The 16th Workshop on QCD Phase Transition and Relativistic Heavy-Ion Physics (QPT 2025)

Bayesian inference of the magnetic field and chemical potential on holographic jet quenching in heavy-ion collisions

Liqiang Zhu

Collaborated with Zhan Gao, Weiyao Ke and Hanzhong Zhang

arXiv:2506.00340

October 26, 2025

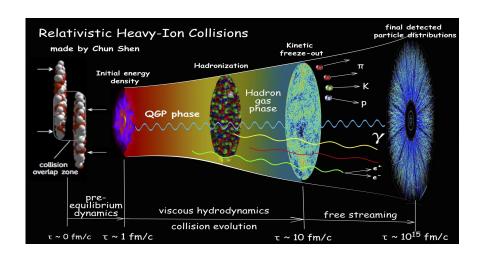


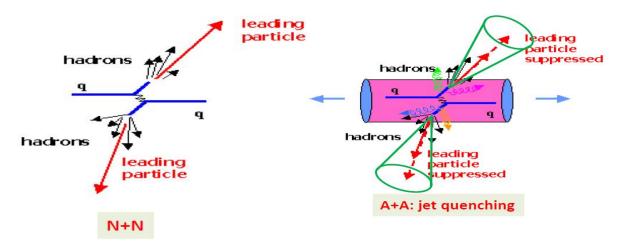


Outline

- 1. Introduction and motivation
- 2 NLO pQCD parton model and Medium-modified FFs
- 3. Holographic Energy loss with magnetic field chemical potential
- 4. Bayesian extraction for the magnetic field and chemical potential
- 5. Summary

Introduction

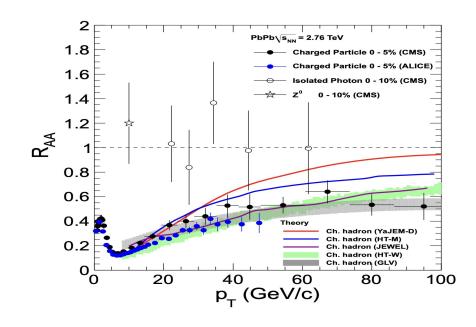




Jet quenching mainly originates from parton energy loss in hot QGP

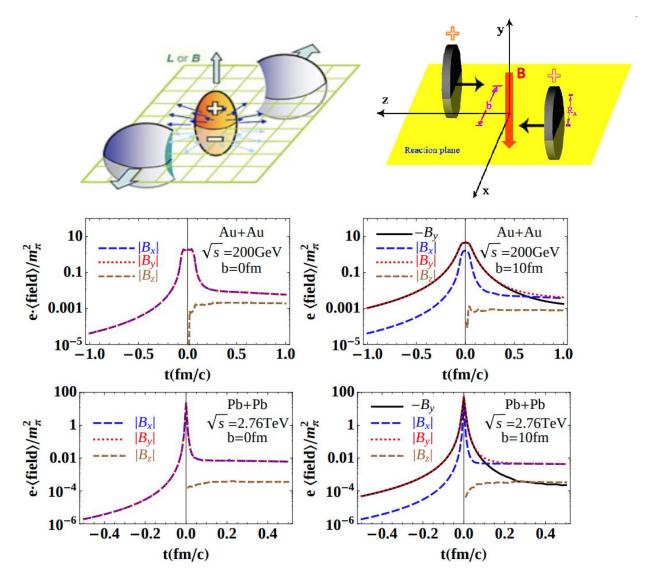
Nuclear modification factor:

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN^{AA}/d^2p_Tdy}{N_{coll}dN^{pp}/d^2p_Tdy}$$

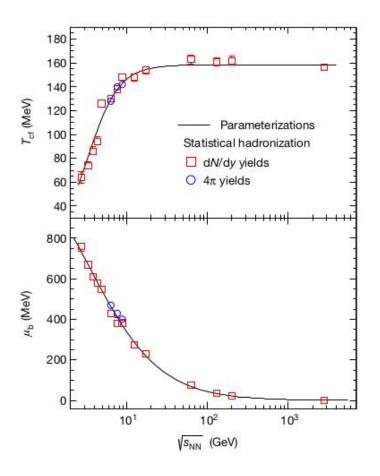


Berndt Muller, Jurgen Schukraft, Boleslaw Wyslouch, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 62, 361 (2012)

Motivation

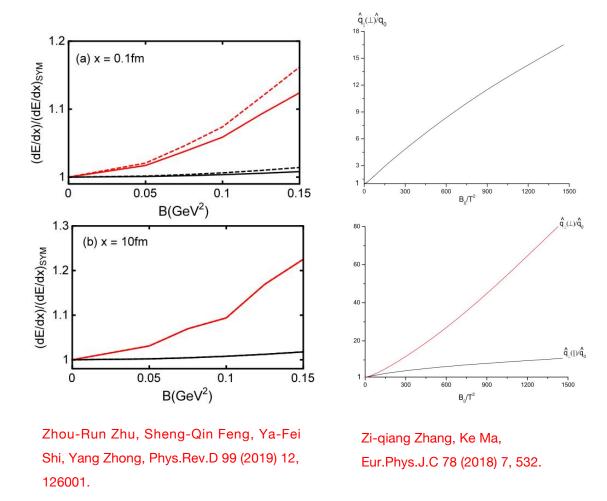


Wei-Tian Deng, Xu-Guang Huang. Phys.Rev.C 85 (2012) 044907.

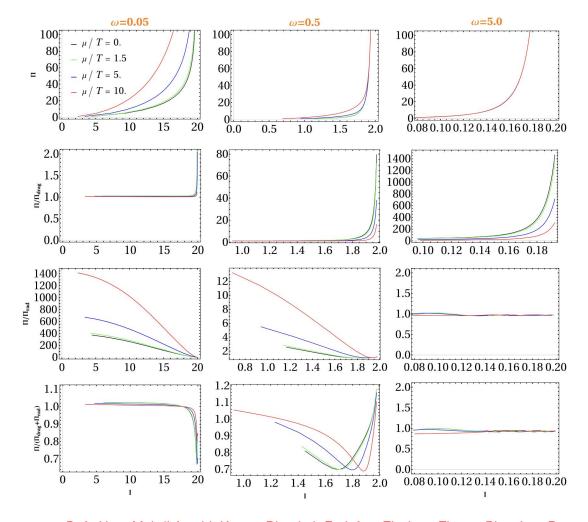


Anton Andronic, Peter Braun-Munzinger, Krzysztof Redlich, Johanna Stachel. Nature 561 (2018) 7723, 321-330.

Motivation



It is found that the jet quenching parameter and Instantaneous energy loss is generally enhanced in the presence of a magnetic (constant) field.



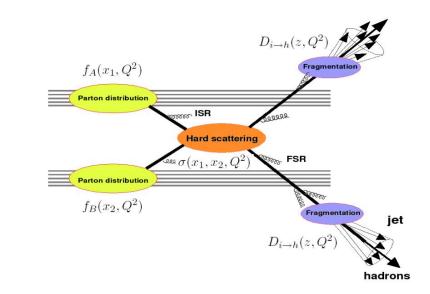
Defu Hou, Mahdi Atashi, Kazem Bitaghsir Fadafan, Zi-qiang Zhang, Phys.Lett.B 817 (2021) 136279.

The inclusion of chemical potential (constant) tends to increase the energy loss.

NLO pQCD parton model

In pp collisions:

Single inclusive hadron:



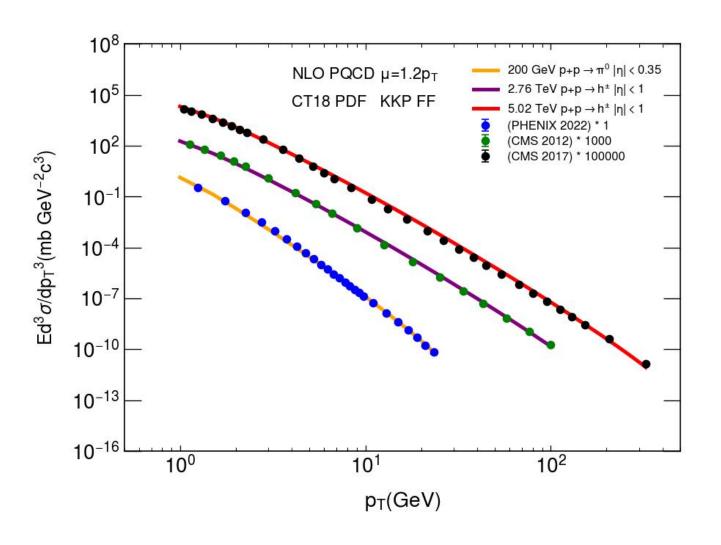
$$\frac{d\sigma_{pp}^{h}}{dy_{h}d^{2}p_{T}} = \sum_{abcd} \int dx_{a} dx_{b} f_{a/p}(x_{a}, \mu^{2}) f_{b/p}(x_{b}, \mu^{2}) \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{d\sigma_{ab\to cd}}{d\hat{t}} \frac{D_{c}^{h}(z_{c}, \mu^{2})}{z_{c}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{s}^{3})$$

J.F. Owens. Rev.Mod.Phys. 59 (1987) 465

$$f_{a/p}(x_a,\mu^2): {\rm CT18~PDF}$$
 CT18, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 1, 014013

$$D_c^h(z_c,\mu^2): ext{KKP FF}$$
 KKP, Nucl.Phys.b582,514(2000)

pp baseline



Experiment Data from:

PHENIX Collaboration, Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 064902.

CMS Collaboration, Eur. Phys. J. C (2012) 72:1945.

CMS Collaboration, JHEP 04 (2017) 039.

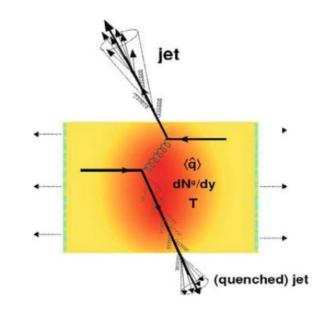
NLO pQCD parton model and Medium-modified FFs

In AA collisions:

Single inclusive hadron:

$$\frac{dN_{AB}^{h}}{dyd^{2}p_{T}} = \sum_{abcd} \int dx_{a} dx_{b} d^{2}r t_{A}(\vec{r}) t_{B}(\vec{r} + \vec{b}) f_{a/A}(x_{a}, \mu^{2}, \vec{r}) f_{b/B}(x_{b}, \mu^{2}, \vec{r} + \vec{b})$$

$$\times \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{d\sigma_{ab \to cd}}{d\hat{t}} \frac{D_{c}^{h}(z_{c}, \mu^{2}, \Delta E_{c})}{z_{c}} + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{s}^{3}).$$



Hanzhong Zhang, J.F. Owens, Enke Wang, Xin-Nian Wang, Phys.Rev.Lett.98,212301(2007)

$$f_{a/A}(x_a, \mu^2, \vec{r}) = S_{a/A}(x_a, \mu^2, \vec{r}) \left[\frac{Z}{A} f_{a/p}(x_a, \mu^2) + \left(1 - \frac{Z}{A} \right) f_{a/n}(x_a, \mu^2) \right]$$

$$S_{a/A}(x_a,\mu^2,\vec{r}) = 1 + \left[S_{a/A}(x_a,\mu^2) - 1\right] \frac{At_A(\vec{r})}{\int d^2r[t_A(\vec{r})]}$$
 EPPS21 nPDF: Eur.Phys.J.C 82 (2022) 5, 413

$$D_{h/c}(z_c, \mu^2, \Delta E_c) = \frac{z_c'}{z_c} D_{h/c}(z_c', \mu^2) = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon} D_{h/c}(\frac{z_c}{1 - \epsilon}, \mu^2), \ z_c = \frac{p_T}{P_{Tc}}, \ z_c' = \frac{P_T}{P_{Tc} - \Delta E_c}, \ \epsilon = \frac{\Delta E_c}{P_{Tc}}$$

Formalisms to jet quenching

1. Fast parton weakly coupled to a weakly coupled medium AMY

2. Fast parton weakly coupled to an arbitrary medium Higher Twist, BDMPS-Z-ASW, GLV

3 Fast parton strongly coupled to a strongly coupled medium AdS/CFT

Holographic Energy loss

The Einstein-Maxwell action:

$$I = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} (\mathcal{R} + \frac{12}{L^2} - \frac{L^2}{g_F^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu})$$

The metric:

$$ds^{2} = \frac{1}{z^{2}} \left(-f(z)dt^{2} + d\vec{x}^{2} + \frac{dz^{2}}{f(z)} \right)$$

$$f(z) = 1 - (1 + Q^{2}) \left(\frac{z}{z_{h}} \right)^{4} + Q^{2} \left(\frac{z}{z_{h}} \right)^{6}$$

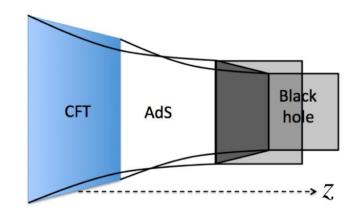
$$T(z_{h}, \mu_{B}, B) = \frac{1}{\pi z_{h}} (1 - \frac{Q^{2}}{2})$$

$$Q^{2} = \mu_{B}^{2} z_{h}^{2} + B^{2} z_{h}^{4}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2\pi} \frac{\sqrt{f(z_{\star})}}{z^{2}}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{f(z_{\star}) - f(z)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - f(z)}}, \ z_{\star} = 0 \to \sqrt{f(z_{\star})} = 1$$

$$x = \int_{z}^{z_{h}} \frac{dz}{\sqrt{\frac{z^{3}}{z_{h}^{3}}(1 + \mu_{B}^{2}z_{h}^{2} + B^{2}z_{h}^{4}) - \frac{z^{4}}{z_{h}^{4}}(\mu_{B}^{2}z_{h}^{2} + B^{2}z_{h}^{4})}}$$



Diego M. Rodrigues, Danning Li, Eduardo Folco Capossoli, Henrique Boschi-Filho, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 6, 066022.

Andrew Chamblin, Roberto Emparan, Clifford V. Johnson, Robert C. Myers, Phys.Rev.D 60 (1999) 064018.

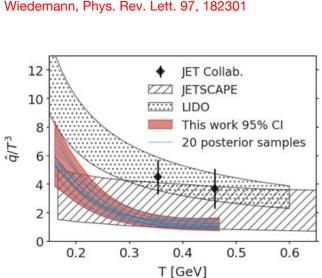
Andrej Ficnar, Steven S. Gubser, Miklos Gyulassy, Phys.Lett.B 738 (2014) 464-471.

The connection between $\sqrt{\lambda}$ and $\frac{\hat{q}}{T^3}$

$$\hat{q}_{\text{SYM}} = \frac{\pi^2}{a} \sqrt{\lambda} T^3 = \frac{\pi^{3/2} \Gamma(\frac{3}{4})}{\Gamma(\frac{5}{4})} \sqrt{\lambda} T^3$$
$$\approx 26.69 \sqrt{\alpha_{\text{SYM}} N_c} T^3$$

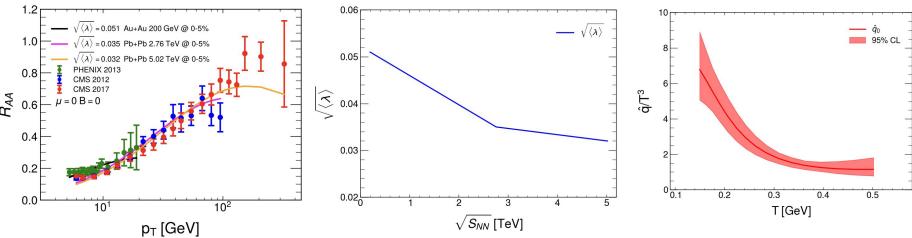
$$\frac{\hat{q}_{SYM}}{T^3} \sim \sqrt{\lambda}$$

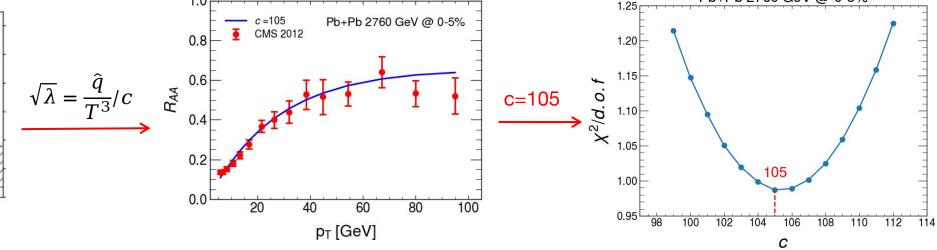
Hong Liu, Krishna Rajagopal, Urs Achim Wiedemann, Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 182301



Man Xie, Weiyao Ke, Hanzhong Zhang, Xin-Nian

Wang, Phys. Rev. C 108, L011901

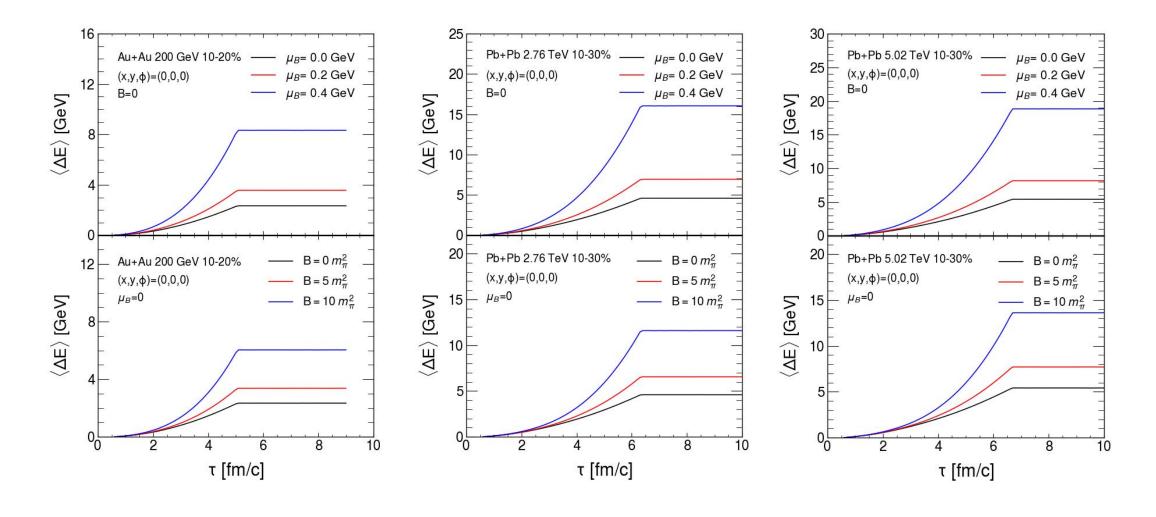




$$\mu = 0, B = 0$$

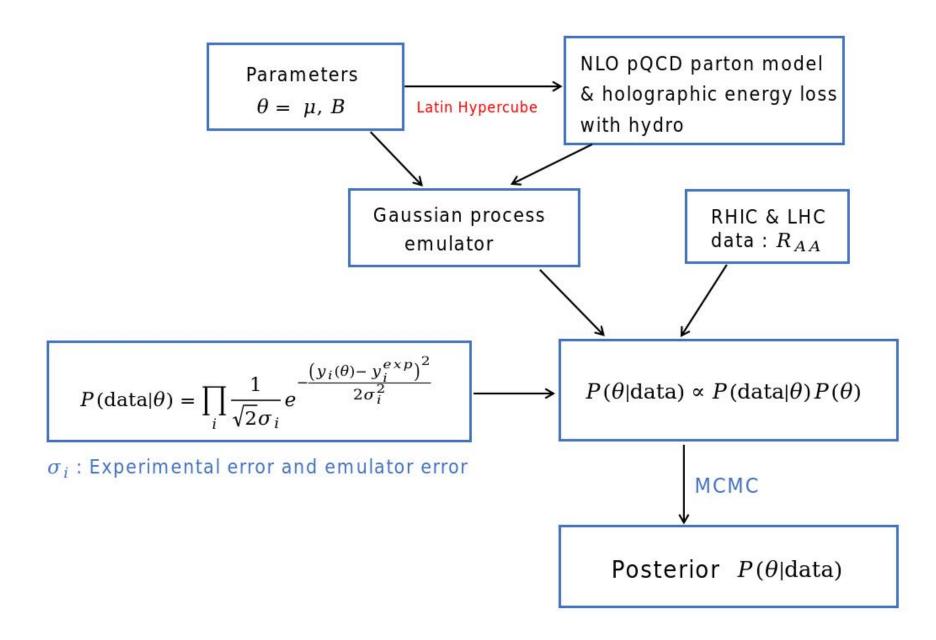
Pb+Pb 2760 GeV @ 0-5%

The effect of magnetic field and chemical potential on energy loss

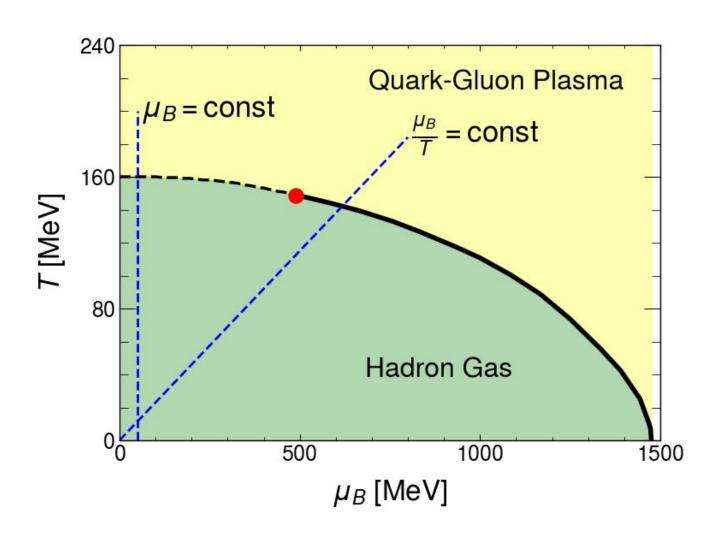


Both magnetic field and chemical potential can increase energy loss.

Bayesian analysis



Paramtrizing the time-evolution of B and μ_B



Scenario I:

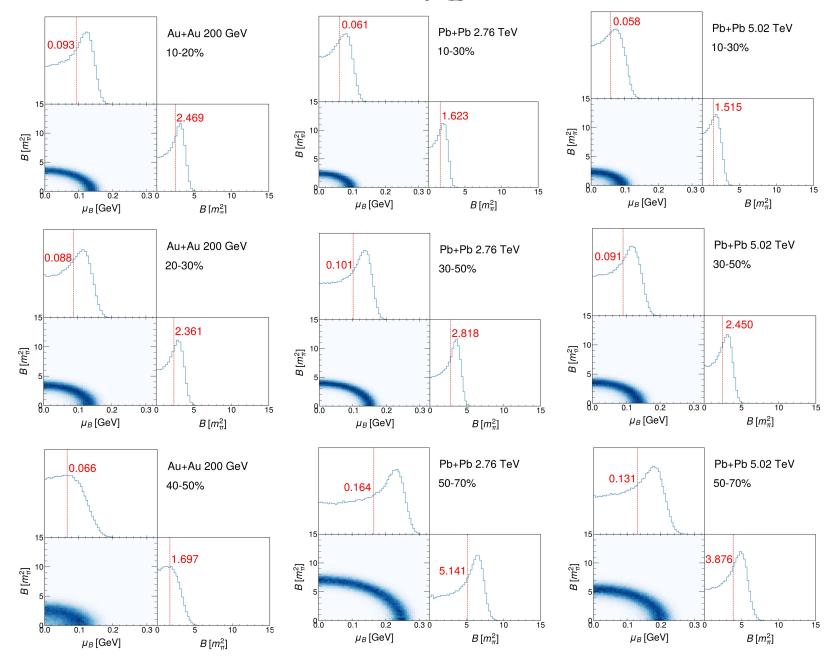
 $\mu_B = \text{const}$, B= const

Scenario II:

 $\mu_B/T={
m const}$, ${
m B}/T^2={
m const}$

Posterior distributions of the μ_B and B

Scenario I



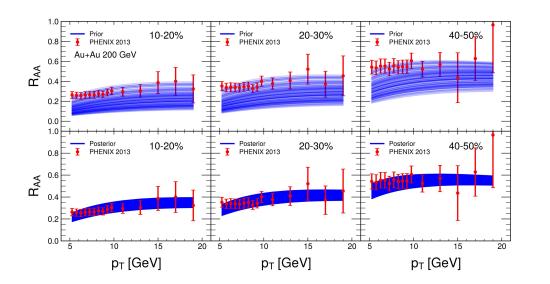
Over 300 sets of θ for prior calculation, Posterior distributions of the μ_B and B (diagonal panels: the red dashed line indicates the position of the median), together with their correlations (off-diagonal panels).

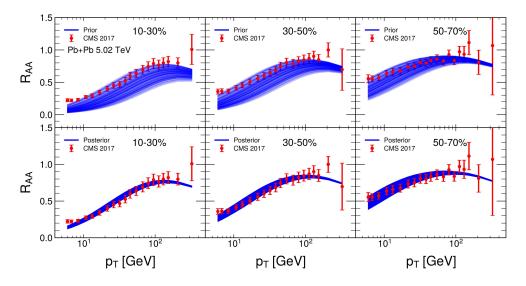
As the centrality increase (the more eccentric the collision), both the μ_B and B increase. With the increase in collision energy, both the μ_B and B decrease.

Single Hadron R_{AA} Piror vs Posterior \longrightarrow Scenario I



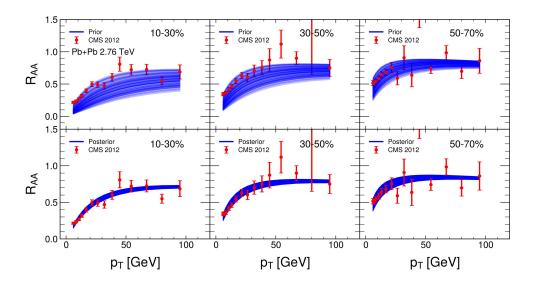
Posterior





Prior

Posterior



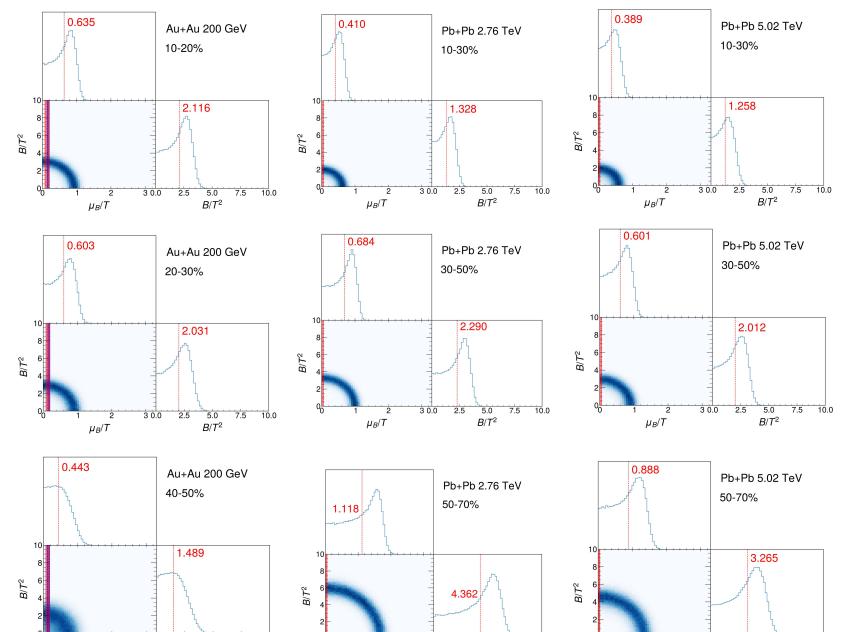
One observes that after the Bayesian analysis, our model is able to provide a reasonable description of the hadron observables (R_{AA}) in heavy-ion collisions.

Posterior distributions of the μ_B/T and B/T^2

 B/T^2

 μ_B/T

Scenario II



 B/T^2

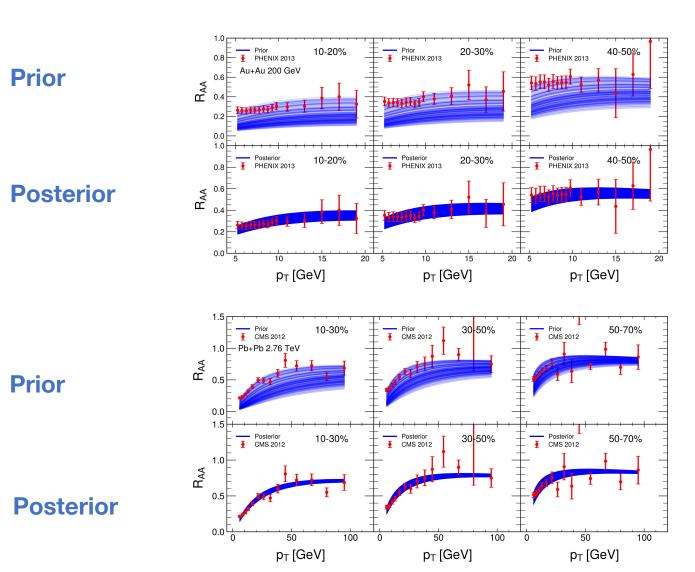
 μ_B/T

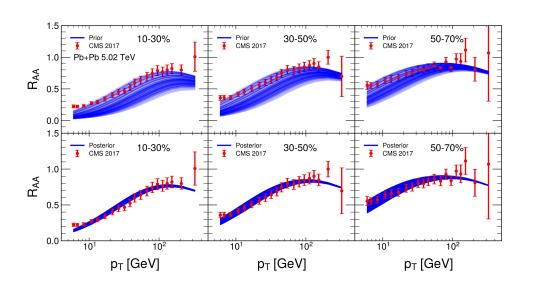
Over 300 sets of θ for prior calculation. Posterior distributions of the μ_B/T and B/T^2 (diagonal panels: the red dashed line indicates the position of the median), together with their correlations (off-diagonal panels).

As the centrality increase (the more eccentric the collision), both the μ_B/T and B/T^2 increase. With the increase in collision energy, both the μ_B/T and B/T^2 decrease.

L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR), Phys. Rev. C 96, 044904 (2017).

A. Lysenko, M. I. Gorenstein, R. Poberezhniuk, and V. Vovchenko, Phys. Rev. C 111, 054903 (2025).





One observes that after the Bayesian analysis, our model is able to provide a reasonable description of the hadron observables (R_{AA}) in heavy-ion collisions.

Summary

- 1. Effects of Magnetic Field and Chemical Potential on Jet Energy Loss: The presence of the magnetic field and chemical potential significantly enhances the jet energy loss effect.
- 2 Impact of Collision Centrality: As the collisions tend to become more eccentric, the strengths of the magnetic field and chemical potential increase significantly.
- 3. Impact of Collision Energy: With increasing collision energy, both the magnetic field and chemical potential exhibit a decreasing trend.
- 4. Magnetic Field and Chemical Potential affects the energy loss in a highly correlated manner: Extracting the energy loss rate alone cannot provide a unique sensitivy to only one of the two effects.

Thank you