



# Measurement of dielectron production in Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$ GeV with the STAR experiment

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Shandong University

APS April Meeting 2021



In part supported by

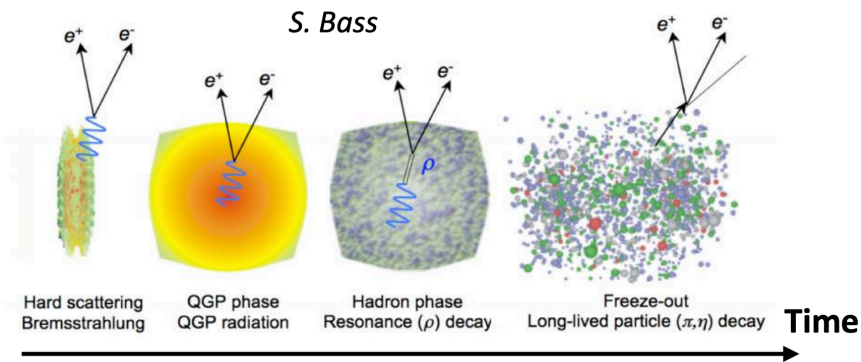


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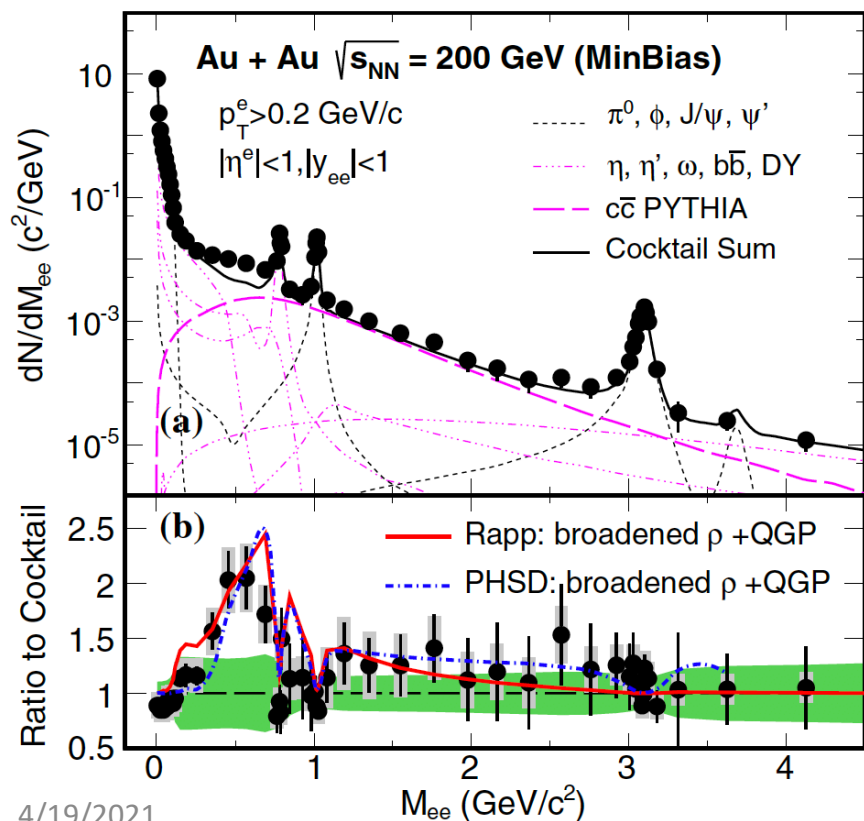
4/19/2021

Zhen Wang, APS April Meeting 2021

# Dielectron production



STAR, PRL. 113 (2014) 22301



## Dielectron – an excellent probe

- Minimal interaction with the medium
- Carries information from the initial stage to the final stage of a collision

## Different physics of interest

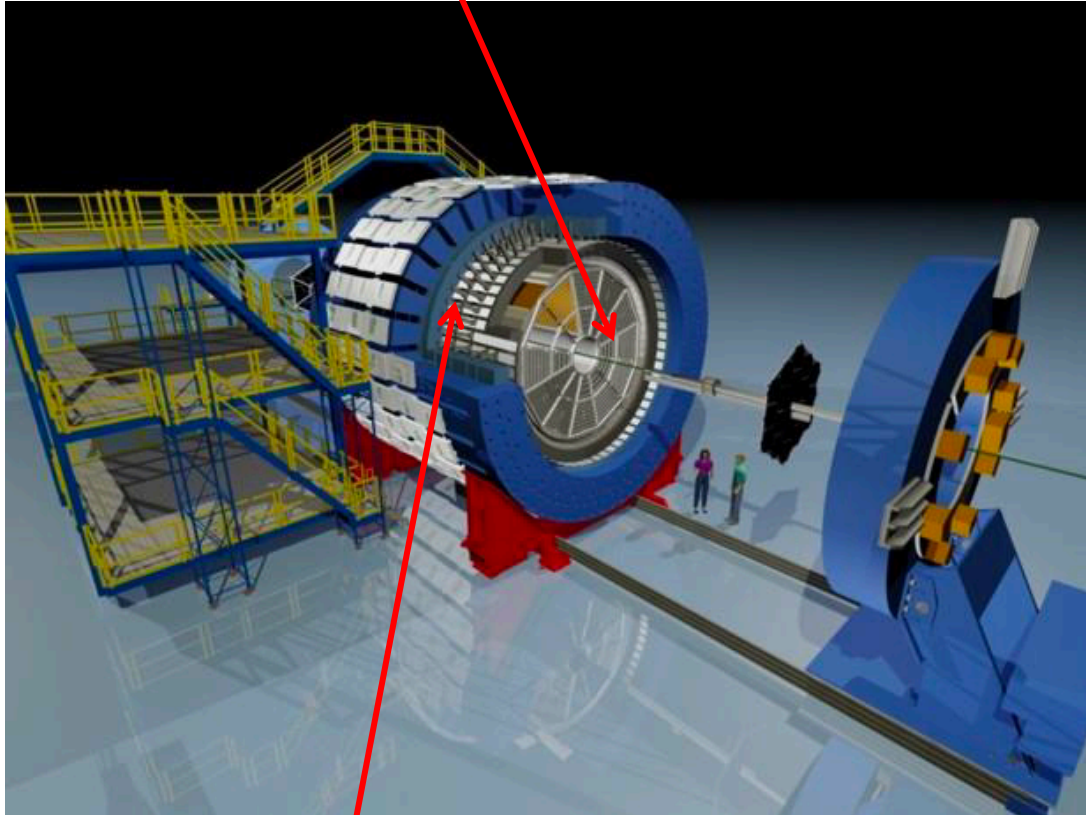
- Low Mass Region ( LMR,  $M_{ee} < M_{\phi}$  )
  - Vector meson in-medium modifications
  - Possible link to chiral symmetry restoration
- Intermediate mass region ( IMR,  $M_{\phi} < M_{ee} < M_{J/\psi}$  )
  - QGP thermal radiation is predicted as a QGP thermometer

Physics interest : Adv. Nucl. Phys. 25 (2000) 1  
 Rapp: PoS CPOD2013, 008 (2013)  
 PHSD: Phys. Rev. C 85, 024910 (2012);

# The STAR experiment



## Time Projection Chamber



## Time of Flight

## Key detectors used in this analysis

### Time Projection Chamber

- Acceptance :  $|\eta| < 1, 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$
- Tracking, particle momenta, electron identification

### Time of Flight

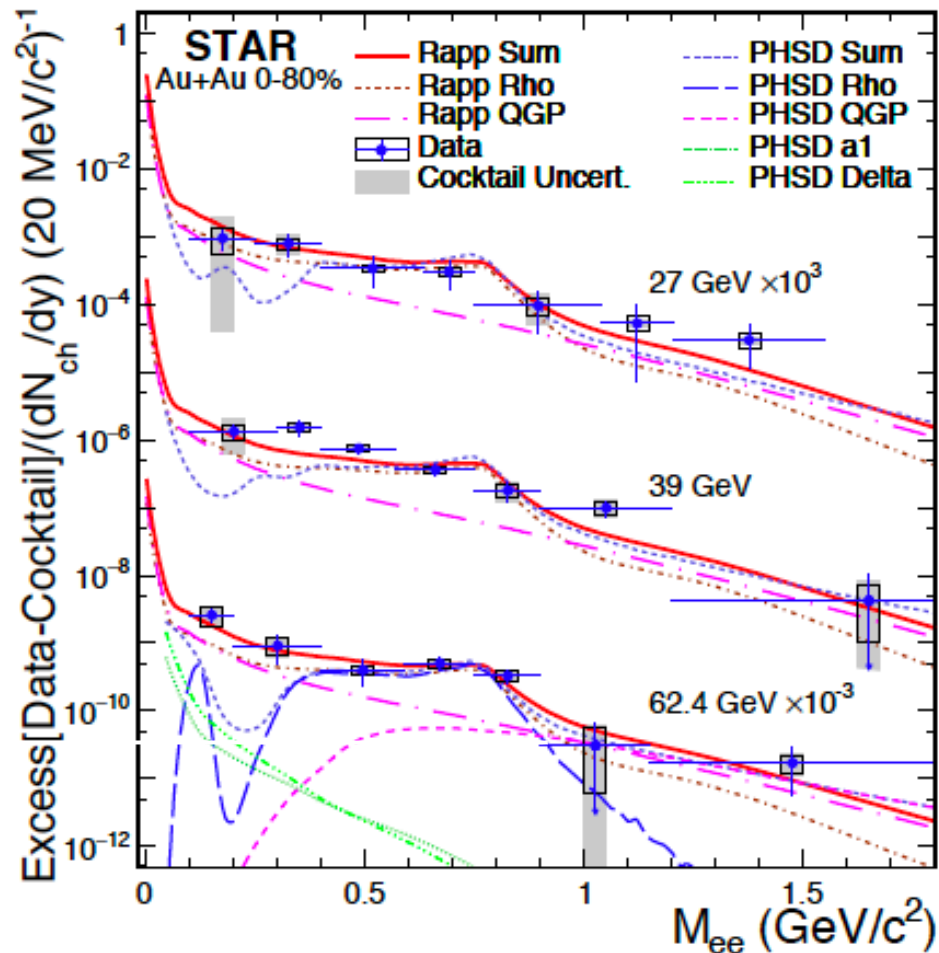
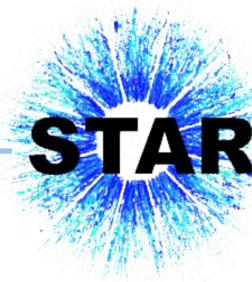
- Acceptance :  $|\eta| < 0.9, 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$
- Rejection of slow hadrons
- Improve electron purity

### Dataset

- New datasets are  $\sim 10$  times larger than that in the  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 27, 39$  and 62.4 GeV

Year	Energy	Used events
2017	54.4 GeV	875M
2011	27 GeV	68M
2010	39 GeV	132M
2010	62.4 GeV	62M

# $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 27, 39$ and $62.4$ GeV dielectron result



- Excess yield ( data - cocktail ) with acceptance correction
- Theory calculations including in-medium broadened  $\rho$  and thermal radiation are compared with data
- Within uncertainties, the model calculations are found to reproduce the acceptance-corrected excess yield in Au+Au collisions at each of the collision energies.

Higher precision measurements now possible with new datasets at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$  GeV

STAR: arXiv:1810.10159 [nucl-ex]

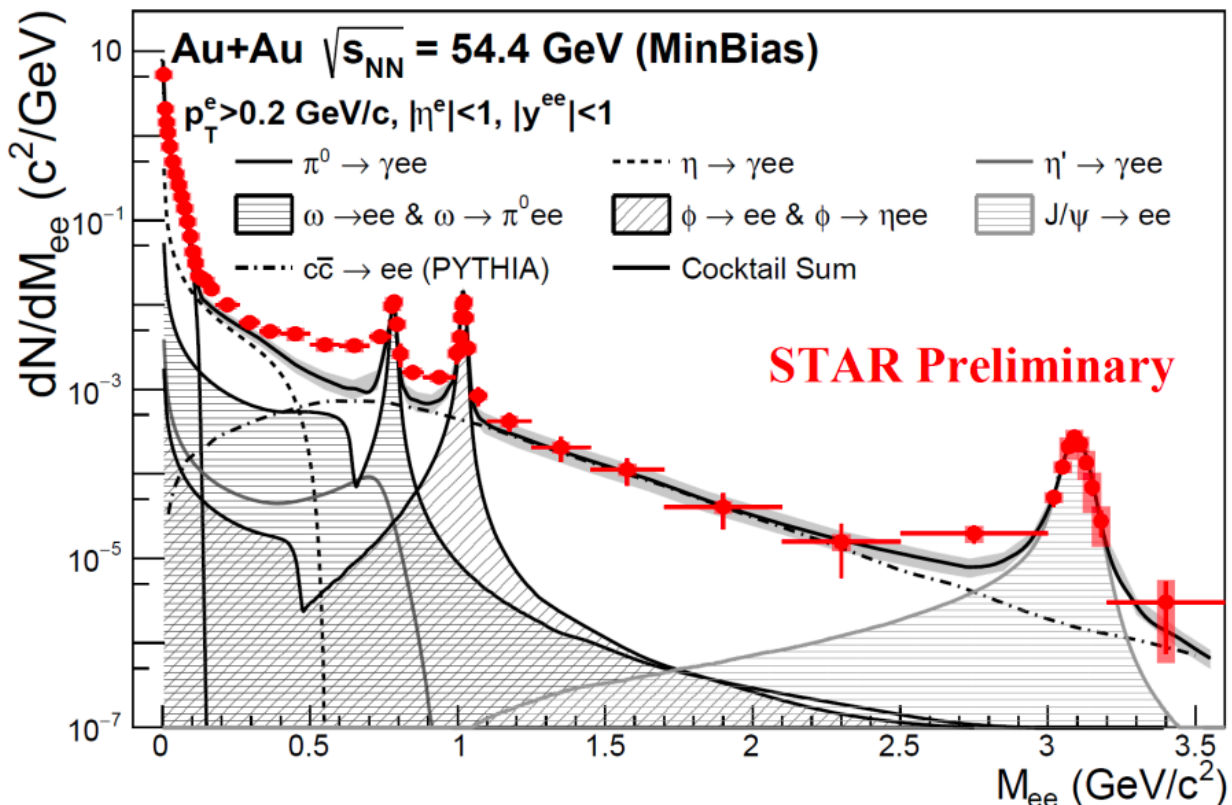
Rapp et al.: PRC 63 (2001) 054907, PRL 97 (2006) 102301

Andres et al.: PRC 91 (2015) 054911, PRC 94 (2016) 024912

PHSD: Nucl. Phys. A831 (2009) 215, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 87 (2016) 50



# Cocktail in 54.4 GeV analysis

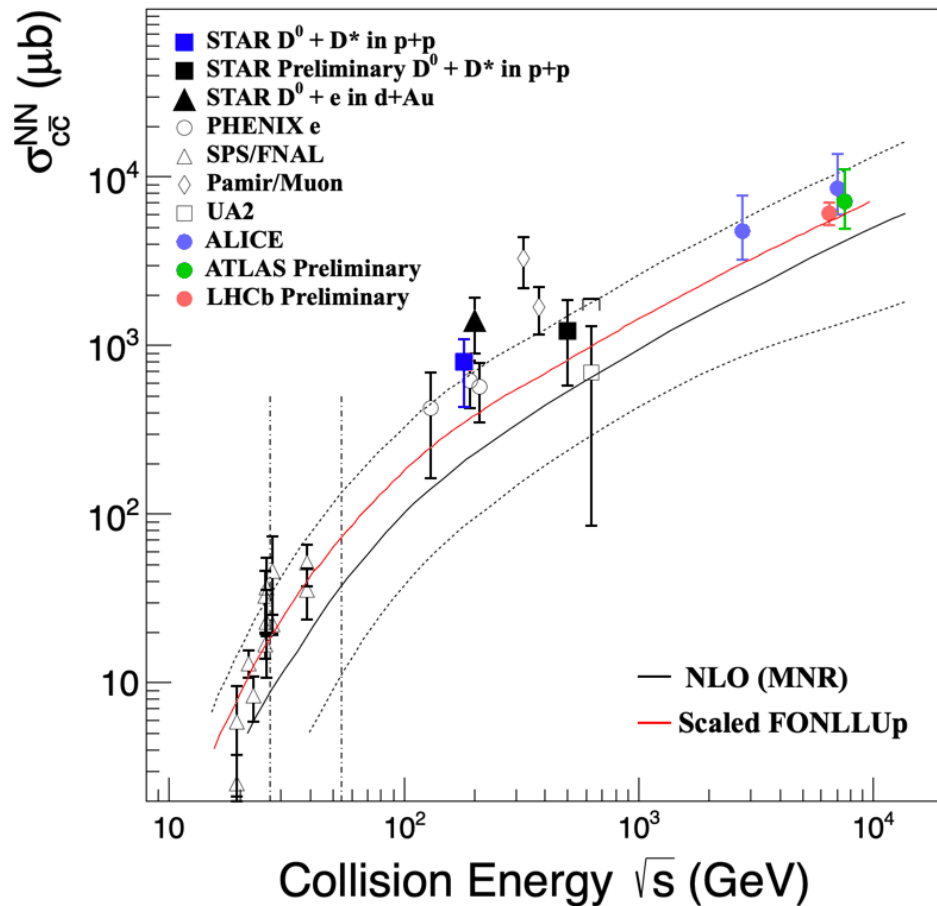


27, 39 and 62 GeV analysis : arXiv:1810.10159 [nucl-ex]

## Cocktails in QM 2019

- $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$  GeV charm component is taken from analysis of 2010  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 62.4$  GeV data charm component and scaled by the ratio of charm cross section and  $N_{\text{bin}}$  at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$  GeV to 62.4 GeV
- Drell-Yan contribution was not included in  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$  GeV QM19 cocktails

# Charm component



## Charm yield scale method

- Charm semi-leptonic decay in p+p collisions is scaled by following equation to match the Au+Au collisions.

$$\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dM} = \frac{1}{n \text{Charm}} \left( \frac{dN}{dM} \right)_{pp} \frac{\sigma_{c\bar{c}}}{\sigma_{mb}} N_{bin} BR_{(c \rightarrow e^+)} BR_{(c \rightarrow e^-)}$$

## Charm cross section

- The charm cross sections at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$  GeV are extrapolated from worldwide data<sup>[1][2][3][4][5][6]</sup>.
- The perturbative QCD leading-order plus next-to-leading logarithms upper-limit was used to fit the world-wide measurements of  $\sigma_{c\bar{c}}^{NN}$  in order to determine the input charm cross section.

[1] Fermilab E769 Collaboration : Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 2388 (1996).

[2] S P K Tavernier : Rep. Prog. Phys. 50, 1439 (1987).

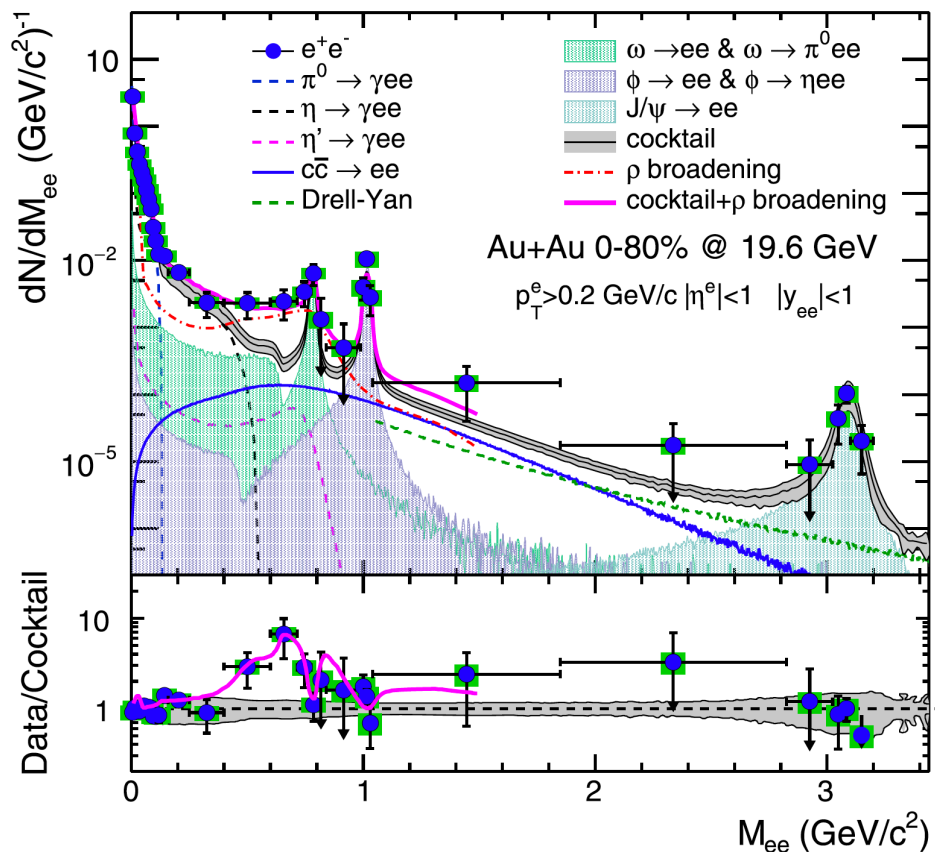
[3] STAR : Phys. Rev. D 86, 072013 (2012).

[4] PHENIX : Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 252002 (2006).

[5] ATLAS : JHEP 01 (2012) 128

[6] LHCb : JHEP 03 (2016) 159

# Drell-Yan component



STAR 19.6 GeV : Physics Letters B 750 (2015) 64–71  
 NA50 17.3 GeV: Physics Letters B 410 (1997) 327

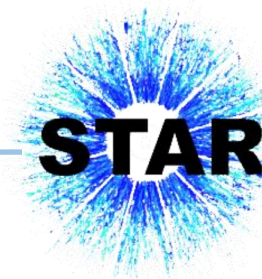
## Drell-Yan component

- Drell-Yan component becomes similar order of magnitude with charm component at lower energy in the intermediate mass region
- $\sigma_{DY}$  was taken from PYTHIA and was corrected by the ratio of the cross-section used in STAR 19.6 GeV dielectron measurement to the corresponding PYTHIA cross-section at 19.6 GeV

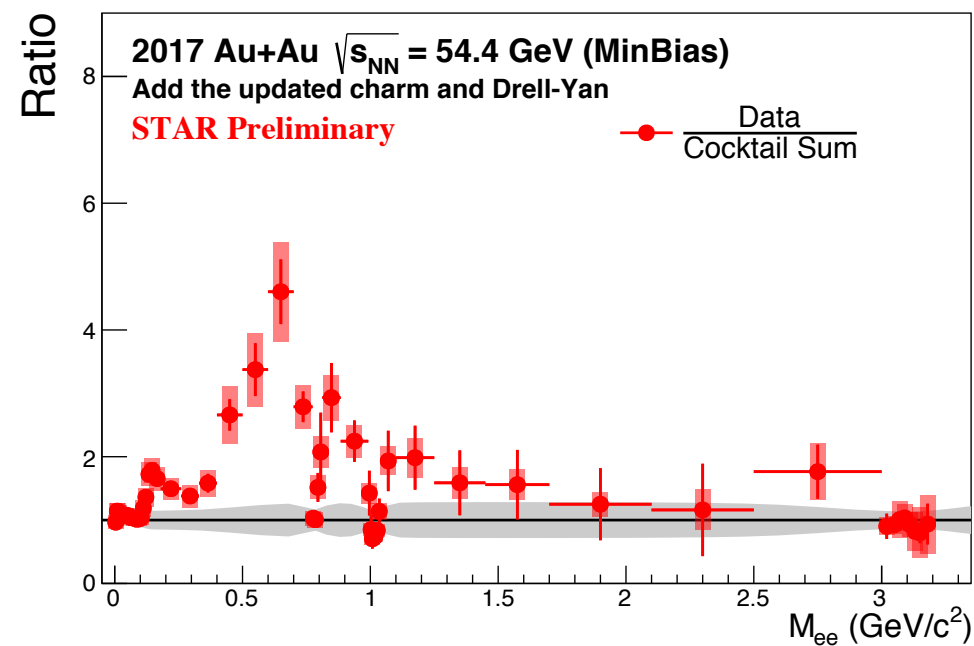
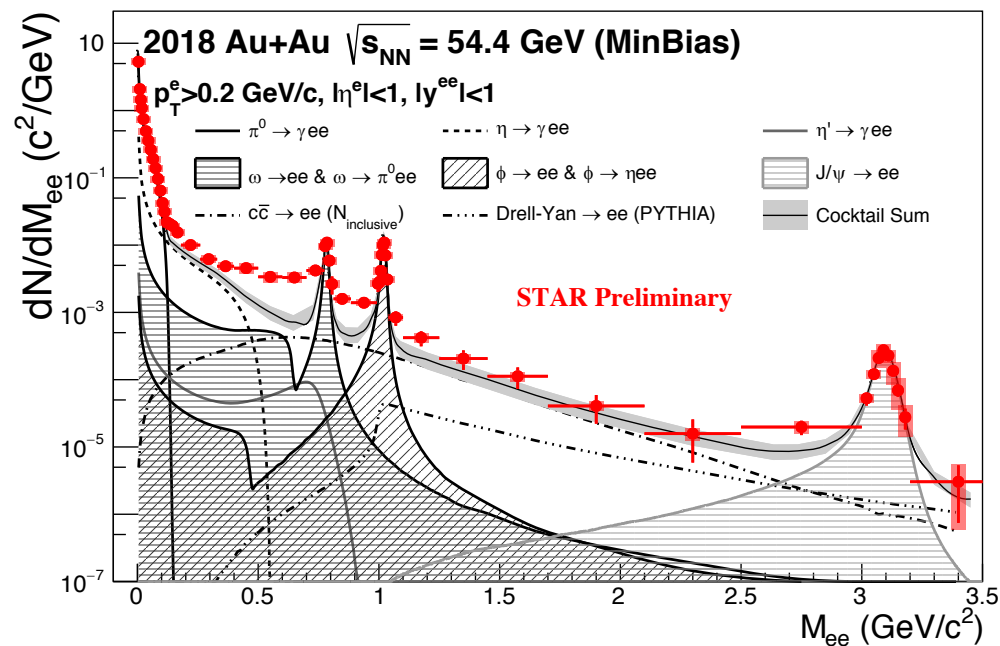
$$\sigma_{DY} = \sigma_{DY 54.4 GeV}^{PYTHIA} * \frac{\sigma_{DY 19.6 GeV}^{Paper}}{\sigma_{DY 19.6 GeV}^{PYTHIA}} = 19.25 nb$$

$$\sigma_{DY 54.4 GeV}^{PYTHIA} = 26.19 nb$$

# 54.4 GeV efficiency corrected spectra



Charm component with  $N_{\text{inclusive}}$  scale method and Drell-Yan component added in cocktail

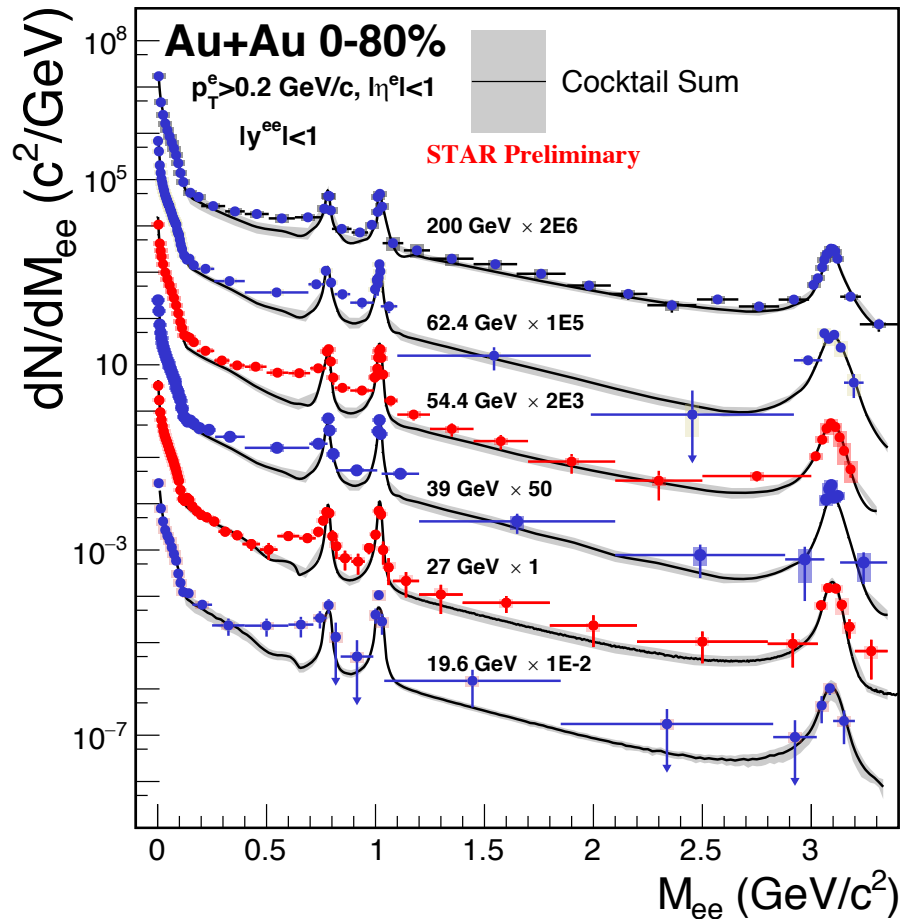


**$\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 54.4$  GeV : first dielectron measurement at this energy, cocktail updated**

- A hint of excess in the intermediate mass region at  $1.8\sigma$  level
- $p_{\text{T}}$  and centrality differential analysis is ongoing
- Working on having a better background removal. For example, photonic electron



# Summary and outlook



## New measurements at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4 \text{ GeV}$ :

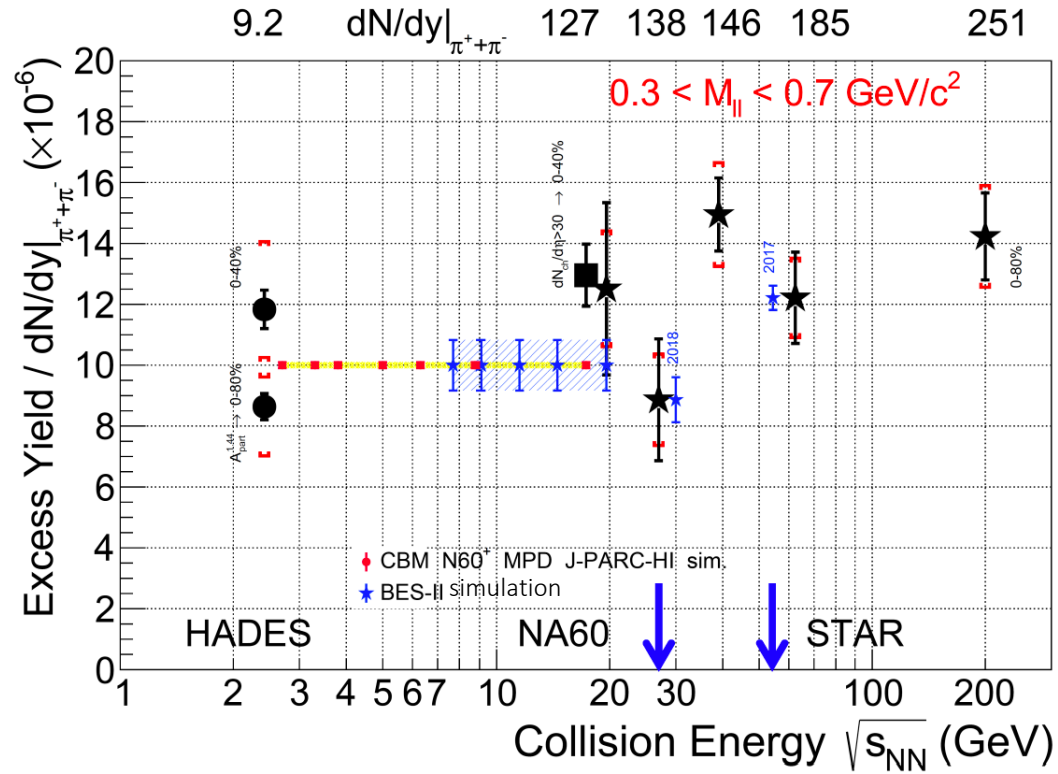
- A hint of excess in the intermediate mass region can be observed in  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4 \text{ GeV}$  measurements
- Enough statistics for differential measurements vs  $p_T$ , centrality, etc.

## BES-II Program:

- Measurement of dielectron spectra for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7, 9.1, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6 \text{ GeV}$  will be possible with STAR BES-II data
- Reduced charm cross section enhances sensitivity to thermal radiation in the intermediate mass region
- Detector upgrade will reduce the uncertainties of dielectron analysis

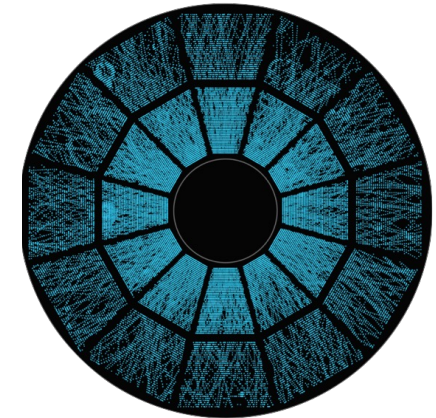
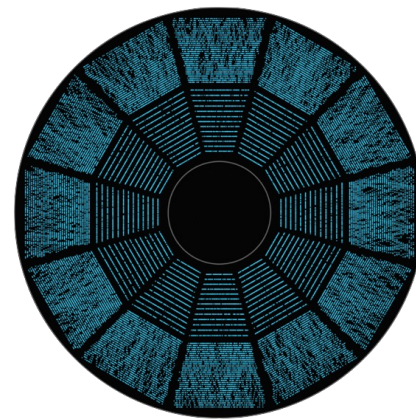
200GeV: PRC 92 (2015) 024912  
19.6 GeV: PLB 750 (2015) 64  
62.4 & 39 GeV: arXiv:1810.10159 [nucl-ex]

# Dielectron measurement with STAR BES-II program



- Systematically study energy dependence of low mass region excess between  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$  and 19.6 GeV
- Enhanced tracking and particle identification capabilities with iTPC and eTOF upgrades
  - Extend  $\eta$  acceptance from  $|\eta| < 1.0$  to  $|\eta| < 1.5$
  - Extend the lower limit of  $p_T$  from 0.2 to 0.1 GeV/c

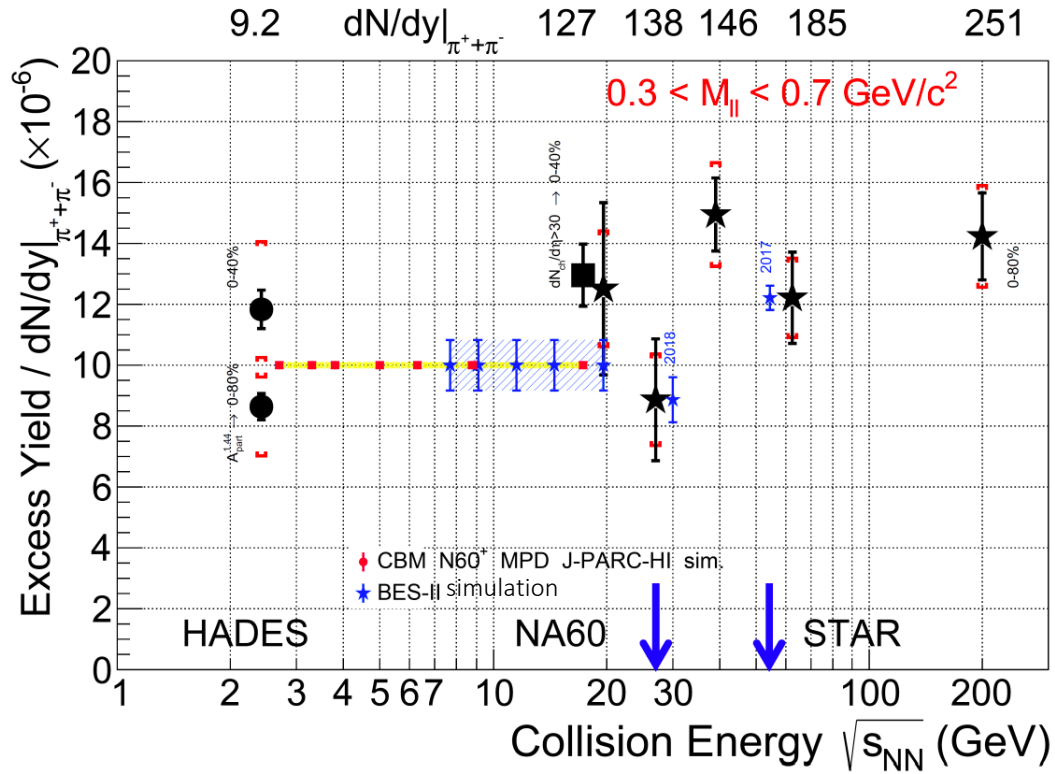
Plot : STAR, F.Seck, QM 2019  
 NA60: Chiral 2010, AIP Conf.Proc. 1322 (2010) 1  
 STAR: PLB 750 (2015) 64, arXiv:1810.10159 [nucl-ex]  
 HADES: Nature Phys. 15 (2019) 1040



Events display: without iTPC

with iTPC

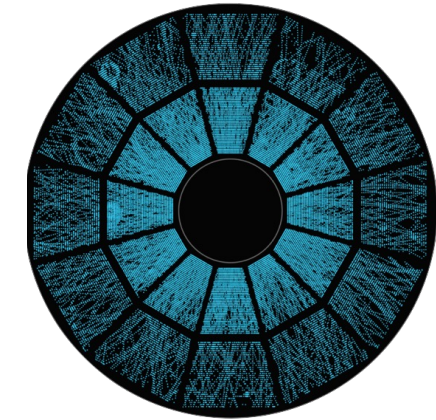
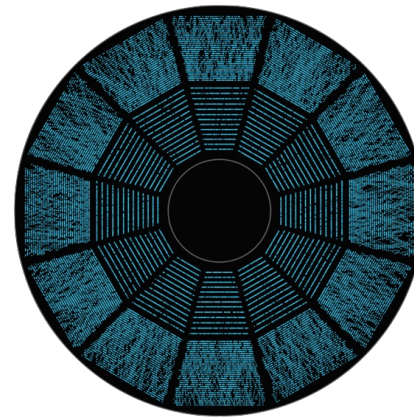
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**Thanks for your attention!**



Events display: without iTPC

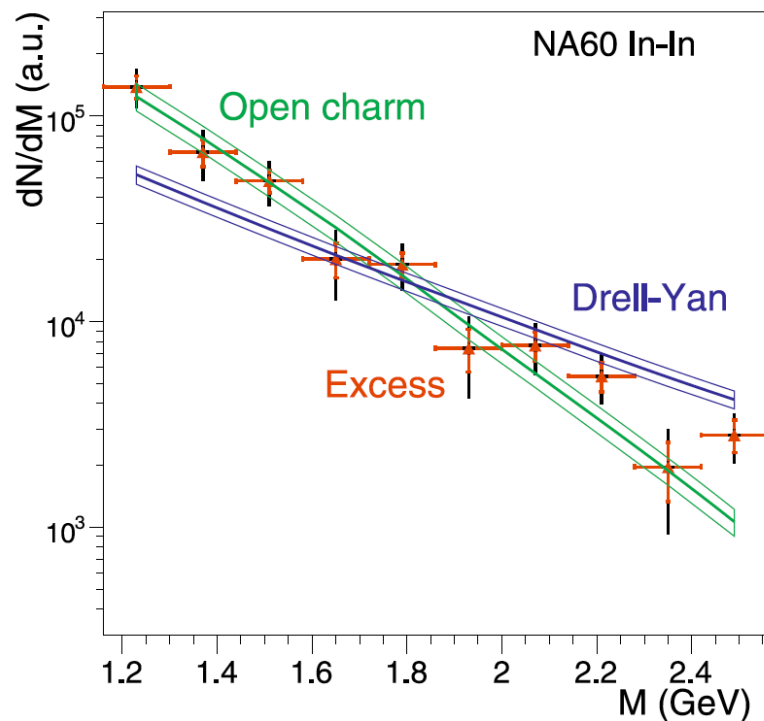
with iTPC

# Backup



Open charm and Drell-Yan contributions  
at 17.3 GeV In-In collisions.

Eur. Phys. J. C (2009) 61: 711–720



**Fig. 4.3** Acceptance-corrected mass spectra of all three contributions to the IMR spectrum: Drell-Yan, *open charm* and the excess (*triangles*). The data are integrated over centrality

**Drell-Yan cross-section scale factor**

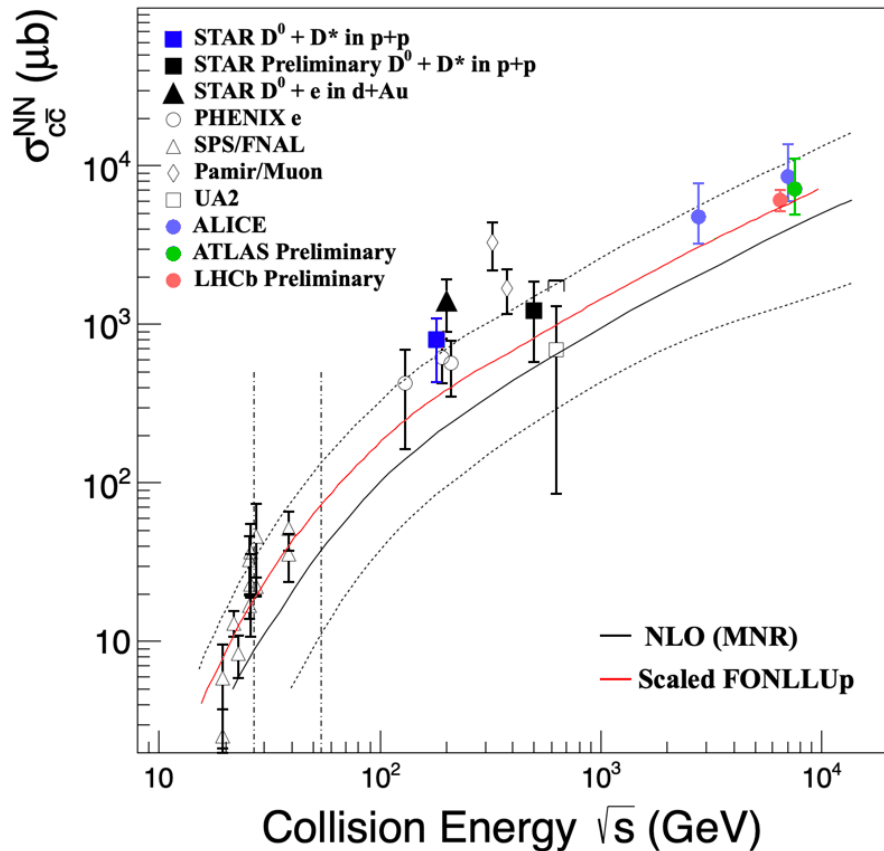
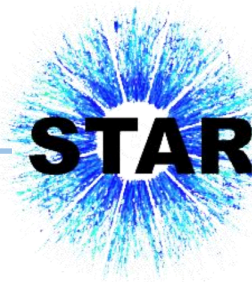
$$\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 17.3 \text{ GeV } \sigma_{DY}^{NA50} = 9.88 \text{ nb}$$

$$\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 19.6 \text{ GeV } \sigma_{DY}^{Pythia} = 13.44 \text{ nb}$$

$$\text{Correct factor : } \frac{\sigma_{DY}^{NA50}}{\sigma_{DY}^{Pythia}}$$



# Charm cross-section and scale method



Phys. Rev. Lett. 77, 2388 (1996).  
 Rep. Prog. Phys. 50, 1439 (1987).  
 Phys. Rev. D 86, 072013 (2012).  
 Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 252002 (2006).

## Charm cross section

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- Charm semi-leptonic decay in p+p collisions is scaled by equation (1) to match the Au+Au collisions.

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- In STAR  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 27, 39$  and  $62.4$  GeV analyses, the number of PYTHIA events with 1 c string and 1  $\bar{c}$  string events is used as the number of charm ( **$N_{2Cstring}$  method**)
- In STAR  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV paper, the number of PYTHIA events with at least 1 c or  $\bar{c}$  is used as the number of charm ( **$N_{inclusive}$  method**)

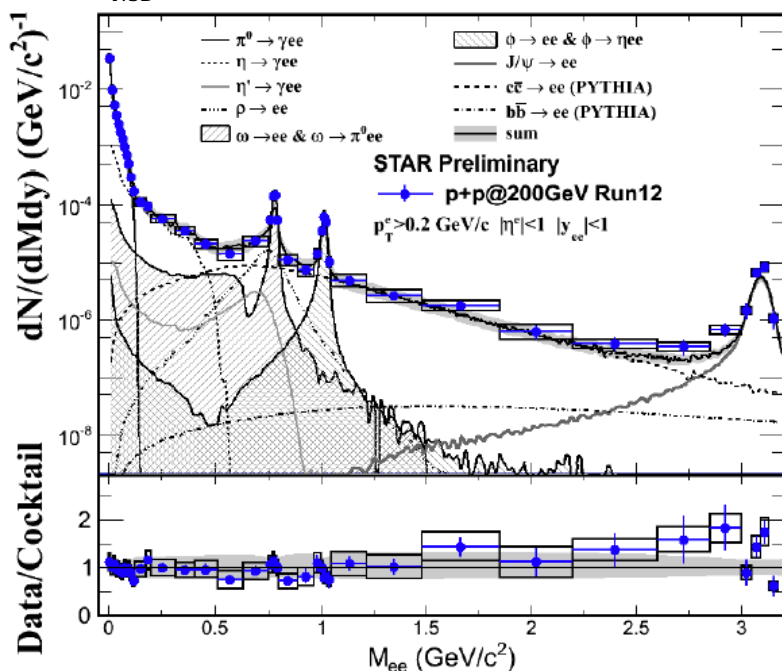


# Comparison of two scale method

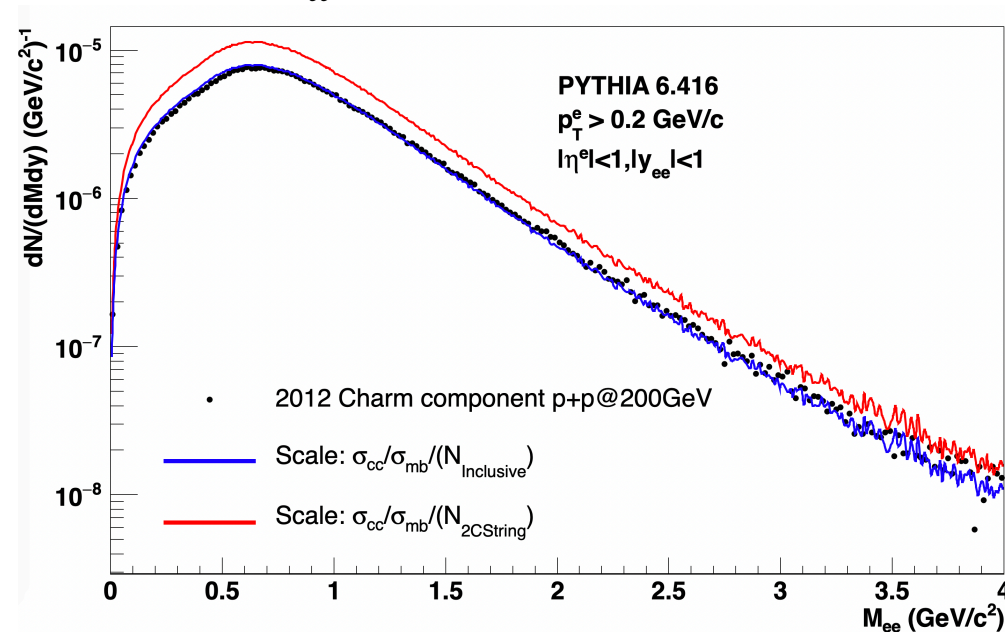


Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 535:012006, sep 2014

$\sigma_{\text{NSD}}$ : PHYSICAL REVIEW C 86, 024906 (2012)



$\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200\text{GeV}$   $\sigma_{\text{NSD}} = 30 \pm 3.5 \text{ mb}$   
 $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200\text{GeV}$   $\sigma_{\text{cc}}^{\text{pp}} = 797 \pm 210(\text{stat.})_{-295}^{+208}(\text{sys.}) \text{ nb}$



- STAR p+p at  $\sqrt{s} = 200 \text{ GeV}$  was used to see if the cross-section from PYTHIA is consistent with experimental data
- Charm component scaled with  $N_{\text{inclusive}}$  method is consistent with charm component measured in pp collisions (STAR Run12)
- Charm component scaled with  $N_{2\text{Cstring}}$  method is  $\sim 1.4$  factor higher than charm component measured in pp collisions (STAR Run12)
- $N_{\text{inclusive}}$  method is the correct way to scale charm component
- The charm component in  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 54.4$  will be scaled by  $N_{\text{inclusive}}$  method