



STAR Highlights

Takafumi Niida for the STAR Collaboration



2022 RHIC/AGS ANNUAL USERS' MEETING

From RHIC to EIC
At the QCD Frontiers

This meeting will be held virtually.
June 7–10, 2022

Supported in part by

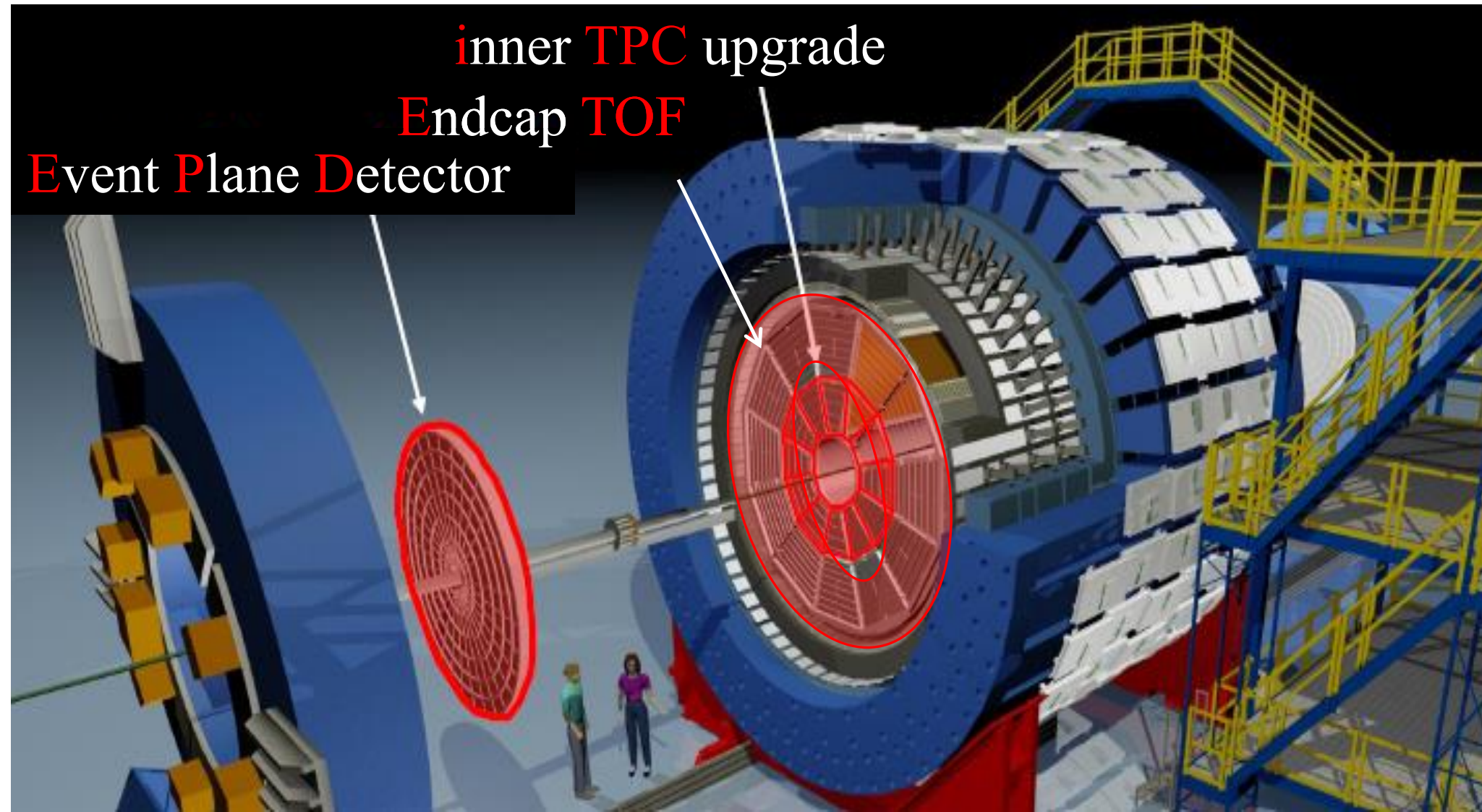


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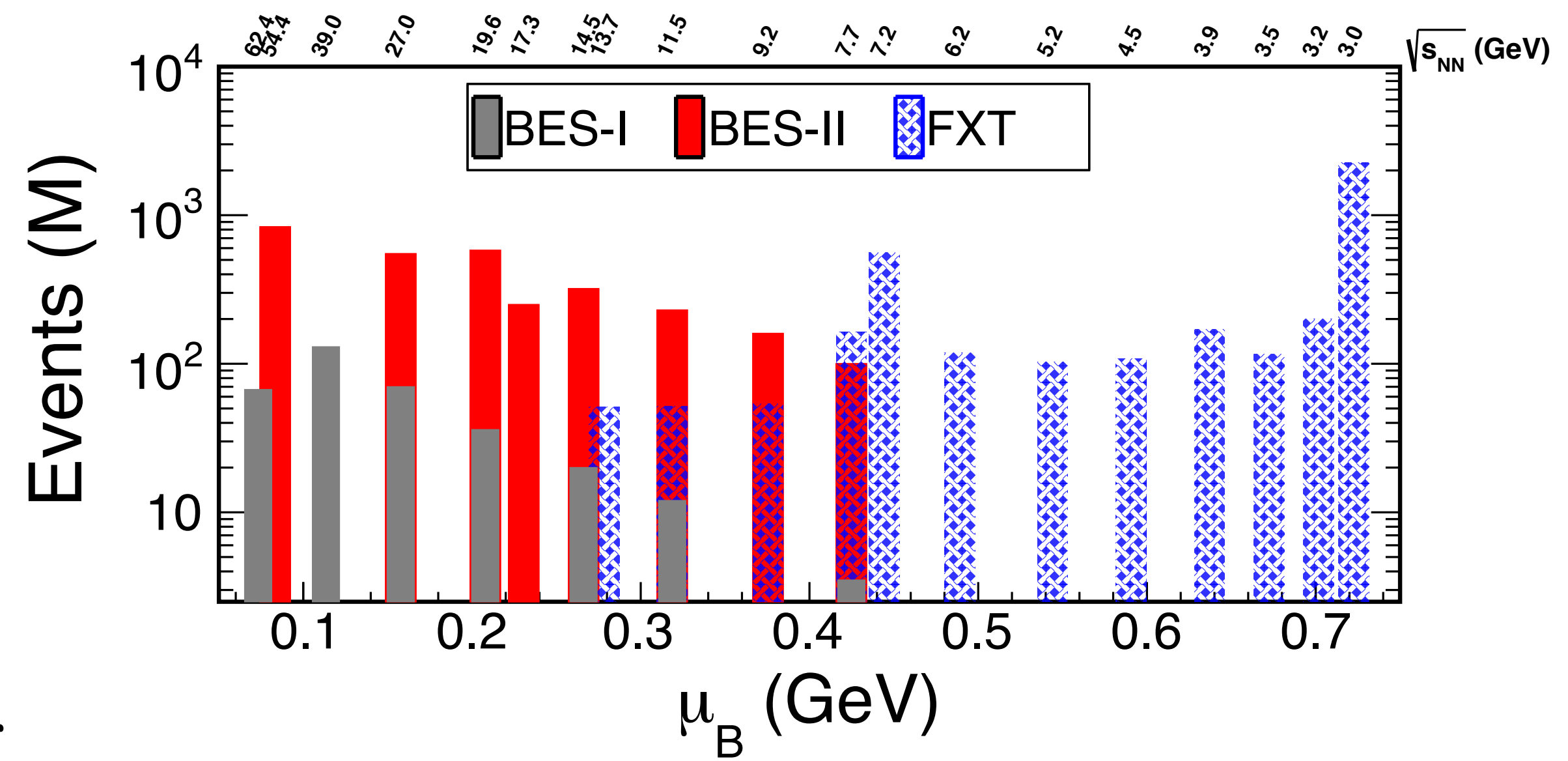
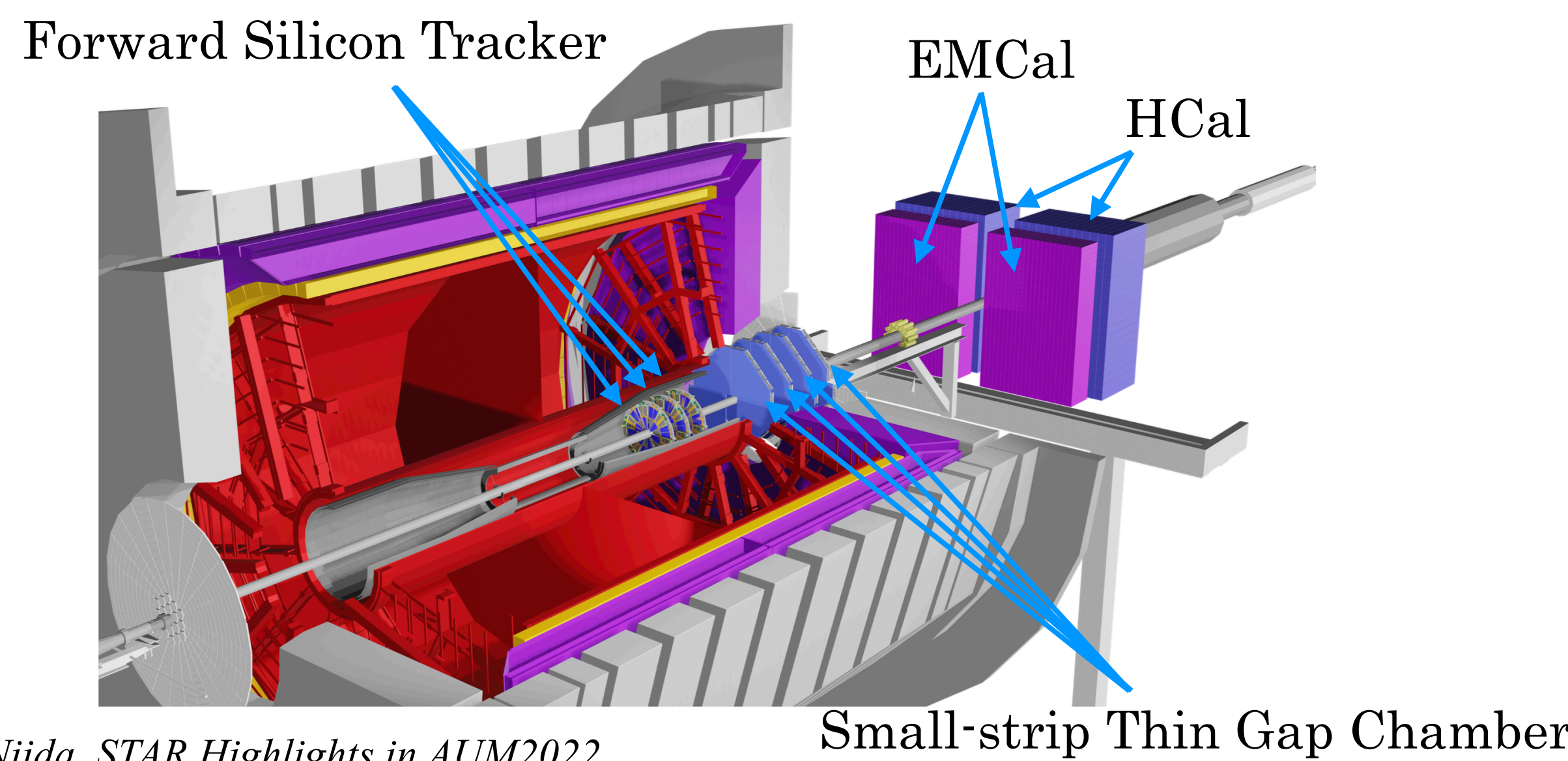
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STAR experiment



- Beam Energy Scan II was successfully completed with desired performance of BES-II detector upgrade (iTTPC, eTOF, EPD)
 - 8 energies for 7.7 - 54.4 GeV (collider mode)
 - 12 energies for 3.0 - 13.7 GeV (fixed-target mode)
- Run-2022 p+p 508 GeV with STAR Forward Upgrade was successfully completed





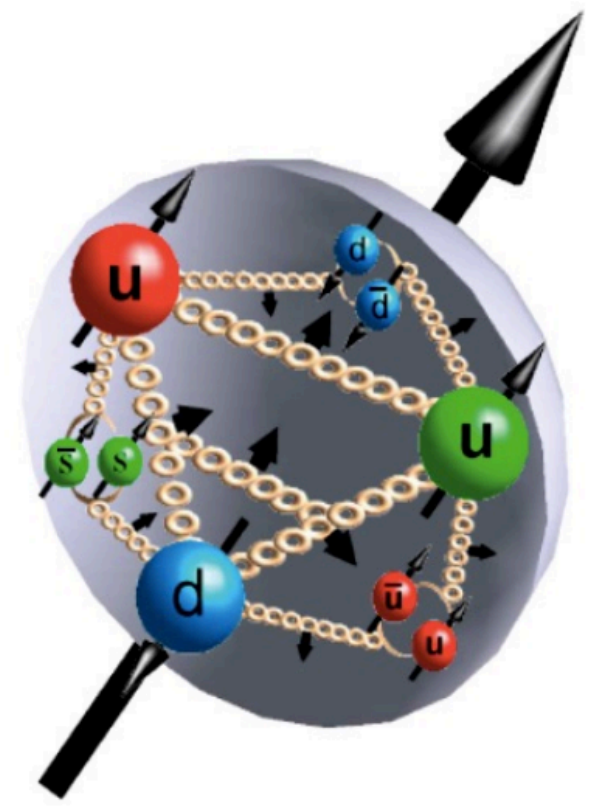
Outline

- Cold QCD/spin physics
- Hot QCD and UPC physics
 - Ultra-peripheral collisions
 - Chirality/vorticity
 - Collectivity
 - Hypernuclei
 - Fluctuations
 - Hard probes



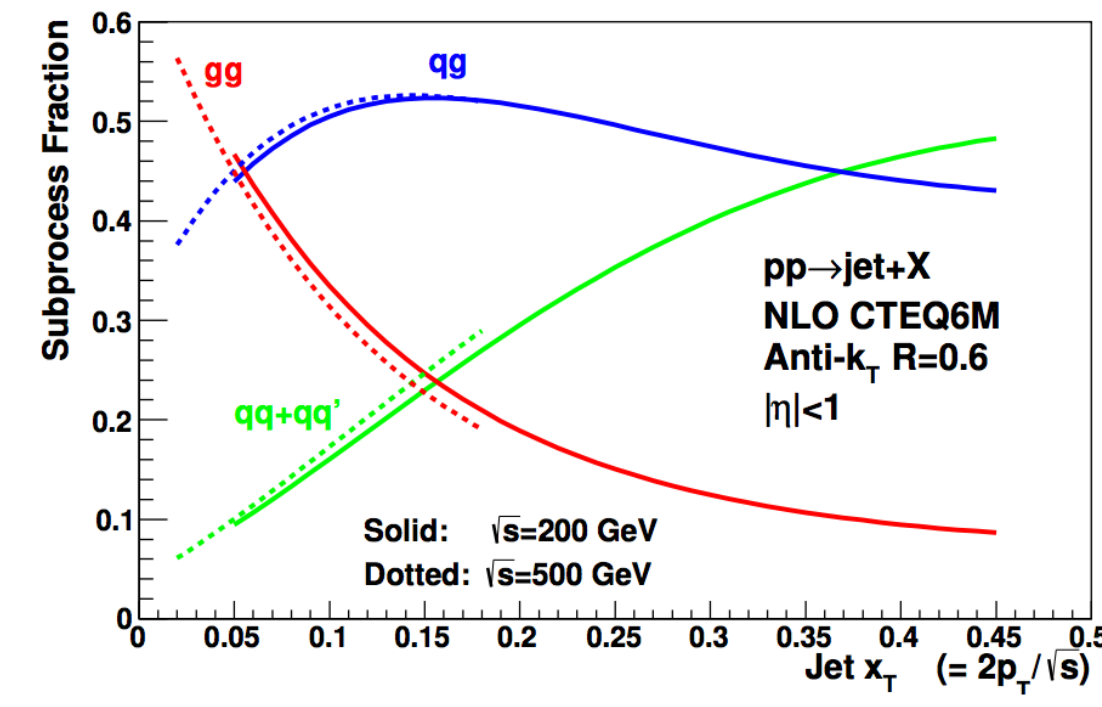
A_{LL} with inclusive jets

Talk by Jae Nam (6/8)



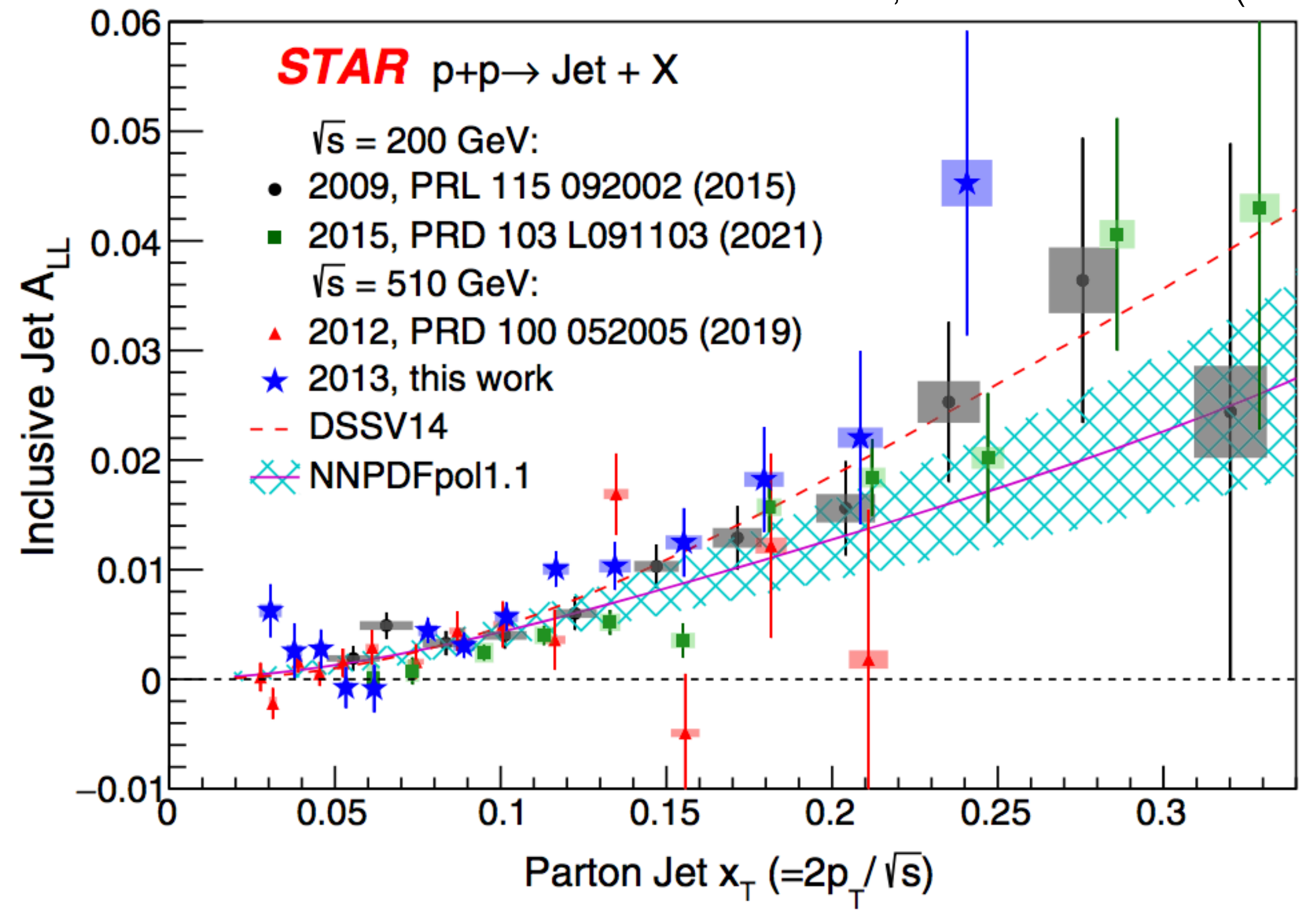
R.L.Jaffe and A.Manohar, NPB337.509(1990)

$$S = \frac{1}{2} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma}_{\text{quarks}} + \underbrace{\Delta G}_{\text{gluons}} + \underbrace{L}_{\text{orbital angular momentum}}$$



Midrapidity jets at RHIC originate from qg and gg at low x_T

STAR, PRD105.092011 (2022)



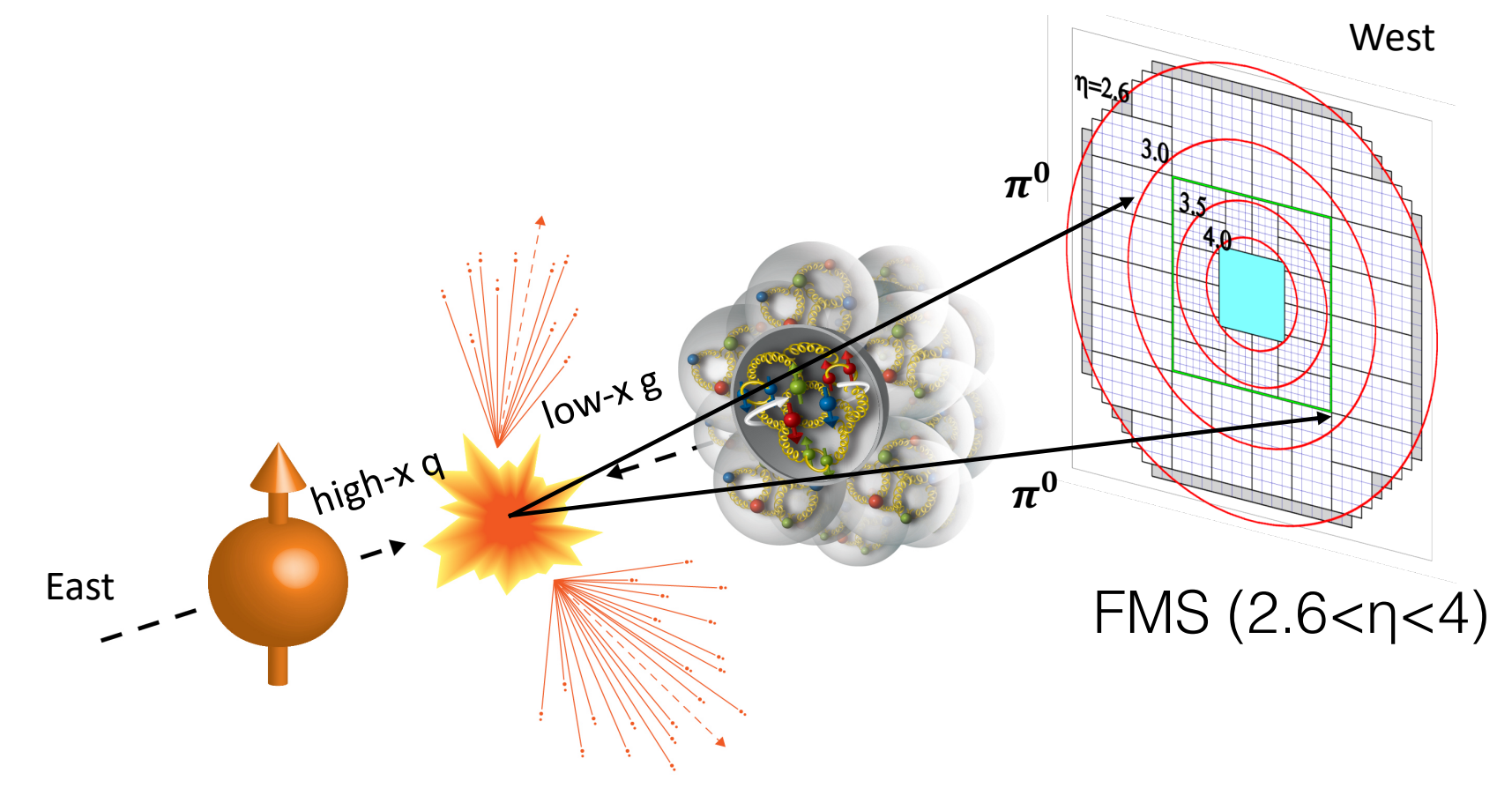
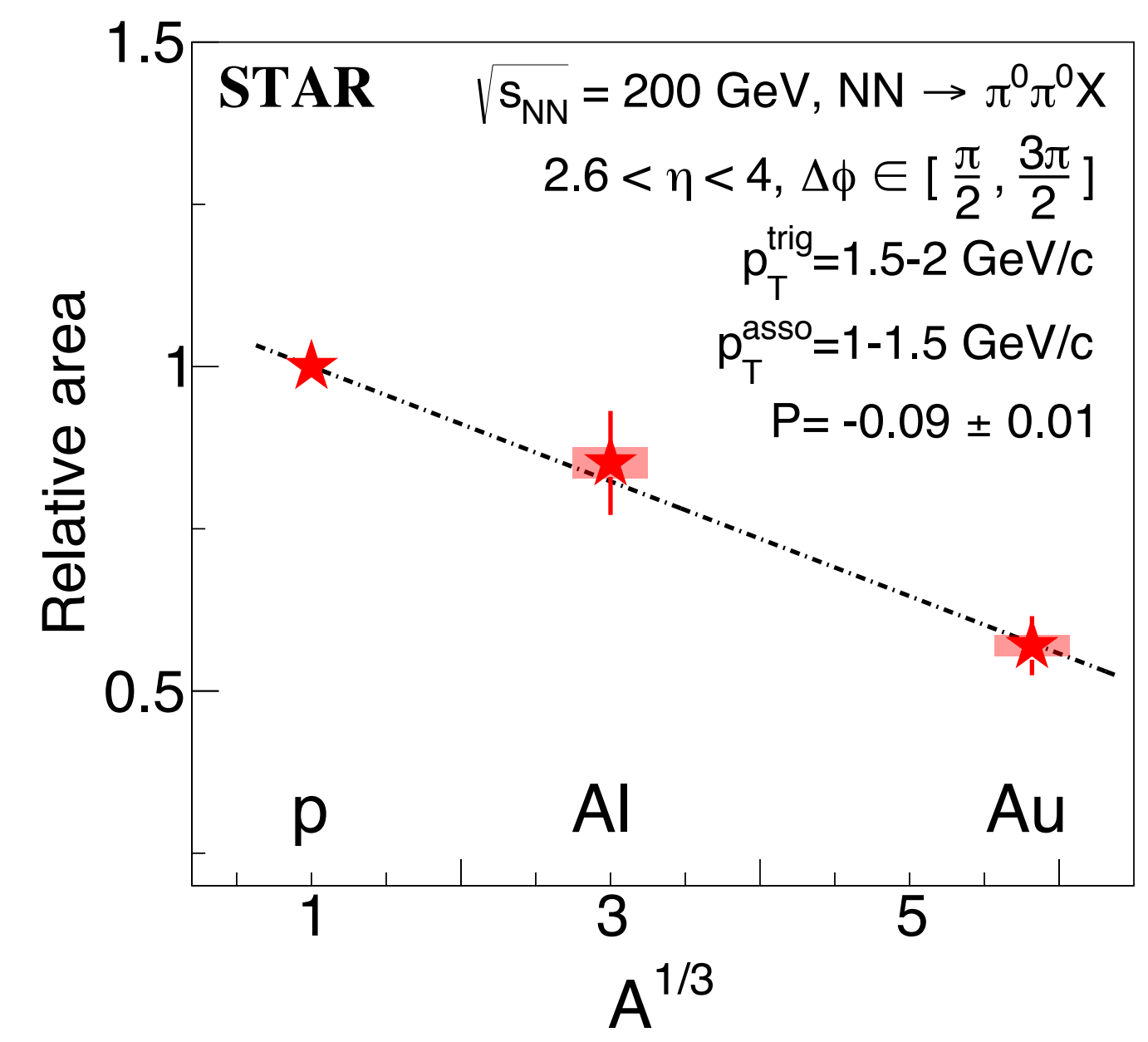
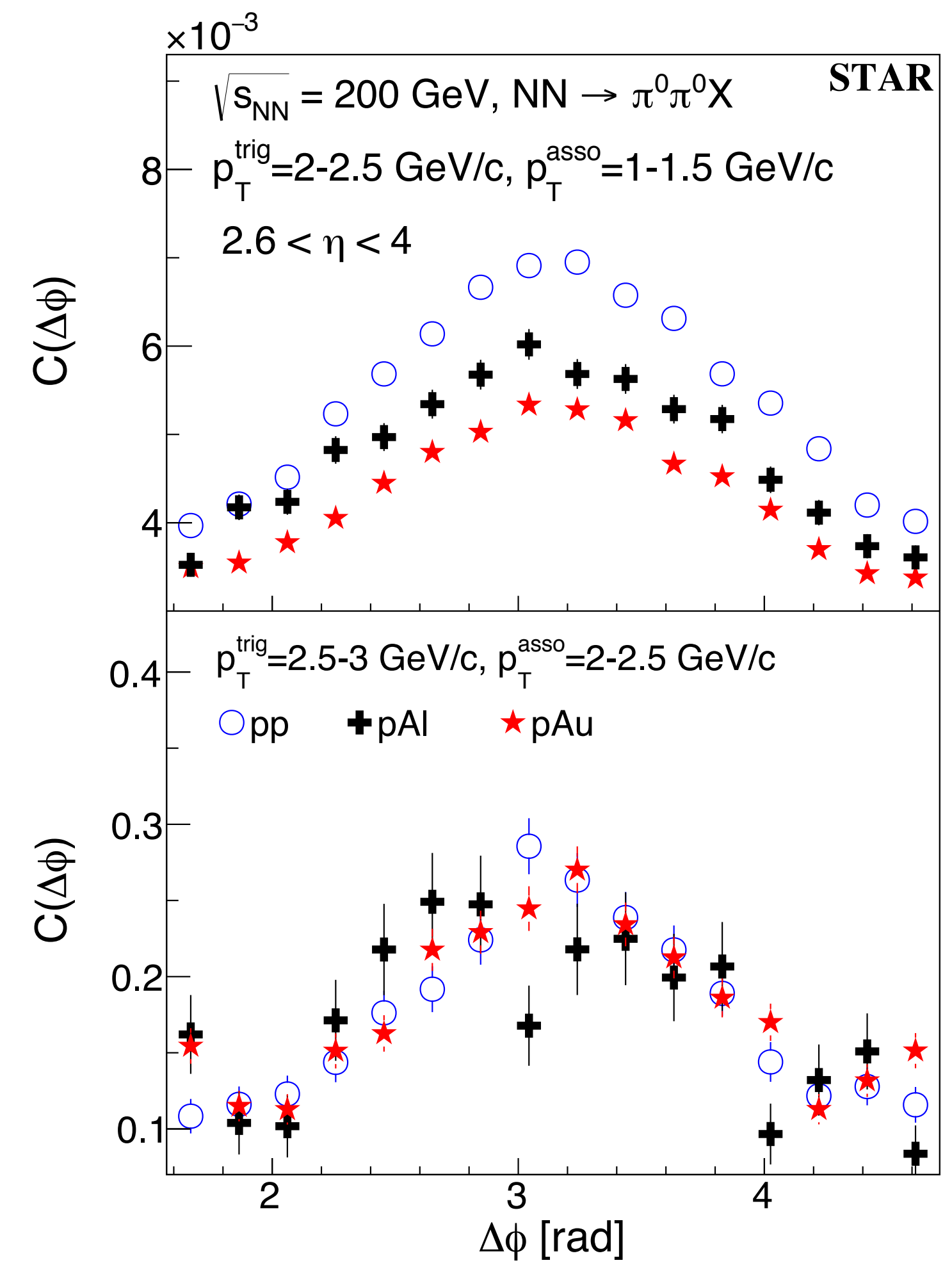
- Longitudinal double spin asymmetry A_{LL} with inclusive jets at midrapidity to probe gluon helicity distribution, extending to lower x by looking at higher energy (510 GeV)
- Improved precision by using the latest datasets (2013/2015)



Nonlinear gluon effects in QCD

Talk by Jae Nam (6/8)
Talk by Oleg Eyser (6/8)

STAR, arXiv:2111.10396

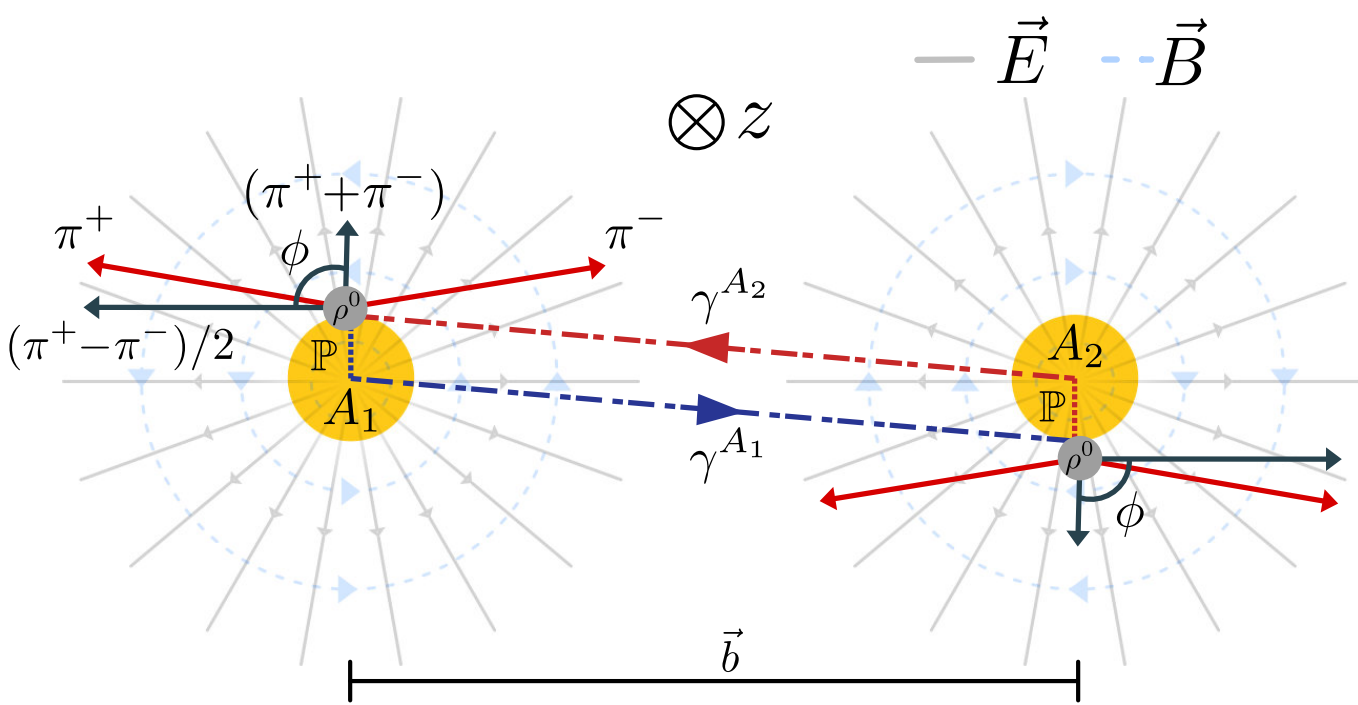
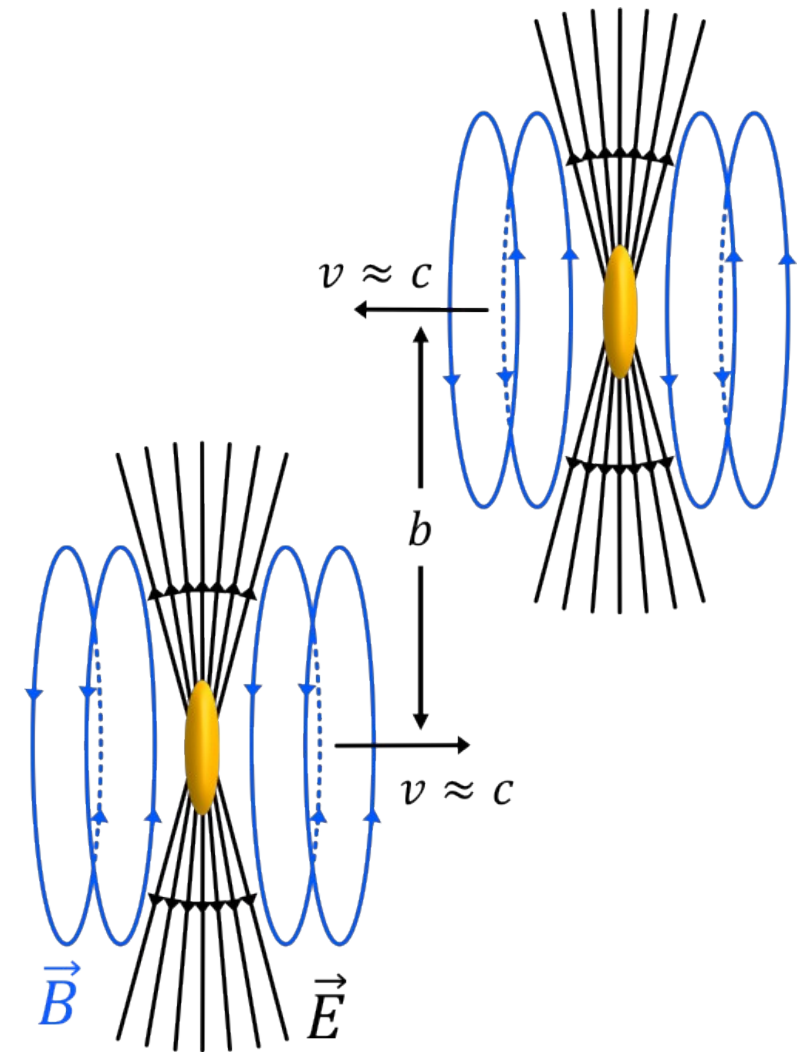


$$Q_s^2 \propto A^{1/3} (1/x)^\lambda$$

- Di- π^0 angular correlations at forward rapidity ($2.6 < \eta < 4$) probe high-density gluon field
- Clear suppression of back-to-back pairs in pAl & pAu compared to pp and the relative area scales with $A^{1/3}$, consistent with the expectation from gluon saturation
 - No broadening of the away-side peak

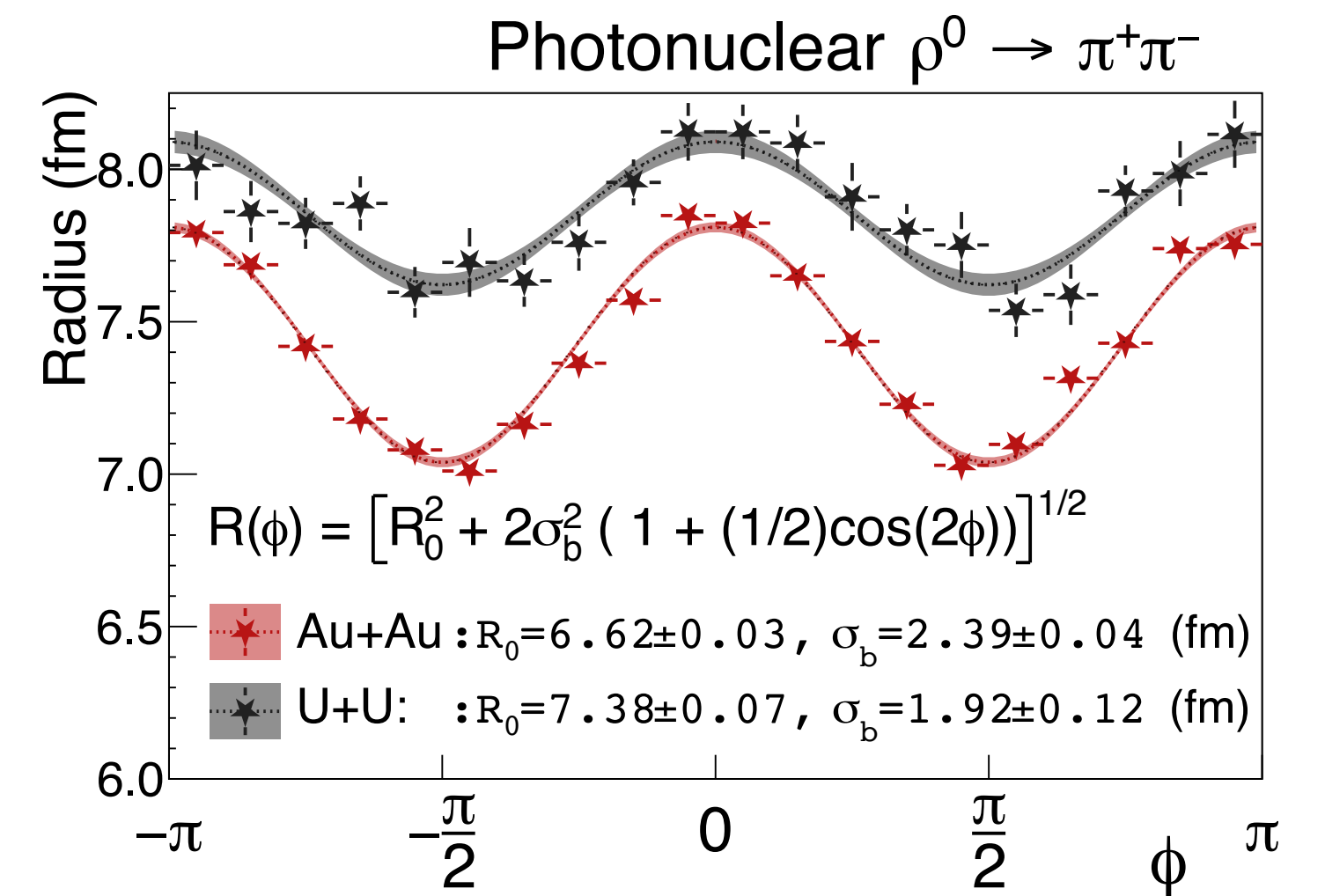
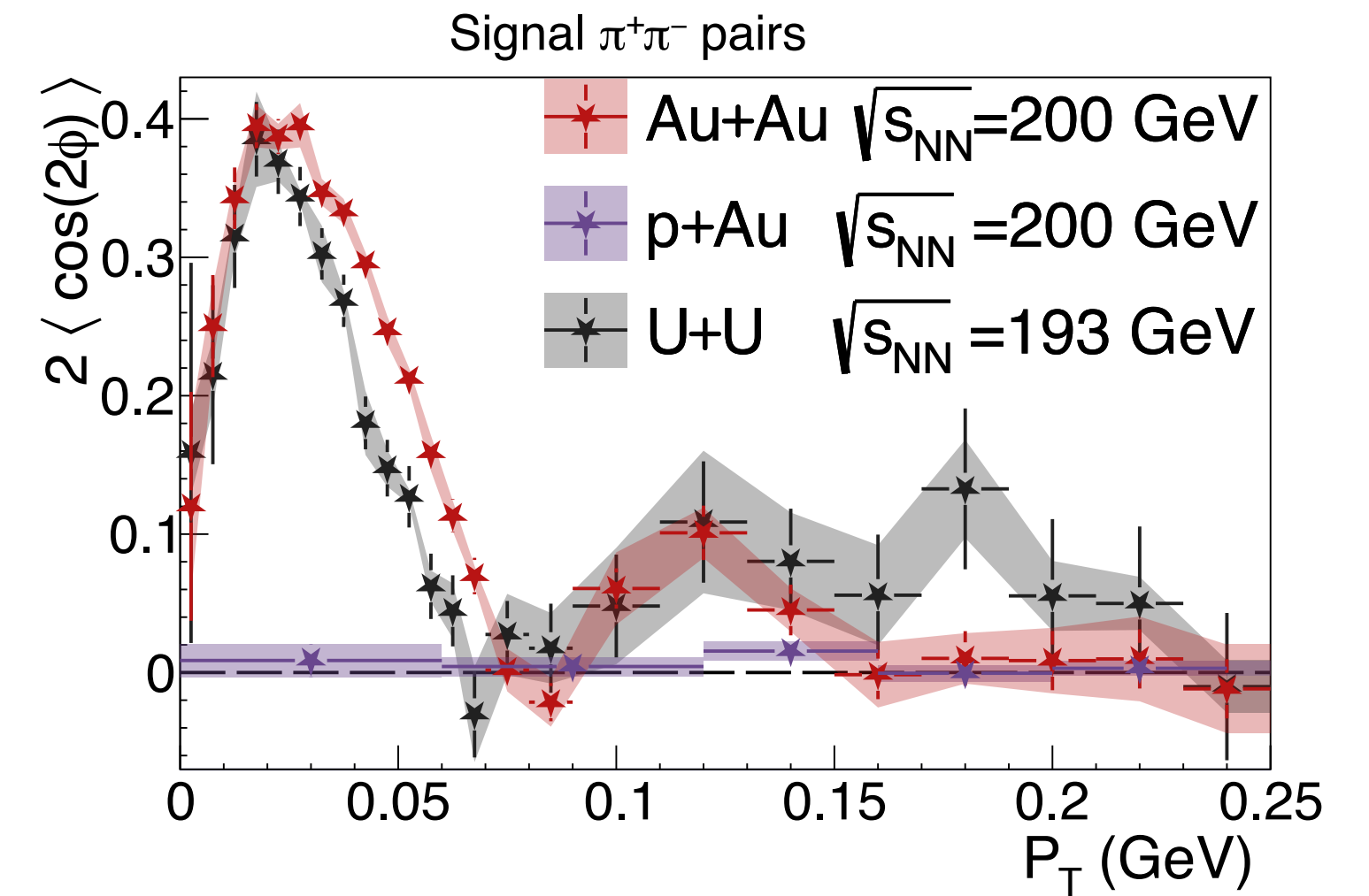


Tomography of nuclei with photon induced process



- Transverse linearly polarized photons due to Lorentz contracted EM-field
- Photonuclear production of vector mesons in UPC, e.g. $\gamma\mathbb{P} \rightarrow \rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$
- Quantum interference with the polarized photons leads to $\cos(2\phi)$ modulation of final state $\pi^+\pi^-$ cf. double slit experiment
- Sensitive to nuclear mass (strong-interaction) radius

STAR, arXiv:2204.01625

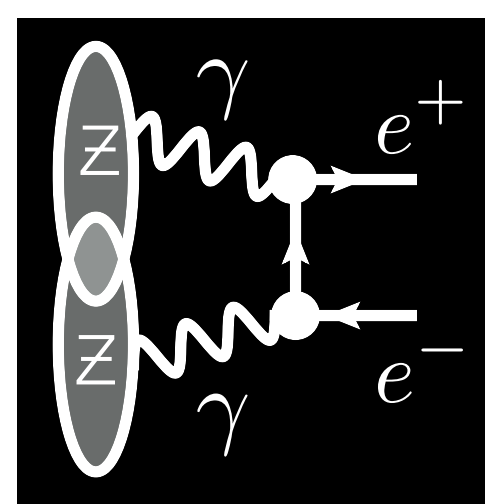
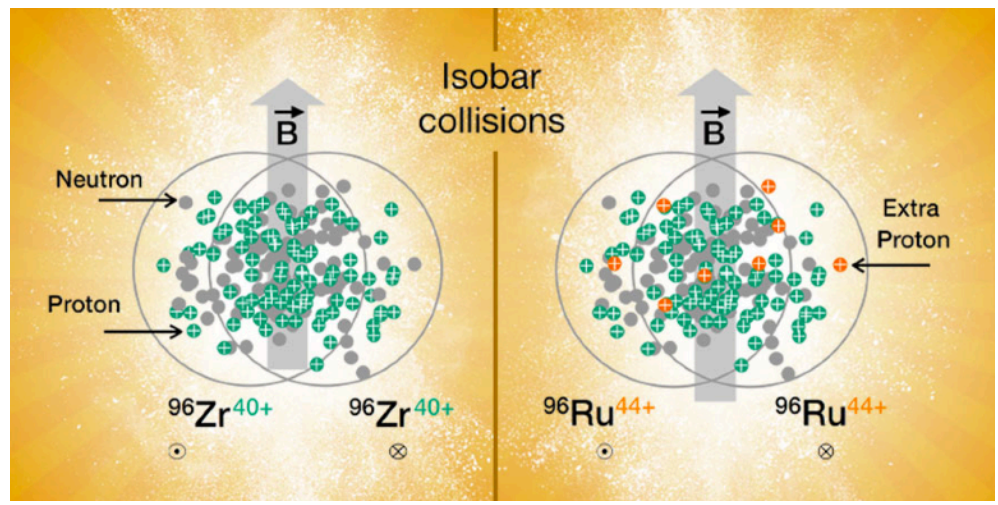


Talk by Nicole Lewis (6/7)

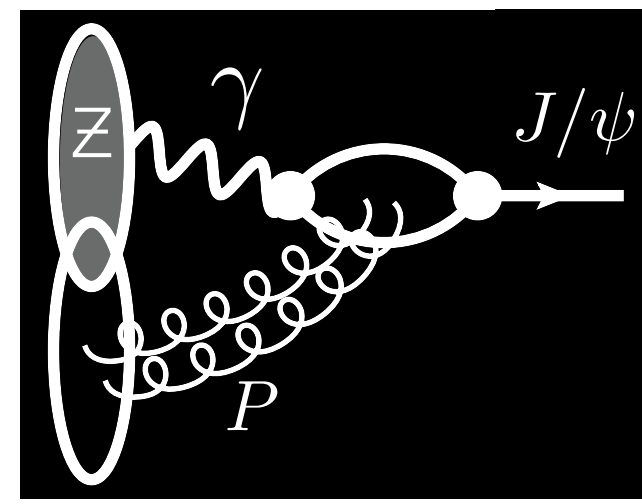


Probing EM-field difference in isobars via $\gamma\gamma/\gamma A$ reactions

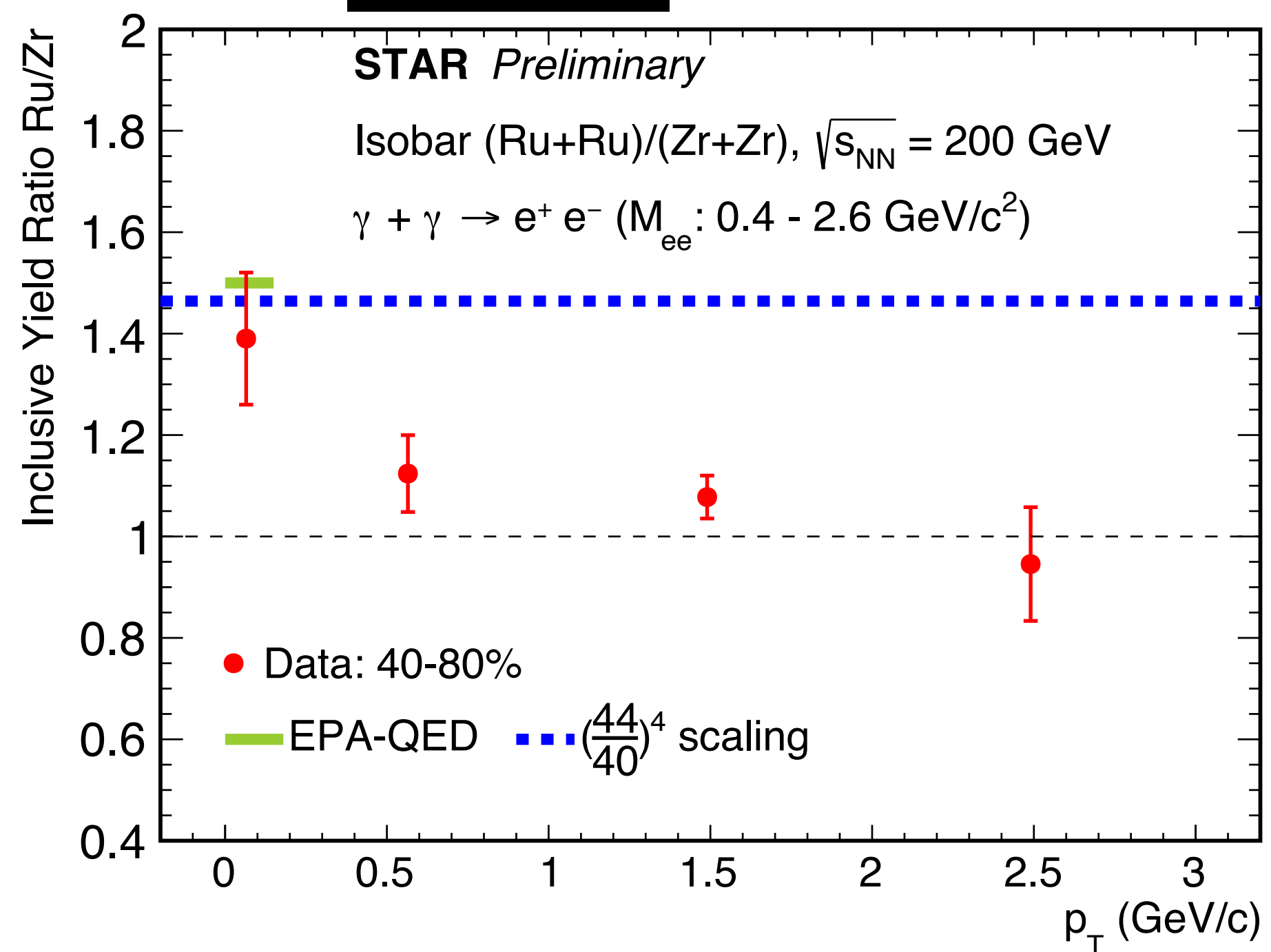
Talk by Nicole Lewis (6/7)



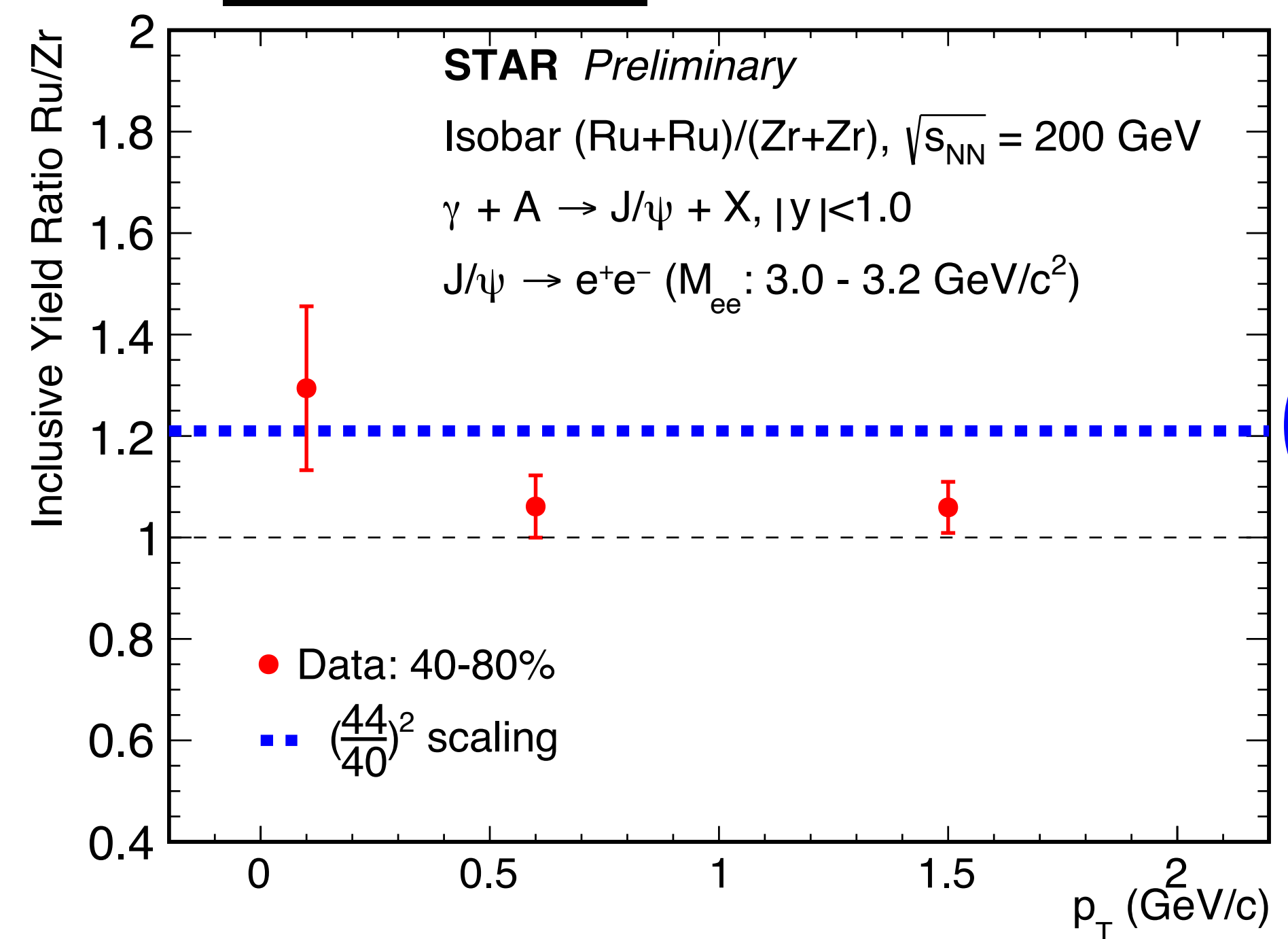
$$\sigma(\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-) \sim Z^4$$



$$\sigma(\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A) \sim Z^2$$



$$\left(\frac{44}{40}\right)^4$$



$$\left(\frac{44}{40}\right)^2$$

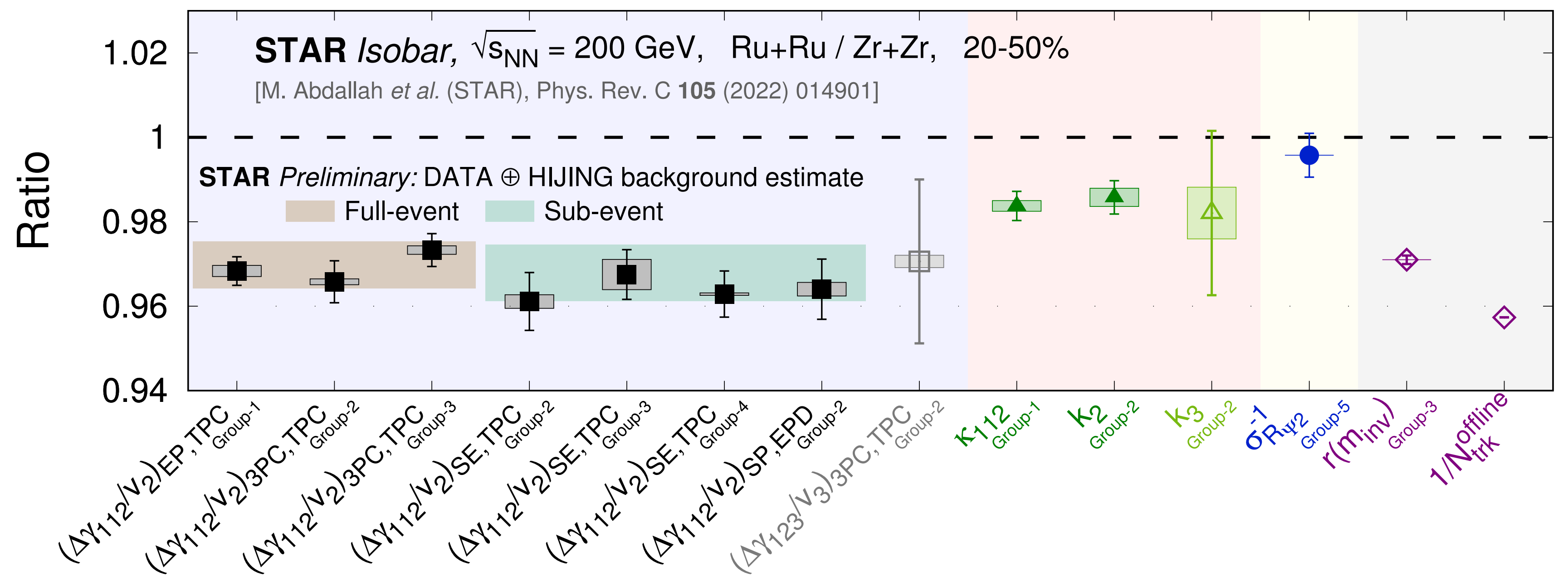
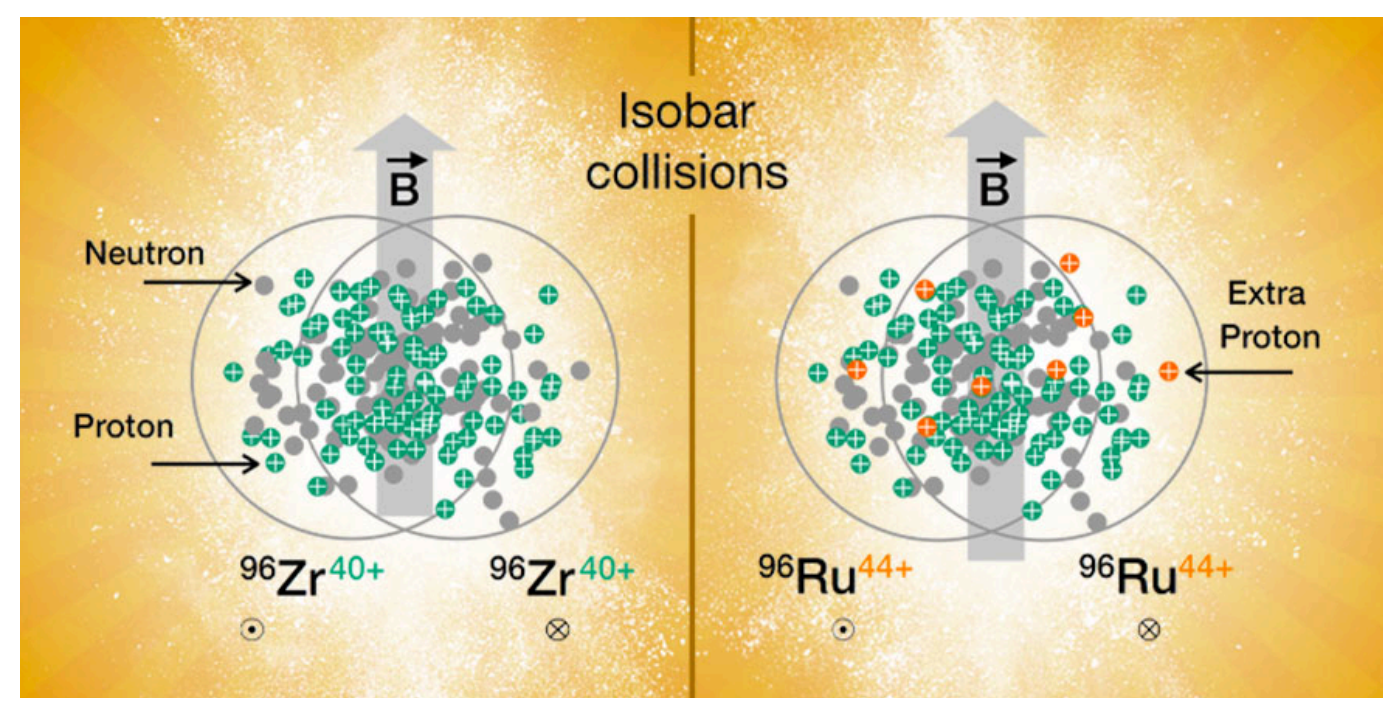
- Dilepton (J/ψ) production at very low p_T is dominated by $\gamma\gamma$ (γA) reactions
- The data suggest “Z” scaling due to EM-field difference in isobars as expected

W. Zha et al., PLB789(2019)238



Search for chiral magnetic effect in isobar collisions

STAR, PRC105.014901 (2022)



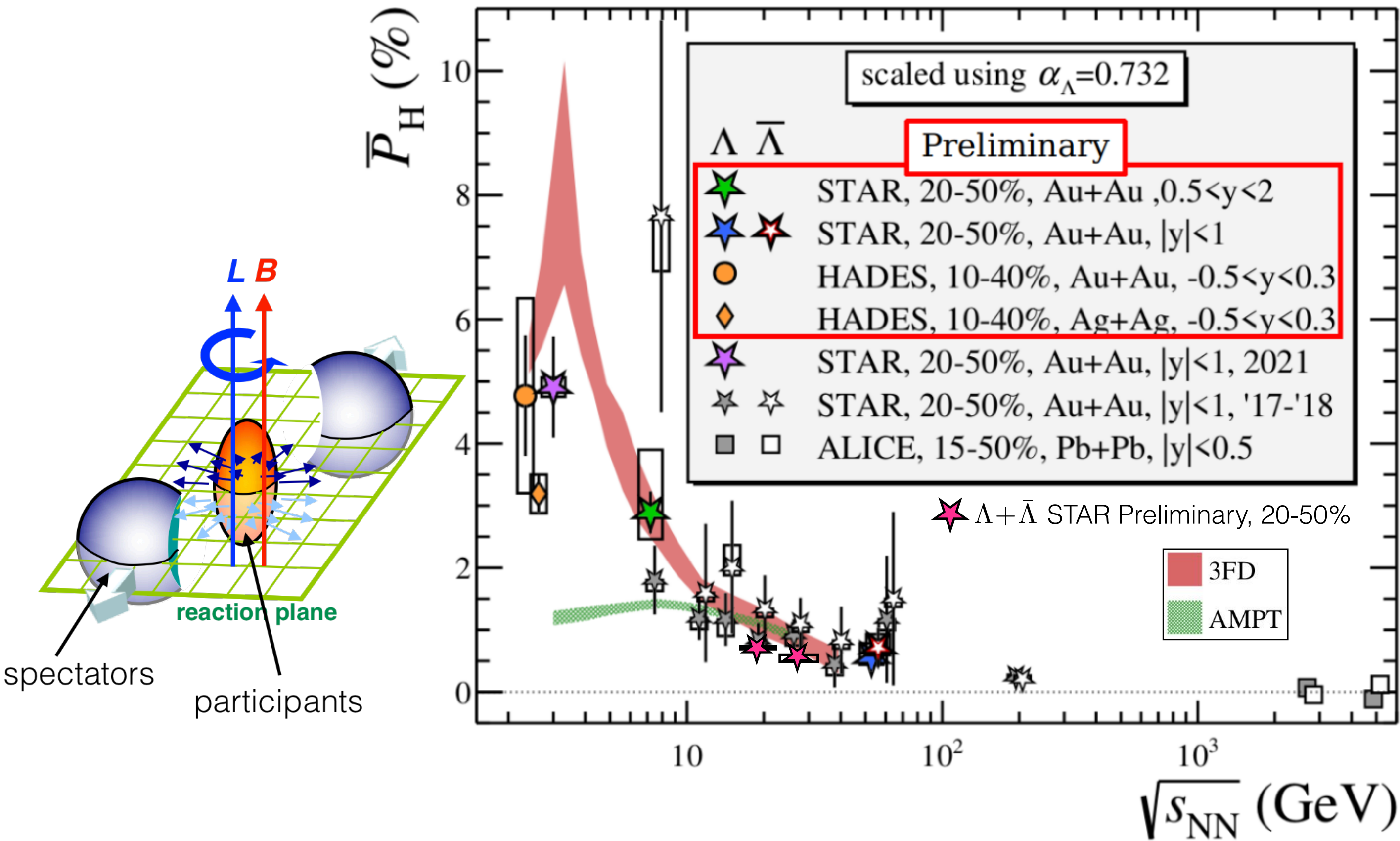
- Precision of 0.4% was achieved but no pre-dfined signature of CME was observed
- Updated estimate of non-flow BG using HIJING, consistent with the data

Talk by Evan Finch (6/10)
Poster by Yicheng Feng

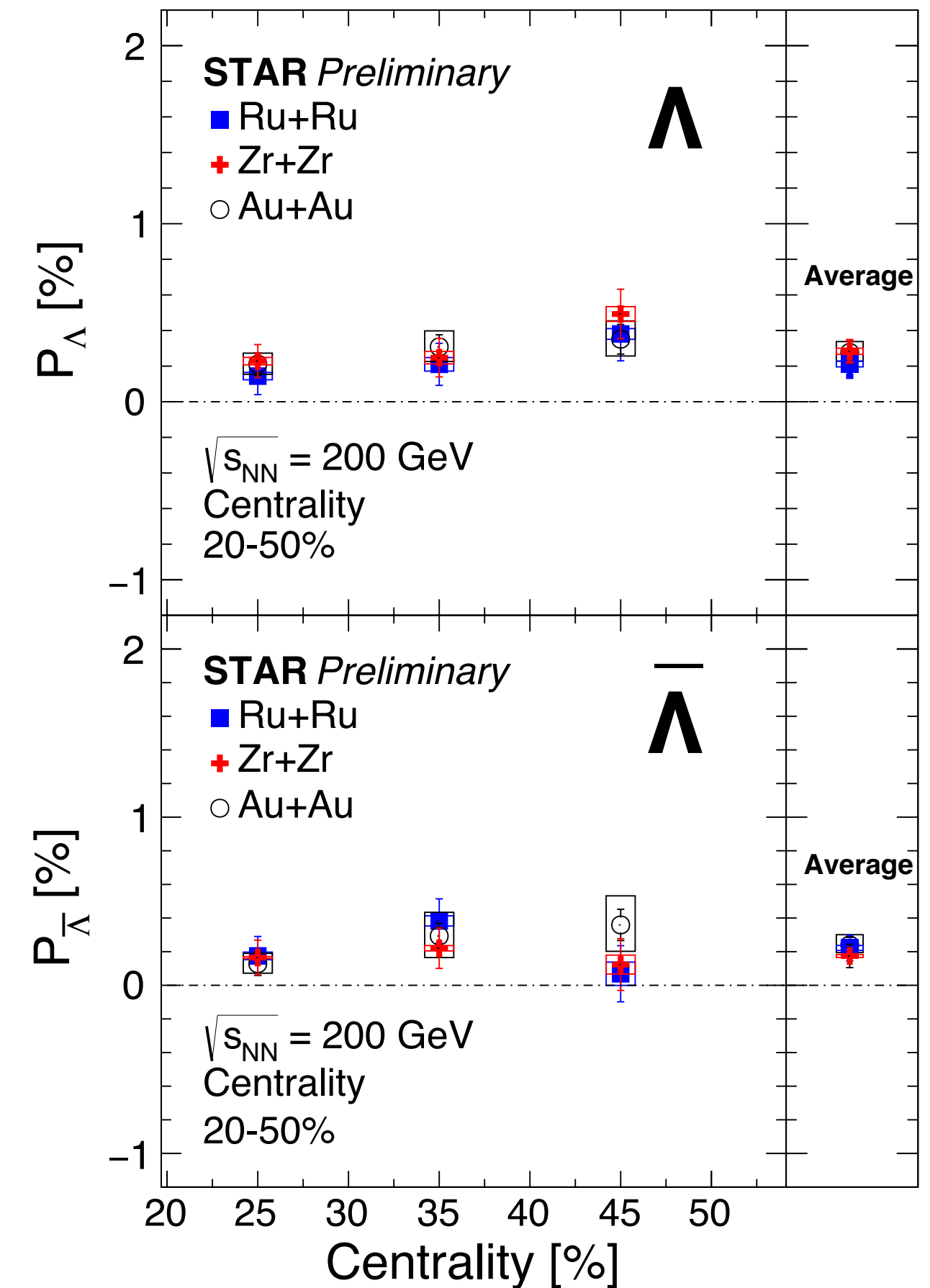
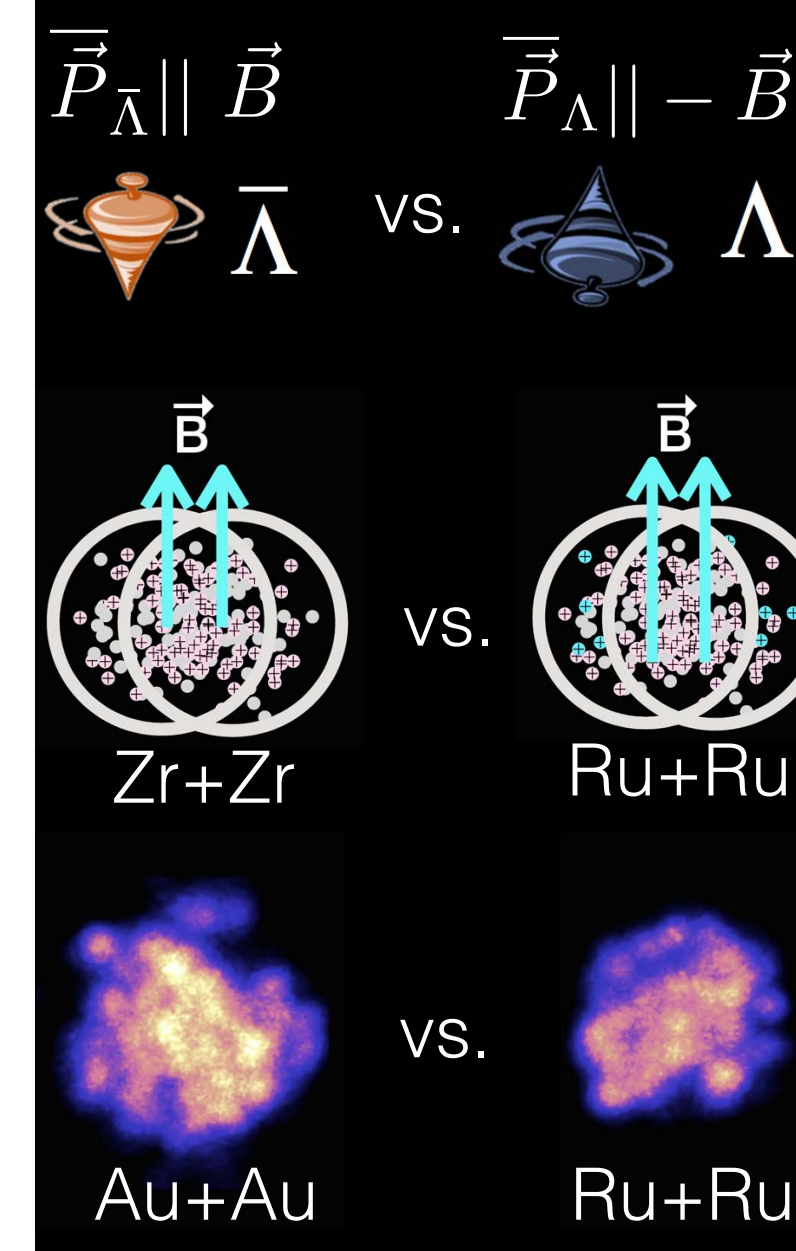


Global polarization

STAR, PRC104.L061901 (2021)
HADES, SQM2021



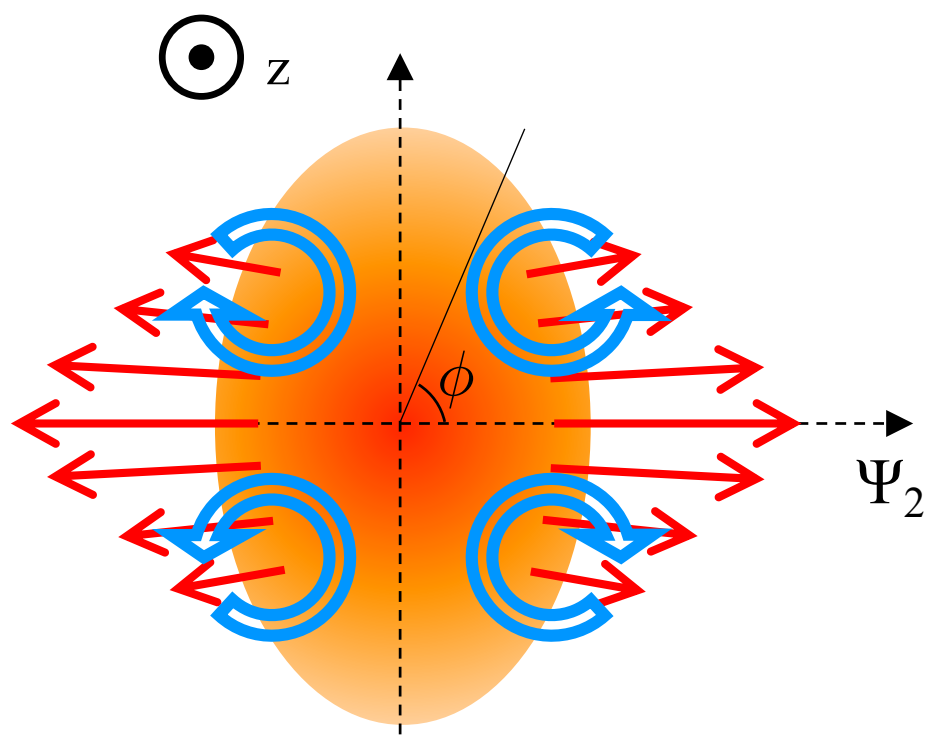
picture: P. Tribedy@QM2022



- Still increasing trend down to $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3$ GeV (FXT). Results from BES-II (3, 7.2, 19.6, 27, 54.4 GeV) follow the global trend. More results will come!
- No colliding system size dependence nor splitting between Λ and anti- Λ in isobar collisions



Local polarization in isobar collisions

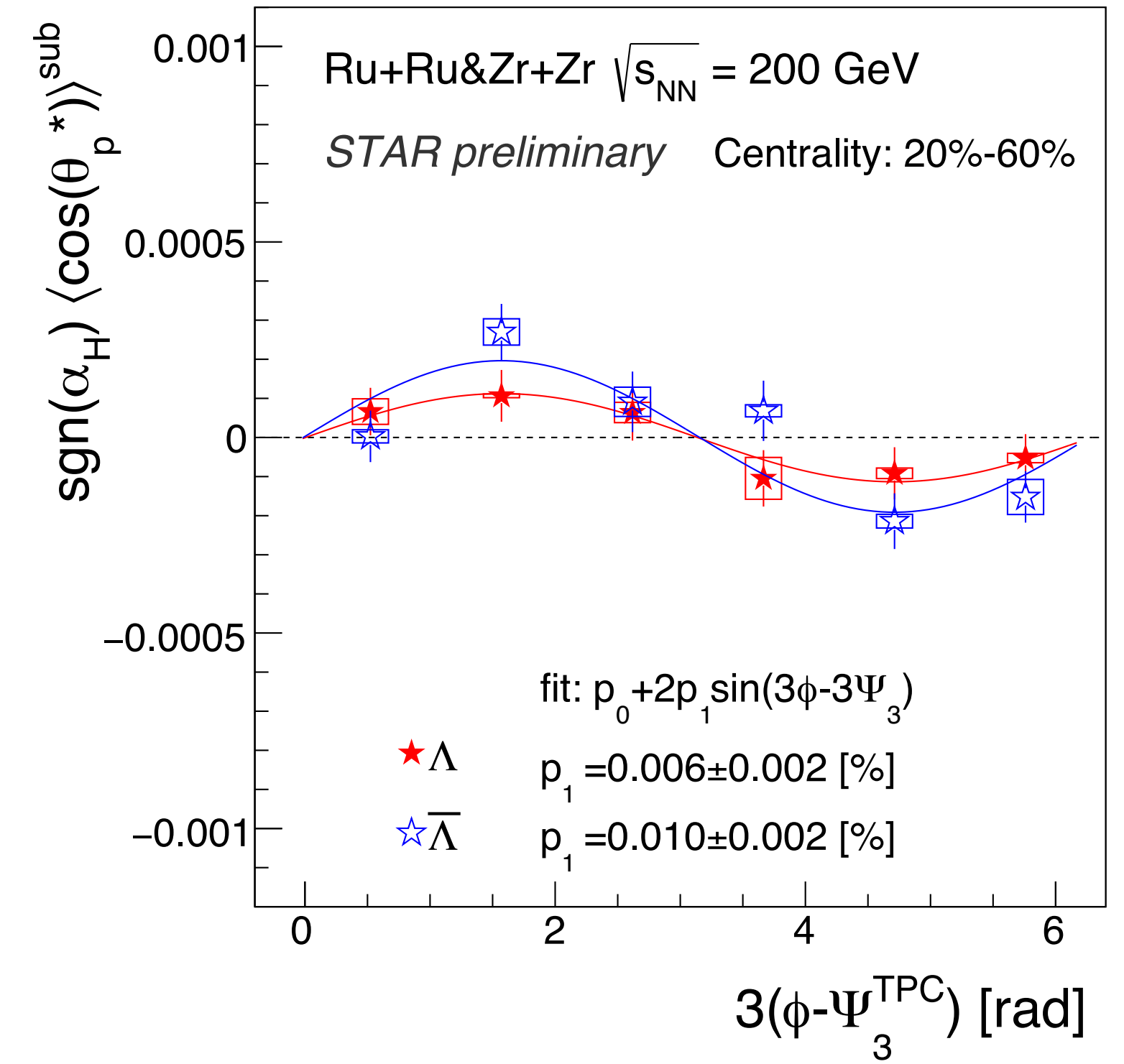
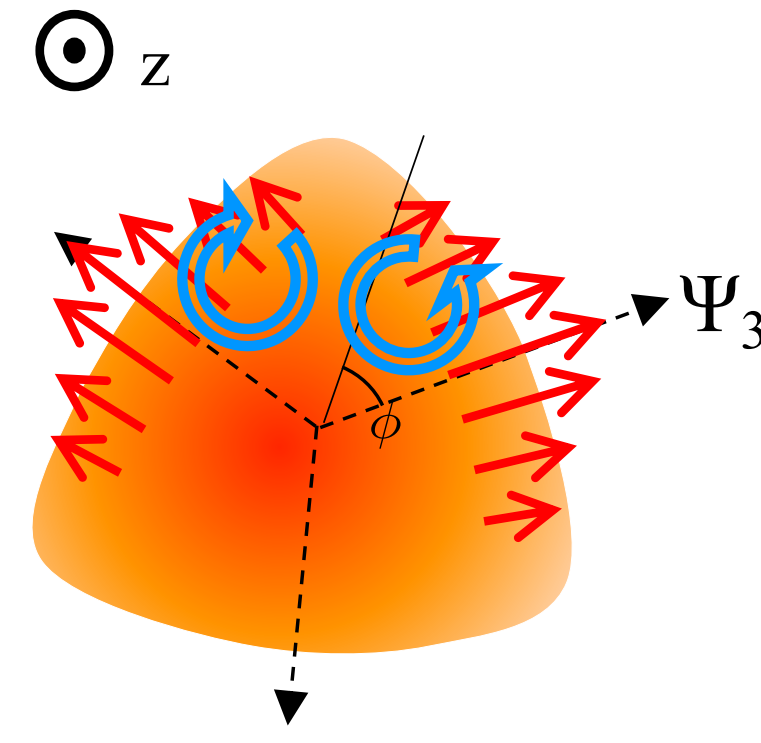
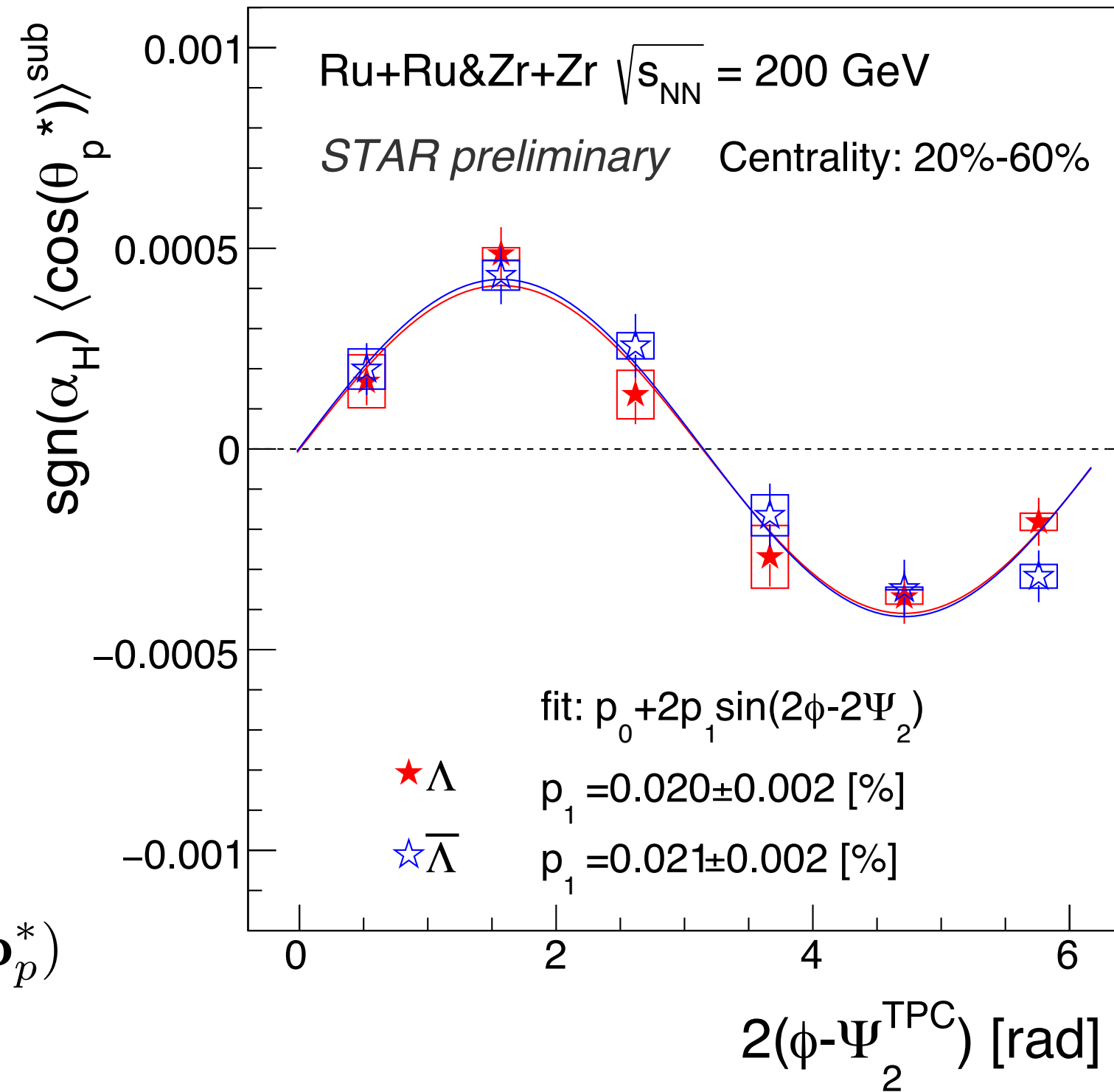


$$\frac{dN}{d\Omega^*} = \frac{1}{4\pi} (1 + \alpha_H \mathbf{P}_H \cdot \mathbf{p}_p^*)$$

$$\langle \cos \theta_p^* \rangle = \int \frac{dN}{d\Omega^*} \cos \theta_p^* d\Omega^*$$

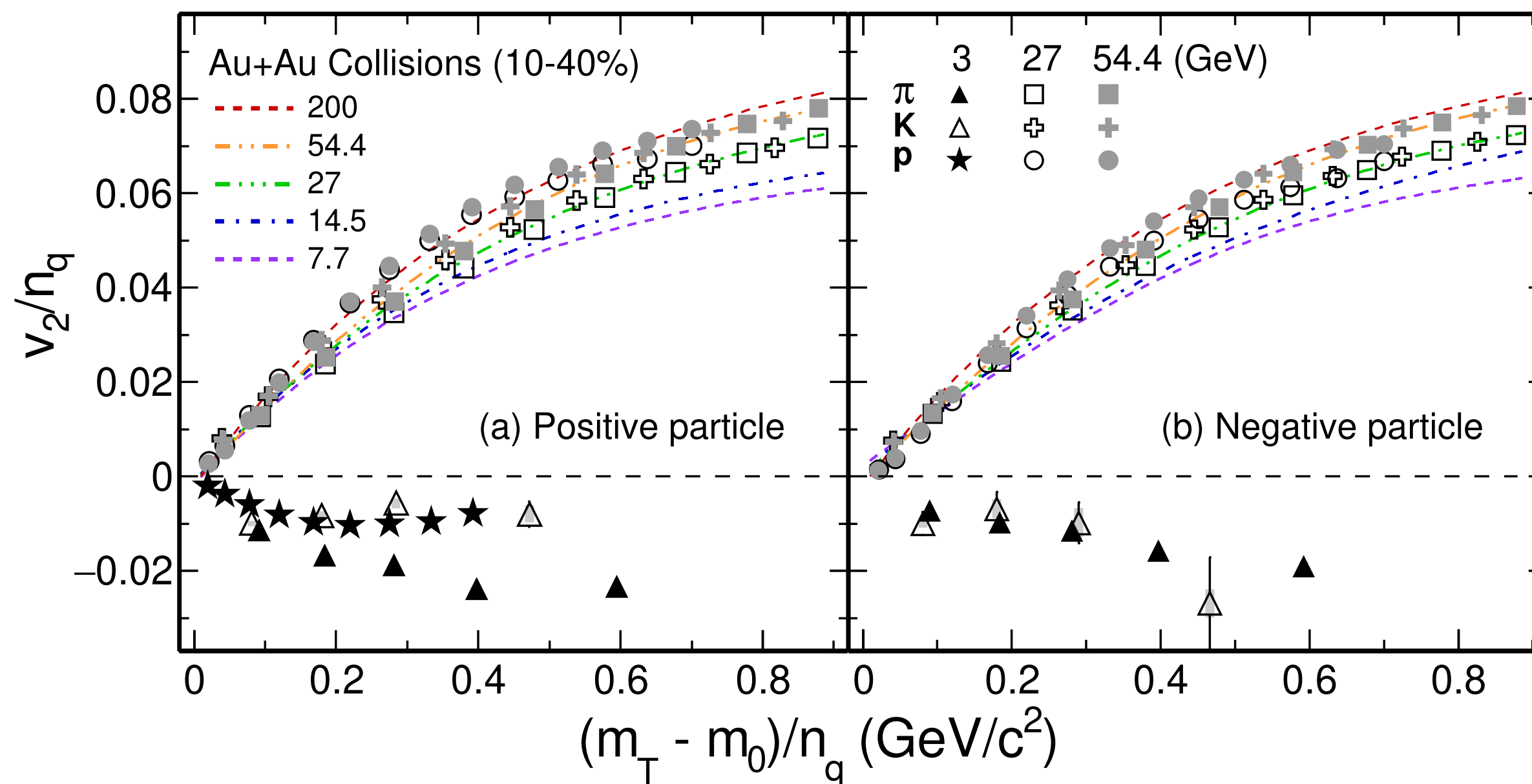
$$= \alpha_H P_z \langle (\cos \theta_p^*)^2 \rangle$$

$$\therefore P_z = \frac{\langle \cos \theta_p^* \rangle}{\alpha_H \langle (\cos \theta_p^*)^2 \rangle}$$

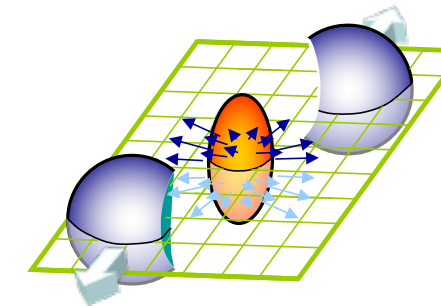


- Clear Ψ_2 dependence as seen in Au+Au at 200 GeV
- First measurement relative to the 3rd-order event plane Ψ_3 !
 - Similar pattern to the 2nd-order, indicating v_3 -driven polarization

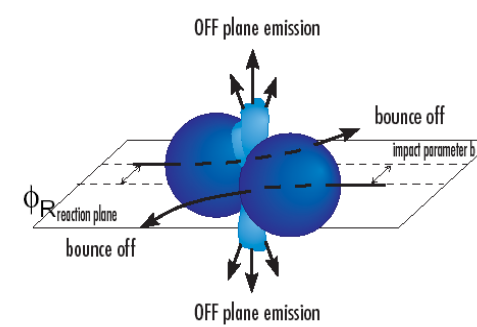
STAR, PLB827(2022)137003



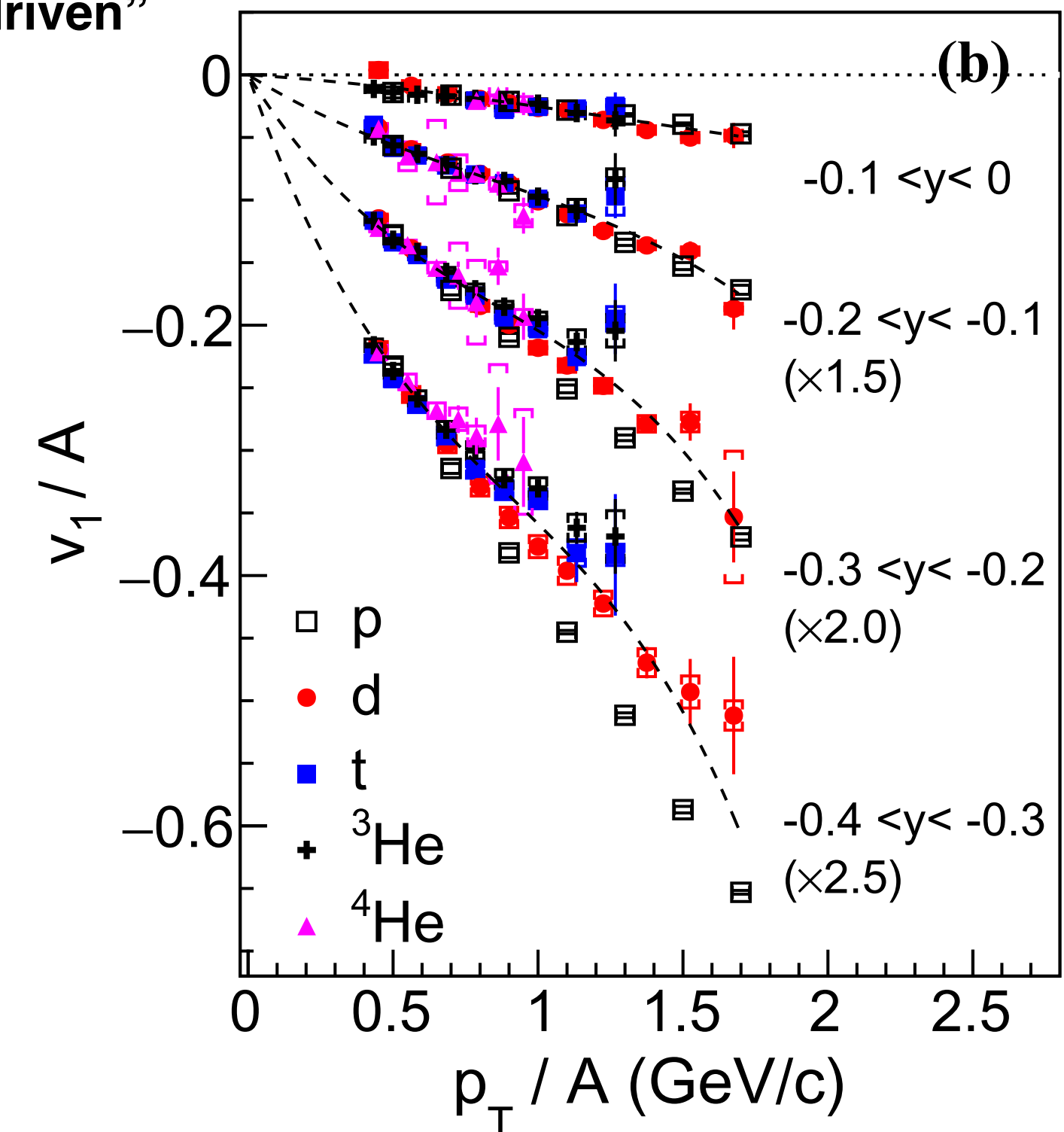
“pressure-gradient driven”



“squeeze-out”



STAR, PLB827(2022)136941



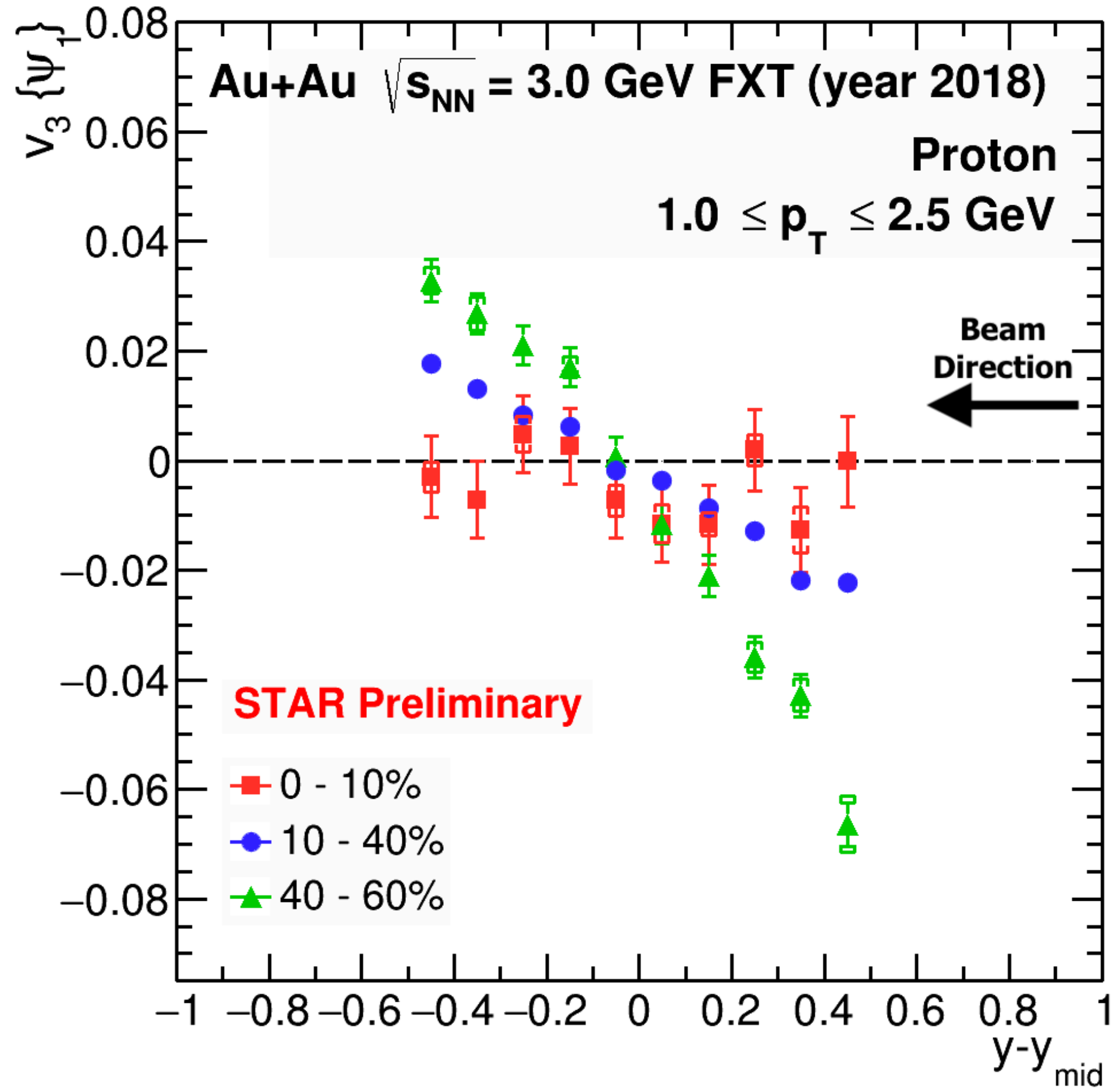
- At 3 GeV, NCQ scaling is absent with negative v_2 which is described by hadronic transport with baryonic interactions
- Atomic mass number (A) scaling of light nuclei v_1 is observed, consistent with nucleon coalescence picture

$$v_n^A(p_T, y)/A \approx v_n^p(p_T/A, y).$$

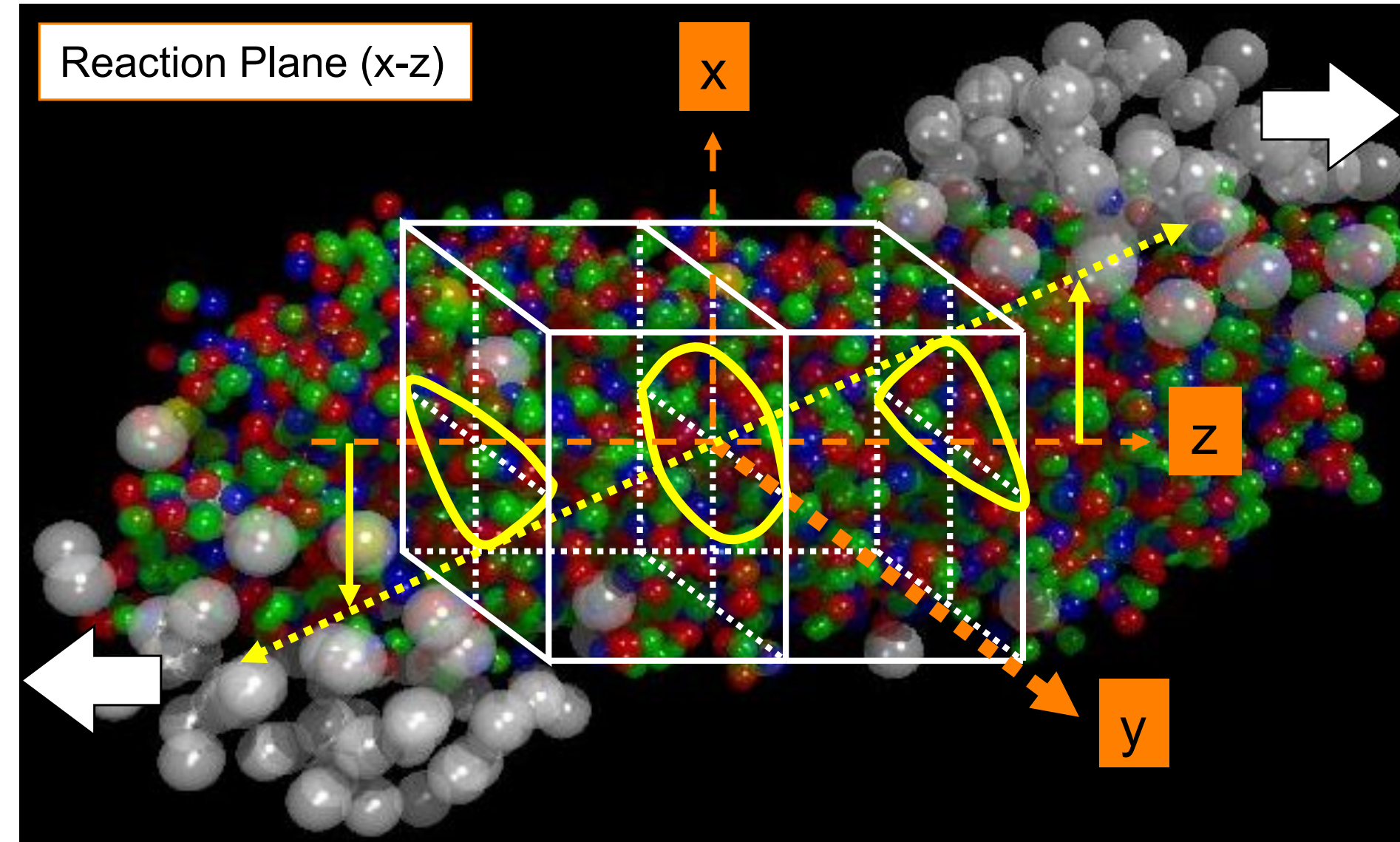


Rapidity-odd v_3 w.r.t. Ψ_1

Talk by Xionghong He (6/7)



picture: S. Esumi@WWND2011

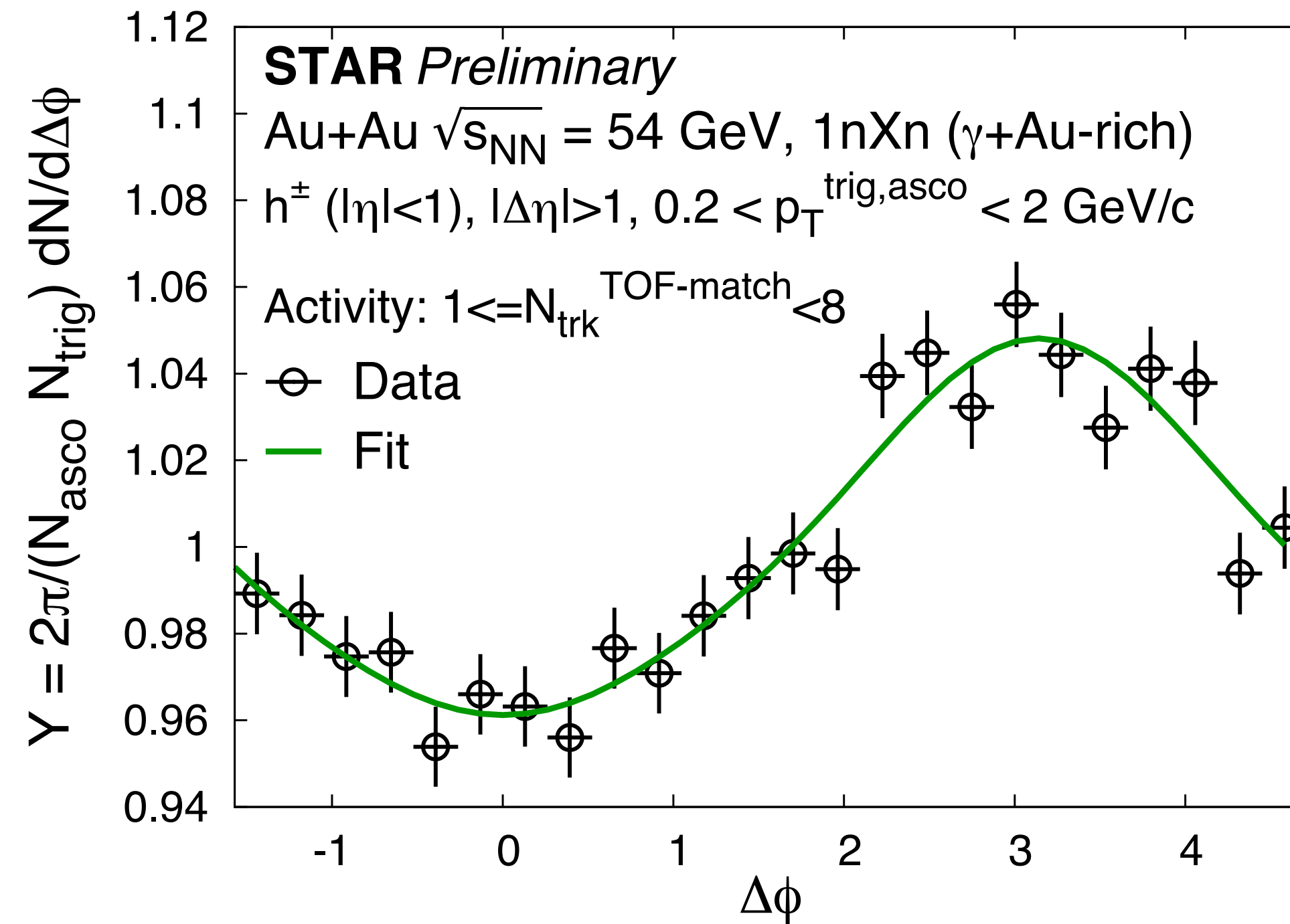
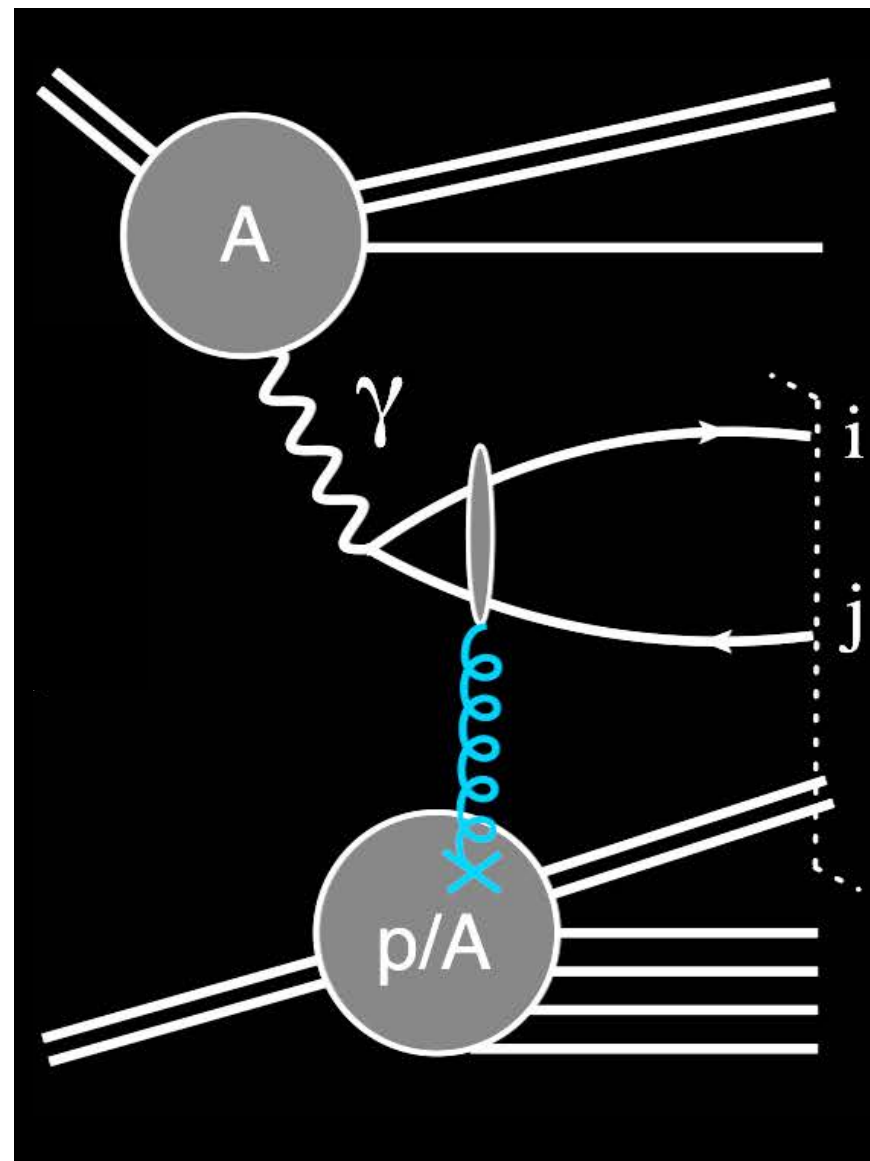


- First measurement of rapidity-odd v_3 with respect to the first-order event plane at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3$ GeV, indicating a correlation between v_1 and v_3
- Sensitive to the 3D initial geometry and EOS

P. Hillmann et al., J.Phys.G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 45, 085101 (2018)

Search for collectivity in $\gamma+A$ collisions

picture: P. Tribedy@QM2022



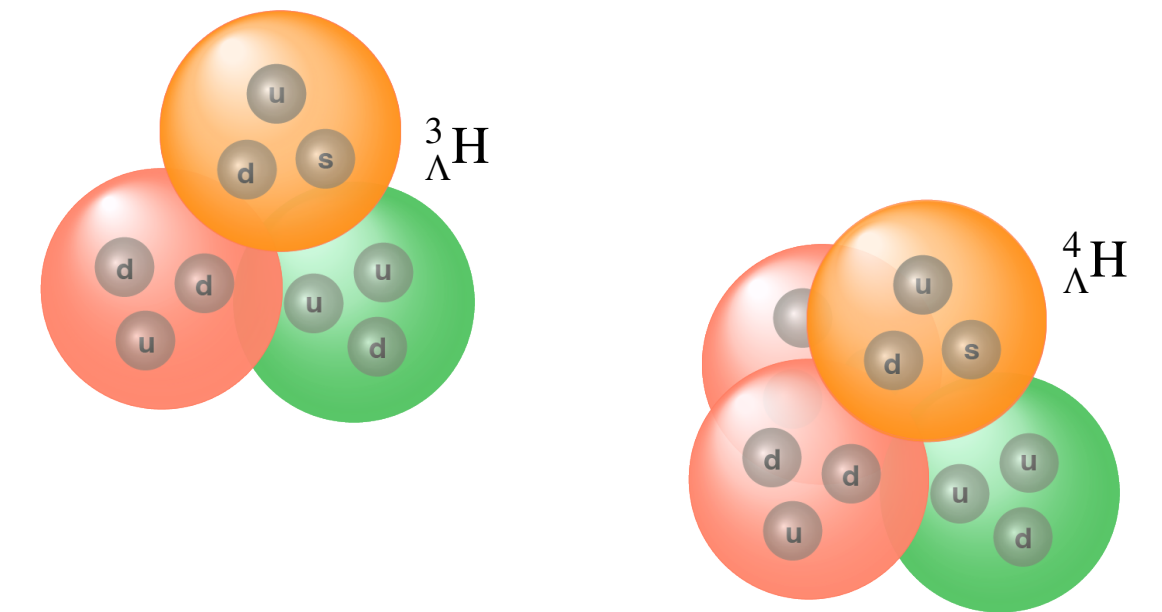
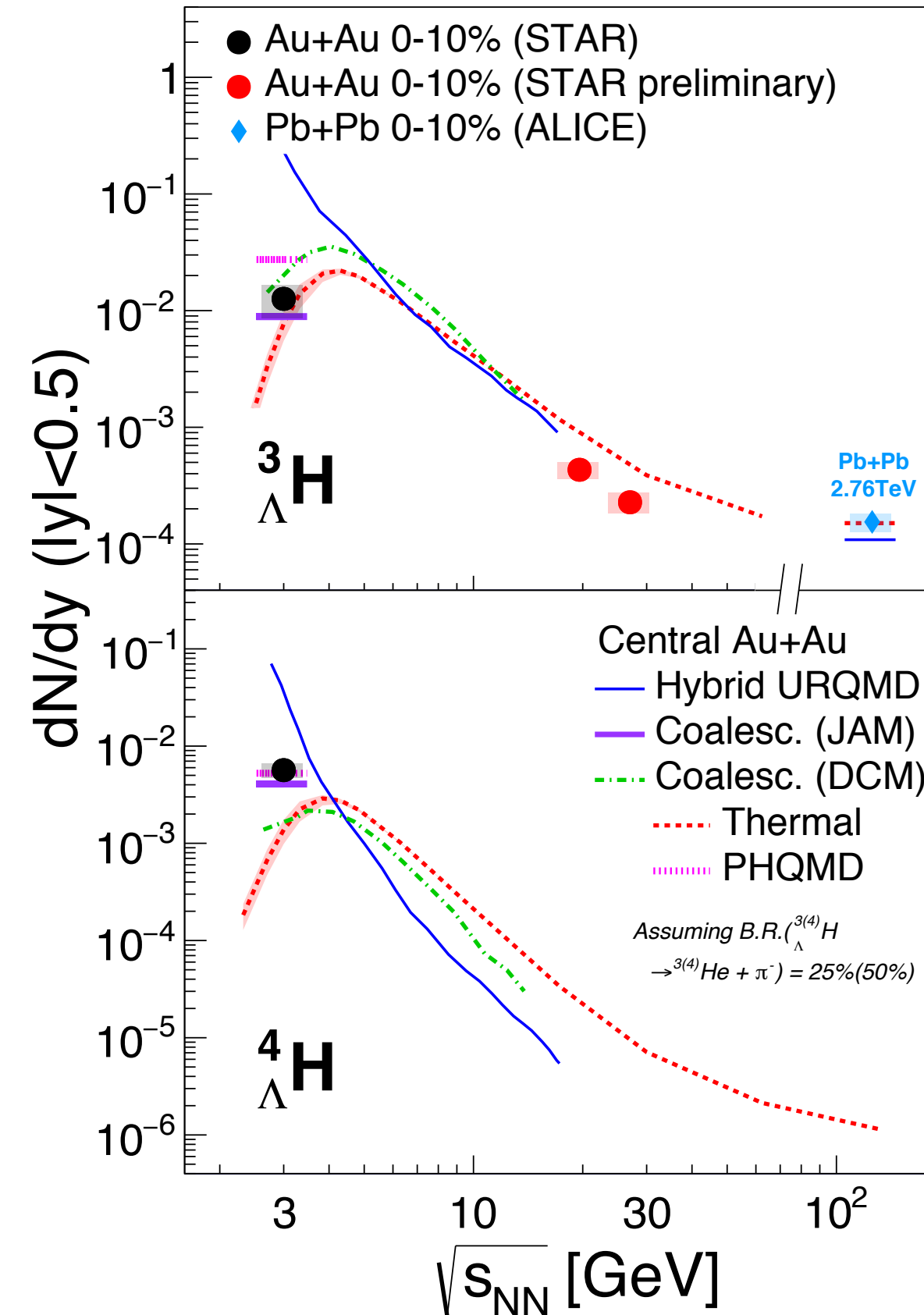
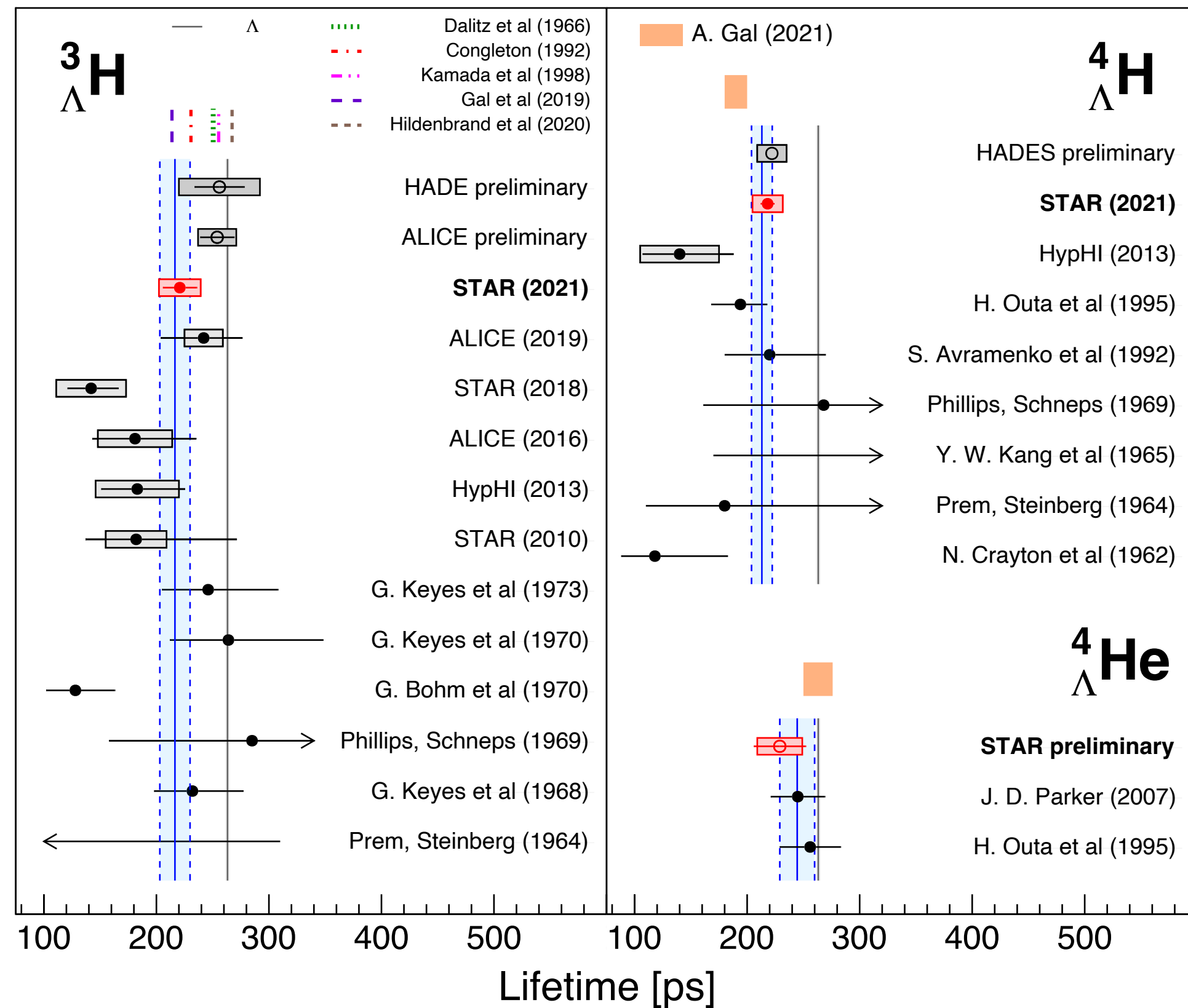
- Dihadron correlations in photon+nucleus process for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 54.4$ GeV Au+Au collisions
- No obvious signature of collectivity (near-side ridge) in the $\gamma+A$ collisions
- To be further explored at 200 GeV with STAR forward upgrade



Hypernuclei lifetime and production

Talk by Xiujun Li (6/7)

STAR, PRL128.202301 (2022)

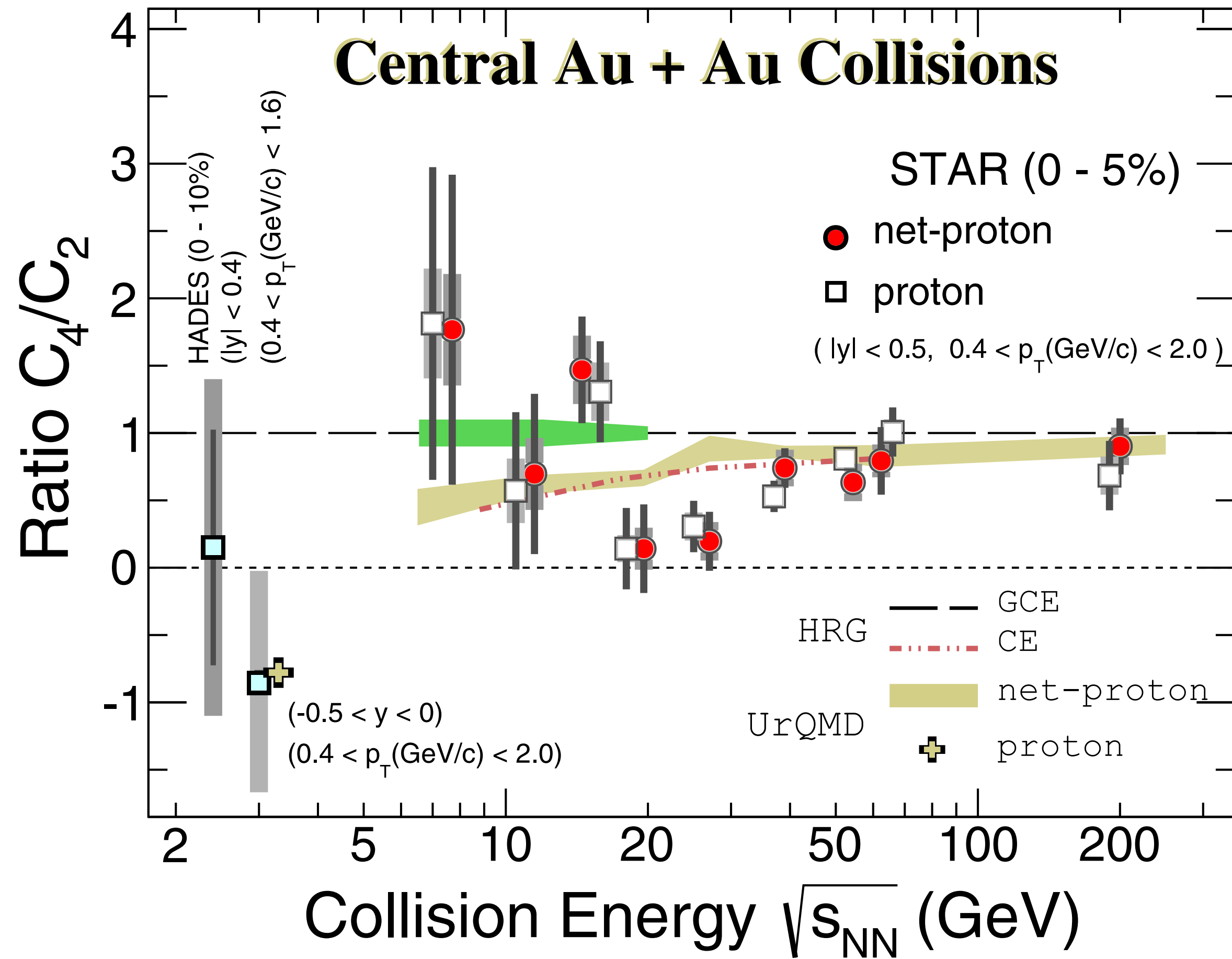


Thermal model/transport models based on coalescence of nucleons capture the trend but not quantitatively

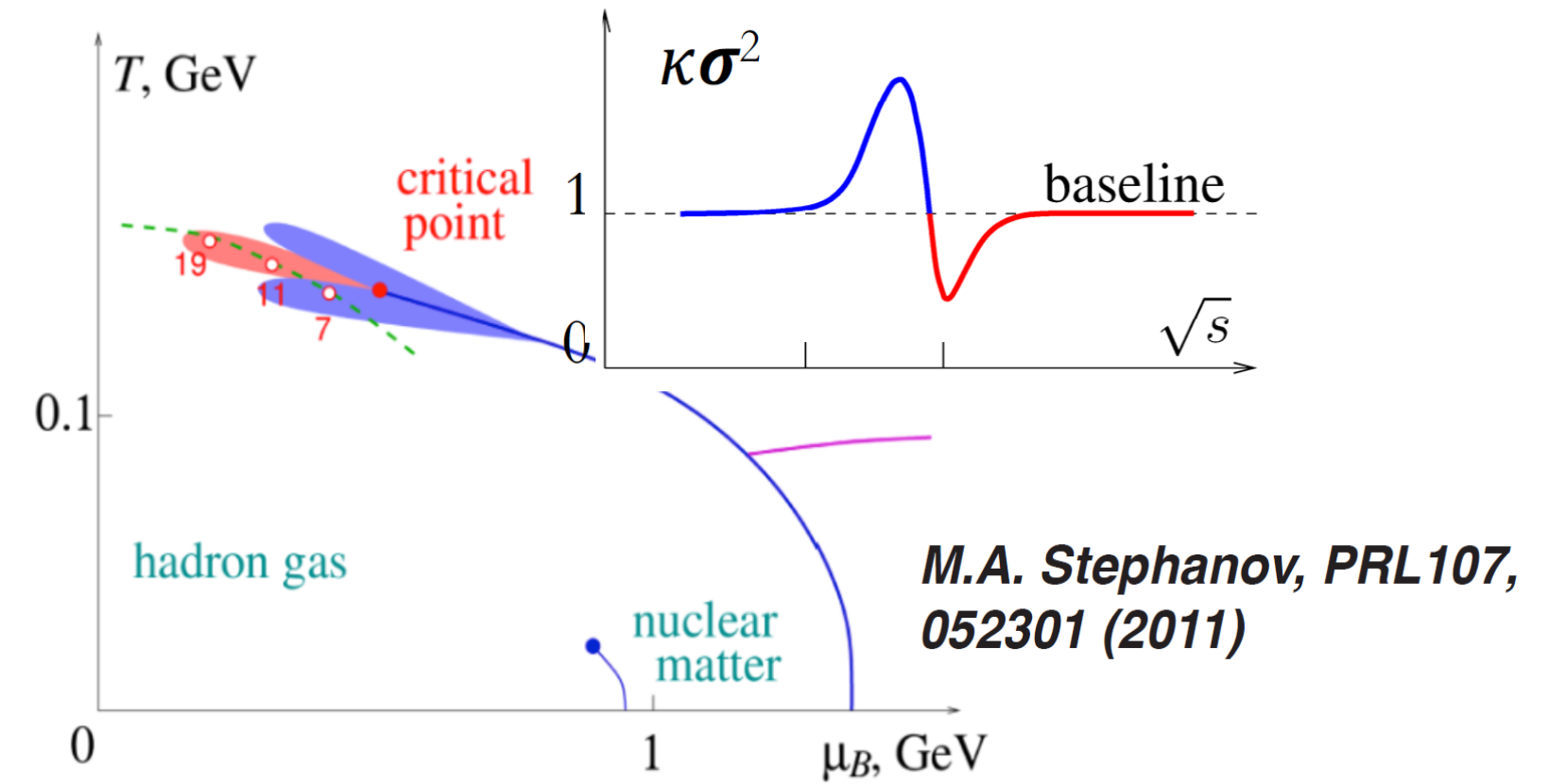
- First measurement of ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ lifetime in heavy-ion collisions as well as precise measurements of ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ and ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ lifetimes; important inputs for understanding YN interaction
- New results at 3 GeV provide constraints on production mechanism of hypernuclei in baryon-rich system



QCD CP search by net-proton fluctuations



STAR, PRL 126.092301 (2021)
 STAR, PRL 128.202303 (2022)



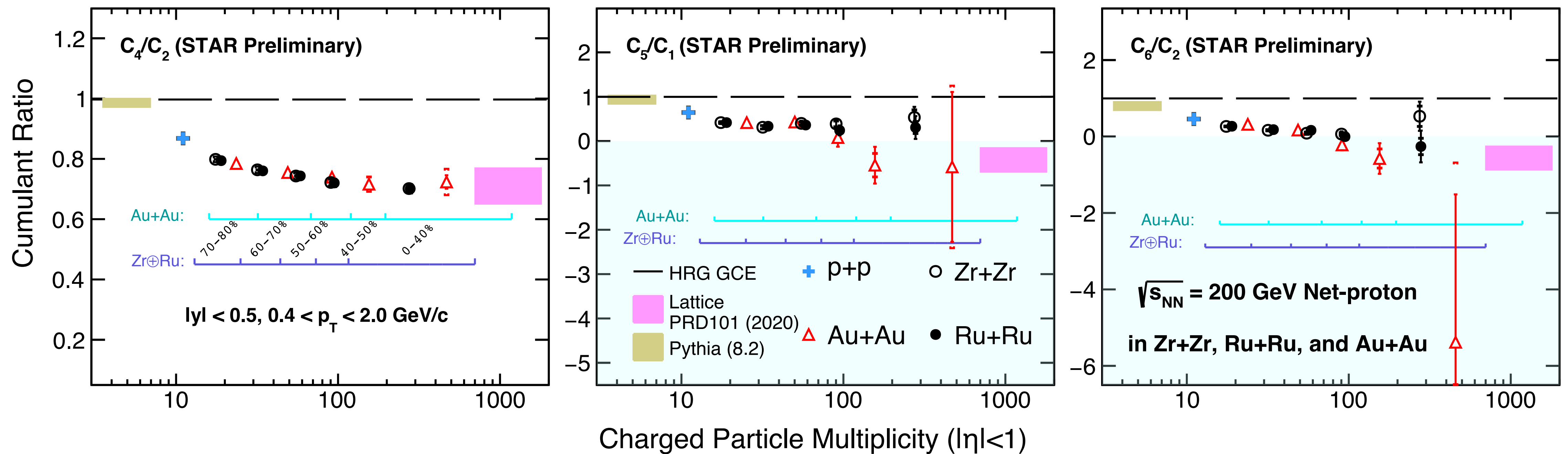
- Non-monotonic energy dependence observed ($\sim 3\sigma$)
- New result at 3 GeV, consistent with baryon number conservation (UrQMD), implies that CP could exist only at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} > 3 \text{ GeV}$, if any
- More precise results from BES-II will come!

Talk by Ashish Pandav (6/7)



Search for the chiral crossover

- New results of net-proton fluctuations in isobar collisions
- Higher order cumulant ratios decrease with multiplicity from p+p to Ru+Ru&Zr+Zr and then to Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV, approaching LQCD calculations that predict crossover of thermalized medium near $\mu_B = 0$



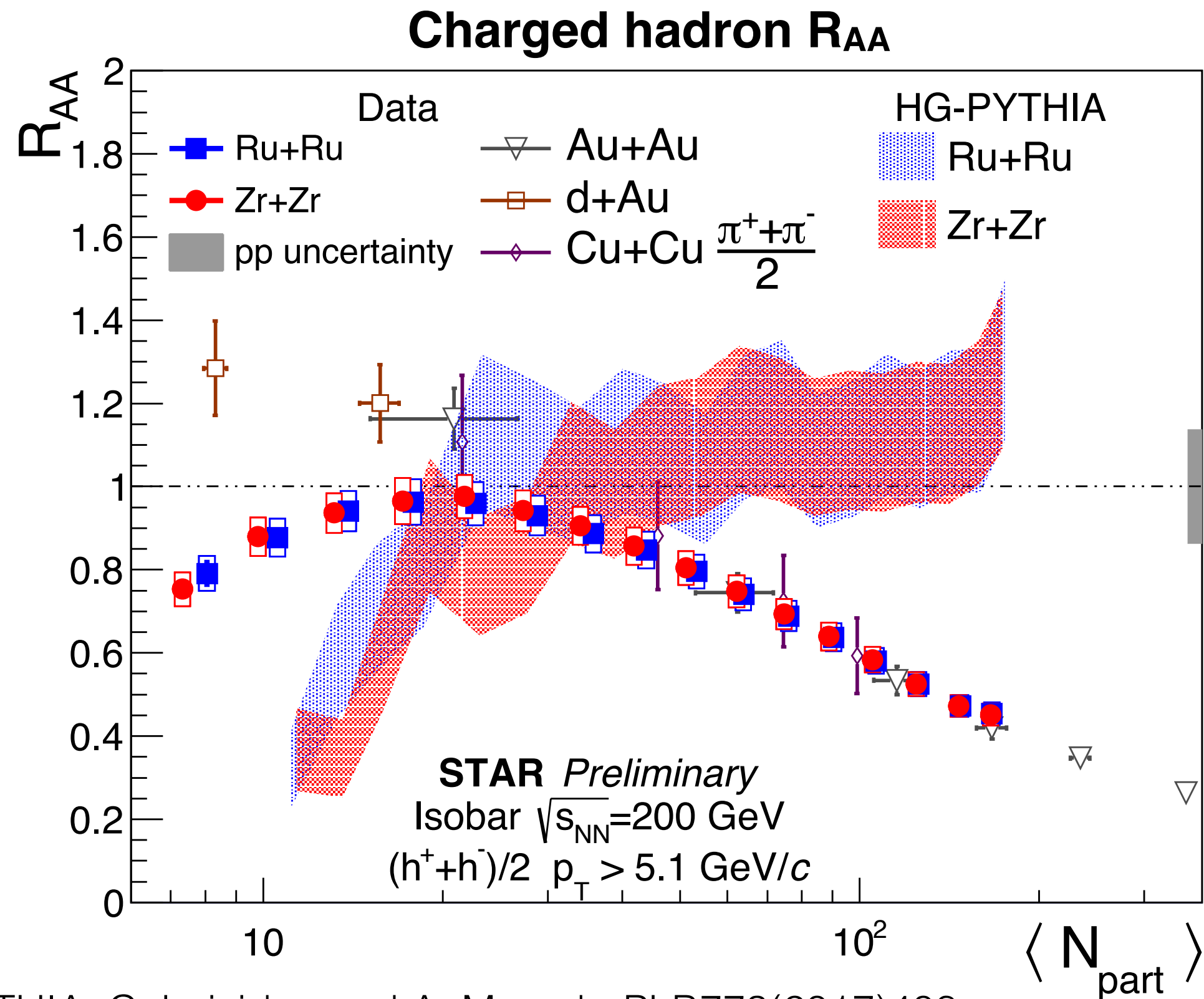
STAR, PRL127.262301 (2021)

Talk by Ashish Pandav (6/7)

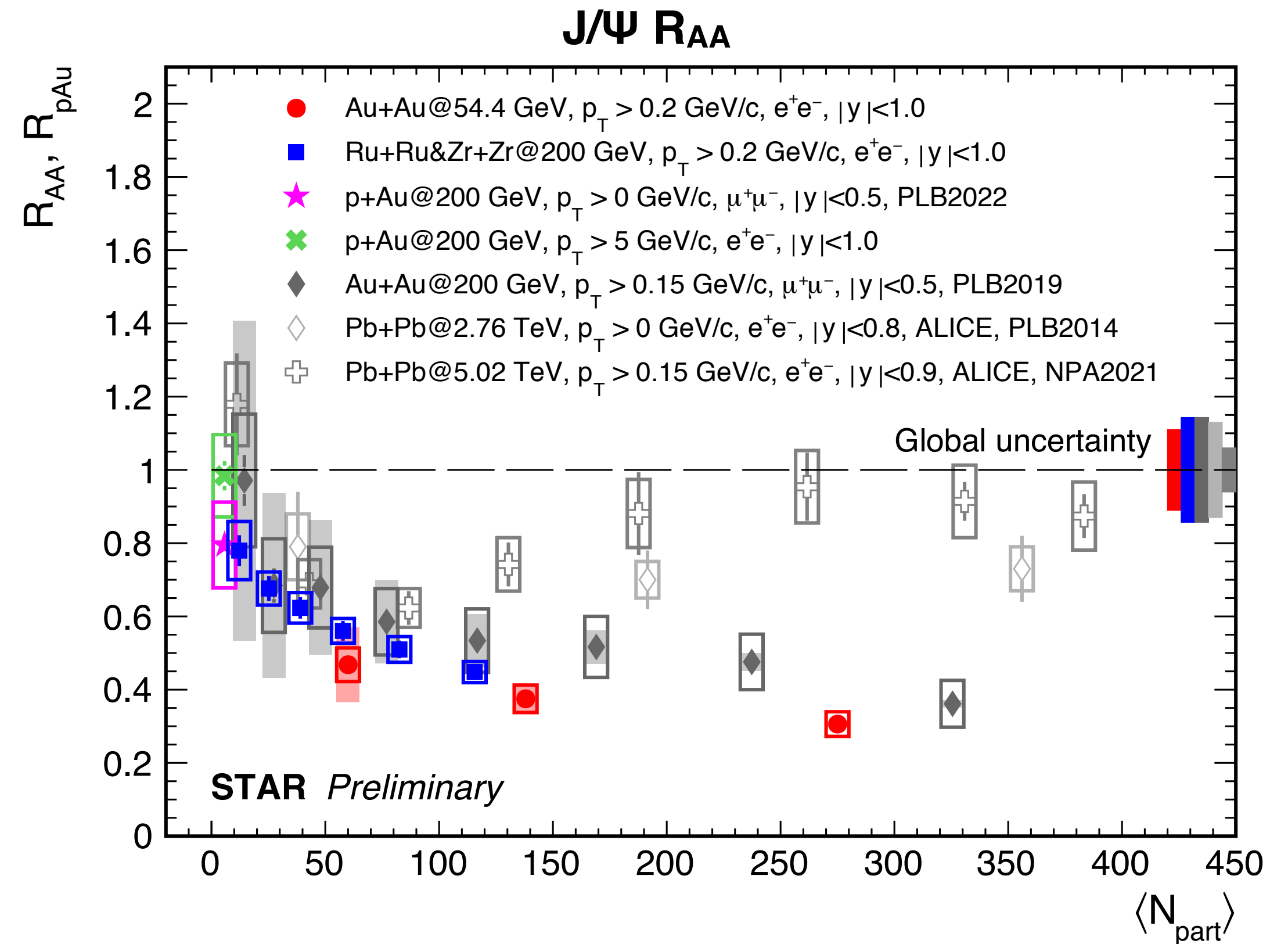


Hadron suppression in isobar collisions

Talk by Sooraj Radhakrishnan (6/8)



HG-PYTHIA: C. Loizides and A. Morsch, PLB773(2017)408

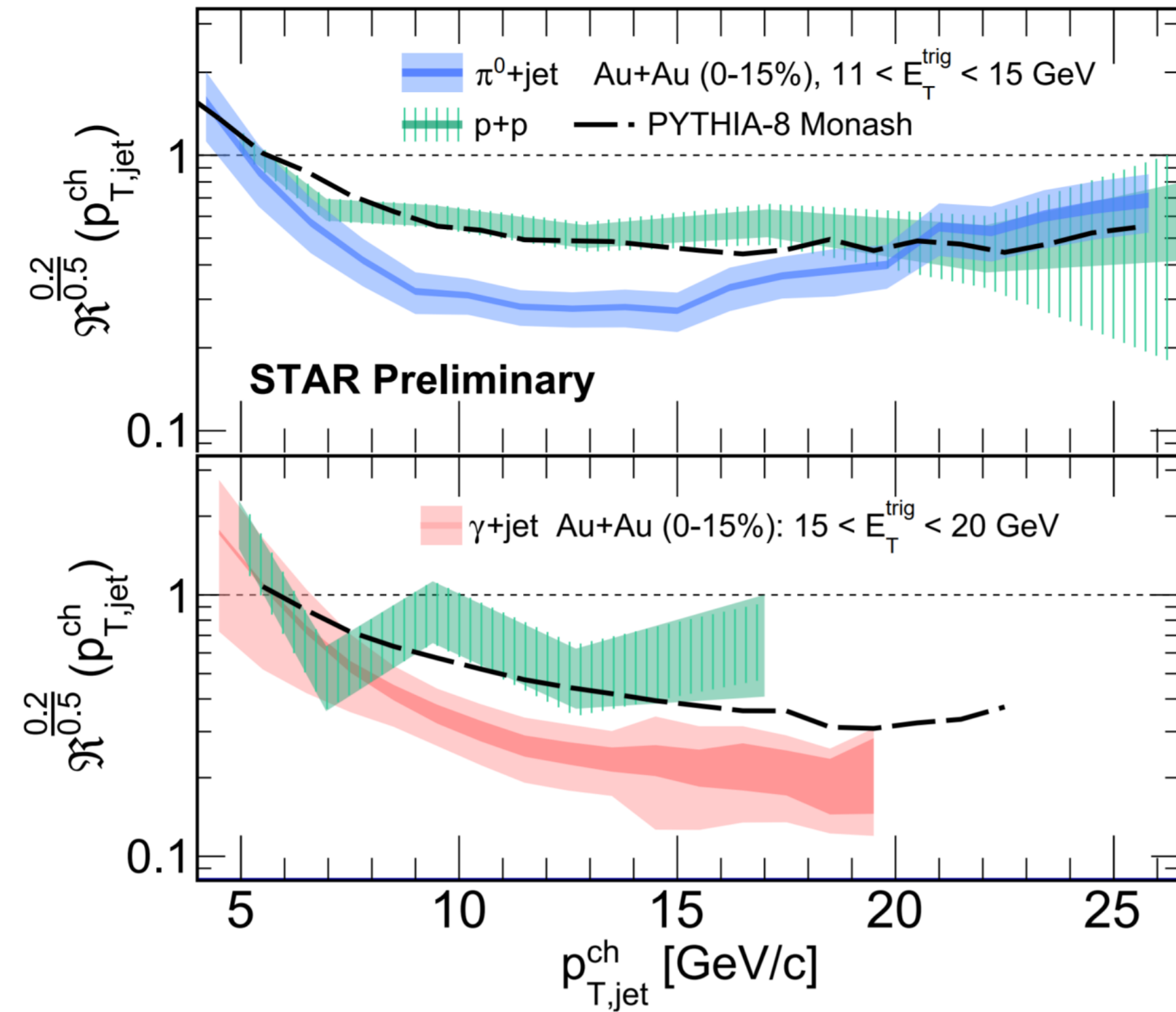
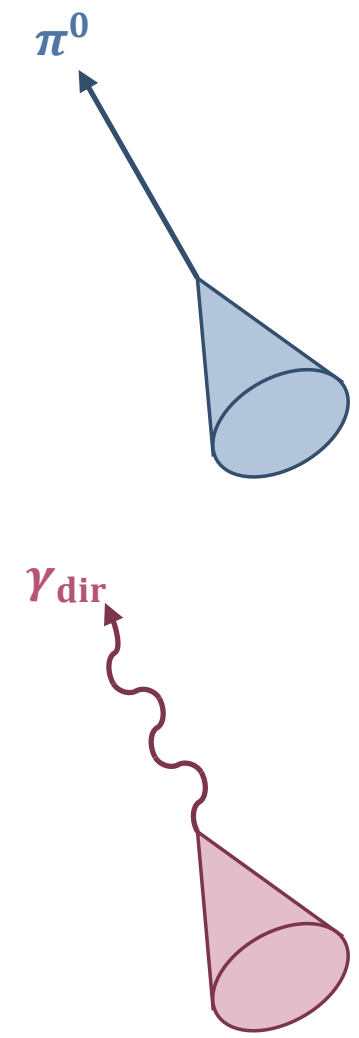


- Same R_{AA} of charged hadrons for a given N_{part} regardless of collision system; possible centrality bias in peripheral events
- Similarly, $J/\psi R_{AA}$ vs. N_{part} in isobars is comparable to that in Au+Au

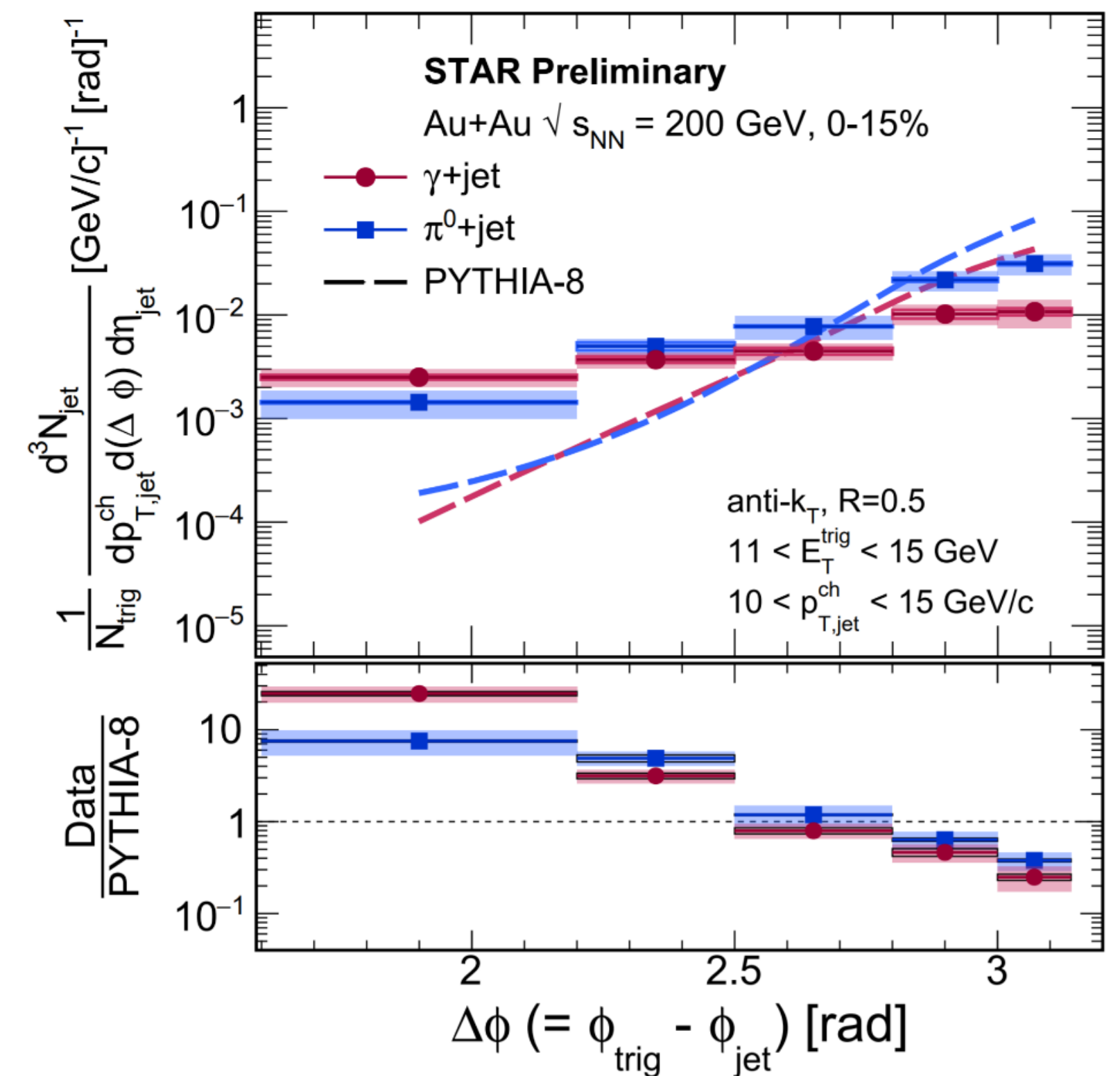
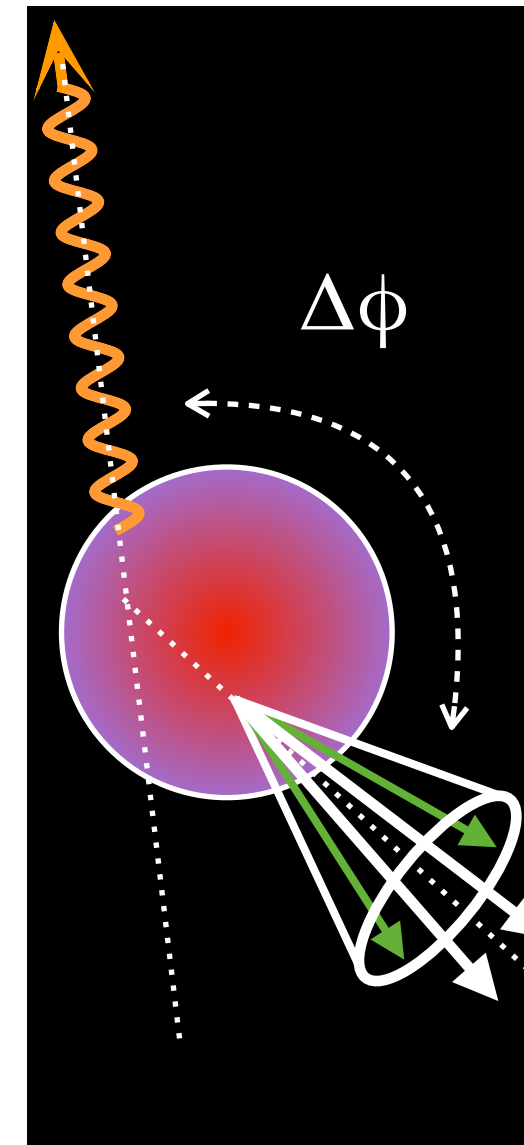


Semi-inclusive π^0/γ +jets

Talk by Sooraj Radhakrishnan (6/8)
Poster by Derek Anderson



picture: P. Tribedy@QM2022

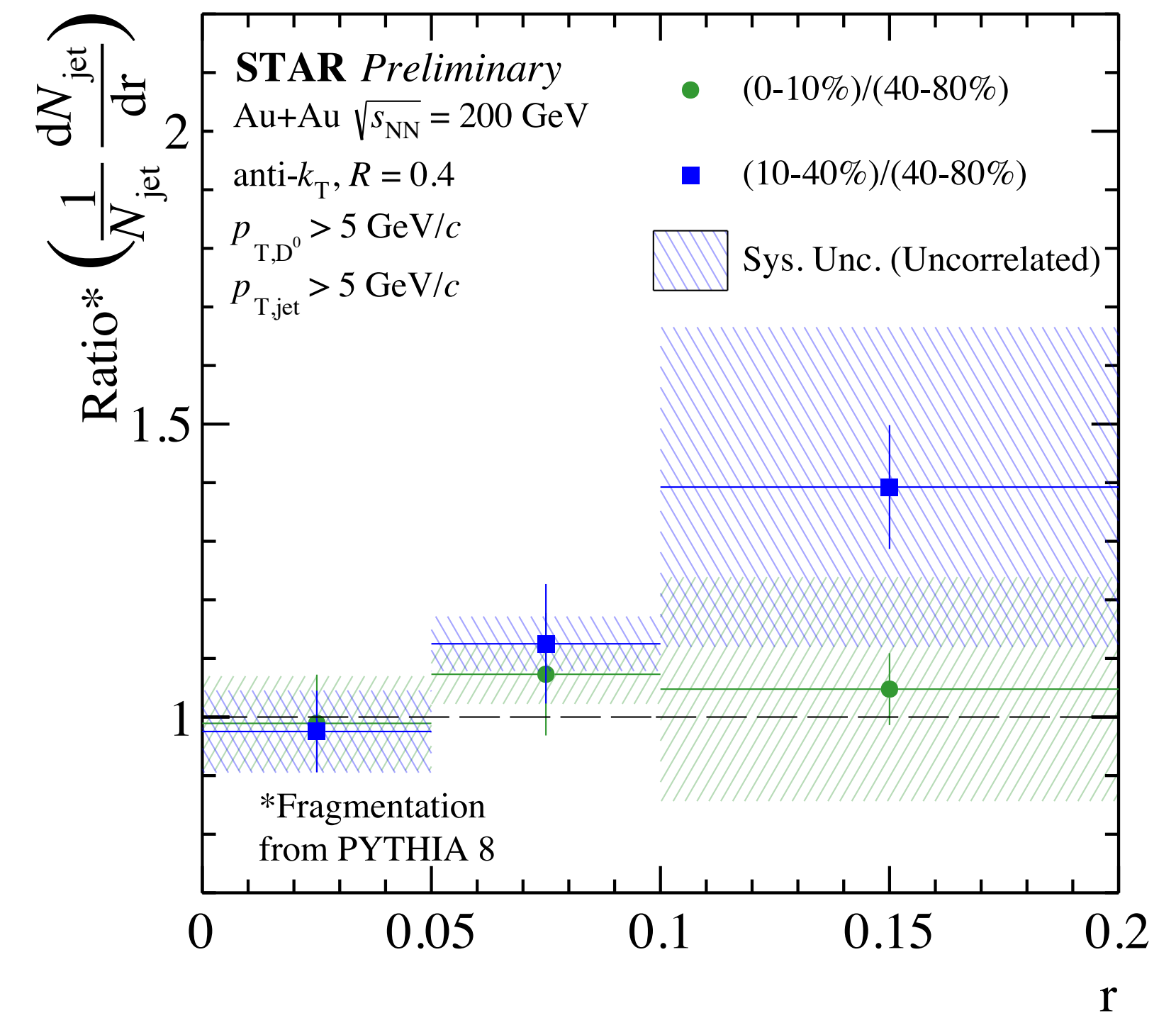
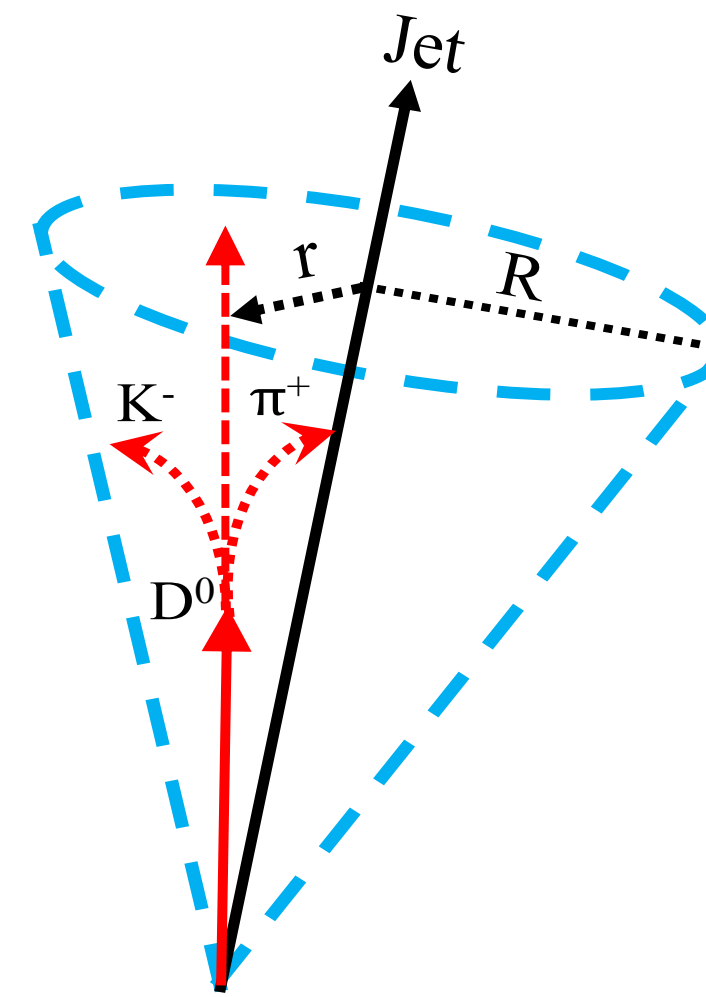
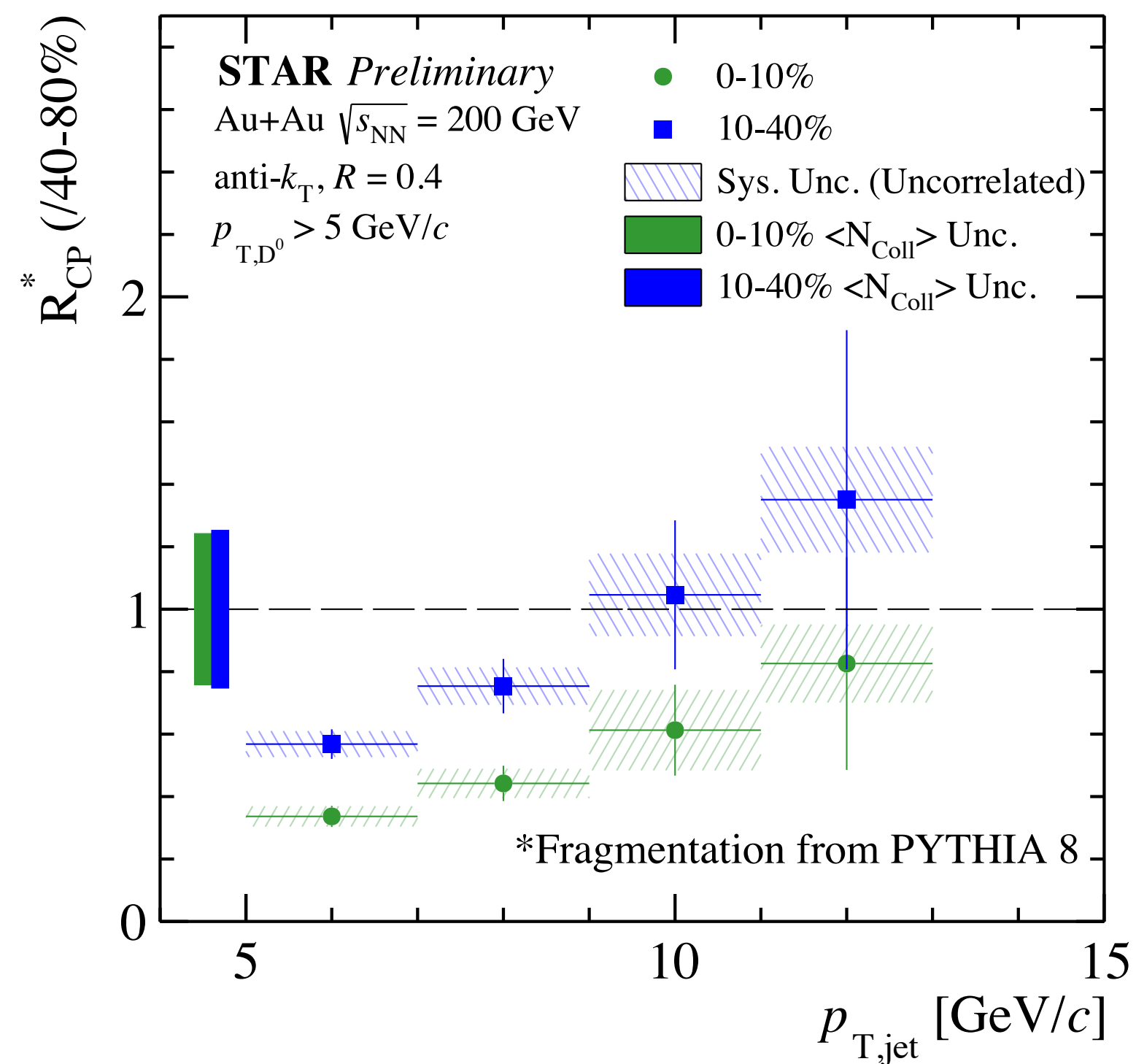


- Ratio of recoil jet yields for $R = 0.2$ vs. 0.5 in Au+Au is suppressed relative to that in p+p
 - Excess at large angle in angular correlation of π^0/γ and jets in Au+Au relative to p+p
- Medium-induced broadenings of intra-jet distribution and acoplanarity



Heavy flavor tagged jets

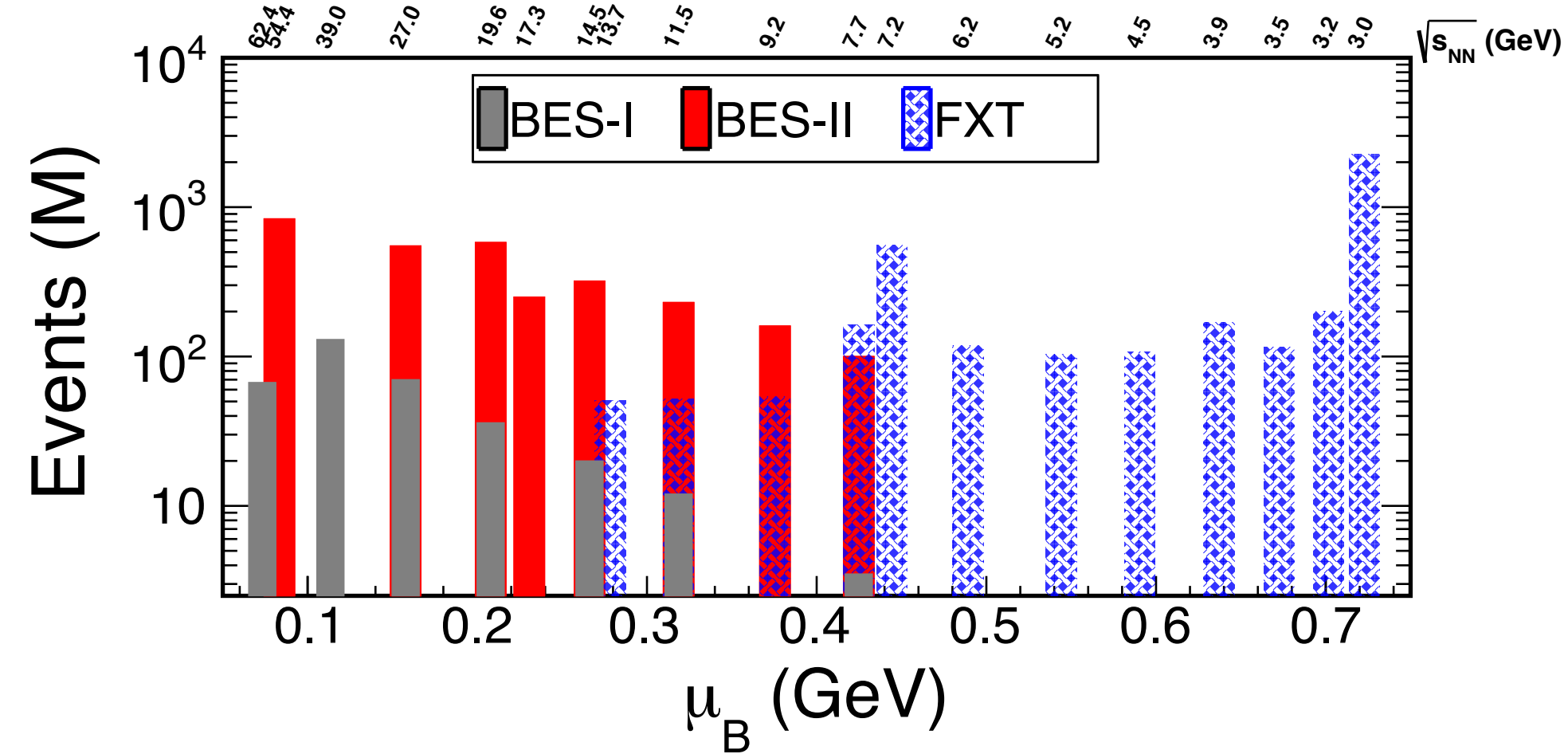
Talk by Sooraj Radhakrishnan (6/8)



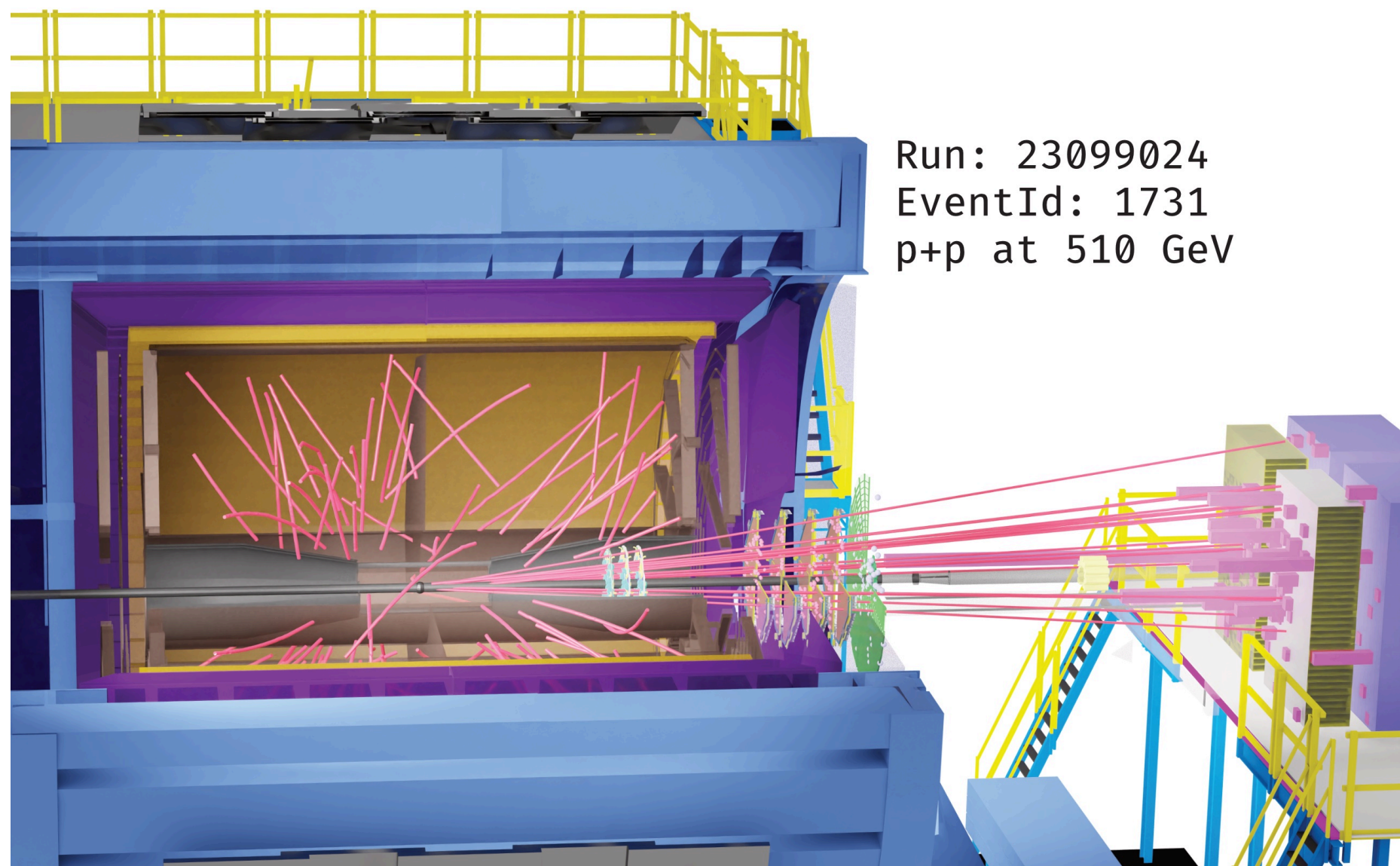
- First measurement of D⁰-tagged jets at RHIC
 - R_{cp} shows suppression at low p_T
 - Radial profile of D⁰ ($p_T > 5$ GeV/c) in jets is consistent with unity. To be explored with low p_T D⁰ to study the effect of HF diffusion.



Summary



- Many interesting results from Cold QCD and Hot QCD physics programs at STAR
 - ▶ New results from high statistics isobar and BES-II data
 - ▶ More results from full BES-II data will come soon



- STAR Forward upgrade subsystems were installed, commissioned, and successfully operated during Run-22
- Many interesting physics with the Forward upgrade in 2023+



Back up
