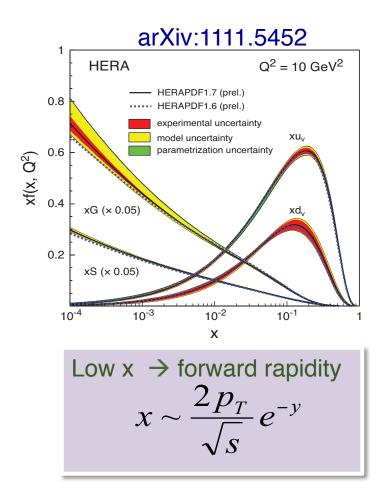
Low-x and diffraction measurements at RHIC

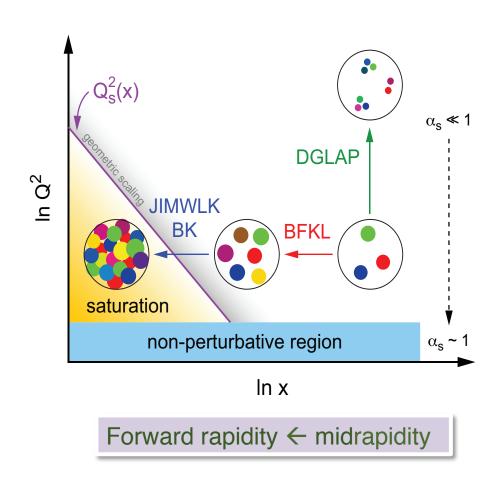
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Outline

- Gluon saturation observables and measurements at RHIC
 - Di-hadron/jet correlations
 - $-R_{pA}$
 - Ridge and v₂-like behaviors in p-A: link to pre-thermalization glasma, or thermalized hydrodynamics in small system?
 - A_N in polarized proton-Au collisions
- Diffraction measurements in STAR using forward tagged proton
- Summary and outlook

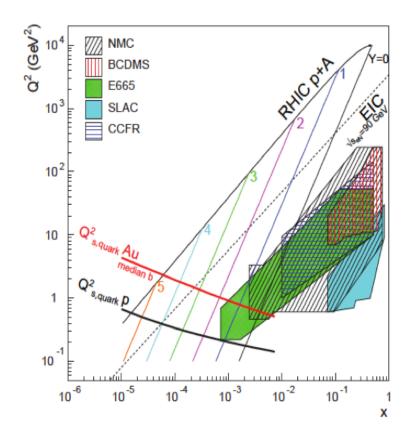
Gluon Saturation





- Densities of gluons and sea quarks are high at low x
- Leading to Saturation of parton density, called Color Glass Condensate (CGC).

What do we expect at RHIC?

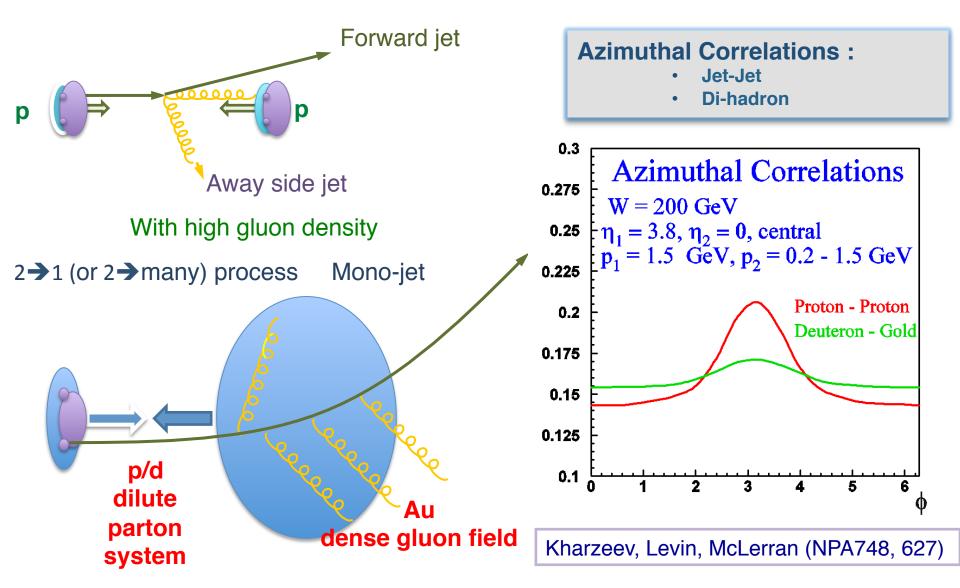


$$(Q_s^A)^2 \approx cQ_0^2 \left(\frac{A}{x}\right)^{1/3}$$

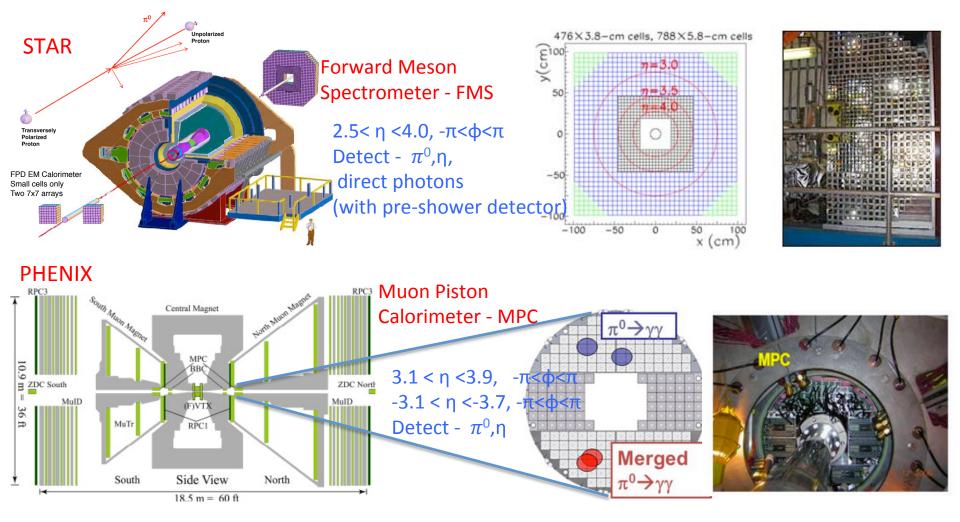
Nuclei may allow access to the saturation region at moderate p_T

 $\eta = 2.5-4.0$ in RHIC is a promising region!

Observables: Azimuthal Correlations

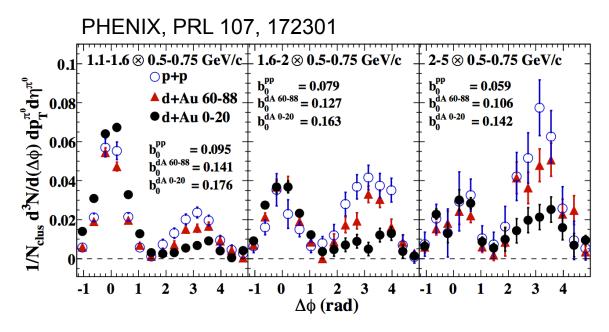


STAR and PHENIX at forward rapidity



Both STAR and PHENIX capable of doing low x physics with neutral particles

Back-to-back angular correlations



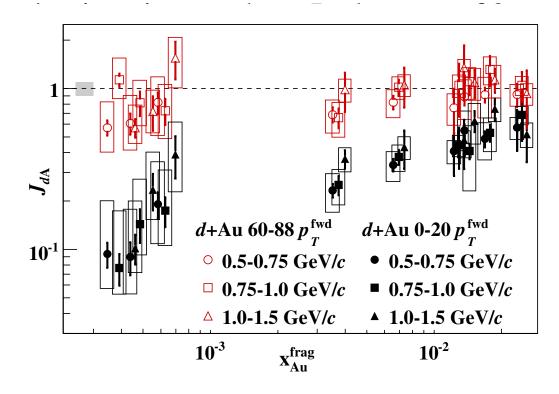
CGC predicts suppression of the away-side peak. PHENIX observed suppression of the away-side peak in 0-20% d+Au collisions at $(\sqrt{s} = 200 \text{ GeV})$

STAR 2015 data are being analyzed for π^{0} - π^{0} and EM jet – EM jet azimuthal correlations in p+p, p+Al, p+Au (and d+Au in 2016) Working on FMS gain uniformity and stability

Back-to-back angular correlations

$$J_{d\mathrm{A}} = I_{d\mathrm{A}} \times R_{d\mathrm{A}}^t = \frac{1}{\langle N_{\mathrm{coll}} \rangle} \frac{\sigma_{d\mathrm{A}}^{\mathrm{pair}} / \sigma_{d\mathrm{A}}}{\sigma_{pp}^{\mathrm{pair}} / \sigma_{pp}}$$

$$x_{\mathrm{Au}}^{\mathrm{frag}} = (\langle p_{T1} \rangle e^{-\langle \eta_1 \rangle} + \langle p_{T2} \rangle e^{-\langle \eta_2 \rangle}) / \sqrt{s_{NN}}$$



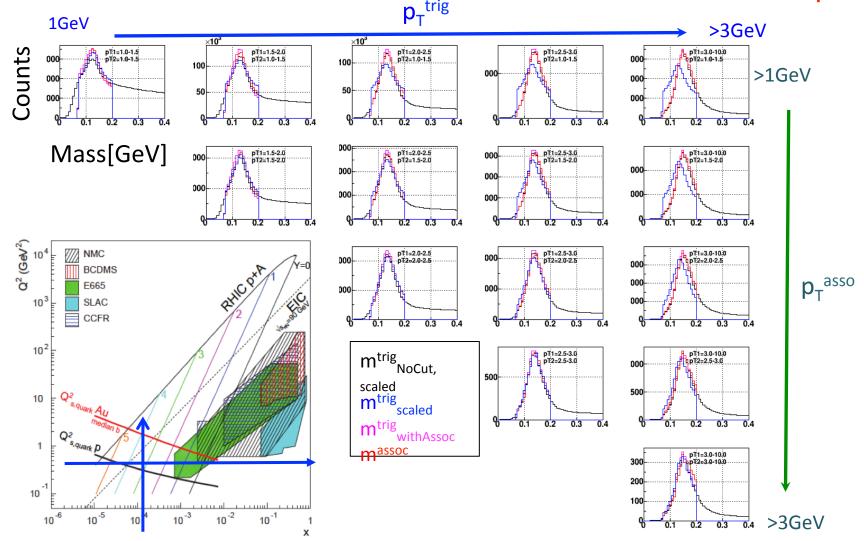
PHENIX: PRL 107, 172301

- Large suppression of J_{dA} at low x
- Need to understand nuclear effect and multiparticle interaction for produced final state particles.
- Might not probe gluon saturation

Measurement with direct photons is very important :

 STAR 2015 pA data is being analyzed for direct photons

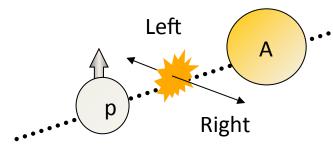
Scanning the FMS π^0 - π^0 correlations in p_T



With 2015 data STAR can study evolution of Q_s^2 (x) with A

π^0 in Polarized p+A as a tool to study Gluon saturation

$$A_{N} = \frac{1}{P} \frac{\sigma_{L}^{\pi} - \sigma_{R}^{\pi}}{\sigma_{L}^{\pi} + \sigma_{R}^{\pi}}$$

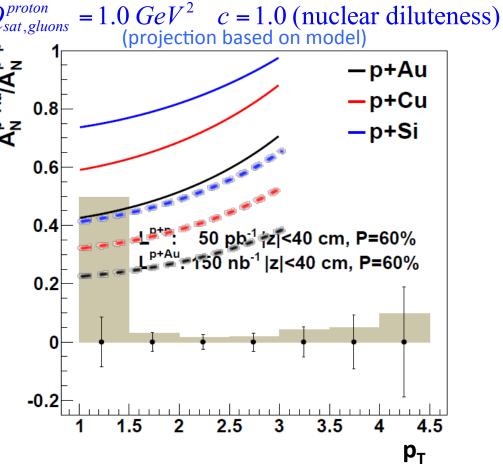


$$\frac{A_N^{pA \to h}}{A_N^{pp \to h}} \bigg|_{P_{h\perp}^2 << Q_{sA}^2} \approx \frac{Q_{sp}^2}{Q_{sA}^2} e^{P_{h\perp}^2 \delta^2 / Q_{sp}^2}$$

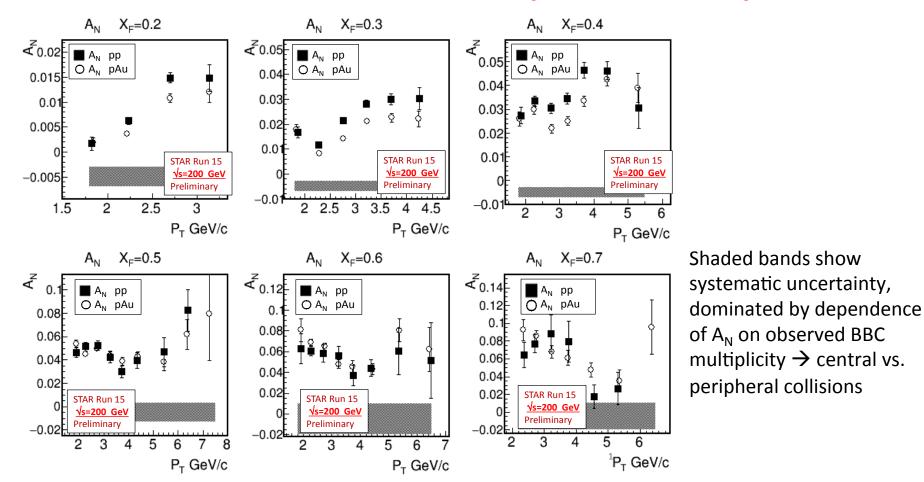
$$Q_{sat,A}^2 = cA^{1/3}Q_{sat,proton}^2$$

PRD 74, 074018

p,d,e+A Workshop - June 25, BNL, 2013: Richard Seto



First π^0 results from polarized p+Au

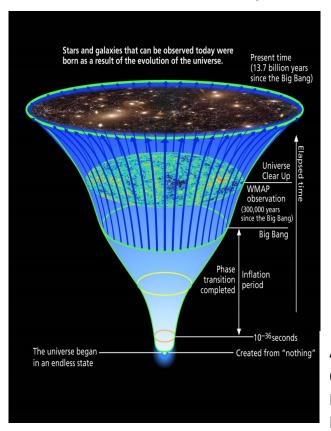


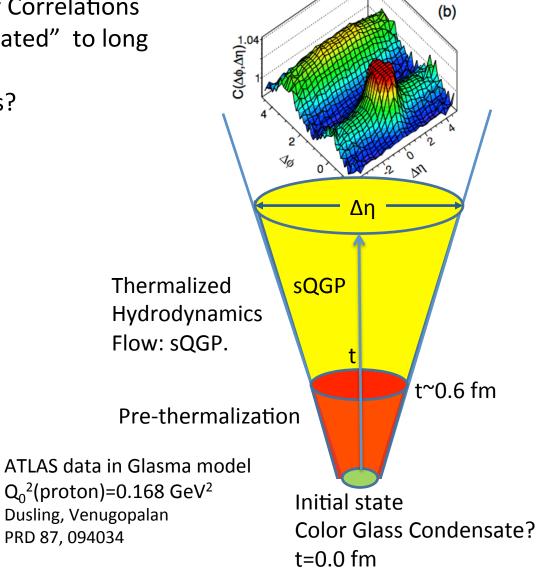
Preliminary results from STAR find little suppression in A_N as suggested by some CGC calculations

Small system: p+Pb, d+Au

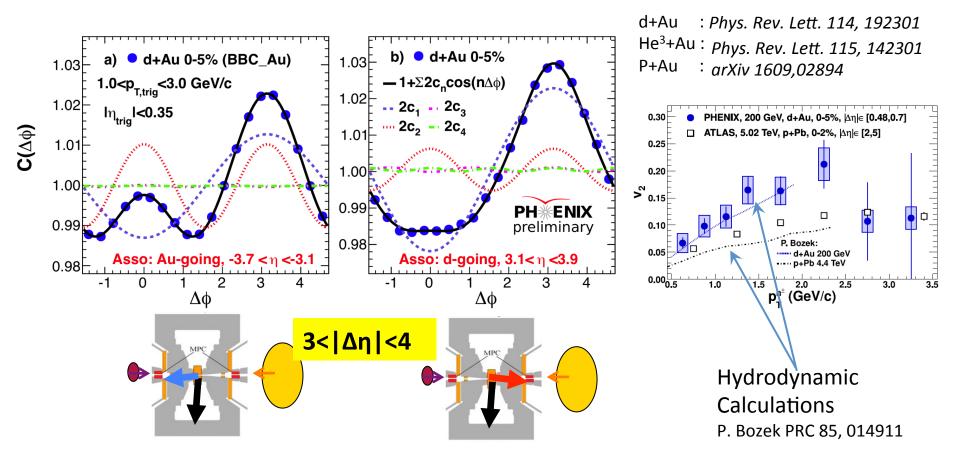
Glasma? Long range rapidity Correlations Initial state fluctuations "inflated" to long range correlations?

Flow? sQGP in small systems?





Mid-Forward Particle/Energy Correlations



Need better understanding: Initial state – Glasma? Final state effect - Flow (Hydro) in a thermalized sQGP?

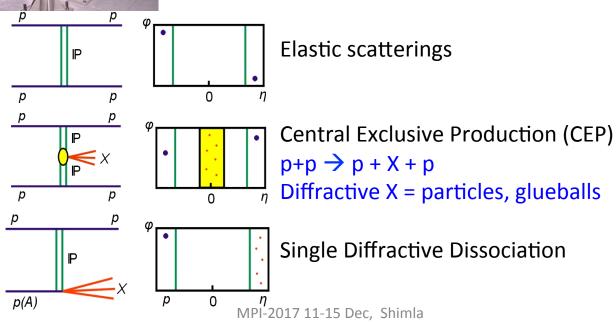
Diffraction measurements

Roman pots in STAR

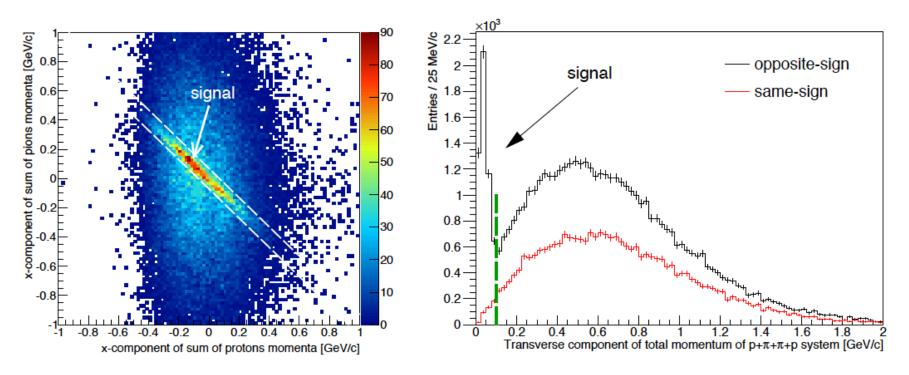


- Roman pots installed prior to 2009 RHIC run Phase-I
- In phase-II roman pots were moved much closer prior to 2015 RHIC run (operate with normal beam optics)

Recorded a large fraction of the total delivered luminosity in the 2015 (\forall s = 200 GeV) and 2017 (\forall s = 500 GeV)



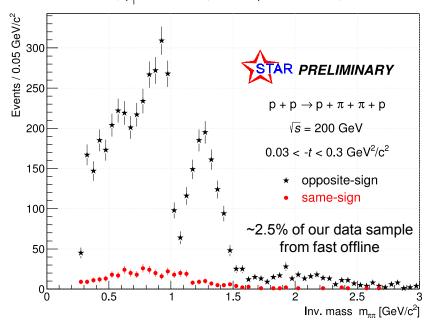
Identifying CEP: the $\pi^+\pi^-$ case

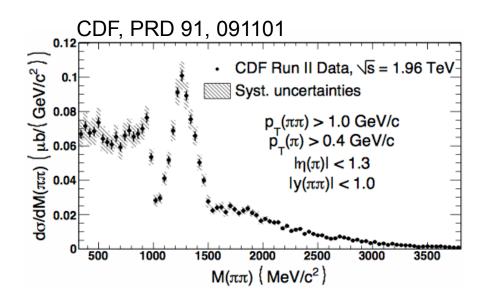


Identification and momentum reconstruction of all final state particles provide the ability to ensure exclusively of the system via momentum balance check Very small background!

$\pi^+\pi^-$ invariant mass distributions at $\sqrt{s}=200$ GeV

Invariant mass of $\pi\pi$, $p_{\tau}^{miss} < 0.1$ GeV/c, not acceptance-corrected, statistical errors only

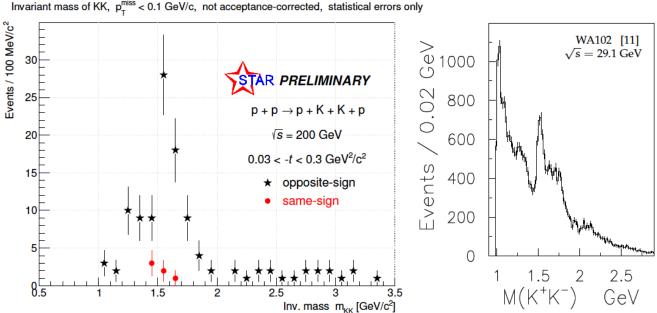




- Broad structure extending from $\pi^+\pi^-$ threshold to ~1GeV/c²
- Sharp drop at about 1 GeV/c²
- Resonance-like structure between 1-1.5 GeV/c² (Expect ~70k events with $M(\pi^+\pi^-) > 1$ GeV/c² from full 2015 data set
- Essential features are similar to measurements in p+p collisions at \sqrt{s} =63 GeV (AFS at ISR) and p+p-bar at \sqrt{s} =1.96 TeV (CDF)

K⁺K⁻ invariant mass distributions at

√s=200 GeV



- Prominent peak around 1.4-16 GeV/c²
- Some enhancement in the f2(1270)/f0(1370) region
- In spectrum measured by WA102 (fixed target), there is significant contribution from f0(980) not seen by STAR

(K acceptance is very small at such low p_T)

Expect ~10⁴ exclusive K⁺K⁻ events in the full 2015 data set
 (Will permit cross section and partial wave analysis)

Summary

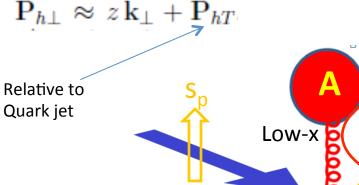
- RHIC probes at low x region of nuclei with forward detectors where gluon saturation effects may manifest themselves.
- Previous RHIC measurements showed a hint of saturation in 0-20% d+Au collisions. STAR 2015 p+A data is being analyzed for π^0 π^0 and EM jet EM jet azimuthal correlations.
- PHENIX data show long range correlations in ridge like structure for small systems: Glasma or Flow effects?
- Preliminary measurement of A_N for polarized p+A collisions shows little suppression.
- $\pi^+\pi^-$ and K⁺K⁻ mass distribution for Central Exclusive Production (CEP) extracted from a fraction of the available data. Results from the full statistics are under-way.
- For 2021+ both STAR and sPHENIX planning for forward detector upgrades to measure fully reconstructed jets at forward rapidities – a step forward for future EIC collider.

backup

Spin Dependent Cross section

Kang, Yuan: PRD 84, 034019 (2011)

$$\frac{d\Delta\sigma}{dy_h d^2 P_{h\perp}} = \frac{K}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{x_F}^1 \frac{dz}{z^2} \int d^2 P_{hT} I(S_{\perp}, P_{hT}) x_1 h(x_1) \sqrt{F(x_2, k_{\perp})} \delta \hat{q}(z, P_{hT}) dz$$



 $h(x_1)$ q

Transversely polarized p proton

$$I(S_{\perp}, P_{hT}) = |S_{\perp}||P_{hT}|\sin(\phi_h - \phi_s)$$

CGC inspired k₁ dependent unintegrated Gluon distribution function

$$N_F(x, k_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{Q_s^2} e^{-k_{\perp}^2/Q_s^2}$$

This is one mechanism. Others:

e.g. Sivers: see Boer et al. PRD 74, 074018

Kang-Xiao arXiv 1212.4309

Odderon (3 gluon)exchange: Yovchegov

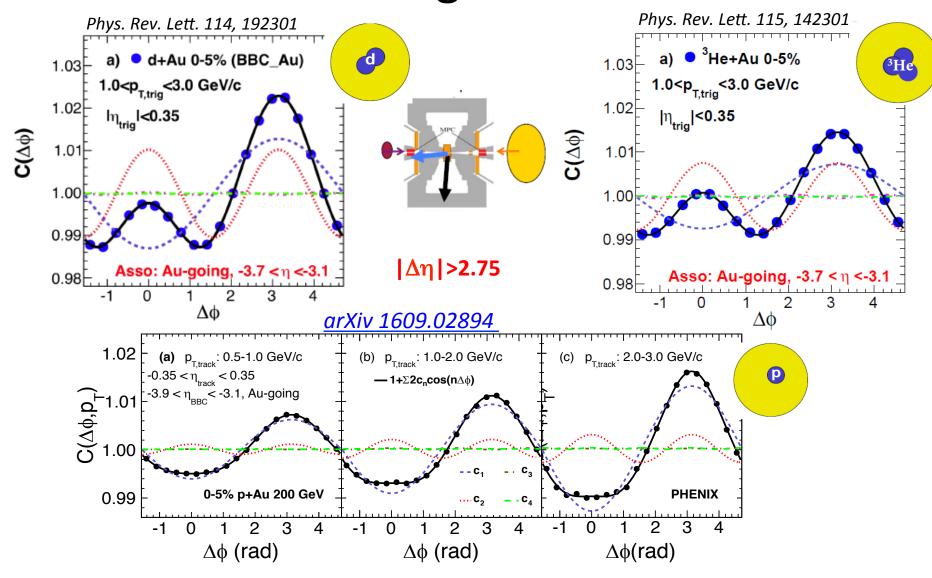
arXiv:1201.5890

 $k_{\perp}\pi$

Collins Fragmentation Function

$$\delta \hat{q}(z, p_{\perp}^2) \sim \frac{1}{(\Delta^2 - \delta^2)^{3/2}} e^{-p_{\perp}^2/(\Delta^2 - \delta^2)}$$

The Ridge at RHIC



A clear ridge on the Au-going side in central d+Au, ³He+Au; a more subtle effect in p+Au