

Recent Results from

PH  ENIX

Ron Belmont, University of North Carolina at Greensboro



A. Gáspár: Calculate the Entropy XIV

**23rd ZIMÁNYI SCHOOL  
WINTER WORKSHOP  
ON HEAVY ION PHYSICS**

**December 4-8, 2023**

**Budapest, Hungary**

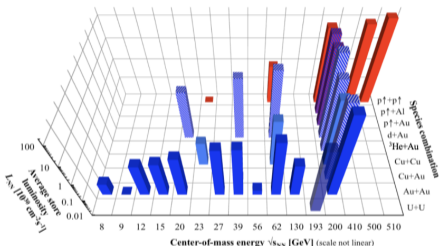


József Zimányi (1931 - 2006)

# Data collected

Run	Species	Energy $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Integrated Luminosity ( $\text{mb}^{-1}$ )
1 (2000)	Au+Au	56	1.0E-6
2 (2001/2002)	Au+Au	200	2.4E-5
	p+p	200	1.5E+5
3 (2003)	d+Au	200	2.7E+3
	p+p	200	3.5E+5
4 (2004)	Au+Au	200	2.4E+2
	Au+Au	62.4	9.0E+0
5 (2005)	Cu+Cu	200	3.0E+3
	Cu+Cu	62.4	1.9E+2
	Cu+Cu	22.4	2.7E+3
	p+p	200	3.4E+6
6 (2006)	p+p	200	7.5E+6
	p+p	62.4	8.0E+4
7 (2007)	Au+Au	200	8.1E+2
8 (2008)	d+Au	200	8.0E+4
	p+p	200	5.2E+6
9 (2009)	p+p	500	1.4E+7
	p+p	200	1.6E+7
10 (2010)	Au+Au	200	1.5E+3
	Au+Au	62.4	1.1E+2
	Au+Au	39	4.0E+4
	Au+Au	7.7	3.0E+2

RHIC energies, species combinations and luminosities (Run-1 to 16)

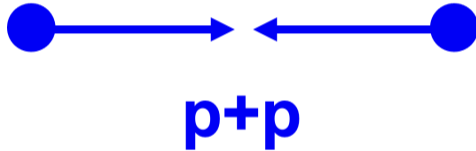


Completed taking data in 2016  
Many high impact analyses ongoing

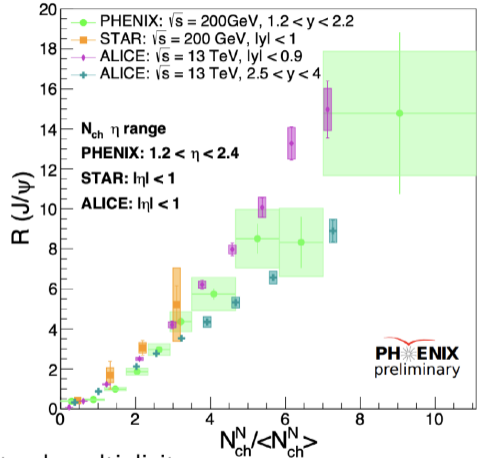
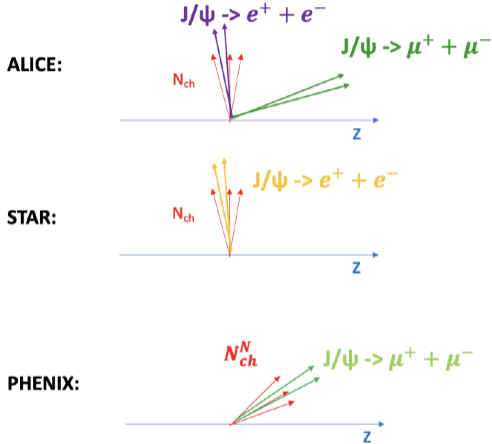
Run	Species	Energy $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Integrated Luminosity ( $\text{mb}^{-1}$ )
11 (2011)	p+p	500	1.8E+7
	Au+Au	19.6	2.0E+0
	Au+Au	200	1.7E+3
12 (2012)	Au+Au	27	7.0E+0
	p+p	200	1.0E+7
	p+p	510	3.2E+7
	U+U	193	2.0E+2
13 (2013)	Cu+Au	200	5.0E+3
	p+p	510	1.6E+8
14 (2014)	Au+Au	14.6	4.0E+0
	Au+Au	200	7.5E+3
	<sup>3</sup> He+Au	200	2.4E+4
15 (2015)	p+p	200	6.0E+7
	p+Au	200	2.0E+5
	p+Al	200	5.0E+5
16 (2016)	Au+Au	200	7.0E+3
	d+Au	200	5.0E+4
	d+Au	62.4	5.0E+3
	d+Au	19.6	8.0E+1
	d+Au	39	2.0E+3

# Recent Papers

- PRL130, 251901 (2023) Direct  $\gamma$  cross section in  $p+p$   $\sqrt{s} = 510$  GeV
- PRD107, 112004 (2023) Transverse spin asymmetry of  $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$  in  $p+Al$  and  $p+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- PRD107, 052012 (2023) Transverse spin asymmetry of heavy flavor decay electrons
- PRC107, 024907 (2023) Flow in  $p+p$ ,  $p+Al$ ,  $d+Au$ ,  $^3He+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- PRC107, 024914 (2023) Low  $p_T$   $\gamma$  in Au+Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 39$  and 62.4 GeV
- PRC107, 014907 (2023)  $\phi$  in Cu+Au and U+U  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- PRC106, 014908 (2022)  $\phi$  in  $p+p$ ,  $p+Al$ ,  $d+Au$ ,  $^3He+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- PRC105, 064912 (2022)  $\psi(2S)$  in  $p+p$ ,  $p+Al$ , and  $p+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- arXiv:2303.12899 Suppression of high  $p_T$   $\pi^0$  relative to direct  $\gamma$  in central  $d+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- arXiv:2303.07191 Transverse spin asymmetry of  $h^\pm$  in  $p+p$ ,  $p+Al$ , and  $d+Au$   $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- arXiv:2203.17187 Non-prompt  $\gamma$  in Au+Au  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV
- arXiv:2203.17058 Charm and bottom production in Au+Au  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV



# $J/\psi$ yield in $p+p$



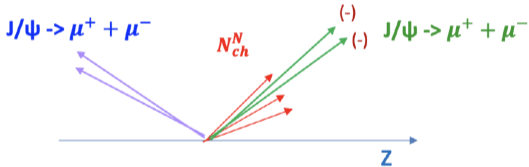
- $J/\psi$  yield exhibits large dependence on local track multiplicity  
—Usually attributed to multi-parton interactions

# $J/\psi$ yield in $p+p$

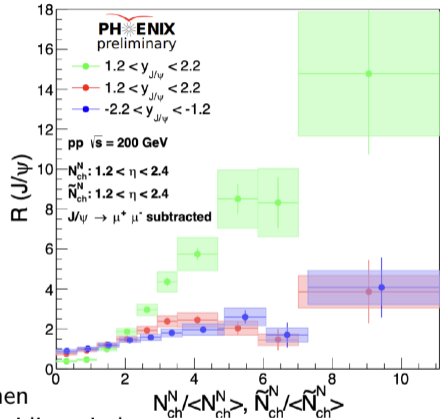
$J/\psi$  and tracks in the same rapidity

$J/\psi$  and tracks in the opposite rapidity

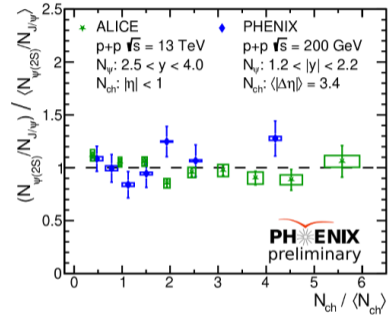
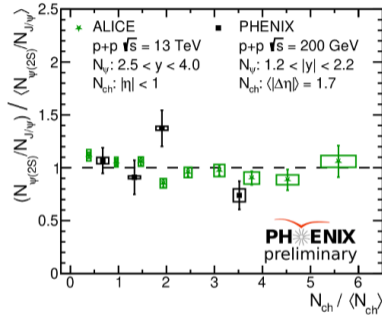
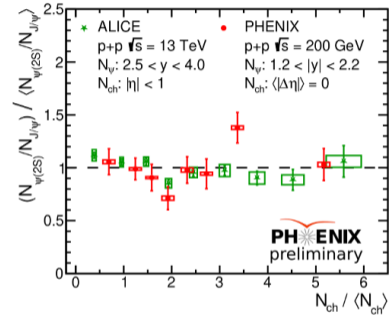
$J/\psi$  and tracks in the same rapidity, tracks from  $J/\psi$  removed from track count



- $J/\psi$  yield vs multiplicity significantly reduced when
  - Looking at  $J/\psi$  and multiplicity in separate rapidity windows
  - Looking at  $J/\psi$  and multiplicity in the same rapidity window but removing the  $\mu^+\mu^-$  from the multiplicity
- Important implications for MPI picture

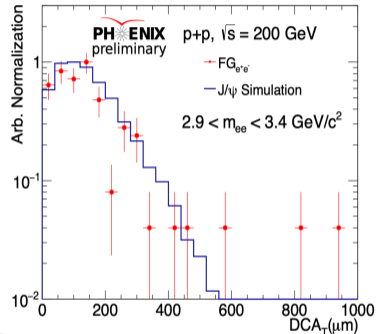
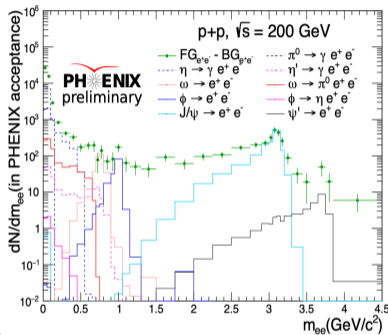
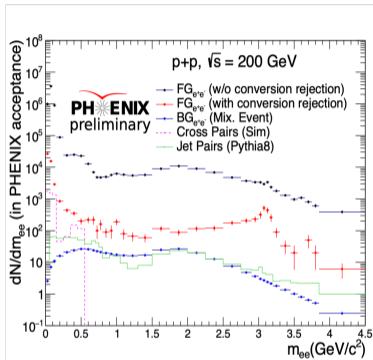


# $\psi(2S)$ to $J/\psi$ ratio in $p+p$



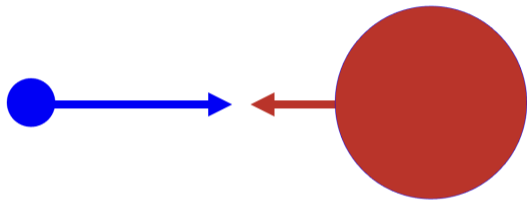
- Multiplicity-dependent studies can be used as test for onset of QGP-like signatures
- PHENIX results match ALICE results, double ratio consistent with unity for all multiplicity

# Delphion invariant mass in $p+p$



- Measurements of intermediate mass dilepton pairs
- Separation of semi-leptonic decay and prompt pairs

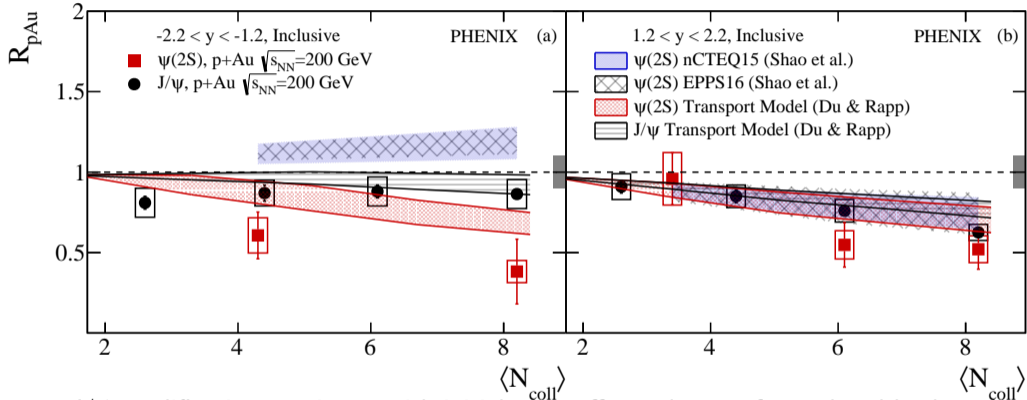




**p, d, <sup>3</sup>He + Au**

# $J/\psi$ and $\psi(2S)$ in small systems

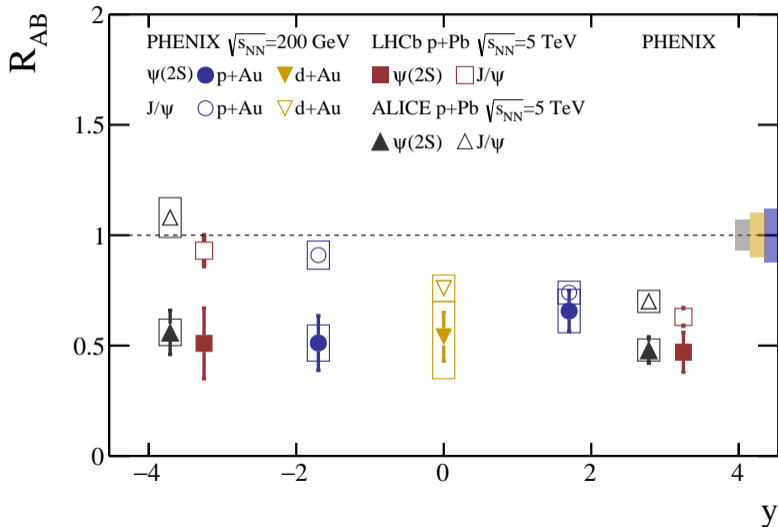
Phys. Rev. C 105, 064912 (2023)



- $J/\psi$  modification consistent with initial state effects alone at forward and backward rapidity
- $\psi(2S)$  modification indicates presence of final state effects at backward rapidity
  - Presence of co-movers? QGP?

# $J/\psi$ and $\psi(2S)$ in small systems

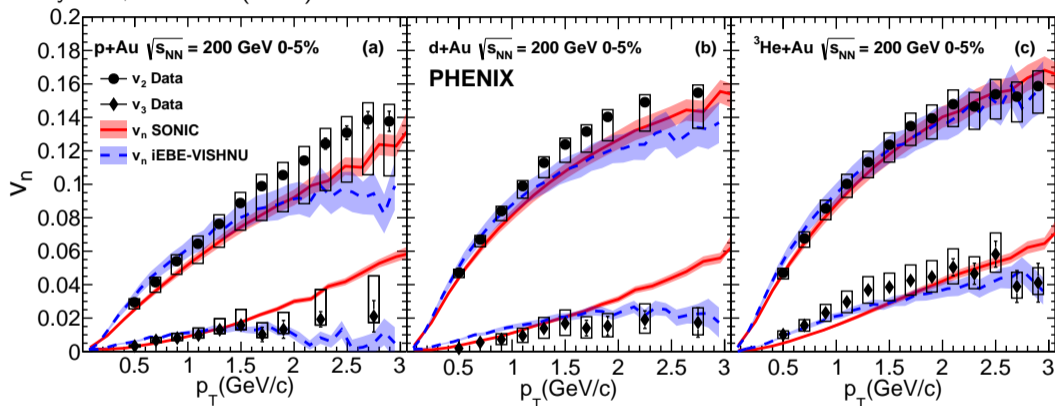
Phys. Rev. C 105, 064912 (2023)



Similar patterns for  $J/\psi$  and  $\psi(2S)$  found at RHIC and LHC

# $v_n$ in small systems

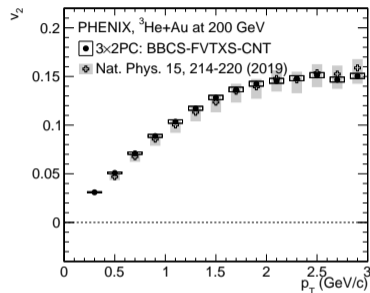
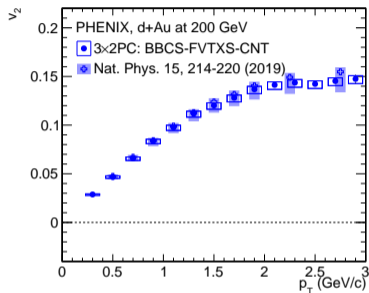
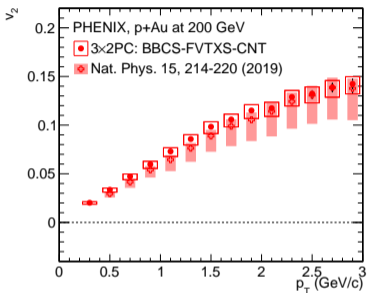
Nat. Phys. 15, 214–220 (2019)



- $v_2$  and  $v_3$  vs  $p_T$  predicted or described very well by hydrodynamics in all three systems
  - All predicted (except  $v_2$  in  $d+\text{Au}$ ) in J.L. Nagle et al, PRL 113, 112301 (2014)
  - $v_3$  in  $p+\text{Au}$  and  $d+\text{Au}$  predicted in C. Shen et al, PRC 95, 014906 (2017)

# $v_n$ in small systems

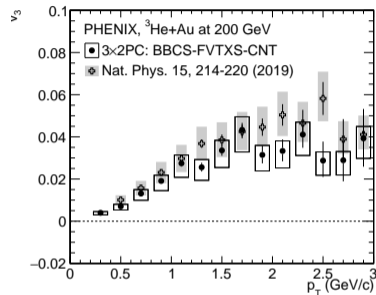
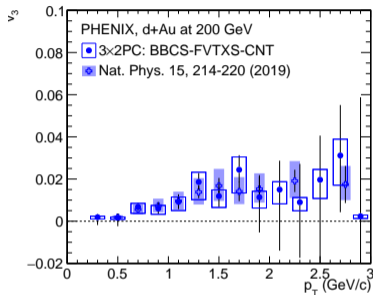
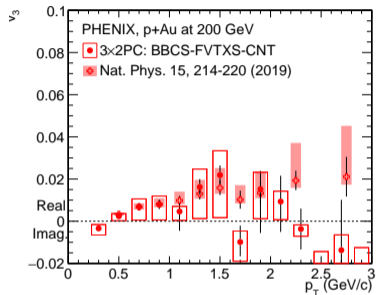
Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method used in Nature Physics publication
  - Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)
- Uses same detector combination as used in Nature Physics publication

# $v_n$ in small systems

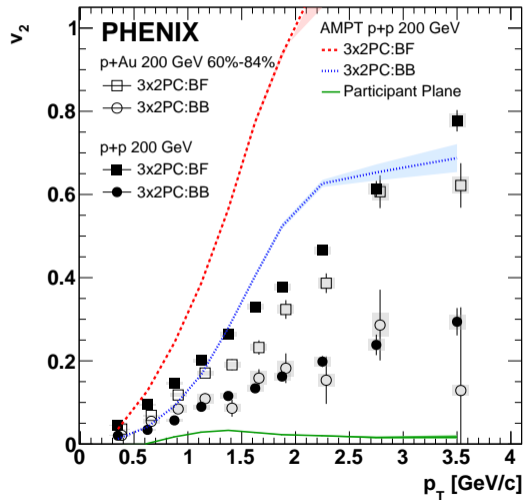
Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method used in Nature Physics publication
  - Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)
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# $v_2$ in small systems

Phys. Rev. C 107, 024907 (2023)

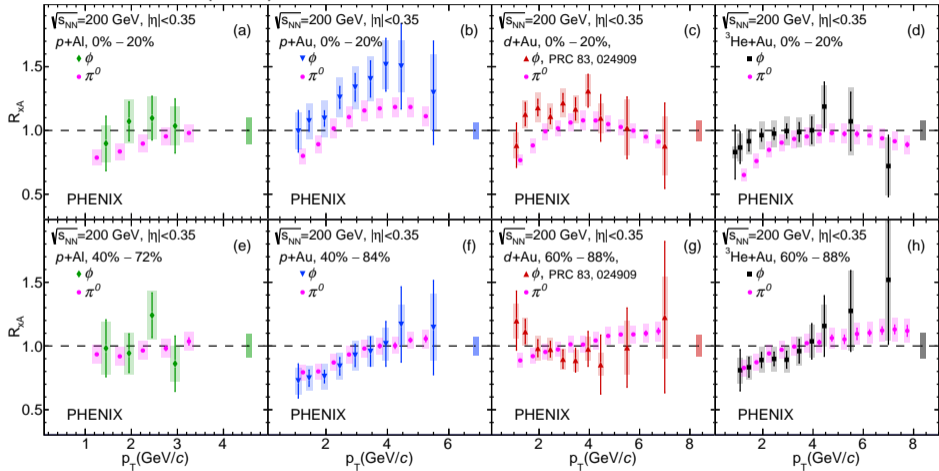


Systematic study of  $v_2$  in small systems  
—  $p+p$ ,  $p+Au$ ,  $d+Au$ ,  $^3\text{He}+Au$   
— Centrality dependence  
— Multiple detector combinations

AMPT exhibits little or no collectivity  
but large  $v_2$  due to non-flow correlations  
Also shows similar relative pattern  
between backward-backward (BB) and  
backward-forward (BF)

# $\phi$ meson in small systems

Phys. Rev. C 106, 014908 (2022)

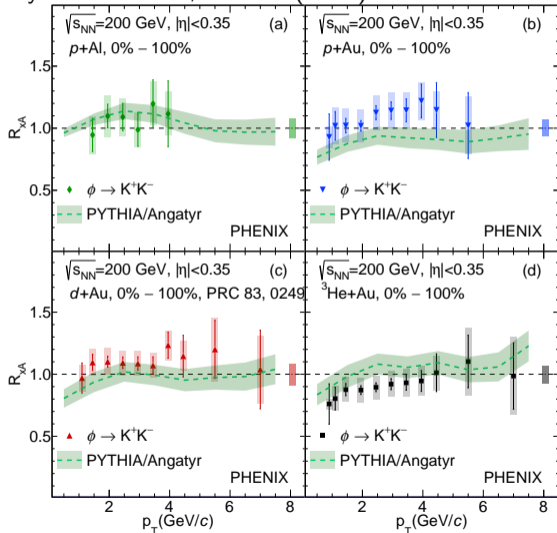


- $\phi$  similar to  $\pi^0$  with a few hints of a slight enhancement relative to  $\pi^0$



# $\phi$ meson in small systems

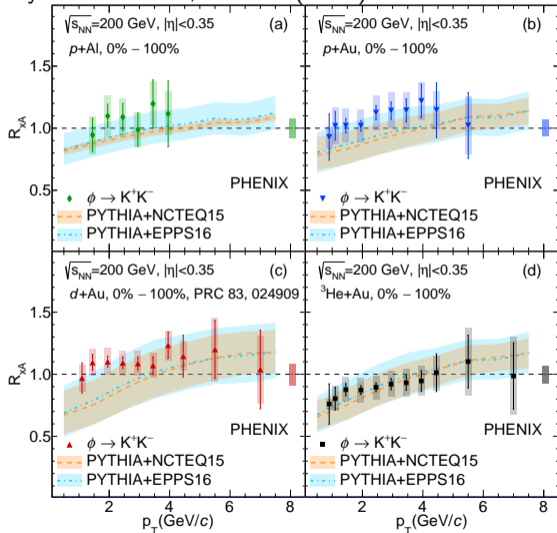
Phys. Rev. C 106, 014908 (2022)



$\phi$  nuclear modification reasonably well-described by PYTHIA/Angatyr, but overall system size ordering is missed

# $\phi$ meson in small systems

Phys. Rev. C 106, 014908 (2022)

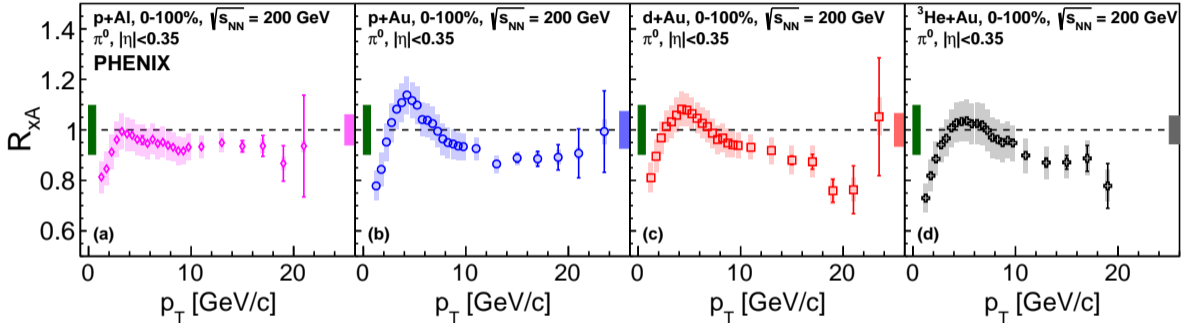


$\phi$  nuclear modification reasonably well-described by PYTHIA/Angantyr, but overall system size ordering is missed

Also reasonably well-described by PYTHIA with nPDFs, but overall system size ordering is missed

# Nuclear modification of $\pi^0$ in small systems

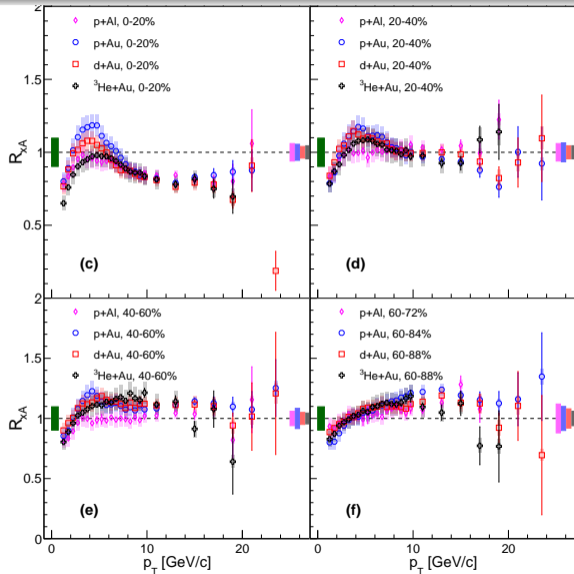
Phys. Rev. C 105, 064902 (2022)



- Minimum bias collisions shown
- Cronin enhancement at intermediate  $p_T$ 
  - Lighter target shows smaller enhancement ( $p+\text{Al} < p+\text{Au}$ )
  - Heavier projectile shows smaller enhancement ( $^3\text{He}+\text{Au} < d+\text{Au} < p+\text{Au}$ )

# Nuclear modification of $\pi^0$ in small systems

Phys. Rev. C 105, 064902 (2022)

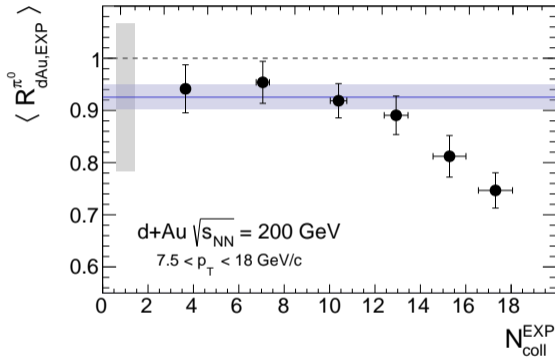
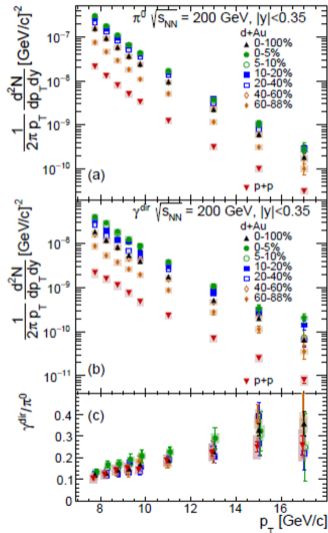


Considerable centrality dependence—suppression in central, enhancement in peripheral

Peripheral enhancement not new, but still difficult to understand...

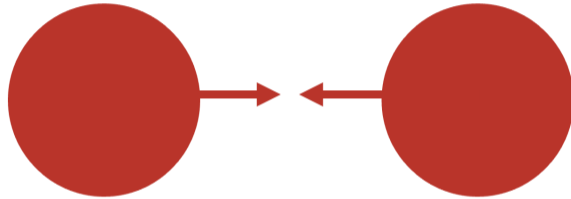
# Experimental measure of $N_{coll}$ in small systems

arXiv:2303.12899 (submitted to Phys.Rev.C)



- Use electroweak probes (photons in this case) to directly measure  $N_{coll}$
- No enhancement in peripheral
- Modest suppression in central

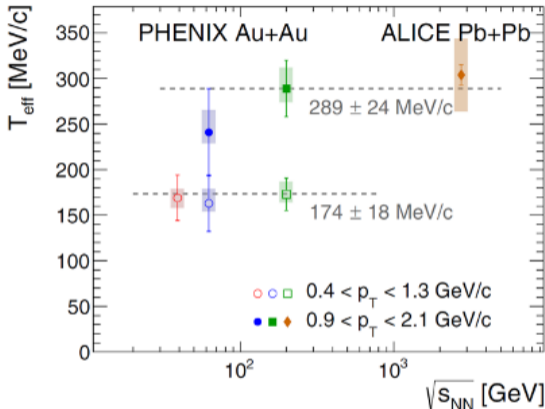
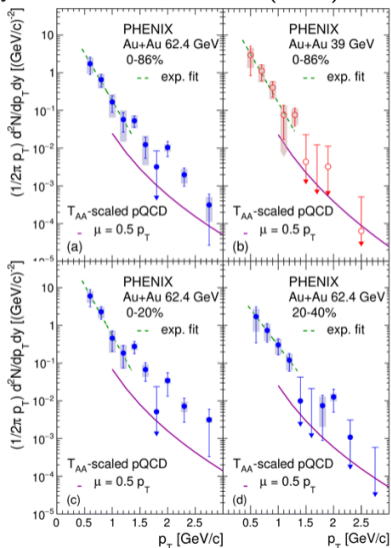
$$N_{coll}^{EXP} = \frac{Y_{dAu}^{\text{direct photons}}}{Y_{pp}^{\text{direct photons}}}$$



**Au+Au**

# Low $p_T$ direct photons in Au+Au

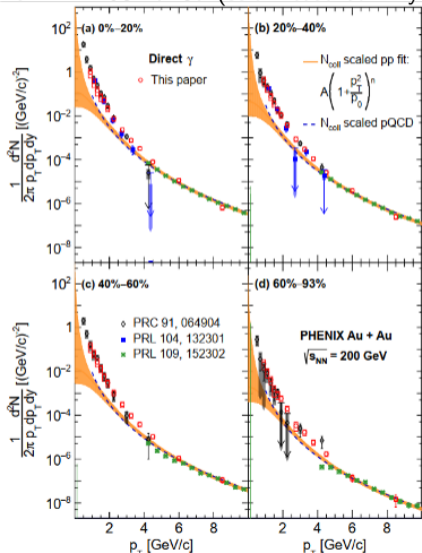
Phys. Rev. C 107, 024914 (2023)



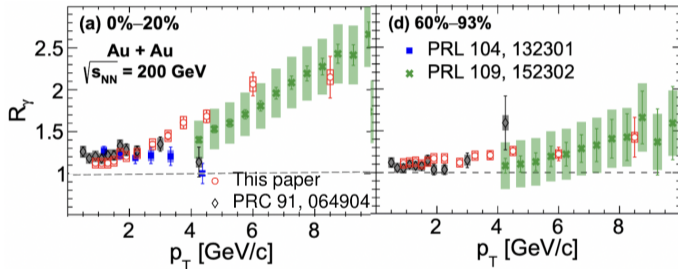
- Systematic measurement of direct photon in various systems and beam energy in wide  $p_T$  range

# Direct photons in Au+Au

arXiv:2203.17187 (submitted to Phys. Rev. C)



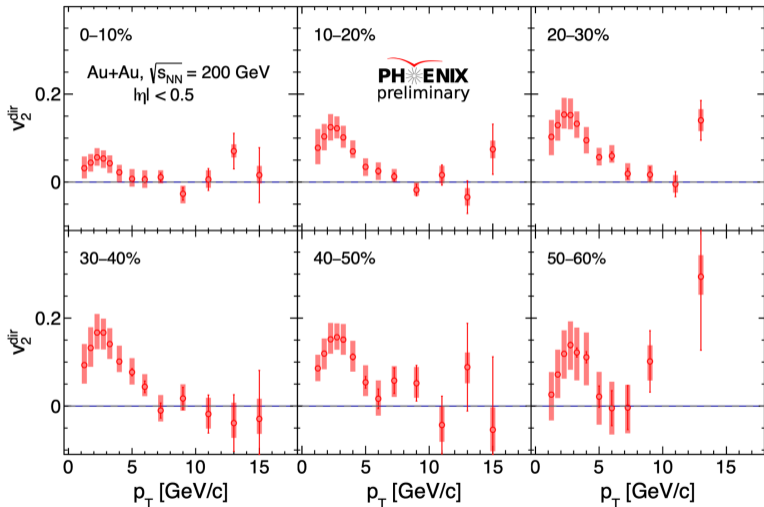
$$R_\gamma = \frac{\gamma_{\text{inclusive}}}{\gamma_{\text{decay}}}$$



- 10x higher statistics
- Agreement with previous results
- $R_\gamma > 1 \rightarrow$  excess direct photons

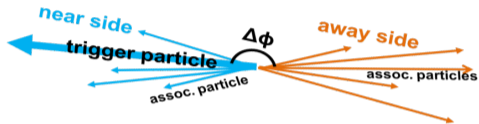


# Direct photon $v_2$ in Au+Au

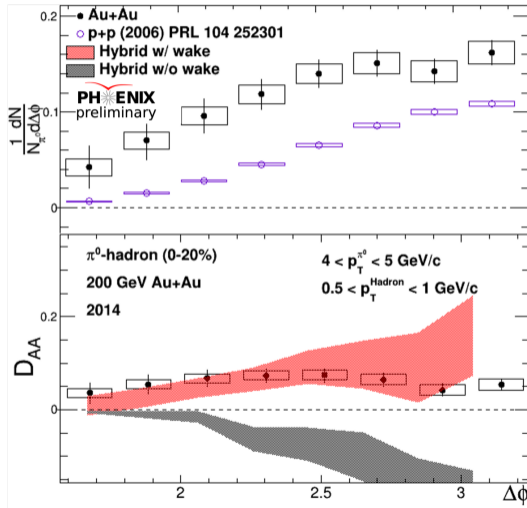


- Significant reduction in statistical and systematic uncertainties over previous measurement
- Results consistent with zero at high  $p_T$

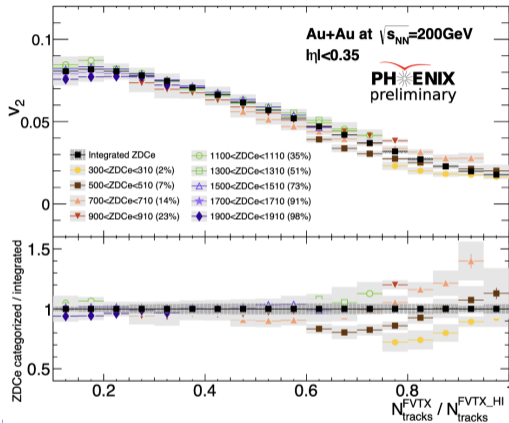
# Medium response to jets in Au+Au



- Enhancement of low  $p_T$  hadrons quantified with  $D_{AA} = Y_{AA} - Y_{pp}$
- Hybrid model with wake consistent with PHENIX  $\pi^0$ - $h$  correlations
- Progressing towards  $\gamma^{\text{direct}}-h$  correlations in high statistics Au+Au data sets (2014 and 2016)

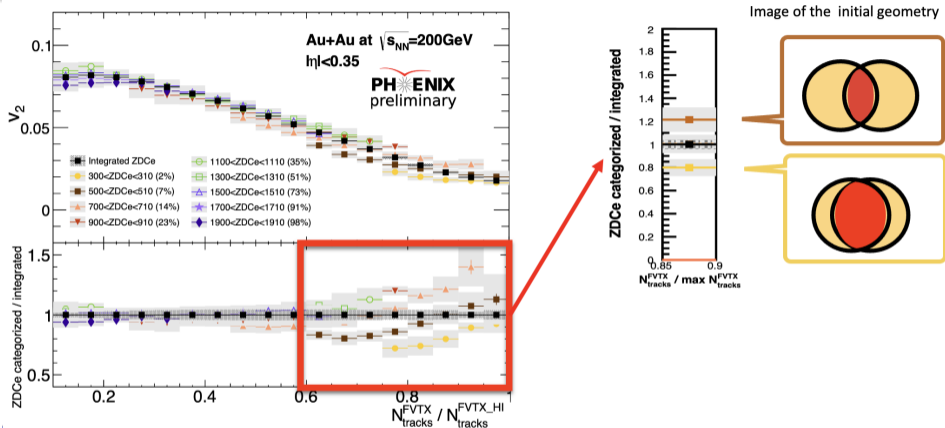


# Multiplicity dependence of $v_2$ in different event categories in Au+Au



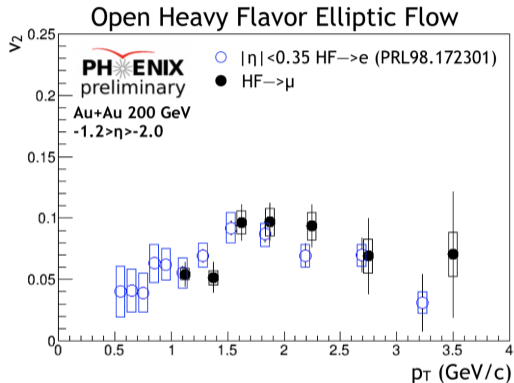
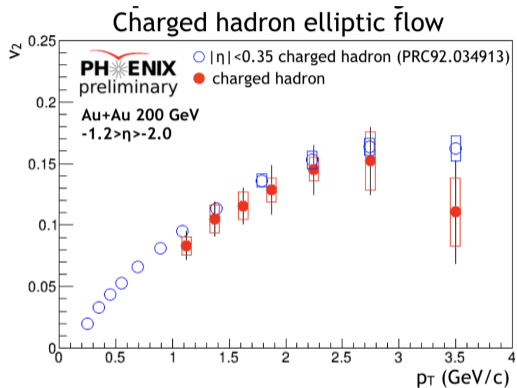
- Narrow selection in ZDC energy approximately fixes  $N_{part}$
- Comparison of  $v_2$  with same multiplicity but different ZDC energy allows study of geometry dependence—not the same as event-shape engineering, but a related idea

# Multiplicity dependence of $v_2$ in different event categories in Au+Au



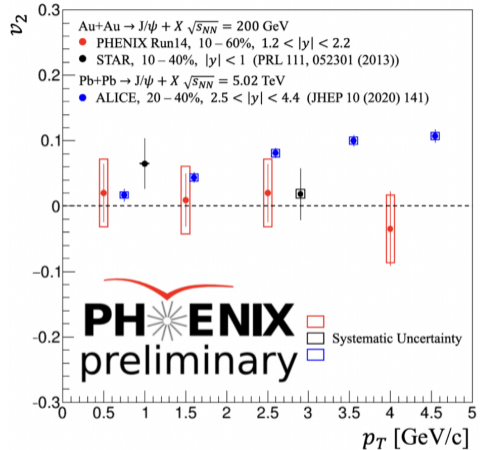
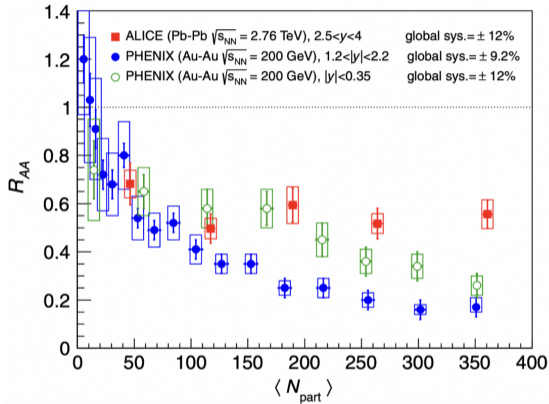
- Narrow selection in ZDC energy approximately fixes  $N_{part}$
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# Open heavy flavor $v_2$ in Au+Au



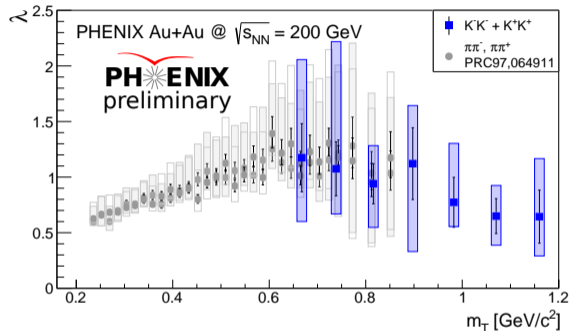
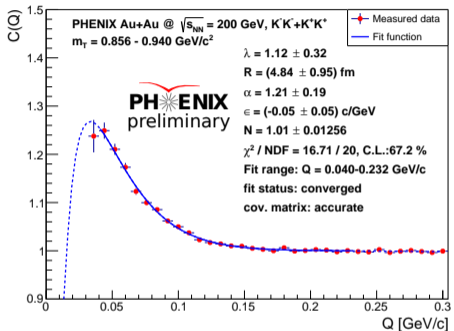
- First-ever RHIC measurement of open heavy flavor elliptic flow at forward rapidity
- Mass ordering apparent

# $J/\psi$ in Au+Au



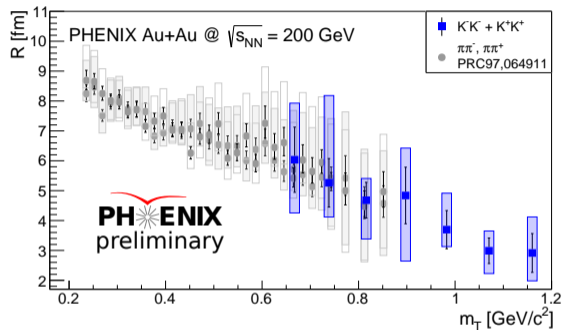
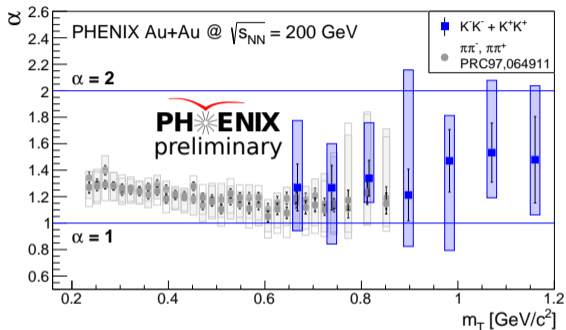
- PHENIX  $J/\psi$  shows stronger suppression at both forward and mid-rapidity compared to ALICE
- PHENIX  $J/\psi$   $v_2$  consistent with zero, while clearly non-zero in ALICE data
- At RHIC energies, regeneration not as significant

# Kaon femtoscopy in Au+Au



- Femtoscopy with  $K^\pm$  and assuming Lévy source
- $\lambda$  describes strength of correlation
- $\alpha$  describes shape of distributions— $\alpha = 2$  is Gaussian,  $\alpha = 1$  is Cauchy
- $R$  is width parameter (similar to but not same as standard Gaussian radius)

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# Data and analysis preservation

- 192/218 PHENIX papers on HEPData
- REANA is a framework of analysis preservation
- Analysis environment (libraries, etc) are in container (Docker)
- Workflow in YAML
- $\pi^0$  and direct  $\gamma$   $d+Au$  analyses implemented

The screenshot shows the HEPData website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search HEPData" and buttons for "PHENIX" and "Search". Below the search bar, there are filters for "192 results", "Sort by", and "Reverse order". A bar chart shows the distribution of results by date from 2001 to 2023. The main content area displays two search results. The first result is titled "Transverse single-spin asymmetry of midrapidity  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  mesons in  $p+Au$  and  $p+Al$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV". It includes the PHENIX collaboration name, a DOI link, and a brief description of the paper's content. The second result is titled "Measurement of  $\phi$ -meson production in  $Cu+Au$  at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV and  $U+U$  at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 193$  GeV". It also includes the PHENIX collaboration name, a DOI link, and a brief description of the paper's content.

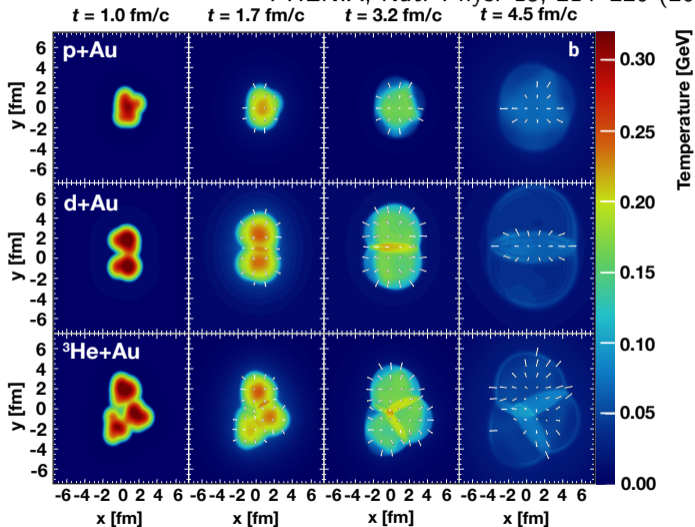
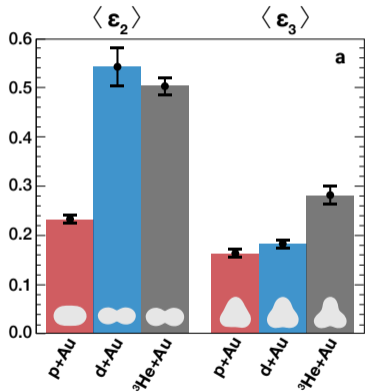
## Brief summary and outlook

- Evidence of final state effects in charmonium production in small systems at RHIC
- Evidence of centrality determination bias in high- $p_T$  particle  $R_{xA}$  in small systems, can use direct photons to correct for this bias
  - No enhancement in peripheral collisions
  - Suppression in central collisions
- Comprehensive set of small systems flow measurements
- First measurement of open heavy flavor  $v_2$
- Zero  $v_2$  for  $J/\psi$  (and stronger suppression compared to LHC)
  - Regeneration less important RHIC energies
- New results on femtoscopy with charged kaons
- More interesting and important measurements from PHENIX coming soon!

Additional Material

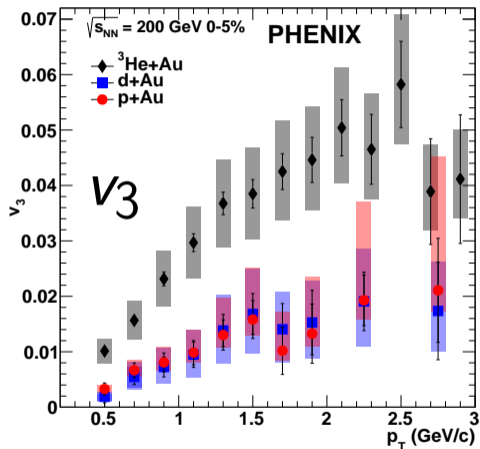
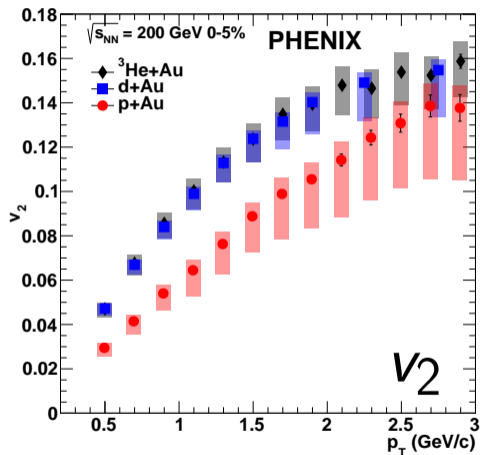
# Small systems geometry scan

PHENIX, Nat. Phys. 15, 214–220 (2019)



# Small systems geometry scan

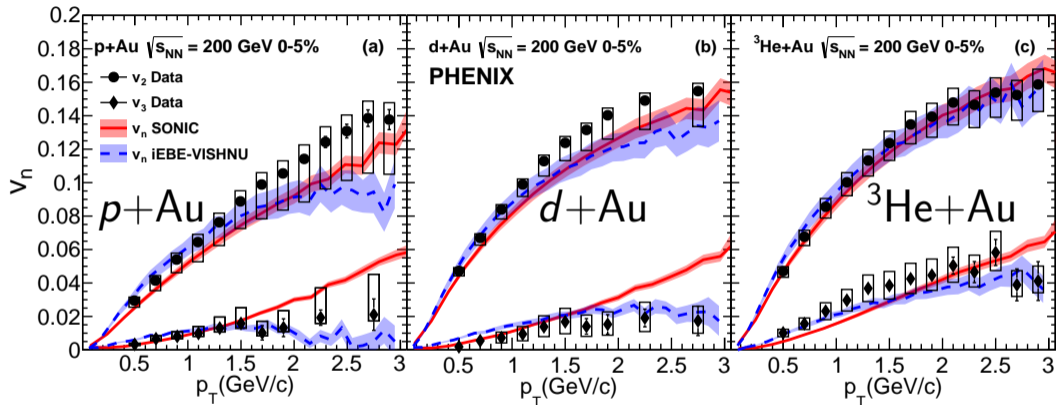
PHENIX, Nat. Phys. 15, 214–220 (2019)



- $v_2$  and  $v_3$  ordering matches  $\varepsilon_2$  and  $\varepsilon_3$  ordering in all three systems  
—Collective motion of system translates the initial geometry into the final state

# Small systems geometry scan

PHENIX, Nat. Phys. 15, 214–220 (2019)

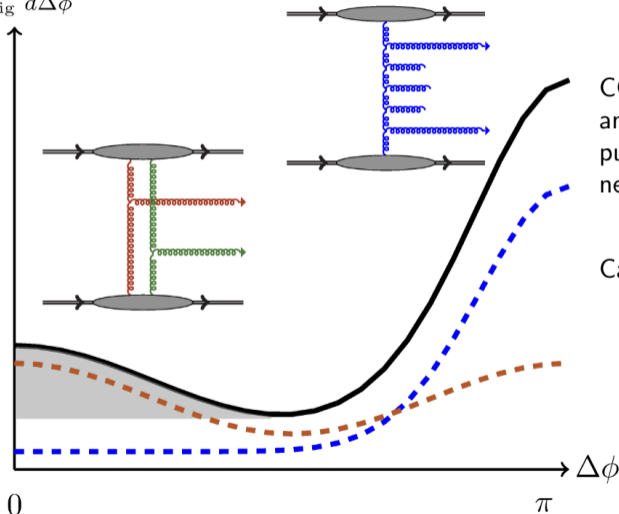


- $v_2$  and  $v_3$  vs  $p_T$  predicted or described very well by hydrodynamics in all three systems
  - All predicted (except  $v_2$  in  $d+Au$ ) in J.L. Nagle et al, PRL 113, 112301 (2014)
  - $v_3$  in  $p+Au$  and  $d+Au$  predicted in C. Shen et al, PRC 95, 014906 (2017)

# Can initial state effects explain the data?

K. Dusling and R. Venugopalan, Phys. Rev. D 87, 094034 (2013)

$$\frac{1}{N_{\text{Trig}}} \frac{d^2 N}{d\Delta\phi}$$

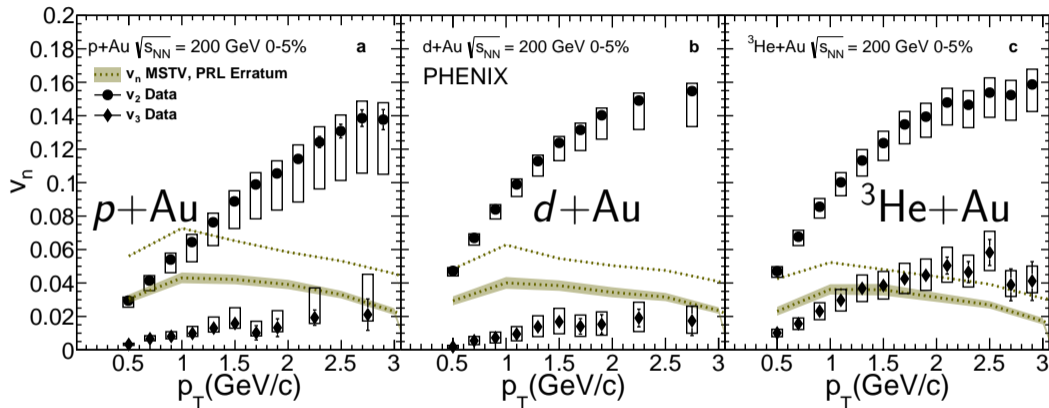


CGC framework: glasma diagrams produce angular correlations like the ridge and  $v_n$  purely from initial state correlations, with no need for final state interactions (hydro)

Can they explain the data?

# Initial state effects cannot explain the data

PHENIX, Nat. Phys. 15, 214–220 (2019)

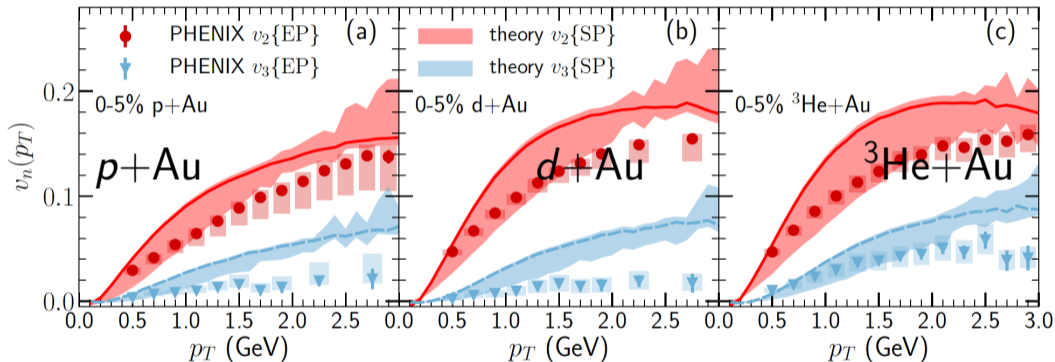


- Initial state effects (CGC/Glasma) alone do not describe the data  
—Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 039901 (Erratum) (2019)



# How important are initial state effects?

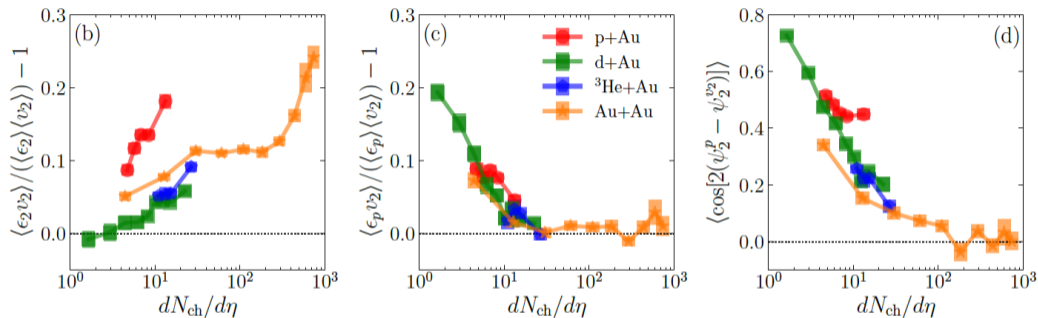
B. Schenke et al, Phys. Lett. B 803, 135322 (2020)



- Initial state effects important for theory, but make little contribution for central collisions
- Overestimation of data assumed to be related to fluid choice parameters and/or longitudinal dynamics

# How important are initial state effects?

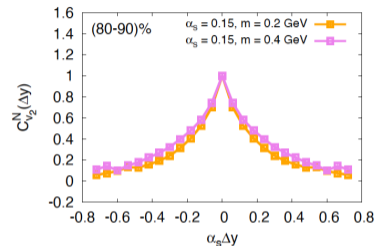
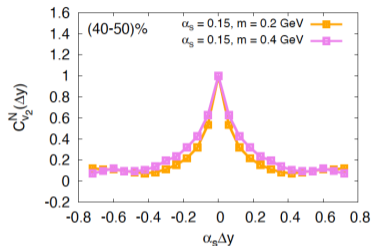
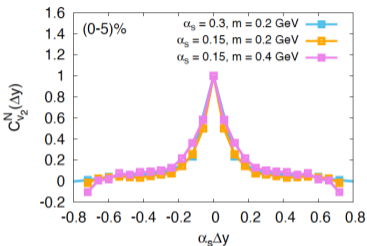
B. Schenke et al, Phys. Lett. B 803, 135322 (2020)



- For central  $p+\text{Au}$ , modest correlation between  $\epsilon_p$  and  $v_2$
- For central  $d+\text{Au}$  and  $^3\text{He}+\text{Au}$ , no correlation between  $\epsilon_p$  and  $v_2$

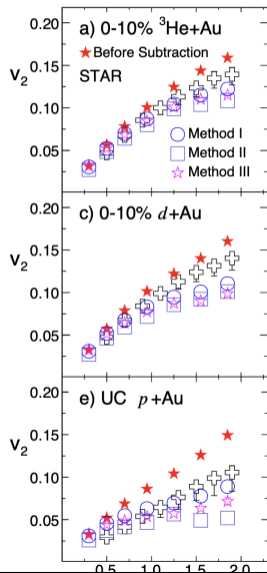
# How important are initial state effects?

B. Schenke et al, Phys. Rev. D 105, 094023 (2022)



- The CGC/Glasma correlations appear to be too narrow in (pseudo)rapidity to have any significant impact on the data  
—The PHENIX data are measured with three detectors spanning  $-3.9 < \eta < +0.35$
- We'll talk more about the importance of the pseudorapidity acceptance of experiments soon

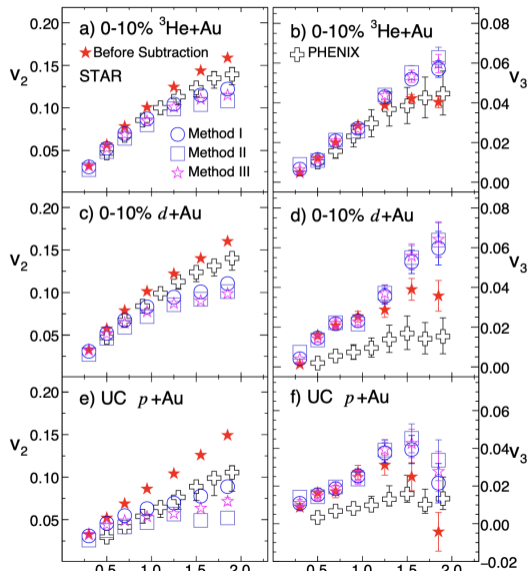
# Comparisons with STAR



STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 242301 (2023)

Good agreement between STAR and PHENIX for  $v_2$

# Comparisons with STAR

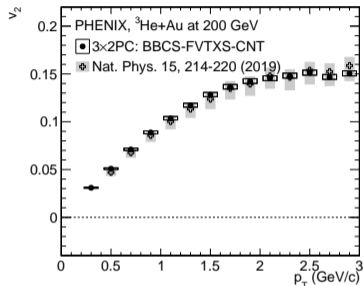
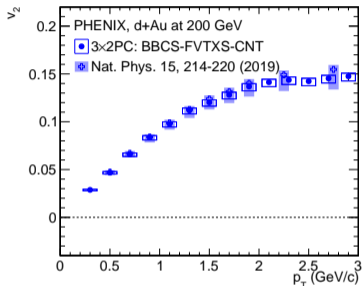
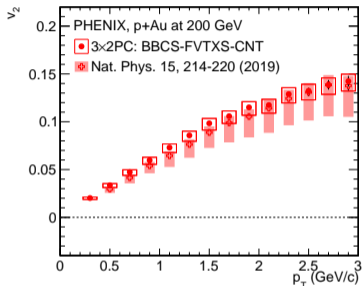


STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 242301 (2023)

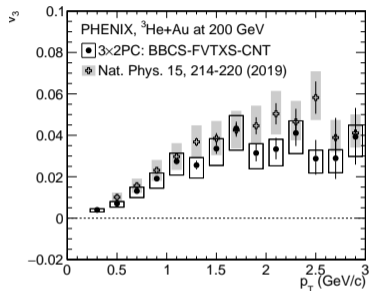
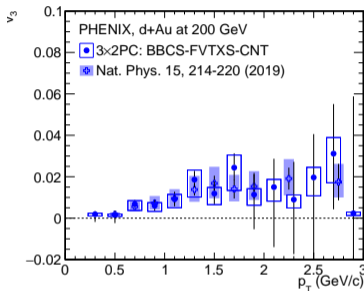
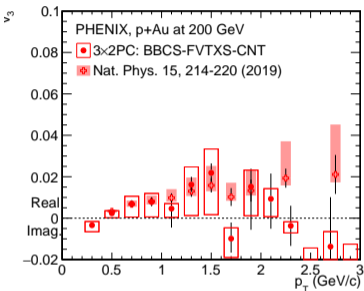
Good agreement between STAR and PHENIX for  $v_2$

Large difference between STAR and PHENIX for  $v_3$  in  $p+\text{Au}$  and  $d+\text{Au}$

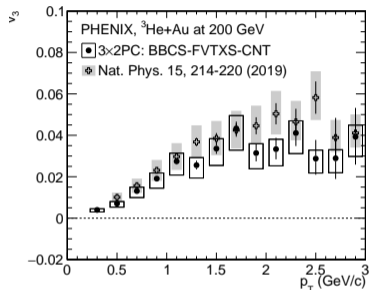
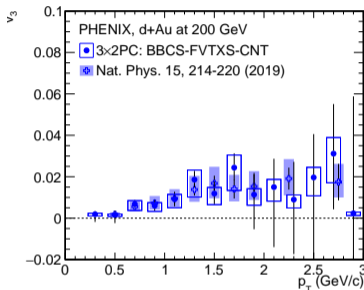
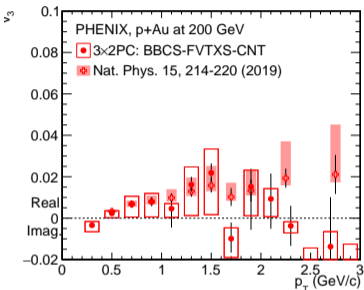
Large subnucleonic fluctuations can overwhelm the intrinsic geometry in some models, leading to similar  $\varepsilon_3$  for all systems



- PHENIX has completed a new analysis confirming the results published in Nature Physics
- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method
  - Completely new and separate code base
  - Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)



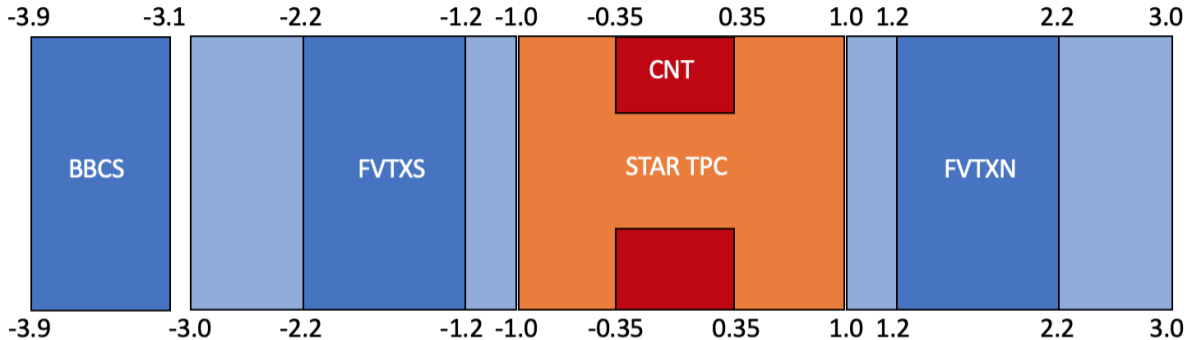
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- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method
  - Completely new and separate code base
  - Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)
- It's essential to understand the two experiments have very different acceptance in pseudorapidity
  - STAR-PHENIX difference actually reveals interesting physics



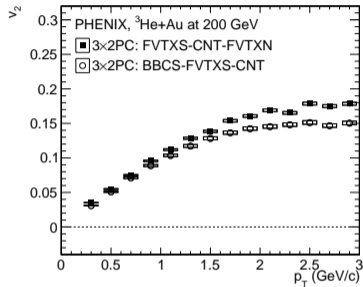
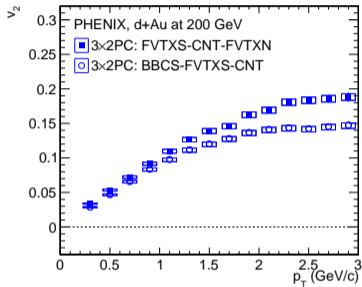
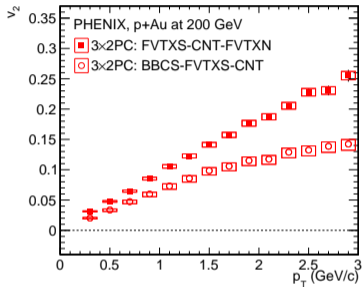
# STAR and PHENIX detector comparison



- The PHENIX Nature Physics paper uses the BBCS-FVTXS-CNT detector combination  
—This is very different from the STAR analysis (TPC only)
- We can try to use FVTXS-CNT-FVTXN detector combination to better match STAR  
—Closer, and “balanced” between forward and backward, *but still different*

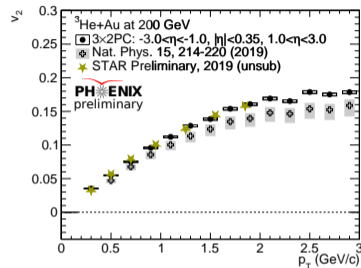
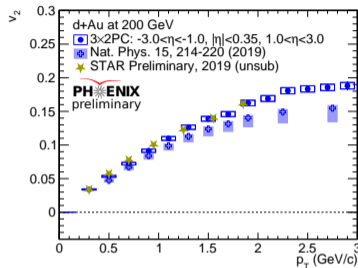
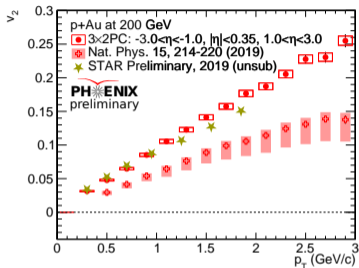
# More STAR and PHENIX data comparisons

PHENIX, Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



# More STAR and PHENIX data comparisons

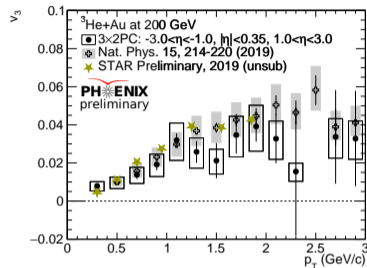
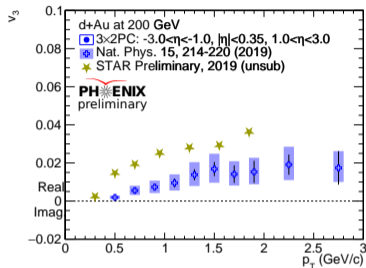
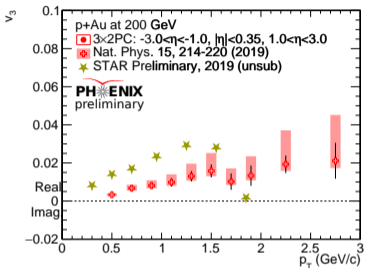
PHENIX, Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



- Good agreement with STAR for  $v_2$ 
  - Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances

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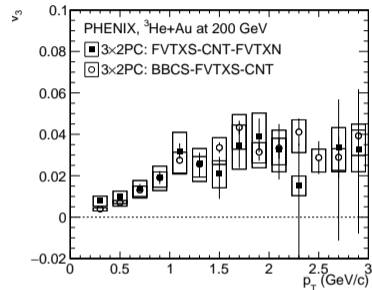
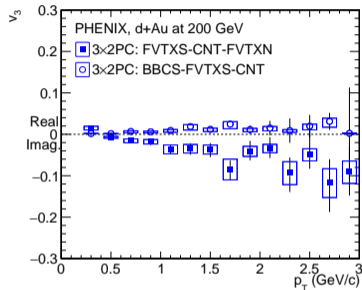
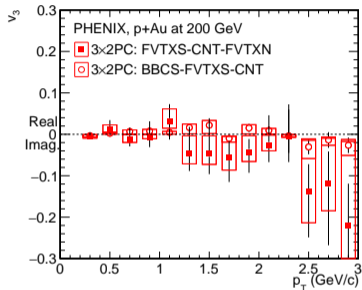
PHENIX, Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



- Good agreement with STAR for  $v_2$ 
  - Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances
- Strikingly different results for  $v_3$ 
  - Rather different physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances
  - Longitudinal effects apparently much stronger for  $v_3$  than  $v_2$

# More STAR and PHENIX data comparisons

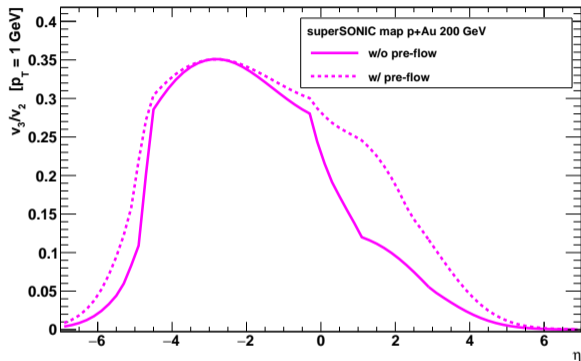
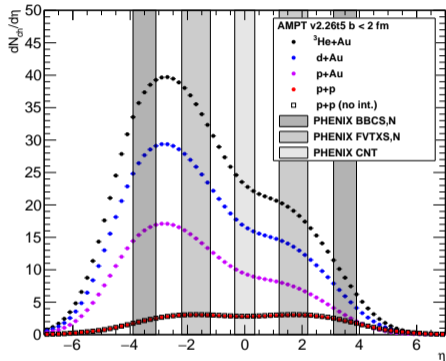
PHENIX, Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



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# Pseudorapidity dependence in small systems

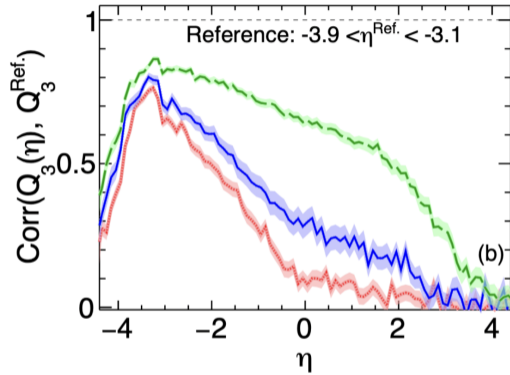
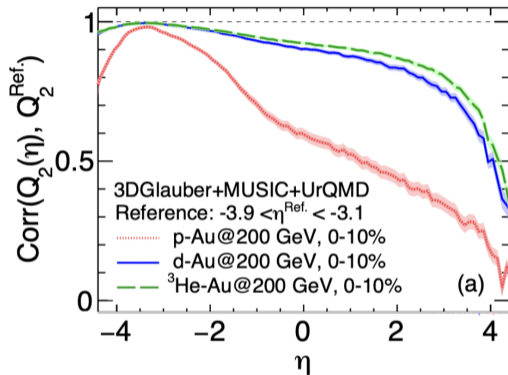
J.L. Nagle et al, Phys. Rev. C 105, 024906 (2022)



- $dN_{ch}/d\eta$  from AMPT,  $v_3(\eta)$  from (super)SONIC
- The likely much stronger pseudorapidity dependence of  $v_3$  compared to  $v_2$  is an essential ingredient in understanding different measurements

# Pseudorapidity dependence in small systems

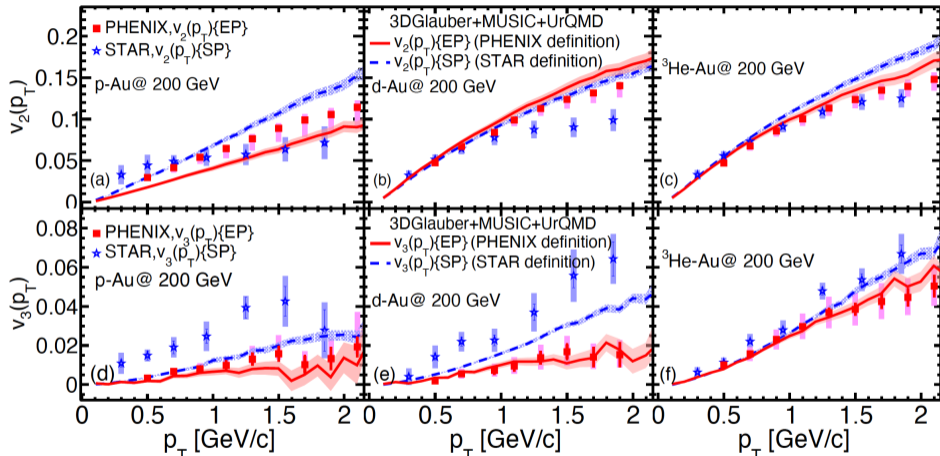
W. Zhao et al, Phys. Rev. C 107, 014904 (2023)



- Flow vectors become decorrelated with increasing pseudorapidity separation  
—The effect is much stronger for  $v_3$  than for  $v_2$
- The hierarchy of the measured  $v_n$  depends on that of the geometry *and* decorrelations  
—Interesting that the decorrelation hierarchy matches that of the geometry...

# Pseudorapidity dependence in small systems

W. Zhao et al, Phys. Rev. C 107, 014904 (2023)

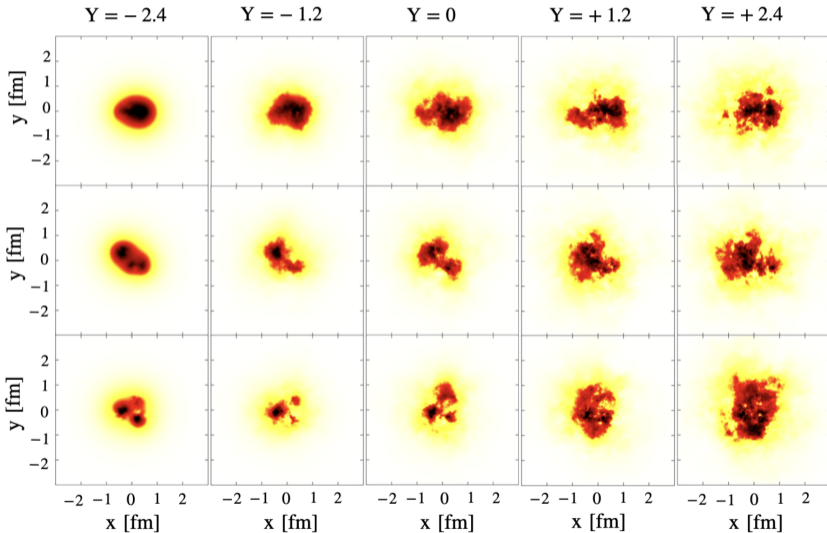


- Flow decorrelations lead to larger  $v_3$  for STAR, explaining  $\sim 50\%$  of the difference between the experiments in this particular model



# Pseudorapidity dependence in small systems

B. Schenke et al, Phys. Rev. D 105, 094023 (2022)



- Intrinsic geometry likely persists over all pseudorapidity ranges
- Fluctuations in the geometry vary as a function of rapidity ( $p$  from a  $p$ +Pb collision shown)
- PHENIX data follow intrinsic geometry, STAR data follow subnucleonic fluctuations