

# Equilibration process of the QGP and its connection to jet physics

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*Based on*

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*(QM proceeding arXiv:1704.05242; detailed paper in preparation)*

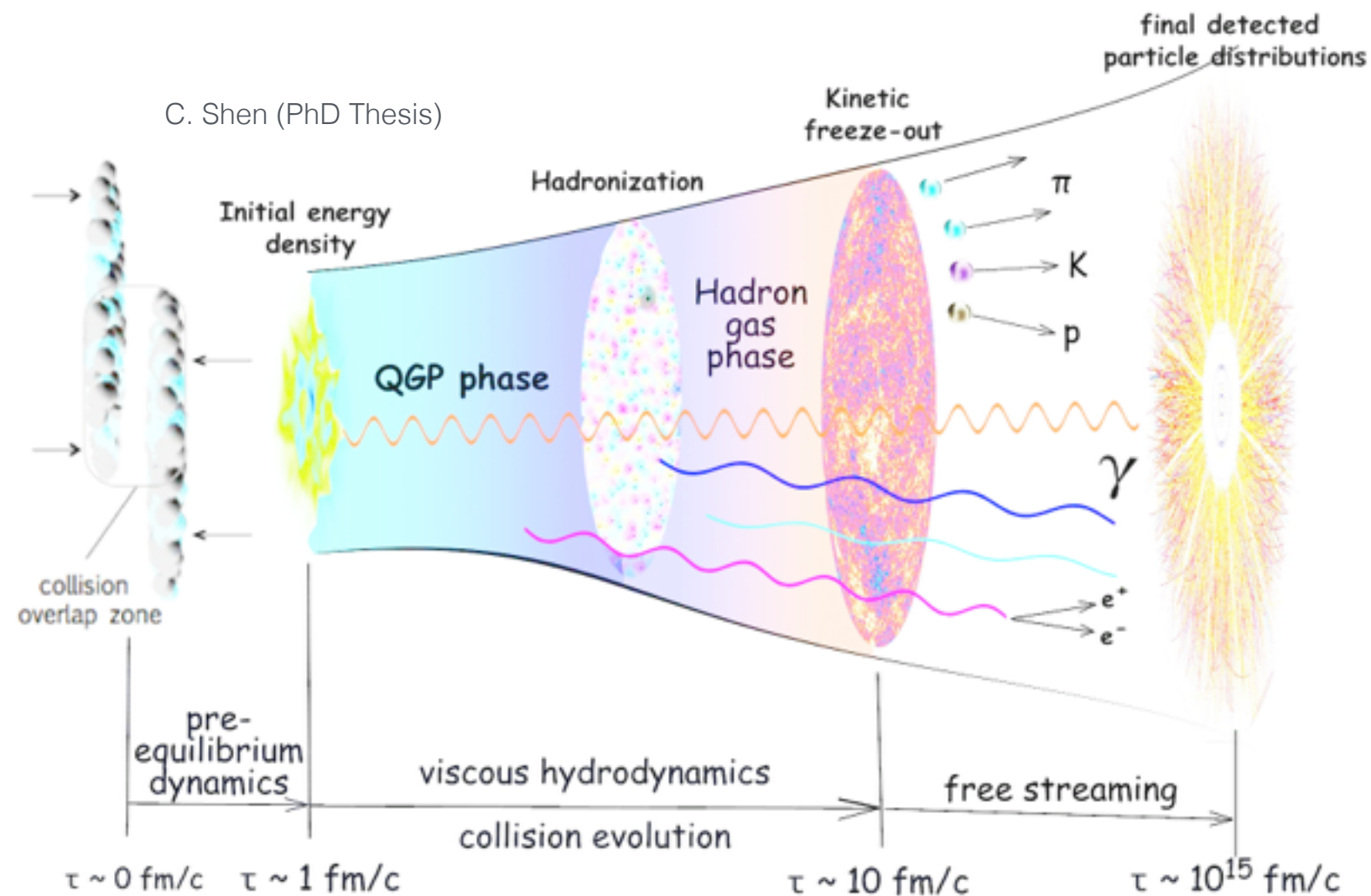
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# Space-time picture of HIC

Extremely successful phenomenology based on hydrodynamic models of space-time evolution starting from  $\tau \sim 1 \text{ fm}/c$



**Goal:** Develop theoretical description of pre-equilibrium stage for complete description of space-time dynamics

# Outline

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Early time dynamics & equilibration process

- Microscopic dynamics & connections to jet physics

Description of early-time dynamics by macroscopic d.o.f.

- Energy momentum tensor & non-eq. response function

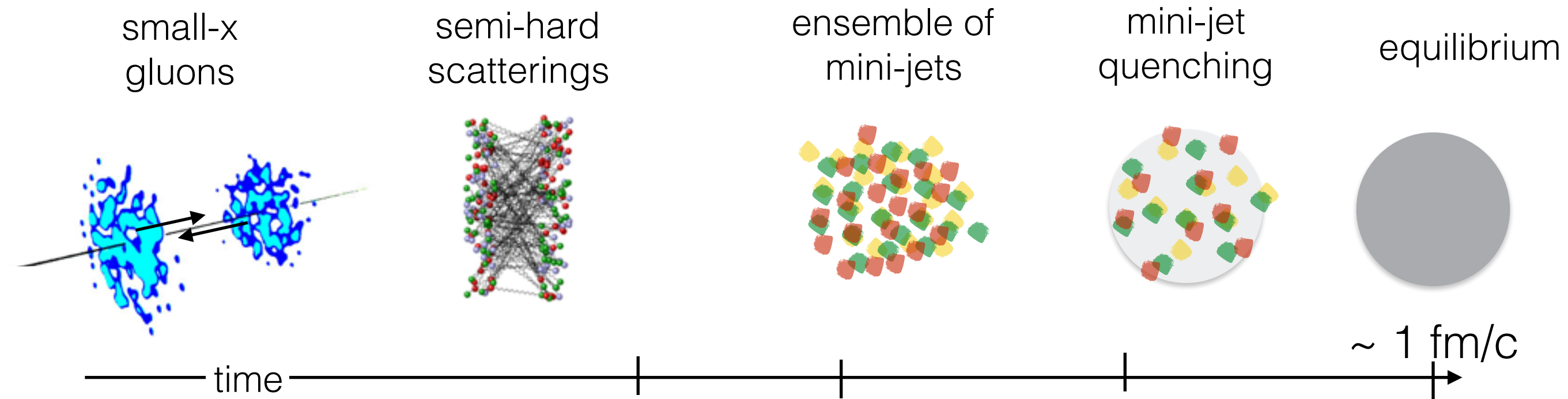
Event-by-event simulation of pre-equilibrium dynamics

- consistent matching to rel. visc. hydrodynamics

Conclusions & Outlook

# Early time dynamics & equilibration process

## Canonical picture at weak coupling:



Starting with the collision of heavy-ions a sequence of processes eventually leads to the formation of an equilibrated QGP

## Key questions:

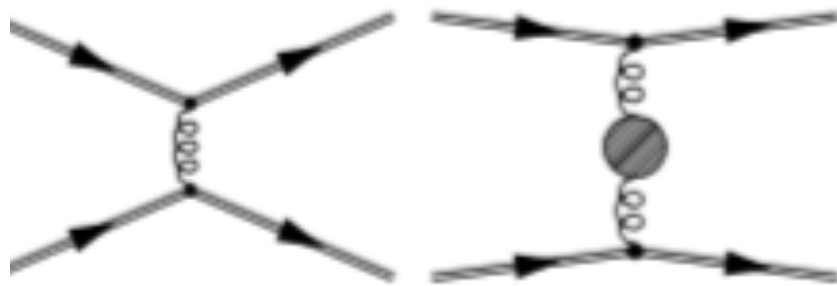
How does ensemble of mini-jets thermalize?

When and to what extent can this process be described macroscopically e.g. in terms of visc. hydrodynamics?

# Description at (LO) weak coupling

Based on effective kinetic theory of Arnold, Moore, Yaffe (AMY)  
(basis for MARTINI jet-quenching Monte Carlo)

$$\left(\partial_\tau - \frac{p_z}{\tau}\right) f(\tau, |\mathbf{p}_\perp|, p_z) = \mathcal{C}[f] = \mathcal{C}_{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f] + \mathcal{C}_{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f]$$



elast. 2 $\leftrightarrow$ 2 scattering  
screened by Debye mass



collinear 1 $\leftrightarrow$ 2 Bremsstrahlung  
incl. LPM effect  
via eff. vertex re-summation

## Differences to parton/jet energy loss calculations

- lower  $p_T$
- phase space density of on-shell partons (no structure)
- no “background” medium  $\rightarrow$  non-linear treatment of interactions between mini-jets
- soft & (semi-)hard degrees of freedom all treated within same framework



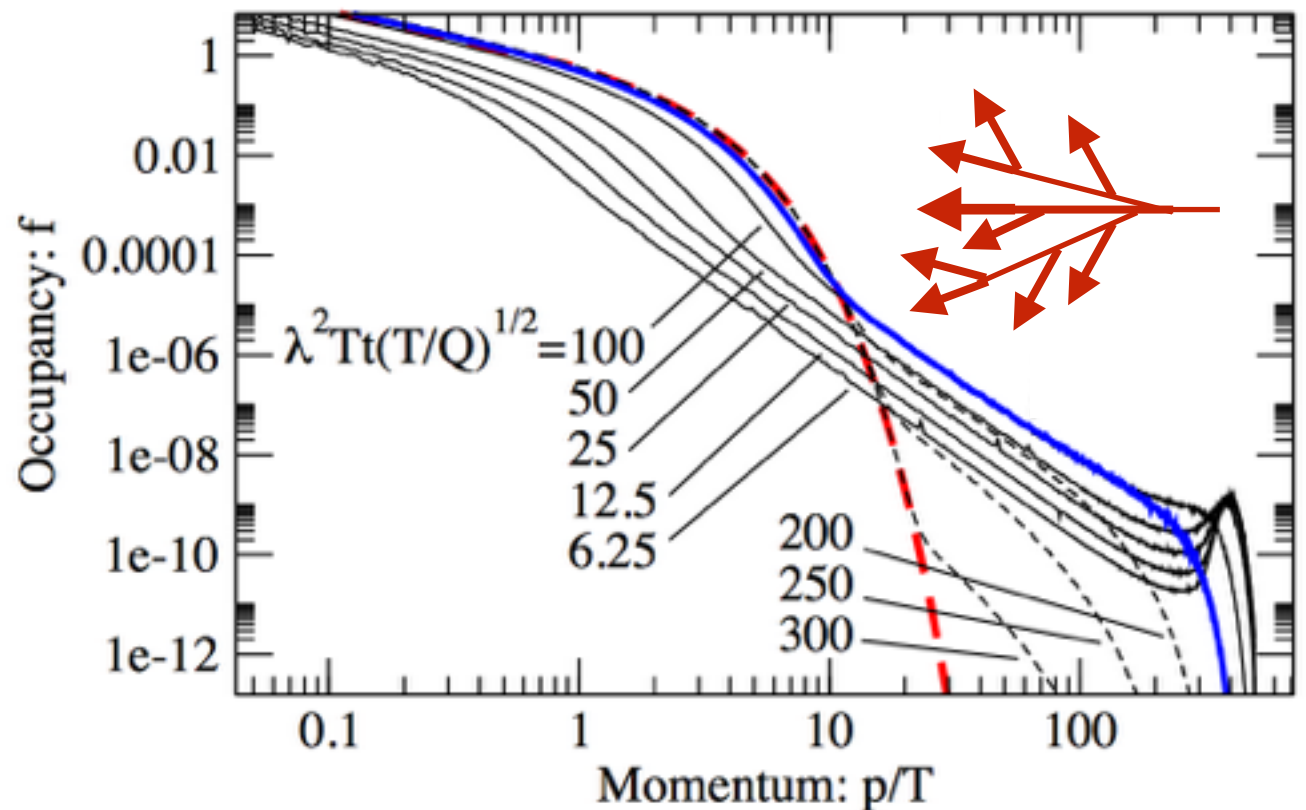
# Mini-jet quenching

Interactions between mini-jets ( $p \sim Q$ ) induce collinear Bremsstrahlung radiation ( $p \ll Q$ )

-> Cascades towards low  $p$  via multiple (democratic) branchings

Soft fragments  $p \ll Q$  begin to thermalize via elastic/inelastic interactions

-> soft thermal bath  $T \ll Q$  forms



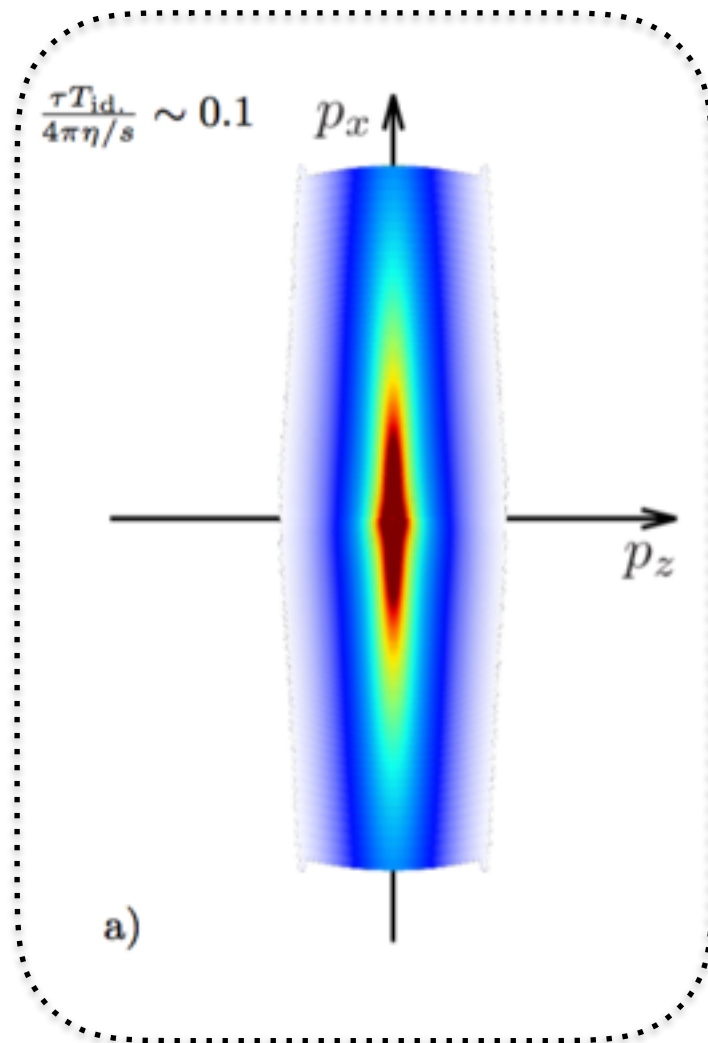
Kurkela, Lu PRL 113 (2014) 182301

Energy continues to flow from  $p \sim Q$  to  $p \sim T$ , increasing the temperature of the bath

-> Soft bath begins to dominate screening & scattering

Subsequently the situation is analogous to parton energy loss; mini-jets lose all their energy to soft bath heating it up to the final temperature.

# Equilibration process at weak coupling



Semi-hard gluons produced around mid-rapidity have  $p_T \gg p_z$   
-> initial phase-space distribution is highly anisotropic

Non-equilibrium plasma subject to rapid long. expansion  
-> depletion of phase space density

Equilibration of expanding plasma proceeds as three step process described by “bottom-up” scenario

Baier, Mueller, Schiff, Son PLB502 (2001) 51-58

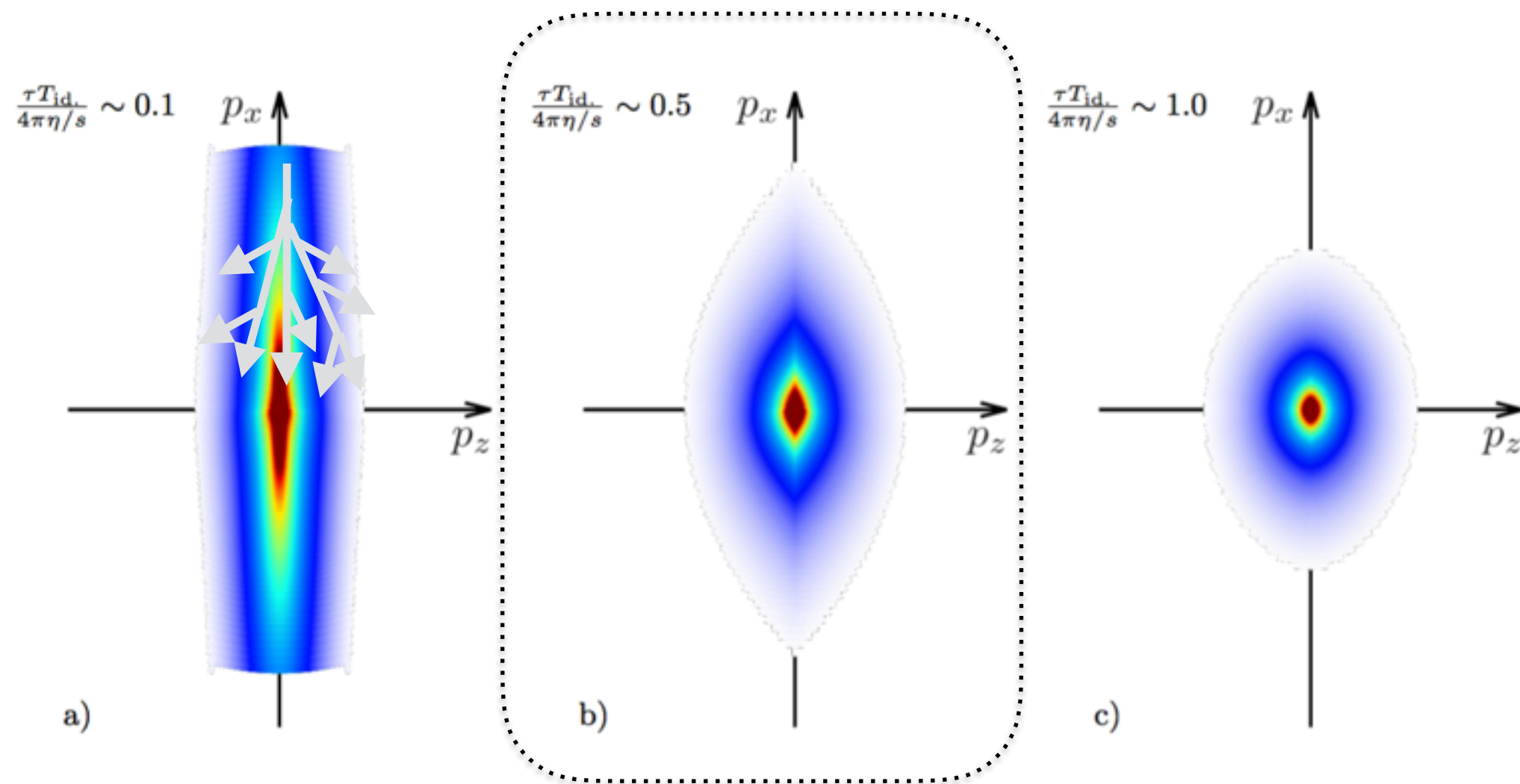
Phase I: Quasi-particle description becomes applicable.  
Elastics scattering dominant but insufficient to isotropize system

c.f. Berges, Boguslavski, SS, Venugopalan, PRD 89 (2014) no.7, 074011

# Equilibration process at weak coupling

Equilibration proceeds as three step process described by “bottom-up” scenario

Baier, Mueller, Schiff, Son PLB502 (2001) 51-58



Phase II: Mini-jets undergo a radiative break-up cascade eventually leading to formation of **soft thermal bath**

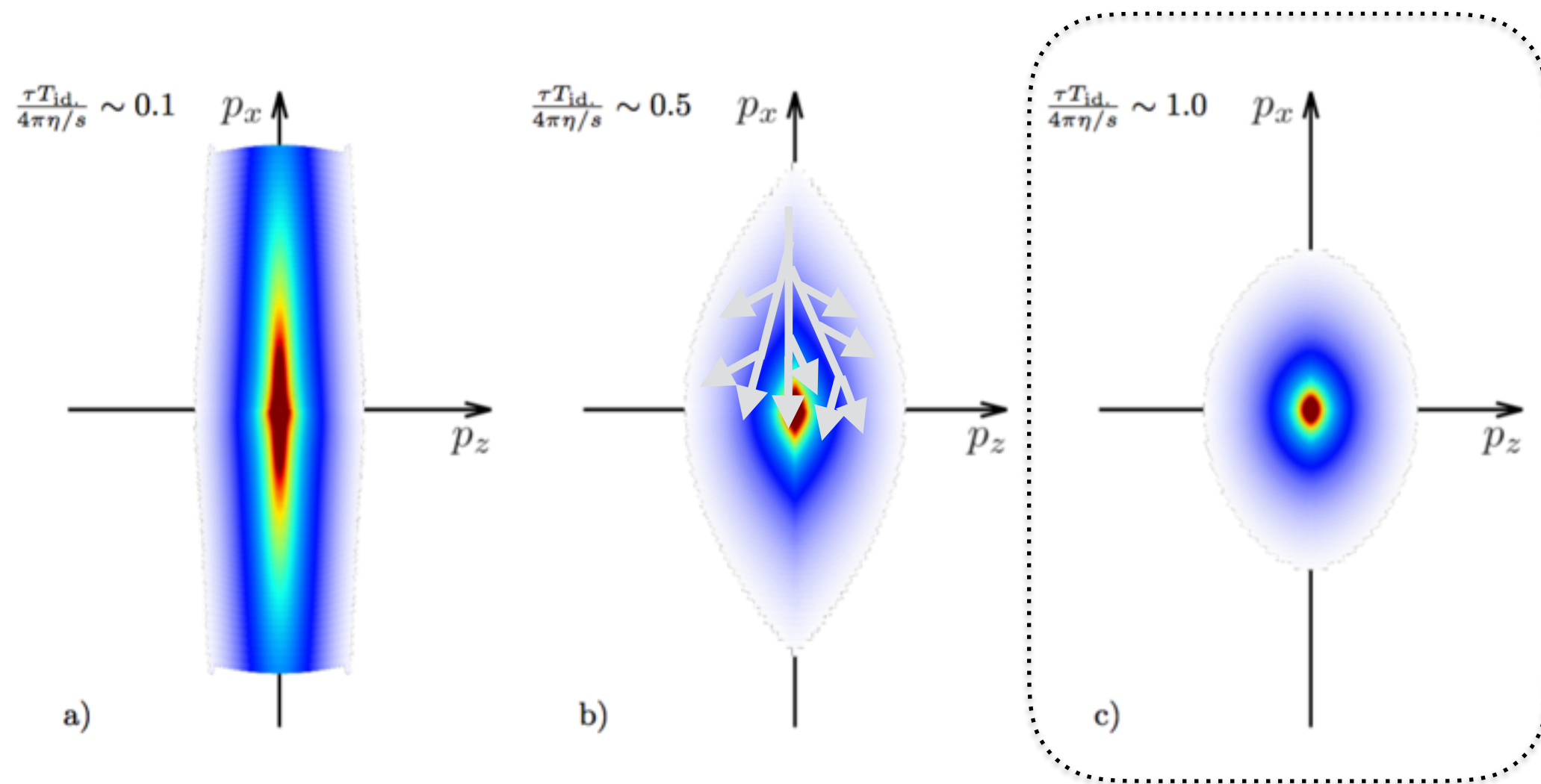
c.f. Kurkela, Zhu PRL 115 (2015) 182301



# Equilibration process at weak coupling

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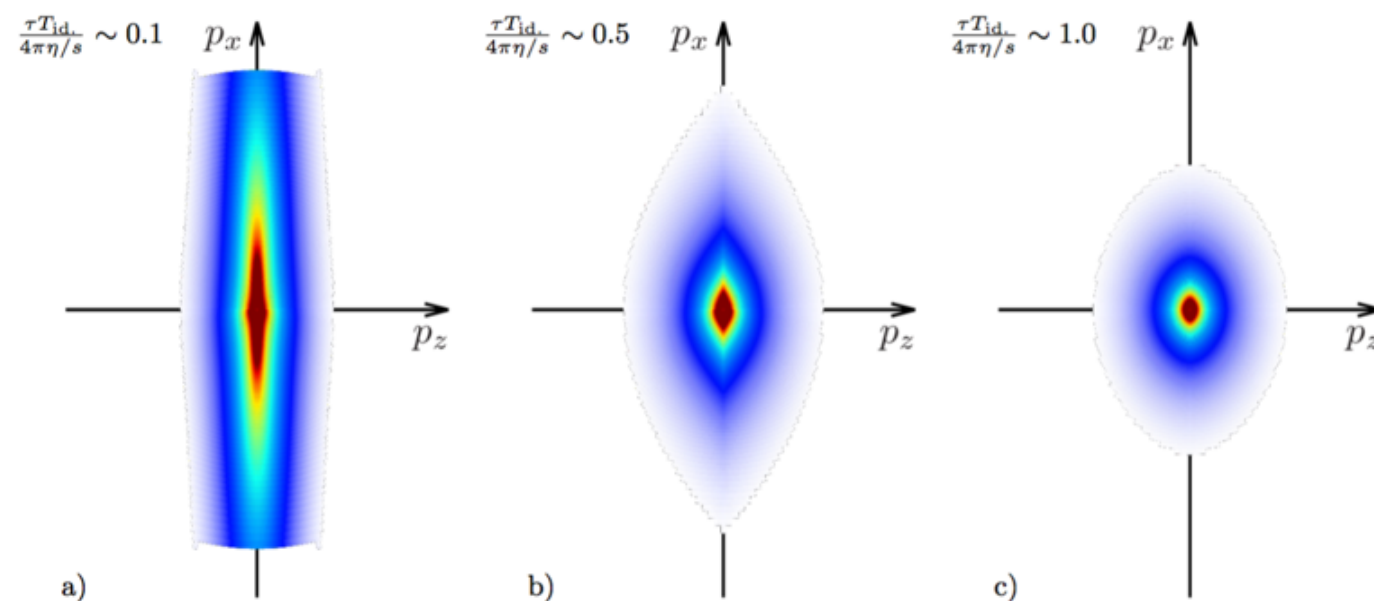


Phase III: Quenching of mini-jets in soft thermal bath transfers energy to soft sector leading to isotropization of plasma

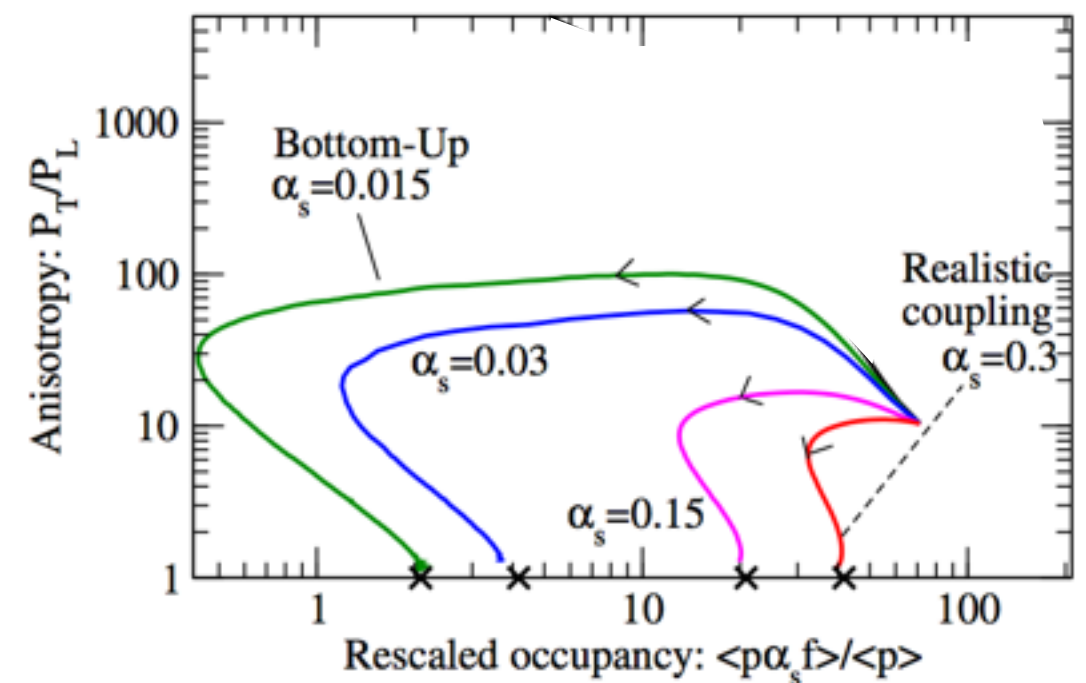
# Equilibration process at weak coupling

Equilibration proceeds as three step process described by “bottom-up” scenario

Baier, Mueller, Schiff, Son PLB502 (2001) 51-58



Kurkela, Zhu PRL 115 (2015) 182301



Beyond very early times equilibration process similar to parton-energy loss in thermal medium

Equilibration time determined by the time-scale for a mini-jet ( $p \sim Q_s$ ) to lose all its energy to soft thermal bath

# Onset of hydrodynamic behavior

Since the system is highly anisotropic initially  $P_L \ll P_T$ , one of the key questions is to understand evolution of anisotropy of  $T^{\mu\nu}$

Viscous hydrodynamics begins to describe evolution of energy momentum tensor starting on time scales  $\sim 1$  fm/c for realistic values of  $\alpha_s$  ( $\sim 0.3$ ) at RHIC & LHC energies

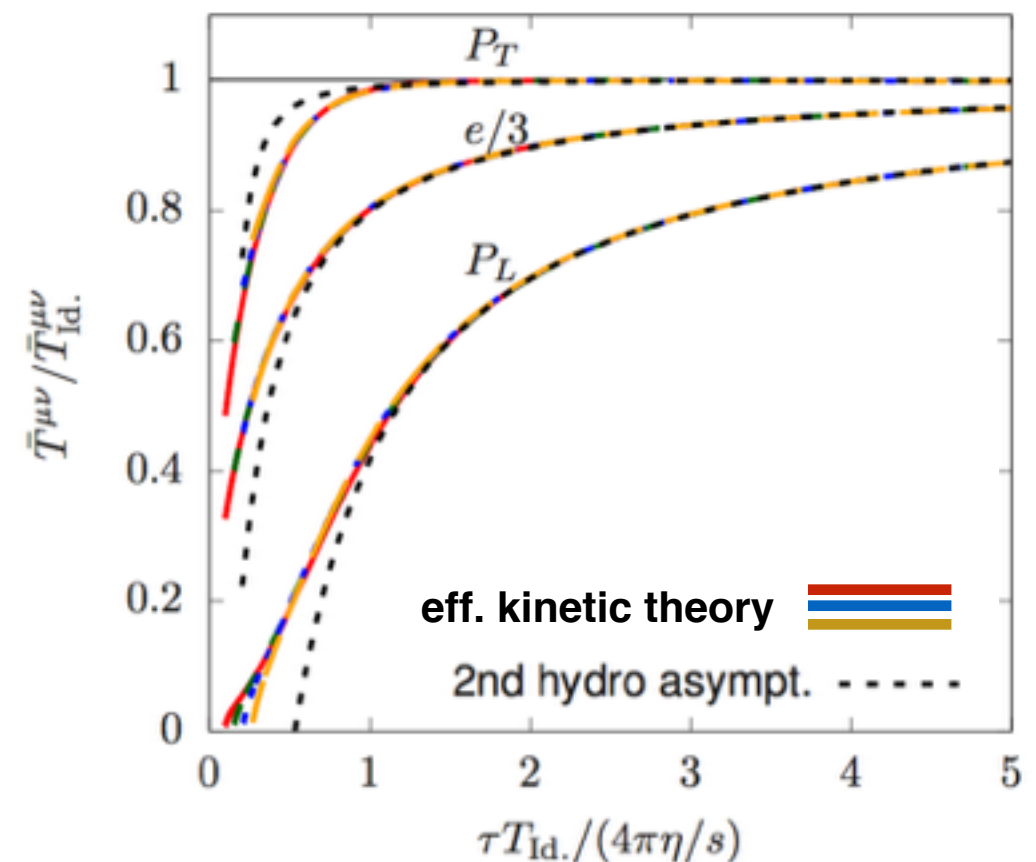
e.g.  $T_{\text{Initial}} \sim 1$  GeV,  $\eta/s \sim 3/4\pi$ ,  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}} \sim 0.8$  fm/c

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-> in-line with heavy-ion phenomenology

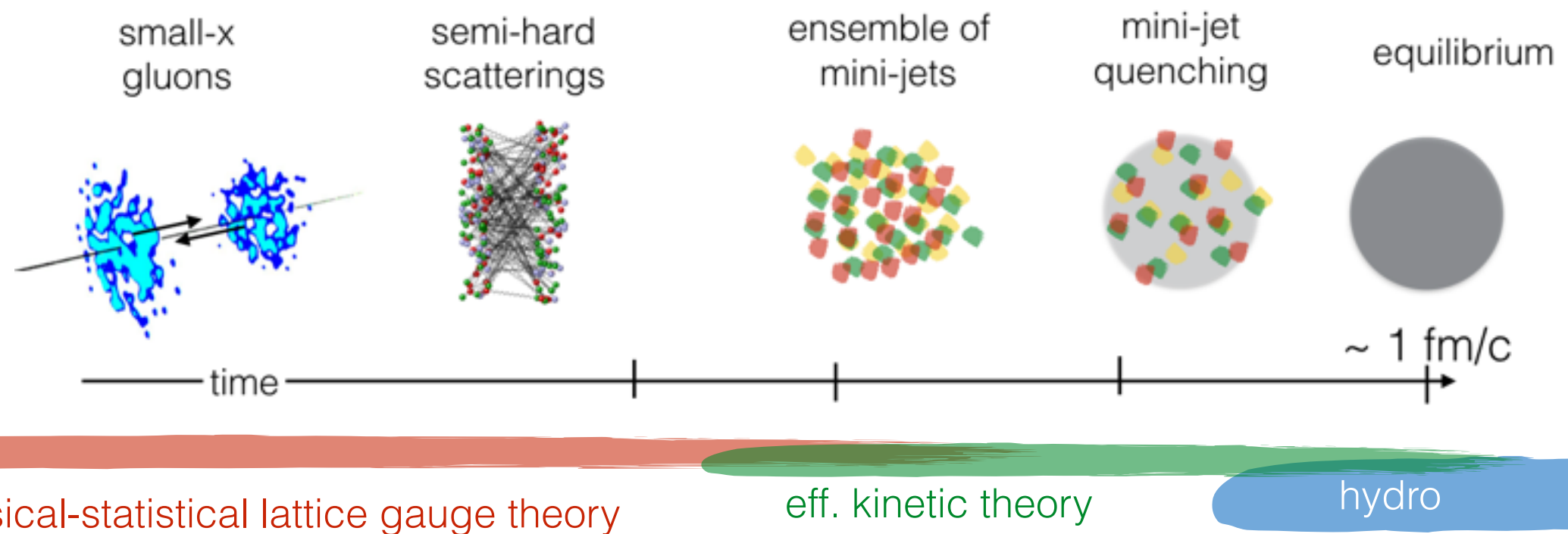
Similar to strong coupling picture viscous hydrodynamics becomes applicable when pressure anisotropies are still  $O(1)$  and microscopic physics is still somewhat jet-like



c.f. Kurkela, Zhu PRL 115 (2015) 182301  
Kurkela, Mazeliauskas, Paquet, SS, Teaney  
(in preparation)

# Early time dynamics & equilibration process

Based on combination of weak-coupling methods a complete description of early-time dynamics can be achieved



Brute force calculation challenging but possible (e.g. in p+p/A)

(Greif, Greiner, Schenke, SS, Xu, Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.9, 091504)

Ultimately for the purpose of describing soft physics of the medium, we are mostly interested in calculation of energy-momentum tensor

-> Exploit memory loss to use macroscopic degrees of freedom for description of pre-equilibrium dynamics

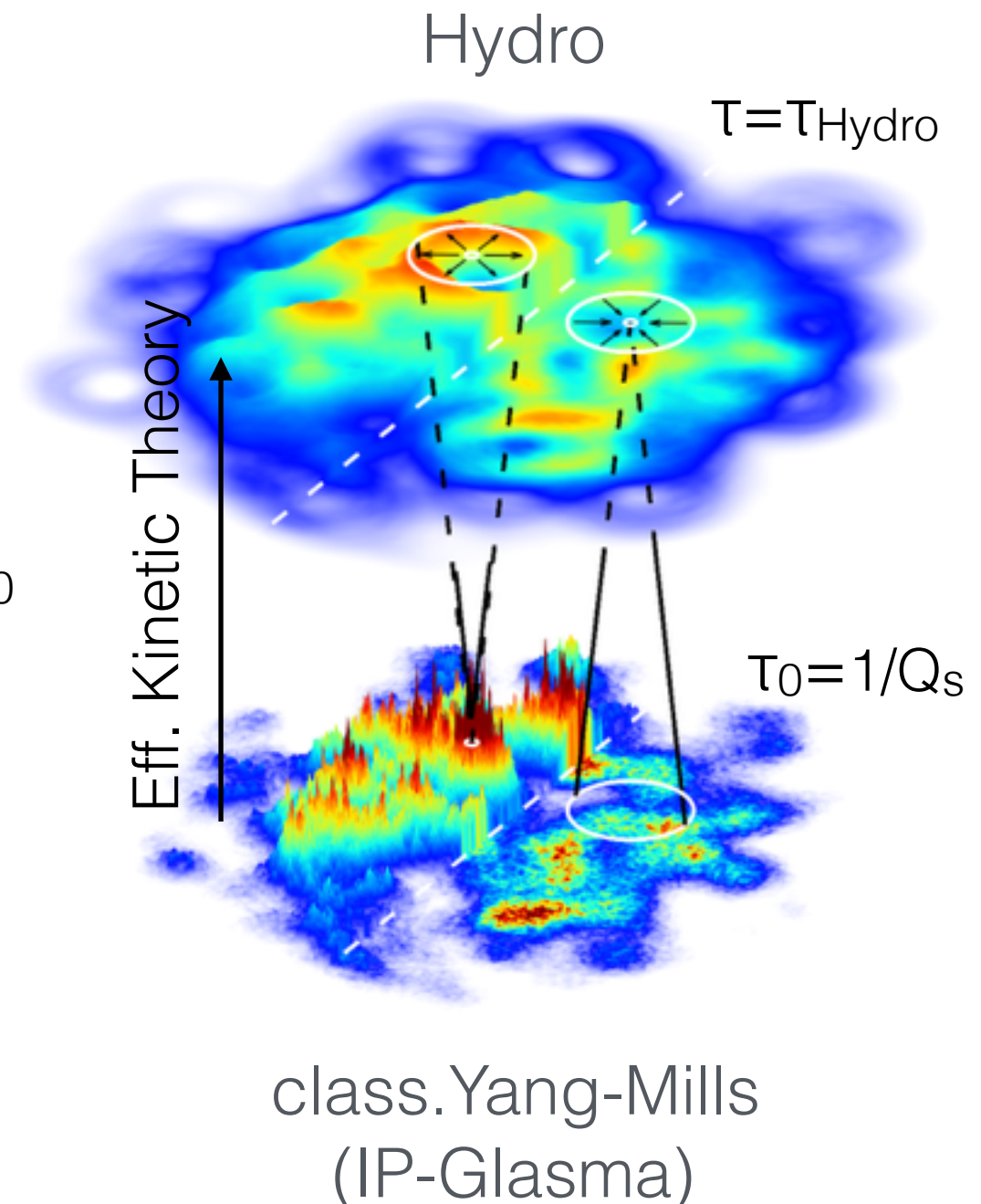
# Macroscopic pre-equilibrium evolution

Extract energy-momentum tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}(x)$   
from initial state model (e.g. IP-Glasma)

Evolve  $T^{\mu\nu}$  from initial time  $\tau_0 \sim 1/Q_s$  to  
hydro initialization time  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  using eff.  
kinetic theory description

Causality restricts contributions to  $T^{\mu\nu}(x)$  to  
be localized from causal disc  $|x-x_0| < \tau_{\text{Hydro}} - \tau_0$   
useful to decompose into a local average  
 $T^{\mu\nu}_{\text{BG}}(x)$  and fluctuations  $\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x)$

Since in practice size of causal disc is small  
 $\tau_{\text{Hydro}} - \tau_0 \ll R_A$  fluctuations  $\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x)$  around  
local average  $T^{\mu\nu}_{\text{BG}}(x)$  are small and can  
be treated in a linearized fashion





# Macroscopic pre-equilibrium evolution

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Effective kinetic description needs phase-space distribution  $f(\tau, p, x)$

Memory loss: Details of initial phase-space distribution become irrelevant as system approaches local equilibrium

Can describe evolution of  $T^{\mu\nu}$  in kinetic theory in terms of a representative phase-space distribution

$$f(\tau, p, x) = f_{BG}(Q_s(x)\tau, p/Q_s(x)) + \delta f(\tau, p, x)$$

where  $f_{BG}$  characterizes typical momentum space distribution, and  $\delta f$  can be chosen to represent local fluctuations of initial energy momentum tensor, e.g. energy density  $\delta T^{\tau\tau}$  and momentum flow  $\delta T^{\tau i}$

Energy perturbations:

$$\delta f_s(\tau_0, p, x) \propto \frac{\delta T^{\tau\tau}(x)}{T_{BG}^{\tau\tau}(x)} \times \frac{\partial}{\partial Q_s(x)} f_{BG}\left(\tau_0, p/Q_s(x)\right)$$

local amplitude

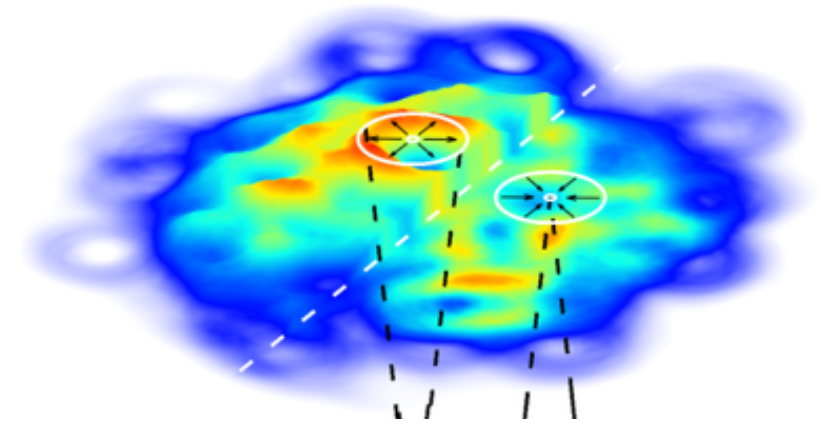
representative form of  
phase-space distribution

# Macroscopic pre-equilibrium evolution

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Energy-momentum tensor on the hydro surface can be reconstructed directly from initial conditions according to

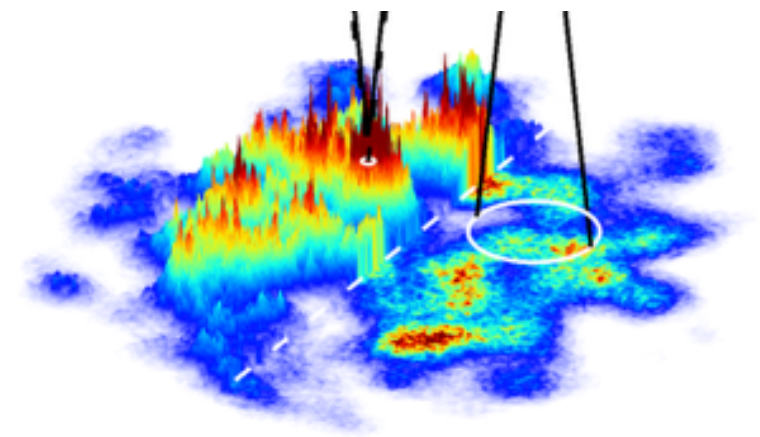
$$T^{\mu\nu}(\tau, x) = T_{BG}^{\mu\nu}(Q_s(x)\tau) + \int_{Disc} G_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu}(\tau, \tau_0, x, x_0, Q_s(x)) \delta T^{\alpha\beta}(\tau_0, x_0)$$



non-equilibrium evolution  
of (local) average background

non-equilibrium Greens function  
of energy-momentum tensor

Effective kinetic theory simulations only  
need to be performed once to compute  
background evolution and Greens functions



# Scaling variables

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Background evolution and Greens functions still depend on variety of variables e.g.  $Q_s(x)$  (local energy scale),  $\alpha_s$ , (coupling constant) ...

-> Identify appropriate scaling variables to reduce complexity

Since ultimately evolution will match onto visc. hydrodynamics, check whether hydrodynamics admits scaling solution

1st order hydro: 
$$T^{\tau\tau}(\tau) = T_{Ideal}^{\tau\tau}(\tau) \left( 1 - \frac{8}{3} \frac{\eta/s}{T_{eff}\tau} + \dots \right)$$

where  $T_{Ideal}^{\tau\tau}(\tau)$  is the Bjorken energy density and  $T_{eff} = \tau^{-1/3} \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} T(\tau)\tau^{1/3}$

Natural candidate for scaling variable is  $x_s = T_{eff}\tau/(\eta/s)$

(evolution time / equilibrium relaxation time)

# Background — Scaling & Equilibration time

Scaling property extends well beyond hydrodynamic regime; non-equilibrium evolution of background  $T^{\mu\nu}$  is a unique function of  $x_s = T_{eff}\tau/(\eta/s)$

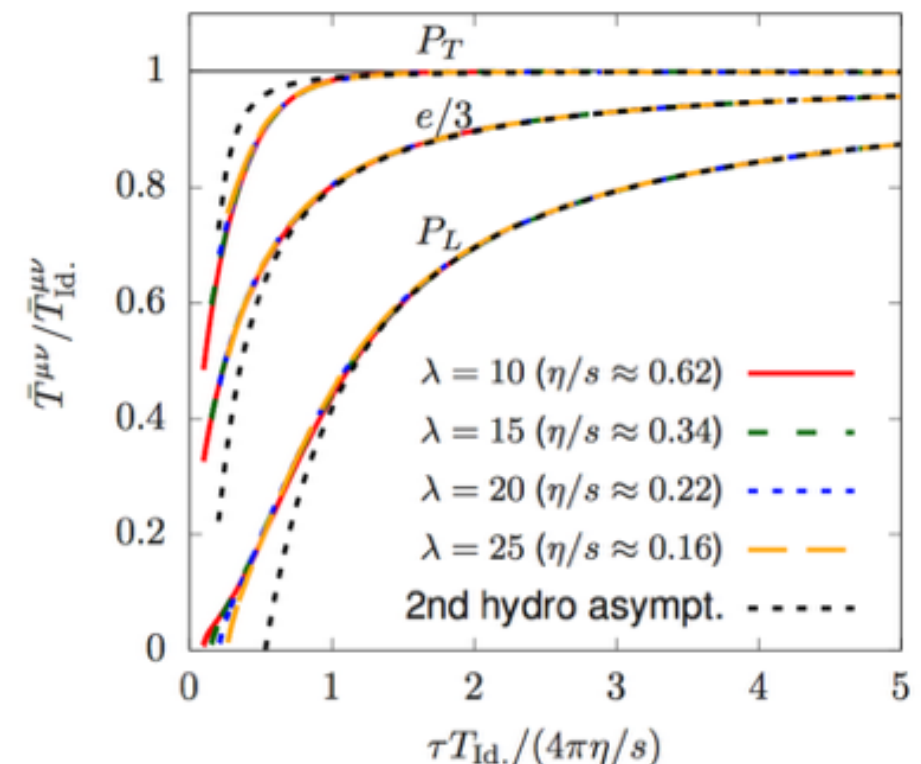
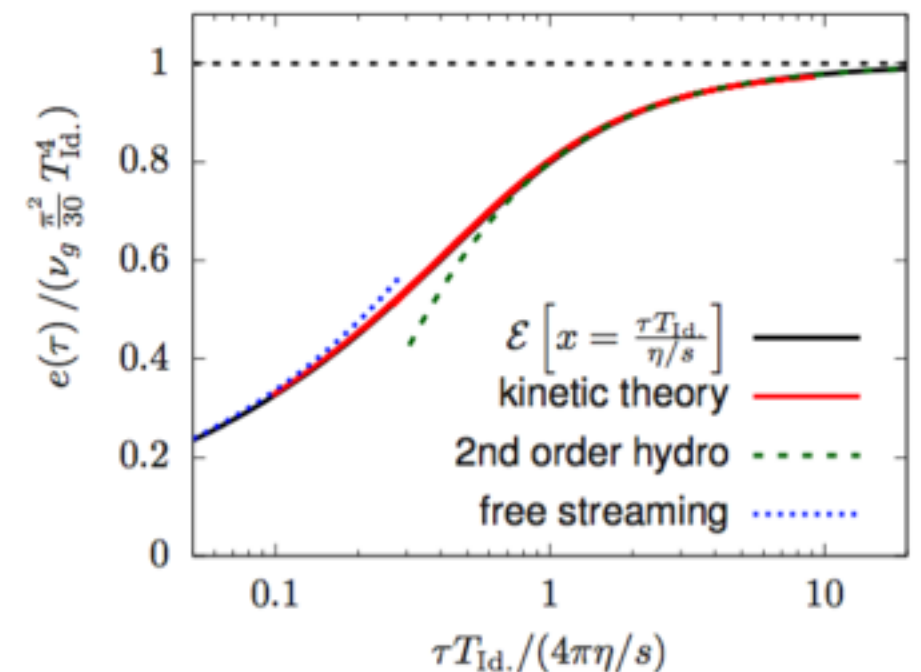
-> near equilibrium physics ( $\eta/s$ )  
determines time scale for  
mini-jet quenching

Estimate of minimal time scale  
for applicability of visc. hydrodynamics

$$\tau_{\text{hydro}} \approx 0.85 \text{ fm} \left( \frac{4\pi(\eta/s)}{2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{1.6 \text{ GeV}}{\langle \tau e^{3/4} \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$

Kurkela, Zhu PRL 115 (2015) 182301

Kurkela, Mazeliauskas, Paquet, SS, Teaney (in preparation)



# Greens functions

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Greens functions describe evolution of energy/momentum perturbations on top of a (locally) homogenous boost-invariant background

-> Description of perturbations in Fourier space

Decomposition in a complete basis of tensors leaves a total of 10 independent functions, e.g. for energy perturbations

energy response

$$\tilde{G}_{\tau\tau}^{\tau\tau}(\tau, \tau_0, \mathbf{k}) = \tilde{G}_s^s(\tau, \tau_0, |\mathbf{k}|) ,$$

momentum response

$$\tilde{G}_{\tau\tau}^{\tau i}(\tau, \tau_0, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{\mathbf{k}^i}{|\mathbf{k}|} \tilde{G}_s^v(\tau, \tau_0, |\mathbf{k}|) ,$$

shear stress response

$$\tilde{G}_{\tau\tau}^{ij}(\tau, \tau_0, \mathbf{k}) = \tilde{G}_s^{t,\delta}(\tau, \tau_0, |\mathbf{k}|) \delta^{ij} + \tilde{G}_s^{t,k}(\tau, \tau_0, |\mathbf{k}|) \frac{\mathbf{k}^i \mathbf{k}^j}{|\mathbf{k}|^2} ,$$

Numerically computed in eff. kinetic theory by solving linearized Boltzmann equation on top of non-equilibrium background

$$\left( \partial_\tau + \frac{i\mathbf{p}_\perp \mathbf{k}_\perp}{p} - \frac{p_z}{\tau} \right) \delta \tilde{f}(\tau, |\mathbf{p}_\perp|, p_z; \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \delta \mathcal{C}[f, \delta \tilde{f}]$$

same approach as in parton energy loss calculation a la MARTINI/CoIBT, except now considering typical d.o.f. and non-eq background



# Greens functions

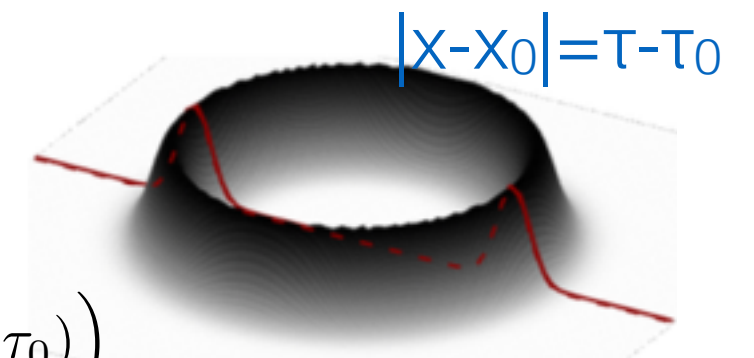
## Free-streaming:

Energy-momentum perturbations propagate as a concentric wave traveling at the speed of light

energy/momentum response:

$$G_s^{s/v}(\tau, \tau_0, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi(\tau - \tau_0)} \delta(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0| - (\tau - \tau_0))$$

coordinate space



Hydrodynamic response functions in the limit of large times  $x_s \gg 1$  and small wave-number  $k$   $(\tau - \tau_0) \ll x_s^{1/2}$

(c.f. Vredevoogd, Pratt PRC79 (2009) 044915, Keegan, Kurkela, Mazeliauskas, Teaney JHEP 1608 (2016) 171)

energy response:  $\tilde{G}_s^s(\tau, \tau_0, k) = \tilde{G}_s^s(\tau, \tau_0, k=0) \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} k^2 (\tau - \tau_0)^2 \tilde{s}_s^{(2)} + \dots \right),$

momentum response:  $\tilde{G}_s^v(\tau, \tau_0, k) = \tilde{G}_s^s(\tau, \tau_0, k=0) \left( k(\tau - \tau_0) \tilde{s}_v^{(1)} + \dots \right),$

shear response: determined by hydrodynamic constitutive relations

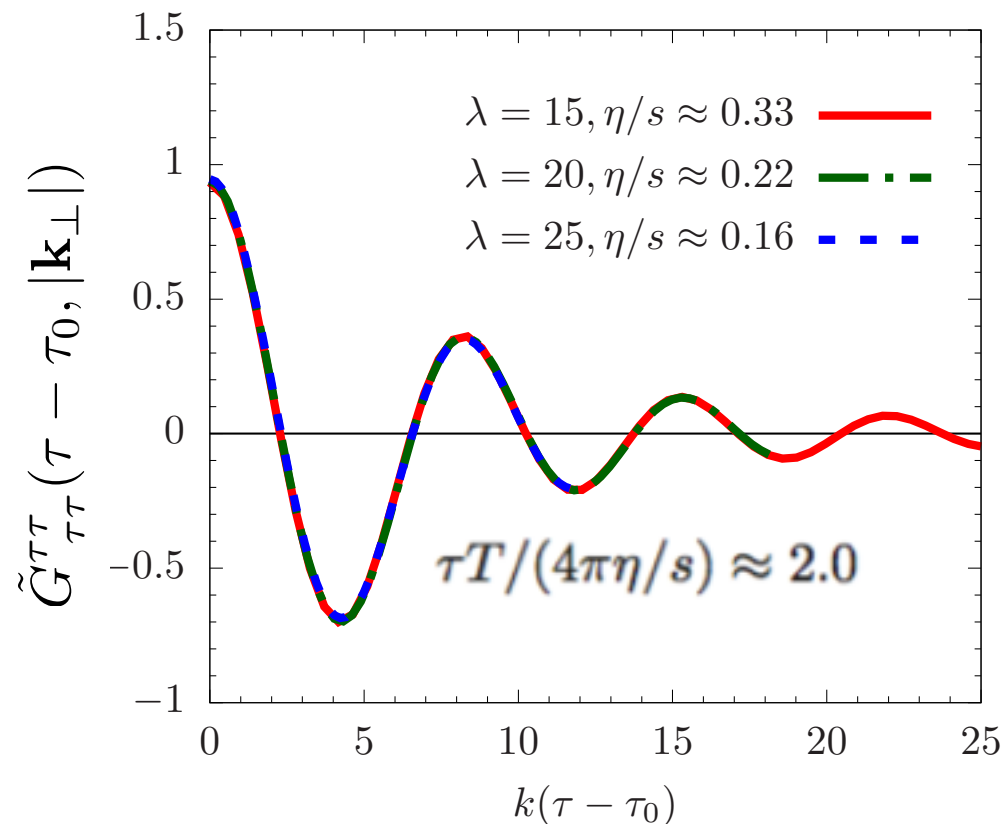
$$\tilde{G}_s^s(\tau, \tau_0, k=0) = \left( \frac{T^{\tau\tau}(\tau_0)}{T^{\tau\tau}(\tau)} \right) \left( \frac{3T^{\tau\tau}(\tau) - T^{\eta}_{\eta}(\tau)}{3T^{\tau\tau}(\tau_0) - T^{\eta}_{\eta}(\tau_0)} \right) \quad \tilde{s}_s^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \tilde{s}_v^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\eta/s}{\tau T_{\text{id.}}},$$

background evolution

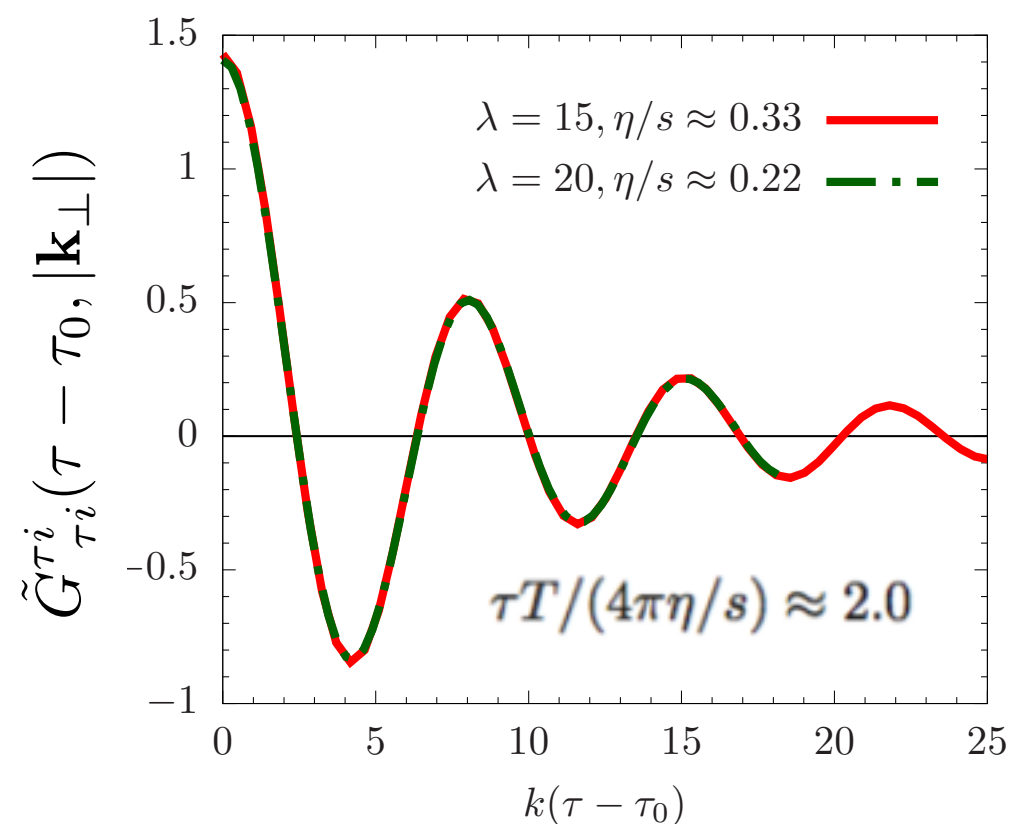
“long wave-length constants”

# Greens functions — Scaling variables

Energy response  
to energy perturbation



Momentum response  
to momentum perturbations



Non-equilibrium Greens functions show universal scaling  
in  $x_s = T_{eff}\tau/(\eta/s)$  and  $k(\tau - \tau_0)$  beyond hydro limit

Satisfy hydrodynamic constitutive relations for sufficiently large  
times  $x_s \gg 1$  and long wave-length  $k(\tau - \tau_0) \ll x_s^{1/2}$

# KoMPoST

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Scaling properties ensure that pre-equilibrium evolution of energy momentum tensor can be expressed in terms of

Background:  $T_{BG}^{\mu\nu}(x_s)$       Greens-functions:  $G_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu}\left(x_s, \frac{x - x_0}{\tau - \tau_0}\right)$

computed once and for all in numerical kinetic theory simulation

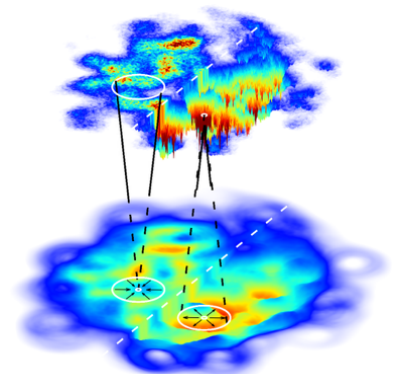
Dependence of coupling constant  $\alpha_s$  has been re-expressed in terms of physical parameter  $\eta/s$ , can now perform event-by-event simulations for variety of macroscopic physical parameters

General framework for event-by-event pre-equilibrium dynamics (KoMPoST):

**Input:** Out-of-equilibrium energy-momentum tensor;  $\eta/s$

non-equilibrium evolution in linear response formalism

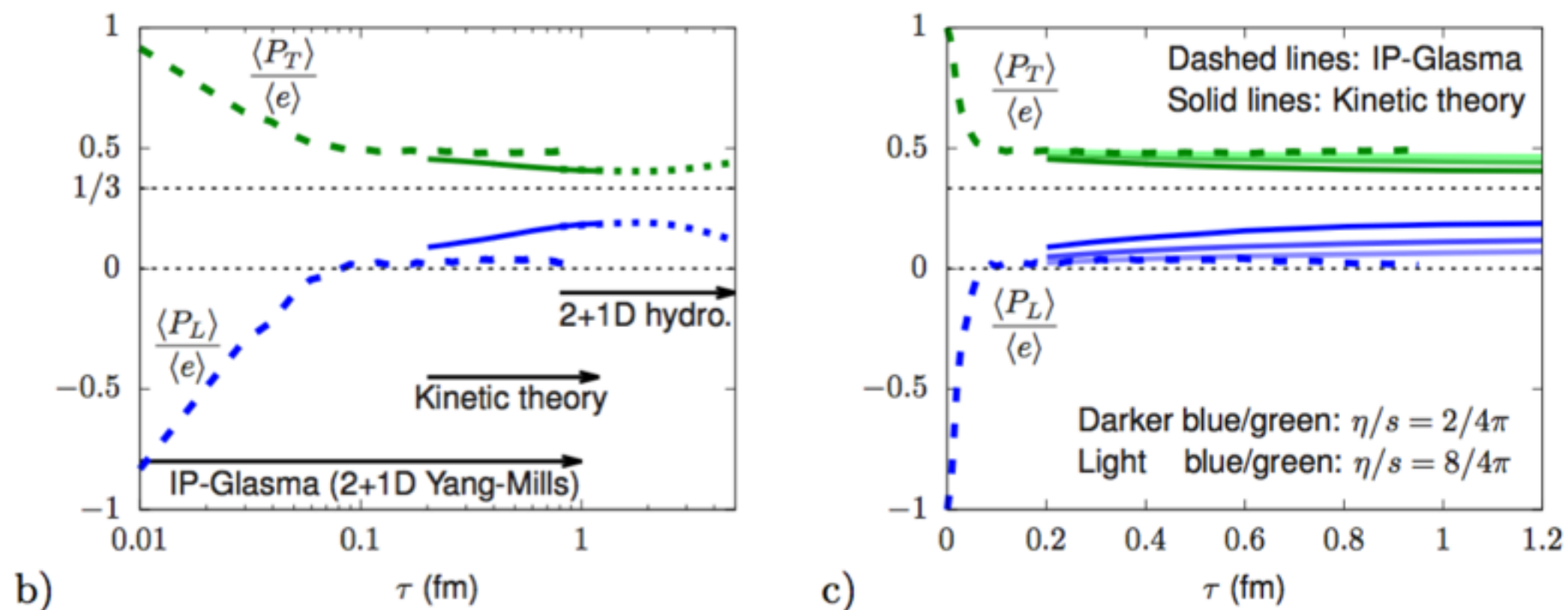
**Output:** Energy-momentum tensor at  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  when visc. hydro becomes applicable



# Event-by-event pre-equilibrium evolution

- 1) Evolve class. Yang-Mills fields to early time  $\tau_0 = 0.2 \text{ fm}/c$  (IP-Glasma)
- 2) Macroscopic pre-equilibrium evolution to hydro initialization time  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$
- 3) Hydrodynamic evolution from  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  ( $\eta/s = 2/(4\pi)$  | conformal EoS )

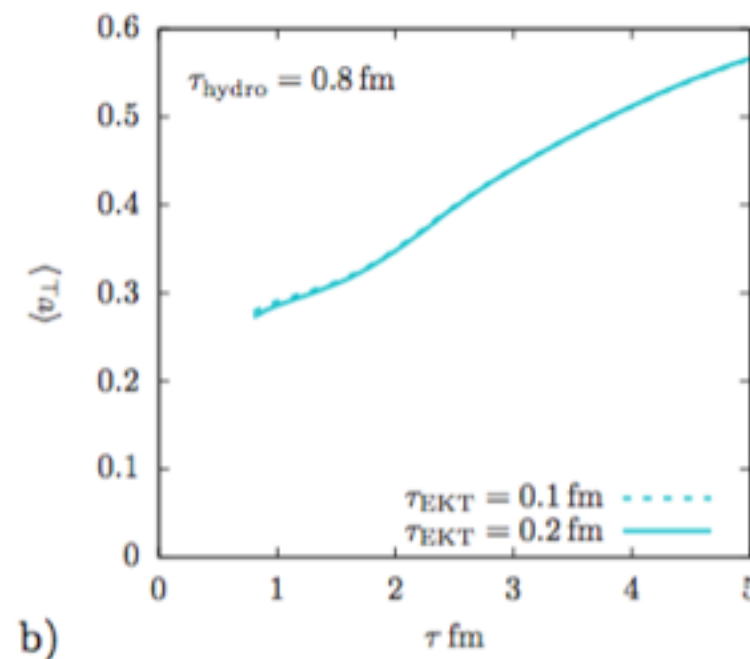
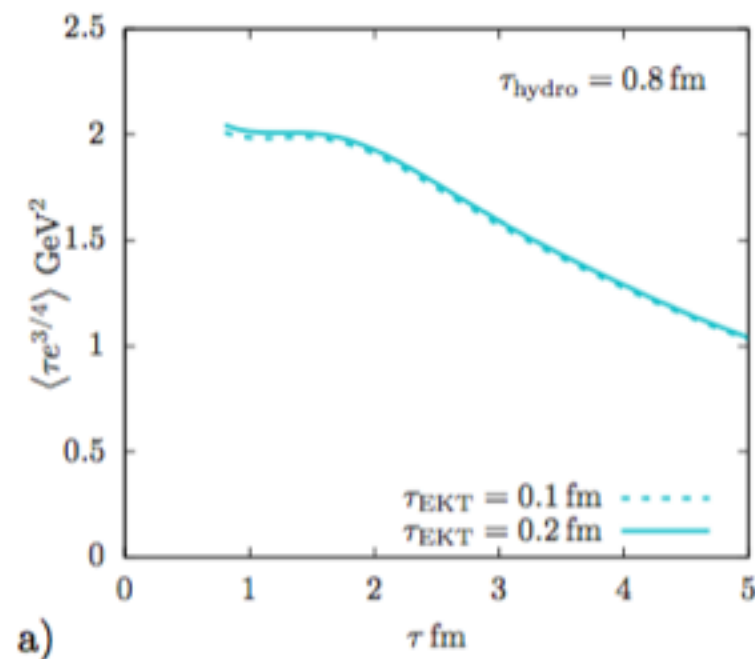
## Energy/pressure evolution in central Pb+Pb collision



Based on combination of weak-coupling methods can consistently describe early-time dynamics until onset of hydro

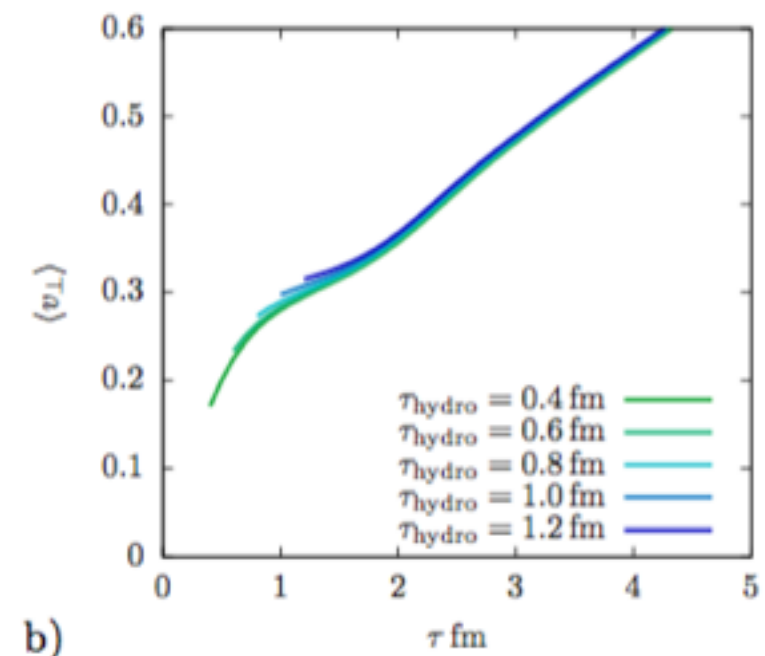
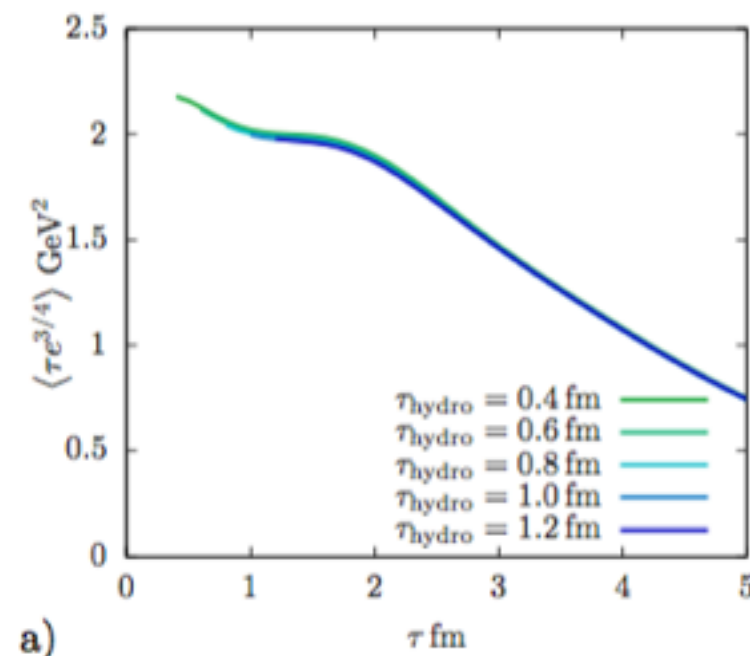
# Event-by-event pre-equilibrium evolution

## Energy density & radial flow in central Pb+Pb collision



Overlap in the range of validity ensures smooth transition from CYM to EKT to Hydro

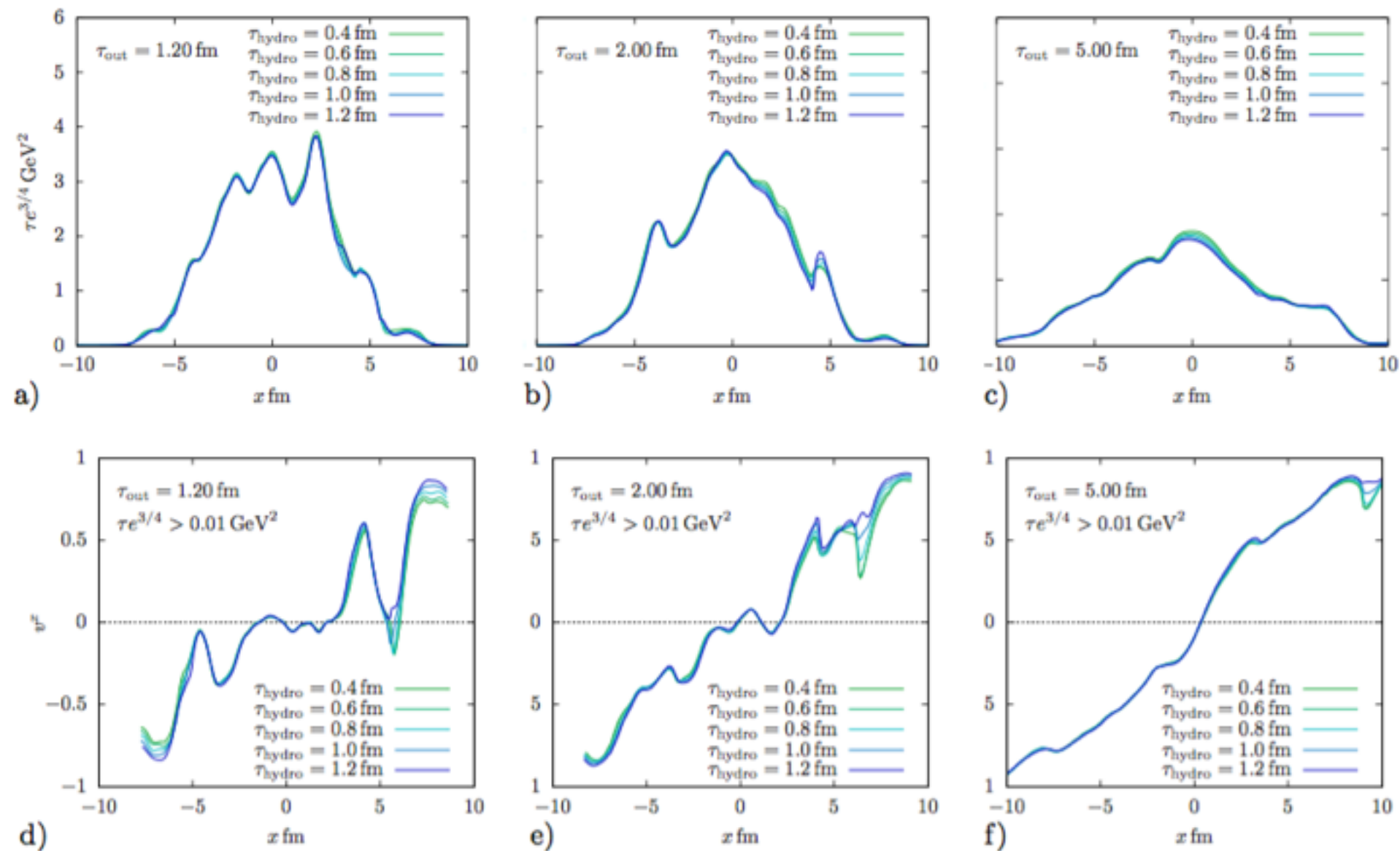
No sensitivity to switching times  $\tau_{\text{EKT}}$ ,  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  in sensible range





# Event-by-event pre-equilibrium evolution

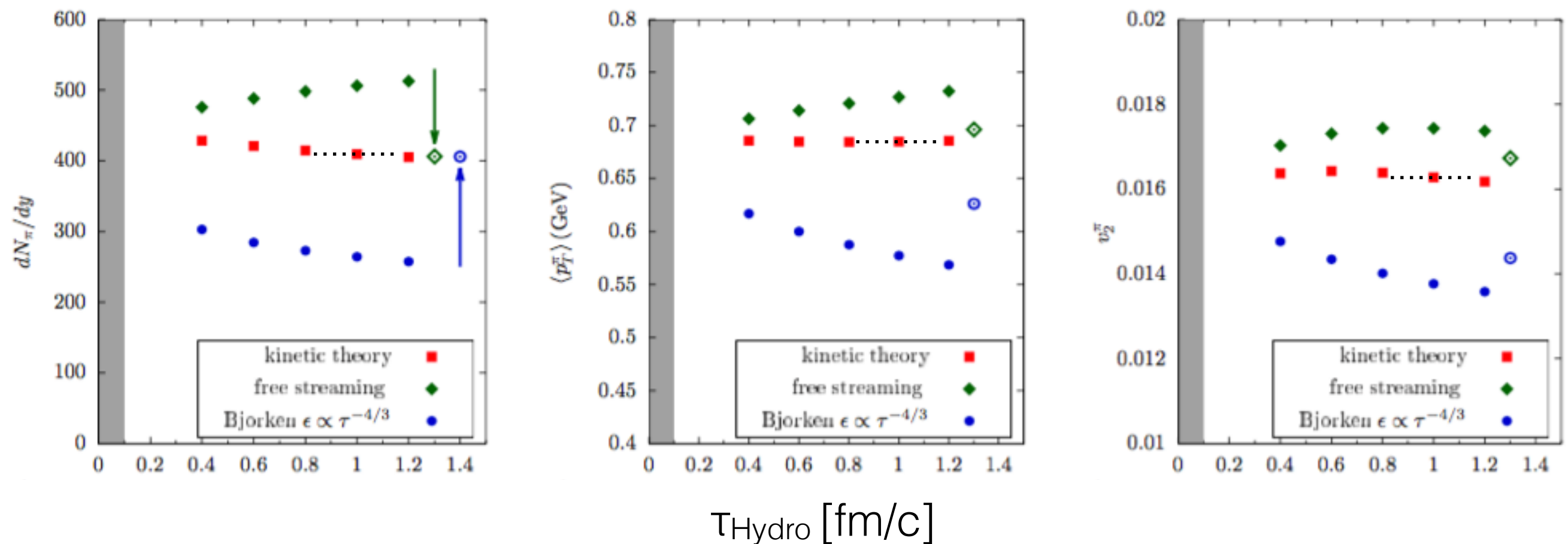
## Energy density profile in Pb+Pb collision



Even with QCD EoS sensitivity to switching time  
 $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  from pre-equilibrium to hydro is negligible

# Event-by-event pre-equilibrium evolution

Hadronic observables in single (MC-Glauber) Pb+Pb event:



Very little to no sensitivity to switching time  $\tau_{\text{Hydro}}$  from pre-equilibrium to hydro for  $dN/dy$ ,  $\langle p_T \rangle$ ,  $\langle v_2 \rangle$ , ...

# Conclusions & Outlook

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Significant progress in understanding early time dynamics of heavy-ion collisions from weak-coupling perspective

-> similarities between equilibration and parton energy loss

Development of macroscopic description of pre-equilibrium dynamics which enables event-by-event description of heavy-ion collisions from beginning to end

-> could be interesting for jet-energy disposition into medium

So far focus of equilibration studies has been on typical d.o.f. semi-hard gluons; next up

Quark production & chemical equilibration

Electro-magnetic and hard probes

Explore signatures of pre-equilibrium stage in small systems