



# Direct photons from magnetized quark-gluon plasma

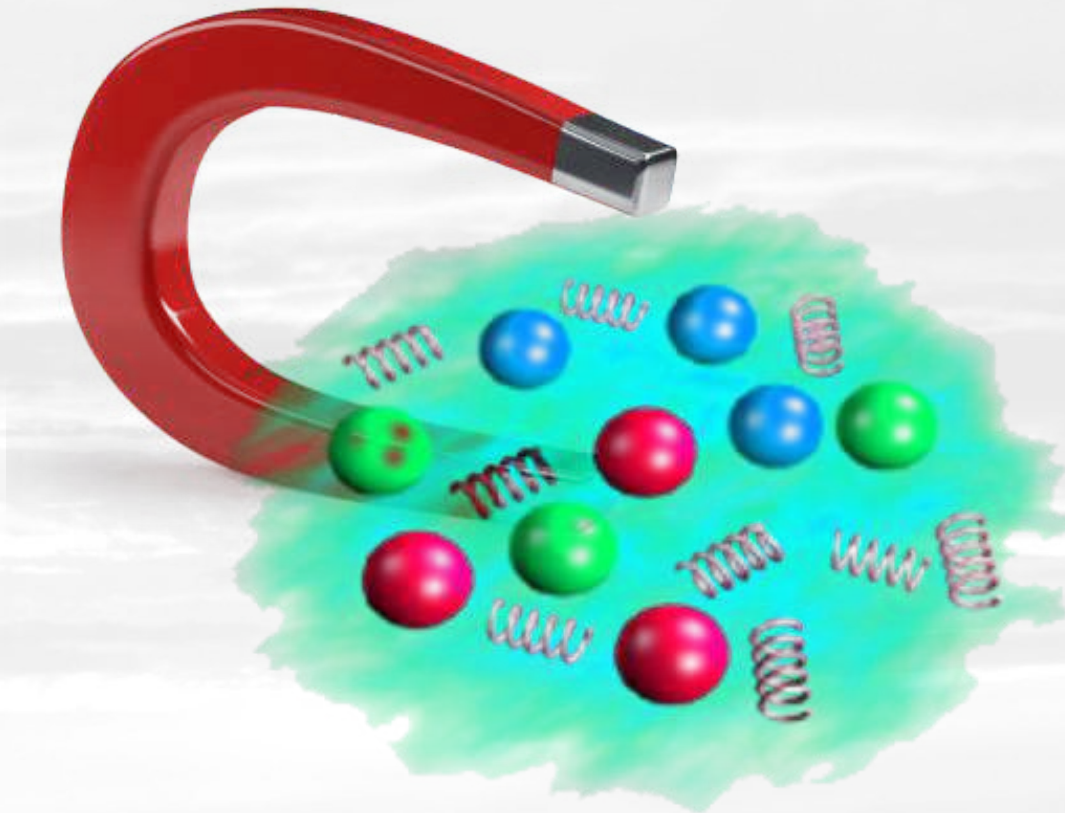
**Igor Shovkovy**

**Arizona State University**

[V. Miransky, I. Shovkovy, Phys. Rep. 576, 1 (2015)]

[X. Wang, I. Shovkovy, L. Yu, M. Huang, arXiv:2006.16254]

[X. Wang, I. Shovkovy, in preparation]

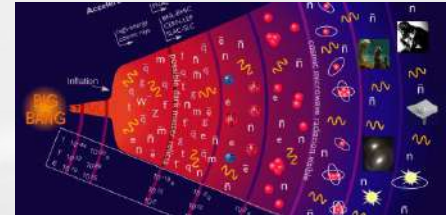


# MAGNETIZED RELATIVISTIC PLASMA

# Magnetized plasmas

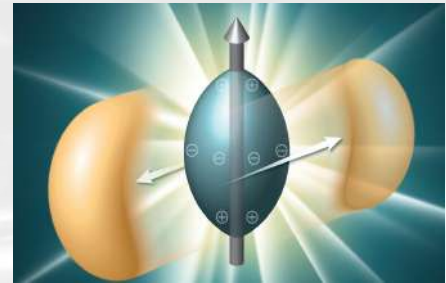
- **Early Universe**

$$10^{20} \text{ to } 10^{24} \text{ G} \sim (1 \text{ GeV})^2 \text{ to } (100 \text{ GeV})^2$$



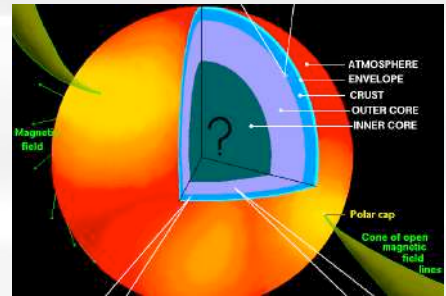
- **Heavy-ion collisions** (this talk)

$$10^{18} \text{ to } 10^{19} \text{ G} \sim (100 \text{ MeV})^2$$



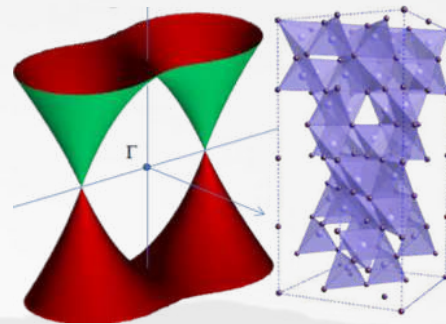
- **Super-dense matter in magnetars**

$$10^{14} \text{ to } 10^{16} \text{ G} \sim (1 \text{ MeV})^2 \text{ to } (10 \text{ MeV})^2$$



- **Electrons in Dirac/Weyl (semi-)metals**

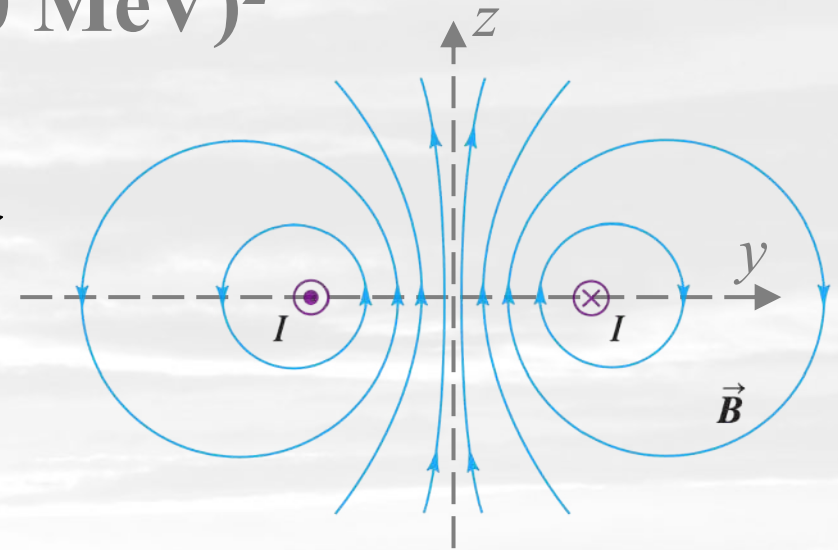
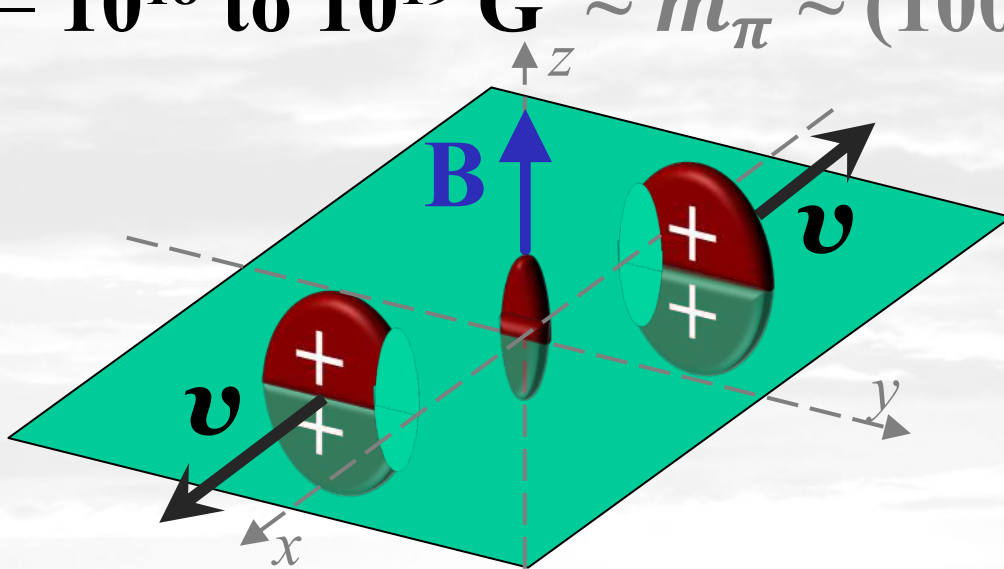
$$\lesssim 10^5 \text{ G} \sim (100 \text{ meV})^2$$



# Heavy-ion collisions

- QGP produced at RHIC/LHC is **magnetized**

$$- 10^{18} \text{ to } 10^{19} \text{ G} \sim m_\pi^2 \sim (100 \text{ MeV})^2$$



- Using Lienard-Wiechert potential, one finds

$$e\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \alpha_{\text{EM}} \sum_{n \in \text{protons}} \frac{1 - v_n^2}{R_n^3 (1 - [\mathbf{R}_n \times \mathbf{v}_n]^2 / R_n^2)^{3/2}} \mathbf{R}_n$$

$$e\mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \alpha_{\text{EM}} \sum_{n \in \text{protons}} \frac{1 - v_n^2}{R_n^3 (1 - [\mathbf{R}_n \times \mathbf{v}_n]^2 / R_n^2)^{3/2}} \mathbf{v}_n \times \mathbf{R}_n$$

[Rafelski & Müller, PRL, 36, 517 (1976)]

[Kharzeev et al., arXiv:0711.0950]

[Skokov et al., arXiv:0907.1396]

[Voronyuk et al., arXiv:1103.4239]

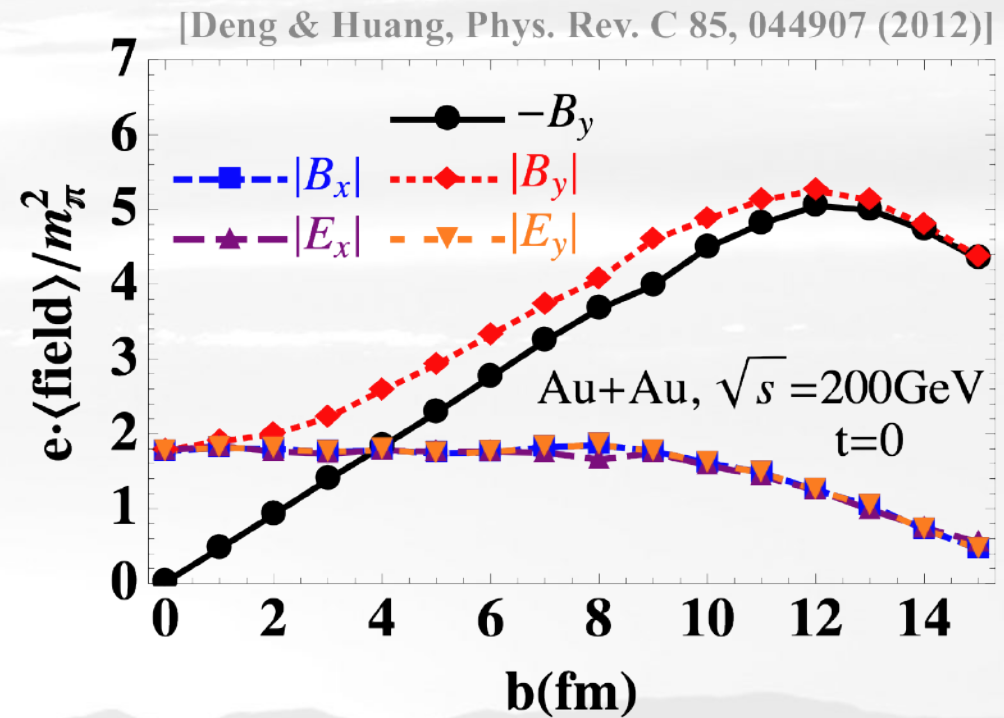
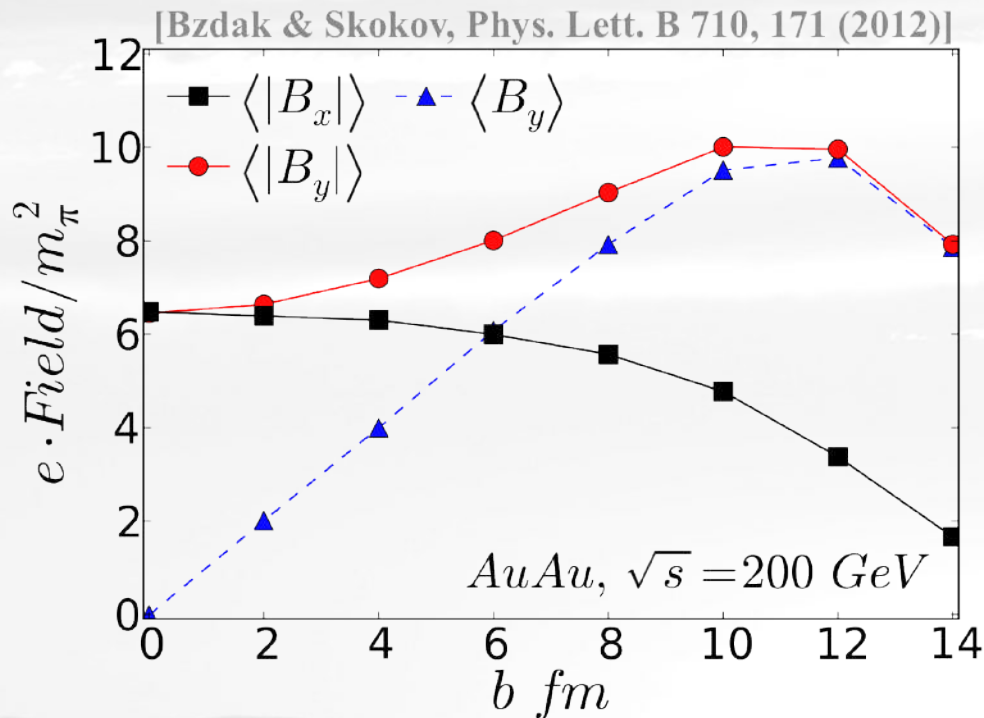
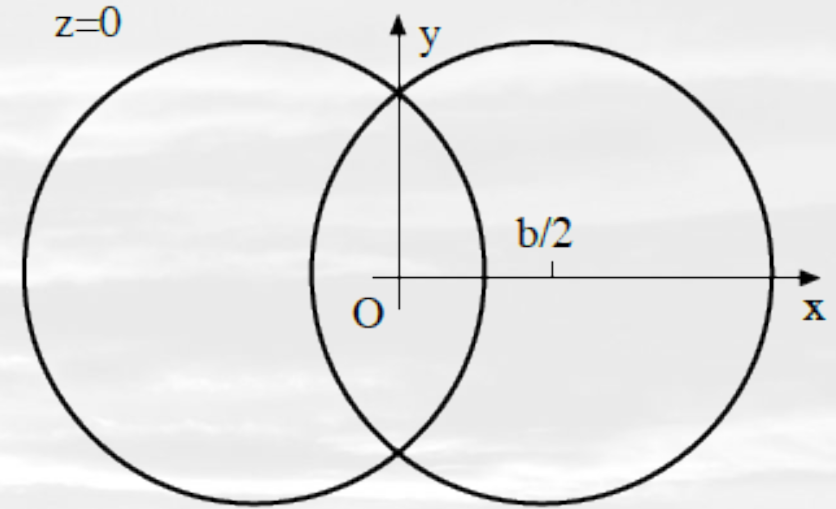
[Bzdak & Skokov, arXiv:1111.1949]

[Deng & Huang, arXiv:1201.5108]

[Bloczynski et al., arXiv:1209.6594]

...

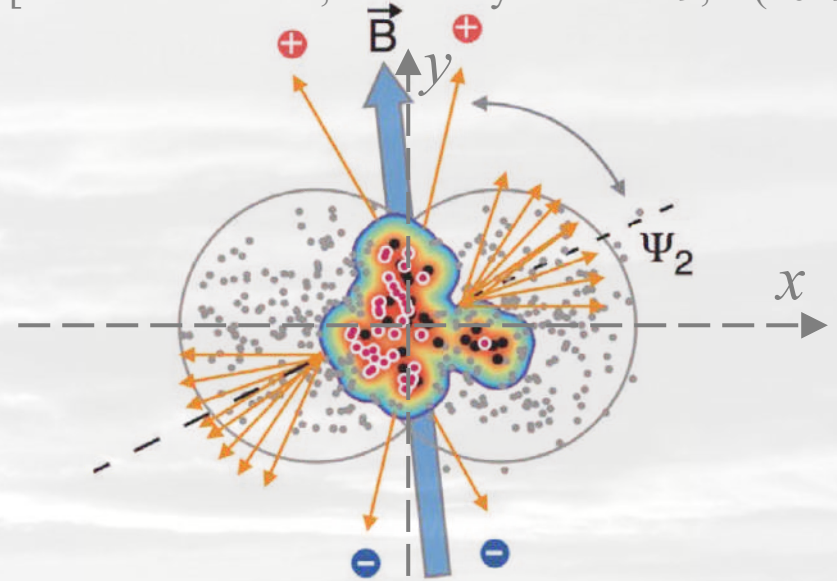
- Magnetic field
  - strong in magnitude  $\sim m_\pi^2$
  - depends strongly on  $b$
  - nonuniform
  - fluctuates from event to event



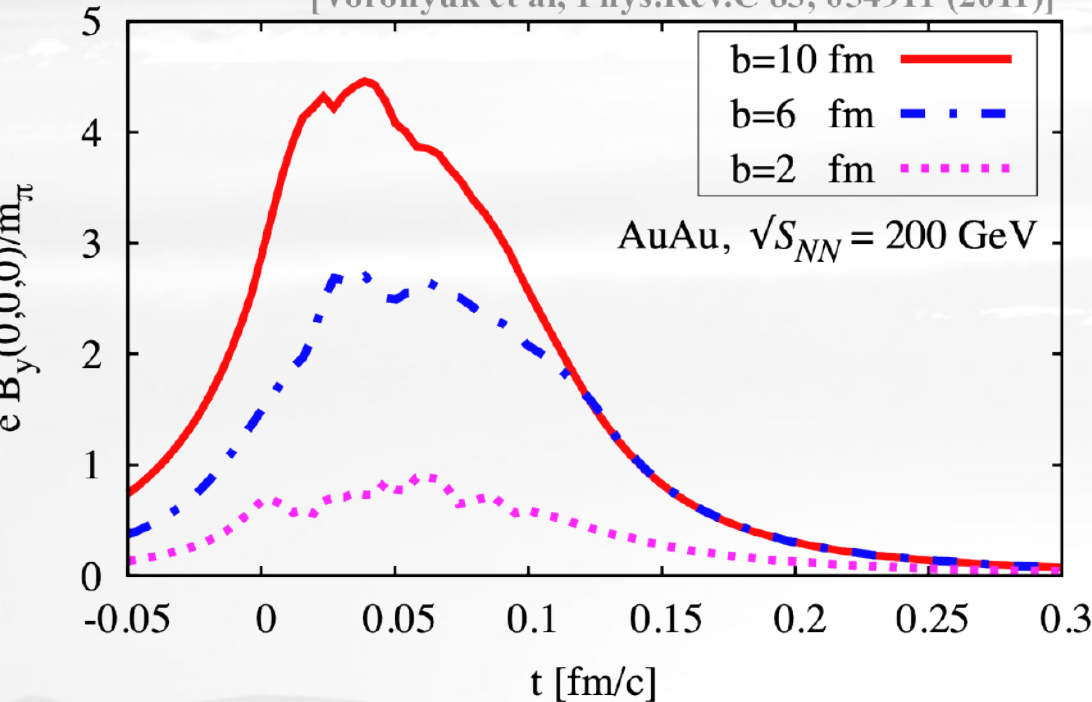
[Kharzeev & Liao, Nucl. Phys. News 29, 1 (2019)]

- Magnetic field
  - not always  $\perp$  to reaction plane
  - short-lived ( $\ll 1$  fm/c)
  - conductivity may help a little

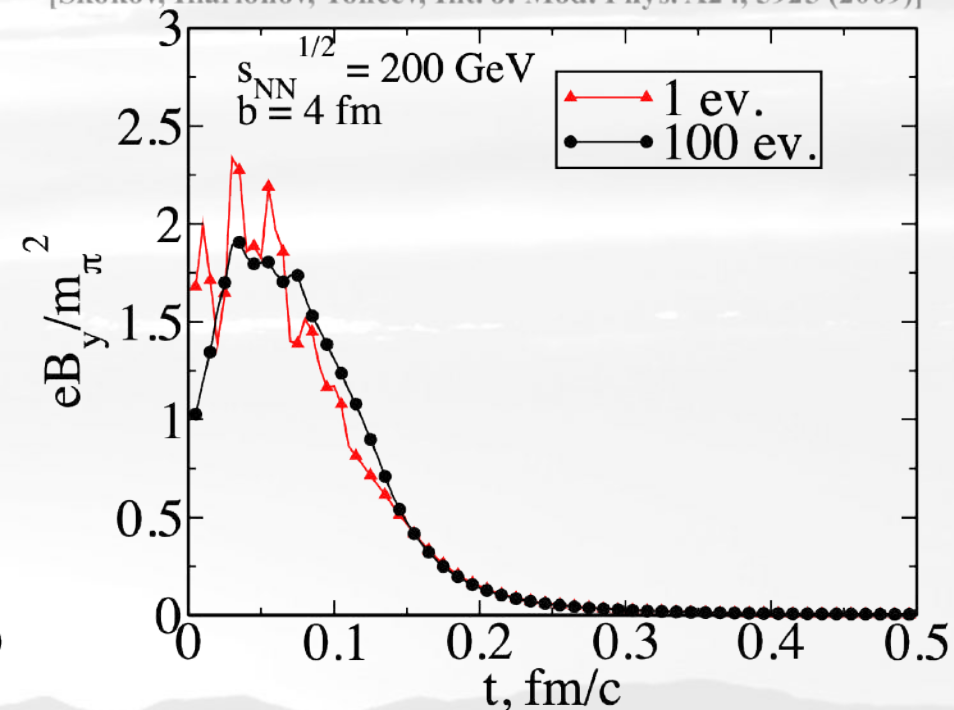
[McLerran, Skokov, Nucl. Phys. A929, 184 (2014)]

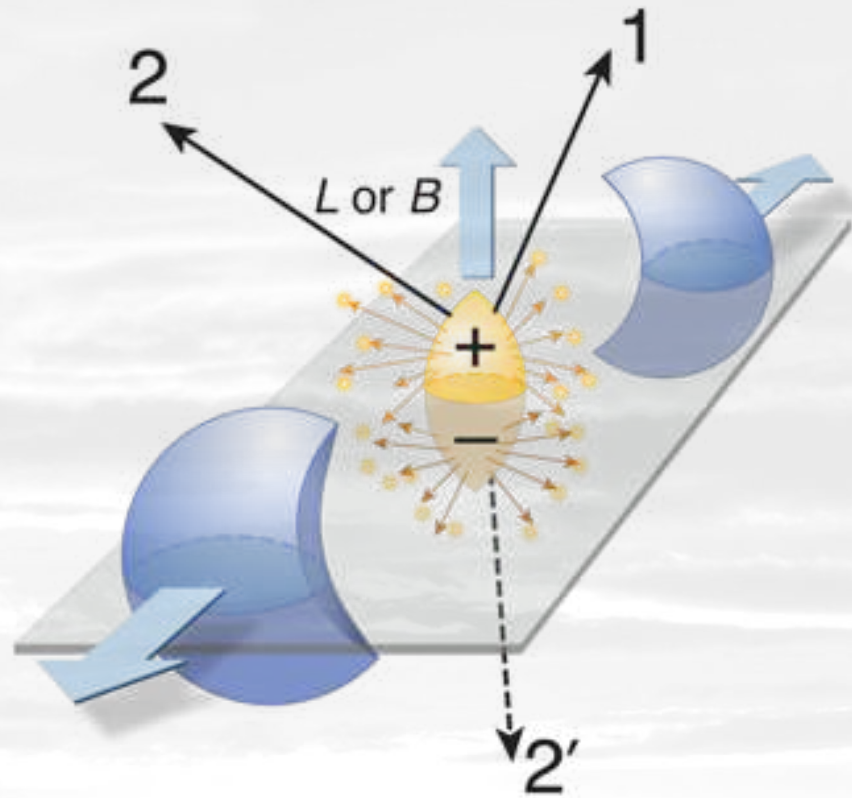


[Voronyuk et al, Phys.Rev.C 83, 054911 (2011)]



[Skokov, Illarionov, Toneev, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A24, 5925 (2009)]





<https://physics.aps.org/articles/v2/104>

# ANOMALOUS EFFECTS IN HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS

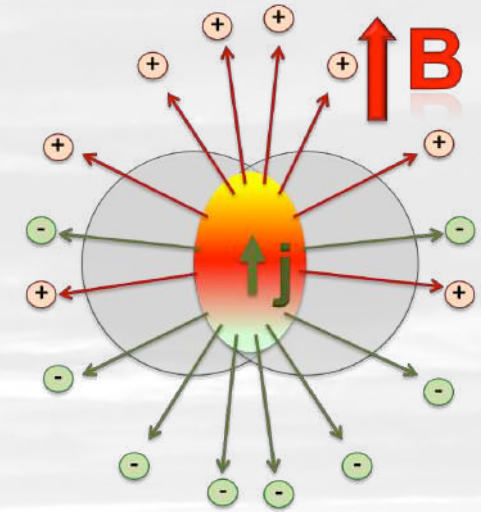
[Miransky & Shovkovy, Phys. Rep. **576**, 1 (2015)]

[Kharzeev, Liao, Voloshin, Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **88**, 1 (2016)]

...

- Chiral magnetic/separation effects, chiral magnetic waves

$$\langle \vec{j} \rangle = \frac{e\vec{B}}{2\pi^2} \mu_5 \quad \& \quad \langle \vec{j}_5 \rangle = \frac{e\vec{B}}{2\pi^2} \mu$$



- Signs of local P-violation?

$$\frac{d(N_R - N_L)}{dt} = -\frac{g^2 N_f}{16\pi^2} \int d^3x F_a^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}^a$$

[Kharzeev, McLerran, Warringa, Nucl. Phys. A **803**, 227 (2008)]

[Fukushima, Kharzeev, Warringa, Phys. Rev. D **78**, 074033 (2008)]

[Kharzeev, Liao, Voloshin, Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **88**, 1 (2016)]

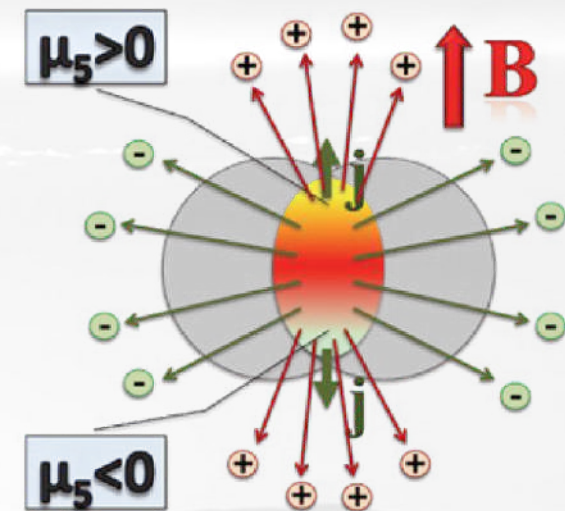
- Signs of chiral magnetic wave?

[Yee, Kharzeev, Phys. Rev. D **83**, 085007 (2011)]

[Gorbar, Miransky, Shovkovy, Phys. Rev. D **83**, 085003 (2011)]

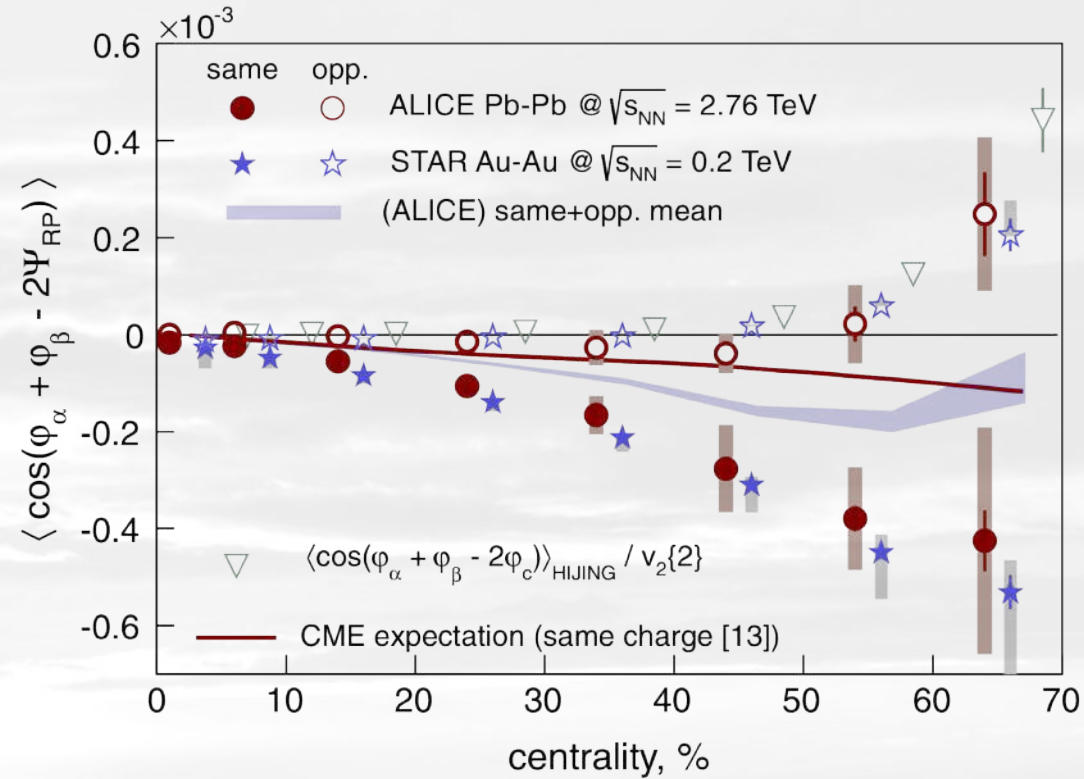
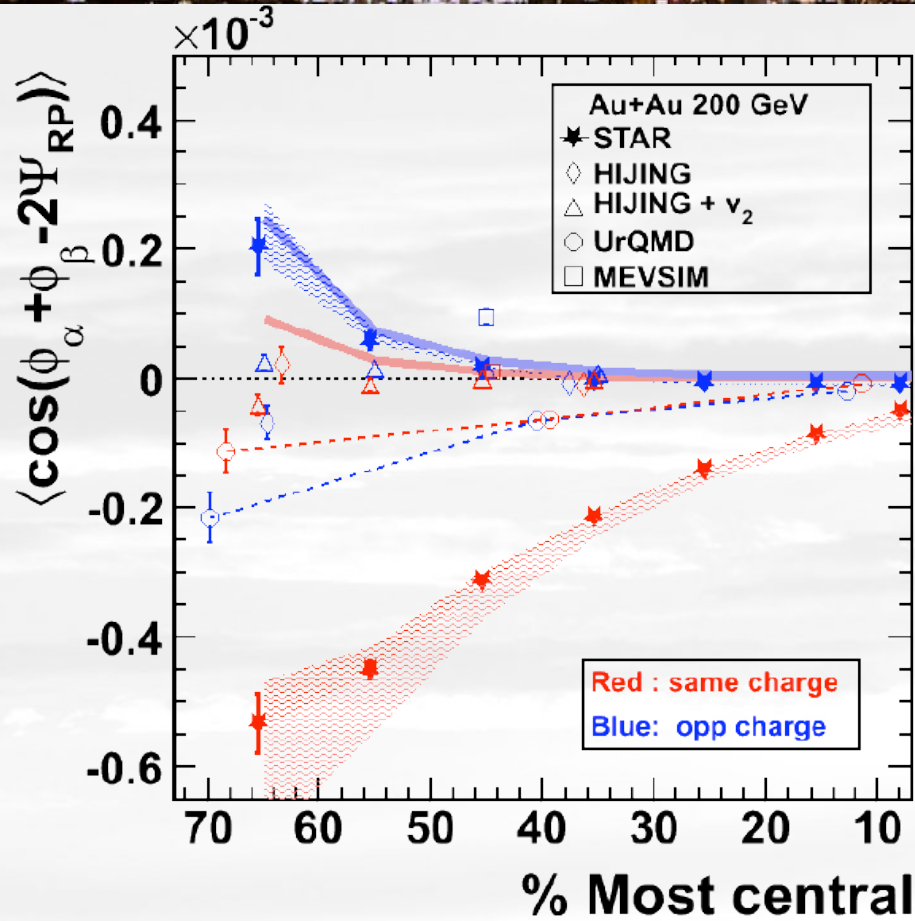
[Burnier, Kharzeev, Liao, Yee, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107** (2011) 052303]

[Shovkovy, Rybalka, Gorbar, arXiv: 1811.10635]





# CME: Experimental evidence

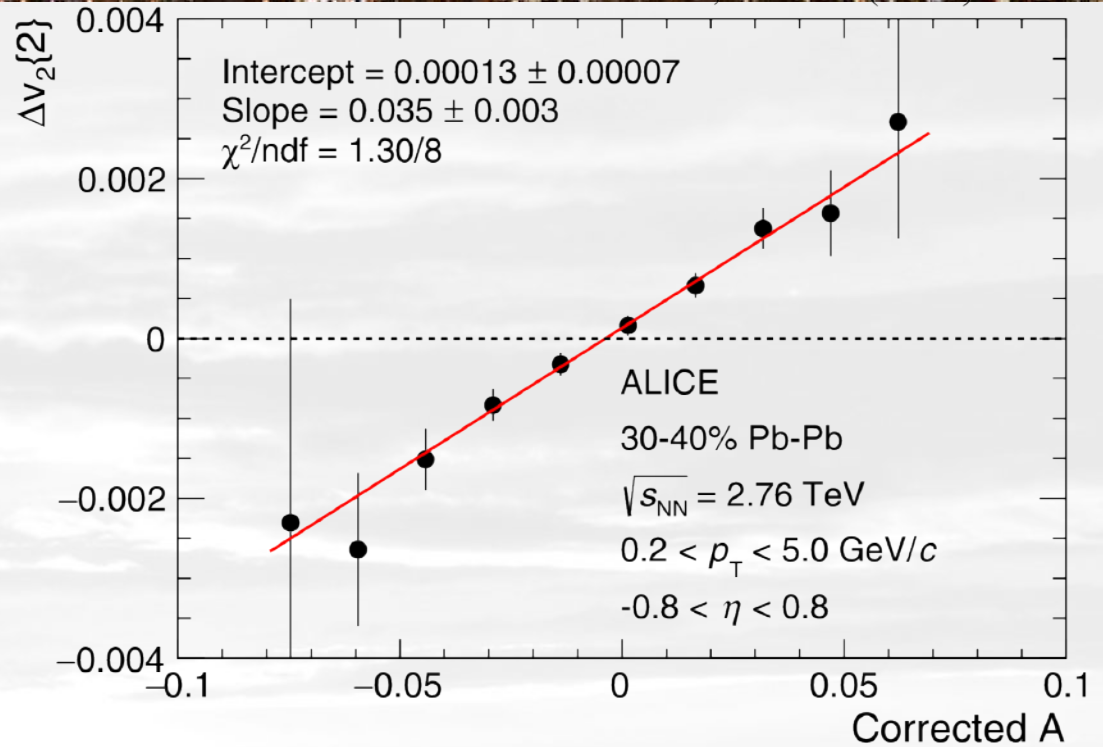
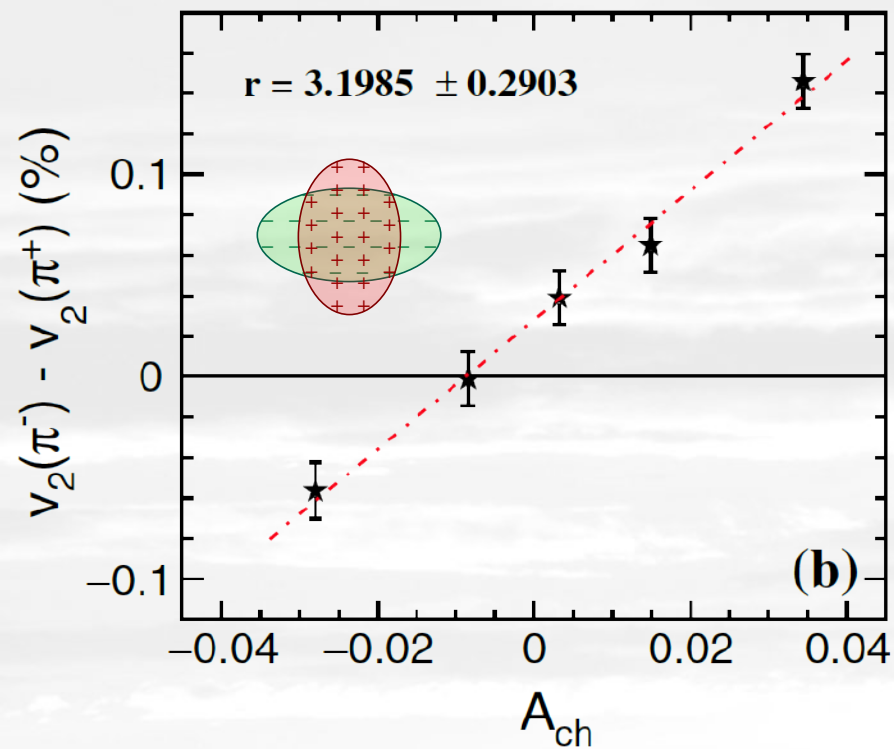


Correlations of same & opposite charge particles:  $\begin{cases} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha^\pm + \varphi_\beta^\mp - 2\Psi_{RP}) \rangle \\ \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha^\pm + \varphi_\beta^\pm - 2\Psi_{RP}) \rangle \end{cases}$

- [Abelev et al. (STAR), PRL **103**, 251601 (2009)]
- [Abelev et al. (STAR), PRC **81**, 054908 (2010)]
- [Abelev et al. (ALICE), PRL **110**, 012301 (2013)]
- [Adamczyk et al. (STAR), PRC **88**, 064911 (2013)]

**Large background effects!**

[Belmont & Nagle, PRC **96**, 024901 (2017)], [ALICE Collaboration, Phys. Lett. B **777**, 151 (2018)]



[Ke (for STAR) J. Phys. Conf. Series **389**, 012035 (2012)]

[Adamczyk et al. (STAR), Phys. Rev. Lett. **114**, 252302 (2015)]

[Adam et al. (ALICE), Phys. Rev. C **93**, 044903 (2016)]

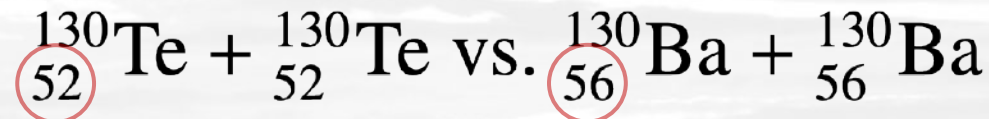
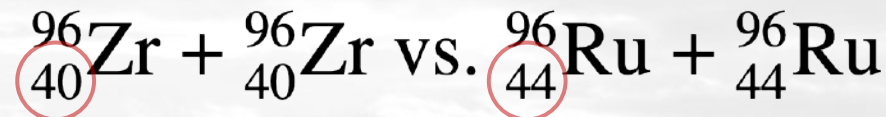
## Background effects may dominate over the signal!

[CMS Collaboration, arXiv:1708.08901]

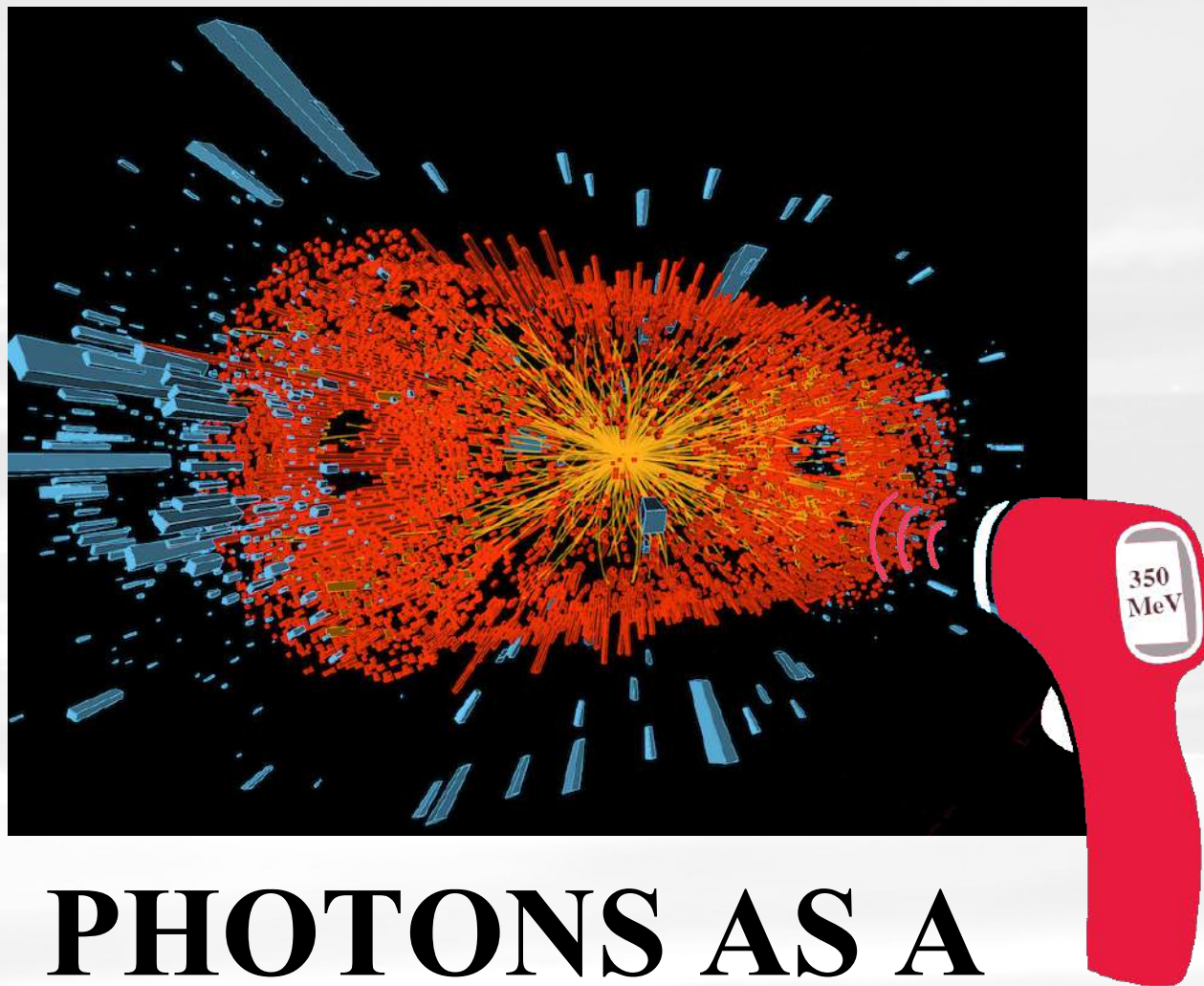
- On the theoretical side: CMW is likely to be overdamped (unless magnetic field is very strong) [Shovkovy, Rybalka, Gorbar, arXiv:1811.10635]

# How to measure $\vec{B}$ ?

- One of the ideas [STAR Collaboration, 2014]
  - “measure” the relative strengths of the effects in isobar collisions, e.g., [Koch, Schlichting, Skokov et al., arXiv:1608.00982]



- Any chance of measuring  $\vec{B}$  directly?
- Perhaps an electromagnetic probe?
- Current proposal:
  - thermal photons
  - dilepton rates



# PHOTONS AS A THERMOMETER OF QGP

[Kapusta, Lichard, & Seibert, Phys. Rev. D44, 2774 (1991)]

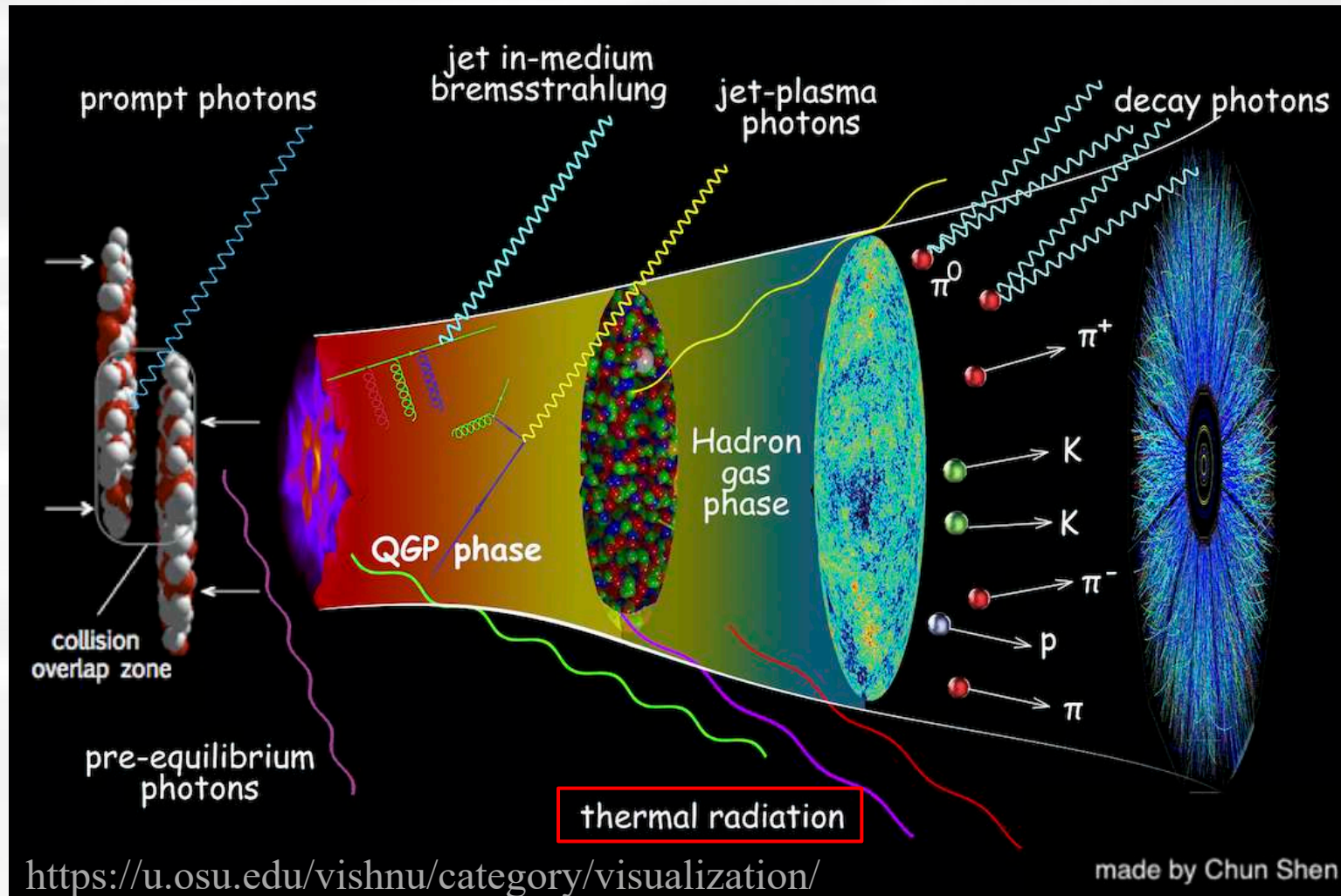
[Paquet et al., Phys. Rev. C93, 044906 (2016); arXiv:1509.06738]

Review: [Gabor David, Rept. Prog. Phys. 83, 046301 (2020); arXiv:1907.08893]

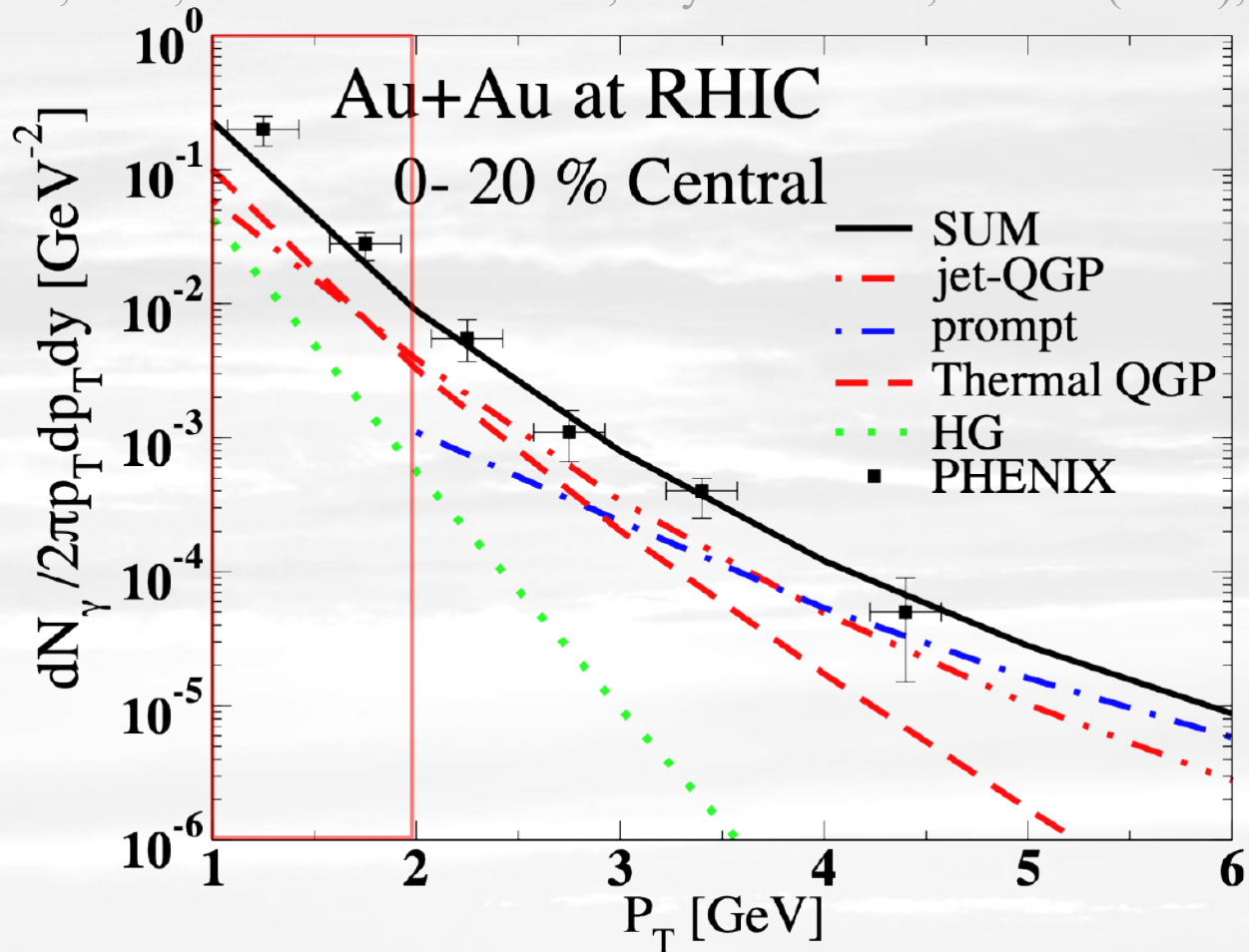
...

# Photons in heavy-ion collisions

- Photons are emitted at all stages of evolution



Turbide, Gale, Frodermann & Heinz, Phys. Rev. C77, 024909 (2008); arXiv:0712.0732



- $p_T \lesssim 2 \text{ GeV}$ : thermal emission dominates
- $2 \text{ GeV} \lesssim p_T \lesssim 4 \text{ GeV}$ : the jet-plasma contribution dominates

# Thermal photons (1)

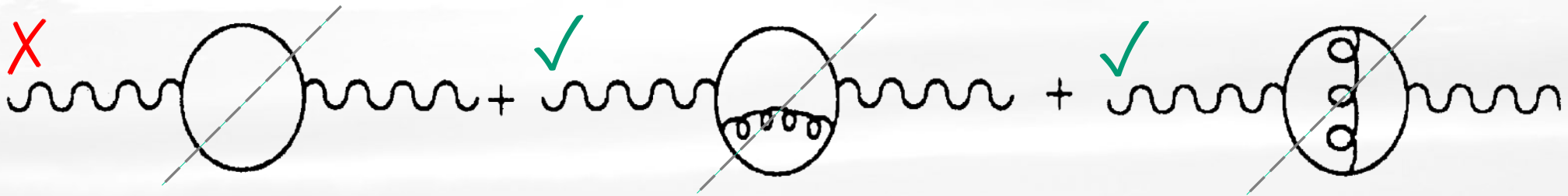
- The rate of the thermal emission of photons (more precisely, the energy loss rate) is

$$k^0 \frac{d^3 R}{dk_x dk_y dk_z} = - \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\text{Im} [\Pi_\mu^\mu(k)]}{\exp\left(\frac{k_0}{T}\right) - 1}$$

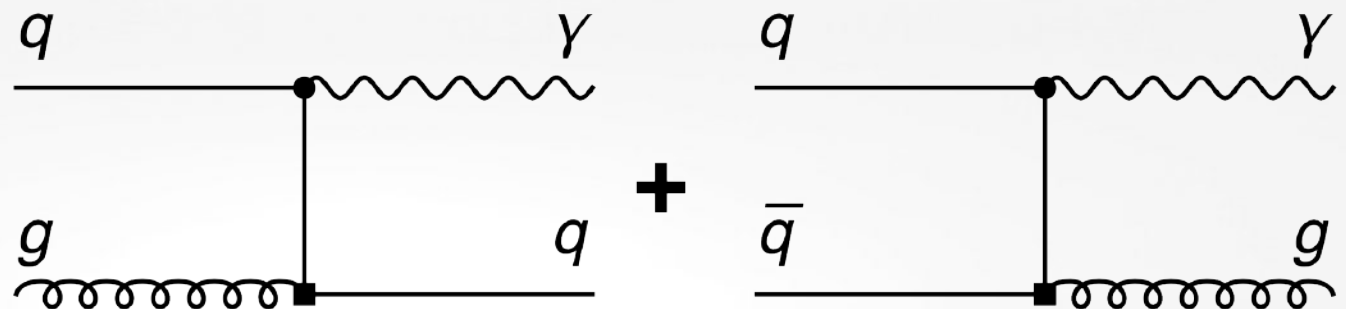
[Kapusta, Lichard, Seibert, Phys. Rev. D 44, 2774 (1991)]

[Baier, Nakkagawa, Niegawa, Redlich, Z. Physik C 53 (1992) 433]

- In the case of hot QCD plasma,



- Processes:



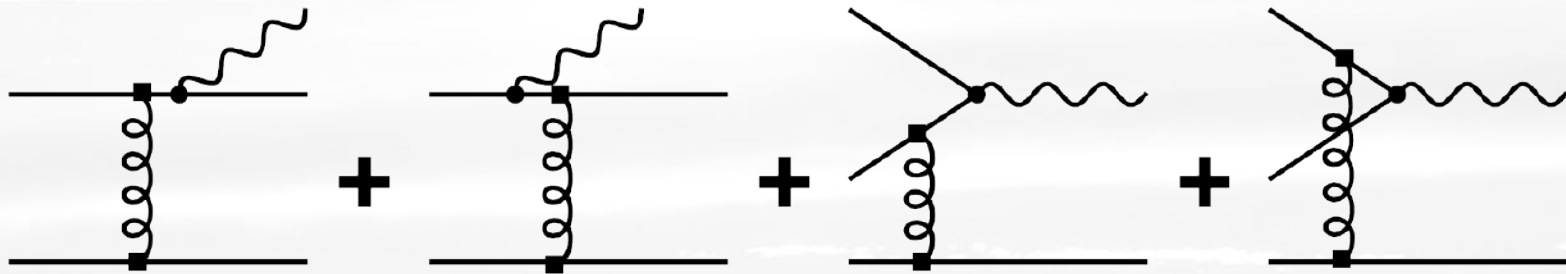
# Thermal photons (2)

- The approximate result is given by

$$E \frac{dR}{d^3p} = \frac{5}{9} \frac{\alpha \alpha_s}{2\pi^2} T^2 e^{-E/T} \ln \left( \frac{2.912 E}{g^2 T} \right)$$

[Kapusta, Lichard, Seibert, Phys. Rev. D 44, 2774 (1991)]

- There are important corrections from **bremsstrahlung** and **inelastic pair annihilation**



[Arnold, Moore, Yaffe, JHEP 12 (2001) 009; hep-ph/0111107]

- Next to leading order corrections are  $\sim 100\%$

[Arnold, Moore, Yaffe, JHEP 12 (2001) 009; hep-ph/0111107]

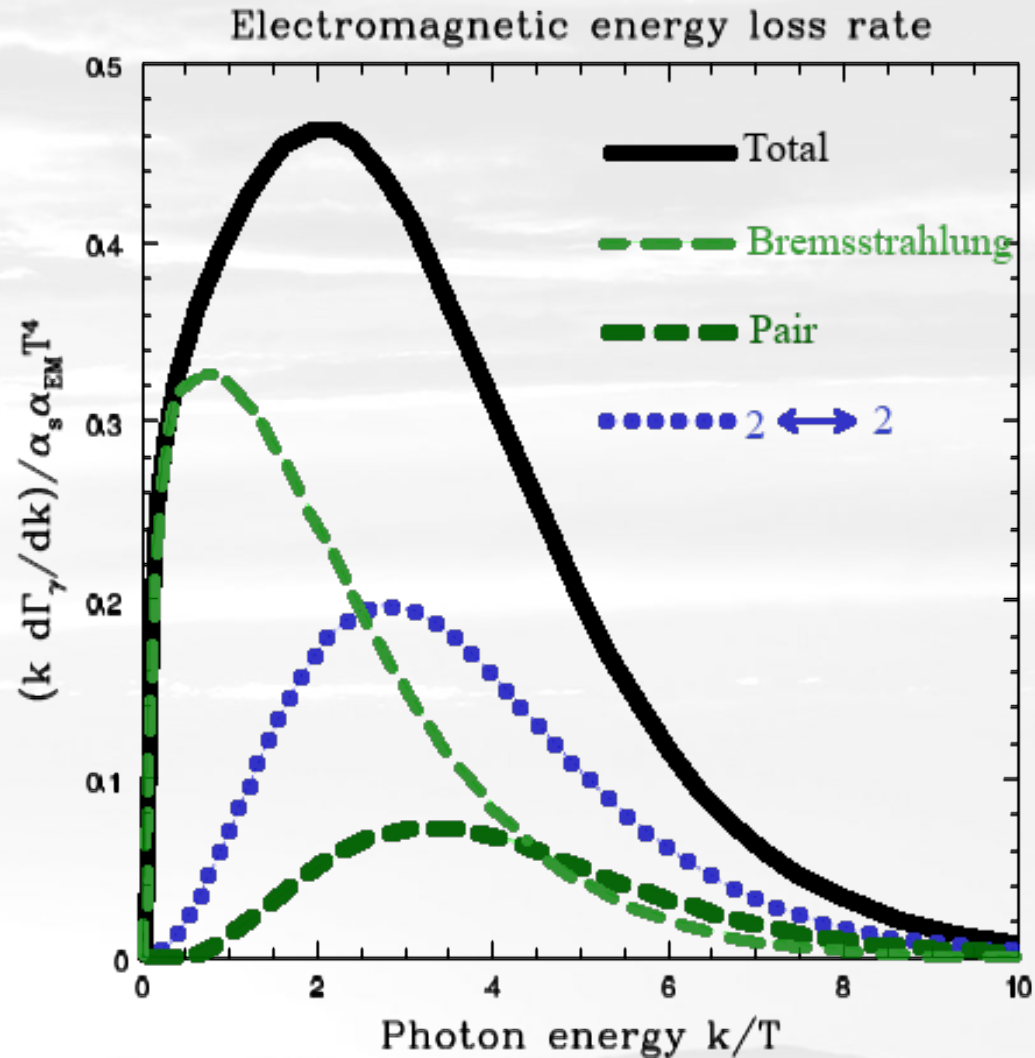
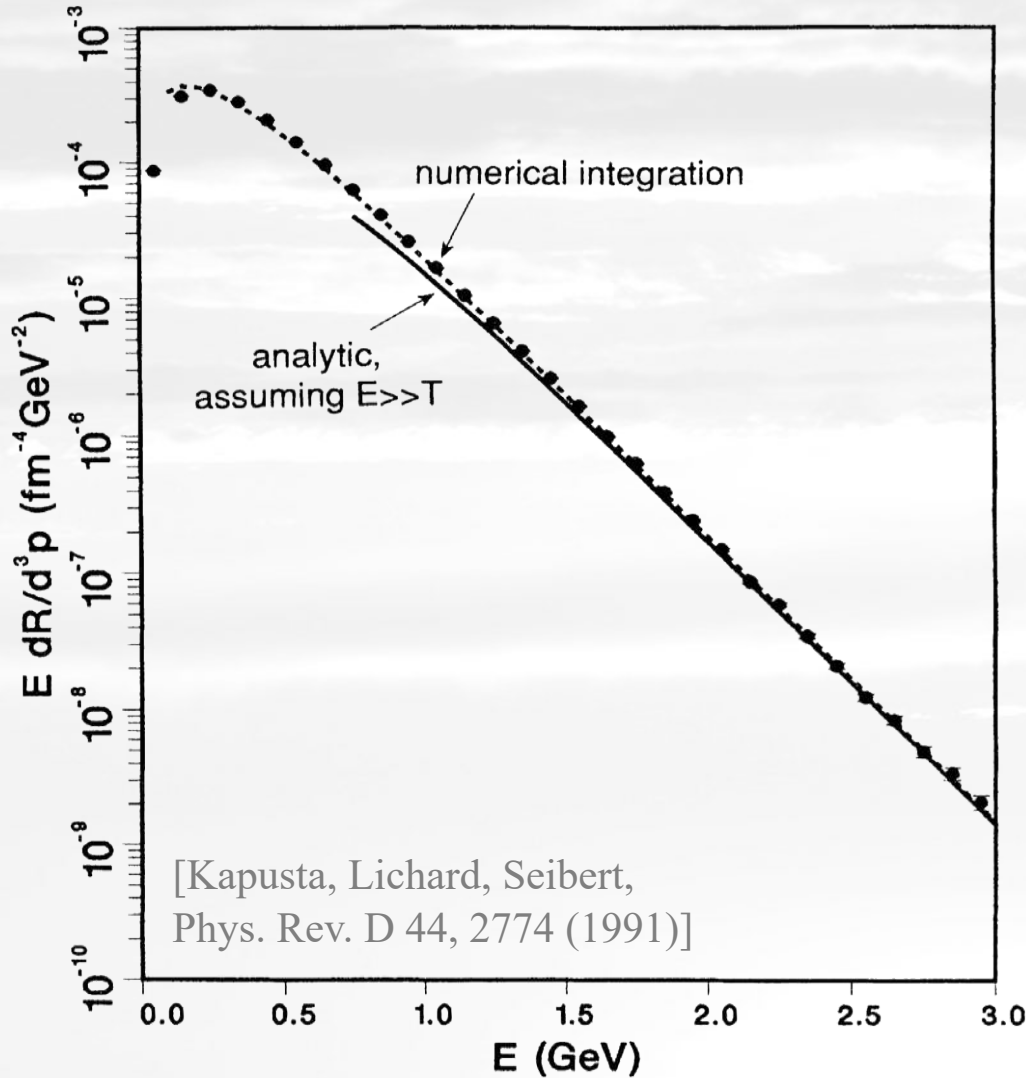
[Ghiglieri et al., JHEP 05 (2013) 010; arXiv:1302.5970]



- Numerically,

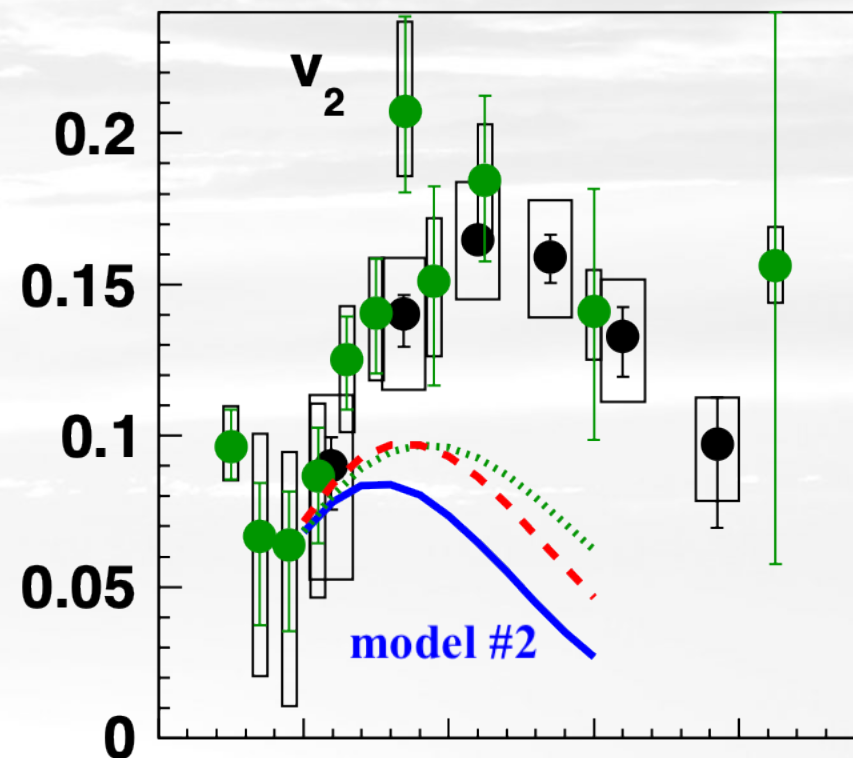
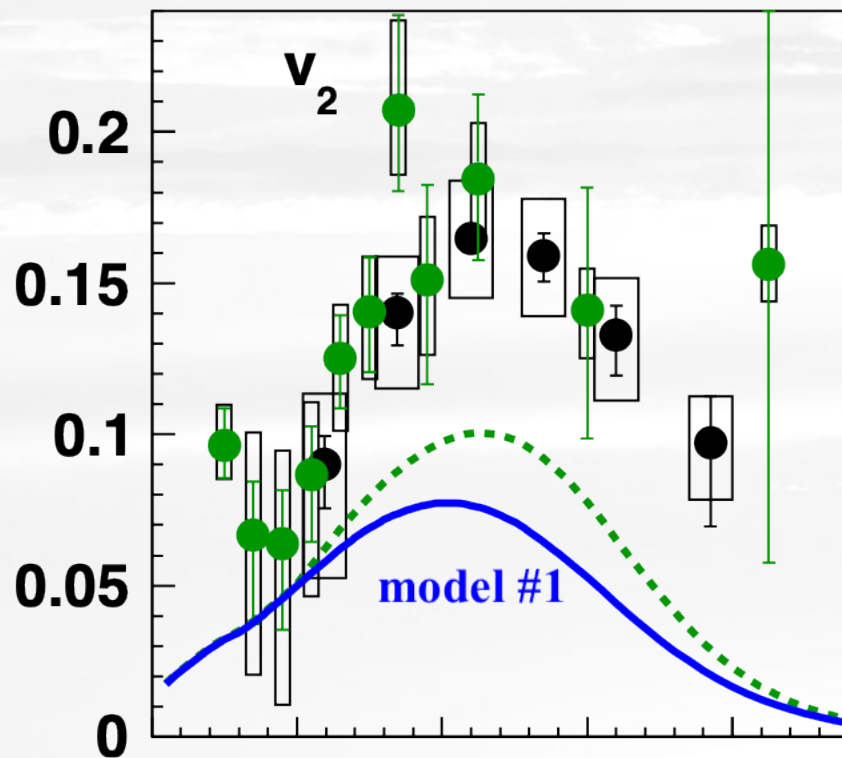
[Arnold, Moore, Yaffe, JHEP 12 (2001) 009; hep-ph/0111107]

Quarks and Gluons  $T = 200$  MeV

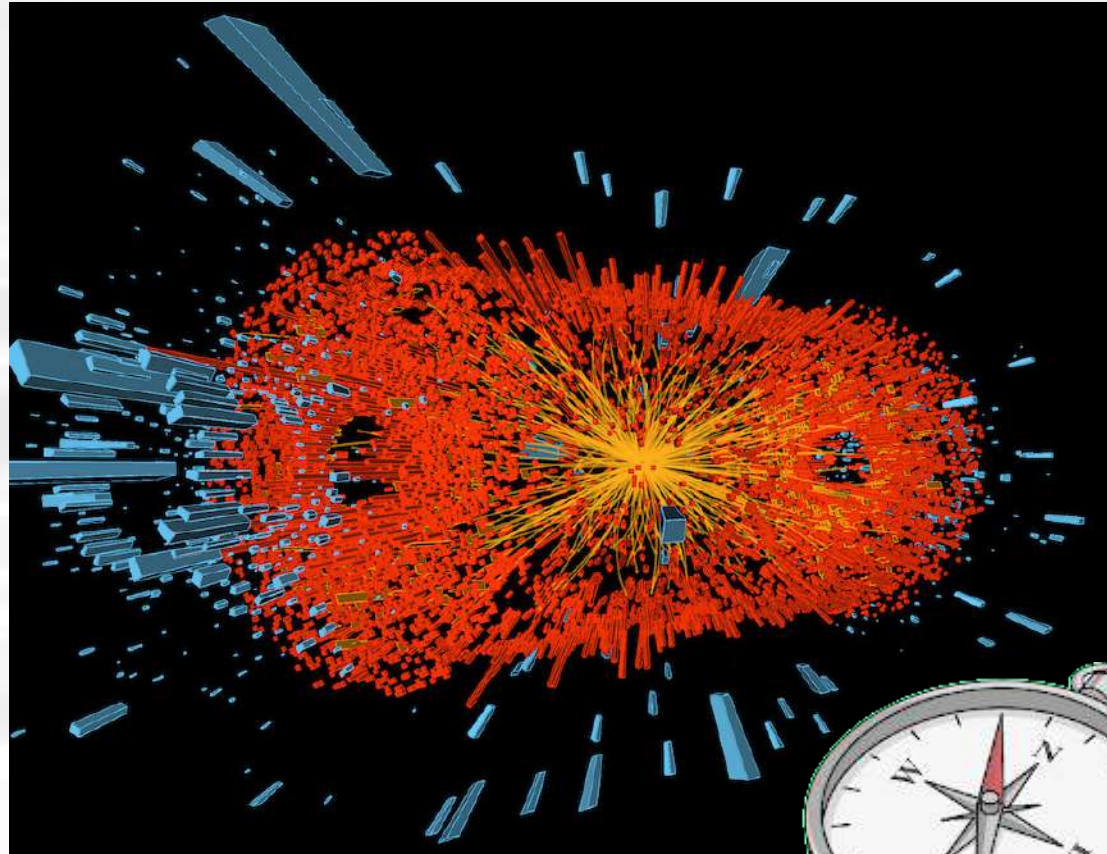


# Photon $v_2$ puzzle

- Most photons are produced early (before flow develops)
- Thus,  $v_2$  for photons should be very small



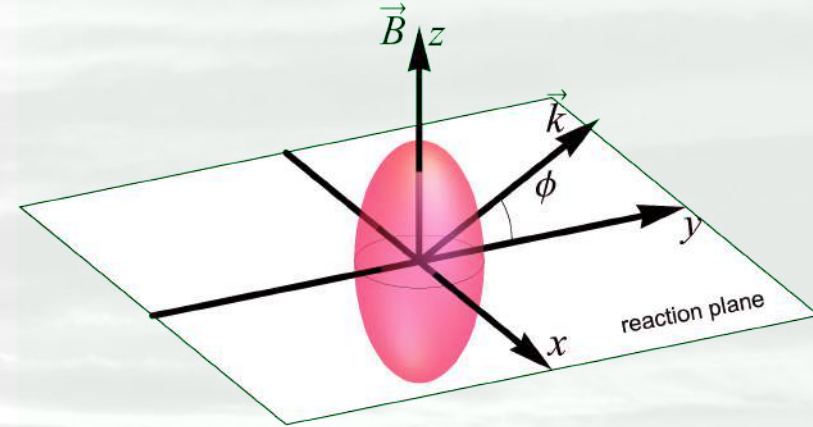
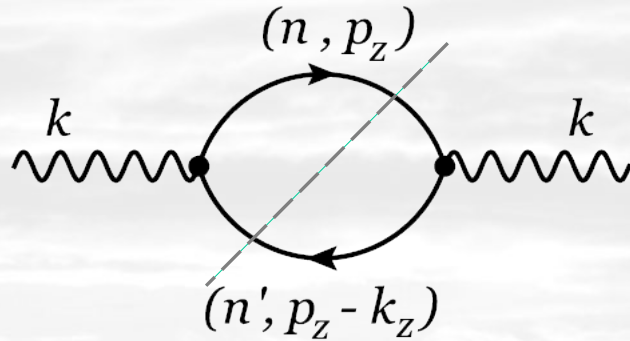
[Adare et al., Phys. Rev. C 94, 064901 (2016)]



# DIRECT PHOTONS AS A **MAGNETO**METER OF QGP

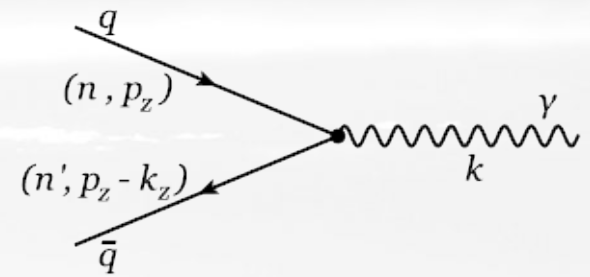
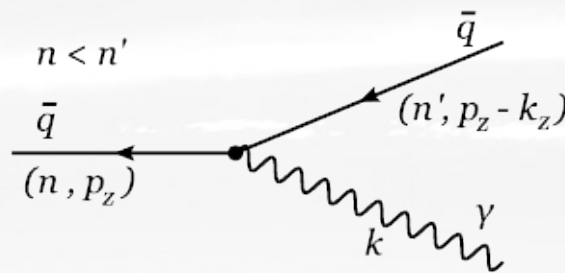
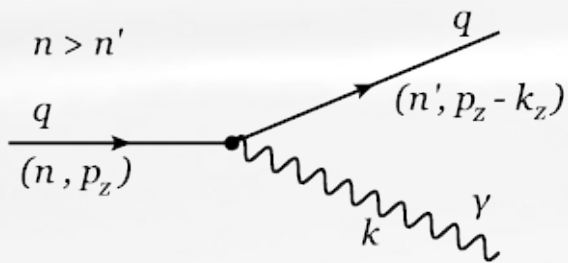
# Photons from magnetized plasma

- At  $\vec{B} \neq 0$ , the leading-order polarization tensor



leads to a nonzero result!

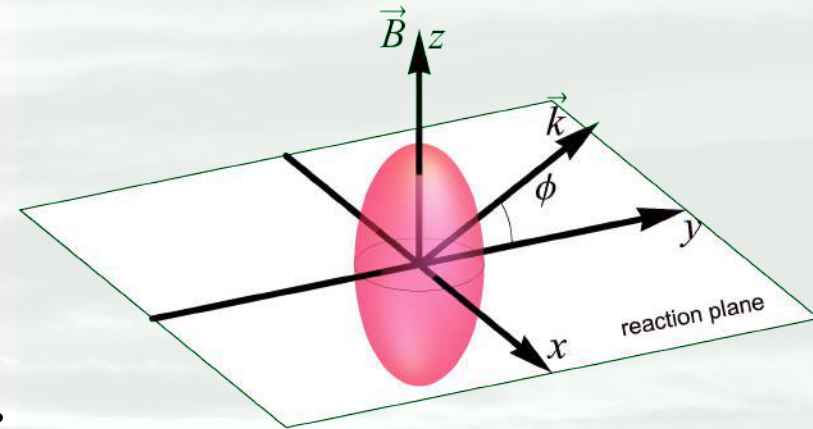
- All three processes (without the gluon mediation), i.e.,



are allowed by the energy conservation

- The expression for the rate is

$$k^0 \frac{d^3 R}{dk_x dk_y dk_z} = - \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\text{Im} [\Pi_\mu^\mu(k)]}{\exp\left(\frac{k_0}{T}\right) - 1}$$



At  $\vec{B} \neq 0$ , the imaginary part is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im} [\Pi_{R,\mu}^\mu(\Omega; \mathbf{k})] &= \sum_{f=u,d} \frac{N_c \alpha_f}{2l_f^4} \sum_{n,n'=0}^{\infty} \int \frac{dp_z}{2\pi} \sum_{\lambda,\eta=\pm 1} \frac{n_F(E_{n,p_z,f}) - n_F(\lambda E_{n',p_z-k_z,f})}{2\eta \lambda E_{n,p_z,f} E_{n',p_z-k_z,f}} \sum_{i=1}^4 \mathcal{F}_i^f \\ &\times \delta(E_{n,p_z,f} - \lambda E_{n',p_z-k_z,f} + \eta \Omega). \end{aligned}$$

where the Landau level energies are

$$E_{n,p_z,f} = \sqrt{m^2 + p_z^2 + 2n|e_f B|}$$

[Wang, Shovkovy, Yu, Huang, arXiv:2006.16254]

- After integrating over  $p_z$ , the final expression reads

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im} \left[ \Pi_{R,\mu}^\mu \right] &= \sum_{f=u,d} \frac{N_c \alpha_f}{2\pi l_f^4} \sum_{n>n'}^{\infty} \frac{g(n, n') \left[ \theta \left( k_-^f - |k_y| \right) - \theta \left( |k_y| - k_+^f \right) \right]}{\sqrt{[(k_-^f)^2 - k_y^2][(k_+^f)^2 - k_y^2]}} \left( \mathcal{F}_1^f + \mathcal{F}_4^f \right) \\ &- \sum_{f=u,d} \frac{N_c \alpha_f}{4\pi l_f^4} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{g_0(n) \theta \left( |k_y| - k_+^f \right)}{\sqrt{k_y^2 [k_y^2 - (k_+^f)^2]}} \left( \mathcal{F}_1^f + \mathcal{F}_4^f \right), \end{aligned}$$

[Wang, Shovkovy, Yu, Huang, arXiv:2006.16254]

where  $g(n, n')$  and  $g_0(n)$  are combinations of the Fermi-Dirac distribution functions.

The momentum *thresholds* are determined by

$$k_{\pm}^f = \left| \sqrt{m^2 + 2n|e_f B|} \pm \sqrt{m^2 + 2n'|e_f B|} \right|$$

# Physics processes

- Real solutions to the energy conservation equation

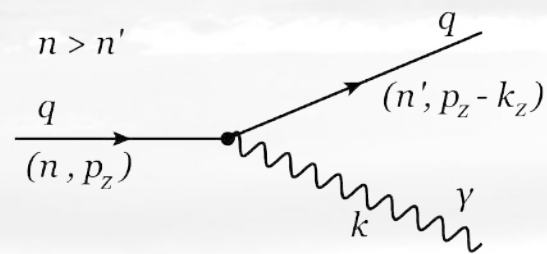
$$E_{n,p_z,f} - \lambda E_{n',p_z-k_z,f} + \eta\Omega = 0$$

can be found under the following conditions:

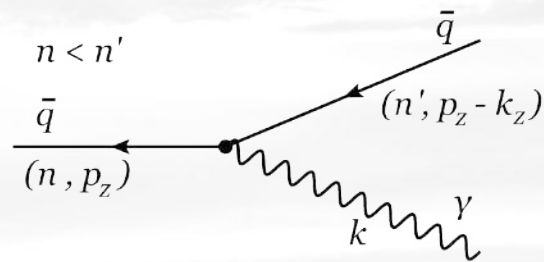
$$q \rightarrow q + \gamma \quad (\lambda = +1, \eta = -1) : \quad \sqrt{\Omega^2 - k_z^2} \leq k_-^f \quad \text{and} \quad n > n',$$

$$\bar{q} \rightarrow \bar{q} + \gamma \quad (\lambda = +1, \eta = +1) : \quad \sqrt{\Omega^2 - k_z^2} \leq k_-^f \quad \text{and} \quad n < n',$$

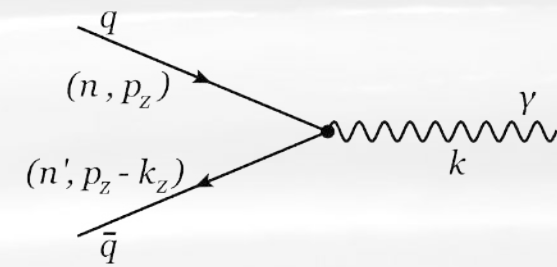
$$q + \bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma \quad (\lambda = -1, \eta = -1) : \quad \sqrt{\Omega^2 - k_z^2} \geq k_+^f,$$



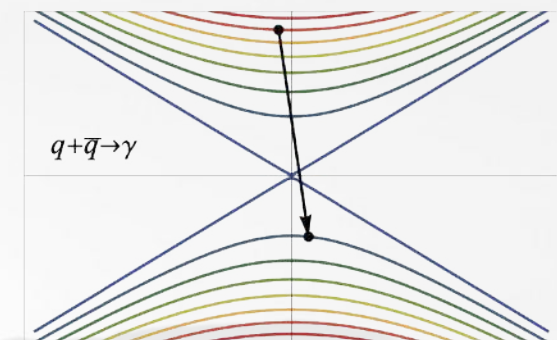
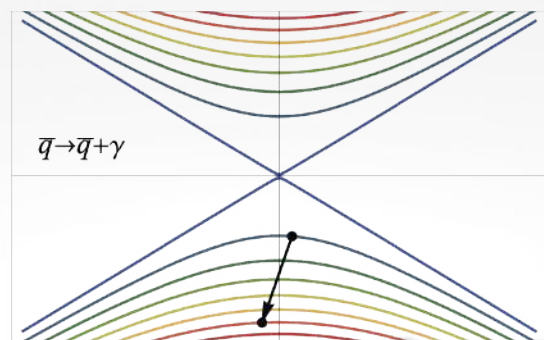
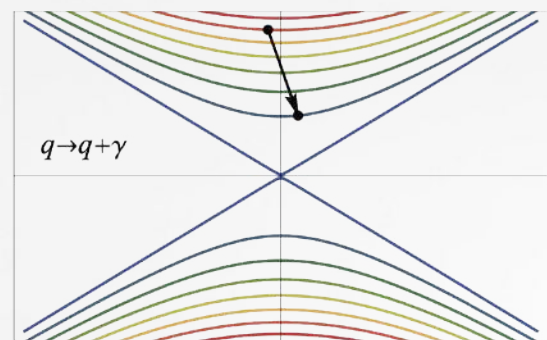
(a)



(b)



(c)

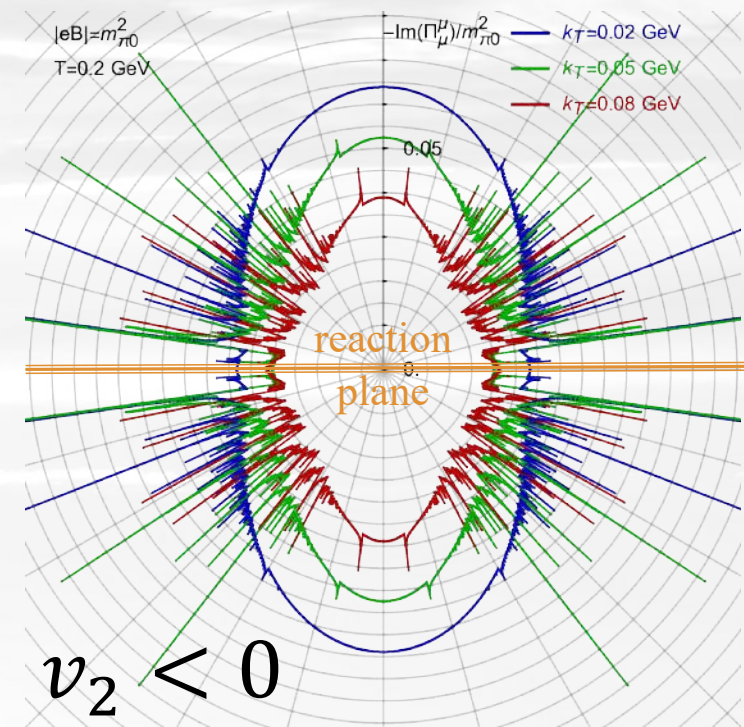
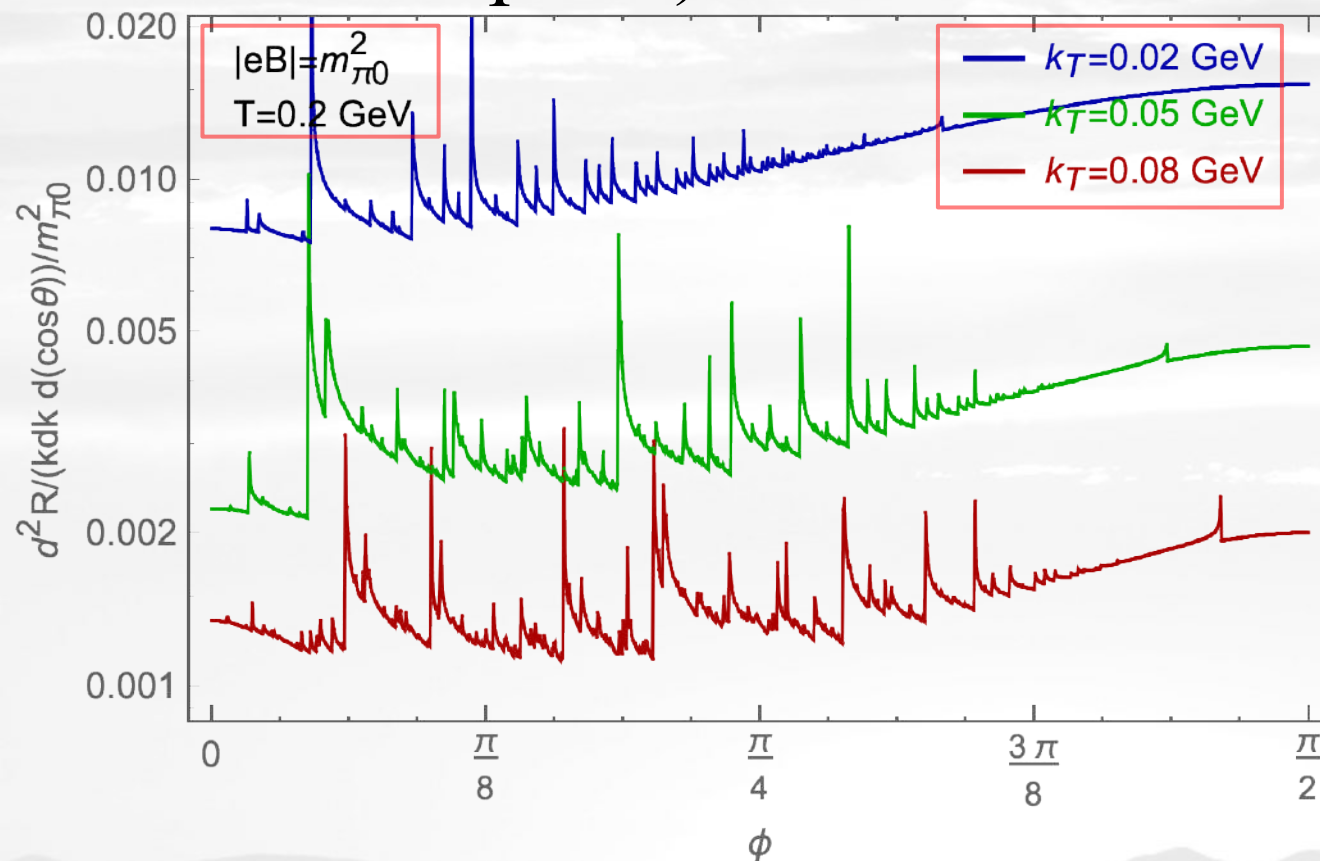


# Angular dependence: small $k_T$

- Non-smooth dependence on  $\phi$  (due to many thresholds)

Parametrization:  $k_x = 0$ ,  $k_y = k_T \cos \phi$  and  $k_z = k_T \sin \phi$

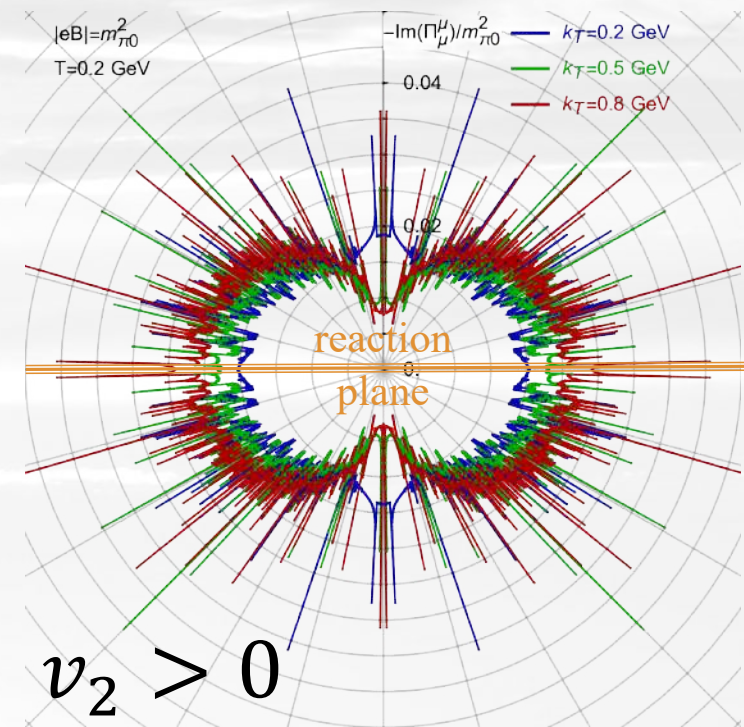
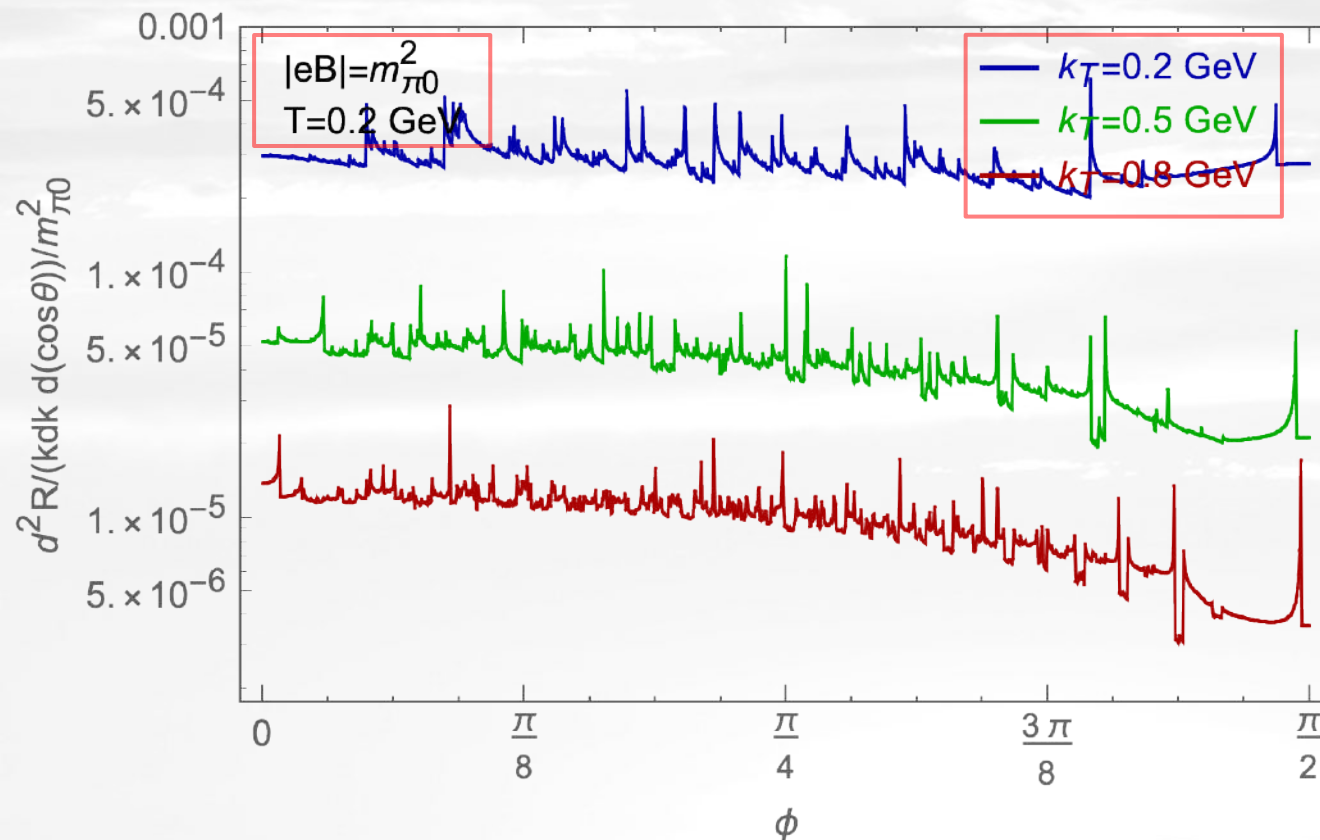
- Average rate is maximal at  $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2}$  (i.e.,  $\perp$  to the reaction plane)



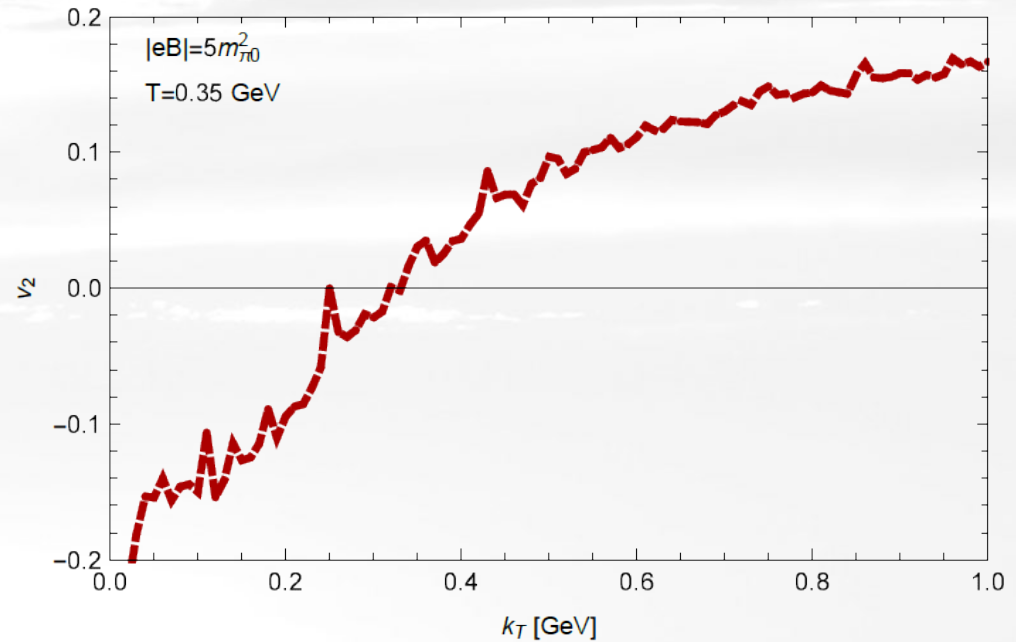
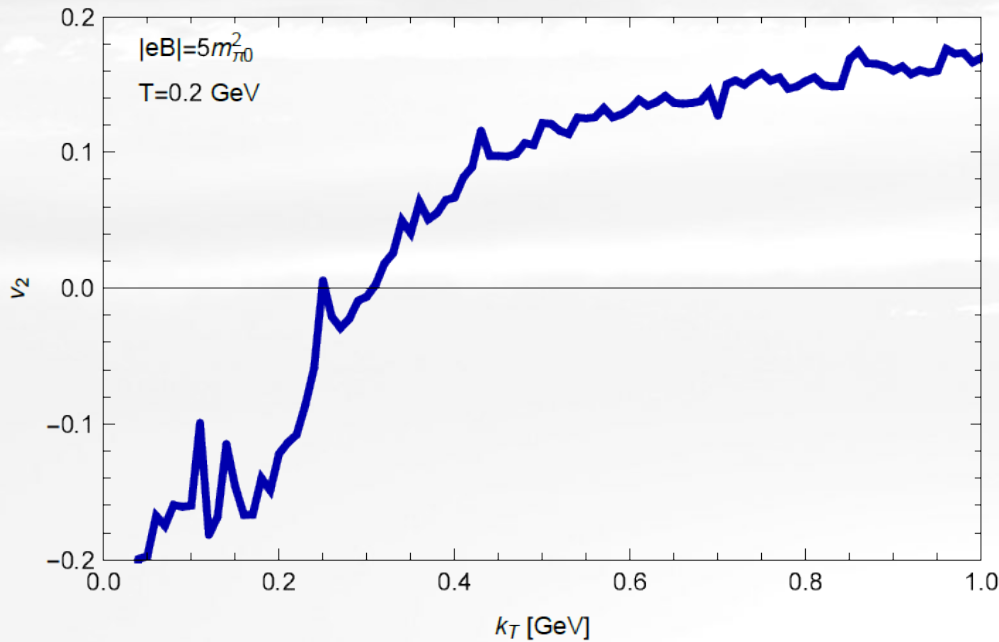
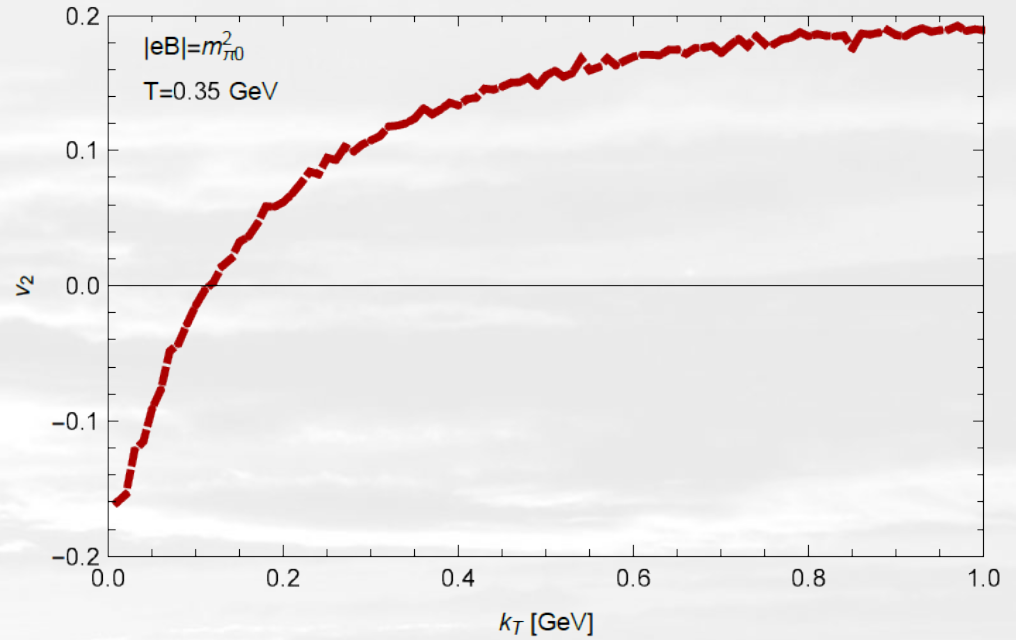
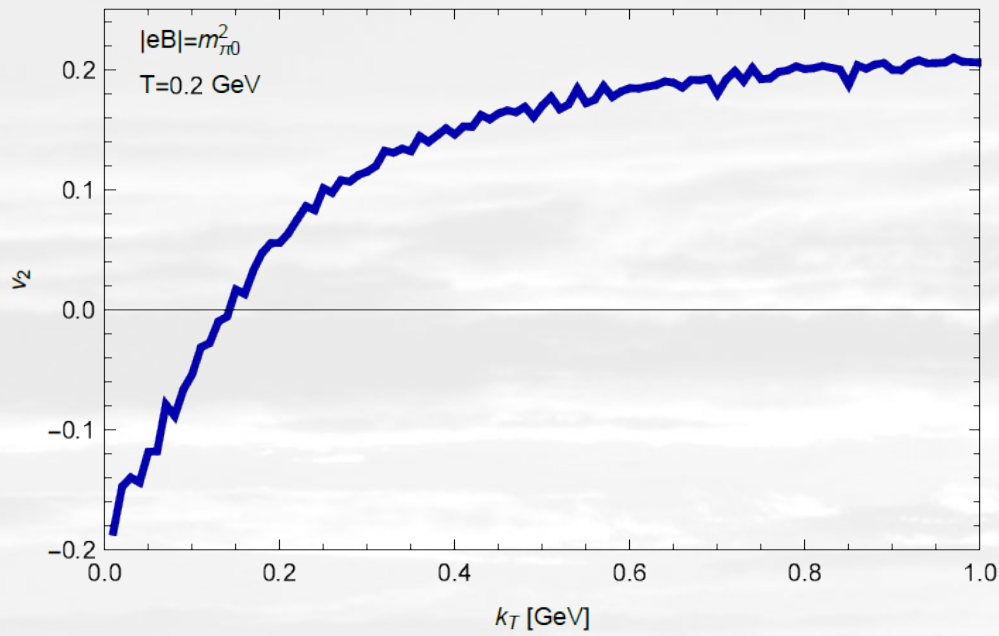


# Angular dependence: large $k_T$

- Rate quickly decreases with  $k_T$
- Average rate is maximal at  $\phi = 0$  (i.e.,  $\parallel$  to the reaction plane)

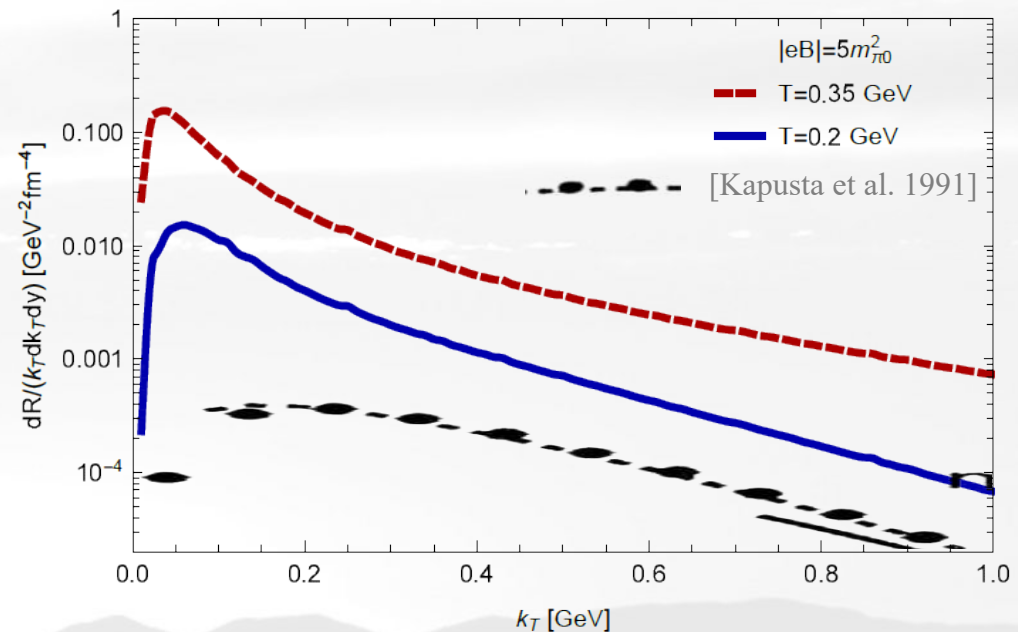
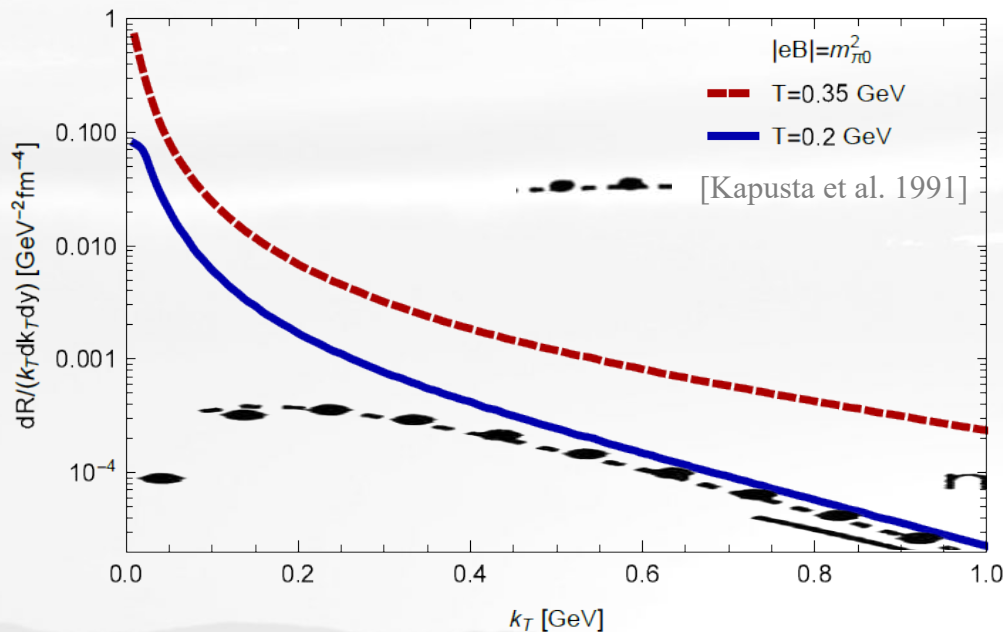


# Nonzero elliptic “flow” ( $v_2$ )



# Thermal rate at $\vec{B} \neq 0$

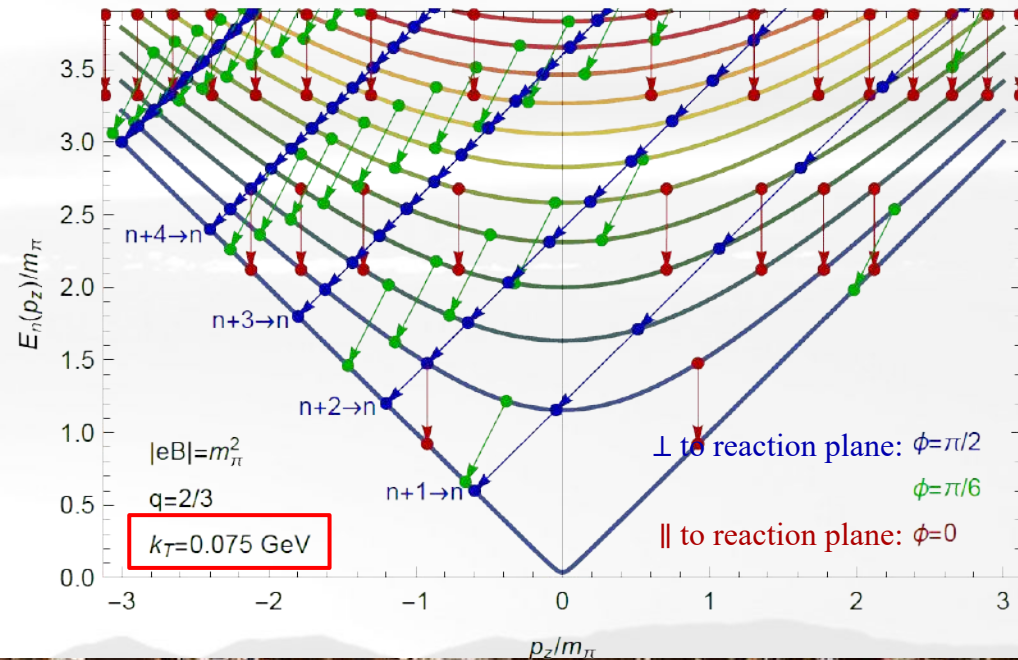
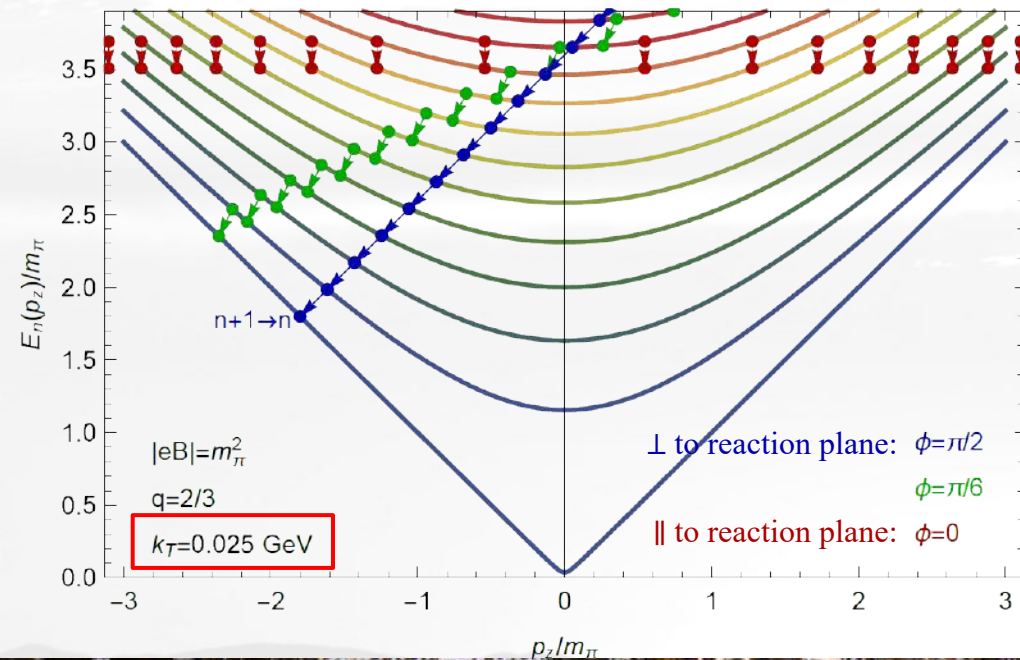
- The photon production rate
  - decreases with energy ( $k_T$ ) at large  $k_T$
  - increases with temperature
  - goes to zero when  $k_T \rightarrow 0$  (quantization effects)
  - and, thus, has a peak at small nonzero  $k_T$
- The thermal rate at  $\vec{B} \neq 0$  is relatively large



# Quantization @ small $k_T$

- Quantization is important when  $k_T \lesssim \sqrt{|eB|}$ 
  - Transitions are possible only at large  $p_z$ 

$$|p_z| \sim |e_f B| / [k_T (1 + |\sin \phi|)]$$
  - This explains why  $\text{Im}(\Pi_\mu^\mu) \rightarrow 0$  when  $k_T \rightarrow 0$
  - Dependence on  $\phi$  also explains the negative  $v_2$ !

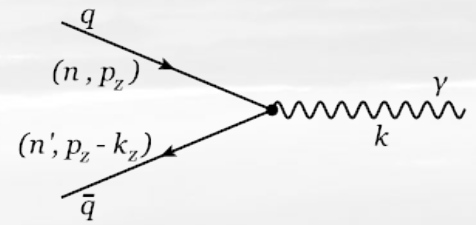
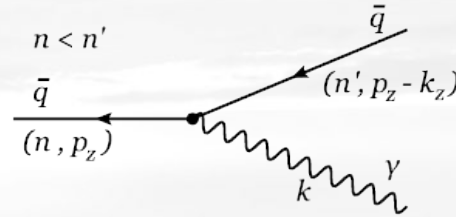
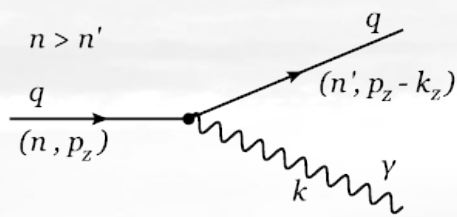


# Anisotropy of photon emission

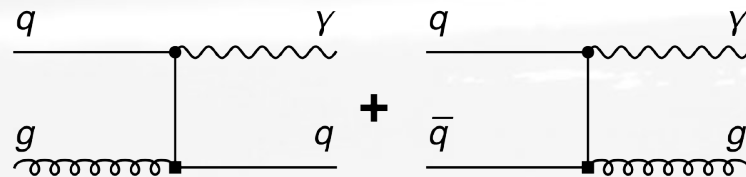
- The total rate is

$$\frac{k^0 d^3 R}{dk_x dk_y dk_z} = \underbrace{\mathcal{R}_{1 \rightarrow 2} + \mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 1}}_{\text{only at } \vec{B} \neq 0} + \underbrace{\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 2} + \mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 3} + \dots}_{\text{even at } \vec{B} = 0}$$

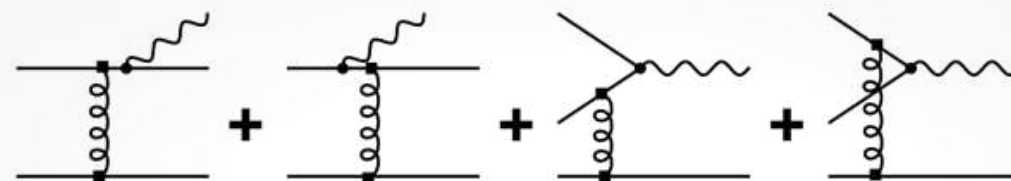
$\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 1}:$   
 $1 \rightarrow 2$



$\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 2}:$



$\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 3}:$   
 $3 \rightarrow 2$



- Estimate of  $v_2$  in a hot magnetized QGP

$$\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 1}^{1 \rightarrow 2}: \quad v_2 \sim 20\%$$

- Noting that

$$\mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 1}^{1 \rightarrow 2} \gtrsim \mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 2}^{1 \rightarrow 2} \gtrsim \mathcal{R}_{2 \rightarrow 3}^{3 \rightarrow 2}$$

- Naïve estimate at  $p_T \sim 1$  GeV gives

$$6.7\% \lesssim v_2 \lesssim 20\%$$

- A more realistic estimate should consider non-isotropic expansion & non-thermal processes

- At  $\vec{B} \neq 0$ , photons are produced at 0<sup>th</sup> order in  $\alpha_s$ 
  - (i)  $q \rightarrow q + \gamma$ , (ii)  $\bar{q} \rightarrow \bar{q} + \gamma$ , (iii)  $q + \bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma$
- The annihilation contribution grows with  $k_T$
- Quantization effects are important for  $k_T \lesssim \sqrt{|eB|}$
- Photon emission has pronounced ellipticity
  - $v_2 < 0$  at small  $k_T$  ( $k_T \lesssim \sqrt{|eB|}$ )
  - $v_2 > 0$  at large  $k_T$  ( $k_T \gtrsim \sqrt{|eB|}$ )
- Nonzero ellipticity of thermal emission could be used to “measure” the magnetic field

