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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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RHIC Highlights and Future II

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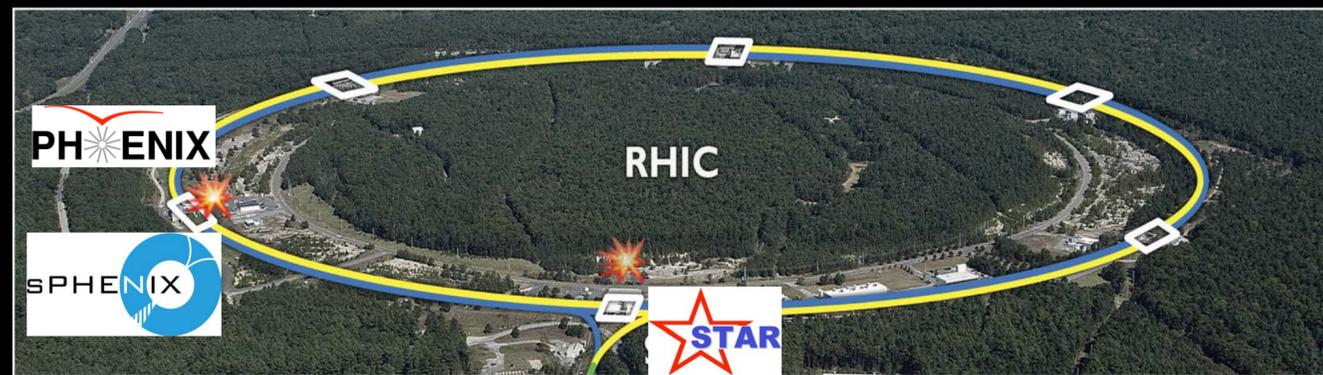
NSAC Long-Range Plan Town Hall Meeting on Hot and Cold QCD, Sep 23-25, 2022, MIT



RHIC highlights & Future

- Unique hot QCD topics to be done at RHIC
 1. Inner working of the QGP with hard probes
 2. Mapping the QCD phase diagrams
 3. Search for the Chiral properties of the medium
 4. Vortical fluid & new probes hydro paradigm
- Topics that bridge RHIC & EIC science
 5. Origin of small system collectivity
 6. Imaging nuclei in the pre-EIC era
 7. Microscopic structure of a baryon

This talk will focus on soft probes, for hard probes see talk by Megan Connors: **RHIC Highlights and Future I**



The collage features a vertical timeline of calendar pages from 2015 to 2023. Key elements include:

- 2015:** STAR logo, PHENIX logo, and the cover of 'The 2015 LONG RANGE PLAN for NUCLEAR SCIENCE'.
- 2016-2018:** Nature magazine covers with titles like 'SUBATOMIC SWIRLS', 'The geometry of a quark-gluon plasma', and 'Ru+Ru' and 'Zr+Zr' collision diagrams.
- 2019-2020:** 'nature physics' cover, 'The geometry of a quark-gluon plasma', and a diagram of a quark-gluon plasma.
- 2021-2022:** 'Hot & Cold QCD 2022 Town Hall Meeting' poster, a QCD phase diagram showing '1st-order phase transition', 'Hadrons', and 'Neutron stars', and a STAR detector image.
- 2023:** A yellow arrow pointing right towards the year 2023.

DATA ON TAPE

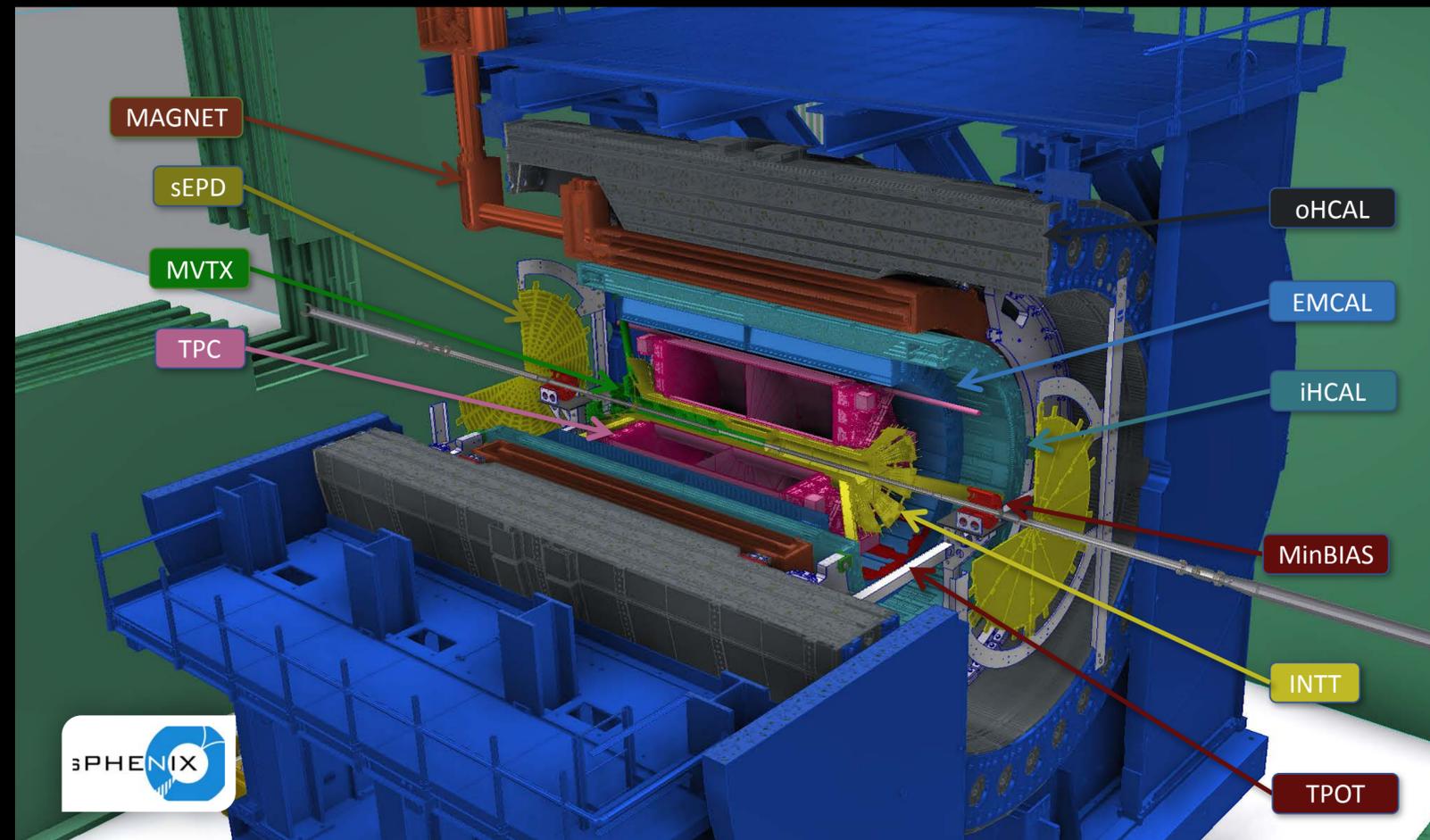
Topics that need analysis of already collected data

NEED MORE DATA

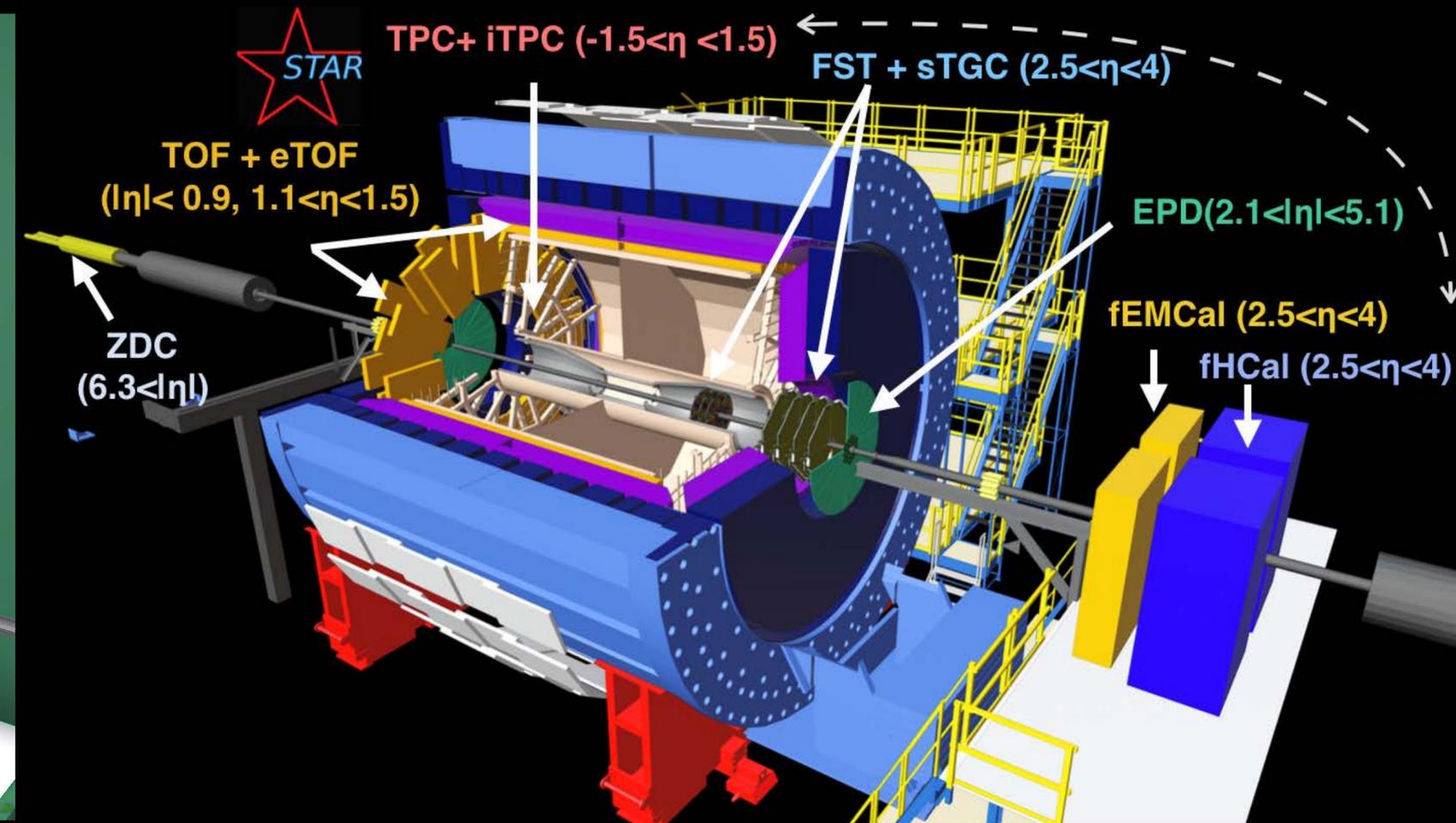
Outstanding questions that can be answered only with more data from future runs

Remaining years of RHIC running with sPHENIX & STAR

Unique, purpose-built sPHENIX detector for precision on hard probes



Significant new forward and mid-rapidity capabilities of the upgraded STAR detector



Complete the planned RHIC operations by collecting p+p, p+A & A+A data to achieve required precision
Fully exploit the unique detector capabilities, kinematics & polarization of proton beams
Compliment LHC program with probe different kinematics

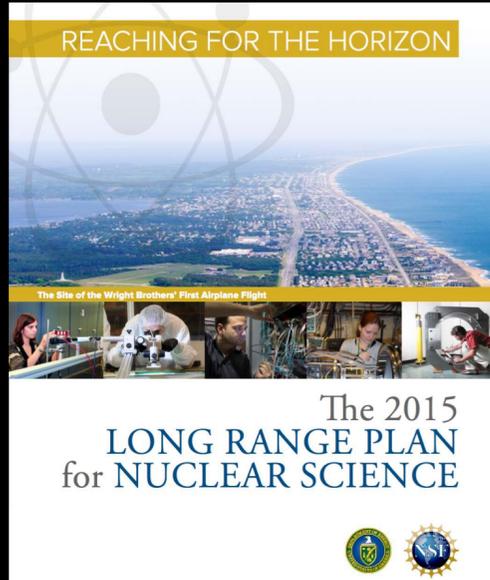
Goal is to complete the RHIC Hot and Cold QCD missions with sPHENIX and upgraded STAR detector

Unique hot QCD topics at RHIC

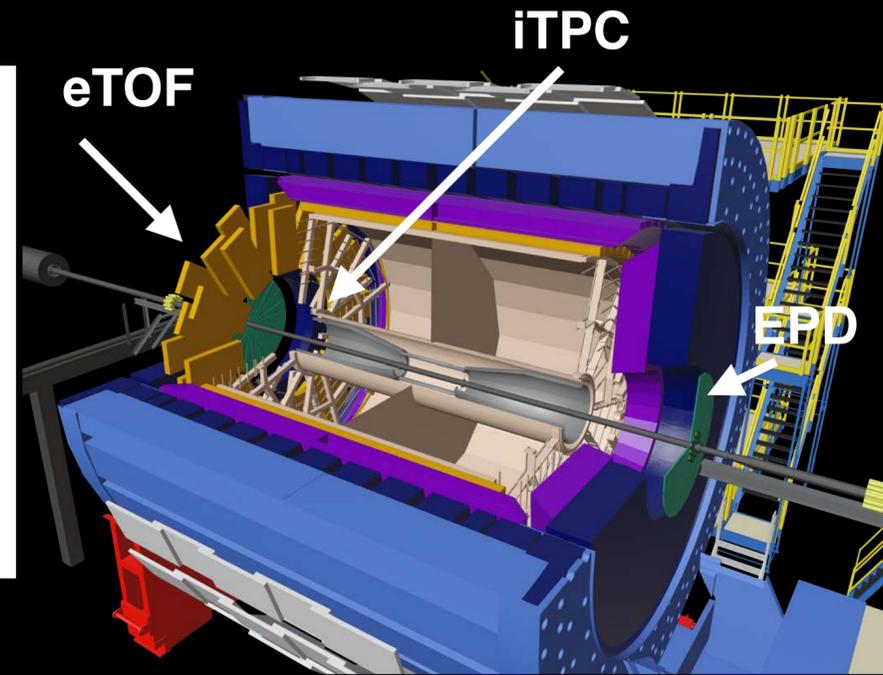
1. Mapping the QCD phase diagrams
2. Search for the Chiral properties of the medium
3. Vortical fluid & new probes of the hydrodynamic paradigm

Mapping the QCD phase diagram

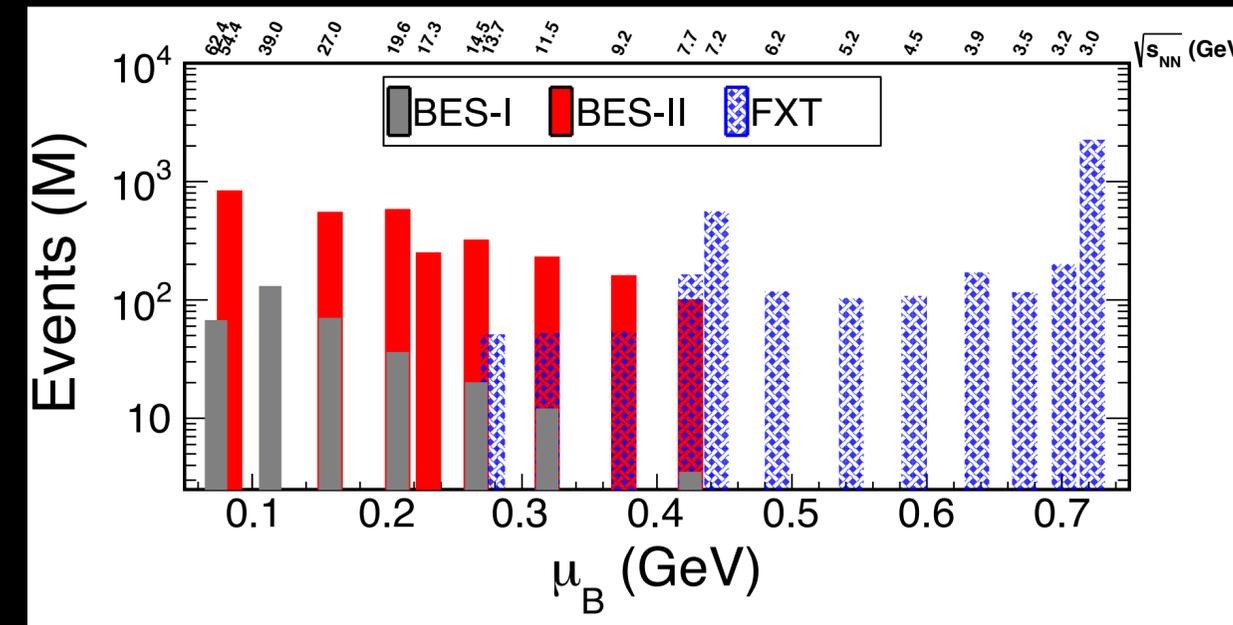
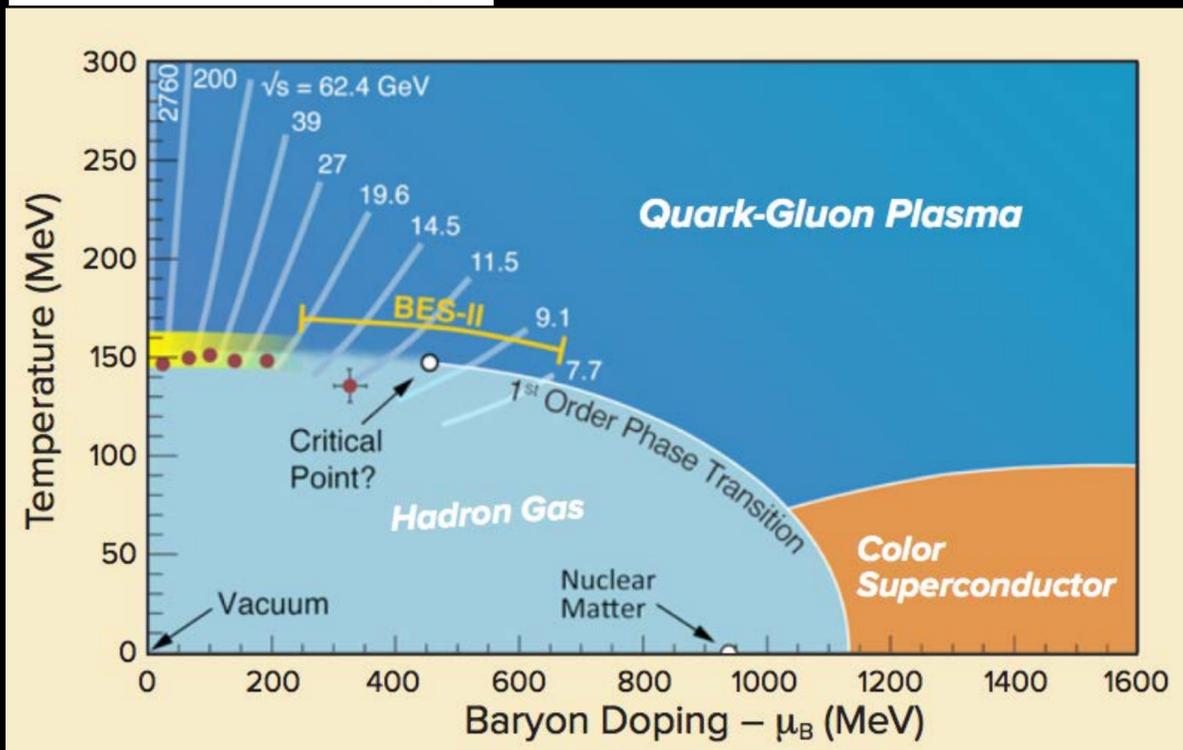
Talk by Xin Dong (Sat)



There are two central goals of measurements planned at RHIC, as it completes its scientific mission, and at the LHC: **(1) Probe the inner workings of QGP by resolving its properties at shorter and shorter length scales. The complementarity of the two facilities is essential to this goal, as is a state-of-the-art jet detector at RHIC, called sPHENIX. (2) Map the phase diagram of QCD with experiments planned at RHIC.**



STAR BES-II upgrade:
improved tracking,
PID & event plane
determination
capabilities
(completed in 2019)



Doping the QGP with baryons & map the region of phase diagram inaccessible to other facilities

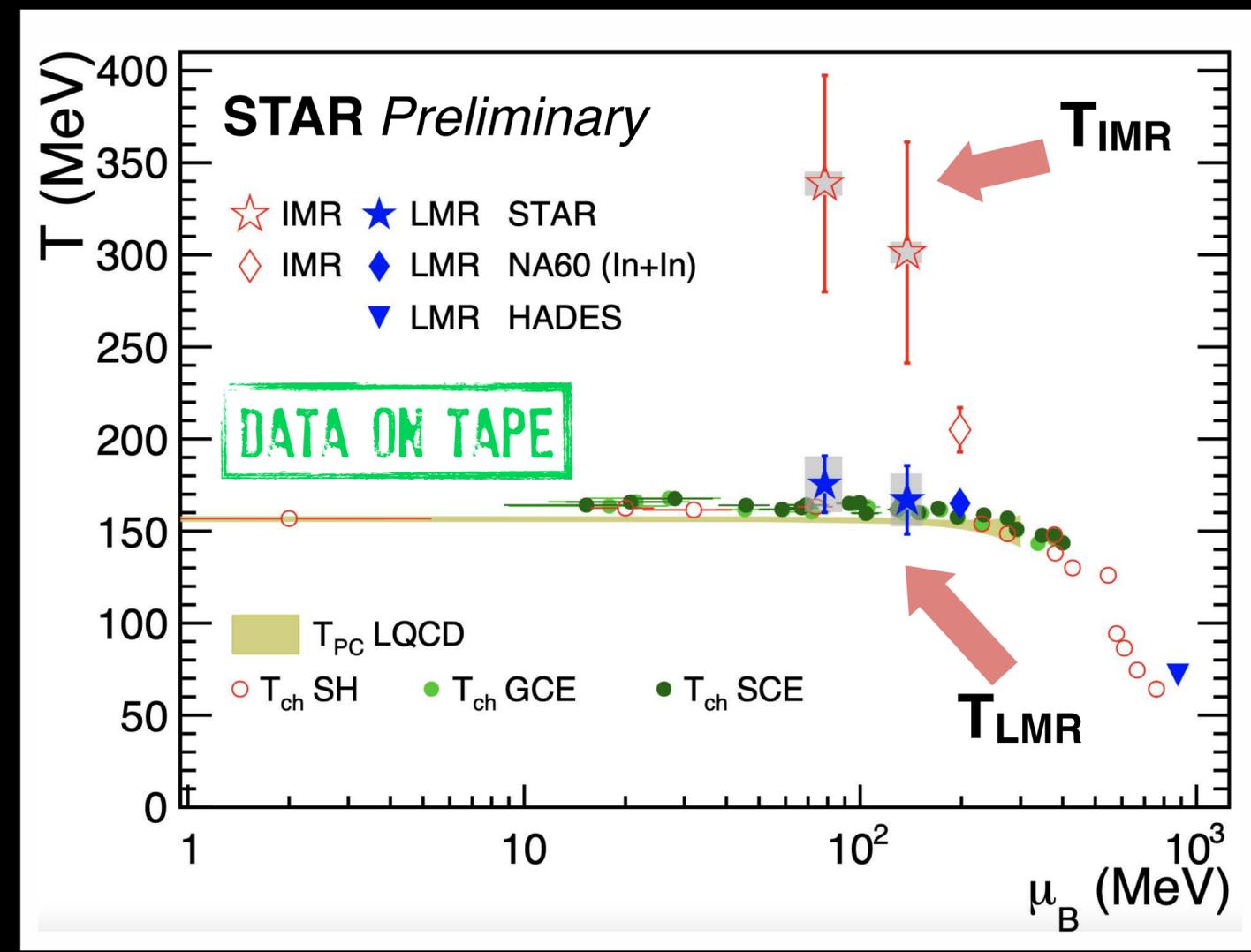
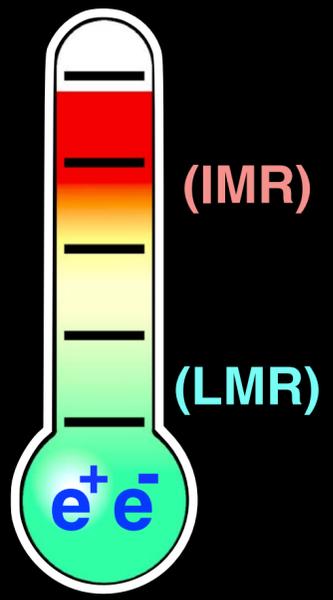
8 collider energies 7.7 - 54 GeV, 12 FXT energies 3.0 - 13.7 GeV (finished in 2021, analysis ongoing)

Continued support necessary to complete of the goal envisioned in 2015 NSAC LRP

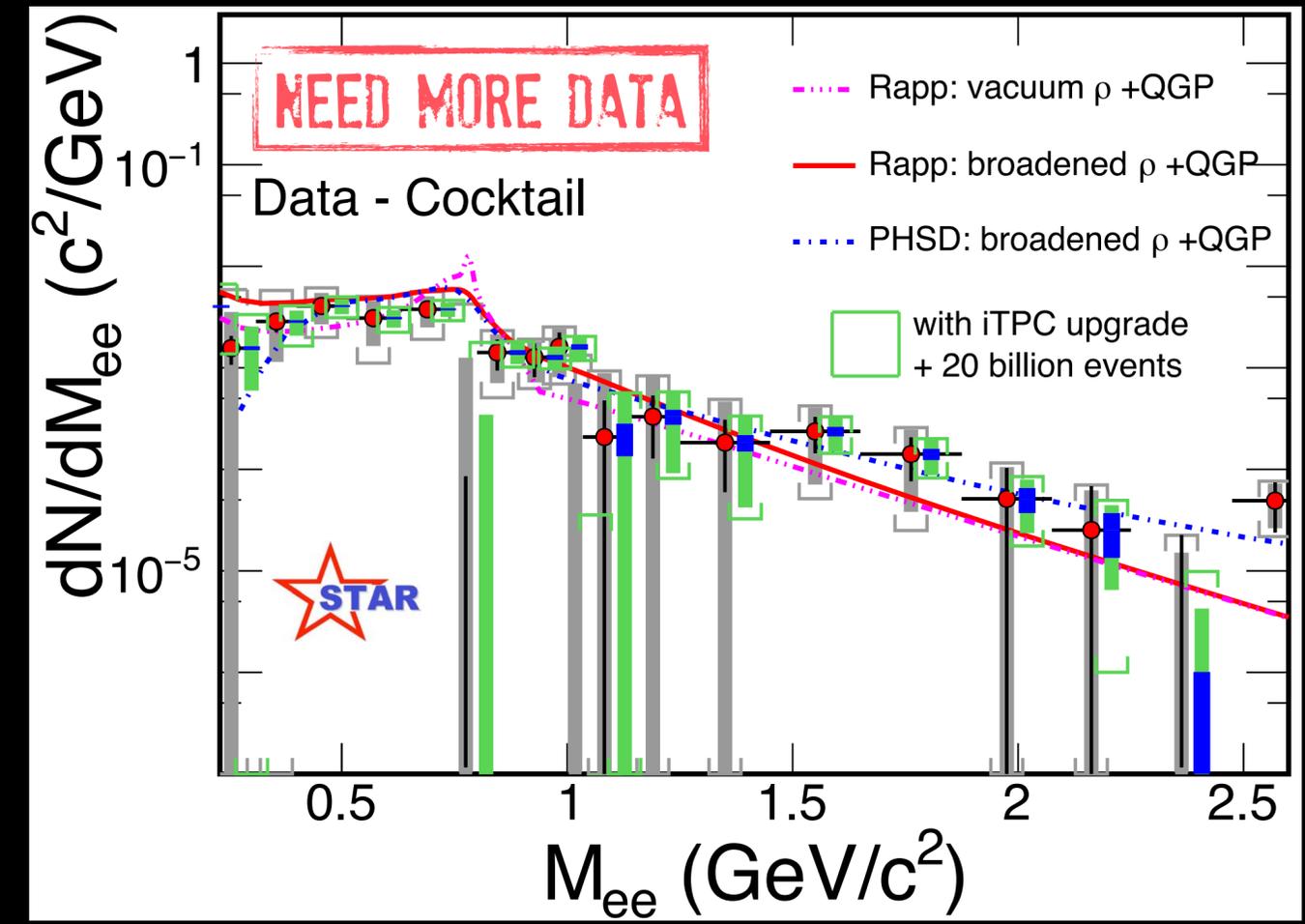
Medium temperature with di-leptons

LMR measures temperature near chiral crossover
 IMR measures QGP temperature

Di-leptons provide extraction of blue-shift free average temperature of the medium



$T_{LMR} \sim T_{PC,LQCD}$ $T_{IMR} > T_{LMR}$

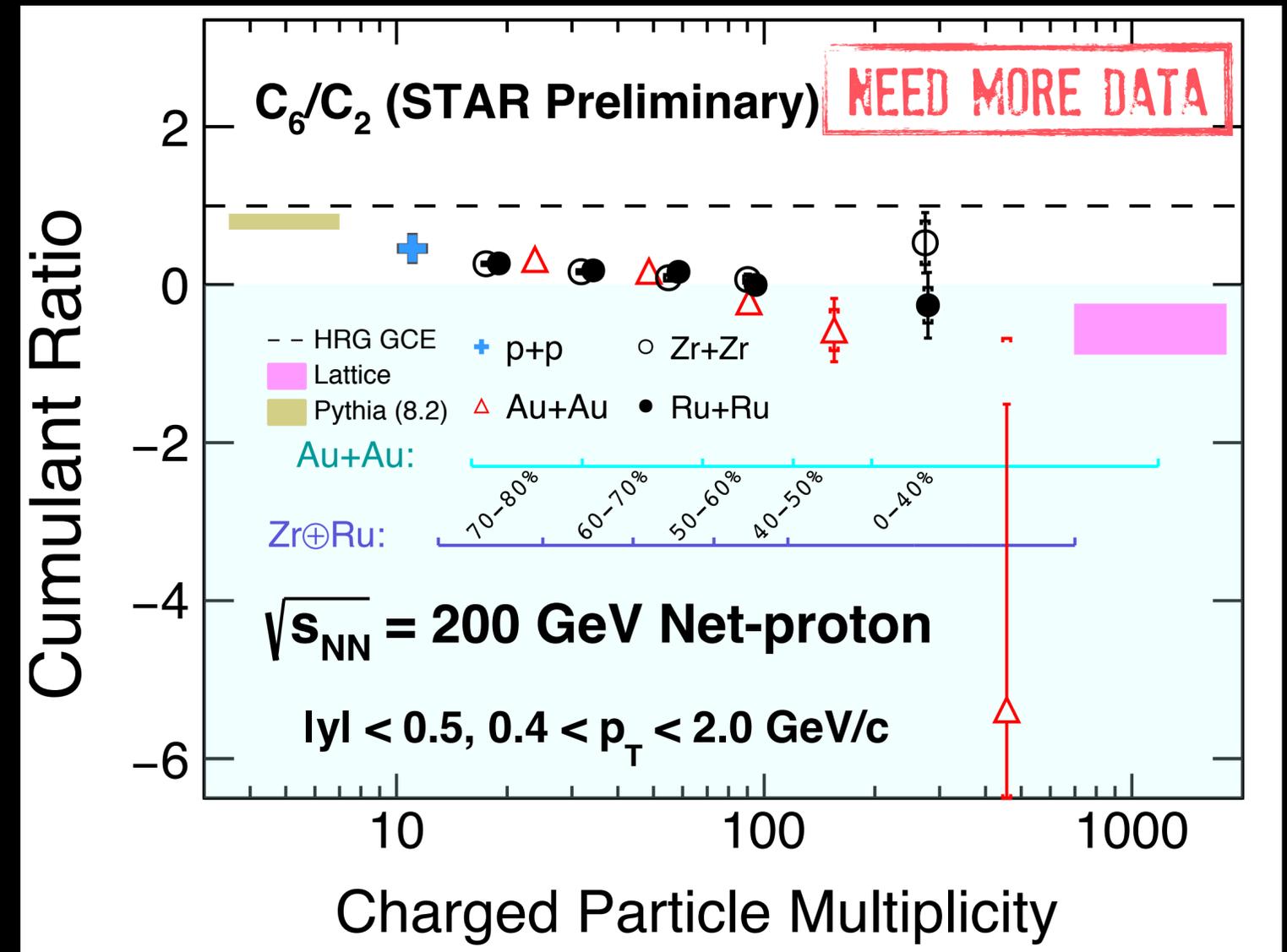
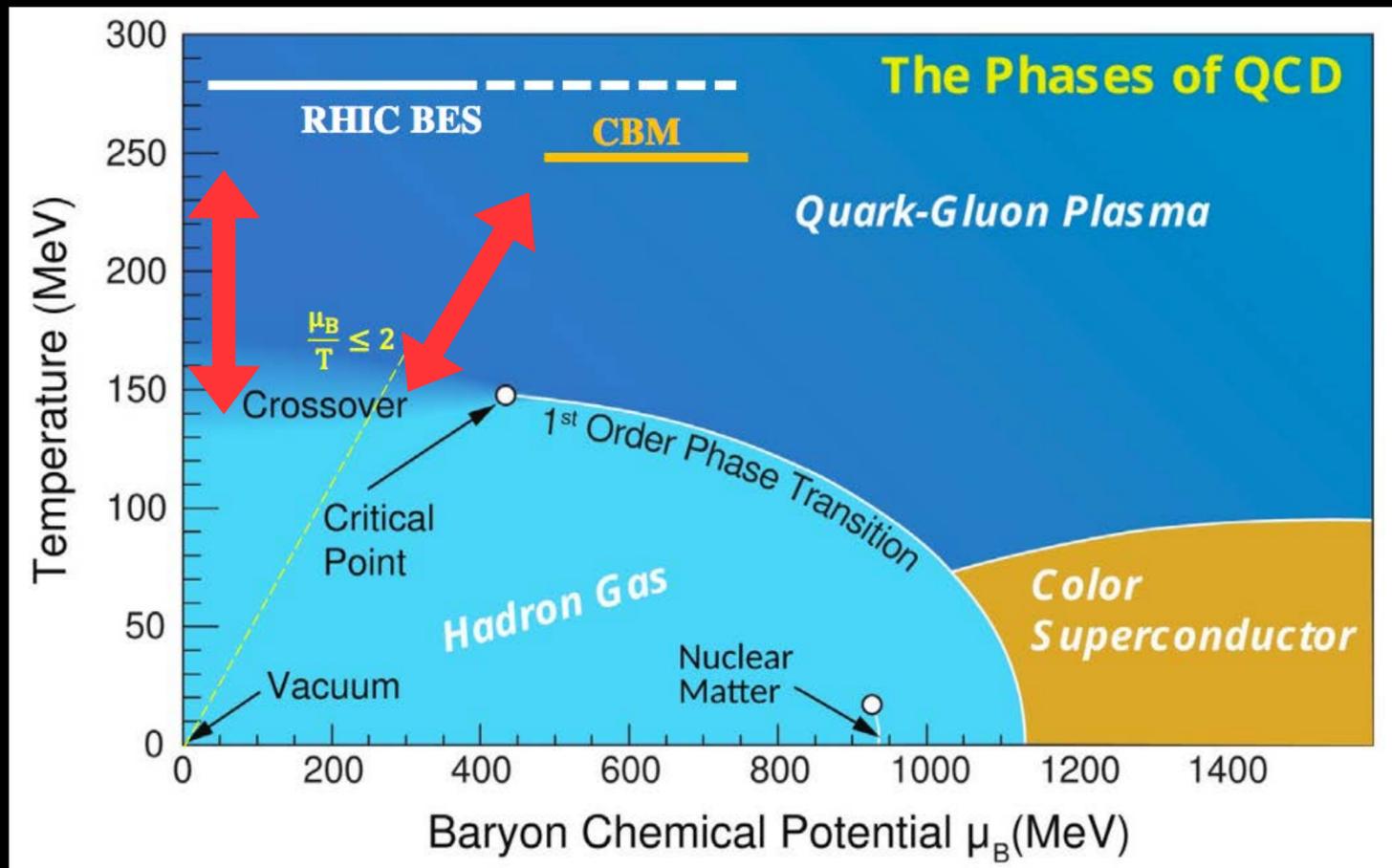


← LMR → ← IMR →

QGP temperature of ~ 300 MeV at 27 & 54.4 GeV, analysis of more BES-II data is anticipated

Search for the chiral crossover

Top RHIC energy measurements of the highest order cumulants C_6/C_2 , C_5/C_1 provide opportunity for direct comparison with LQCD that predicts a chiral crossover at $\mu_B/T \leq 2$

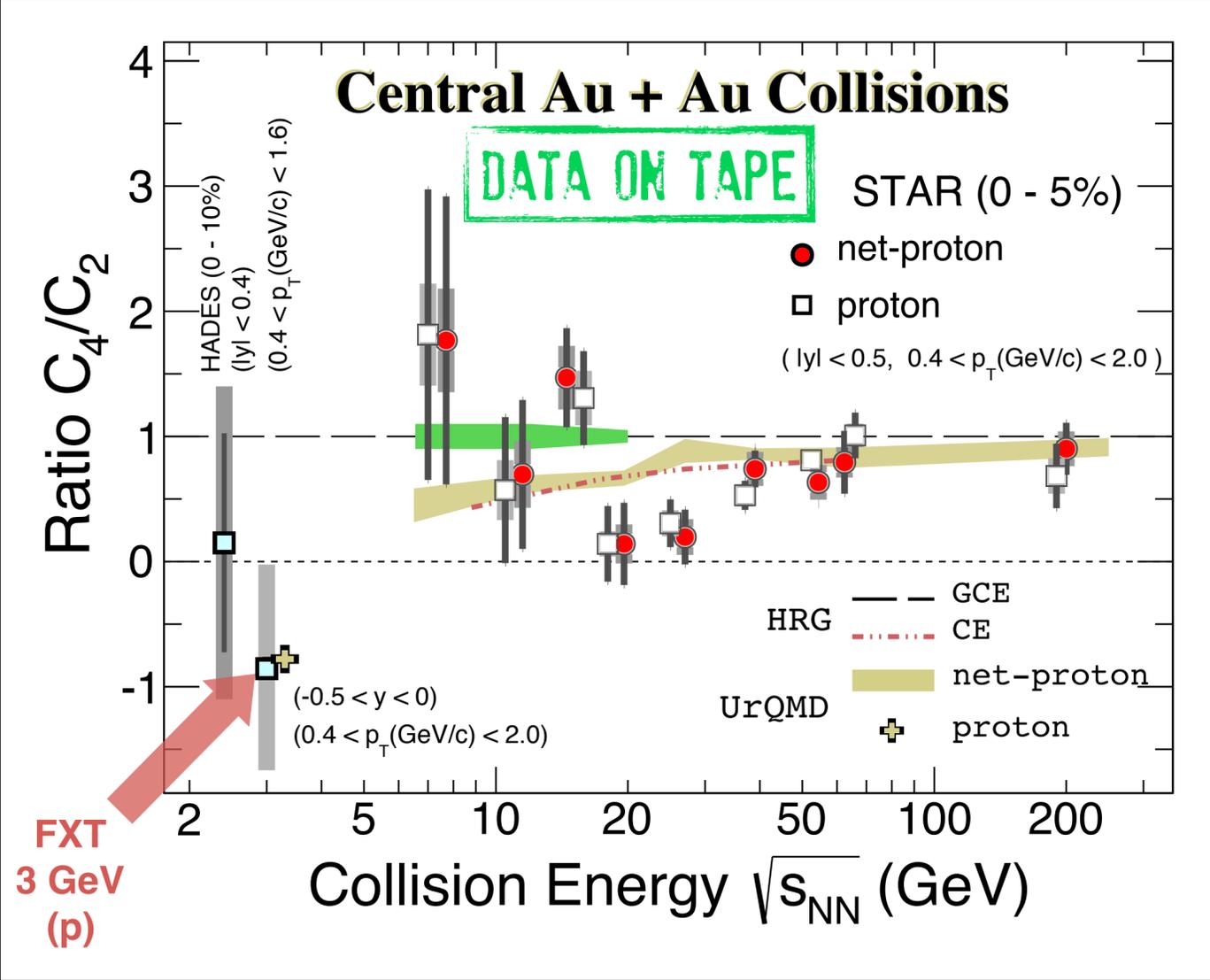
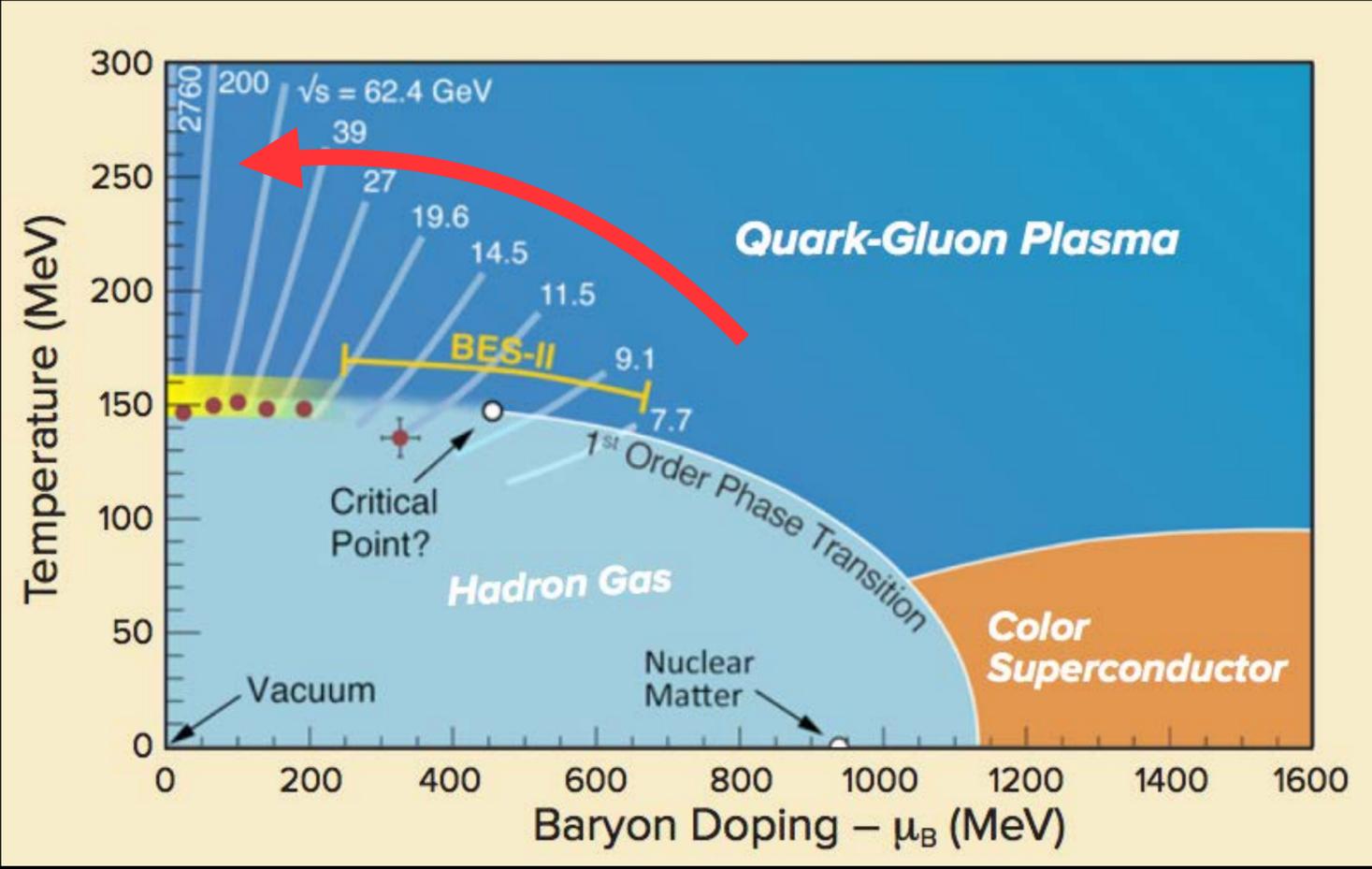


Measurements with p+p, isobar & Au+Au with multiplicity approach LQCD predictions, high statistics Run 2023 + 25 data will provide much improved precision

Search for the QCD critical point

J. Adams et al. (STAR collab.) Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 092301
 M. Abdallah et al. (STAR collab.) Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 202303 (2022)

Proton fluctuations ($k\sigma^2=C_4/C_2$) measured with RHIC BES-I program
 and Au+Au $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3$ GeV FXT data



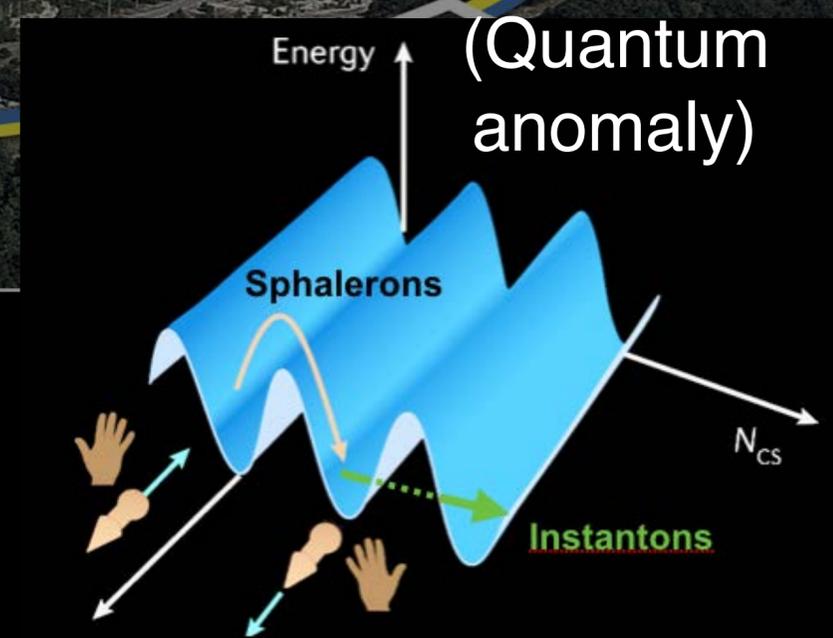
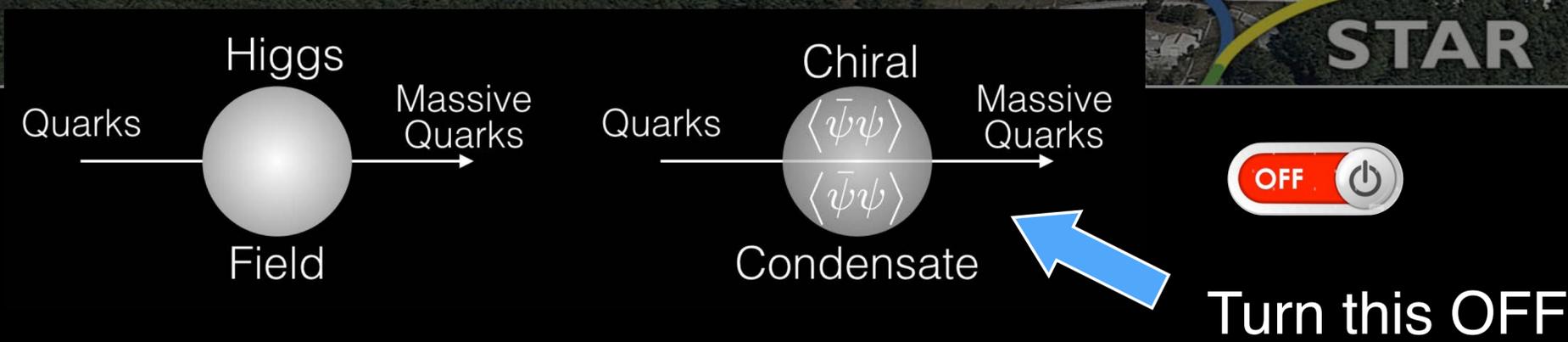
Looking for Non-monotonic trend of baryon number fluctuations with energy

Non-monotonic trend with collision energy observed with 3.1σ significance, BES-II data will improve measurement precision

Chiral Properties of the medium

The 2015
LONG RANGE PLAN
for NUCLEAR SCIENCE

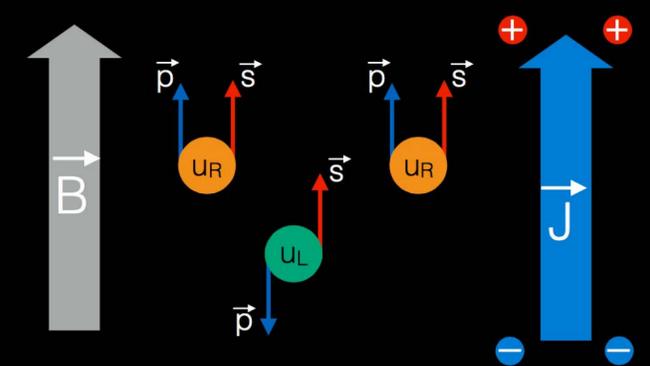
Nuclear physicists have also played a pioneering role in elucidating the anomalous properties of **chiral** quantum systems. The **chiral** magnetic effect and the **chiral** vortical effect, which were first identified as dynamical properties of quark-gluon plasma, are particularly interesting because they can be understood as local violations of fundamental symmetries of space-time.



$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \bar{\psi}_a (i(\gamma^\mu D_\mu)_{ab}) \psi_b - \cancel{m\delta_{ab} \bar{\psi}_a \psi_b} - \frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^c G_c^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\theta}{32\pi^2} g^2 F_\alpha^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\alpha\mu\nu}$$

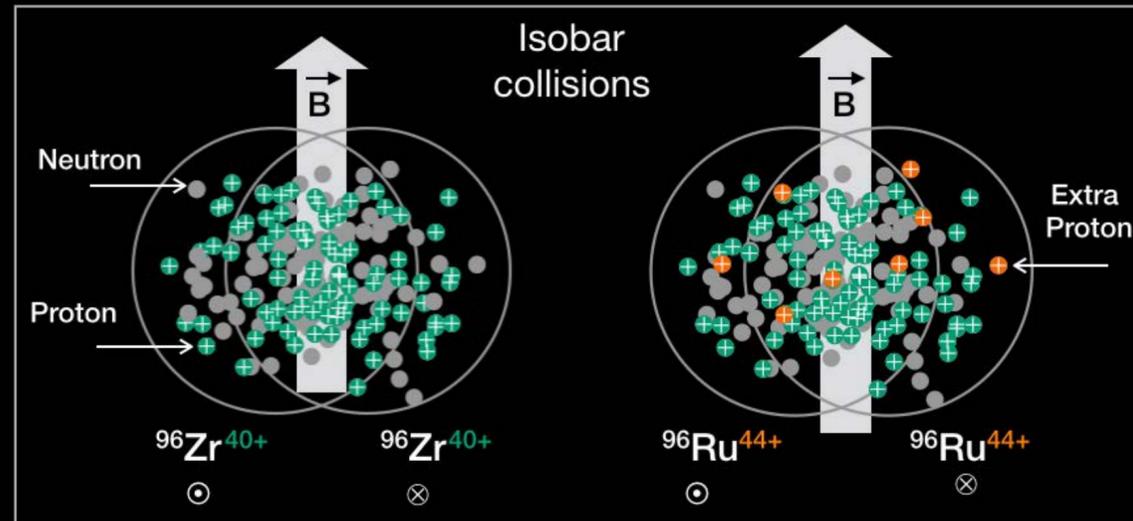
$$= -\frac{\theta}{8\pi^2} g^2 \vec{E}_\alpha \cdot \vec{B}_\alpha$$

Chiral symmetry restoration → Chiral fermions
 $U_A(1)$ symmetry breaking → Chirality imbalance
 Strong B-field + Chirality imbalance → Chiral Magnetic Effect

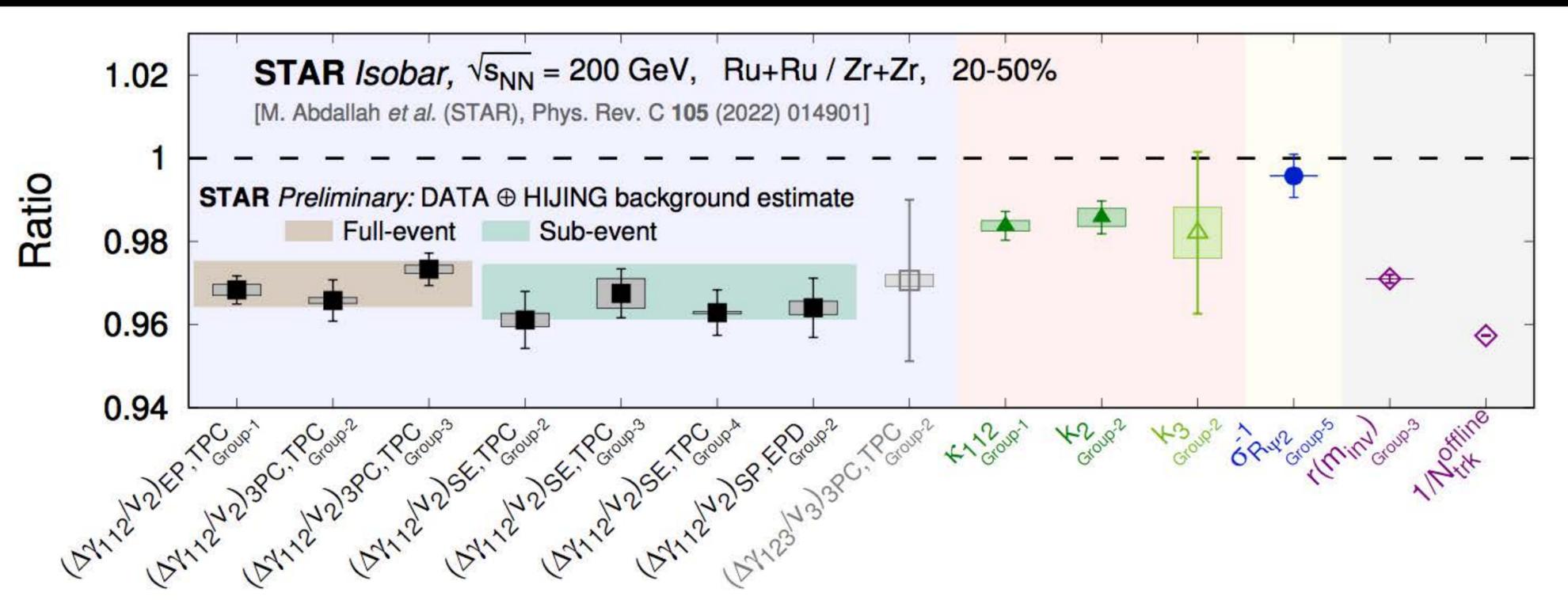
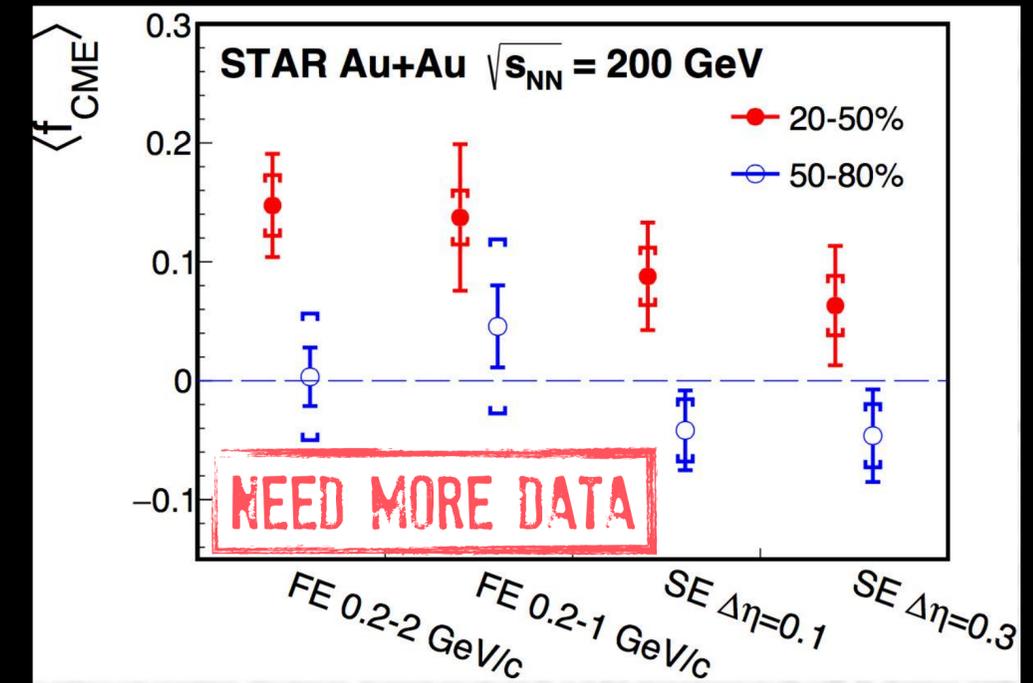


Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect

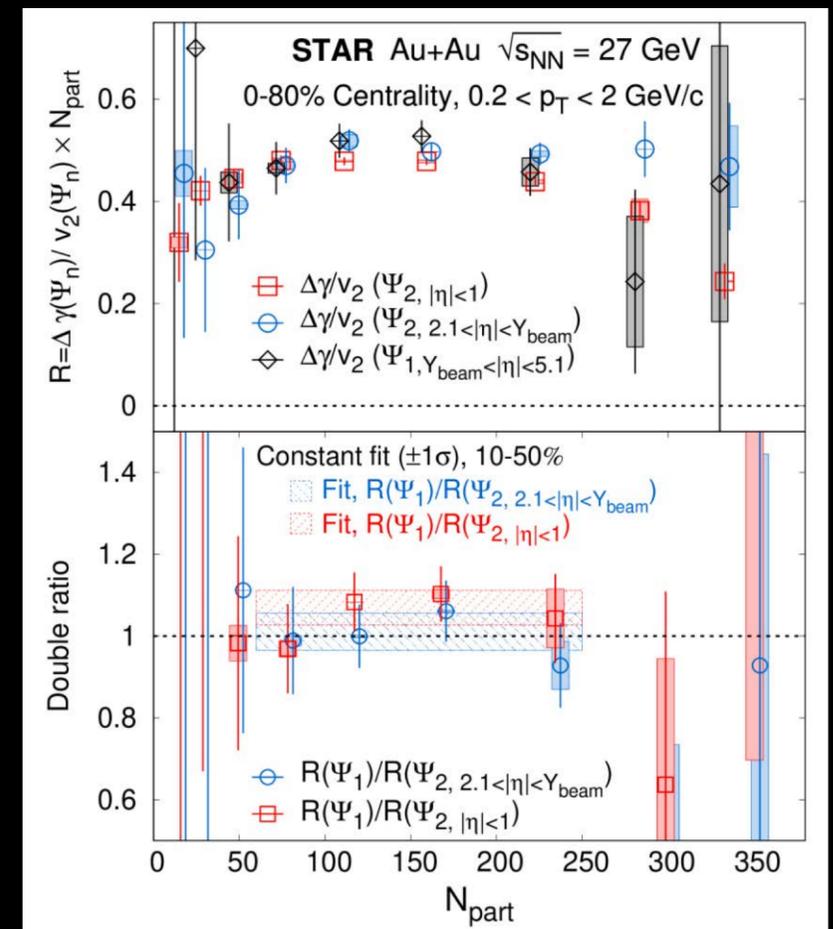
M. Abdallah et al. (STAR Collab), Phys. Rev. C 105 (2022) 1, 014901, Phys.Rev.Lett. 128 (2022) 9, 092301, STAR Collab. arXiv:2209.03467



No pre-defined signatures observed in isobar blind analysis. Unique opportunities with Run 23+25 & BES-II data



CME search has been narrowed down with precision measurements and novel techniques



Vortical fluid & new probes of hydro paradigm

Joey Adams, Kosuke

Okubo QM 2022

STAR Collab. Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 132301 (2019)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 162301 (2021)

The 2015
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for NUCLEAR SCIENCE

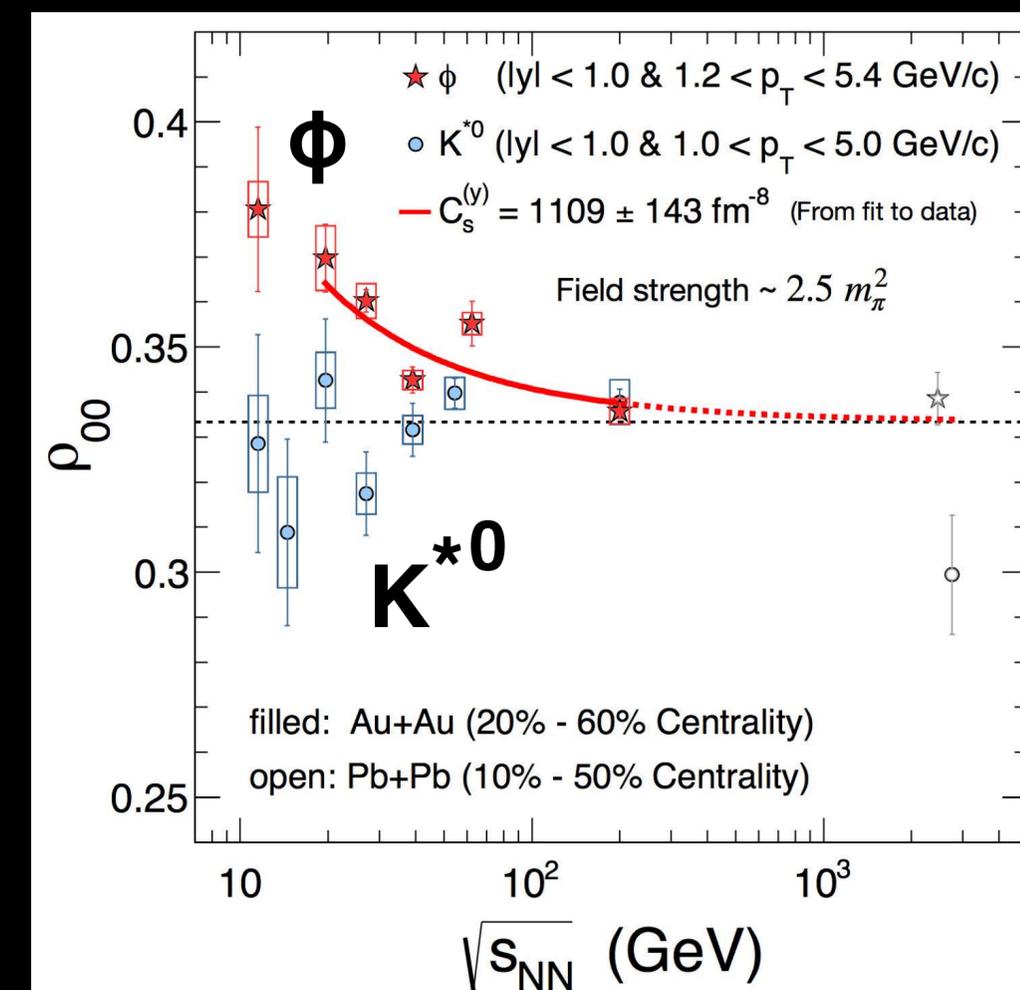
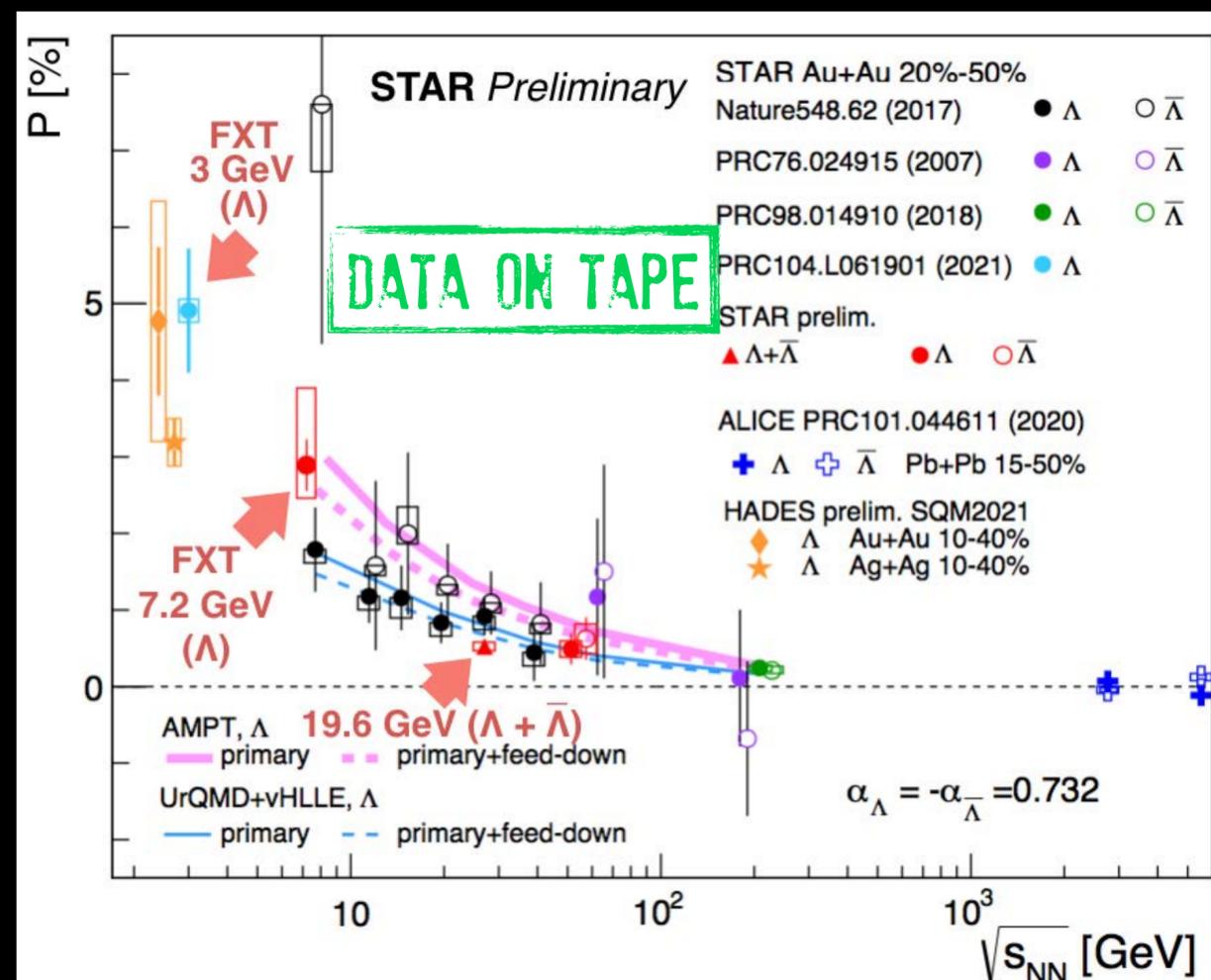
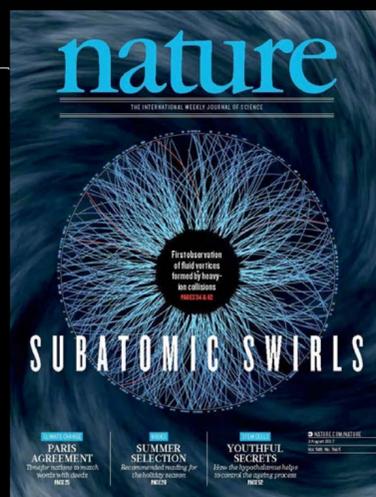
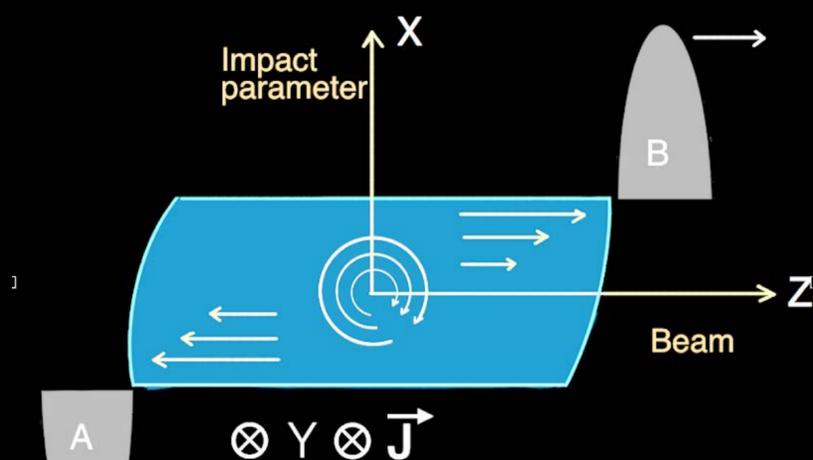
From Characterization to Understanding

The field has made substantial strides in the experimental characterization of liquid QGP, and new measurements and new discoveries are anticipated in the coming few years. Pursuing these directions will

Global & local polarization of hyperons
→ access to gradient of fluid velocity

STAR Collab., Nature 548 (2017) 62-65
STAR Collab, Phys. Rev. C 104 (2021) L061901

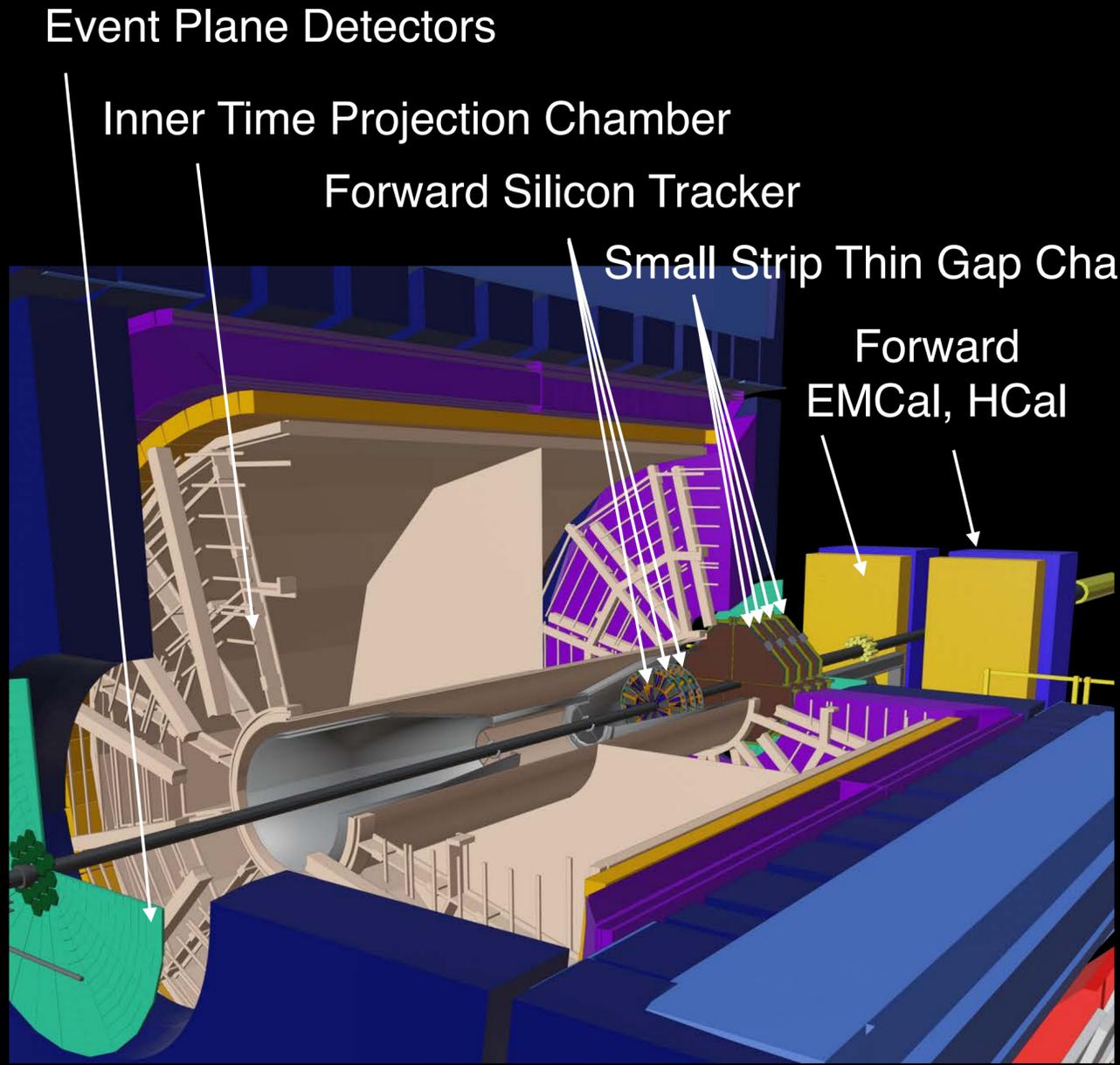
M. Abdallah et al (STAR Collaboration), arXiv: 2204.02302



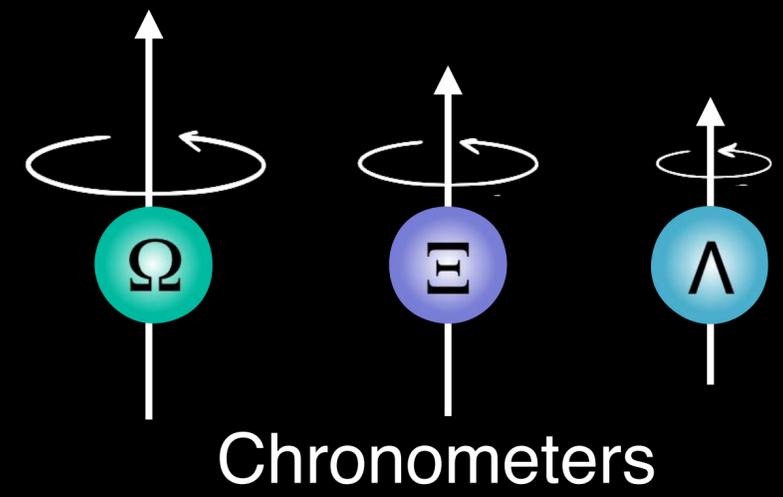
Observation hyperons polarization led to the discovery of vorticity in QGP opened up a new field

3D initial state with STAR forward upgrade

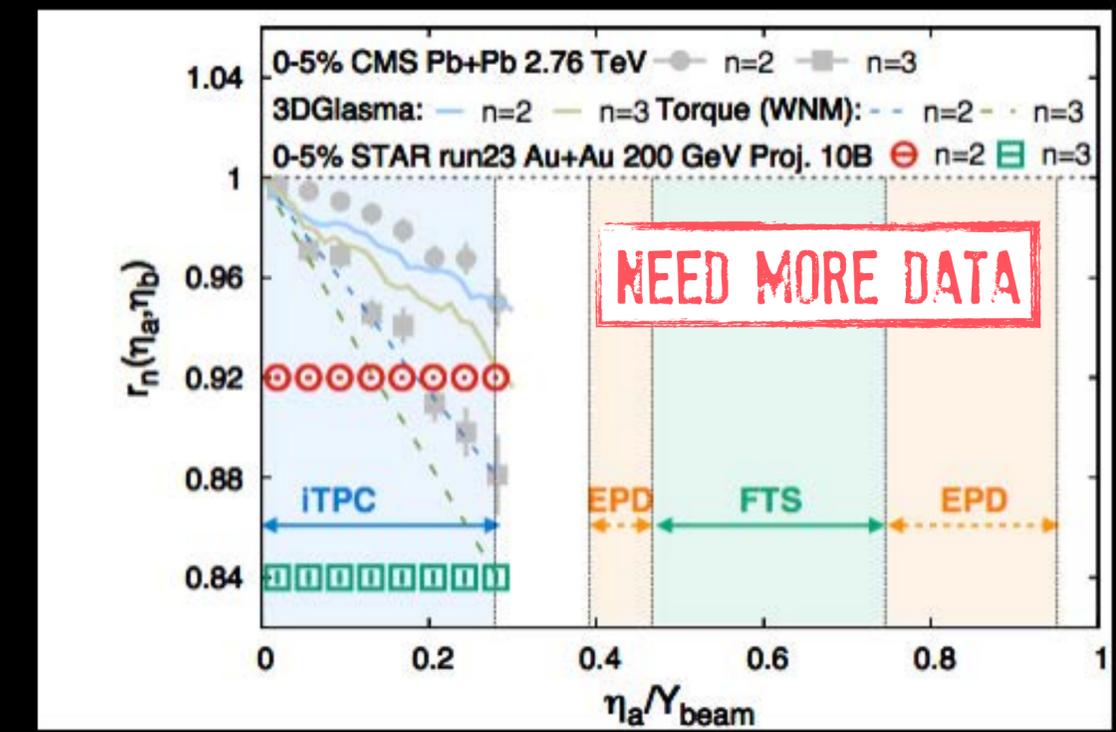
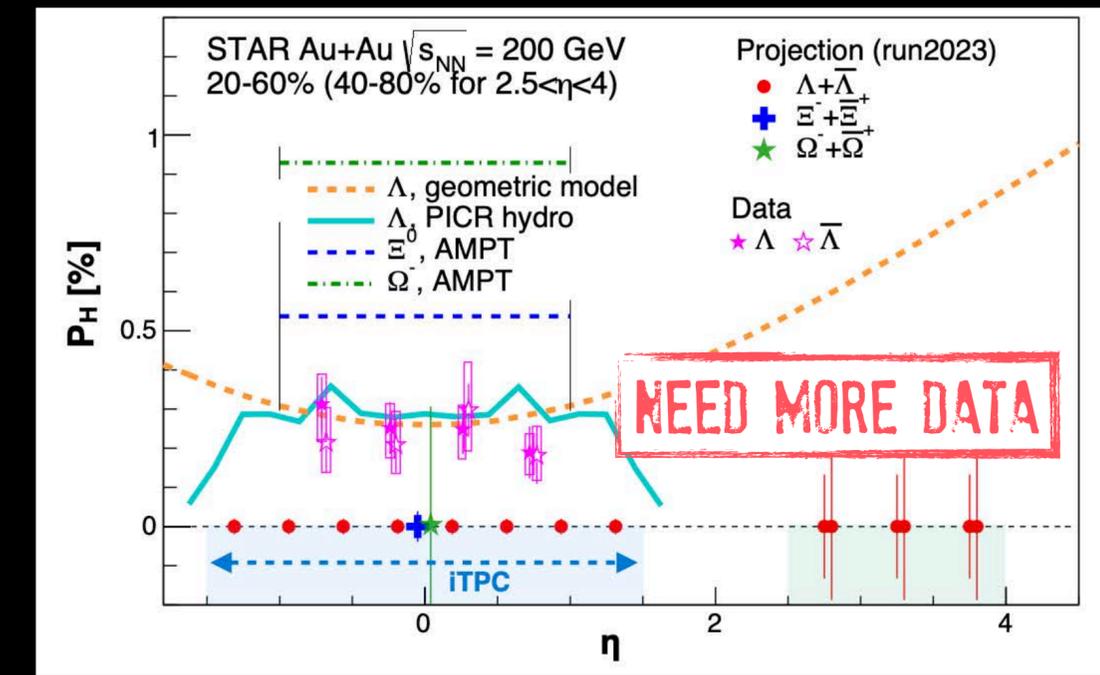
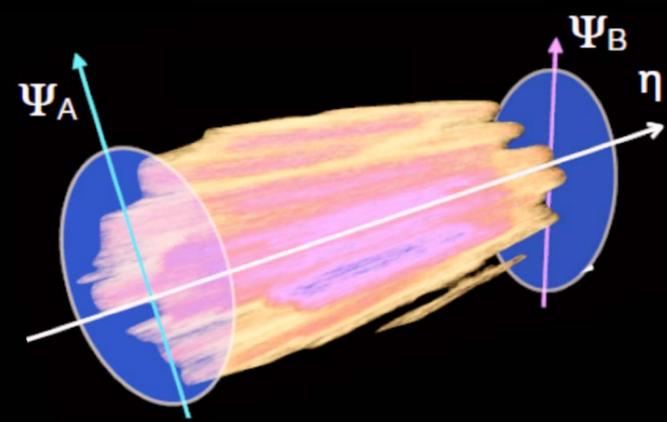
SN0773 : The STAR BUR for Run-22 & data taking in 2023-25



(Spacetime profile of vorticity)
Global polarization of hyperons with rapidity



Longitudinal de-correlation (3D initial state)



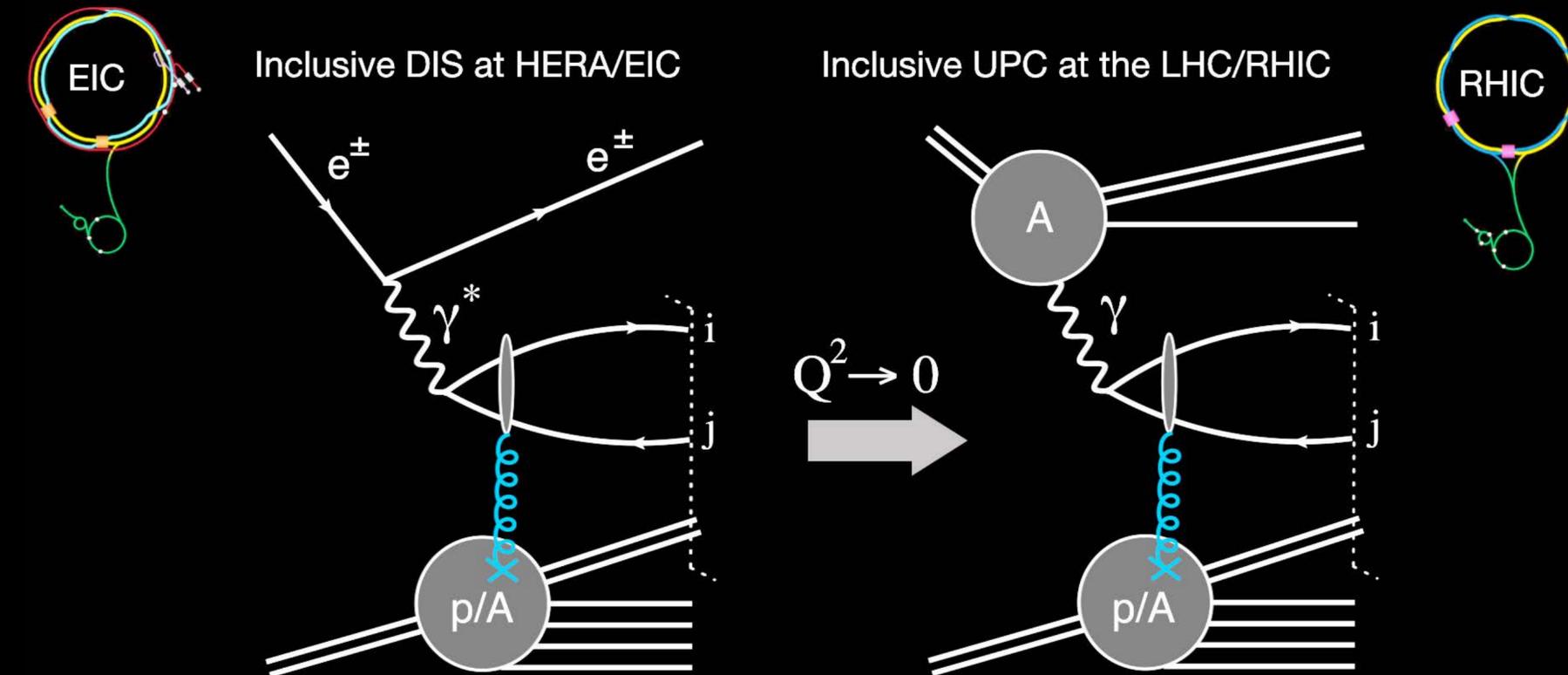
Unique opportunity to study initial state with extended pseudorapidity & improved PID capabilities

Topics that bridge RHIC and EIC science

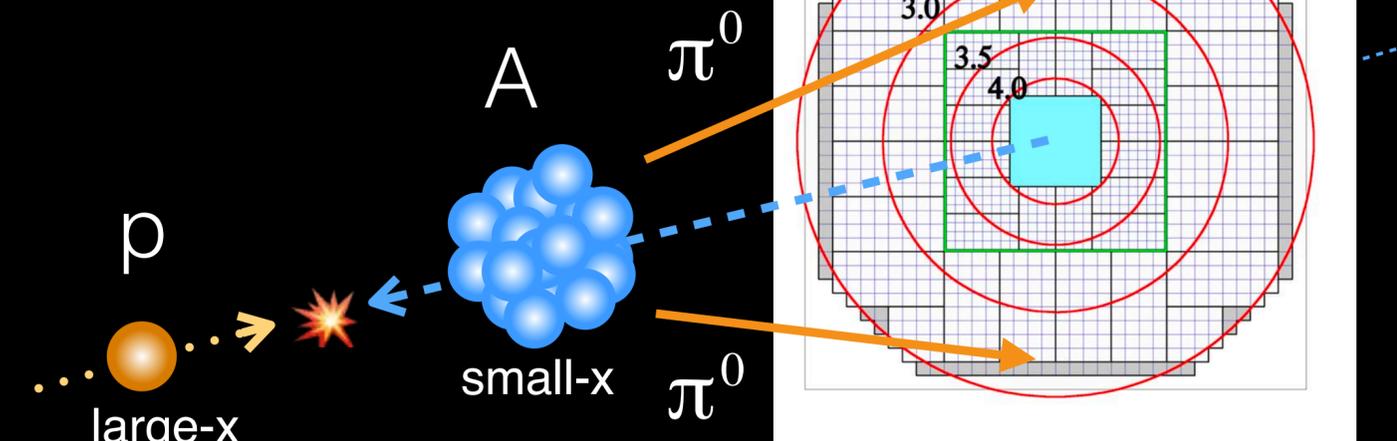
- Collectivity in small system
- Imaging nuclei in the pre-EIC era
- Microscopic structure of the baryons

Talk by Xiaoxuan Chu (Fri),
Kong Tu (Sat), Spencer Klein (Sat)

Physics topics that bridge RHIC and EIC science



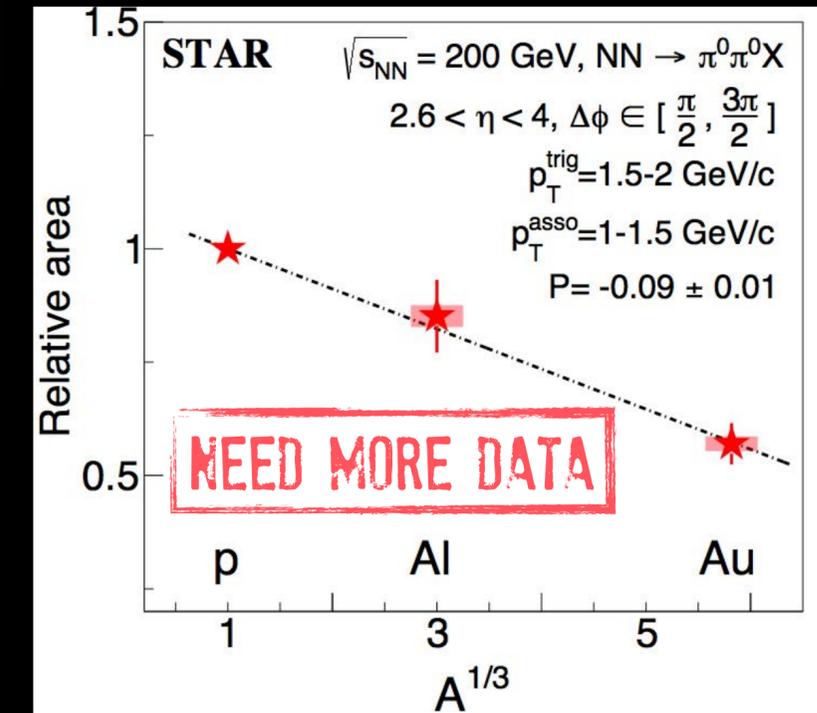
Search for gluon saturation



Forward Meson Spectrometer

Until the EIC is built, ultra-peripheral p/A+A collisions → opportunity to study photoproduction (γ +p/A)

Similar target ion energy as EIC, flexibility of ions species, a natural continuation of RHIC system scan



$$C(\Delta\phi) = \frac{N_{pair}(\Delta\phi)}{N_{trig} \times \Delta\phi}$$

Area of $C(\Delta\phi)$:
 $p+p > p+Al > p+Au$

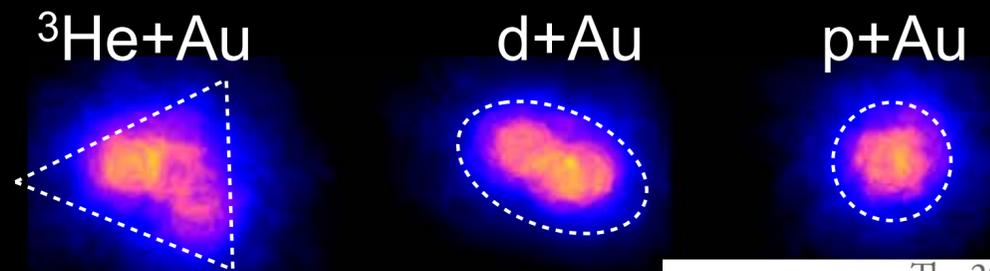
Opportunity with p+Au
Run 24 & STAR
forward upgrade

Support beyond RHIC operation to train a generation of experimentalists in preparation for the EIC

Origin of collectivity in small systems

Crucial insight from RHIC measurements nearly a decade after the discovery in LHC p+p collisions

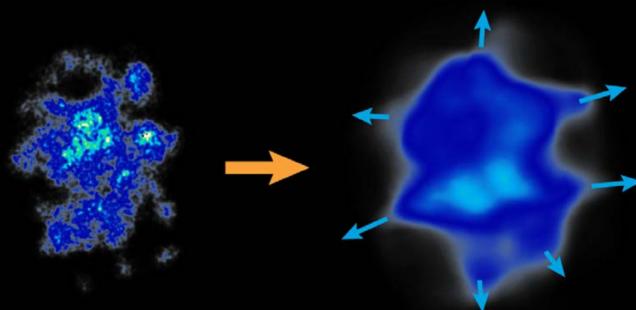
Nagle et. al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 112301



CGC (initial momentum anisotropy)



Hydrodynamics (final state)

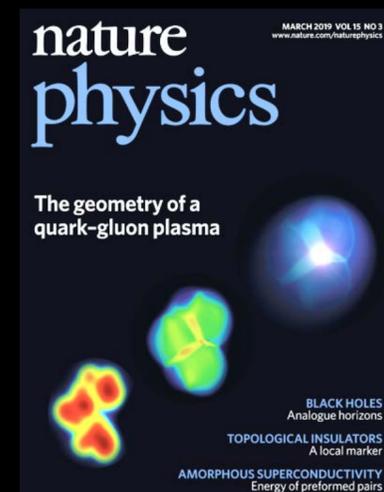
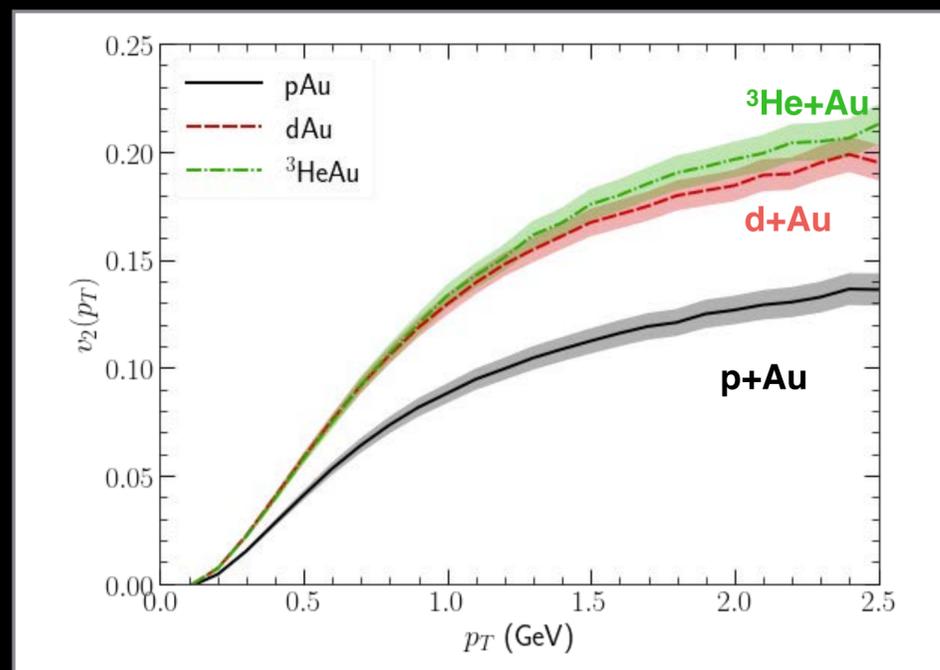
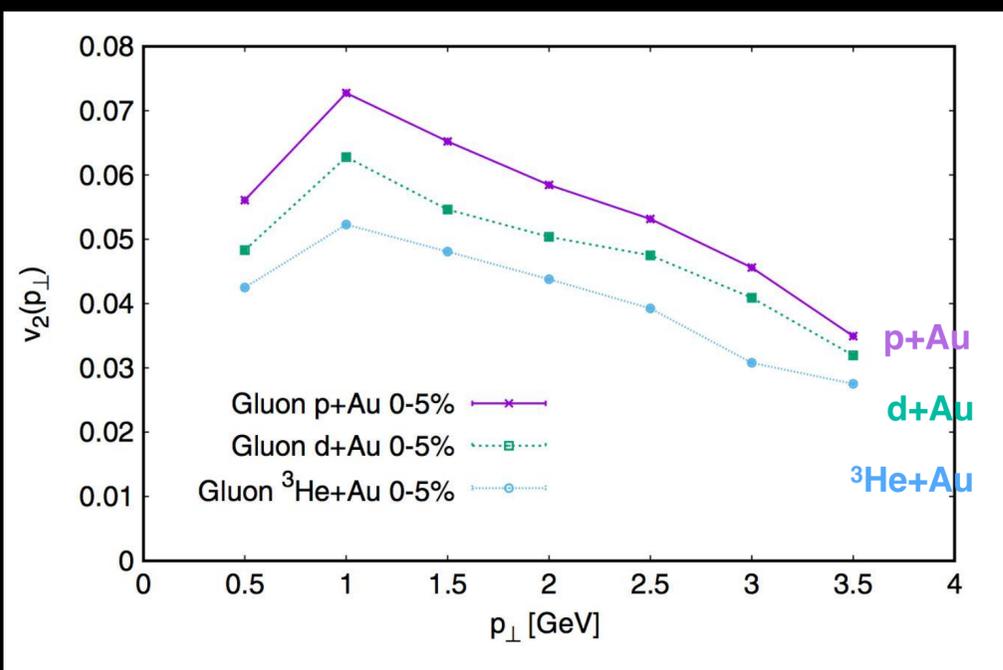


$$v_2(^3\text{He+Au}) < v_2(\text{d+Au}) < v_2(\text{p+Au})$$

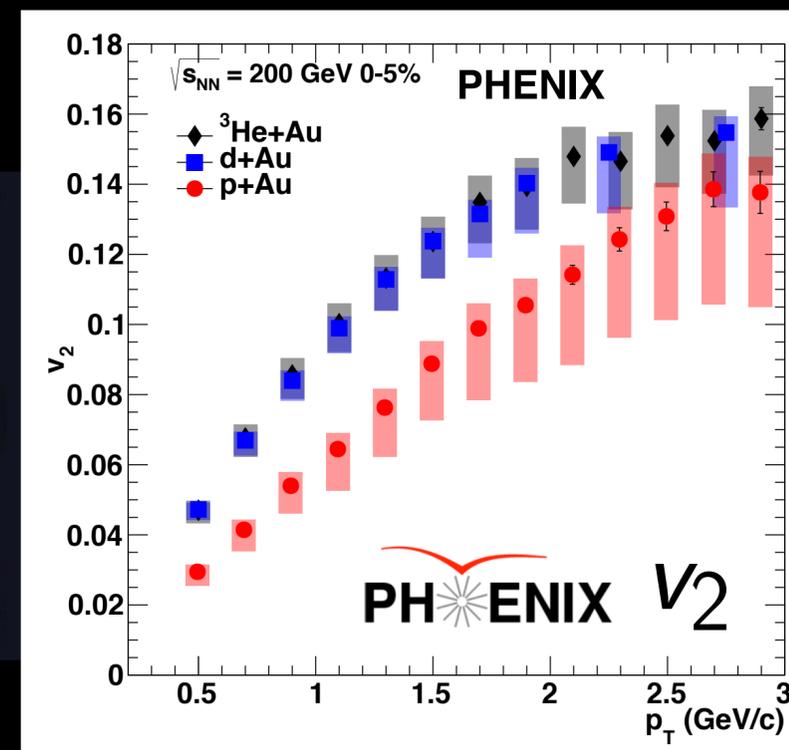
$$v_2(^3\text{He+Au}) \sim v_2(\text{d+Au}) > v_2(\text{p+Au})$$

The 2015
LONG RANGE PLAN
for NUCLEAR SCIENCE

Geometry and Small Droplets
Connected to the latter question is the question of how large a droplet of matter has to be in order for it to behave like a macroscopic liquid. What is the smallest possible droplet of QGP? Until recently, it was thought



$$v_2(^3\text{He+Au}) \sim v_2(\text{d+Au}) > v_2(\text{p+Au})$$



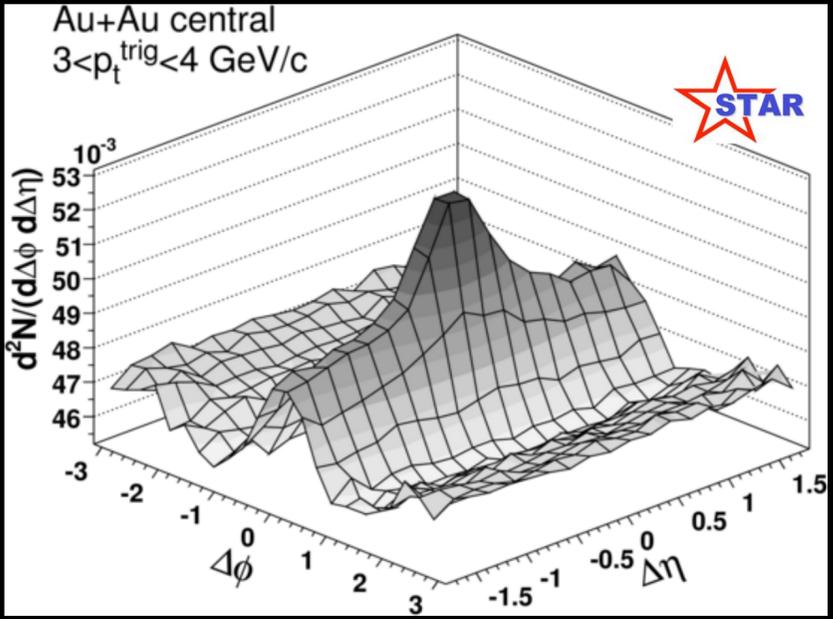
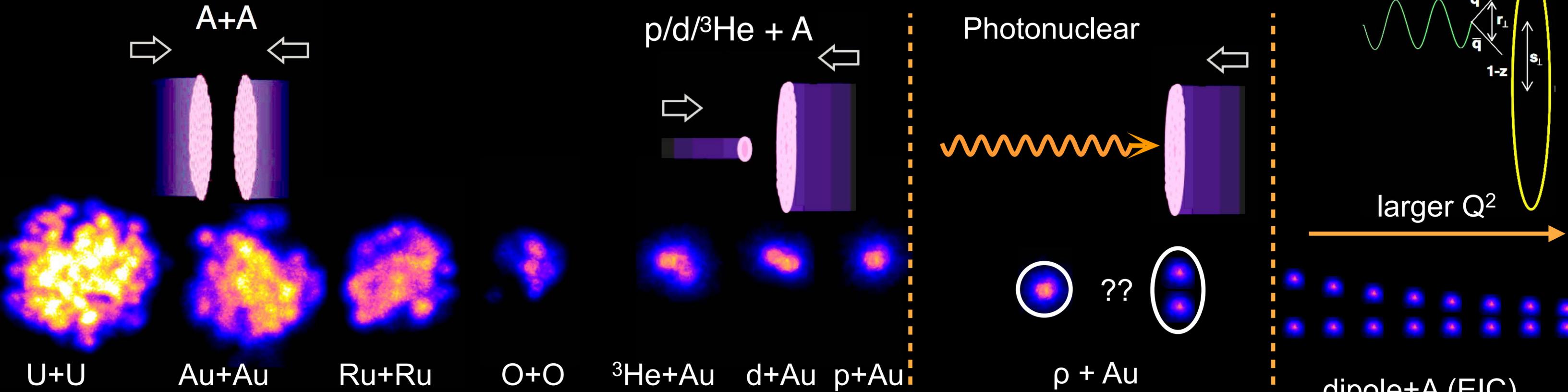
Mace et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. Erratum 123, 039901(E) (2019)

Schenke et al., Phys. Rev. C 102, 044905 (2020)

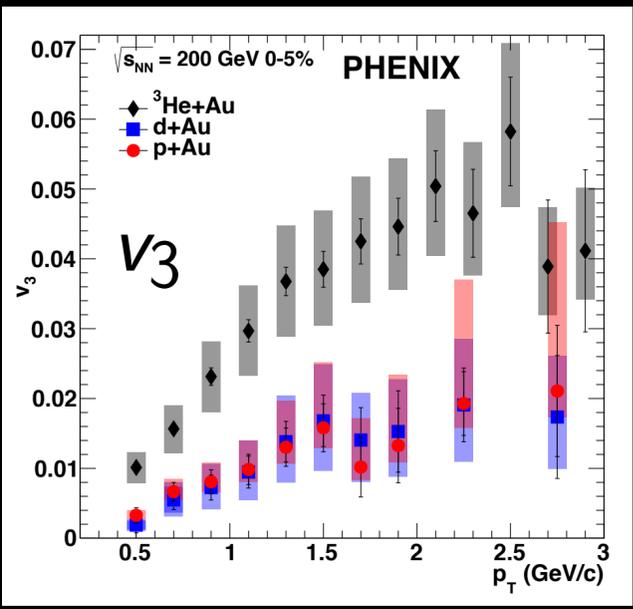
PHENIX collab, Nature Physics 15, 214–220 (2019),
Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)

PHENIX results decisively establishes role of final state, opportunities to pin down the acceptance dependence with RHIC d+Au, O+O with STAR & future p+Au run with sPHENIX + STAR

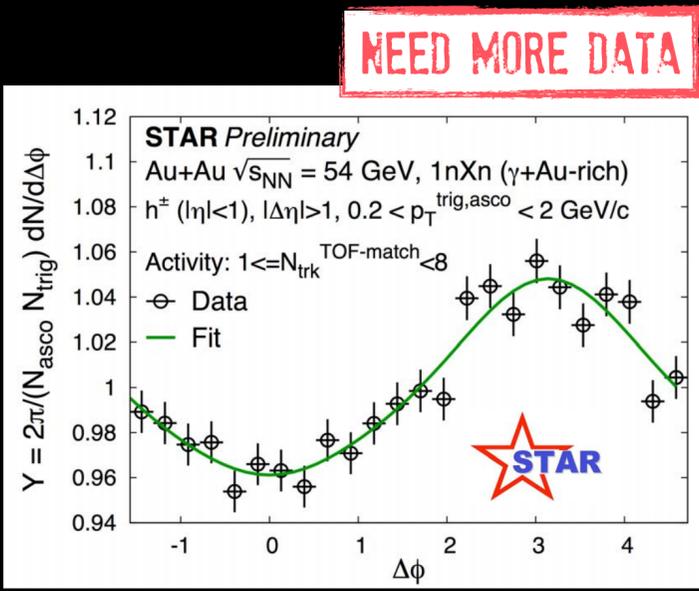
Collectivity across systems: from RHIC to EIC



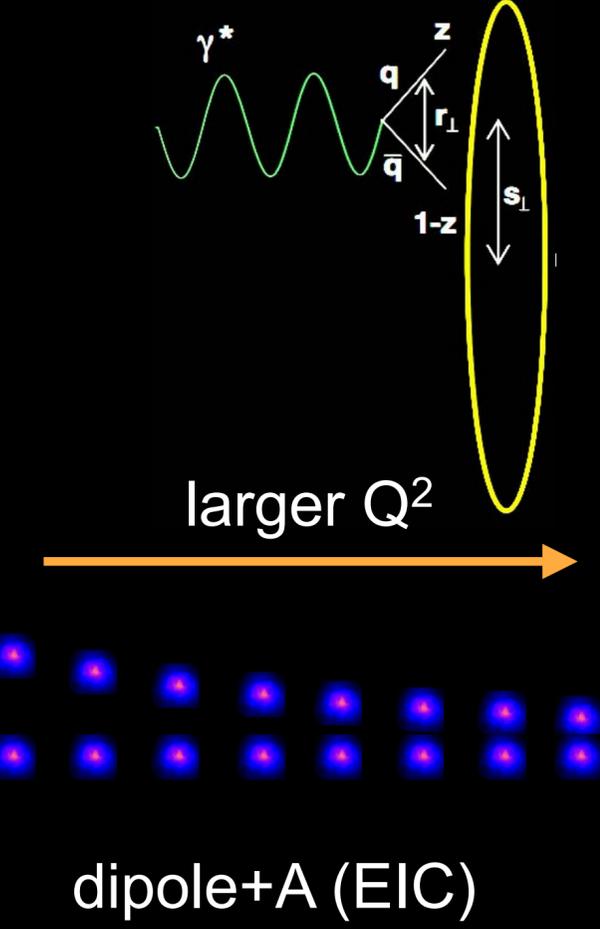
STAR collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 152301
Phys. Rev. C 80 (2009) 64912



PHENIX collab, Nature Physics 15, 214–220 (2019)



STAR Collab. QM 2022



larger Q^2

dipole+A (EIC)

Will γ^*+A be the next small system ?

EPIC collaboration, 2030+

Push the limits of RHIC system scan, sets the stage for collectivity search at EIC

Small system collectivity: future measurements

STAR BUR for Run 23-25
 sPHENIX BUP 2022 (sPH-TRG-2022-001)
 ATLAS Collab, Phys. Rev. C 104, 014903 (2021)

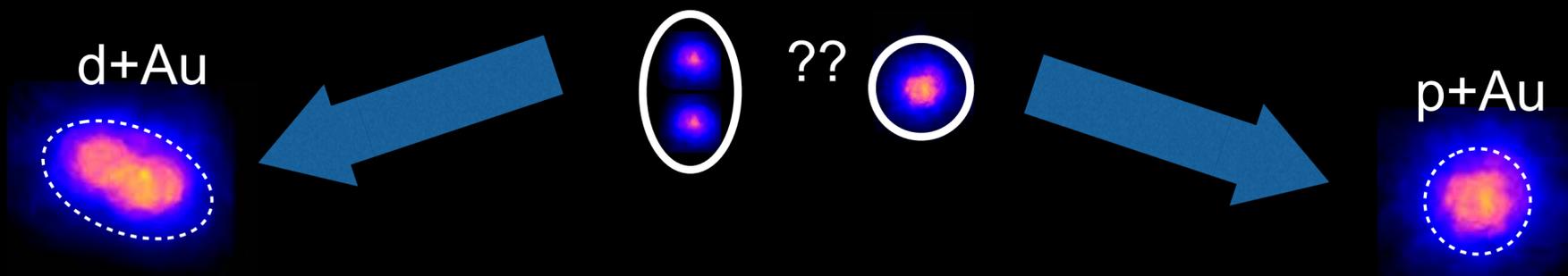
$$W_{\gamma, N}(\text{RHIC}) = 10 - 40 \text{ GeV}$$



$$\gamma + \text{Au} \rightleftharpoons \rho + \text{Au}$$

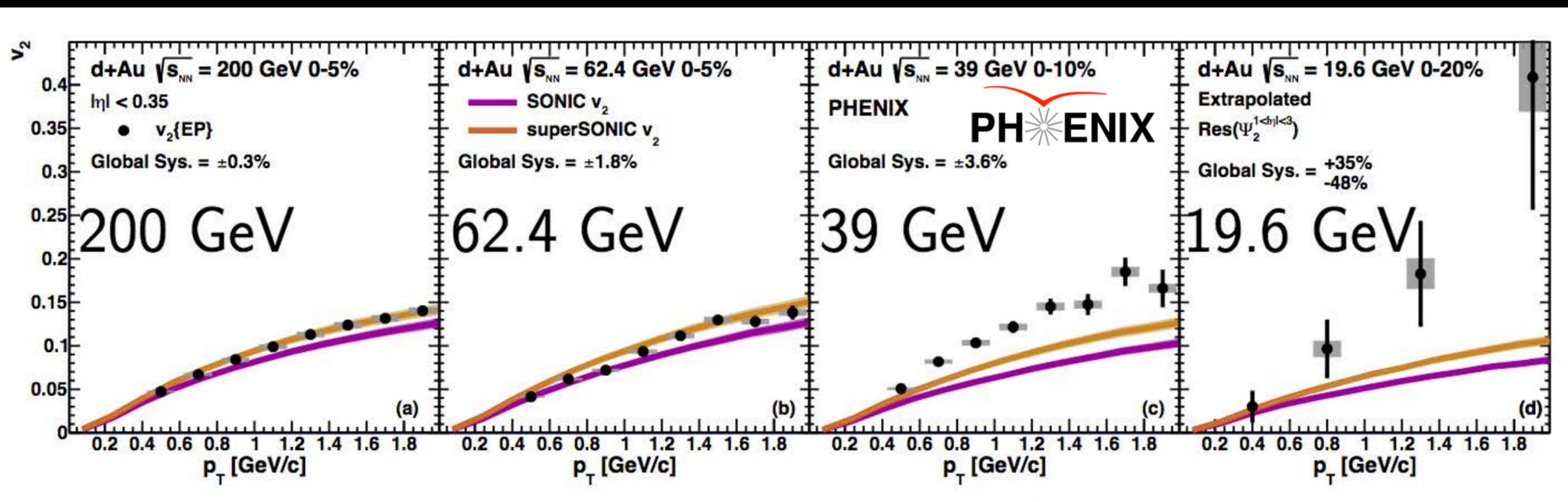
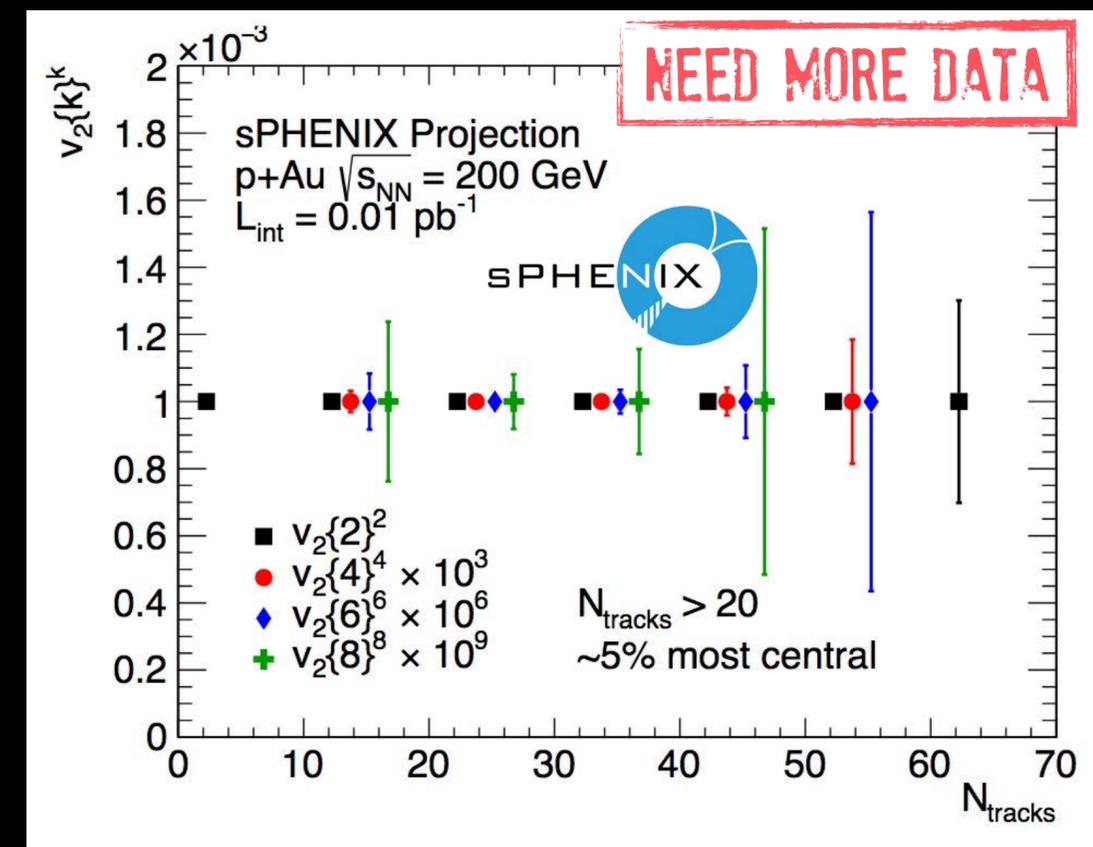


Limited kinematic control, large rapidity de-correlation in $\gamma + \text{Au}$ but various baselines available at RHIC



p+Au rapidity scan
 (sPHENIX + STAR 2024)

d+Au beam energy scan (PHENIX)



C. Aidala et al. (PHENIX Collab), Phys. Rev. C 96, 064905

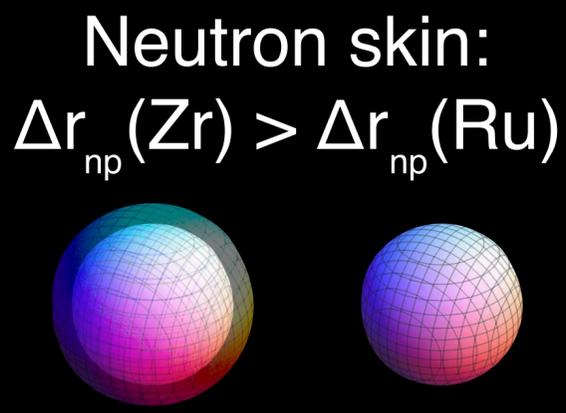
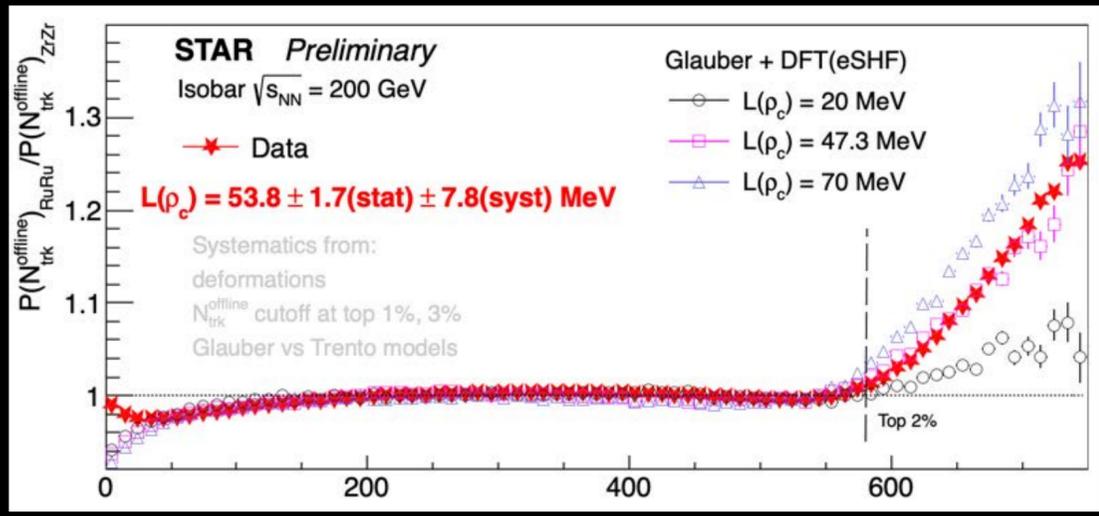
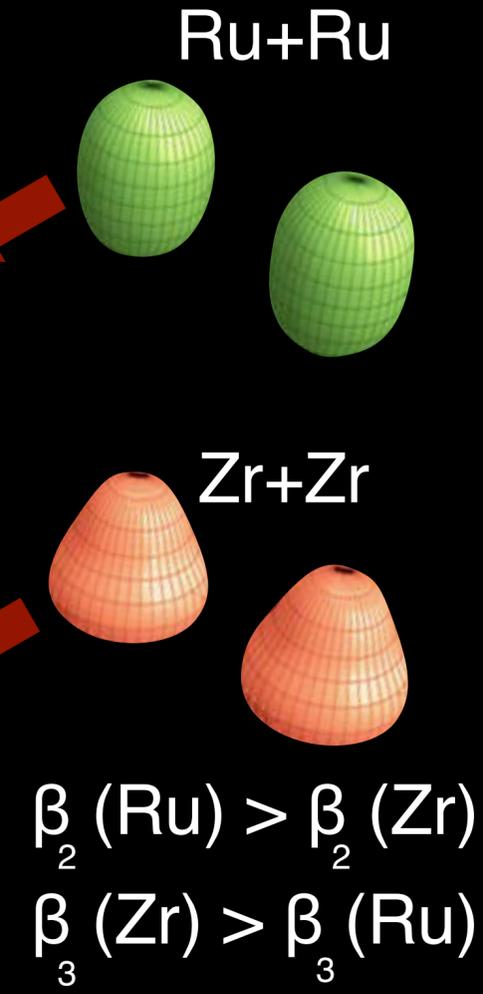
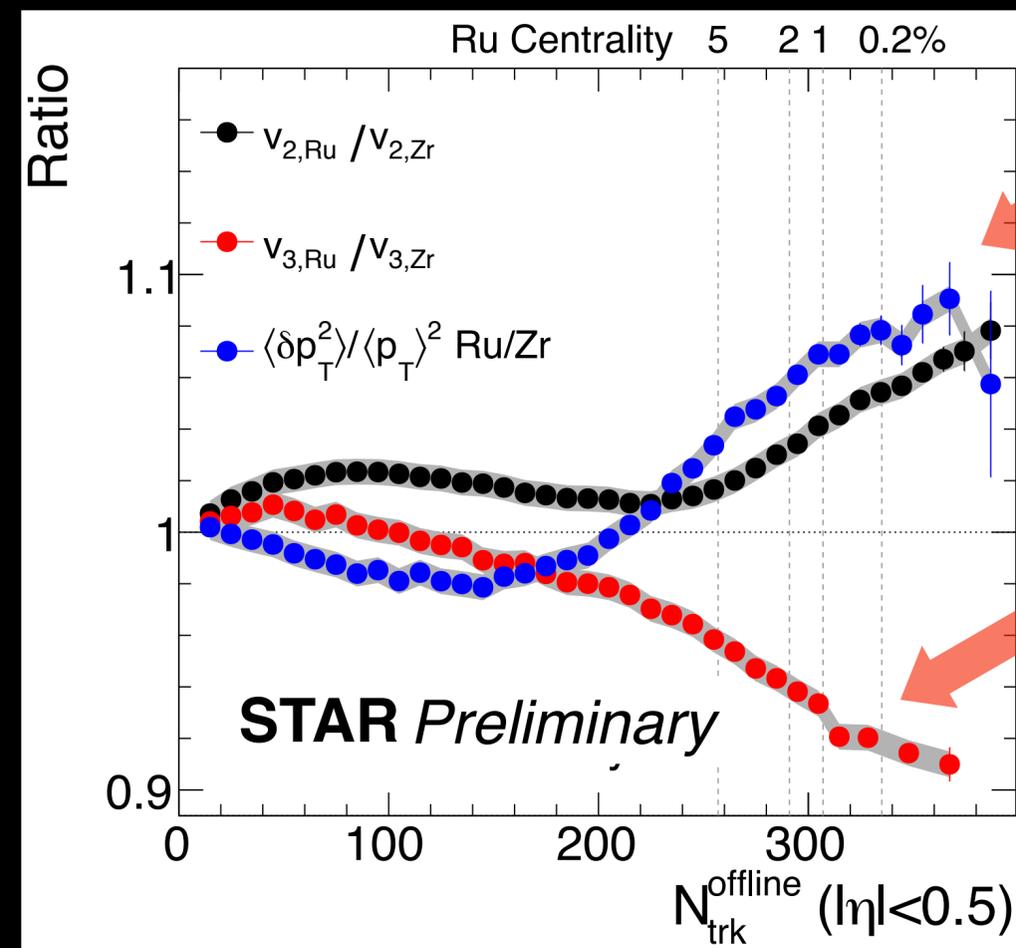
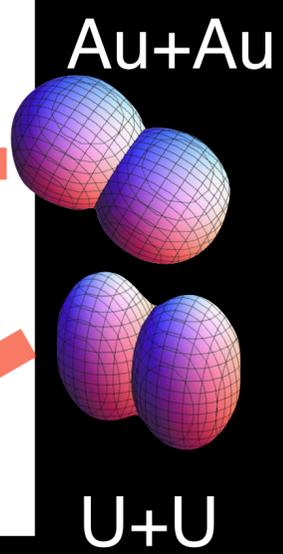
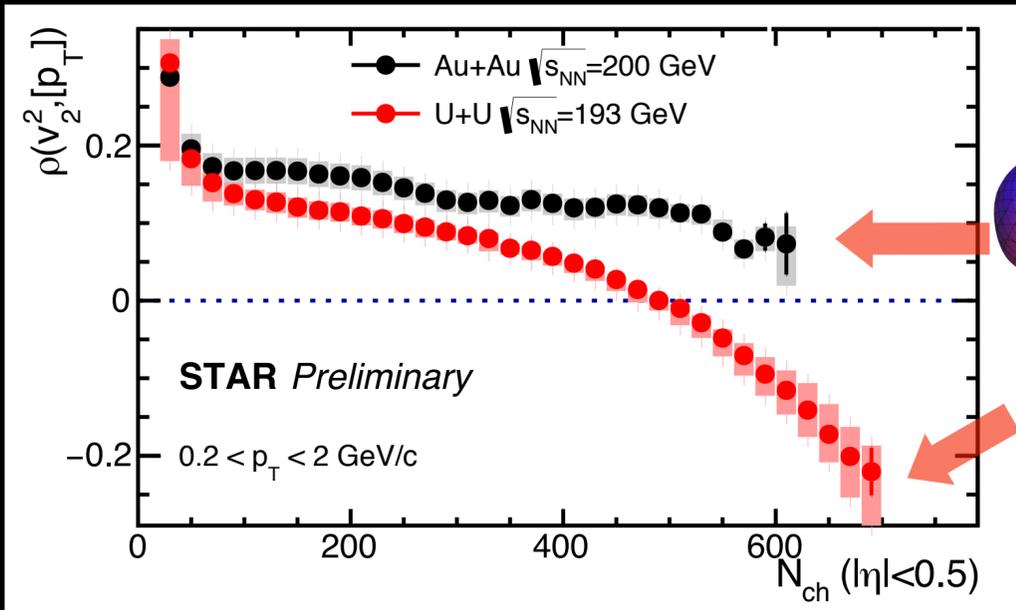
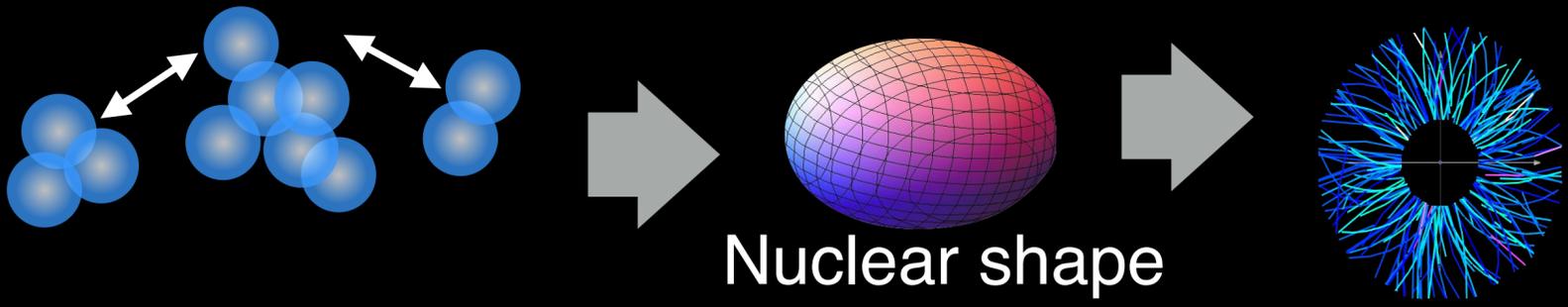
Opportunity to explore if many-body system exhibit fluid behavior in photon-induced processes

Imaging nuclei in the pre-EIC era: Approach-I

Talk by Jiangyong Jie (Sat)

L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR Collab.), Phys. Rev. Lett 115, 222301 (2015)
 M. Abdallah et al. (STAR Collab.), Phys. Rev. C 105 (2022) 1, 014901
 Haojie Xu, Chunjian Zhang QM 2022

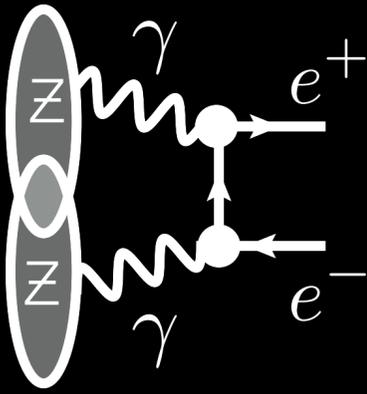
Many-body nucleon correlation Imprints in observables



We have pioneered a way to constrain nuclear structure with heavy ion collisions

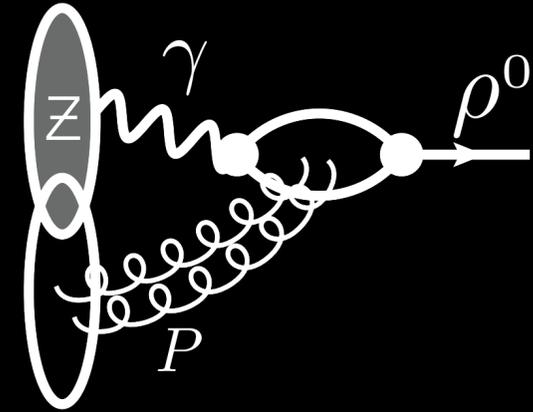
Imaging nuclei in the pre-EIC era: Approach-II

J. Adam et al. (STAR Collab.),
 Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 052302
 M. Abdallah et al. (STAR Collab.), arXiv:2204.01625
 Xiaofeng Wang QM2022

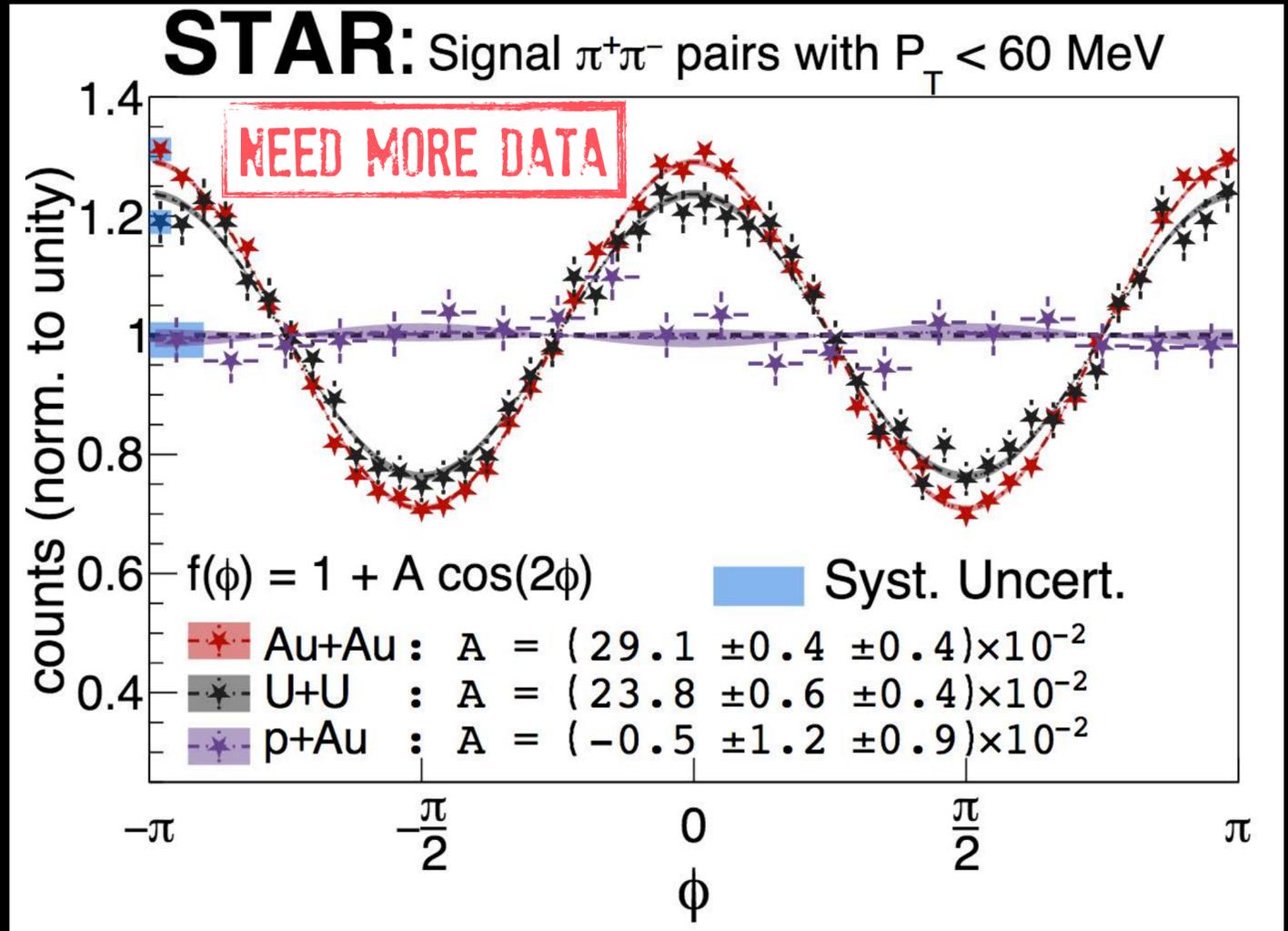
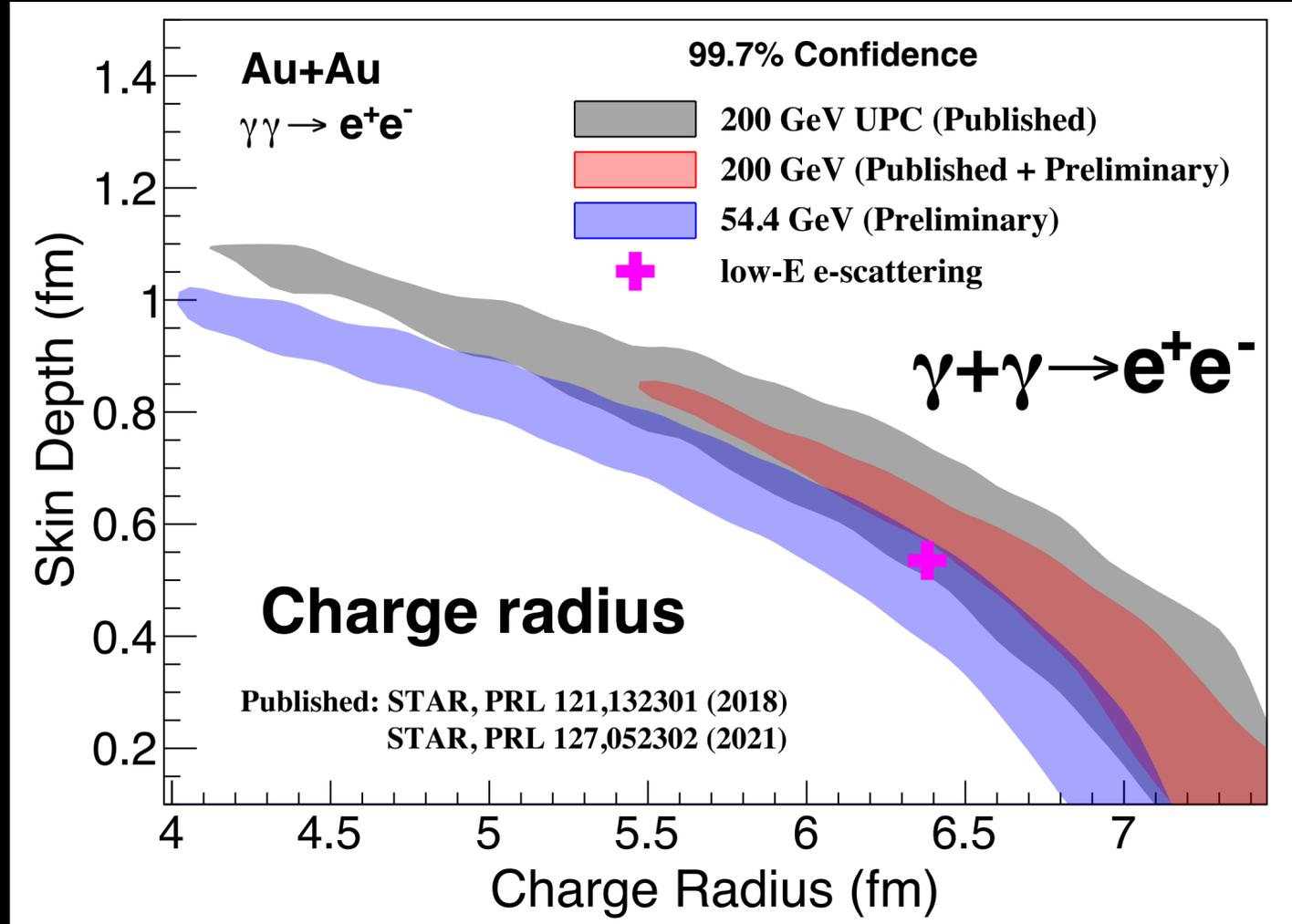


Charge radius **R** & skin depth **a** through $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ (Breit Wheeler process)

$$\rho = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp[(r - R)/a]}$$

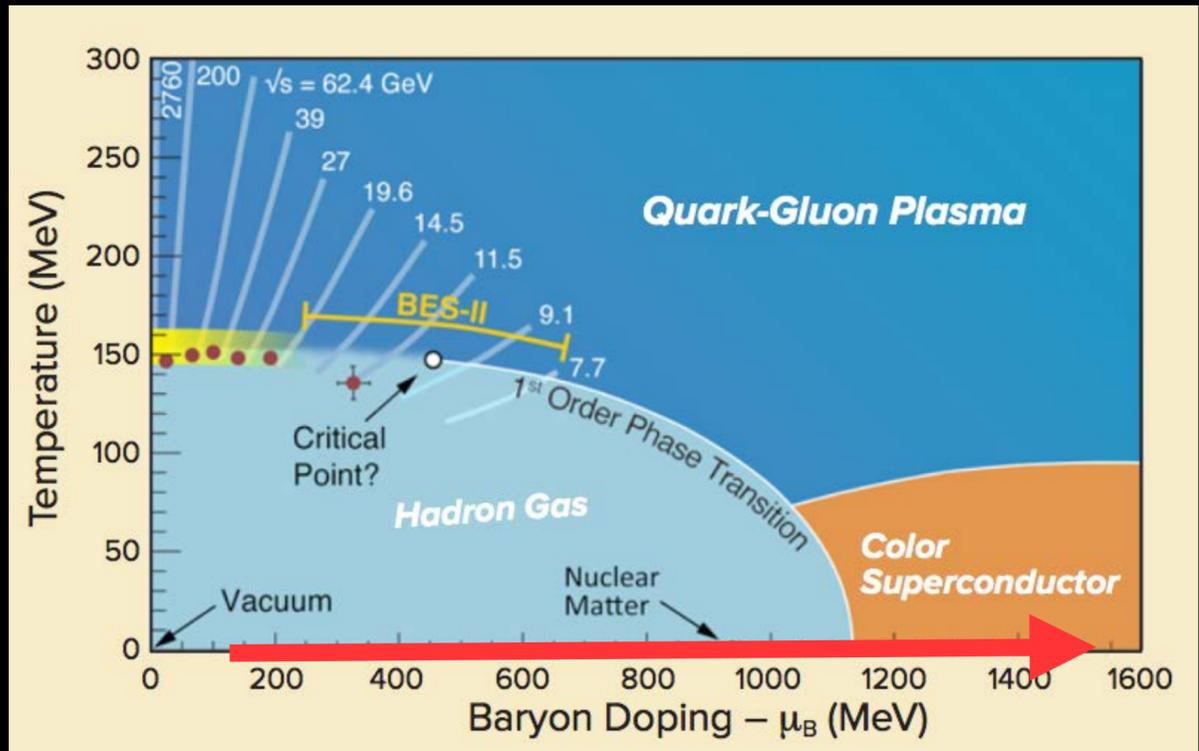


Mass radius, neutron skin through photonuclear $\gamma A \rightarrow \rho^0$ process



Novel ways of extracting nuclear charge radius, and strong-interaction (gluon) radius at RHIC energies

What makes is possible to scan along the μ_B axis ?

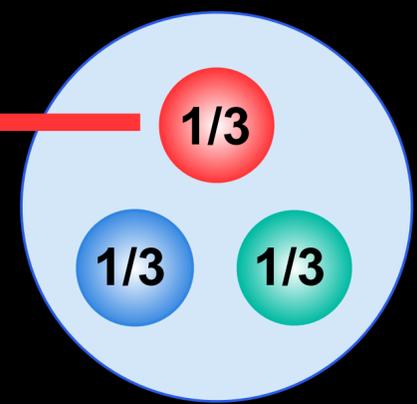


The 2015 LONG RANGE PLAN for NUCLEAR SCIENCE

DOPING QGP WITH QUARKS TO MAP ITS PHASE DIAGRAM

In the highest energy RHIC and LHC collisions and in the early universe, liquid QGP contains almost as many antiquarks as quarks. In the language of condensed matter physics, this is undoped QGP. It would be impossible to understand strongly correlated electron systems in condensed matter physics if all we knew were their properties in the absence of doping, with equal numbers of electrons and holes. Here too, if our goal is understanding, we must map the phase diagram of QCD as a function of both temperature and doping, in this case doping QGP with an excess of quarks over antiquarks.

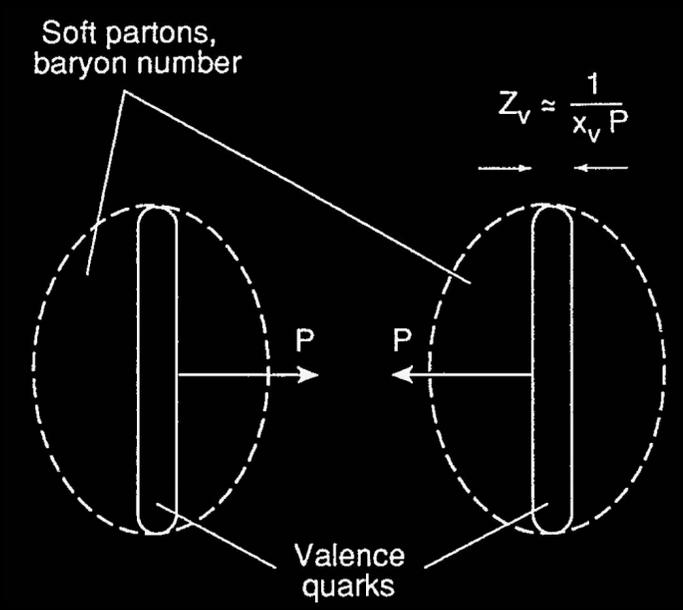
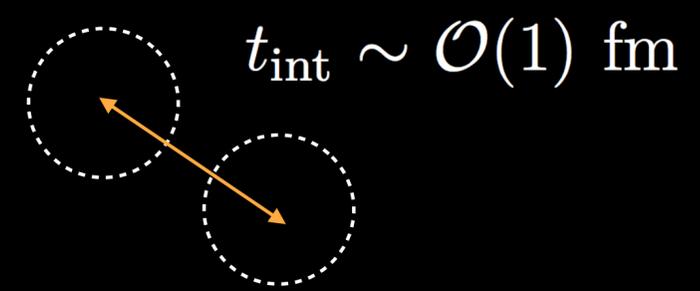
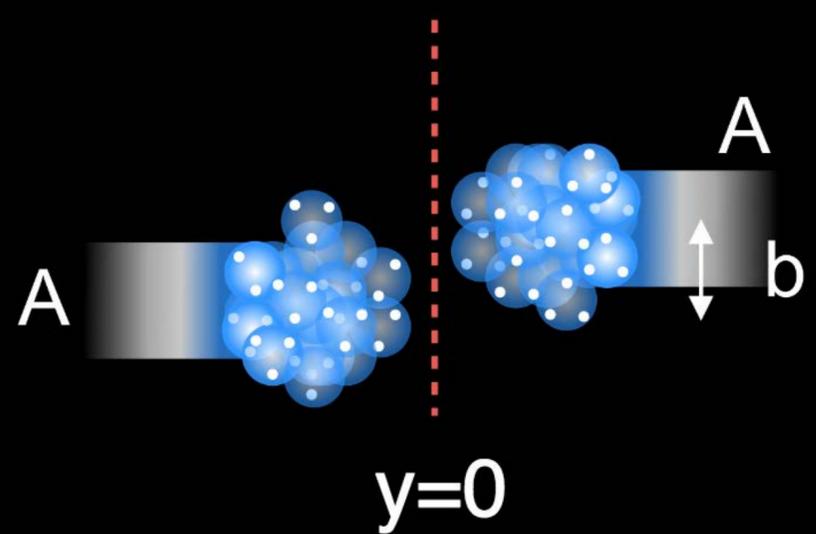
Baryon number flows with the valence quarks



But pulling a quark stops a meson not a baryon

G.C. Rossi and G. Veneziano, Nucl. Phys. B123(1977) 507; Phys. Rep. 63(1980) 149, Kharzeev, Phys. Lett. B, 378 (1996) 238-246

Doping the QGP with baryons is essential to map the phase diagram of the QCD



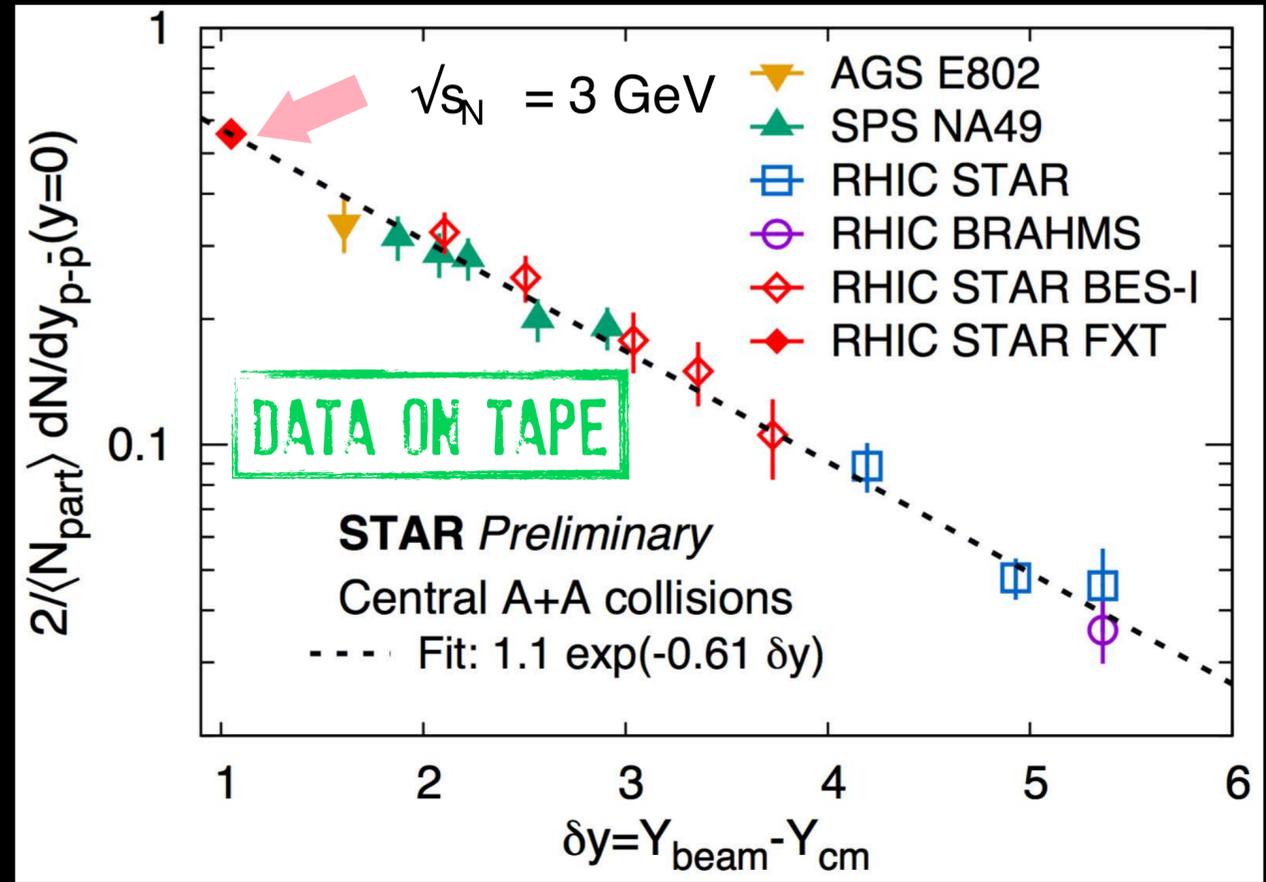
Available time for valence quark stopping is too short

$$t_{\text{coll}} \sim (x_V P)^{-1} = (1/3 \times 100)^{-1} \text{ GeV}^{-1} = 0.006 \text{ fm}$$

If baryon flows with valence quarks, then they should end up near Y_{beam} and not near $y=0$

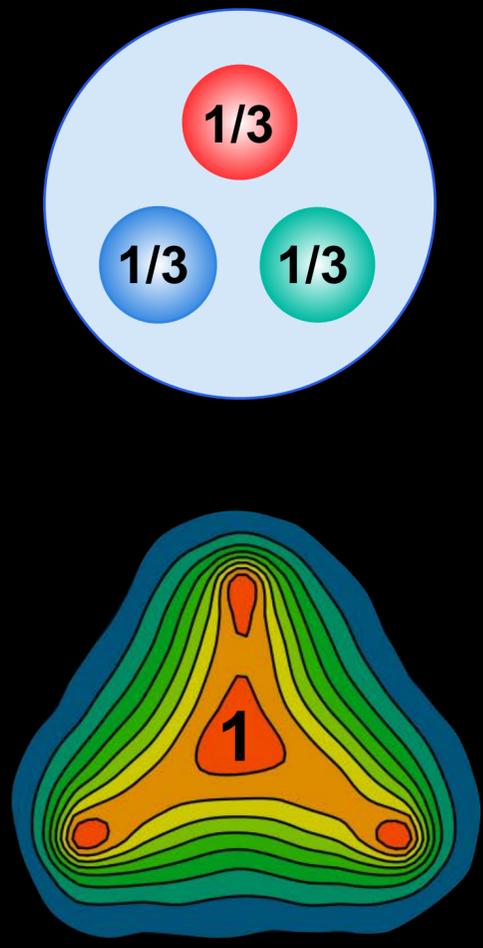
Microscopic structure of a baryon: what carries the baryon number?

Benjamin Kimelman, Nicole Lewis QM2022
 B. Abelev et al. (STAR Collaboration)
 Phys. Rev. C 79 (2009) 034909



Global data show exponential dependence of baryon density with rapidity shift

Baryon number flows with the valence quarks



Baryon number flows with the flow of junction

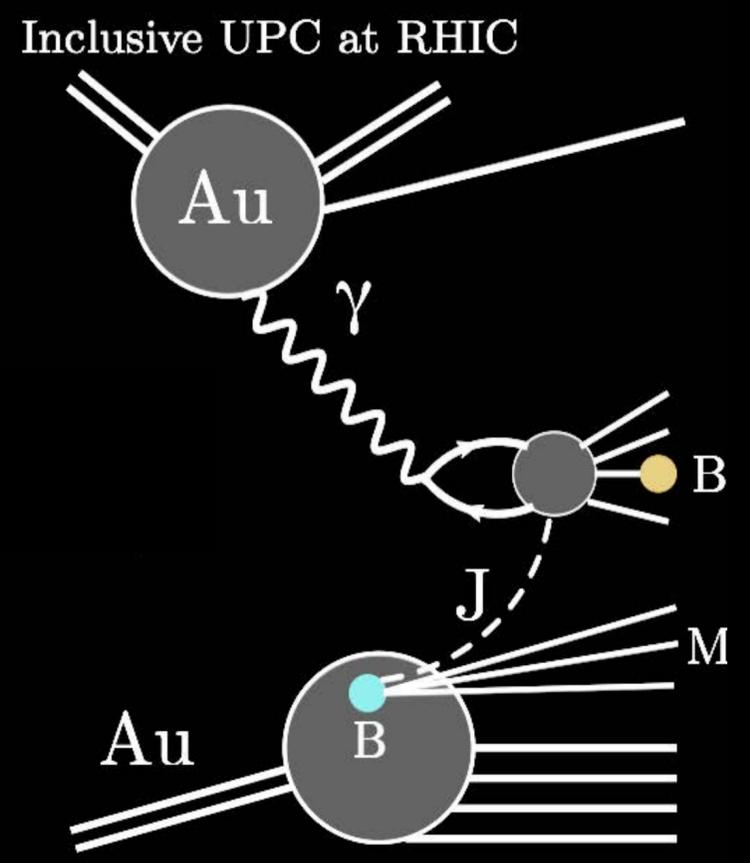
fig: Suganuma et al. AIP Conf.Proc. 756 (2005) 1, 123

Brandenburg, Lewis, Tribedy, Xu, arXiv:2205.05685

Rapidity dependent baryon stopping in $\gamma^{(*)} + \text{Au}$ with RHIC UPC & EIC

$$Q \Leftrightarrow \frac{Z}{A} \times B$$

Charge vs. baryon stopping



NEED MORE DATA

A path towards microscopic understanding of the flow of baryon number & its stopping is possible through RHIC & future EIC measurements

Summary

Goal:

- Utilize the remaining years of RHIC run & analysis of existing data to characterize the unique plasma created in RHIC collisions & map the region of QCD phase diagram inaccessible to other facilities
- Coming decade provides opportunity to identify & perform measurements, informative towards EIC science

Measurements:

- Improved precision of the net-proton fluctuations, di-lepton spectra with BES-II data, novel observables sensitive to chiral & vortical effects
- Probes of gluon saturation, small system collectivity, nuclei imaging, 3D-initial state, bulk observables in UPCs

Needs:

- Complete the planned RHIC operations by collecting p+p, p+A & A+A data to achieve the required precision
- Continued support necessary for timely completion of the analysis & publications
- Support beyond RHIC operation to train a generation of experimentalists in preparation for the EIC

