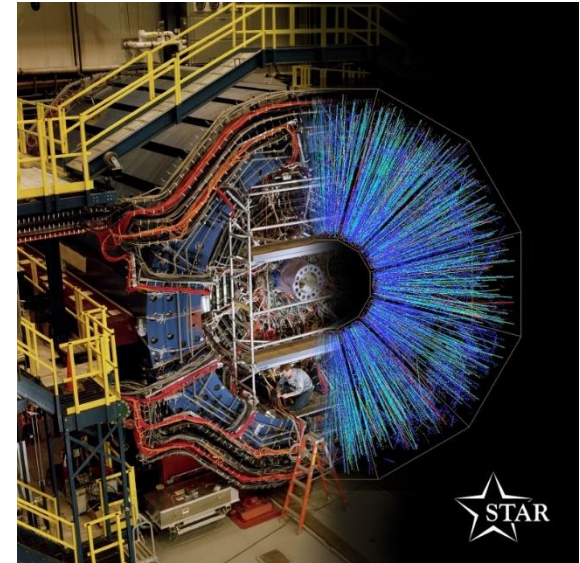
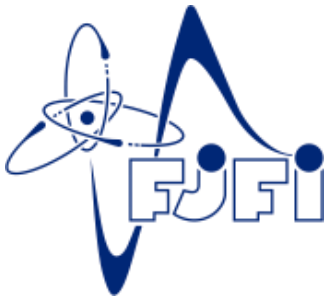




# Recent hard probes measurements from STAR experiment



Jaroslav Bielcik for the STAR collaboration  
Czech Technical University in Prague



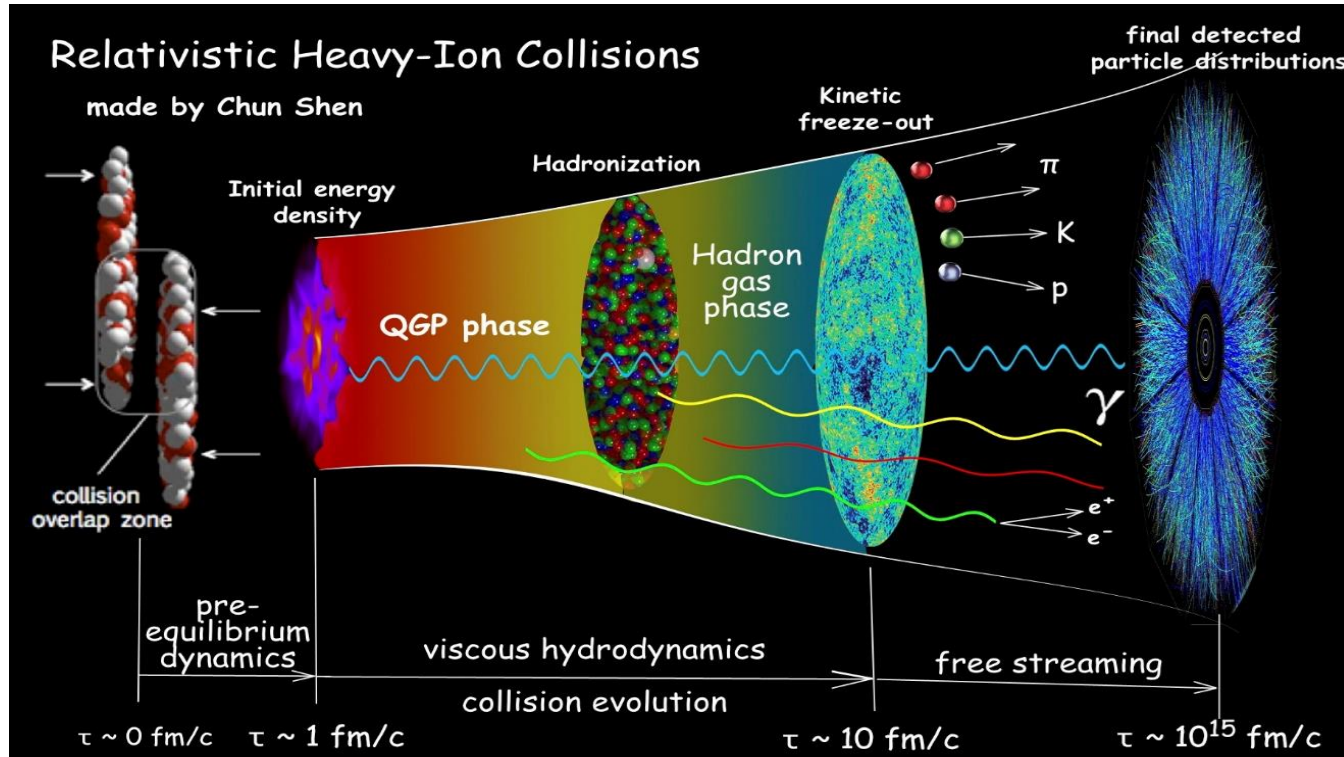
EUROPEAN UNION  
European Structural and Investment Funds  
Operational Programme Research,  
Development and Education



XII International Conference on New Frontiers in Physics, 10-22.7. 2023, Kolymbari, Crete



# Outline



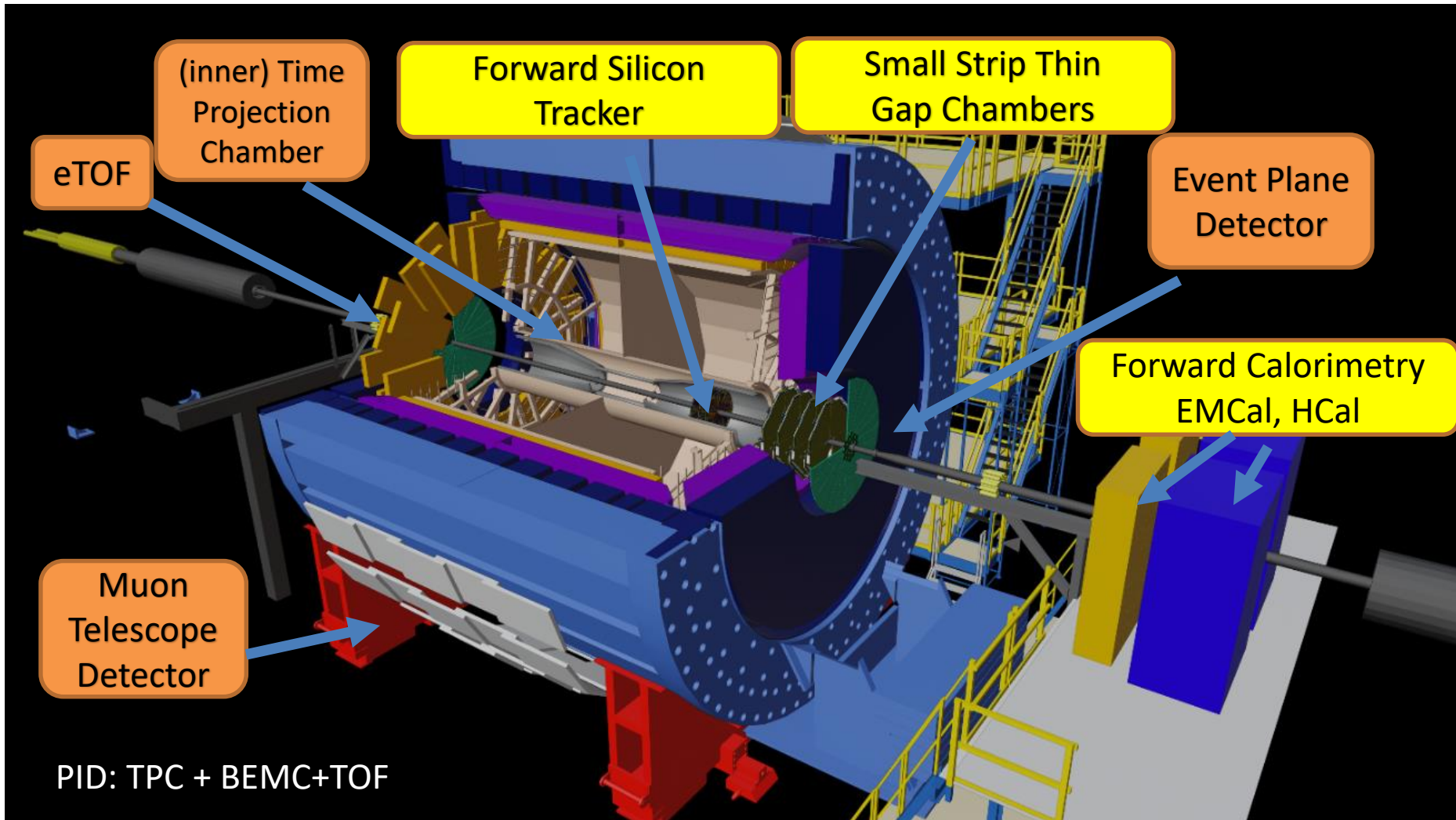
- Open heavy flavor measurements
- Quarkonium measurements
- Jet measurements



# STAR experiment

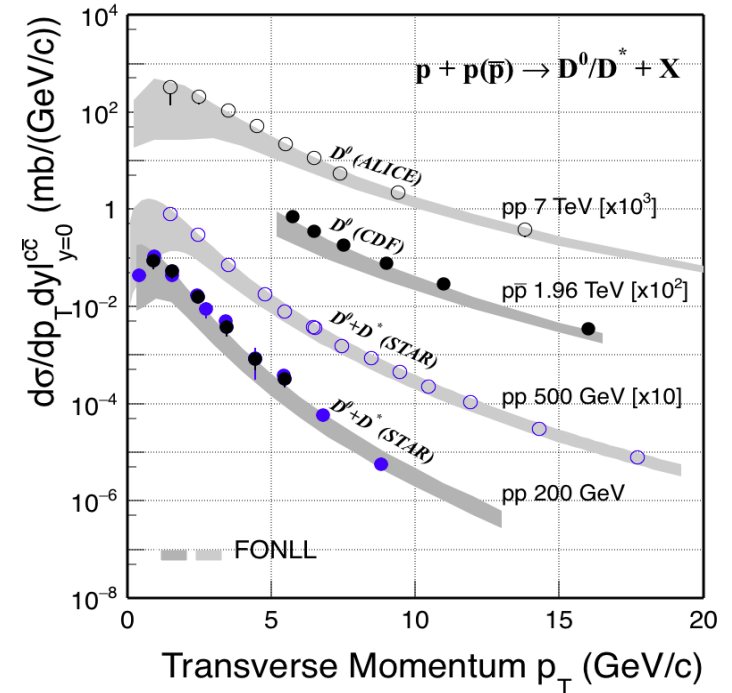
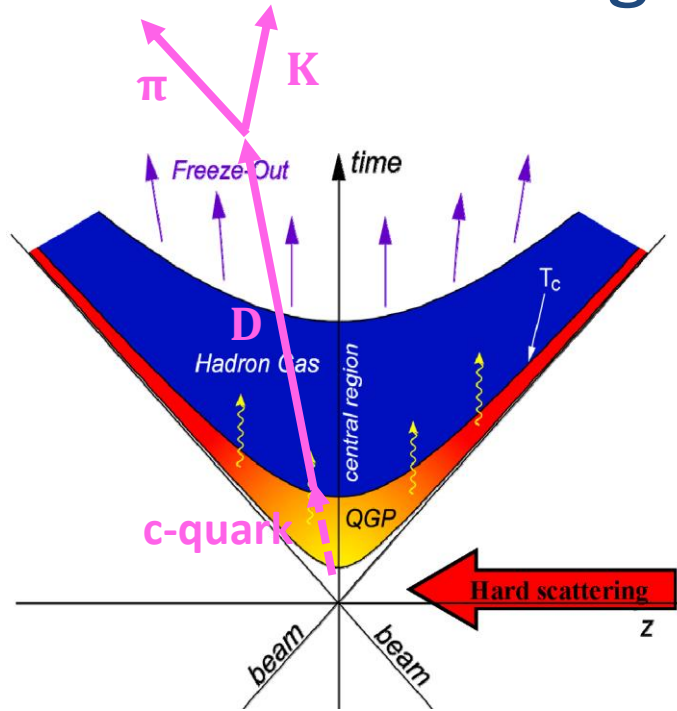
Forward upgrade:  $2.5 < \eta < 4$

Heavy flavor tracker: 2014-2016





# Probing QGP with charm quark



STAR: PRD 86 (2012) 072013, NPA 931 (2014) 520  
 CDF: PRL 91 (2003) 241804; ALICE: JHEP01 (2012) 128  
 FONLL: PRL 95 (2005) 122001

- Charm quark:  $m_c \gg T_{\text{QGP}}, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$
- Produced in hard scatterings at the early stage of nuclear collisions  $\rightarrow$  experience the entire evolution of medium
- We aim to understand charm quark energy loss in the medium, charm quark transport and hadronization
- Its production rates are well described by pQCD in elementary collisions





# Open charm hadron reconstruction

- Data from Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV collected with Heavy flavor tracker in years 2014 and 2016
- HFT allows direct **topological reconstruction** of open-charm hadrons via their hadronic decays
- Significant suppression of combinatorial background
- Decay channels used:

- $D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$ ,  $c\tau = (311.8 \pm 2.1) \mu\text{m}$

BR =  $(8.98 \pm 0.28) \%$

- $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ ,  $c\tau = (122.9 \pm 0.4) \mu\text{m}$

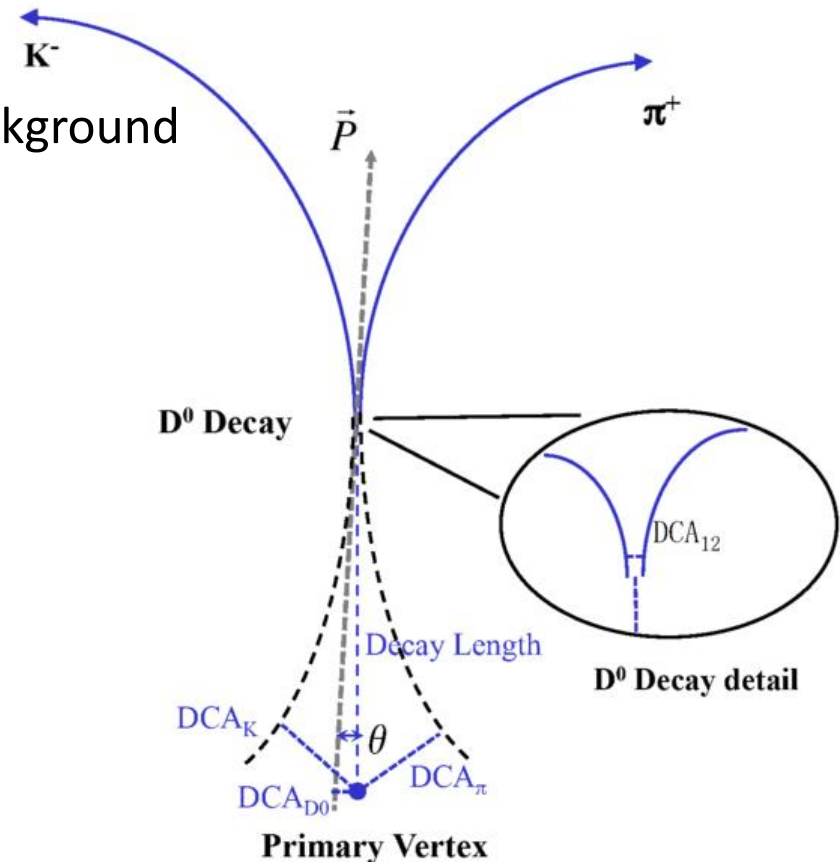
BR =  $(3.93 \pm 0.04) \%$

- $D_s \rightarrow \pi^+ \phi$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow K^- K^+$ ,  $c\tau = (149.9 \pm 2.1) \mu\text{m}$

BR =  $(2.27 \pm 0.08) \%$

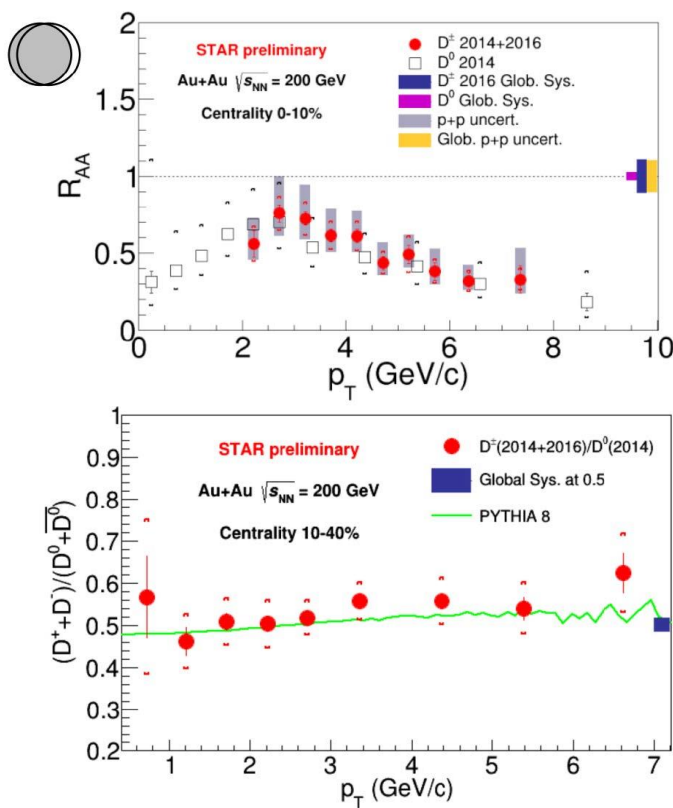
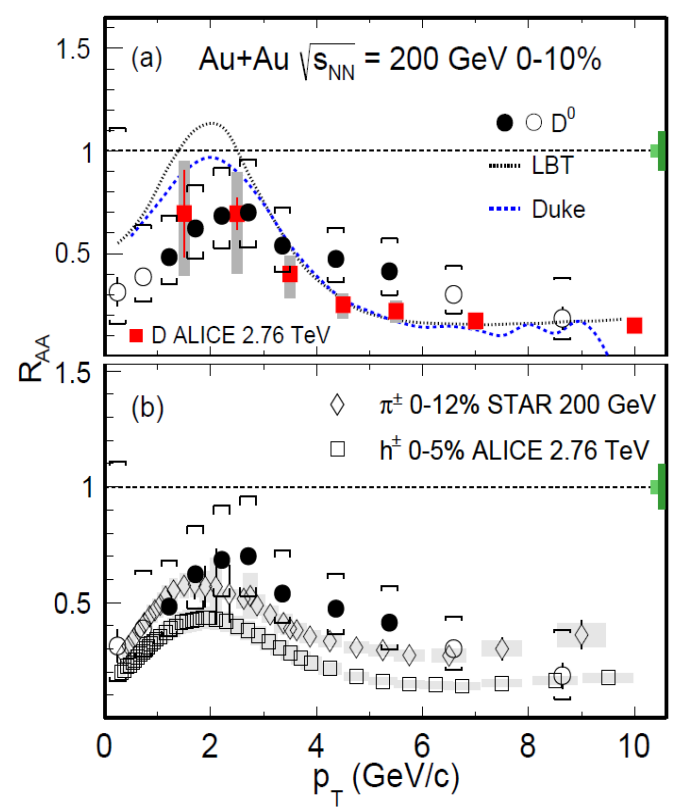
- $\Lambda_c \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ p$ ,  $c\tau = (59.9 \pm 1.8) \mu\text{m}$

BR =  $(6.35 \pm 0.33) \%$





# Nuclear modification factor $R_{AA}$ of $D^0$ and $D^\pm$



$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{dN_D^{AA}/dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle dN_D^{pp}/dp_T}$$

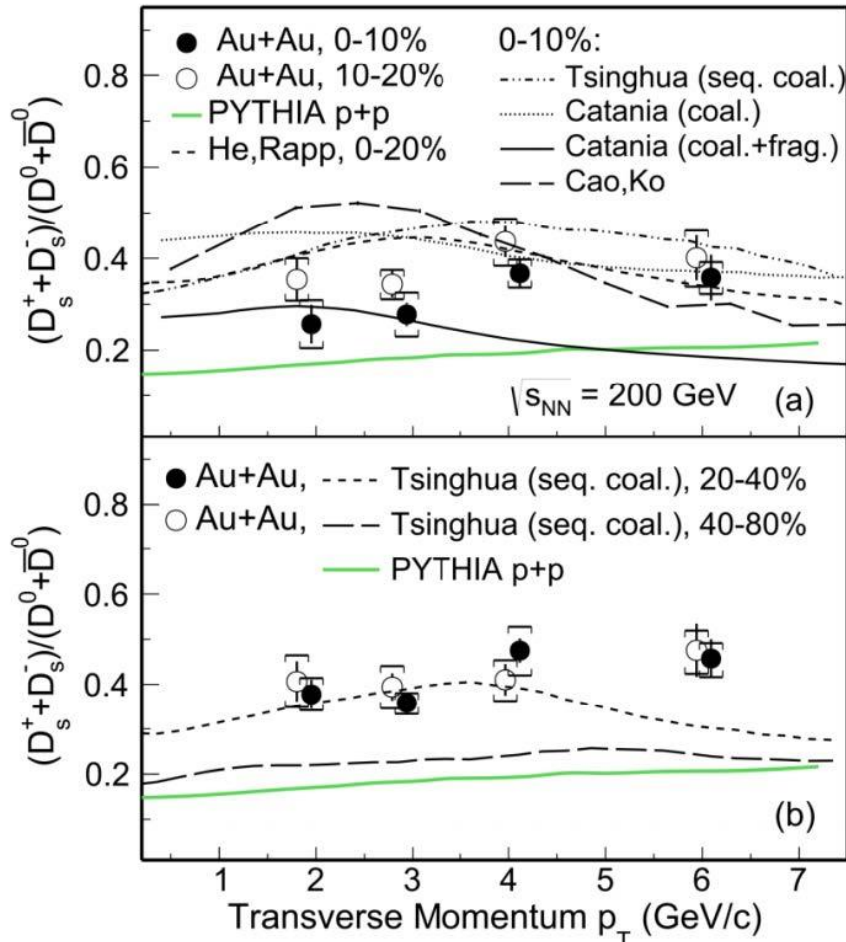
$D^0$  (STAR): Phys. Rev. C 99, 034908, (2019).  
 $\pi^\pm$  (STAR): Phys. Lett. B 655, 104 (2007).  
 $D$  (ALICE): JHEP 03, 081 (2016).  
 $h^\pm$  (ALICE): Phys. Lett. B 720, 52 (2013).  
 LBT: Phys. Rev. C 94, 014909, (2016).  
 Duke: Phys. Rev. C 97, 014907, (2018).

## Strong interaction between charm quarks and medium

- Suppression of  $D^0$  and  $D^\pm$  mesons at high  $p_T$  comparable to light-flavor hadrons at RHIC and D mesons at LHC
- Models incorporating both **radiative** and **collisional energy** loss explain the data
- $D^{+/-}/D^0$  yield ratio in Au+Au is consistent with PYTHIA8.



# $D_s/D^0$ yield ratio enhancement

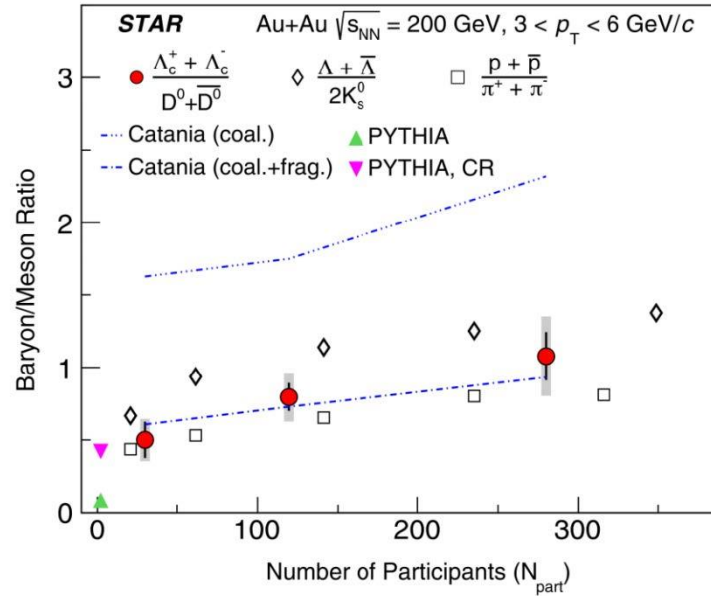
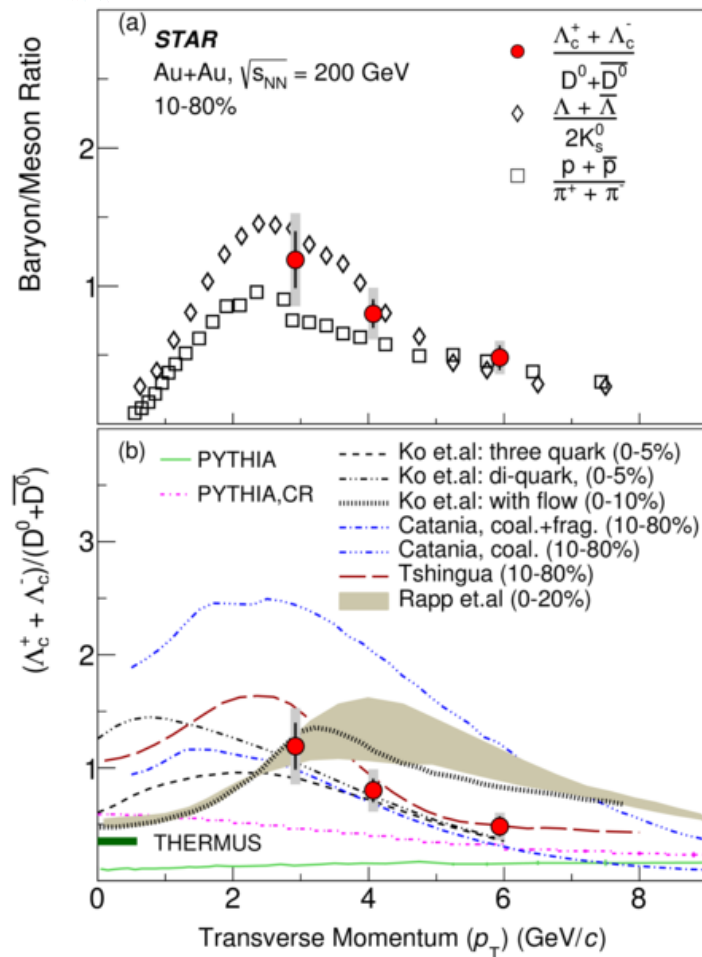


- **Observed strong enhancement of the  $D_s/D^0$  yield ratio** compared to PYTHIA 6.4 p+p baseline
- The enhancement can be qualitatively described by model calculations incorporating thermal abundance of strange quarks in the QGP and coalescence hadronization
- None of the models can describe the data in measured  $p_T$  range
- **Recombination** of charm quarks with strange quarks in the QGP plays an important role

STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127 (2021) 092301



# $\Lambda_c/D^0$ yield ratio



- $\Lambda_c/D^0$  ratio is comparable to baryon-to-meson ratios of light-flavor hadrons
  - Clear **enhancement** observed compared to PYTHIA 8.24
  - Most of the models incorporating charm quark hadronization via coalescence are consistent with data
  - Enhancement of ratio increases in central collision
- Importance of coalescence of charm quarks**

STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 172301





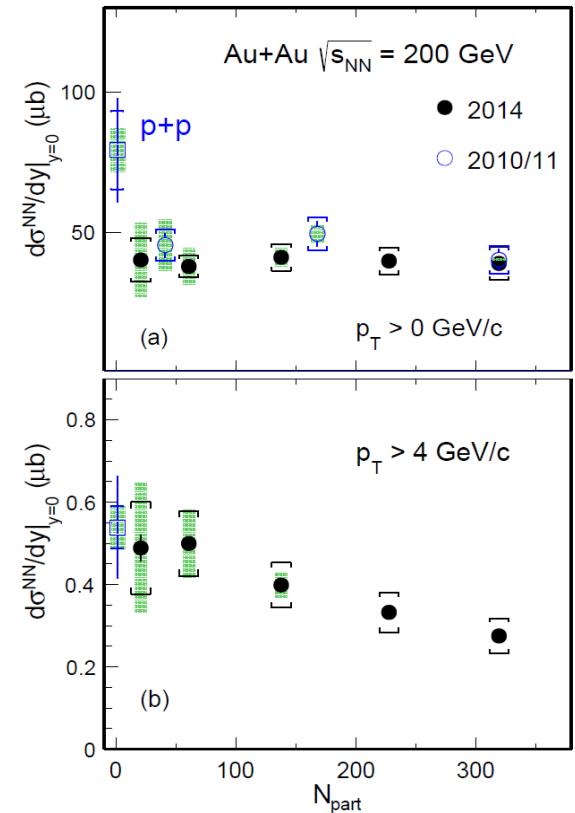
# Charm production cross section

Collision System	Hadron	$d\sigma_{NN}/dy$ [ $\mu\text{b}$ ]
Au+Au at 200 GeV Centrality: 10-40% $0 < p_T < 8$ GeV/c	$D^0$ [1]	$39 \pm 1 \pm 1$
	$D^\pm$	$18 \pm 1 \pm 3^*$
	$D_s$ [2]	$15 \pm 2 \pm 4$
	$\Lambda_c$ [3]	$40 \pm 6 \pm 27^{**}$
	<b>Total</b>	$112 \pm 6 \pm 27$
p+p at 200 GeV [4]	<b>Total</b>	$130 \pm 30 \pm 26$

\* Preliminary  $D^{+/-}$  results    \*\*  $\Lambda_c$  cross-section using  $\Lambda_c/D^0$  yield ratio

- Total charm production **cross-section per binary collision** in Au+Au
  - Au+Au result is consistent with that measured in p+p collisions within uncertainties

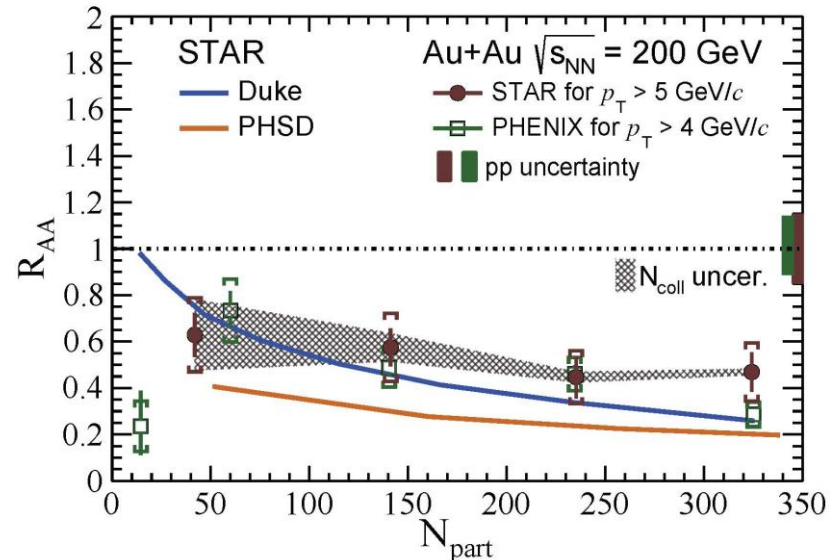
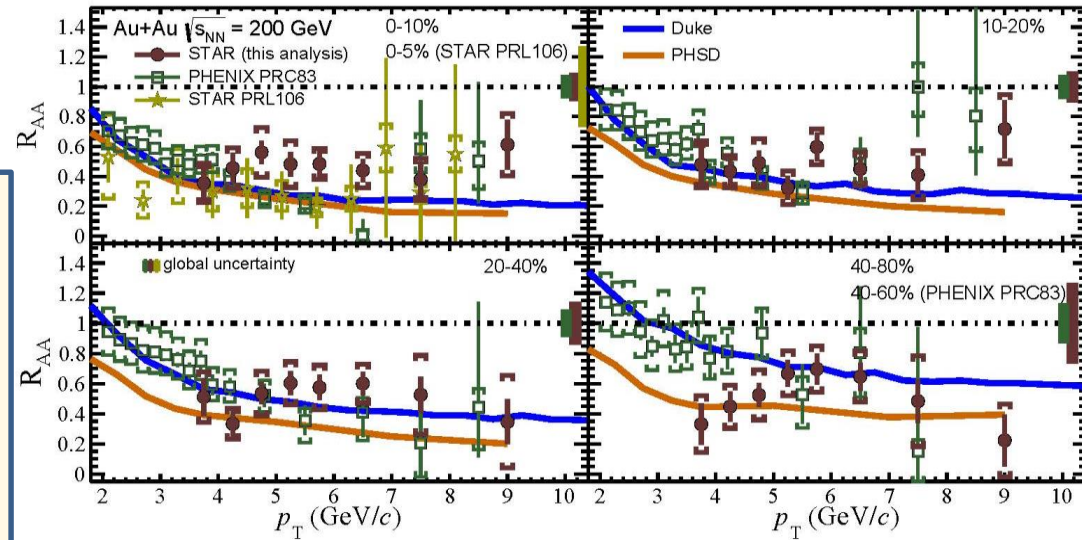
[1]  $D^0$  (STAR): Phys. Rev. C 99, 034908, (2019)  
 [2]  $D_s$  (STAR): Phys. Rev. Lett. 127 (2021) 092301  
 [3]  $\Lambda_c$  (STAR): Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 172301  
 [4] p+p (STAR): Phys. Rev. D 86 072013, (2012)





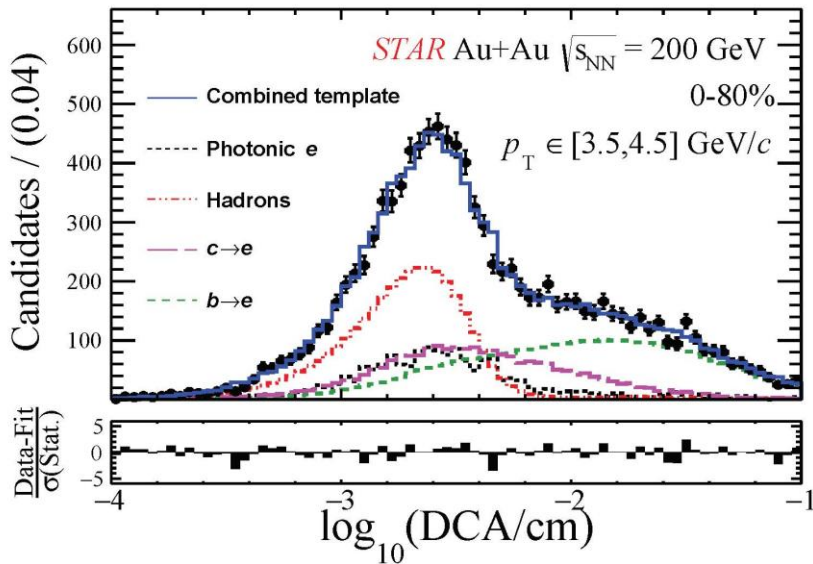
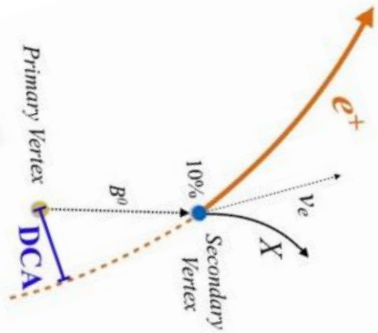
# Electrons from HF hadron decays

- Precise high- $p_T$  measurement  
 $3.5 < p_T < 9 \text{ GeV}/c$
- A suppression by about a factor of 2 is observed in central and semi-central collisions
- No  $p_T$  dependence observed
- A hint of  $R_{AA}$  decreasing from peripheral to central collisions
- Models describe the data well
- Indication of substantial energy loss of heavy quarks in the QGP

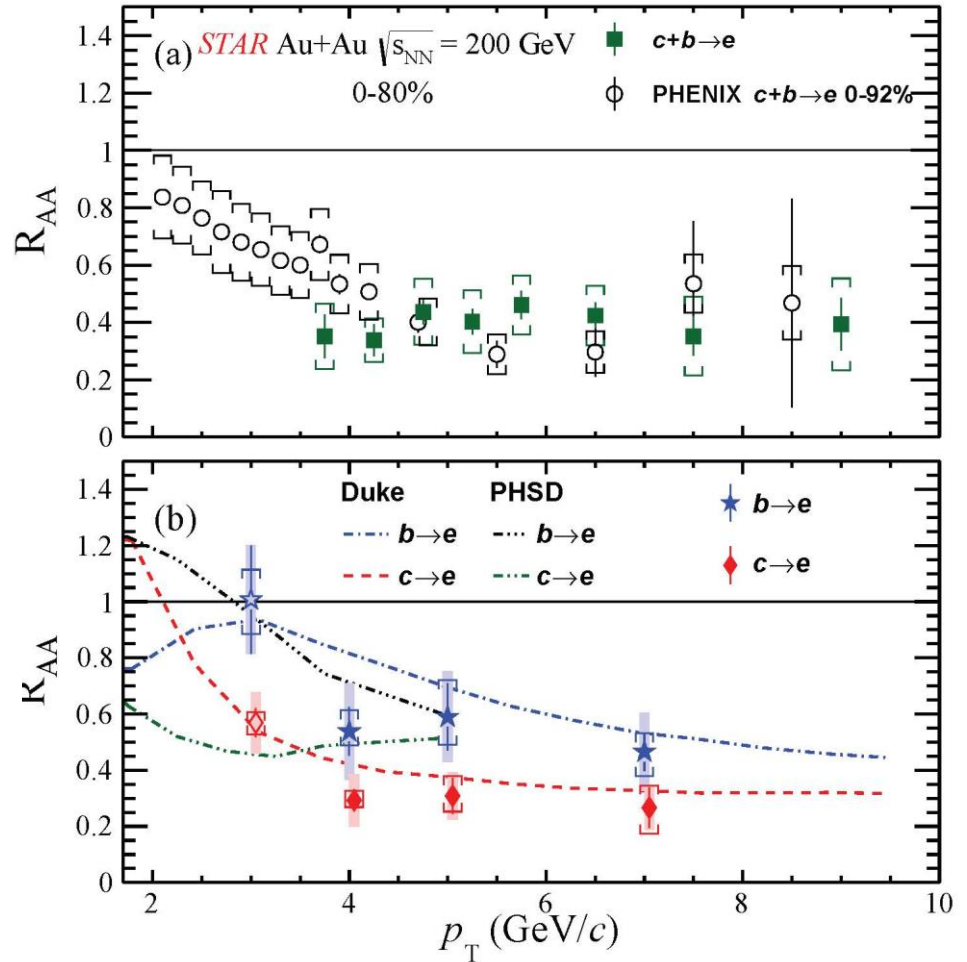




# Mass ordering of heavy quarks energy loss



STAR Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 1150 (2022)



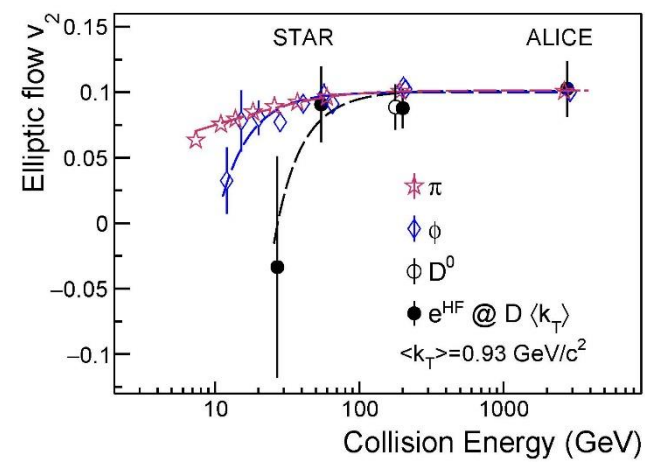
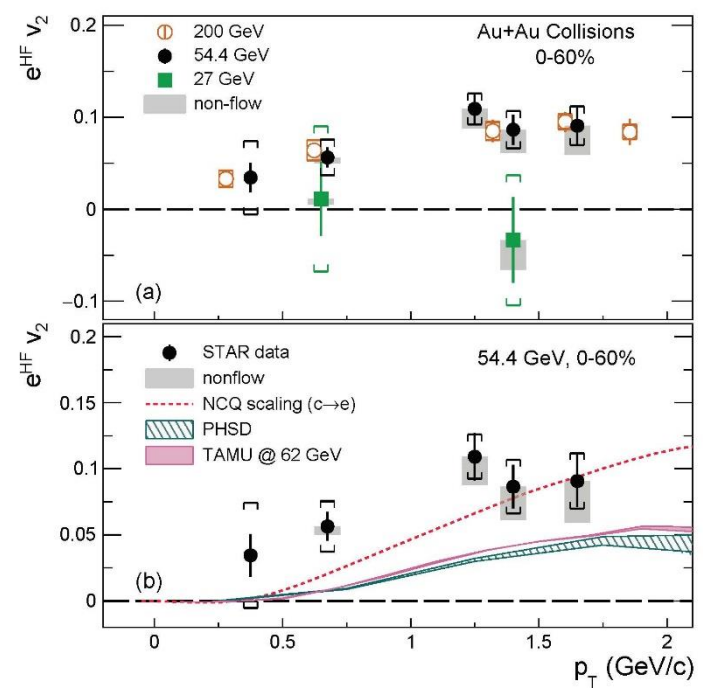
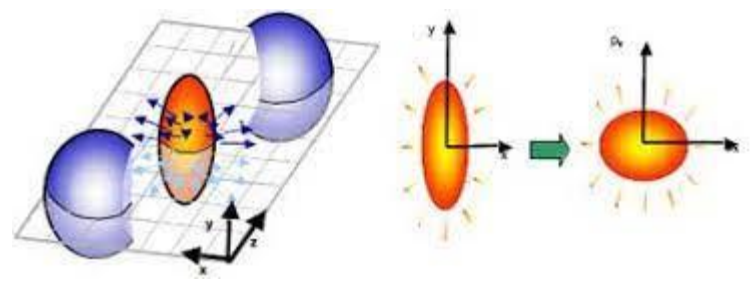
Heavy-flavor hadron decayed electrons:  $c \rightarrow e$  and  $b \rightarrow e$  **separation** in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions thanks to HFT

- Observation of less suppression for  $B \rightarrow e$  than  $D \rightarrow e$
- Consistent with expected mass hierarchy for parton energy loss  $\Delta E_c > \Delta E_b$  11



# Energy dependence of HFE elliptic flow

$$v_2 = \langle \cos[2(\varphi - \Psi_2)] \rangle$$



STAR: arXiv:2303.03546 (PLB accepted)

- $v_2$  vs coll. energy  $\rightarrow$  temperature dependence of charm quark diffusion coefficient
- At 27 GeV  $v_2$  of c,b  $\rightarrow$  e consistent with zero
- Significant non-zero  $v_2$  of c,b  $\rightarrow$  e at 54.4 – 200 GeV
- At low  $p_T$  models underestimate data
- **HF quarks interact strongly with the medium at 54.4 – 200 GeV**
- A hint of mass hierarchy is observed where the  $v_2$  of heavier particles drops faster than lighter ones with decreasing collision energy



# Quarkonium states in A+A

Charmonia:  $J/\psi$ ,  $\psi'$ ,  $\chi_c$

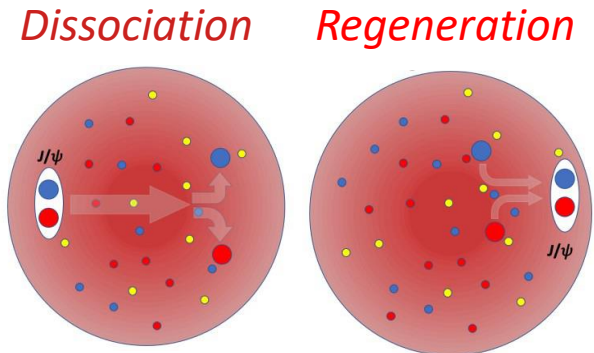
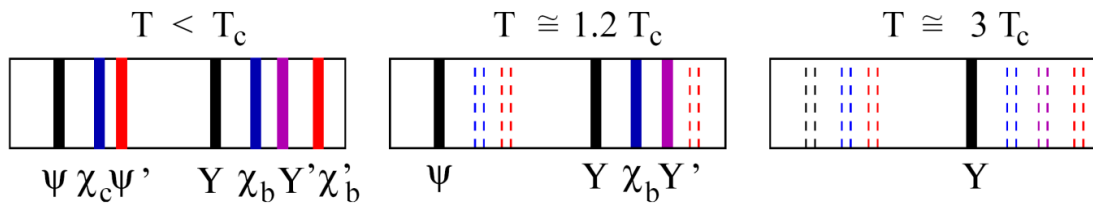
Bottomonia:  $\Upsilon(1S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(2S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(3S)$

Hot nuclear matter:

QQbar potential and spectral function modified in the QCD medium w.r.t. vacuum

- Dissociation** due to color screening and **regeneration**

$$T_{\text{diss}}(\psi') \approx T_{\text{diss}}(\chi_c) < T_{\text{diss}}(\Upsilon(3S)) < T_{\text{diss}}(J/\psi) \approx T_{\text{diss}}(\Upsilon(2S)) < T_{\text{diss}}(\Upsilon(1S))$$



- Sequential suppression of states is determined by  $T_c$  and their binding energy

Cold nuclear matter (p+Au):

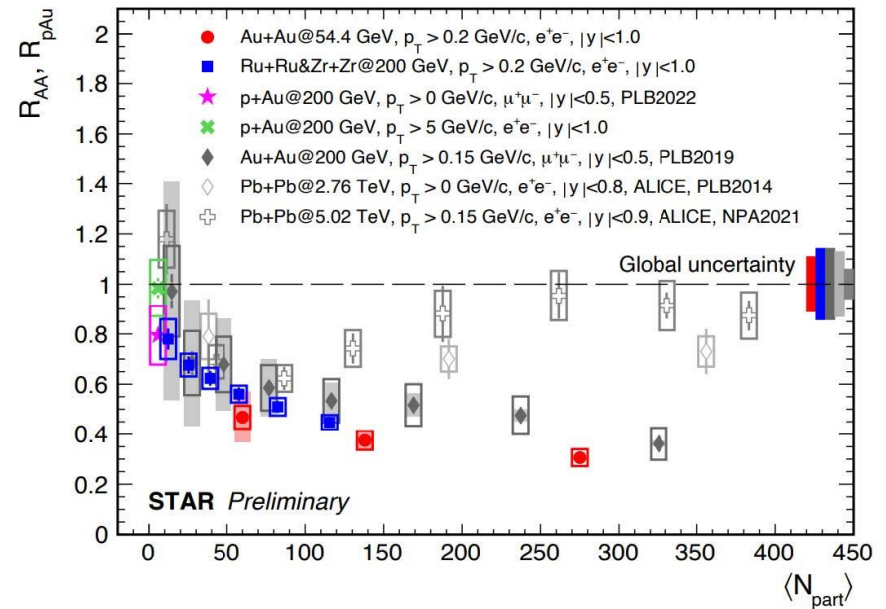
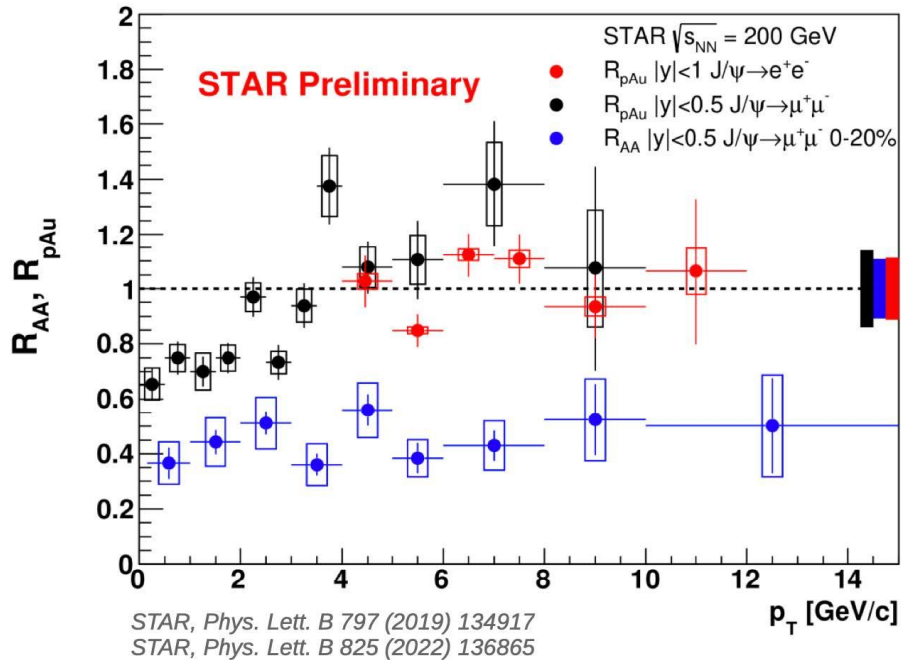
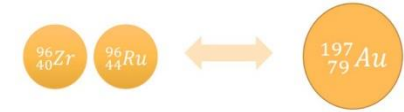
- Modification of PDFs, nuclear absorption, coherent energy loss, co-mover absorption...

Production mechanism (p+p)





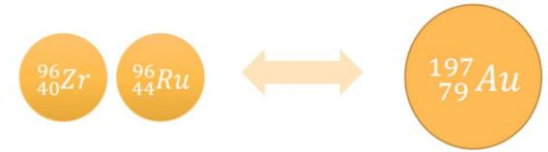
# J/ψ production in heavy-ion collisions



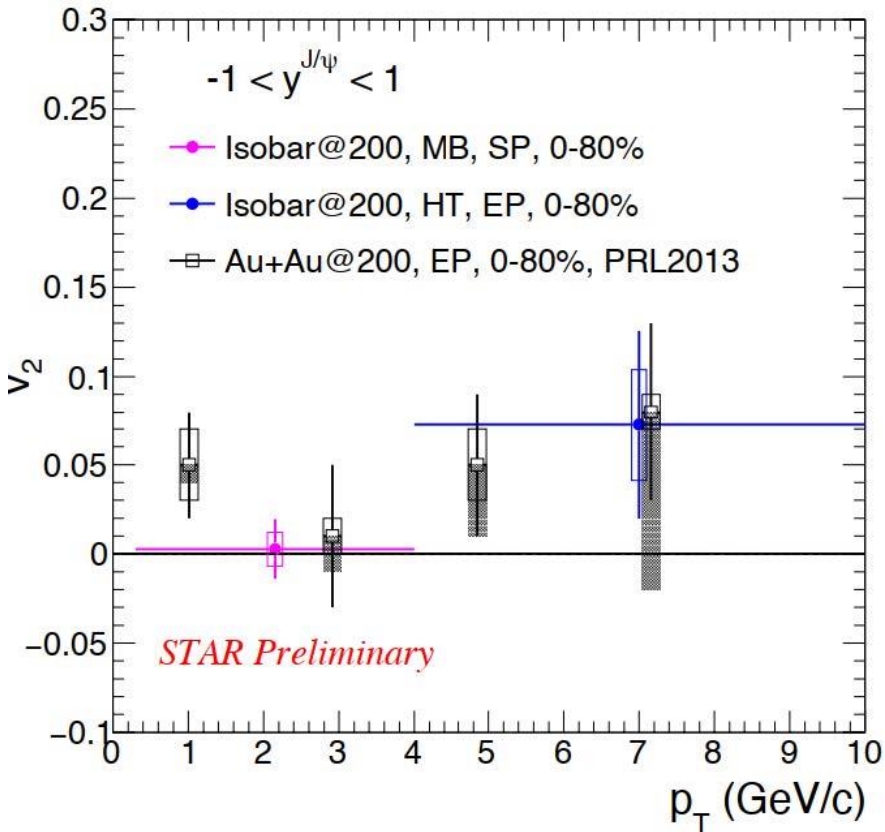
- Low p<sub>T</sub> < 2 GeV/c: Cold nuclear matter effects are **not negligible**
- High p<sub>T</sub>: **suppression in Au+Au** due to QGP
- No significant collision system dependence of the J/ψ suppression at similar <N<sub>part</sub>>
- Suppression driven by system energy density
- At high p<sub>T</sub>: Strong suppression at RHIC and regeneration at LHC



# J/ψ elliptic flow



Isobar: Ru+Ru&Zr+Zr@200 GeV

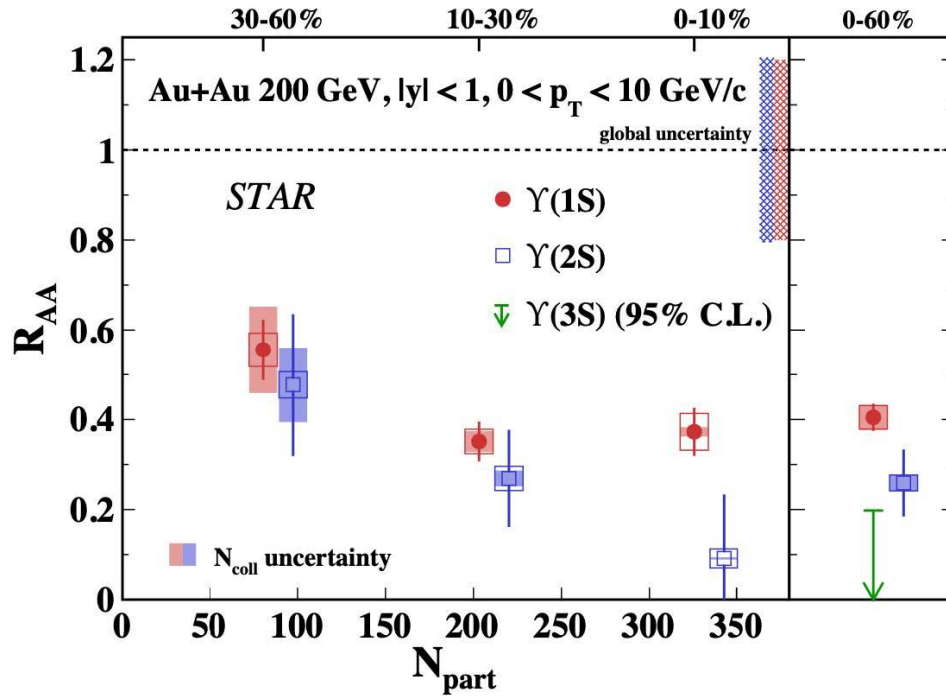


- More precise  $v_2$  measurement at  $p_T < 4$  GeV/c than in previous Au+Au 200 GeV
- $v_2 = 0.003 \pm 0.017(stat.) \pm 0.010(sys.)$
- Indication of **little regeneration** and/or small charm quark flow

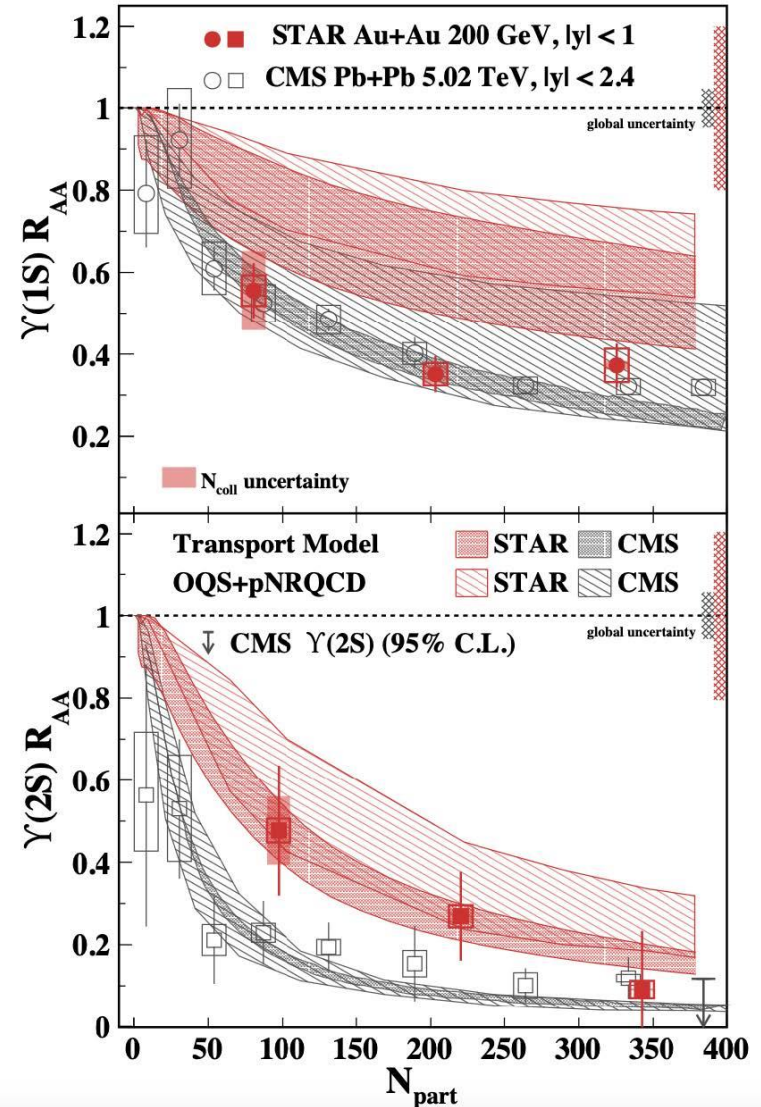
Au+Au: Phys. Rev. Lett. 111 (2013) 52301



# Y(nS) suppression in heavy-ion collisions



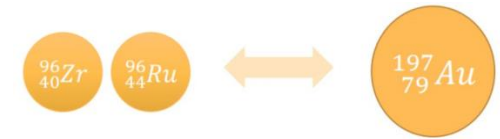
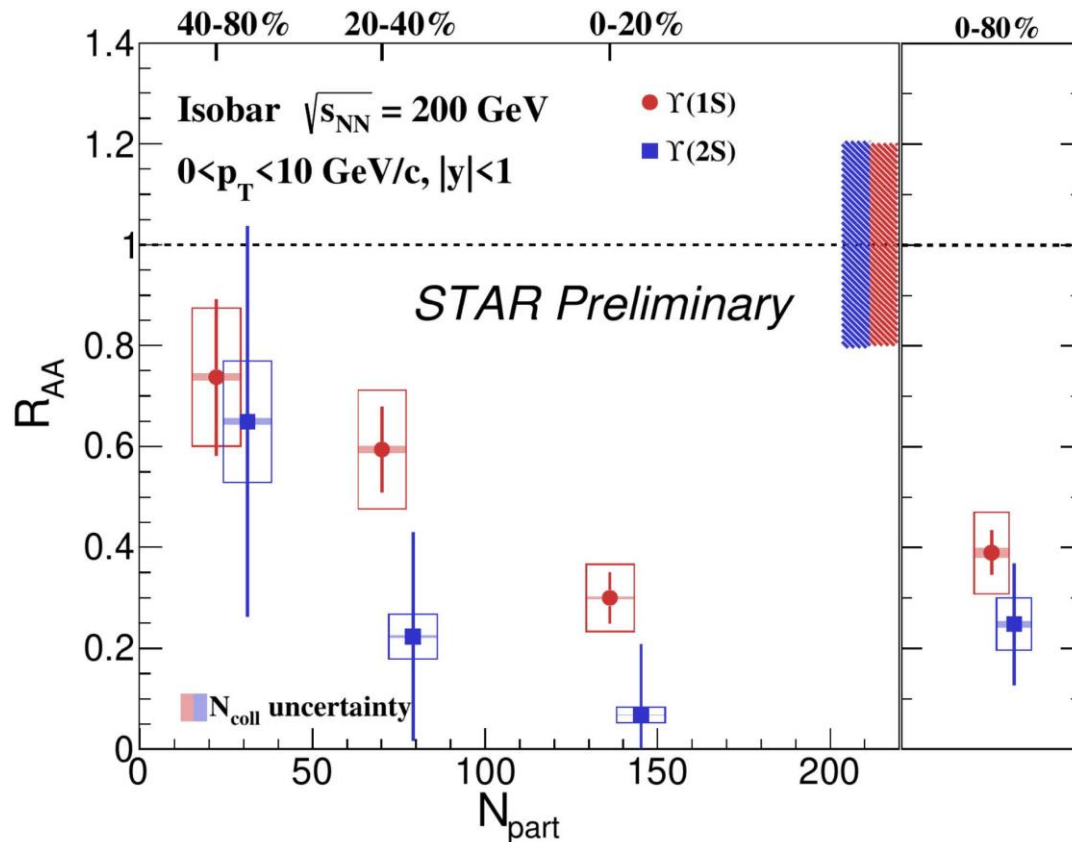
- Observed **sequential suppression** of different Y(nS) states:  $R_{AA}[Y(1S) > Y(2S) > Y(3S)]$
- Y(1S): Similar suppression at RHIC and LHC
- Y(2S): Less suppression in peripheral collisions at RHIC



Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (2023) 112301



# Y(1S), Y(2S) suppression in isobaric collisions



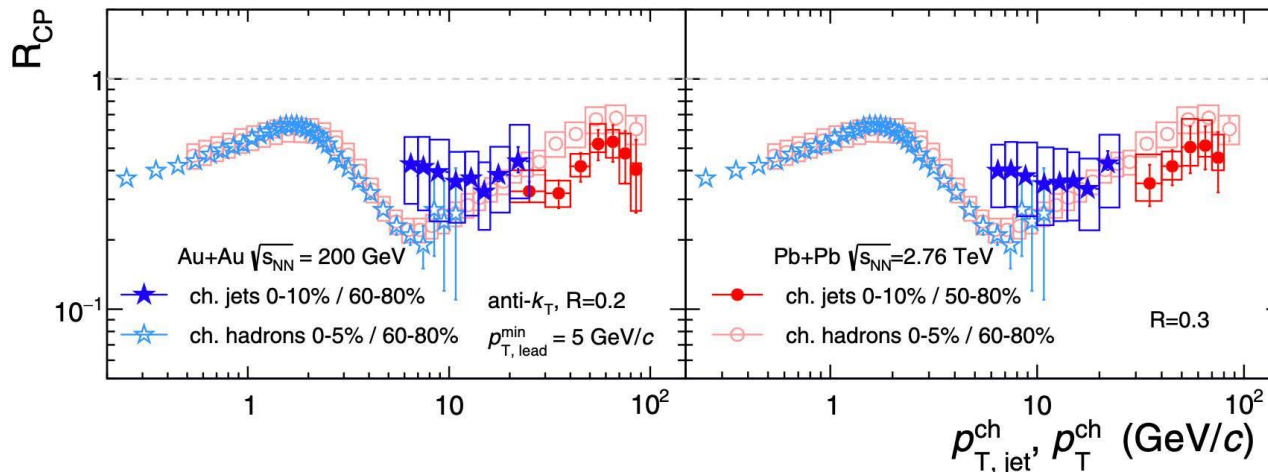
- Similar level of suppression of Y(1S) and Y(2S) observed in isobar collision as in Au+Au 200 GeV
- Significant suppression, increasing with collision centrality
- Hint of **sequential suppression** of Y(nS) states:  $R_{AA}[Y(1S) > Y(2S)]$



# Jets

- Jets – clusters of final- state particles resulting from QCD evolution of hard scattered partons
- Jets – well established hard probe of QGP
- Modifications to the jet energy and structure in Au+Au relative to those in  $p + p$  or  $p+Au$  collisions -> due to the transport properties of the QGP

STAR: PRC 102, 054913 (2020)



$$R_{CP} = \frac{\left(\frac{d^2 N_{AA}}{dp_T d\eta}\right)^{cent} / N_{coll}^{cent}}{\left(\frac{d^2 N_{AA}}{dp_T d\eta}\right)^{periph} / N_{coll}^{periph}}$$

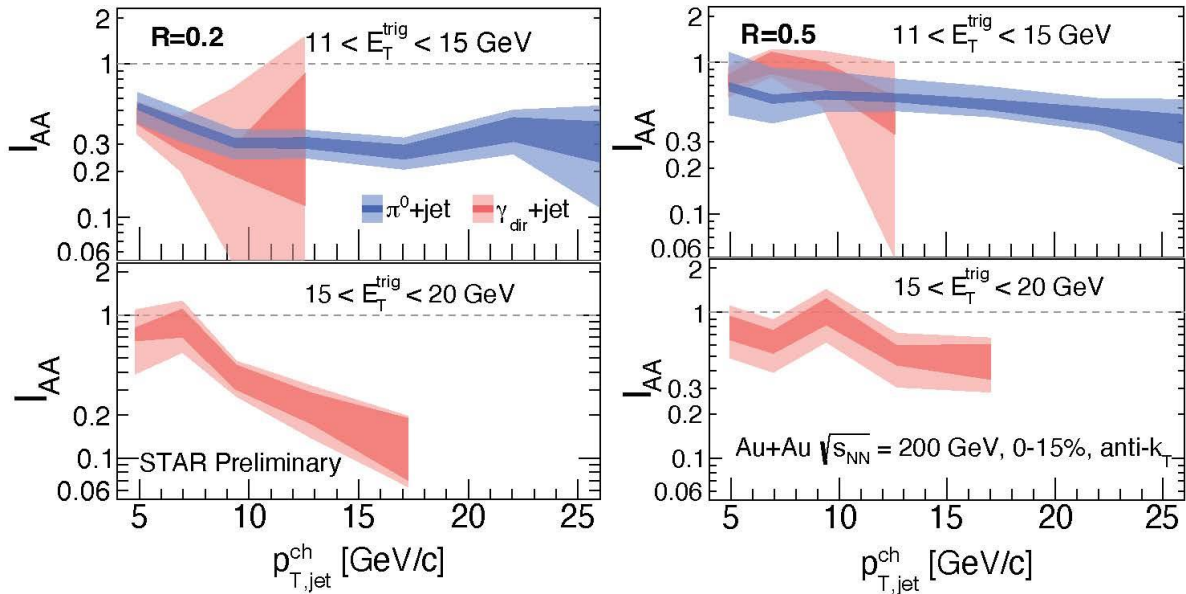
- Inclusive charged jet suppression  $R_{CP}$  at RHIC and LHC comparable
- Recent jet measurements address jet modifications using jet substructure measurements like — jet mass, jet shape, etc.



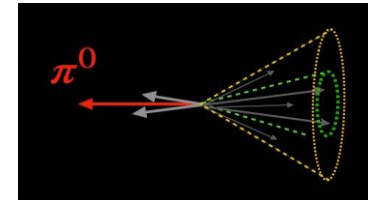
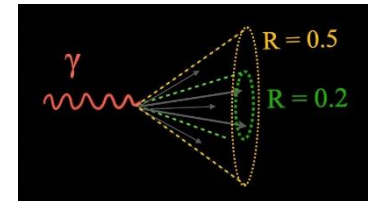


# Nuclear modification factor of recoil jets

- Semi-inclusive  $\gamma$ +jet and  $\pi^0$ +jet measurement



$$I_{AA} = Y_{\text{Au+Au}} / Y_{\text{p+p}}$$

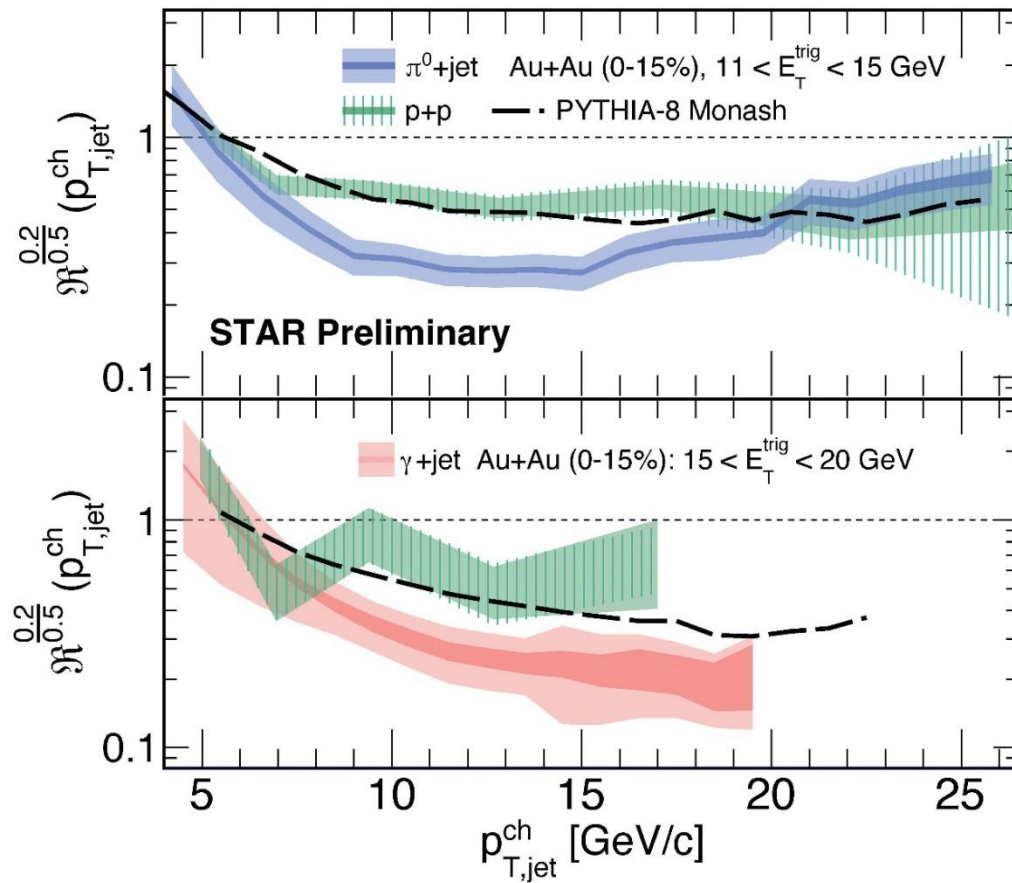


- Recoil jet yield is more suppressed for  $R=0.2$  than  $R=0.5$  indicating lost jet energy redistribution in the medium
- $\gamma$ +jet and  $\pi^0$ +jet show similar level of suppression, within uncertainty

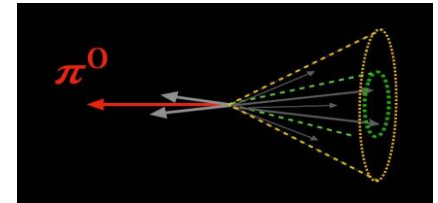
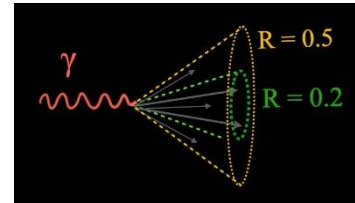


# Jet-medium interaction

- Semi-inclusive  $\gamma$ +jet and  $\pi^0$ +jet measurement



$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{large-R}}^{\text{small-R}} = \frac{Y(p_T^{\text{jet,ch}})^{\text{small-R}}}{Y(p_T^{\text{jet,ch}})^{\text{large-R}}}$$



- In-medium intra-jet broadening in Au+Au w.r.t. p+p collisions
- Separating vacuum shower and in-medium radiation

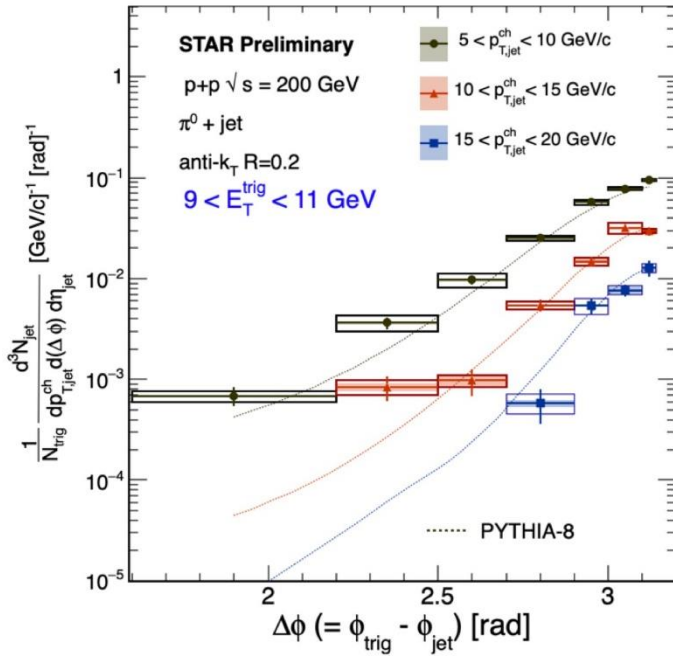
$\mathcal{R}^{0.2/0.5} < 1$  in p+p collisions due to jet radial profile in vacuum

$\mathcal{R}^{0.2/0.5}$  is smaller in Au+Au than in p+p indicating in-medium broadening of jet shower

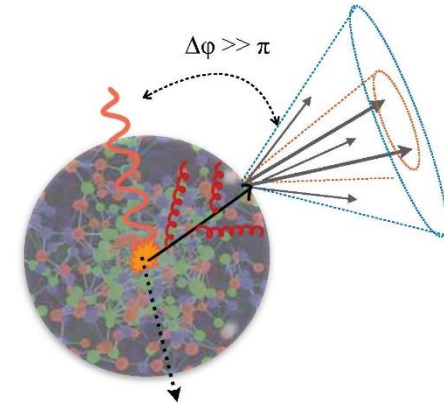
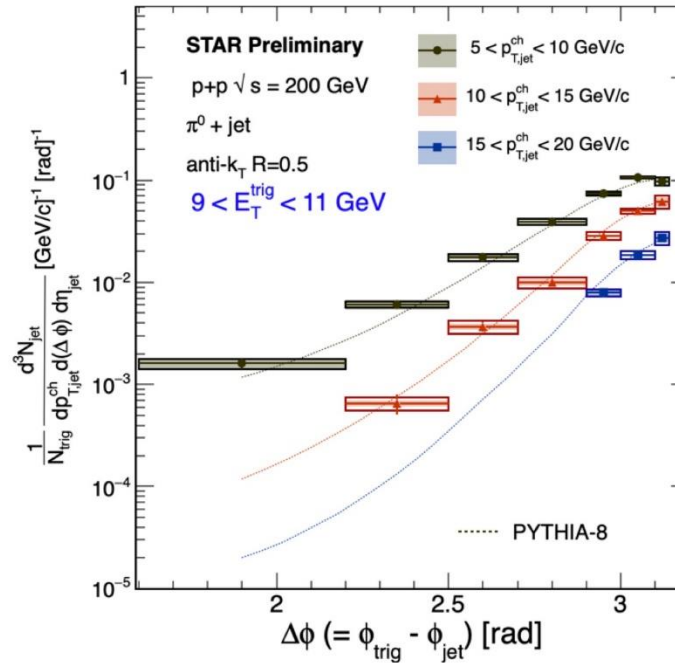


# $\pi^0$ +jet azimuthal correlation in p+p collisions

R=0.2



R=0.5

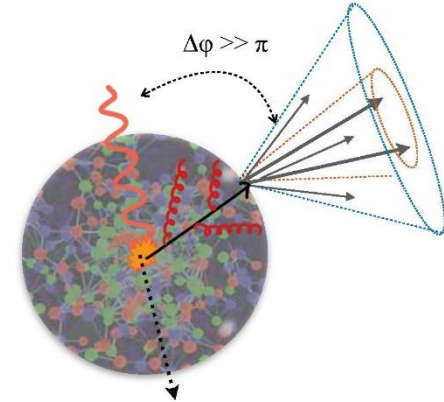
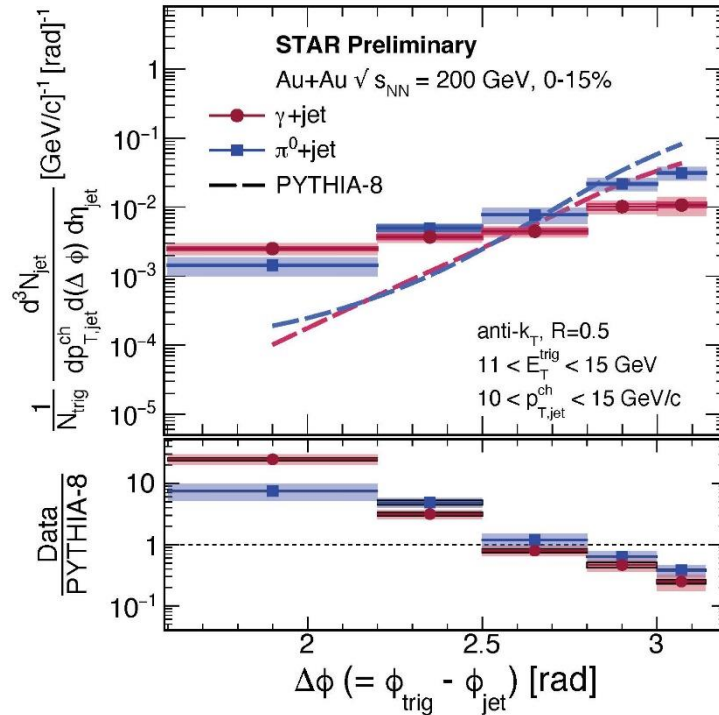


- PYTHIA-8 (MONASH tune) describes the  $\pi^0$  +jet azimuthal correlation in p+p 200 GeV well



# Jet acoplanarity in heavy-ion collisions

R=0.5

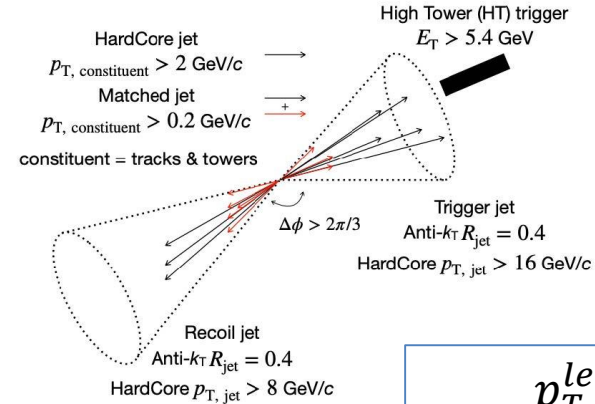
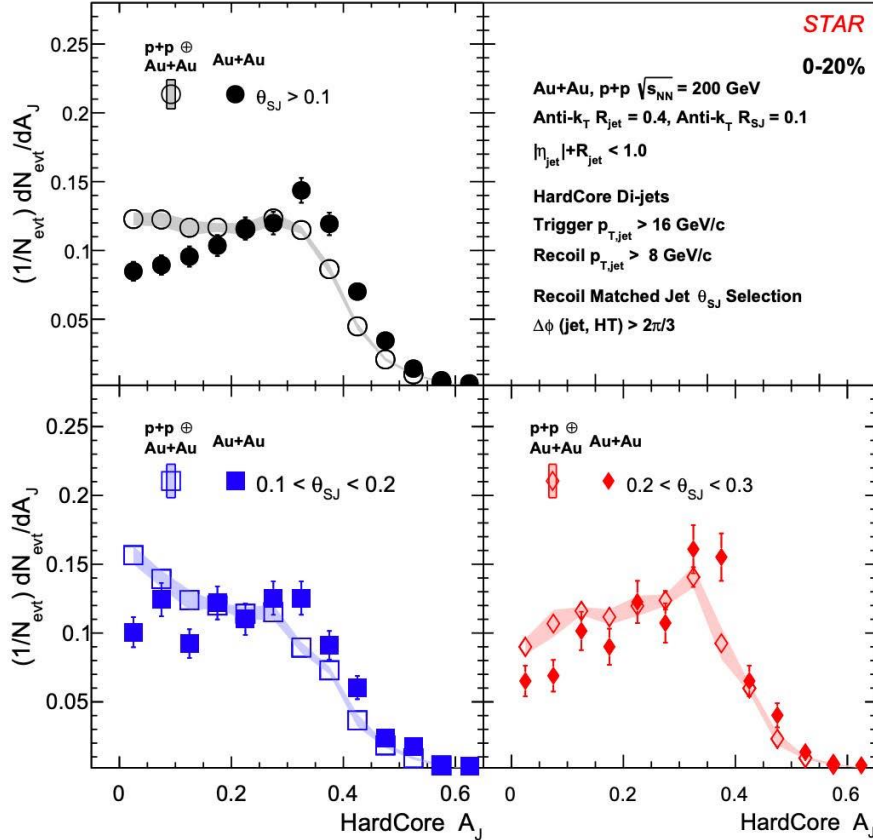


- Excess recoil jet yield around  $\pi/2$  - acoplanarity observed in Au+Au collisions (jets with R=0.5)
  - In-medium jet scattering?
  - Medium response?

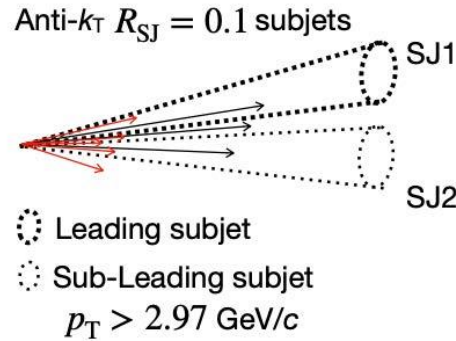


# Dijet asymmetry

## HARDCORE



$$A_J = \frac{p_{T,jet}^{lead} - p_{T,jet}^{sub}}{p_{T,jet}^{lead} + p_{T,jet}^{sub}}$$



$$\theta_{SJ} = \Delta R_{SJ1, SJ2}$$

STAR, Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 044906

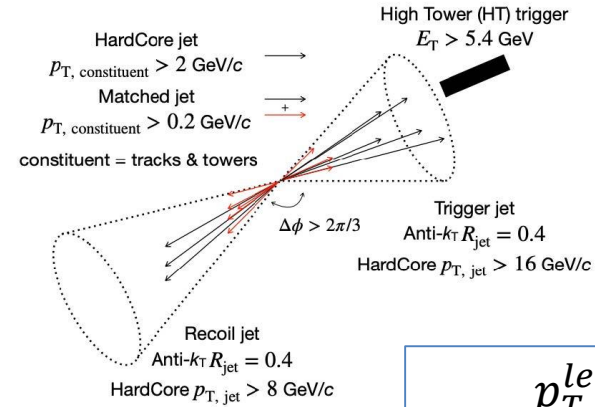
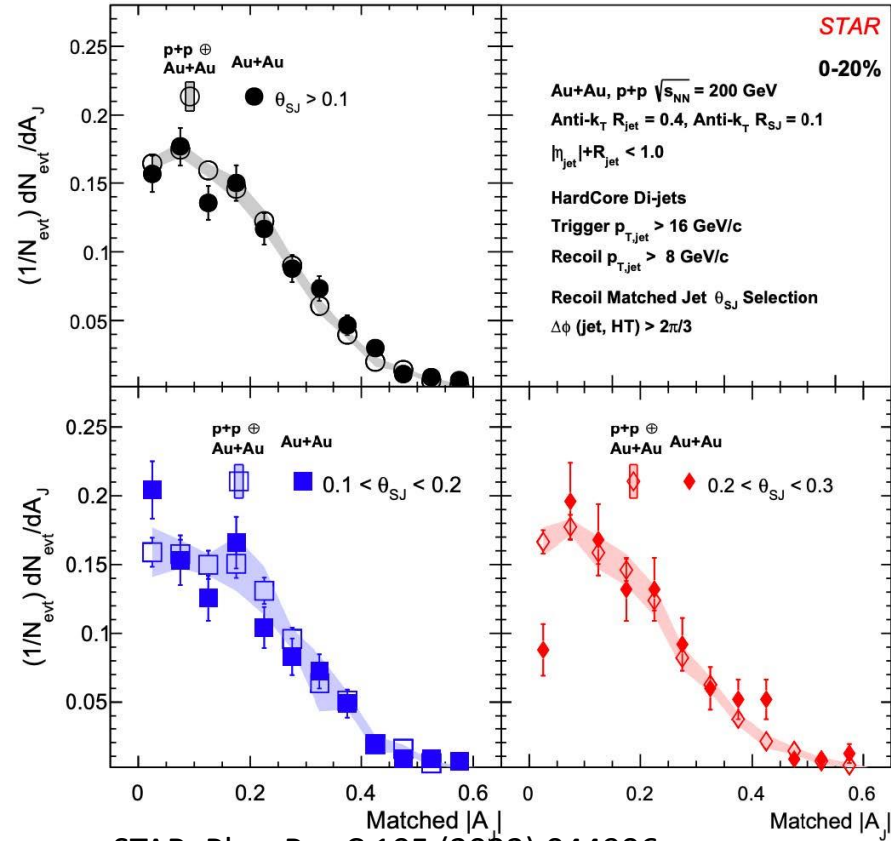
- Disagreement between Au+Au and p+p ⊕ Au+Au at all angles — jets are modified in Au+Au





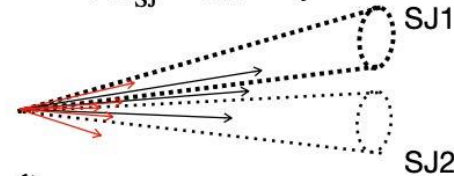
# Dijet asymmetry

## MATCHED



$$A_J = \frac{p_{T,jet}^{lead} - p_{T,jet}^{sub}}{p_{T,jet}^{lead} + p_{T,jet}^{sub}}$$

Anti- $k_T$   $R_{SJ} = 0.1$  subjets



- Leading subjet
- Sub-Leading subjet
- $p_T > 2.97$  GeV/c

$$\theta_{SJ} = \Delta R_{SJ1,SJ2}$$

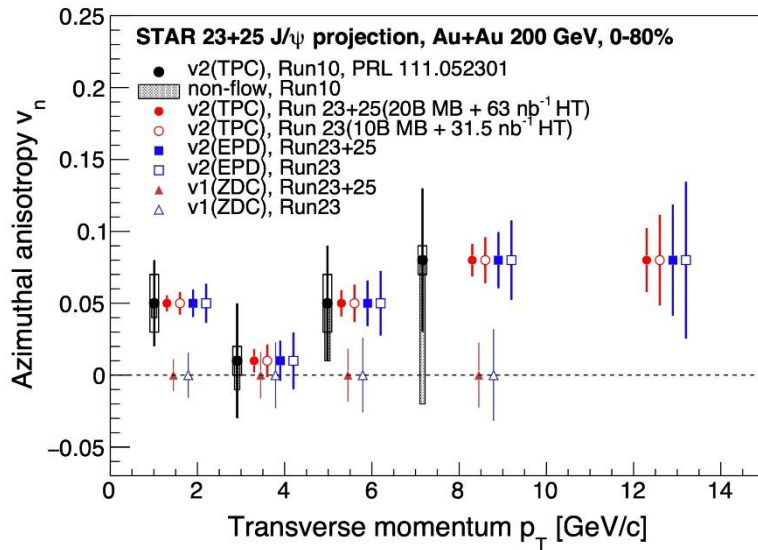
- No difference between Au+Au and p+p  $\oplus$  Au+Au — for matched to HardCore jets
- Matches jets are balanced – energy recovered
- No angular dependence
- Consistent with recoil jet loses energy as single color charge radiating in medium**



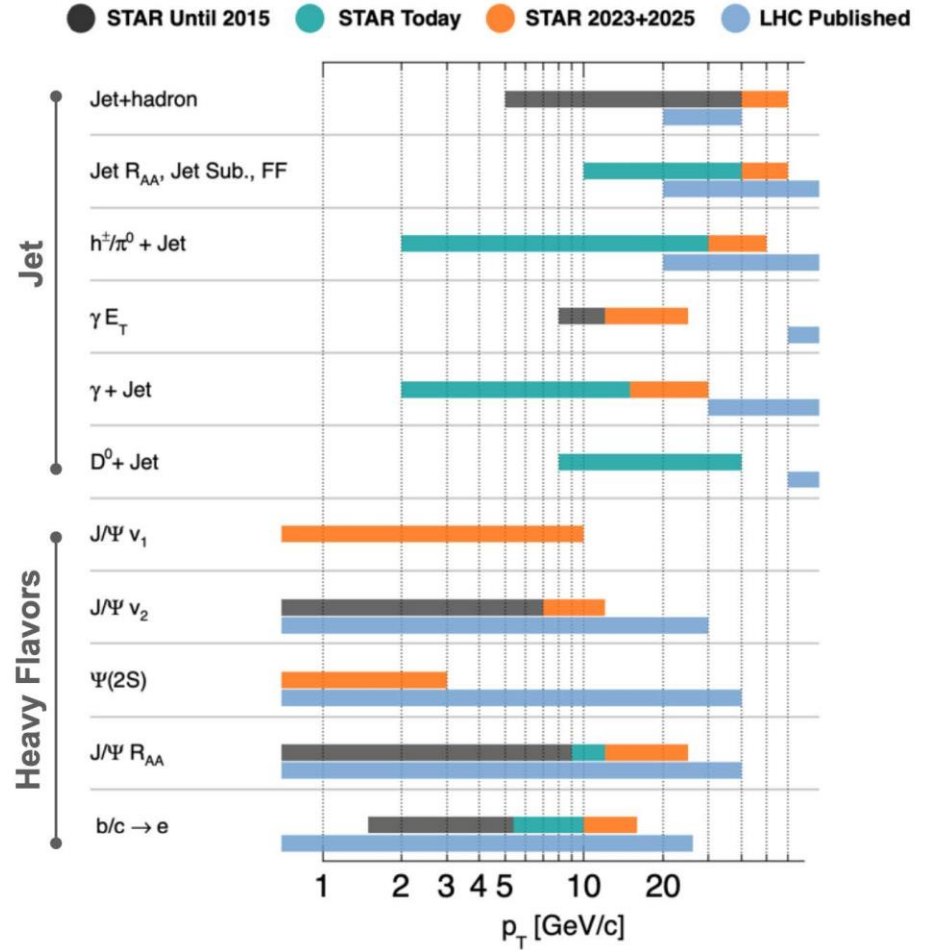
# Outlook of 2023-2025

## STAR BUR-2022:

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Species	Number Events/ Sampled Luminosity	Year
200	Au+Au	20B / 40 nb <sup>-1</sup>	2023+2025
200	<i>p+p</i>	235 pb <sup>-1</sup>	2024
200	<i>p+Au</i>	1.3 pb <sup>-1</sup>	2024



- Broader momentum coverage at RHIC
- Complementarity between RHIC and LHC



[https://indico.bnl.gov/event/15148/attachments/40846/68609/STAR\\_BUR\\_Runs23\\_25\\_\\_\\_2022\(1\).pdf](https://indico.bnl.gov/event/15148/attachments/40846/68609/STAR_BUR_Runs23_25___2022(1).pdf)



# Summary

- STAR extensively studied production of open-charmed hadrons, quarkonia and jets
- **$D^0$ ,  $D^\pm$  meson  $R_{AA}$  and HFE  $v_2$**  in Au+Au collisions:
  - Indicate strong charm-medium interactions
- **$\Lambda_c/D^0$  and  $D_s/D^0$**  yield ratios are enhanced in Au+Au collisions with respect to p+p collisions
  - Coalescence plays an important role in charm quark hadronization
- Indication of less suppression for  **$B \rightarrow e$  than  $D \rightarrow e$** 
  - Consistent with expected mass hierarchy of parton energy loss
- **J/ $\psi$  suppression**: no significant collision system and energy dependence
  - Interplay of dissociation and regeneration effects
- **Sequential  $Y$**  suppression at RHIC
- **Jet** suppression and acoplanarity:
  - Manifestation of jet-medium interactions
- **Dijet asymmetry**:
  - No angular dependence of jet energy loss for recoiled matched jets

Many jet substructure measurements in p+p collision...