



# Quarkonium Polarization Transport in Medium from Open Quantum Systems and Effective Field Theories



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Based on D-L Y & Xiaojun Yao, arXiv:2405.20280

# Quarkonium in heavy ion collisions

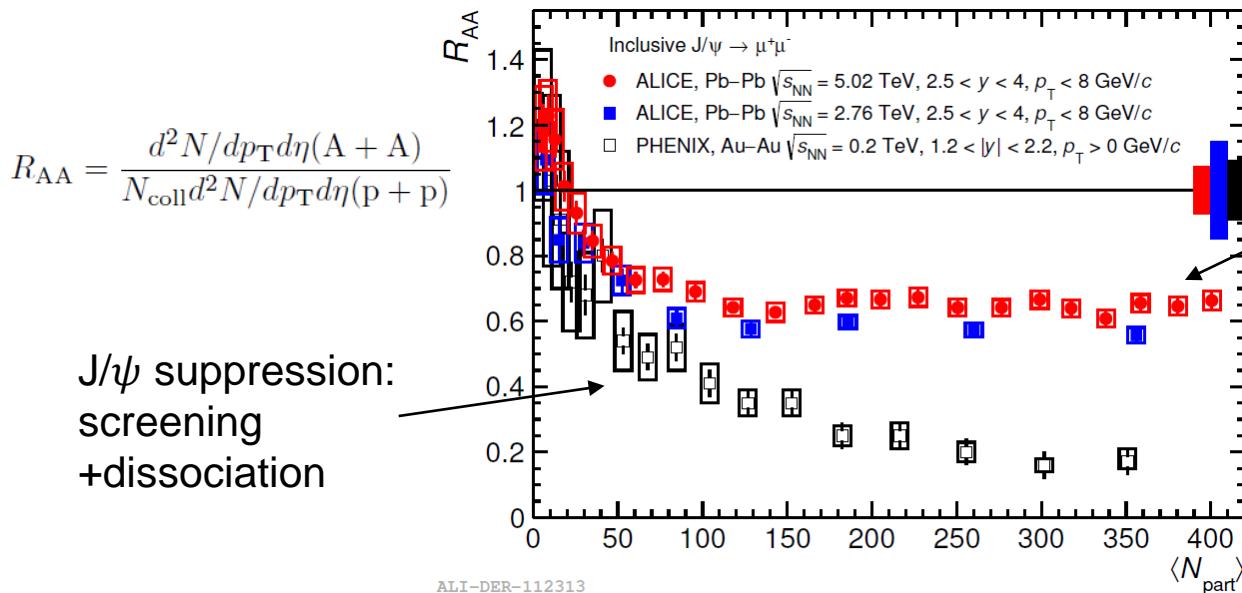
- Quarkonium is a useful probe for the quark gluon plasma (QGP) in heavy ion collisions. e.g.,  $\text{J}/\psi$  suppression
- Heavy-quark potential : Vacuum :  $V(r) = -\frac{A}{r} + Br$

Finite T :

$$V(r, t \rightarrow \infty) = -\frac{A}{r} e^{-m_D r} \underset{\text{static screening}}{-i\phi(m_D r)} \underset{\text{dynamical dissociation}}{}$$

T. Matsui & H. Satz, PLB 178 (1986) 416.  
F. Karsch, M. T. Mehr and H. Satz, Z. Phys. C 37 (1988) 617

M. Laine et al., JHEP 03 (2007) 054.  
A. Beraudo, J. P. Blaizot, C. Ratti,  
Nucl. Phys. A 806 (2008) 312.



recombination

R. L. Thews, M. Schroedter, J. Rafelski,  
PRC 63 (2001) 054905

# Polarization of vector quarkonia

- Spin alignment of  $J/\psi$  (polarization of quarkonia) :

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

(normalized) 00<sup>th</sup> component of  
the spin density matrix

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

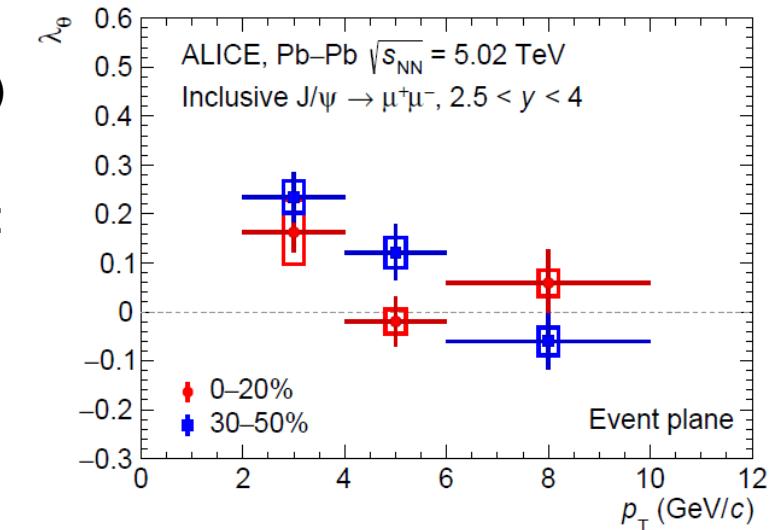
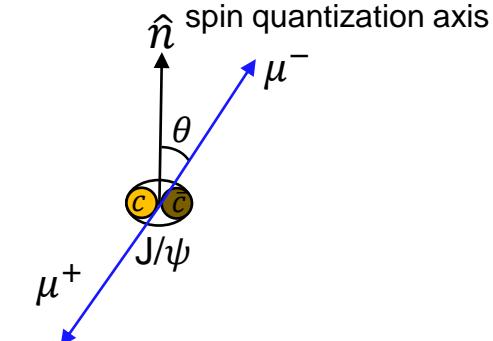
Longitudinal pol :  $\rho_{00} > 1/3$

Unpolarized :  $\rho_{00} = 1/3$  (no spin alignment)

- Spin alignment w.r.t the reaction plane :

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

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



- Unexpectedly large spin alignment cannot be explained by vorticity responsible for the spin polarization of light quarks (for  $\Lambda$  hyperons).

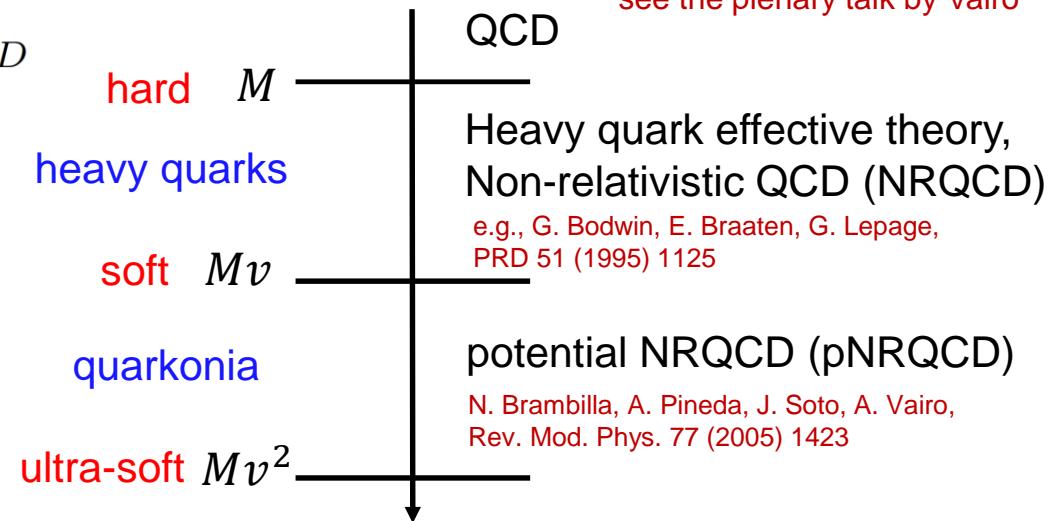
# Theoretical frameworks

- How to construct the transport theory for quarkonia from the first principle?
- ❖ Quarkonia (or heavy quarks) are dilute : open quantum system (OQS)  
 Total system= subsystem + environment  $H = H_S + H_E + H_I$  weakly coupled  
X. Yao, Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 36 (2021) 2130010  
Y. Akamatsu, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 123 (2022) 103932  
see the plenary talk by Akamatsu
- ❖ Separation of scales : non-relativistic effective fields theories (NREFT)  
see the plenary talk by Vairo

$$M \gg Mv \gg Mv^2, T, \Lambda_{QCD}$$

$M$  : heavy quark mass

$v$  : relative velocity



➤ OQS + pNRQCD  kinetic theory for quarkonia

# Evolution of the density matrix

- Tracking the evolution of the density matrix (unitary → time reversible):

$$\frac{d\rho^{(\text{int})}(t)}{dt} = -i[H_I^{(\text{int})}(t), \rho^{(\text{int})}(t)] \quad H_I = \sum_{\alpha} O_{\alpha}^{(S)} \otimes O_{\alpha}^{(E)}$$

- Tracing over the environment (non-unitary → time irreversible):

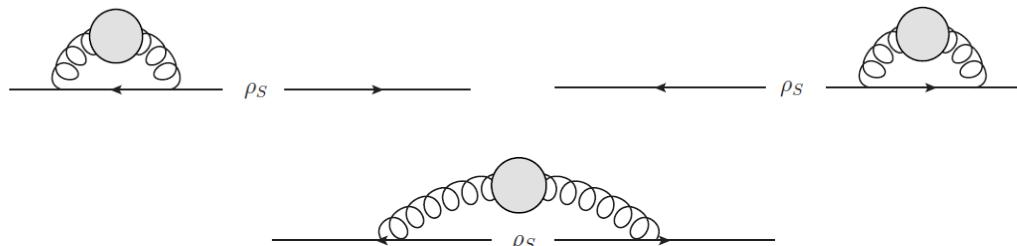
$$\rho^{(\text{int})}(t_i) = \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(t_i) \otimes \boxed{\rho_E^{(\text{int})}(t_i)}, \quad \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(t) = \text{Tr}_E[\rho^{(\text{int})}(t)]. \rightarrow \text{a matrix in both color \& spin spaces}$$

$\approx \rho_T(0)$  : static thermal equilibrium medium

→ master eq :

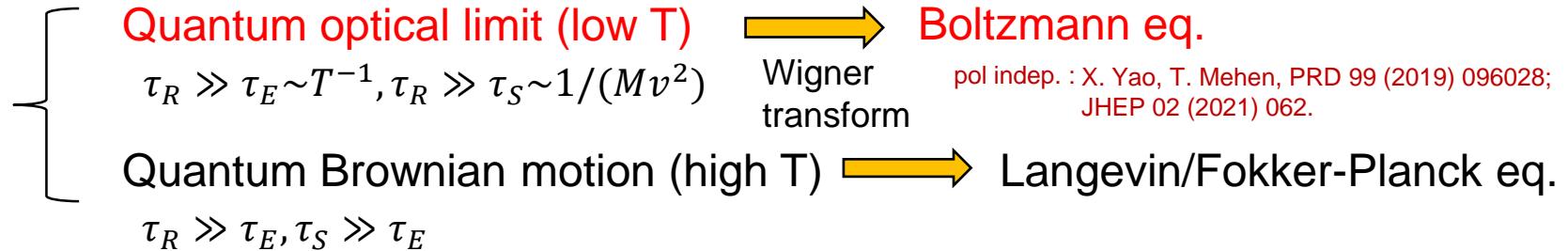
$$\begin{aligned} \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(t) &= \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(0) - \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^t dt_2 \frac{\text{sign}(t_1 - t_2)}{2} D_{\alpha\beta}(t_1, t_2) \left[ O_{\alpha}^{(S)}(t_1) O_{\beta}^{(S)}(t_2), \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(0) \right] \\ &\quad + \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^t dt_2 D_{\alpha\beta}(t_1, t_2) \left( O_{\beta}^{(S)}(t_2) \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(0) O_{\alpha}^{(S)}(t_1) - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ O_{\alpha}^{(S)}(t_1) O_{\beta}^{(S)}(t_2), \rho_S^{(\text{int})}(0) \right\} \right), \end{aligned}$$

environment correlation function :  $D_{\alpha\beta}(t_1, t_2) = \text{Tr}_E \left( O_{\alpha}^{(E)}(t_1) O_{\beta}^{(E)}(t_2) \rho_T(0) \right).$



# From OQS to kinetic equations

- Master eq. :



- Markovian approximation (coarse graining such that  $\tau_R \gg t \gg \tau_E$ ) : the time-difference eq. becomes a differential eq.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f_\lambda(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t) + \frac{\mathbf{k}}{2M} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f_\lambda(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t) = \boxed{\mathcal{C}_\lambda^+(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t)[f_{Q\bar{Q}\lambda}^{(8)}]} - \boxed{\mathcal{C}_\lambda^-(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t)[f_\lambda]},$$

**color singlet** :  $f_\lambda(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t) \equiv \int \frac{d^3 k'}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{x}} \left\langle \mathbf{k} + \frac{\mathbf{k}'}{2}, \lambda \middle| \rho_S(t) \middle| \mathbf{k} - \frac{\mathbf{k}'}{2}, \lambda \right\rangle, \quad \lambda = \pm 1, 0.$

**polarization (vector mesons)**

**color octet** : 
$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{d^3 k'}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{x}} \left\langle \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q} + \frac{\mathbf{k}'}{2}, \mathbf{p}_{1\text{rel}}, \lambda, a \middle| \rho_S^{(8)}(t) \middle| \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q} - \frac{\mathbf{k}'}{2}, \mathbf{p}_{2\text{rel}}, \lambda, a' \right\rangle \quad a = 1, 2, \dots N_c^2 - 1 \\ & \approx (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{p}_{1\text{rel}} - \mathbf{p}_{2\text{rel}}) \delta^{aa'} f_{Q\bar{Q}\lambda}^{(8)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{x}_0, \frac{\mathbf{p}_{1\text{rel}} + \mathbf{p}_{2\text{rel}}}{2}, t). \end{aligned}$$

(keeping diag. com. & gradient exp.)

# Building blocks of pNRQCD

- Collision terms depend on the details of interaction :  $H_I = \sum_{\alpha} O_{\alpha}^{(S)} \otimes O_{\alpha}^{(E)}$
- Adopted NRQCD Lagrangian : ( $M^{-1}$  expansion) from an effective Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NRQCD}} = \psi^{\dagger} \left( iD_0 + \frac{D^2}{2M} + c_4 \frac{gB \cdot \sigma}{2M} \right) \psi + \chi^{\dagger} \left( iD_0 - \frac{D^2}{2M} - c_4 \frac{gB \cdot \sigma}{2M} \right) \chi$$

- Introducing the composite field :  $\Phi_{ij}^{\substack{\text{spin} \\ \text{color}}}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, t) = \psi_i^{s_1}(\mathbf{x}_1, t) \chi_j^{\dagger s_2}(\mathbf{x}_2, t)$

➤ color decomposition :

$$\Phi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, t) = U_{ik}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{R}) \begin{pmatrix} \text{singlet} & \text{octet} \\ \frac{\delta_{k\ell}}{\sqrt{N_c}} S(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) & \frac{T_{k\ell}^a}{\sqrt{T_F}} O^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \end{pmatrix} U_{\ell j}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{x}_2),$$

$$\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2)/2, \quad \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2, \quad T_F = 1/2.$$

- spin decomposition :  $S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( I \textcolor{blue}{S}_1 + \sum_{\lambda} \textcolor{red}{S}_{\lambda i} \sigma_i \right), \quad O^a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( I O_1^a + \sum_{\lambda} O_{\lambda i}^a \sigma_i \right),$   
 (for pseudo scalar & vector)  
 $i : \text{spatial indices}$

e.g.,  $\eta_c$  &  $J/\psi$

$$S_{\lambda i}, O_{\lambda i}^a \propto \varepsilon_{\lambda i}. \quad (\varepsilon_{0i} = \hat{n}_i)$$

polarization vector

# Effective Lagrangian in pNRQCD

- Spin-independent case (with multipole expansion, small  $r \sim (Mv)^{-1}$ ) :

$$\mathcal{L} = S^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t)(i\partial_0 - \mathcal{H}_s)S(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + O^{a\dagger}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t)(iD_0 - \mathcal{H}_o)O^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t)$$

kinetic terms &  
static potentials

$$+ V_A \sqrt{\frac{T_F}{N_c}} \left( S^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \mathbf{r} \cdot g \mathbf{E}^a(\mathbf{R}, t) O^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + O^{a\dagger}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \mathbf{r} \cdot g \mathbf{E}^a(\mathbf{R}, t) S(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \right)$$

$$+ V_B d^{abc} O^{a\dagger}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \mathbf{r} \cdot g \mathbf{E}^b(\mathbf{R}, t) O^c(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + \mathcal{O}(r^2),$$

color singlet-octet transitions  
e.g.,  $J/\psi + g \leftrightarrow c + \bar{c}$

- Spin-dependent case (the transition terms) :

$(\text{pseudo}) \text{ scalar-scalar transitions}$	$\text{vector-vector transitions}$
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$$\mathcal{L}_t = V_A \sqrt{\frac{T_F}{N_c}} \left( S_1^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \mathbf{r} \cdot g \mathbf{E}^a(\mathbf{R}, t) O_1^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + \sum_\lambda S_{\lambda i}^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) \mathbf{r} \cdot g \mathbf{E}^a(\mathbf{R}, t) O_{\lambda i}^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{c_4}{M} V_A^s \sqrt{\frac{T_F}{N_c}} \sum_\lambda \left[ S_1^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) g B_i^a(\mathbf{R}, t) O_{\lambda i}^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + S_{\lambda i}^\dagger(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) g B_i^a(\mathbf{R}, t) O_1^a(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

pseudo scalar-vector transitions :  
vector mesons polarized by B fields

# Dissociation for vector quarkonia

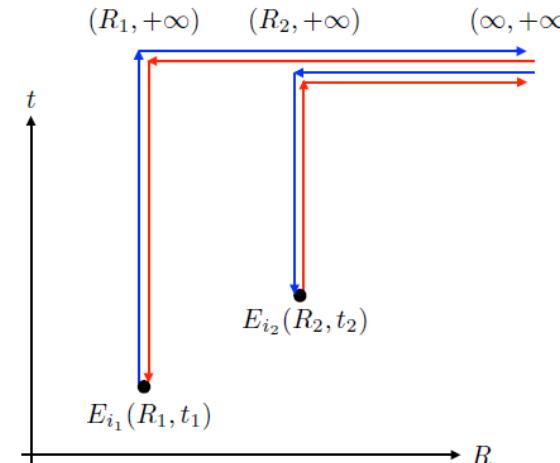
## ■ Dissociation term :

$$\mathcal{C}_\lambda^-(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t)[f_\lambda] = \int \frac{d^3 p_{cm}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 p_{rel}}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^4 q \delta(E_k^\lambda - E_p - q_0) \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}_{cm} - \mathbf{q}) |\mathcal{M}_d|^2 f_\lambda(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t),$$

$$|\mathcal{M}_d|^2 = \frac{V_A^2 T_F}{N_c} \tilde{g}_{ij}^{E++}(q) \langle \psi^\lambda | r_i | \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}}^\lambda \rangle \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}}^\lambda | r_j | \psi^\lambda \rangle + \frac{(c_4 V_A^s)^2 T_F}{M^2 N_c} \tilde{g}_{ij}^{B++}(q) \varepsilon_{\lambda i}^* \varepsilon_{\lambda j} |\langle \psi^\lambda | \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}} \rangle|^2,$$

**field-field correlators :**  $\tilde{g}_{ij}^{V++}(q) = \int d\delta t d^3 \delta R e^{iq_0 \delta t - i\mathbf{q} \cdot \delta \mathbf{R}} g_{ij'}^{V++}(t_1, t_2, \mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2), \quad V = E, B,$   
 $\delta t = t_1 - t_2, \quad \delta \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_1 - \mathbf{R}_2,$

$$g_{ij}^{V++}(t) = \text{Tr}_E \left\{ gV_i^a(\mathbf{R}, t) W^{ac}[(\mathbf{R}, t), (\mathbf{R}, \infty)] W^{cb}[(\mathbf{R}, \infty), (\mathbf{R}, 0)] gV_j^b(\mathbf{R}, 0) \rho_T(0) \right\}.$$



# Recombination for vector quarkonia

## ■ Recombination term :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_\lambda^+(x, k, t)[f_{Q\bar{Q}}^{(8)}, f_{Q\bar{Q}\lambda}^{(8)}] &= \int \frac{d^3 p_{cm}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 p_{rel}}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^4 q \delta(E_k^\lambda - E_p + q_0) \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}_{cm} + \mathbf{q}) \\ &\times \left( |\mathcal{M}_{r,e}|^2 f_{Q\bar{Q}\lambda}^{(8)}(x, \mathbf{p}_{cm}, \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{p}_{rel}, t) + |\mathcal{M}_{r,b}|^2 f_{Q\bar{Q}}^{(8)}(x, \mathbf{p}_{cm}, \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{p}_{rel}, t) \right), \end{aligned}$$

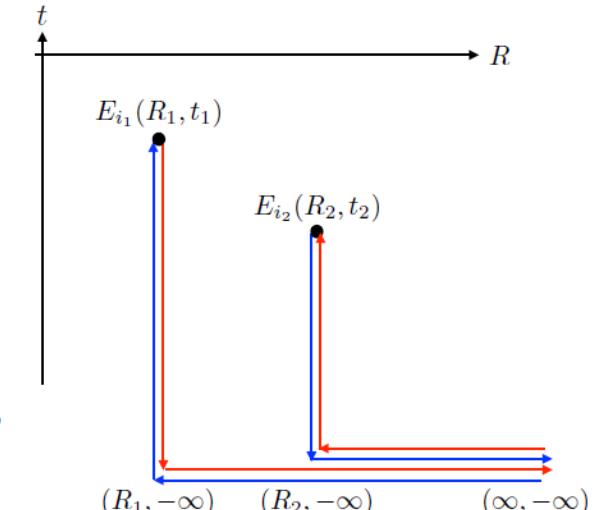
$$|\mathcal{M}_{r,e}|^2 = \frac{V_A^2 T_F}{N_c} \tilde{g}_{ji}^{E--}(q) \langle \psi^\lambda | r_j | \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}}^\lambda \rangle \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}}^\lambda | r_i | \psi^\lambda \rangle,$$

$$|\mathcal{M}_{r,b}|^2 = \frac{(c_4 V_A^s)^2 T_F}{M^2 N_c} \tilde{g}_{ji}^{B--}(q) \varepsilon_{\lambda i}^* \varepsilon_{\lambda j} | \langle \psi^\lambda | \Psi_{\mathbf{p}_{rel}} \rangle |^2.$$

field-field correlators :

$$\tilde{g}_{ij}^{V--}(q) = \int d\delta t d^3 \delta R e^{-iq_0 \delta t + i\mathbf{q} \cdot \delta \mathbf{R}} [g_{ij}^{V--}(t_2, t_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \mathbf{R}_1)]^{aa},$$

$$\begin{aligned} [g_{ij}^{V--}(t_2, t_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \mathbf{R}_1)]^{a_2 a_1} &\equiv \text{Tr}_E \left\{ W^{a_2 b}[(\mathbf{R}_1, -\infty), (\mathbf{R}_2, -\infty)] \right. \\ &\times W^{bc}[(\mathbf{R}_2, -\infty), (\mathbf{R}_2, t_2)] g \mathcal{V}_j^c(\mathbf{R}_2, t_2) g \mathcal{V}_i^d(\mathbf{R}_1, t_1) W^{da_1}[(\mathbf{R}_1, t_1), (\mathbf{R}_1, -\infty)] \rho_T(0) \Big\}. \end{aligned}$$



# Phenomenological applications

- From the quarkonium distribution functions to spin alignment :

$$\rho_{\lambda\lambda}(k) = \frac{\int d\Sigma_x \cdot k f_\lambda(x, k, t)}{\int d\Sigma_x \cdot k \sum_{\lambda'=\pm 1,0} f_{\lambda'}(x, k, t)}, \quad \begin{aligned} \rho_{00} &: \text{spin alignment} \\ \rho_{11} - \rho_{-1-1} &: \text{spin polarization} \end{aligned}$$

- Chromo-electric & magnetic correlators of QGP are needed.

- ❖ The correlators for quarkonia and heavy quarks differ in terms of operator orderings in the Wilson lines. [B. Scheihing-Hitschfeld, X. Yao, PRL 130 \(2023\) 052302](#)
- ❖ chromo-electric correlator (for quarkonia):

perturbative theory : [T. Binder et al., JHEP 01 \(2022\) 137](#)

AdS/CFT correspondence : [G. Nijs, B. Scheihing-Hitschfeld, X. Yao, JHEP 06 \(2023\) 007; arXiv:2310.09325](#)

lattice (preliminary) : [V. Leino, PoS LATTICE2023 \(2024\) 385 \[2401.06733\]](#)

❖ chromo-magnetic correlator :

lattice (for heavy quarks) : [J. Mayer-Steudte et al., PoS LATTICE2021 \(2022\) 318 \[2111.10340\].  
L. Altenkort et al., arXiv:2402.09337](#)

- Further studies of **chromo-magnetic correlators for quarkonia** are needed.

# Summary

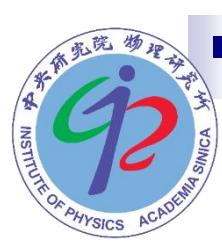
## ❑ Take-home messages :

- ✓ We utilize the **OPS & pNRQCD** to derive the **polarization-dependent Boltzmann equation for vector quarkonia** in the quantum optical limit.
- ✓ Quarkonium polarization can be induced by **chromo-magnetic correlators** via the **spin singlet-triplet transition**.
- ✓ A Lindblad equation with the spin singlet-triplet transition can also be derived in the quantum Brownian motion limit (not discussed in this talk).

## ❑ Outlook :

- We may first calculate chromo-magnetic correlators perturbatively.
- We also need to track  $f_{Q\bar{Q}}^{(8)} \sim f_Q f_{\bar{Q}}$  .  solving coupled Boltzmann eqs.  
X. Yao et al., JHEP 01 (2021) 046
- There exists implicit spin dependence for the chromo-electric int. through  $f_{Q\bar{Q}\lambda}^{(8)}$  in recombination.  e.g., initial polarization of heavy quarks from glasma?

[A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 108, 016020 \(2023\); 107, 076025 \(2023\).](#)

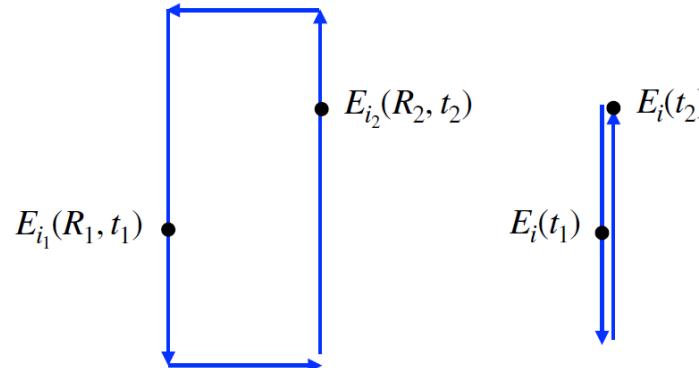


# Thank you!

# Heavy quark v.s. quarkonia

## Backup: Two Chromoelectric Field Correlators

- Correlators for heavy quark and quarkonium in-medium dynamics

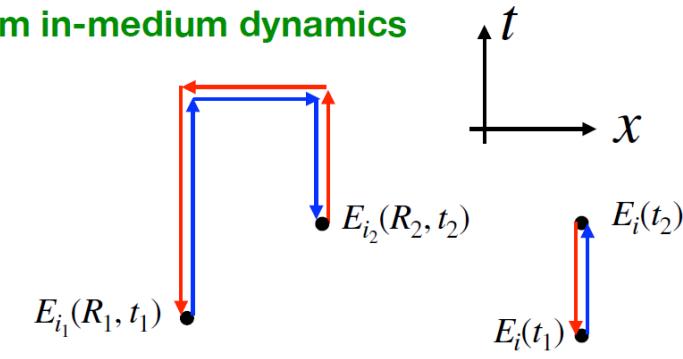


**Single heavy quark**

$$g_E^Q(t) = g^2 \left\langle \text{Tr}_c \left( U_{[-\infty, t]} E_i(t) U_{[t, 0]} E_i(0) U_{[0, -\infty]} \right) \right\rangle_T$$

J.Casalderrey-Solana, D.Teaney, hep-ph/0605199

Color interactions in  
**both** initial **and** final states  
since HQ carries color



$$\langle O \rangle_T = \text{Tr}(O \rho_T)$$

**Heavy quark antiquark pair**

$$g_E^{Q\bar{Q}}(t) = g^2 T_F \left\langle \left( E_i^a(t) \mathcal{W}_{[t, 0]}^{ab} E_i^b(0) \right) \right\rangle_T$$

Thomas Mehen, XY, 2009.02408

Color interactions in  
**either** initial **or** final state  
since quarkonium colorless