



# 26th International Symposium on Spin Physics

A Century of Spin

## Color-field induced spin transport in high-energy nuclear collisions

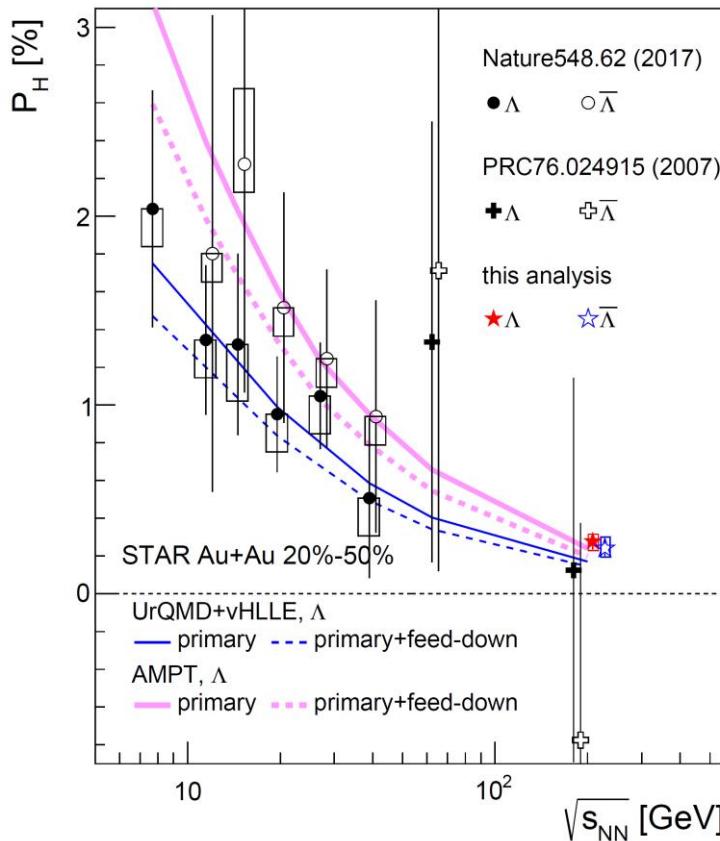


Di-Lun Yang  
Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica

(The 26th international symposium on spin physics,  
Sep. 23, 2025)

# Global $\Lambda$ polarization in HIC

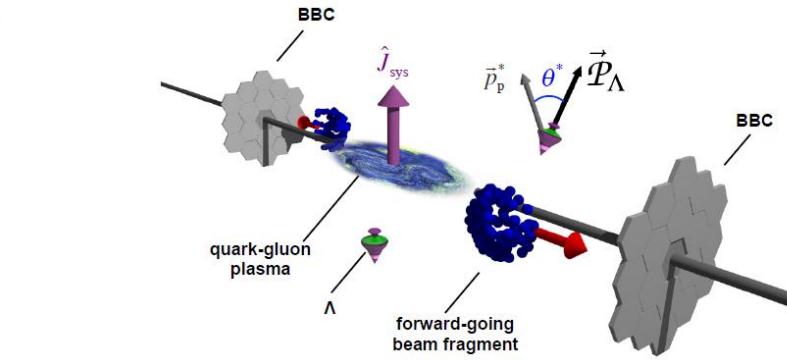
- The measurement of global polarization of  $\Lambda$  hyperons revealed the spin-orbit interaction & strong vorticity in heavy ion collisions. Z.-T. Liang & X.-N. Wang, PRL. 94, 102301 (2005)  
(relativistic Barnett effect)
- ❖ Self-analyzing via the weak decay :  $\Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi^-$



L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR), Nature 548, 62 (2017)

F. Becattini et al., PRC 95, 054902 (2017)

$$P_{\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})} \approx \int_p \mathcal{P}^{-y}(p) \simeq \frac{\omega}{2T} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \times u| \sim 10^{22} s^{-1}$$



- ❖ Successfully described by the modified Cooper–Frye formula in **global equilibrium** :

F. Becattini, et al., Ann. Phys. 338, 32 (2013)  
R. Fang, et al., PRC 94, 024904 (2016)

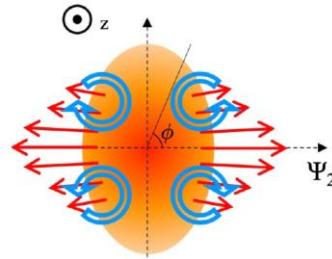
$$\mathcal{P}^\mu = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p f_p^{(0)} (1 - f_p^{(0)}) \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} q_\nu \omega_{\rho\sigma}}{8M_\Lambda \int d\Sigma \cdot p f_p^{(0)}},$$

$$\omega_{\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_\rho \left( \frac{u_\sigma}{T} \right) - \partial_\sigma \left( \frac{u_\rho}{T} \right) \right). \text{ thermal vorticity}$$

- ❖ Global pol. from (average) kinetic vorticity :

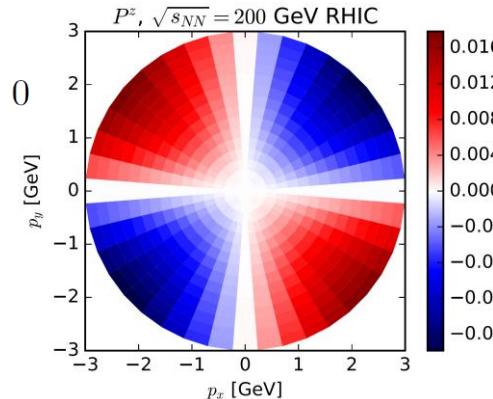
# Longitudinal (local) polarization

- Longitudinal polarization along the beam direction in HIC :

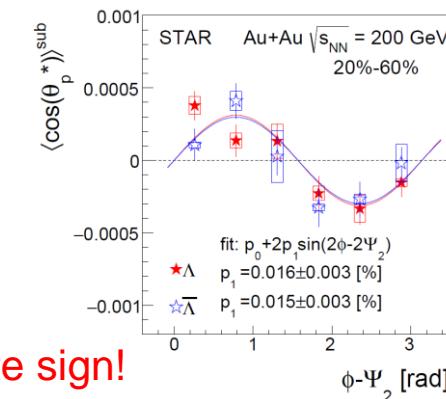


$$P_{2,z} = \langle P_z \sin 2(\phi - \Psi_2) \rangle \\ \approx \int_0^{2\pi} d(\phi - \Psi_2) \frac{P_z \sin 2(\phi - \Psi_2)}{2\pi}$$

F. Becattini, I. Karpenko, PRL 120, 012302 (2018)



J. Adam et al. (STAR), PRL 123, 132301 (2019)



V.S.

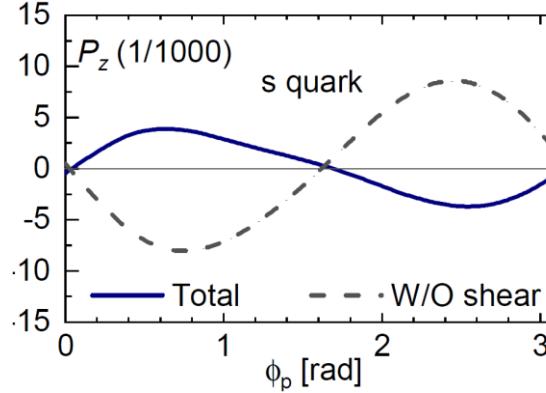
opposite sign!

$P_{2,z} > 0$

- Thermal-shear corrections :  $\mathcal{P}^\mu = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p f_p^{(0)} (1 - f_p^{(0)}) \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} q_\nu [\omega_{\rho\sigma} - u_\rho \pi_{\sigma\lambda} p^\lambda / (T p \cdot u)]}{8M_\Lambda \int d\Sigma \cdot p f_p^{(0)}}$

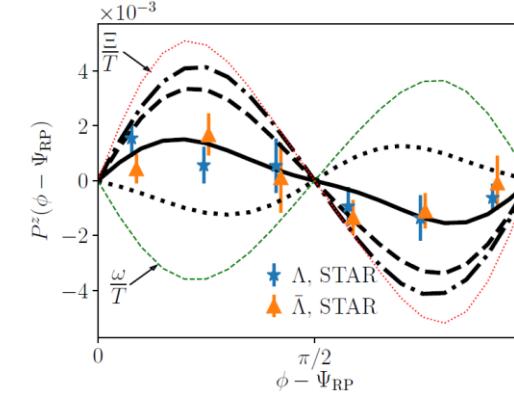
Y. Hidaka, S. Pu, DY, PRD 97, 016004 (2018)  
S. Liu, Y. Yin, JHEP 07, 188 (2021)  
F. Becattini, et al., PLB 820, 136519 (2021)

(local equilibrium)



strange-memory scenario :  
 $M_\Lambda \rightarrow m_s$

B. Fu et al., PRL 127, 142301 (2021)



isothermal approx. :  
no T gradient correction

F. Becattini et al., PRL 127, 272302 (2021)

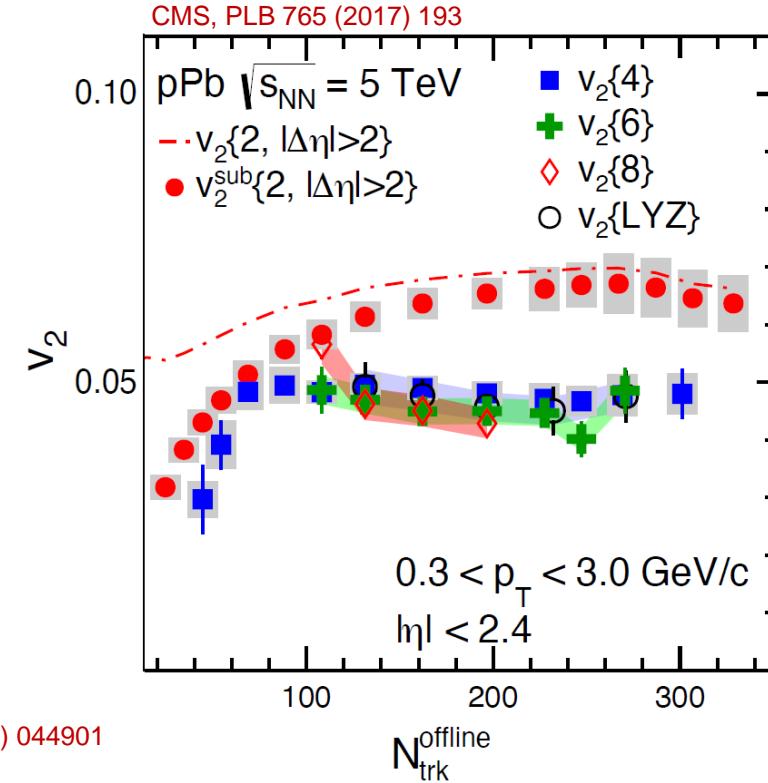
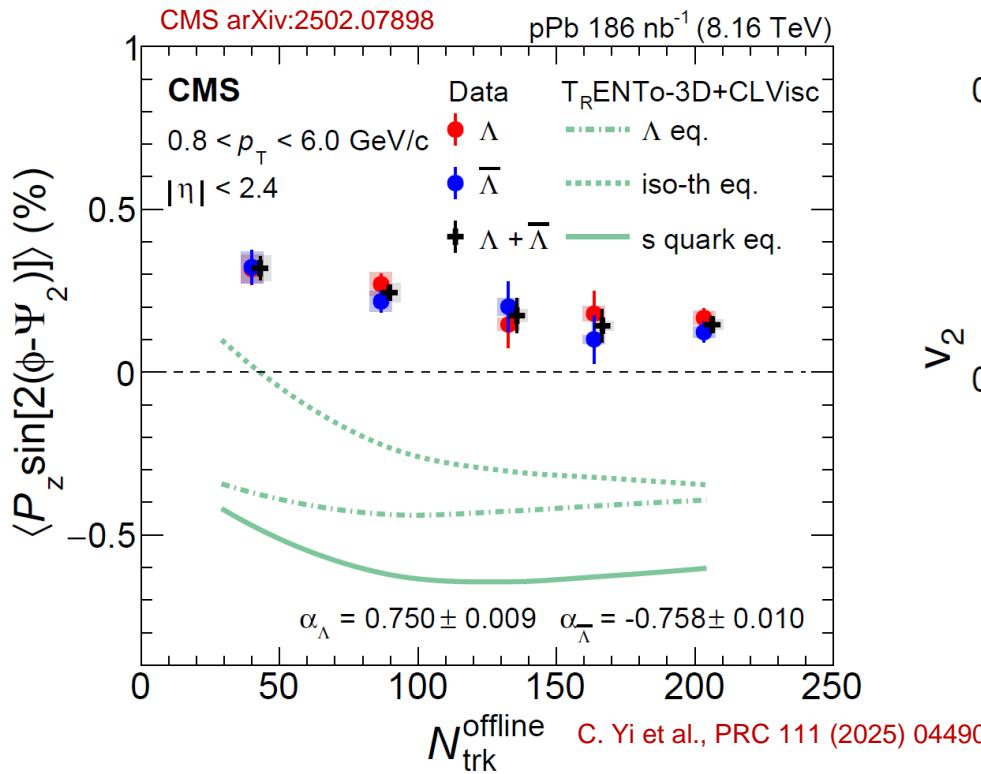
•  $T_{dec}=133$  MeV  
—  $T_{dec}=150$  MeV  
- -  $T_{dec}=165$  MeV  
- · -  $T_{dec}=173$  MeV

- The overall sign depends on adopted approximations.

see also C. Yi et al., PRC 104, 064901 (2021), W. Florkowski et al., PRC 105, 064901(2022)

# Small-collision systems

- Longitudinal polarization in high-multiplicity pA collisions :



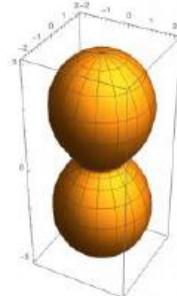
- Thermal vorticity + thermal shear as the “hydrodynamic” contributions fails to describe the measurements
- An opposite trend w.r.t the flow : initial-state or non-equilibrium effects?

# Spin alignment of vector mesons

- Angular dep. of the decay particle w.r.t the spin quantization axis :

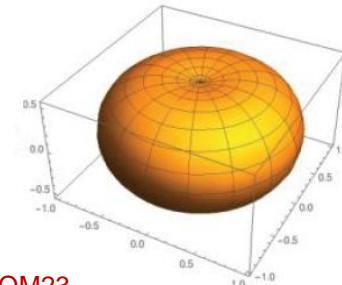
$$\frac{dN}{d \cos \theta^*} \propto [1 - \rho_{00} + \cos^2 \theta^* (3\rho_{00} - 1)]$$

$\rho_{00} > 1/3$  :



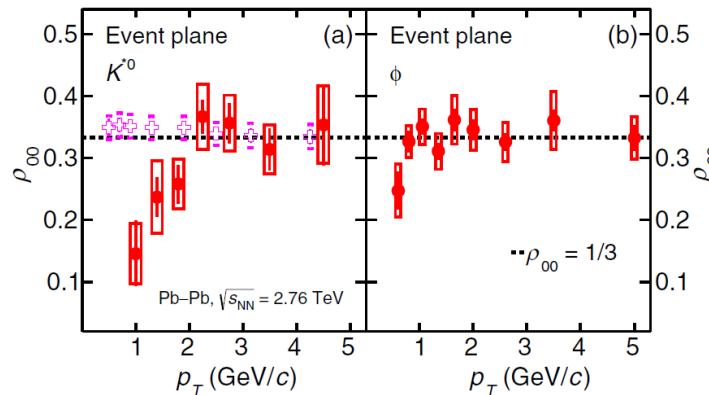
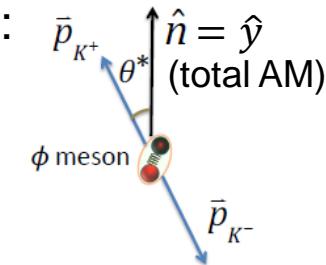
B. Xi, QM23

$\rho_{00} < 1/3$  :

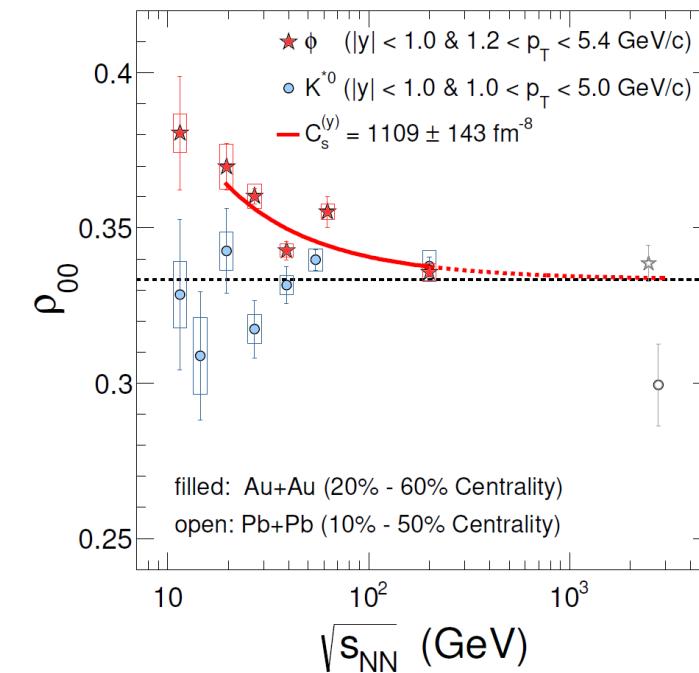


Z.-T. Liang and X.-N. Wang, PLB 629, 20 (2005)

$\rho_{00} \neq 1/3$  : spin correlation



S. Acharya et al. (ALICE), PRL.125, 012301 (2020)



M.S. Abdallah et al. (STAR), Nature 614 (2023) 7947, 244-248,

# Spin polarization beyond subatomic swirls?

- Spin alignment puzzle : the deviation of  $\rho_{00}$  from 1/3 is unexpectedly large

e.g.  $\rho_{00} \approx \frac{1}{3} - \left(\frac{\omega}{T}\right)^2$ ,  $\frac{\omega}{T} \sim 0.1\%$  at LHC energy. (from  $\Lambda$  pol.~ $\sim$  s quark pol.)

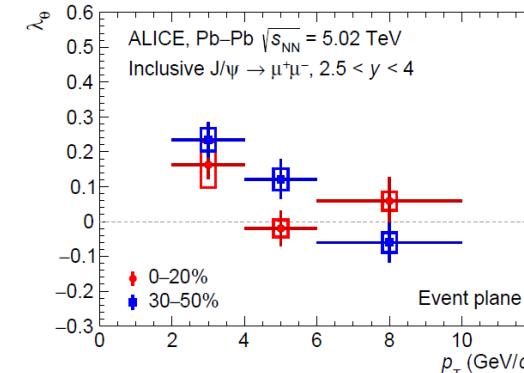
- Flavor & collision energy dep. :

	$\phi$	$K^{*0}$
ALICE	$\rho_{00} < 1/3$ ( $p_T \leq 1$ GeV)	$\rho_{00} < 1/3$
STAR	$\rho_{00} > 1/3$	$\rho_{00} \approx 1/3$

- Spin alignment for  $J/\psi$  :

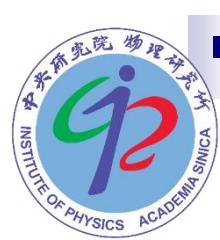
S. Acharya et al. (ALICE), PRL 131,042303 (2023)

$$\lambda_\theta = \frac{1 - 3\rho_{00}}{1 + \rho_{00}} > 0 \implies \rho_{00} < \frac{1}{3}$$



- Other sources for the spin correlation (alignment) beyond vorticity?
- Small spin pol. & large spin correlation imply that the source may be **fluctuating**.
- Electromagnetic fields can polarize the spin. How about gluon fields in QCD matter?  $\mathcal{P} \propto \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{E}$

magnetic pol.    spin Hall effect with momentum anisotropy



# An intuitive picture

- An intuitive construction of color-singlet spin observables

- ## ❖ Building blocks for quark transport

$$\mathbf{F}^a = g(\mathbf{E}^a + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}^a), \quad \mathcal{P}^a = g(\mathbf{B}^a - \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{E}^a)$$

## chromo-Lorentz force      chromo-magnetic polarization & spin Hall effect

- ## ❖ Parity-even correlators only

$$\langle E^i(x)E^j(x)\rangle = \delta^{ij}\langle E^i(x)E^i(x)\rangle, \quad \langle B^i(x)B^j(x)\rangle = \delta^{ij}\langle B^i(x)B^i(x)\rangle, \quad \langle E^i(x)B^j(x)\rangle = 0.$$

- spin alignment (without flow) :  $\delta\rho_{00} = \rho_{00} - \frac{1}{3} \sim \langle \mathcal{P}^a \cdot \mathcal{P}^a \rangle \sim \langle \mathbf{B}^a \cdot \mathbf{B}^a \rangle$
  - spin polarization of  $\Lambda$  (strange-equilibrium scenario) :  $p$  – even scalar

$\mathcal{P} \sim \langle (p \cdot F^a) \mathcal{P}^a \rangle$  flow-induced polarization

$$\sim \boxed{(\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{u})(\langle \mathbf{B}^a \cdot \mathbf{B}^a \rangle + \langle \mathbf{E}^a \cdot \mathbf{E}^a \rangle)} \quad p - \text{even axial-vector}$$

- Such effects as **non-equilibrium** spin transport can be systematically derived from the **quantum kinetic theory & Wigner functions**.

$$\mathcal{A}^\mu(p, x) = \int d^4y e^{\frac{ip\cdot y}{\hbar}} \left\langle \bar{\psi}\left(x - \frac{y}{2}\right) \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi\left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right) \right\rangle = \mathcal{A}^{s\mu}(p, x) + t^a \mathcal{A}^{a\mu}(p, x)$$

w : Y. Hidaka S. Pu, Q. Wang, DY, PPNP 127, 103989 (2022)      color singlet      color octet

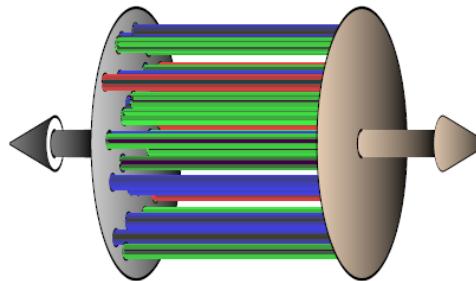
Review : Y. Hidaka S. Pu, Q. Wang, DY, PPNP 127, 103989 (2022)

DY, JHEP 06, 140 (2022)

B. Müller, DY, PRD 105, L011901 (2022)

# Color-field induced spin alignment

- Initial-state gluons may form the **glasma** phase characterized by predominantly longitudinal chromo-electromagnetic fields from CGC.



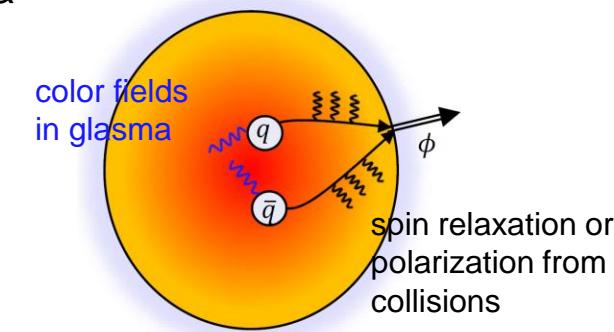
(at top RHIC & LHC energies)

Reviews : F. Gelis et al., Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.60:463-489,2010  
J. Berges et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 93 (2021) 3, 035003

- Assuming the early quark production in plasma

N. Tanji, J. Berges, PRD, 97, 034013 (2018)

- Why plasma fields for spin alignment?
  - (1) intrinsic saturation scale  $Q_s \gg \omega$
  - (2) fluctuating (no effect on global  $\Lambda$  pol.)
  - (3) intrinsic anisotropy (need not be along  $\hat{n}$ )



Updated coalescence model :

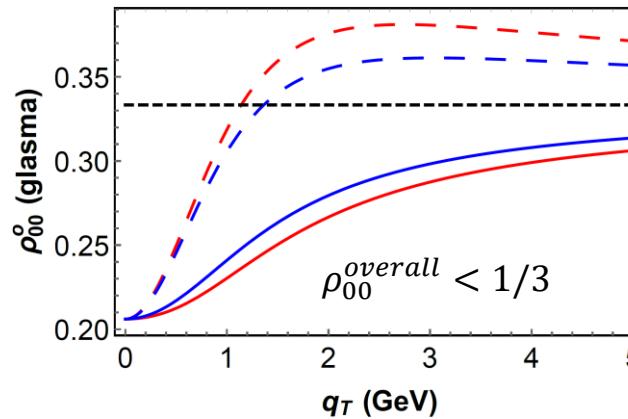
$$\rho_{00}(q) \approx \frac{1 - \text{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^y(\mathbf{q}/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^y(\mathbf{q}/2) \rangle_{\mathbf{q}=0}}{3 - \sum_{i=x,y,z} \text{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^i(\mathbf{q}/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^i(\mathbf{q}/2) \rangle_{\mathbf{q}=0}}$$

$\longrightarrow \delta \rho_{00} = \rho_{00} - \frac{1}{3} \propto - \langle B^{az}(x) B^{az}(x') \rangle e^{-2\Delta t/\tau_R} < 0$  A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 107, 076025 (2023)

(mesons at rest) glasma effect relaxation in QGP

# Transverse spin alignment spectra

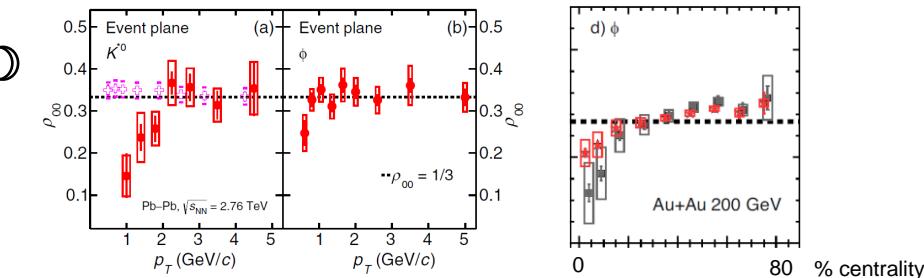
- Out-of-plane spin alignment ( $\phi$  mesons) : boost color fields for momentum dep.
- ❖ Initial-state effect (glasma) :



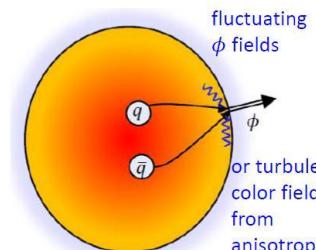
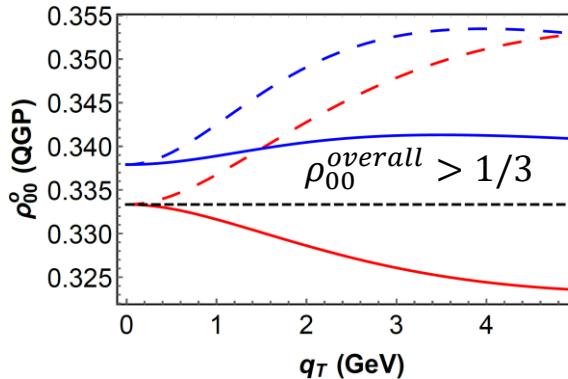
$v^y = 0$   $\infty$   
 $v^x = v^y$   $\circlearrowleft$   
 $y_q = 1$   
 $y_q = 0$

DY, PRD 110, 056005 (2025)

weighting needed :  $\langle \rho_{00}(q_T) \rangle = \frac{\int d\phi_q dy_q [\rho_{00}(\mathbf{q}) \mathcal{N}]}{\int \phi_q dy_q \mathcal{N}}$

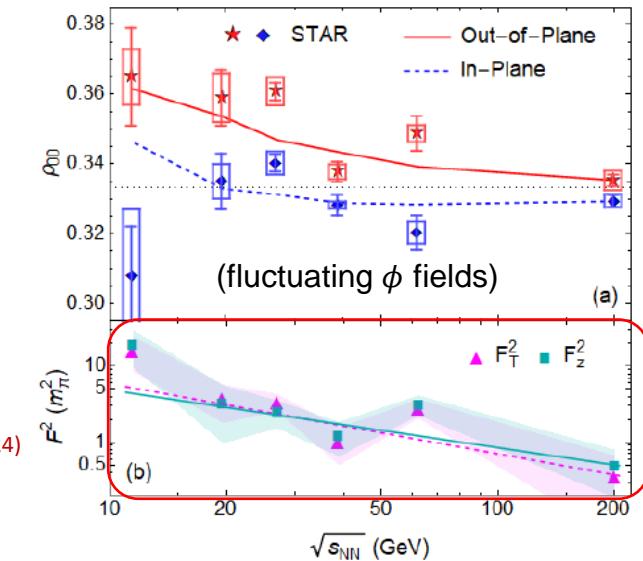


- ❖ Final-state effect (QGP) : strong-force fields



X.-L. Sheng et al., PRD 109, 036004, (2024)  
PRL 131, 042304 (2023)  
B. Müller, DY, PRD 105, L011901 (2022)  
DY, JHEP 06, 140 (2022)

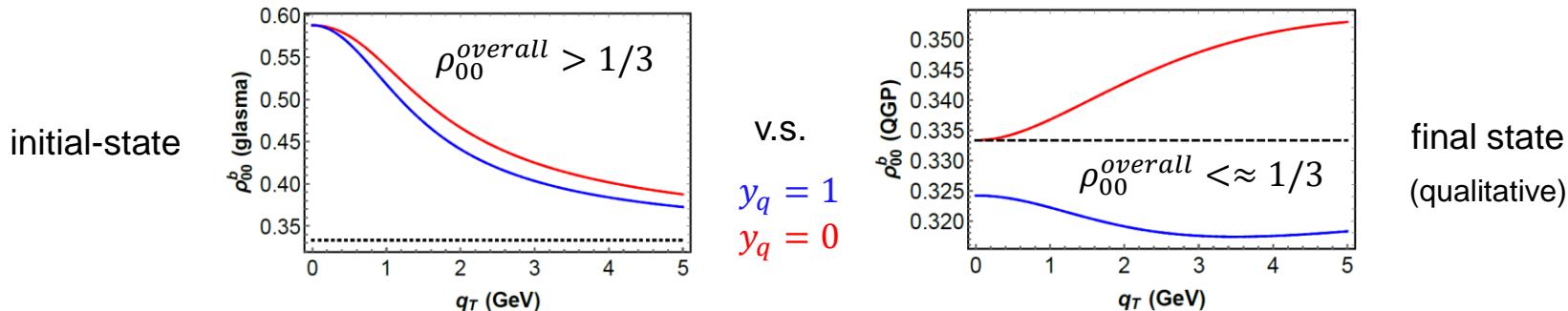
(isotropic color fields from QGP : qualitative)



isotropic, competition with glasma effect at high energies?

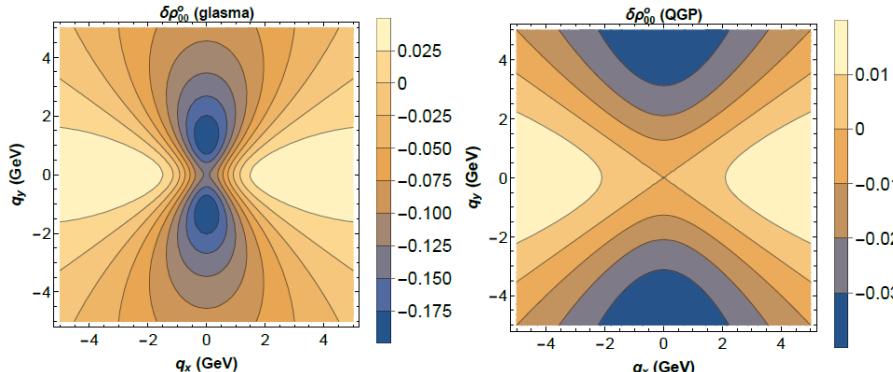
# Observables for future measurements

- Longitudinal spin alignment along the beam direction : DY, PRD 110, 056005 (2025)
- $\hat{n}$  is uncorrelated to the reaction plane : weak centrality dependence?

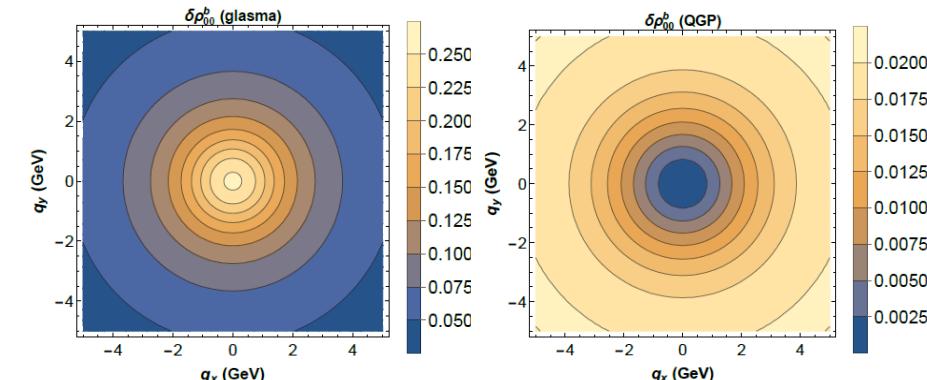


- Detailed transverse-momentum dependence :

❖ Transverse (out-of-plane) :

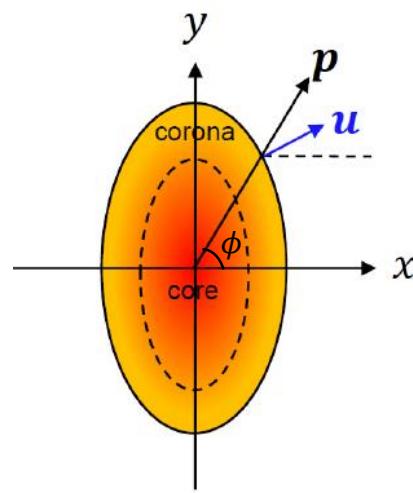


❖ Longitudinal :



# Longitudinal $\Lambda$ polarization (focused on pA)

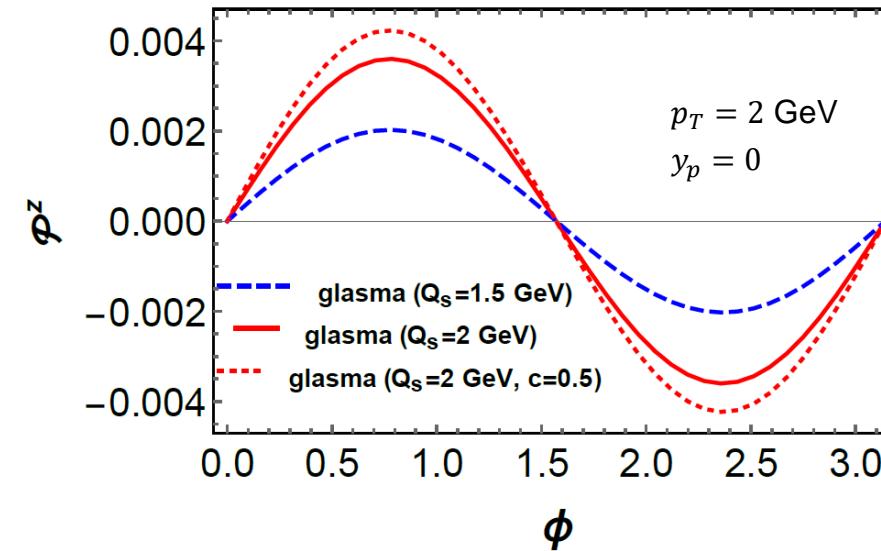
- Longitudinal polarization from the corona of plasma (early hadronization) :



weak initial anisotropic flow  
from pressure gradient

$$\mathcal{P}^z \approx \frac{\hbar(N_c^2 - 1)Q_s^2 \Delta t}{16M_\Lambda N_c^2 \epsilon_p \int d\Sigma \cdot p f_V^s} \int d\Sigma \cdot p (p^x u^y - p^y u^x) \\ \times f_V^s (1 - f_V^s) ((1 - 2f_V^s) u^0 + Q_s / \epsilon_p), \quad f_V^s = \frac{1}{e^{p \cdot u / Q_s} + c}.$$

(the overall sign is related to the freeze-out hypersurface)

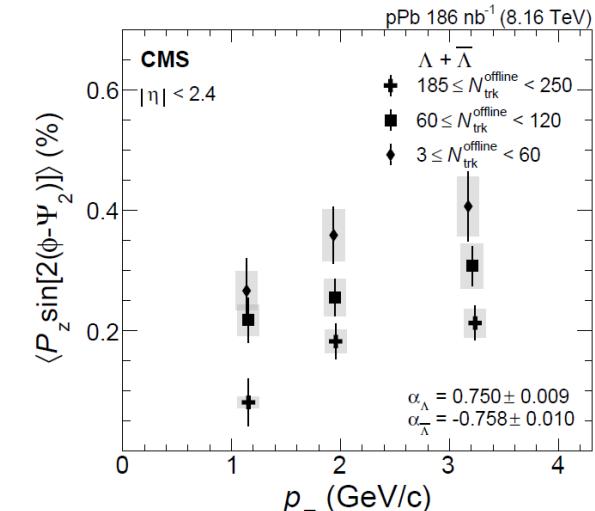
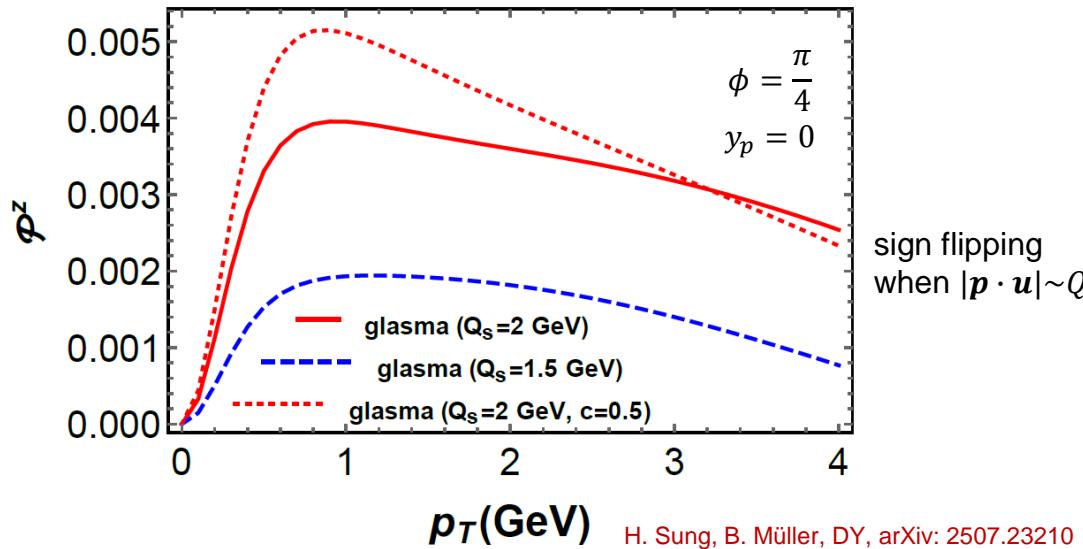


H. Sung, B. Müller, DY, arXiv: 2507.23210

- ✓ consistent sign & comparable order of magnitude with observations

# $P_T$ & system-size dependences

- Transverse-momentum dep. :



- Competing effects from soft thermal gluons in QGP (with an opposite sign)  
+ thermal vorticity/shear effects as the core contribution.

For smaller systems & high pT

For larger systems & low pT

❖ Full pol. : 
$$\mathcal{P}^z = \frac{N_{\text{GL}} \mathcal{P}_{\text{GL}}^z + N_{\text{QGP}} \mathcal{P}_{\text{QGP}}^z}{N_{\text{GL}} + N_{\text{QGP}}} \rightarrow$$
 monotonic increase with pT ?

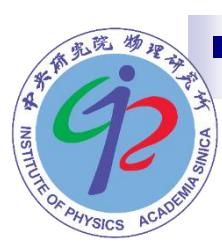
# Conclusions & outlook

## □ Conclusions :

- ✓ Coherent gluons characterized by color fields could play a significant role on local spin polarization and spin alignment on top of the “hydro” contributions.
- ✓ The size and energy dependence of collision systems may be helpful to disentangle the competing effects.
- ✓ New observables such as the longitudinal spin alignment will be also useful.

## □ Outlook :

- More sophisticated modeling & simulations are needed.  
e.g., more accurate estimation on spin relaxation in QGP
- (Collective) spin transport for heavy quarks : more sensitive to the plasma effects.



# Thank you!

# Axial kinetic theory with color fields

- Incorporation of background color fields into Wigner functions and kinetic equations.
  - Color decomposition :  $O = O^s I + O^a t^a$ 
    - U. W. Heinz, Phys. Rev. Lett. 51, 351 (1983)
    - H. T. Elze, M. Gyulassy, D. Vasak, Nucl. Phys. B276, 706 (1986).

$$\text{e.g., } \mathcal{A}^\mu(p, x) = \mathcal{A}^{s\mu}(p, x)I + \mathcal{A}^{a\mu}(p, x)t^a, \quad f_V(p, x) = f_V^s(p, x)I + f_V^a(p, x)t^a, \\ \tilde{a}^\mu(p, x) = \tilde{a}^{s\mu}(p, x)I + \tilde{a}^{a\mu}(p, x)t^a.$$

- Kinetic equations : [DY, JHEP 06, 140 \(2022\)](#)

$$\text{SKEs : } p^\rho \left( \partial_\rho f_V^s + \frac{g}{2N_c} F_{\nu\rho}^a \partial_p^\nu f_V^a \right) = \mathcal{C}_s, \quad p^\rho \left( \partial_\rho f_V^a + g F_{\nu\rho}^a \partial_p^\nu f_V^s + \frac{d^{bca}}{2} g F_{\nu\rho}^b \partial_p^\nu f_V^c \right) = \mathcal{C}_o^a,$$

$$\text{AKEs : } p^\rho \partial_\rho \tilde{a}^{s\mu} + \frac{g}{2N_c} \left( p^\rho F_{\nu\rho}^a \partial_p^\nu \tilde{a}^{a\mu} + F^{a\nu\mu} \tilde{a}_\nu^a \right) - \frac{\hbar}{4N_c} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_\rho (\partial_\sigma g F_{\beta\nu}^a) \partial_p^\beta f_V^a = \mathcal{C}_s^\mu,$$

$$p^\rho \partial_\rho \tilde{a}^{a\mu} + g(p^\rho F_{\nu\rho}^a \partial_p^\nu \tilde{a}^{s\mu} + F^{a\nu\mu} \tilde{a}_\nu^s) + \frac{d^{bca}}{2} g(p^\rho F_{\nu\rho}^b \partial_p^\nu \tilde{a}^{c\mu} + F^{b\nu\mu} \tilde{a}_\nu^c) - \frac{\hbar}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_\rho (\partial_\sigma g F_{\beta\nu}^a) \partial_p^\beta f_V^s = \mathcal{C}_o^{a\mu}.$$

Axial Wigner  
functions :

$$\mathcal{A}^{\text{s}\mu}(p, x) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_p} \left[ \tilde{a}^{\text{s}\mu} - \frac{\hbar}{4N_c} \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu} \left( \partial_{p\nu} f_{\text{V}}^a - \frac{\epsilon_p}{2} \partial_{p\perp\nu} (f_{\text{V}}^a / \epsilon_p) \right) \right]_{p_0=\epsilon_p},$$

$$\mathcal{A}^{a\mu}(p, x) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_p} \left[ \tilde{a}^{a\mu} - \frac{\hbar}{2} \tilde{F}^{a\mu\nu} \left( \partial_{p\nu} f_V^s - \frac{\epsilon_p}{2} \partial_{p_\perp\nu} (f_V^s / \epsilon_p) \right) \right]_{p_0=\epsilon_p}.$$

dynamical (w/ memory effect)

non-dynamical (w/o memory effect)

## Spin

Spin  
polarization:

$$\mathcal{P}^\mu(p) = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \operatorname{Tr}_c \mathcal{A}^\mu(p, x)}{2m \int d\Sigma \cdot p (2\epsilon_p)^{-1} f_V^s(p, x)} = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \mathcal{A}^{s\mu}(p, x)}{2m \int d\Sigma \cdot p (2\epsilon_p)^{-1} f_V^s(p, x)}.$$

# Axial kinetic theory

- Axial kinetic theory : scalar/axial-vector kinetic eqs. (SKE/AKE)

➤ SKE :  $p \cdot \Delta f_V = \mathcal{C}[f_V]$ ,  $\Delta_\mu = \partial_\mu + e F_{\nu\mu} \partial_p^\nu$ .  
 standard Vlasov eq.

K. Hattori, Y. Hidaka, DY, PRD 100, 096011 (2019)  
 DY, K. Hattori, Y. Hidaka, JHEP 20, 070 (2020)  
 Z. Wang, X. Guo, P. Zhuang, Eur. Phys. J. C 81, 799 (2021)

➤ AKE :  $p \cdot \Delta \tilde{a}^\mu + e F^{\nu\mu} \tilde{a}_\nu - \frac{e}{2} \hbar \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_\rho (\partial_\sigma F_{\beta\nu}) \partial_p^\beta f_V = \underbrace{\hat{L}^{\mu\nu} \tilde{a}_\nu}_{\text{spin relaxation}} + \underbrace{\hbar \hat{H}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu f_V}_{\text{dynamical spin pol. from spin-orbit int.}}$ .

( $\tilde{a}^\mu(p, x)$ : effective spin four vector)

(entangled  $f_V$  &  $\tilde{a}^\mu$ )

( $\hbar$  : gradient correction in phase space)

spin relaxation

dynamical spin pol.  
from spin-orbit int.

➤ Axial Wigner functions :  $\mathcal{A}^\mu(p, x) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_p} \left[ \tilde{a}^\mu - \frac{\hbar}{2} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \left( \partial_{p\nu} f_V - \frac{\epsilon_p}{2} \partial_{p\perp\nu} (f_V/\epsilon_p) \right) \right]_{p_0=\epsilon_p=\sqrt{|\mathbf{p}|^2+m^2}}$ .

dynamical (w/ memory effect)      non-dynamical (w/o memory effect)

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{P}^\mu(p) = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \mathcal{A}^\mu(p, x)}{2m \int d\Sigma \cdot p (2\epsilon_p)^{-1} f_V(p, x)}.$$

- Relaxation-time approx. & weak coupling :

$$p \cdot \partial \tilde{a}^\mu - \frac{e}{2} \hbar \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_\rho (\partial_\sigma F_{\beta\nu}) \partial_p^\beta f_V = -\frac{p_0 \delta \tilde{a}^\mu}{\tau_R}, \quad \delta \tilde{a}^\mu = \tilde{a}^\mu - \tilde{a}_{\text{eq}}^\mu.$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta \tilde{a}^\mu(p, x) = \frac{\hbar e}{2} \int_{t_i}^{t_f} dx'_0 e^{-(x_0 - x'_0)/\tau_R} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \hat{p}_\rho (\partial_{x'\sigma} F_{\beta\nu}(x')) \partial_p^\beta f_V(p, x')$$

# Spin alignment from plasma

- Generalized AKT with color fields :  $\tilde{a}^\mu(p, x) = \tilde{a}^{s\mu}(p, x)I + \boxed{\tilde{a}^{a\mu}(p, x)t^a}$ .  
 DY, JHEP 06, 140 (2022)  
 B. Müller, DY, PRD 105, L011901 (2022)
 

(more dominant in the perturbative approach)

- Dynamical spin polarization from plasma fields : A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 108, 016020 (2023)
- $$\tilde{a}^{a\mu}(p, x) \approx -\frac{\hbar g}{2} e^{-(t_f - t_i)/\tau_R^o} (B^{a\mu}(t_i) \partial_{\epsilon_p} f_V^s(\epsilon_p, t_i) - \cancel{B^{a\mu}(t_f) \partial_{\epsilon_p} f_V^s(\epsilon_p, t_f)})$$
- suppressed

- Correlation of initial color magnetic fields :  $g^2 \langle B^{az}(x) B^{az}(x) \rangle_{x_0=t_i} \sim \frac{Q_s^4 (N_c^2 - 1)}{2N_c}$   
 K. J. Golec-Biernat and M. Wusthoff, Phys. Rev. D 59, 014017 (1998)  
 P. Guerrero-Rodríguez and T. Lappi, Phys. Rev. D 104, 014011 (2021)

- Initial quark distribution function :  $f_V^s(\epsilon_p, t_i) = 1/(e^{\epsilon_p/Q_s} + 1)$

❖ spin correlation :  $\langle \mathcal{P}_q^z \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^z \rangle \sim \frac{Q_s^2}{m_q m_{\bar{q}}} e^{-2(t_f - t_i)/\tau_R^o}$

❖ Order-of-magnitude estimation (for  $\phi$ ) :  $\rho_{00} \sim \frac{1}{3 + 10 e^{-2(t_f - t_i)/\tau_R^o}} < \frac{1}{3}$   
 $Q_s \approx 1 \sim 2 \text{ GeV}$

glasma effect      relaxation effect

❖ Heavy-quark approx. :  $\tau_R^o \approx \left( \frac{g^2 C_2(F) m_D^2 T}{6\pi m^2} \ln g \right)^{-1} \approx 5 \text{ fm/c} \longrightarrow \rho_{00} \approx 0.24$

M. Hongo et al., JHEP 08, 263 (2022)

(model dependent)

# Spin correlations from color fields

- Spin density matrix can be directly related to Wigner functions of the coalesced quark and antiquark through the quark-meson interaction.
- ❖ Kinetic theory of vector mesons :

$$q \cdot \partial f_\lambda^\phi = \epsilon_\mu^*(\lambda, \mathbf{q}) \epsilon_\nu(\lambda, \mathbf{q}) [\mathcal{C}_{\text{coal}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x)(1 + f_\lambda^\phi) - \mathcal{C}_{\text{diss}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x)f_\lambda^\phi] \approx \boxed{\epsilon_\mu^*(\lambda, \mathbf{q}) \epsilon_\nu(\lambda, \mathbf{q}) \mathcal{C}_{\text{coal}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x)}$$

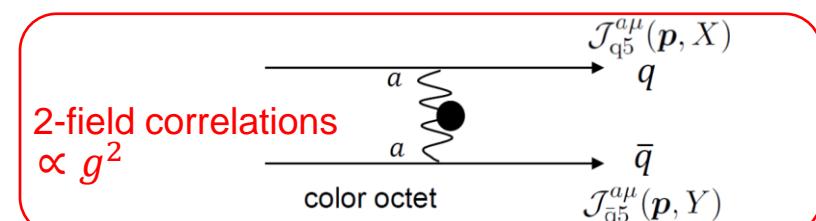
$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{00}(q) &= \frac{\int d\Sigma_X \cdot q f_0^\phi(q, X)}{\int d\Sigma_X \cdot q (f_0^\phi(q, X) + f_{+1}^\phi(q, X) + f_{-1}^\phi(q, X))} \\ &= \frac{1 - \text{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^y(\mathbf{q}/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^y(\mathbf{q}/2) \rangle_{\mathbf{q}=0}}{3 - \sum_{i=x,y,z} \text{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^i(\mathbf{q}/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^i(\mathbf{q}/2) \rangle_{\mathbf{q}=0}} \end{aligned}$$

quark-meson int. :  
 $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_\phi \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu V_\mu \psi$

- ❖ Spin correlations in the non-relativistic limit :

$$\text{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^i(p) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^i(p) \rangle \approx \frac{4 \int d\Sigma_X \cdot p (\langle \mathcal{A}_q^{si}(p, X) \mathcal{A}_{\bar{q}}^{si}(p, X) \rangle + \langle \mathcal{A}_q^{ai}(p, X) \mathcal{A}_{\bar{q}}^{ai}(p, X) \rangle) / (2N_c)}{\int d\Sigma_X \cdot p f_{Vq}^s(p, X) f_{V\bar{q}}^s(p, X)}$$

- Weak coupling :



# Color fields from the plasma

- Solving linearized Yang-Mills eqs. :  $[D_\mu, F^{\mu\nu}] = J^\nu$

P. Guerrero-Rodrguez, T. Lappi, PRD 104, 014011 (2021)

- Color-field correlators in the plasma :

e.g.  $\langle E_T^{ai}(X')E_T^{aj}(X'') \rangle = -\bar{N}_c \epsilon^{in} \epsilon^{jm} \int_{\perp; q, u}^{X'} \int_{\perp; l, v}^{X''} \Omega_-(u_\perp, v_\perp) \frac{q^n l^m}{ql} \times J_1(qX'_0) J_1(lX''_0),$

$$\langle B_T^{ai}(X')B_T^{aj}(X'') \rangle = -\bar{N}_c \epsilon^{in} \epsilon^{jm} \int_{\perp; q, u}^{X'} \int_{\perp; l, v}^{X''} \Omega_+(u_\perp, v_\perp) \frac{q^n l^m}{ql} \times J_1(qX'_0) J_1(lX''_0),$$

$$\bar{N}_c \equiv \frac{1}{2} g^2 N_c (N_c^2 - 1),$$

$$\Omega_\mp(u_\perp, v_\perp) = [G_1(u_\perp, v_\perp) G_2(u_\perp, v_\perp) \mp h_1(u_\perp, v_\perp) h_2(u_\perp, v_\perp)],$$

$$\int_{\perp; q, u}^{X'} \equiv \int \frac{d^2 q_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \int d^2 u_\perp e^{iq_\perp (X' - u)_\perp}.$$

unpolarized & linearly polarized  
Gluon distribution functions

- Golec-Biernat Wusthoff (GBW) distribution : K. J. Golec-Biernat and M. Wustho, PRD 59, 014017 (1998)

$$\Omega_\pm(u_\perp, v_\perp) = \Omega(u_\perp, v_\perp) = \frac{Q_s^4}{g^4 N_c^2} \left( \frac{1 - e^{-Q_s^2 |u_\perp - v_\perp|^2 / 4}}{Q_s^2 |u_\perp - v_\perp|^2 / 4} \right)^2$$

# More on spin polarization from color fields

- Isochronous freeze-out in 3+1 D :  $\tilde{\tau} \equiv \sqrt{\tau^2 - x^2 - y^2}$

$$d\Sigma \cdot p = dr d\Phi d\eta r \sqrt{1 - \epsilon^2} (G_1 \cosh(y_p - \eta) + G_2), \quad G_1 = \sqrt{(m^2 + p_T^2)\tau_f}, \\ G_2 = -(xp^x + yp^y)$$

- Manifestation of  $\sin 2\phi$  : when  $|p \cdot u| \ll Q_s$

$$\int d\Sigma \cdot p (p^x u^y - p^y u^x) \xrightarrow{G_2 \text{ dominates}} \int d\Sigma \cdot p u^{[y} p^{x]} u^0 \approx u_T p_T^2 \pi \sin 2\phi \int \frac{dr d\eta r^3 \tau \delta}{r_m^2}$$

$$u^\mu = \frac{1}{N_u} (t, x\sqrt{1+\delta}, y\sqrt{1-\delta}, z)$$

- QGP case : when  $|p \cdot u| \gtrsim T \Rightarrow G_1$  dominates

H. Sung, B. Müller, DY, arXiv: 2507.23210

single freeze-out thermal model at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 130$  GeV

