





# Blind analysis of isobar data for the CME search by the STAR collaboration

Prithwish Tribedy (Brookhaven National Laboratory)

21st ZIMÁNYI SCHOOL WINTER WORKSHOP, Dec 6-10, 2021, Budapest

December 6-10, 2021 **Budapest**, Hungary

#### **NYI SCHOOL 2021**

21st ZIMÁNYI SCHOOL WINTER WORKSHOP ON HEAVY ION PHYSICS





Based on: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.00131">https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.00131</a>

The person who originates a new idea is really not in a best position to follow it up. Because the person is so scared that something will turn up which will knock the whole idea on the head — Paul A.M. Dirac



### Isobar program at RHIC: journey since 2018



arXiv.org > nucl-ex > arXiv:2109.00131

Help | Ad

#### **Nuclear Experiment**

[Submitted on 1 Sep 2021]

#### Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Isobar Collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 200 GeV by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC

STAR Collaboration: M. S. Abdallah, B. E. Aboona, J. Adam, L. Adamczyk, J. R. Adams, J. K. Adkins, G. Agakishiev, I. Aggarwal, M. M. Aggarwal, Z. Ahammed, I. Alekseev, D. M. Anderson, A. Aparin, E. C. Aschenauer, I. Ashraf, F. G. Atetalla, A. Attri, G. S. Averichev, V. Bairathi, W. Baker, J. G. Ball Cap, K. Barish, A. Behera, R. Bellwied, P. Bhagat, A. Bhasin, J. Bielcik, J. Bielcikova, I. G. Bordyuzhin, J. D. Brandenburg, A. V. Brandin, I. Bun X. Z. Cai, H. Caines, M. Calderón de la Barca Sánchez, D. Cebra, I. Chakaberia, P. Chaloupka, B. K. Chan, F-H. Chang, Z. Chang, N. Chankova-Bunzarova, A. Chatterjee, S. Chattopadhyay, D. Chen, J. Chen, J. H. Chen, Chen, Z. Chen, J. Cheng, M. Chevalier, S. Choudhury, W. Christie, X. Chu, H. J. Crawford, M. Csanád, M. Daugherity, T. G. Dedovich, I. M. Deppner, A. A. Derevschikov, A. Dhamija, L. Di Carlo, L. Didenko, P. Dixit, X. D. L. Drachenberg, E. Duckworth, J. C. Dunlop, N. Elsey, J. Engelage, G. Eppley, S. Esumi, O. Evdokimov, A. Ewigleben, O. Eyser, R. Fatemi, F. M. Fawzi, S. Fazio, P. Federic, J. Fedorisin, C. J. Feng, Y. Feng, P. Filip, E. Fin Fisyak, A. Francisco, C. Fu, L. Fulek, C. A. Gagliardi, T. Galatyuk, F. Geurts, N. Ghimire, A. Gibson, K. Gopal, X. Gou, D. Grosnick, A. Gupta, W. Guryn, A. I. Hamad et al. (298 additional authors not shown)

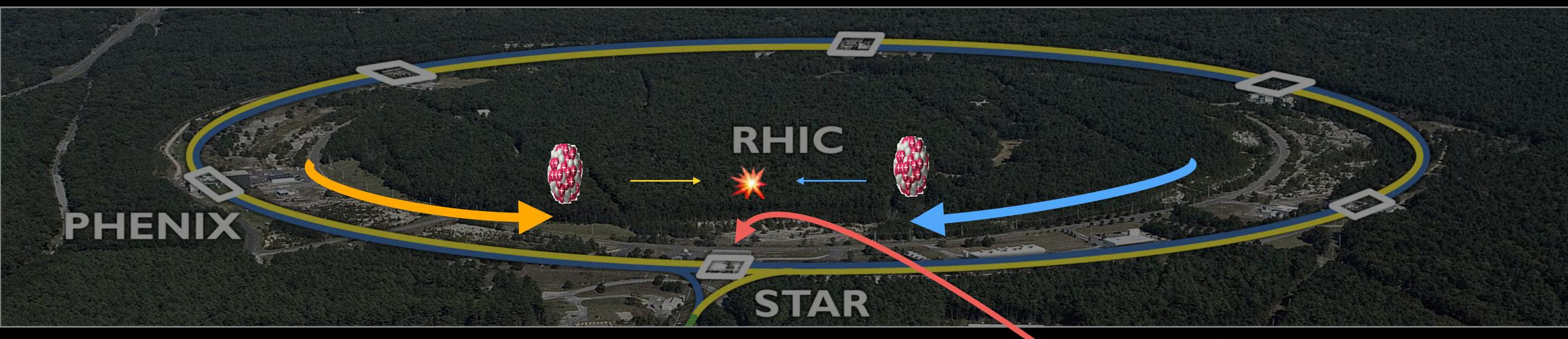
The chiral magnetic effect (CME) is predicted to occur as a consequence of a local violation of P and CP symmetries of the strong interaction amidst a strong electro-magnetic field generated in relativistic heavy-ion collisions. Experimental

manifestation of the CME involves a separation of positively and negatively charged hadrons along the direction of the magnetic field. Previous measurements of the CME-sensitive charge-separation observables remain inconclusive because of large data sample of approximately 3.8 billion isobar collisions of %Pun-%Pun and %Pun-%Pun and %Pun-%Pun and %Pun-%Pun and %Pun-%Pun and %Pun and %Pun

The versatility of RHIC and the unique capabilities of the STAR detector were crucial to the success of our program

#### Relativistic Colliders: Testing ground for QCD

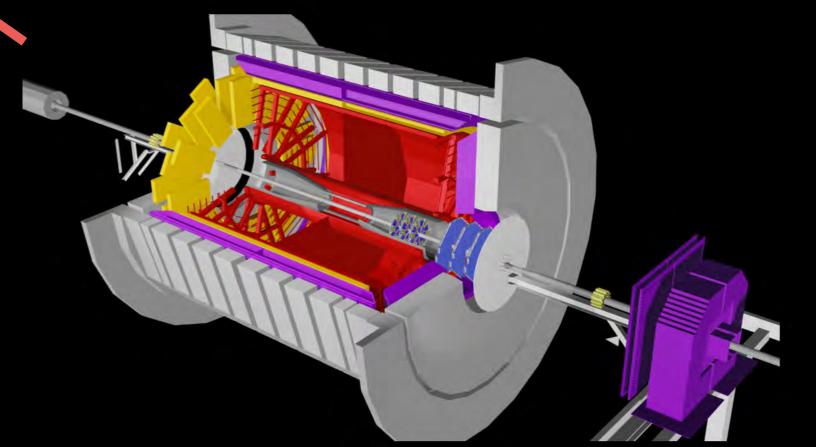




RHIC: know for species (U, Au, Ru, Zr, Cu, Al..) and energy (γ~100-3.85) maneuver capability

Study of QCD, the theory of strong interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \bar{\psi}_a \left( i(\gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu})_{ab} - \mathcal{M} \delta_{ab} \right) \psi_b - \frac{1}{4} G^c_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}_c$$



The collisions aim to produce a medium of de-confined gluons and nearly massless quarks (chiral symmetry restored)

Let's go through some basics of CME (I know you had other talks, but this is a school!!

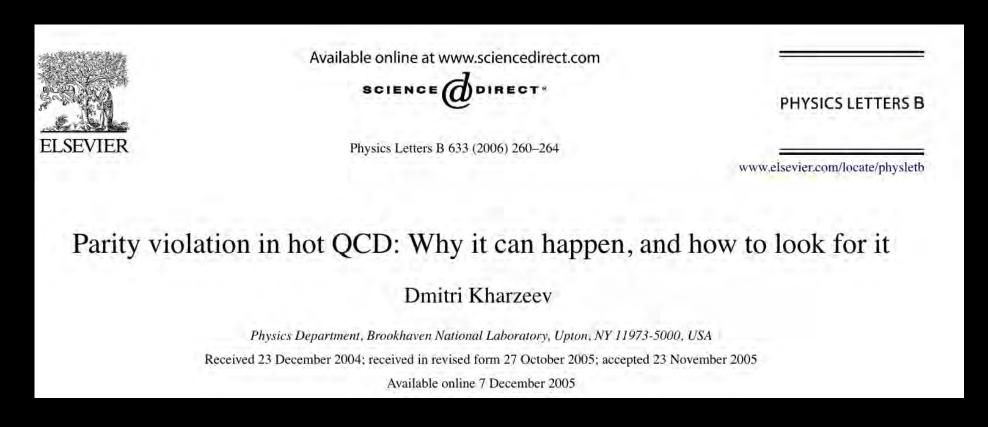
#### Three must read papers if you're interested in CME











PHYSICAL REVIEW C 70, 057901 (2004)

Parity violation in hot QCD: How to detect it

Sergei A. Voloshin

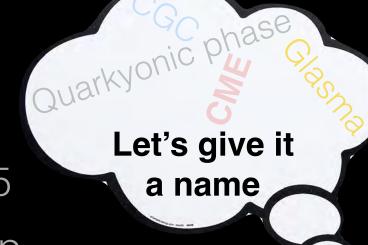
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201, USA

(Received 5 August 2004; published 11 November 2004)

Early theory paper

Kharzeev, hep-ph/0406125

Also see: Kharzeev et al, hep-ph/9906401, Kharzeev et al, hep-ph/9804221



First method paper

Voloshin. hep-ph/0406311

Also: Finch et al Phys.Rev.C 65 (2002) 014908

Selected for a Viewpoint in *Physics* PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending 18 DECEMBER 2009

8

**Azimuthal Charged-Particle Correlations and Possible Local Strong Parity Violation** 

(STAR Collaboration)

First experimental paper STAR collaboration, arXiv:0909.1739

PRL 103, 251601 (2009)

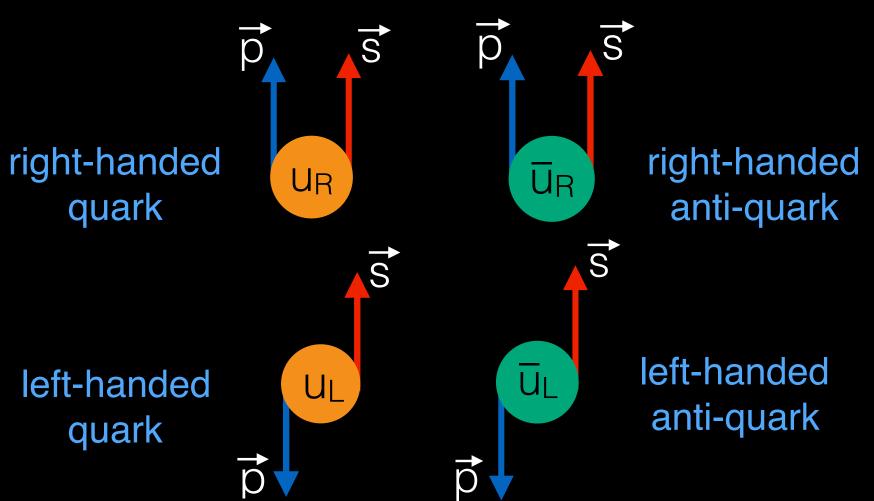
#### There are three key players in the game

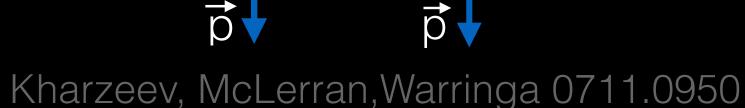


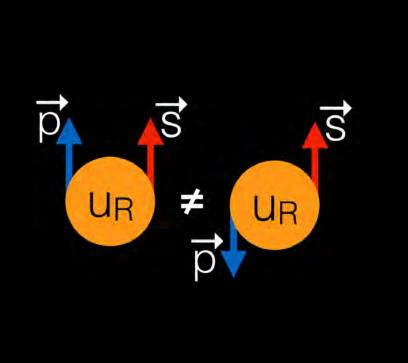


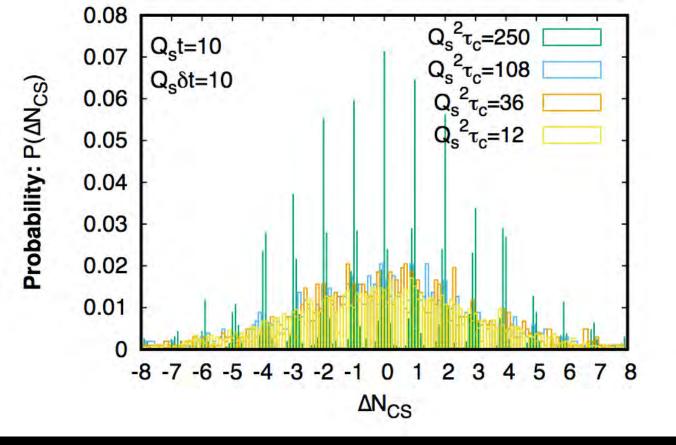


Mechanism to create imbalance of left & right handed quarks

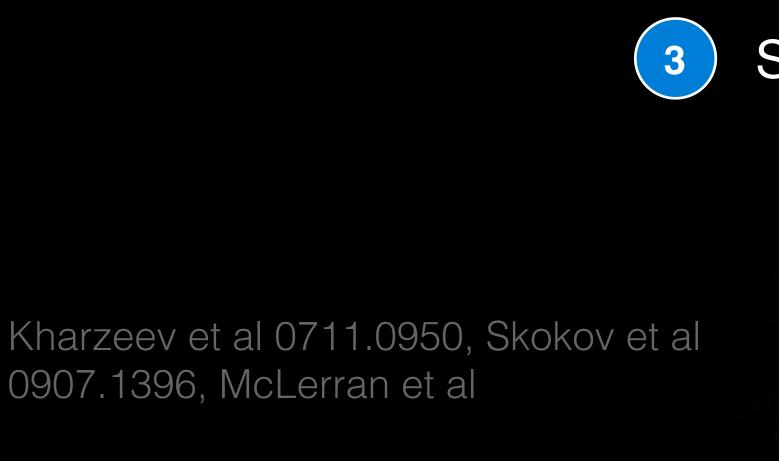


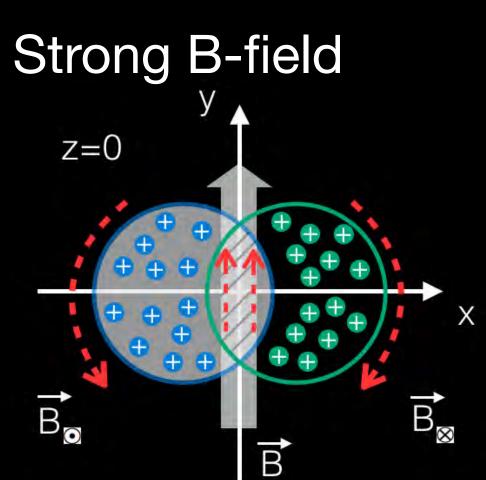


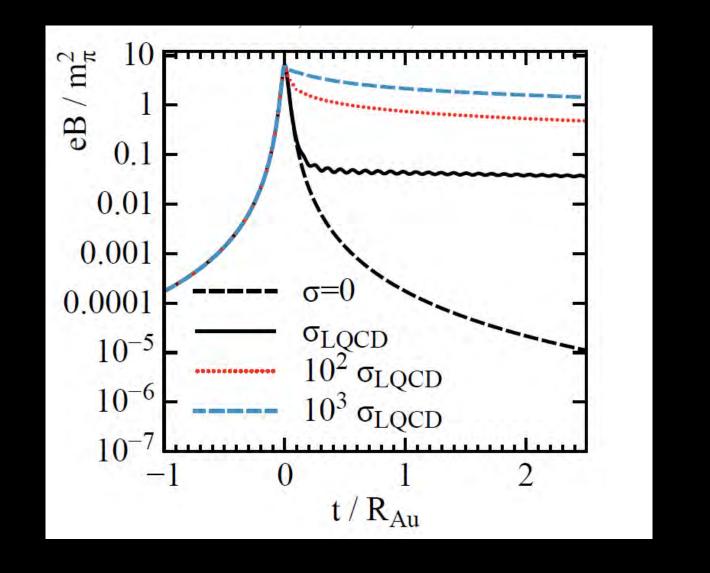




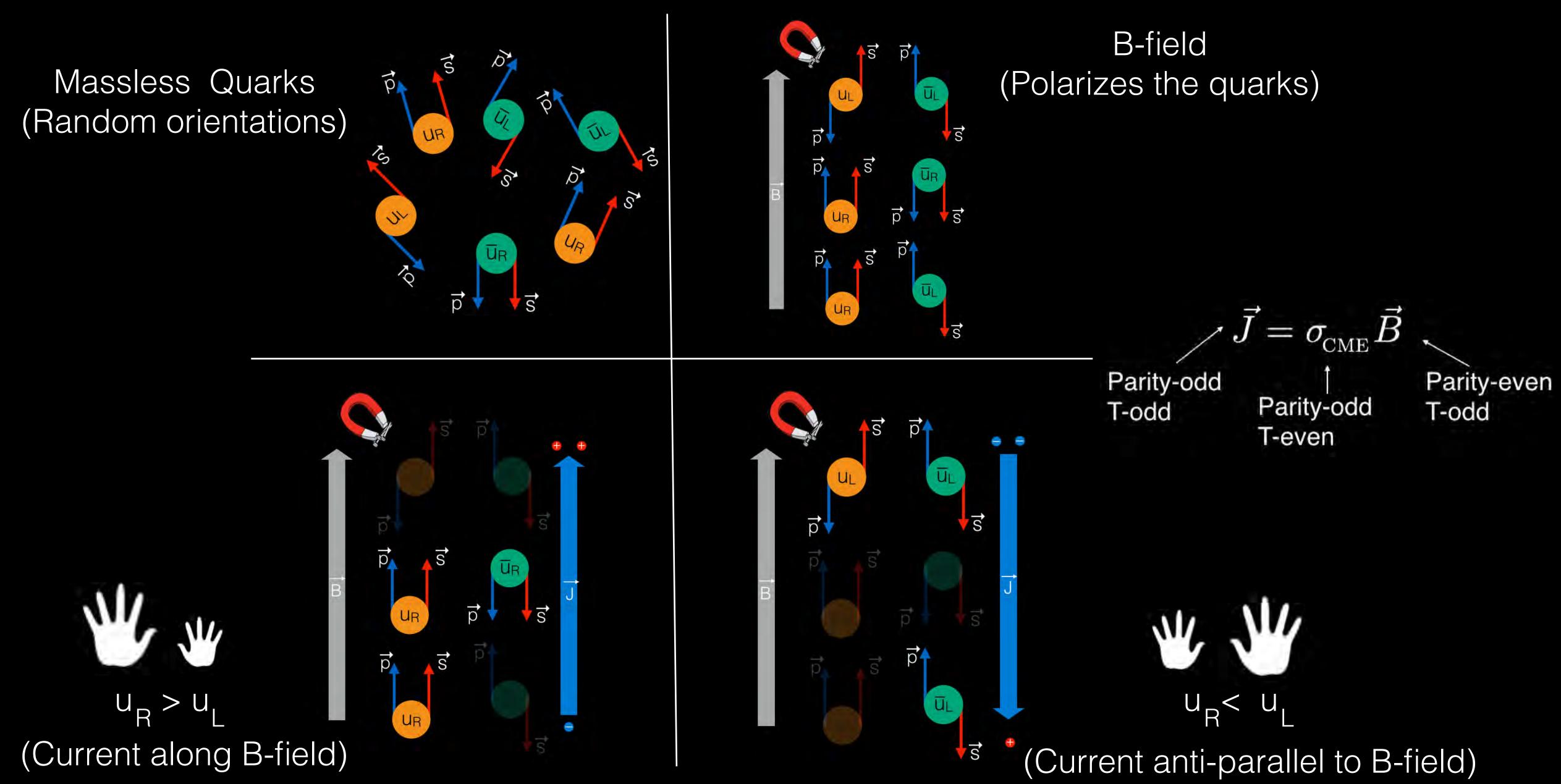
Kharzeev et al, hep-ph/0109253, Mace et al, 1601.07342 Muller et. al.1606.00342, Lappi et al,



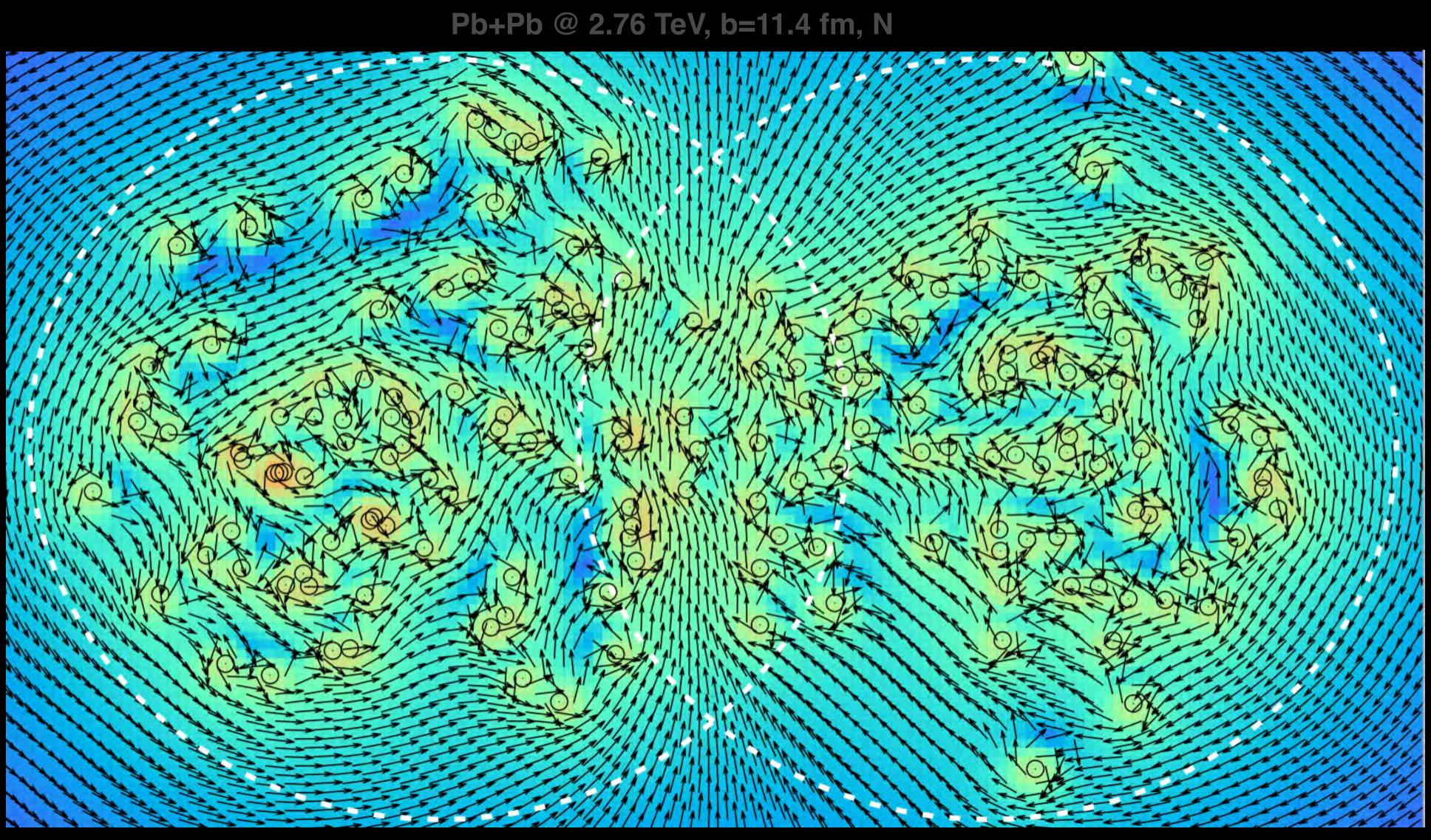




### Cartoon picture of CME in four steps



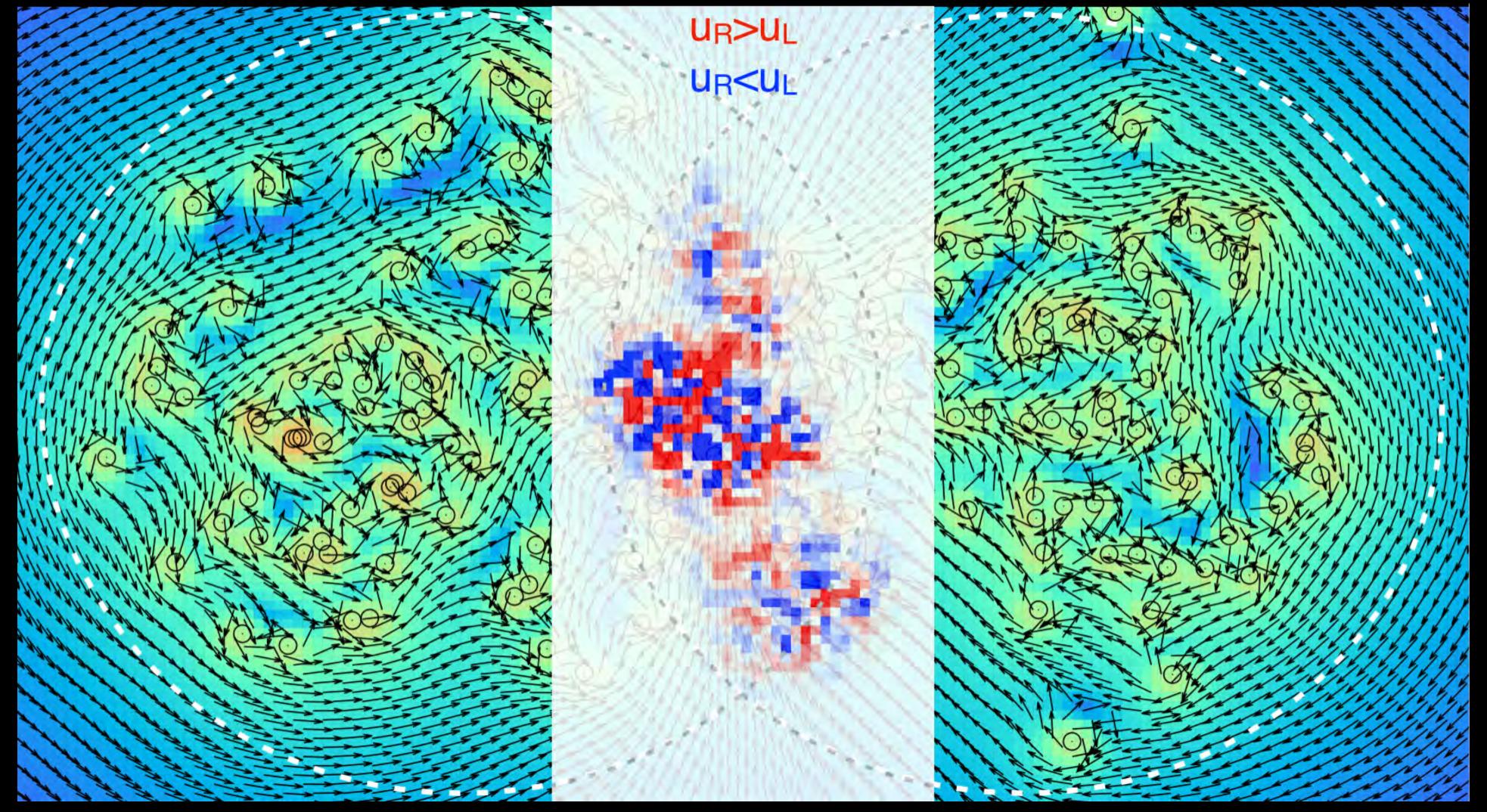
## Beyond the cartoon picture: B-field profile in typical collisions



Based on: Chatterjee, PT, PRC (R)

## Beyond the cartoon picture: Axial charge profile in typical collisions

Pb+Pb @ 2.76 TeV, b=11.4 fm, N



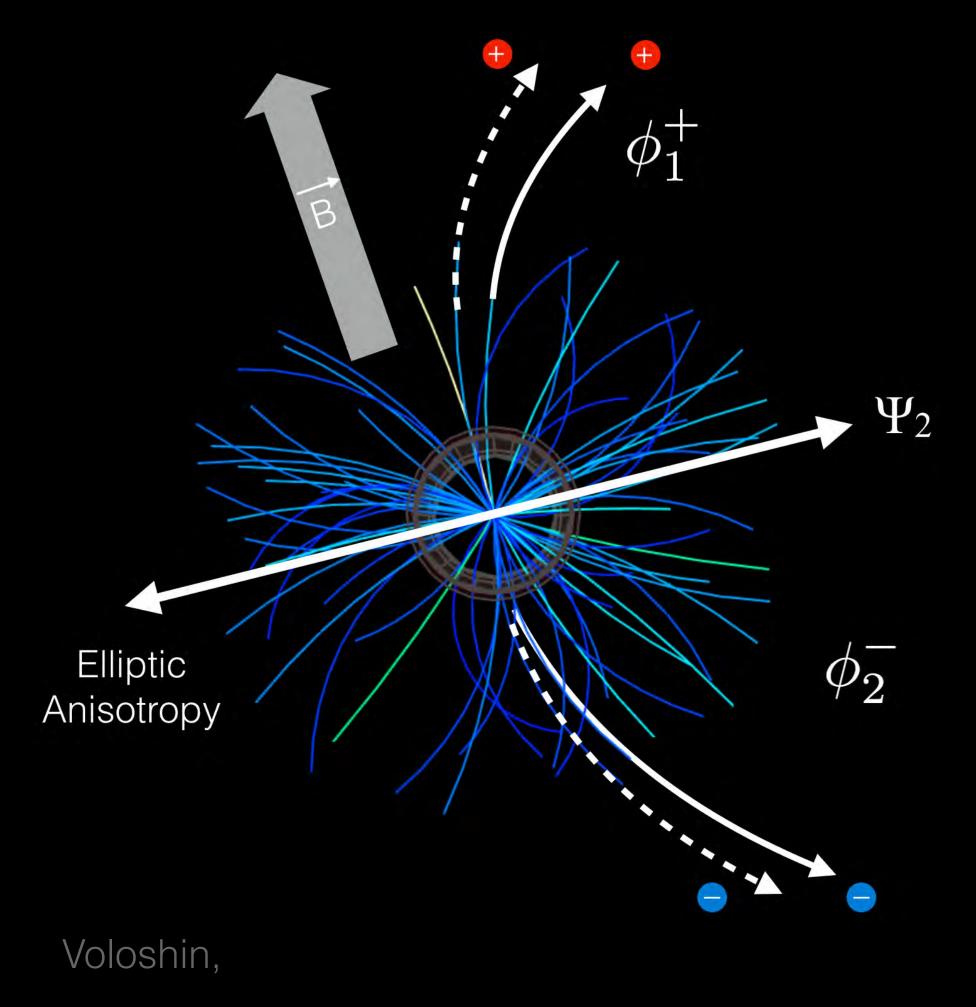
Based on: Lappi, Schlichting, PRD 97, 034034 (2018)



#### How to measure charge separation due to CME?



Measure charge separation across  $\Psi_2$  using the correlator:



$$\gamma^{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \cos(\phi_1^{\alpha} + \phi_2^{\beta} - 2\Psi_2) \rangle$$

CME case : 
$$\gamma^{SS} \neq \gamma^{OS}$$
 
$$\gamma^{+-} = \cos(\pi/2 - \pi/2 + 0) = 1$$
 
$$\gamma^{++,--} = \cos(\pi/2 + \pi/2 + 0) = -1$$

Quantity of interest:

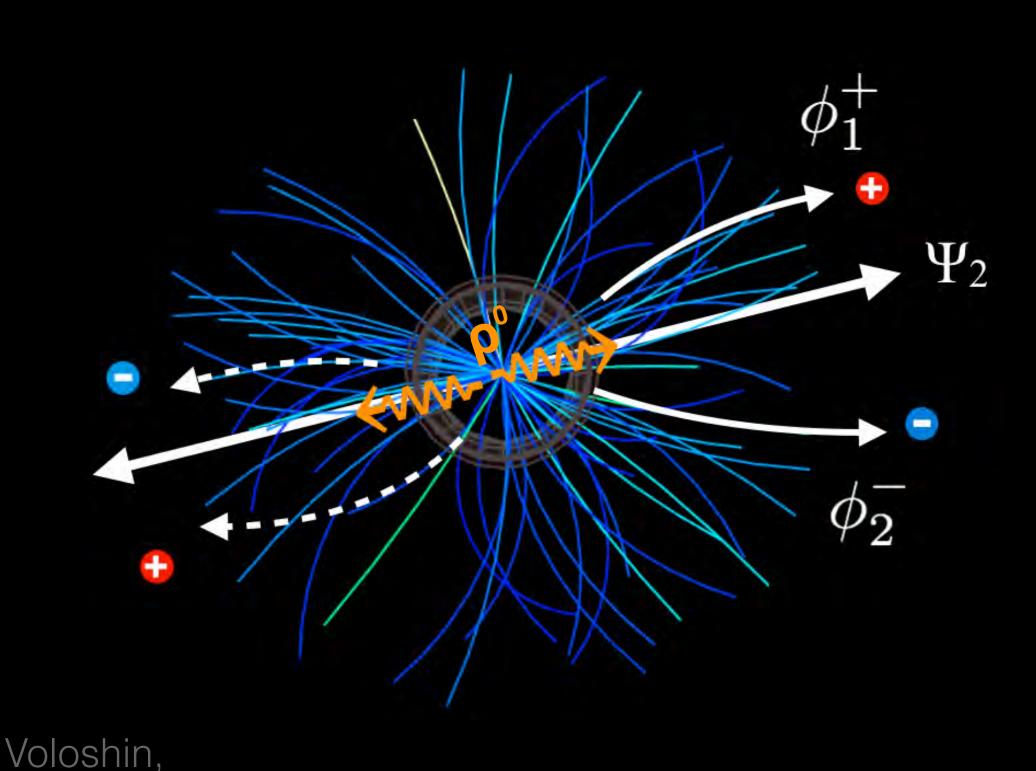
$$\Rightarrow \Delta \gamma^{^{CME}} = \gamma^{^{OS}} - \gamma^{^{SS}} > 0$$

CME causes difference in opposite-sign & same-sign correlation

#### Major source of background: decay of neutral clusters



Measure charge separation across  $\Psi_2$  using the correlator:



$$\gamma^{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \cos(\phi_1^{\alpha} + \phi_2^{\beta} - 2\Psi_2) \rangle$$

Flowing resonance decay:  $\gamma^{ss} \neq \gamma^{os}$ 

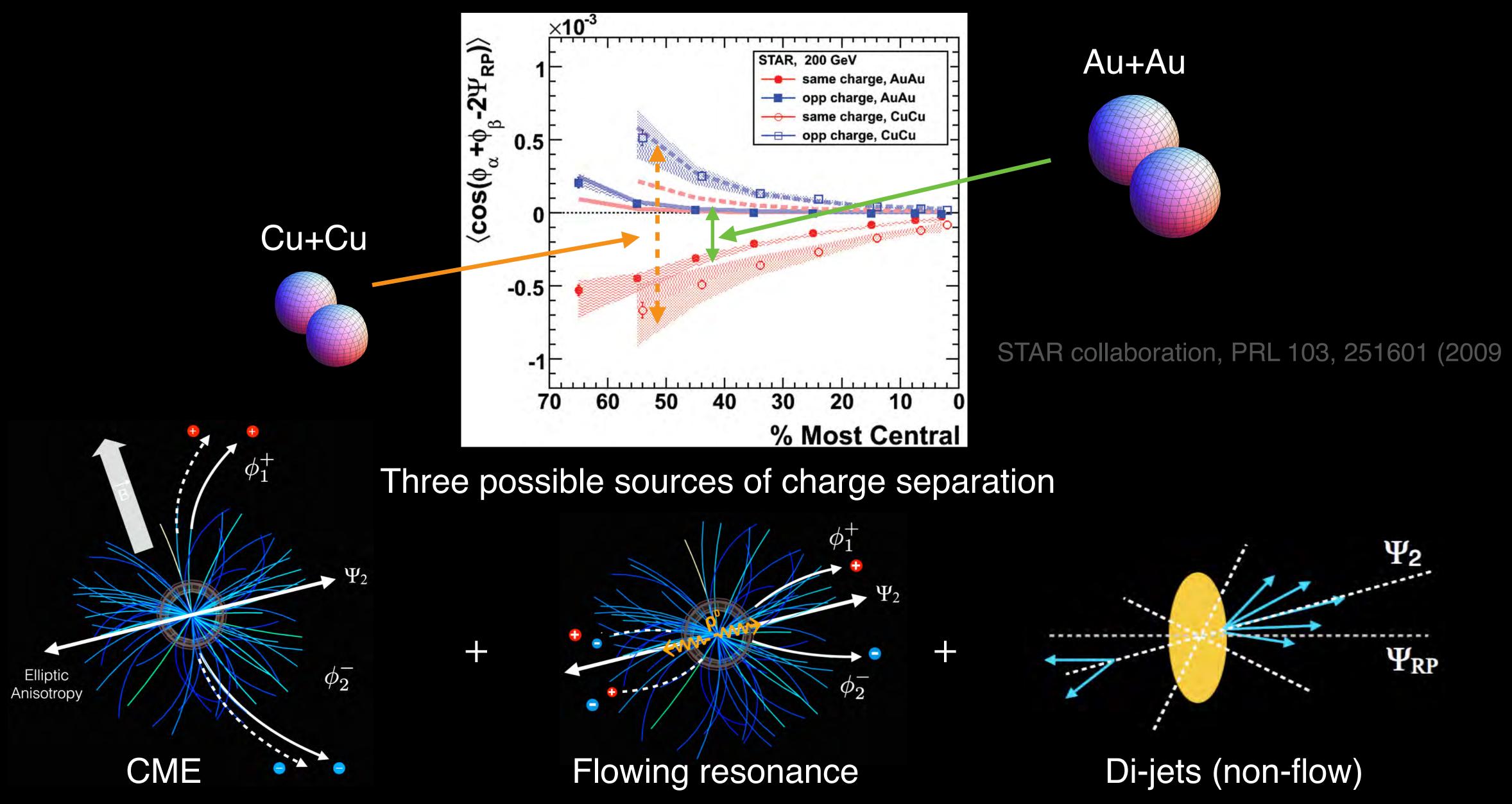
$$\gamma^{+-} = \cos(0 + 0 + 0) = 1$$
$$\gamma^{++,--} = \cos(0 + \pi + 0) = -1$$

Non-CME effect such as flowing resonance decay can lead to difference

$$\Rightarrow \Delta \gamma^{reso} = \gamma^{os} - \gamma^{ss} \propto \frac{v_2^{reso}}{N}$$

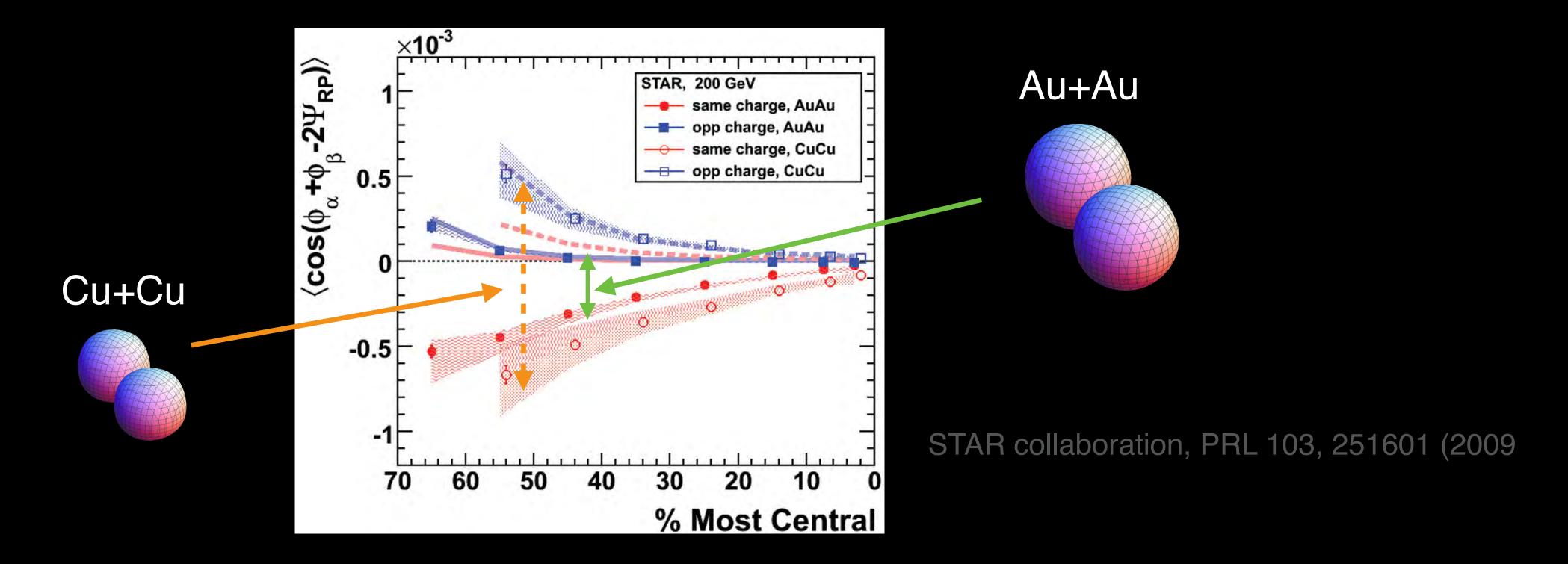
#### The first measurements at RHIC





#### The first measurements at RHIC



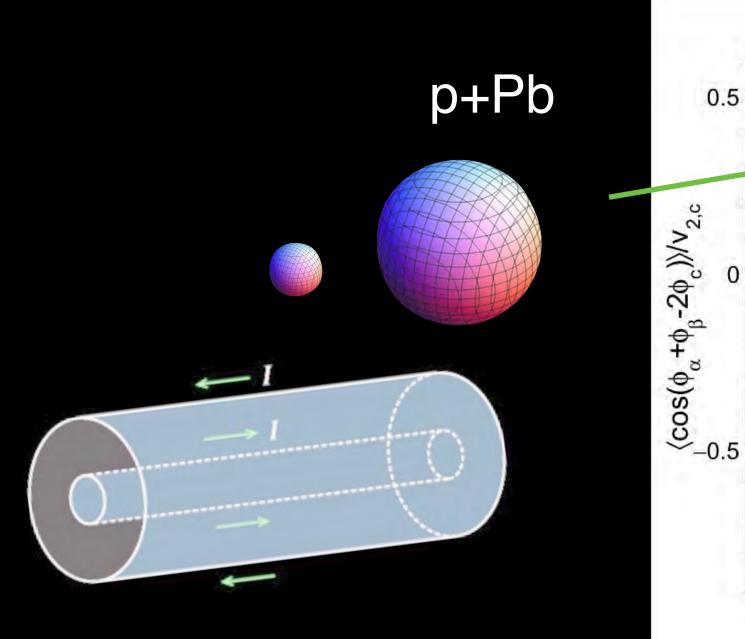


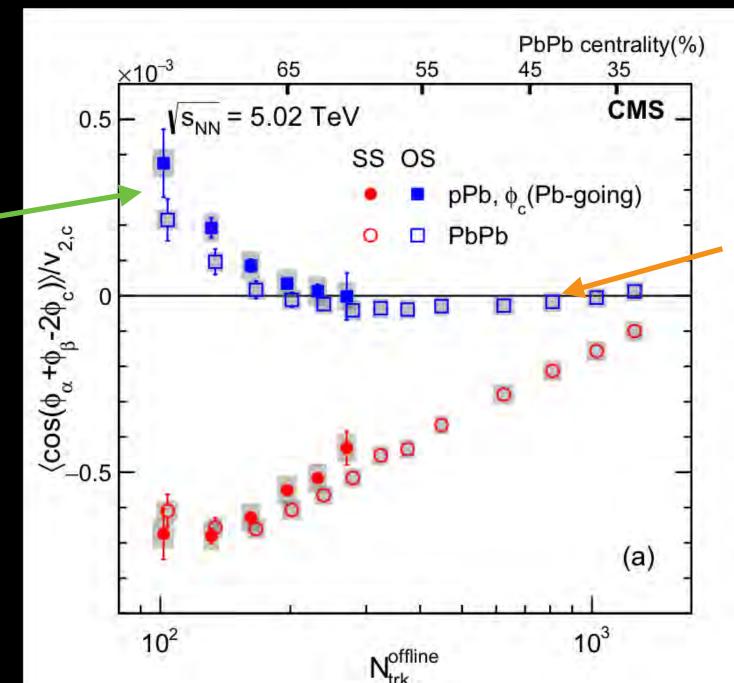
Significant charge separation observed, consistent with CME+ Background

$$\Delta\gamma = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + k \times \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$
 Measurement Signal Background-1 Background-2

#### CME search in small systems

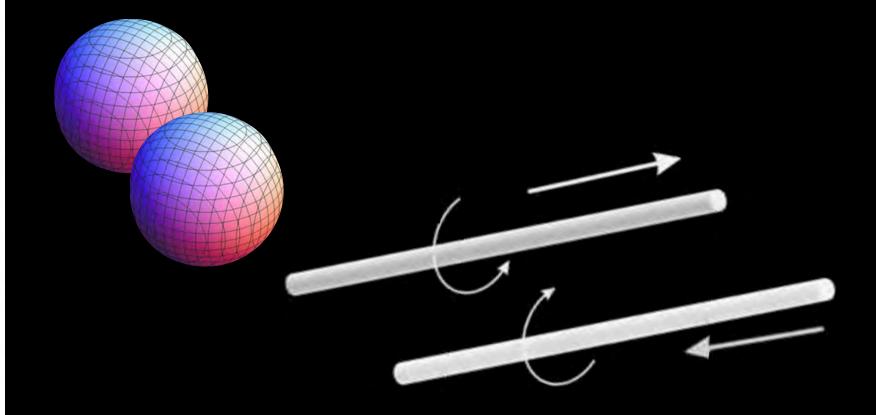






$$egin{aligned} \Delta \gamma \overset{\mathsf{A+A}}{=} \Delta \gamma^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N} + \Delta \gamma^{non-flow} \ \mathbb{H} & \mathbb{H} & \mathbb{H} \ \Delta \gamma \overset{\mathsf{p+A}}{=} \Delta \gamma^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N} + \Delta \gamma^{non-flow} \end{aligned}$$





CMS collaboration, Phys. Rev Lett, 118 (2017) 122301

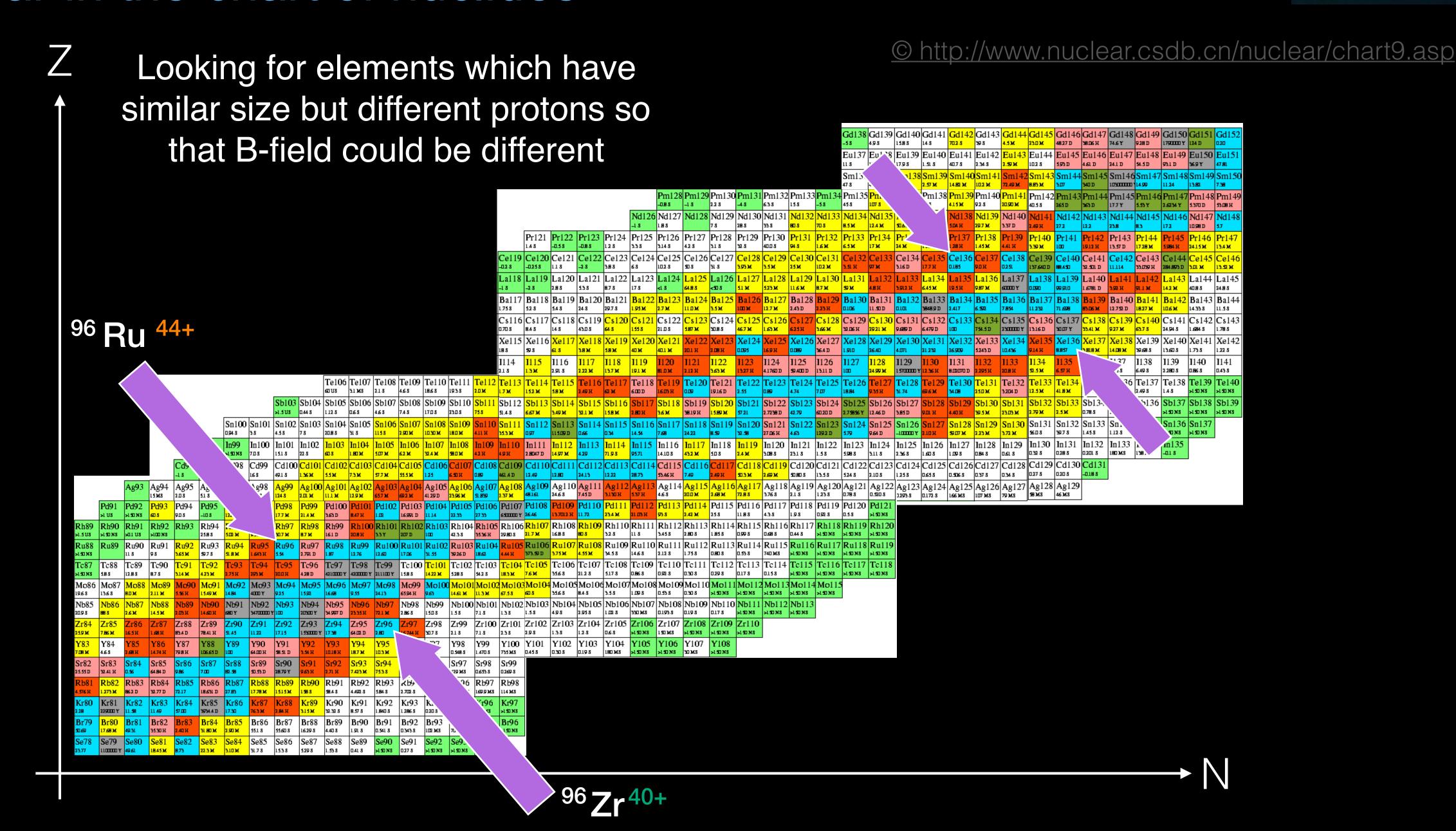
Flow and non-flow contributions are too different, less control and difficult to prove if

$$\Delta \gamma^{CME} = 0$$

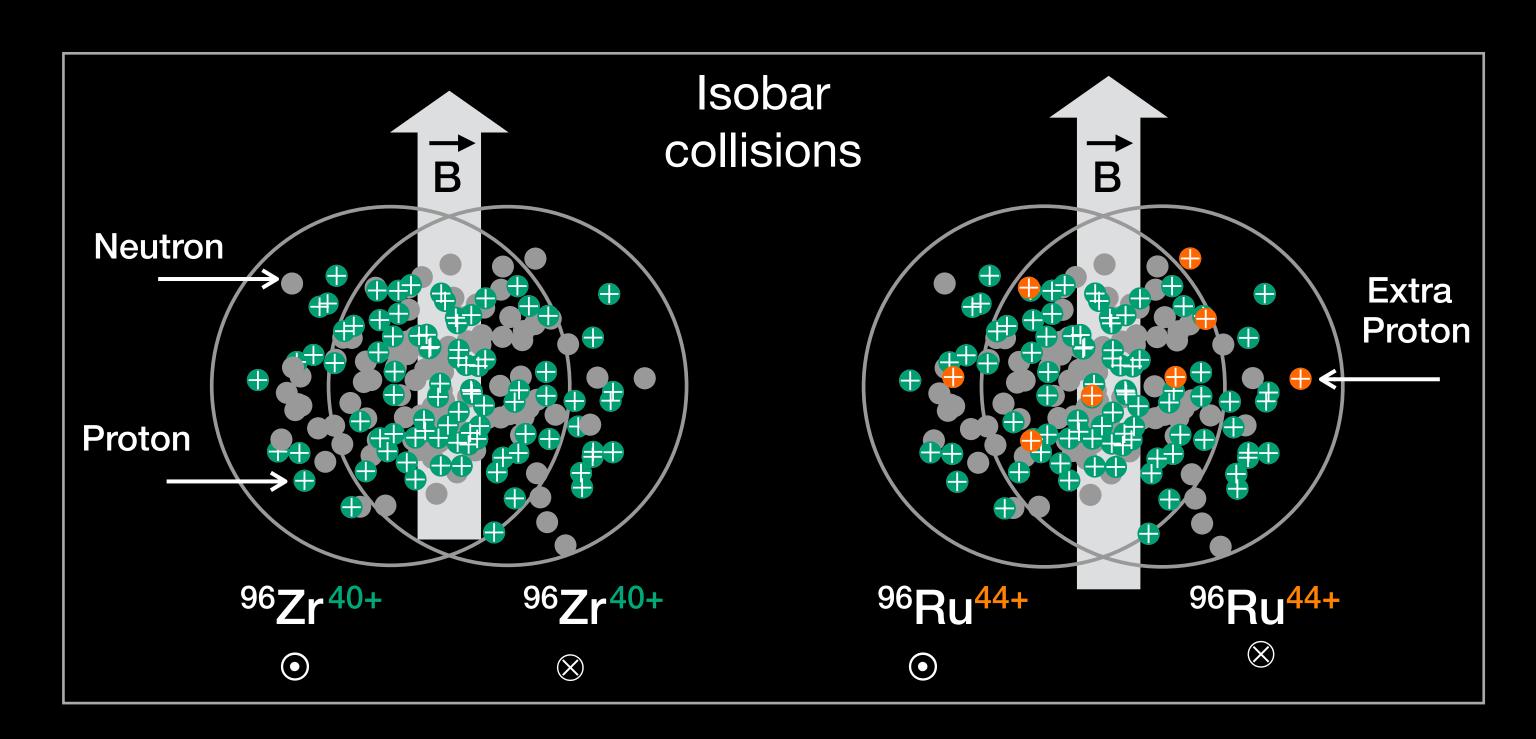
Two systems of very different sizes → limited control over background This naturally leads to the idea of using two systems of similar sizes

#### Isobar in the chart of nuclides









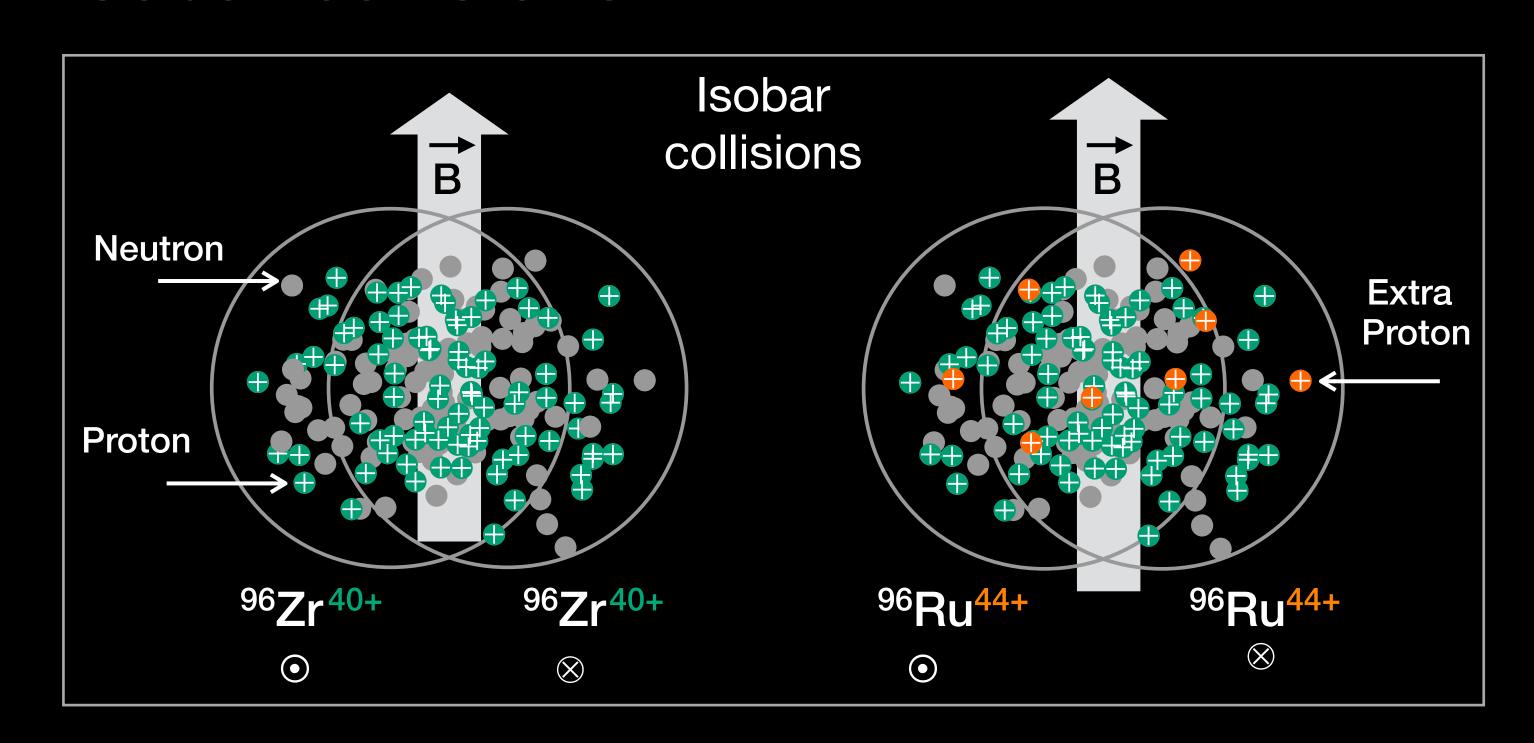
Voloshin,

B-field square is 10-18% larger in Ru+Ru

$$\begin{array}{lll} \Delta_{\gamma}^{\text{Ru+Ru}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k \times \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta_{\gamma}^{non-flow} \\ ?? & \Leftrightarrow & & \text{II} \\ \Delta_{\gamma}^{\text{Zr+Zr}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k \times \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta_{\gamma}^{non-flow} \end{array}$$

Isobar collisions provide the best possible control of signal and background compared to all previous experiments





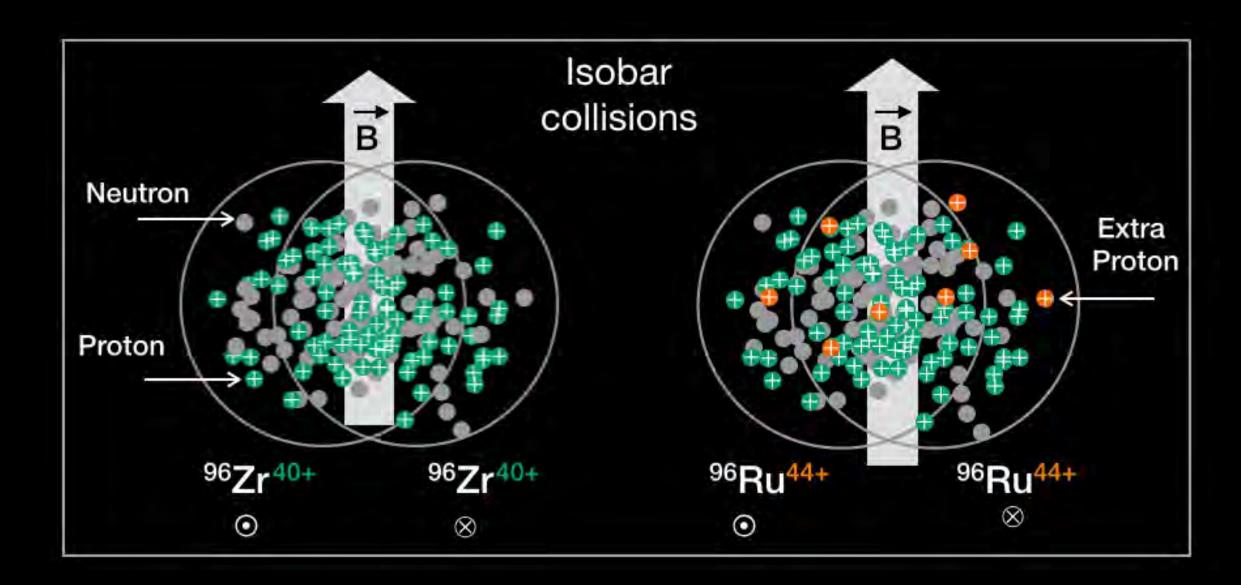
Voloshin,

B-field square is 10-18% larger in Ru+Ru

$$\Delta_{\gamma}^{\mathsf{Ru+Ru}} = \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N}$$
??  $+ k imes N$   $\wedge \gamma = \Delta_{\gamma}^{\mathsf{Zr+Zr}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N}$ 

Isobar collisions provide the best possible control of signal and background compared to all previous experiments





$$\Delta_{\gamma}^{\mathrm{Ru+Ru}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N}$$
 ??  $+ k imes rac{v_2}{N}$   $\Delta_{\gamma}^{\mathrm{Zr+Zr}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k imes rac{v_2}{N}$ 

If multiplicity (N) is same in two isobars:

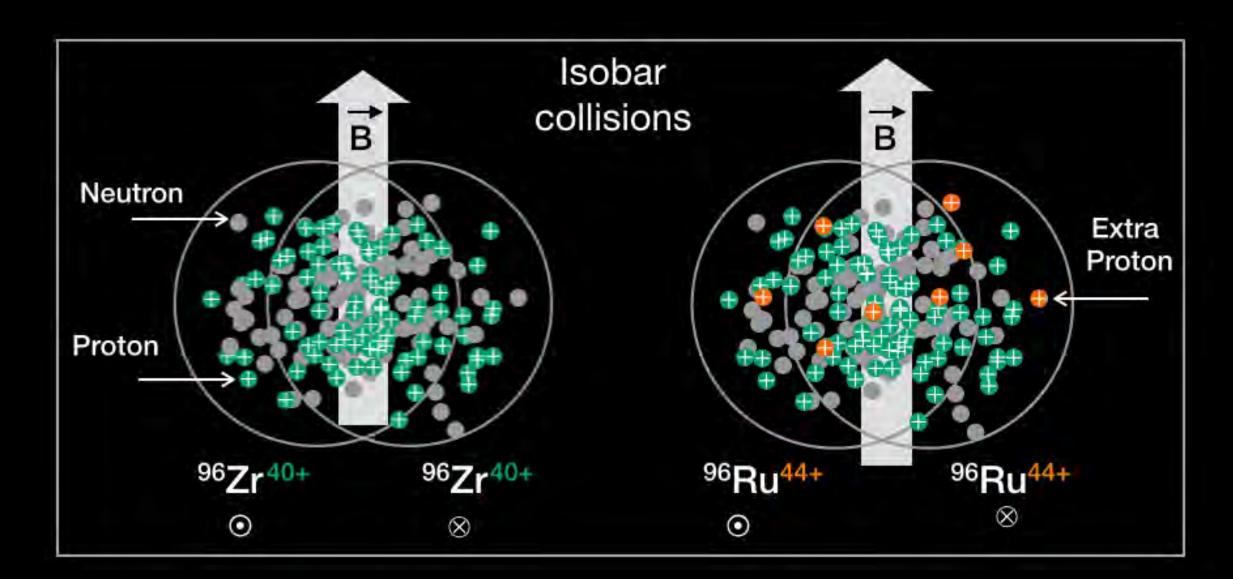
$$\frac{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Ru+Ru}}{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Zr+Zr}} \approx 1 + f_{\rm CME}^{\rm Zr+Zr}[(B_{\rm Ru+Ru}/B_{\rm Zr+Zr})^2 - 1] > 1 \; ({\rm for \, CME})$$
 Unknown 0.18

Voloshin,

B-field square is 10-18% larger in Ru+Ru

Isobar collisions provide the best possible control of signal and background compared to all previous experiments





$$\frac{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Ru+Ru}}{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Zr+Zr}} \approx 1 + f_{\rm \tiny CME}^{\rm Zr+Zr}[(B_{\rm Ru+Ru}/B_{\rm Zr+Zr})^2 - 1]$$
Unknown
$$0.18$$

$$> 1 \; ({\rm for} \, {\rm CME})$$

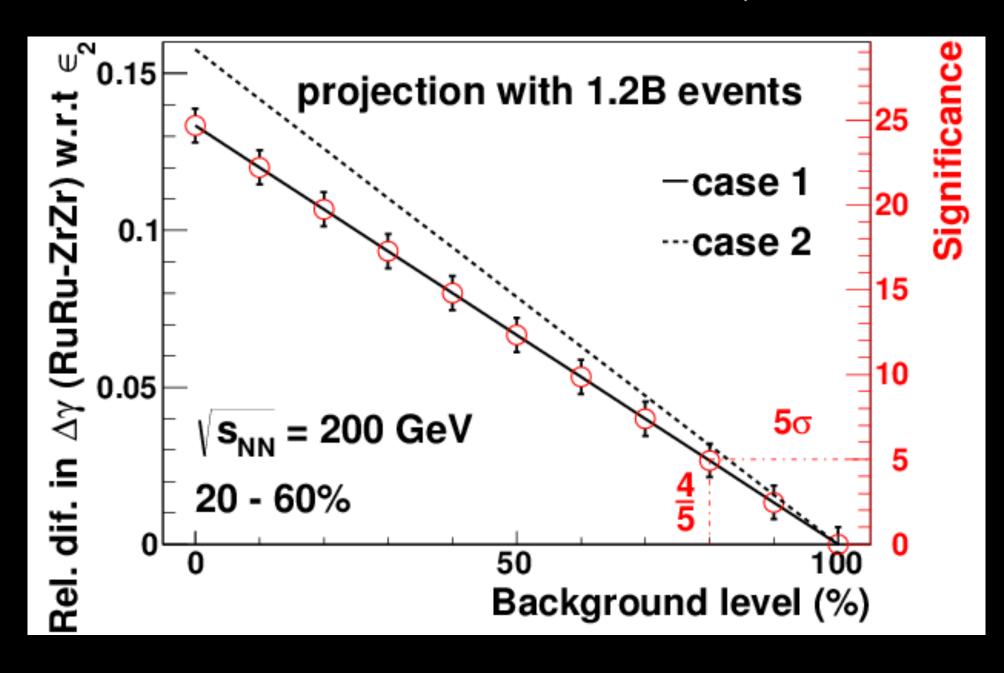
1.2 B collision events for each species can give  $5\sigma$  significance for 20% signal level ( $f_{CME} \sim 0.2$ )

(A precision of 0.5% is needed !!)

Voloshin,

# B-field square is 10-18% larger in Ru+Ru

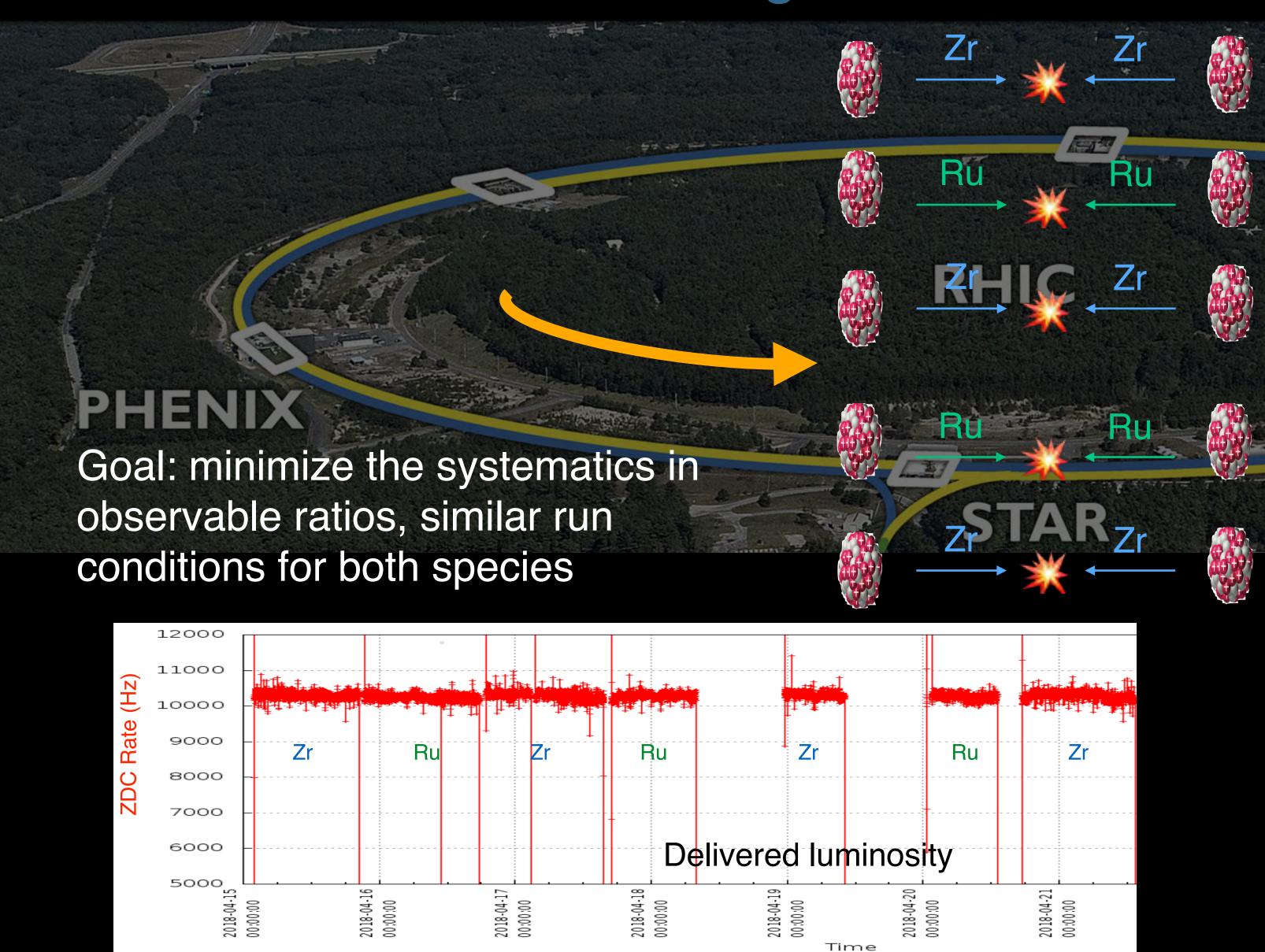
https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/system/files/ STAR BUR Run1718 v22 0.pdf



$$(1 - f_{\text{CME}}) \times 100\%$$

### Details Of The Data Taking Of The Isobar Run

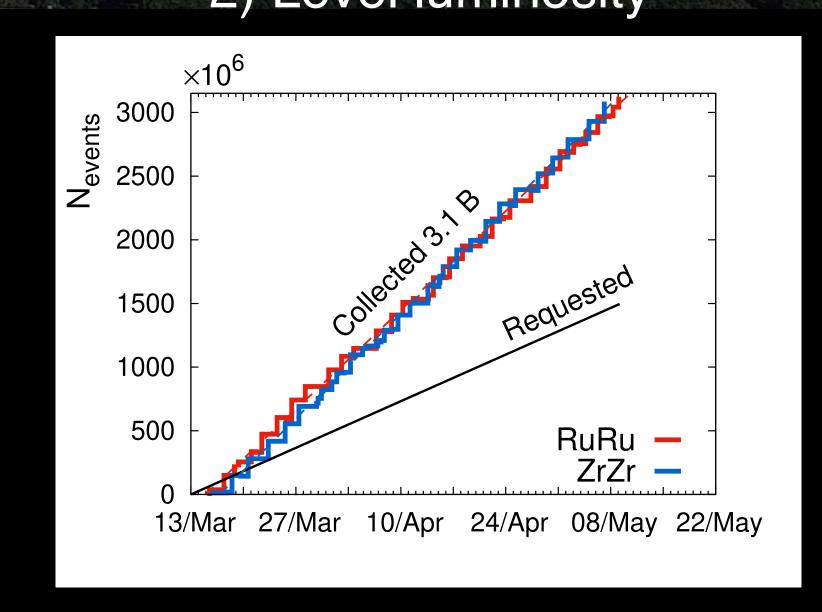




Accelerator Conference (2019) pp. 28–32.

G. Marr et al., in 10th International Particle

Two important steps:
1) Fill-by-fill switching
2) Level luminosity



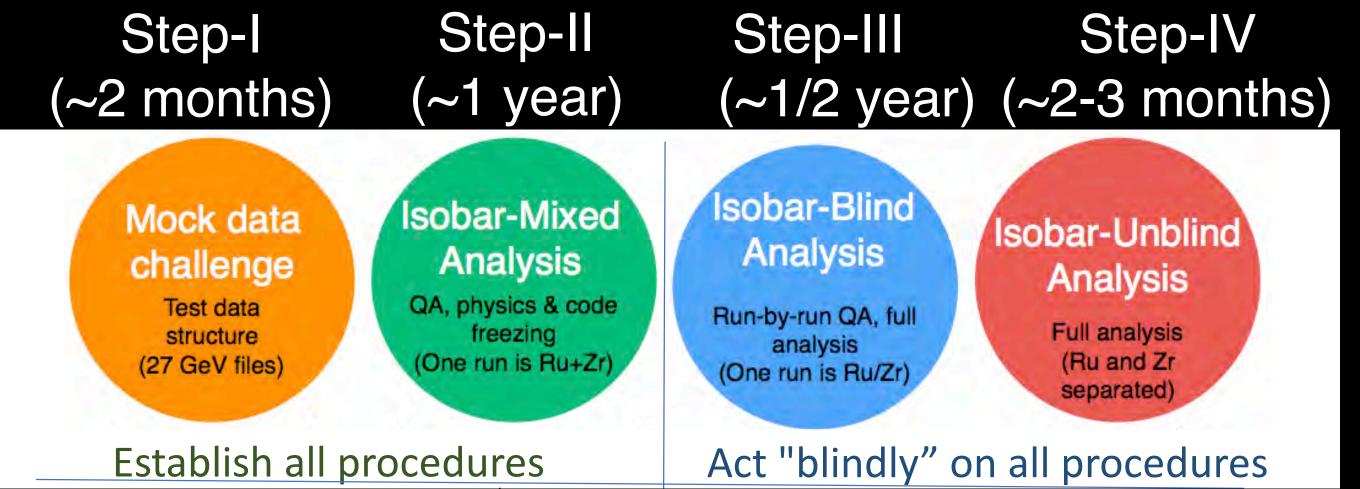


## Blind analysis of the isobar data



#### Steps of Isobar blind analysis



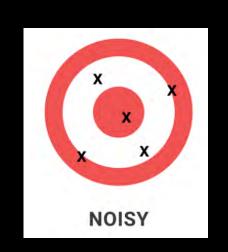


STAR Collaboration Nucl.Sci.Tech. 32 (2021) 5, 48 arXiv:1911.00596 [nucl-ex]

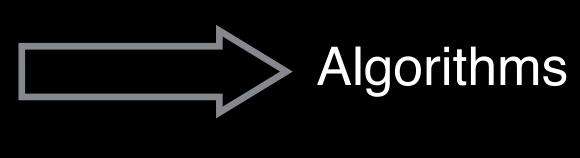
- NPP PAC recommended a blind analysis of isobar data Blinding
- No access to species-specific information before last step
- Everything documented (not written → not allowed)
- Case for CME & interpretation must be pre-defined

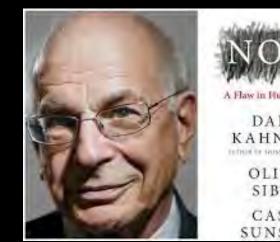
Quality assurance is done by pattern recognition algorithms to remove bias & noise





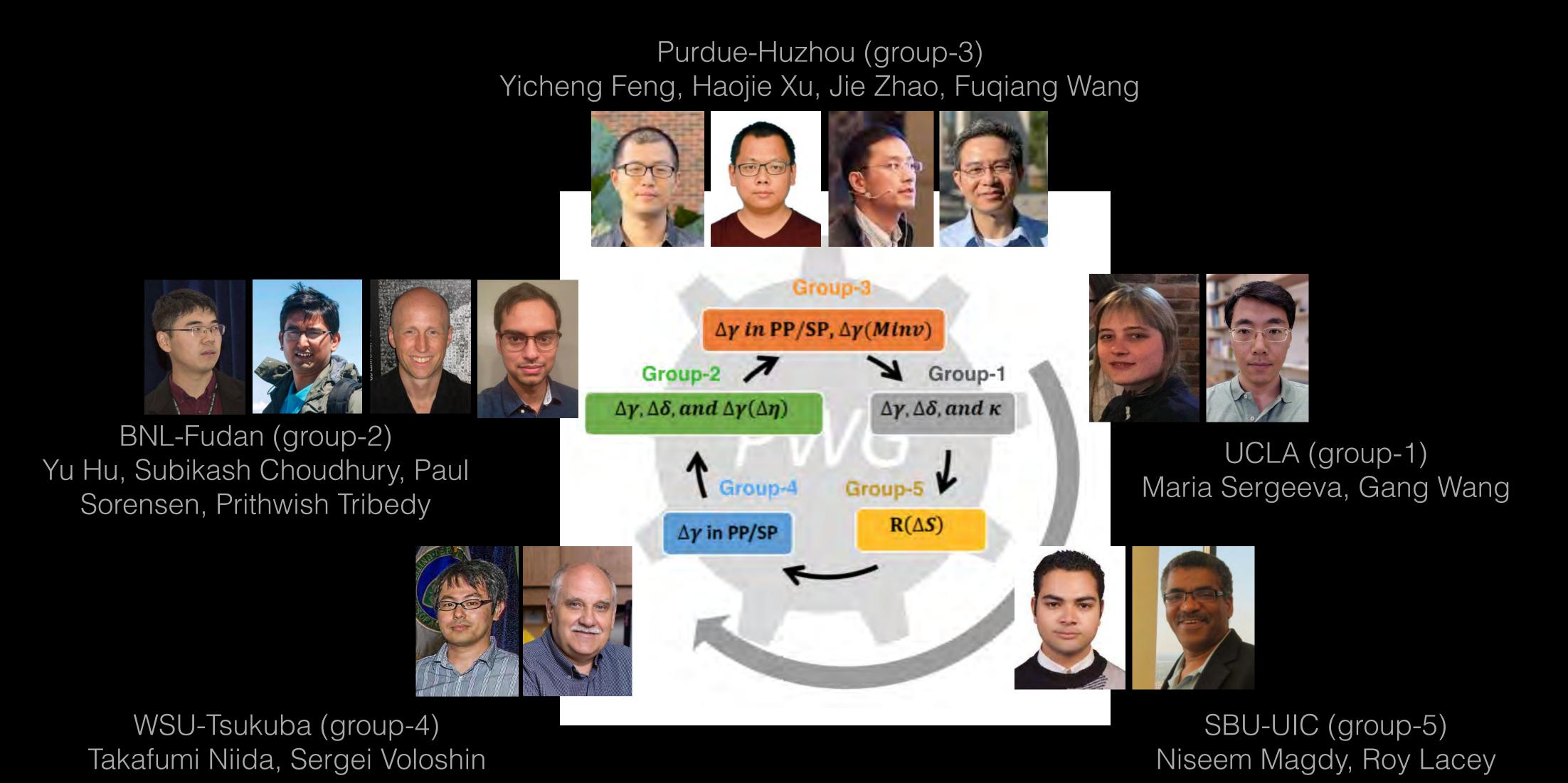






### Five independent groups did isobar blind analysis

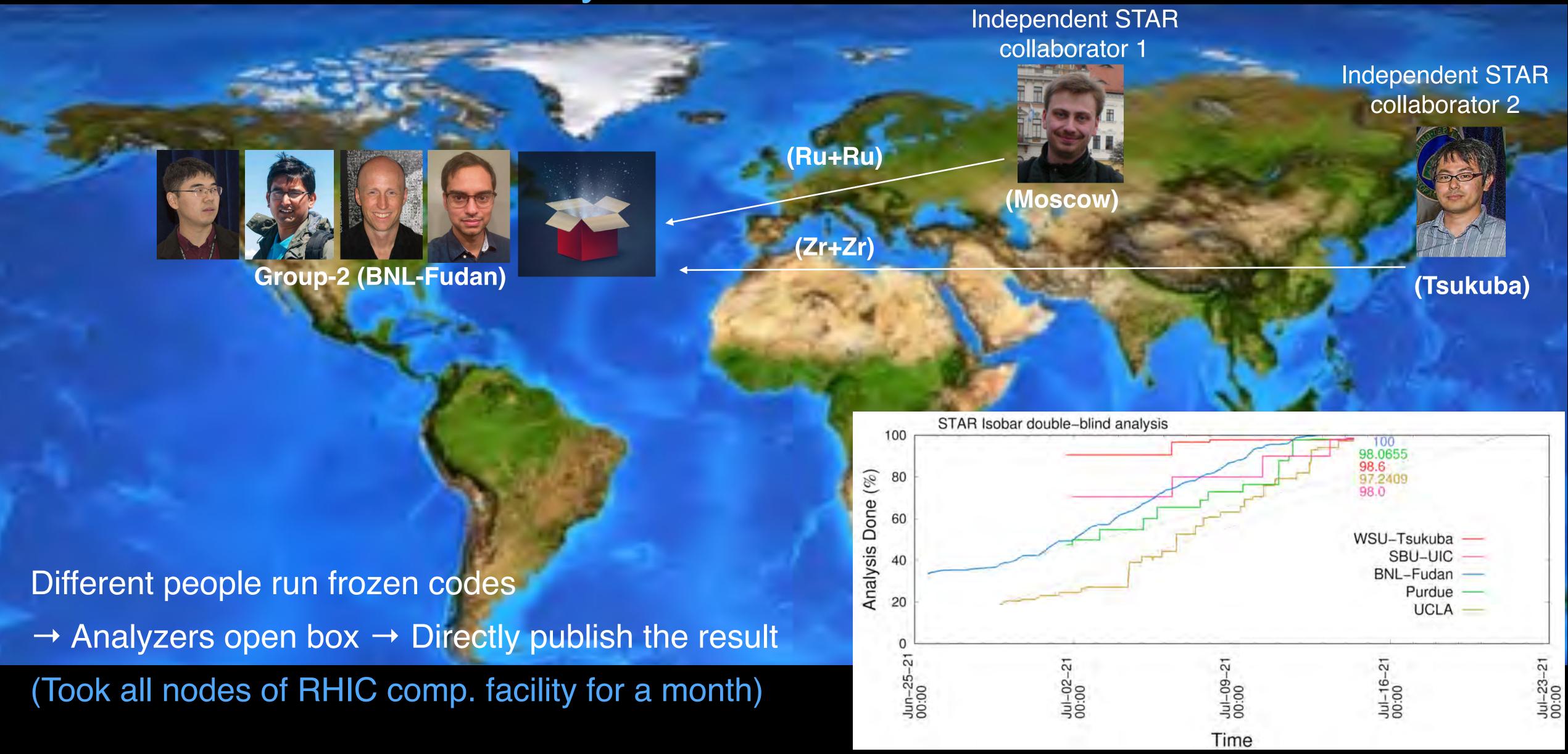




Five independent groups will perform analysis, all codes must be frozen and run by another person, results have to directly sent for publication

#### How the isobar blind analysis was done

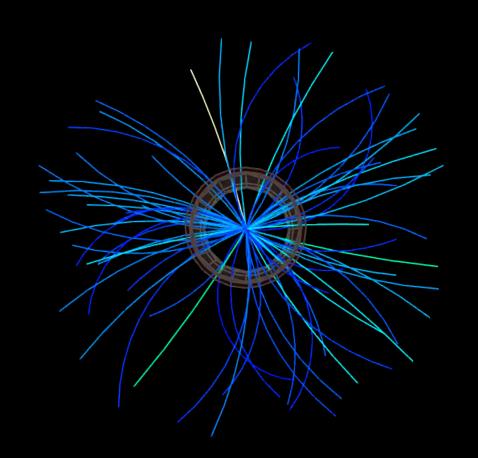


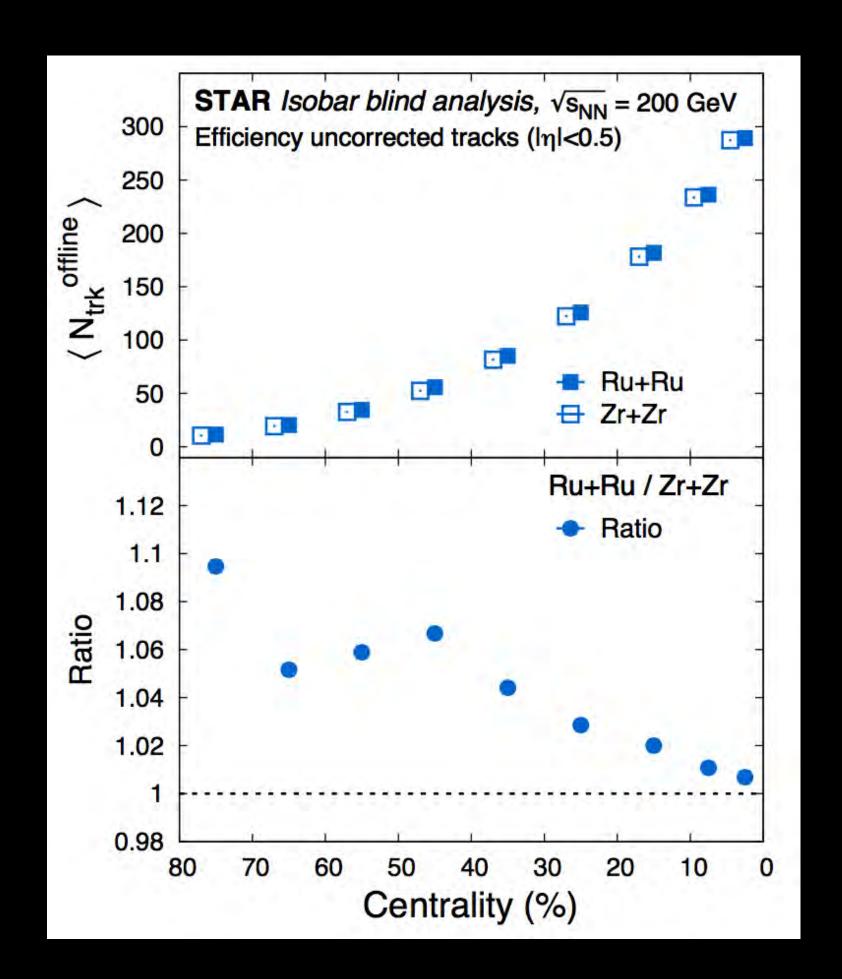


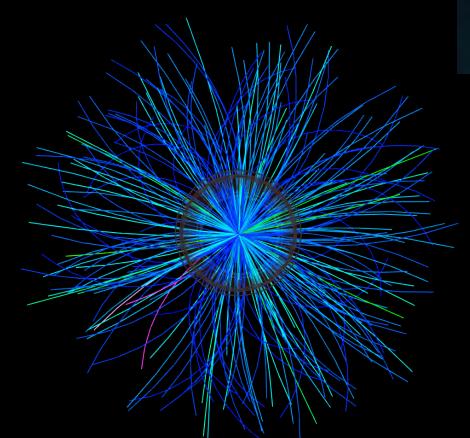


#### Multiplicity difference between the isobars







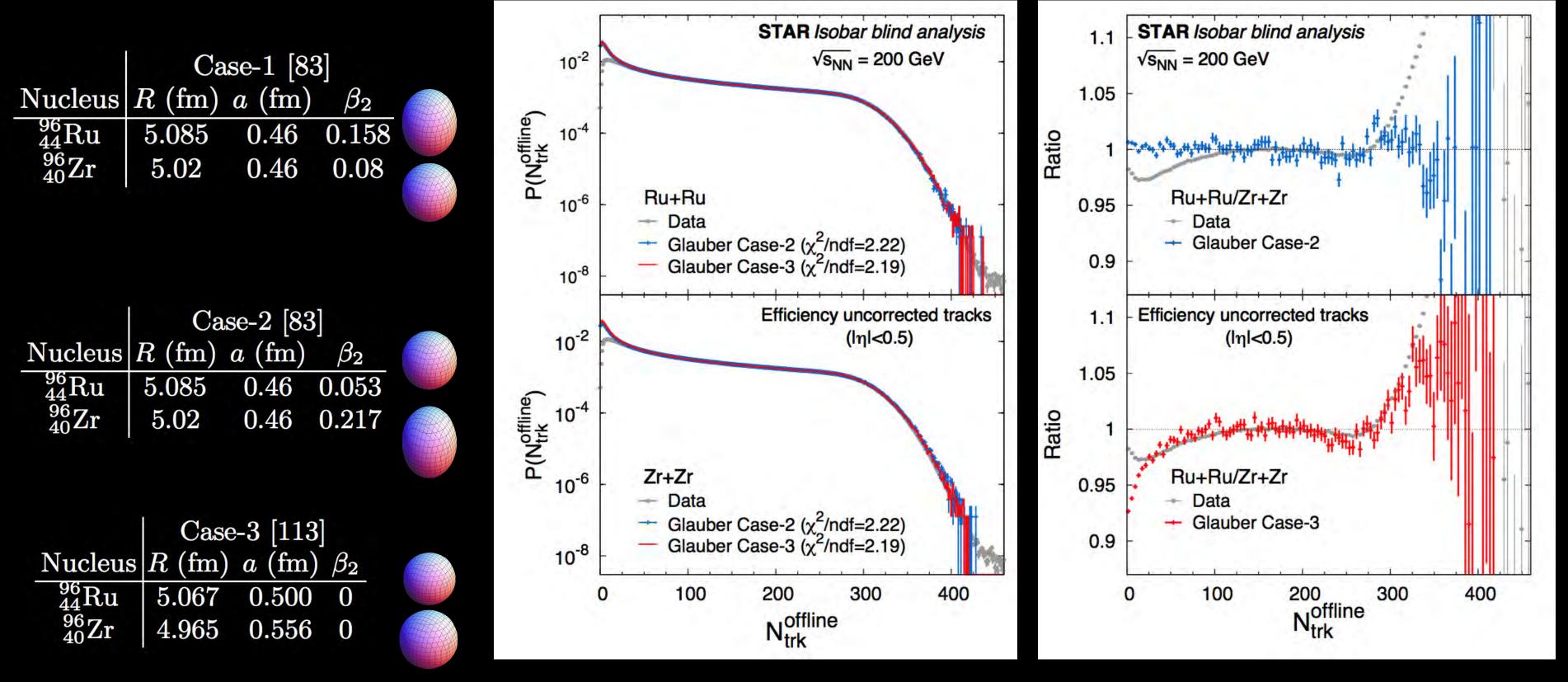


Mean efficiency uncorrected multiplicity density is larger in Ru than in Zr in a matching centrality, this can affects signal and background difference between isobars

Quite unexpected result!!

#### What is the size/shape of the isobar nuclei?

Blind analysis: we decided to compare observables at same centralities between isobars



See references in:

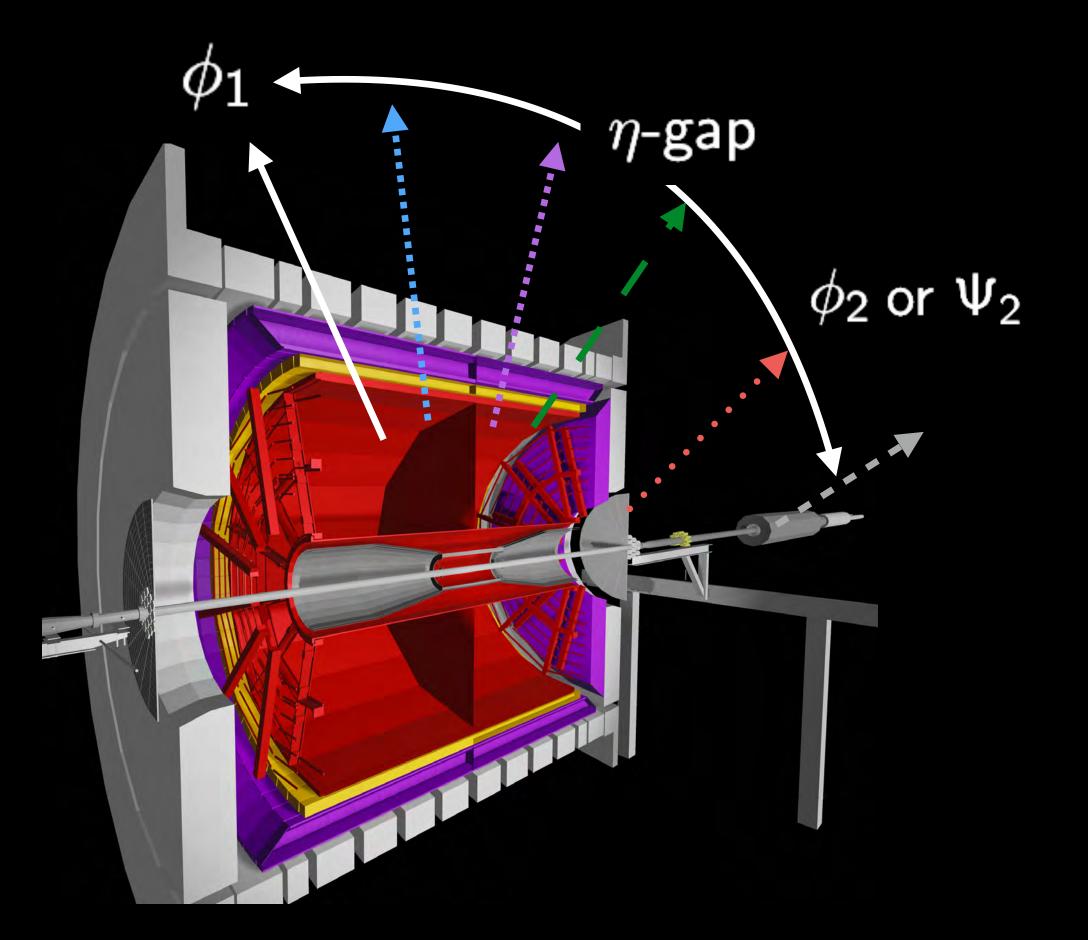
[83] Deng et. al., Phys. Rev. C 94, 041901 (2016), arXiv:1607.04697 [nucl-th]. [113] Xu et. al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 022301 (2018), arXiv:1710.03086 [nucl-th].

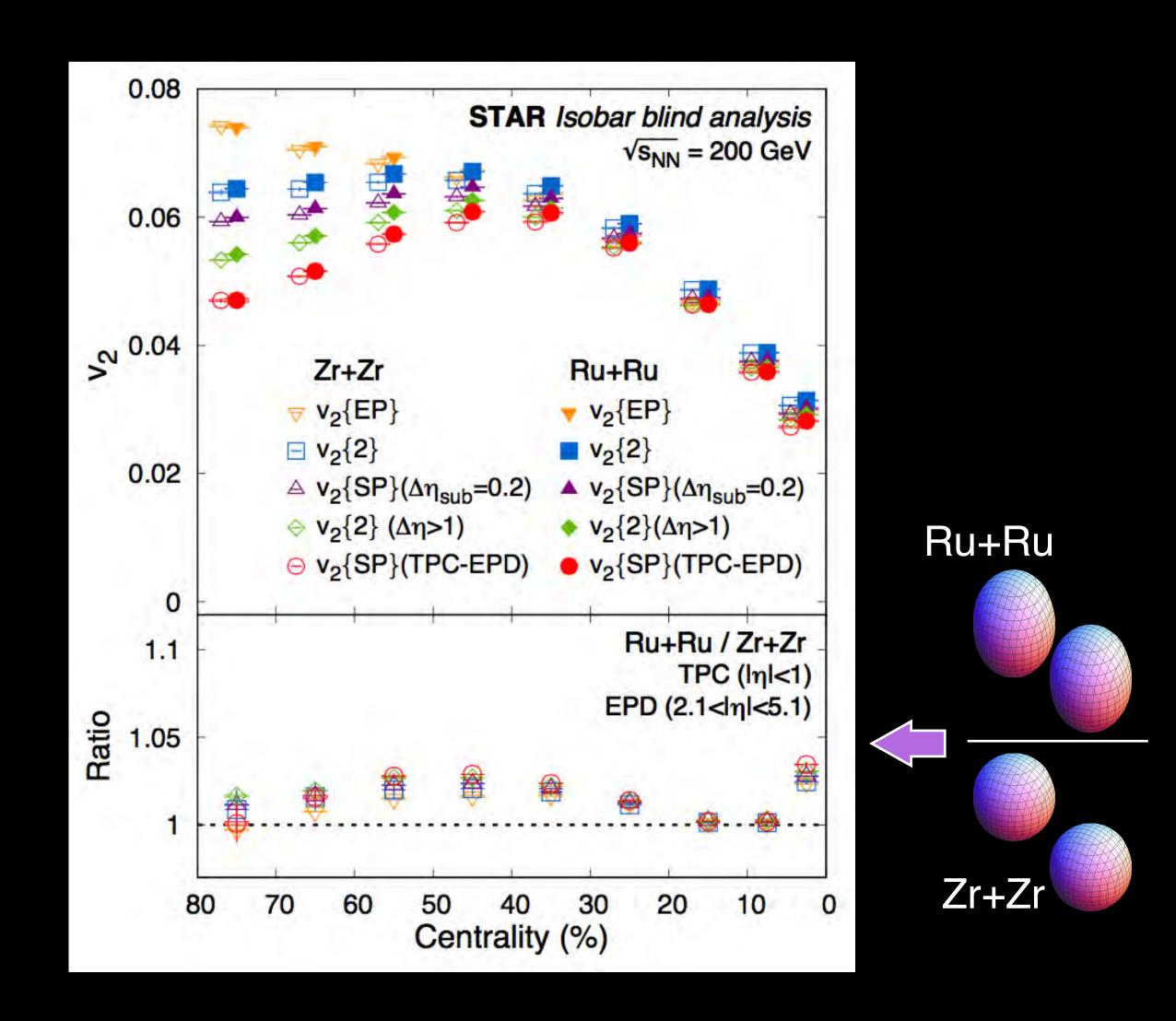
MC-Glauber with two-component model used to describe uncorrected multiplicity distribution. WS parameters with no deformation (thinker neutron skin in Zr) provides the best description of the multiplicity distributions

### Elliptic anisotropy measurements



$$v_2\{EP\} = \langle \cos(2\phi_1 - 2\Psi_2) \rangle$$



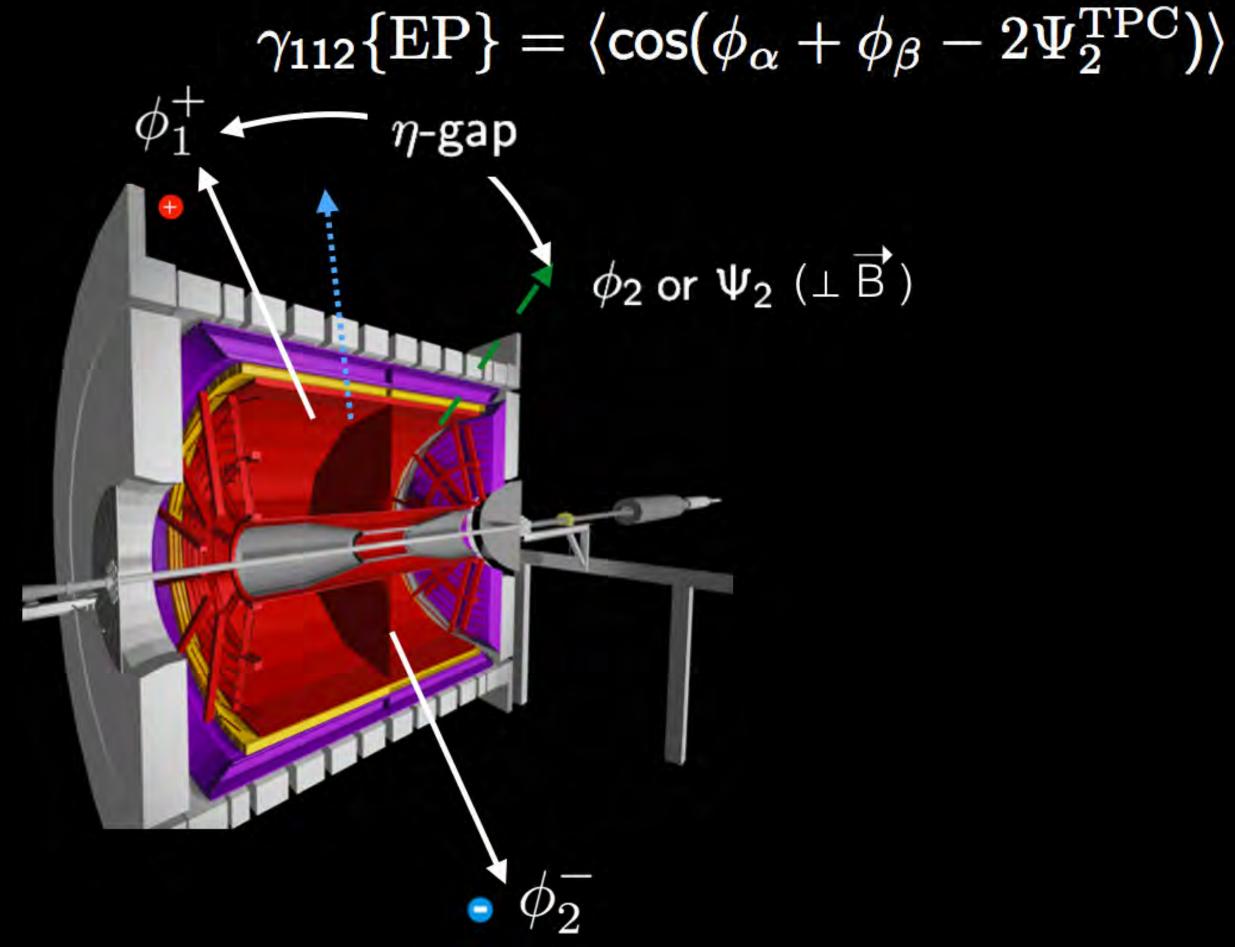


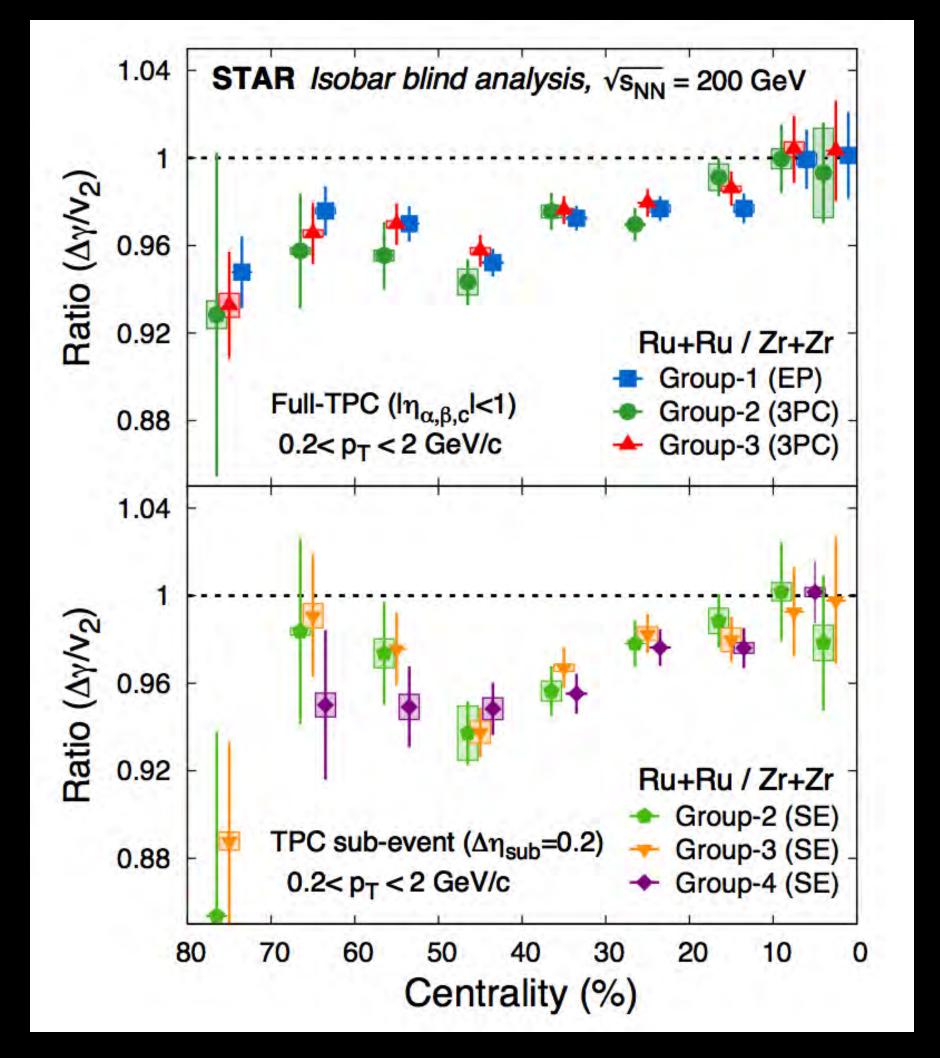
v<sub>2</sub> studied η-gap, ratio deviates from unity indicating difference in the shape, nuclear structure between two isobars (larger quadruple deformation in Ru+Ru)

### CME sensitive observables

### Charge separation scaled by elliptic flow







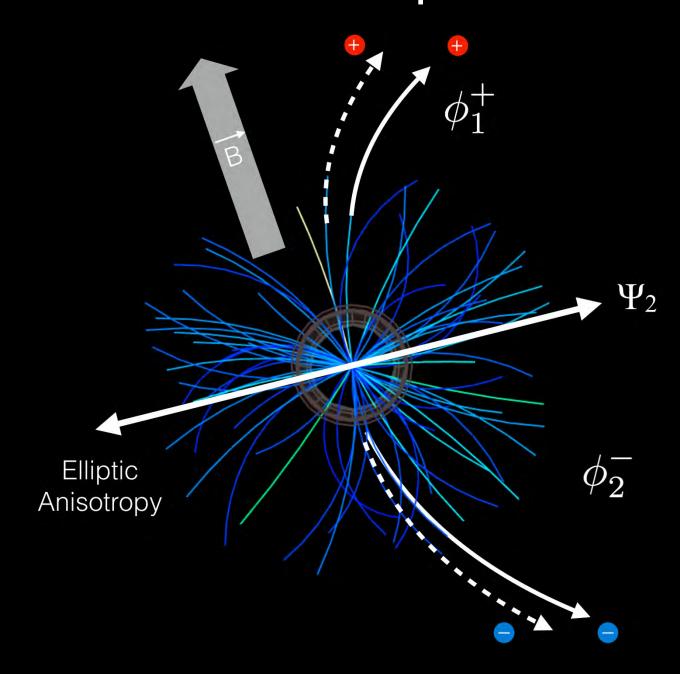
Pre-defined criteria for CME

$$\frac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\mathrm{RuRu}}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\mathrm{ZrZr}}} > 1$$
 NOT seen!!

#### Experimental baseline-2: Randomize correlation with B-field



#### B-field is correlated to Ψ<sub>2</sub> plane



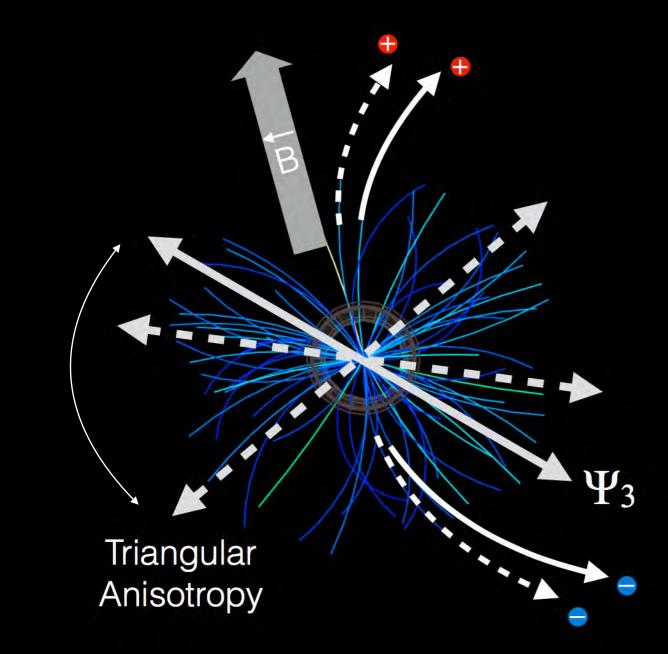
$$\gamma_{112} = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta} - 2\Psi_2) \rangle$$

Signal (B-field) + Background (∝ v<sub>2</sub>)

#### Old criterion for CME:

$$rac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{
m RuRu}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{
m ZrZr}} > 1$$

#### B-field is not-corrected to Ψ<sub>3</sub> plane



$$\gamma_{123} = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + 2\phi_{\beta} - 3\Psi_{3}) \rangle$$

Background only ( $\propto v_3$ )

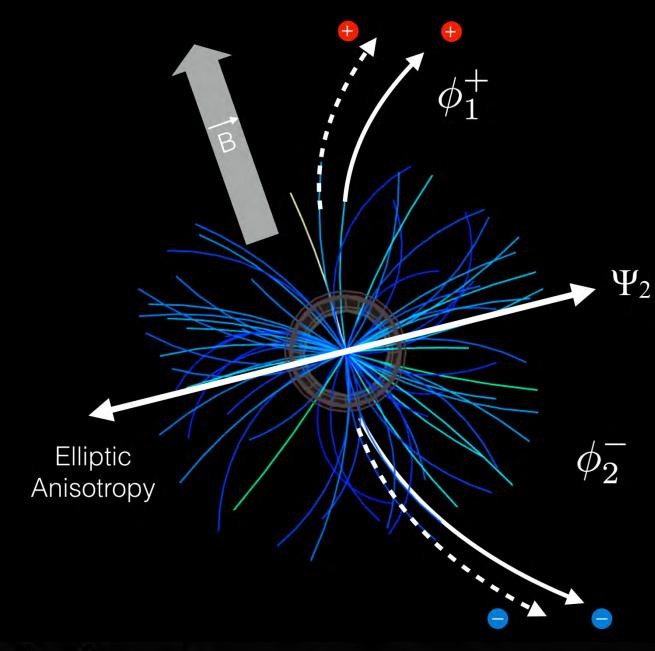
#### New criterion for CME:

$$\frac{\left(\Delta\gamma_{112}/v_2\right)^{RuRu}}{\left(\Delta\gamma_{112}/v_2\right)^{ZrZr}} > \frac{\left(\Delta\gamma_{123}/v_3\right)^{RuRu}}{\left(\Delta\gamma_{123}/v_3\right)^{ZrZr}}$$

### Experimental baseline-1: Ignore B-field direction



Charge separation correlated to event plane

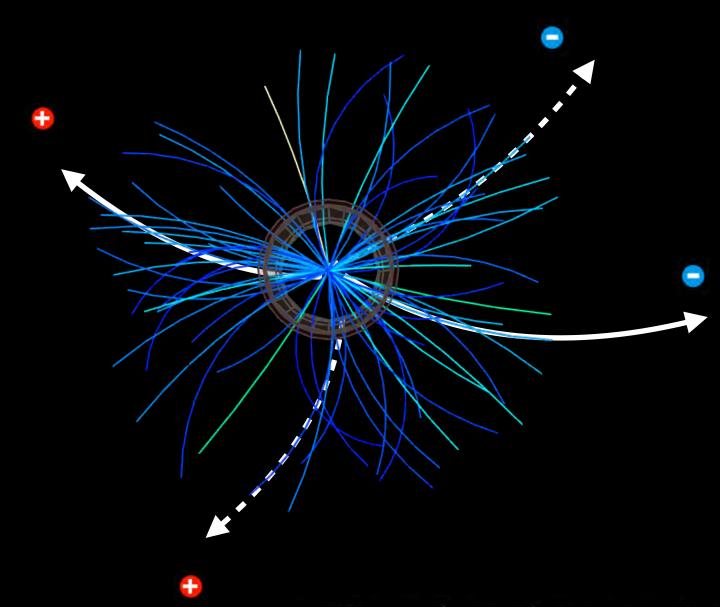


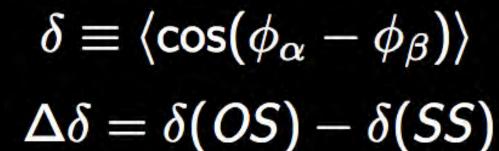
$$\frac{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Ru+Ru}}{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Zr+Zr}} \approx 1 + f_{\rm CME}^{\rm Zr+Zr}[(B_{\rm Ru+Ru}/B_{\rm Zr+Zr})^2 - 1]$$
Unknown
0.18

#### Old criterion for CME:

$$rac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{
m RuRu}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{
m ZrZr}} > 1$$

Charge separation NOT correlated to event plane



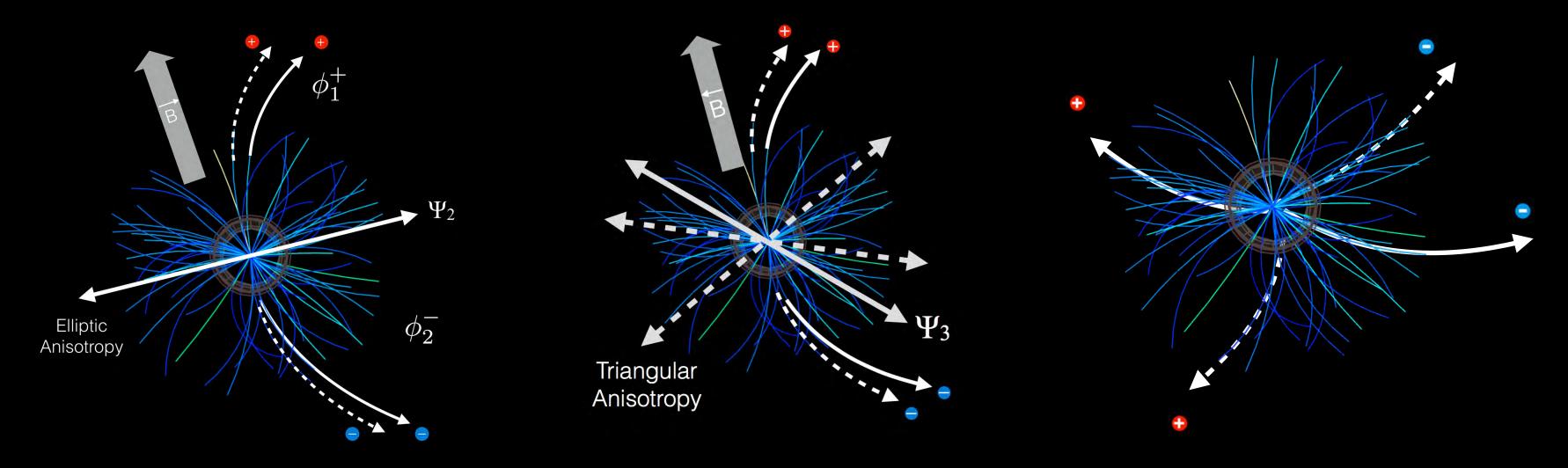


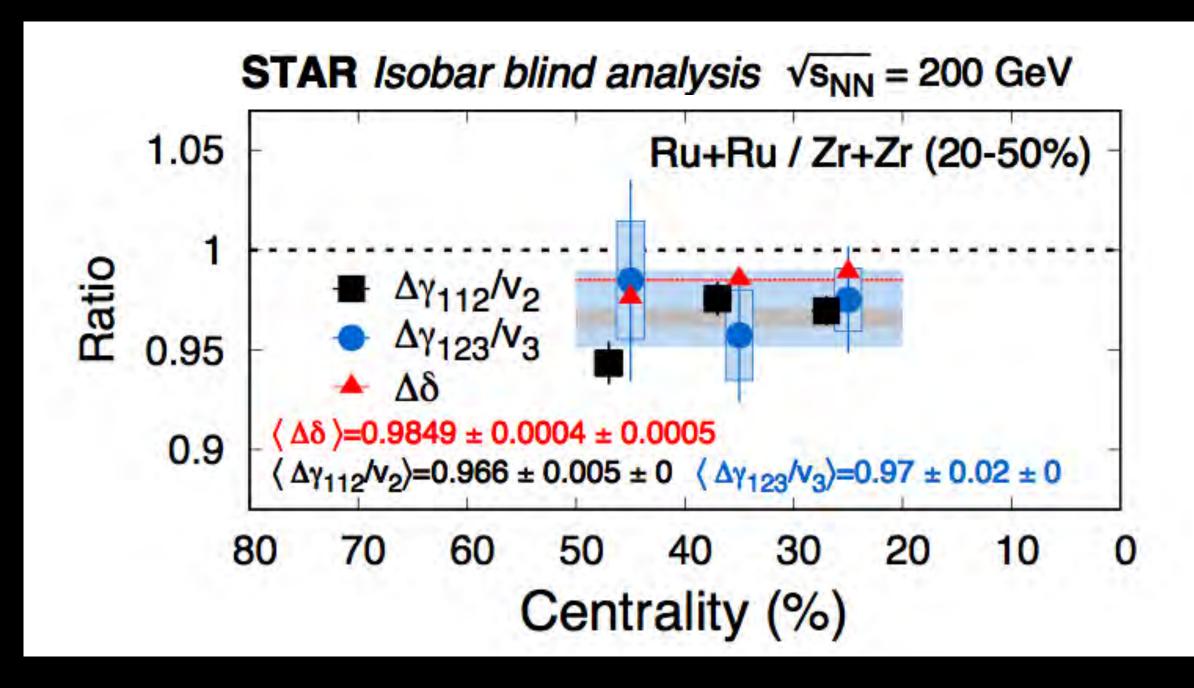
#### New criterion for CME:

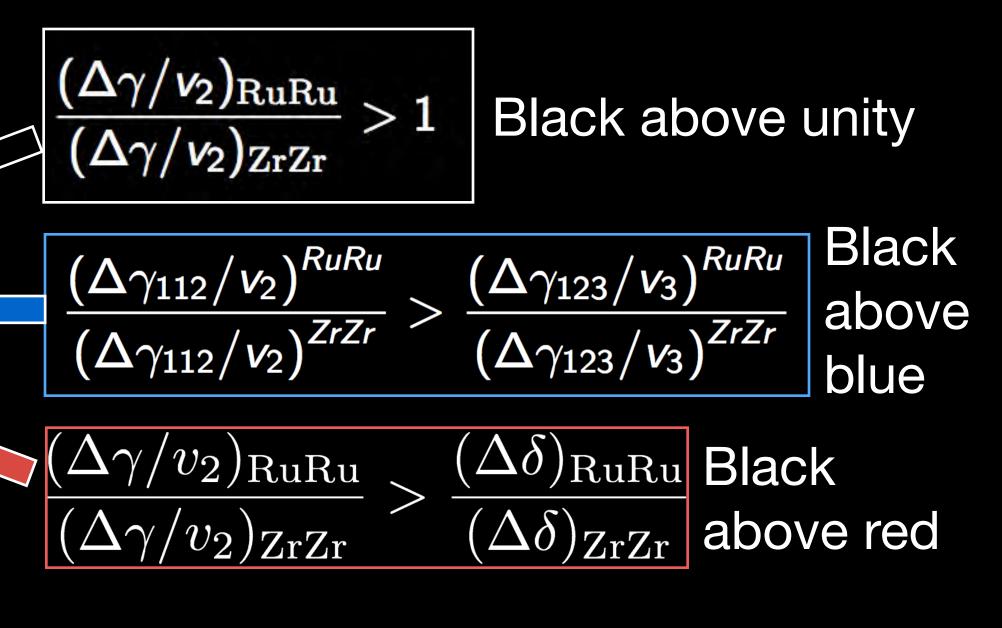
$$\frac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\mathrm{RuRu}}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\mathrm{ZrZr}}} > \frac{(\Delta \delta)_{\mathrm{RuRu}}}{(\Delta \delta)_{\mathrm{ZrZr}}}$$

### Baseline measurement to put further constraints









Data not compatible with any of the pre-defined CME signatures!!



#### Limited Post-blind analysis: modified CME baseline

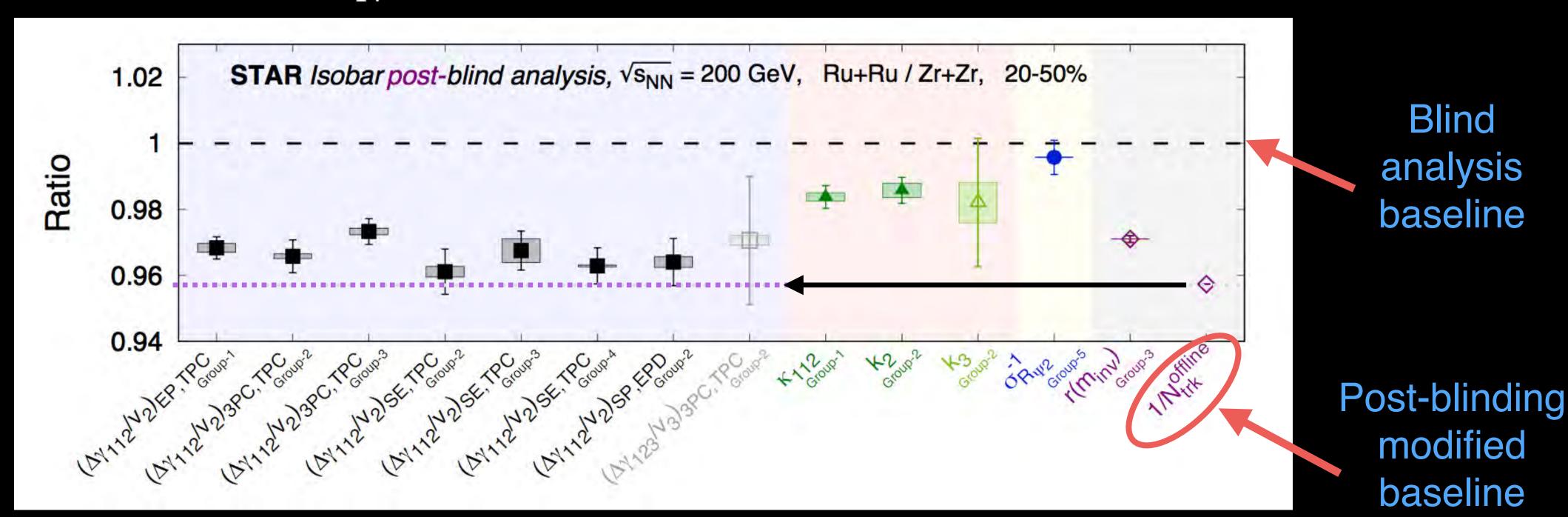
Challenge: Multiplicity turned out to be different for the two isobar, was not know before blind analysis, dilution of signal & background ~ 1/multiplicity, this effect is different for two species

Blind analysis criterion for CME:  $\frac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\rm RuRu}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\rm ZrZr}} > 1$ 

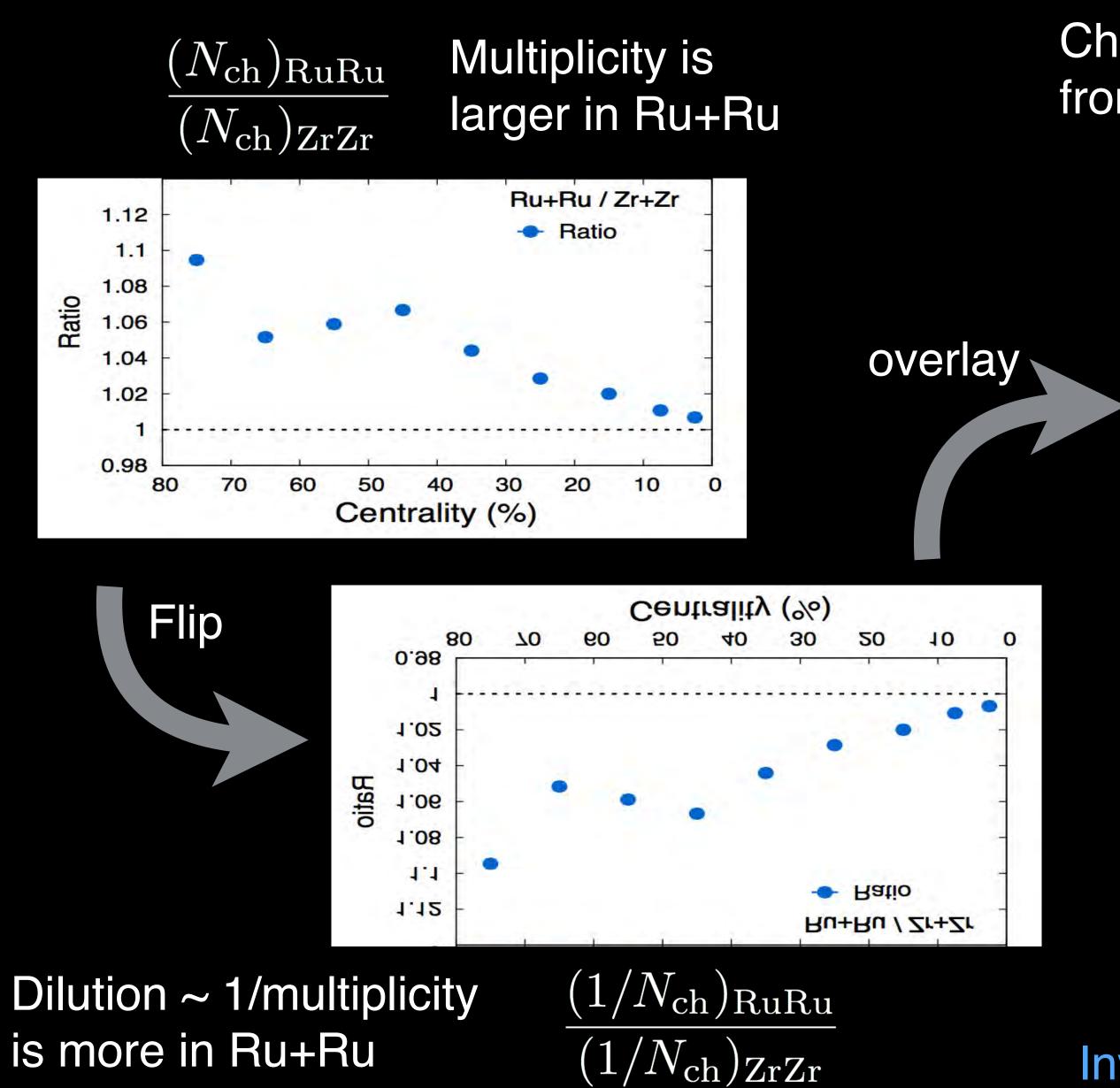
$$\Delta_{\gamma}^{\text{Ru+Ru}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k \times \frac{v_2}{N}$$
??  $+ k \times \frac{v_2}{N}$  $\Delta_{\gamma}^{\text{Zr+Zr}} \Delta_{\gamma}^{CME} + k \times \frac{v_2}{N}$ ...

#### Post-blinding criterion for CME:

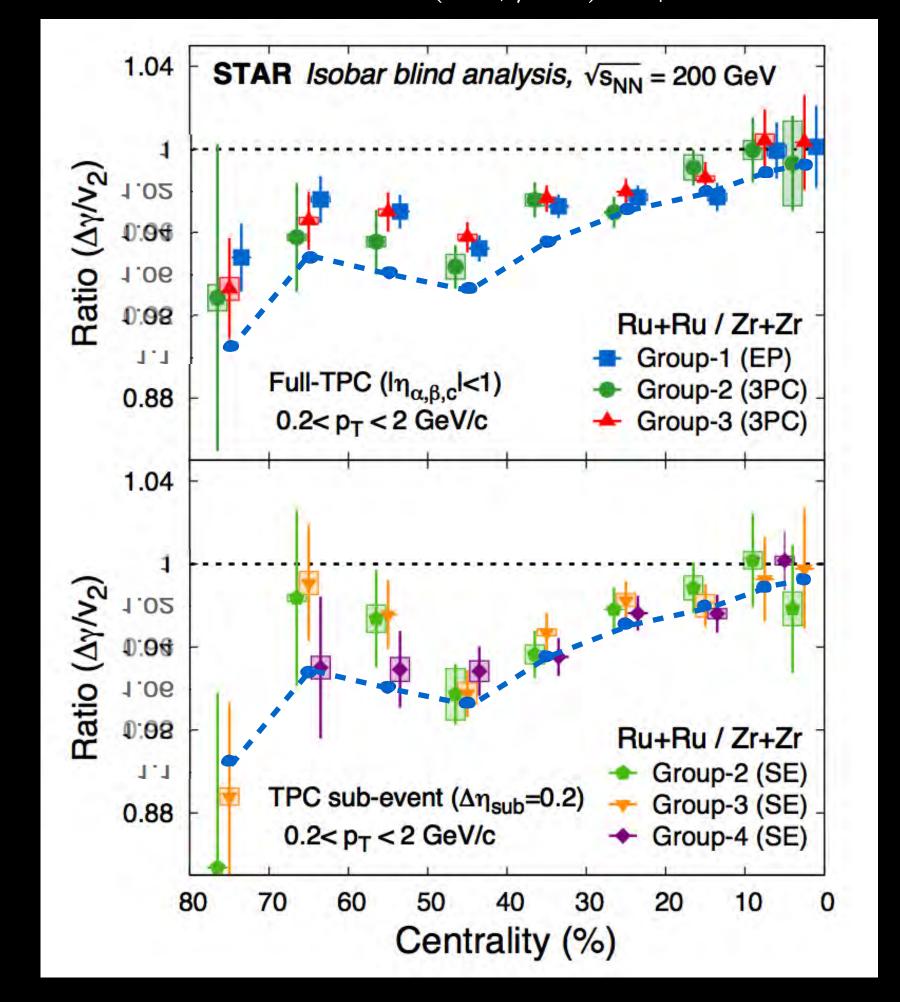
$$\frac{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\text{RuRu}}}{(\Delta \gamma/v_2)_{\text{ZrZr}}} > \frac{(1/N_{\text{ch}})_{\text{RuRu}}}{(1/N_{\text{ch}})_{\text{ZrZr}}}$$



#### Limited Post-blind analysis: modified CME baseline



Change of baseline  $\frac{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Ru+Ru}}{(\Delta\gamma/v_2)_{\rm Zr+Zr}} \leftrightarrow \frac{N_{\rm Zr+Zr}}{N_{\rm Ru+Ru}}$  from "1" to 1/multiplicity



Investigation is on to extract a CME upper-limit

### Summary

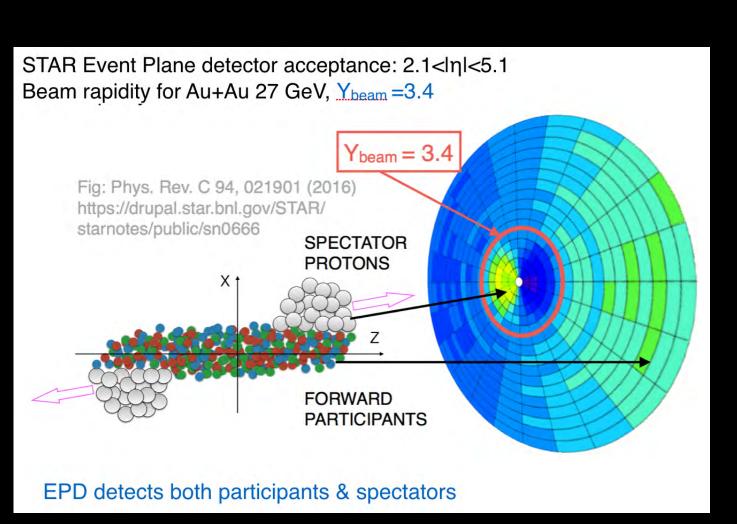
Experimental test of CME in isobar collisions performed using a blind analysis

A precision down to 0.4% achieved but no pre-defined signature of CME is observed

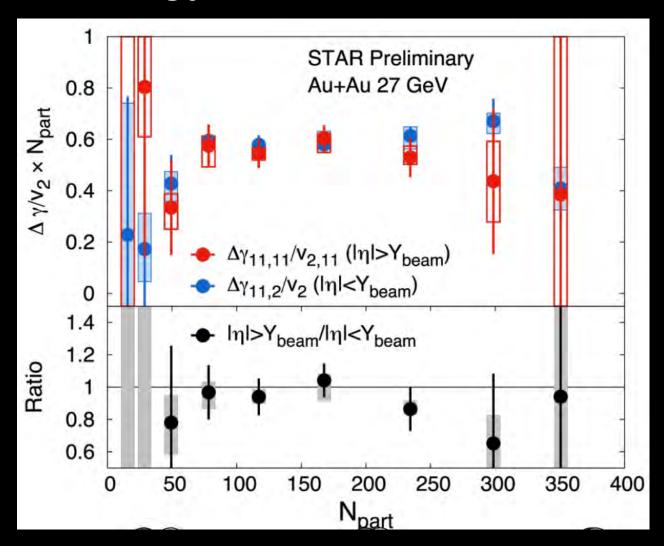
Primary CME observable  $\Delta \gamma/v_2$  baseline is affected by the multiplicity difference (4% in 20-50%), postblind analysis is needed to search for residual CME signal

CME search has been narrowed down, future program will look for upper limit (1% level)

Better detector to determine B direction



RHIC energy scan for CME search



2023 High statistics Au+Au run

