

AdS/CFT phenomenology: Mach cones in heavy ion collisions

Giorgio Torrieri



**An apology:** Most of this lecture has nothing to do with AdS/CFT or dualities. I even discuss in detail (gasp!) experimental data

**A hope:** The problem I am discussing, however, is one that

- We hope AdS/CFT will give us insights to
- Might lead to a quantitative phenomenology of AdS/CFT

So I hope its not a total waste of time!

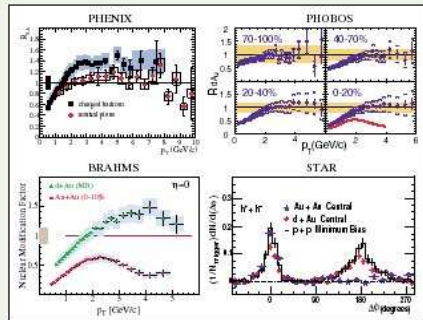
## AdS/CFT phenomenology: Mach cones in heavy ion collisions

- A short introduction to RHIC heavy ion collisions
- Mach Cones. What are they and why do we want to see them?
- We think we saw them
- The theory (and why it is not so simple)
- How AdS/CFT can help
- The situation so far, and what to do

Cover of PRL!!!!

PHYSICAL  
REVIEW  
LETTERS

Articles published week ending  
15 AUGUST 2003  
Volume 91, Number 7

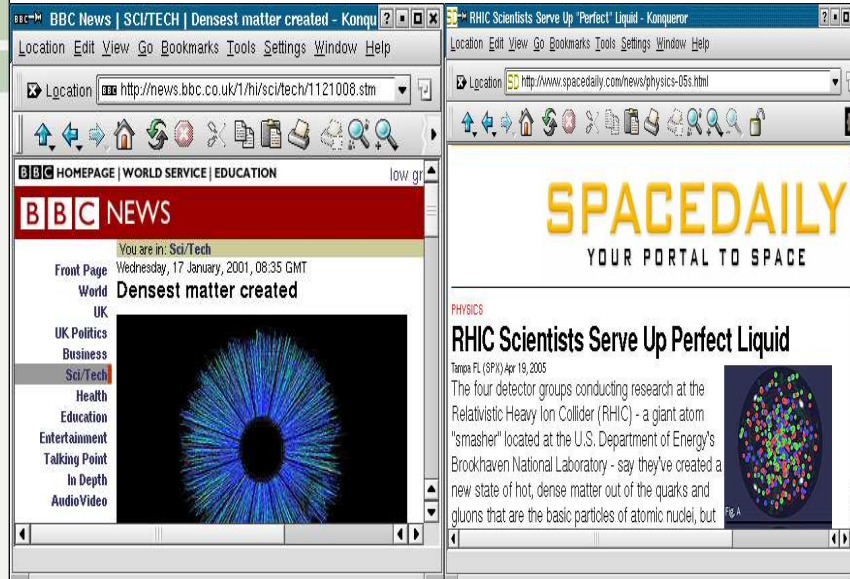


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APS Published by The American Physical Society

BBC!

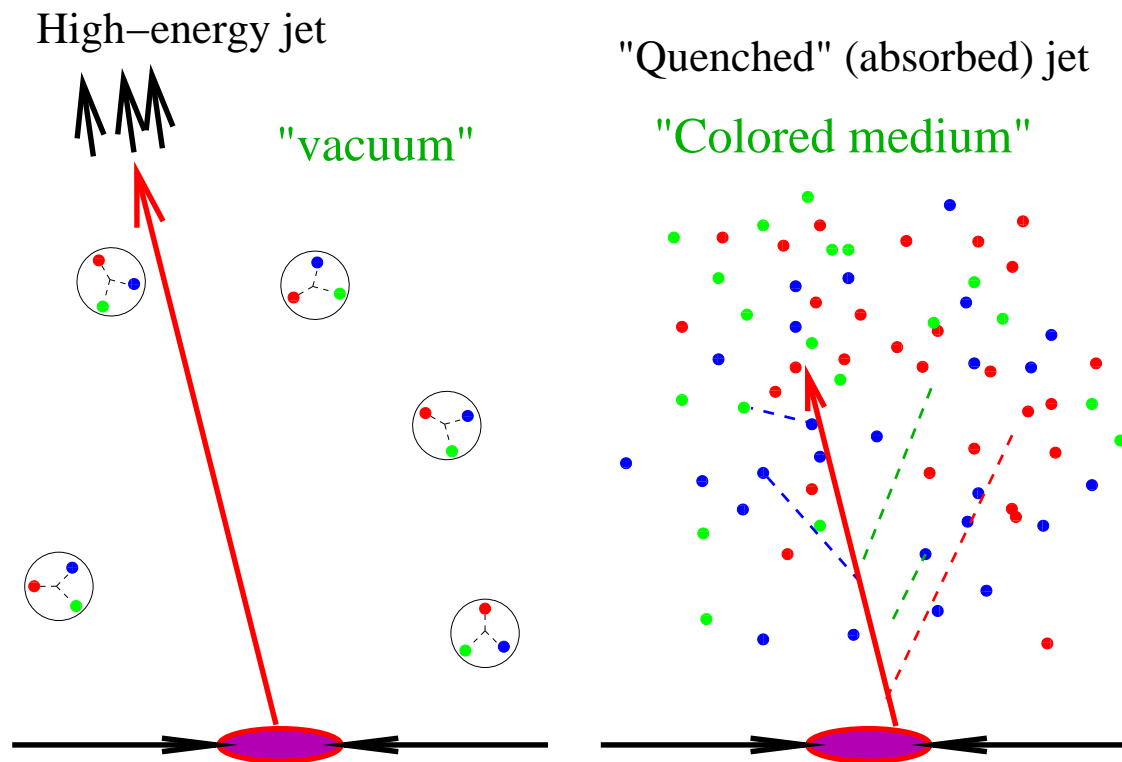
SPACE  
DAILY!



RHIC IS FAMOUS! WHY?!

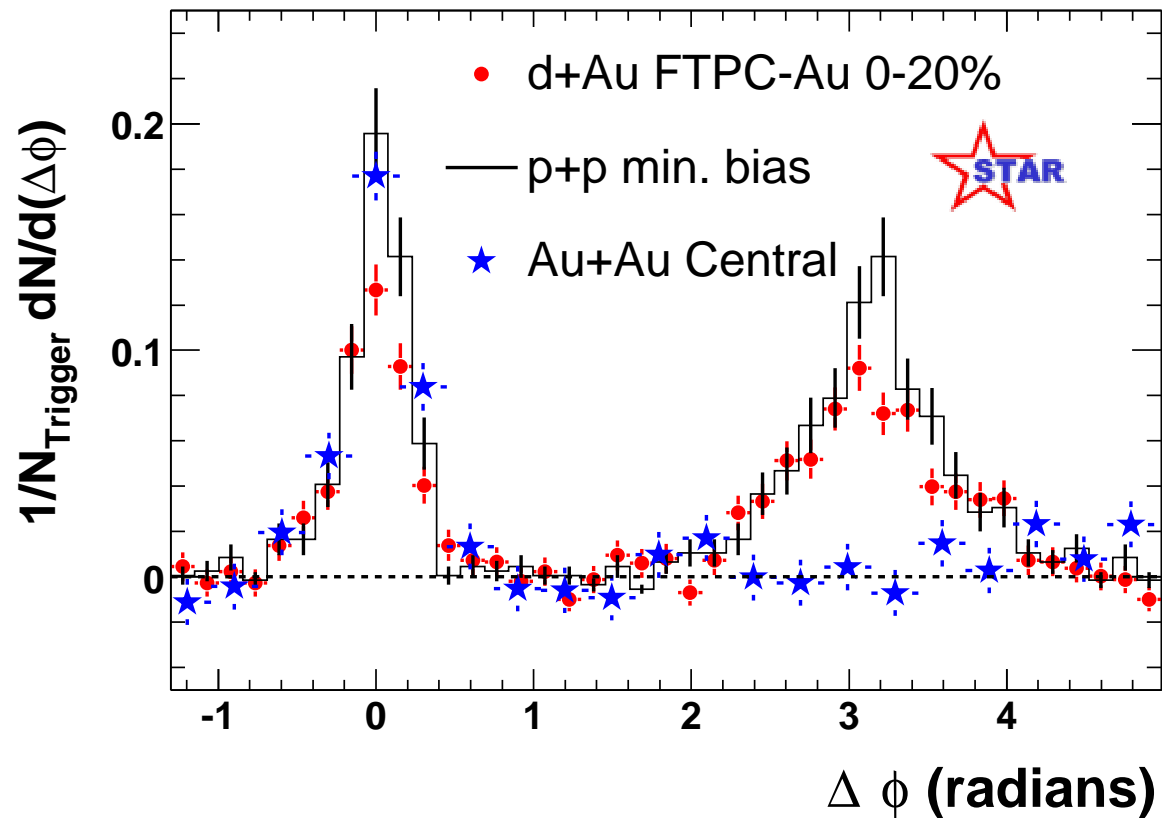
Basically: Jets are suppressed  $\Rightarrow$  System dense and opaque.  
Flow sensitive to initial conditions  $\Rightarrow$  System fluid

Jet suppression (Bjorken, many others): Bethe-Bloch energy loss+QCD



"jets" of fast particles quickly lose energy by medium-induced radiation.

This was conclusively shown to happen! (And made it to PRL cover)  
(NB: Jets in HIC  $\Rightarrow$  single high- $p_T$  triggers)

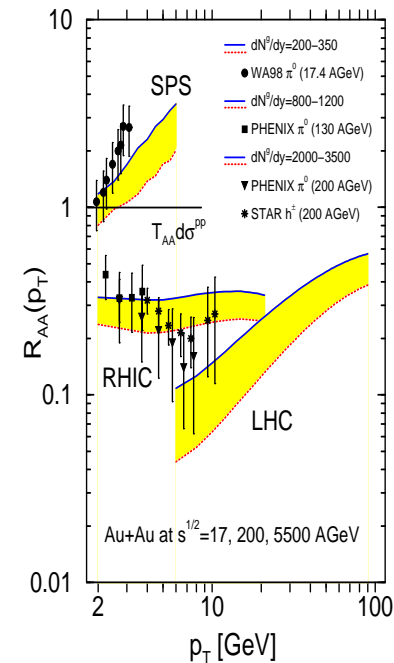


But is it QGP? or close to equilibrium? Difficult to tell with jets (“Hard” parton-medium interactions don’t care about “soft” confining forces).

When does this effect “turn on”? Jet production strongly  $\sqrt{s}$ -dependant, so energy scan difficult. Models also fit lower energy SPS data (Similar “medium”, nuclear enhancement overcomes loss).

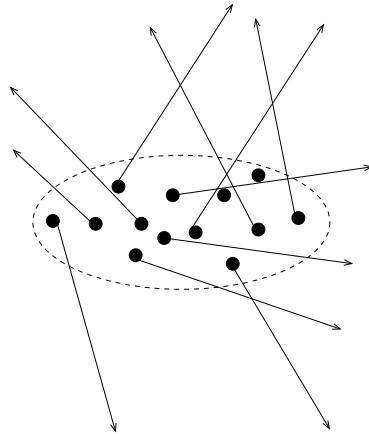
Gyulassy, Levai, Vitev

PRL.85:5535–5538 2000

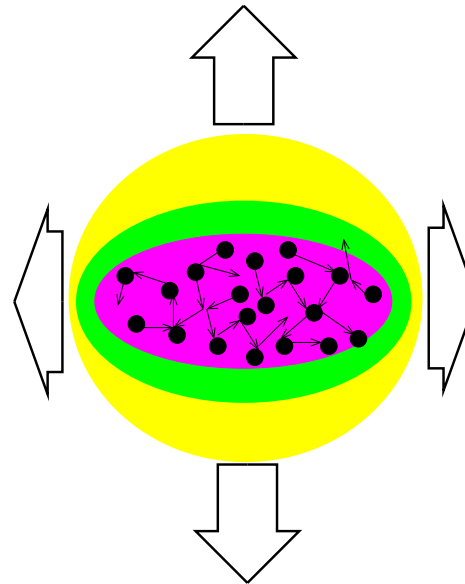


## What kind of "medium" is created in nuclear collisions?

A "dust"  
Particles ignore each other, their path is independent of initial shape

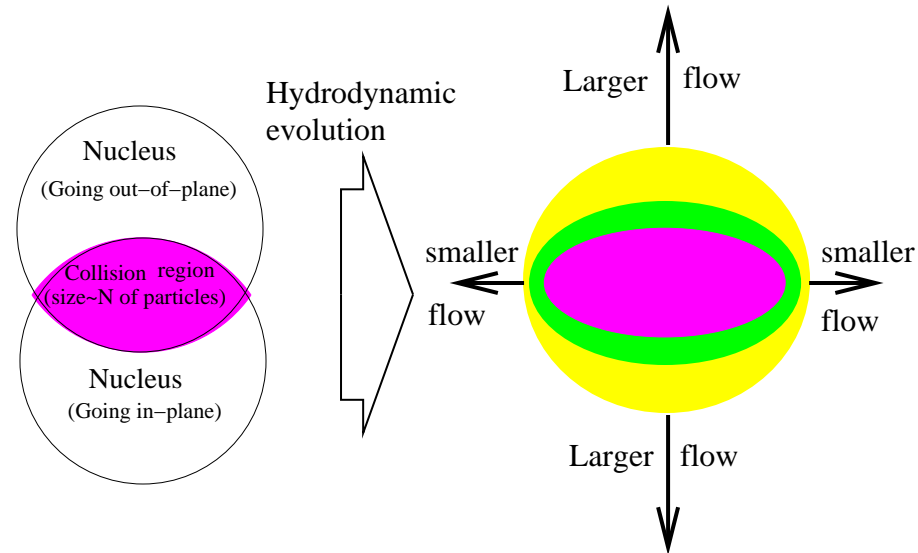


A "fluid"  
Particles continuously interact. Expansion determined by density gradient (shape)



Quantitatively distinguished by mean free path, viscosity

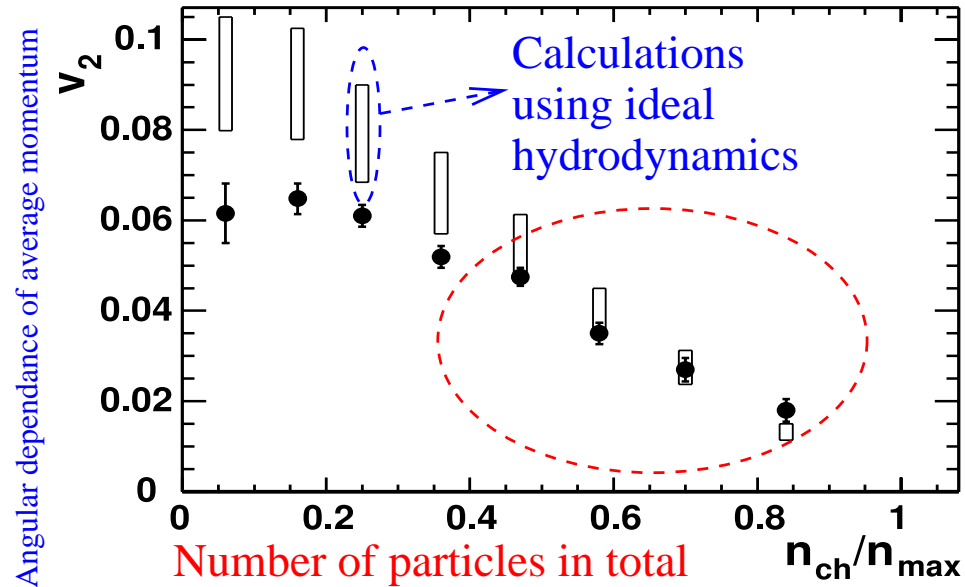




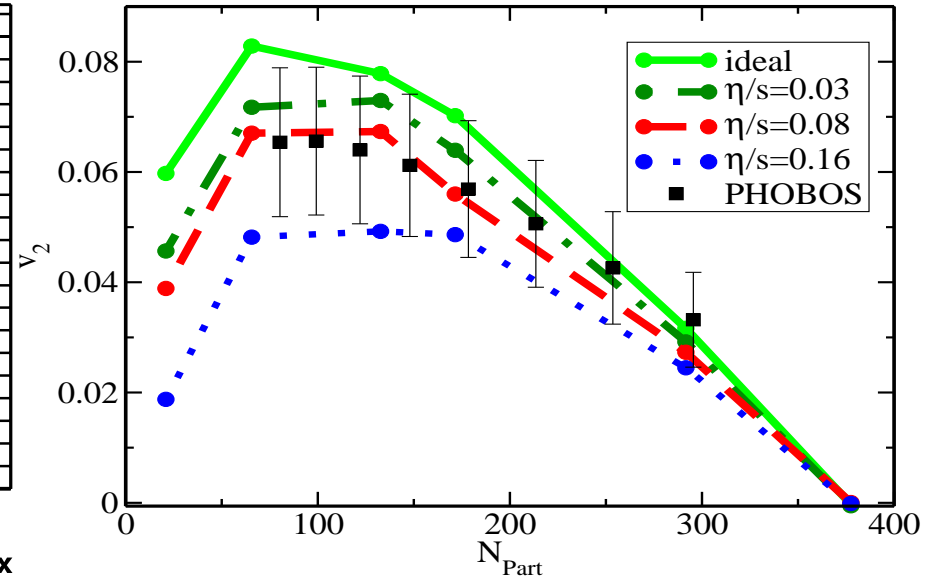
Hydrodynamics predicts flow eccentricity as a function of number of particles ( $\sim$  area of overlap region). Parametrized by 2nd Fourier component,  $v_2$

$$E \frac{dN}{d^3p} = \sum_n E \frac{dN}{dp_z p_T dp_T} (1 + 2v_n \cos(n\phi))$$

P.Kolb and U.Heinz,Nucl.Phys.A702:269,2002.



P.Romatschke,PRL99:172301,2007



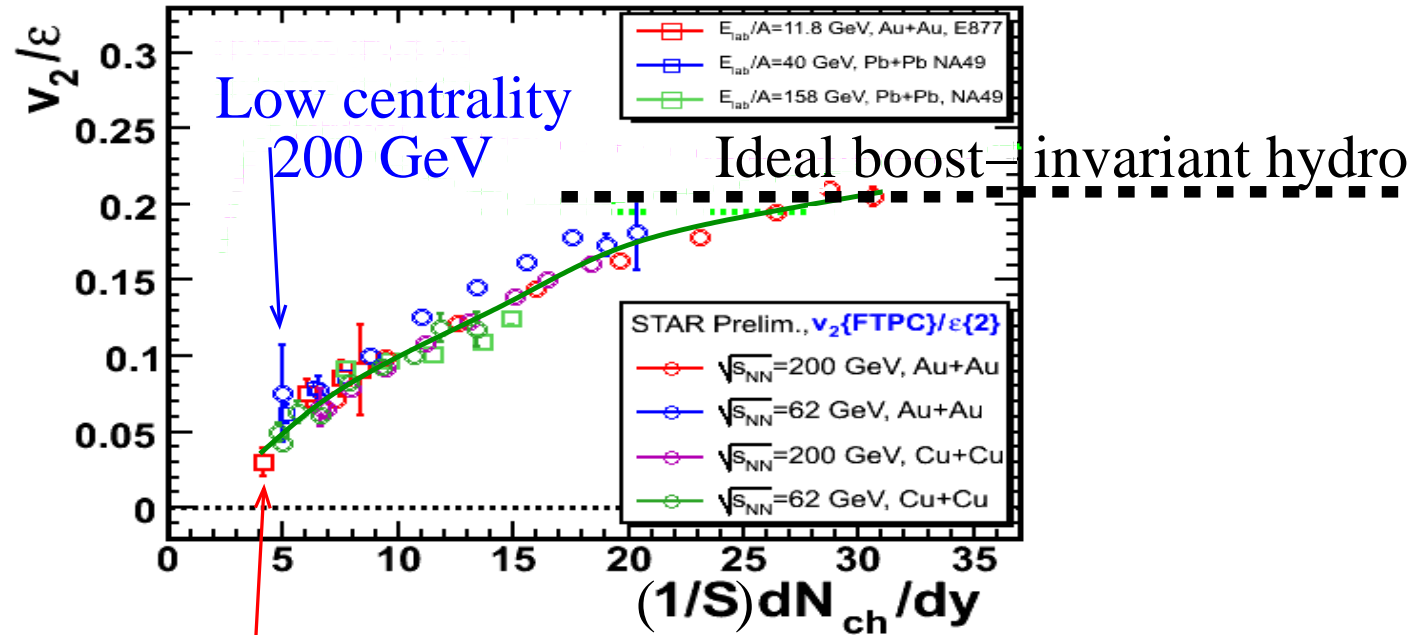
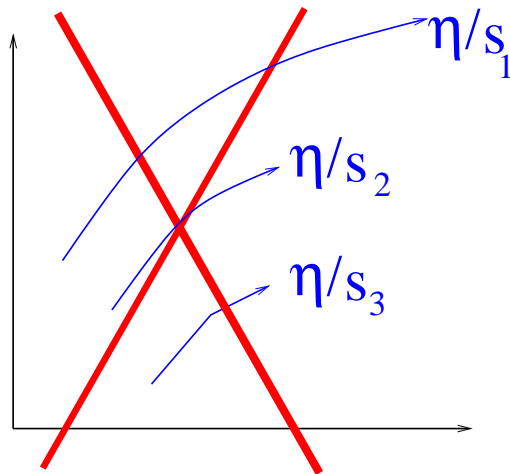
Data described by ideal hydrodynamics (mean free path between particle collisions is zero! This is where “ideal liquid” headline from!  
(Viscosity not much bigger than “lowest viscosity” conjectured by string theory!!!!(more on that later))

But...

While lower energy (SPS,RHIC) has  $v_2$  below ideal hydro, no transition observed ( $v_2$  becomes higher smoothly with multiplicity at all energies).

Song, Heinz  
arXiv:0805.1756

GT  
PRC76:024903,2007



Most central 1.6 GeV

## More but...

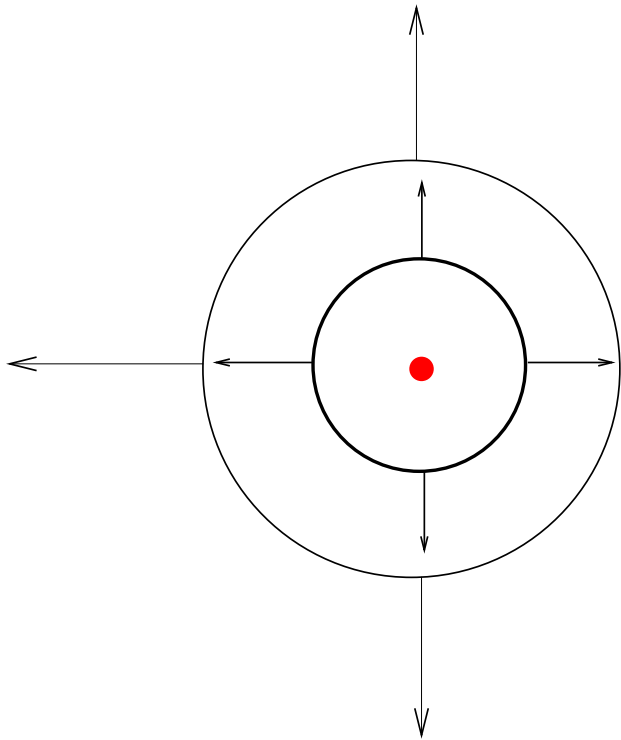
- No one predicted the QGP would be an ideal liquid, and not clear why this would be the case.
- Hydrodynamics has parameters put in by hand: A lot of assumptions go into initial conditions (Temperature, degree of transparency). Wrong initial conditions lead to wrong viscosity!
- Other observables, more sensitive to final interactions, at best indifferent to hydro. Can we claim ideal fluid with just one observable?

What is needed...

- Develop a coherent falsifiable picture  
We know jets lose energy. Assume the system is a fluid. What then?
- Can the energy lost from jets to the fluid tell us something about the fluid's properties (EoS? Viscosity? Density during deposition)?

We need to analyze the problem of fast energy deposition in hydrodynamics

If Hydro linear

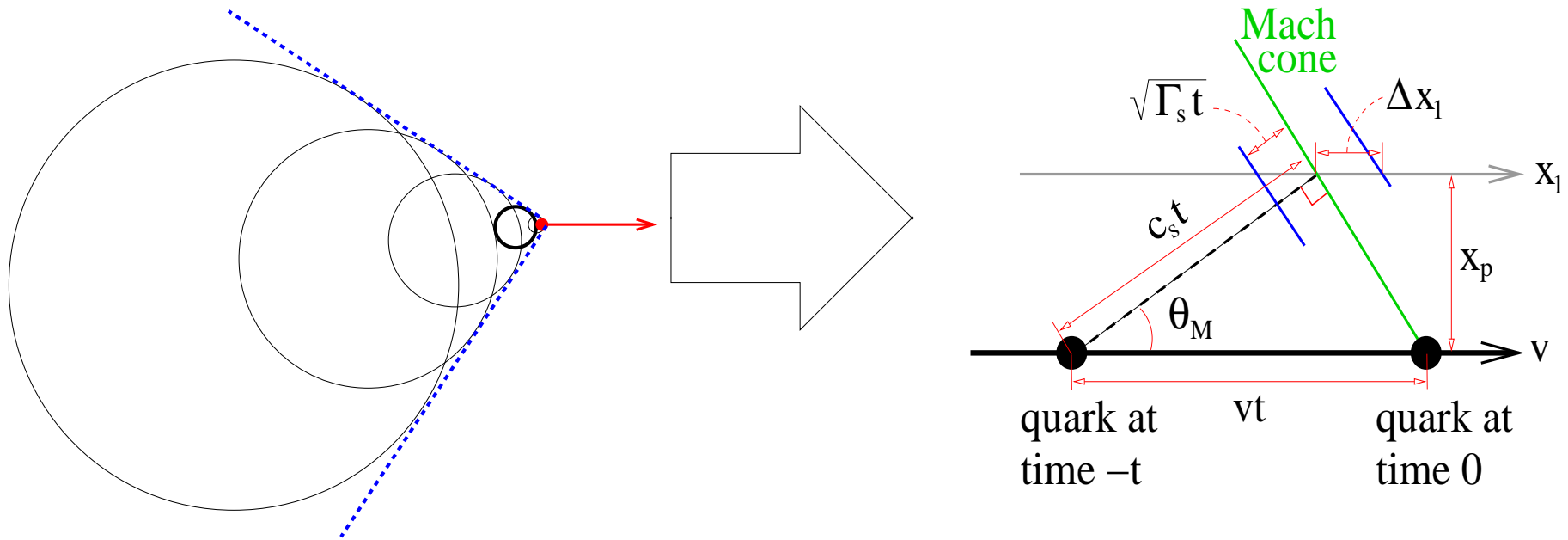


Locally deposited energy:

Sound wave expanding  
out at speed  $c_s^2 = dp/de$

(Link to EOS!:QGP,HG,Mixed?)

Damping at scale  $4\eta/(e+p)$

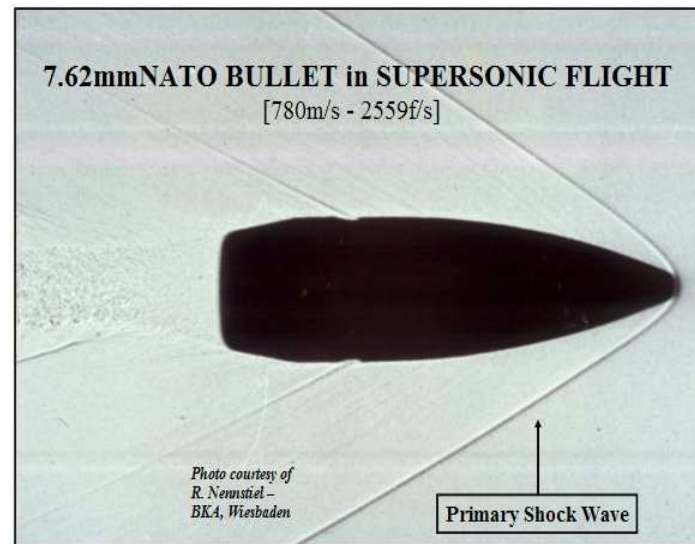


**Mach cone angle** Sensitive to EoS,  $\cos \theta = c_s/v$

**Cone killed** by high viscosity

IF we see this, we confirm fast thermalization and study fluid's *EoS*!

This phenomenon is well known



But is it relevant and observable in heavy ion collisions?

First suggested by Horst Stoecker, W. Scheid, W. Greiner,... ,1975



## What does this have to do with AdS/CFT?

- AdS/CFT was used to calculate the viscosity of an infinitely-strongly coupled gas,  $\eta/s = 1/4\pi$
- This is very low ( $\eta/s$  for water  $\sim 10$ ), so, unsurprisingly, strongly coupled CFT is a good fluid ("perfect?" Conjectured lower bound for  $\eta/s$ )
- People got very excited that  $\eta/s$  at RHIC can not be much lower than the bound. Have we "seen string theory" in the (s)QGP?!

AdS/CFT could be used to calculate RHIC observables  
...And Mach Cones might be the first place where this is feasible.

**At least** We can check our hydrodynamic/phenomenological description makes sense, ie its a good limit of the QFT (as youll see its not obvious

**At best** we build a Falsifiable AdS/CFT phenomenology.

Lets assume that RHIC sQGP  $\sim \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty}$  CFT. **What can we expect from experiment?** Hopefully more precise than "a low viscosity"!

## Freeze-out: How to get from fluid to particles

Assume  $l_{mfp} \sim$  system size at some spacetime locus  $\Sigma^\mu = (t, \vec{x})$  chosen according to some criterion (critical time, temperature,...). Conservation of energy+local equilibrium... Cooper-Frye formula

$$E \frac{dN}{d^3p} = \int p_\mu d\Sigma^\mu f_{FD/BE}(p_\mu u^\mu, T, \mu_B)$$

Hydrodynamics+freeze-out criterion give flow  $u_\mu, \Sigma_\mu$ . Currently  $\Sigma^\mu$  choice ad-hoc. Resonances decay after freeze-out.

Generally: "Hot spots" give strongly  $\Sigma$ -dependent signal. "Extra Flow" better, as momentum conservation always results in boost

The result: correlation  $\frac{d^n N}{d^n(\phi_i - \phi_{jet})}$  (NB: Generally n-particle correlation in theory, n+1-particle in experiment!) For 2 particles we get...

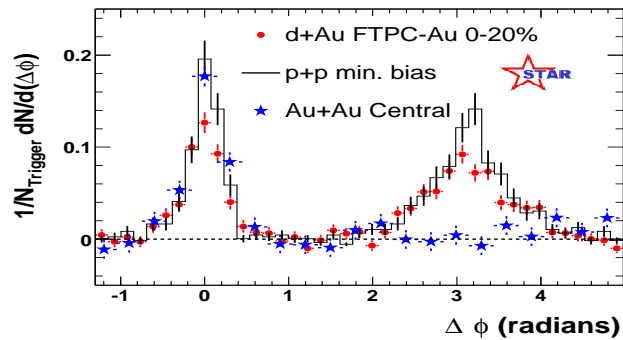
## Jet suppression revisited:

$$p_T^{near,away} > 2 \text{ GeV}$$

near  
side



Away  
side



## Softening the away-side trigger

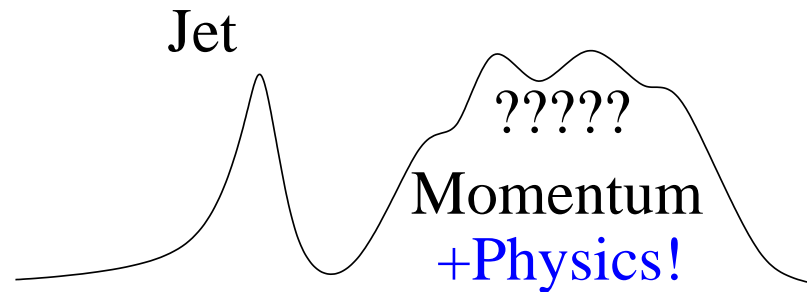
$$p_T^{near} > 2 \text{ GeV}$$

near  
side



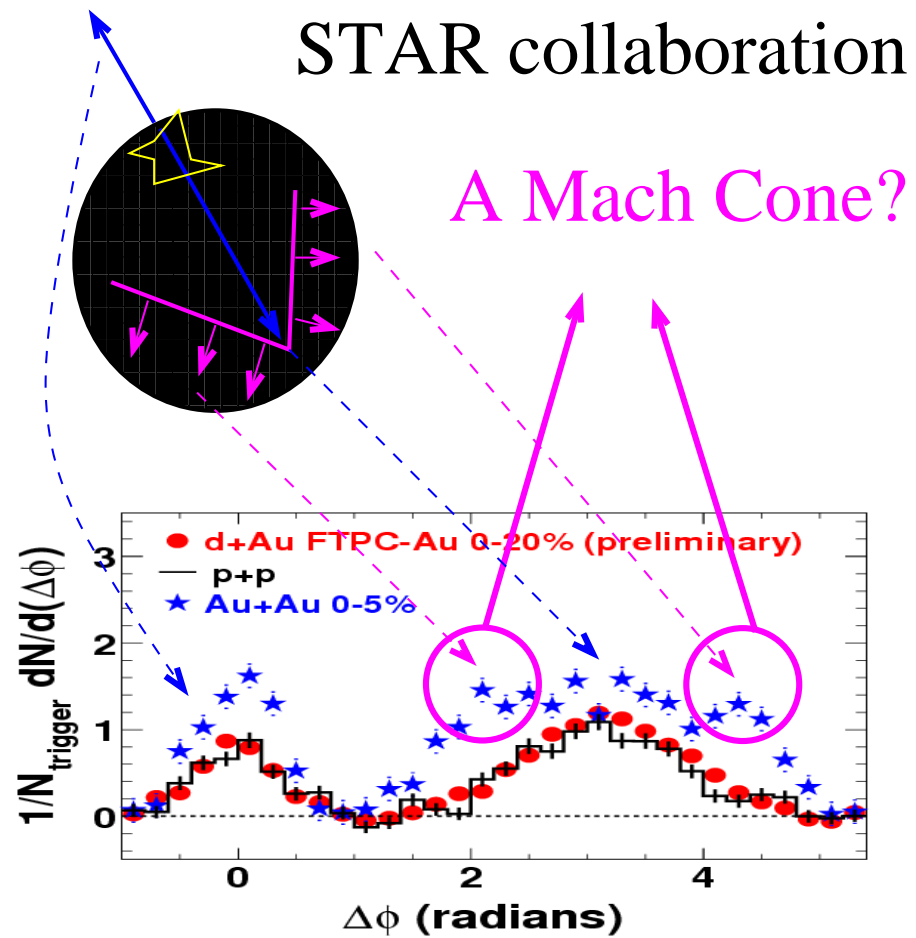
$$p_T^{away} > 0$$

Away  
side

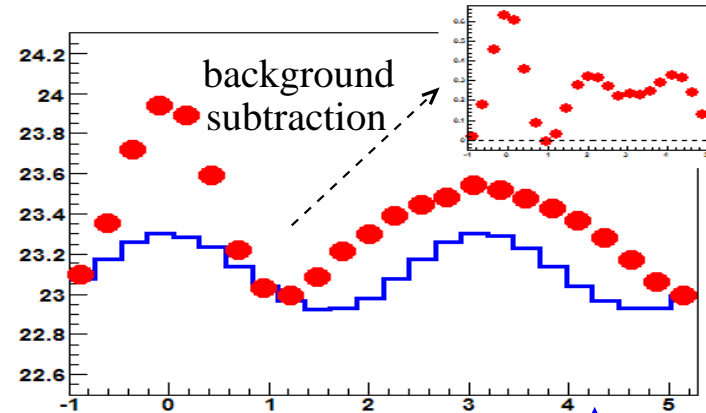


Correlations between hard particles ( $p_T^{near,away} > 2 \text{ GeV}$ ) suppressed. By conservation of momentum correlation should reappear when  $p_T^{away}$  lowered, **hopefully with interesting structures!**

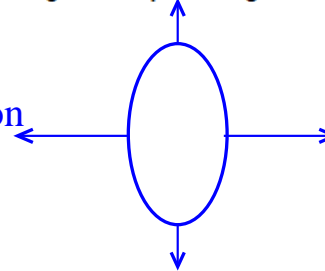
Experiment: If we lower trigger, away-side peak reappears and...



But the raw plot  
Looks like this



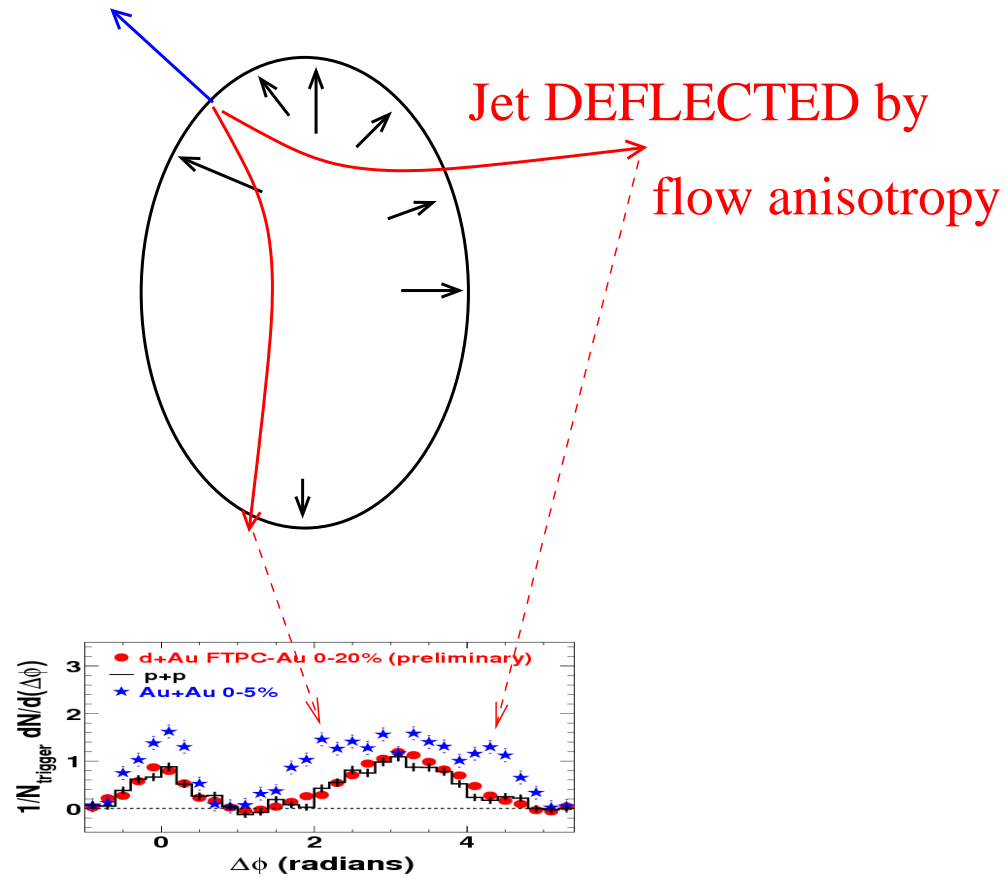
"Background"  
2(3,...)-particle correlation  
from elliptic flow



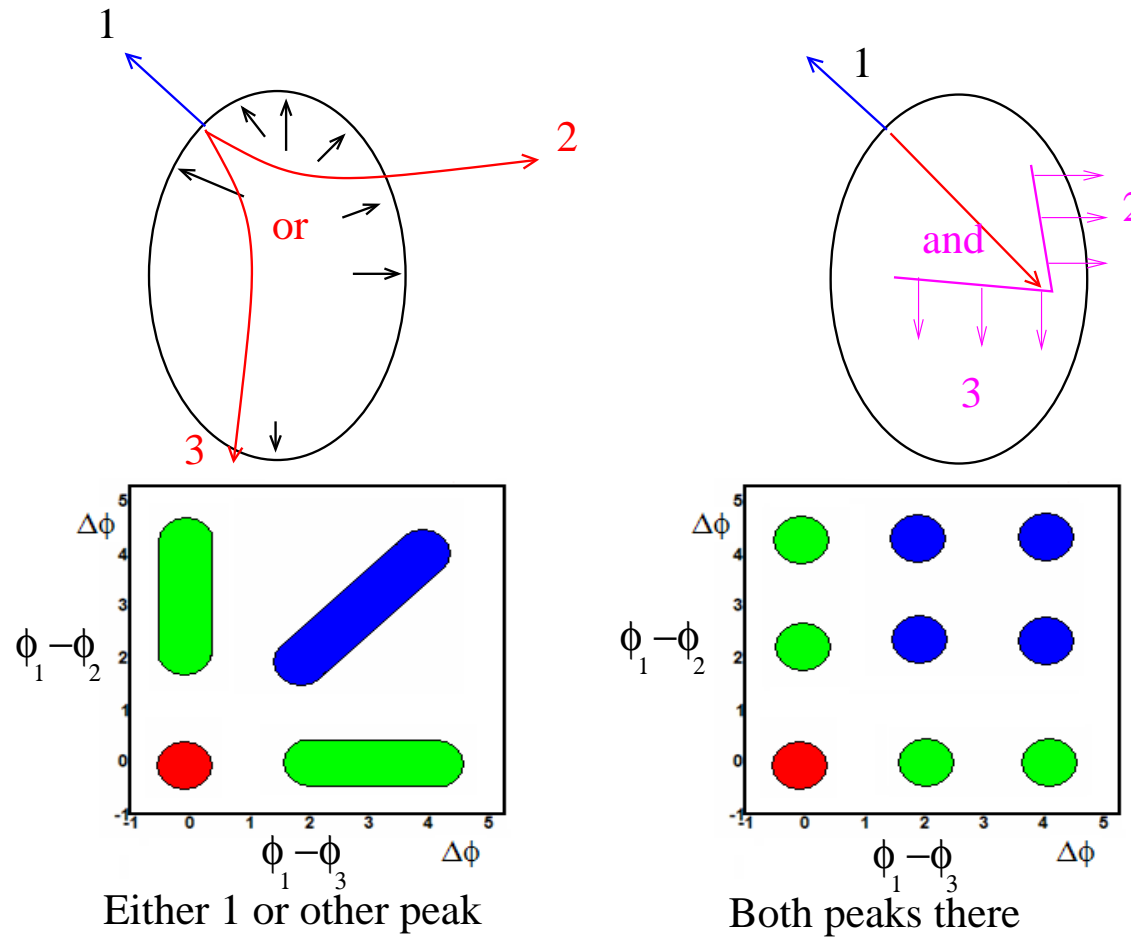
Assume correlations from flow anisotropy and from jet uncorrelated (ZYAM).  
This is model dependent. At best an approximation in full hydrodynamics  
In central collisions, peak appears bigger than correction, but are initial  
fluctuations understood?

## Other explanation possible

Armesto, Salgado, Wiedemann, PRL93:242301, 2004

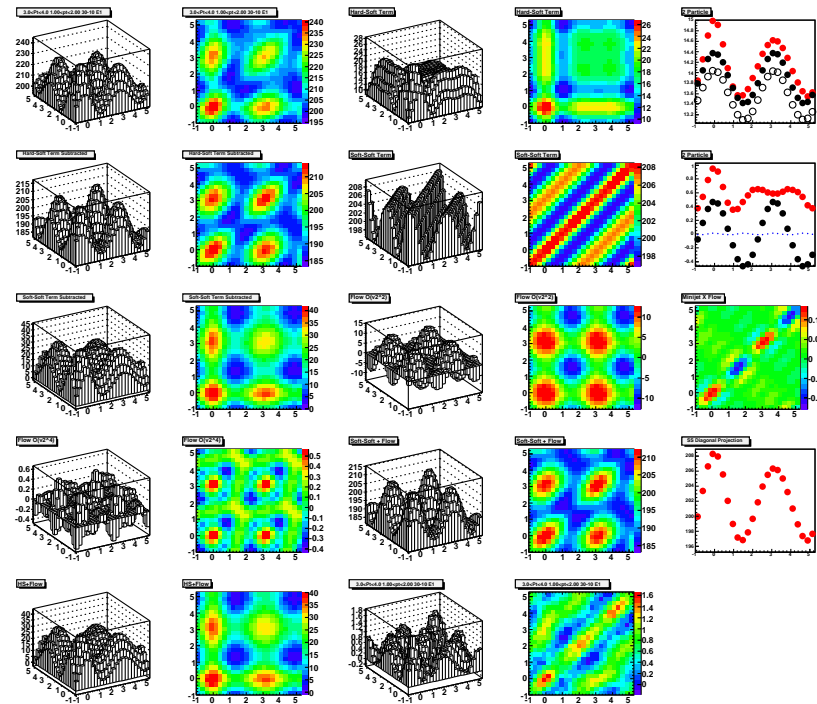


# But distinguishable: 3-particle correlations





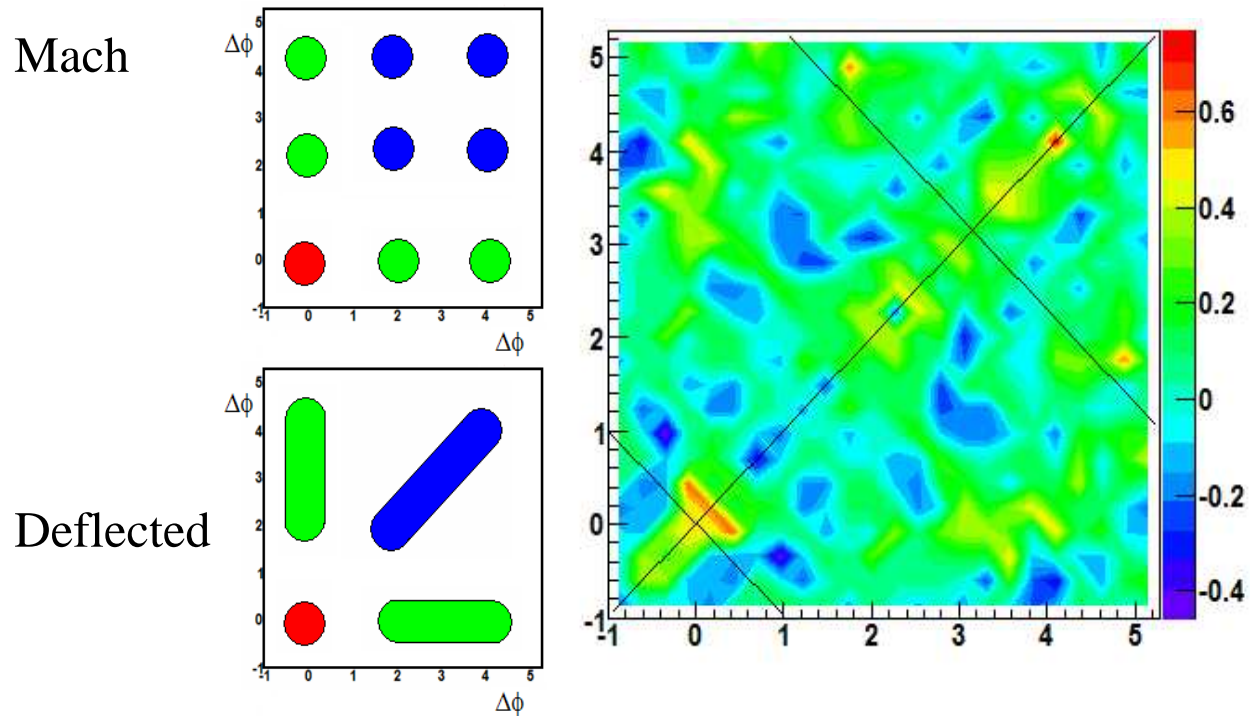
Background becomes more tricky... Still use ZYAM to resolve all combinations (Jet×flow,Flow×Flow etc.)



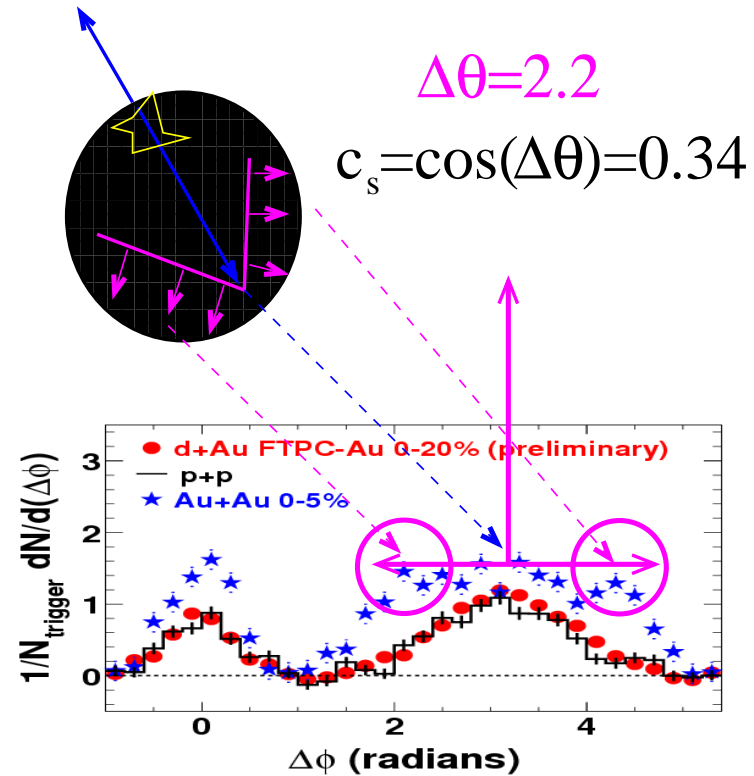
(J.Ulery, PhD thesis)

Results look like mixture of Mach and deflected (and why not?)

STAR collaboration (PHENIX similar)



If this is a cone  
What does the  
angle tell us?



Intriguingly low  
Probing transition  
region?

(Angle invariant with  $p_T$ , as expected in Mach cone with isochronous freeze-out).

Problem is... heavy ion collisions  $\neq$  “textbook”

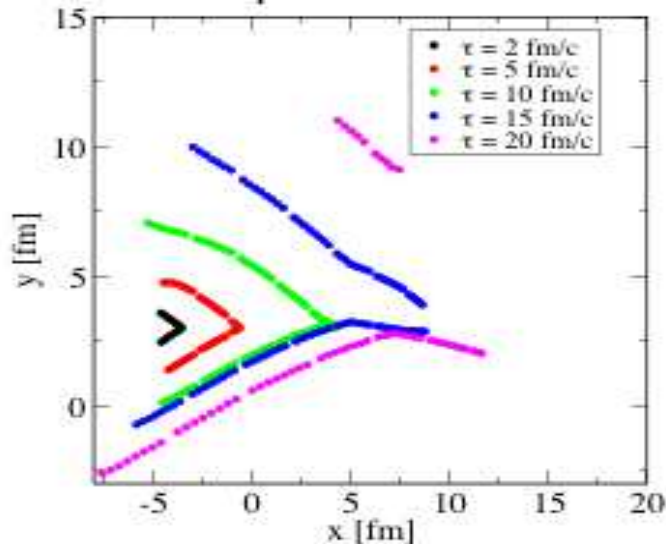
- Background non-trivial (flowing, phase transition)
- Non-linear hydrodynamics
- Energy-momentum deposition not trivial, and not well understood.

**Effect of flow** : Just substitute  $(+, -, -, -)$  metric for  $u_\mu$ :  
 Usual relationships with frame co-moving with flow (Satarov,  
 Stoecker, Mishustin, PLB627(2005)) In linearized limit, for  $v_{jet} \sim 1$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \left( c_s / v_{jet}^{comoving \ frame} \right) \rightarrow \sin^{-1} \left( c_s \sqrt{\frac{1-v^2}{1-v^2 c_s^2}} \right)$$

flow  $\vec{v}$ , given by global hydrodynamics, narrows cone.

Position space:



Renk, Ruppert, PRC73:011901,2006

disentangling effect of flow from angle to get EoS  
 might be non-trivial

## full hydrodynamics in a nutshell

Conservation equations of energy-momentum coupled to source (jet)

$$\partial_\nu \underbrace{T^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{energy-momentum tensor}} = \underbrace{J^\mu}_{\text{energy-momentum source}}$$

Use local isotropy in frame co-moving with flow ( $u_\mu$ ) to fix  $T_{\mu\nu}$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (e + P)u^\mu u^\nu - pg^{\mu\nu}$$

Use equilibrium EOS to close system of equations,  $p = p(e)$  (5 equations to solve for  $p, e, u^{x,y,z}$ ).

Viscosity:

$$T_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu} + \Pi_{\mu,\nu}(\zeta(e), \eta(e), \partial_\mu u_\nu)$$

This is complicated (Nonlinear, few analytic solutions) To get insights, use linearized hydro (Casadellrey-Solana, Shuryak, Renk, Ruppert).

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \underbrace{T_0^{\mu\nu}}_{diag[e,p,p,p]} + \underbrace{\delta T^{\mu\nu}}_{\ll T_0^{\mu\nu}}$$

Flow small, only pressure/density (sound waves): In terms of  $\epsilon = \delta T^{00}$ ,  $g_L = T^{0L}$ ,  $\vec{g}_T = T^{0T}$  where  $L$  and  $T$  are parallel/perpendicular to jet

$$\partial_t \epsilon + ik g_L = J^0$$

$$\partial_t g_L + ic_s^2 k_L \epsilon + \frac{4}{3} \frac{\eta}{e_0 + p_0} k^2 g_L = J^L$$

$$\partial_t \vec{g}_T + \frac{4}{3} \frac{\eta}{e_0 + p_0} k^2 \vec{g}_T = \vec{J}^T$$

Solvable for  $\epsilon, g_L, g_T$  with Green's function technology **What is  $J^\mu$ ?** Well, we don't know!

**Textbook**  $J^\mu = (e, 0, 0, 0)\delta(\vec{x} - \vec{v}t)$

**On-shell:**  $J^\mu = (e, e\vec{v}/|v|)\delta(\vec{x} - \vec{v}t)$  But parton does not have to be on-shell:

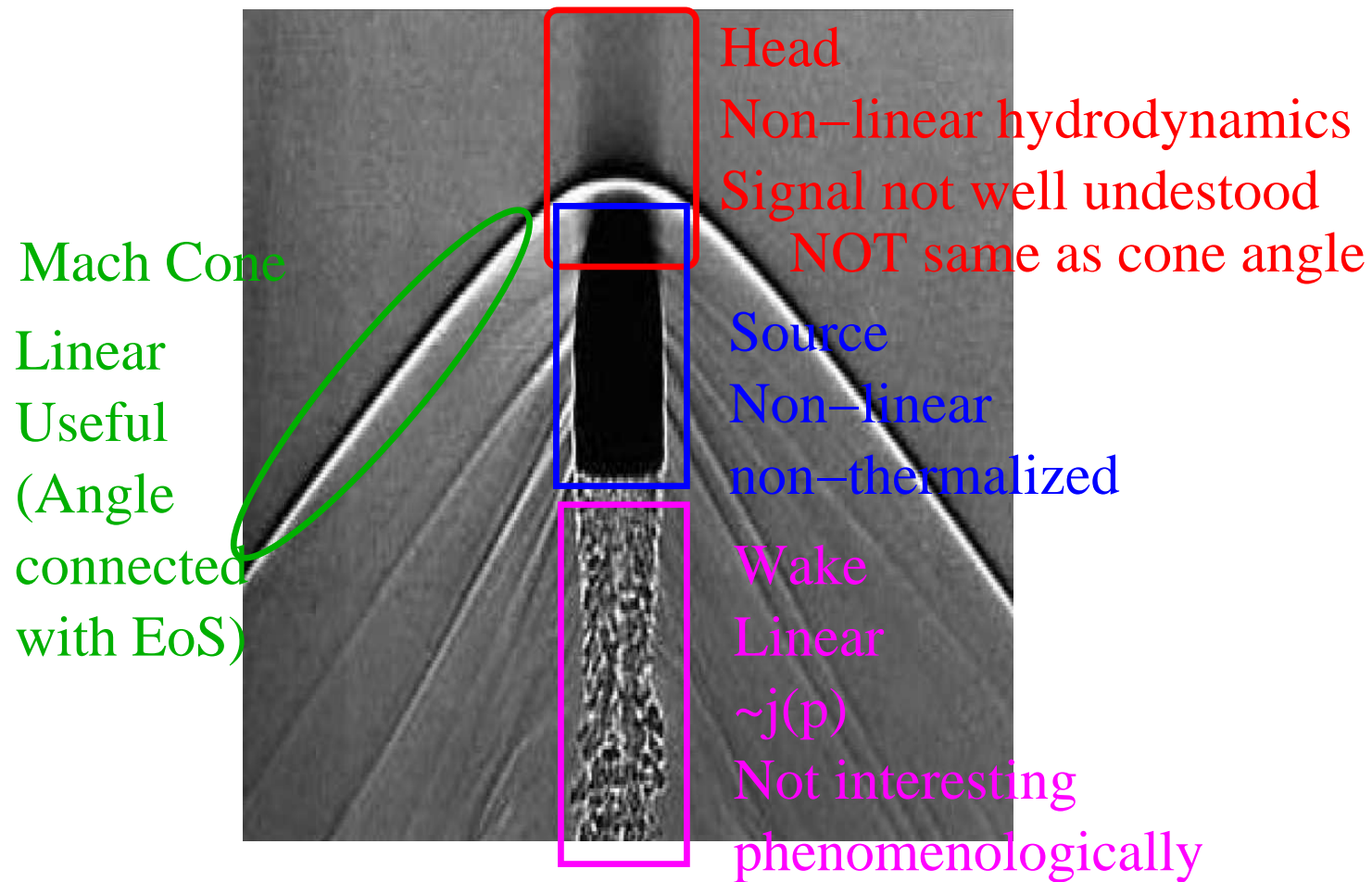
**Weakly coupled jet-medium** (NB: not inconsistent with hydro: for hydro medium has to be strongly coupled, jet-medium can be anything!)

$$J^\mu \sim \frac{dE}{dz} \sim L \text{ for dense medium } (l_{coherence} > l_{scattering})$$

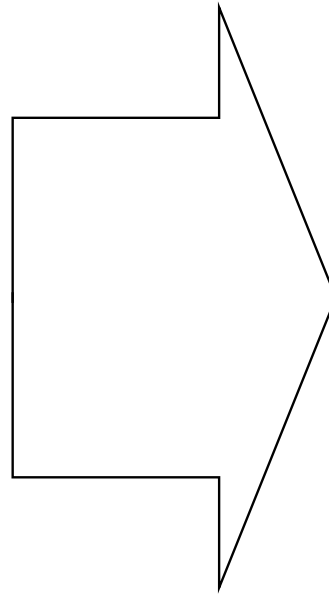
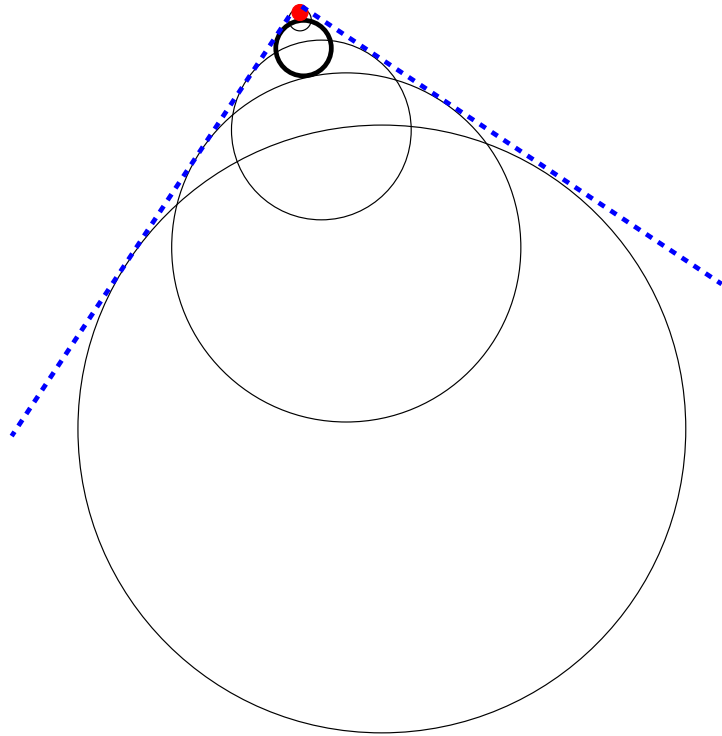
**Need** consistent picture of the system, interpolating between fully unthermalized jet and thermalized strongly coupled medium. **And it's a non-perturbative non-equilibrium non-linear problem!**



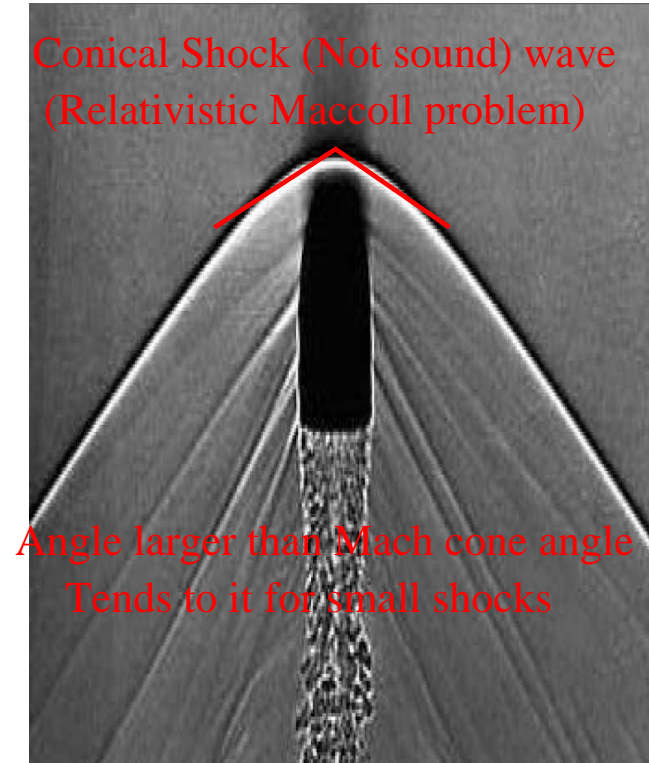
Is linearized hydro good? probably not



Pileup of waves at head



Conical Shock (Not sound) wave  
(Relativistic Maccoll problem)



Angle larger than Mach cone angle  
Tends to it for small shocks

Source usually (a la Lifshitz-Landau) local

$$J^\mu \sim J_0^\mu \delta(x - vt)$$

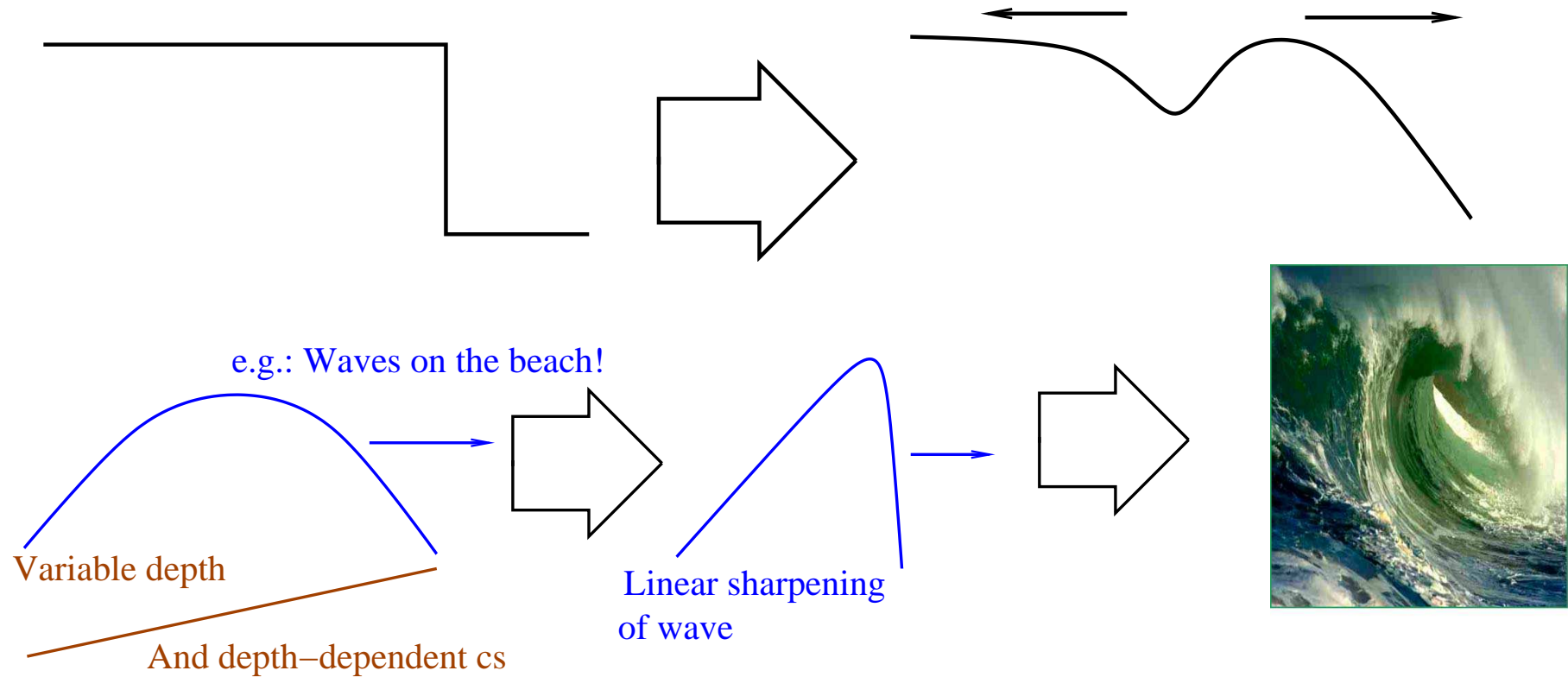
For an infinite  $\delta$ -function, linearization  $\delta T^{\mu\nu} / T^{\mu\nu} \ll 1$  badly broken.  
Of course, the  $\delta$ -function approximation of smeared non-equilibrium distribution

$$\delta(x - vt) \simeq f(x - vt, \sigma)$$

Because full hydrodynamics is non-linear, form of  $f$  where  $\delta T^{\mu\nu} / T^{\mu\nu} \sim 1$  can have effects in the linearized ( $x \gg \sigma, \delta T^{\mu\nu} / T^{\mu\nu} \ll 1$ ) region.

Perhaps when  $x \gg \sigma$  these effects go away, but this might be too big.  
( In AdS/CFT Far-away dynamics does depend on weather source is a heavy quark or a meson. So near-side dynamics changes far-away result)

Small perturbations  $\neq$  Linear hydro Perturbations must also be stable!

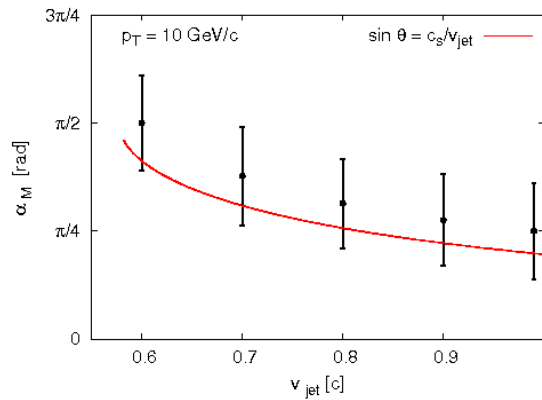


Rischke, Stoecker, Greiner: PRD42:2283-2292, 1990: Angle in Shocks  $\neq c_s/v$

# Option I: Explore range of $J^\mu$ s systematically with full hydro; $\sim$ conical, but...

Betz, Gyulassy, Stoecker, Rischke, Torrieri, QM2008 presentation, coming paper  
 Also J. Casalderrey-Solana, E. V. Shuryak, PRD74 (2006) 085012

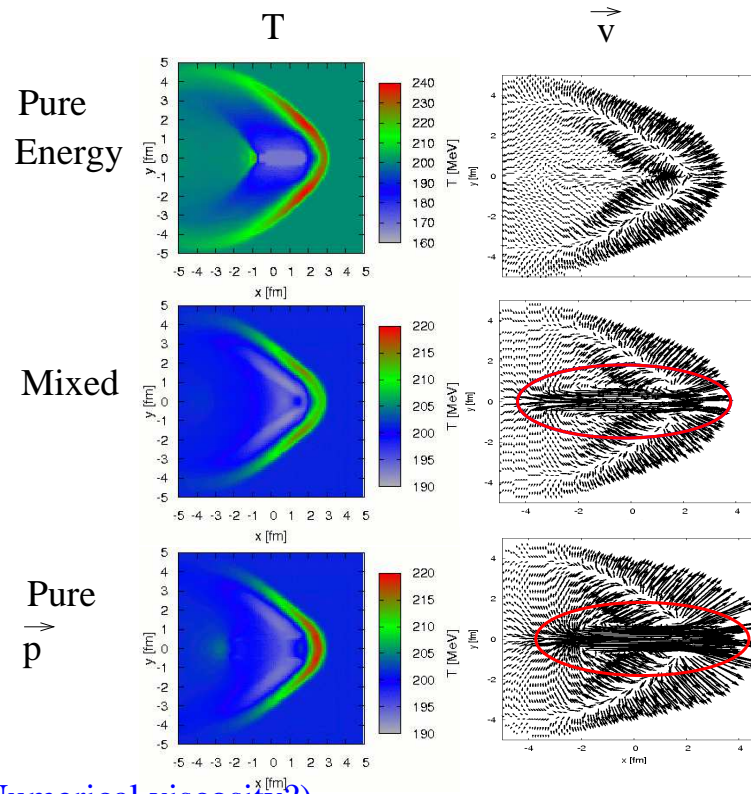
(Probably) invisible T pattern  
 independent of source



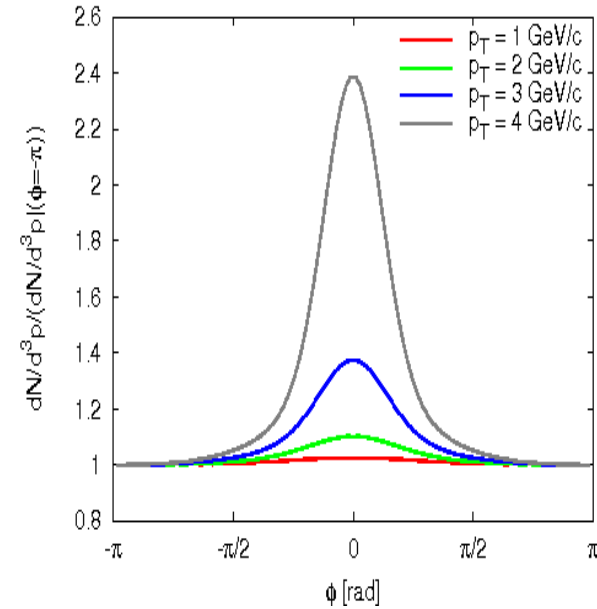
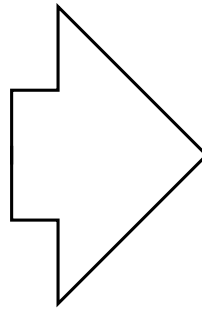
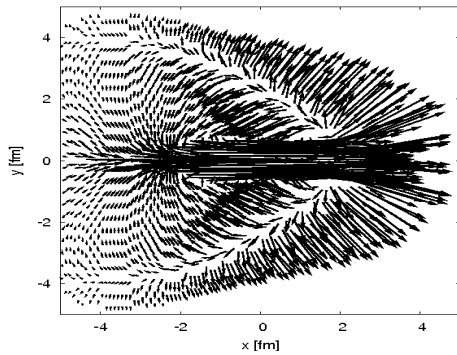
Mach cone angle survives in full

hydro (Non linearities no problem. Numerical viscosity?)

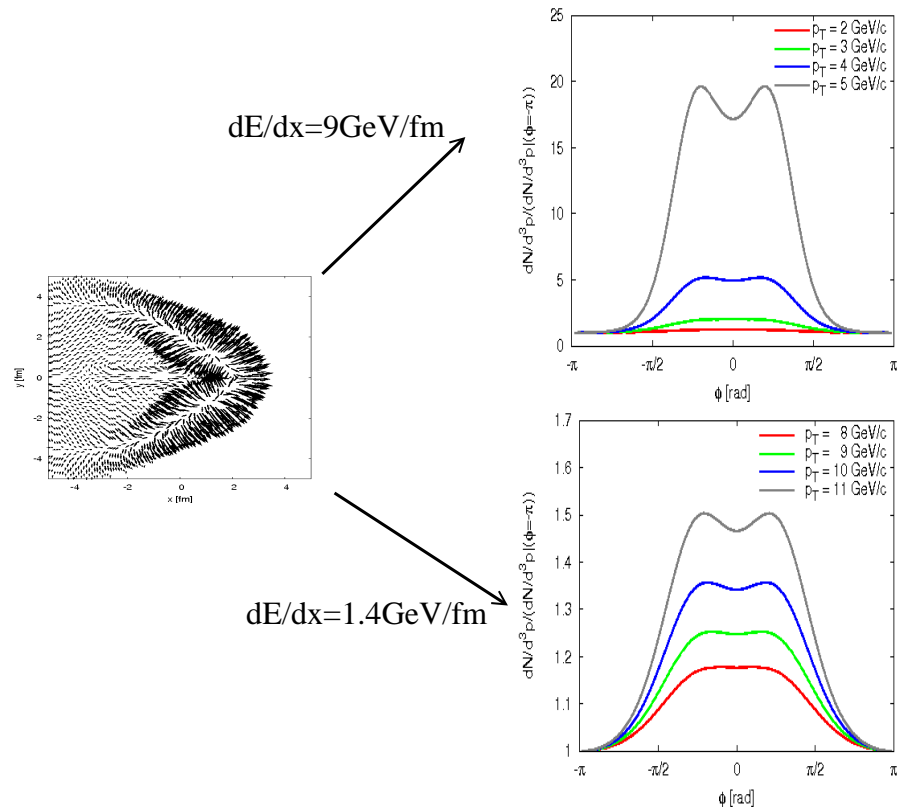
"Realistic" GLV/BDMPS calculation forthcoming; LPM effect also likely to spoil Mach signal



But flow pattern depends on it A LOT!  
 Momentum deposition creates un-conical  
 "diffusion shock", taking most of the  
 source's energy/momentum



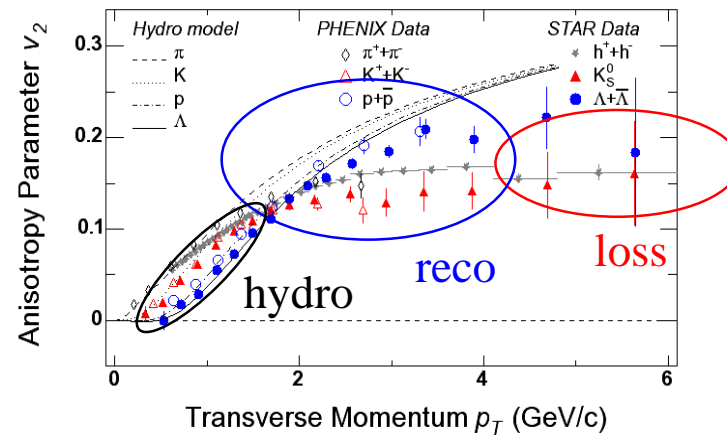
Betz, Gyulassy, Stoecker, Torrieri: As expected, diffusion wakes are phenomenologically useless! Yield a generic “peak” indistinguishable from any other jet energy loss mechanism!



Energy deposition works better: Cone structure, correct angle. Signal increases with  $p_T$  (Blue-shift), only strong at very high away-side  $p_T$

But... $p_T$  of "soft" associated particle needs to be huge unless jet energy deposition is large! Since  $\langle \sigma \rangle \sim 1/\langle Q \rangle^n$ , harder particles less thermalized, (medium is more transparent to them)

away-side should be "firmly" in "hydro region"



near-side should be "firmly" in "loss" region

Exclude Reco by Binning by species? (Meson/Beryon  $\Leftrightarrow$  Recombination, None/Mass  $\Leftrightarrow$  Hydro)



## Insights from string theory: The good part

The AdS/CFT correspondence gives us an opportunity to solve and study analytically a system that is

- Strongly coupled
- Non-equilibrium

(Not quite non-linear, see in a moment). We therefore have a toy model on which to explore the points we do not understand (i.e., when does the system become equilibrated/ideal)

BUT This is NOT QCD (4 SUSYs, no quarks,  $N_c, \lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ).  
This has the potential of introducing qualitative subtle differences.

**CFT** The theory is conformally invariant. No running coupling, no phase transition, no hadrons, no bulk viscosity

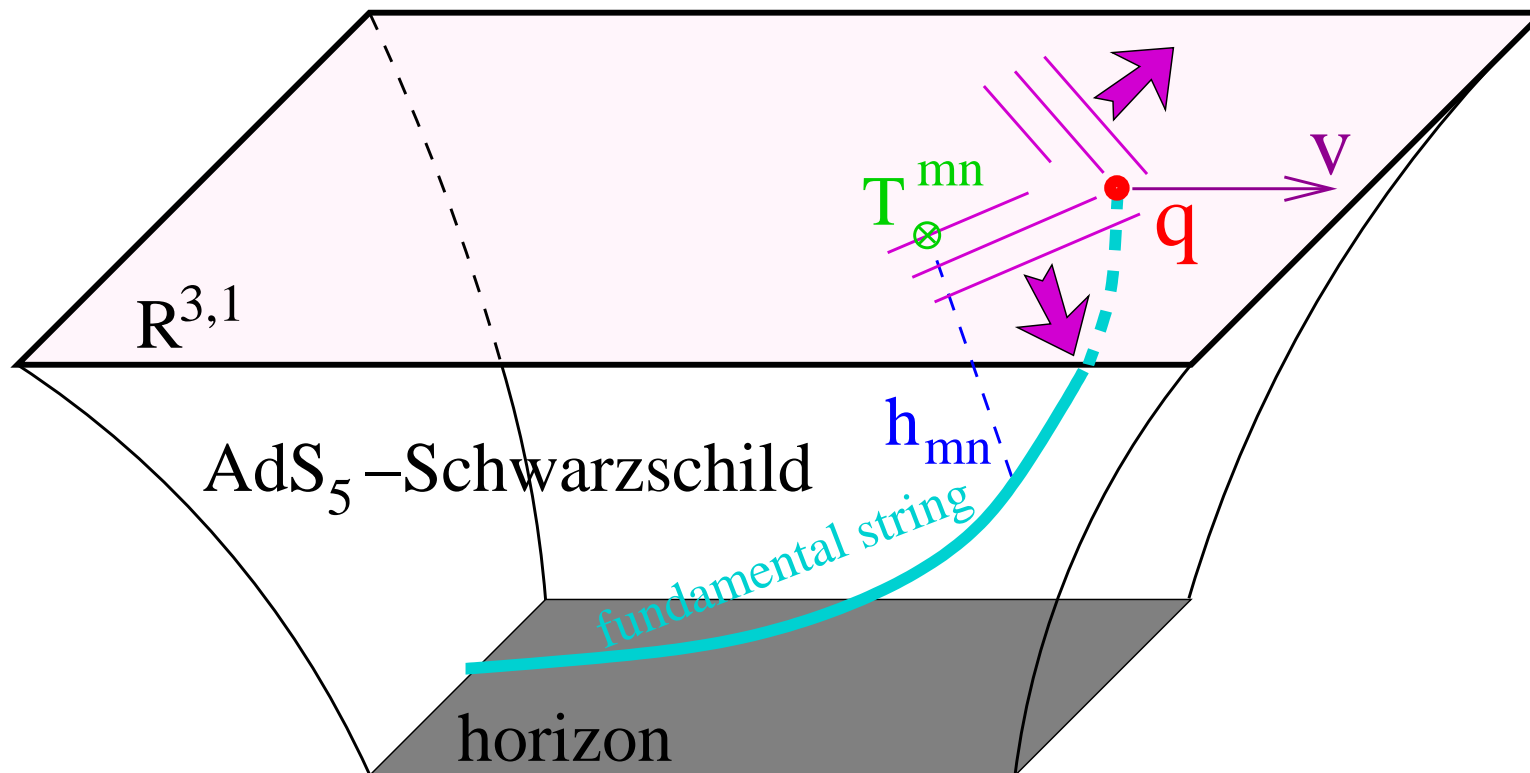
**QCD** Is approximately conformally invariant at weak coupling, big-time non-invariant at strong coupling

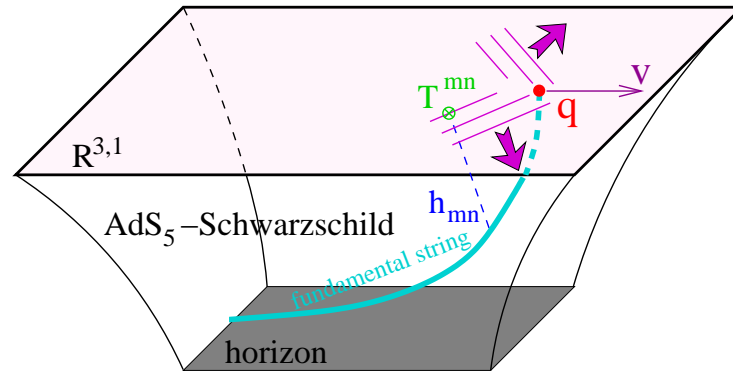
For our problem (Understanding the probe-medium correlation in the strong-field limit), this might be OK.

But thread with caution: for instance, in CFT jet-medium coupling not so different than medium-medium. probably not so in QCD! Bethe-Heitler/LPM/Factorization limits different?

## Ads Equivalent of heavy quark moving in a strongly coupled medium

Joshua J. Friess, Steven S. Gubser, Georgios Michalogiorgakis, Silviu S. Pufu, PRD75:106003,2007 Also A. Yarom





$g_{\mu\nu} \Leftrightarrow T_{\mu\nu}$ , Quark  $\Leftrightarrow$  string

Finite  $T$  background  $\Leftrightarrow$  Black hole in AdS space

$\lambda \rightarrow \infty \Leftrightarrow$  Classical geometry (Einstein's equations for  $g^{\mu\nu}$ )

For String (quark) moving at constant velocity, problem solved analytically (and drag force on quark derived). Steady state, no quark energy loss (Unphysical, but not much so if deceleration is small).

Static force (up to  $\sim \lambda_{GB}$ ),

Energy not conserved, quark “pulled by string”

(Brigante et al, 0712.0805, Vazquez-Poritz, 0803.2890 )

(good approximation if acceleration small)

$$F_{drag} = - \frac{\sqrt{l m \pi T^2 v}}{\sqrt{1 - v^2 a_2 + \lambda_{GB} v^4 / a_2^2}}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{2}(1. + \sqrt{1. - 4. * \lambda_{GB}}) \quad \frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi} (1 - \lambda_{GB})$$

- Drag force related to  $\eta/s$  (which depends on  $\lambda_{GB}$ , maybe not bounded)
- finite (and short) momentum-dependent skin depth, surface emission!

Powerful quantitative constraints

## Expansions and approximations

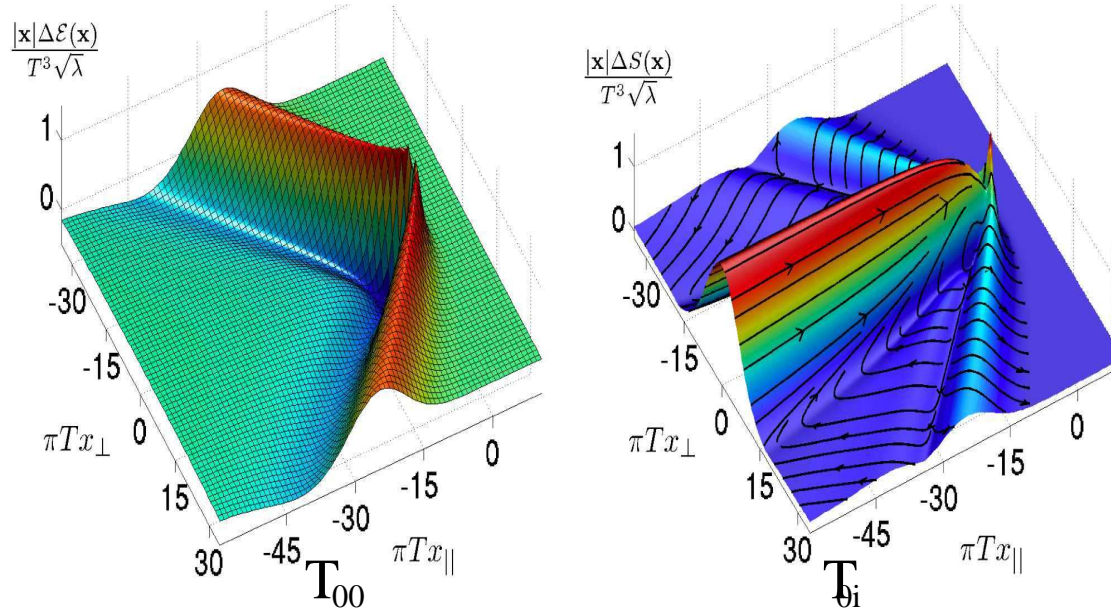
$k/T \ll 1$  Long-lived modes, relevant for hydrodynamics. Close to quark not described.

$N_c \gg 1$  Signal  $\sim N_c$ , background  $\sim N_c^2$ . So hydro forced to be linear by approximation.

At the moment we can only confirm (or rule out!) “textbook” hydro/Mach cone behaviour rather than get insights on what “beyond textbook” looks like.

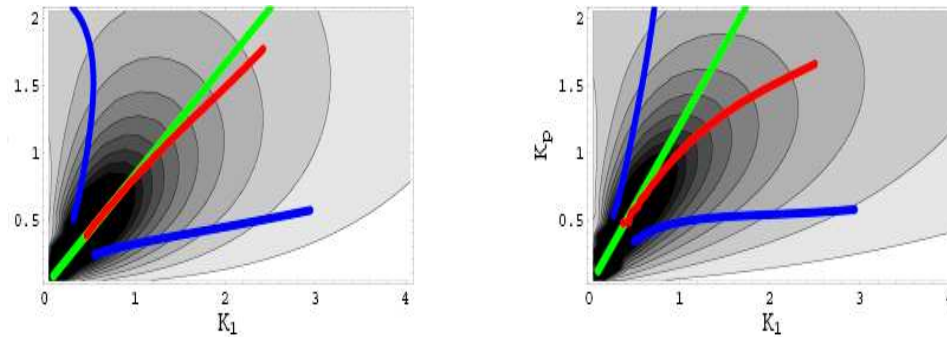
Chesler, Yaffe:arXiv:0712.0050

Also Yarom, Gubser, Noronha, GT, Gyulassy



This is a solution to  $T_{\mu\nu}$  from QFT, looks like Mach cone to me!

- The ratio of sound to dissipated energy is  $\frac{P_s}{P_d} = 1 + v^2$   
(Independent of viscosity: "diffusion" wake arises from momentum!)
- Angle nearly correct but not quite, even in far field



- Energy-momentum source  $J^\mu = (v\Pi(\lambda), \Pi(\lambda), 0)$
- But details sensitive to source: quarkonium rather than quark has no diffusion wake (Gubser et al, 0711.1415 )

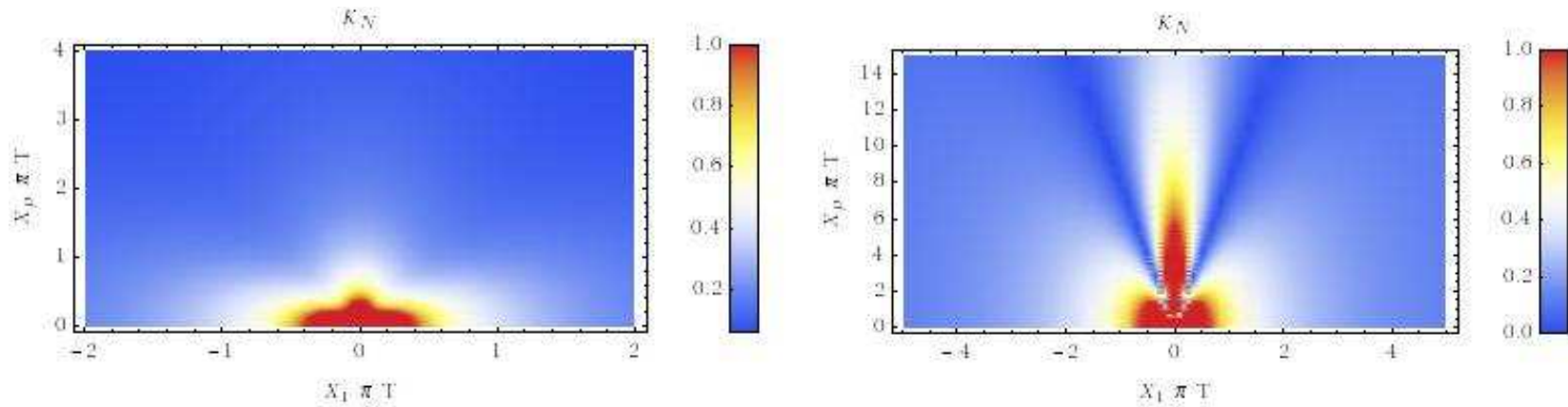


GT, J. Noronha, Gyulassy: arXiv:0712.1053: A more detailed analysis: The “Knudsen number”

Assume “mean free path”  $\sim \Gamma_s = \frac{3\eta}{4(e+p)}$ , and

$$Kn = \left| \gamma_s \frac{\vec{\nabla} S}{S} \right| (\ll 1)_{hydro}$$

Plots for  $v = 0.75, 0.99$ : Even for 0.99  $10/T$  thermalized



If

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (p + \rho)u^\mu u^\nu - pg^{\mu\nu} + \eta \langle \partial^\mu u^\nu \rangle$$

then in Landau frame ( $T^{0i} = 0$ ) the system should look be

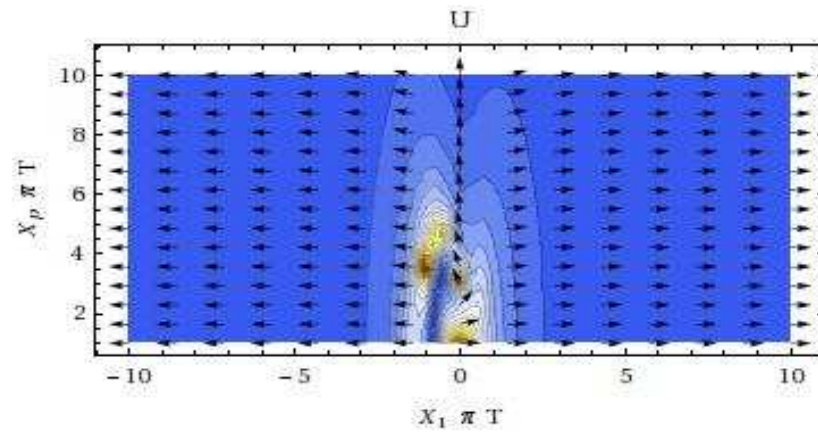
$$T_{\mu\nu}^{Landau} = \begin{pmatrix} e & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -e/3 & 0 & 0 \\ e & 0 & -e/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -e/3 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{e+p}{4\pi T} \langle \partial^\mu u^\nu \rangle_{Landau}$$

where  $u_\mu$  is the boost bringing the system to Landau frame

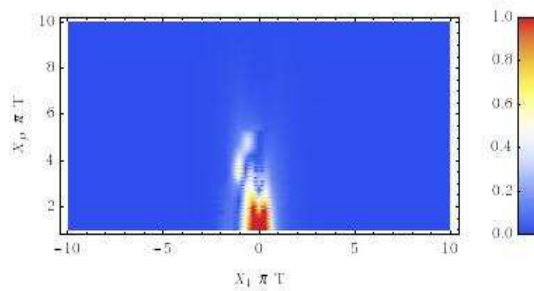
No unknowns, so can be tested!

Linearized ansatz works after  $5/\pi T$  fm or so.

Flow (Color:Magnitude)



$$|\vec{U} - \vec{S}/(3P)|$$

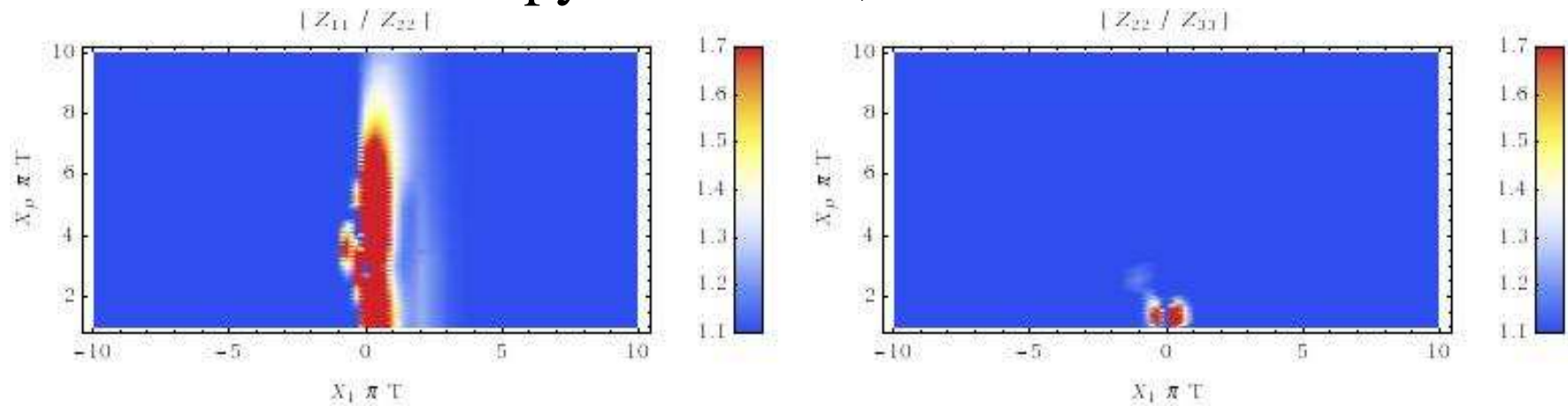


Deviation from  
Hydro?  
Non-linearities?

## Testing isotropy

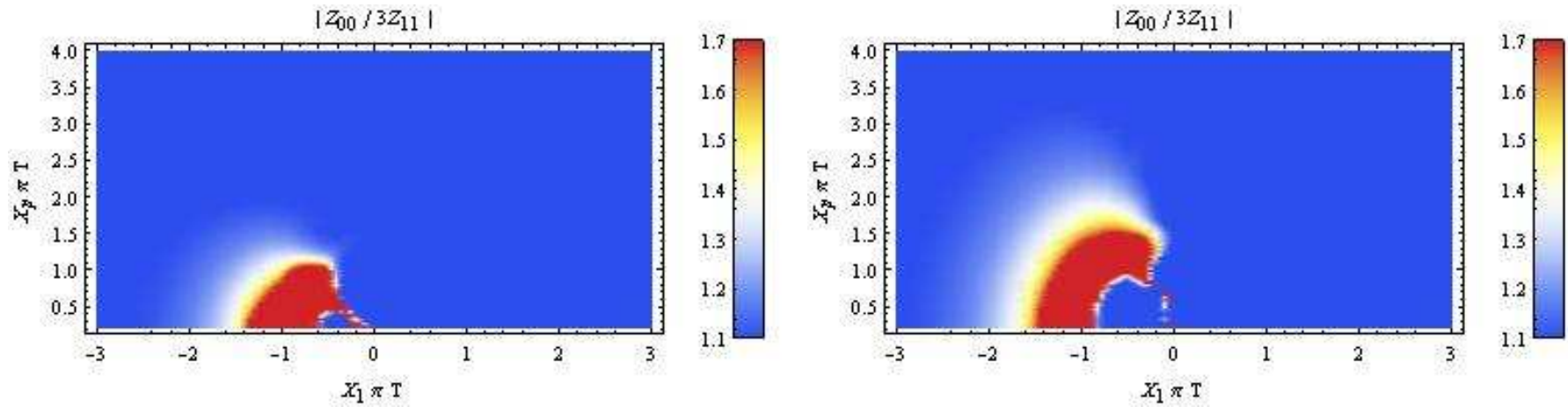
$$Z_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}^{Landau} - \langle \partial^\mu u^\nu \rangle_{Landau} (= \text{Diag}[3p, p, p, p]_{Navier-Stokes})$$

Isotropy:  $Z_{11}/Z_{22}, Z_{22}/Z_{33}$



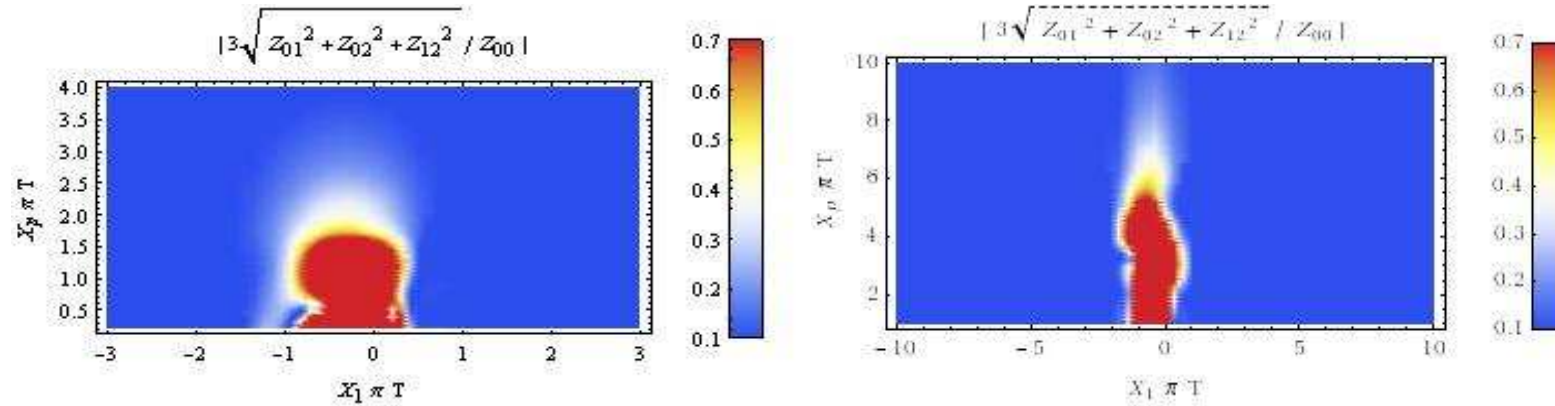
System a lot more locally isotropic perpendicular to jet.

EoS: Z00/3Z11,  $v=0.75, 0.99$



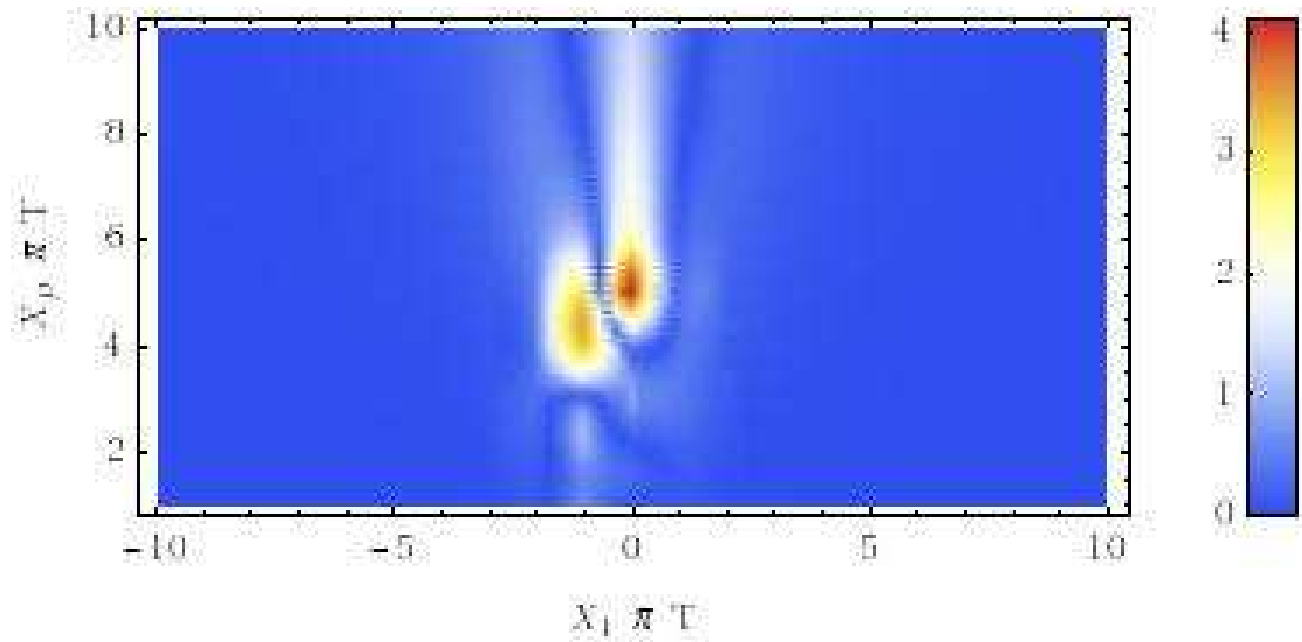
System slightly more thermalized for slower jet

Off diagonal compared to diagonal Z,  $v=0.90, 0.99$



Faster jet less thermalized, but non-thermalized area more focused

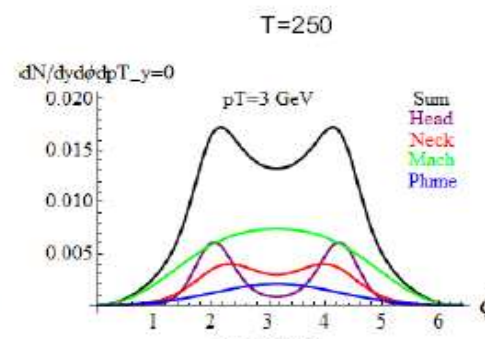
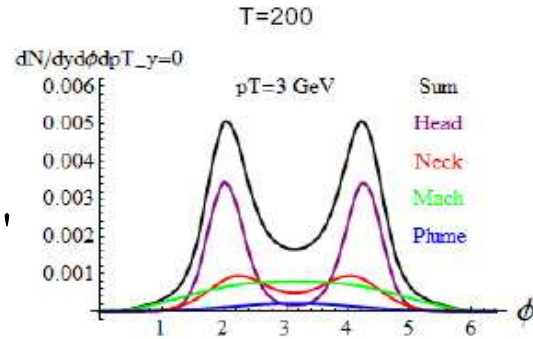
Relative importance of viscosity,  $\frac{\Pi_{\mu\nu}\Pi^{\mu\nu}}{\text{sum}Z_{ii}^2}$



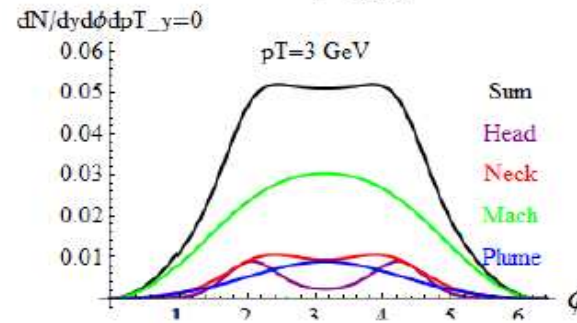
When hydro description applies viscous tensor unimportant

## Freezing out the AdS/CFT Mach cone

At moderate temperatures the signal from the "head" dominates and breaks the signal!



- 1) Mach wake produces no dip  
Due to thermal smearing
- 2) All AdS azimuthal signal comes from Bow shock  
Head+(red) Neck region where local equilib CF is however unjustified !!



Gyulassy, So.Padre, TX

But Cooper–Frye description (Instantaneous liquid→Particles transition) really makes no sense in this context (+Head is NOT thermalized)  
Correlation in ENERGY more model–independent?



What next?

**Non-linear hydrodynamics** : Non-linear GR, or Gauss-Bonnet terms. As a “preview”, analyze linear solution for stability (turbulence?)

**Break CFT** and study a “realistic” EoS

**2nd order hydrodynamics** : But first order already irrelevant after a few  $fm$ . Unlikely to make big difference.  
But, by power-counting of coupling constant, non-linearities  $\sim$  higher order expansion.

## (few) conclusions!

- Mach cone-like patterns arise in a variety of hydro-like models
- Link between features and "fundamental" physics weakened by many not understood parameters
- Experimentalists found something that looks like a Mach cone. But we are not quite certain how to interpret it within the "big RHIC picture", and say something about the medium

Lots of work to do

## Theory

- Systematic study of deposition mechanisms
- Freeze-out(Resonances,  $\Sigma_\mu$  )
- Flowing background. Other observables needed to determine which flow
- Transport (Also consistent way to couple jet and medium)

## Experiment

- Higher  $p_T^{trigger}$ , lower  $p_T^{associate}$ .
- Chemical composition and thermal structure of associates. Are they “jetty” or “mediumy”?
- Continue scan in energy/system size. Sudden appearance or smooth excitation? Angle dependence on system size/jet-reaction plane?

BACKUP SLIDES