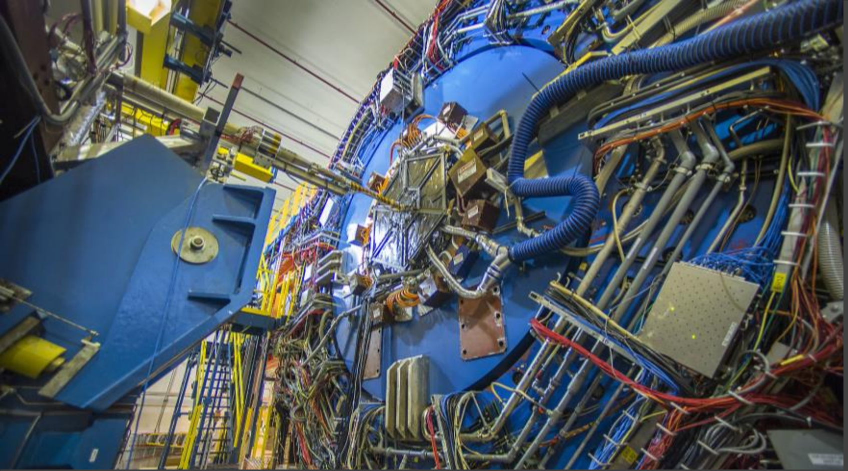

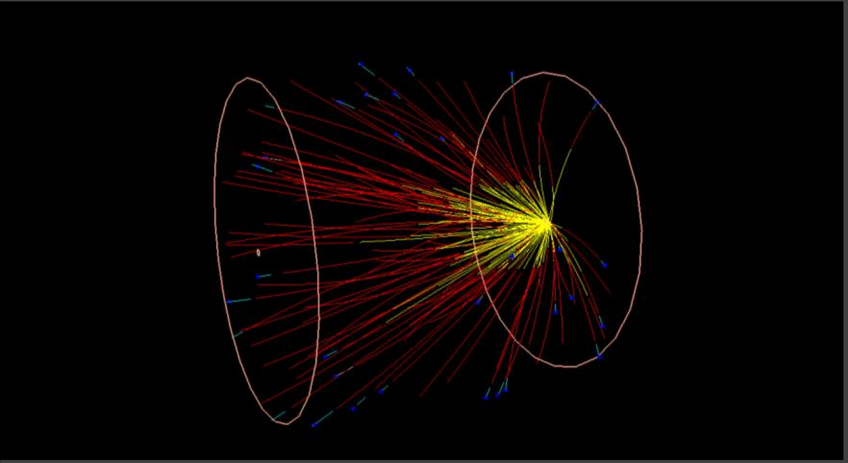

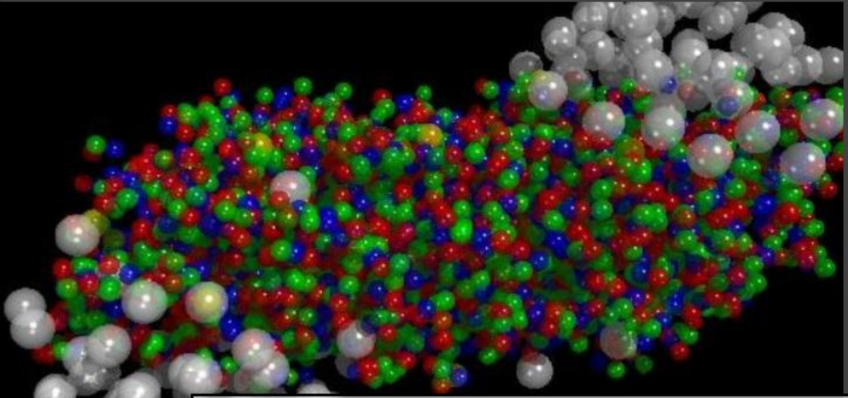

Supported in part by

Higher Order Cumulants of Proton Multiplicity Distributions in Au+Au at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$ GeV

Samuel Heppelmann

For the STAR Collaboration

UC DAVIS UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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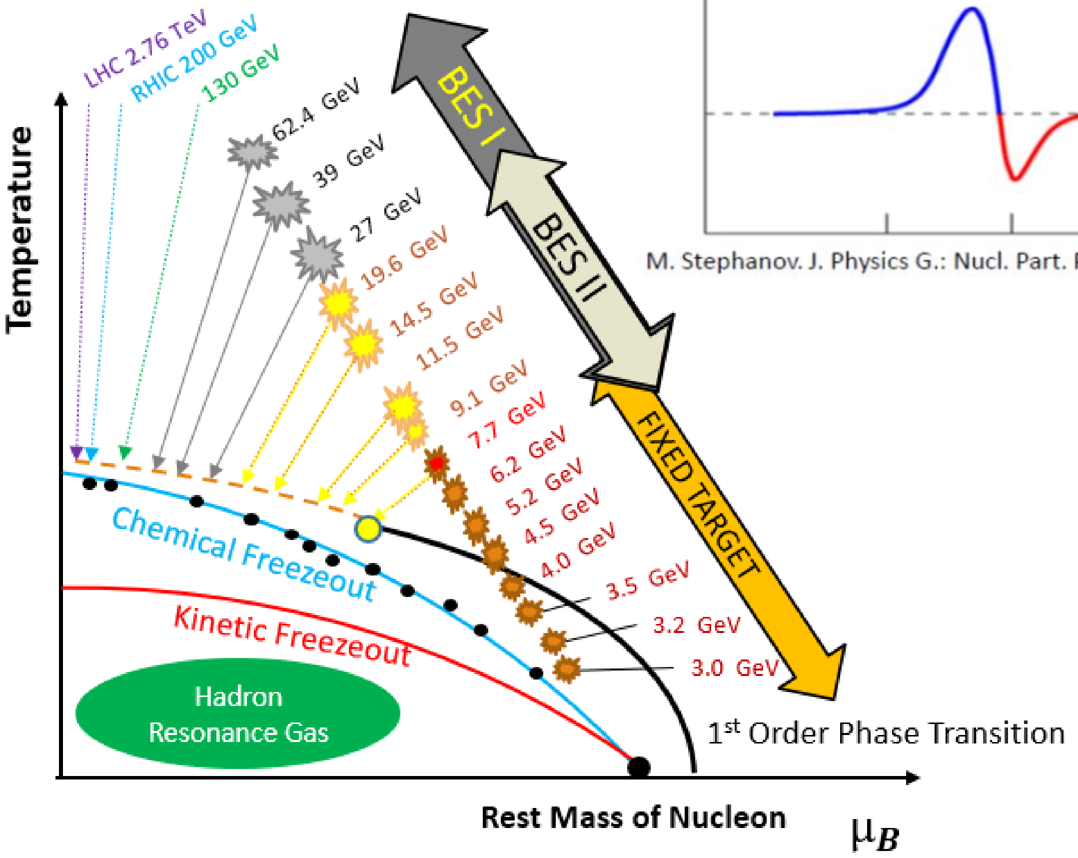
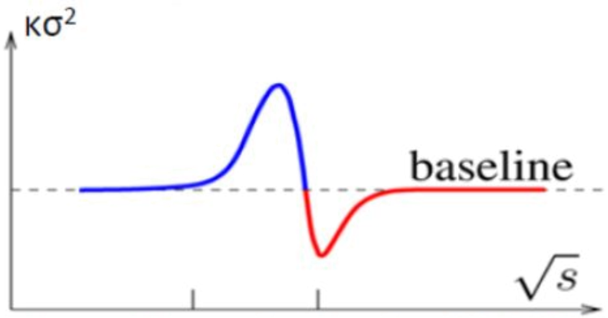
Outline

- Introduction
- Search for QCD critical point, C_4/C_2
- Data Analysis Methods
    - Centrality Determination
    - Cumulant Corrections
    - Pile Up
- Results
- Summary

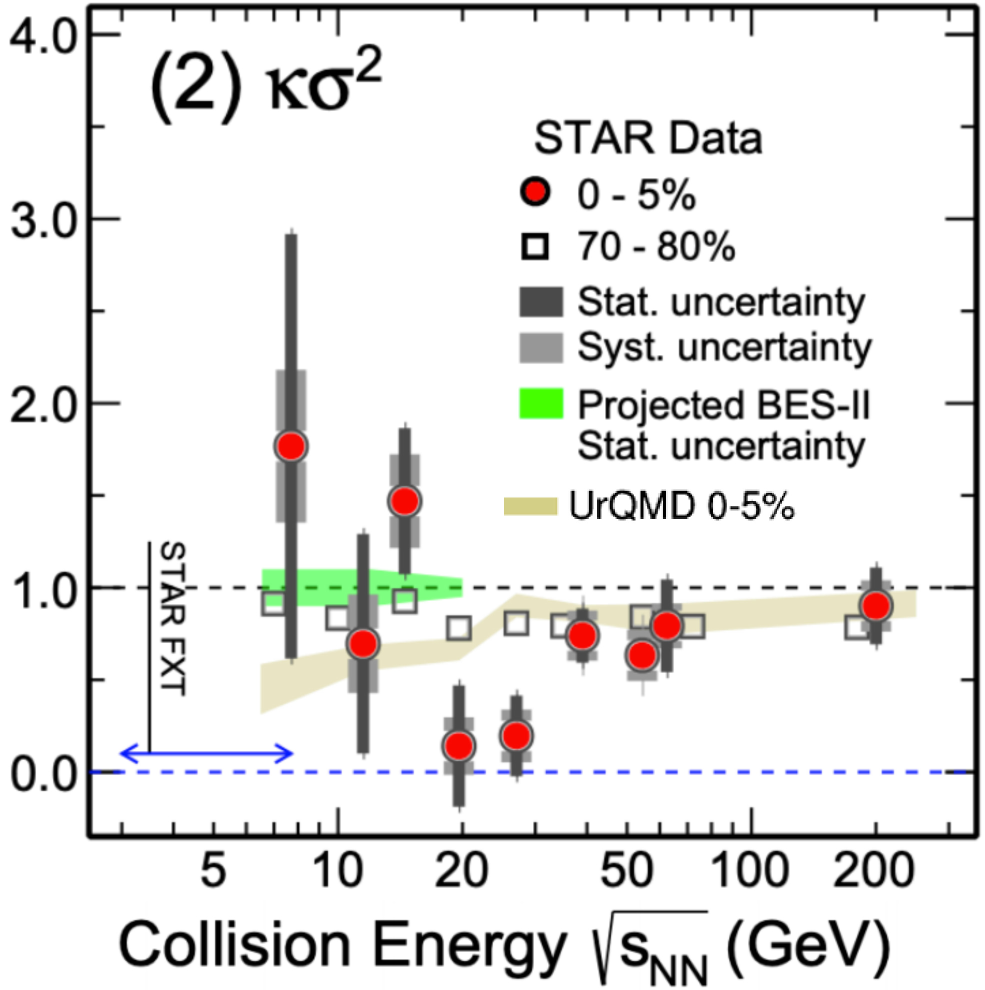
STAR Proton Measurements





M. Stephanov. J. Physics G.: Nucl. Part. Phys. **38** (2011) 124147

STAR Collaboration, arXiv:2001.02852



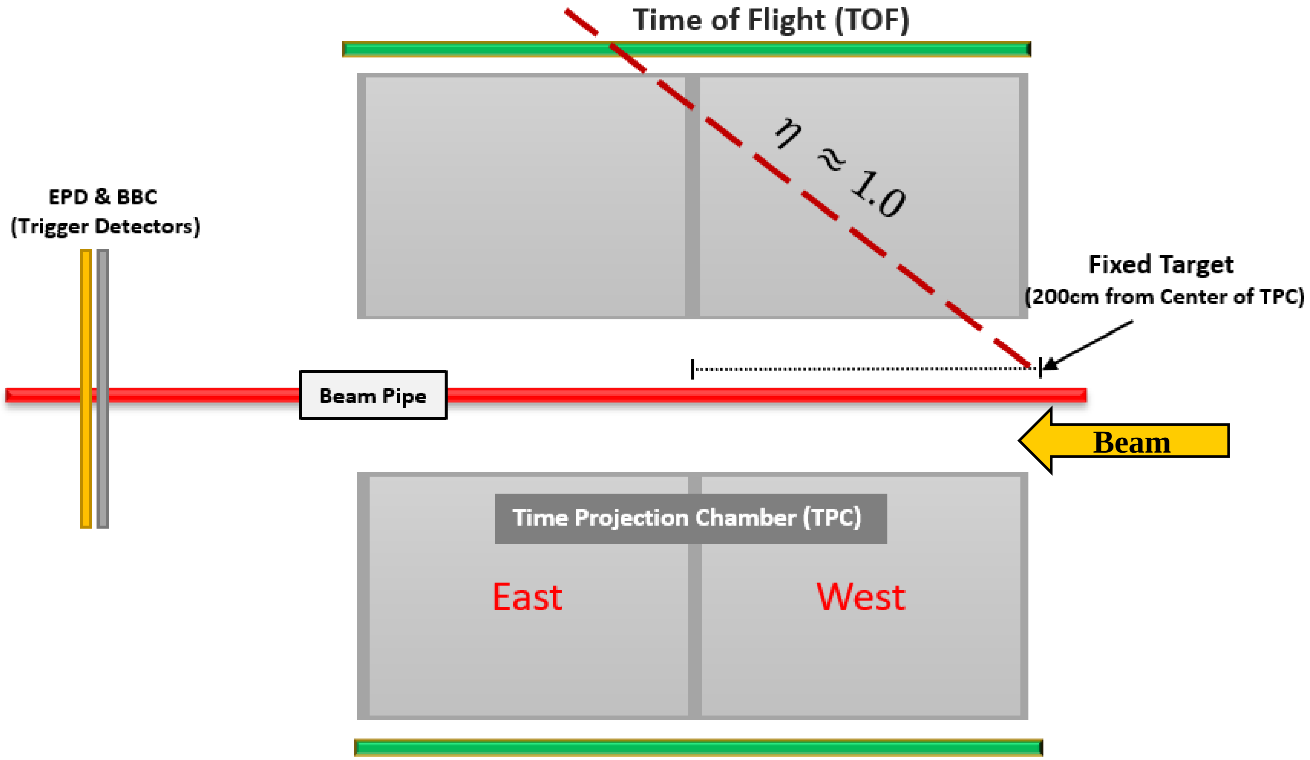
STAR measurements of net-proton $\kappa\sigma^2$ show a rising trend below 19.6 GeV

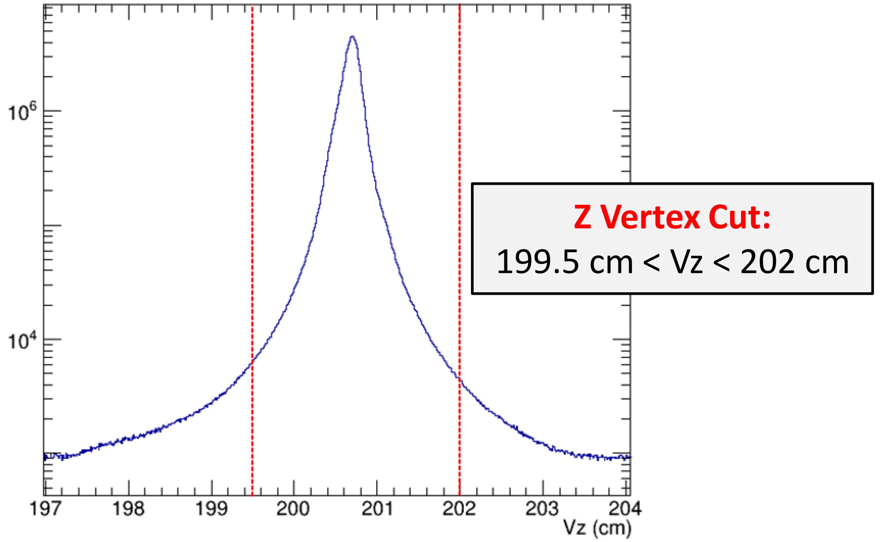
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 3.0 GeV is the lowest energy of the STAR Fixed Target Program

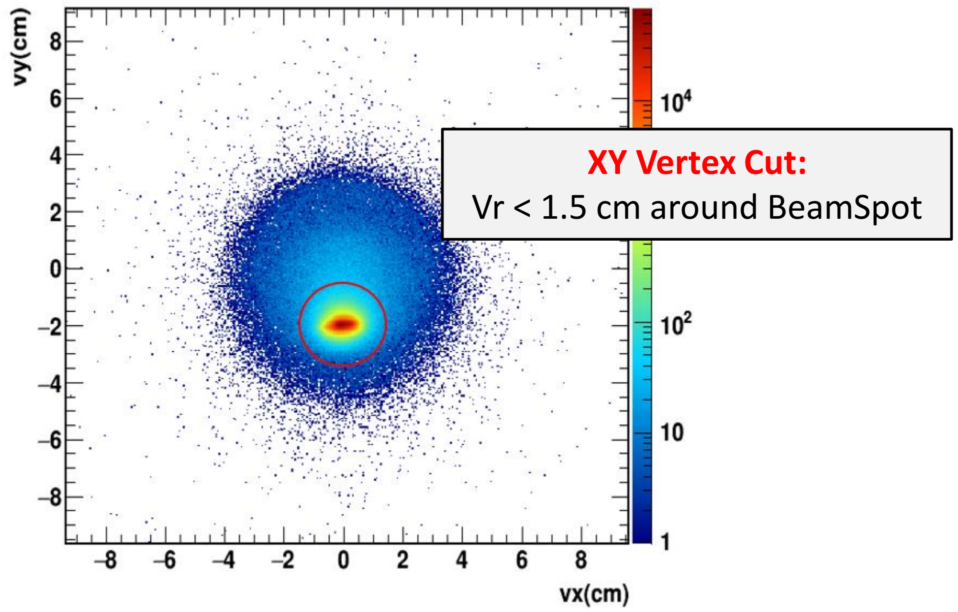
STAR Fixed Target

Mid-rapidity for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$ GeV is y = 1.049

Acceptance diagram of Detectors used in Higher Moments analysis for Fixed Target $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$ GeV







Events/Triggers (Taken in 2018):

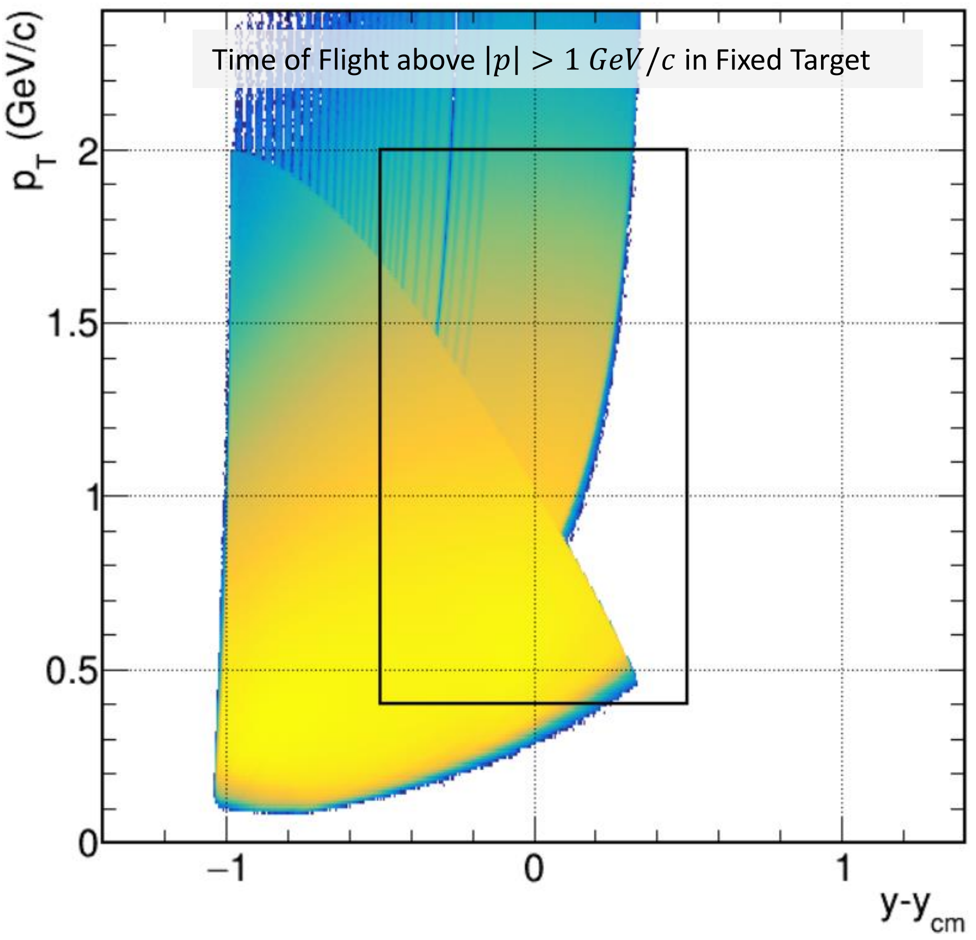
No Cuts	After Event & Run Cuts
320M	140M

Beam direction indicates positive rapidity

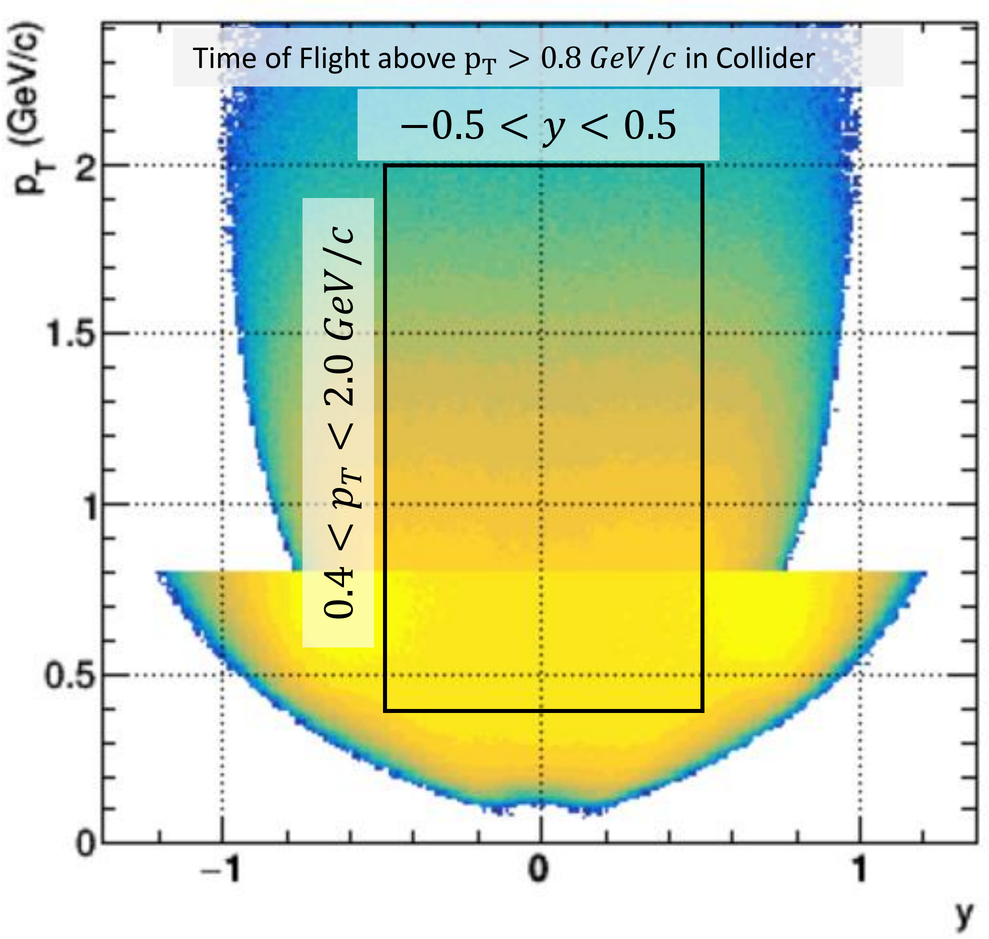
Fixed Target rapidity is reversed from typical collider running conditions

Acceptance Comparison with STAR Collider $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ GeV

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$ GeV Fixed Target Acceptance



$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ GeV Collider Acceptance



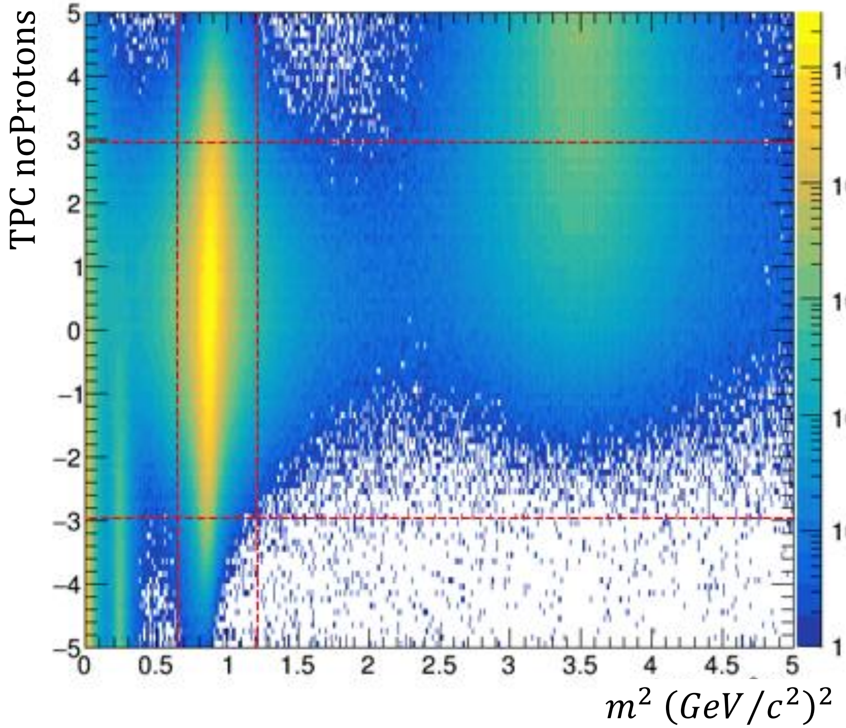
Black Box indicates analysis window of $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ GeV

Analysis Window

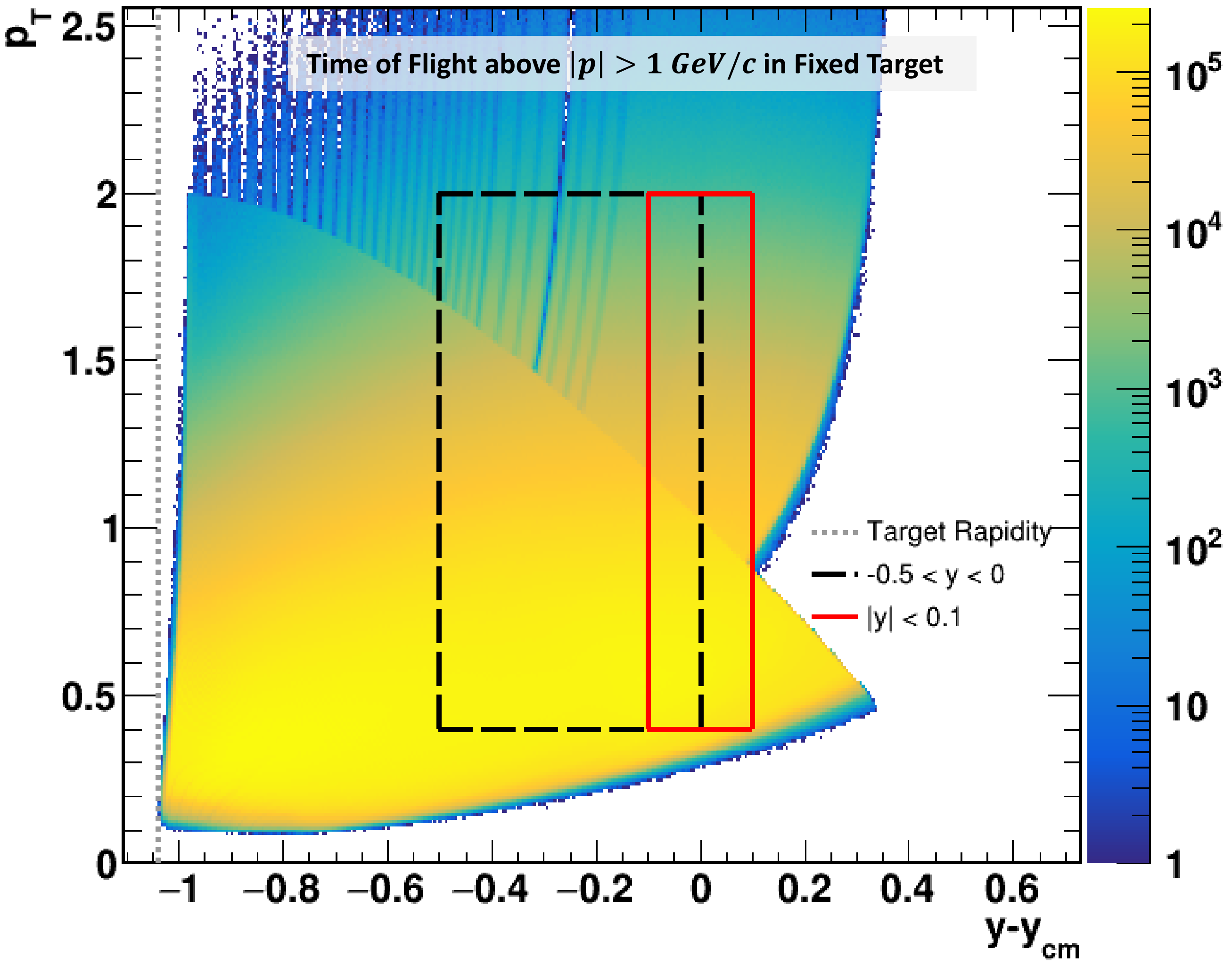
Previous STAR analysis: |y| < 0.5

Asymmetric window:
-0.5 < y < 0
$0.4 < p_T < 2.0\ (GeV/c)$

Symmetric Window:
|y| < 0.1
$0.4 < p_T < 2.0\ (GeV/c)$



Particle ID: $0.6 < m^2 < 1.2\ (GeV/c^2)^2$
|nσProtons| < 3

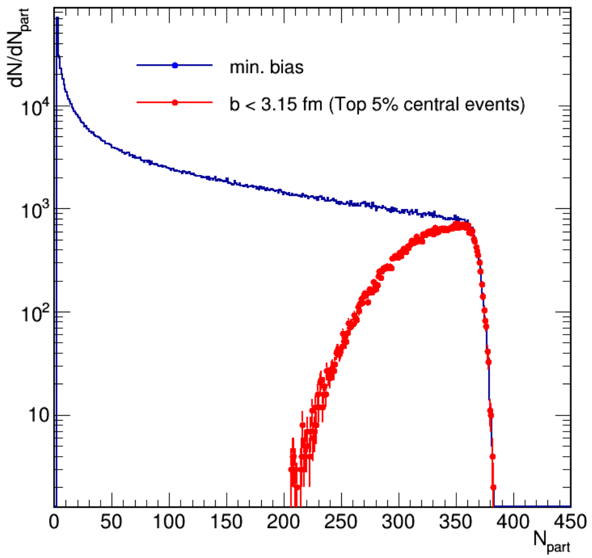


TPC + TOF analysis cuts provide ~97% proton purity

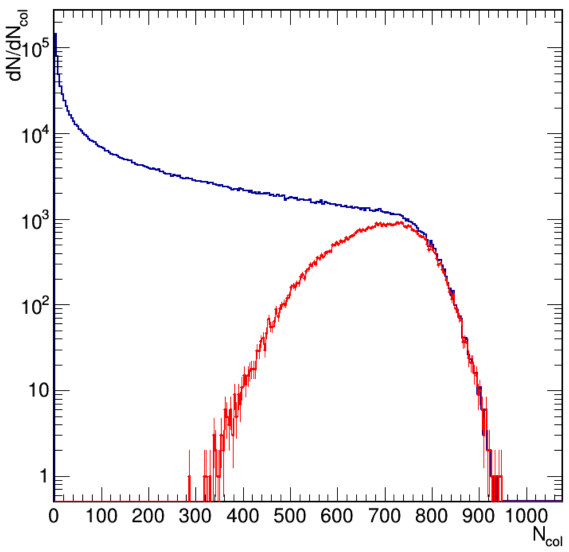
Centrality Determination

MC Glauber Model Simulation

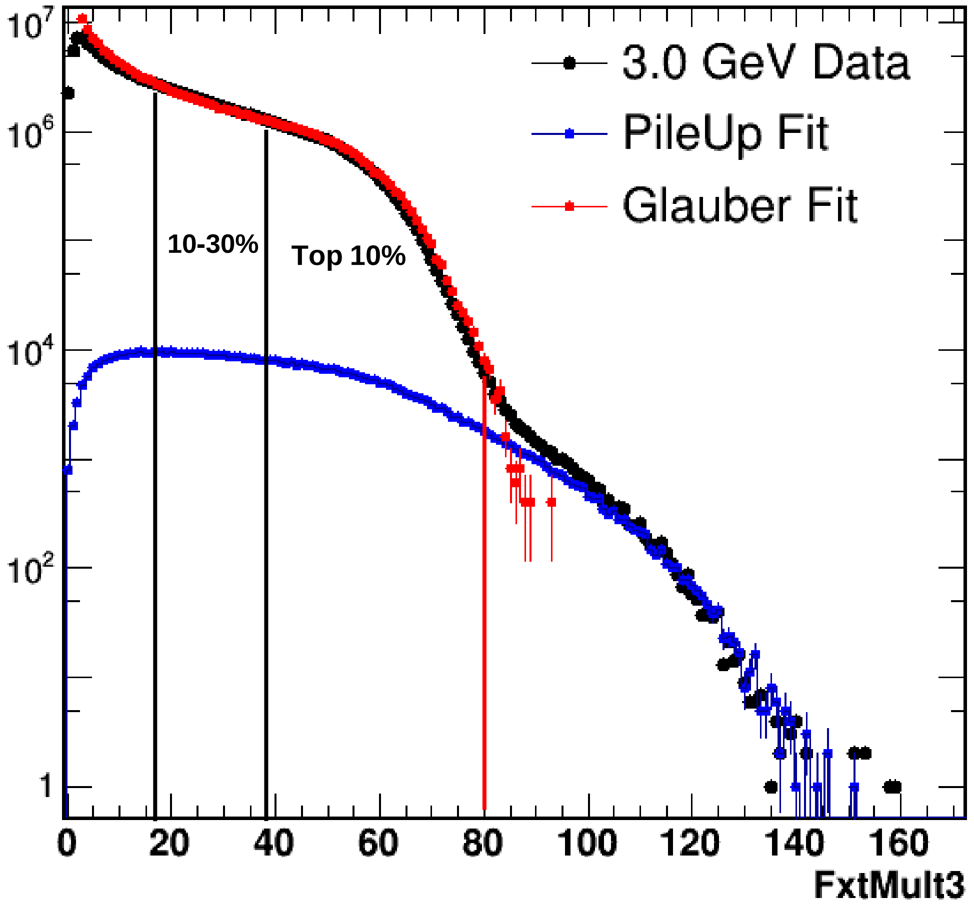
N Binary Collisions



N Participants



Exclude Multiplicities above 80 to exclude pile up.



Fit FxtMult3 with MC Glauber Sim. + Negative Binomial Fit

Use TPC particle multiplicity (excluding protons) to determine centrality

Exclude protons tracks to decrease auto-correlation in proton signal

FxtMult

All TPC tracks in the Fixed Target acceptance ($\eta \sim [0,2]$)

Typical STAR collider reference multiplicity, RefMult ($\eta \sim [-1,1]$)

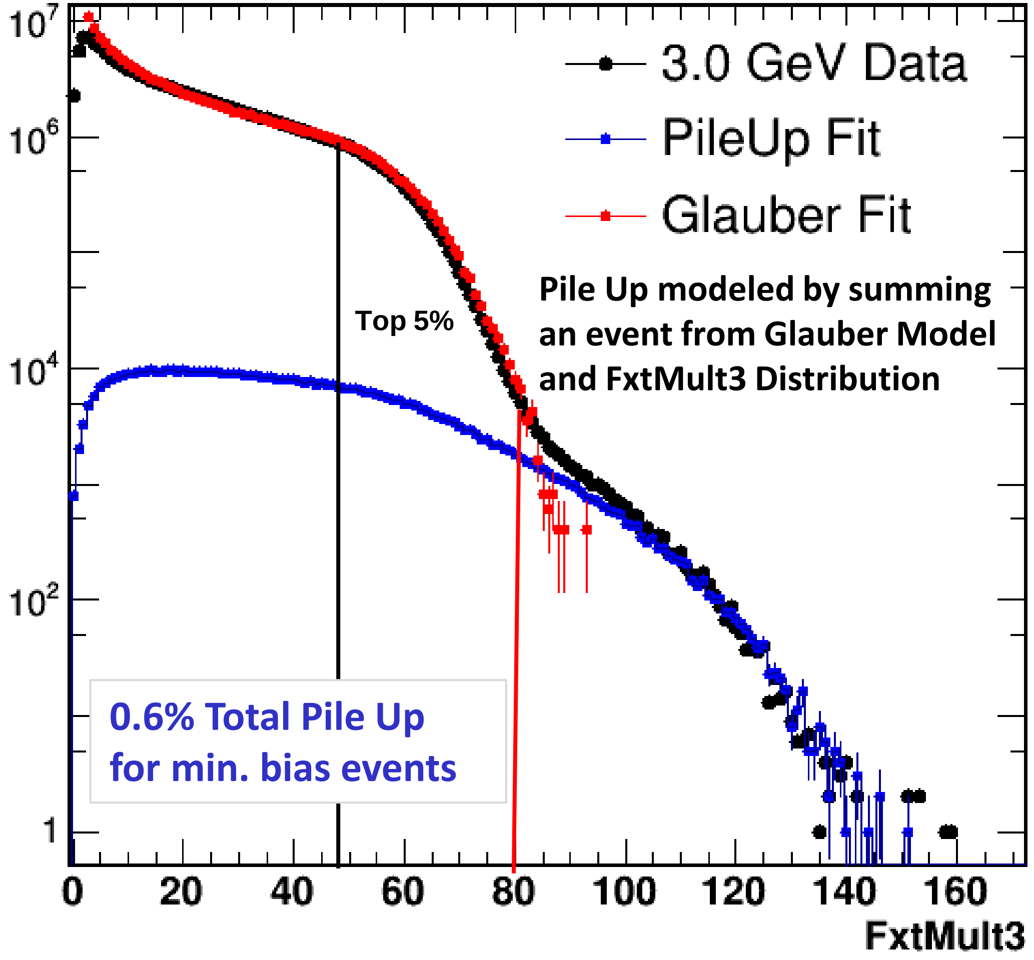
FxtMult3

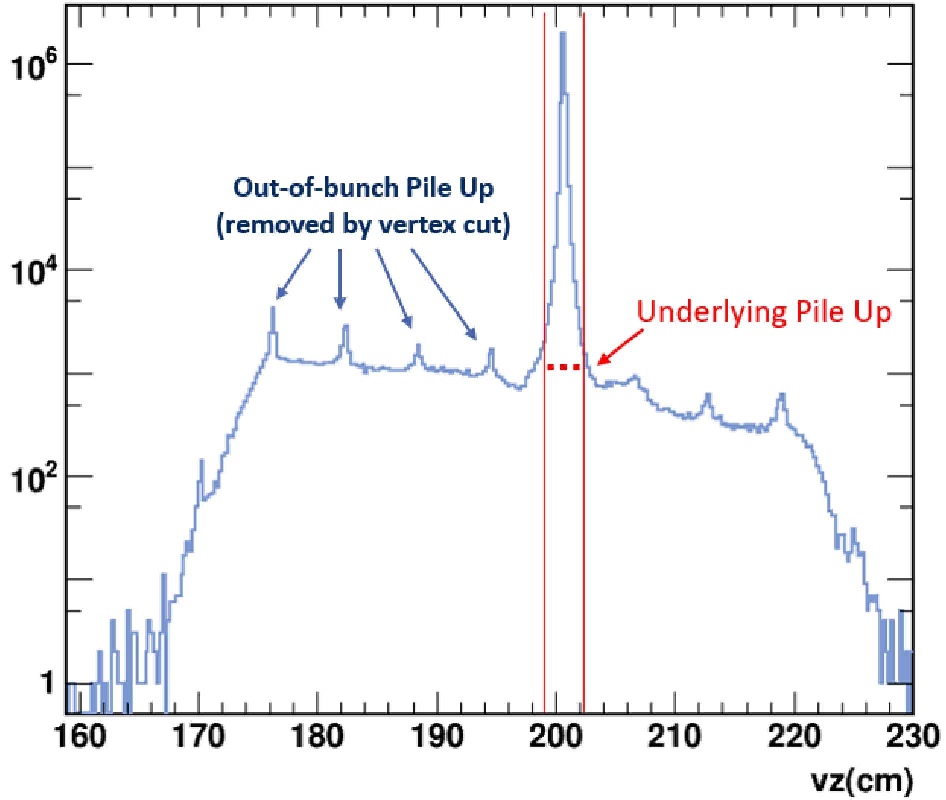
All TPC tracks in the Fixed Target acceptance excluding protons

Pile Up in the Fixed Target

Background Pile Up

- Two events reconstructed as one event
- Less than 1% Pile Up Background in STAR Fixed Target Run18





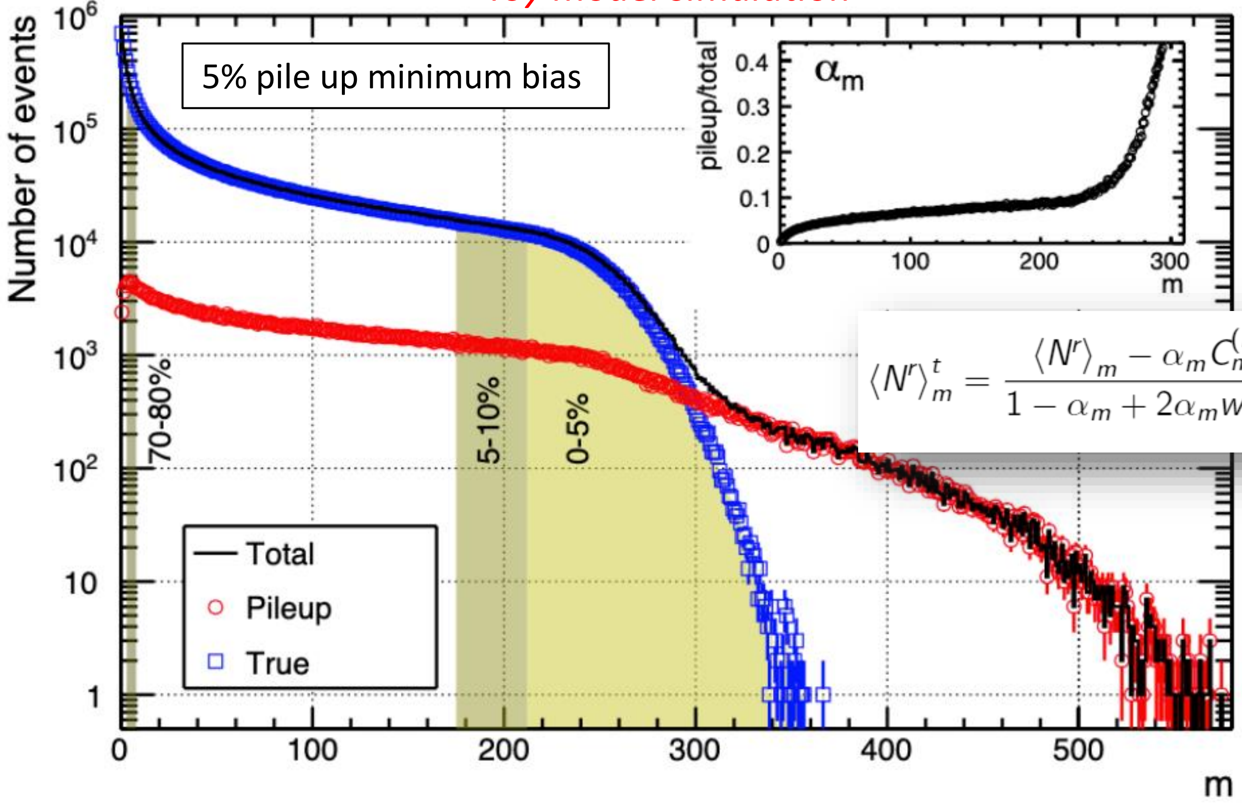
- Pile Up from the different bunches can be significantly reduced by vertex cuts
- Pile Up from the same bunch is more difficult to remove without altering the true proton moments

Pile Up Correction

Data driven approach to correct for pile up.

Account for pile up (sum of two events) and remove pileup cumulants from true cumulants.

Toy model simulation

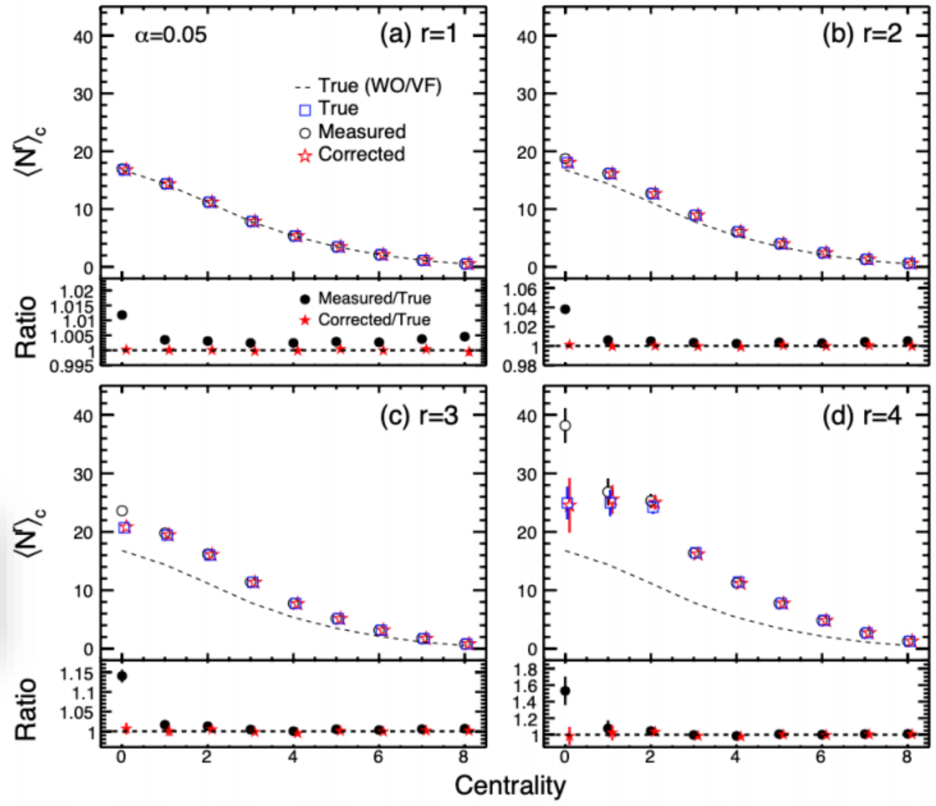


$$\langle N^r \rangle_m^t = \frac{\langle N^r \rangle_m - \alpha_m C_m^{(r)}}{1 - \alpha_m + 2\alpha_m w_{m,0}}$$

T. Nonaka, M. Kitazawa, S. Esumi,
Nucl. Instrumental. Meth. A 984, 164632 (2020)

Toy model simulation

Centrality bins, 0-5%,5-10%,10-20%,…,78-80% respectively indices x=0,1,…,8



Measured proton distribution for a given multiplicity m is comprised of the true distribution and a pile up distribution:

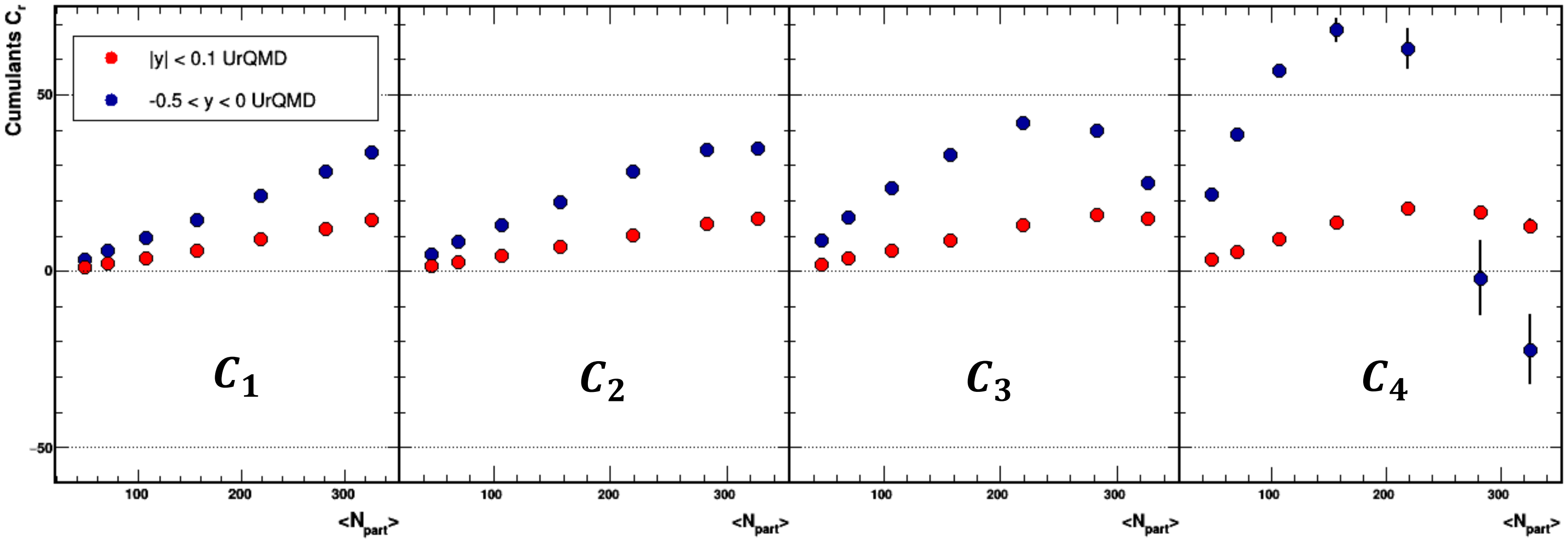
$$P_m(N) = (1 - \alpha_m) P_m^t(N) + \alpha P_m^{pu}(N) \quad (1)$$

where α is the pileup fraction, $P_m^t(N)$ is the true proton distribution and $P_m^{pu}(N)$ is the pileup proton distribution.

Net Proton Cumulants

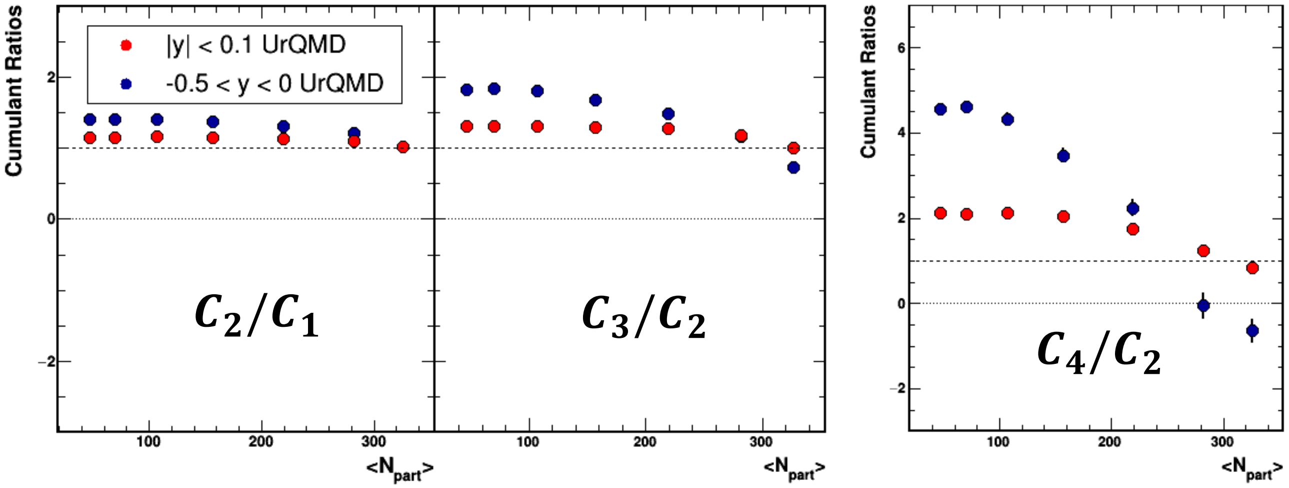
UrQMD C_4/C_2 suggests large suppression is caused by baryon conservation

Signal returns to Poisson baseline when rapidity window is reduced to |y| < 0.1

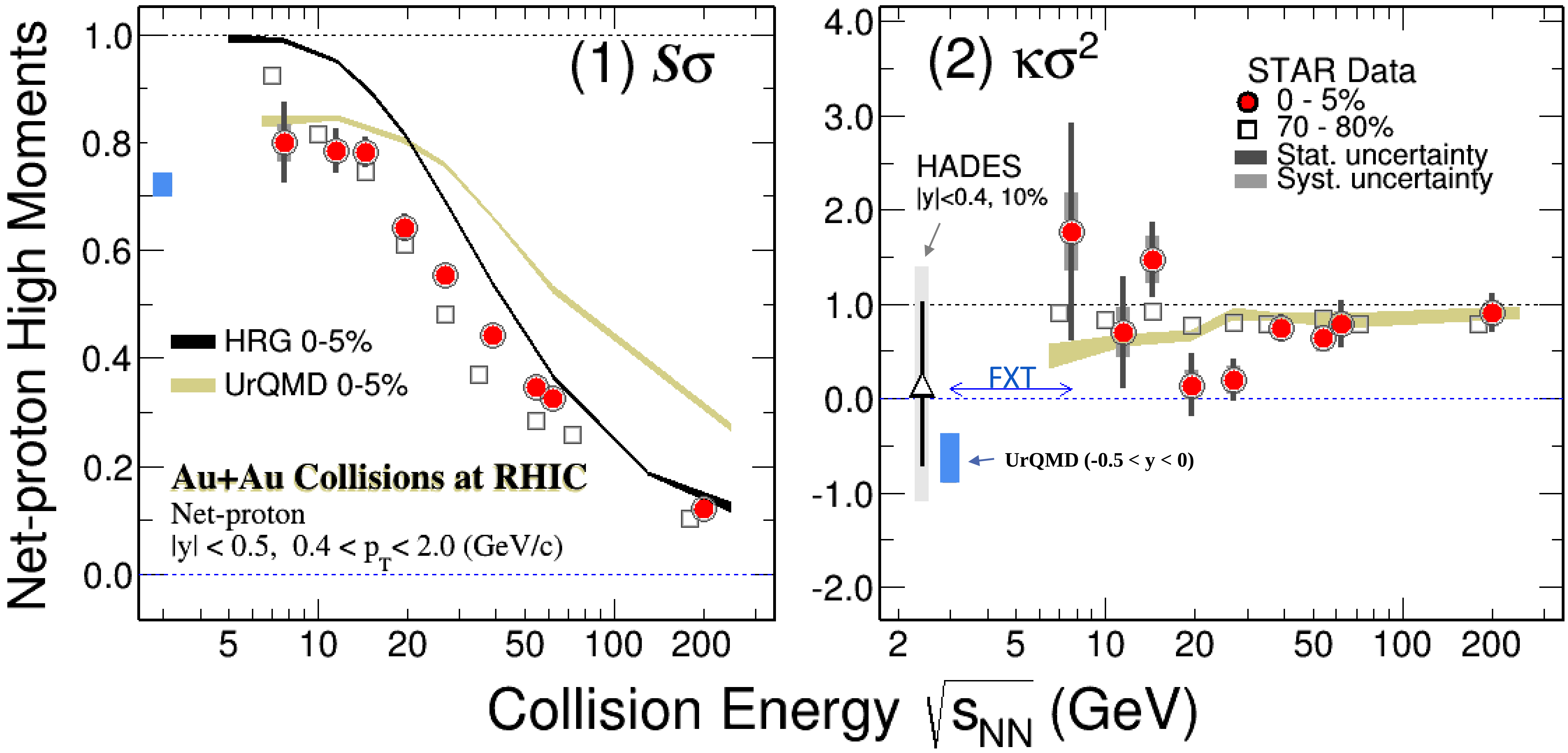


Non-Poisson signal could be sign of volume fluctuations in more peripheral centrality bins

Arghya Chatterjee, Yu Zhang, Hui Liu, Ruiqin Wang, Shu He, Xiaofeng Luo, arXiv:2009.03755 [nucl-ex]



STAR Net-Proton Energy Scan



BES I Data from $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ *to* 200 *GeV in: STAR Collaboration, arXiv:2001.02852*

Summary

Summary:
UrQMD suggests large suppression is caused by baryon conservation.

Non-Poisson signal could be sign of volume fluctuations in more peripheral centrality bins

OutLook:
The STAR Beam Energy Scan II and 2019 Fixed Target data will provide definite answer if critical behavior exists between $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0$ GeV and $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 19.6$ GeV energy range