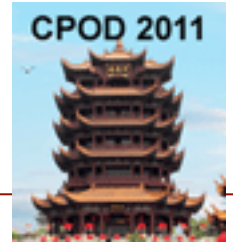




Centrality dependence of freeze-out parameters from Au+Au collisions at

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7, 11.5, \text{ and } 39 \text{ GeV}$



Lokesh Kumar (for the STAR Collaboration)



Outline:

Motivation
PID Selection
Particle ratios
Freeze-out parameters
Summary

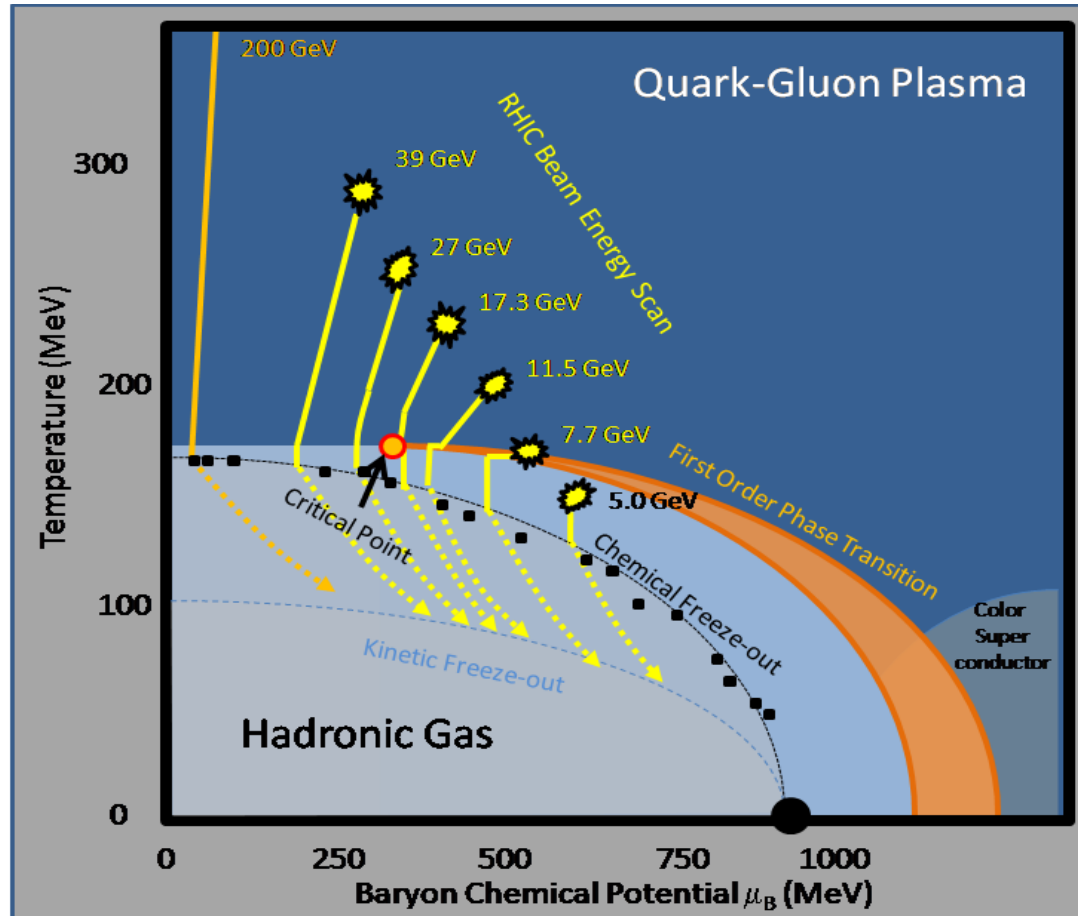
Critical Point and Onset of Deconfinement (CPOD)

7 - 11 November 2011 at Institute of Particle Physics (CCNU)



Motivation

QCD Phase Diagram (Hadrons-Partons):



Experimental study:
Heavy-ion collisions at
varying beam energies

Goals of RHIC BES
program:

- Search for the signals of
phase boundary
- Search for the possible
QCD **Critical Point**

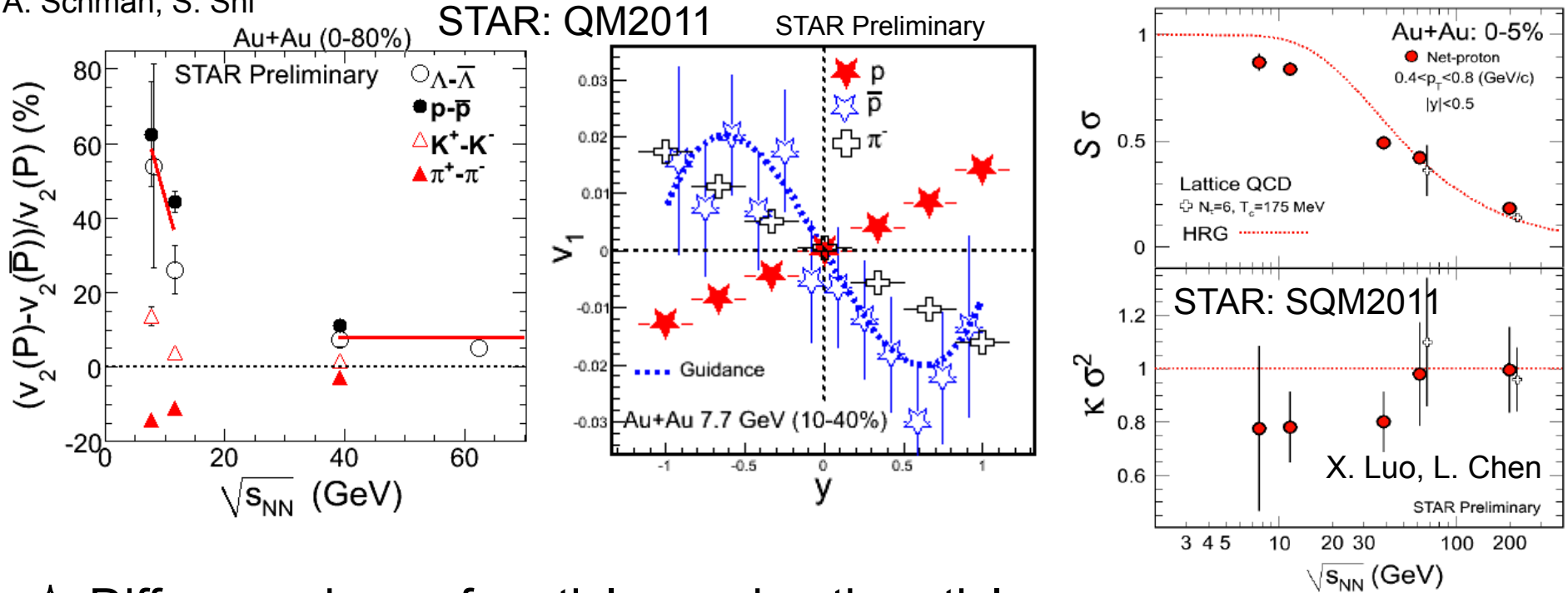
Extracting freeze-out
parameters from spectra
and ratios at BES

<http://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0493>: arXiv:1007.2613



Some Other Highlights from BES

A. Schmah, S. Shi



- ✧ Difference in v_2 of particles and anti-particles
- ✧ Change in sign of proton v_1 compared to \bar{p} and π^-
- ✧ Higher moments of net-proton distribution will be used for critical point search

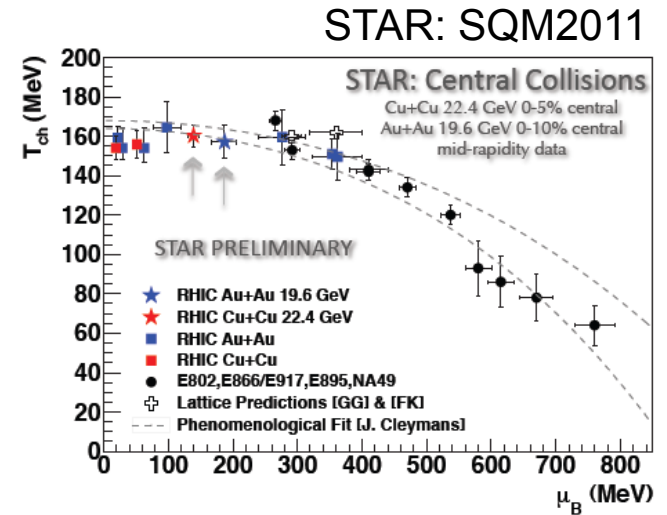
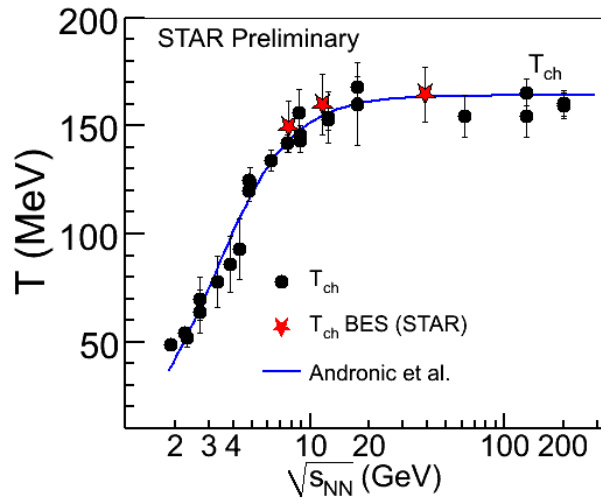
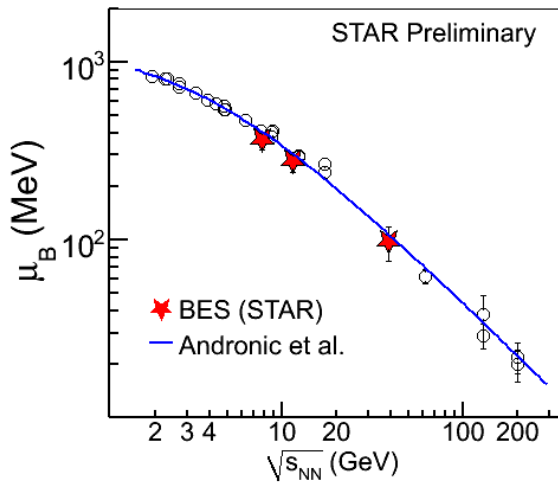
Focus:
Ratios and
freeze-out
parameters



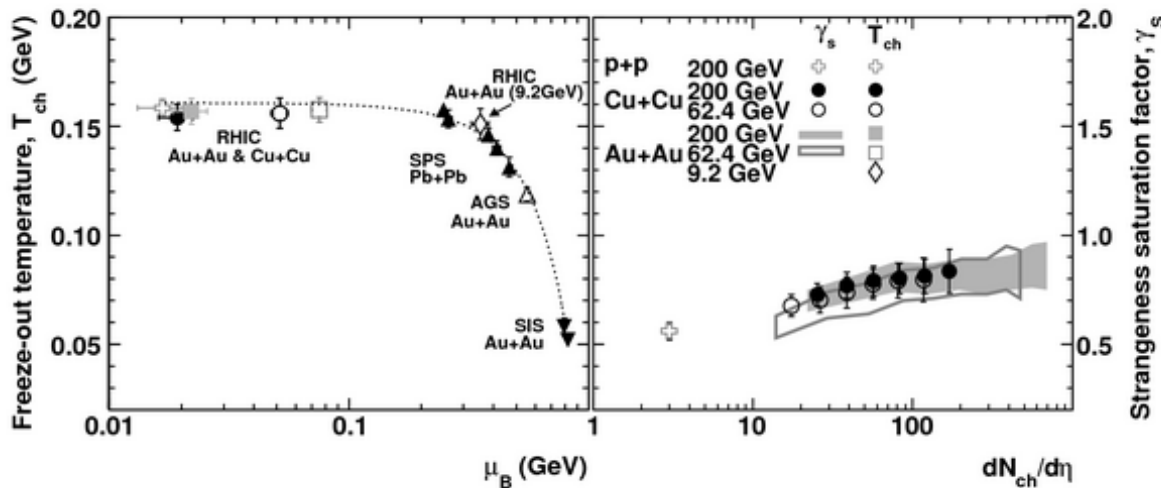
Chemical Freeze-out Picture

Presented at QM2011 for central collisions:

System size effect:



Results at High Energies: STAR: Phys. Rev. C 83 (2011) 34910

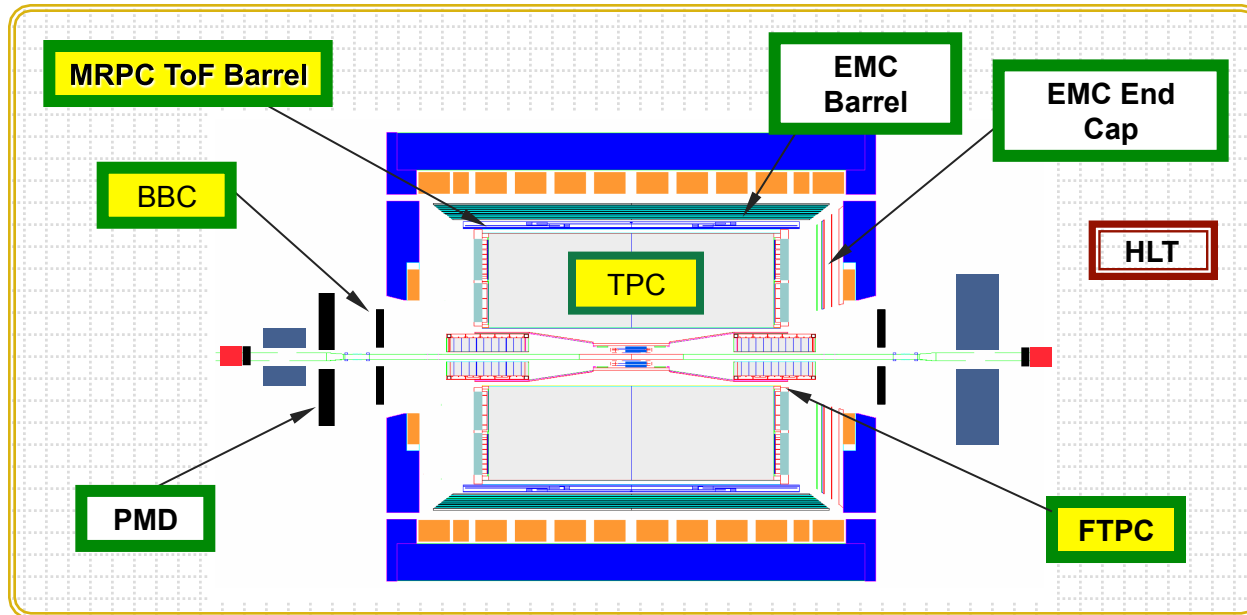


Not much change in T_{ch} values with system size (pp, Cu+Cu, and Au+Au)

Discuss in this talk:
Centrality dependence

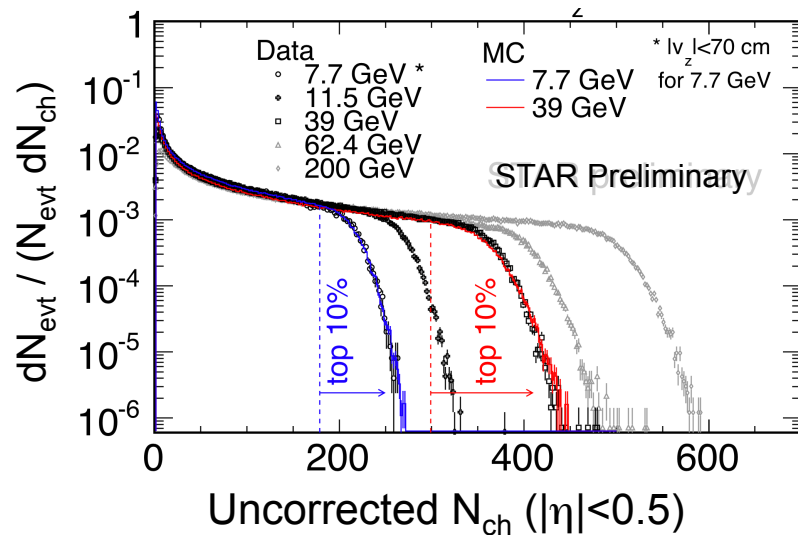


Data Set and Detectors



Particle identification over 2π in azimuthal angle and more than two units in rapidity

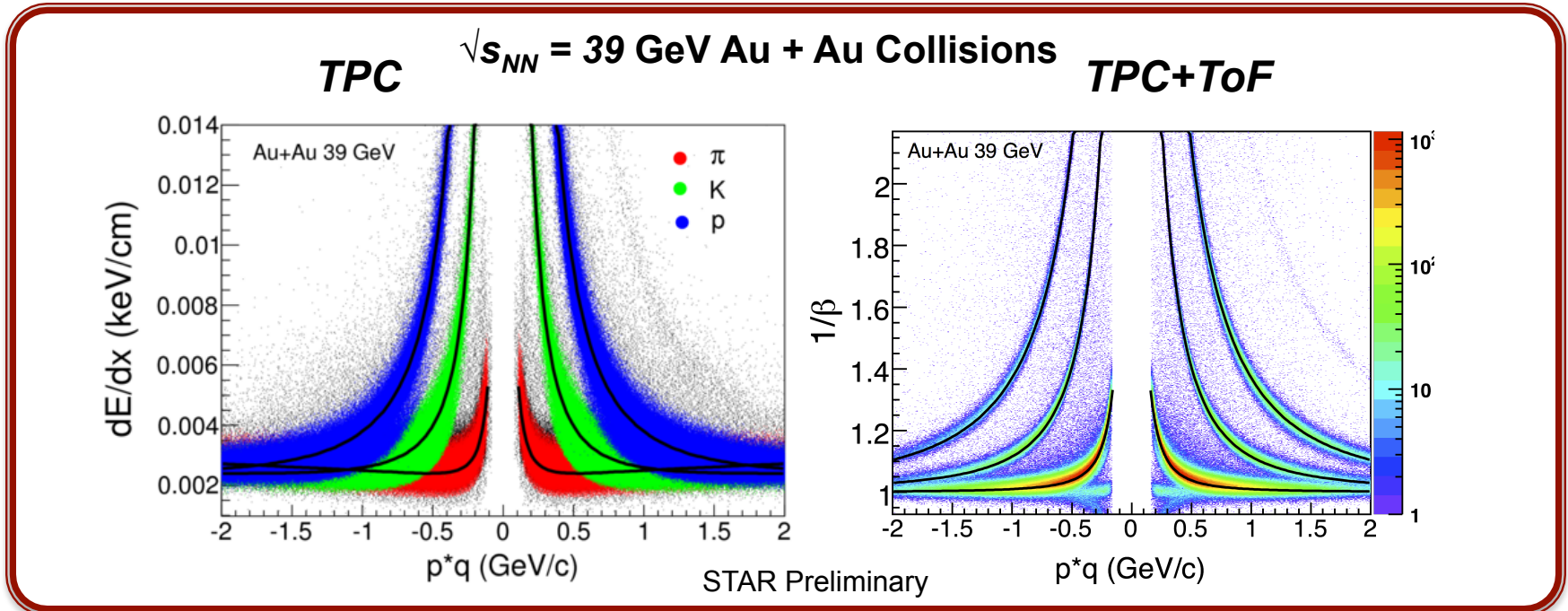
Au+Au Collisions:
 7.7, 11.5 and 39 GeV
 $|y| < 0.1$
 $p_T > 0.1$ GeV/c
 Centrality: 0-80%



$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Events Analyzed (M)
7.7	~ 4
11.5	~ 8
39	~ 10



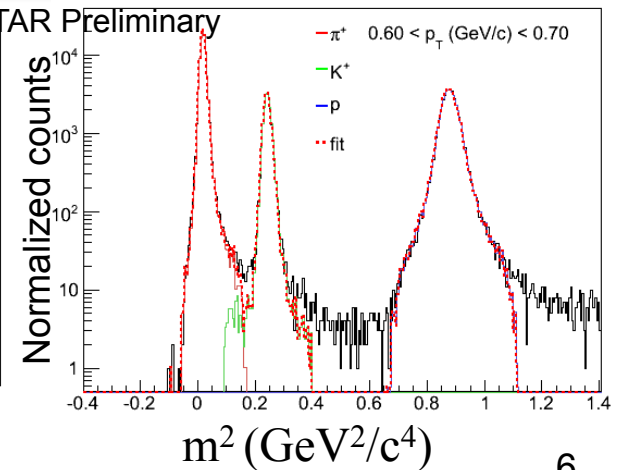
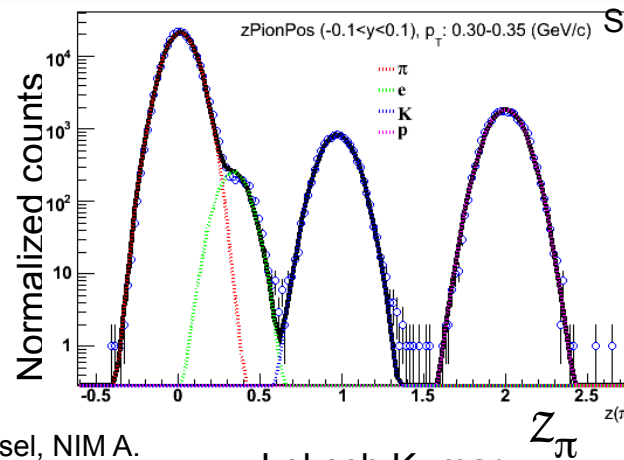
Particle Identification



$$z = \log \left(\frac{(dE/dx)_{meas.}}{(dE/dx)_{theory}} \right)$$

$$m^2 = p^2 \left(\frac{c^2 t^2}{L^2} - 1 \right)$$

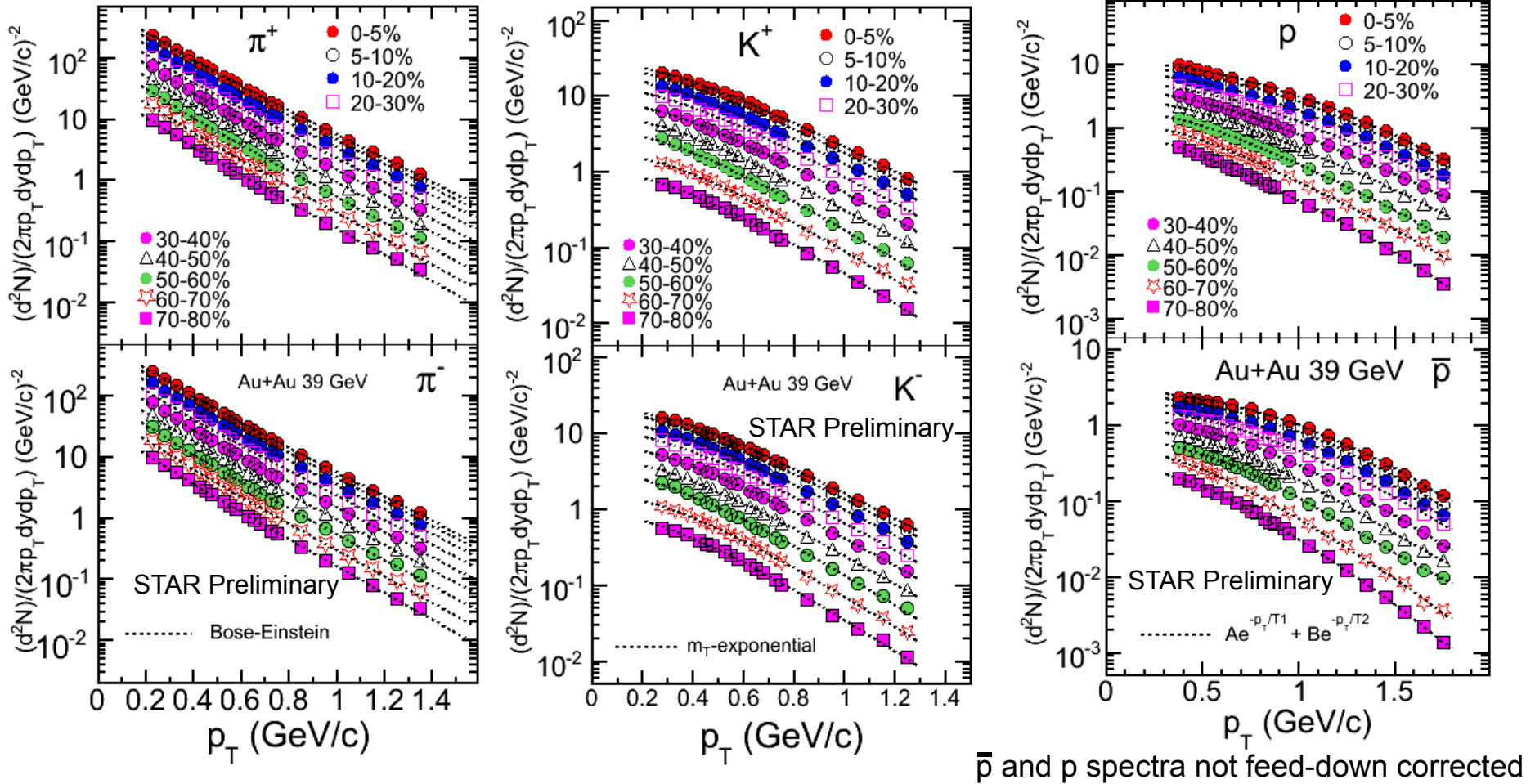
p= momentum, t=time-of-flight
c=velocity of light, L=path length





Au+Au 39 GeV:

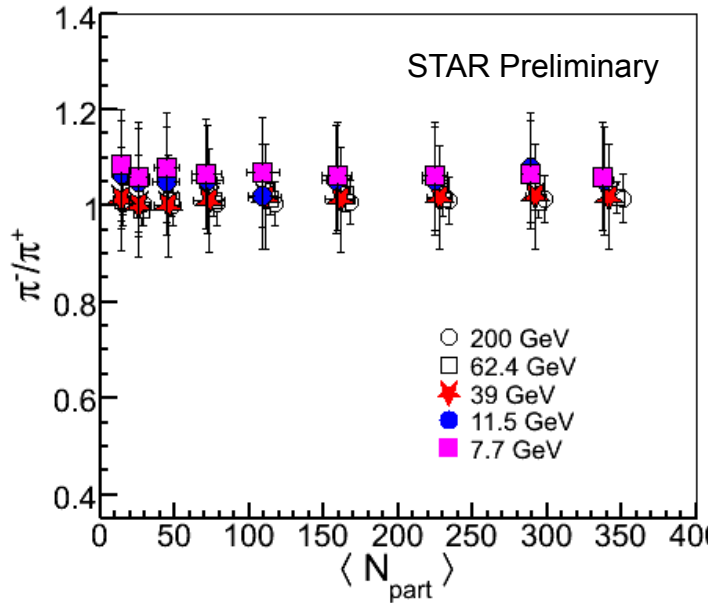
Invariant Yield



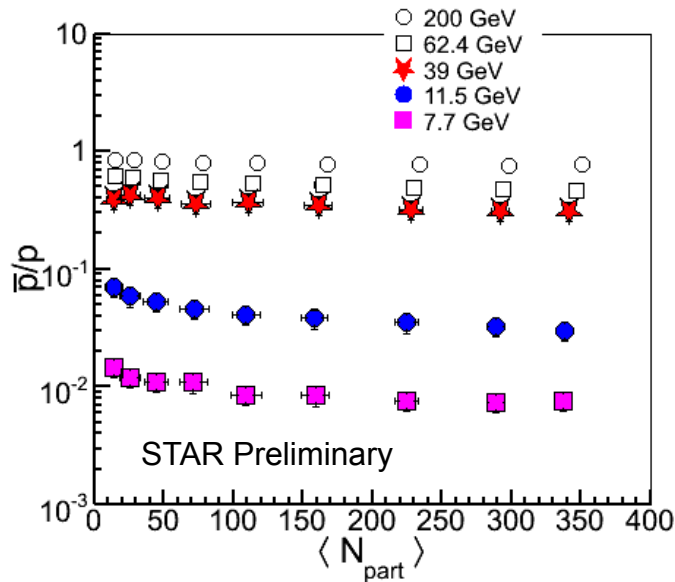
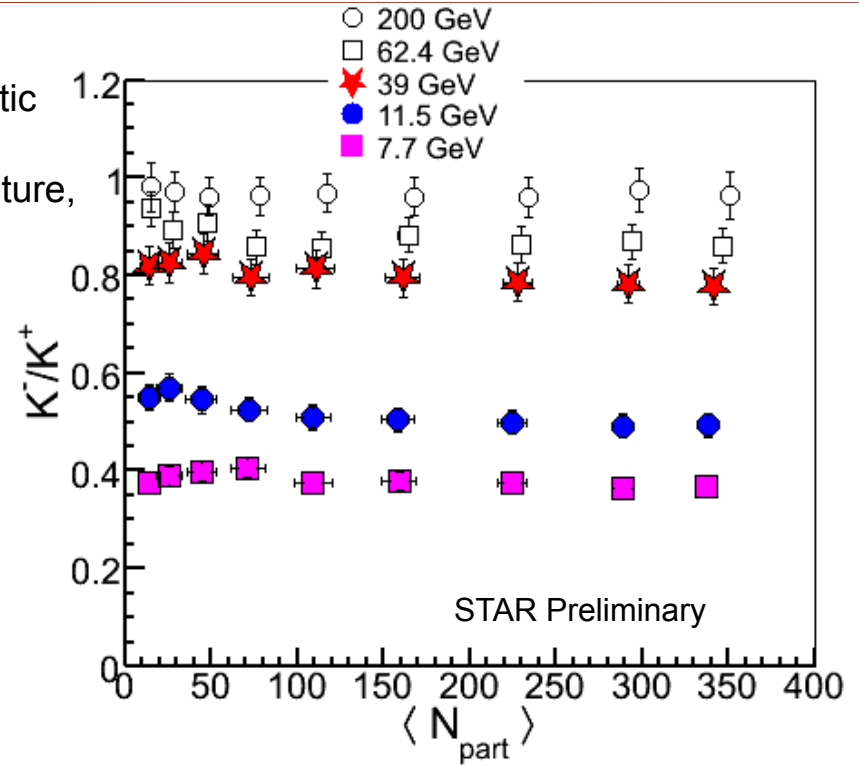
We measure $\sim 70-80\%$ of π , K and p within our p_T acceptance at mid-rapidity
 Similar measurements are carried out for 7.7 and 11.5 GeV collisions



Centrality Dependence of Antiparticle to Particle Ratios



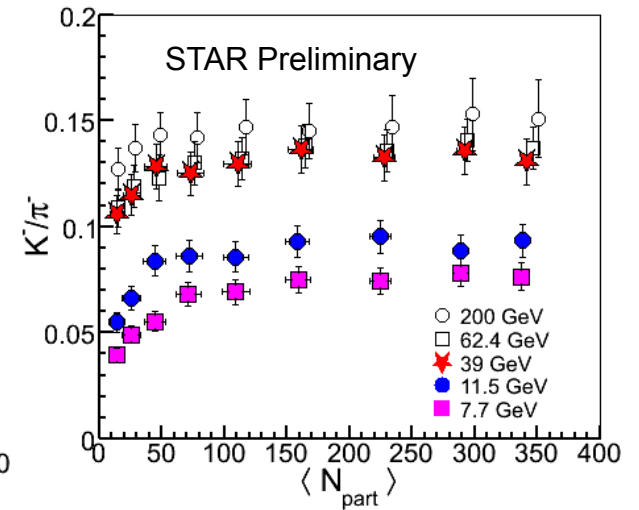
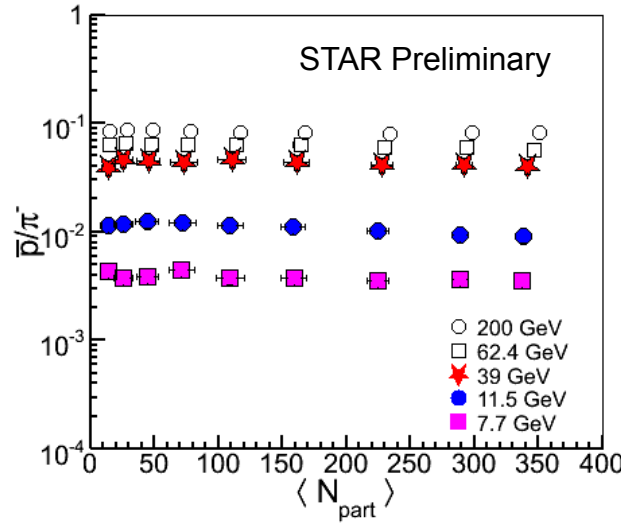
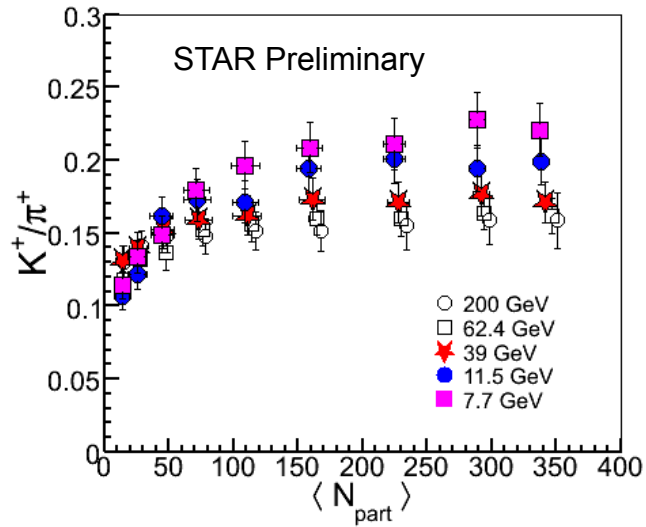
Errors: Systematic and statistical added in quadrature, dominated by extrapolation to low p_T spectra



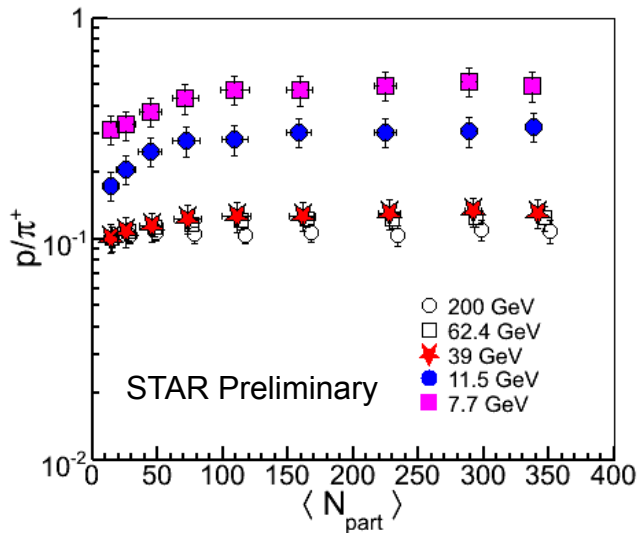
- ◇ π^-/π^+ slightly increases with decrease in energy below 39 GeV
- ◇ \bar{p}/p and K^-/K^+ increase with increase in energy



Centrality Dependence of Particle Ratios



Errors: Systematic and statistical added in quadrature, dominated by extrapolation to low p_T spectra



- ✧ K^+/π^+ and p/π^+ increase with decrease in energy
- ✧ \bar{p}/π^- and K^-/π^- increase with increase in energy

Strange particle ratios: X. Zhang, X. Zhu



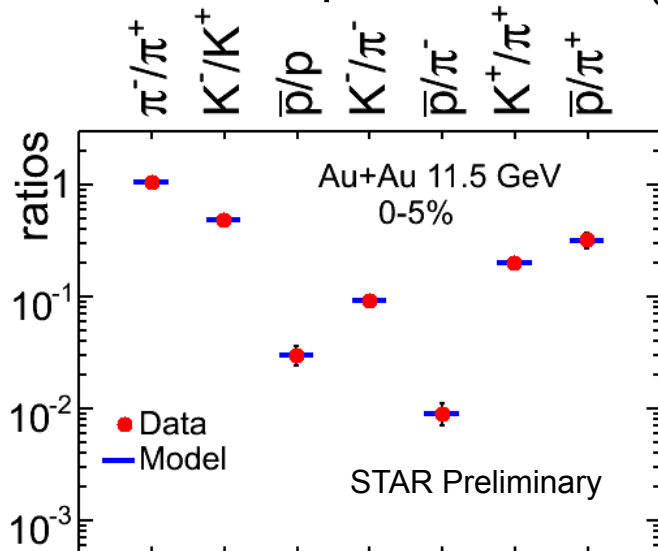
Chemical Freeze-out

Statistical-Thermal Model (THERMUS):

$$n = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial(T \ln Z)}{\partial \mu} = \frac{VT m_i^2 g_i}{2\pi^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\pm 1)^{k+1}}{k} \left(e^{\beta k \mu_i} \right) K_2 \left(\frac{k m_i}{T} \right)$$

$\beta=1/T$; -1(+1) for fermions (bosons), Z =partition function;
 m_i = mass of hadron species i ; V = volume; T = Temperature;
 K_2 = 2nd order Bessel function; g_i = degeneracy; μ_i = chemical potential

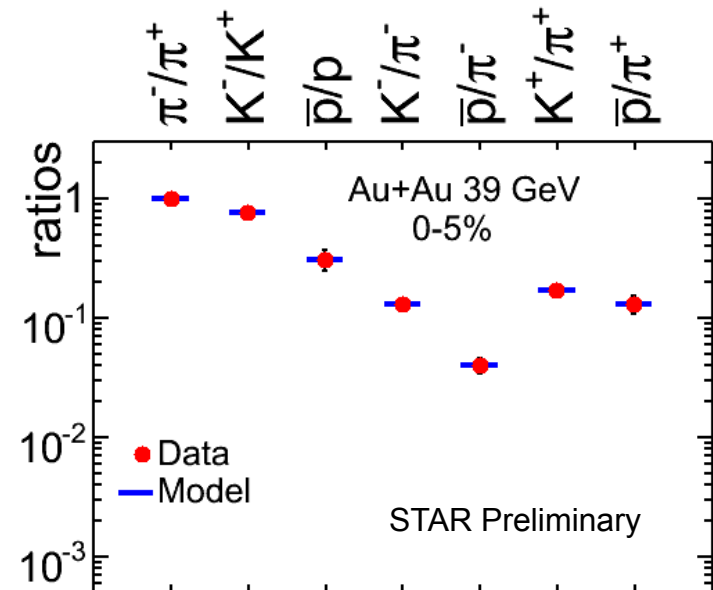
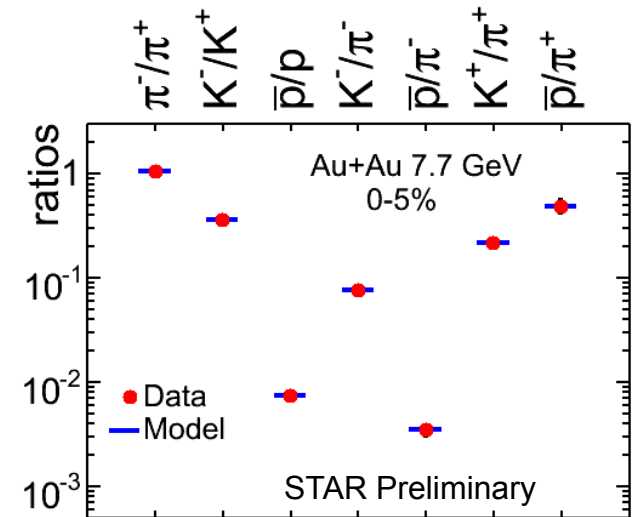
- ✧ Fitted particle ratios with THERMUS
- ✧ Used grand-canonical approach
- ✧ Two main parameters: T_{ch} and μ_B



Use strange particles also in future

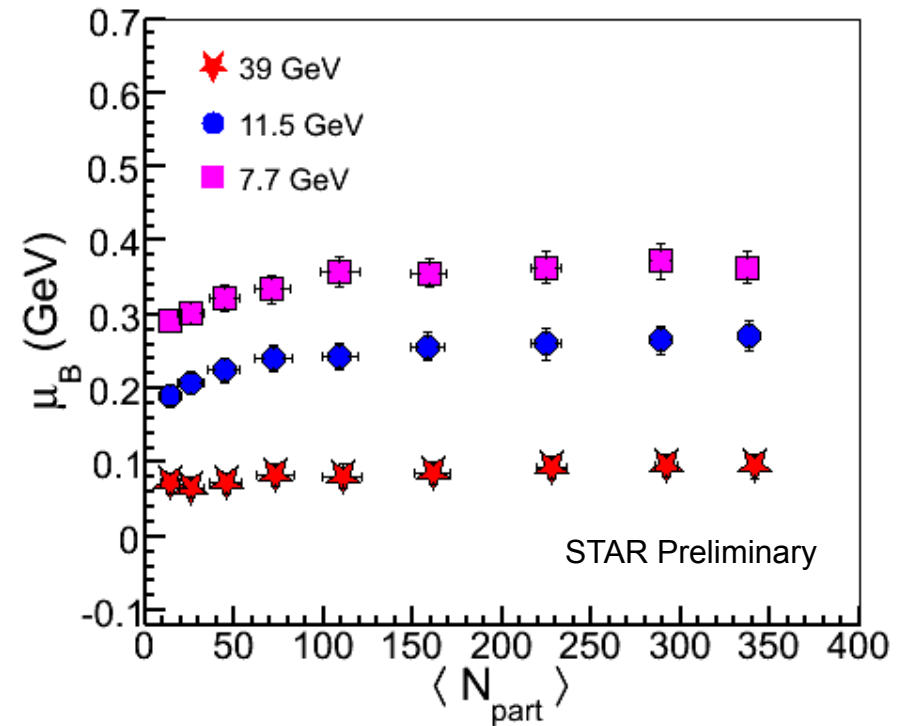
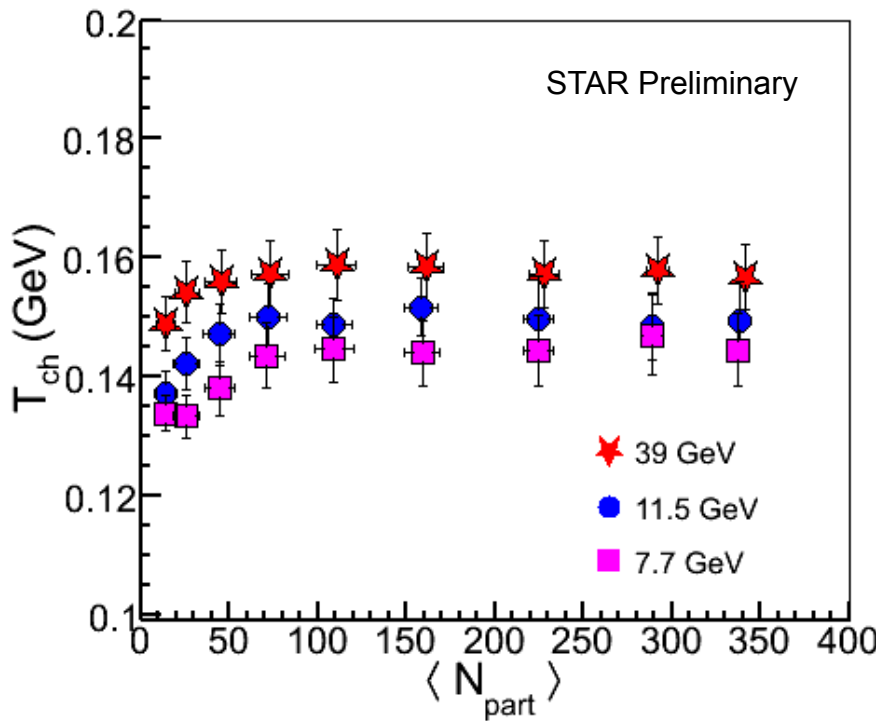
S. Wheaton & J. Cleymans, hep-ph/0407174;
 S. Wheaton, J. Cleymans & M. Hauer, comp. phys. Comm. 180 (2009) 84.

Lokesh Kumar





Centrality Dependence: T_{ch} and μ_B



- ✧ The chemical freeze-out temperature increases slightly with increase in energy
- ✧ Baryon chemical potential decreases with increase in energy

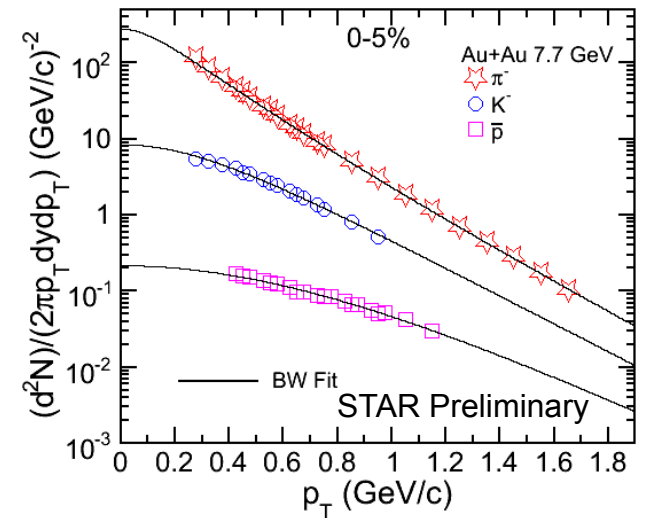
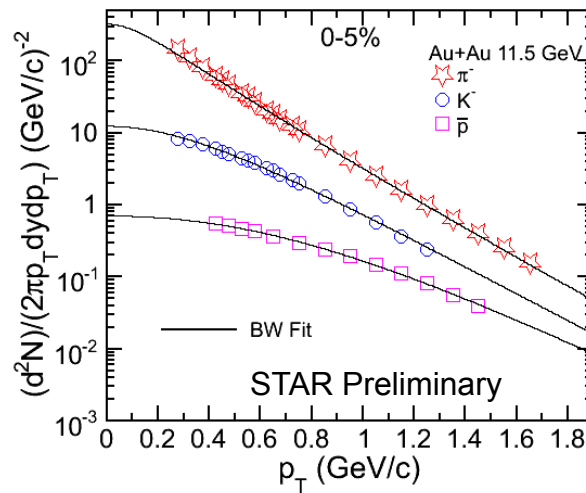
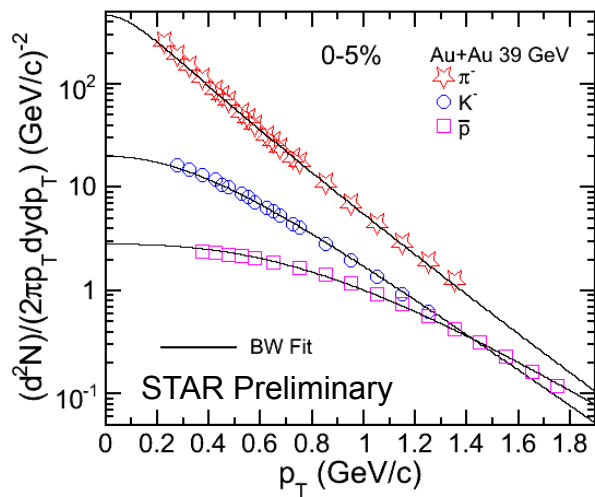


Kinetic Freeze-out

Blast-Wave (BW) Model:

$$\frac{dN}{p_T dp_T} \propto \int_0^R r dr m_T I_0 \left(\frac{p_T \sinh \rho(r)}{T_{kin}} \right) \times K_1 \left(\frac{m_T \cosh \rho(r)}{T_{kin}} \right)$$

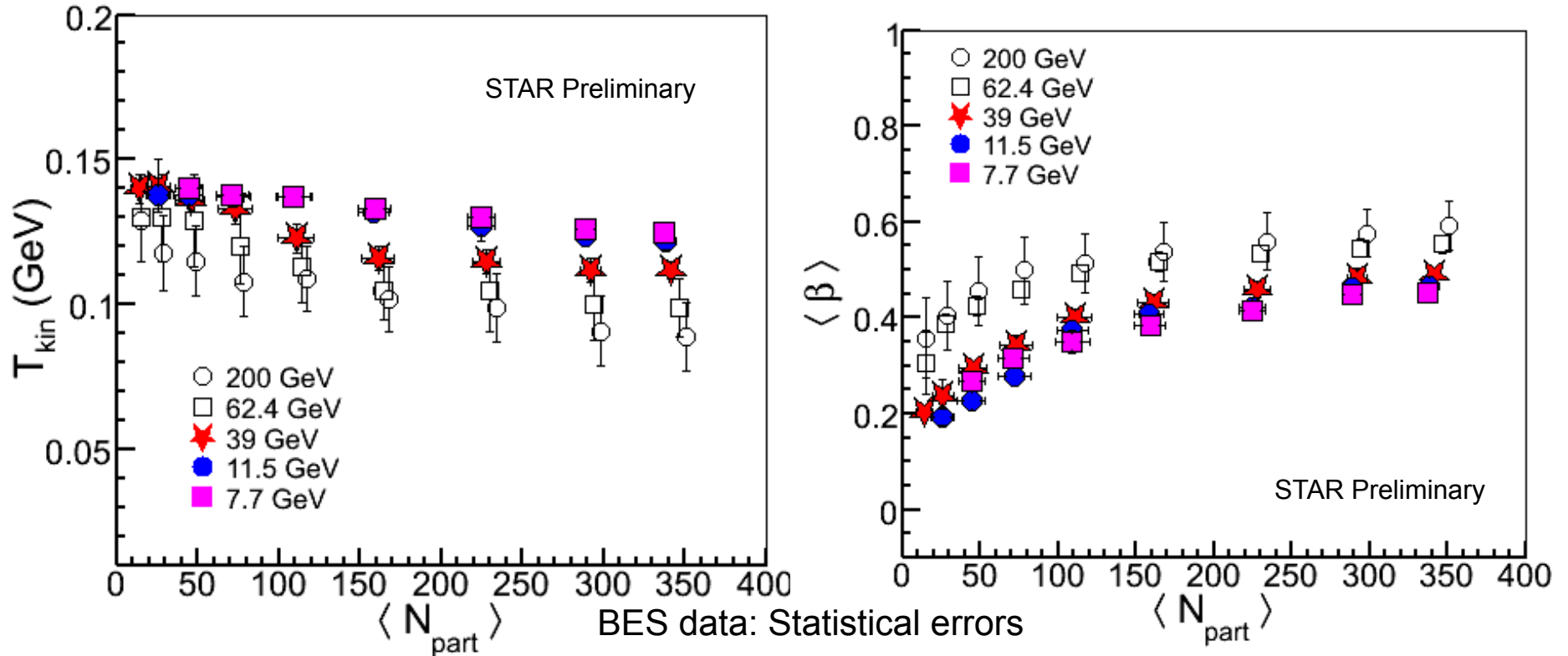
- ✧ Spectra are fitted simultaneously with BW
- ✧ Two main parameters: T_{kin} and $\langle \beta \rangle$



$\chi^2/\text{ndf} \sim 0.8$



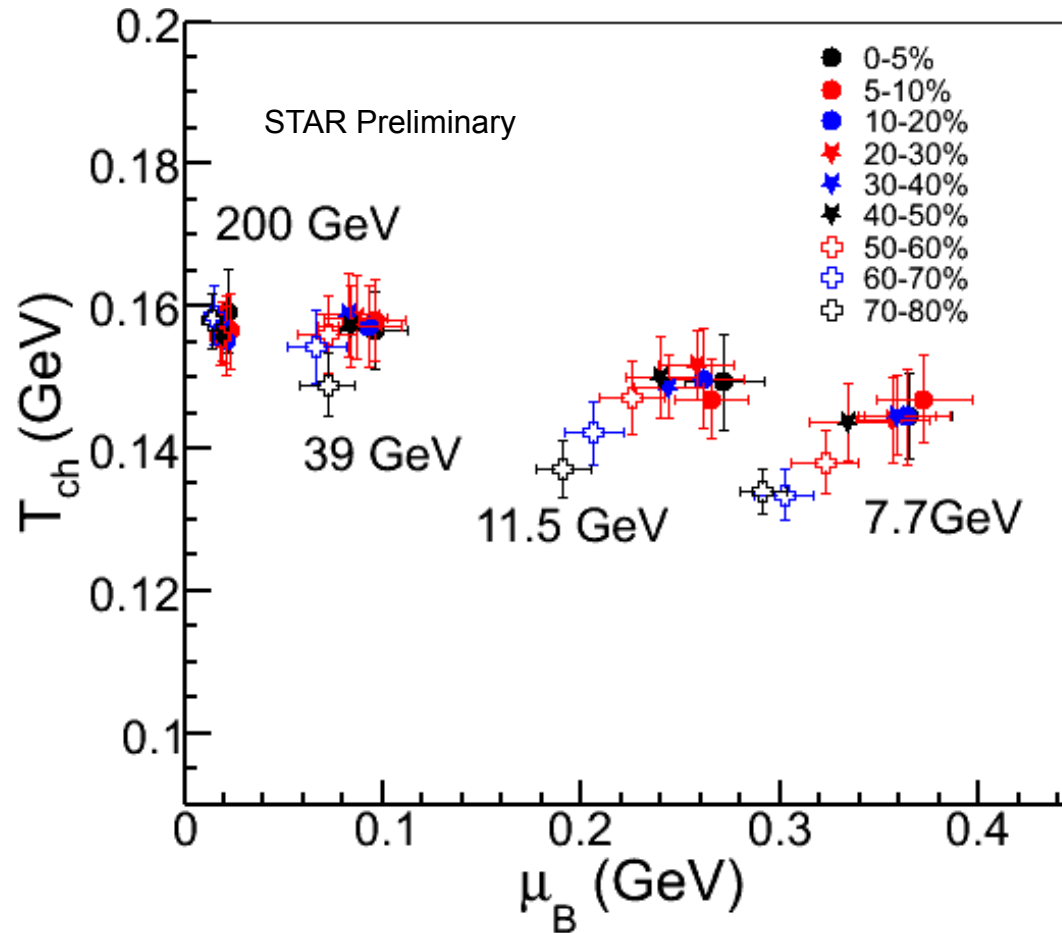
Centrality Dependence: T_{kin} and $\langle \beta \rangle$



- ✧ Kinetic freeze-out temperature decreases with increase in energy and centrality
- ✧ Average flow velocity increases with increase in energy and centrality



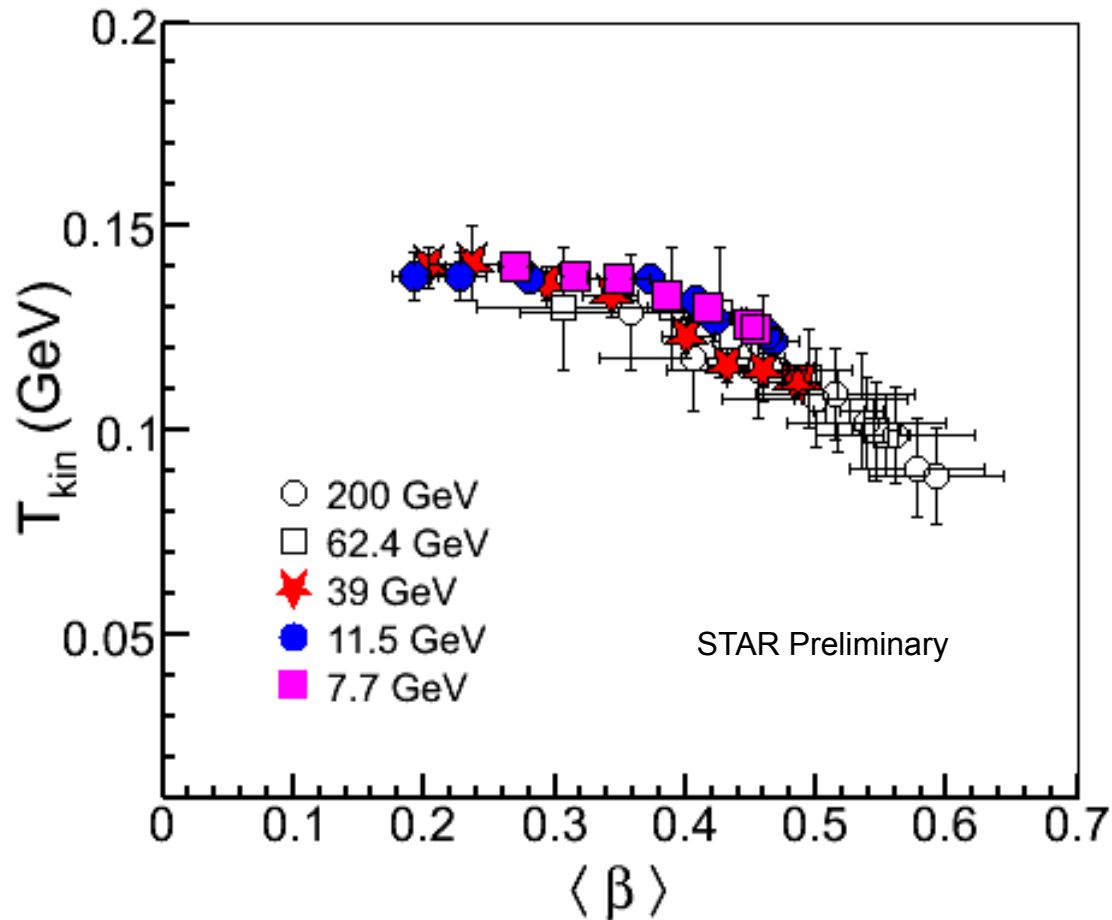
T_{ch} VS. μ_B



✧ First time observed, a clear centrality dependence of freeze-out temperature with baryon chemical potential at lower energies



T_{kin} vs. $\langle \beta \rangle$

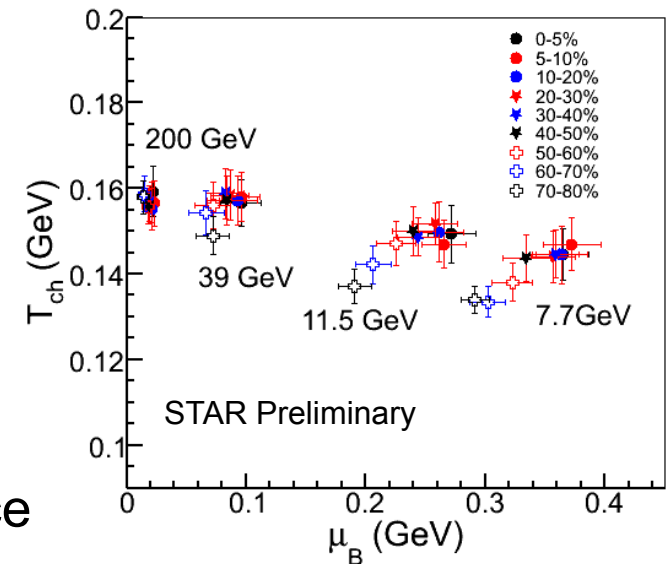


✧ Higher kinetic temperature corresponds to lower value of average flow velocity and vice-versa



Summary

- Centrality dependence of identified hadrons (π , K, p, antiparticles) p_T spectra and particle ratios are presented for BES energies (7.7, 11.5, and 39 GeV)
- Particle ratios are used to extract T_{ch} and μ_B
 - First observation of clear centrality dependence of freeze-out parameters at low energies
 - New measurements have extended the μ_B range covered by RHIC data from 20-400 MeV in the phase diagram
- p_T spectra are used to extract the kinetic freeze-out parameters
 - T_{kin} decreases with increase in energy and centrality
 - Average flow velocity increases with increase in energy and centrality





Thanks

Thanks to STAR Collaboration

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