



# From Japan to Norway and onwards to the Big Bang

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# From Japan to Norway (2008-2018)

Postdoctoral appointments:  
Bielefeld – Bern – Heidelberg

PI and scientific manager:  
University of Heidelberg

PhD course:  
The University  
of Tokyo

nuclear  
physics



supervisor: T. Hatsuda, now RIKEN iTHEMS

**3-year MEXT + DAAD  
PhD scholarship**

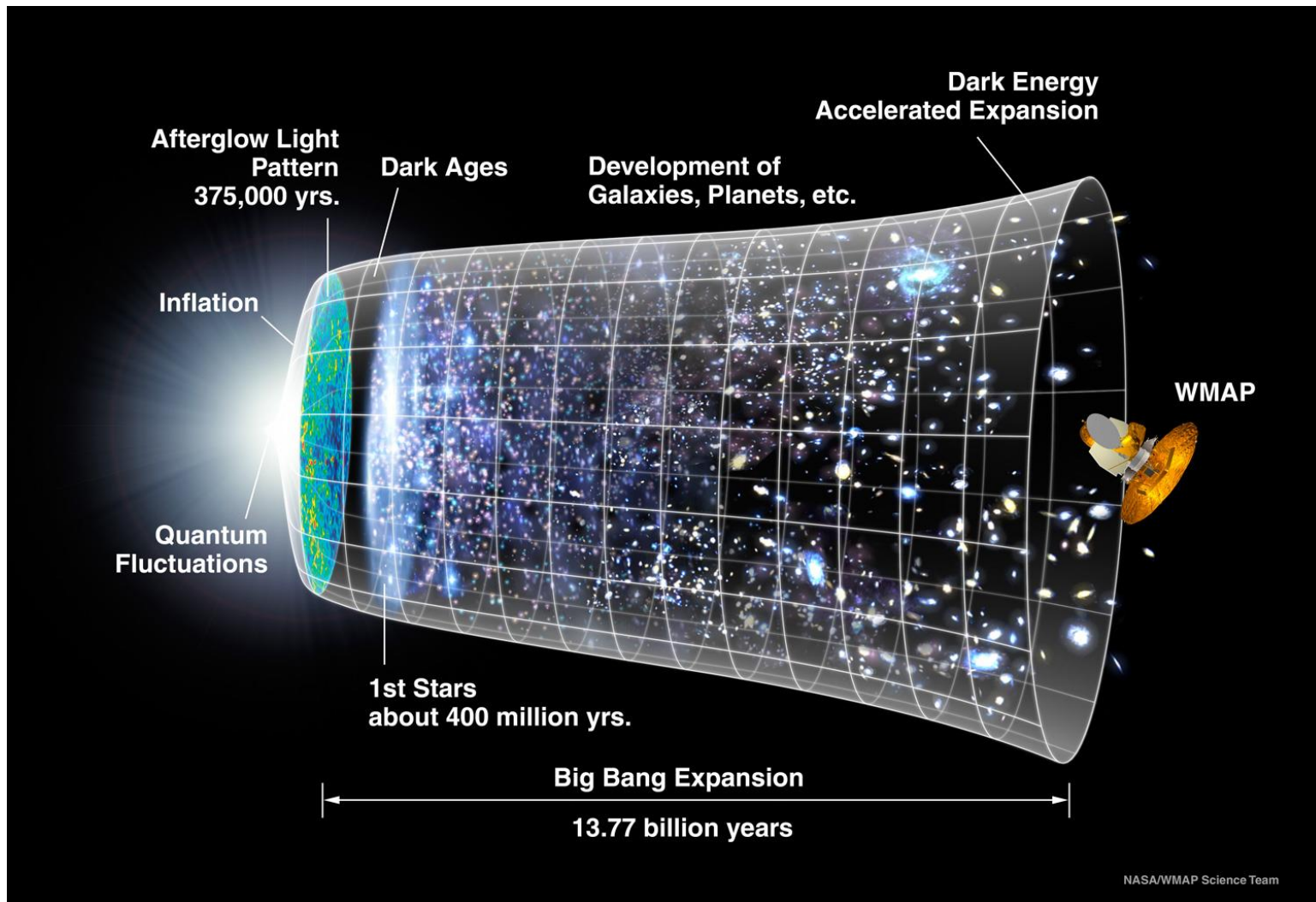
Associate Professor  
and PI at University  
of Stavanger



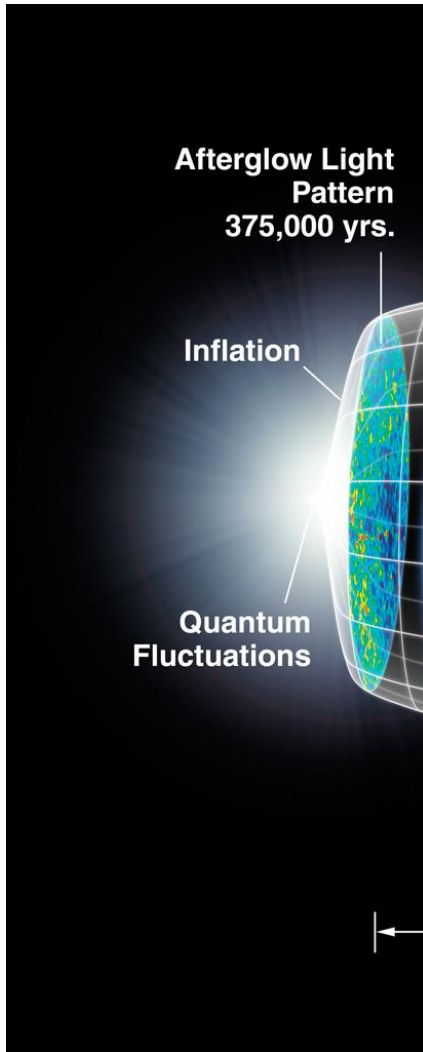
**4-year RCN  
YRT – FRIPRO grant**

 Both MEXT and RCN play a key role in my scientific career

# Towards the BigBang



# Towards the BigBang from Japan



Yukawa - 1949



Tomonaga - 1965



Koshiro - 2002



Nambu - 2002



Kobayashi - 2008



Maskawa - 2008



Kajita - 2015

**7/29 Nobel**  
Laureates of  
Japanese origin  
with direct con-  
nection to the  
early universe

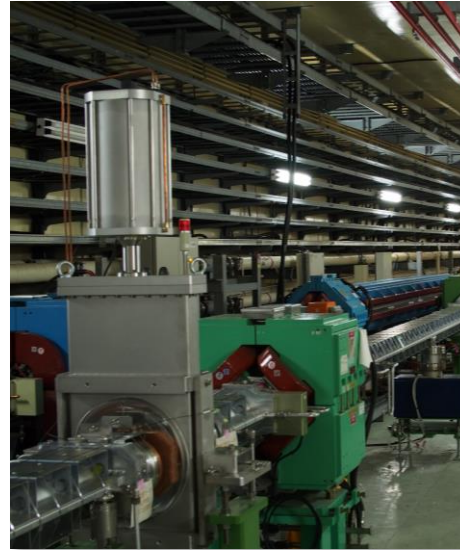


# How to probe the early universe?



ESA – Planck satellite

Observe the **remnants** of the  
early universe:  
cosmic microwave background



KEK laboratory – Super KEKB  
Accelerator (Tsukuba, Japan)

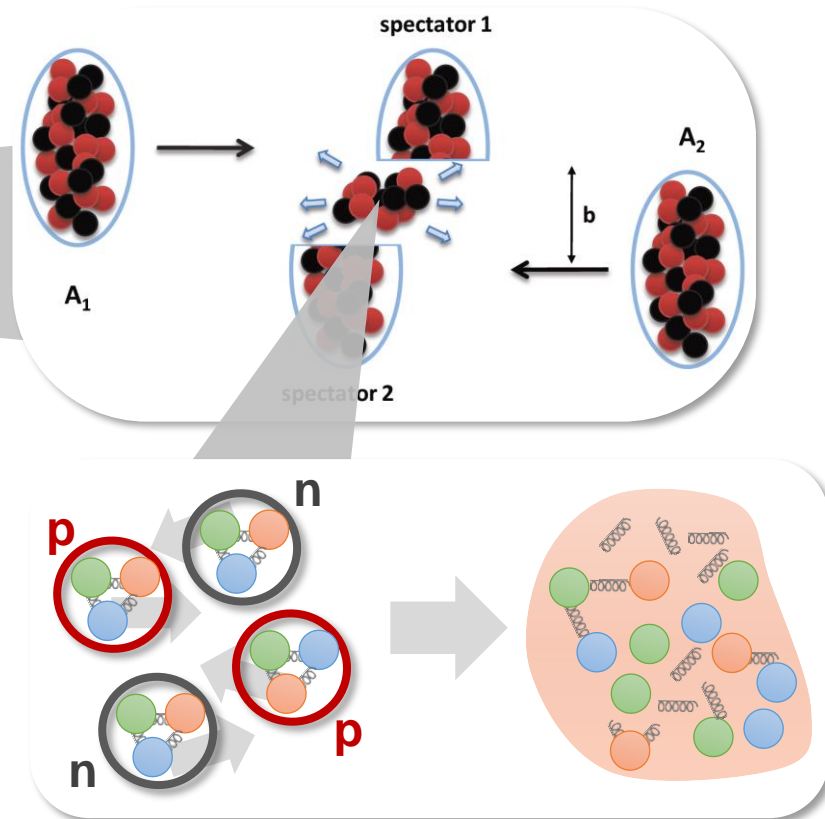
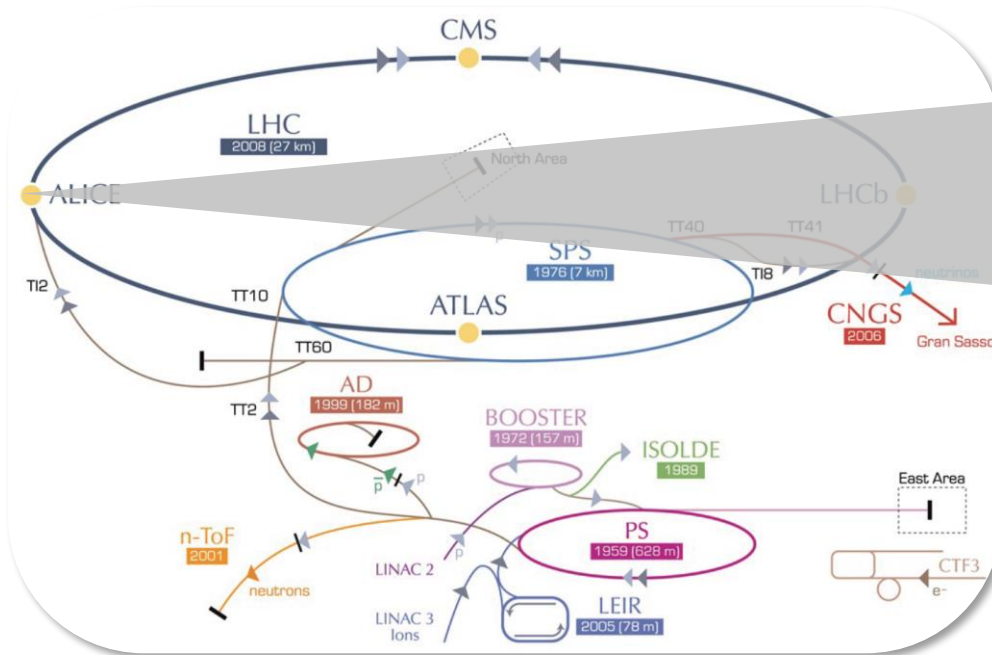
**Recreate** the conditions close to the  
big bang in the laboratory via  
**particle colliders**



CERN laboratory – LHC  
(Geneva, Switzerland)

# Heavy-ion collisions at CERN

- Norway & Japan are both **active contributors** to CERN and the LHC



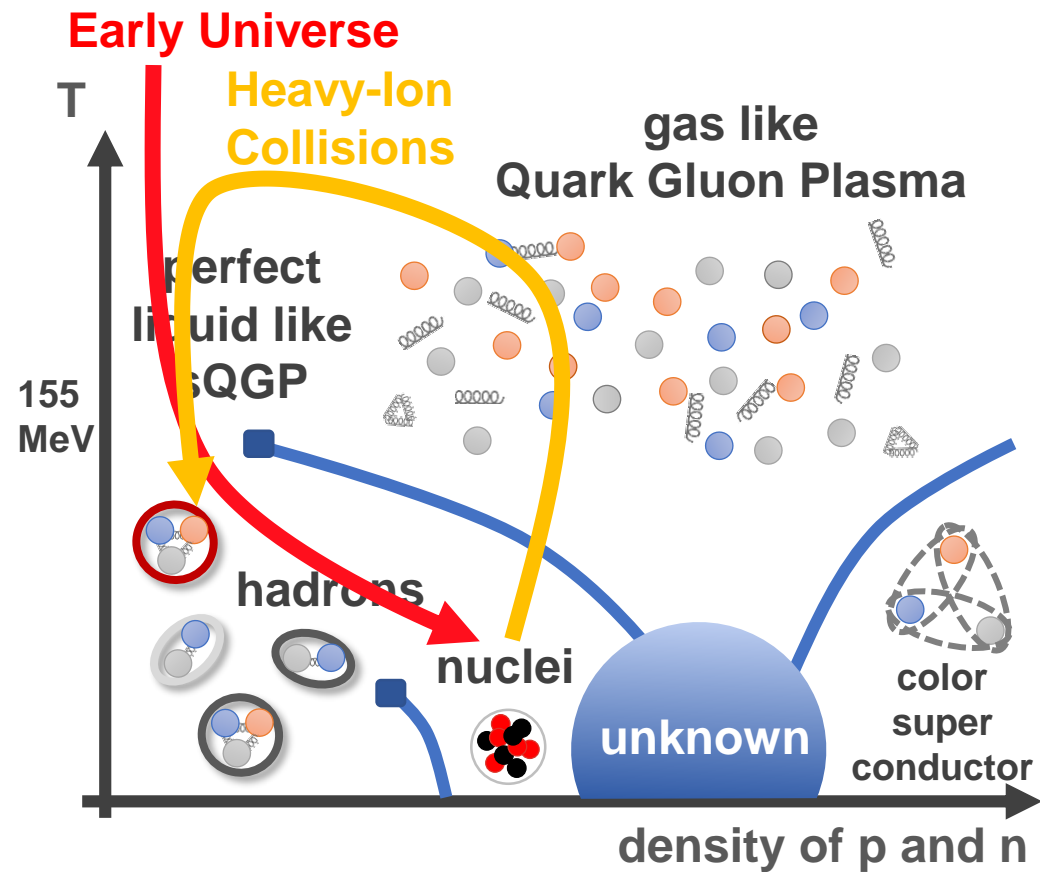
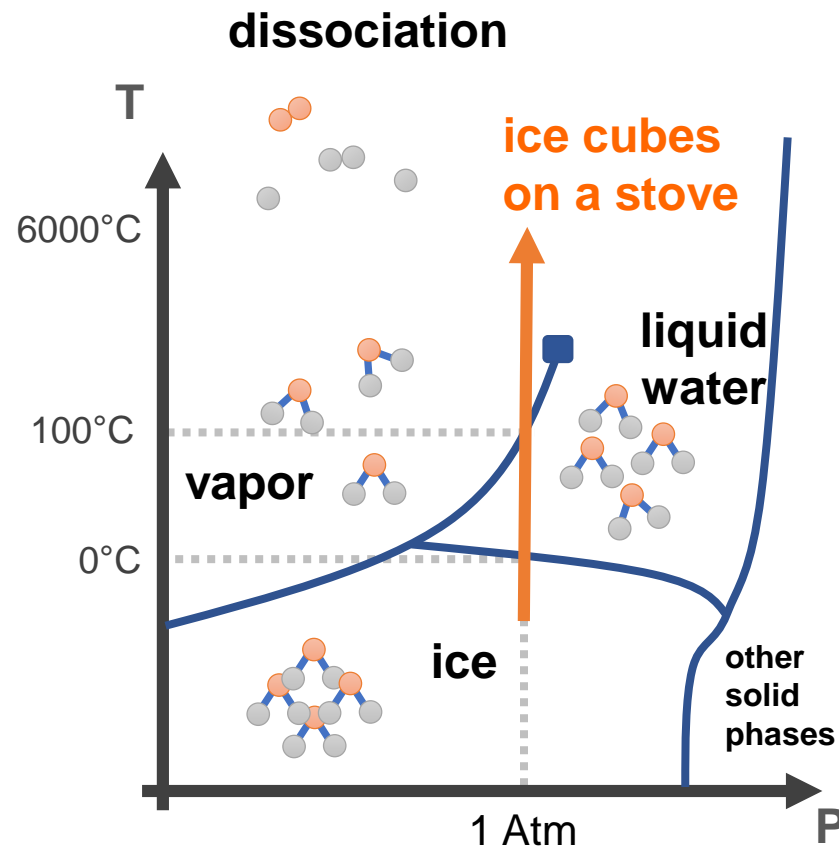
- Directed kinetic energy via scattering into undirected  $E_{\text{kin}}$ : **temperature**

At the LHC:  $T_{\text{HIC}} > 200.000 \times T(\text{core of the sun}) = 200 \text{ MeV}$

# Phases of matter

## Water – H<sub>2</sub>O

## Nuclear matter – protons/neutrons

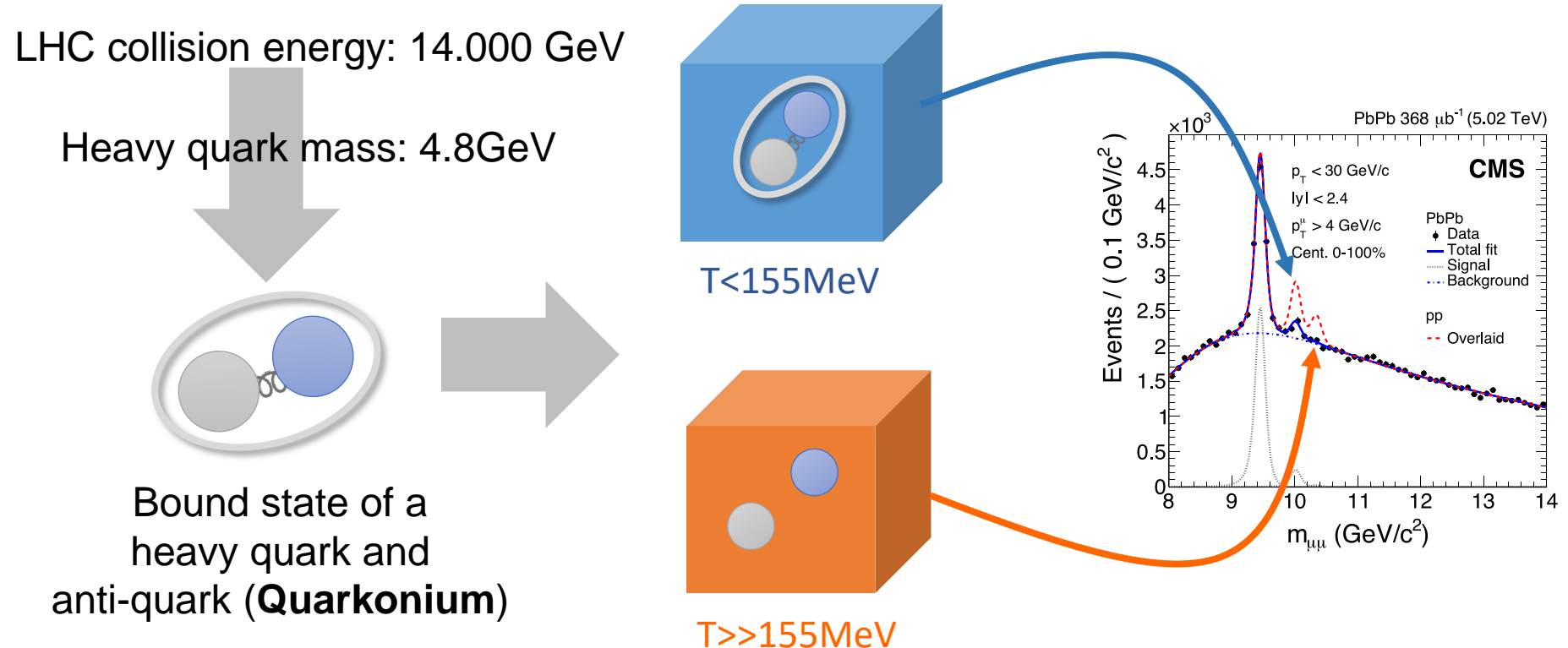


■ Nuclear matter transitions into liquid-like state of quarks and gluons

## The Quark Gluon Plasma

# Quarkonium as QGP thermometer

- Reactions in HIC are too fast to probe by e.g. laser spectroscopy ( $10^{-22}\text{s}$ )
- Need to use particles created in collision ( $E=mc^2$ ) as thermometer





## How to describe thermal Quarkonium intuitively with an in-medium potential?

PRL 108, 162001 (2012)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
20 APRIL 2012

### Complex Heavy-Quark Potential at Finite Temperature from Lattice QCD

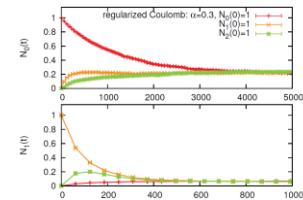
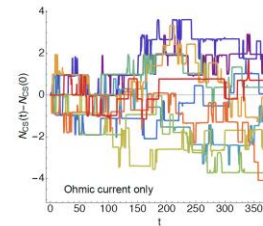
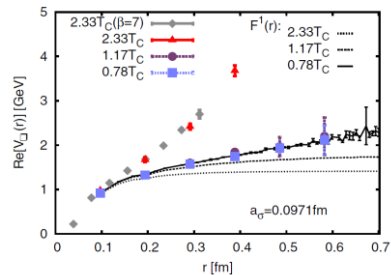
Alexander Rothkopf,<sup>1,2</sup> Tetsuo Hatsuda,<sup>1,3</sup> and Shoji<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo 11,<sup>2</sup>Fakultät für Physik, Universität Bielefeld, D-33615 Bielefeld,<sup>3</sup>Theoretical Research Division, Nishina Center, RIKEN, Saitama

(Received 15 August 2011; published 18 April 2012)

We calculate for the first time the complex potential between a heavy temperature across the deconfinement transition in lattice QCD. The real potential at each separation distance  $r$  is obtained from the spectral function. We confirm the existence of an imaginary part above the critical temperature of  $r$  and underscores the importance of collisions with the gluonic heavy quarkonia in the quark-gluon plasma.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.108.162001

PACS numbers: 12.38.Gc



## How do the earliest moments of a heavy-ion collision look like?



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### Non-Abelian chiral instabilities at high temperature on the lattice

Yukinao Akamatsu,<sup>a,b</sup> Alexander Rothkopf<sup>c</sup> and Naoki Yamamoto<sup>d</sup><sup>a</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York 11794-3800, U.S.A.<sup>b</sup>Department of Physics, Osaka University, 1-1 Machikaneyama, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan<sup>c</sup>Institute for Theoretical Physics, Heidelberg University, Philosophenweg 16, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany<sup>d</sup>Department of Physics, Keio University, 3-14-1, Higashi, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama 223-8522, JapanE-mail: [yukinao.akamatsu@stonybrook.edu](mailto:yukinao.akamatsu@stonybrook.edu), [rothkopf@thphys.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:rothkopf@thphys.uni-heidelberg.de), [nyama@rk.phys.keio.ac.jp](mailto:nyama@rk.phys.keio.ac.jp)

## Quarkonium thermalization as open-quantum-systems



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### Quantum dissipation of a heavy quark from a nonlinear stochastic Schrödinger equation

Yukinao Akamatsu,<sup>a</sup> Masayuki Asakawa,<sup>a</sup> Shiori Kajimoto<sup>a</sup> and Alexander Rothkopf<sup>b,c</sup><sup>a</sup>Department of Physics, Osaka University, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan<sup>b</sup>Institute for Theoretical Physics, Heidelberg University, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany<sup>c</sup>Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Stavanger, 4036 Stavanger, NorwayE-mail: [akamatsu@kern.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:akamatsu@kern.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp), [yuki@phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:yuki@phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp), [kajimoto@kern.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:kajimoto@kern.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp), [rothkopf@thphys.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:rothkopf@thphys.uni-heidelberg.de)

Step by step towards understanding heavy quarkonium in HICs

# One more thing: Supercomputing

- Task at hand: need to solve the Quantum Field Theory “QCD”

$$G(x) = \int \mathcal{D}U \mathcal{D}[\bar{\psi}, \psi] (\bar{\psi}(y) \gamma_{\mu} \psi(y)) (\bar{\psi}(y+x) \gamma_{\mu} \psi(y+x))^{\dagger} \times \exp \left[ - \int d^4x \left\{ \bar{\psi}_i (\gamma_{\mu} D_{\mu} - m) \psi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^a F_a^{\mu\nu} \right\} \right]$$

25.000.000 dimensional integrals:  
needs high performance computing



NERSC – USA  
Edison



RIKEN – Japan K computer

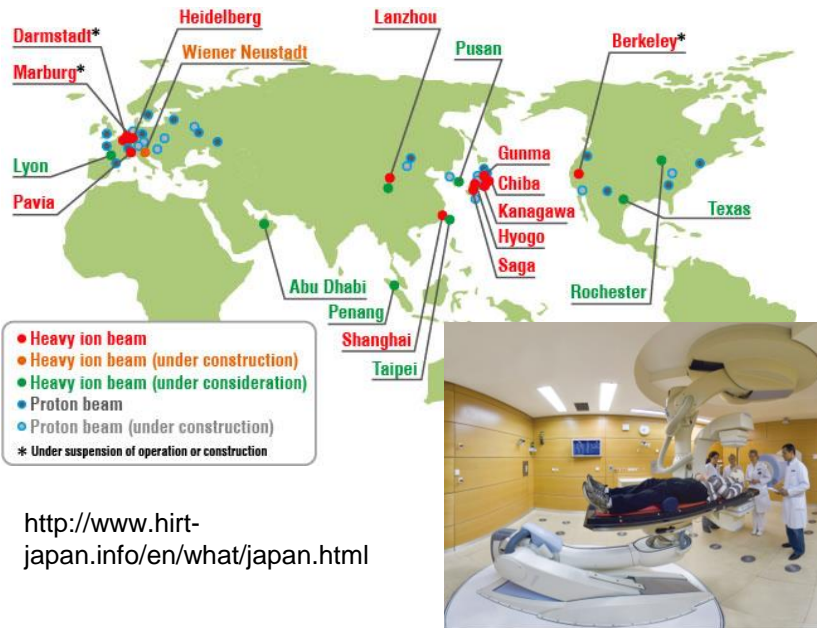


NOTUR – Norway  
Vilje

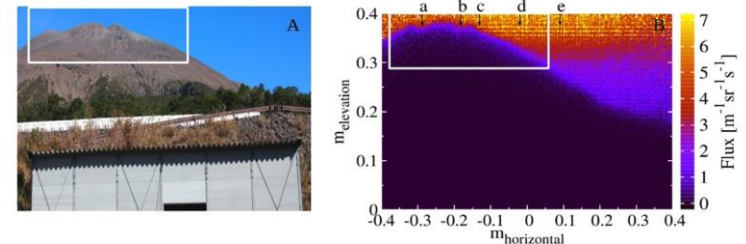
- Both Japan and Norway maintain supercomputing infrastructure in Top500

# Societal benefits and spin-offs

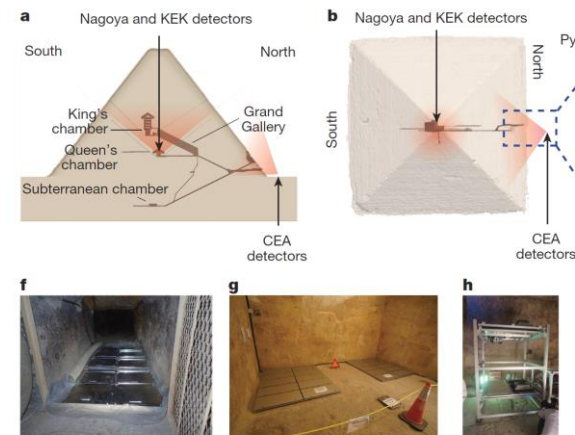
Recently: Bergen  
develops ion therapy center



Heavy-ion **radiation therapy** with  
much improved precision over protons



Volcano monitoring in Japan via muon tomography  
Scientific REPORTS | (2018) 8:3207



Reexamination of Egyptian Pyramids by a Japanese led team  
Nature, Vol 552, Dec. 2017

Novel **imaging techniques** with  
application to geology and archeology  
(national security, material testing...)

# Conclusion

- Particle accelerator experiments provide a window into the early universe
- Theorists deploy supercomputing to understand the phase structure of nuclear matter under extreme temperatures
- **Quarkonium** particles are a viable candidates for a HIC thermometer: strong and **ongoing collaboration** with Japanese colleagues.
- A central result of the past decade: protons and neutrons go over to a novel phase at  $T > 155 \text{ MeV}$

## The Quark-Gluon-Plasma

- The quest for nuclear matter in extreme conditions has led to relevant and beneficial spin-off technology: accelerators & detectors

**Takk for oppmerksomheten – ご清聴ありがとうございました**

# Backup slides



# MEXT PhD scholarship

- Complete academic freedom: tuition & cost of living paid
  - Free choice of supervisor / university (if competitively accepted)
  - No teaching duties, similar to JSPS D1-3 students
  - Covers the whole doctoral course if academic record excellent
- Japanese language training provided (for PhD Japanese not necessary)
- Alumni club for networking after end of studies



The **three years in Tokyo** were important to **jumpstarting my scientific career** and provide a **lifelong link to Japan** and its scientific community.