

Bottomonium suppression in p+Pb collisions at LHC energies

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Primary references:

M. Strickland, S. Thapa, & R. Vogt (2024). Bottomonium suppression in 5.02 and 8.16 TeV p-Pb collisions, [arXiv:2401.16704](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.16704).

S. Thapa, R. Vogt, M. Strickland, R. Rapp, B. Wu, & J. Boyd (In Prep). Semi-classical treatment of bottomonium suppression in p-Pb collisions.



Outline

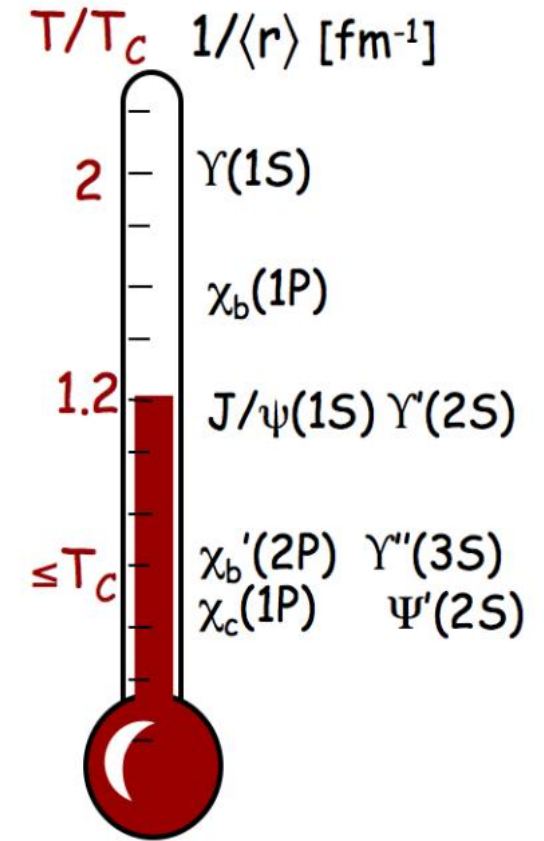
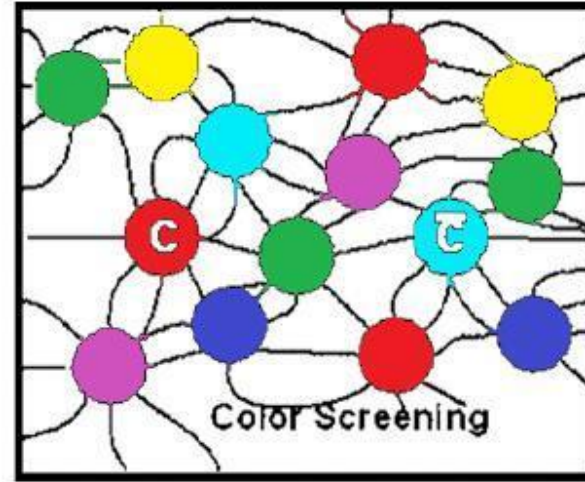
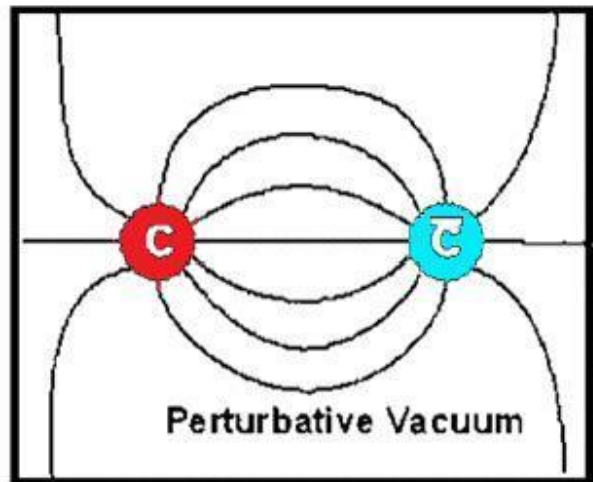
- **INTRODUCTION & MOTIVATION**
- **COLD NUCLEAR MATTER EFFECTS**
 - **Nuclear Modification of Parton Distribution Functions (nPDFs)**
 - **Energy Loss & Momentum Broadening**
- **HOT NUCLEAR MATTER EFFECTS**
 - **Quantum & Semi-Classical Transport Models**
- **RESULTS**
- **CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK**

INTRODUCTION & MOTIVATION

- **Asymptotic freedom of QCD:** deconfined phase of QCD matter at high temperature / density, **Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP)**, glimpse of early universe shortly after Big Bang, recreated in HIC at RHIC and LHC

Quarkonia as Probe of QGP

Static screening (Matsui, Satz, 1986): *inside QGP, color attraction in Quarkonia suppressed due to Debye Screening, different mass/binding energies, Sequential melting at High T*

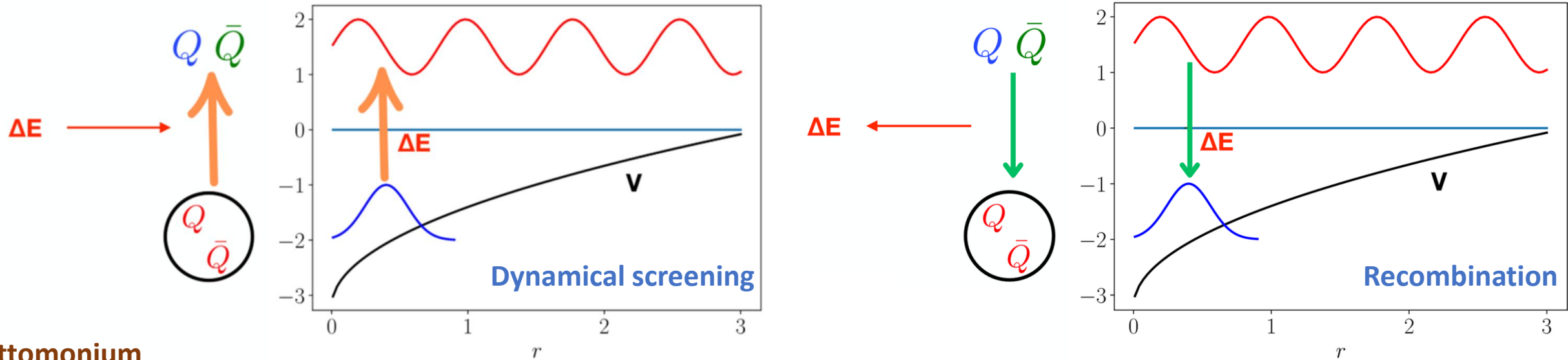


QGP thermometer

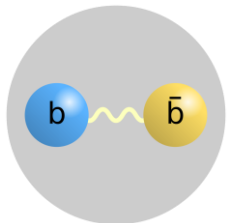
Mocsy, Petreczky, and Strickland, [1302.2180](#)

Quarkonia (Bottomonia) as Probe of QGP

- **Dynamical screening:** quarkonia dissociation induced by dynamical process in the QGP, imaginary potential
- **Recombination:** unbound heavy quark pair (re)combine into bound quarkonium state, can happen below melting temperature [Thews, Schroedter, Rafelski, PRC 63, 054905 \(2001\), arXiv:hep-ph/0007323](#)



Bottomonium

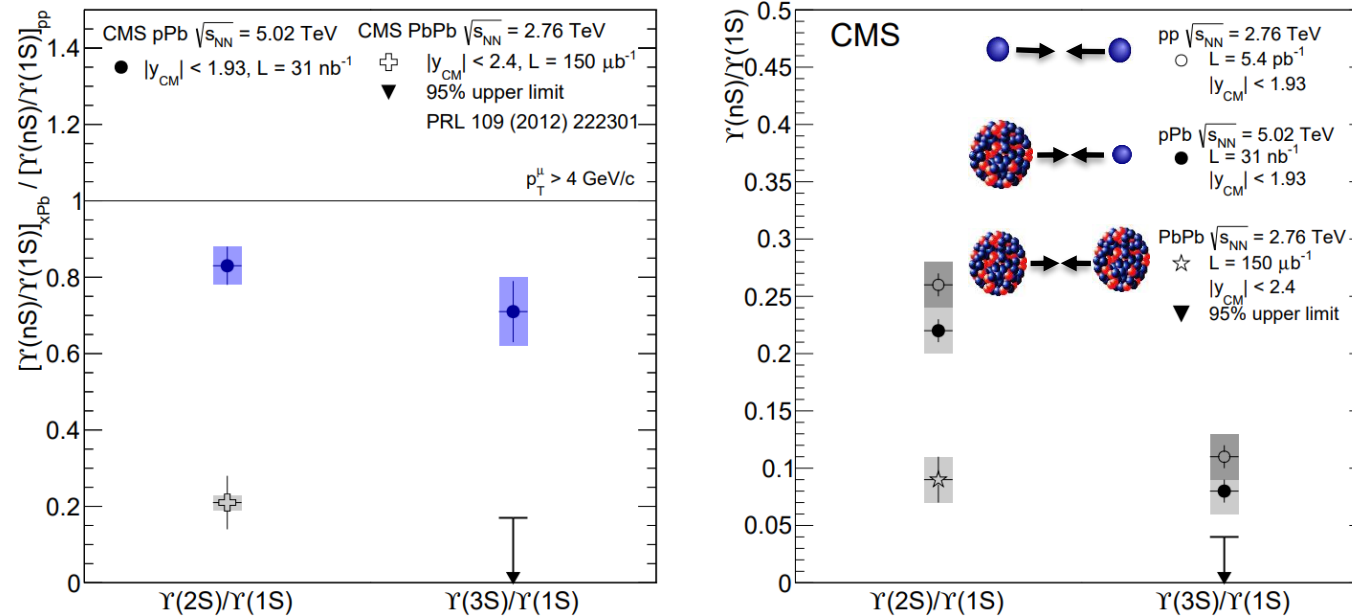


- Heavy $m \sim 10$ GeV
- Produced early (has history of QGP)
- Non-relativistic ($v \ll 1$, $v_b \sim 0.1$)
- Scale separation (EFTs like pNRQCD)
- No (/less) regeneration [E. Emerick, X. Zhao, and R. Rapp, 1111.6537](#)

[Xiaojun Yao, 2020](#)

INTRODUCTION & MOTIVATION

- Observables at RHIC and LHC reveal a smooth transition between proton-proton, proton-nucleus, and nucleus-nucleus collisions [N. Armesto \(2024\), EPJ Web of Conferences 171, 11001 \(2018\)](#)
- In LHC p-Pb collisions, excited bottomonium states $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ are suppressed more than the ground state $\Upsilon(1S)$, a pattern that cannot be explained solely by CNM effects.
- **Short-Lived QGP?** The differential suppression of excited Υ states indicates that final-state interactions—potentially due to a transient QGP in small systems—play a significant role, necessitating further investigation of Υ in p-Pb collisions at LHC energies



CMS Collaboration, [1312.6300](#), [2202.11807](#)

CNM EFFECT: Nuclear Modification of Parton Distribution Functions (nPDFs)

- The parton densities / structure functions of bound nucleons **modified** from those in free nucleons

$$F_j^A(x_2, \mu_F^2, k_T) = R_j(x_2, \mu_F^2, A) F_j^P(x_2, \mu_F^2, k_T)$$

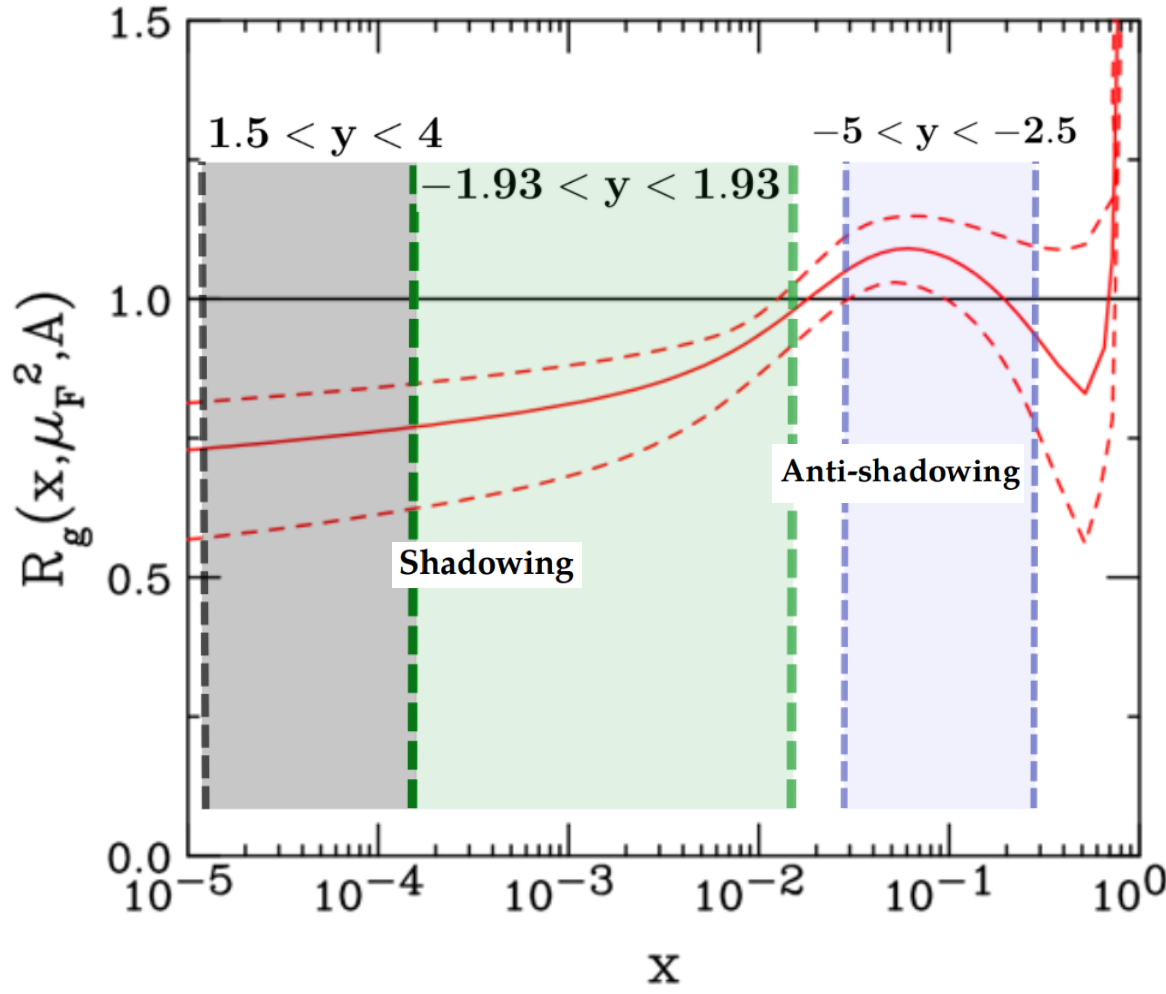
- NLO EPPS21 (24 params, 49 total sets, 1 central and 48 error sets) nPDFs used [Eskola et al. \(2021\). 2112.12462](#)

- Υ production cross section in p+p and p+A by Color Evaporation Model (CEM) given by,

$$\sigma_{\text{CEM}}(pp) = F_C \sum_{i,j} \int_{4m^2}^{4m_H^2} d\hat{s} \int dx_1 dx_2 \times F_i^P(x_1, \mu_F^2, k_{T1}) F_j^P(x_2, \mu_F^2, k_{T2}) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\hat{s}, \mu_F^2, \mu_R^2)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{CEM}}(pA) = F_C \sum_{i,j} \int_{4m^2}^{4m_H^2} d\hat{s} \int dx_1 dx_2 \times F_i^P(x_1, \mu_F^2, k_T) F_j^A(x_2, \mu_F^2, k_T) \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(\hat{s}, \mu_F^2, \mu_R^2)$$

R. Vogt (2023), [2304.09356](#)

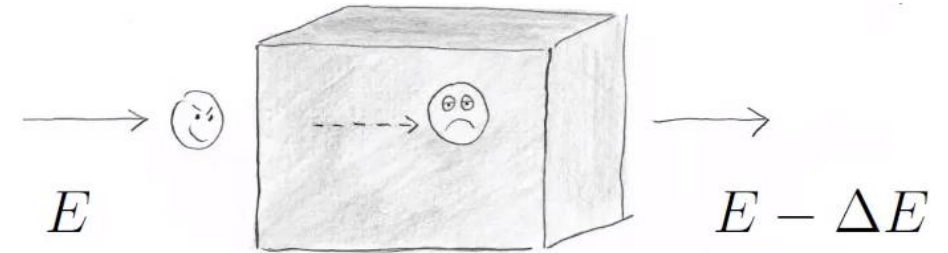


R. Vogt et al [hep-ph/9502270](#), [1508.01286](#), [1609.06042](#)

CNM EFFECT: Energy Loss & Momentum Broadening

While passing through a medium (hot QGP, *cold nucleus*, ...):

- a parton can lose energy due to collisions (Bjorken, 1982)
- and / or via induced gluon radiation (Gyulassy, Wang (1993) [nucl-th/9306003](#))



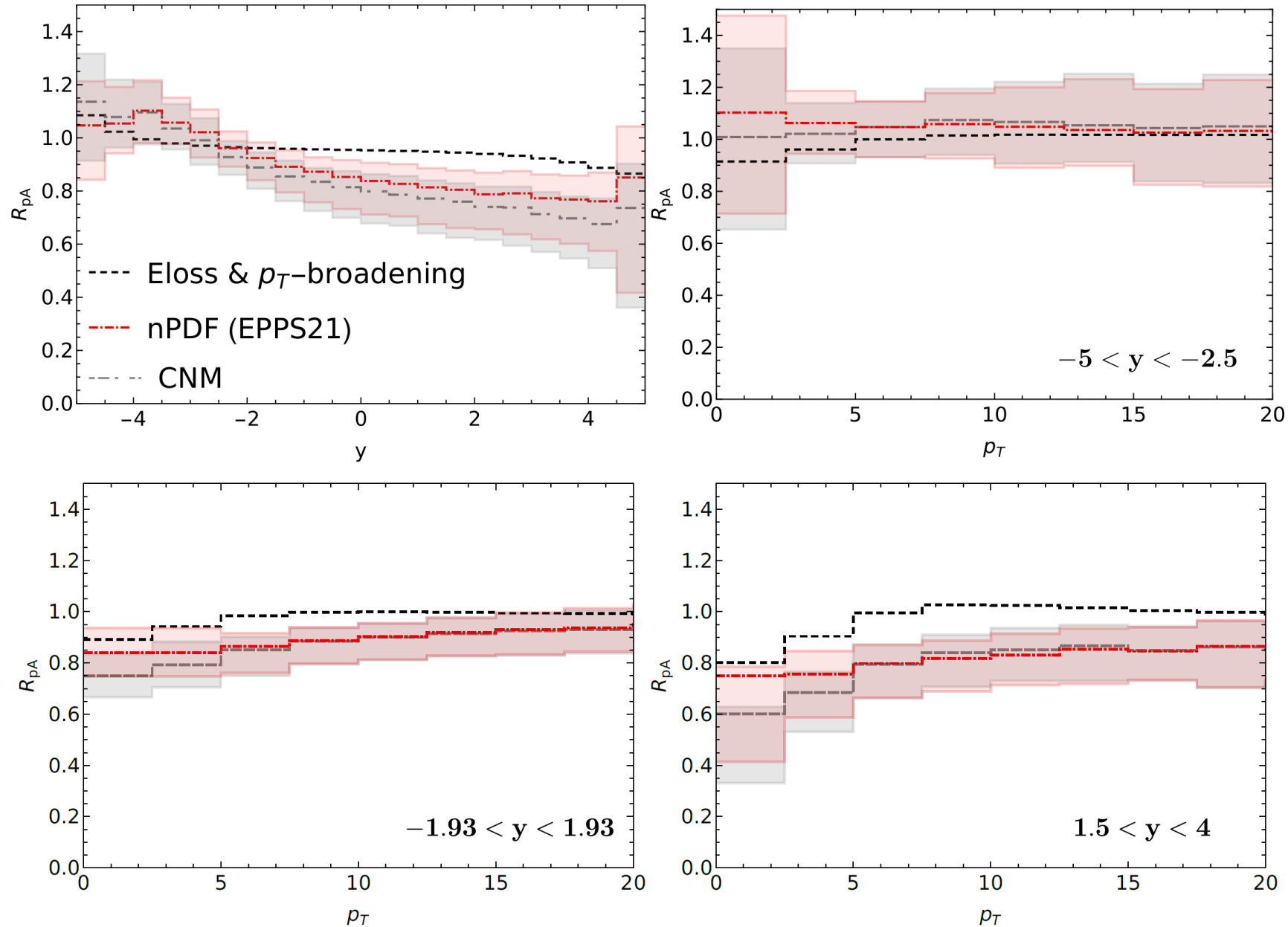
- The produced Υ states lose energy and undergo momentum broadening in the cold QCD matter, encoded in Quenching weight
- In terms of the **rapidity shift δy** & **transverse momentum broadening δp_T** , the quarkonium double differential cross section:

$$\frac{1}{A} \frac{d\sigma_{pA}^{\psi}}{dy d^2p_T}(y, p_T) = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{2\pi} \int_0^{\delta y_{\max}(y)} d\delta y \hat{\mathcal{P}}(e^{\delta y} - 1, \ell^2) \frac{d\sigma_{pp}^{\psi}}{dy d^2p_T}(y + \delta y, |\vec{p}_T - \delta\vec{p}_T|)$$

\hat{q} = transport coefficient,
 L_A = effective path length of nucleus A

Arleo, Kolevatov, Peigne, Rustamova (2013), [1304.0901](#)
 Arleo & Peigne, Rustamova (2013), [1212.0434](#)

Modification of Υ Production due to CNM EFFECTs at 8 TeV p+Pb



HNM EFFECT: KSU-Munich Approach

Open Quantum System (OQS) + pNRQCD

Following the hierarchy of scales, $M \gg 1/a_0 \gg (\pi) T \sim m_D \gg E_b$, at NLO

pNRQCD [1] in E_b/T , we obtain Lindblad Master Equation [2], evolution of

system density matrix:

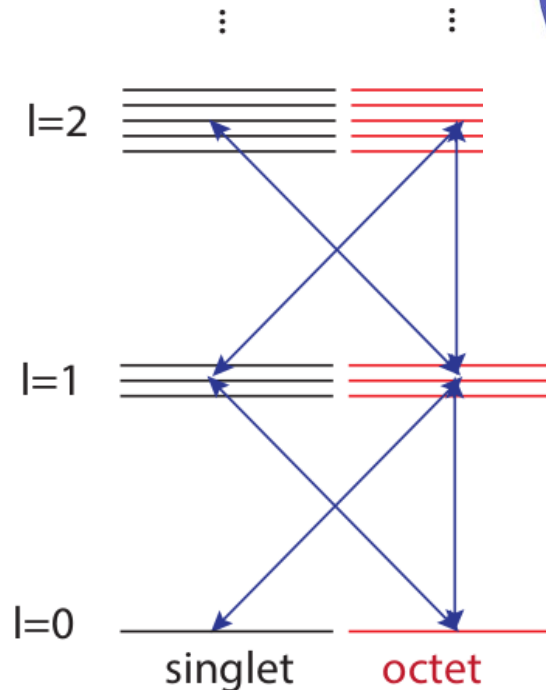
$$\xrightarrow[1/r \gg T \sim m_D \gg E]{\rho_S(t) = \text{Tr}_E(\rho_{\text{tot}}(t))} \frac{d\rho(t)}{dt} = -i[H, \rho(t)] + \sum_{n=0}^1 \left(C_i^n \rho(t) C_i^{n\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \{ C_i^{n\dagger} C_i^n, \rho(t) \} \right)$$

[1] Brambilla et al (2022/23), [2205.10289](#), [2302.11826](#),
Strickland & Thapa (2023) [2305.17841](#), QTRAJ 1.0
(2021), [2107.06147](#)

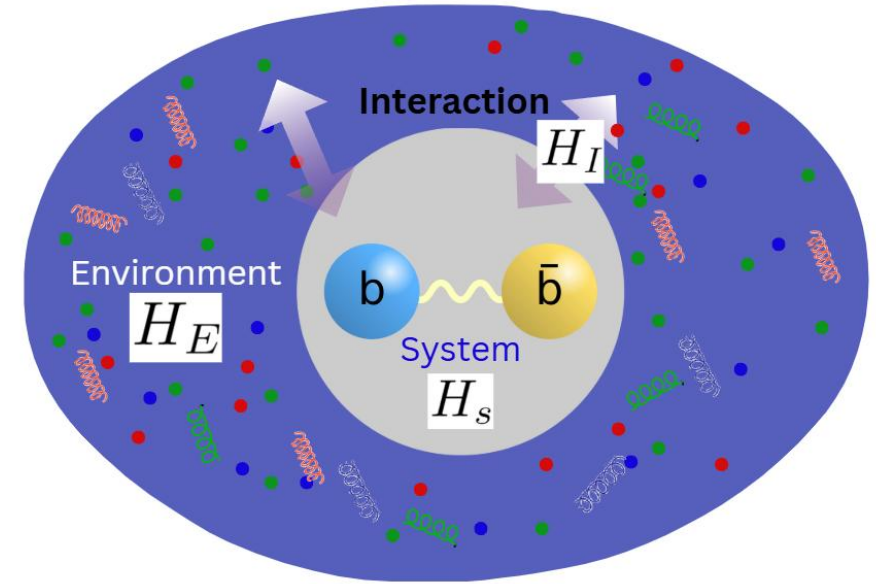
[2] G. Lindblad, Commun. Math. Phys. 119, 48 (1976);
V. Gorini, A. Kossakowski, and E.C. Sudarshan, J. Math.
Phys. 17, 821 (1976)

Jump/Collapse Operators:

→ Effect of the medium causing transition between
singlet & octet states



Bottomonia as an Open Quantum System



Six collapse operators:

1. singlet → octet
2. octet → singlet
3. octet → octet

KSU-Munich Input Parameters: Transport Coefficients of Bottomonia

The imaginary part of the potential responsible for the decay of the Υ states in the medium (*dynamical screening from QGP medium*), and depend on the transport coefficients, kappa (κ) and gamma (γ).

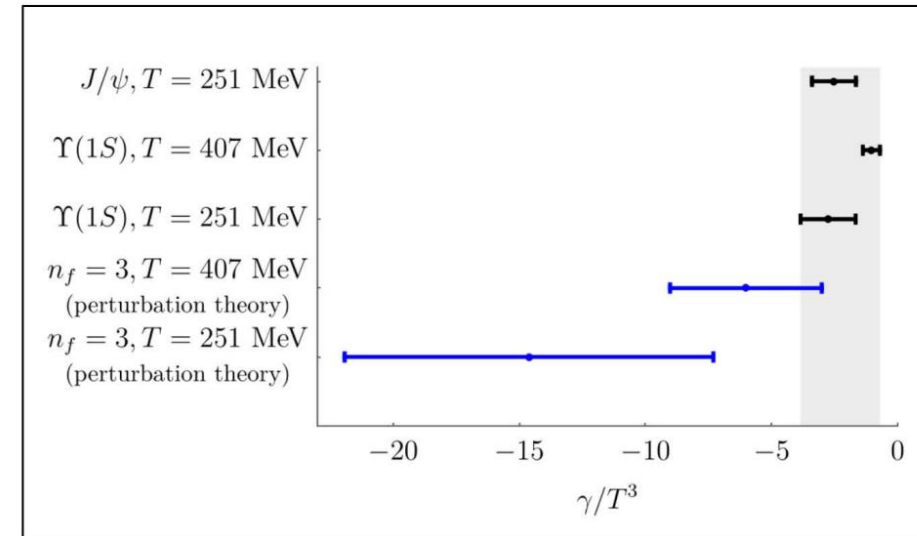
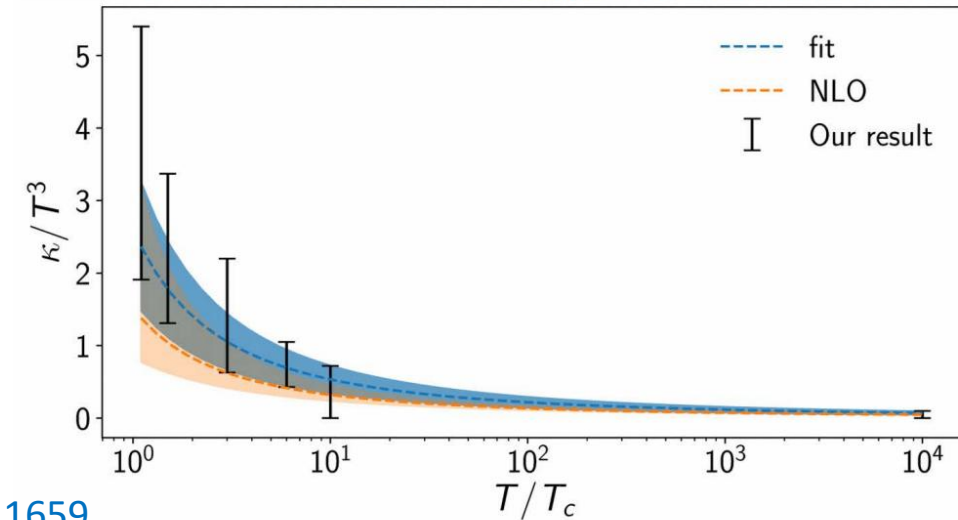
$$H = \begin{pmatrix} h_s + \text{Im}(\Sigma_s) & 0 \\ 0 & h_o + \text{Im}(\Sigma_o) \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \kappa &= \frac{g^2}{18} \int_0^\infty dt \left\langle \left\{ \tilde{E}^{a,i}(t, \mathbf{0}), \tilde{E}^{a,i}(0, \mathbf{0}) \right\} \right\rangle, \\ \gamma &= -i \frac{g^2}{18} \int_0^\infty dt \left\langle \left[\tilde{E}^{a,i}(t, \mathbf{0}), \tilde{E}^{a,i}(0, \mathbf{0}) \right] \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

Larsen, Meinel, Mukherjee, Petreczky (2019) [1908.08437](#)

Bala, Kaczmarek, Larsen, Mukherjee, Parkar, Petreczky, Rothkopf, Weber (2022) [2110.11659](#)

- The effect of the QGP medium in the quarkonia states ($\Upsilon(nS)$) are encoded in the heavy quark transport coefficients) [**constrained by the Lattice QCD calculations**]
- $\kappa(T)$: heavy quark momentum **diffusion coefficient** responsible for the large thermal width in the QGP medium, extracted from NLO fits to recent lattice measurements, {5,6,7} for pA at LHC energies
- $\gamma(T)$: dispersive, responsible for the thermal mass shift (= 0 for Υ states), less constrained
- **Additional input** \rightarrow **QGP Temperature from aHydro**

N. Brambilla, V. Leino, P. Petreczky, and A. Vairo, 2007.10078



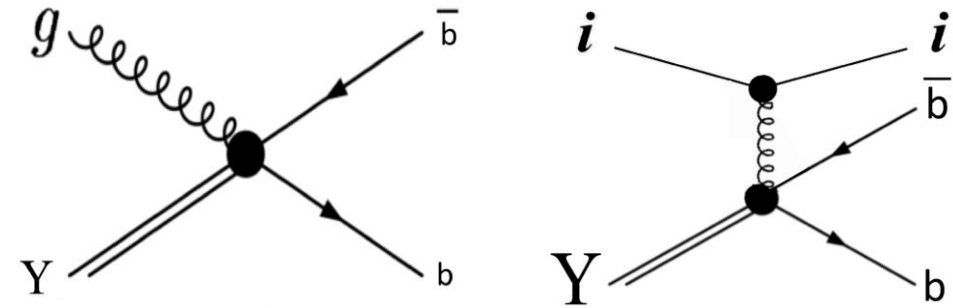
N. Brambilla, M. A. Escobedo, A. Vairo and P. Vander Griend, 1903.08063.

HNM EFFECT: TAMU (semi-classical transport model)

Kinetic Rate Equation, describes the evolution of number of quarkonia states in the QGP in terms of loss and gain terms:

$$\frac{dN_{\Upsilon}(\tau)}{d\tau} = -\Gamma_{\Upsilon}(T(\tau))[N_{\Upsilon}(\tau) - N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{eq}}(\tau)]$$

Equilibrium Limit: depends on $b\bar{b}$ cross section and the thermal environment ($N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{eq}}(\tau) = V_{FB}(\tau)\gamma_b^2(\tau)n_{\Upsilon}(m_{\Upsilon};\tau)$)



Reaction Rate: medium effect on bound Y states
(cause decay of bound states into unbound $b\bar{b}$ pairs)

Primordial Suppression:

$$\frac{dN_{\Upsilon}^{\text{prim}}(\tau)}{d\tau} = -\Gamma_{\Upsilon}(T(\tau))N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{prim}}(\tau)$$

Primordially produced Y states that **survive** the QGP fireball expansion:

$$N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{prim}}(\tau_f) = N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{prim}}(\tau_{\text{init}})e^{-\int_{\tau_{\text{init}}}^{\tau_f} \Gamma_{\Upsilon}(T(\tau'))d\tau'}$$

Regeneration:

Rapp, Zhao, Emerick (2012) [1111.6537](#), Du, He (2017/18), [1706.08670](#), [1808.10014](#)
Rapp, Wu (2024) [2404.09881](#)

$$\frac{dN_{\Upsilon}^{\text{reg}}(\tau)}{d\tau} = -\Gamma_{\Upsilon}(T(\tau))[N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{reg}}(\tau) - N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{eq}}(\tau)]$$

Solution of this equation gives the number of regenerated Y states:

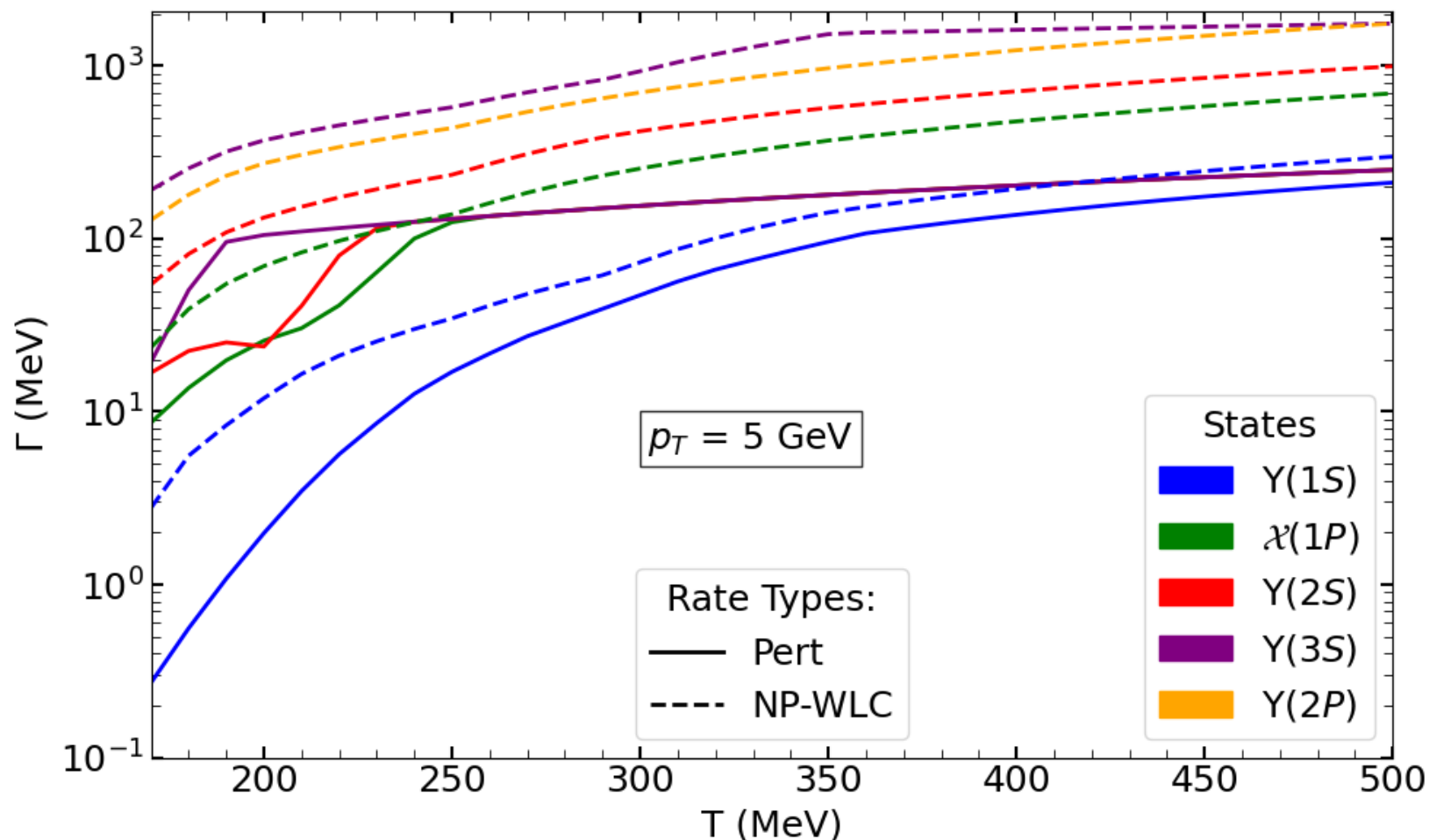
$$N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{reg}}(\tau) = \int_{\tau_{\text{diss}}}^{\tau} \Gamma_{\Upsilon}(T(\tau'))N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{eq}}(\tau')e^{-\int_{\tau'}^{\tau} \Gamma_{\Upsilon}(\tau'')d\tau''} d\tau'$$

Reaction Rates of Bottomonia in TAMU Approach

➤ Calculated in **two different scenarios**, both evaluated within the thermodynamic T-matrix approach by TAMU,

TAMU-P: treats only 1S, 2S, 1P, 3S states separately, 2P & 3S states have same rates (Reik, Rapp (2010), [1005.0769](#))

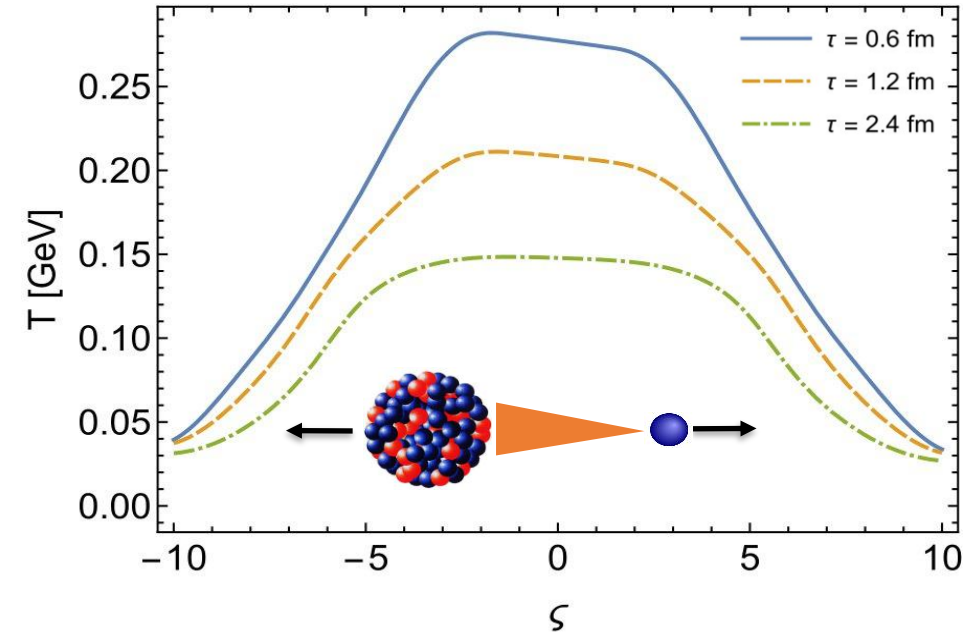
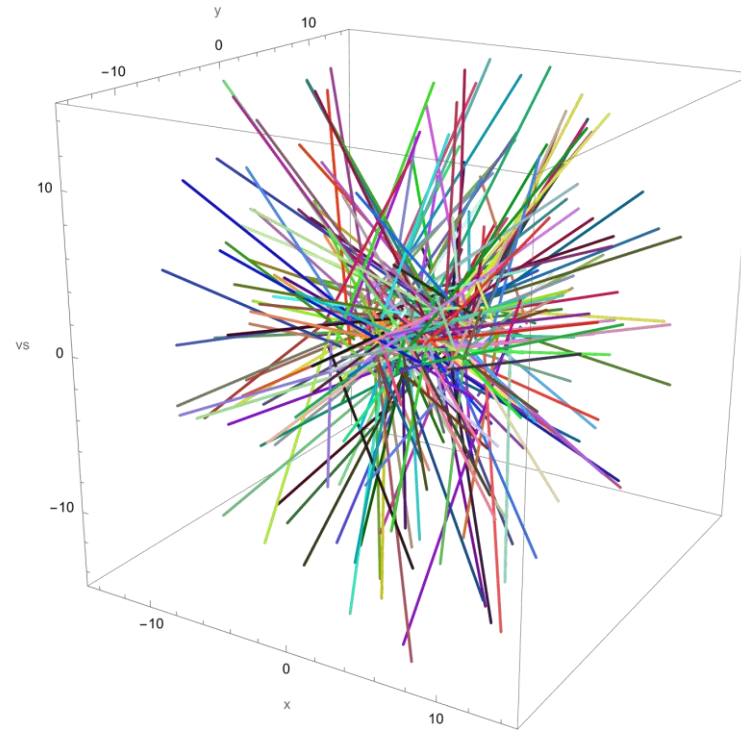
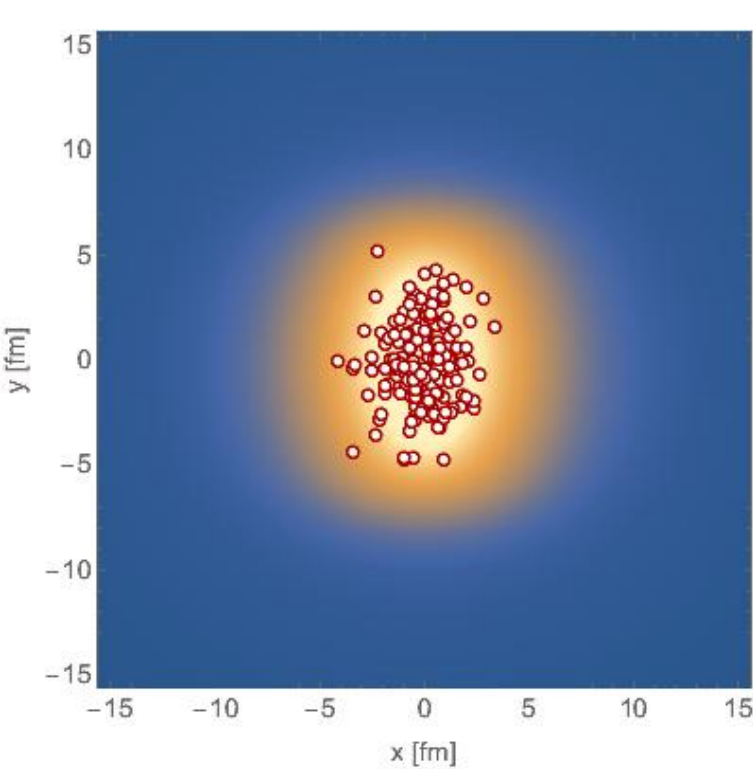
TAMU-NP: treats all bottomonium states (1S, 2S, 1P, 3S, 2P, ...)
Z Tang, B Wu, A Hanlon, S Mukherjee, P Petreczky, R Rapp (2025), [2502.09044](#)



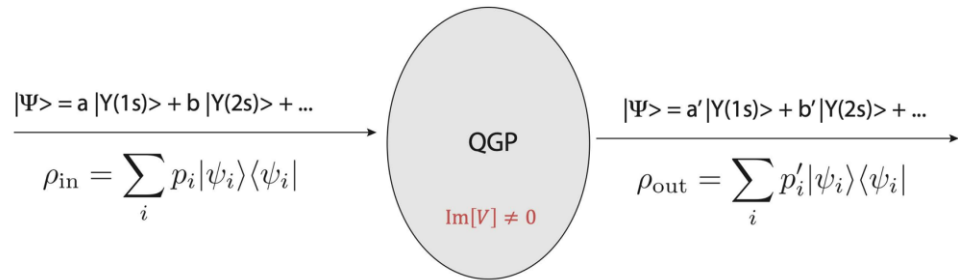
QGP Background Evolution: (3+1)D aHydro

- Background Temperature evolution of QGP provided by anisotropic hydrodynamics.
- Quasiparticle anisotropic hydrodynamics (aHydroQP): good description of identified hadron spectra.

Alqahtani, Nopoush, Strickland (2015), [1509.02913](#), (2017), [1712.03282](#)

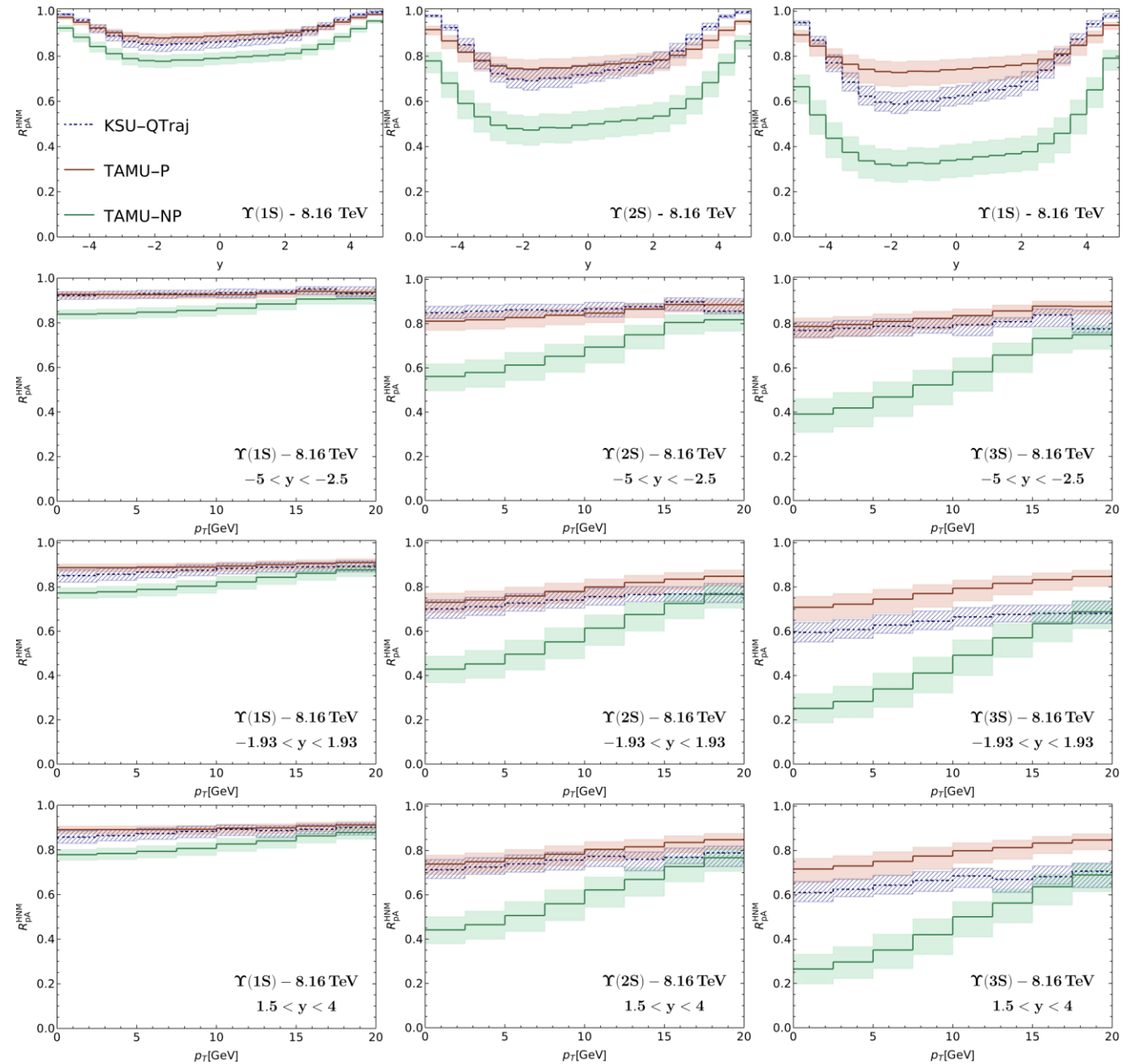
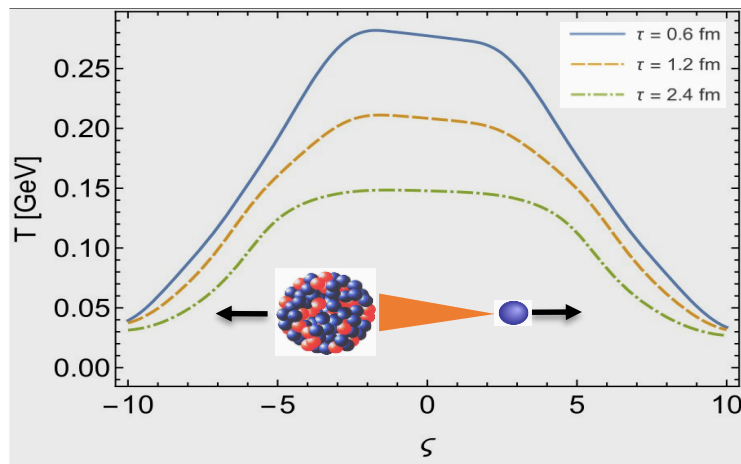


Υ Suppression due to HNM EFFECTs at 8.16 TeV p+Pb



Survival probability

$$SP(n, l) = \frac{|\langle n, l | \psi(t_f) \rangle|^2}{|\langle n, l | \psi(t_0) \rangle|^2}$$



Combining All Effects

The total suppression of the Bottomonia states coming from different contributions (CNM and HNM),

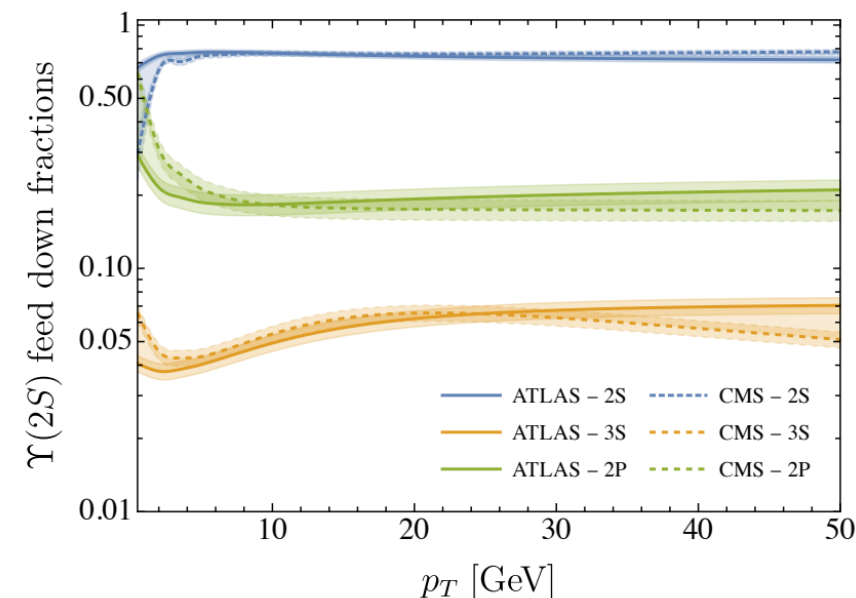
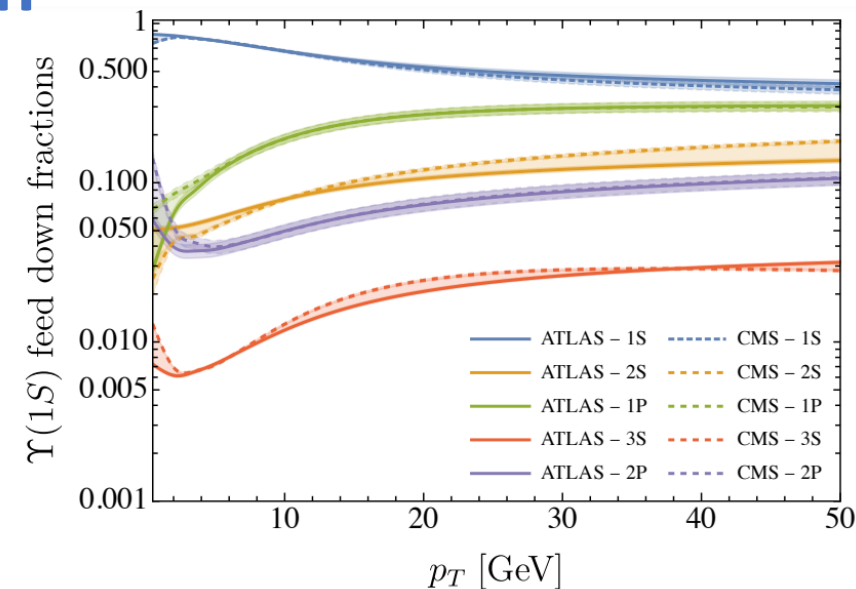
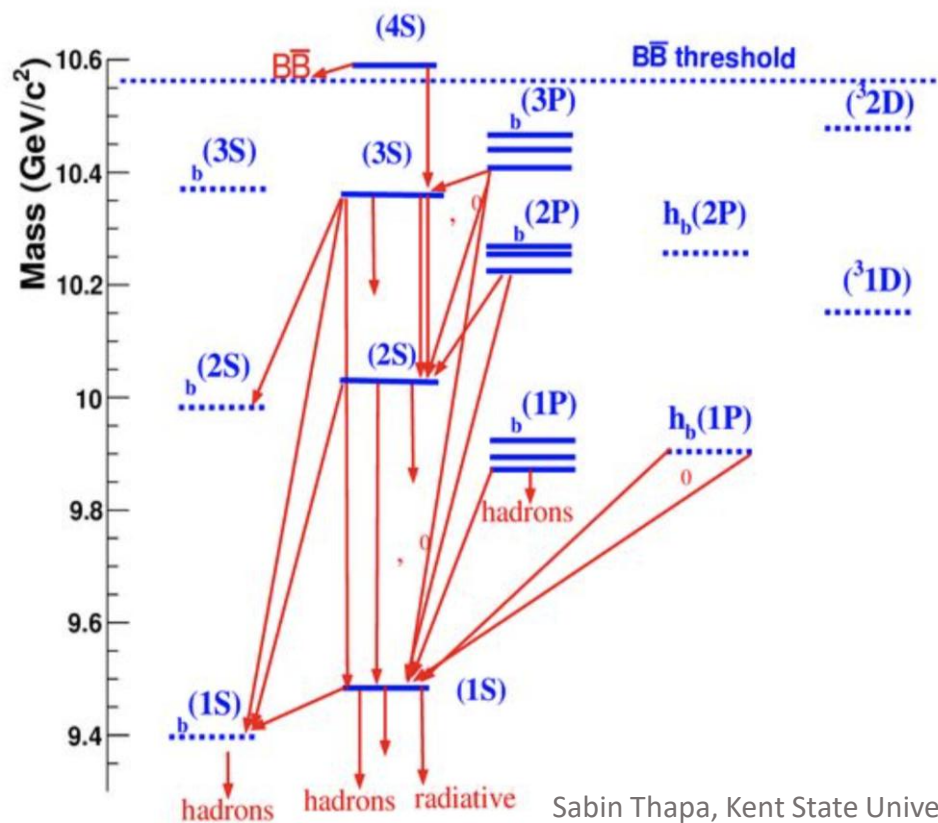
$$R_{pA}^{\Upsilon} = R_{pA}^{\text{CNM}} \times R_{pA}^{\text{HNM}},$$

$$R_{pA}^{\text{CNM}} = R_{pA}^{\text{nPDF}} \times R_{pA}^{\text{eloss,broad}},$$

Feed-down Contribution

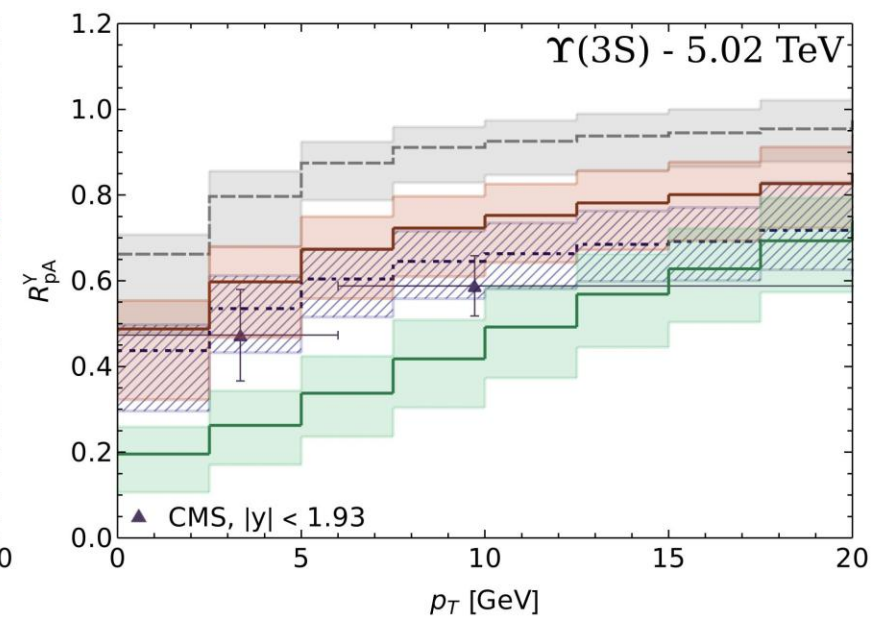
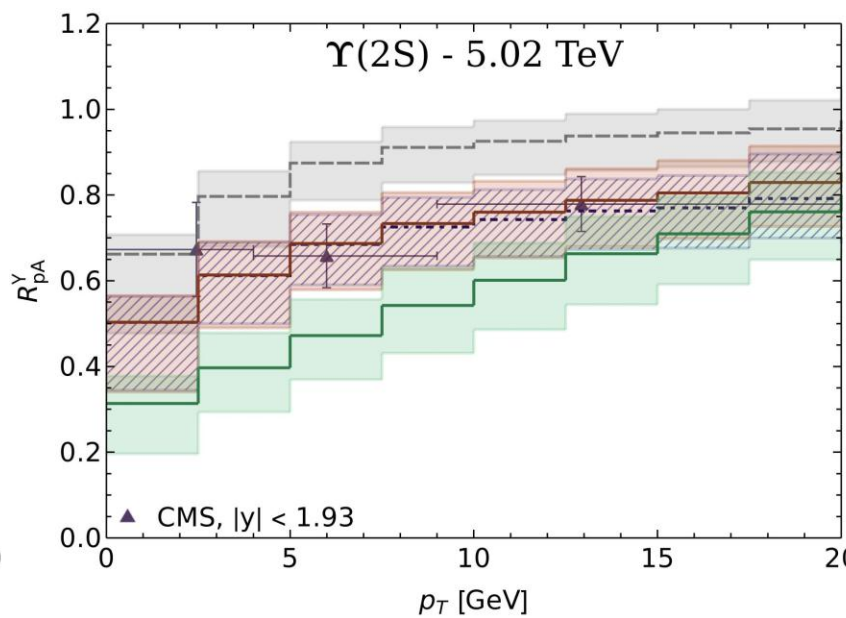
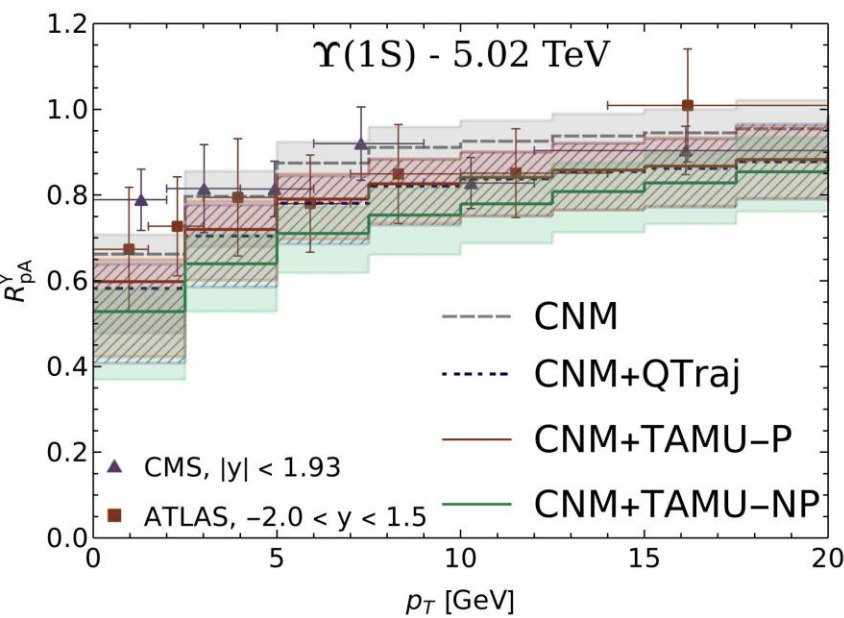
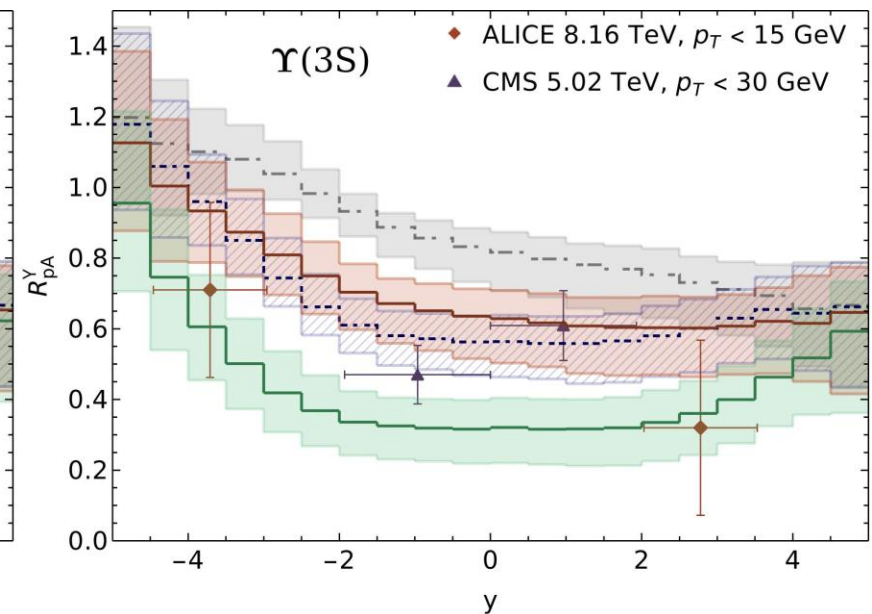
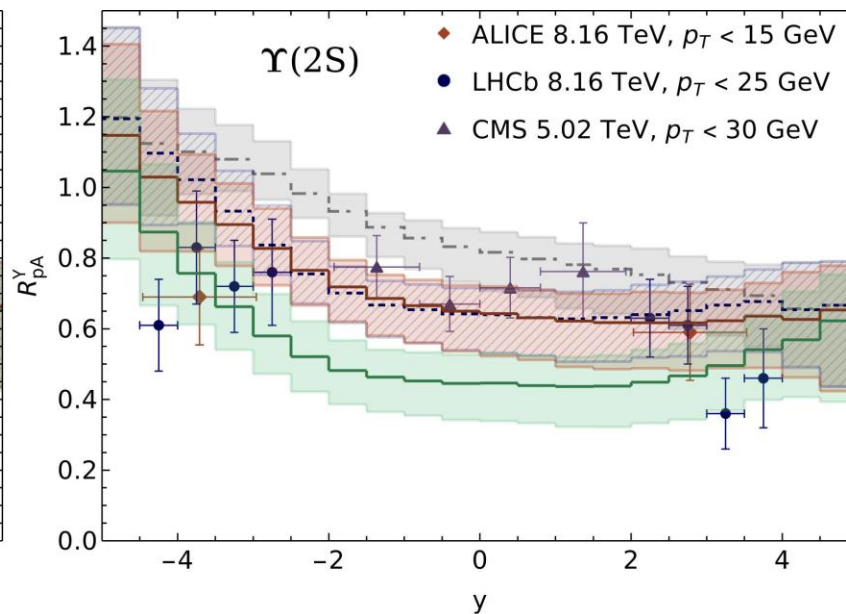
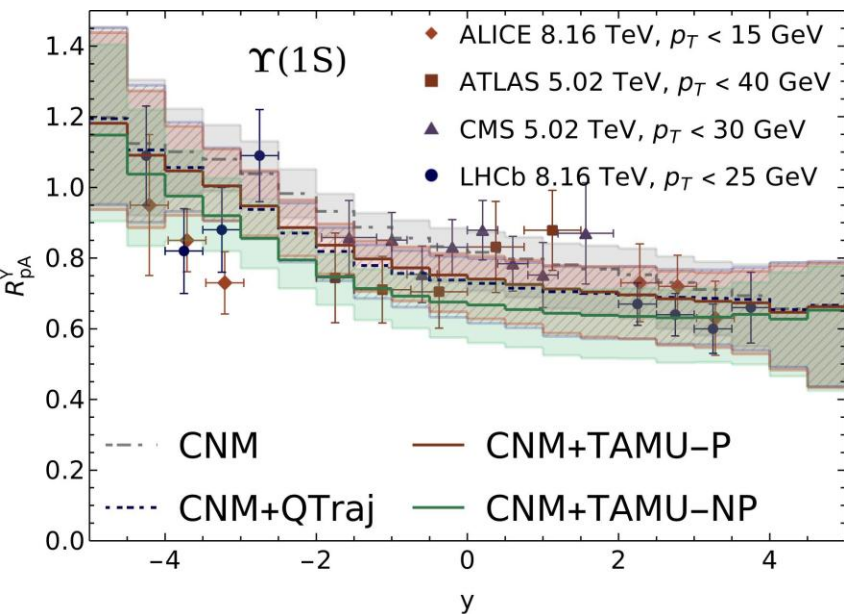
- Approx. 75% of $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ yield from **direct production**, but important feed-down contributions from the 1P and 2P states
- All known excited state feed-down channels included as,

$$R_{pA}^i(p_T, y, \phi) = \frac{(F \cdot R_{pA}^\Upsilon(p_T, y, \phi) \cdot \vec{\sigma}_{\text{direct}})^i}{\vec{\sigma}_{\text{exp}}^i}$$

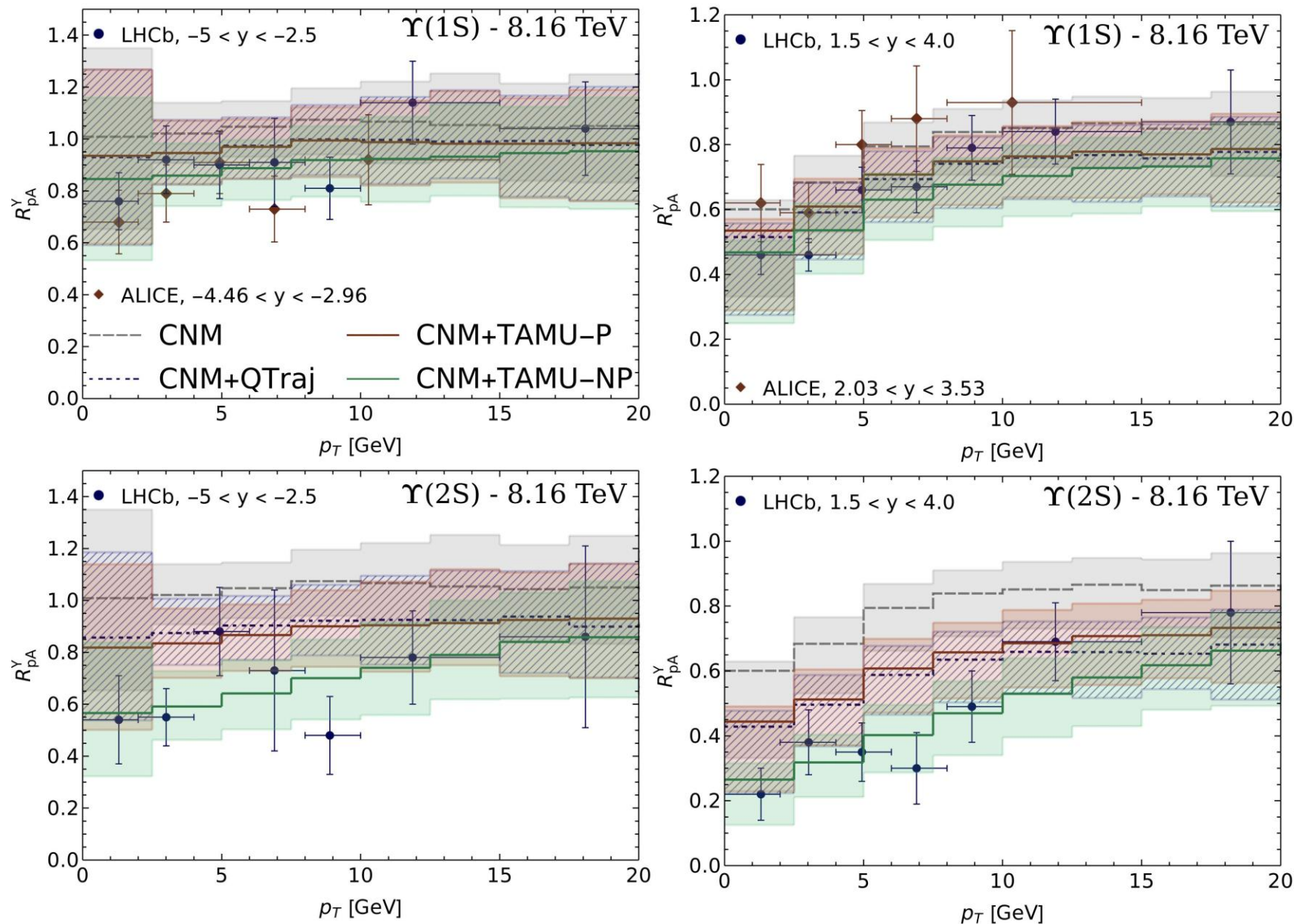


Boyd, Thapa, and Strickland (2023), [2307.03841](#)

RESULTS: R_{pA}^Y vs y (top row), vs p_T (bottom row, 5.02 TeV p+Pb, Midrapidity)



RESULTS: R_{pA} vs p_T (8.16 TeV p+Pb, Forward & Backward Rapidity)



CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK

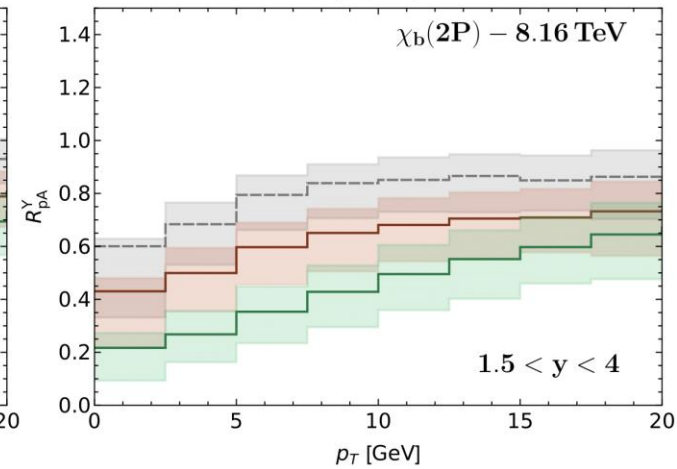
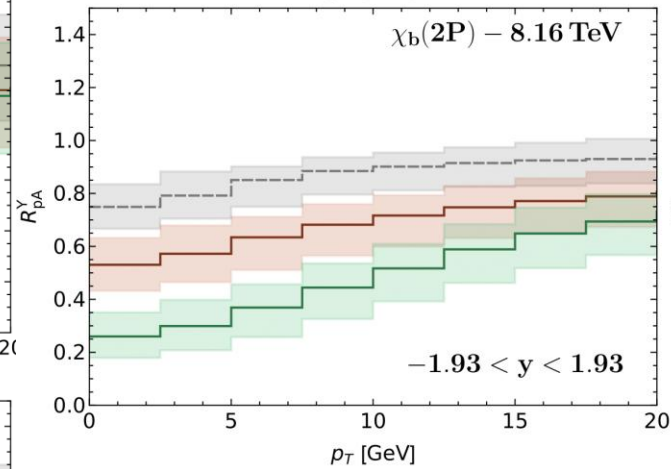
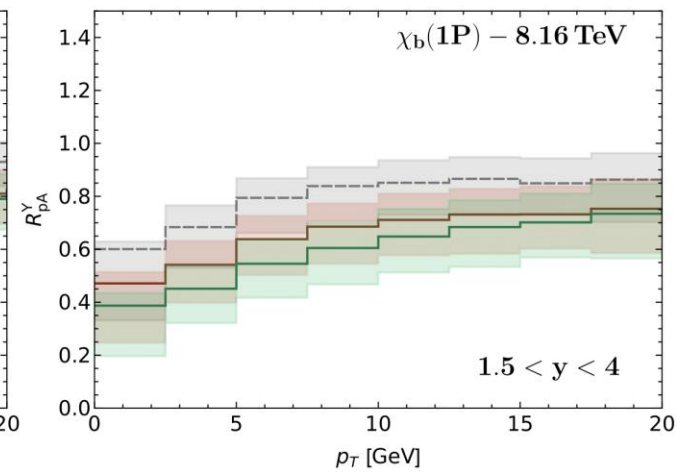
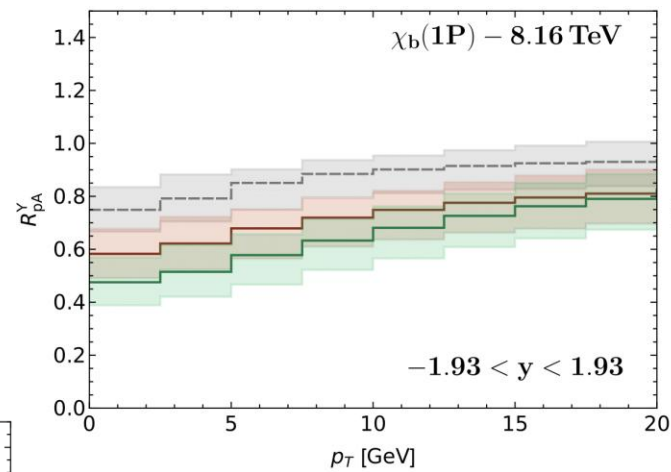
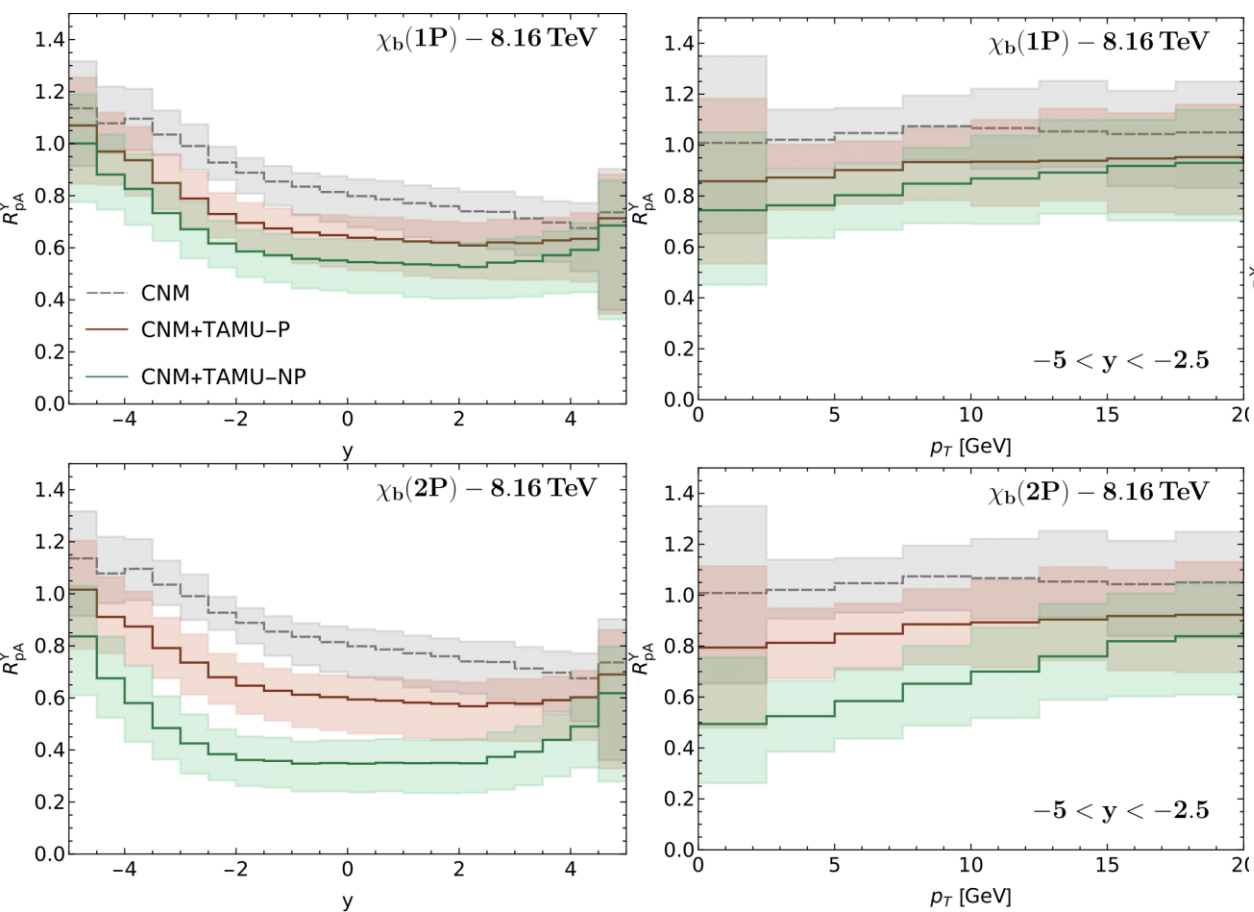
- ▣ Including all the effects (CNM and HNM effects) provides reasonable description of available data given current experimental and theoretical uncertainties.
- ▣ For $\Upsilon(1S)$, final state interactions with QGP gives a small correction to the CNM effects (nPDF, Coherent Energy Loss, and Transverse Momentum Broadening).
- ▣ But for the $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ states, including QGP-induced suppression together with the CNM effects is essential to explain the experimental data.
- ▣ Provides further evidence for the production of a hot, but short-lived QGP in the p-Pb collisions.
- ▣ Examined the reaction rates from TAMU in small collision systems, consistent predictions from both KSU-Munich & TAMU approaches.
- ▣ Next, study charmonia suppression and regeneration in p+Pb and d+Au collisions. Systematic understanding of pA collision helps to understand AA collisions.
- ▣ In AA collisions QGP-induced suppression is the dominant effect, but CNM effects are needed for quantitative understanding.

Thank you!

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Backup slides

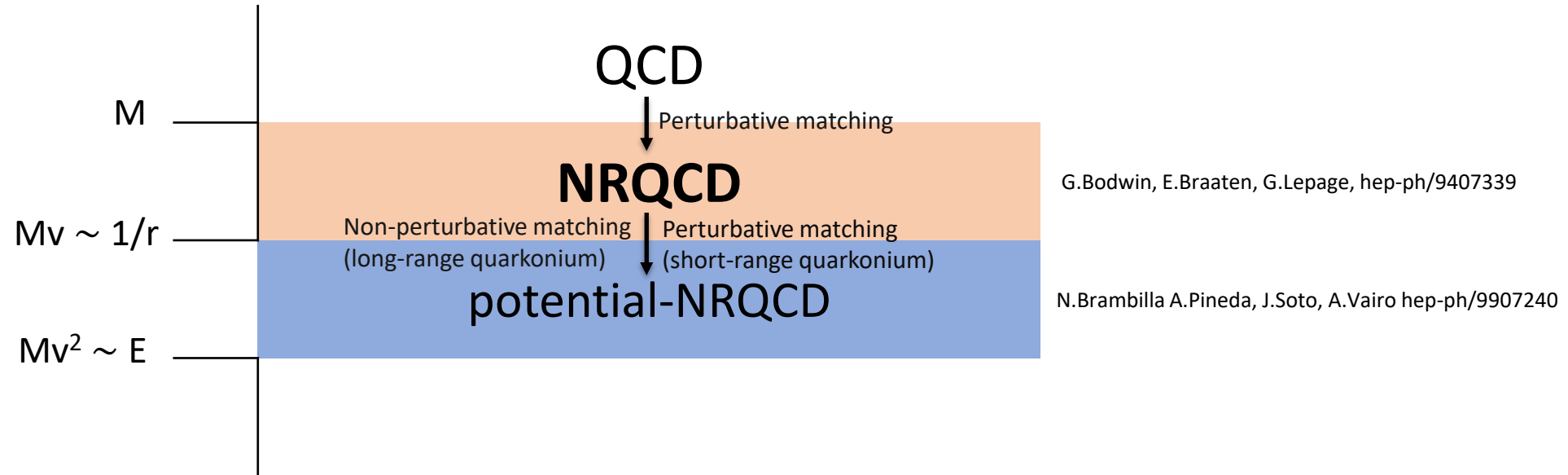
PREDICTIONS FOR $\chi_b(nP)$



Bottomonia: pNRQCD

Separation of Scales

Separation of scales in vacuum: $M \gg Mv \gg Mv^2$



Inside QGP: thermal scales: T

Case 1: $MV \gg T$ Quantum Optical Limit ($\tau_R \gg \tau_E$ & $\tau_R \gg \tau_S$)

Case 2: $T \gg Mv^2$ Quantum Brownian Motion ($\tau_R \gg \tau_E$ & $\tau_S \gg \tau_E$)

Markovian Process
(During system relaxation,
environment correlation has lost)

Medium relaxation time / Environment correlation time: $\tau_E \sim 1/T$

Intrinsic Time Scale of System: $\tau_S \sim 1/(Mv^2) \sim 1/(w_i - w_j)$

System relaxation time: $\tau_R \sim 1/\text{self-energy} [\langle p(t) \rangle \sim e^{-t/\tau_{rel}}]$

System = Quarkonium (Bottomonium)

KSU-Munich Approach: OQS + pNRQCD

- Reduced density matrix of the bottomonium (system) evolves by Lindblad equation
- DoF: singlet and octet states
- System density matrix & Hamiltonian decomposed into singlet & octet

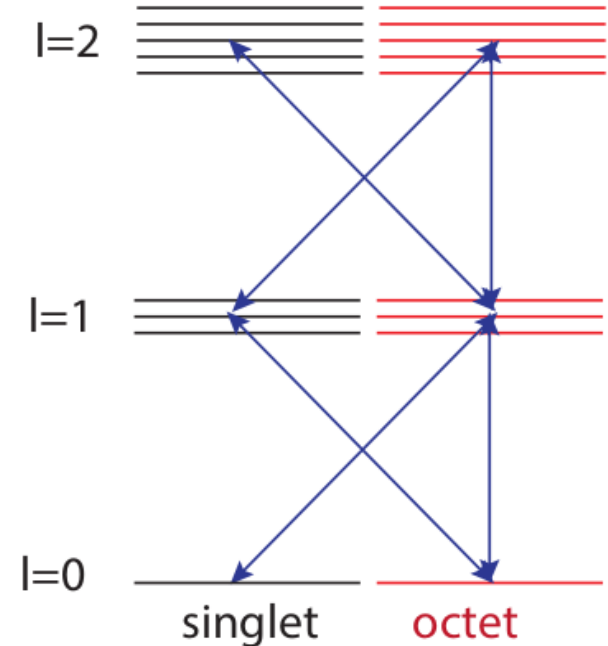
$$\frac{d\rho(t)}{dt} = -i [H, \rho(t)] + \sum_{n=0}^1 \left(C_i^n \rho(t) C_i^{n\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ C_i^{n\dagger} C_i^n, \rho(t) \right\} \right)$$

The imaginary part of the potential causing the decay of the Υ states in the medium (*dynamical screening from QGP medium*), and depend on the transport coefficients, kappa and gamma.

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} h_s + \text{Im}(\Sigma_s) & 0 \\ 0 & h_o + \text{Im}(\Sigma_o) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im}(\Sigma_s) &= \frac{r^2}{2} \gamma + \frac{\kappa}{4MT} \{r_i, p_i\}, \\ \text{Im}(\Sigma_o) &= \frac{N_c^2 - 2}{2(N_c^2 - 1)} \left(\frac{r^2}{2} \gamma + \frac{\kappa}{4MT} \{r_i, p_i\} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\rho(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_s(t) & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_o(t) \end{pmatrix}$$



$$V_s = -C_F \alpha_s / r \quad V_o = C_F \alpha_s / 8r$$

QTRAJ-NLO [2205.10289](#), QTRAJ 1.0 [2107.06147](#)

Jump/Collapse Operators:

$$C_i^0 = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{N_c^2 - 1}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \left(r_i + \frac{ip_i}{2MT} + \frac{\Delta V_{os}}{4T} r_i \right) + \sqrt{\kappa} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \left(r_i + \frac{ip_i}{2MT} + \frac{\Delta V_{so}}{4T} r_i \right),$$

$$C_i^1 = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa(N_c^2 - 4)}{2(N_c^2 - 1)}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left(r_i + \frac{ip_i}{2MT} \right),$$

KSU-Munich Numerical Solution: Quantum Trajectories (QTraj)

Partial and Total decay widths:

Reorganize Lindblad equation by defining

$$\Gamma_n = C_n^\dagger C_n \quad \Gamma = \sum_n \Gamma_n$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H - \frac{i}{2}\Gamma$$

$$\frac{d\rho(t)}{dt} = -iH_{\text{eff}}\rho(t) + i\rho(t)H_{\text{eff}}^\dagger + \sum_n C_i^n \rho(t) C_i^{n\dagger}$$

Non-unitary “no jump” evolution

Can treat this “quantum jump” term stochastically

- Can be reduced to the solution of a large set of “**quantum trajectories**” in which we solve a 1D Schrödinger equation with a non-Hermitian Hamiltonian H_{eff} , subject to stochastic quantum jumps.
- **Jump Operators (also called Collapse/Lindblad operators)** encode transitions between different color/angular momentum states (obeying selection rules)
- The evolution with the non-Hermitian H_{eff} preserves the color and angular momentum state of the system (but not norm).
- For **each physical trajectory** (path through the QGP), we average over a large set of independent quantum trajectories
- **Embarrassingly Parallel**

- Sampled 3D trajectories for bottomonium states → **Monte Carlo (MC) Sampling**
- **Initial transverse positions** for the bottomonium production in p-Pb sampled using MC using binary collision overlap profile of proton and Pb nucleus.
- **Initial transverse momentum and momentum rapidities** → MC sampled using distribution function (used in pp-parametrization).
- Temperature evolution → 3+1D aHydroQP
- Quantum Dynamics of each sampled physical trajectories → **Using NLO Qtraj** → Solve the real-time 3D Schrödinger equation with a complex potential and stochastically sampled jumps → Lindblad equation\
- Then find the survival probability of S- and P-wave states

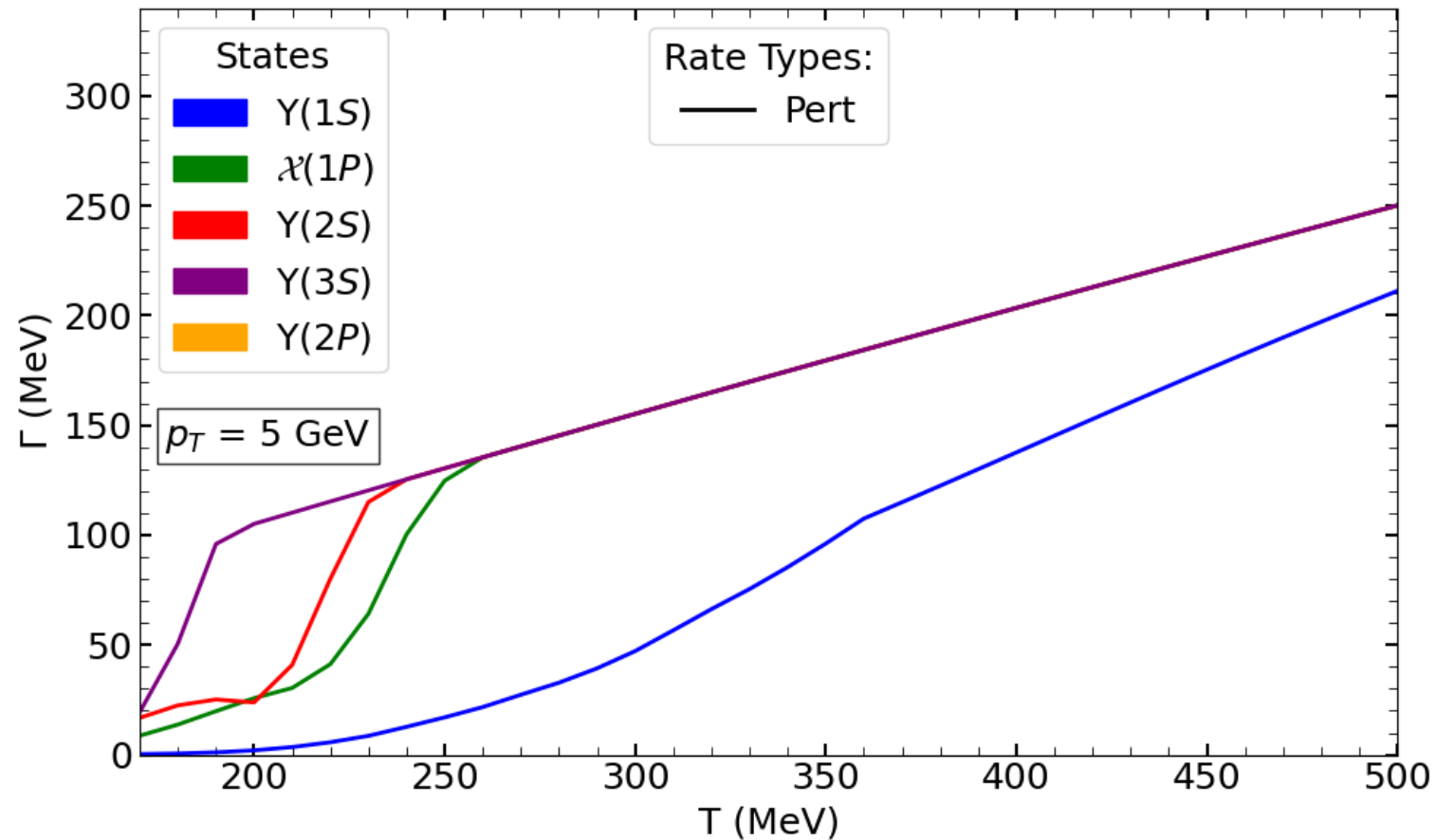
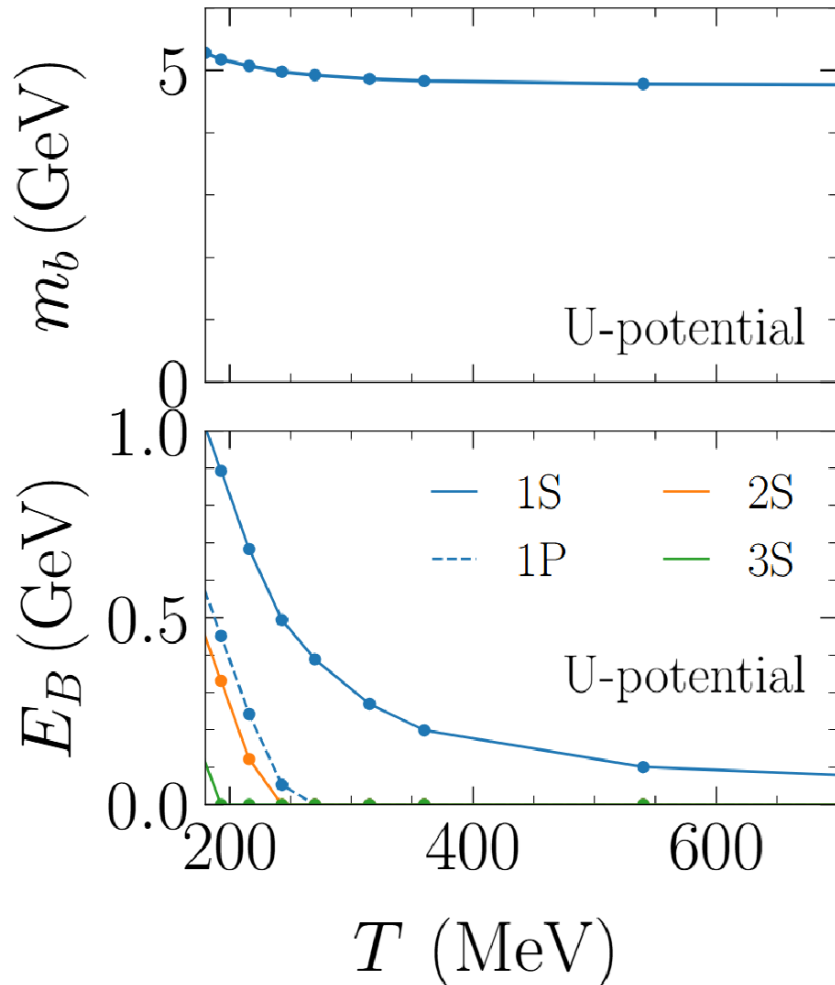
- $L = 40 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$
- Points: 2048
- Physical Trajectories: 160,000
- 20 Quantum Trajectories, Per physical Trajectory

Survival probability

$$SP(n, l) = \frac{|\langle n, l | \psi(t_f) \rangle|^2}{|\langle n, l | \psi(t_0) \rangle|^2}$$

TAMU Approach (Perturbative Rates, TAMU-P Case)

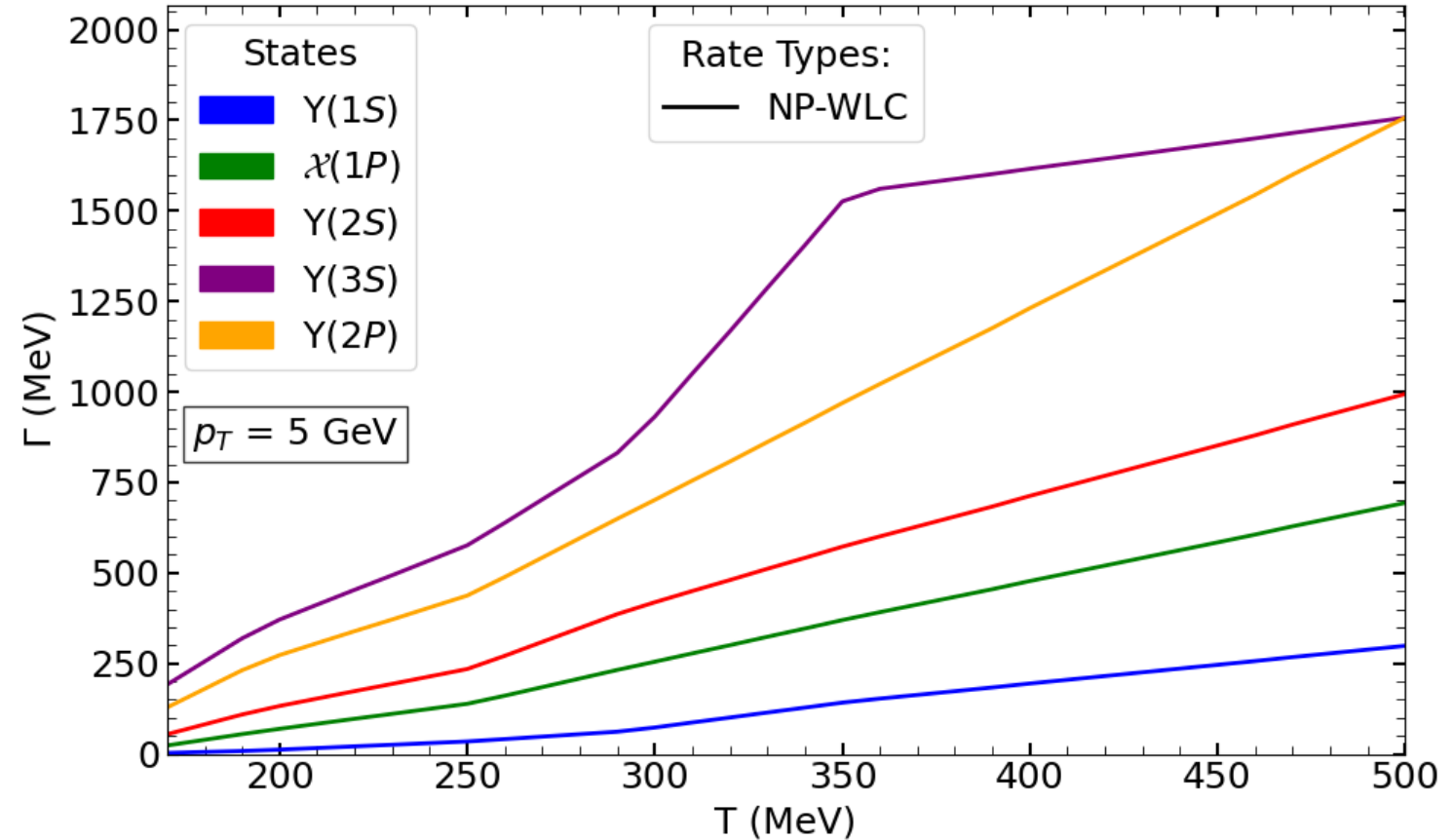
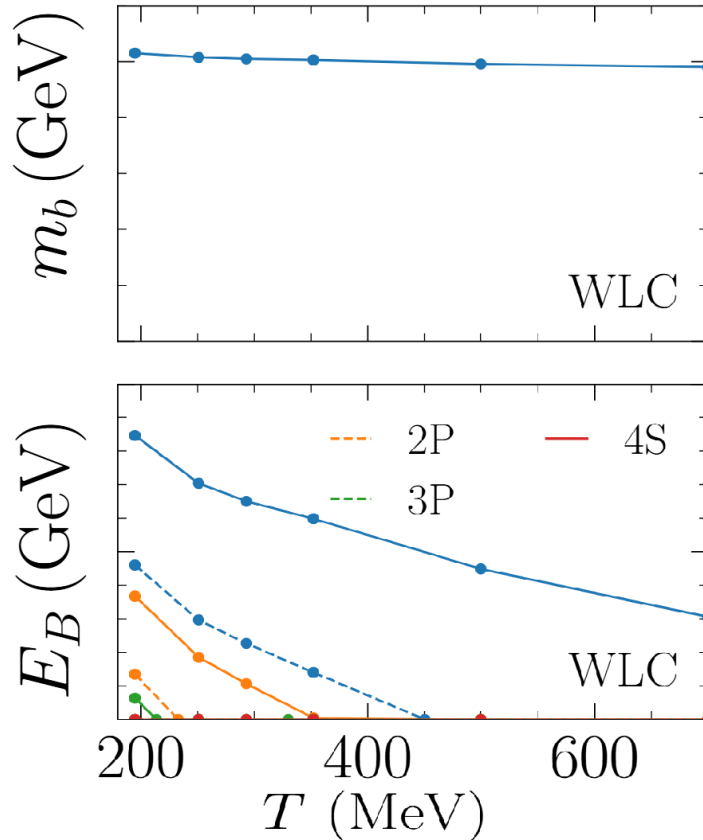
- Uses finite-temperature internal-energy (U) potential from IQCD constraints
- Quasi-free approximation with perturbative coupling to QGP, includes inelastic scattering and gluon dissociation
- Predicts moderate in-medium, screening and dissociation rates, treats 1S, 1P, 2S and 3S states only (rates for 2P = 3S)



X. Du, M. He, R. Rapp (2017), [1706.08670](#), F. Riek & R. Rapp (2018), [1005.0769](#)

TAMU Approach (Non-Perturbative Rates, TAMU-NP Case)

- Recent approach using in-medium potential constrained by nonperturbative Wilson line correlators (WLC)
- Weakly screened potential \rightarrow substantial bottomonium binding in QGP
- Dissociation rates from T-matrix poles in the complex energy plane
- Predicts high in-medium dissociation rates
- Treats multiple states: 1S, 2S, 1P, 3S, 2P, ...

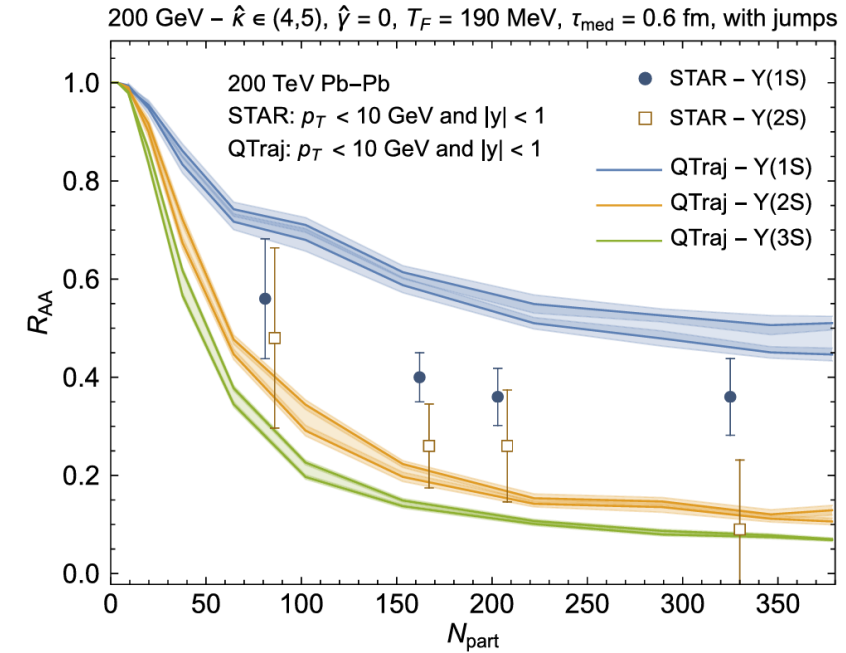
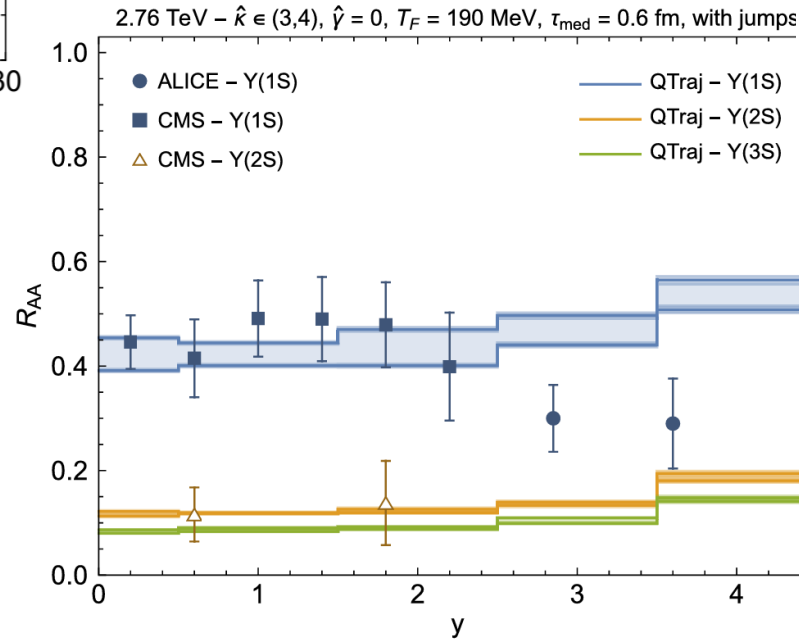
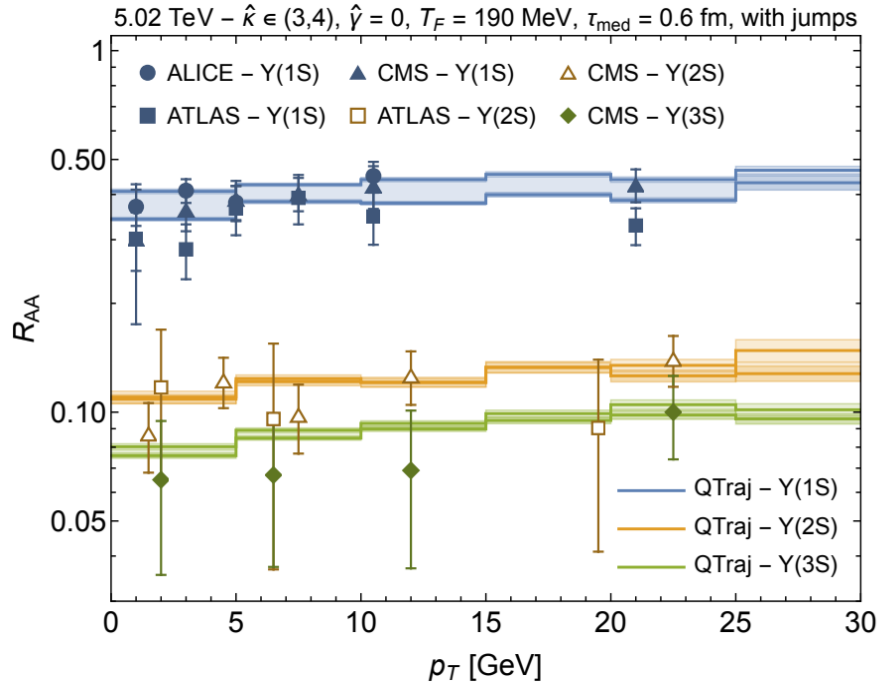


Z Tang, R Rapp (2023), [2304.02060](#)

Z Tang, B Wu, A Hanlon, S Mukherjee, P Petreczky, R Rapp (2025), [2502.09044](#)

Future: AA Collision

In AA collision at RHIC & LHC, the forward and backward rapidities, some additional effects needed!



M. Strickland & S. Thapa (2023) 2305.17841