

# **Nonperturbative Nature of QCD via Heavy Quark Dynamics in AA, pA and eA collisions**

**Xiaojun Yao**

University of Washington

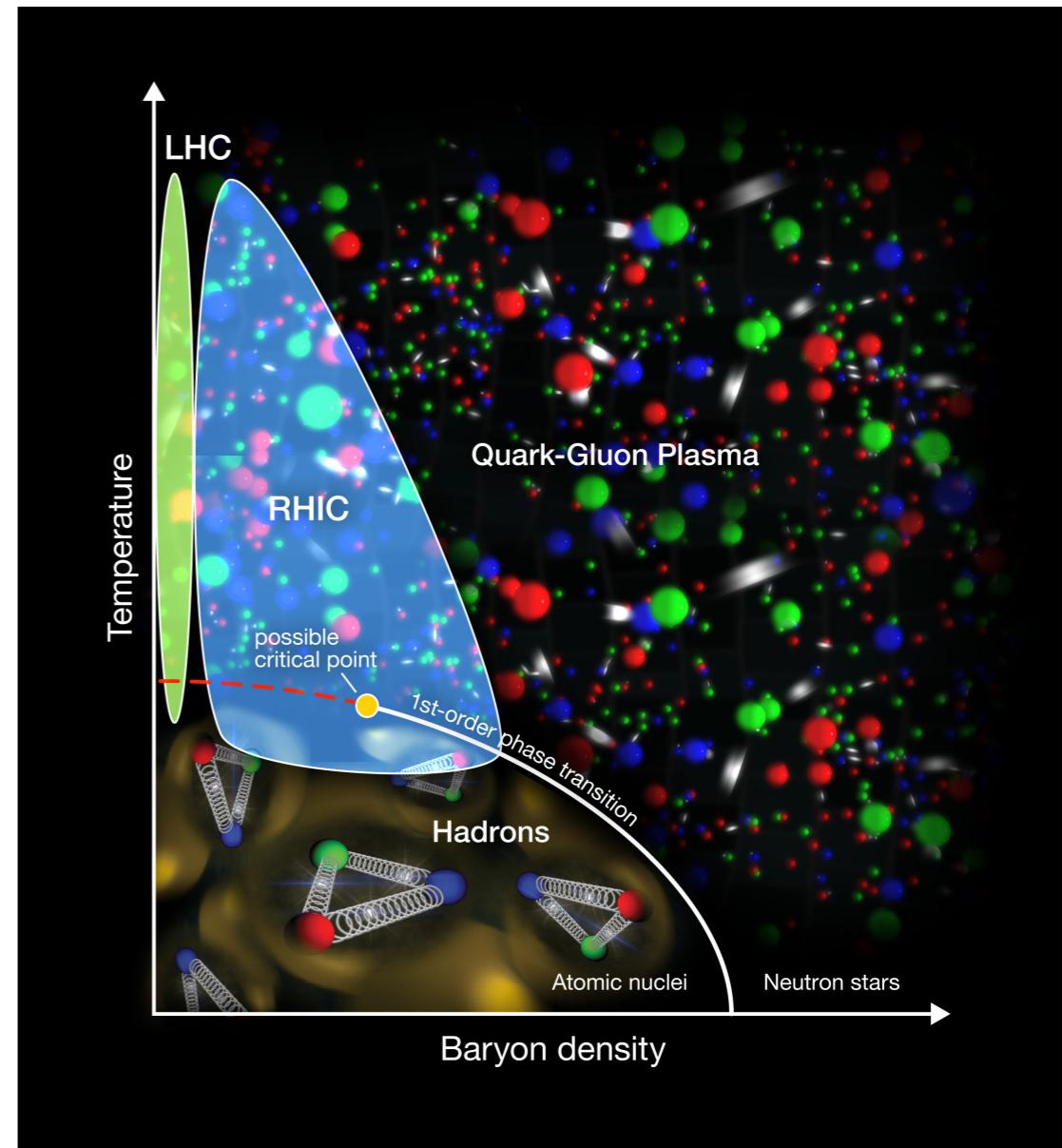
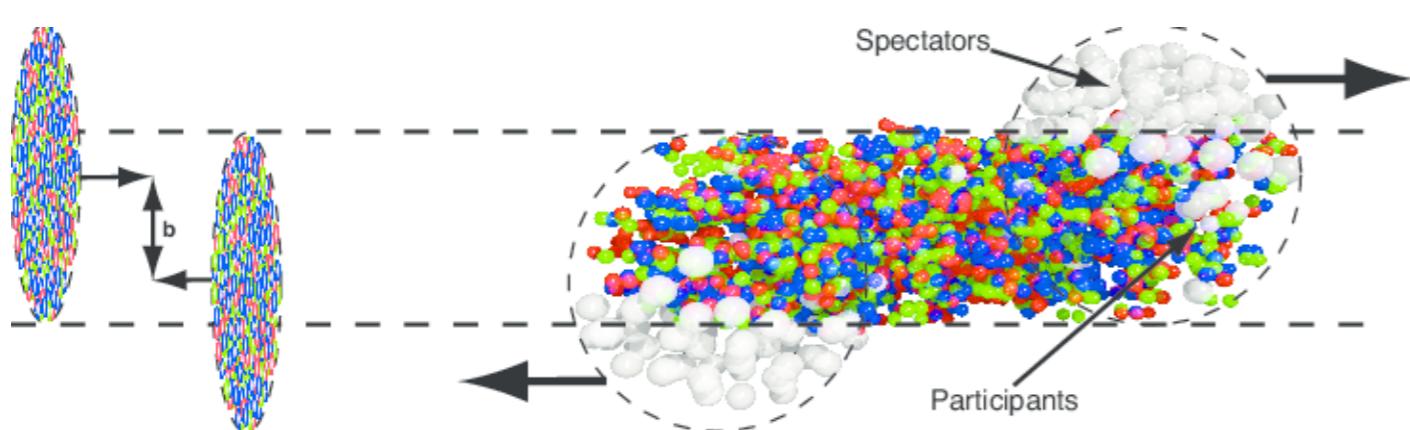
Advancing the Understanding of Non-Perturbative QCD Using  
Energy Flows  
September 20, 2022

# Contents

- Introduction: quark-gluon plasma (QGP) and heavy ion collision, hard probes of QGP: heavy quarks and quarkonia (bound states)
- Transport of heavy quarks in QGP
  - Diffusion + radiation energy loss, diffusion transport coefficient
- Transport of quarkonia in QGP
  - Open quantum system approach, Lindblad equation
  - Novel transport coefficient v.s. heavy quark diffusion coefficient
- Transport in cold nuclear matter in pA and eA collisions

# Quark-Gluon Plasma and Heavy Ion Collision

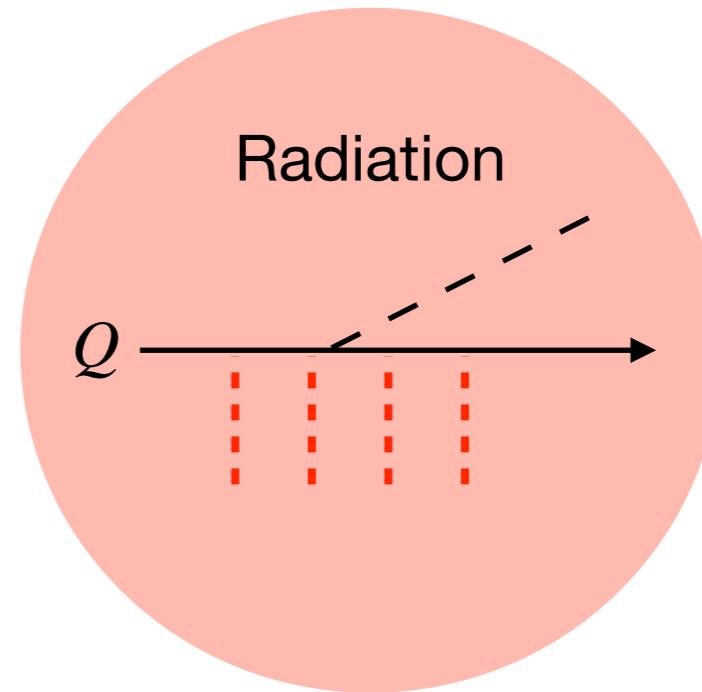
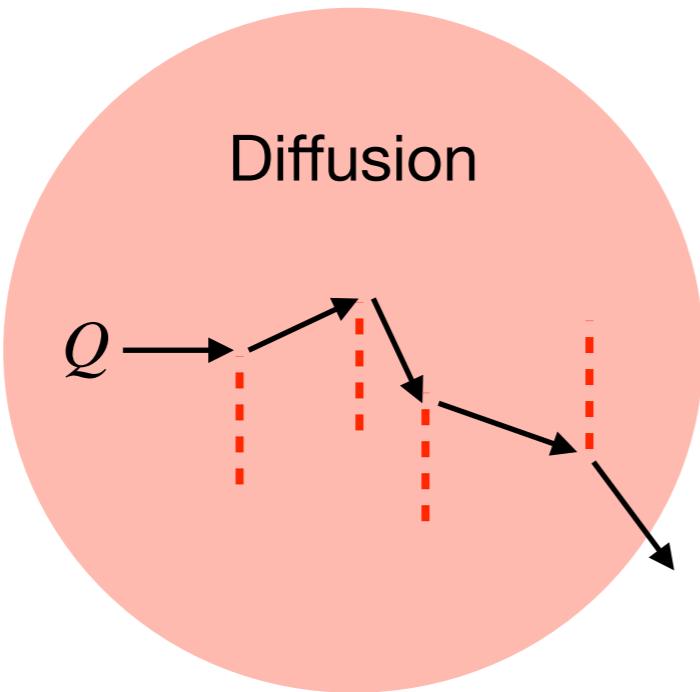
- Asymptotic freedom —> deconfined phase of QCD matter expected at high temperature / density —> QGP
- Study QGP: heavy ion collision experiments at RHIC and LHC



- QGP fireball: strongly coupled, lifetime  $\sim 10 \text{ fm}/c$ , temperature 150–600 MeV
- Hard probes of QGP: large energy scale, heavy quarks, quarkonia and jets

# I. Transport of Heavy Quarks in QGP

# Heavy Quark Diffusion and Radiation



- **Modified Langevin equation**

$$\frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\eta_D p_i + \xi_i + f_i^{\text{rad}} \longrightarrow \text{Radiation, likely to be perturbative}$$

↓

$$\langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j(0) \rangle = \kappa \delta_{ij} \delta(t) \quad \text{Fluctuation coefficient}$$

**Drag coefficient**

$$\eta_D = \frac{\kappa}{2MT}$$

$$D_s = \frac{2T^2}{\kappa}$$

**Diffusion coefficient, likely to be nonperturbative**

# Heavy Quark Diffusion Coefficient

$$\frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\eta_D p_i + \xi_i + f_i^{\text{rad}}$$

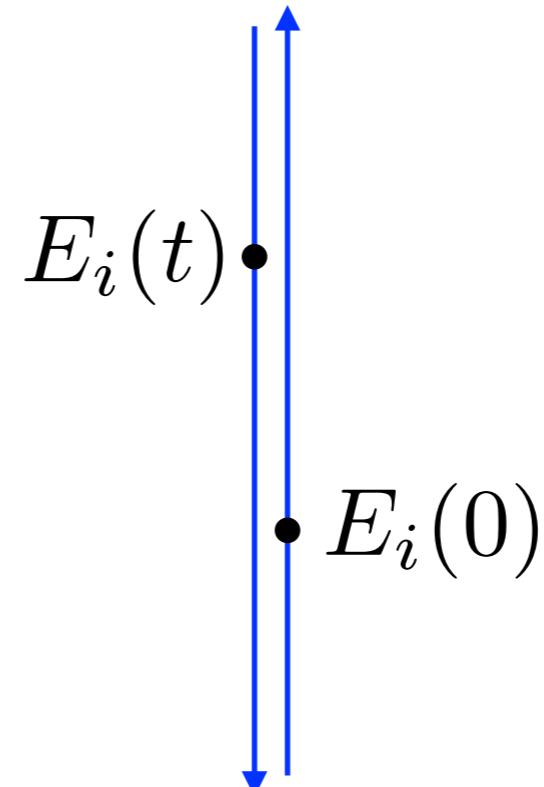
$$\langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j(0) \rangle = \kappa \delta_{ij} \delta(t)$$

- **Field operator definition of heavy quark diffusion coefficient**

$$\kappa = \int dt \left\langle \text{Tr}_c \left( U(-\infty, 0) E_i(t) U(t, 0) E_i(0) U(0, -\infty) \right) \right\rangle_T$$

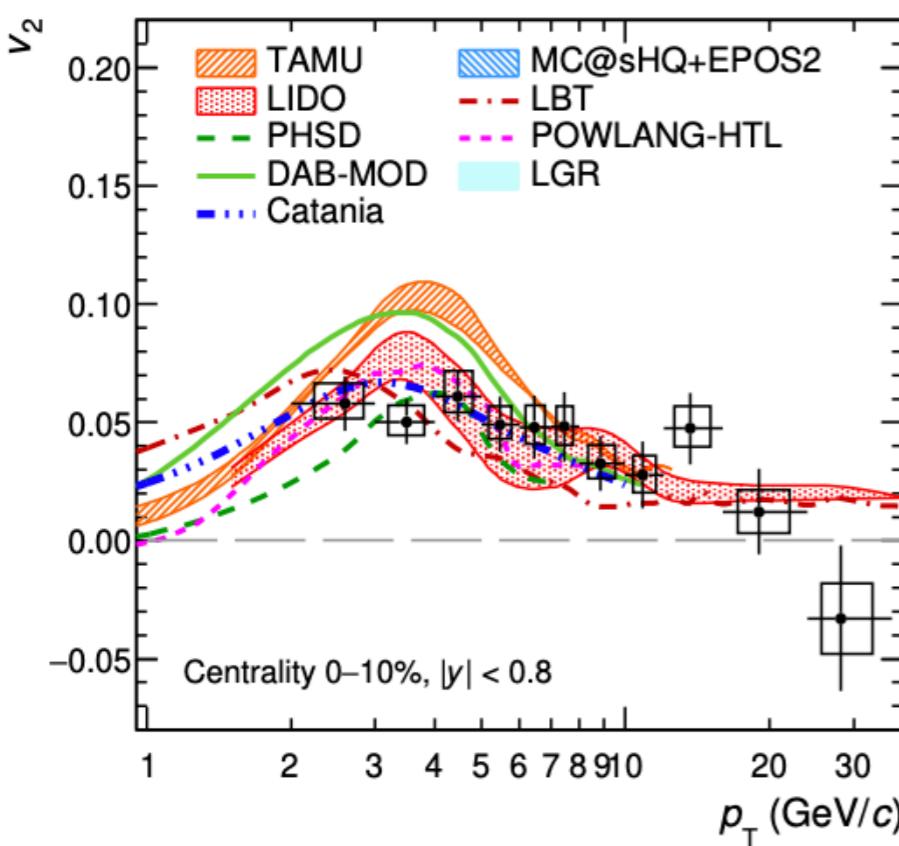
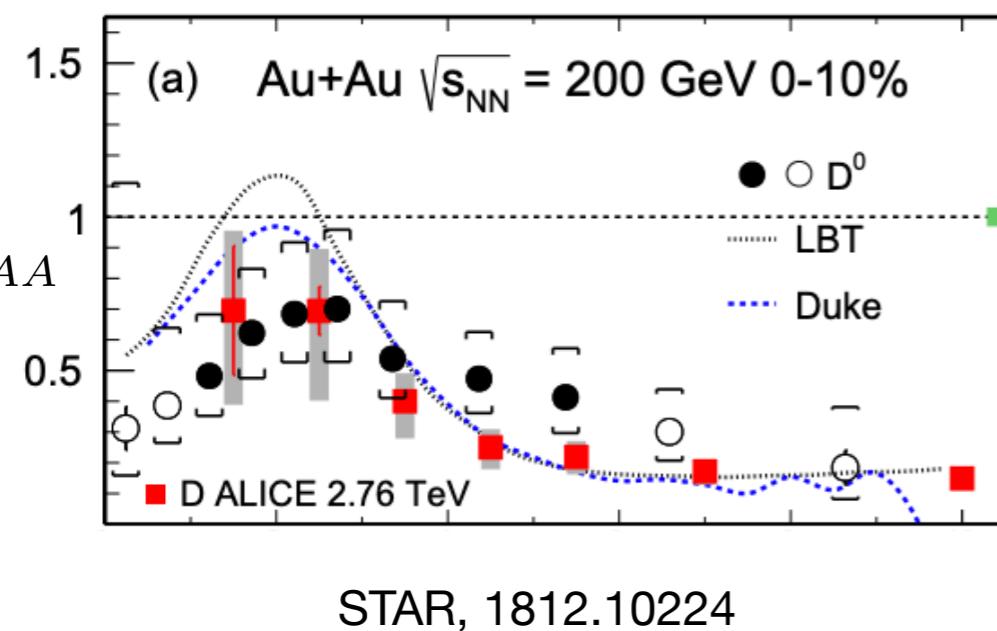
Gauge invariant object → physical

Zero frequency in Fourier transform



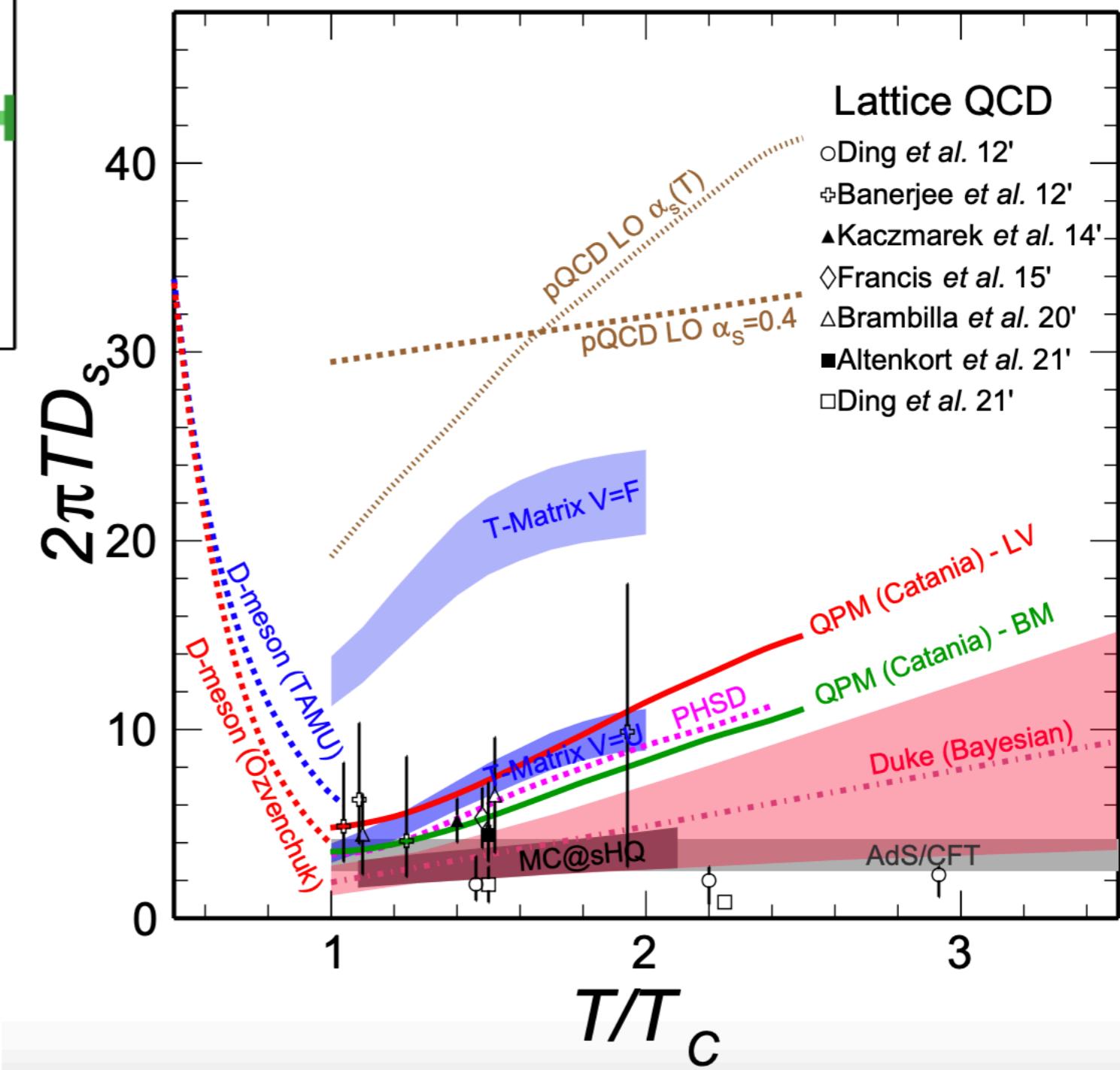
J. Casalderrey-Solana, D. Teaney, hep-ph/0605199

# Calculation and Extraction of Diffusion Coefficient



ALICE, JHEP01(2022)174

L.Apolinário, Y.J.Lee, M.Winn, 2203.16352



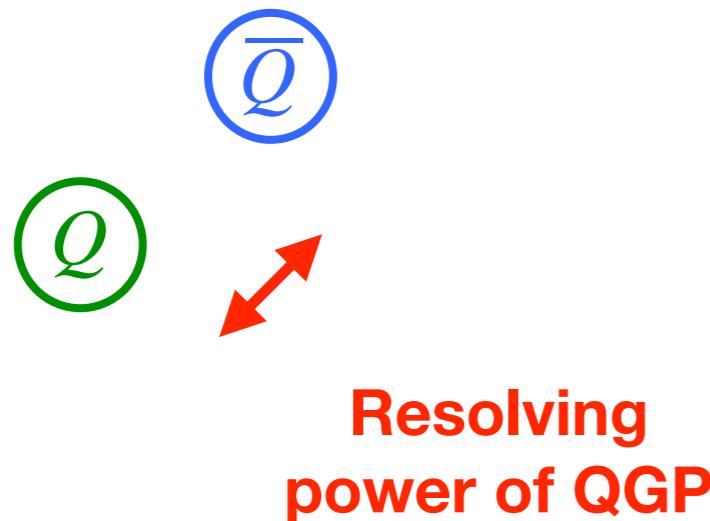
# Short Summary for Heavy Quark Dynamics

- Perturbative calculation of heavy quark diffusion coefficient probably not applicable; lattice calculations need more precision and go beyond quenched approximation
- Extraction from experimental data has model dependence, need more data, especially at 200 GeV, sPHENIX

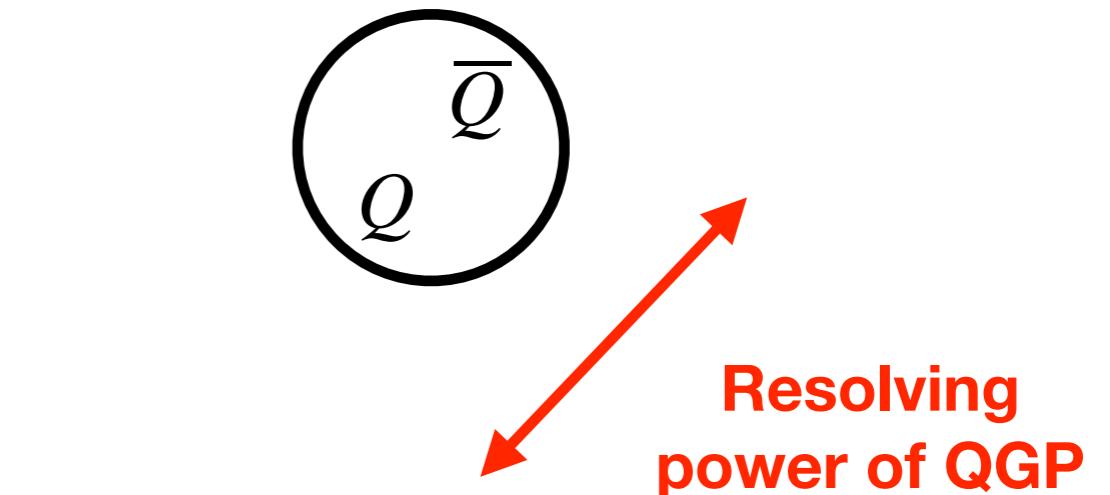
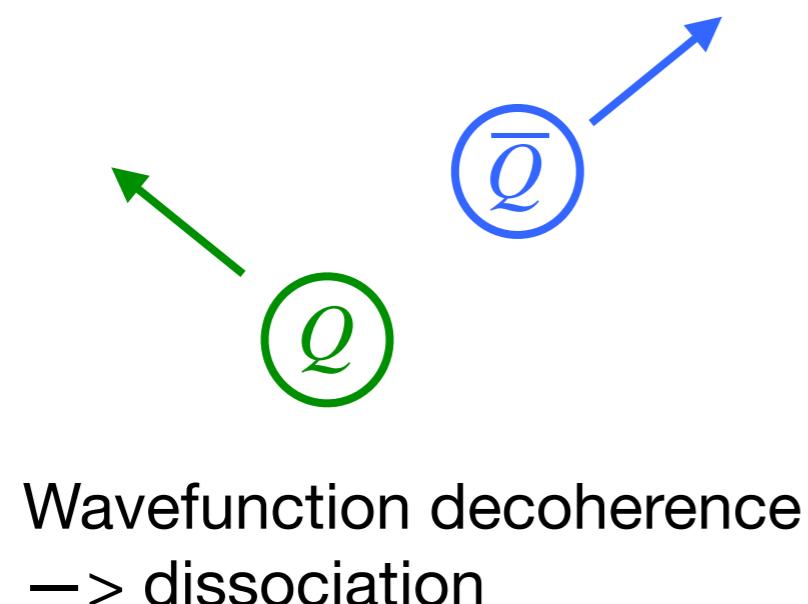
## **II. Transport of Quarkonia in QGP**

# Analog of Langevin Equation for Quarkonia?

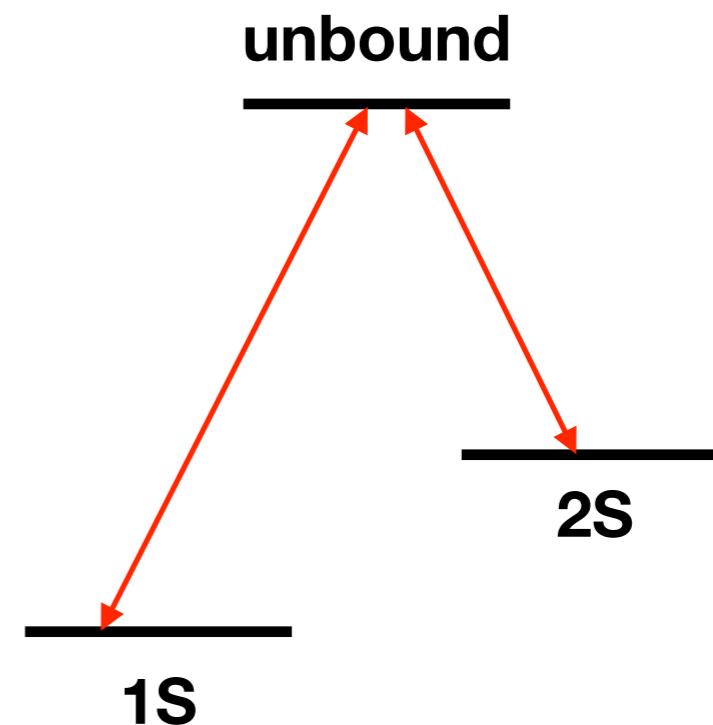
- Quantum Brownian motion (high T)
- Quantum optical limit (low T)



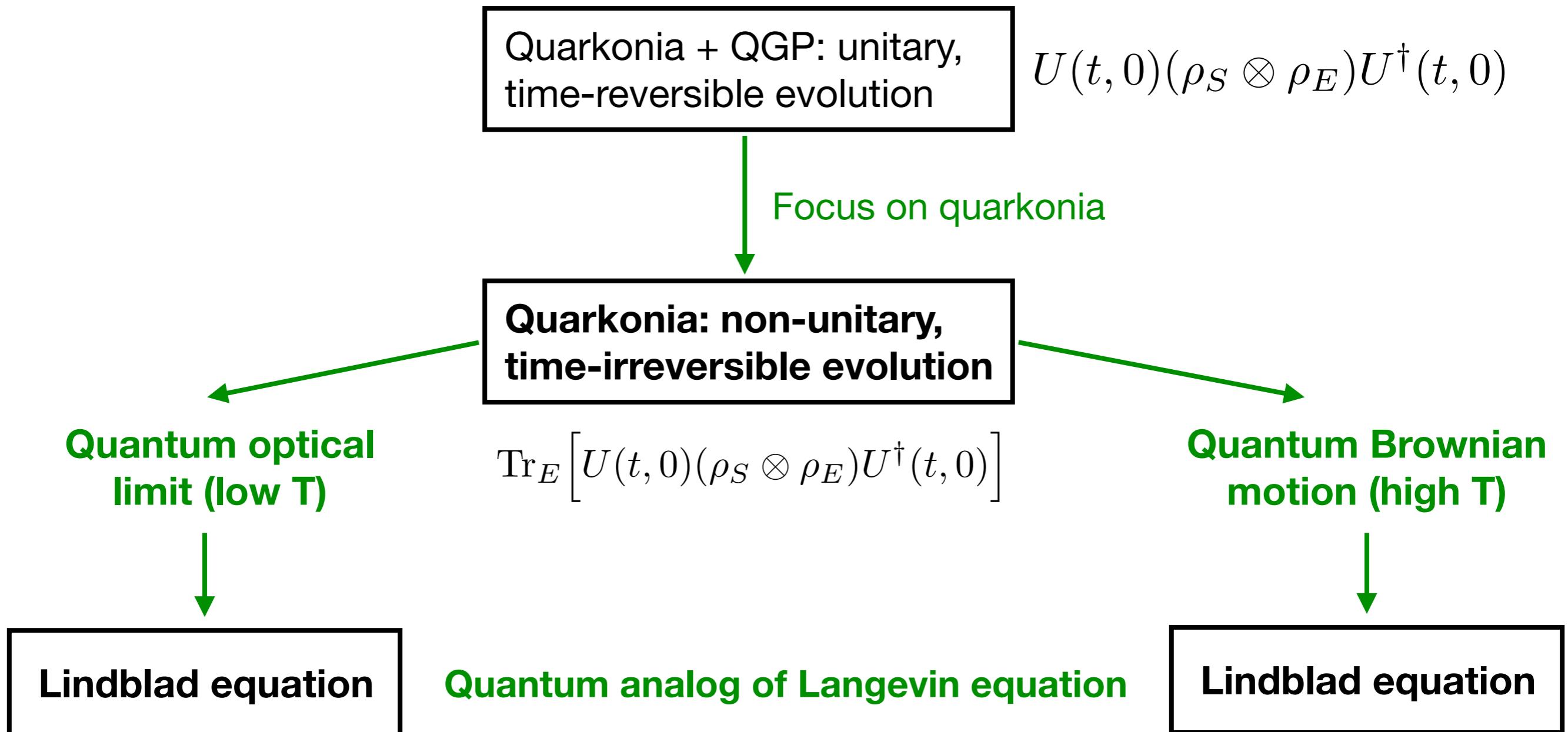
Diffusion of heavy Q pair



Transitions between levels



# Lindblad Equation for Quarkonia



$$\frac{d\rho_S(t)}{dt} = -i[H_{S,\text{eff}}, \rho_S(t)] + \sum_n D_n \left( L_n \rho_S(t) L_n^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \{ L_n^\dagger L_n, \rho_S(t) \} \right)$$

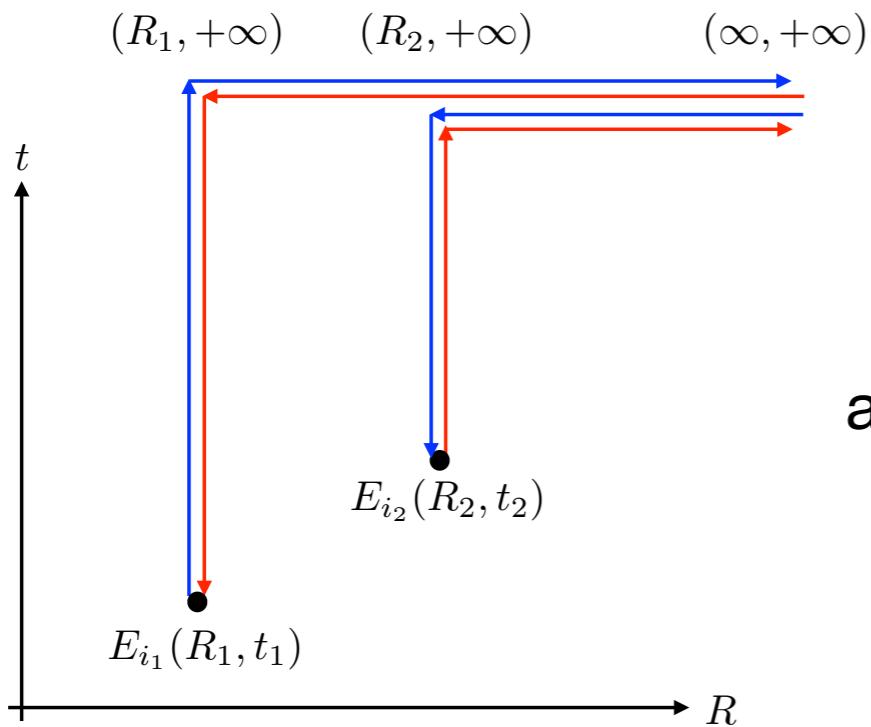
# Transport Properties for Quarkonium

- “D” term in Lindblad equation

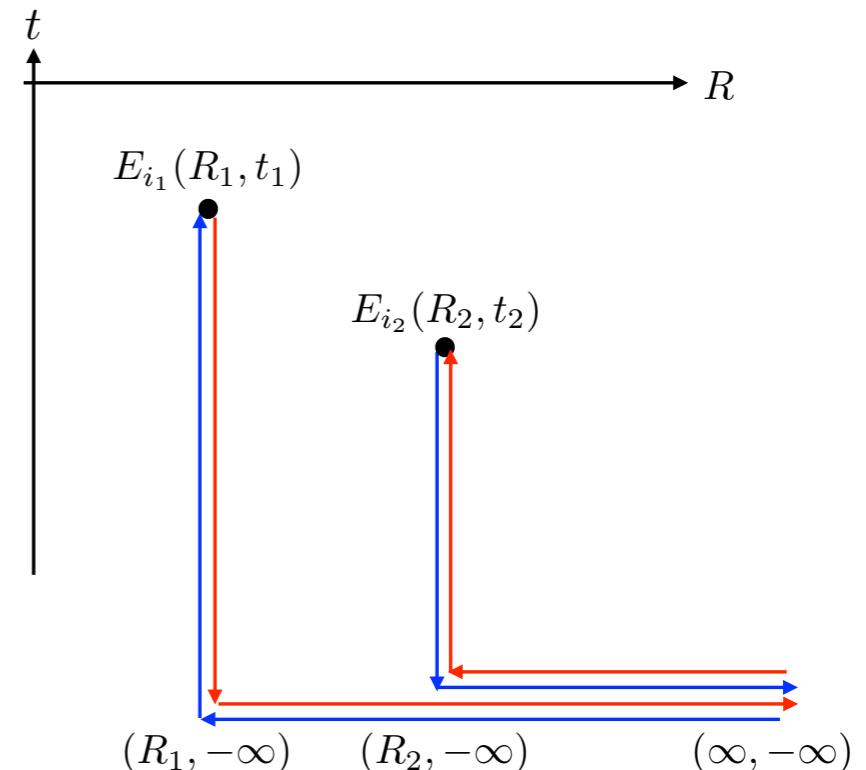
## Gauge invariant

$$[g_E^{++}]_{ji}^>(y, x) \equiv \left\langle [E_j(y)\mathcal{W}_{[(y^0, \mathbf{y}), (+\infty, \mathbf{y})]}\mathcal{W}_{[(+\infty, \mathbf{y}), (+\infty, \infty)]}]^a \times [\mathcal{W}_{[(+\infty, \infty), (+\infty, \mathbf{x})]}\mathcal{W}_{[(+\infty, \mathbf{x}), (x^0, \mathbf{x})]}E_i(x)]^a \right\rangle_T$$

$$[g_E^{--}]_{ji}^>(y, x) \equiv \left\langle [\mathcal{W}_{[(-\infty, \infty), (-\infty, \mathbf{y})]}\mathcal{W}_{[(-\infty, \mathbf{y}), (y^0, \mathbf{y})]}E_j(y)]^a \times [E_i(x)\mathcal{W}_{[(x^0, \mathbf{x}), (-\infty, \mathbf{x})]}\mathcal{W}_{[(-\infty, \mathbf{x}), (-\infty, \infty)]}]^a \right\rangle_T$$



$PT$  transformation,  
assume state invariant  
↔ KMS relation



Dissociation: final-state interaction

Recombination: initial-state interaction

- After Fourier transform

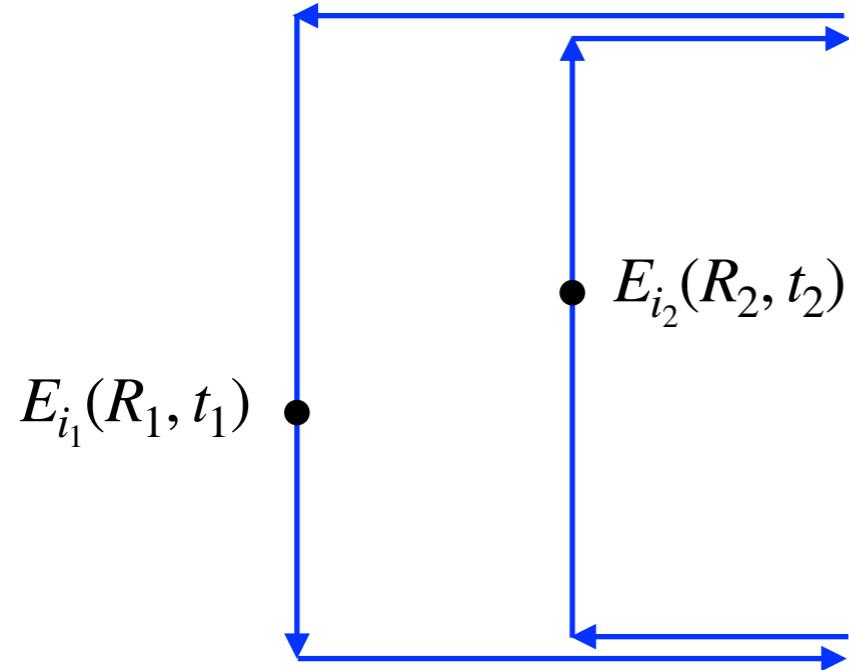
Zero frequency in quantum Brownian motion limit (transport coefficient)

Finite frequency in quantum optical limit

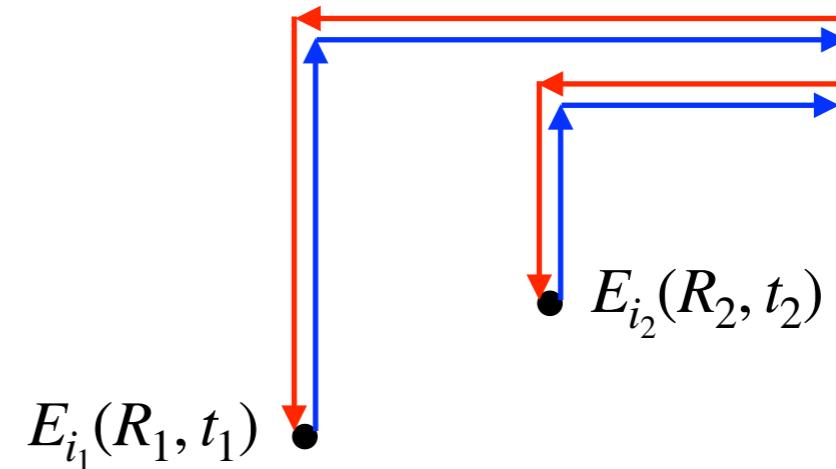
XY, T.Mehen, 2009.02408

# Chromoelectric Correlators for HQ and Quarkonia

Single heavy quark



Heavy quark antiquark pair

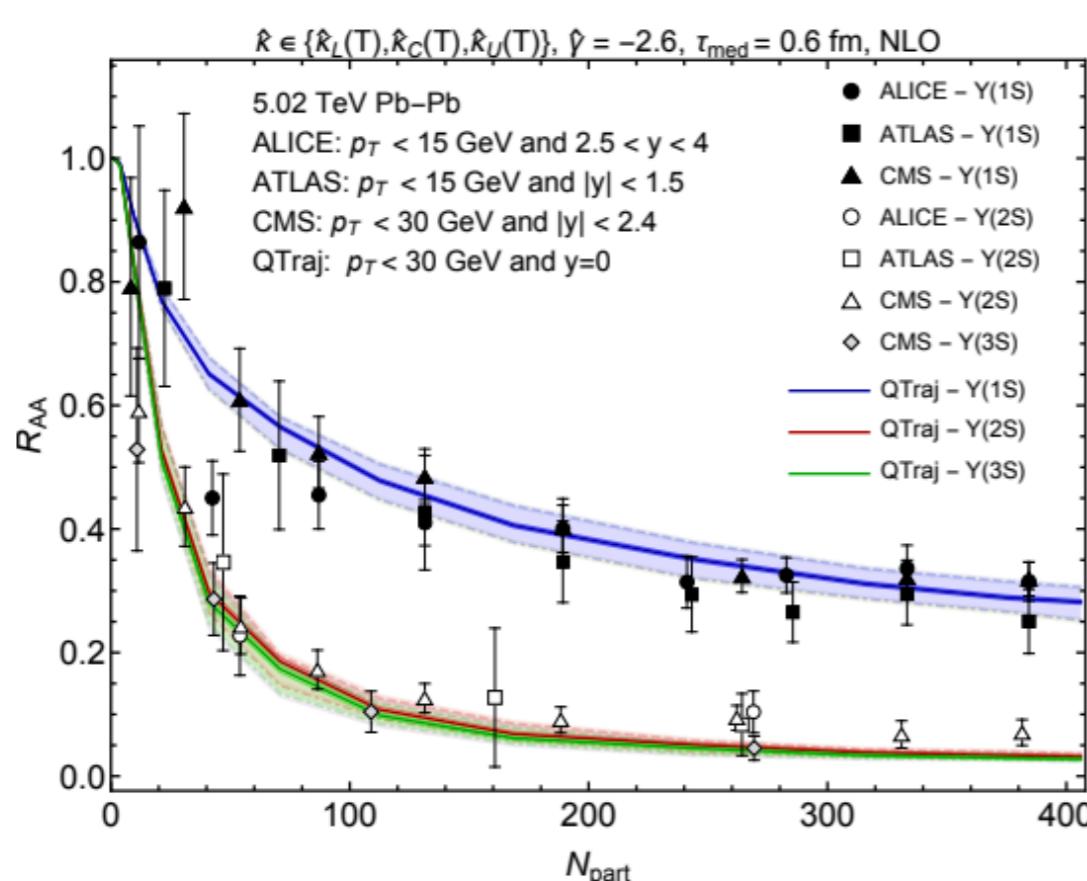


- At NLO: temperature-dependent parts agree but vacuum parts differ by a constant  
Y.Burnier, M.Laine, J.Langelage, L.Mether, 1006.0867  
T.Binder, K.Mukaida, B.S.Hitschfeld, XY, 2107.03945
- In temporal axial gauge, they are the same! Axial gauge cannot be applied in the presence of infinitely long Wilson lines  
B.S.Hitschfeld, XY, 2205.04477
- Currently no NNLO calculations
- Currently no nonperturbative calculations for quarkonium correlator
- Some phenomenological studies exist by using quarkonium correlator

# Phenomenology Using Quarkonium Correlators

## Quantum Brownian motion

N.Brambilla, et al, 2205.10289

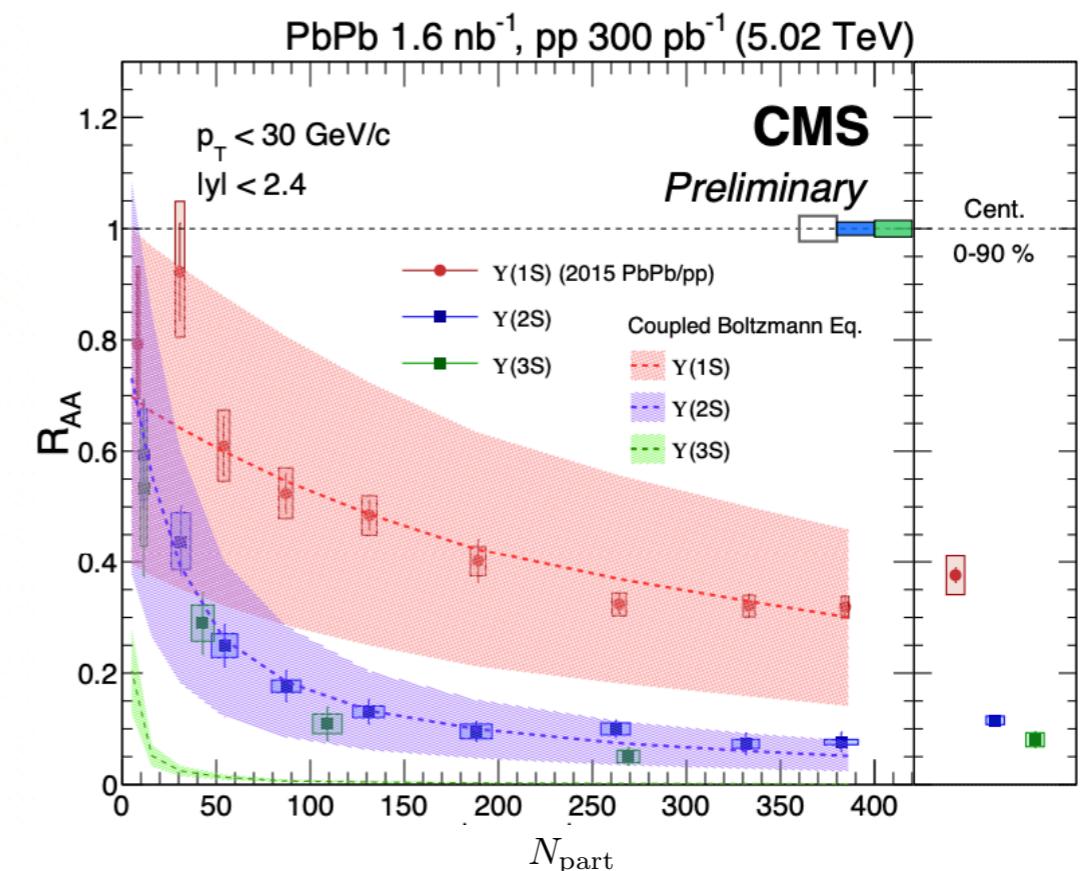


No nPDF effect

Use heavy quark correlator  
(nonperturbative)

## Quantum optical limit $\rightarrow$ semiclassical Boltzmann equation

XY, W.Ke, Y.Xu, S.A.Bass,B.Mueller, 2004.06746

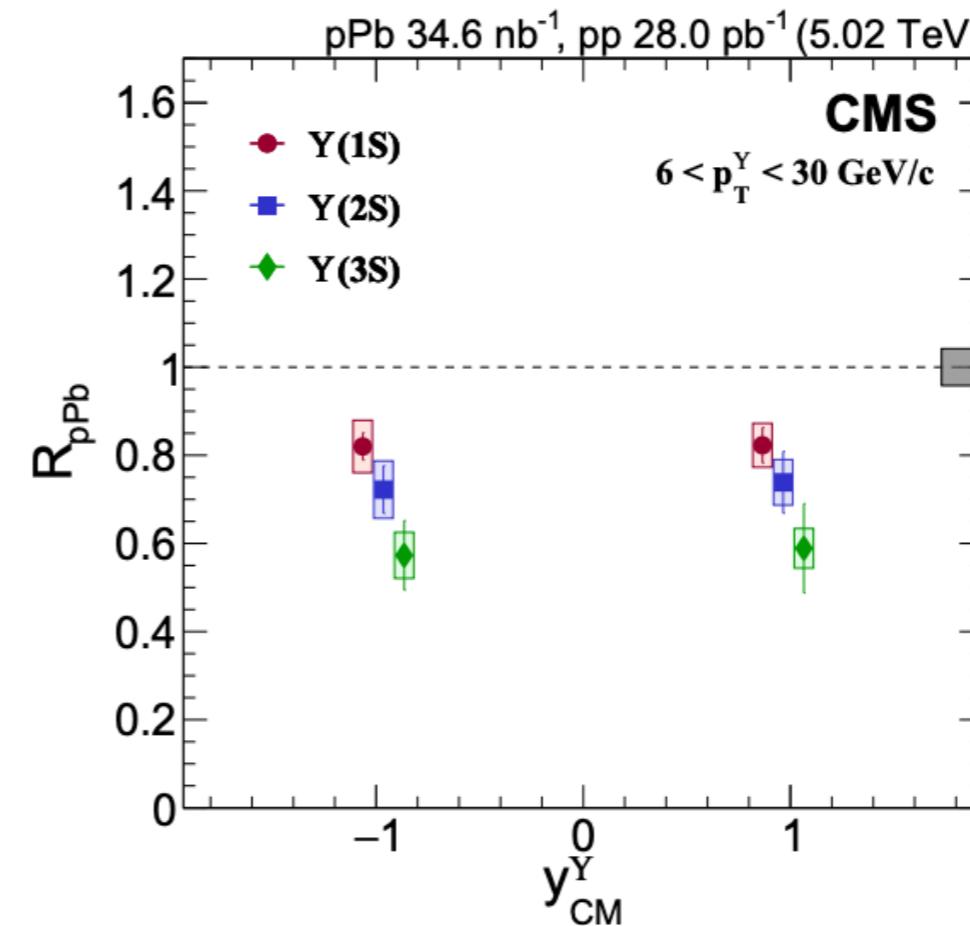
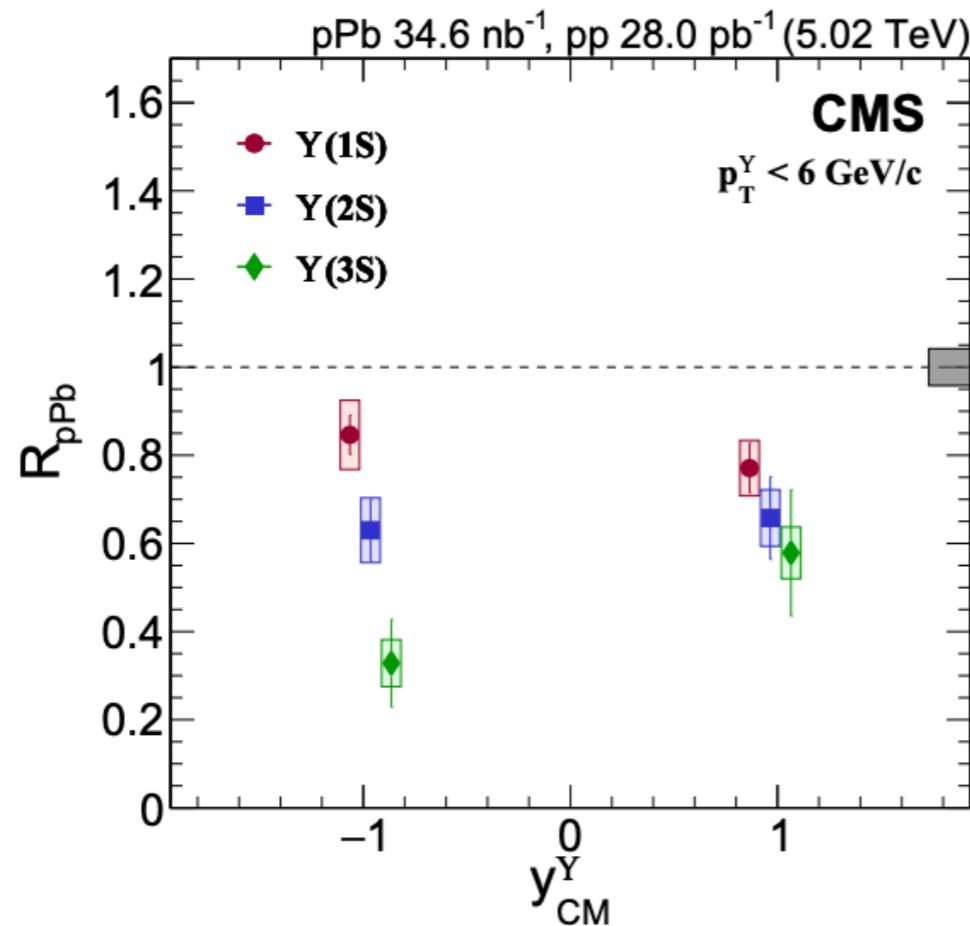


The nPDF uncertainty dominates  
 $\rightarrow$  use ratios of RAA

Use quarkonium correlator (perturbative)

# Transport in pA and eA collisions

- Experimental evidence of final-state effects in pA collisions



Lead-going direction (negative rapidity) exhibits sequential pattern

Extract transport properties (chromoelectric correlators) of cold nuclear matter?

- Further information from eA collisions?

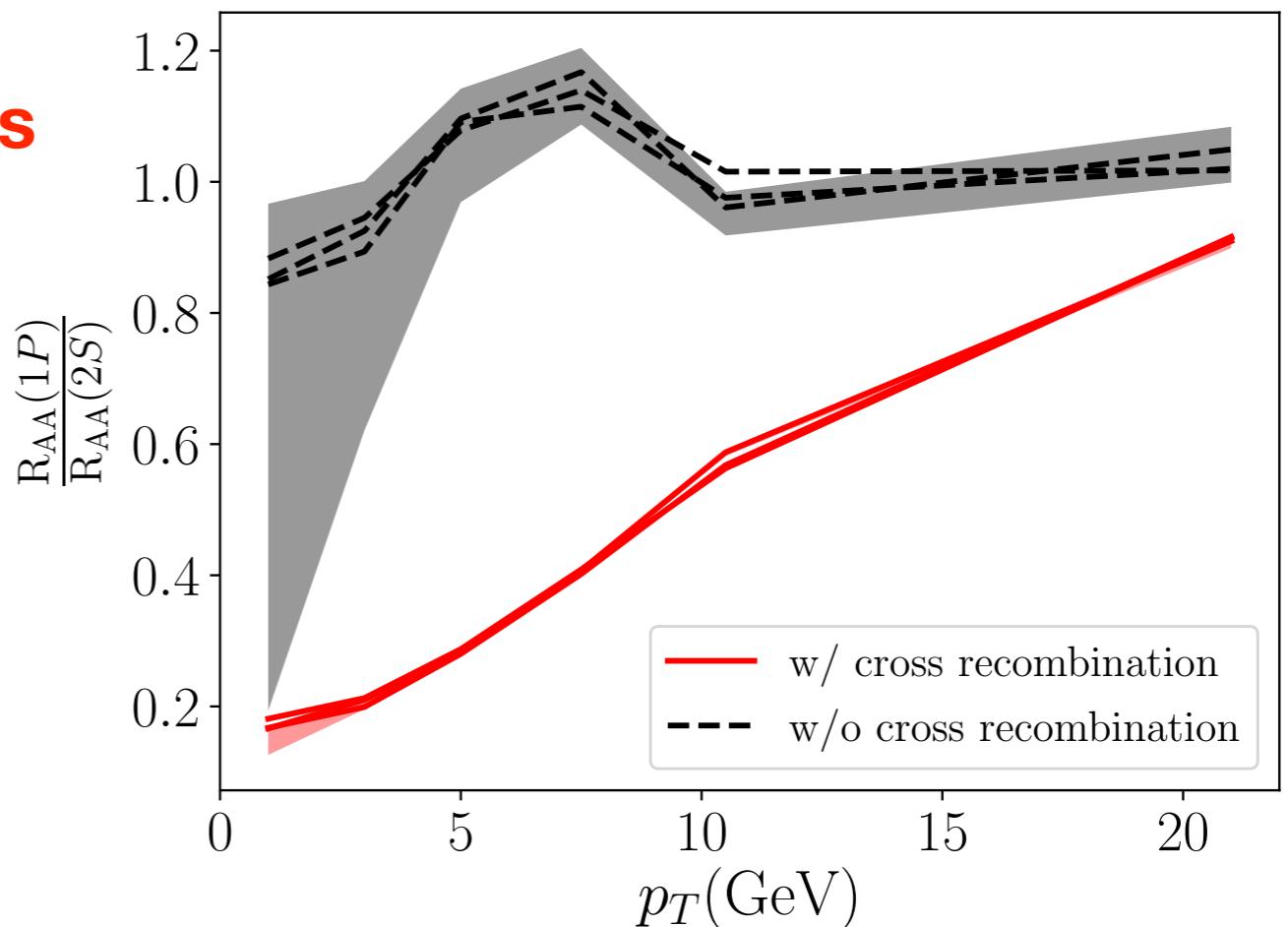
# Summary

- Transport properties of heavy quarks and quarkonia governed by gauge invariant chromoelectric field correlators, they are different in terms of Wilson lines
- Need nonperturbative calculation of the chromoelectric field correlator for quarkonium (zero frequency)
- Perform extraction from experimental data, unique opportunity at RHIC collision energy —> learn finite frequency of the correlator
- Transport properties in cold nuclear matter

# Backup: Experimental Test of Correlated Recombination

Correlated recombination predicts  
1P more suppressed than 2S

XY, W.Ke, Y.Xu, S.A.Bass,B.Mueller, 2004.06746



Traditional sequential suppression argument based on hierarchy of binding energy or size  $\rightarrow R_{AA}(2S) \sim R_{AA}(1P)$ , since their binding energies are close

Correlated recombination rates ( $2S \rightarrow 1P$ )  $\sim$  ( $1P \rightarrow 2S$ ) because of similar binding energy, but primordial production cross section

$$\frac{\sigma_{1P}}{\sigma_{2S}} \sim 4.5$$