

Flow Effects on Jet Substructure in Monte Carlo Approach

EMMI: Probing the
Initial Stages with Jets
Jo Bahder (CCNU)
& Matthew Sievert (NMSU)

GSI – Darmstadt, Germany
13th July, 2026



Outline

- I. Introducing Flow Effects
- II. Implementation of Radiation Effects
- III. Toy Phenomenology

Introducing Flow Effects

Flow Treatment

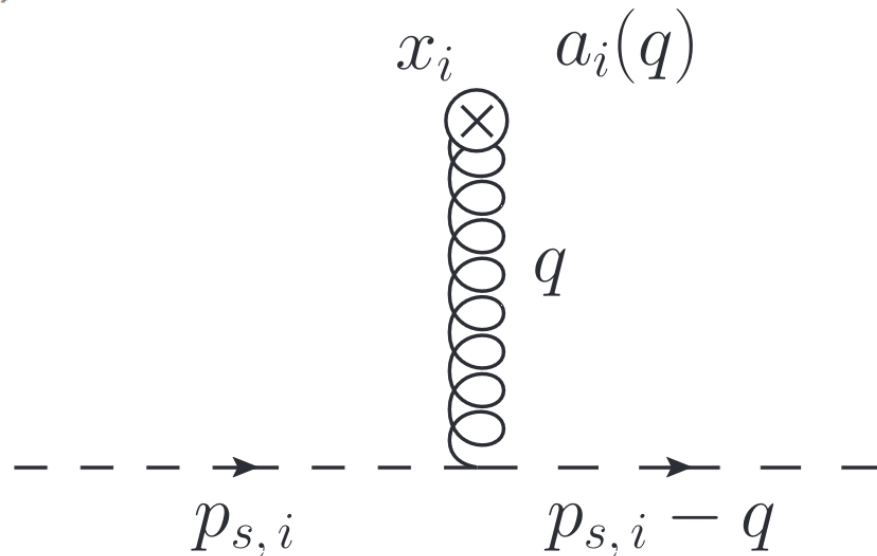
$$v_i(q) \equiv v_i \left(\mathbf{q}^2 - (\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{q})^2 \right) \equiv \frac{-g^2}{\underbrace{\mathbf{q}^2 + \mu_i^2 - (\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{q})^2 - i\epsilon}_{\text{Directional scattering centers}}}$$

$$g a_i^{\mu a}(q) = t_i^a u_i^\mu v_i(q) (2\pi) \delta(q^0 - \mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{q})$$

$$A_{ext}^{\mu a}(q) = \sum_i e^{iq \cdot x_i} a_i^{\mu a}(q)$$

Individual scattering centers have spatially varying velocity profile!

A. V. Sadofyev,
I. Vitev, & M. D. Sievert
Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021)
[arXiv:2104.09513](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.09513)



Flow-Induced Anisotropic Broadening (“Drift”)

APE MC & Realistic Pheno.

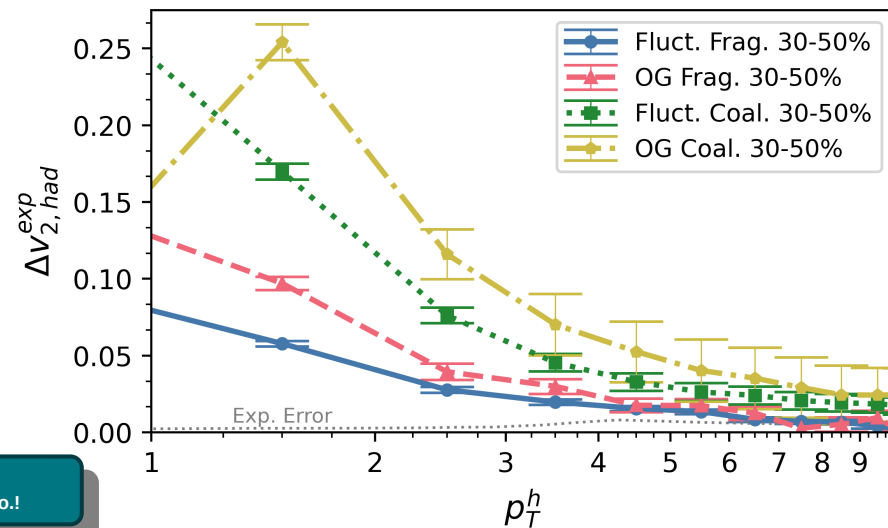
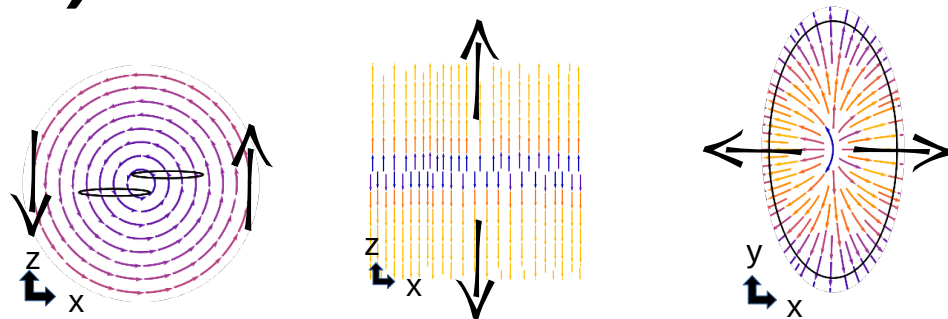
J. Bahder, H. Rahman,

M. D. Sievert, & I. Vitev

PRR (2026)

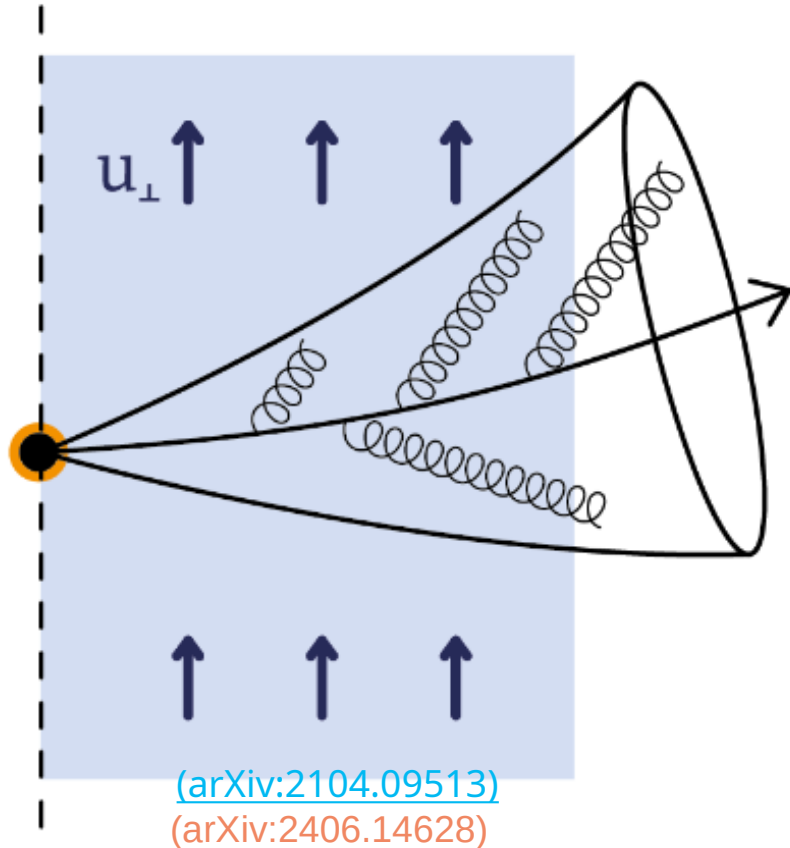
([arXiv:2412.05474](https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.05474))

- Hard particles preferentially deflect in direction of medium flow
- Couple to flow structure of collision geometry
 - Event plane (azimuthal)
 - Expansion & Vorticity (rapidity)



See Hasan Rahman's
talk just after this for flow effect pheno.!

Flow-Induced Anisotropic Radiation

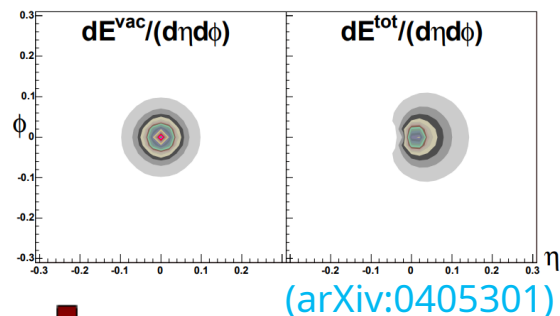
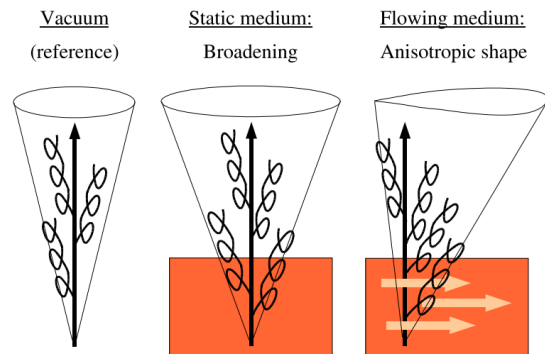
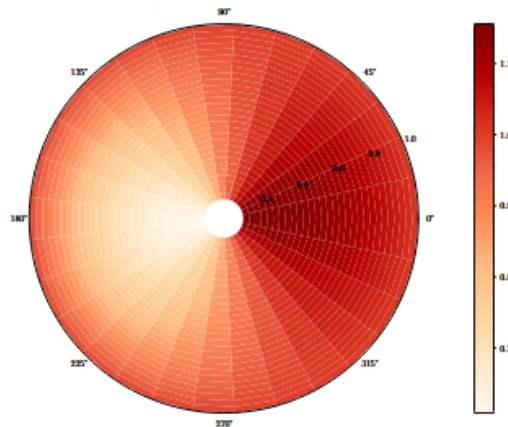
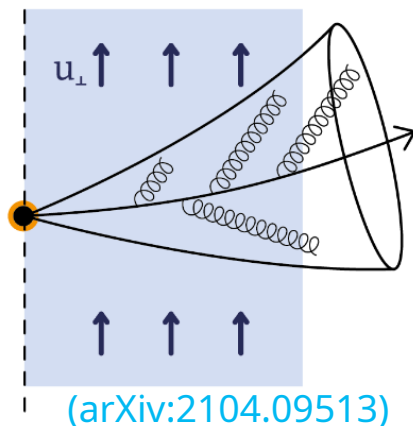


- Hard particles preferentially **radiate** in direction of medium flow
- Couple to same flow structures of collision geometry
- No phenomenology in state of the art media exists for the perturbatively calculated effect!

Many Thoughts on Flow Affecting Substructure

- People have been thinking about anisotropic radiation distribution for some time
 - Flow anisotropy as Lorentz boost ([Armesto, Salgado, & Wiedemann](#))
 - Perturbative scalar calculation of radiation ([Sievert, Sadofyev, Vitev](#))
 - Jet substructure harmonics ([Barata, Milhano, & Sadofyev](#))
 - Perturbative real gluon calculation of radiation ([Kuzmin & López](#))

No Monte Carlo implementation exists...
Let's give it a whirl!!!

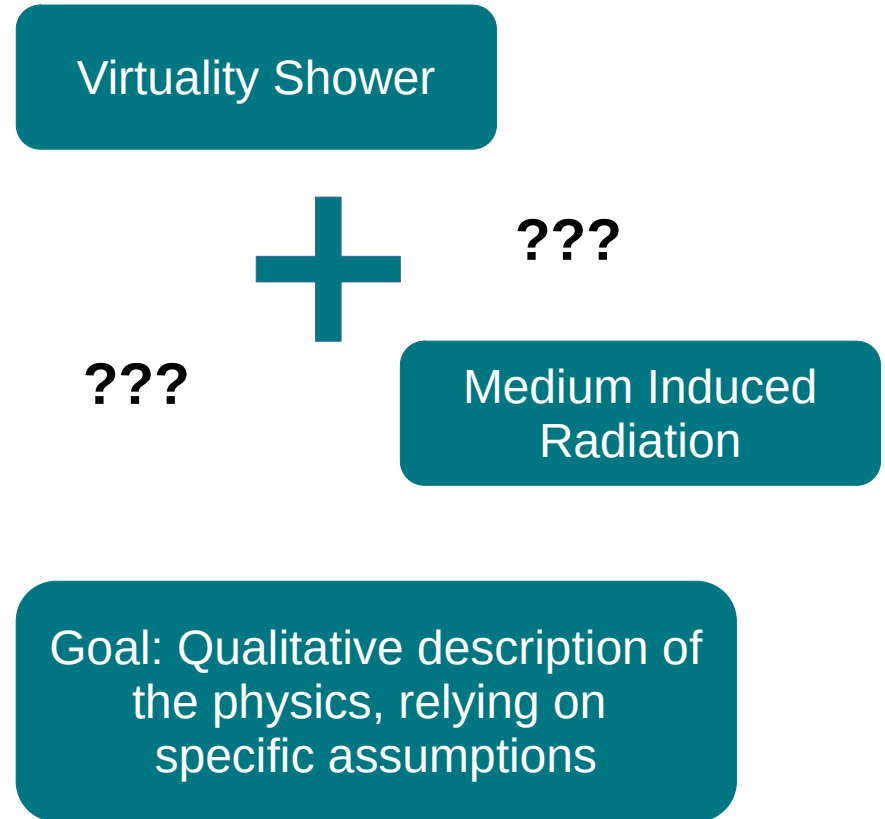


+ Many others!

Implementing Radiation Effects

Rigorous Jets are Hard for MCs

- Connection to virtuality shower unclear
- Opacity expansion calculation of radiation distribution not intuitively applicable for MCs
 - Integration over scattering centers vs spacetime evolution
 - Substantial negative intensity region
- Radiation -- expensive numerical integration



Soft Particles
(DukeQCD
Event Generator)

(arXiv:1808.02106)

Averaged Trento
+ Freestreaming
Initial Conditions

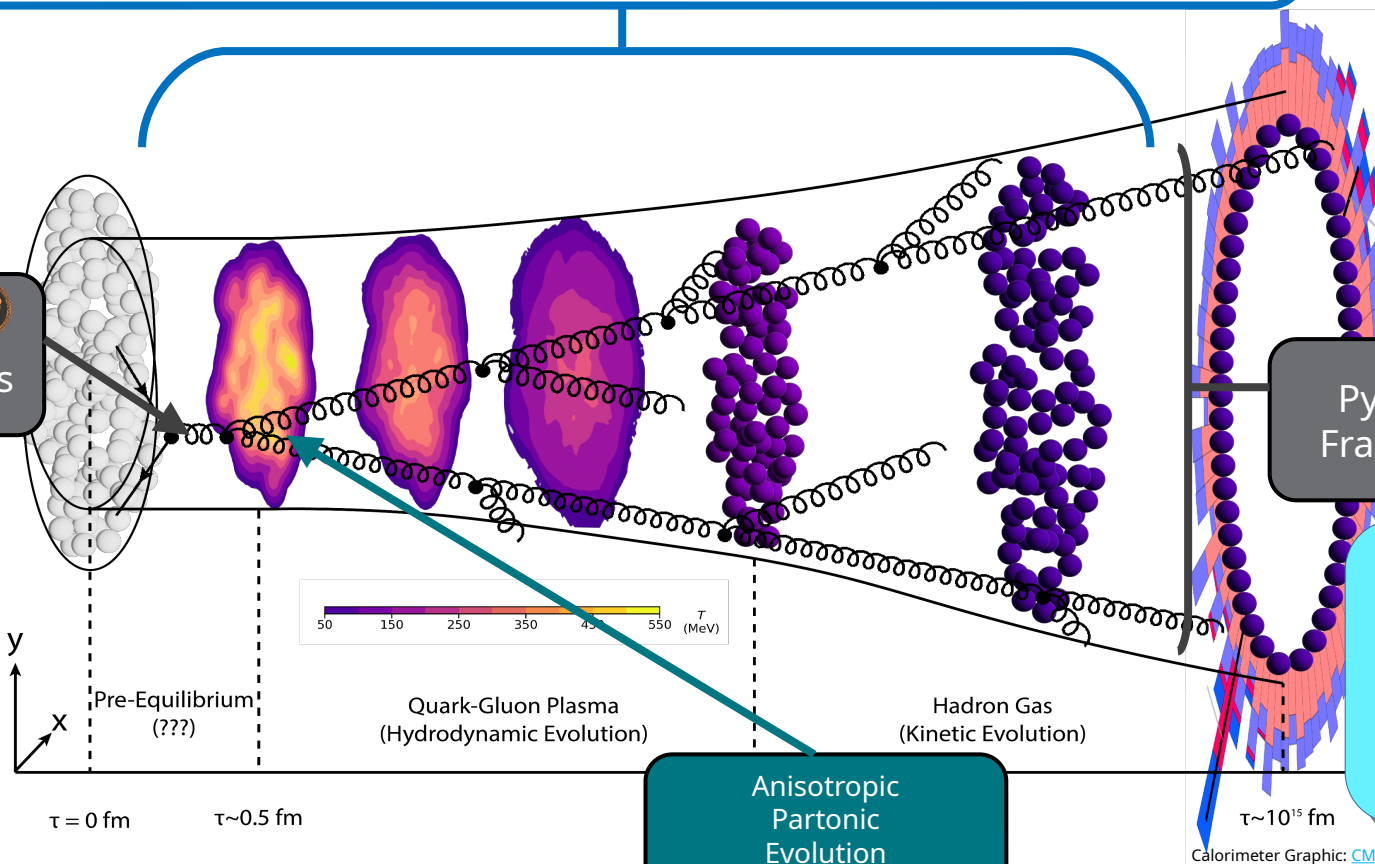
OSU-Hydro
(VISHNU)
Hydrodynamics

Cooper-Frye Freezeout
+ UrQMD
Hadronic Transport

Realistic 2+1D soft
HIC model tuned to
pPb & PbPb data

Pythia pp
Vacuum Showers

**Simplest
possible
extension
from
APE 1.0**



Pythia String
Fragmentation

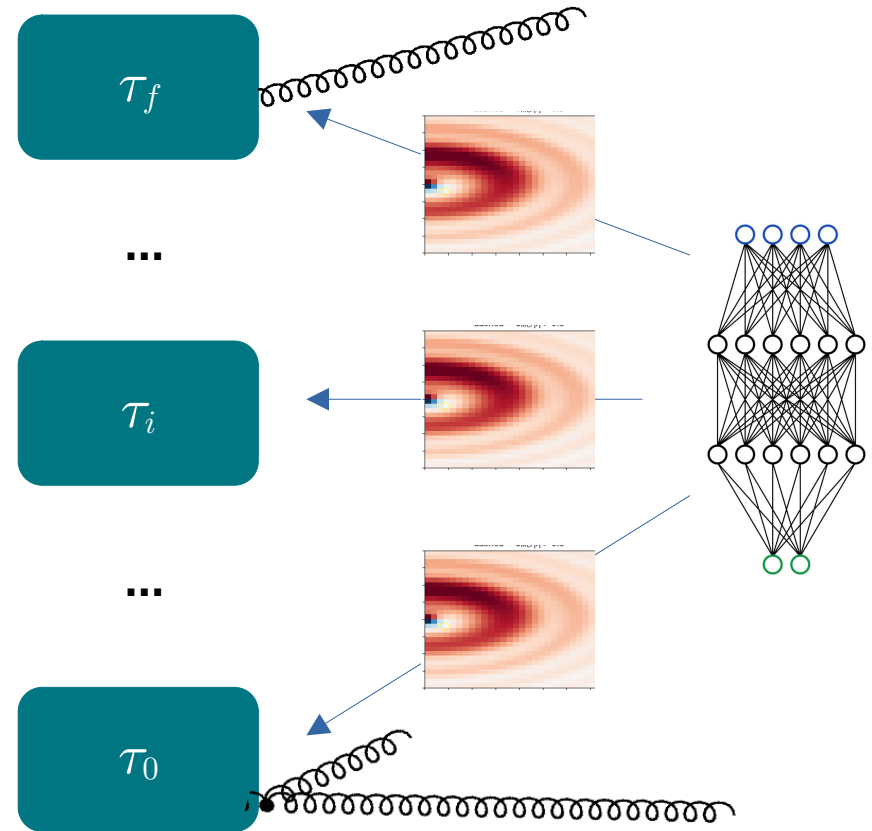
**Single
mid-central
event,
many jets**

Anisotropic
Partonic
Evolution
(APE)

Calorimeter Graphic: CMS

Radiation Scheme

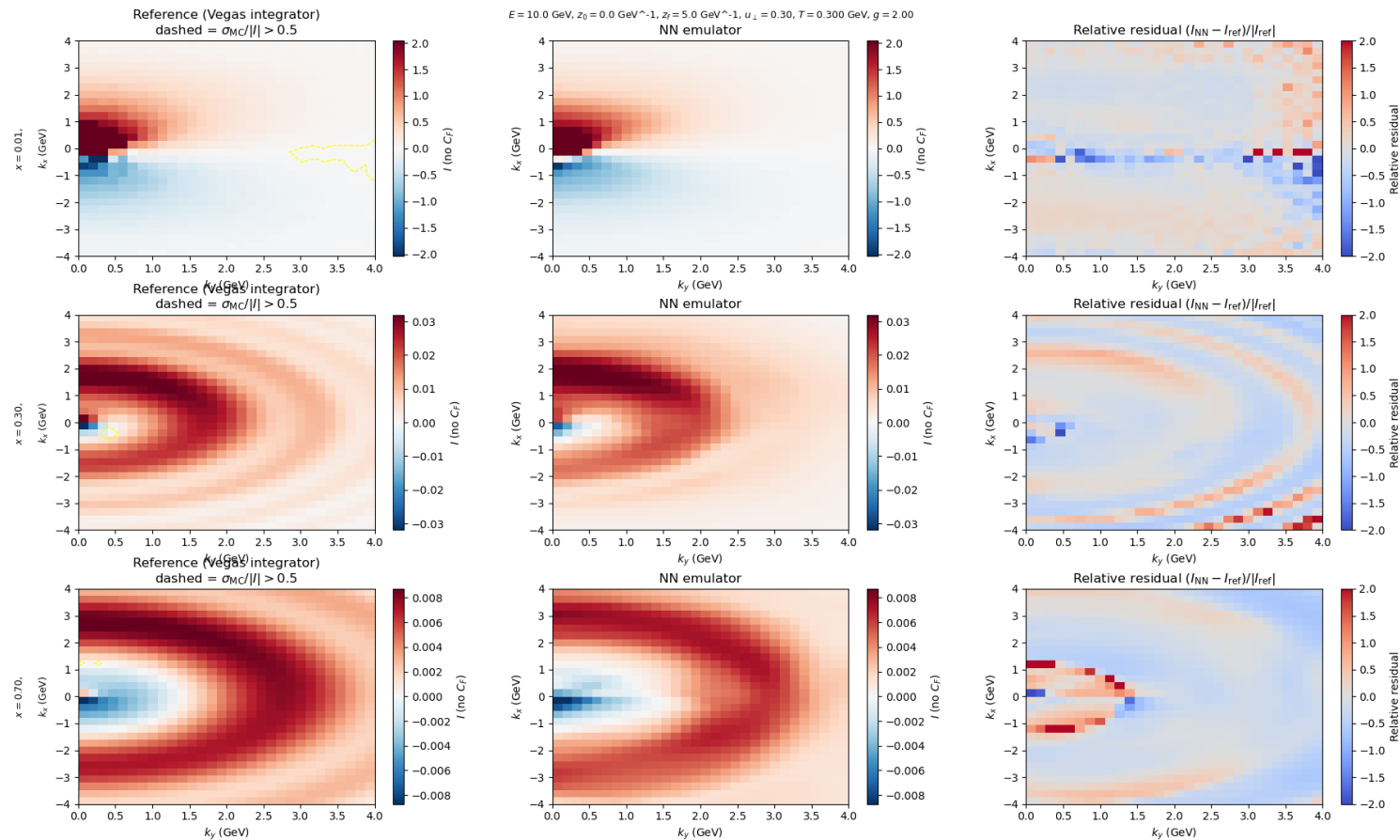
- Pythia vacuum shower
 - Complete – no “virtuality pause” as in some other MCs
- Medium evolution
 - Expensive numerical integration required
 - NN for numerical integration + Poisson sampling over short timesteps
 - Treat negativity as zero, use negative phase space to subtract from total probability of emission



NN Performance – Short Pathlengths $\sim < 5$ fm

Performance
admirable...

Suffers from
spectral bias at
large x

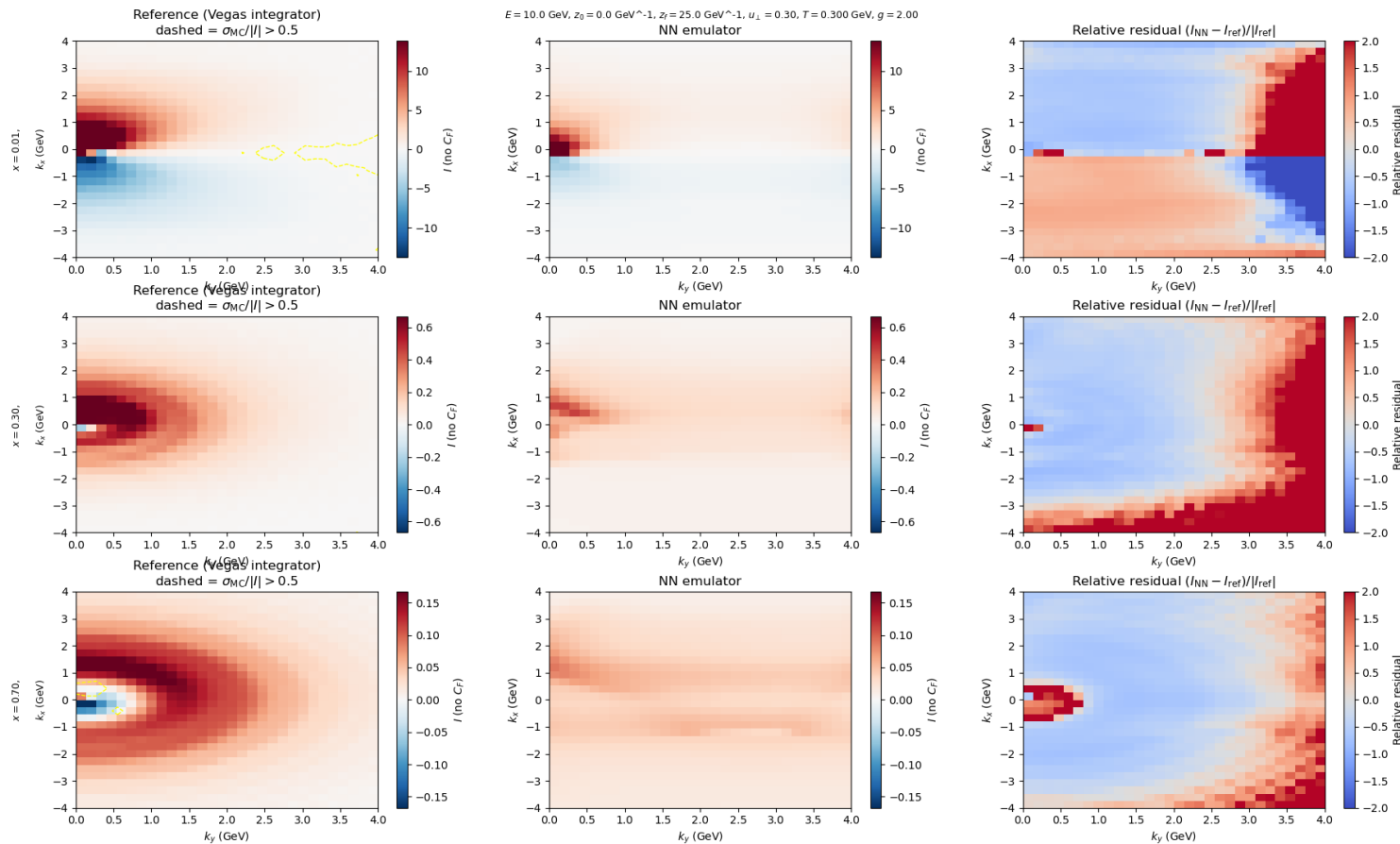


NN Performance – Long Pathlengths $\sim > 5$ fm

Performance
abysmal...

Qualitative
directional bias
preserved, but
overall norm
underpredicted

For now...
Fix w/ analytic
isotropic norm!

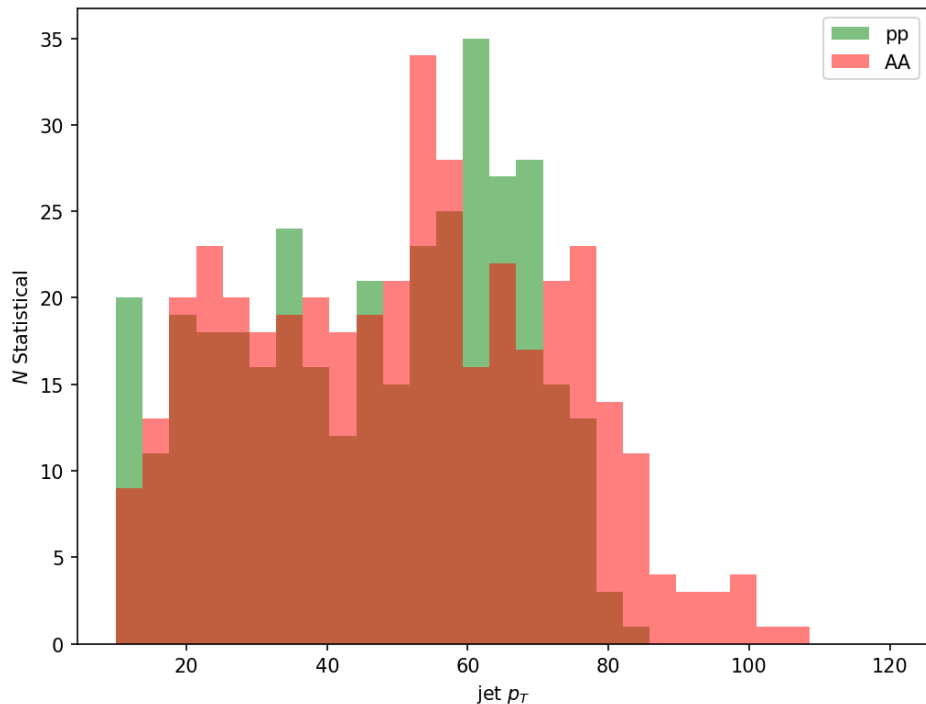


Toy Jet Substructure Phenomenology

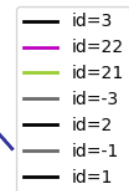
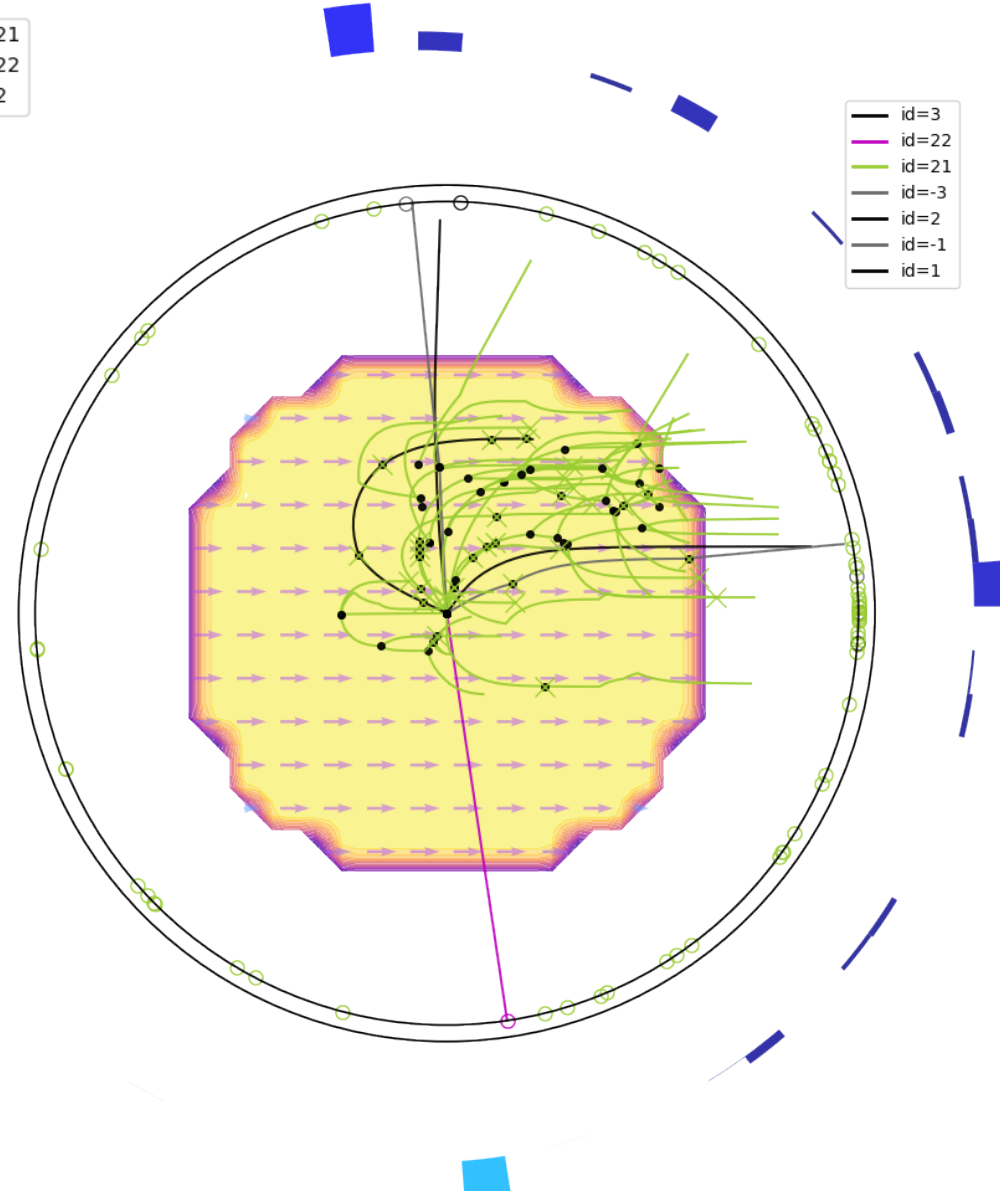
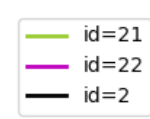
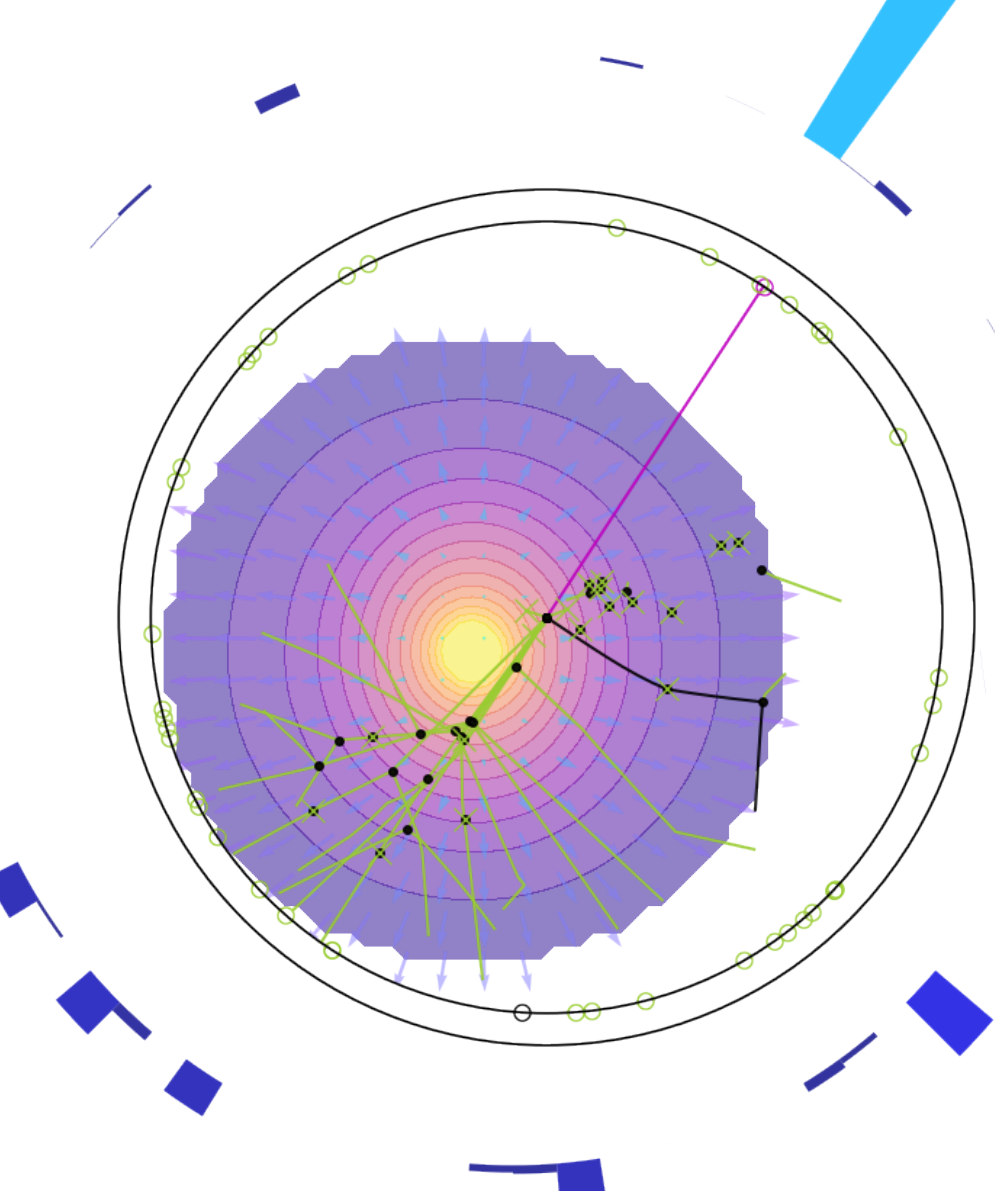
Goal:

Investigate the qualitative influence of soft
event flow structure on substructure

Sample Information



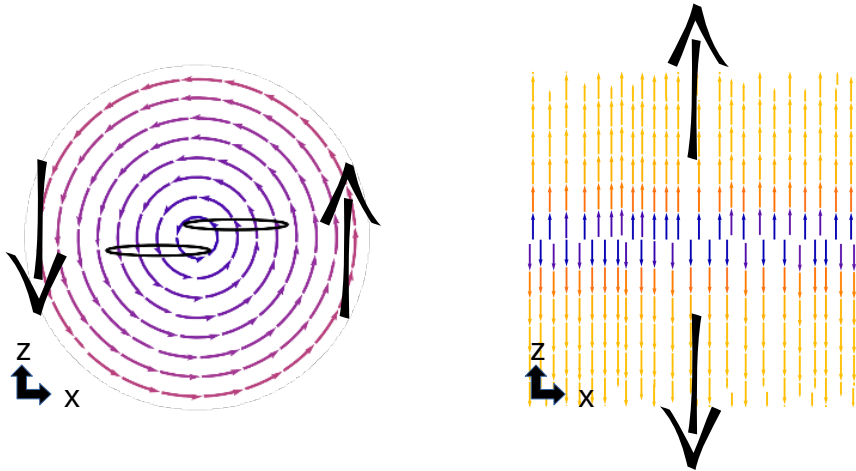
- O(1000) gamma-jet
Hard scatterings
 $80 < p_{T\text{jet}} < 120$ GeV
- Hard scattering $|\hat{Y}| < 0.1$
- Fastjet anti-kT, WTA-pT axis
 - ArXiv:1111:6097
 - Jet results shown at $R=1.0$
- Single event geometry – averaged
Duke event generator IC @ 200 GeV
AuAu, $b=10\text{fm}$



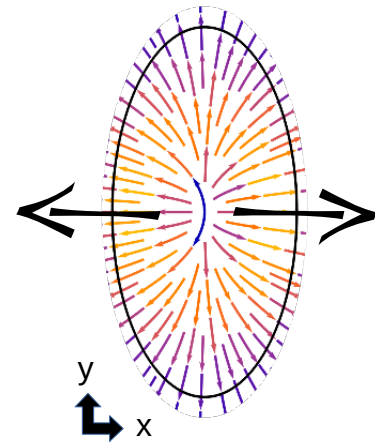
What Flow do We Couple to?

What are the Observables?

- Longitudinal Flow
 - Expansion flow
 - Vorticity flow (neglected here)



- Transverse Plane Flow
 - Elliptic flow towards soft event plane



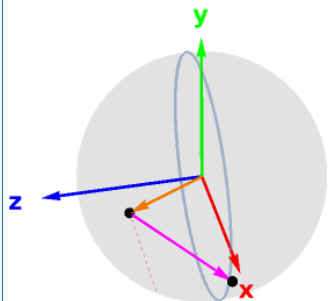
Coupling Vectors

Focus on “ α_x ” and “ α_z ”
– the “rejection defined angles”

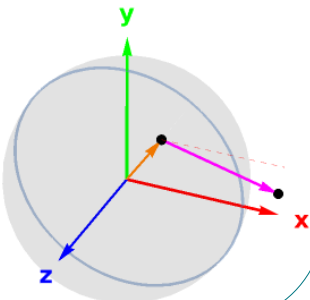
Transverse Plane Flow:

$$\vec{\alpha}_x = \text{sign}(p_{jet,x}) (\hat{x} - (\hat{x} \cdot \hat{p}_{jet}) \hat{p}_{jet})$$

$$\alpha_{x2} = \text{sign}(p_x^{jet} p_y^{jet}) (\hat{p}_{jet} \times \hat{z})$$



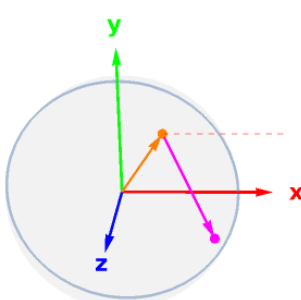
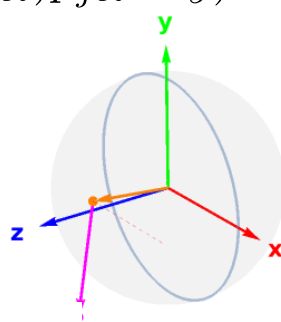
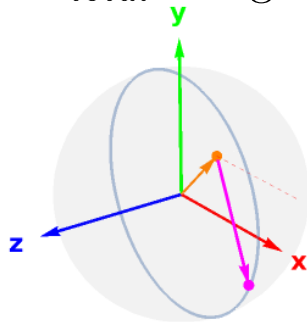
Must be near
mid-rapidity
and far from
 ψ_2 or $\psi_2 + \pi/2$



“Towards the flow attractor” often
ambiguous...

“Total” flow vector:

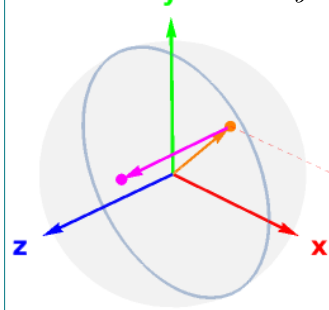
$$\alpha_{total} = \text{sign}(p_y) ((\hat{y} \cdot \hat{p}_{jet}) \hat{p}_{jet} - \hat{y})$$



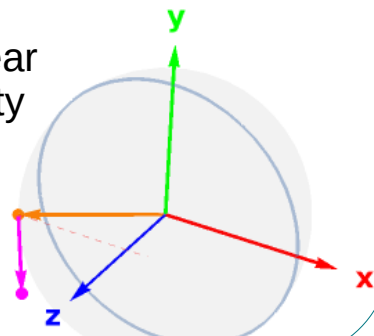
Longitudinal Plane Flow:

$$\vec{\alpha}_z = \text{sign}(p_{jet,z}) (\hat{z} - (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{p}_{jet}) \hat{p}_{jet})$$

$$\alpha_{z2} = -\text{sign}(p_y^{jet} p_z^{jet}) (\hat{p}_{jet} \times \hat{x})$$

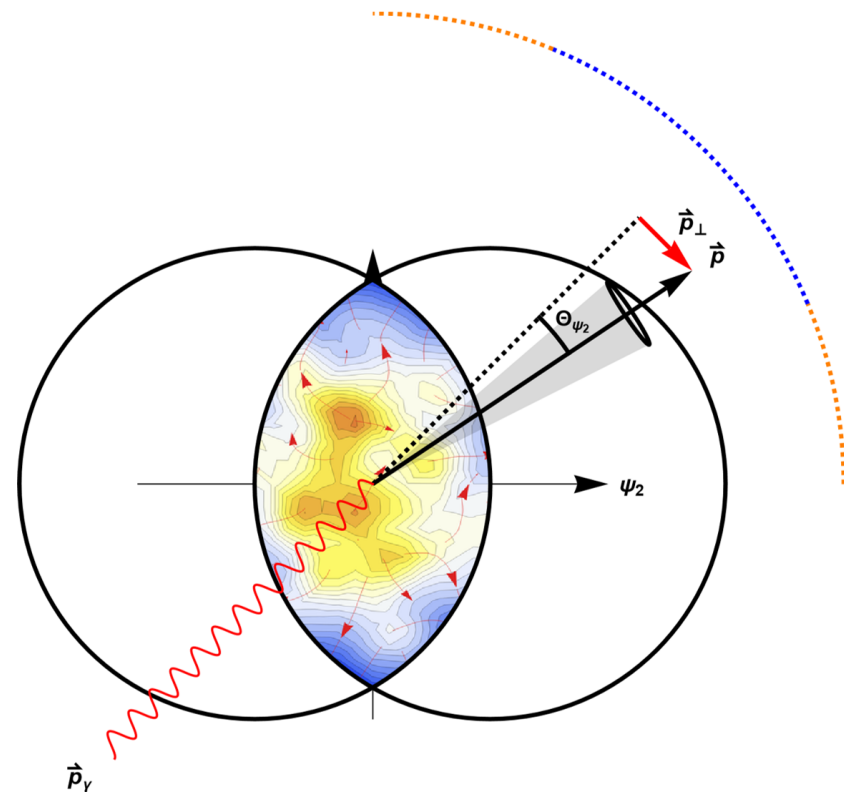


Must be near
mid-rapidity



Signed Jet Deflection Ratio

- Sensitive to absolute deflections towards the event plane
 - Can form similar measure for jet constituents
 - Most direct measurement of flow **deflections**
- Requires **azimuthal fencing**
- Rapidity difference for longitudinal flow coupling

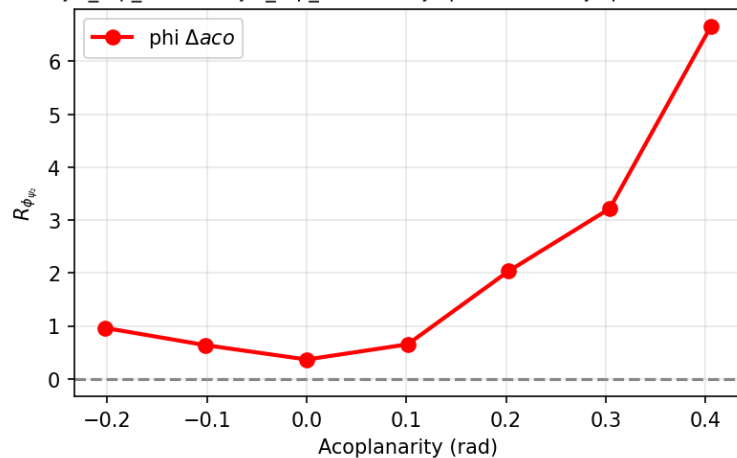


$$R_{\theta_{\psi_2}} = \frac{\frac{dN^{AA}}{d\Theta_{\psi_2}}}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle \frac{dN^{pp}}{d\Theta_{\psi_2}}} \quad \Theta_{\psi_2} = (\text{mod}(\phi_{\gamma}, \pi/2) - \text{mod}(\phi_{jet}, \pi/2)) \begin{cases} +1, & \text{Quadrants I \& III} \\ -1, & \text{Quadrants II \& IV} \end{cases}$$

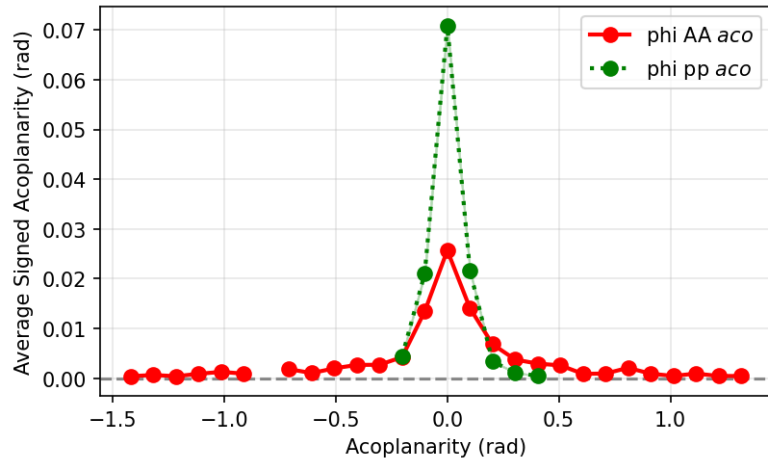
For x -axis event plane

Signed Jet Deflection Ratio Result

R=1.0, phi_fence=0.2, Fence_y=True, particle_rap_min=0.0, particle_rap_max=1.5,
jet_rap_min=0.0, jet_rap_max=0.5, jetpTmin=10.0, jetpTmax=120.0



R=1.0, phi_fence=0.2, Fence_y=True, particle_rap_min=0.0, particle_rap_max=1.5,
jet_rap_min=0.0, jet_rap_max=0.5, jetpTmin=10.0, jetpTmax=120.0

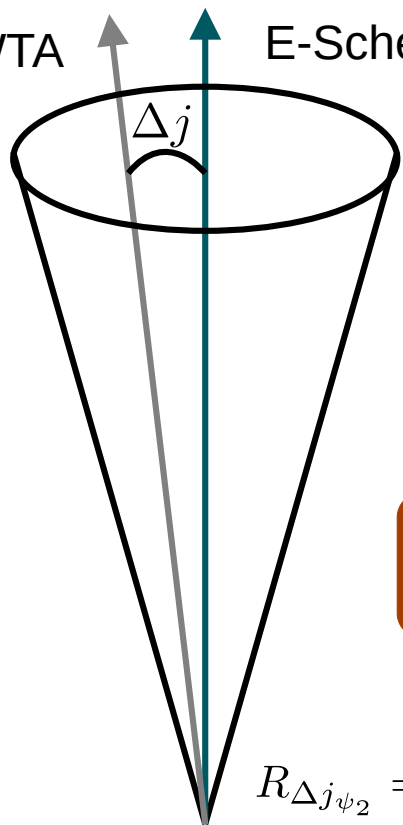


- Clear signal for artificial jet sample
- Needs exploration in minimum bias sample!
- Negligible Bootstrap error does not capture full sampling uncertainty...

Signed Jet Axis Difference

Unsigned versions from
CMS: Dijets & Photon Tagged Jets
ALICE: D0 Tagged Jets

WTA E-Scheme



No results
here today...
Stay tuned!!!

$$R_{\Delta j \psi_2} = \frac{\frac{dN^{AA}}{d\Delta j \psi_2}}{\langle n_{coll} \rangle \frac{dN^{pp}}{d\Delta j \psi_2}}$$

E-Scheme:

- Four-vector sum of momenta at each step
- Sensitive to many deflected soft particles

Winner-Take-All (WTA):

- Follows hardest prong at each step
- Sensitive to hard undeflected core of jet

$$\Delta j = \sqrt{(\eta_{WTA} - \eta_{E-scheme})^2 + (\phi_{WTA} - \phi_{E-scheme})^2}$$

$$\Delta j \psi_2 = (\phi_{WTA} - \phi_{E-scheme}) \begin{cases} +1, & \text{Quadrants I \& III} \\ -1, & \text{Quadrants II \& IV} \end{cases}$$

For x -axis event plane

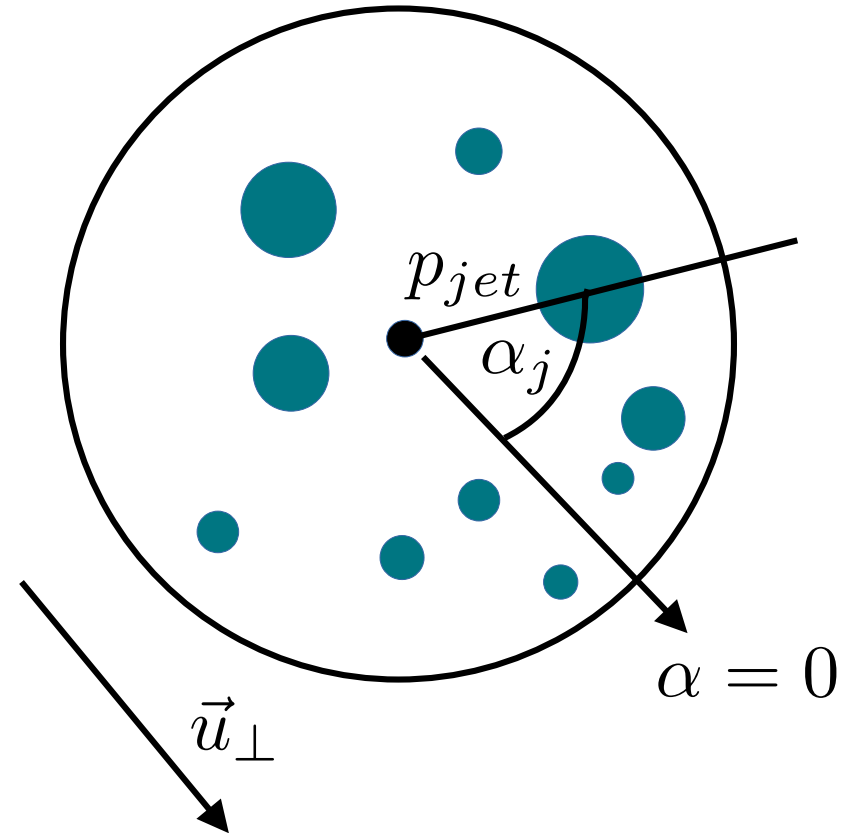
Jet Substructure Harmonics

- Phase alignment with flow coupling direction
- Measures azimuthal distortion towards flow
- Highly dependent on your jet algorithm
 - E.g. anti-kT, enforces a circular jet on $y\phi$ cylinder
- We'll focus on this one for the moment...

$$v_n(E) = \left\langle \frac{\sum_j \cos(n\alpha_j)}{\sum_j} \right\rangle_{events}$$

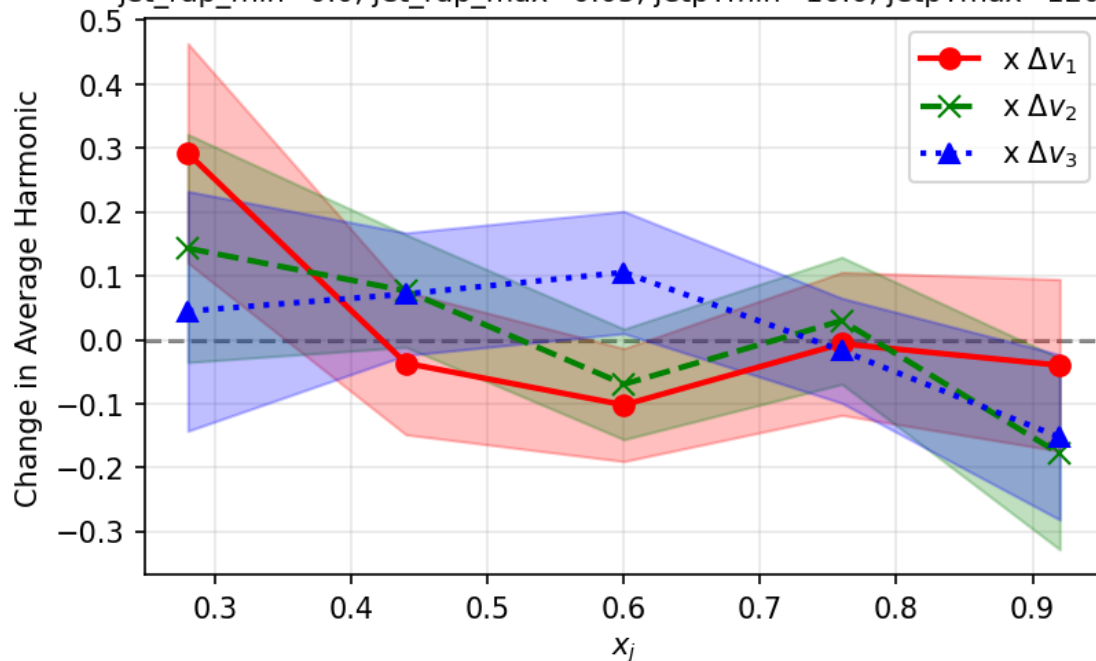
To eliminate contribution from pp dist. in small sample:

$$\Delta v_n(E) = v_n^{AA}(E) - v_n^{pp}(E)$$



Transverse Coupling

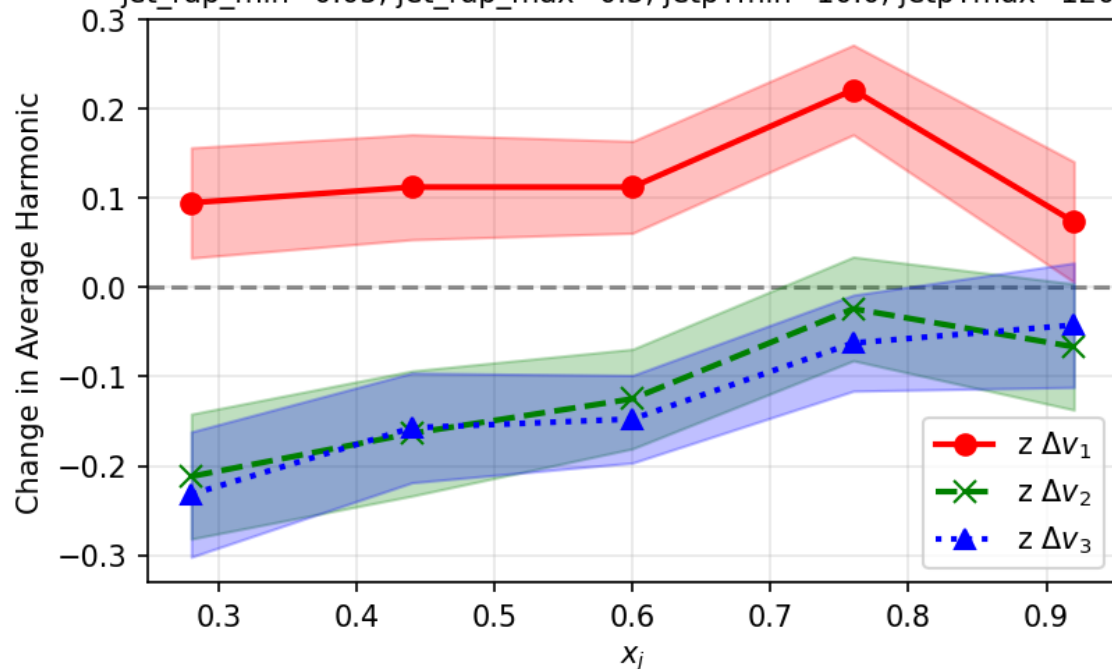
$R=1.0$, $\phi_{\text{fence}}=0.3$, $\text{Fence_y}=\text{True}$, $\text{particle_rap_min}=0.0$, $\text{particle_rap_max}=1.5$,
 $\text{jet_rap_min}=0.0$, $\text{jet_rap_max}=0.05$, $\text{jetpTmin}=10.0$, $\text{jetpTmax}=120.0$



- Consistent with zero, neglecting sketchy ultralow $x \dots$
- Puzzling, but potentially explained by competition of elastic scatterings and radiation
- Full scale EBE runs required to write off the observable

Longitudinal Coupling

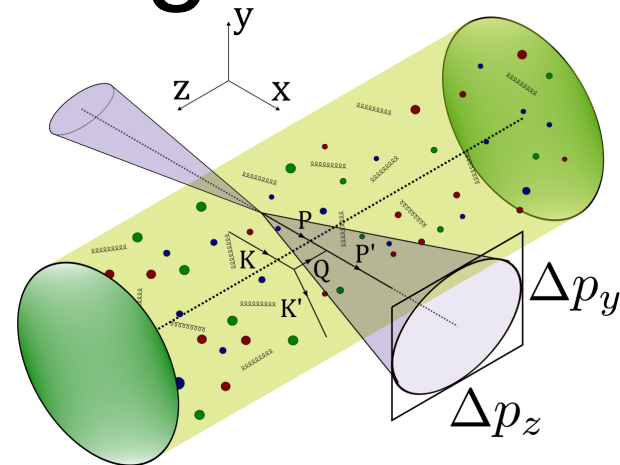
$R=1.0$, $\phi_{\text{fence}}=0.0$, $\text{Fence_y}=\text{False}$, $\text{particle_rap_min}=0.0$, $\text{particle_rap_max}=1.5$,
 $\text{jet_rap_min}=0.05$, $\text{jet_rap_max}=0.5$, $\text{jetpTmin}=10.0$, $\text{jetpTmax}=120.0$



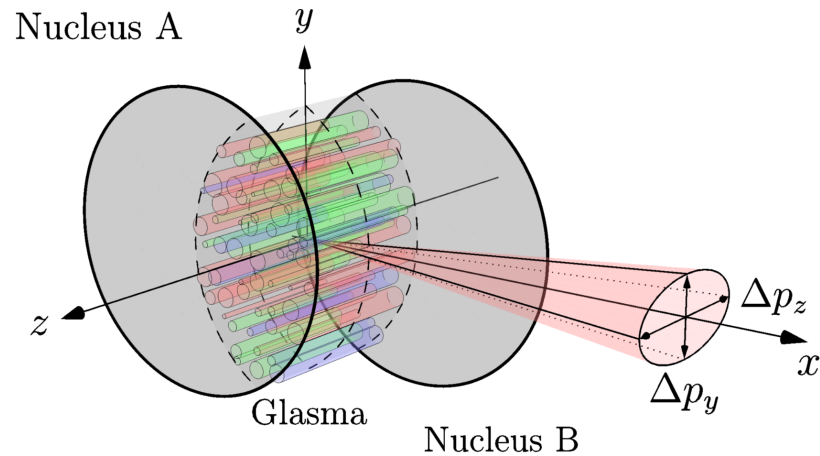
- Clear, unambiguous signal of v_1 enhancement
- Expected enhancement at large x appears
- Systematics with event geometry and unfolded jet kinematics via large EBE runs are next steps

Connecting to Early Stages

- Broadening calculations in EKT show geometry-correlated anisotropy
- Broadening and radiation calculations in glasma show geometry-correlated anisotropy
- Understanding anisotropic shapes from QGP phase is the first step towards potentially identifying asymmetries arising from the early stages
- Want feedback from early stages community – how can this work connect to early stages work to tease out meaningful information from substructure anisotropy?



Boguslavski, Kurkela, Lappi, Lindenbauer, Peuron [2303.12520] [2303.12595] [2312.00447]



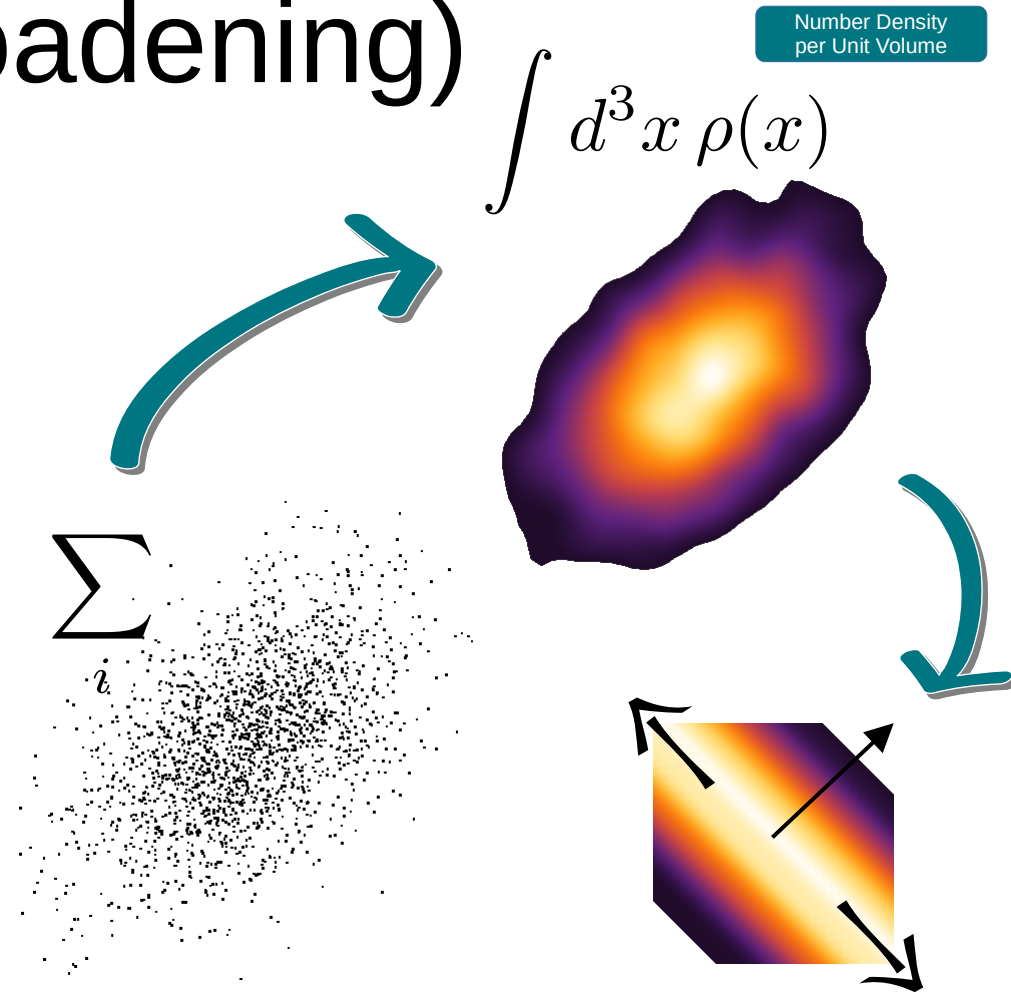
Ipp, Müller, Schuh [2009.14206]

Thanks a bunch!

See APE Phenomenology:
([arXiv:2412.05474](https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.05474))

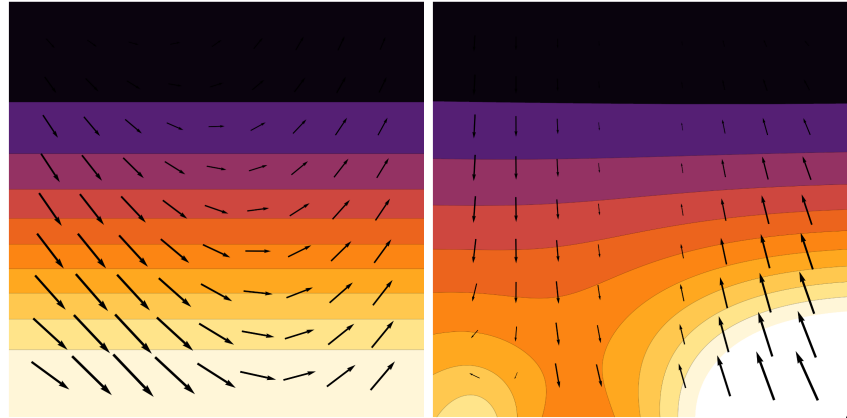
Review of Scattering Center Treatment (Iso. Broadening)

- Summation over scattering centers to spatial integral over density
 - **All** scattering centers contribute to amplitude!
- Traditionally, transverse variation is neglected
- Longitudinal integration alone is analytically (simple models) or computationally (e.g. hydro) tractable
- Can we consistently introduce flow to our scattering center distributions with a global boost?



Long. & Trans. Mixing – On Boosts

$\delta x \delta z$

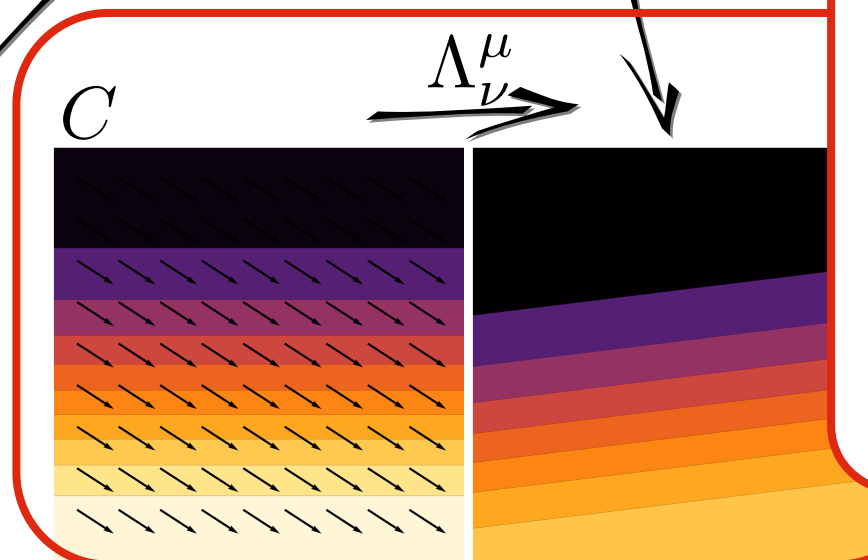
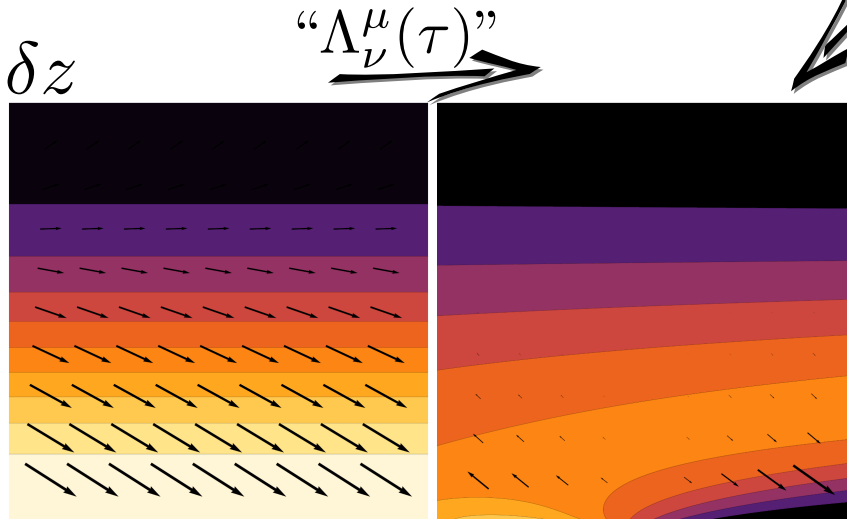


u transforms as
part of 4-velocity

ρ transforms as
 $\mathcal{P}$ of scattering
center current

Even transversely
invariant flow
velocity leaves flow
remnant

Cooling and
transverse variation
appear, even in
constant flow



No
consistent
way to
implement
without
treating
transverse
variation in
density

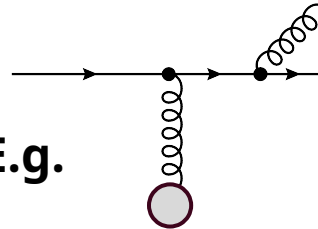
Additional Model Choices

- Jet-jet particle hadronization only
 - Partons color is unchanged by medium
 - use Pythia color connections in hadronization
- Perfect background subtraction
- Vacuum shower completed before medium interaction
- No medium response
 - No wake, etc.
- Do not evolve particles $y > 1.0$
- Hard Particles “thermalize” at 2.00 GeV

Radiative Energy Loss

$$\frac{dE}{d\ell} = -\frac{d}{dL} \left(\frac{2C_R\alpha_s}{\pi} \frac{L}{\lambda} E \int_{k_{min}}^{k_{max}} \frac{dk}{k} \int_0^{q_{max}} dq q \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \right. \\ \left. \times \frac{\mu^2}{\pi(q^2 + \mu^2)^2} \frac{2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{q} (\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q})^2 L^2}{16x^2 E^2 + (\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{q})^4 L^2} \right)_{L=\ell}$$

E.g.



- Gyulassy, Levai, Vitev (2000) ([arXiv:0006010](https://arxiv.org/abs/0006010))
- Single Emission GLV @ 1st order in opacity
 - APE 1.0: w/ finite kinematic bounds (q, k)
 - APE 2.0: Currently infinite kinematic bounds
 - Plans to implement energy set from NN

Drift Deflection

$$\langle \vec{q}_{drift} \rangle = \hat{e}_\perp \int d\tau \frac{3}{E(\tau)} \frac{\mu^2(\tau)}{\lambda(\tau)} \ln \frac{E(\tau)}{\mu(\tau)} \frac{u_\perp(\tau)}{1 - u_\parallel(\tau)}$$

Competition of Transverse Plane Broadening Effects

- Use new APE to investigate mid-rapidity 2-to-2 hard scattering events
 - Gradients of $u_{\perp}$ partially cancel flow effect
 - No accident – origin of terms is in the same pole structure
- Events selected to demo cancellation... Full picture of magnitude requires full accounting of gradient effects & survey of geometries
 - Grads. of e.g. u_z frequently has unlike sign & similar magnitude
 - Differing pathlength dependence shifts relative weight of flow and gradients in larger and smaller events

