

# Modeling thermal dileptons at SIS energies

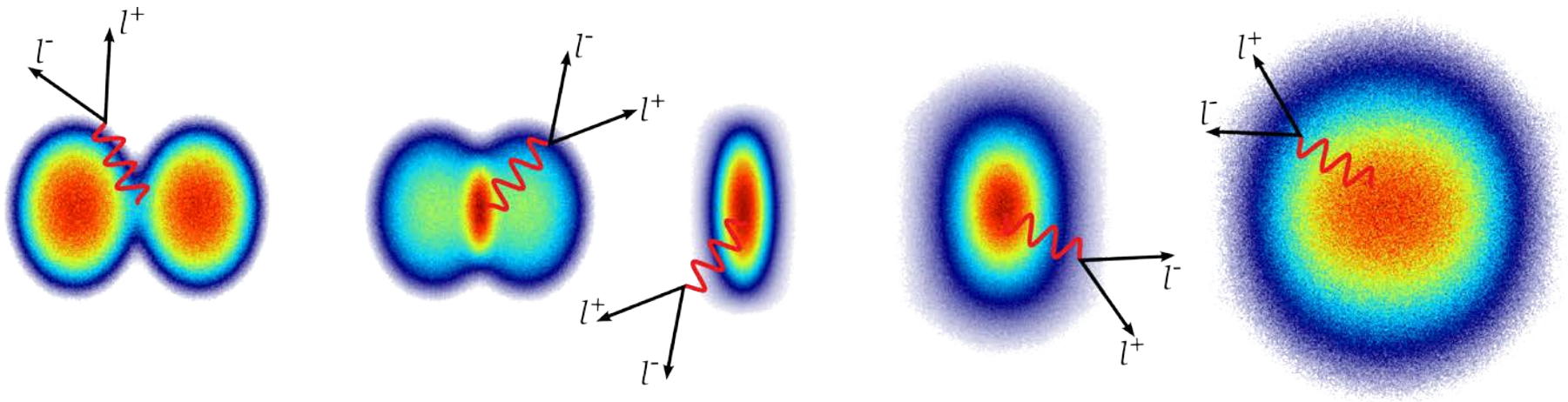
## Thermal dileptons as fireball probes

XLVII. Arbeitstreffen Kernphysik in Schleching

Florian Seck – TU Darmstadt



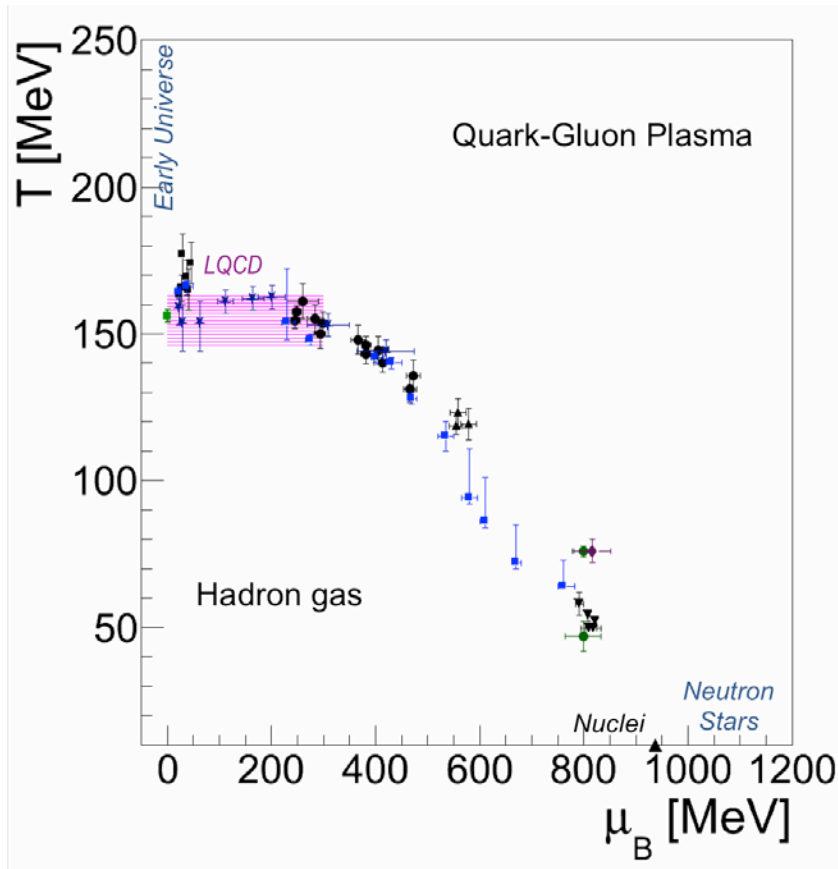
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# Landmarks in the phase diagram of QCD matter

## ► What do we know?

- chemical „freeze-out“ from measured particle yields analyzed with Statistical Hadronization Model
- crossover transition at vanishing  $\mu_B$  (lattice QCD)



SHM : J. Cleymans: PRC 73 (2006) 034905, A. Andronic PLB 673 (2009) 142

ALICE : J. Stachel, arXiv:1311.4662

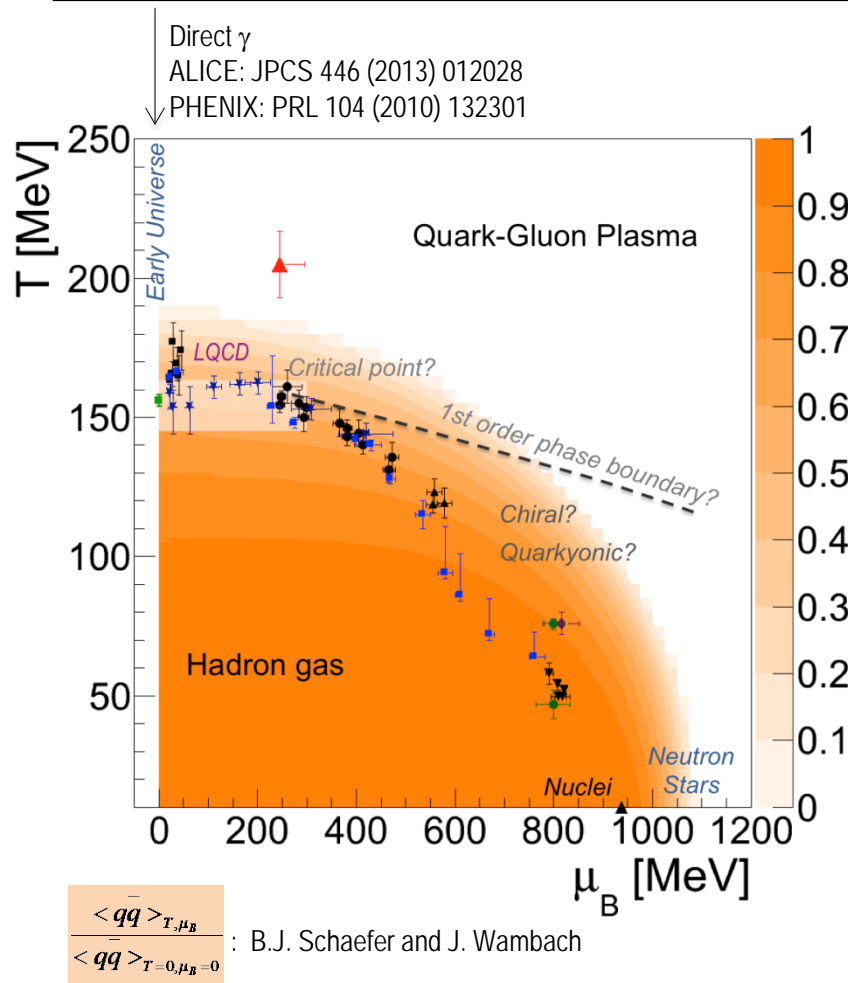
STAR : PRC 79 (2009) 034909

HADES : NPA 931 (2014)

FOPI : PRC 76 (2007) 052203

Lattice :  $T_c(\mu_B) = 154(9) [1-0.0006(7)\mu_B^2]$  MeV

# Landmarks in the phase diagram of QCD matter



▲ NA60 ( $\mu^+\mu^-$ ) : H.J. Specht: AIP Conf. Proc. 1322 (2010)

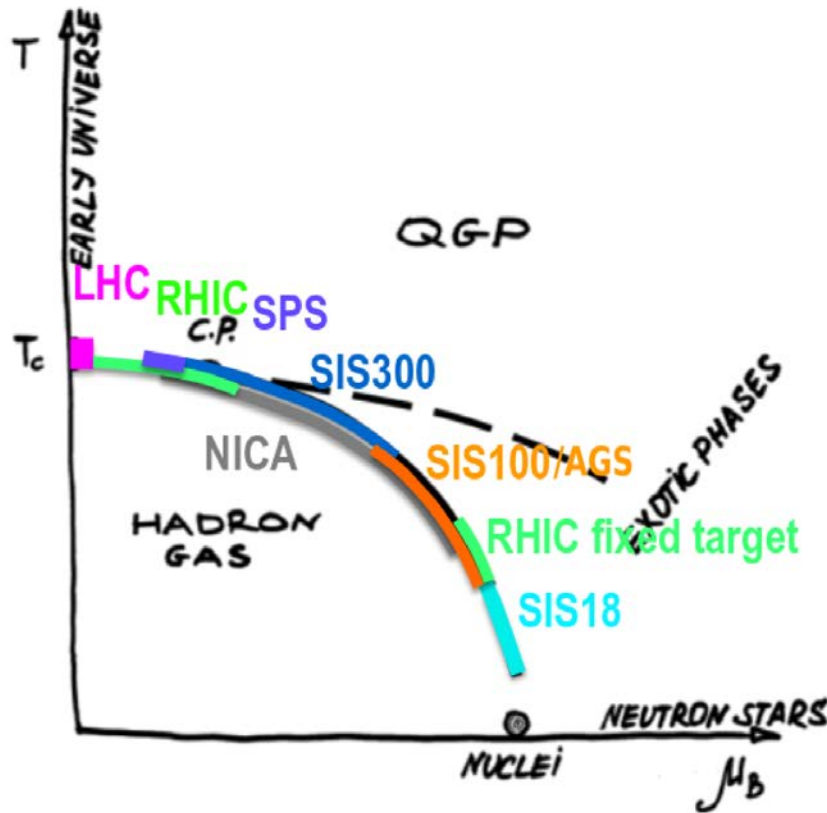
## What do we know?

- chemical „freeze-out“ from measured particle yields analyzed with Statistical Hadronization Model
- crossover transition at vanishing  $\mu_B$  (lattice QCD)

## What is predicted?

- possible 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition and critical point at large  $\mu_B$
- QCD inspired effective models predict the melting of the condensate (order parameter)  $\chi$

# Exploring QCD phase structure with heavy-ion experiments using **rare** probes



## ► What could be done?

### ► phase boundary(ies)

→ fluctuations of conserved quantum numbers

→ flavor production (multi-strange, charm)

### ► change in microscopic degrees of freedom

### ► restoration of chiral symmetry

### ► emitting source temperature

→ electromagnetic probes leave collision zone undistorted

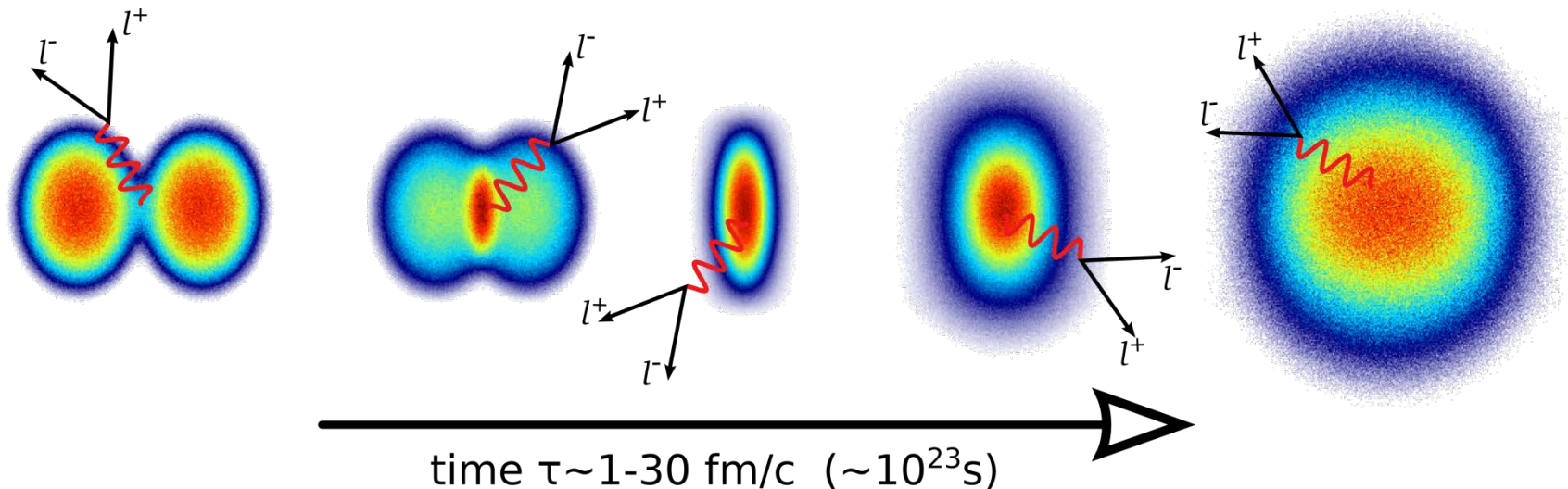
→ real photons only carry transverse momentum

→ dileptons carry extra information: invariant mass

# Electromagnetic probes in heavy-ion collisions

Dileptons are emitted during the whole history of a heavy-ion collision:

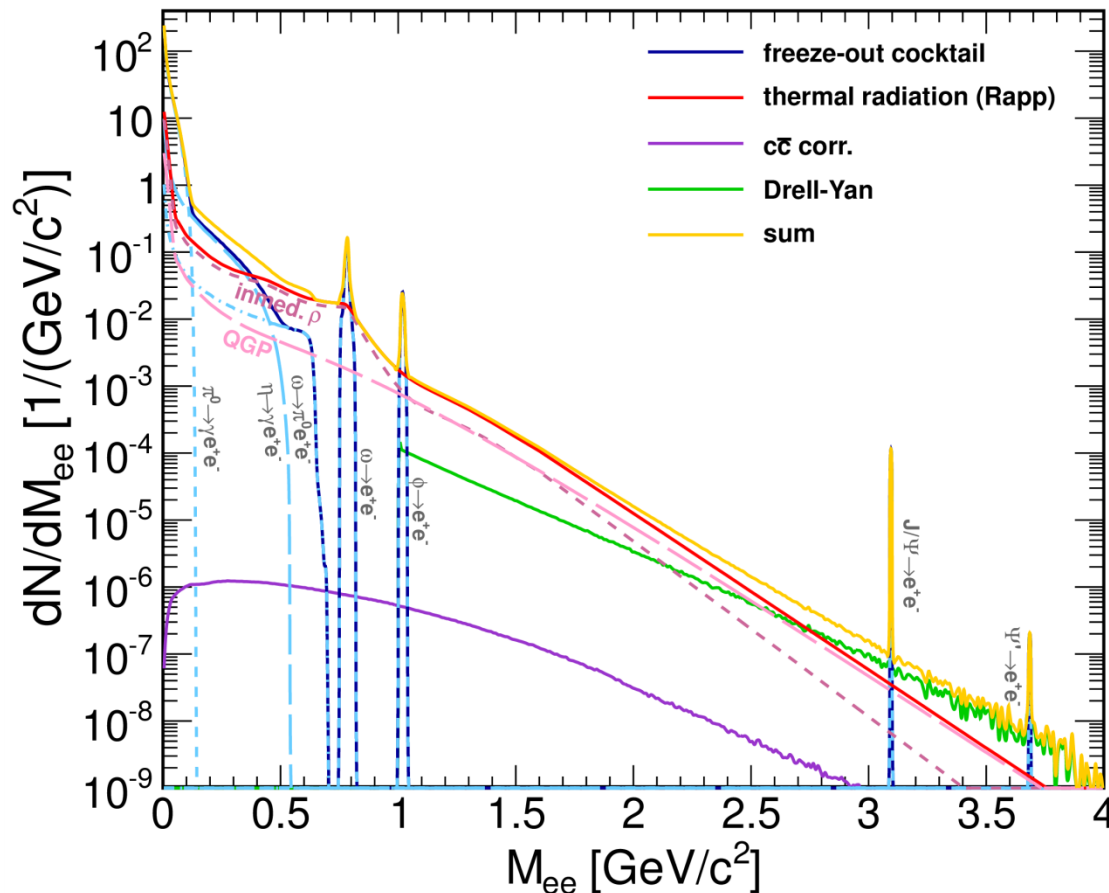
- ▶ from pre-equilibrium phase
- ▶ from thermalized medium: QGP and hot hadron gas
- ▶ from decays after thermal freeze-out



# Electromagnetic probes in heavy-ion collisions

Hadronic “cocktail” + thermal signal

Dilepton spectra reflect whole history of collision



➔ crucial to have:

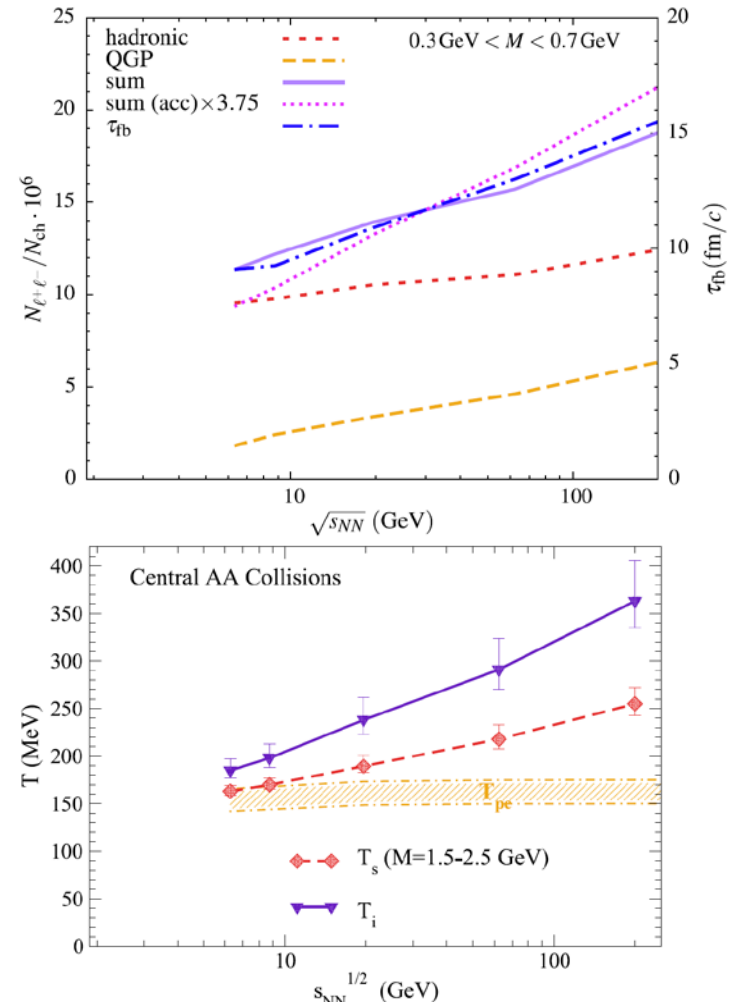
- ▶ realistic emission rates
- ▶ accurate description of fireball evolution



# Electromagnetic probes in heavy-ion collisions

## Insights from theory

- ▶ integrated yield of thermal radiation in the mass range  $0.3\text{--}0.7\text{ GeV}/c^2$  is sensitive to the lifetime of the fireball  
R. Rapp, H. van Hees: PLB 753 (2016) 586–590
- ▶ dilepton yield determined by interplay between temperature and fireball volume
- ▶ slope of dileptons in the intermediate-mass range constitutes a blue-shift free fireball thermometer



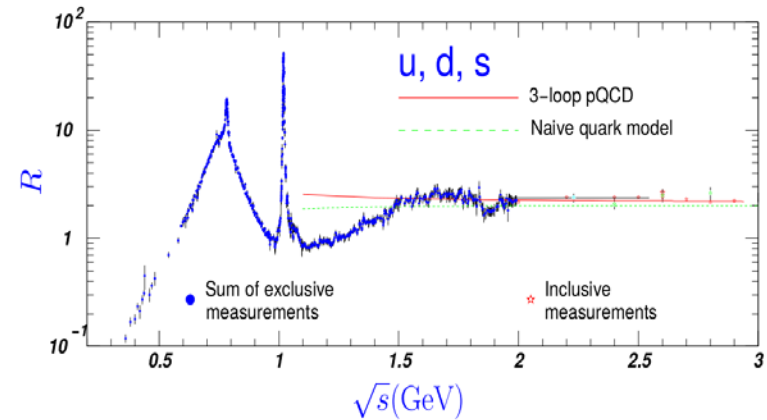
# Realistic dilepton emission rates

## 8-differential thermal production rate

$$\frac{dN_{ll}}{d^4x d^4q} = -\frac{\alpha_{\text{EM}}^2}{\pi^3 M^2} f^B(q \cdot u; T) \text{Im}\Pi_{\text{EM}}(M, q; \mu_B, T) \quad \leftarrow \text{dileptons}$$

$$q_0 \frac{dN_\gamma}{d^4x d^3q} = -\frac{\alpha_{\text{EM}}}{\pi^2} f^B(q \cdot u; T) \text{Im}\Pi_{\text{EM}}(q_0 = q; \mu_B, T) \quad \leftarrow \text{photons}$$

$$R = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} \propto \frac{\text{Im}\Pi_{\text{EM}}^{\text{vac}}}{M^2}$$

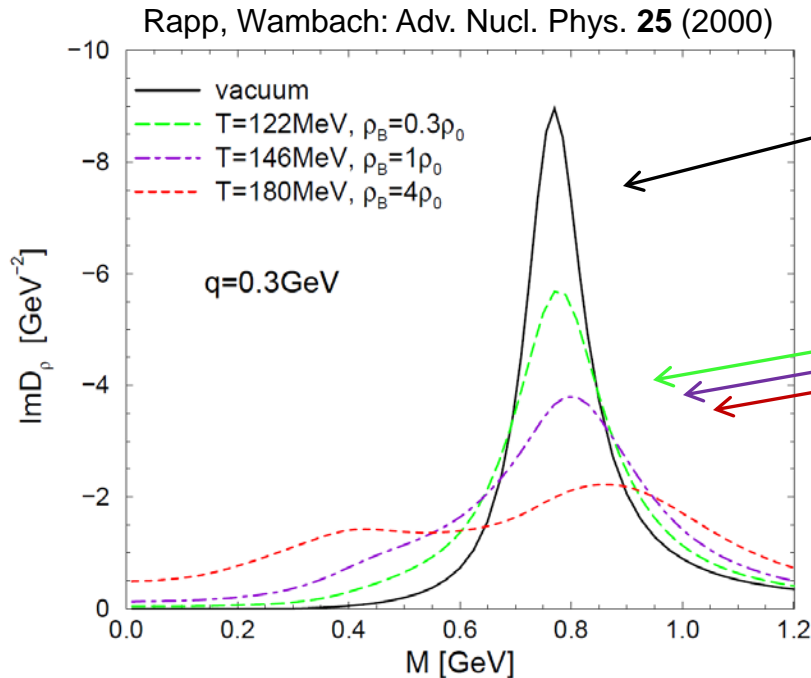


$$\text{Im}\Pi_{\text{EM}}^{\text{vac}}(M) = \begin{cases} \sum_{v=\rho,\omega,\phi} \left(\frac{m_v^2}{g_v}\right)^2 \text{Im}D_v^{\text{vac}}(M), & M < M_{\text{dual}}^{\text{vac}} \simeq 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2 \\ -\frac{M^2}{12\pi} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s(M)}{\pi} + \dots\right) N_c \sum_{q=u,d,s} (e_q)^2, & M > M_{\text{dual}}^{\text{vac}} \end{cases}$$

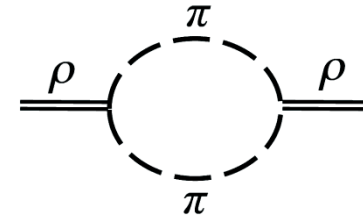


# Realistic dilepton emission rates

## The $\rho$ meson in nuclear matter

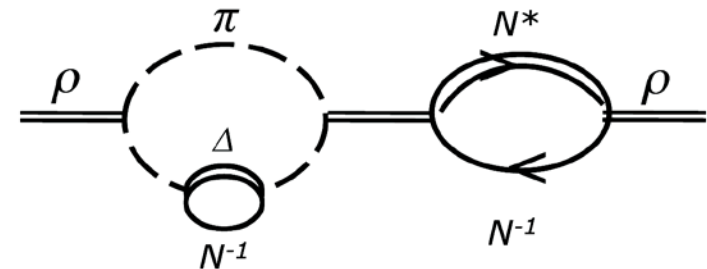


vacuum



medium

$$D_\rho(M, q; \mu_B, T) = [M^2 - m_\rho^2 - \Sigma_{\rho\pi\pi} - \Sigma_{\rho B} - \Sigma_{\rho M}]^{-1}$$



The  $\rho$  spectral function strongly broadens in the medium as the  $\rho$  meson couples to baryons !

additional contributions to the  $\rho$  meson self-energy in the medium

# Realistic dilepton emission rates

## Hadronic matter

### ► parameterization of Rapp-Wambach

#### in-medium $\rho$ spectral function

Rapp, Wambach: Eur. Phys. J. A **6** (1999) 415-420

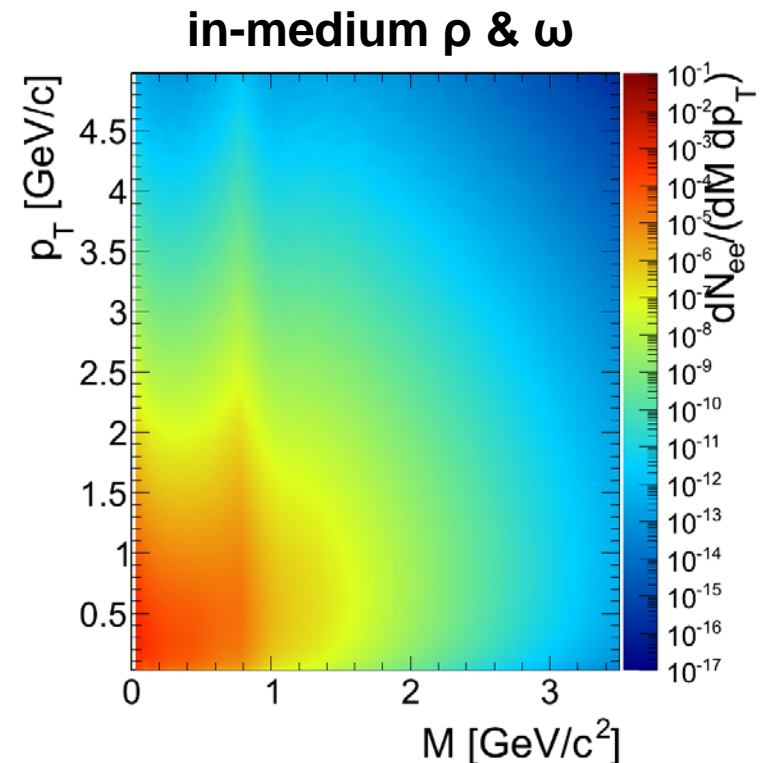
### ► reproduces excess

#### for available experimental data well

- CERES
- NA60
- STAR (including BES)
- PHENIX with HBD

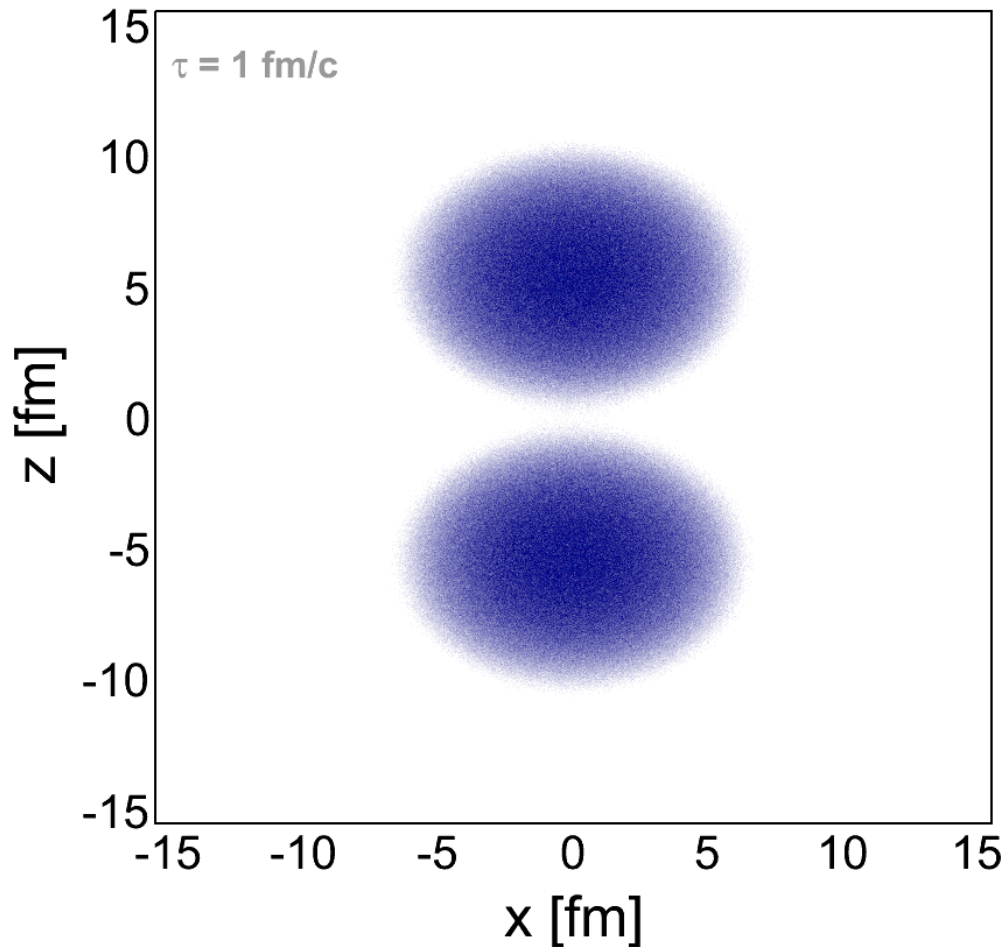
### ► at higher masses: include hadronic continuum radiation

Hohler, Rapp: Phys. Lett. B **731** (2014) 103-109



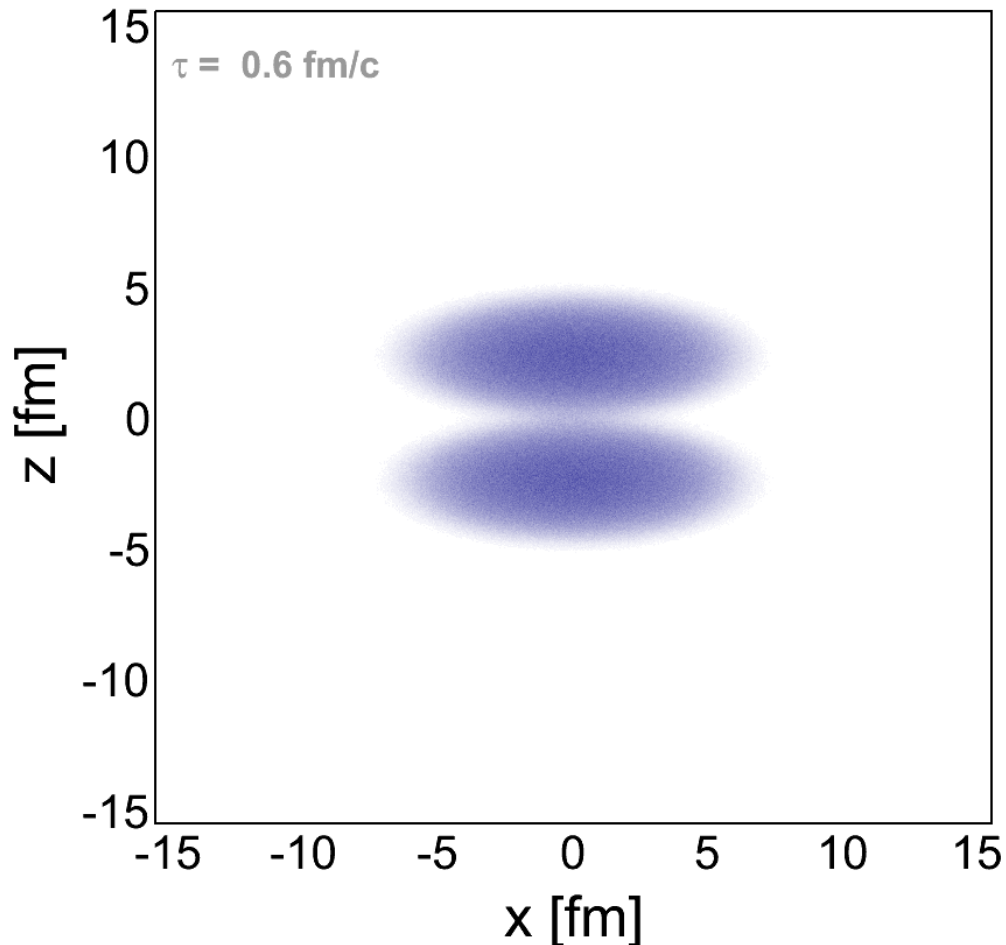
# Space-time evolution of a heavy-ion collision

Au+Au at 1.23 AGeV ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.4$  GeV) → HADES energy regime



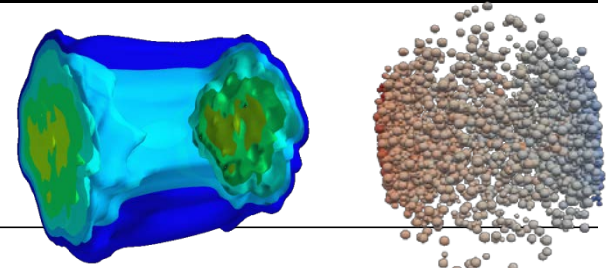
# Space-time evolution of a heavy-ion collision

Au+Au at 11 AGeV ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 4.9$  GeV) → CBM energy regime

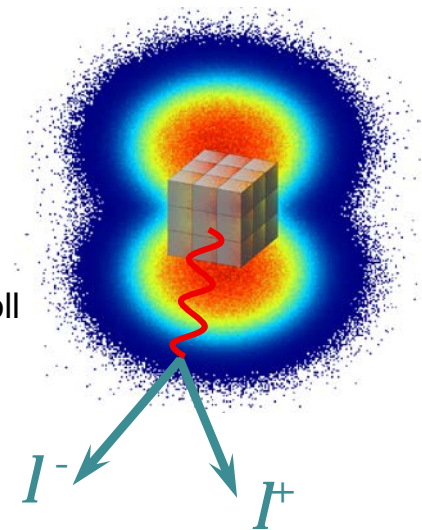


# Description of the fireball evolution

## Coarse-graining of hadronic transport



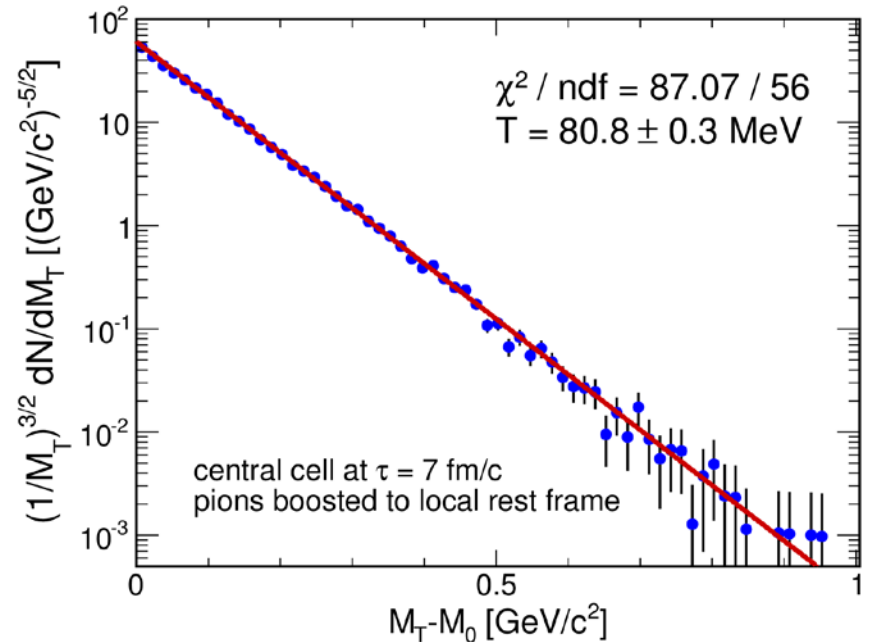
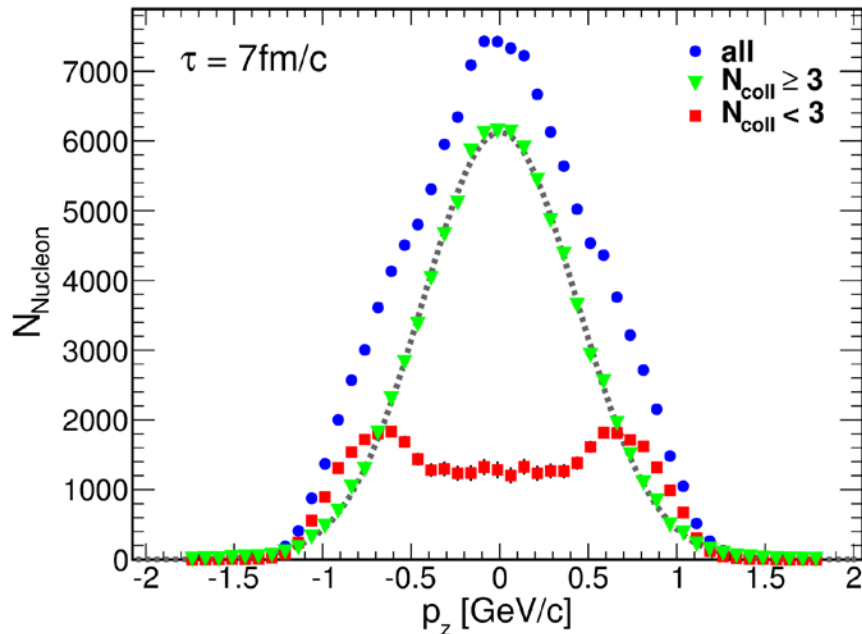
- ▶ “combine” the advantages of both descriptions: hydrodynamics & transport
- ▶ simulate events with a transport model
  - ensemble average to obtain smooth space-time distributions
- ▶ divide space-time evolution into 4-dimesional cells
  - 21 x 21 x 21 space cells (1fm<sup>3</sup>), 30 time steps → ~ 280 k cells
- ▶ determine for each cell the bulk properties like  $T$ ,  $\rho_B$  &  $v_{\text{coll}}$
- ▶ calculate dilepton rates based on these inputs
- ▶ sum up the contributions of all cells
- ▶ similar approaches by



- ▶ Huovinen *et al.*: Phys. Rev. C **66** (2002) 014903
- ▶ Endres *et al.*: Phys. Rev. C **91** (2015) 054911, Phys. Rev. C **92** (2015) 014911

# Local thermalization?

## Momentum distributions of nucleons ( $N_{\text{coll}} \geq 3$ ) & pion $m_t$ spectra

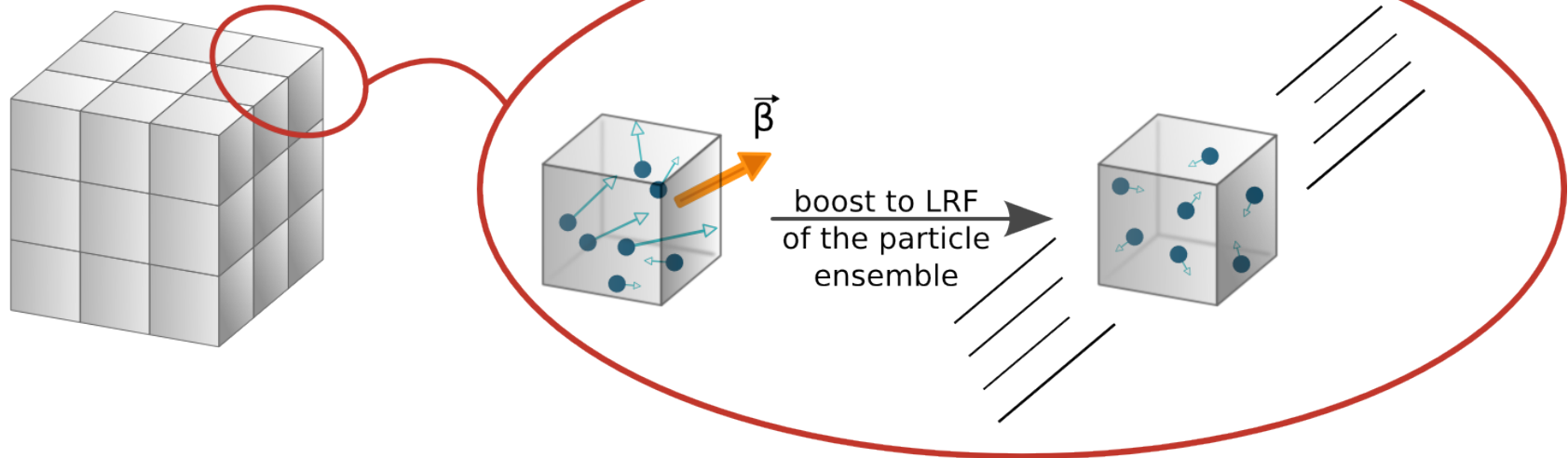


- ▶ Gaussian shaped  $p_z$  distribution builds up for nucleons with  $N_{\text{coll}} \geq 3$
- ▶  $m_t$  spectra show exponential shape



# Determination of bulk properties

(Baryon) density & collective flow velocity



- ▶ baryon density via 4-current  $j_{\text{CF}}^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \varrho_{\text{CF}} \\ \varrho_{\text{CF}} \vec{\beta}_{\text{cell}} \end{pmatrix}$
- ▶ particles described by normalized 3D Gaussians
- ▶ perform Lorentz-boost into the local rest frame, where the baryon current vanishes

(Eckart frame) 
$$j_{\text{LRF}}^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \varrho_{\text{LRF}} \\ \vec{0} \end{pmatrix} = j_{\text{CF},\nu} \Lambda^{\mu\nu}(\vec{\beta}_{\text{cell}})$$


# Determination of bulk properties

## Temperature

- ▶ in Boltzmann approximation

$$\frac{d^3N}{d\vec{p}} = \frac{d^3N}{dp_z p_t dp_t d\theta} \propto \exp(-E/T)$$

- ▶ integration over rapidity and azimuthal angle


$$\frac{1}{m_t^{3/2}} \frac{dN}{dm_t} \propto \exp(-m_t/T)$$

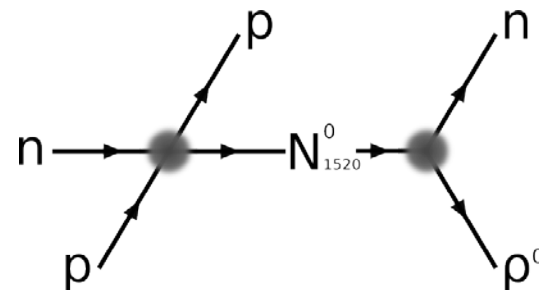
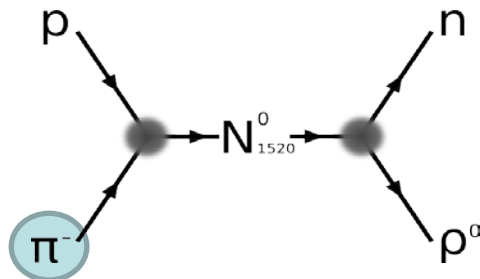
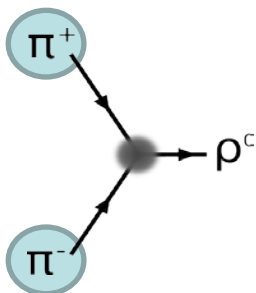
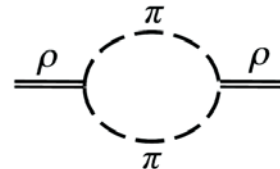
- ▶ subtract mean flow  $v_{\text{coll}}$  of the cells from particle motion
- ▶ fill  $m_t$  spectra & fit exponential function to extract  $T$
- ▶ use different fit ranges / particle species to get the systematics

# Out of chemical equilibrium ?

## Build-up of effective chemical potentials

- ▶ thermal emission rates assume chemical equilibrium
- ▶ chemical non-equilibrium possible, e.g. after chemical freeze-out
  - ▶ no more inelastic interactions → pion number conserved
  - ▶ system in thermal equilibrium cools down further → too many pions
  - ▶ cured by build-up of an effective chemical potential  $\mu_\pi$

- ▶ pions determine the  $\rho$  self-energy



- ▶ include a factor  $(z_\pi)^k$  into the dilepton rates with the fugacity  $z = \exp\left(\frac{\mu_\pi}{T}\right)$ 
  - ▶ exponent  $k$  reflects the main production mechanism of  $\rho$  mesons

# Out of chemical equilibrium ?

## Derivation of the effective chemical potentials

- ▶ particle density in Boltzmann approximation

$$n = \frac{g}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d^3\vec{p} \exp(-\beta (E - \mu)).$$

- ▶ carrying out the momentum integral yields  $n = \frac{4\pi g m^3}{(2\pi)^3} z \frac{1}{\beta m} K_2(\beta m)$

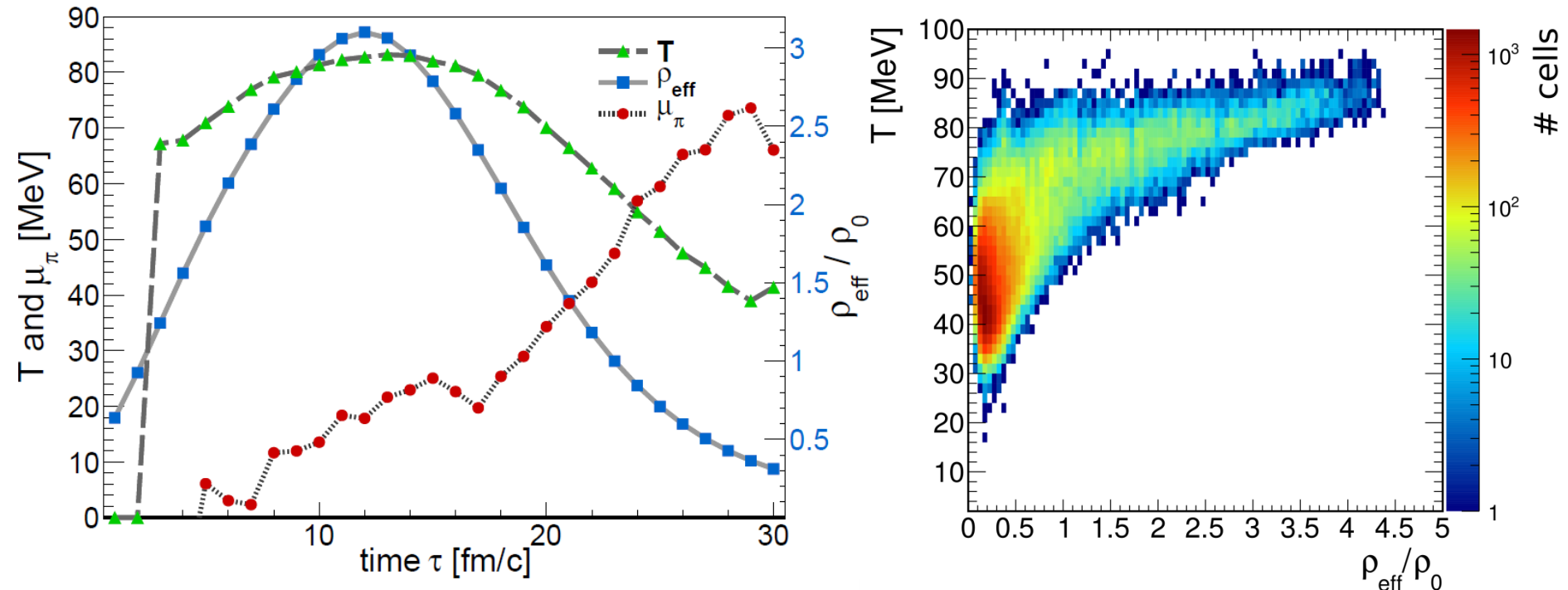
- ▶ solving for the chemical potential results in

$$\mu = T \ln \left( \frac{2\pi^2 n (\hbar c)^3}{g T m^2 K_2\left(\frac{m}{T}\right)} \right)$$

# Results

Au+Au at 1.23 AGeV

- ▶ evolution of  $T$ ,  $\rho_{\text{eff}}$  and  $\mu_{\pi}$  in the central cube of  $7 \times 7 \times 7$  cells
- ▶ location of cells in the temperature-density plane

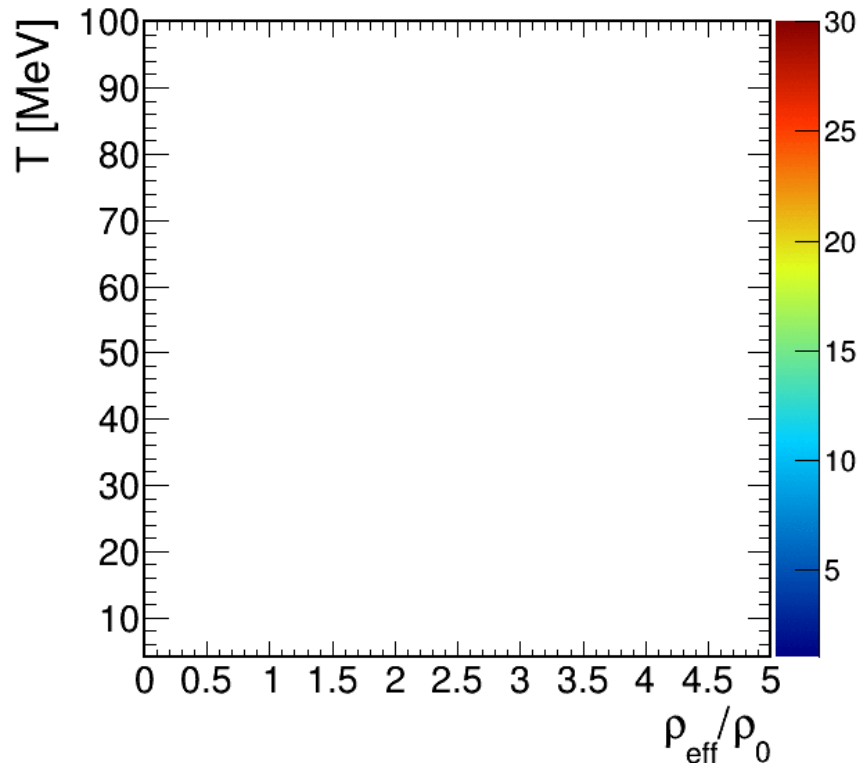


# Results

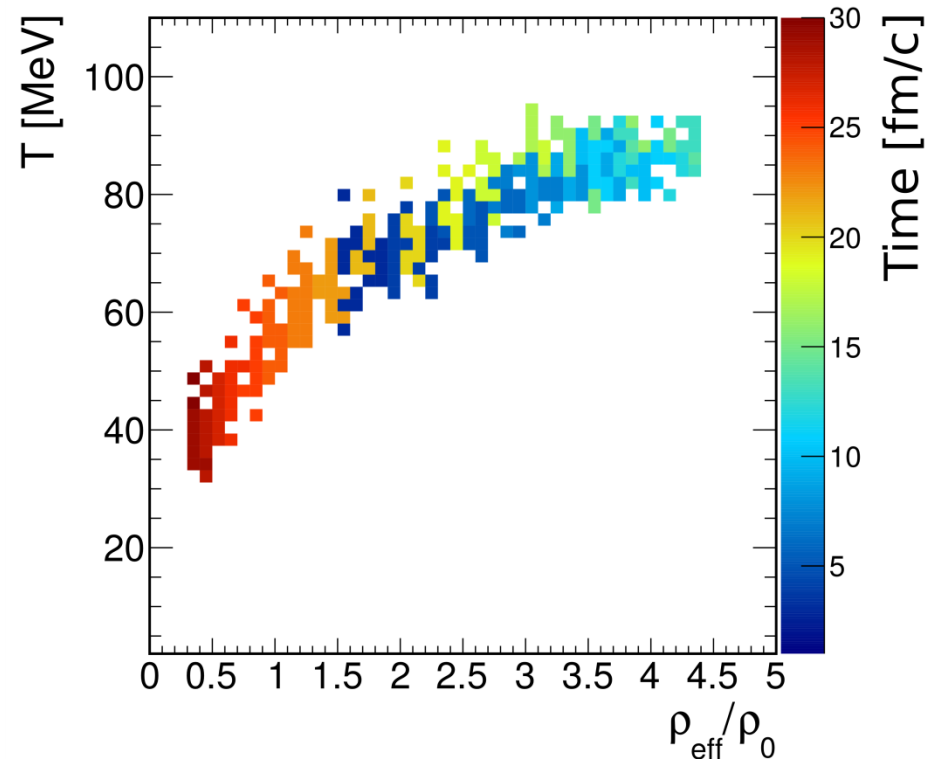
Au+Au at 1.23 AGeV

- ▶ trajectories of the cells in the temperature-density plane

all cells



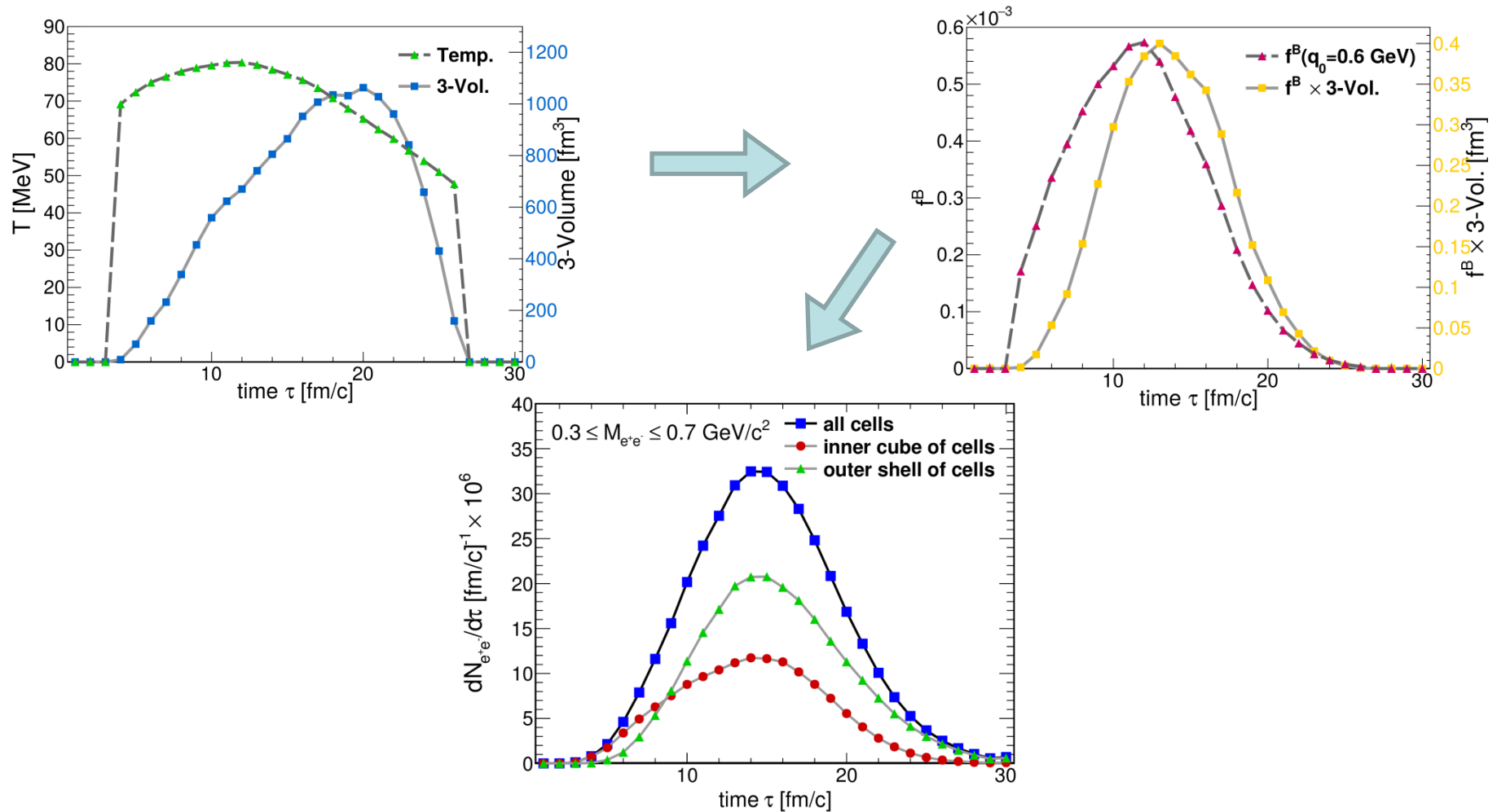
inner 3x3x3 cube





# Results

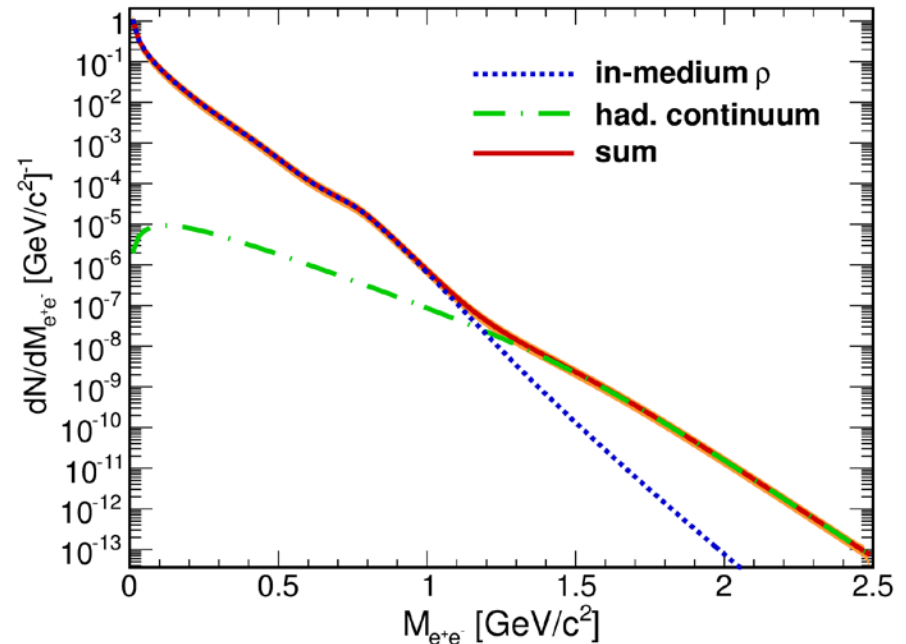
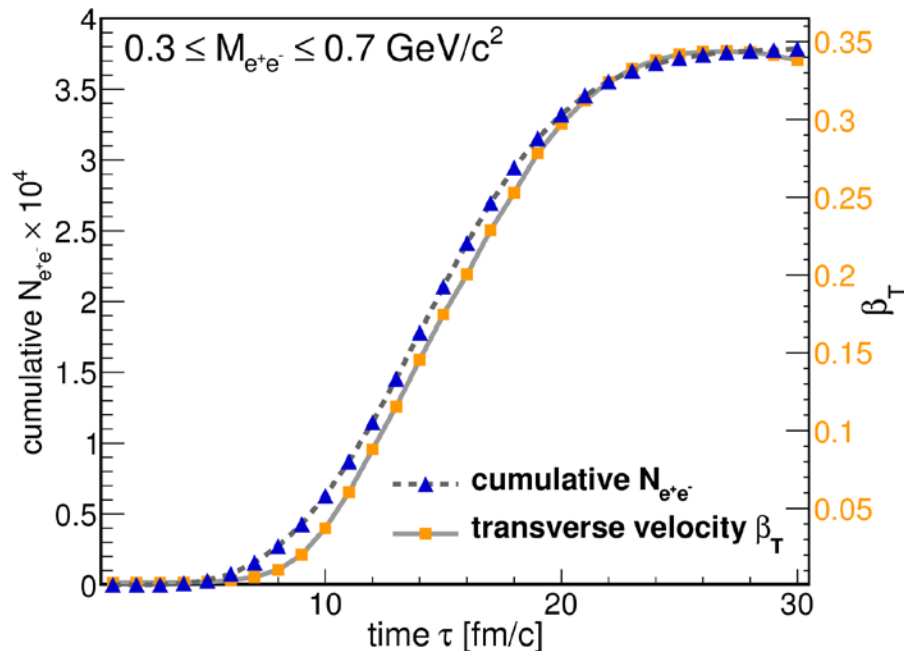
## Interplay temperature – fireball volume



# Results

T. Galatyuk, P. M. Hohler, R. Rapp, F. Seck, J. Stroth  
arXiv:1512.08688 [nucl-th]

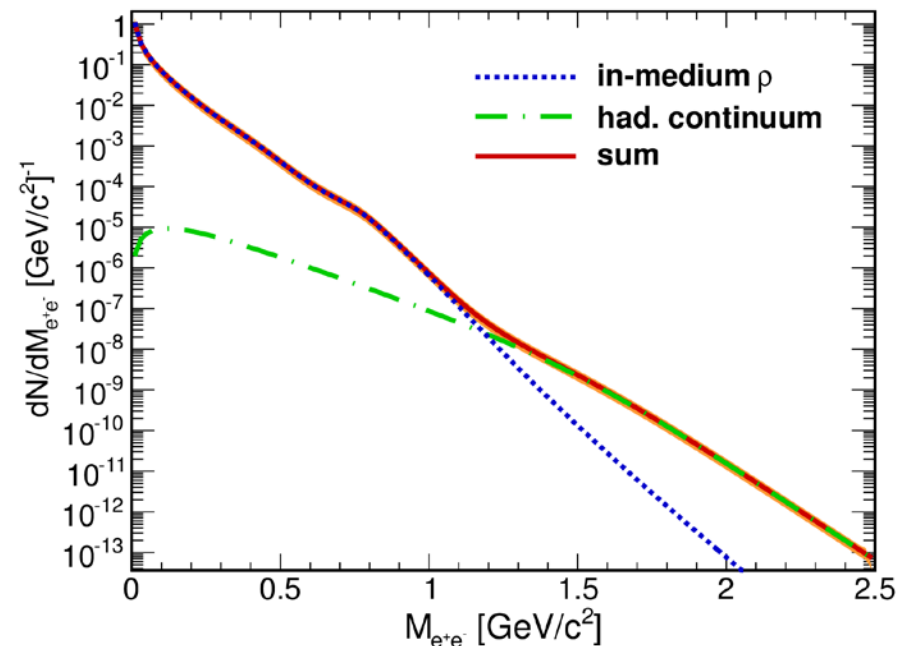
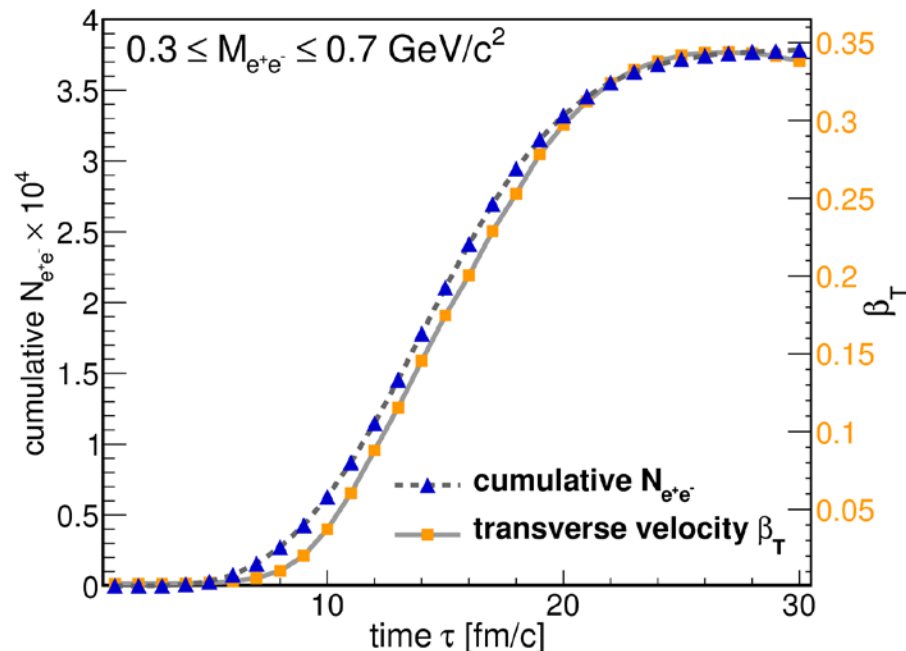
- ▶ time evolution of cumulative dilepton yield in mass window  $M = 0.3\text{--}0.7\text{ GeV}/c^2$
- ▶ active radiation window  $\sim 13\text{ fm}/c$  follows build-up of collective medium flow
- ▶ strong medium effects on  $\rho$ -meson  $\Rightarrow$  remarkably structureless low-mass spectrum



# Results

T. Galatyuk, P. M. Hohler, R. Rapp, F. Seck, J. Stroth  
arXiv:1512.08688 [nucl-th]

- ▶ radiation stems from time interval with highest densities, different at higher energies
- ▶  $dR_{ll}/dM \propto (MT)^{3/2} \exp(-M/T)$
- ▶ inverse slope parameter:  $T_s = 88 \pm 5$  MeV in IMR,  $T_s = 64 \pm 5$  MeV in LMR



- ▶ dileptons are excellent fireball probes
  - ▶ thermometer & chronometer
- ▶ thermal dilepton spectra from highest to lowest energies
  - ▶ realistic thermal dilepton emission rates
  - ▶ accurate description of fireball evolution in terms of  $T$ ,  $\rho_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $v_{\text{coll}}$  and  $\mu_{\pi}$
  - ▶ coarse-graining of hadronic transport at SIS energies
- ▶ baseline for future explorations
  - ▶ any significant deviation can indicate new physics!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !