

Title: Probing the Properties of the Quark-Gluon Plasma and the Studying QCD in the Strong-field Limit in Heavy Ion Collisions at RHIC and the LHC

Date: Feb 07, 2007 02:00 PM

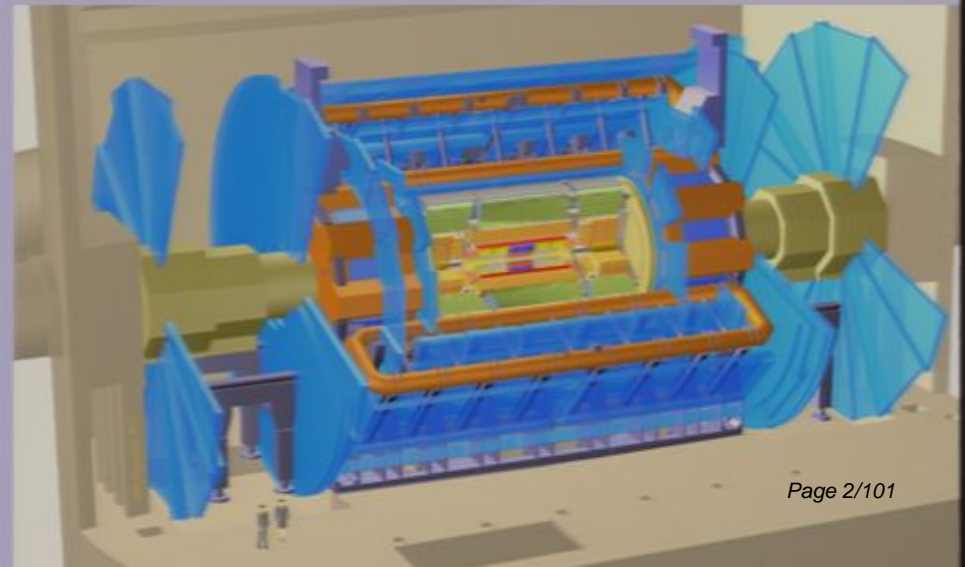
URL: <http://pirsa.org/07020000>

Abstract: Soon after Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) was shown to exhibit asymptotic freedom at short distances, it was realized that it might be possible to create a new form of matter at high temperatures ($T \gtrsim 150$ MeV) in which hadrons dissolve and quarks and gluons become locally deconfined. Experiments have been carried out for the last two decades attempting to create this new form of matter, called quark-gluon plasma (QGP), via high-energy collisions of large nuclei. In 2000, the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) started operation at Brookhaven National Laboratory in the US and results obtained from the first five years of RHIC operation provide the first convincing evidence for creation of the quark-gluon plasma in the laboratory. Measurements at RHIC show that the QGP is opaque to the passage of high-energy quarks and gluons and that interactions between the quarks and gluons in the QGP appears to be much stronger than initially expected. The estimated viscosity to entropy ratio of the QGP has been interpreted as showing that the QGP produced at RHIC is the most perfect fluid ever observed in the laboratory. Measurements from RHIC also suggest that the strong, coherent gluon fields in the incident nuclei play a significant role in the initial particle production and early evolution of the quark gluon plasma. Within the next few years, the large hadron collider will provide Pb+Pb collisions at a nucleon-nucleon center of mass energy of 5.5 TeV, thus opening a new frontier in the study of the QGP. I will provide a summary of the key experimental observables at RHIC, a discussion of their canonical interpretation and then discuss how measurements at the LHC can be used to test these interpretations.

Probing the Properties of the **Quark-Gluon Plasma** and Studying **Strong-Field QCD** in Heavy Ion Collisions @ RHIC and the LHC

Prof. Brian A. Cole.
Columbia University

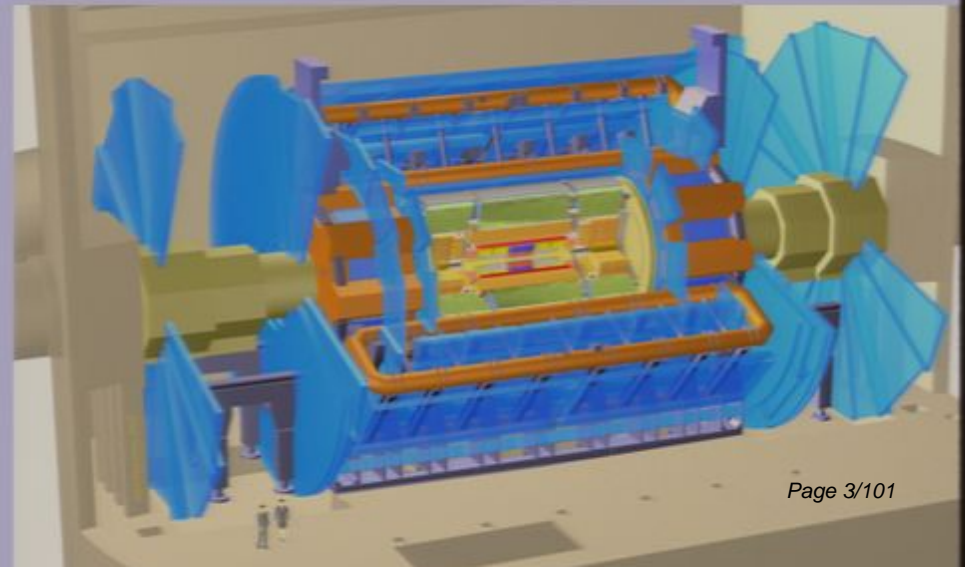
PHENIX and ATLAS



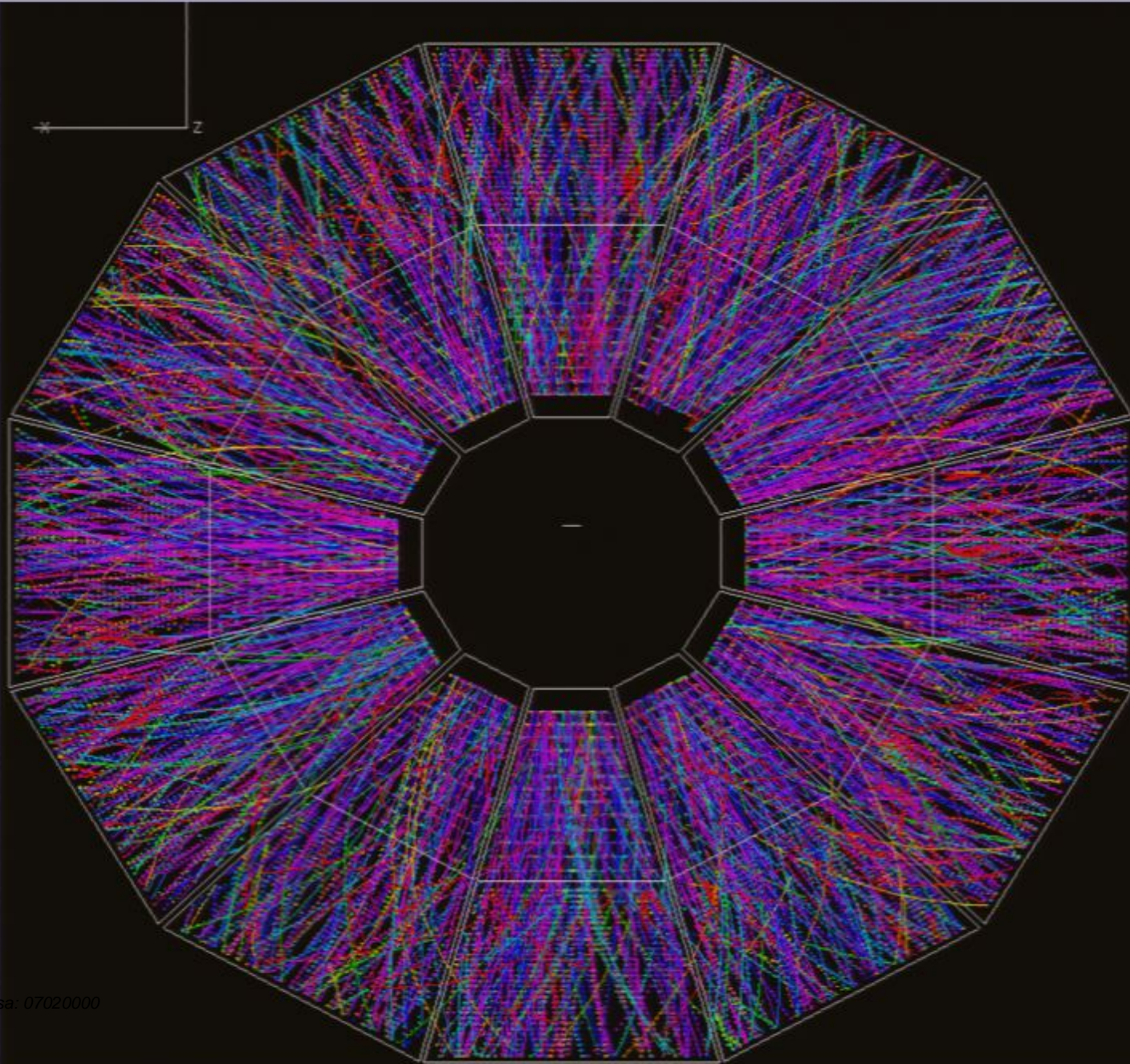
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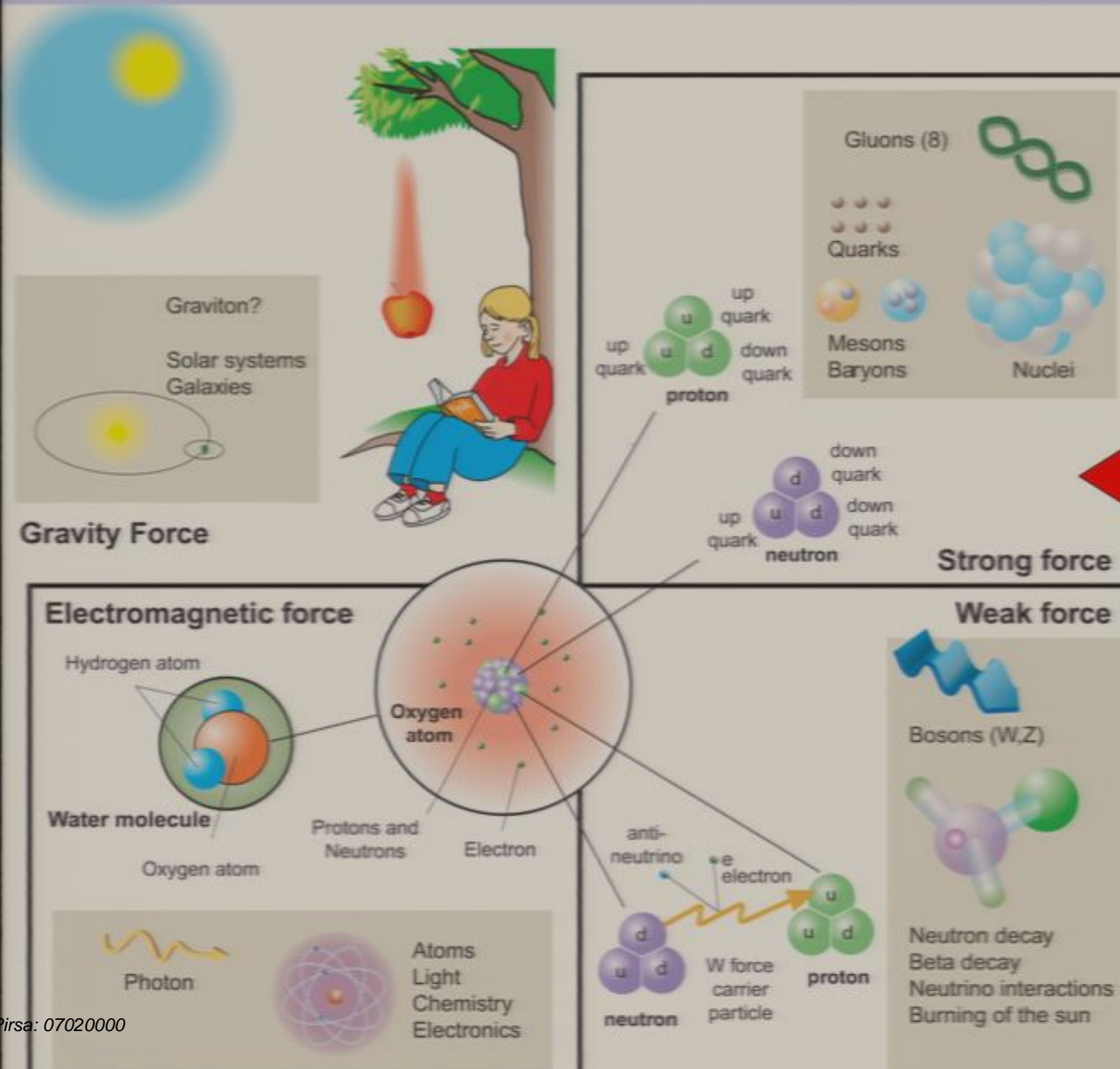
The “Big Picture”



Heavy Ion
(Au+Au)
collision as
seen by the
STAR time-
projection
chamber.

Why???

Fundamental Interactions



Matter usually studied in the lab has properties determined by EM interactions.

How would non-Abelian matter be different?

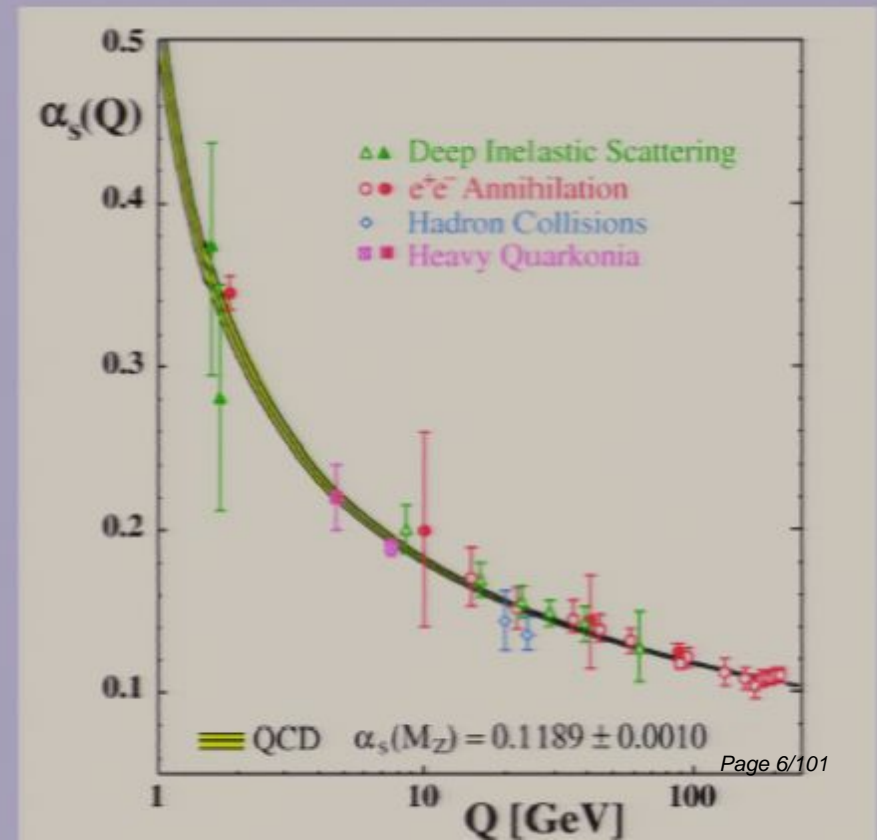
The Big Picture

- We have a fundamental theory of strong interactions

$$L_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha} F_{\alpha}^{\mu\nu} - \sum_n \bar{\Psi}_n (\not{\partial} - ig\gamma^{\mu} A_{\mu}^{\alpha} t_{\alpha} - m_n) \Psi_n$$

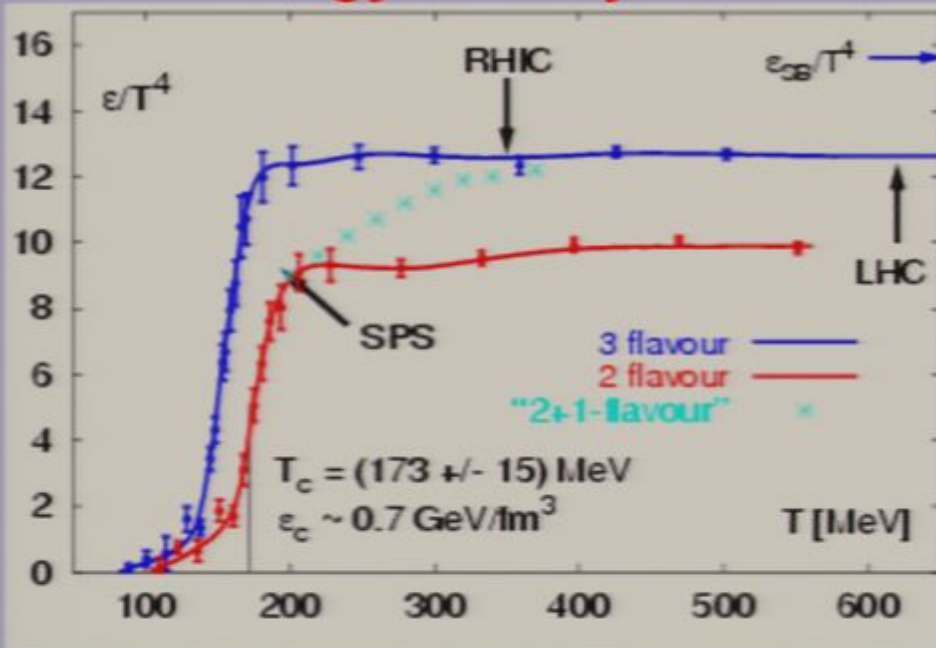
- exhibits asymptotic freedom at large momentum transfer.
- What about other limits of QCD?

–High temperature
–High field strength

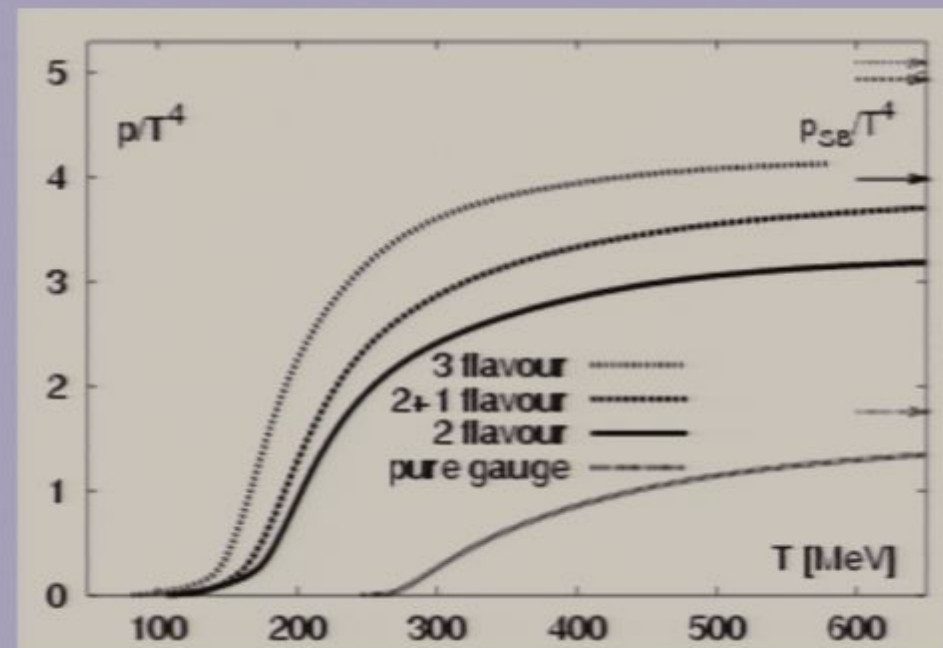


QCD Thermodynamics (on Lattice)

Energy Density / T^4



Pressure / T^4



- Rapid cross-over from “hadronic matter” to “Quark-Gluon Plasma” at $T \sim 170$ MeV
 \Rightarrow Energy density, $\epsilon \sim 1$ GeV/fm³.
- **Only fundamental “phase transition” that can be studied in the laboratory.**

–Is the QGP weakly interacting??

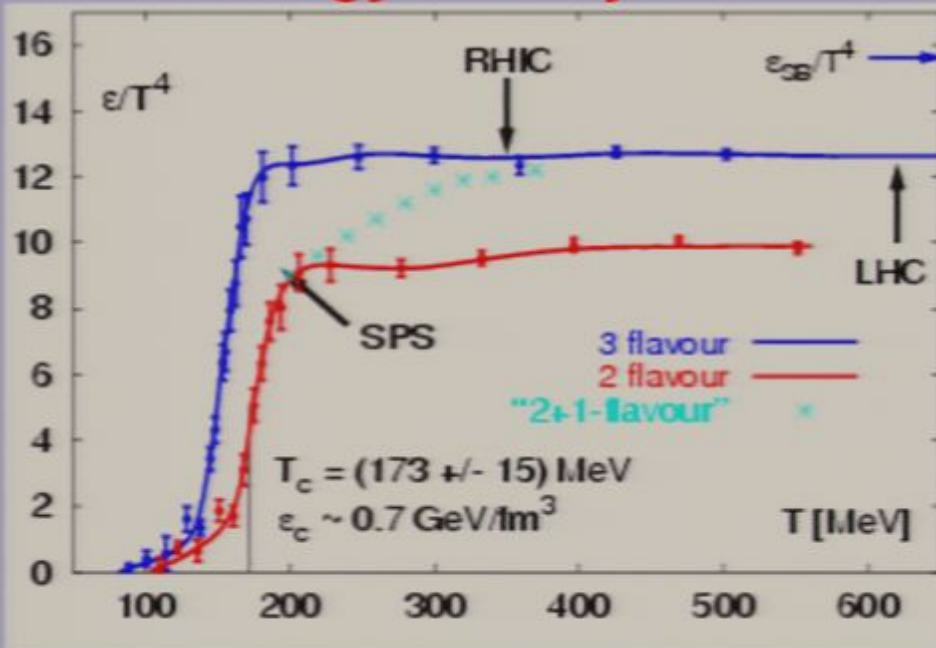
Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



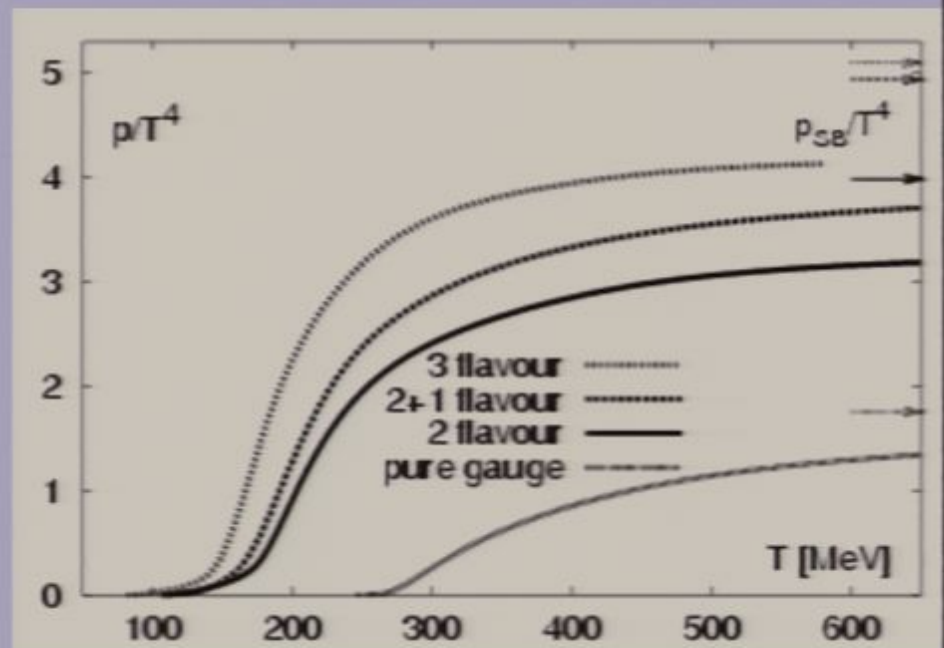
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- Run 2 (2001): **Au-Au, p-p** $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$
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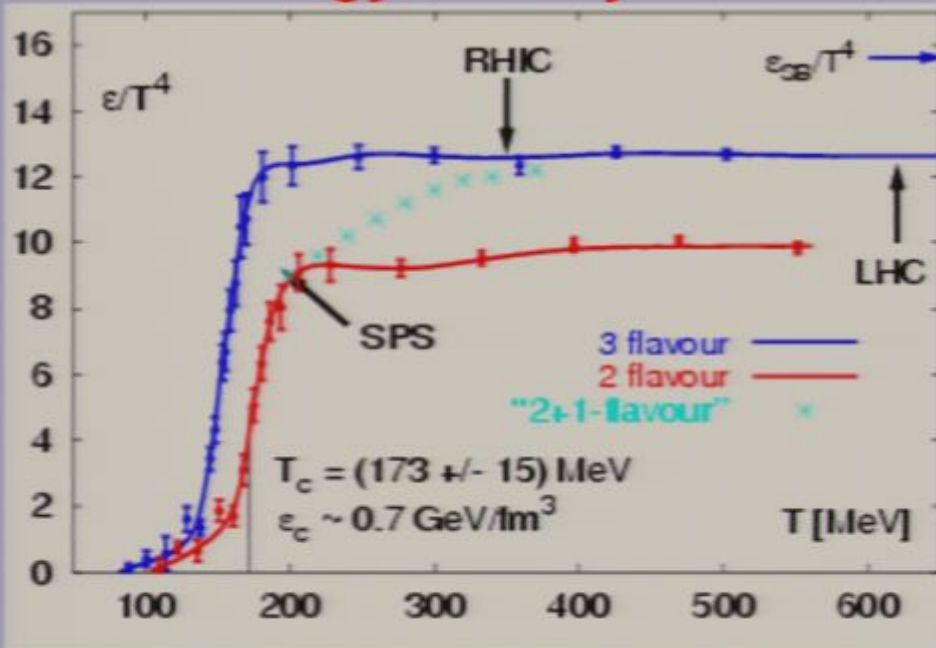
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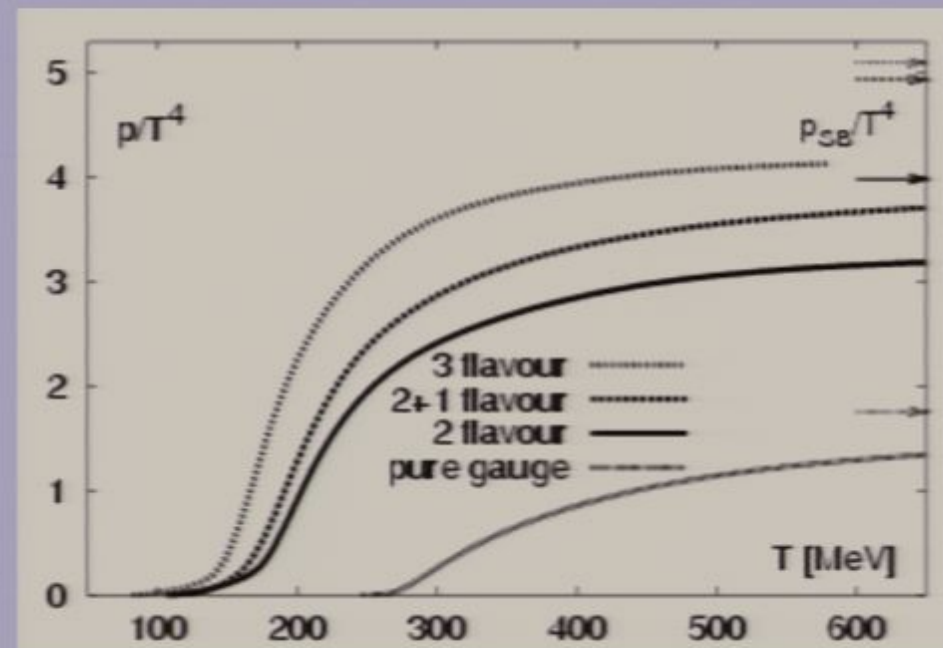
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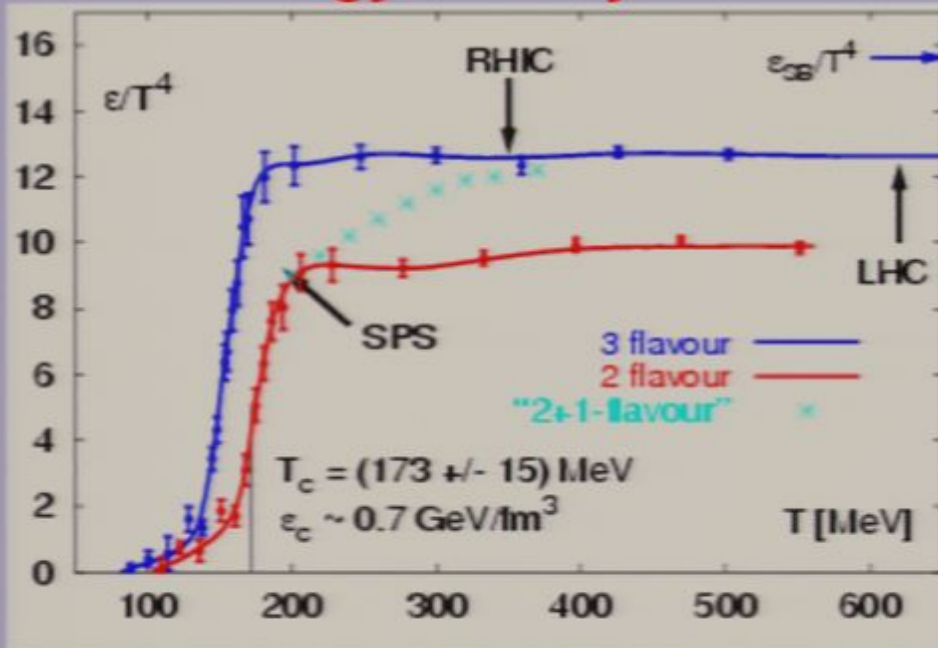
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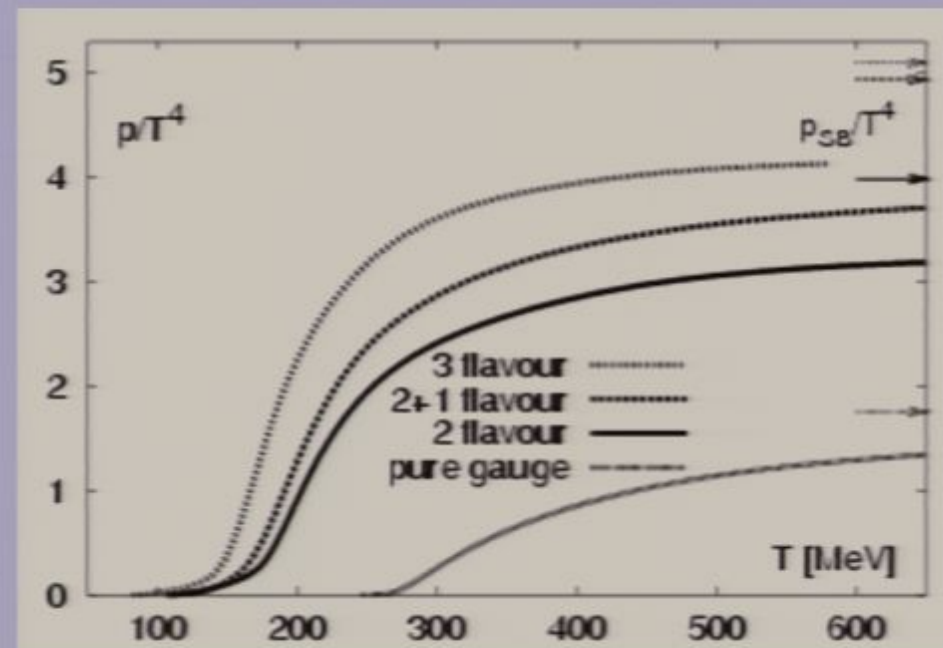
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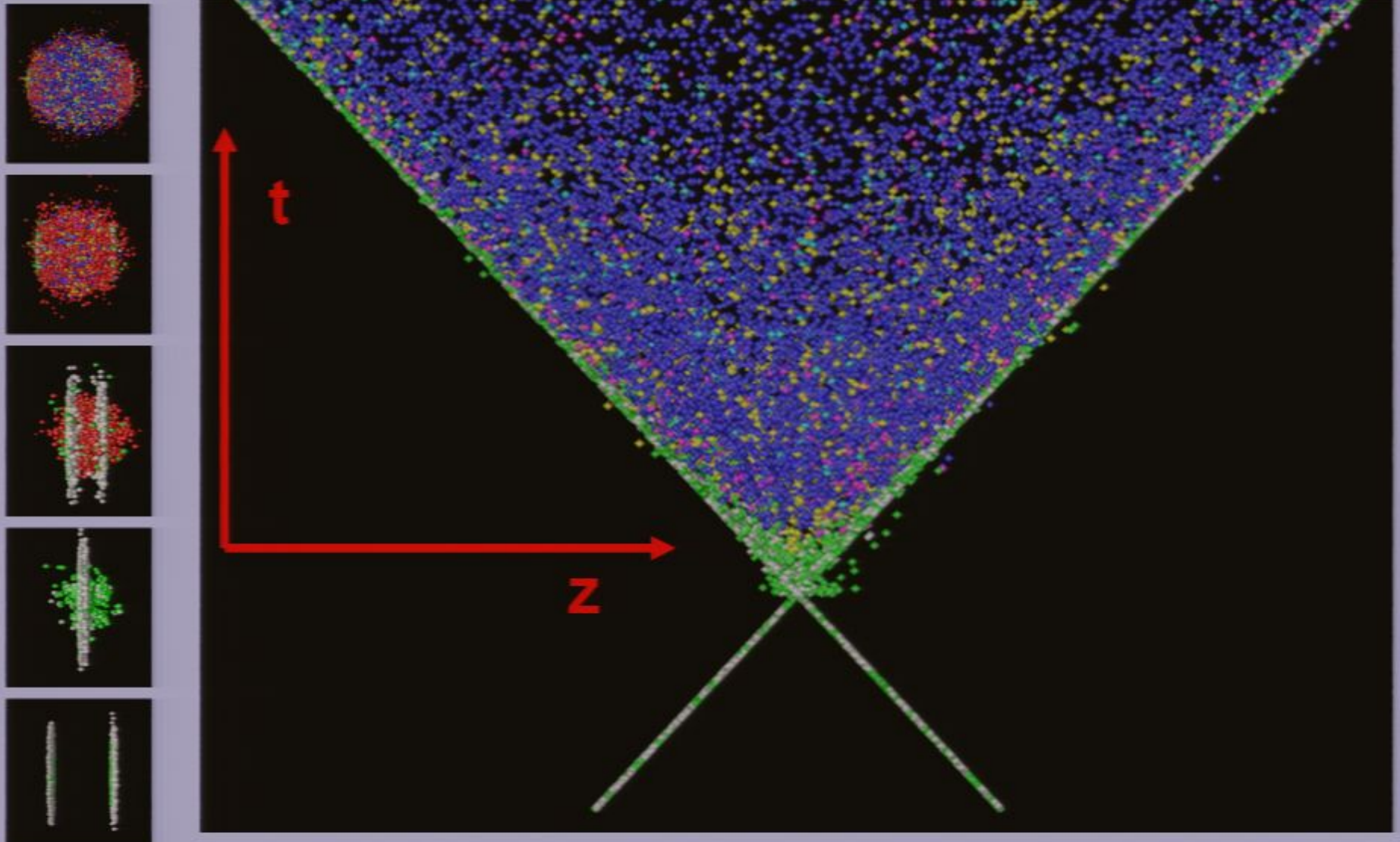
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Heavy Ion Collision Time History

RHIC collision space-time history in "parton cascade" model



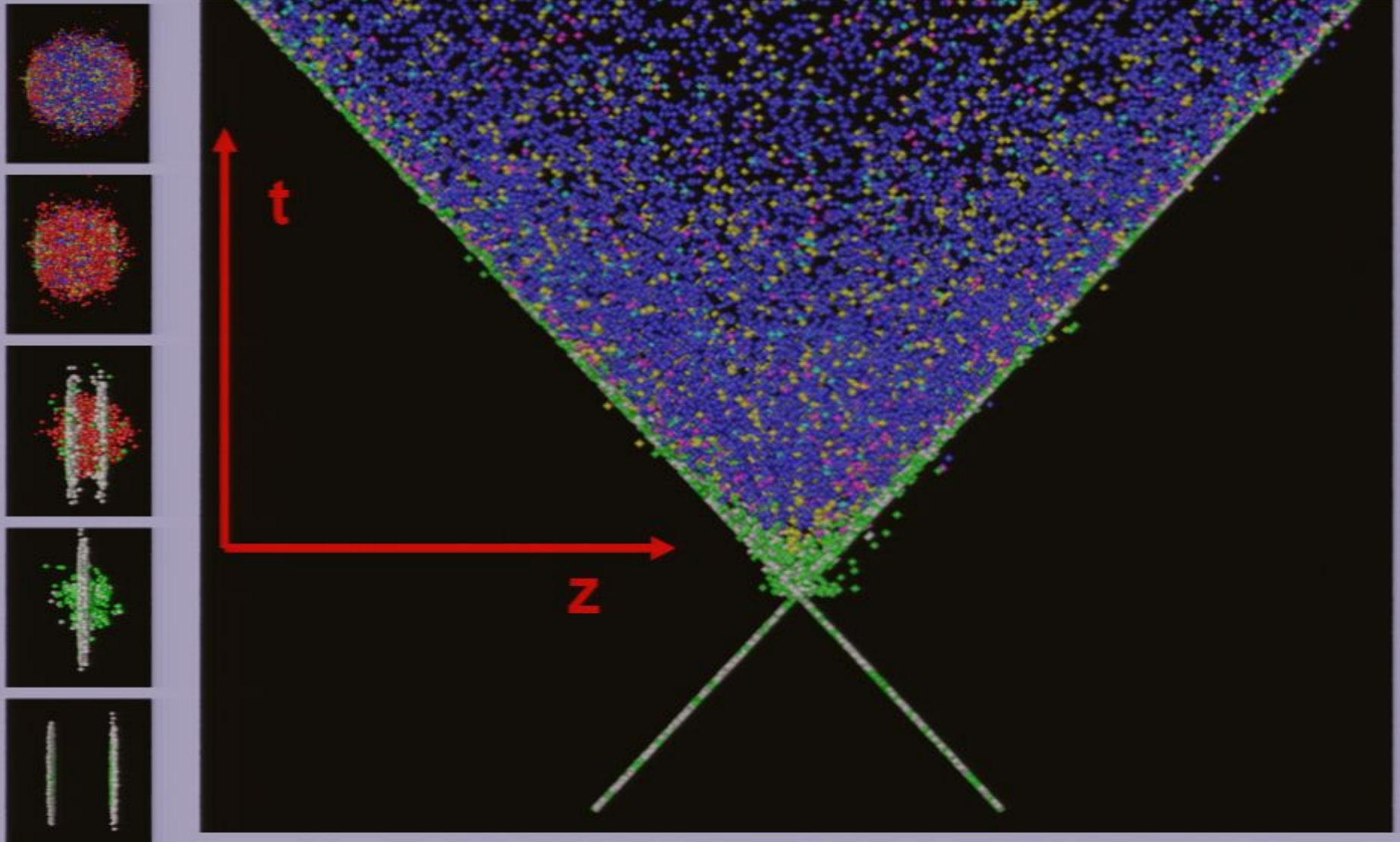
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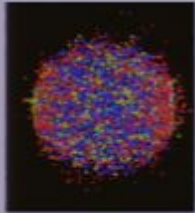
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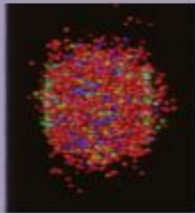


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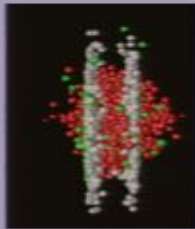
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Hadronization (interesting but I won't cover)



“Hydrodynamic” evolution



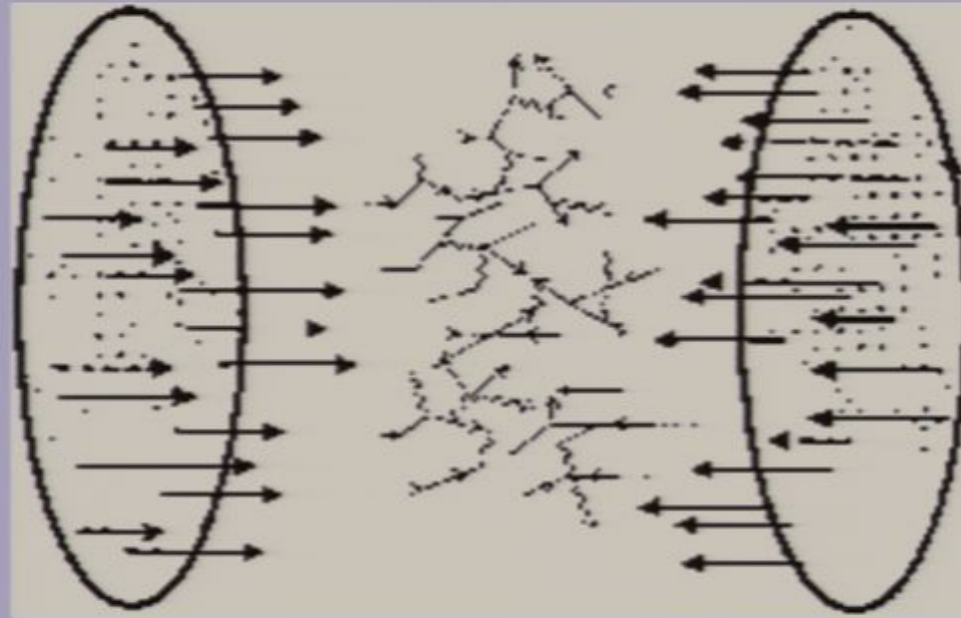
Rapid thermalization



Initial particle production from strong fields



RHIC Initial Conditions

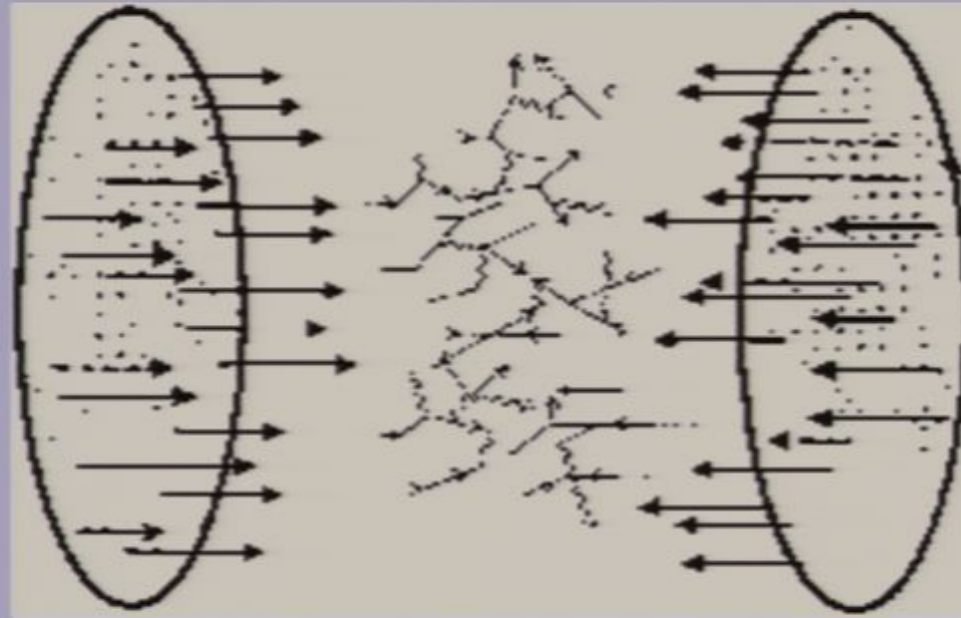


- Au+Au @ 200 GeV per nucleon, $\gamma = E/m \approx 100$.
 - Au diameter, $d \approx 14$ fm, contracted $d/\gamma \approx 0.2$ fm
 - \Rightarrow Crossing time < 0.2 fm/c.
- Add quantum mechanics: $\Delta E \geq \hbar c / \Delta t$
 - Fluctuations with $\Delta E > 1$ GeV are “on shell”
 - \Rightarrow These are primarily gluons (~ 200 /collision)
 - \Rightarrow RHIC is a gluon collider! (10 GeV/fm³)

“Saturation” @ low x

- @ High energy nuclei are highly Lorentz contracted
 - Except for soft gluons
 - Which overlap longitudinally
 - And recombine producing broadened k_T distribution
 - ⇒ Generates a new scale: Q_s
 - ⇒ Typical k_T of gluons
- If $Q_s \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, perturbative calculations possible.
 - ⇒ Large occupation #s for $k_T < Q_s$ ⇒ classical fields
- Saturation is a result of unitarity in QCD

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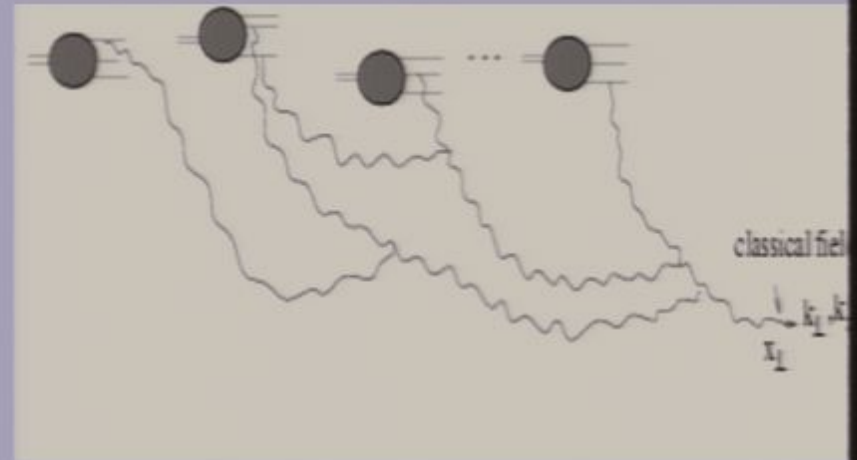
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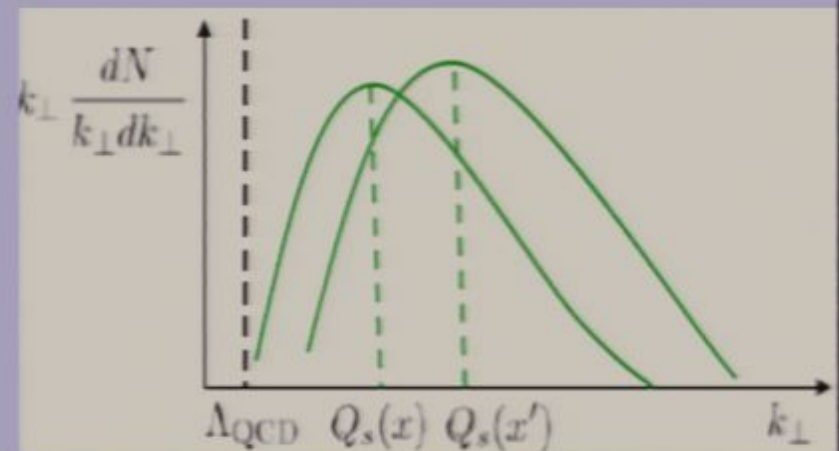
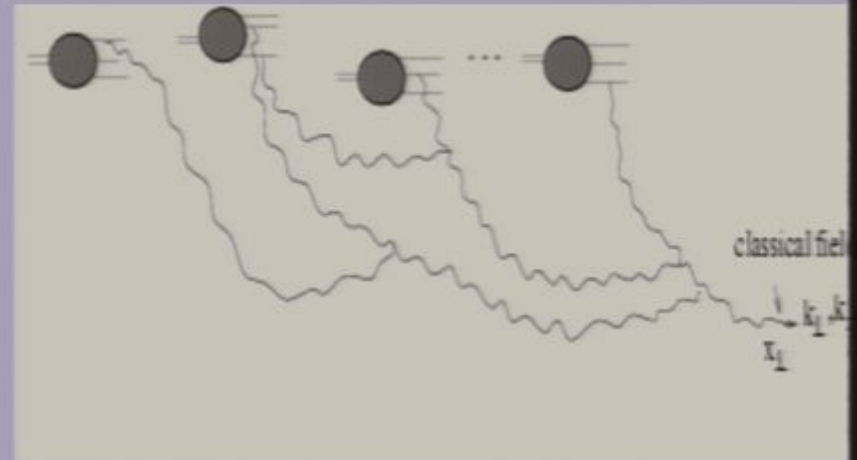
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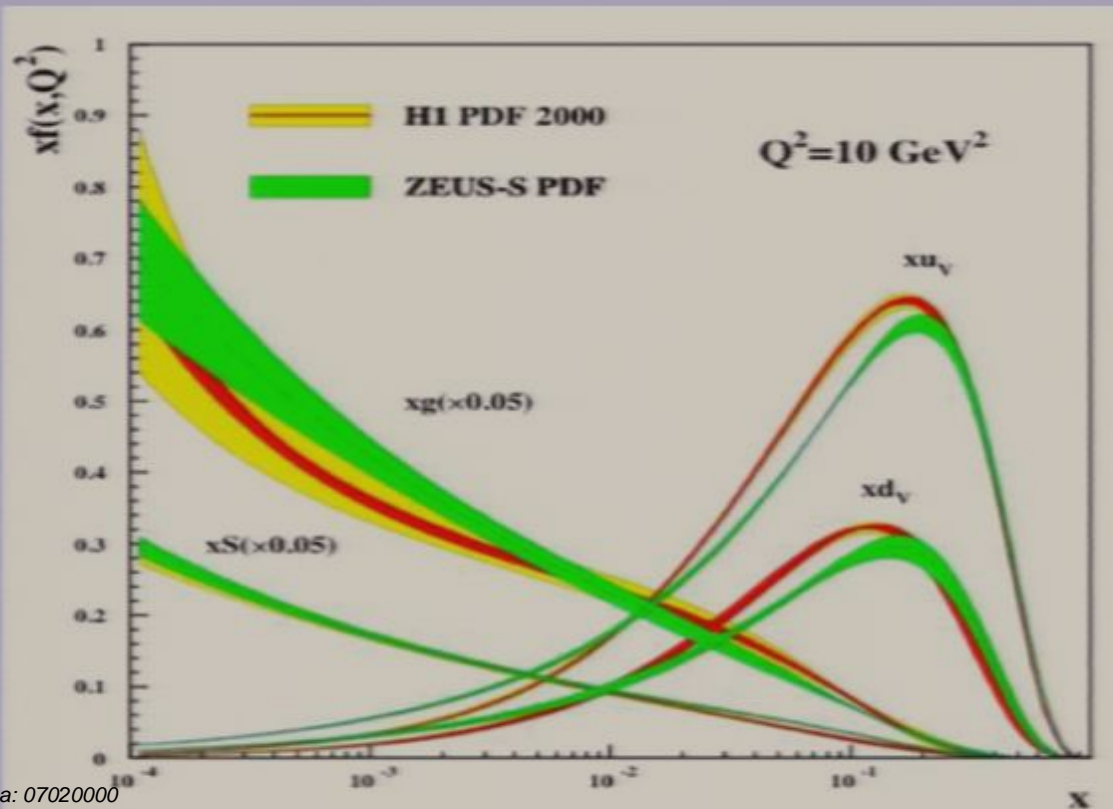
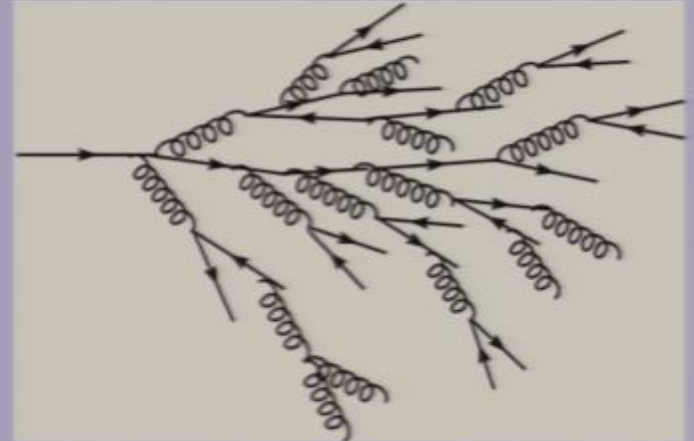
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QCD: Evolution

- Quarks radiate copiously
 - ⇒ Evolution of proton (e.g.) parton distribution functions
 - ⇒ Growth of gluon distribution @ low x

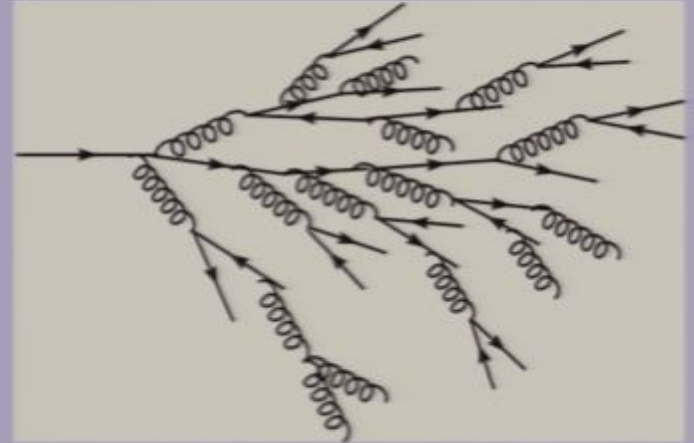


- @ high gluon density recombination starts to limit growth.
- Q_s - resolution scale where recombination starts to dominate
- Limiting density $\propto Q_s^2/\alpha_s$

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- Number of gluons per unit area:

$$\rho \sim \frac{xG_A(x, Q^2)}{\pi R_A^2}$$

- Recombination cross-section:

$$\sigma_{gg \rightarrow g} \sim \frac{\alpha_s}{Q^2}$$

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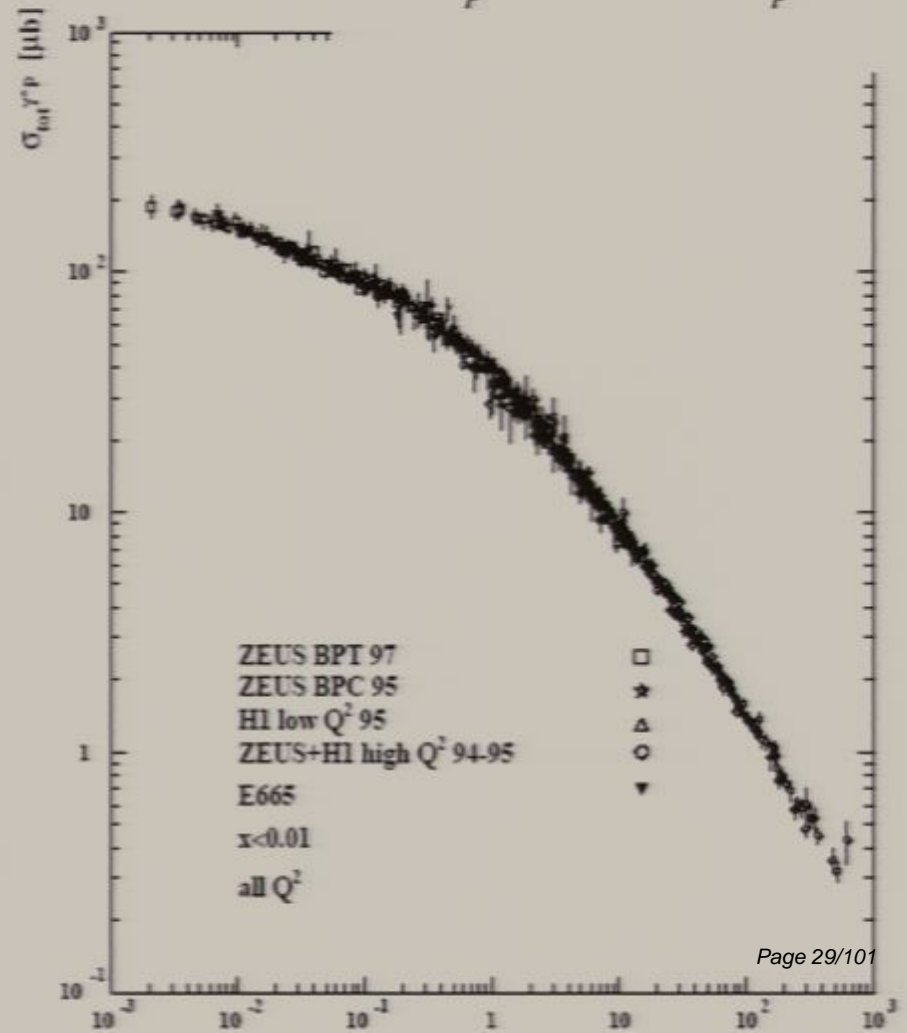
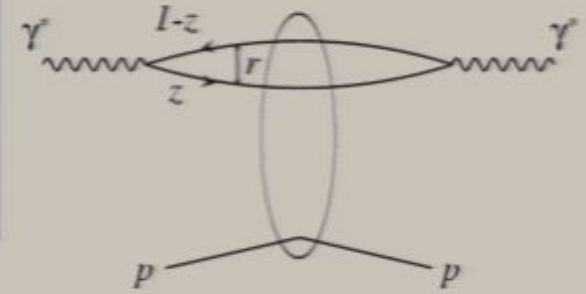
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Saturation @ HERA?

Golec-Biernat and Wusthoff (GBW) Saturation Model (empirical)

- Measurements of DIS cross-section vs x , Q^2 for $x < 0.01$.
- Plotted vs $\tau \equiv \frac{Q^2}{Q_s^2(x)}$
- All x dependence in the saturation scale.
 - “Geometric scaling”
- Precursor to saturation in PDF evolution



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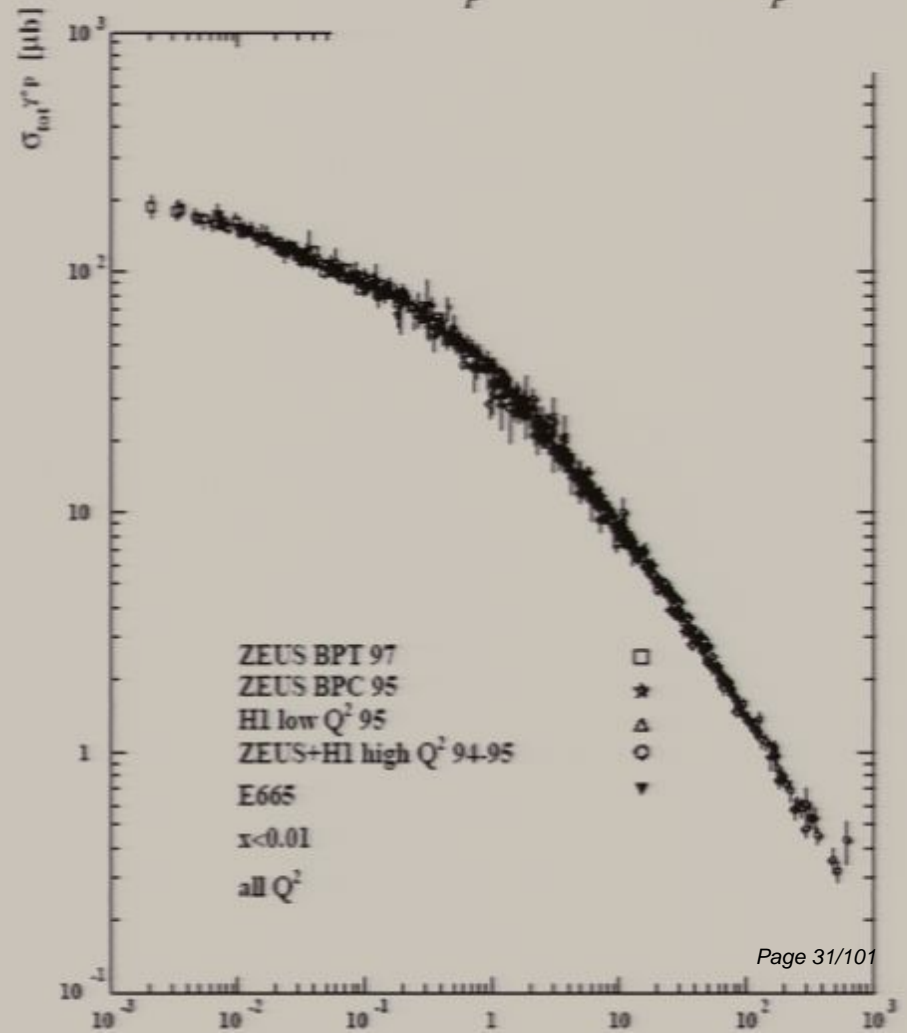
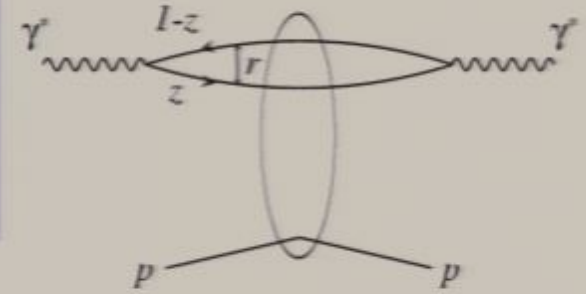
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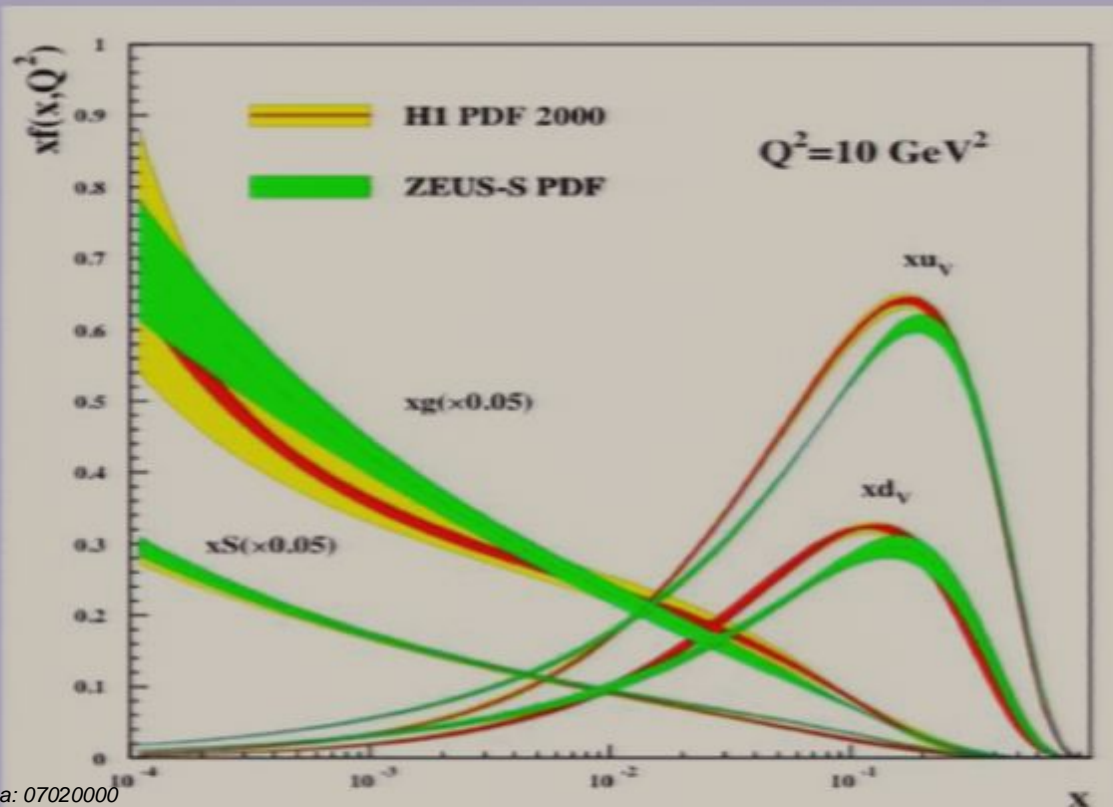
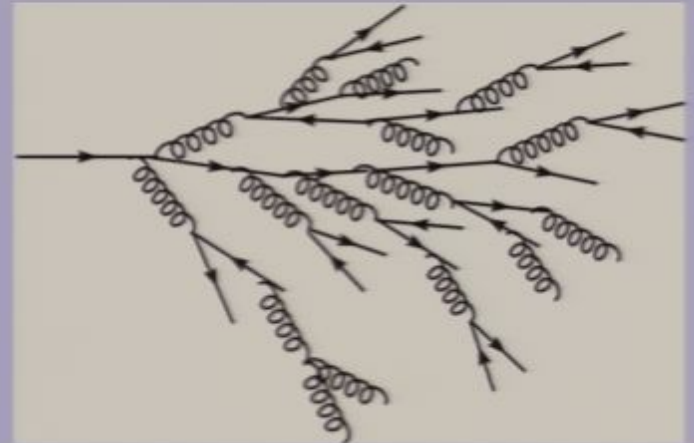
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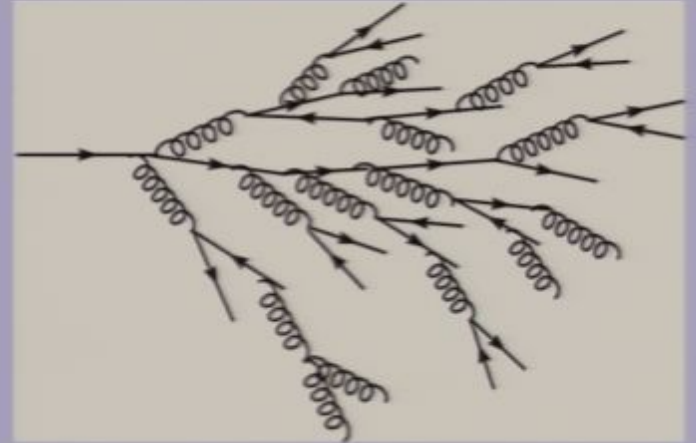


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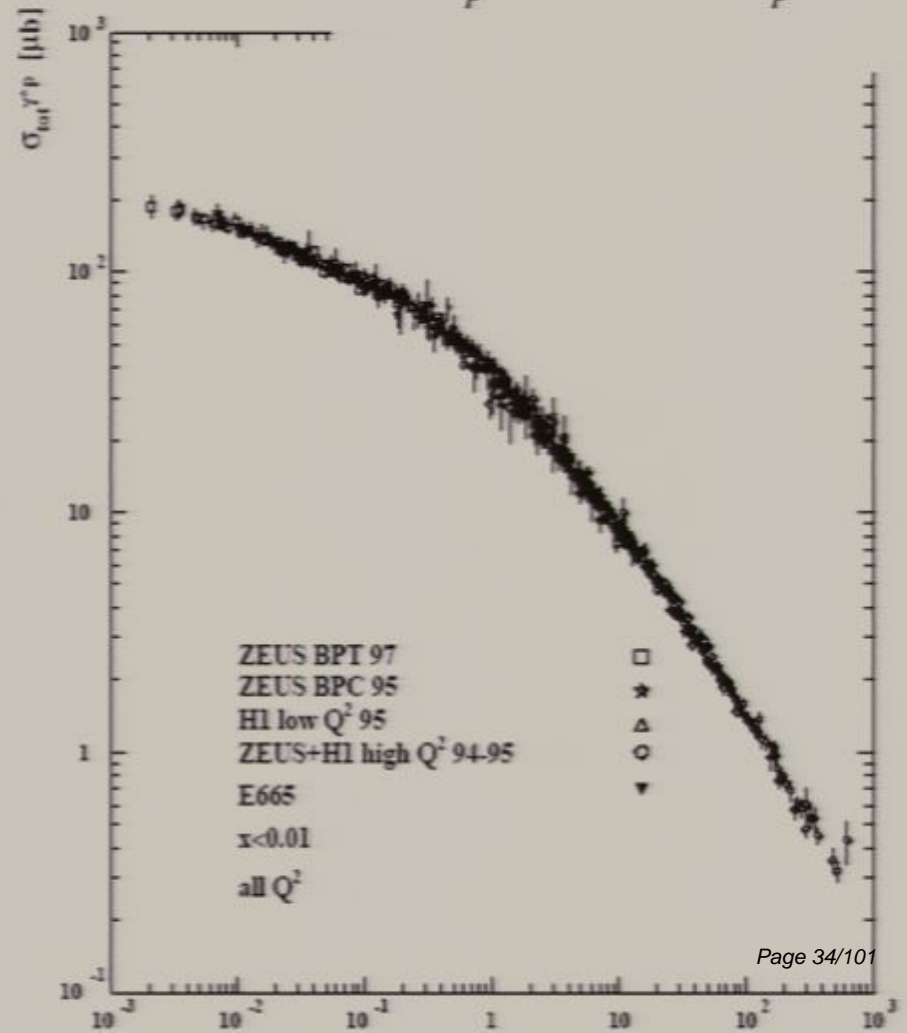
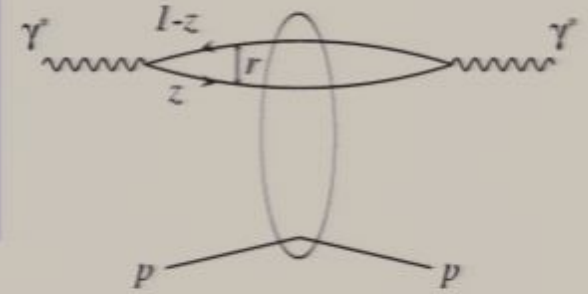
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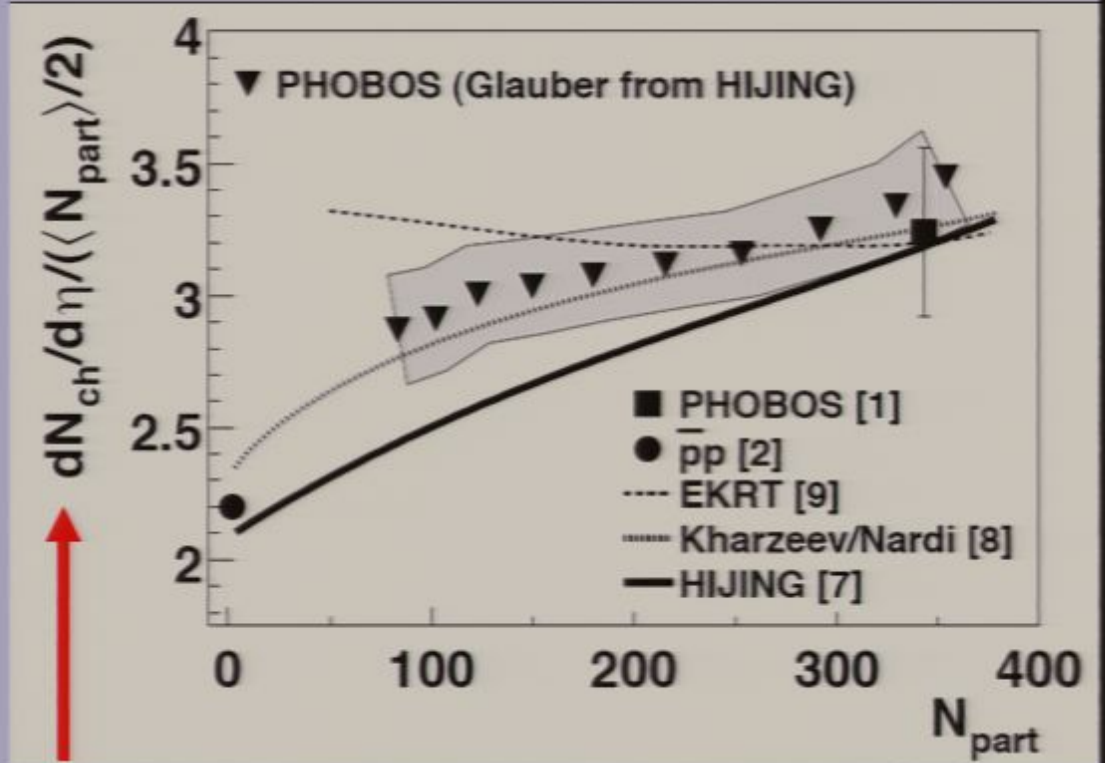
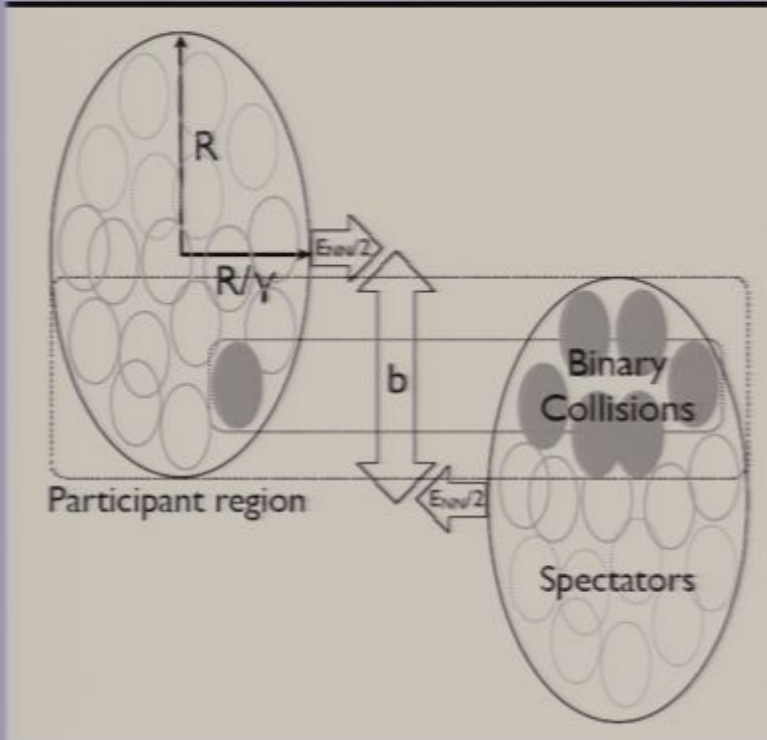
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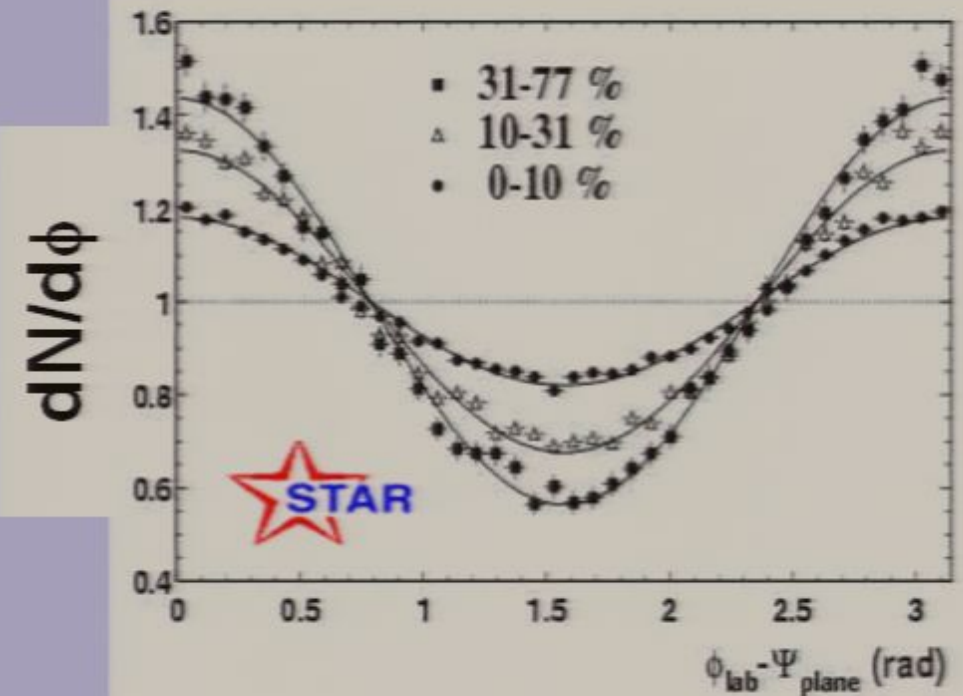
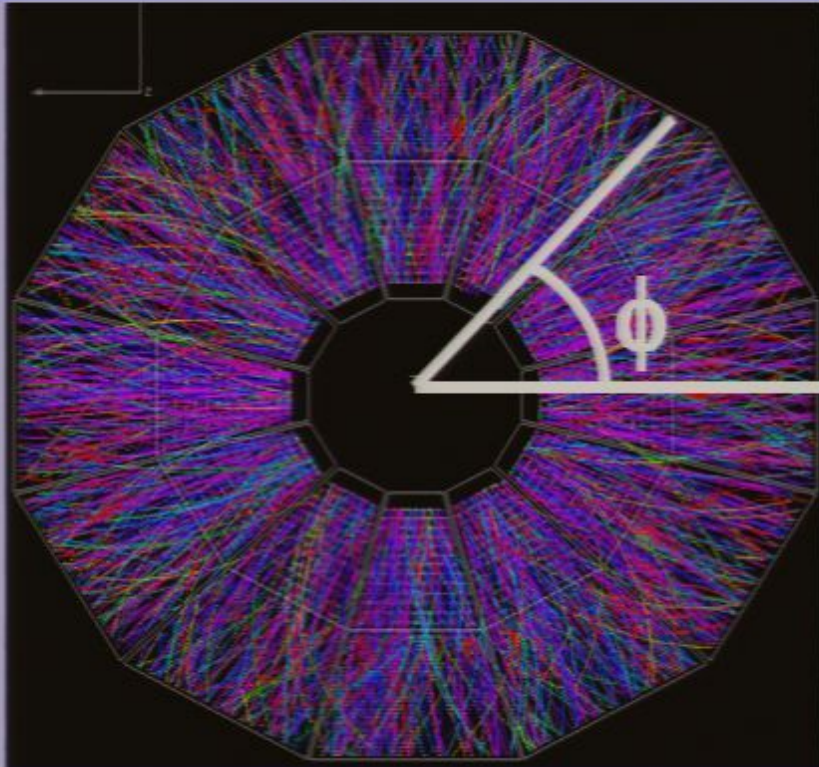
RHIC Particle Multiplicities



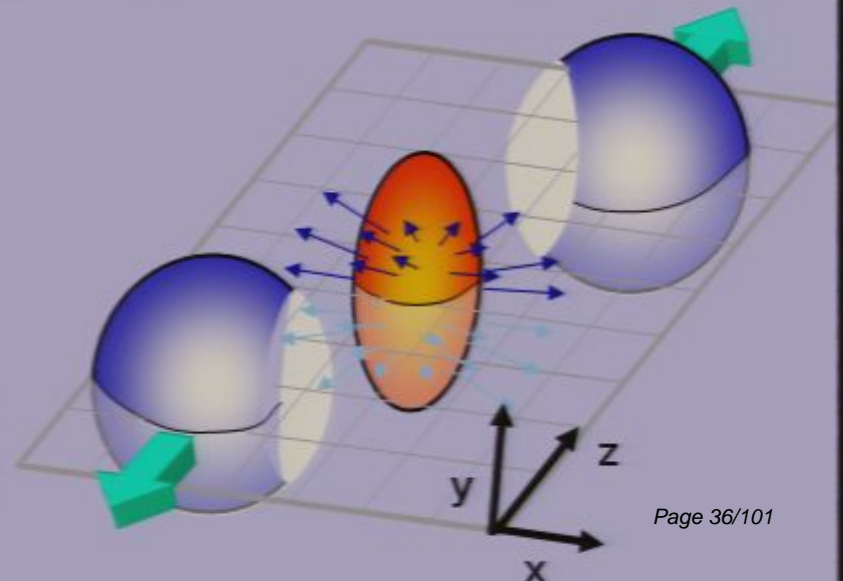
Multiplicity per colliding nucleon pair

- Multiplicity @ RHIC on low end of predicted range
- Slow growth with impact parameter (N_{part})
 - Inconsistent with factorized mini-jet production
 - **Best described by saturation model**

But, Have We Created “Matter” ?

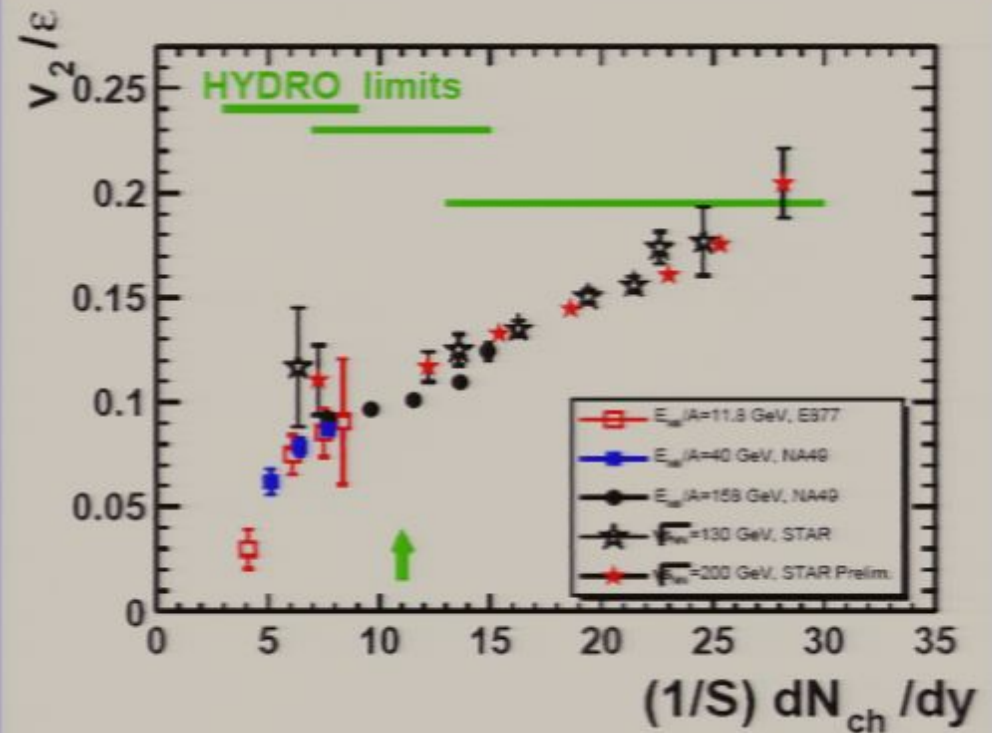
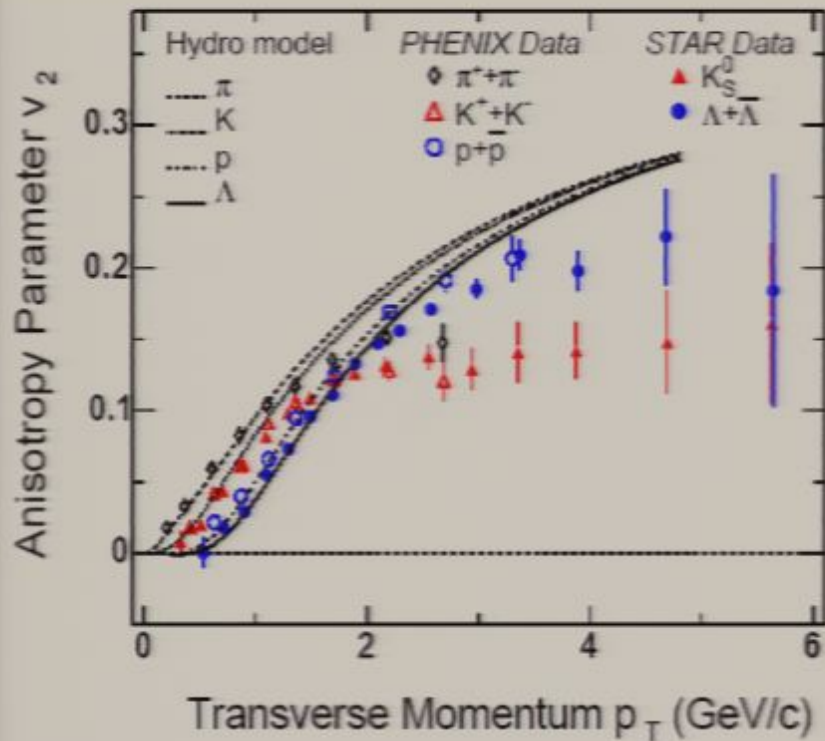


- “Pressure” converts spatial anisotropy to momentum anisotropy.
- Requires early thermalization.
- **Unique** to heavy ion collisions



• **Answer: yes**

“Elliptic Flow”

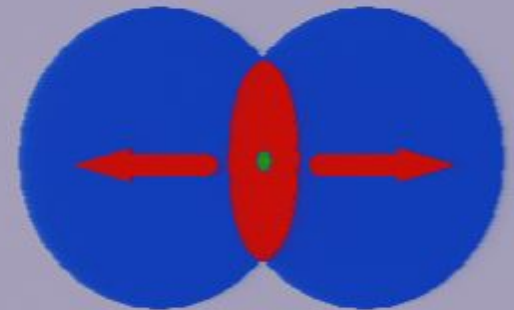


- Parameterize ϕ variation by “ v_2 ” parameter

$$- \frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2v_2 \cos(2\phi)$$

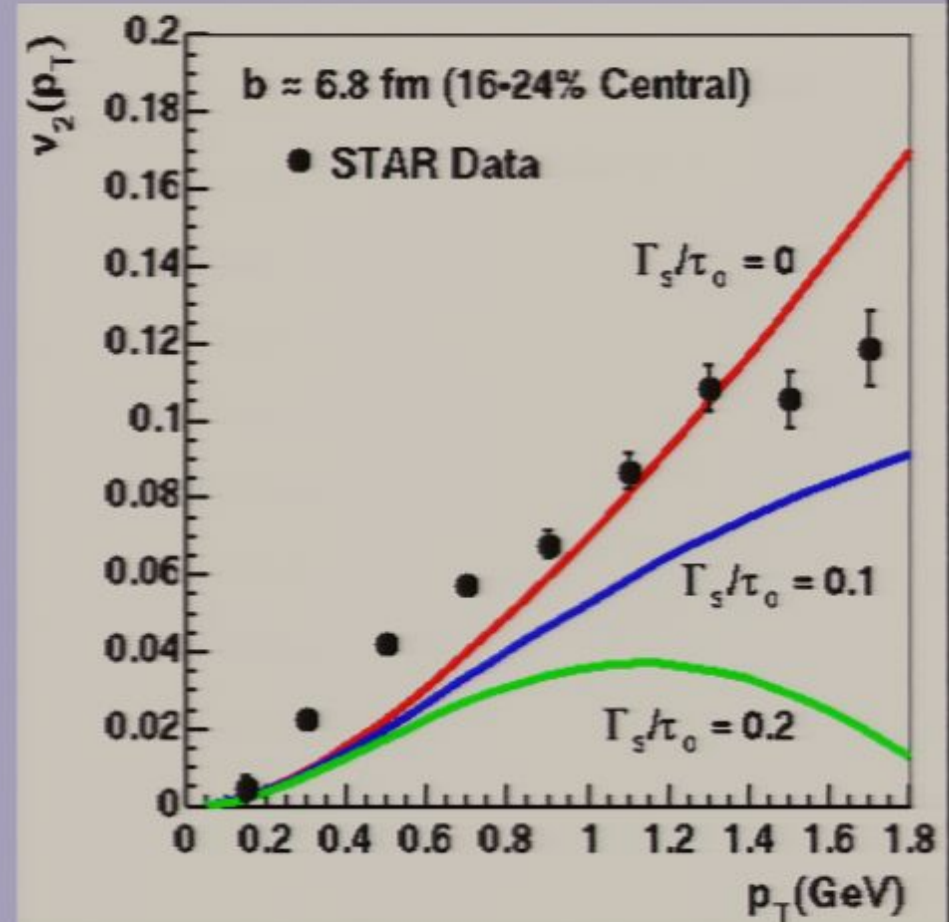
- Compare to “eccentricity”:

$$\epsilon = \frac{\langle y^2 - x^2 \rangle}{\langle y^2 + x^2 \rangle}$$



Estimating the (Shear) Viscosity

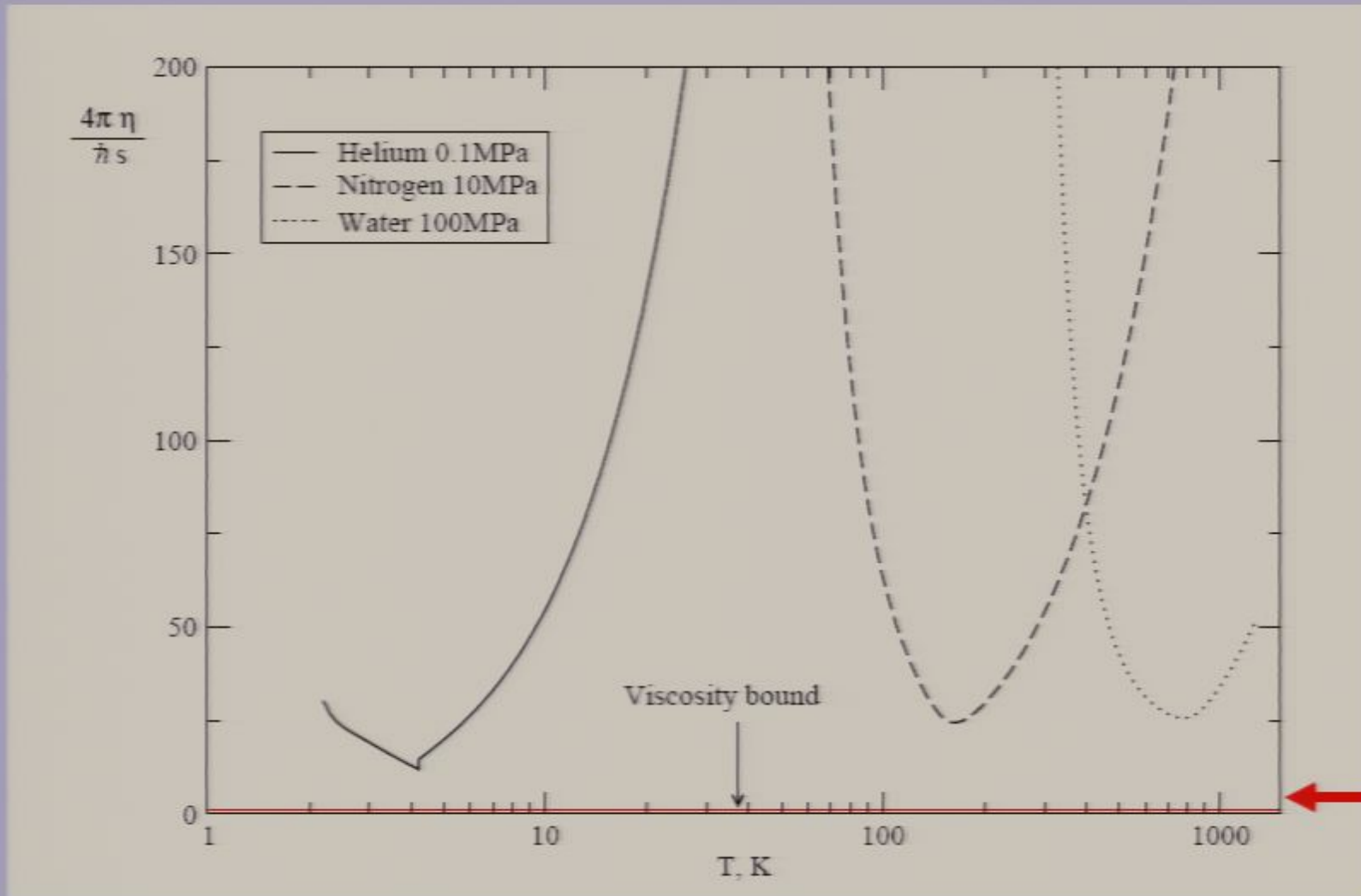
- Relevant parameter for determining collective motion of quark-gluon plasma
 - viscosity to entropy ratio: η/s .
- Finite viscosity leads to dependence of flow strength on p_T .
 - Correction $\propto (\eta/s) p_T^2$
- From data shown to right, obtain estimate:
 - $\eta/s \sim 0.1$
 - Very small!



Γ_s is “sound attenuation length” \propto mean free path

$$\Gamma_s = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\eta}{sT}$$

Comparison to “Typical” Viscosities



- Thus the statement:

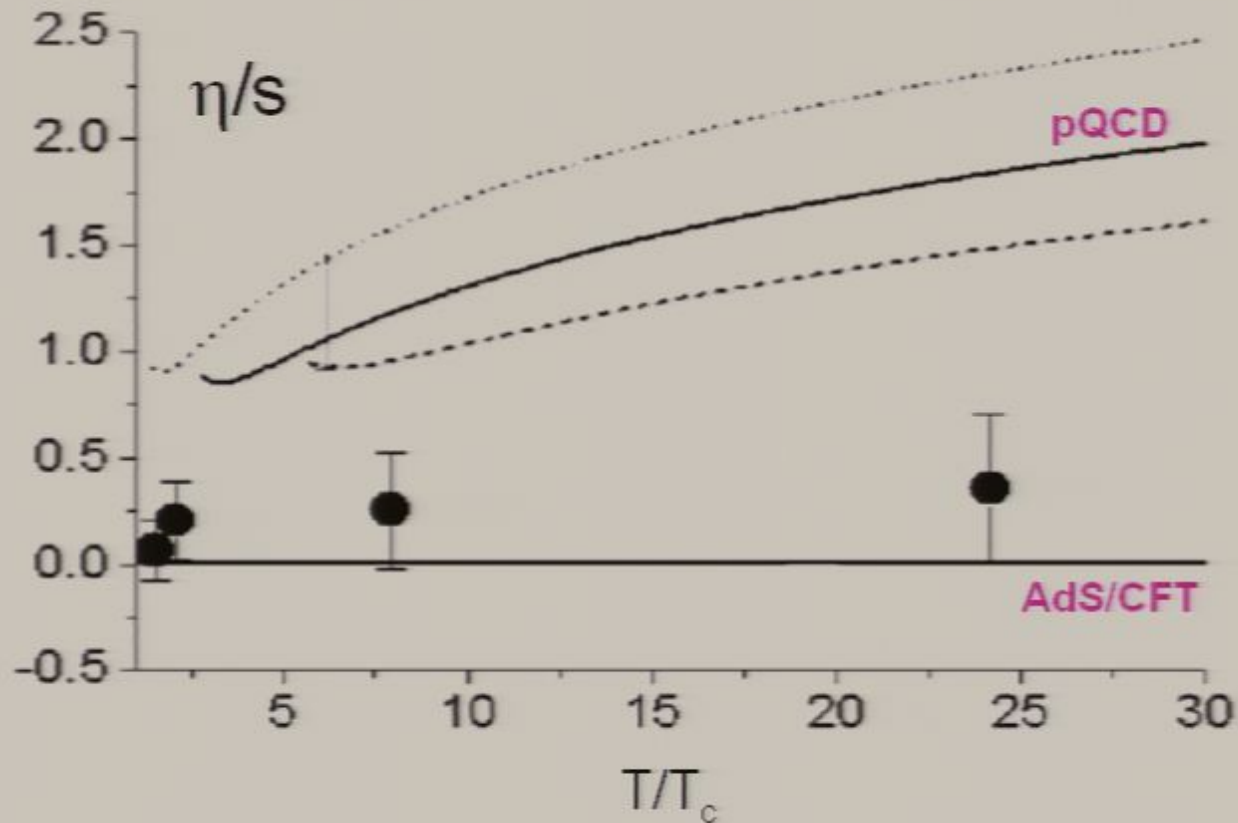
–QGP is most perfect fluid every created

Lattice QCD Estimate of η/s

Lattice QCD Estimate of η/s

Shear viscosity in quenched QCD

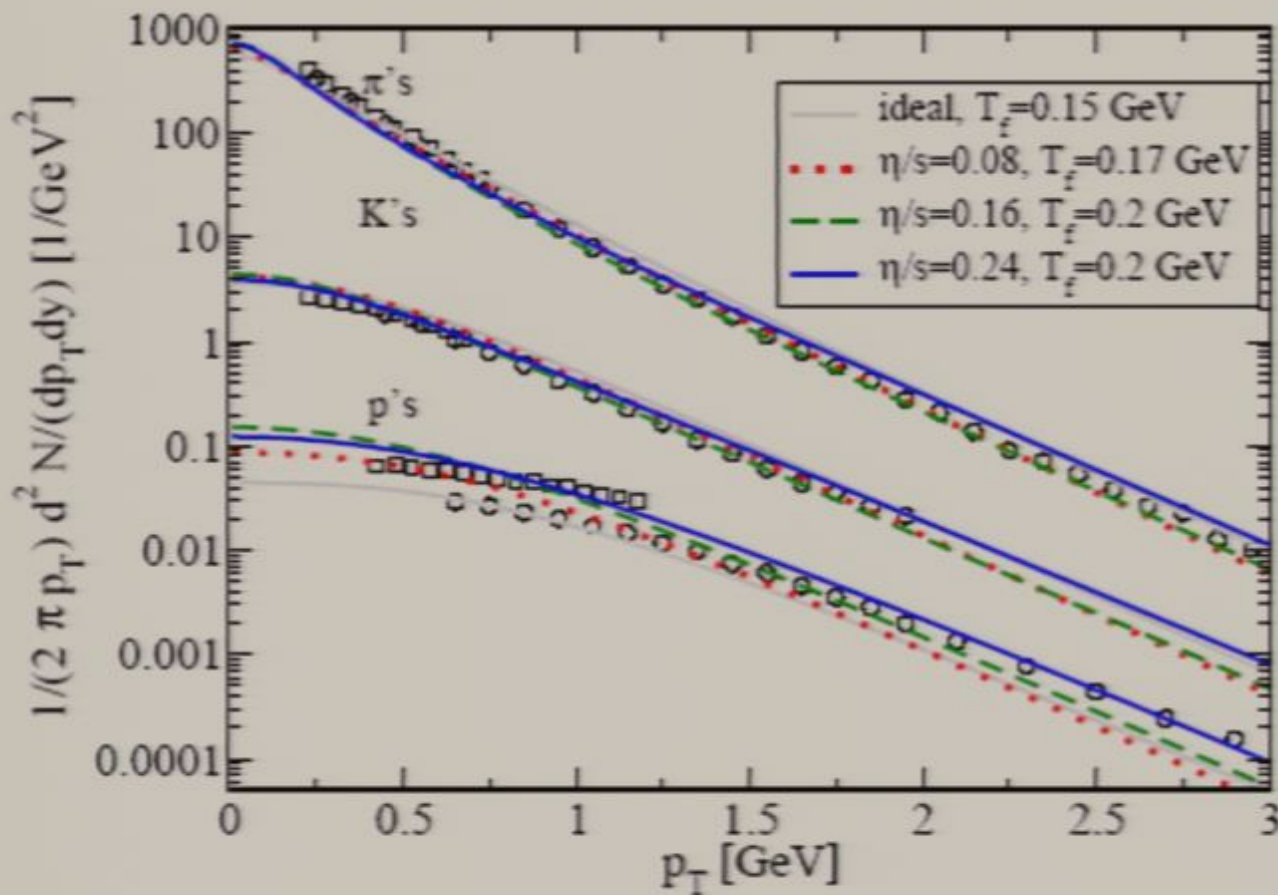
$$\eta = \pi \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \rho_{\Theta}(\omega)/\omega$$



Nakamura & Sakai, hep-lat/0510100

“Casual” Viscous Hydrodynamics

P. Romatschke nucl-th/0701032



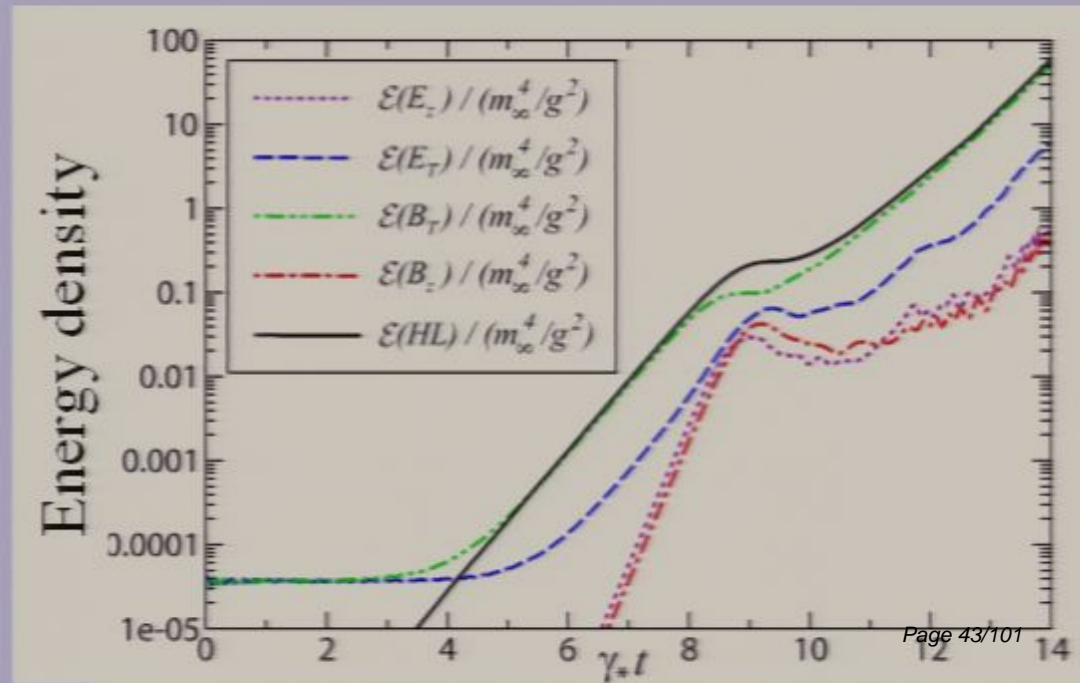
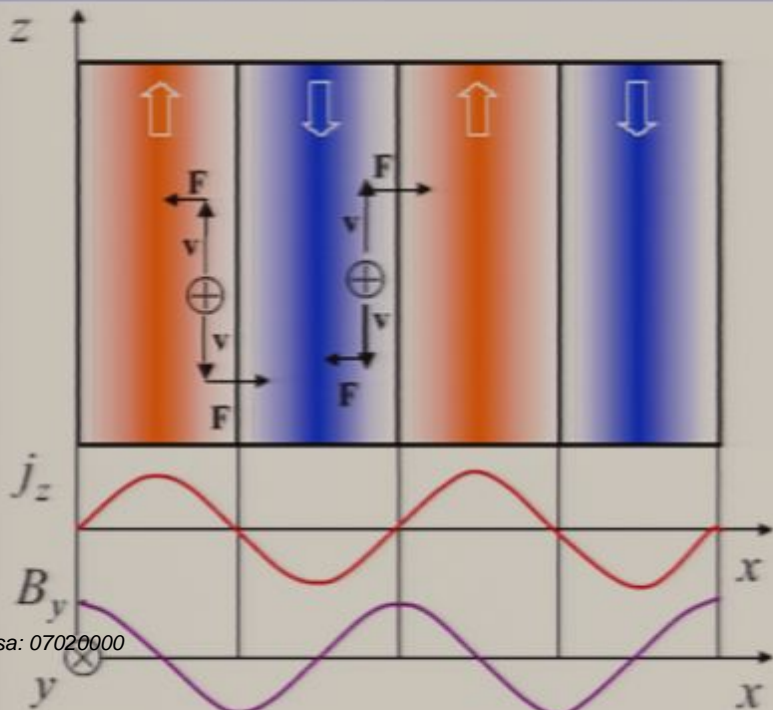
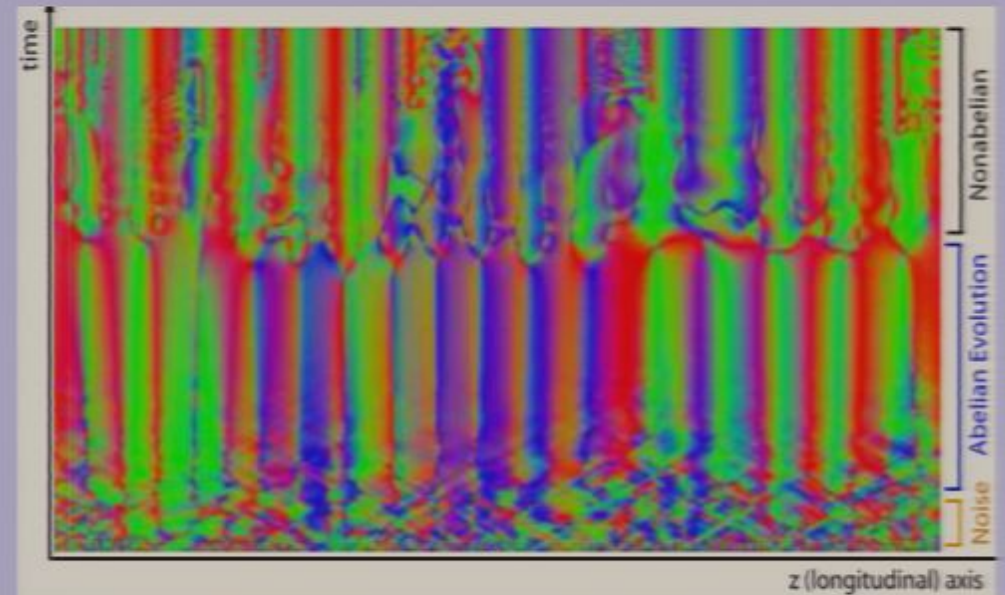
Comparison of viscous hydro results to meson spectra from PHENIX

- Causal fix introduces a new scale, τ_{Π} , relaxation time. Uncertainty in τ_{Π} weakens η/s constraint

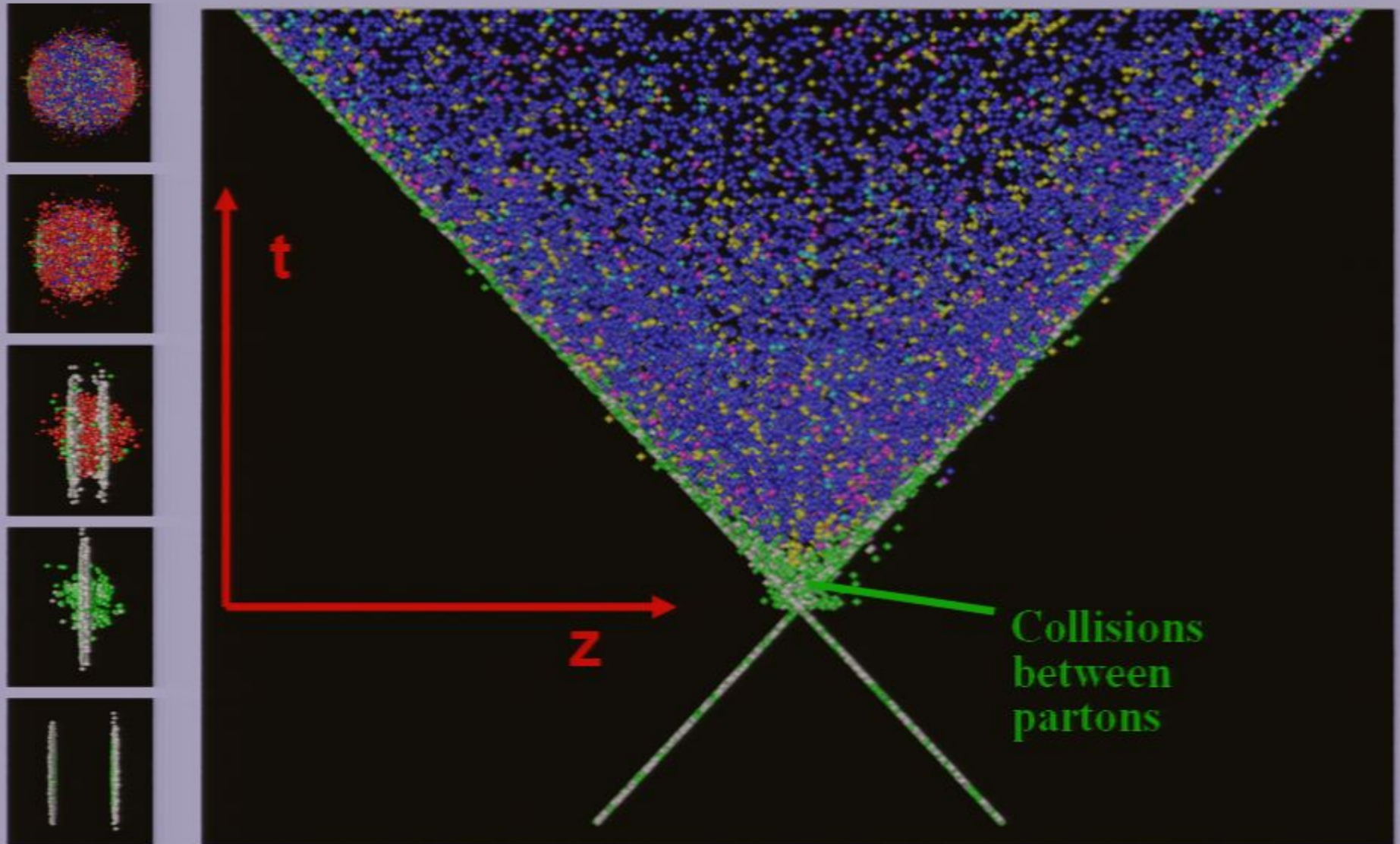
– Concludes $\eta/s < 0.5$, but elliptic flow?

Thermalization via Plasma Instabilities?

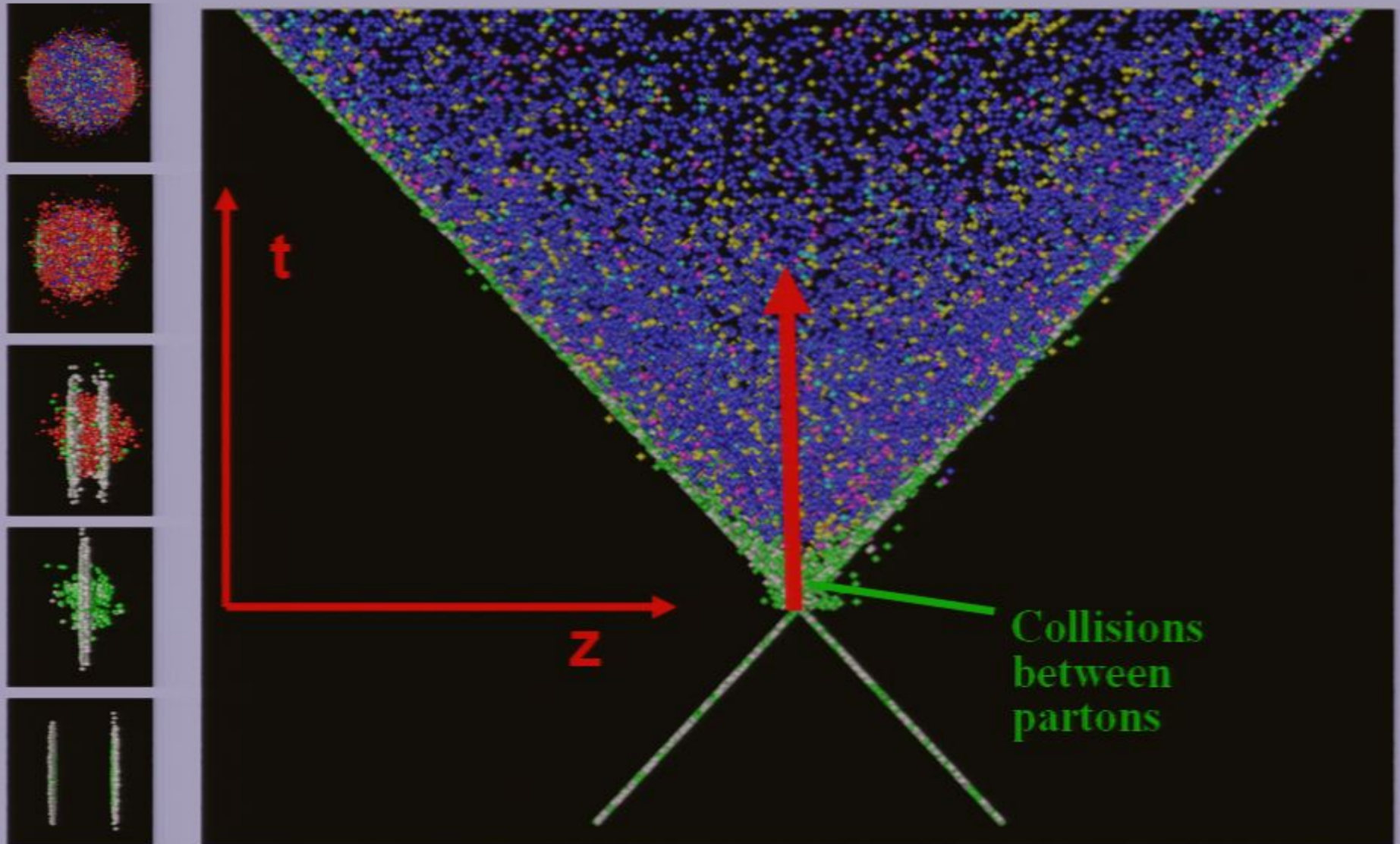
- p_T vs p_z anisotropy
 - Generates strong local chromo-magnetic fields
 - Lorentz forces produce rapid isotropization.
- Pressure from macro-scopic color fields?!



Penetrating Probes of Created Matter



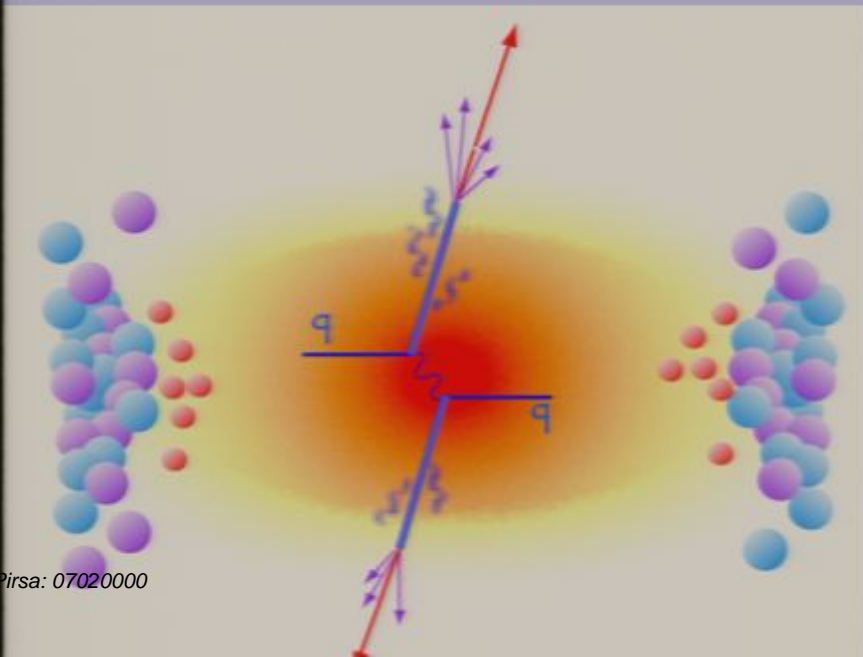
Penetrating Probes of Created Matter



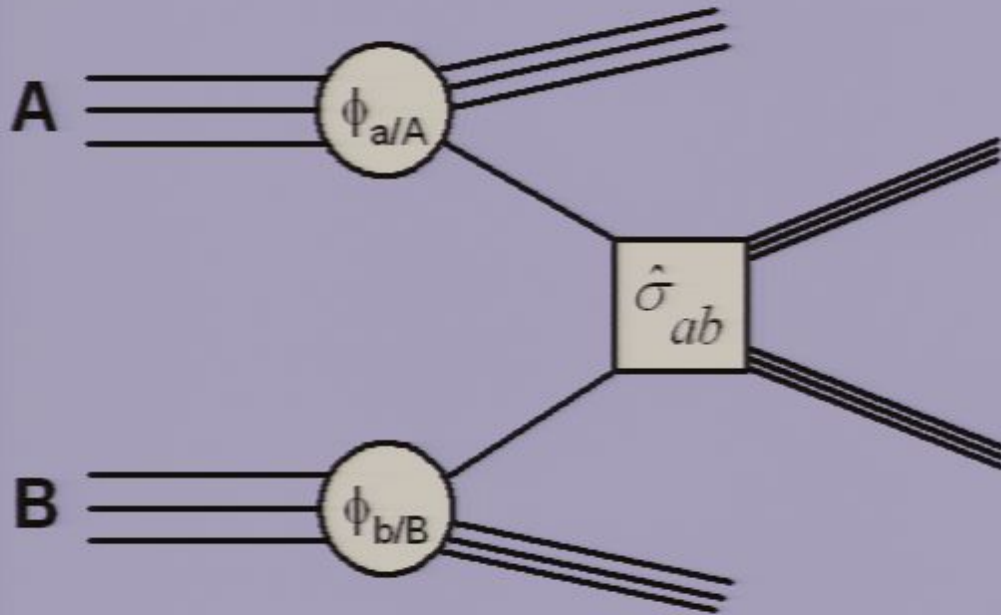
- Use self-generated quarks/gluons/photons as probes of the medium (classic physics technique!)

How to directly probe medium ?

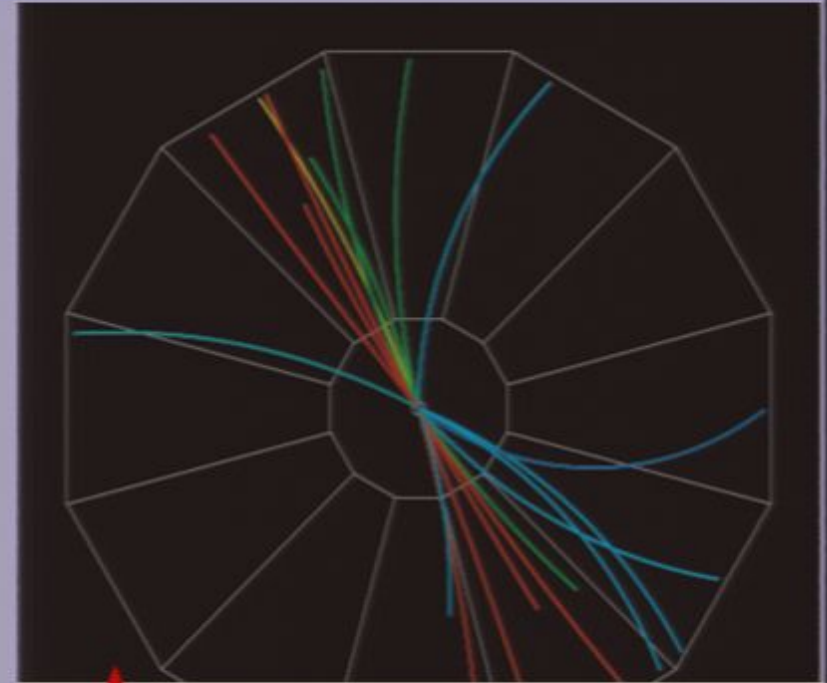
- Use quarks & gluons from high- Q^2 scattering
 - “Created” at very early times (~ 0.1 fm).
 - Propagate through earliest, highest ε matter.
- (QCD) Energy loss of (color) charged particle
 - \sim Entirely due to radiation
 - Virtual gluon(s) of quark multiply scatter.
- e.g. GLV (Gyulassy, Levai, Vitev) formalism



Perturbative quantum chromo-dynamics



From **Collins, Soper, Sterman**
Phys. Lett. B438:184-192, 1998



STAR p-p di-jet Event

$$\sigma_{AB} = \sum_{ab} \int dx_a dx_b \phi_{a/A}(x_a, \mu^2) \phi_{b/B}(x_b, \mu^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ab} \left(\frac{Q^2}{x_a x_b s}, \frac{Q}{\mu}, \alpha_s(\mu) \right) \left(1 + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{Q^P} \right) \right)$$

- **Factorization:** separation of σ into

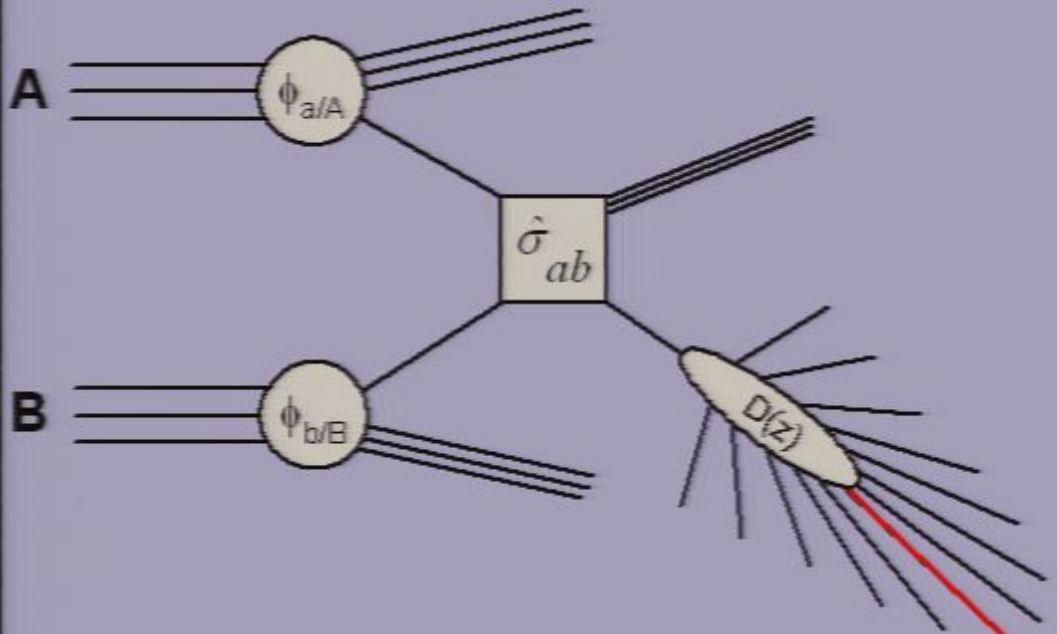
- Short-distance physics: $\hat{\sigma}$ calculable using perturbation theory**
- Long-distance physics: ϕ 's – universal, measured separately.

- Valid @ large momentum transfer – high p_T particles

pQCD – Single Hadron Production

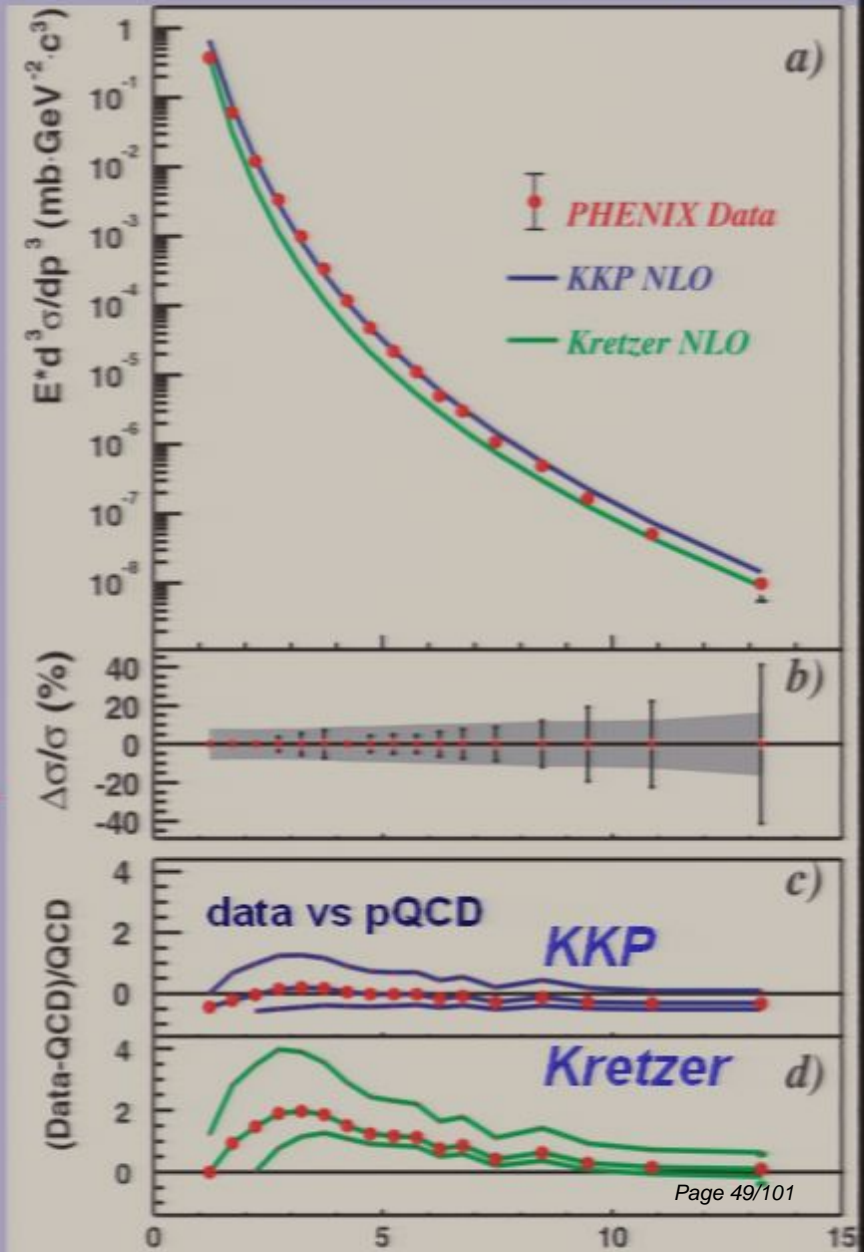
Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 241803 (2003)

Add fragmentation to hadrons

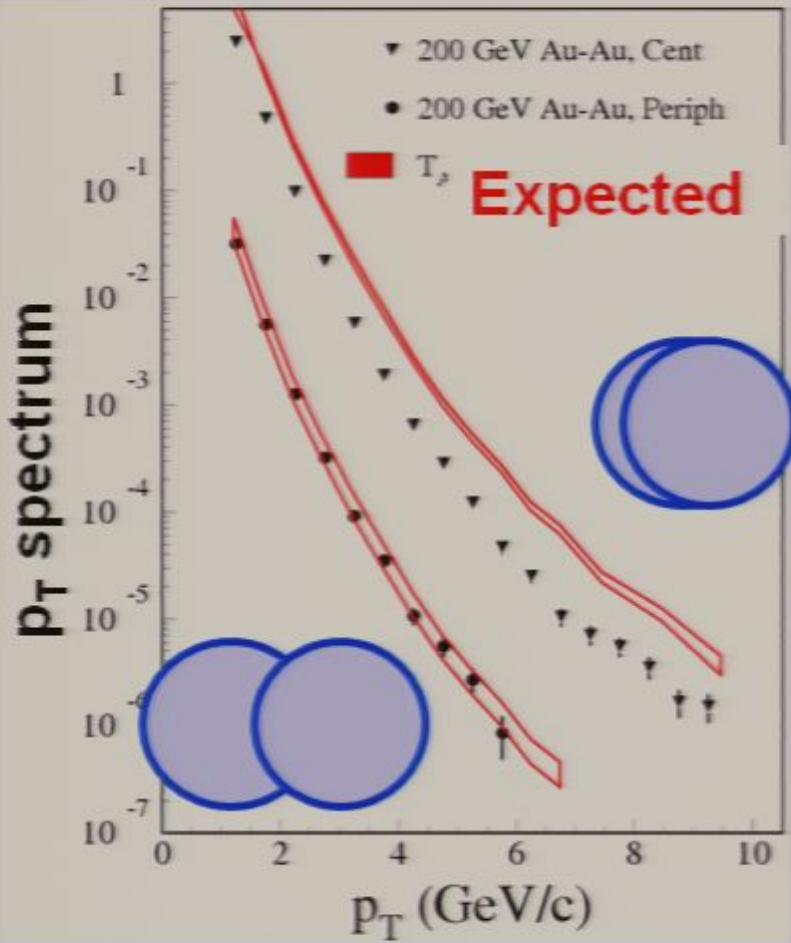


$$E \frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3} = \sum_{abc} \int dx_a dx_b \phi_{a/A}(x_a, Q^2, \mu) \phi_{b/B}(x_b, Q^2, \mu) \hat{\sigma}_{ab} \times \frac{D_{c \rightarrow h}(z, Q^2, \mu)}{z\pi} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dt}$$

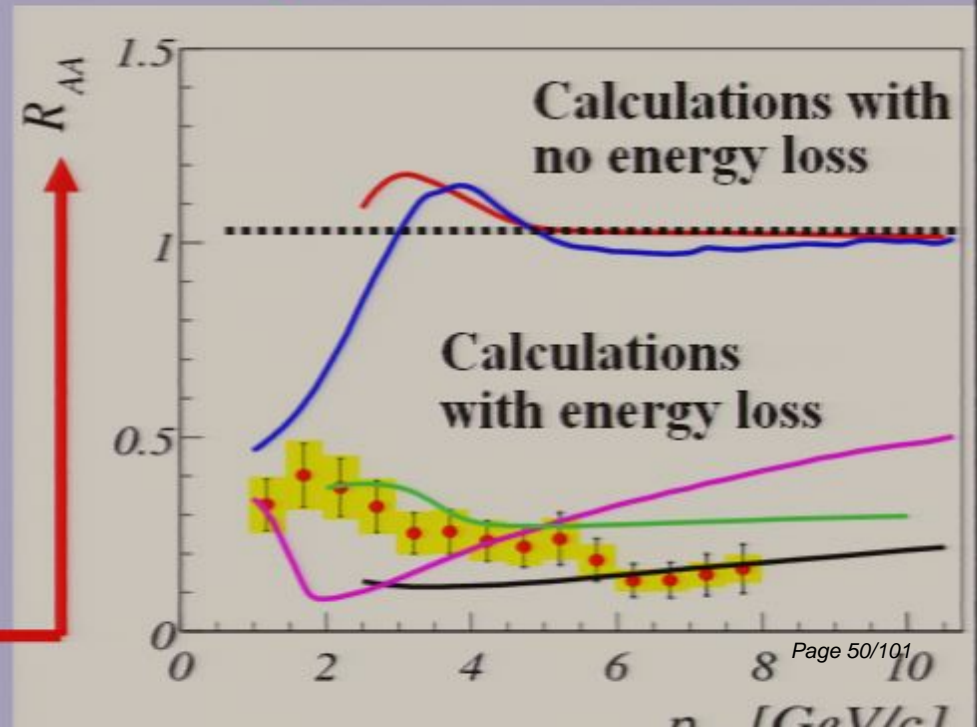
- $D(z)$ – fractional momentum distribution of particles in “jet”



PHENIX Au-Au π^0 Spectra

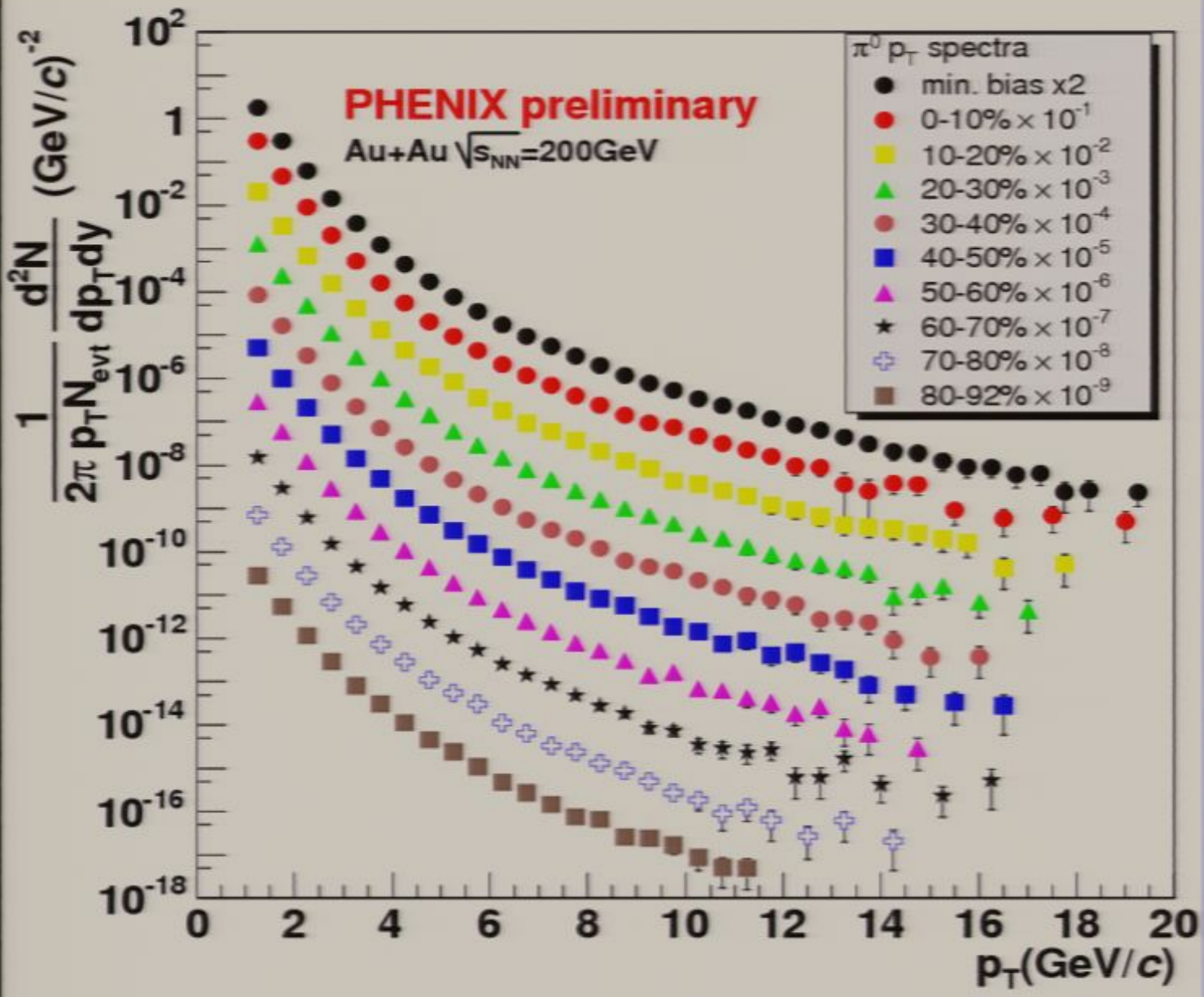


- Observe **20%** of expected yield @ high p_T
- \Rightarrow Deduce energy density $\epsilon \sim 15 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$
- \Rightarrow Compare $\epsilon_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$
- \Rightarrow **100 x normal nucleus energy density!**



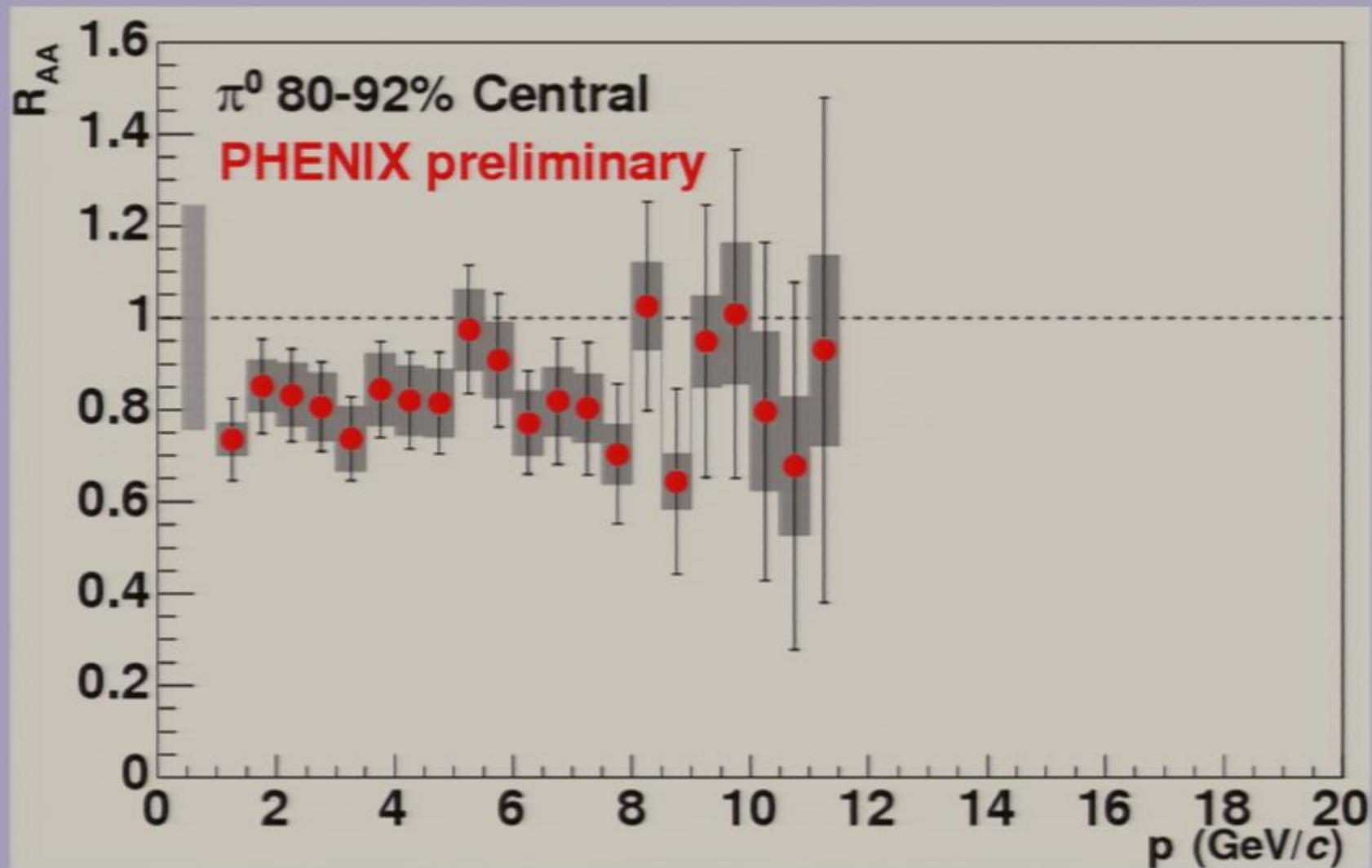
$R_{AA} \equiv \text{Observed/Expected}$
 Using p-p data as baseline

PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression

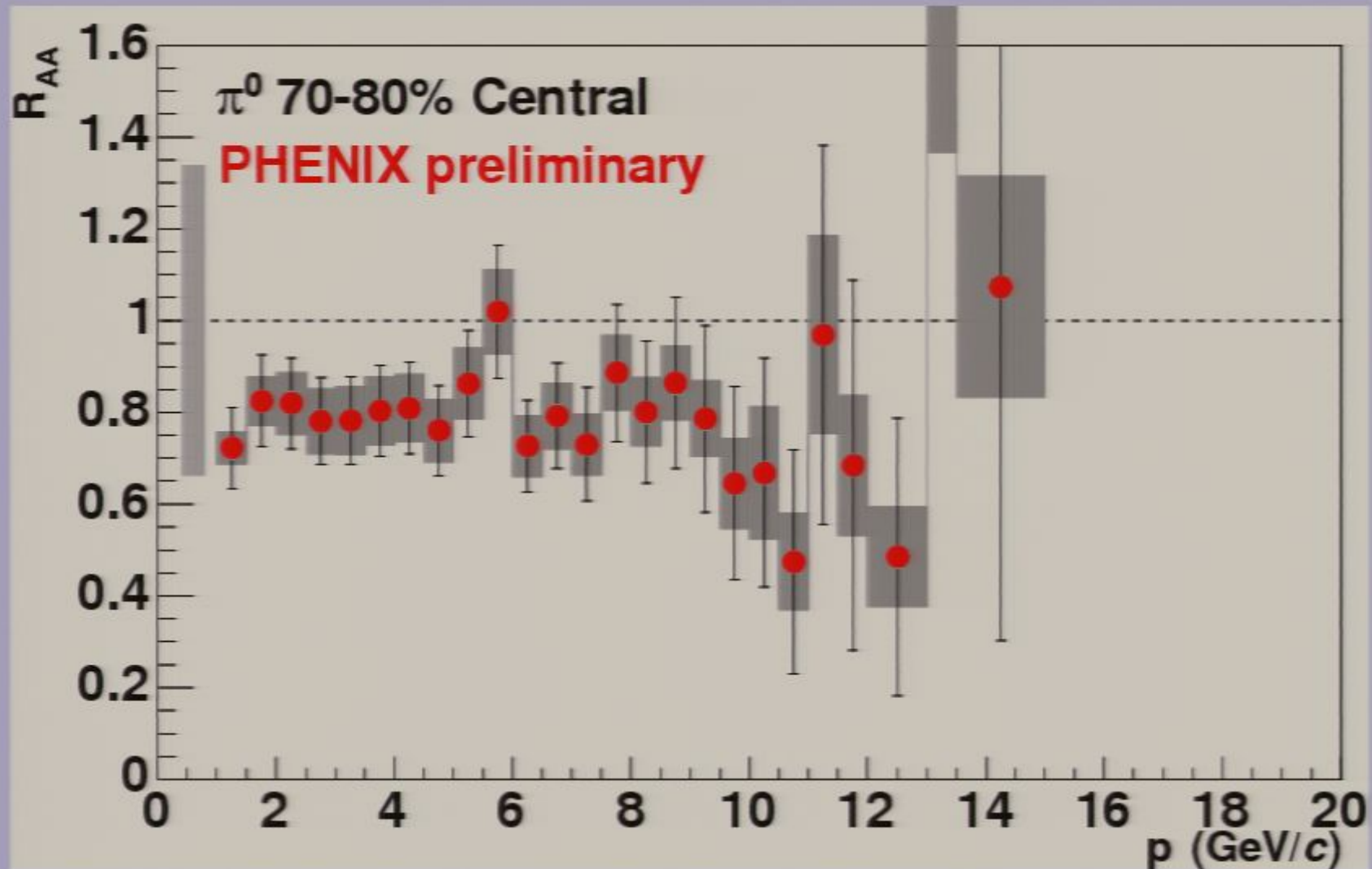


PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression

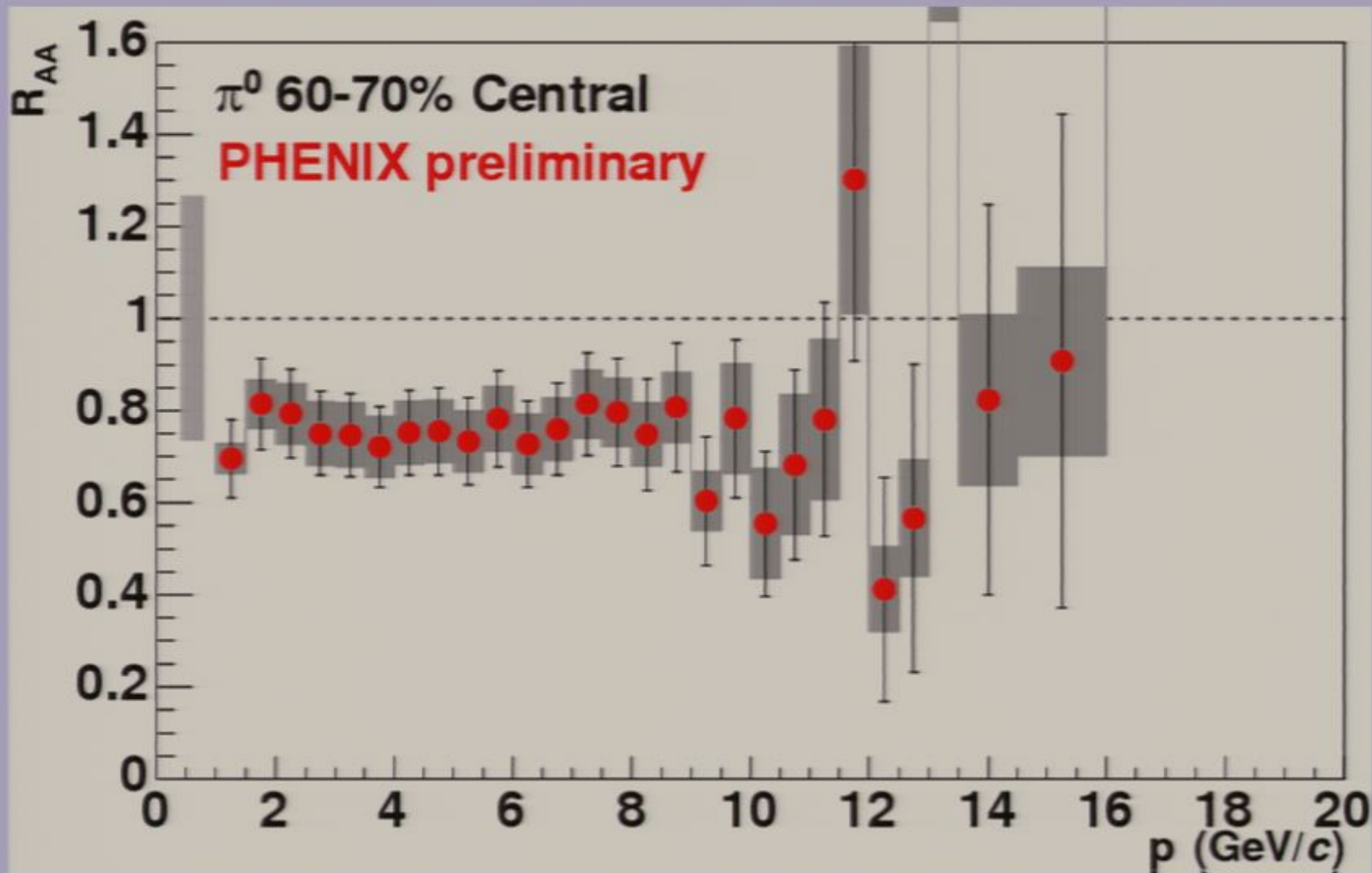
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



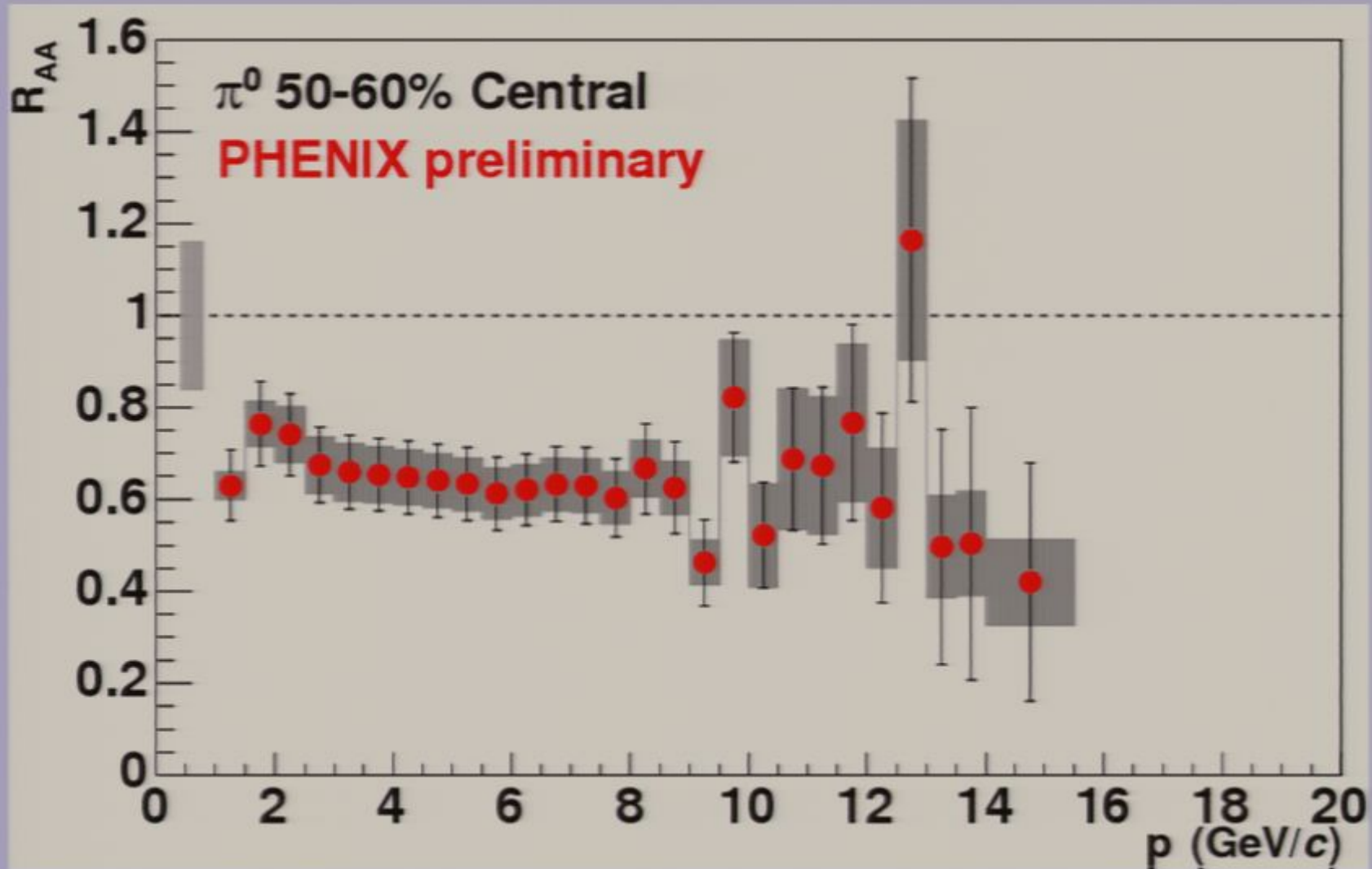
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



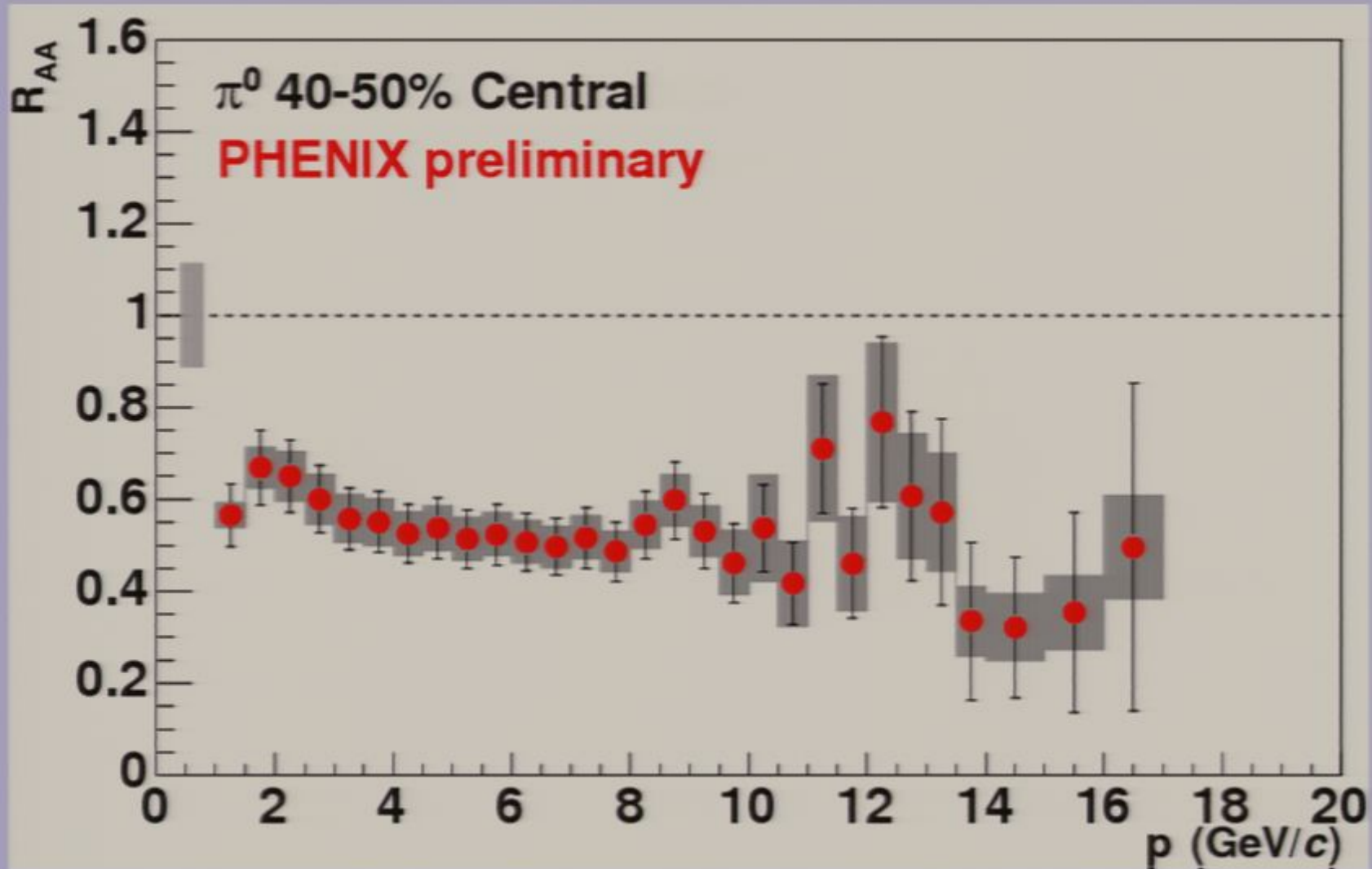
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



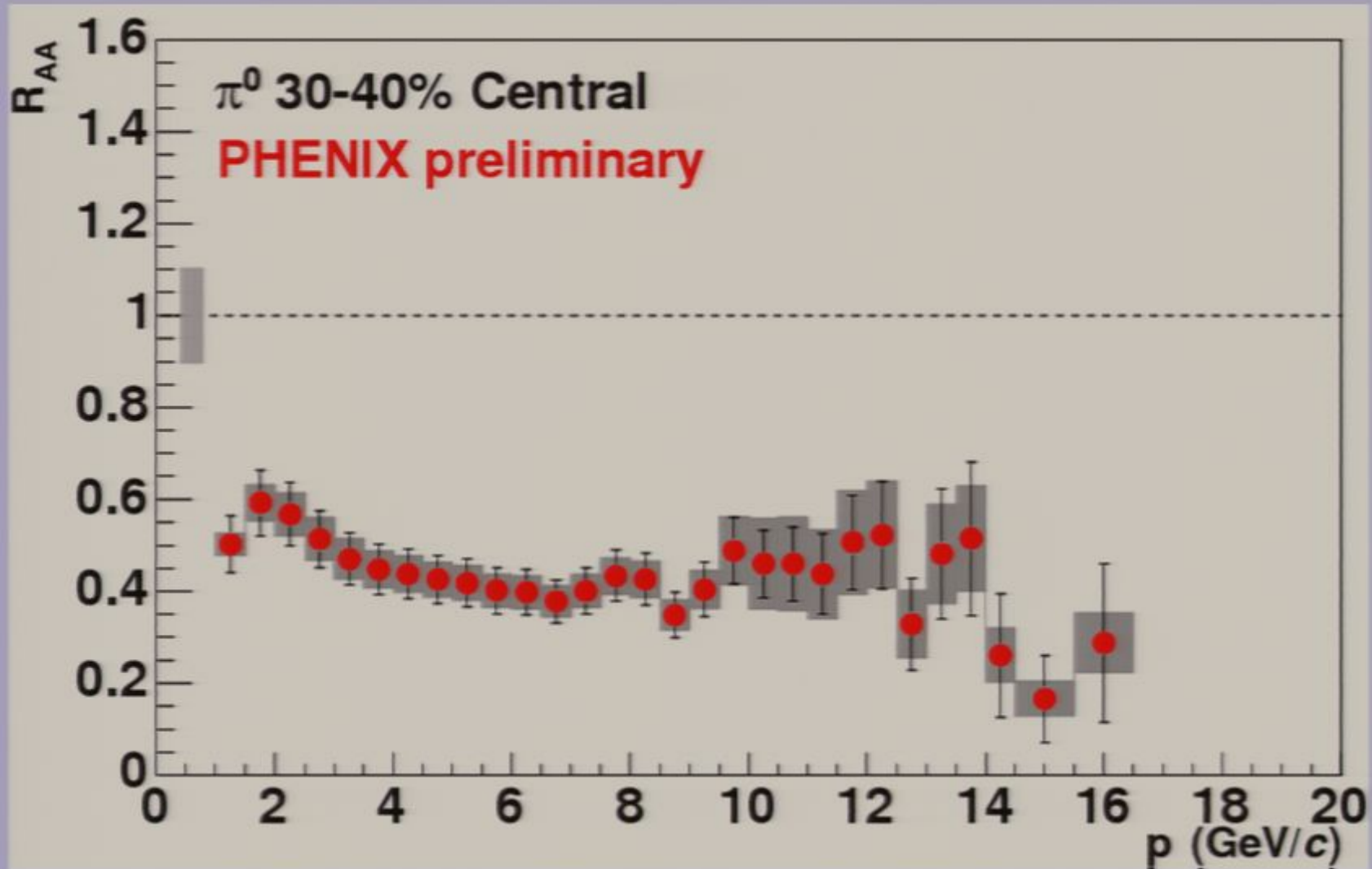
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



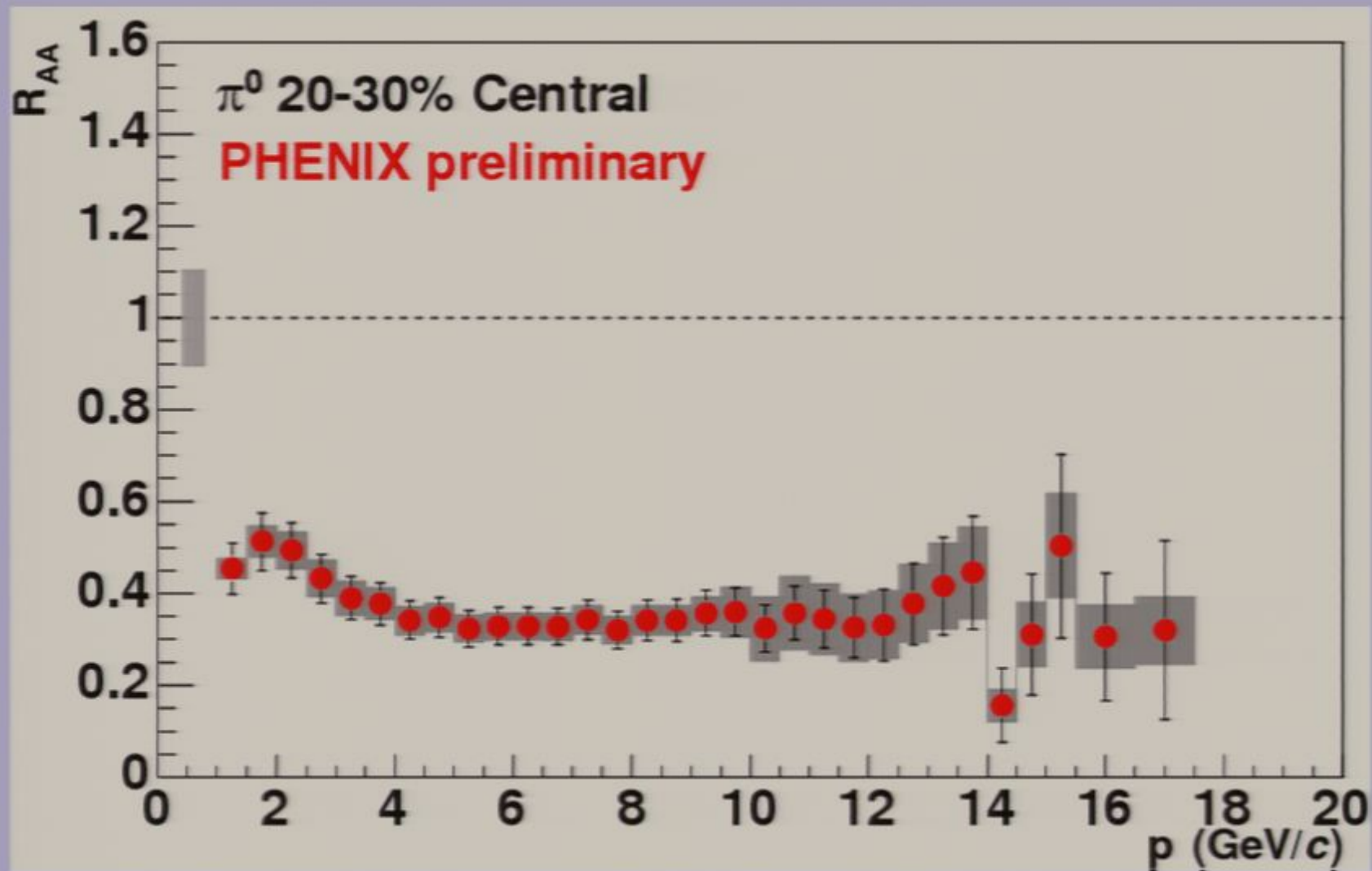
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



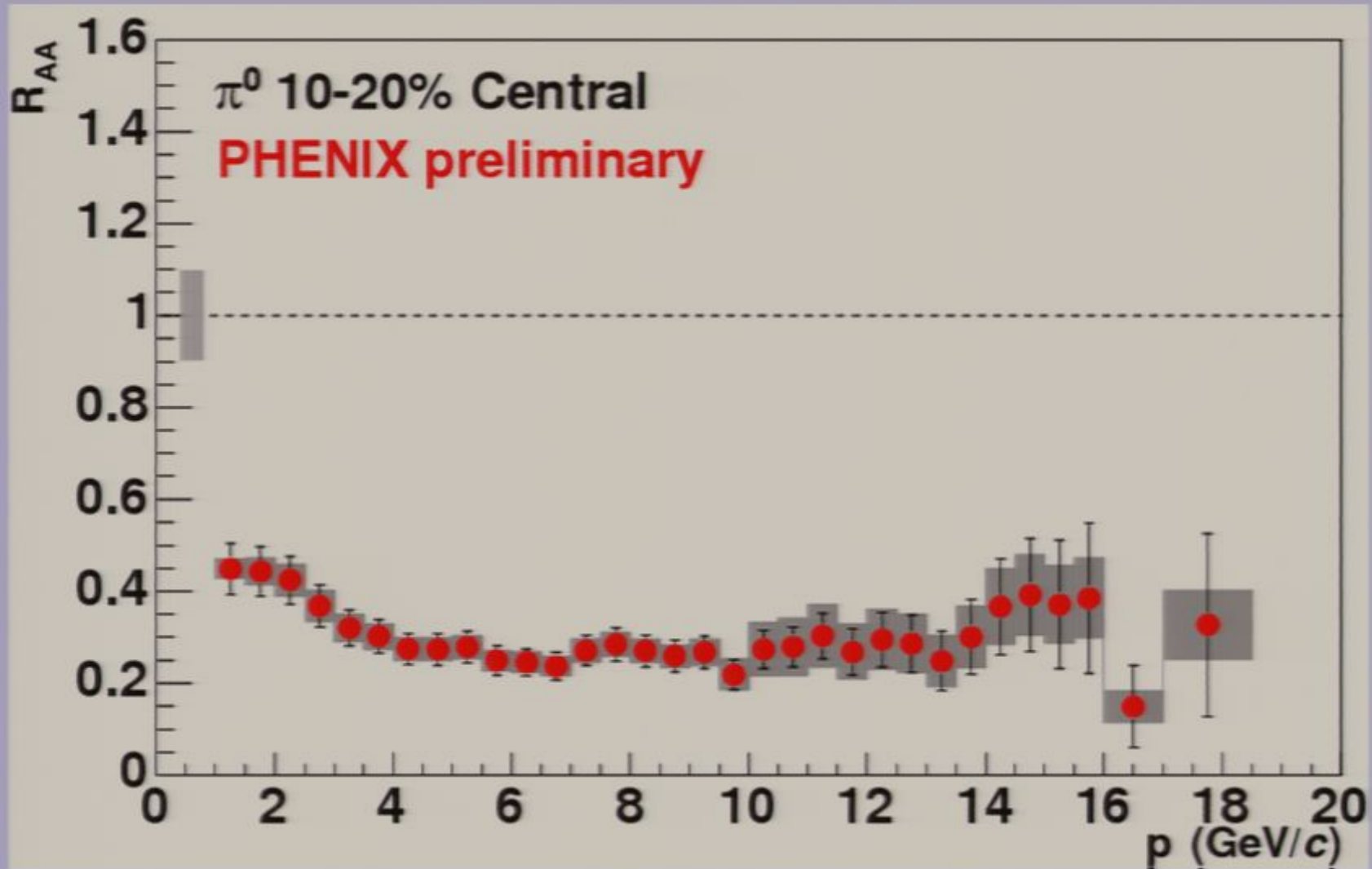
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



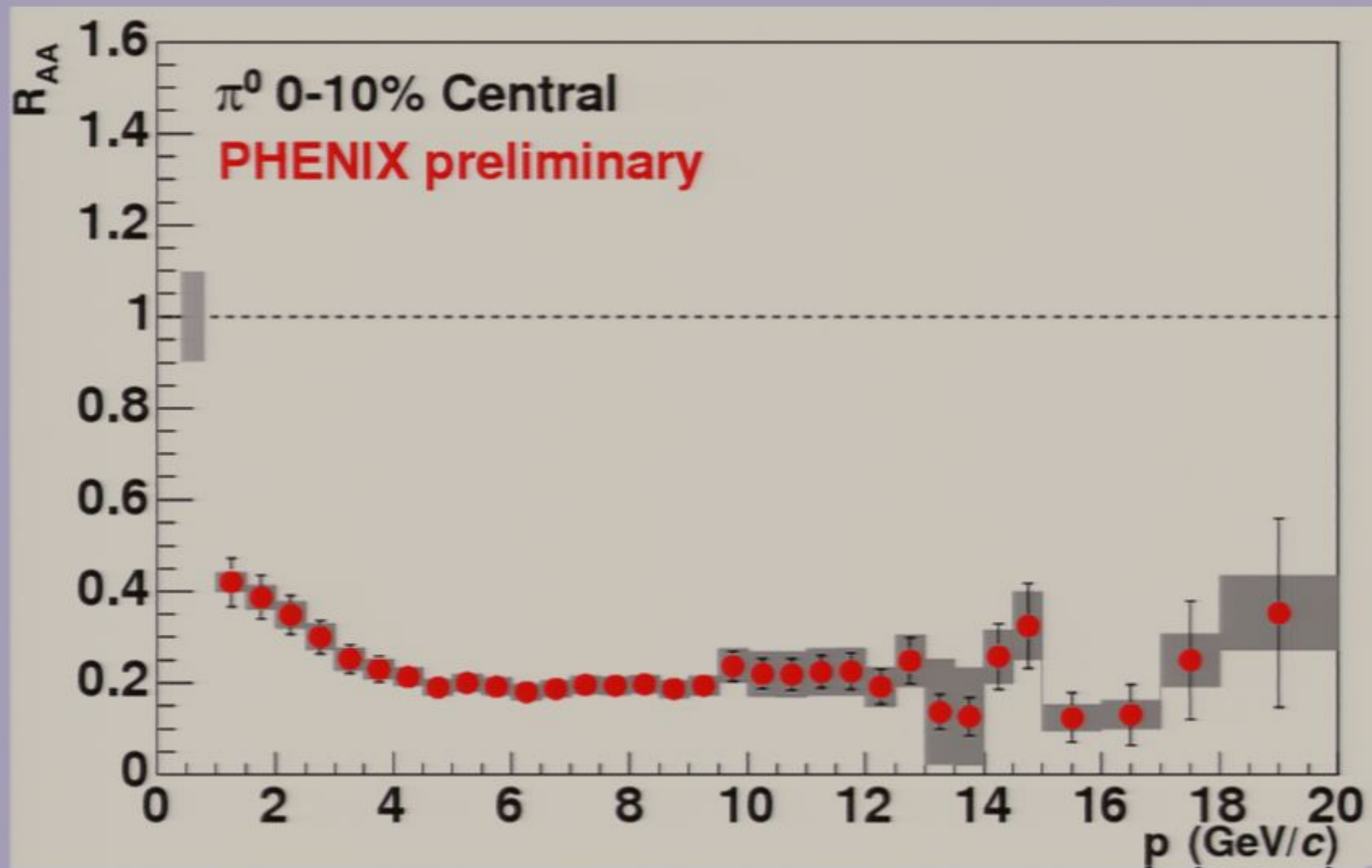
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



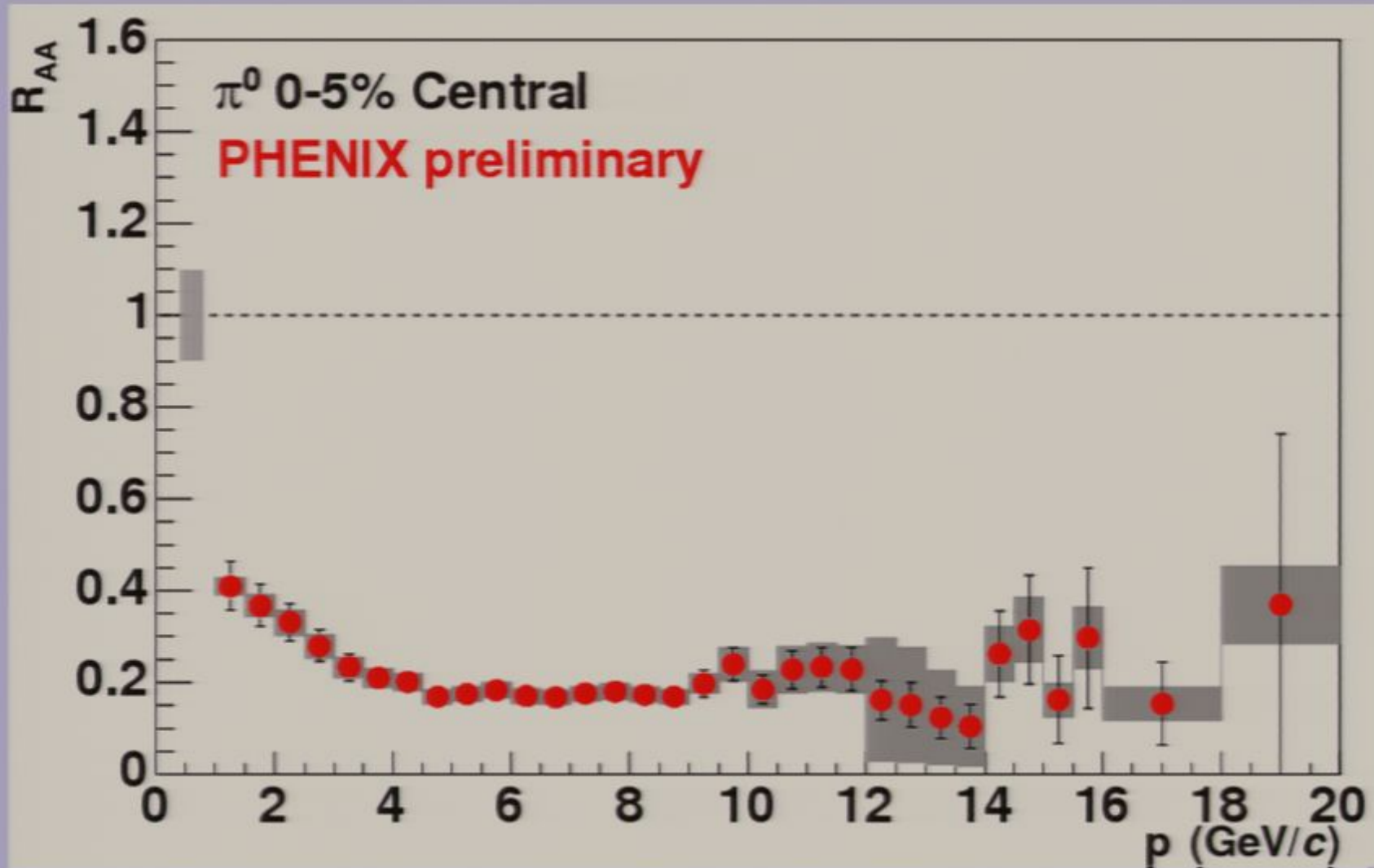
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



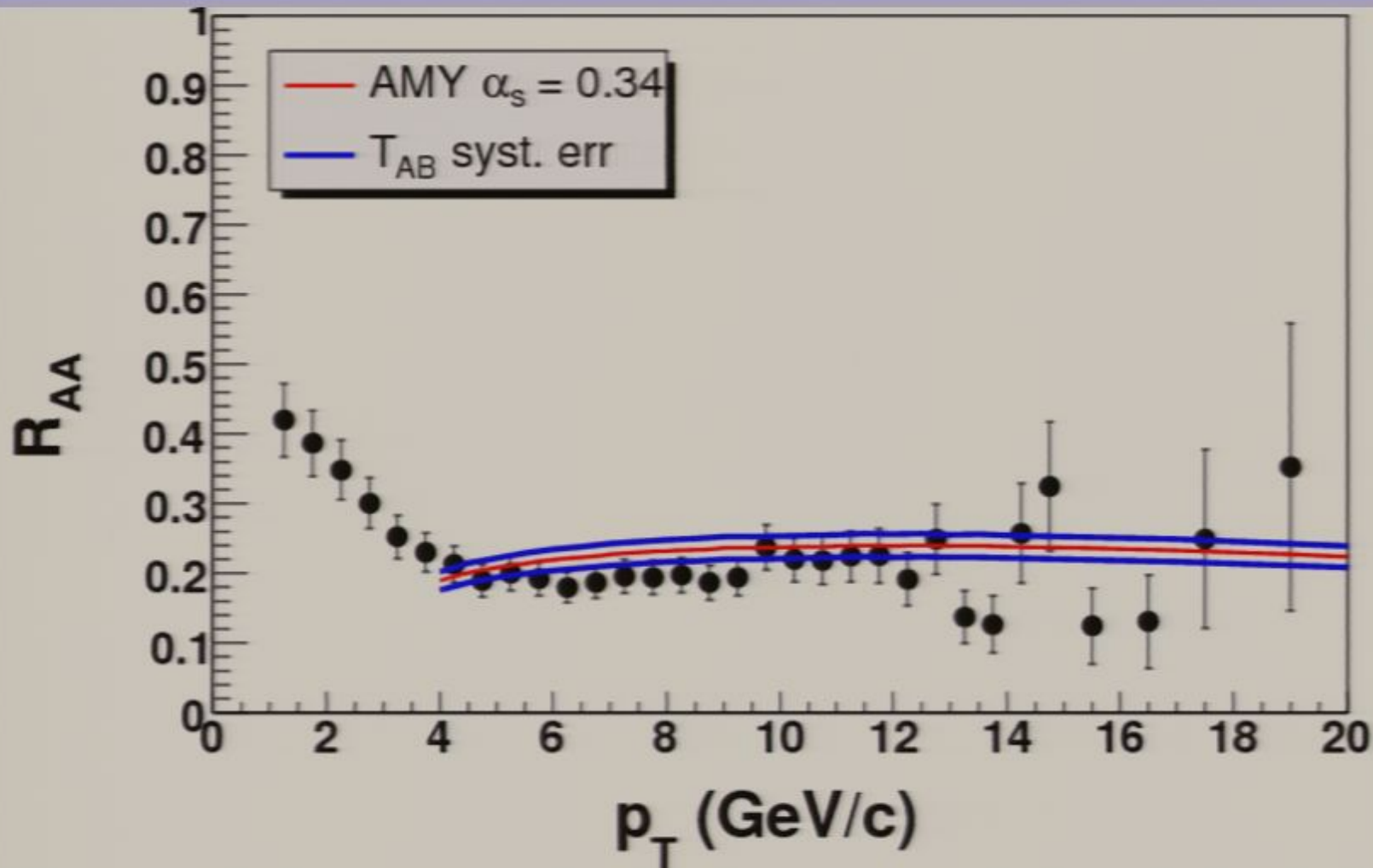
PHENIX: Au-Au High- p_T π^0 Suppression



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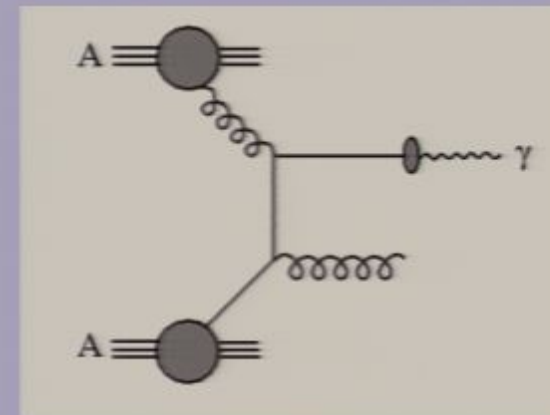
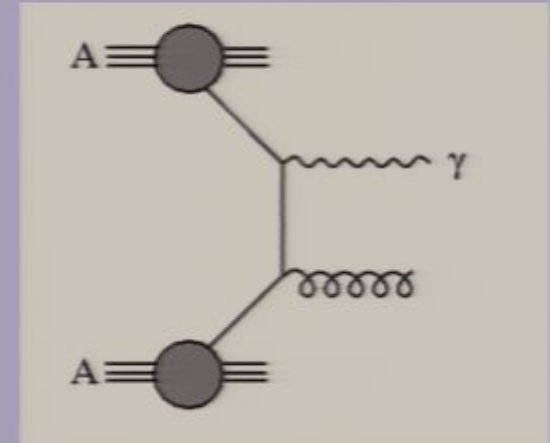
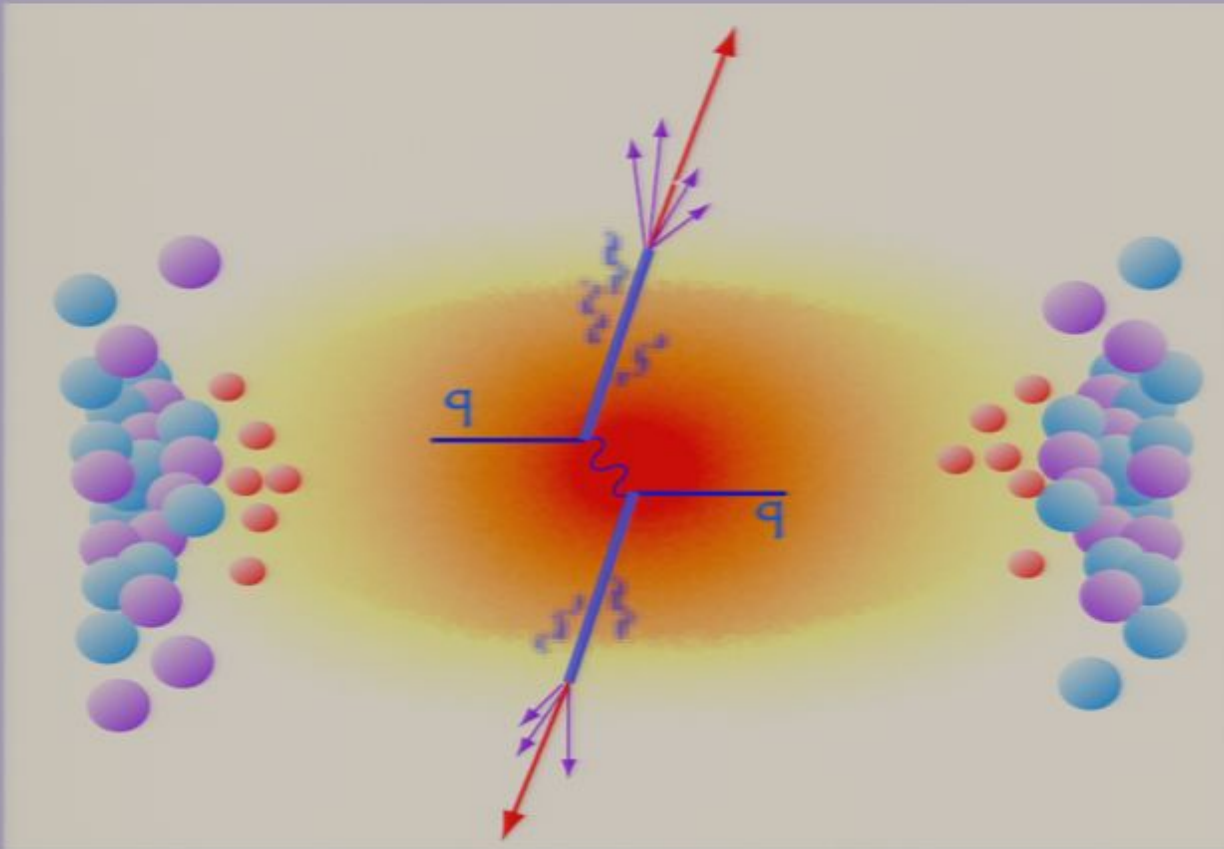


π^0 Suppression: dE/dx Comparisons



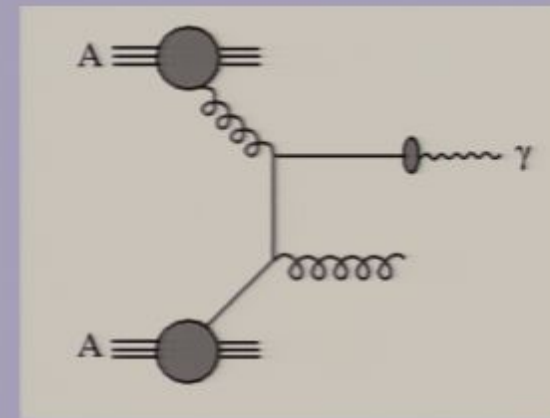
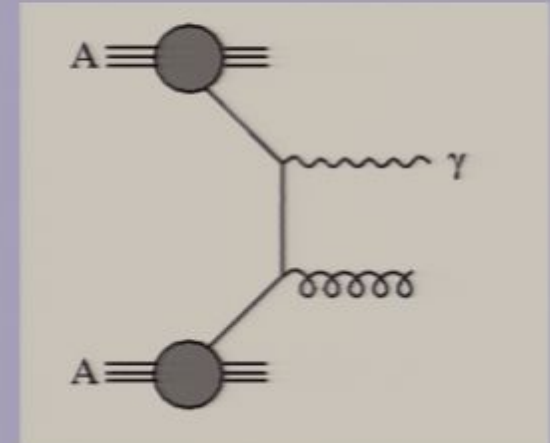
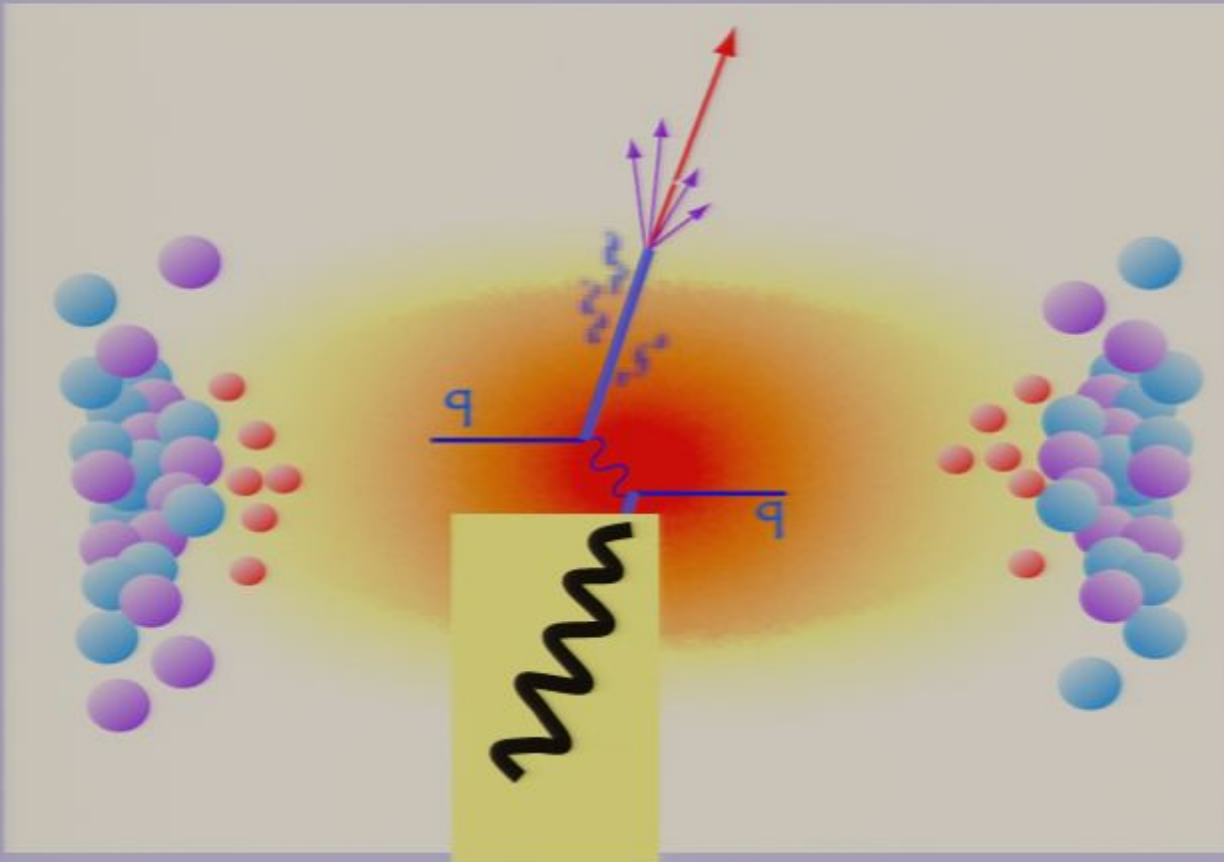
- Quark & gluon dE/dx analysis: *Turbide et al* (McGill)
 - Essentially an *ab initio* calculation
 - Compared to precision (relatively) data

Prompt Photon Production



- Prompt photons provide an independent control measurement for jet quenching.
 - Produced in hard scattering processes
 - **But, no final-state effects (???)**

Prompt Photon Production



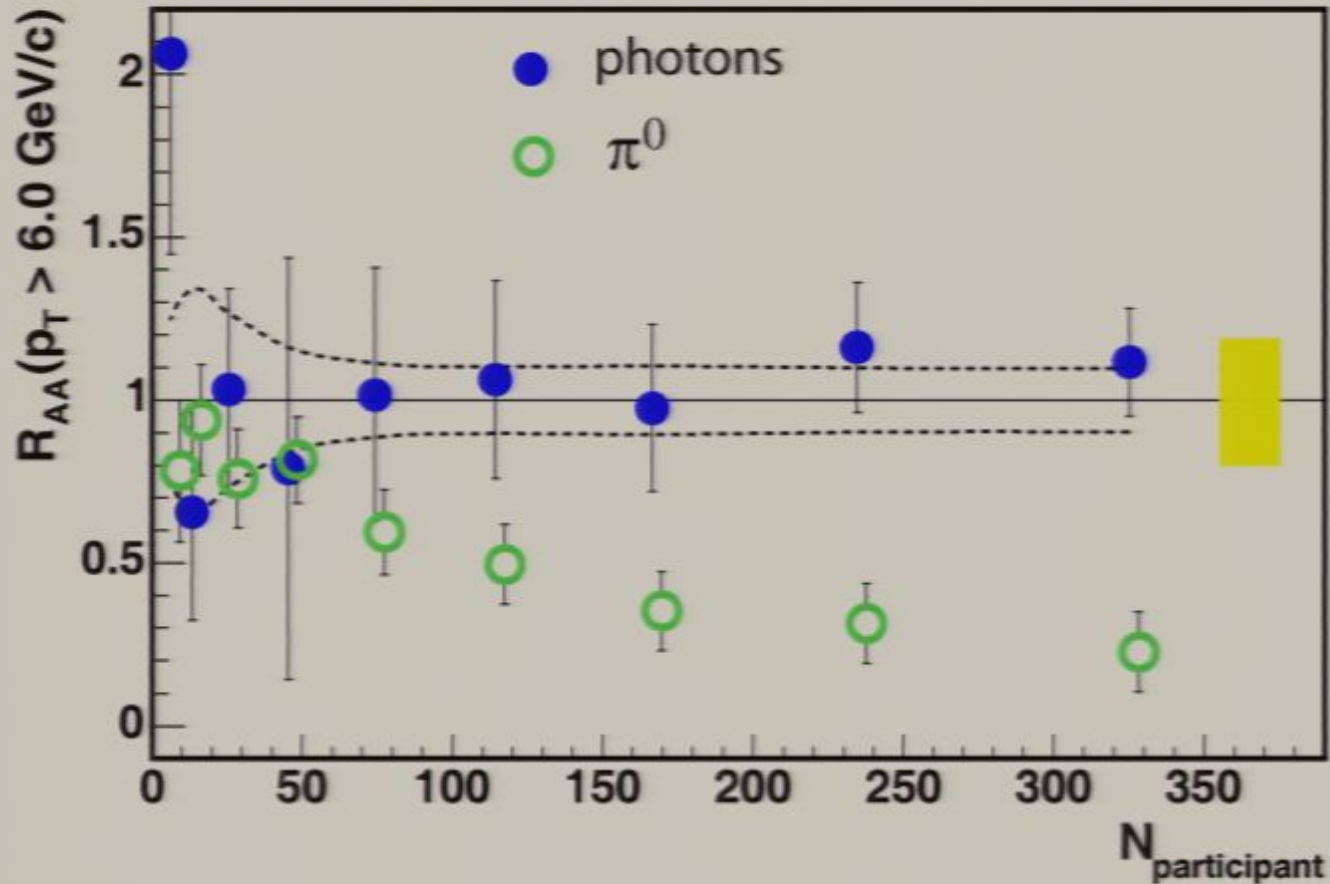
- Prompt photons provide an independent control measurement for jet quenching.
 - Produced in hard scattering processes
 - **But, no final-state effects (???)**

Au-Au Prompt Photon Production

- Photon control measurement shows no quenching

- pQCD calculations OK, **quenching a final-state effect**

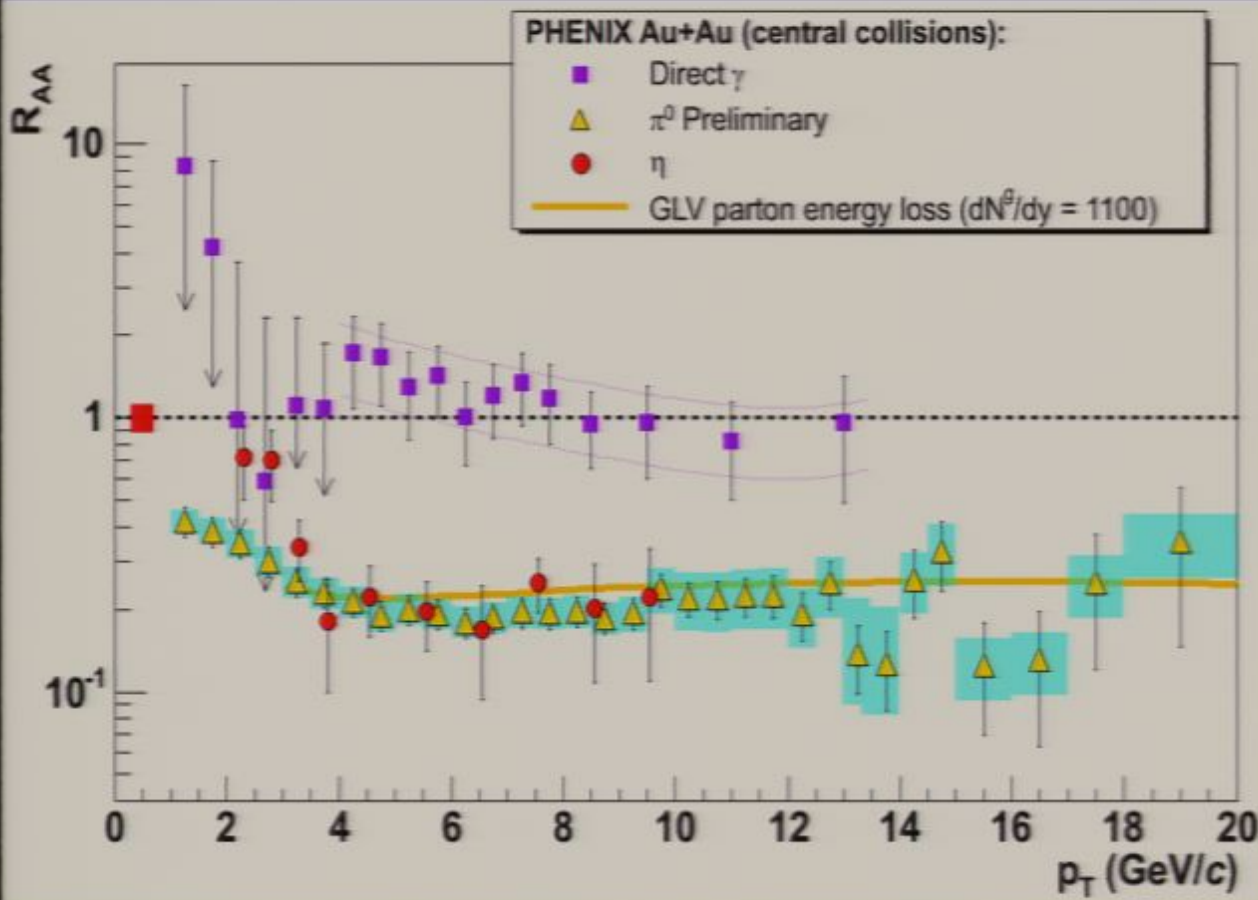
Au-Au Prompt Photon Production



- Photon control measurement shows no quenching

- pQCD calculations OK, **quenching a final-state effect**

High- p_T Single Particle Summary



To explain data:

Unscreened color charge $dn/dy \sim 1000$

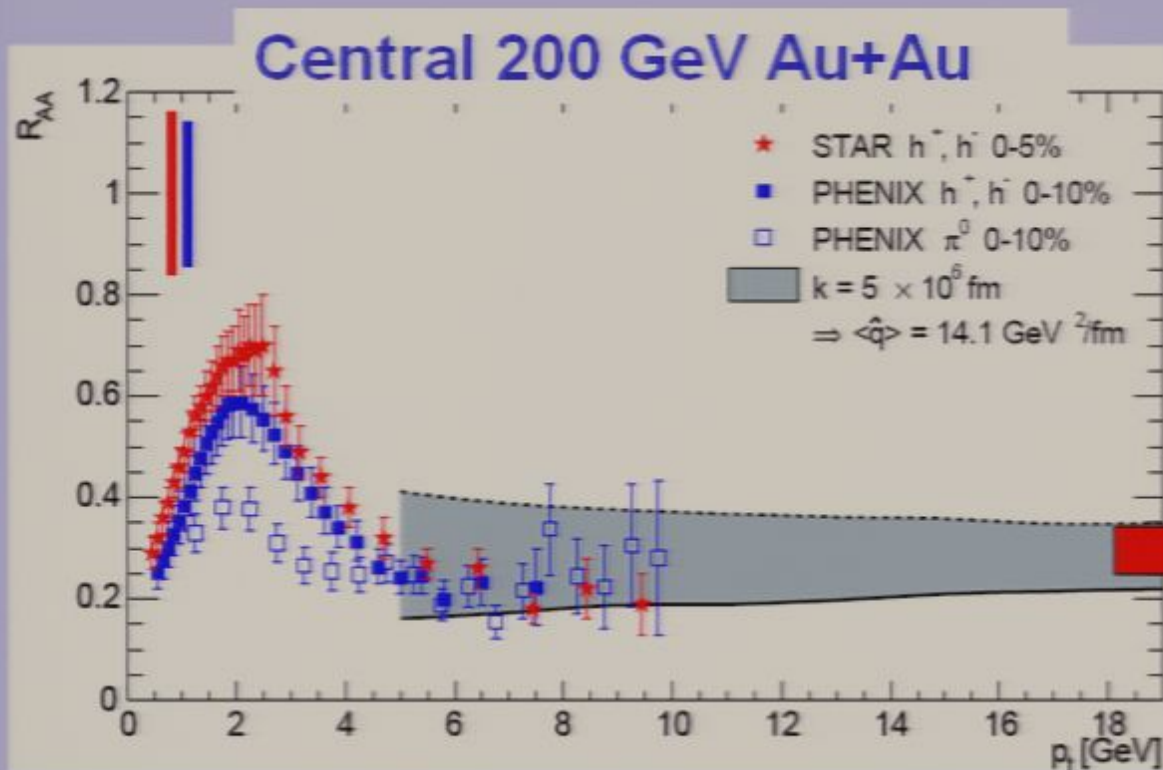
Energy density $\sim 15 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$

$> \times 10$ "critical" energy density

- $\times 5$ violation of factorization up to 20 GeV/c
 - In hadron production (jets), **but not prompt γ**
 - \Rightarrow Hard scatterings occur at expected rates
 - \Rightarrow Suppression **from final-state energy loss**

Analysis of Single Hadron Data: BDMS-Z-SW

- “Thick medium” energy loss calculation



Transport coefficient:

$$\hat{q} = \frac{\langle p_T^2 \rangle}{\text{length}}$$

for radiated gluon

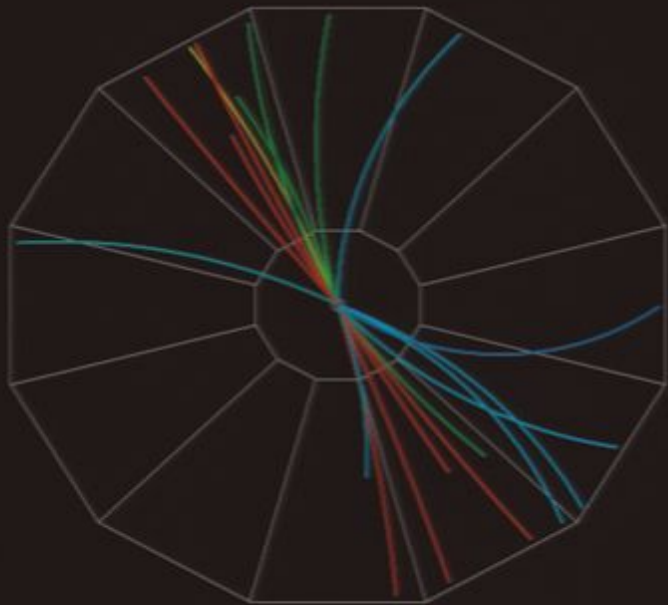
$\hat{q} \sim 14 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$

- Baier [Nucl. Phys. A715, 209 (2003)]: $\hat{q} \approx c \epsilon^{3/4}$
 - $C = 2$ expected for ideal QGP
 - $14 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^2 \Rightarrow c = 8-10!!$

\Rightarrow Strong coupling [Eskola et al, Nucl. Phys. A747, 511 (2005)]

STAR Experiment: “Jet” Observations

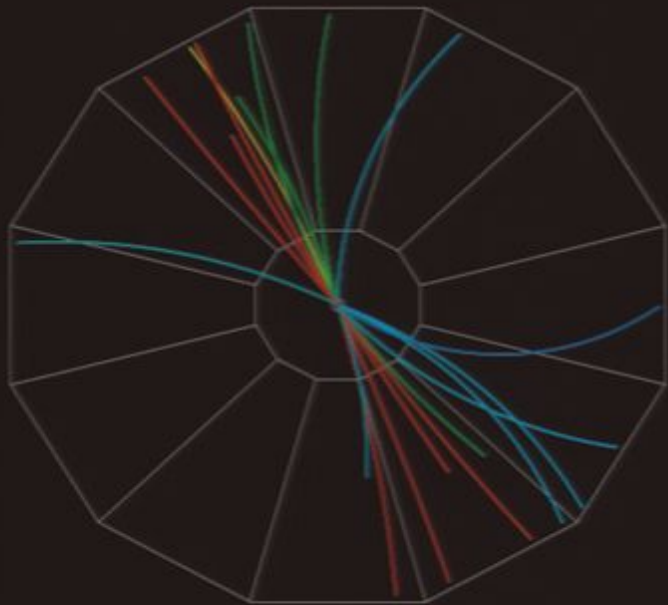
proton-proton jet event



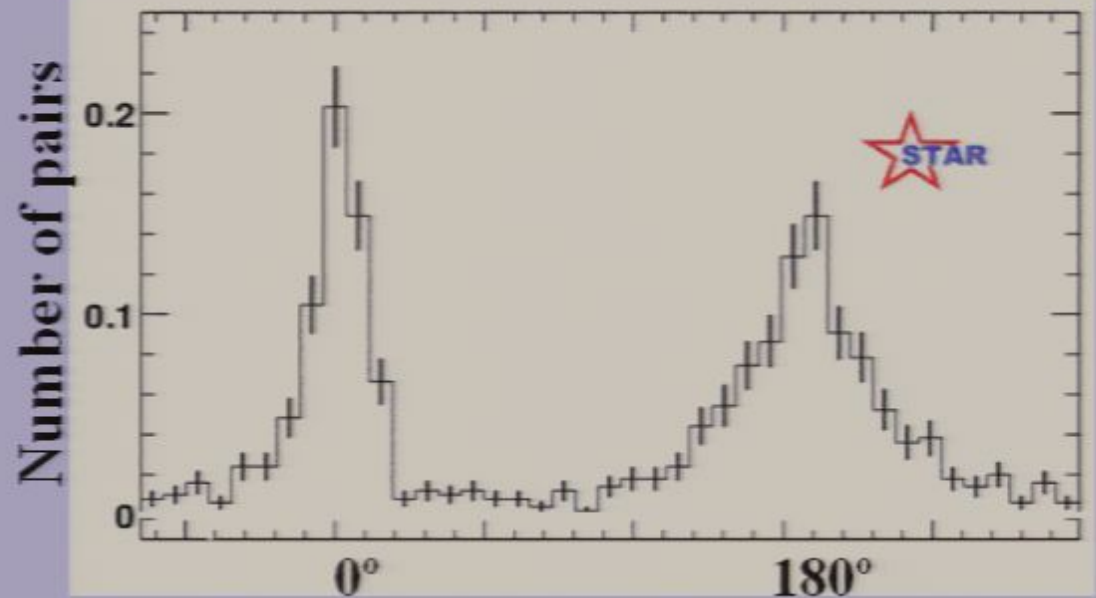
Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles

STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event



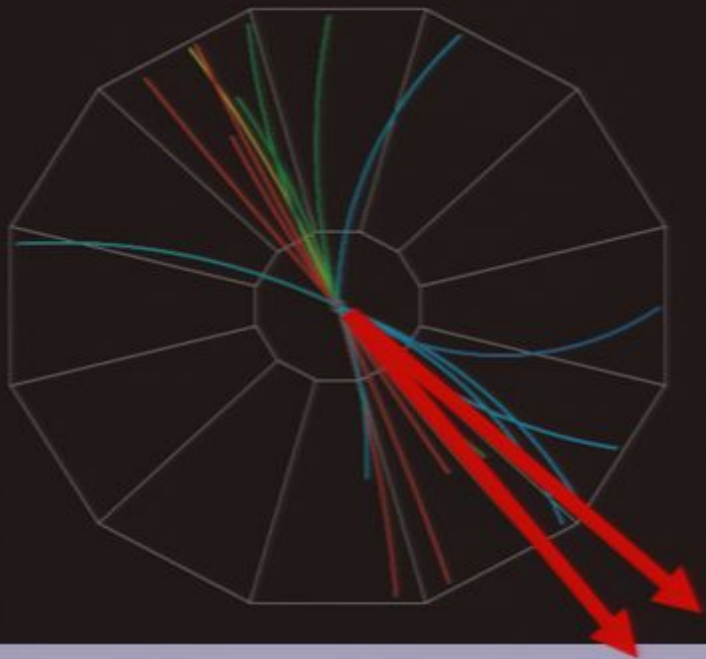
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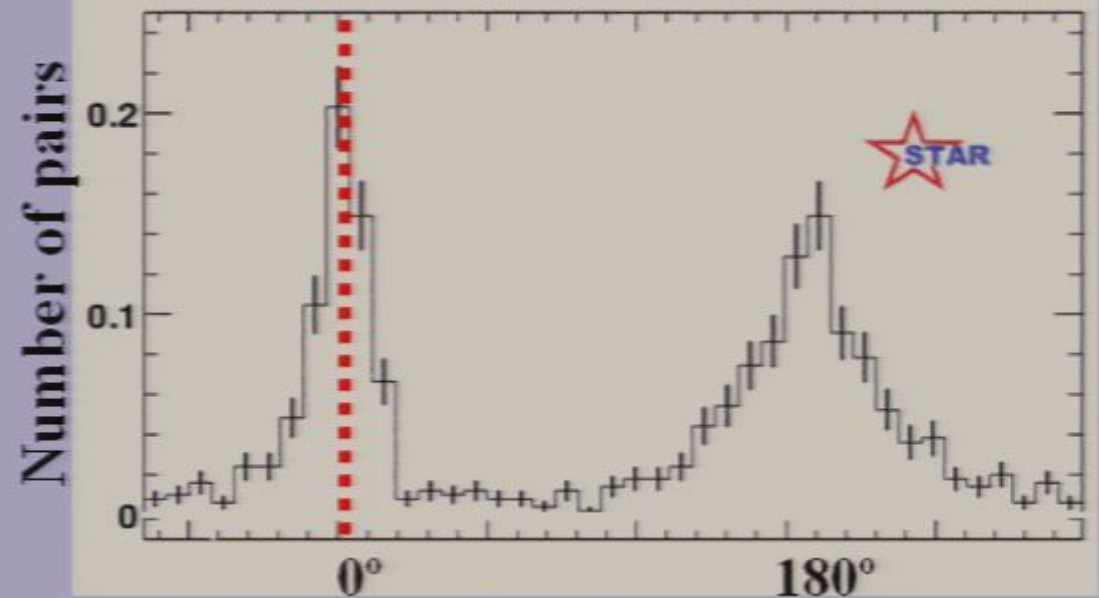
Angle between high energy particles

STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event



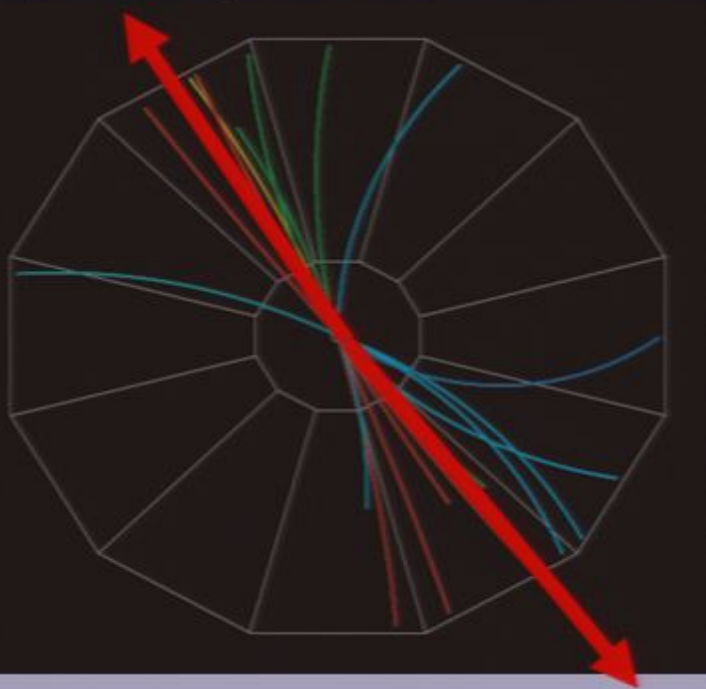
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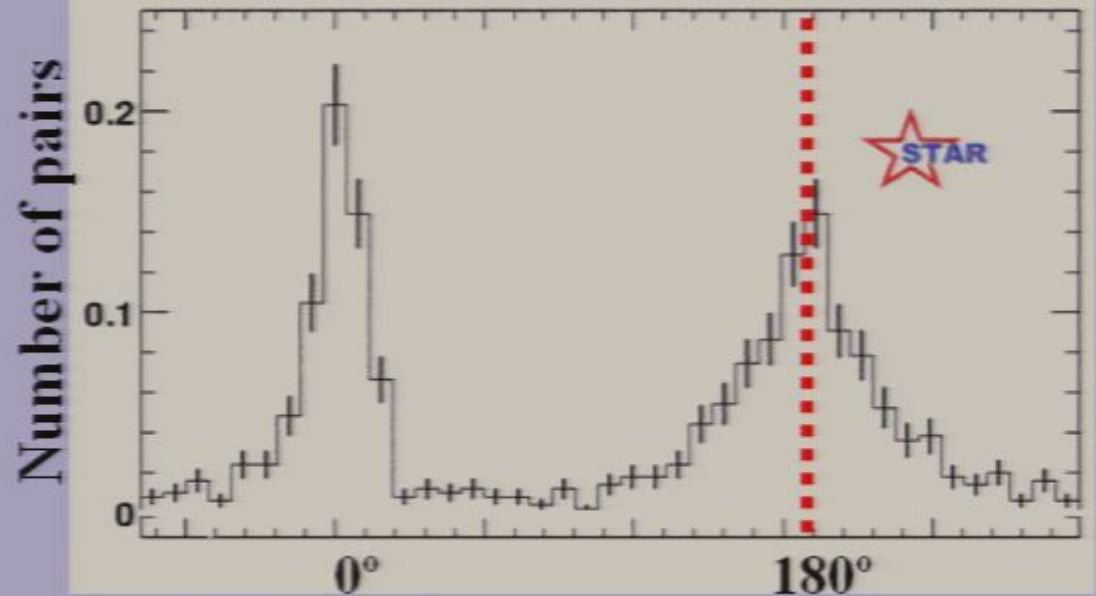
Angle between high energy particles

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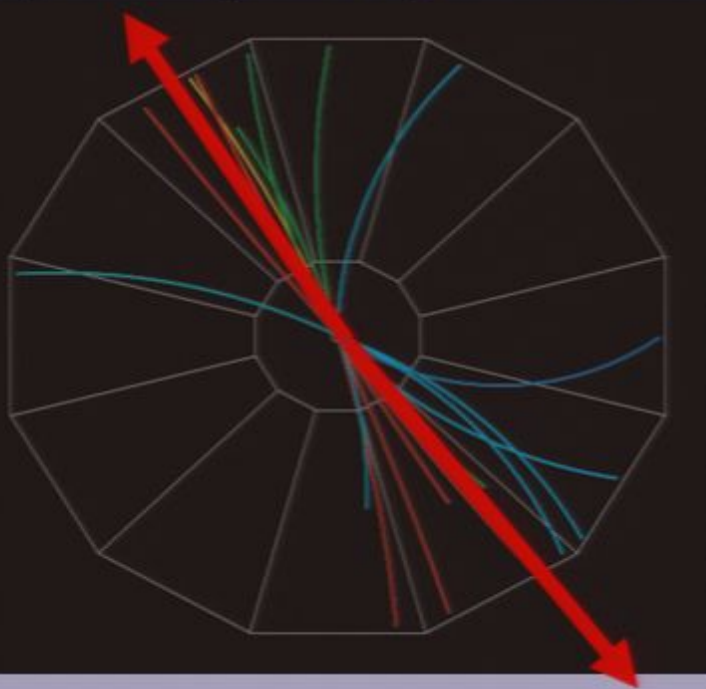
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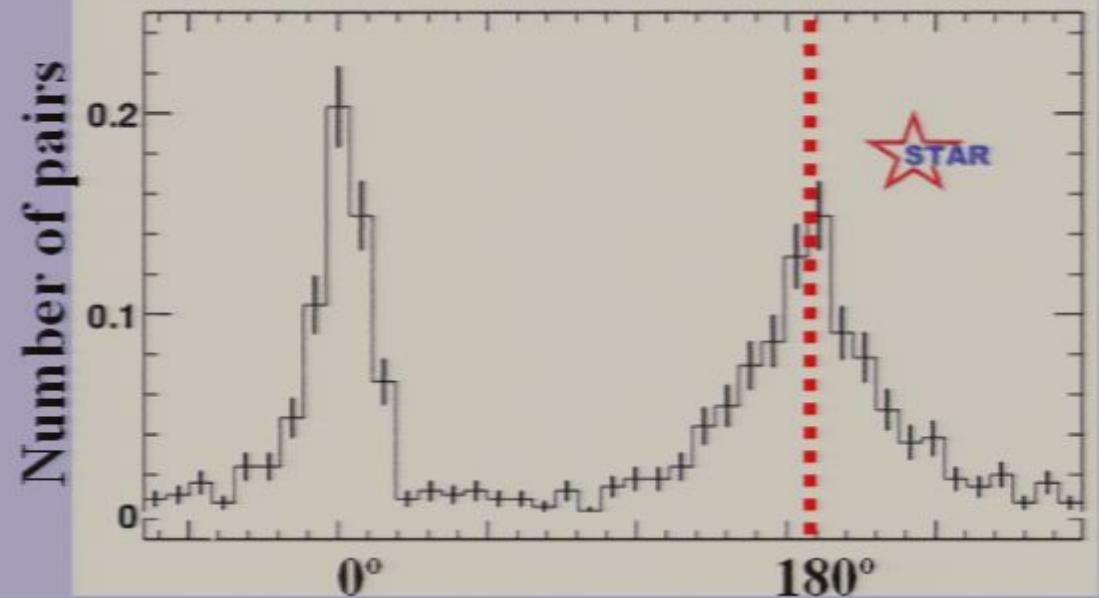
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STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

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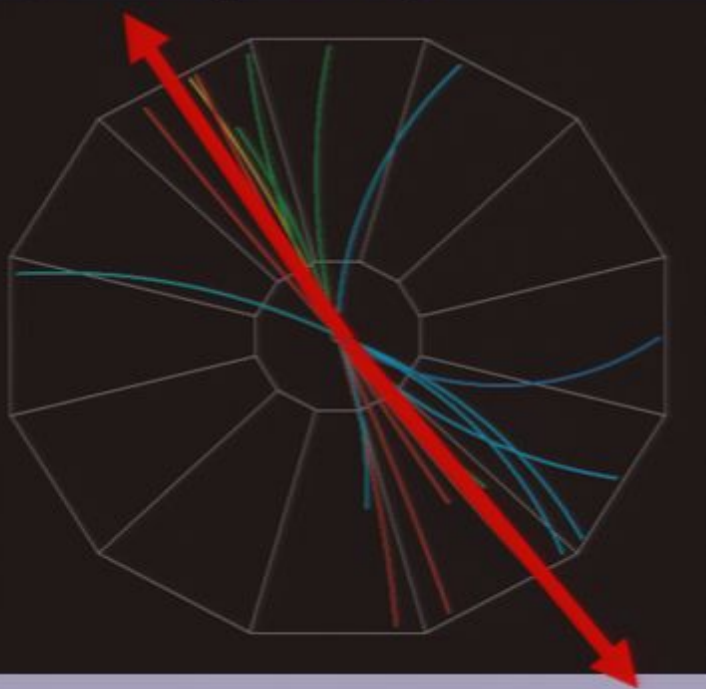
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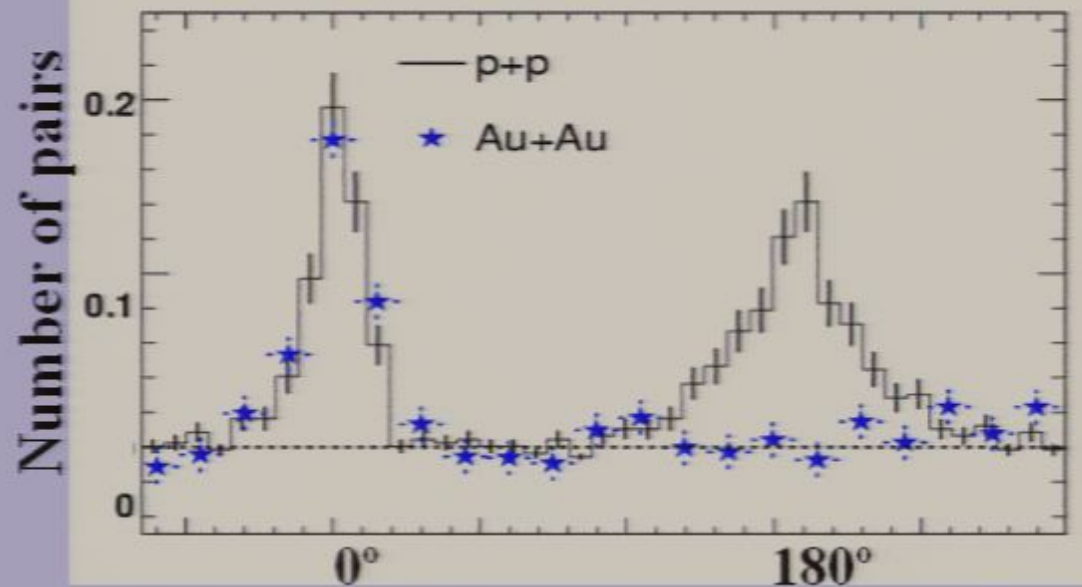
Angle between high energy particles

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proton-proton jet event



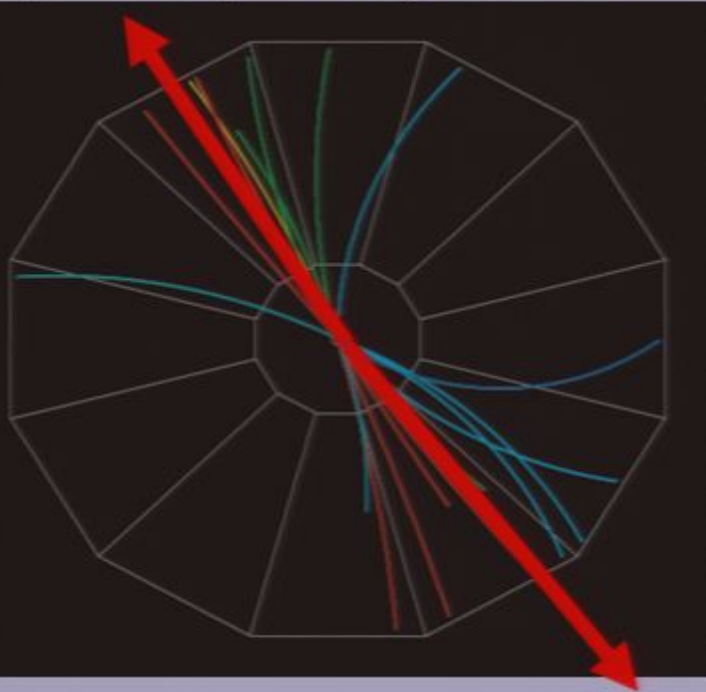
Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



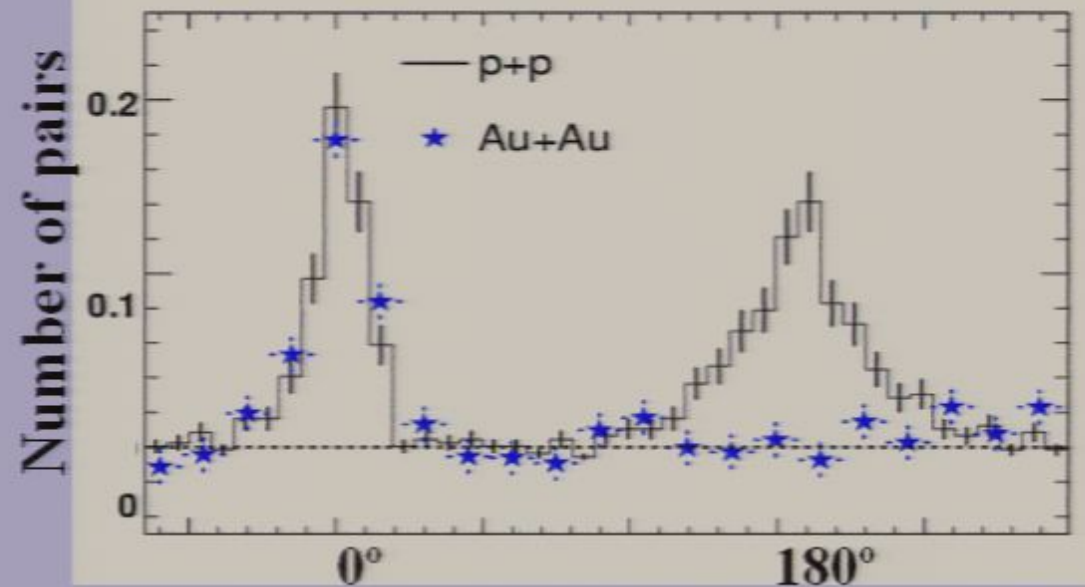
Angle between high energy particles

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Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles

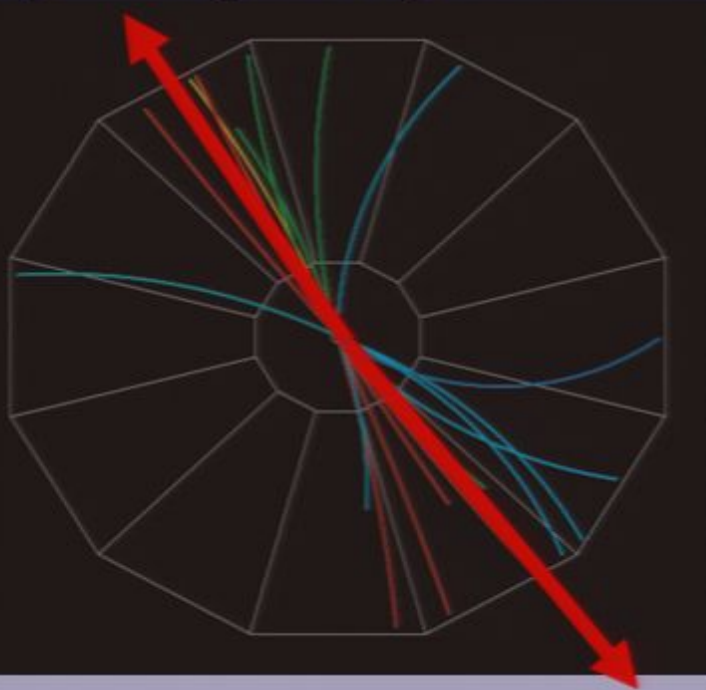


Angle between high energy particles

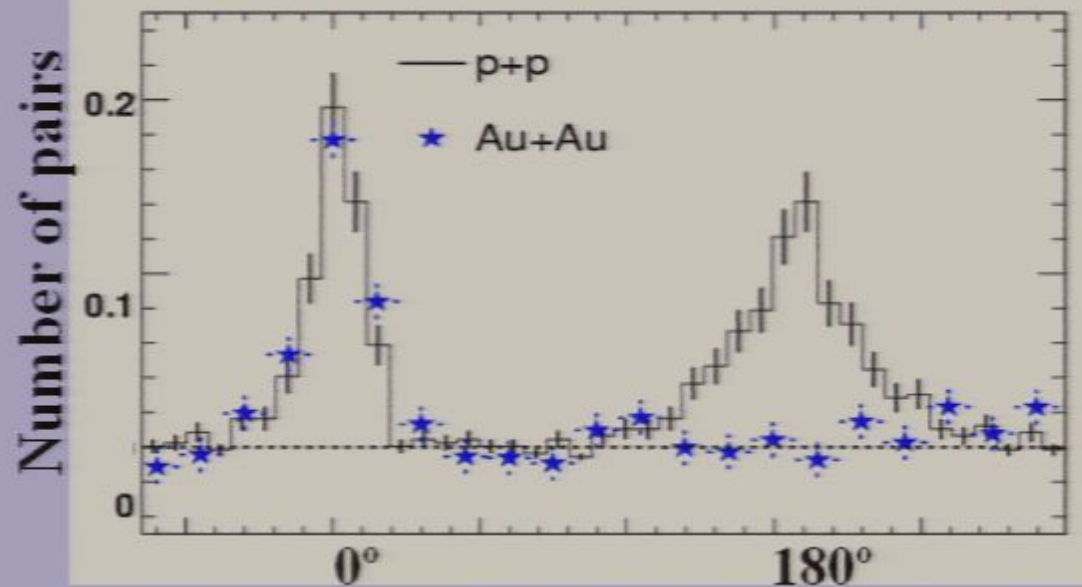
- In Au-Au collisions we see only one “jet” at a time !
- How can this happen ?
- Jet quenching!

STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event

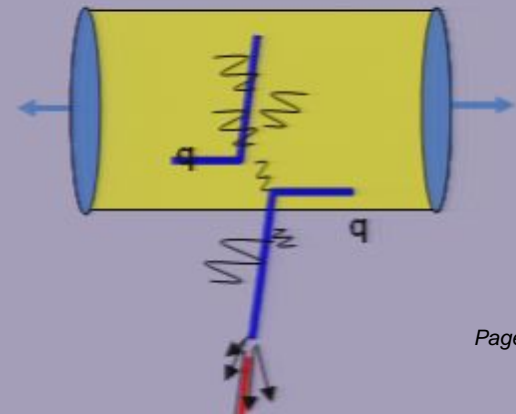


Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



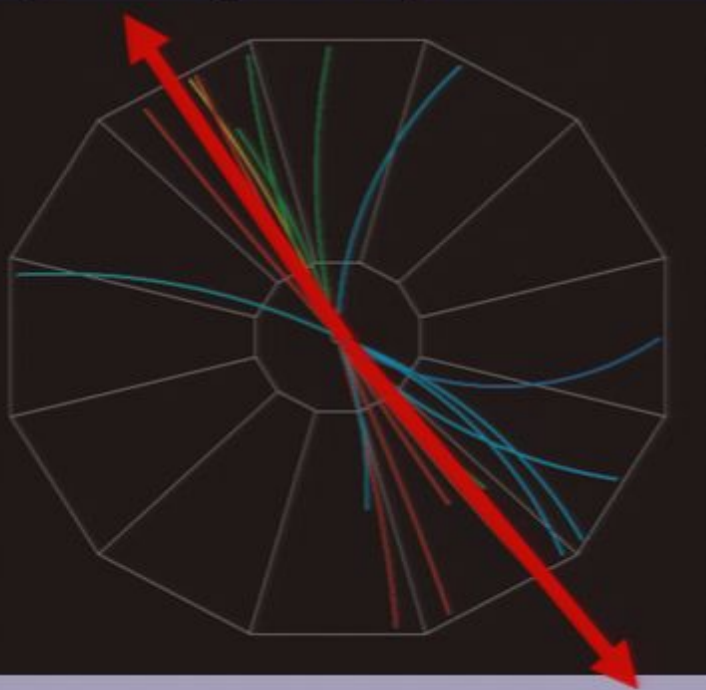
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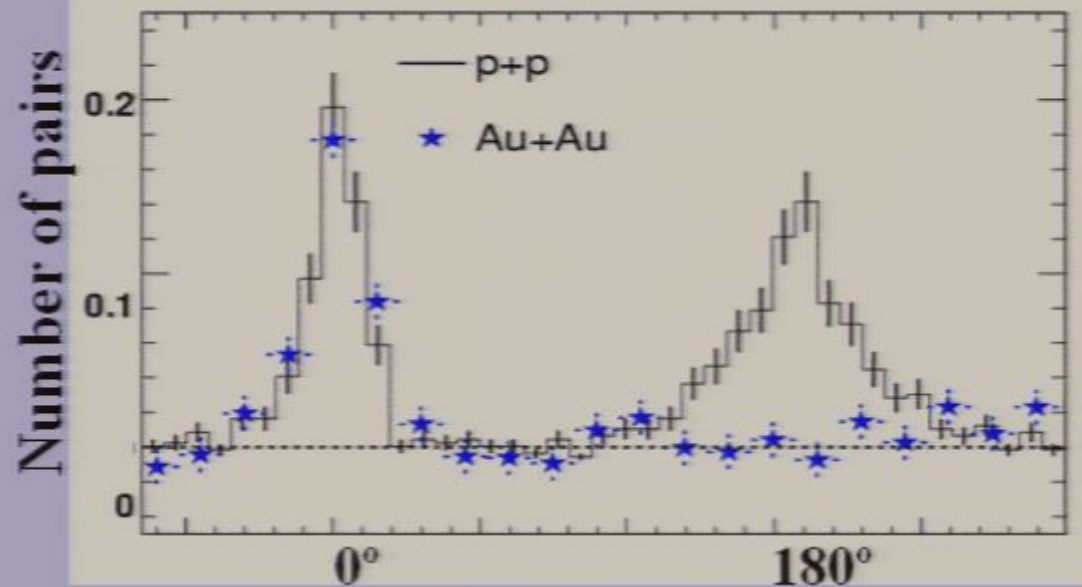


STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event

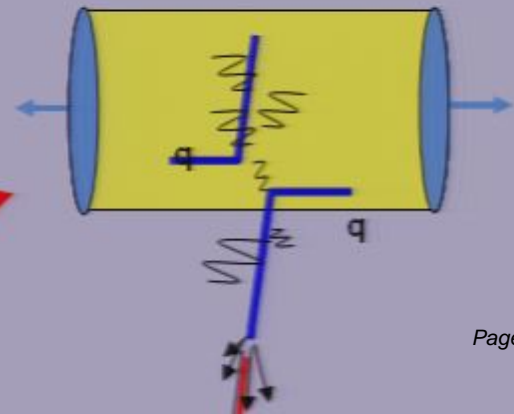


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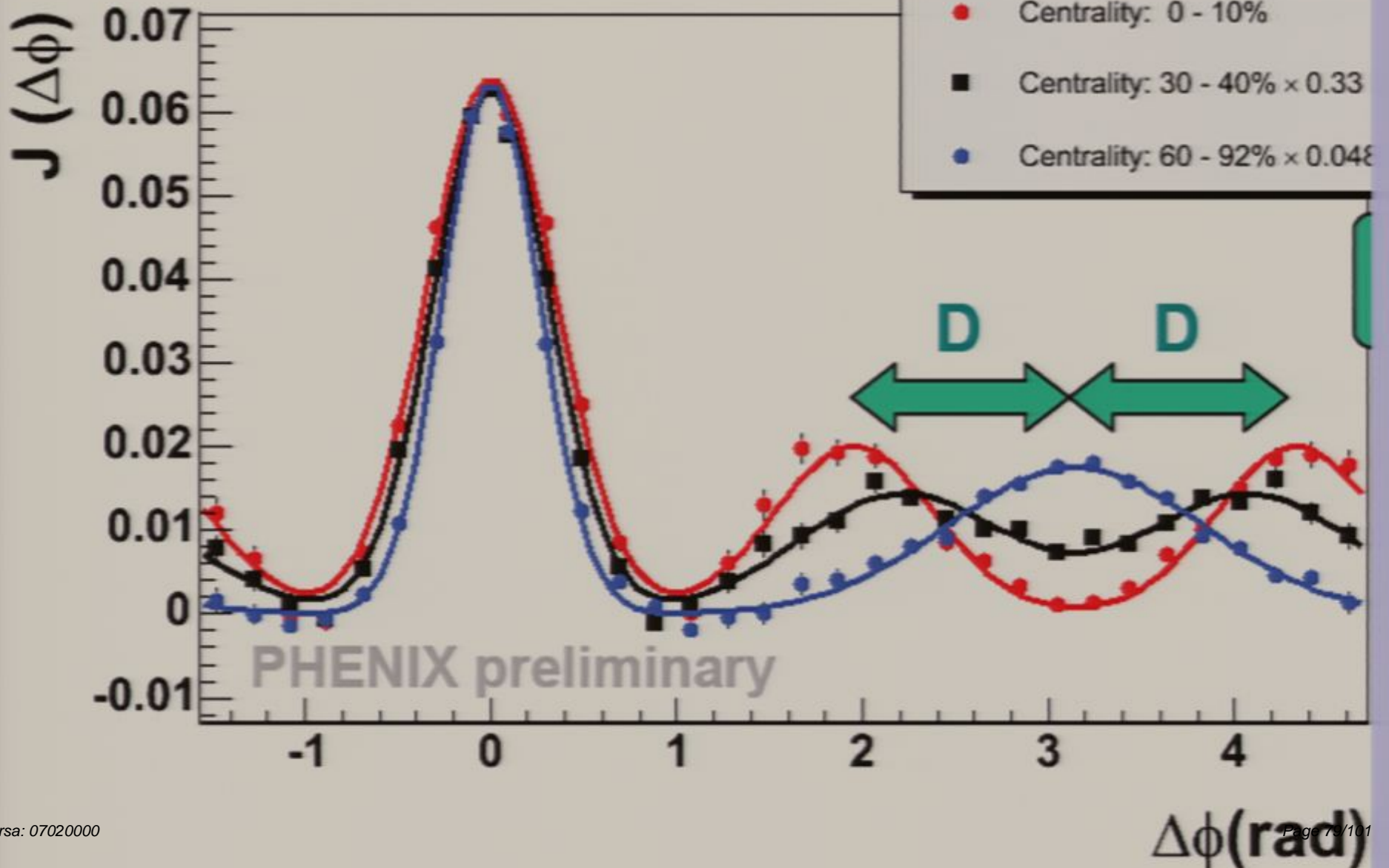
Angle between high energy particles

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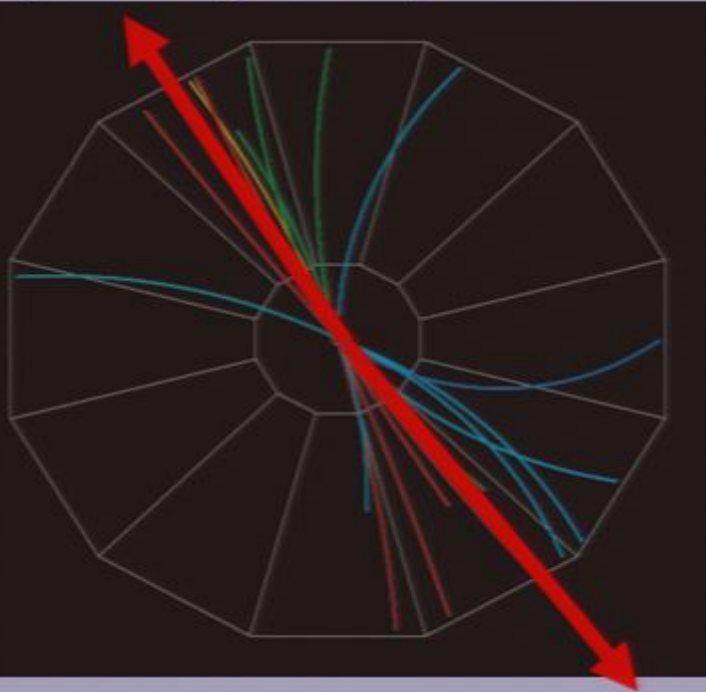
Di-jet Distortion vs “Impact Parameter”

2.5 - 4 GeV/c \times 2 - 3 GeV/c, All Charge

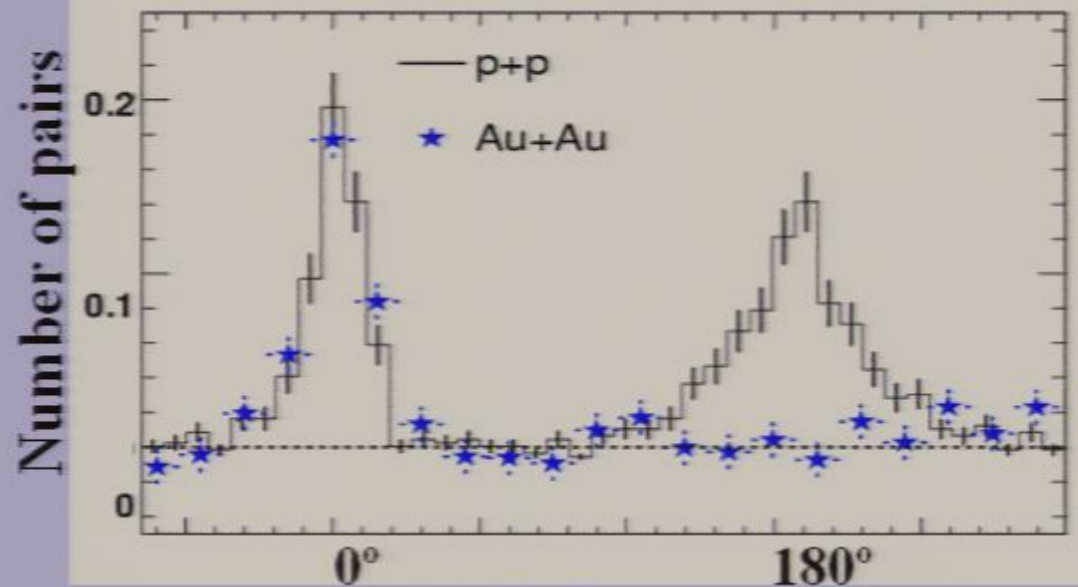


STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event

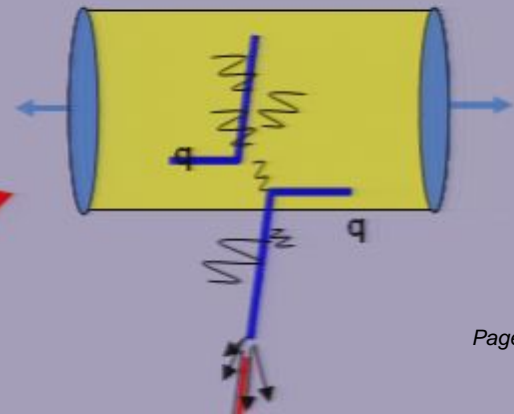


Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



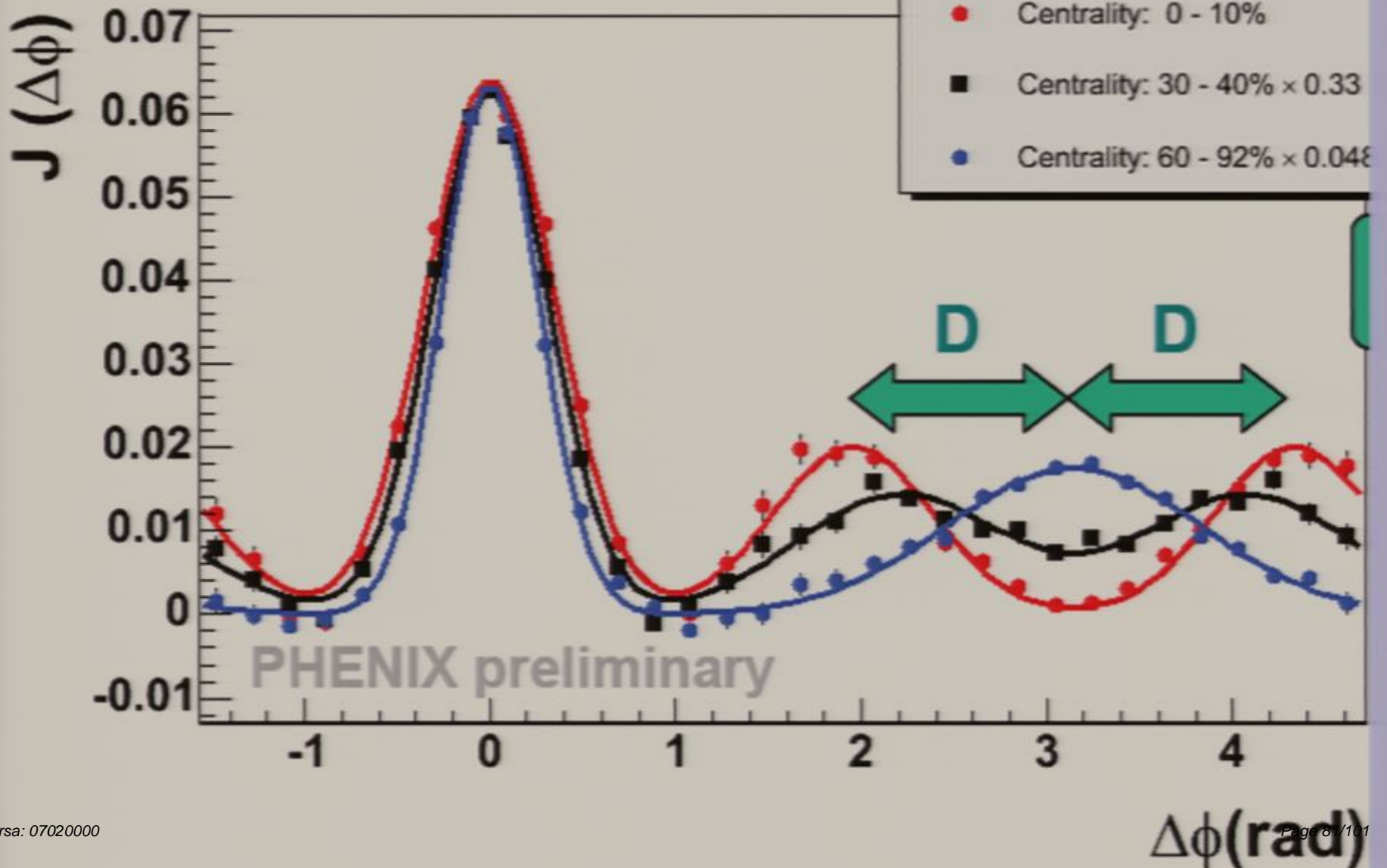
Angle between high energy particles

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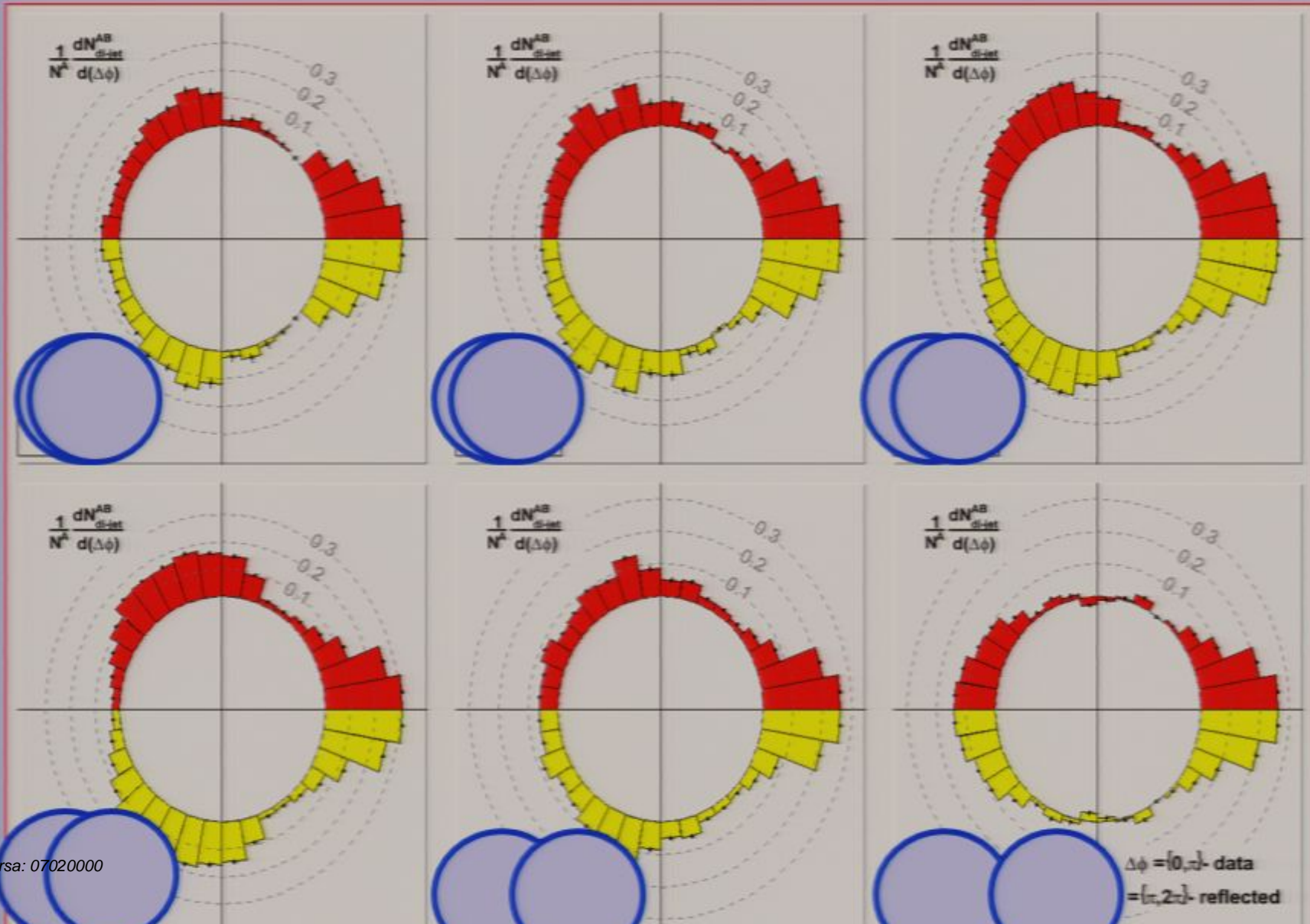
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2.5 - 4 GeV/c \times 2 - 3 GeV/c, All Charge



(di)Jet Angular Correlations (PHENIX)

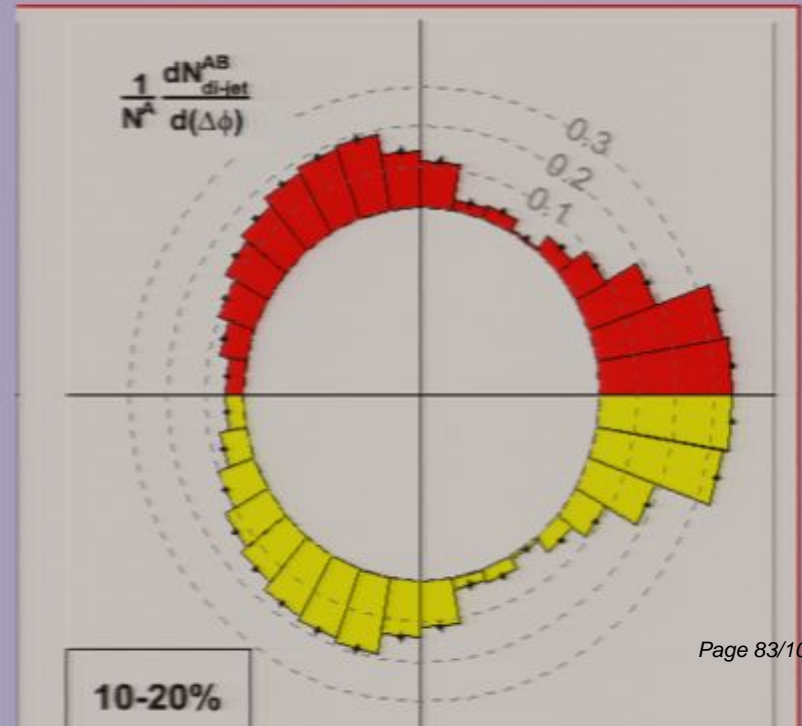
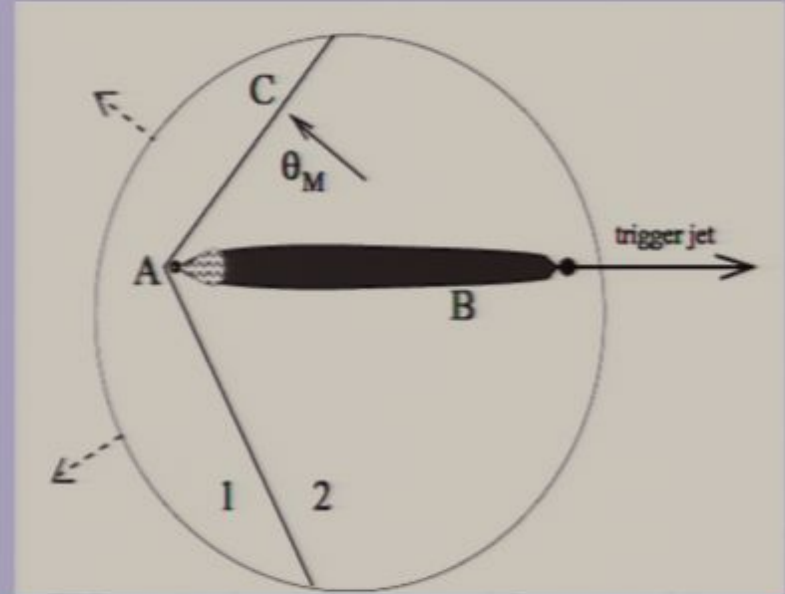
- PHENIX (nucl-ex/0507004): moderate p_T



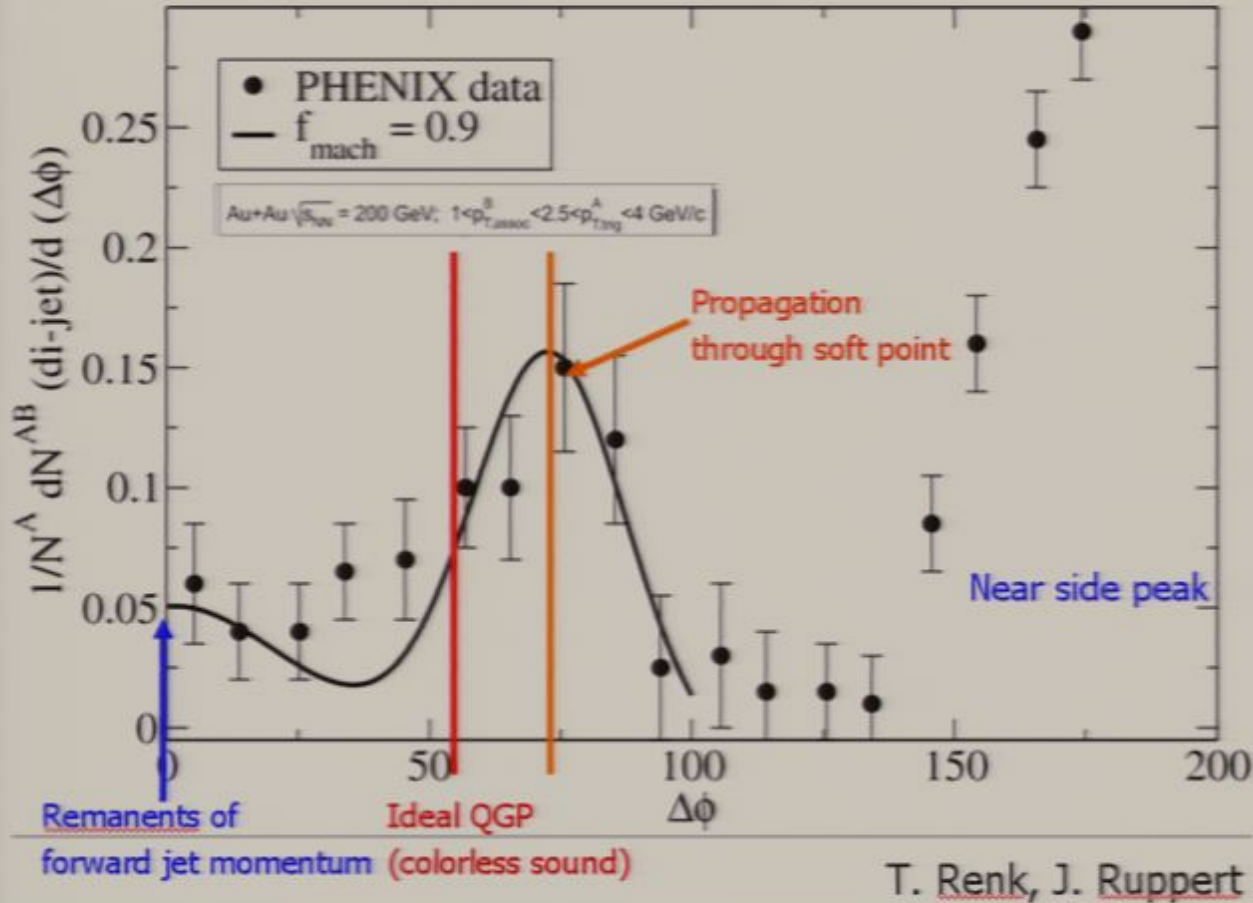
Origin of di-jet Distortion?

Mach cone?

- Jets may travel faster than the speed of sound in the medium.
- While depositing energy via gluon radiation.
- QCD “sonic boom”



Mach Cone (2)



- Ideal QGP, $c_s^2 = 1/3$
- $\cos \theta_M = c_s$
- $\Rightarrow \theta_M = 55^\circ$

- Detailed calculation taking into account evolving speed of (gluon) sound from hydrodynamics.

$$- c_s^2 = \partial p / \partial \varepsilon$$

- But, other possible mechanisms proposed.

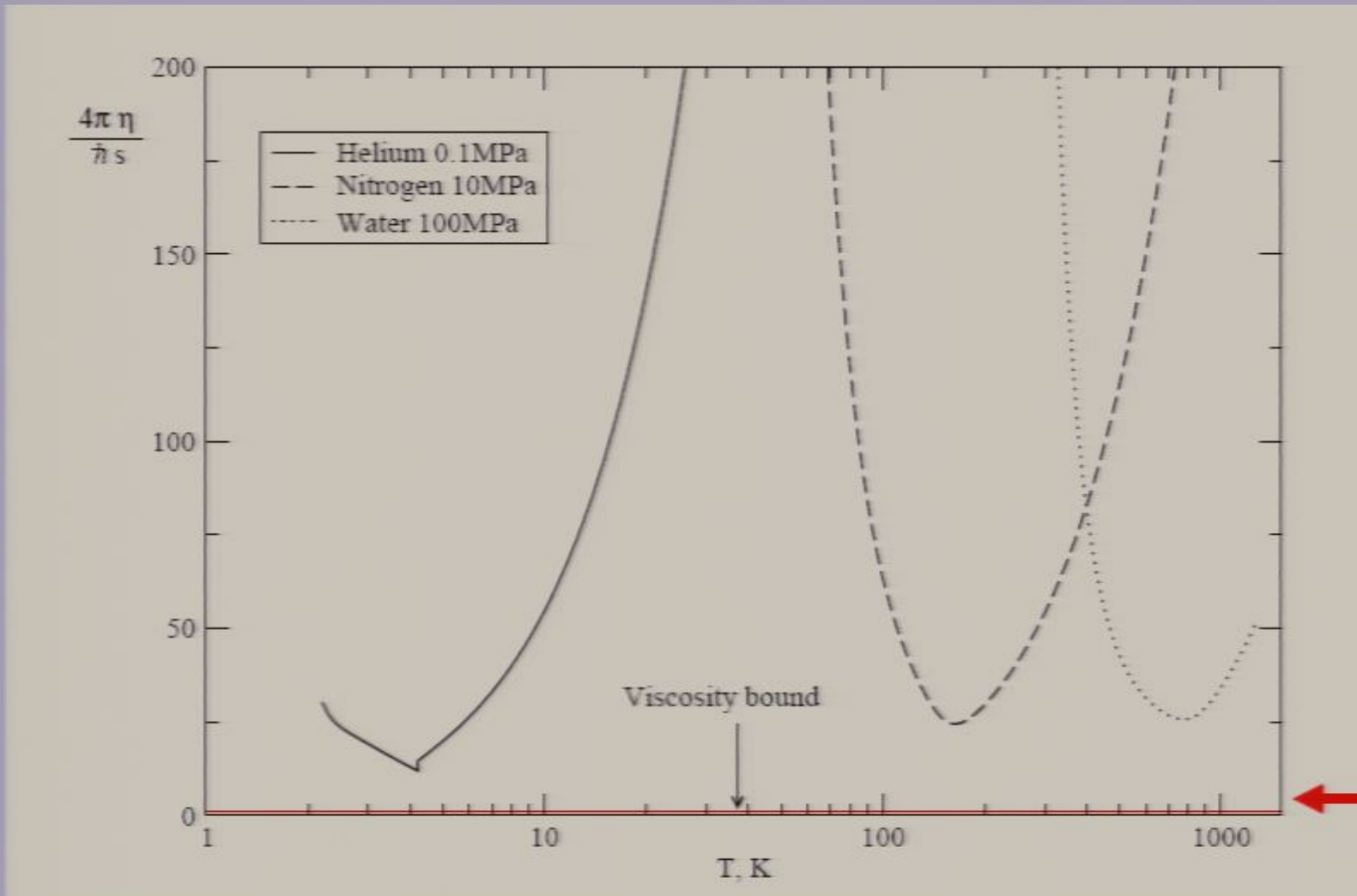
What I Didn't Show You

- Charm quarks also are quenched
 - And show rapid thermalization!
- Large charm quark elliptic flow signal
 - Can only be established at the quark level.
- Large baryon excess for $2 < p_T < 5$ GeV/c
 - Hadron formation by quark recombination
- We see final state particle flavor distributions consistent with “freeze-out” from chemically equilibrated system.
 - We are rapidly approaching stage where QGP is ONLY viable interpretation of data

RHIC Physics

- Since start of RHIC, substantial progress on development of a rigorous foundation for understanding stages of a heavy ion collision:
 - Particle production from strong gluon fields
 - Thermalization (**ideas but not yet understood**)
 - Hydrodynamic evolution
 - Hadronization
- With jets as calibrated probe
 - **But jet quenching is still not completely understood**
- We are probing the properties of the QGP – with surprising results
 - Strong coupling – **why?**
 - Speed of sound?

Comparison to “Typical” Viscosities



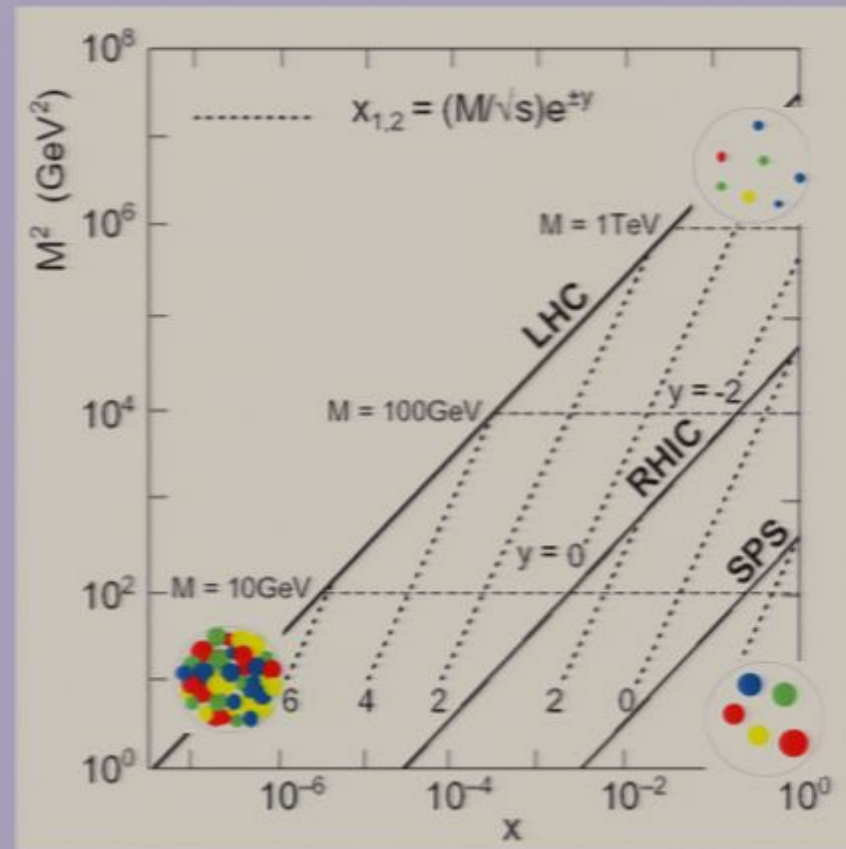
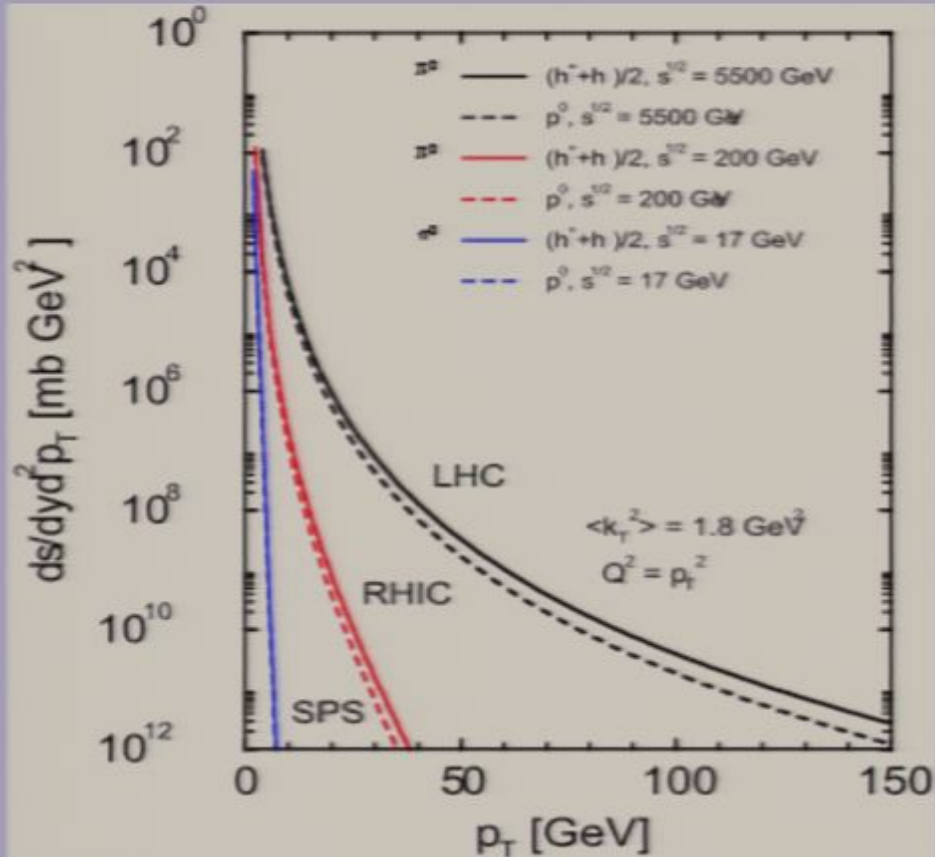
- But what is this “viscosity bound”?
 - Calculation of viscosity using string theory
 - Huh????

AdS/CFT Correspondence

Main idea

- Duality between string theory in anti-DeSitter space and conformal field theories.
 - Weakly coupled string theory \rightarrow strongly coupled CFT
- Example conformal theory:
 - N=4 supersymmetric Yang-Mills
 - Which is not QCD (e.g. no running of α_s)
 - But similar enough??
- AdS/CFT now being applied to many aspects of RHIC physics
 - Viscosity, η/s .
 - Jet quenching
 - “Sound” waves

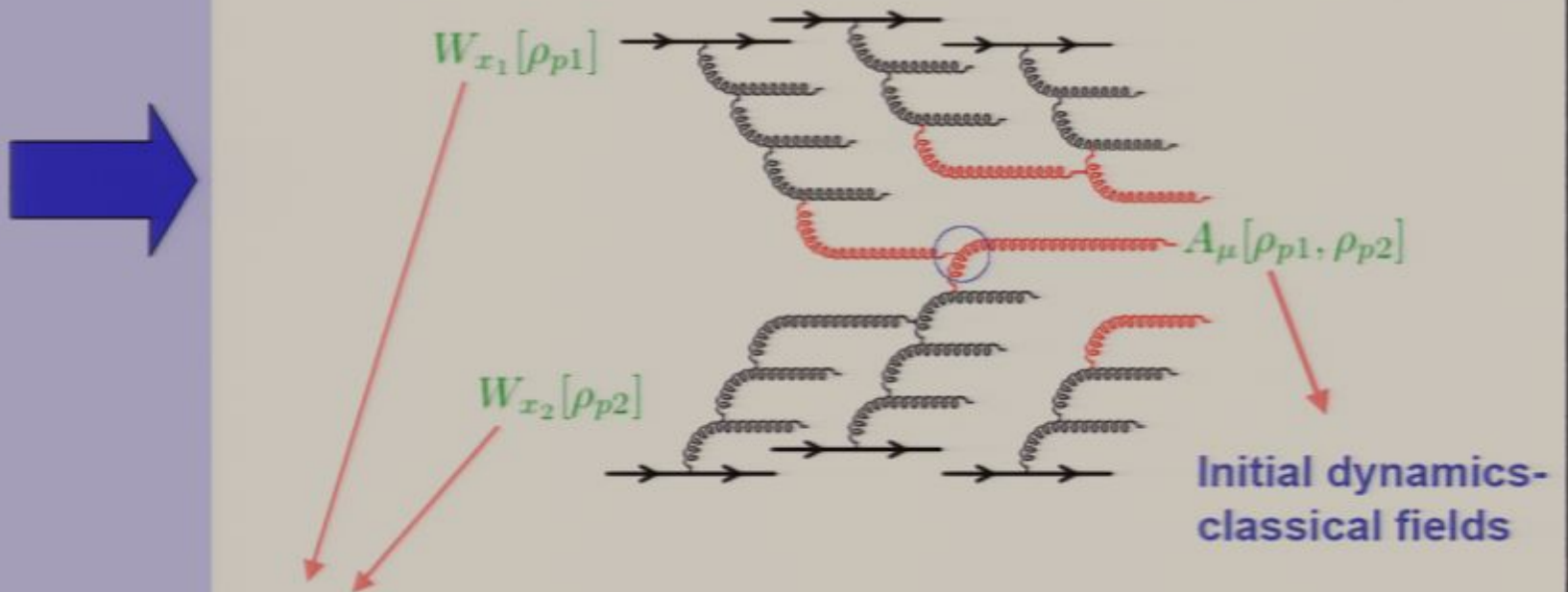
Why Heavy Ions @ LHC?



- **Low x** – Gluon production from saturated initial state
- **Energy density** – $\sim 50 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ (?)
- **Rate** – “copious” jet production above 100 GeV
- **Jets** – Full jet reconstruction
- **Detector** – necessary detector “for free”!

Heavy Ion Initial Conditions: Modern

HADRONIC COLLISIONS: MELTING THE CGC

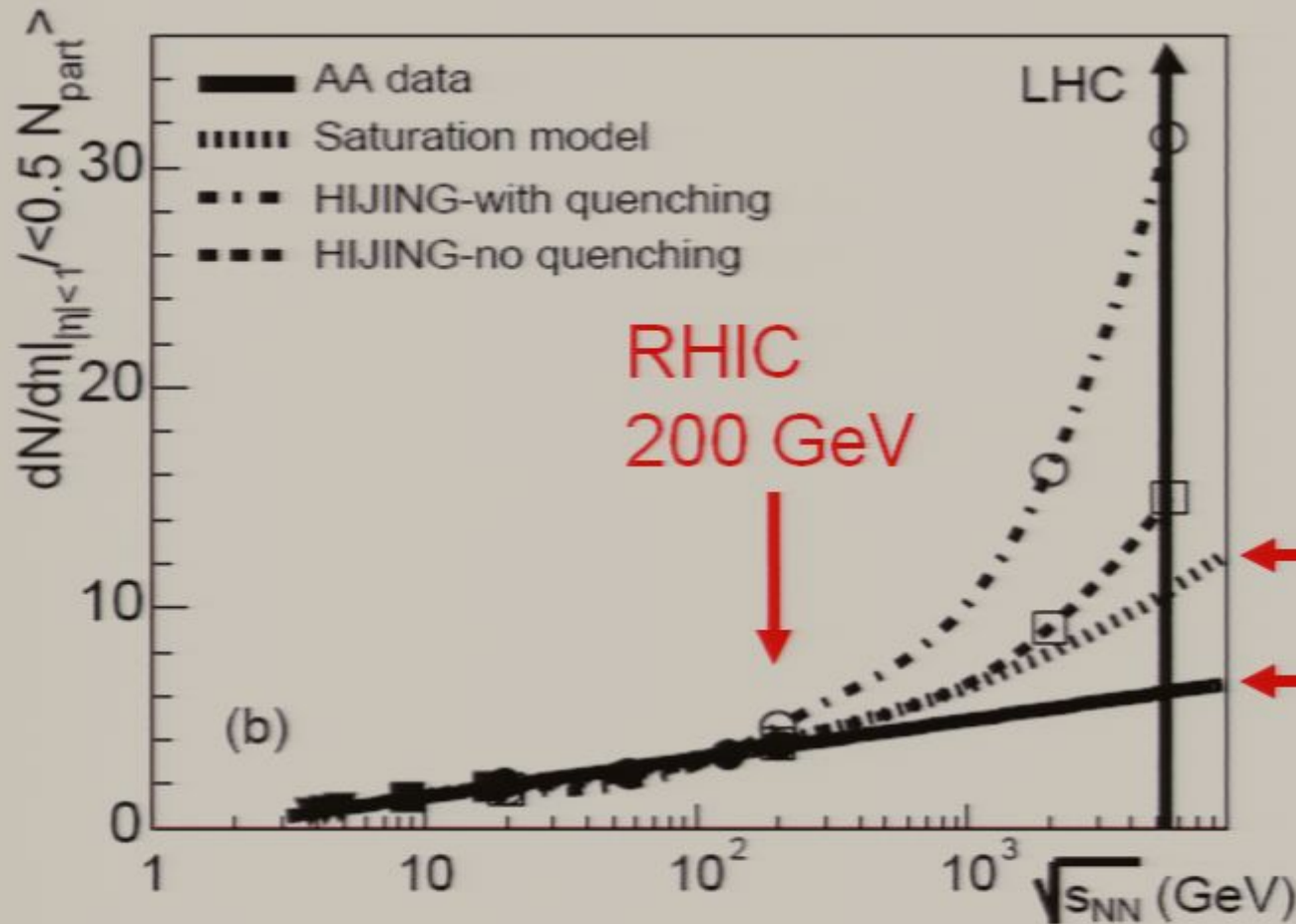


Frozen glassy configurations of wee partons
-evolution with energy described by
RG JIMWLK and BK equations

- At LHC we (think we) will be able to study “classical” gluon fields in nuclei

–And their quantum evolution

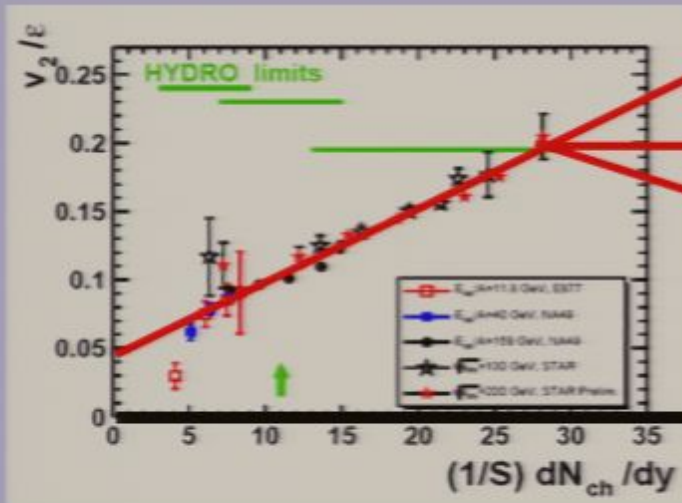
A+A Multiplicity vs Energy



- LHC measurements will provide an essential test of whether we understand the mechanism responsible for bulk particle production.

—e.g. does saturation correctly extrapolate?

Elliptic Flow @ LHC



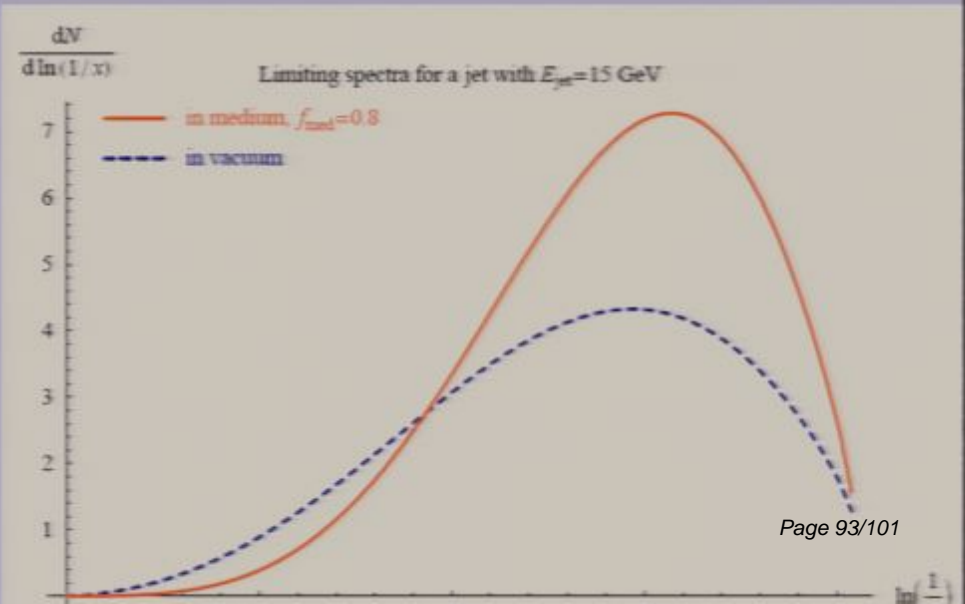
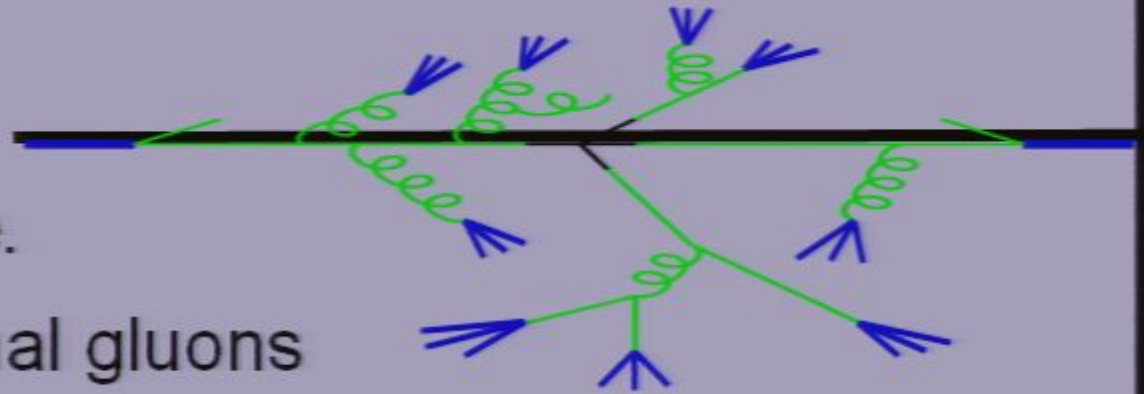
Can change
horizontal scale
by x2 @ LHC

??

- LHC data will provide an essential test of our understanding of elliptic flow data @ RHIC
 - And test whether QGP is still strongly coupled
 - Extremely high priority given the possible relevance of AdS/CFT.

Jets as Color Antennas

- A high-energy quark/gluon acts like a “**color antenna**”
- In vacuum, radiation strongly affected by quantum interference.
- But, in medium thermal gluons “regulate” radiation.
- **Studies of modified jets in heavy ion collisions may shed light on a “fundamental” problem in (particle) physics**



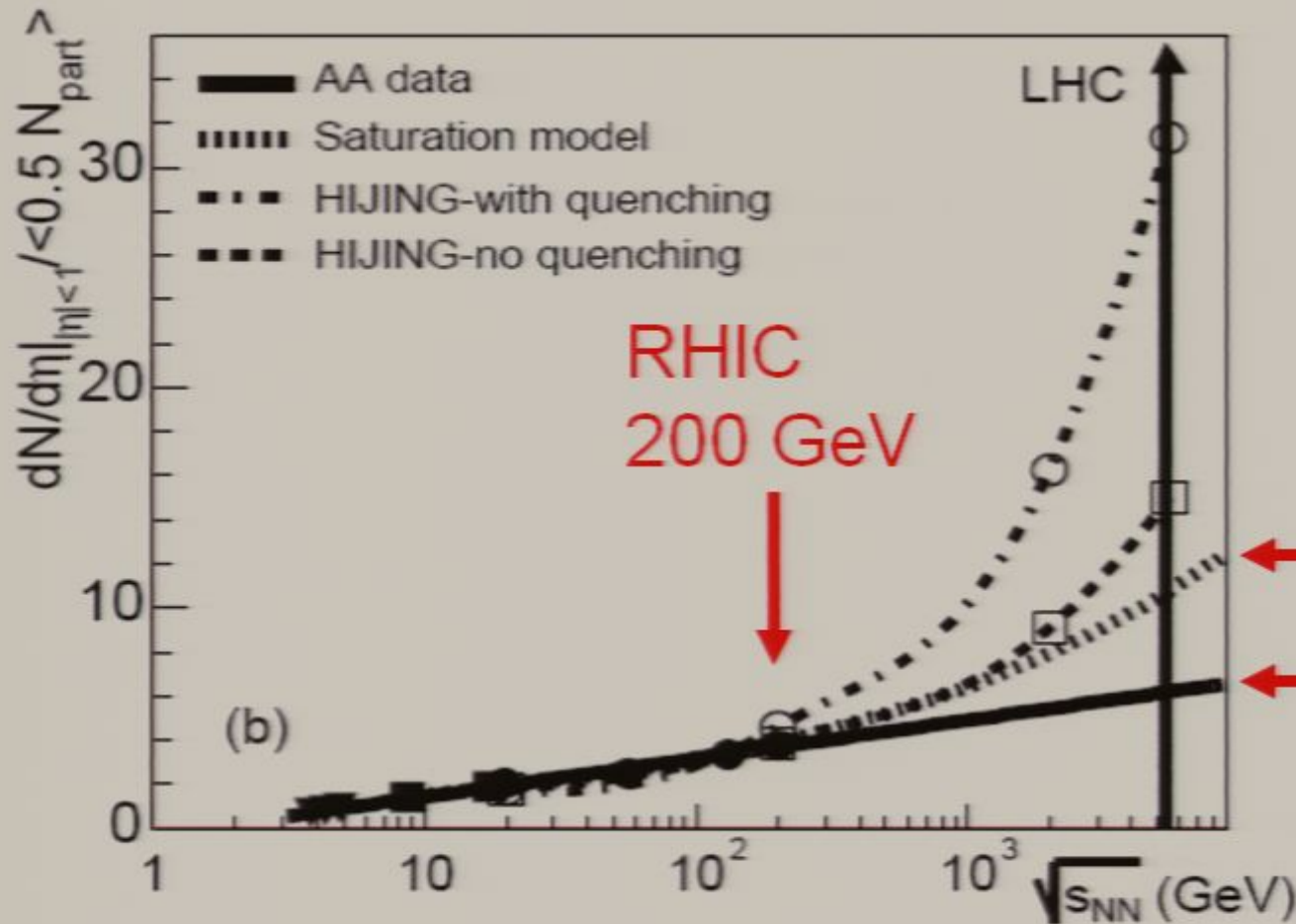
LHC Physics Opportunity

- Create & study quark-gluon plasma at $T = 0.8 \sim \text{GeV}$
- Study particle production from strong gluon fields.
- New program with w/ new discoveries ~ guaranteed
 - If RHIC is any guide ...
- p_T reach, rates, detector capabilities at LHC allow for qualitatively different (better!) measurements.
- Overlap w/ many other sub-fields of physics
 - Particle physics
 - Plasma physics
 - Fluid/hydro dynamics
 - Thermal field theory, lattice & non-lattice
 - String theory (!?) – AdS-CFT correspondence
 - General relativity (gluon production as Unruh radiation?)

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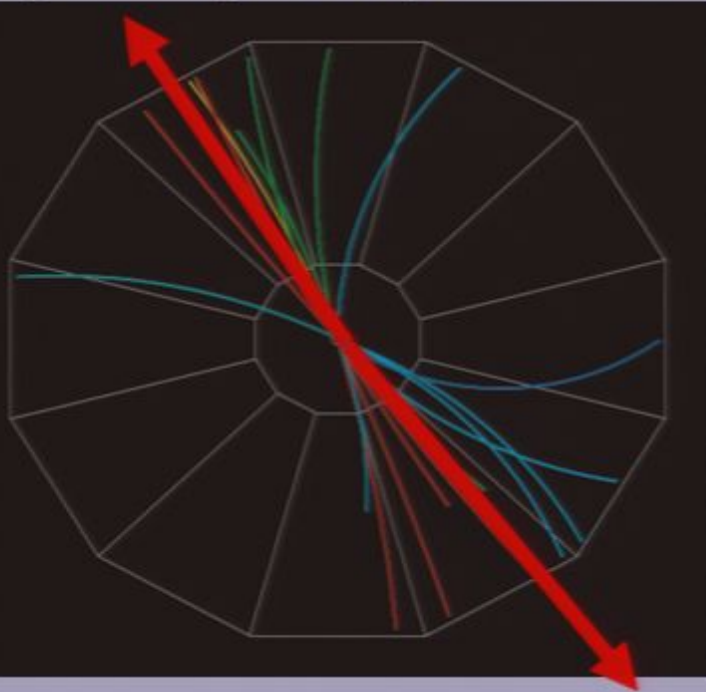


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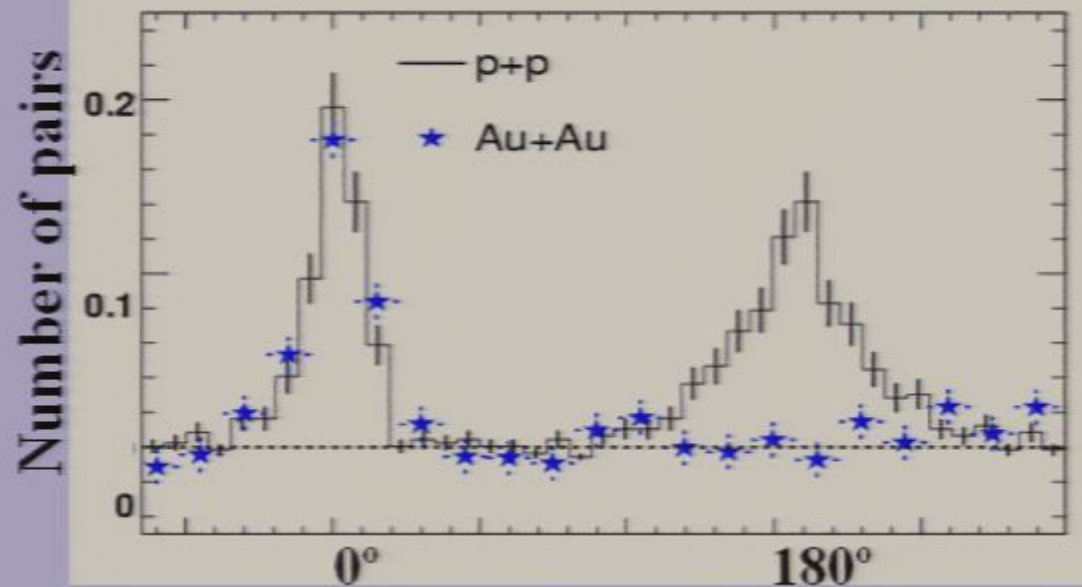
—e.g. does saturation correctly extrapolate?

STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event

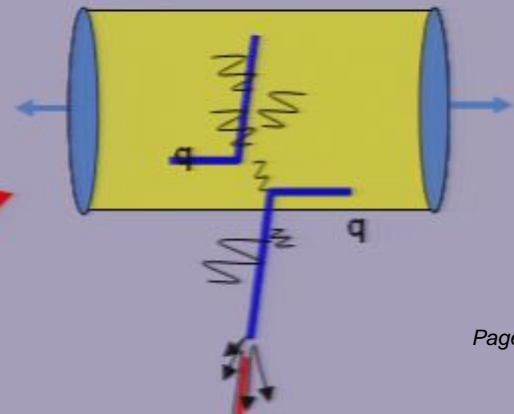


Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



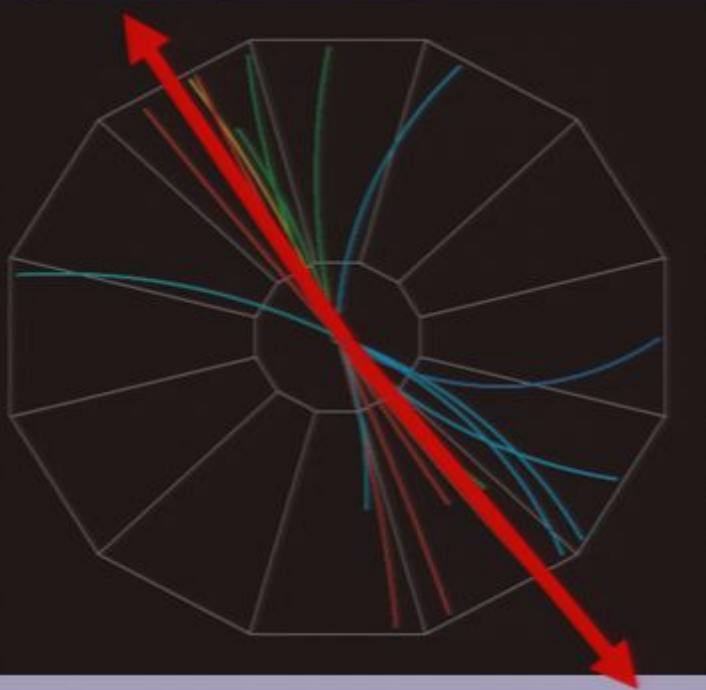
Angle between high energy particles

- In Au-Au collisions we see only one "jet" at a time !
- How can this happen ?
- Jet quenching!

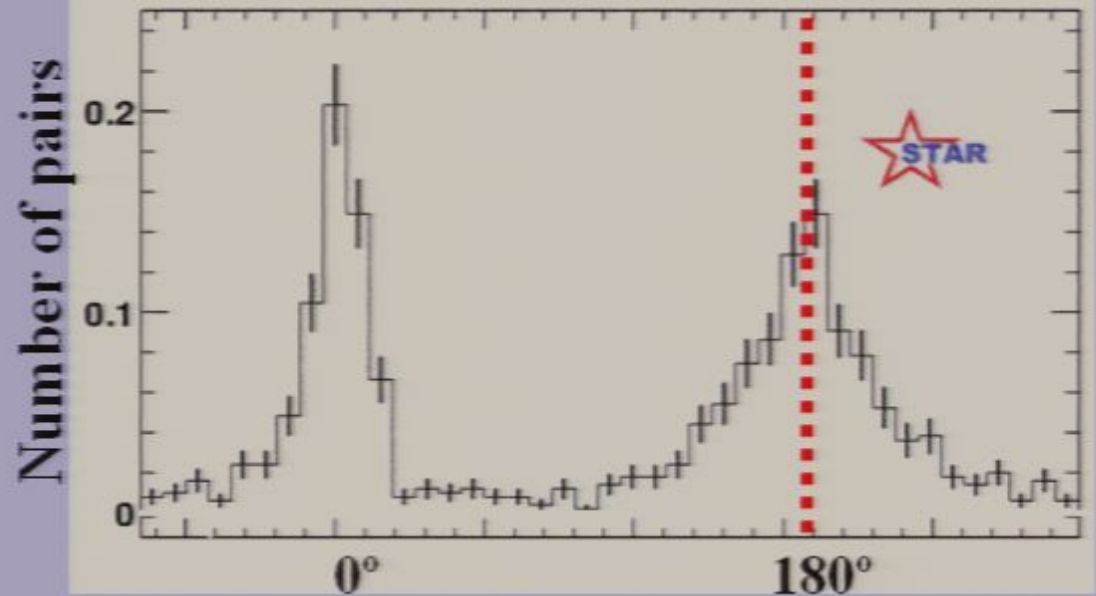


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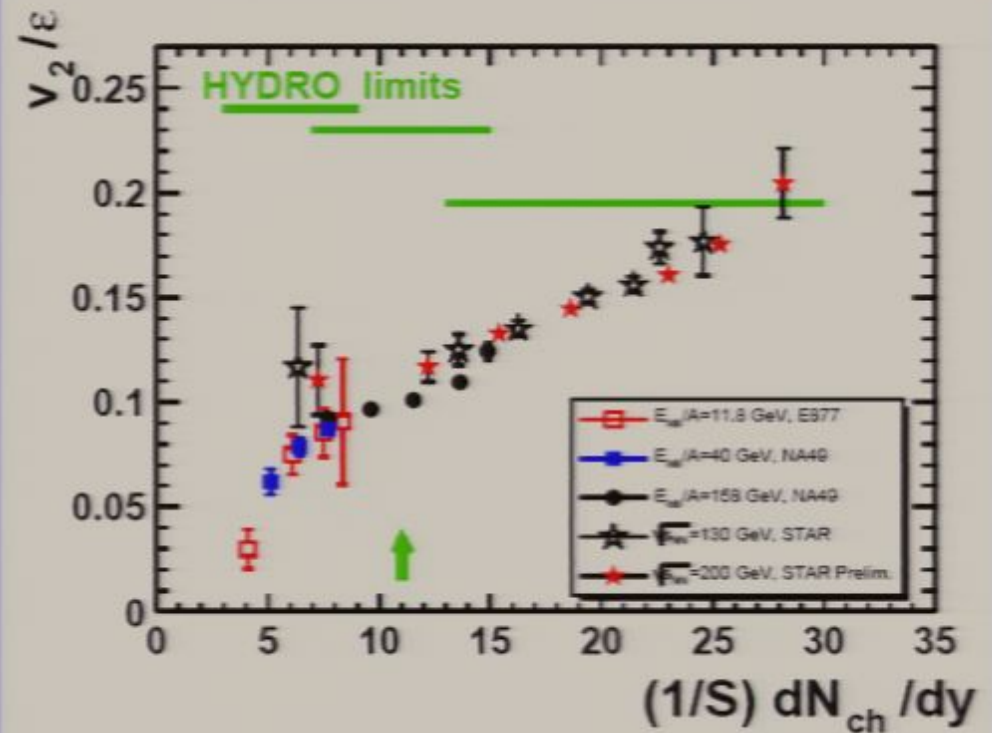
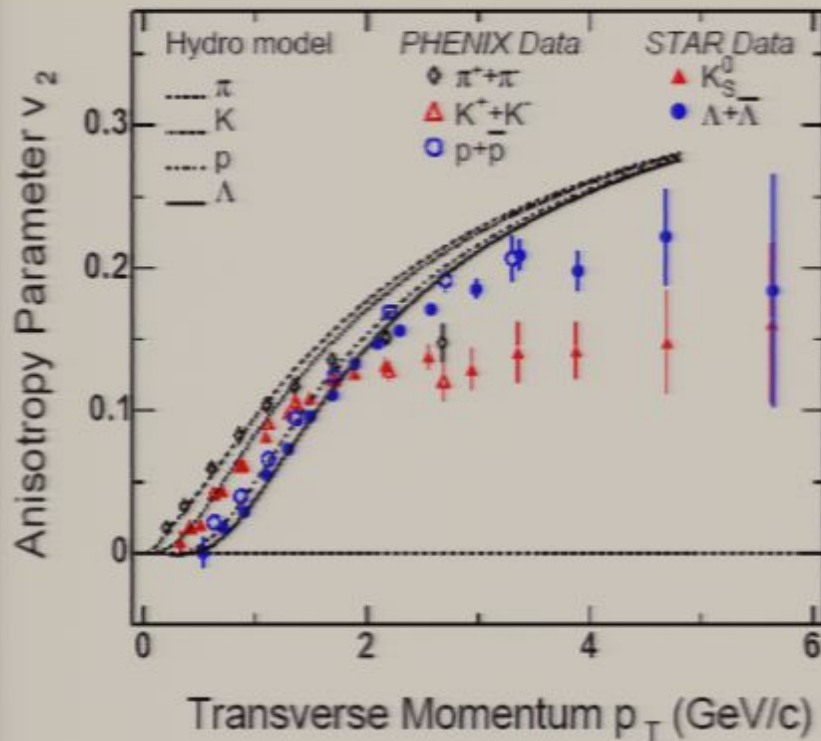


Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



Angle between high energy particles

“Elliptic Flow”

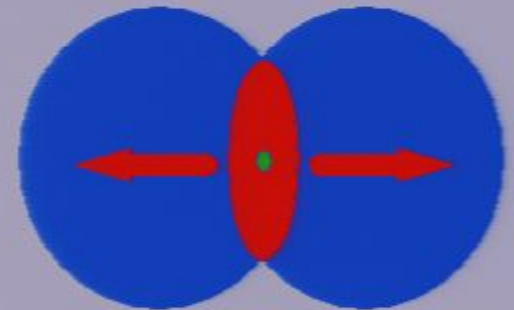


- Parameterize ϕ variation by “ v_2 ” parameter

$$-\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2v_2 \cos(2\phi)$$

- Compare to “eccentricity”:

$$\epsilon = \frac{\langle y^2 - x^2 \rangle}{\langle y^2 + x^2 \rangle}$$



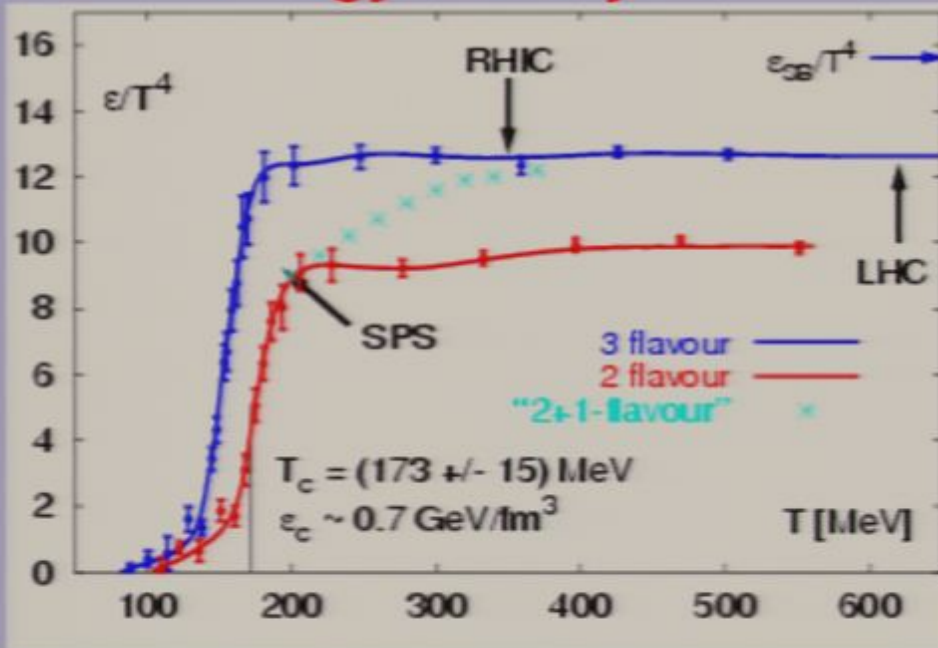
Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



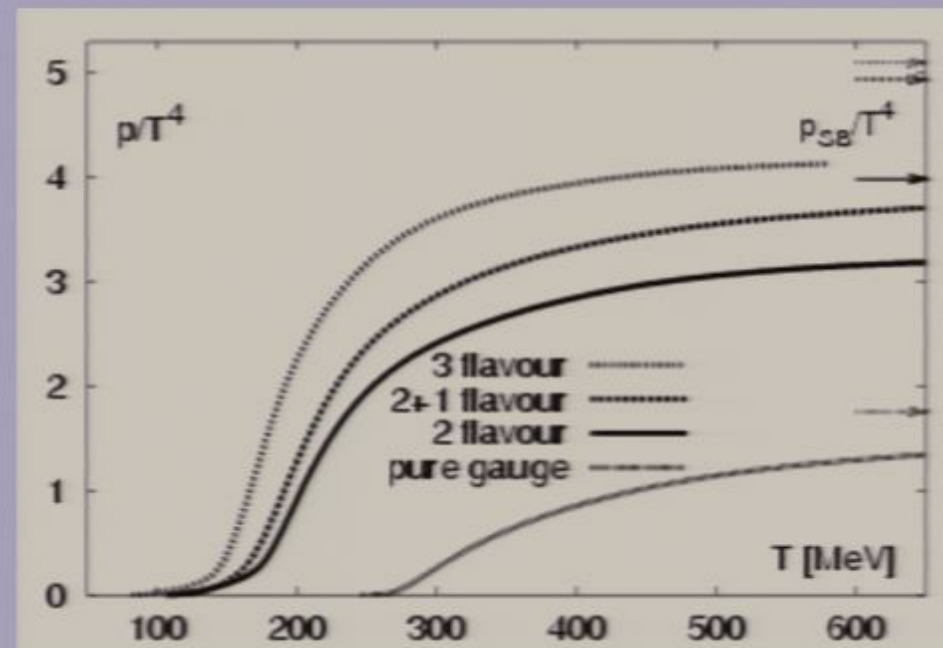
- Run 1 (2000): **Au-Au** $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 130 \text{ GeV}$
- Run 2 (2001): **Au-Au, p-p** $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$
- Run 3 (2003): **d Au, p-p** $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

QCD Thermodynamics (on Lattice)

Energy Density / T^4



Pressure / T^4



- Rapid cross-over from “hadronic matter” to “Quark-Gluon Plasma” at $T \sim 170$ MeV
 \Rightarrow Energy density, $\epsilon \sim 1$ GeV/fm³.
- **Only fundamental “phase transition” that can be studied in the laboratory.**

–Is the QGP weakly interacting??