

# Conference Highlight: Electroweak Probes

Jean-François Paquet

September 27, 2024

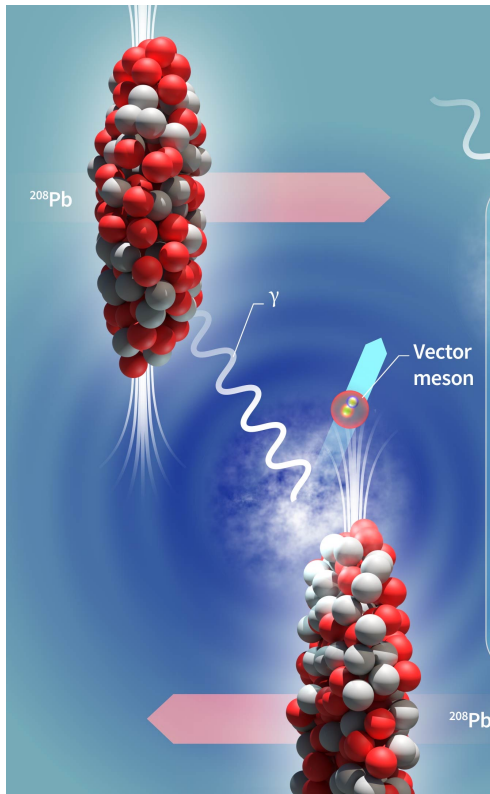


HP2024  
N A G A S A K I

Thank you to all the electroweak probe speakers and poster presenters for their help. Special thanks to Charles Gale, Gabor David, Oscar Garcia Montero, Frank Geurts, Dennis Perepelitsa, Dmitri Peresunko and Lijuan Ruan for last-minute clarifications.

# Electroweak probes in heavy-ion collisions

Figure credit:  
CERN

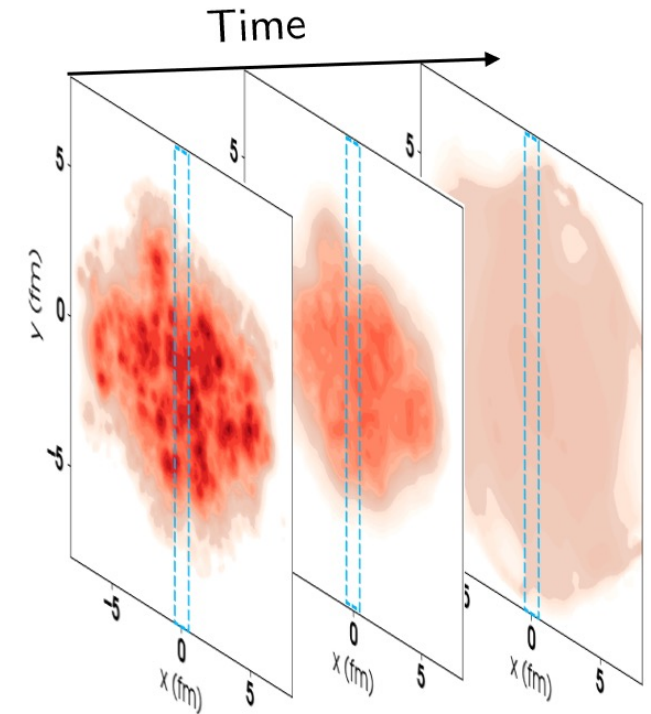


Reactions induced by initial state photons  
[ Minjung Kim ]

Figure credit: J-F  
Paquet and Scott  
Moreland



High-energy prompt  
photons, W/Z bosons



Photons and dileptons  
radiation from plasma

# High-energy electroweak probes in heavy-ion collisions

Isospin effect+“nuclear p.d.f.’s”/shadowing

$$\frac{dN^{AA}}{dp_T} = N_{coll} [(\text{parton dist. fct}) \otimes (\text{parton dist. fct}) \otimes (\text{partonic cross section})]$$

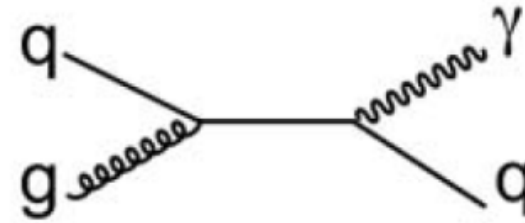
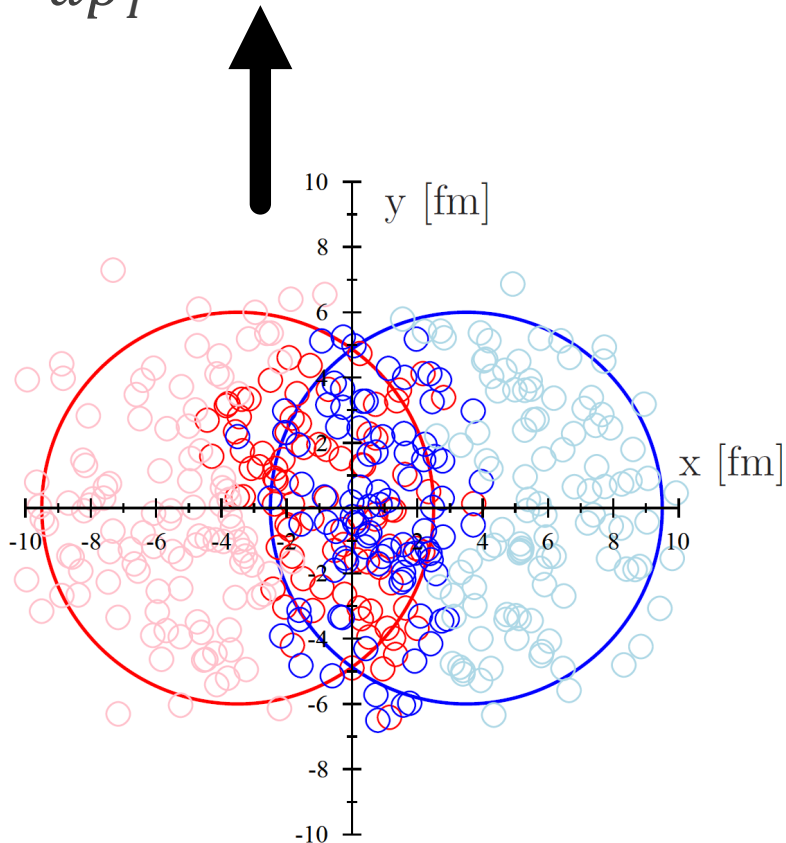


Figure by H. Holopainen

# High-energy electroweak probes in heavy-ion collisions

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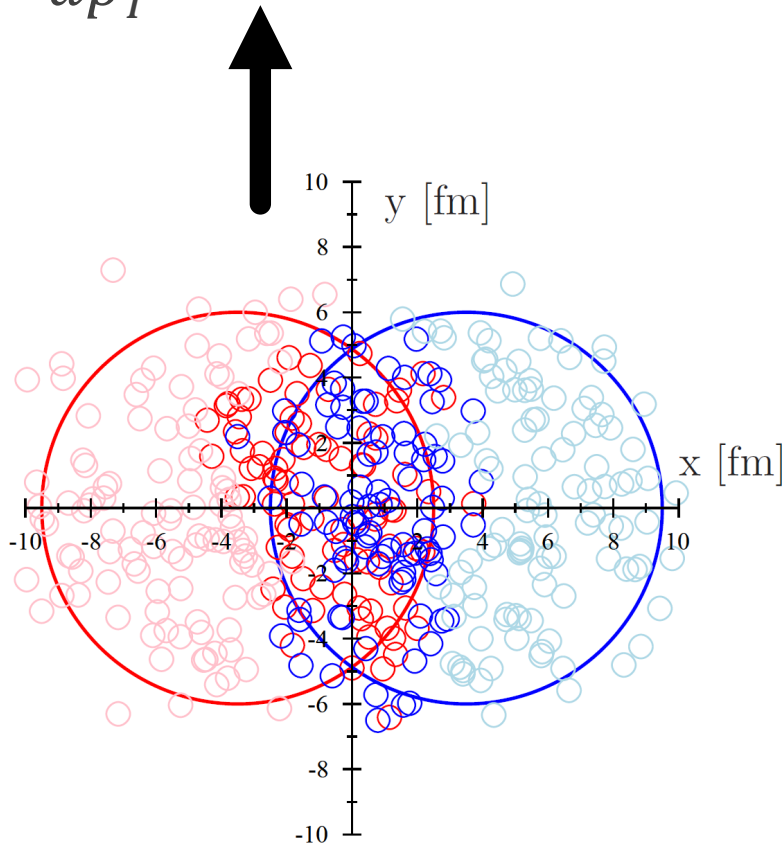
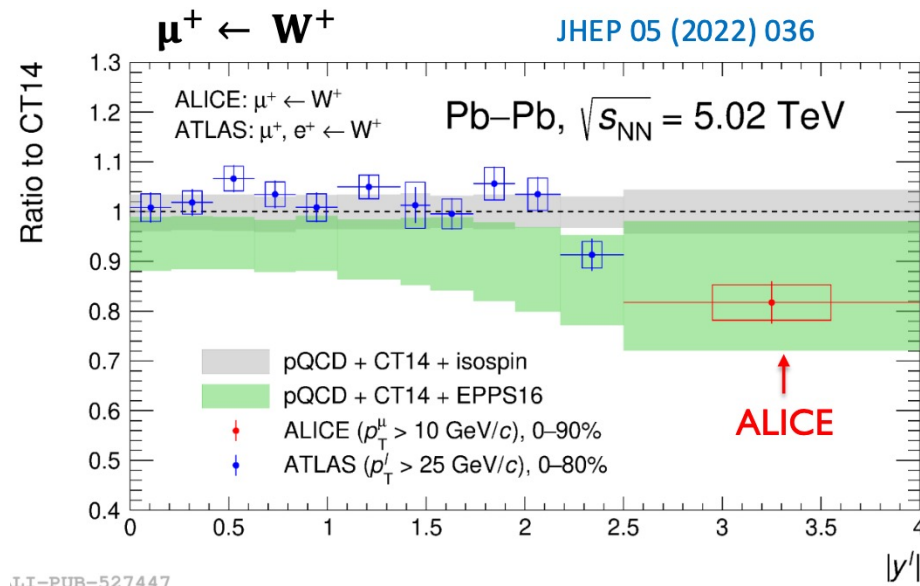


Figure by H. Holopainen

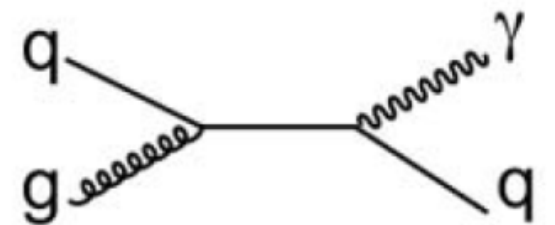
## Probe of initial conditions



## Correlation with jets to study parton energy loss

[Shingo Sakai (ALICE)]

$W^\pm$  in Pb-Pb at 5.02 TeV from ALICE



# High-energy photons in heavy-ion collisions

$$\frac{dN^{AA}}{dp_T} = N_{coll} \left[ \underbrace{[(\text{parton dist. fct}) \otimes (\text{parton dist. fct}) \otimes (\text{partonic cross section})]}_{\text{Isospin effect+“nuclear p.d.f.’s”/shadowing}} + \underbrace{(\text{fragmentation } \gamma)}_{\text{Parton energy loss effect}} \right]$$

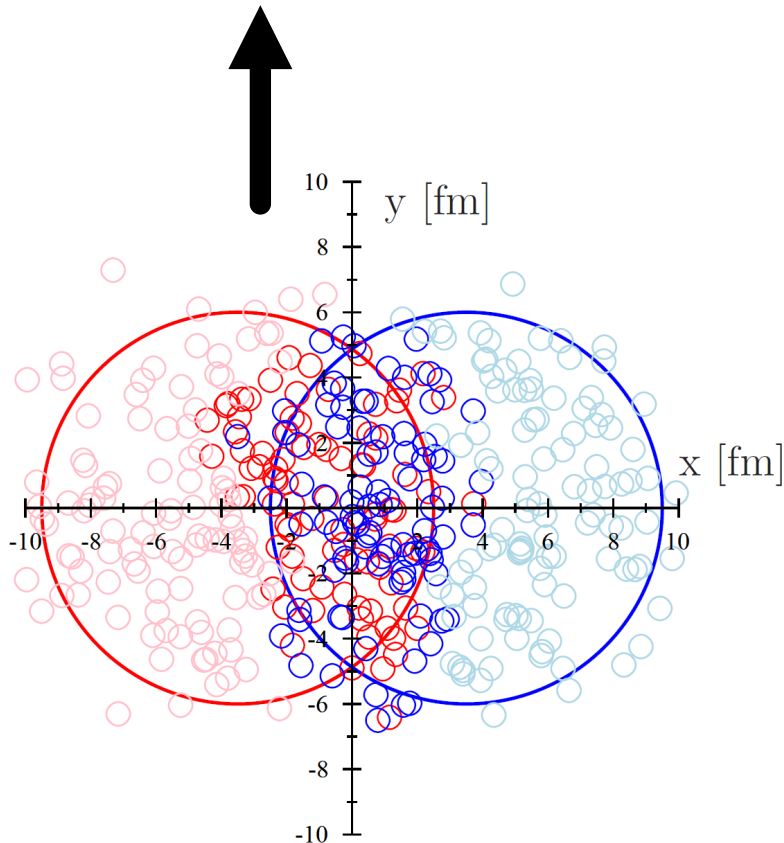
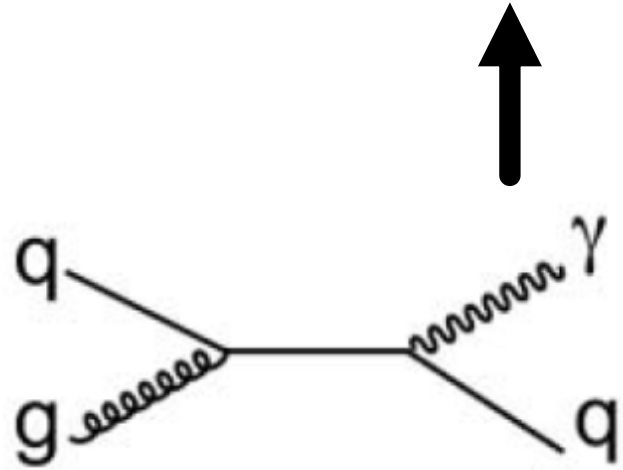
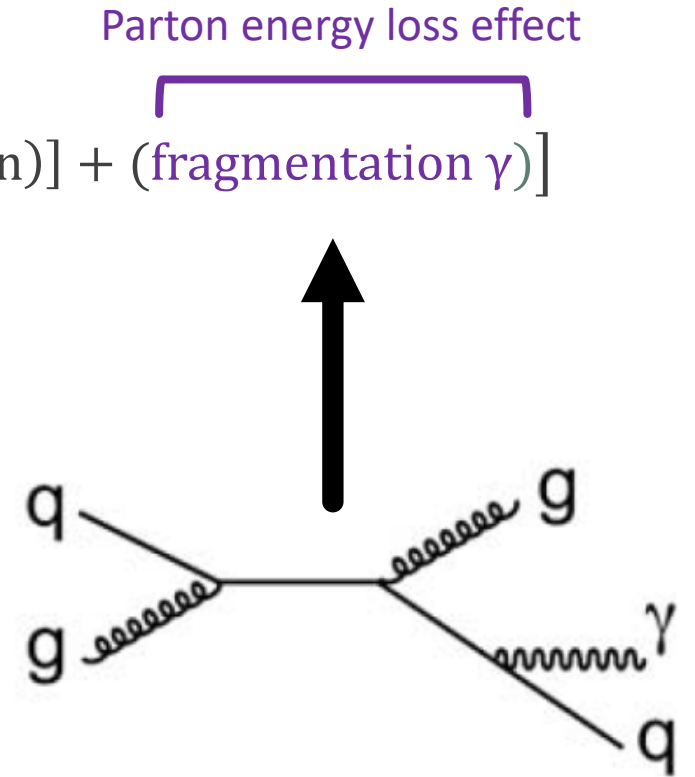
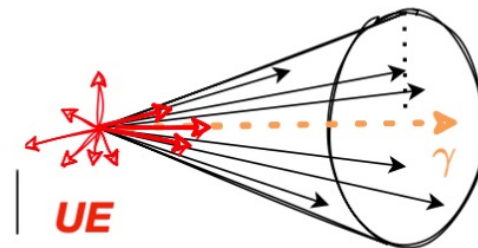


Figure by H. Holopainen

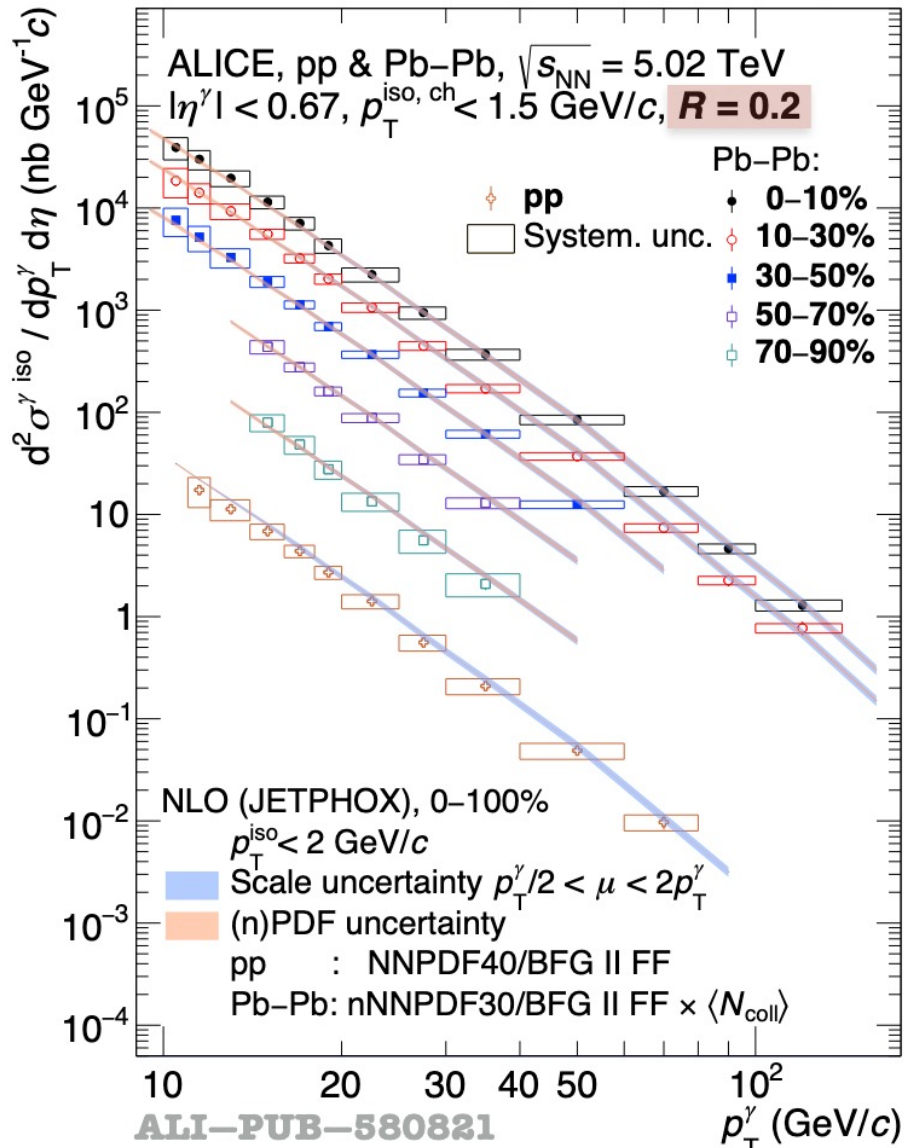


Isolated photon  
measurements reduce  
fragmentation component

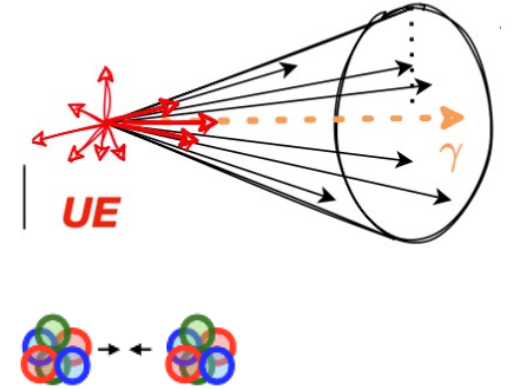


# Isolated photons from ALICE

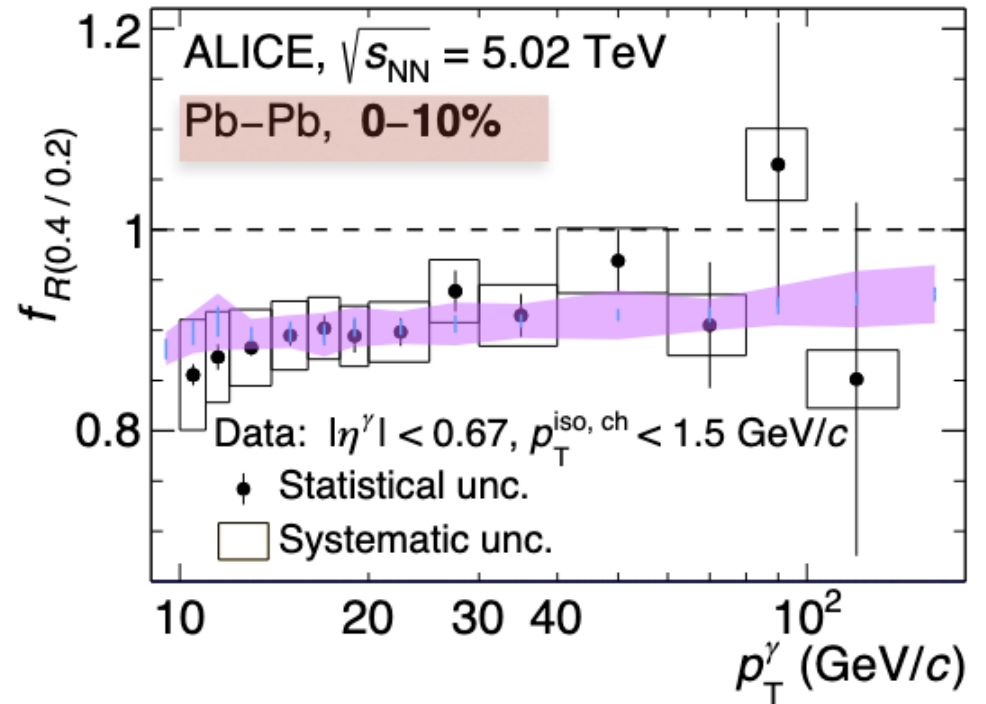
[Gustavo Conesa Balbastre (ALICE)]



$$f_{R(0.4/0.2)} = \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \Big|_{(R=0.4)} / \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \Big|_{(R=0.2)}$$



⇒ Sensitivity to suppression of fragmentation photon?



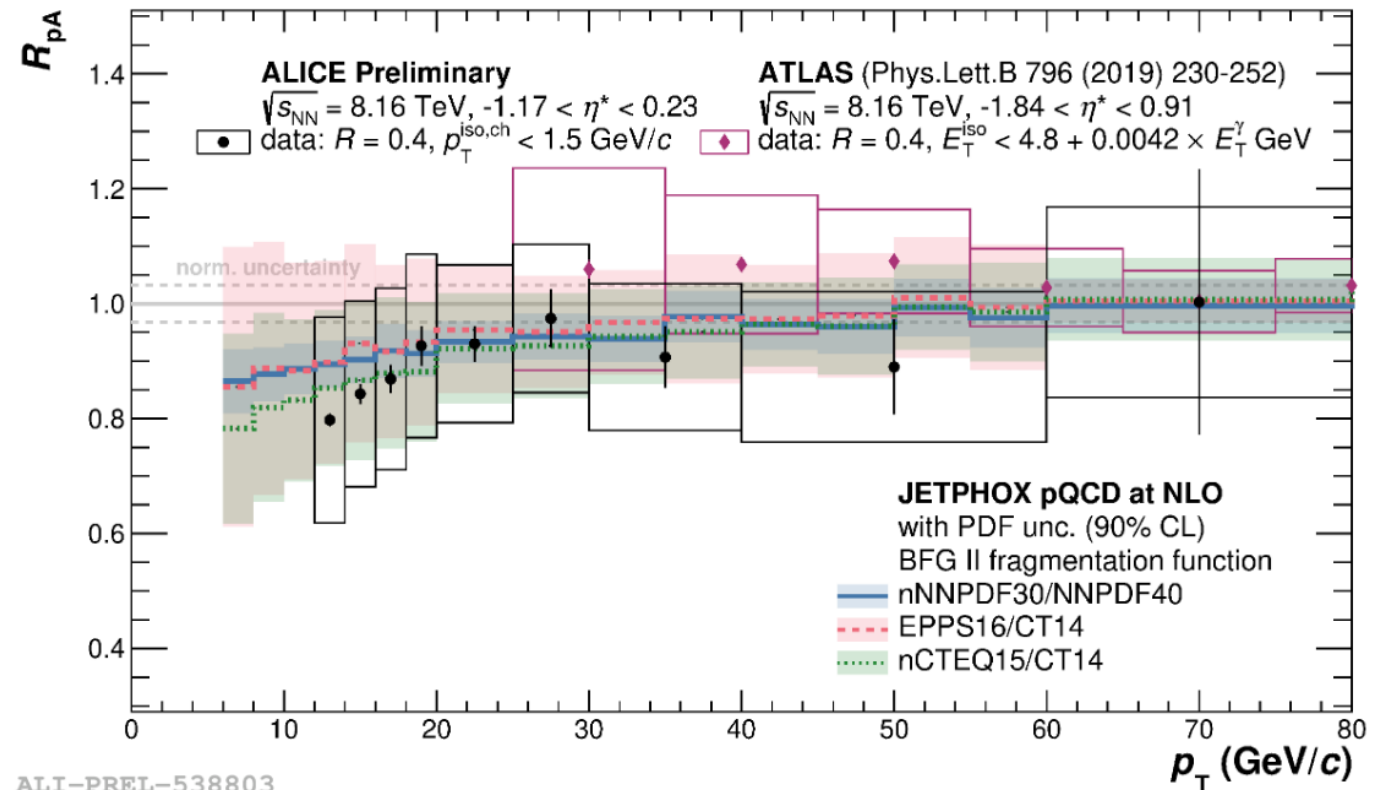
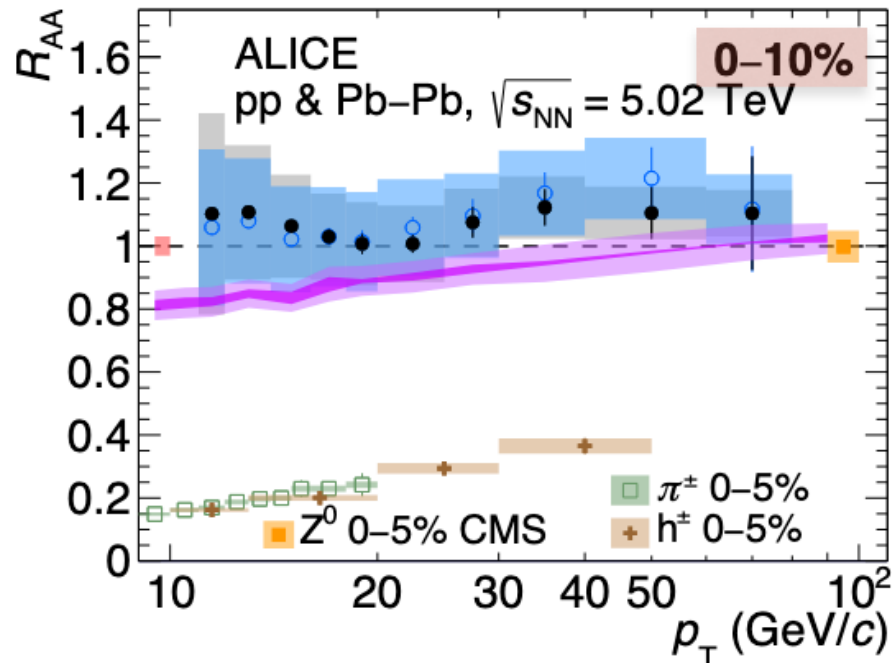
# $R_{AA}^\gamma$ and binary scaling in Pb-Pb and p-Pb collisions

[Gustavo Conesa Balbastre (ALICE)]

$$R_{AA}^\gamma = \frac{\frac{dN_\gamma^{AA}}{dp_T}}{N_{coll} \frac{dN_\gamma^{pp}}{dp_T}} \stackrel{?}{\approx} 1 + (\text{correction from isospin, nuclear p.d.f., frag. photon energy loss})$$

p-Pb @ 8.16 TeV

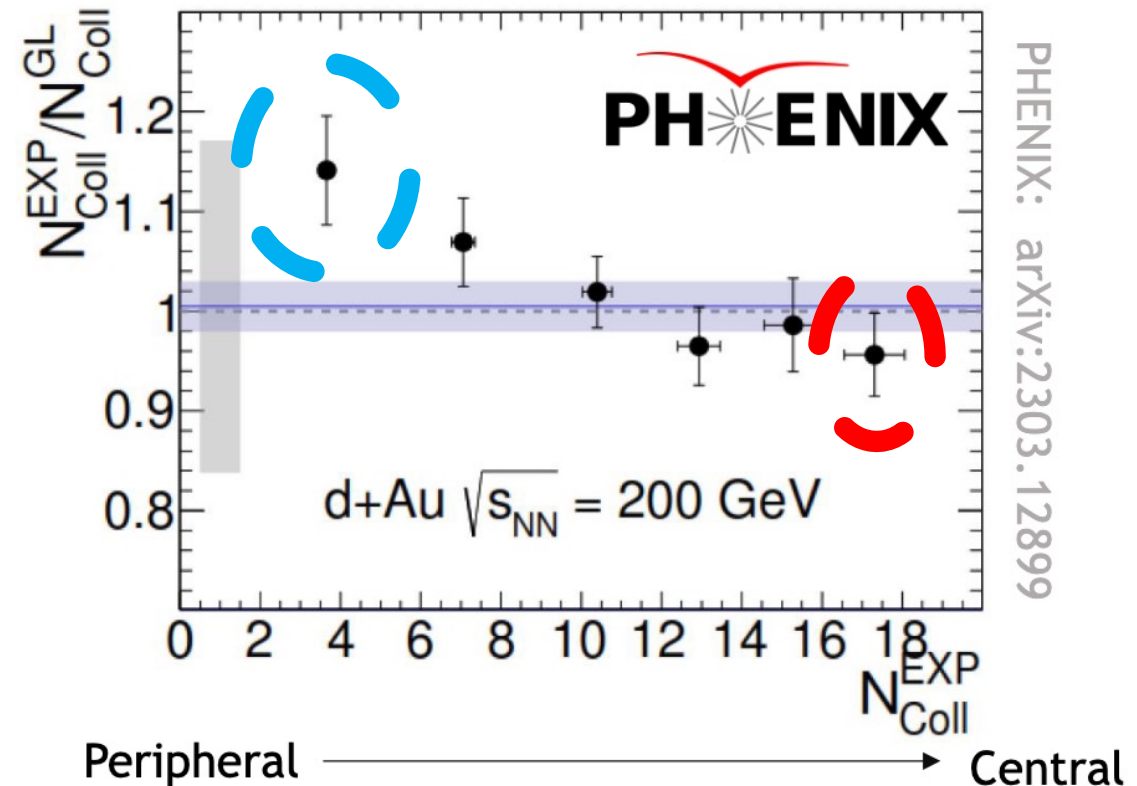
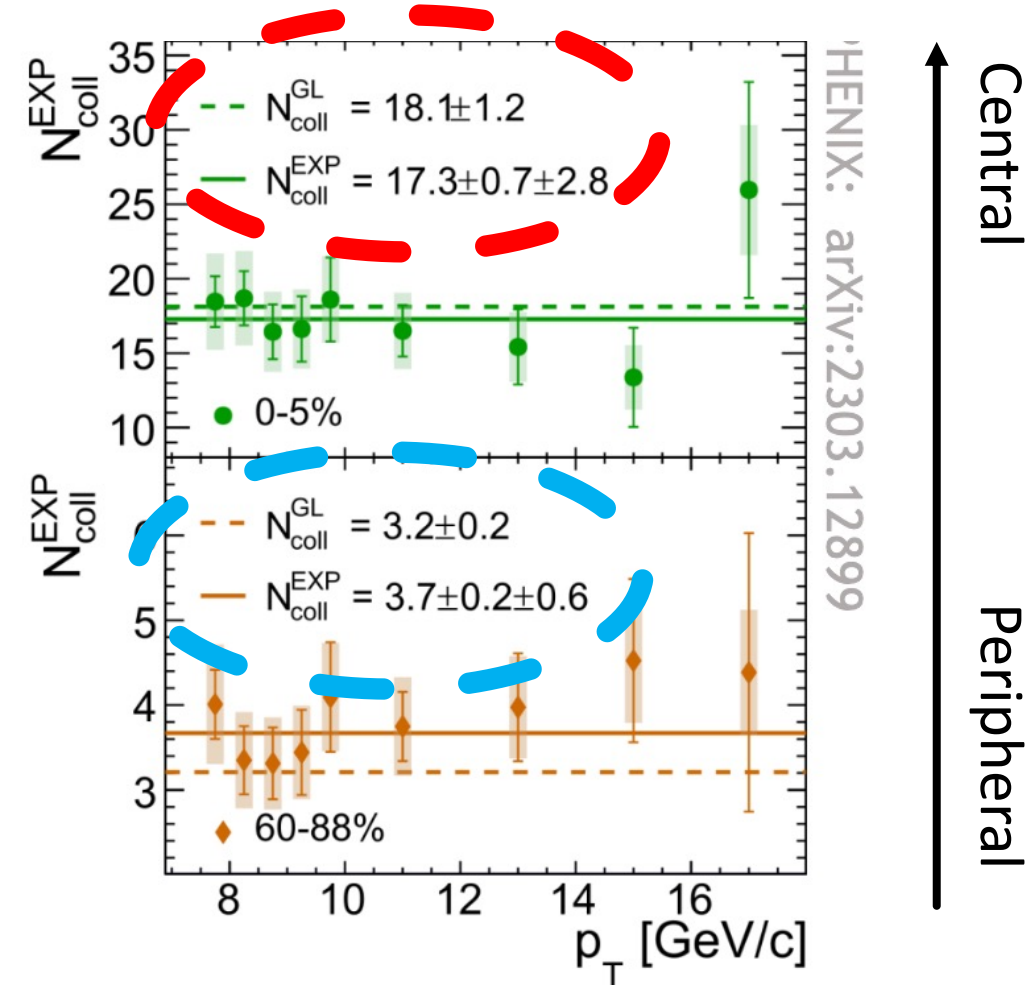
p-p & Pb-Pb @ 5.02 TeV



# Binary scaling in d-Au @ 200 GeV

[ Vassu Doomra (PHENIX) ]

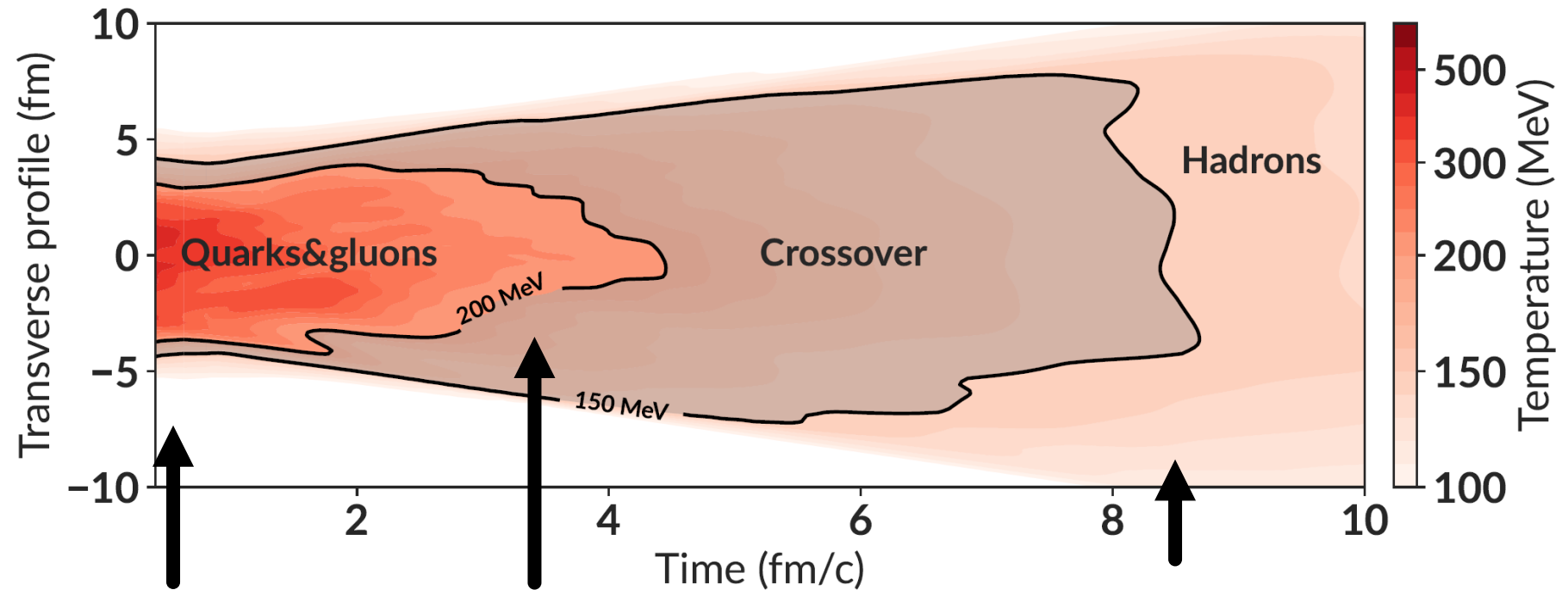
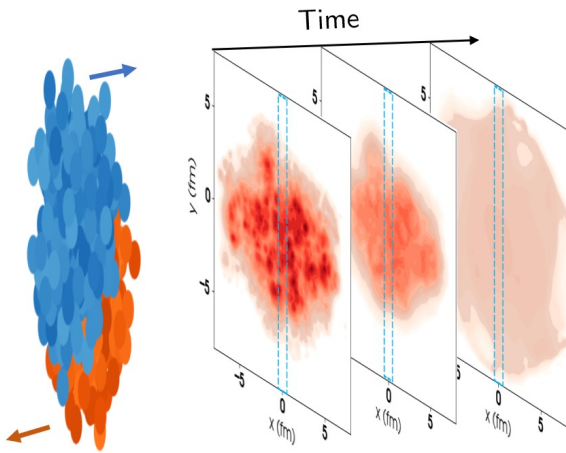
$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{AA}}{dp_T} / \frac{dN_{\gamma}^{pp}}{dp_T} \stackrel{?}{\approx} N_{coll} + (\text{correction from isospin, nuclear p.d.f., frag. photon energy loss})$$



[See Dennis Perepelitsa's talk]



# ~Low-energy photons/dileptons in heavy-ion collisions



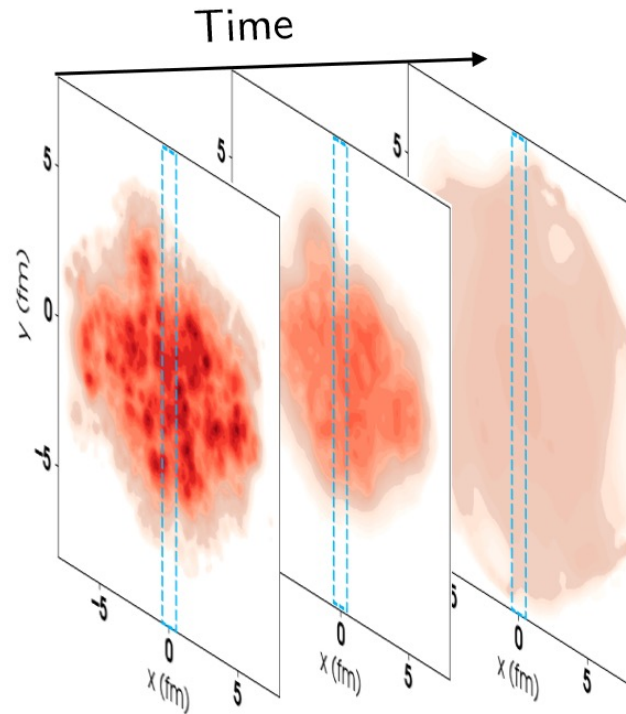
Pre-equilibrium  
photons/dileptons

Thermal photons  
and dileptons

Late-stage photons and dileptons  
(including hadronic and heavy  
quark decays)

# Electromagnetic radiation from deconfined medium

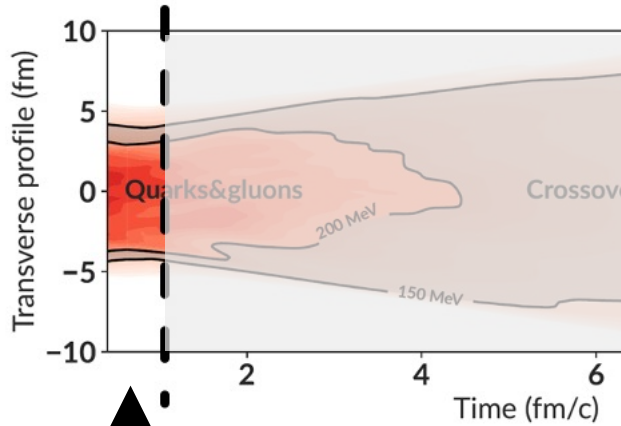
Figure credit: J-F  
Paquet and Scott  
Moreland



Photons and dileptons  
radiation from plasma

- Electromagnetic radiation from medium can probe:
  - Chemical equilibration & general early-stage dynamics of heavy-ion collisions
  - Electromagnetic fields at early time
  - Electric conductivity of plasma
  - Thermal photons & dileptons, and in-medium properties of hadrons

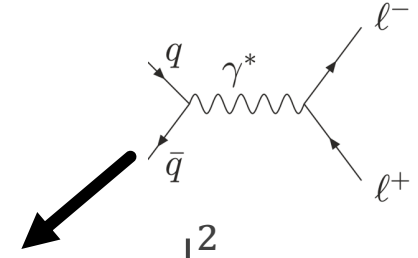
# Pre-equilibrium emission: a quasiparticle picture



- Photons/dileptons rate per spacetime volume

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\gamma/l^+l^-}}{dk_T} \sim \int_{p_a, p_b, p_c} f(p_a, X) f(p_b, X) (1 \pm f(p_c, X)) |\mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow c(\gamma/l^+l^-)}|^2$$

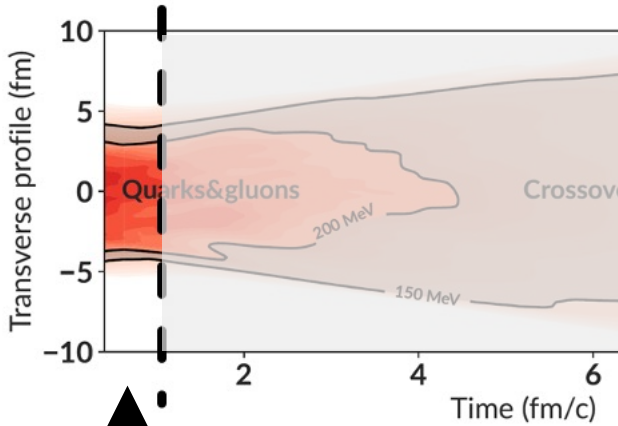
with  $f(p, X)$  is the quark/gluon momentum distribution



- Pre-equilibrium photons/dileptons:

$f(p_a, X)$  far from Fermi-Dirac/Bose-Einstein at temperature  $T(X)$

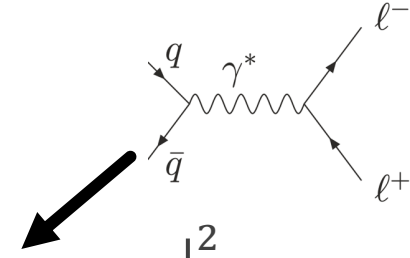
# Pre-equilibrium emission: a quasiparticle picture



- Photons/dileptons rate per spacetime volume

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\gamma/l^+l^-}}{dk_T} \sim \int_{p_a, p_b, p_c} f(p_a, X) f(p_b, X) (1 \pm f(p_c, X)) |\mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow c(\gamma/l^+l^-)}|^2$$

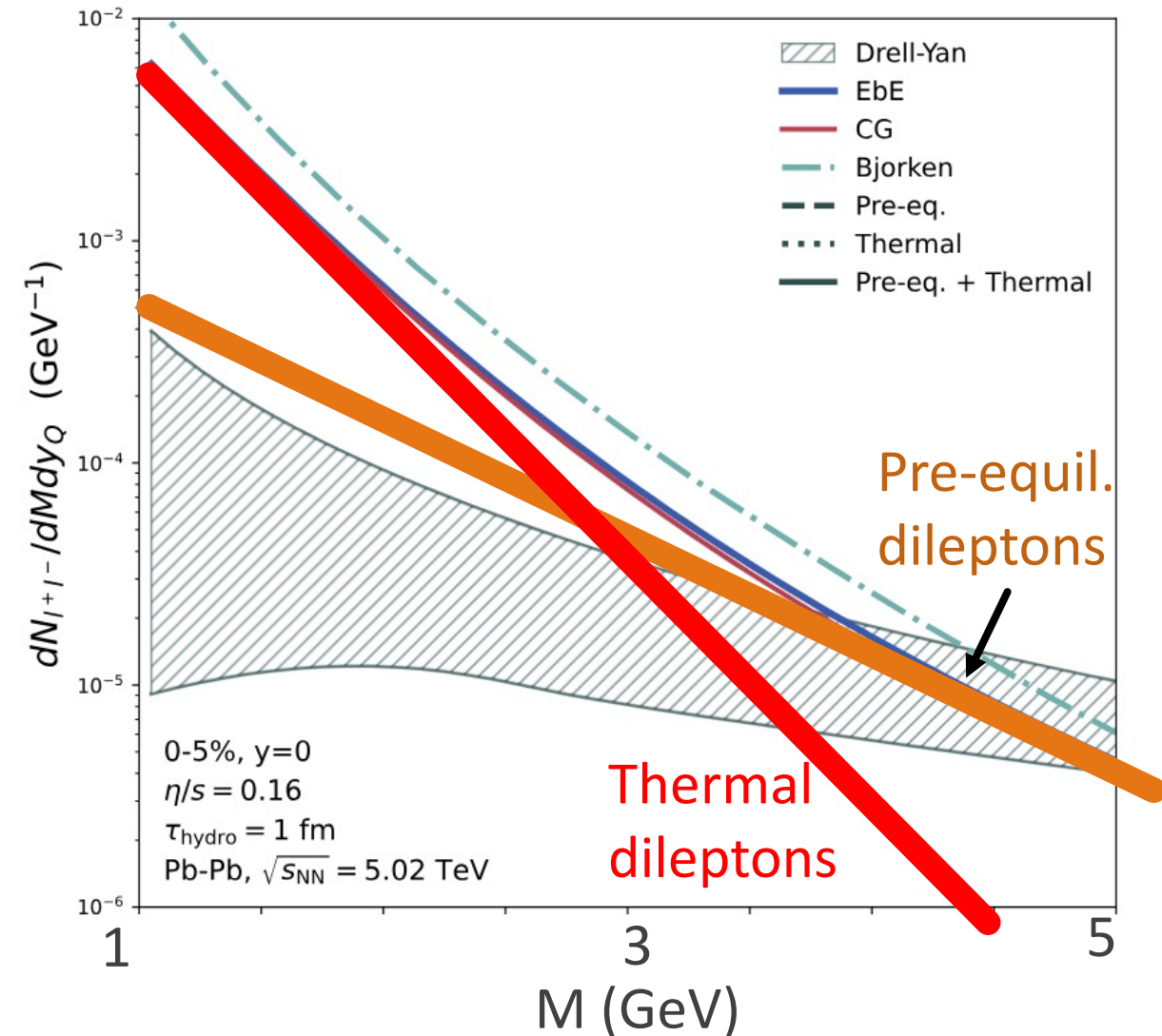
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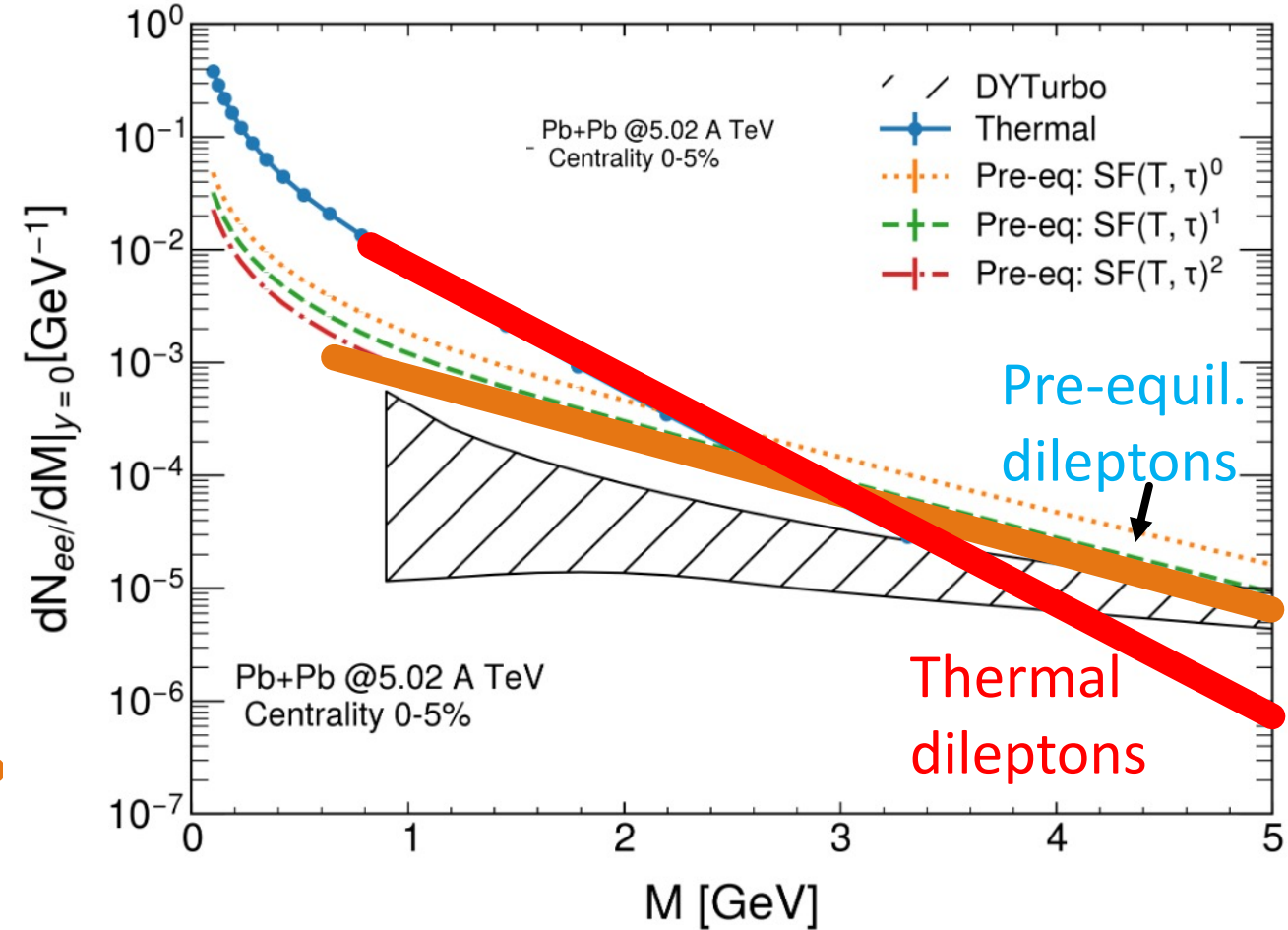
- Pre-equilibrium photons/dileptons:  $f(p_a, X)$  far from Fermi-Dirac/Bose-Einstein at temperature  $T(X)$
- Two different approaches, based on early-time attractors:
  - Track thermalization of  $f(p, X)$  with QCD kinetic theory [Oscar Garcia Montero]
  - Track thermalization of energy-momentum tensor to estimate  $f(p_a, X) = f_{eq}(p_a, X) + \delta f(p_a, X)$  [Xiang-Yu Wu]

# Pre-equilibrium v. thermal dileptons

[Oscar Garcia Montero]

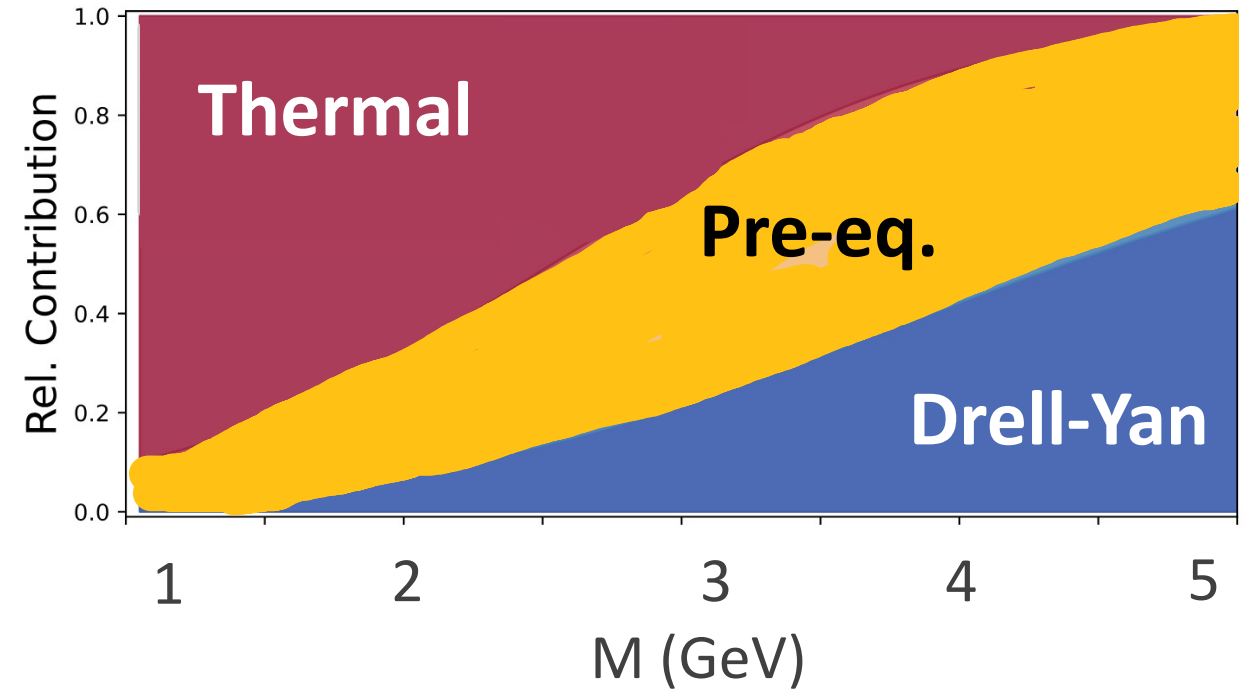
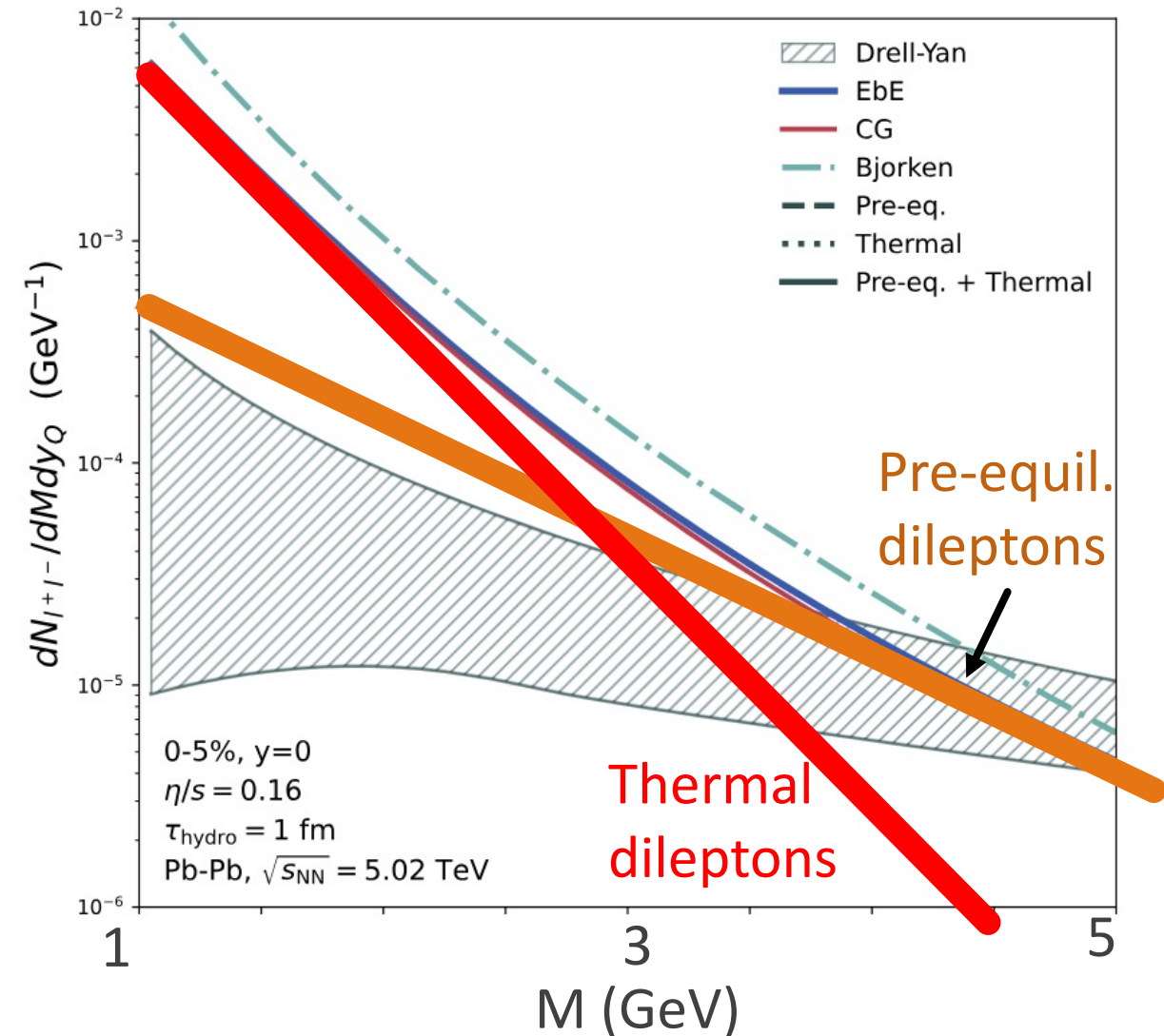


[Xiang-Yu Wu]



# Pre-equilibrium v. thermal dileptons

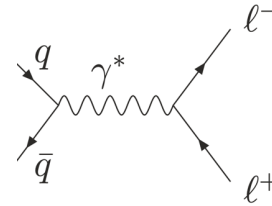
[Oscar Garcia Montero]



Note that boundary between pre-eq. and thermal is ambiguous

# Magnetic field & pre.-eq dileptons

[ Han Gao ]



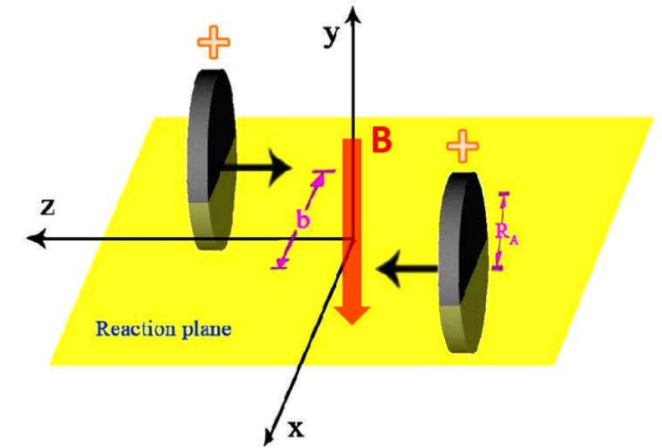
- Photons/dileptons rate per spacetime volume

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\gamma/l^+l^-}}{dk_T} \sim \int_{p_a, p_b, p_c} f(p_a, X) f(p_b, X) (1 \pm f(p_c, X)) |\mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow c(\gamma/l^+l^-)}|^2$$

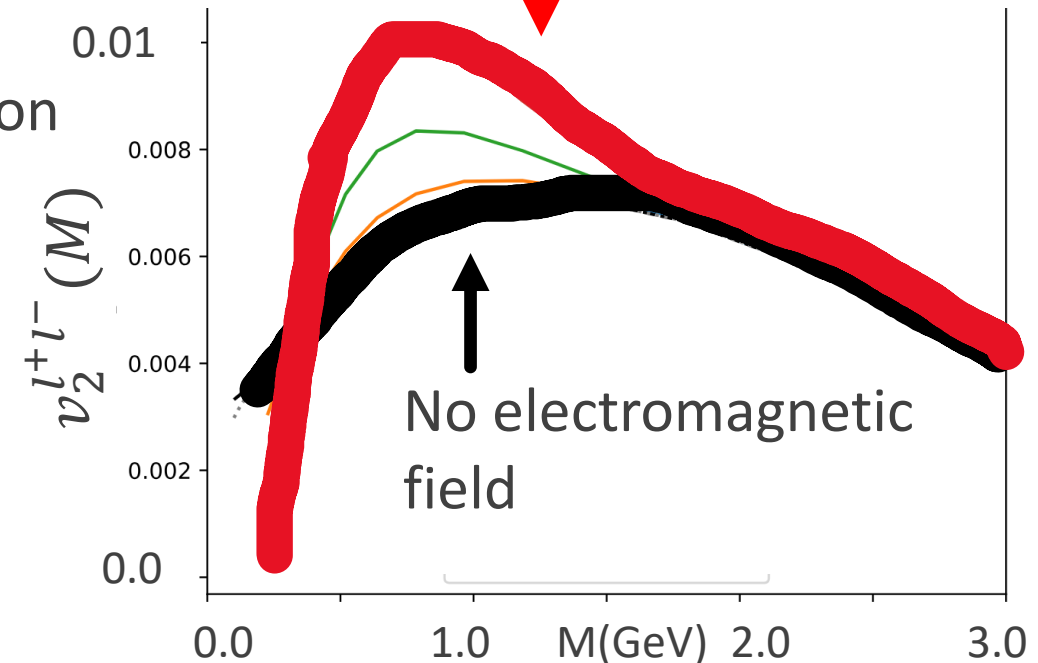
with  $f(p, X)$  is the quark/gluon momentum distribution

- $f(p, X)$  can be modified by magnetic field

- Result for dilepton  $v_2$  in AuAu@19.6 GeV (dileptons from quark-gluon plasma only, not from hadron gas)



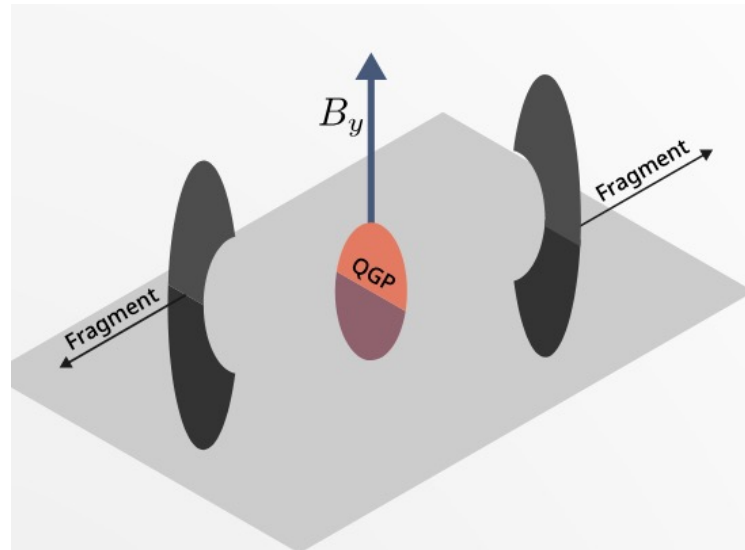
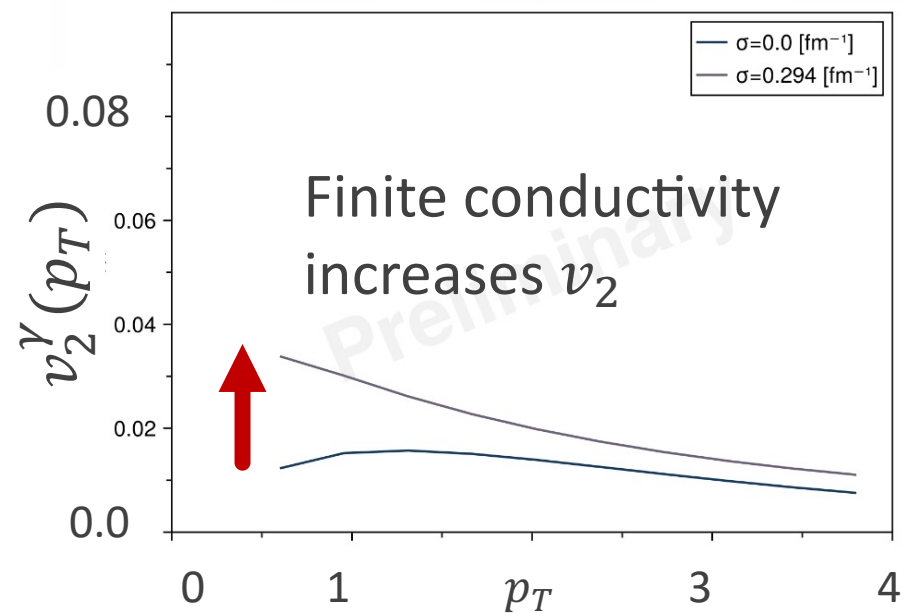
$$eB(\tau = \tau_{\text{hydro}}) = 1.0 m_{\pi}^2$$



# Magnetohydrodynamics and electric conductivity

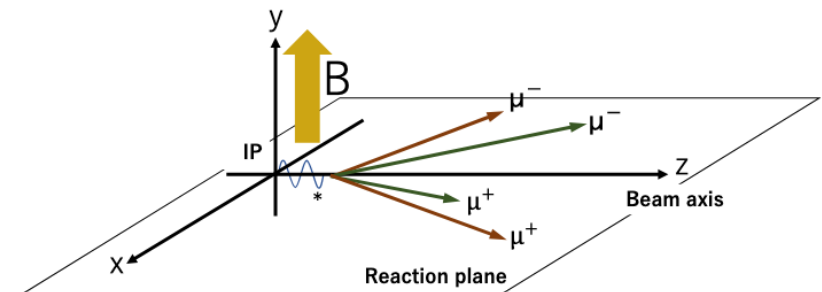
[Nicholas J. Benoit]

Photon  $v_2^\gamma$  sensitive to plasma's electric conductivity



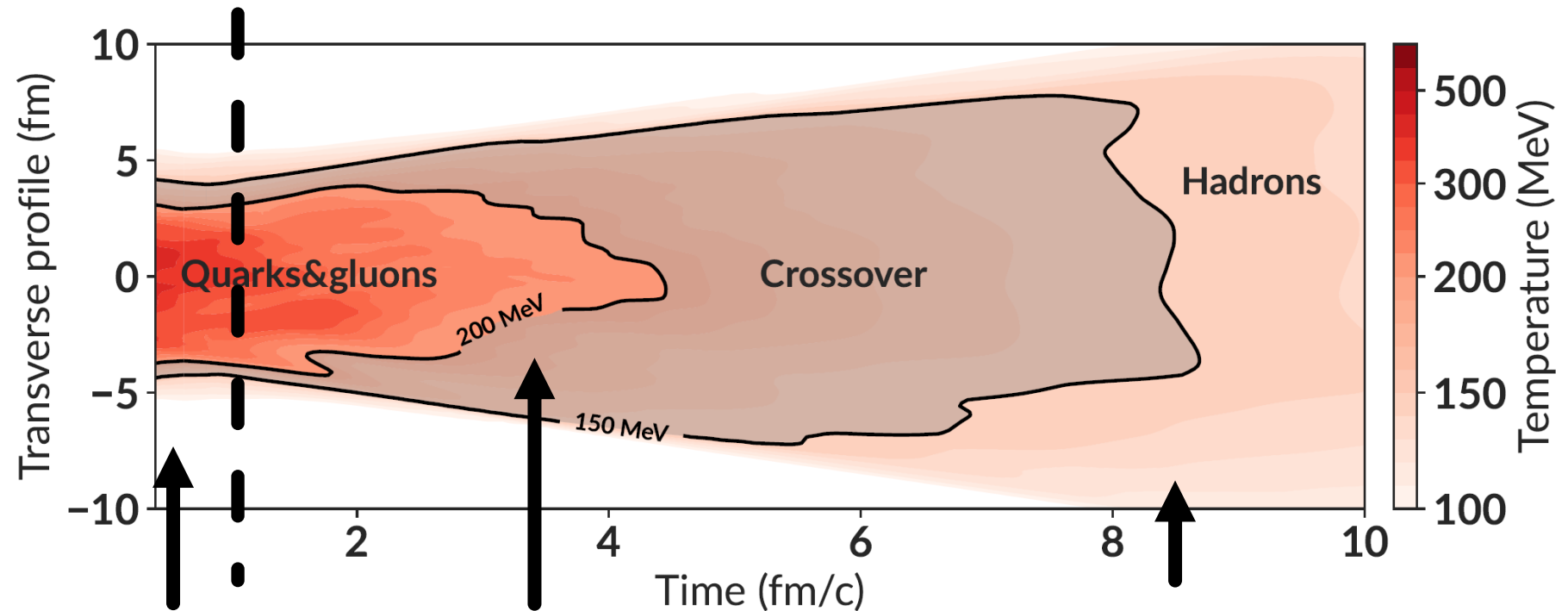
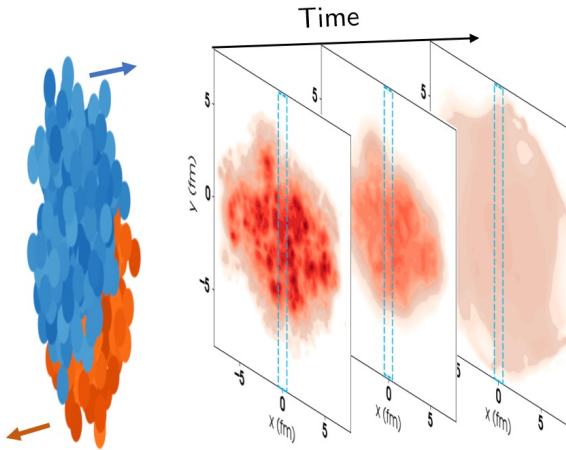
[Kento Kimura]

Dimuons photon polarization as probe of the magnetic field





# Thermal dileptons: probing QGP and in-medium properties of hadrons



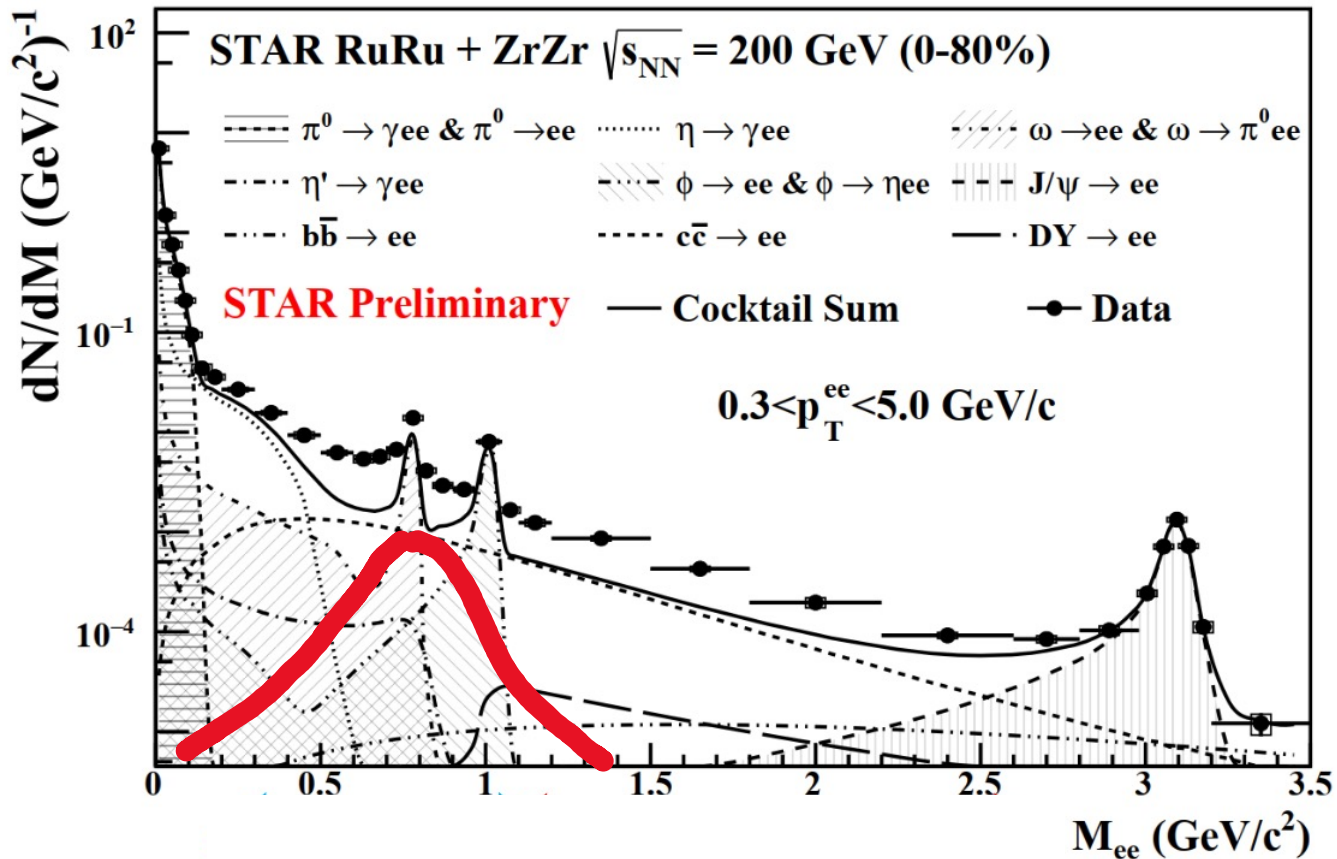
Pre-equilibrium  
photons/dileptons

Thermal photons  
and dileptons

Late-stage photons and dileptons  
**(including hadronic decays and  
heavy quark decays)**

# Dilepton invariant mass spectrum: signal vs background

[ Jiaxuan Luo (STAR) ] STAR dilepton results for the isobar run



## Physical background (Cocktails):

- $\omega, \phi, J/\psi \rightarrow e^+ e^-$
  - $\pi^0, \eta, \eta' \rightarrow \gamma e^+ e^-$
  - $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ e^-$
  - $\phi \rightarrow \eta e^+ e^-$
  - $c\bar{c} \rightarrow e^+ e^- X$
  - $b\bar{b} \rightarrow e^+ e^- X$
  - Drell-Yan
- Modified for effect of energy loss

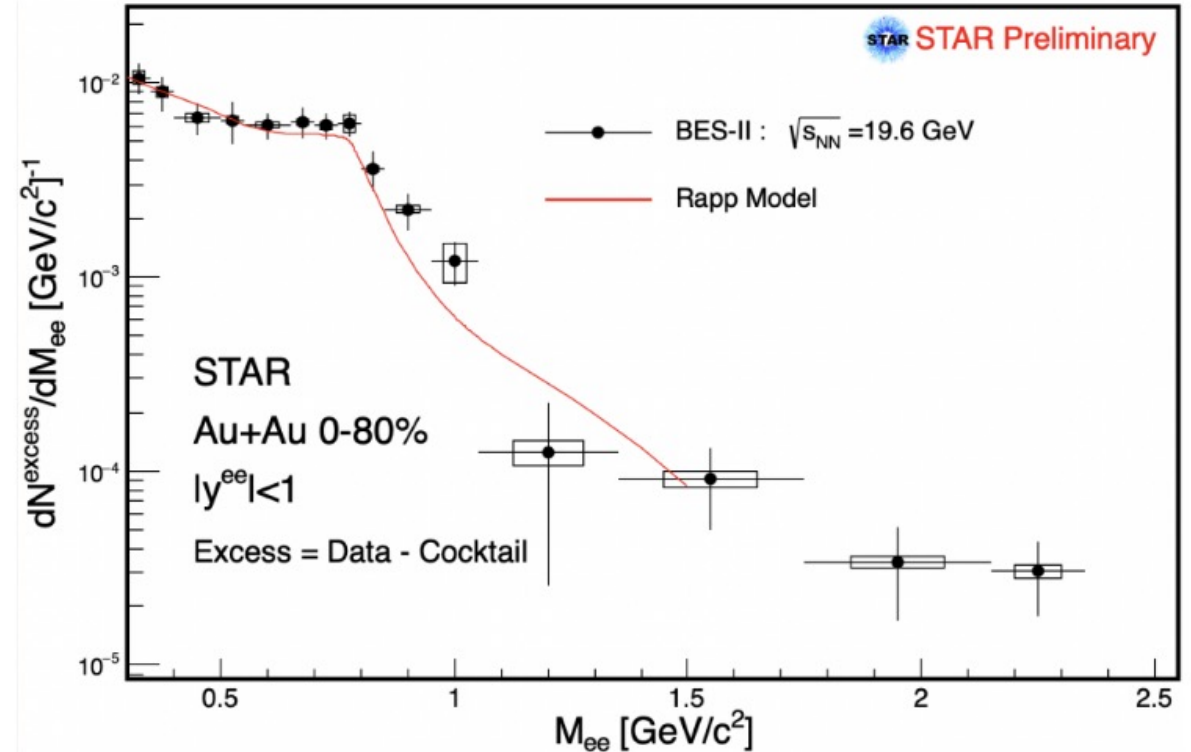
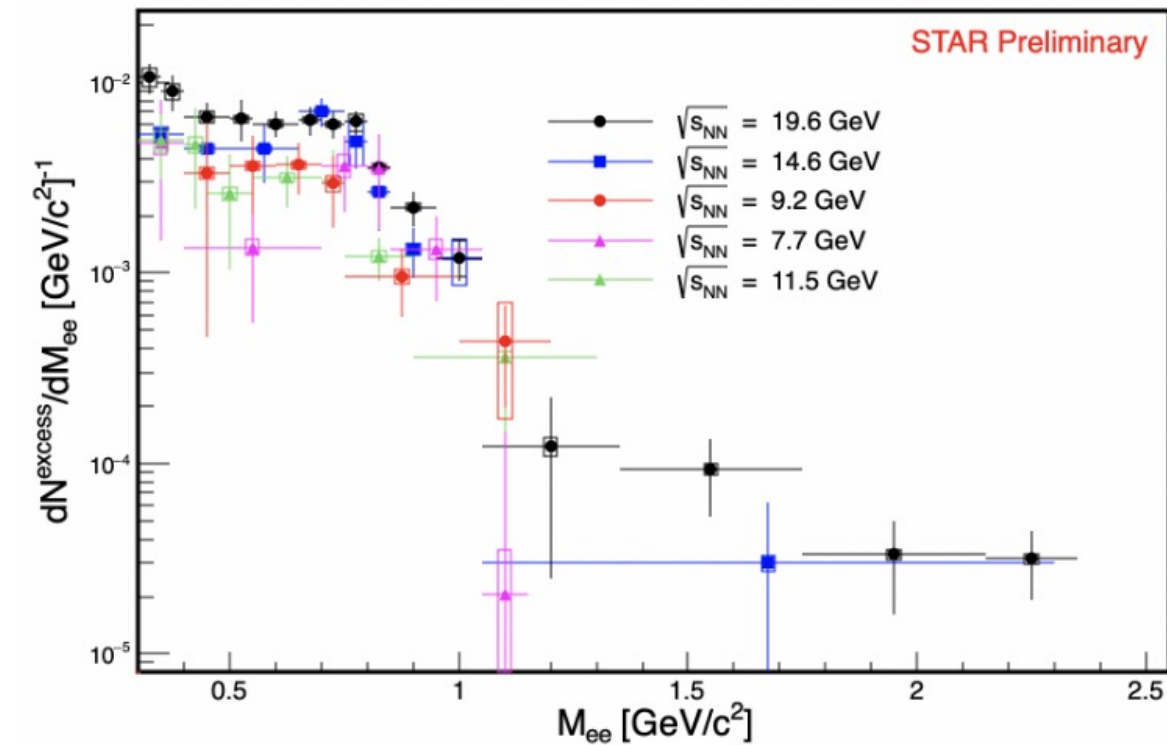
Signal: -  $\rho$  meson decay with finite-temperature effects (“broadening”)  
 - Dilepton emission from quark-gluon plasma and hadronic interactions

# Dilepton excess in beam energy scan [Chenliang Jin (STAR)]

Excess = Measurement - Background

Dilepton excess in good agreement with theoretical expectation

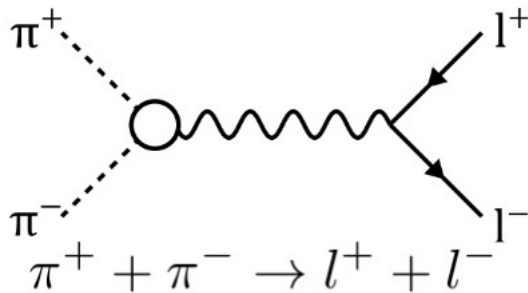
Thermal dielectron spectra with STAR BES-II



# Probes of low temperature, high density medium

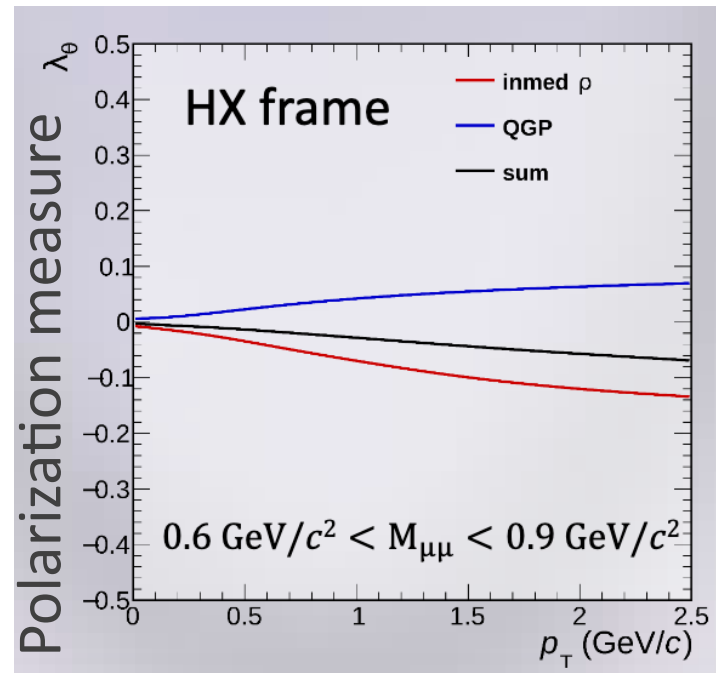
[ Kentaro Hayashi ]

Dilepton to study inhomogeneous chiral condensed phase



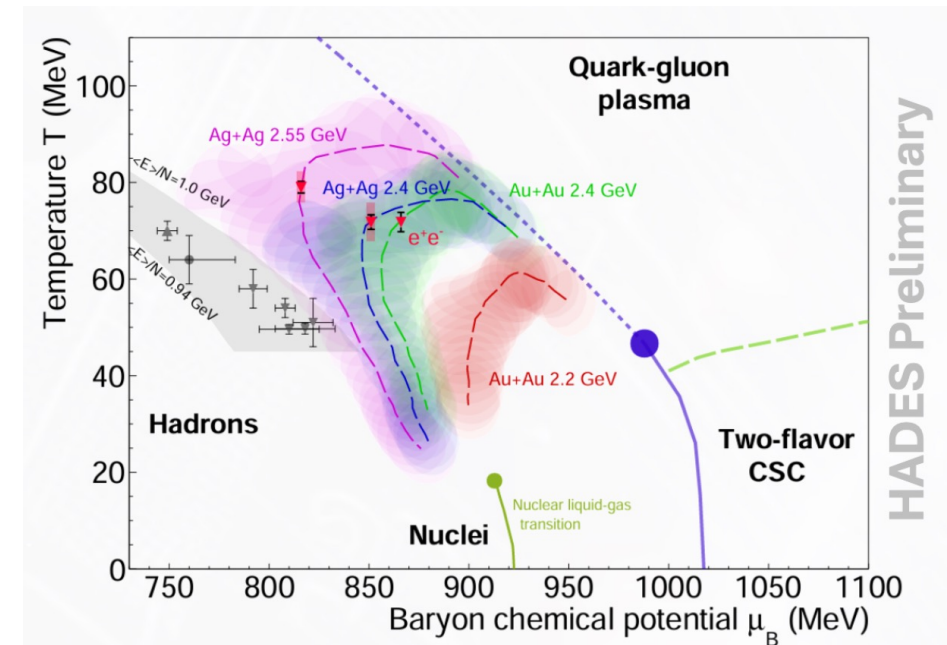
[ Florian Seck ]

Dilepton polarization to distinguish different sources



[ Iuliana-Carina Udrea ]

Low-mass, low-momentum virtual photon from HADES



# Isolating the dilepton background

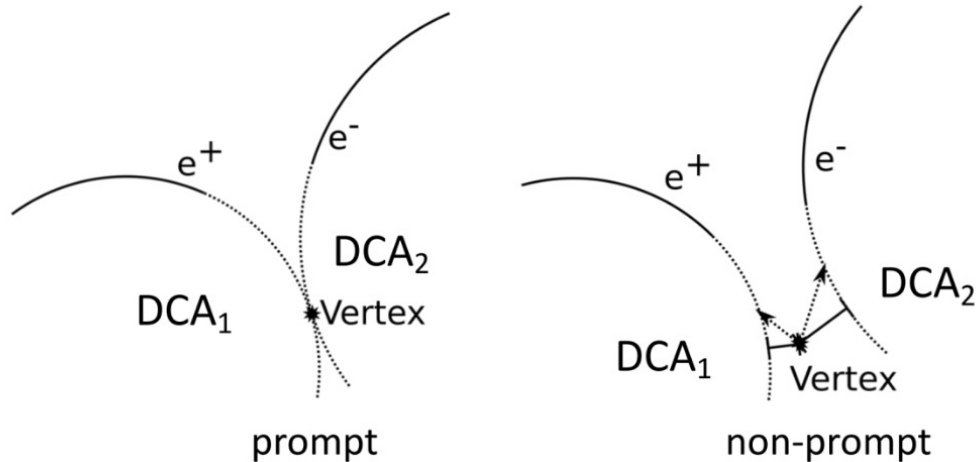
[ Jerome Jung; Florian Eisenhut; Emma Charlotte Ege (ALICE) ]

[ See also Vassu Doomra (PHENIX) for p+p results ]

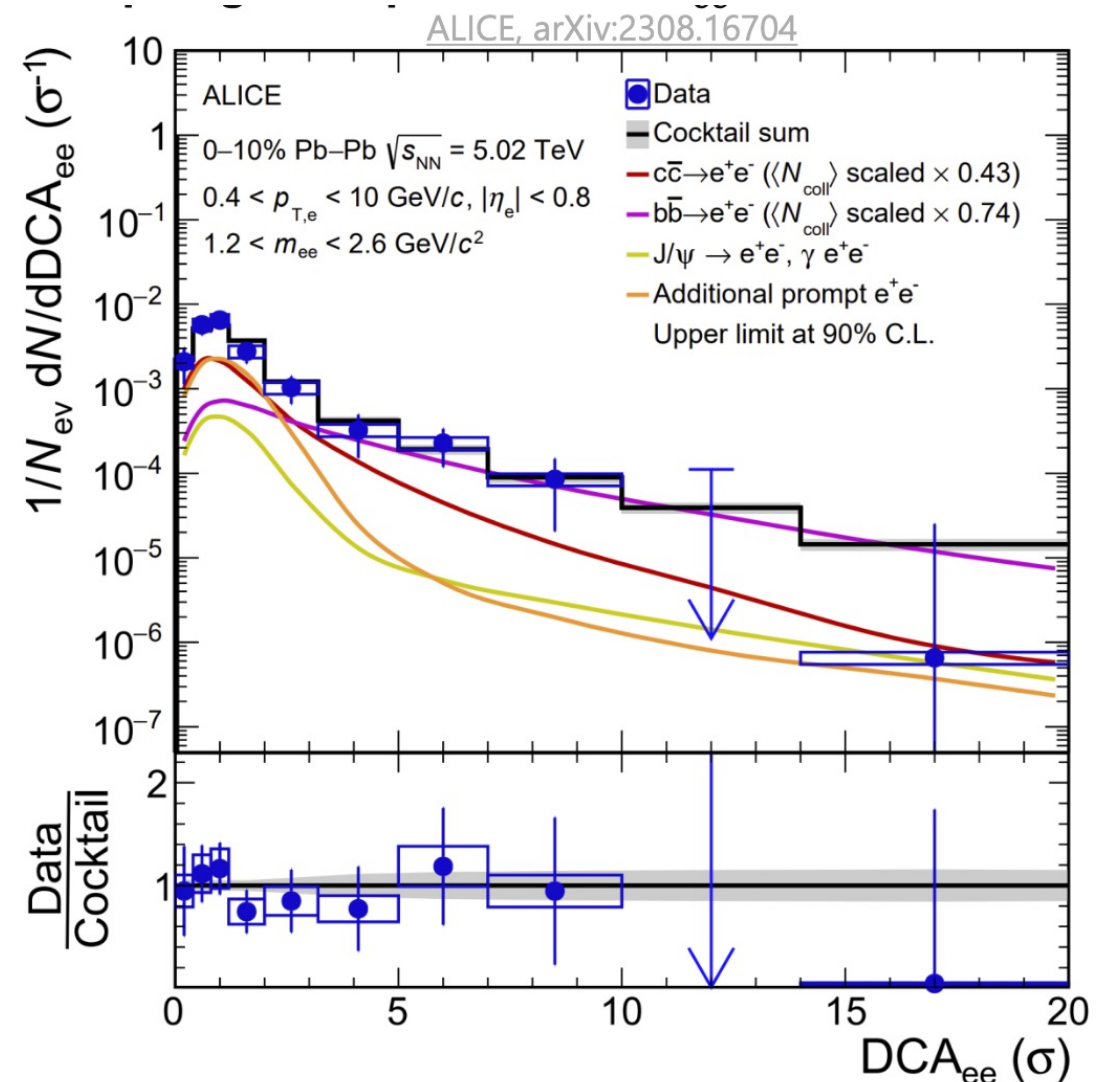
## Topological separation

### Approach

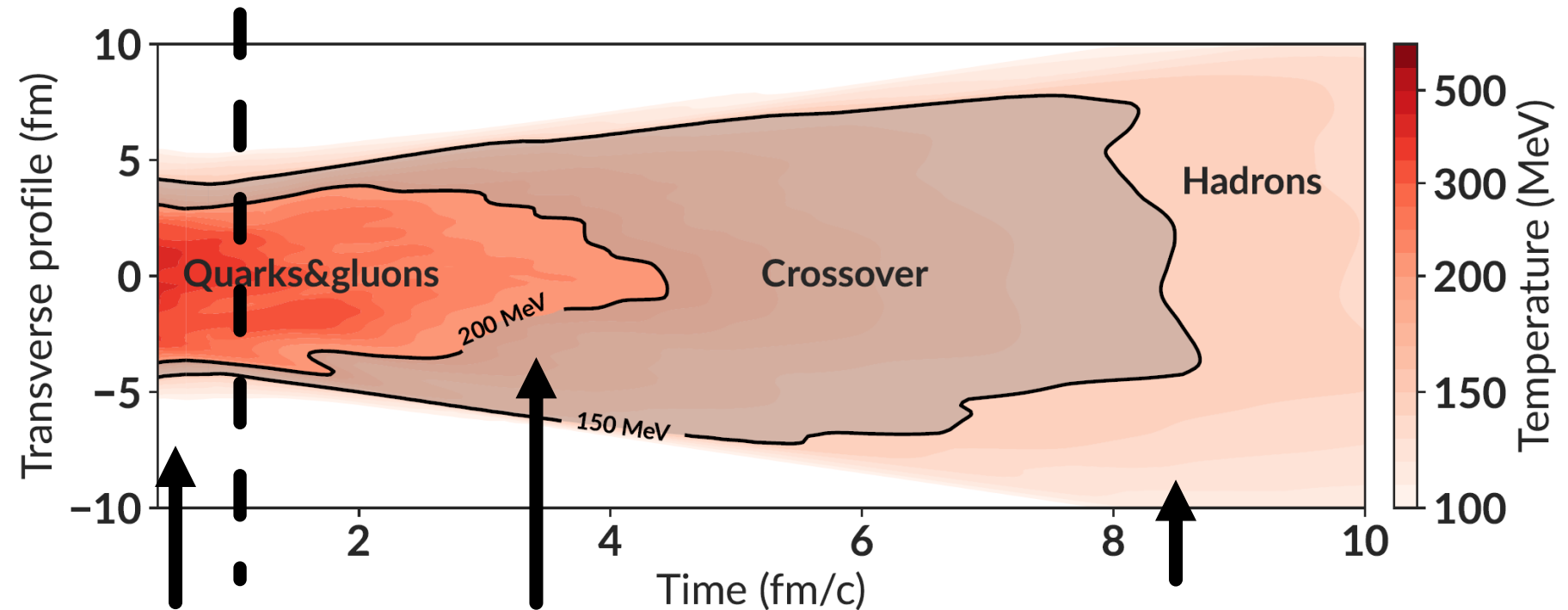
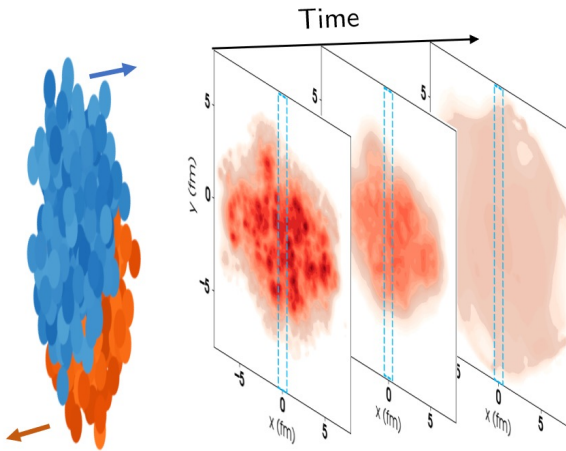
Distance-of-closest approach (DCA):



$\rightarrow DCA_{ee}(\text{thermal}) < DCA_{ee}(\text{HF})$



# Thermal (direct) photons: probing QGP and in-medium properties of hadrons



Pre-equilibrium  
photons/dileptons

Thermal photons  
and dileptons

Late-stage photons and dileptons  
(including hadronic decays and  
heavy quark decays)

# Direct photon Bose–Einstein correlations from ALICE

[ Dmitri Peresunko ]

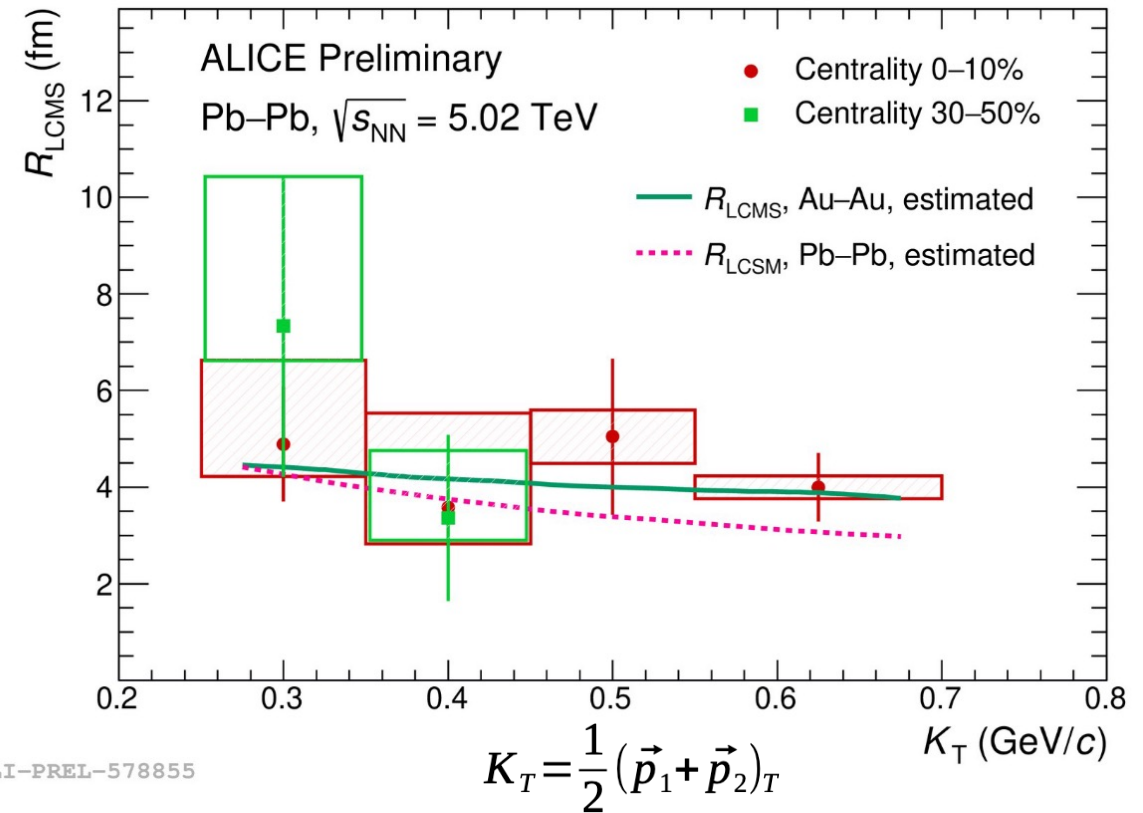
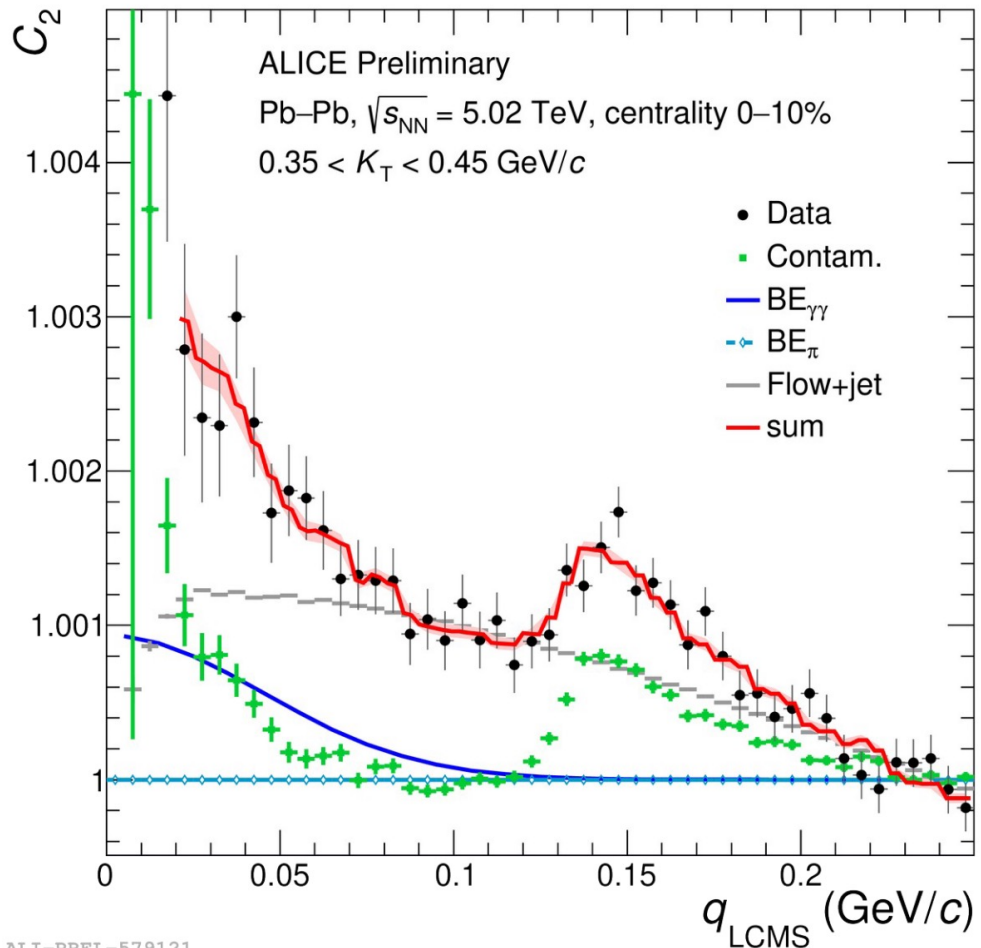
$$K_T = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2)_T$$

$$A(1 + \lambda \exp(-q^2 R^2)) + a_{\text{contam}} \text{Cont} + a_{BE \pi\pi} (C_2^{BE \pi\pi} - 1) + a_{Flow} (C_2^{Flow} - 1)$$

$$q_{LCMS} = |\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2|$$

Photon HBT radius

Photon correlation



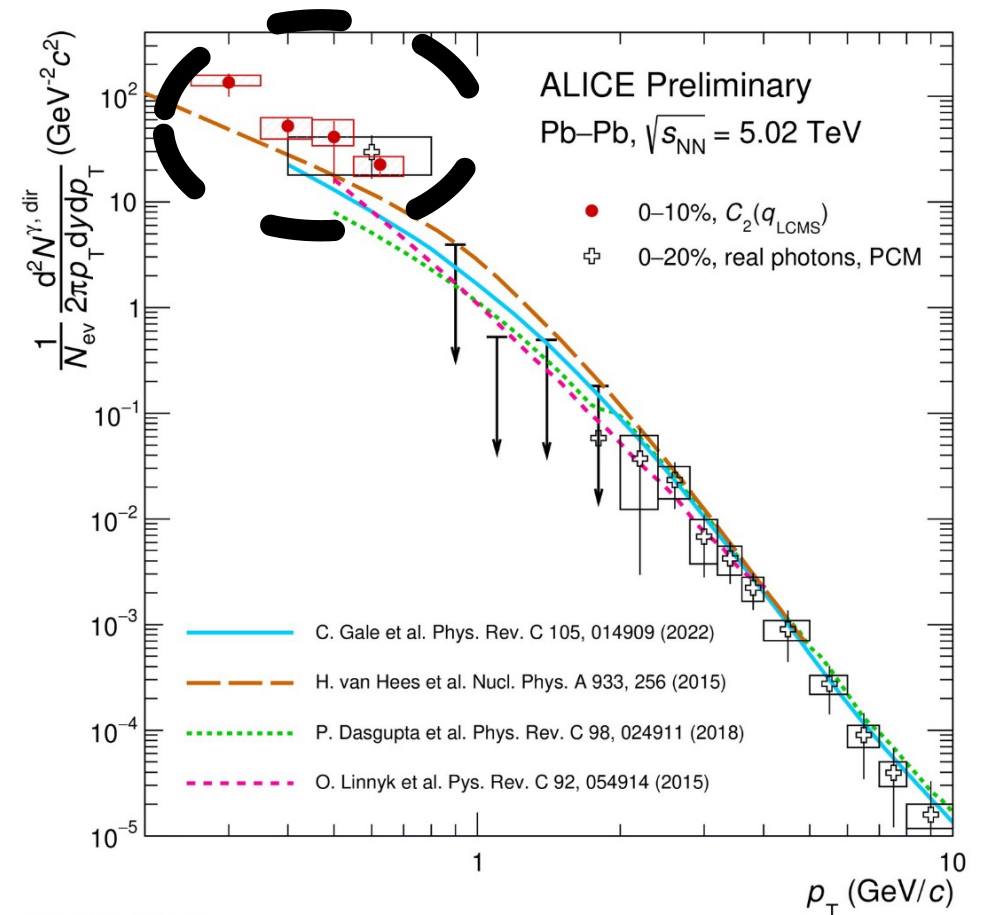
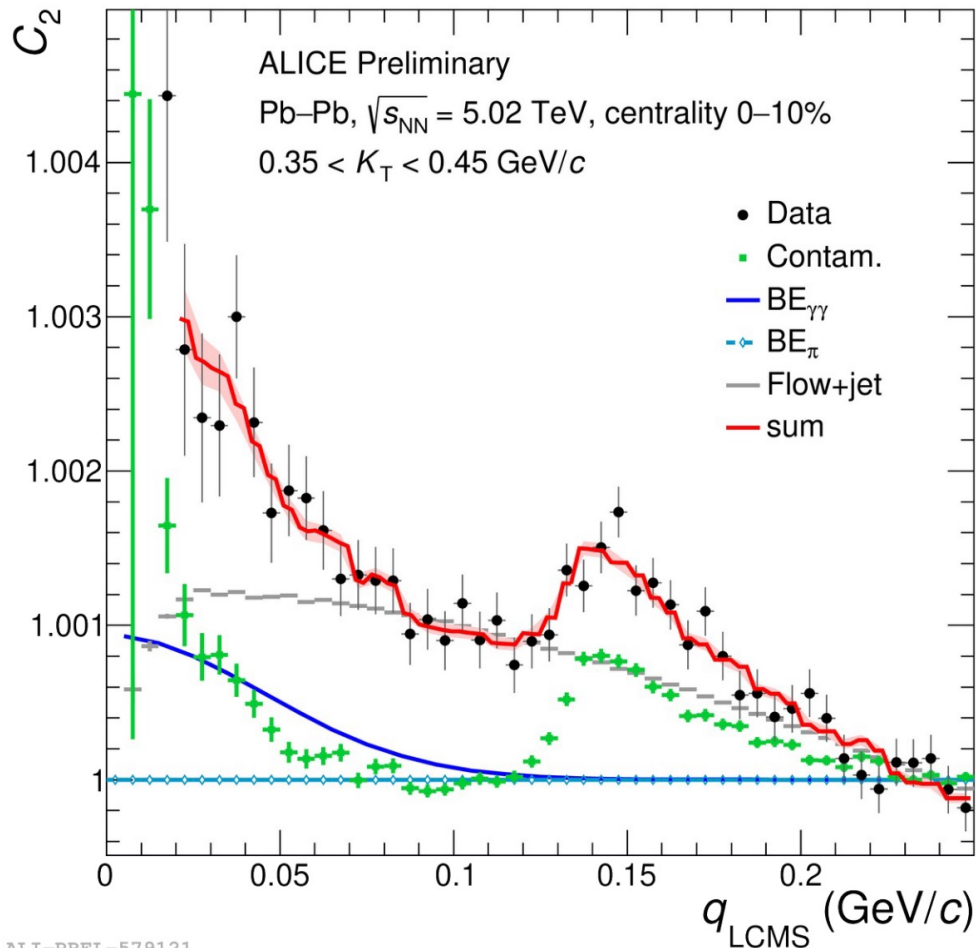
# Direct photon Bose–Einstein correlations from ALICE

[ Dmitri Peresunko ]

$$K_T = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2)_T \quad q_{LCMS} = |\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2|$$

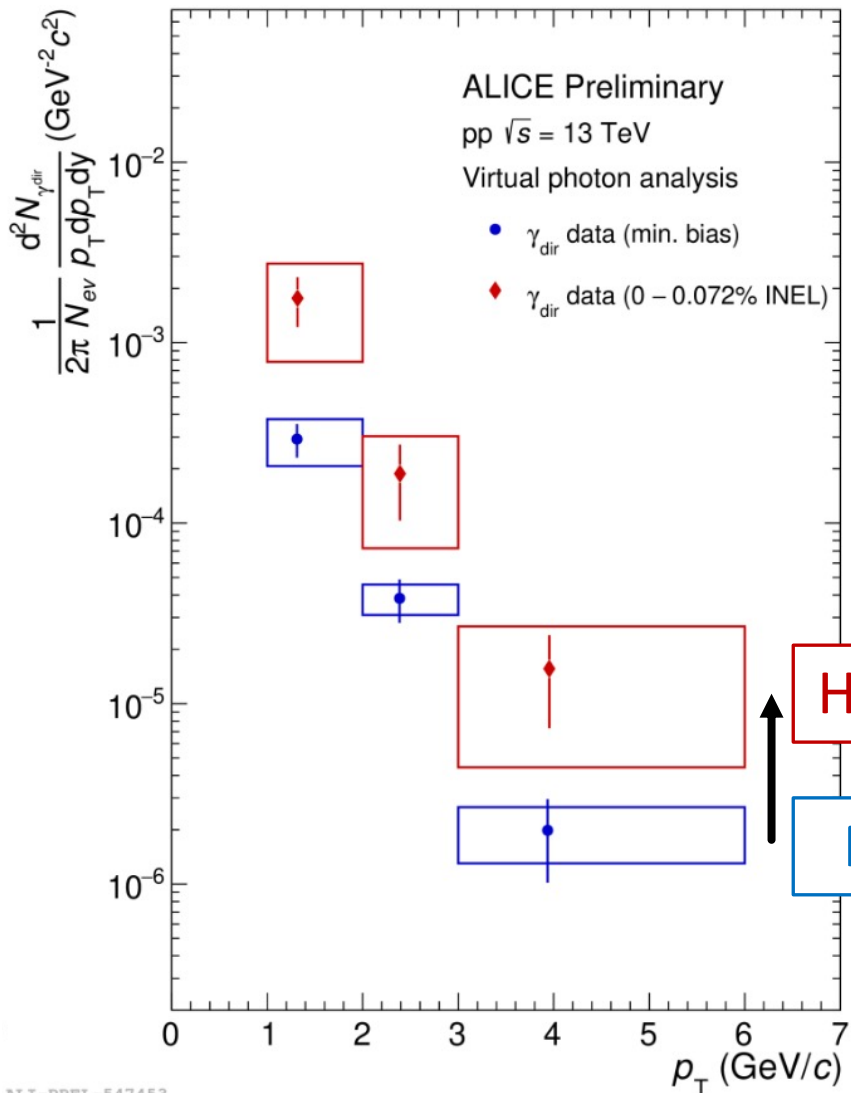
$$A(1 + \lambda \exp(-q^2 R^2)) + a_{contam} Cont + a_{BE \pi\pi} (C_2^{BE \pi\pi} - 1) + a_{Flow} (C_2^{Flow} - 1)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{N_y^{dir}}{N_y^{incl}} \right)^2$$





# Photons in high-multiplicity proton-proton collisions



[ Jerome Jung (ALICE) ]

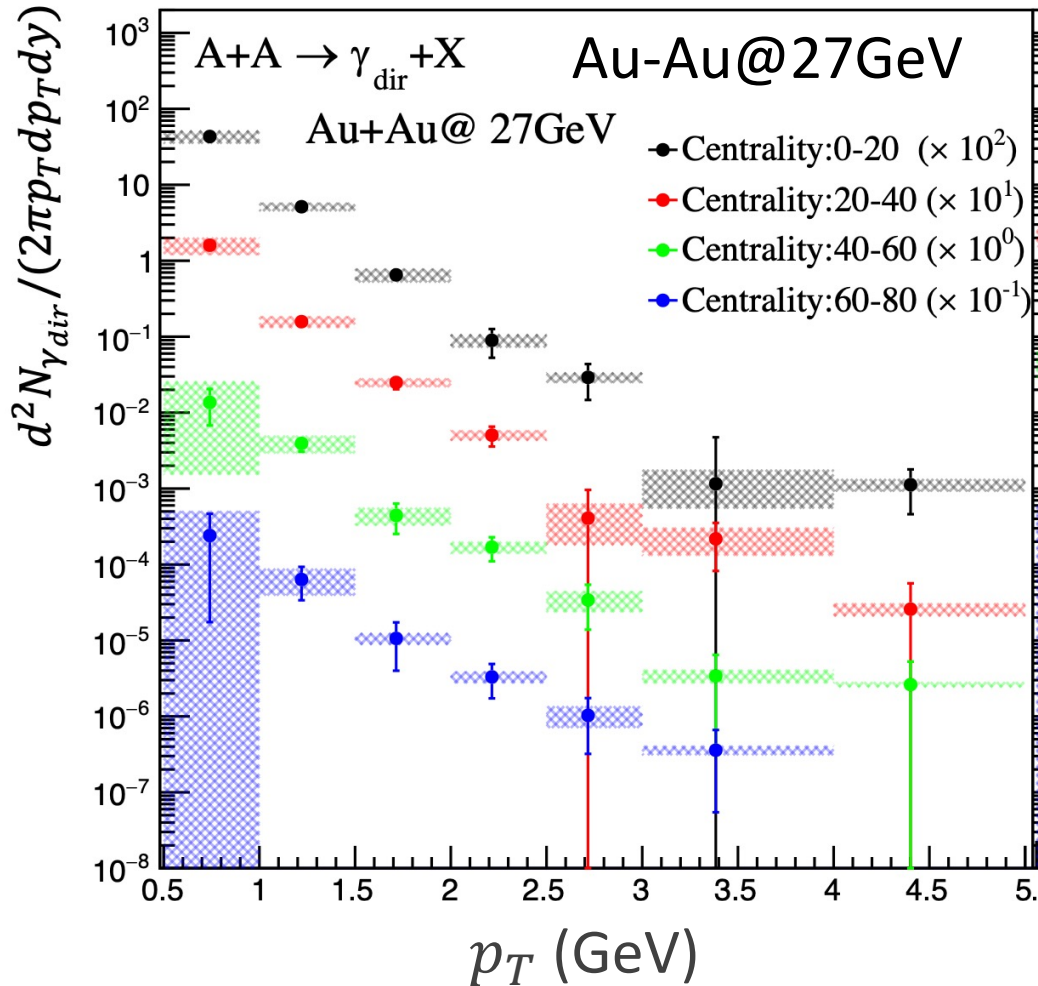
- Low  $p_T$  photon spectrum in high-multiplicity p-p@13 TeV
- Large increase in photon spectrum compared to minimum bias
- Need for theory calculations

High multiplicity

Minimum bias

# Low $p_T$ direct photons in beam energy scan

[ Xianwen Bao (poster+flash talk) ]

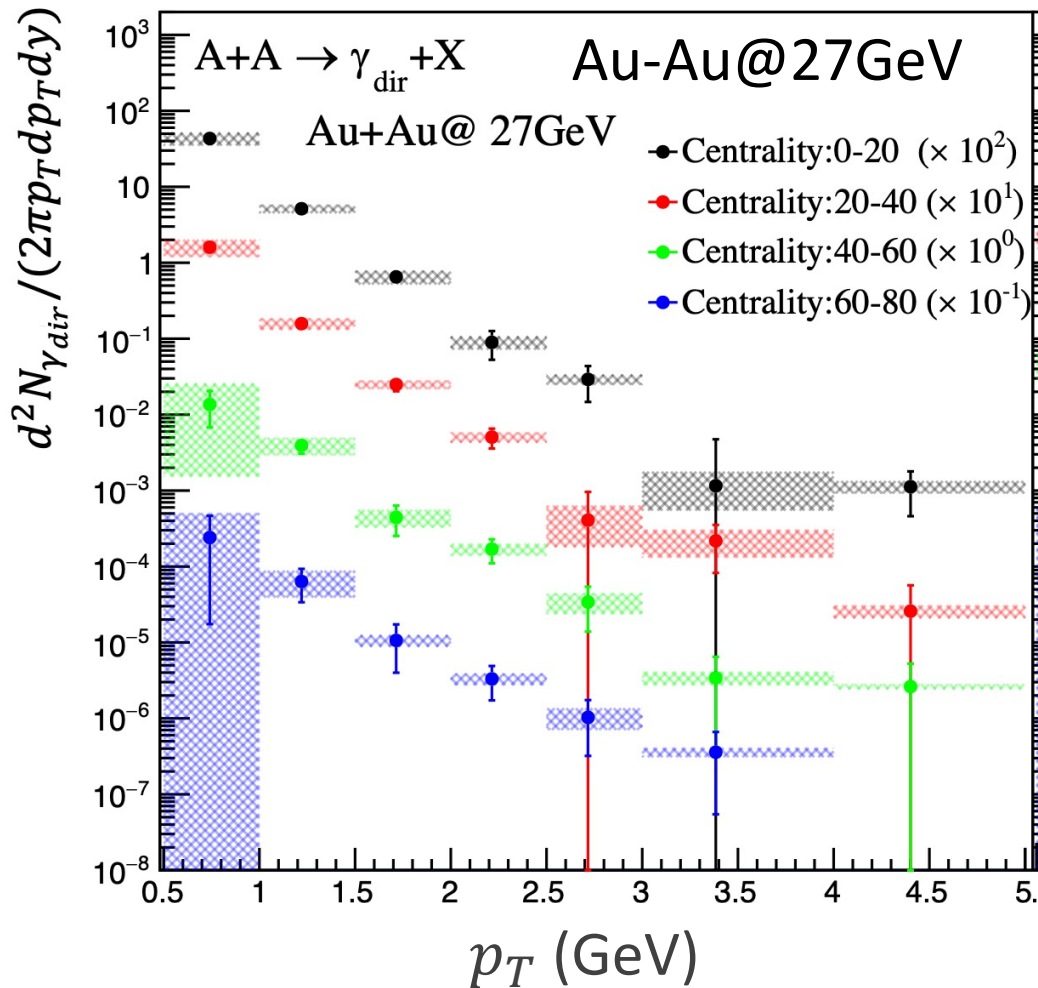


Also measured at 54.4 GeV

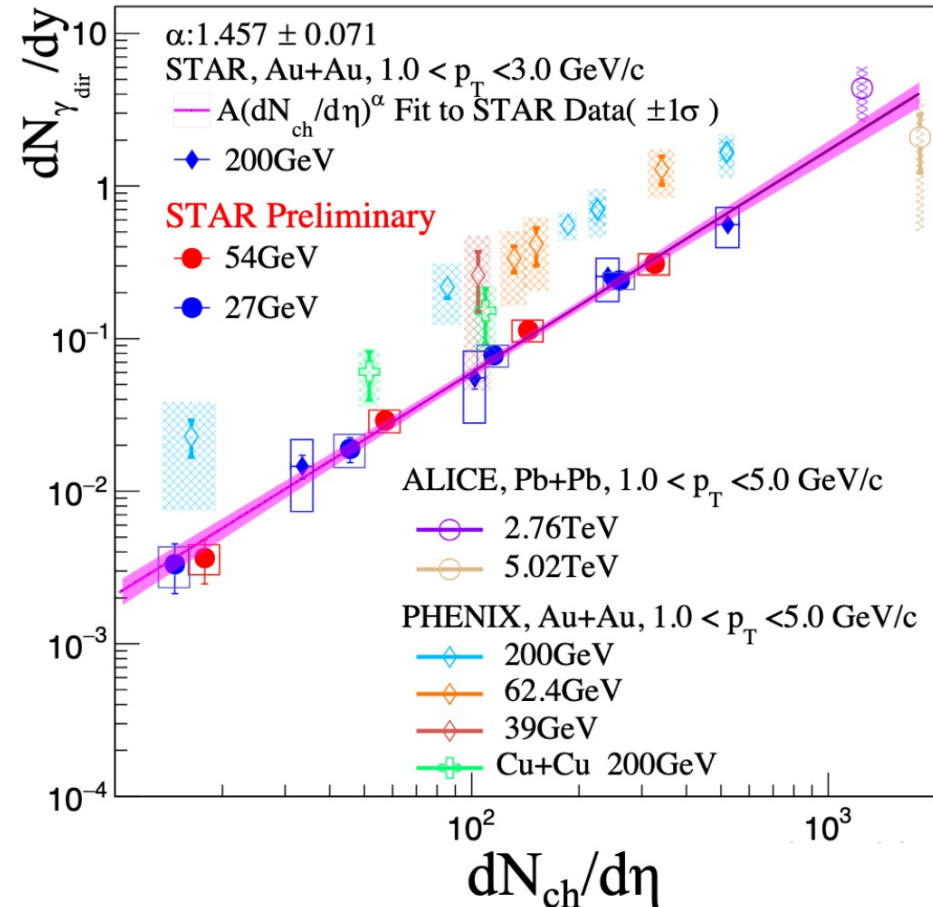
Strong incentive to improve low  $p_T$  photon calculation in proton-proton collisions (or measure it)

# Low $p_T$ direct photons in beam energy scan

[ Xianwen Bao (poster+flash talk) ]



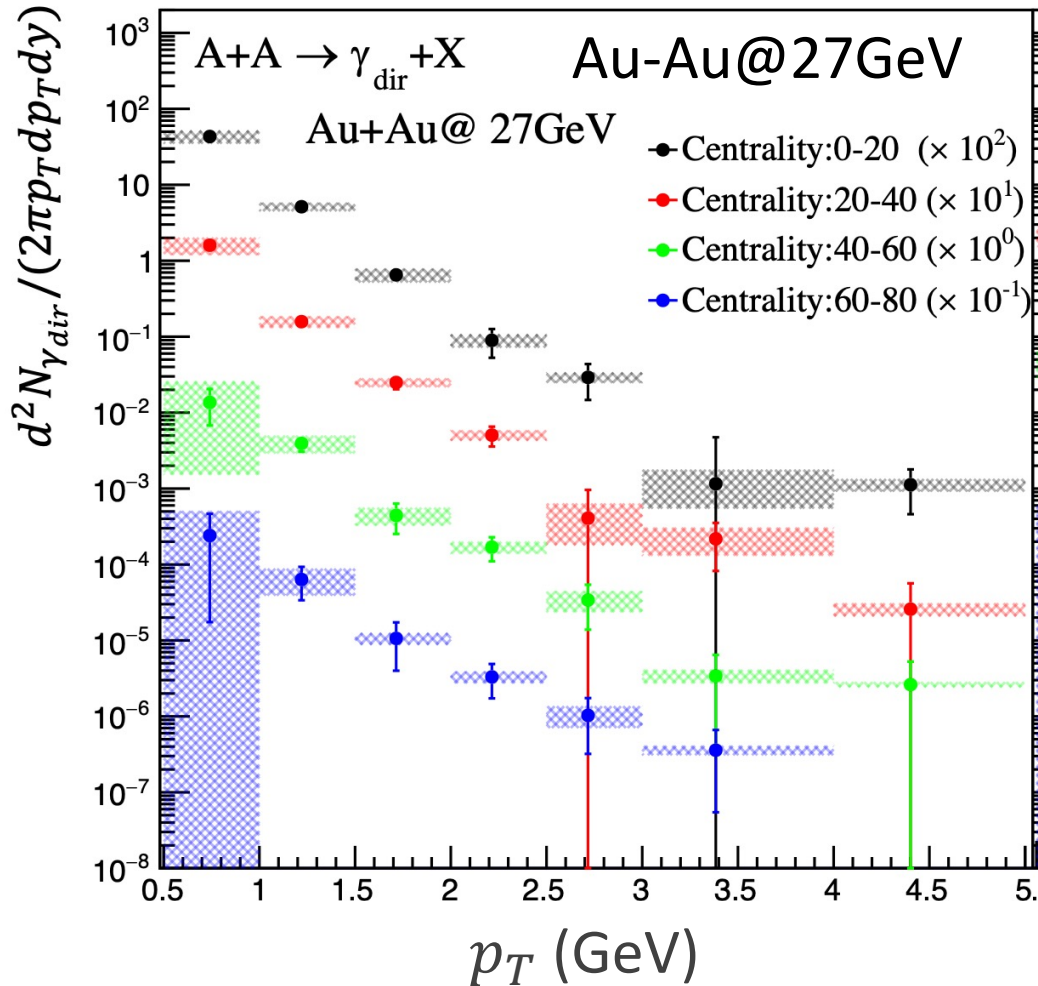
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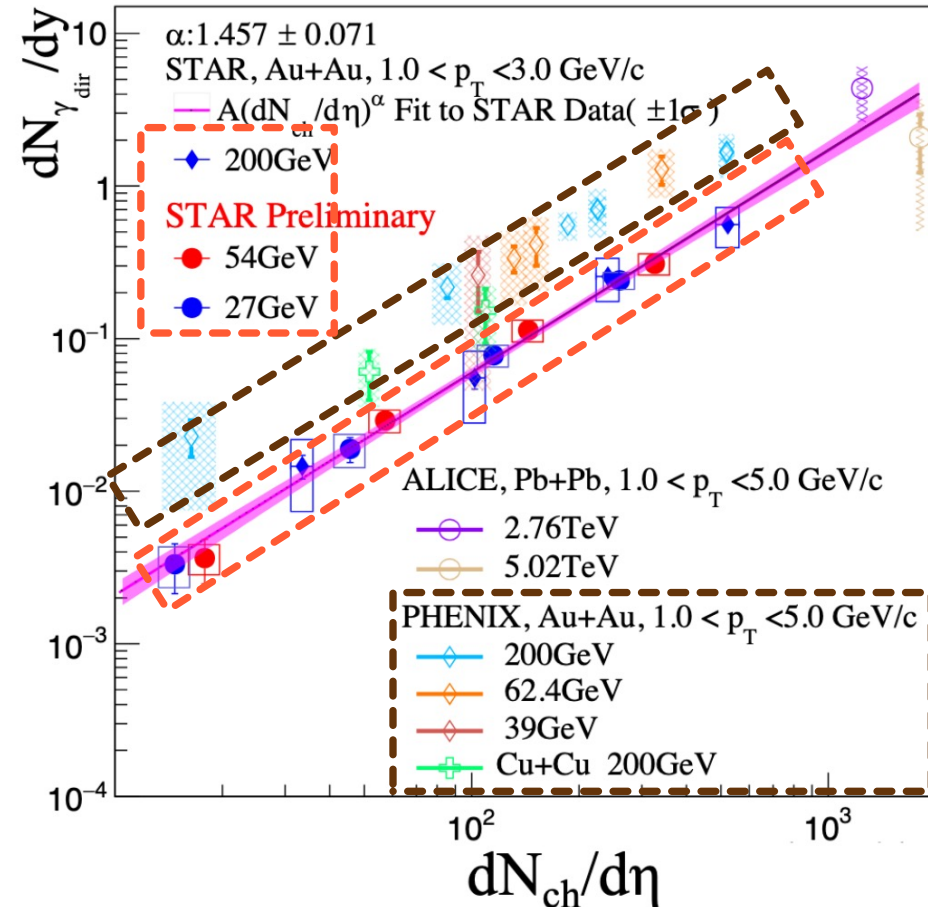
Strong incentive to improve low  $p_T$  photon calculation in proton-proton collisions (or measure it)

# Low $p_T$ direct photons in beam energy scan

[ Xianwen Bao (poster+flash talk) ]



Also measured at 54.4 GeV



Results are preliminary, but...

continuing tension between STAR and PHENIX?

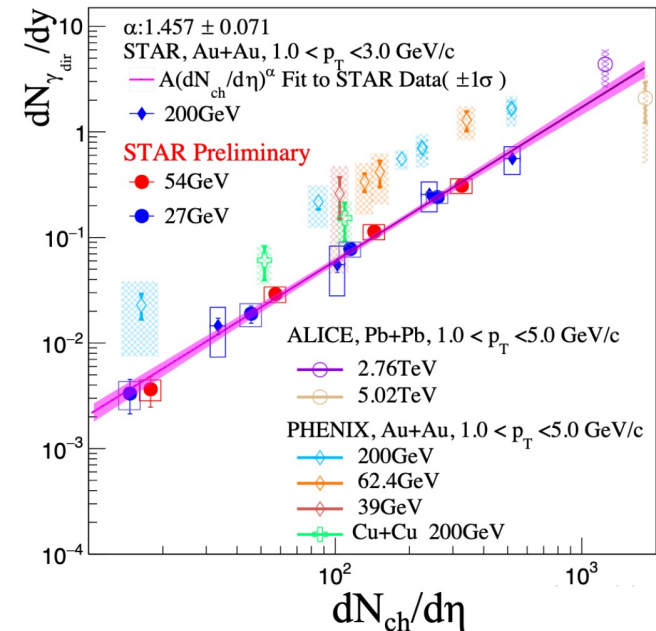


# SUMMARY



# Summary

- Exciting new data for low  $p_T$  photons and low/intermediate invariant mass dileptons:
  - STAR photon spectrum in Au-Au @27&54.4 GeV
  - STAR dilepton spectrum for isobars and beam energy scan
  - ALICE low  $p_T$  photon spectrum and HBT radii Pb-Pb @ 5.02 TeV
  - ALICE photon spectrum in high-multiplicity p-p @ 13 TeV
  - PHENIX dilepton spectrum in p-p @ 200 GeV
- Great opportunity for the theory community to constrain:
  - Early stage of heavy-ion collisions (equilibration, magnetic field, ...)
  - Intermediate energy collisions and QCD at finite baryon chemical potential
  - Finite temperature properties of QGP and hadrons



# Multimessenger astrophysics

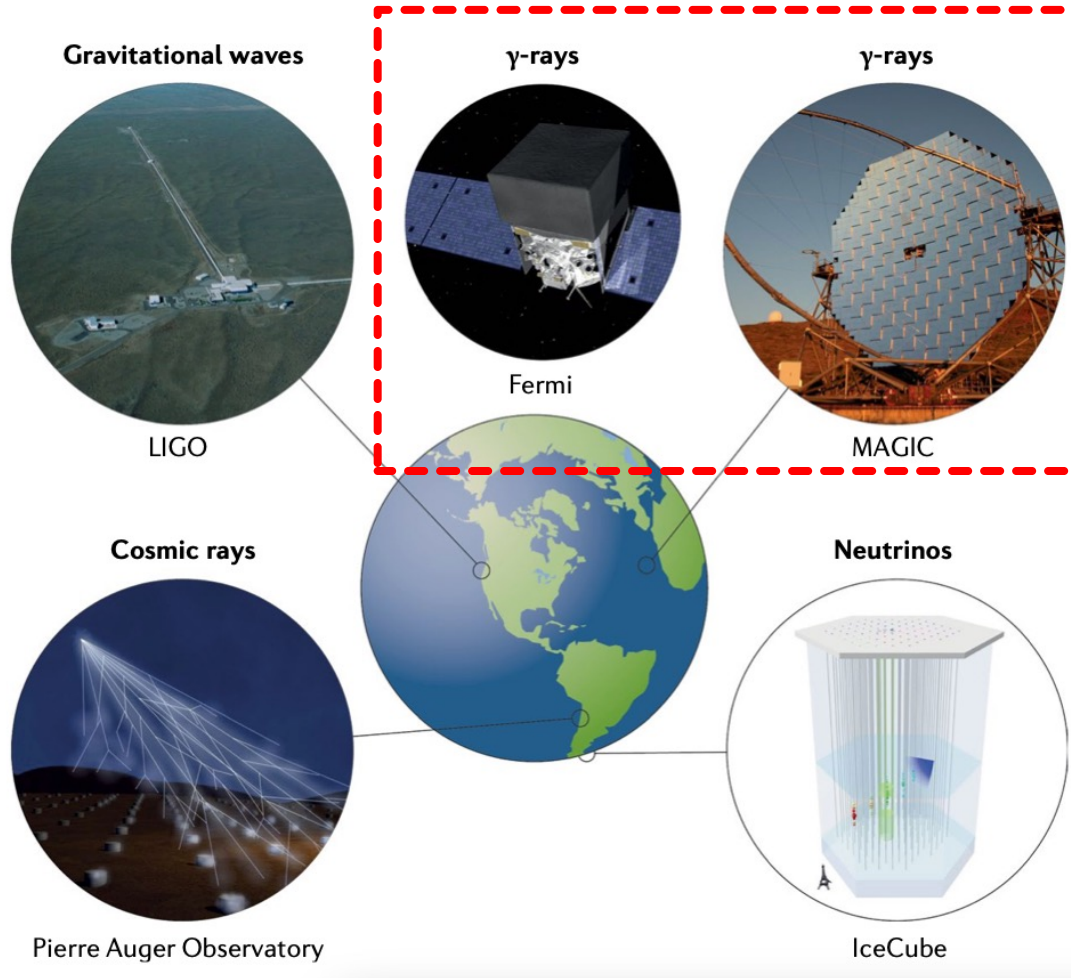
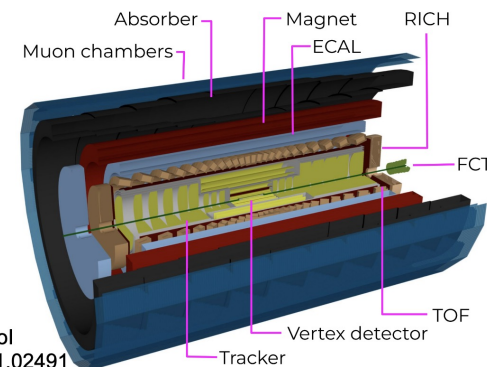
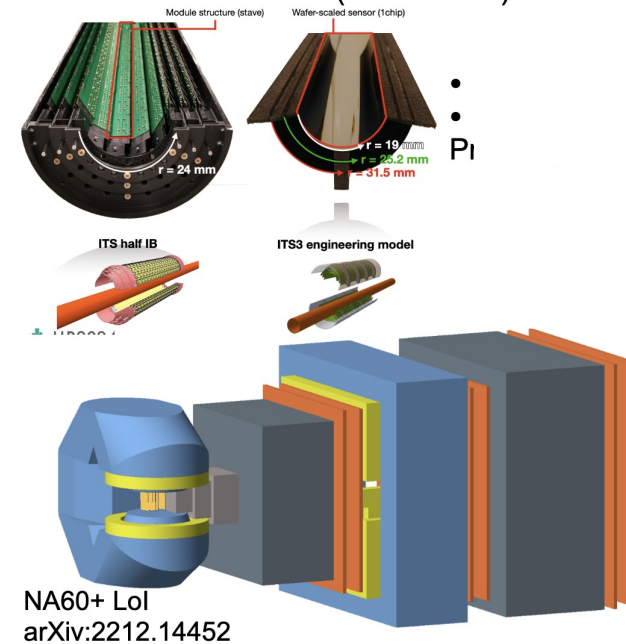


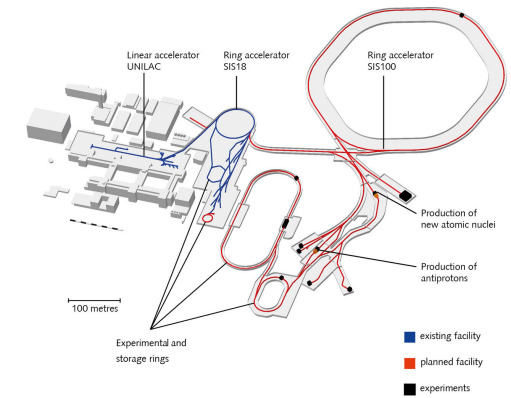
Figure ref.: Mészáros, Fox, Hanna and Murase (2019) Nature Reviews Physics

# Multimessenger heavy-ion physics

## ALICE ITS3: LHC Run4 (2029 - 2032)



## FAIR



(Slide partly borrowed from Daiki Sekihata)



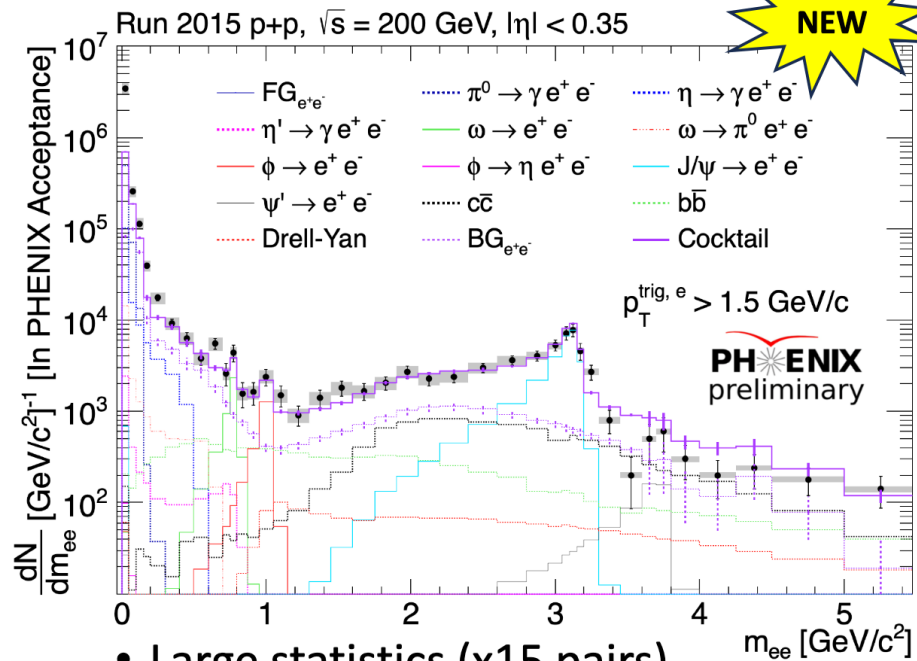
BACKUP



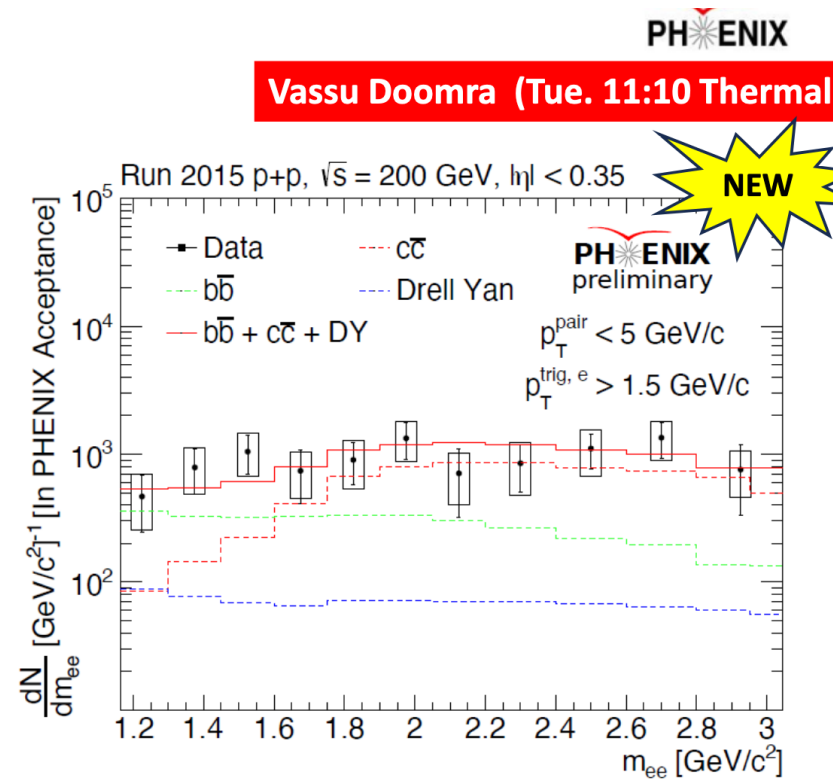


# PHENIX

## Dileptons in p+p 200GeV

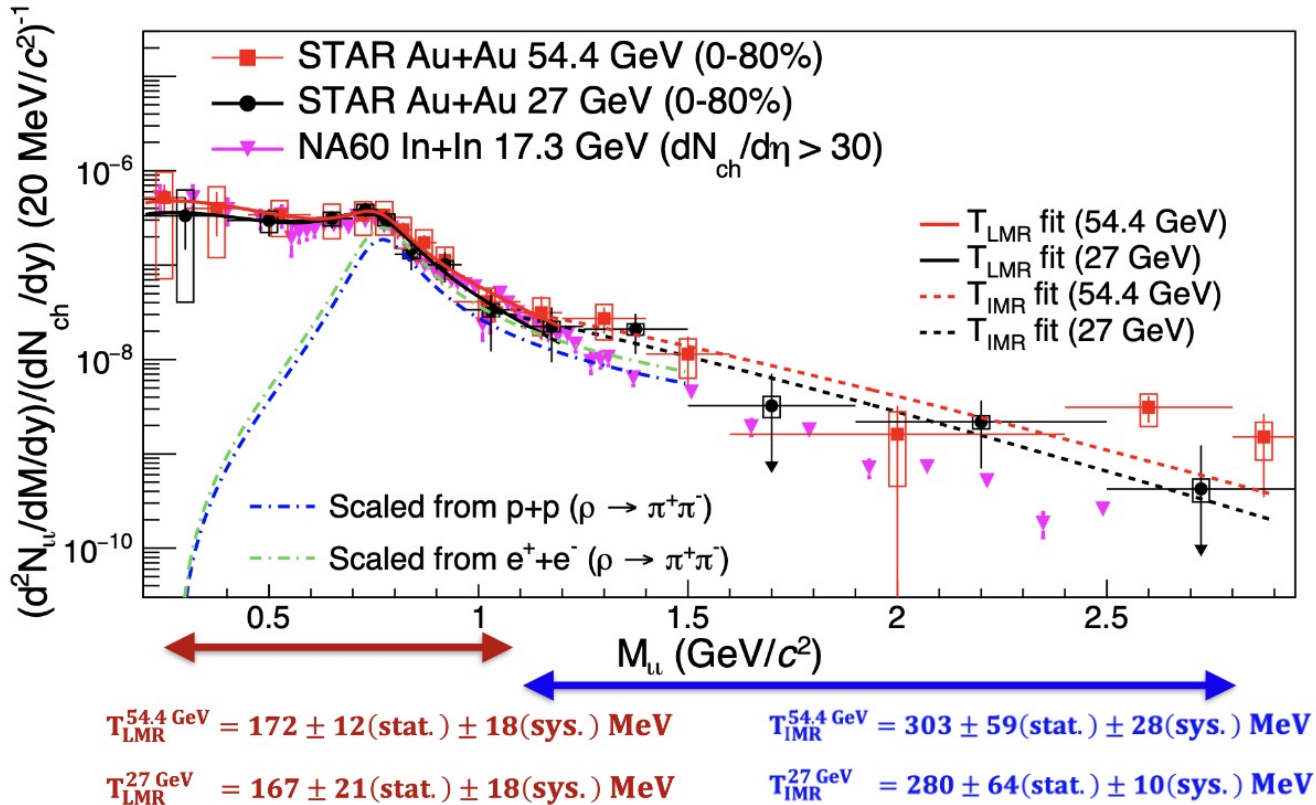


- Large statistics (x15 pairs)
- Good agreement with the cocktail calculation
- Baseline for thermal photons at IMR in Au+Au



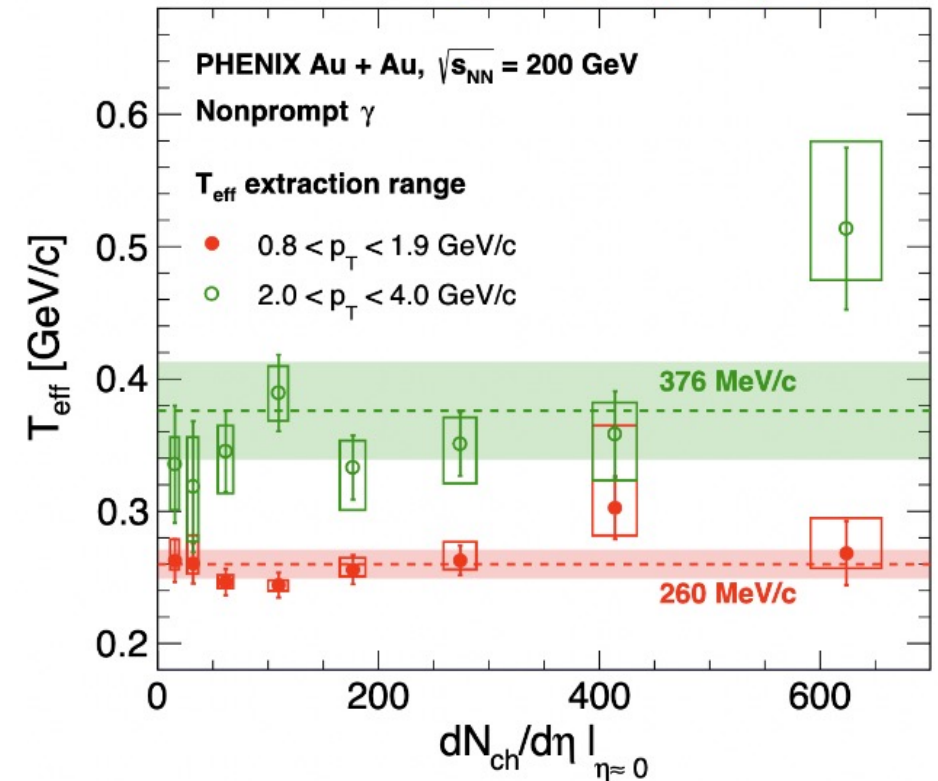
# Effective temperatures

[ Chenliang Jin (STAR) ]



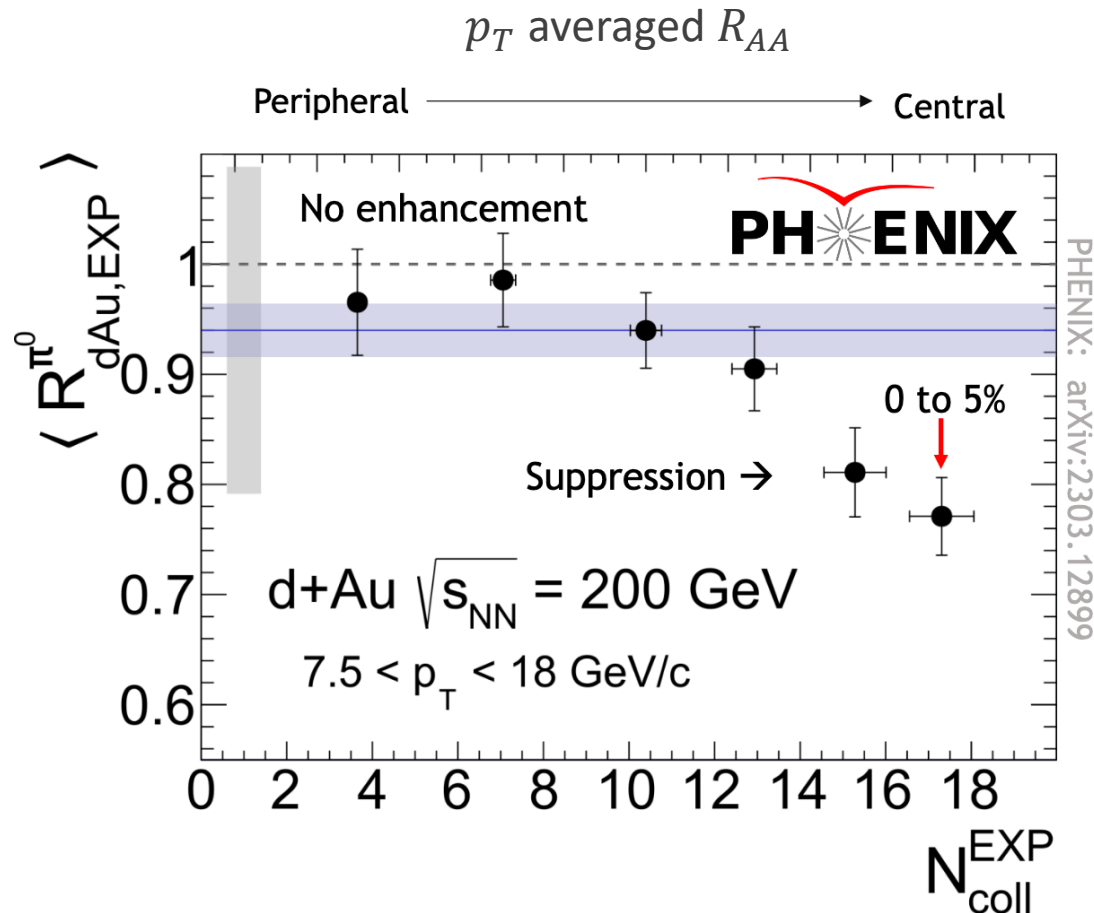
[ Vassu Doomra (PHENIX) ]

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# Binary scaling in Pb-Pb and p-Pb collisions

$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{AA}}{dp_T} / \frac{dN_{\gamma}^{pp}}{dp_T} = N_{binary} + (\text{correction from isospin, nuclear p.d.f., frag. photon energy loss})$$



15% deviation is seen in peripheral collisions

