

RHIC 25:

A quarter century of discovery

Theory of Open Heavy-Flavor in Heavy-ion Collisions

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May 20, 2025



2025 RHIC/AGS Annual Users' Meeting; May 20–23, 2025; Brookhaven National Lab

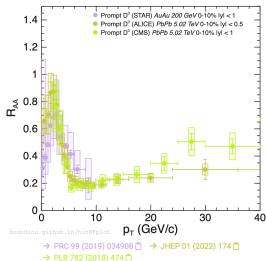
- Introduction
- Modeling of heavy flavor evolution
 - Transport models
 - Hadronization
- Transport Coefficients
 - Quantum many-body theory (T-matrix)
- Results on HF Observables from HEFTY
 - Nuclear modification factor: R_{AA}
 - Elliptic flow: v_2
 - Hadro-chemistry (Λ_c^+ / D^0)
- Summary and Outlook

Introduction

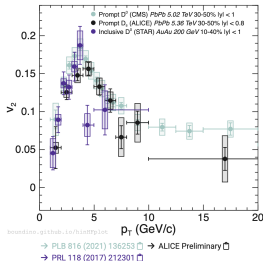
Open heavy flavor in a nutshell

- Properties:
 - large mass
 - ▶ $m_Q \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$: produced in hard processes; pQCD calculable.
 - ▶ $m_Q \gg T_{QGP}$: production in QGP negligible
 - ▶ $\tau_{prod.} \sim \frac{1}{2m_Q}$: witness the full QGP evolution
 - strong interactions with the QGP conserve flavor
- Heavy quarks are effective probes of:
 - presence of deconfined color charge and hadronization schemes
 - mechanisms of quark-medium interaction
 - strength of the collective expansion of the system

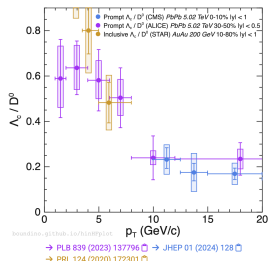
HF observables



- Study the energy loss process of heavy quarks
- Characterizes medium modifications at high-pT



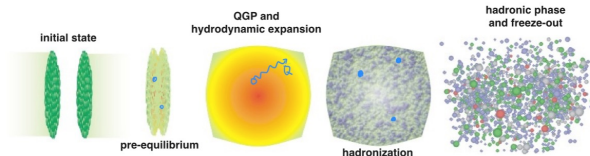
- Study the thermalization process of heavy quarks
- Constrain the color potential of HQ-medium interaction



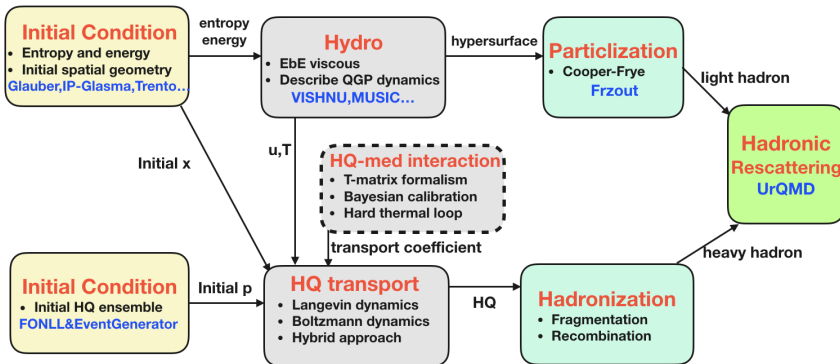
- Study the hadronization process of heavy quarks
- Constrain the in-medium hadron wave-function

Modeling of heavy flavor evolution

Modeling of heavy-quark dynamics in heavy-ion collision



Modular description of HQ evolution in heavy-ion collisions :

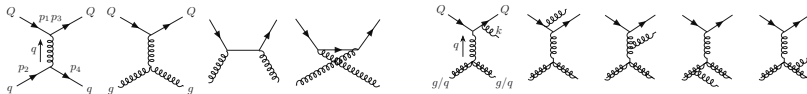


Heavy quark transport

Real-time tool for non-equilibrium evolution:

Boltzmann equation: $\frac{df_Q(t,x,p)}{dt} = C_{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q, f_{q,g}] + C_{2\leftrightarrow 3}[f_Q, f_{q,g}]$

• $C_{2\leftrightarrow 2} + C_{2\leftrightarrow 3}$:



- **perturbative** scattering; **high** momentum transfer
- treat medium as **thermal partons**
- $2 \rightarrow 2$ **elastic** scattering + $2 \leftrightarrow 3$ **inelastic** scattering

Heavy quark transport

Soft-momentum transfer:

Fokker-Planck equation: $\frac{df_Q}{dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} (A_i(\vec{p}) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} B_{ij}) f_Q$

$$A_i(\vec{p}) = \int d^3\vec{k} w(\vec{p}, \vec{k}) k_i, \quad B_{ij}(\vec{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\vec{k} w(\vec{p}, \vec{k}) k_i k_j$$

- Stochastic realization:

- Fokker-Planck $\Leftrightarrow$ **Langevin** dynamics:

$$\Delta \vec{x} = \frac{\vec{p}}{E} \Delta t, \quad \Delta \vec{p} = -\eta_D \vec{p} \Delta t + \vec{\xi}(t) \Delta t$$

- Correlation of thermal **random force**

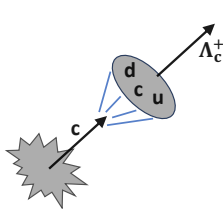
$$\langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j'(t') \rangle = \left(\kappa_L \frac{p_i p_j}{p^2} + \kappa_T \left(\delta_{ij} - \frac{p_i p_j}{p^2} \right) \right) \delta(t - t')$$

- Einstein relation: $\eta_D = A = \frac{\kappa_L}{2ET} - \frac{\partial \kappa_L}{\partial p^2} - \frac{\kappa_L - \kappa_T}{p^2}$

$$\text{where } A_i = A p_i \quad B_{ij} = \kappa_L \frac{p_i p_j}{p^2} + \kappa_T \left(\delta_{ij} - \frac{p_i p_j}{p^2} \right)$$

- Does not require quasi-particle medium

Heavy-quark hadronization



Fragmentation:

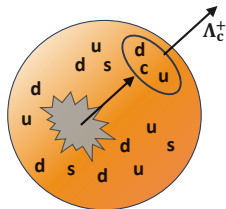
- At **high** p_T , parton spectrum is pQCD power law;
- HQs fragment into HF hadrons.
 - HQ Effective Theory FF
 - Peterson FF

HQET FF: Braaten et al PRD51(1995)

Peterson FF: Peterson et al PRD27(1983)

iSRM: Cao et al PLB807(2020)

RRM: Ravagli+Rapp PLB655(2007)



Recombination:

- At **low** p_T , parton spectrum is thermal;
- HQs recombine with medium quarks into hadrons locally.
 - Resonance Recombination Model (RRM)
 - improved Sudden Recombination Model (iSRM)

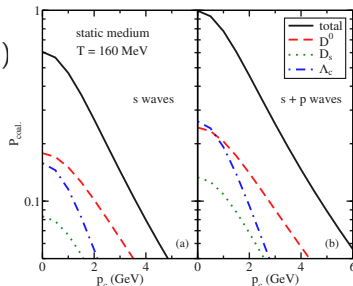
improved Sudden Recombination Model

iSRM:

- $\frac{dN_M}{d^3\vec{P}_M} = g_M \int d^3\vec{p}_q d^3\vec{p}_Q f_q(\vec{p}_q) f_Q(\vec{p}_Q) W_M(\vec{k}) \delta^3(\vec{p}_q + \vec{p}_Q - \vec{P}_M)$
 - $f_q(\vec{p}_q) = g_q \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3 (e^{E_q/T} + 1)}$
 - Meson Wigner function:
 s-wave: $W_M^s = g_h \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma)^3}{V} e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$ p-wave: $W_M^p = g_h \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma)^3}{V} \frac{2}{3} \sigma^2 k^2 e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$
 σ : radius parameter for each hadron; $\vec{k} \equiv \vec{p}_q - \vec{p}_Q$

Improvement:

- Energy conservation:
 $E(\text{combined quarks}) = E(\text{off-shell hadron})$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{decay}} \text{on-shell hadron} + \text{pion}$
- Coalescence probability:
 Include all s,p-wave hadron states
 allowed by spin-orbit coupling.



Resonance Recombination Model

RRM:

- Transport approach for hadronization via a resonant interaction:

$$\frac{d}{dt}f_M(R, P_M) = -\frac{\Gamma}{\gamma_p}f_M(t, R, P_M) + g(R, P_M)$$

- Gain term: $g(P_M) \sim \int d^3p_1 d^3p_2 f_q(p_1) f_Q(p_2) \sigma(s) v_{rel} \delta^3(P_M - p_1 - p_2)$
- Resonant interaction:

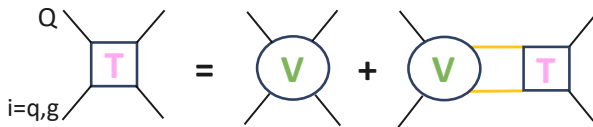
- ▶ Breit-Wigner: $\sigma(s) = g_\sigma \frac{4\pi}{k_{cm}^2} \frac{(\Gamma m)^2}{(s - m^2)^2 + (\Gamma m)^2}$

- ▶ Connect to T-matrix interactions in QGP near T_c : $\sigma \sim |T_{qQ}|^2$

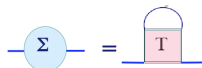
- In equilibrium: $f_M(R, P_M) = \frac{\gamma_M}{\Gamma} g(R, P_M)$
- $\frac{dN_M}{d^3\vec{P}_M} = \int d^3R f_M(R, P_M)$
- Explicit energy conservation

Transport coefficients

HQ-medium interaction: T-matrix formalism



- Strong coupling: $T_{Qi} = V_{Qi} + \int V_{Qi} D_Q D_i T_{Qi}$
- In-medium propagator $D_i = \frac{1}{\omega - \omega_k - \Sigma_i(\omega, k)}$
 - Self-energy $\Sigma_i(\omega, k)$ self-consistently computed from T_{Qi}
- Key input: in-medium potential $V_{Qi} = V_{Qi}^{Coulomb} + V_{Qi}^{Conf}$
- Two scenarios (embedded in IQCD EoS)
 - 40% Vector Confinement Potential (vacuum spin splittings) - **VCP**
 - Wilson Line Correlators from lattice QCD - **WLC**



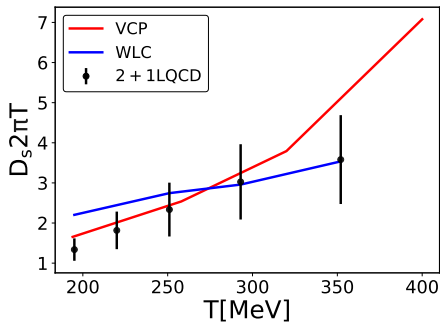
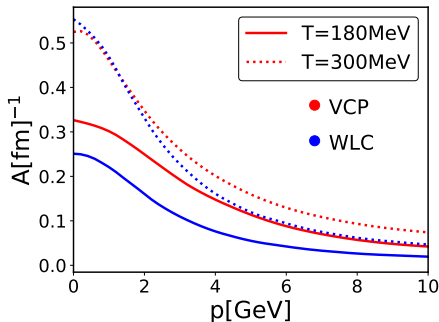
VCP: Tang+Rapp PRC108(2023)

WLC: Tang et al EPJA60(2024)

T-matrix: Riek+Rapp PRC82(2010); Liu+Rapp PRC97(2018)

Diffusion coefficient from T-matrix

- Drag coefficient: $A \sim \int d^3\vec{k} \left\{ \frac{\vec{p} \cdot (\vec{p} - \vec{k})}{p^2} \right\} |T_{Qi}(\vec{p}, \vec{k})|^2$
- Spatial diffusion coefficient: $D_s = \frac{T}{MA(p \rightarrow 0)}$
- VCP vs. WLC



VCP: Tang+Rapp PRC108(2023)

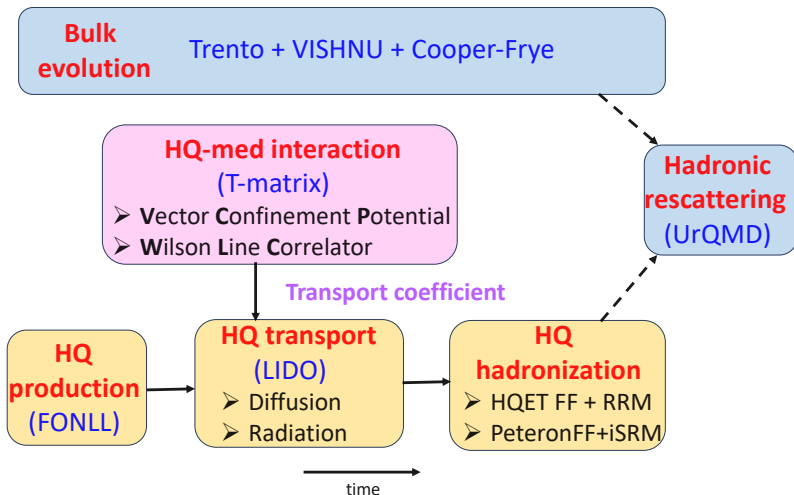
WLC: Tang et al EPJA60(2024)

2+1 LQCD: Altenkort et al PRL130(2023)

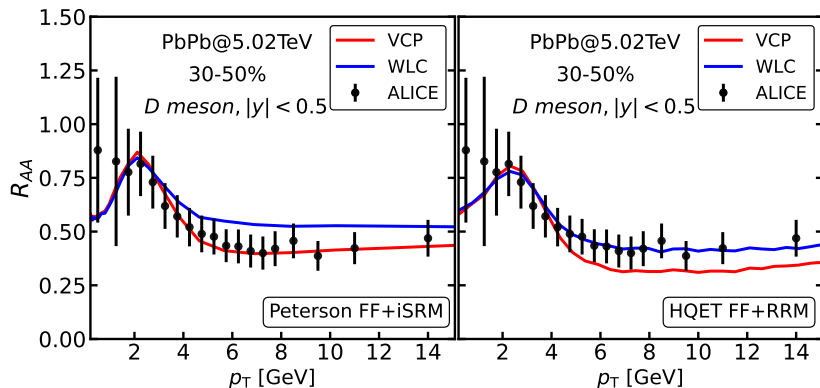
Results From HEFTY collaboration

Framework of open HF dynamics for HEFTY

Goal: Comprehensive framework for the transport and hadronization of heavy quarks with IQCD-derived transport coefficients

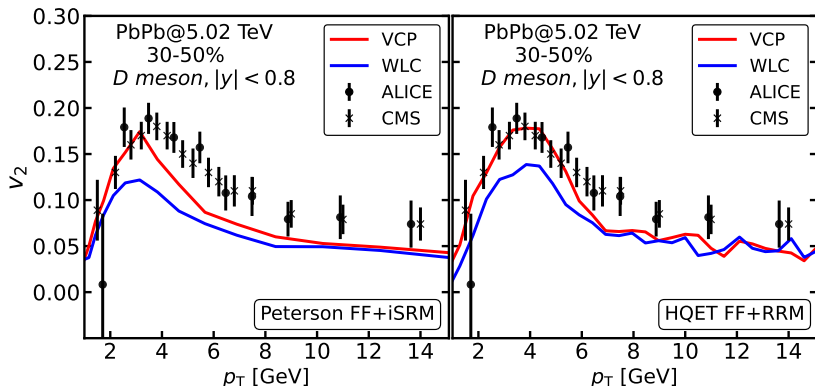


Nuclear modification factor: R_{AA}



- Sensitive to IQCD constraints via microscopic interactions
- Fair agreement between two hadronization models

Elliptic flow: v_2

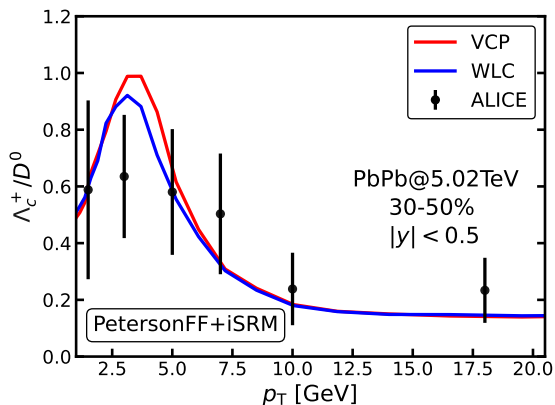


- Larger sensitivity to in-medium QCD force

ALICE: PLB813(2021)

CMS: PLB816(2021)

Baryon-to-meson ratio: Λ_c^+ / D^0



- Systematic investigation of hadro-chemistry underway

Summary and outlook

- Summary

- comprehensive state-of-the-art framework for HQ evolution in QGP:
 - ▶ HQ transport (Lido): Diffusion + Radiation
 - ▶ HQ-medium interaction (T-matrix) based on IQCD: **VCP** & **WLC**
 - ▶ HQ hadronization: iSRM vs. RRM
- demonstrated sensitivity to different microscopic descriptions
- preliminary data-theory comparison promising

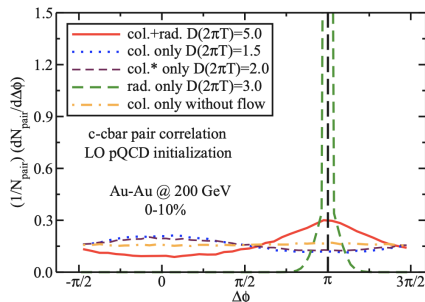
- Outlook

- combine first-principle results for transport coefficients with rigorous statistical methods for data analysis
- additional observables: HF chemistry, pair angular correlation, bottom

Thank you!

Backup

HF pair angular correlation



- Medium-induced gluon radiation is mostly dominated by the k_T kicks exerted on the radiated gluons; its effect on the propagation directions of the heavy quarks is very mild.
- Diffusion is very effective in changing the heavy quark propagation directions, and the final angular distribution is widely spread out

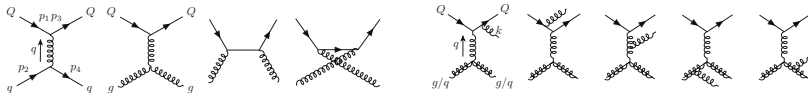
Heavy-quark transport

LIDO: Combine the linearized Boltzmann and Langevin approach

$$\frac{df_Q}{dt} = \mathcal{D}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 3}[f_Q]$$

(separated by a momentum cutoff $q_{cut} \sim 4\text{GeV}$)

- $\mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 3}[f_Q]$: Boltzmann for high-pt scattering + radiation



- perturbative scattering; high momentum transfer
- treat medium as thermal partons
- $2 \rightarrow 2$ elastic scattering + $2 \leftrightarrow 3$ inelastic scattering

Heavy-quark transport

LIDO: Combine the linearized Boltzmann and Langevin approach

$$\frac{df_Q}{dt} = \mathcal{D}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q] + \mathcal{C}^{2\leftrightarrow 3}[f_Q]$$

(separated by a momentum cutoff $q_{cut} \sim 4\text{GeV}$)

- $\mathcal{D}[f_Q]$: Fokker-Planck for diffusion with low momentum transfer
 - Fokker-Planck $\Leftrightarrow$ Langevin dynamics:
 $\Delta \vec{p} = -\eta_D \vec{p} \Delta t + \vec{\xi}(t) \Delta t \quad \langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j'(t') \rangle = \kappa \delta_{ij} \delta(t - t') \quad (\kappa = 2TE\eta_D)$
- $\mathcal{C}^{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f_Q]$: Diffusion-induced radiation
 - Monte Carlo implementation of medium induced splitting $P_{1\rightarrow 2}$
 - Modeling of LPM effect compatible with opacity expansion

improved Sudden Recombination Model(iSRM)

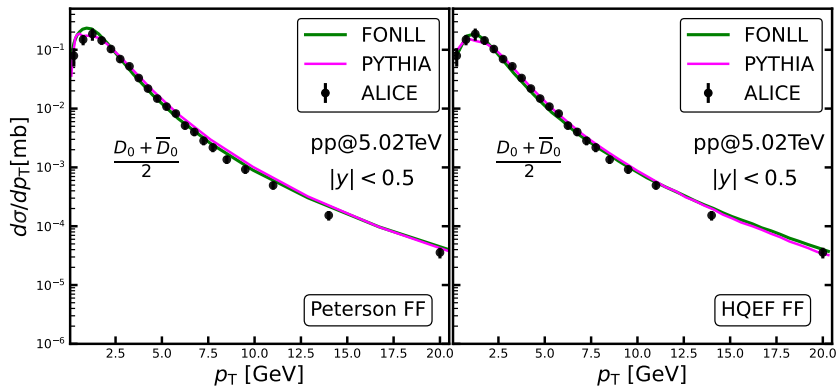
Sudden Recombination Model

- Coalescence probability of $q + Q \rightarrow \text{meson}$ is expressed as the overlap between the wavefunctions of free quarks and bound state.

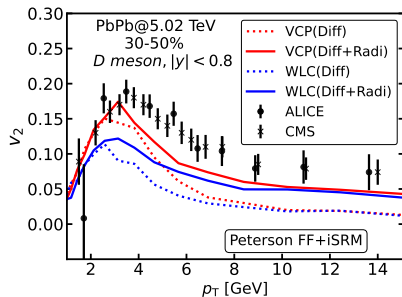
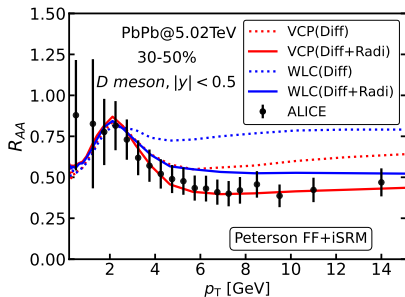
$$P_{\text{coal}} \propto \left| \int d^3\vec{r}_q \int d^3\vec{r}_Q \langle \vec{P}_M; \vec{R}, \Delta\vec{R} | \vec{p}_q, \vec{p}_Q; \vec{r}_q, \vec{r}_Q \rangle \right|^2$$

- Meson Wigner function: $W_M(\vec{r}, \vec{k}) = \int d^3s \phi_M^*(\vec{r} + \frac{\vec{s}}{2}) \phi_M(\vec{r} - \frac{\vec{s}}{2}) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$
 - s-wave: $W_M^s = g_h \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma)^3}{V} e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$
 - p-wave: $W_M^p = g_h \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma)^3}{V} \frac{2}{3} \sigma^2 k^2 e^{-\sigma^2 k^2}$
 - $\sigma = 1/\sqrt{\mu\omega}$ with μ being the reduced mass of the quark and antiquark in the meson, and ω is the oscillator frequency.
- $\frac{dP_{\text{coal}}}{d^3\vec{p}_Q} = g_M \int d^3\vec{p}_q \int d^3\vec{r} W_M(\vec{r}, \vec{k}) f_q(\vec{p}_q) \delta^3(\vec{p}_q + \vec{p}_Q - \vec{P}_M)$
 - $f_q(\vec{p}_q) = g_q \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3 (e^{E_q/T} + 1)}$

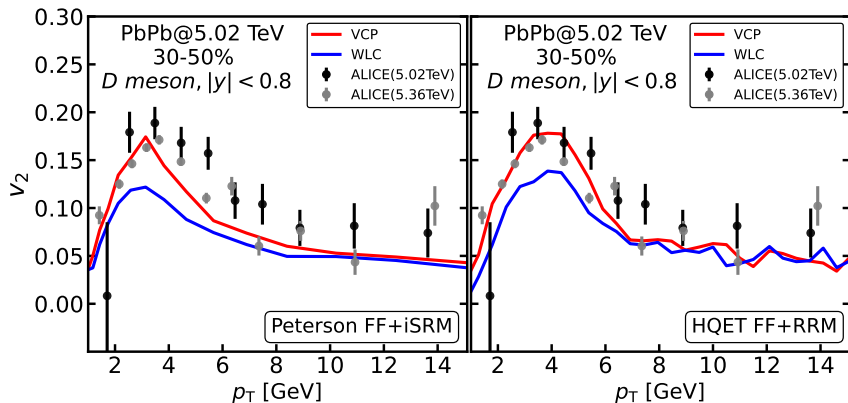
D meson spectrum in pp



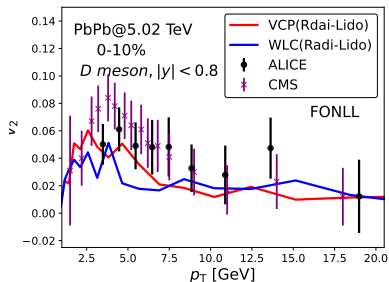
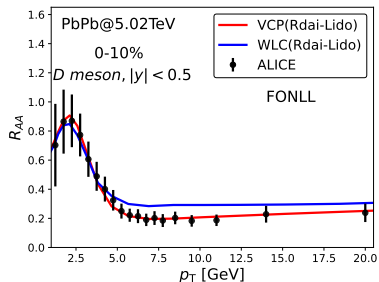
Diffusion vs. Diffusion+Radiation



Elliptic flow: v_2

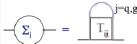


0-10 % centrality



T-matrix formalism with different in-medium potential

from Zhanduo Tang

		(1) [F. Riek+R. Rapp'10] [K. Huggins+R. Rapp '12] U-potential	(2) [S. Liu+R. Rapp'18, '19] SCS	(3) [Z. Tang+R. Rapp'23] VcConf
Potential (V)	Lorentz structure	$V^{vec} = V_{coul}$ $V^{sca} = V_{conf}$	Same as (1)	$V^{vec} = V_{coul} + (1 - \chi)V_{conf}$ $V^{sca} = \chi V_{conf}$ χ : mixing coefficient
	Value	Taking internal potential (U-potential) from IQCD as input static (R=1) potential	Constrained by QQbar free energy from IQCD	Same as (2)
Parton width (Γ) /Selfenergy (Σ) ($\Gamma = -2\text{Im}\Sigma$)		- Quasiparticle (on-shell) - Small constant $\text{Im}\Sigma \sim 0$	- Parton described by spectral function (off-shell) Σ solved self-consistently 	Same as (2)
Light parton mass ($m_{q,g}$)		$m_{q,g} \sim gT$ - Quasiparticle EoS in line with IQCD	$m_{q,g}$ tuned - EoS (with broad spectral function) agrees with IQCD	Same as (2)
Charm mass (m_Q)		$m_Q = m_Q^0 + V(r \rightarrow \infty)/2$, m_Q^0 constrained by vacuum spectroscopy	Same as (1)	Same as (1)