

# The Quark-Gluon Plasma at critical and **supercritical** couplings

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- Rethinking the QGP at  $T = (1-3)T_c$ : **the near-critical**  $\alpha_s \sim 1$  leads to loosely bound states and **large cross sections** E.Shuryak and I.Zahed, hep-ph/0307267
- A gift from the string world: AdS/CFT and **strongly coupled** plasma in ( $\mathcal{N}=4$  SUSY YM)
- Explaining the puzzles of the ( $\mathcal{N}=4$  CFT) plasma at **supercritical coupling**  $g^2 N_c \gg 1$  : there are plenty of **bound states with a large orbital momentum** (ES-)
- **Why hydrodynamics works so well at RHIC**, with the expected EoS, but **surprisingly small viscous corrections**
- A gift from atomic physics: getting **elliptic hydrodynamics** from an extremely dilute cloud by shifting the resonance

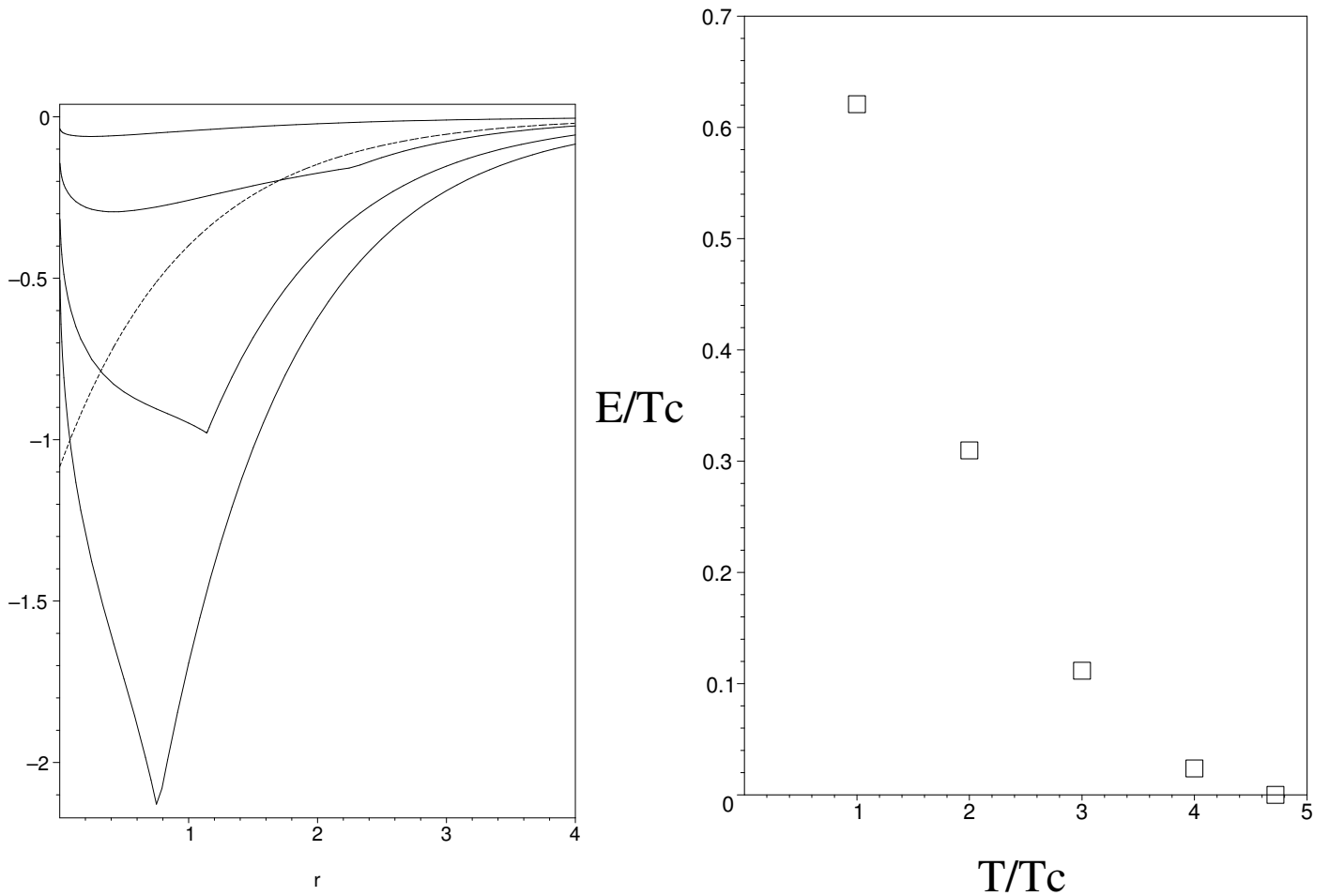
Are there hadrons above  $T_c$ , in Quark-Gluon

- **Old point of view:** most hadrons (including  $J/\psi$  not  $\Upsilon = \bar{b}b$ ) melt there.
- **Exceptions:** the pion (+sigma etc chiral multiplet) believed to survive as resonance e.g. NJL-based pions  
T.Schafer+ES, PLB 356:147,1995
- **The issue was reconsidered recently:** ES and I.Zakharov  
hep-ph/0307267
- **The loophole in the old argument:** the gauge coupling constant remains frozen in the QGP (as in-vacuum monium potential,  $\alpha_s \sim 1/3$ .)
- **New idea:** at  $T > T_c$  the charge continues to run, values, stopped by the Debye screening only

$$\frac{d^2\chi}{dx^2} + \left( \kappa^2 + \frac{4m_c}{3M_D} \frac{\alpha_s(x)}{x} e^{-x} \right) \chi = 0$$

**The appearance of a level, at zero binding  $E = 0$   
at  $\frac{4m_c}{3M_D}\alpha_s > 1.68$**

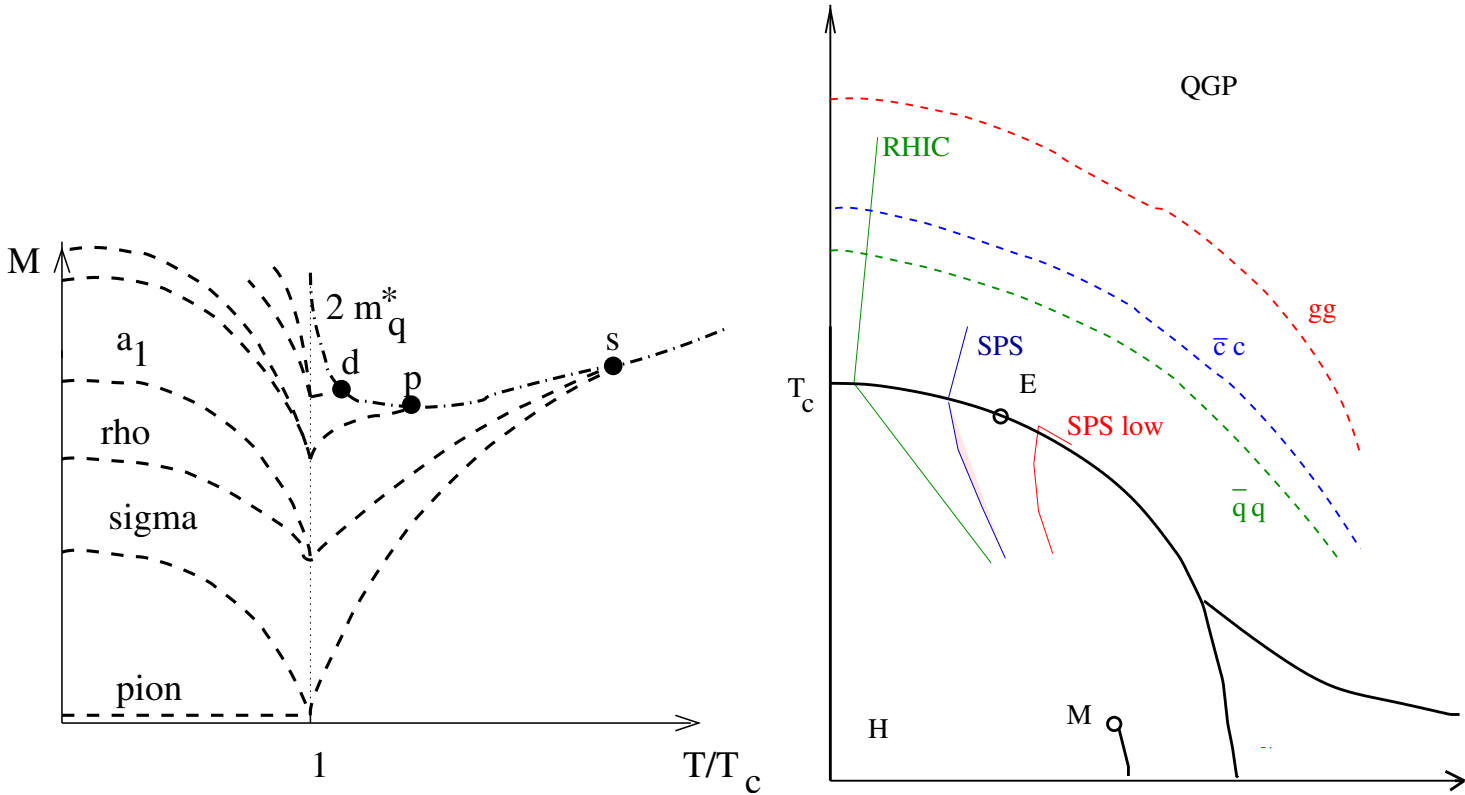
**For example, using  $4/3\alpha_s = 0.471$  from the Cornell  
and  $m_c = 1.32$  GeV, as Satz et al did long ago, plus  
lattice one finds that  $J/\psi$  melts already at  $T_c$ .**



**The combination  $(M_c/M_D)rV(r)$ , versus the distance  $rM_D$ . The dashed line corresponds to  $4\alpha_s/3 = 0.471$ , while the correspond to the running coupling constant, for  $T = 1; 1.5; 3$  bottom up. The cusps occur when  $\alpha_s$  reaches 1.**

- **But, if the running of the QCD coupling continues to increase the screening length, we calculated that charmonium bound till  $T_{cc} = 1.62T_c$ .**
- **Recent lattice results (Karsch et al found bound  $1.5T_c$ , very recently Asakawa-Hatsuda (hep-lat/0308012) have shown the debinding point is in between  $1.6T_c$  and  $1.7T_c$ .**
- **so this idea passed the first test**

- If so, there are also weakly bound states of  $\bar{q}q$  type, the latter persisted till  $T \sim 500 \text{ MeV}$  or so, plus **composites**.



- **Why is it important?** Because weakly bound states (like deuteron) means huge “unitarity limited” scattering sections.

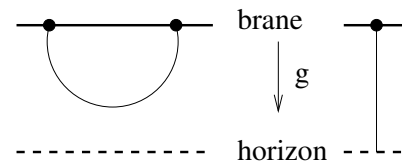
## A plasma phase at a **supercritical coupling**

- The  $\mathcal{N}=4$  SUSY Yang Mills gauge theory is conformal (CFT) (the coupling does not run). At finite 't Hooft coupling  $\lambda = g^2 N_c \gg 1$ , it exhibits a plasma phase at ANY coupling, including very strong coupling.

- Unexpected help from the string theory AdS/CFT correspondence by Maldacena turned the strongly coupled gauge theories to a classical problem in gravity albeit in 5 dimensions

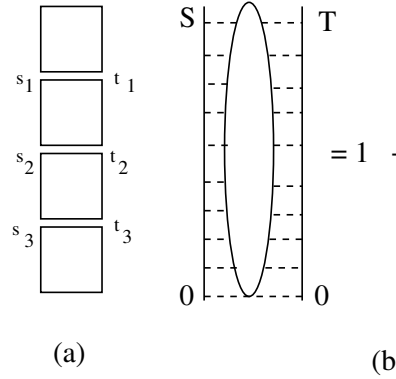
- Example: a modified Coulomb's law (by Maldacena)

$$V(L) = -\frac{4\pi^2}{\Gamma(1/4)^4} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{L}$$



- Free energy at large  $\lambda$  is  $F = (3/4 + O(1/\lambda^{3/2})) F_f$

**G. Semenoff and K. Zarembo, hep-th/0202156.** have shown that a modified Coulomb law can be understood by the resummed gluonic ladder



$$\Gamma(S, T) = 1 + \frac{\lambda}{4\pi^2} \int_0^S ds \int_0^T dt \frac{1}{(s-t)^2 + L^2} \Gamma(s, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Gamma}{\partial S \partial T} = \frac{\lambda/4\pi^2}{(S-T)^2 + L^2} \Gamma(S, T)$$

**Change variables to  $x = (S - T)/L$  and  $y = (S + T)/L$ ,  
Expansion of the kernel in the first power of  $(S - T)$   
to an oscillator potential and the problem is easily**

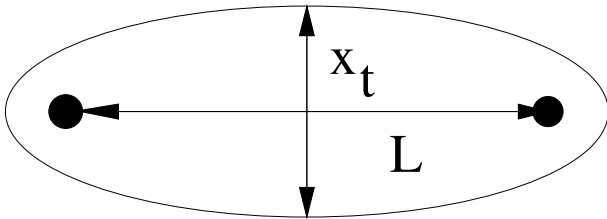
$$\Gamma(x, y) \approx C_0 e^{-\sqrt{\lambda} x^2 / 4\pi} e^{\sqrt{\lambda} y / 2\pi}$$

$$V_{\text{lad}}(L) = -\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{T} \Gamma(T, T) = -\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}/\pi}{L}$$

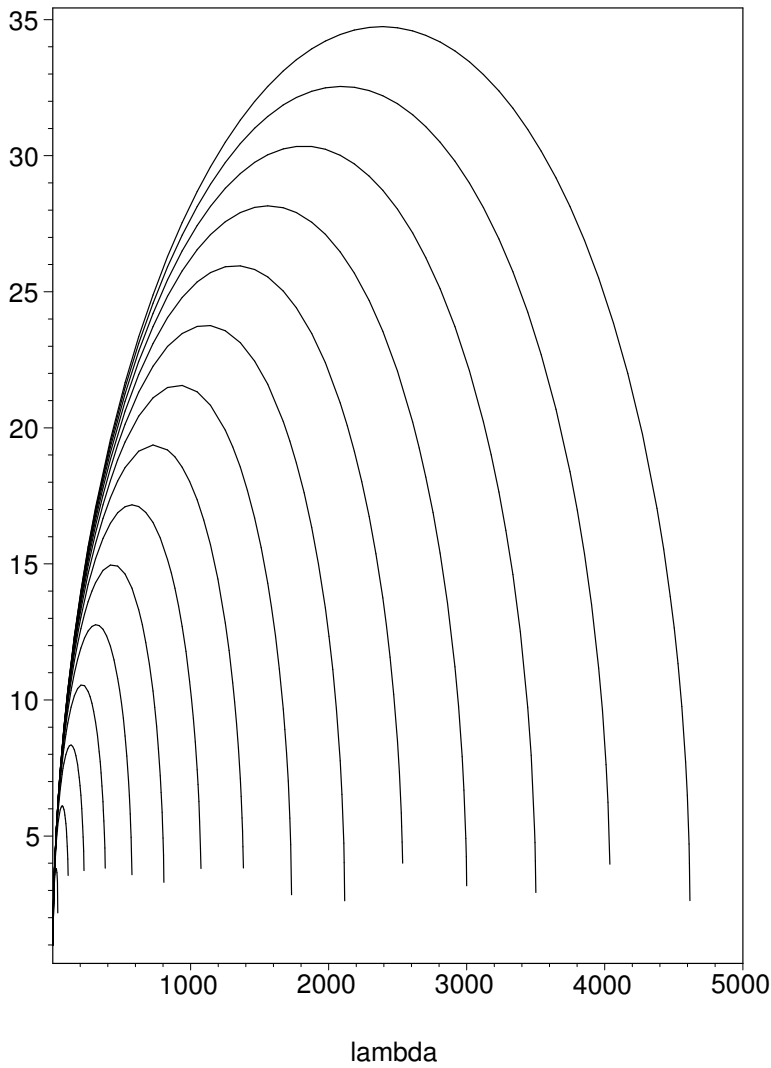
**the same parametric form but different coefficients**  
0.318 while the exact Maldacena value is 0.228.



- We observed that the exchanged gluons move with **superluminal speed**  $v \sim \delta t/L \sim \lambda^{1/4} \gg 1$
- Some higher order diagrams have extra  $\lambda d^4x \sim O(1)$  body Bethe-Salpeter
- vertices distributed in a **quasi-string** regime



- The main idea: the modified Coulomb law can **even for relativistic bound states**, with  $v \sim 1$ .
- Using a Klein-Gordon eqn  $(E - V)^2 - m^2 = p^2$ , with a Coulomb potential, by WKB or exactly, one the spectrum. (Known from about 1930).



$$E_{nl} =$$

$$m \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{C}{n+1/2 + \sqrt{(l+1/2)^2 - C}} \right)^2 \right]$$

Small  $C$  - nonrelat. atom

regime at large  $C \gg 1$ : fa

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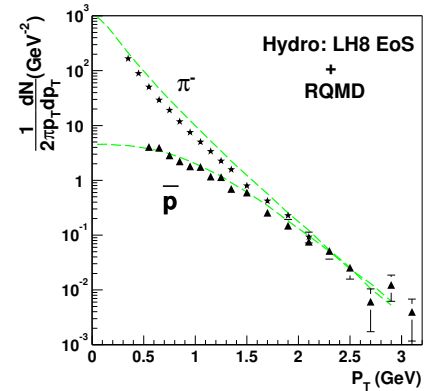
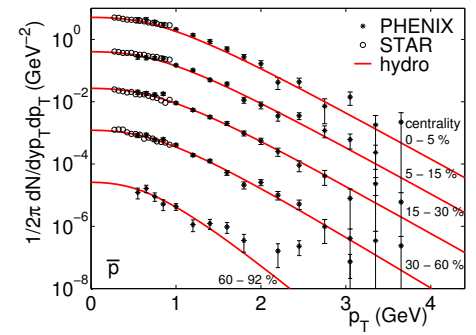
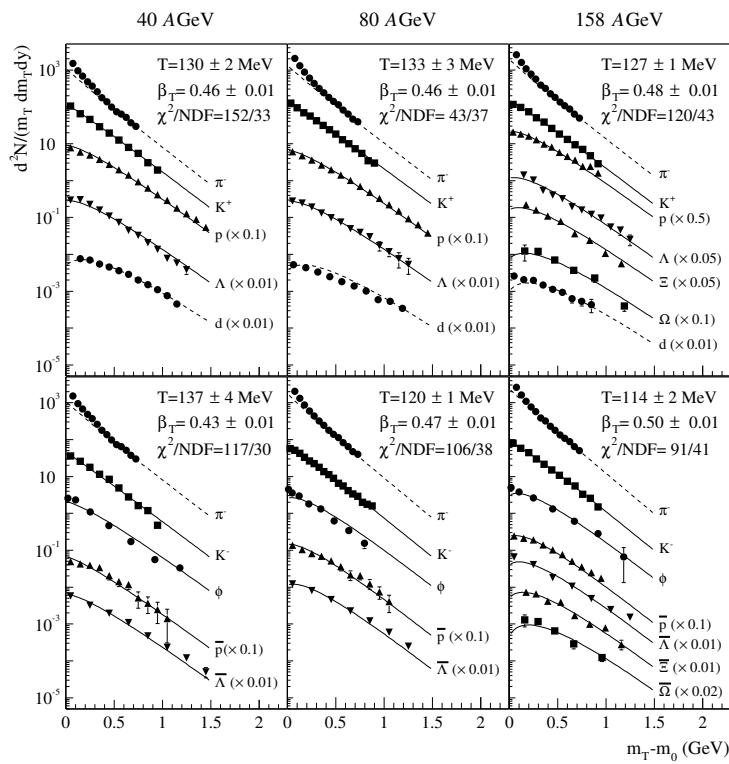
- These states in fact dominate the matter: they are  $\sim T$  much smaller than those of original quas  $\sim \lambda^{1/2}T$ .

**At strong coupling only those compound states mally excited,** • Furthermore, the density of state shown not to depend on  $\lambda$ .

The composites carry large angular momentum  $1/\sqrt{\lambda}$  and  $\int_{l_{min}}^{l_{max}} dl^2 = l_{max}^2 - l_{min}^2 \approx \lambda^0$  thus the fre  $F = CN_c^2 T^4$  and **without dependence on  $\lambda$**

- (The oscillator-kind spectrum  $M \sim constnT$  so explained states have been inferred by Starinets Teaney before, by a direct calculation of the st sor correlator – via graviton propagator in AdS m

**Hydrodynamics and radial flow at SP**

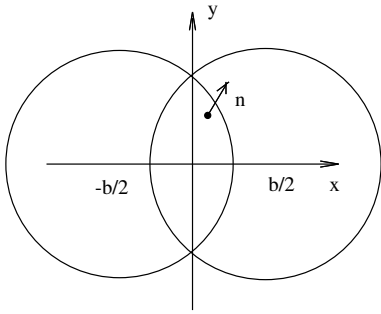


SPS (NA49) and RHIC spectra: **all species till d** can be well fitted with the same velocity and  $T_f$

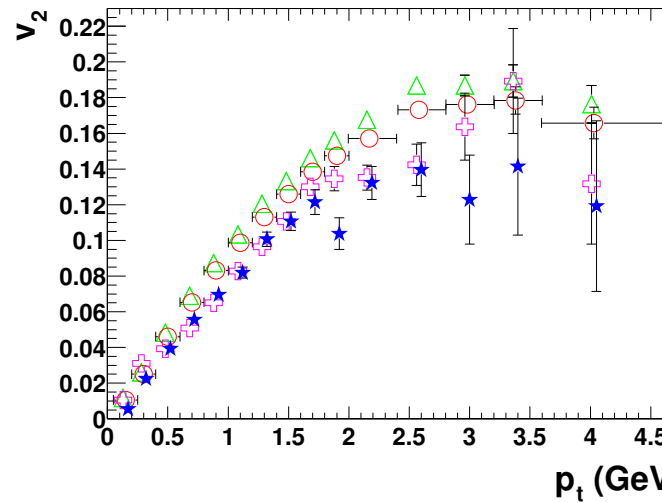
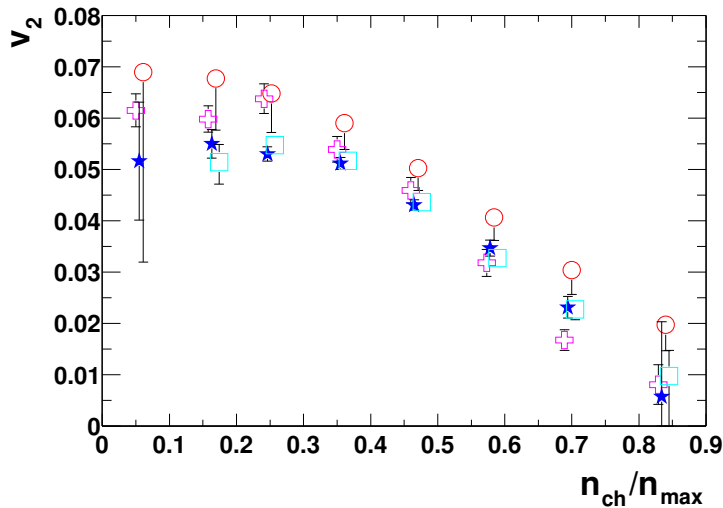
The

at RHIC more  $\bar{p}$  are observed than  $\pi^-$  for  $p_t > 2\text{GeV}$ , exactly as hydro boosts predicts!

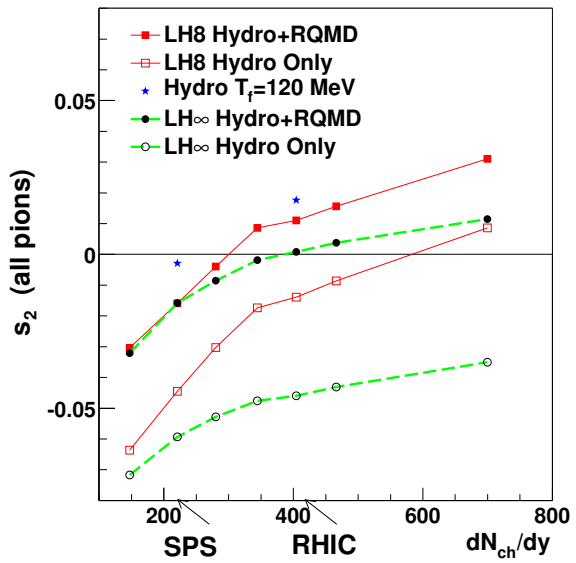
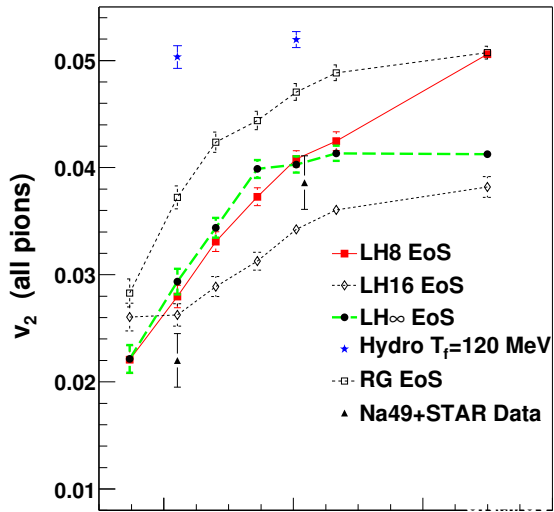
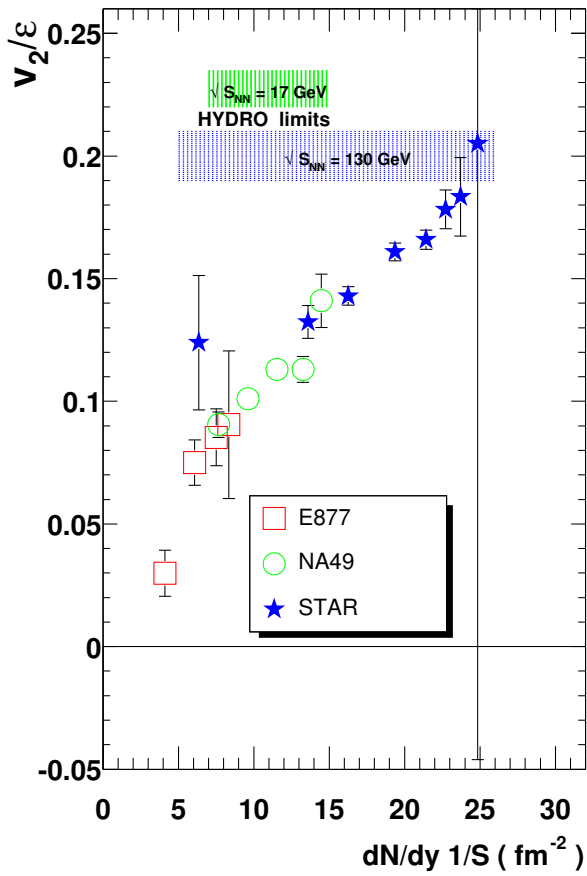
Elliptic flow starts with the “initial almond” (for non-central collisions) and is described by Fourier harmonics



$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} = \frac{v_2}{2\pi} + \frac{v_2}{\pi} \cos(2\phi) + \frac{v_4}{\pi} \cos(4\phi) + \dots$$



Elliptic flow versus (a) centrality and (b)  $p_t$  for Au + Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  several methods of  $v_2$  extraction, all from STAR at RHIC.

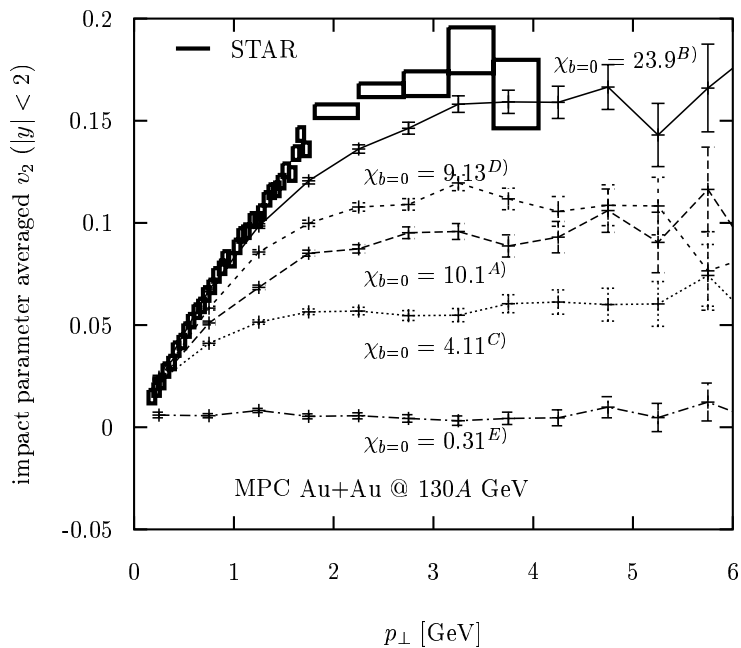


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It is only possible to get elliptic flow if the quadratic rescattering is increased by big factor  $\sim 50$  relative to pQCD expectations.

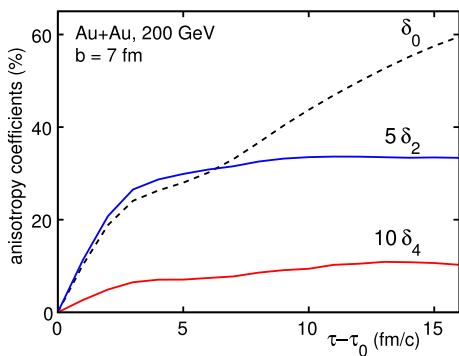
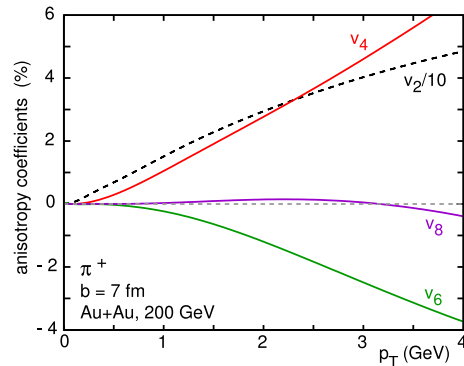
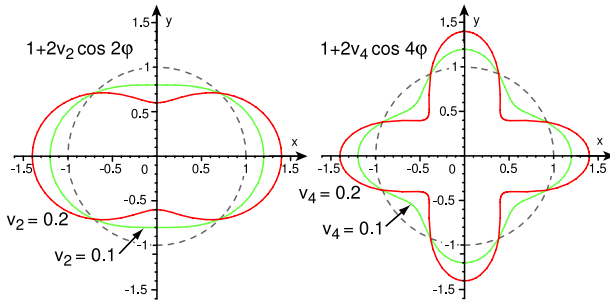
The Figure (from Gyulassy and Molnar) shows how the measured values (boxes) can be reached if matter opacity of matter grows. The best value, roughly corresponding to gg scattering in pQCD, is the lowest value, and the rescattering cross section must be boosted by a big factor before the effect appears.



(Gluon elliptic flow for Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 130A$  GeV with different matter opacities  $\chi_{b=0} = 4.11, 9.13, 10.1$  and  $23.9$ )

## The next moment $v_4$

- D. Teaney + ES, PRL 1999, The unusual “nutcrack” at  $b > 8 \text{ fm}$  which is more square than elliptical
- Recently P. Kolb 2003 calculated  $v_n(b, p_t)$  in a systematic way



Rumors are this is seen by STAR, in good agreement with hydro once again...

## The viscous corrections to hydro

- Ideal hydrodynamics assumes that all the dynamical, it ignores the **finiteness of the mean free path** (other correlation lengths).

- Including the first  $O(l/L)$  dissipative terms, e.g. boost-inv. (Bjorken) and axially symmetric hydro

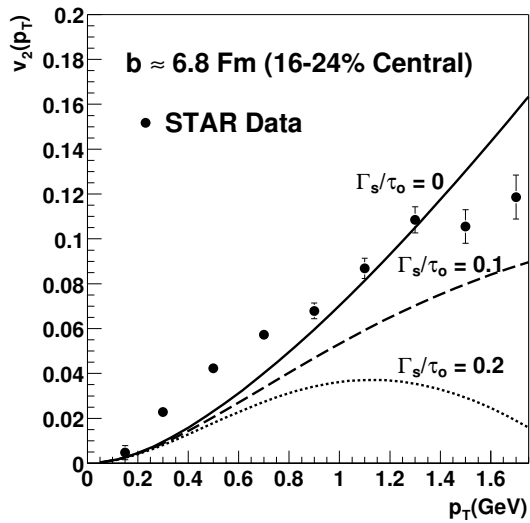
$$\frac{1}{\epsilon + p} \frac{d\epsilon}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{s} \frac{ds}{d\tau} = -\frac{1}{\tau} \left( 1 - \frac{\Gamma_s}{\tau} \right)$$

one finds in the r.h.s. exactly **the combination**  $\frac{1}{\tau} \left( 1 - \frac{\Gamma_s}{\tau} \right)$  **appears in the sound attenuation length**  $\Gamma_s = \frac{4}{3} \tau$  which tells us at which times one cannot neglect viscosity

- Following Derek Teaney, hep-ph/0301099, one can try to extract it from the data, by looking at deviations from ideal hydro predictions.

- the viscous correction to particle distribution is commonly determined  $f = f_0(1 + \frac{\eta}{s} p^\alpha p^\beta \langle \nabla_\alpha u_\beta \rangle)$ . Consequences for elliptic flow are  $\sim \frac{\Gamma_s}{4\tau} \left(\frac{p_T}{T}\right)^2$

- We need **QGP viscosity at earlier times**.: thus **at elliptic flow**. the fireball is spatially anisotropic for  $\tau < 3fm/c$ , when matter is in the QGP phase.



Elliptic flow  $v_2$  as a function of  $p_T$  for different values of  $\Gamma_s/\tau_0$ . The data points are four particle cumulated data from the STAR collaboration [?]. Only statistical errors are shown. The results for different  $\Gamma_s/\tau_0$  are shown. The experimental data deviate from ideal hydro curve at  $p_\perp \approx 1.6$  GeV which indicates  $\Gamma_s/\tau \sim 0.05$  or so. Substituting here the relevant time  $\tau \approx 3$  fm/c we get surprisingly small  $\Gamma_s \sim .15$  fm.

## The theory of viscosity

- Developed for long time in the **weak coupling** per framework: **large**,  $\eta/T^3 \sim \text{const}/g^4 \log(1/g) \gg \gg 1$ ,  $co$  at small  $g \ll 1$

**If so,  $l \sim \text{few fm}$  and no hydro at RHIC ! (Recall the Molnar plot here)**

- **However, in the strongly coupled plasma ( $\mathcal{N} = \text{Yang-Mills or CFT}$ ) Polycastro, Son, Starinets, P Lett. 87 (2001) 081601 the value for the sound attenuation length**

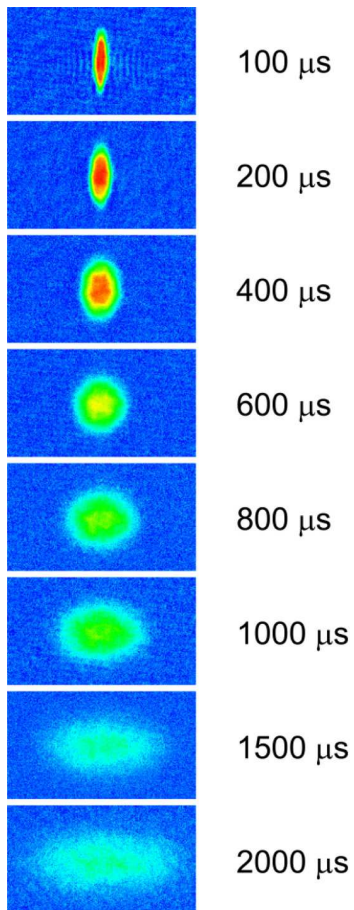
$$\Gamma_s = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\eta}{(\epsilon + p)} = \frac{1}{3\pi T} \sim .1 \text{ fm}$$

**If so, excellent hydro**

# Elliptic flow with trapped $Li^6$ atoms:

K.M.O'Hara et al, Science 298,2179, 2002

T.Bourdel et al, PRL 91 020402 , July 11 2003



Magnetic field  $B \sim 800 Gauss$  shifts the Feshbach resonance and makes the zero energy state, or **infinite scattering length  $a$** . Normally  $ak_f \ll 1$  and gas expands in collisionless way **Isotropically**. But in the **strong coupling regime  $ak_f \gg 1$**  it explodes **hydrodynamically !**, see the figure. However the EoS hardly changes by 10%

## Adiabatic capture

- Very recent important discovery

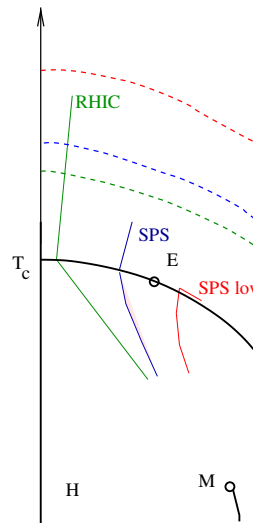
J.Cubizolles et al, cond-mat/0308018, K.Strecker et al, cond-

- If one change magnetic field so that the molecular level n **unbound** to **bound**, with high efficiency ( $\sim 85$  percents) turned into  $Li_2$  molecules, all of course in the same relative
- The phenomenon is reversible
- Going further into the bound region one finds that binding goes into heating the gas
- **The adiabatic path in heavy ion collision also crosses the zero binding line in this direction. So a “hadronization” probably happen at this line, not at  $T = T_c$**



# Summary

- All s-wave mesons and glueballs do not melt at  $T_c$ , but at around  $1.5-3 T_c$ , which generates **strong (unitarity limited) rescattering**



- Viscosity corrections in QGP (for large  $b$  and at early time for  $v_2$ ) seem to be **small  $\Gamma_s/\tau < .1$**
- This **disagrees with pQCD or weak coupling but agrees with the strong coupling regime**
- **New connection to strongly coupled trapped  $Li^6$  atoms**
- **New connection to string world, via Ads/CFT correspondence Maldacena, to strongly coupled QGP. The puzzles of the C at the supercritical coupling are explained by the multiple de highly rotational states with masses  $M \sim T$**

## Viscosity: an overview

- Transport in **gases** is done by atomic motion

$$\eta \sim Dmn \sim \frac{(mT)^{1/2}}{\sigma}$$

where  $D, m, n$  are diffusion coeff. mass and density atomic cross section.

- Transport of energy/momentum in **liquids** is like and done by transfer of atomic oscillations – phonons  
**Frenkel, 1926:** *“The fact to be explained is not the but fluidity”*.

Large viscosity corresponds to small diffusion, hence

$$\eta \sim \frac{T}{aD} \sim \exp(+W/T + p/p_0)$$

where  $a$  is atomic size and  $W$  is some activation energy needed to move an atom and  $p$  is pressure.

- Especially well known special case is liquid  $He^4$  where phonons and rotons are the well defined quanta, with **small cross section: it is a gas once again** exp. had mean free path of  $\sim 1cm$  scale, so no “normal component” but a “ballistic regime” where particles just fly from their source by straight line

## The QGP quasiparticles beyond quarks and g

- RHIC QGP is at  $T = 170 - 350 \text{ MeV}$  and effectively  $g^2 N_c \sim 12 \gg 1$ , pQCD series are **not** converging. have a **relatively strongly coupled plasma**: what is

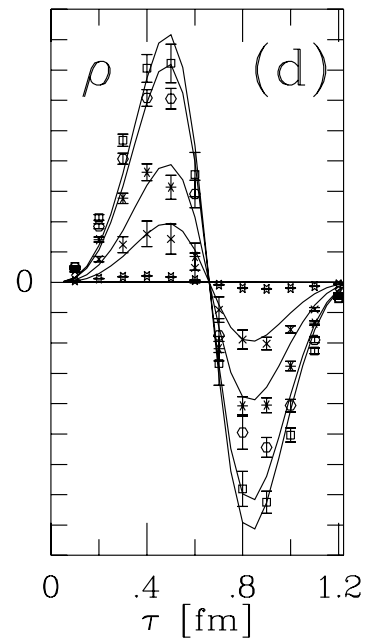
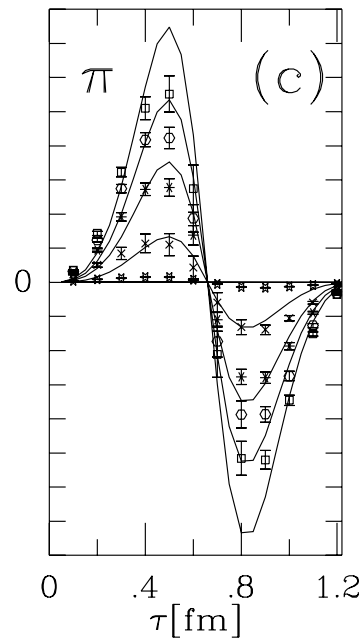
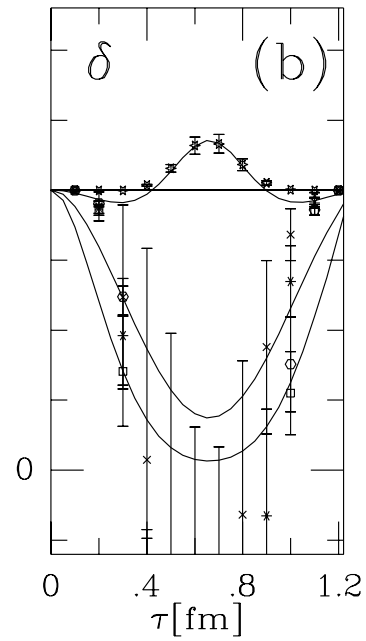
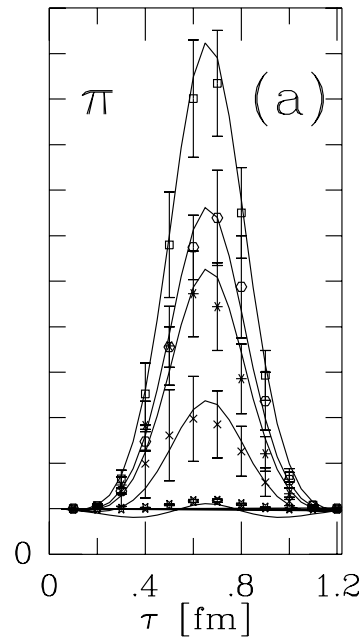
- Lattice: e.g. Karsch hep-lat/0110111 gives effective  $g^2 N_c \sim 1.6 - 3$ , from potential, and also plasma frequencies

$$\omega_q(p=0) \approx \omega_g(p=0) \approx 3T \sim .5 - 1 \text{ GeV}$$

- **The sound**: phonons are massless and still have a mean free path at small  $k$
- **The pions+sigma quartet** (for 2 flavors): in longer Goldstone particles, but still exist

The correlators (ratio to thermal  $\bar{q}q$  propagators) Schafer, ES:CAN  
**HADRONS SURVIVE THE CHIRAL PHASE TRANSITION?**

Phys.Lett.B356:147-152,1995 hep-ph/9506282 Instanton liquid above  $T_c$  breaks into finite clusters with top.Q=0



Also there are lattice results starting from DeTar with small “screening masses”  $< 2\pi T$  for pion/sigma in

- Instead of conclusions, a question:  
why those lightest mode do not generate large v  
small velocity close to  $T_c$  ? or small mean free path  
studied yet...