

Recent Results from RHIC BES-I

- QCD medium properties at finite baryon density

Nu Xu^(1,2)

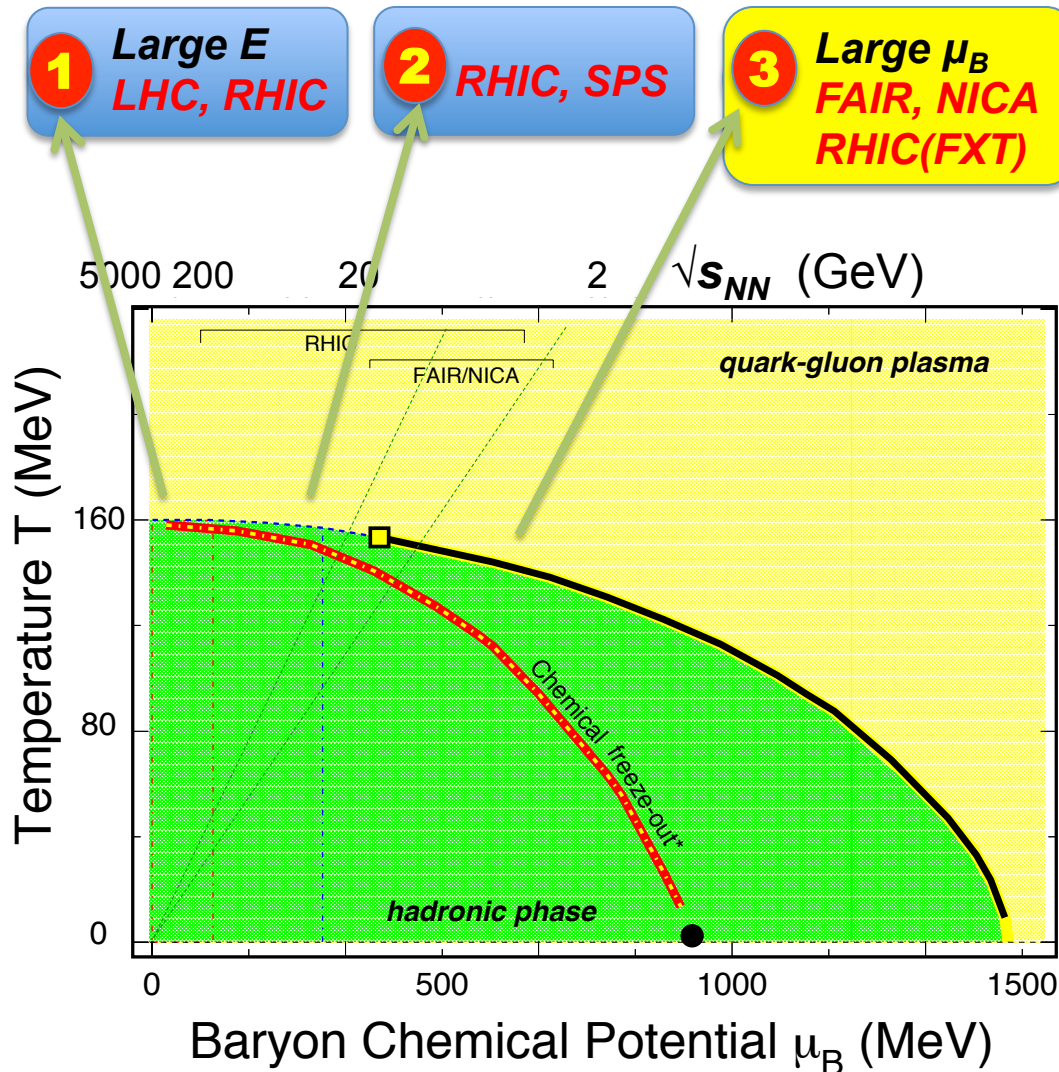
Many thanks to the Organizers!



(1) College of Physical Science & Technology, Central China Normal University, China

(2) Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

The QCD Phase Diagram and the Beam Energy Scan



2000 – 2012 RHIC+LHC
Top energy program
Discovery of sQGP

- QCD **Critical Point**
- Chiral effects

2010 – 2017: RHIC BES-I
7.7, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6, 27, 39, 54.4 GeV

2019 – 2020: RHIC BES-II
7.7, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6 GeV
FXT*: 4.5, 3.9, 3.6, 3.0 GeV

2022 – : RHIC+FAIR BES-III
Fixed-target programs

(1) Introduction

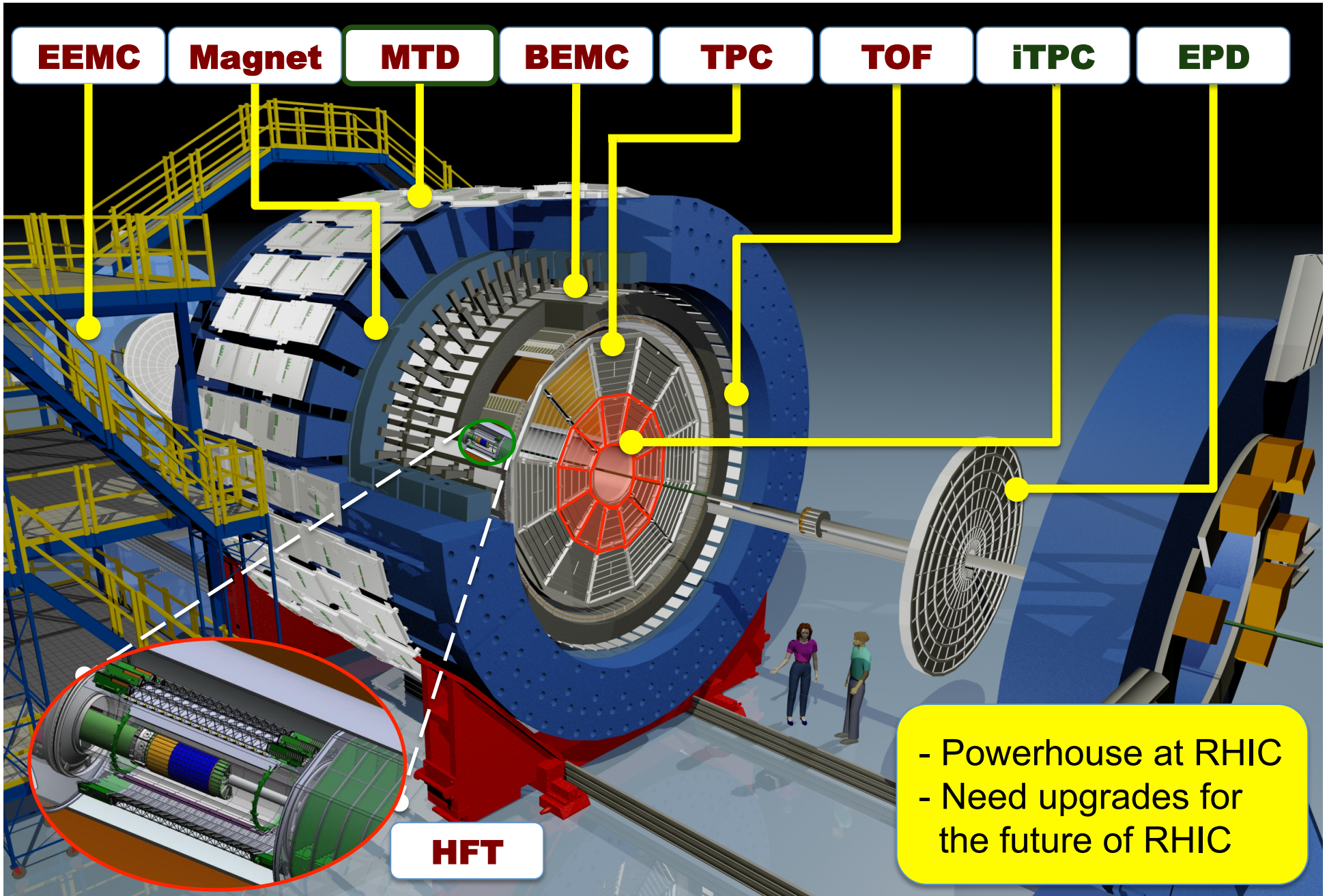
(2) Recent Results from BES-I at RHIC

- i. Collectivity
- ii. Chirality
- iii. Criticality

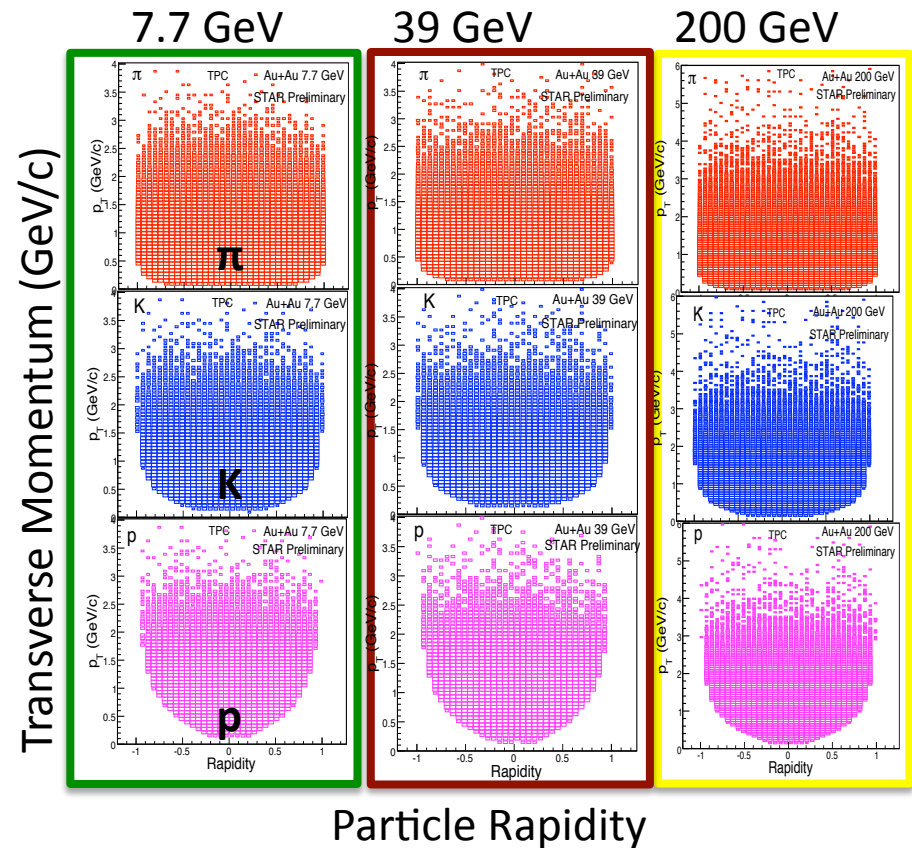
**QCD
Emergent
Properties**

(3) BES-II and Beyond

STAR Detector System



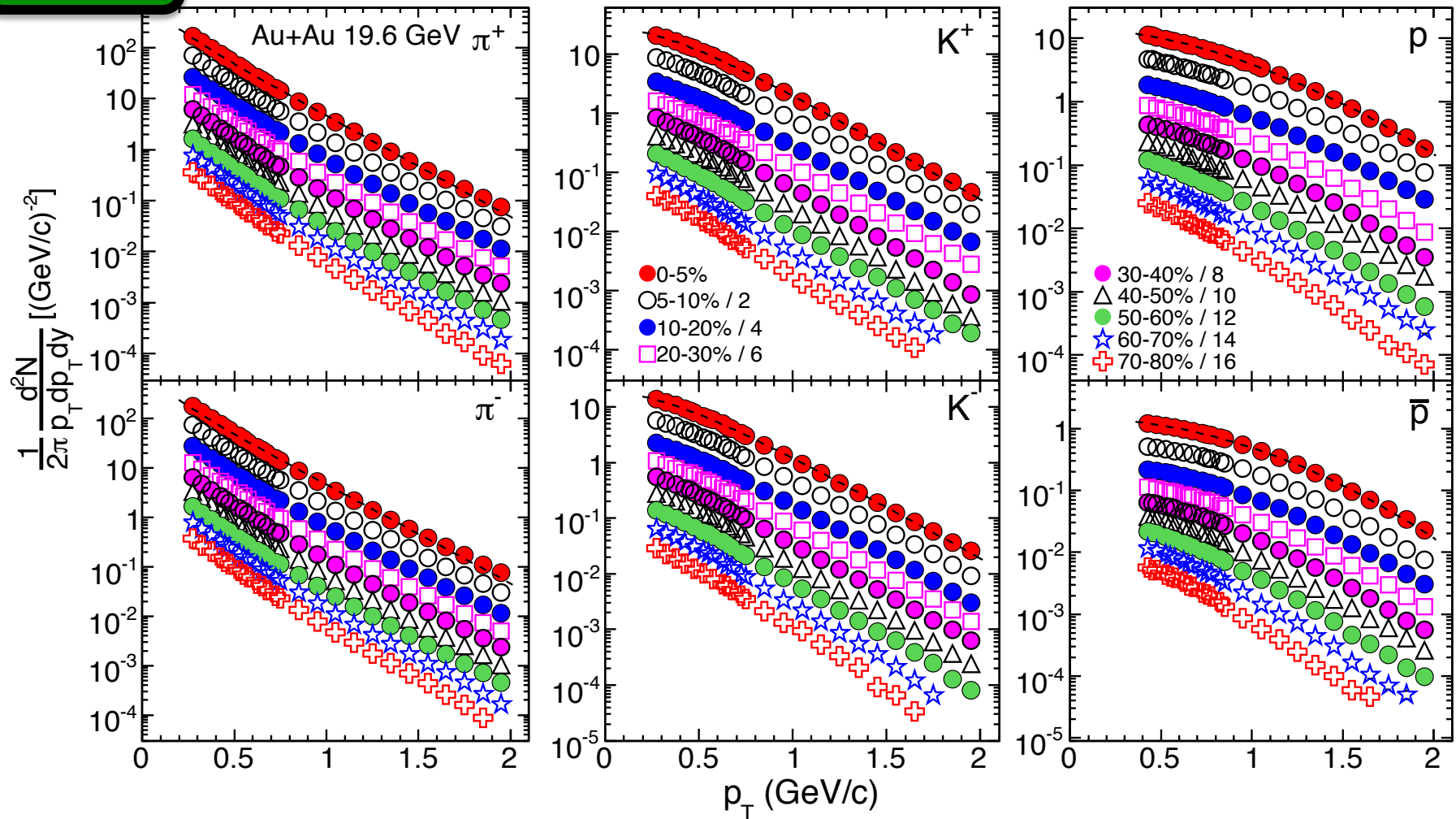
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Events (10^6)	Year
200	350	2010
62.4	67	2010
54.4	1000	2017
39	39	2010
27	70	2011
19.6	36	2011
14.5	20	2014
11.5	12	2010
7.7	4	2010



- 1) Largest data sets versus collision energy
- 2) STAR: Large and homogeneous acceptance, excellent particle identification capabilities. Especially important for fluctuation analysis

NEW

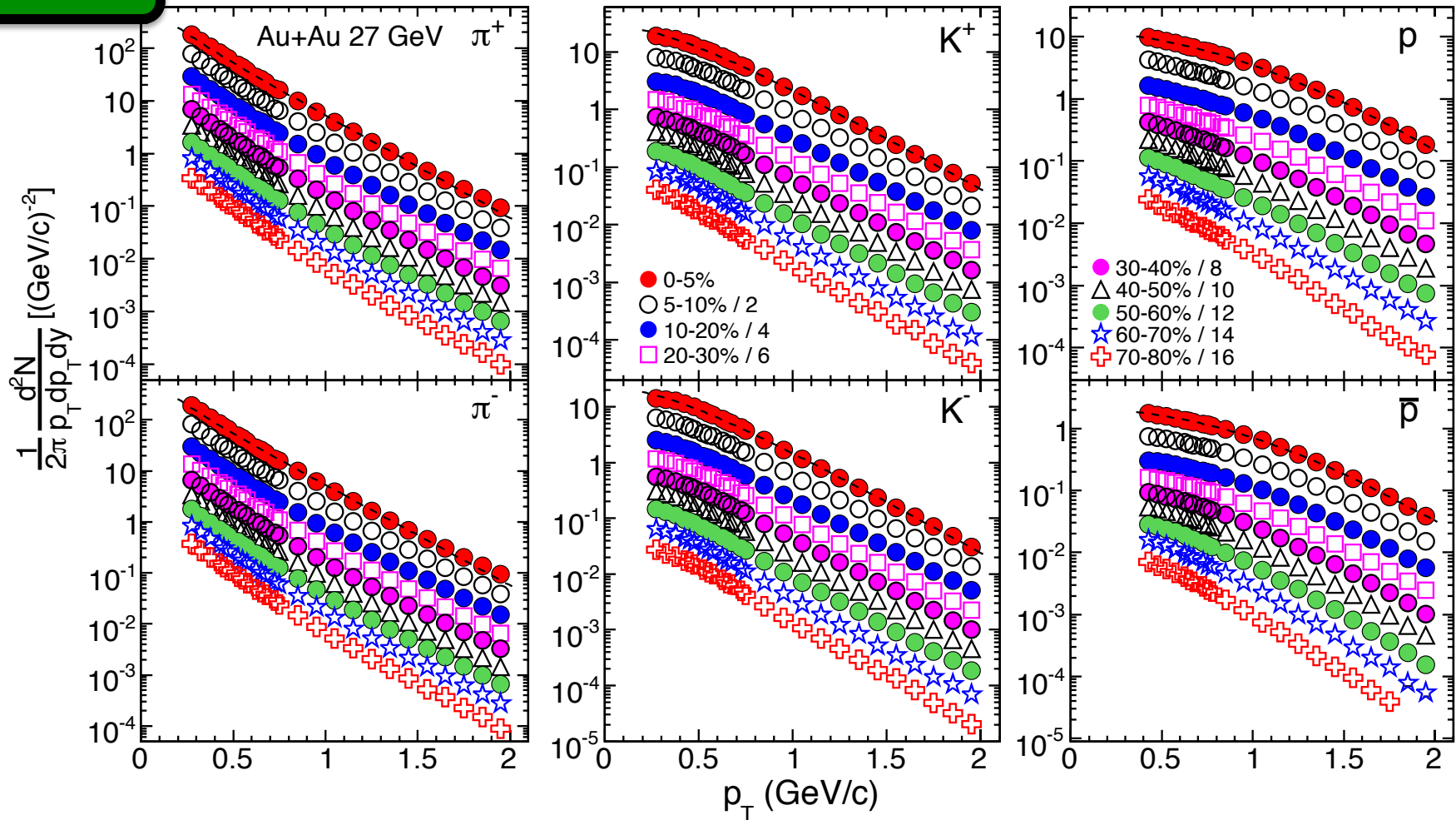
$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 19.6$ GeV Au+Au Collisions



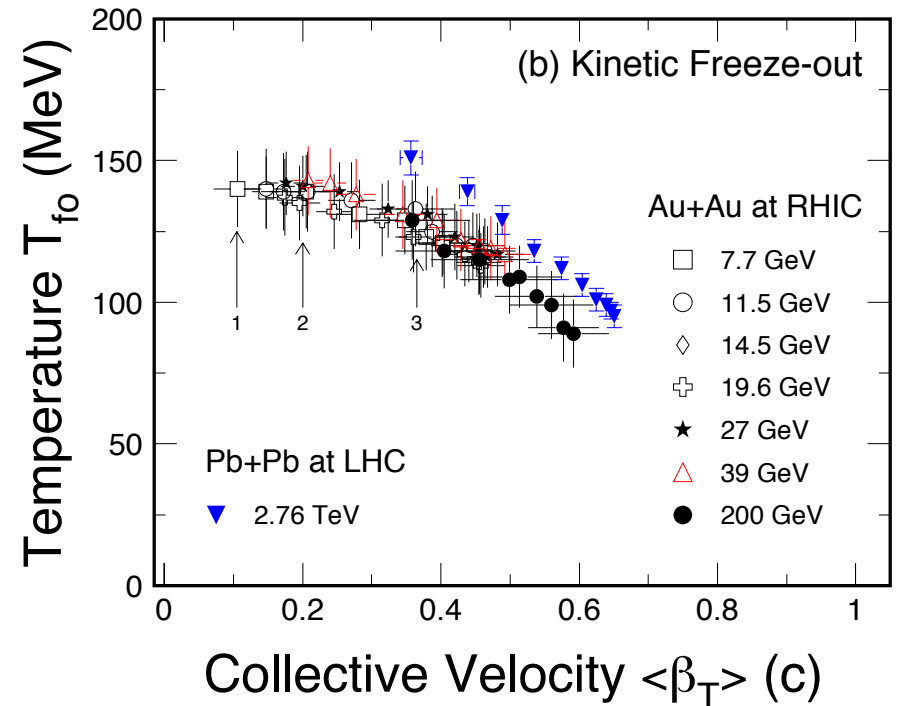
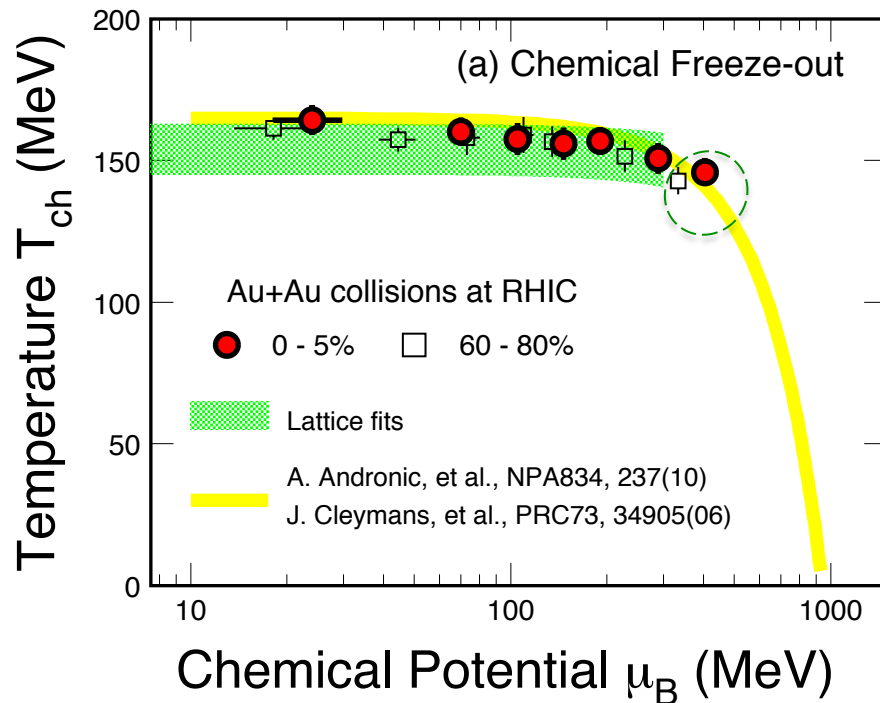
STAR: arXiv:1701.07065, PRC96, 44904(2017)

NEW

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 27$ GeV Au+Au Collisions



STAR: arXiv:1701.07065, PRC96, 44904(2017)



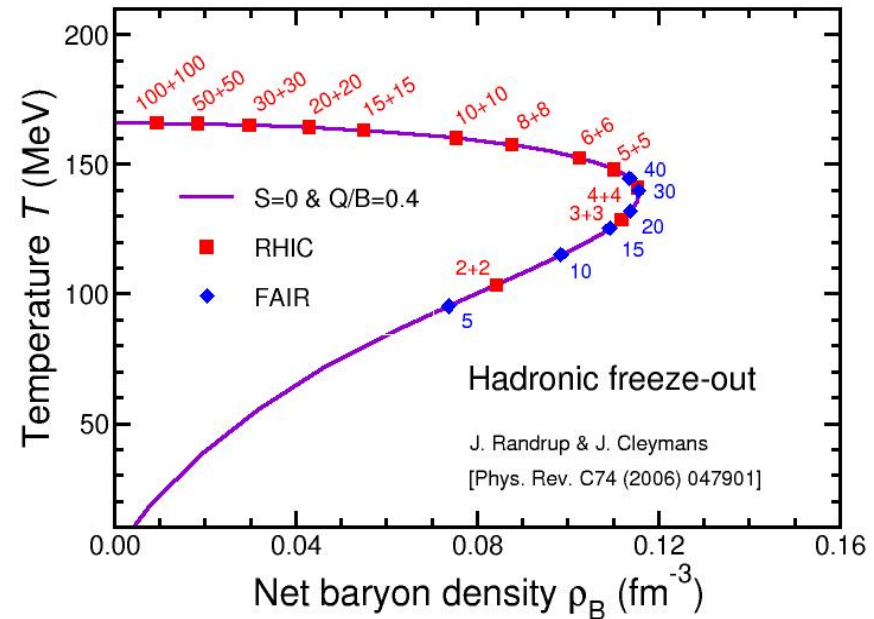
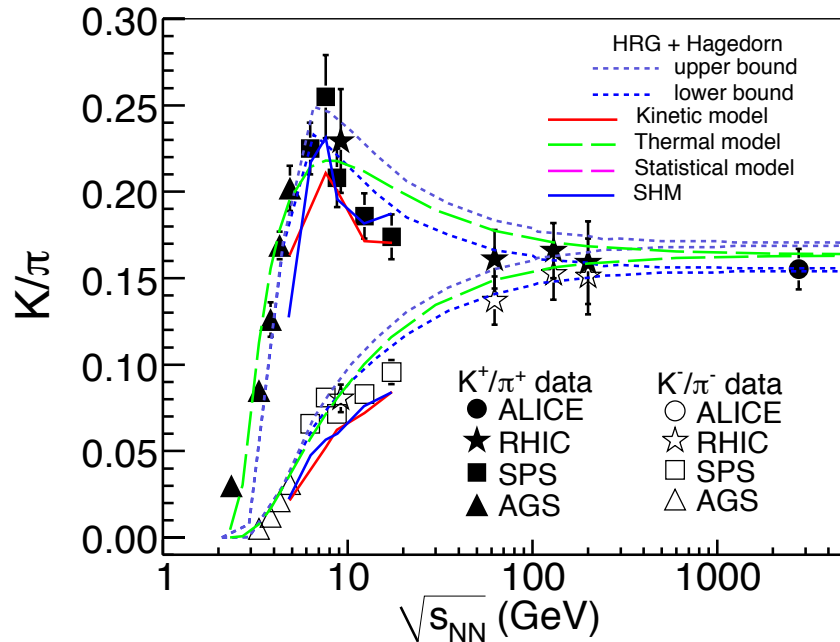
Chemical Freeze-out: (GCE)

- Weak temperature dependence
- Centrality dependence μ_B !
- LGT calculations indicate the Critical Region around $\mu_B \sim 300$ MeV?

Kinetic Freeze-out:

- Central collisions => lower value of T_{fo} and larger collectivity β_T
- **Stronger collectivity at higher energy, even for peripheral collisions**

- ALICE: B.Abelev et al., PRL109, 252301(12); PRC88, 044910(2013).
- STAR: J. Adams, et al., NPA757, 102(05); STAR: 1701.07065
- S. Mukherjee: Private communications. August, 2012

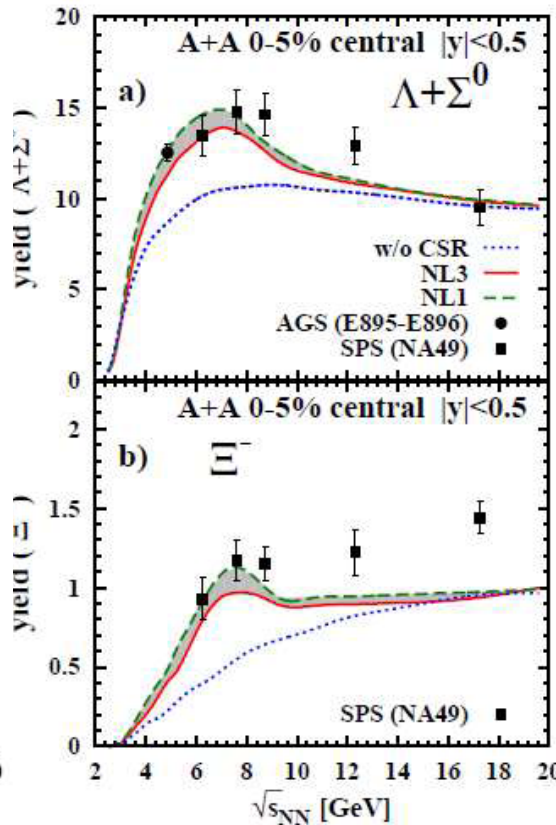
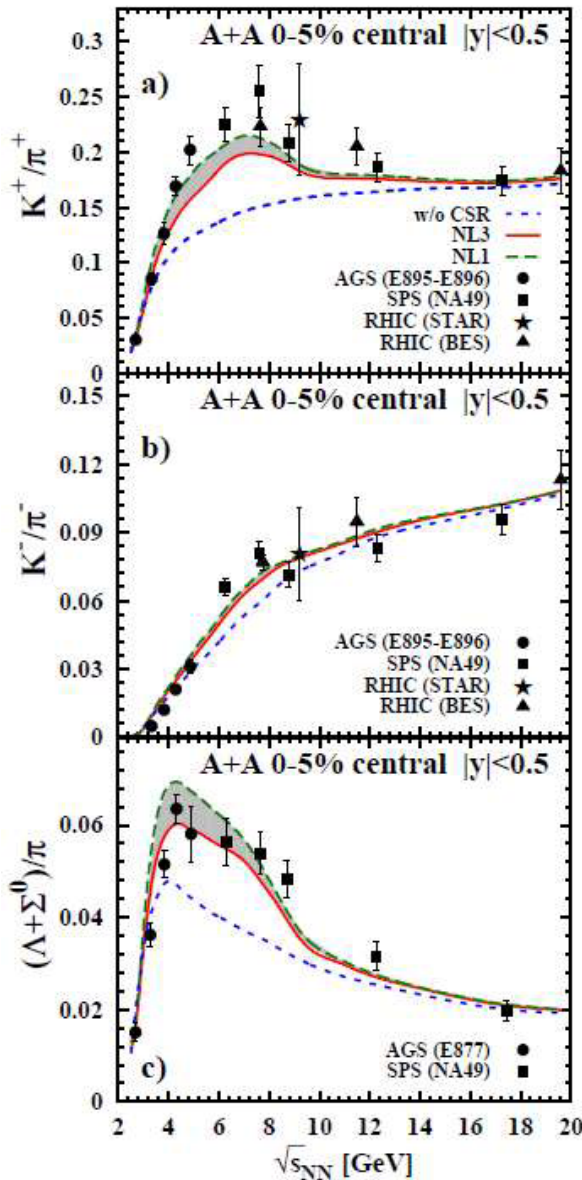


- 1) The K^+/π ratio peaks at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$ GeV,
 K^-/π ratio merges with K^+/π at higher collision energy
- 2) Model: **Baryon density peaks at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$ GeV**
- 3) At $\sqrt{s_{NN}} > 8$ GeV, pair production becomes important

STAR: 1701.07065; J. Randrup and J. Cleymans, Phys. Rev. **C74**, 047901(2006)

PHSD Results (A. Palmese *et al.* PRC94, 044912 (2016))

- 1) In hadronic phase, 'Chiral symmetry restoration' & strangeness exchanges lead to enhancement of the anti-s quarks hadrons around $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8\text{GeV}$
- 2) All negatively charged anti-s-quark enhanced, but not the s-quark, why?
- 3) ϕ -meson production should be enhanced at the very same collision energy!



$$\gamma_s = \exp\left(-\pi \frac{m_s^2 - m_u^2}{2\sigma}\right)$$

$$\sigma \approx 0.17 \text{ GeV}^2$$

	hadron	quarks	Mass (MeV)
1	K^+	u^+s^-	493.7
2	K^-	u^-s^+	493.7
3	Λ	$u^+d^+s^-$	1115.7
4	Σ^0	$u^+d^+s^-$	1192.6
5	Ξ^-	$d^+s^-s^-$	1.321.3

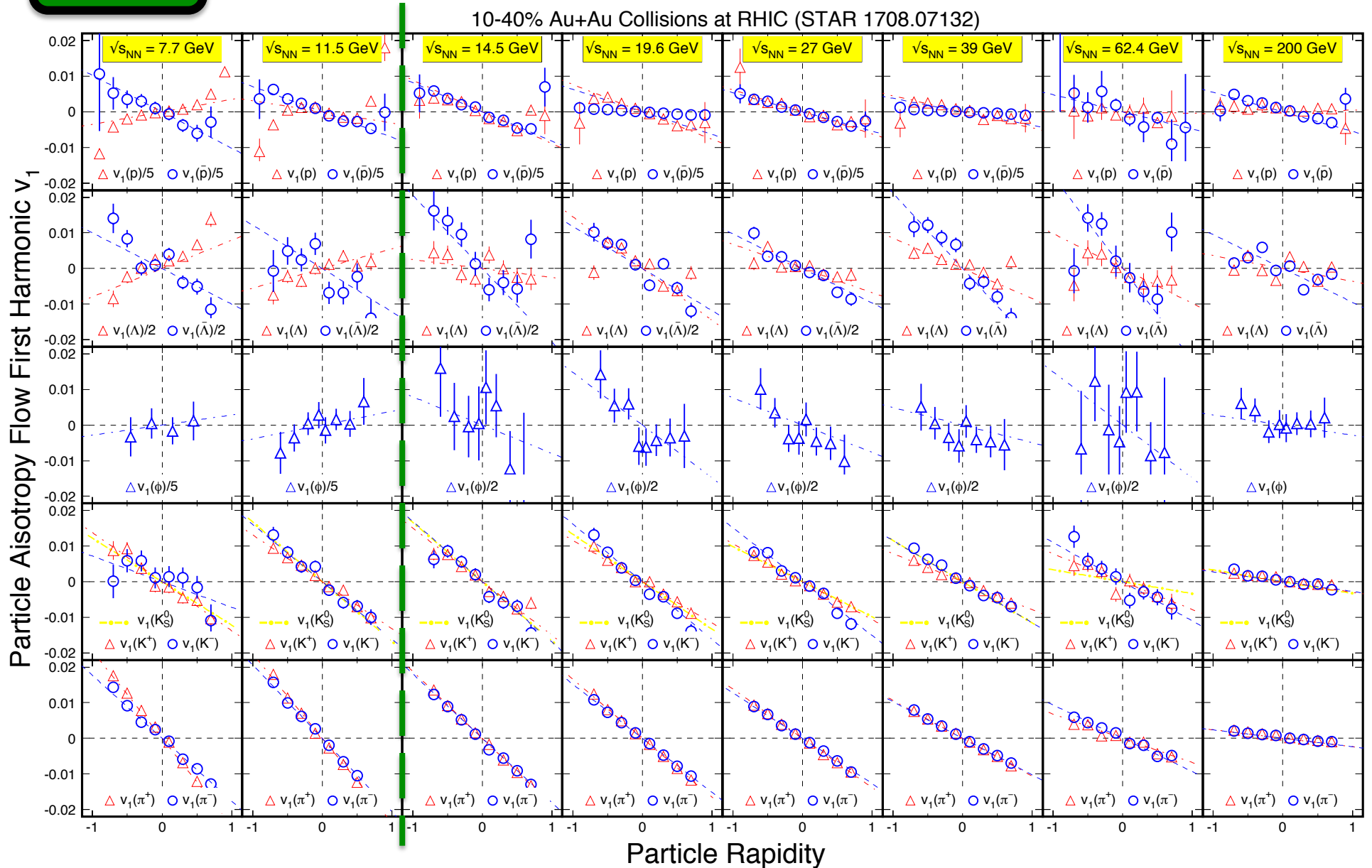
The emergent properties of QCD matter

Collectivity

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\mu [(\varepsilon + p)u^\mu u^\nu - pg^{\mu\nu}] &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu [s u^\mu] &= 0\end{aligned}$$

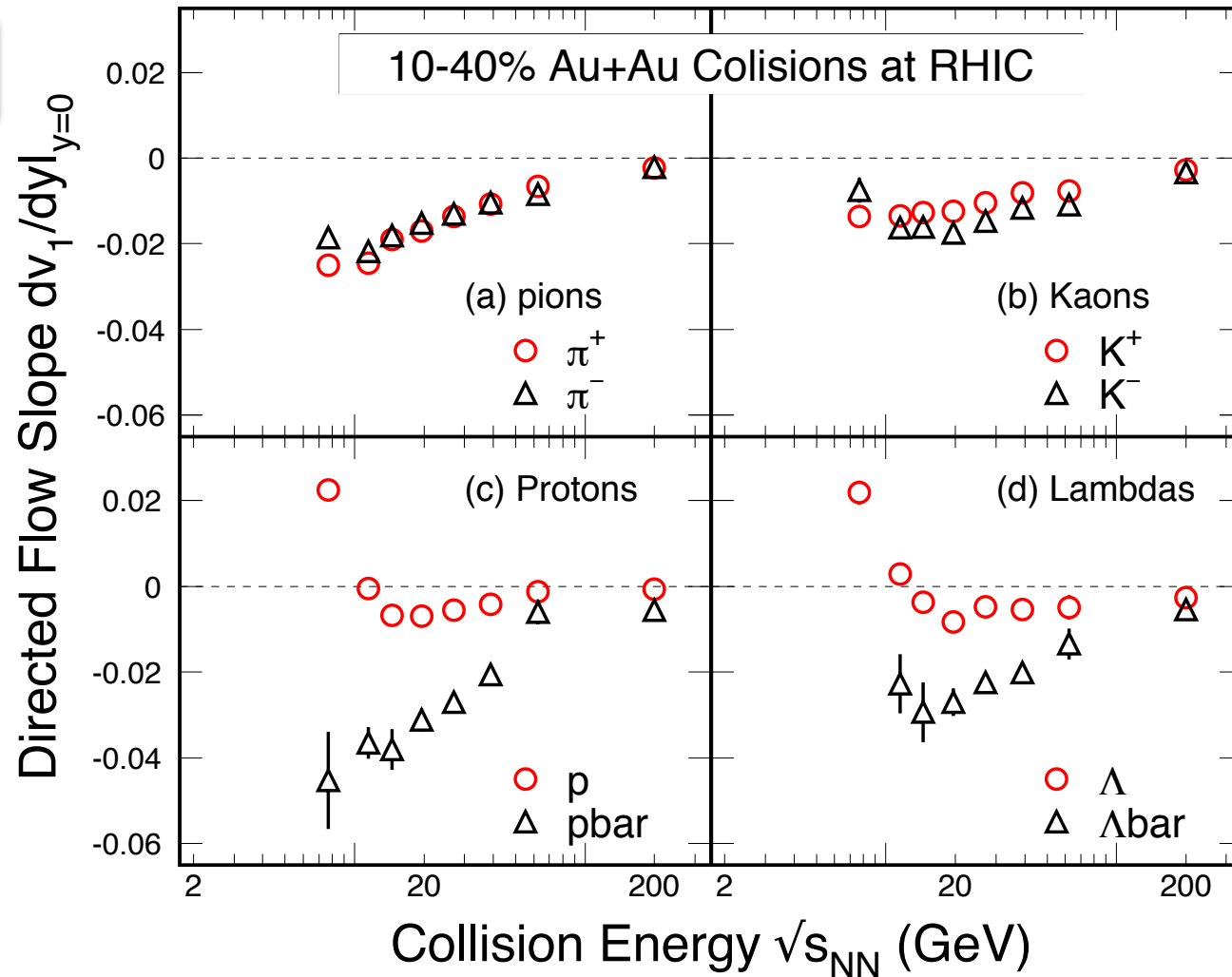
NEW

v_1 versus Collision Energy



v_1 versus Collision Energy

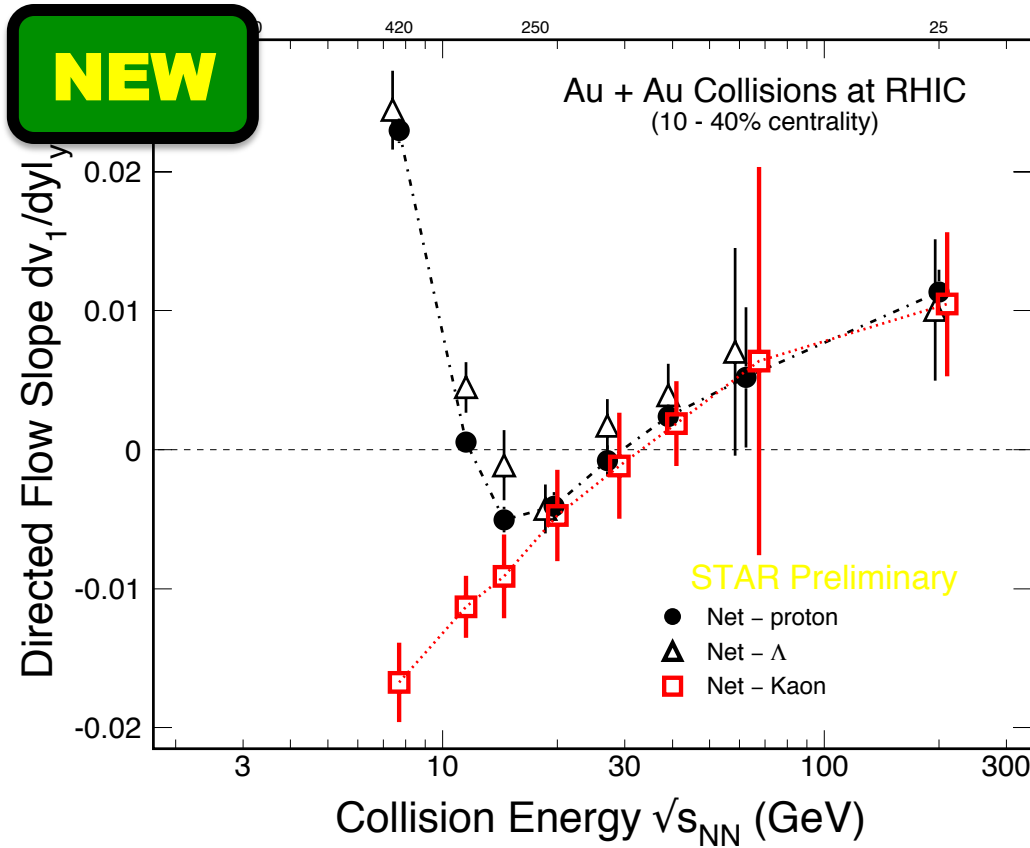
NEW



- 1) All produced hadrons mid-y v_1 slope < 0
- 2) At $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 10$ GeV, Baryons' v_1 becomes > 0

STAR: 1708.07132

v_1 vs. Energy: Softest Point?

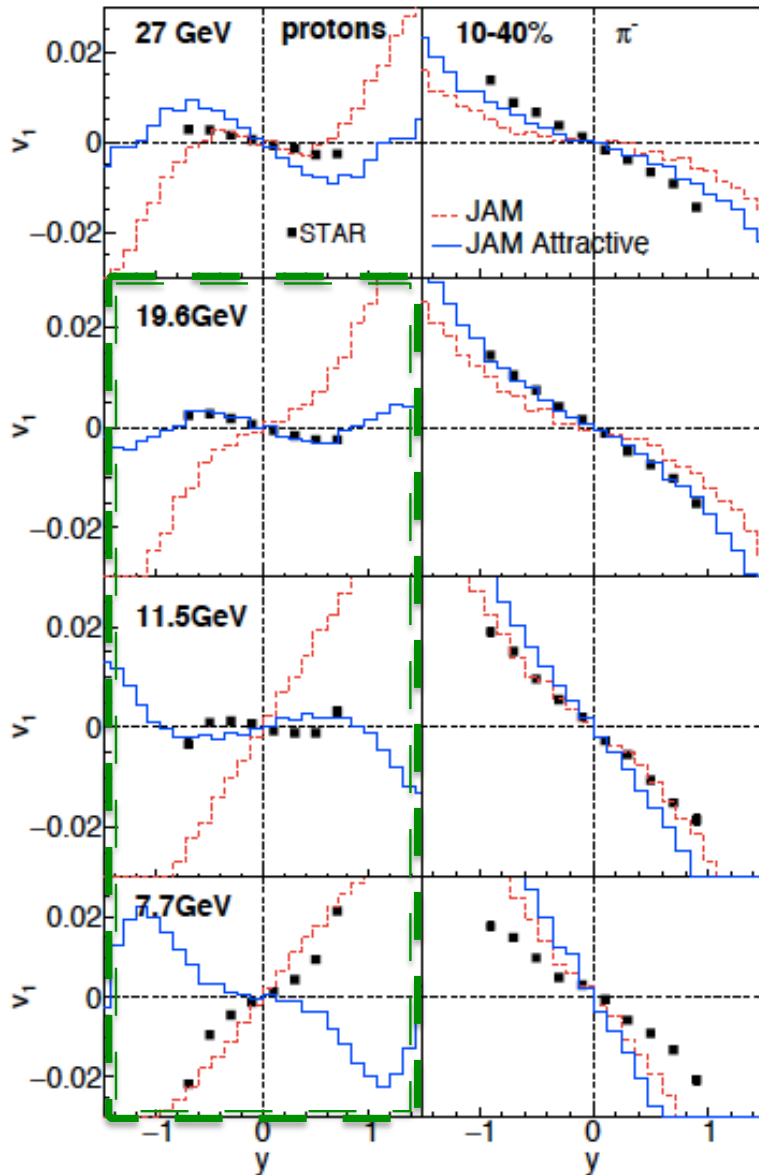


- 1) Minimum at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 10$ GeV for net-proton and net- Λ , but net-Kaon data continue decreasing as energy decreases
- 2) At low energy, or in the region where the net-baryon density is large, repulsive force is expected, v_1 slope is large and positive!
- 3) Softest point only for baryons?
- 4) Need model to explain!

● STAR: PRL **112**, 162301(2014)
 □▲ STAR: 1708.07132

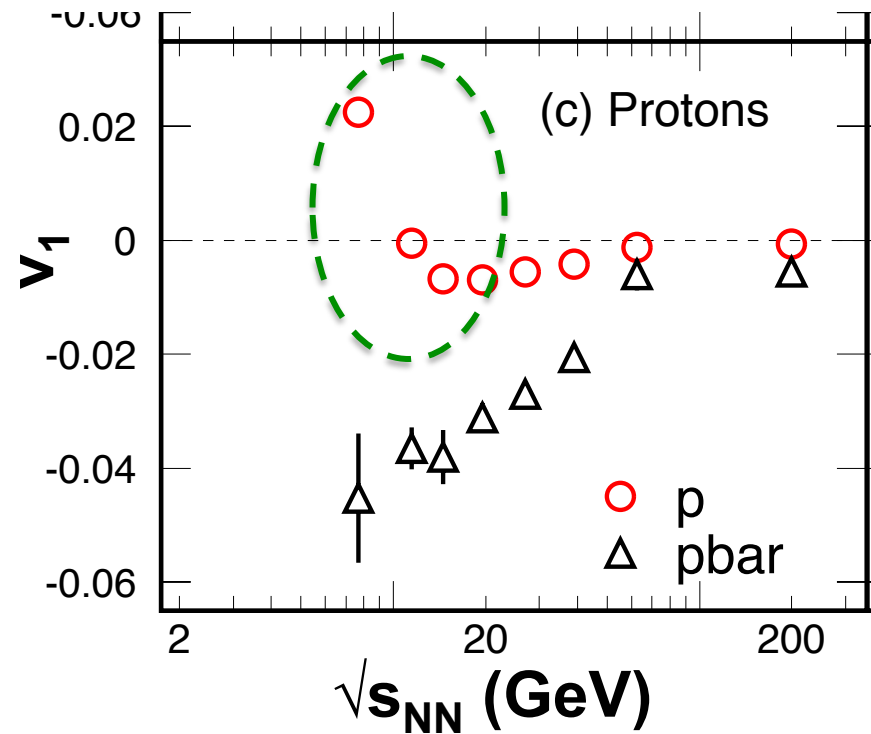
- M. Isse, A. Ohnishi et al, PR **C72**, 064908(05)
 - Y. Nara, A. Ohnishi, H. Stoecker, PRC94, 034906(16), arXiv: **1601.07692**

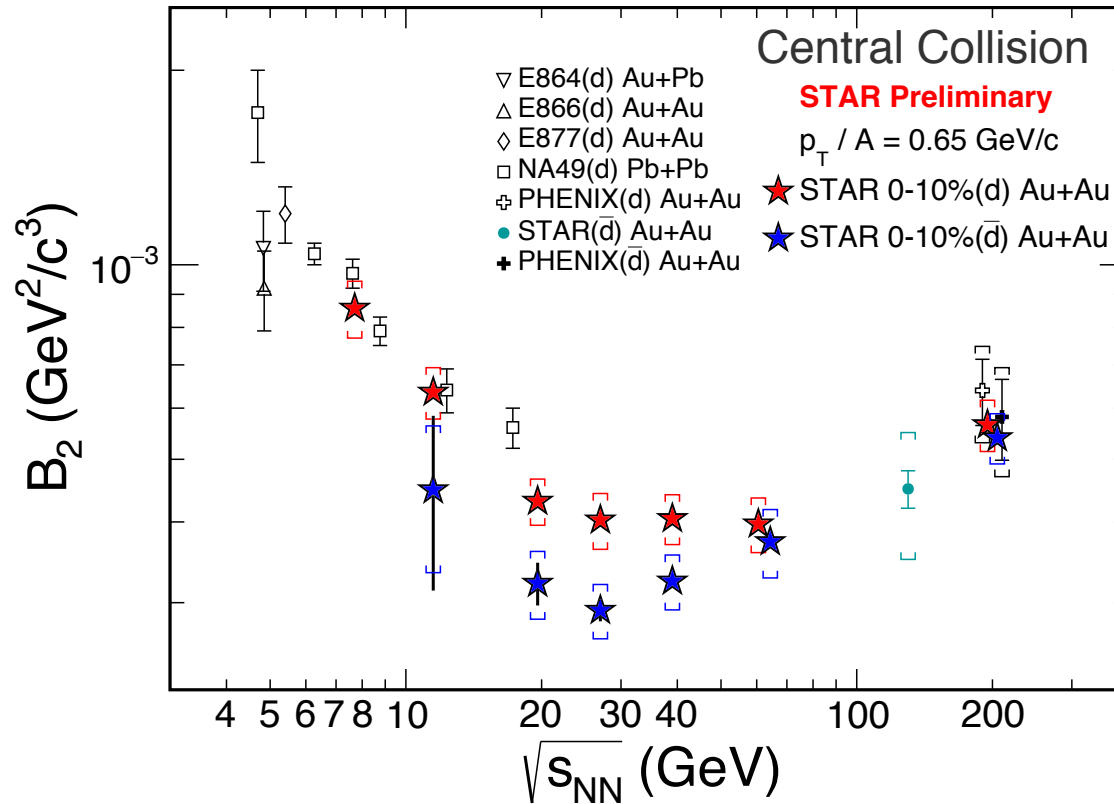
v_1 vs. Energy: Softest Point?



“Attractive force” →
 Change of the EOS
 ~ “softest point”

- Y. Nara, A. Ohnishi, H. Stoecker,
 arXiv: [1601.07692](https://arxiv.org/abs/1601.07692) ; PRC94, 034906(2016)





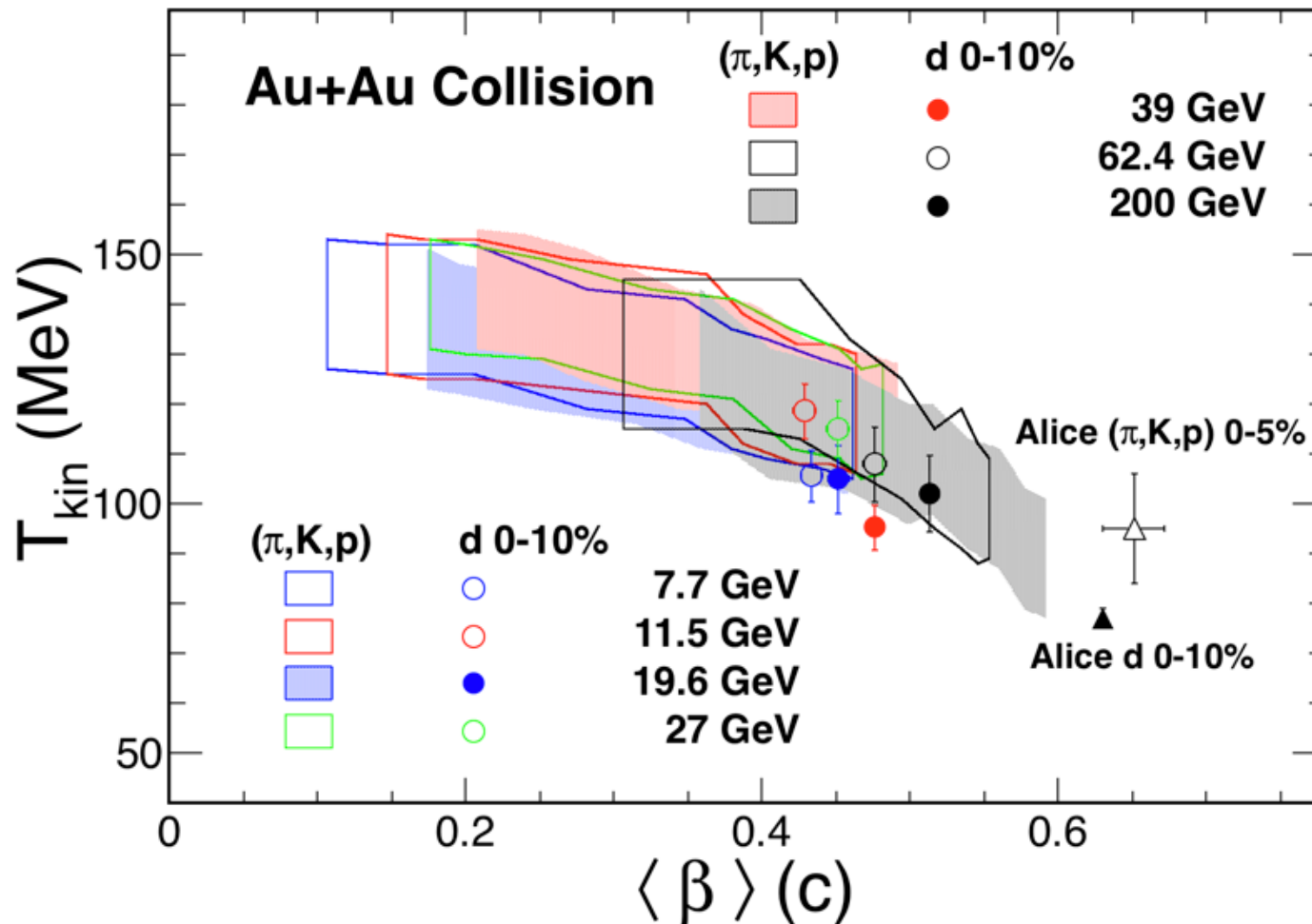
B_2 : Space-momentum correlation between nucleons at freeze-out

$$B_2 = 6\pi^3 \frac{m_d}{m_p^2} \frac{R_{np}}{V_f}$$

- 1) B_2 of d higher than that of anti-d. Isospin effect not enough
- 2) B_2 of both d and anti-d show minima around 20GeV

STAR Data: N. Yu *et al*, QM2015

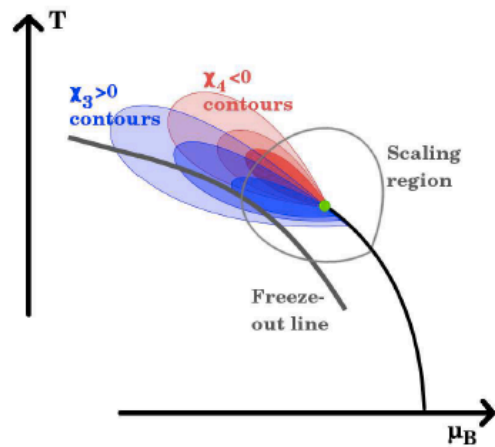
Au+Au Collisions at RHIC

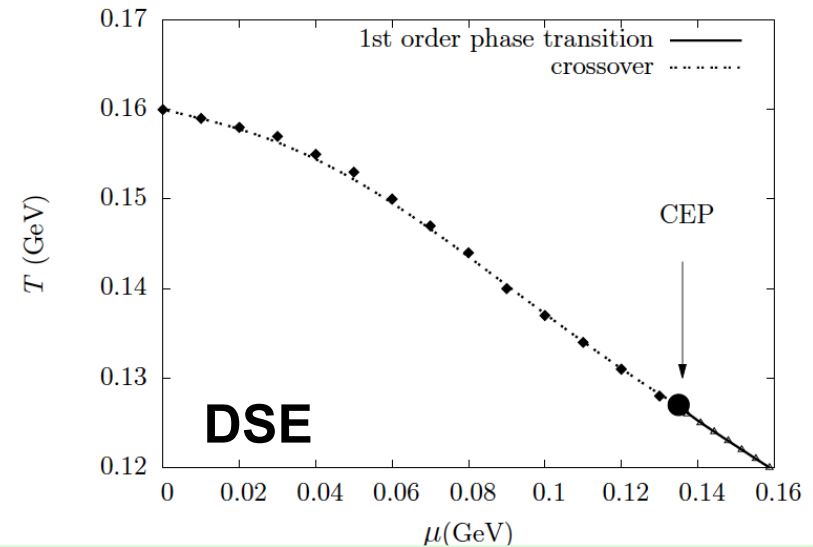
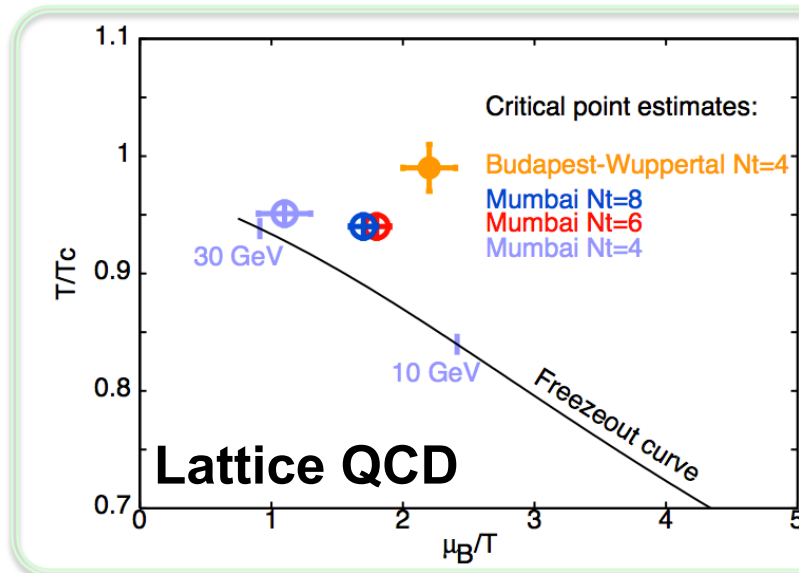


- 1) Blast-wave fit to (pion, Kaon and proton) and light-nuclei (d) transverse momentum spectra separately. Profile parameter $n=1$ used in all fits.
- 2) In the most central (0-10%) Au+Au collisions, light-nuclei kinetic freeze-out at a higher temperature and smaller collectivity parameters, compared to that of light hadrons.
- 3) **When are light-nuclei produced in high-energy nuclear collisions?**

The emergent properties of QCD matter

Criticality





Lattice QCD:

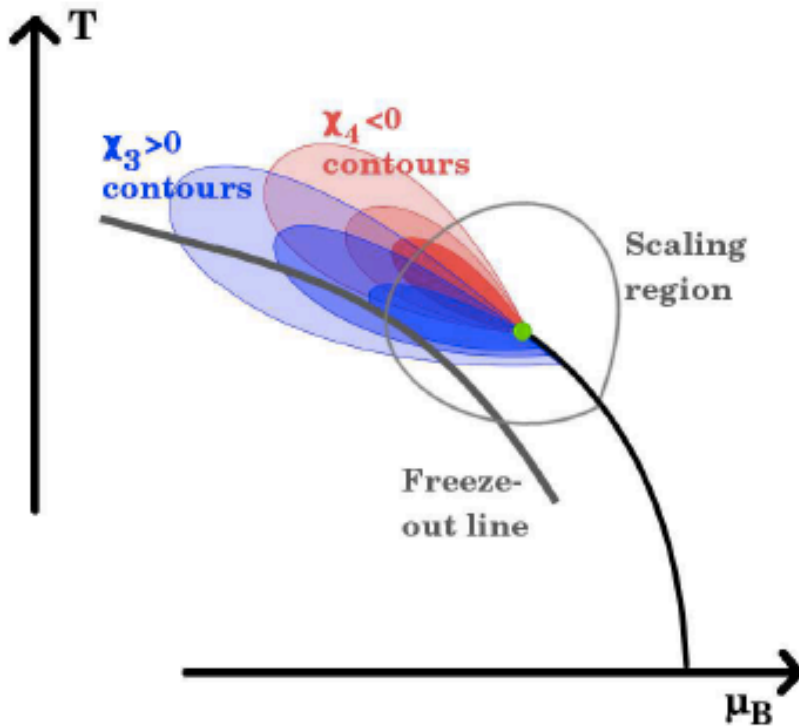
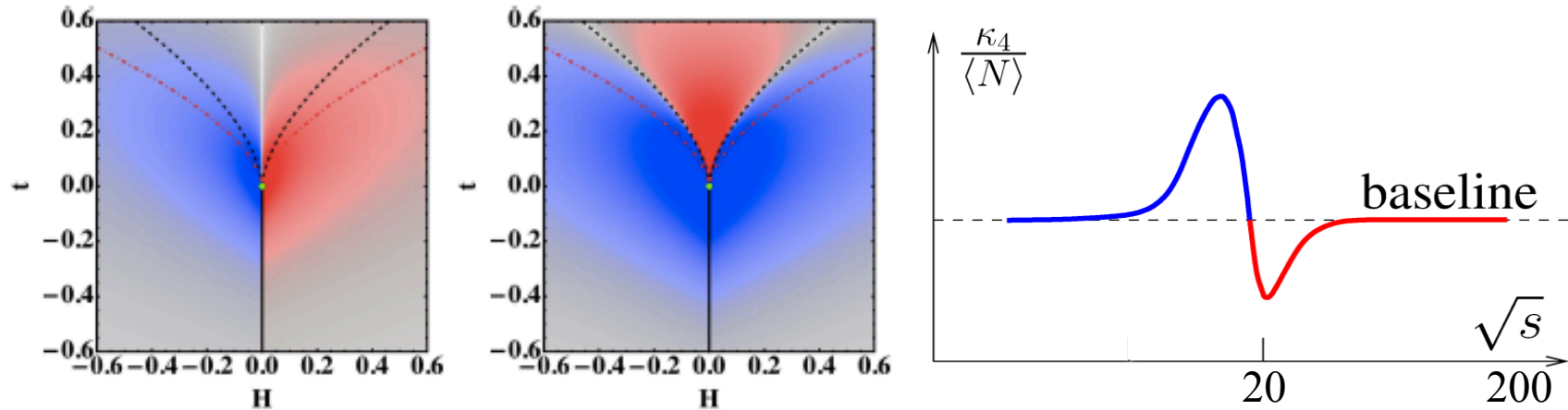
- 1) Fodor and Katz, JHEP 0404,050 (04)
(μ_B^E, T_E) = (360, 162) MeV (Re.)
- 2) Gavai and Gupta, NPA 904, 883c (13)
(μ_B^E, T_E) = (279, 155) MeV (Taylor)
- 3) F. Karsch ($\mu_B^E / T_E > 2$, CPOD2016)

DSE:

- 1) Y. X. Liu, et al., PRD90, 076006(14)
(μ_B^E, T_E) = (372, 129) MeV
- 2) H.S. Zong et al., JHEP 07, 014(14)
(μ_B^E, T_E) = (405, 127) MeV
- 3) C.S. Fischer et al., PRD90, 034022(14)
(μ_B^E, T_E) = (504, 115) MeV

$$\mu_B^E = 300 \sim 504 \text{ MeV}, T_E = 115 \sim 162 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B^E / T_E > 2.5$$

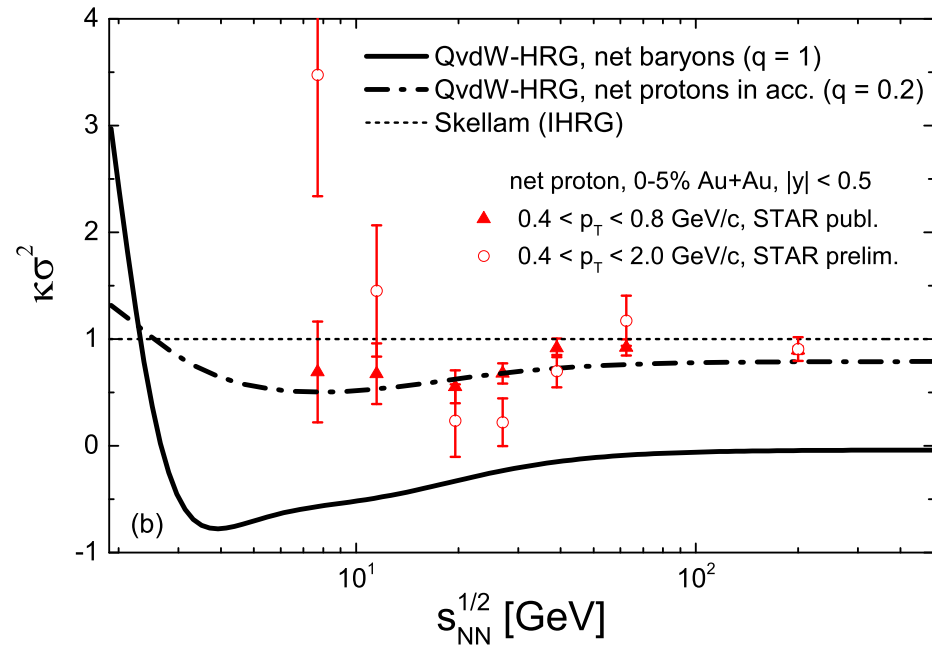
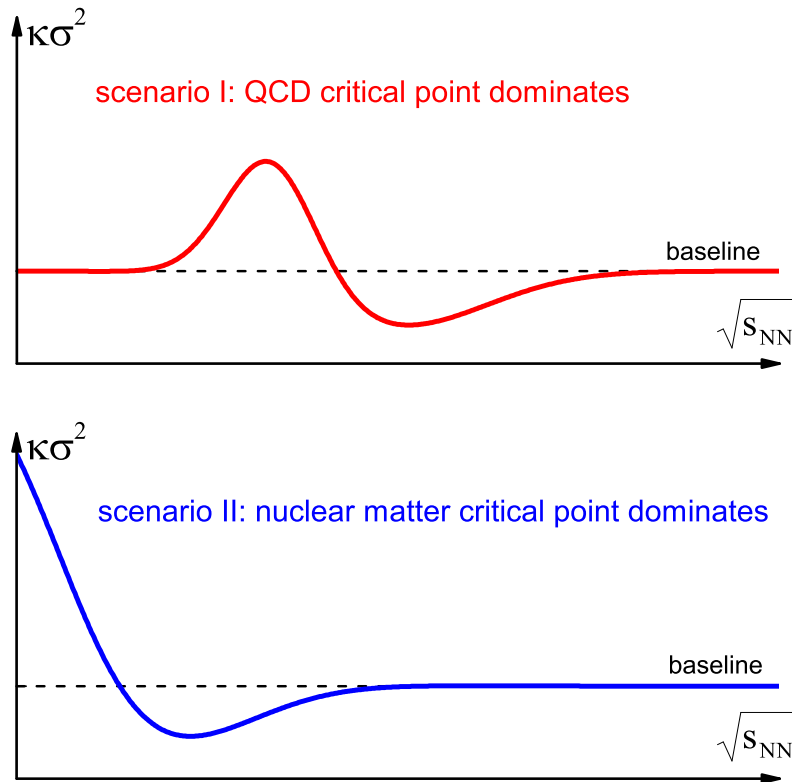
Expectation from Model Calculations

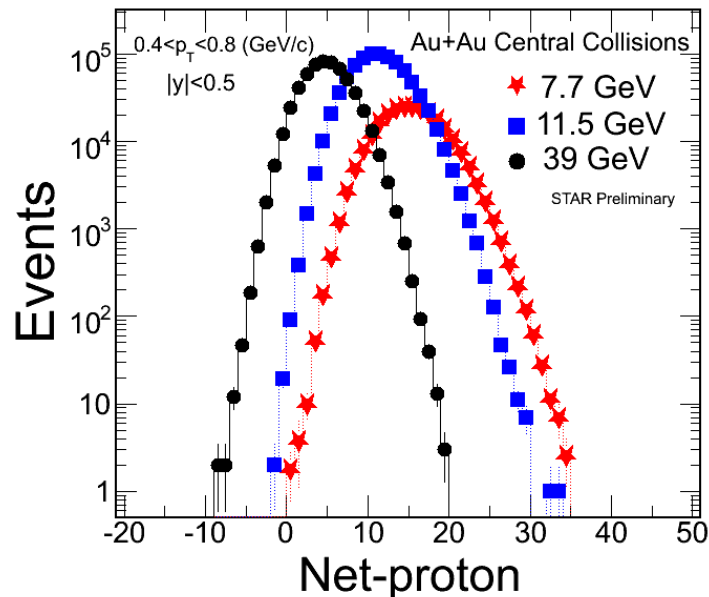
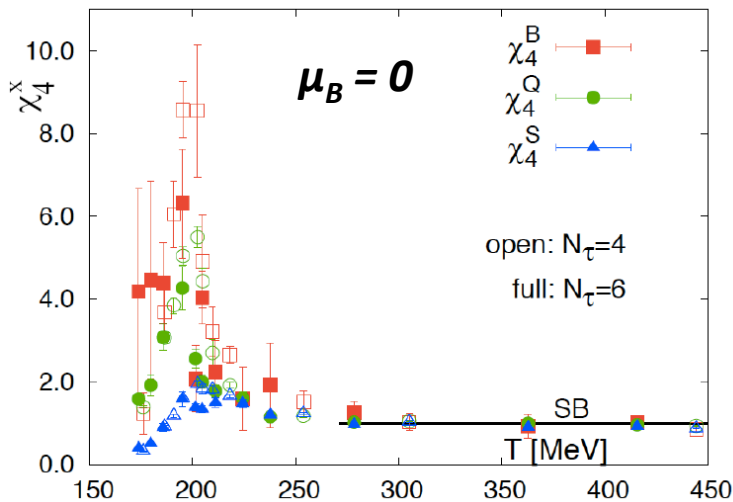


- Characteristic “Oscillating pattern” is expected for the QCD critical point but *the exact shape depends on the location of freeze-out with respect to the location of CP*
- Critical Region (CR)

- M. Stephanov, *PRL* **107**, 052301(2011)
- V. Skokov, Quark Matter 2012
- J.W. Chen, J. Deng, H. Kohyama, arXiv: 1603.05198, Phys. Rev. **D93** (2016) 034037

V. Vochenko, L.J. Jiang, M.I. Gorenstein
and H. Stoecker 1711.07260





1) Higher moments of conserved quantum numbers: **Q, S, B**, in high-energy nuclear collisions

2) Sensitive to critical point (ξ correlation length):

$$\langle (\delta N)^2 \rangle \approx \xi^2, \quad \langle (\delta N)^3 \rangle \approx \xi^{4.5}, \quad \langle (\delta N)^4 \rangle \approx \xi^7$$

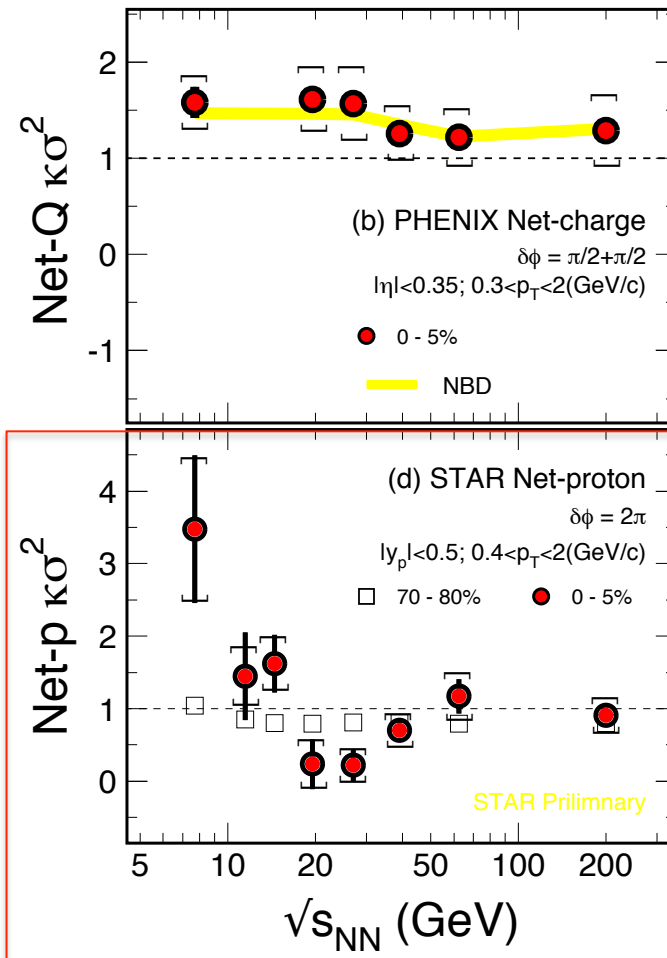
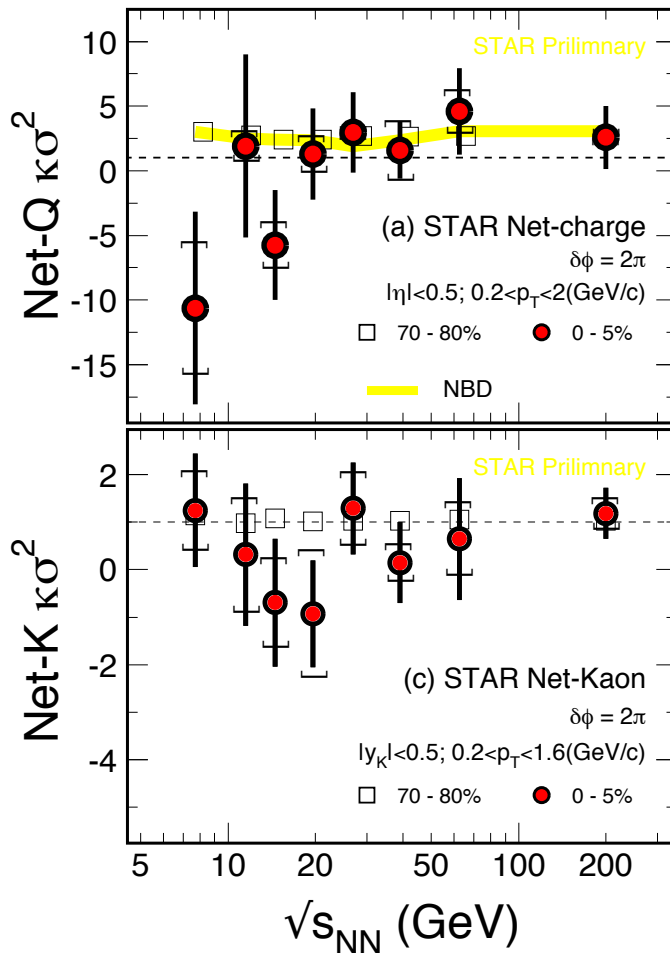
3) Direct comparison with calculations at any order:

$$S\sigma \approx \frac{\chi_B^3}{\chi_B^2}, \quad K\sigma^2 \approx \frac{\chi_B^4}{\chi_B^2}$$

4) **Extract susceptibilities and freeze-out temperature.** An independent/important test of thermal equilibrium in heavy ion collisions.

References:

- STAR: *PRL***105**, 22303(10); *ibid*, **112**, 032302(14)
- S. Ejiri, F. Karsch, K. Redlich, *PLB***633**, 275(06) // M. Stephanov: *PRL***102**, 032301(09) // R.V. Gavai and S. Gupta, *PLB***696**, 459(11) // F. Karsch et al, *PLB***695**, 136(11),
- A. Bazavov et al., *PRL***109**, 192302(12) // S. Borsanyi et al., *PRL***111**, 062005(13) // V. Skokov et al., *PRC***88**, 034901(13)
- PBM, A. Rustamov, J. Stachel, arXiv:1612.00702



$$\text{error}(\kappa * \sigma^2) \propto$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\sigma^2}{\epsilon^2}$$

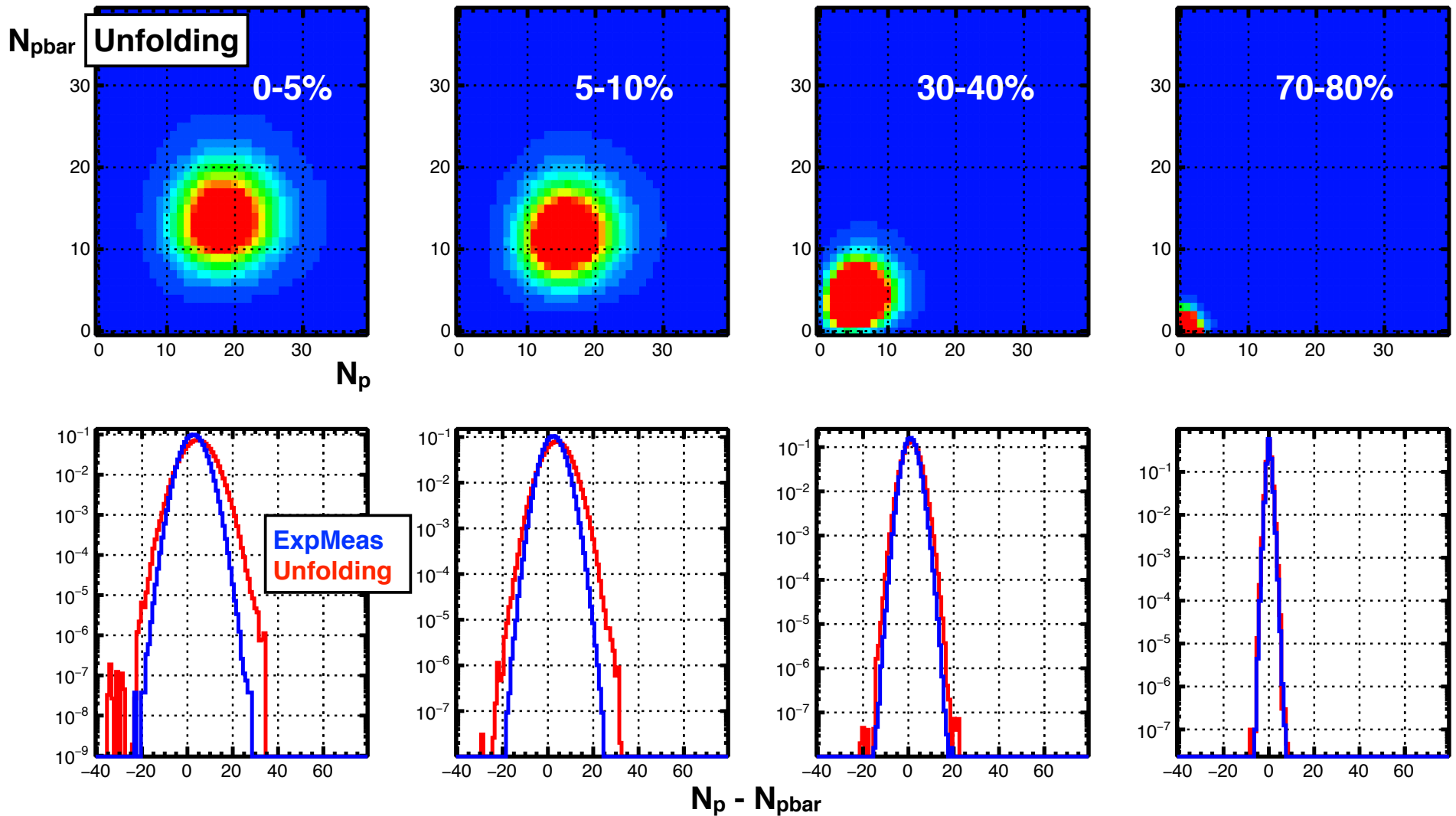
In STAR:

$$\sigma(Q) > \sigma(K) > \sigma(p)$$

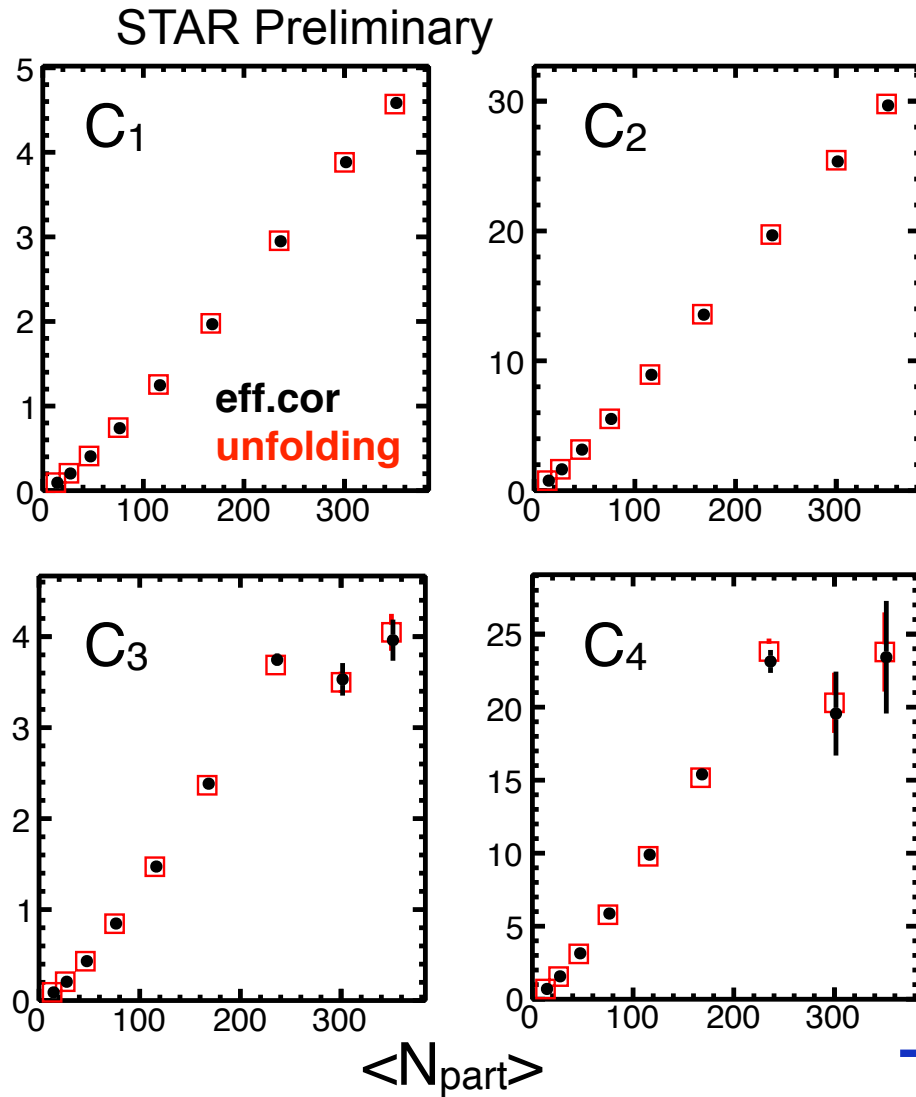
- 1) The results of net-Q and net-Kaon show flat energy dependence.
- 2) Net-p shows **non-monotonic energy dependence** in the most central Au+Au collisions starting at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 27$ GeV!

Unfolded distributions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$, net-proton, $|y| < 0.5$, $0.4 < p_T < 2.0 \text{ (GeV/c)}$,
without CBWC nor VFC, binomial model, one RM unfolding with 30+100 iterations

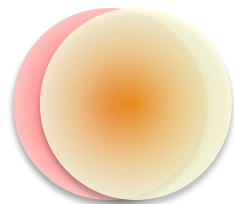


Unfolding: $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV Au+Au Collisions

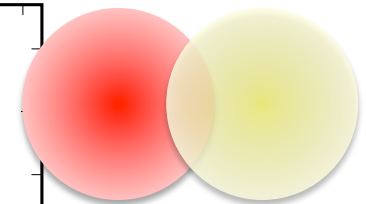


- 1) Unfolding method established
- 2) Embedding used to generate the response matrix
- 3) Final results will follow soon

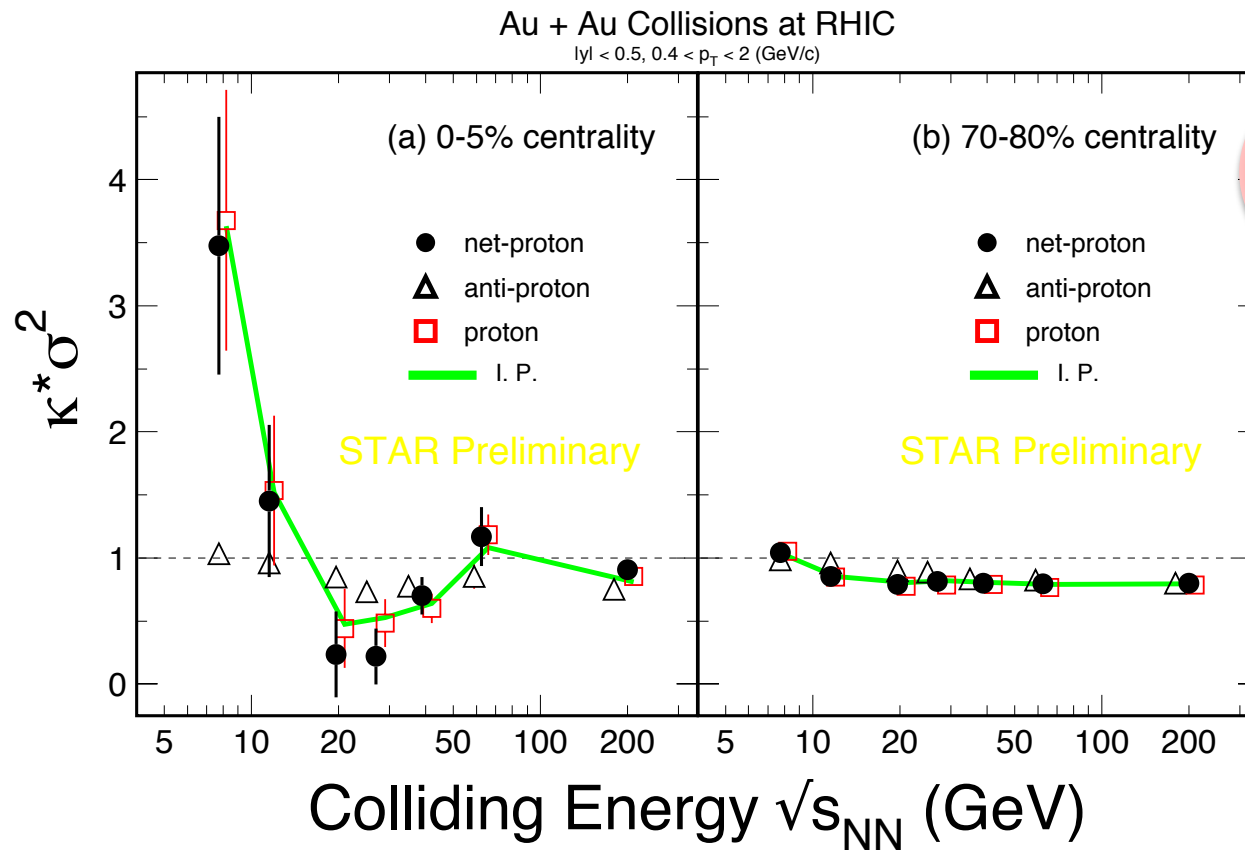
From T. Nonaka and S. Esumi



central



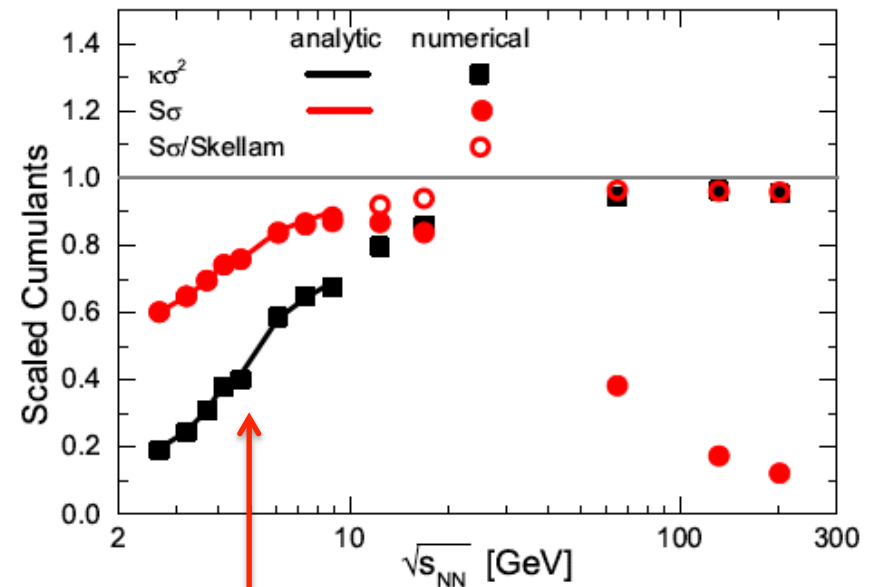
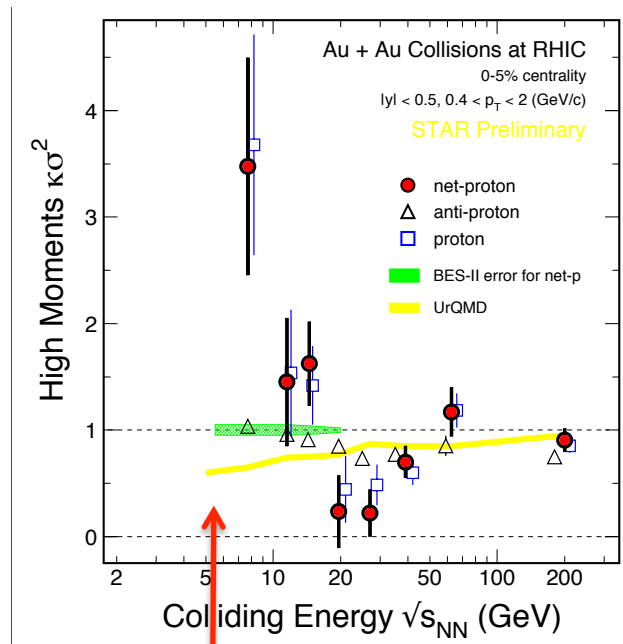
peripheral



- 1) Flat energy dependence for 70-80% peripheral collisions
- 2) Non-monotonic behavior in the most central 0-5%, and 5-10% collisions. Net-p follow protons, especially at lower collision energies

STAR Data: X.F. Luo, CPOD2014, QM2015

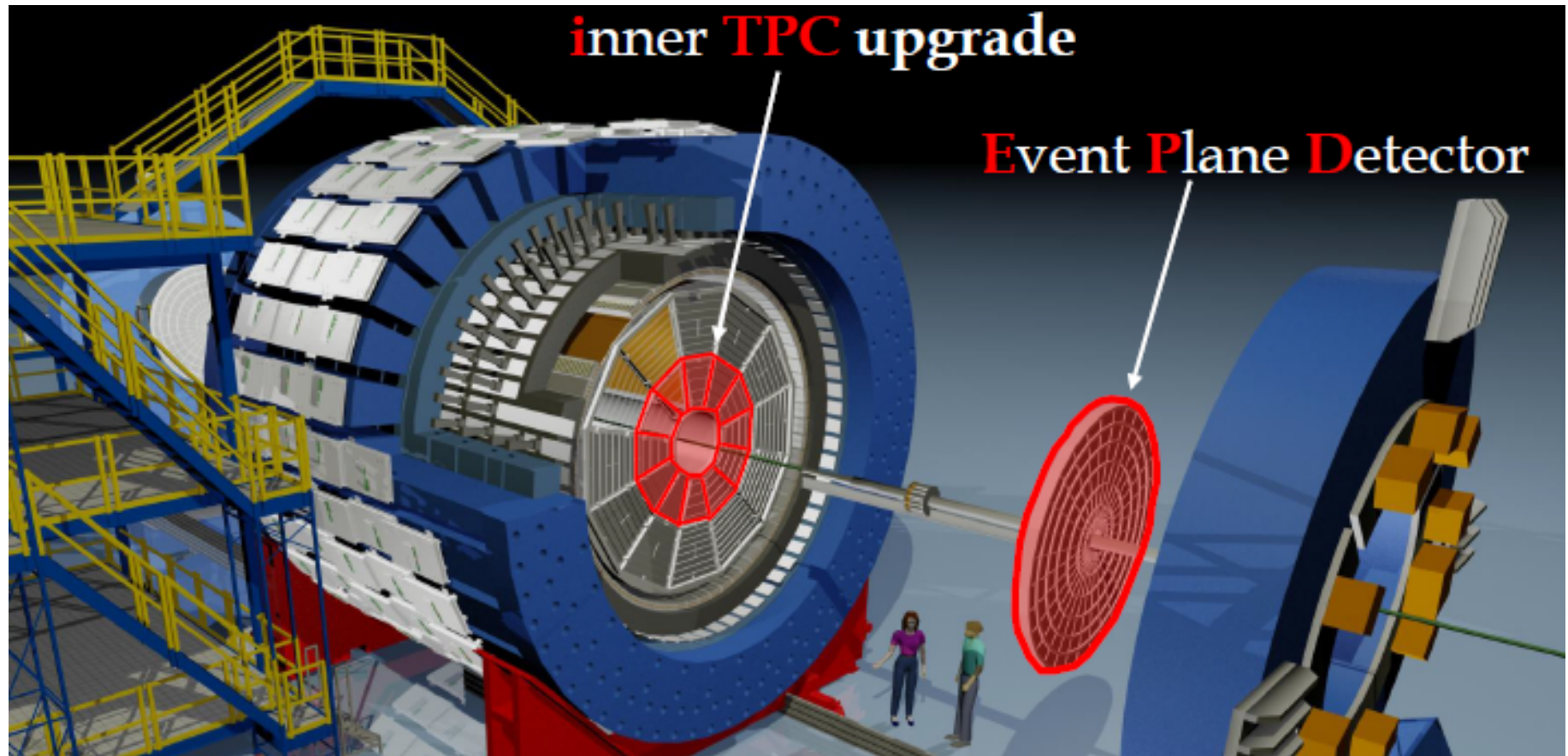
No Model Reproduces the 'Attraction'!



At $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 10$ GeV: **Data: $\kappa\sigma^2 > 1!$ Model: $\kappa\sigma^2 < 1!$**

All models: suppress higher order net-proton fluctuations
(UrQMD, AMPT, HRG and JAM do not reproduce data)

- 1) Z. Feckova, J. Steonheimer, B. Tomasik, M. Bleicher, 1510.05519, [PRC92](#), 064908(15)
- 2) X.F. Luo *et al*, NP [A931](#), 808(14); P.K. Netrakanti *et al.*, NP [A947](#), 248(16); P. Garg *et al.* Phys. Lett. [B726](#), 691(13)
- 3) **Baryon mean-field (attractive)**: Shu He *et al.*, Phys. Lett. [B762](#), 296(2016).
- 4) **Proton clusters**: A. Bzdak, V. Koch, V. Sokolov, Eur. Phys. J., [C77](#), 288(2017)
Interesting but unfinished, needs include dynamic effects in HIC.



- 1) Enlarge rapidity acceptance
- 2) Improve particle identification
- 3) Enhance event plane resolution

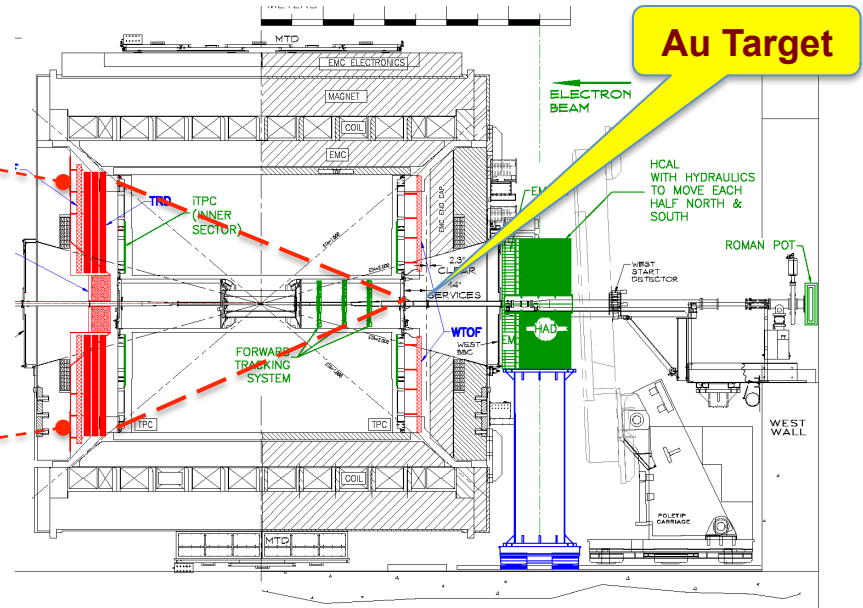
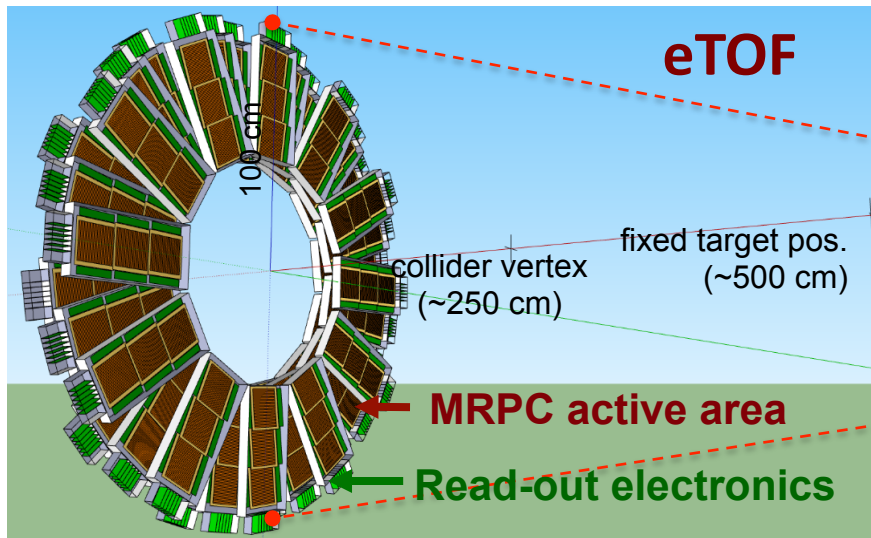
iTPC, EPD, eTOF
Dedicated two runs at
RHIC: 2019 & 2020

2019-2020: BES-II at RHIC

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	Events (10^6)	BES II / BES I	Weeks	μ_B (MeV)	T_{CH} (MeV)
200	350	2010		25	166
62.4	67	2010		73	165
54.4	1200	2017			
39	39	2010		112	164
27	70	2011		156	162
19.6	400 / 36	2019-20 / 2011	3	206	160
14.5	300 / 20	2019-20 / 2014	2.5	264	156
11.5	230 / 12	2019-20 / 2010	5	315	152
9.2	160 / 0.3	2019-20 / 2008	9.5	355	140
7.7	100 / 4	2019-20 / 2010	14	420	140

Precision measurements, map the QCD
phase diagram **$200 < \mu_B < 420 \text{ MeV}$**

CBM Phase-0 Exp: eTOF at STAR



Install, commission and use 10% of the CBM TOF modules, including the read-out chains at STAR, starting in 2019

CBM participating in RHIC Beam Energy BES-II in 2019-2020:

- Complementary to part of CBM's physics program:

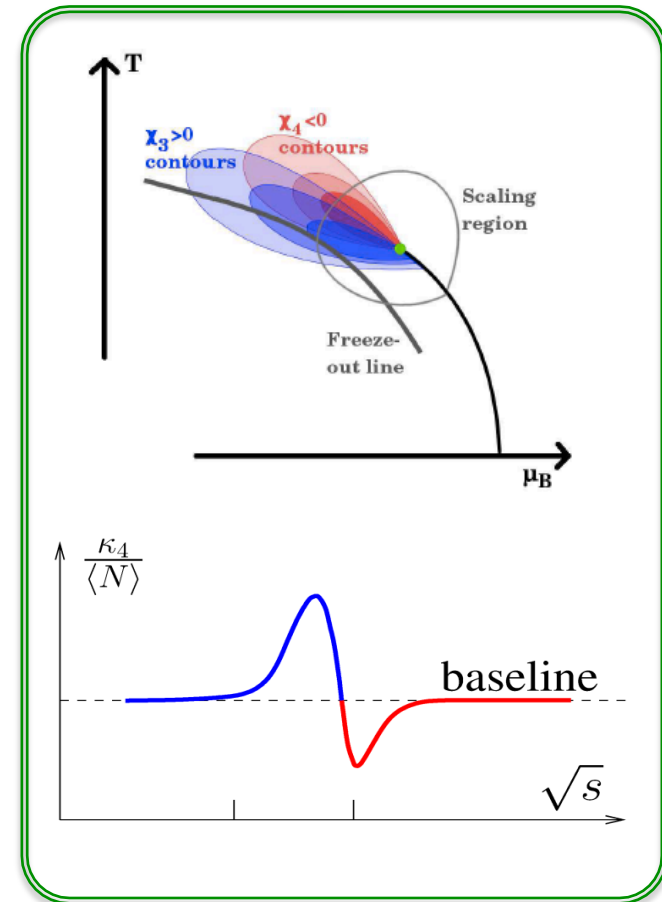
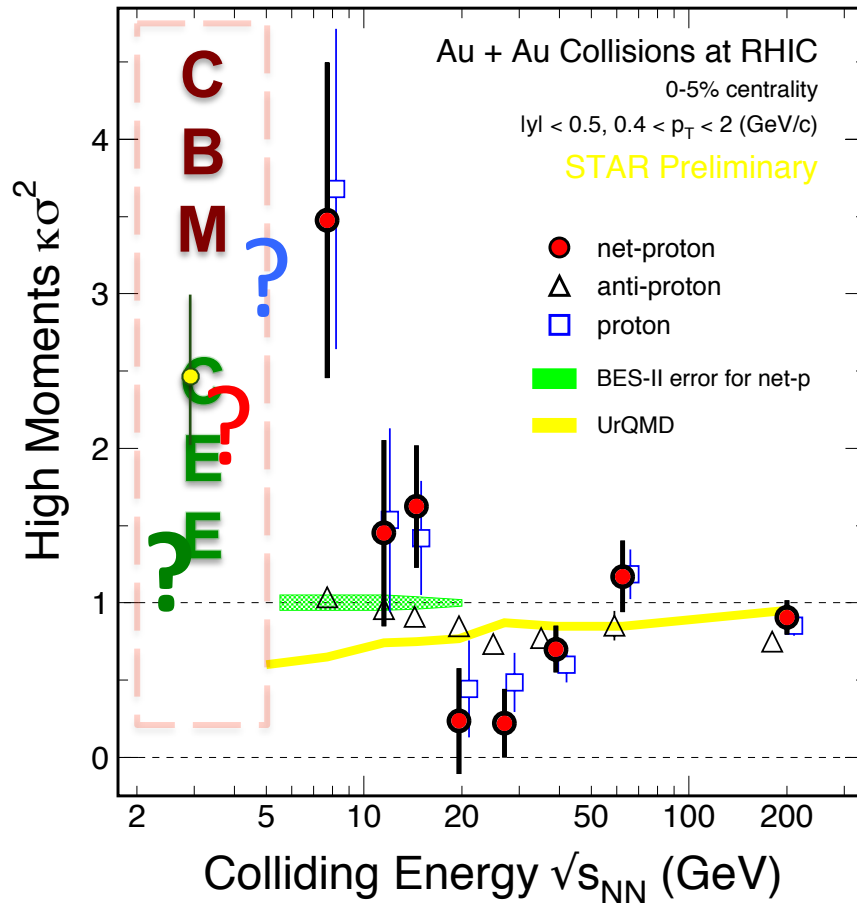
$$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3, 3.6, 3.9, 4.5, 7.7 \text{ GeV} \quad (750 \geq \mu_B \geq 420 \text{ MeV})$$

especially for *B-* & *s-hadrons* production and fluctuations

FAIR construction started, beam on target in 2025!

Search for the QCD Critical Point

- HADES preliminary, SQM16, $|y| < 0.2$



- RHIC BES-II: dramatically reduce the errors!
- CBM/RHIC FXT/HADES Experiments ($2.5 < \sqrt{s}_{NN} < 8$ GeV):
Key region for Critical Point search

- 1) At the mid-baryon density region, $\mu_B > 250$ MeV ($\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 20$ GeV), interesting behaviors observed in Collectivity (Chirality) and Criticality!
- 2) High statistic data at high baryon regions needed: RHIC STAR BES-II, NICA, CBM, J-PARC(?).
- 3) At $\mu_B \sim 0$ MeV, the high-energy limit, more data needed for the experimental evidence of the ‘smooth-crossover’.

Acknowledgements

X. Dong, S. Esumi, S. Gupta, XG. Huang, V. Koch, JF. Liao, F. Liu, F. Lu, XF. Luo, B. Mohanty, HG. Ritter, SS. Shi, M. Stephanov, ZG. Xiao, PF. Zhuang

Thanks for your attention!