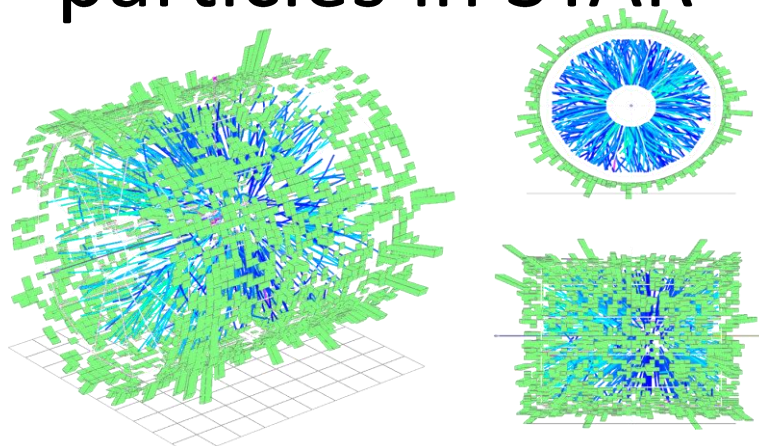




# Femtoscopic probes with strange particles in STAR



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# Outline

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- Motivation
- Correlation femtoscopy
- The STAR experiment
- Pion and kaon results from BES-I and FXT
- $p\Omega$  correlations at 200 GeV
- Summary



# Motivation

- Access to the **spatial and temporal information** about the particle-emitting source at kinetic freeze-out
- **Different particle species** are sensitive to various effects (Final State Interactions (FSI), transport properties, asymmetries, etc...)

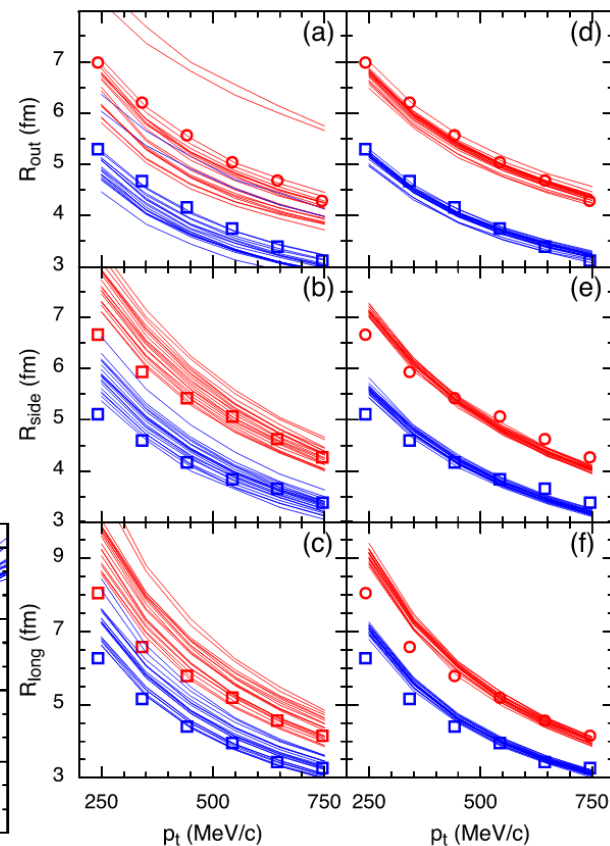
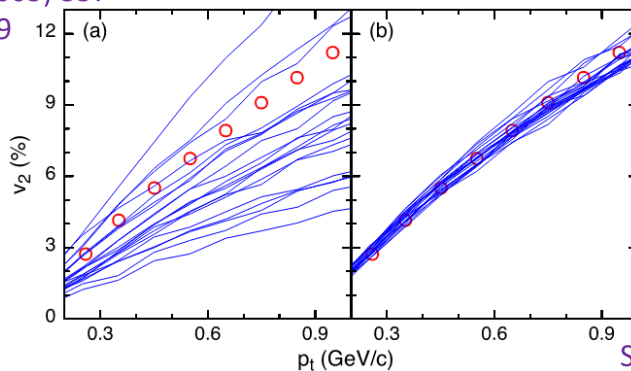
V.M. Shapoval et al. NPA 968 (2017) 391

M.A. Lisa et al. Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 55 (2005) 357

D.H. Rischke, M. Gyulassy. NPA 608 (1996) 479

R. Lednicky et al. Phys. Lett. B 373 (1996) 30

- Model constraints



S. Pratt et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015) 202301



# Correlation Function

- Two-particle correlation function (CF):

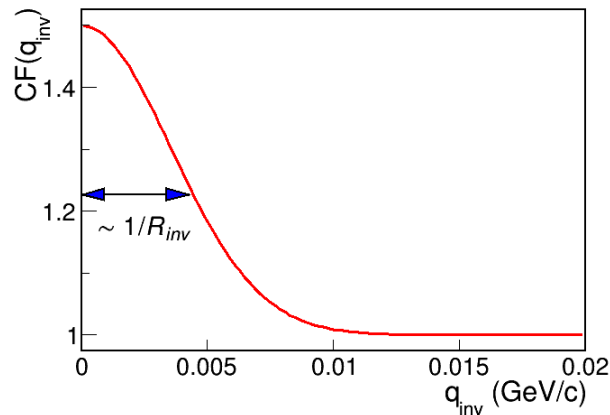
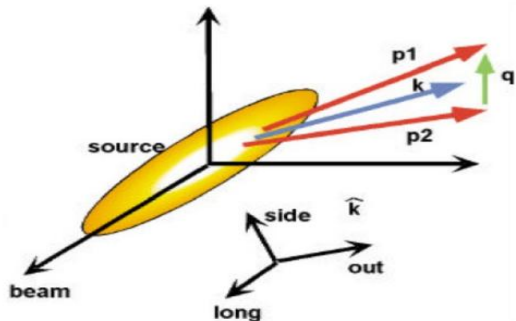
$$CF(p_1, p_2) = \int d^4r S(r, k) |\Psi_{1,2}(r, k)|^2$$

$$r = x_1 - x_2 \text{ and } q \equiv q_{inv} = p_1 - p_2$$

- Experimentally:

$$CF(q) = A(q)/B(q)$$

- $A(q)$  – contain quantum statistical (QS) correlations and final state interactions (FSI)
- $B(q)$  – obtained via mixing technique (does not contain QS and FSI)



The relative pair momentum can be projected onto the Bertsch-Pratt, **out-side-long** system:

$q_{long}$  – along the beam direction

$q_{out}$  – along the transverse momentum of the pair

$q_{side}$  – perpendicular to longitudinal and outward directions

Correlation functions are constructed in Longitudinally Co-Moving System (LCMS), where  $p_{1z} + p_{2z} = 0$

S. Pratt. Phys. Rev. D 33 (1986) 1314  
 G. Bertsch. Phys. Rev. C 37 (1988) 1896



# Fitting Procedure

- Femtoscopic radii are extracted by fitting  $C(\mathbf{q})$  with (Bowler-Sinyukov procedure):

$$C(q_{out}, q_{side}, q_{long}) = N \left[ 1 - \lambda + \lambda K(q_{inv}) \left( 1 + \exp(-R_{out}^2 q_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2 q_{side}^2 - R_{long}^2 q_{long}^2) \right) \right]$$

$N$  – normalization factor

$\lambda$  – correlation strength

$K(q_{inv})$  – Coulomb correction

$R_{side}$  ~ geometrical size of the system

$R_{out}$  ~ geometrical size + particle emission duration

$R_{long}$  ~ medium lifetime

Yu. Sinyukov et al. Phys. Lett. B 432 (1998) 248

M. Bowler. Phys. Lett. B 270 (1991) 69

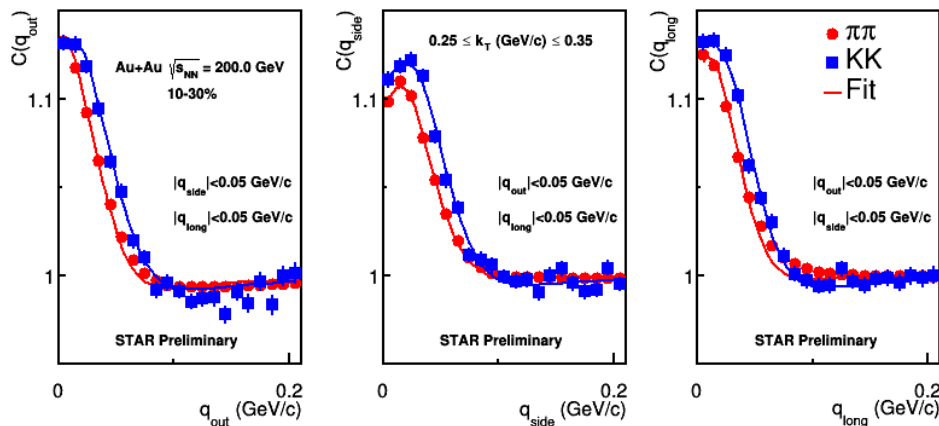
- Fit using Log-likelihood method

E-802. Phys. Rev. C 66 (2002) 054906

- Fit example

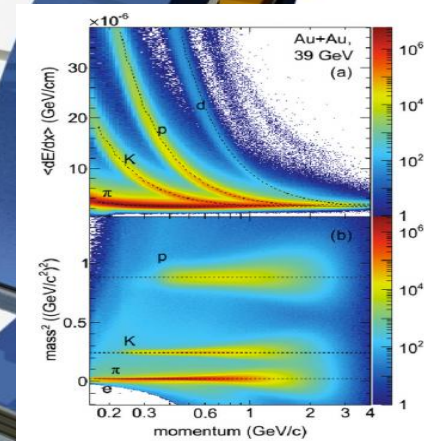
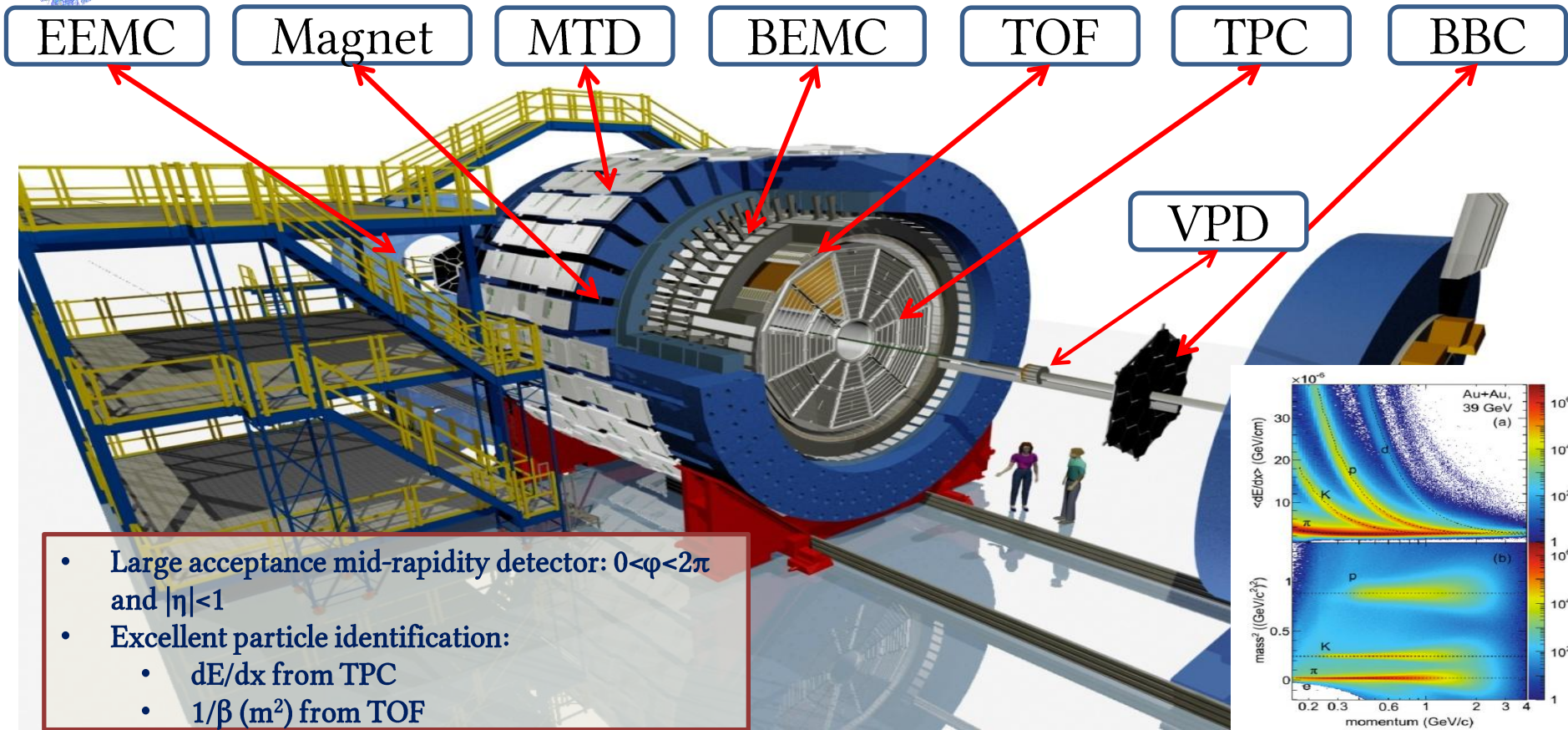
Out, side and long projections  
of  $\pi\pi$  and  $KK$  correlation  
functions and fits

$$\chi^2 = -2 \left[ A \ln \left( \frac{C(A+B)}{A(C+1)} \right) + B \ln \left( \frac{A+B}{B(C+1)} \right) \right], C = \frac{A}{B}$$





# The Solenoidal Tracker At RHIC



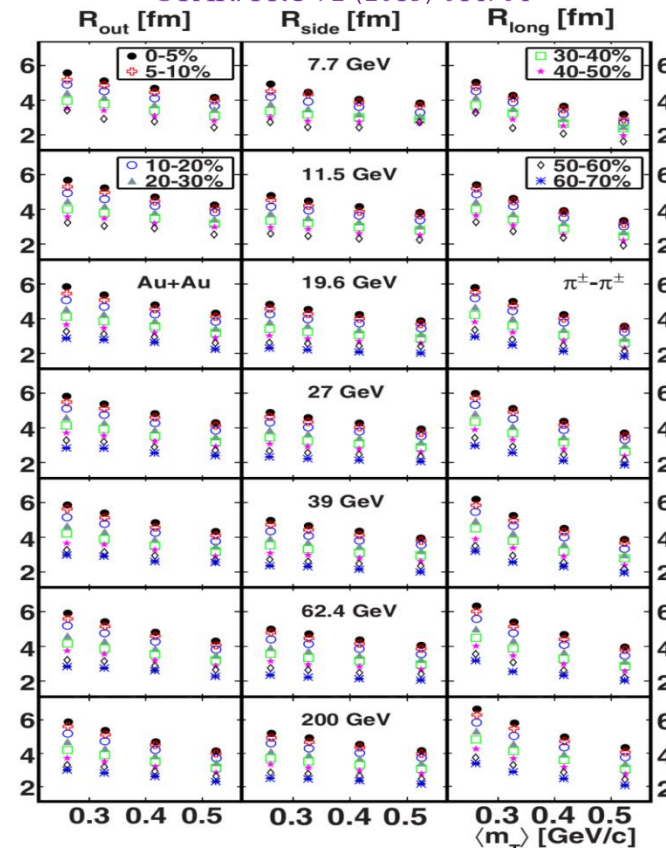


# Previous Pion Results from STAR

- Pion correlations have been **extensively measured in STAR**
- The decrease of the femtoscopic radii with increasing transverse mass  $m_T = \sqrt{k_T^2 + m^2}$  is attributed to the hydrodynamic flow in heavy-ion collisions
- To make the comparison with kaons, the extension to the higher  $m_T$  is needed.
- Particle identification with TPC and TOF

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Event and pair cuts | Same as in STAR, PRC 92 (2015) 014904  |
| Track cuts:         | $ \eta  < 1$ , nHits > 15  |
| PID:                | $0.15 < p \text{ (GeV/c)} < 0.45$  |
| if no TOF           | $\pi$ : $ \sigma_{\pi}  < 2$ , $ \sigma_{\text{other}}  > 2$                   |
| (dE/dx)             | K: $ \sigma_K  < 2$ , $ \sigma_{\text{other}}  > 2$                            |
| PID:                | $0.15 < p \text{ (GeV/c)} < 1.45$  |
| If TOF              | $\pi$ : $ \sigma_{\pi}  < 3$ , $-0.02 < m_{\pi}^2 \text{ (GeV/c}^2)^2 < 0.062$ |
| ( $m^2 + dE/dx$ )   | K: $ \sigma_K  < 3$ , $0.20 < m_K^2 \text{ (GeV/c}^2)^2 < 0.32$                |

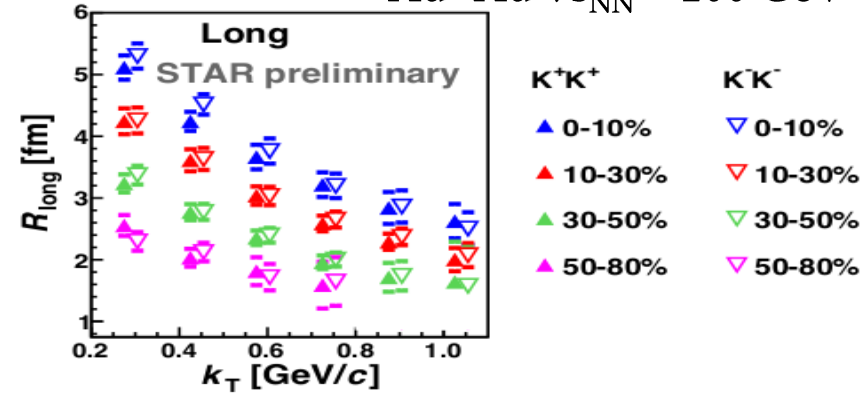
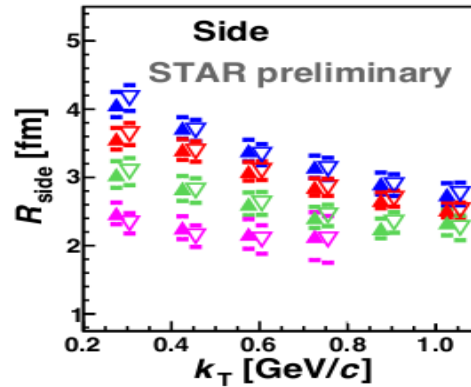
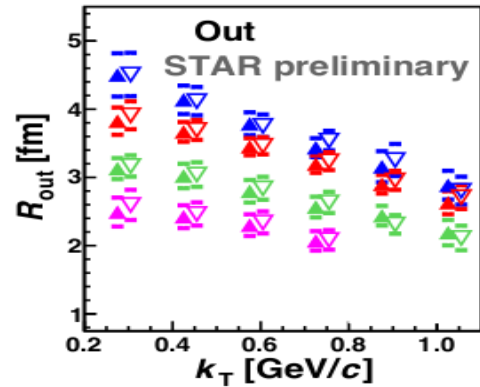
STAR, PRC 92 (2015) 014904





# Charged kaons at top RHIC energy

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



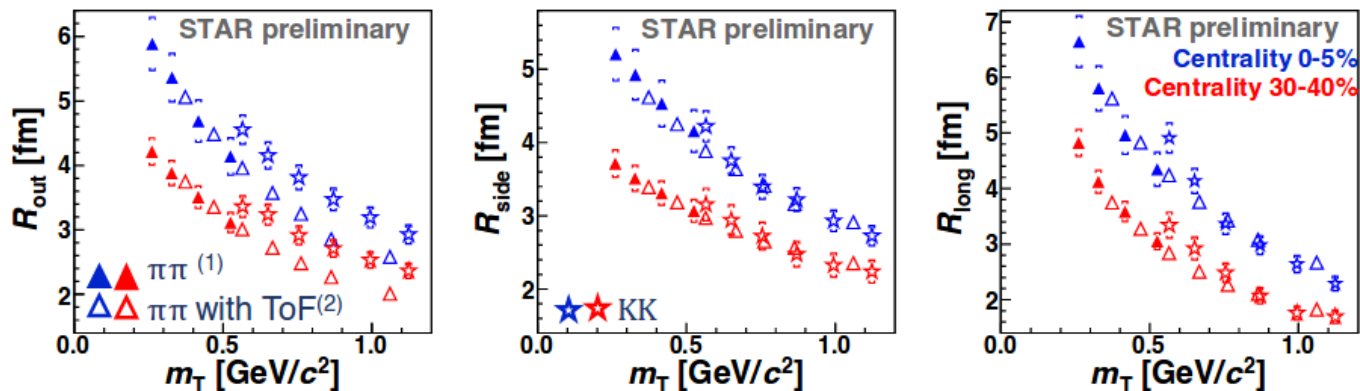
- Measured femtoscopic radii for positive and negative kaon pairs agree with each other within the uncertainties
- Extracted radii decrease with increasing transverse momentum – influence of the collective radial flow

S. Akkelin et al. Phys. Lett. B 356 (1995) 525





# Results from 200 GeV



- Extending transverse mass region (up to 1 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) using particle identification from the Time-Of-Flight detector
- Pion results are consistent with the previous analysis<sup>(1)</sup>
- $R_{side}$  trend for kaons is similar to that of pions
- $R_{out}$  and  $R_{long}$  of pion and kaon source radii follow different  $m_T$  dependences
- $R_{long}(K) > R_{long}(\pi)$ 
  - Contribution from long-lived resonances at the kinetic freeze-out? <sup>(3)</sup>

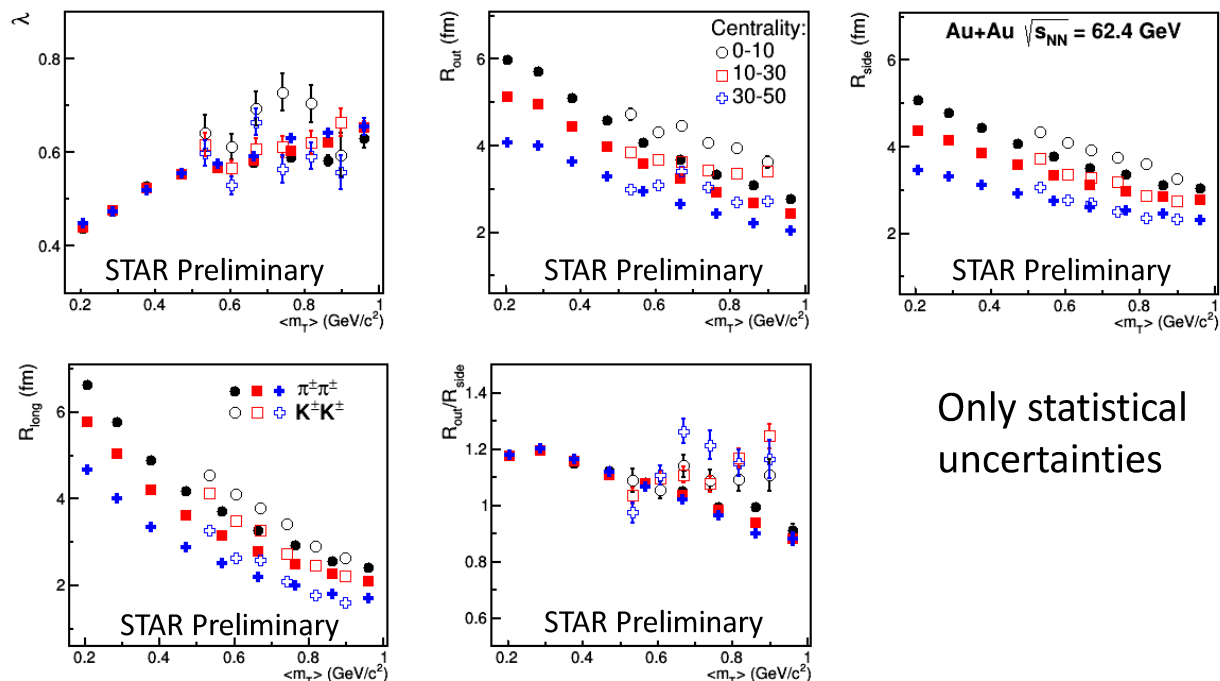
(1) STAR, Phys. Rev. C 92 (2015) 014904

(2) This analysis: STAR Preliminary

(3) Yu.M. Sinyukov, et al. Nucl. Phys. A 946 (2015) 227



# Results from 62.4 GeV

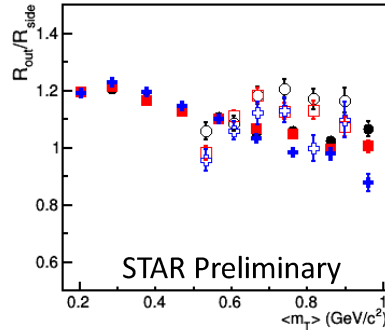
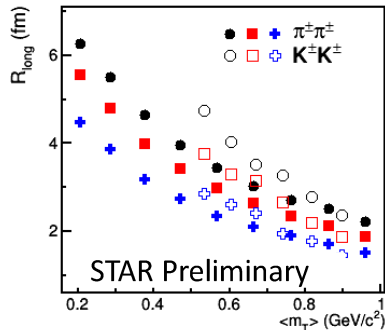
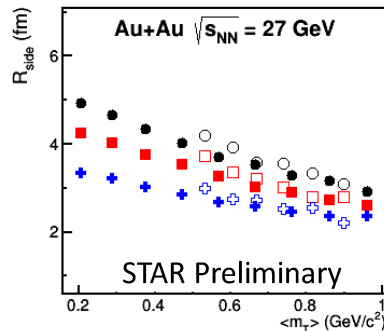
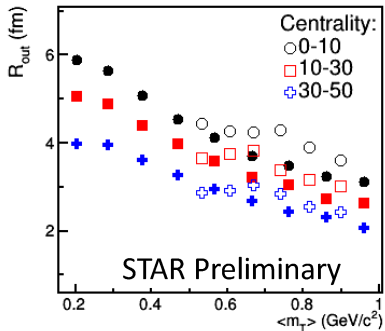
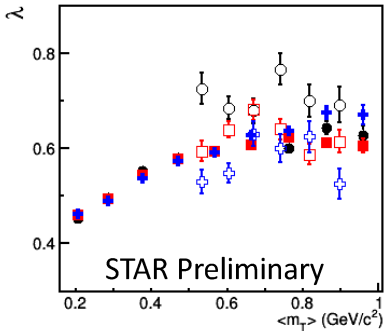


Only statistical uncertainties

- Kaon femtosopic radii in outward and longitudinal directions are generally larger than those for pions at the same  $m_T \rightarrow$  **breaking of the  $m_T$ -scaling**
- In the sideward direction, the pion and kaon radii are closer than in other directions



# Results from 27 GeV



Only statistical uncertainties

- Kaon femtoscopic radii in outward and longitudinal directions are generally larger than those for pions at the same  $m_T$   $\rightarrow$  breaking of the  $m_T$ -scaling
- In the sideward direction, the pion and kaon radii are similar



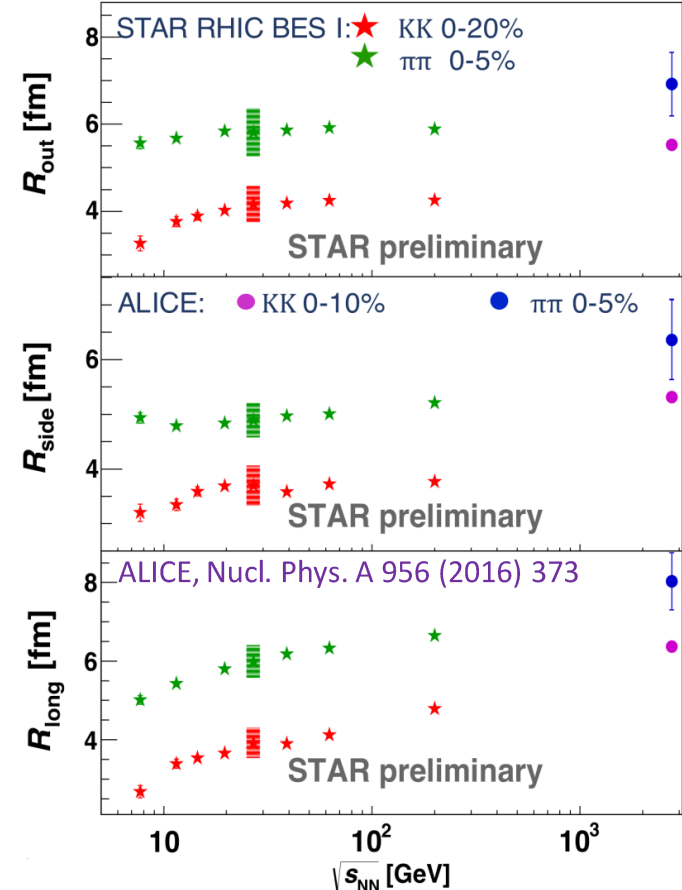
# Radii from Beam Energy Scan I

Shaded boxes represent systematic uncertainties

The extracted femtoscopic radii smoothly increase with increasing collision energy

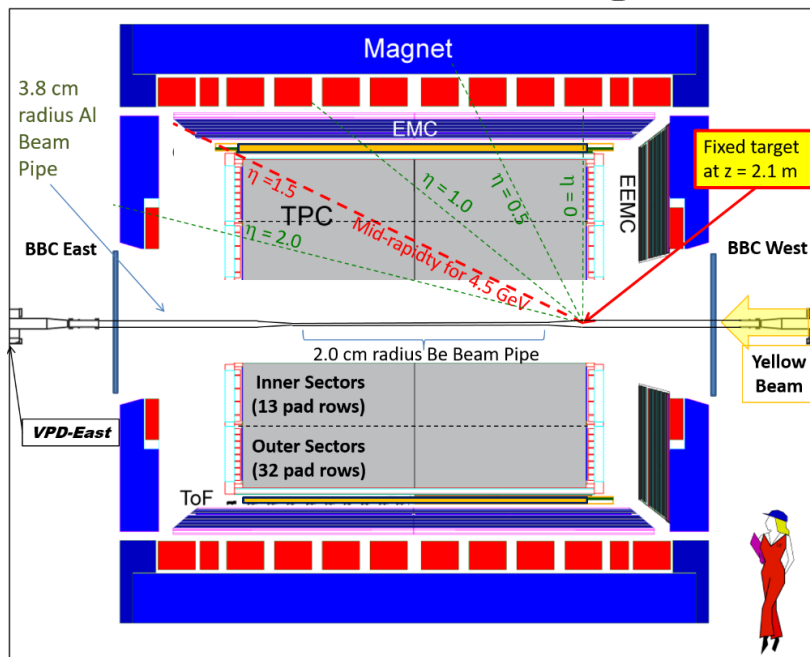
The values of  $R_{\text{out}}$  and  $R_{\text{side}}$  for both pions and kaons show a very small increase at the RHIC energies and slightly larger at the LHC

The values of  $R_{\text{long}}$  suggest that the system lives longer at the LHC energy

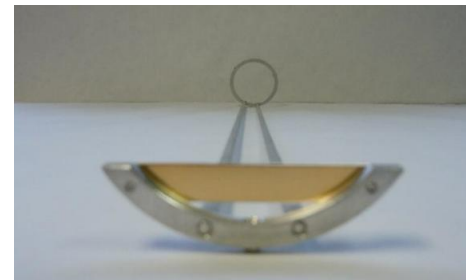




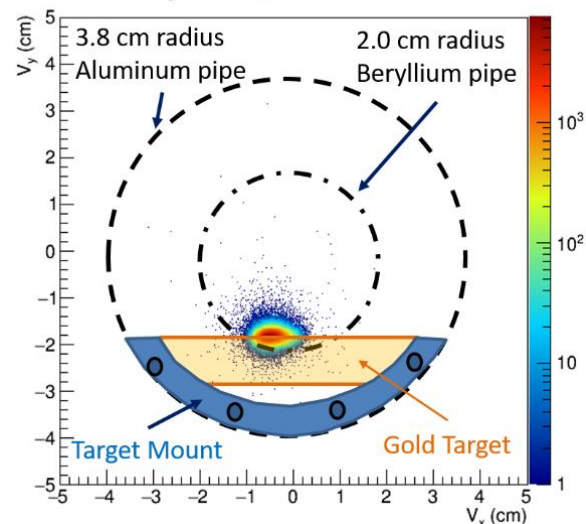
# The STAR Fixed-Target (FXT) Program



A 1 mm thick (4% inter. prob.) gold target



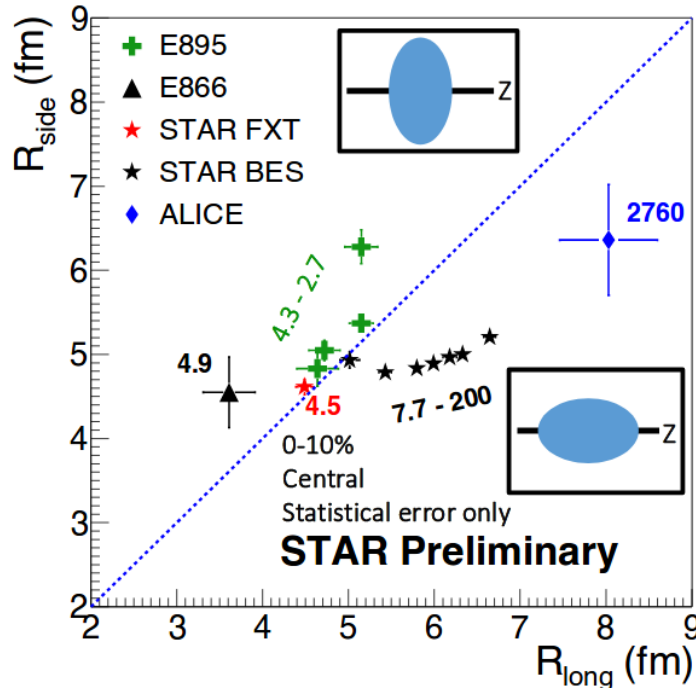
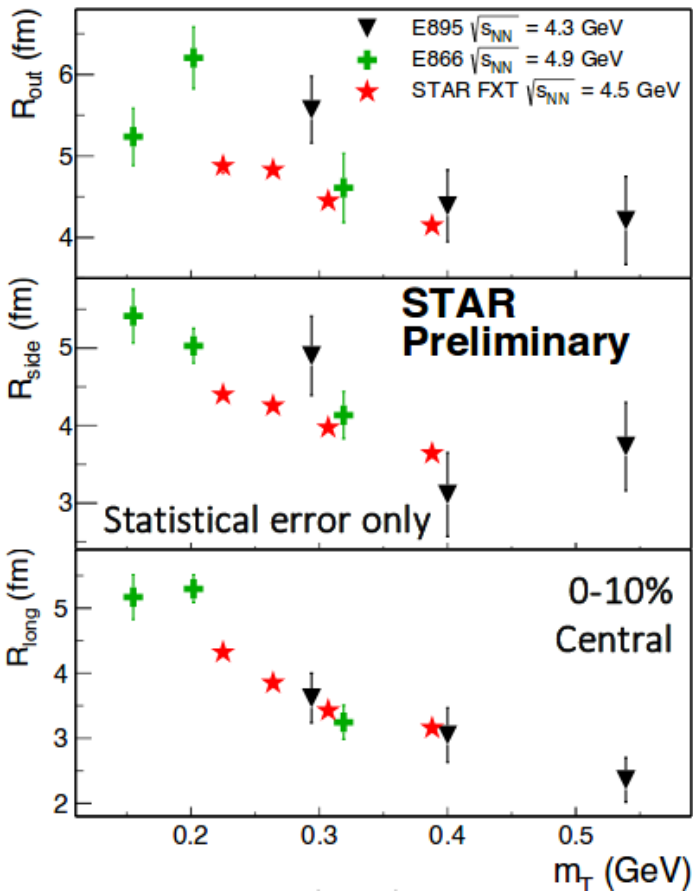
$V_y$  vs.  $V_x$  Distribution



- 1.3M events from half hour test run (2014), top 30% central trigger, Au+Au  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=4.5$  GeV
- Full data taking  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=3.0-7.7$  GeV starting 2018  
[RHIC Beam Use Request For Runs 18 and 19 \(The STAR Collaboration\)](#)



# Pion Femtoscscopy from FXT



E866. Phys. Rev. C 66 (2002) 054096  
 E895 .Phys. Rev. Lett. 84 (2000) 2798  
 ALICE. Phys. Rev. B 696 (2011) 328  
 STAR. Phys. Rev. C 92 (2015) 014904

- Consistent with results from AGS experiments
- Apparent source shape evolves from oblate to prolate, as energy increases
- Increased longitudinal expansion above FXT energy



# Exotics in the Strangeness Sector

## Standard model:

baryons (3 quarks), mesons (quark-antiquark)

## Quark Bag Model (1977):

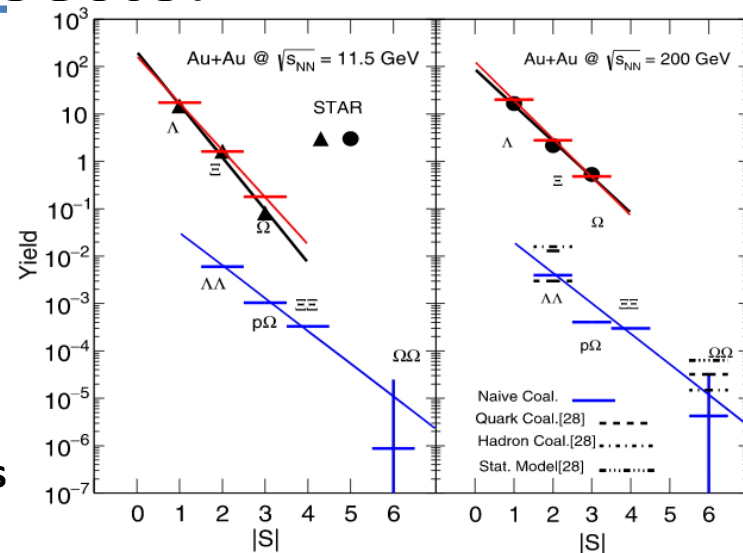
Jaffe predicted H-dibaryon ( $\rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$ ) made of six quarks (uuddss)

R. Jaffe, Phys. Rev. Lett. 38 (1977) 195

R. Jaffe, Phys. Ref. Lett. 38 (1977) 617(E)

## Exotic hadrons - long-standing challenge in hadron physics

Dibaryon systems:  $\Lambda\Lambda$ ,  $N\Omega$ ,  $\Xi\Xi$ ,  $\Omega\Omega$ , ...



N. Shah et al. Phys. Lett. B 754 (2016) 6

• Nucleon- $\Omega$  ( $N\Omega$ ): a strangeness=-3 dibaryon is stable against strong decay

T. Goldman et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 59 (1987) 627

• Heavy-ion collisions:

H. Pang et al., Phys. Rev. C69 (2004) 065207

H. Pang et al., Phys. Rev. C70 (2004) 035204

– Hot and dense, strongly interacting partonic matter

– Good environment for exotic hadron production



# $p\Omega$ Dibaryon

The ways to study

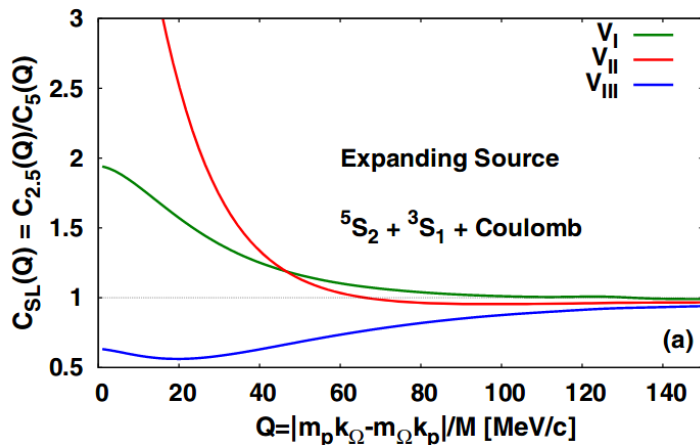
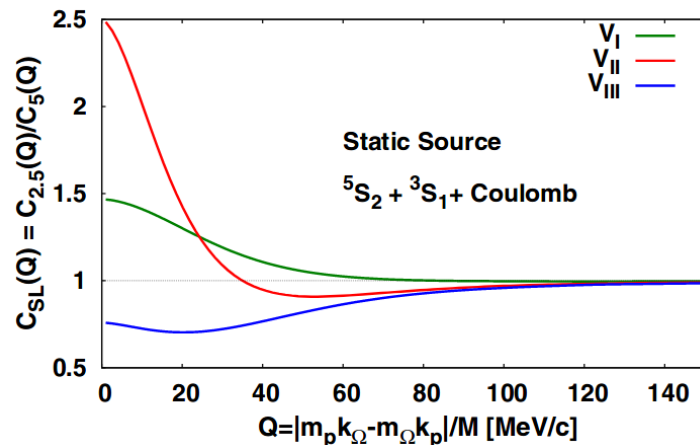
- Invariant mass method
  - Large combinatorial background
- Two-particle correlation functions
  - Final state interaction, exotic particles

The ratio of correlation function between small and large collision systems can be used to extract strong interactions between proton and  $\Omega$

K. Morita et al. Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016), 031901 (R)

TABLE I. Binding energy ( $E_B$ ), scattering length ( $a_0$ ), and effective range ( $r_{\text{eff}}$ ) with and without the Coulomb attraction in the  $p\Omega$  system. Physical masses of the proton and  $\Omega$  are used.

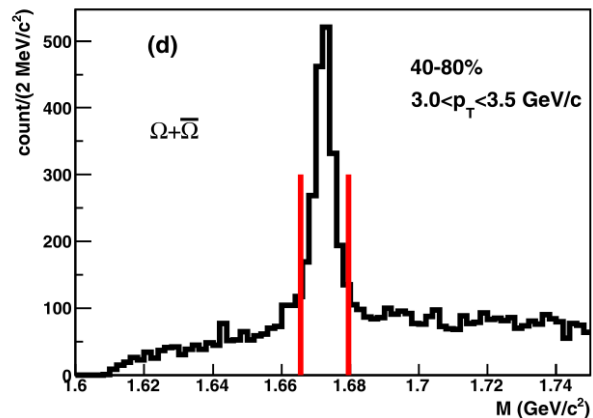
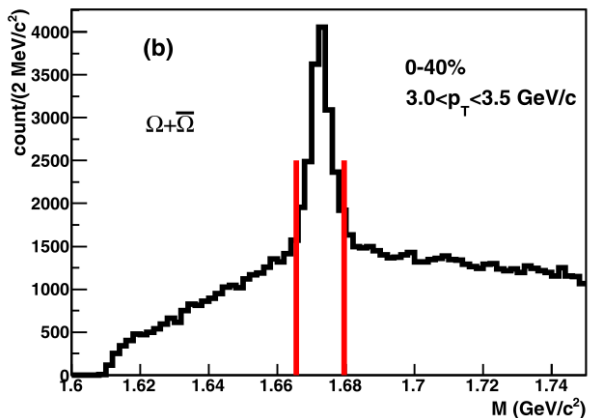
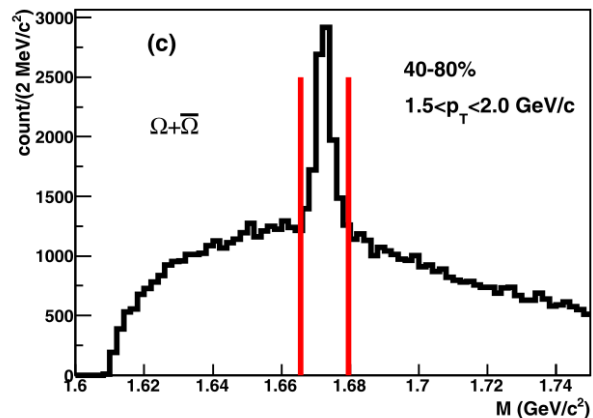
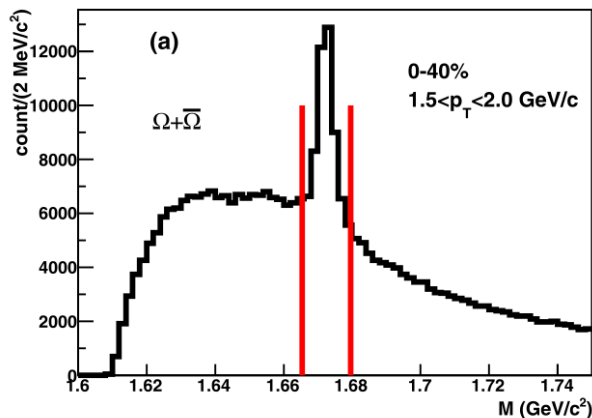
| Spin-2 $p\Omega$ potentials |                       | $V_I$ | $V_{II}$ | $V_{III}$ |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------|----------|-----------|
| Without Coulomb             | $E_B$ (MeV)           |       | 0.05     | 24.8      |
|                             | $a_0$ (fm)            | -1.0  | 23.1     | 1.60      |
|                             | $r_{\text{eff}}$ (fm) | 1.15  | 0.95     | 0.65      |
| With Coulomb                | $E_B$ (MeV)           |       | 6.3      | 26.9      |
|                             | $a_0$ (fm)            | -1.12 | 5.79     | 1.29      |
|                             | $r_{\text{eff}}$ (fm) | 1.16  | 0.96     | 0.65      |



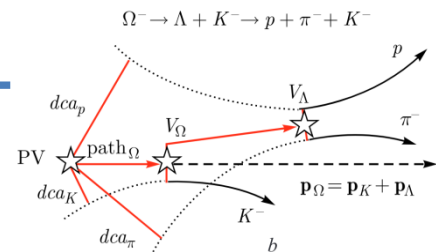




# Hyperon Reconstruction



STAR. Phys. Lett. B 790 (2019) 490-497



- Daughter tracks identified using information from TPC and TOF

- Topological reconstruction

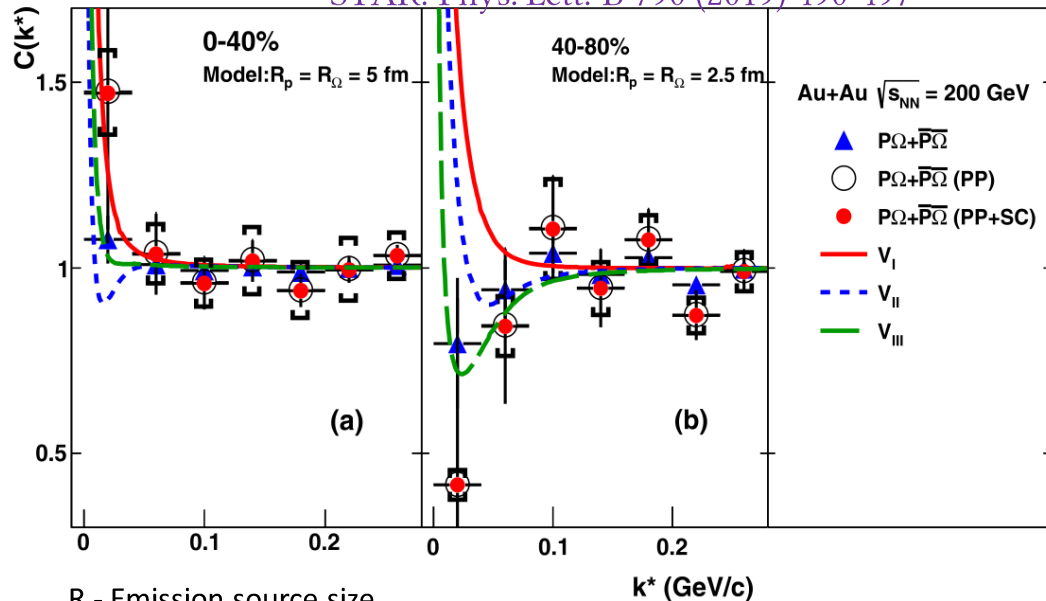
- 0-40% centrality:  $\Omega$   
38065 ± 195 proton- $\Omega$   
8816 ± 94 antiproton-

- 40-80% centrality:  $\Omega$   
3037 ± 55 proton- $\Omega$   
679 ± 26 antiproton-



# $p\Omega$ Correlation Functions

STAR. Phys. Lett. B 790 (2019) 490-497



R - Emission source size  
Caps – Systematic uncertainties

Pair purity,  $P(k^*)$ , correction procedure (**PP**):

$$C'(k^*) = \frac{C_{\text{measured}}(k^*) - 1}{P(k^*)} + 1$$

where  $P(k^*)$  was calculated as  $\text{Sig}/(\text{Sig}+\text{Bkg})$  for hyperons, and purity of the proton is a product of identification probability and fraction of primary protons (from HRG)

Correlation functions have been corrected for the momentum resolution effect (**SC**):

$$C(k^*) = \frac{C'(k^*)C_{\text{in}}(k^*)}{C_{\text{res}}(k^*)}$$

Binding energy ( $E_b$ ), scattering length ( $a_0$ ) and effective range ( $r_{\text{eff}}$ ) for the Spin-2 proton- $\Omega$  potentials [24].

| Spin-2 $p\Omega$ potentials | $V_I$ | $V_{II}$ | $V_{III}$ |
|-----------------------------|-------|----------|-----------|
| $E_b$ (MeV)                 | –     | 6.3      | 26.9      |
| $a_0$ (fm)                  | –1.12 | 5.79     | 1.29      |
| $r_{\text{eff}}$ (fm)       | 1.16  | 0.96     | 0.65      |

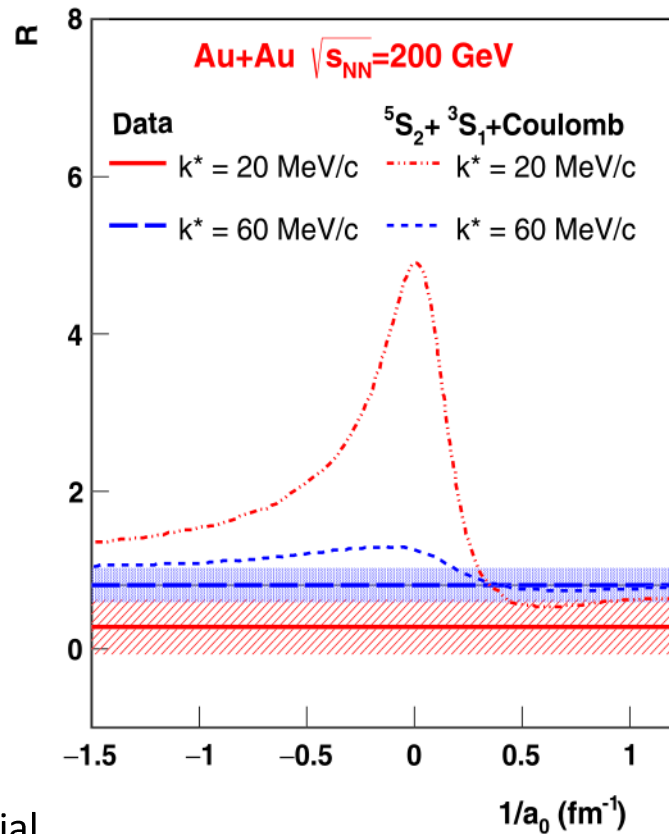
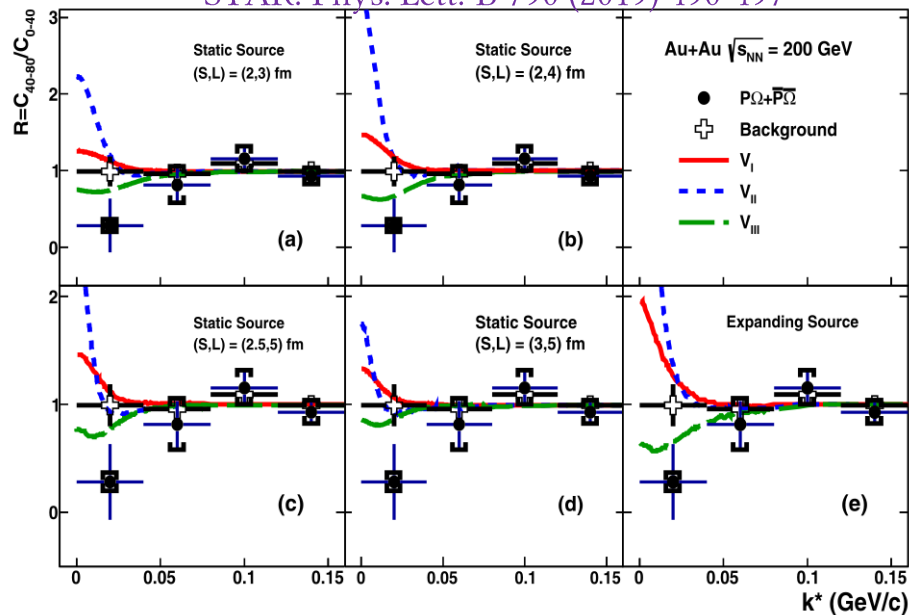
K. Morita et al. Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016), 031901 (R)

Comparison of measured  $p\Omega$  correlation functions from 0-40% and 40-80% central Au+Au collisions with the predictions for  $p\Omega$  interaction potentials  $V_I$ ,  $V_{II}$ , and  $V_{III}$



# Small to Large System Ratios

STAR. Phys. Lett. B 790 (2019) 490-497



- Data favor a positive scattering length for the  $p\Omega$  interaction
- The positive scattering length and the measured ratio of the  $p\Omega$  correlation\* function from peripheral to central collisions less than unity for  $k < 40$  MeV/c (within  $1\sigma$ ) favors the  $p\Omega$  interaction potential  $V_{III}$  with  $E_b \sim 27$  MeV for proton and  $\Omega$



# Summary

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- BES-I results
  - Centrality and  $m_T$  dependence of the  $\pi\pi$  and KK femtoscopic parameters has been measured
  - Pion and kaon radii seem to follow different  $m_T$  dependence
  - Model comparisons are in progress
- FXT results:
  - Consistent with results from AGS
  - Apparent source shape evolves from oblate to prolate, as energy increases
- $p\Omega$ :
  - The first measurement of the  $p\Omega$  correlation functions in heavy-ion collisions
  - Due to limited statistics, it is not possible to extract the interaction parameters
  - The measured ratio of CFs from peripheral to central collisions within  $1\sigma$  indicates that the scattering length is positive for the  $p\Omega$  interaction and favors the  $p\Omega$  bound state hypothesis



# Backup slides

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# Hyperon selection criteria

Selection criteria for  $\Omega$  and  $\bar{\Omega}$  reconstruction.

STAR. Phys. Lett. B 790 (2019) 490-497

| Selection criteria   | 0–40%                     |                           | 40–80%                    |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | $p_T < 2.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ | $p_T > 2.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ | All $p_T$                 |
| $\Omega$ DCA   | $< 0.6 \text{ cm}$        | $< 0.7 \text{ cm}$        | $< 0.8 \text{ cm}$        |
| $\Lambda$ DCA  | $> 0.4 \text{ cm}$        | $> 0.3 \text{ cm}$        | $> 0.3 \text{ cm}$        |
| $DL(\Omega)$   | $> 4.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 4.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 4.0 \text{ cm}$        |
| $DL(\Lambda)$  | $> 6.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 6.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 5.0 \text{ cm}$        |
| $ (V_\Omega - V_{PV}) \times p_\Omega  /  V_\Omega - V_{PV}   p_\Omega $ | $< 0.05$                  | $< 0.08$                  | $< 0.15$                  |
| $DL(\Omega) < DL(\Lambda)$   | Yes                       | Yes                       | Yes                       |
| proton DCA   | $> 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $> 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $> 0.6 \text{ cm}$        |
| pion DCA   | $> 2.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 2.0 \text{ cm}$        | $> 1.8 \text{ cm}$        |
| bachelor DCA   | $> 1.2 \text{ cm}$        | $> 1.2 \text{ cm}$        | $> 1.0 \text{ cm}$        |
| proton to pion DCA   | $< 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $< 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $< 1.0 \text{ cm}$        |
| $\Lambda$ DCA to bachelor  | $< 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $< 0.8 \text{ cm}$        | $< 1.0 \text{ cm}$        |
| $ M_\Lambda - 1.1156  \text{ GeV}/c^2$                                   | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ |
| $ M_\Omega - 1.672  \text{ GeV}/c^2$                                     | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ | $< 0.007 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ |