

STAR Experiment at RHIC

- High-Energy Nuclear Collisions and the QCD Phase Structure

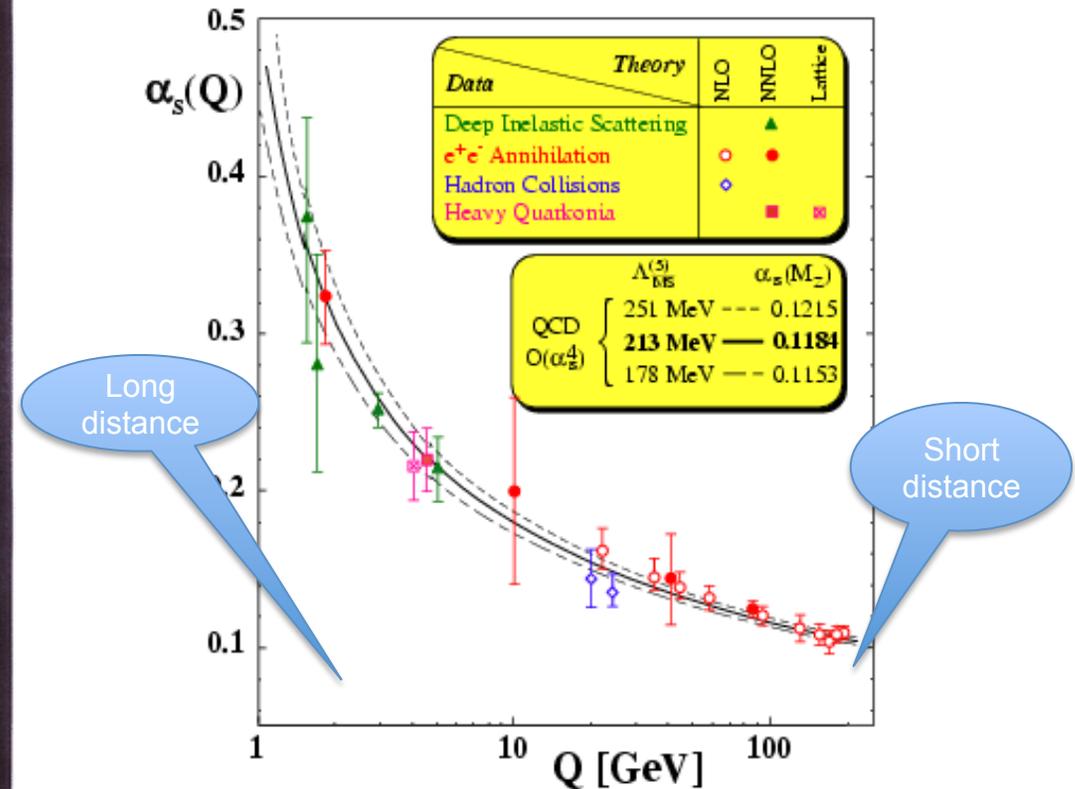
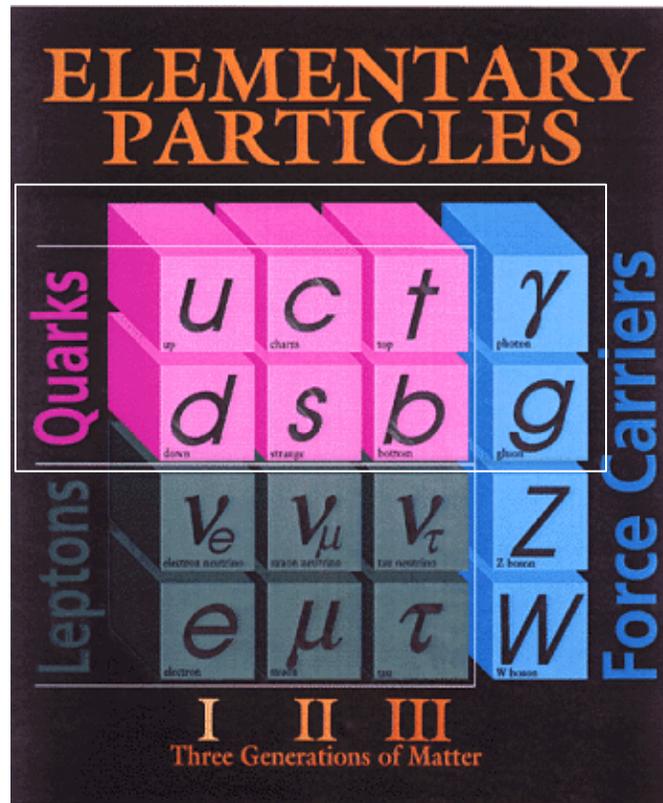
Nu Xu

(1) Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

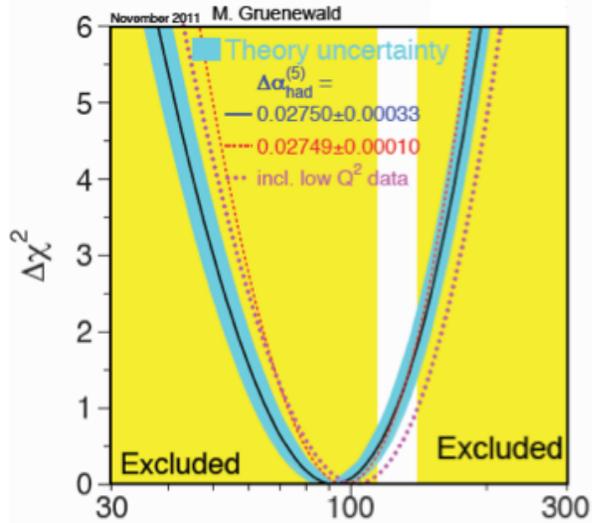
(2) College of Physical Science & Technology, Central China Normal University, China



Many Thanks to the STAR Group at VECC!



- 1) QCD is the basic theory for strong interaction. Its degrees of freedom are well defined at short distance.
- 2) Little is known regarding the dynamical structures of matter that made from q, g . E.g. the confinement, nucleon spin, the **QCD phase structure**... Large α_s and strong coupling – QCD at long distance.

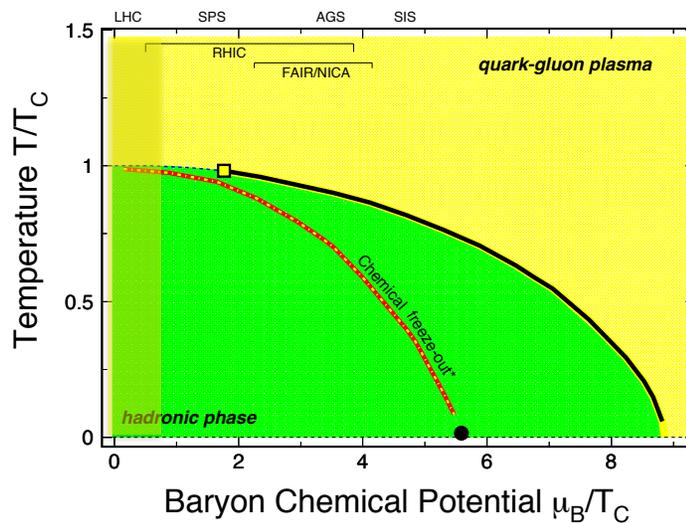


(1) Higgs Particle –

- Origin of Mass
- SM \rightarrow The *Theory*

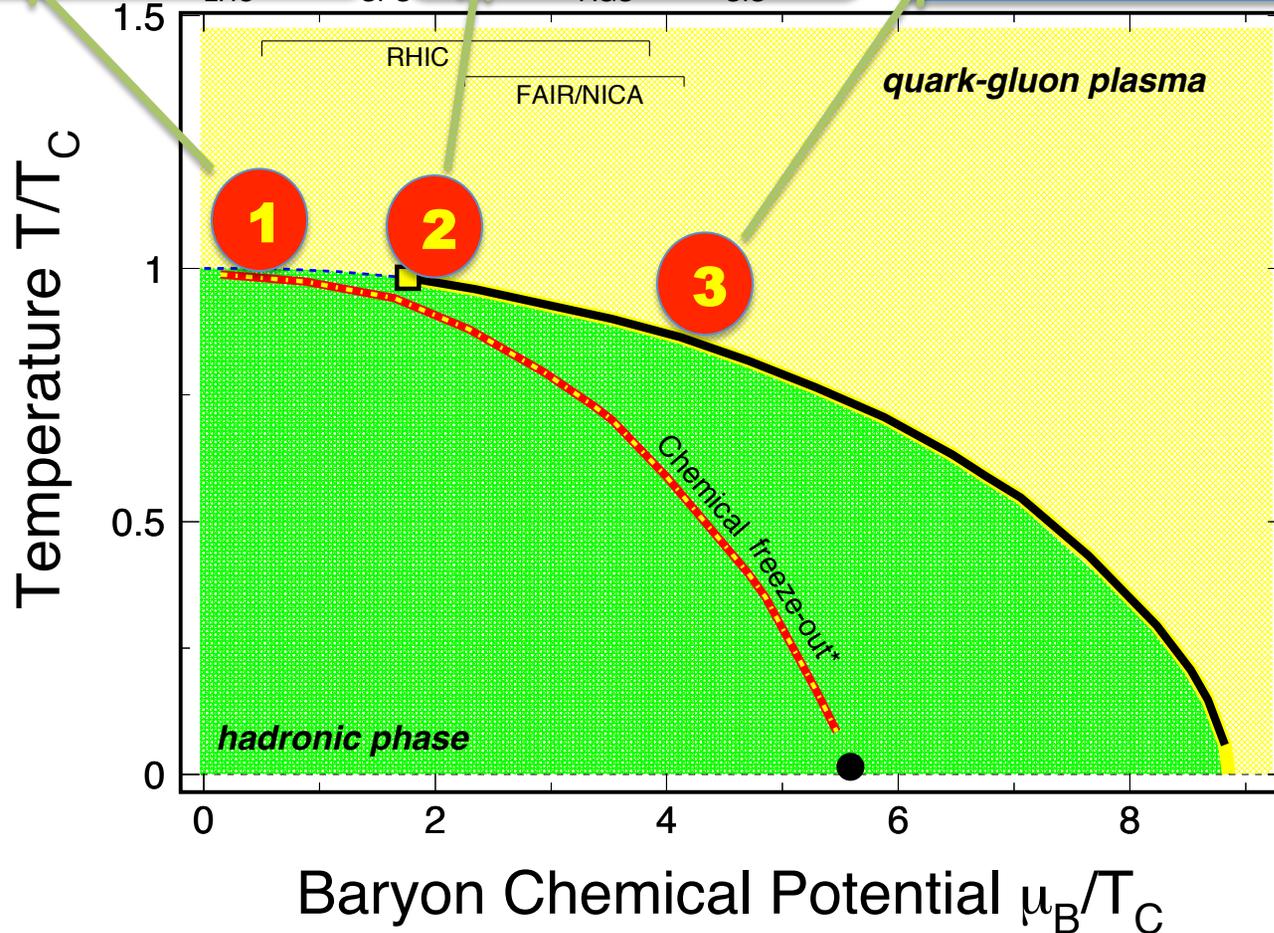
(2) QCD Phase Structure –

- Critical point, phase boundaries
- Confinement
- χ_C symmetry
- Nucleon helicity structure
- ...
- Non-linear QCD
- ...
- String theory
- Emerging properties



The QCD Phase Diagram and High-Energy Nuclear Collisions

- 1 T_{ini}, T_C
LHC, RHIC
- 2 T_E **RHIC**
SPS, FAIR
- 3 Phase Boundary
RHIC, FAIR, NICA





Outline



- (1) Introduction
- (2) Recent Results and RHIC
Beam Energy Scan
- (3) Near Future Plan(s)
- (4) My Wish list



STAR Collaboration

STAR Experiment at RHIC

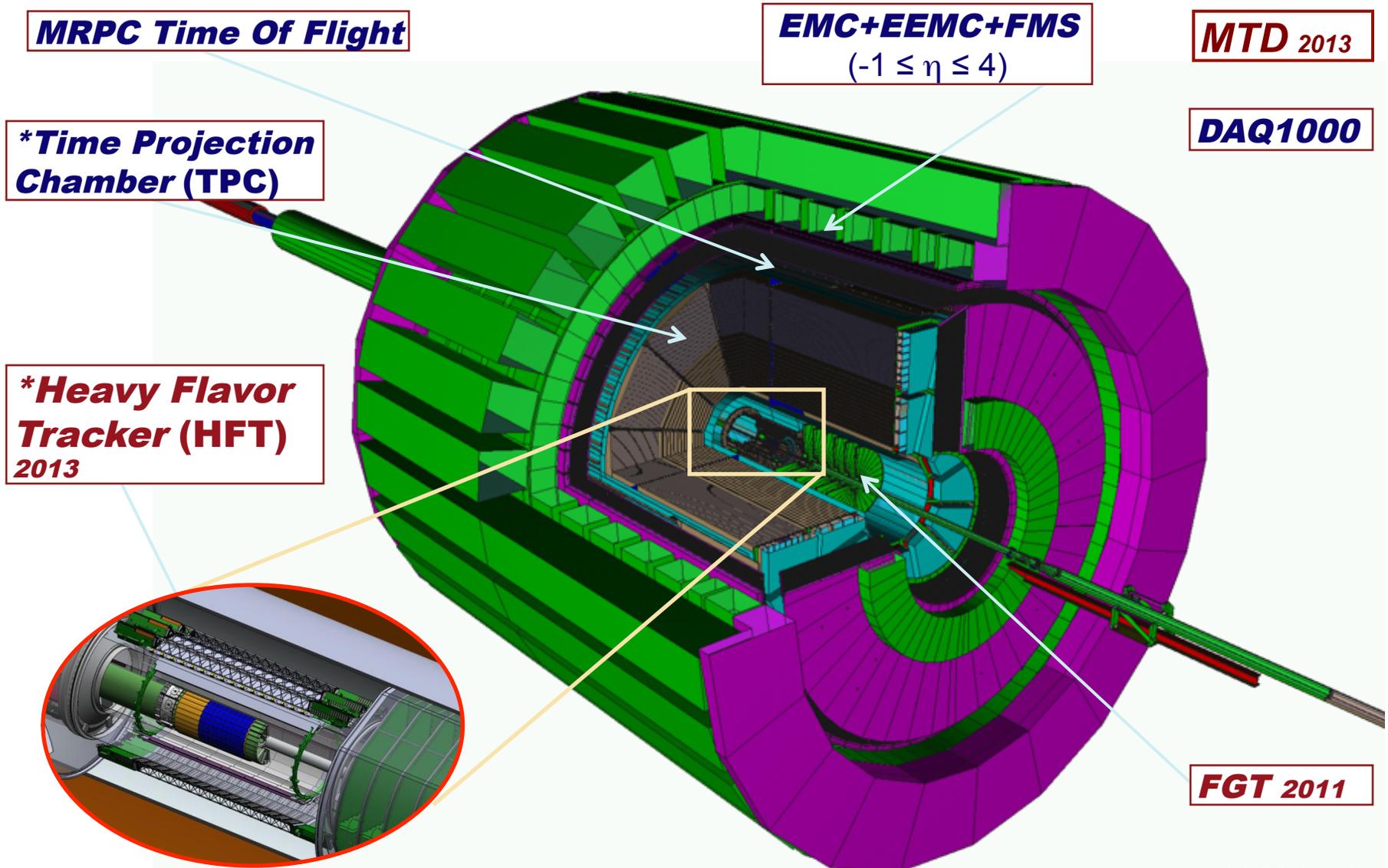
(<http://www.star.bnl.gov/>)

Fundamental Science: particle physics, nuclear physics, astrophysics, cosmology, ...

State of Art Technology: detector R&D, simulations, IT, computing, mass/fast data managing, ...

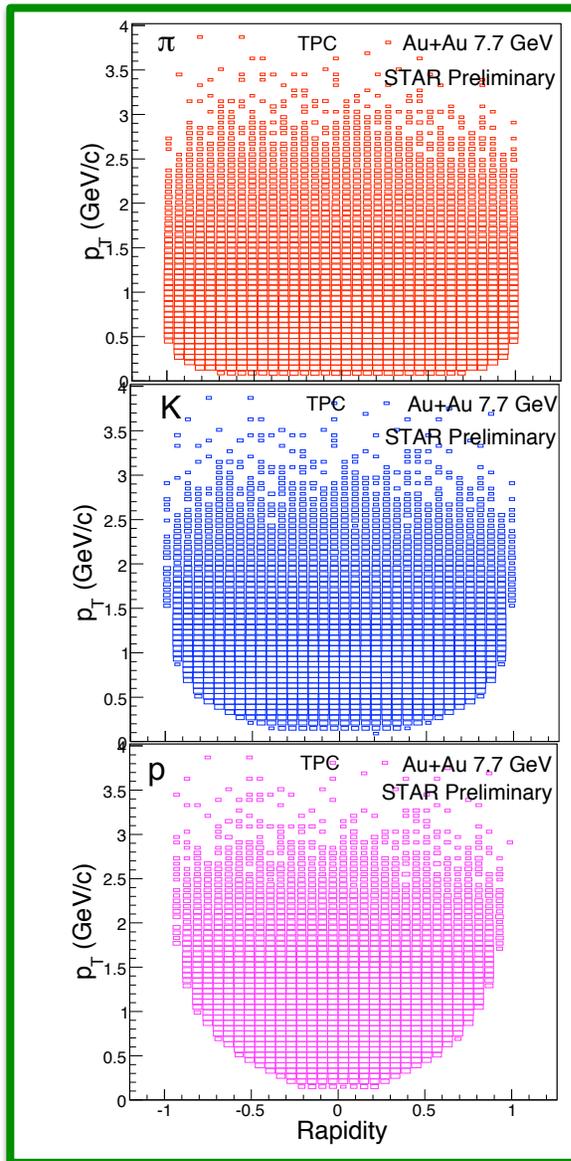
- 550 scientists
- 53 institutes
- 12 countries
- ~ 150 PhD thesis completed since 2001



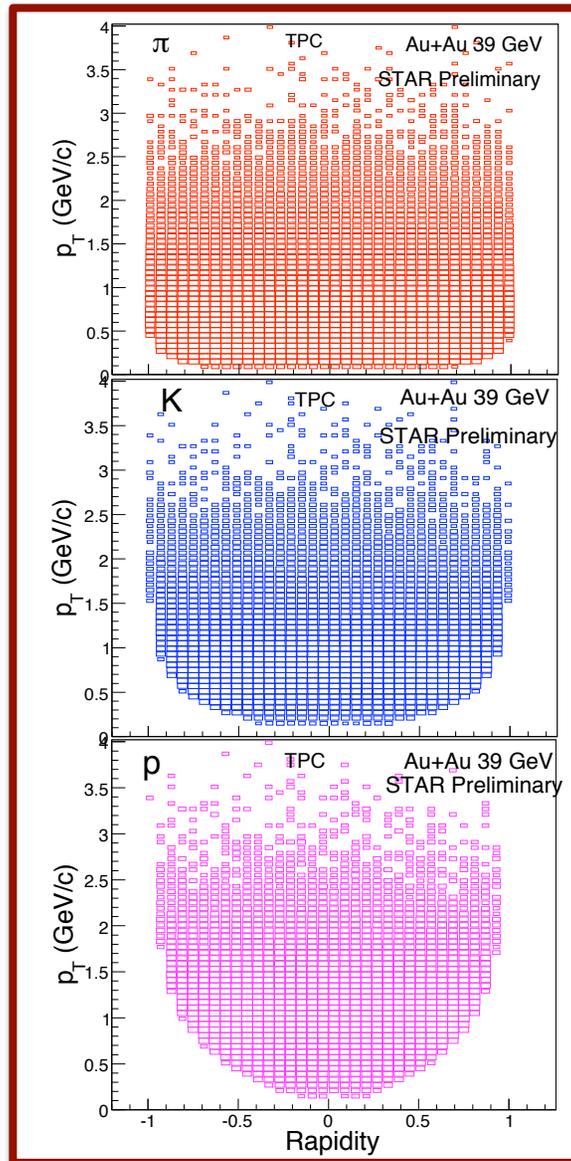


PID: (π^\pm , K^\pm , p) from Au+Au Collisions at 7.7, 39, 200 GeV

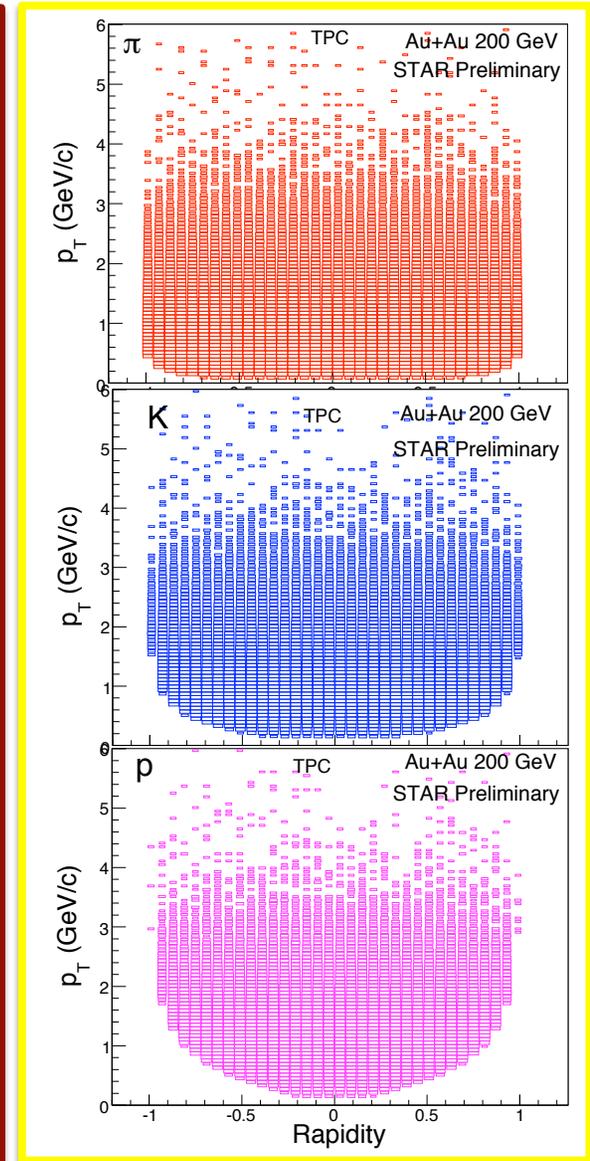
Au+Au at 7.7 GeV

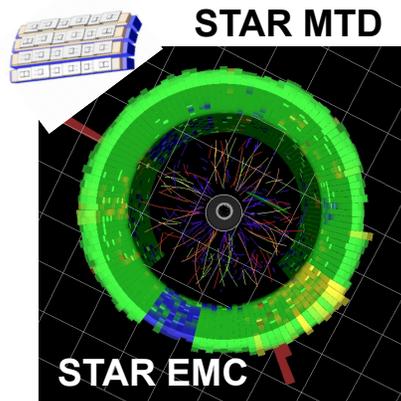
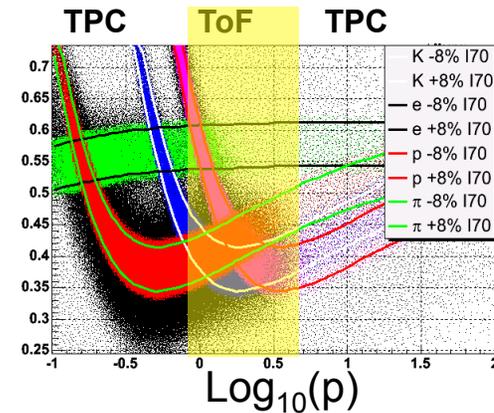
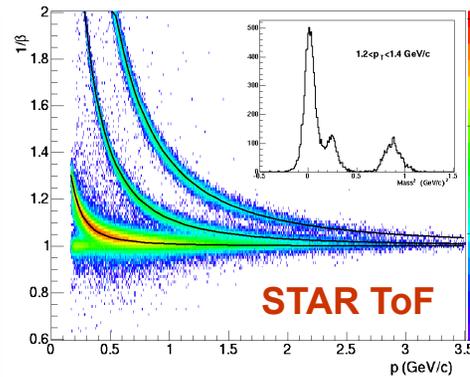
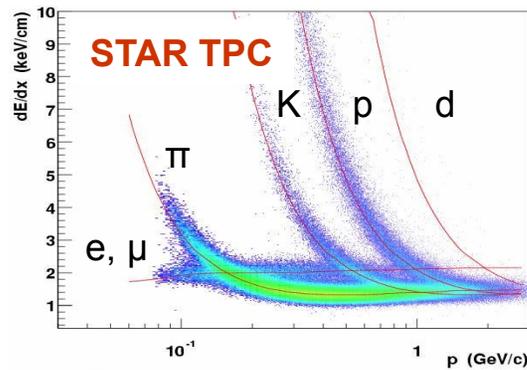


Au+Au at 39 GeV

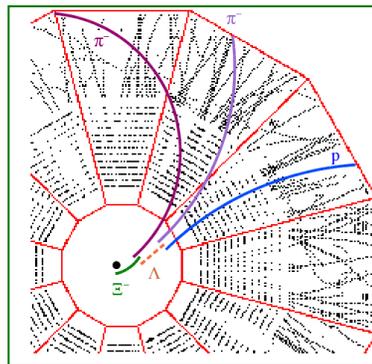


Au+Au at 200 GeV

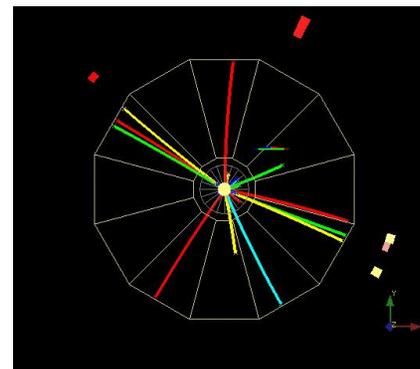




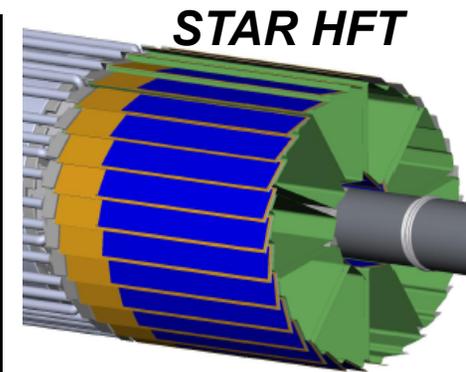
Neutral particles



Strange hyperons

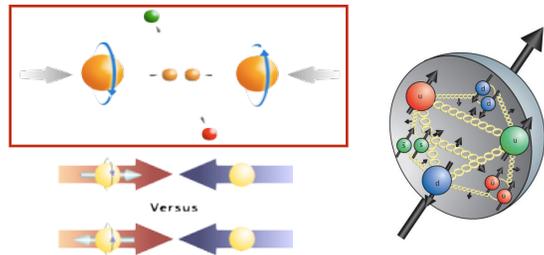


Jets

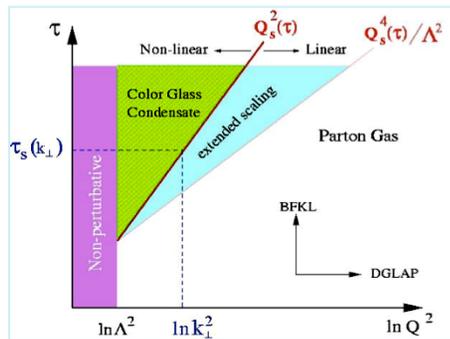


Heavy Quark Hadrons

Multiple-fold correlations for both HI and Spin physics!

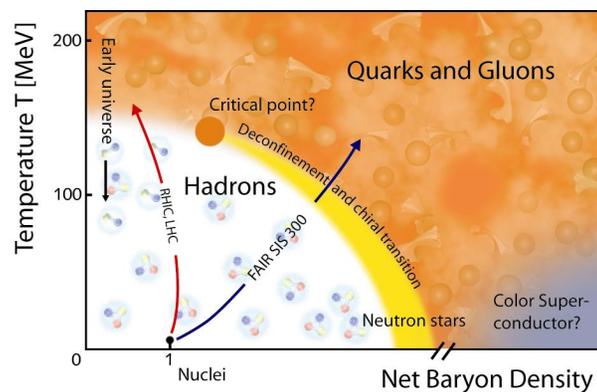


Polarized $p+p$ program
 - Study *proton intrinsic properties*



Forward program
 - Study low-x properties, initial condition, search for **CGC**
 - Study elastic and inelastic processes in pp2pp

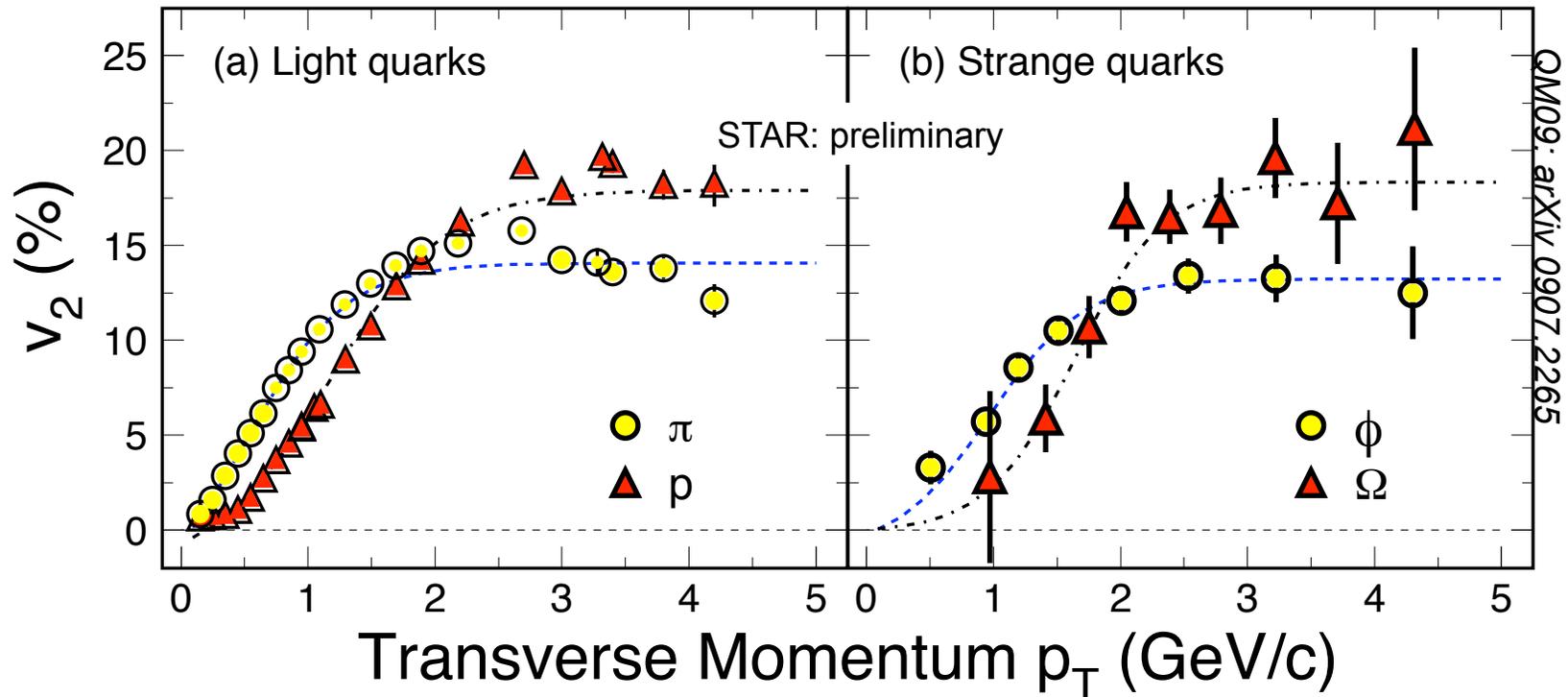
2020 -
eRHIC
 (eSTAR)



- 1) **At 200 GeV at RHIC**
 - Study *medium properties, EoS*
 - pQCD in hot and dense medium
- 2) **RHIC beam energy scan (BES)**
 - Search for the *QCD critical point*
 - Chiral symmetry restoration

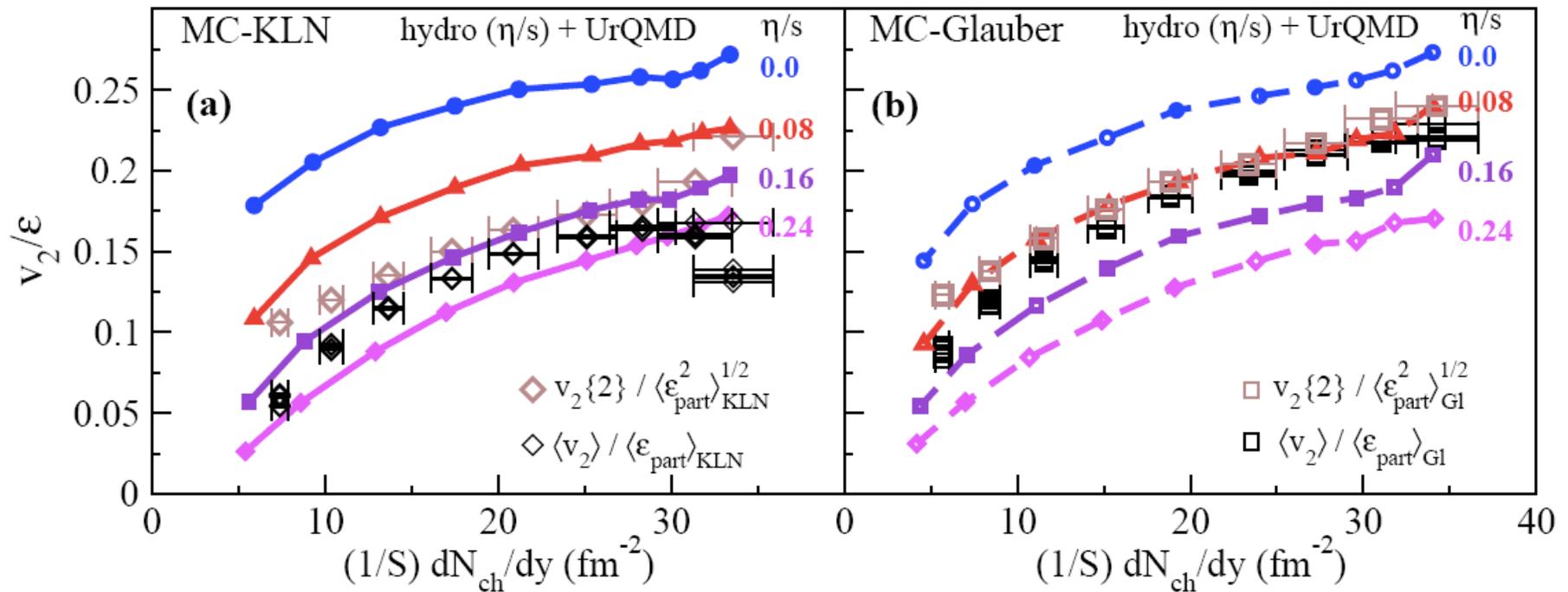
2) New Form of Matter at RHIC and Results from the Beam Energy Scan

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV } ^{197}\text{Au} + ^{197}\text{Au}$ Collisions at RHIC



Low p_T ($\leq 2 \text{ GeV}/c$): hydrodynamic mass ordering
 High p_T ($> 2 \text{ GeV}/c$): **number of quarks scaling**

- Partonic Collectivity, necessary for QGP!**
- De-confinement in Au+Au collisions at RHIC!**

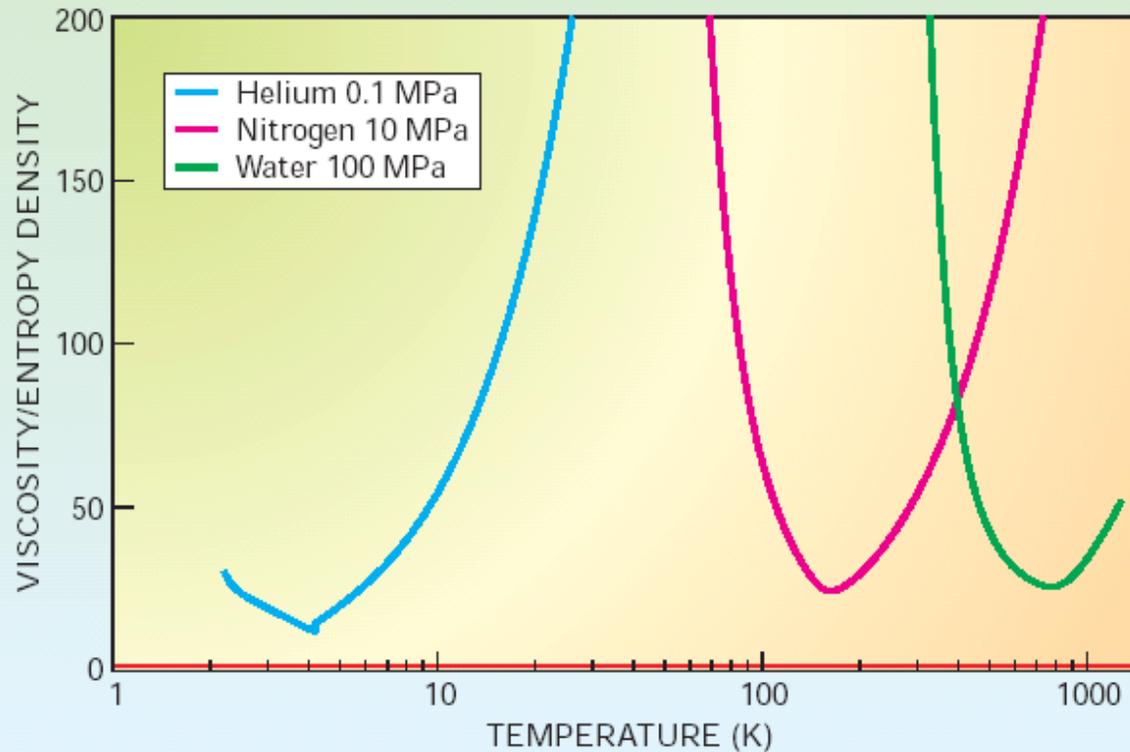


- **Small value** of specific viscosity over entropy η/s
- Model uncertainty dominated by **initial eccentricity ϵ**

Model: Song *et al.* [arXiv:1011.2783](https://arxiv.org/abs/1011.2783)

Physics Today, May 2005

P. K. Kovtun, D. T. Son, A. O. Starinets, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94 111601 (2005).



RHIC results

- 1) $\eta/s \geq 1/4\pi$
- 2) $\eta/s(\text{QCD matter}) \ll \eta/s(\text{QED matter})$

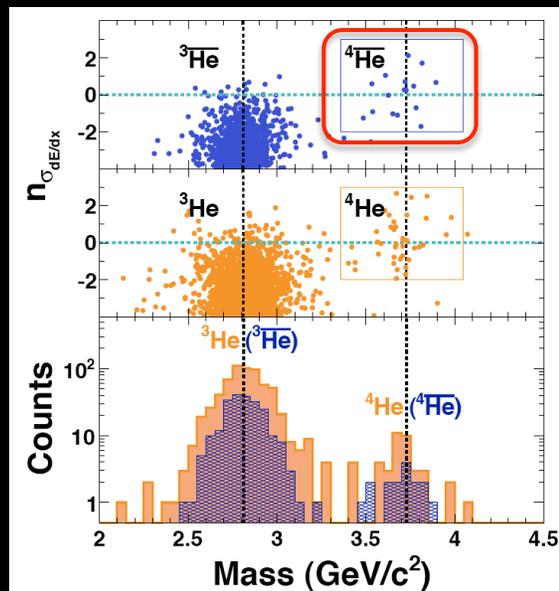
nature

April, 2011

“Observation of the Antimatter Helium-4 Nucleus”

by STAR Collaboration

Nature, 473, 353(2011).



Science

March, 2010

“Observation of an Antimatter Hypernucleus”

by STAR Collaboration

Science, 328, 58(2010).

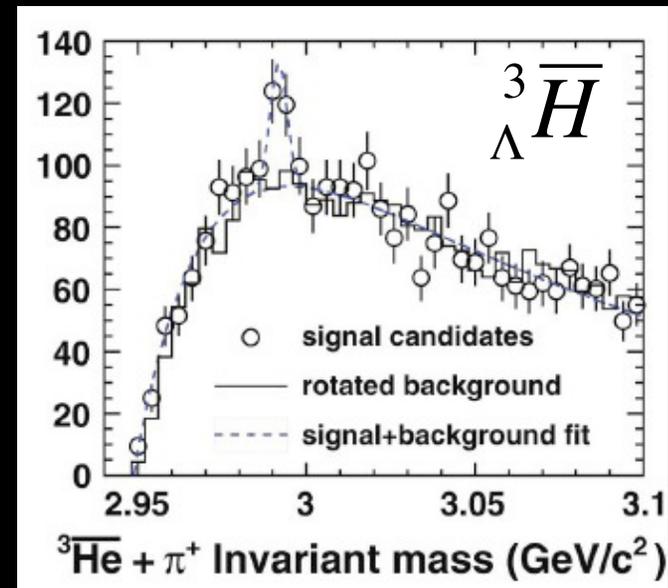




Image: CERN

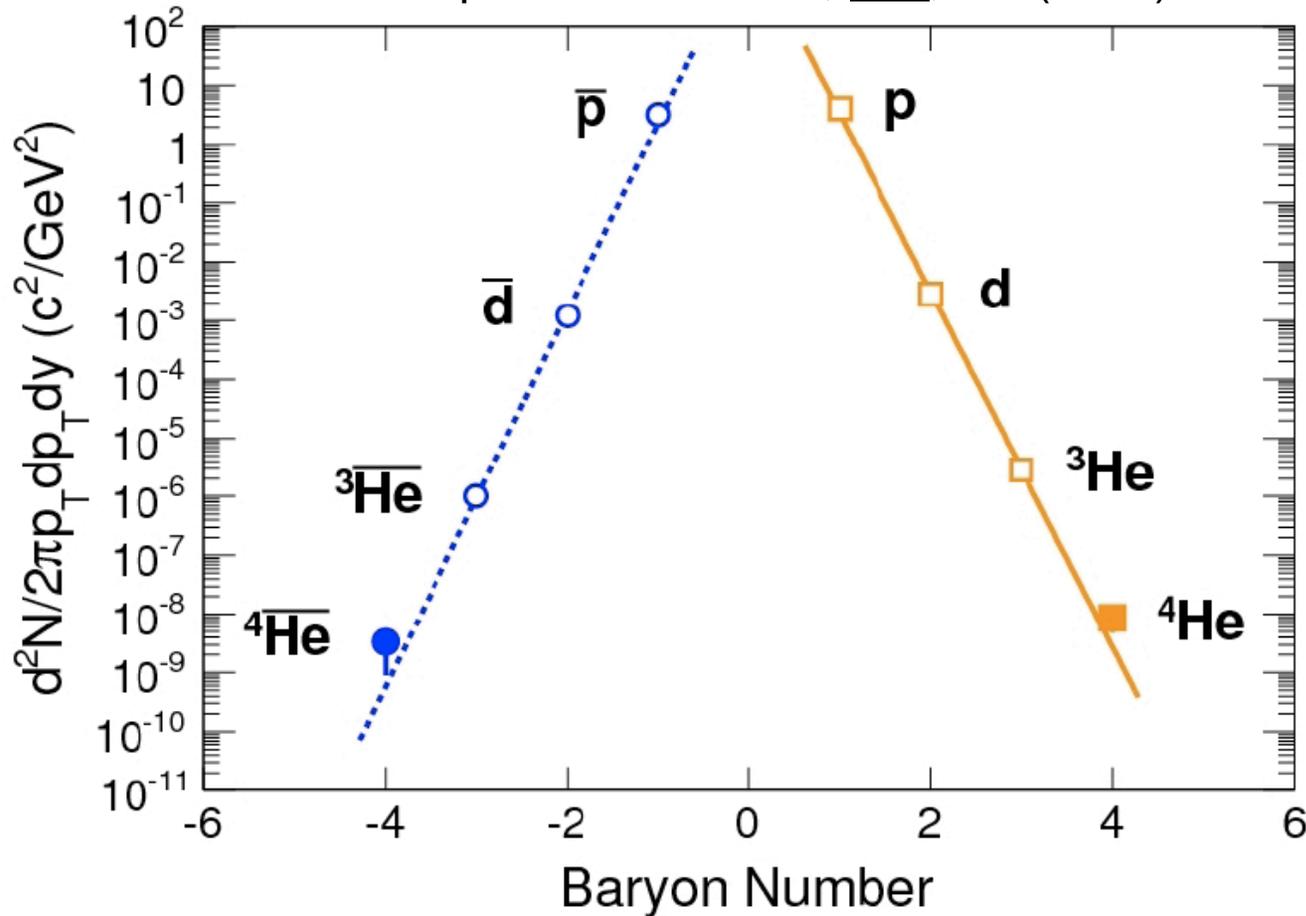
The Top 10 Physics and Math Stories of 2011

1. **Faster than the Speed of Light:** Runaway subatomic particles seem to be breaking the cosmic speed limit. If the results hold up, physicists have some explaining to do.
14. **Astronomers Watch Black Hole Devour Star:** Researchers luck out, getting a front row seat for stellar annihilation.
20. **Helium's Antimatter Twin Created:** Scientists catch particle only created once every 28 billion times nuclei are smashed together.

Discovery Magazine:

<http://discovermagazine.com/photos/19-top-100-stories-of-2011>

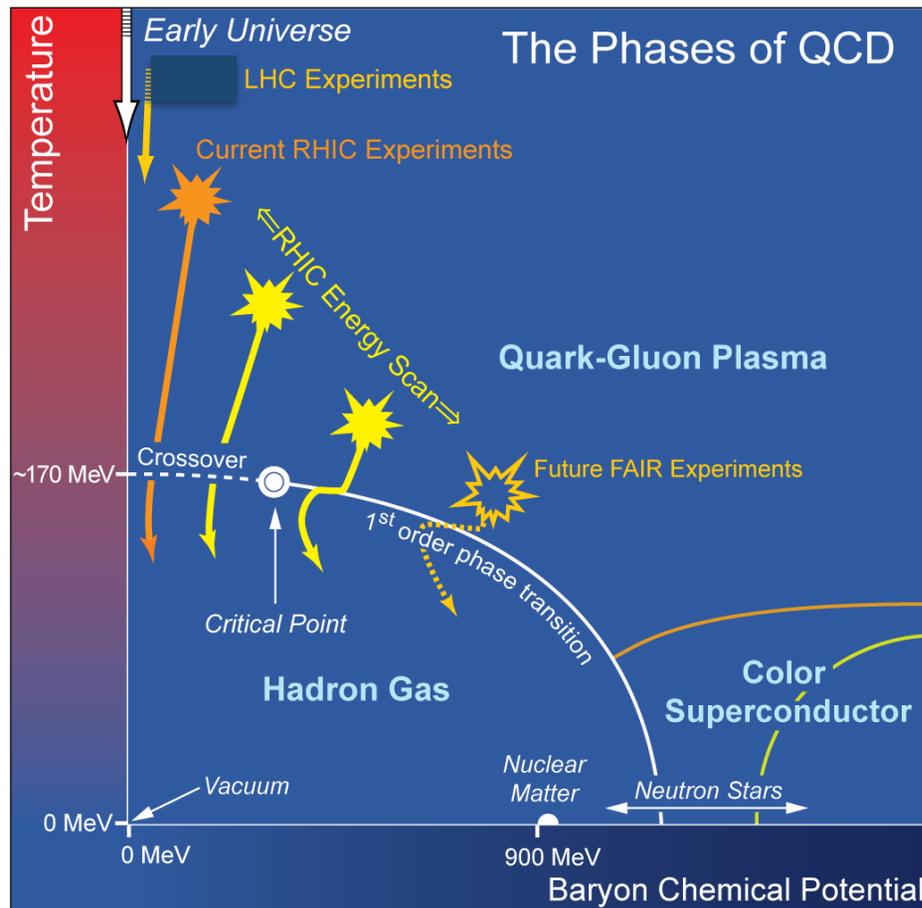
STAR Experiment: *Nature*, **473**, 353(2011)



- 1) In high-energy nuclear collisions, $N(d) \gg N(\alpha)$:
QGP \rightarrow (anti)light nuclei via coalescence
- 2) In the Universe, $N(d) \ll N(\alpha)$: $N(\text{anti-}\alpha)$?

Study QCD Phase Structure

- Signals of phase boundary
- Signals for critical point

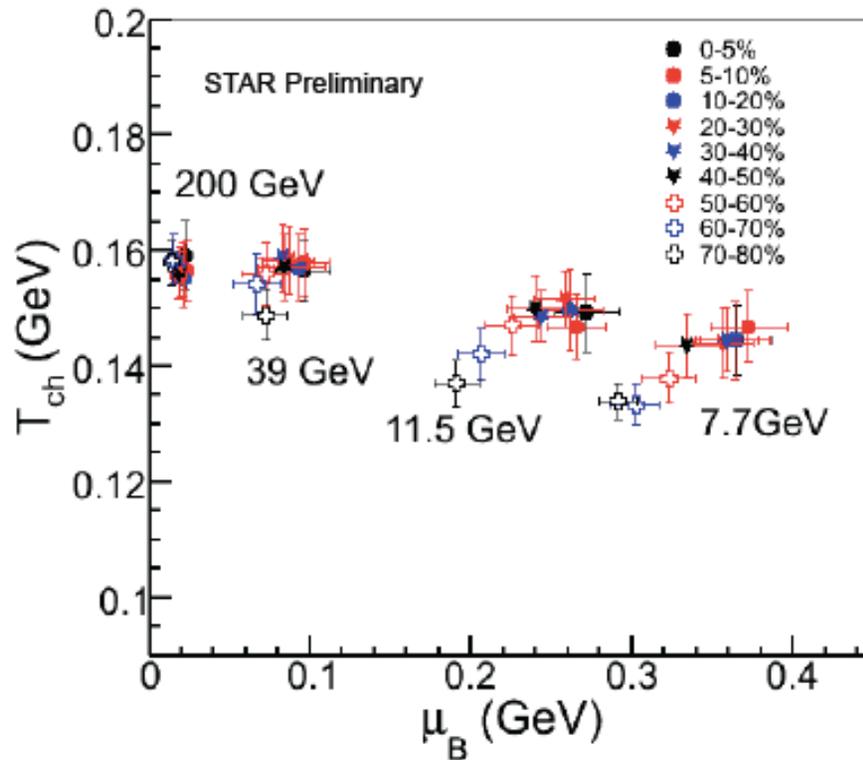


Observations:

- (1) **Azimuthally HBT:**
1st order phase transition
- (2) **Directed flow v_1**
1st order phase transition
- (3) **Dynamical correlations:**
partonic vs. hadronic dof
- (4) **v_2 - NCQ scaling:**
partonic vs. hadronic dof
- (5) **Fluctuations:**
Critical point, correl. length

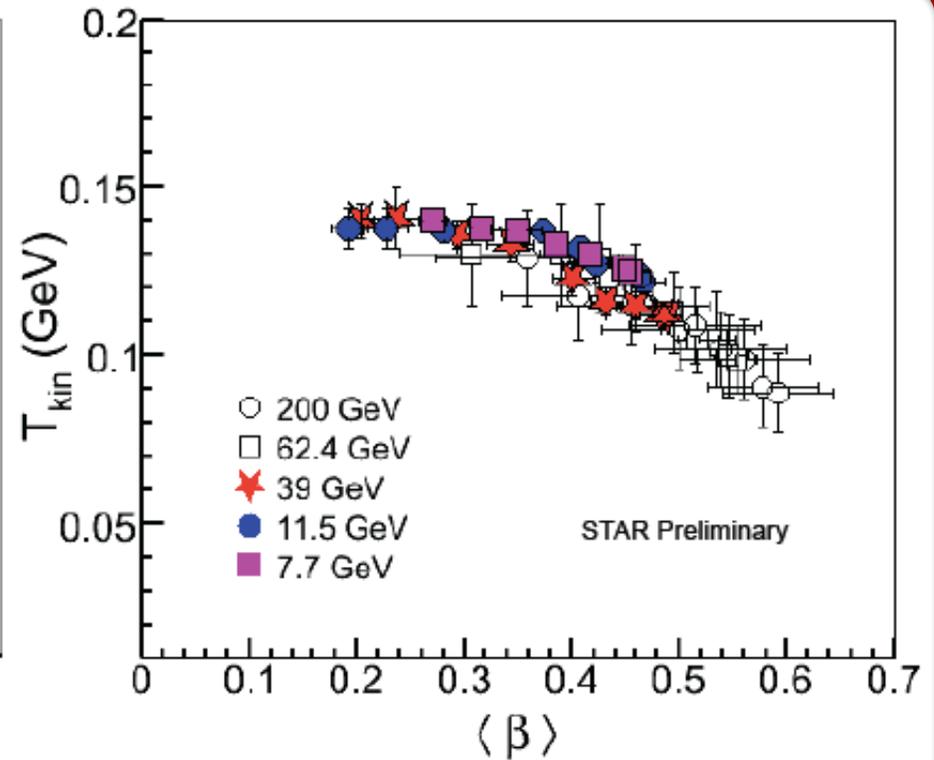
- <http://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0493>

- arXiv:1007.2613



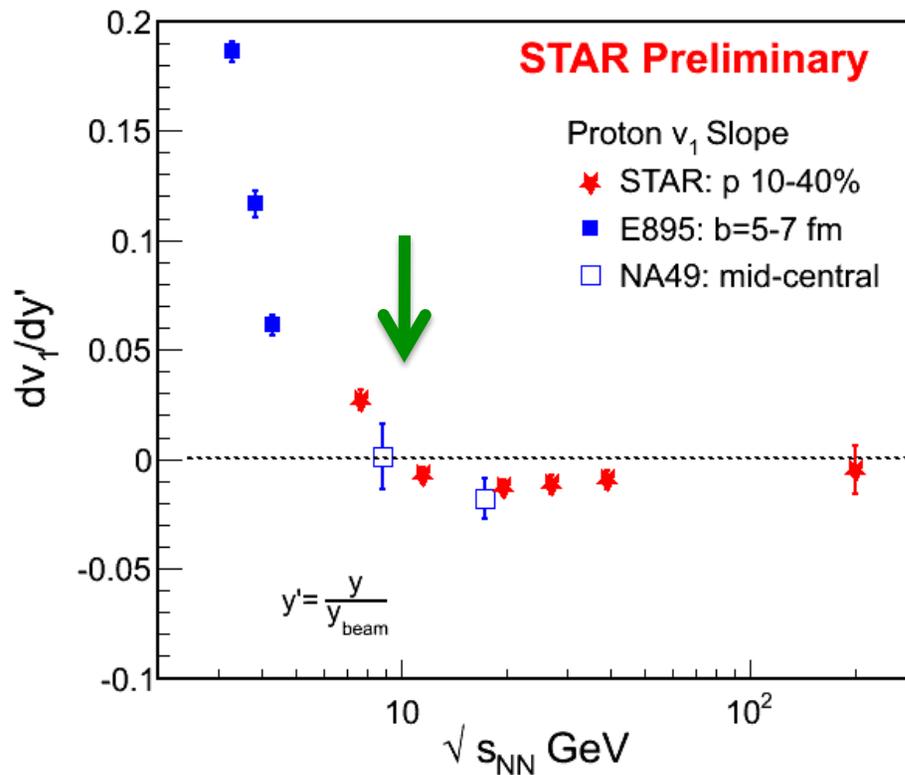
Chemical Freeze-out:

- Central collisions => higher values of T_{ch} and μ_B !
- The effect is stronger at lower energy.



Kinetic Freeze-out:

- Central collisions => lower value of T_{kin} and larger collectivity β
- Little energy dependence.



Mid-y v_1 is sensitive to:

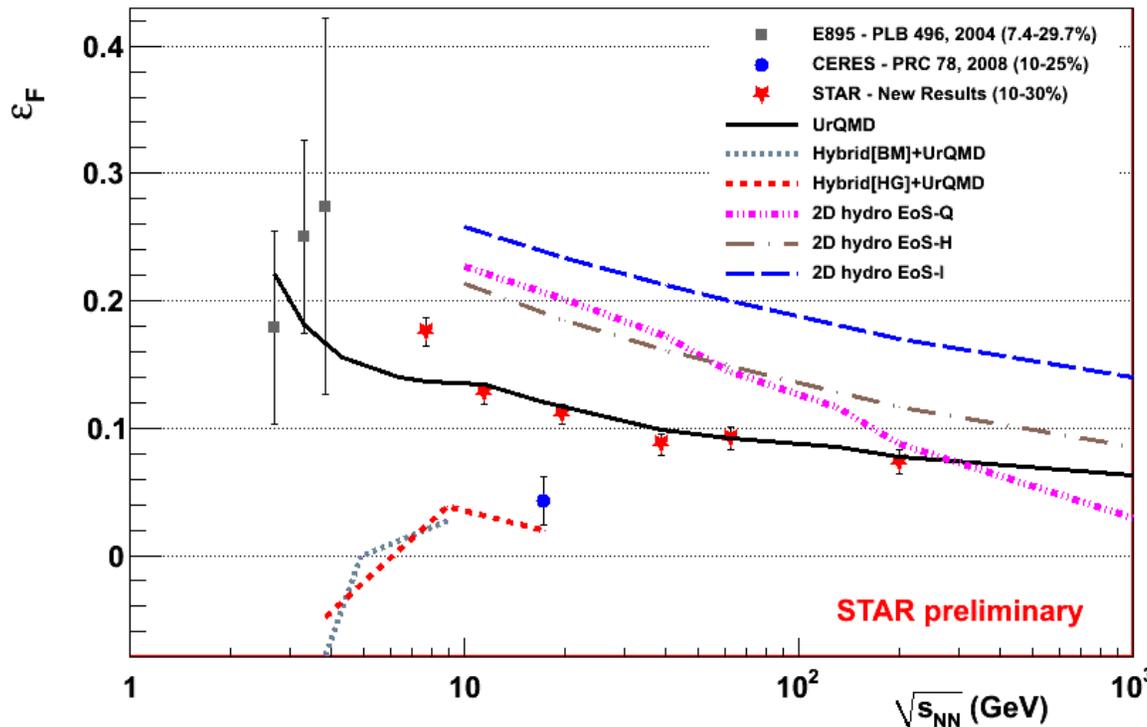
- Nuclear stopping
- The mixture of initial and produced particles
- Equation of state (EOS)

At low beam energy, initial nucleons are dominant, $v_1 > 0$, by definition

At higher beam energies, produced particles dominate the dynamics. Due to expansion, the sign of v_1 reverses

- (1) The sign change occurs between $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ and 11.5 GeV indicating significant change in the EOS around these beam energies
- (2) Transport models can *NOT* reproduced the trend and change properly

Excitation function for freeze-out eccentricity, ϵ_F



Freeze-out eccentricity w.r.t reaction plane:

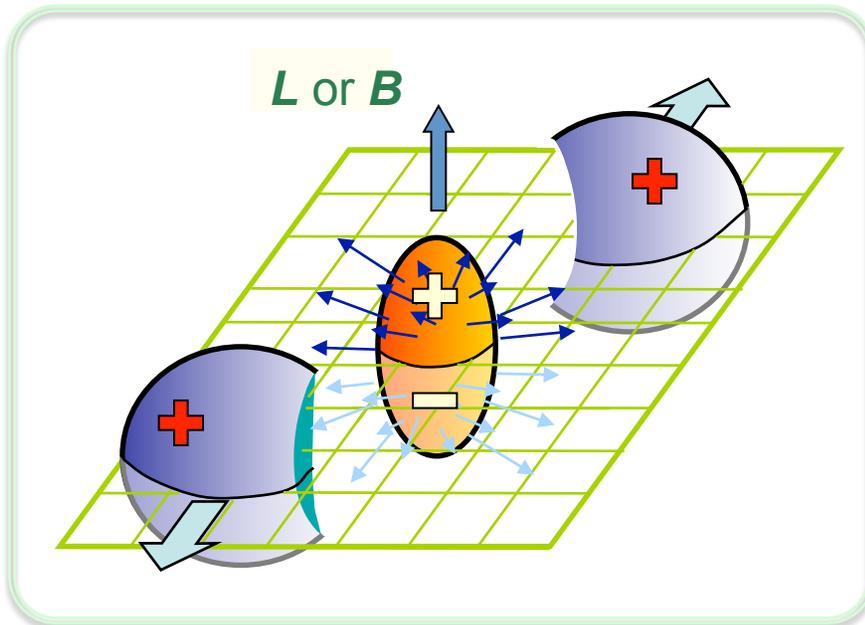
$$\epsilon_{f.o.} = 2 \frac{R_{s,2}^2}{R_{s,0}^2}$$

$$= \frac{R_Y^2 - R_X^2}{R_Y^2 + R_X^2}$$

E895: PLB 496 (2000) 1
 CERES: PRC 78 (2008) 064901
 STAR: PRL 93 (2004) 012301

From $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.5$ 200 GeV, smooth trend observed for the freeze-out eccentricity $\epsilon_{f.o.}$, as **predicted** by the transport model URQMD.

in High Energy Nuclear Collisions



The separation between the same-charge and opposite-charge correlations.

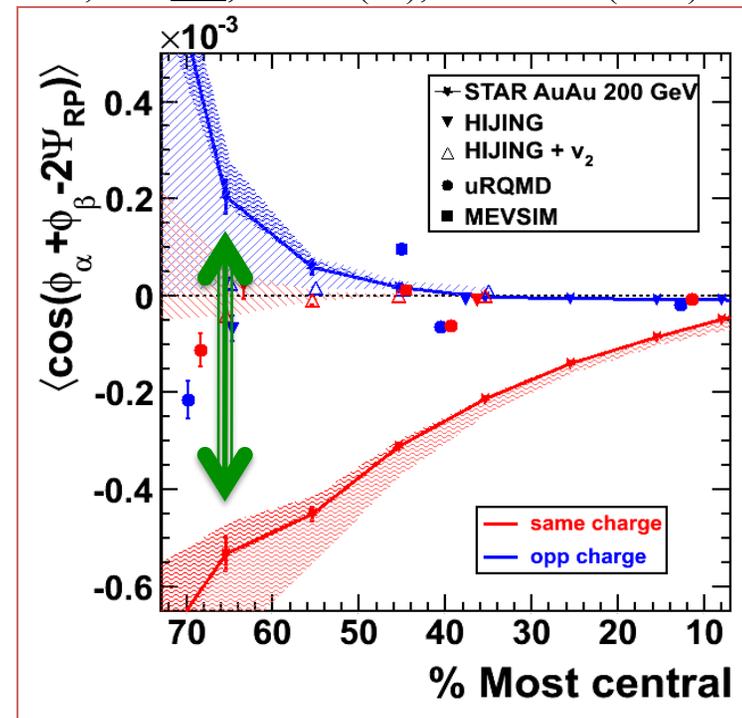
- Strong external EM field
- De-confinement and Chiral symmetry restoration

$$\langle \cos(\phi_\alpha + \phi_\beta - 2\Psi_{RP}) \rangle$$

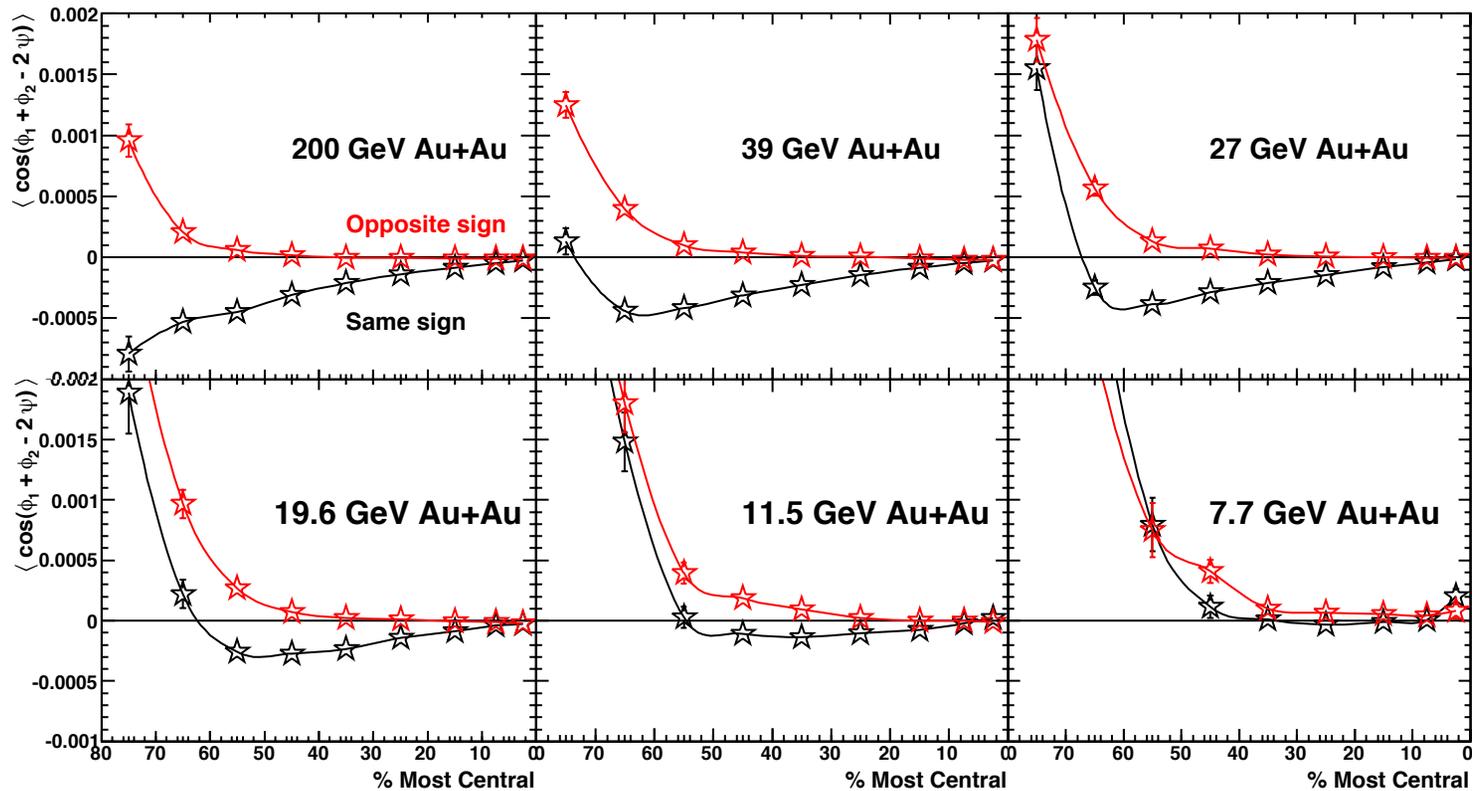
Parity even observable

Voloshin, PR C62, 044901(00).

STAR; PRL 103, 251601(09); 0909.1717 (PRC).

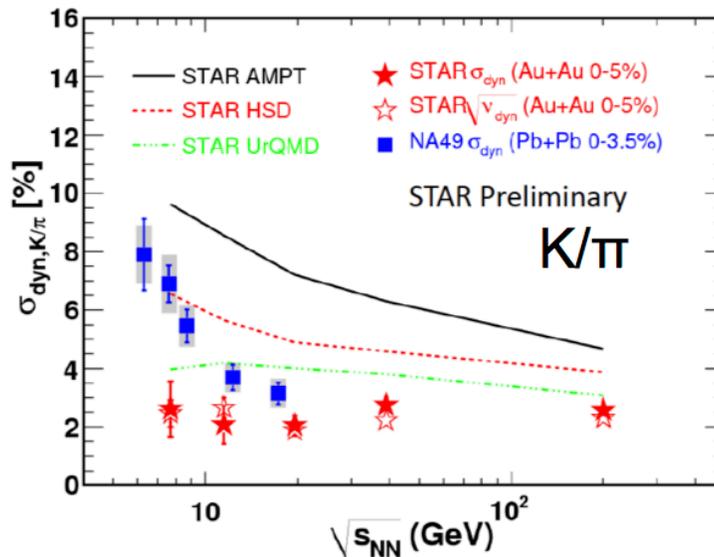
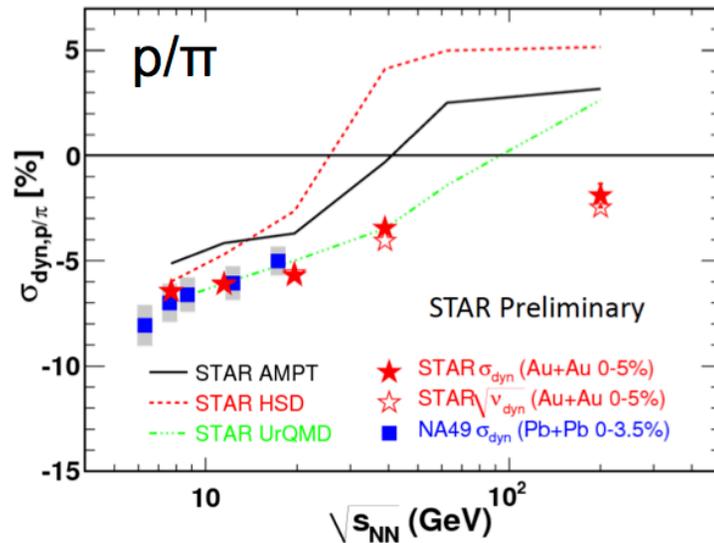


Future tests with Beam Energy Dependence & U+U collisions



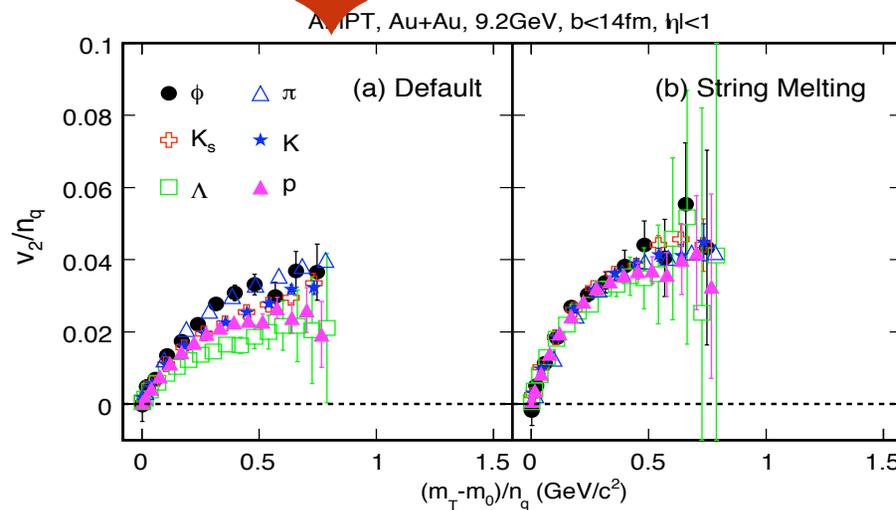
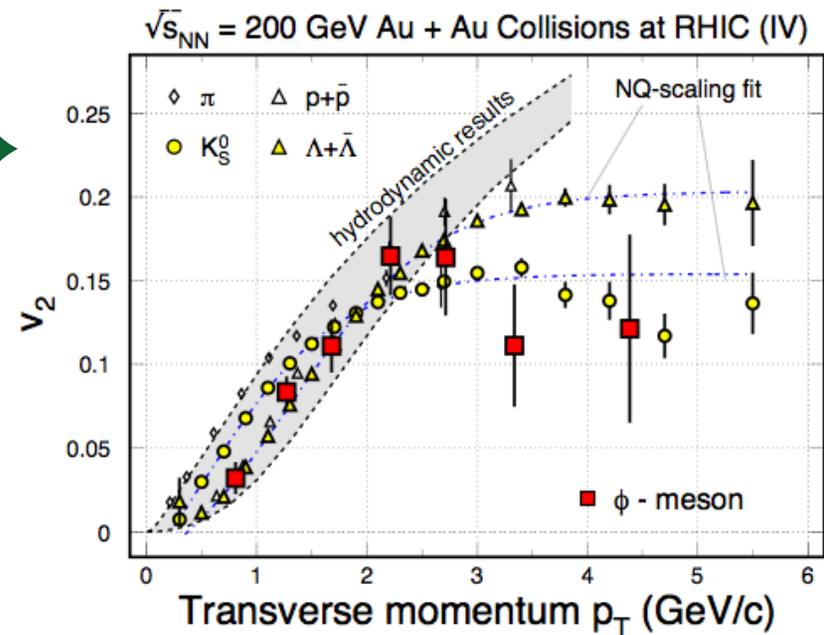
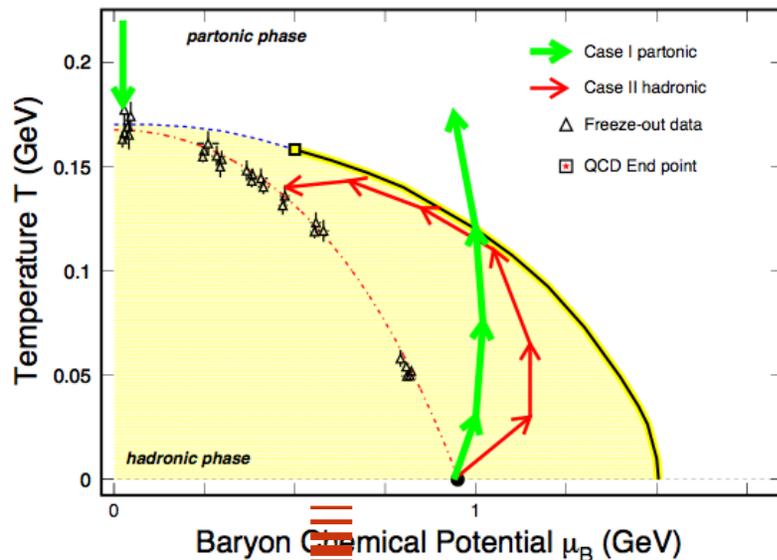
- (1) Below $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11.5$ GeV, the splitting between the same- and opposite-sign charge pairs disappeared
- (2) If QGP is the source for the observed splitting at high-energy nuclear collisions, \rightarrow hadronic interactions become dominant at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 11.5$ GeV

E-by-E PID Yield Ratios



Au + Au collisions at RHIC

- (1) Historical observable: Ratios of identified particle yields.
- (2) In the observed energy range: $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7 - 200$ GeV, both baryon/pion and Strangeness/pion ratios vary smoothly as predicted by the transport model URQMD.
- (3) No strong enhancement in the strangeness ratio in new data.

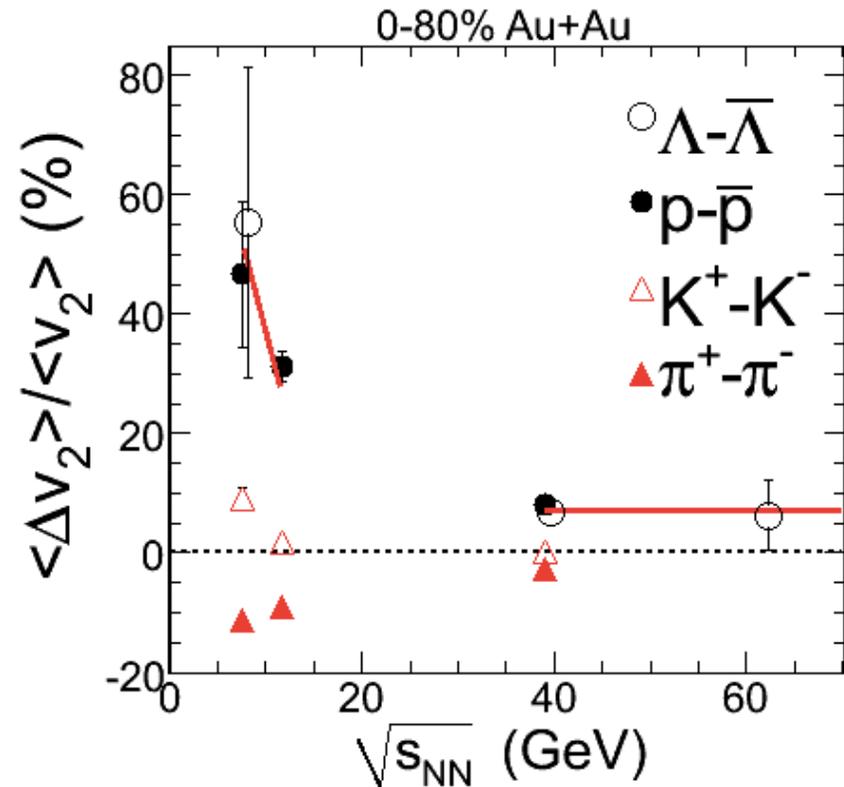
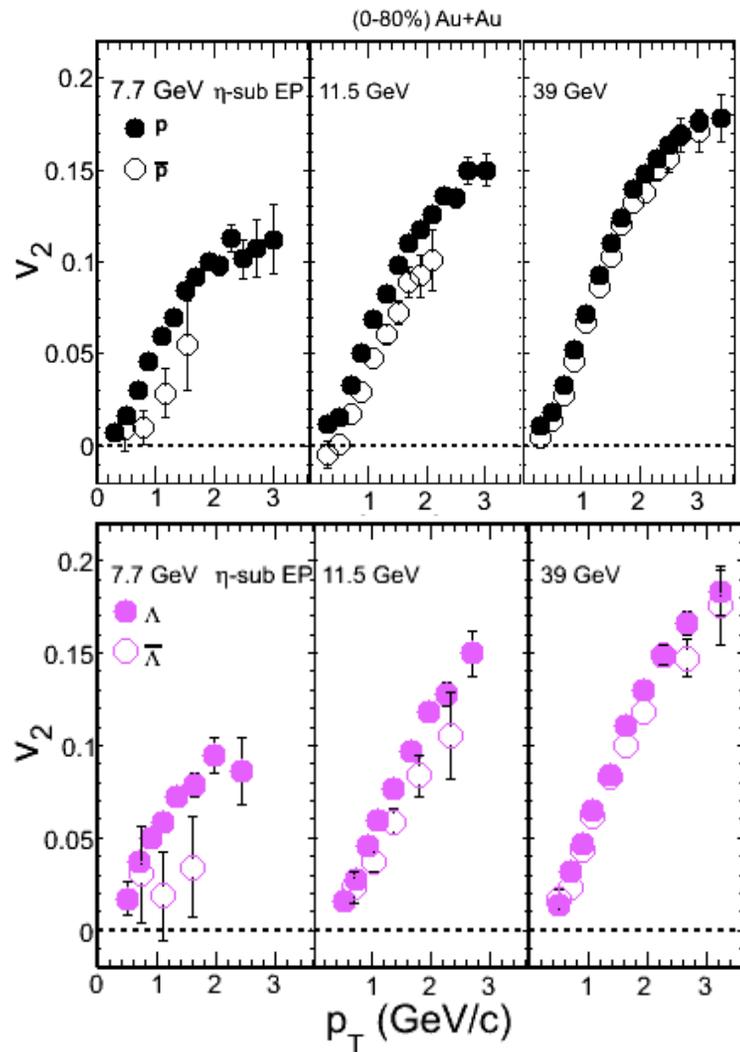


- $m_\phi \sim m_p \sim 1$ GeV
- $ss \Rightarrow \phi$ not $K^+K^- \Rightarrow \phi$
- $\sigma_{\phi h} \ll \sigma_{p\pi}, \pi\pi$

In the hadronic case, no number of quark scaling and the value of v_2 of ϕ will be small.

*** Thermalization is assumed!**

STAR Collaboration

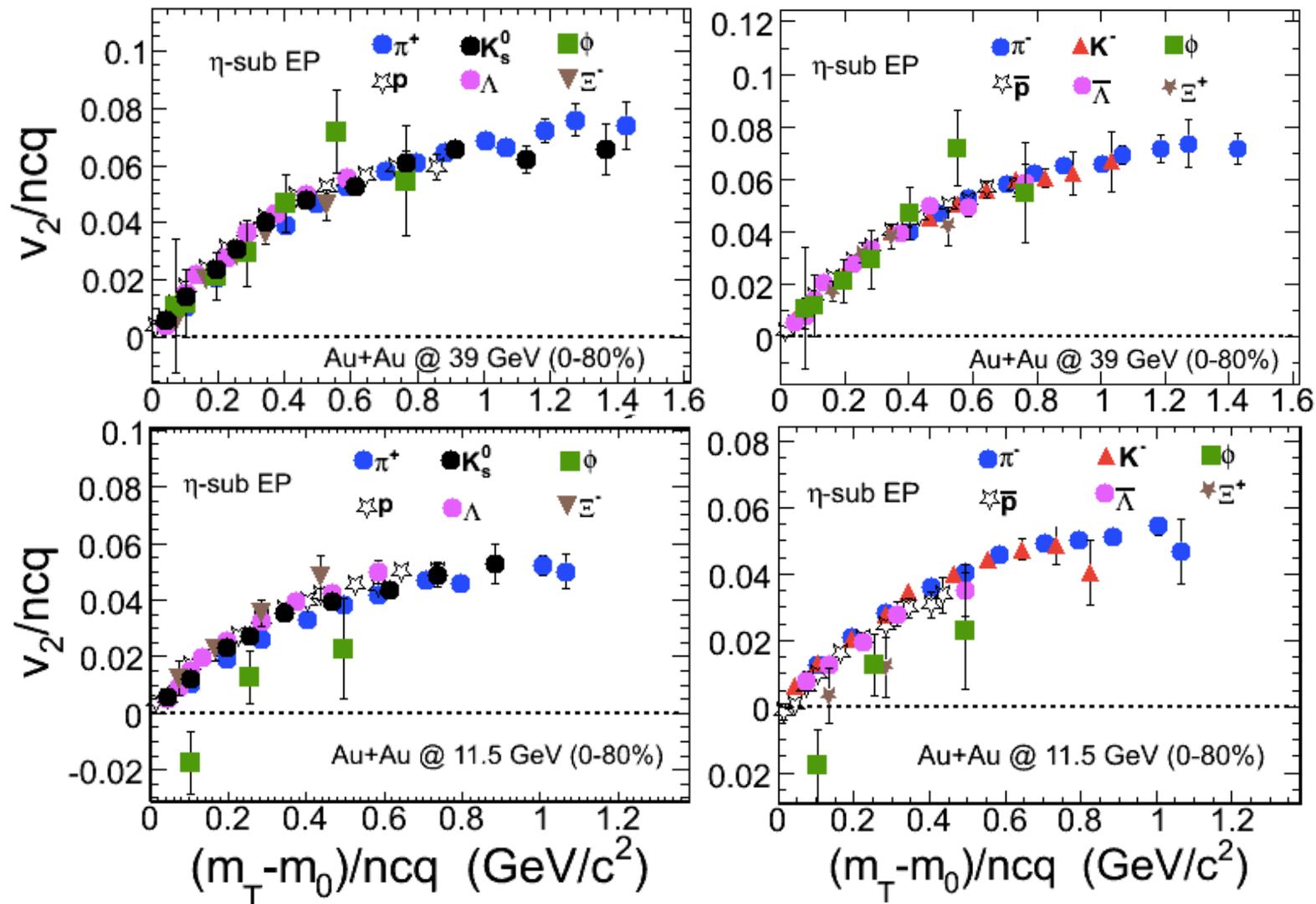


At $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 11.5$ GeV:

- $v_2(\text{baryon}) > v_2(\text{anti-baryon})$
- $v_2(\pi^+) < v_2(\pi^-)$
- $v_2(K^-) < v_2(K^+)$

STAR: Quark Matter 2011

Hadronic interactions are dominant



The ϕ v_2 falls off trend from other hadrons at 11.5 GeV

Thermodynamic function:

$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_i d_i (m_i / T)^2 K_2(m_i / T) \cosh[(B_i \mu_B + S_i \mu_S + Q_i \mu_Q) / T]$$

The susceptibility: $T^{n-4} \chi_q^{(n)} = \frac{1}{T^4} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial (\mu_q / T)^n} P \left(\frac{T}{T_C}, \frac{\mu_q}{T} \right) \Big|_{T/T_C}, \quad q = B, Q, S$

$$\chi_q^{(1)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle \delta N_q \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(2)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(3)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^3 \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(4)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \left(\langle (\delta N_q)^4 \rangle - 3 \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle^2 \right)$$

$$\frac{T^2 \chi_q^{(4)}}{\chi_q^{(2)}} = \kappa \sigma^2$$

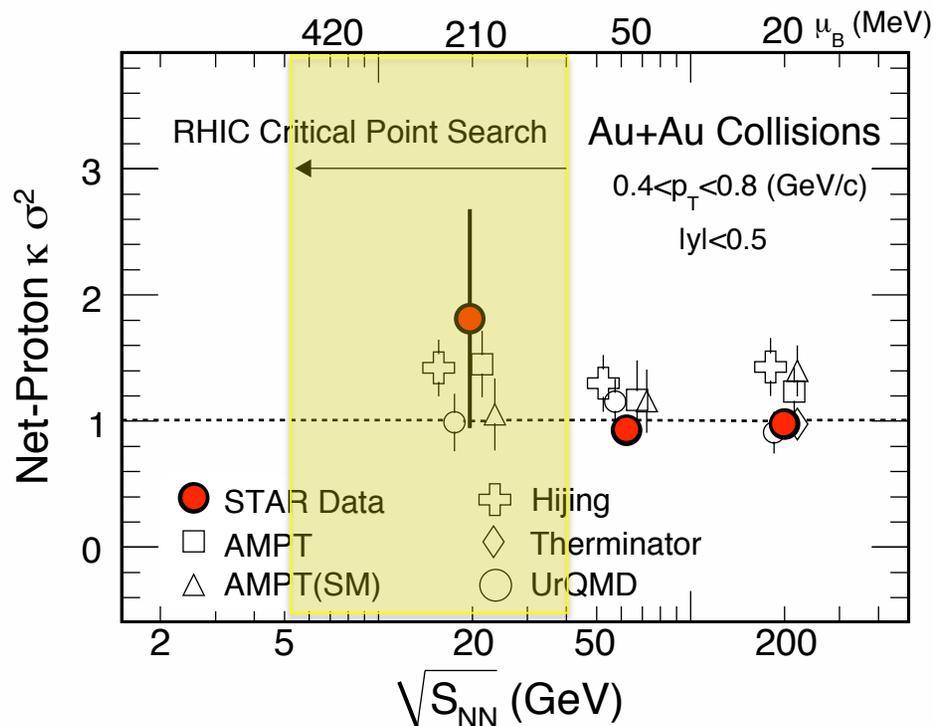
$$\frac{T \chi_q^{(3)}}{\chi_q^{(2)}} = S \sigma$$

Conserved
Quantum
Number

Thermodynamic function \Leftrightarrow Susceptibility \Leftrightarrow Moments

Model calculations, e.g. LGT, HRG \Leftrightarrow Measurements

STAR: *PRL*, **105**, 22302(2010)



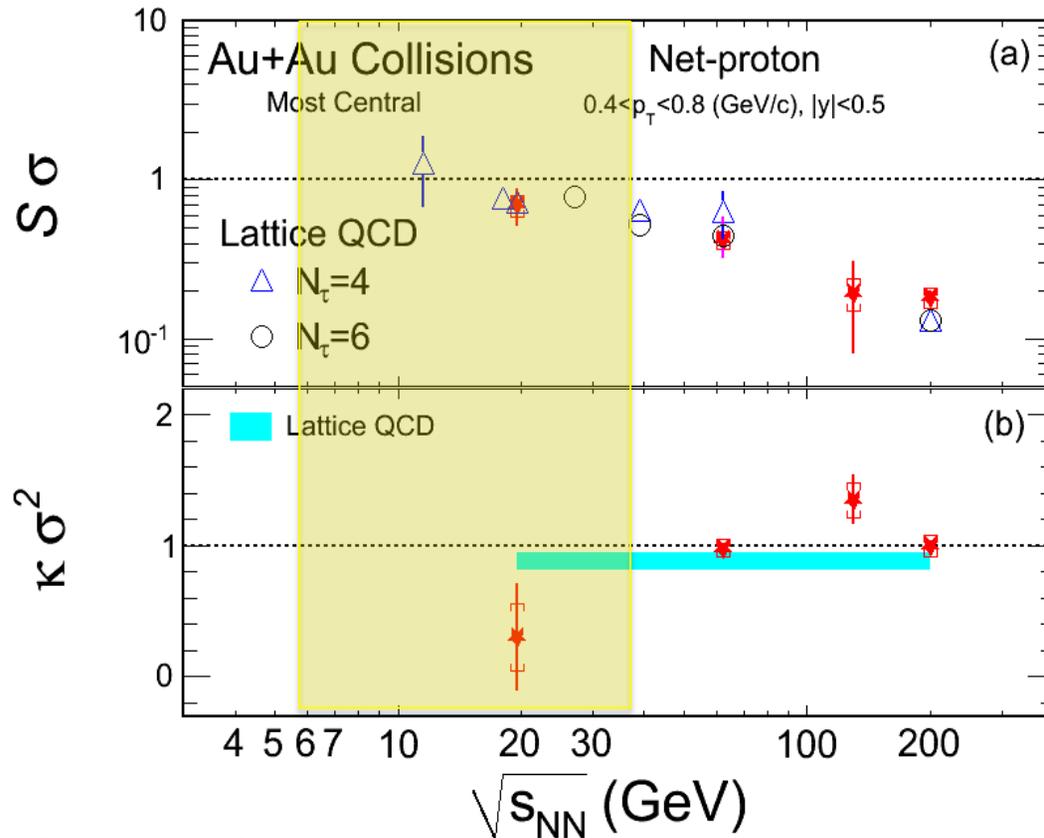
Energy Scan in Au+Au collisions:

Run 10: 7.7, 11.5, 39 GeV

Run 11: **19.6, 27 GeV**

- 1) Centrality averaged events. In this analysis, effects of volume and detecting efficiencies are all canceled out.
- 2) ALL transport model results values are higher than unity, except the Thermanator result at 200GeV. LGT predicted values around 0.8-0.9, due to finite chemical potential effect.
- 3) Test of thermalization with higher moments.
- 4) **Critical point effect:** non-monotonic dependence on collision energy.

- STAR: PRL105, 22302(2010).
- F. Karsch and K. Redlich, arXiv:1007.2581



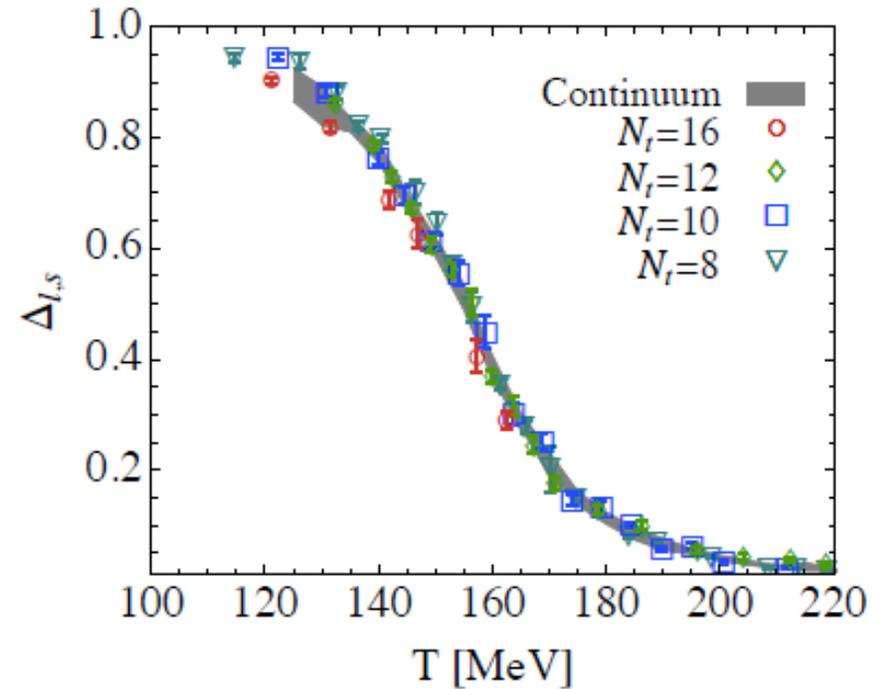
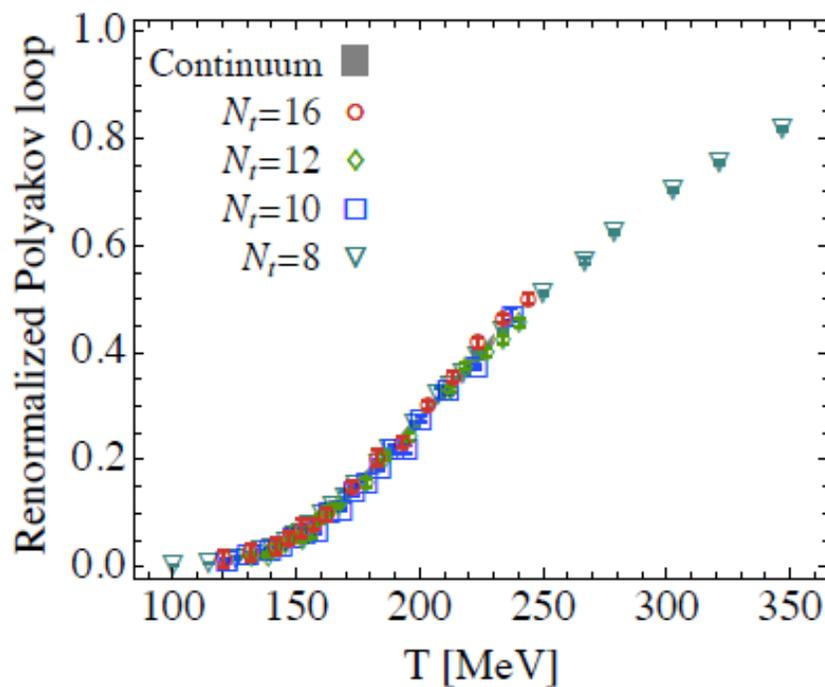
References:

- STAR, *PRL*105, 22303(10)
- R.V. Gavai and S. Gupta: *PLB*696, 459(11)
- S. Gupta *et al*, *Science*, 332, 1525(2011)

Assumptions:

- Freeze-out temperature is close to LGT T_C
- Thermal equilibrium reached in central collisions
- Taylor expansions, at $\mu_B \neq 0$, on LGT results are valid

- Lattice results are consistent with data for $60 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 200$ GeV
- $T_C = 175^{+1}_{-7}$ (MeV)



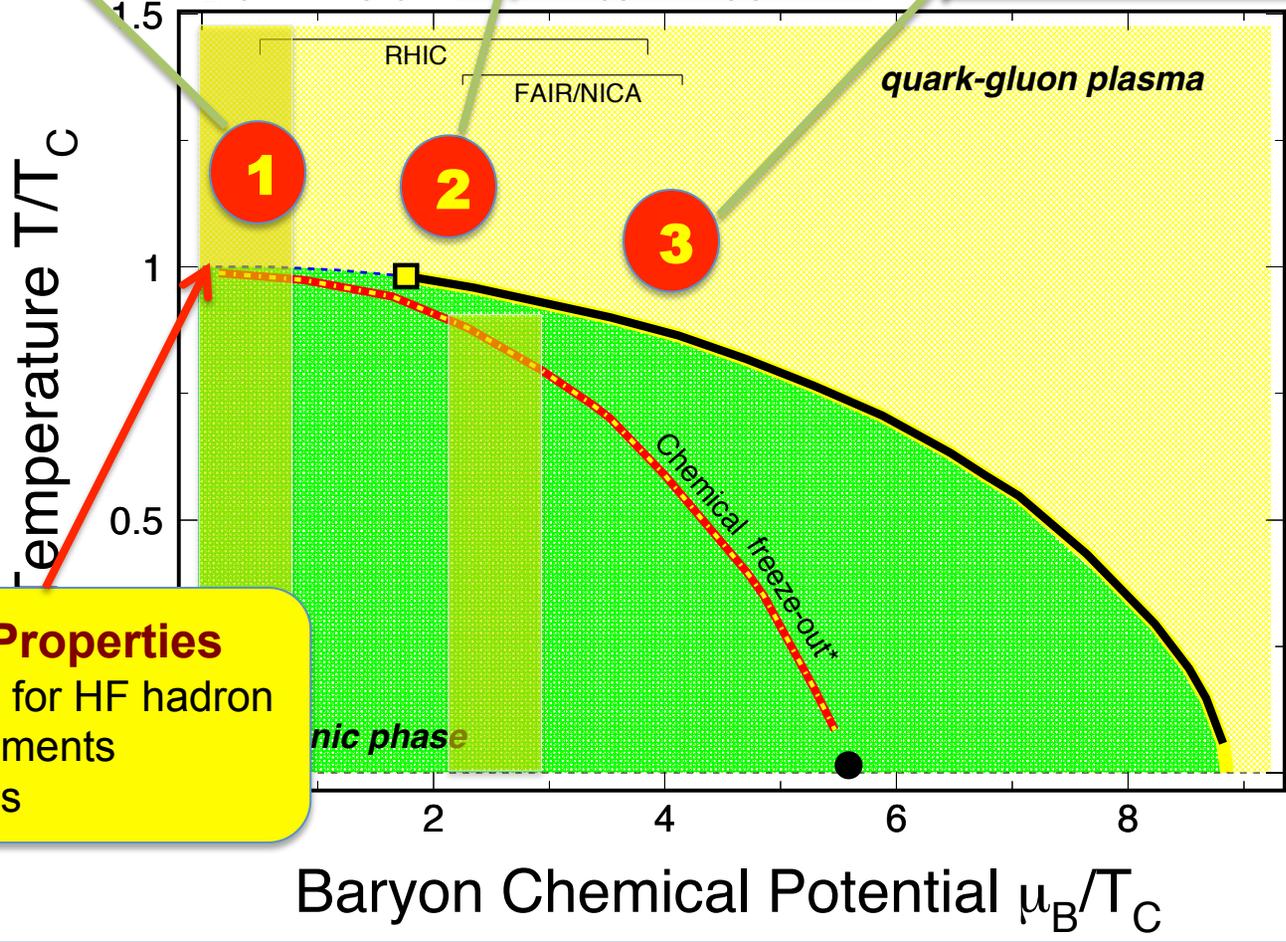
Action	Temperature
Polyakov Loop	$T_C^{\text{conf}} \sim 170 \text{ MeV}$
Chiral Operator	$T_C^{\text{Chiral}} \sim 160 \text{ MeV}$
RHIC Data	$T_C^{\text{Exp}} \sim 175^{+1}_{-7} \text{ MeV}$
	$(T_{\text{CH}}^{\text{Exp}} \sim 160 \pm 5 \text{ MeV})$

- 1

 T_{ini}, T_C
LHC, RHIC
- 2

 T_E **RHIC,**
SPS, FAIR
- 3

 Phase boundary
RHIC, FAIR, NICA



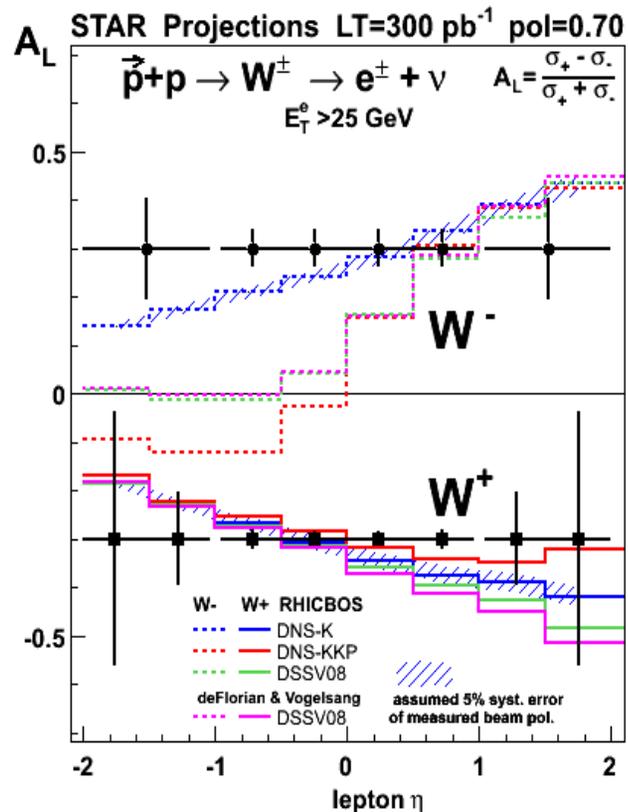
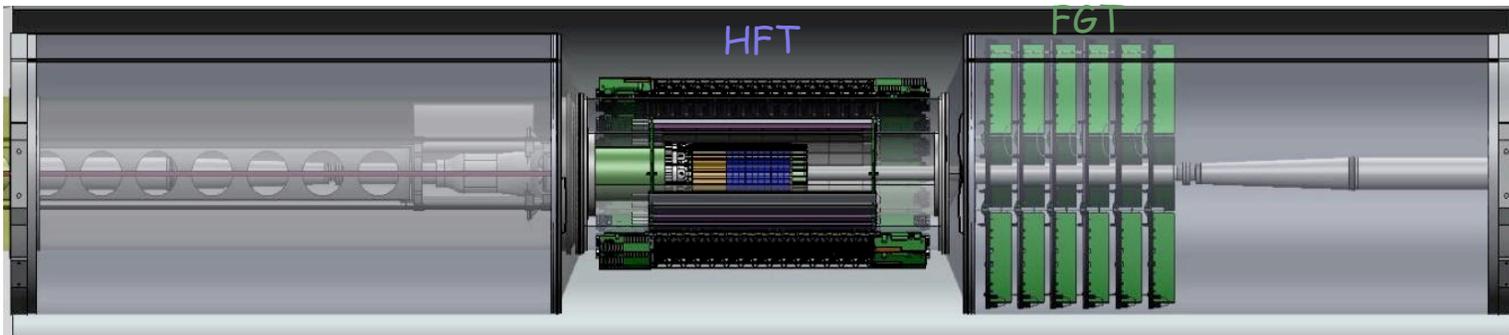
QGP Properties

- Upgrade for HF hadron measurements
- di-leptons

- (1) In high-energy nuclear collisions, hot and dense ***matter, with partonic degrees of freedom and collectivity, has been formed***
- (2) The matter behavior like a ***quantum liquid with small η/s***
- (3) Partonic matter \rightarrow **antimatter**: ${}^3_{\Lambda}\bar{H}, {}^4\bar{He}$
- (4) **[partonic]** $< \mu_B \sim 110\text{--}320$ (MeV) $<$ **[hadronic]**
- (5) Net-proton distributions are consistent with LGT results. QCD Scale: $T_c = 175^{+1}_{-7}$ (MeV)

Future Activities

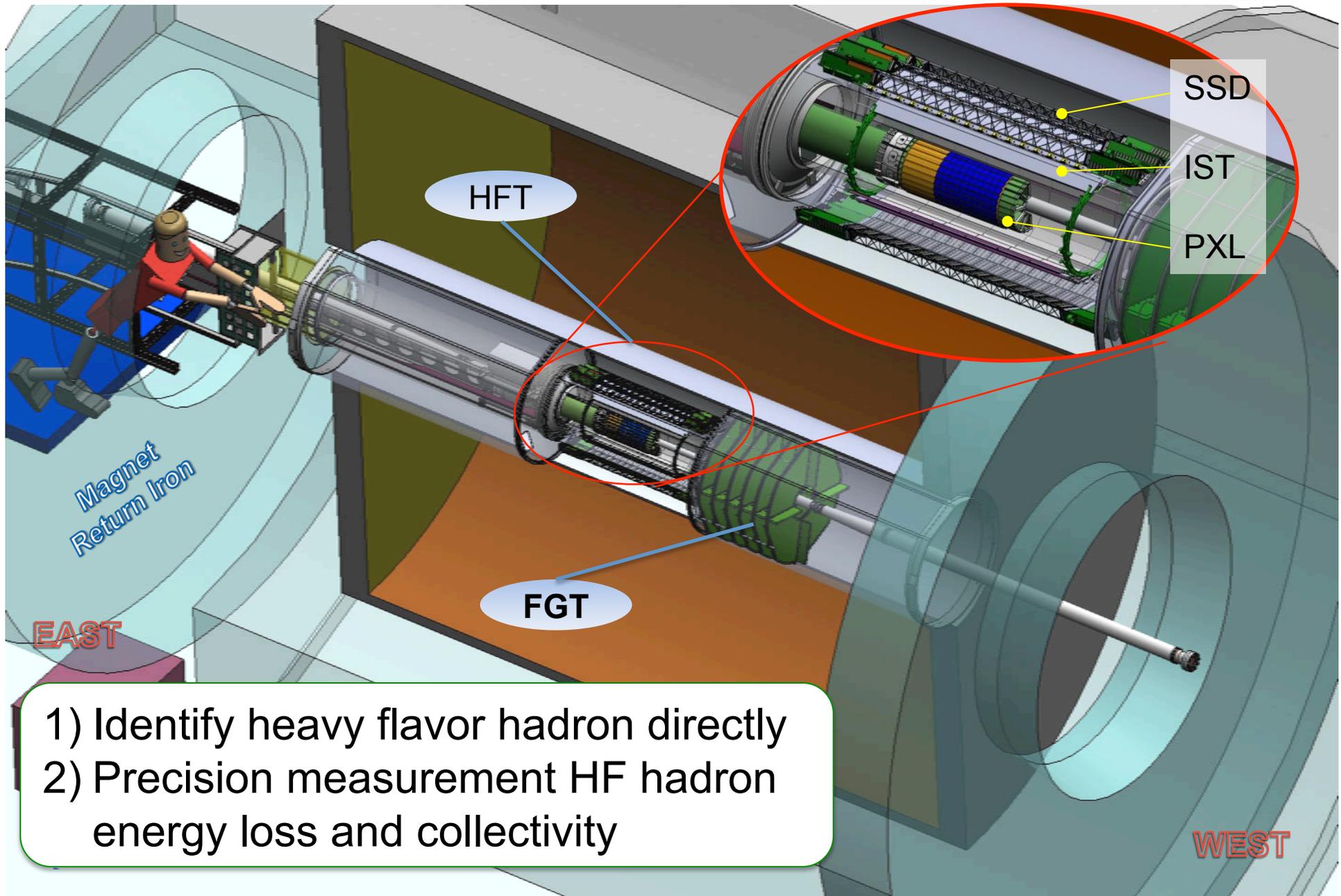
- (1) 2012 - 2016: FGT, HFT, and MTD
- (2) 2016 - 2022: Decadal Plan, eSTAR
- (3) Beyond: eRHIC

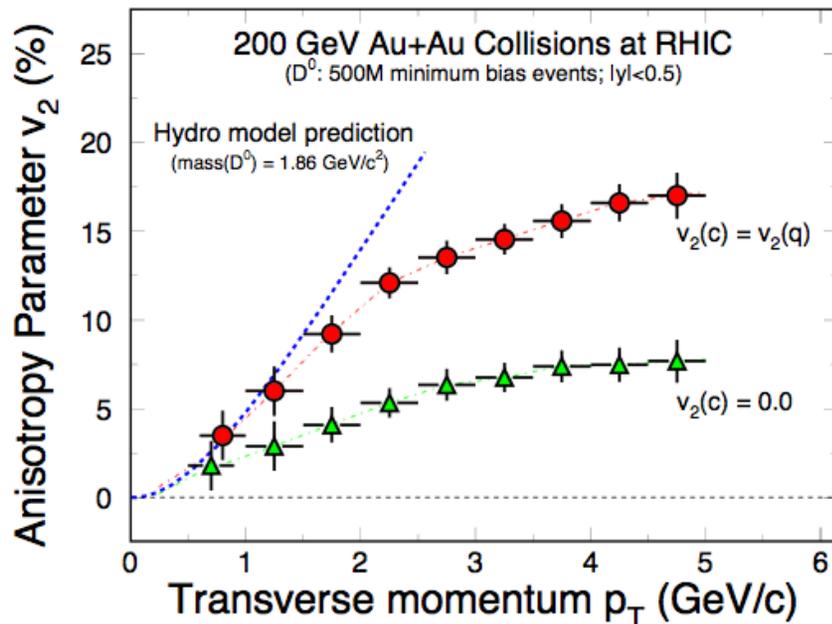


- 1) FGT: RHIC CP project
- 2) Six light-weight triple-GEM disks
- 3) New mechanical support structure
- 4) Planned installation: Summer 2011

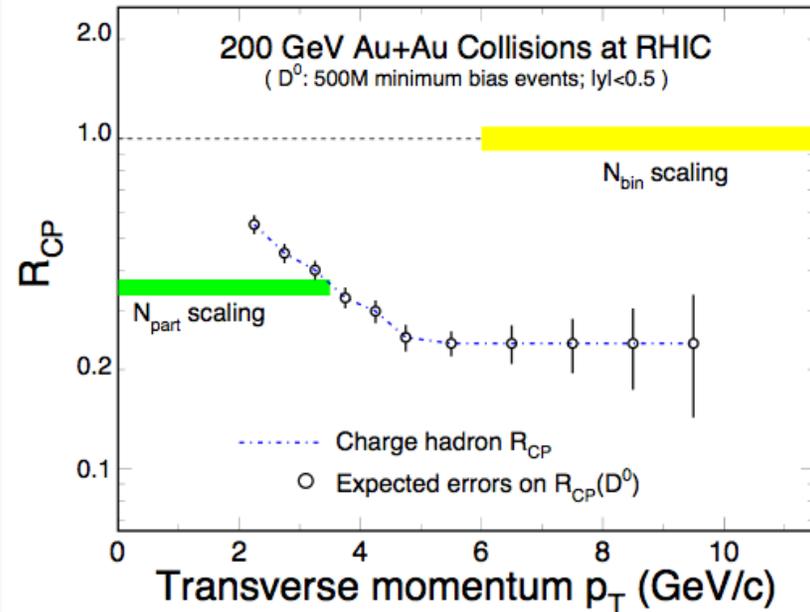
- 1) Full charge-sign discrimination at high- p_T
- 2) Design polarization performance of **70% or better** to collect at least 300 pb^{-1}
- 3) **Ready* for Run 12!**

* minimal configuration

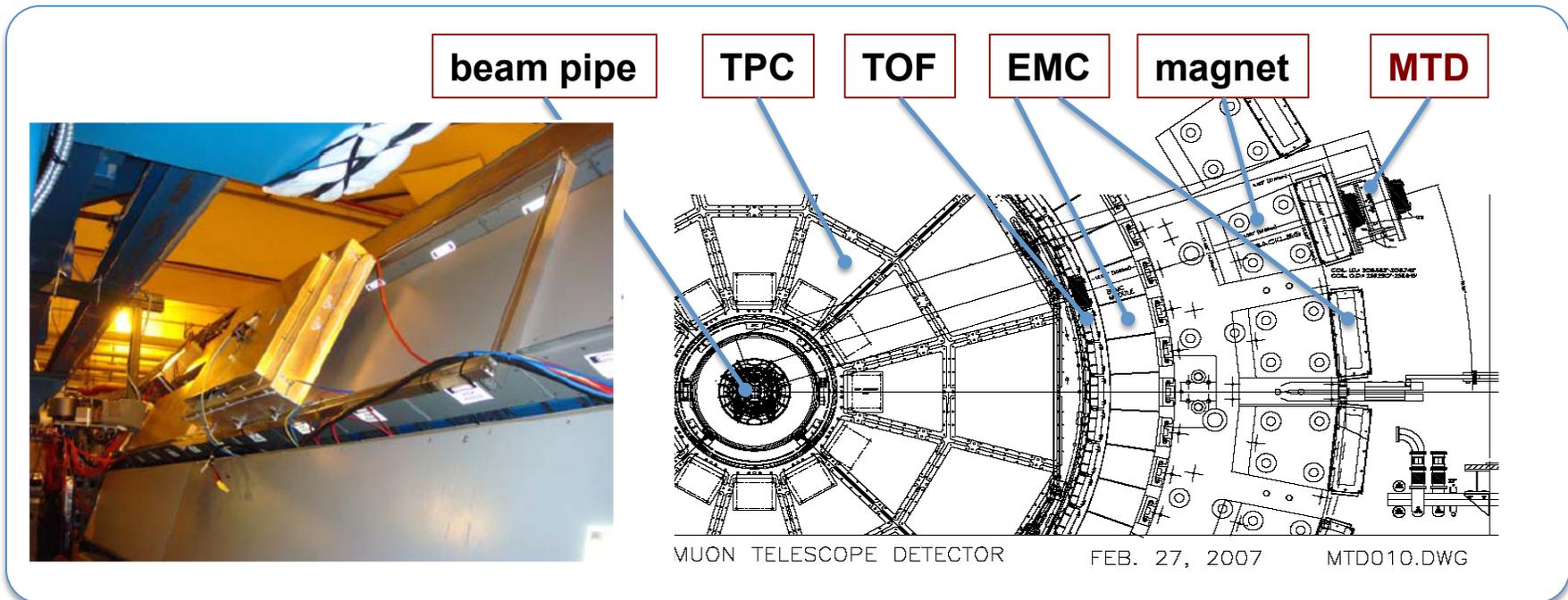




- 200 GeV Au+Au m.b. collisions (500M events).
- Charm hadron collectivity \Rightarrow drag/diffusion constants \Rightarrow
- **Medium properties!**
- **Light quark thermalization!**



- 200 GeV Au+Au m.b. collisions ($|y| < 0.5$ 500M events)
- Charm hadron $R_{AA} \Rightarrow$
- **Energy loss mechanism!**
- **QCD in dense medium!**



Muon Telescope Detector (MTD) at STAR:

- 1) MRPC technology; $\mu_{\epsilon} \sim 36\%$; cover $\sim 45\%$ azimuthally and $|y| < 0.5$
- 2) TPC+TOF+MTD: muon/hadron enhancement factor $\sim 10^{2-3}$
- 3) For high p_T muon trigger, heavy quarkonia, light vector mesons, $B \rightarrow J/\Psi + X$
- 4) China-India-STAR collaboration: approved by DOE and China + India
- 5) **Run 13**: 50% MTD will be ready

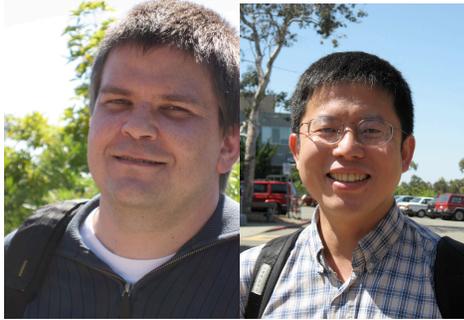


Key Upgrades



- 1) **FGT**: fully funded, ready for Run12.
- W-physics, sea quark contributions to proton spin
- 2) **HFT**: CD1 done. CD2/3 done, will be ready for Run 14.
- Heavy quark collectivity, light quark thermalization
- 3) **MTD**: approved by BNL, China, India (15%) funds secured.
- Excited quarkonia states, trigger for rare processes
- 4) **eSTAR** task force established. An important step toward EIC.

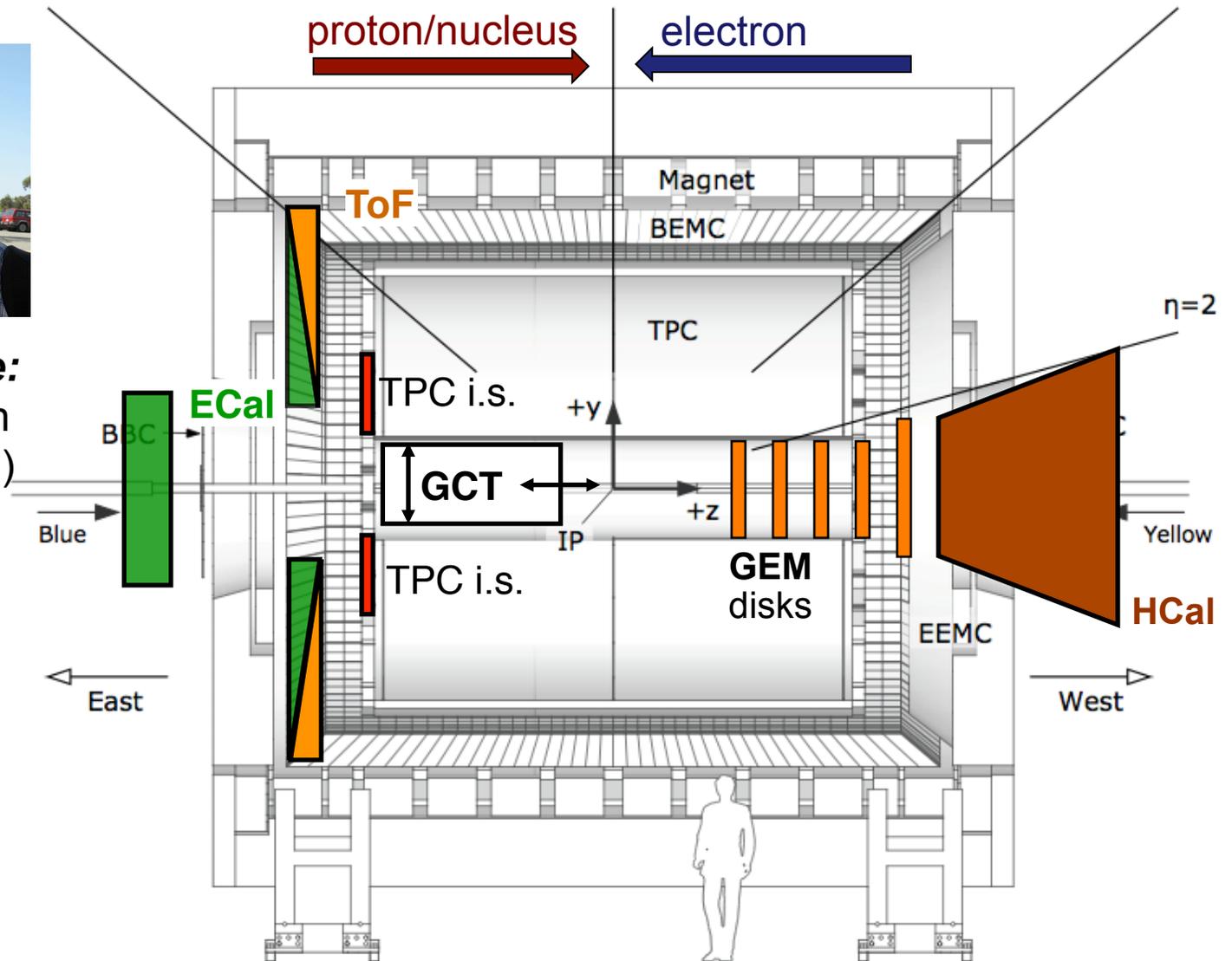
(1) Forward Spaghetti Calorimeter (UCLA)	April 2011	approved
(2) Forward TOF/TRD (BNL/USTC/VECC)	November 2011	
(3) BBC Polarimetry (ANL)	November 2011	
(4) Crystal BSO Calorimeter (USTC)	November 2011	



eSTAR Task Force:

- Ernst Sichtermann
- Zhangbu Xu (BNL)

- Detector R&D
- Science cases





Summary and Outlook



- 1) **STAR at RHIC**: Dedicated facility for studying matter with QCD degrees of freedom:
 - *Properties of QGP*
 - *Sea quark and gluon contributions to proton helicity structure*
 - *QCD critical point, phase boundary*

- 2) Future: EIC (eRHIC, 2022 - ...)
 - *Partonic structures of nucleon and nuclei*
 - *Understanding the dynamical evolution from cold nuclear matter to hot QGP*

Phase Structures of QCD Matter

Nu's Wish List for Local STAR Groups:

- 1) More students for STAR data analysis and R&D for future upgrades
- 2) Publish PMD data collected in the RHIC BES program, search for possible signature of χ_C -transition in high-energy nuclear collisions.



RHIC Run 12



21 week case:

Cool down: January 17, 2012
Shift end of January

1) 200 GeV p+p 4 weeks
2) 500 GeV p+p 7 weeks

3) 200 GeV Cu+Au 5 weeks

Or 193 GeV U+U 4 weeks
Or 15.5 GeV Au+Au 2.5 weeks

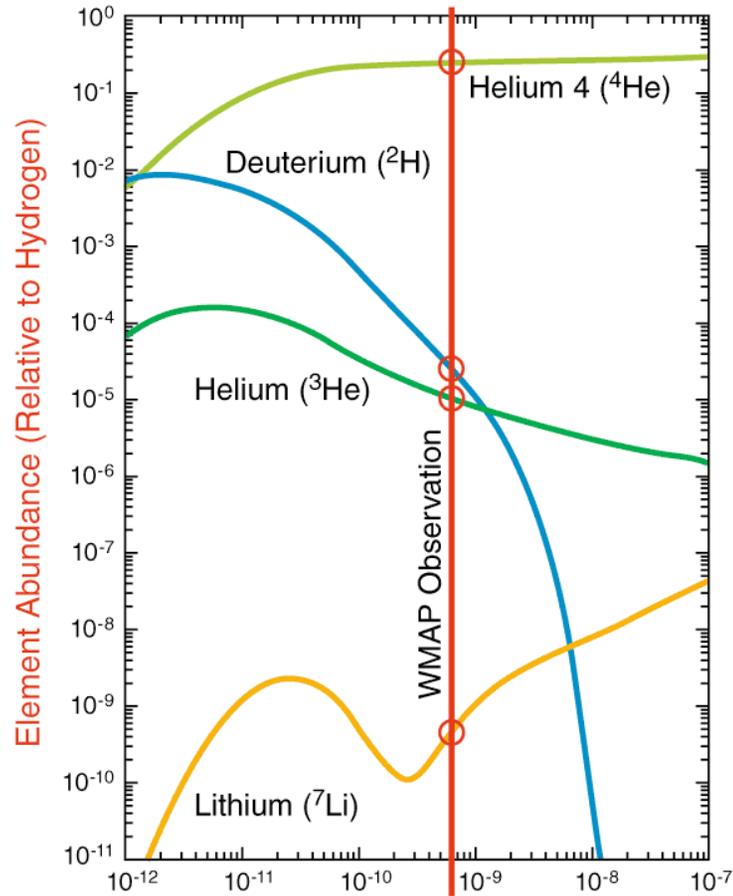
STAR is/will be ready.

In advance, thank you for participate in STAR data taking

***Many Thanks to the
Organizers!***

Nu Xu

Atomic Nuclei Formation



Density of Ordinary Matter (Relative to Photons)

NASA/WMAP Science Team
WMAP101087

Element Abundance graphs: Slagman, Encyclopedia of Astronomy and Astrophysics (Institute of Physics) December, 2000

$$\frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} \approx 10^{-9}$$

