



# Recent STAR results from the RHIC Beam Energy Scan program

Róbert Vértesi

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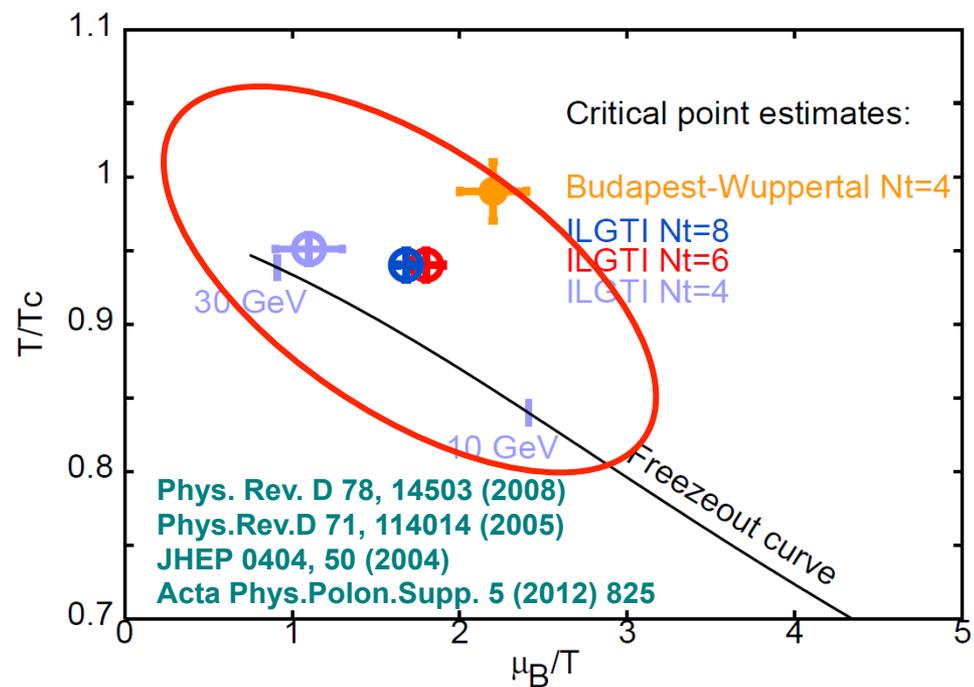
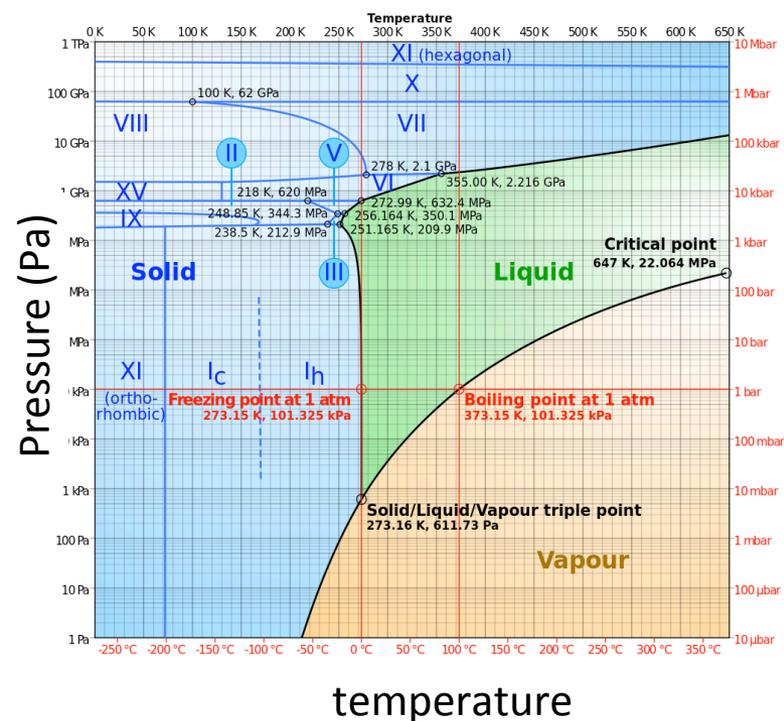
for the



# Motivation



- Experimental exploration of the **QCD phase diagram**
- Theory: Critical point may be around  $10 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 30$  GeV
- Vary  $T$ ,  $\mu_B$  by setting different **collision energy**, species
- **RHIC**: access to a wide range with the same apparatus

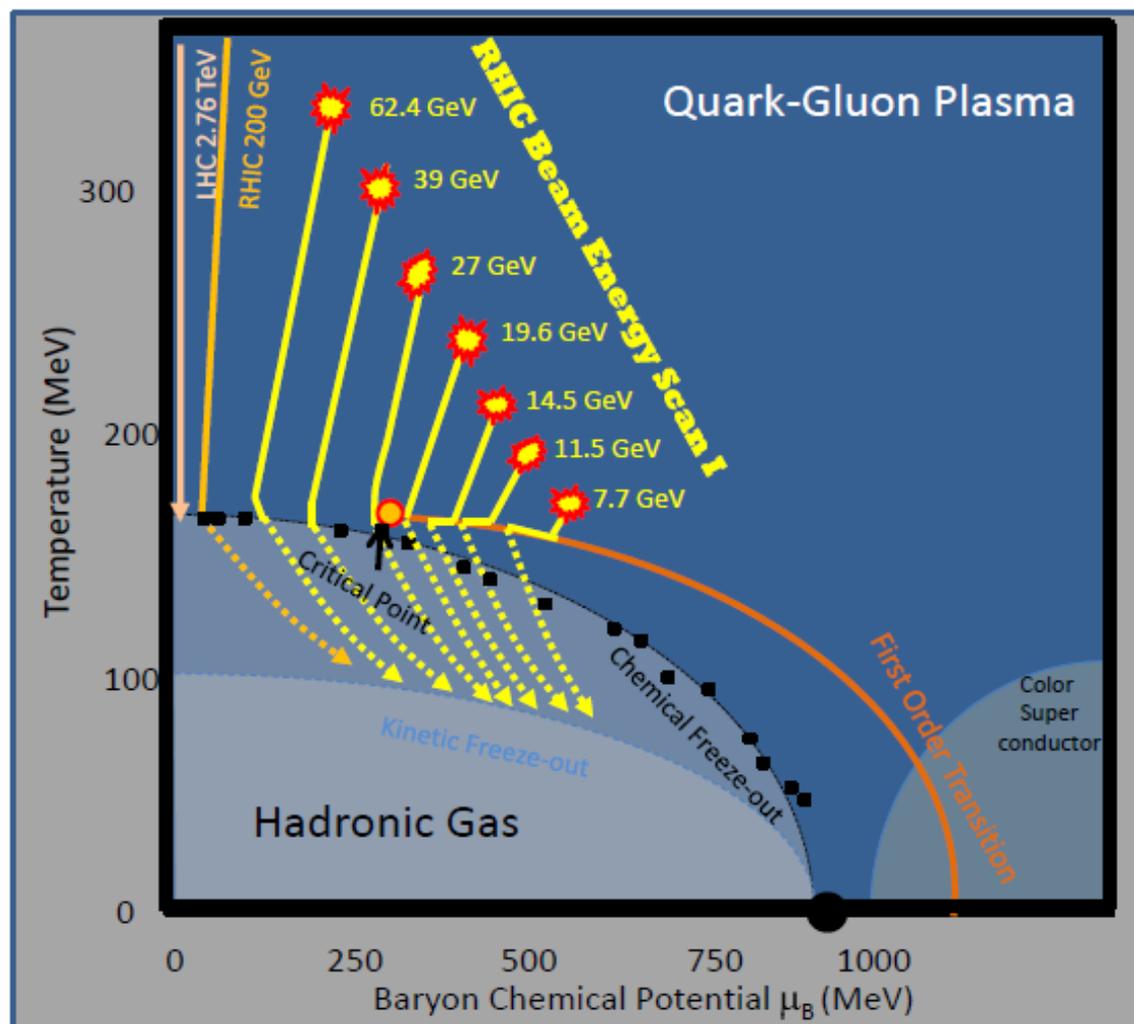


# Exploring the QCD phase diagram



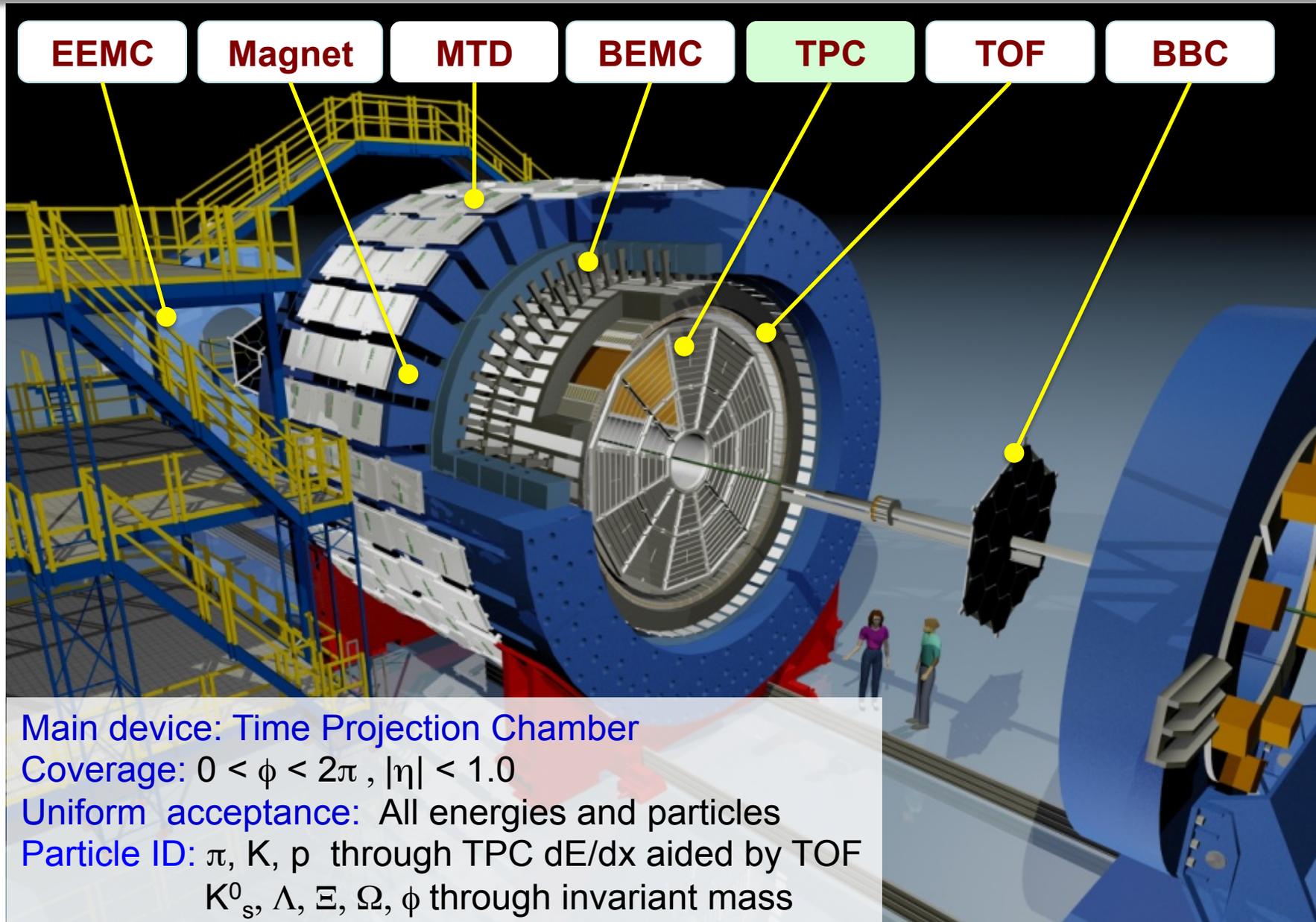
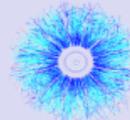
## Find...

- 1) Turn-off of sQGP signatures
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition signs
- 3) The QCD critical point



<http://arxiv.org/abs/1007.2613>

# STAR at RHIC



Main device: Time Projection Chamber

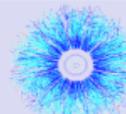
Coverage:  $0 < \phi < 2\pi$ ,  $|\eta| < 1.0$

Uniform acceptance: All energies and particles

Particle ID:  $\pi$ , K, p through TPC  $dE/dx$  aided by TOF

$K_s^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $\phi$  through invariant mass

# STAR BES-I



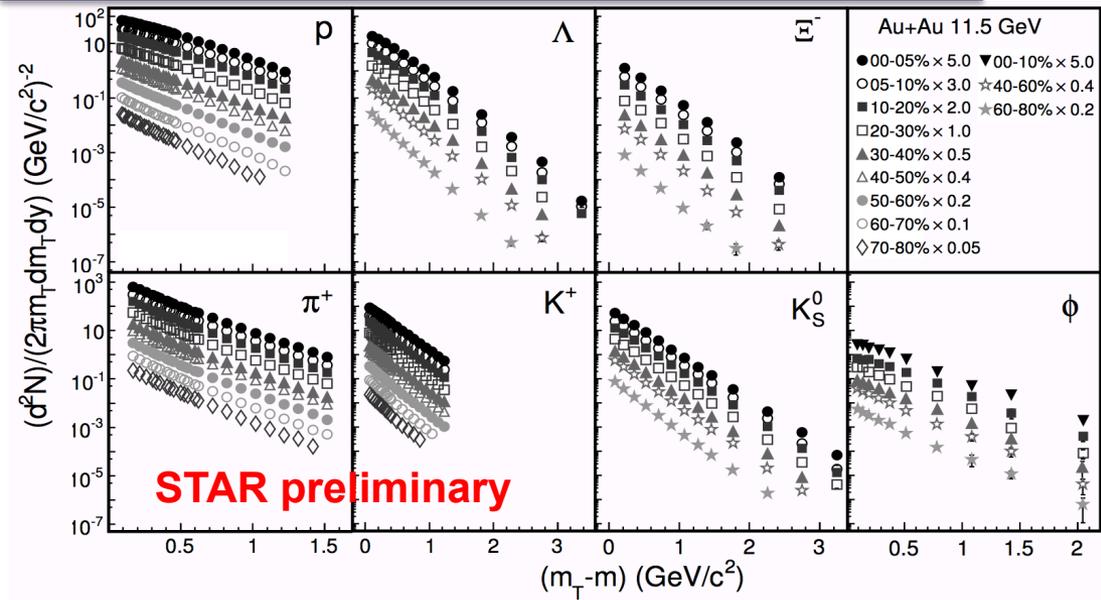
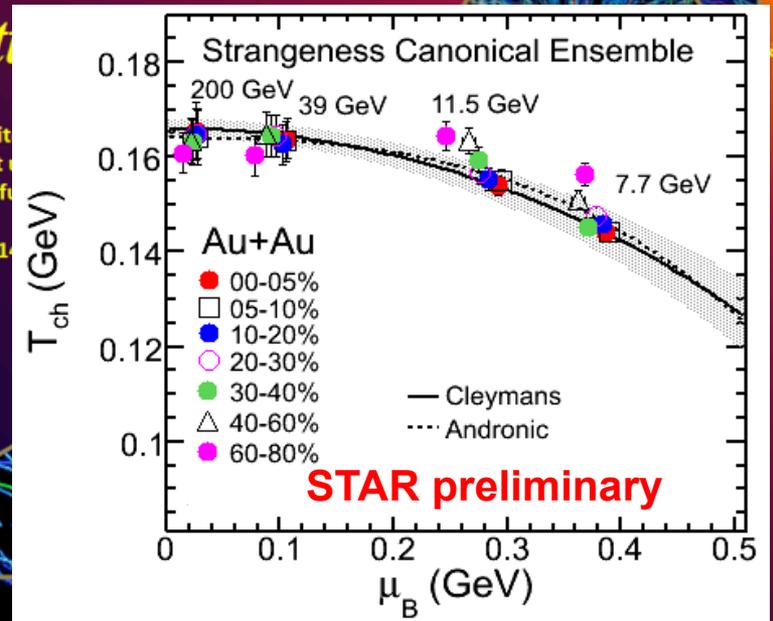
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	$\mu_B$ (MeV)	#Events	#Weeks	Year
200	20	350 M	11	2010
62.4	70	67 M	1.5	2010
39.0	115	130 M	2	2010
27.0	155	70 M	1	2011
19.6	205	36 M	1.5	2011
14.5	260	20 M	3	2014
11.5	315	12 M	2	2010
7.7	420	4 M	4	2010

*Studying the Phase Diagram of QCD*

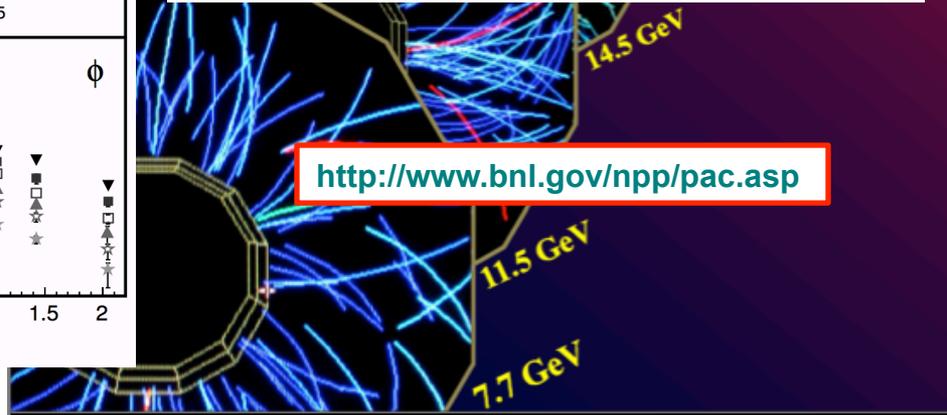
*Mat*

A STAR white the current describing f

01 June 201



<http://www.bnl.gov/npp/pac.asp>

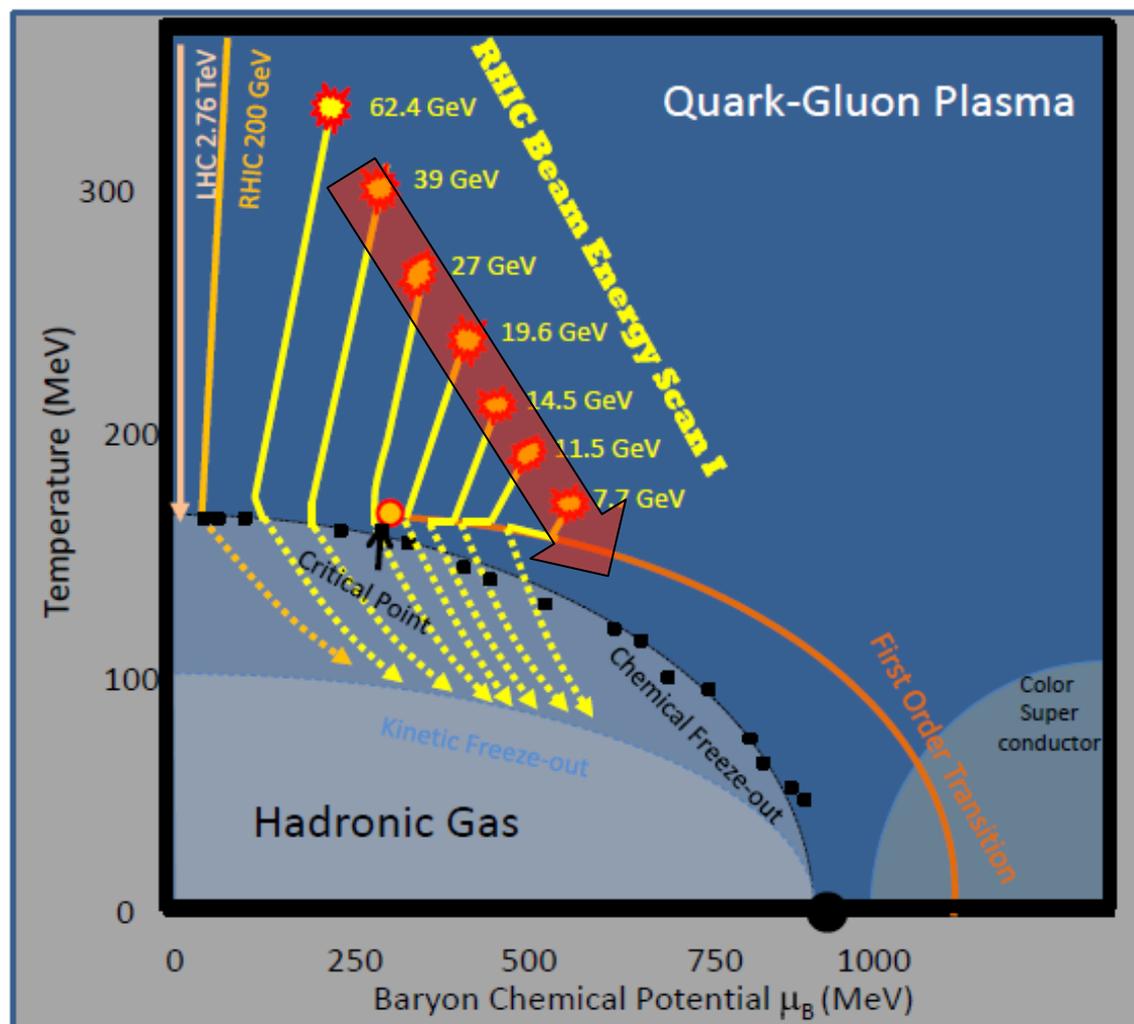


# Exploring the QCD phase diagram



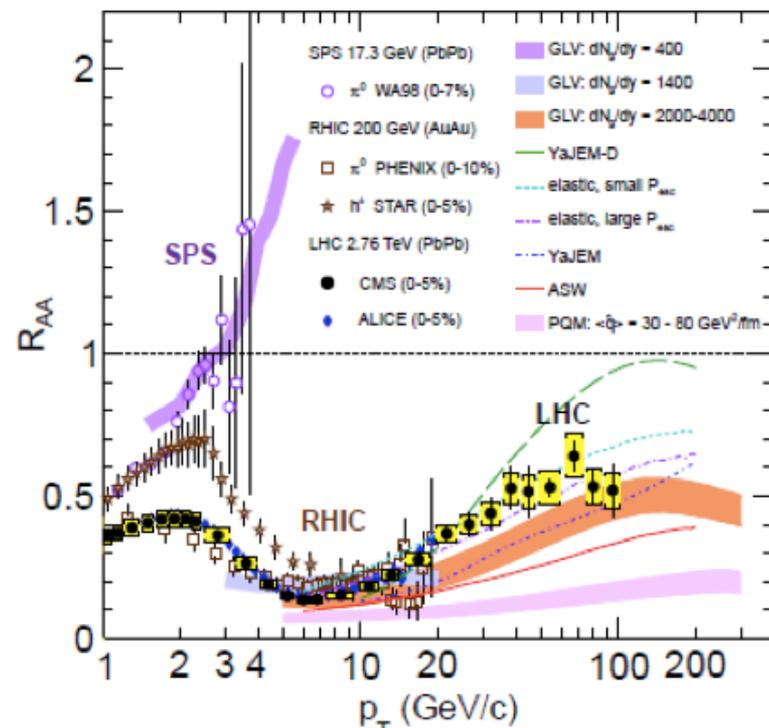
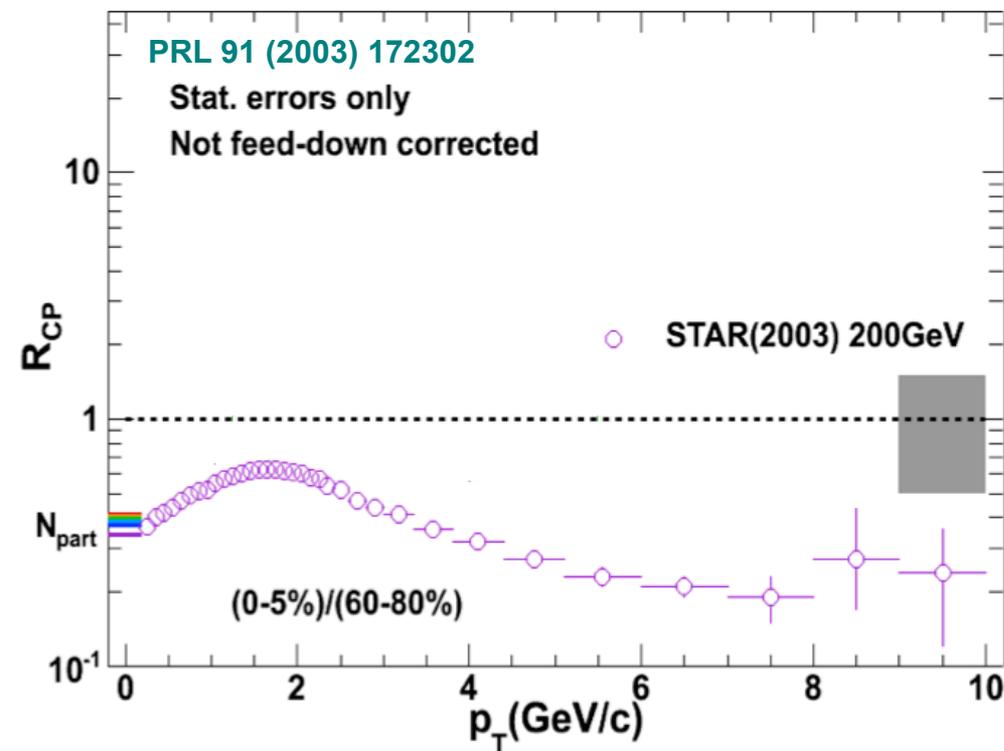
## Find...

- 1) Turn-off of sQGP signatures
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition signs
- 3) The QCD critical point



<http://arxiv.org/abs/1007.2613>

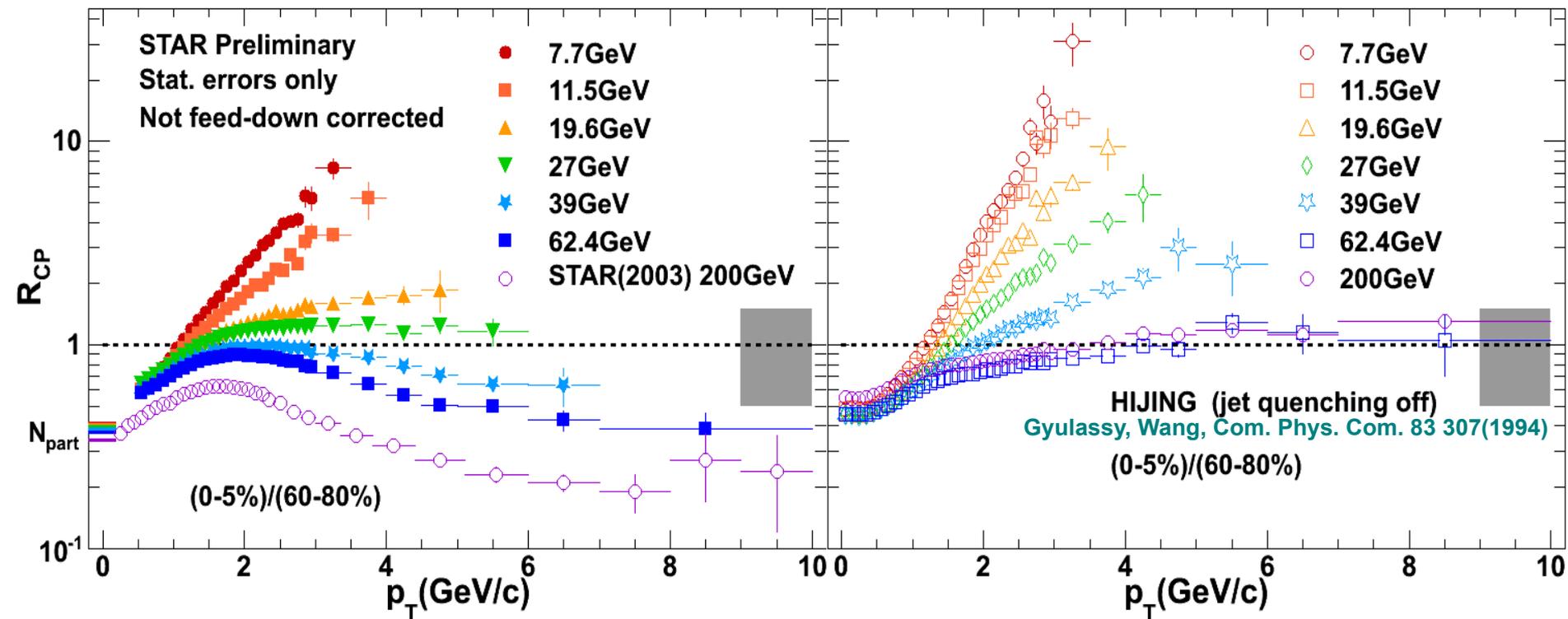
# Suppression of high- $p_T$ hadrons



Eur. Phys. Journal C72 (2012) 1945

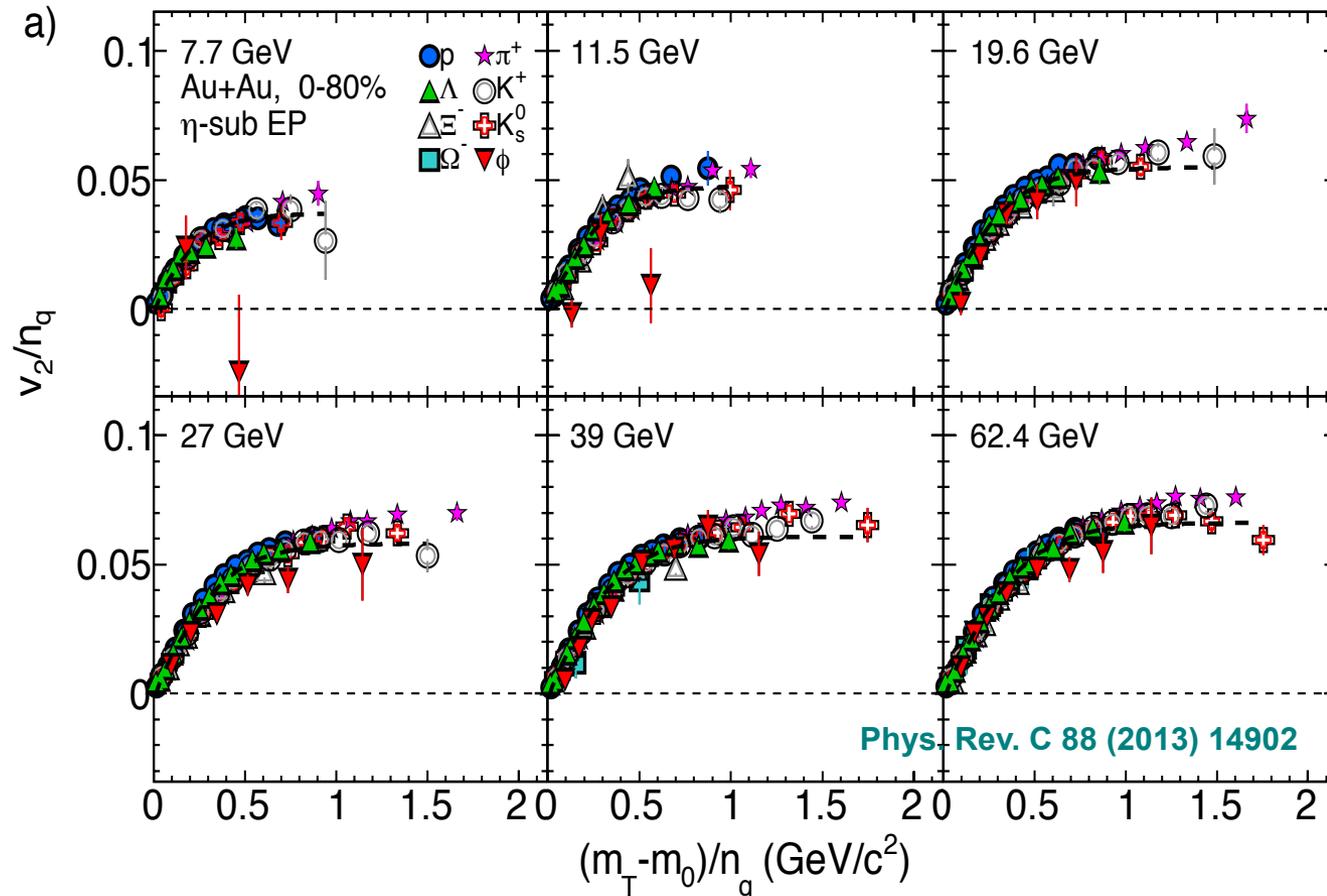
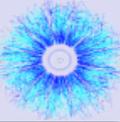
- Strong suppression in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions
- Present also in 2.76 TeV Pb+Pb collisions at LHC

# Suppression of high- $p_T$ hadrons



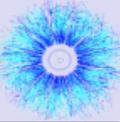
- Strong suppression in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions
- Present from 39 GeV to 2.76 TeV
- Enhancement at low energies
- Understanding: Cronin effect

# Elliptic flow ( $v_2$ ) – particles

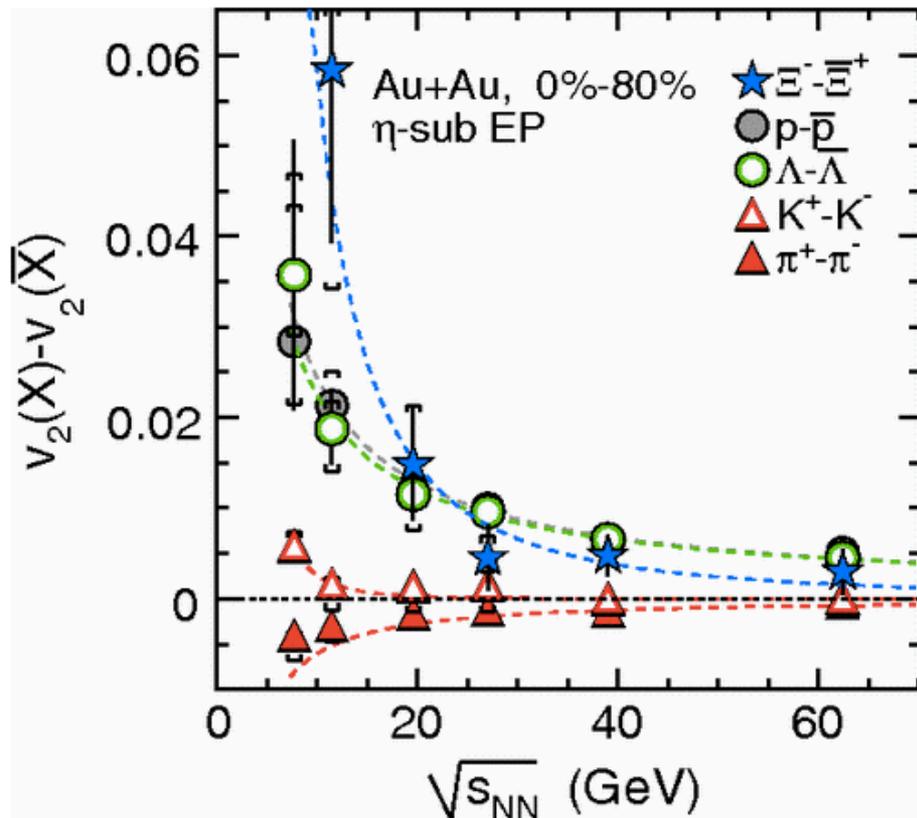


- Approximate NCQ scaling holds... DOF=quarks?
- Exception:  $\phi$  at 7.7 and 11.5 GeV
  - deviation  $\sim 2\sigma$  – more statistics needed

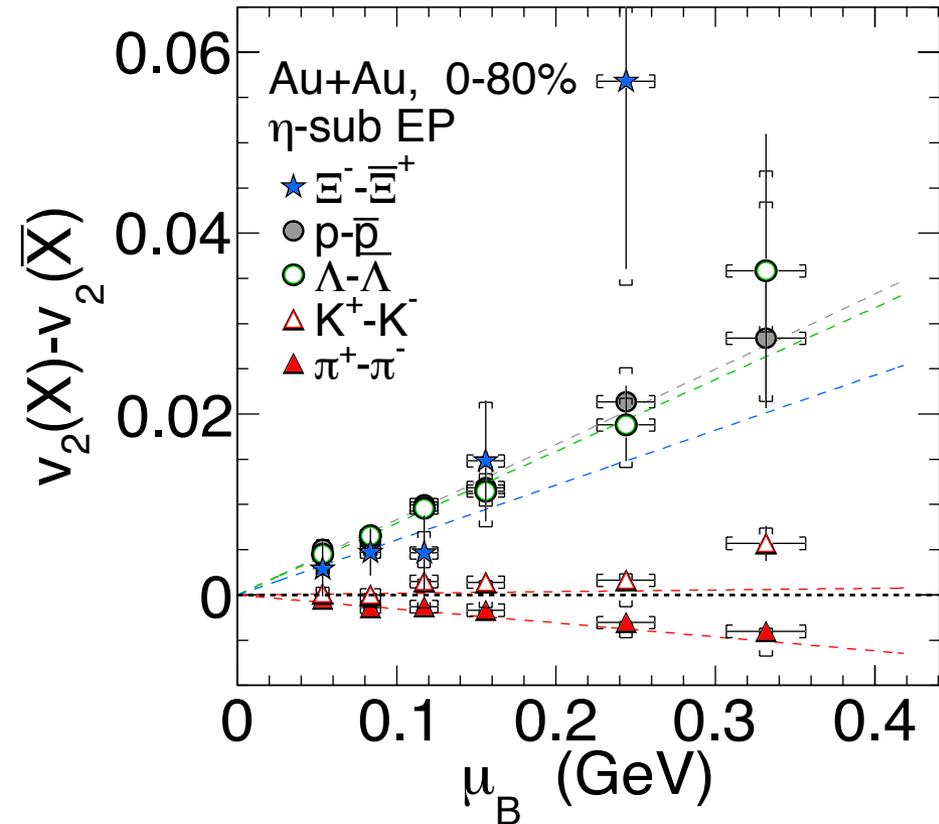
# $v_2$ particle – antiparticle



Phys.Rev.Lett. 110 (2013) 142301

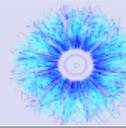


Phys. Rev. C 88 (2013) 14902



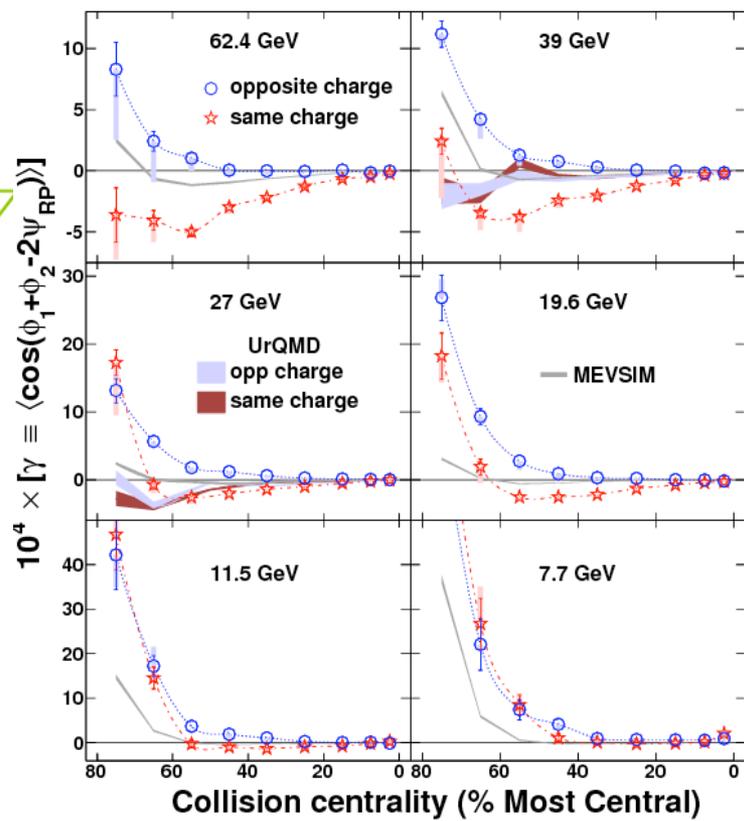
- Substantial particle-antiparticle split at lower  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$
- Linear dependence on the baryon chemical potential

# Chiral magnetic effect



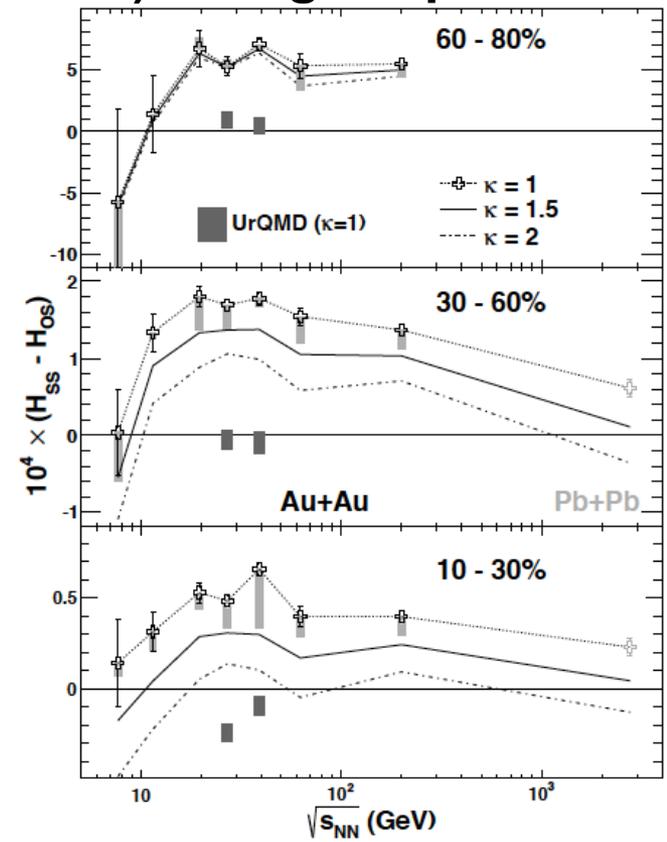
- QCD allows for local parity violation in sQGP
- Possible signatures:

## 1) Three-point correlator



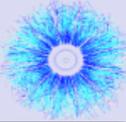
Phys.Rev.Lett. 113, 052302 (2014)

## 2) Charge separation



- Drop of charge separation below 11.5 GeV consistent with expectations in a dominant hadronic phase

# Exploring the QCD phase diagram

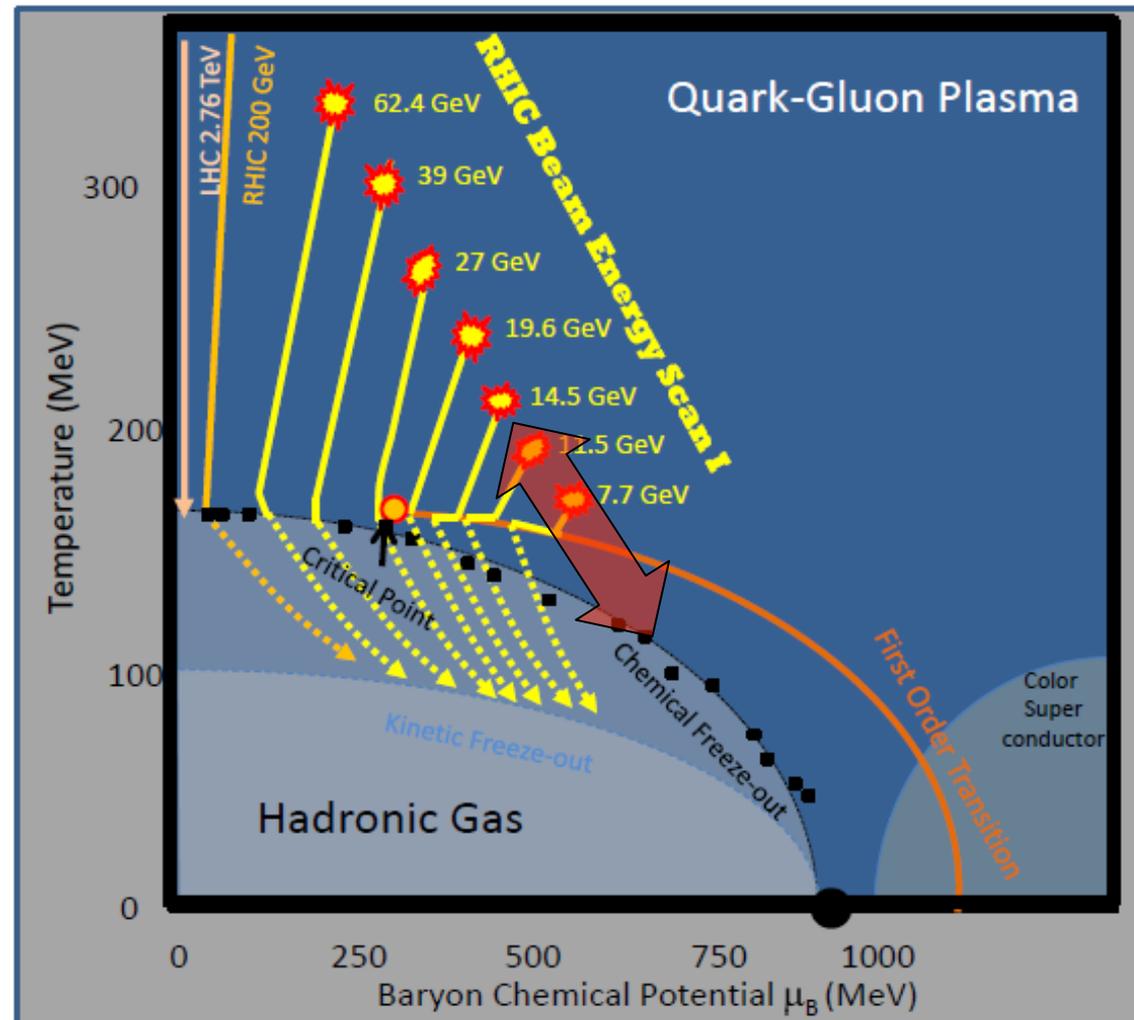


## Find...

1) Turn-off of sQGP signatures

2) 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition signs

3) The QCD critical point

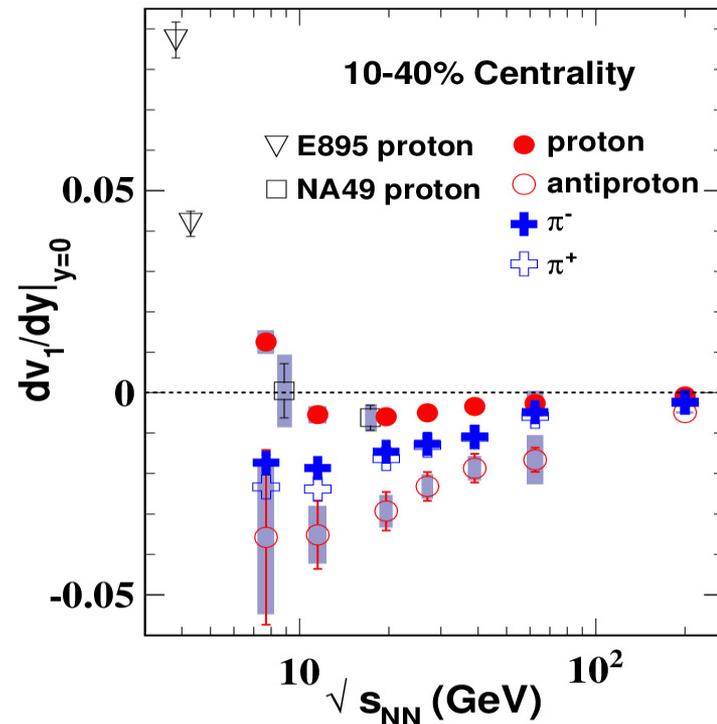
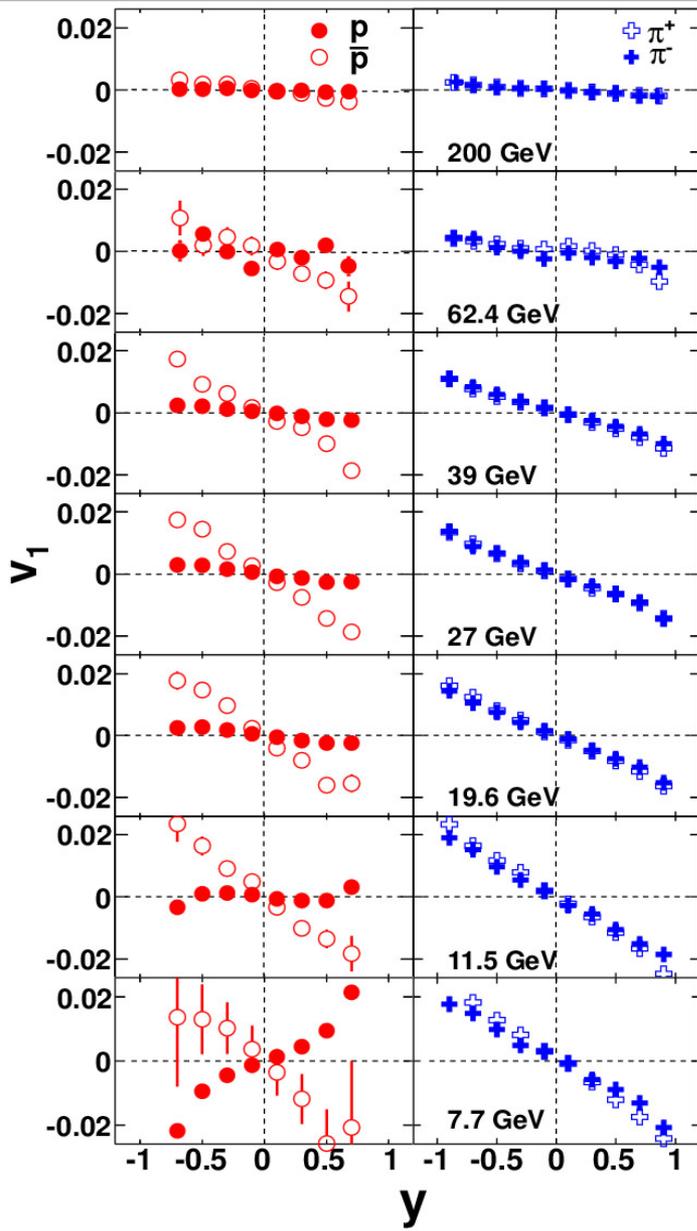


<http://arxiv.org/abs/1007.2613>

# Directed flow ( $v_1$ )

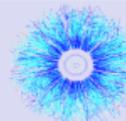


Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 162301 (2014)

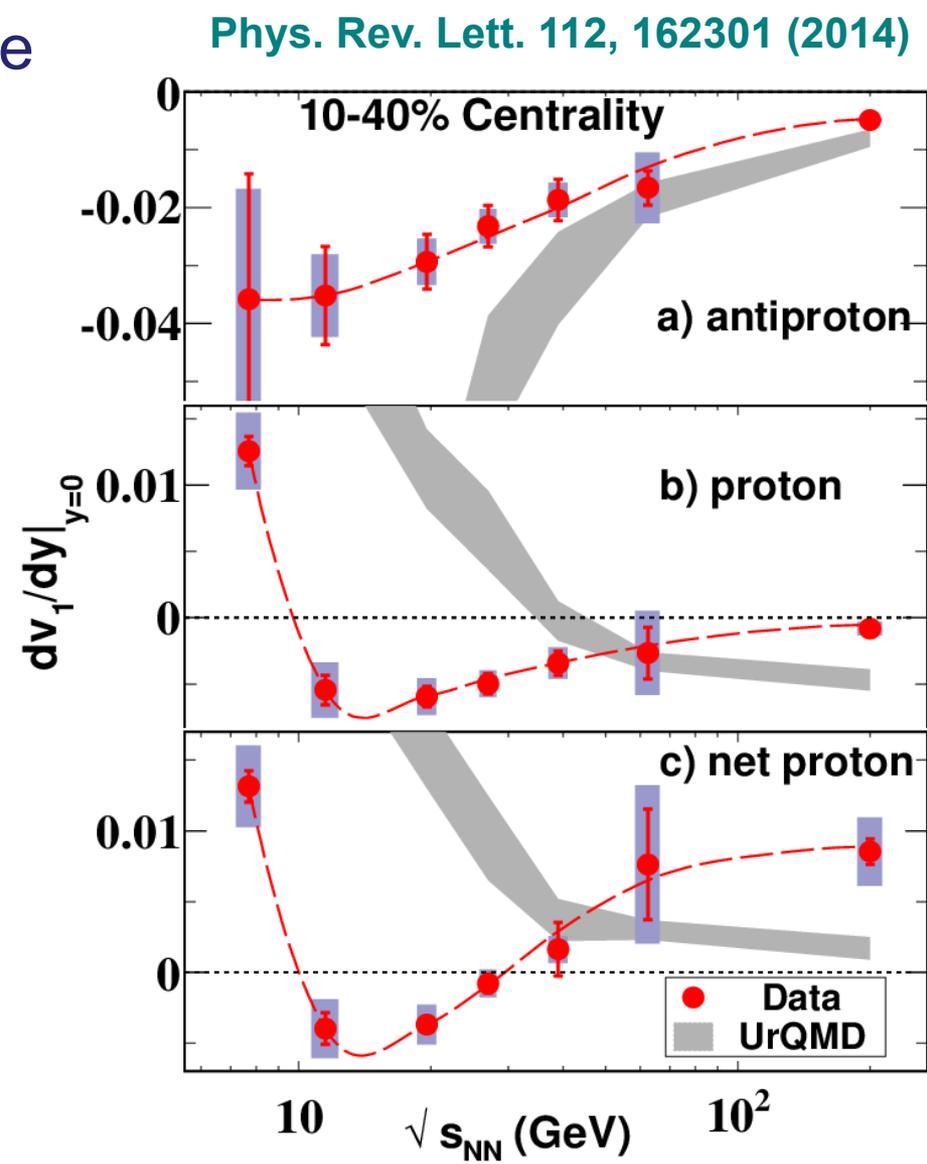
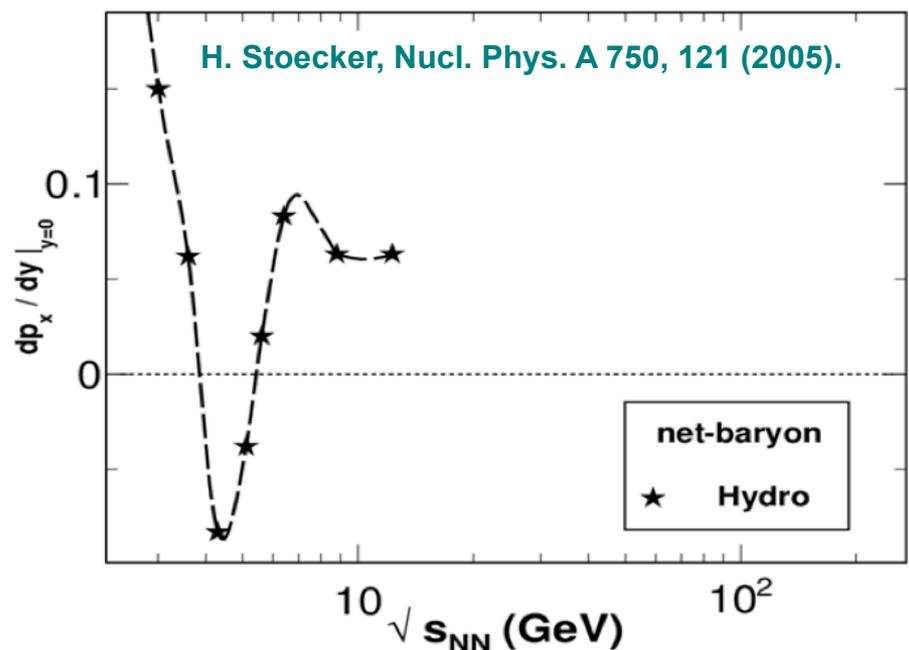


- Opposite charge pions follow the same trend
- Protons-antiprotons are different  
→ baryon number transport is important
- Proton  $v_1$  slope changes sign

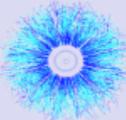
# Net proton $v_1$ slope



- Net protons: double sign change
  - Simple hydro predicts structure
  - More sophisticated UrQMD fails
  
- Softening of EOS?
  - Expected in mixed phase

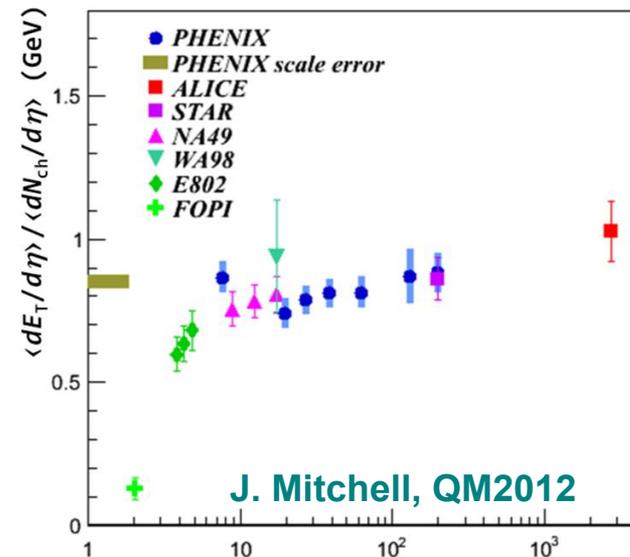
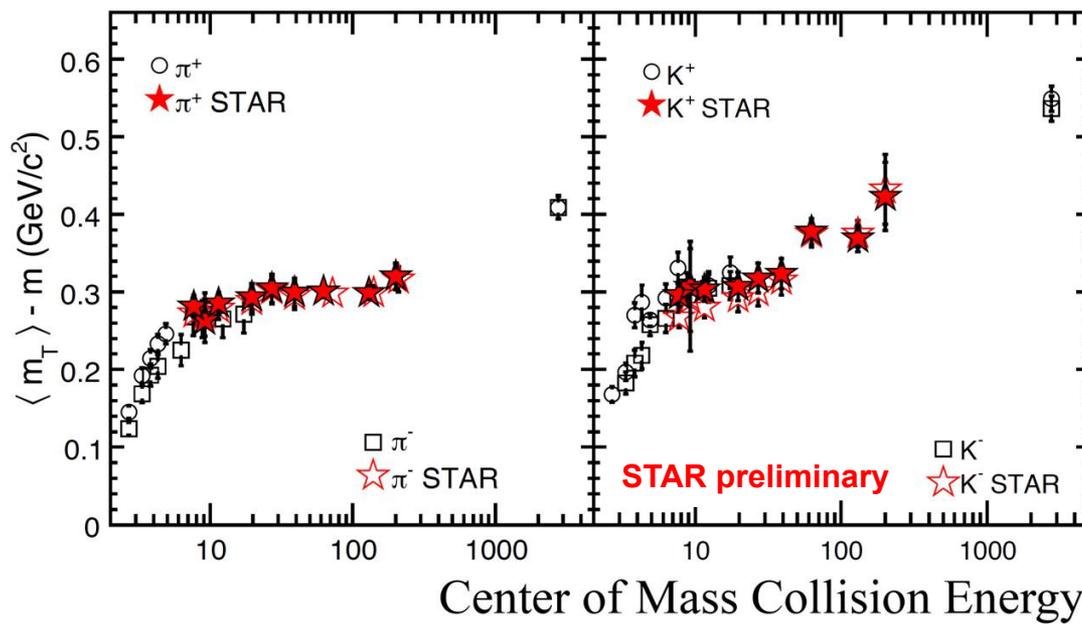
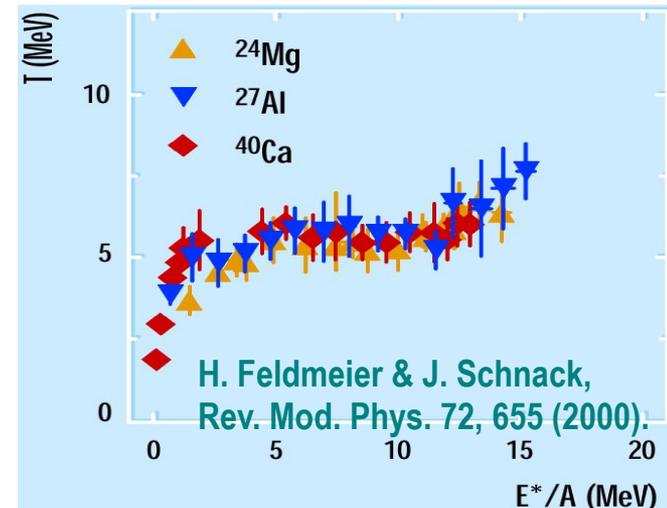


# Caloric curve



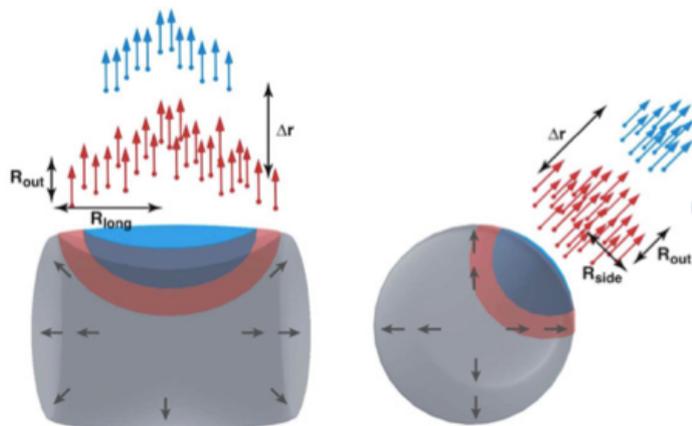
- 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition  
→  $T(E)$  plateau
- Similar feature in RHIC data!
  - $\langle m_T \rangle$  is related to temperature
  - $E_T$  is related to energy density

## nuclear liquid-vapor PT



# HBT radii (pions)

→ Martin Girard:  
Kaon BES HBT

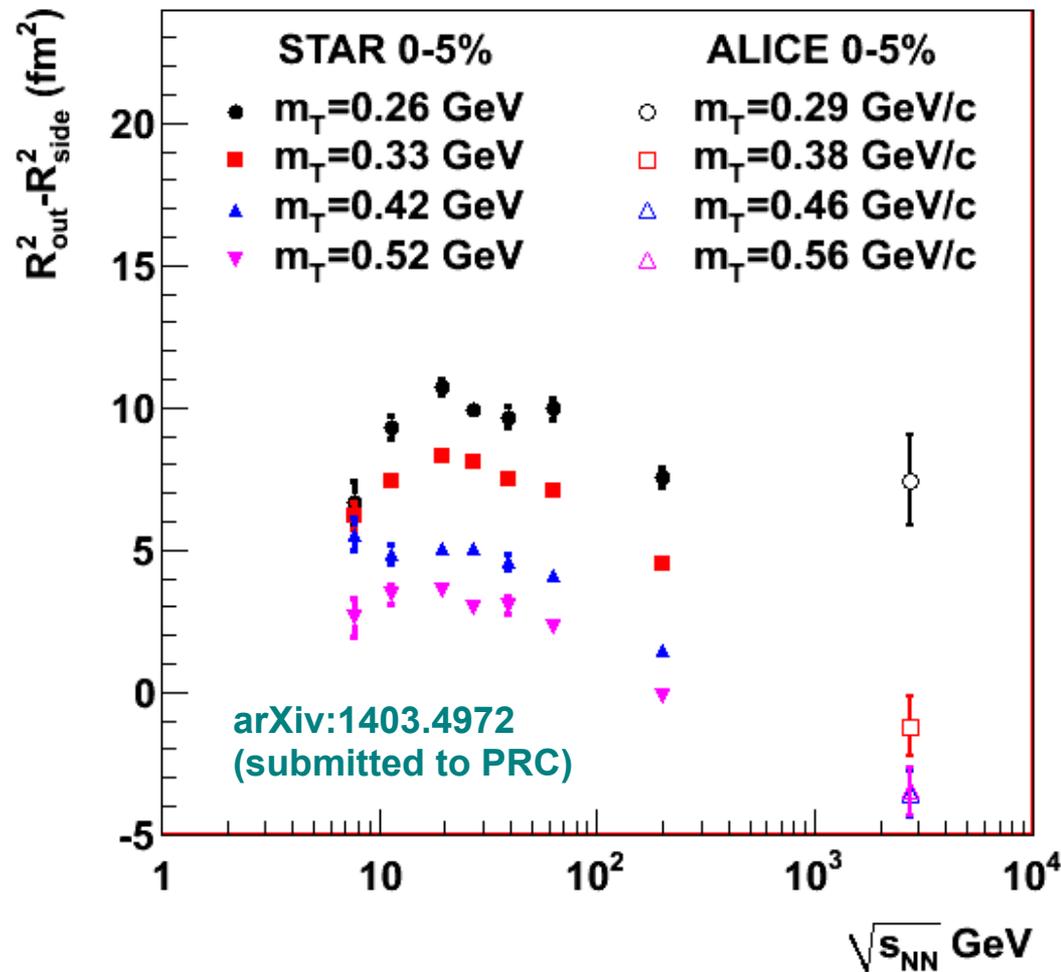


$$R_{side}^2 = \frac{R_{geo}^2}{1 + \frac{m_T}{T} \beta_T^2}$$

Makhlin, Sinyukov,  
ZPC.39.69 (1988)

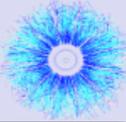
$$R_{out}^2 = \frac{R_{geo}^2}{1 + \frac{m_T}{T} \beta_T^2} + \beta_T^2 (\Delta \tau)^2$$

$$R_{long}^2 \approx \tau^2 \frac{T}{m_T} \frac{K_2}{K_1}$$



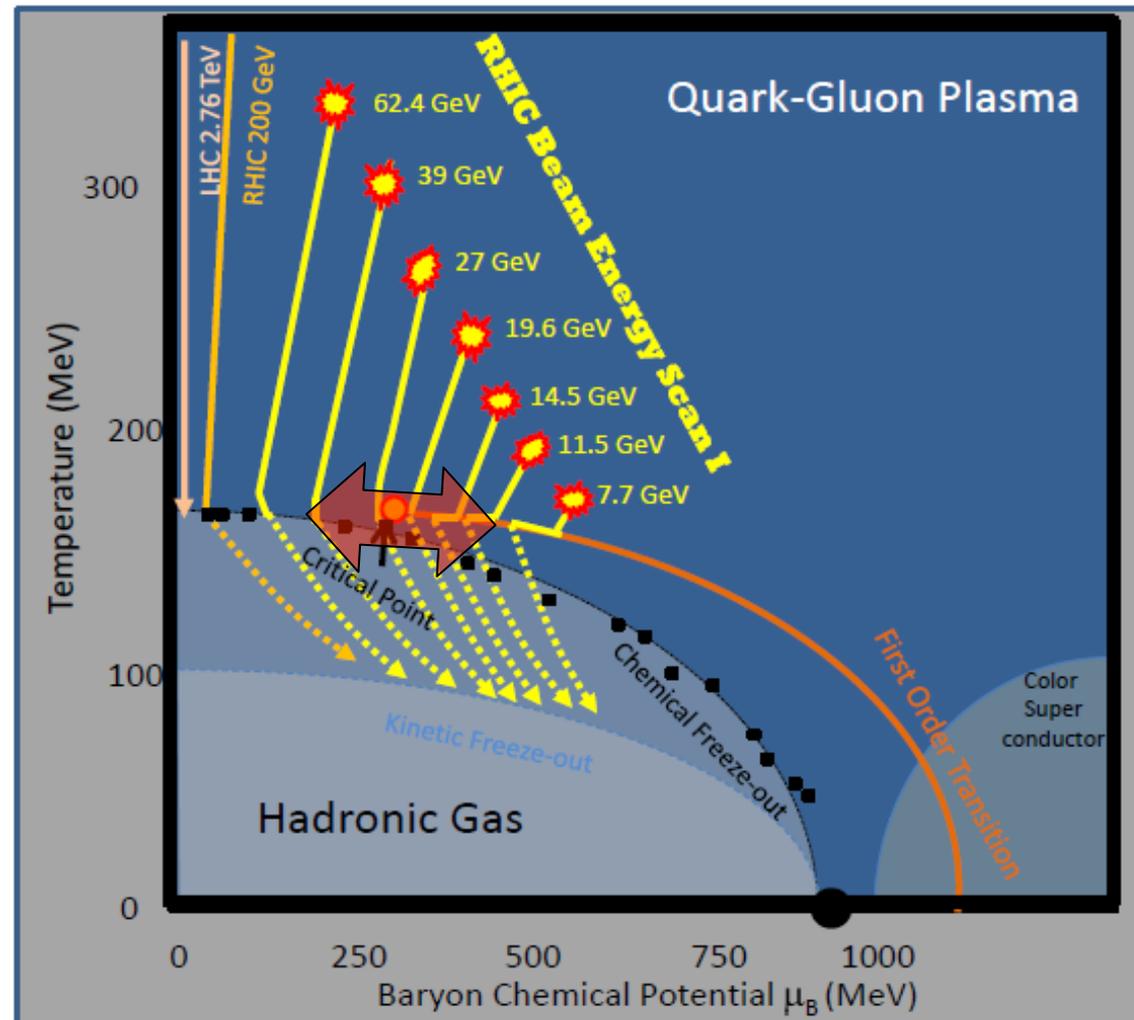
- 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition – longer emission duration expected
- Non-monotonicity  $R_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2$  may indicate changes in dynamics

# Exploring the QCD phase diagram

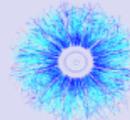


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# Net proton multiplicity moments



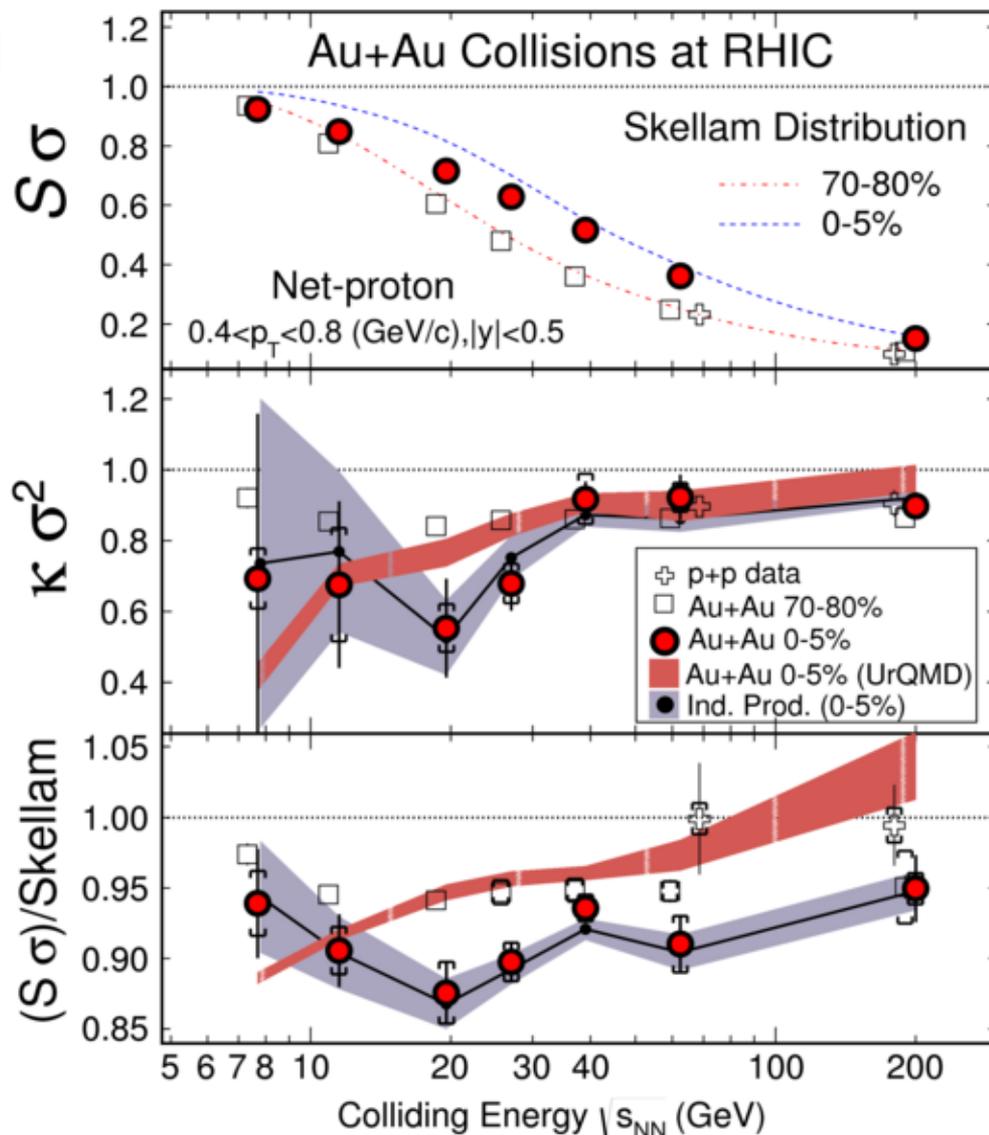
- Susceptibilities of conserved quantities (Q, B, S)
- Related to multiplicity distribution moments
- Volume effect  $\rightarrow$  ratios

$$\chi_B^{(n)} = \left. \frac{\partial^n (P/T^4)}{\partial (\mu_B/T)^n} \right|_T$$

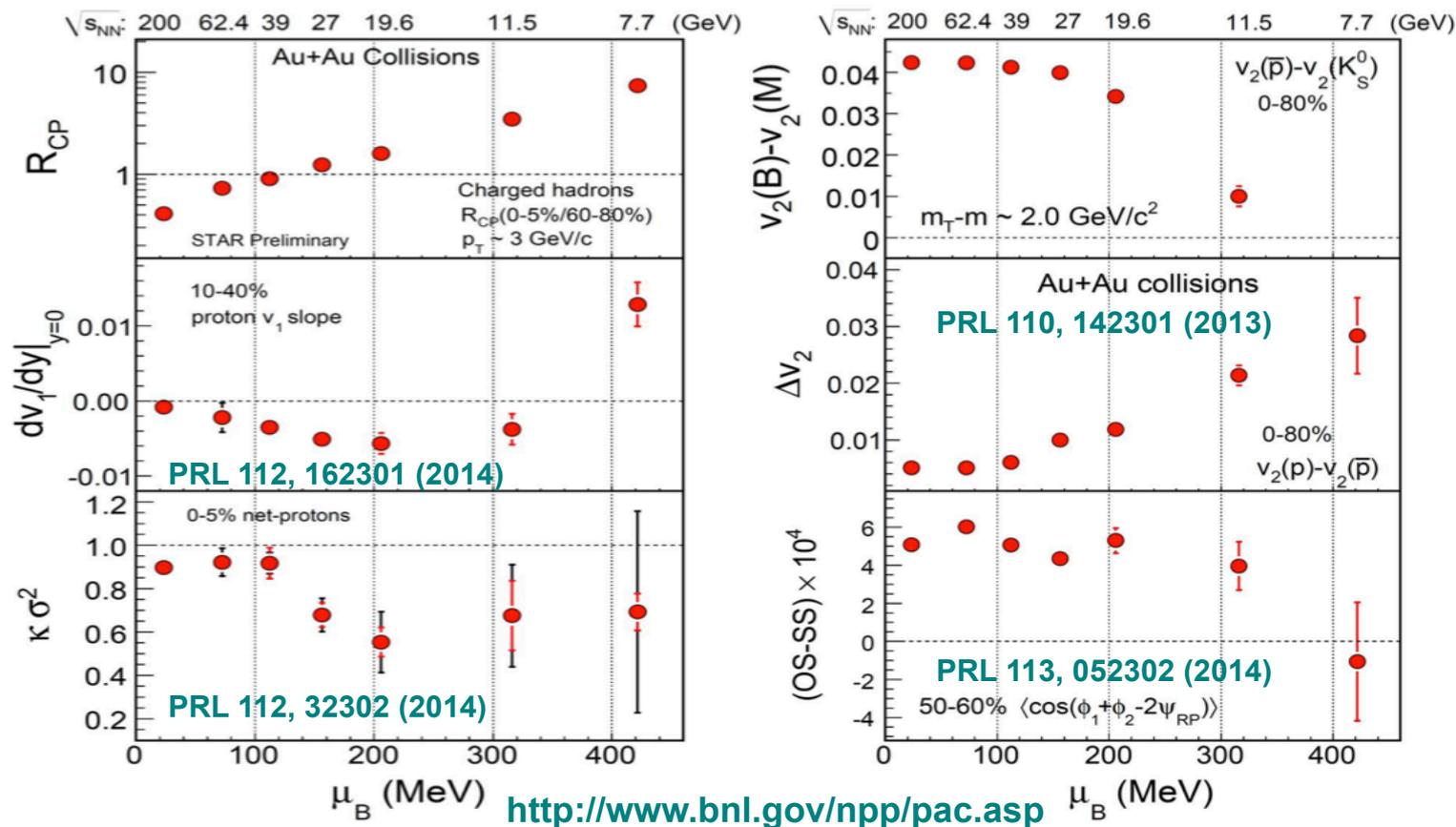
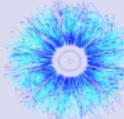
$$\chi_B^4 / \chi_B^2 = (\kappa \sigma^2)_B$$

$$\chi_B^3 / \chi_B^2 = (S\sigma)_B$$

- Non-monotonic behavior?
- **Net proton mult.:** maybe, but we need more statistics!

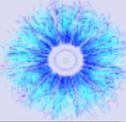


# BES I – highlights



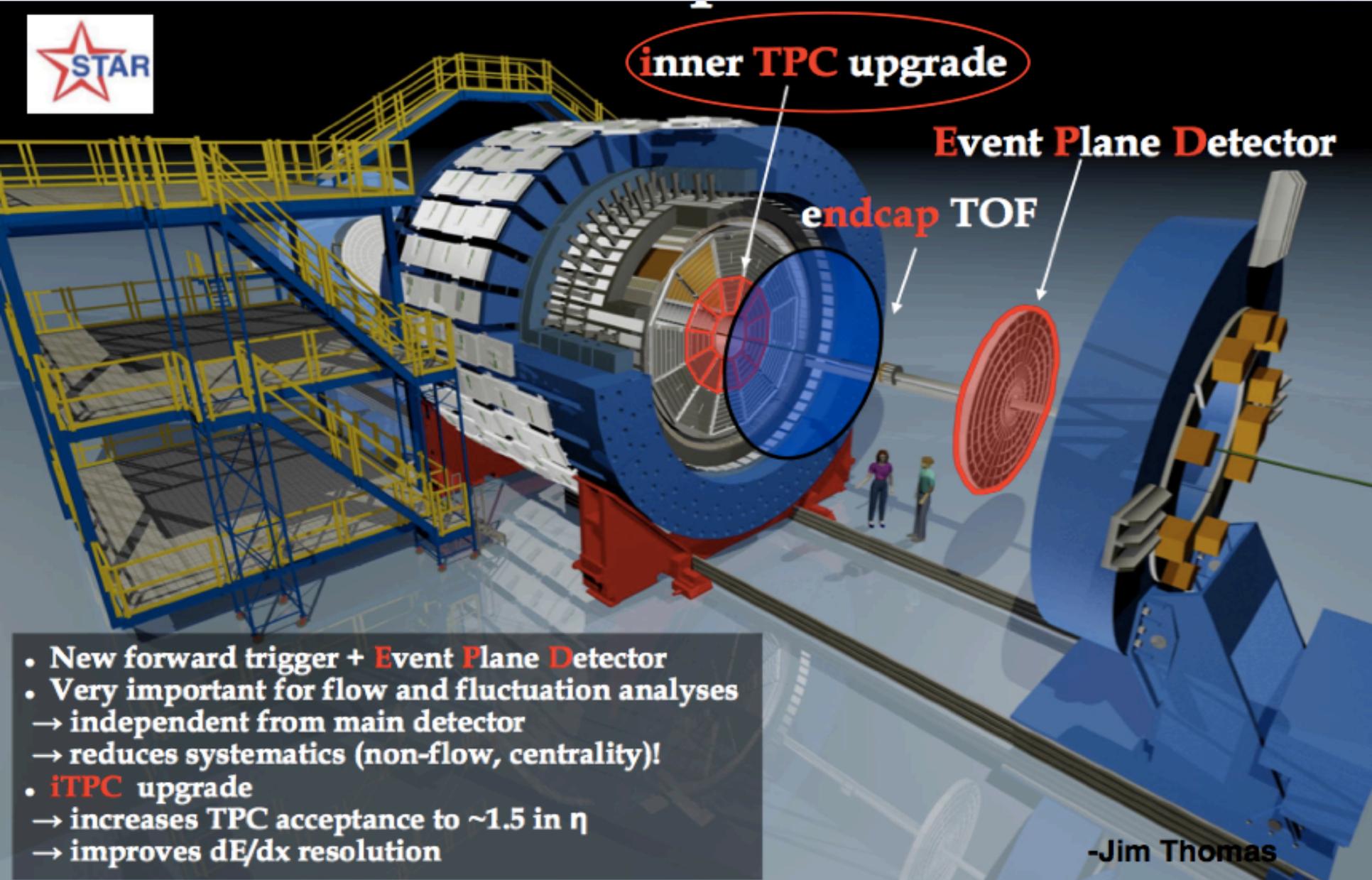
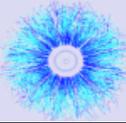
- A wide range of potential sQGP/PT/CP signatures measured
- Some key observables identified, interesting region localized
- Many of these require better statistics / detector performance

# BES II plan



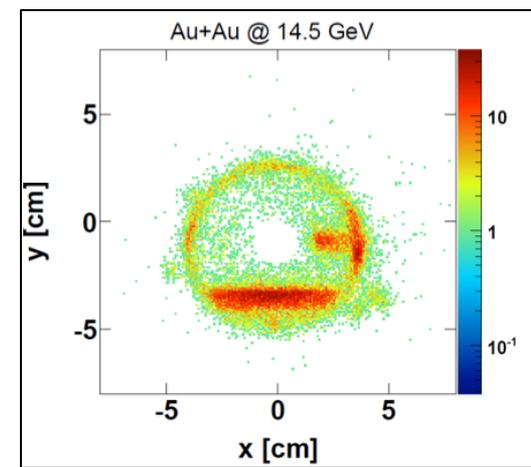
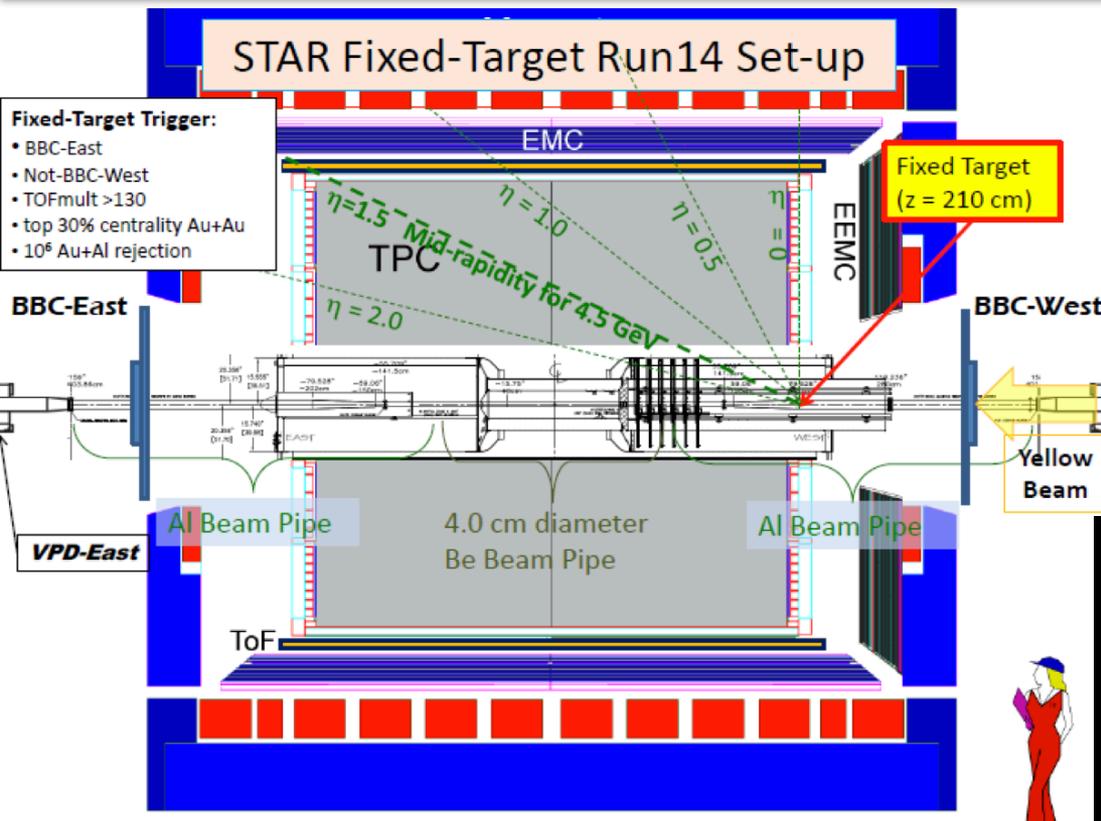
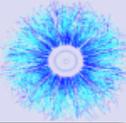
Collision Energies (GeV):		7.7	9.1	11.5	14.5	19.6
Chemical Potential (MeV):		420	370	315	260	205
Observables		Millions of Events Needed				
QGP	$R_{CP}$ up to $p_T$ 4.5 GeV	NA	NA	160	92	22
	Elliptic Flow of $\phi$ meson ( $v_2$ )	100	150	200	300	400
	Local Parity Violation (CME)	50	50	50	50	50
1st P.T.	Directed Flow studies ( $v_1$ )	50	75	100	100	200
	asHBT (proton-proton)	35	40	50	65	80
C.P.	net-proton kurtosis ( $\kappa\sigma^2$ )	80	100	120	200	400
EM Probes	Dileptons	100	160	230	300	400
	<b>Proposed Number of Events:</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>400</b>

# STAR upgrades for BES II

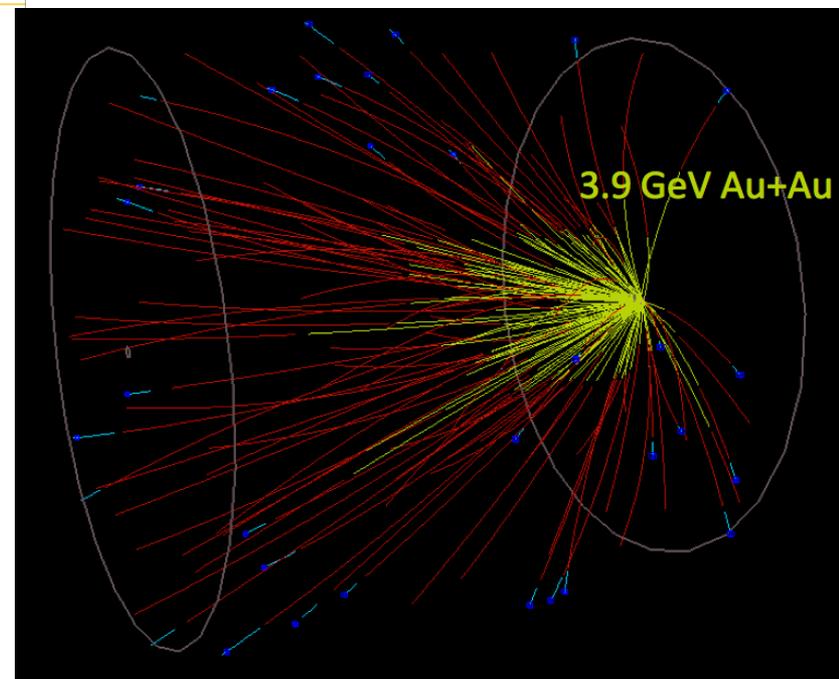


- New forward trigger + **Event Plane Detector**
- Very important for flow and fluctuation analyses
  - independent from main detector
  - reduces systematics (non-flow, centrality)!
- **iTPC** upgrade
  - increases TPC acceptance to  $\sim 1.5$  in  $\eta$
  - improves  $dE/dx$  resolution

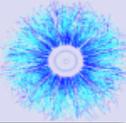
# Fixed target program at STAR



- Target inserted into beam pipe
- Only a small percentage
- Does not interfere with collider mode data taking



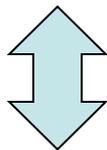
# Fixed target program at STAR



- Extend range towards higher  $\mu_B$

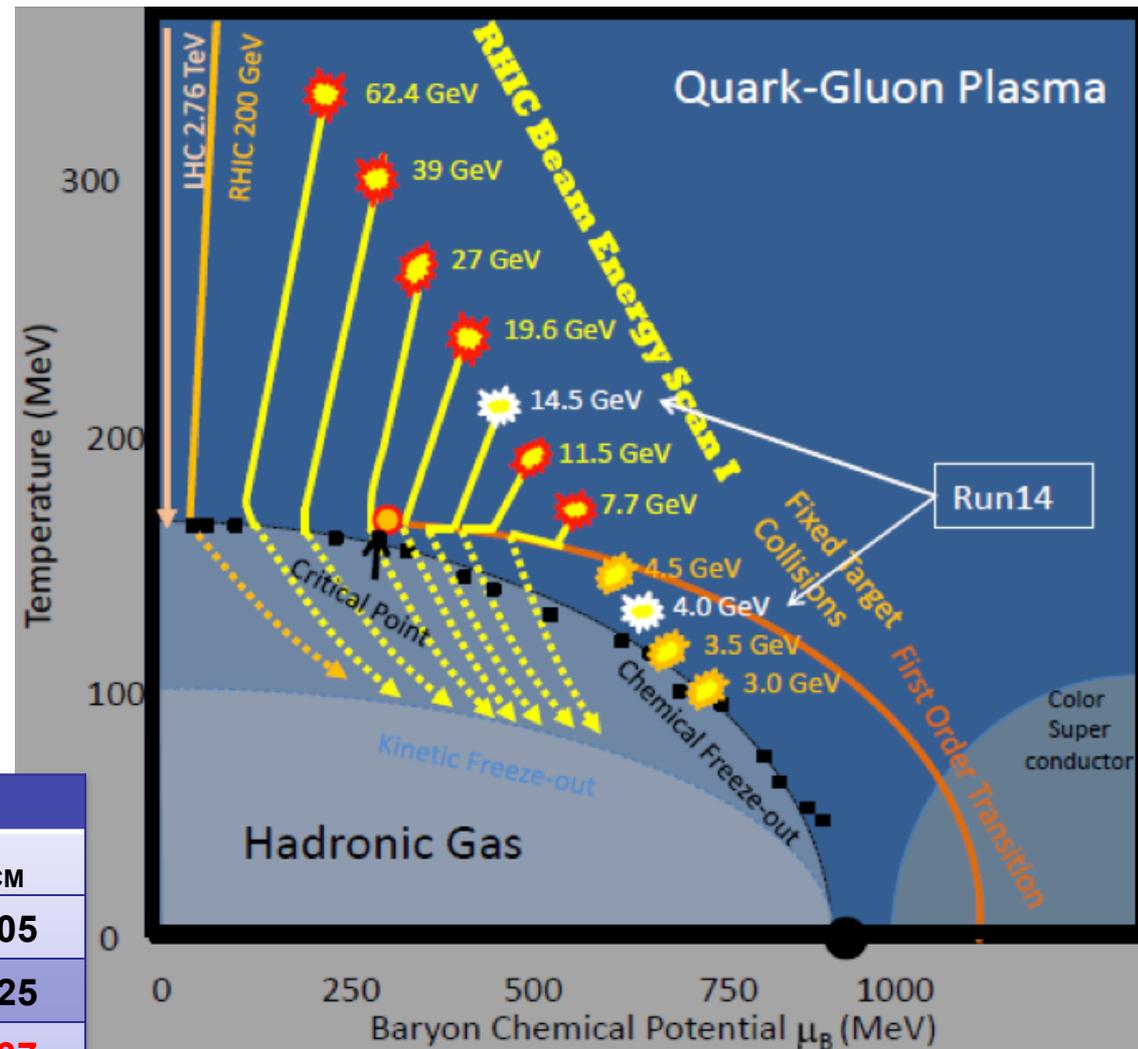
- Started in 2014

Collider mode 14.5 GeV



Fixed target 3.9 GeV

Collider mode $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Fixed target		
	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	$\mu_B$ (MeV)	$y_{CM}$
7.7	3.0	720	1.05
11.5	3.5	670	1.25
14.5	3.9	633	1.37
19.6	4.5	585	1.52



# STAR Long-Term Plan

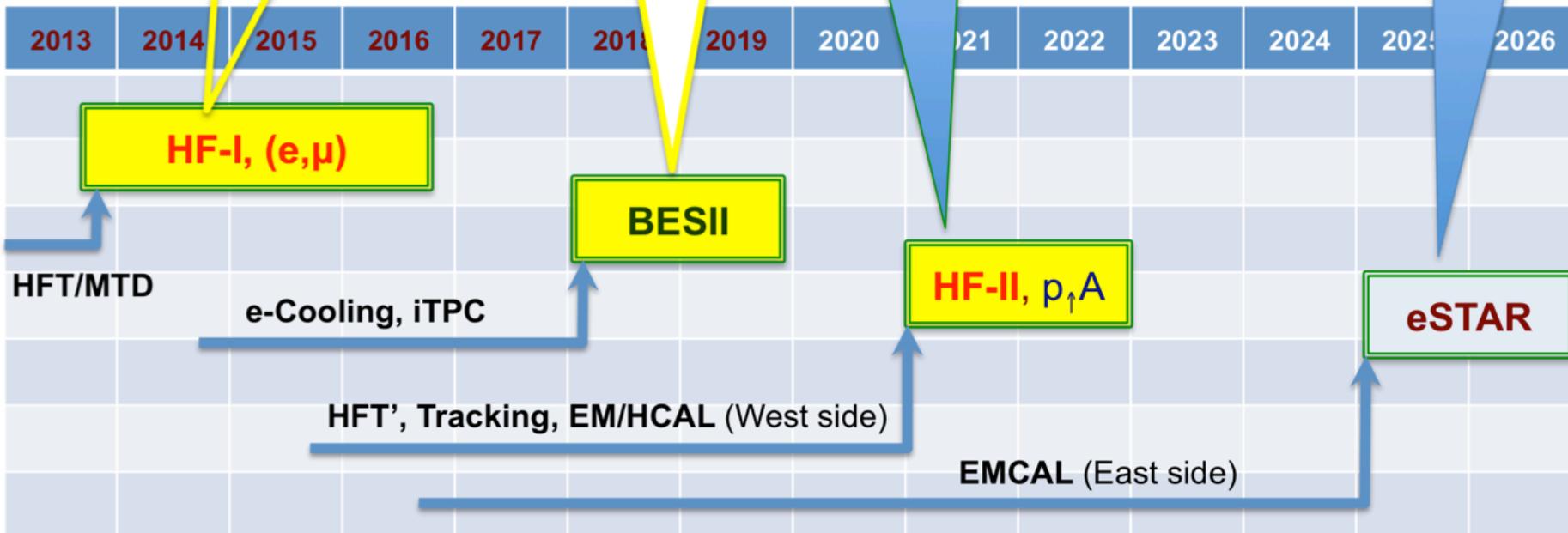


- HFT: Charm  
- Di-lepton  
***sQGP properties***

- QCD phase structure  
- Critical Point

**AA:** HFT<sup>†</sup>:  $B, \Lambda_C$   
Jet,  $\gamma$ -jet  
**pA:** CNM,  $p$ -spin

Phase structure  
with dense  
gluon

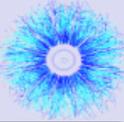


physics

upgrade

<https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0592>

# Summary



**BES-I** covers the right (wide)  $\mu_B$  range

- Interesting behavior seen:
  - sQGP-turnoff:  $R_{CP}$ ,  $\Delta v_2$ , chiral magnetic effect
  - Phase transition: non-monotonic  $v_1$ , HBT radii, caloric curve
  - Critical point: Net-proton moments
  - ...and much more!

**BES-II** more statistics in a finer scan between 7-20 GeV

- Decisive measurements of likely signatures
- New measurements

Toward understanding the QCD phase diagram

# Thank You!

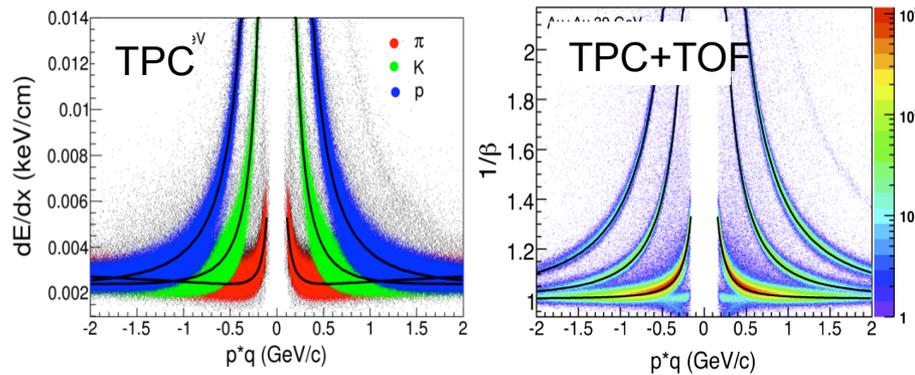
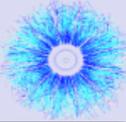


Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439  
 Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973  
 University of California, Berkeley, California 94720  
 University of California, Davis, California 95616  
 University of California, Los Angeles, California 90095  
 Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
 University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60607  
 Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska 68178  
 Czech Technical University in Prague, FNSPE, Prague, 115 19,  
 Czech Republic  
 Nuclear Physics Institute AS CR, 250 68 Řež/Prague, Czech  
 Republic  
 University of Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany  
 Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar 751005, India  
 Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, India  
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47408  
 Alikhanov Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics,  
 Moscow, Russia  
 University of Jammu, Jammu 180001, India  
 Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, 141 980, Russia  
 Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242  
 University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, 40506-0055  
 Institute of Modern Physics, Lanzhou, China  
 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California  
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 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA  
 Max-Planck-Institut für Physik, Munich, Germany  
 Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824  
 Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, Moscow Russia

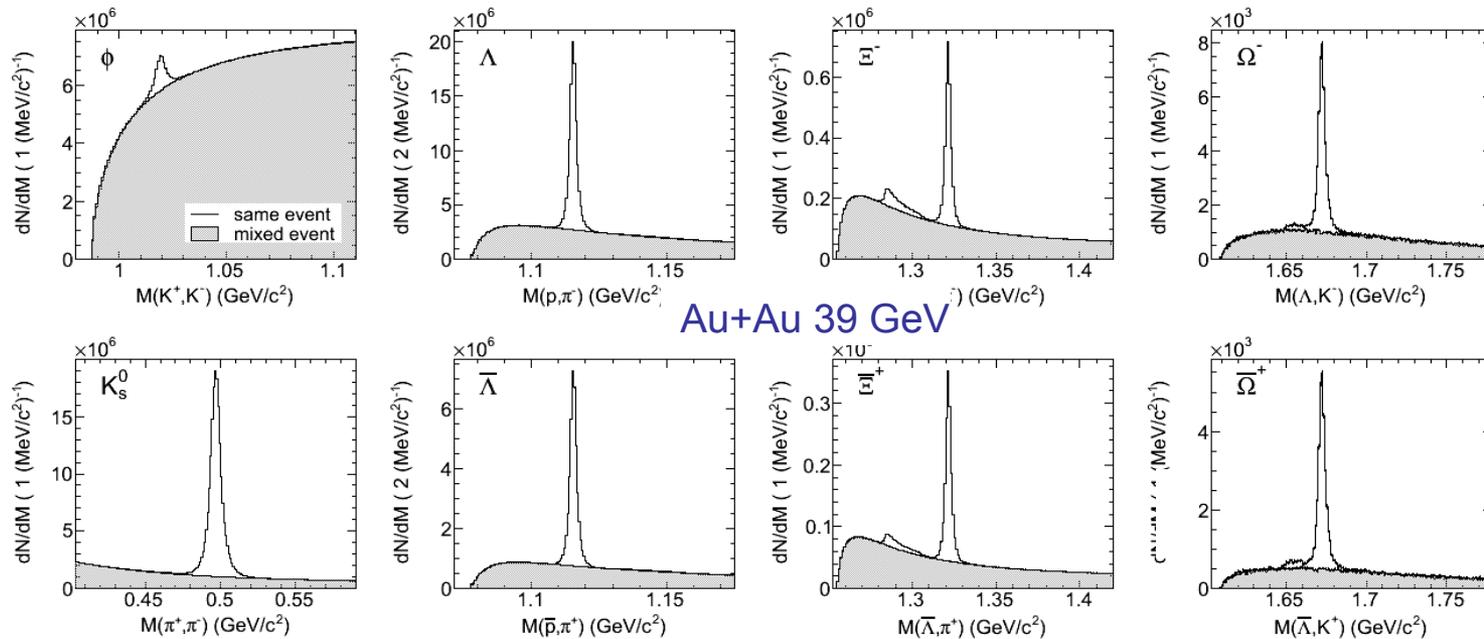
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 Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, 23529  
 Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014, India  
 Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania  
 16802  
 Institute of High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia  
 Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907  
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 University of Houston, Houston, TX, 77204  
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 United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402  
 Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana 46383  
 Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre, Kolkata 700064, India  
 Warsaw University of Technology, Warsaw, Poland  
 University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195  
 Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201  
 Institute of Particle Physics, CCNU (HZNU), Wuhan 430079, China  
 Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520  
 University of Zagreb, Zagreb, HR-10002, Croatia

## STAR Collaboration

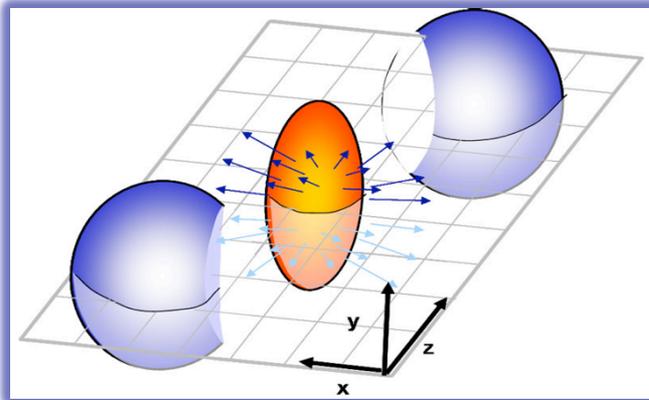
# Particle Identification



PID (TPC+TOF):  
 $\pi/K$ :  $p_T \sim 1.6$  GeV/c  
 $p$ :  $p_T \sim 3.0$  GeV/c  
 Strange hadrons:  
 decay topology & invariant mass



# Azimuthal Anisotropy



$$\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto \left( 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} v_n \cos[n(\varphi - \psi_n)] \right)$$

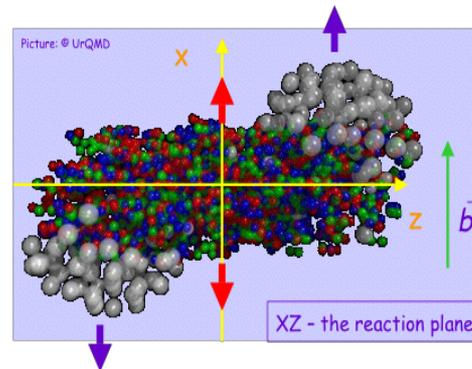
**Directed flow** is quantified by the first harmonic:

$$v_1 = \langle \cos(\phi - \Psi_r) \rangle$$

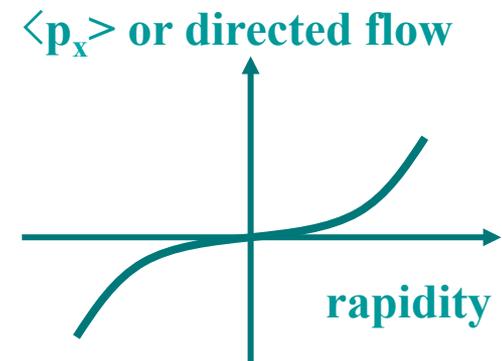
$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{p_x}{p_y} \right)$$

- Directed flow is due to the sideward motion of the particles within the reaction plane.
- Generated already during the nuclear passage time ( $2R/\gamma \approx .1 \text{ fm}/c @ 200 \text{ GeV}$ )

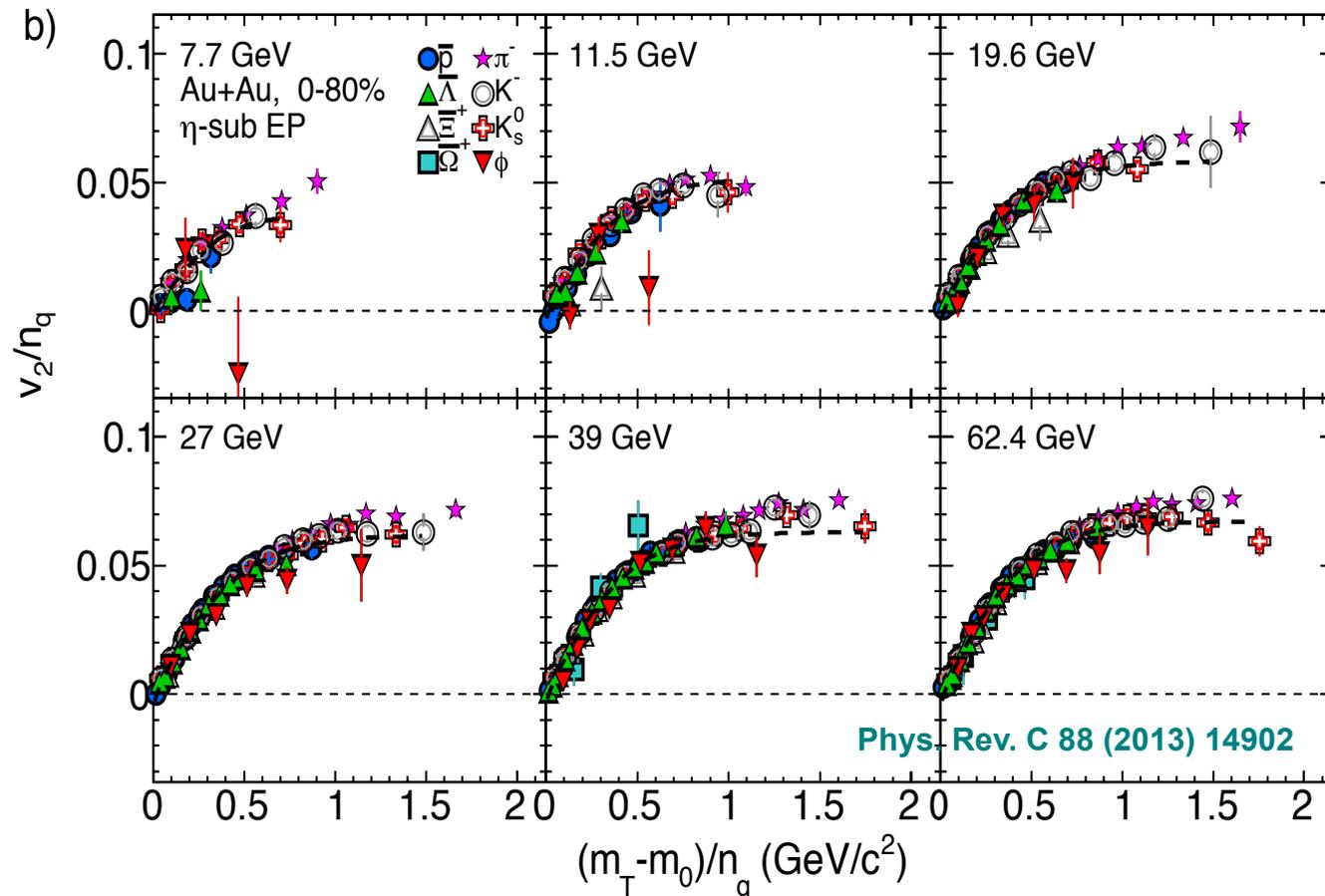
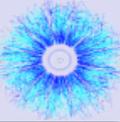
⇒ It probes the onset of bulk collective dynamics during thermalization



$v_1(y)$  is sensitive to baryon transport, space-momentum correlations and QGP formation



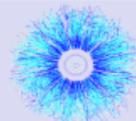
# Elliptic flow ( $v_2$ ) – antiparticles



- Approximate NCQ scaling holds... DOF=quarks?
- ...but particles and antiparticles are different

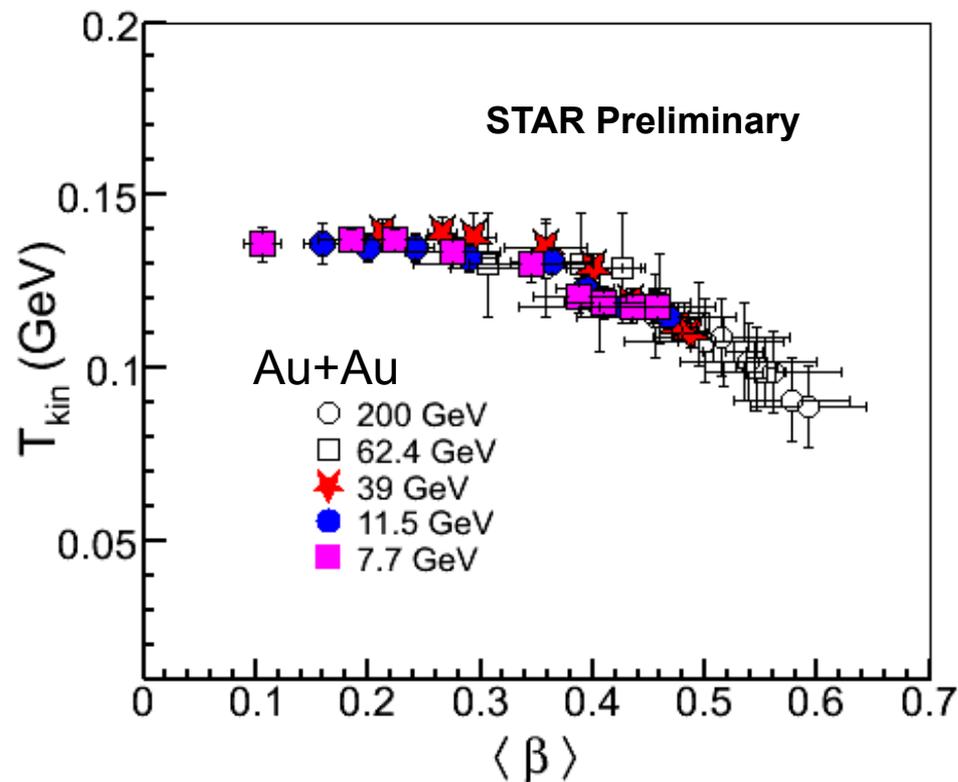
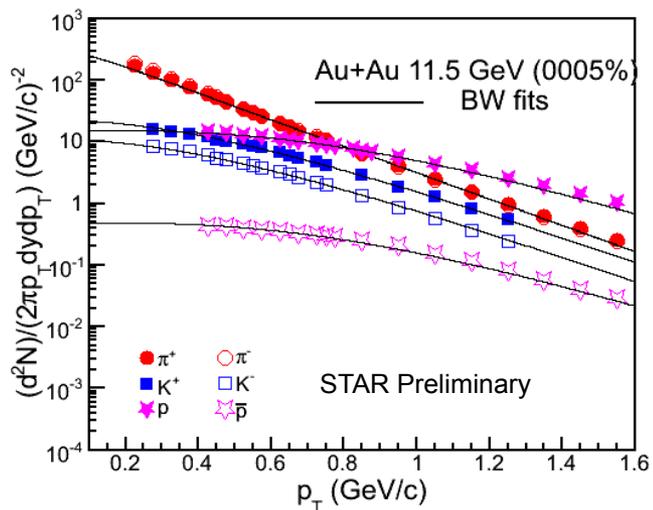


# Kinetic freeze-out



Blast Wave:  $T_{\text{kin}}$  and  $\langle\beta\rangle$

Particles used:  $\pi, K, p$

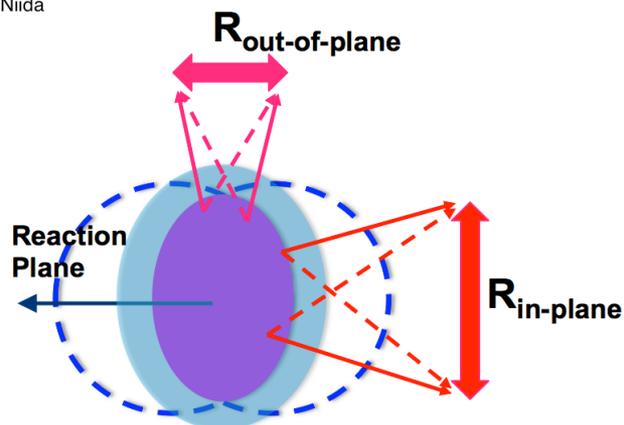


✧ Higher kinetic temperature corresponds to lower value of average flow velocity and vice-versa

# Azimuthally sensitive HBT

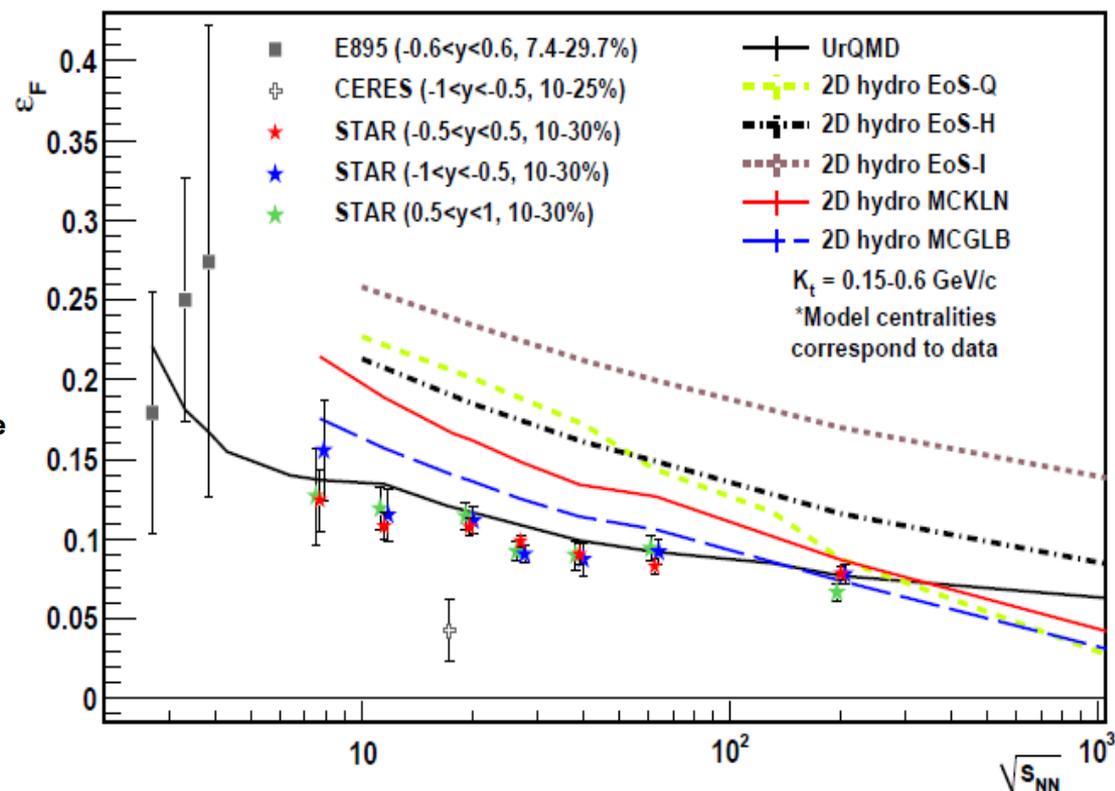


Illustration from: T. Niida



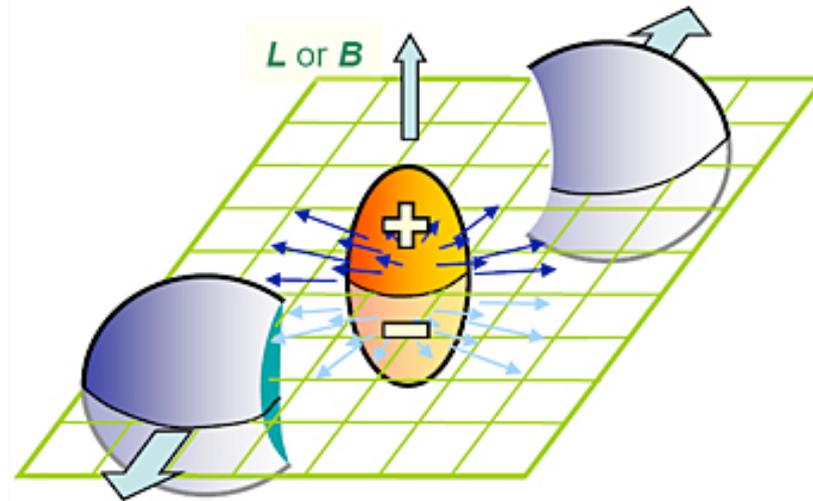
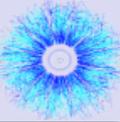
elliptical shape :  $R_{\text{in-plane}} > R_{\text{out-of-plane}}$   
 spherical shape :  $R_{\text{in-plane}} = R_{\text{out-of-plane}}$

arXiv:1403.4972 (submitted to PRC)



- Spatial eccentricity at the kinetic freeze-out,  $\epsilon_F$
- Sensitive to EOS
- Smooth, monotonous behavior observed over the BES range

# Chiral magnetic effect



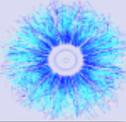
- Chiral-magnetic effect:  
Local parity violation in sQGP

$$\frac{dN_\alpha}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2v_1 \cos(\Delta\phi) + 2a_\alpha \sin(\Delta\phi) + 2v_2 \cos(2\Delta\phi) + \dots$$

- Measure: 3-point correlator, charge separation

$$\gamma \equiv \langle \cos(\phi_1 + \phi_2 - 2\Psi_{\text{RP}}) \rangle \quad H^\kappa = (\kappa v_2 \delta - \gamma) / (1 + \kappa v_2).$$

# Net charge multiplicity moments



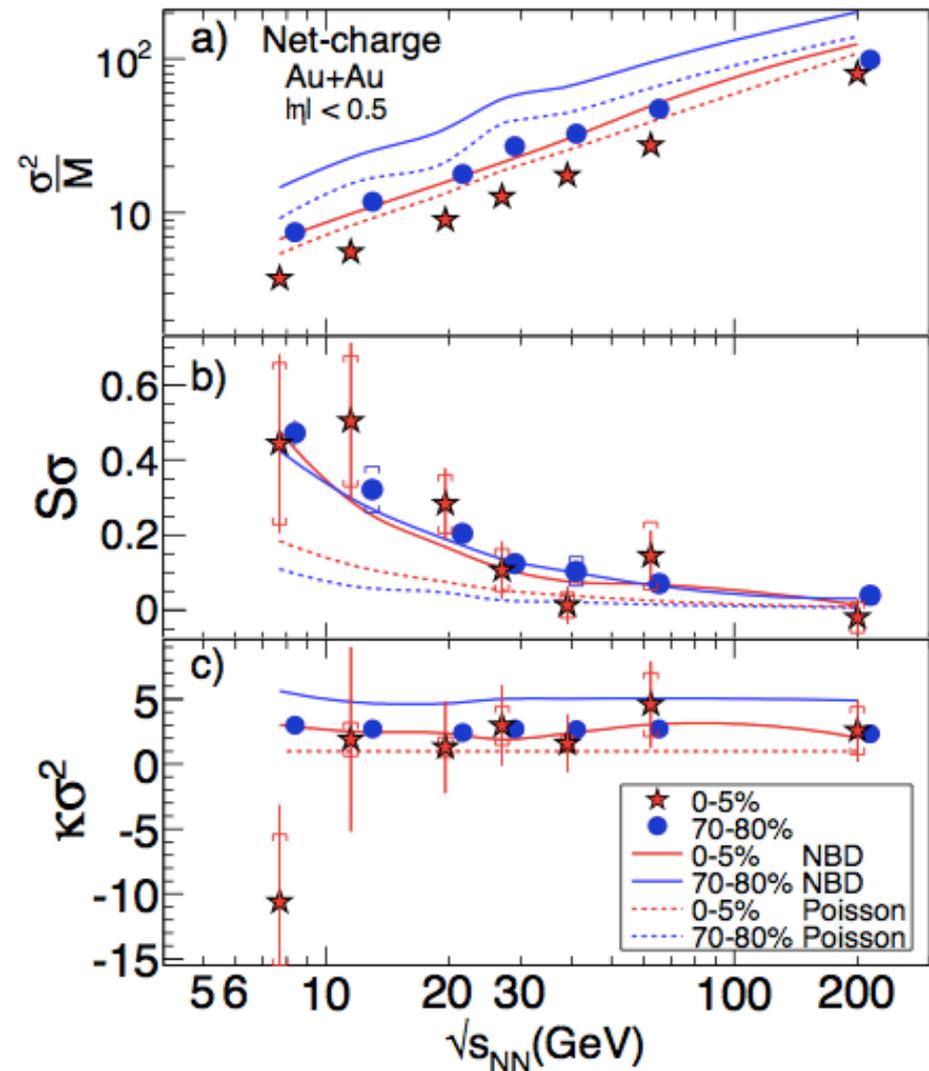
- Susceptibilities of conserved quantities (Q, B, S)
- Related to multiplicity distribution moments
- Volume effect  $\rightarrow$  ratios

$$\chi_B^{(n)} = \left. \frac{\partial^n (P/T^4)}{\partial (\mu_B/T)^n} \right|_T$$

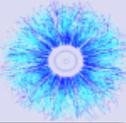
$$\chi_B^4 / \chi_B^2 = (\kappa\sigma^2)_B$$

$$\chi_B^3 / \chi_B^2 = (S\sigma)_B$$

- Non-monotonic behavior?
- **Net charge mult.:** no non-monotonic behavior seen



# Quantify the Spectral Function

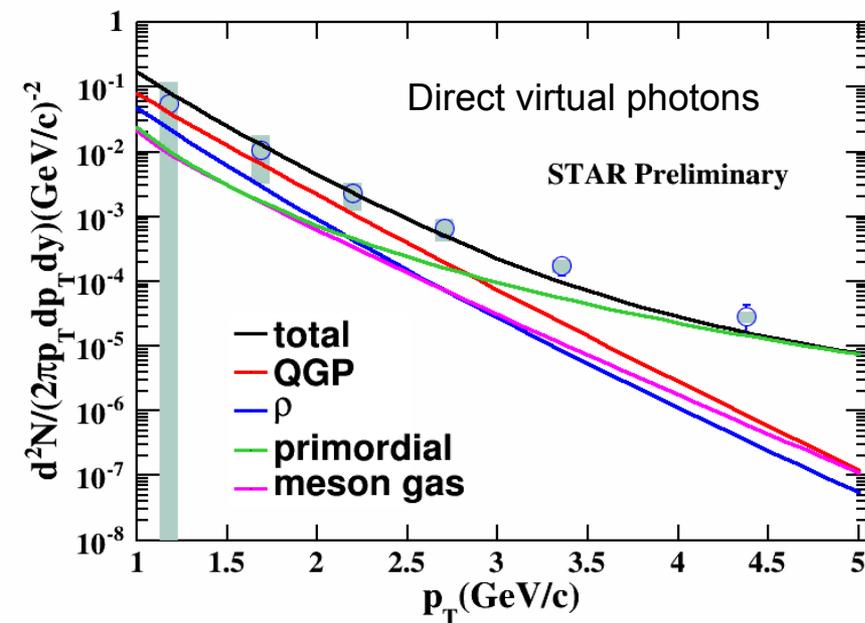


## Temperature dependence of rho spectral function

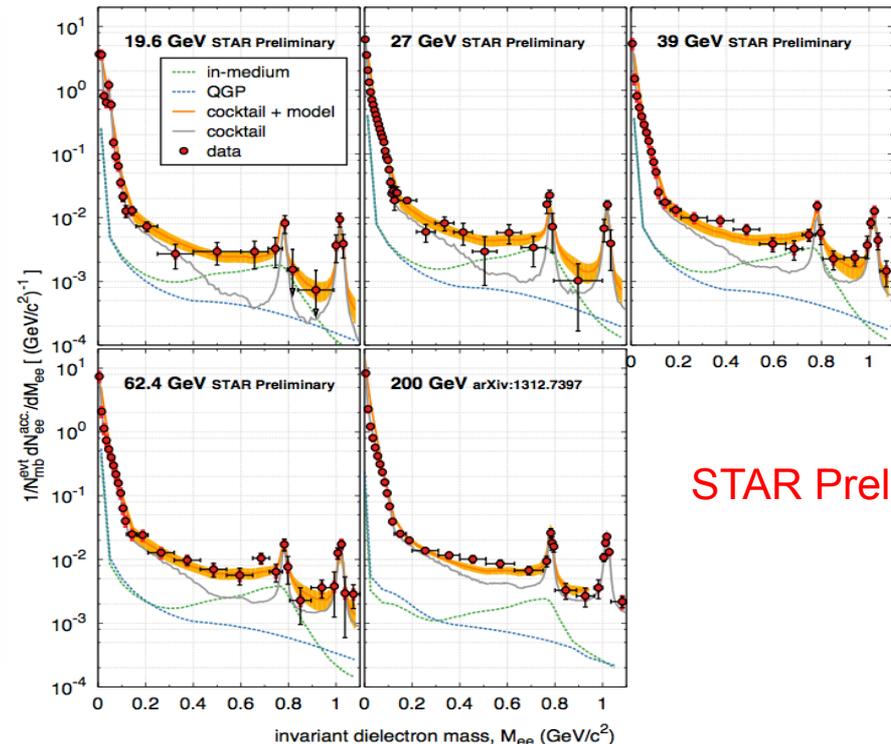
1. Beam energy range where final state is similar
2. Initial state and temperature evolution different
3. Density dependence by Azimuthal dependence ( $v_2$ )
4. Use centrality dependence as another knob
5. Direct photon results should match with extrapolation

## Baryon dependence of rho spectral function

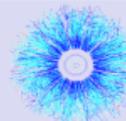
1. LMR excess expected to be consistent with total baryon density increase



QM14: Chi Yang, Patrick Huck

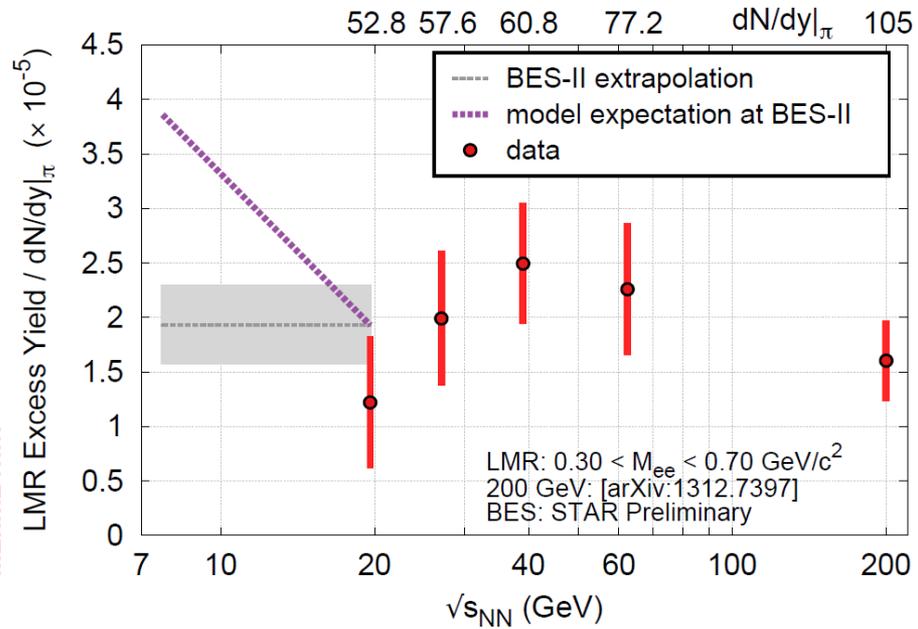
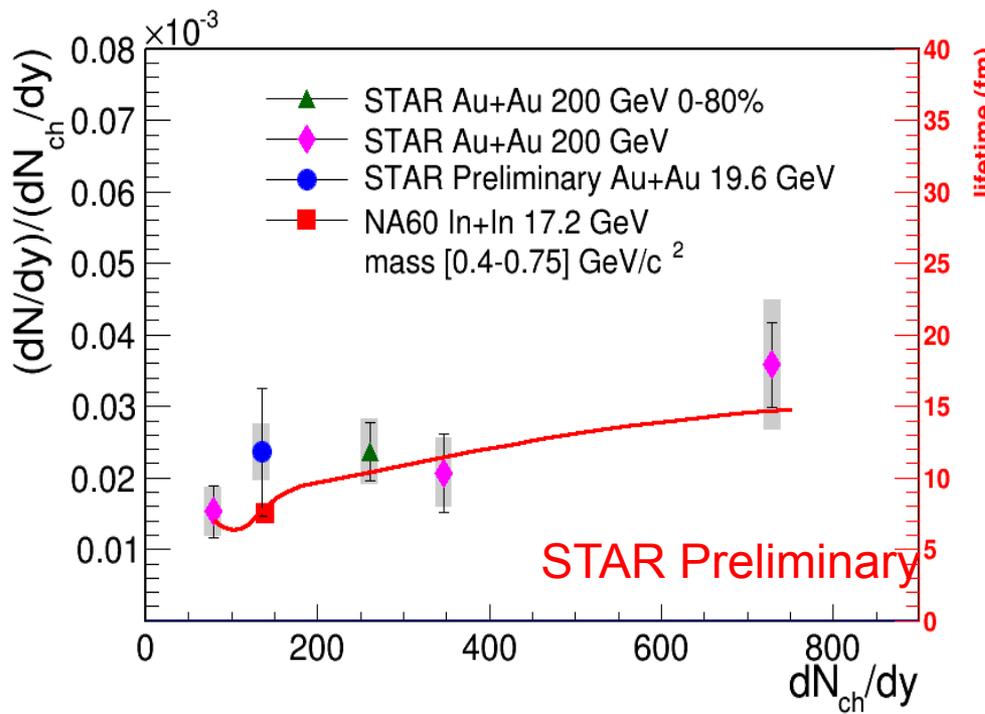


# Dilepton Measurements at BES II



Beam Energy

Centrality



BES II enables measurements at energy <20GeV

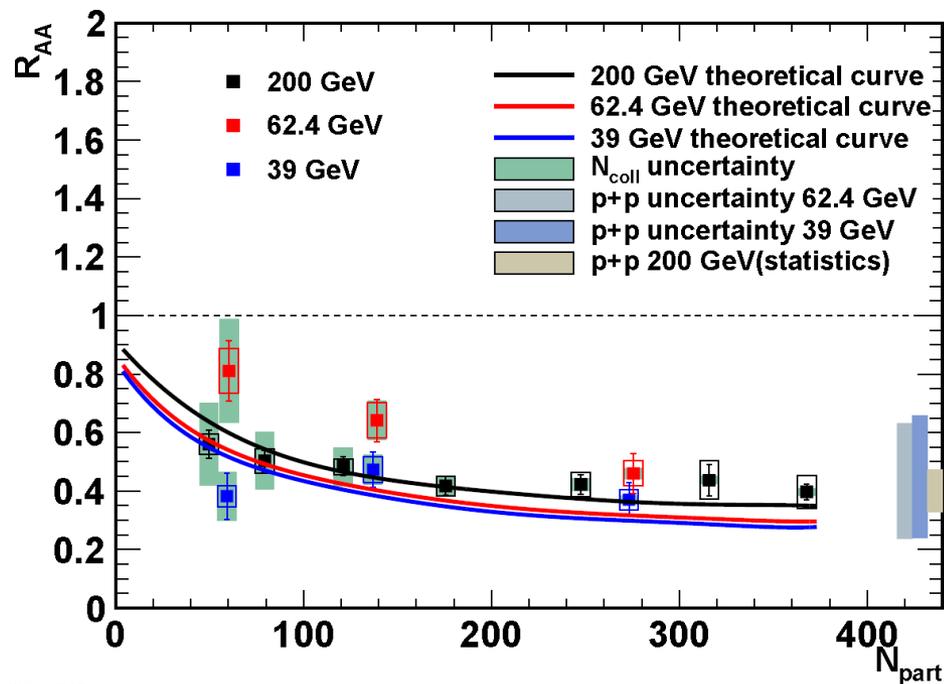
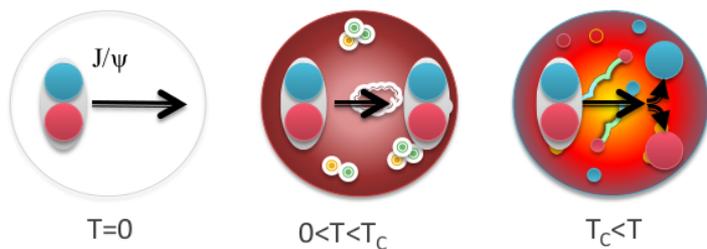
# J/ψ R<sub>AA</sub> vs. beam energy



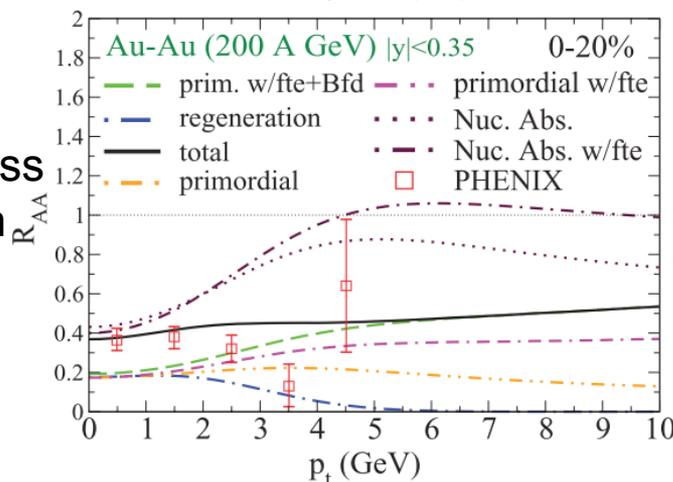
## Expectation

- Debye screening  
→ dissociation of quarkonia
- **J/ψ melting** to be a smoking gun signature of **QGP**

T. Matsui, H. Satz, *Phys.Lett. B178, 416 (1986)*



PHENIX, *Nucl.Phys. A 774 (2006) 747*



## A complicated story

- Nuclear shadowing
- Initial state energy loss
- Co-mover absorption
- Coalescence of uncorrelated charm and bottom pairs.

## STAR Data (Au+Au)

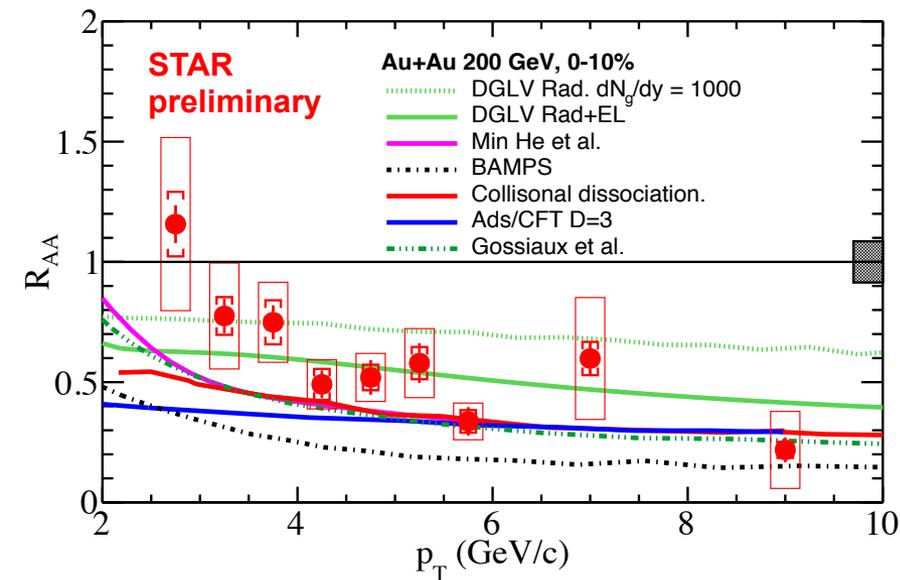
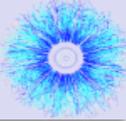
- Similar suppression in Au+Au at **200**, **62.4** and **39** GeV

Note: 62.4 and 39 GeV p+p reference is based on CEM calculations, large uncertainty  
[Nelson, Vogt et al., PRC87, 014908 \(2013\)](#)

- Does coalescence compensate for melting?

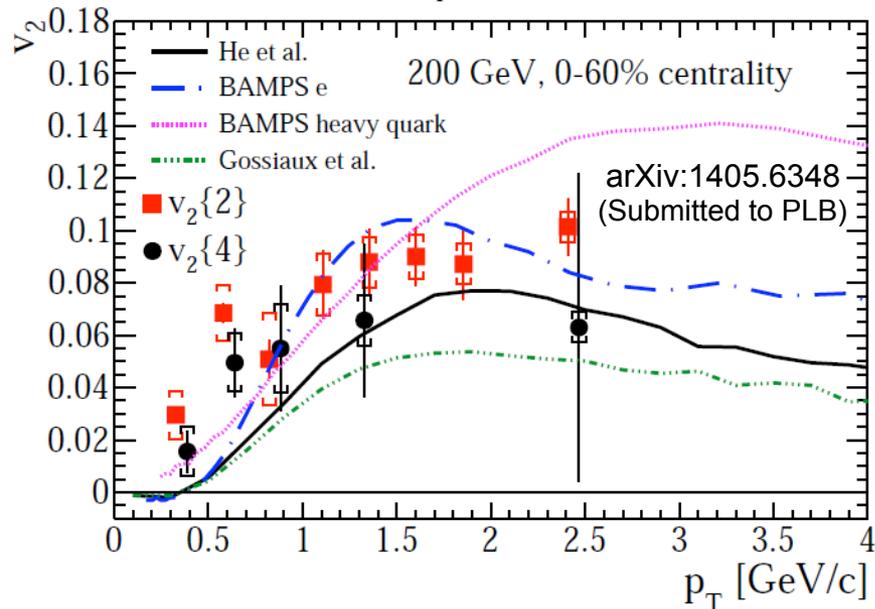
[Zhao, Rapp, PRC82, 064905 \(2010\)](#)

# Non-photonic electrons: 200 GeV



## Suppression

- Significant suppression of NPE in central collisions ( $p_T > 4$  GeV/c)
- Similar to that of light hadrons and  $D^0$  mesons

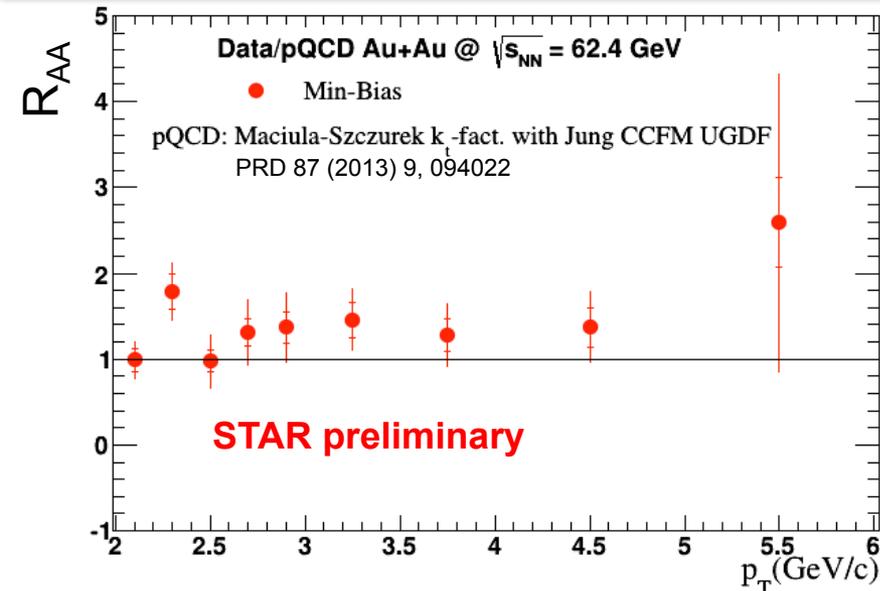
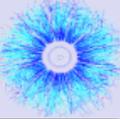


## Anisotropy ( $v_2$ )

- Substantial elliptic flow of NPE is seen in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions

Note: it's challenging for models to describe suppression and flow at the same time

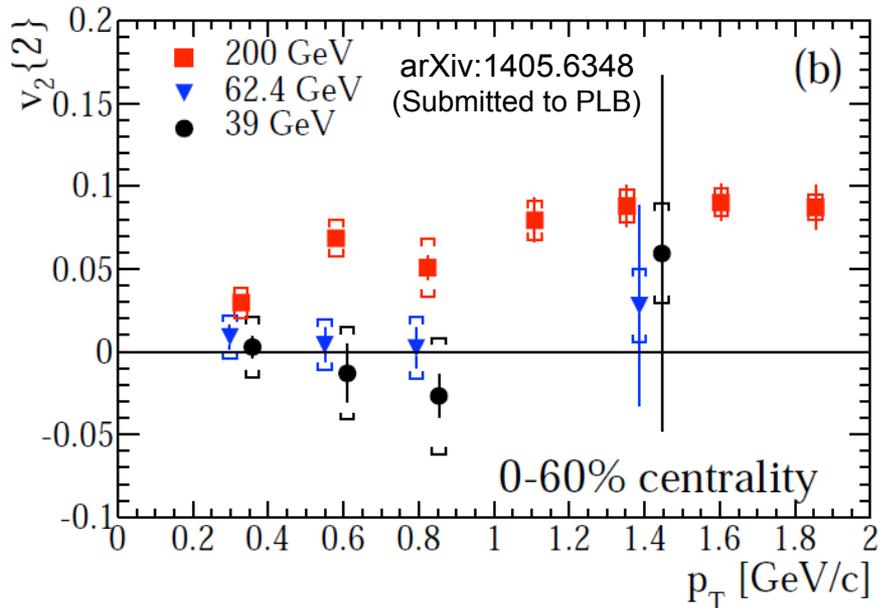
# Non-photonic electrons: 39, 62.4 GeV



## Suppression

- **No sign of suppression of NPE** in 62.4 GeV Au+Au collisions

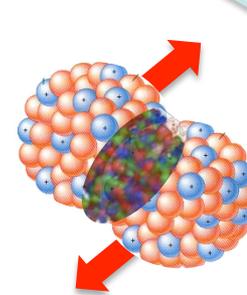
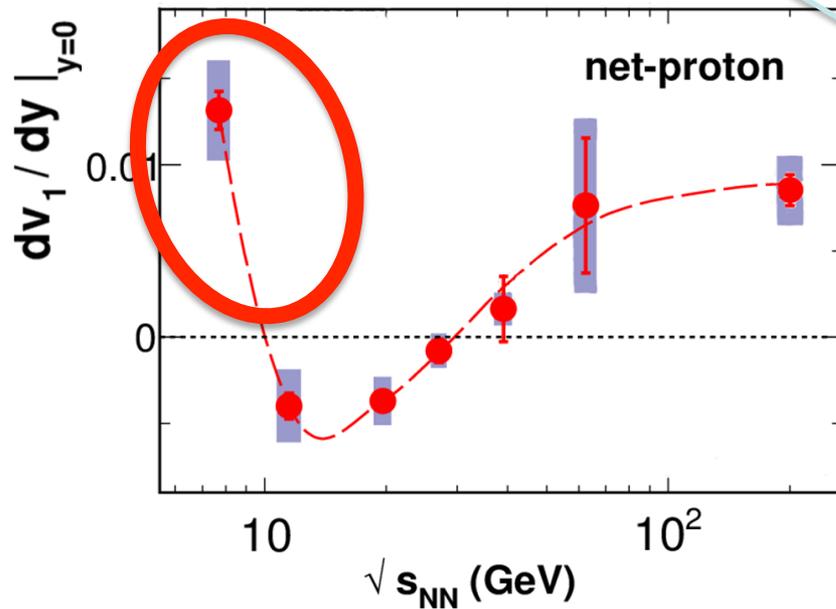
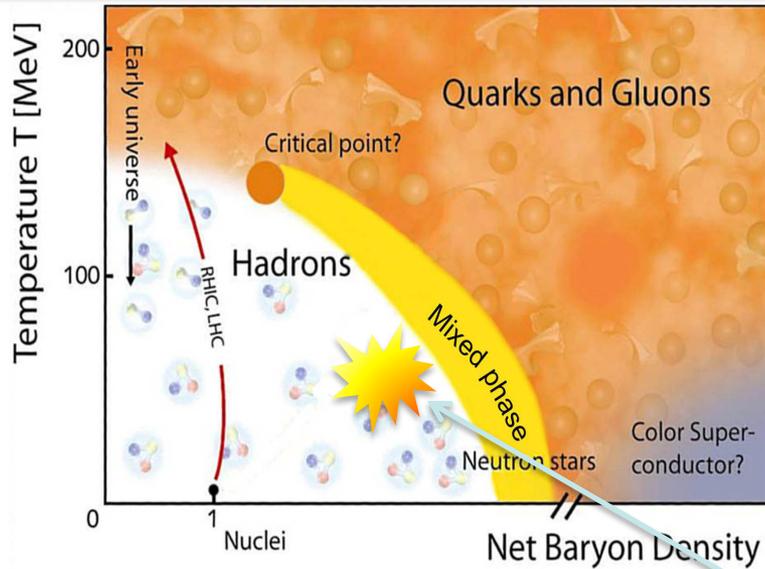
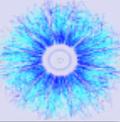
Note: pQCD-scaled p+p reference



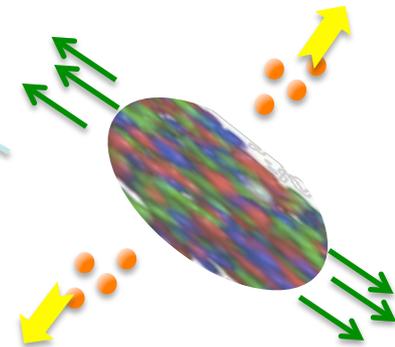
## Anisotropy ( $v_2$ )

- NPE in 39 and 62.4 GeV Au+Au collisions **consistent with no flow** ( $p_T < 1$  GeV/c)

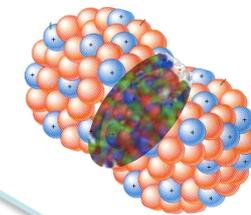
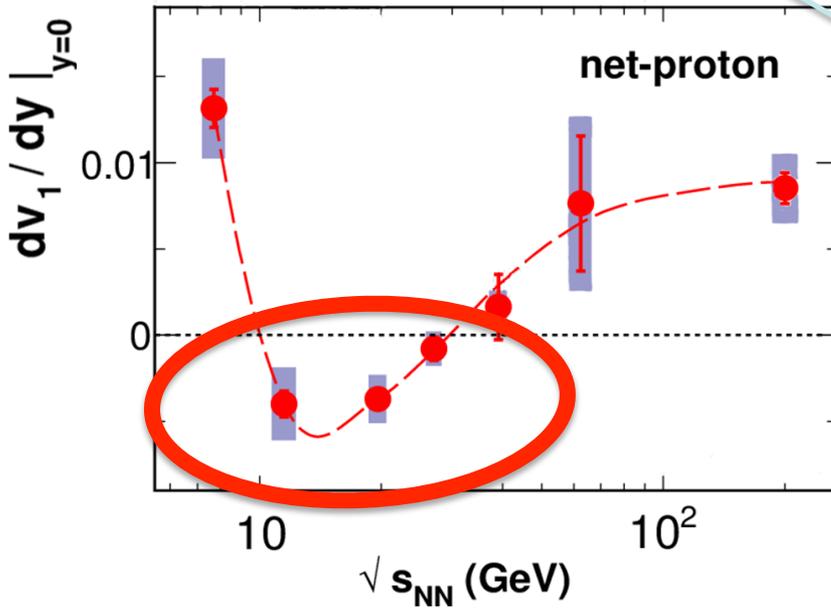
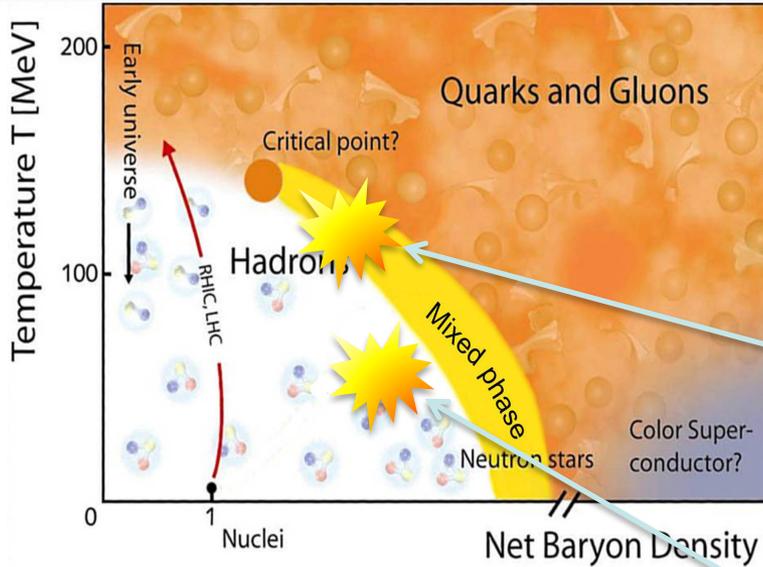
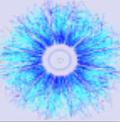
# $v_1$ cartoon by Mike Lisa



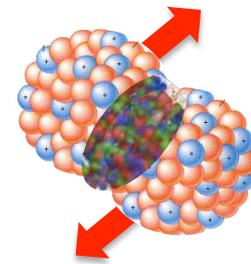
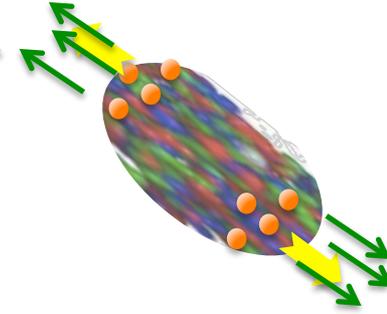
PUSH!



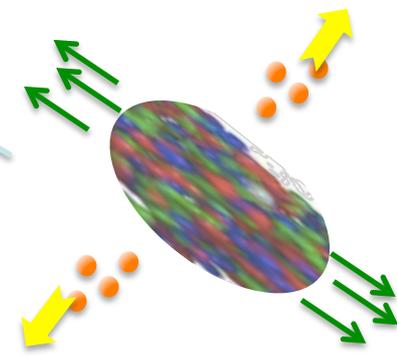
# $v_1$ cartoon by Mike Lisa



SOFT...



PUSH!



# $v_1$ cartoon by Mike Lisa

