

# Unified Extraction of In-Medium Heavy Quark Potentials from RHIC to LHC Energies via Deep Learning

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arXiv: 2604.09198

Phys.Lett.B 839 (2023) 137774

Chin.Phys.C 46 (2022) 114102

Eur.Phys.J.C 84 (2024) 1193

deep learning

AA collision

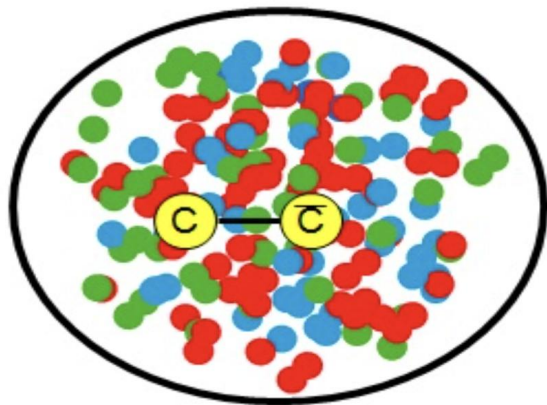
pA collision

pp collision

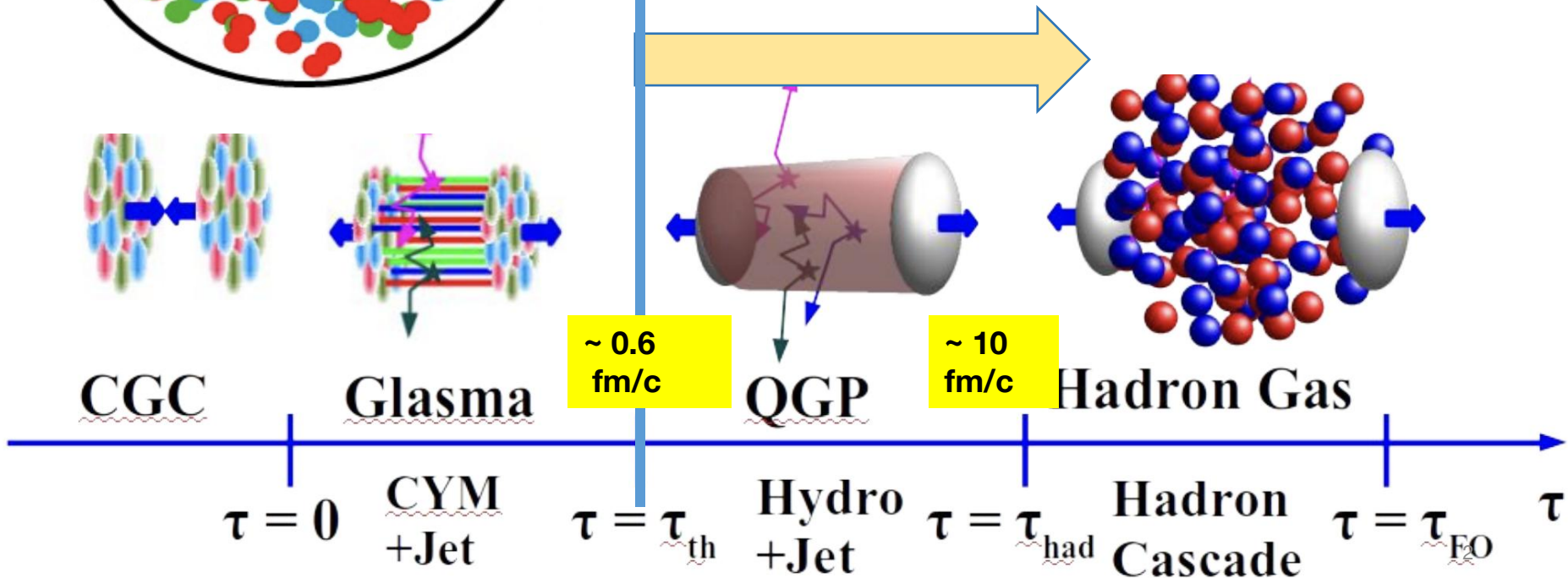
# quarkonium in deconfined medium

## in-medium heavy quark potential:

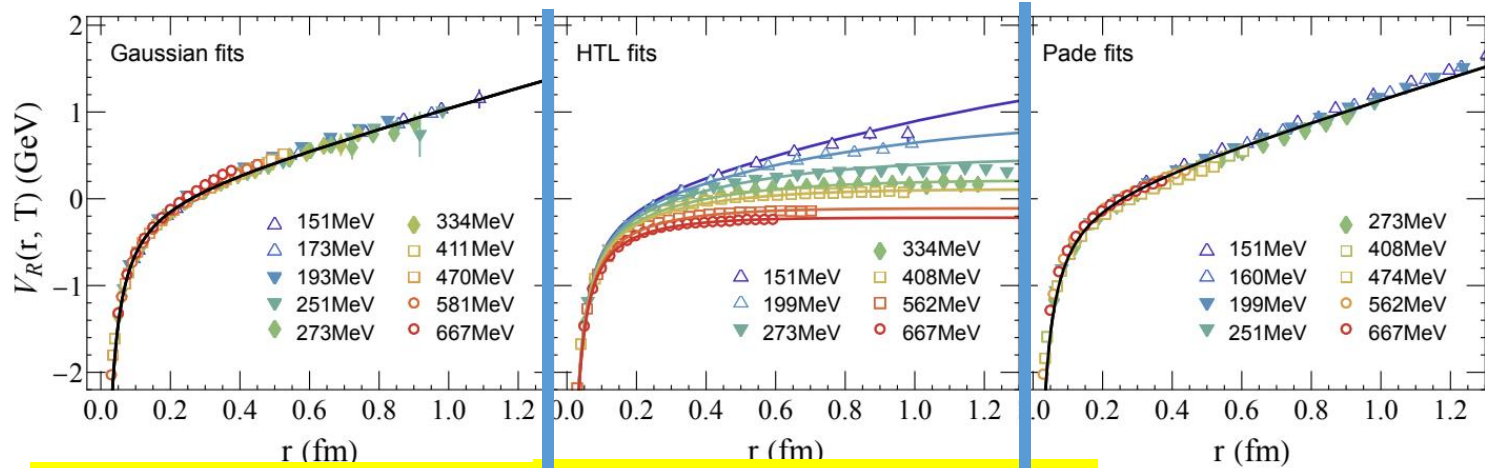
- (1) color screening ? reduced attractive potential of color-singlet states
- (2) parton inelastic scattering ? transitions between singlets and octets, etc



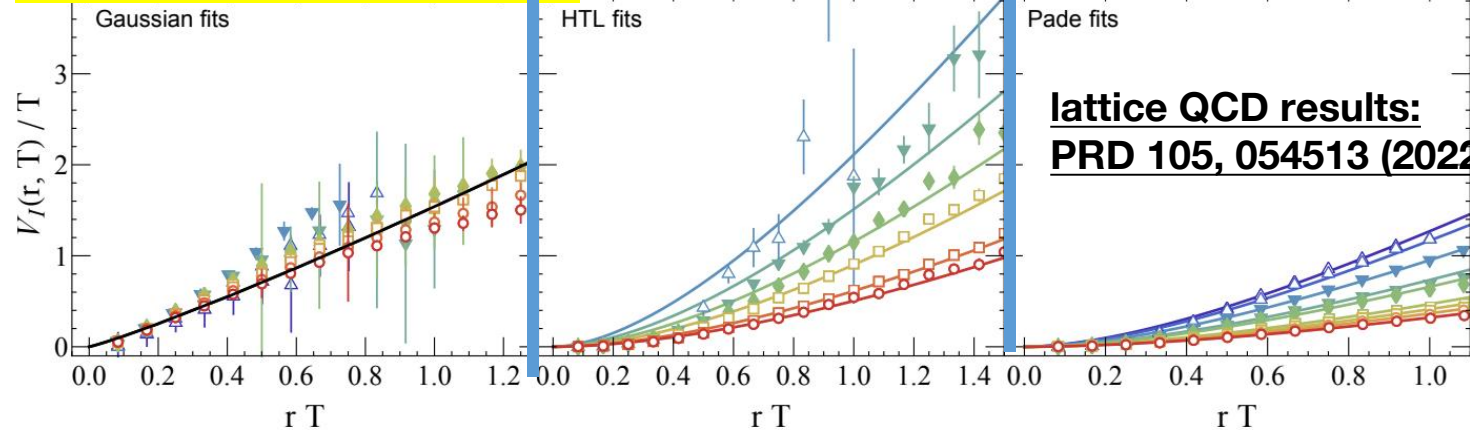
$$|c\bar{c}\rangle = c_{1S}(t)|J/\psi\rangle + c_{2S}(t)|\psi(2S)\rangle + \dots$$



# complex potential from lattice QCD



nearly no color screening      significant color screening



lines: our fit in EPJC 84 (2024) 8, 869

- **Gaussian, HTL, Pade fits:**  
**Three methods give very different complex heavy quark potentials**  
**necessary to extract  $V(T, r)$  from heavy quarkonium observables !**

# a strong potential is needed

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**In 2011 PLB,**

**RHIC energy**

**Tsinghua Transport model** has explained well the bottomonium data at RHIC with strong potential ( $V=U$ ),

Physics Letters B 697 (2011) 32–36



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Physics Letters B

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$\Upsilon$  production as a probe for early state dynamics in high energy nuclear collisions at RHIC

Yunpeng Liu<sup>a,\*</sup>, Baoyi Chen<sup>a</sup>, Nu Xu<sup>b</sup>, Pengfei Zhuang<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Physics Department, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China

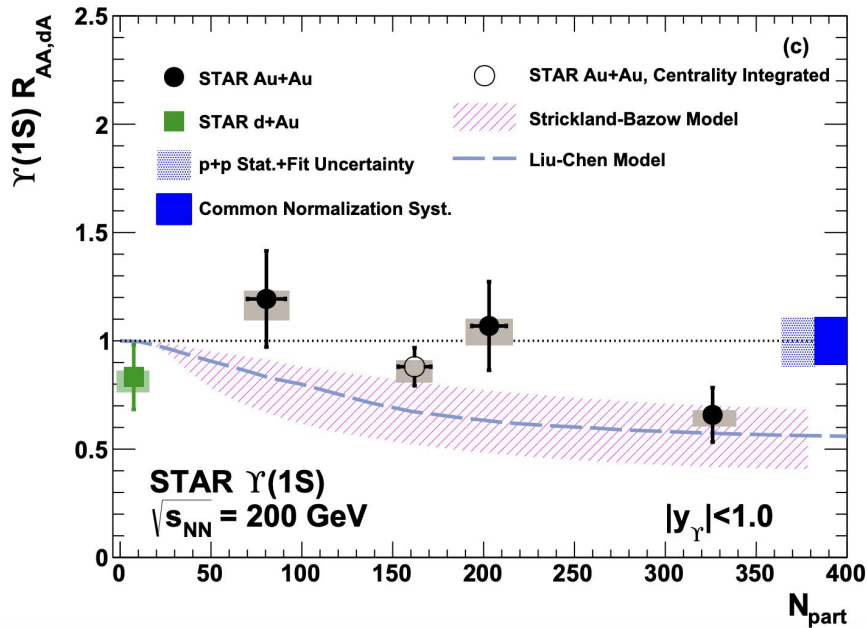
<sup>b</sup> Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

# a strong potential is needed

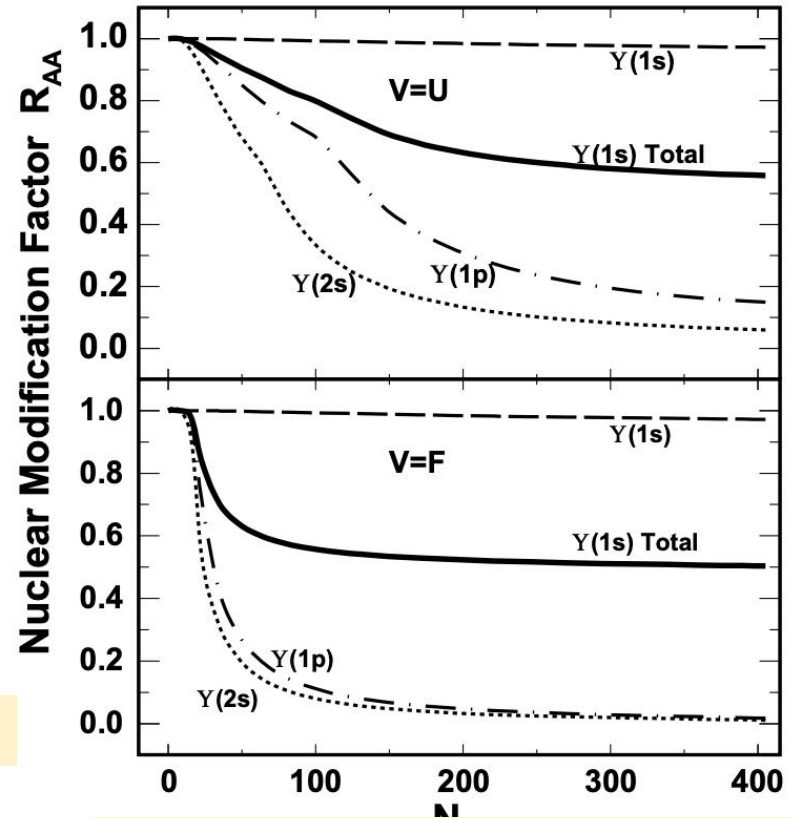
In 2011 PLB,

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STAR, Phys.Lett.B 735 (2014) 127-137



Y. Liu, B.Chen, N.Xu, P.Zhuang  
2011, PLB

# a strong potential is needed

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**In 2014,**

**LHC energy**

**Tsinghua Transport model** also studied the bottomonium at LHC



## Nuclear Physics A

Volume 931, November 2014, Pages 654-658



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# $\Upsilon$ production in heavy ion collisions at LHC

Kai Zhou<sup>a</sup>, Nu Xu<sup>b,c</sup>, Pengfei Zhuang<sup>a</sup>

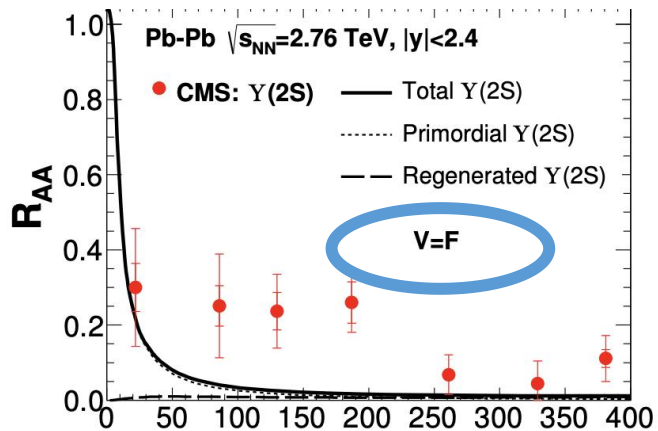
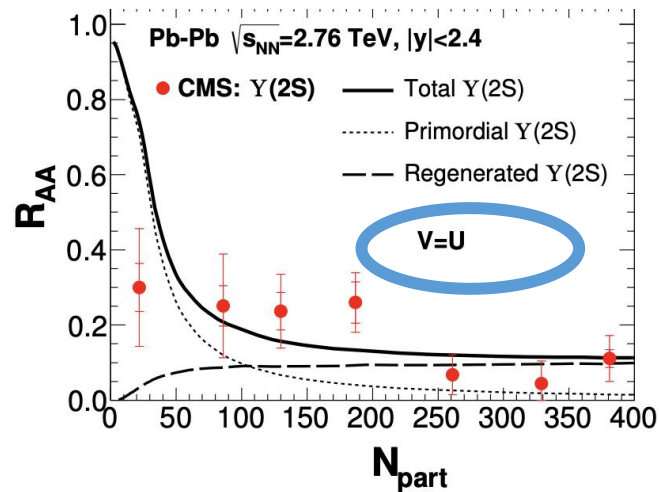
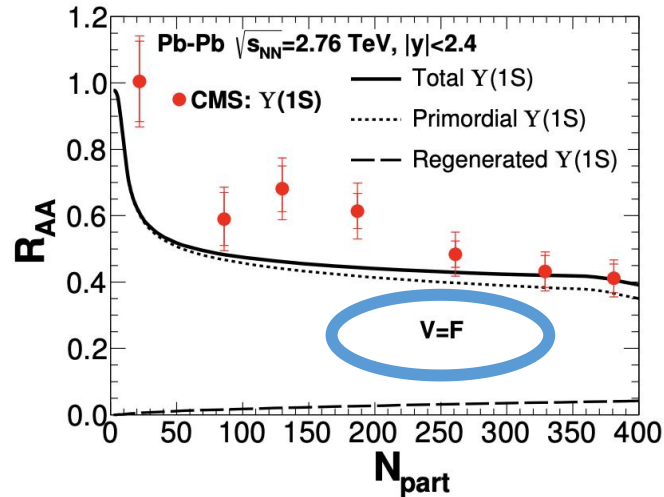
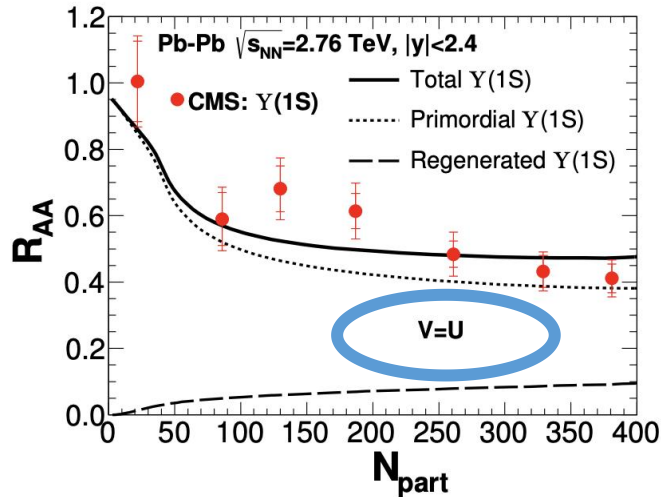
K. Zhou, N. Xu, P. Zhuang, 2014

# a strong potential is needed

In 2014,

LHC energy

Tsinghua Transport model also studied the bottomonium at LHC



K. Zhou, N. Xu, P. Zhuang, 2021

# potential-based models

- X. Guo, S. Shi, P. Zhuang, et al  
Time-independent relativistic Schrodinger *Phys.Lett.B* 2012
  - S.Shi, J.Zhao, K. Zhou, P. Zhuang, et al  
Bayesian analysis and deep learning *Phys.Rev.D* 105 (2022) 014017; 2512.11536
  - P. Gaussian, R. Katz, et al  
Schrodinger-Langevin equation *Annals Phys.* 368 (2016) 267-295
  - A. Rothkopf, Y. Akamatsu, et al, *Phys.Rev.D* 97(2018) 1, 014003  
Stochastic Schrodinger equation
  - Zuoxuan Xie, Baoyi Chen, *Chin.Phys.C* 47 (2023) 5, 054101
  - M. Strickland et al,  
Time-dependent Schrodinger, with complex potential *Phys.Lett.B* 2020
  - J. Liu, S. Zheng, B. Chen, et al, *Phys.Lett.B* 2023
  - Nora Brambilla, et al,  
Lindblad model with color-singlet and octet potentials, *JHEP* 08 (2022) 303
  - Xiaojun Yao, Yinru Xu, Weiyao Ke, et al  
Coupled transport model, *JHEP* 01 (2021) 046
  - Ralf Rapp, Min He, Xiaojian Du, et al  
transport model, *PRC* 96 (2017) 5, 054901
- And other references.....

# Time-dependent Schrodinger equation

In 2015 summer, Prof. Pengfei Zhuang and Prof. Ralf Rapp started a project about heavy quarkonium in heavy ion collisions:  
**Xiaojian come to Tsinghua; Baoyi come to TAMU.**

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi(r, t) = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + V(r, T) + \frac{L(L+1)\hbar^2}{2m_\mu r^2} \right) \psi(r, t).$$

$r$ : relative distance between  $c$  and  $\bar{c}$

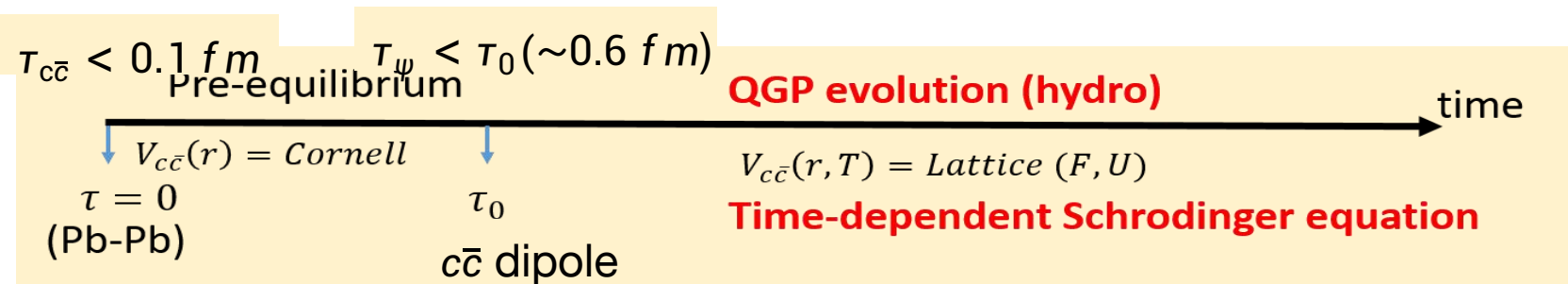
$m_\mu = m_c/2$ : scaling mass

$$\Psi_{klm}(\vec{r}) = R_{kl}(r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

- **mS eigenstate components** in one dipole:

$$c_{mS}(t) = \langle R_{mS}(r) | \frac{\psi(r, t)}{r} \rangle = \int R_{mS}(r) \psi(r, t) \cdot r dr$$

**color-singlet states**



# Initial conditions in HIC

## 1. $c\bar{c}$ internal Initial wavefunction:

Taken as quarkonium eigenstates  
(neglect the pre-equilibrium effect)

$$\Psi_{c\bar{c}}(\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}_0) = \Phi_{1S,2S}(\mathbf{r})$$

## Initial direct yields: charmonium

$$f_{pp}^{J/\psi} : f_{pp}^{\chi_c} : f_{pp}^{\psi(2S)} = 0.68 : 1 : 0.19$$

## bottomonium

State	$\Upsilon(1s)$	$\chi_b(1p)$	$\Upsilon(2s)$	$\chi_b(2p)$	$\Upsilon(3s)$
$\sigma_{\text{exp}}(nb)$	57.6	33.51	19	29.42	6.8
$\sigma_{\text{direct}}(nb)$	37.97	44.2	18.27	37.68	8.21

## 2. The initial momentum and spatial distribution of the center of $c\bar{c}$ dipole

$$f_{\Psi}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{b}) = (2\pi)^3 \delta(z) T_p(\mathbf{x}_T) T_A(\mathbf{x}_T - \mathbf{b}) \\ \times \mathcal{R}_g(x_g, \mu_F, \mathbf{x}_T - \mathbf{b}) \frac{d\bar{\sigma}_{pp}^{\Psi}}{d^3\mathbf{p}},$$

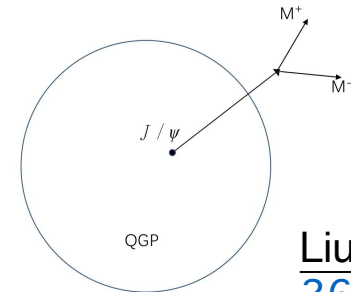
Shadowing effect from EPS09 NLO

## The initial momentum of $c\bar{c}$ dipoles in pp,

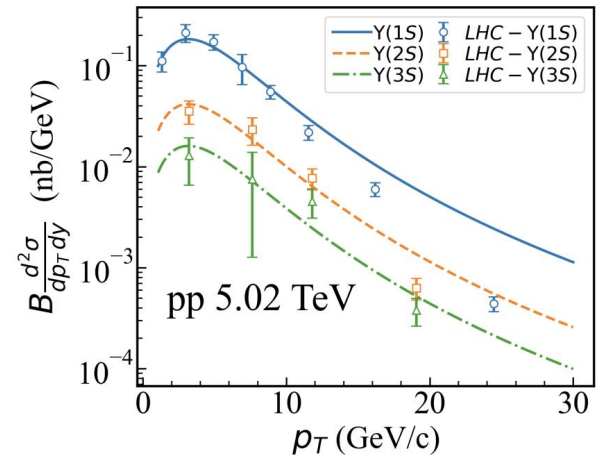
$$\frac{dN_{J/\psi}}{2\pi p_T dp_T} = \frac{(n-1)}{\pi(n-2) \langle p_T^2 \rangle_{pp}} \left[ 1 + \frac{p_T^2}{(n-2) \langle p_T^2 \rangle_{pp}} \right]^{-n}$$

$$n = 3.2 \quad \langle p_T^2 \rangle(y) = \langle p_T^2 \rangle(y=0) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{y}{y_{\text{max}}} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\ln(\sqrt{s_{NN}}/m_{\Psi})$$



Liu, Zhou, BC,  
2604.09198



# nuclear modification factor

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➤ **The initial yields of charmonium eigenstates**

$$n_{mS}^{t=0}(\mathbf{x}_T, p_T | \mathbf{b}, y) = n_{c\bar{c}}(\mathbf{x}_T, p_T | \mathbf{b}) \times |\langle R_{mS}(r) | \phi_0(r) \rangle|^2$$

$$|c_{mS}(t=0 | \mathbf{b})|^2 = \int d\mathbf{x}_T \int_{p_{T1}}^{p_{T2}} dp_T n_{mS}(\mathbf{x}_T, p_T | \mathbf{b})$$

➤ **Charmonium direct  $R_{AA}$  with hot medium effects,**

$$R_{pA}^{\text{direct}}(nl) = \frac{\langle |c_{nl}(t)|^2 \rangle_{\text{en}}}{\langle |c_{nl}(t_0)|^2 \rangle_{\text{en}}}$$

$$= \frac{\int d\mathbf{x}_\Psi d\mathbf{p}_\Psi |c_{nl}(t, \mathbf{x}_\Psi, \mathbf{p}_\Psi)|^2 \frac{dN_{pA}^\Psi}{d\mathbf{x}_\Psi d\mathbf{p}_\Psi}}{\int d\mathbf{x}_\Psi d\mathbf{p}_\Psi |c_{nl}(t_0, \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{p}_\Psi)|^2 \frac{dN_{pA}^\Psi}{d\mathbf{x}_\Psi d\mathbf{p}_\Psi}}$$

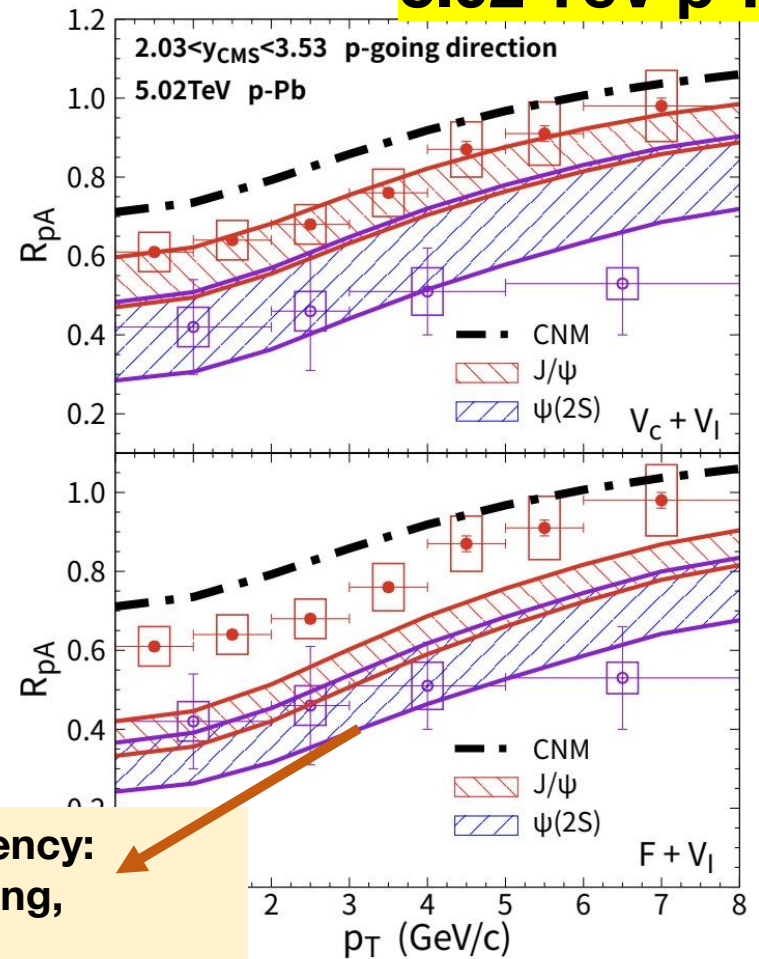
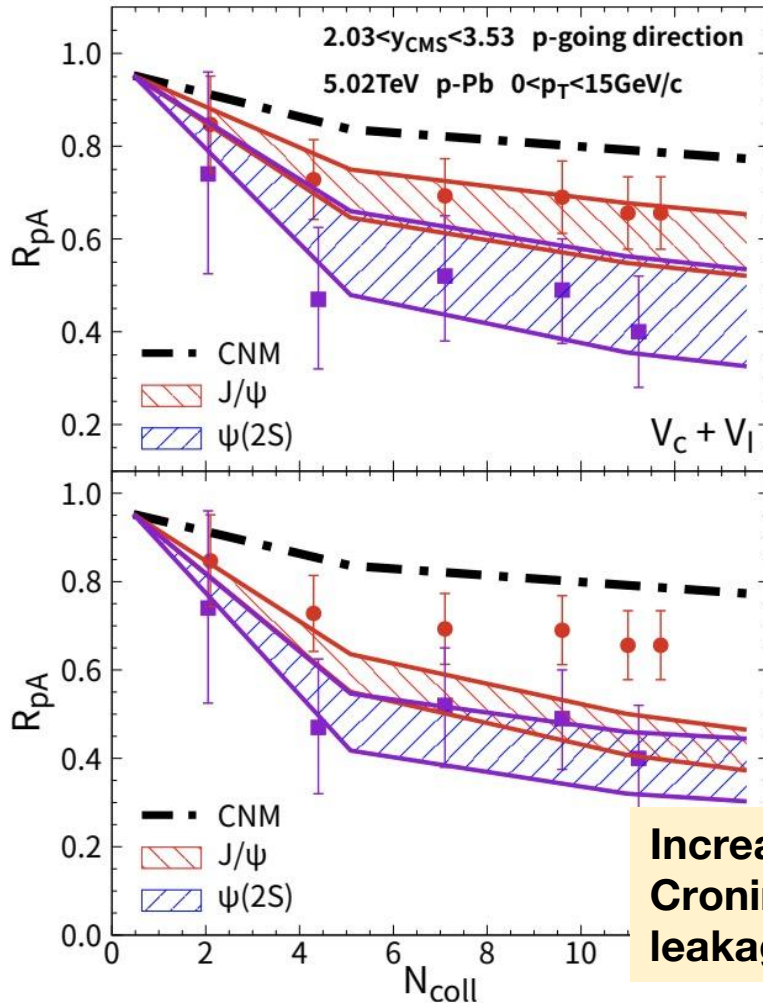
$$R_{pA}(J/\psi) = \frac{\sum_{nl} \langle |c_{nl}(t)|^2 \rangle_{\text{en}} f_{pp}^{nl} \mathcal{B}_{nl \rightarrow J/\psi}}{\sum_{nl} \langle |c_{nl}(t_0)|^2 \rangle_{\text{en}} f_{pp}^{nl} \mathcal{B}_{nl \rightarrow J/\psi}}$$

**$c\bar{c}$  dipoles move inside QGP**

$$\mathbf{R}_{c\bar{c}}(\tau + \Delta\tau) = \mathbf{R}_{c\bar{c}} + \mathbf{v}_{c\bar{c}} \cdot \Delta\tau$$

# Quarkonium in p-Pb collisions

5.02 TeV p-Pb



Increasing tendency:  
Cronin, shadowing,  
leakage effects

Band comes from the uncertainty in  $V_I$

Wen, Shi, Du, BC, CPC 46 (2022) 114102

- $R_{pA}$  as a function of  $N_{\text{coll}}$
- $R_{pA}$  as a function of  $p_T$

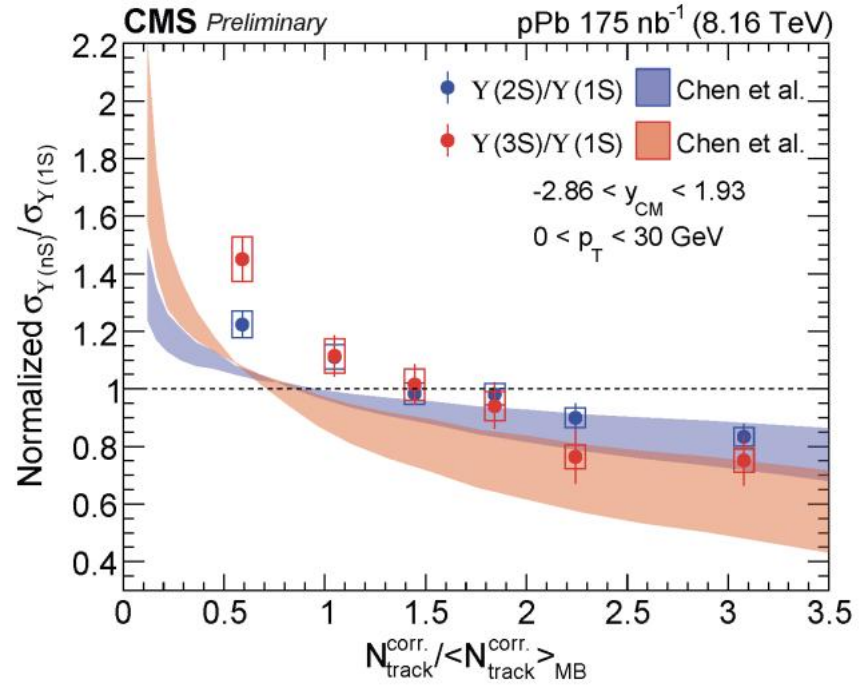
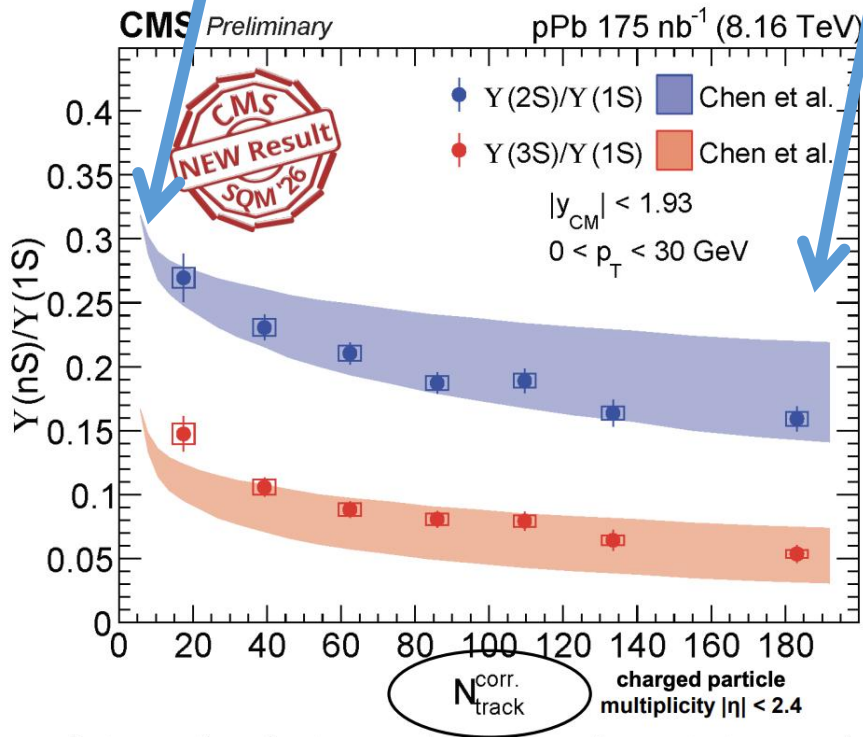
**weak** in-medium potential       $\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{T},\mathbf{r})$   
**Strong** in-medium potential       $\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{V}_c(\mathbf{r})$

# Quarkonium in p-Pb collisions

8.16 TeV p-Pb

no hot medium effects

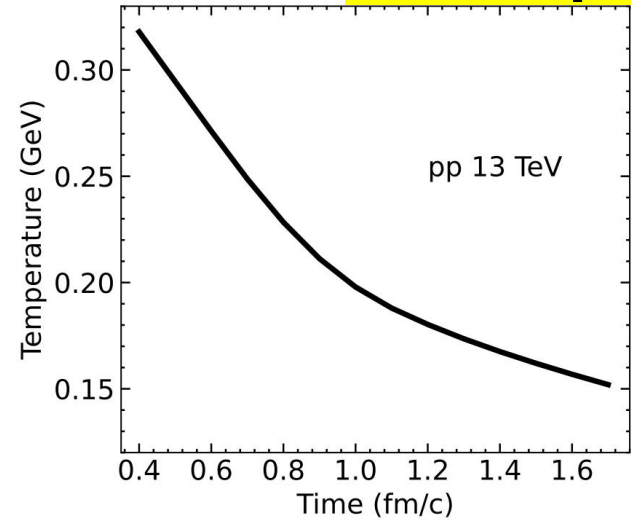
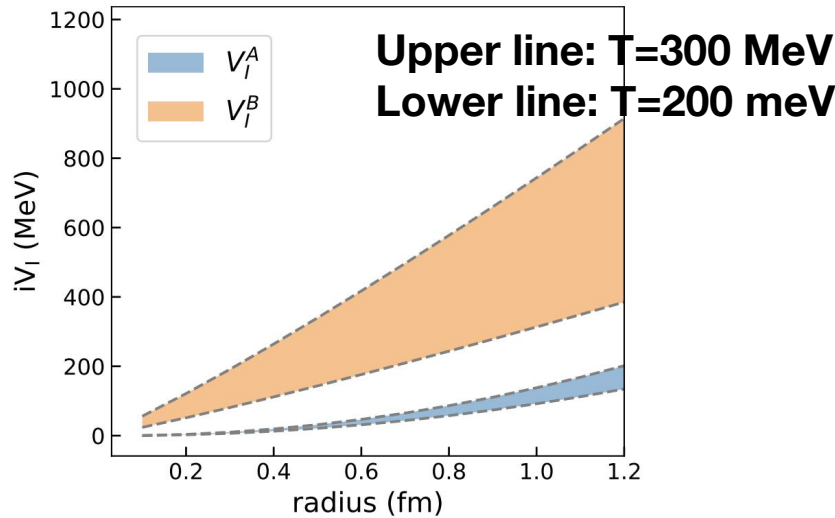
Stronger hot medium effects



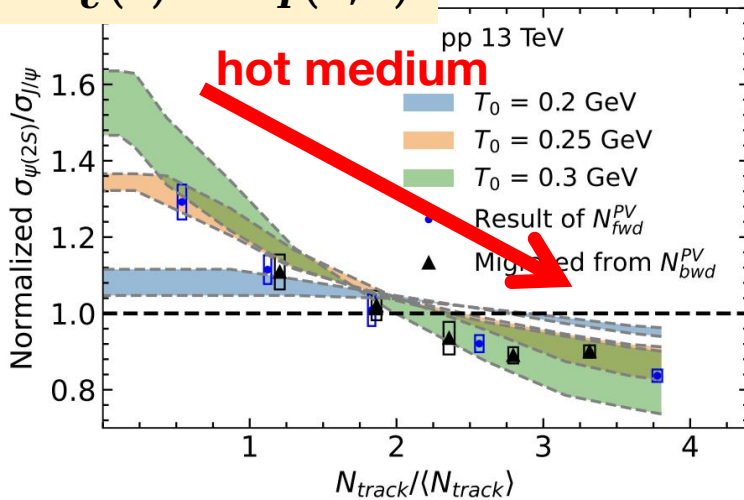
- **Bottomonium yield ratios nS/1S: decreasing tendency induced by the final-state-interactions**, not the initial conditions
- Normalized cross section: similar as the yield ratio
- Band: induced by the uncertainty of the imaginary potential

# Quarkonium in high-multiplicity pp

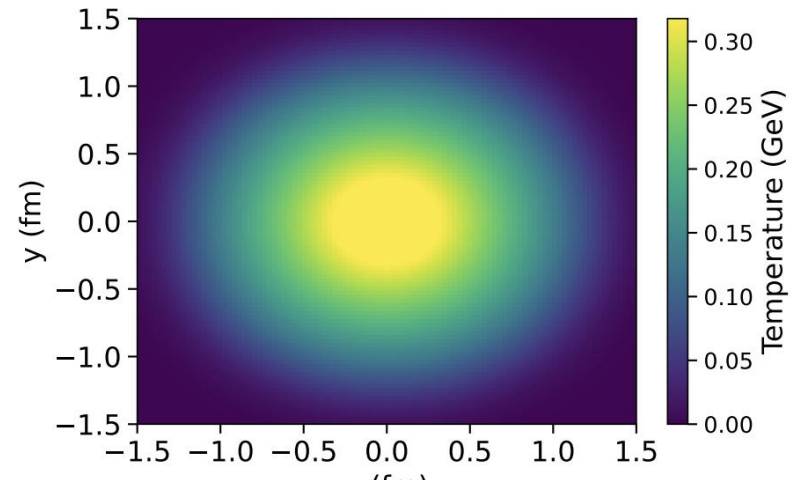
13 TeV p-p



$V = V_C(r) + V_I(T, r)$  No color screening



Bulk medium evolution from MUSIC



Quarkonium suppression from imaginary potential

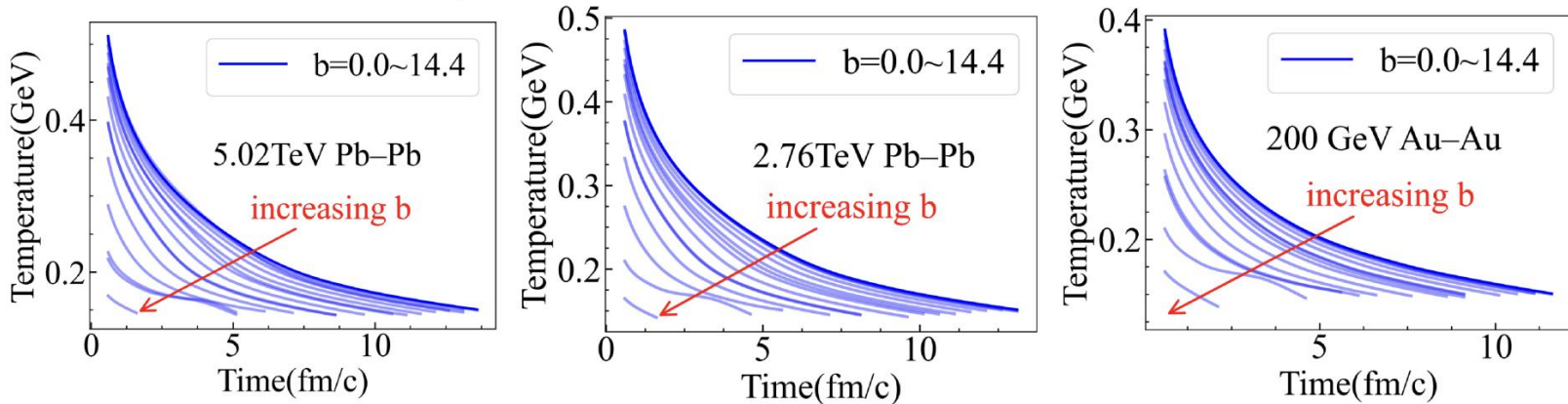
Y.Bai, BC, EPJC 84 (2024) 1193

# Quarkonium in Pb-Pb

- | Collision System                   | $t_0$ (fm/c) | $T_0(x_T=0 b=0)$ (MeV) |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV (Pb-Pb) | 0.6          | 510                    |
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV (Pb-Pb) | 0.6          | 484                    |
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV (Au-Au)  | 0.6          | 390                    |

## Maximal temperature of QGP at three systems

Temperature vs. Time at (x=0, y=0) for varying b

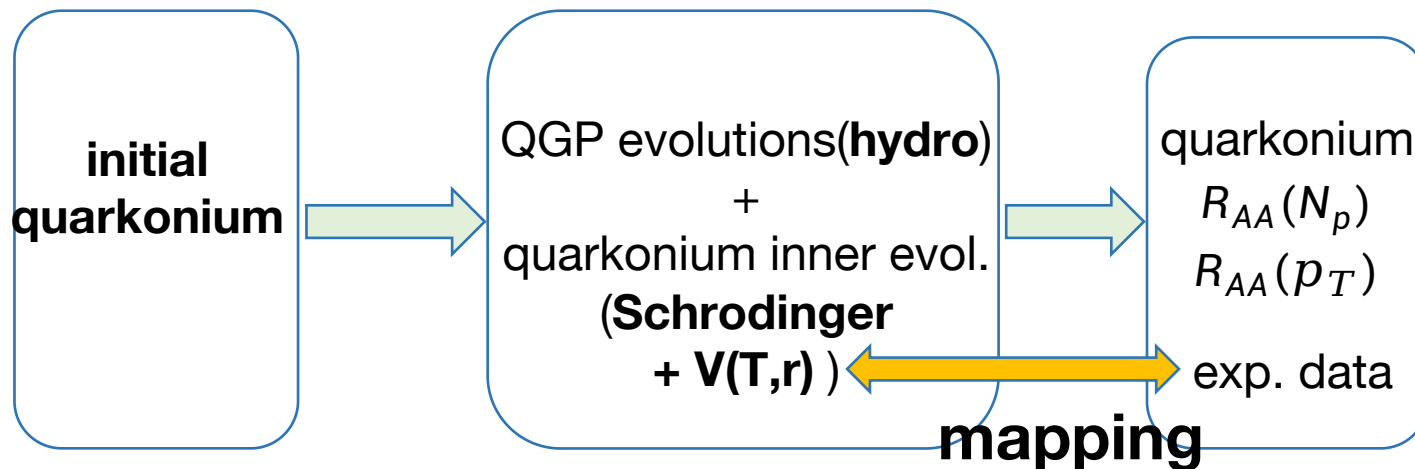


## Medium temperatures from MUSIC

# parametrization of $V(T,r)$

various phenomenological studies in different systems indicate **a strong heavy quark potential at finite temperatures**, and quarkonium suppression is induced by the imaginary potential.

**A systematic study is urgent.**



in-medium HQ  
potential  
parametrization

$$V(T, r) = \begin{cases} V_R(T, r) + V_I(T, r), & T \geq T_{\text{sw}} \\ V_c(r), & T < T_{\text{sw}} \end{cases}$$

above this  $T$ , QGP effects  
dominant in quarkonium

# parametrization of $V(T,r)$

Real part of the potential:

$$V_R(T, r) = -\alpha \left( \mu_D + \frac{e^{-\mu_D r}}{r} \right) + \frac{2\sigma}{\mu_D} - \frac{\sigma e^{-\mu_D r} (2 + \mu_D r)}{\mu_D}$$

Debye mass:

$$\mu_D = a_4 T \sqrt{4\pi N_c \left( 1 + \frac{N_f}{6} \right) \frac{\alpha}{3}}$$

Imaginary part of the potential:

$$V_I = -iT^{a_0} (a_1 r + a_2 r^{a_3})$$

	Parameter	Sampling Range
parameter ranges:	$a_0$	[1.0, 2.0]
	$a_1$	[0.0, 0.5]
	$a_2$	[0.2, 0.7]
	$a_3$	[2.0, 3.0]
	$a_4$	[0.1, 1.0]
	$T_{sw}$	[0.17, 0.25]

# parametrization of $V(T,r)$

## Real part of the potential:

$$V_R(T, r) = -\alpha \left( \mu_D + \frac{e^{-\mu_D r}}{r} \right) + \frac{2\sigma}{\mu_D} - \frac{\sigma e^{-\mu_D r} (2 + \mu_D r)}{\mu_D}$$

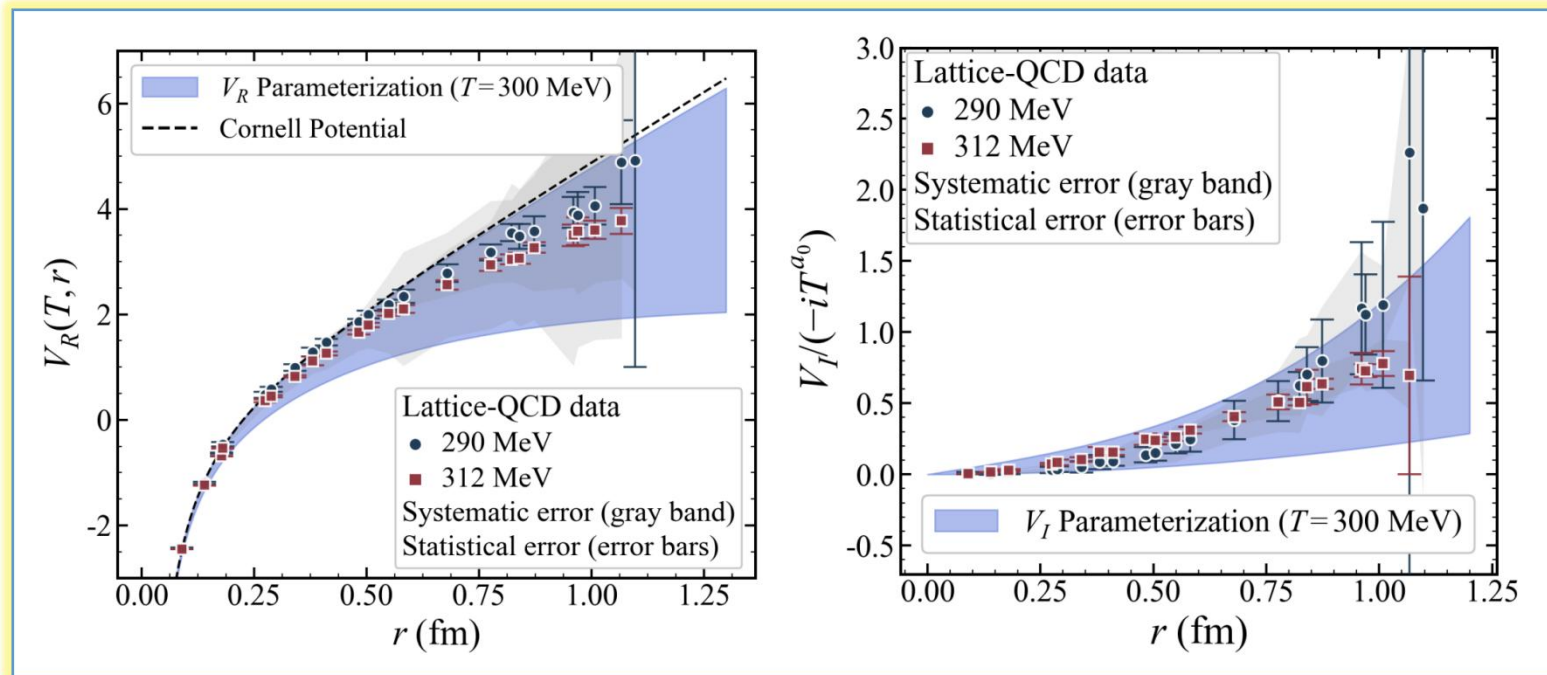
## Debye mass:

$$\mu_D = a_4 T \sqrt{4\pi N_c \left( 1 + \frac{N_f}{6} \right) \frac{\alpha}{3}}$$

## Imaginary part of the potential:

$$V_I = -iT^{a_0} (a_1 r + a_2 r^{a_3})$$

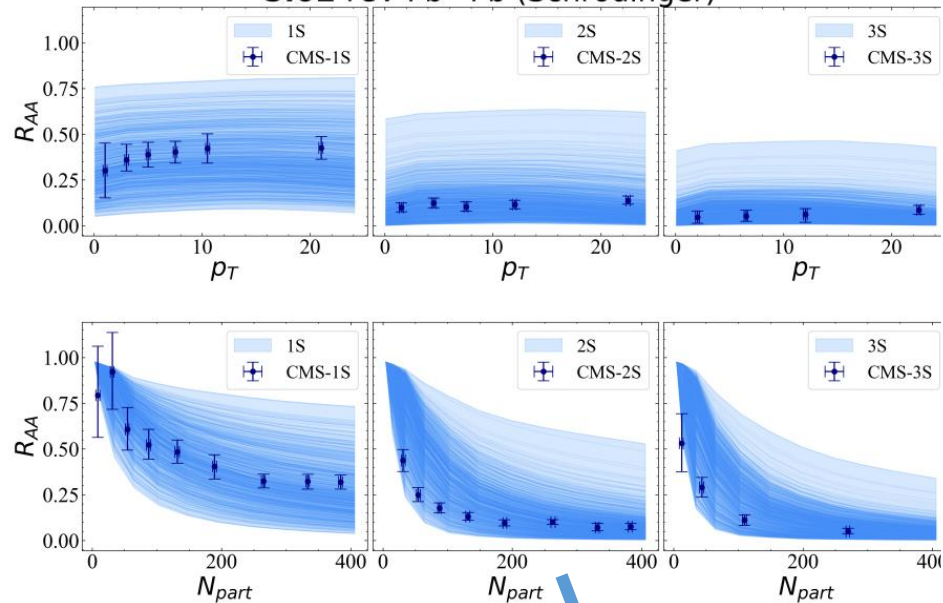
arXiv: 2604.09198



# dataset generation

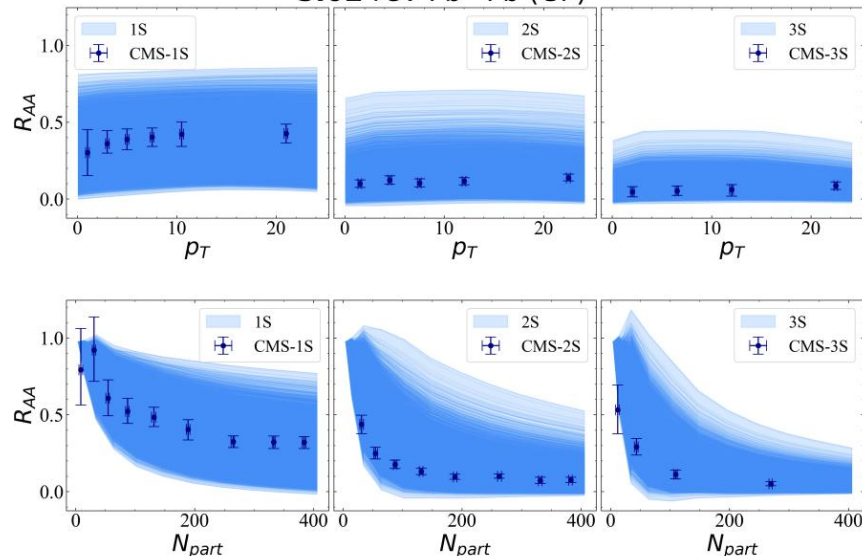
## Schrodinger model

5.02 TeV Pb–Pb (Schrödinger)



## Gaussian process emulator

5.02 TeV Pb–Pb (GP)



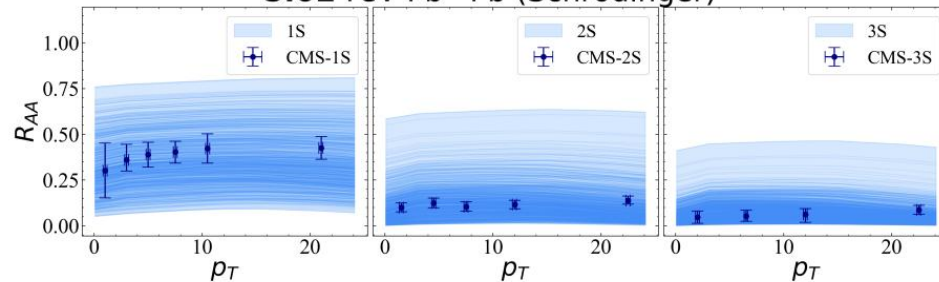
generate **N=1000 samples** of  $V(T,r)$ , take into Schrodinger equation model coupled with the corresponding QGP profiles.

take **80% of original events** from Schrodinger model into **Principal Component Analysis and Gaussian Process** emulator to generate a larger dataset, **10, 000 samples**.

# dataset generation

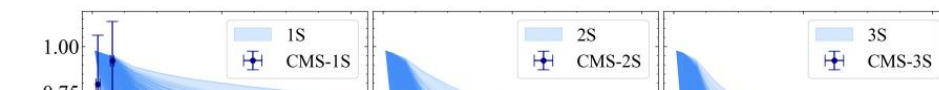
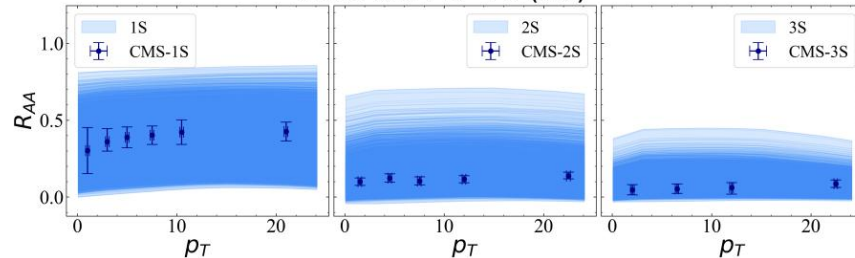
## Schrodinger model

5.02 TeV Pb–Pb (Schrödinger)

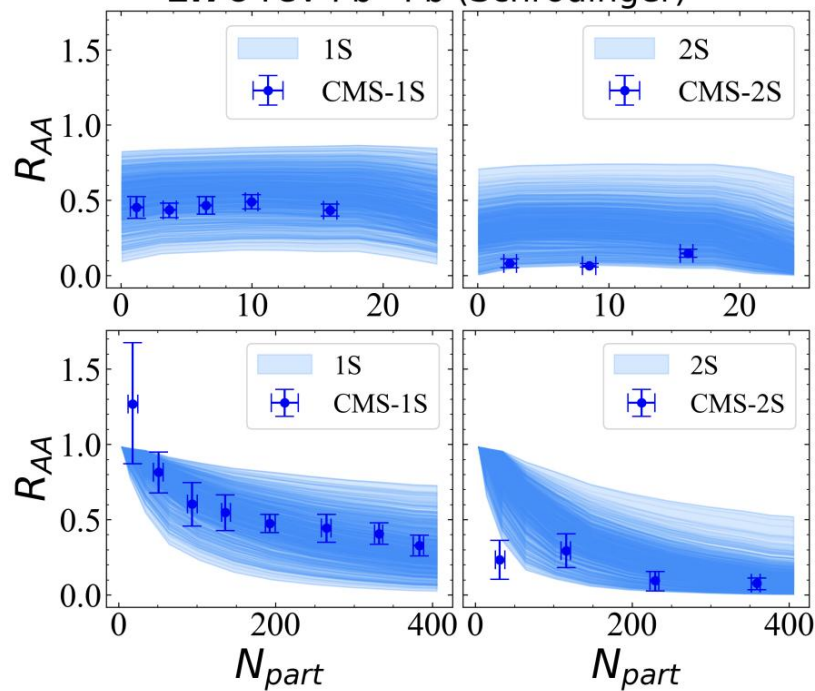


## Gaussian process emulator

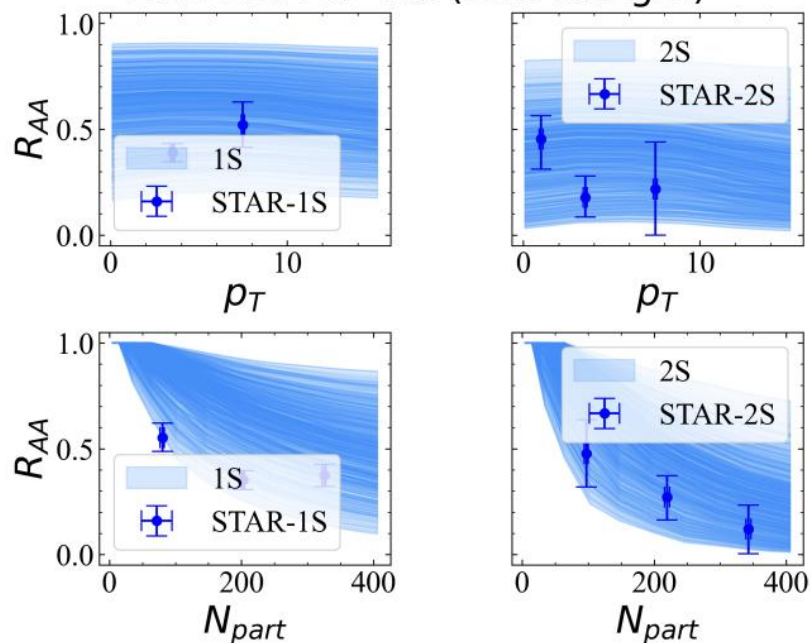
5.02 TeV Pb–Pb (GP)



2.76 TeV Pb–Pb (Schrödinger)

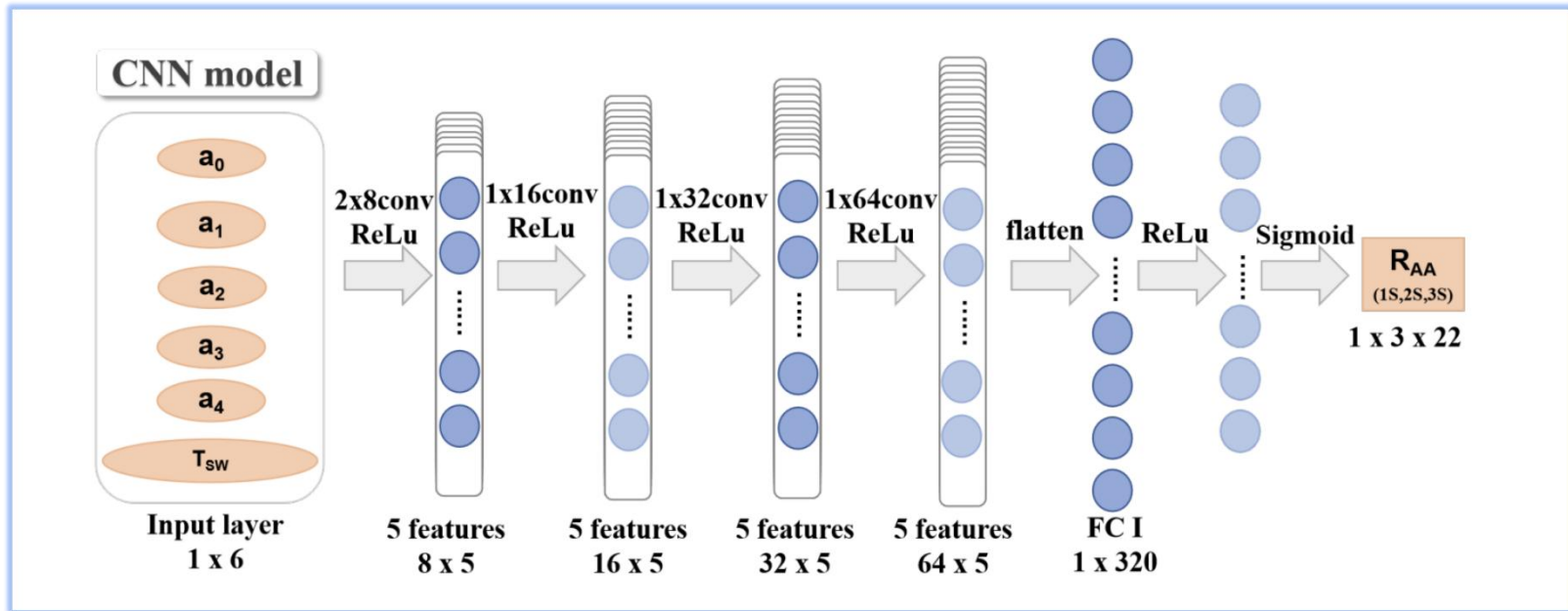


200 GeV Au–Au (Schrödinger)



# CNN framework

A convolutional Neural network is constructed to learn the mapping between  $V(T,r)$  and quarkonium observables



$$\chi^2(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \frac{[y_{\text{obs},i} - y_{\text{CNN},i}(\theta)]^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

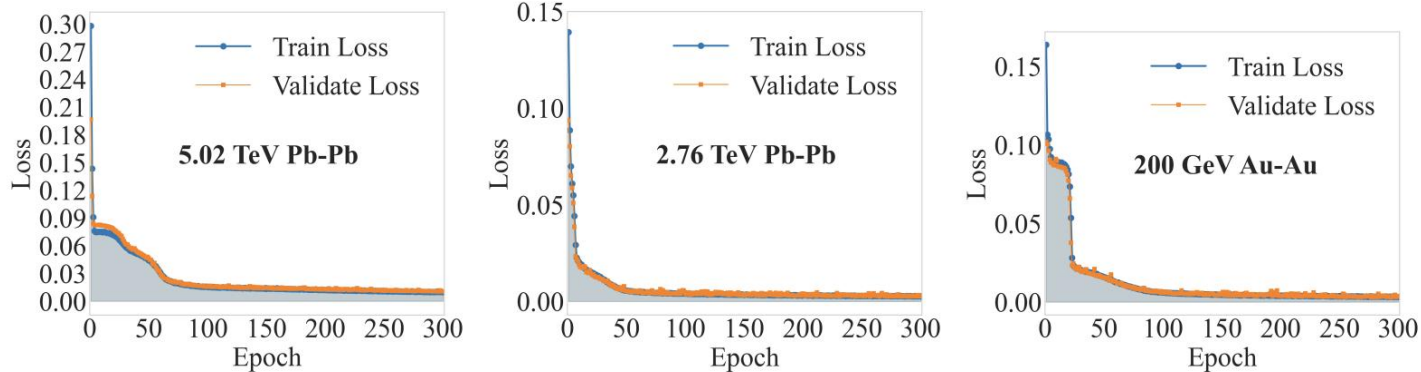
$$\mathbf{y}_{\text{CNN} \rightarrow \text{obs}}^{(g)}(\theta) = \mathcal{I}_g \mathbf{y}_{\text{CNN}}(\theta)$$

The CNN is trained to minimize the loss function

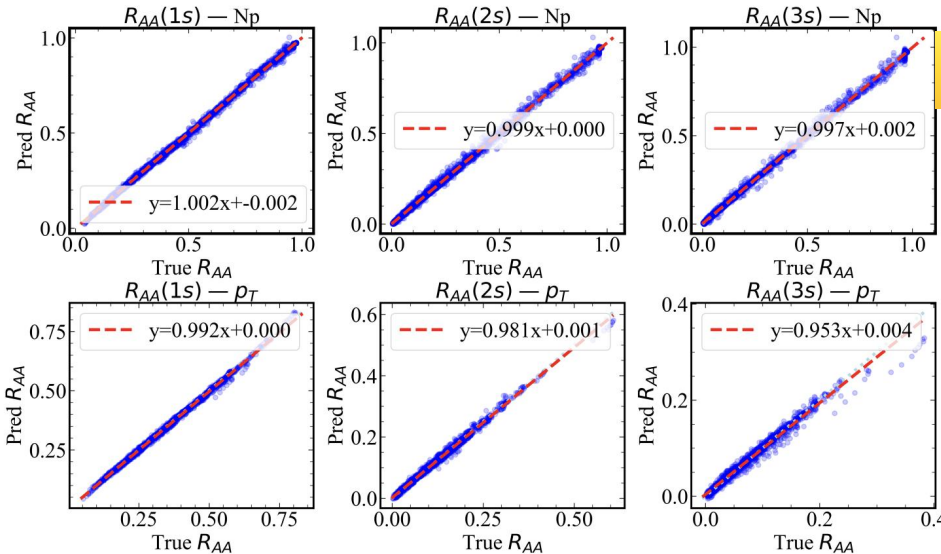
$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = -\log p(\mathbf{y}_{\text{obs}} | \theta) = \sum_g \sum_{i \in g} \frac{1}{2} \frac{\left( \mathbf{y}_{\text{CNN} \rightarrow \text{obs},i}^{(g)}(\theta) - \mathbf{y}_{\text{obs},i}^{(g)} \right)^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

# performance of CNN

## loss function of three CNNs:



After 3 CNNs are well trained, use **additional 20% of N=1000 events to test the CNN respectively.**



**5.02 TeV Pb-Pb**

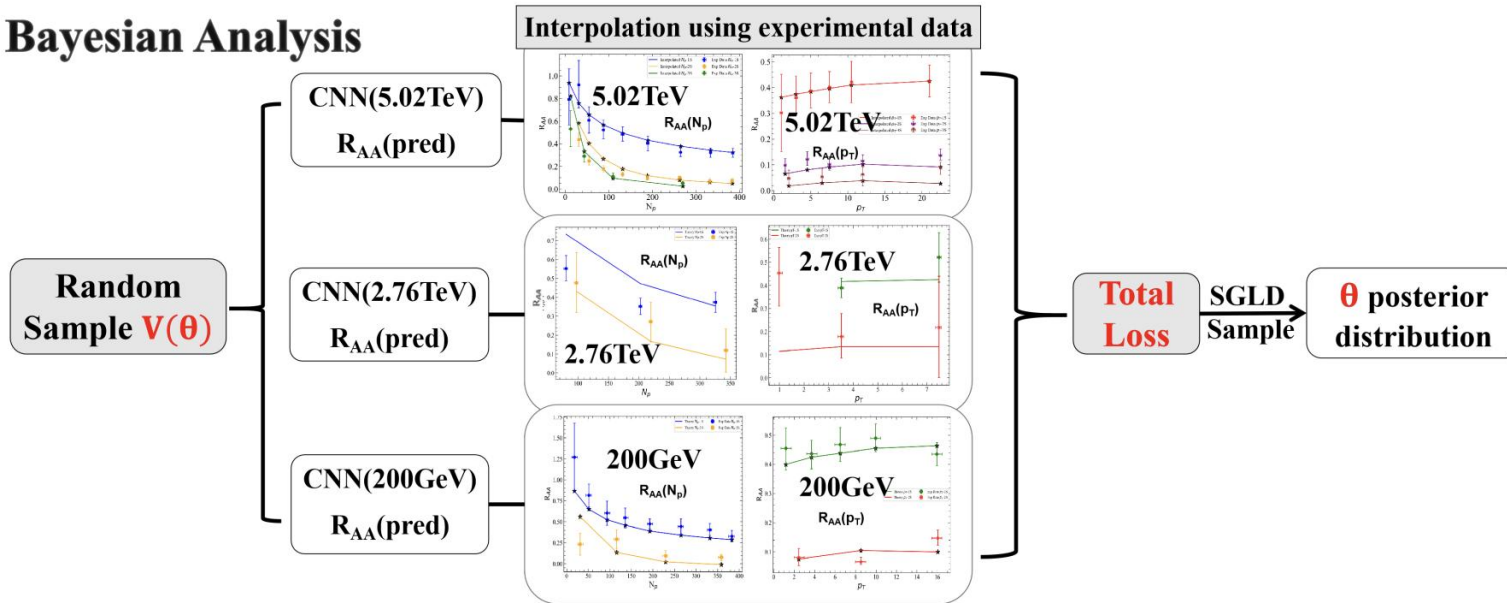
**x-axis:** true value of  $R_{AA}$  from Schrodinger model

**y-axis:** predicted value of  $R_{AA}$  from CNN model

**Similar for 2.76 TeV, 200 GeV**

# Extraction of $V(T,r)$

## Bayesian Analysis



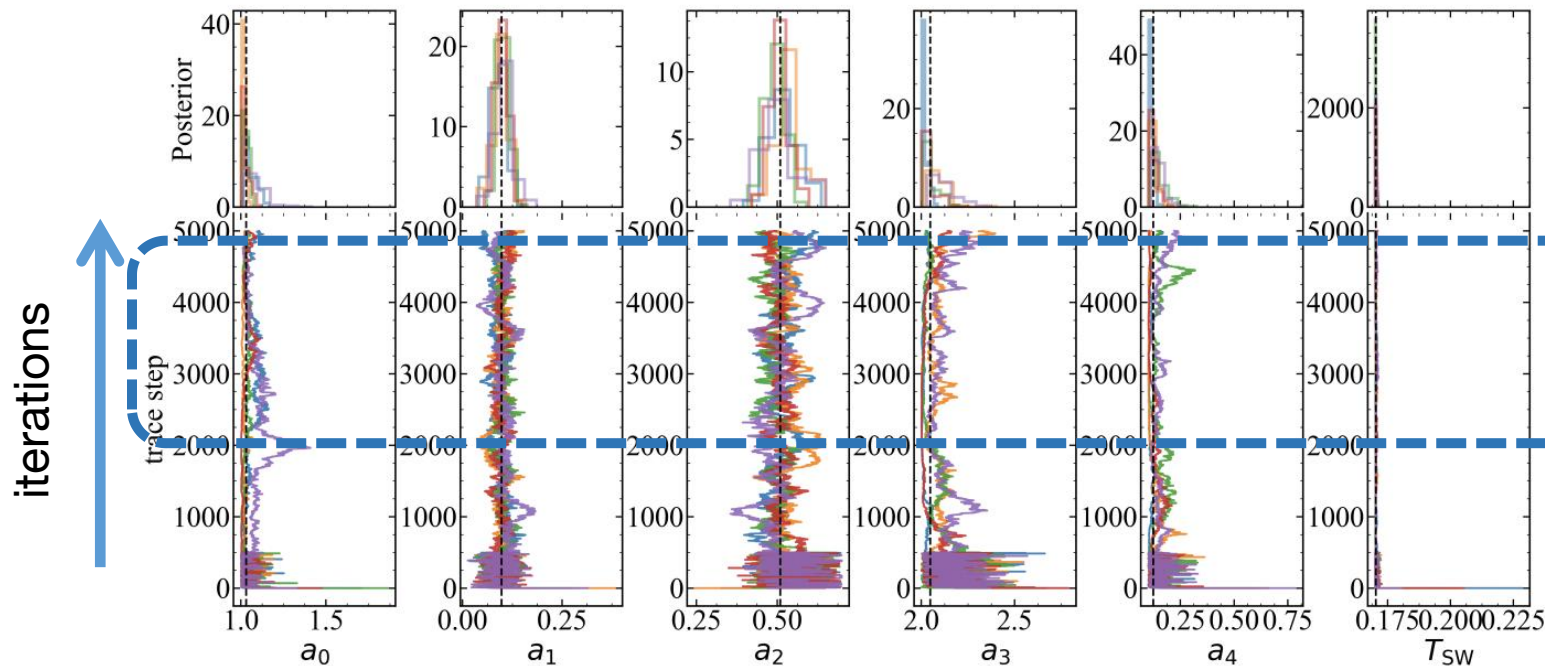
- **Now use the reverse process to extract  $V(T,r)$  with quarkonium observables in all three systems (5.02 TeV Pb-Pb, 2.76 TeV Pb-Pb, 200 GeV Au-Au)**

$$L_{\text{tot}} = L_{5.02\text{TeV}} + L_{2.76\text{TeV}} + L_{0.2\text{TeV}}$$

Take experimental data points of bottomonium, use **Stochastic Gradient Langevin Dynamics (SGLD)** algorithm to obtain the values of the potential parameters which gives **minimal total loss function**.

# extraction of $V(T,r)$

## Markov Chain Monte Carlo trajectories

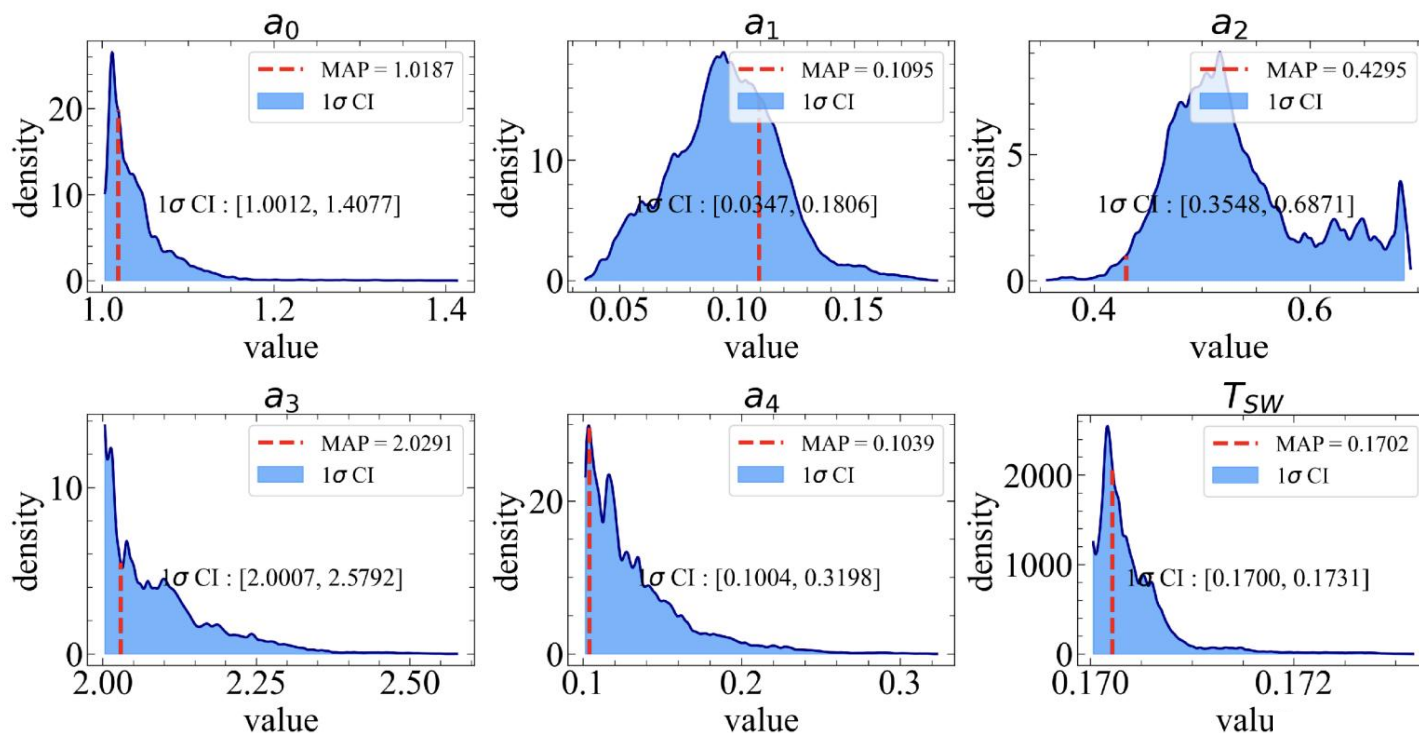


- After enough iterations where total loss function is very small, **the combination of the potential parameters are not unique.**
- take over **1 million events** (sets of potential parameters), rank them according to their negative log-likelihood, **in ascending order, get the first 68.27% of samples**

$$\mathcal{S}_\gamma = \{\theta\} \quad \gamma = 68.27\%$$

# extraction of $V(T,r)$

- use the values in  $\mathcal{S}_\gamma = \{\theta\}$  to plot the distributions of the potential parameters, which gives a small total loss function
- a small loss function indicates that These potentials can simultaneously explain well the exp. data in three collision systems.



$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}} = \arg \min_{\theta \in \Omega} \mathcal{L}(\theta)$$

The distributions of the potential parameters (dashed line: optimal value)

# extraction of $V(T,r)$

1 sigma distributions of the potential parameters according to the samples extracted in the SGLD process

Parameters	$1\sigma$ Uncertainties	MAP Value
$a_0$	[1.001, 1.407]	1.018 → linear T-dependence
$a_1$	[0.034, 0.180]	0.109
$a_2$	[0.354, 0.687]	0.429
$a_3$	[2.000, 2.579]	2.029
$a_4$	[0.100, 0.319]	0.103
$T_{sw}$	[0.170, 0.173]	0.170

**Potential parametrization:**

$$V_I = -i T^{a_0} (a_1 r + a_2 r^{a_3})$$

$$V_R = -\alpha \left( \mu_D + \frac{e^{-\mu_D r}}{r} \right) + \frac{2\sigma}{\mu_D} - \frac{\sigma e^{-\mu_D r} (2 + \mu_D r)}{\mu_D}$$

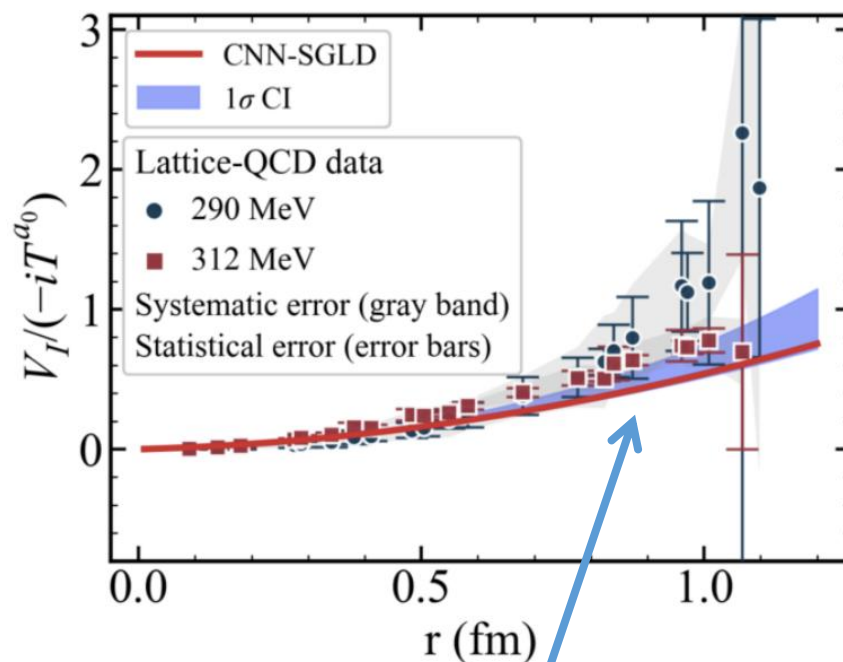
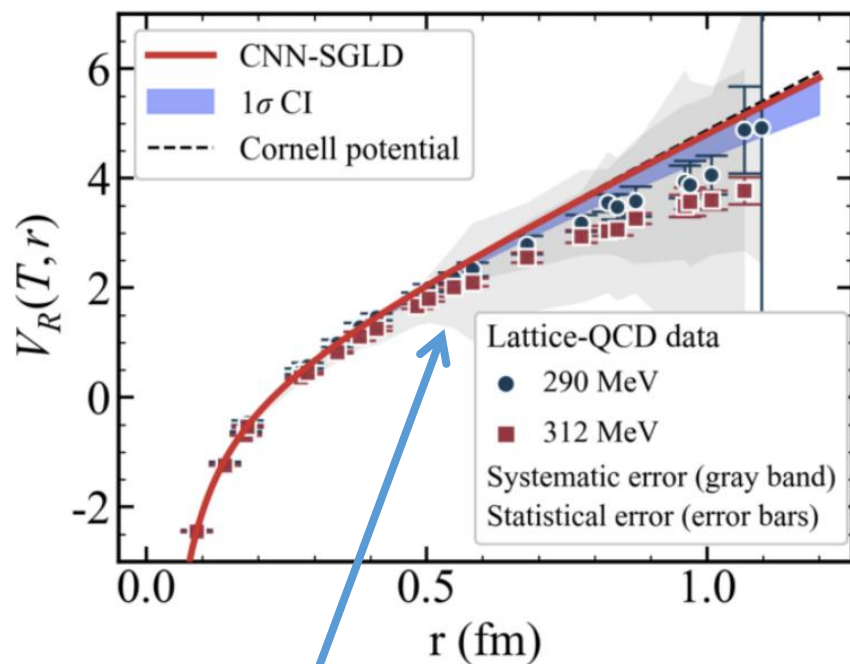
with Debye mass  $\mu_D = a_4 T \sqrt{\frac{4\pi N_c}{3} \left( 1 + \frac{N_f}{6} \right) \alpha}$

✓ small Debye mass → small color screening effect

# extraction of $V(T,r)$

1 sigma distributions of the potential parameters according to the samples extracted in the SGLD process

Parameters	$1\sigma$ Uncertainties	MAP Value



- **real potential:** very close to the vacuum case (see CNN-SGLD line)
- **Imaginary potential:** a bit smaller than the lattice QCD results.

# Validation of the CNN-SGLD framework

- ① randomly generate a set of potential parameters  $V(T,r)$

$$\theta^{\text{mock}} = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, T_{\text{sw}}) = (1.6, 0.2, 0.3, 2.7, 0.3, 0.18)$$

- ② take into Schrodinger equation, to calculate the  $R_{AA}$
- ③ We now know the relation:

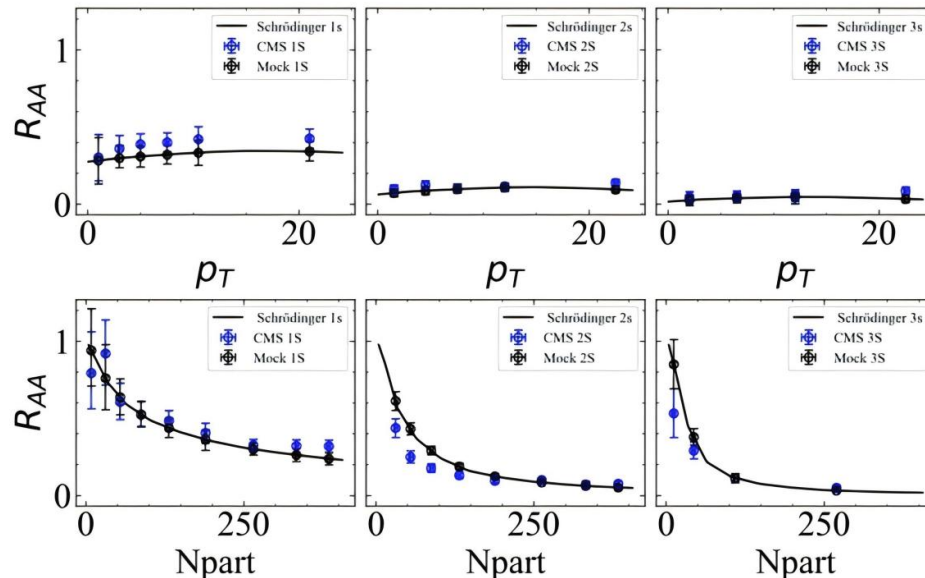
bottomonium  $R_{AA}$



$V(T,r)$

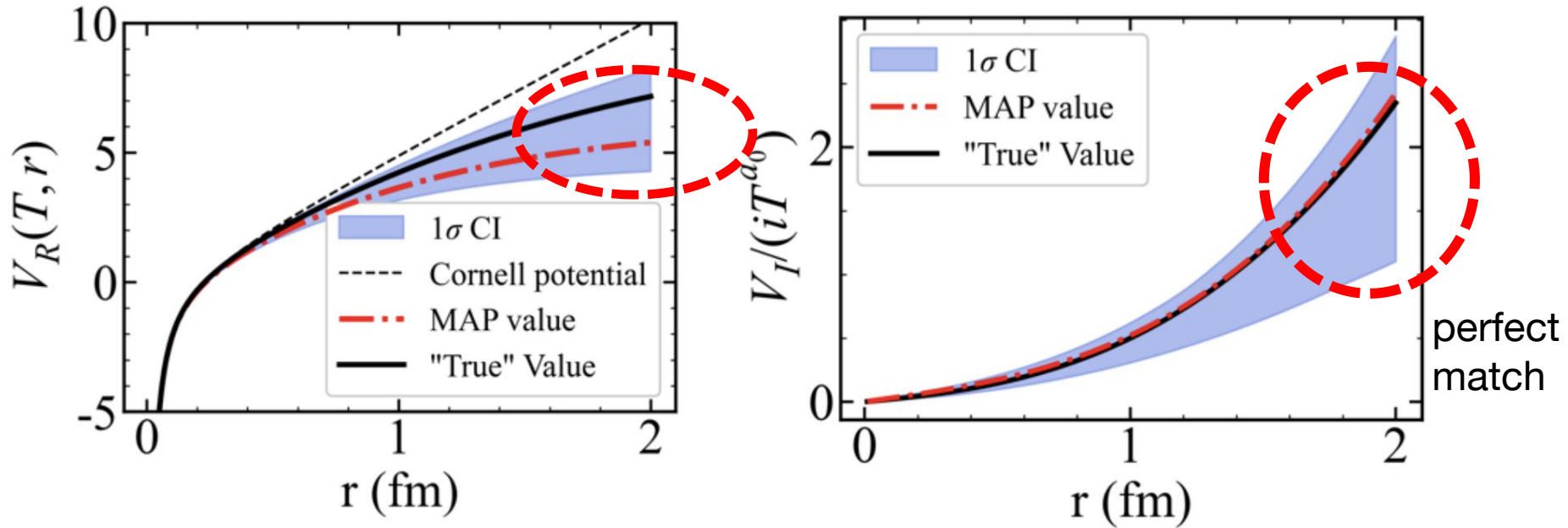
**Take  $R_{AA}$  back into the CNN-SGLD framework**

Exp vs Mock  $R_{AA}$  (5.02 TeV)



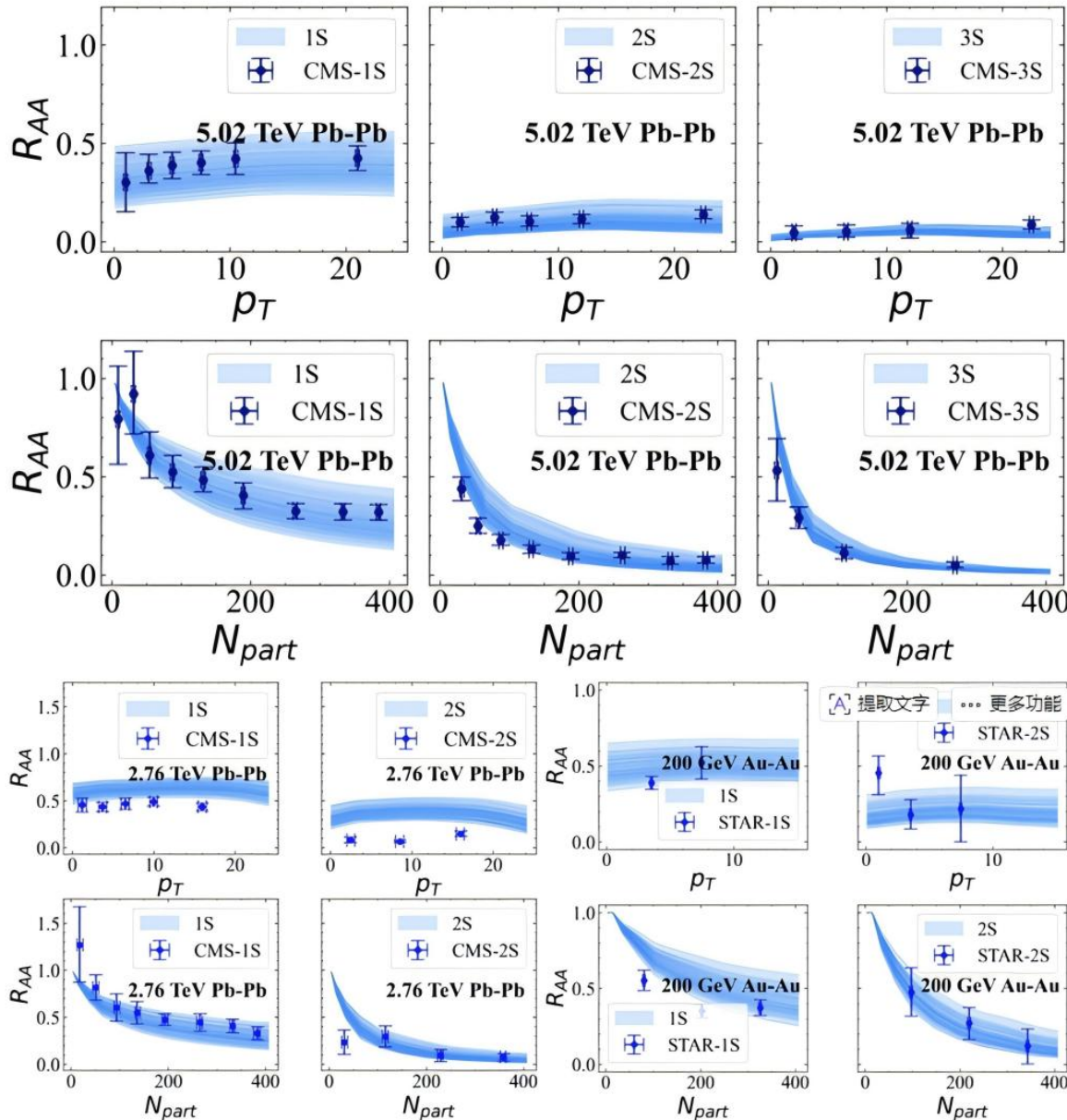
- Process the theoretical  $R_{AA}$  into the format of experimental data,
- it can then be fed into the CNN-SGLD framework.

# Validation of the CNN-SGLD framework



- True value: potential of  $\theta^{\text{mock}} = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, T_{\text{sw}}) = (1.6, , 0.2, , 0.3, , 2.7, , 0.3, , 0.18)$
- MAP value and the 1 sigma uncertainty: from **CNN-SGLD framework**
- **conclusion:**  
CNN-SGLD framework can correctly reconstruct the in-medium potential;

# recalculate the RAA with the extracted V



5.02 TeV  
1S, 2S, 3S

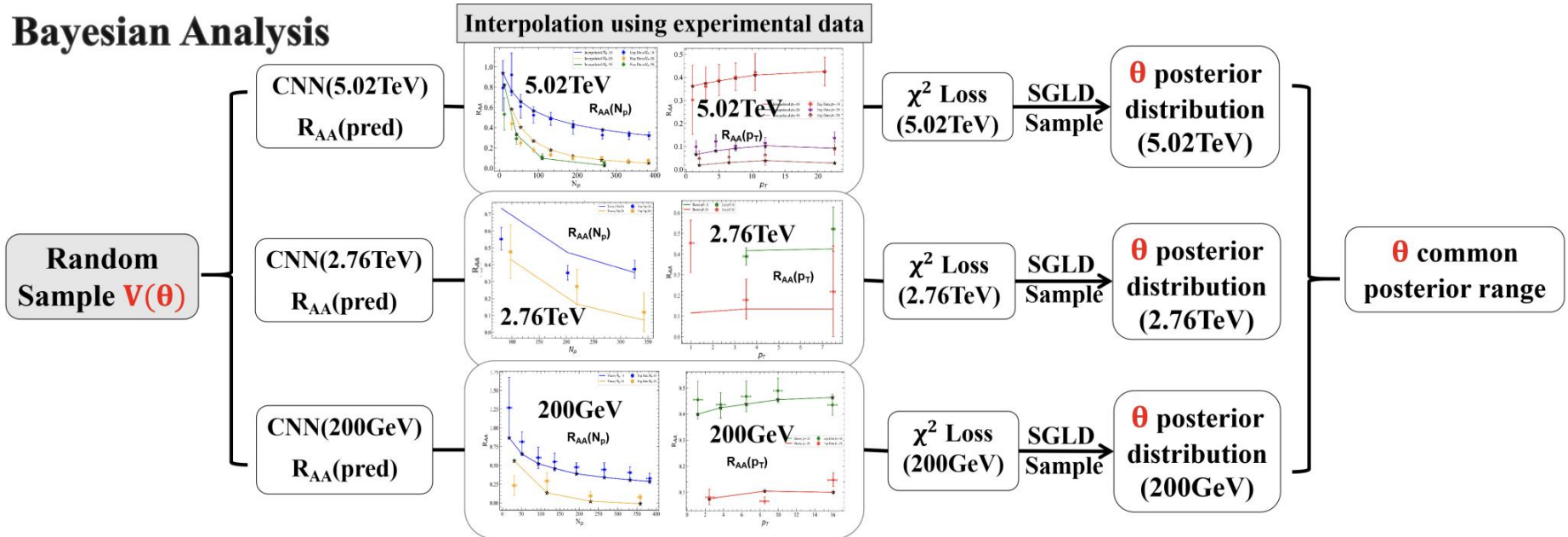
2.76 TeV  
1S, 2S

200 GeV  
1S, 2S

# method 2: extract $V(T,r)$ from each system

Another test

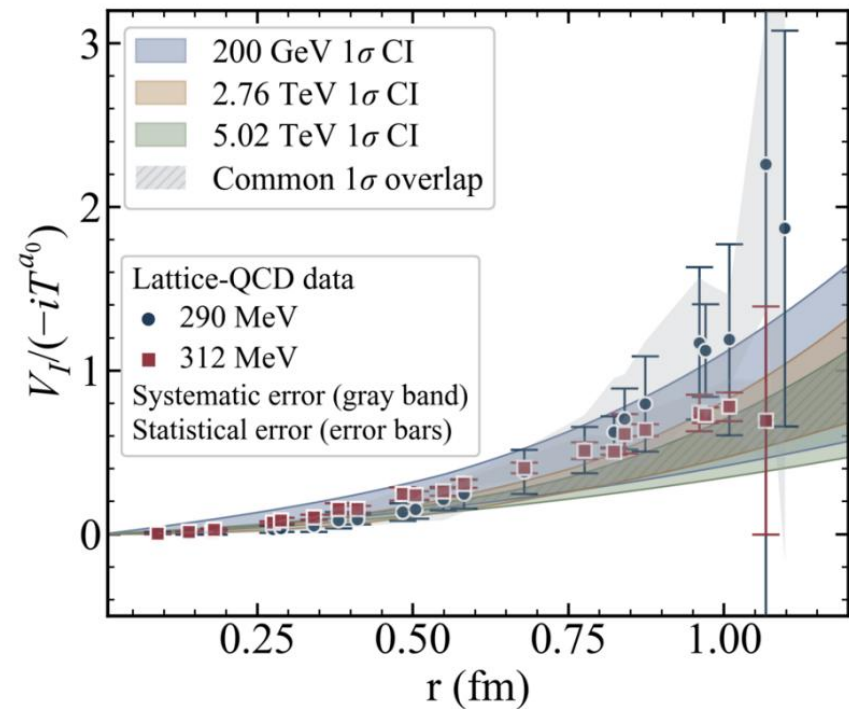
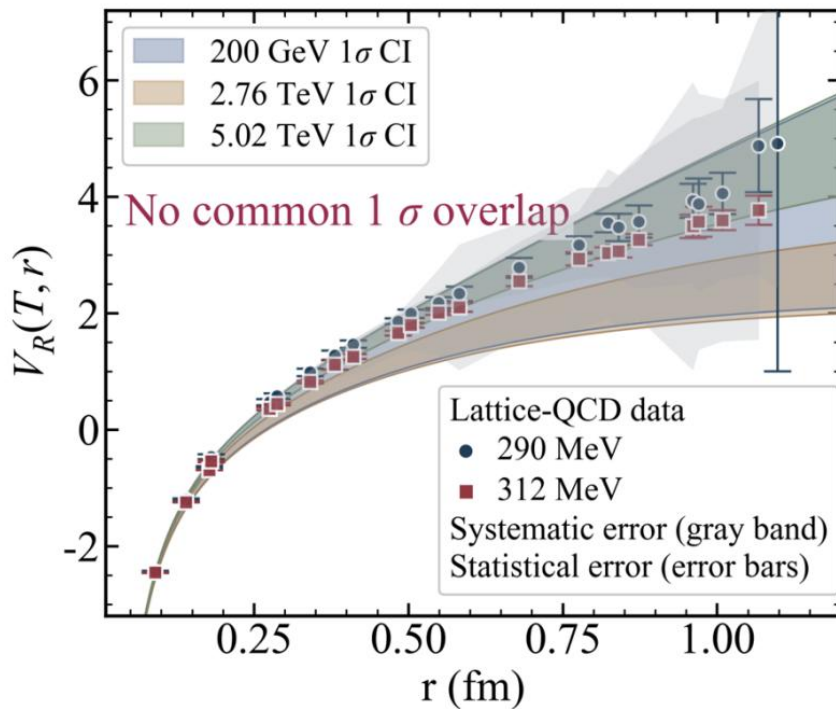
## Bayesian Analysis



# extract $V(T,r)$ from each system

## Another test

Parameter	5.02 TeV Pb–Pb	2.76 TeV Pb–Pb	200 GeV Au–Au	overlap
$a_0$	[1.005, 1.500]	[1.011, 1.941]	[1.039, 1.971]	[1.039, 1.500]
$a_1$	[0.051, 0.209]	[0.002, 0.132]	[0.122, 0.47]	[0.122, 0.132]
$a_2$	[0.221, 0.560]	[0.375, 0.698]	[0.201, 0.692]	[0.375, 0.560]
$a_3$	[2.012, 2.967]	[2.056, 2.983]	[2.01, 2.992]	[2.056, 2.967]
$a_4$	[0.100, 0.497]	[0.670, 1]	[0.120, 0.968]	None
$T_{sw}$	[0.170, 0.173]	[0.170, 0.174]	[0.170, 0.185]	[0.1701, 0.173]



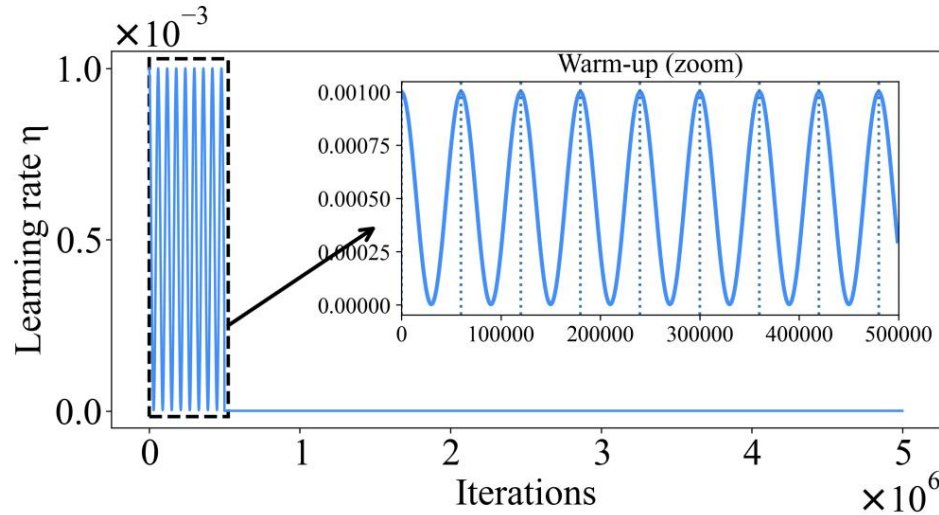
# Summary

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- **The Schrodinger model with the complex heavy quark potential** are introduced, applied in the **high-multiplicity pp, p-Pb, and Pb-Pb collisions**  
Phenomenological studies about quarkonium indicate **a strong potential** in the medium from RHIC to LHC energies.
- A **CNN-SGLD framework is developed**. It extracts the **in-medium heavy quark potential** with the experimental data of quarkonium from (200 GeV Au-Au, 2.76 TeV Pb-Pb, 5.02 TeV Pb-Pb collisions).
- **A strong real part of the potential is obtained**, close to the Cornell potential, consistent with the lattice QCD results.  
**Quarkonium suppression mainly induced by the imaginary part of the potential.**

# Extraction of $V(T,r)$

learning rate in the SGLD process,



$$\eta_{\max} = 10^{-3}$$

$$\eta_{\text{const}} = 1 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\eta_t = \begin{cases} \eta_{\min} + \frac{\eta_{\max} - \eta_{\min}}{2} \left( 1 + \cos \left( 2\pi \frac{t \bmod P}{P} \right) \right), & 0 \leq t < N_{\text{warm}}, \\ \eta_{\text{const}}, & t \geq N_{\text{warm}}. \end{cases}$$