

# The QCD Medium Properties at Finite Baryon Density

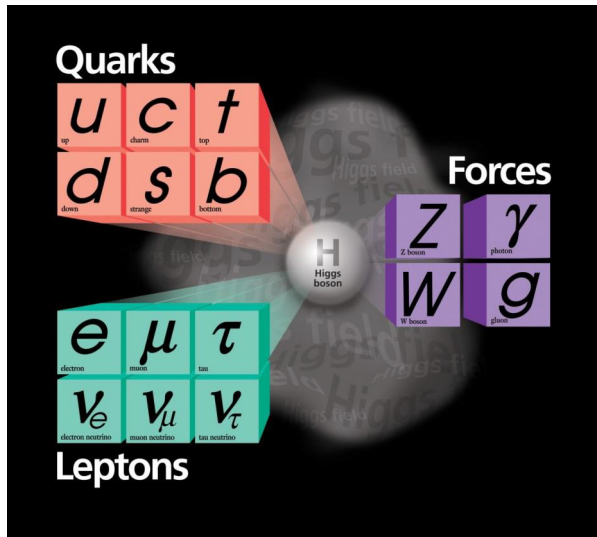
- Search for the QCD Critical Point in HIC

Nu Xu<sup>(1,2)</sup>



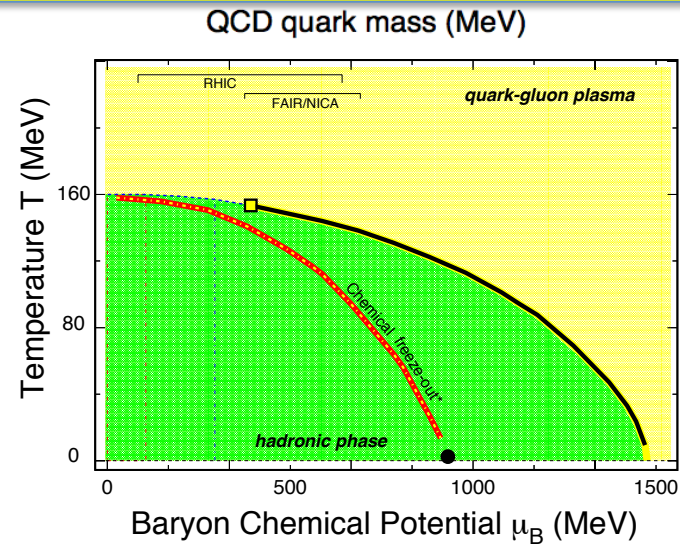
*(1) College of Physical Science & Technology, Central China Normal University, China*

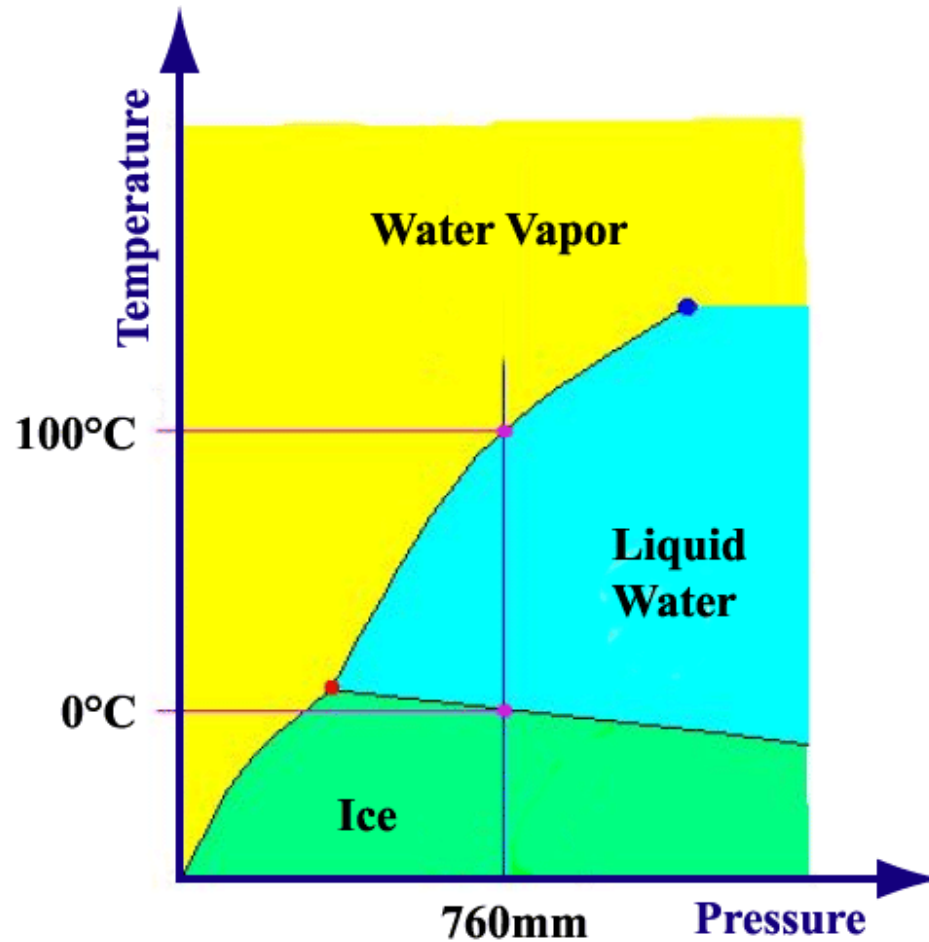
*(2) Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA*



**Emergent properties with QCD degrees of freedom!**

- (1) Higgs Particle –
  - Origin of Mass, QCD dof
  - Standard Model → The Theory
- (2) QCD Emergent Properties:
  - Confinement
  - $\chi_c$  symmetry
  - QCD Phase Structure
  - Nucleon helicity structure
  - Non-linear QCD at small-x





## Phase diagram:

A *map* shows, at given degrees of freedom, how does matter organize itself under external conditions. New orders, regularities, properties, ... emerge.

**Water:**  $H_2O$

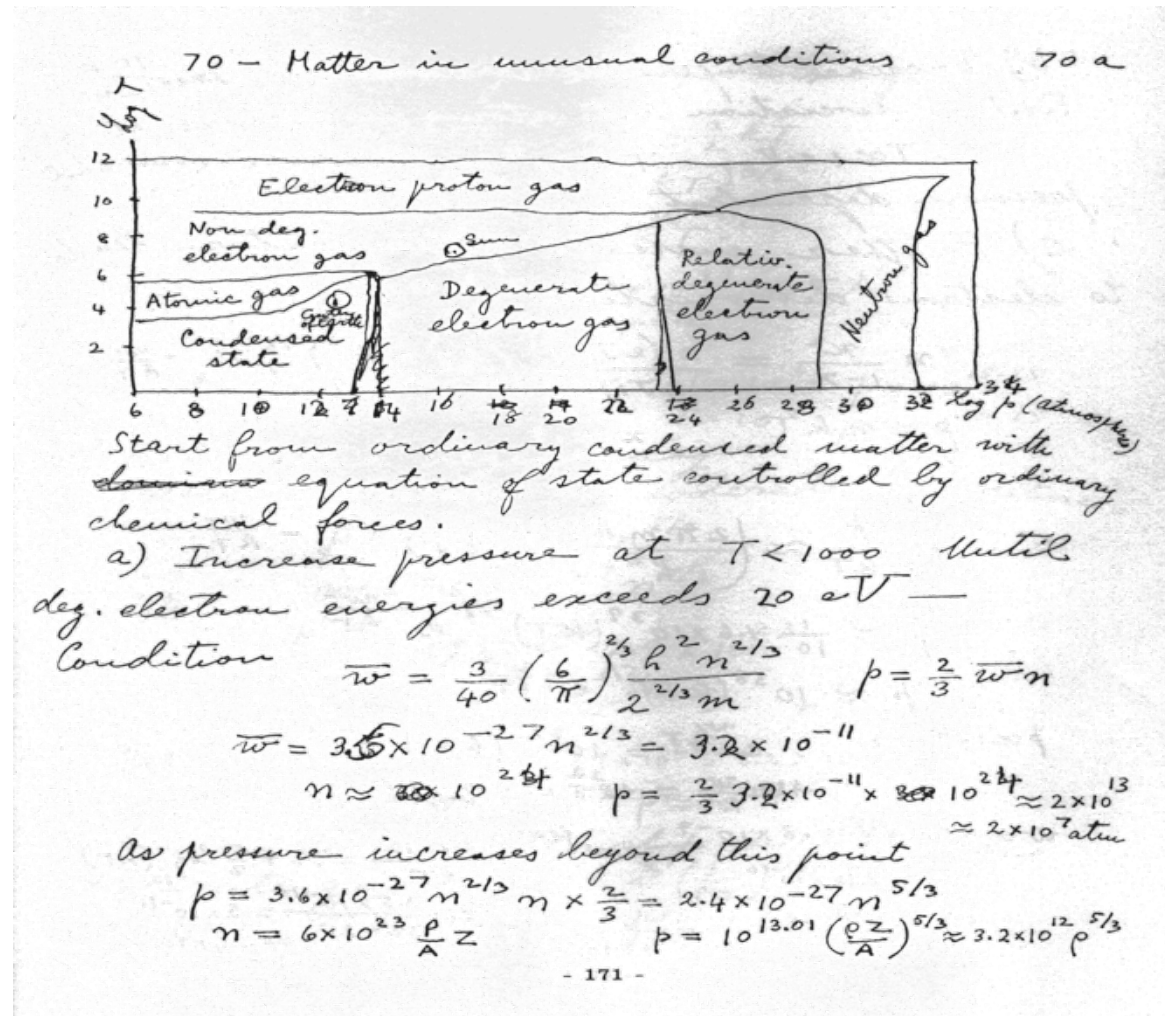
## QCD Phase Diagram:

Structure of matter with color degrees of freedom, *quarks* and *gluons*.

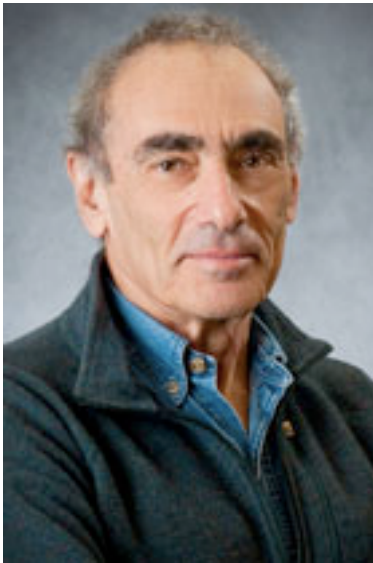
## E. Fermi: "Notes on Thermodynamics and Statistics" (1953)



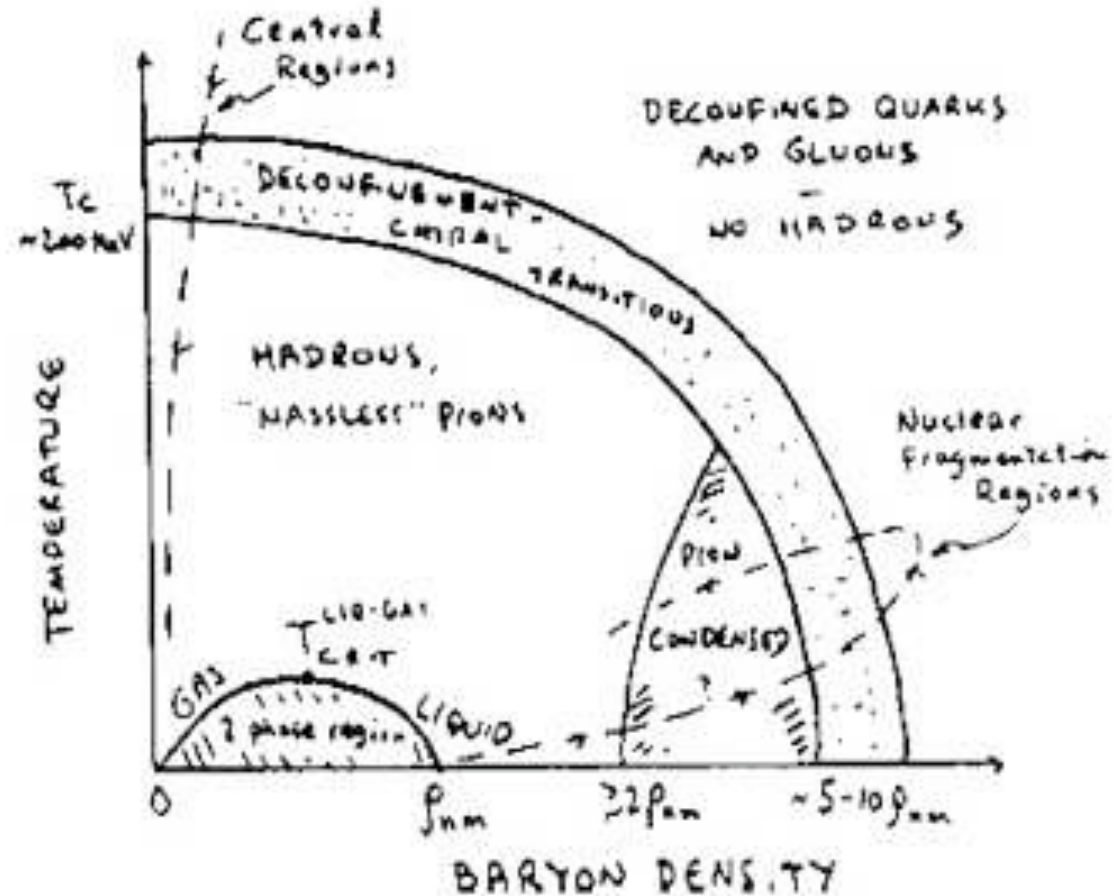
E. Fermi



1983 US Long Range Plan - by Gordon Baym

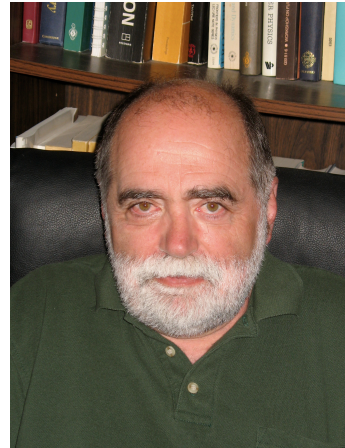


Gordon Baym

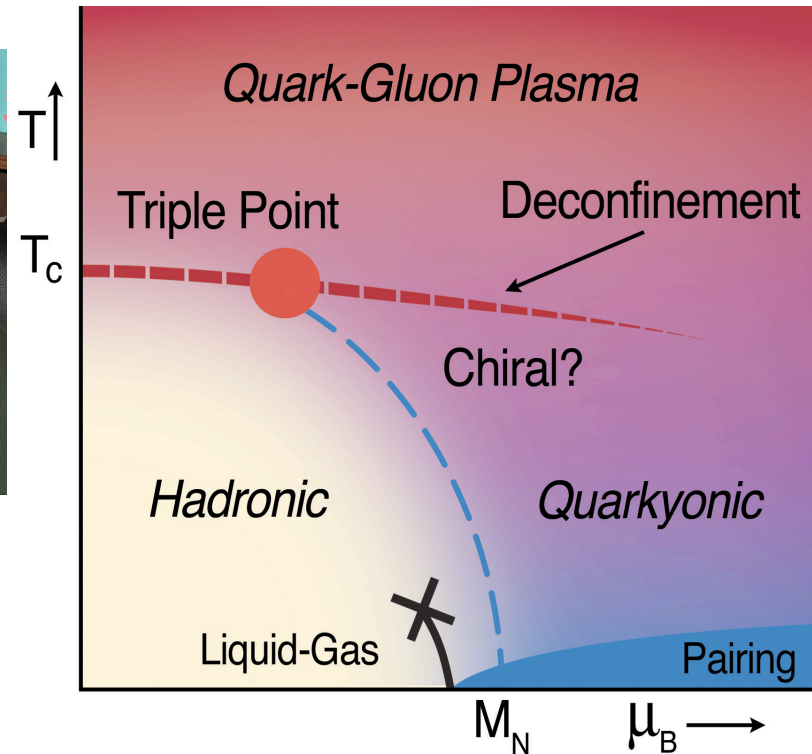




PBM



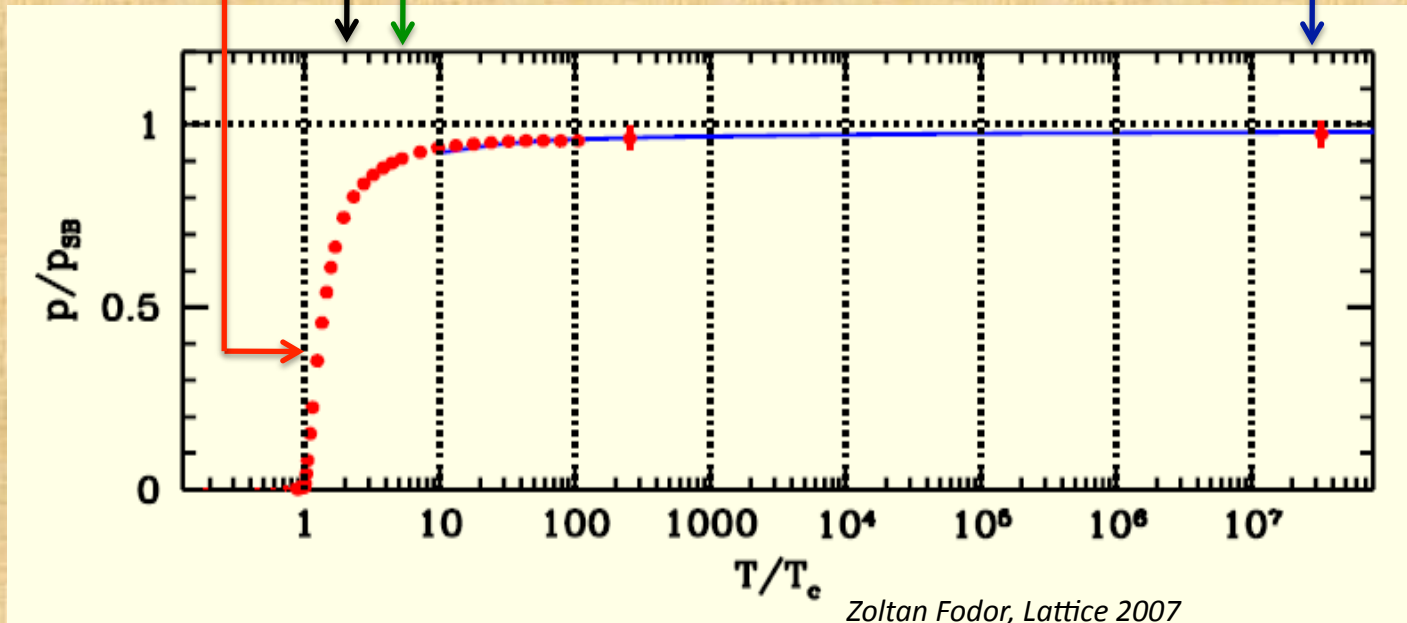
Larry McLerran



[nucl-th: 0907.4489, NPA830,709\(09\)](#) L. McLerran  
 nucl-th 0911.4806: A. Andronic, D. Blaschke, P. Braun-Munzinger,  
 J. Cleymans, K. Fukushima, L.D. McLerran, H. Oeschler,  
 R.D. Pisarski, K. Redlich, C. Sasaki, H. Satz, and J. Stachel

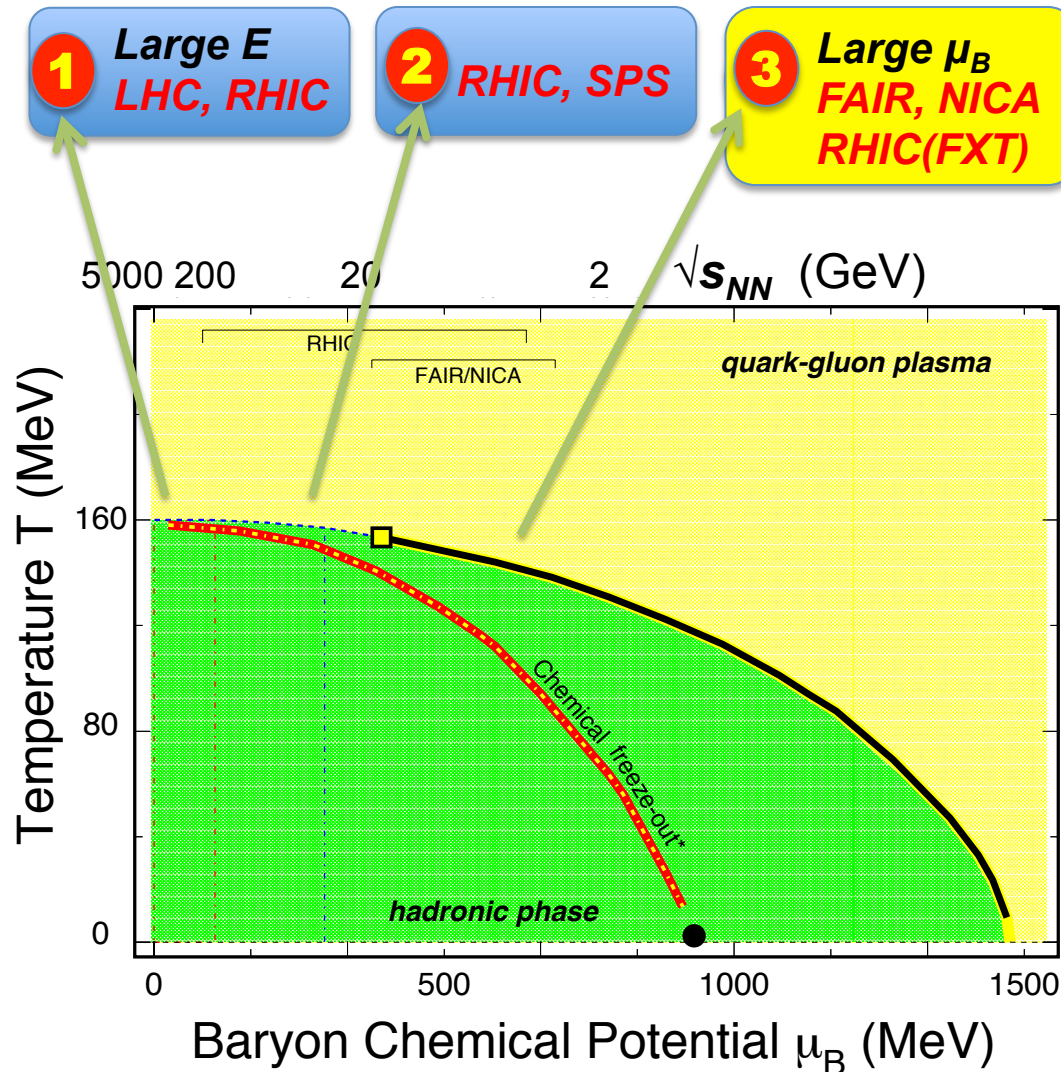
**Experiments:** Systematic measurements ( $E_{beam}, A_{size}$ ) :  
 to extract **numbers** that are related to the *phase diagram*!

**CBM&RHIC-BES**    **RHIC**    **LHC**    **SB Ideal Gas**



- 1) At  $\mu_B = 0$ : *smooth* crossover transition,  $150 < T_c < 170$  MeV
- 2) The SB ideal gas limit:  $T/T_c \sim 10^7$
- 3)  $T_{ini}$  (LHC)  $\sim 2-3 \cdot T_{ini}$  (RHIC), RHIC and LHC are similar
- 4) Dynamic changes at finite  $\mu_B$ : BES@RHIC and CBM + ...

# The QCD Phase Diagram and the Beam Energy Scan



**2000 – 2010 (2012):**

**Top energy programs**  
Discovery of sQGP

**2010 – 2014:**

**BES-I:** 7.7, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6, 27, 39 GeV  
- QCD **Critical Point**  
- Chiral effects

**2019 – 2020:**

**BES-II:** 7.7, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6 GeV  
**FXT\*:** 4.5, 3.9, 3.6, 3.0 GeV

**2022 – 2025:**

**BES-III:**  
Fixed-target program





# Outline



## (1) Introduction

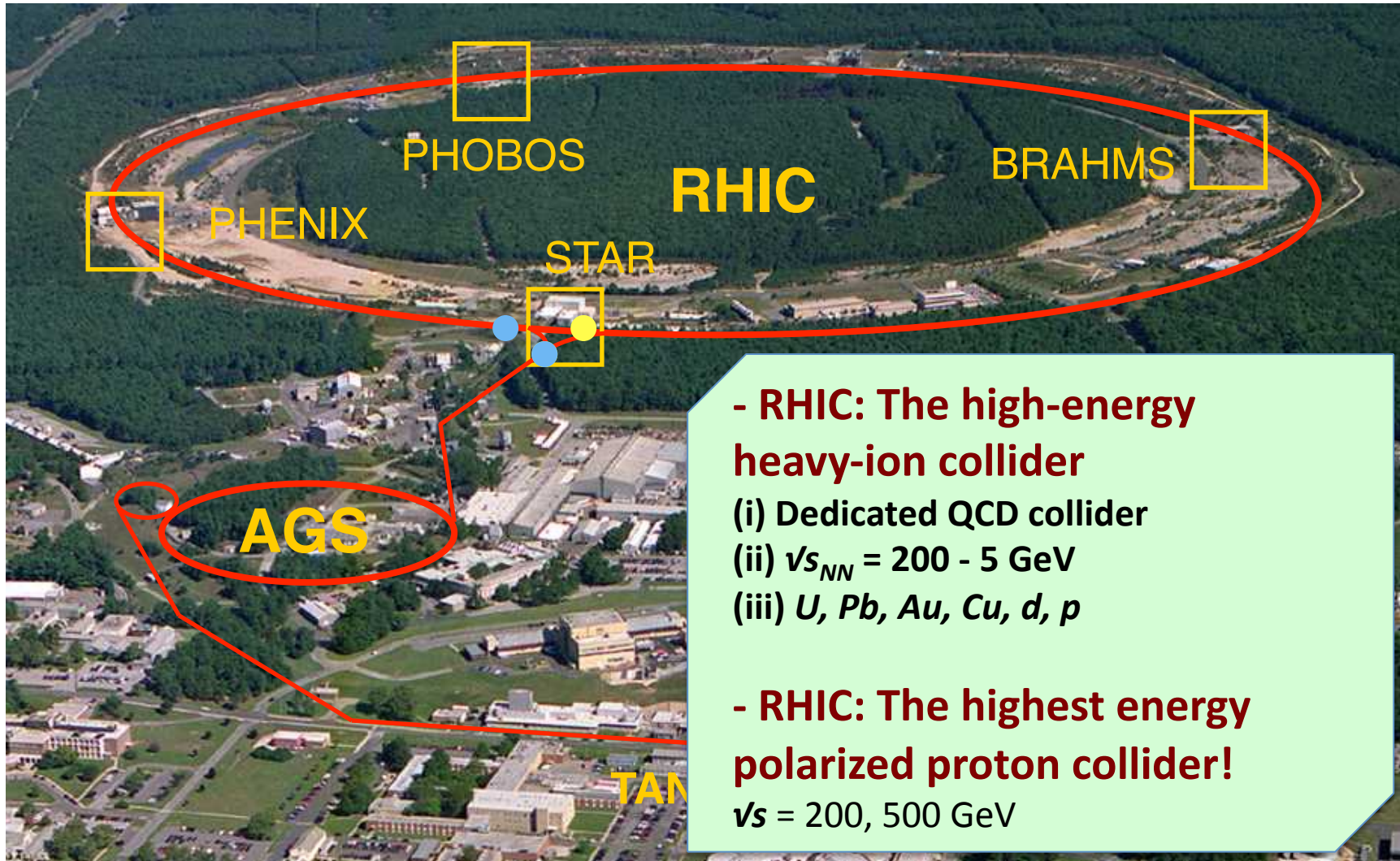
## (2) Recent Results from BES-I at RHIC

**(i) Collectivity**; (ii) Chirality; **(iii) Criticality**

## (3) Summary and Outlook

# Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), Upton, NY

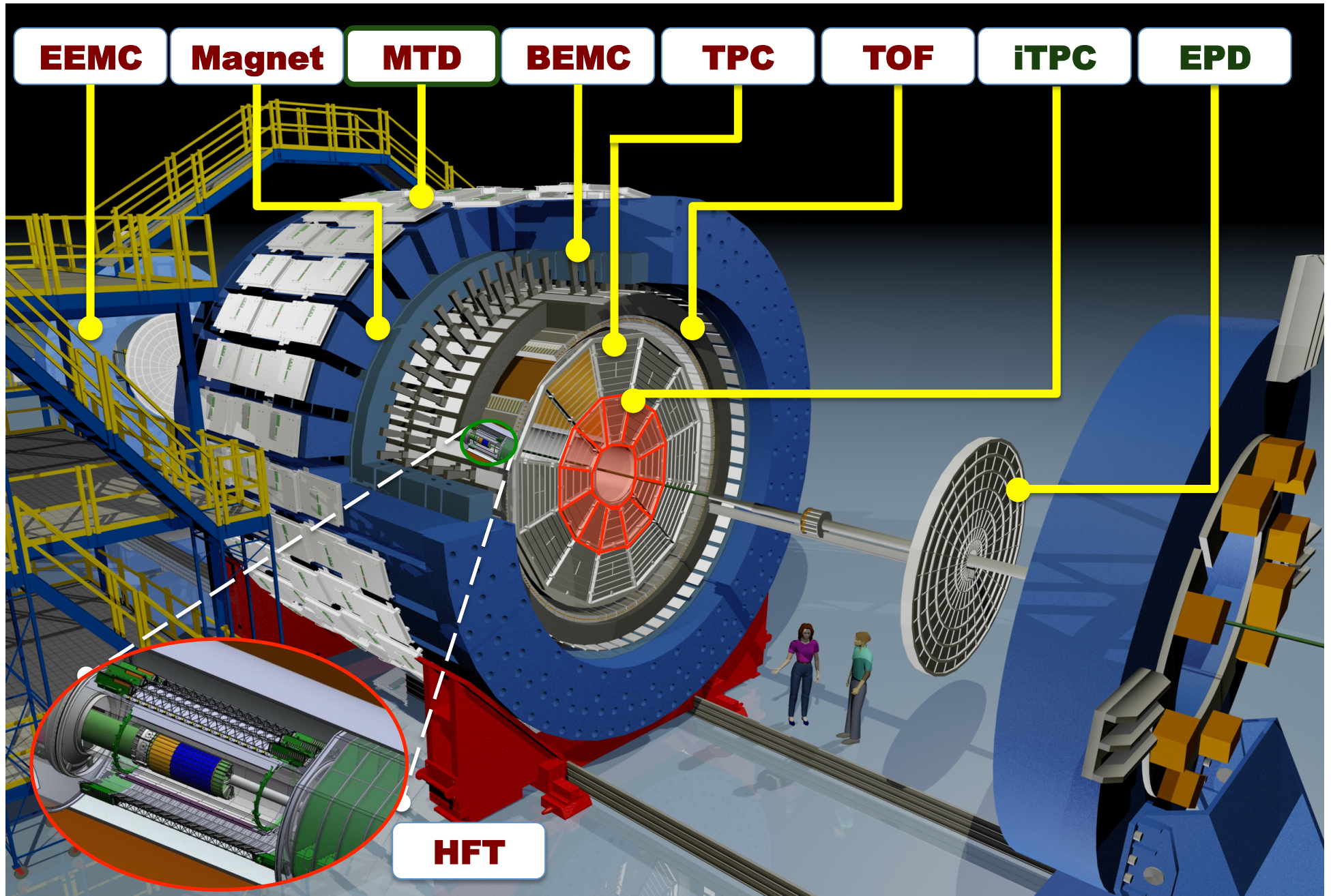


Animation M. Lisa

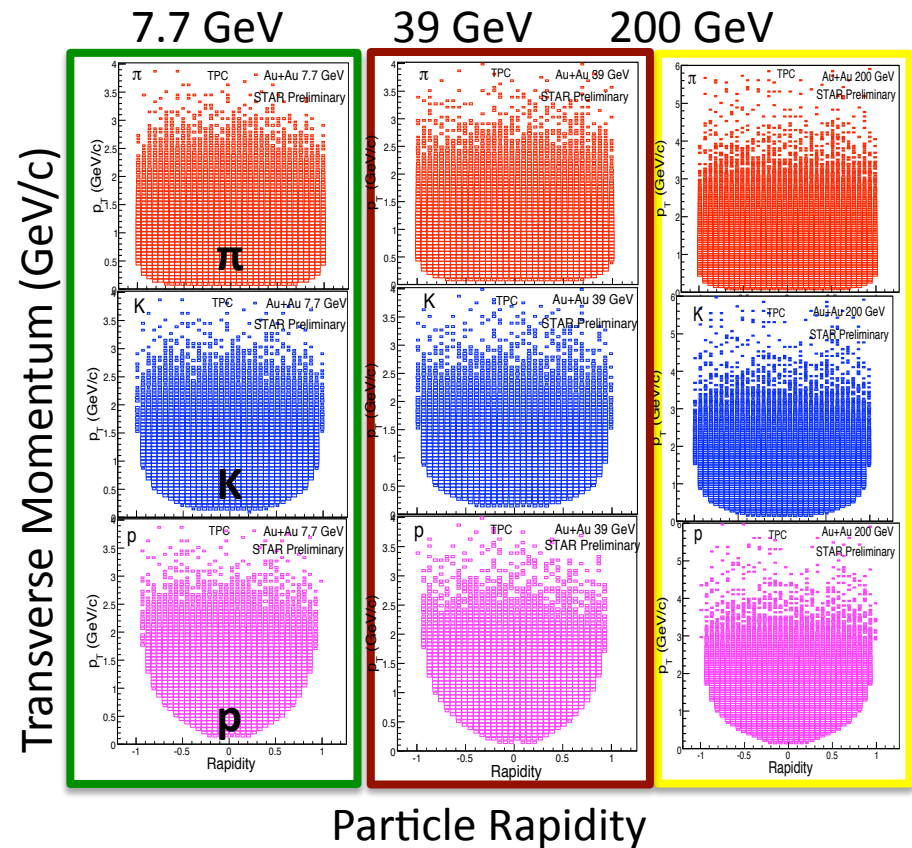
# *STAR Collaboration*



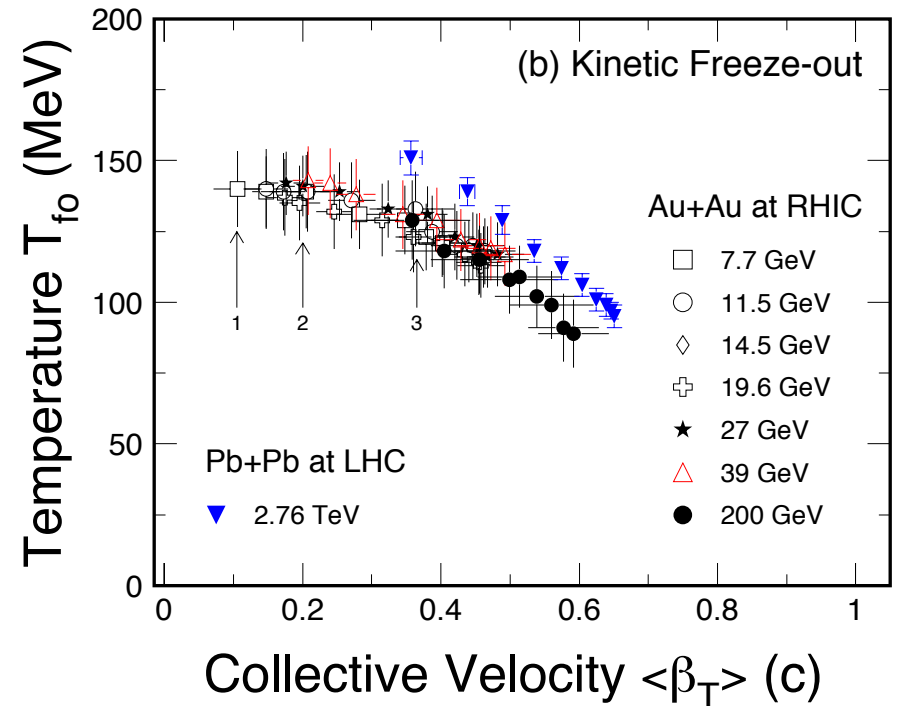
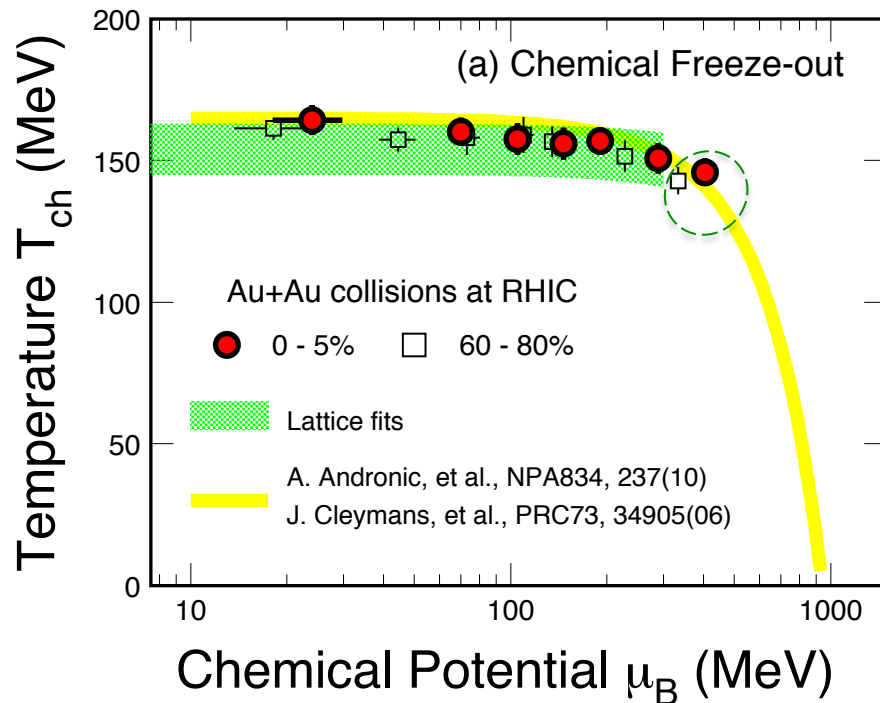
# STAR Detector System



$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Events ( $10^6$ )	Year
200	350	2010
62.4	67	2010
39	39	2010
27	70	2011
19.6	36	2011
14.5	20	2014
11.5	12	2010
7.7	4	2010



- 1) Largest data sets versus collision energy
- 2) STAR: Large and homogeneous acceptance, excellent particle identification capabilities. Especially important for fluctuation analysis



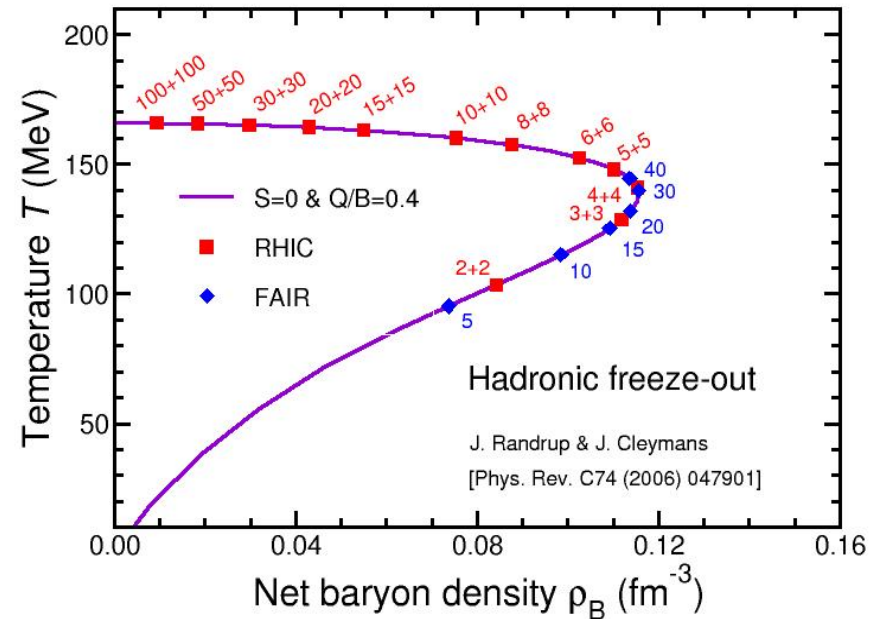
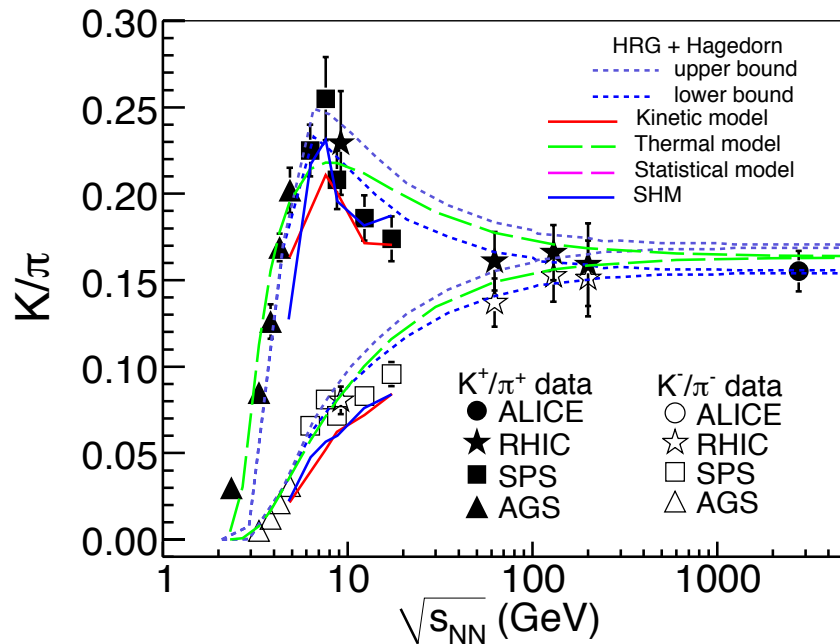
## Chemical Freeze-out: (GCE)

- Weak temperature dependence
- Centrality dependence  $\mu_B$ !
- LGT calculations indicate Critical region above  $\mu_B \sim 300$  MeV?

## Kinetic Freeze-out:

- Central collisions => lower value of  $T_{fo}$  and larger collectivity  $\beta_T$
- **Stronger collectivity at higher energy, even for peripheral collisions**

- ALICE: B.Abelev et al., PRL109, 252301(12); PRC88, 044910(2013).
- STAR: J. Adams, et al., NPA757, 102(05); X.L. Zhu, NPA931, c1098(14); L. Kumar, NPA931, c1114(14)
- S. Mukherjee: Private communications. August, 2012



- 1) In heavy ion collisions  $K^+/\pi$  ratio peaks at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$  GeV,  $K^-/\pi$  ratio merges with  $K^+/\pi$  at higher collision energy
- 2) Model: Baryon density peaks at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$  GeV
- 3) **At  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} > 8$  GeV, pair production becomes important**

L. Kumar, *et al.* 1304.2969; J. Randrup and J. Cleymans, Phys. Rev. **C74**, 047901(2006)

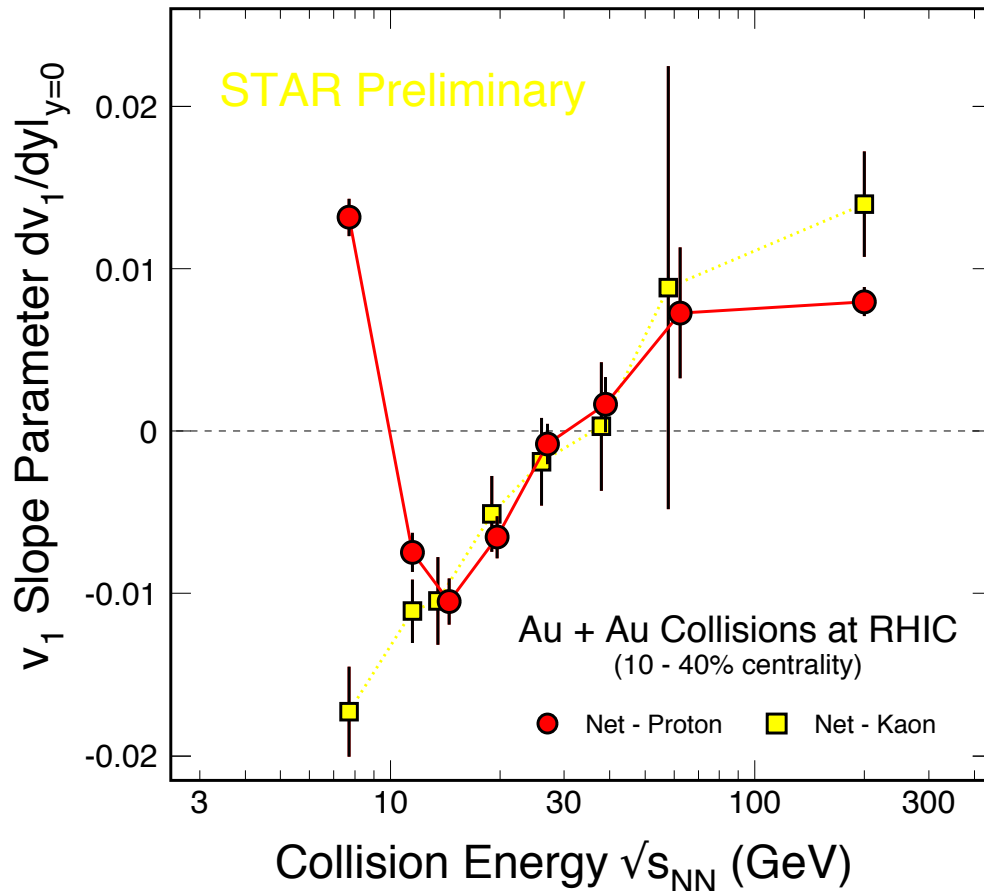
# Collectivity

$$\partial_{\mu} [(\varepsilon + p)u^{\mu} u^{\nu} - pg^{\mu\nu}] = 0$$
$$\partial_{\mu} [s u^{\mu}] = 0$$





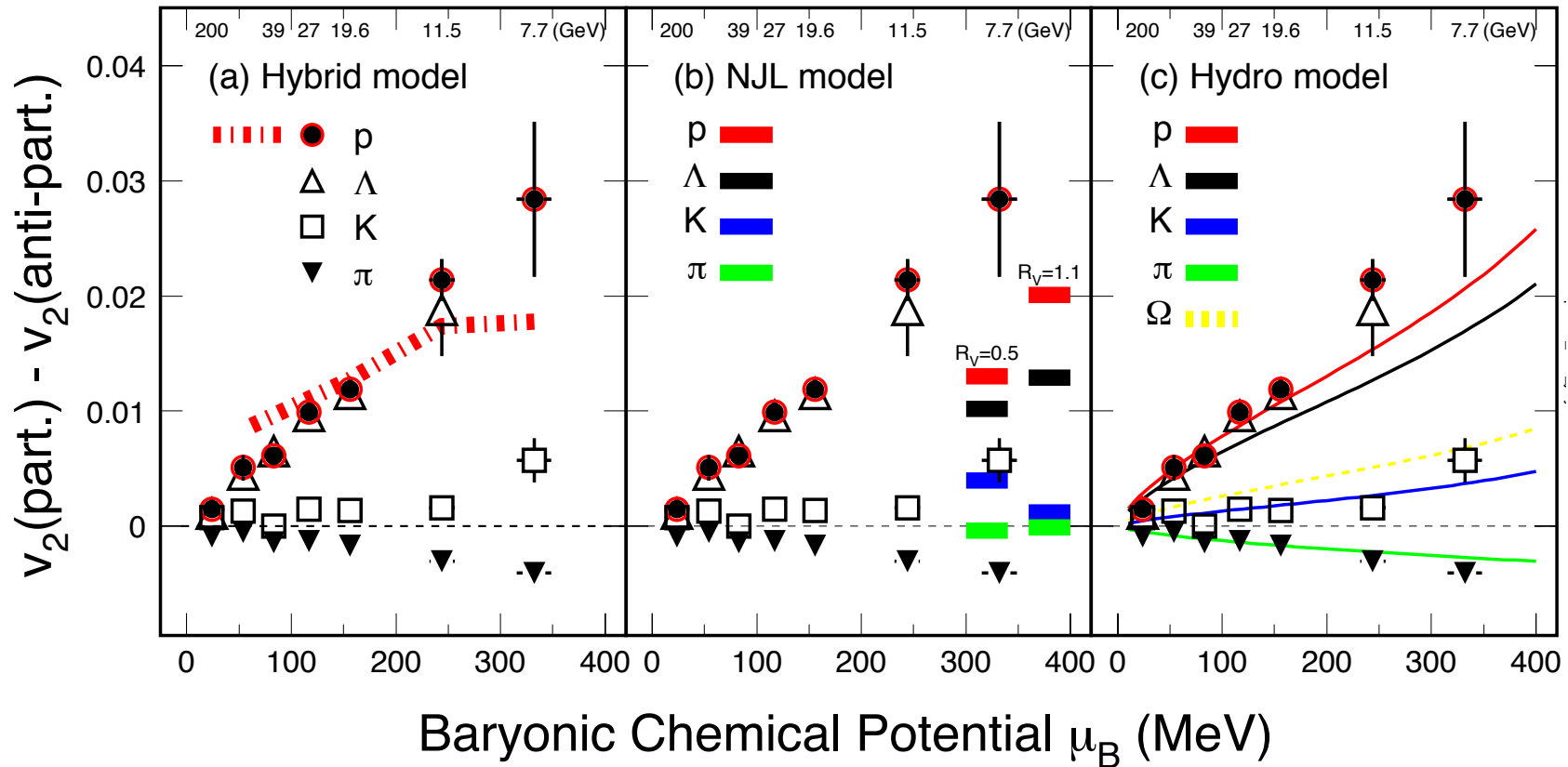
# $v_1$ vs. Energy: Softest Point?



- 1) Mid-rapidity net-proton  $dv_1/dy$  published in 2014 by STAR, except the point at 14.5 GeV
- 2) Minimum at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 14.5$  GeV for net-proton, but net-Kaon data continue decreasing as energy decreases
- 3) At low energy, or in the region where the net-baryon density is large, repulsive force is expected,  $v_1$  slope is large and positive!
- 4) Softest point for baryons?

- STAR: PRL112, 162301(2014)
- STAR: QM2015

- M. Isse, A. Ohnishi et al, PR **C72**, 064908(05)  
 - Y. Nara, A. Ohnishi, H. Stoecker, arXiv: **1601.07692**



(a) Hydro + Transport: Baryon results fit

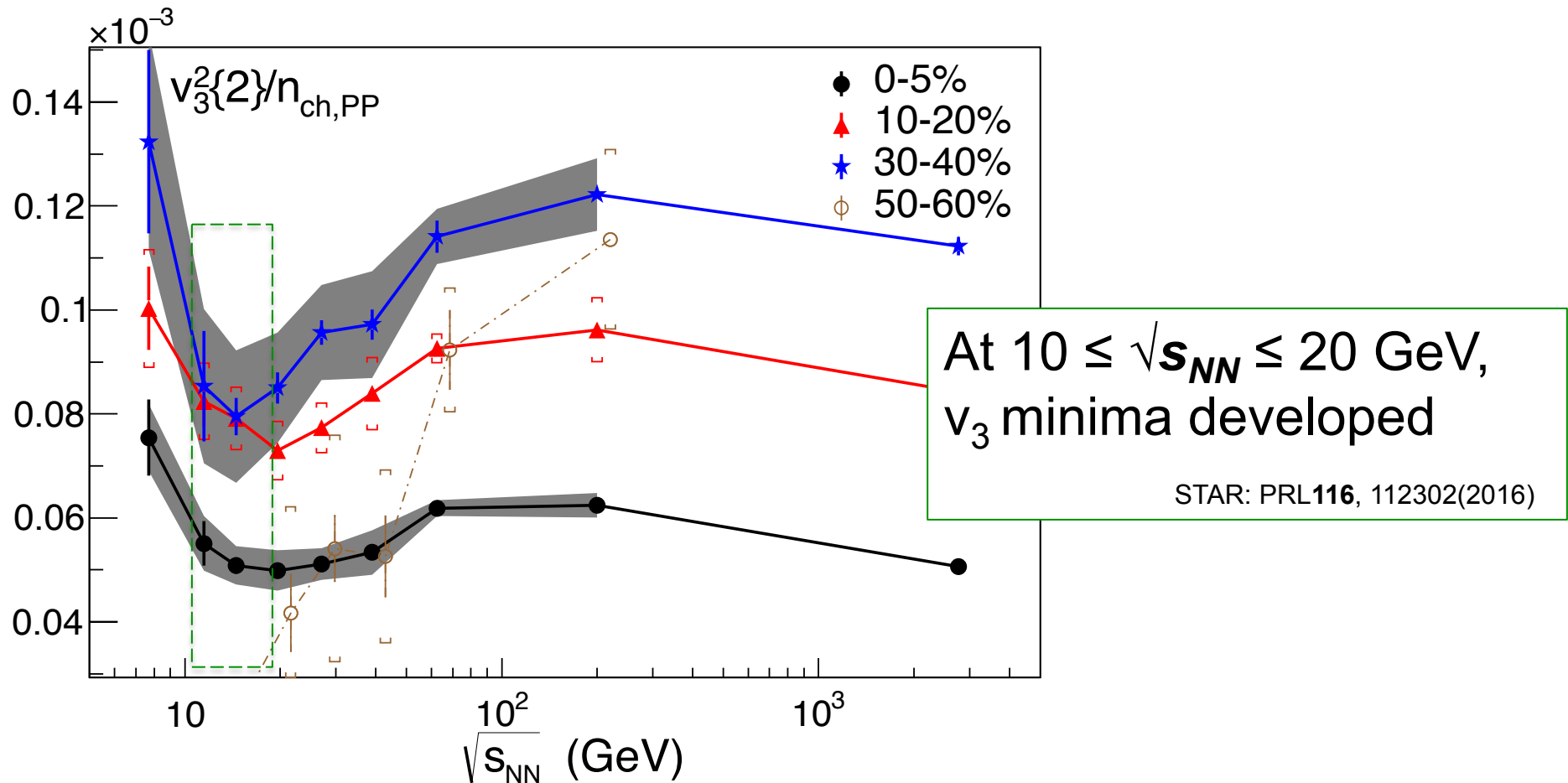
[J. Steinheimer, et al. PR **C86**, 44902(13)]

(b) NJL model: Sensitive to vector-coupling, **CME**,  $\mu_B$  driven.

[J. Xu, et al., PRL**112**.012301(14)]

(c) Hydro solution: **Chemical potential  $\mu_B$**  and **viscosity  $\eta/s$**  driven!

[Hatta et al. PR **D91**, 085024(15); **D92**, 114010(15) //NP **A947**, 155(16)]

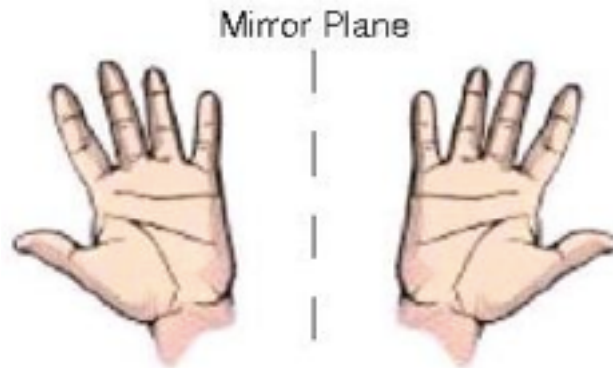


**Collectivity:** Implies the properties change at energy below 20 GeV, i.e. partonic => hadronic

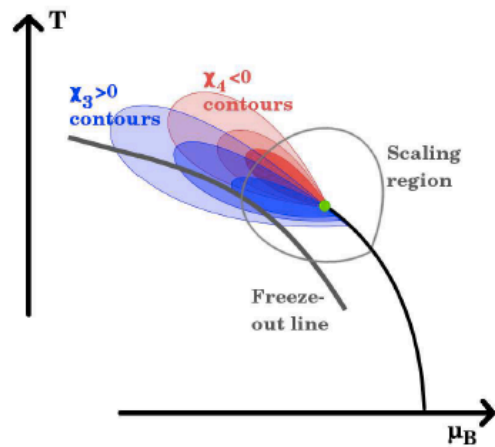
- 1) At high energy, strong collectivity and vanishing ratio of  $\eta/s \Rightarrow$  **Perfect liquid of the strongly coupled plasma**
- 2) Hadron formation via coalescence at  $T_C$
- 3) At beam energy  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 20$  GeV, net-proton  $v_1$  shows a dip and the break down of the number of quark scaling in  $v_2$

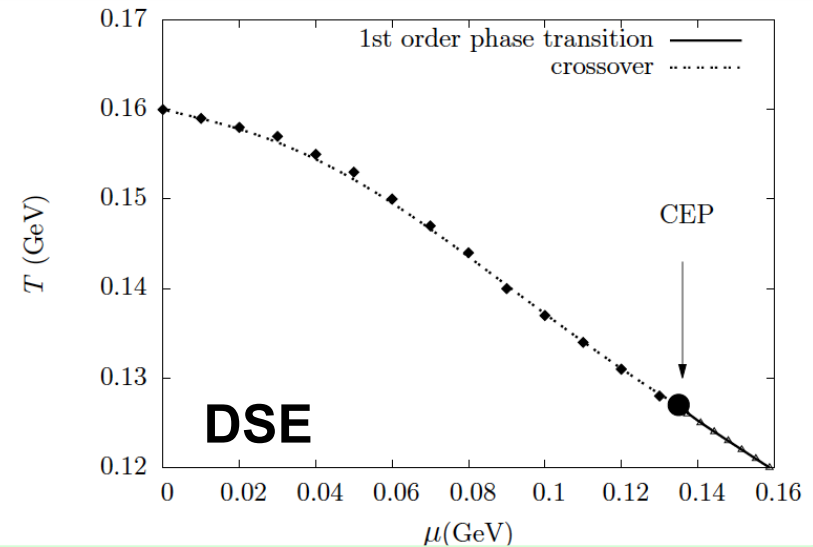
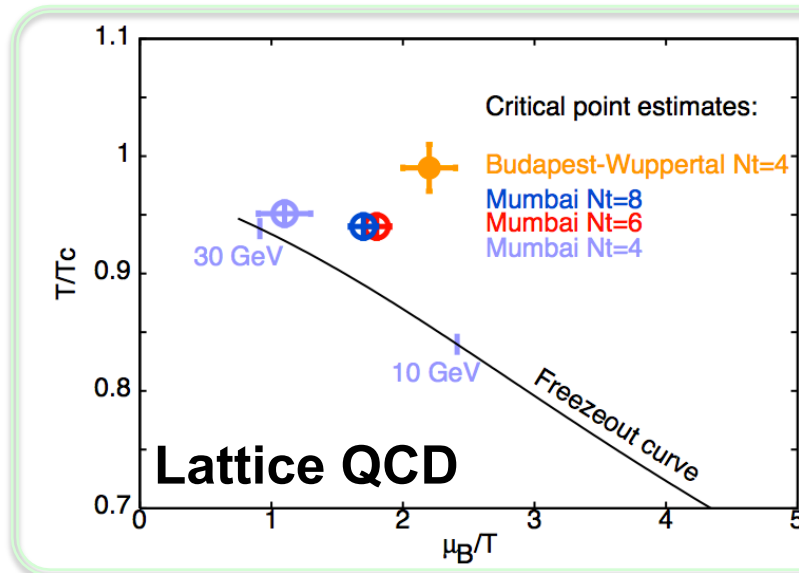
*The emergent properties of QCD matter*

# Chirality



# Criticality





## Lattice QCD:

- 1): Fodor&Katz, JHEP 0404,050 (2004):  
 $(\mu_B^E, T_E) = (360, 162)$  MeV (Reweighting)
- 2): Gavai&Gupta, NPA 904, 883c (2013):  
 $(\mu_B^E, T_E) = (279, 155)$  MeV (Taylor Exp.)
- 3): F. Karsch ( $\mu_B^E / T_E > 2$ , CPOD2016)

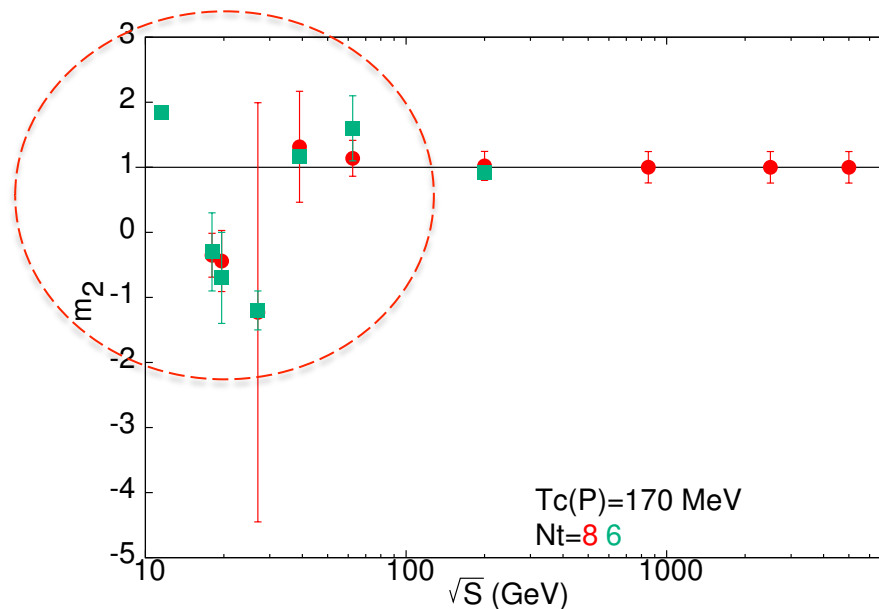
## DSE:

- 1): Y. X. Liu, et al., PRD90, 076006(2014):  
 $(\mu_B^E, T_E) = (372, 129)$  MeV
- 2): Hong-shi Zong et al., JHEP 07, 014(2014):  
 $(\mu_B^E, T_E) = (405, 127)$  MeV
- 3): C. S. Fischer et al., PRD90, 034022(2014):  
 $(\mu_B^E, T_E) = (504, 115)$  MeV

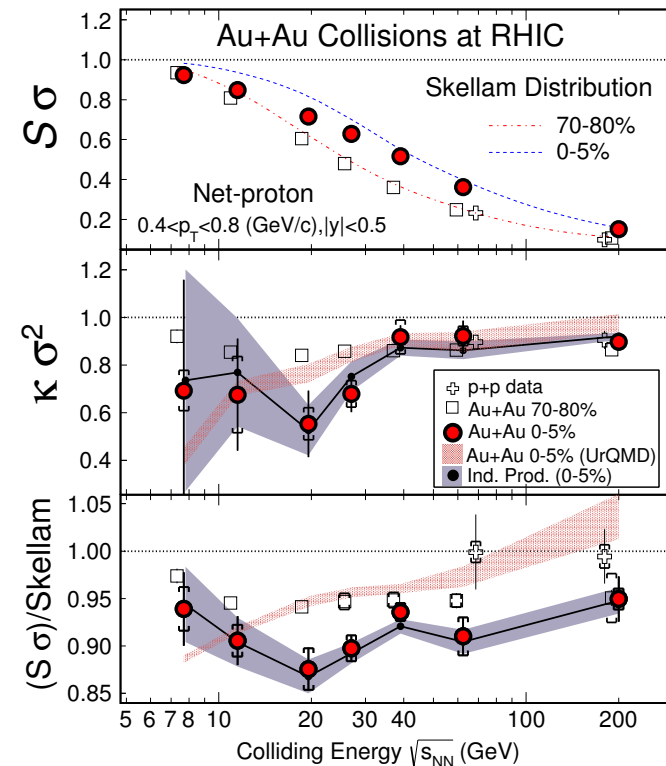
$$\mu_B^E = 300 \sim 504 \text{ MeV}, T_E = 115 \sim 162, \mu_B^E / T_E = 1.8 \sim 4.38$$

## Critical Point : Lattice & Experiments

♡ Ratios of higher moments of baryon (proton) distributions.



Gavai-Gupta, '10  
Datta-Gavai-Gupta, Lattice 2013

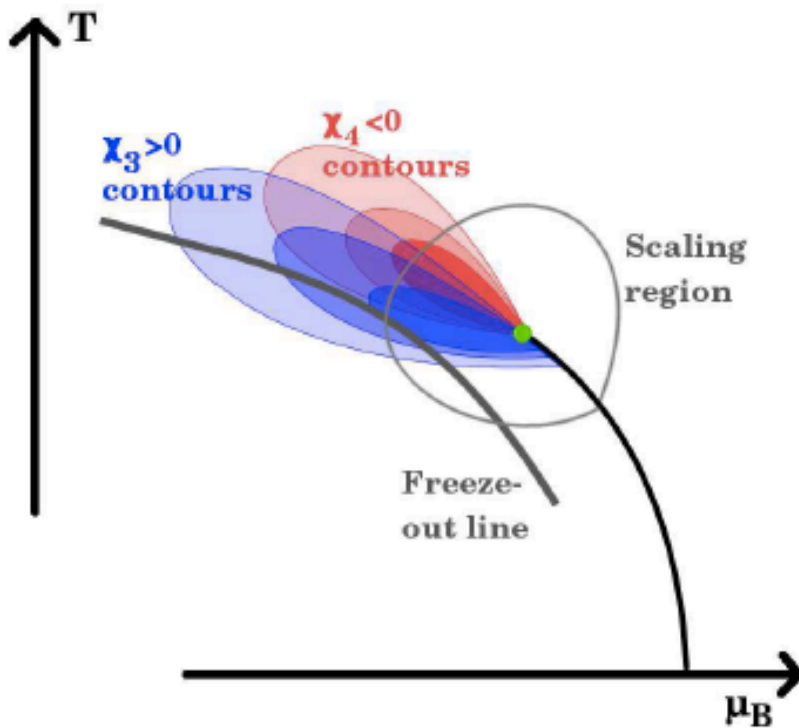
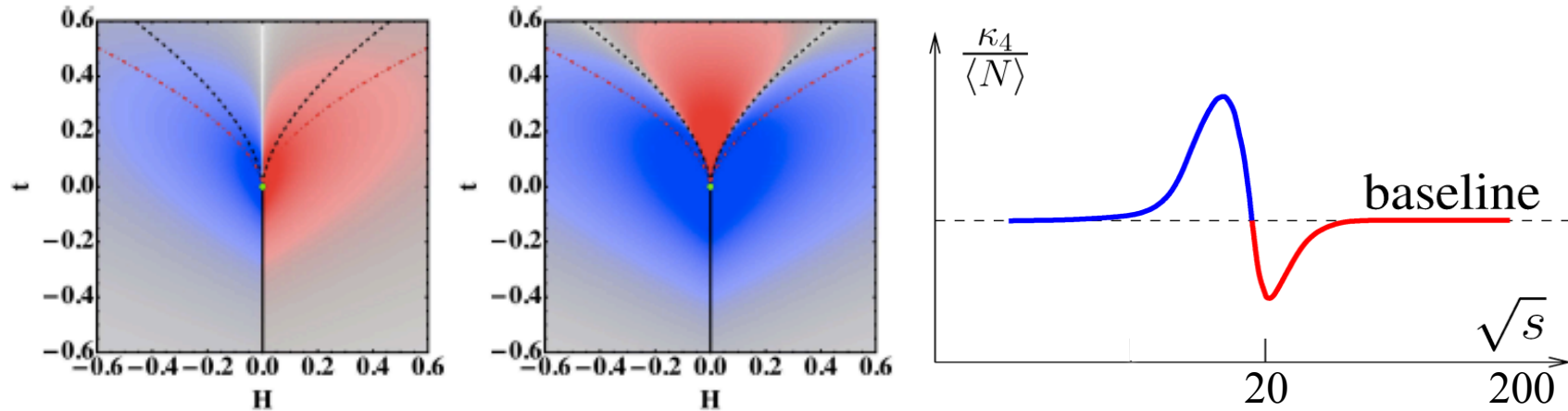


L. Adamczyk *et al.*  
STAR Collaboration PRL (2014)

$$S\sigma \equiv m_1 \text{ and } \kappa\sigma^2 \equiv m_2.$$



# Expectation from Model Calculations



- Characteristic “Oscillating pattern” is expected for the QCD critical point but *the exact shape depends on the location of freeze-out with respect to the location of CP*
- Critical Region (CR)

- M. Stephanov, *PRL***107**, 052301(2011)
- V. Skokov, Quark Matter 2012
- J.W. Chen, J. Deng, H. Kohyyama, arXiv: 1603.05198, Phys. Rev. **D93** (2016) 034037

Thermodynamic function:

$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_i d_i (m_i / T)^2 K_2(m_i / T) \cosh[(B_i \mu_B + S_i \mu_S + Q_i \mu_Q) / T]$$

The susceptibility:  $T^{n-4} \chi_q^{(n)} = \frac{1}{T^4} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial (\mu_q / T)^n} P\left(\frac{T}{T_C}, \frac{\mu_q}{T}\right) \Big|_{T/T_C}, \quad q = B, Q, S$

$$\chi_q^{(1)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle \delta N_q \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(2)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle$$

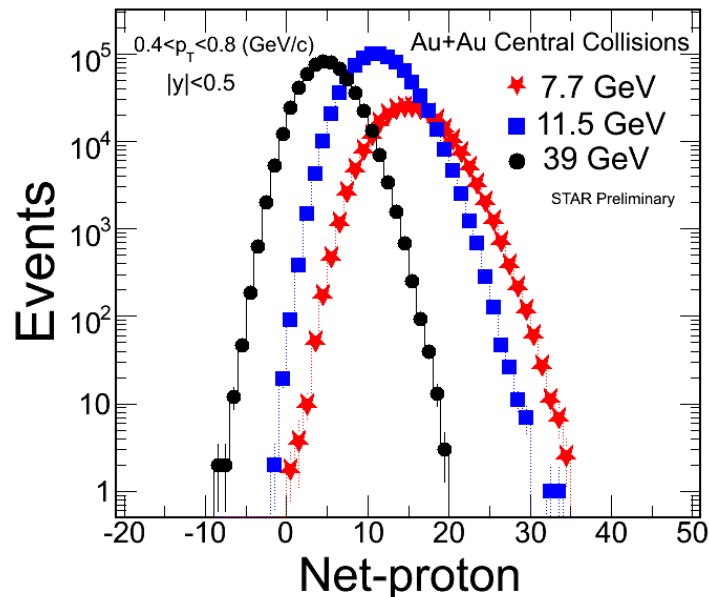
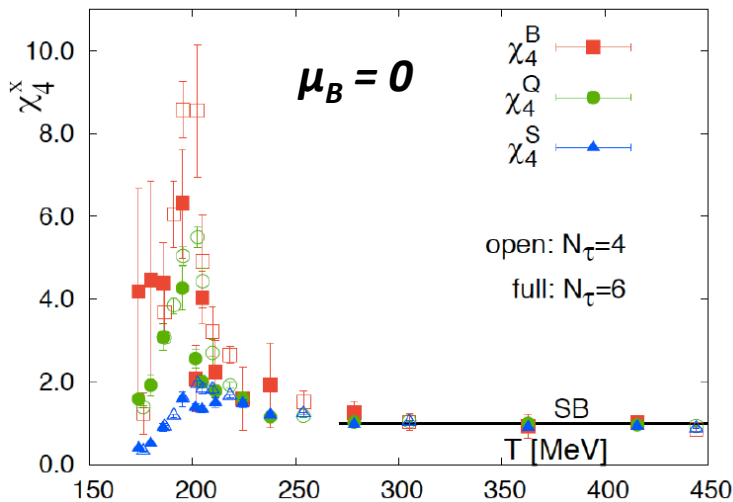
$$\chi_q^{(3)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^3 \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(4)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \left( \langle (\delta N_q)^4 \rangle - 3 \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle^2 \right)$$

$$\frac{T^2 \chi_q^{(4)}}{\chi_q^{(2)}} = K \sigma^2$$

$$\frac{T \chi_q^{(3)}}{\chi_q^{(2)}} = S \sigma$$

**Thermodynamic function  $\Leftrightarrow$  Susceptibility  $\Leftrightarrow$  Moments**  
**Model calculations, e.g. LGT, HRG  $\Leftrightarrow$  Measurements**



1) Higher moments of conserved quantum numbers: **Q, S, B**, in high-energy nuclear collisions

2) Sensitive to critical point ( $\xi$  correlation length):

$$\langle (\delta N)^2 \rangle \approx \xi^2, \quad \langle (\delta N)^3 \rangle \approx \xi^{4.5}, \quad \langle (\delta N)^4 \rangle \approx \xi^7$$

3) Direct comparison with calculations at any order:

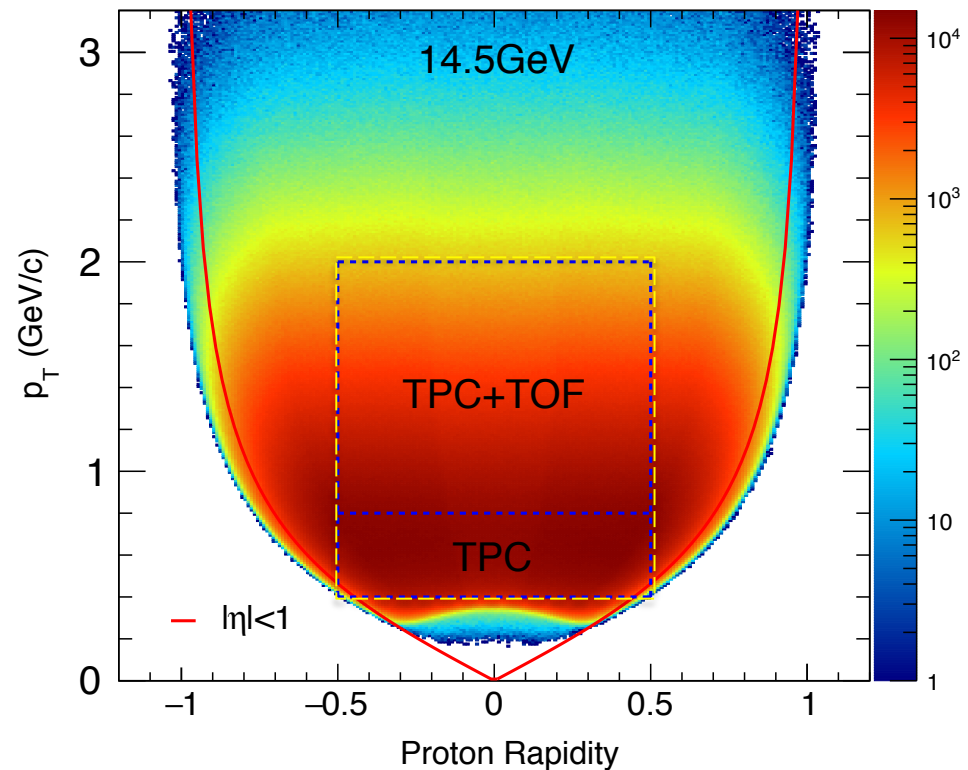
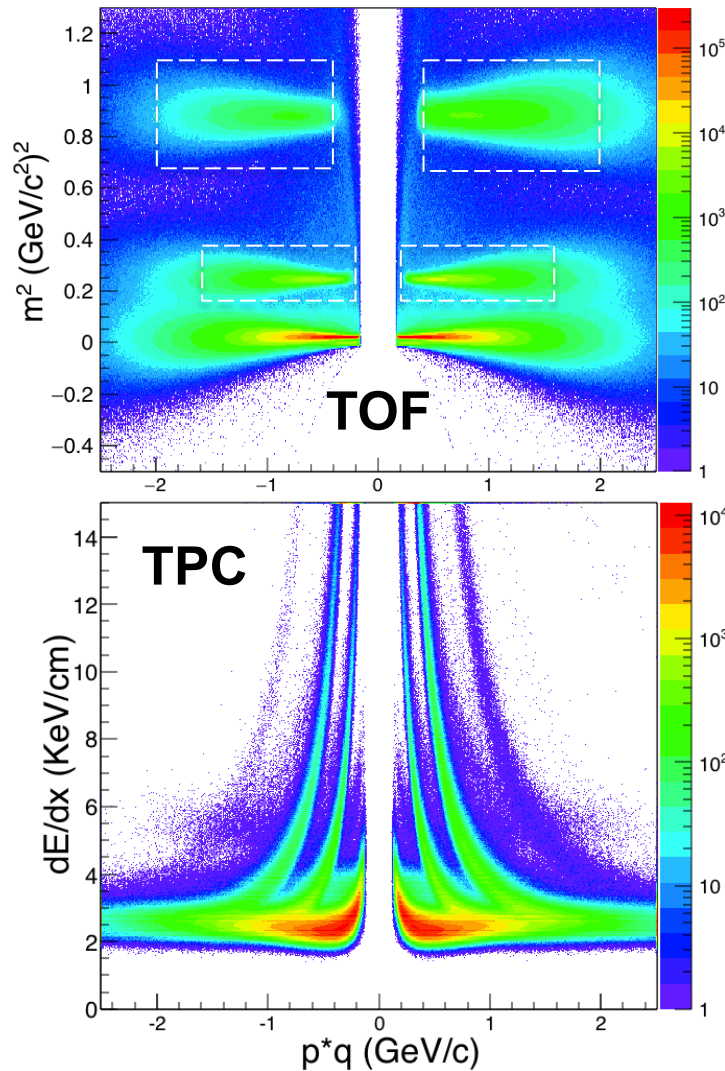
$$S\sigma \approx \frac{\chi_B^3}{\chi_B^2}, \quad K\sigma^2 \approx \frac{\chi_B^4}{\chi_B^2}$$

4) **Extract susceptibilities and freeze-out temperature.** An independent/important test of thermal equilibrium in heavy ion collisions.

References:

- STAR: *PRL***105**, 22303(10); *ibid*, **112**, 032302(14)
- S. Ejiri, F. Karsch, K. Redlich, *PLB***633**, 275(06) // M. Stephanov: *PRL***102**, 032301(09) // R.V. Gavai and S. Gupta, *PLB***696**, 459(11) // F. Karsch et al, *PLB***695**, 136(11),
- A. Bazavov et al., *PRL***109**, 192302(12) // S. Borsanyi et al., *PRL***111**, 062005(13) // V. Skokov et al., *PRC***88**, 034901(13)
- PBM, A. Rustamov, J. Stachel, arXiv:1612.00702

**Published net-proton results:** Only TPC used for proton/anti-proton PID.  
TOF PID extends the phase space coverage.



**Acceptance:**  $|y| \leq 0.5$ ,  $0.4 \leq p_T \leq 2$  GeV/c

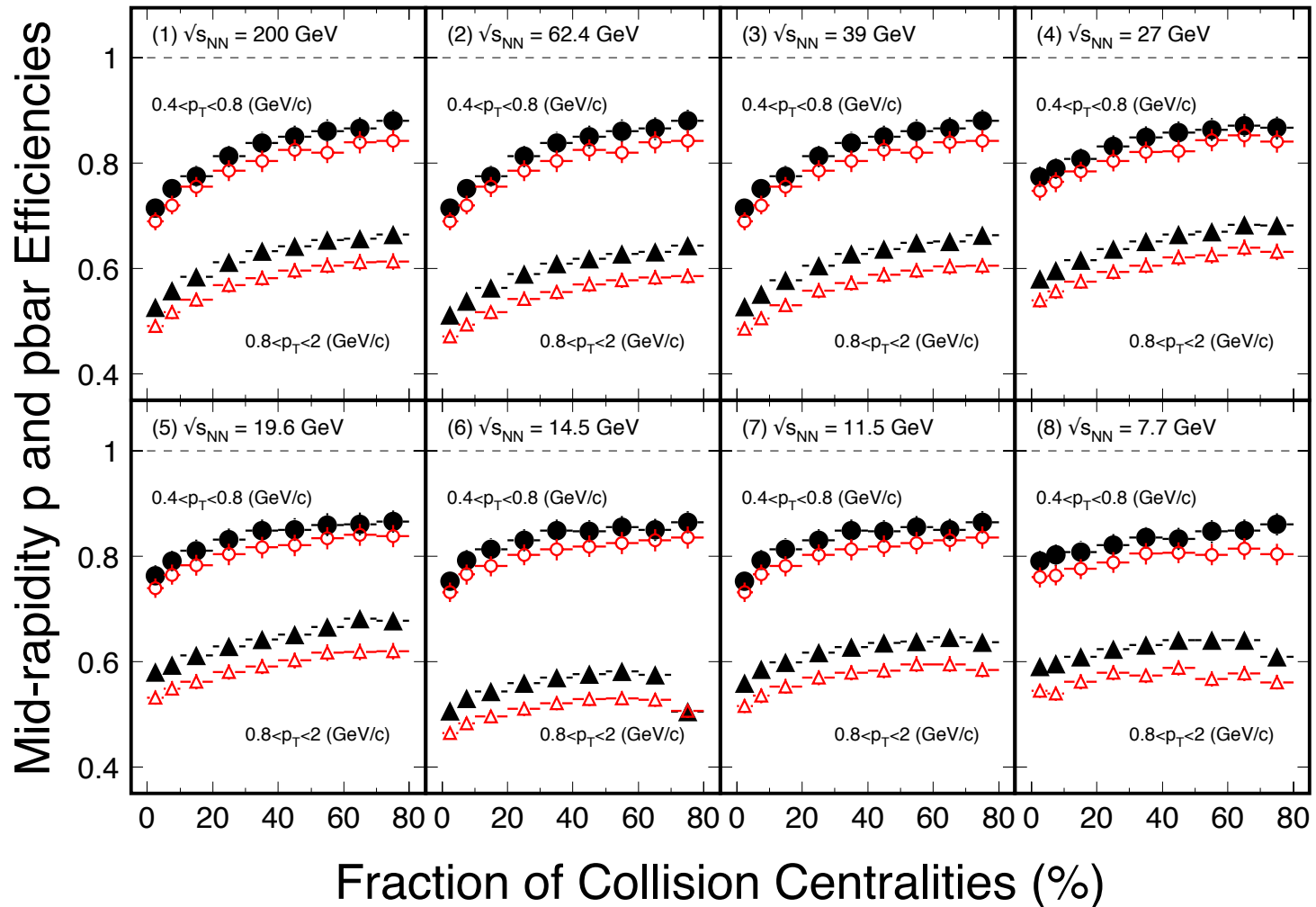
**Efficiency corrections:**

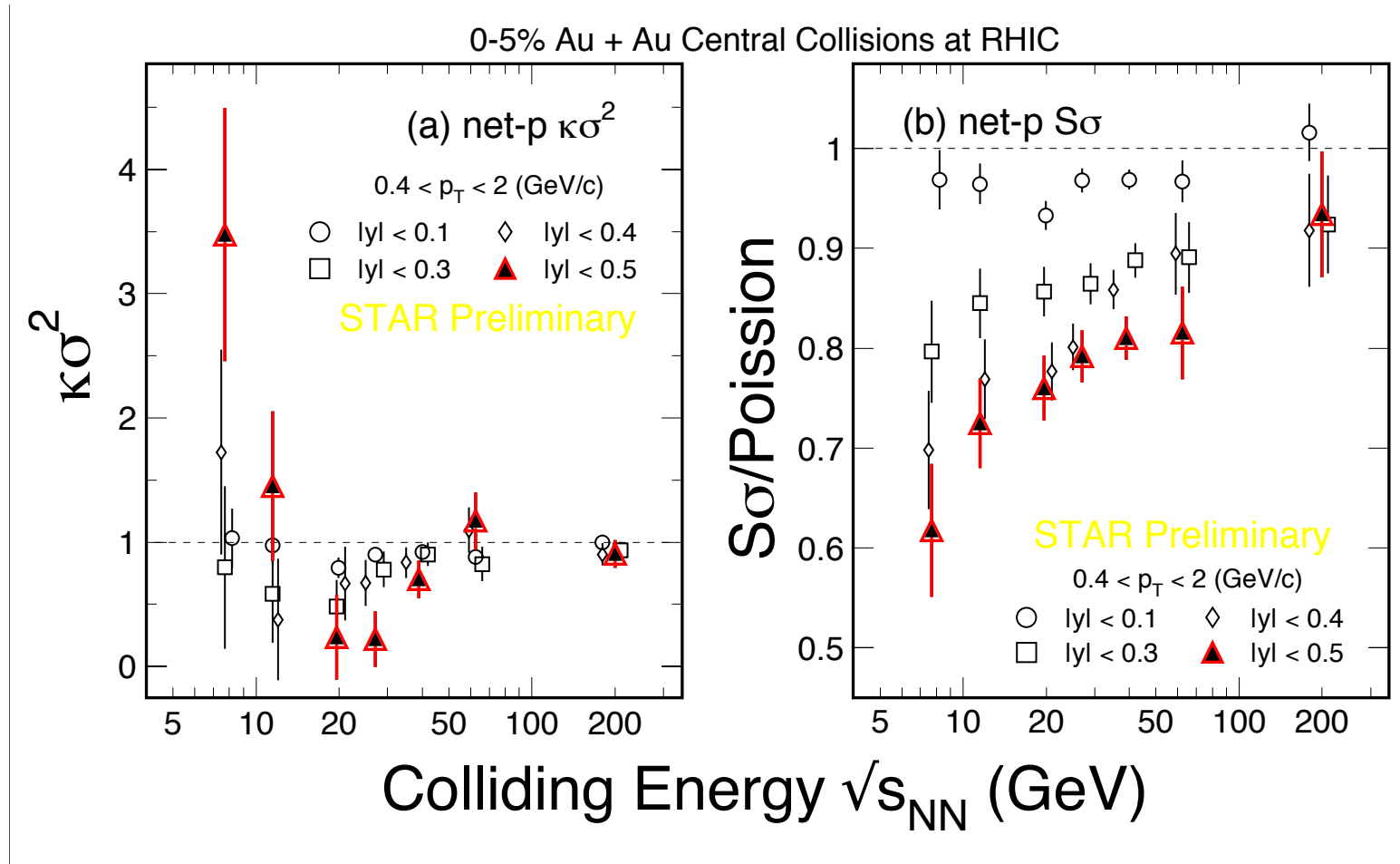
TPC ( $0.4 \leq p_T \leq 0.8$  GeV/c):  $\epsilon_{\text{TPC}} \sim 0.8$

TPC+TOF ( $0.8 \leq p_T \leq 2$  GeV/c):  $\epsilon_{\text{TPC}} * \epsilon_{\text{TOF}} \sim 0.5$

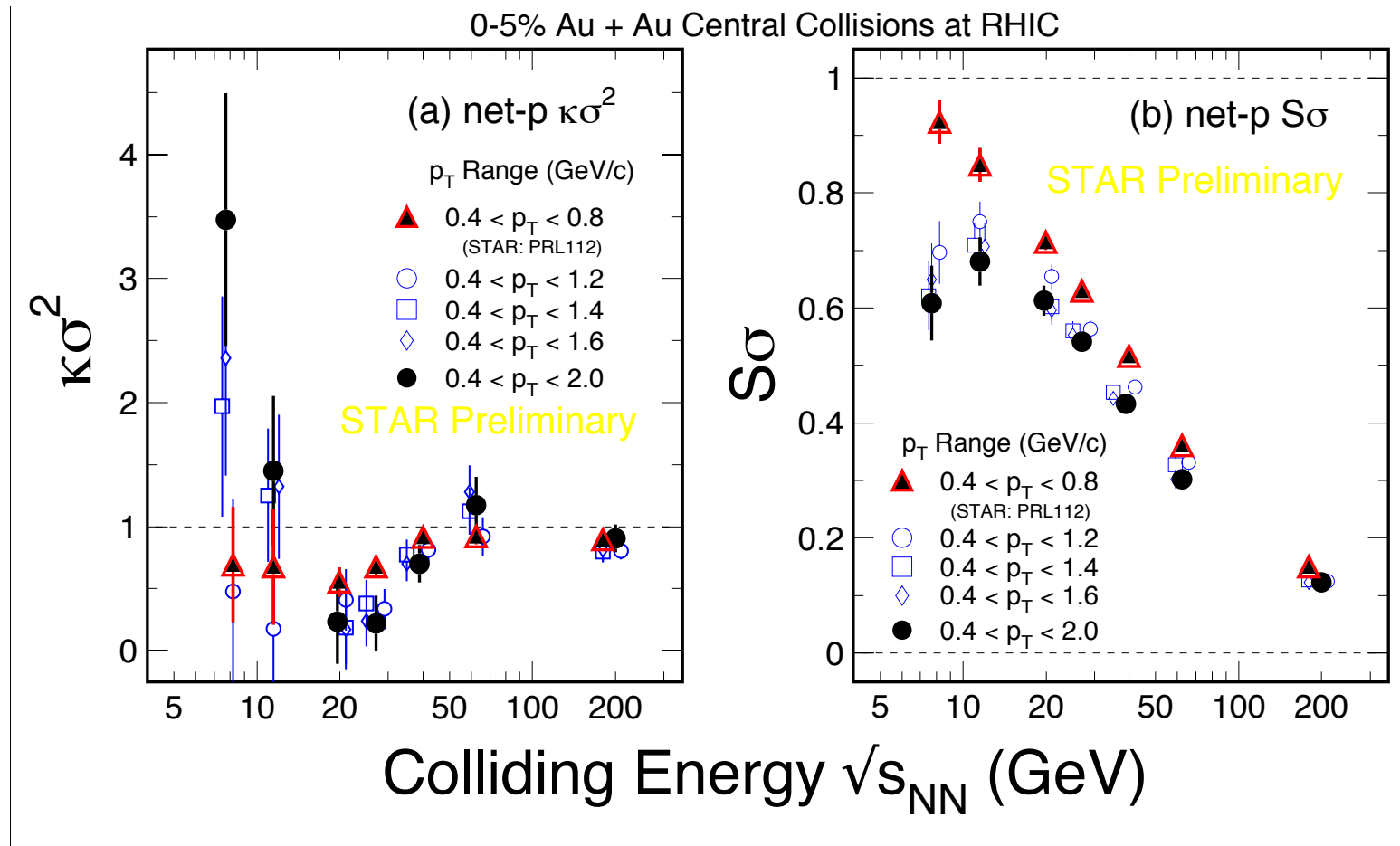
## Au + Au Collisions at RHIC

(Filled symbols: p; Open symbols: pbar;  $|y| < 0.5$ )



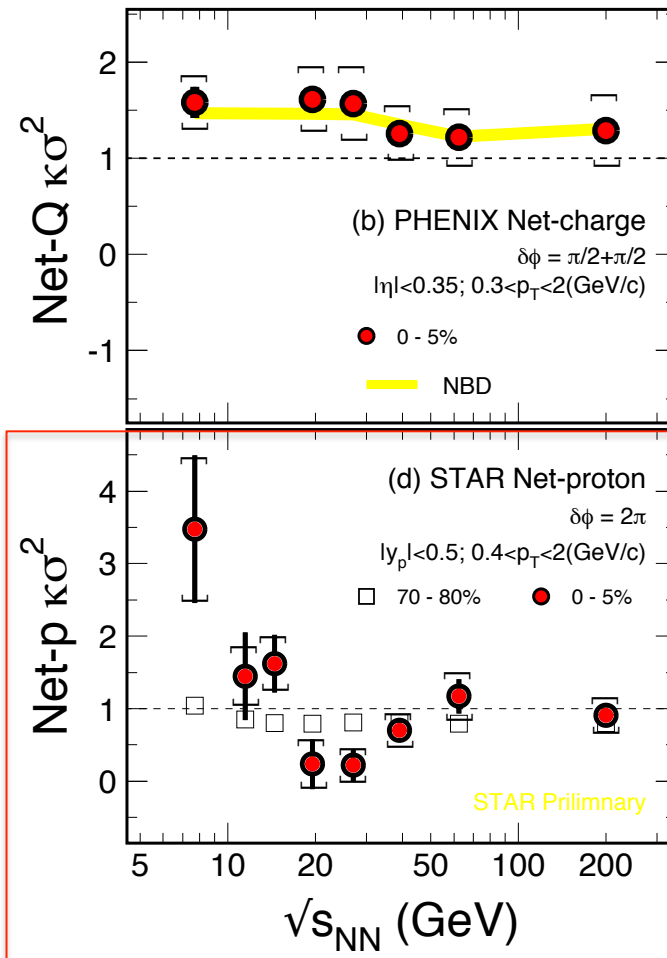
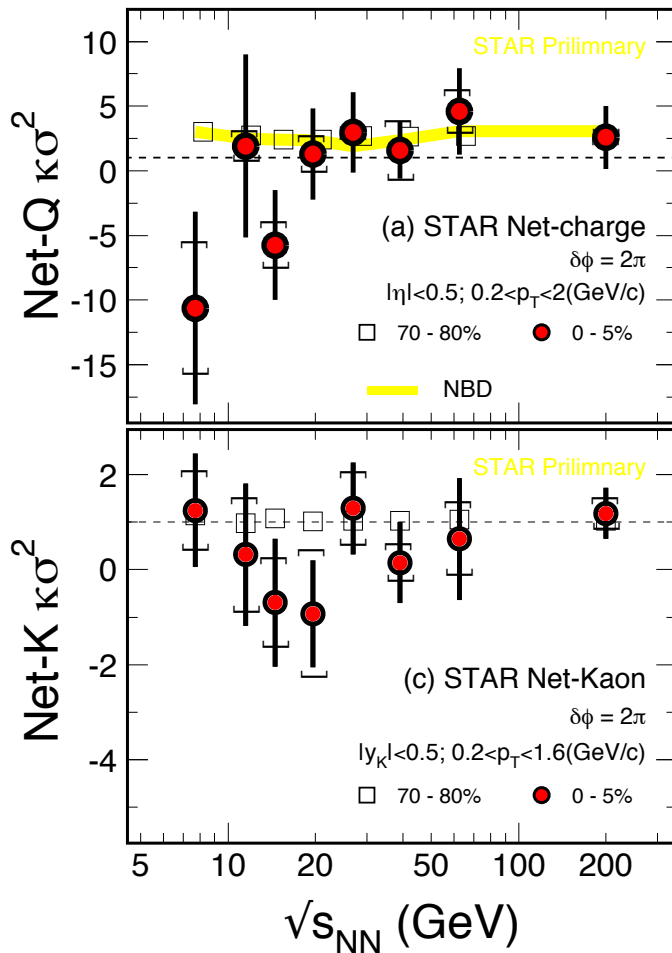


Sensitive to rapidity coverage!



Sensitive to  $p_T$  coverage!

Phase space coverage is important!!!



$$\text{error}(\kappa * \sigma^2) \propto$$

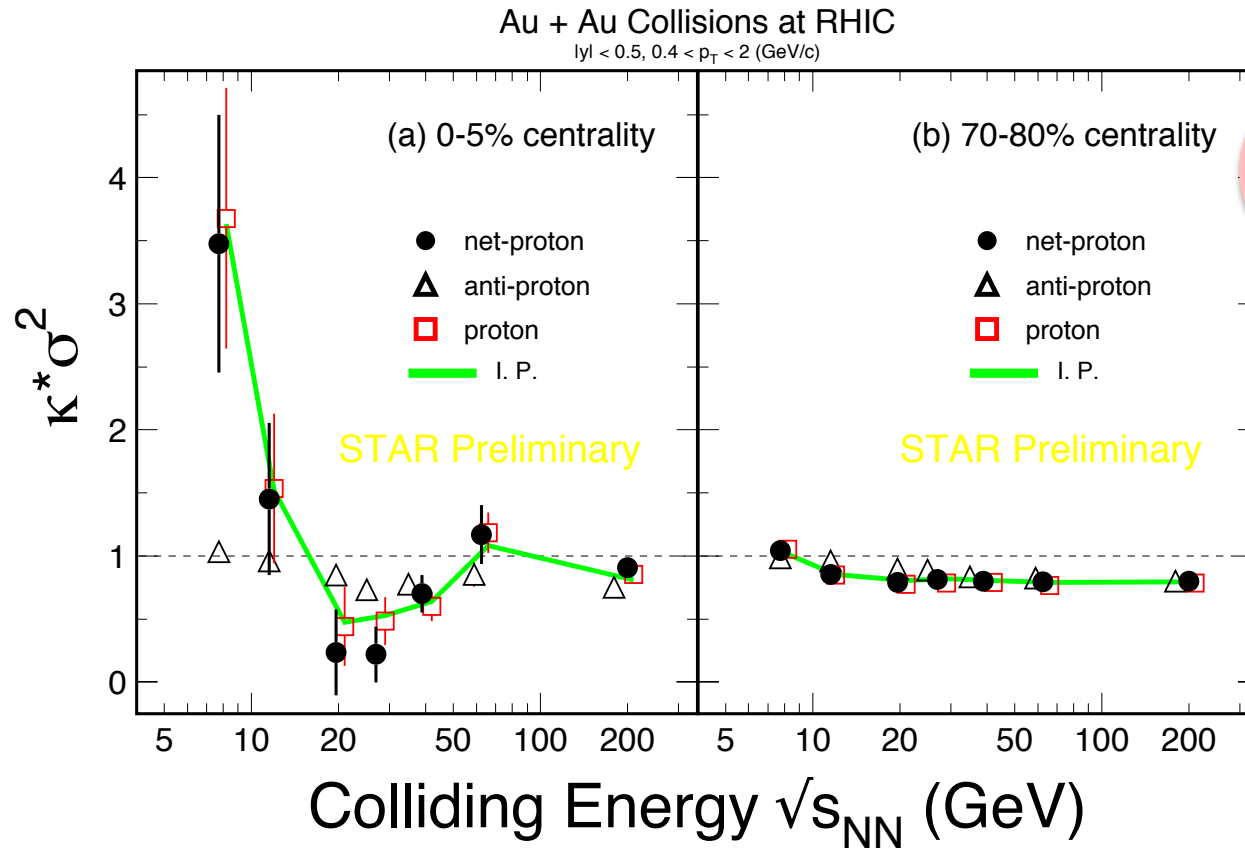
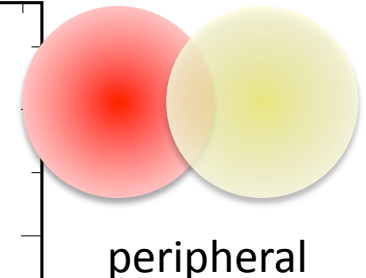
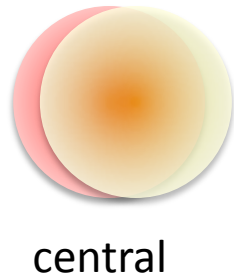
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\sigma^2}{\epsilon^2}$$

In STAR:

$$\sigma(Q) > \sigma(K) > \sigma(p)$$

- 1) The results of net-Q and net-Kaon show flat energy dependence.
- 2) Net-p shows **non-monotonic energy dependence** in the most central Au+Au collisions starting at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 27$  GeV!

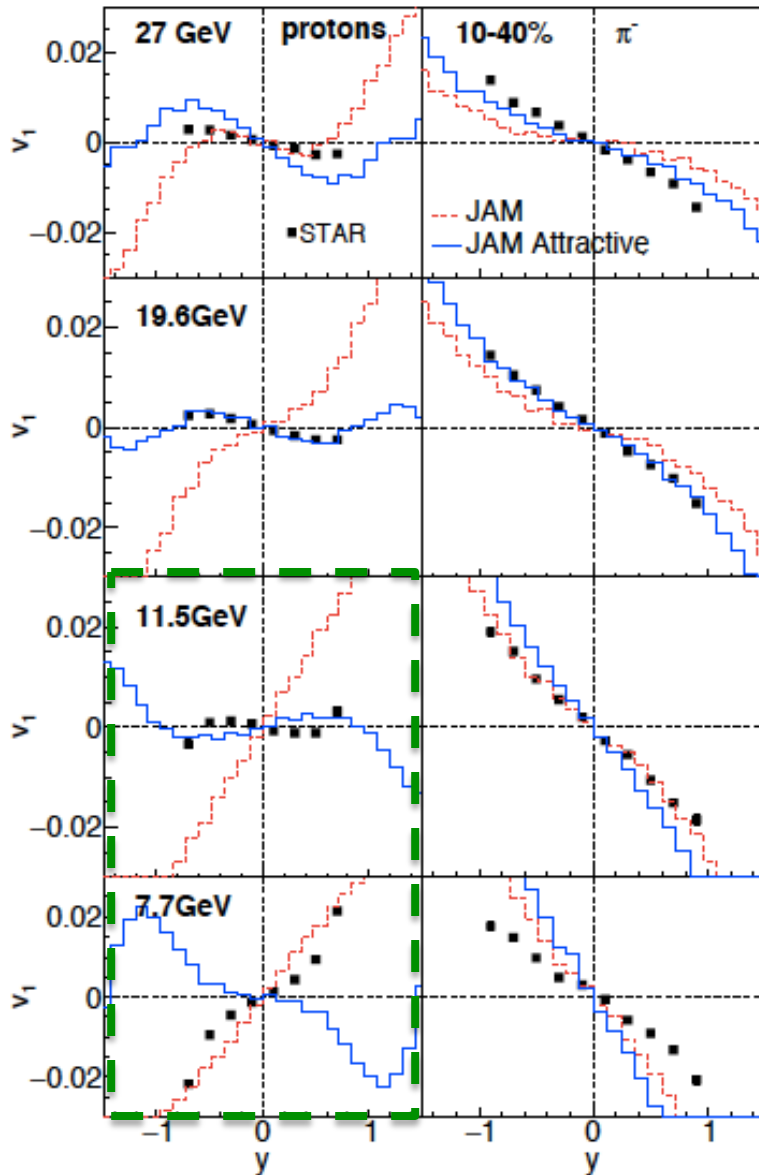




- 1) Flat energy dependence for 70-80% peripheral collisions
- 2) Non-monotonic behavior in the most central 0-5%, and 5-10% collisions. Net-p follow protons, especially at lower collision energies

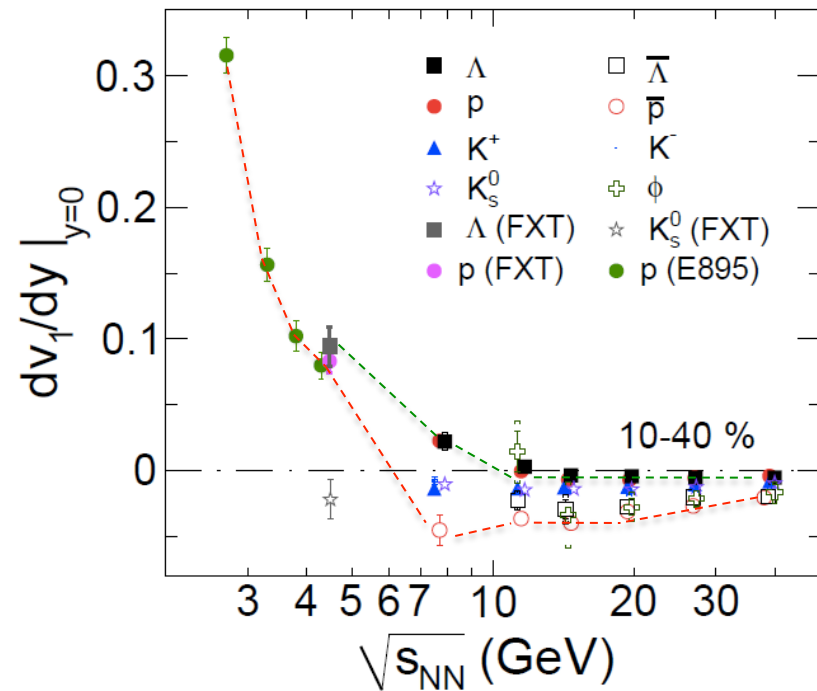
*X.F. Luo, CPOD2014, QM2015*

# $v_1$ vs. Energy: Softest Point?

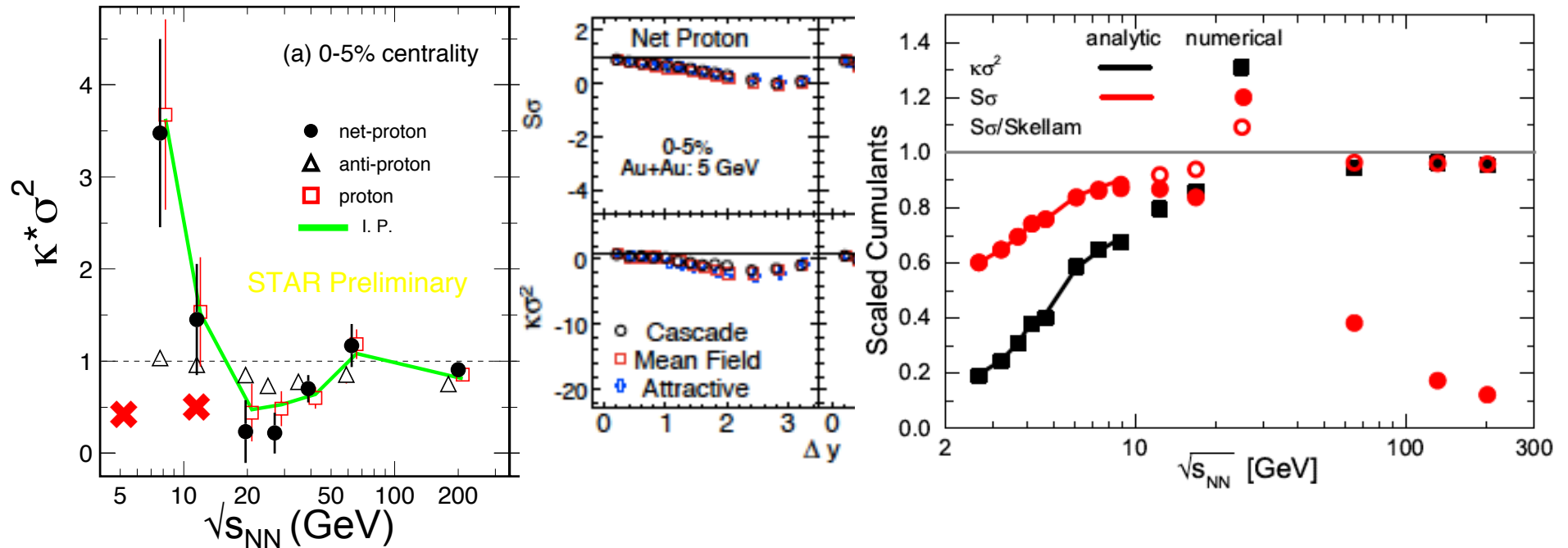


**“Attractive force”** →  
 Change of the EOS  
 ~ “softest point”

- Y. Nara, A. Ohnishi, H. Stoecker,  
 arXiv: **1601.07692** ; PRC94, 034906(2016)



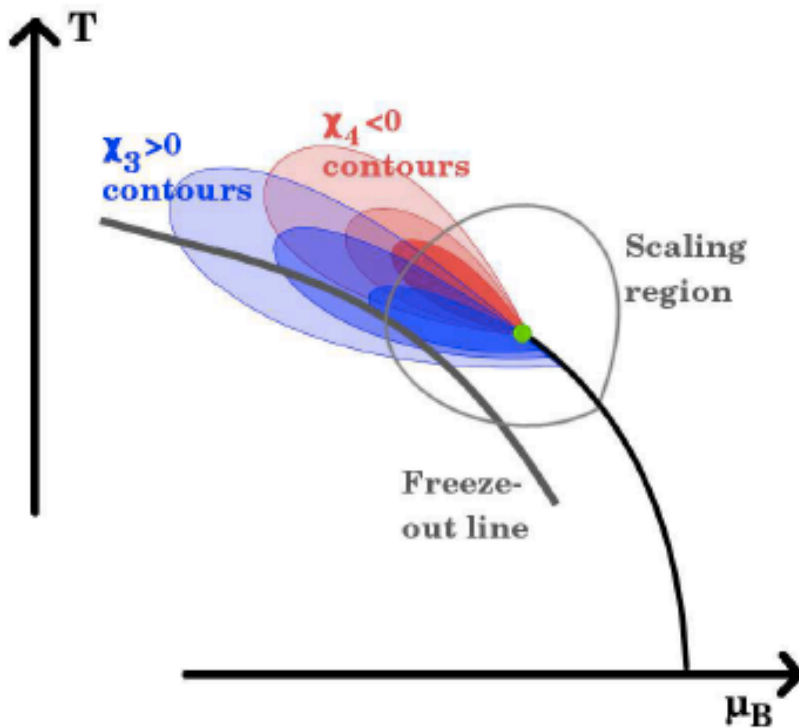
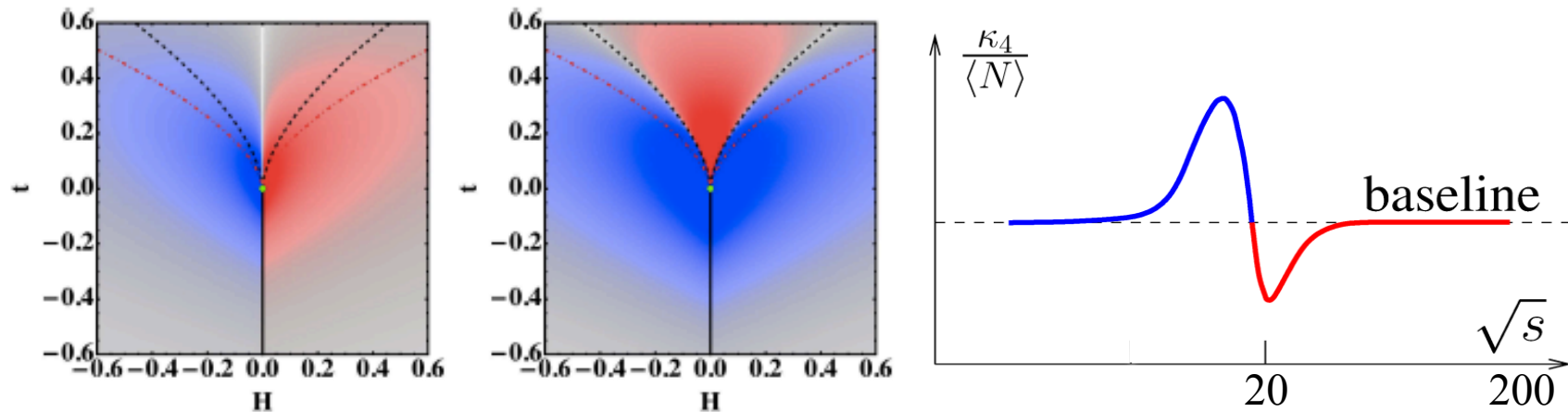
Kathryn Meehan, QM2017



At  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 10$  GeV: **Data:  $\kappa\sigma^2 > 1!$  Model:  $\kappa\sigma^2 < 1!$**   
**All models: suppress higher order net-proton fluctuations**  
 (UrQMD, AMPT, HRG and JAM do not reproduce data)

- 1) Z. Feckova, J. Steonheimer, B. Tomasik, M. Bleicher, 1510.05519, PR**C92**, 064908(15)
- 2) X.F. Luo *et al*, NP **A931**, 808(14)
- 3) P.K. Netrakanti *et al*. 1405.4617, NP **A947**, 248(16)
- 4) P. Garg *et al*. Phys. Lett. **B726**, 691(13)
- 5) Baryon mean-field (**attractive**): Shu He *et al.*, 1607.07276

# Expectation from Model Calculations

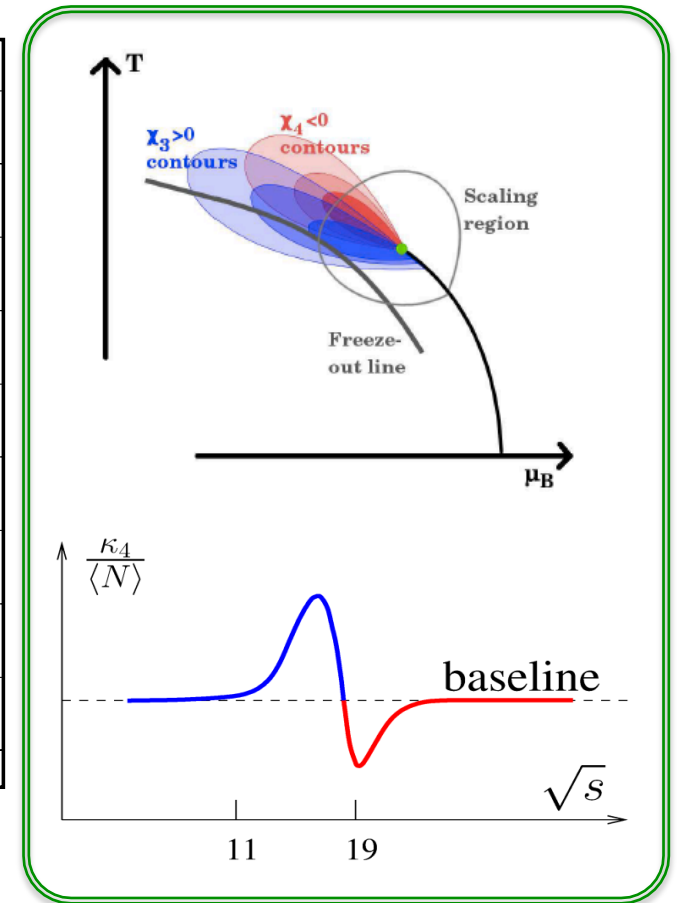
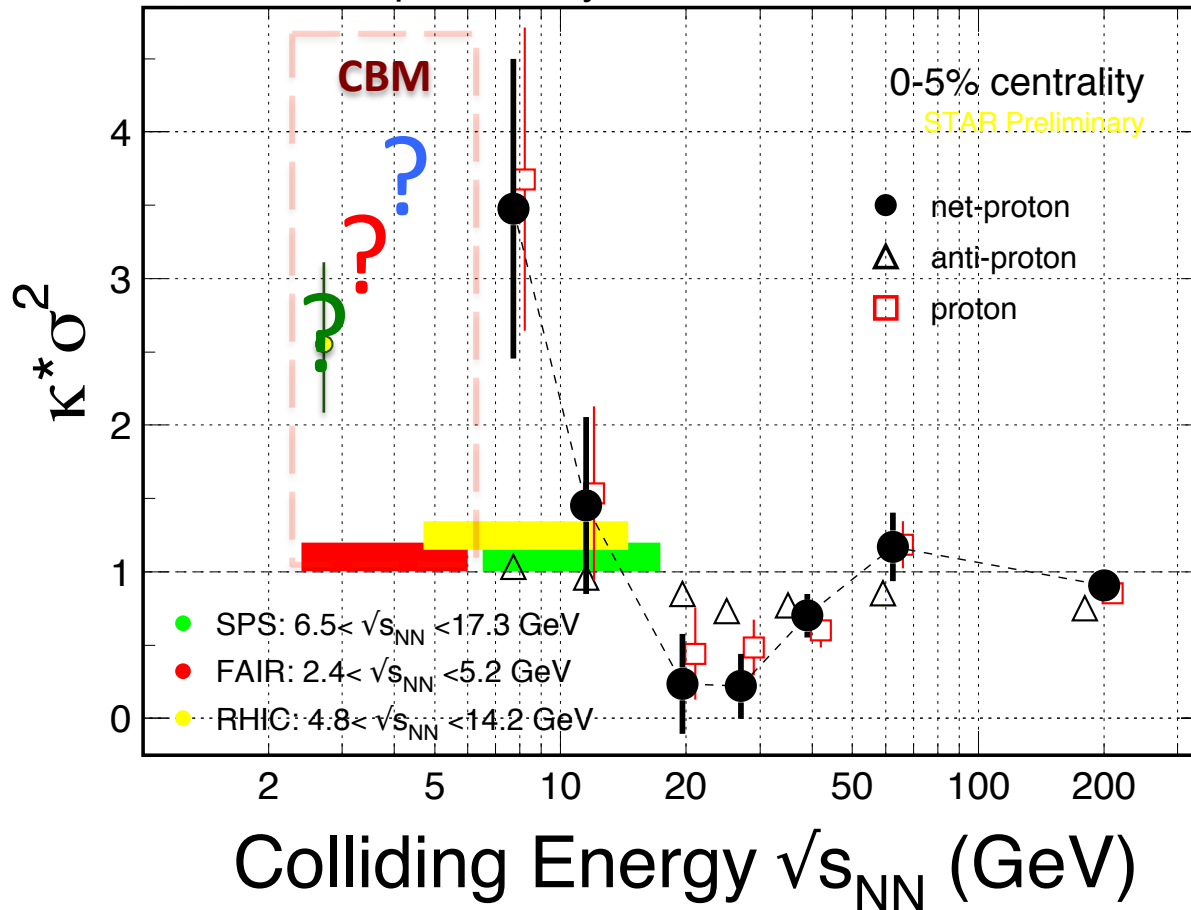


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- M. Stephanov, *PRL* **107**, 052301(2011)
- V. Skokov, Quark Matter 2012
- J.W. Chen, J. Deng, H. Kohyama, arXiv: 1603.05198, Phys. Rev. **D93** (2016) 034037

# Search at Large $\mu_B$ is Critical

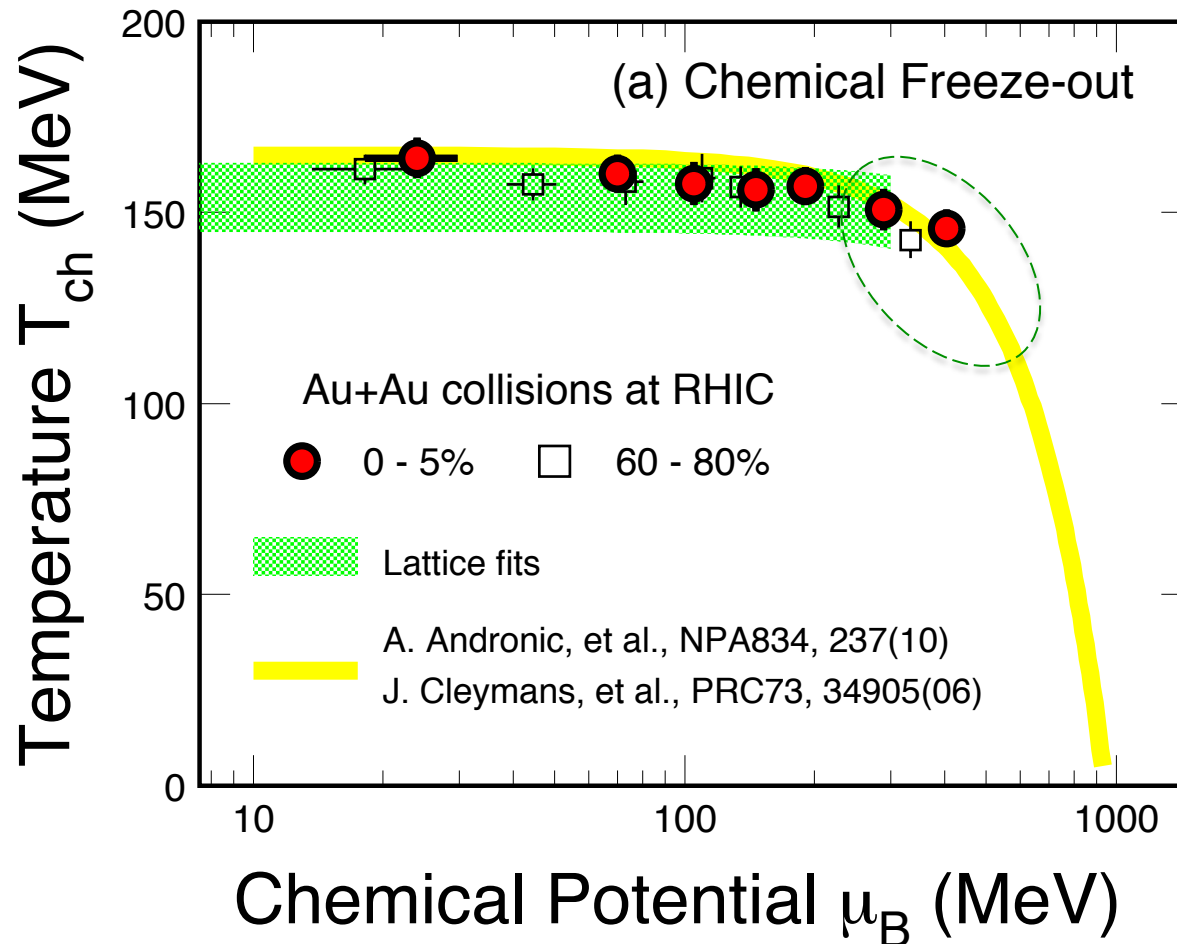
● HADES, preliminary, 2016



CBM/HADES Experiment ( $2.5 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 8$  GeV) :

**Key region for CP search**

STAR Data: X.F. Luo et al, PRL112 (2014) 32302; X.F. Luo, PoS(CPOD14)019; QM plenary (15)



CP:  $300 < \mu_B < 700$  MeV,  $15 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 2$  GeV  
 BES-III (STAR FXT and CBM are required)

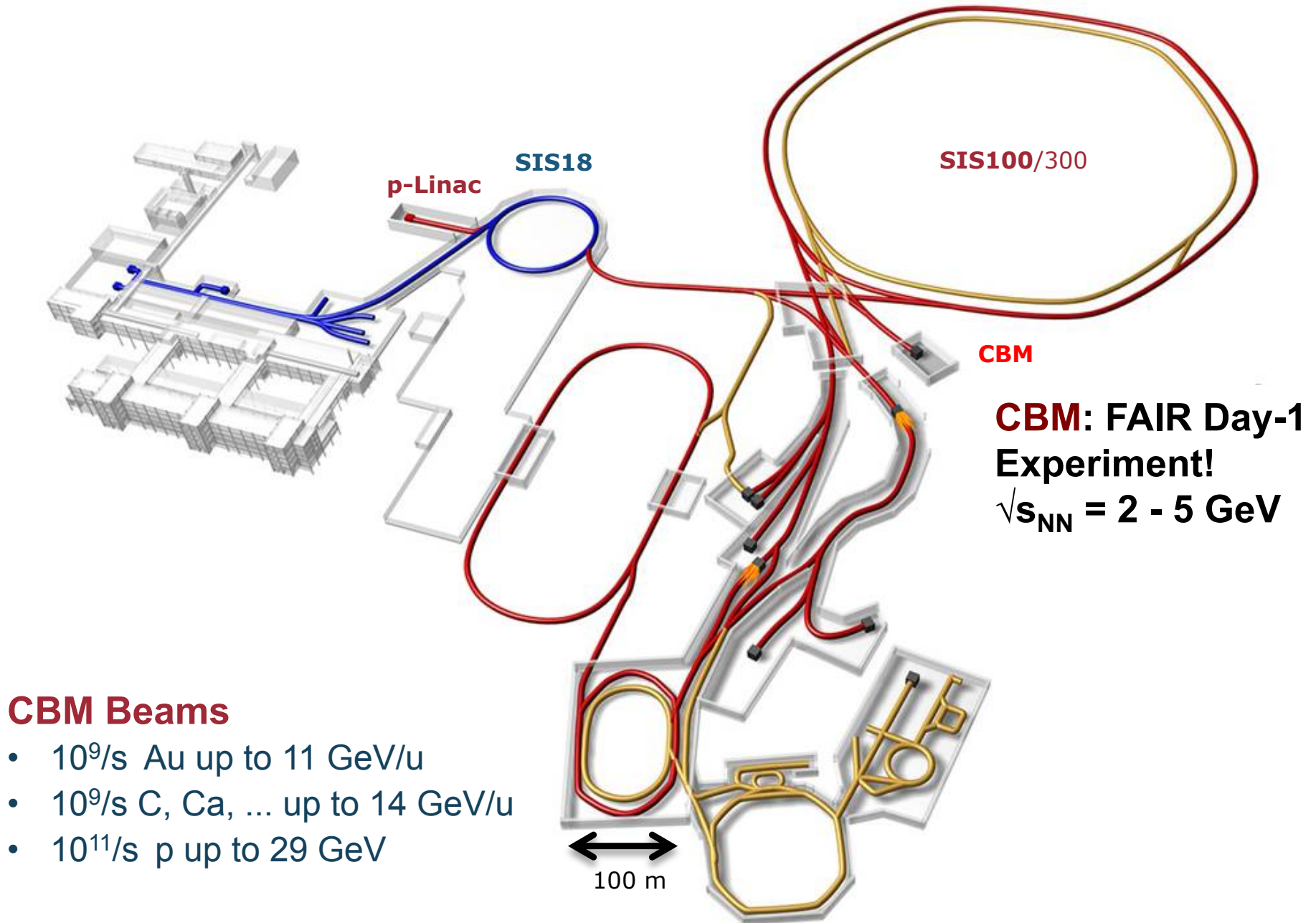


# Summary: CP Search



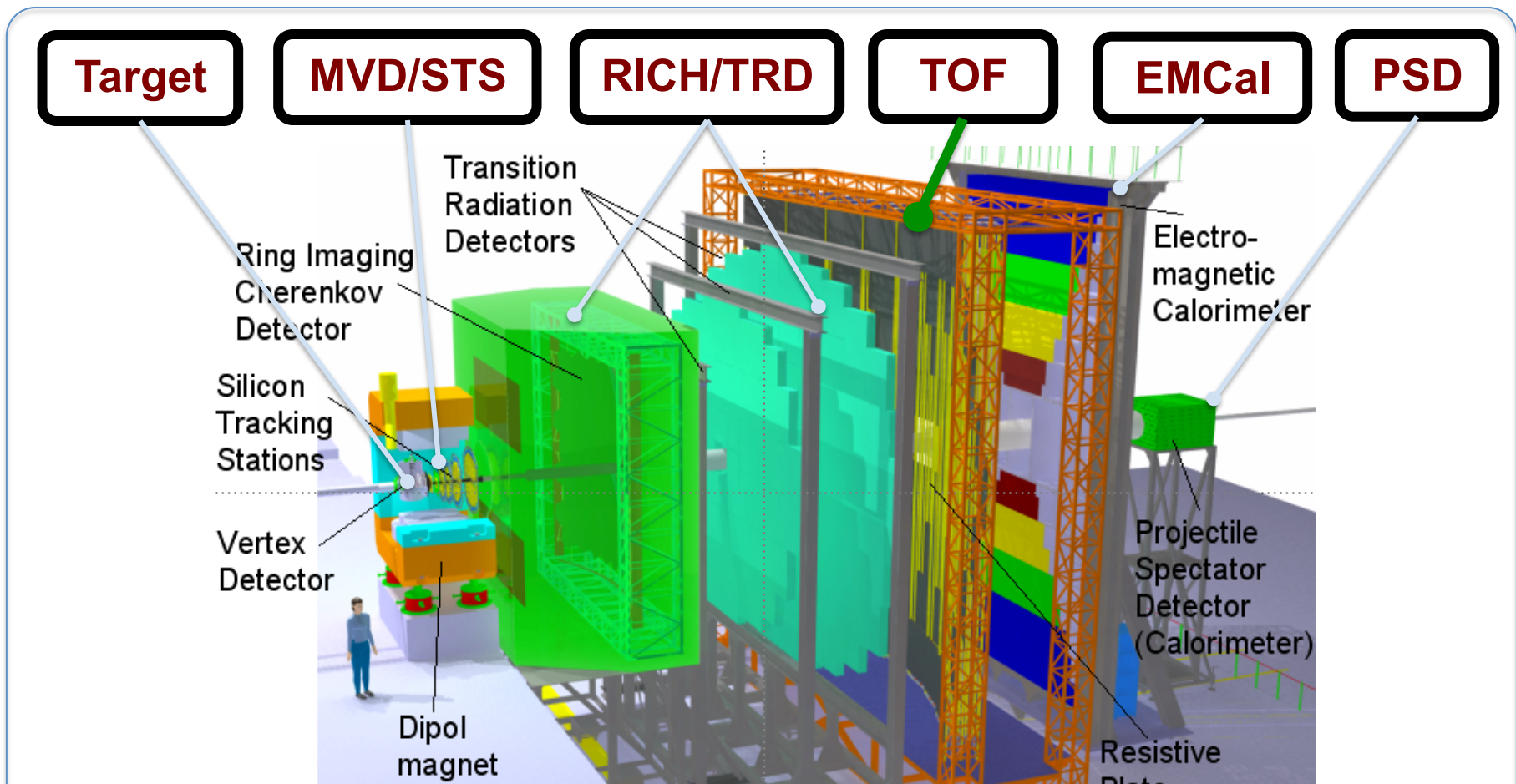
- 1) Below  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 15$  GeV the slope of net-p  $v_1 > 0$  implies repulsive interactions. But, net-p Kurtosis  $> 1$ , indicating attractive force.
- 2) No model can reproduce both results. Especially, all predictions show suppression for net-p  $\kappa$ .
- 3) BES-II at RHIC: reduce error bars.
- 4) FTX experiments needed to 'contain' the possible critical region below  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$  GeV.

# Facility for Antiproton & Ion Research: **FAIR**

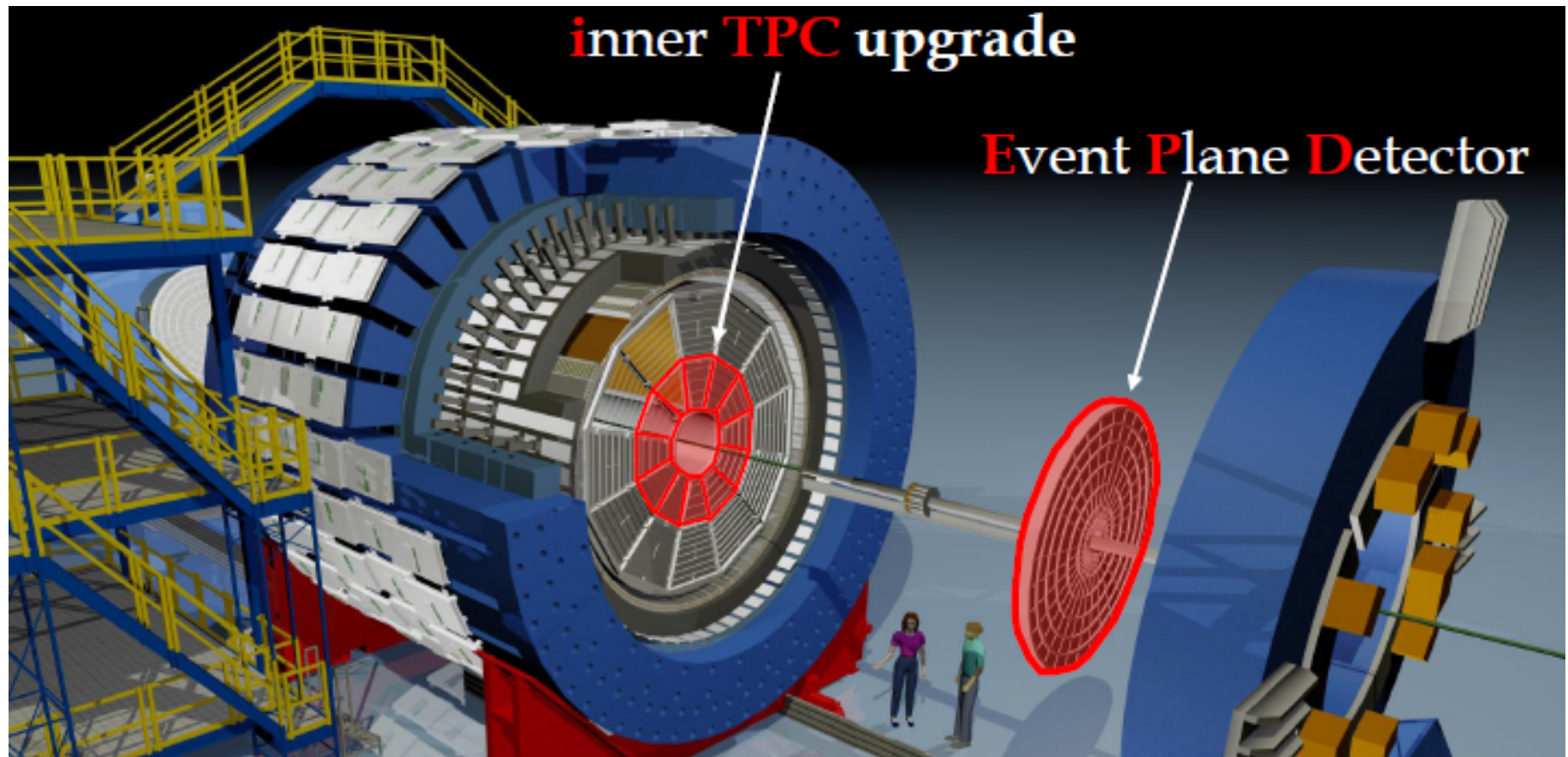




# CBM Experiment at FAIR



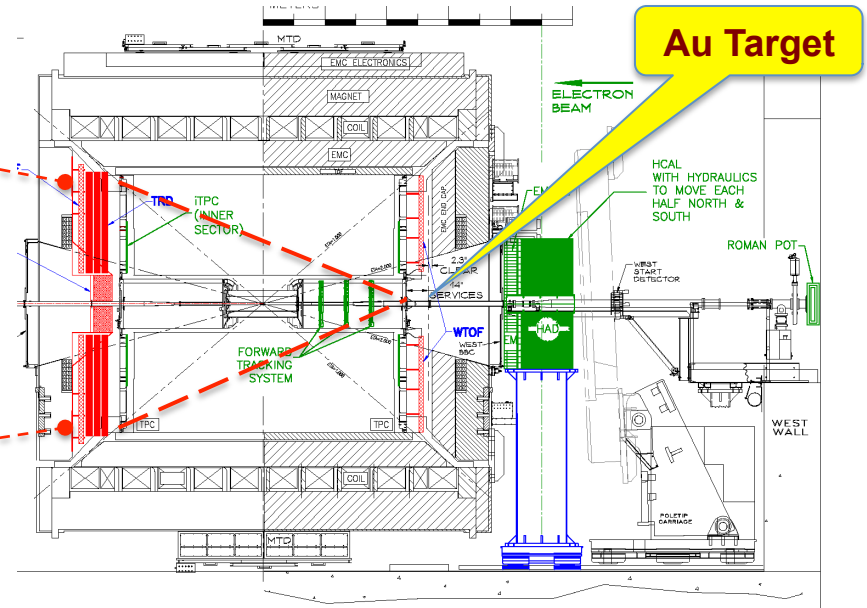
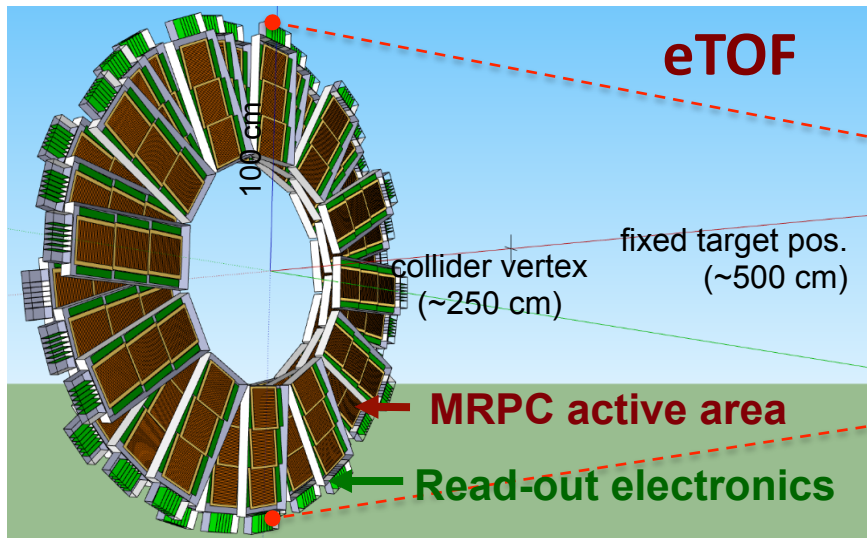
**FAIR:** One of the highest intensity accelerator complex in the 21<sup>st</sup> century  
**Precision measurements** at high baryon density region for:  
 (i) Dileptons ( $e, \mu$ ); (ii) High order correlations; (iii) Flavor productions ( $s, c$ )



- 1) Enlarge rapidity acceptance
- 2) Improve particle identification
- 3) Enhance event plane resolution

**iTPC, EPD, eTOF**  
**Dedicated two runs at**  
**RHIC: 2019 & 2020**

# CBM Phase-0 Exp: eTOF at STAR



Install, commission and use 10% of the CBM TOF modules, including the read-out chains at STAR, starting in 2019

**CBM participating in RHIC Beam Energy BES-II in 2019-2020:**

- Complementary to part of CBM's physics program:

$$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3, 3.6, 3.9, 4.5, 7.7 \text{ GeV} \quad (750 \leq \mu_B \leq 420 \text{ MeV})$$

especially for ***B-*** & ***s-hadrons*** production and fluctuations

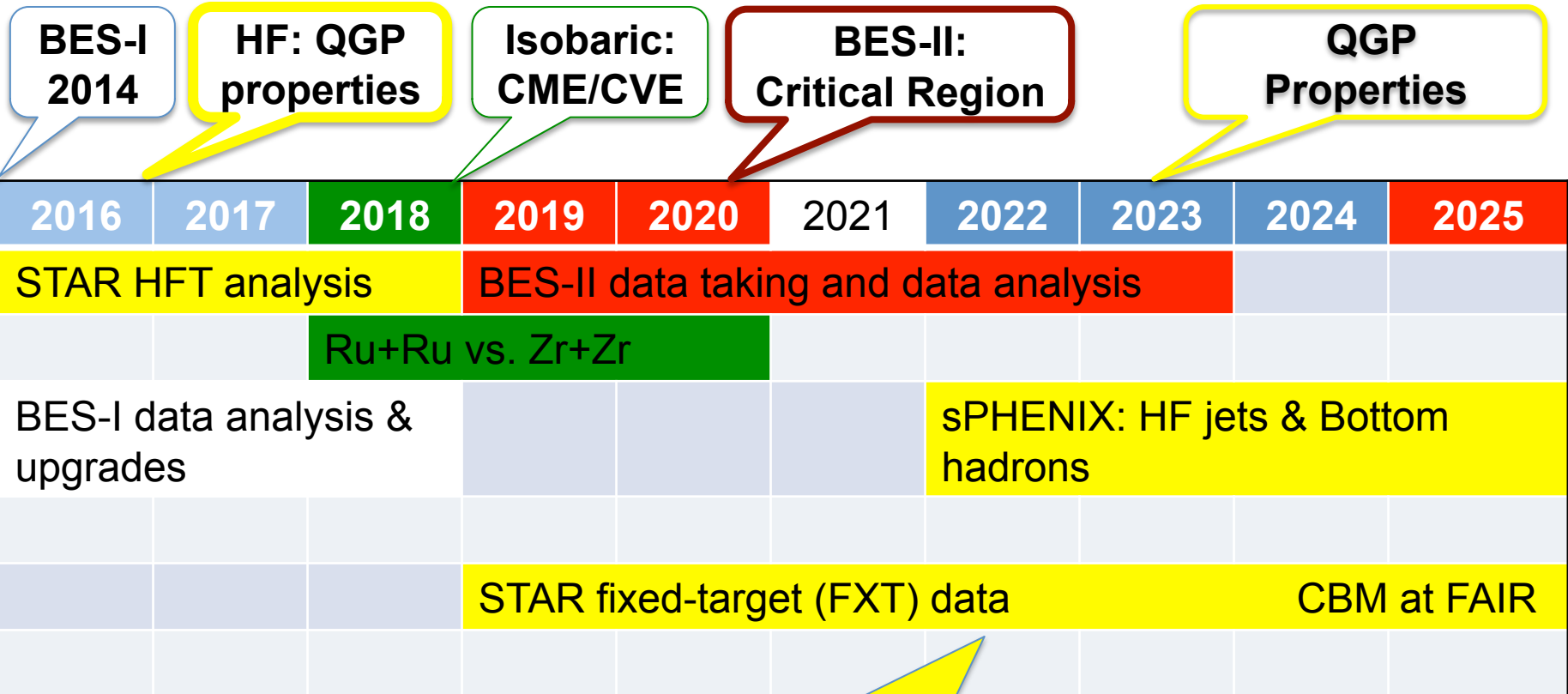
**FAIR (CBM) construction starts 17, beam on target in 2025!**

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Events ( $10^6$ )	BES II / BES I	Weeks	$\mu_B$ (MeV)	$T_{CH}$ (MeV)
200	350	2010		25	166
62.4	67	2010		73	165
39	39	2010		112	164
27	70	2011		156	162
19.6	<b>400</b> / 36	<b>2019-20</b> / 2011	<b>3</b>	206	160
14.5	<b>300</b> / 20	<b>2019-20</b> / 2014	<b>2.5</b>	264	156
11.5	<b>230</b> / 12	<b>2019-20</b> / 2010	<b>5</b>	315	152
9.2	<b>160</b> / 0.3	<b>2019-20</b> / 2008	<b>9.5</b>	355	140
7.7	<b>100</b> / 4	<b>2019-20</b> / 2010	<b>14</b>	420	140

Precision measurements, map the QCD phase diagram  **$200 < \mu_B < 420 \text{ MeV}$**

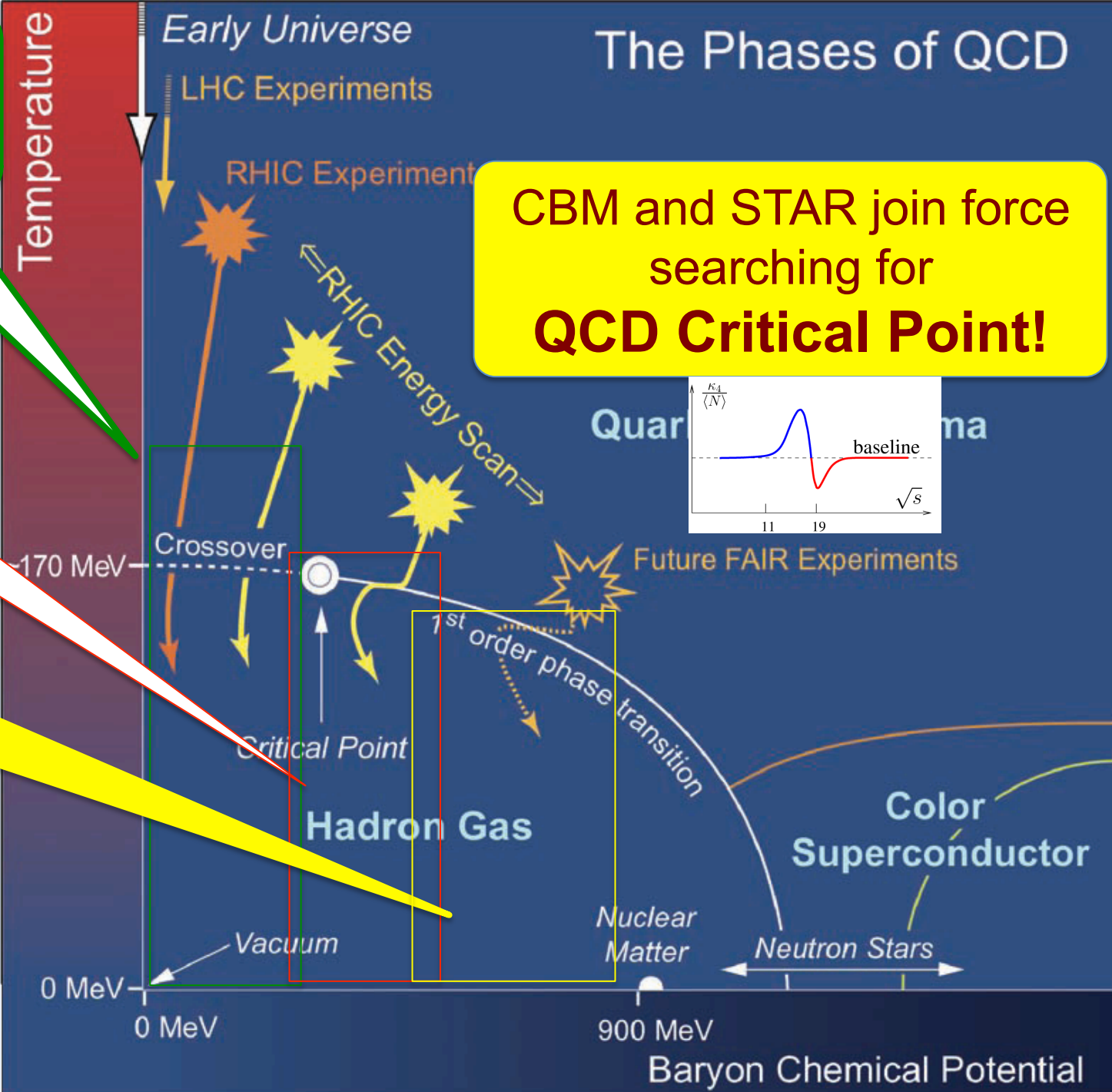


# RHIC HI Physics Programs



**FXT programs for QCD properties at high baryon density and the critical region**

# The Phases of QCD



**LHC+RHIC**  
**QGP properties**  
 $\mu_B \sim 0$   
 now - 2025

**RHIC BESII**  
 collider mode  
 $200 < \mu_B < 420$  MeV  
 2019 & 2020

**Fixed-target**  
**BES-III**  
 $350 < \mu_B < 750$  MeV  
 2019 – **CBM** – ?

**CBM and STAR join force**  
 searching for  
**QCD Critical Point!**

