

WPCF 2022 – 15th Workshop on Particle Correlations and Femtoscopy

# Measurement of nuclear deformation in relativistic heavy-ion collisions at STAR

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# Nuclei shape, radial structure and nucleonic cluster

A. Trzcinska et al., PRL87, 082501(2001)

M. Centelles et al., PRL102, 122502(2009)

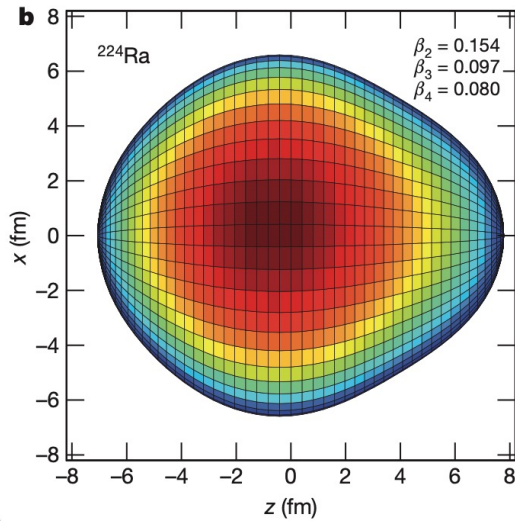
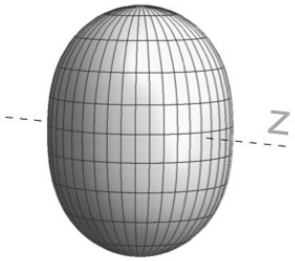
$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r-R(\theta, \phi))/a_0}}$$

$$R(\theta, \phi) = R_0 \left( 1 + \beta_2 [\cos \gamma Y_{2,0} + \sin \gamma Y_{2,2}] + \beta_3 \sum_{m=-3}^3 \alpha_{3,m} Y_{3,m} + \beta_4 \sum_{m=-4}^4 \alpha_{4,m} Y_{4,m} \right)$$

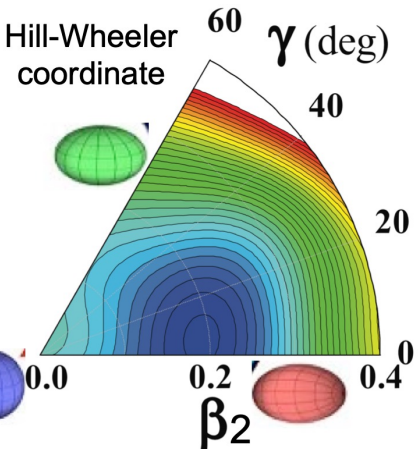
Octupole (pear-shaped) deformation

Quadrupole

$$1 + \beta_2 Y_{2,0}(\theta, \phi)$$



L. O. Gaffney et al., Nature497, 199(2013)



Triaxial spheroid

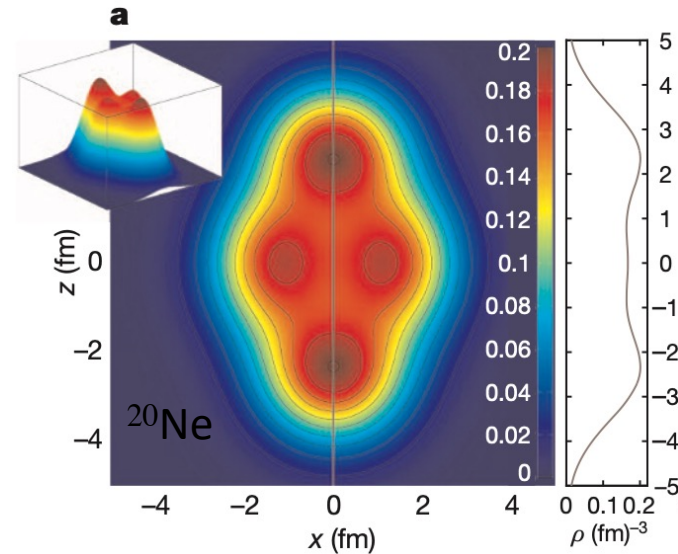
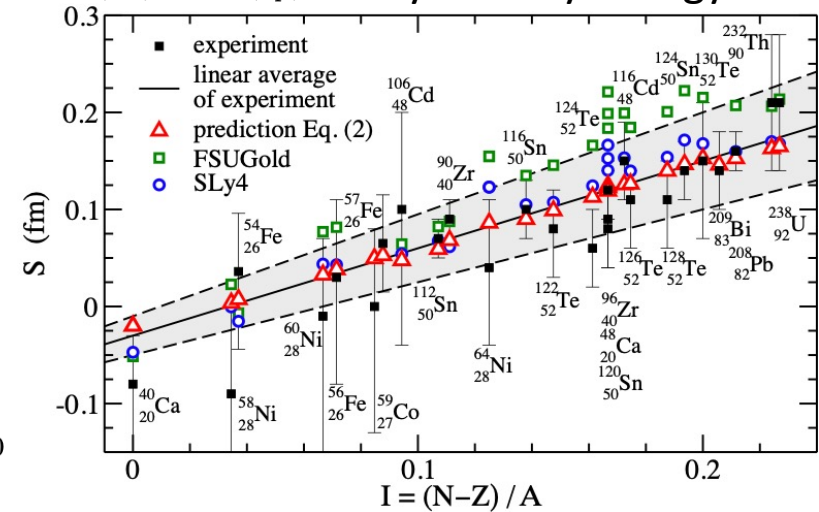
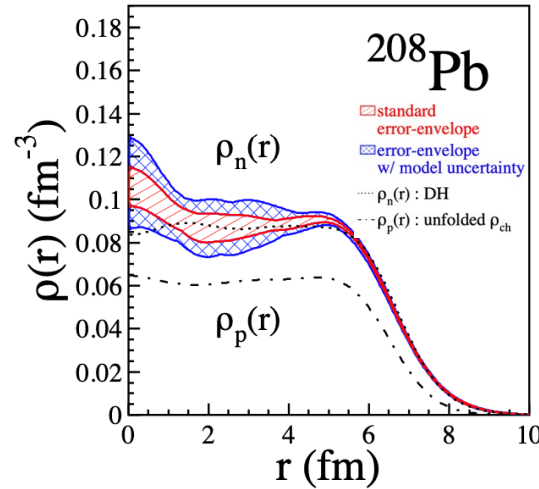
A. N. Andreyev et al., Nature405, 430(2000)

S. Cwiok et al., Nature433, 705(2005)

Neutron skin

$$\Delta r_{np} = \langle r_n^2 \rangle^{1/2} - \langle r_p^2 \rangle^{1/2}$$

Symmetry energy

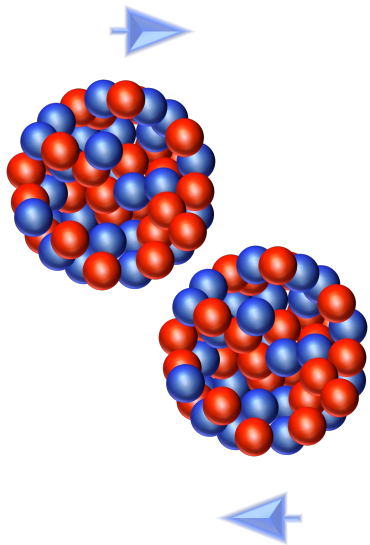


Nucleonic clustering in light nuclei

J.P. Ebran et al., Nature478, 341(2012)

# Relativistic heavy-ion collisions and nuclear structure

## Nuclear Structure



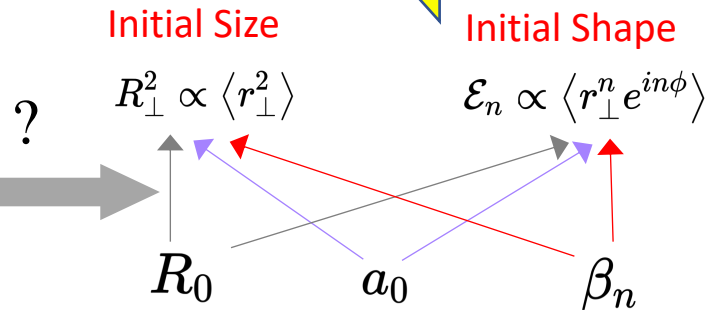
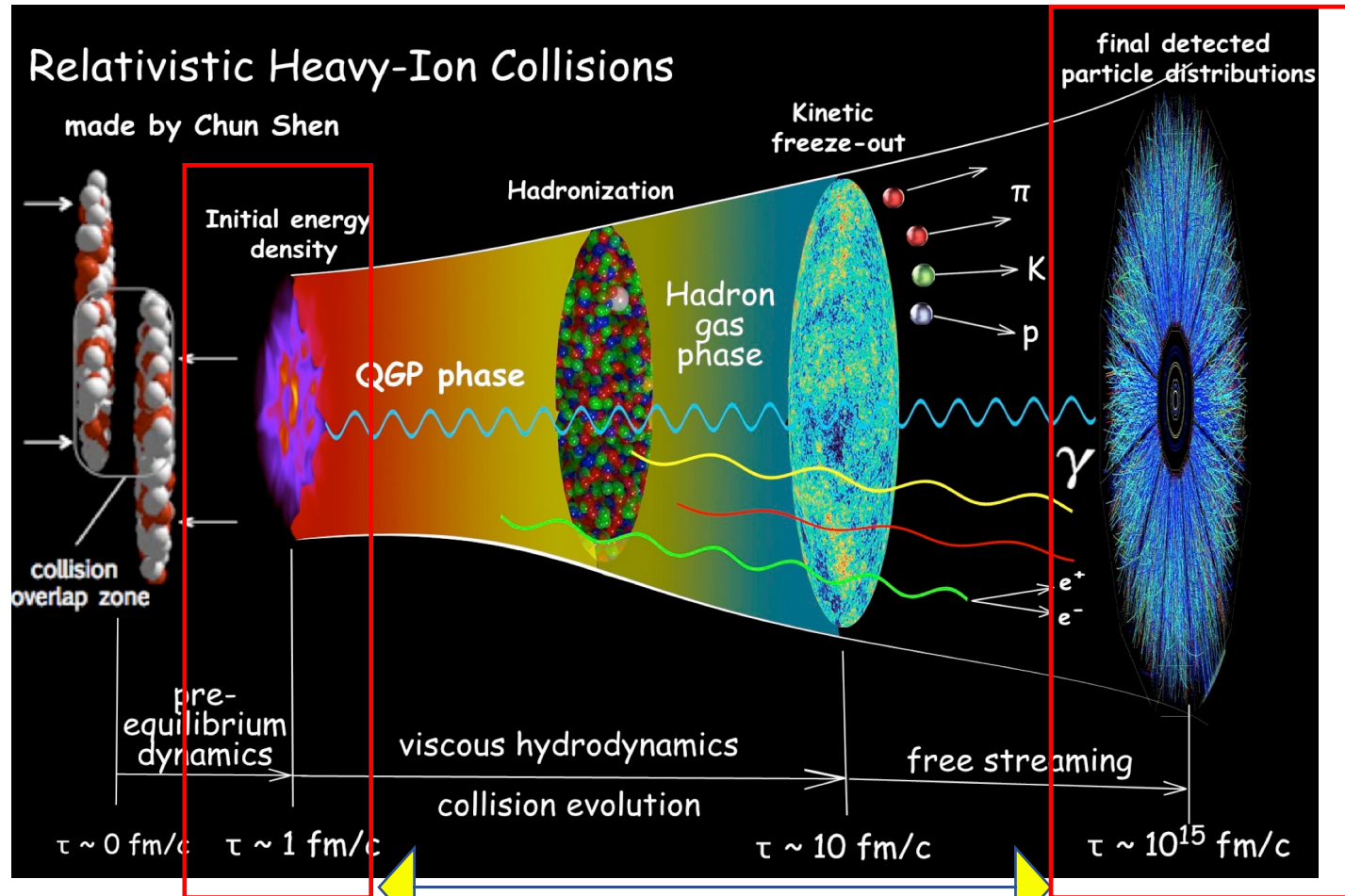
$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r-R_0(1+\sum_n \beta_n Y_n^0(\theta, \phi)))/a_0}}$$

$\beta_2$  → Quadrupole deformation

$\beta_3$  → Octupole deformation

$a_0$  → Surface diffuseness

$R_0$  → Nuclear size



$$\frac{d^2 N}{d\phi dp_T} = N(p_T) \left( \sum_n V_n e^{-in\phi} \right)$$

↑  
Anisotropic flow

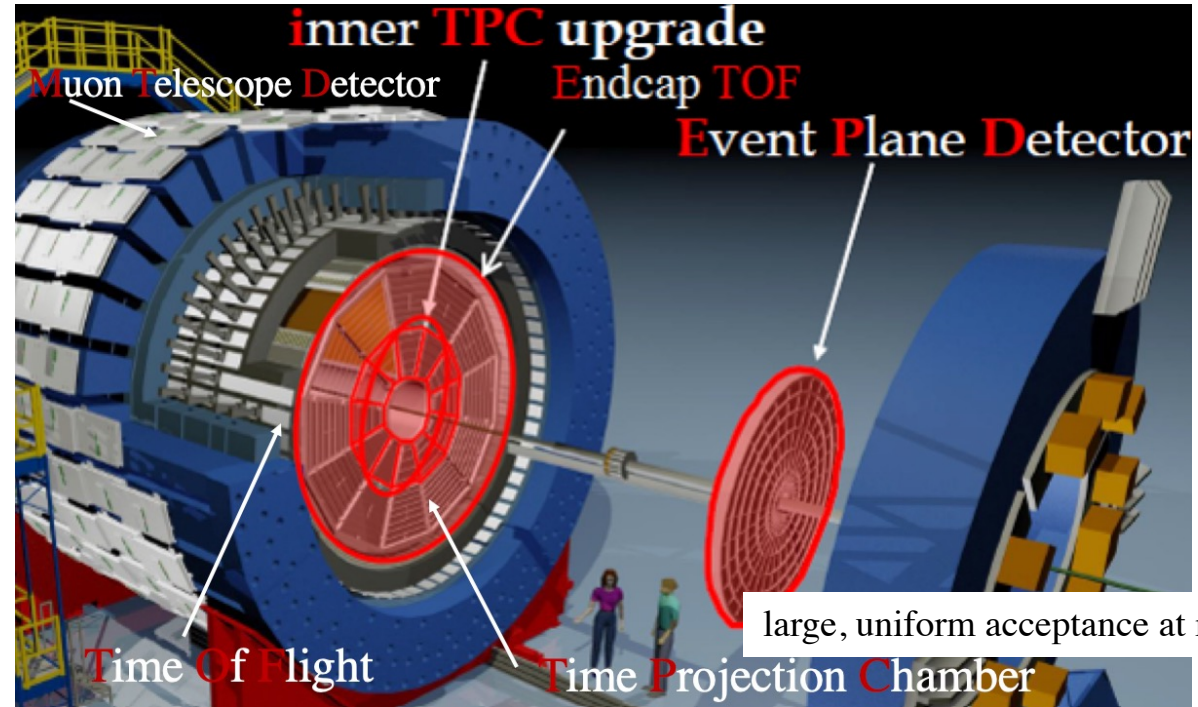
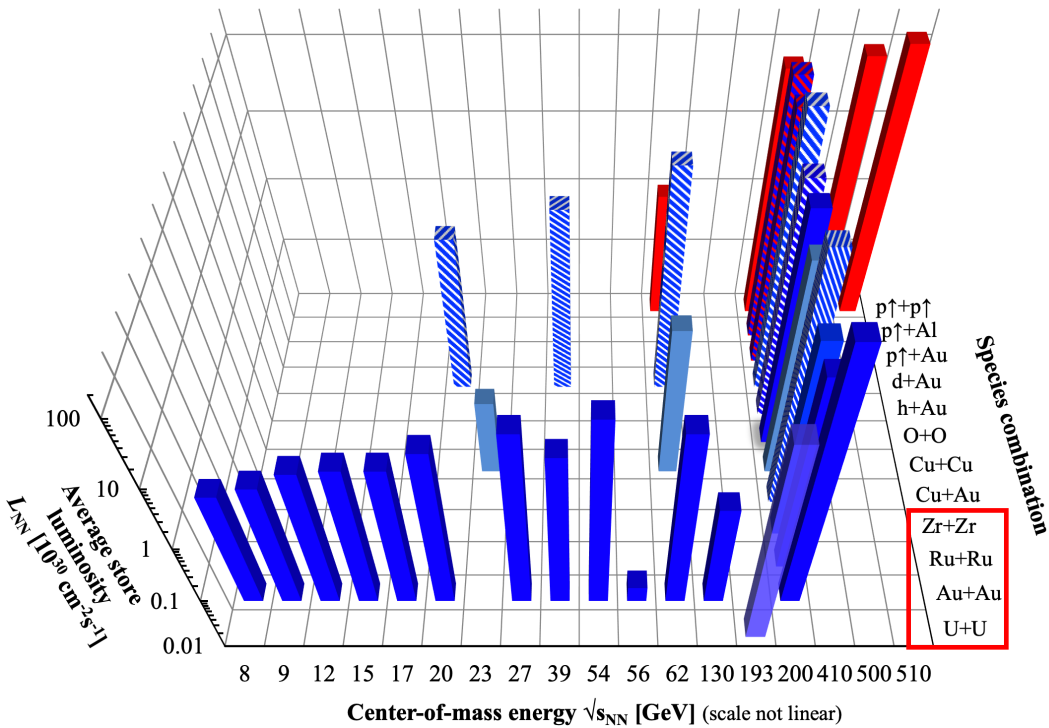
↓  
radial flow

High energy: approximate linear Response in each event

$$\frac{\delta[p_T]}{[p_T]} \propto -\frac{\delta R_\perp}{R_\perp} \quad V_n \propto \mathcal{E}_n$$

# Unique RHIC runs and the STAR detector

RHIC energies, species combinations and luminosities (Run-1 to 22)

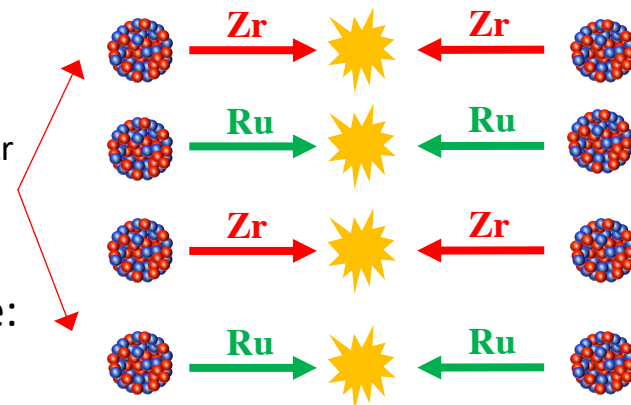


## Special operation mode:

- Fill-by-fill switching between Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr
- Similar run conditions at STAR (minimize the systematics)

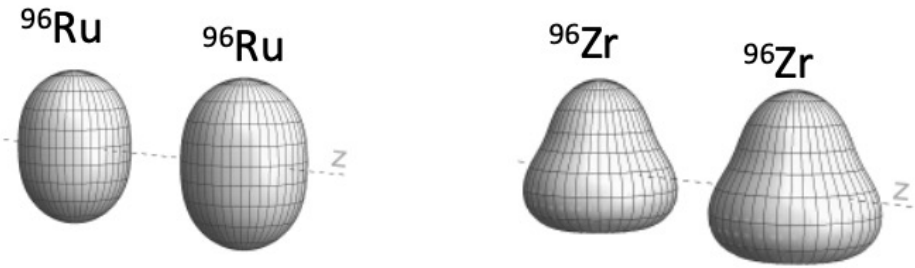
Ideal system to study nuclear structure:

$$\frac{v_{n,Ru+Ru}}{v_{n,Zr+Zr}} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$



- Datasets: Au+Au@200 GeV, U+U@193 GeV  
Ru+Ru@200 GeV, Zr+Zr@200 GeV
- Measurement based on TPC:  
 $|\eta| < 1.0$ ,  $0.2 < p_T < 2$  GeV/c
- Centrality based on  $N_{ch}^{rec}$  with  $|\eta| < 0.5$

# Anisotropic flow $v_n$



Nuclear parameters used in AMPT:

Species	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$a_0$ (fm)	$R_0$ (fm)
Ru	0.162	0	0.46	5.09
Zr	0.06	0.20	0.52	5.02

Heavy-ion expectation:

$$v_2^2 = a_2 + b_2\beta_2^2 + b_{2,3}\beta_3^2, \quad v_3^2 = a_3 + b_3\beta_3^2$$

$$\frac{v_{2,Ru}^2}{v_{2,Zr}^2} \approx 1 + \frac{b_2}{a_2}(\beta_{2,Ru}^2 - \beta_{2,Zr}^2) - \frac{b_{2,3}}{a_2}\beta_{3,Zr}^2$$

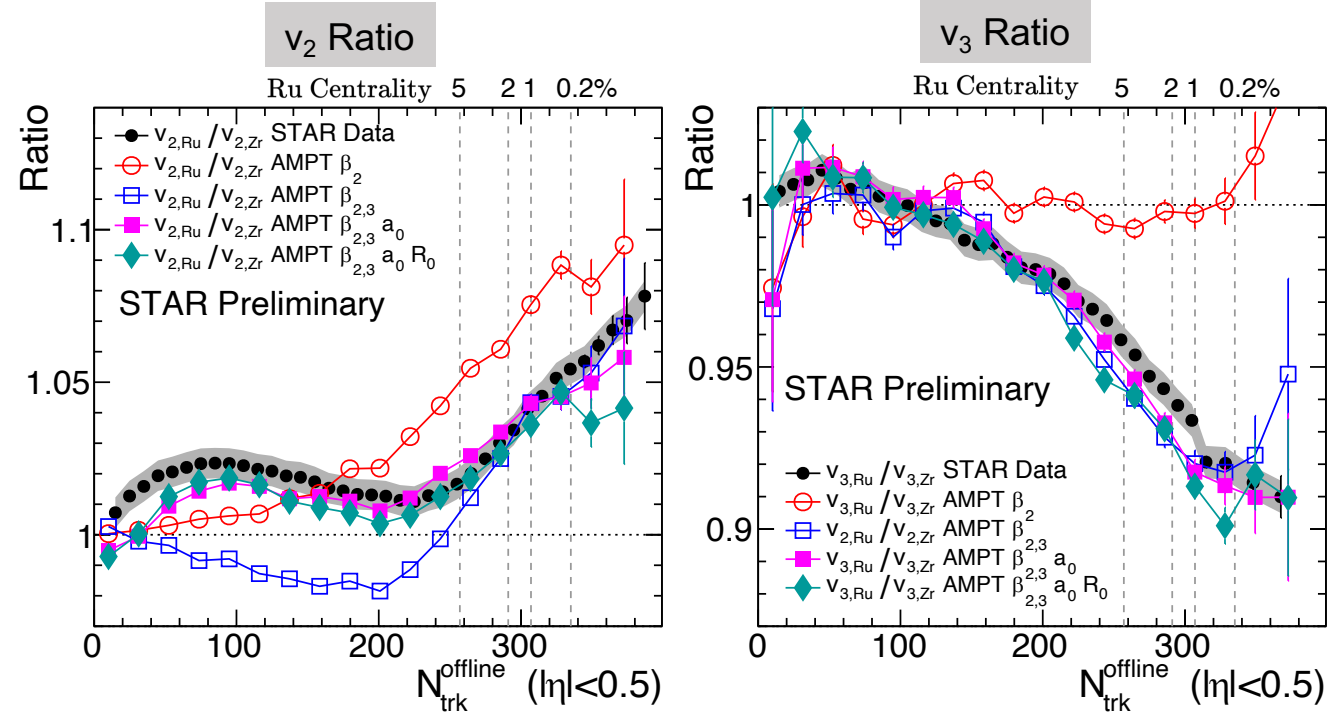
$$\frac{v_{3,Ru}^2}{v_{3,Zr}^2} \approx 1 - \frac{b_3}{a_3}\beta_{3,Zr}^2 < 1$$

Cancelation expected in non-central collisions

AMPT extractions:

$$\beta_2^{Ru} = 0.16 \pm 0.02 \quad \beta_3^{Zr} = 0.20 \pm 0.02 \quad \Delta a_{0,Ru-Zr} = -0.06 \text{ fm}$$

Direct indications and well constrains the nuclear deformation

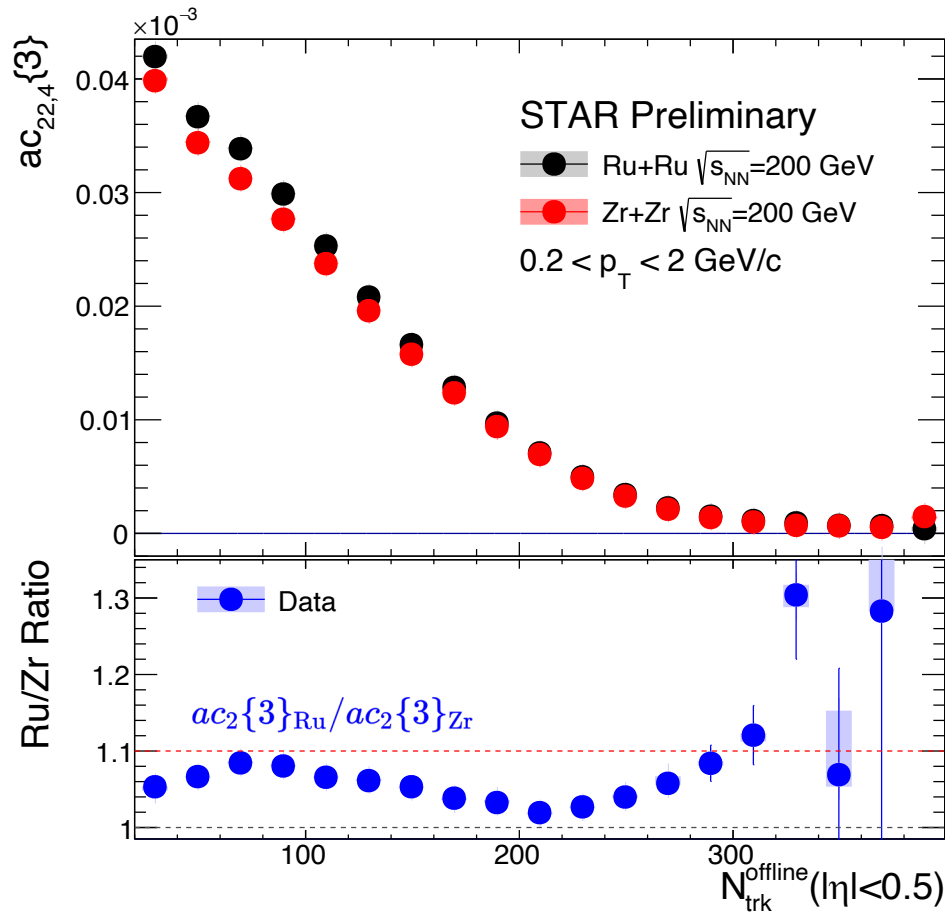


- 1)  $v_2$  ratio: large  $\beta_{2,Ru}$ , negative contribution from  $\beta_{3,Zr} \Rightarrow$  Sharper increase in central
- 2)  $v_3$  ratio: strong decrease from  $\beta_{3,Zr}$  with negligible  $\beta_{2,Ru}$  distortion
- 3) Residual effect due to radial structure, e.g., neutron skin in Zr
- 4) No significant effect due to nuclear size

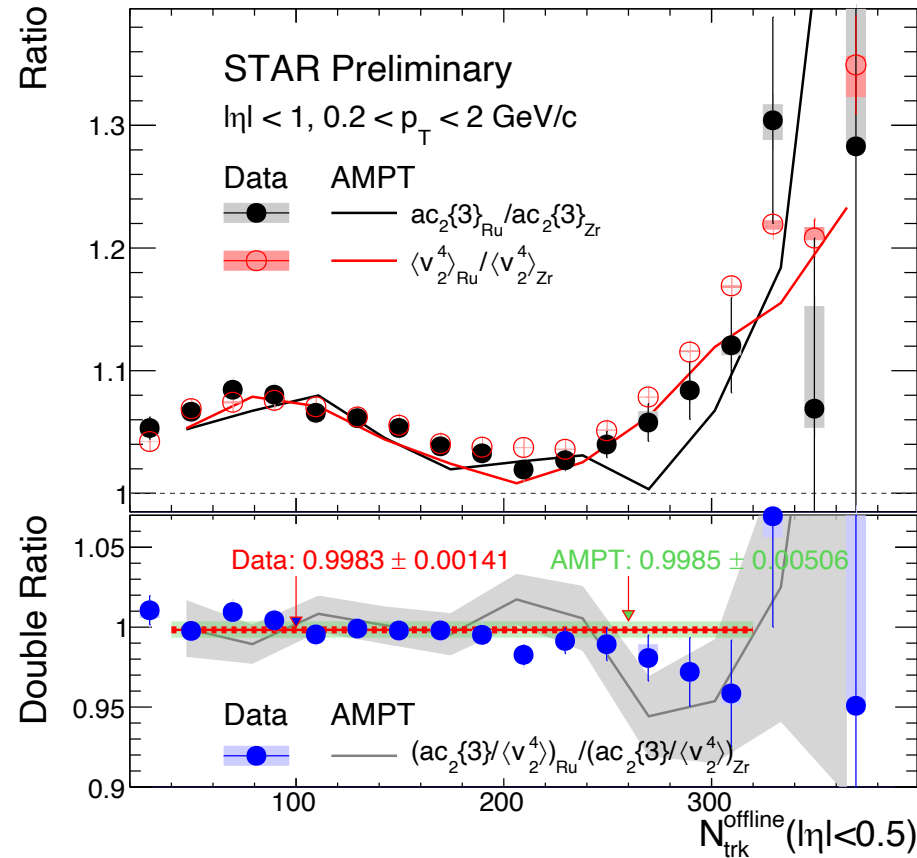
# non-linear coupling coefficient

**Asymmetric cumulant:**  $ac_2\{3\} = \langle V_2^2 V_4^* \rangle = \langle v_2^2 v_4 \cos 4(\Phi_2 - \Phi_4) \rangle$

Non-linear coupling coefficient:  $\chi_{4,22} = \frac{\langle V_2^2 V_4^* \rangle}{\langle v_2^4 \rangle}$   $V_4 = U_4 + \chi_{4,22} V_2^2$



Nonmonotonic trend: reflect nuclear structure



$$\frac{ac_2\{3\}_{Ru+Ru}}{ac_2\{3\}_{Zr+Zr}} \approx \frac{\langle v_2^4 \rangle_{Ru+Ru}}{\langle v_2^4 \rangle_{Zr+Zr}}$$

1) AMPT well reproduces data.

2) non-linear coefficients are expected to be identical in final state

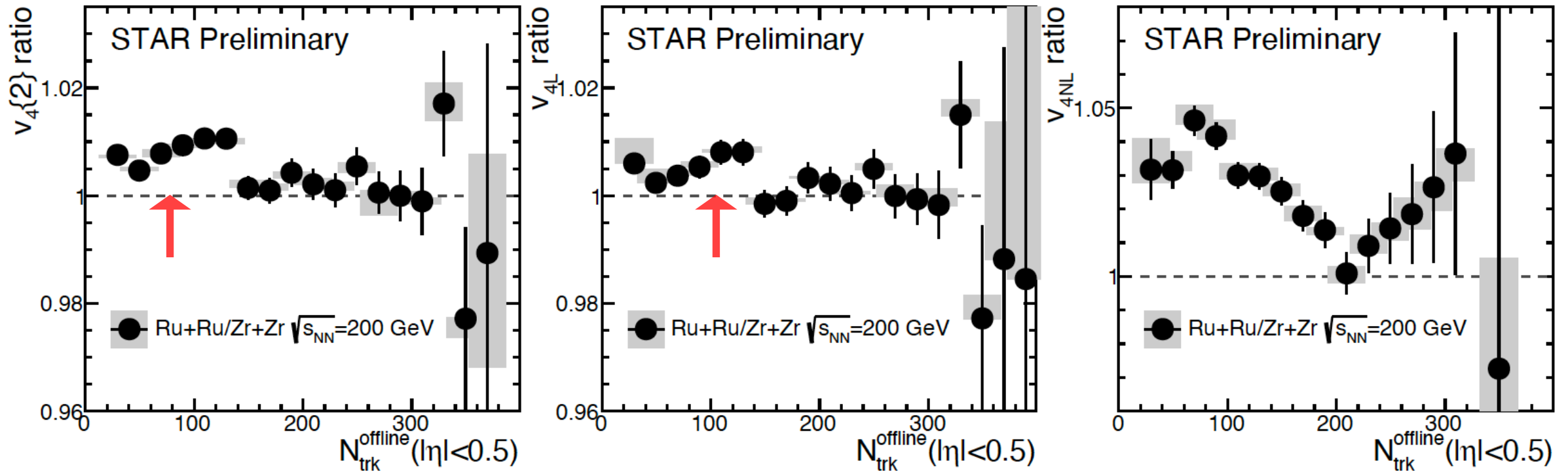
(Fitting from 40 to 320)

$$\text{Data: } \frac{\chi_{4,22}^{Ru+Ru}}{\chi_{4,22}^{Zr+Zr}} = 0.9983 \pm 0.00141 \quad \text{AMPT: } \frac{\chi_{4,22}^{Ru+Ru}}{\chi_{4,22}^{Zr+Zr}} = 0.9985 \pm 0.00506$$

non-linear coupling are comparable between Ru and Zr

# Precision tests of the linear and nonlinear mode coupling

$$V_4 = V_{4L} + \chi_4(V_2)^2 \quad v_{4L}^2 = v_4\{2\}^2 - v_{4,NL}^2, \quad v_{4NL}^2 \equiv \chi_4^2 \langle v_2^4 \rangle \quad \text{where} \quad \chi_4 = \frac{\langle V_2^2 V_4^* \rangle}{\langle v_2^4 \rangle}$$



J.Jia, G. Giuliano and C. Zhang, arXiv:2206.07184, **the AMPT study implies:**

$v_4$  does not depend on  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$ , strongly impacted by  $a_0$  and  $R_0$

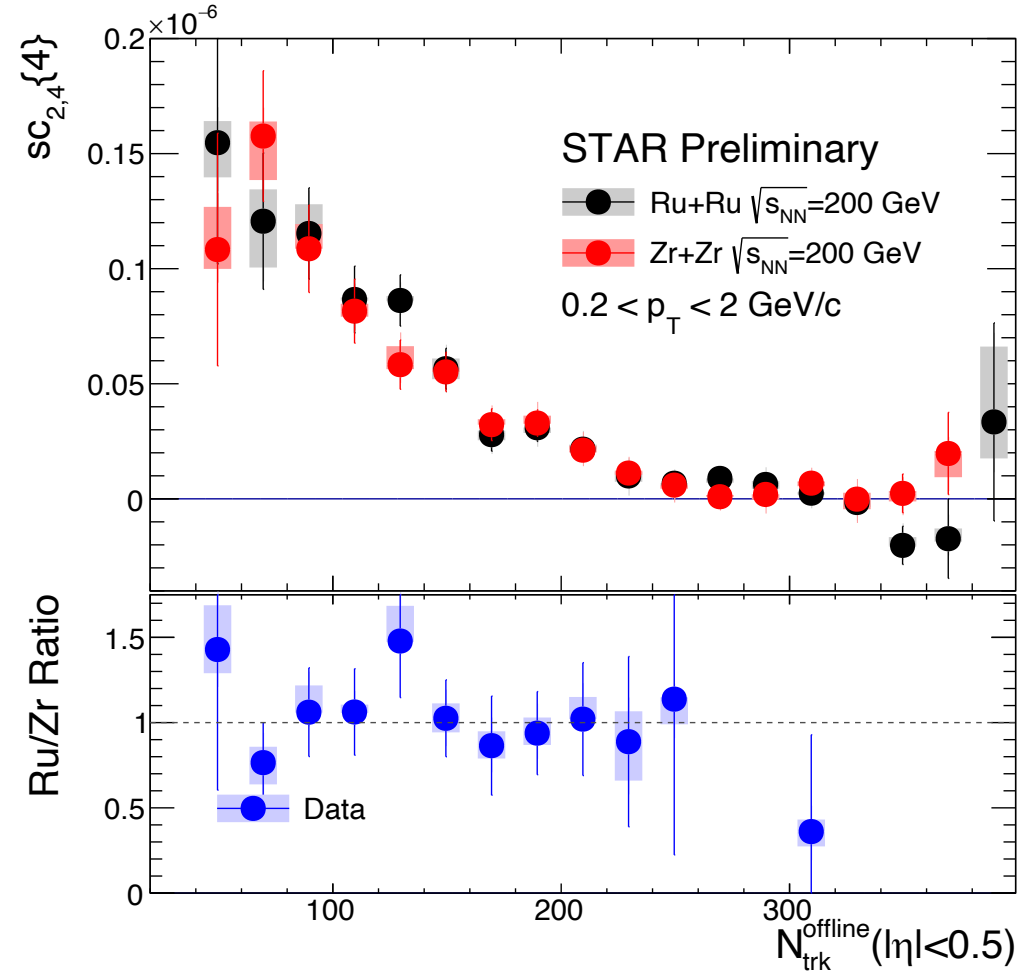
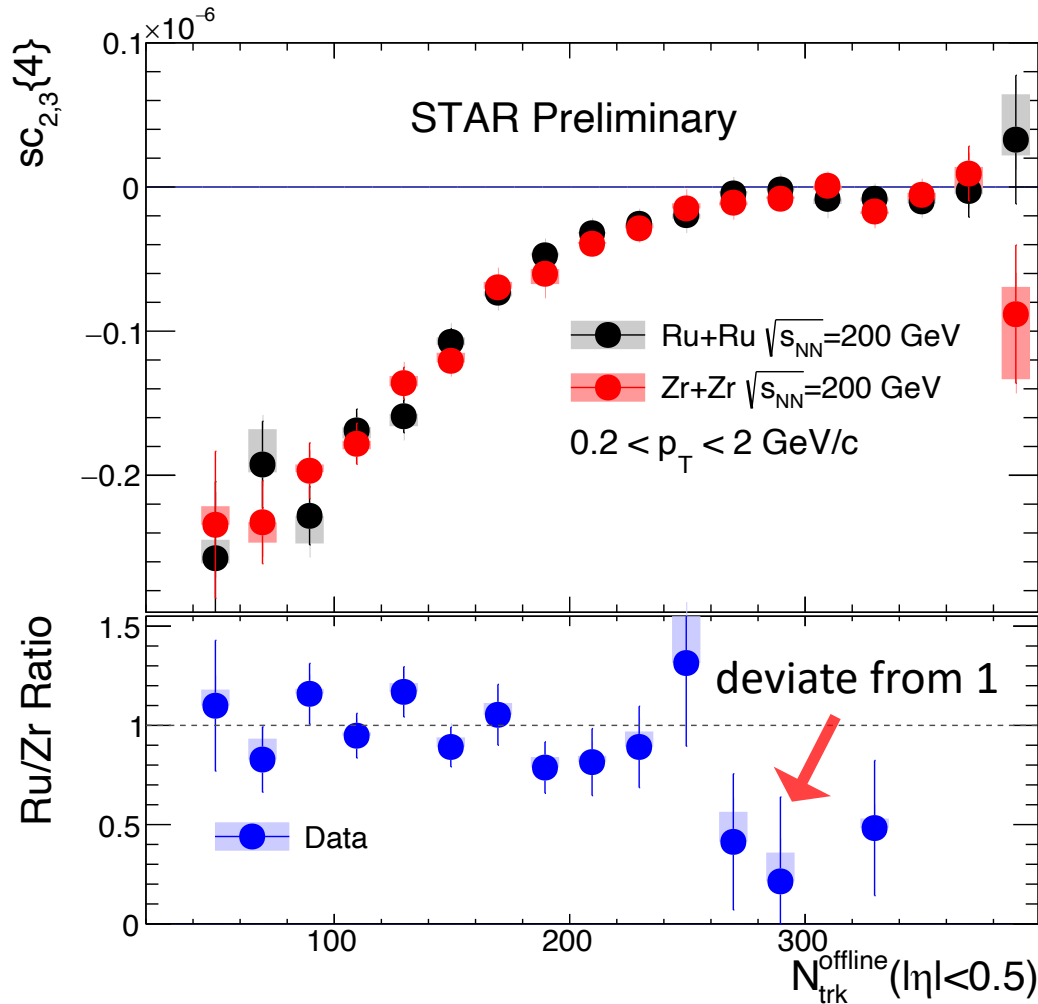
$v_{4L} \sim \epsilon_4$ , shows the above similar behaviors

$v_{4NL}^2 \sim \langle \epsilon_2^4 \rangle$ , therefore affected by  $\beta_2$ ,  $a_0$  and  $R_0$ .

Results are consistent with the expectations of hydrodynamic mode coupling of flow harmonics & effects of  $a_0$  and  $R_0$  in non-central collisions

# Symmetric cumulant

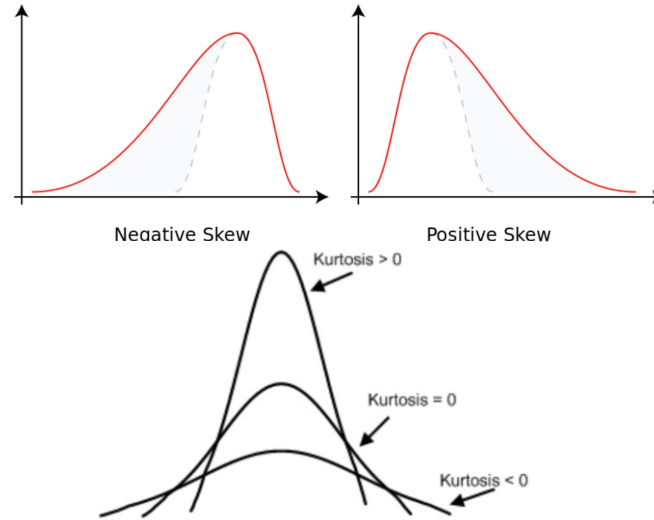
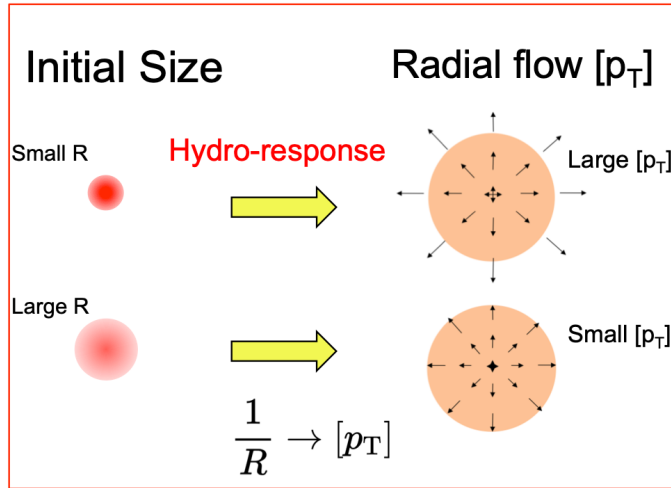
$$SC_{n,m}\{4\} = \langle\langle\{4\}_{n,m}\rangle\rangle - \langle\langle\{2\}_n\rangle\rangle\langle\langle\{2\}_m\rangle\rangle = \langle v_n^2 v_m^2 \rangle - \langle v_n^2 \rangle \langle v_m^2 \rangle$$



$SC_{2,3}\{4\}$  shows hint of deviation from unity near central collisions as expected from nuclear structure effects.  
 ---measurement uncertainties dominate"



# Mean transverse momentum $p_T$ fluctuations

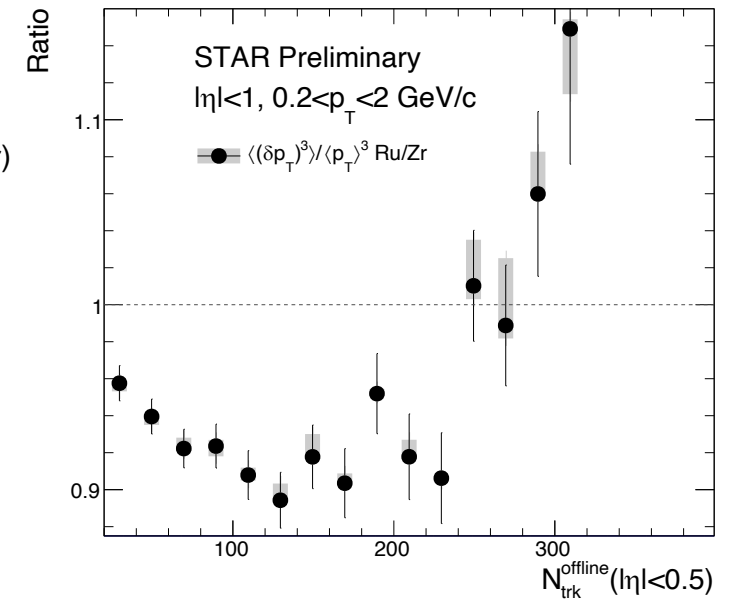
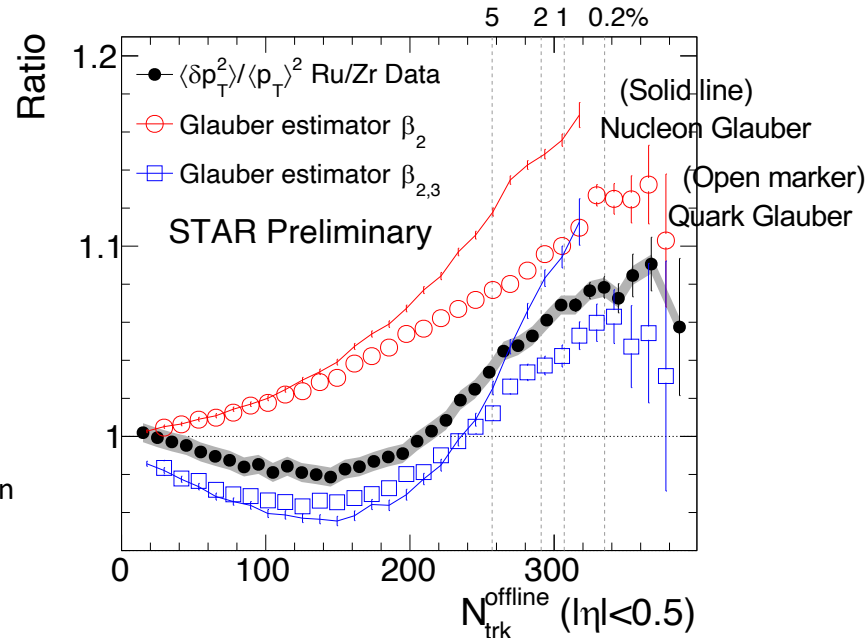
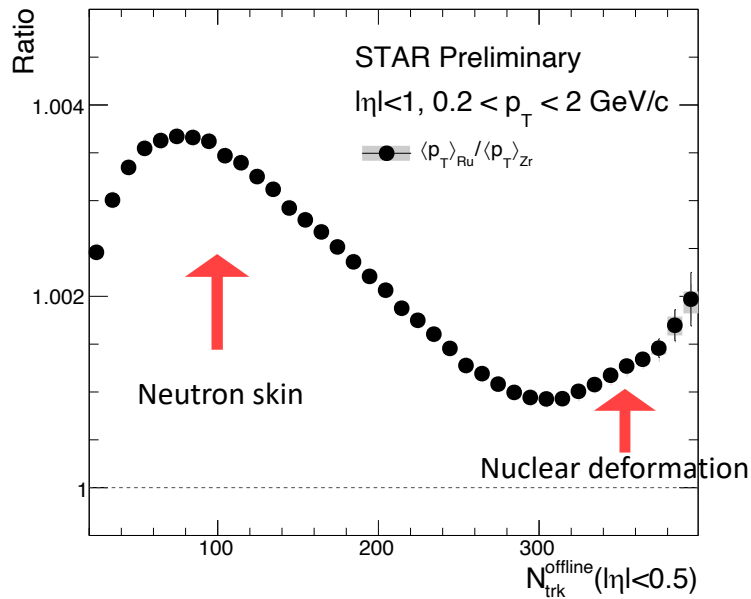


Mean  $[p_T] \equiv \frac{\sum_i w_i p_{T,i}}{\sum_i w_i}, \langle \langle p_T \rangle \rangle \equiv \langle [p_T] \rangle_{\text{evt}}$   
 $w_i$  is track weight

Variance  $\langle \langle (\delta p_T)^2 \rangle \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j} w_i w_j (p_{T,i} - \langle p_T \rangle)(p_{T,j} - \langle p_T \rangle)}{\sum_{i \neq j} w_i w_j} \right\rangle_{\text{evt}}$

Skewness  $\langle \langle (\delta p_T)^3 \rangle \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k (p_{T,i} - \langle p_T \rangle)(p_{T,j} - \langle p_T \rangle)(p_{T,k} - \langle p_T \rangle)}{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k} \right\rangle_{\text{evt}}$

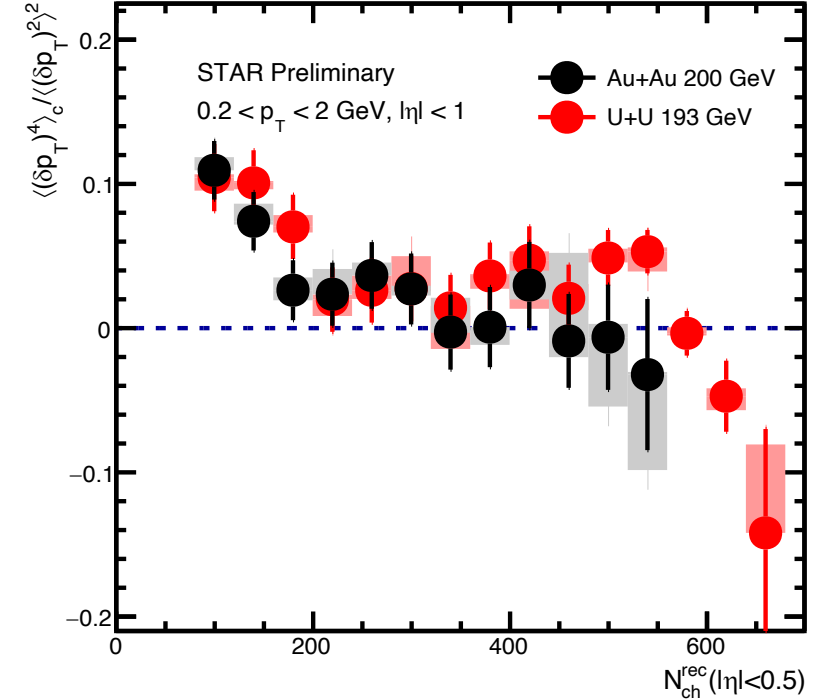
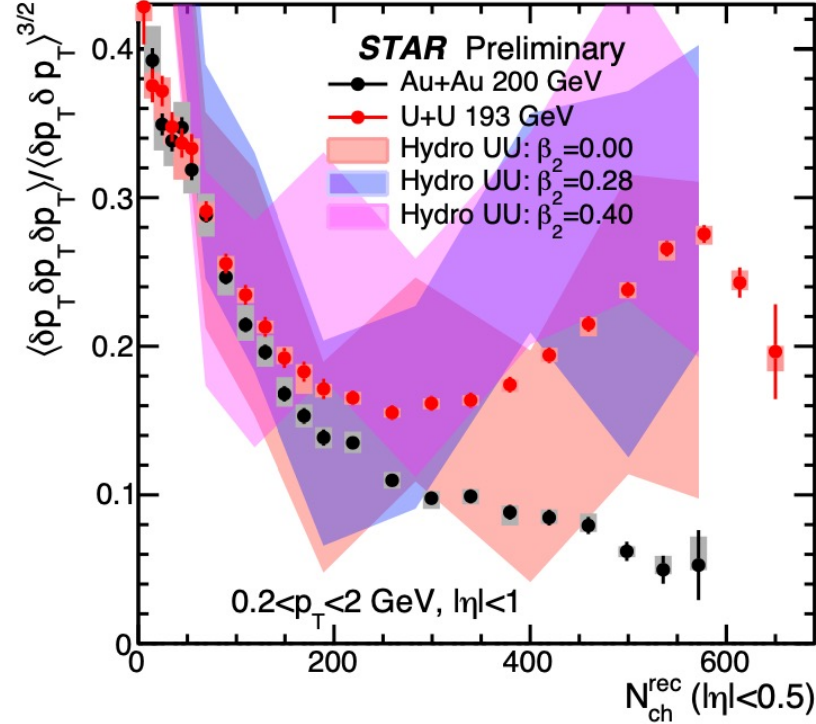
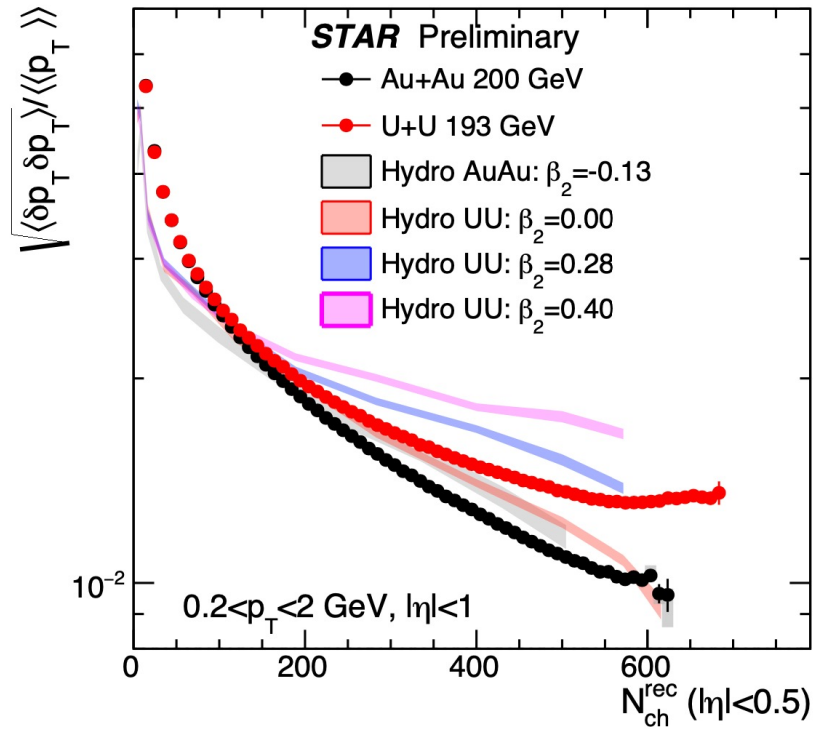
kurtosis  $\langle \langle (\delta p_T)^4 \rangle \rangle_c = \langle (\delta p_T)^4 \rangle - 3 \langle (\delta p_T)^2 \rangle^2$



A complementary probe to decipher Ru and Zr structures.

# Mean transverse momentum $p_T$ fluctuations

IP-Glasma+Hydro: private calculation provided by Bjoern Schenke



Au+Au: follow power-law decrease, but with strong deviation in central normalized variance and normalized skewness

U+U: large enhancement in normalized variance and skewness and sign-change in normalized kurtosis

→ size fluctuations enhanced

Nuclear deformation role is confirmed by hydro calculations.

# $v_n - [p_T]$ correlations

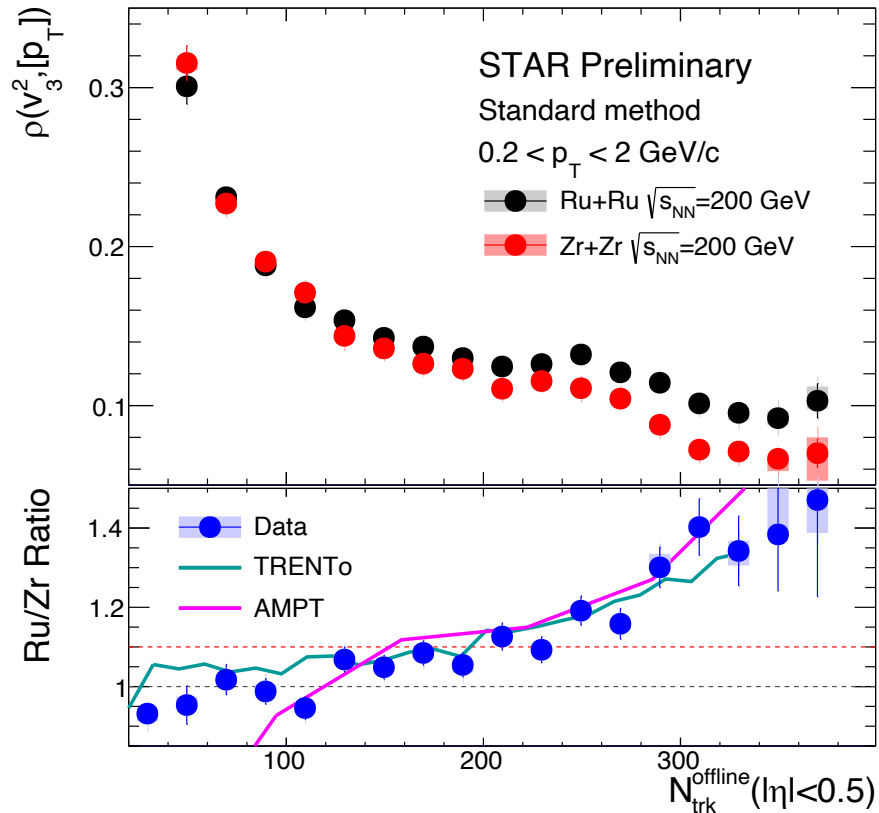
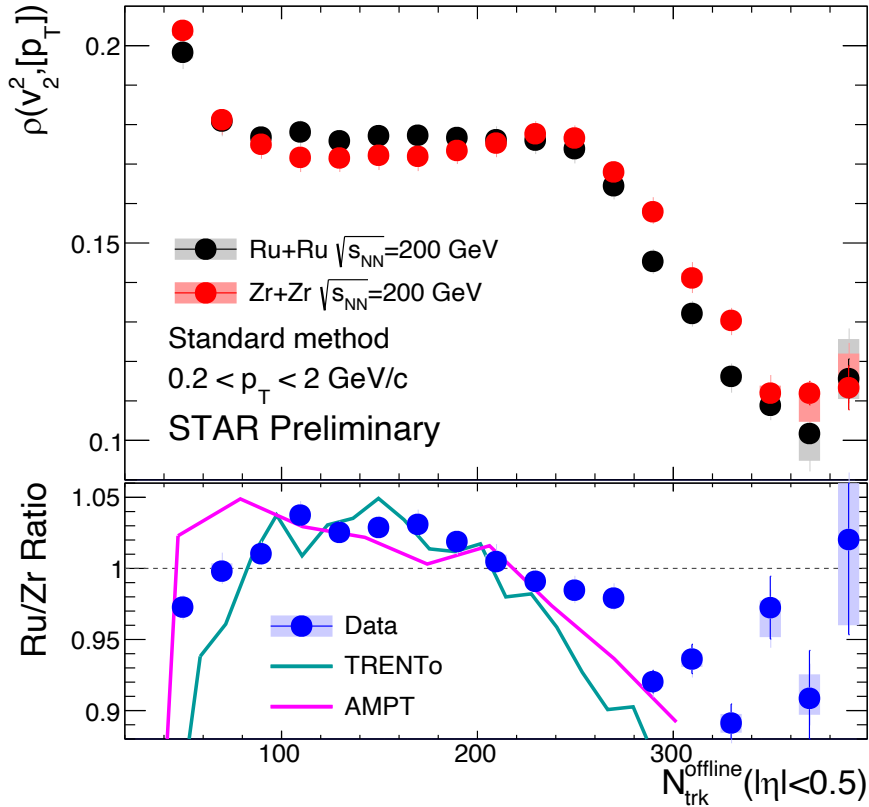
Pearson correlation coefficient:

$$\rho(v_n^2, [p_T]) = \frac{\text{cov}(v_n^2, [p_T])}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(v_n^2)_{\text{dyn}} \langle \delta p_T \delta p_T \rangle}}$$

$$\text{cov}(v_n^2, [p_T]) \equiv \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k e^{in\phi_i} e^{-in\phi_j} (p_{T,k} - \langle p_T \rangle)}{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k} \right\rangle_{\text{evt}}$$

$$\text{Var}(v_n^2)_{\text{dyn}} = v_n \{2\}^4 - v_n \{4\}^4$$

$$\langle \delta p_T \delta p_T \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j} w_i w_j (p_{T,i} - \langle p_T \rangle) (p_{T,j} - \langle p_T \rangle)}{\sum_{i \neq j} w_i w_j} \right\rangle_{\text{evt}}$$



1) Ru/Zr ratio also reflects the possible nuclear structure.

2) Mostly dominated by the harmonic flow contributions.

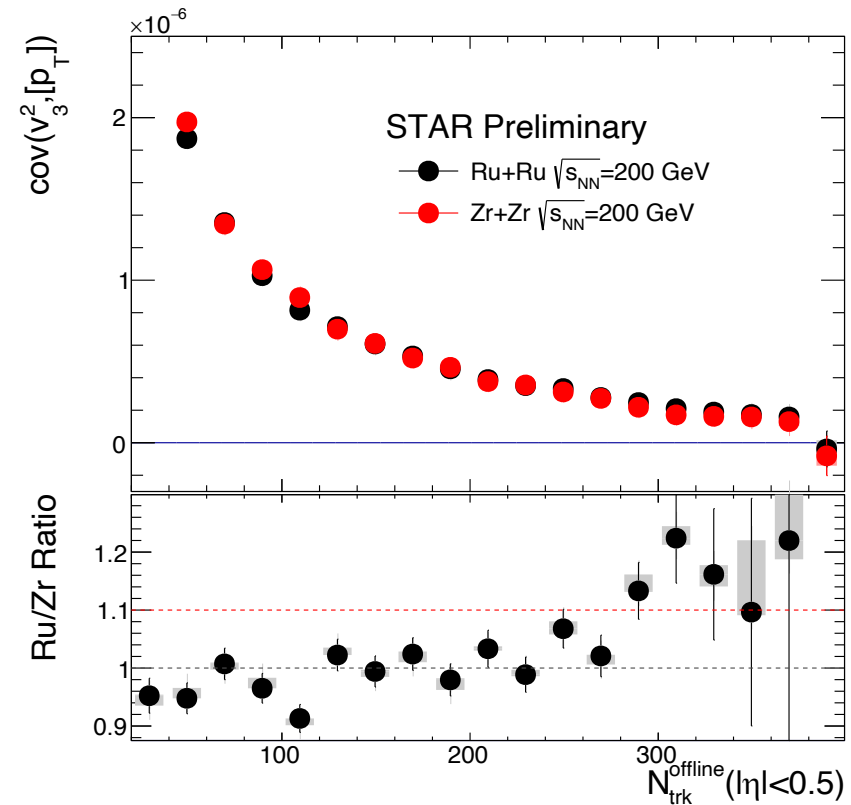
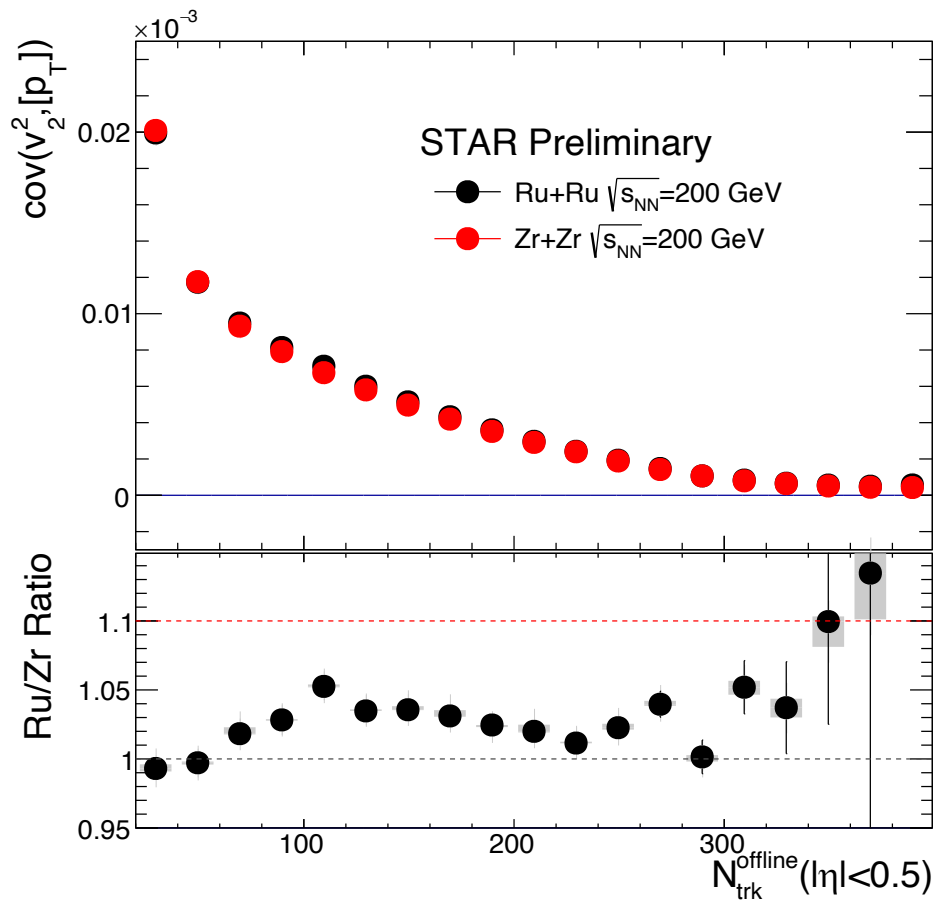
3) TRENTo and AMPT can reproduce data

TRENTo assumption:  $v_n \propto \epsilon_n$   $[p_T] \propto \frac{E}{S}$   
 (TRENTo calc. from Giacalone)

# $v_n - [p_T]$ correlations

Pearson correlation coefficient:

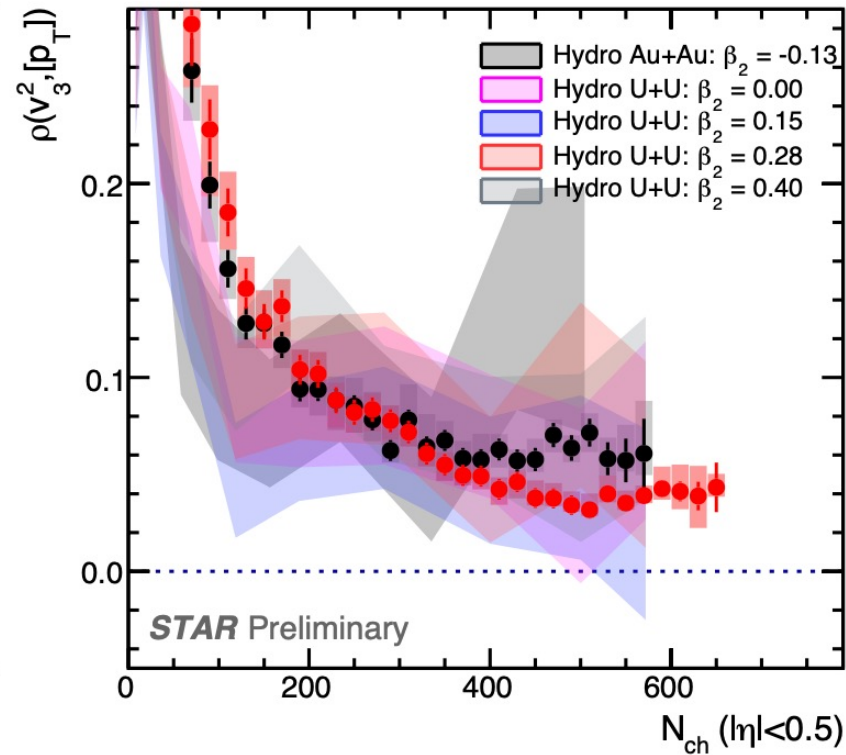
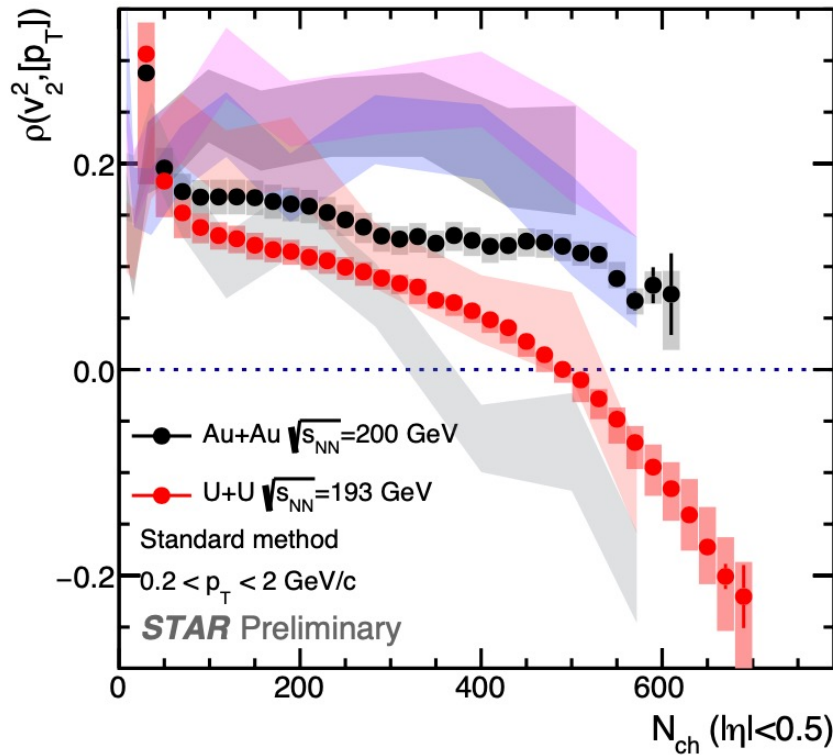
$$\text{cov}(v_n^2, [p_T]) \equiv \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k e^{in\phi_i} e^{-in\phi_j} (p_{T,k} - \langle \langle p_T \rangle \rangle)}{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} w_i w_j w_k} \right\rangle_{\text{evt}}$$



Ru/Zr ratio also reflects the possible nuclear structure.

# $v_n - [p_T]$ correlations in U+U and Au+Au

IP-Glasma+Hydro: private calculation provided by Bjoern Schenke (PRC102, 044905(2020))



$$\rho(v_n^2, [p_T]) = \frac{\text{cov}(v_n^2, [p_T])}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(v_n^2)_{\text{dyn}} \langle \delta p_T \delta p_T \rangle}}$$

- Without deformation, CGC+hydro model shows positive  $\rho(v_2^2, [p_T])$  in central.
- With increasing  $\beta_2$ , model could describe the trend of  $\rho(v_2^2, [p_T])$ .
- Model shows that  $\rho(v_3^2, [p_T])$  is insensitive to  $\beta_2$ .

Sign-change of  $\rho(v_2^2, [p_T])$  confirms that  $^{238}\text{U}$  is prolate and IP-Glasma+hydro constrains  $\beta_2, ^{238}\text{U} = 0.28 \pm 0.03$

# Conclusions and outlooks

- $v_n$  ratios as a new probe to constrain nuclear structure parameters:

AMPT estimation:  $\beta_2^{\text{Ru}} = 0.16 \pm 0.02$      $\beta_3^{\text{Zr}} = 0.20 \pm 0.02$      $\Delta a_{0,\text{Ru-Zr}} = -0.06 \text{ fm}$



- Experimental test on the non-linear coupling coefficient: identical for Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr in final state as expected

Data :  $\frac{\chi_{4,22}^{\text{Ru+Ru}}}{\chi_{4,22}^{\text{Zr+Zr}}} = 0.9983 \pm 0.00141$     AMPT :  $\frac{\chi_{4,22}^{\text{Ru+Ru}}}{\chi_{4,22}^{\text{Zr+Zr}}} = 0.9985 \pm 0.00506$

- Mean  $p_T$  fluctuations also as a complementary probe to decipher nuclear structure:

The nonmonotonic trend with  $N_{\text{ch}}$  in mean, enhancement in variance and skewness ratios, sign-change in kurtosis

- Pearson correlation coefficient also reflects possible nuclear structure dominated by flow in isobar.

TRENTo and AMPT reproduce data

IP-Glasma+hydro estimation:  $\beta_{2,238\text{U}} = 0.28 \pm 0.03$



Thank you for listening and thanks to the organizers.