

# Energy Dependence of $\phi$ -meson $v_2$ in STAR at RHIC

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# Outline :

- Introduction and Motivation
- STAR detector set-up
- Flow Analysis Methods
- Particle Identification
- Results
- Conclusion

# Introduction and Motivation

## Why $v_2$ of $\phi$ -meson is important ?

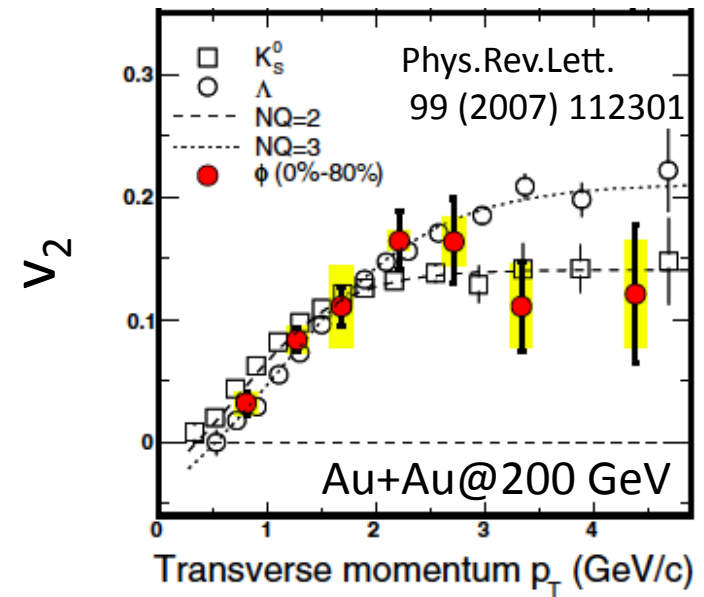
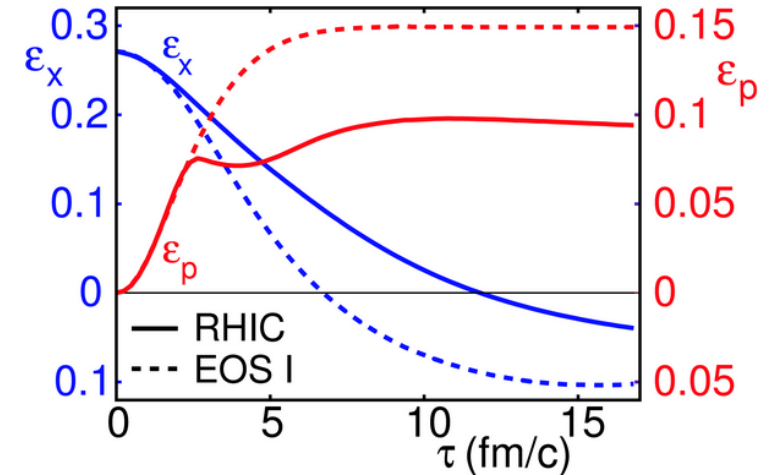
- ✓  $v_2$  is early time phenomenon and *hadronic cross-section* of  $\phi$ -meson is small

→  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  can retain information of the initial system at partonic level.

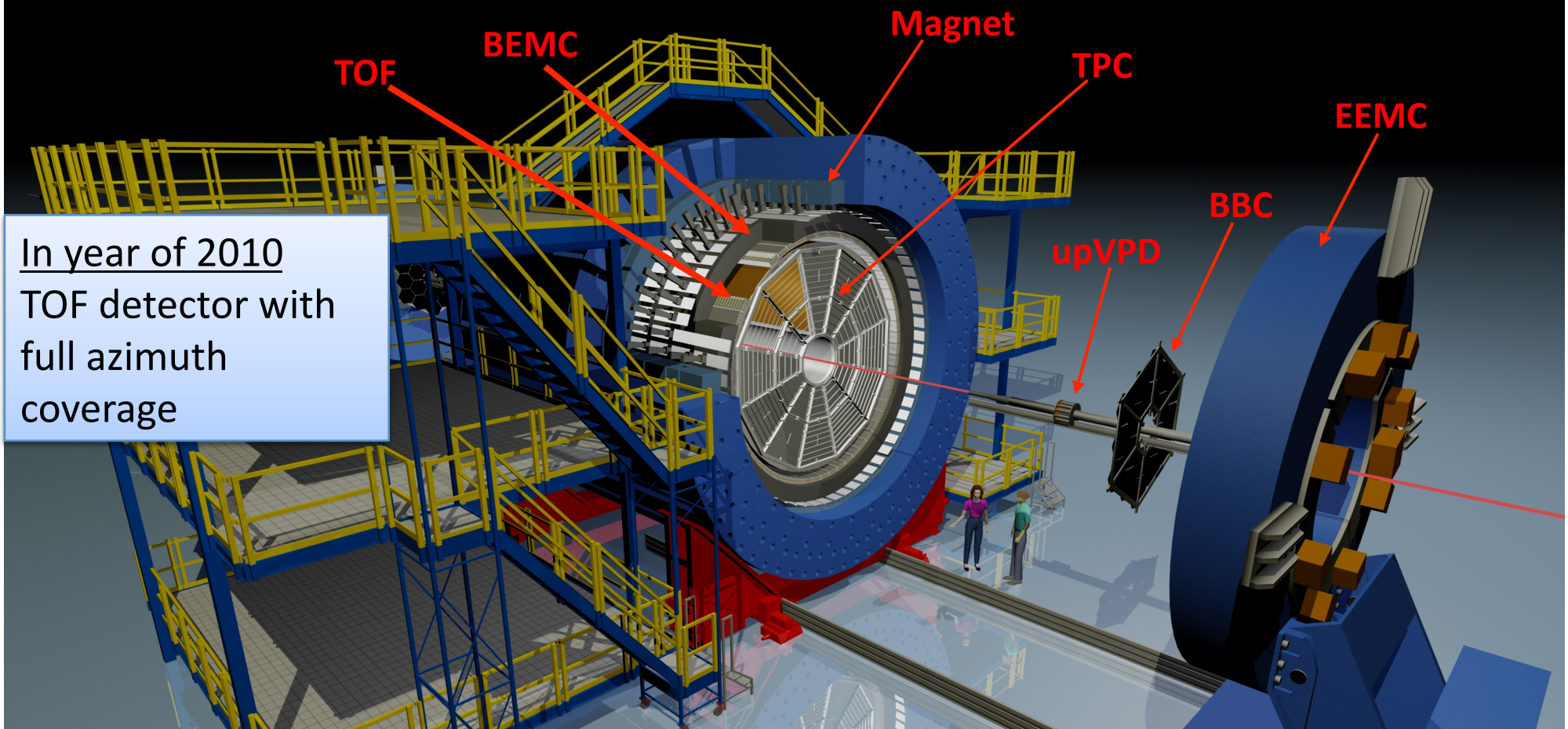
$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\rho N} &\sim 3 \sigma_{\phi N} & \sigma_{\Lambda N} &\sim 3.5 \sigma_{\phi N} \\ \sigma_{\pi N} &\sim 2.6 \sigma_{\phi N} & \sigma_{NN} &\sim 4 \sigma_{\phi N} \\ \sigma_{KN} &\sim 2.1 \sigma_{\phi N} & & \end{aligned}$$

- ✓ Mass of  $\phi$ -meson ( 1.019 GeV) is comparable to mass of lightest baryon
- comparison of  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  with that of other particles can help to differentiate between **mass type** and **meson/baryon** type dependence of particle production. Will tell us about partonic collectivity.

P. Klob, U. W. Heinz  
Nucl. Phys. A715, (2003) 653c



# The Solenoid Tracker At RHIC (STAR)



In year of 2010  
TOF detector with  
full azimuth  
coverage

Data set	Trigger	Vz cut	$V_R = \text{sqrt}(v_x^2 + v_y^2)$ cut	Number of good events
Au+Au@39 GeV	Minimum bias	+ - 40 cm	< 2 cm	169 M
Au+Au@11.5 GeV	Minimum bias	+ - 50 cm	< 2cm	11 M
Au+Au@7.7 GeV	Minimum bias	+ - 70 cm	< 2cm	4.2 M

# Flow Analysis methods

- Full Event Plane Method :
  1. Flow track from  $-1.0 < \eta < 1.0$ .
  2. Particle of interest from  $-1.0 < \eta < 1.0$

✓ Affected by non flow correlations

- $\eta$  Sub Event Plane Method : Define 2 independent group of particles with a constant  $\eta$  gap

✓ Suppresses short-range correlations

## ❖ Event Plane Resolution :

- Correlate subevent planes

$$\langle \cos[n(\Psi_n^a - \Psi_n^b)] \rangle$$

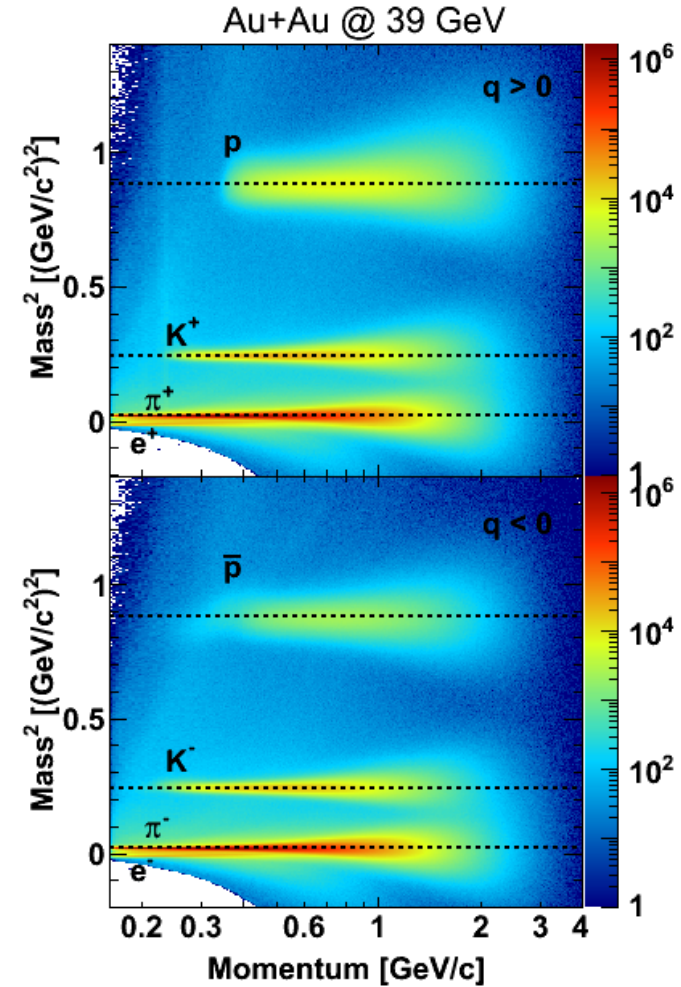
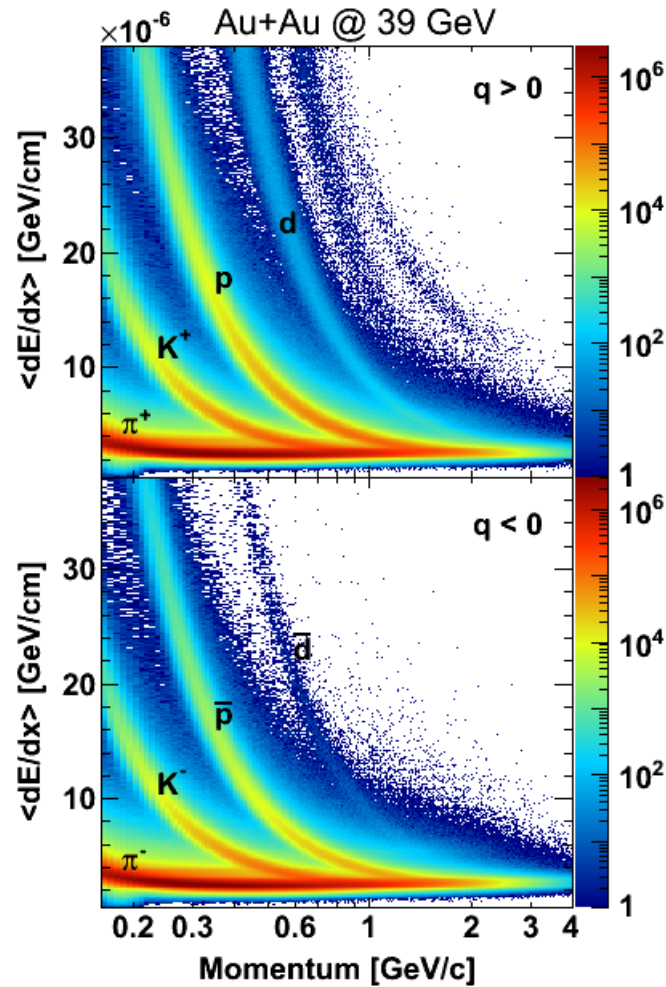
- Subevent plane resolution

$$\text{resSub} \equiv \langle \cos(n(\Psi_n^a - \Psi_{RP})) \rangle = \sqrt{\langle \cos(n(\Psi_n^a - \Psi_n^b)) \rangle}$$

- Full event plane resolution

$$\text{res} \equiv \langle \cos(n(\Psi_n - \Psi_{RP})) \rangle \leq \sqrt{2} \text{resSub}$$

# Particle Identification

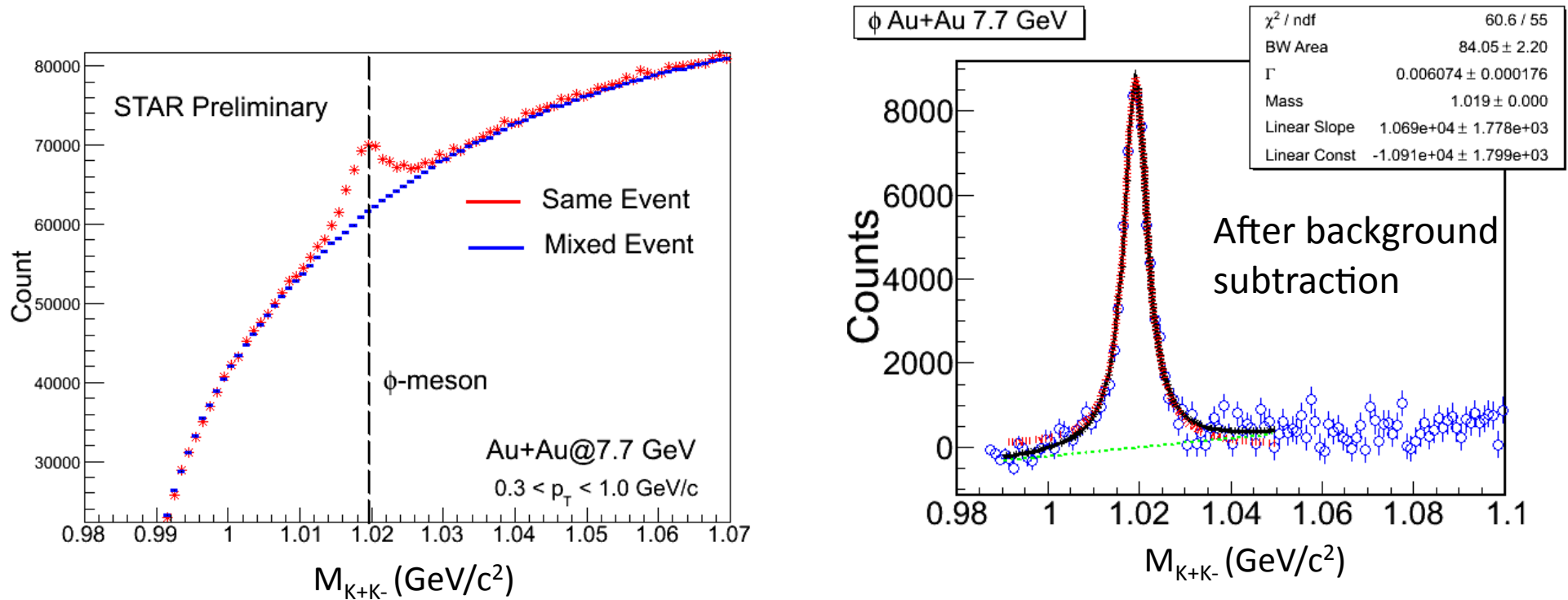


**dE/dx PID:** pion/kaon:  $p_T \sim 0.6$  GeV/c;

**With full TOF :** pion/kaon:  $p_T \sim 1.6$  GeV/c;

# $\phi$ –meson reconstruction

Decay mode :  $\phi \longrightarrow K^+ + K^-$ , ( Branching ratio 49.2 %)



- ✓ Briet-Wigner function for signal fit and 1<sup>st</sup> order polynomial for residual background

$$B.W = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{A\Gamma_\phi}{(m - m_\phi)^2 + \left(\frac{\Gamma_\phi}{2}\right)^2} \right]$$

# $v_2$ extraction methods for resonance particle

## Invariant Mass Method

Fit  $v_2$  (obs.) vs  $m_{inv}$  using :

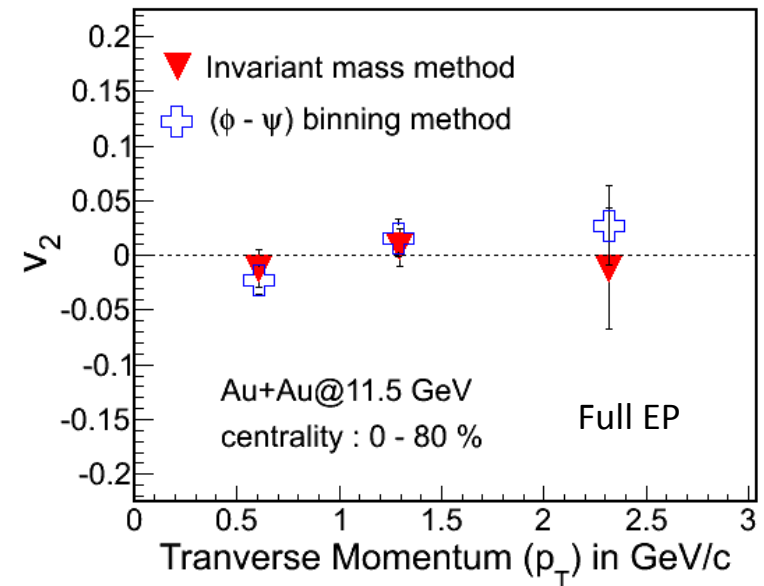
$$v_2^{Sig+Bg}(m_{inv}) = \langle \cos(2(\Phi - \Psi)) \rangle = v_2^{Sig} \cdot \frac{Sig}{Sig + Bg}(m_{inv}) + v_2^{Bg} \cdot \frac{Bg}{Sig + Bg}(m_{inv})$$

Assume  $v_2^{Bg}(m_{inv}) = p_0 + p_1 m_{inv} + p_2 m_{inv}^2 + p_3 m_{inv}^3$

## $(\phi - \psi)$ Binning Method

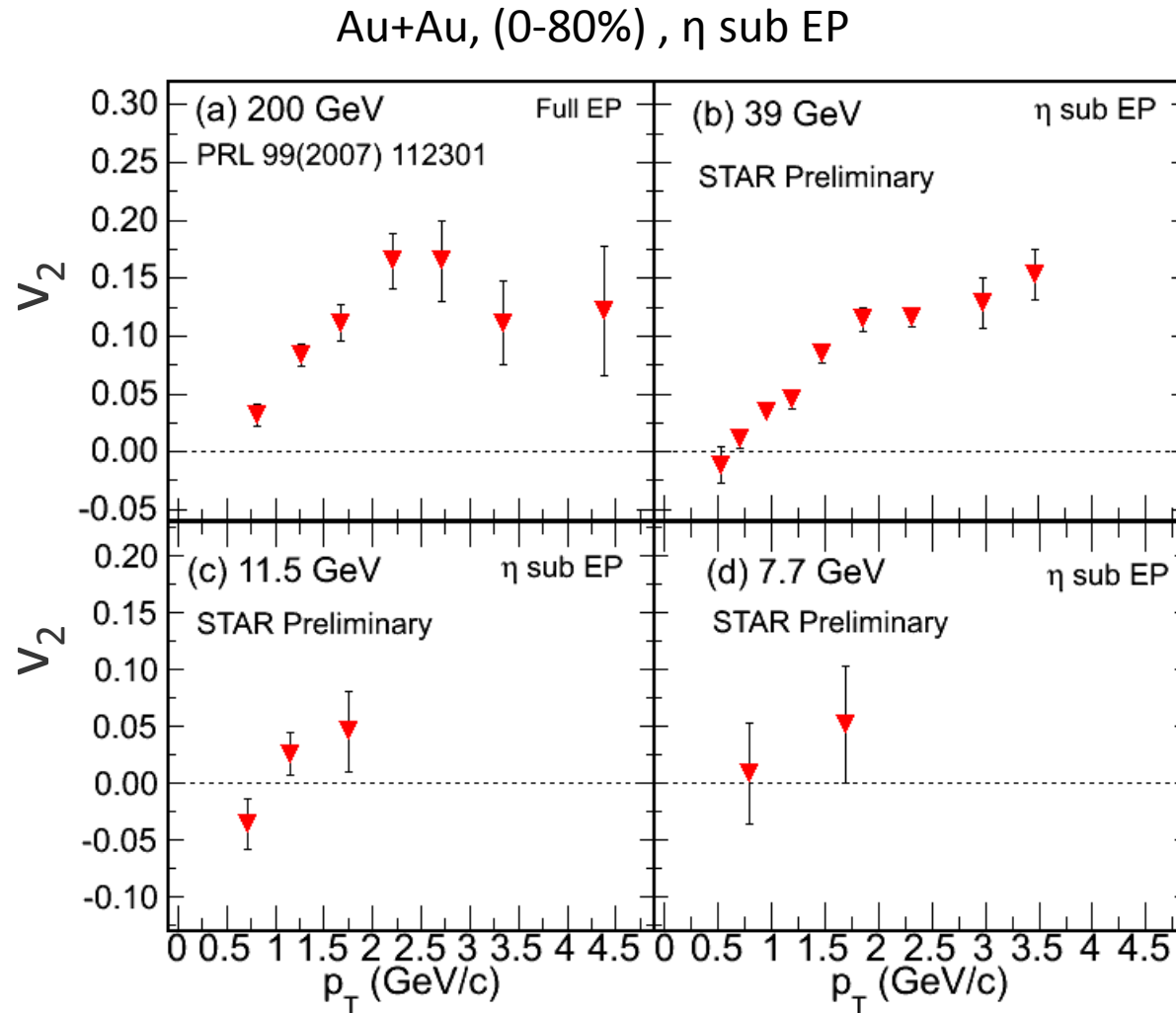
Raw  $\phi$ -meson yield as a function of  $(\Phi - \Psi)$  is fitted with

$$\phi_{yield}(\Phi - \Psi) = p_0 \cdot (1 + 2 \cdot v_2 \cdot \cos(\Phi - \Psi))$$



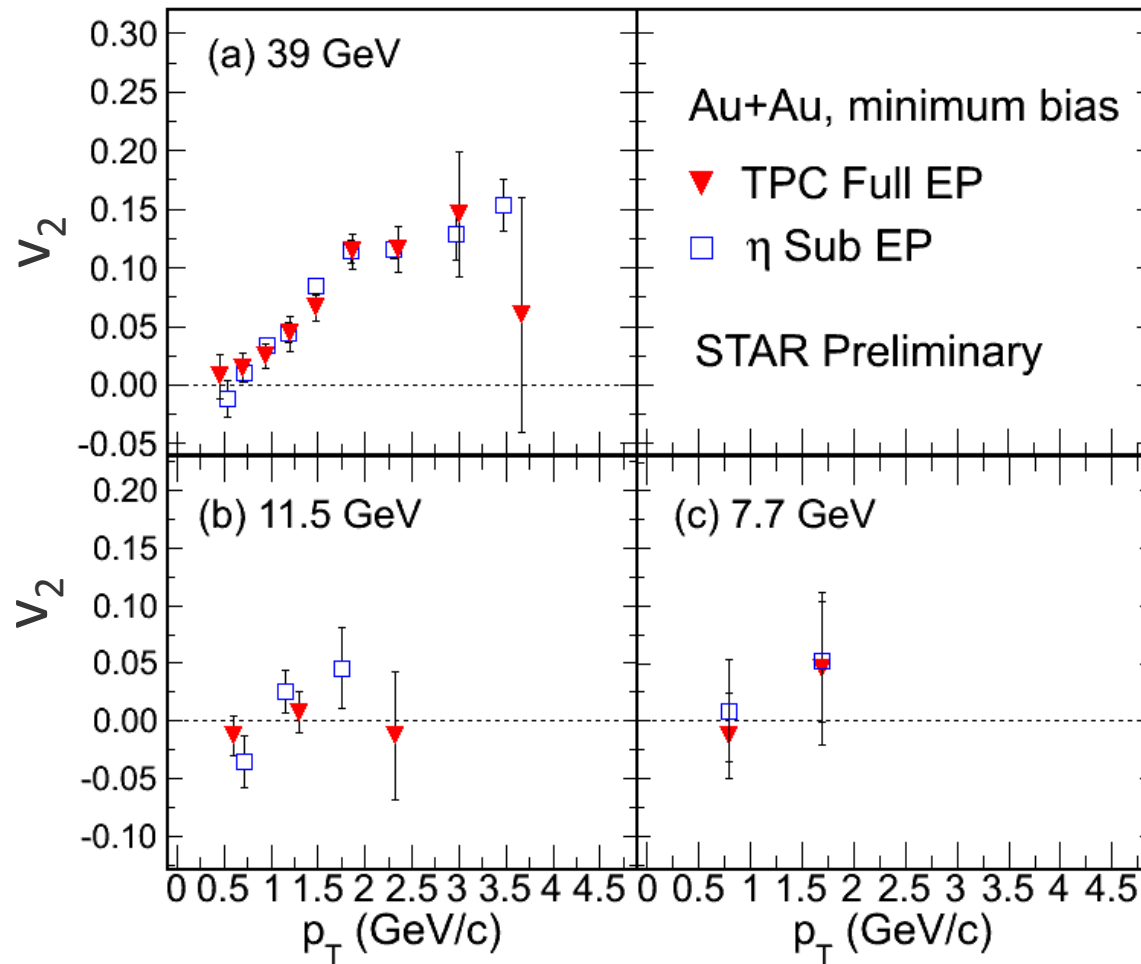


# $\phi$ -meson $v_2$ @ 7.7, 11.5, 39 and 200 GeV



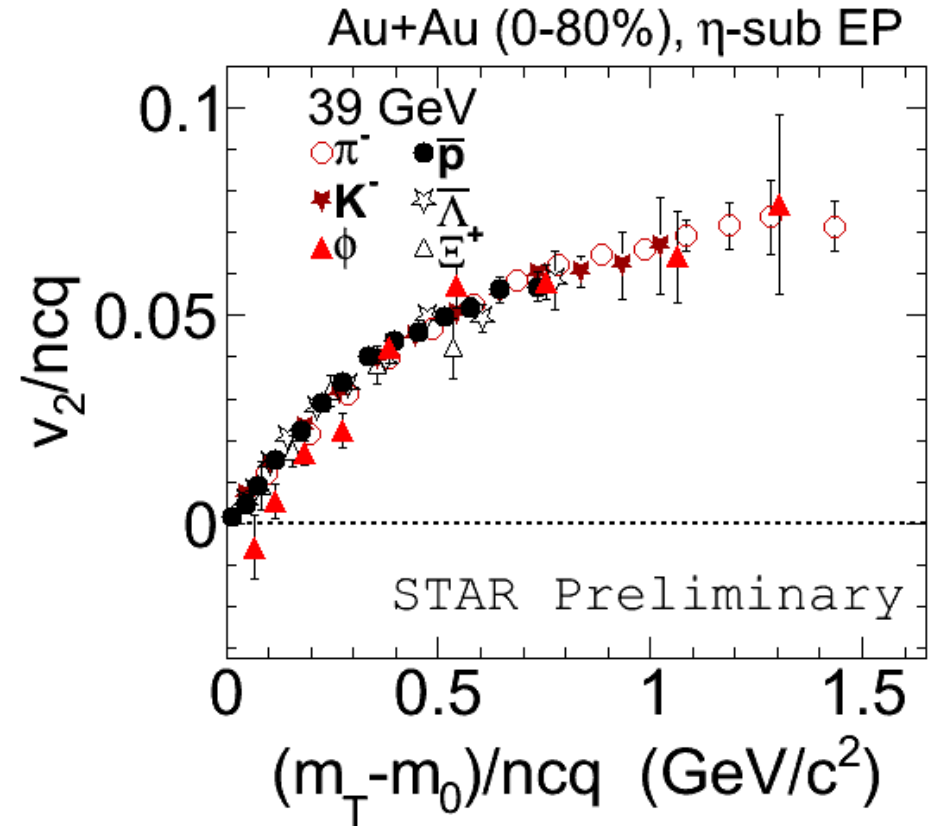
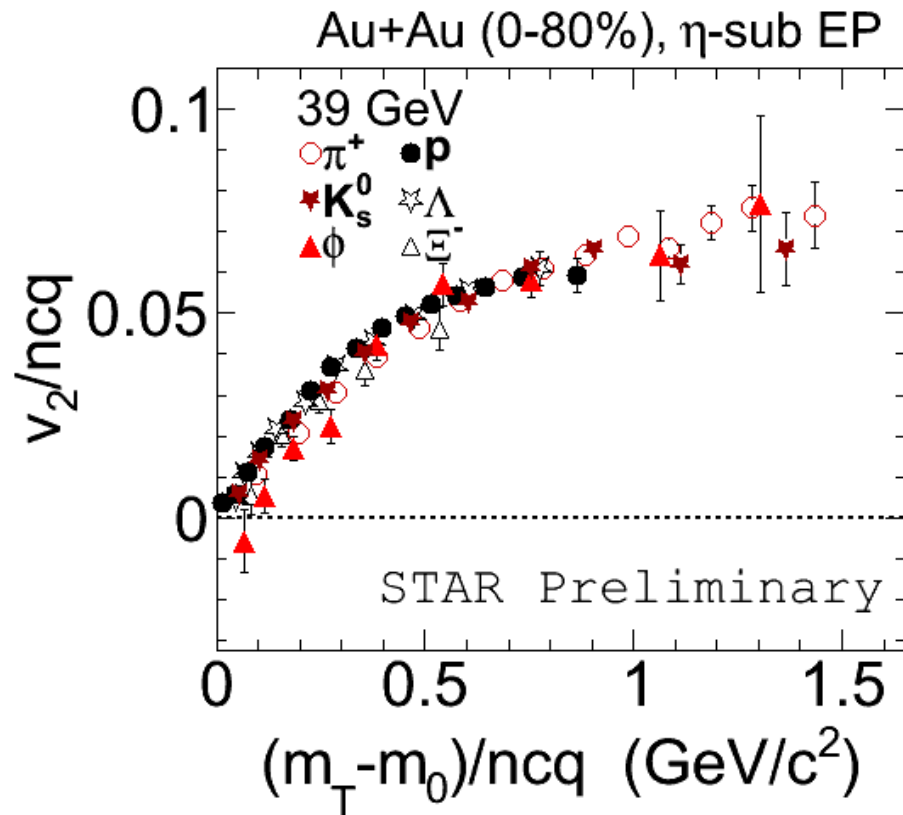
- $\phi$ -meson  $v_2(p_T)$  @ 11.5 GeV is smaller than 39 and 200 GeV

# $\phi$ -meson $v_2$ from different method



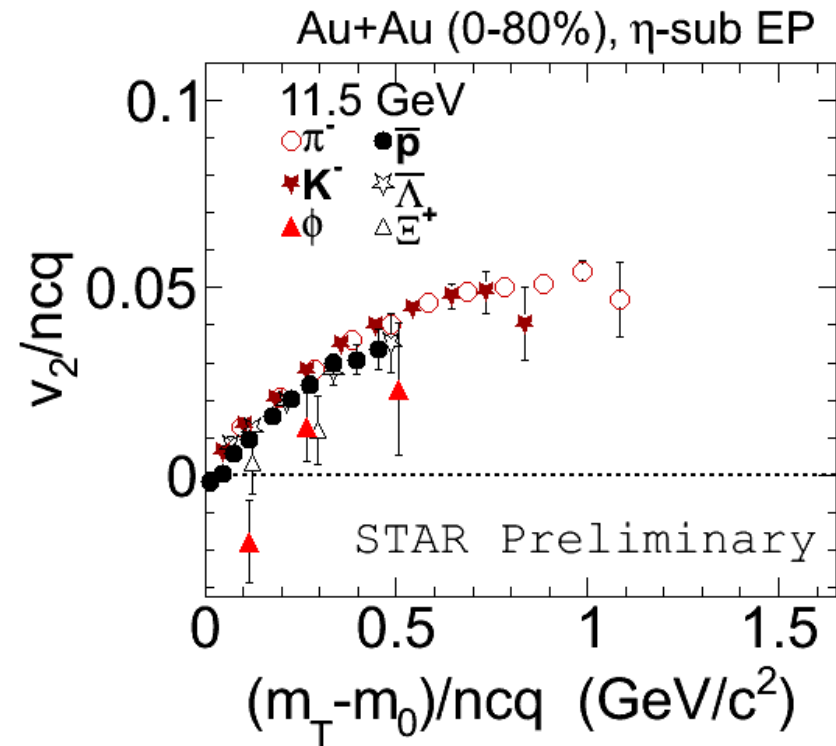
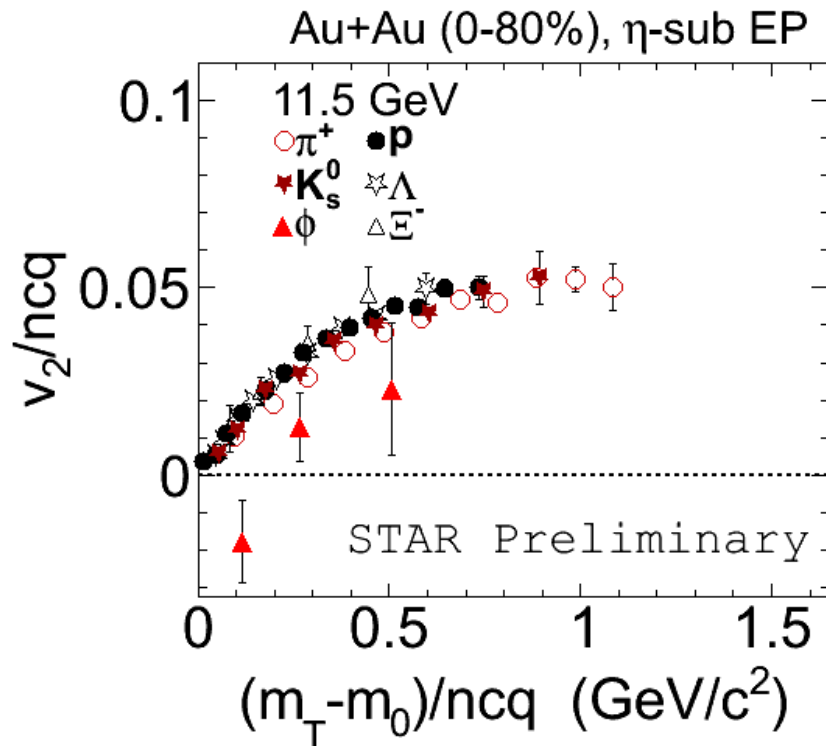
Results are consistent from two different methods

# NCQ Scaling test @39 GeV



- $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  ( $p_T$ ) @39 GeV shows NCQ scaling

# NCQ Scaling test @11.5 GeV

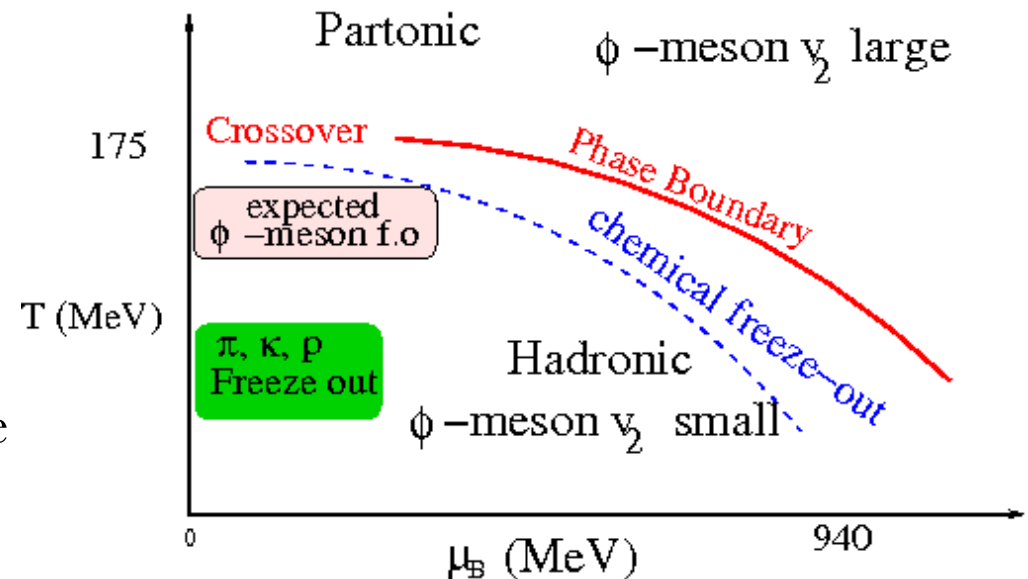


- $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  ( $p_T$ ) @11.5 GeV shows different trend than other hadrons
- Mean deviation of  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  from the pion  $v_2$  is  $\sim 2.6 \sigma$
- Small or zero  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$   $\longrightarrow$  hadronic matter

Ref: B. Mohanty and N. Xu, J.Phys. G 36,064022(2009)

# Conclusion

- We present  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2(p_T)$  results at 7.7, 11.5 and 39 GeV.
- $\phi$ -meson  $v_2(p_T)$  at 39 GeV follows NCQ scaling.  
partonic collectivity @39 GeV as observed @200 GeV
- $\phi$ -meson  $v_2(p_T)$  @11.5 GeV shows different trend than other hadrons.  
Mean deviation of  $\phi$ -meson  $v_2$  from the pion  $v_2$  is  $\sim 2.6 \sigma$
- Dominance of hadronic interactions over partonic interactions with decrease in beam energy.



# Back-up

