

# Open Heavy Flavor Results at RHIC/STAR

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For the STAR collaboration



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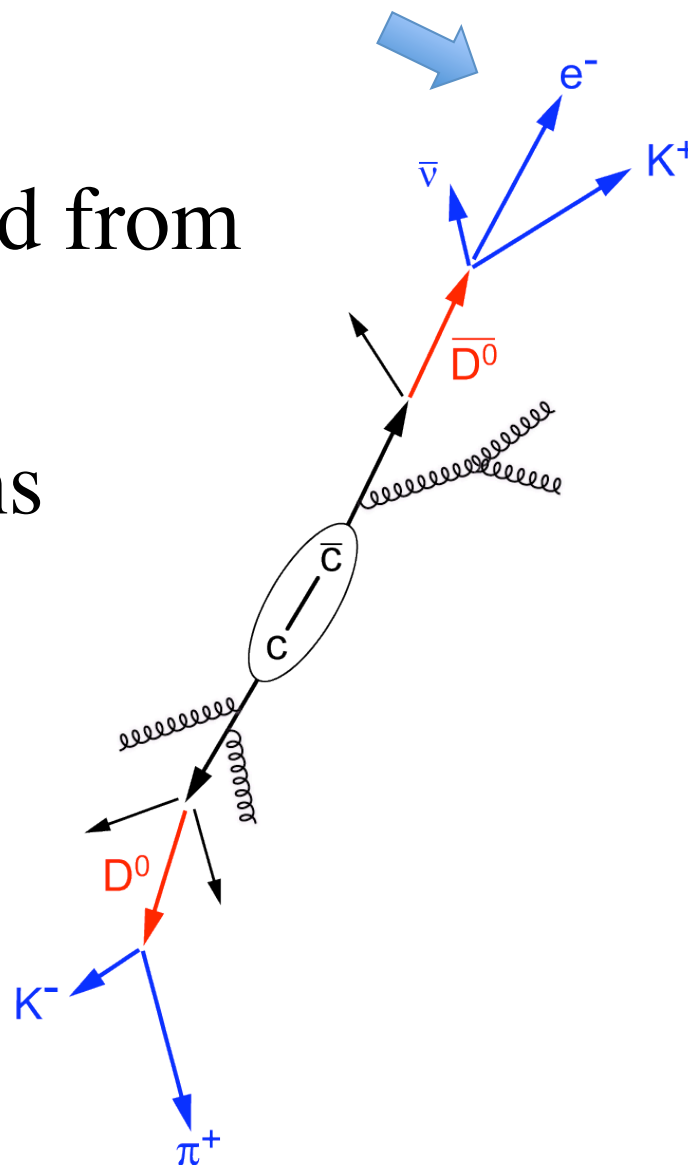
# Outline

- 1: Introduction
- 2: Charm mesons reconstructed from hadronic decay daughters
- 3: Heavy flavor decay electrons
- 4: Related STAR upgrades

Charm meson reconstructed from hadronic decay daughters



Heavy Flavor decay electrons

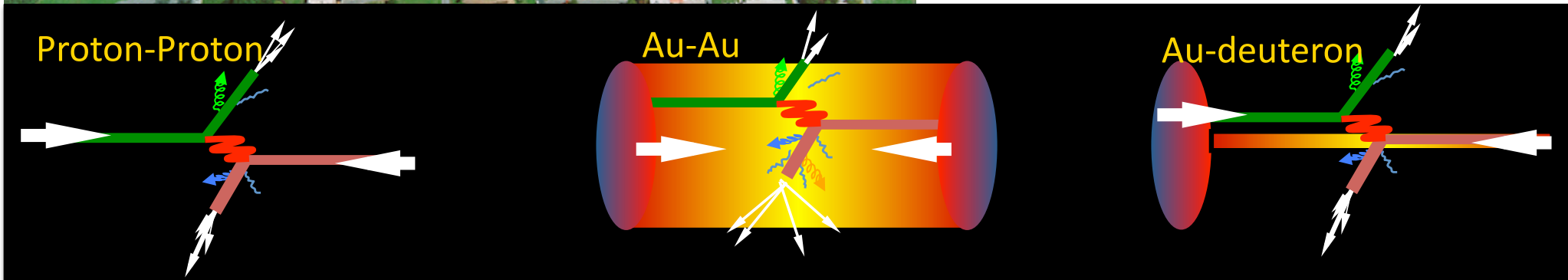


# The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider @ Brookhaven National Lab



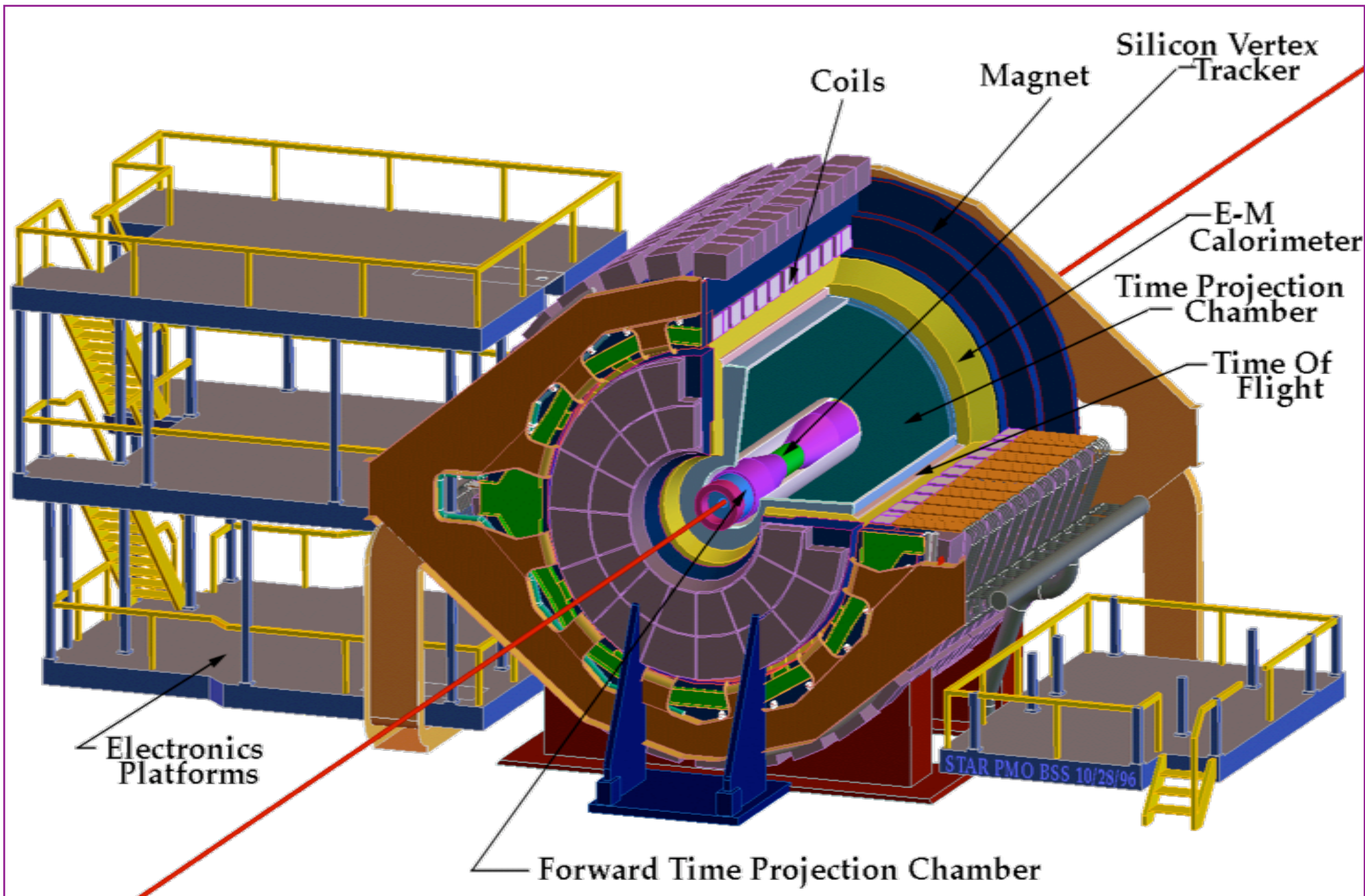
We've created a strongly-coupled QCD matter at high temperature and energy density with partonic collectivity.

- Jet quenching
- Modification of high  $p_T$  particle correlations
- Quark number scaling



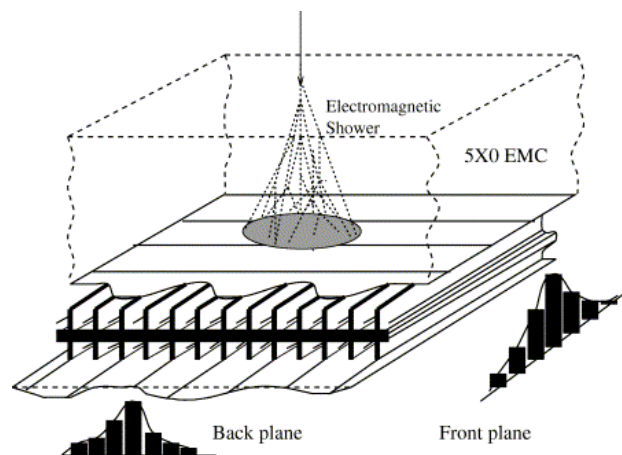


# The Solenoidal Tracker At RHIC

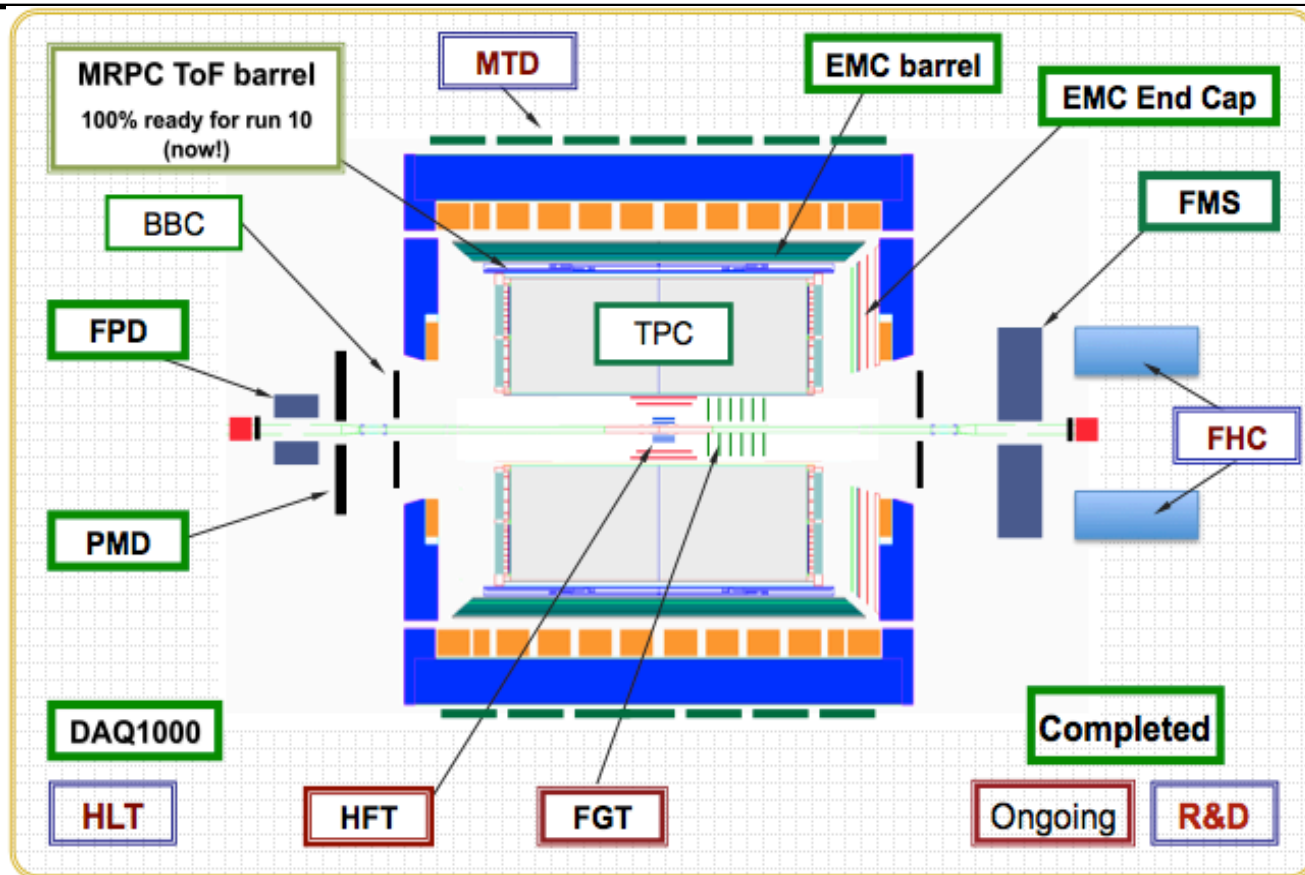


# Detectors for open heavy flavor analysis

Large acceptance  
 $|\eta| < 1, 0 < \phi < 2\pi$



BSMD: embedded in BEMC



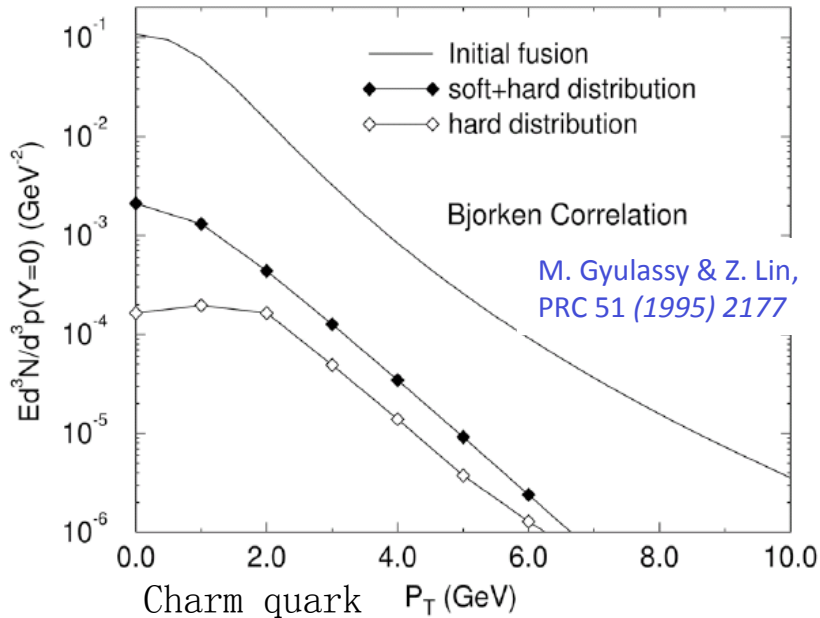
Time Projection Chamber(TPC): tracking, PID via ionization energy loss

Barrel Electromagnetic Calorimeter(BEMC): shower energy, triggering, electron PID via E/P

Barrel Shower Maximum Detector(BSMD): fine spatial resolution, electron PID via shower profile

Time of Flight detector (TOF): significantly improved PID for charged particles

# Motivation for heavy flavor studies



Good theoretical control:

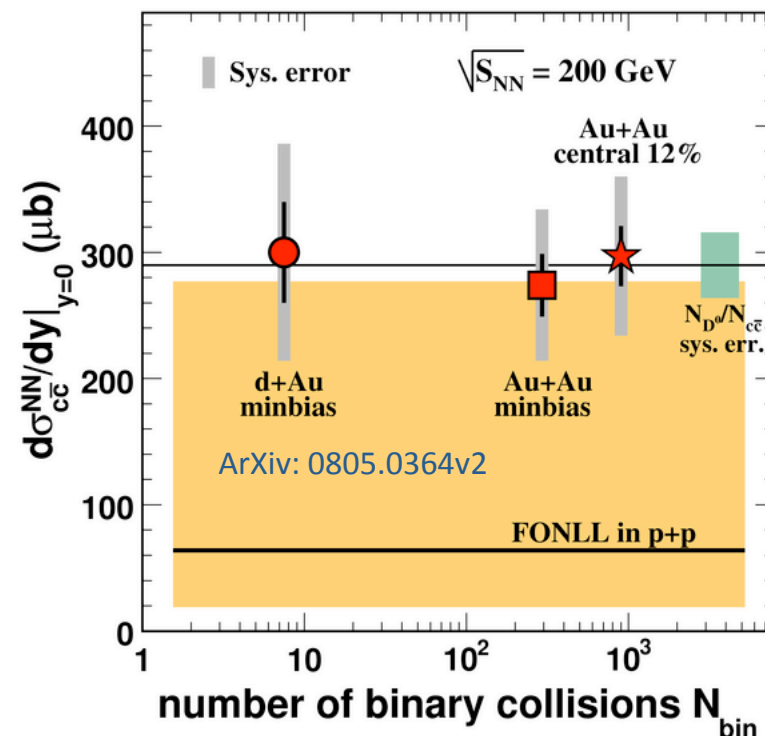
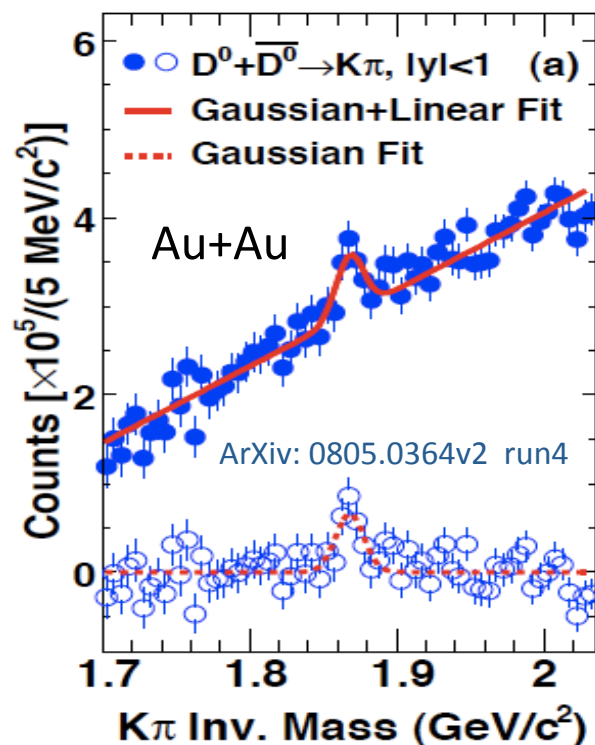
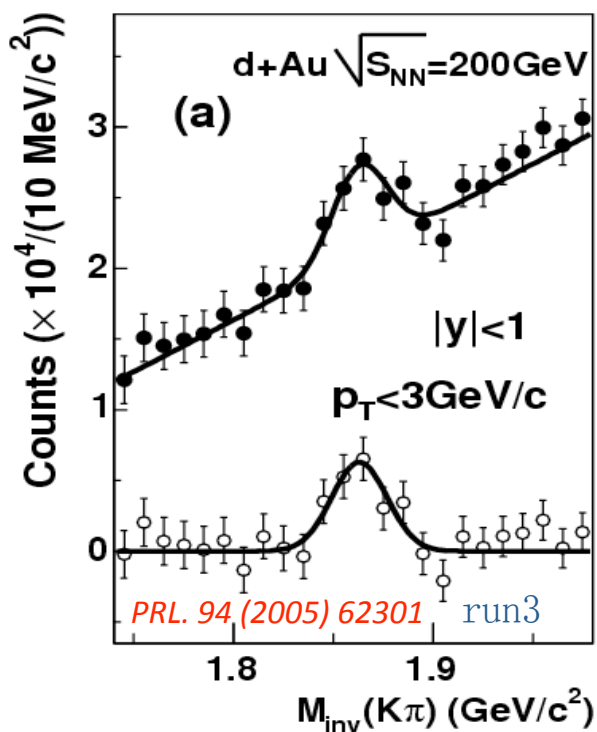
Initial fusion (hard process) dominates heavy flavor production.

Large masses ensure an energy scale where perturbative QCD is applicable.

- Study charm and bottom cross-section
- Study the energy loss mechanism of heavy quarks inside the medium
- Study properties of the hot and dense medium at the early stage of heavy-ion collisions

# Previous $D^0$ meson direct reconstructions

$$D^0(\overline{D}^0) \rightarrow K^m + \pi^\pm \quad B.R. \sim 3.89\%$$



Identify and combine kaons with pions,  
 without secondary vertex reconstructed.

Charm production is  
 proportional to number  
 of binary collisions

# $D^0$ meson in Cu+Cu 200GeV

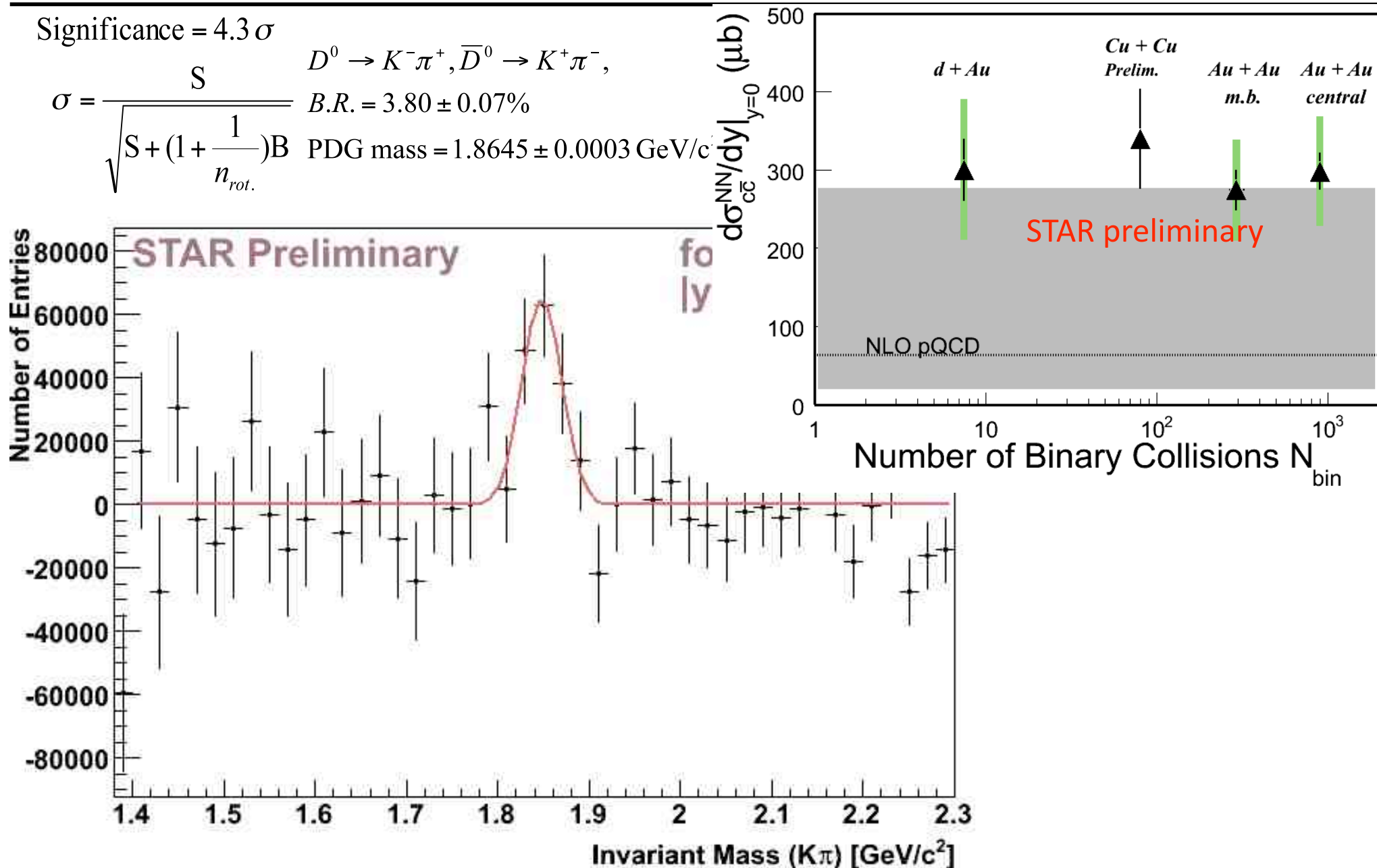
Significance =  $4.3\sigma$

$$\sigma = \frac{S}{\sqrt{S + (1 + \frac{1}{n_{rot.}})B}}$$

$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$ ,

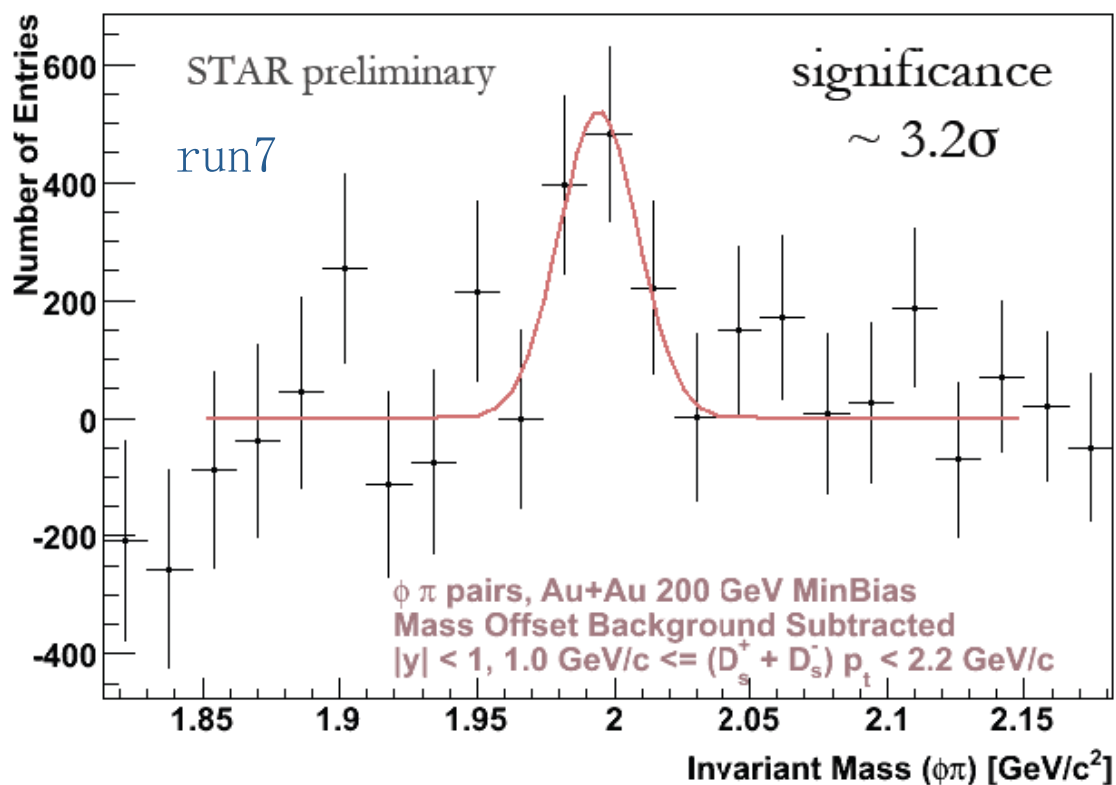
$B.R. = 3.80 \pm 0.07\%$

PDG mass =  $1.8645 \pm 0.0003 \text{ GeV}/c^2$





# $D_s^\pm$ meson in AuAu 200GeV

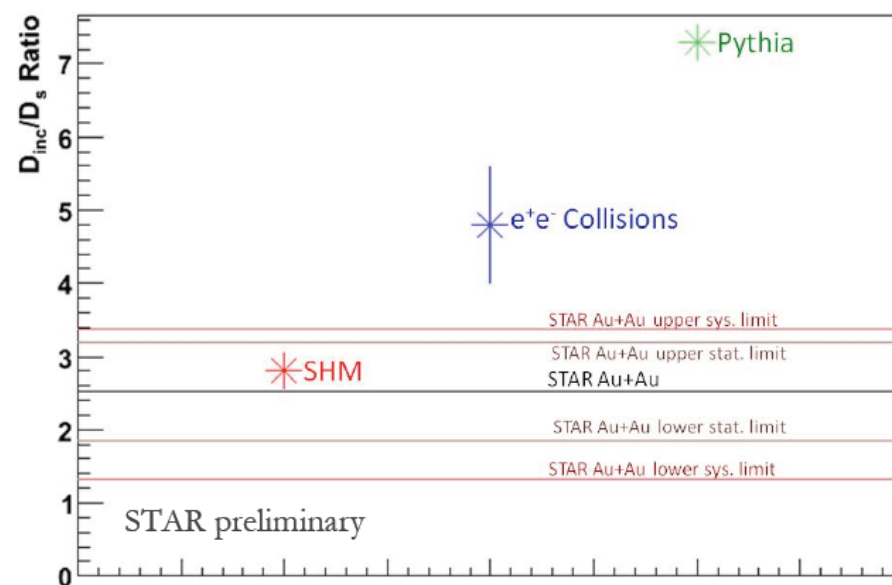


with the help of Silicon Vertex Tracker

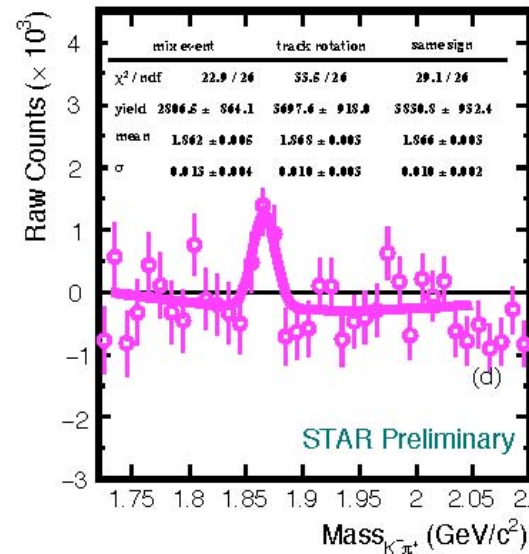
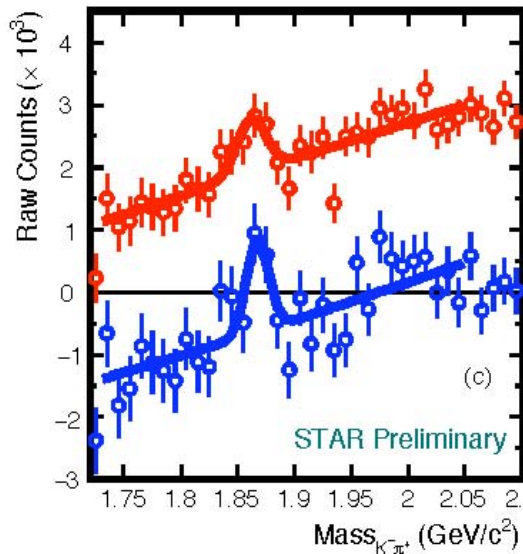
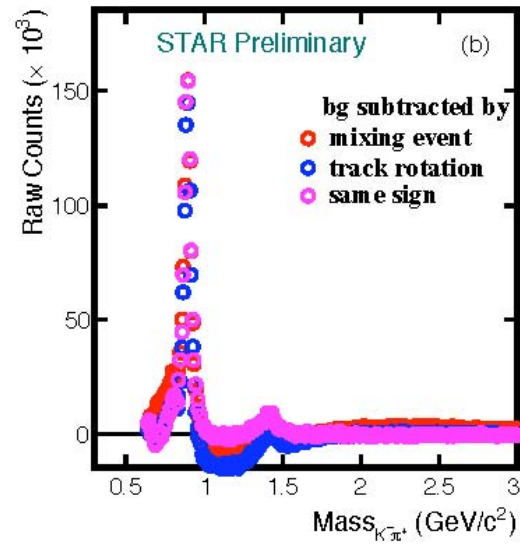
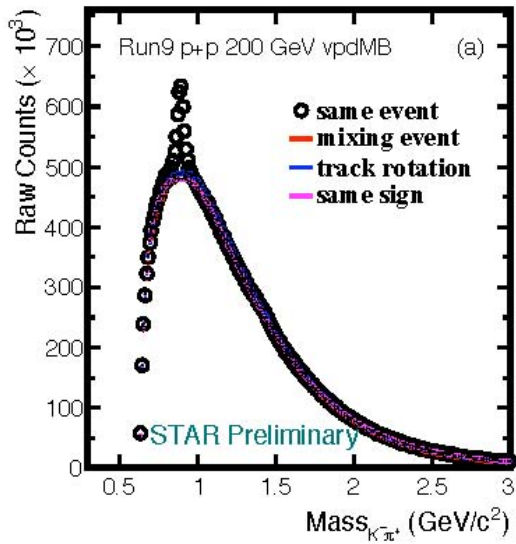
- Assume  $p_T$  spectrum shape similar to  $D^0$ : 47% yield covered.
- $D^\pm$  yields estimated from  $D^\pm/D^0$  ratio from  $e^+e^-$  data.

$$D_s^\pm \rightarrow \phi + \pi^\pm \quad B.R. \sim 4.5\%$$

Preliminary result is consistent with statistical hadronization.

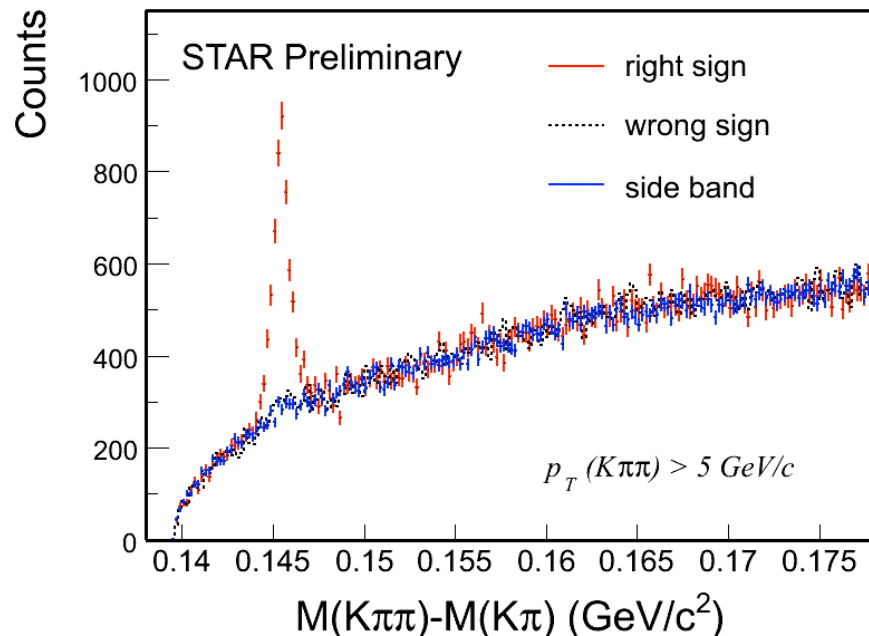
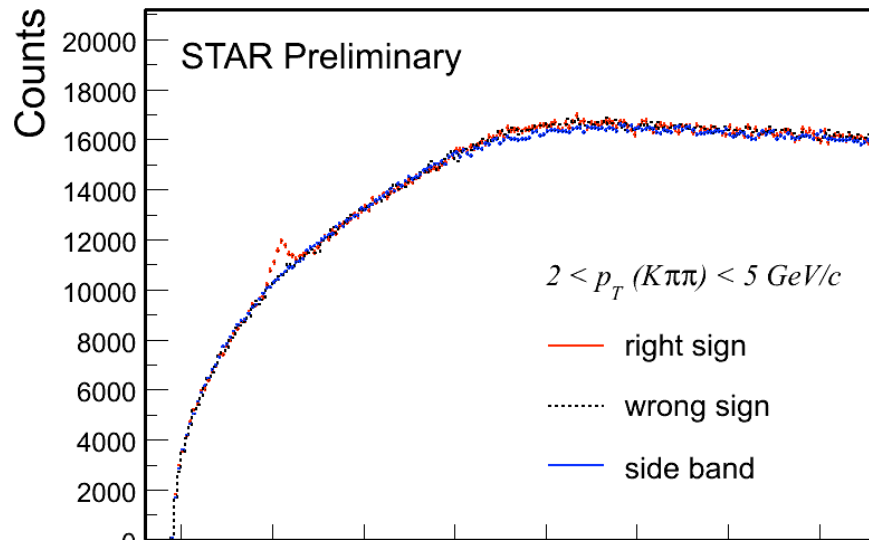


# D<sup>0</sup> meson in p+p 200 GeV



- Year 2009 data.
- 72% TOF installed.
- various background reconstruction methods.
- consistent signal  $\sim 4\sigma$  observed.

# $D^*$ meson in p+p 200GeV



- $D^{*+} (D^{*-}) \rightarrow D^0 (D^0 \text{bar}) + \pi_s^\pm$
- More than 4sigma signal at low  $p_T$
- Very significant at high  $p_T$  - mostly from EMC-based high neutral energy triggers.
- Wrong sign and side-band method reproduce background well.

# Summary of charm mesons

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- ◆ STAR measurements in Cu+Cu, Au+Au and d+Au show  $N_{\text{bin}}$  scaling of charm cross-section
- ◆ STAR  $D_s$  measurement in Au+Au is consistent with the statistical hadronization model.
- ◆ Open charm hadrons are reconstructed from STAR run9 p+p 200 GeV data. Four sigma  $D^*$  signal at low  $p_T$  and more significant  $D^*$  signal at high  $p_T$  are observed.
- ◆ Working on efficiency for  $p_T$  spectra and cross-section and Run10 data



# Non-photonic electrons (NPE)

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NPE: semi-leptonic decays of open heavy quark hadrons

$$c \rightarrow e^+ + \text{anything}(9.8\%) \quad D^0 \rightarrow K^- + e^+ + \nu_e(3.5\%)$$

Advantage: EMC based high tower trigger, reaching high  $p_T$

Disadvantage: Incomplete kinematics

Outline:

✧ Background in the NPE analysis

✧ High  $p_T$  NPE yield,  $R_{AA}$

✧ High  $p_T$  NPE-hadron correlation in p+p 200GeV, the near side: b/c separation

✧ High  $p_T$  NPE-hadron correlation in Au+Au, Cu+Cu, d+Au 200GeV, the away side

✧ NPE elliptic flow

# Background in NPE analysis

The main background is photonic electrons:

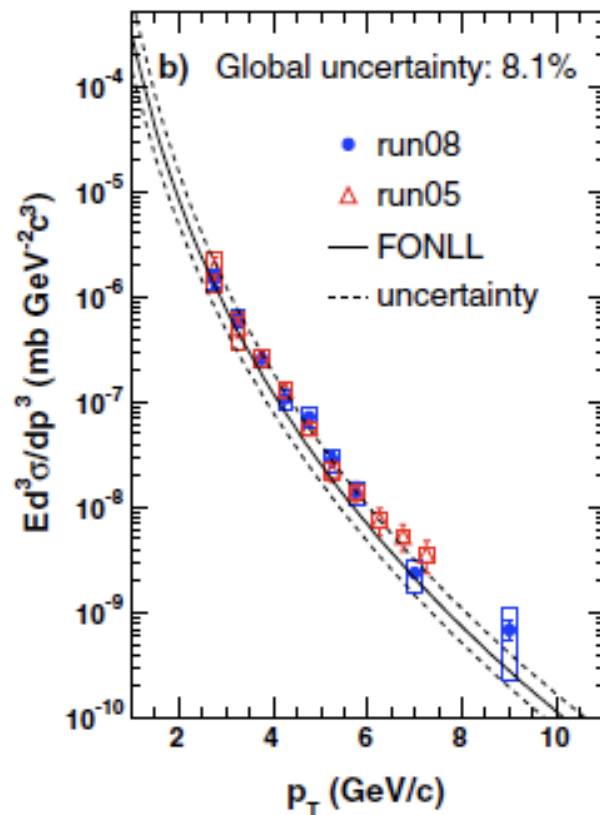
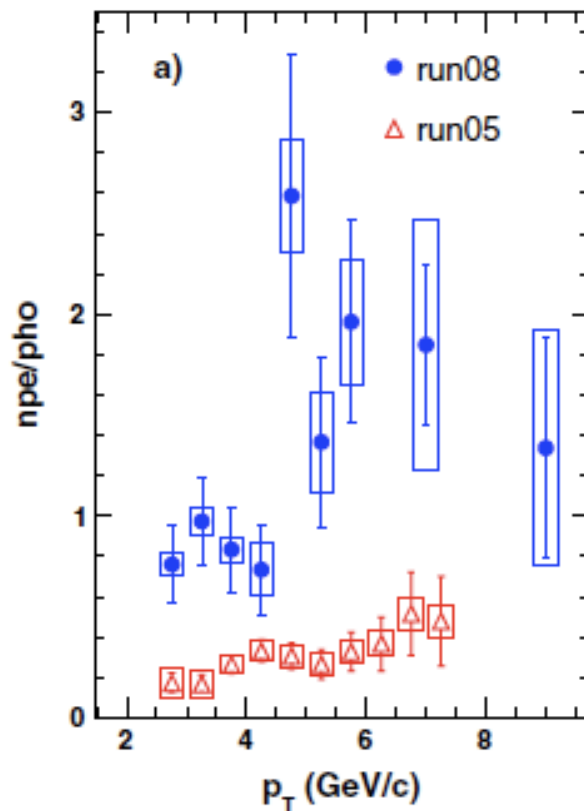
Photon conversions in material

$$\gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$

Dalitz decays of pseudoscalar mesons

$$\pi^0, \eta \rightarrow \gamma + e^+ + e^-$$

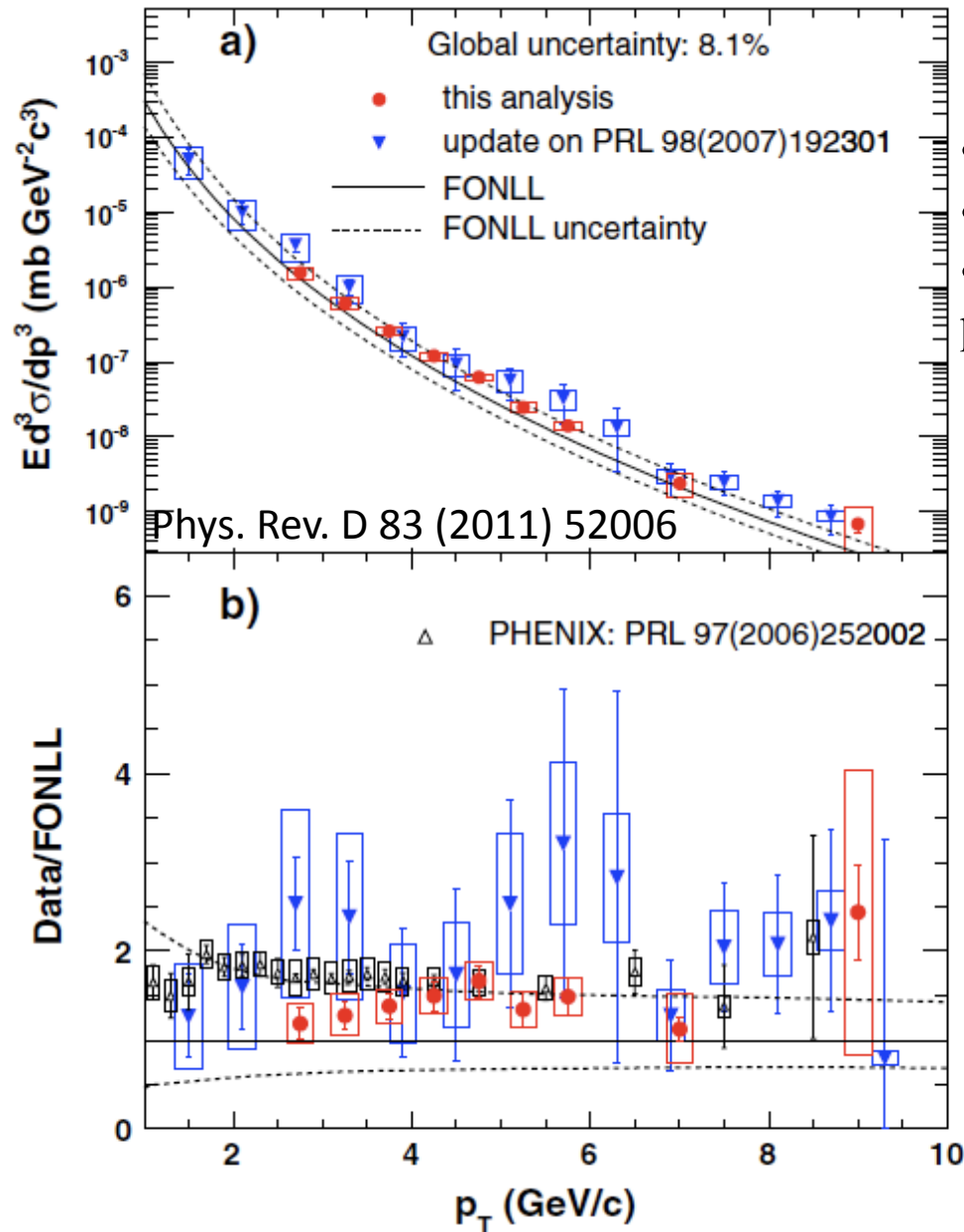
In Run08, inner detectors (SVT and SSD) were removed, significantly reduced this background



Phys. Rev. D **83** (2011) 52006

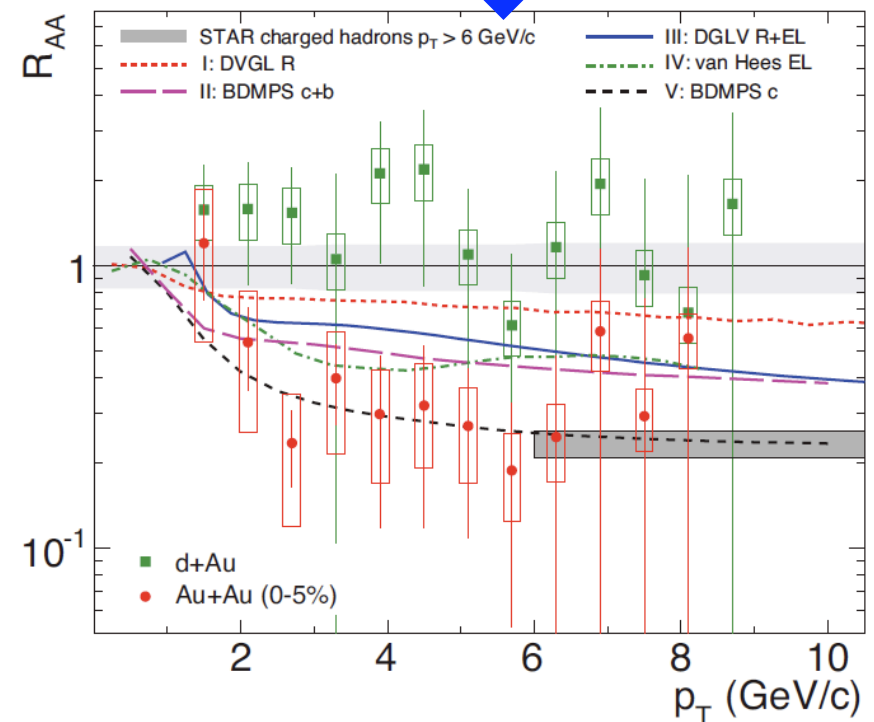
$p_T > 2.5 \text{ GeV}/c$  NPE measurement  
with dramatically different  
photonic electron background  
agree with each very well

# High $p_T$ NPE in 200GeV p+p



← Latest measurement with high precision in pp

- Re-check the previous data, consistent now.
- Still strongly suppressed, with larger uncertainties.
- We are analyzing Run10 Au+Au data, will have high precision results.

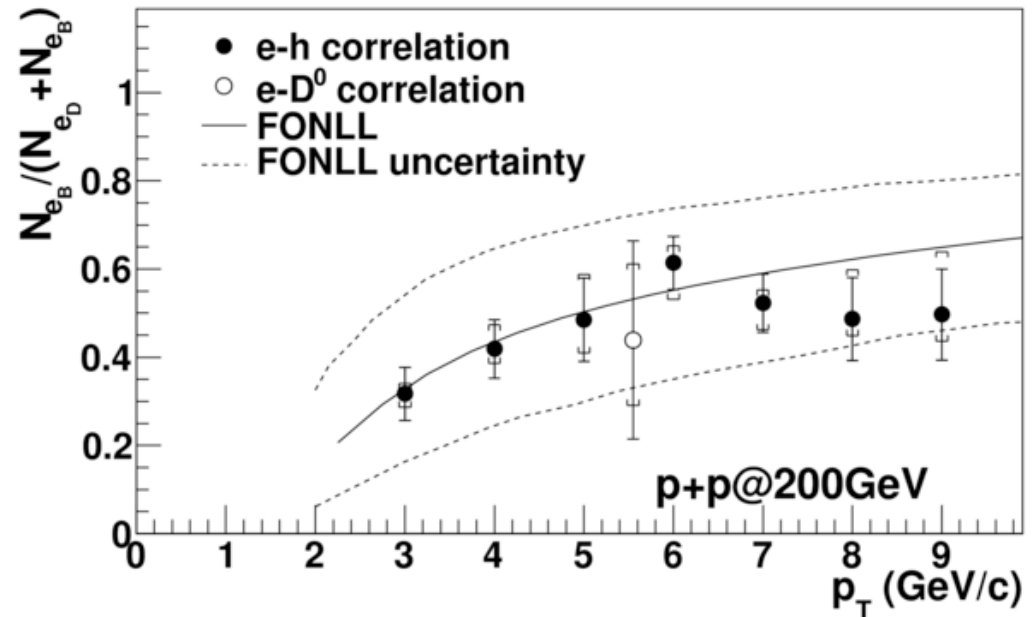
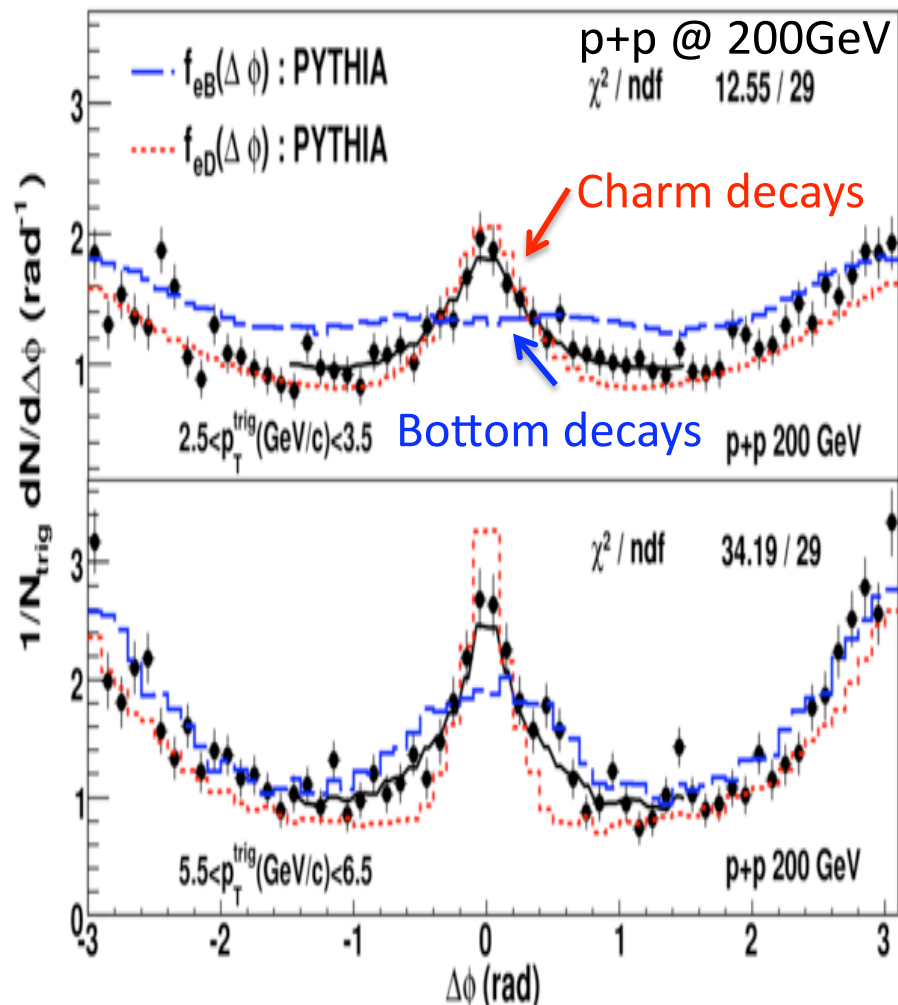


Erratum on PRL 98(2007) 192301

# High $p_T$ NPE-hadron correlations: **near side**

Different decay kinematics for charm and bottom hadrons

→ Crucial for charm and bottom discrimination.



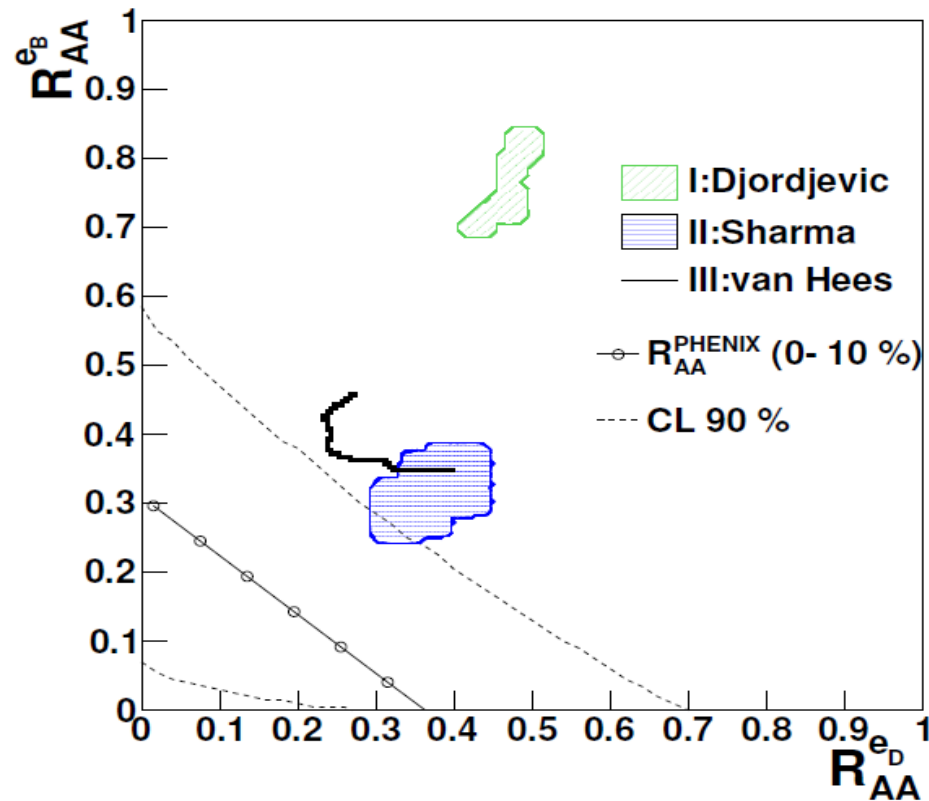
Bottom quark contributes significantly in interested  $p_T$  ranges!



# Bottom electron is suppressed

Combine the obtained b/c separation with NPE  $R_{AA}$  (PHENIX:arXiv:1005.1627)

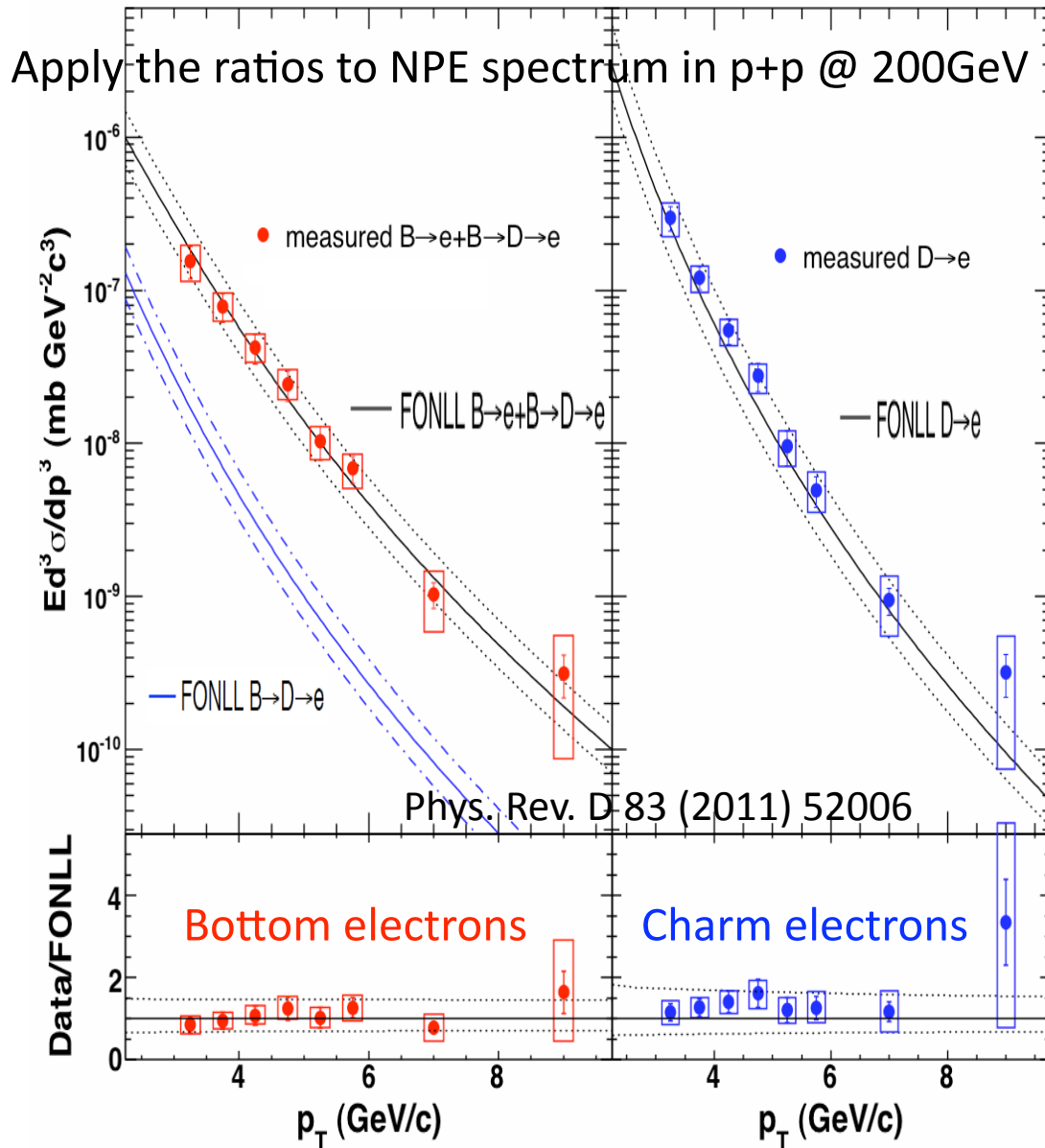
$$R_{AA}^{NPE} = (1 - r_B) R_{AA}^{e_D} + r_B R_{AA}^{e_B}$$



$p_T > 5 \text{ GeV}/c$ , Bottom electron  $R_{AA} < 1$

**STAR: PRL 105, 202301 (2010)**

# Separated Bottom electron and Charm electron



With spectrum shapes from model calculations, one can extrapolate the total production cross sections of bottom quark:

In p+p collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 200$  GeV, extrapolated based on STAR NPE measurements at high  $p_T$ ,

$$\sigma_{b\bar{b}} = 1.34 \mu\text{b} \quad \text{with PYTHIA, MSEL=1 Mode.}$$

$$\sigma_{b\bar{b}} = 1.83 \mu\text{b} \quad \text{with PYTHIA, MSEL=5 Mode.}$$

PYTHIA results bear 12.5% (stat.) and 27.5% (sys.) experimental uncertainties.

$$\text{FONLL}^{[1]} \text{ calculation: } \sigma_{b\bar{b}} = 1.87^{+0.99}_{-0.67} \mu\text{b}$$

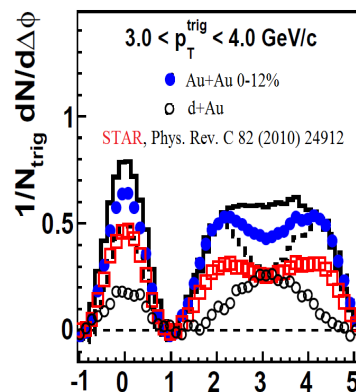
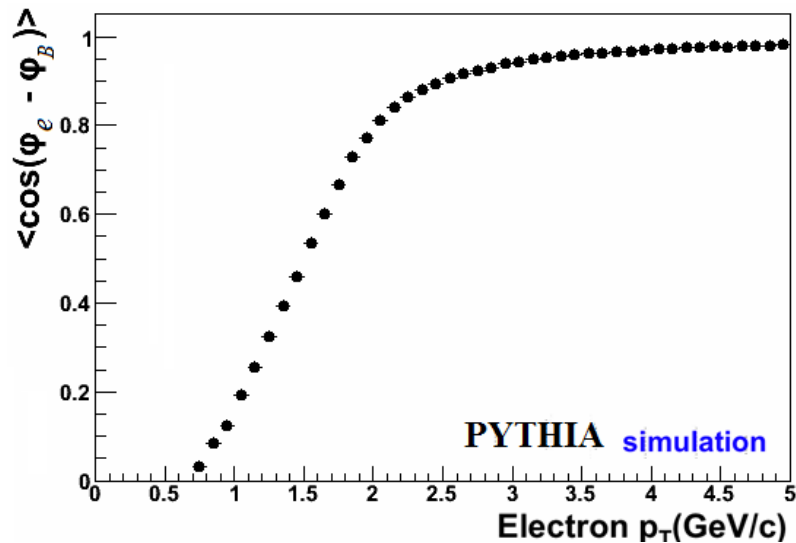
Wenqin, LLWI 2011

FONLL[1] is consistent with data in the bottom case; slightly lower for charm

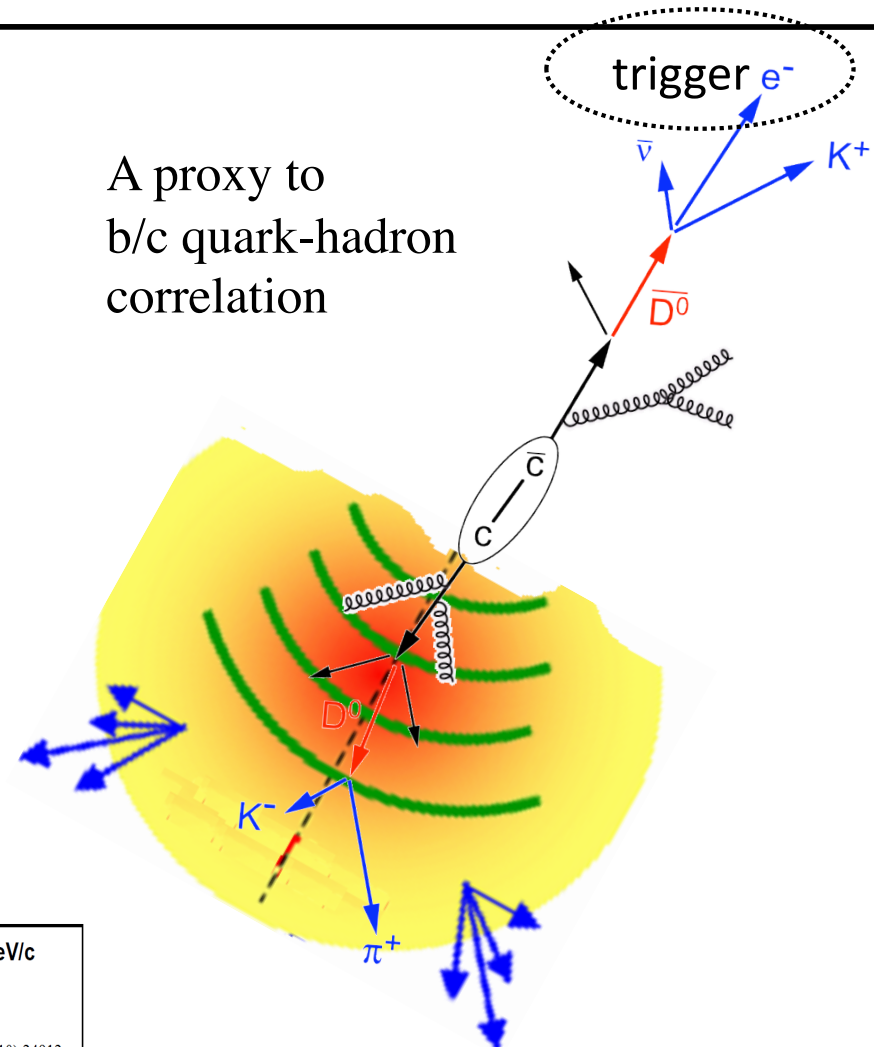
[1] FONLL: M. Cacciari, P. Nason and R. Vogt, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95**, 20 122001 (2005);  
M. Cacciari, R. Vogt, private communications.

# High $p_T$ NPE-hadron correlations: **away side**

Heavy flavor daughter electrons represent parent momentum direction well, when  $p_T^e > 1.5$  GeV/c for D case, and when  $p_T^e > 3$  GeV/c for B case.



A proxy to b/c quark-hadron correlation

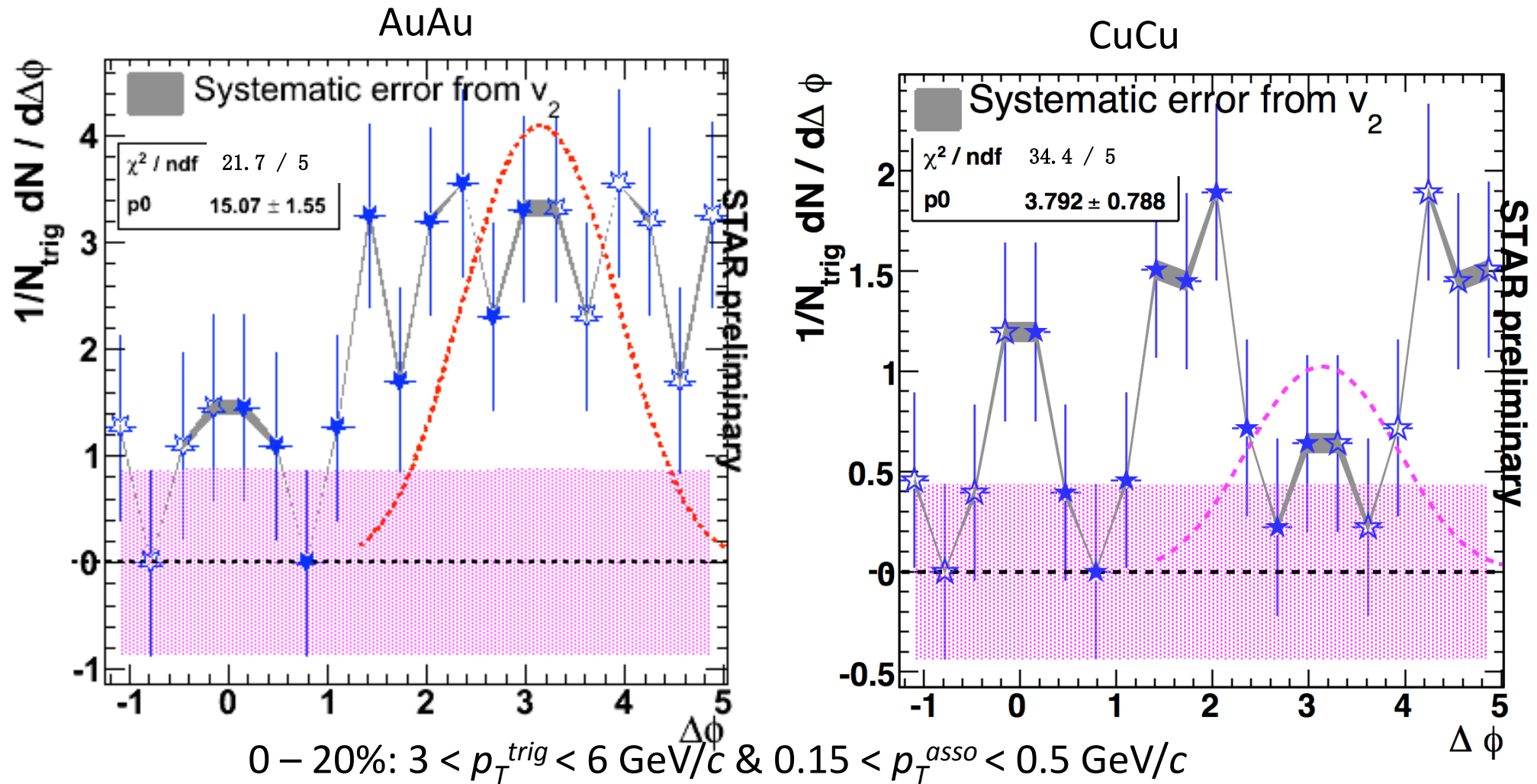


**Away Side in medium:**

How does  $B/D$  lose energy?  
Any pattern like what seen in di-hadron?

# High $p_T$ NPE-hadron correlations away side <sup>20</sup>

## Broadened in Au+Au, Cu+Cu



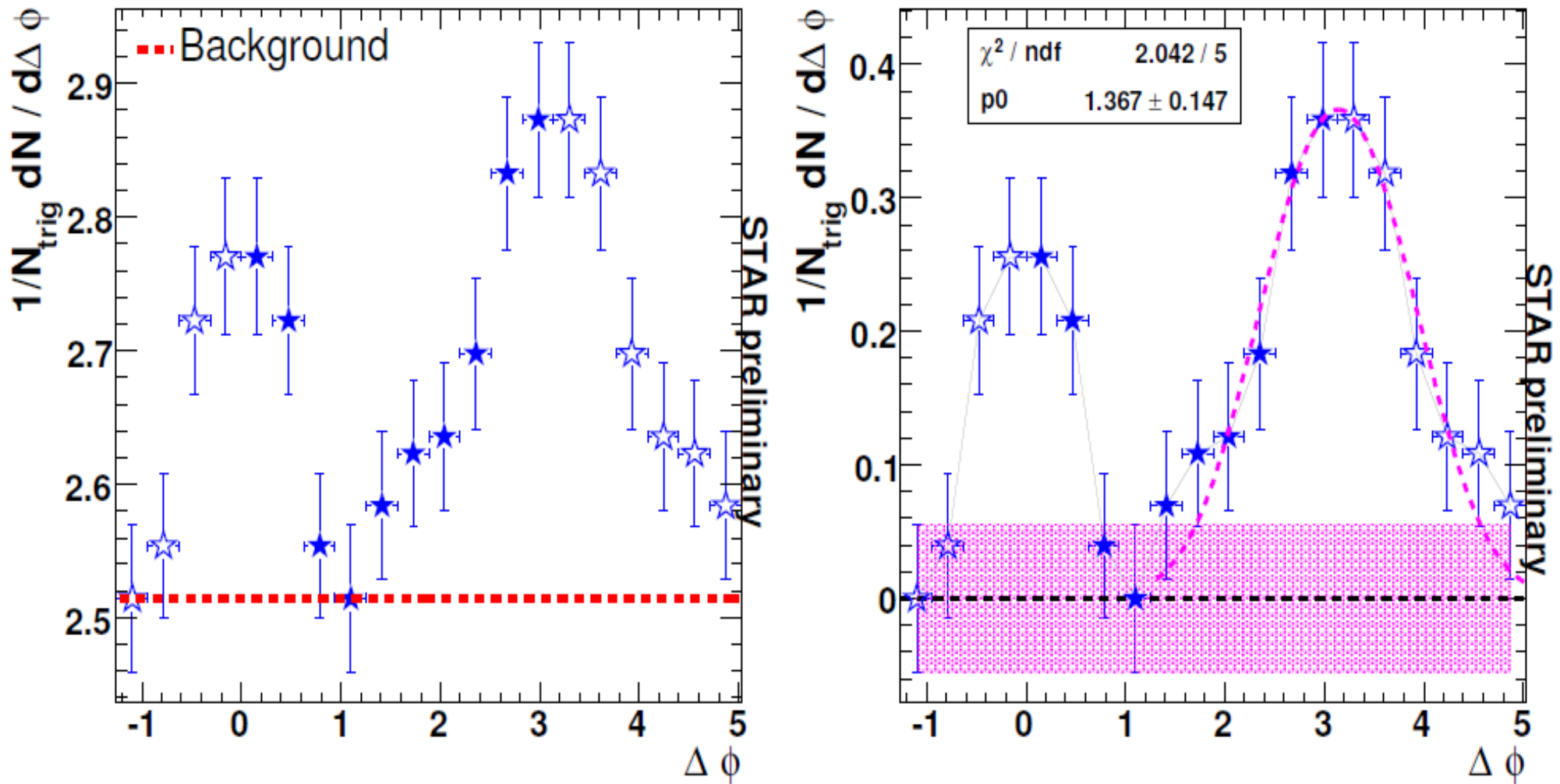
Away side **broadened**, beyond PYHTIA fit, in both Au+Au and Cu+Cu

The new result from Run10 data could have the uncertainty reduced by  $\sim 4$  in certain centralities.



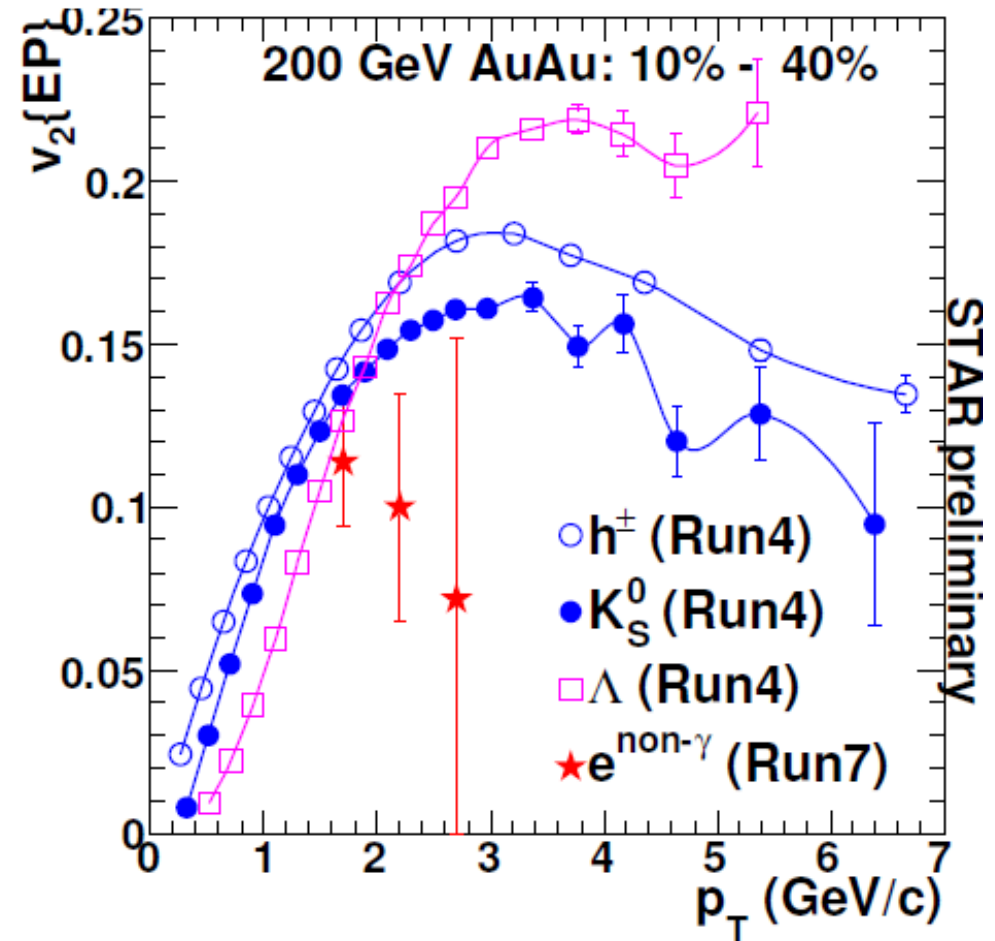
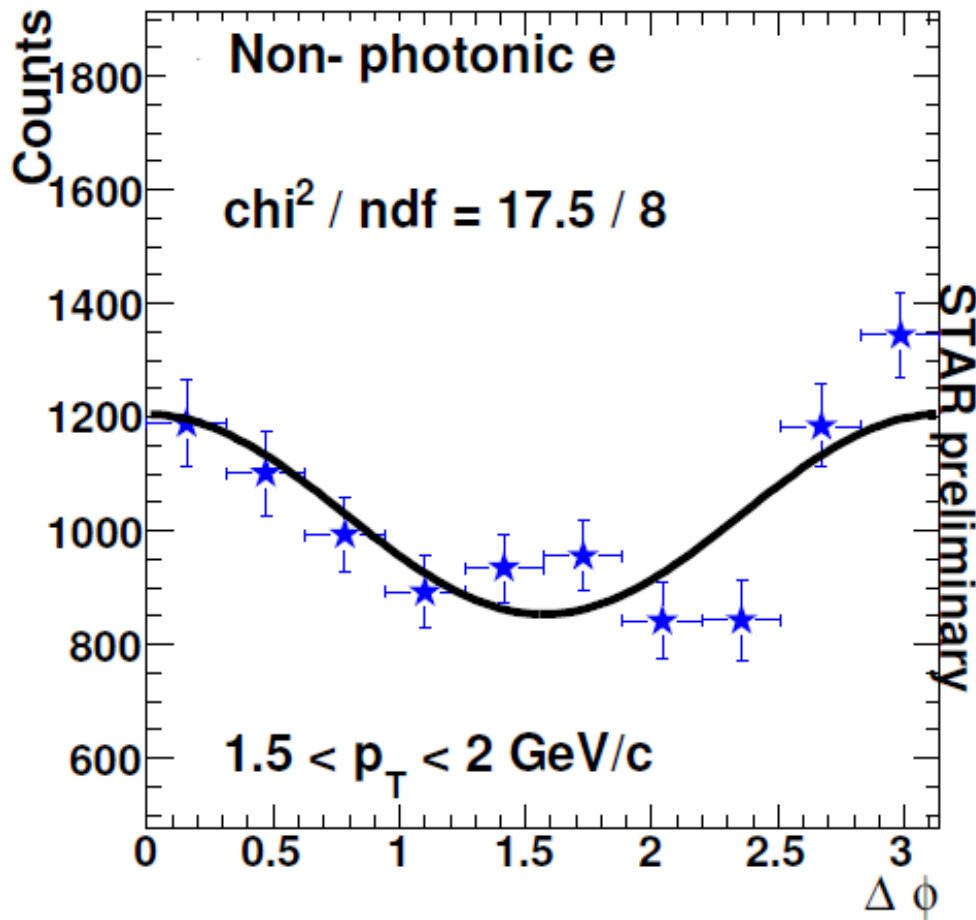
# High $p_T$ NPE-hadron correlations away side <sup>21</sup> NOT broadened in d+Au

$3 < p_T^{trig} < 6 \text{ GeV}/c$  &  $0.15 < p_T^{asso} < 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c$



The away-side correlation can be well described by **PYTHIA** calculations for **p+p**. No medium effects seen here.

# How much do heavy flavor quarks flow?



NPE  $v_2$  is finite, and lower than hadron (or  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ )  $v_2$ , with large uncertainties.

not apple to apple: the NPE  $p_T <$  heavy flavor parent hadron  $p_T$ ,

# Summary of NPE

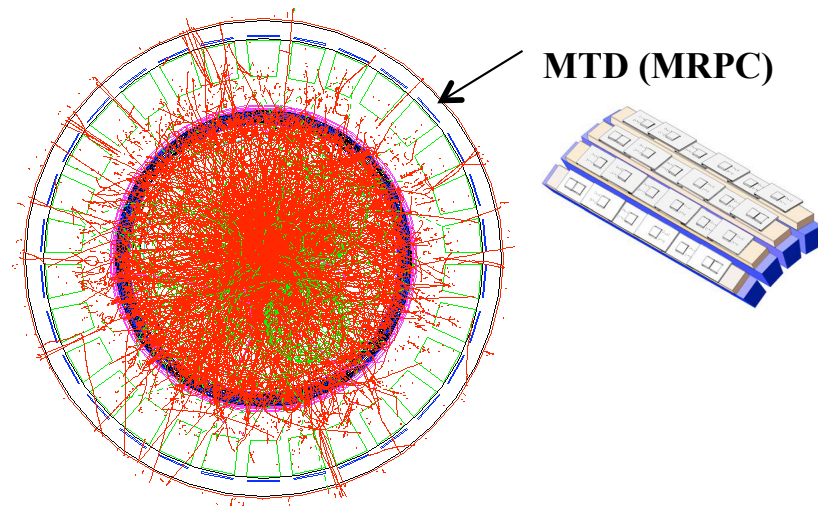
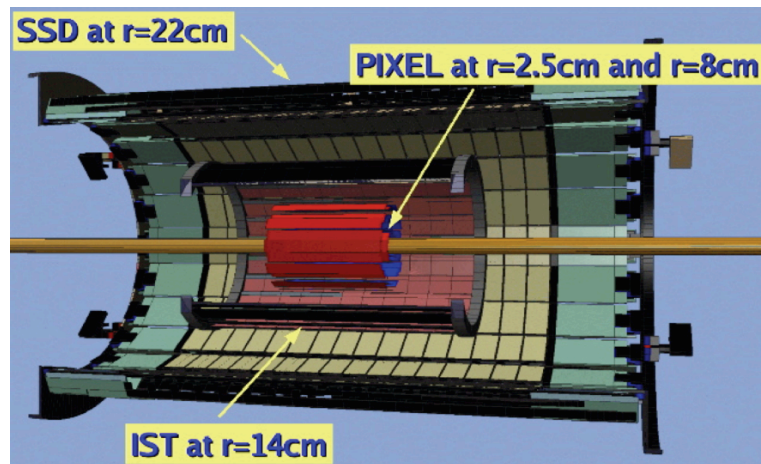
- NPE at high  $p_T$  is largely suppressed in central Au+Au collisions.
- NPE-h correlations in p+p collisions has been measured to separate  $B$  and  $D$  contributions
  - Bottom hadron yield in central Au+Au collisions is also suppressed.
  - Bottom electron at high  $p_T$  in p+p is consistent with FONLL, while charm electron is close
- The away side of NPE-h correlation is modified in central Cu+Cu and Au+Au collisions; not modified in d+Au collisions.
- NPE  $v_2$  is finite, and lower than hadron (or  $K^0_s$ ,  $\Lambda$ )  $v_2$ , with large uncertainties

# STAR upgrades for Heavy Flavor physics

## Heavy Flavor Tracker(HFT):

Direct topological reconstruction of open charmed hadrons in HI collisions

- No ambiguities in the charm hadron kinematics
- No ambiguities in the charm/bottom hadron mixture
- Significantly improved significance by secondary decay vertex reconstruction

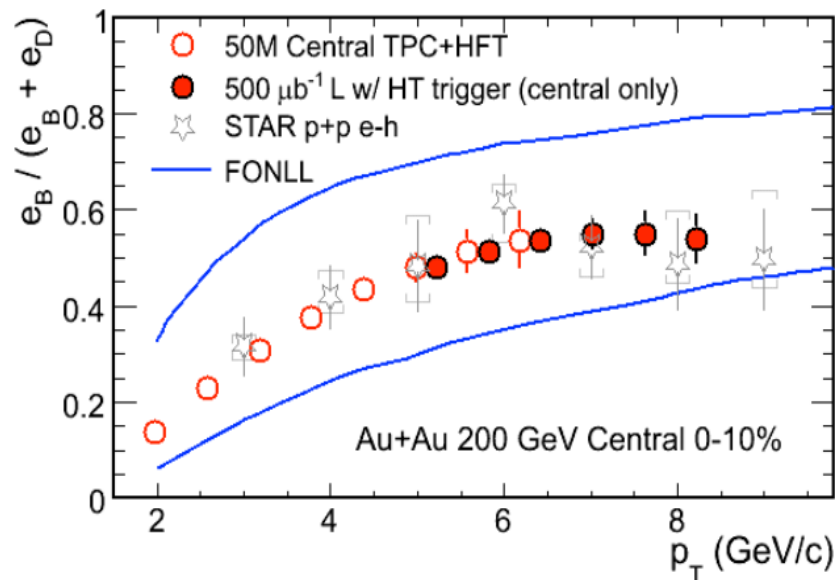
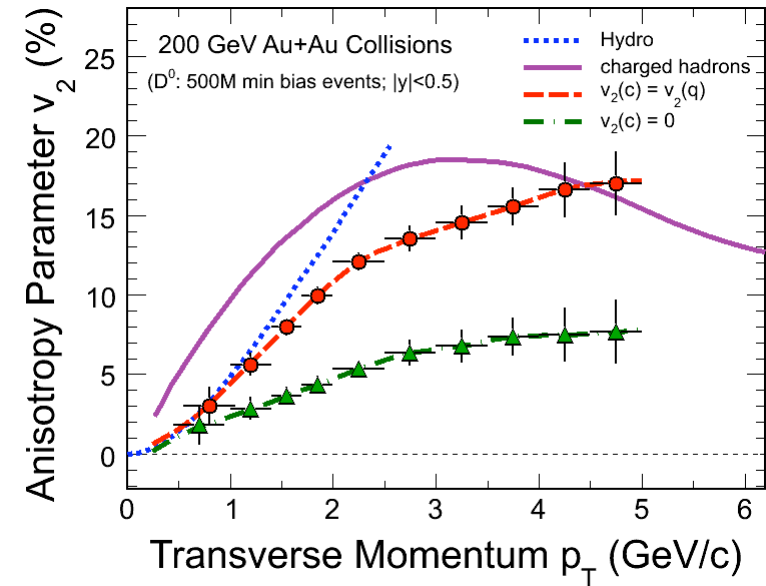
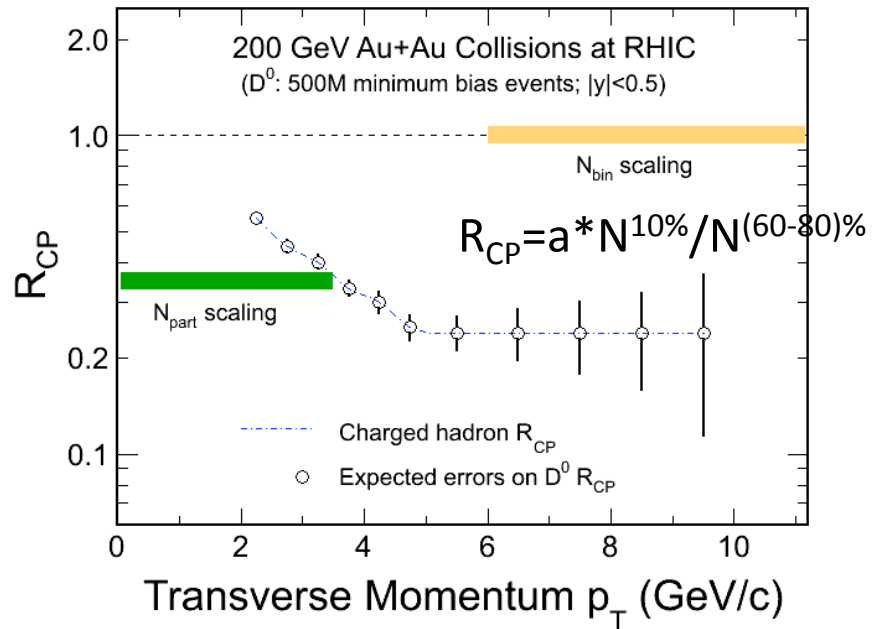


## Muon Telescope Detector(MTD):

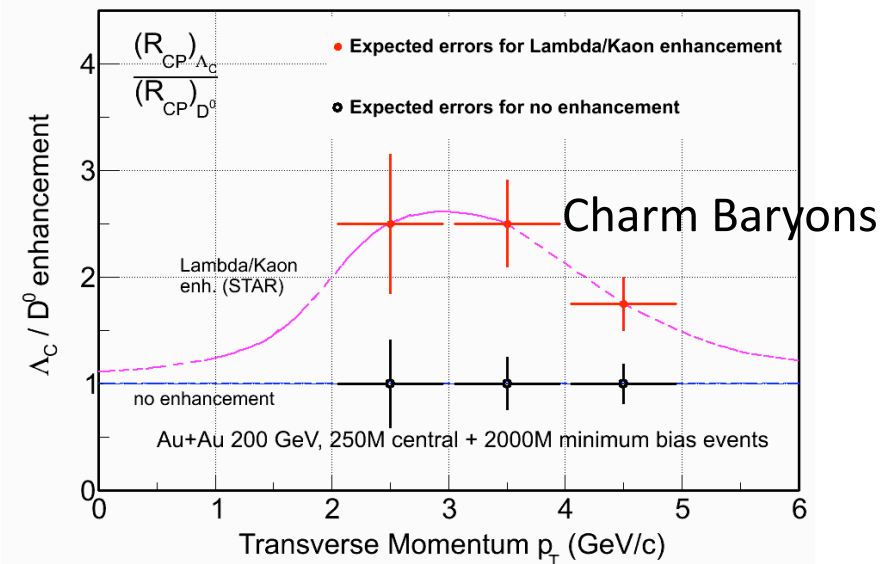
Advantages over electron channels:

- No  $\gamma$  conversion, much less Dalitz decay contribution, much less combinatorial background
- Less affected by radiative losses in the detector materials
- Also important for heavy quarkonia studies

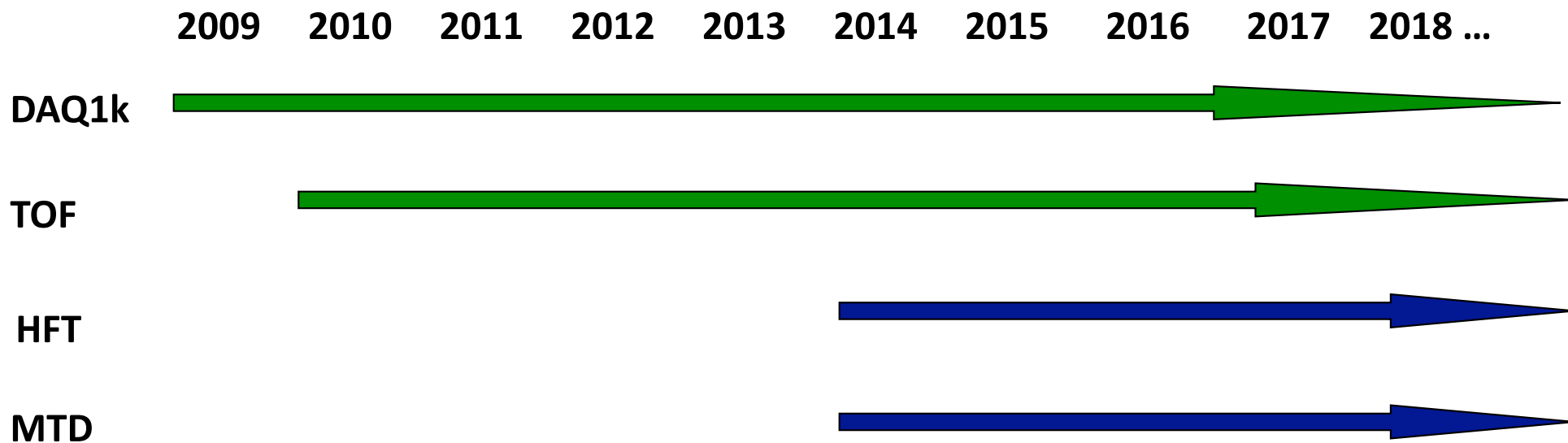
# Physics Projections



Charm  
Bottom  
separation



# STAR Upgrade Schedule



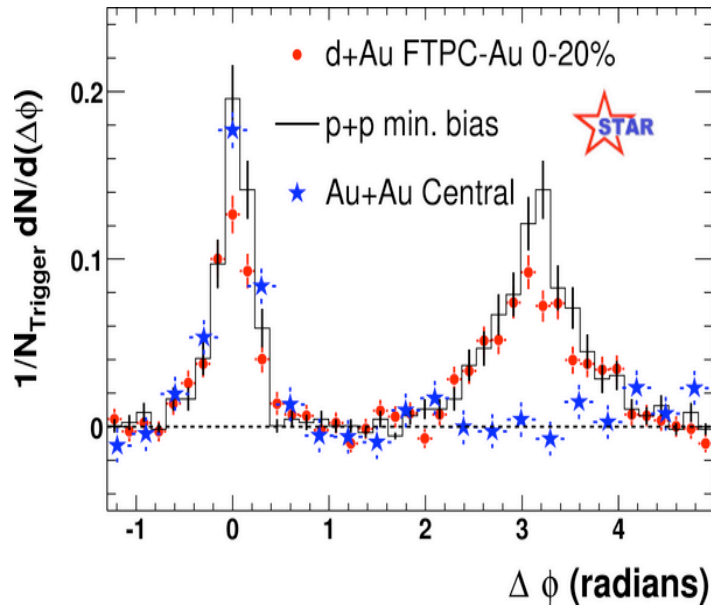
STAR,  
with the HFT and MTD upgrades,  
remains the ideal place to carry out  
Heavy Flavor studies



# Backup

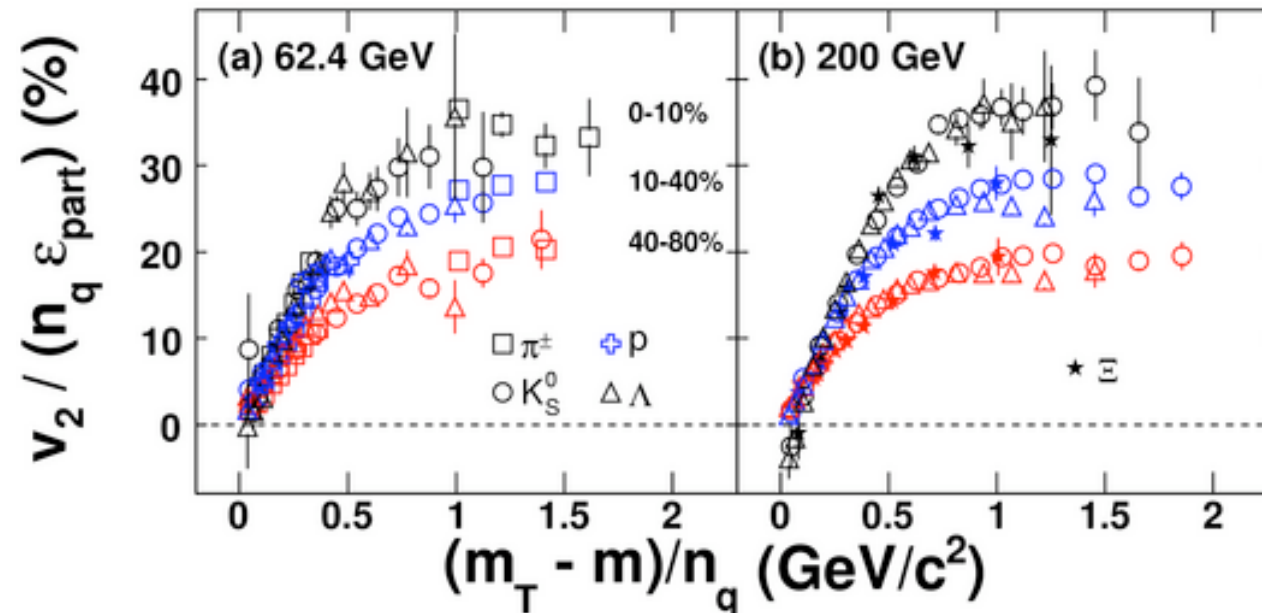
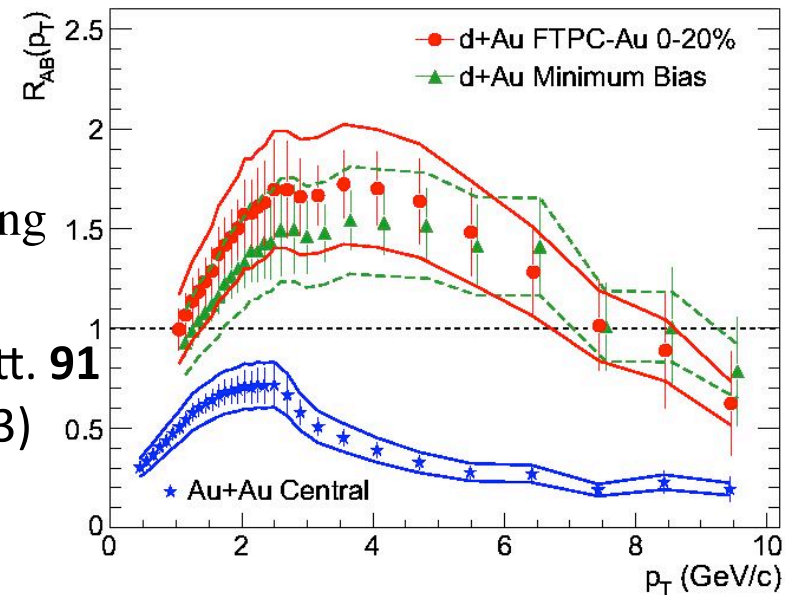
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# What we've learned in heavy ion collisions



High  $p_T$ :  
Jet quenching

Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**  
072304 (2003)



Low and intermediate  $p_T$ :  
Strong partonic collectivity

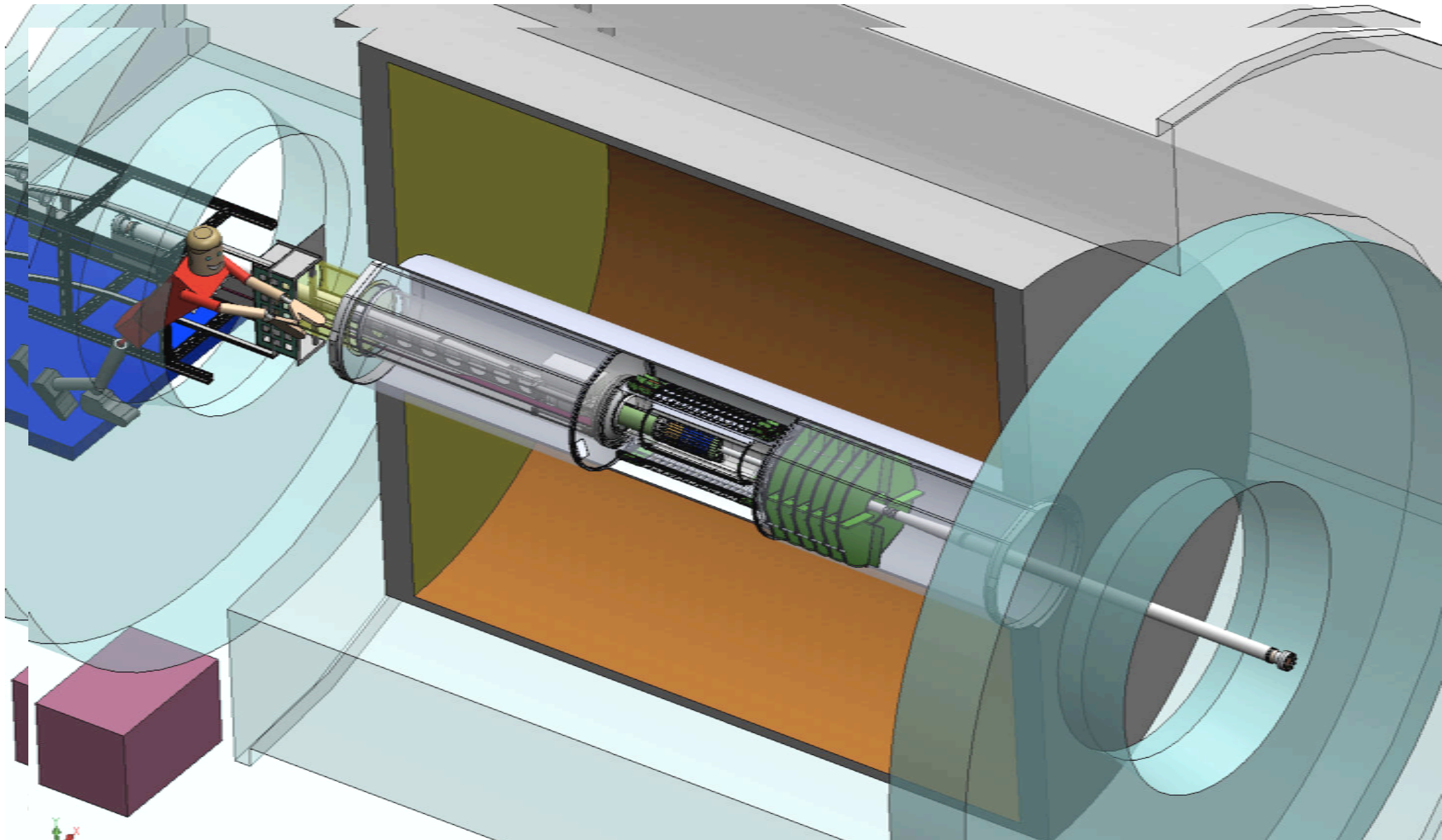
Phys. Rev. C **77**  
054901 (2008)

Summary of the talk:

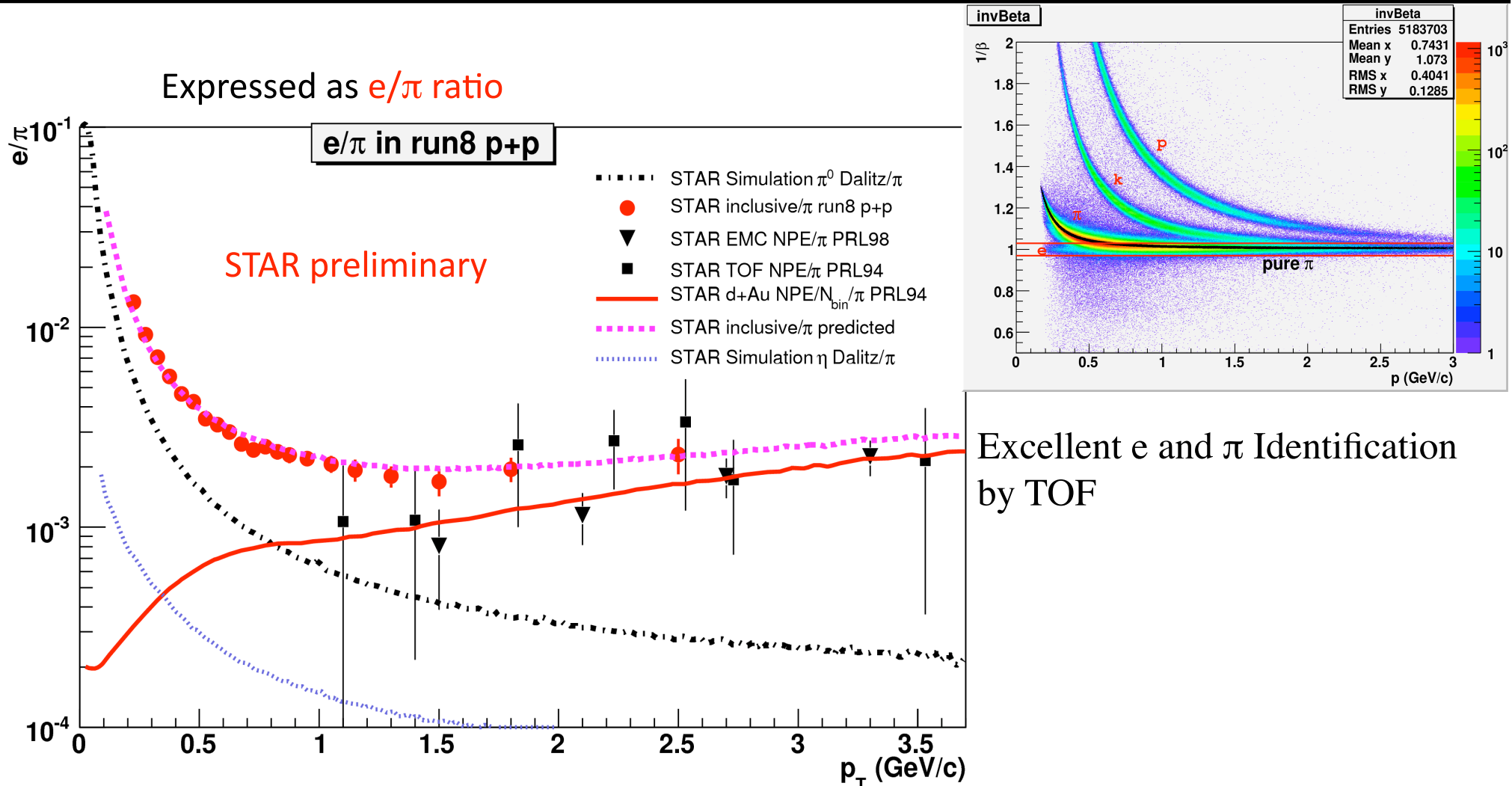
Heavy Flavor is an important probe to the medium, with the potential of quantitatively understand the properties of the medium.

STAR studies open heavy flavor via direct construction and NPE.

STAR, with the HFT and MTD upgrades, remains the ideal place to carry out these studies.



# Lower $p_T$ NPE in 200GeV p+p



- Non-photonic electron signal is higher than photonic background at  $p_T > 1.2$  GeV/c
- The measured  $e/\pi$  ratio from run8 supports our previous low  $p_T$  NPE measurements published
- Statistics are much higher than what we had before