

**15<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Critical Point and Onset of Deconfinement**

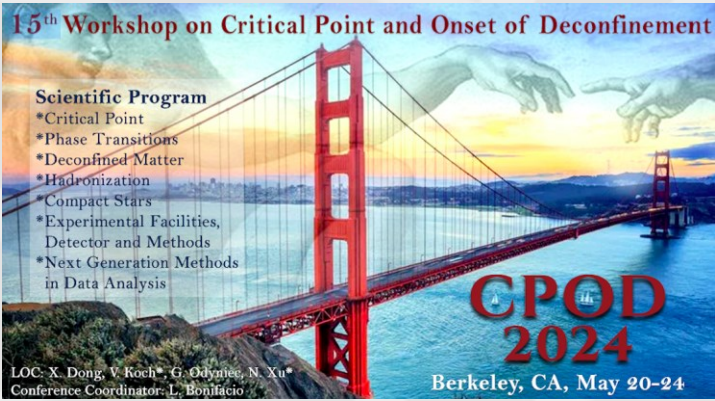
**Scientific Program**

- Critical Point
- Phase Transitions
- Deconfined Matter
- Hadronization
- Compact Stars
- Experimental Facilities, Detector and Methods
- Next Generation Methods in Data Analysis

**CPOD 2024**

LOC: X. Dong, V. Koch, G. Odyanec, N. Xu  
Conference Coordinator: L. Bonifacio

Berkeley, CA, May 20-24



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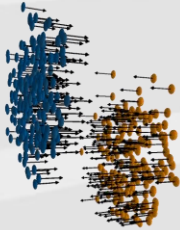
# DILEPTON EMISSION AT HIGH BARYON DENSITIES



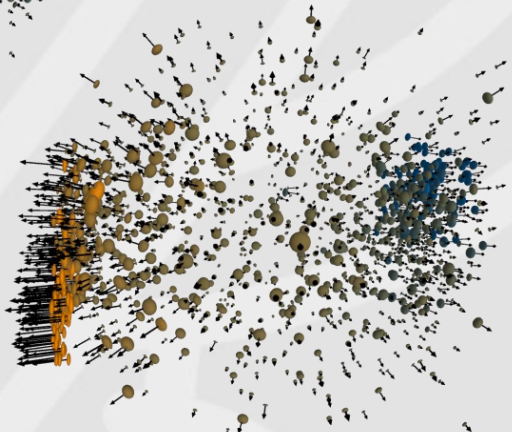
Florian Seck  
(TU Darmstadt)



for the HADES collaboration

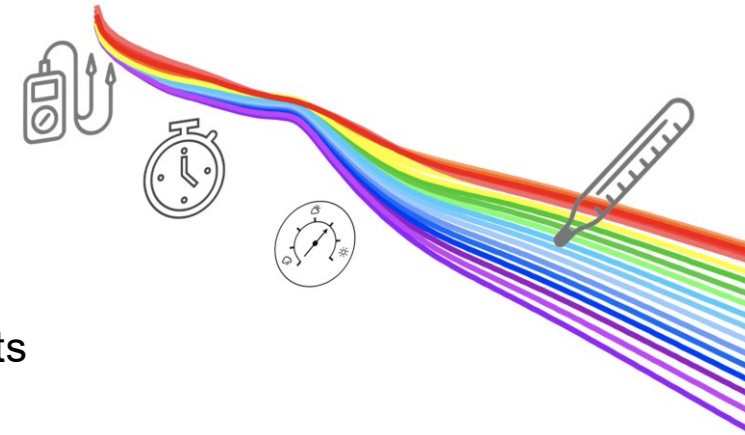


CPOD 2024  
May 20-24, Berkeley



# THERMAL DILEPTON RADIATION AS MULTIMETER OF THE FIREBALL

- Lifetime via low-mass yield  
→ search for "extra radiation" due to latent heat around phase transition (& critical point?)
- Temperature via slope of invariant mass spectrum  
→ flattening of caloric curve ( $T$  vs  $\varepsilon$ ) sign for a phase transition
- Pressure anisotropies via dilepton flow  
→ access to EoS at high baryon density via multi-differential measurements
- Spin polarization allows to distinguish different sources of thermal dileptons  
→ access information on production mechanism
- Electric conductivity probed in the limit  $p_{ee} = 0$  MeV/c,  $M_{ee} \rightarrow 0$  MeV/c<sup>2</sup>  
→ access to transport properties of QCD matter



Dileptons are rare probes → high-rate, high-efficiency detectors

U. Heinz, K. Lee, Phys. Lett. B 259, 162 (1991)  
H. Barz *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 254, 315 (1991)  
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)  
T. Galatyuk, JPS Conf. Proc. 32 (2020), 010079  
F. Seck *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022), 014904  
O. Savchuk *et al.*, J. Phys G 104537 R2 (2023)

R. Chatterjee *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 75 (2007), 054909  
T. Reichert *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 841 (2023) 137947

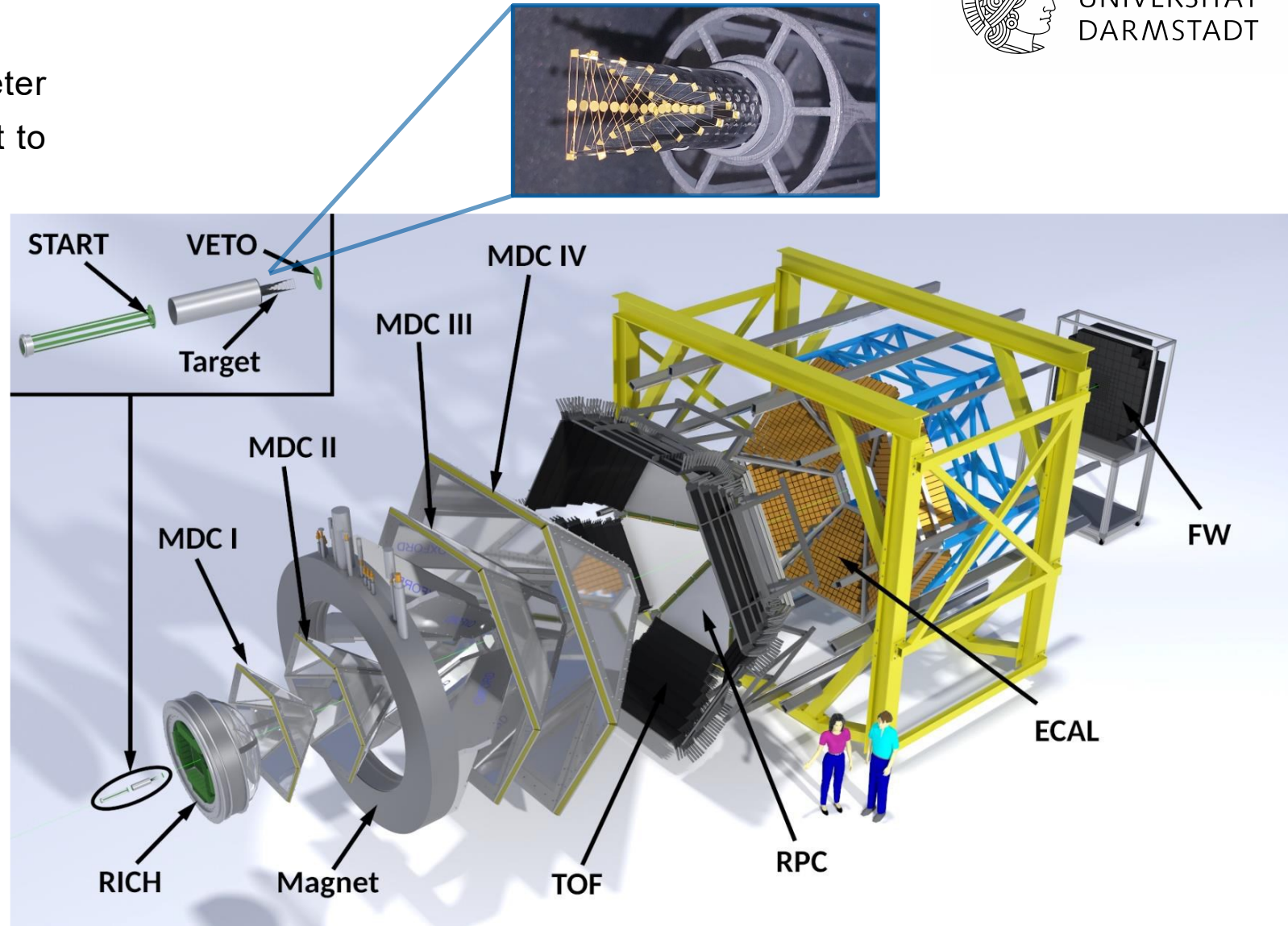
G. Moore, J. Robert, arXiv:hep-ph/0607172 (2006)  
J. Atchison, R. Rapp, Nucl. Phys. A 1037 (2023) 122704  
S. Flörchinger *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 837 (2023) 137647

E. Bratkovskaya *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 376, 12 (1996)  
E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)  
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)  
S. Hauksson, C. Gale, arXiv:2306.10307 [nucl-th] (2023)

## HADES EXPERIMENT

- High-Acceptance Di-Electron Spectrometer
- Designed with a minimal material budget to reduce conversion
- Large angular coverage:
  - $15^\circ < \theta < 85^\circ$
  - $0^\circ < \phi < 360^\circ$
- Accepted trigger rate up to
  - 16 kHz for heavy-ion collisions
  - 50 kHz with proton/pion beam
- Dedicated components for  $e^+/e^-$ :
  - Time-of-Flight measurements
  - Ring-Imaging Cherenkov Detector
  - Electromagnetic Calorimeter

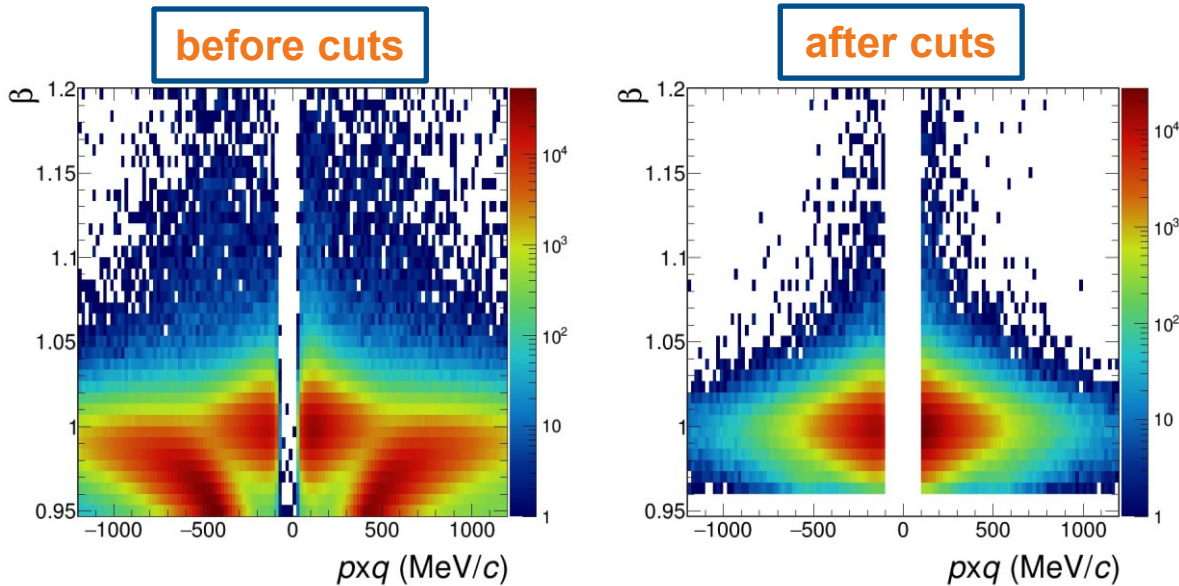
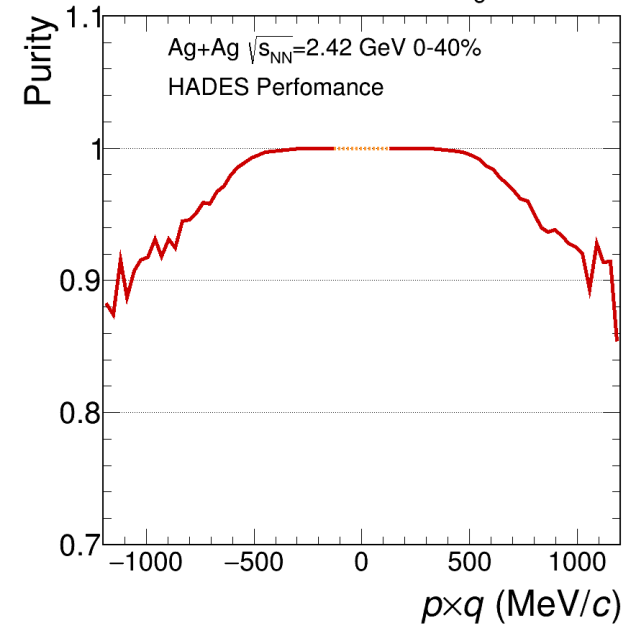
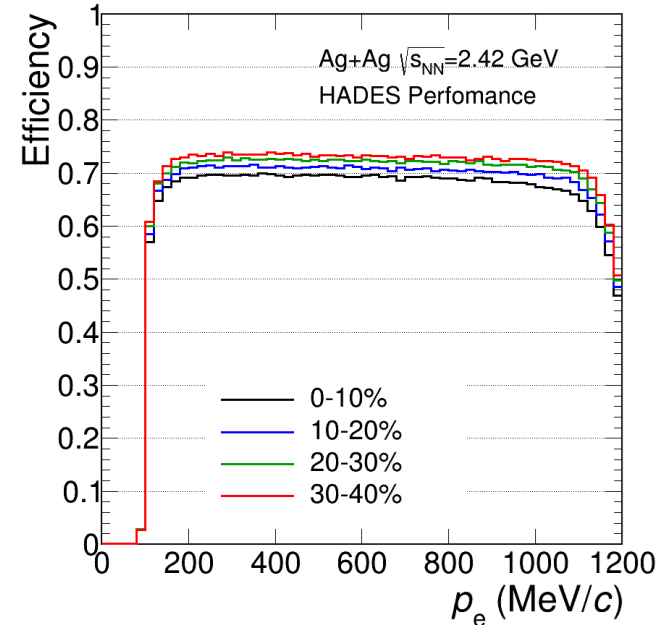
**HADES allows for high efficiency and high purity electron sample**





# HADES LEPTON IDENTIFICATION PERFORMANCE

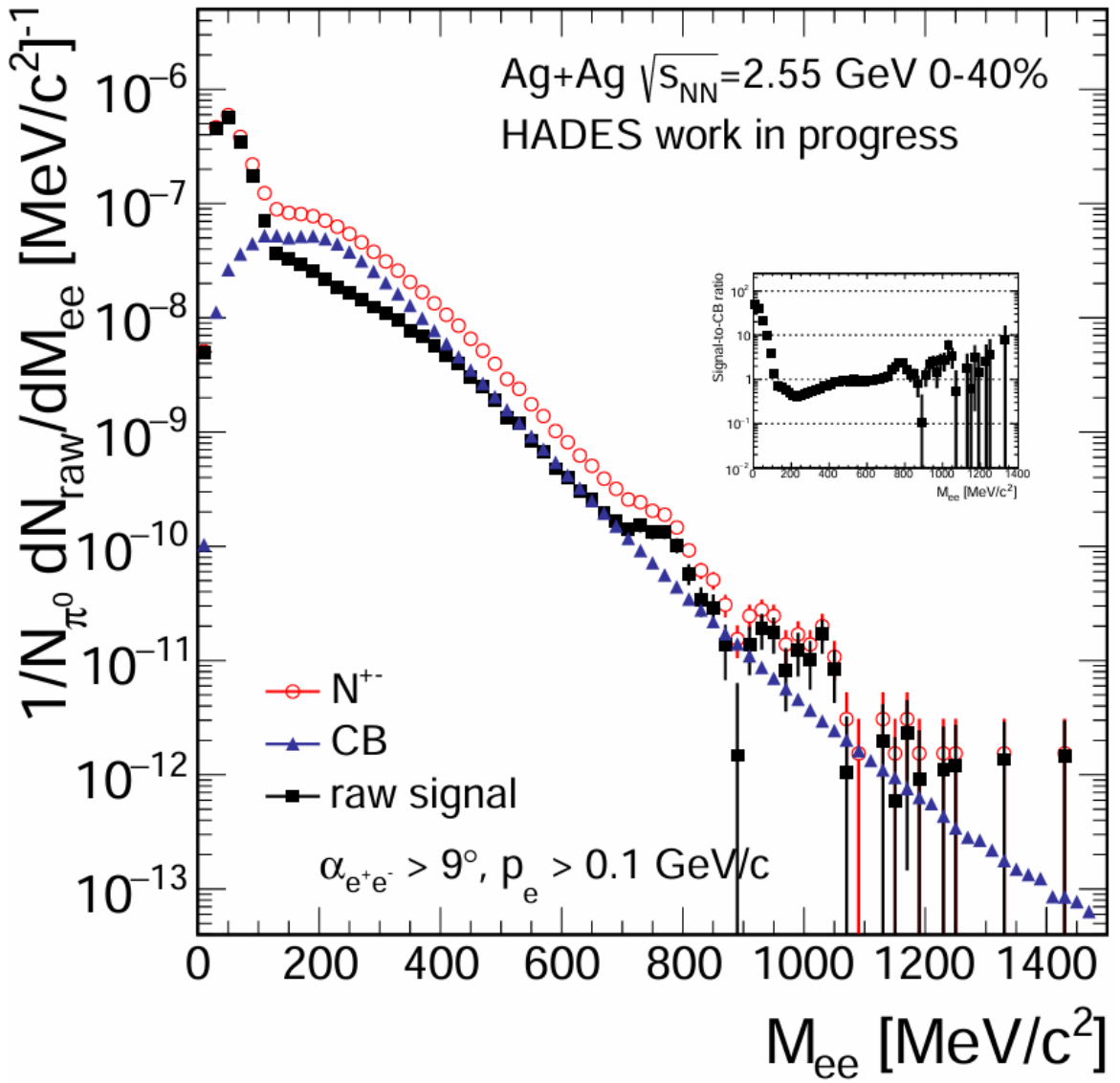
- Reconstruction efficiency  $\sim 70\%$
- Purity above 90%
- Hadron suppression of  $\sim 10^{-5}$
- Ag+Ag run in 2019
  - $N_{y_*}^{rec} \approx 1.5 \cdot 10^6$  for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$  GeV (28 days)
  - $N_{y_*}^{rec} \approx 1.5 \cdot 10^5$  for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$  GeV (3 days)



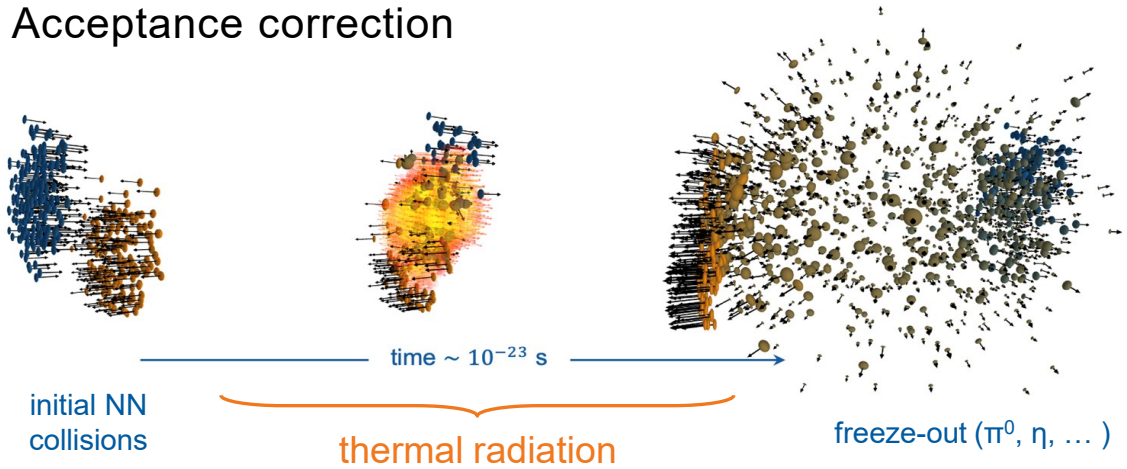




# STEPS TO ISOLATE THERMAL RADIATION



- RICH photodetector upgrade
  - Employing CBM at FAIR technology (CBM FAIR phase-0)
- Efficiency correction
- NN reference subtraction
- Freeze-out cocktail subtraction
  - Simulated using Pluto event generator with measured/estimated multiplicities
- Acceptance correction

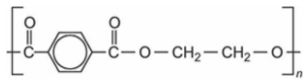


# MEASUREMENT OF NN REFERENCE IN HADES

- p+p and d+p collisions at  $E_{kin} = 1.25$  GeV
- n+p reaction tagged by triggering on proton spectator

HADES, Phys. Lett. B 690 (2010) 118  
 A. Larionov et al., Phys. Rev. C 102 (2021), 064913

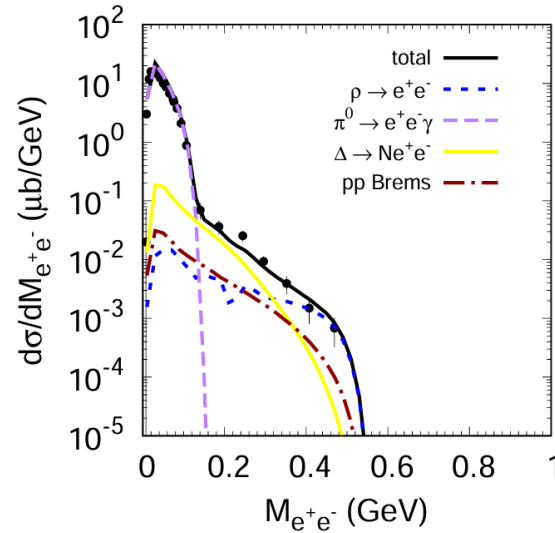
- Ongoing analysis of p+p at  $E_{kin} = 1.58$  GeV and 4.5 GeV
- Empty target run p+C/p/O as proxy for p+p/p+n



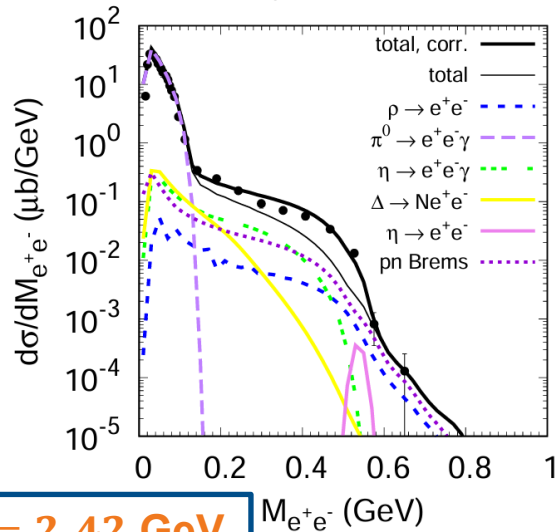
Mylar

reference for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$  GeV

p + p,  $E = 1.25$  GeV

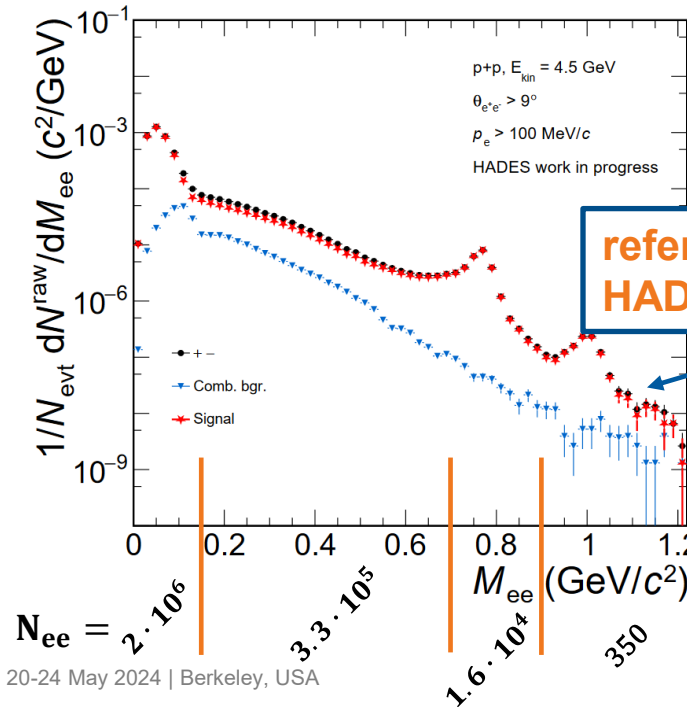
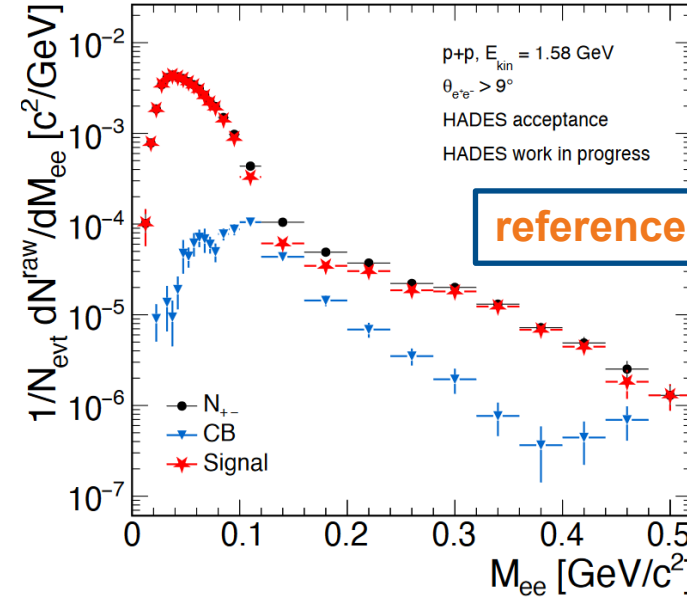


d + p,  $E = 1.25$  A GeV



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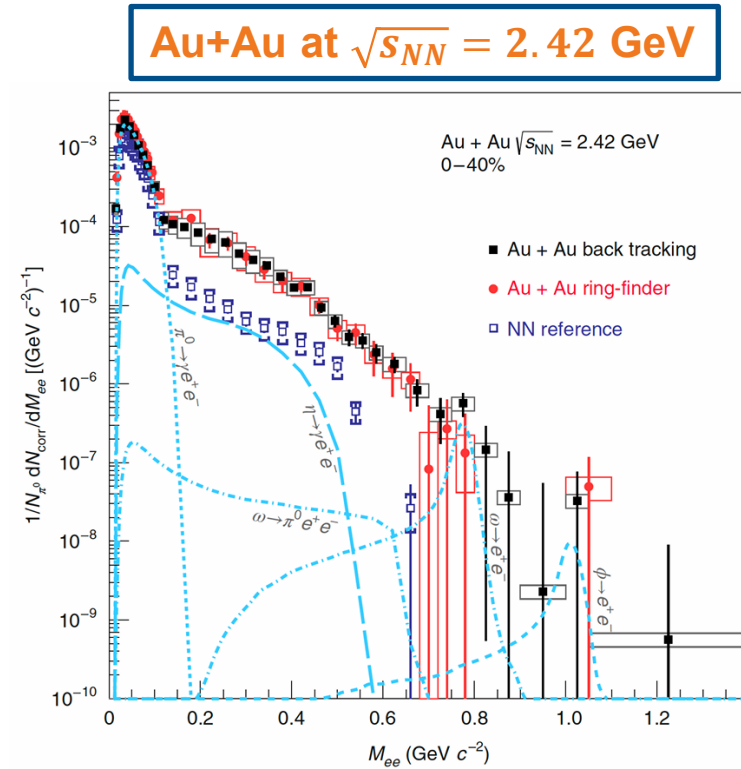
reference for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$  GeV



reference for future  
 HADES/CBM runs at FAIR

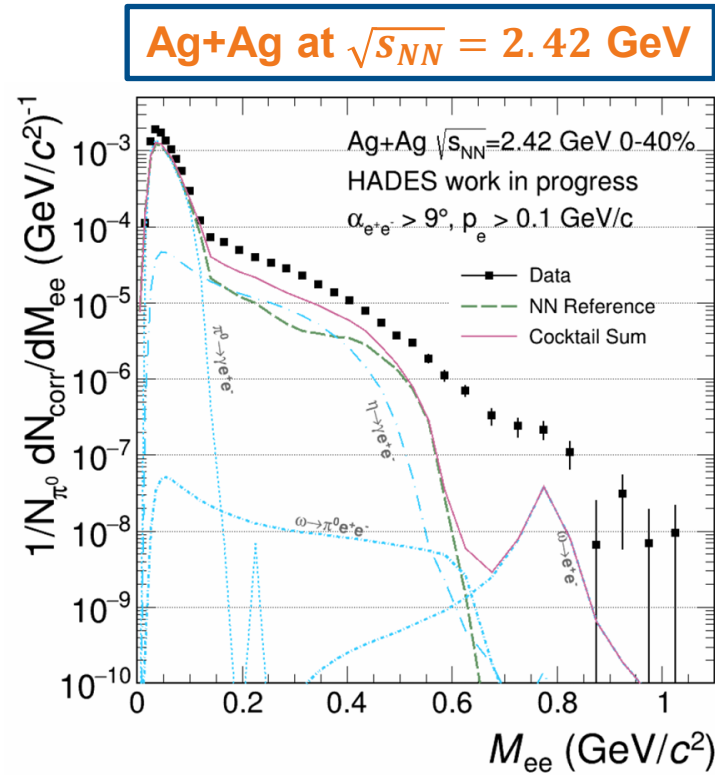
# DILEPTON INVARIANT MASS SPECTRA FROM HADES

- Clear excess visible above contributions from initial NN reference and freeze-out cocktail

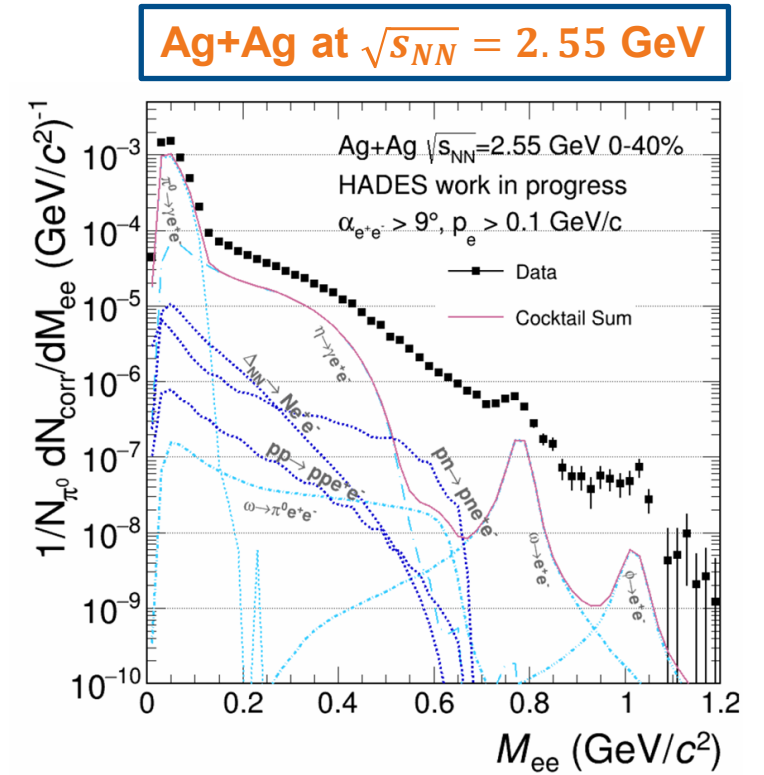


HADES, Nature Phys. 15(2019) 1040

measured NN reference



measured NN reference



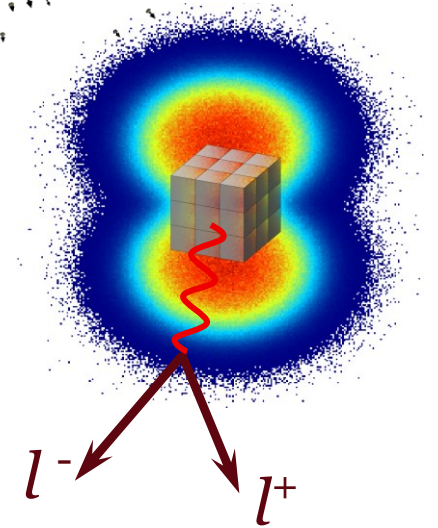
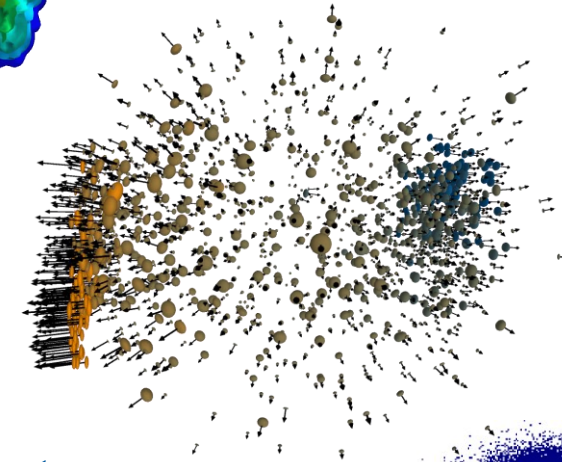
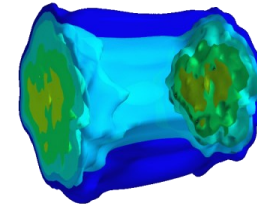
simulated reference (GiBUU)  
→ analysis of NN measurement at the  
same collision energy ongoing





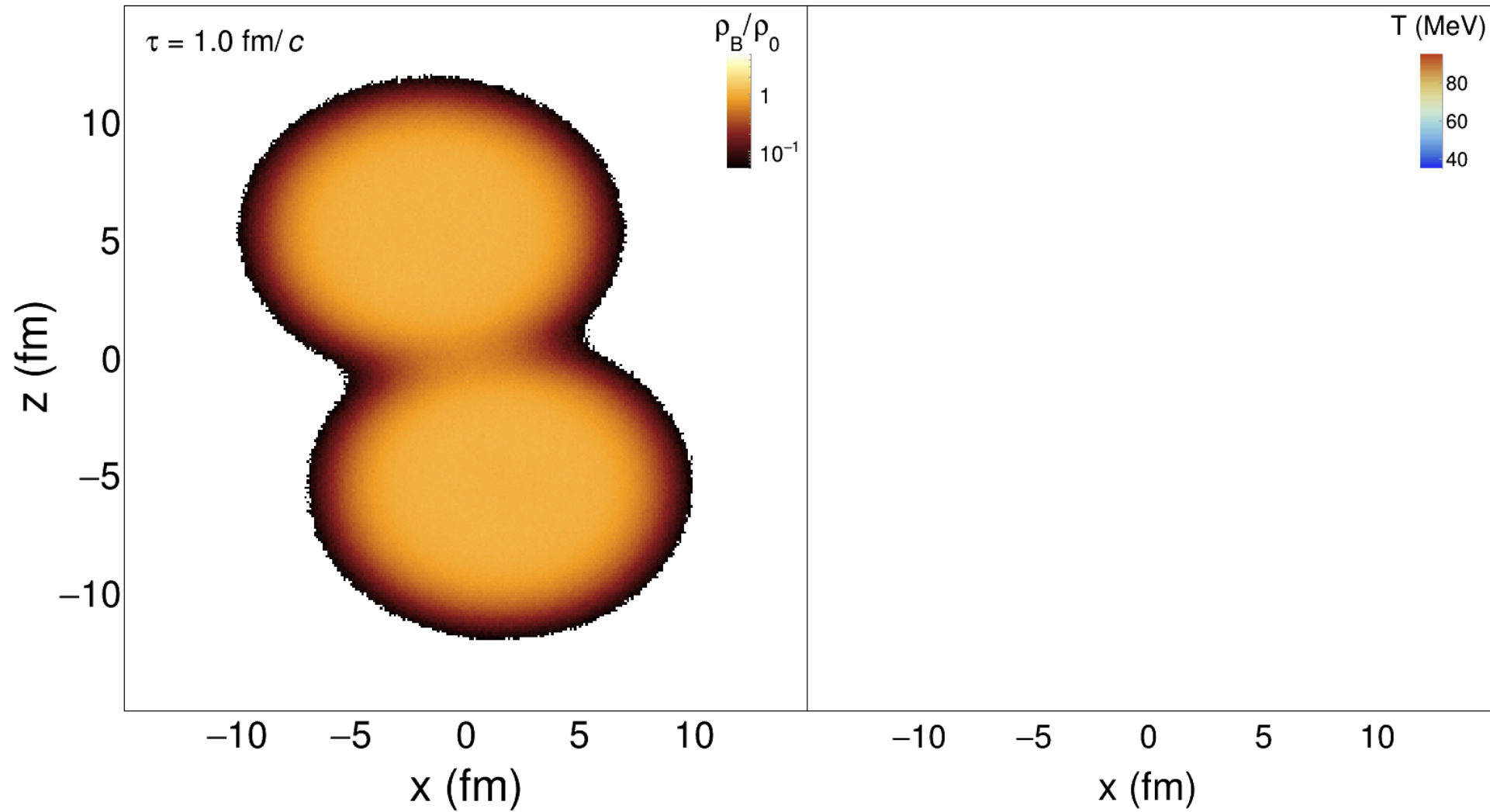
## DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE-TIME EVOLUTION

- Bulk observables are reasonably well described by simulations
  - Hydrodynamics at high collision energies
  - Microscopic transport model at low collision energies
- Pure transport simulations struggle to describe dilepton data
  - “shining” or time-integration method
- “Combination” of hydrodynamics and transport model: **coarse-grained transport**

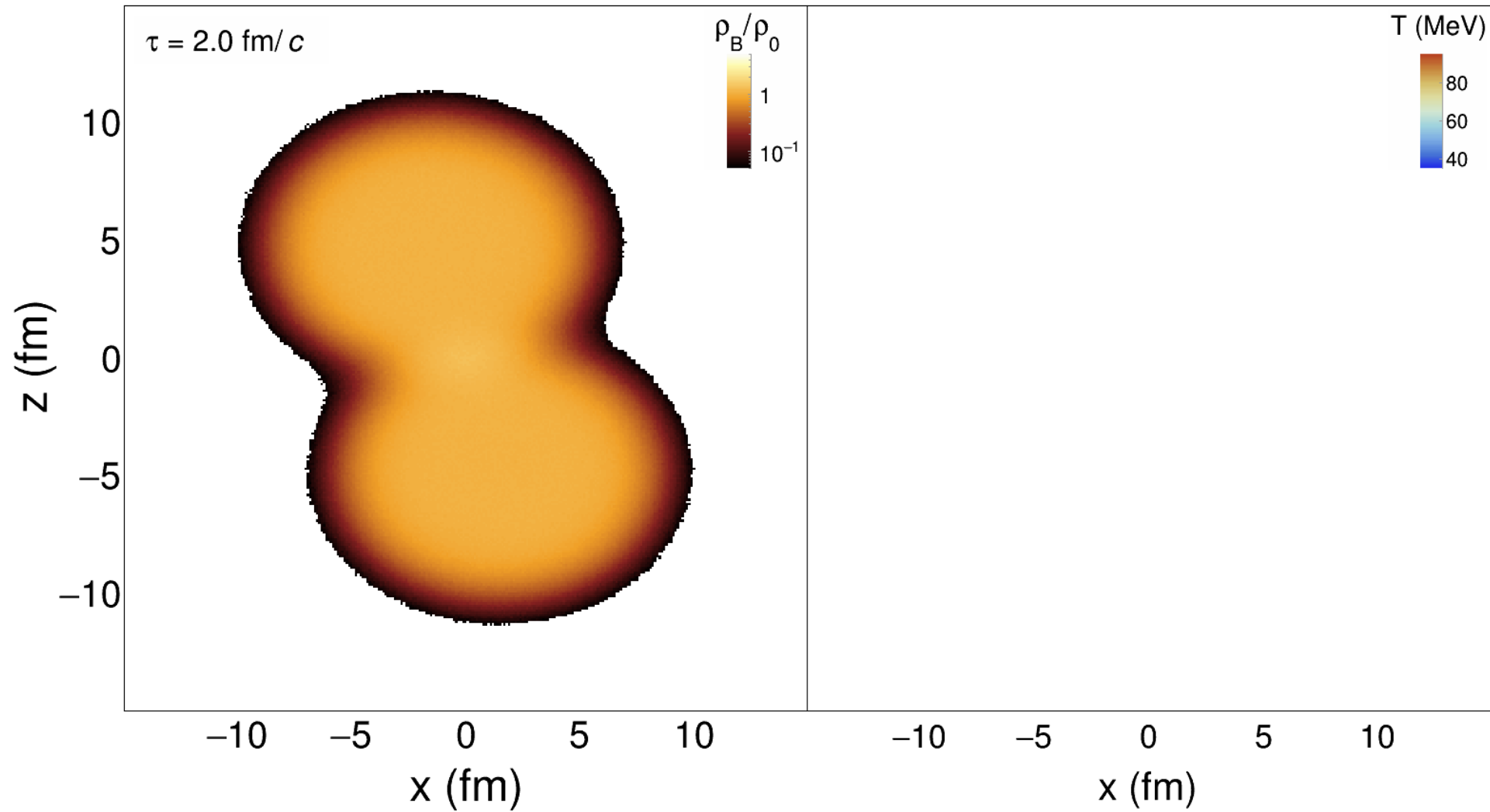


- Simulate events with a transport model & take ensemble average to obtain smooth space-time distributions
- Divide space-time into 4-dim. cells
- Check if cell is thermalized ( $\rightarrow$  enough interactions)
- Extract baryon density  $\rho_B$ , medium velocity  $\vec{u}$ , and temperature  $T$  ( $\rightarrow m_\pi$  spectra of pions)
- Calculate dilepton rates based on these inputs per cell
- Space-time integration via summation of the contributions from all cells

# BARYON DENSITY AND TEMPERATURE PROFILE IN AU+AU AT 1.23 AGEV

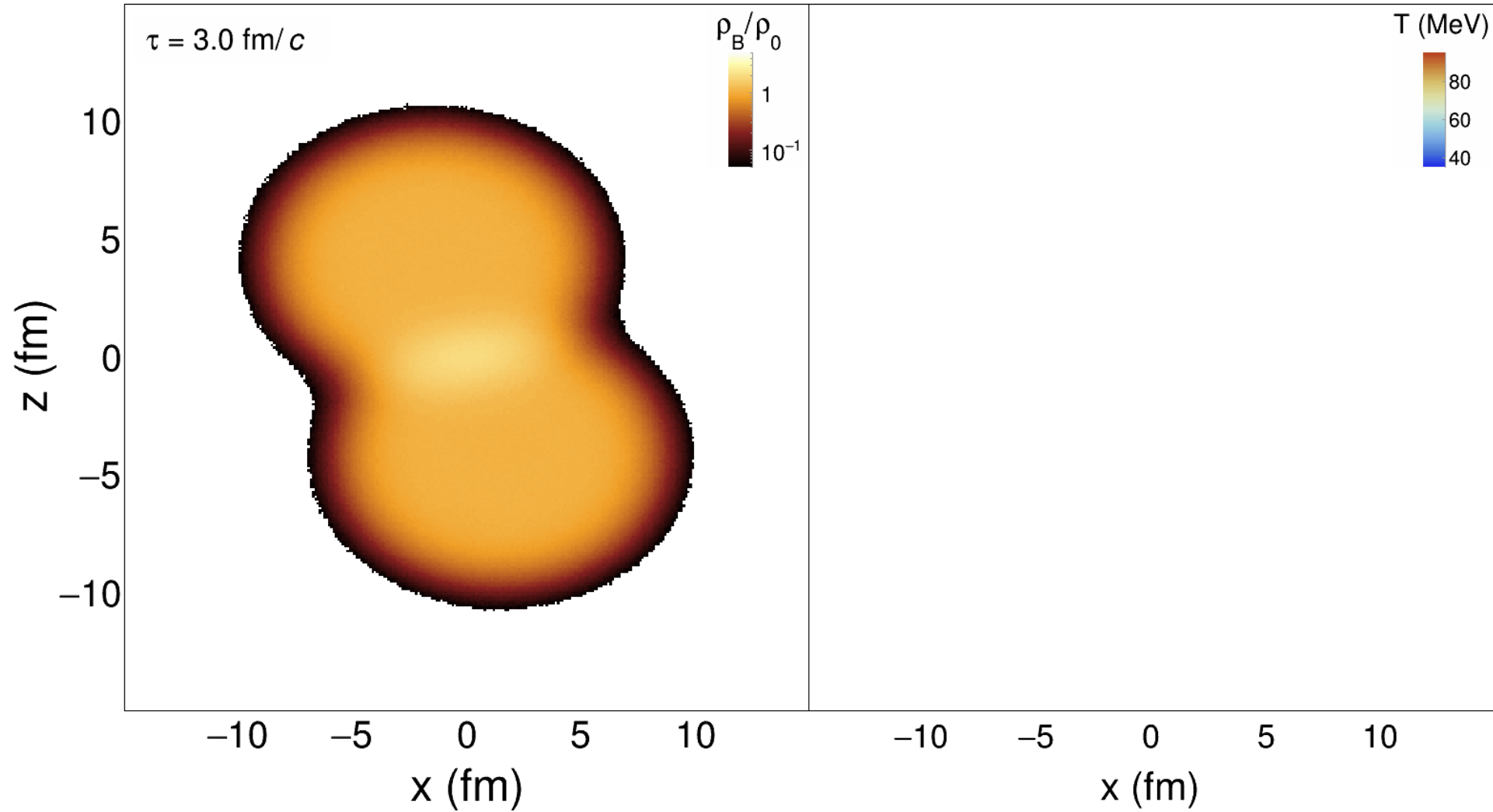


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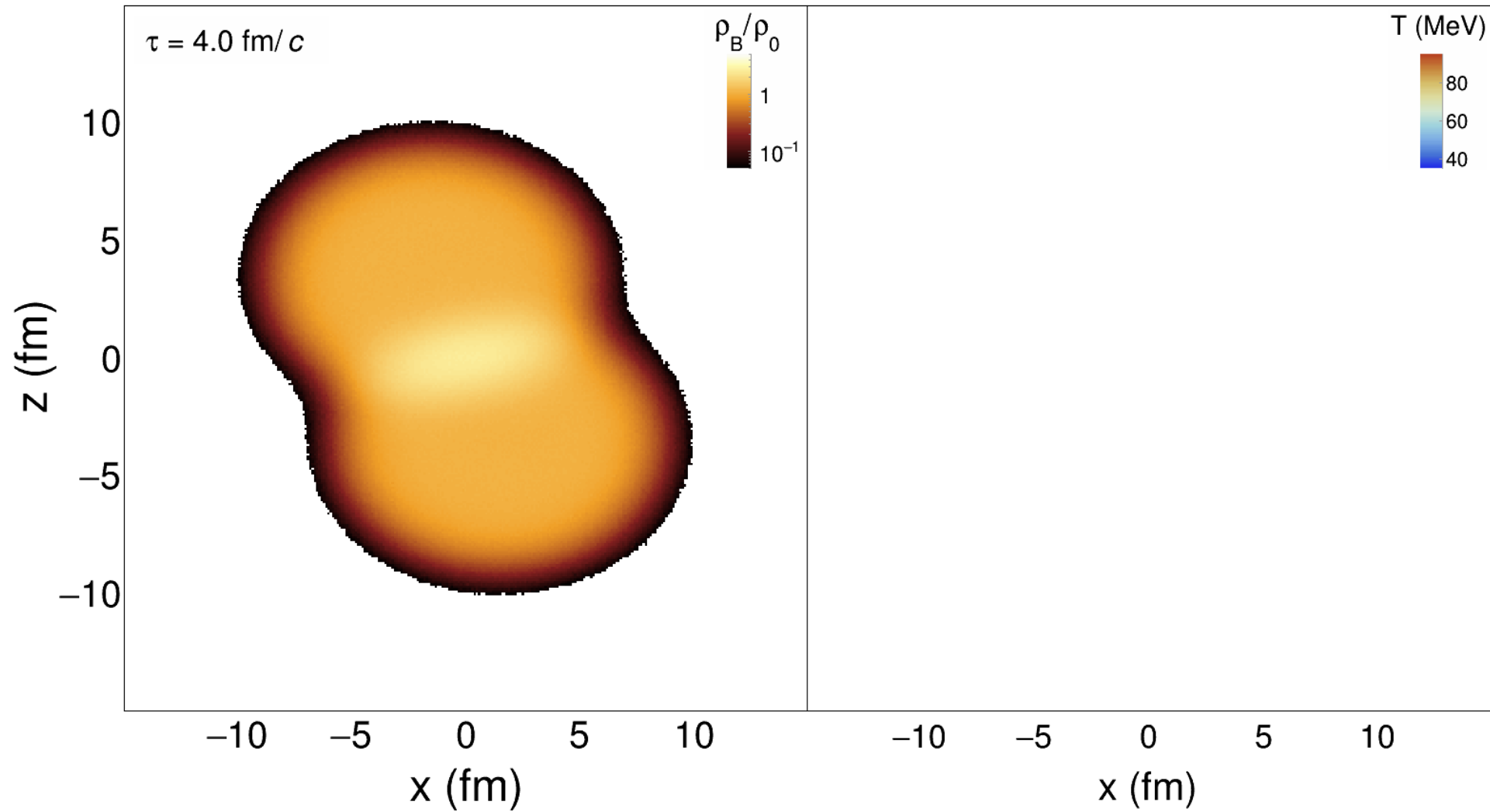




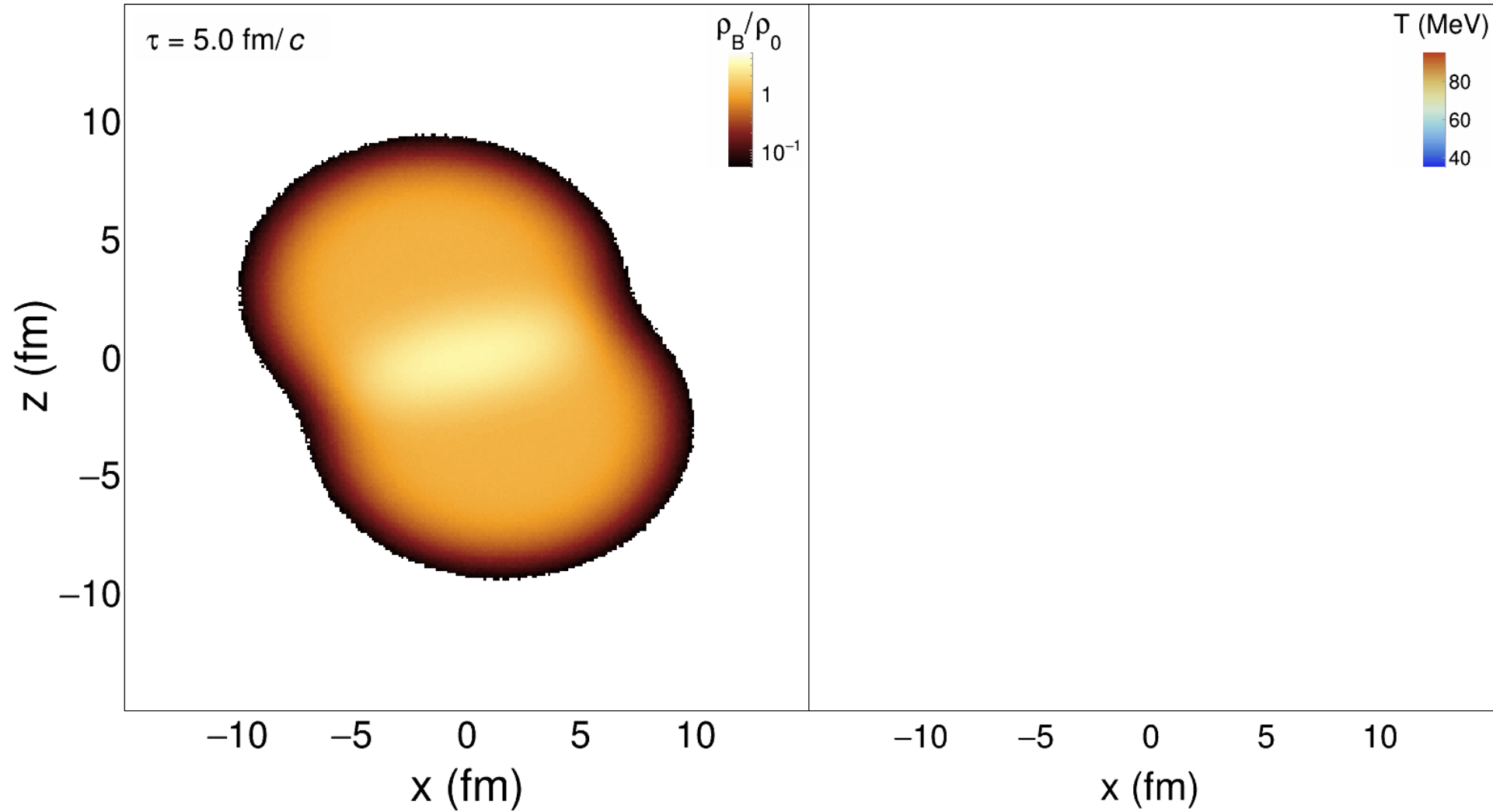
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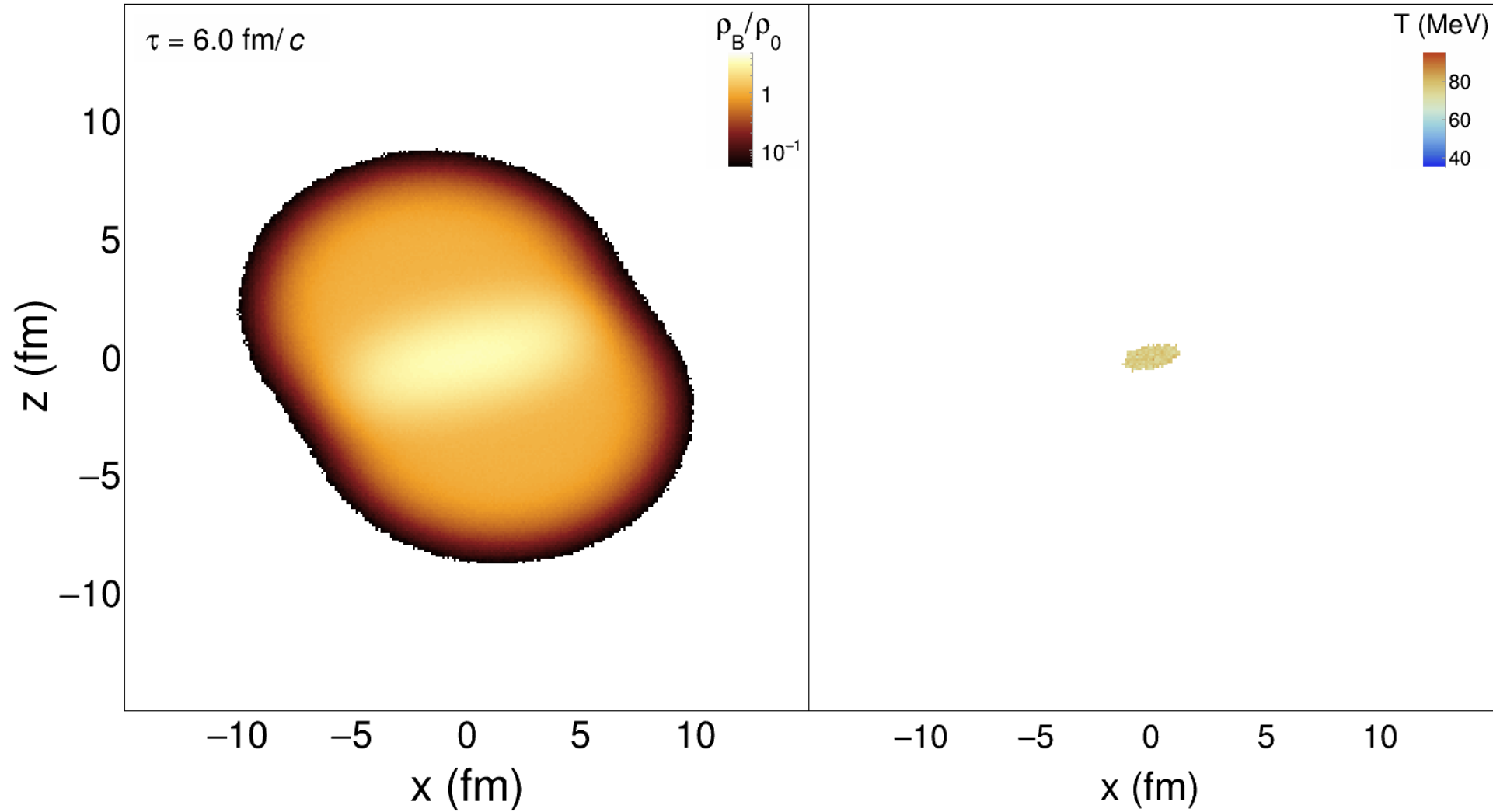


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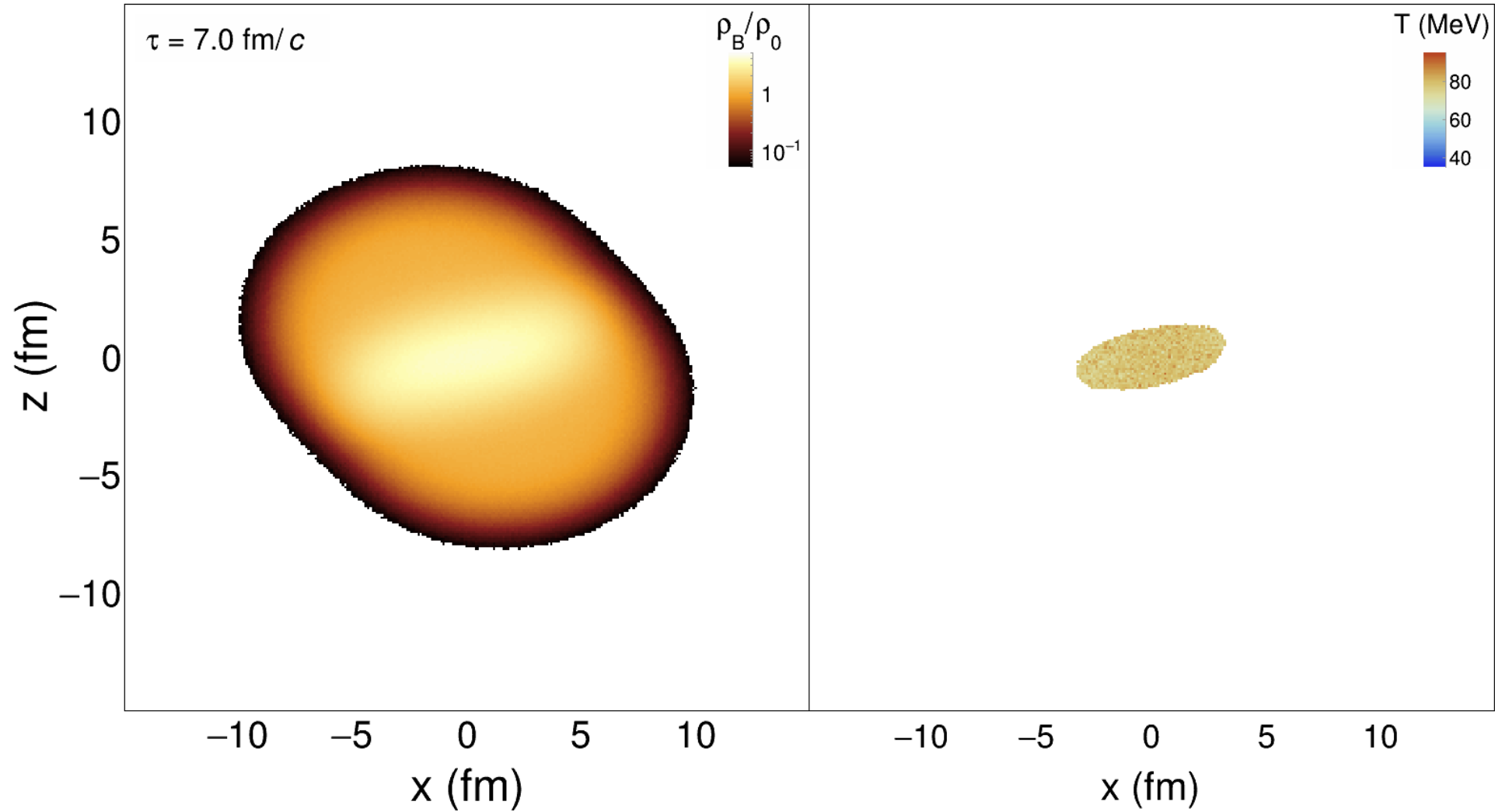




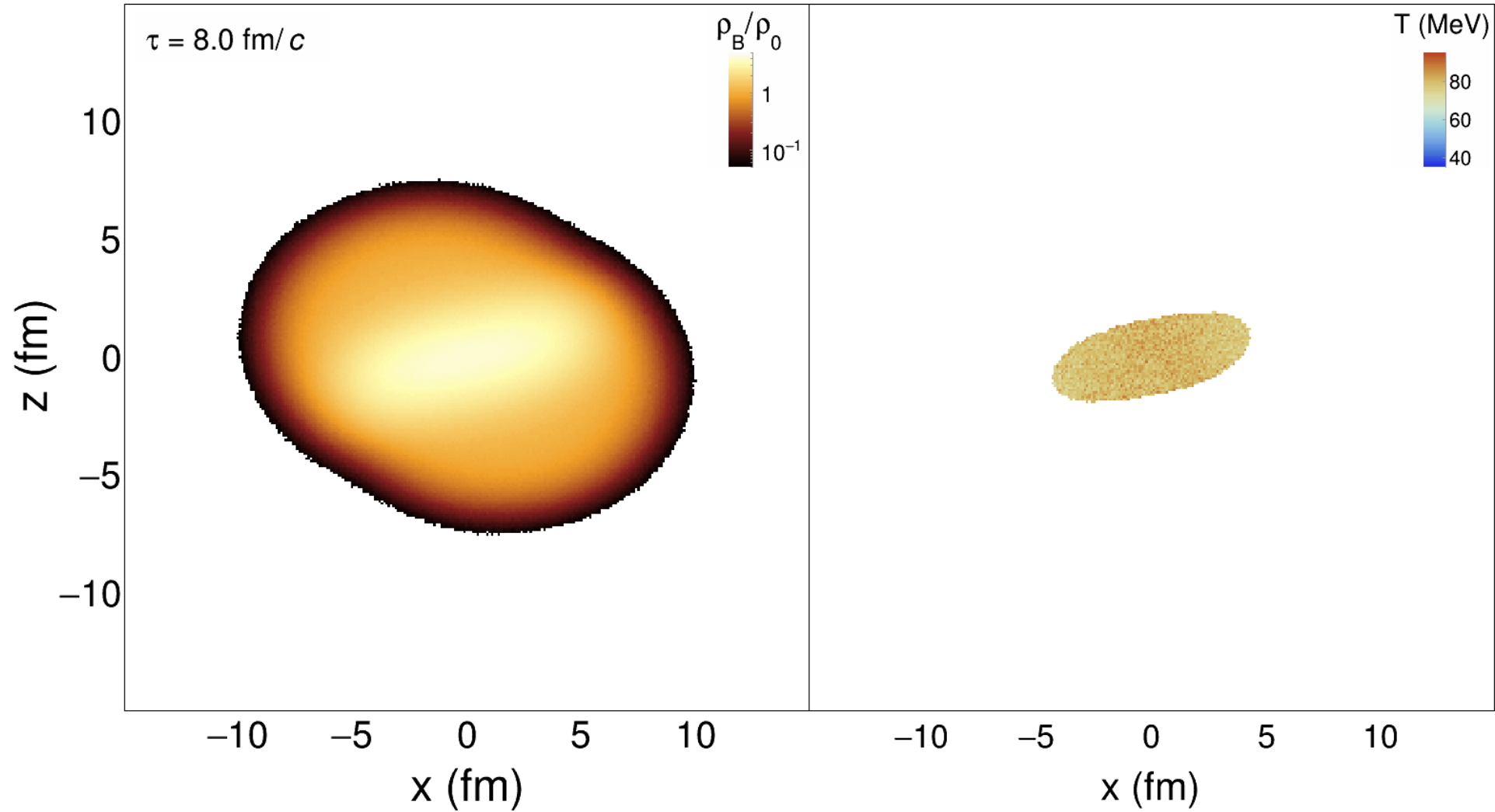
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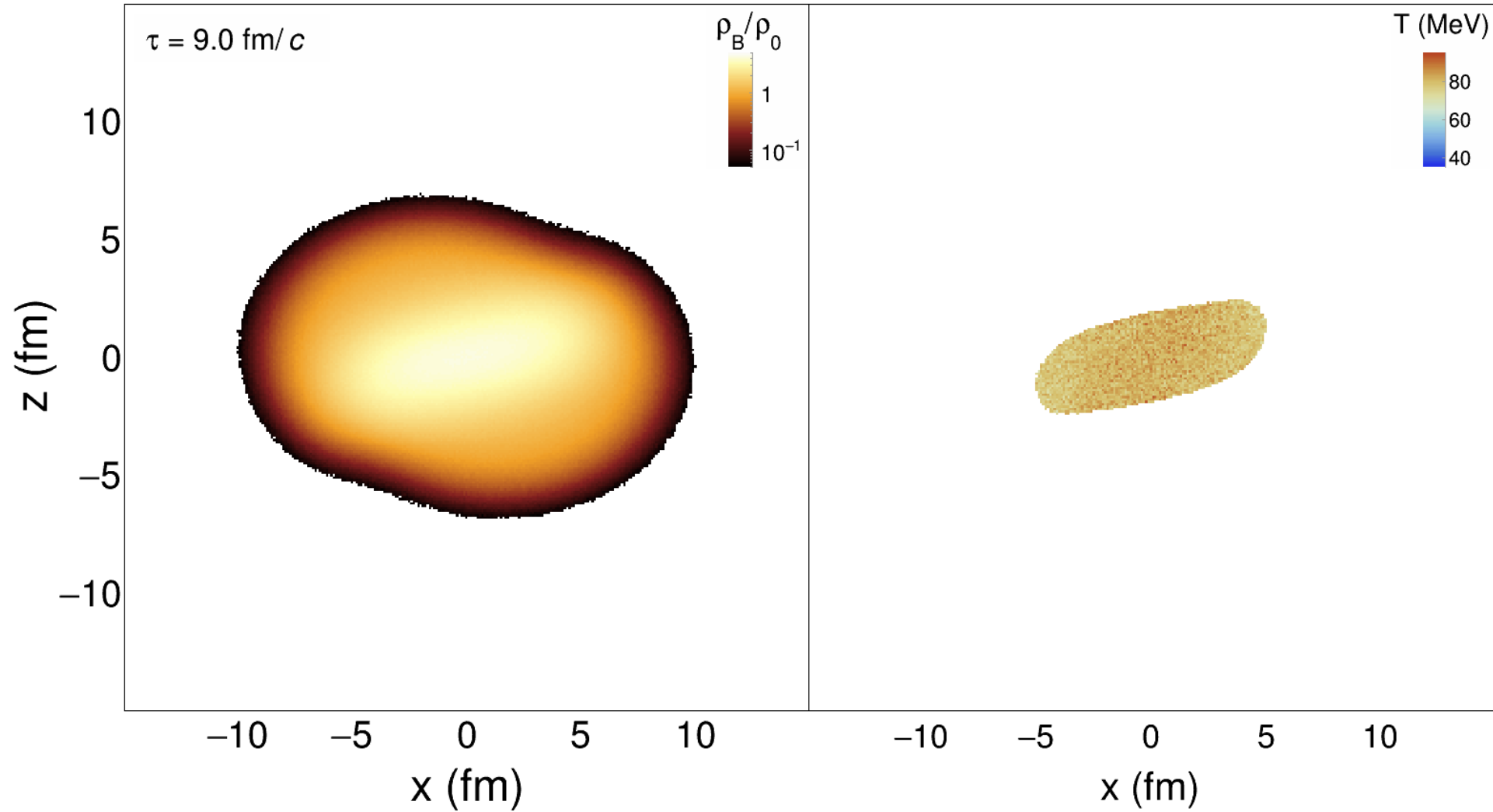
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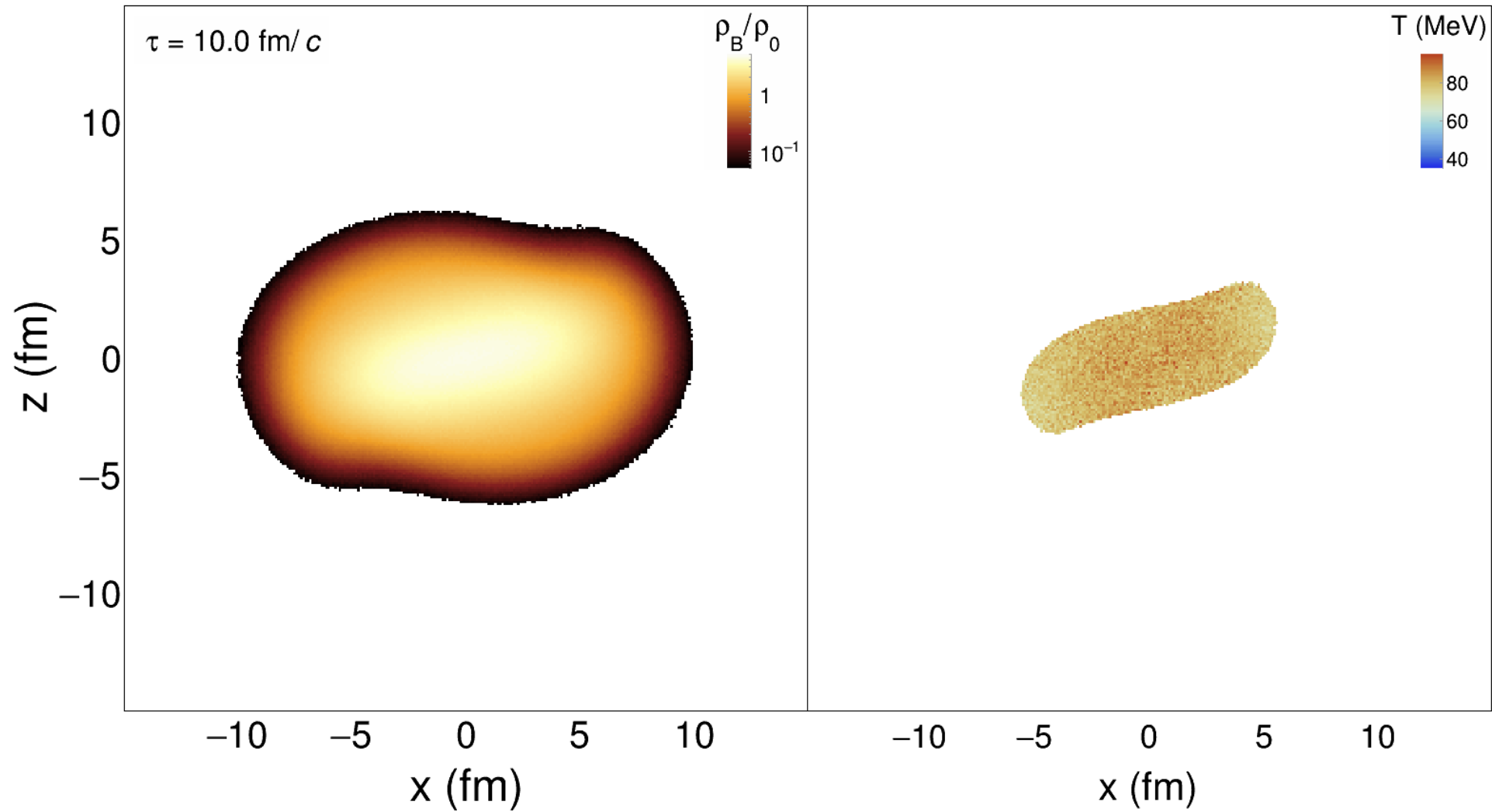
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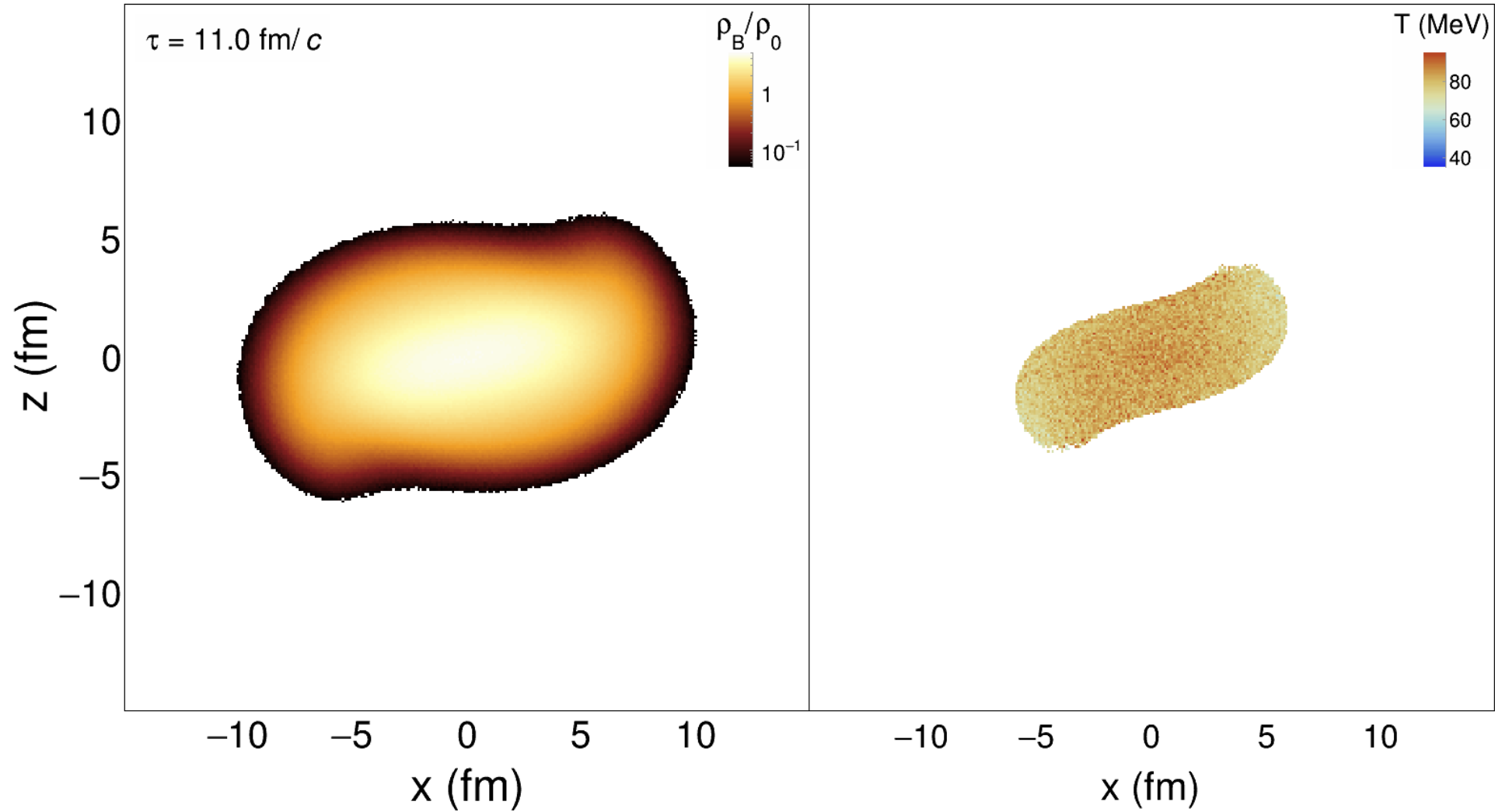


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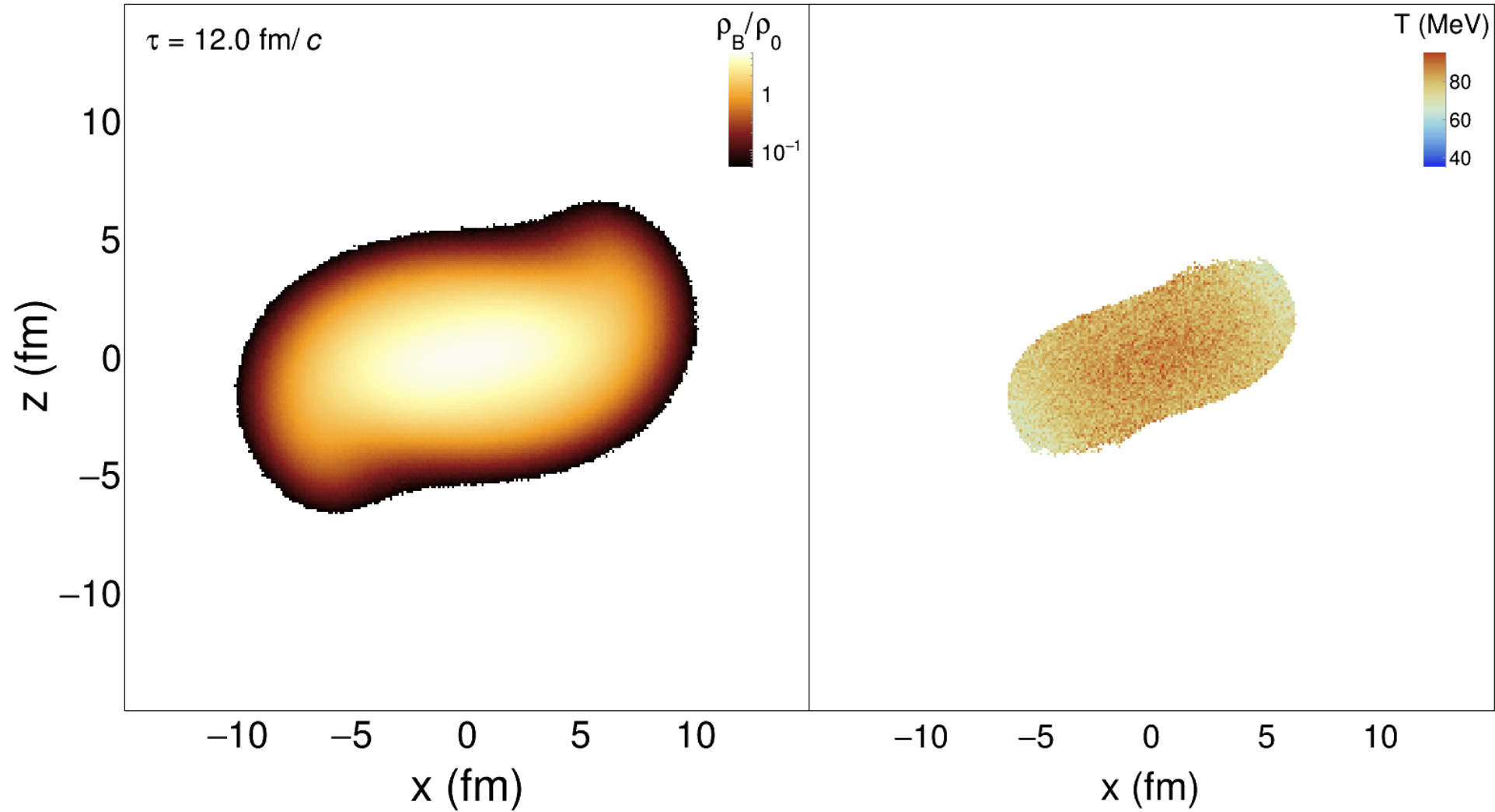




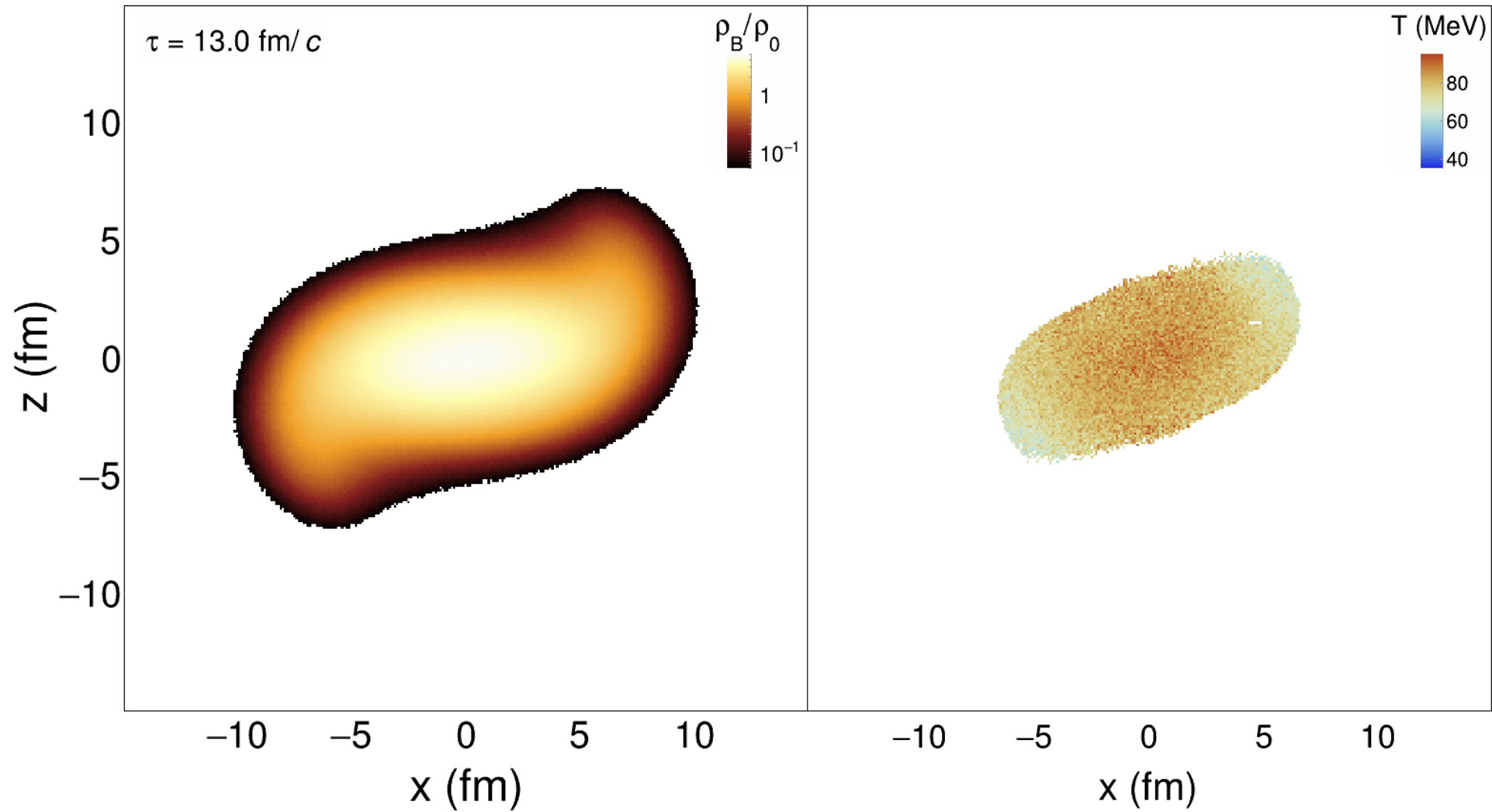
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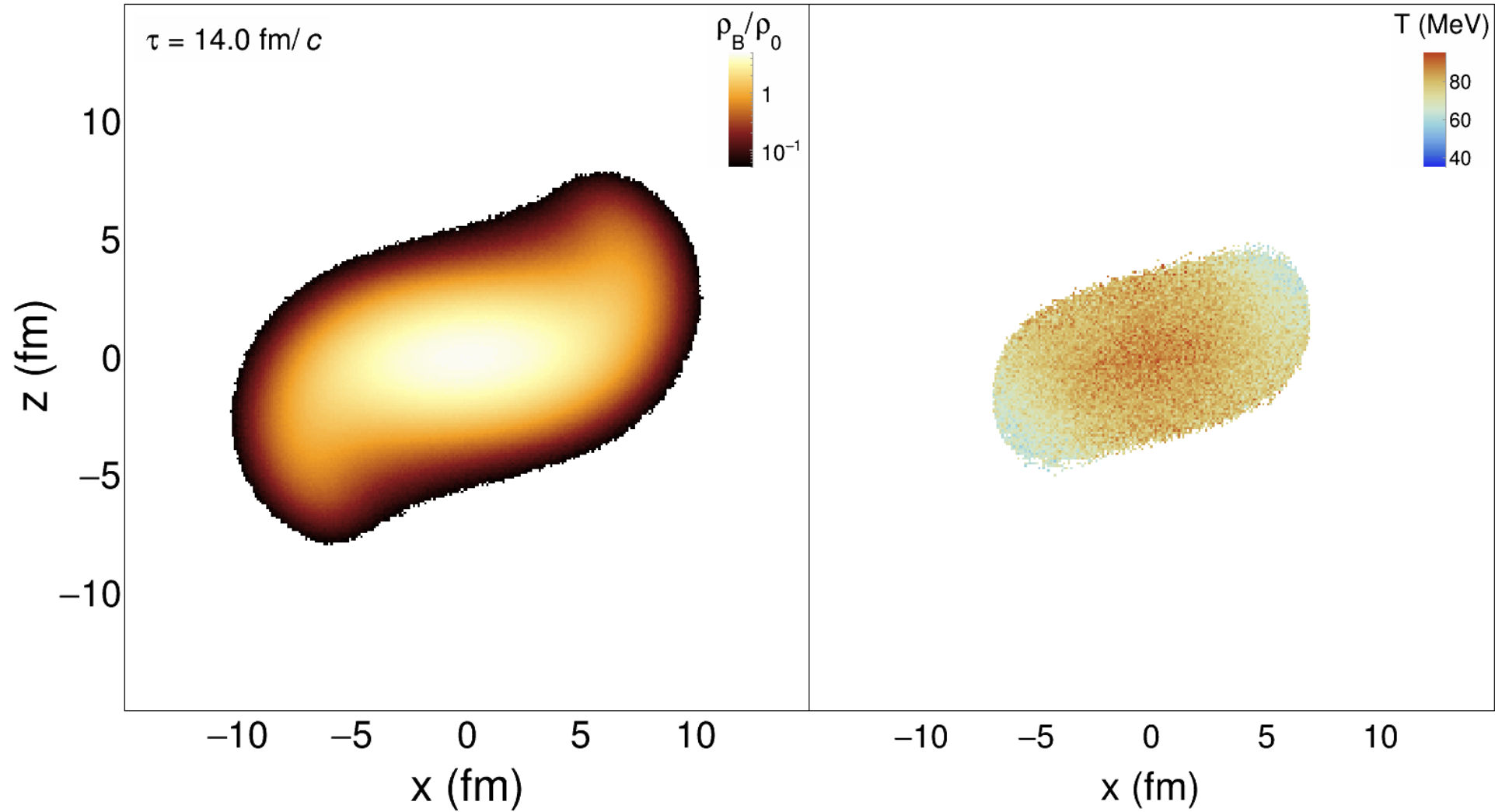
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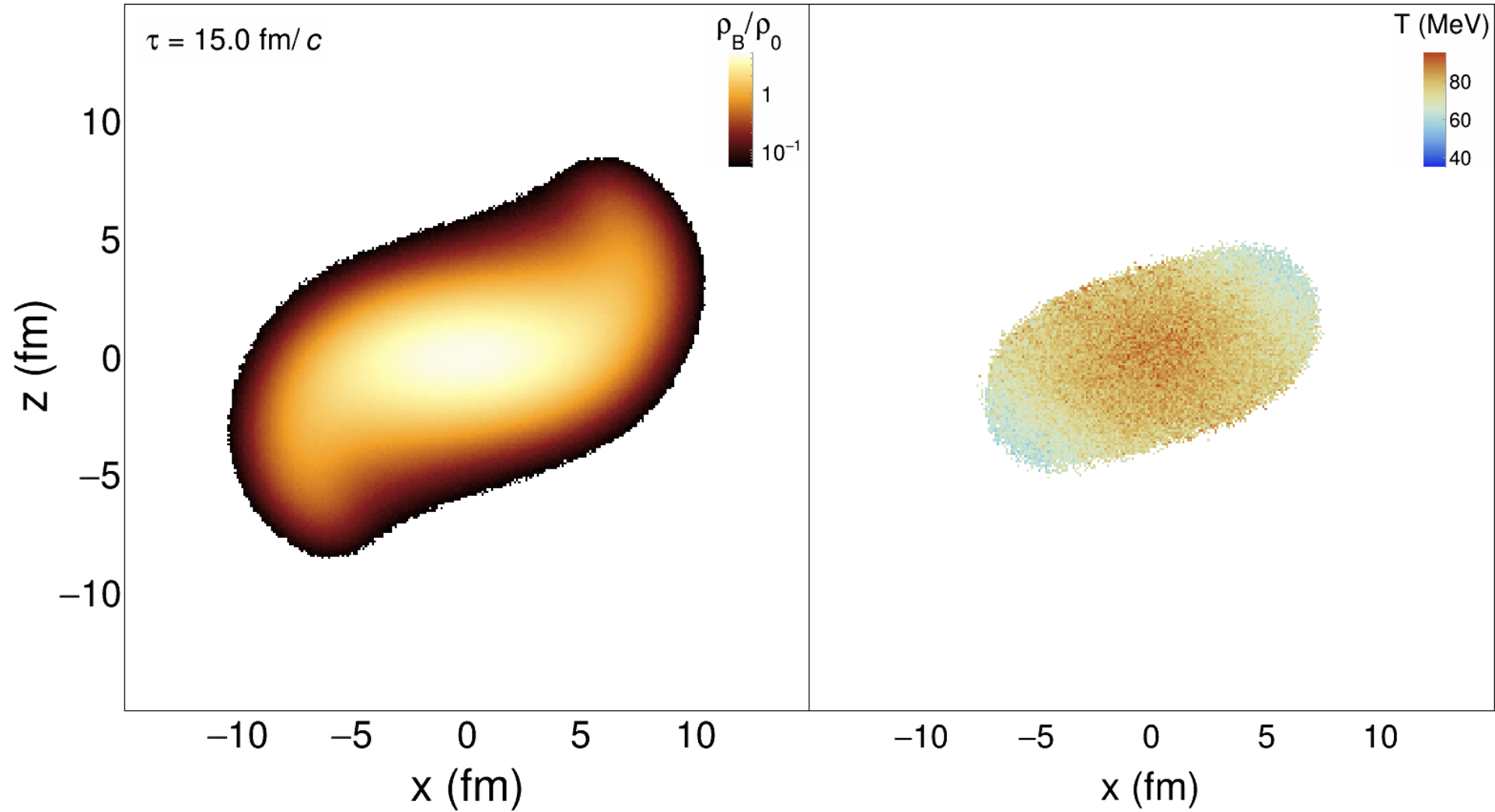
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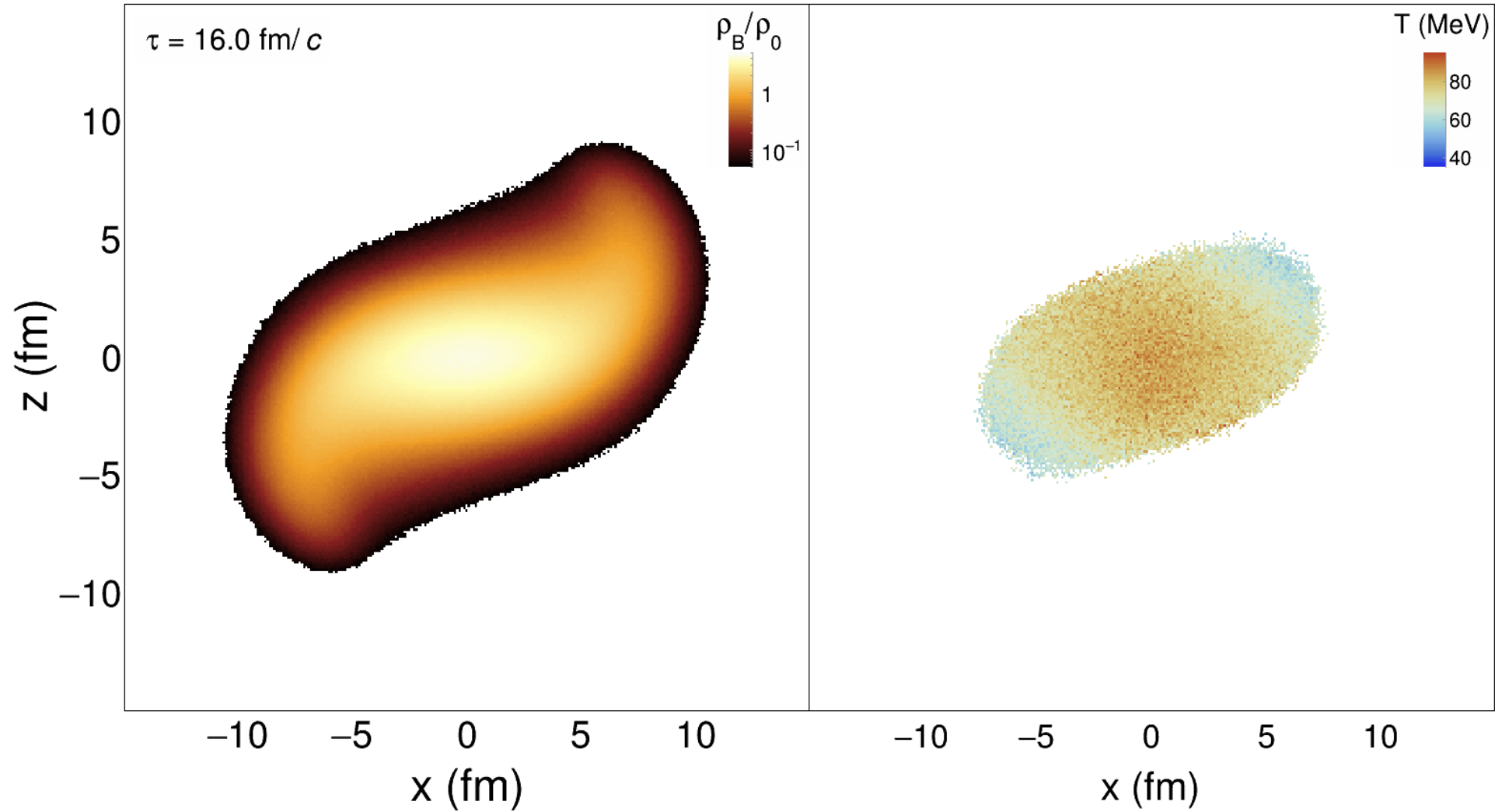


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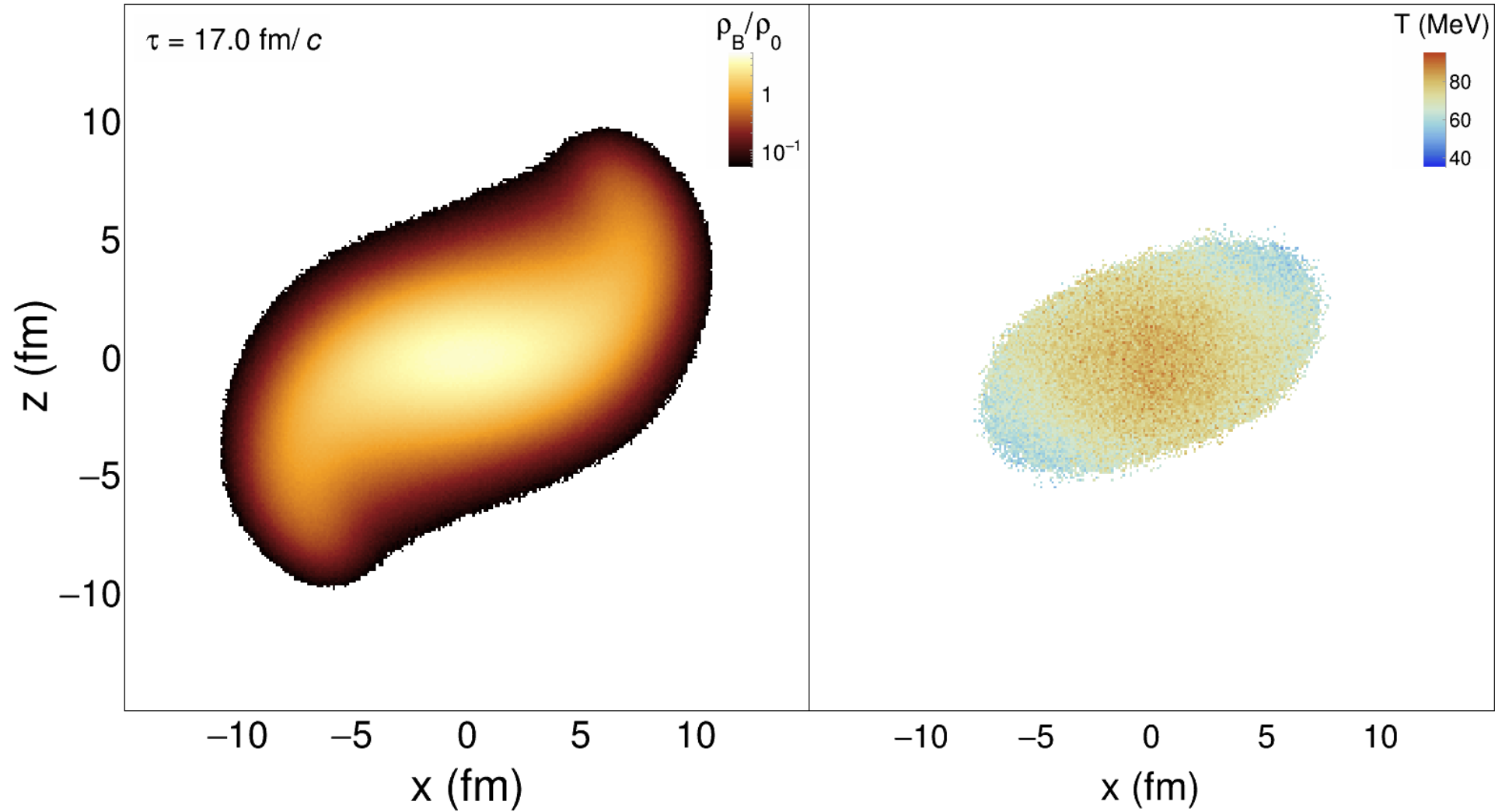




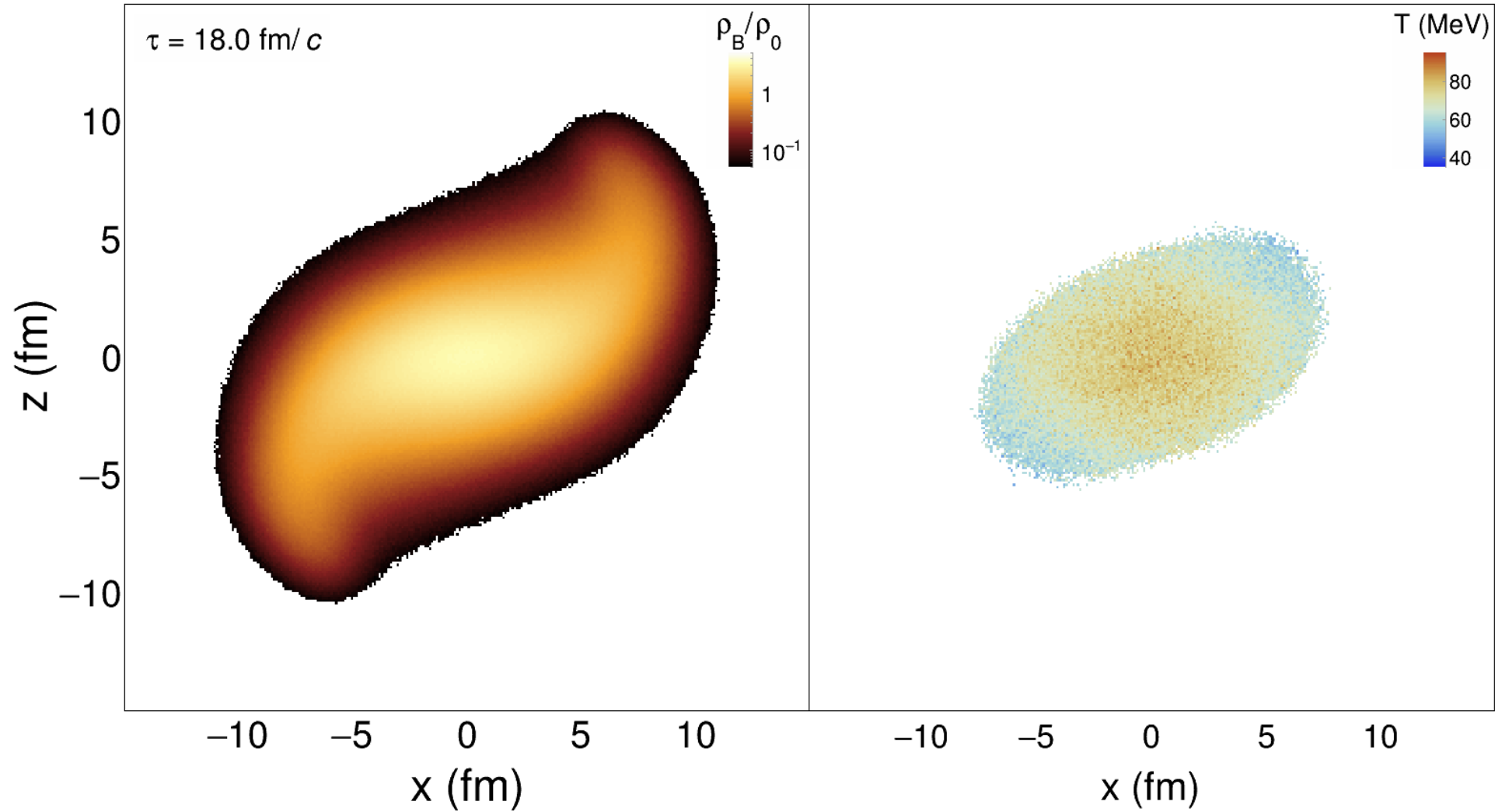
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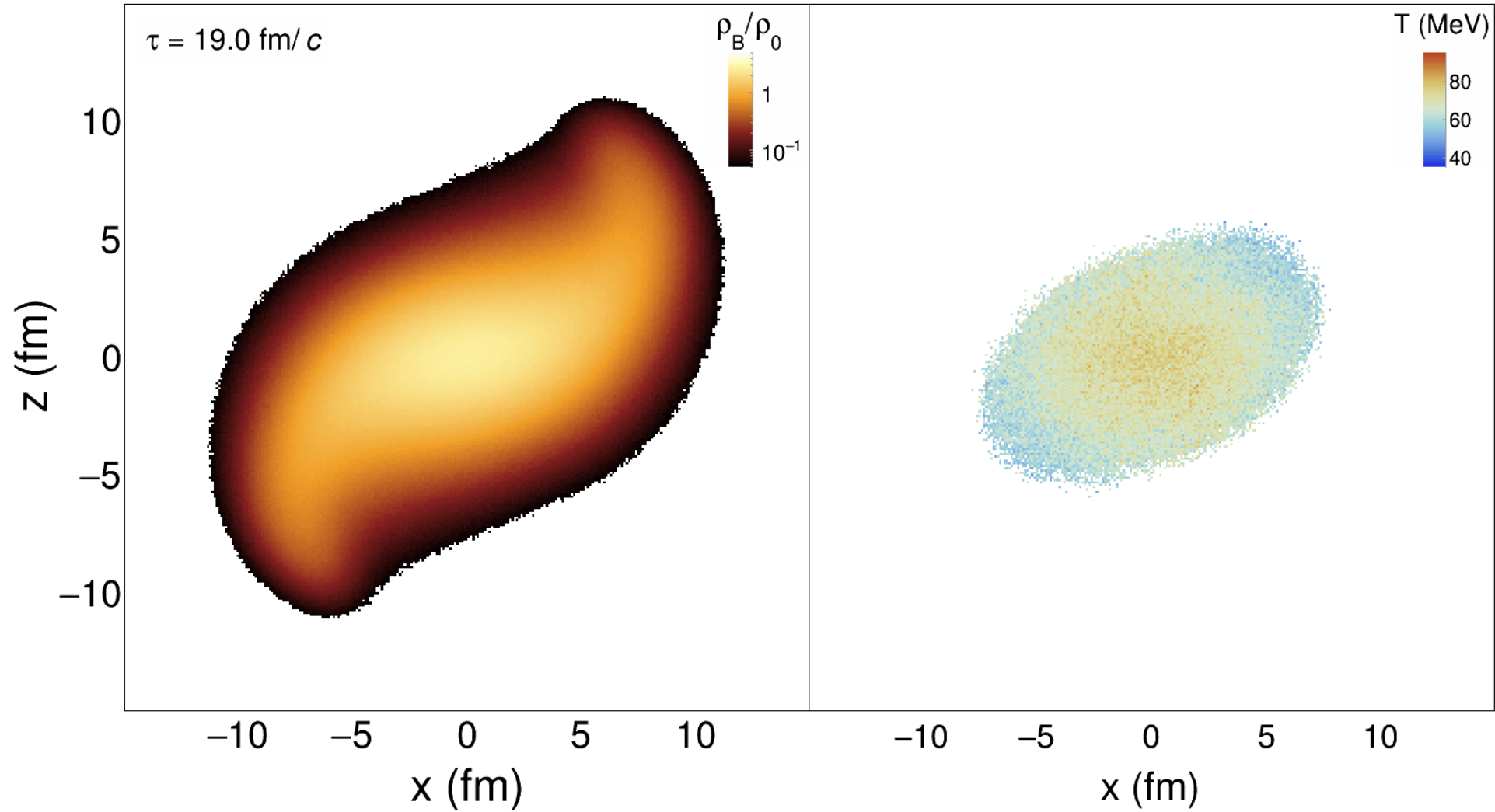
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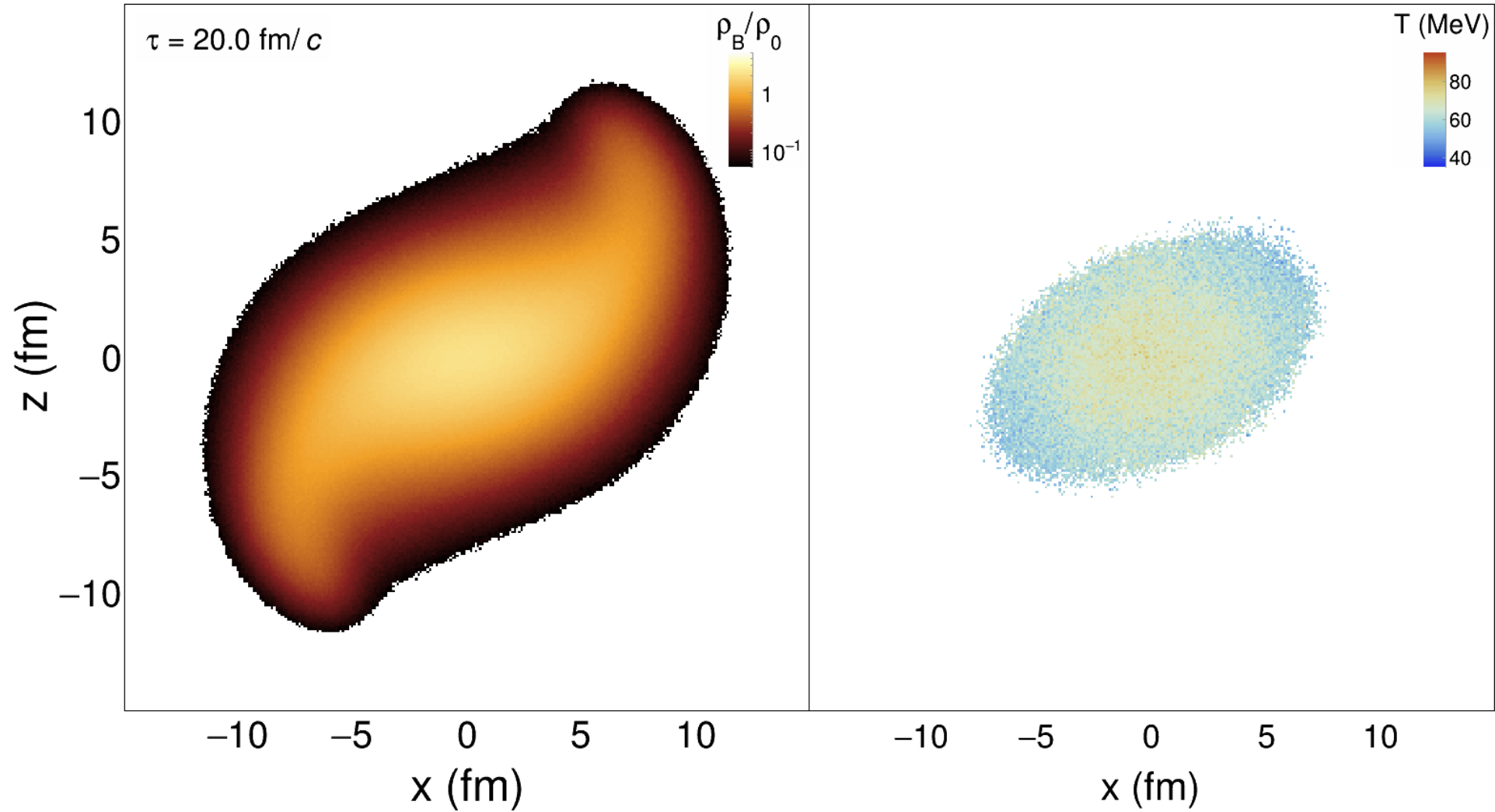
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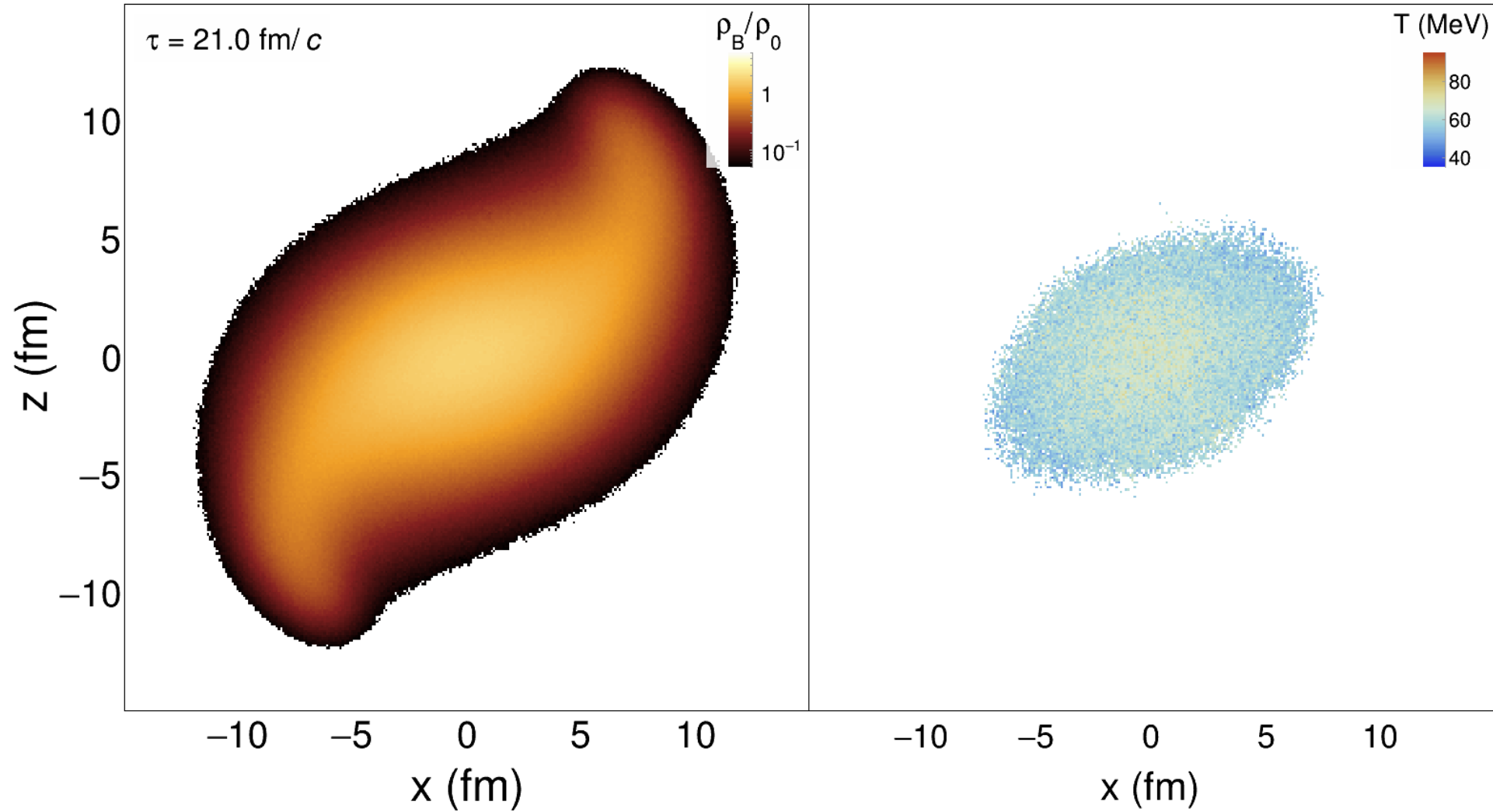


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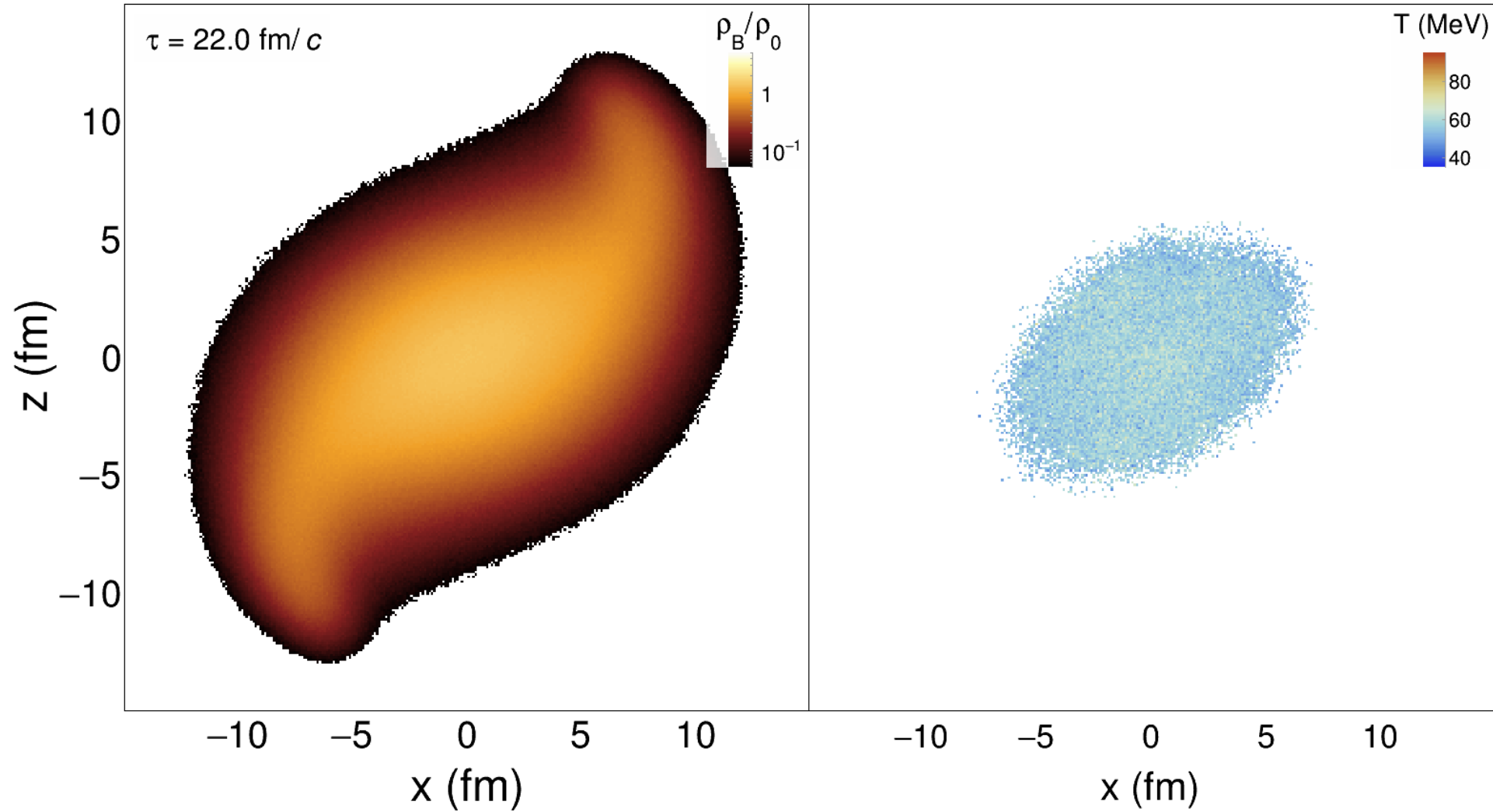




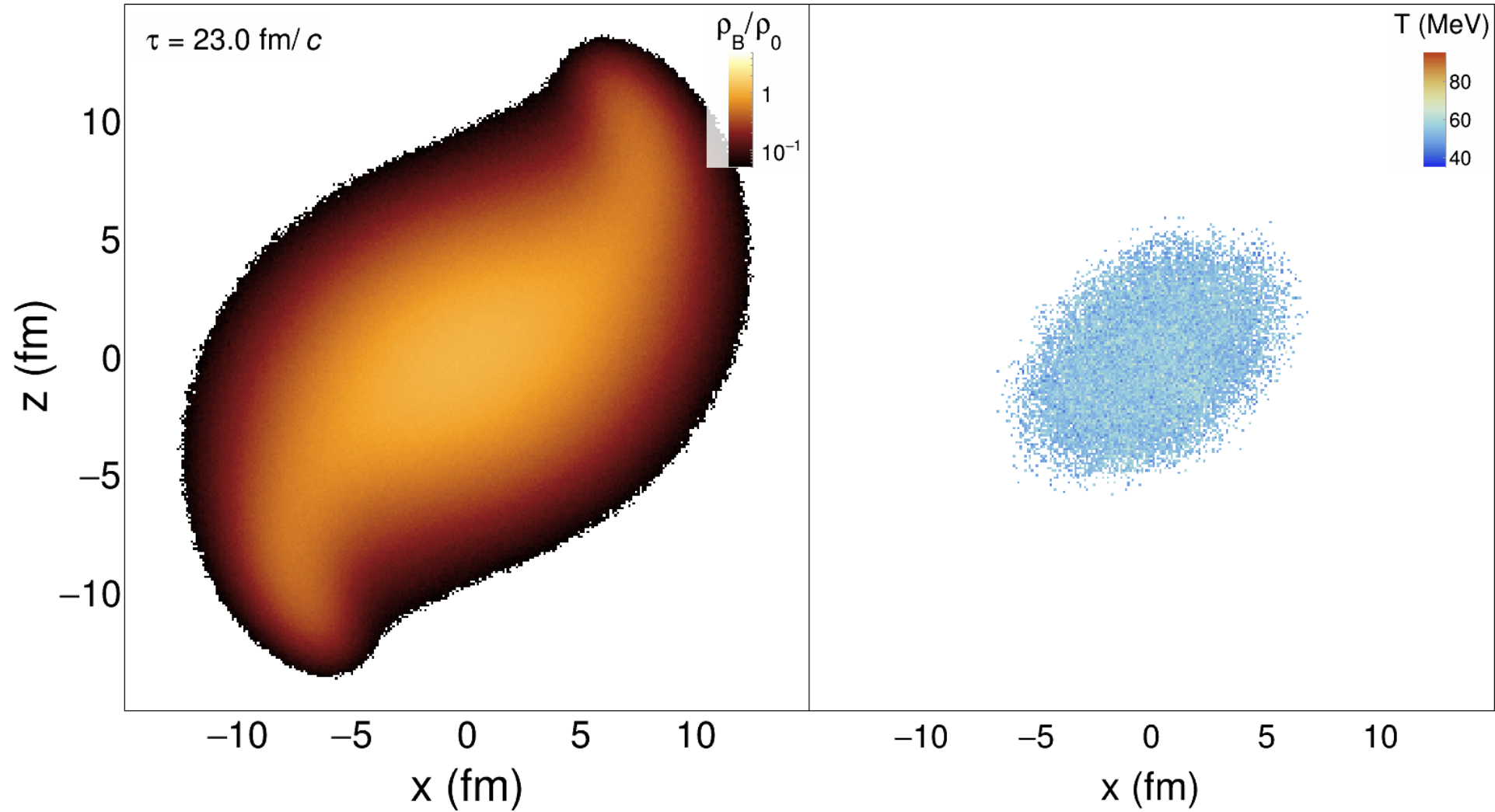
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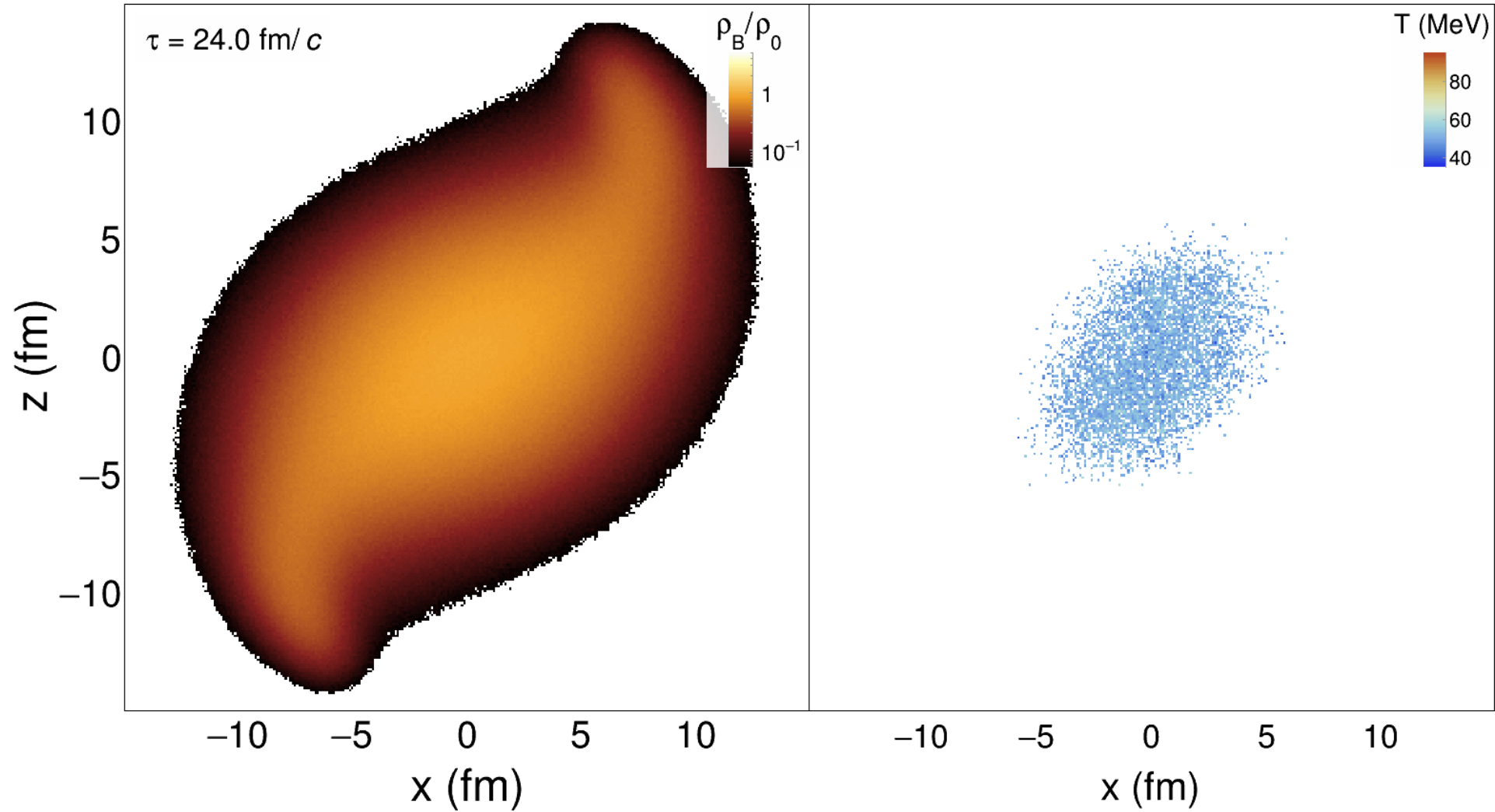
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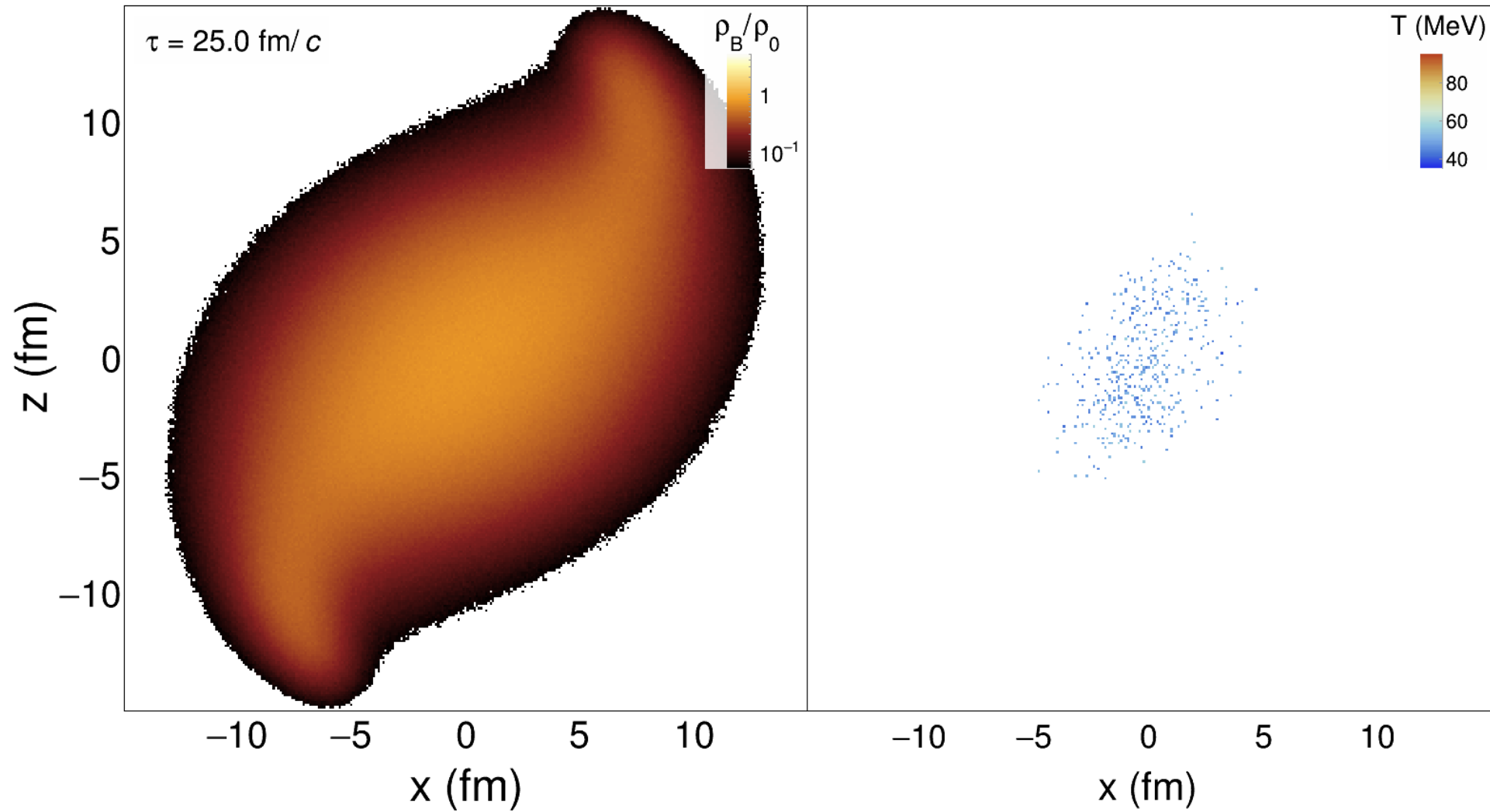
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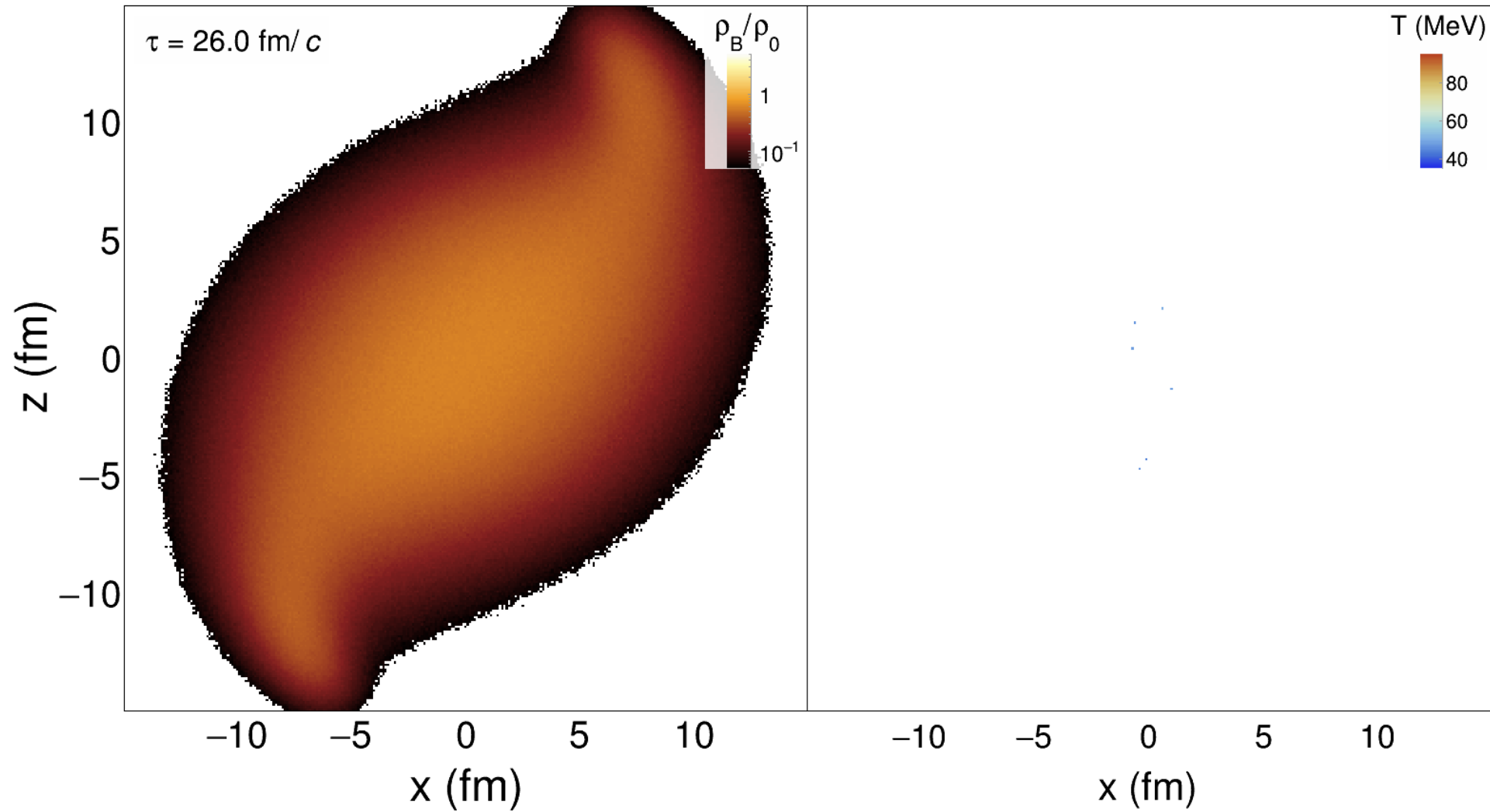


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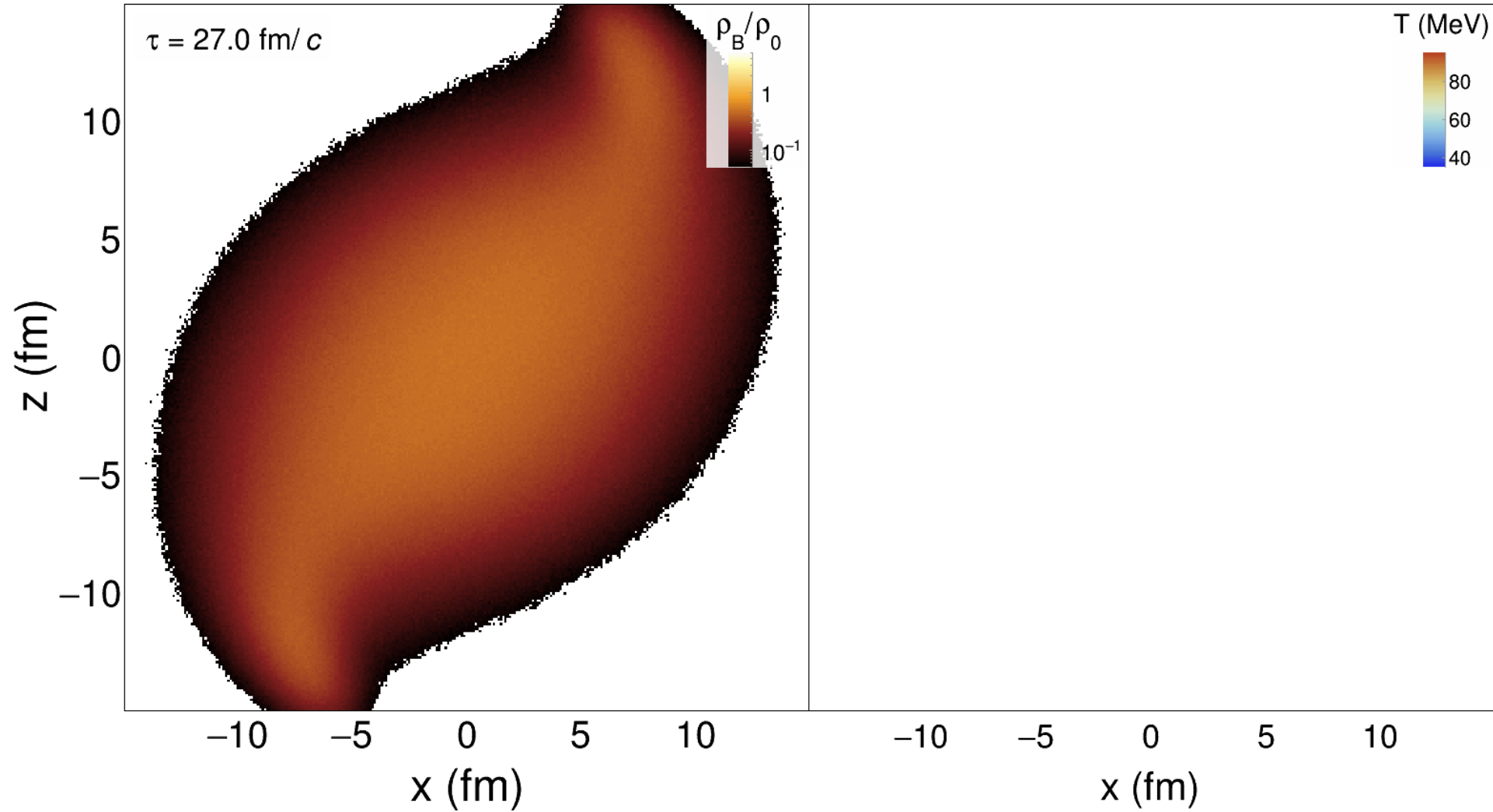




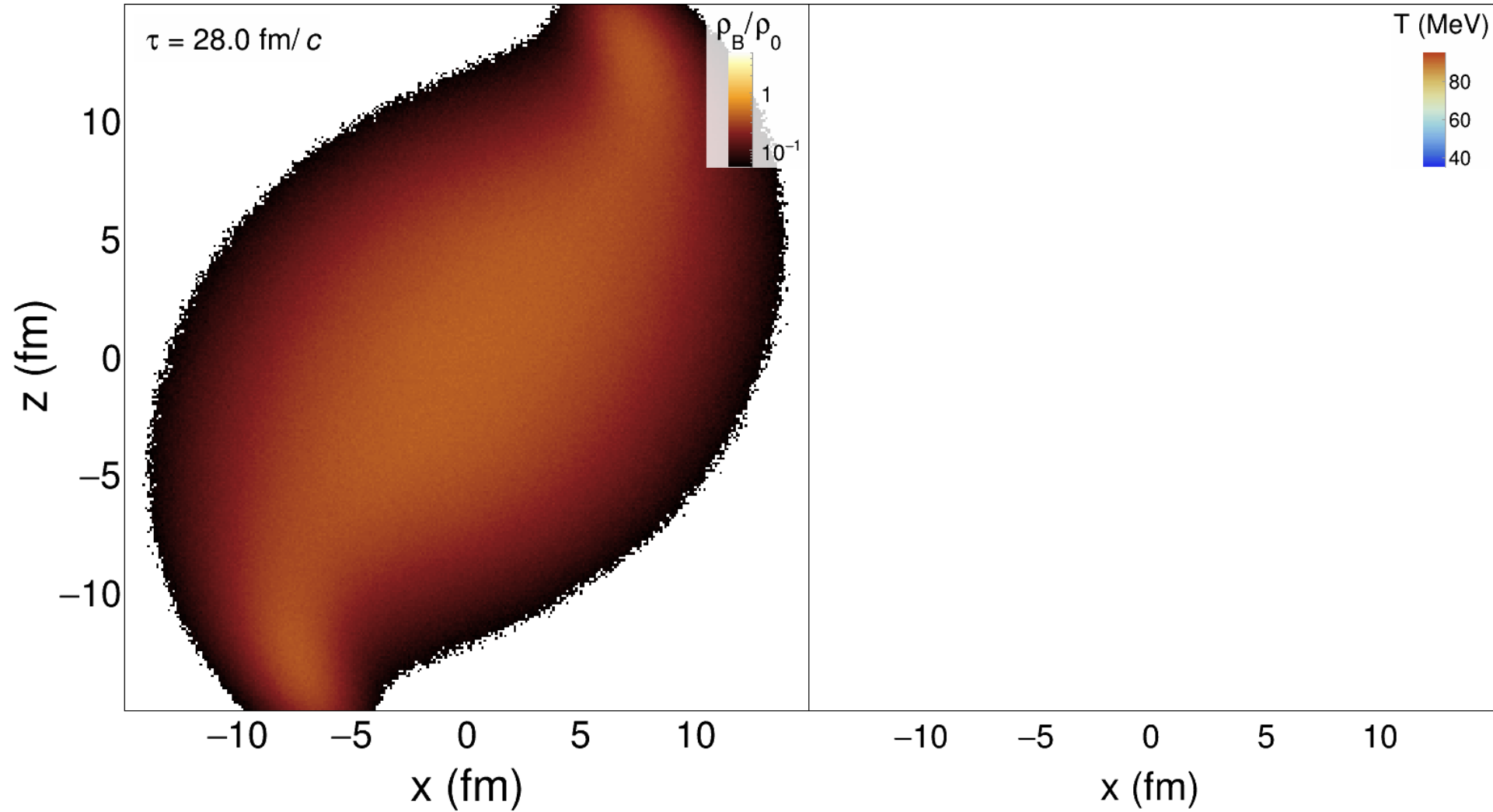
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# BARYON DENSITY AND TEMPERATURE PROFILE IN AU+AU AT 1.23 AGEV



# THERMAL DILEPTON PRODUCTION

- McLerran-Toimela formula 
$$\frac{dN_{ll}}{d^4q d^4x} = -\frac{\alpha_{em}^2 L(M^2)}{\pi^3 M^2} f^B(q_0, T) \text{Im}\Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)$$

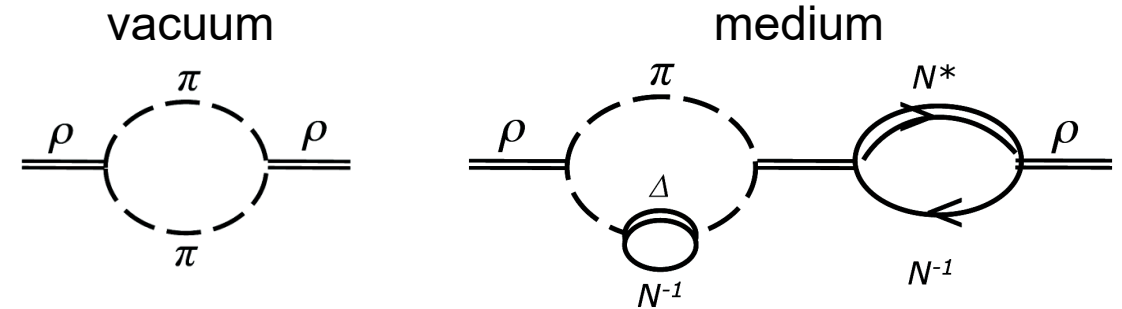
L. McLerran, T. Toimela, Phys. Rev. D 31 (1985) 545

- $\rho$ -meson spectral function broadens
  - Additional contributions to the self-energy in the medium through coupling to (anti-)baryons and mesons

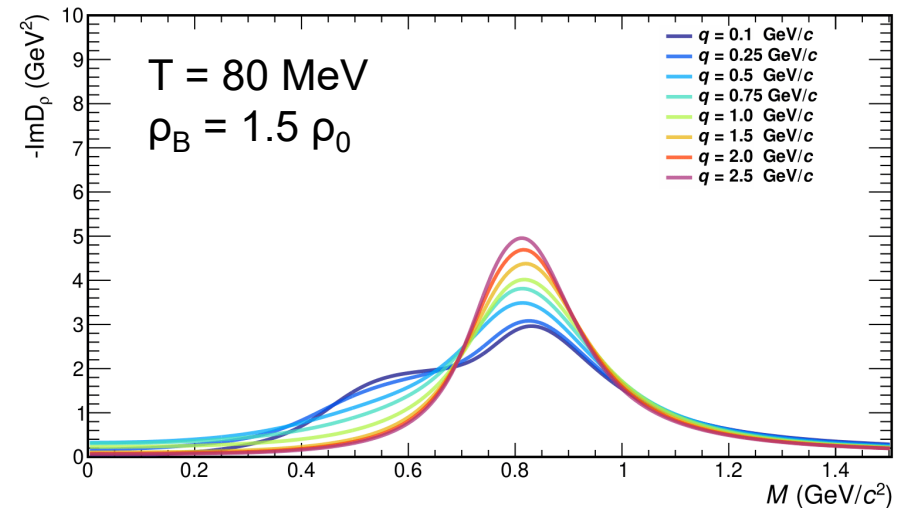
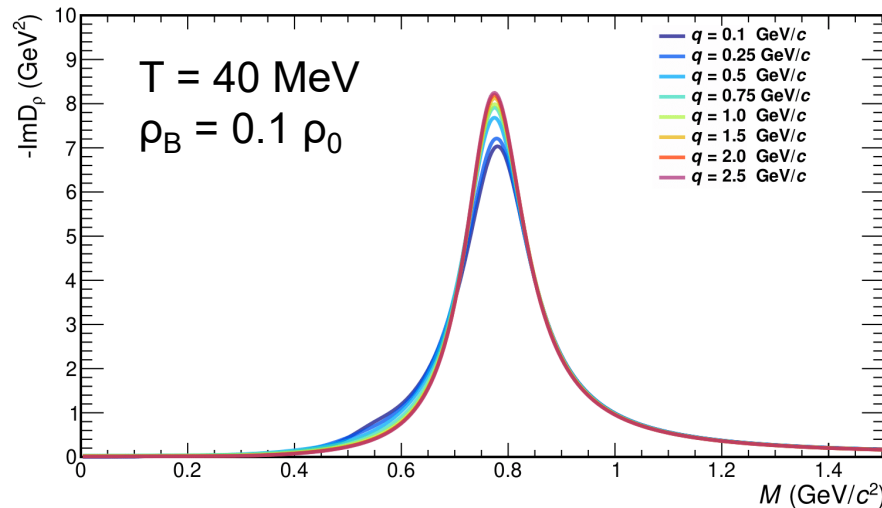
$$D_\rho(M, q; \mu_B, T) = \frac{1}{M^2 - m_\rho^2 - \Sigma_{\rho\pi\pi} - \Sigma_{\rho B} - \Sigma_{\rho M}}$$

- If  $\frac{\text{Im}\Pi_{EM}}{M^2} \sim \text{const.} \rightarrow$  thermometer

Bose-Einstein distribution  
electromagnetic spectral function



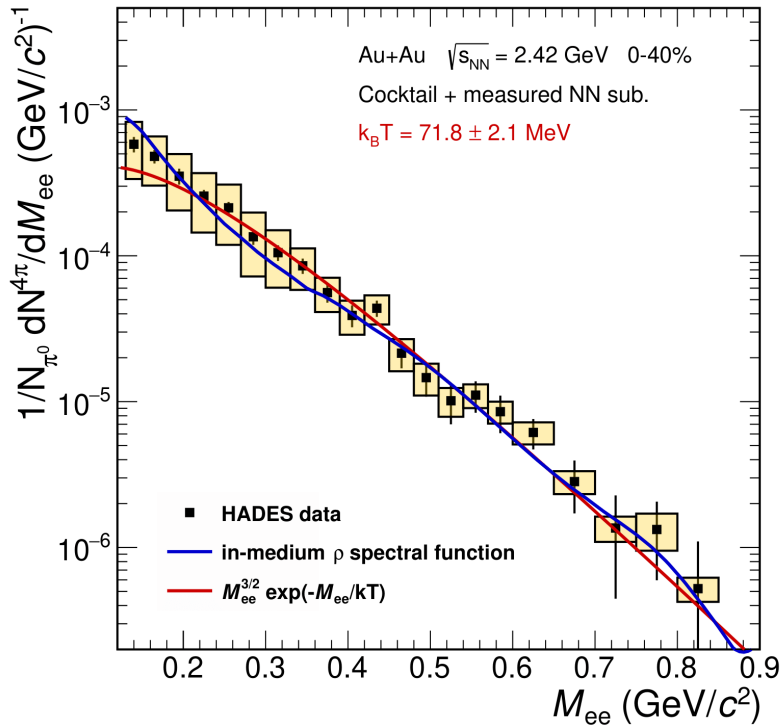
R. Rapp, J. Wambach: Eur. Phys. J. A 6 (1999) 415



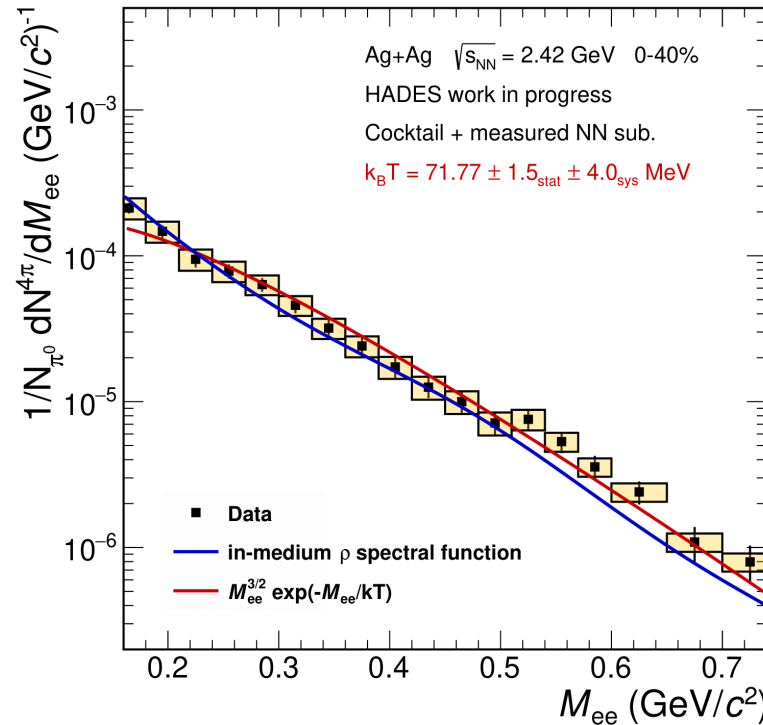
# COMPARISON OF THERMAL EXCESS DATA WITH THEORY

- Good agreement between experiment and theory for excess radiation

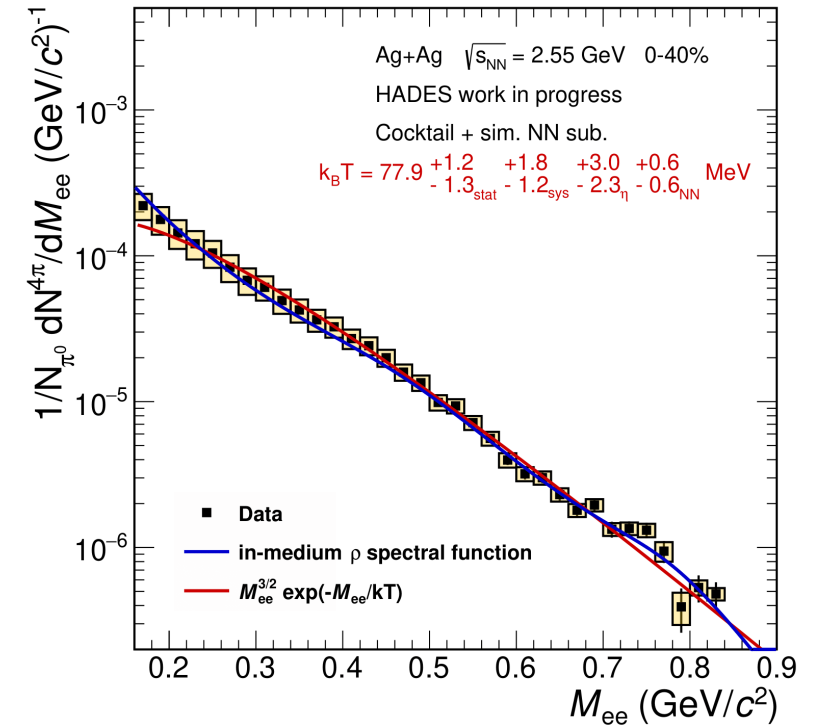
**Au+Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$  GeV**



**Ag+Ag at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$  GeV**

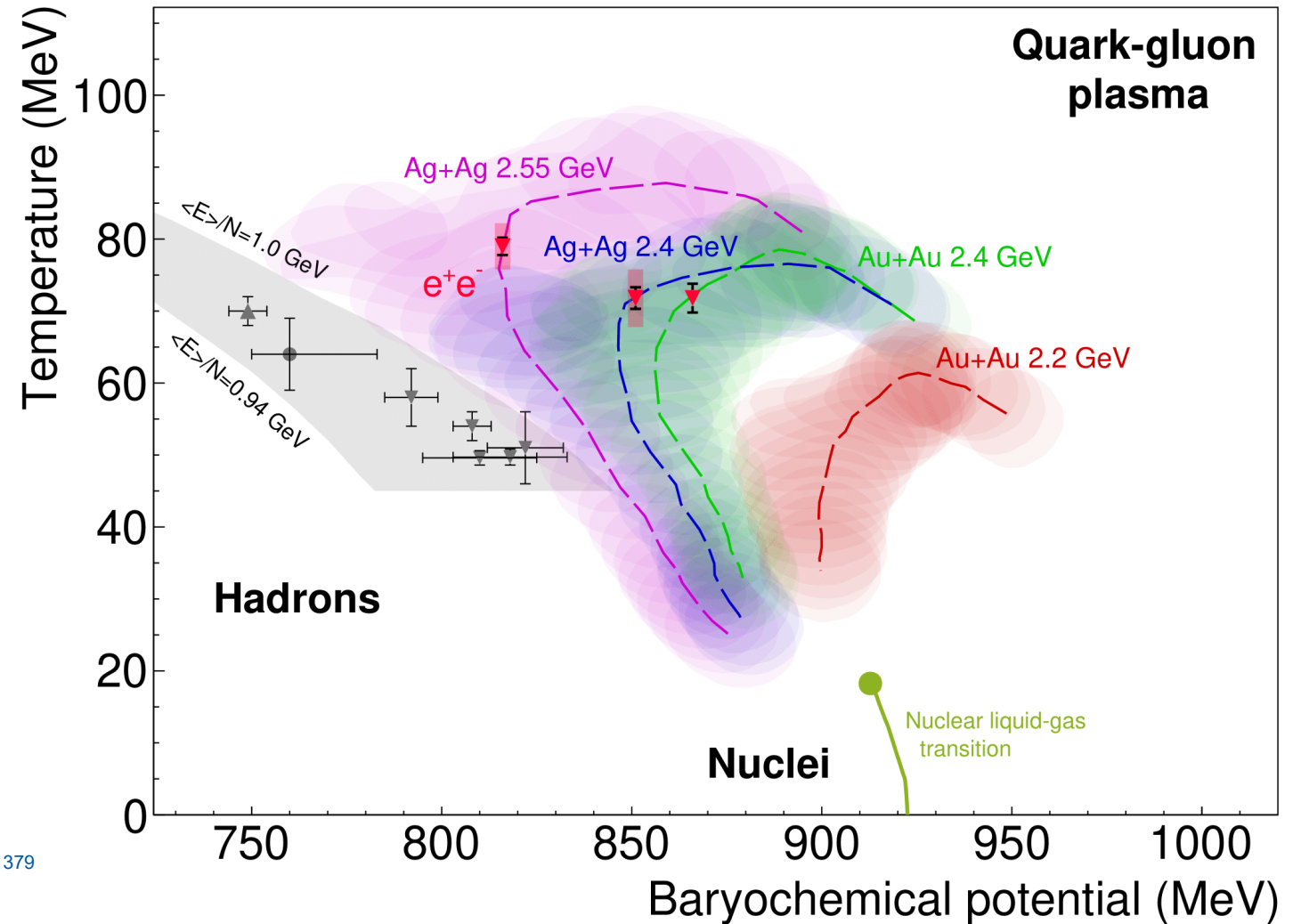


**Ag+Ag at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$  GeV**



# QCD PHASE DIAGRAM PROBED WITH DILEPTONS

- Trajectories from coarse-grained UrQMD
- Measured average temperatures from HADES well above universal freeze-out region



FO curve: J. Cleymans, K. Redlich, Nucl. Phys. A 661 (1999) 379  
 Au+Au 2.4 GeV data: HADES, Nature Phys. 15(2019) 1040  
 Ag+Ag data: HADES preliminary  
 figure: FS, T.Galatyuk

## DILEPTON FLOW

- Azimuthal anisotropies with respect to reaction plane

$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto (1 + 2 \sum_n v_n \cos(n\phi)), \text{ with } v_n = \langle \cos(n\phi) \rangle$$

- Interplay between medium 4-velocity  $u$  and temperature  $T$

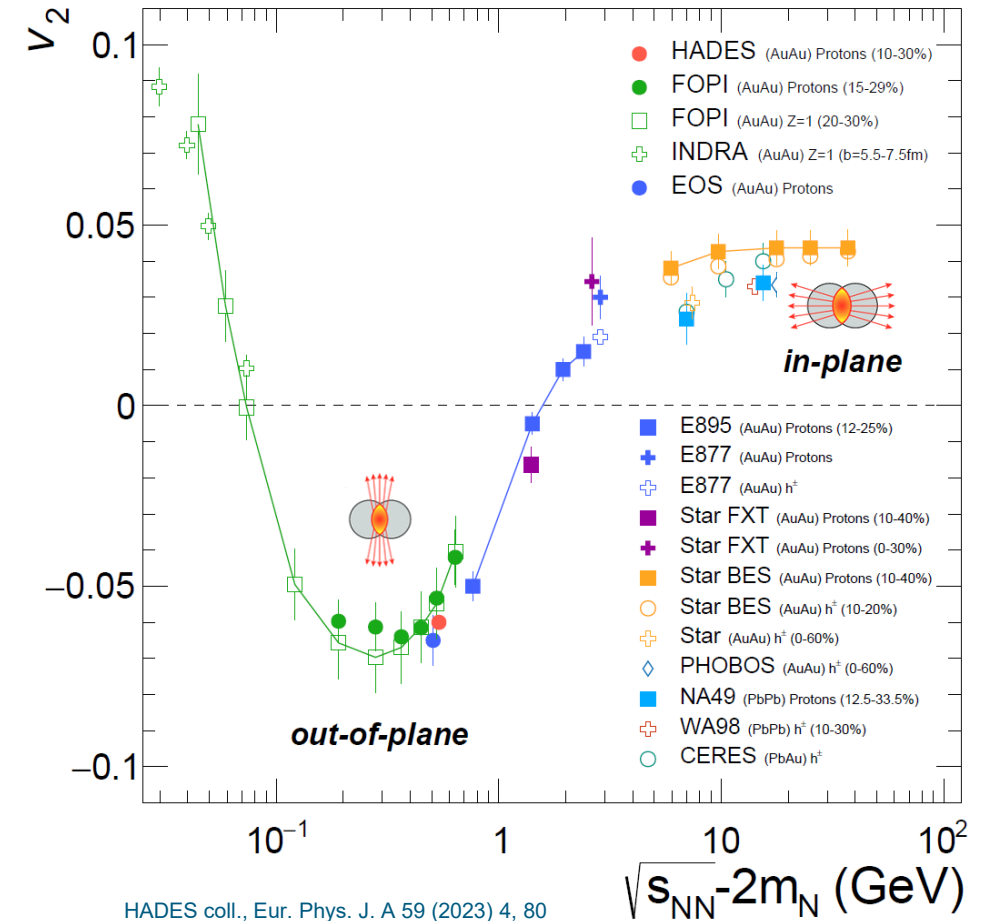
$$\frac{dN_{l\bar{l}}}{d^4q d^4x} = -\frac{\alpha_{em}^2 L(M^2)}{\pi^3 M^2} f^B(q \cdot u, T) \text{Im} \Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)$$

R. Chatterjee et al, Phys. Rev. C 75 (2007) 054909  
G. Vujanovic et al., Phys. Rev. C 89 (2014) 3, 034904

- Pressure anisotropies in underlying space-time evolution  
→ collective velocities of medium cells
- Dileptons probe earlier times (high  $\rho_B$ , high  $T$ ) compared to hadron flow

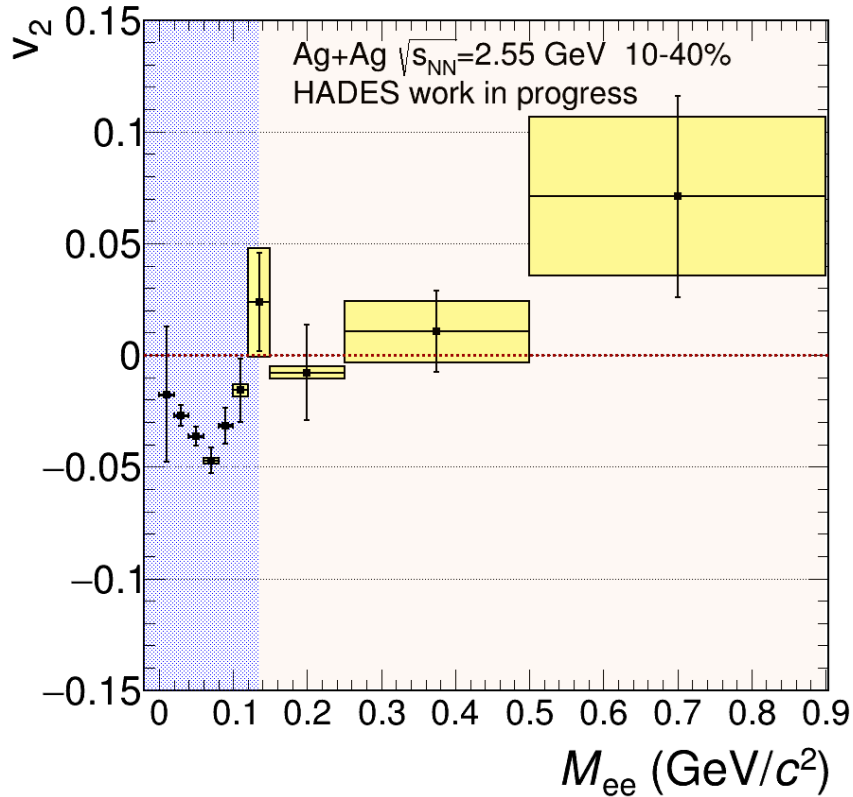
Possible sensitivity to the EoS at high  $\mu_B$

## proton $v_2$



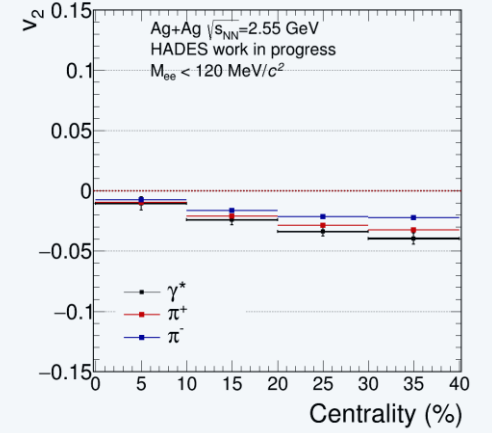
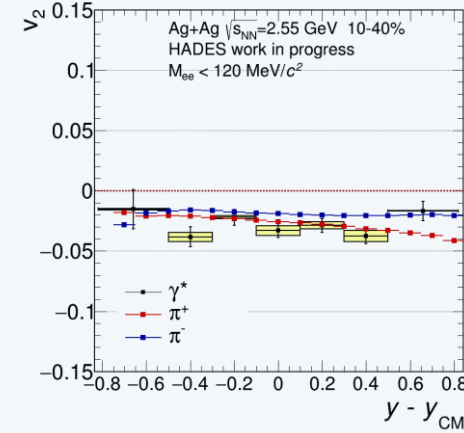
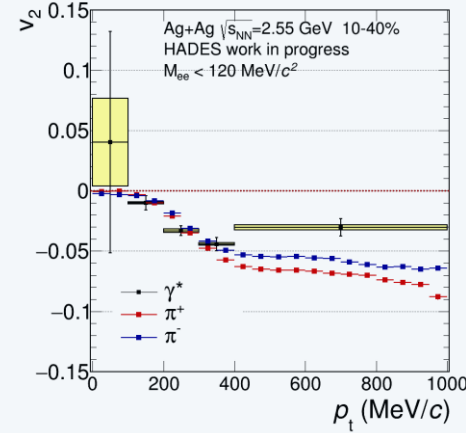


# DILEPTON $v_2$ IN AG+AG COLLISIONS



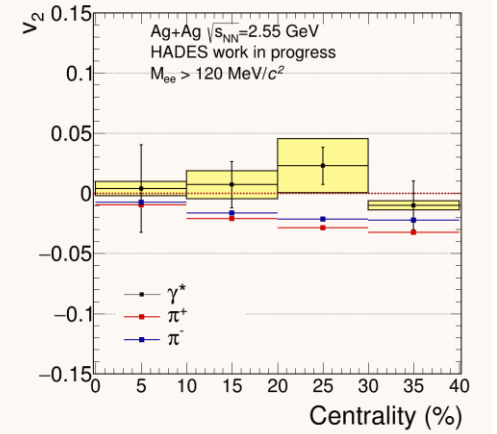
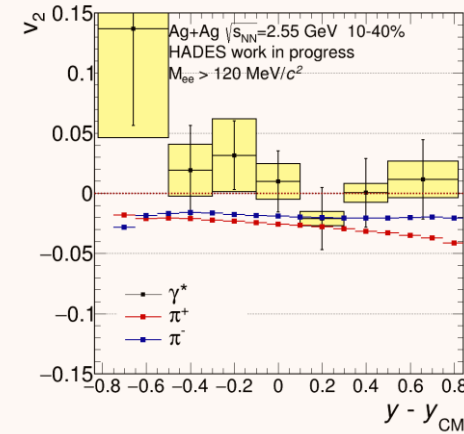
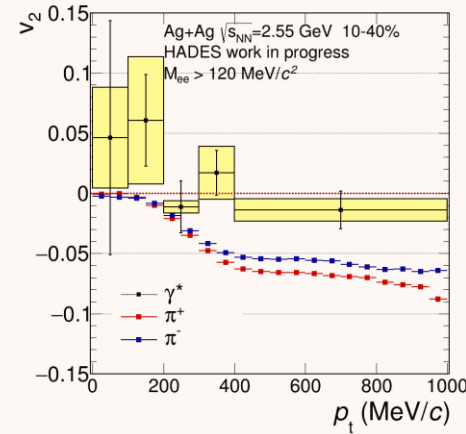
$M_{ee} < 0.12 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ : inclusive yield dominated by  $\pi^0$  decays

- Dilepton  $v_2$  consistent with charged pion  $v_2$



$M_{ee} > 0.12 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ : inclusive yield dominated by thermal radiation

- Dilepton  $v_2$  consistent with zero  $\rightarrow$  early emission





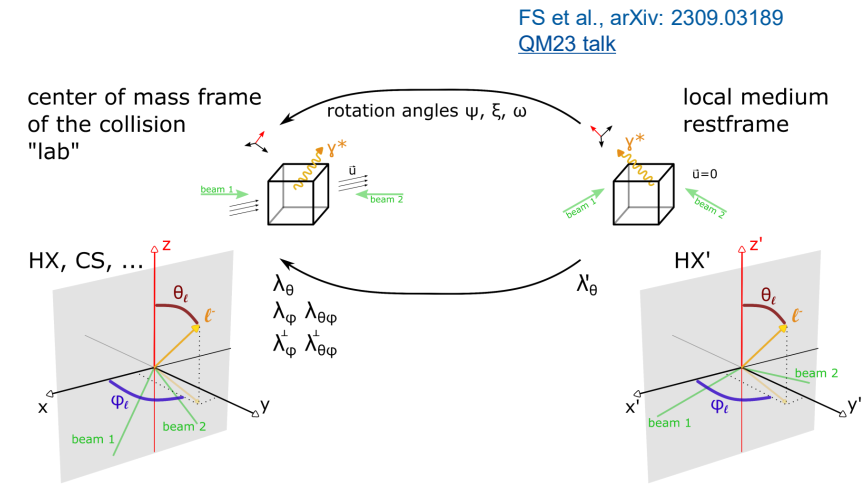
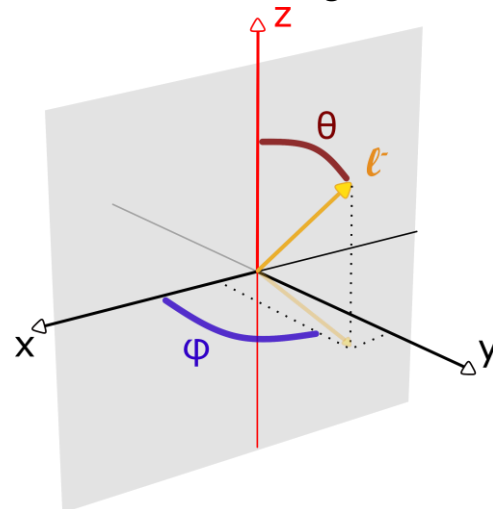
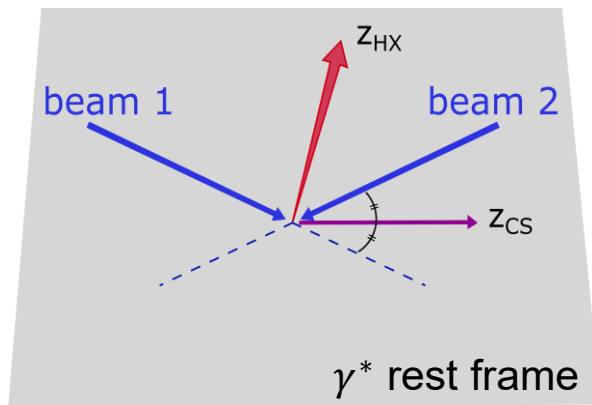
# VIRTUAL PHOTON POLARIZATION

- Decompose spectral function using projectors for a spin-1 particle  $\rho_{EM}^{\mu\nu} = \rho_L P_L^{\mu\nu} + \rho_T P_T^{\mu\nu}$  with  $g_{\mu\nu} \rho_{EM}^{\mu\nu} = \rho_L + 2\rho_T$
- Angular distribution of single lepton in  $\gamma^*$  rest frame depends on polarization of  $\gamma^*$

$$\frac{dN}{d^4x d^4q d\Omega} = \mathcal{N} (1 + \lambda_\theta \cos^2 \theta + \lambda_\varphi \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\varphi + \lambda_{\theta\varphi} \sin 2\theta \cos \varphi)$$

E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)  
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)  
E. Bratkovskaya *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 376, 12 (1996)

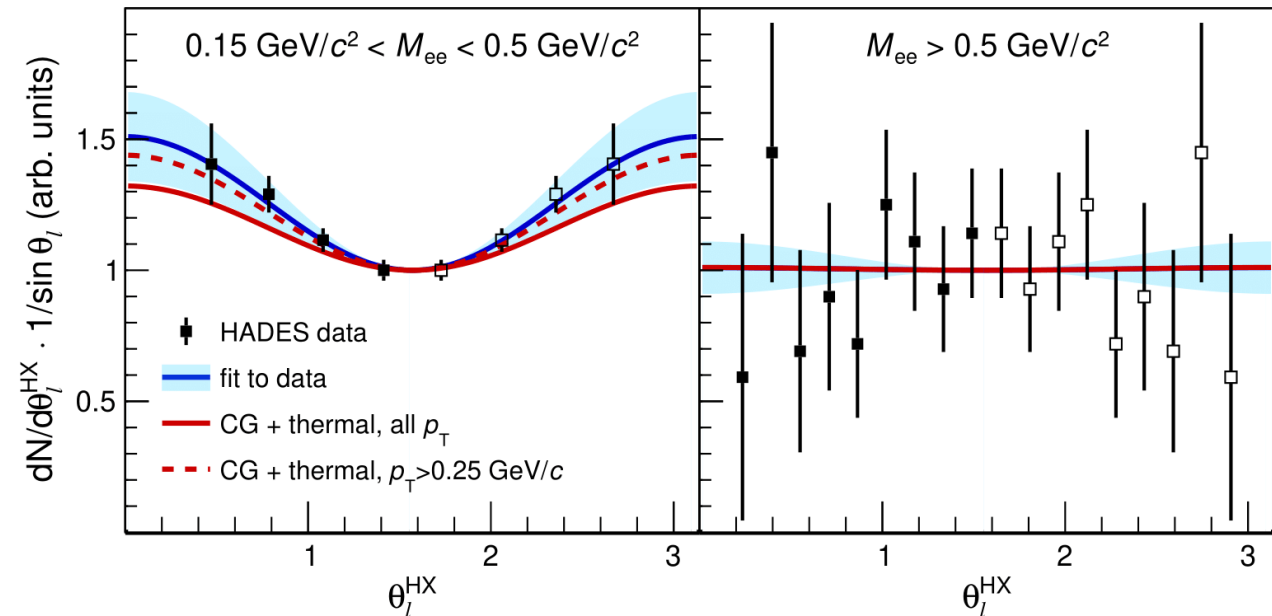
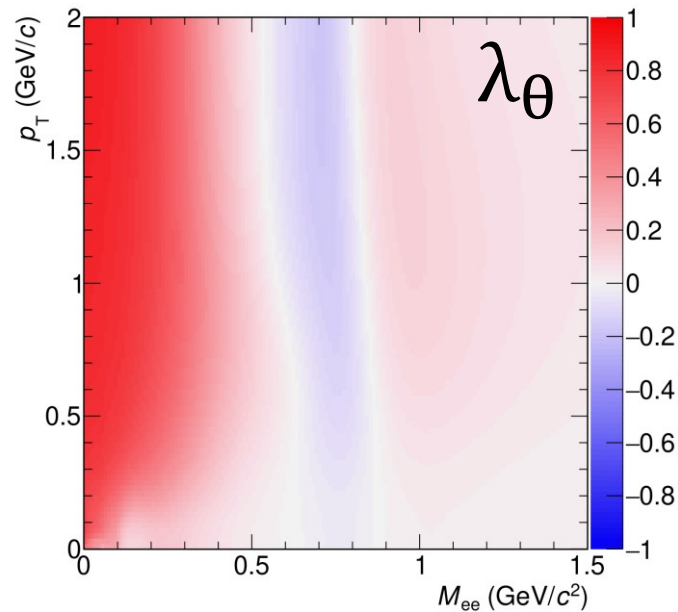
- Different virtual photon **production mechanisms** imprint different anisotropy parameters  $\lambda$
- $\lambda$  coefficients related to **difference** between **longitudinal and transverse components** of spectral function:  $\lambda_\theta = \frac{\rho_T - \rho_L}{\rho_T + \rho_L}$
- Rotational symmetry of static thermal medium broken by virtual photon's momentum direction
- For moving medium: transform local coefficients to global frame accessible in experiment  $\rightarrow$  comparison to data



## COMPARISON TO HADES DATA

- HADES measured anisotropy coefficient  $\lambda_\theta$  of excess radiation in Ar+KCl collisions at 1.76 AGeV ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.62$  GeV)
- Polarization largely survives evolution of the expanding medium
- **Best fit** to data gives  $\lambda_\theta = 0.51 \pm 0.17$  and  $\lambda_\theta = 0.01 \pm 0.10$  in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** result gives  $\lambda_\theta = 0.32$  and  $\lambda_\theta = 0.01$  respectively

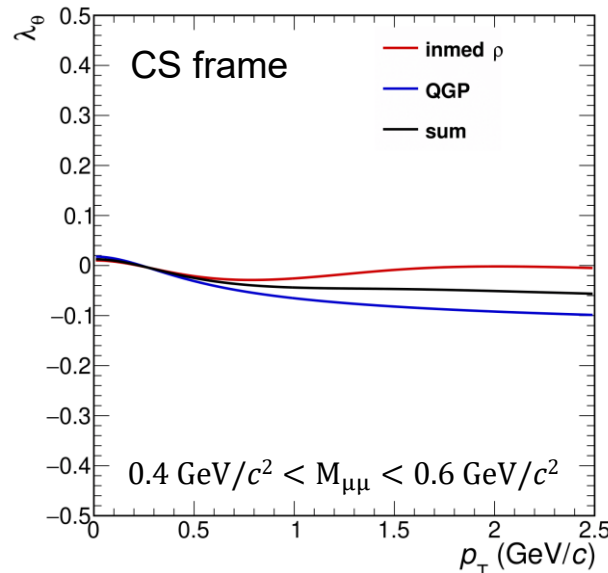
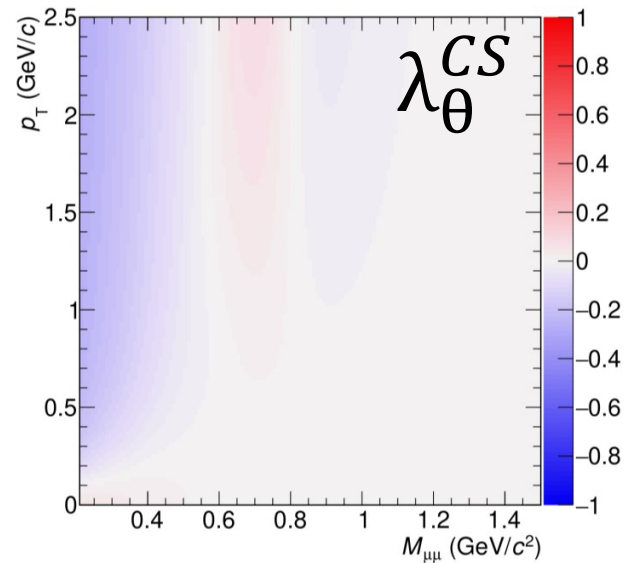
HADES coll., Phys. Rev. C 84, 014902 (2011)  
T. Galatyuk *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. A 52, 131 (2016)  
FS *et al.*, arXiv: 2309.03189



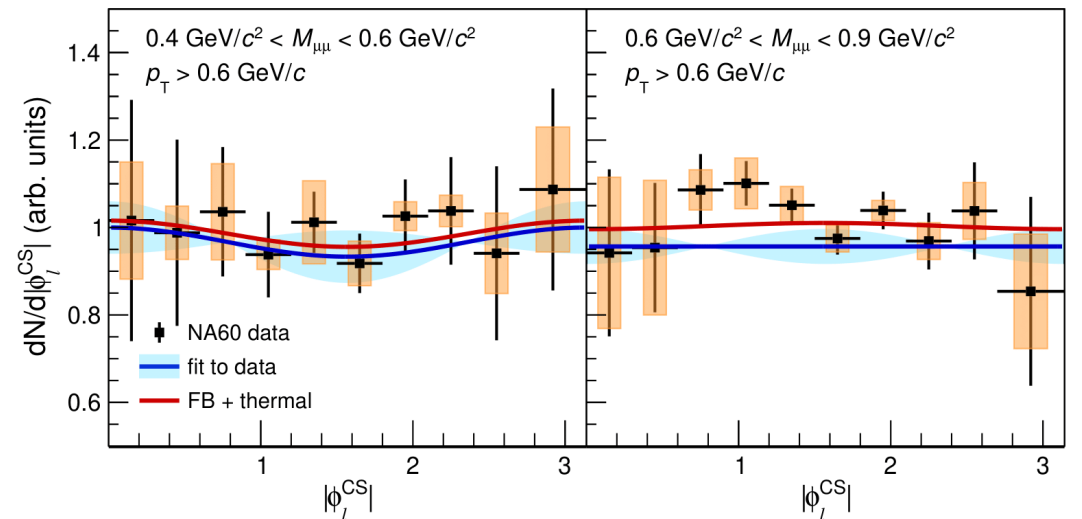
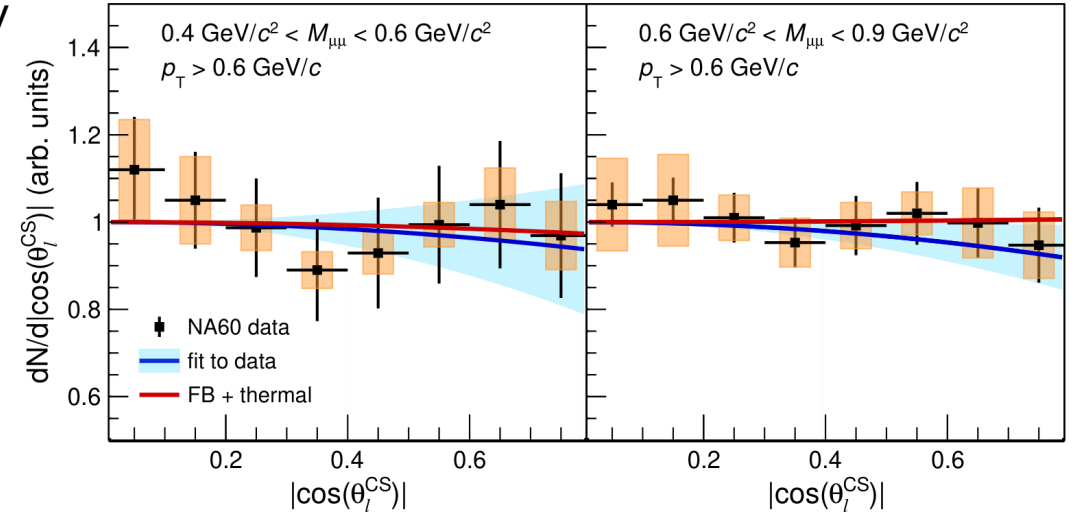
## COMPARISON TO NA60 DATA

- NA60 measured polarization coefficients  $\lambda_\theta$ ,  $\lambda_\varphi$  and  $\lambda_{\theta\varphi}$  of excess radiation in the CS frame in In+In collisions at 158 AGeV
- Space-time evolution via isentropic fireball model with transition from QGP to hadronic rates at  $T=170$  MeV
- Good agreement between data and theory  $\rightarrow$  size and trend
- Near absence of a net polarization not related to thermal isotropy arguments

NA60 coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 162302 (2006)  
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)

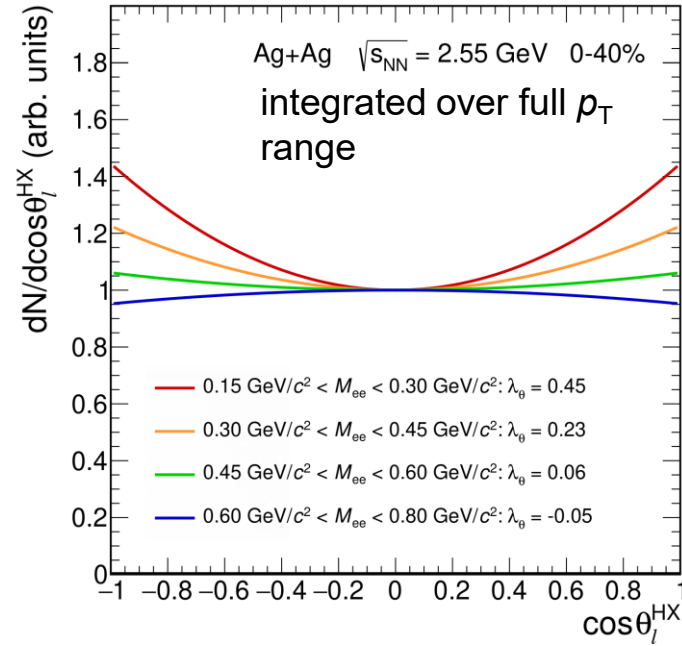
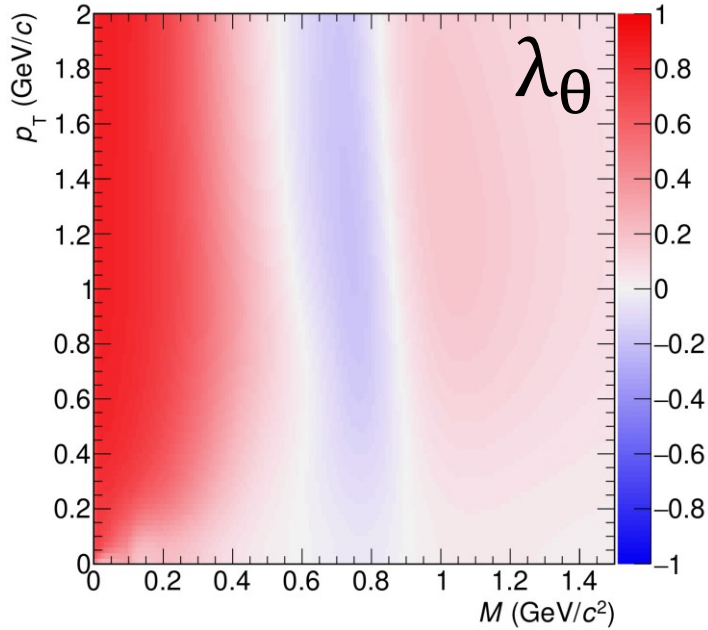


data points: NA60 coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 222301 (2009)

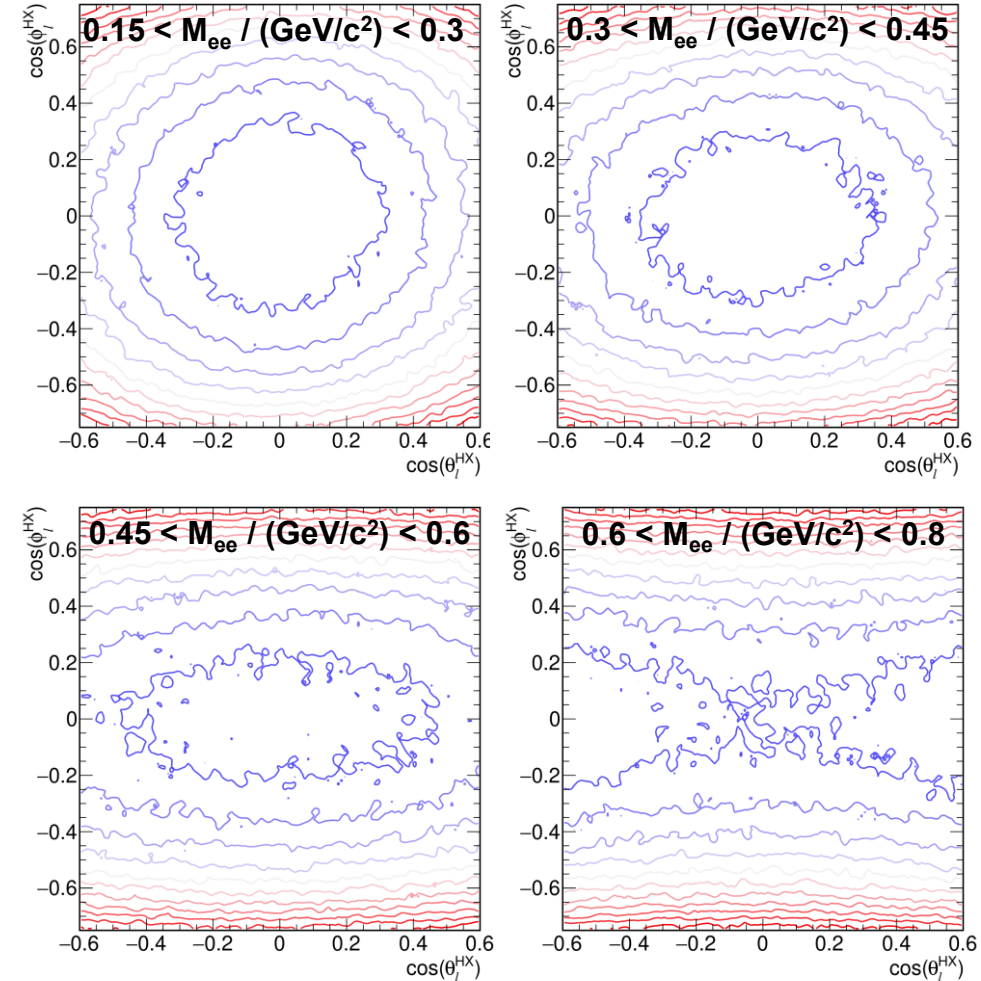


# PREDICTIONS FOR AG+AG COLLISIONS & FUTURE EXPERIMENTS

- Predictions for  $\lambda_\theta$  in Ag+Ag at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$  GeV
- Anisotropy coefficients integrated over  $p_T$  in several mass ranges



$p_T > 0.5$  GeV/c

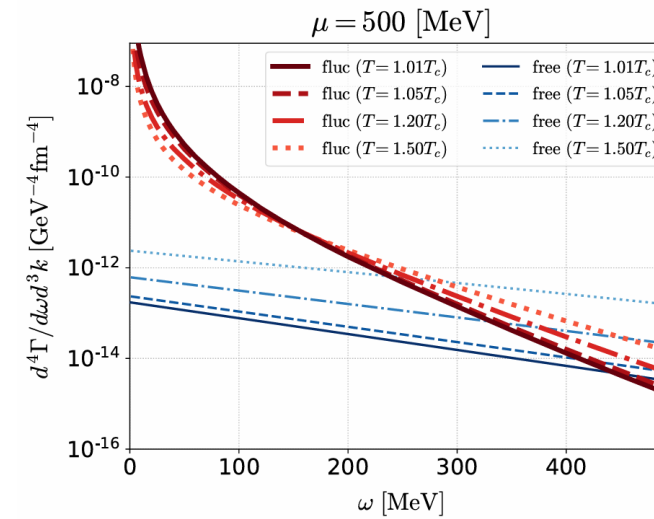


- Multi-differential measurements of the virtual photon polarization
  - large datasets needed: CBM, NA60+ and ALICE3
  - Search for onset of QGP
  - $\rho$ - $a_1$  mixing vs. QGP around  $M_{ee} \sim 1.1$  GeV

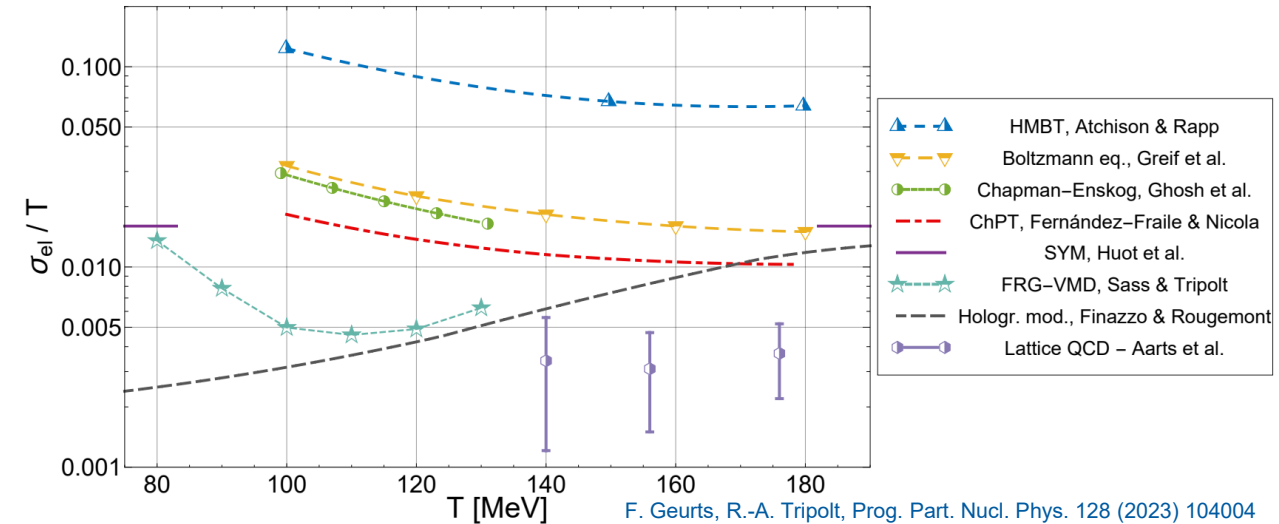


## LOW-MASS LOW-MOMENTUM DILEPTONS

- Color superconductivity could manifest itself in an enhanced yield of low-energy dileptons
- Thermal dileptons encode information on matter properties
  - yield in  $p_{ee} = 0 \text{ MeV}/c$ ,  $M_{ee} \rightarrow 0 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  limit proportional to conductivity
- Large **theoretical uncertainty**
  - **experimental constraints** highly desirable
- Determines time evolution of electromagnetic fields generated by spectators
  - Important for effects related to presence of strong magnetic fields



T. Nishimura *et al.*, arXiv:2201.01963 (2022)



F. Geurts, R.-A. Tripolt, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 128 (2023) 104004

electrical conductivity

$$\sigma_{el}(T) = -e^2 \lim_{q_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\rho_{EM}(q_0, \vec{q} = 0, T, \mu_B)}{q_0}$$

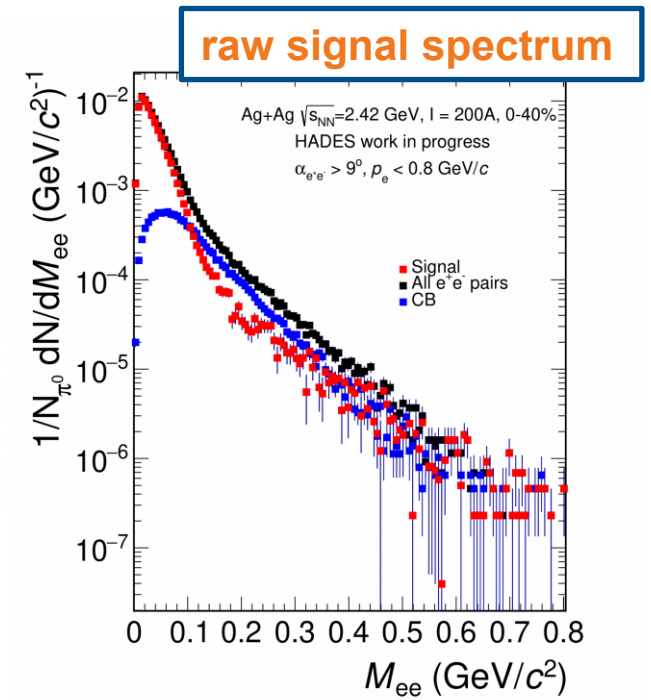
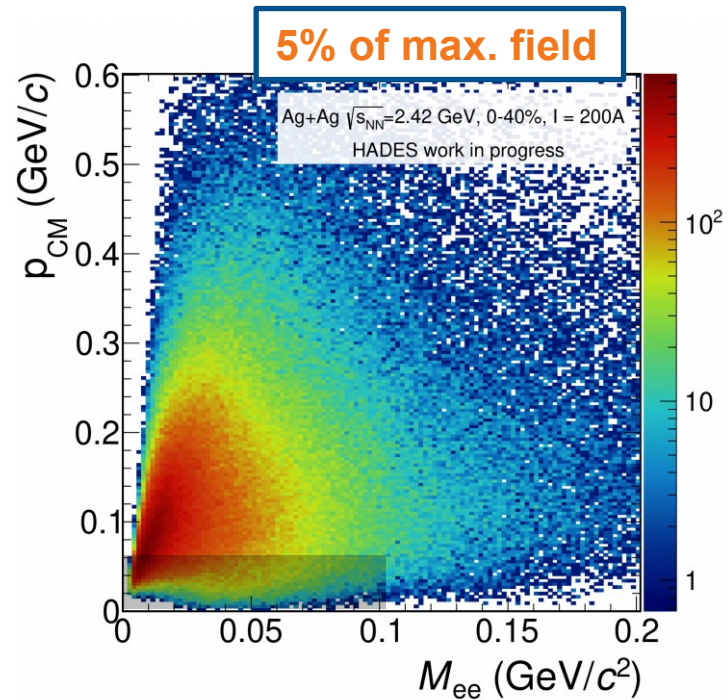
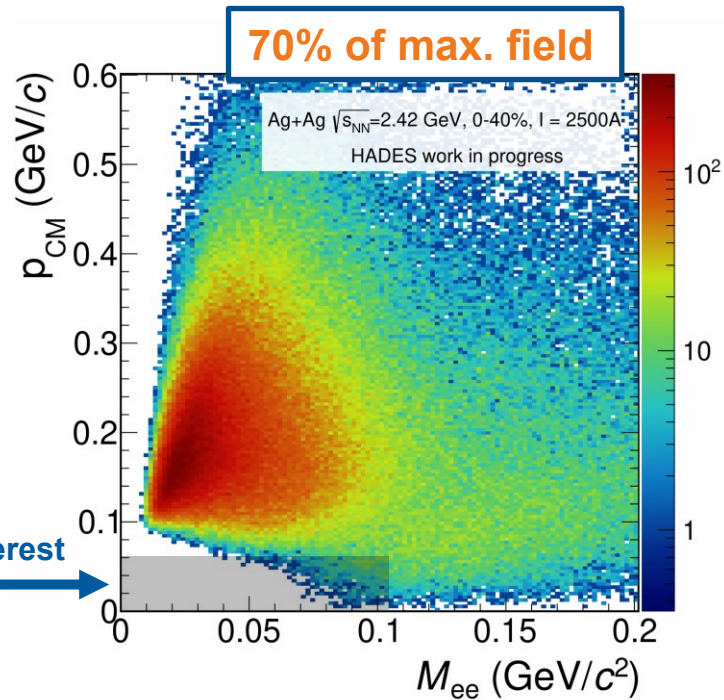
thermal dilepton emission rate

$$\frac{d^8 N}{d^4 q d^4 x} = \frac{-\alpha_{EM}^2}{\pi^3 M^2} f_B(q_0, T) \underbrace{Im \Pi_{EM}(M, q, T, \mu_B)}_{\rho_{EM}}$$



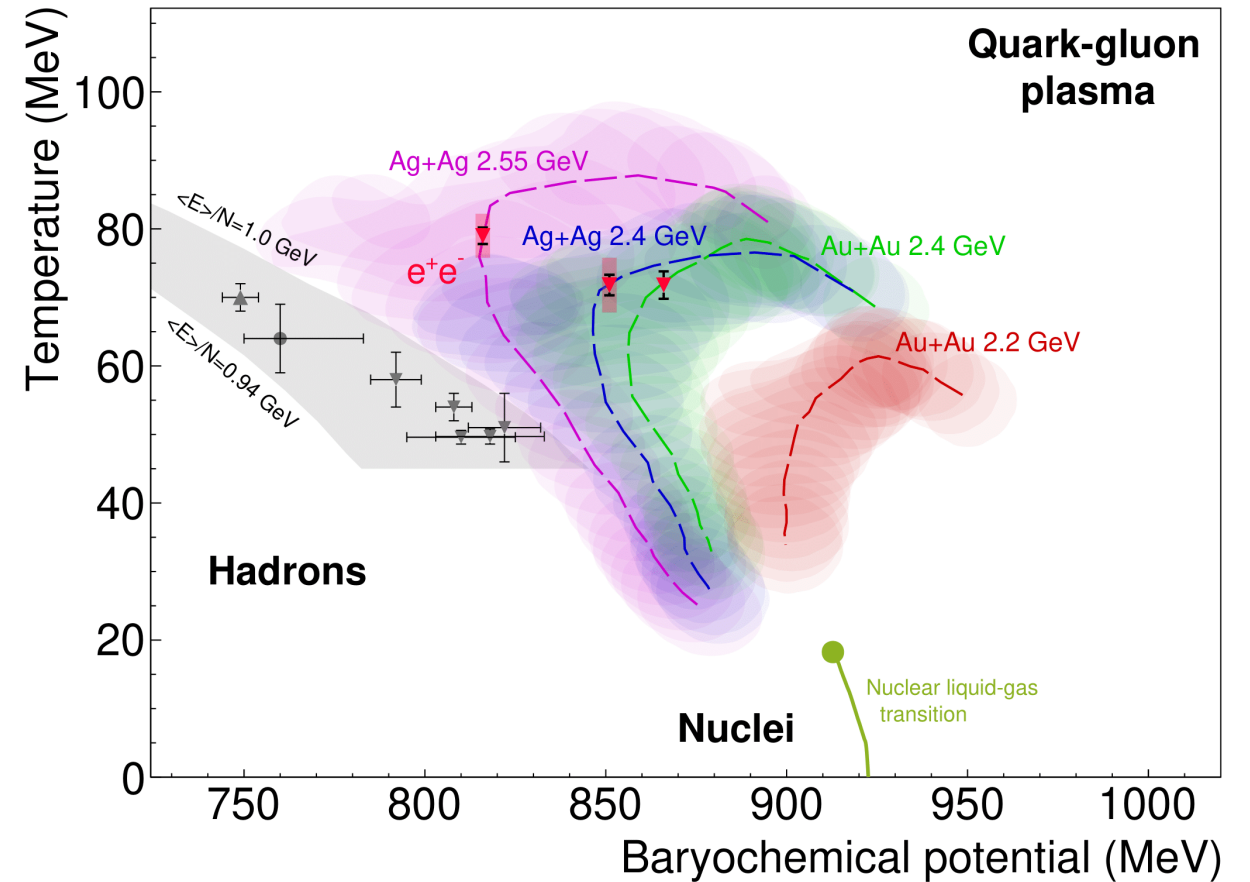
## EXPERIMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Low momentum lepton tracks bent out of acceptance by magnetic field
- Photon conversion suppressed via opening angle cut
- Physical background of  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  mesons
- Step towards measurement:
  - Dedicated Ag+Ag test run at HADES with low magnetic field
  - New Au+Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.23$  GeV data recorded this year with 50% field + low field run scheduled for 2025



## SUMMARY

- HADES provides high-quality data of the di-electron production in elementary and heavy-ion collisions at SIS energy regime
- Unique possibility of characterizing the properties of baryon dominated matter with multi-differential measurements of penetrating probes
  - Establish thermal nature of the radiation
  - Flow, polarization, transport coefficients
  - Possible new phases at high  $\mu_B$



FO curve: J. Cleymans, K. Redlich, Nucl. Phys. A 661 (1999) 379  
 Au+Au 2.4 GeV data: HADES, Nature Phys. 15(2019) 1040  
 Ag+Ag data: HADES preliminary  
 figure: FS, T.Galatyuk



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DARMSTADT

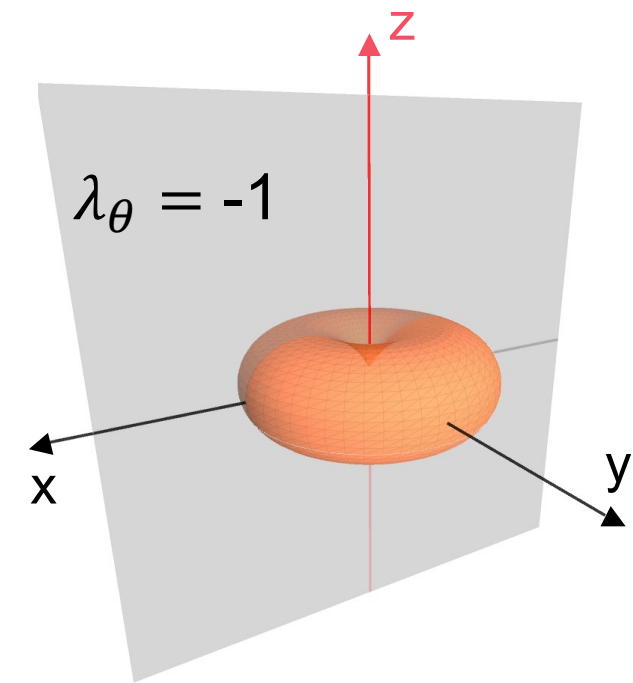
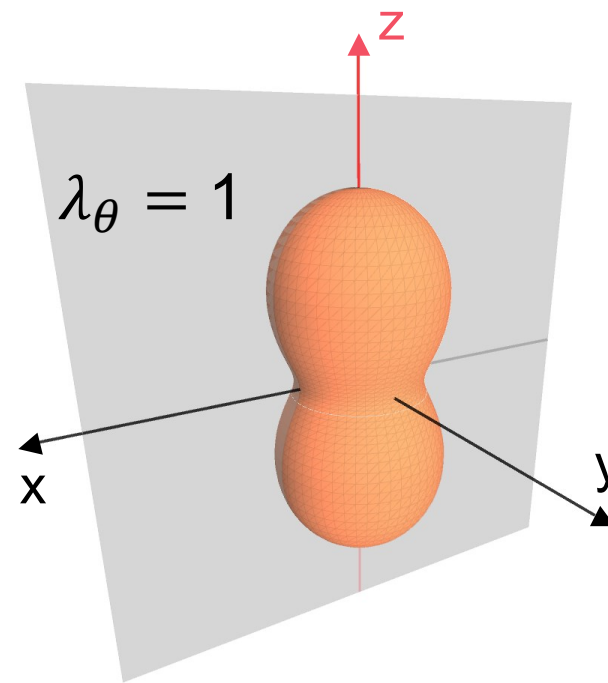
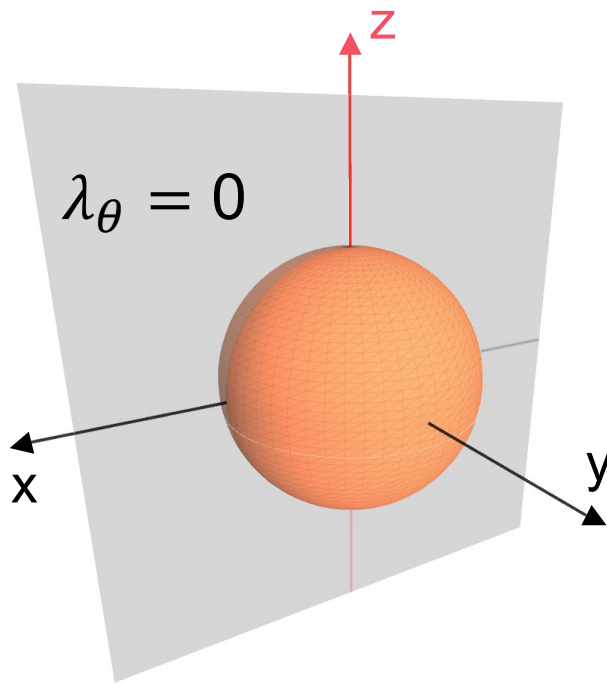
**BACKUP**



## STATIC THERMAL MEDIUM

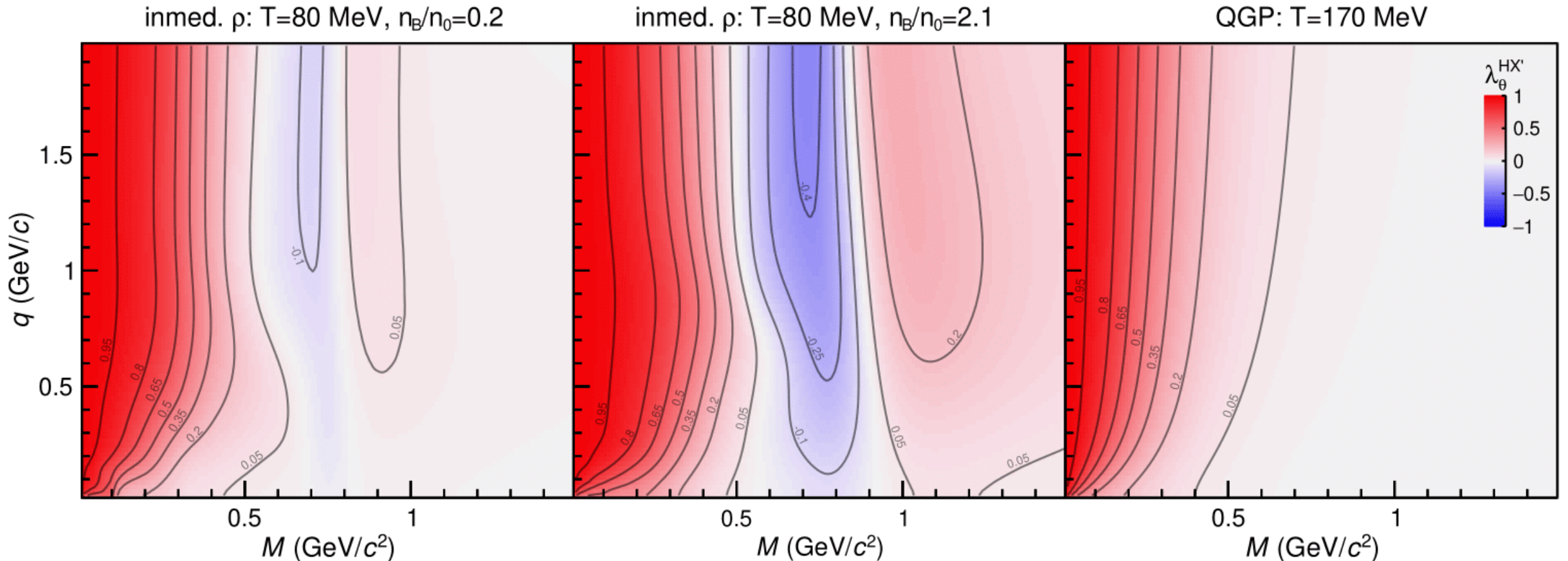
- Rotational symmetry only broken by virtual photon's momentum direction
- In the helicity frame HX the only non-zero coefficient is  $\lambda_\theta = \frac{\rho_T - \rho_L}{\rho_T + \rho_L}$

E. Speranza *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 782, 395 (2018)  
G. Baym *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 044907 (2017)



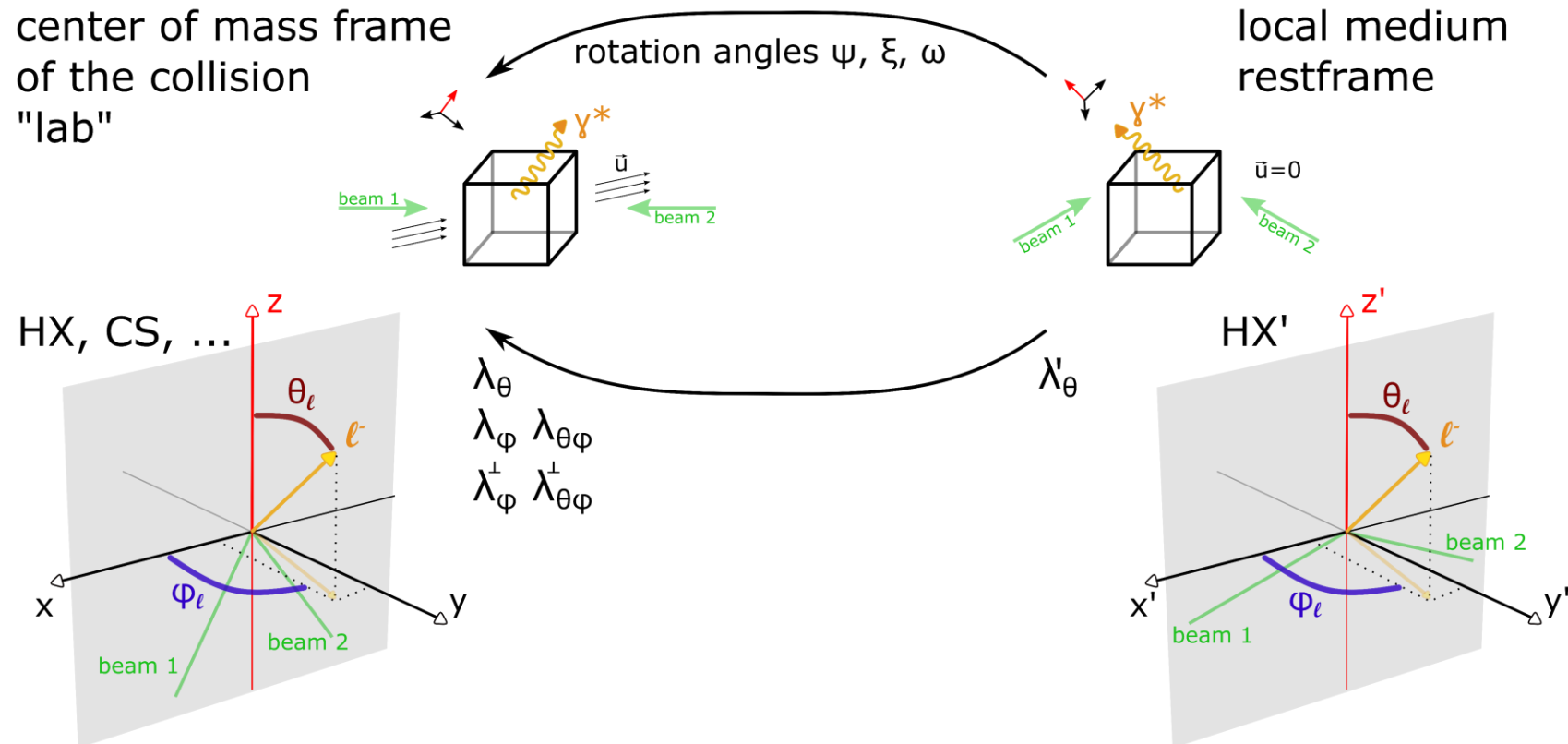
## POLARIZATION IN STATIC MEDIUM

- Strong dependence on mass, momentum and baryon density for hadronic medium
- Rather small polarization for QGP except for  $M_{ee} < 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  approaching the photon point



## POLARIZATION IN MOVING MEDIUM

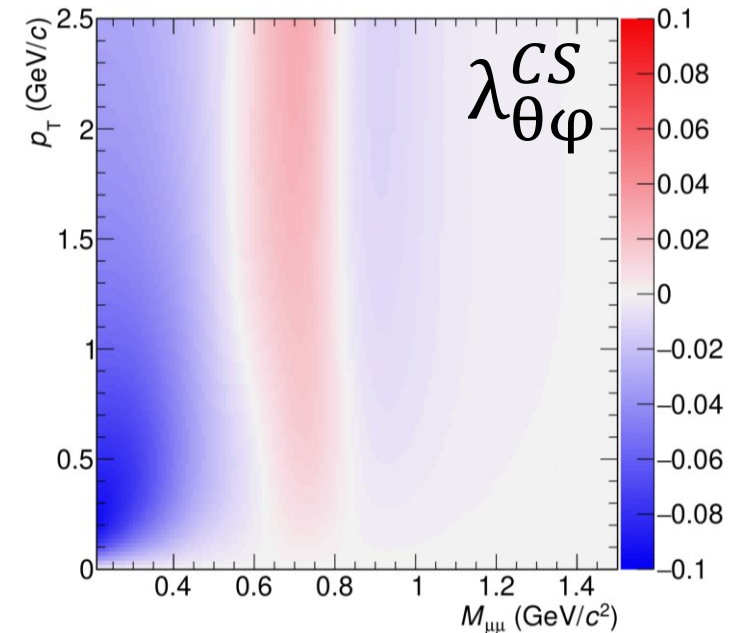
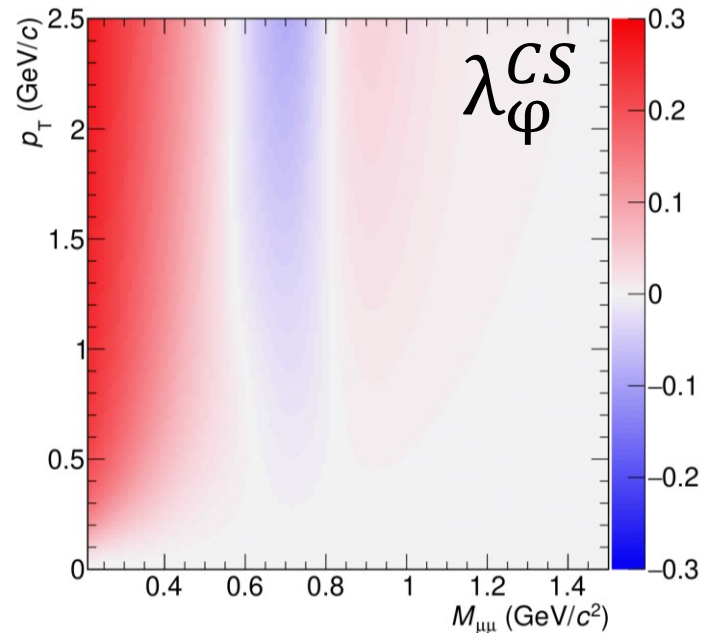
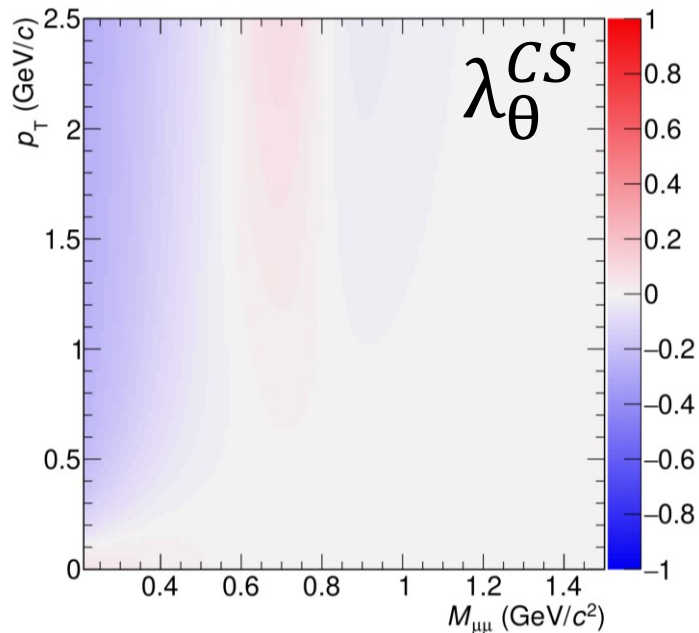
- Helicity frames (HX') of individual local fluid cells misaligned
- Transform local coefficients to global frame  $\rightarrow$  accessible to experiment: HX, CS, ...



## RESULTS FOR IN+IN COLLISIONS AT SPS ENERGIES

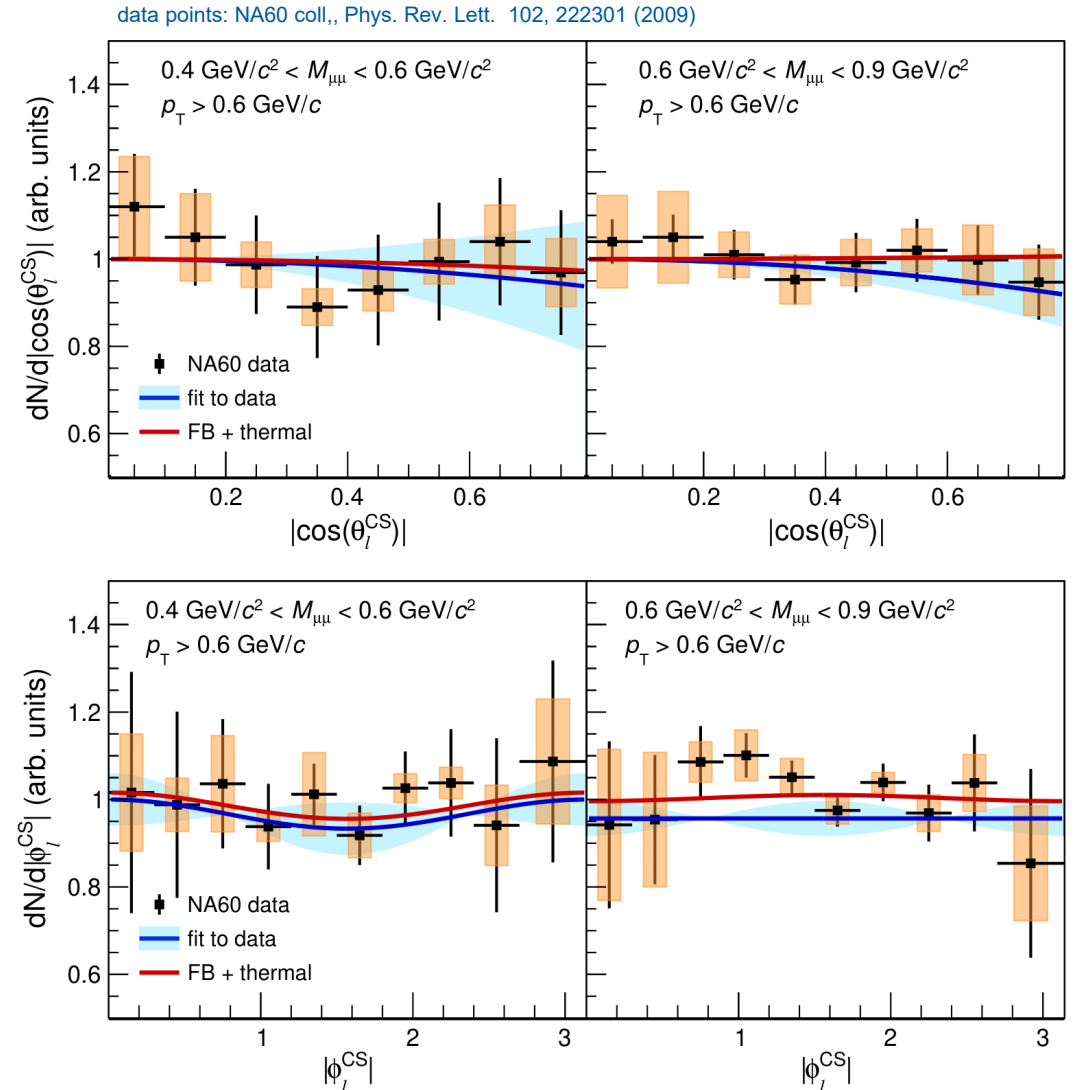
- NA60 measured polarization coefficients  $\lambda_\theta$ ,  $\lambda_\varphi$  and  $\lambda_{\theta\varphi}$  of excess radiation in the CS frame in In+In collisions at 158 AGeV beam energy
- Space-time evolution via isentropic fireball model with transition from QGP to hadronic rates at  $T=170$  MeV
- Strong dependence on the polarization frame as function of mass and momentum

NA60 coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 162302 (2006)  
R. Rapp, H. van Hees, Phys. Lett. B 753, 586 (2016)



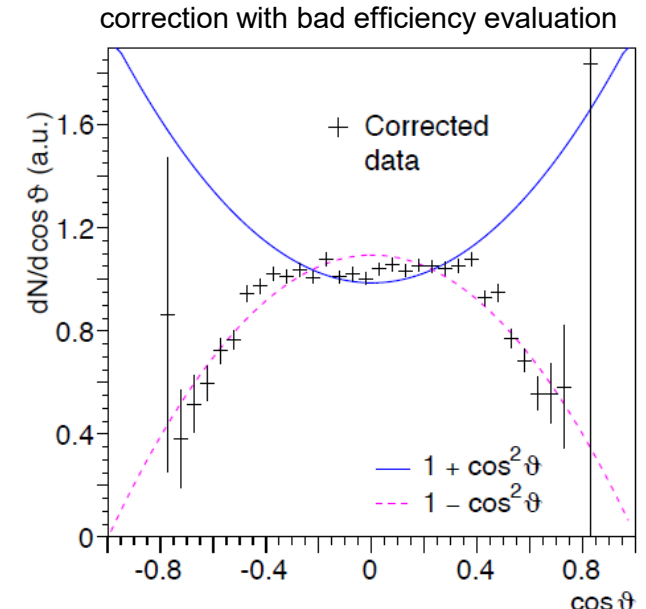
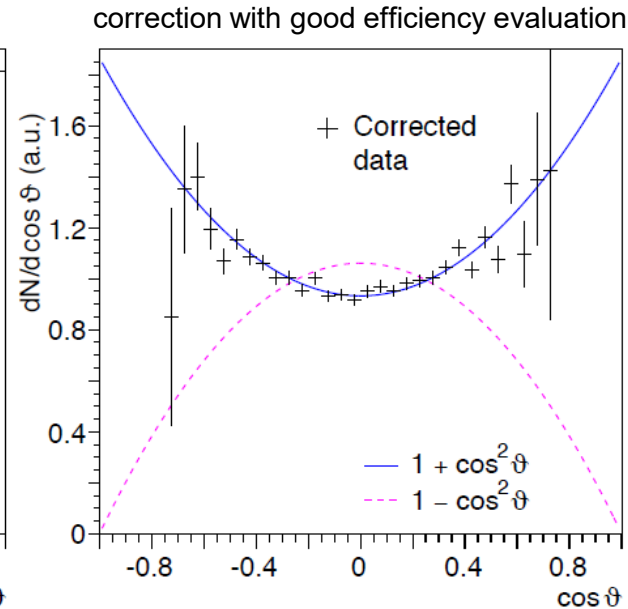
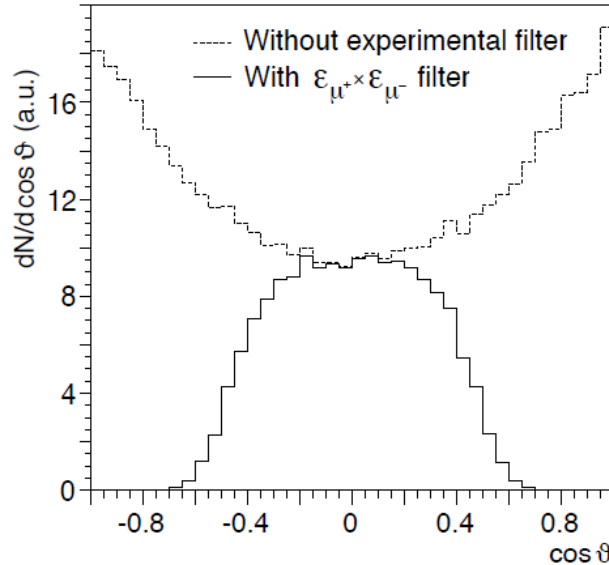
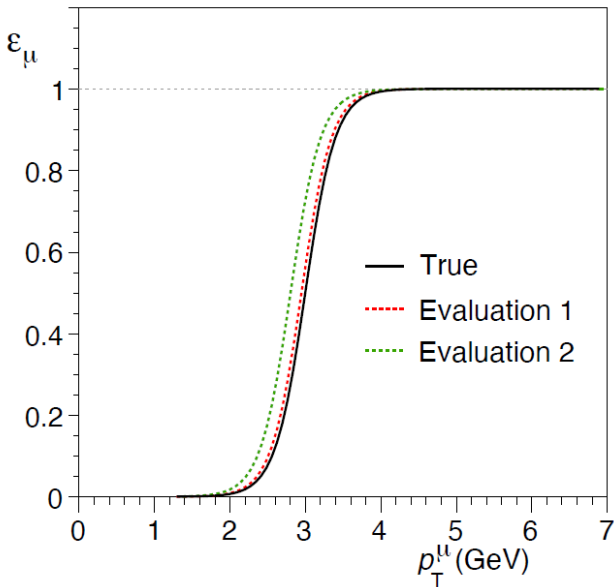
## COMPARISON TO NA60 DATA

- Good agreement between data and theory → size and trend
- Near absence of a net polarization
  - not related to thermal isotropy arguments
  - thermal properties of the EM spectral function
- **Best fit** to data gives  $\lambda_\theta = -0.10 \pm 0.24$  and  $\lambda_\theta = -0.13 \pm 0.12$  in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in  $\lambda_\theta = -0.04$  and  $\lambda_\theta = 0.01$  respectively
- **Best fit** to data gives  $\lambda_\phi = 0.05 \pm 0.09$  and  $\lambda_\phi = 0.00 \pm 0.06$  in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in  $\lambda_\phi = 0.04$  and  $\lambda_\phi = -0.01$  respectively
- **Best fit** to data gives  $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = -0.04 \pm 0.10$  and  $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = 0.05 \pm 0.03$  in the two mass windows
- **Calculation** results in  $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = -0.02$  and  $\lambda_{\theta\phi} = 0.01$  respectively



# EXPERIMENTAL DIFFICULTIES

- Virtual photon polarization influences detection efficiency
- Efficiency + acceptance corrections need to be done carefully
- Wrong efficiency evaluation can lead to wrong sign of polarization





## PROSPECT OF DISENTANGLING HADRONIC AND PARTONIC SOURCES

- Polarization plays important role in exploring the mechanisms underlying EM emission
- Multi-differential measurements of the virtual photon polarization
  - resolve mass,  $p_T$ , rapidity, lepton emission angles  $\theta_l, \varphi_l \rightarrow$  large datasets needed
  - future high-rate experiments CBM, NA60+ and ALICE3

