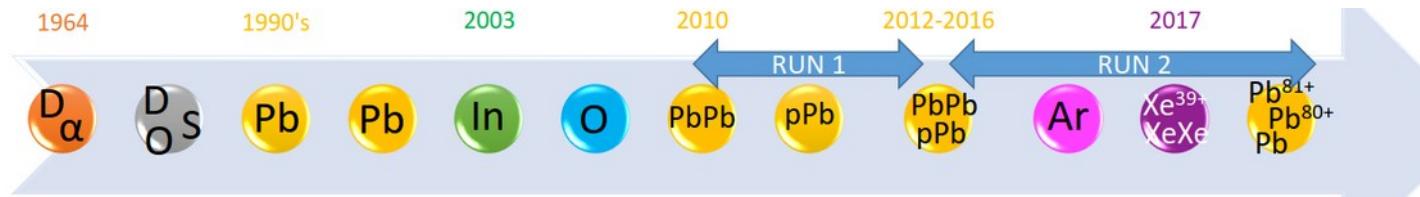
# Collectivity in small collision systems

Huss et al. PRL (2021)



Small system puzzle: elliptic flow, but no jet quenching signal

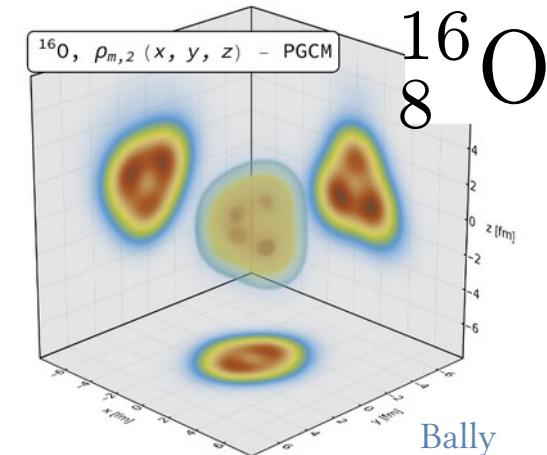
# Light ion collisions at LHC



[cern.ch/OppOatLHC](http://cern.ch/OppOatLHC)



[cern.ch/lightions](http://cern.ch/lightions) → summary report



Fernandez

Bally

6-8 day OO and pO run  
week 27-28, 2025

- Precision studies of collectivity in small systems.
- Synergy with nuclear structure physics.

Even short light ion runs contribute significantly to the richness of LHC program!

# Discovering energy loss in small systems

Compare measurements to no-medium baseline → perturbative QCD

$$\sigma_{ab \rightarrow X} = f_a(x_a) f_b(x_b) \cdot \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow x} \cdot \mathcal{S}_{x \rightarrow X}$$

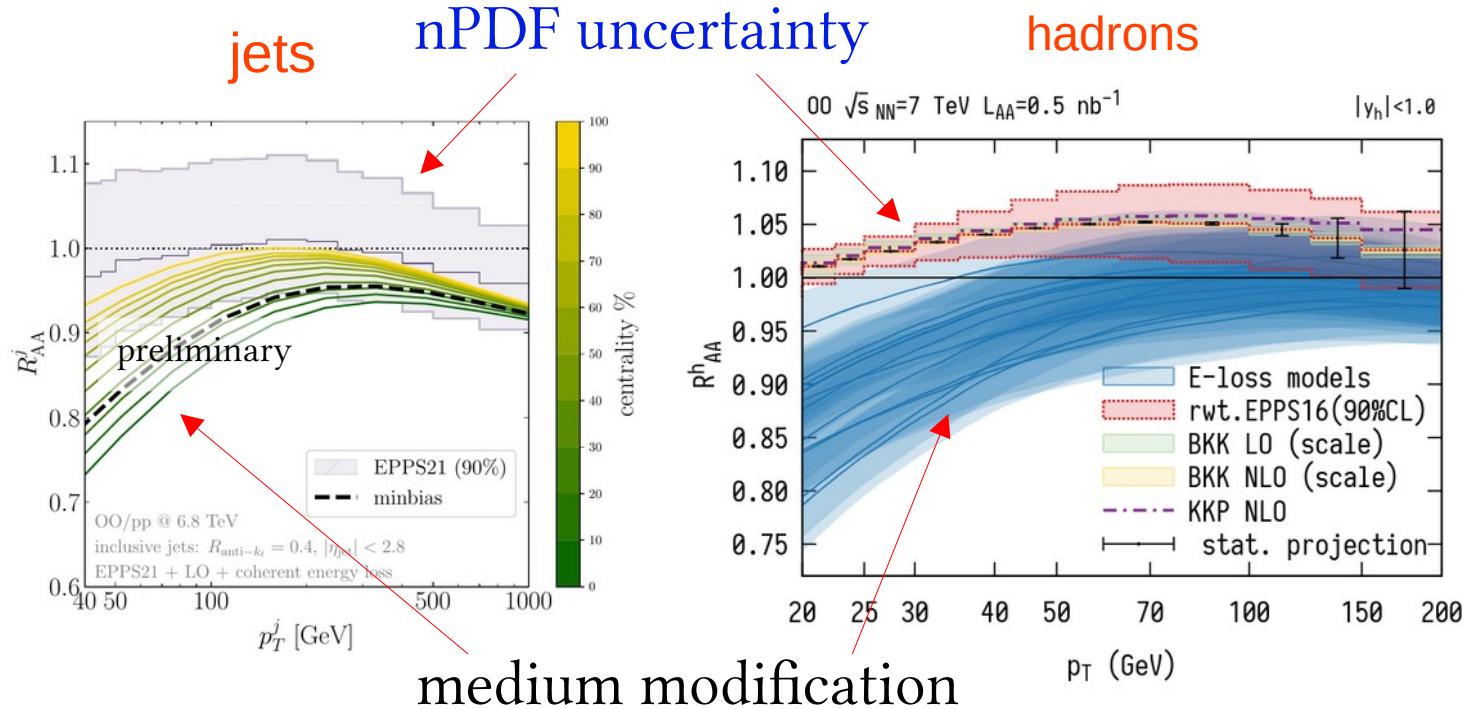
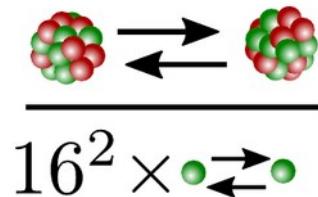


- systematically improvable baseline computation (LO, NLO, ...)
- quantifiable uncertainties (scale, nPDF,...)

Precise computation of jet and hadron spectra  
in OO and pp collisions



# Predictions for jet and hadron modification



Gebhard, AM, Takacs, arXiv:2410.22405

Huss et al., PRL (2021), PRC (2021)

Measurable energy loss signal in oxygen-oxygen collisions!

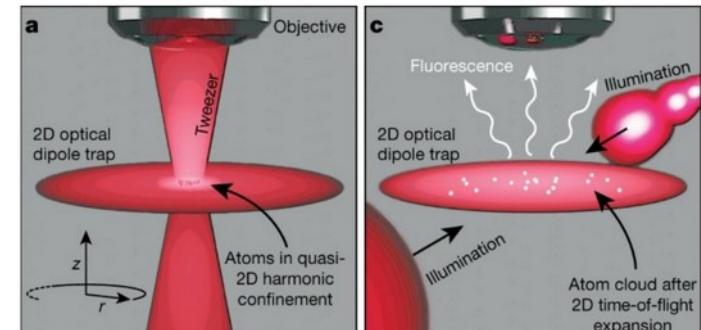
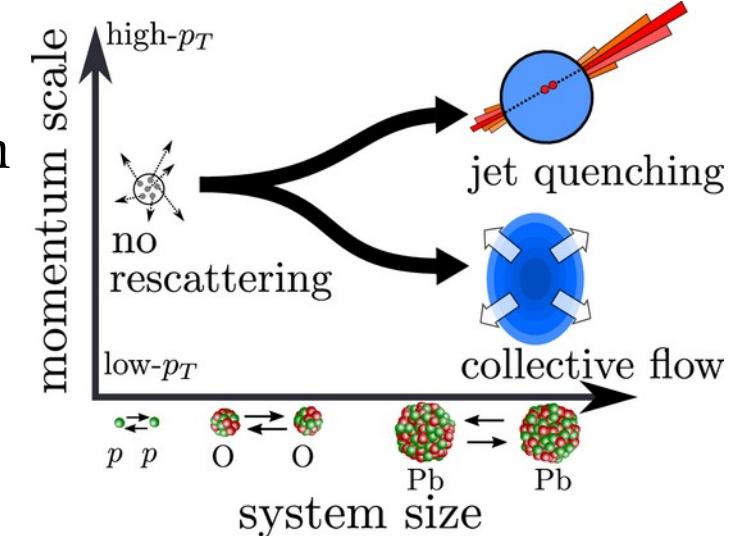
# Conclusions

- Detailed understanding of QCD thermalisation in large systems.
- Persistent signals of collectivity in smaller systems.

## Outlook:

- Light ions collisions – a new tool to study emergent QCD phenomena.
- Interdisciplinary connections to nuclear structure and cold atom experiments.

Postdoc opening: <https://inspirehep.net/jobs/2846988>



Holten et al., Nature (2022)