

*Exploring the QCD Phase Structure*

# Recent Results from RHIC BES-I

Nu Xu

Outline:

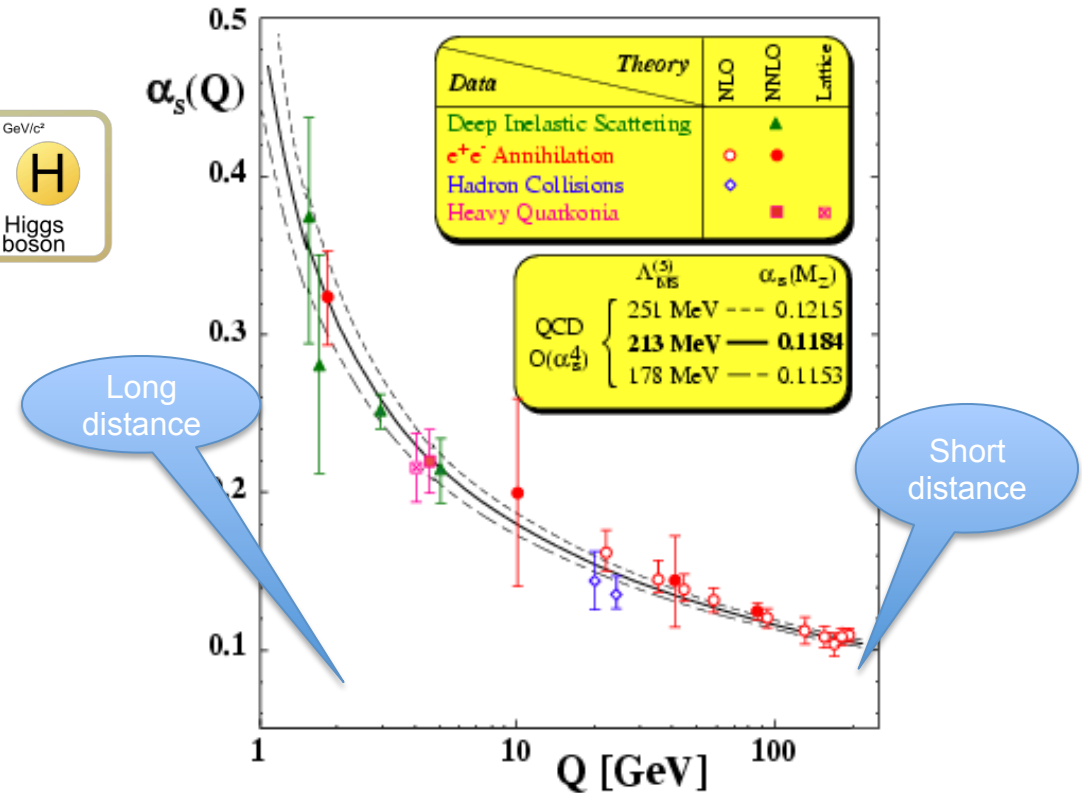
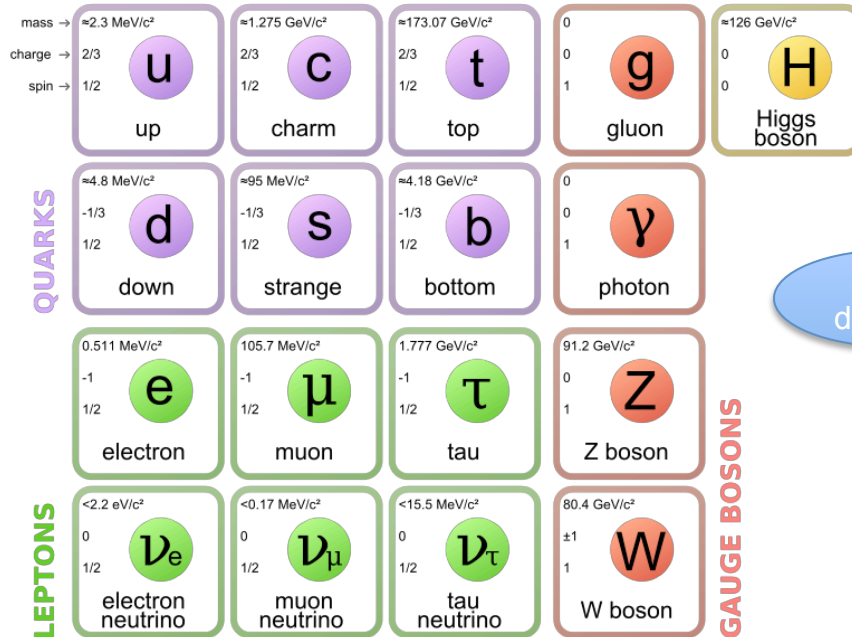
- 1) Introduction: QCD Phase Structure
- 2) STAR Detector System
- 3) RHIC BES-I Results
- 4) Summary and Outlook



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

## ELEMENTARY PARTICLES

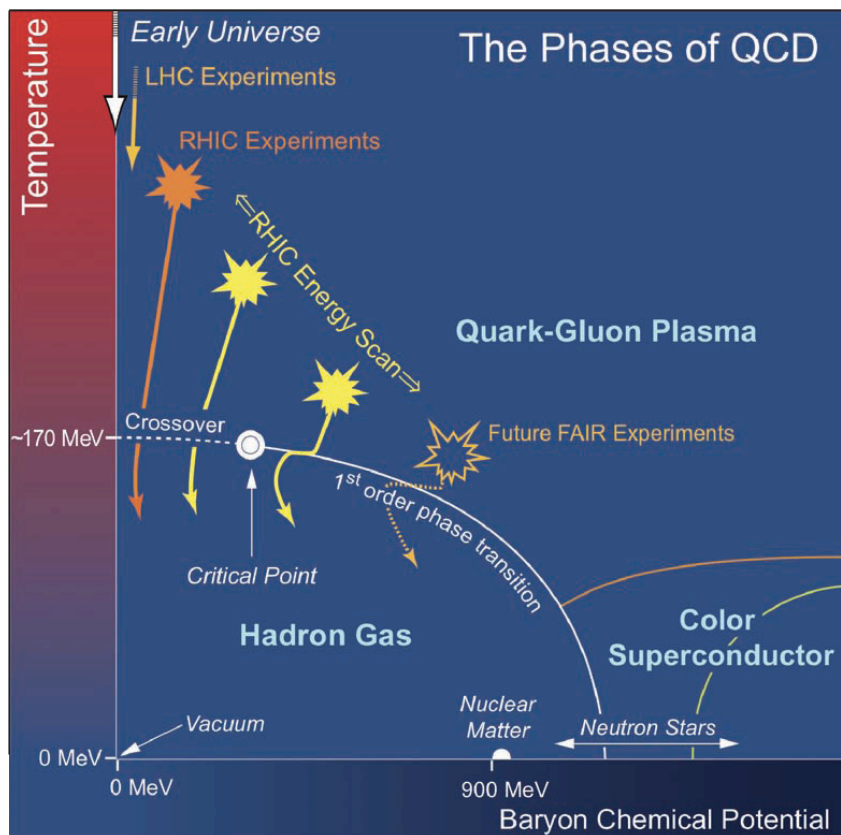


- 1) QCD is the basic theory for strong interaction. Its degrees of freedom are well defined at short distance.
- 2) Little is known regarding the dynamical structures of matter that made from **q, g**. E.g. the confinement, nucleon spin, the **QCD phase structure**... Large  $\alpha_s$  and strong coupling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

BES-I:  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7, 11.5, 19.6, 27, 39\text{GeV}$

## Study QCD Phase Structure

- Signals for onset of sQGP
- Signals for phase boundary
- Signals for critical point



## Observables:

### 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition

- (1) Azimuthally HBT
- (2) Directed flow  $v_1$

### Partonic vs. hadronic dof

- (3)  $R_{AA}$ : N.M.F.
- (4) Dynamical correlations
- (5)  $v_2$  - NCQ scaling

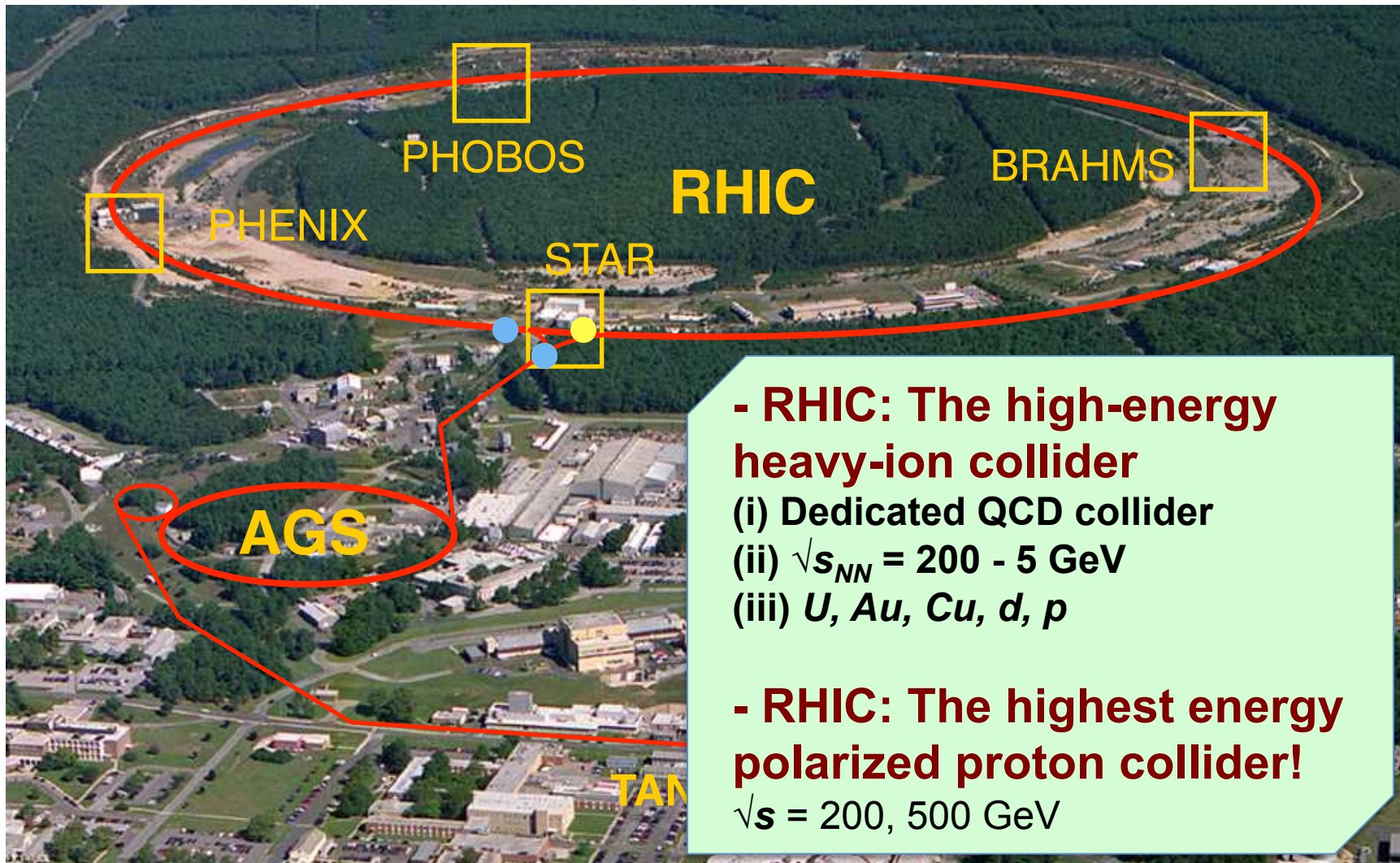
### Critical point, correl. length

- (6) Fluctuations
- (7) Di-lepton production

- <http://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0493>; arXiv:1007.2613

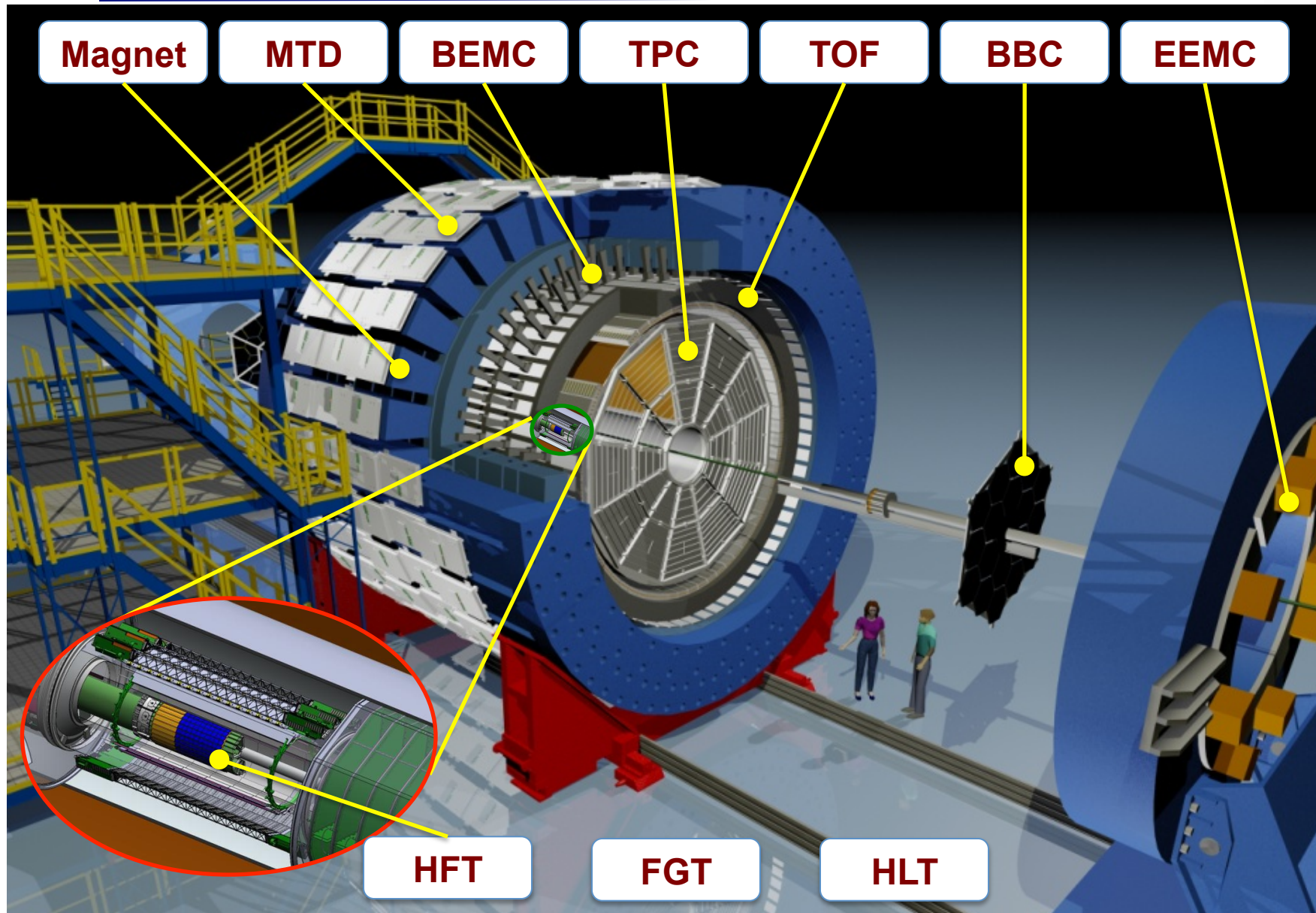
# Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider

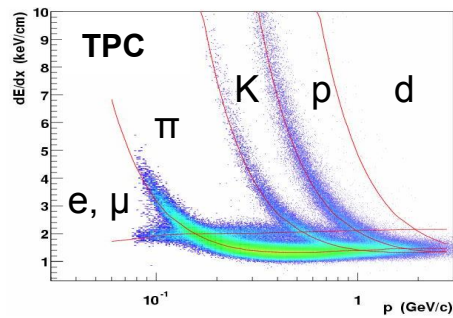
Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), Upton, NY



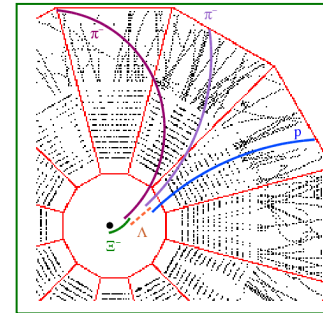
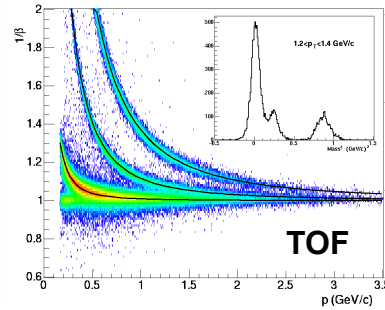
Animation M. Lisa

# STAR Experiment

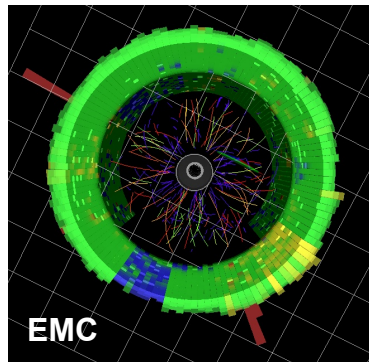
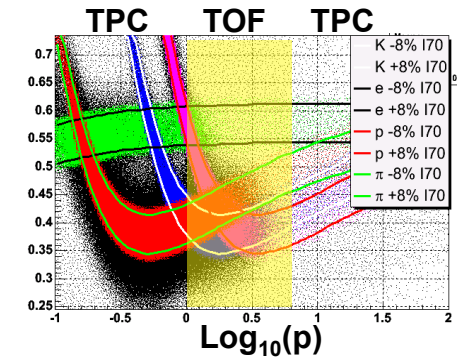




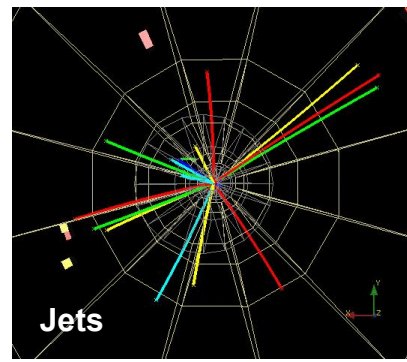
*Charged hadrons*



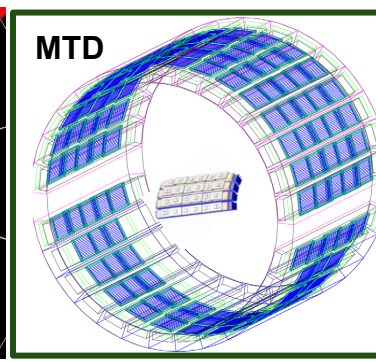
*Hyperons & Hyper-nuclei*



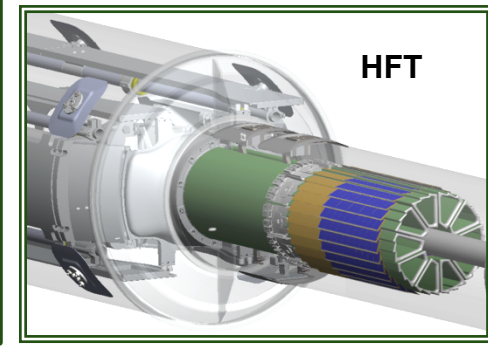
*Neutral particles*



*Jets & Correlations*



*High  $p_T$  muons*

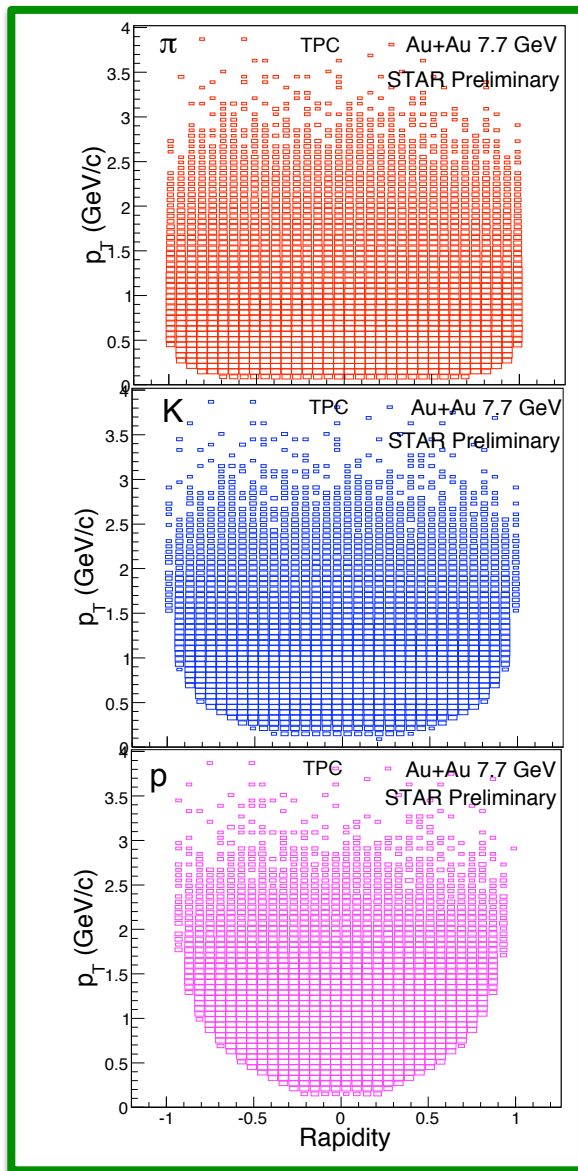


*Heavy-flavor hadrons*

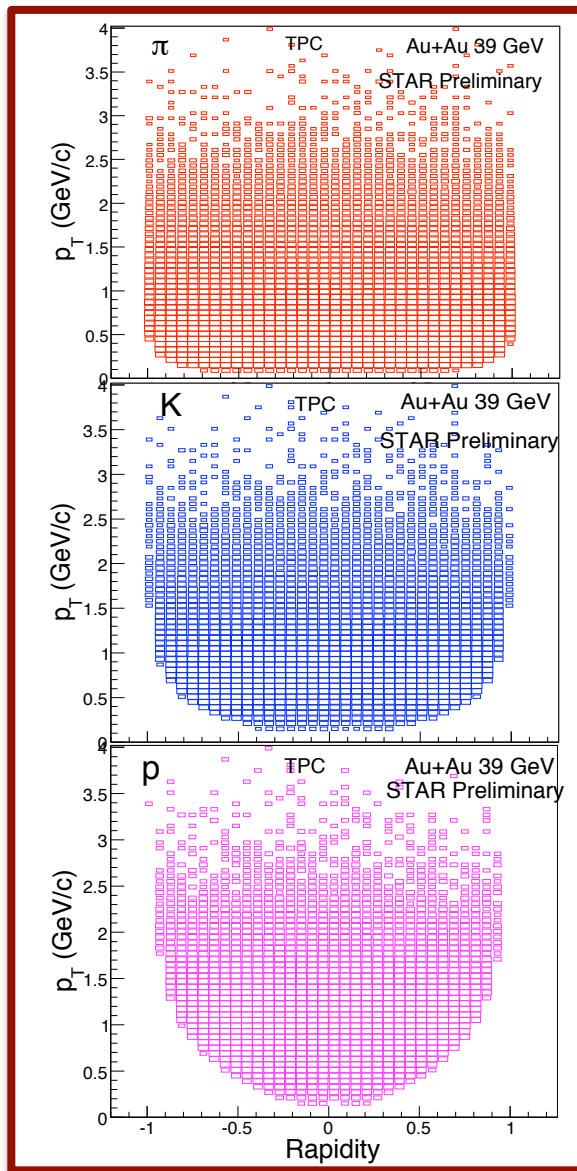
Multiple-fold correlations for the identified particles!

# STAR PID for ( $\pi$ , $K$ , $p$ )

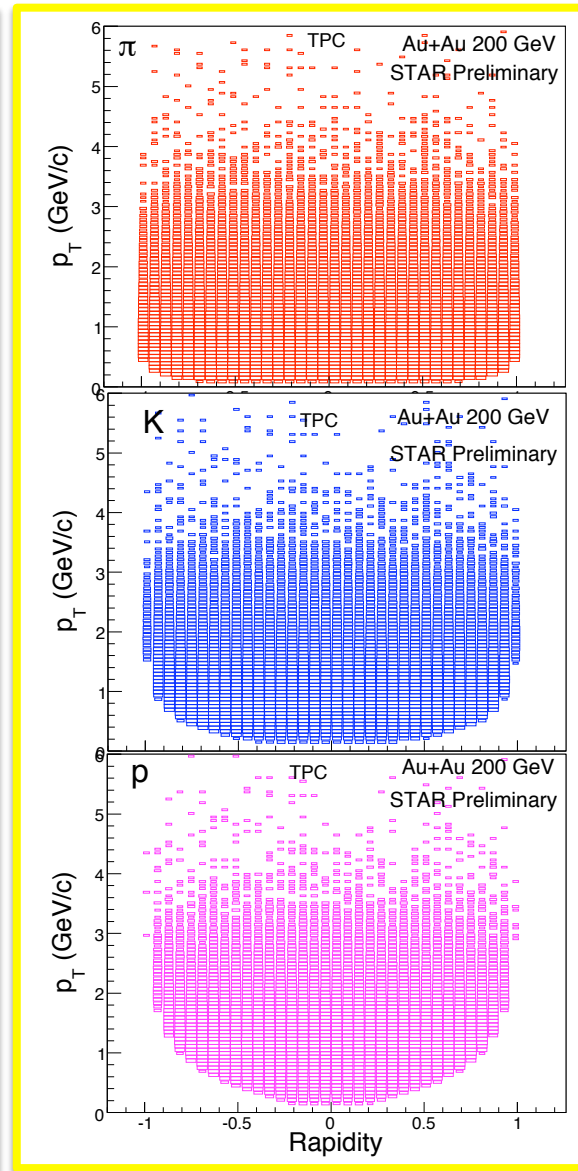
Au+Au at 7.7 GeV



Au+Au at 39 GeV



Au+Au at 200 GeV



Period	Detectors	Physics
2001-2010	TPC	$u, d, s$
2010	TPC + TOF	$u, d, s + dilepton$
2013	TPC + TOF + MTD	$u, d, s, c, b +$
2014	TPC + TOF + MTD + HFT	$dilepton$

→ **STAR: Large coverage, excellent PID, fast DAQ**

- detects nearly all particles produced at RHIC
- multiple fold correlation measurements
- Probes: **bulk, penetrating, and bulk-penetrating**

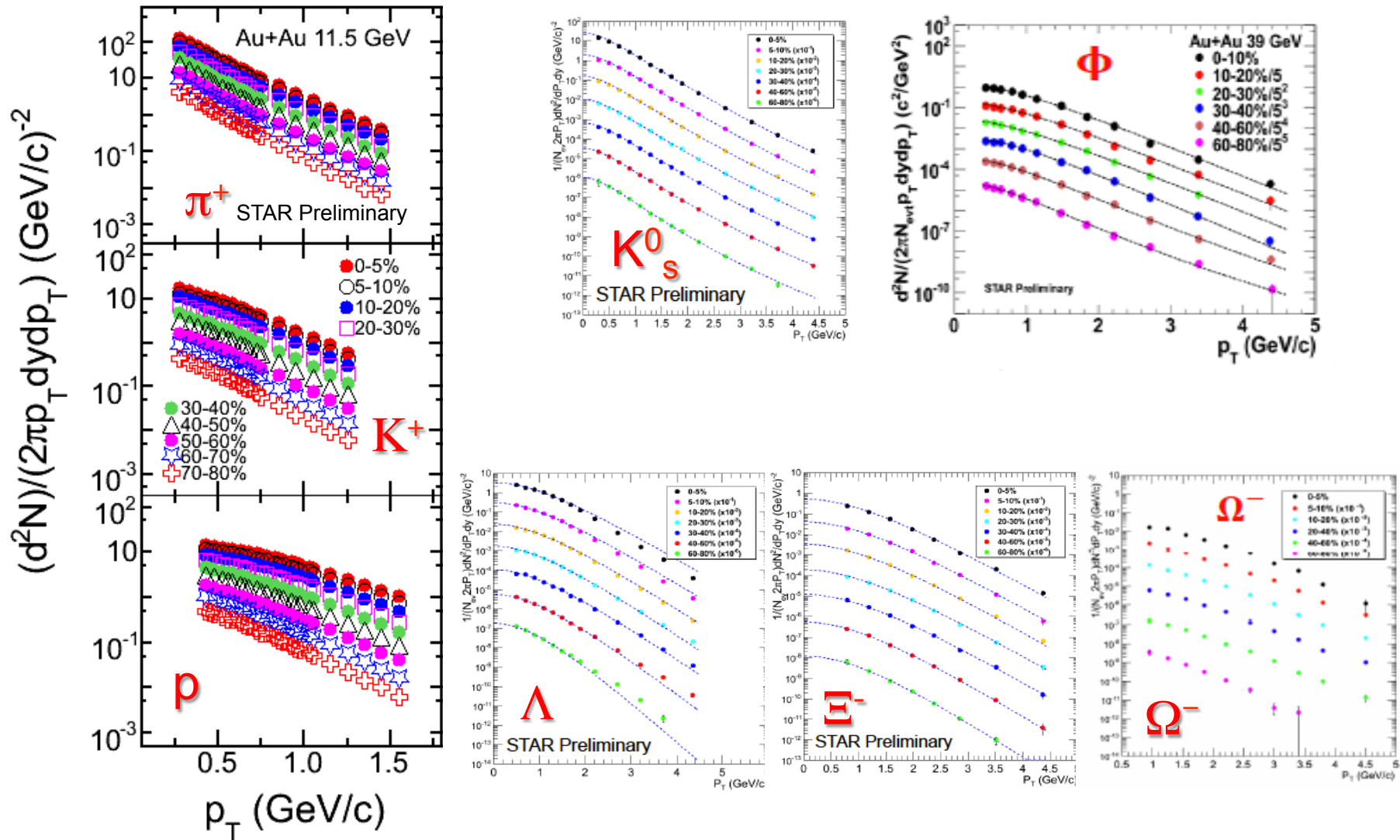
→ **STAR: Perfect mid-y collider experiment**

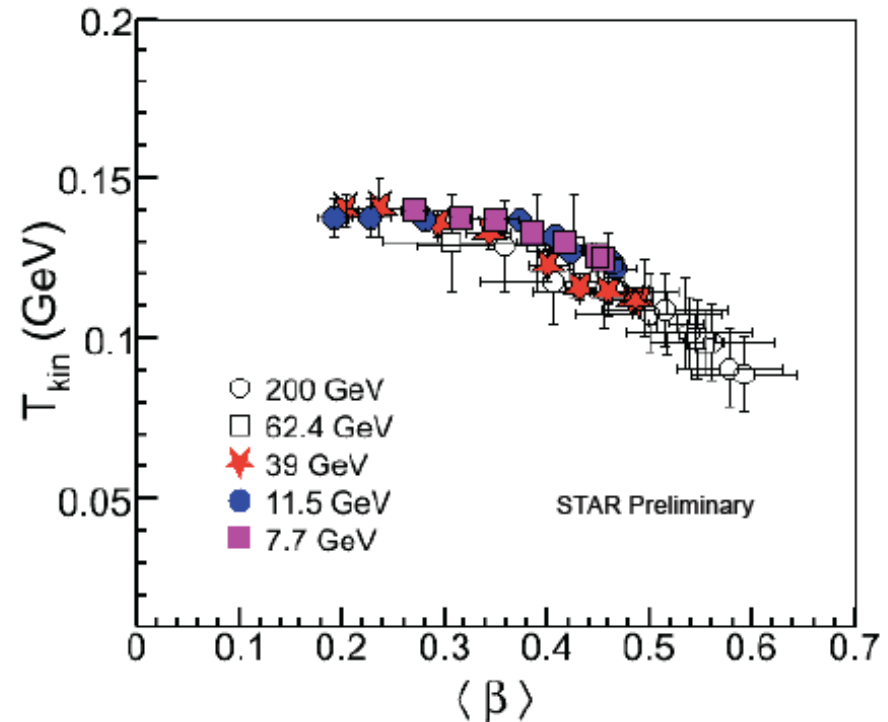
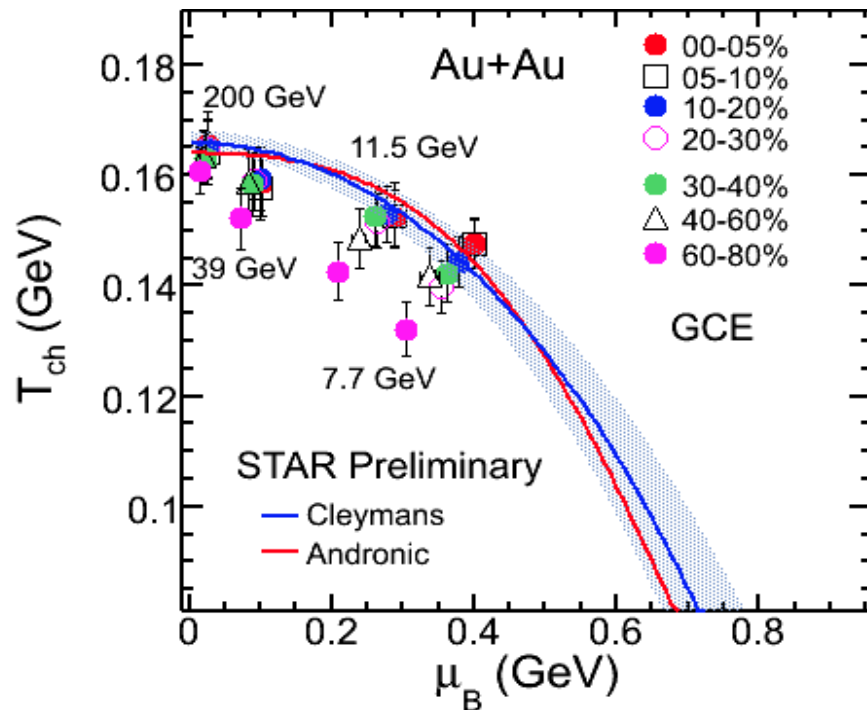
→ **STAR: Expanding into forward rapidity regions**



# (1) Hadron Spectra

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 39$  GeV Au+Au Collisions



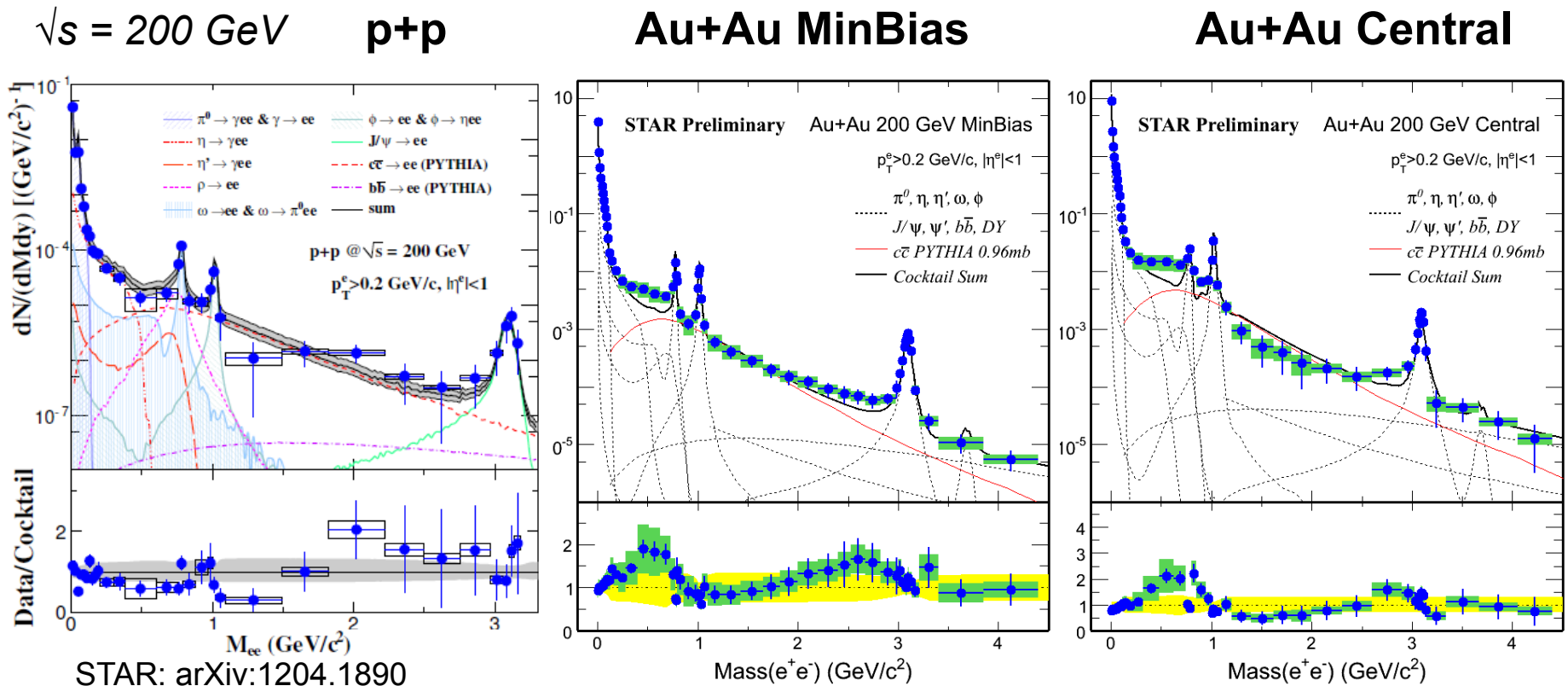


### **Chemical Freeze-out: (GCE)**

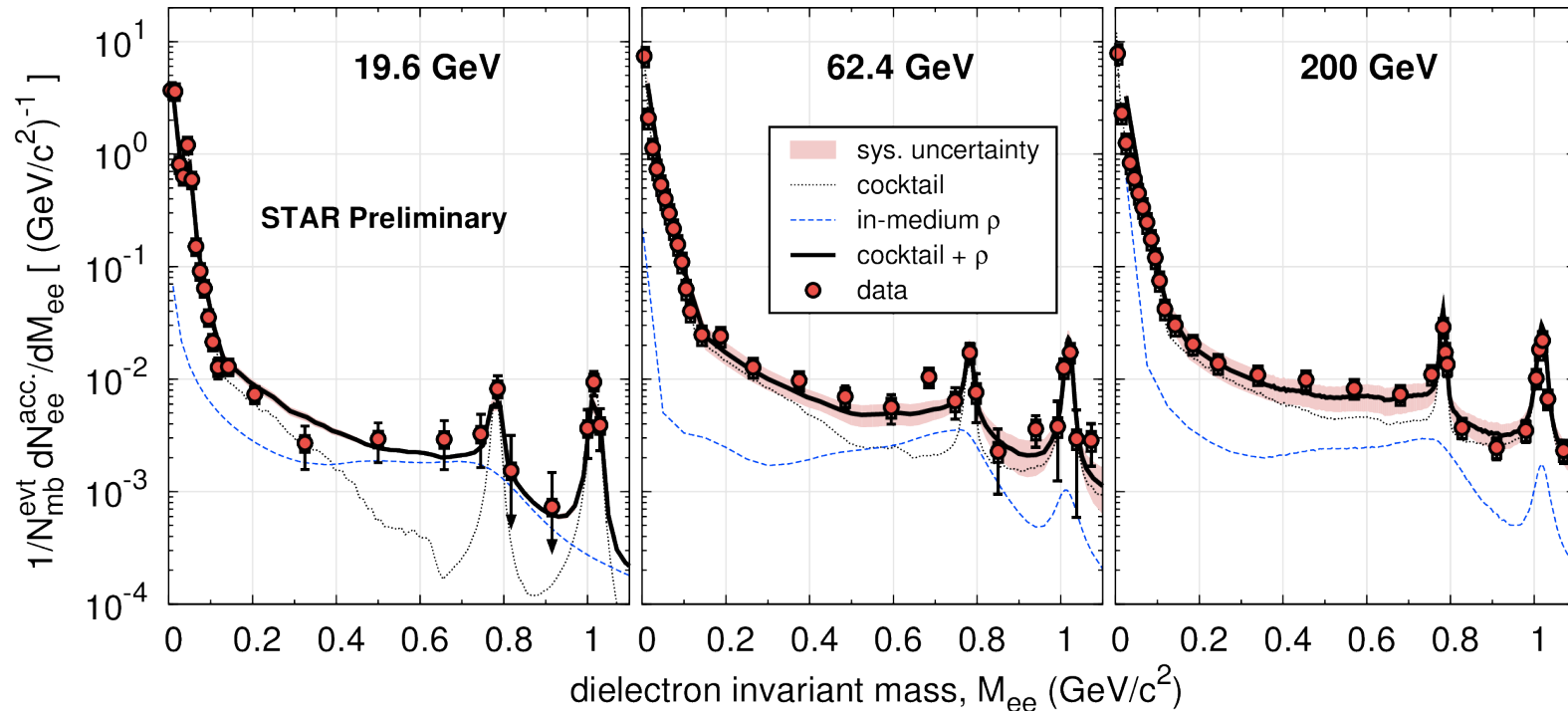
- Central collisions => higher values of  $T_{ch}$  and  $\mu_B$ !
- The effect is stronger at lower energy.

### **Kinetic Freeze-out:**

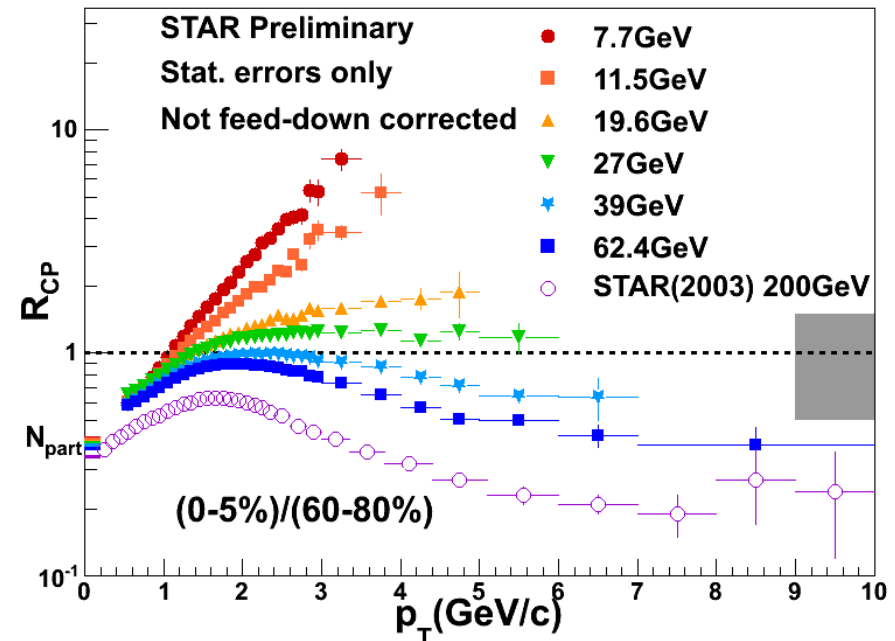
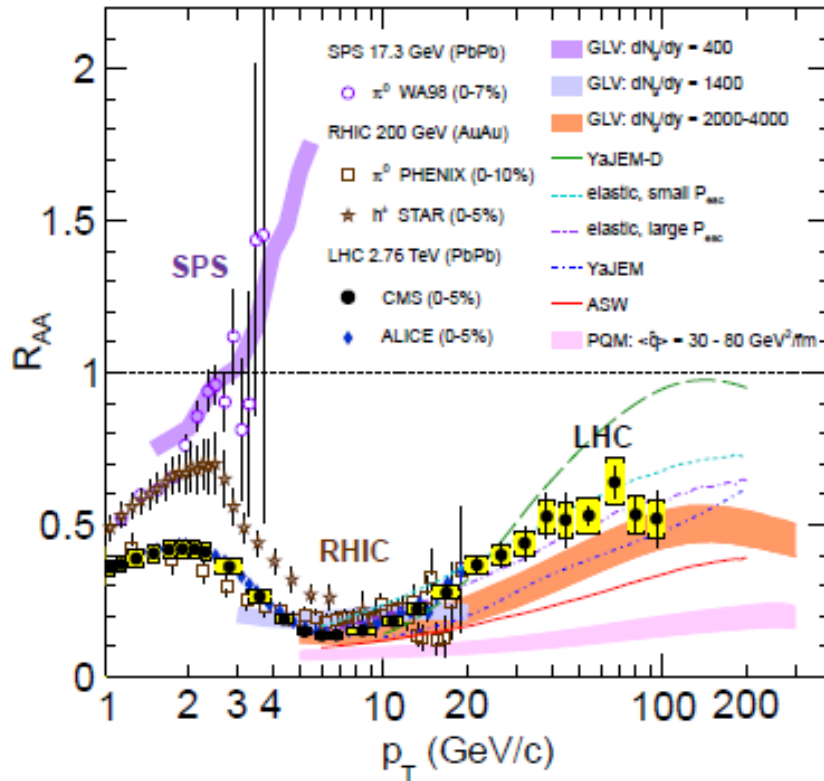
- Central collisions => lower value of  $T_{kin}$  and larger collectivity  $\beta$
- Stronger collectivity at higher energy



- 1) Direct radiation, penetrating-bulk probe, **great addition to STAR!**
- 2) Beam energy,  $p_T$ , centrality, mass dependence (8-10x more events):  
 **$R_{AA}$ ,  $v_2$ , radial expansion, HBT, polarization, ...**
- 3) HFT/MTD upgrades: key for the correlated charm contributions.

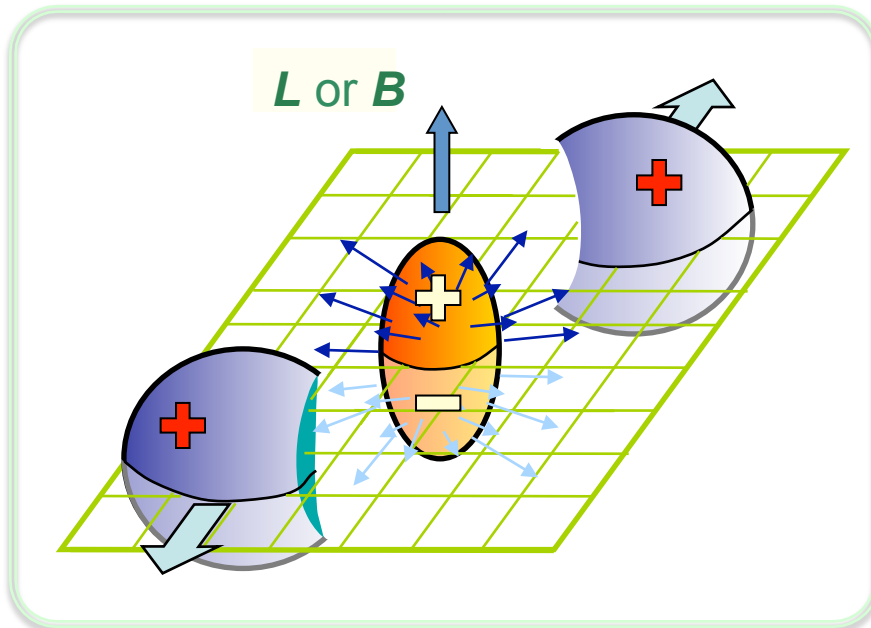


- 1) With in-medium broadened rho, model results are consistent with experimental data ( $m_{ee} \leq 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200, 62.4$  and  $19.6 \text{ GeV}$
- 2) In Au+Au collisions at  $200 \text{ GeV}$ , the centrality and  $p_T$  dependence results on data/hadronic cocktails ( $m_{ee} \leq 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) understood with current model calculations



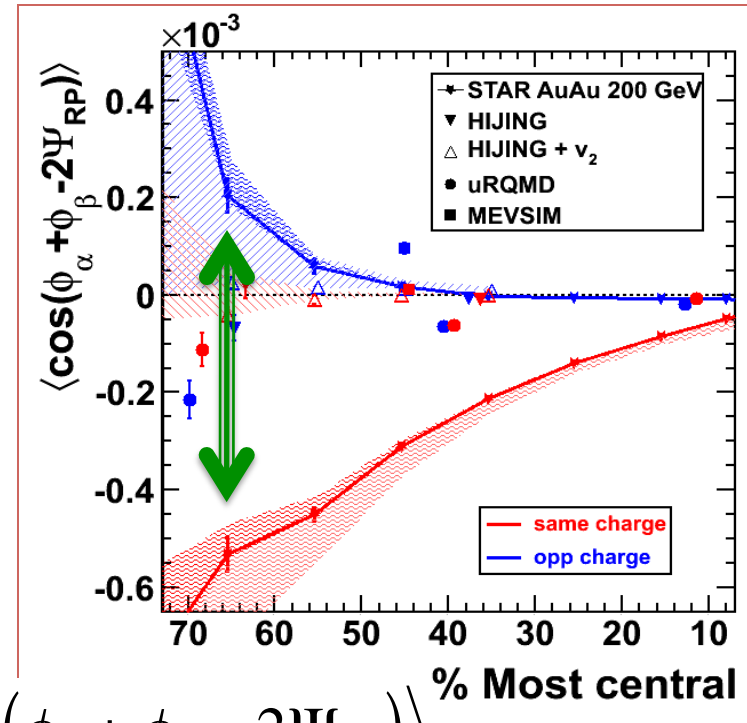
- 1) Suppression of high  $p_T$  hadrons: one of the key signatures for the formation of QGP in high-energy nuclear collisions
- 2) The **suppression was not observed** in low energy Au+Au collisions, especially for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 11.5 \text{ GeV}$

# (4) Local Parity Violation in High-Energy Nuclear Collisions



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

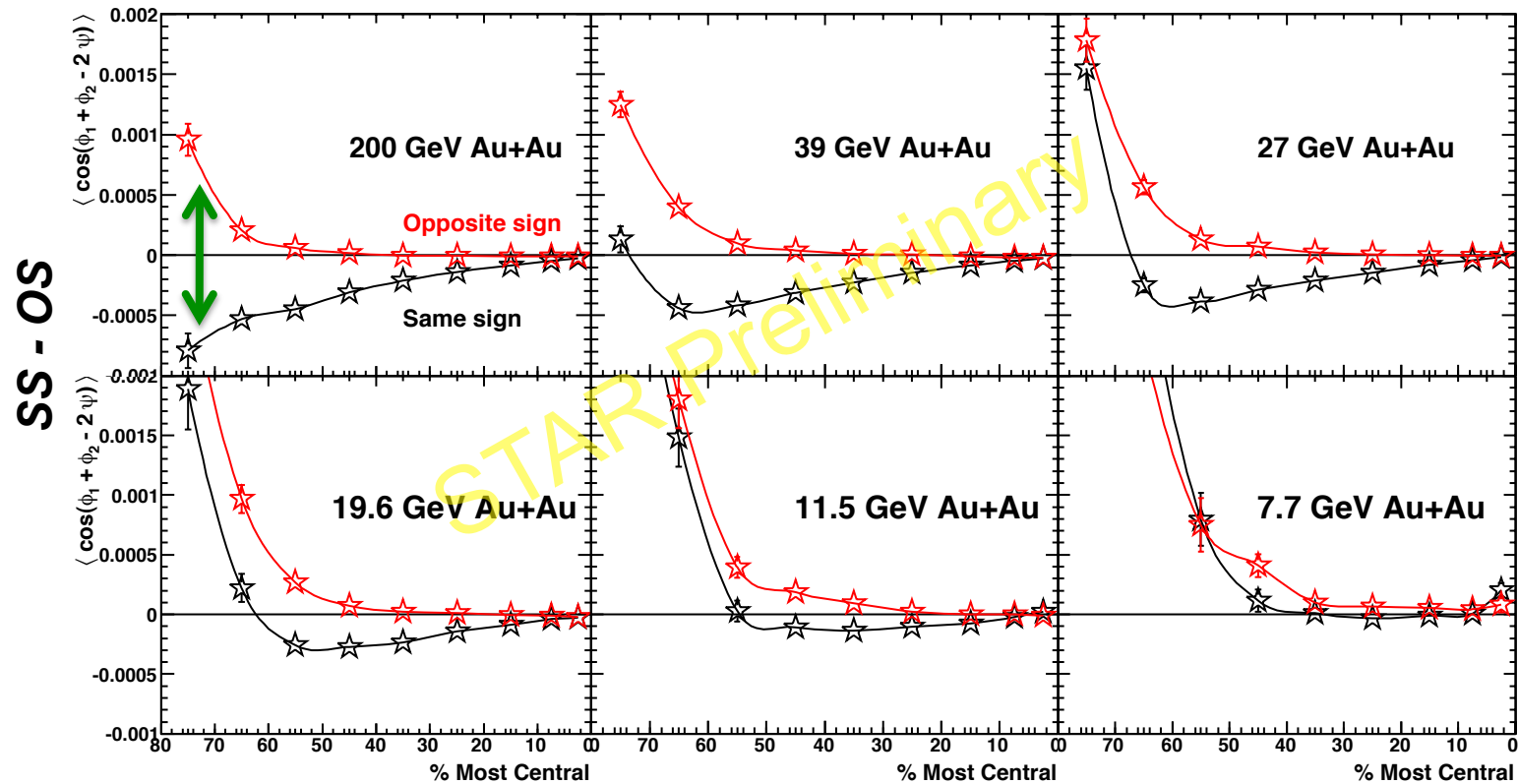
- Strong external EM field
- De-confinement and Chiral symmetry restoration



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

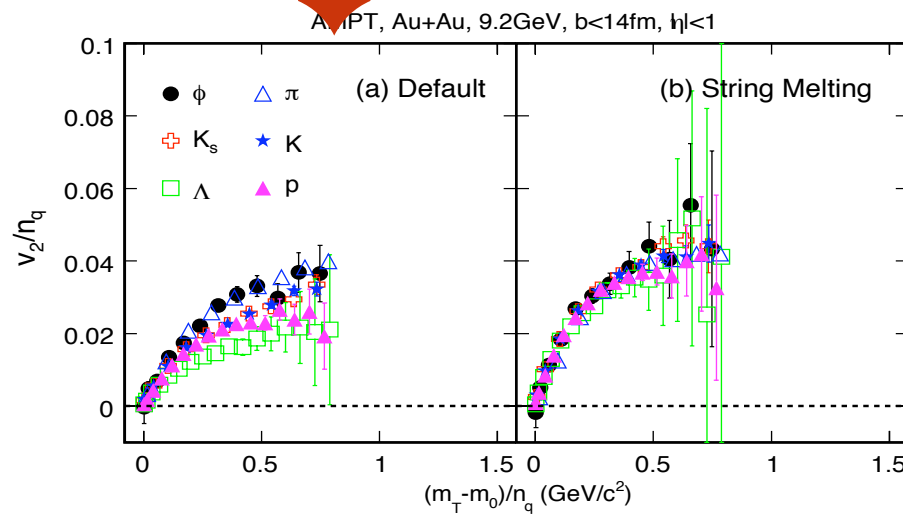
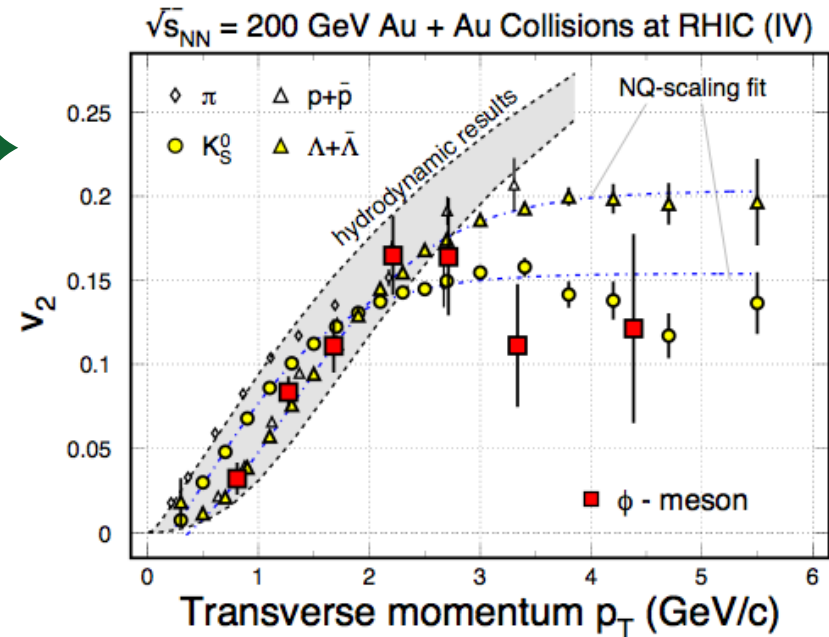
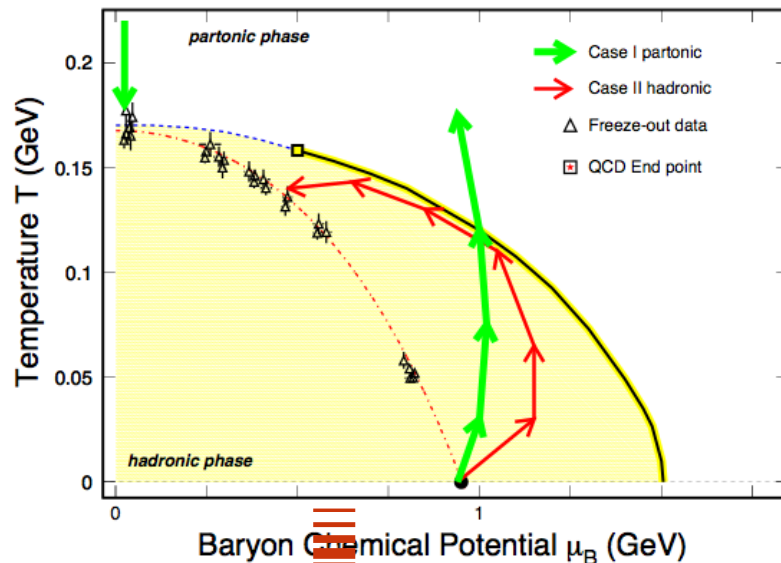
- 1) Parity-even observable, assumptions must be tested
- 2) Energy dependence & UU collisions

- S. Voloshin, *PRC62*, 044901(00).
- STAR: *PR103*, 251601; *PRC81*, 054908(2009)



- (1) Below  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11.5$  GeV, the splitting between the same- and opposite-sign charge pairs (SS-OS) disappear
- (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

# (5) NCQ Scaling in $v_2$



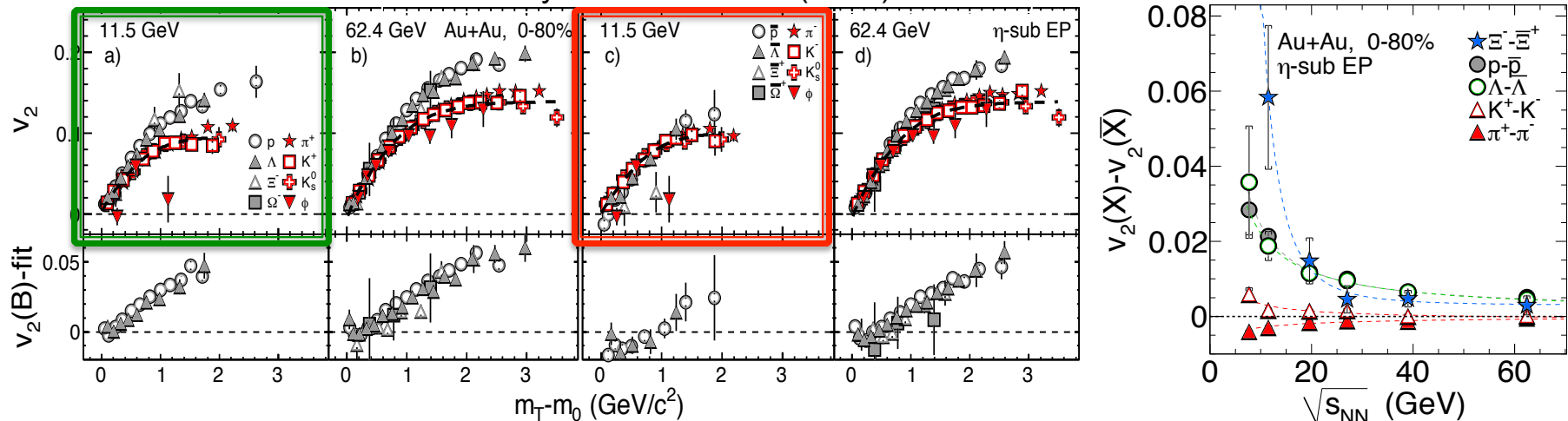
- $m_\phi \sim m_p \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$
- $ss \Rightarrow \phi$  not  $K^+K^- \Rightarrow \phi$
- $\sigma_{\phi h} \ll \sigma_{p\pi, \pi\pi}$

***In the hadronic case, no number of quark scaling and the value of  $v_2$  of  $\phi$  will be small.***

**\* Thermalization is assumed!**

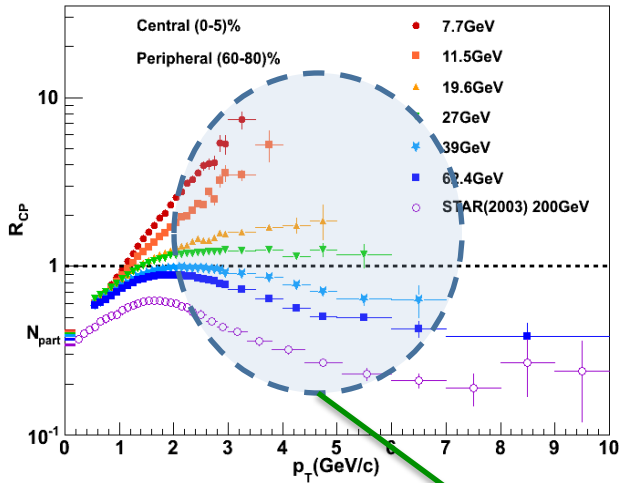


STAR: Phys. Rev. Lett. **110** (2013) 142301

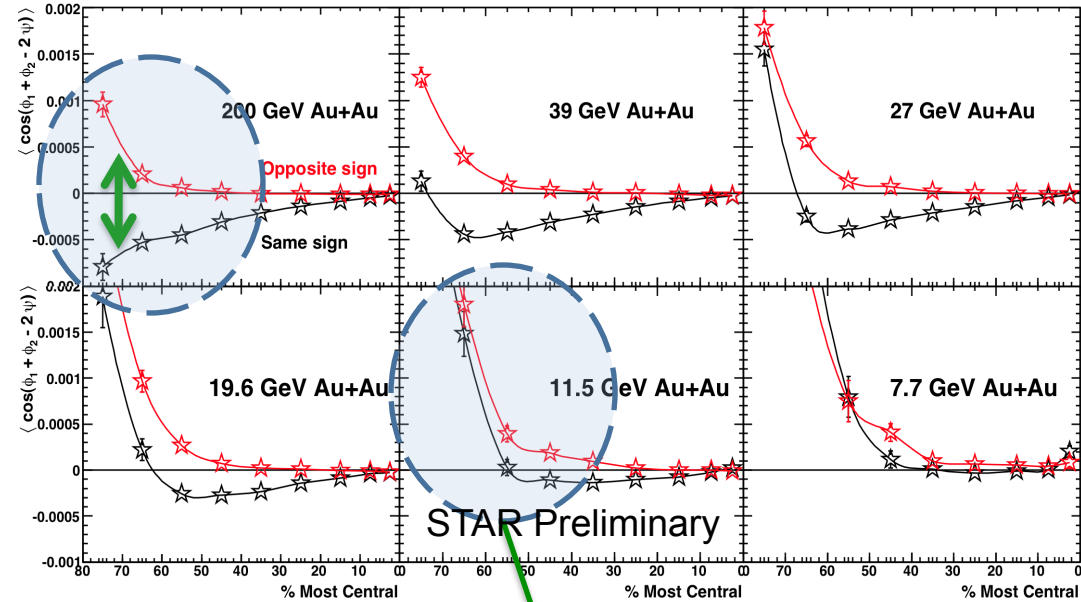


- 1) Number of constituent quark (NCQ) **scaling** in  $v_2 \Rightarrow$  **partonic collectivity**  $\Rightarrow$  **deconfinement** in high-energy nuclear collisions
- 2) At  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 11.5$  GeV, the  $v_2$  **NCQ scaling is broken** indicating hadronic interactions become dominant.

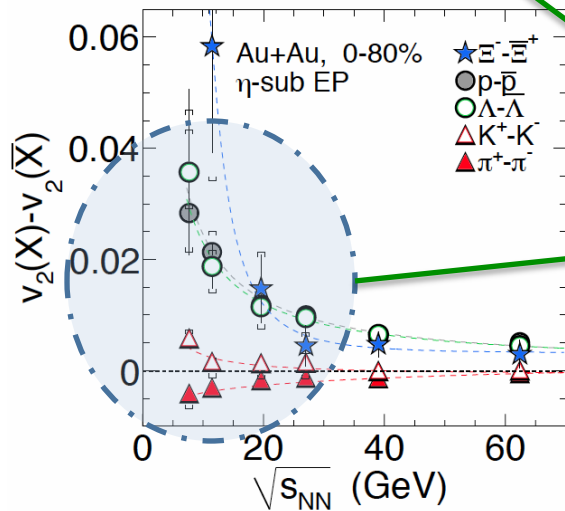
## Parton energy loss



## “Local Parity Violation”

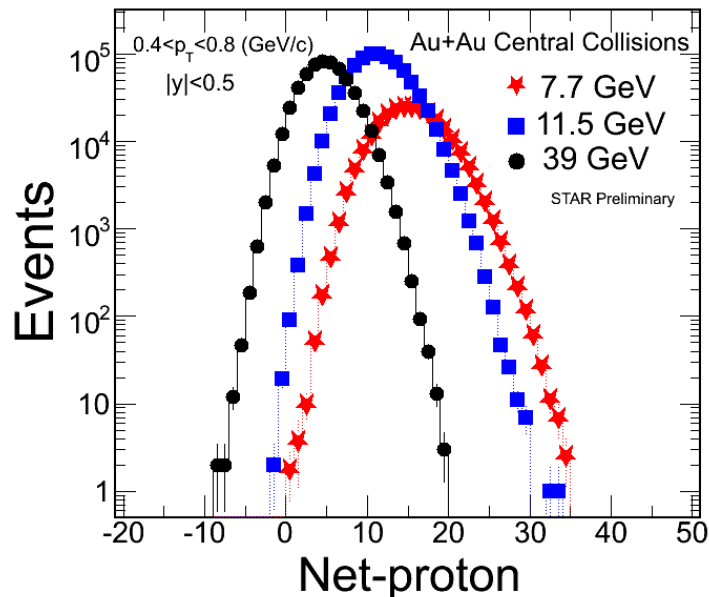
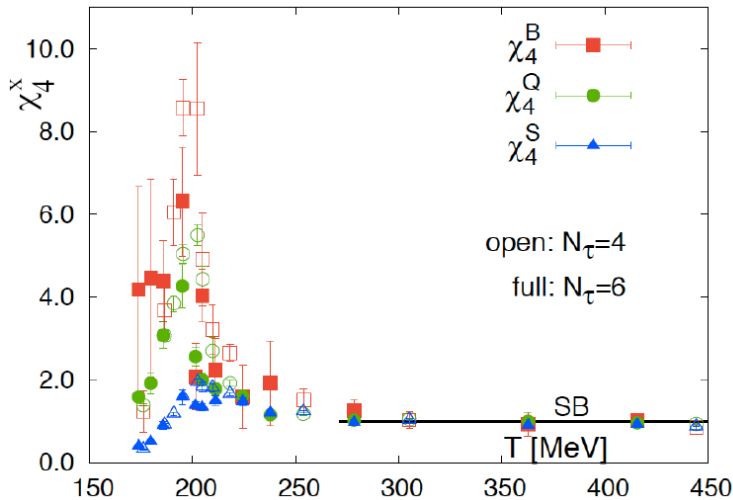


## Partonic collectivity



**sQGP key signatures**

**turned off at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 11.5$  GeV!**



1) High moments for conserved quantum numbers:  
**Q, S, B**, in high-energy nuclear collisions

2) Sensitive to critical point ( $\xi$  correlation length):

$$\langle (\delta N)^2 \rangle \approx \xi^2, \quad \langle (\delta N)^3 \rangle \approx \xi^{4.5}, \quad \langle (\delta N)^4 \rangle \approx \xi^7$$

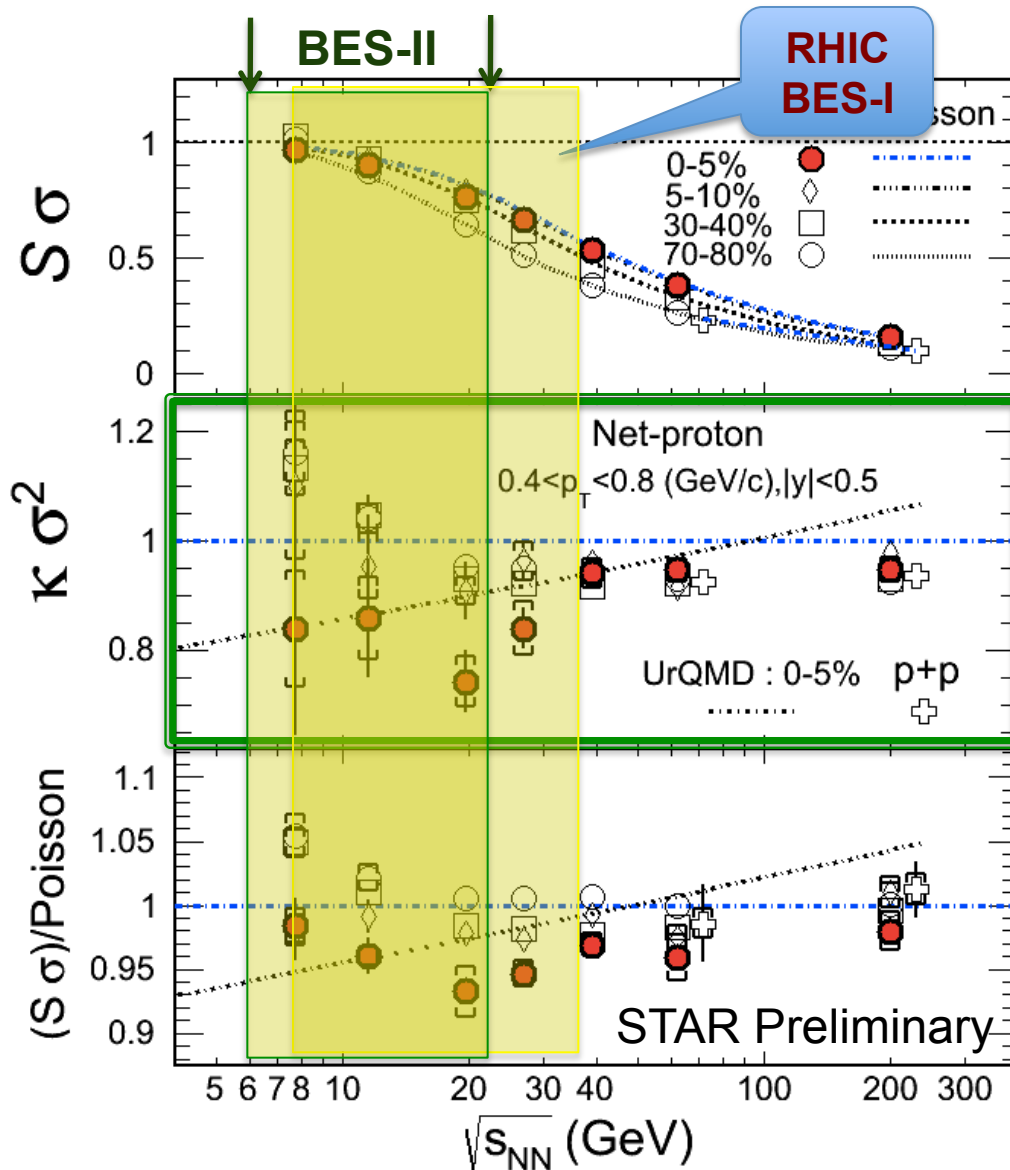
3) Direct comparison with calculation at any order:

$$S^* \sigma \approx \frac{\chi_B^3}{\chi_B^2}, \quad K^* \sigma^2 \approx \frac{\chi_B^4}{\chi_B^2}$$

4) Extract susceptibilities and freeze-out temperature. An independent/important test on thermal equilibrium in heavy ion collisions.

References:

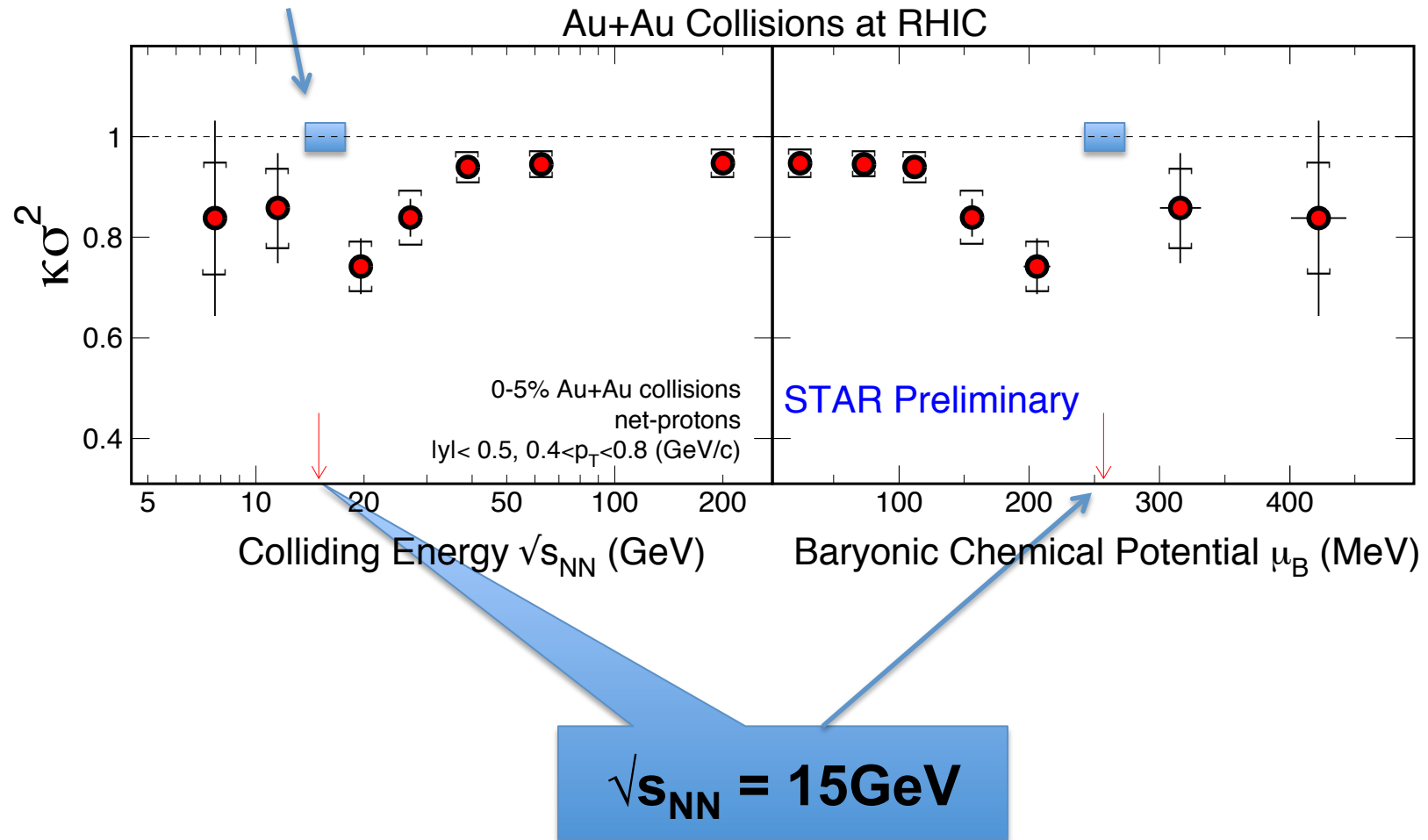
- A. Bazavov et al. *1208.1220* (NLOTE) // STAR: *PRL*105, 22303(2010) // M. Stephanov: *PRL*102, 032301(2009) // R.V. Gavai and S. Gupta, *PLB*696, 459(2011) // S. Gupta, et al., *Science*, 332, 1525(2011) // F. Karsch et al, *PLB*695, 136(2011) // S.Ejiri et al, *PLB*633, 275(06) // M. Cheng et al, *PRD*79, 074505(2009) // Y. Hatta, et al, *PRL*91, 102003(2003)

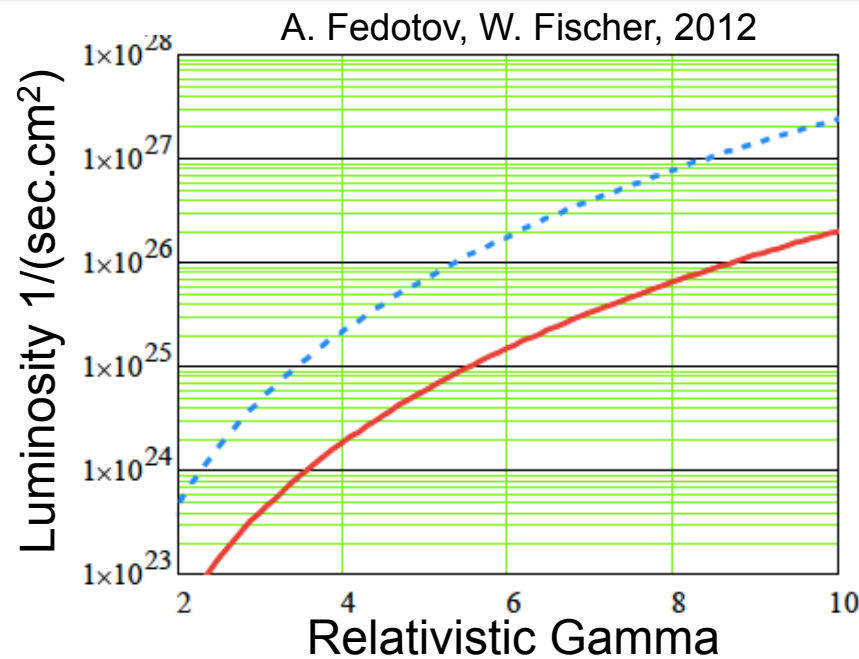


STAR net-proton results:

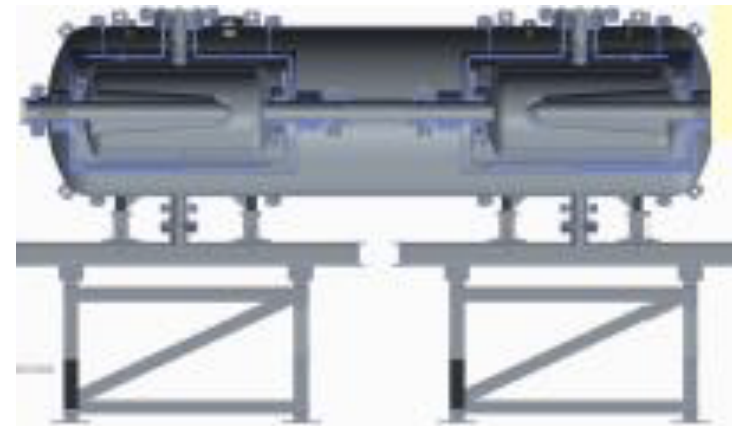
- 1) All data show deviations below Poisson beyond statistical and systematic errors in the 0-5% most central collisions for  $\kappa\sigma^2$  and  $S\sigma$  at all energies. Larger deviation at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 20\text{GeV}$
- 2) Independent p and pbar production also reproduce the observed energy dependence of  $\kappa\sigma^2$  and  $S\sigma$
- 3) UrQMD model show monotonic behavior in the moment products
- 4) Higher statistics needed for collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 20 \text{ GeV}$ .

Expected statistical error from Run 14



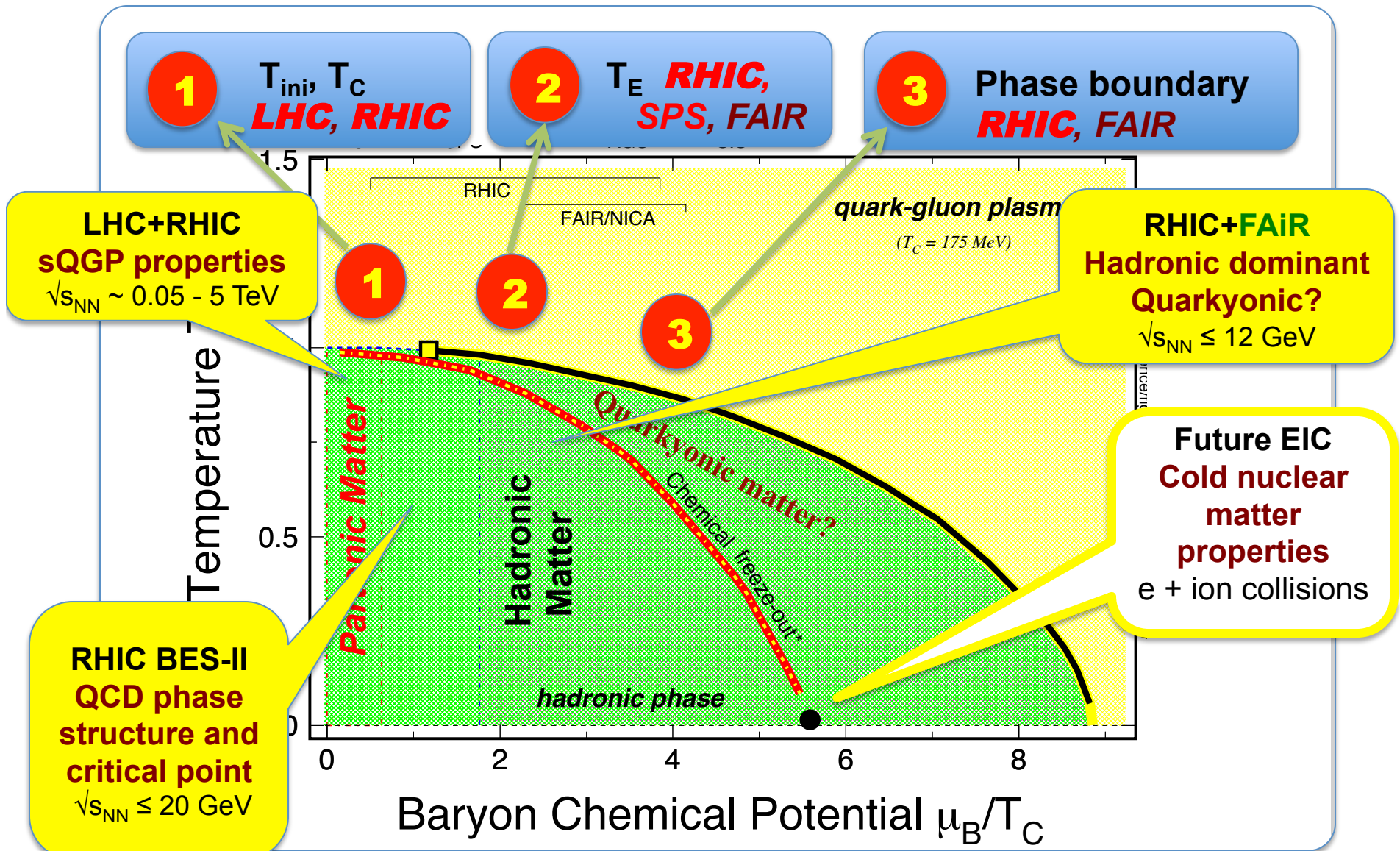


SRF Gun



$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	~ 5	~ 20
Increasing factor*	3-5	10

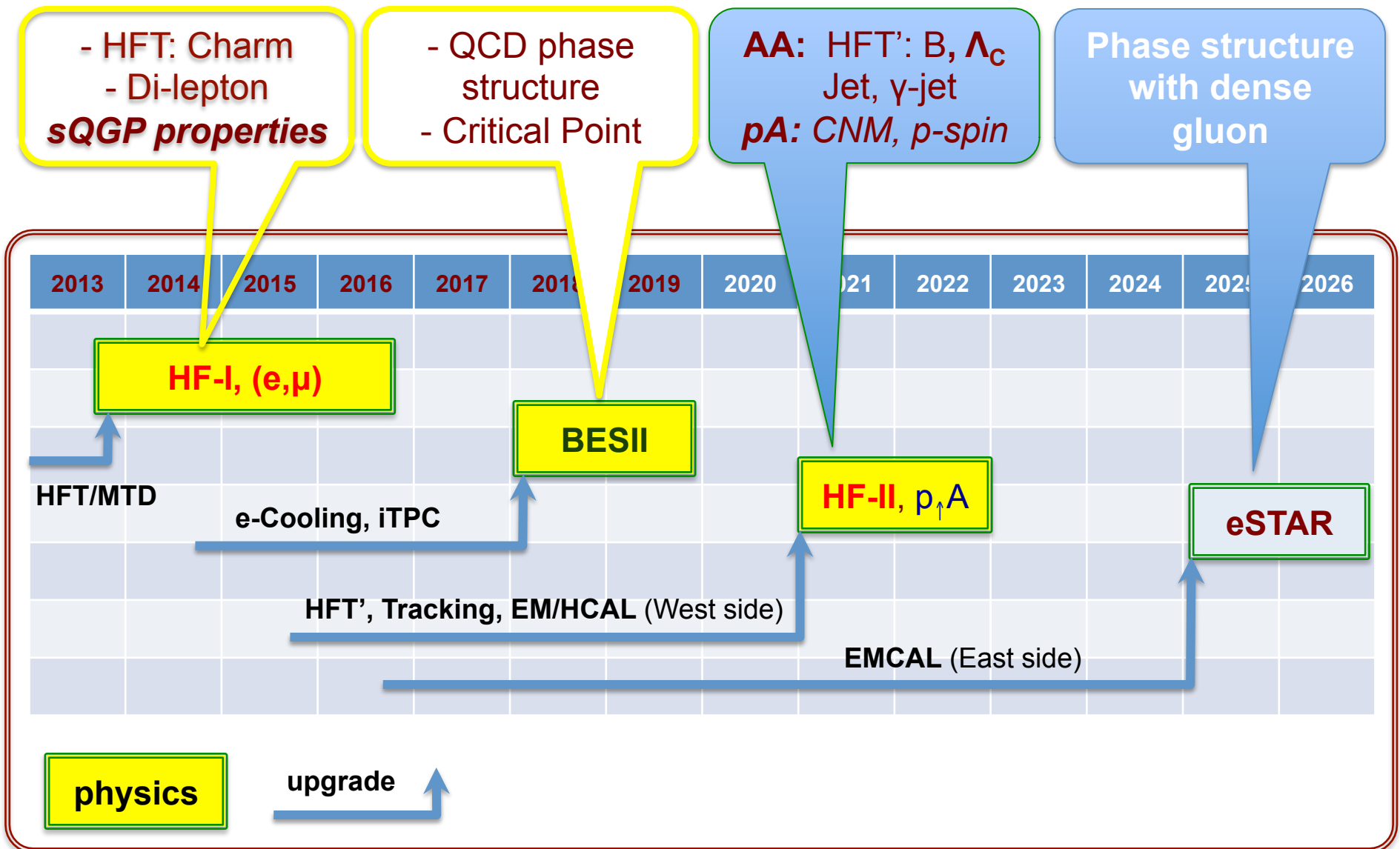
- 1) BES-II at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 20$  GeV
- 2) RHIC e-cooling will provide increased luminosity ~ x3-10
- 3) STAR iTPC upgrade extend mid-rapidity coverage – beneficial to several crucial measurements



- (1) In high-energy nuclear collisions,  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \geq 200$  GeV, hot and dense *matter, with partonic degrees of freedom and collectivity*, has been formed
- (2) RHIC BES-I:  
[partonic]  $< \mu_B \sim 110$  (MeV) ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \geq 39$  GeV )  
[hadronic]  $> \mu_B \sim 320$  (MeV) ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 11.5$  GeV )
- (3) RHIC BES-II: focus at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 20$  GeV region with higher luminosity (x10) + iTPC:  
Run18 (2017)



# STAR: Upgrade Plan



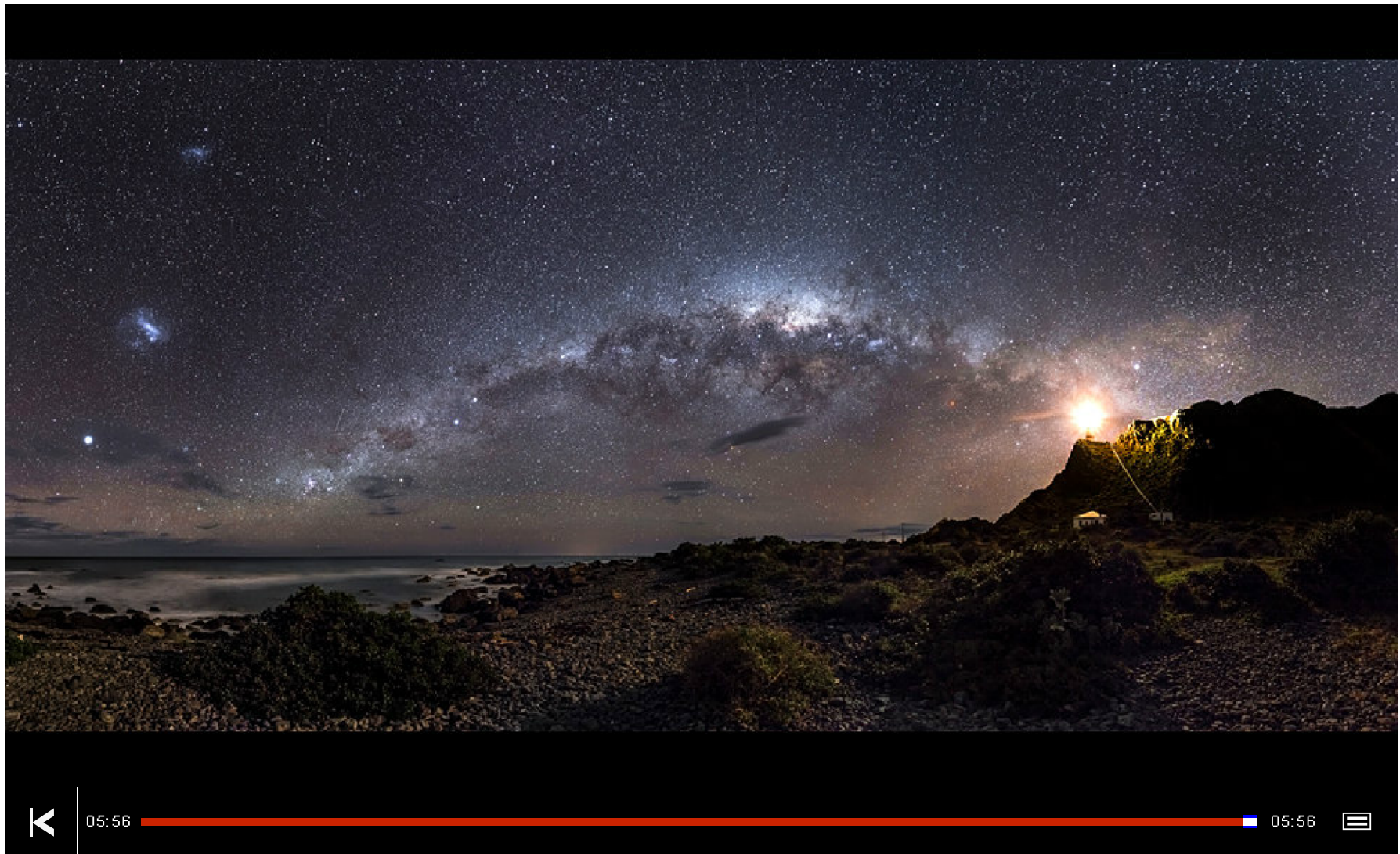


**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

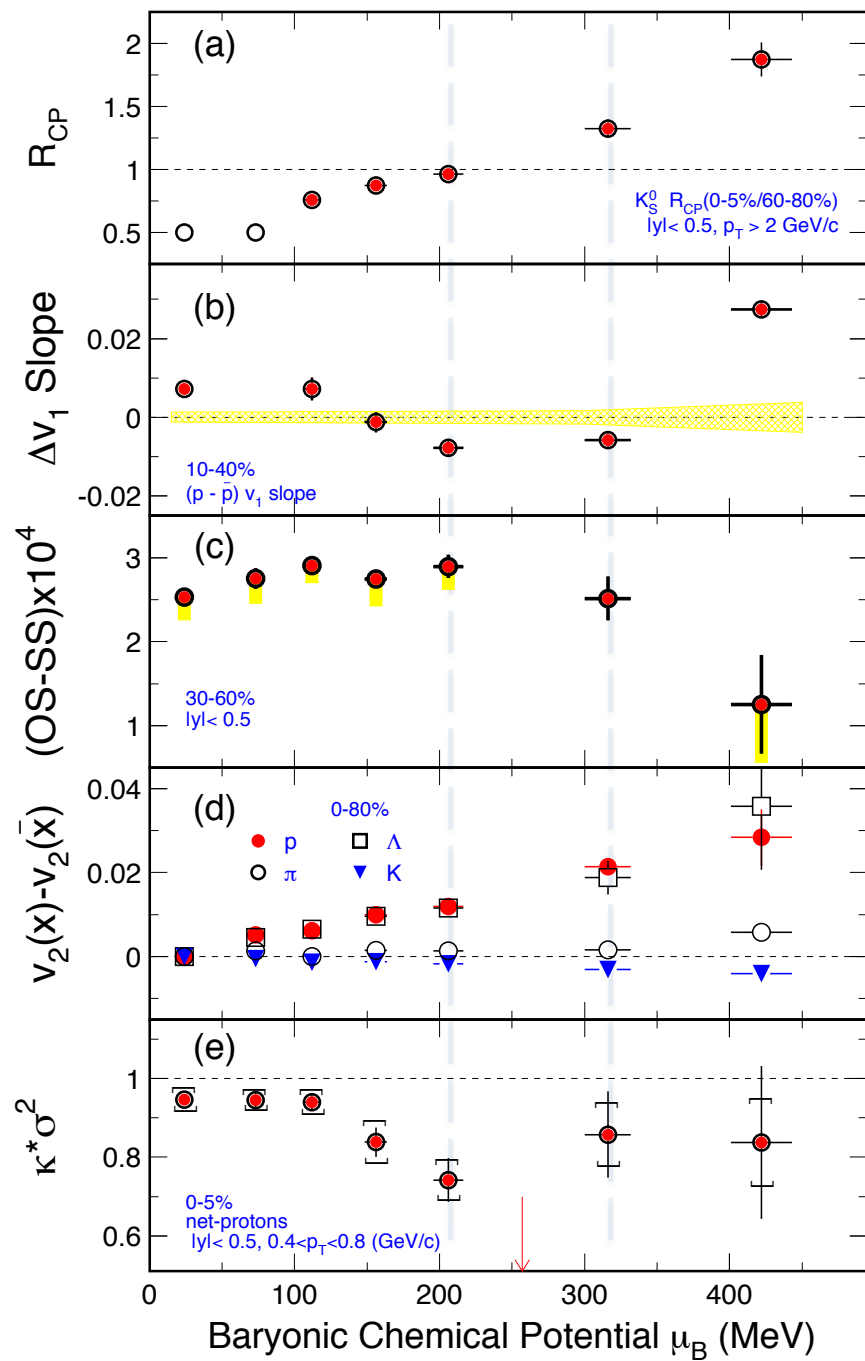
**Dear Kodama 先生 祝您：**

**福如东海， 寿比南山！**

**Happy Birthday!**



### Au+Au Collisions at RHIC





Takeshi was born in Japan. He married to an Italian Woman, and ...



Takeshi was born in Japan. He married to an Italian Woman, and ...

