

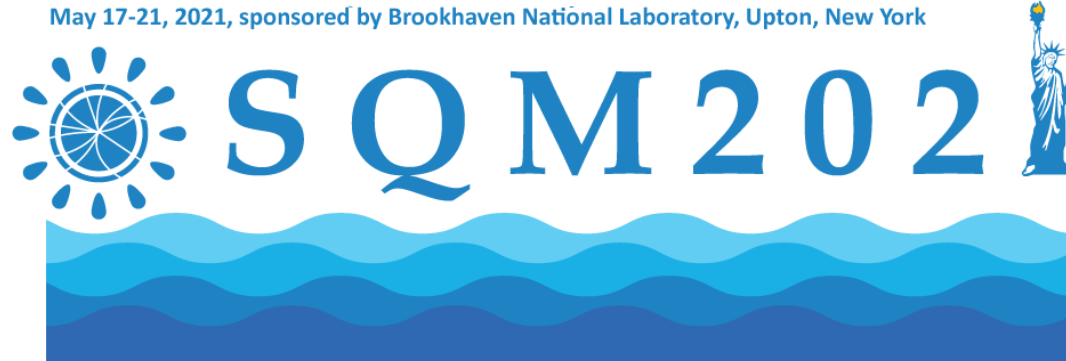
# CME Search at STAR

Yu Hu<sup>1,2</sup> (胡昱)

for the STAR collaboration

The 19th International Conference on Strangeness in Quark Matter

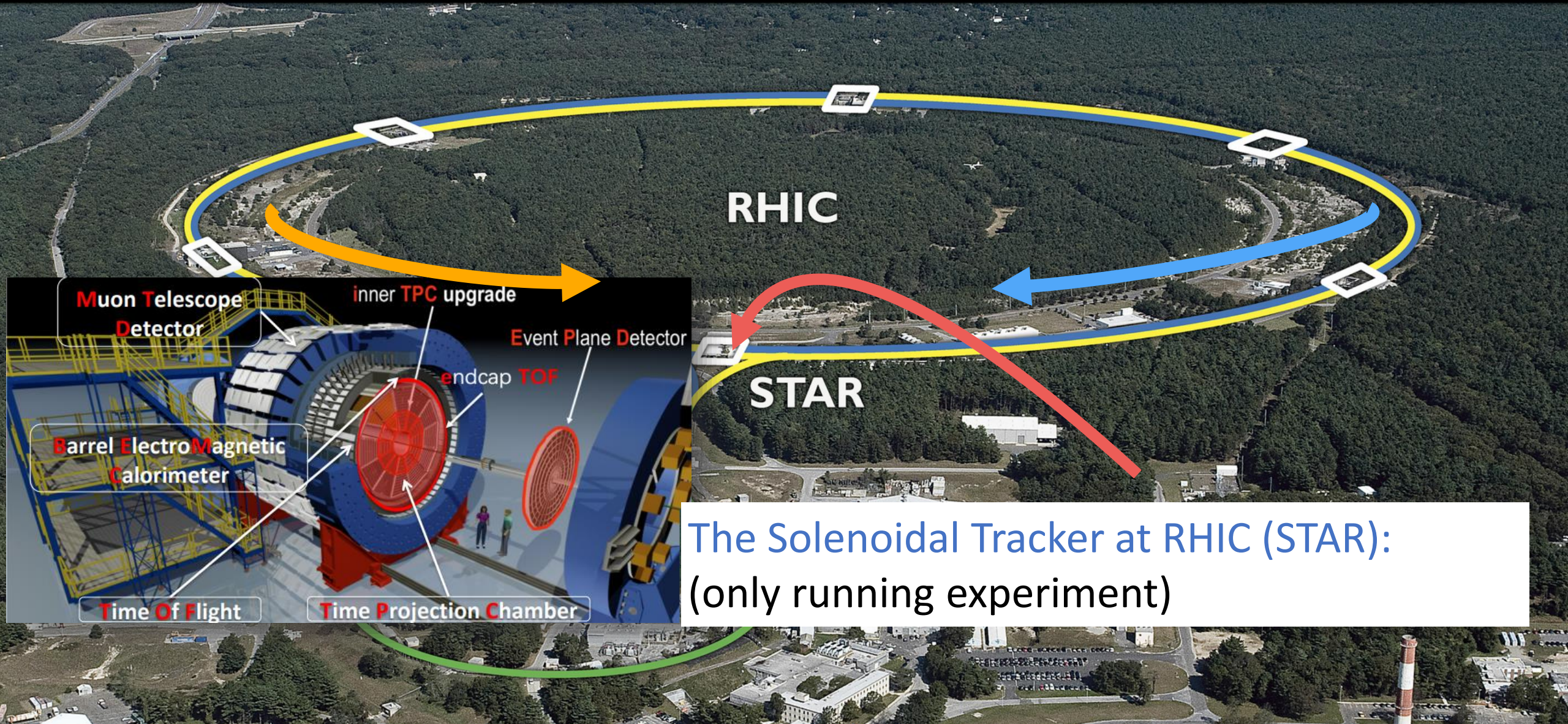
May 17-21, 2021, sponsored by Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York



1. Fudan University; 2. Brookhaven National Laboratory



# Introduction



The Solenoidal Tracker at RHIC (STAR):  
(only running experiment)



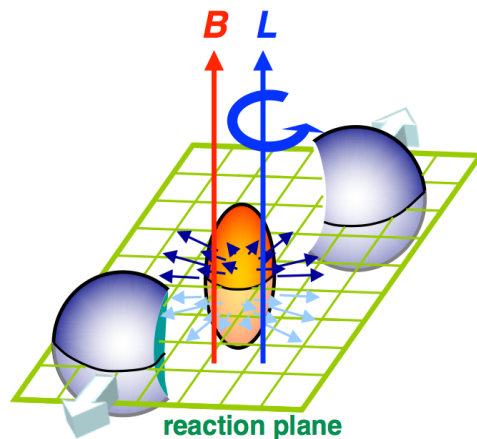
# Strongest B-field in the Universe & Chiral Magnetic Effect

Collisions of two heavy ions create the strongest electromagnetic fields in the universe

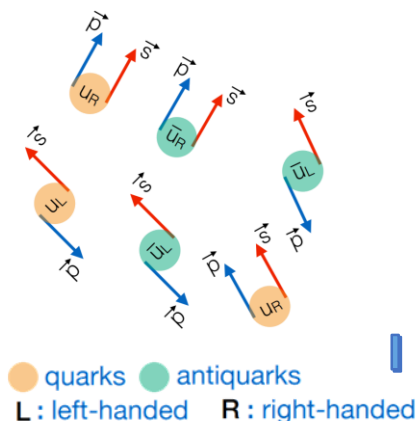
Strong magnetic field

$B \sim 10^{18}$  Gauss

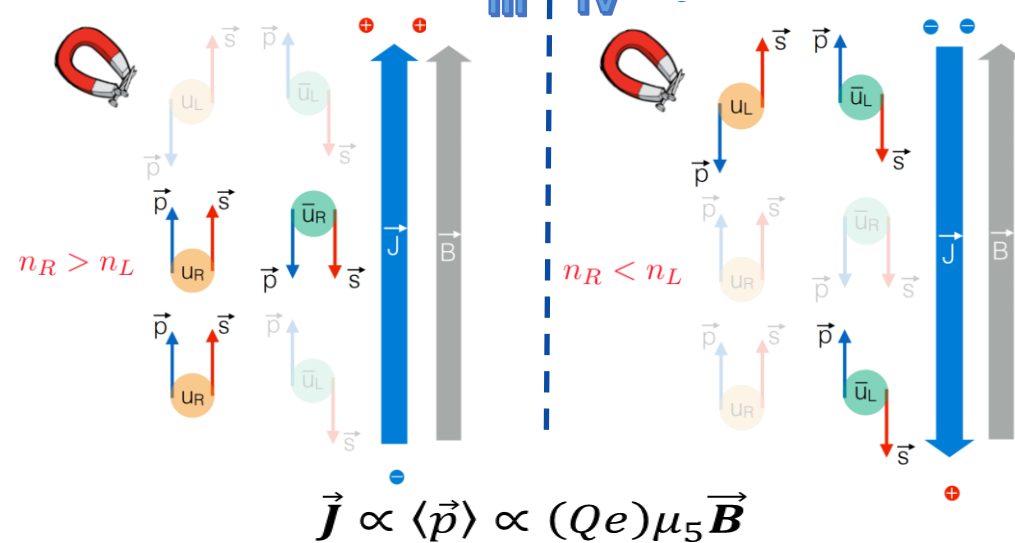
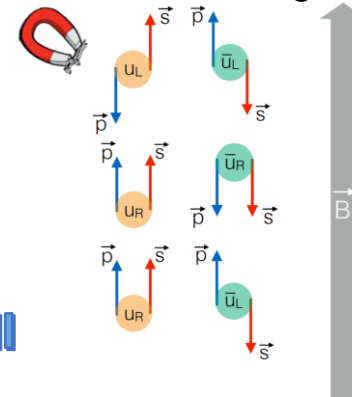
D. Kharzeev, L. McLerran, and H. Warringa, Nucl.Phys.A803, 227 (2008)  
 McLerran and Skokov, Nucl. Phys. A929, 184 (2014)



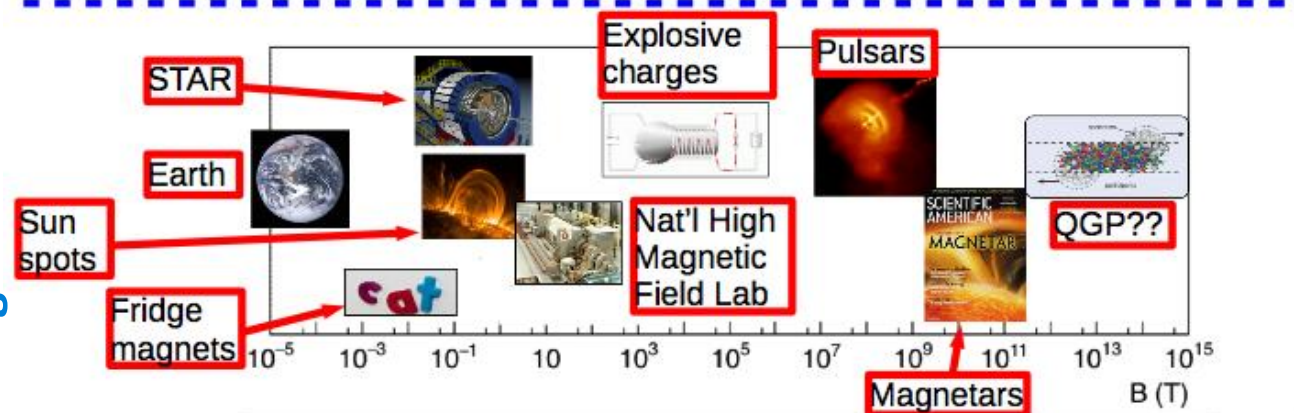
Massless quarks randomly oriented



Quarks aligned along B



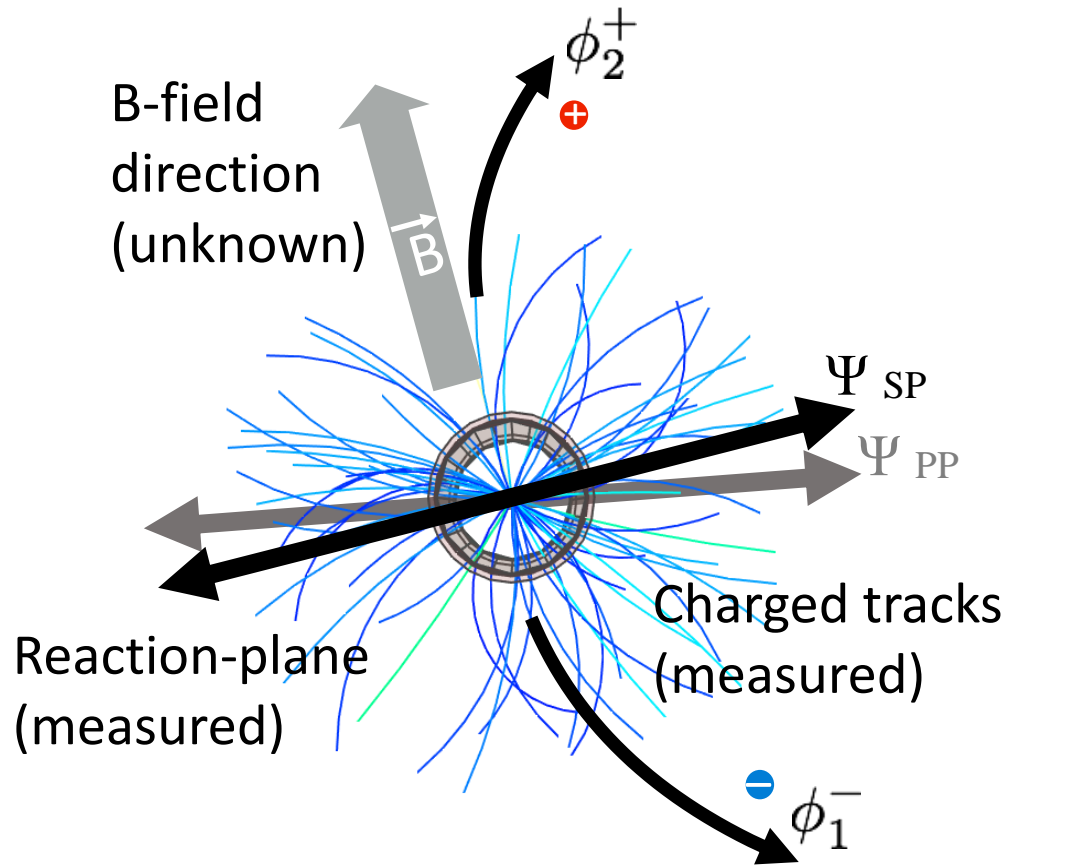
Magnetic Field



# Au + Au & U+U @ Higher Energy

# Charge Dependent Correlator & Event Plane

S. A. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. C70 (2004) 057901



$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \cos(\phi_\alpha + \phi_\beta - 2\Psi) \quad \text{RP, PP, SP...}$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \gamma_{\text{opposite}} - \gamma_{\text{same}}$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \Delta\gamma^{BG} + \Delta\gamma^{CME}$$

- TPC  $\Psi_{EP} \rightarrow$  proxy of  $\Psi_{PP}$
  - ZDC  $\Psi_1 \rightarrow$  proxy of  $\Psi_{RP}$
- $\Delta\gamma$  w.r.to TPC  $\Psi_{EP}$  and ZDC  $\Psi_1$  contain different fractions of CME and Bkg.

$$\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{TPC}) = \Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{TPC}) + \Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{TPC}) \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{ZDC}) = \Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{ZDC}) + \Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{ZDC}) \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{TPC})}{\Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{ZDC})} = \frac{v_2(\Psi_{TPC})}{v_2(\Psi_{ZDC})} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

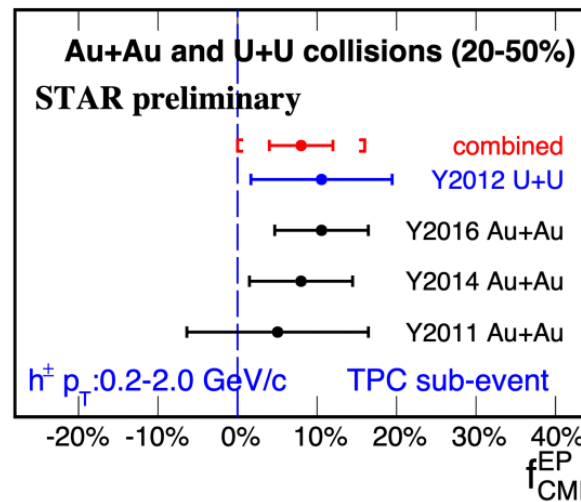
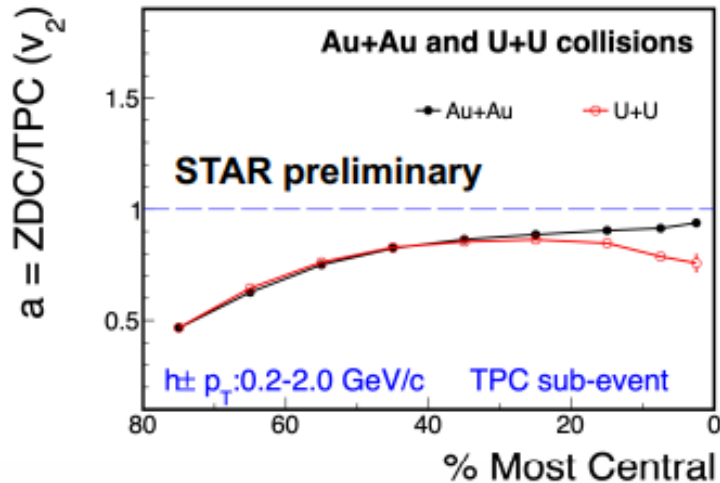
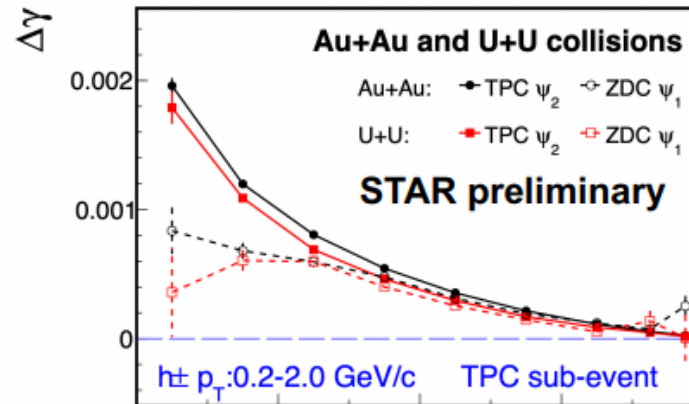
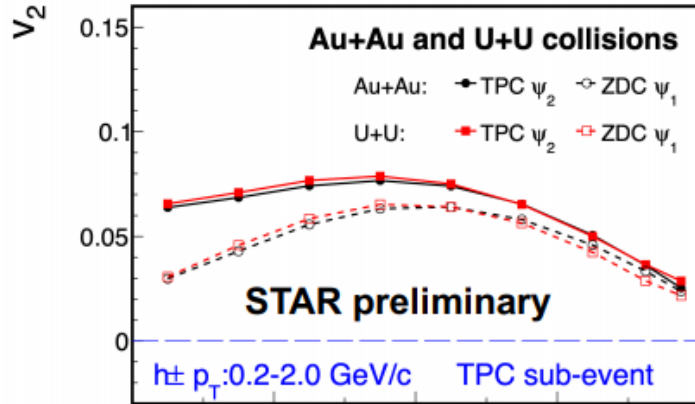
$$\frac{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{TPC})}{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{ZDC})} = \frac{v_2(\Psi_{ZDC})}{v_2(\Psi_{TPC})} \quad \textcircled{4}$$

$$f_{EP}(CME) = \frac{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{TPC})}{\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{TPC})} \quad \textcircled{5}$$

Known (green dashed box), Unknown (orange dashed box)

H-J. Xu, et al, CPC 42 (2018) 084103; S. A. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. C 98 (2018) 054911

# $\Delta\gamma$ w.r.to different planes @ High Energy



$$\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{\text{TPC}}) = \Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{\text{TPC}}) + \Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{\text{TPC}}) \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}}) = \Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}}) + \Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}}) \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})}{\Delta\gamma^{BG}(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}})} = \frac{v_2(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})}{v_2(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}})} > 1 \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})}{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}})} = \frac{v_2(\Psi_{\text{ZDC}})}{v_2(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})} < 1 \quad (4)$$

$$f_{EP}(CME) = \frac{\Delta\gamma^{CME}(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})}{\Delta\gamma(\Psi_{\text{TPC}})} \quad (5)$$

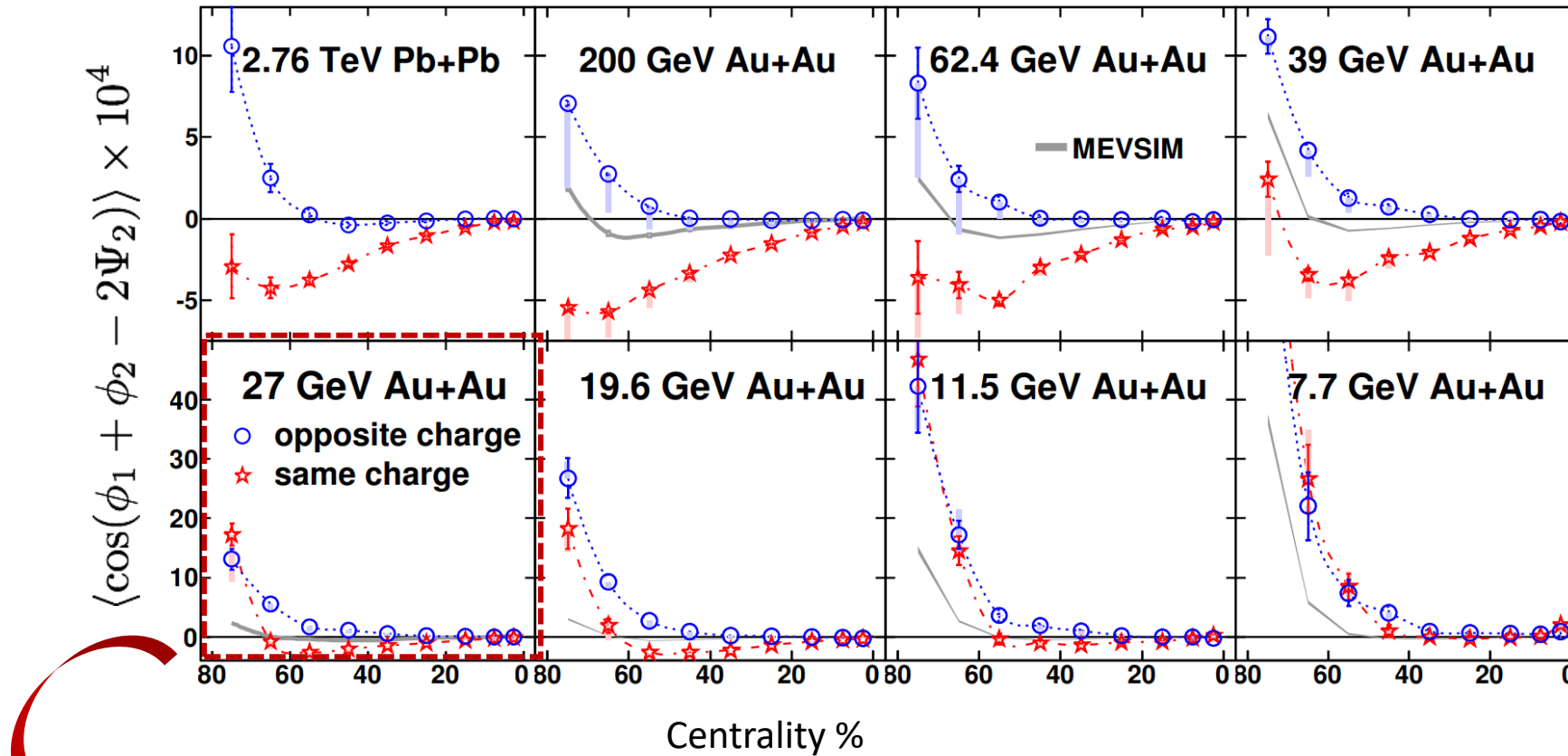
- CME fractions are extracted with  $\Delta\gamma$  using  $\Psi_{\text{PP}}$  and  $\Psi_{\text{RP}}$  in U+U and Au+Au: the combined result is  $(8 \pm 4 \pm 8)\%$
- Current systematic uncertainties assessed by track quality cuts and  $\eta$  gap

# Au + Au @ Lower Energy

# Motivation: $v_s$ dependence & BES-I data

The STAR collaboration has measured charge separation over a wide range of collision energies

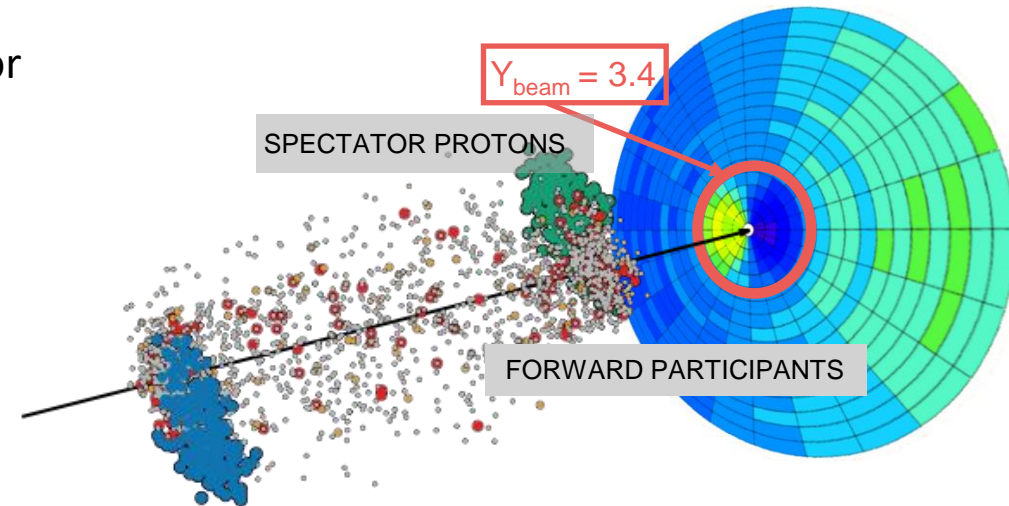
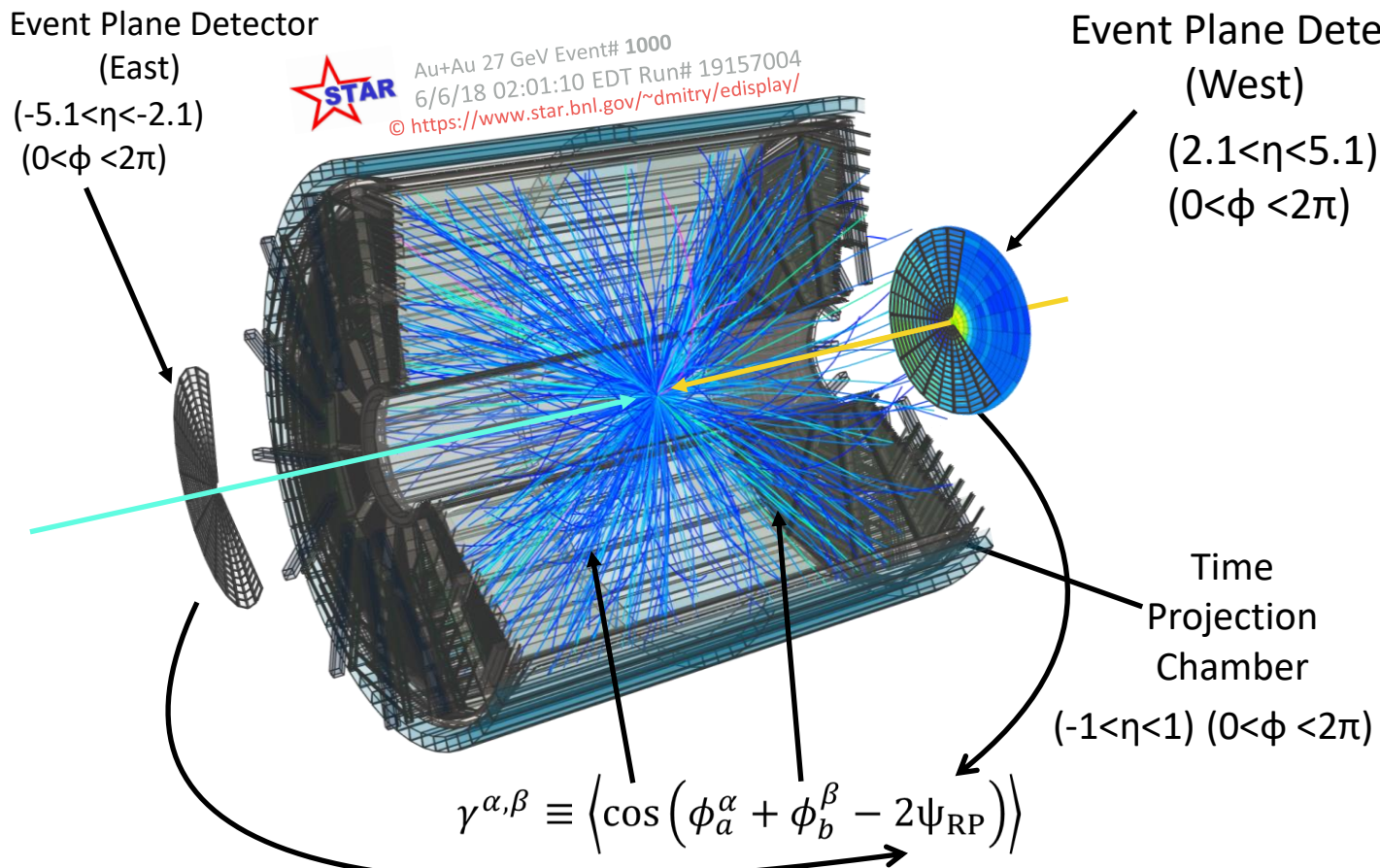
L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR Collaboration), PRL 113 (2014) 052302.



Interesting observation: charge separation disappears at lower energies  
We revisit the 27 GeV analysis with new capabilities & high statistics data



# STAR capability for CME search at low energies



The cartoon above shows that the inner region of EPD detects spectator protons, whose directed flow signal has an opposite direction compared to the outer sectors that are dominated by the participants.

- We use two planes from EPD as proxy for  $\Psi_{RP}$
- $\Psi_1 (\eta > Y_{beam})$ : 1<sup>st</sup>-order event plane enriched with spectator protons
- $\Psi_2 (\eta < Y_{beam})$ : 2<sup>nd</sup>-order event plane for particles going in forward direction

We measure charge-dependent azimuthal correlator using TPC and EPD

# Lower Energy Study with new installed EPD

$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \cos(\phi_\alpha + \phi_\beta - 2\Psi)$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \Delta\gamma^{BG} + \Delta\gamma^{CME}$$

If  $\Delta\gamma^{BG} = b v_2$

→  $\left(\frac{\Delta\gamma}{v_2}\right) = \frac{\langle \cos(\alpha + \beta - 2\Psi) \rangle}{\langle \cos(2\alpha - 2\Psi) \rangle}$  RP, PP, SP...

Under the background scenario, all these ratios equal one to another. If two different measurements yield different ratios, this would indicate the CME signal.

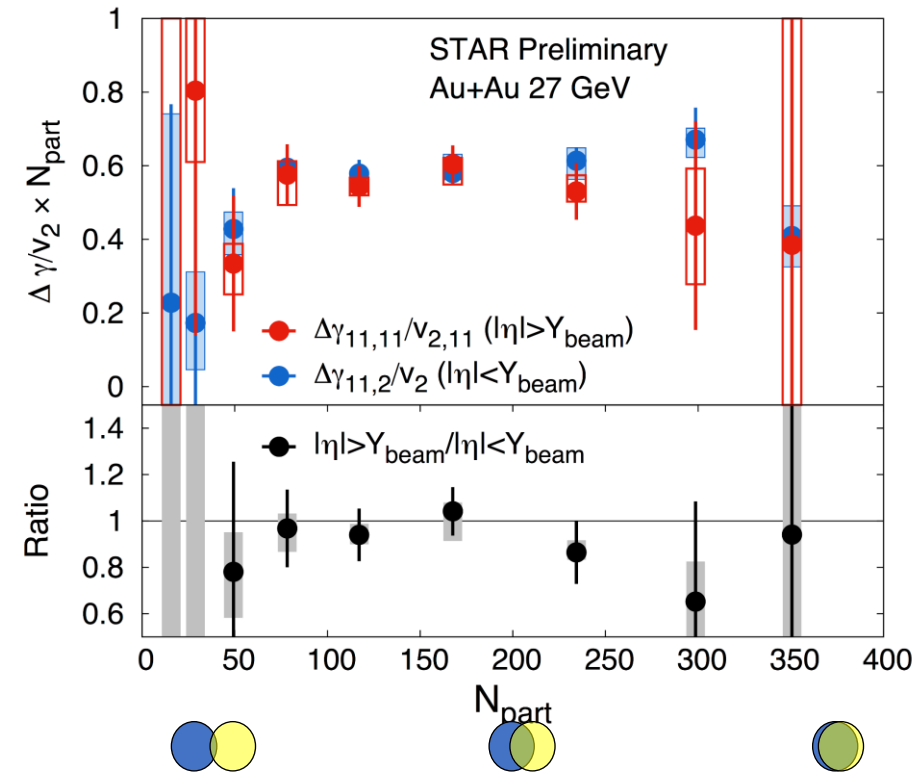
S. A. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. C 98 (2018) 054911

In a short word, under the background scenario, we should have:

$$\frac{\Delta\gamma}{v_2}(\Psi_A) = \frac{\Delta\gamma}{v_2}(\Psi_B) = \frac{\Delta\gamma}{v_2}(\Psi_C) = \dots$$

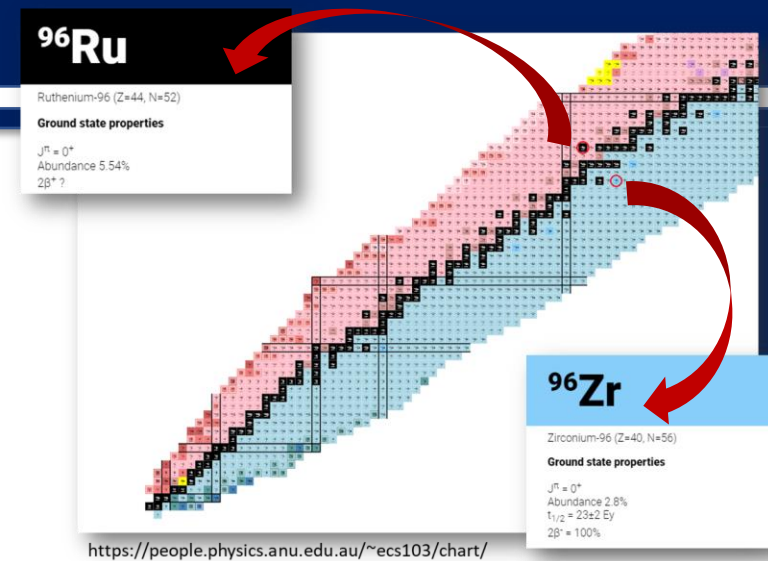
Where the  $\Psi_A, \Psi_B, \Psi_C \dots$  are different planes

We measure the elliptic flow and the charge separation, using  $\gamma$  correlator ( $\Delta\gamma = \gamma(OS) - \gamma(SS)$ ), w.r.to **TPC-EPD-inner first harmonic planes** and the **TPC-EPD-outer second harmonic plane**.



The ratio of  $\Delta\gamma/v_2$  between spectator proton rich EPD  $\Psi_1$  plane and participant dominated  $\Psi_2$  plane is presented — CME driven correlations will make this ratio  $> 1$ .

# Isobar Blind Analysis



# Why isobar?

$$\Delta\gamma = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + \Delta\gamma^{BG}$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + k \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$

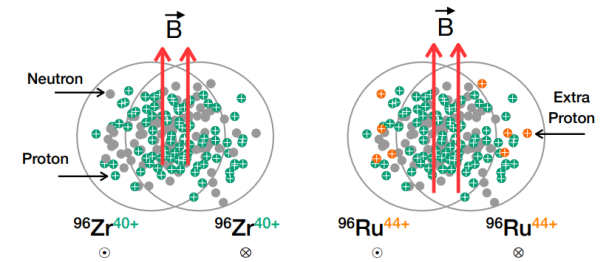
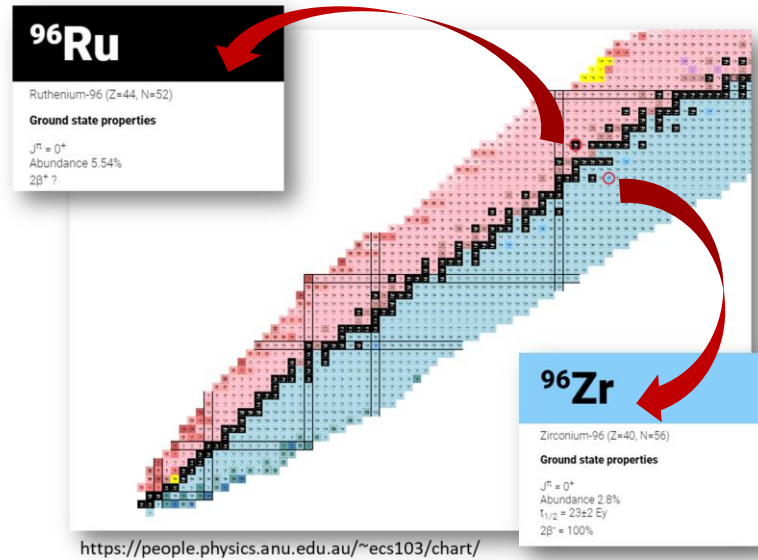


Is there a way to "see" the signal part "only"?

$$\Delta\gamma^{A+A} = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + k \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$

$$\Delta\gamma^{p+A} = \cancel{\Delta\gamma^{CME}} + k \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$

?

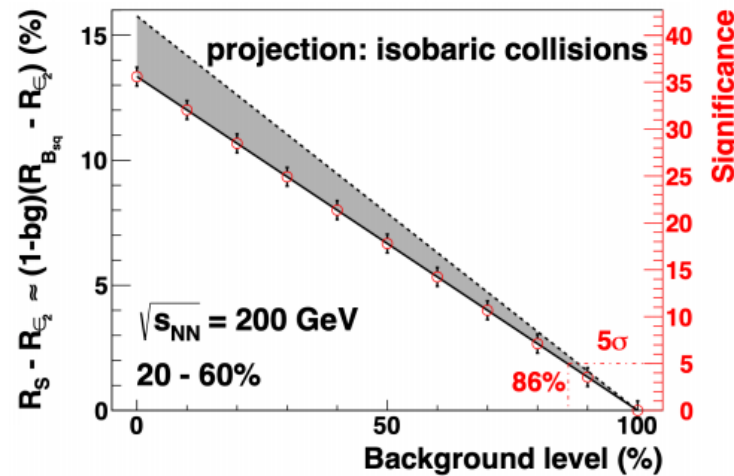


$$\Delta\gamma^{Ru+Ru} = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + k \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$

$$\Delta\gamma^{Zr+Zr} = \Delta\gamma^{CME} + k \frac{v_2}{N} + \Delta\gamma^{non-flow}$$

B-field are 10-18% different

Within 4%



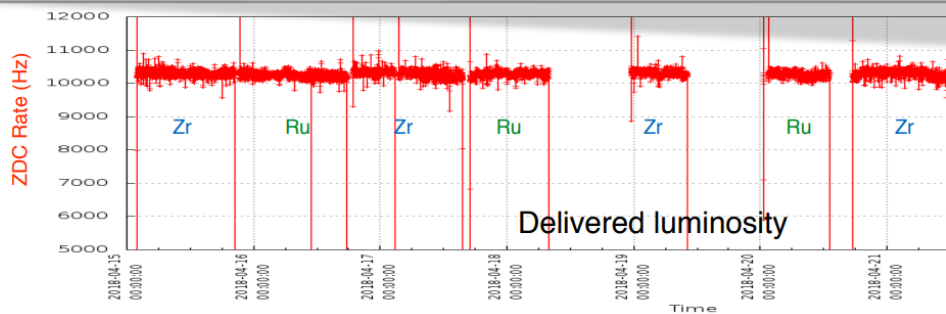
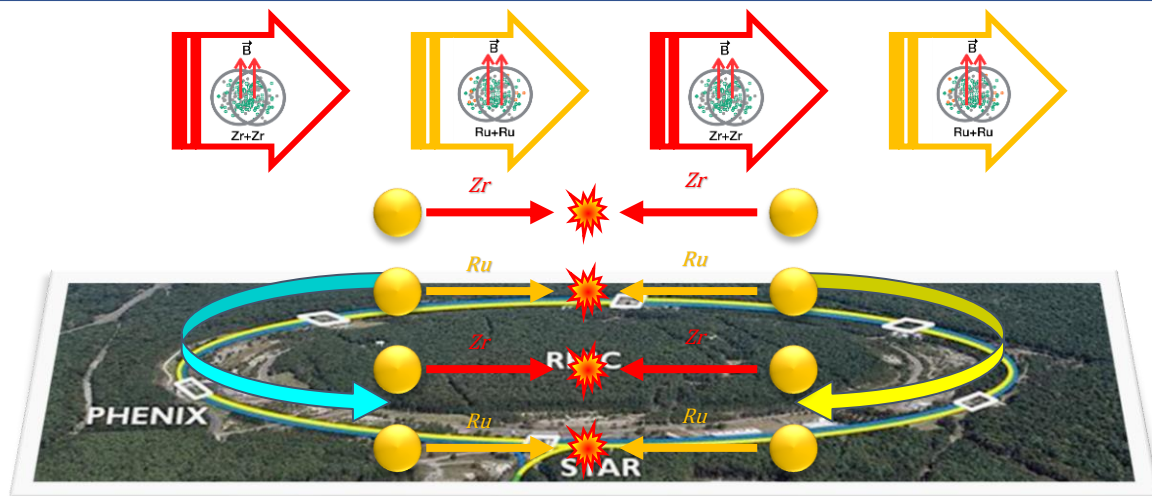
- ~2 B events can give five sigma significance for 14% signal level.
- Only if the systematics error is very small.

**Minimize the Systematics**

S. A. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. C70 (2004) 057901  
S. A. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105 (2010) 172301  
W.-T. Deng, et al Phys. Rev. C94 (2016) 041901.  
Khachatryan Vet al.(CMS) Phys. Rev. Lett.118 (2017) 122301  
Adam J et al.(STAR) Phys. Lett. B 798 (2019) 134975



# How to run?



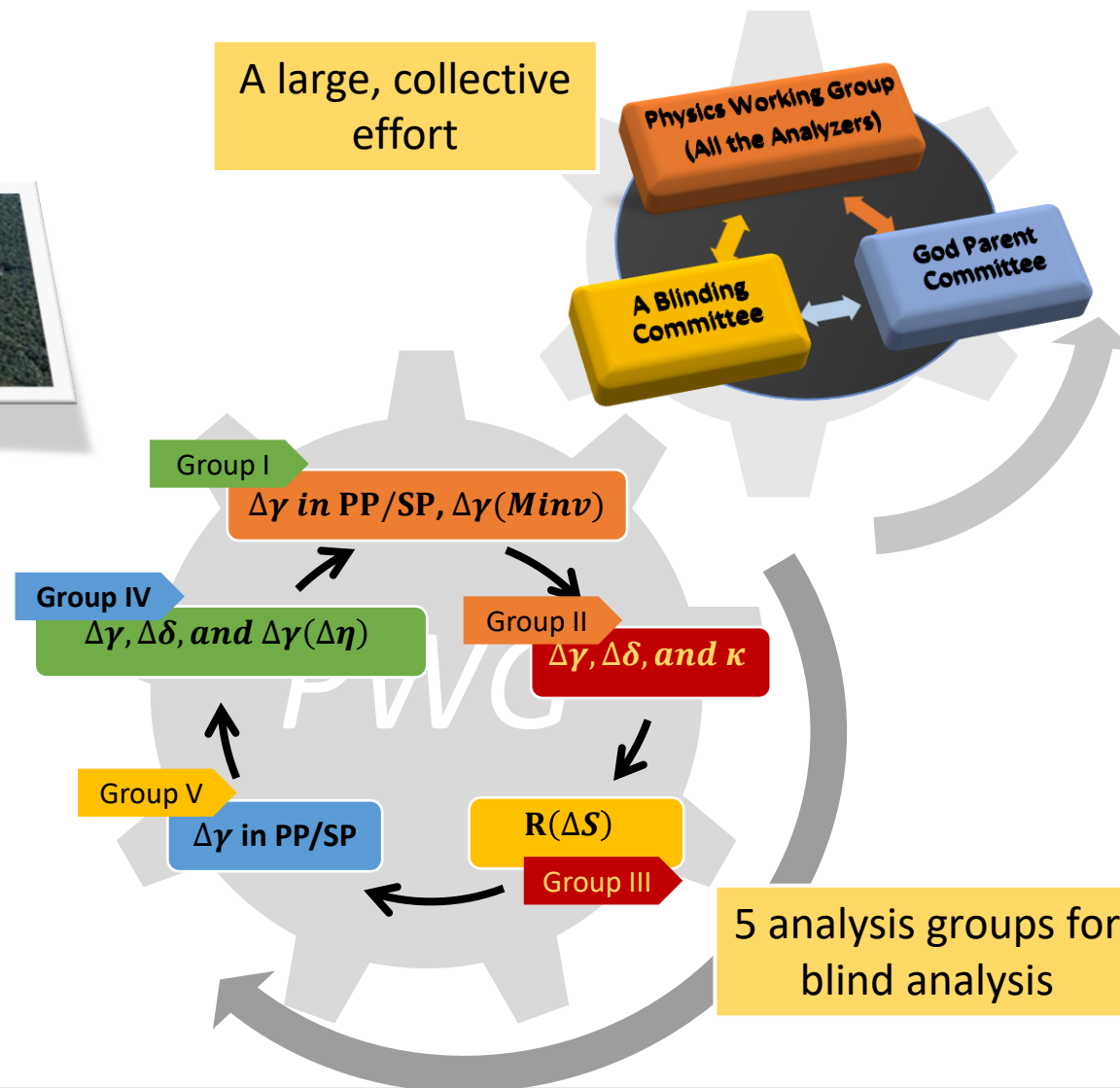
**Minimize the Systematics:**

**Similar run conditions for both species**

**Eliminate Pre-determined bias:**

**Perform blind analysis of data**

A large, collective effort



# Procedure for blinding

Adam, J. et al. (STAR) NUCL SCI TECH 32, 48 (2021)

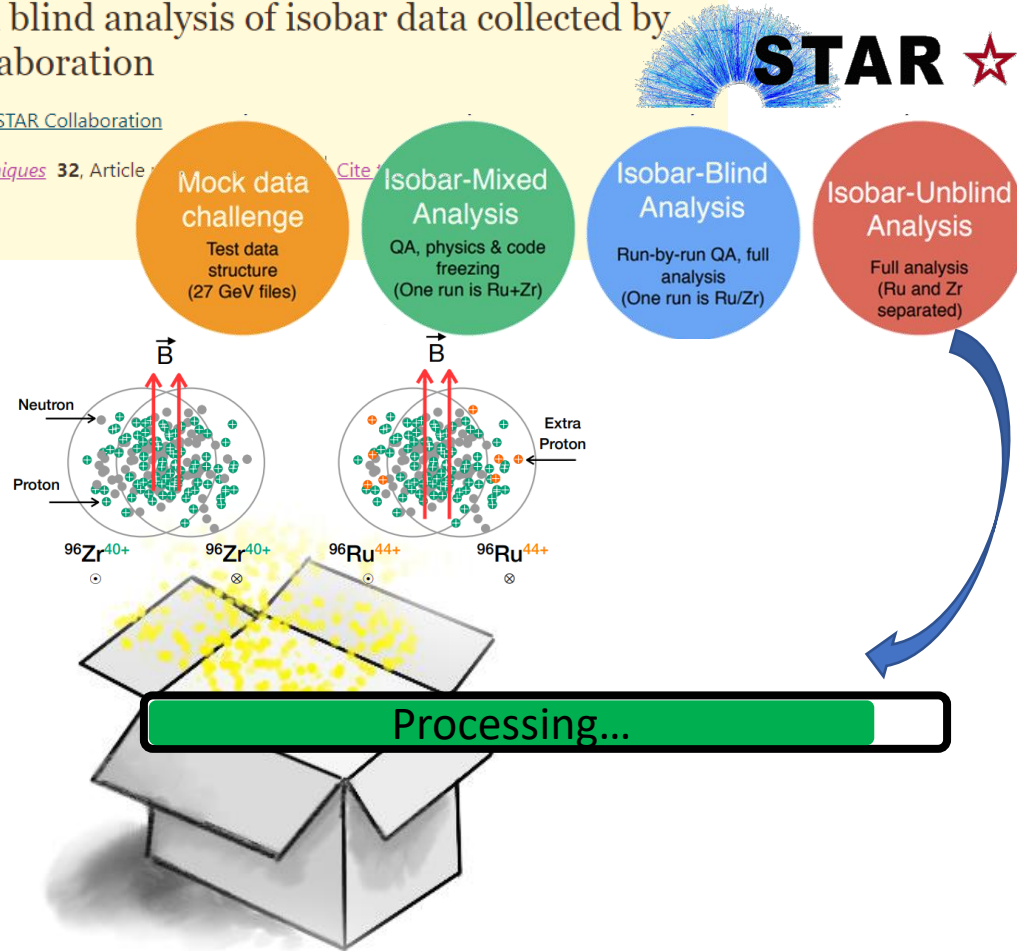
Published: 12 May 2021

## Methods for a blind analysis of isobar data collected by the STAR collaboration

J. Adam, L. Adamczyk, [...] STAR Collaboration

*Nuclear Science and Techniques* 32, Article

5 Accesses | [Metrics](#)



P. Tribedy for the STAR Collaboration, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 1602, 1, 012002 (2020)

# Final cross check with model

- Try to measure signal for each isobar...
- Try to estimate the background...
- Measure the difference between 2 species..
- ...

arXiv.org > nucl-ex > arXiv:2105.06044

A STAR technical Paper

Nuclear Experiment

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.06044>

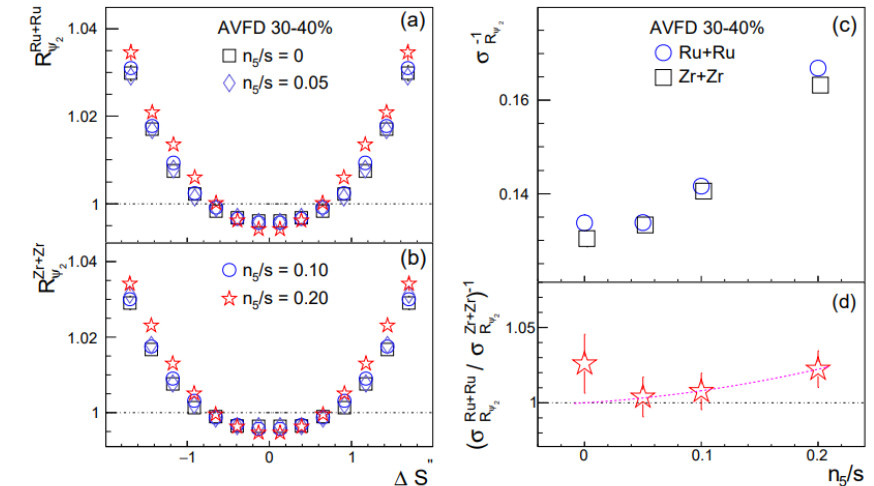
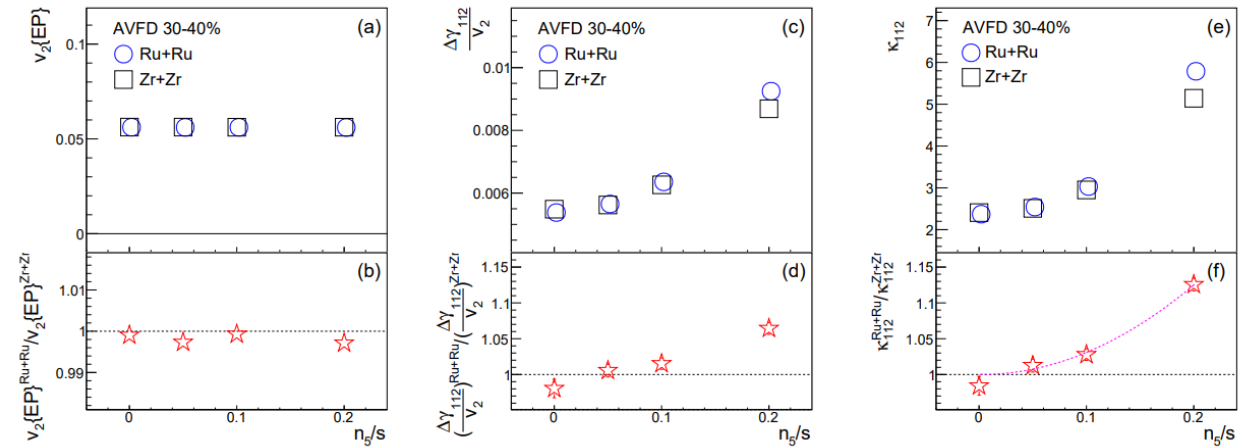
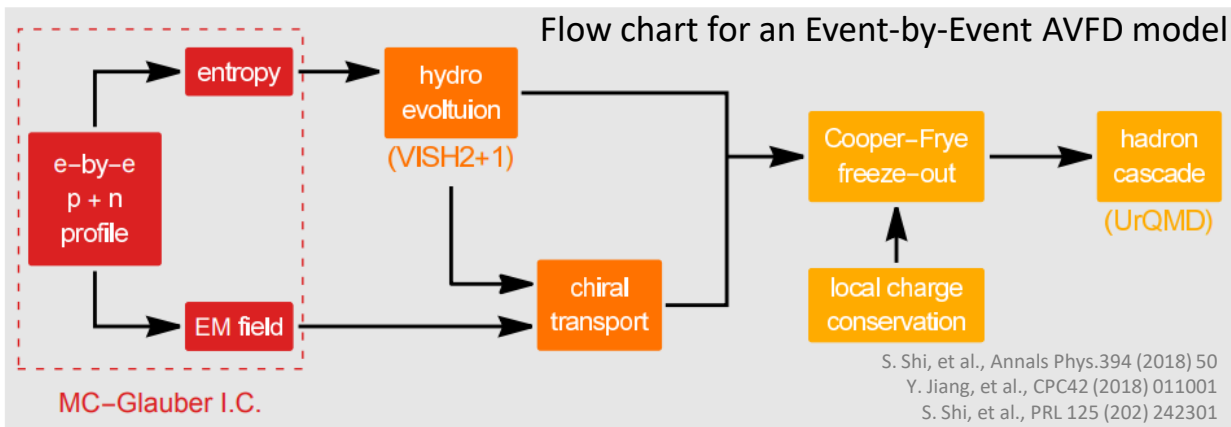
[Submitted on 13 May 2021]

## Investigation of Experimental Observables in Search of the Chiral Magnetic Effect in Heavy-ion Collisions in the STAR experiment

Subikash Choudhury, Xin Dong, Jim Drachenberg, James Dunlop, Shinichi Esumi, Yicheng Feng, Evan Finch, Yu Hu, Jianguo Jia, Jerome Lauret, Wei Li, Jinfeng Liao, Yufu Lin, Mike Lisa, Takafumi Niida, Robert Lanny Ray, Masha Sergeeva, Diyu Shen, Shuzhe Shi, Paul Sorensen, Aihong Tang, Prithwish Tribedy, Gene Van Buren, Sergei Voloshin, Fuqiang Wang, Gang Wang, Haojie Xu, Zhiwan Xu, Nanxi Yao, Jie Zhao

The chiral magnetic effect (CME) is a novel transport phenomenon in energy nuclear collisions, the CME may survive the expansion searches for the CME have aroused extensive interest in the investigate three pertinent experimental approaches: the  $\gamma$  realistic event generator (EBE-AVFD) to verify the equivalent isobaric collisions at RHIC.

**Frozen code** from STAR to check the sensitivity of different observables between Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr.



Test response of different observables in frozen code to CME signal and difference between Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr using the event-by-event AVFD model, –  $n_5/s$  indicates CME signal strength

- Same sensitivity (inclusive  $\Delta\gamma$ ,  $R_2$ ) when put on same footing

# Summary

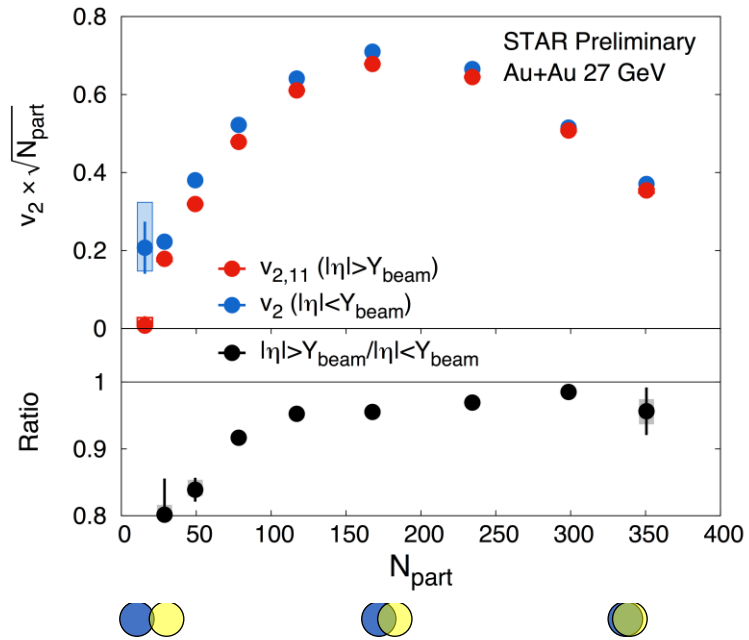
- We measured the possible CME fraction beyond the flow background by using the  $\Delta\gamma$  w.r.to TPC and ZDC planes. At Au+Au 200 GeV and U+U 193 GeV, the combined result shows  $(8\pm 4\pm 8)\%$  CME fraction in 20%-50% centrality.
- We did the background scenario test at Au+Au 27 GeV by using  $\Delta\gamma$  w.r.to TPC and the new installed EPD, the result shows that it is consistent with zero in the current statistics.
- We introduced the method of the ongoing isobar blind analysis, and the latest sensitivity check with the Event-by-Event AVFD model on the different observables between Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr.

*Thank you!*

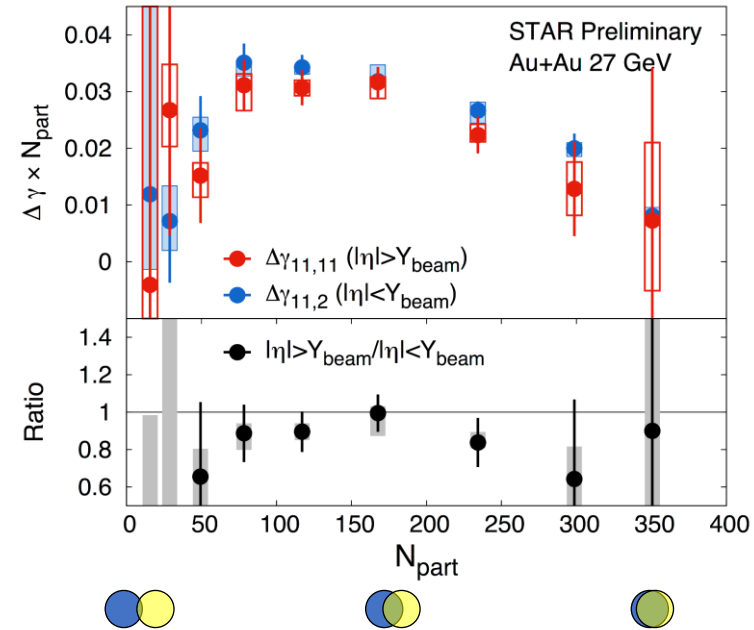


# BACKUP

# $\Delta\gamma$ and $v_2$ at Au+Au 27 GeV



the elliptic anisotropy drops due to reduction in non-flow, decorrelation & change in flow fluctuations with pseudorapidity.



In mid-central events the charge separation w.r.t different planes are consistent with each other.