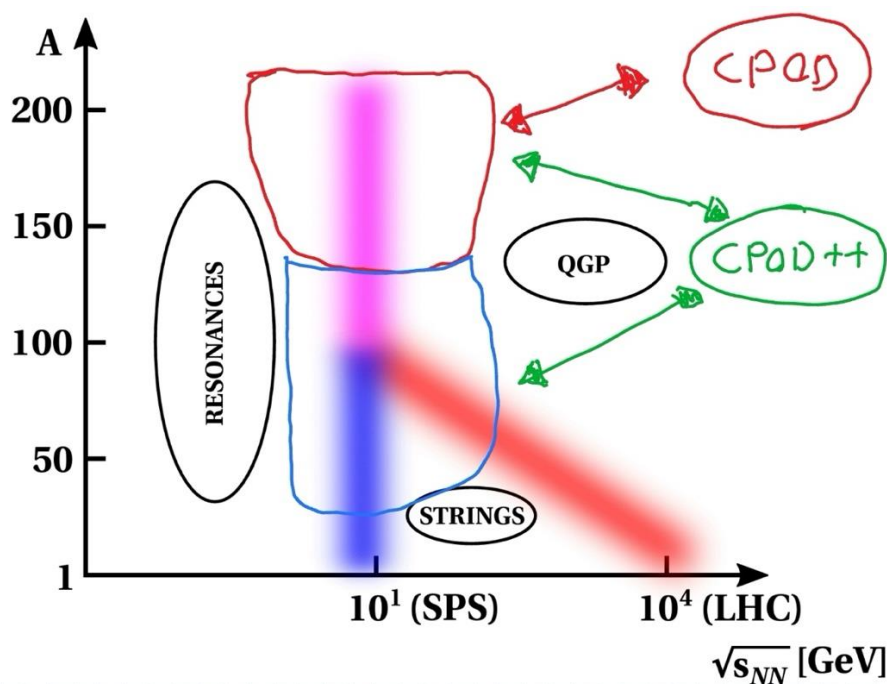


## Discussion on the future of CPOD workshops, LBNL May 22, 2024

After 20 years and 15 workshops, the primary CPOD workshops' goals have been reached, see

<https://cerncourier.com/a/when-quarks-and-gluons-become-free/>

The data collection within the RHIC BES and SHINE 2D-scan programmes has been completed. The majority of key results have been published. The rest should be ready by the CPOD workshop at CERN about two years from now. The answers to the original questions are as follows - the NA49 results on the 'horn et al.' are confirmed, and there is no convincing evidence of the critical point. However, the experimental results request extending of the original CPOD physics. Take NA61/SHINE as an example:



Future experiments in the CPOD energy range (CERN(SPS), FAIR, HIAF, NICA) hold large potential. They will address broader questions than those originally formulated for CPOD, making it important to dedicate the workshop(s) to them.

The minimal solution for the emerging situation is extending CPOD's physics scope. This also implies changing the workshop name, for example, to CPOD++. These changes could be implemented starting from the CERN workshop.

The other option is to continue with CPOD, focusing on the original CPOD physics as long as needed and establish new workshop(s) in response to broader needs.

