

# Open-Quantum-Systems: Precision Thermometry at the Extremes

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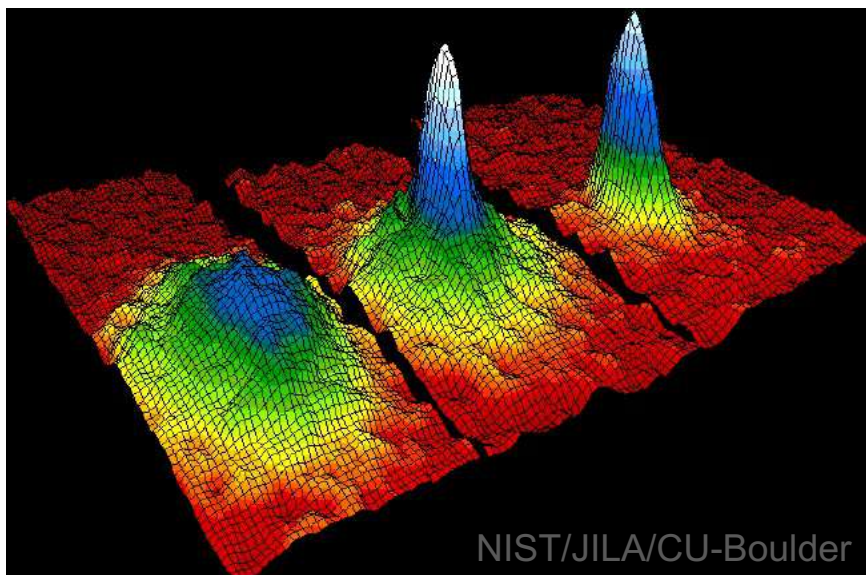
**Some selected references:**

- O. Ålund, Y. Akamatsu, F. Laurén T. Miura, J. Nordstöm, A.R. JCP **425** (2021) 109917  
A.R. "Heavy Quarkonium in Extreme Conditions" Phys.Rept. **858** (2020)  
T. Miura, Y. Akamatsu, M. Asakawa, A.R. PRD**101** (2020) 034011  
M. Mehboudi et.al. PRL**122** (2019) 030403, Olf et.al. Nature Physics **11** (2015) 720

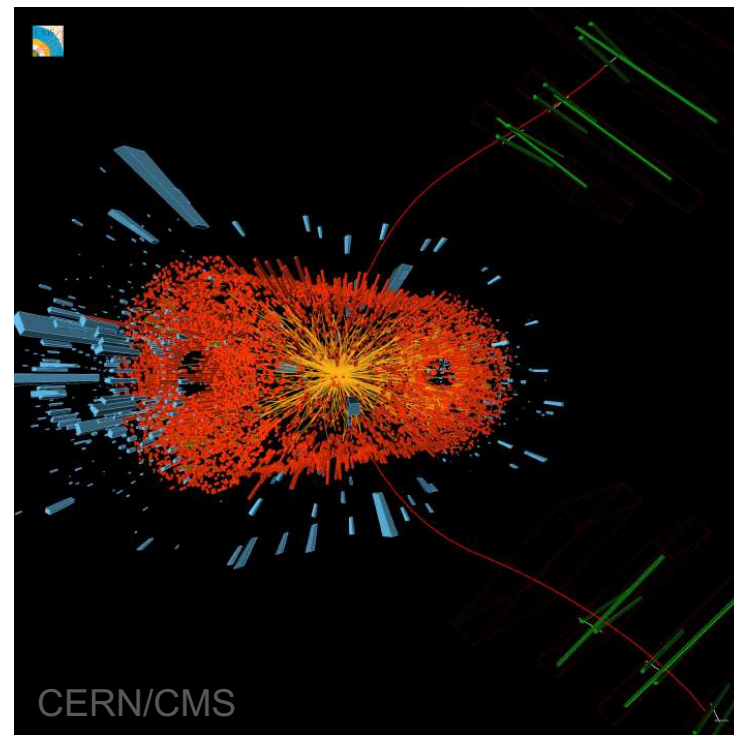


Norwegian Particle, Astroparticle  
& Cosmology Theory network

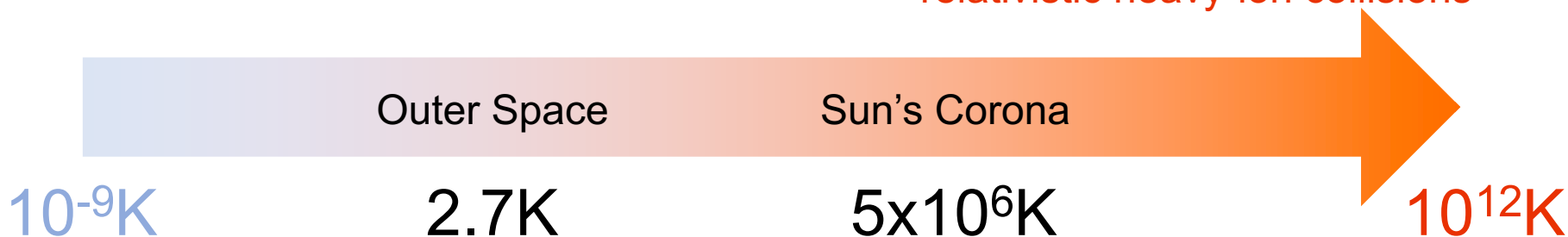
# Temperatures at the extremes



Bose Einstein Condensate (BEC)  
from trapped ultracold atoms



Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) from  
relativistic heavy-ion collisions



# What is Temperature

For a system with large enough number of degrees of freedom

$$\rho(T) = \sum_k \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E_k/k_B T} |E_k\rangle \langle E_k|$$

density matrix

probability for a  
state with  $E_k$

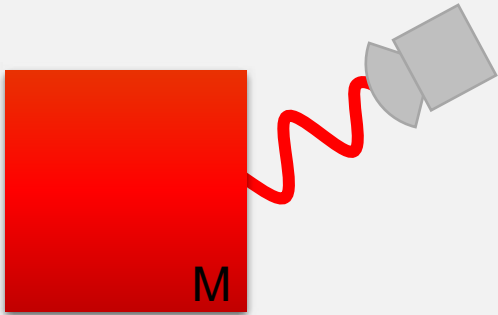
stationary state  
of energy  $E_k$

T is a **parameter** governing the **statistical distribution** of energy

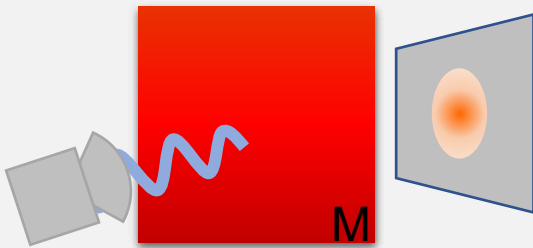
# Thermometry – Measuring Temperature

## Probeless

measure **statistics** of  $E$  or other  $T$  dep. observable

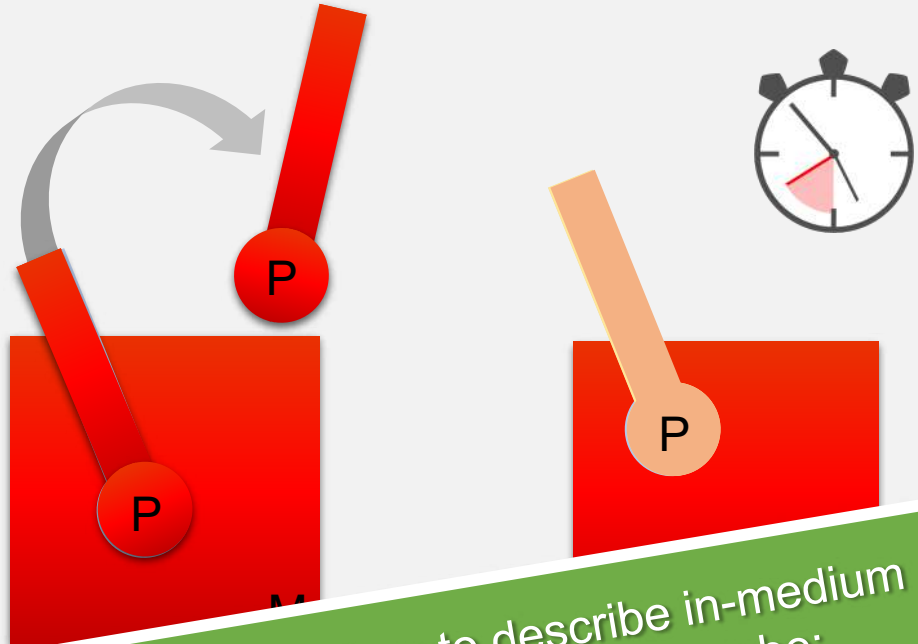


passive imaging



active imaging

## Probe based



Efficient formalism to describe in-medium quantum properties of the probe:  
**Open-Quantum Systems**

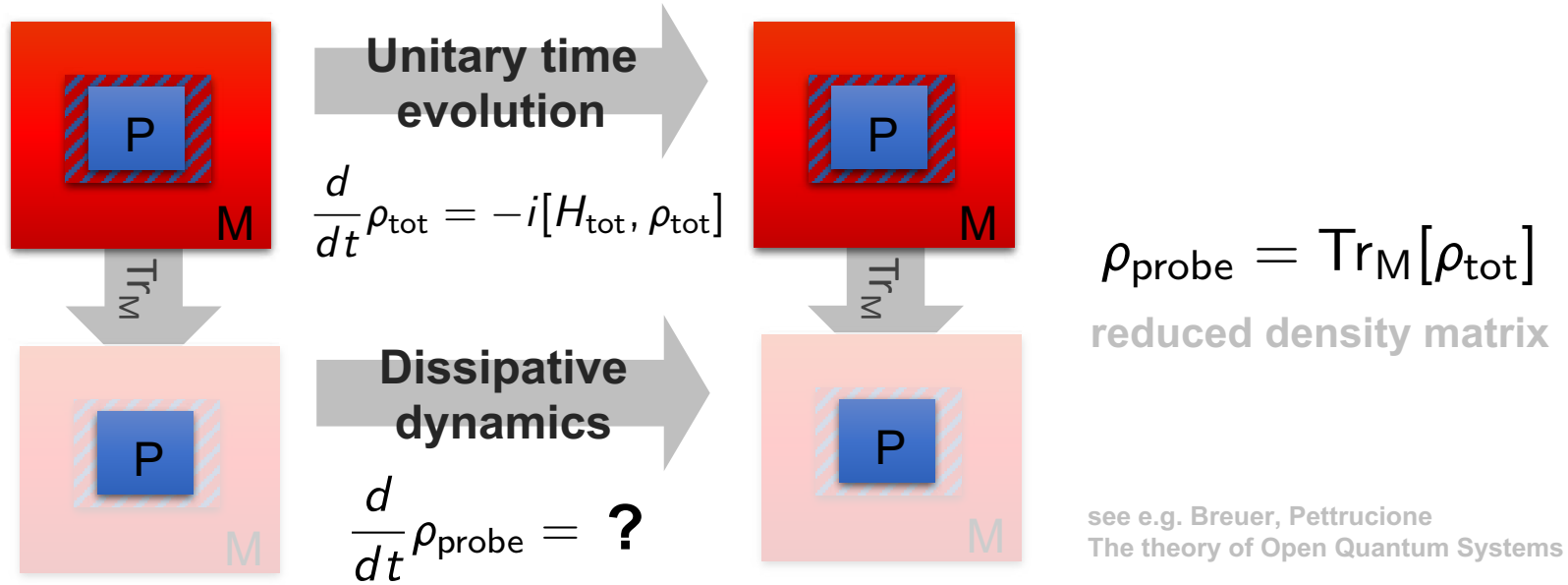
Dynamic

measure the **(non-)equilibrium properties** of the small probe system

# Open quantum systems

Need general approach to describe (small) probe coupled to a thermal medium

$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{probe}} \otimes I_M + I_{\text{probe}} \otimes H_M + H_{\text{int}} = H_{\text{tot}}^\dagger \quad \rho_{\text{tot}} = \sum_k \frac{1}{Z_{\text{tot}}} e^{-E_k/k_B T} |E_k\rangle\langle E_k|$$



In general, e.o.m. is a dissipative **master equation** with memory of past:

## BEYOND THE STANDARD SCHRÖDINGER EQUATION

**Separation of time-scales** determines the nature of the e.o.m. :

Medium relaxation scale  $\tau_M$  :

intrinsic probe scale  $\tau_P$  :

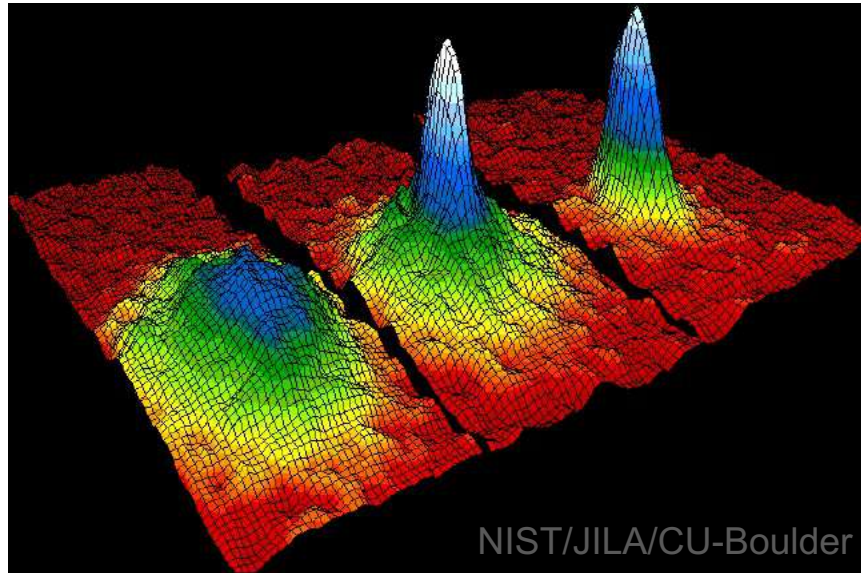
probe relaxation scale  $\tau_{\text{rel}}$  :

$$\langle \hat{O}_M(t) \hat{O}_M(0) \rangle \sim e^{-t/\tau_M}$$

$$\tau_P \sim 1/|\omega_i - \omega_j|$$

$$\langle p(t) \rangle \propto e^{-t/\tau_{\text{rel}}}$$

# The coldest matter in the universe



Bose Einstein Condensate (BEC)  
from trapped ultracold atoms

# Bose-Einstein Condensation

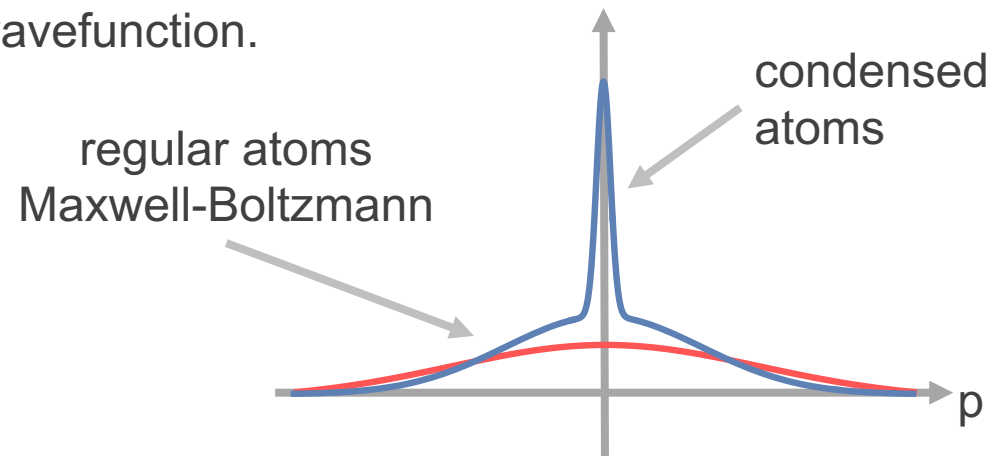
In 1924 Einstein & Bose predicted a **new phase** of bosonic matter at low T: **BEC**

A. Einstein König. Preuß. Akad. Wiss. (1924) 261

S. N. Bose *Zeitschrift für Physik*. 26 (1924) 178

Below a **critical temperature**, significant fraction of bosons **condense** into ground state with **macroscopic** wavefunction.

## boson gas momentum profile



**Laser light** shone on monoatomic gas induces viscous force, which reduces gas kinetic energy:  **$T \sim 100\text{nK}$**

D. J. Wineland et.al. PRL40 (1978) 1639

By changing the trapping potential the Maxwell tail of the gas can be **evaporated** off:  **$T < \text{nK}$**

see e.g. Anderson et.al. Science 269 (1995) 198

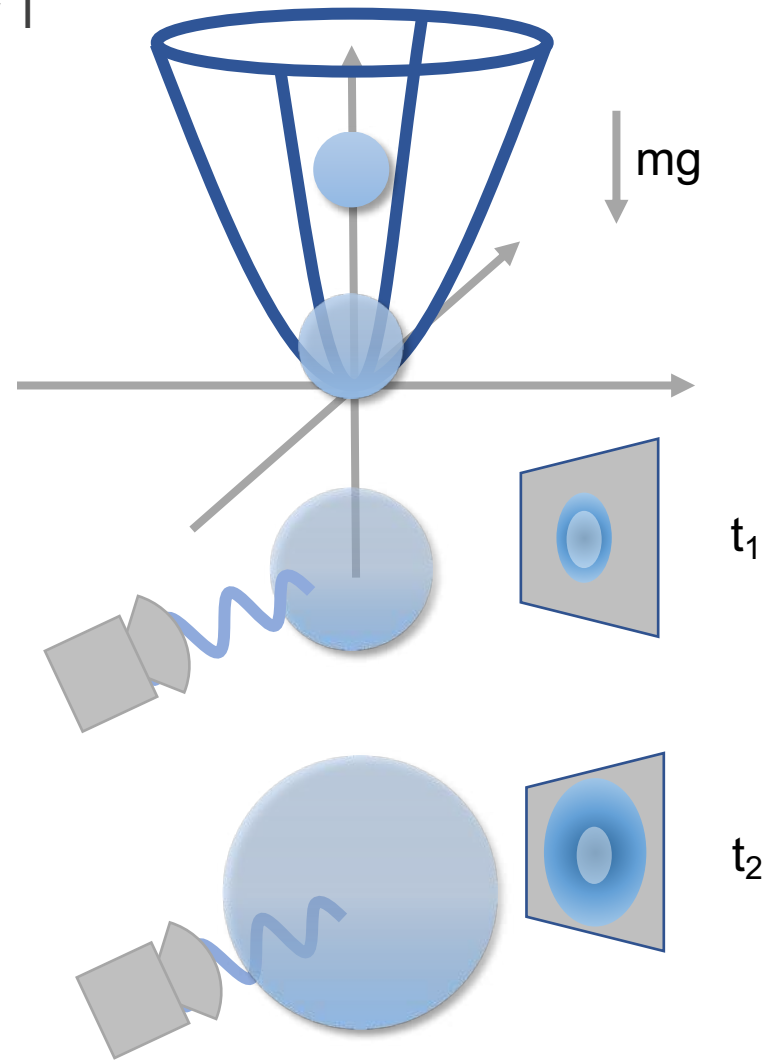


# A common way to measure T

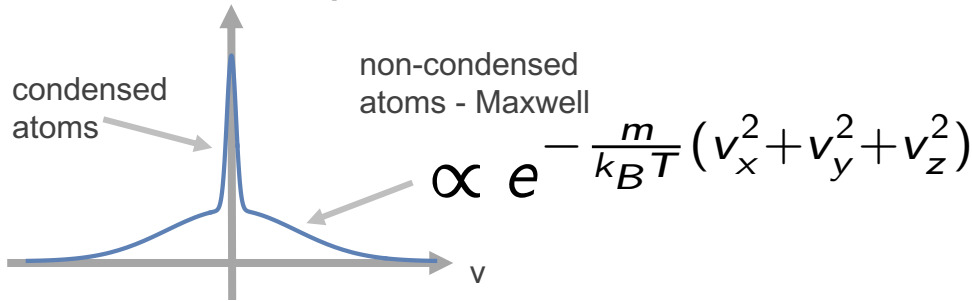
Goal: measure statistical distribution of  $v$  at low  $T$   
 via active imaging: **Time-Of-Flight method**

see e.g. P. Lett, et.al. PRL61 (1988) 169

**Velocity mixture** in Maxwell-Boltzmann leads to a  $T$ -dep. expansion of free-falling gas cloud



BEC momentum profile



$$P_{\text{TOF}}(t) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{g(t_0 - t)^2}{2\frac{k_B T}{m}}\right]$$

System of interest is **destroyed** during the process!

Only non-condensed atoms relevant, signal may be **shadowed** by condensed peak

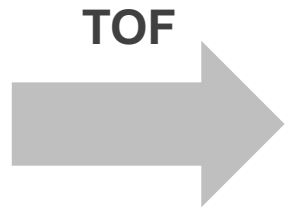
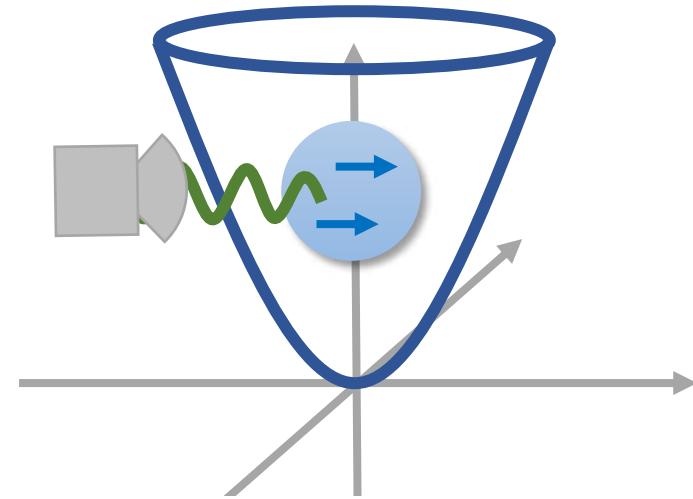


# Probes as precision enhancer

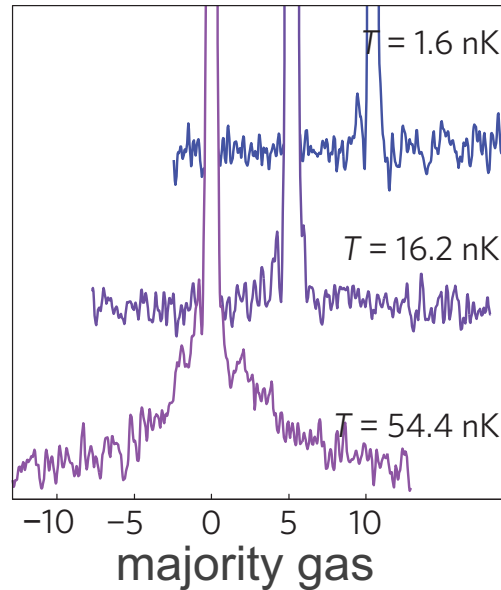
“Too cold to touch” – impurity probes must be embedded in the ensemble (thermal equilibrium)

majority gas  $|F=1, m_F=-1\rangle$ , minority of states via RF pulse into  $|F=1, m_F=0\rangle$   
 quasiparticle impurities **spinwaves**

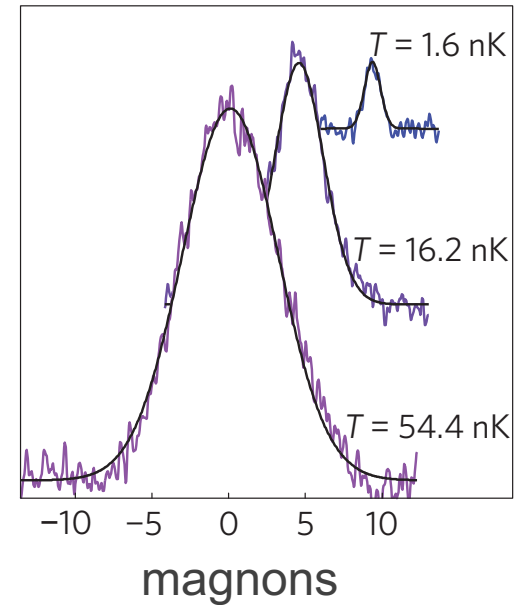
Quasiparticle magnons quickly thermalize but kept dilute enough not to condensate



$m_F \neq 0$  particles weeded out by microwave



Olf et al. Nature Physics 11 (2015) 720



Olf et al. Nature Physics 11 (2015) 720

# Non-destructive precision thermometry

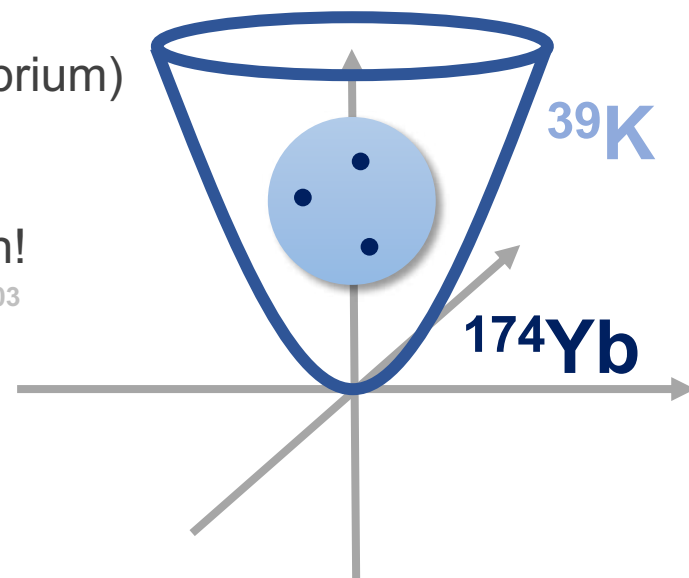
“Too cold to touch” – impurities of different atom species (polarons) embedded in the ensemble (equilibrium)

Laser cool **majority gas**  $^{39}\text{K}$  together with **minority gas**  $^{174}\text{Yb}$ . (Quantum) Brownian motion!

see e.g. M. Mehboudi et.al. PRL122 (2019) 030403

What properties of the probe allow us to obtain most precise measurement (sensitivity)?

see e.g. M. Mehboudi et.al. J. Phys. A52 (2019) 303001



$$\delta T[\hat{O}] = \frac{\text{error in T measurement}}{\text{spread in impurity property}} = \frac{\langle \hat{O}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{O} \rangle^2}{\sqrt{N \chi_T^2[\hat{O}]}} \quad \text{classically random var.} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \quad \text{quantum Cramer-Rao bound} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{N \mathcal{F}[T]}}$$

# of measurements      how sensitive is O to T

Fisher information

Optimum sensitivity  $\chi_T[\hat{O}] = \partial_\xi \text{Tr}[\rho_{\text{probe}}(\xi) \hat{O}]_{\xi=T}$  reached via unique quantity  $\hat{\Lambda}_T$ :

$$\hat{\Lambda}_T \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} + \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} \hat{\Lambda}_T = 2 \partial_T \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{\Lambda}_T^{\text{QBM}} = C_x(\hat{x}^2 - \langle \hat{x}^2 \rangle) + C_p(\hat{p}^2 - \langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle)$$

“symmetric logarithmic derivative”      optimal observable from  $\rho_{\text{probe}}$

# Quantum Brownian Motion

Iconic model of an Open Quantum System: **heavy point-like impurity** in a medium of harmonic oscillators

see e.g. Breuer, Petruccione *The theory of Open Quantum Systems*

$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{probe}} \otimes I_M + I_{\text{probe}} \otimes H_M + H_{\text{int}}$$

$$\frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m_p} + \sum_k E_k \hat{b}_k^\dagger \hat{b}_k + \sum_k \hbar g_k \hat{x} (\hat{b}_k + \hat{b}_k^\dagger)$$

$g_k$ : all details M-P interaction

how to derive an evolution equation for the probe particle?

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho_{\text{probe}}(t) = -i \text{Tr}_M \left[ [H_{\text{tot}}, \rho_{\text{probe}} \otimes \rho_M] \right]$$

Born approximation

$$\tau_{\text{rel}} > \tau_M$$

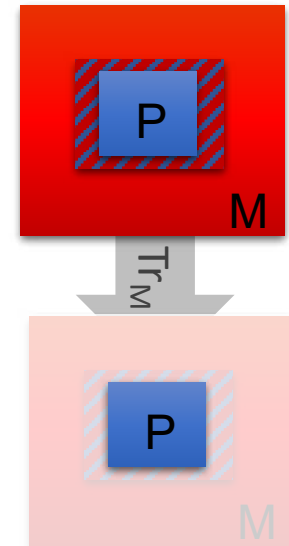
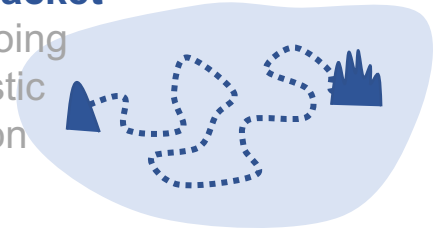
Markovian approximation

$$\tau_P > \tau_M$$

Brownian motion limit

**wave packet**

undergoing stochastic evolution



yields the **Caldeira-Leggett** master equation “damping rate”  $\gamma(g_k)$  explicitly computable

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} = \underbrace{-\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}_{\text{probe}}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}]}_{\text{coherent dynamics}} - \underbrace{\frac{2m\gamma k_B T}{\hbar^2} [\hat{x}, [\hat{x}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}]]}_{\text{fluctuations}} - \underbrace{\frac{i\gamma}{\hbar} [\hat{x}, \{\hat{p}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}\}]}_{\text{dissipation}} - \frac{\gamma}{8m_p k_B T} [\hat{p}, [\hat{p}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}]]$$

# The Lindblad equation

A **general mathematical structure** is hiding in the Quantum-Brownian motion e.o.m.

Summarize medium effects on probe by **one operator** and **one damping rate**

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}} = \sqrt{\frac{4m_p k_B T}{\hbar^2}} \hat{x} + i \sqrt{\frac{1}{4m_p k_B T}} \hat{p} \quad \text{Lindblad operator for QBM}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}_{\text{probe}}, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}] + \sum_k \gamma_k \left( \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}} \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} [\hat{\mathcal{L}}_k^\dagger \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k, \hat{\rho}_{\text{probe}}] \right)$$

Lindblad equation for Markovian open quantum systems

G. Lindblad Commun. Math. Phys. 48 (1976) 119,  
V. Gorini, et.al. J. Math. Phys. 17 (1976) 821

prover

$\langle r$

All ingredients are ready to compute predictions for precision low T thermometry using Quantum Brownian probe particles

sanity

$$\delta T[\hat{O}] = \frac{\langle \hat{O}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{O} \rangle^2}{\sqrt{N \chi_T^2[\hat{O}]}} \quad \hat{\Lambda}_T^{\text{QBM}} = C_x (\hat{x}^2 - \langle \hat{x}^2 \rangle) + C_p (\hat{p}^2 - \langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{x} \rangle$$

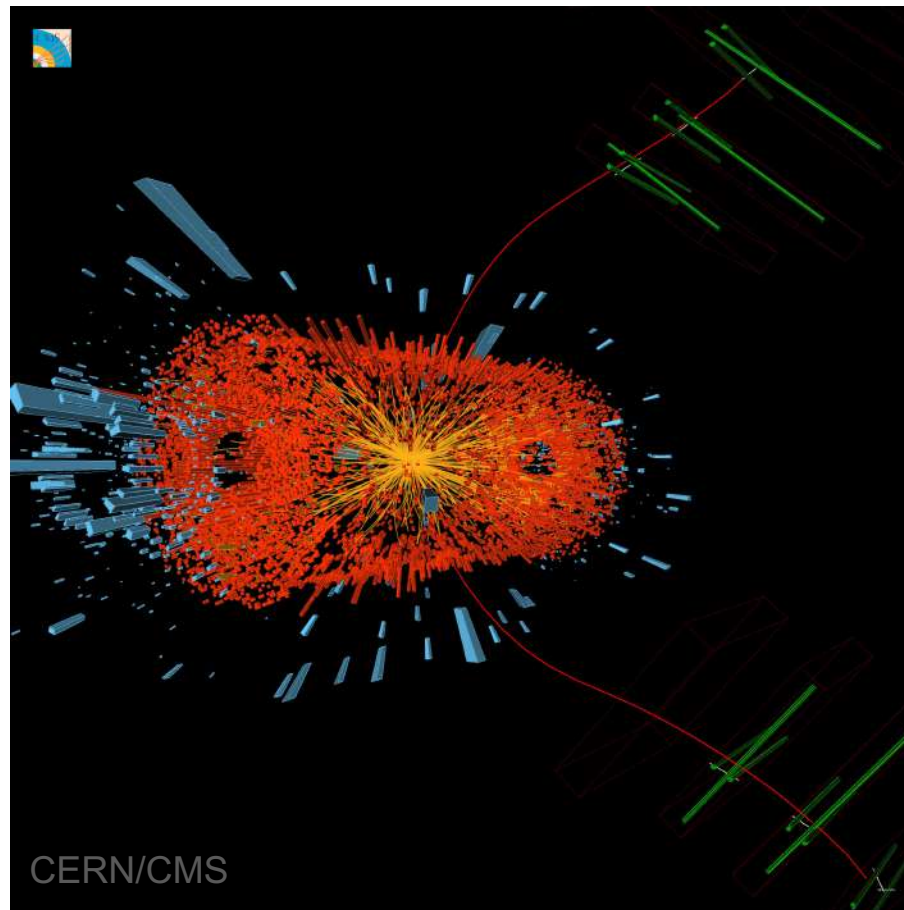
$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{p} \rangle$$

$$\gg \frac{k_B T}{m_p \gamma} t$$

caveat: neglected possible memory effects etc. - simplest case study

to classical Brownian motion

# The hottest matter in the universe



Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) from  
relativistic heavy-ion collisions

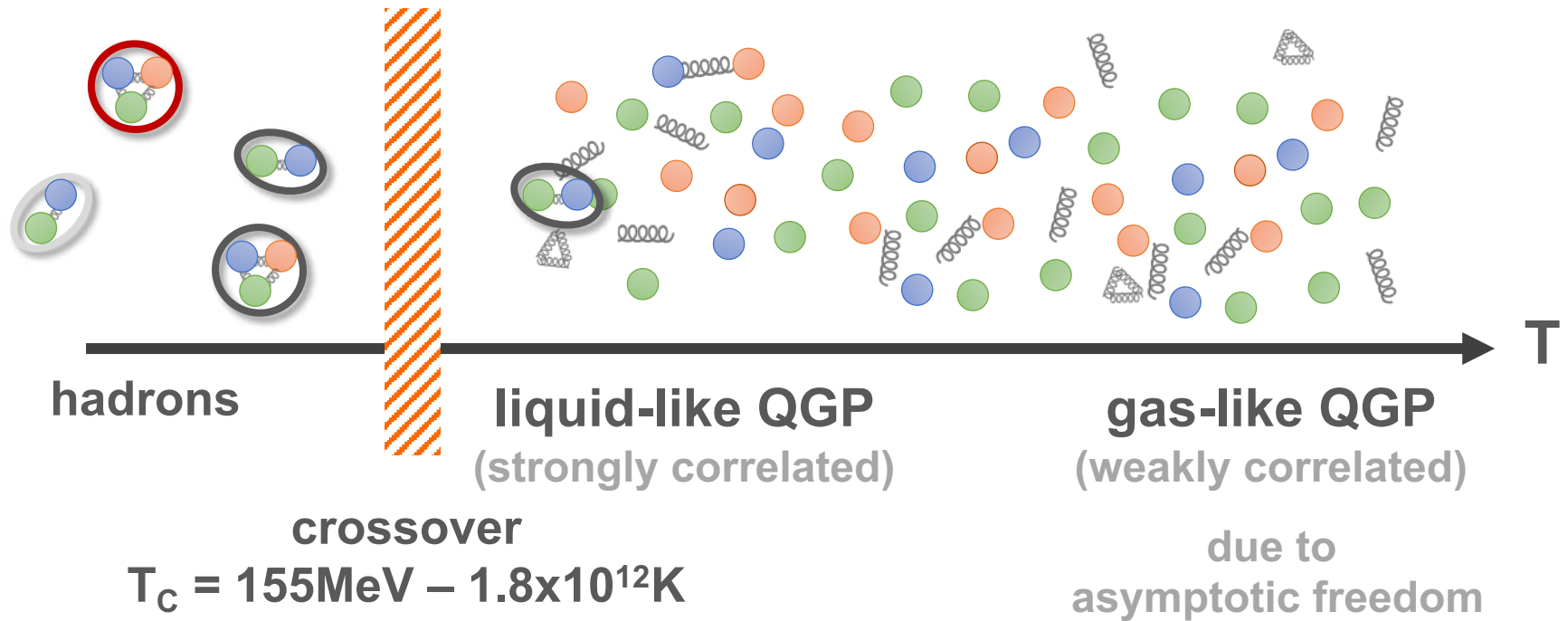
# Quark-Gluon Plasma

In 1965 Hagedorn hinted at existence of a **new phase** of nuclear matter at high T: **QGP**

R. Hagedorn Nuovo Cimento, Suppl. 3, no. CERN-TH-520 (1965): 147

nuclear matter at T=276K: strongly-interacting quarks and gluons **confined** into hadrons

for a review see T. Hatsuda and K. Fukushima Rept.Prog.Phys. 74 (2011) 014001



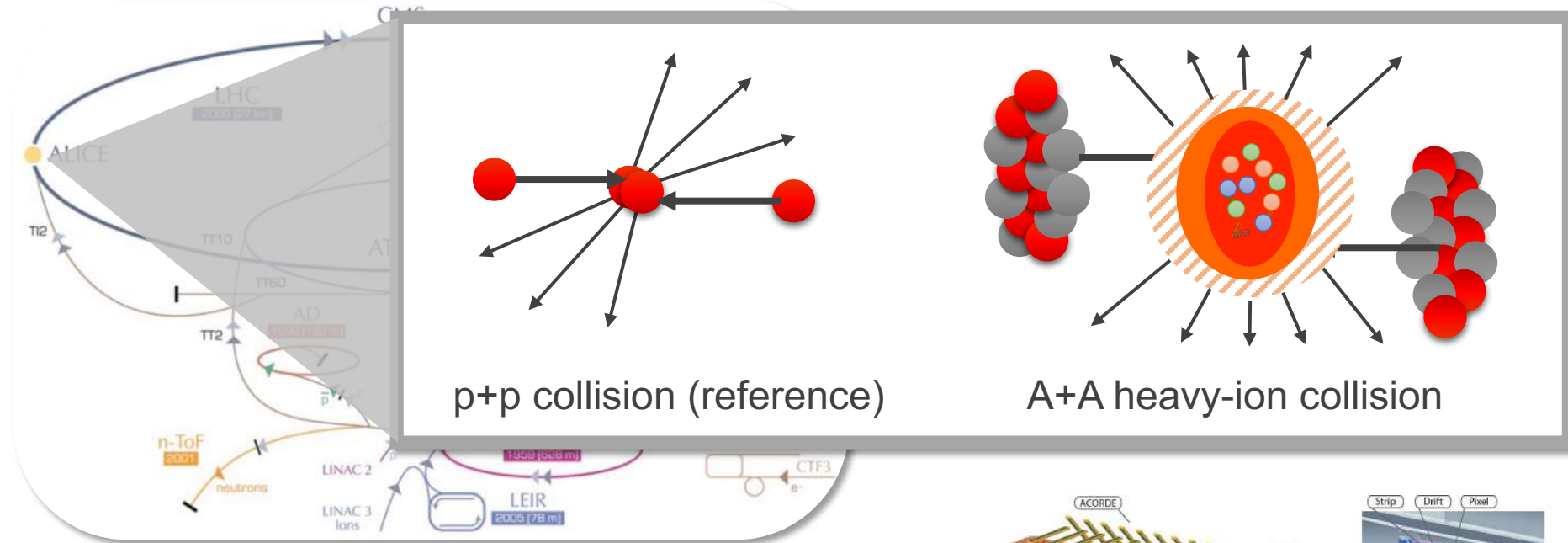
QGP filled the universe shortly after the **Big Bang** – possibly exists inside **neutron stars**

Hatsuda et. al. "QGP: From Big Bang to little Bangs" Cambridge

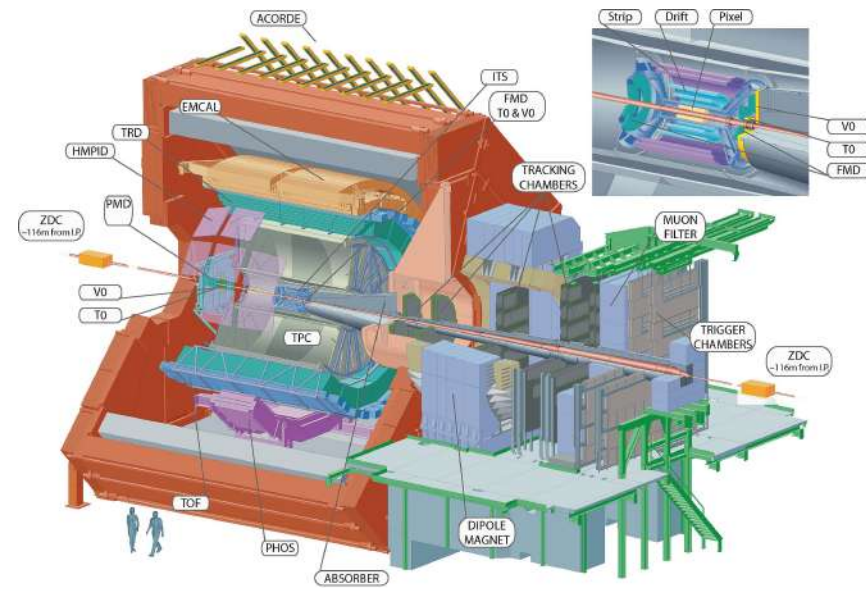
Annala et.al. Nature Physics 16 (2020) 907

Theory basis: **Quantum ChromoDynamics (QCD)**, the field theory of quarks & gluons endowed with a triple valued **charge called color** (r,g,b)

# Relativistic heavy-ion collisions



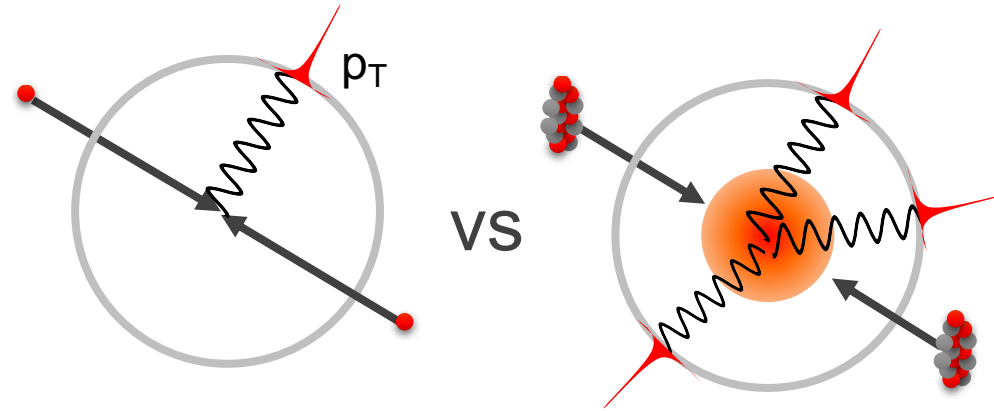
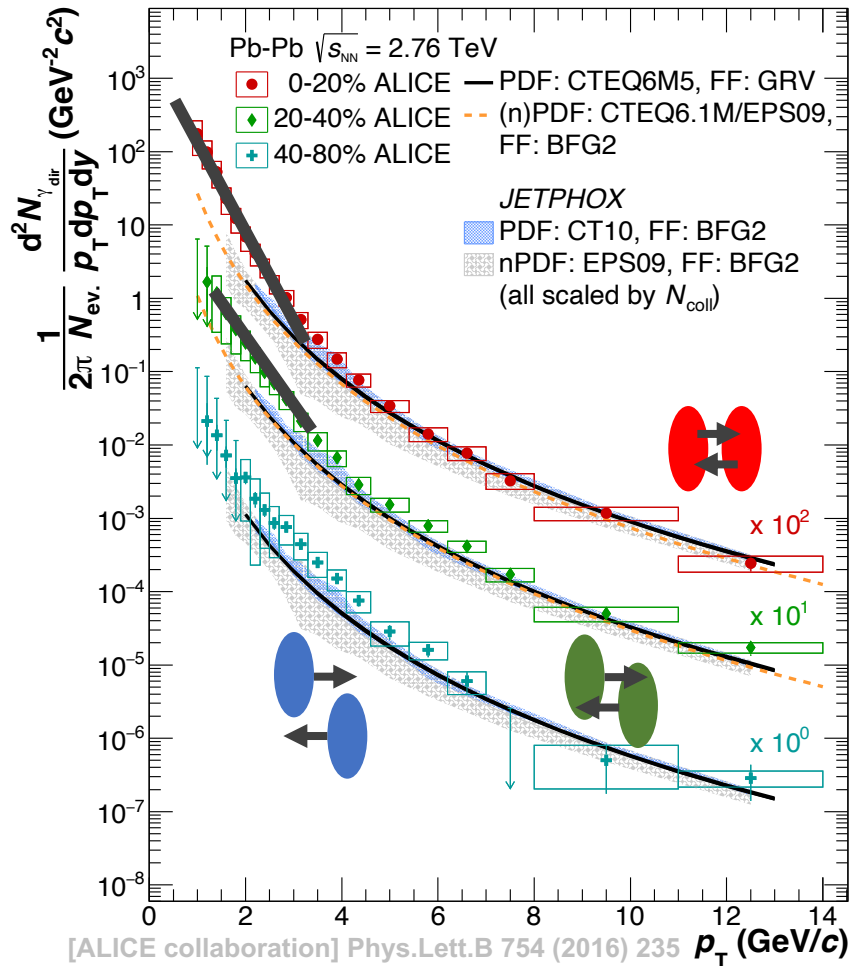
- Vast amount of kinetic energy transformed into new quarks and gluons
- In RHICs: high enough number density of quarks to form a locally thermal QGP
- Compare p+p result vs. A+A results to infer presence and properties of medium





# Radiation Thermometry

## Photon spectrum emitted by a RHIC



passive imaging

see e.g. K. Reygers CERN Courier 55 (2015) 22

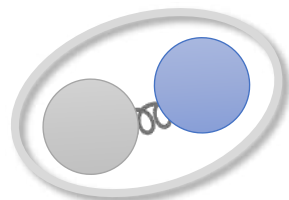
- **At high  $p_T$ :** photons from highly energetic quark collisions before formation of QGP. similar to multiple p+p collisions added.
- **At low  $p_T$ ,** expect photon emission from the QGP to dominate: **excess** over rescaled p+p
- Fitting excess with Maxwell-Boltzmann:  $300 < T < 400 \text{ MeV} \gg T_C$

■ Challenge: photon source not obvious – really from the QGP?

# Heavy Quarkonium

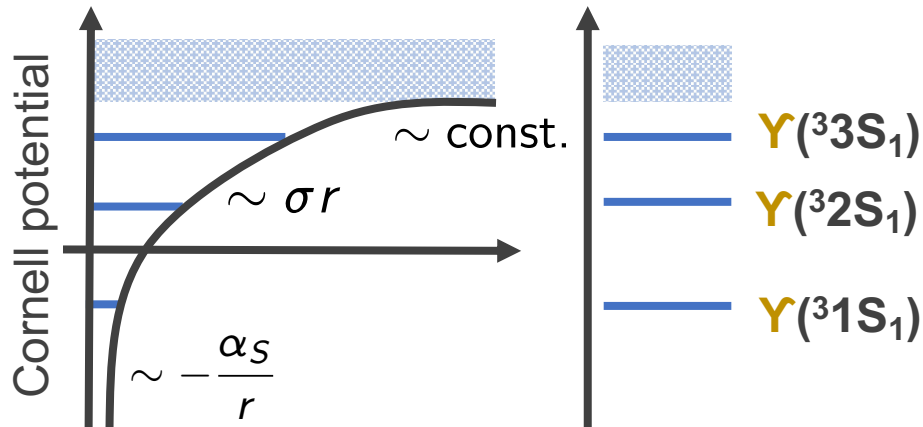
“Too fast to watch” – need to use collision remnants as probe particles.

Bound states of heavy quarks  $c\bar{c}$  (charmonium)  
 $b\bar{b}$  (bottomonium) for a review see Brambilla et.al. Eur.Phys.J.C 71 (2011) 1534

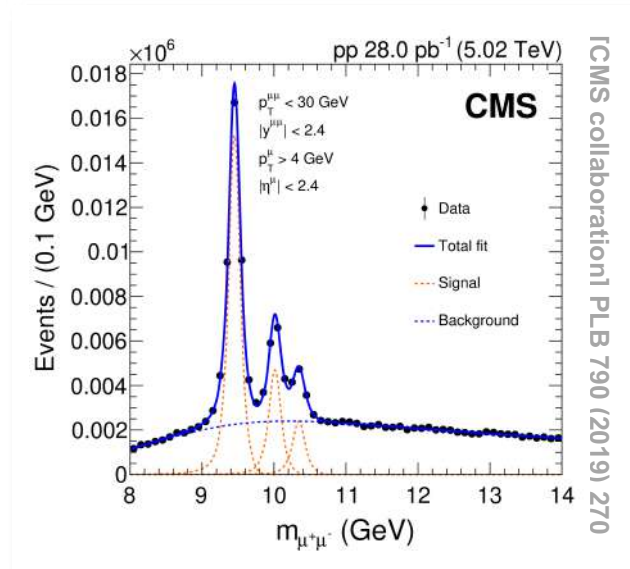
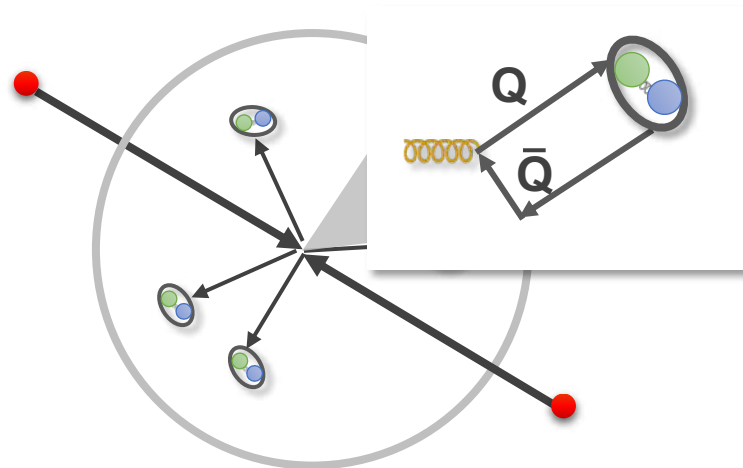


- decay into hadrons forbidden (OZI rule): keV widths
- significant decay into dileptons: clean experimental signals

- non-relativistic since  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_Q \ll 1$  & described by a simple 2-body potential (known from QCD)



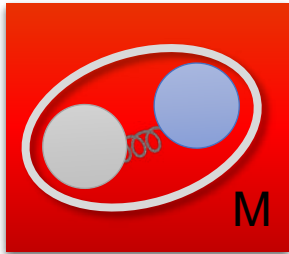
$Q\bar{Q}$  pairs either color singlet (attractive) or octet (repulsive)



# Quarkonium in heavy-ion collisions

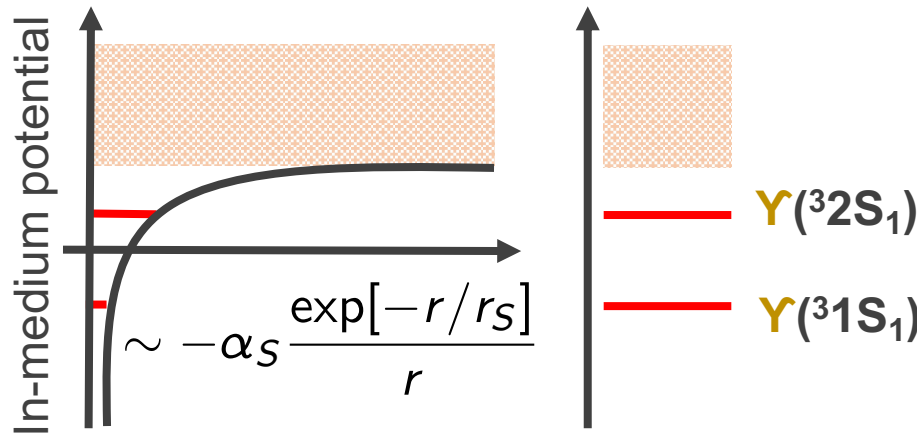
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Bound states of heavy quarks  $c\bar{c}$  (charmonium)  $b\bar{b}$  (bottomonium)



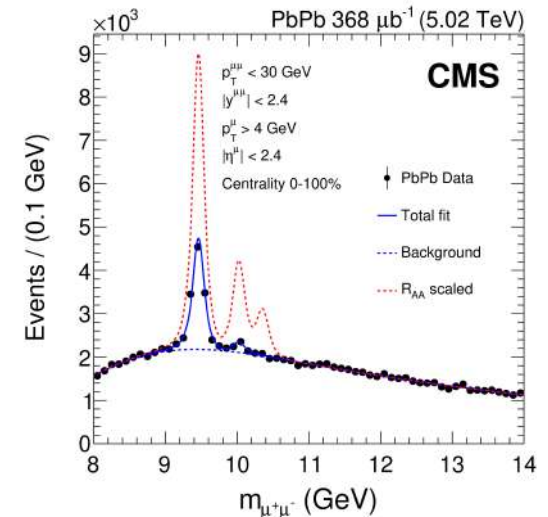
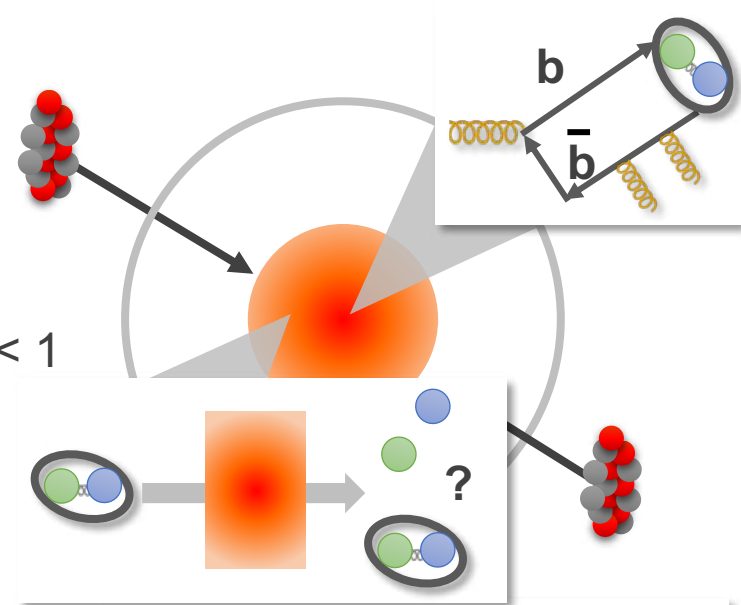
- still non-relativistic since  $T_C/m_Q \ll 1$   
Quantum Brownian Motion !
- presence of QGP modifies the interaction potential

see e.g. Y. Burnier, O. Kaczmarek, A.R. JHEP 12 (2015) 101



Early realization: screening by medium will weaken quarkonium and modifies production yields

Matsui & Satz  
Phys.Lett.B 178 (1986) 416



[CMS collaboration] PLB 790 (2019) 270

# A Lindblad equation for quarkonium

**Caldeira Leggett not applicable** as probe has finite extent and carries color charge.

**Progress:** QBM Lindblad equation from QCD at high T (**weakly coupled regime**)

Y. Akamatsu PRD91 (2015) 056002

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\rho}_{Q\bar{Q}} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}_{Q\bar{Q}}, \hat{\rho}_{Q\bar{Q}}] + \sum_k \left( \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k \hat{\rho}_{Q\bar{Q}} \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} [\hat{\mathcal{L}}_k^\dagger \hat{\mathcal{L}}_k, \hat{\rho}_{Q\bar{Q}}] \right)$$

In-medium Hamiltonian exhibits a **screened potential**:

$$H_{Q\bar{Q}} = \frac{\mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}}^2}{m_Q} + V_{Q\bar{Q}}(\mathbf{r}) \quad V_{Q\bar{Q}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\alpha_S \frac{\exp[-r/r_S(T)]}{r}$$

$r_S(T)$  explicitly known from QCD

Behind the scenes: In QCD, quarkonium interacts with medium via gluon exchange which induces **momentum transfer & color rotation**

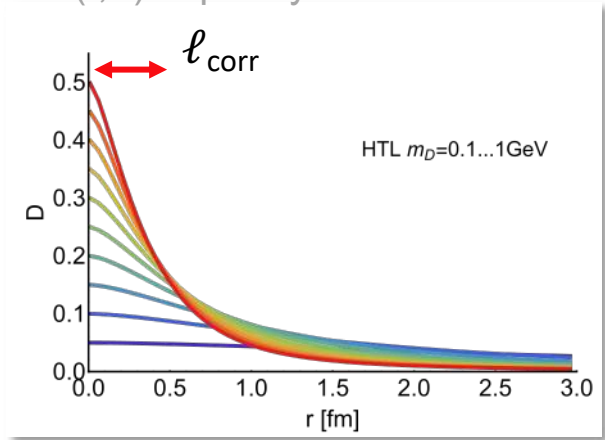
$D(r,T)$  explicitly known from QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k},a} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{D(\mathbf{k})}{2}} \left[ 1 - \frac{\mathbf{k}}{4m_Q T} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{P}_{\text{CM}} + \mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}} \right) \right]}_{\text{medium acting on the quark}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}/2} (T^a \otimes 1)$$

fluctuations     dissipation

$$- \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{D(\mathbf{k})}{2}} \left[ 1 - \frac{\mathbf{k}}{4m_Q T} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{P}_{\text{CM}} + \mathbf{p}_{\text{rel}} \right) \right]}_{\text{medium acting on the anti-quark}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}/2} (1 \otimes T^a)$$

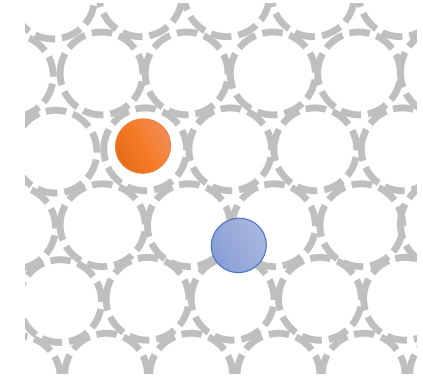
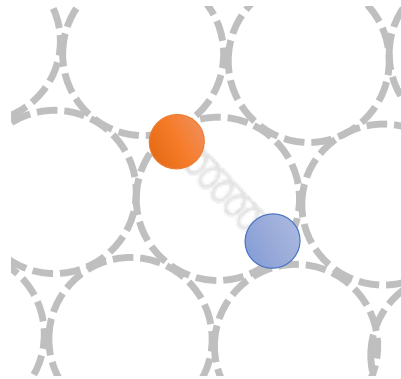
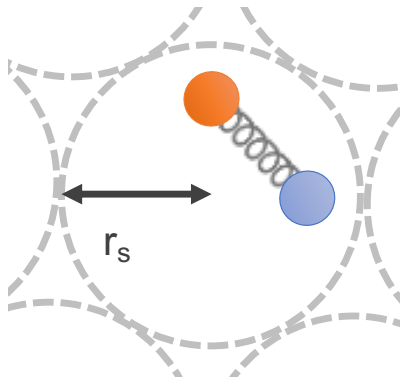
$T^a$  3x3 matrix in color space



see T. Miura, Y. Akamatsu, M. Asakawa, A.R. PRD101 (2020) 034011

# Screening and Decoherence

## screening

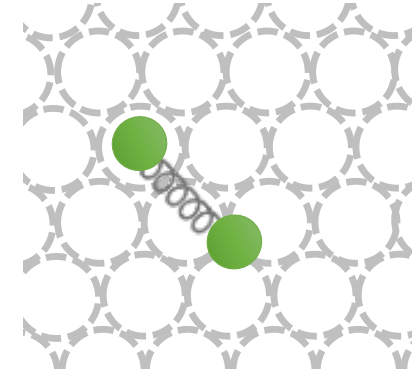
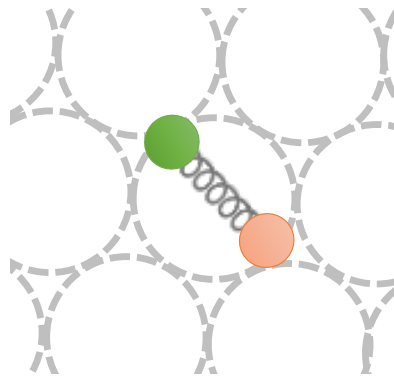
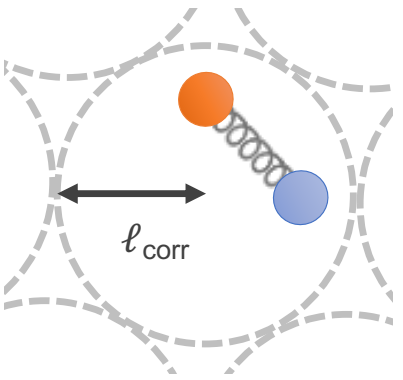


binding force acts efficiently among  $Q$  and  $\bar{Q}$

medium impedes gluons mediating force

## decoherence

increasing temperature



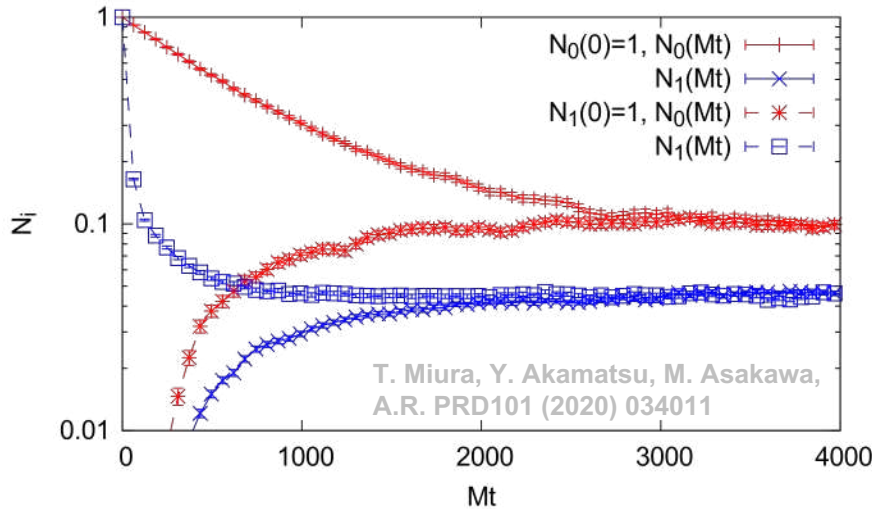
color rotation acts coherently on  $Q$  and  $\bar{Q}$

color rotation acts individually on  $Q$  and  $\bar{Q}$

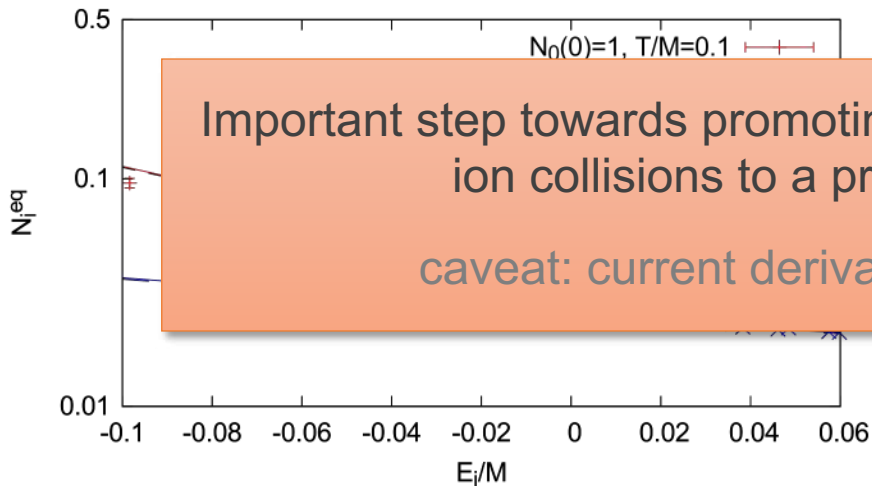
see discussion in S. Kajimoto, Y. Akamatsu, M. Asakawa, A.R., PRD97 (2018), 014003

# Solving the 1d Lindblad equation

- For the first time: possible to **thermalize** quarkonium in a **fully quantum** fashion



- Start either with single ground state or single excited state and monitor survival probability
- Late-time results independent of initial conditions: steady-state



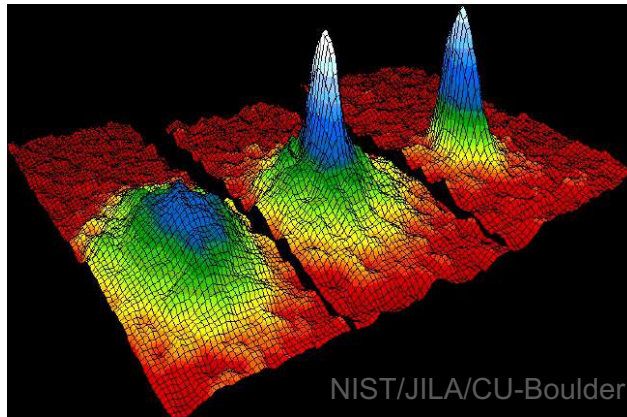
Important step towards promoting the study of quarkonium in heavy-ion collisions to a precision thermometry tool  
 caveat: current derivation only for weak coupling

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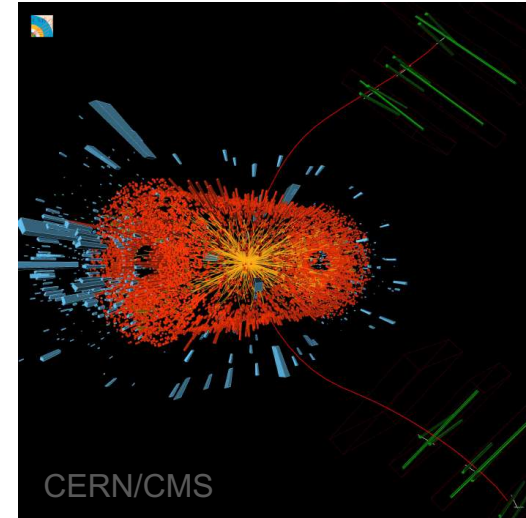


# Summary

- Open Quantum Systems: **impurities as quantum probes** play an essential role in **precision thermometry** at vastly different energy scales



Bose Einstein Condensate (BEC)  
from trapped ultracold atoms



Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) from  
relativistic heavy-ion collisions

- Theory framework** developed to describe Open Quantum Systems (e.g. Lindblad equation) provides a **common language** among formerly disparate research fields
- Exciting prospect for **collaboration** between ultracold atoms and heavy-ion collision community on **impurity physics** (quarkonium, jets, hadronization,....)