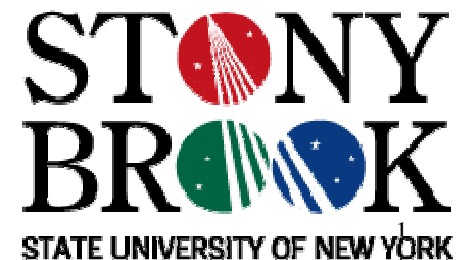
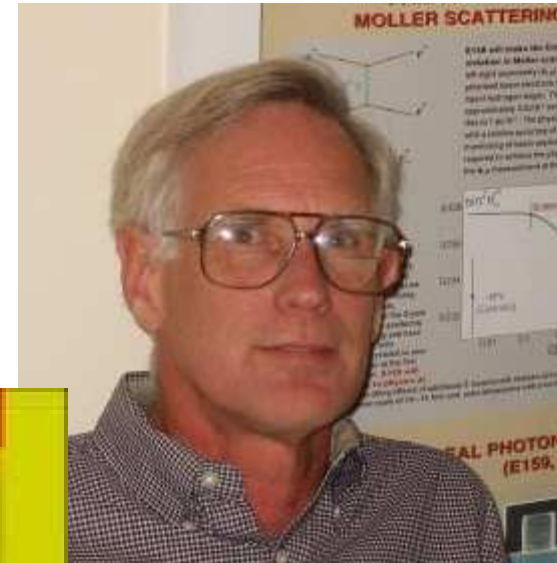


# Exploring Early Times in the QGP Evolution through Direct Virtual Photons

**Thomas K Hemmick**





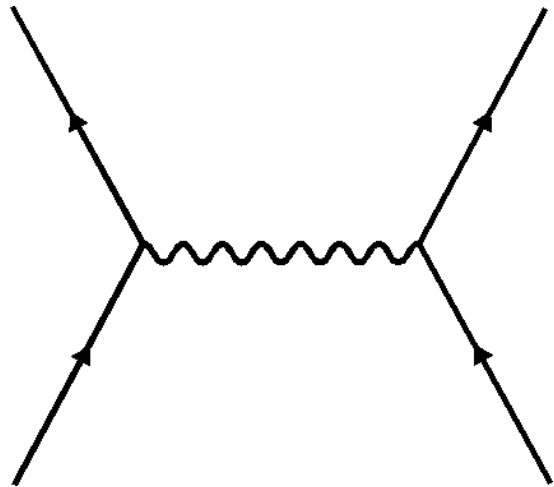
**U Va Nuclear Physics Seminar this week.**

**SBU NP Seminar week before last.**

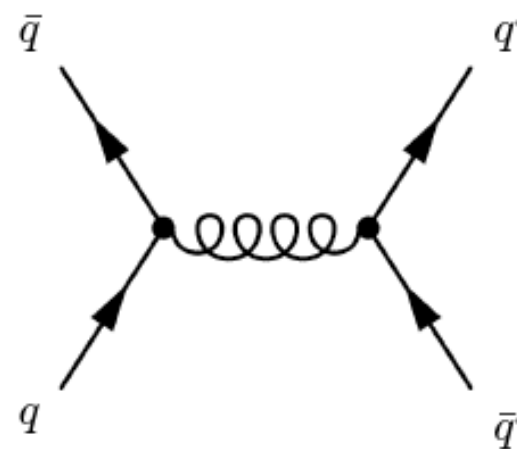


What Physics do You See?

# Physics beyond (N)<sup>n</sup>LO Diagram!!!



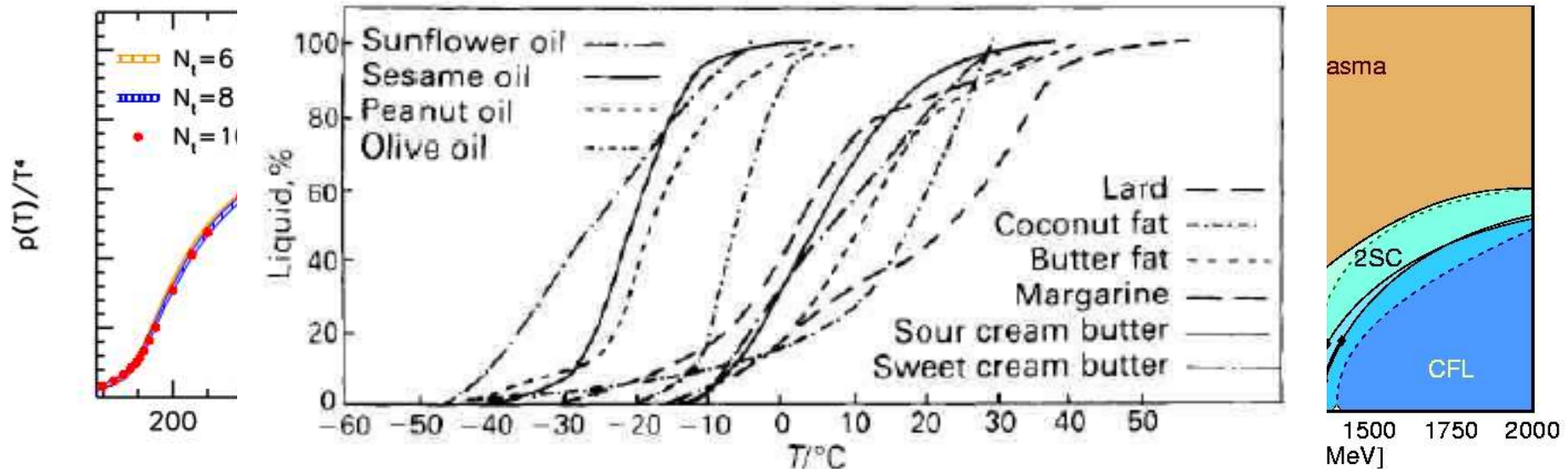
- ▶ The water droplets on the window demonstrate a principle.
- ▶ Truly beautiful physics is expressed in systems whose underlying physics is QED.
- ▶ The diagram is a beginning not an end



- Does QCD exhibit equally beautiful properties as a bulk medium.
- **ANSWER: YES!**
  - Nucleon Structure
  - Phase Structure



# Lattice QCD Shows Phase Structure

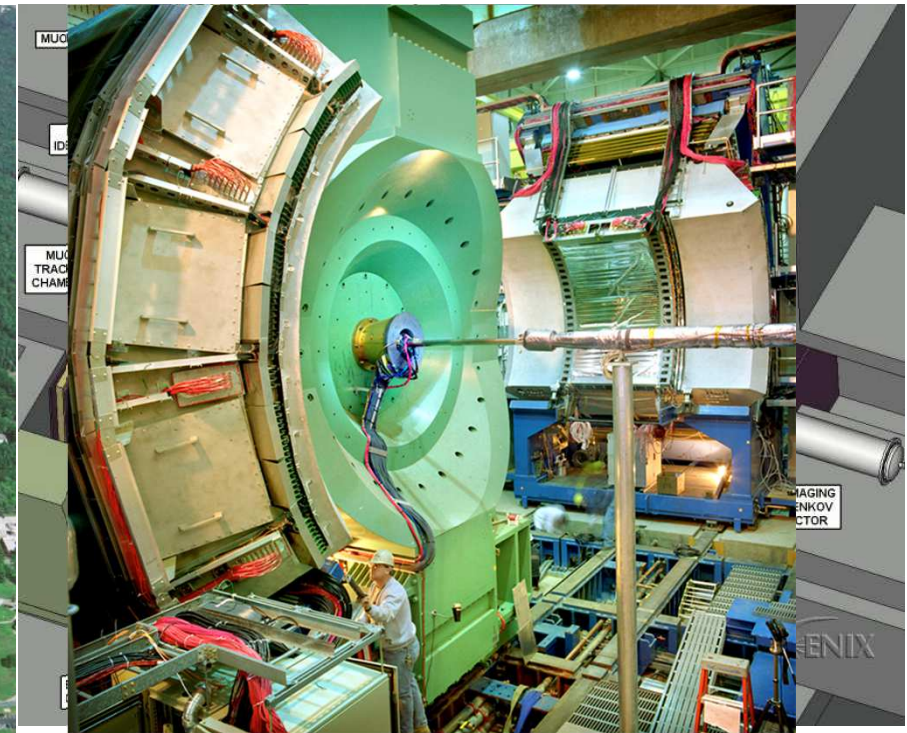


- ▶ Lattice QCD results indicate a complex phase structure including multiple features.
- ▶ At low baryon chemical potential, transition is 2<sup>nd</sup> order (cross-over).

# Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) Pioneering High Energy Nuclear Interaction eXperiment (PHENIX)



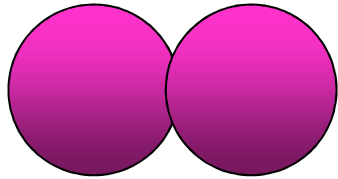
- ▶ 2 counter-circulating rings, 3.8 km circumference
- ▶ Any nucleus on any other.
- ▶ Top energies (each beam):
  - 100 GeV/nucleon Au-Au.
  - 250 GeV **polarized** p-p.



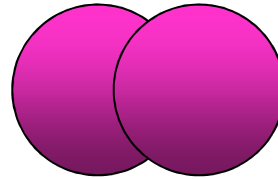
- Maximal Set of Observables
  - Photons, Electrons, Muons, ID-hadrons
- Highly Selective Triggering
  - High Rate Capability.
  - **Rare Processes.**

# RHI Collision Terminology

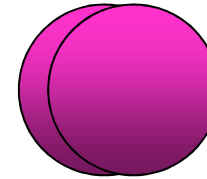
Peripheral Collision



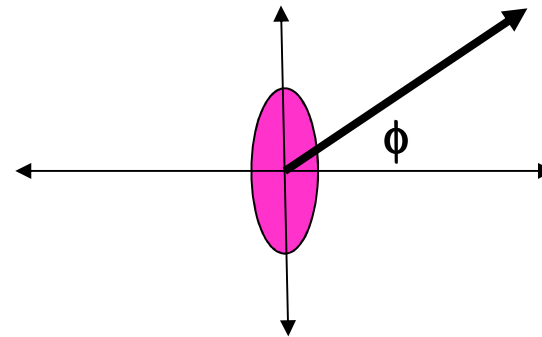
Semi-Central Collision



Central Collision



- ▶ Centrality and Reaction Plane determined on an Event-by-Event basis.
- ▶  $N_{\text{part}}$  = # of Participants
  - $2 \rightarrow 394$
- ▶  $N_{\text{binary}}$  = # of Collisions



Reaction Plane



■ Fourier decompose azimuthal

$$\frac{d^3N}{d\phi dp_T dy} \propto [1 + 2v_1 \cos(\phi) + 2v_2 \cos(2\phi) + \dots]$$

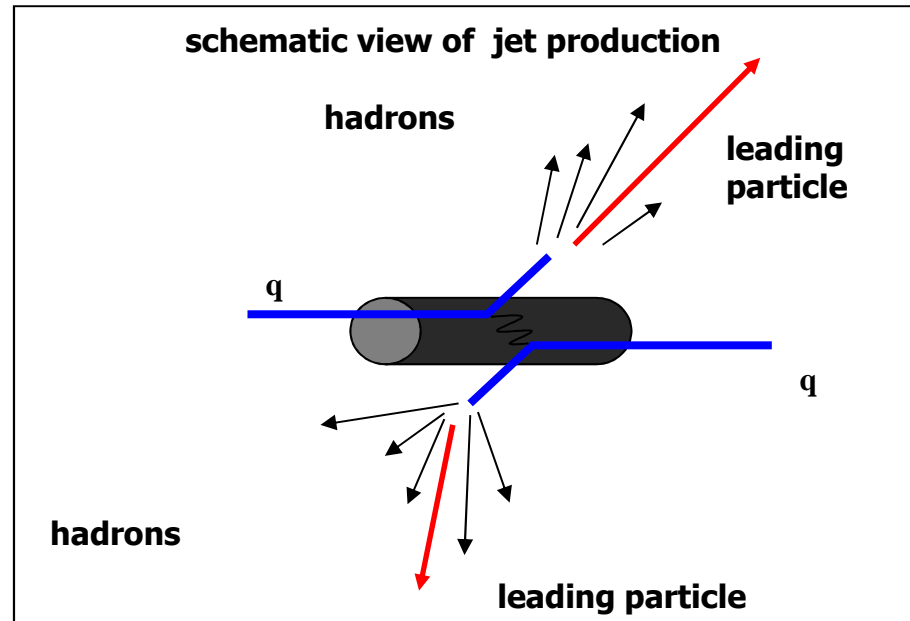


# Paradigm #1: Hard Probes

- ▶ We accelerate nuclei to high energies with the hope and intent of utilizing the beam energy to drive a phase transition to QGP.
- ▶ The created system lasts for only  $\sim 10 \text{ fm}/c$
- ▶ The collision must not only utilize the energy effectively, but generate the signatures of the new phase for us.
- ▶ I will make an artificial distinction as follows:
  - Medium: The bulk of the particles; dominantly soft production and possibly exhibiting some phase.
  - Probe: Particles whose production is calculable, measurable, and thermally incompatible with (distinct from) the medium.

# q/g jets as probe of hot medium

Jets from hard scattered quarks observed via fast leading particles or azimuthal correlations between the leading particles



However, before they create jets, the scattered quarks radiate energy ( $\sim \text{GeV/fm}$ ) in the colored medium



**Jet Quenching**

# $R_{AA}$ Normalization

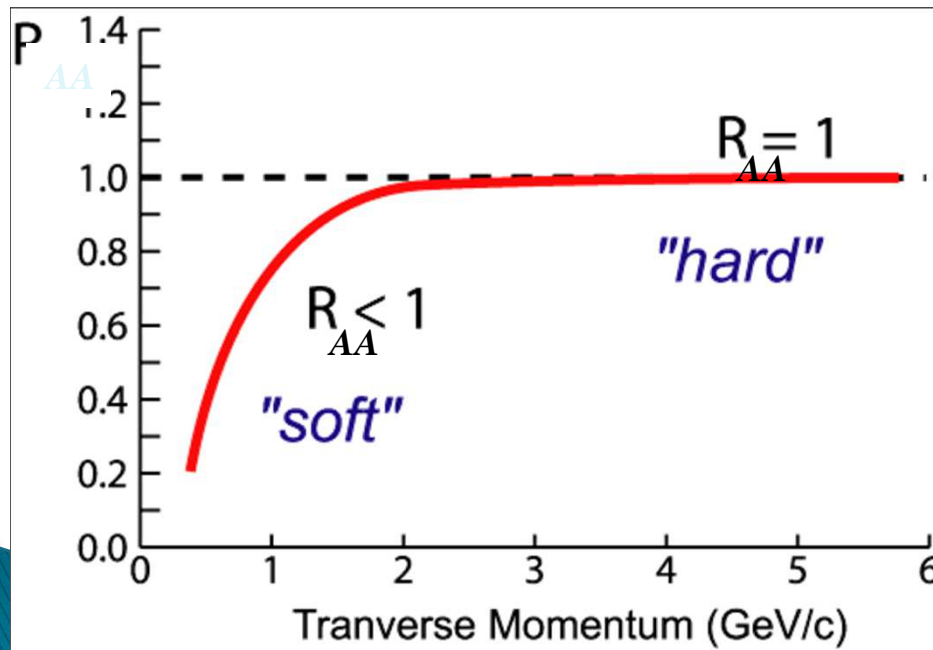
1. Compare Au+Au to nucleon-nucleon cross sections
2. Compare Au+Au central/peripheral

**Nuclear  
Modification  
Factor:**

$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{d^2 N^{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{T_{AA} d^2 \sigma^{NN} / dp_T d\eta}$$

**nucleon-nucleon  
cross section**

$$\langle N_{\text{binary}} \rangle / \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{p+p}$$



If no “effects”:

$R_{AA} < 1$  in regime of soft physics

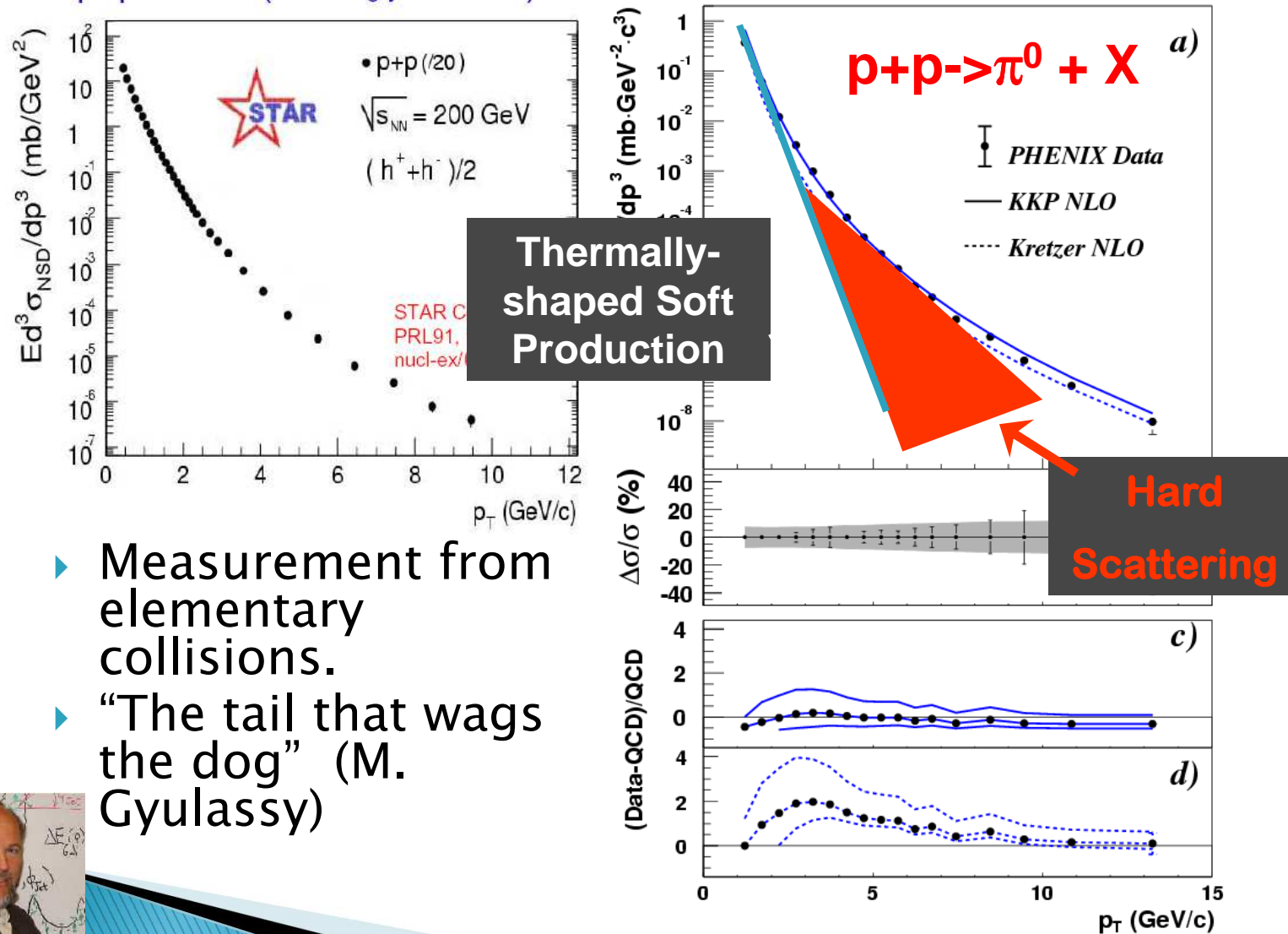
$R_{AA} = 1$  at high- $p_T$  where hard scattering dominates

Suppression:

$R_{AA} < 1$  at high- $p_T$



# Calibrating the Probe(s)

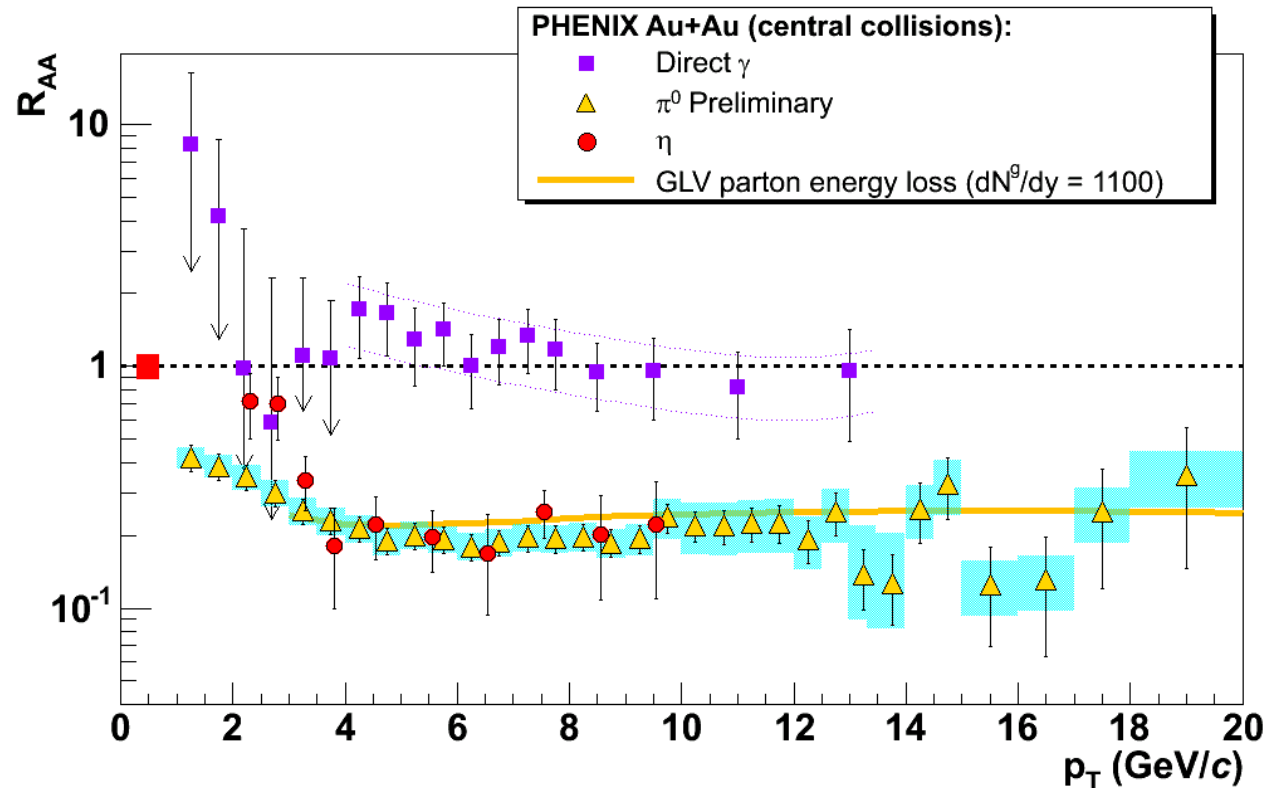


- ▶ Measurement from elementary collisions.
- ▶ “The tail that wags the dog” (M. Gyulassy)



# Suppression Discovered in Year One

*Observed*  
*Expected*



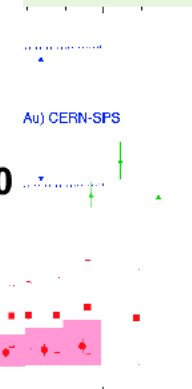
- ▶ Quark-containing particles
- ▶ Photons Escape!

$$\text{Gluon Density} = dN_g/dy$$

QM2001

PHYSICAL  
REVIEW  
LETTERS

January 2002  
Volume 88, Number 2

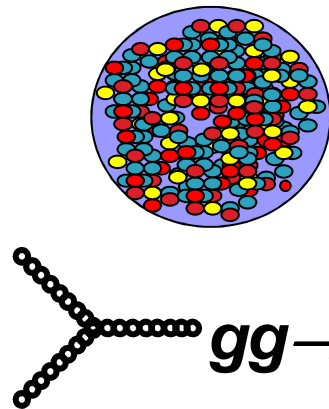


Member Subscription Copy  
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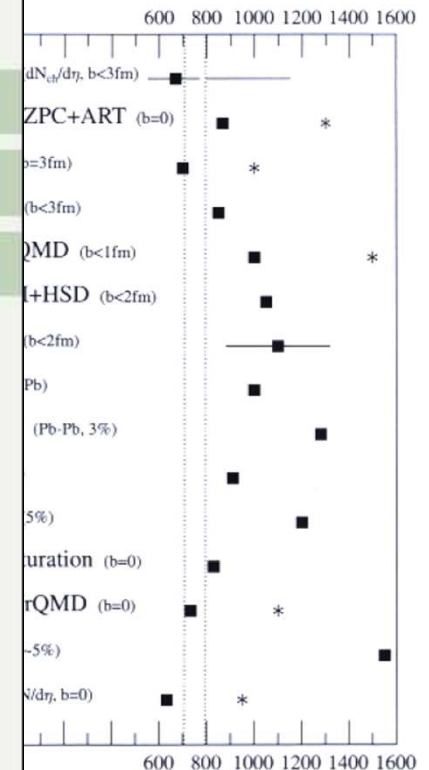
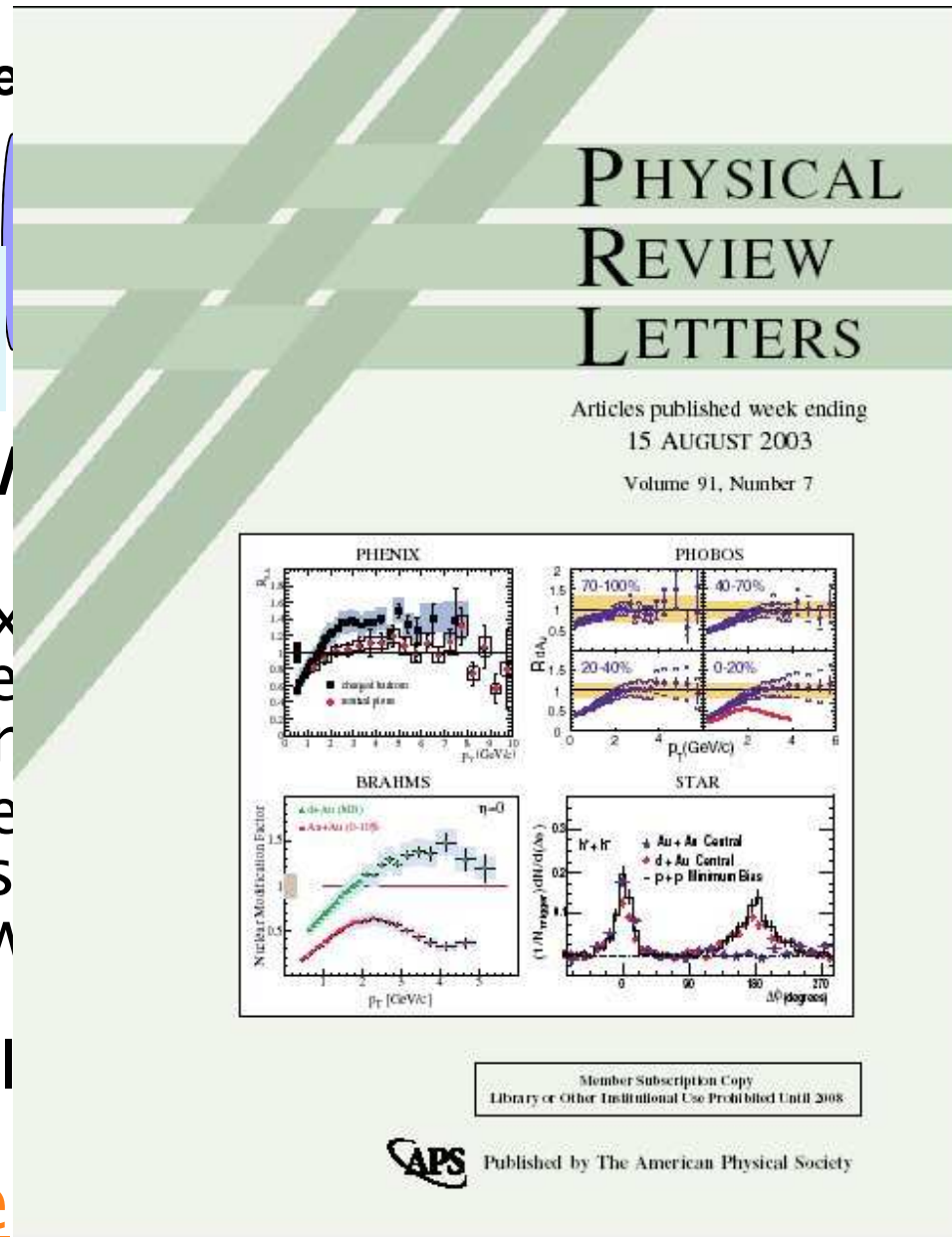
APS Published by The American Physical Society

# Could it be Initial Parton Distributions?

probe rest frame

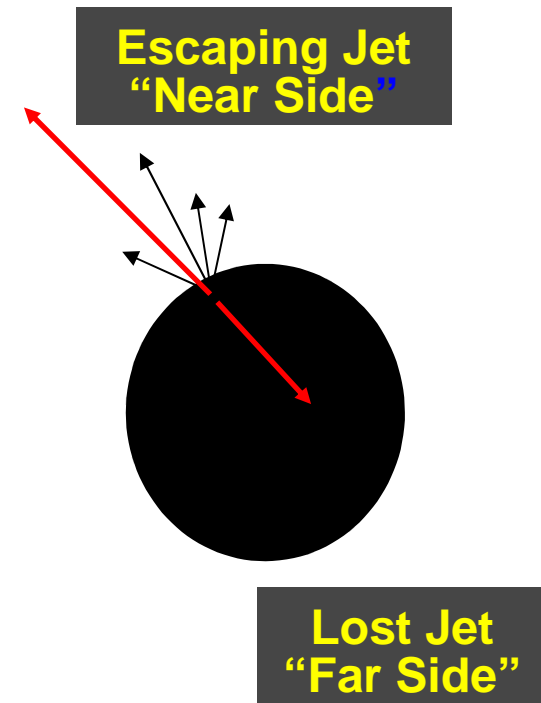


- ▶ The lower in  $x$  measures, the gluons you find
- ▶ At some low  $x$  phase space saturation and gluons swap another.
- ▶ Another novel Color Glass Condensate



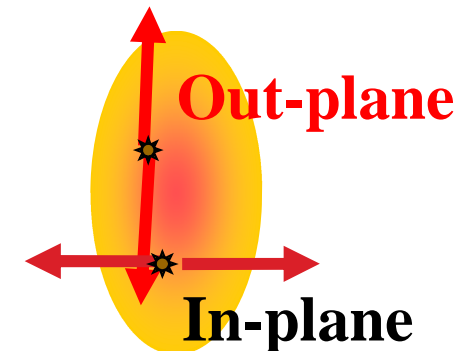
# Jet Tomography

- ▶ Jets are produced as back-to-back pairs.
- ▶ If one jet escapes, is the other shadowed?
- ▶ Map the dynamics of Near-Side and Away-Side jets.
  - Vary the reaction plane vs. jet orientation.
  - Study the composition of the jets
  - Reconstruct the WHOLE jet
    - Find “suppressed” momentum & energy.



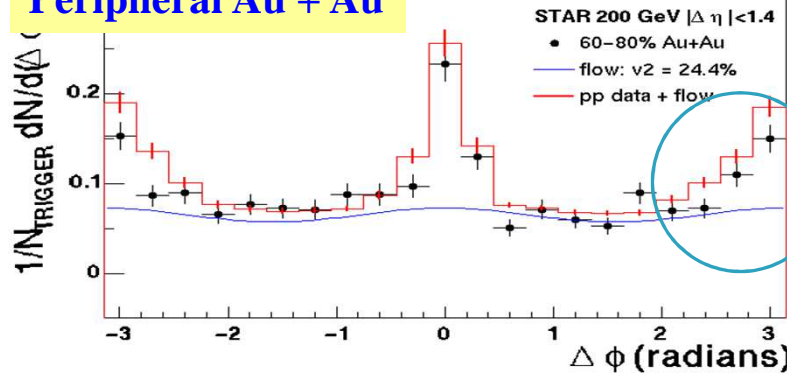
**X-ray pictures are  
shadows of bones**

**Can Jet Absorption be Used to  
“Take an X-ray” of our Medium?**

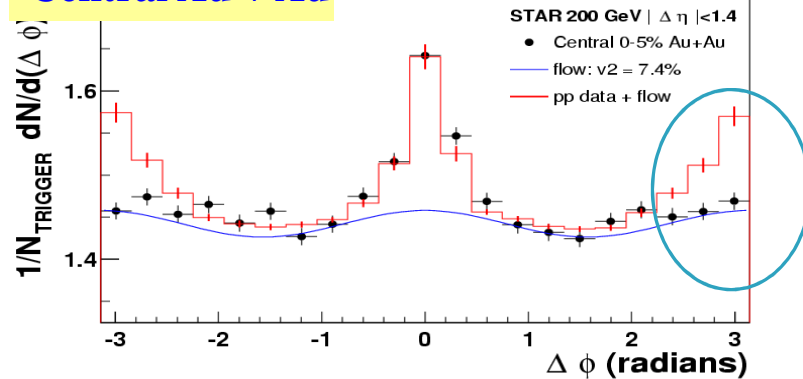


# Back-to-back jets

Peripheral Au + Au



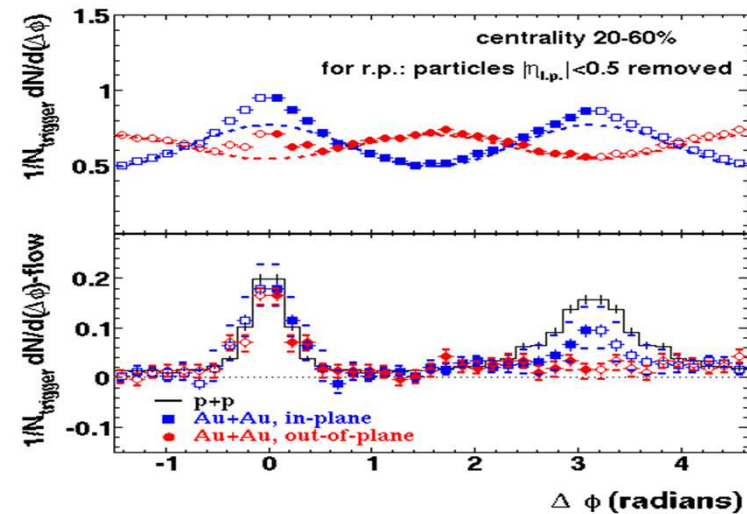
Central Au + Au



Out-plane

In-plane

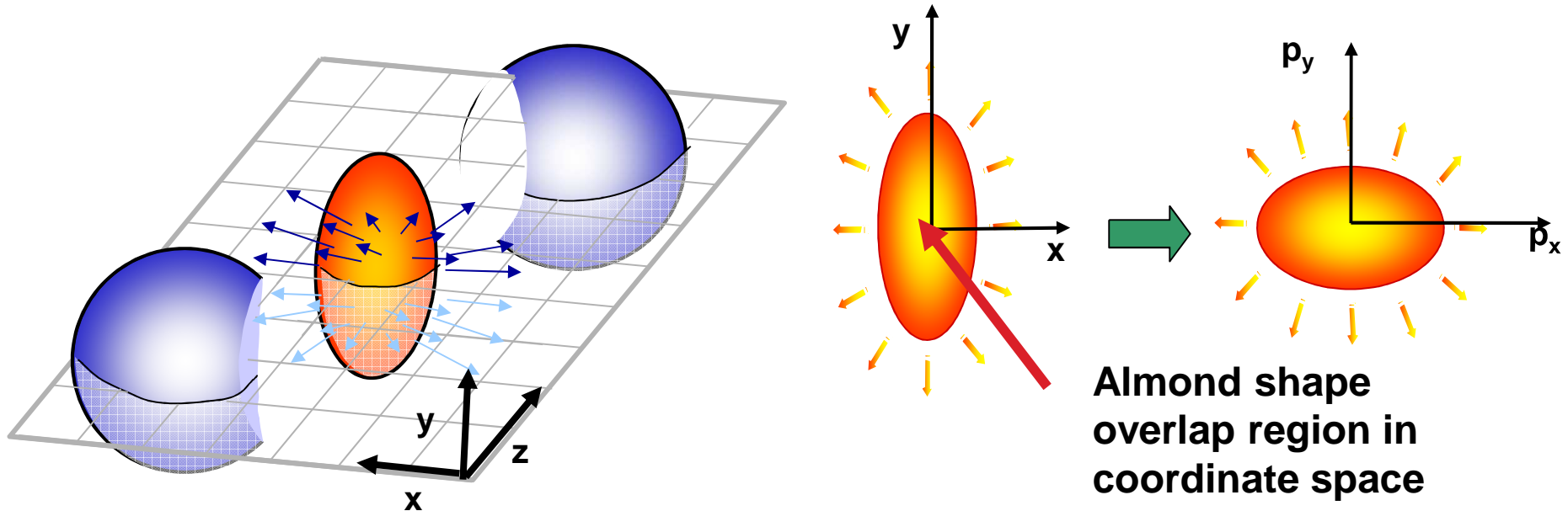
STAR



- ▶ Given one “jet” particle, where are it’s friends:
  - Members of the “same jet” are in nearly the same direction.
  - Members of the “partner jet” are off by  $180^\circ$
- ▶ Away-side jet “gone”



# Paradigm 2: Collective Flow



**Origin: spatial anisotropy of the system when created, followed by multiple scattering of particles in the evolving system**  
**spatial anisotropy → momentum anisotropy**

**$v_2$ : 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic *Fourier coefficient* in azimuthal distribution of particles with respect to the reaction plane**

$$\frac{d^3N}{d\phi dp_T dy} \propto [1 + 2v_1 \cos(\phi) + 2v_2 \cos(2\phi) + \dots]$$

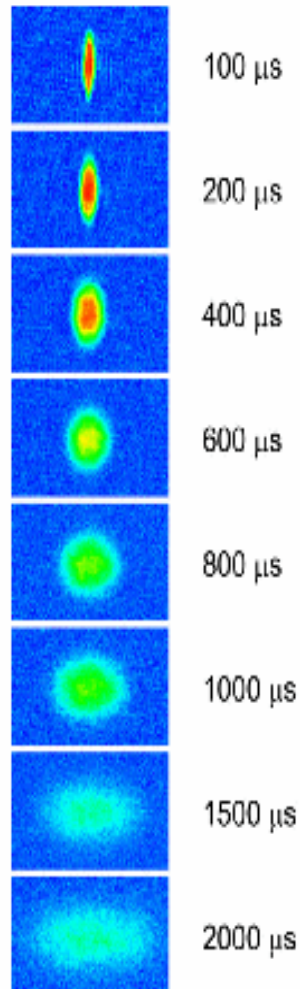
$$v_2 = \langle \cos 2\phi \rangle$$

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



# Anisotropic Flow

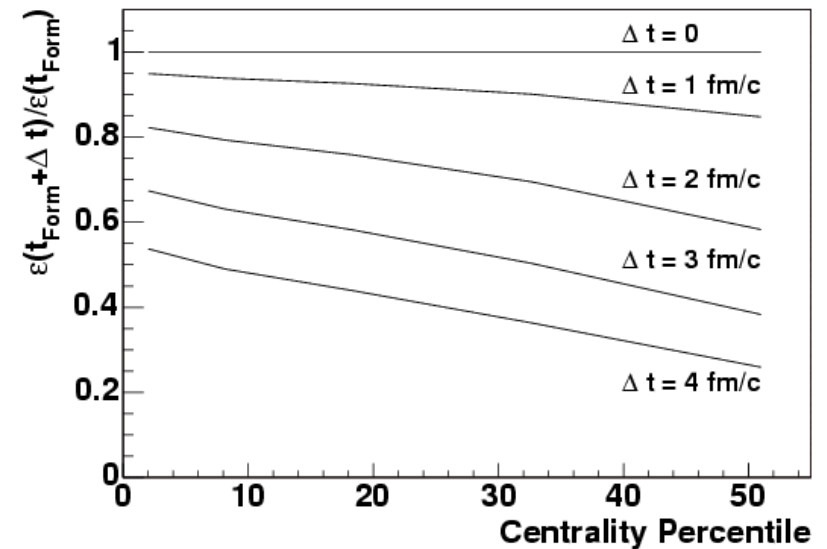
## Liquid Li Explodes into Vacuum



**Position Space anisotropy (eccentricity) is transferred to a momentum space anisotropy visible to experiment**

- Gases explode into vacuum uniformly in all directions.
- Liquids flow violently along the short axis and gently along the long axis.
- We can observe the RHIC medium and decide if it is more liquid-like or gas-like

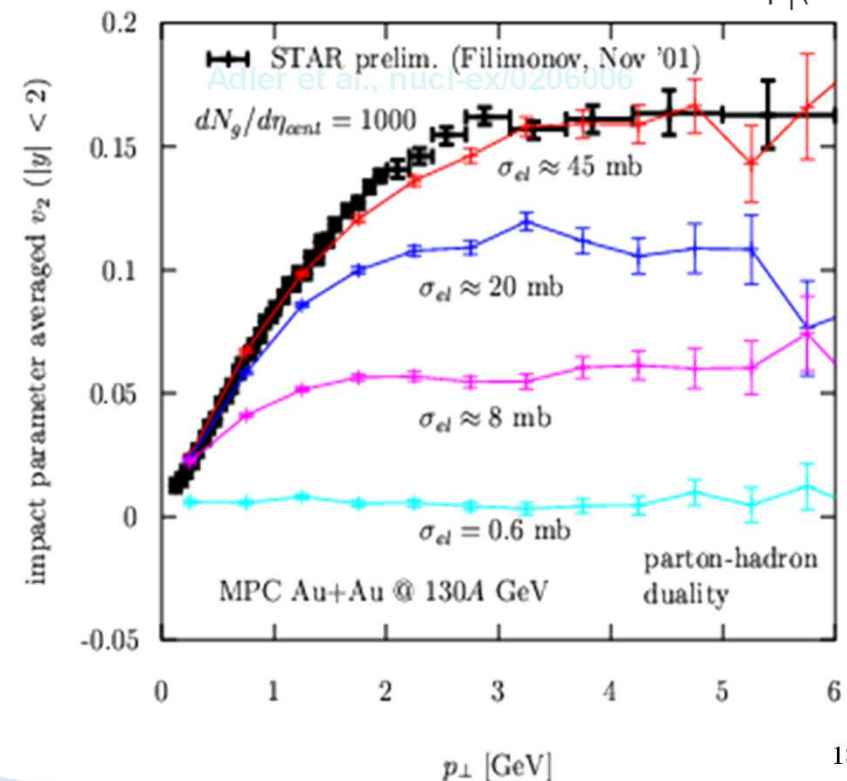
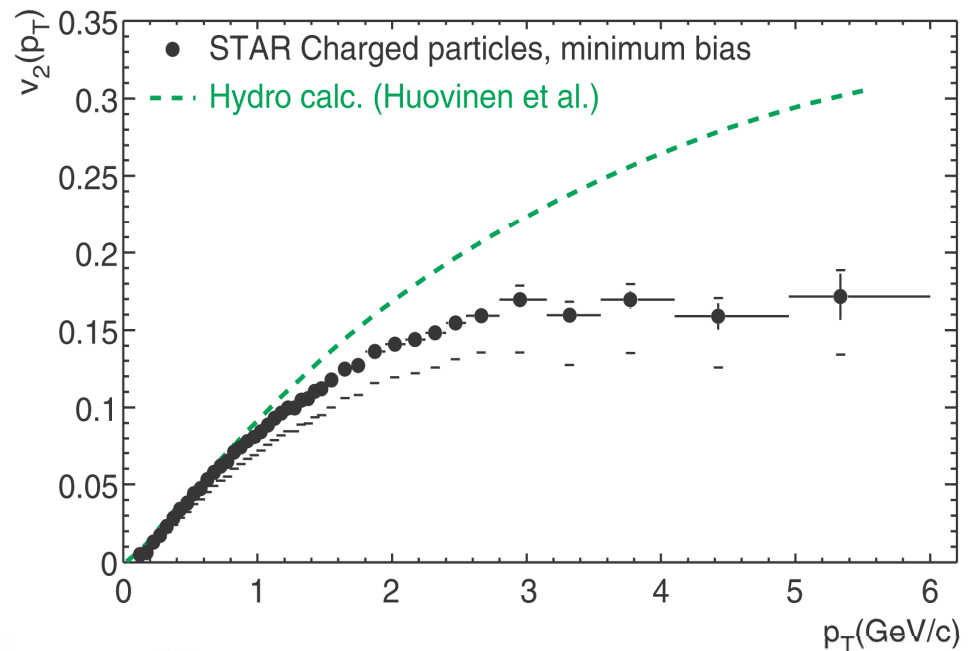
- Process is **SELF-LIMITING**
- Sensitive to the initial time



- Delays in the initiation of anisotropic flow not only change the magnitude of the flow but also the centrality dependence increasing the sensitivity of the results to the initial time.

# Large $v_2$ !!!

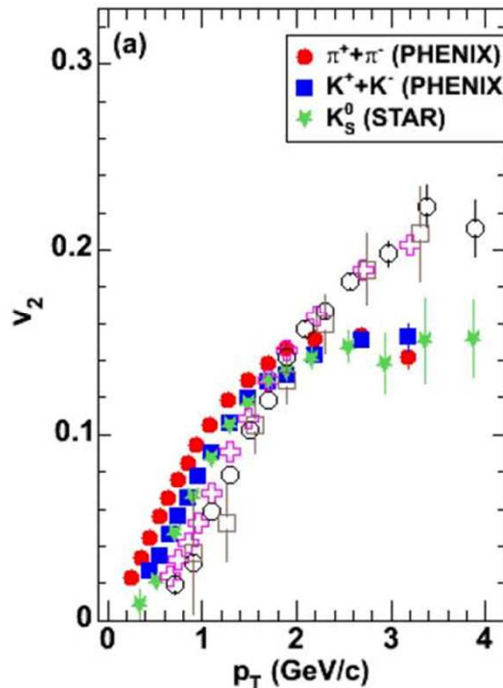
- ▶ Hydrodynamic limit exhausted at RHIC for low  $p_T$  particles.
- ▶ Can microscopic models work as well?
- ▶ Flow is sensitive to thermalization time since expanding system loses spatial asymmetry over time.
- ▶ Hydro models require thermalization in less than  $t=1$  fm/c



# $v_2$ Scales with valence quarks

$$KE_T = m (\gamma_T - 1)$$

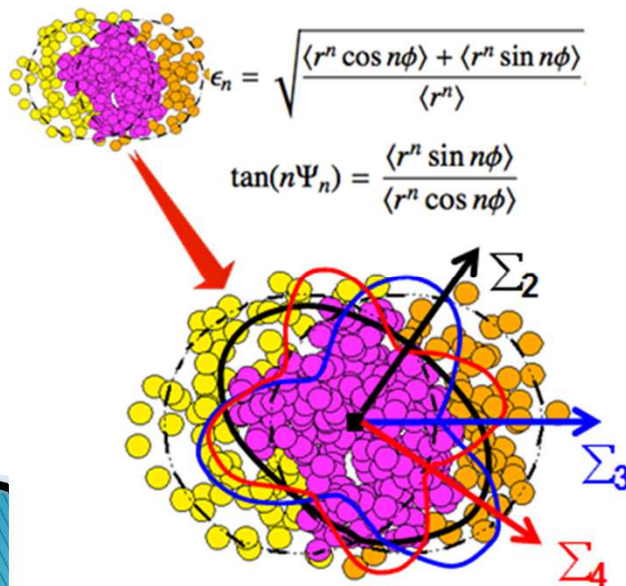
$$P \propto \text{Kinetic Energy Density}$$



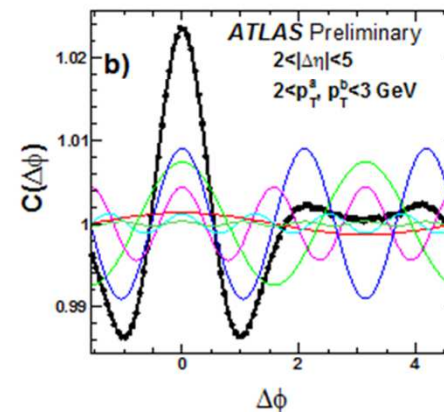
- Valence quark scaling indicates that partons (aka constituent quarks) exhibit collective motion.
- Implies that the final state hadrons may have come from “recombination”

# High Order Moments $v_n$

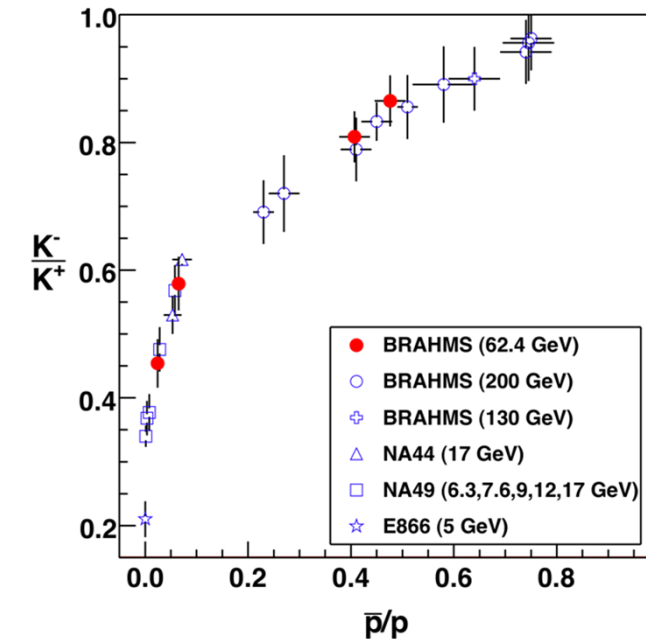
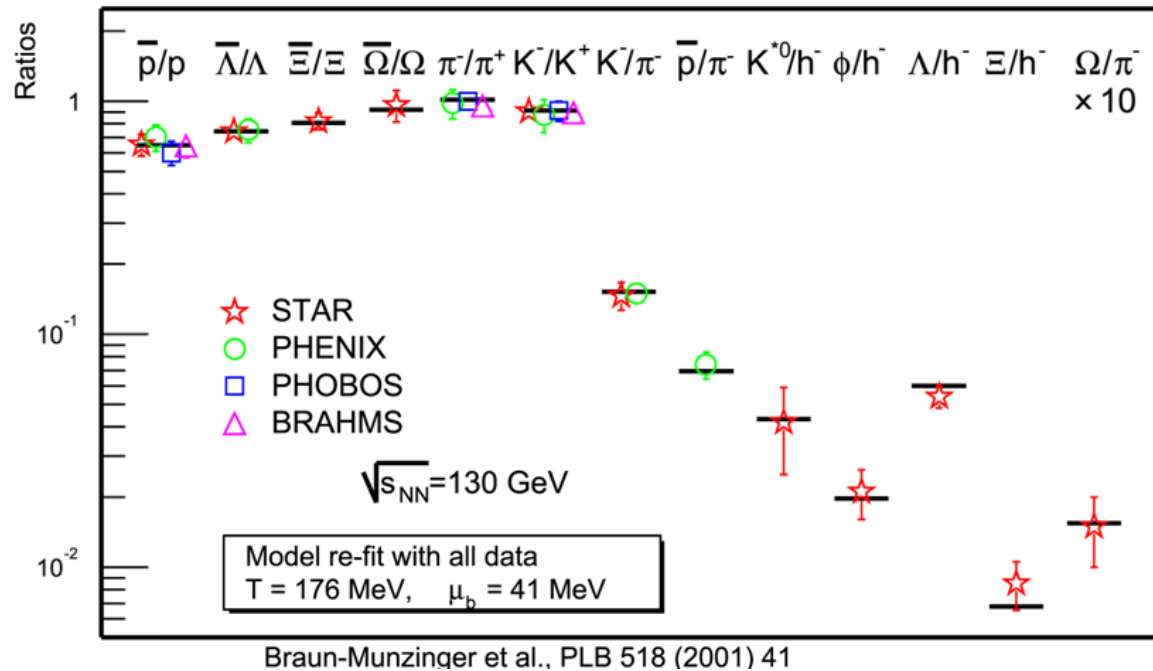
- ▶ Event Plane method yields  $\langle v_n \rangle$  ( $v_{\text{odd}}=0$ ).
- ▶ 2-particle yields  $\text{SQRT}(\langle v_n^2 \rangle)$  ( $v_{\text{odd}} > 0$ ).
- ▶ How to deal:
  - PHENIX = EP method + factorization.
  - ATLAS = Rapidity OUTSIDE other Jet.
  - Everyone else = Factorization.



|          |  |                   |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| Singles: | $\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + \sum_n 2v_n \cos n(\phi - \Psi_n)$           | <b>EP method</b>  |
| Pairs:   | $\frac{dN}{d\Delta\phi} \propto 1 + \sum_n 2v_n^a v_n^b \cos(n\Delta\phi)$ | <b>2PC method</b> |



# Paradigm 3: Hadrochemistry



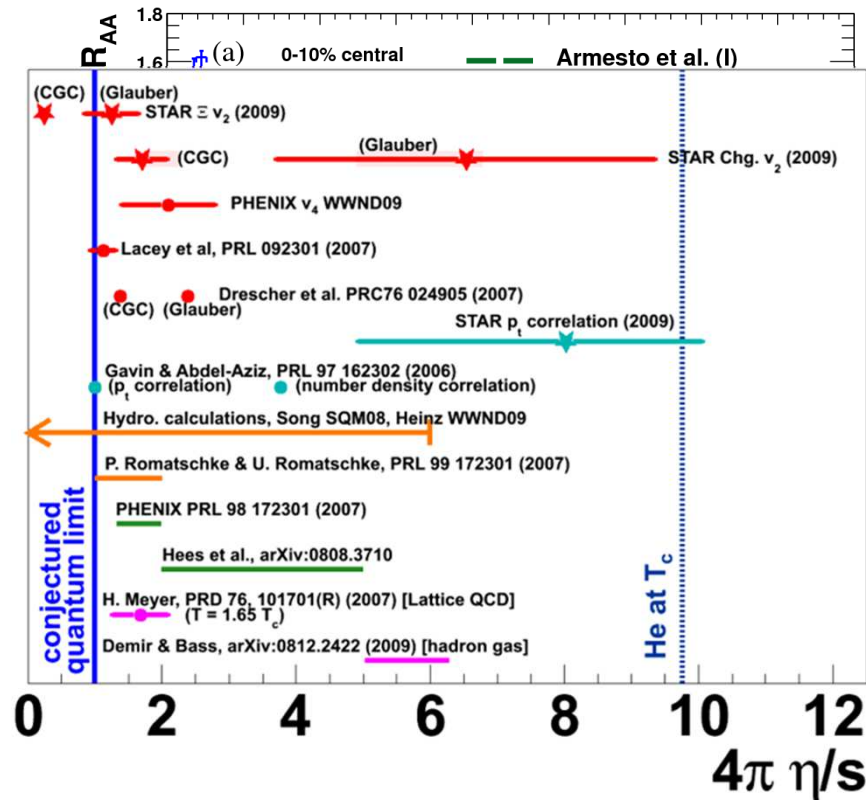
- ▶ Hadronization by random choice or recombination will follow simple statistical distributions:

$$n_i^0 = \frac{g_i}{2\pi^2} \int \frac{p^2 dp}{e^{\left(\frac{E - \mu_B B_i - \mu_s S_i - \mu_3 I^3}{T}\right)} \pm 1}$$

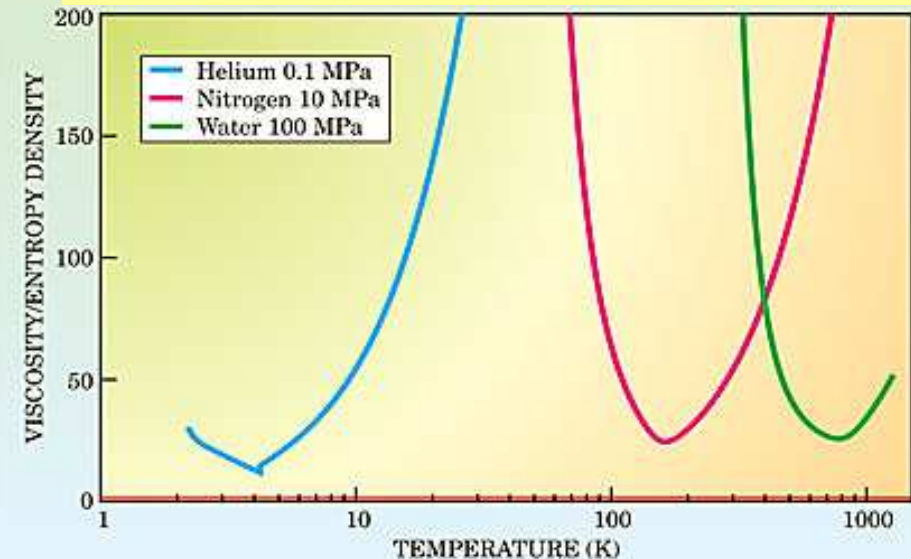
- ▶ pp collisions exhibit “canonical suppression” of strange quark production (lifted by QGP).



# “Perfect” Fluid



$$\eta \geq \frac{\hbar}{4\pi} \quad \text{Entropy Density} \equiv \frac{\hbar}{4\pi} s$$



- RHIC “fluid” is at  $\sim 1-3$  on this scale (!)
- The Quark–Gluon Plasma is, within preset error, the most perfect fluid possible in nature.



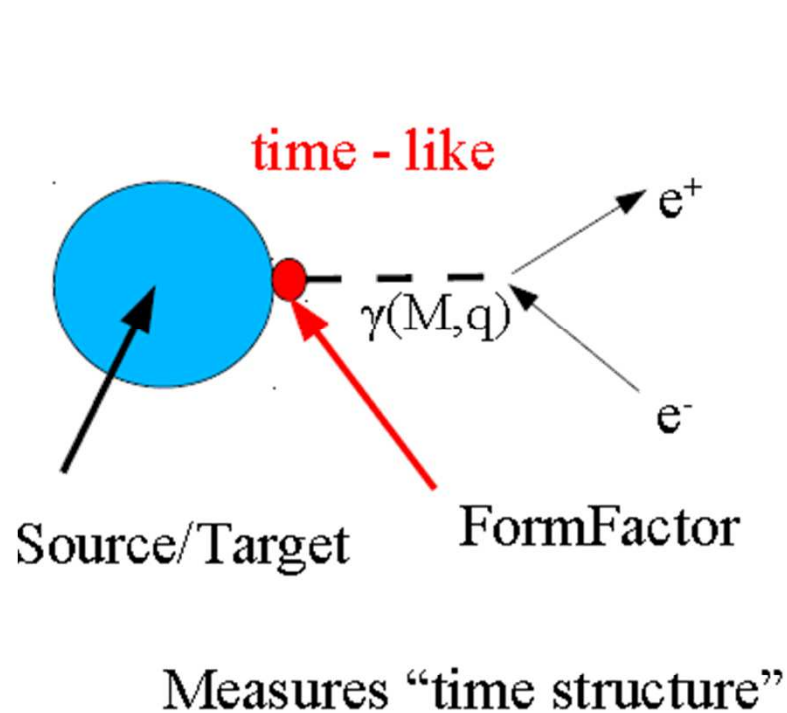
# Limitations of these Paradigms

- ▶ Hard or Jet Probes provide useful information BECAUSE their initial production is well known.
- ▶ Flow is driven by “pre-collision” spatial anisotropy.
- ▶ Hadro-chemistry (and HBT) probe the final state at de-coupling time.

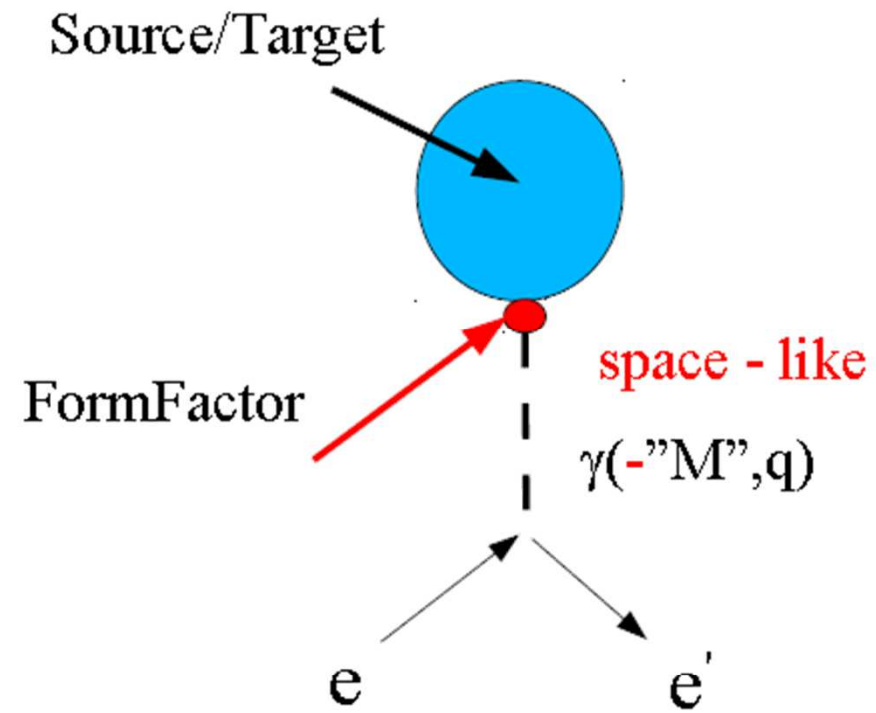
**PENETRATING (color-less) Probes are  
Transparent to the QGP medium and  
directly probe the initial state**

**PHOTONS & DILEPTONS!!!**

# Dileptons vs Electron Scattering



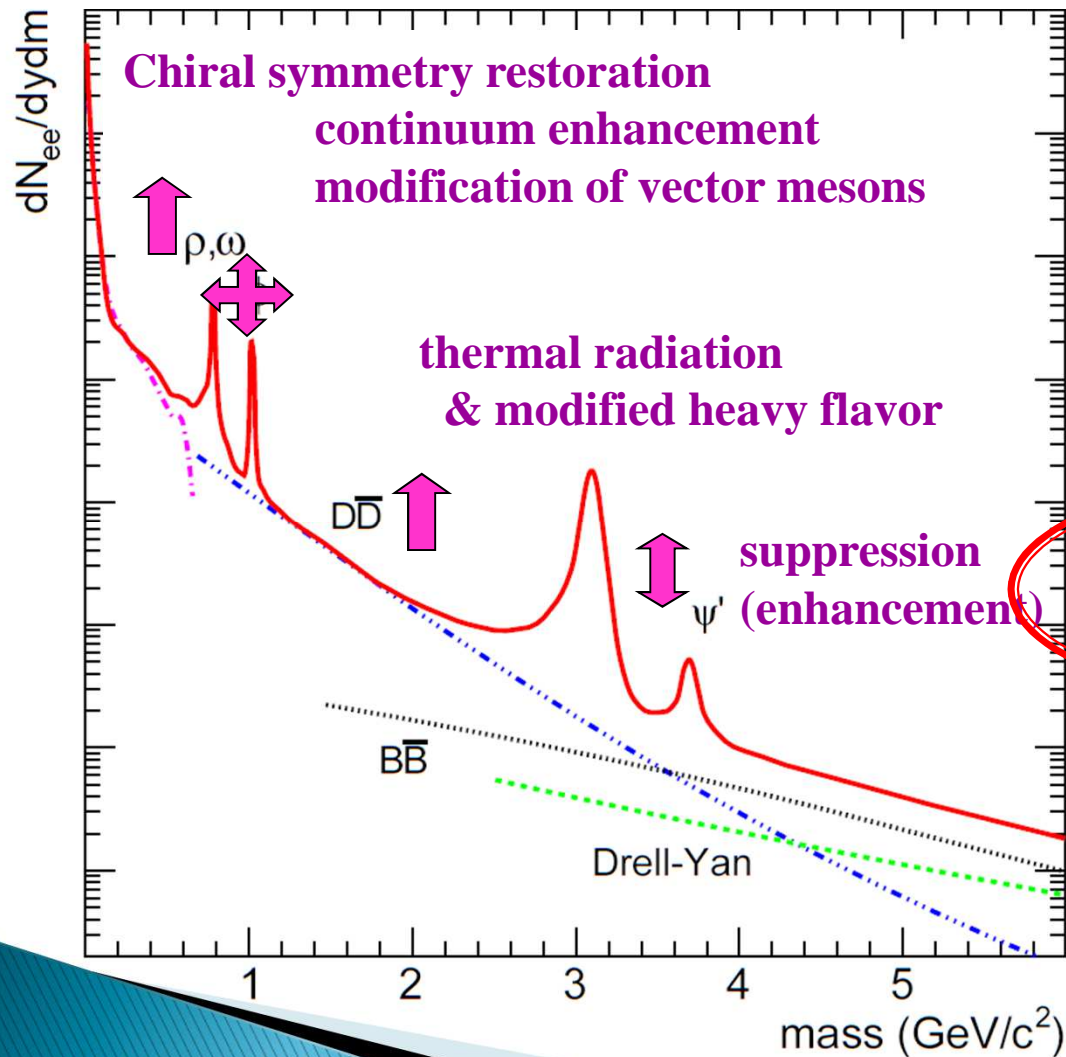
$$S(\omega, 0) \rightarrow S(t)$$



$$S(0, q) \rightarrow S(r)$$

# Dilepton Continuum Physics

## Modifications due to QCD phase transition

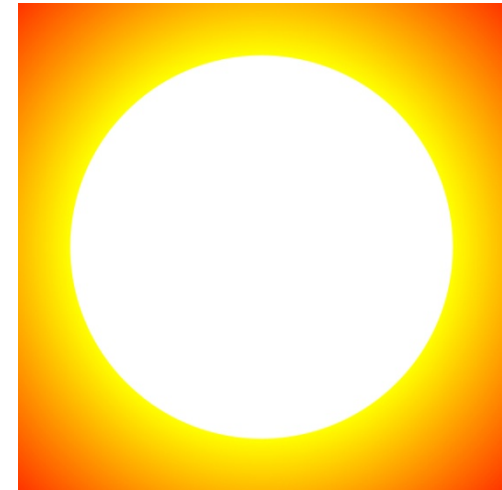


- Sources “long” after collision:
  - $\pi^0, \eta, \omega$  Dalitz decays
  - $(\rho), \omega, \phi, J/\psi, \psi'$  decays
- Early in collision (hard probes):
  - Heavy flavor production
  - Drell Yan, direct radiation
- Baseline from p-p
- Thermal (blackbody) radiation
  - in dileptons and photons
  - temperature evolution
- Medium modifications of meson
  - $\pi\pi \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow l^+l^-$
  - chiral symmetry restoration
- Medium effects on hard probes
  - Heavy flavor energy loss

# Remote Temperature Sensing



**Red Hot**



**White Hot**

- ▶ Hot Objects produce thermal spectrum of EM radiation.
- ▶ Red clothes are NOT red hot, reflected light is not thermal.



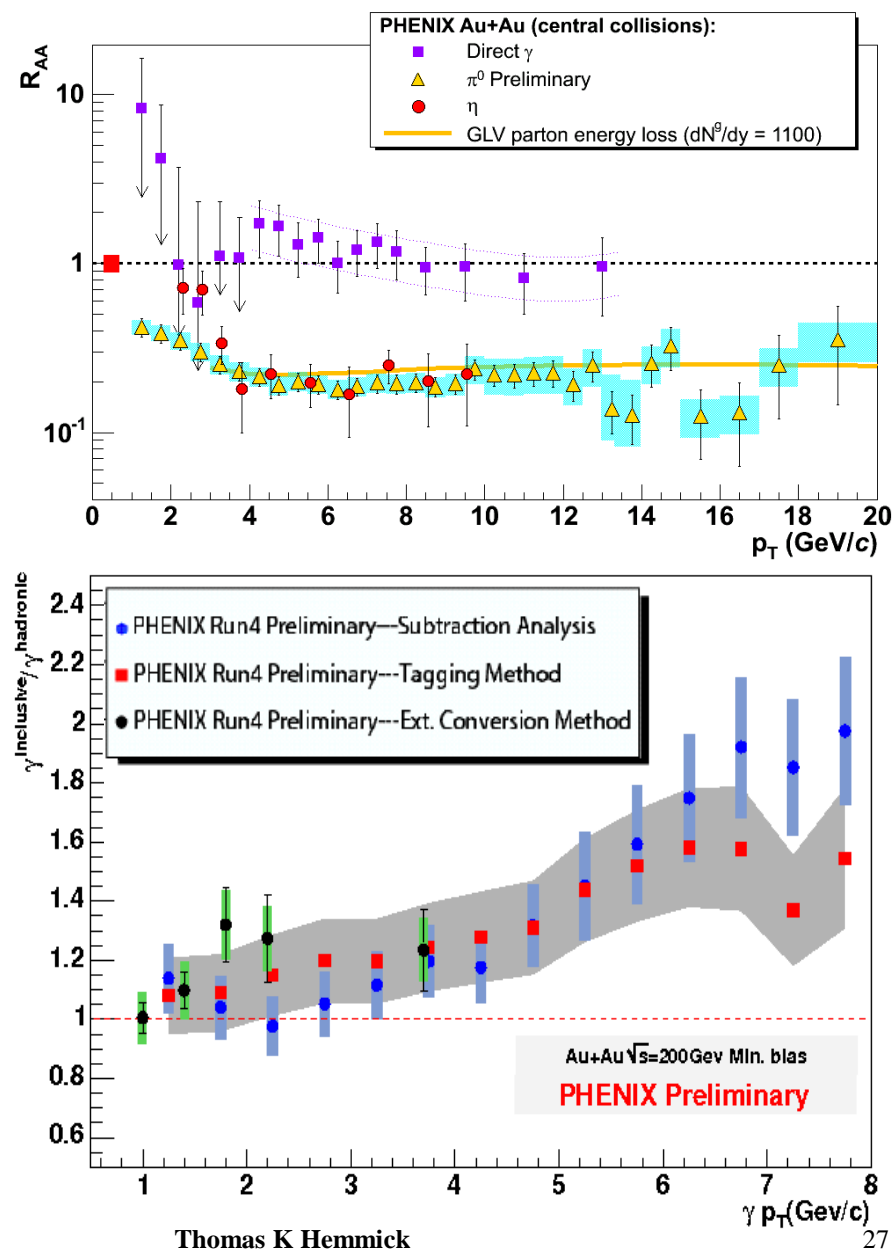
**Not Red Hot!**

Photon measurements must distinguish  
thermal radiation from other sources:  
**HADRONS!!!**

# Non-Thermal Real Photon Sources

- ▶  $\gamma^{\text{inclusive}} / \gamma^{\text{hadronic}}$  (1<sup>st</sup> plot) exceeds 1 at high  $p_T$  indicating presence of non-hadronic photons.
- ▶  $R_{AA}$  equals 1 for these same  $p_T$  indicating that high  $p_T$  yields are similar to pp: initial state hard scattering.
- ▶ Measurement difficult at low  $p_T$  w/ real photons.

$$R_{AA}(p_T) \equiv \frac{d^2 N^{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{T_{AA} d^2 \sigma^{NN} / dp_T d\eta}$$

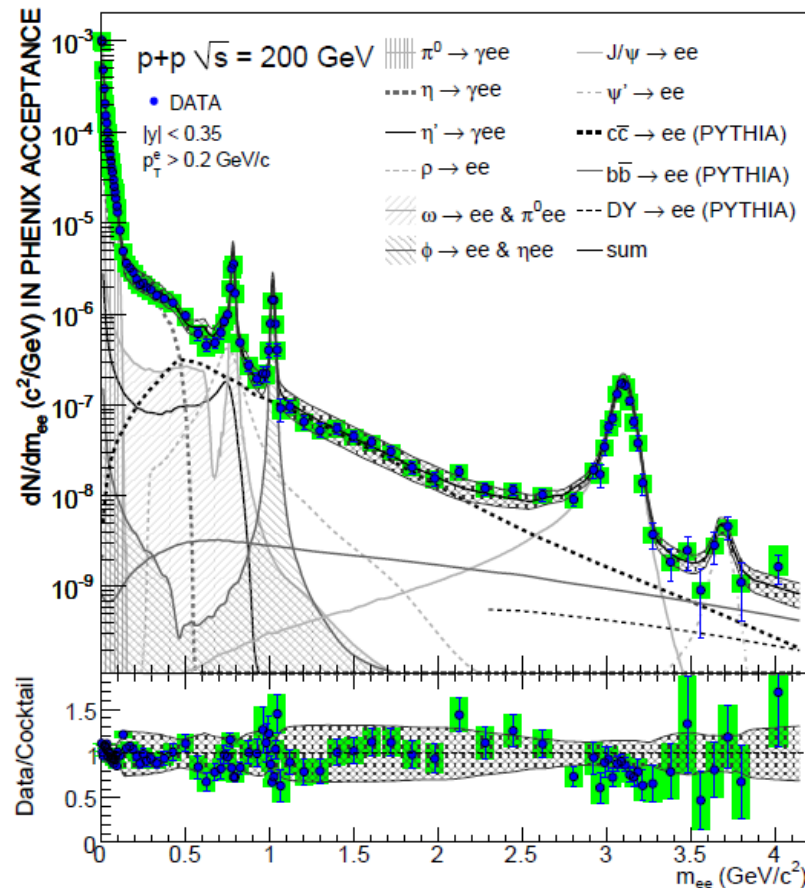




# Continuum in p+p and AuAu

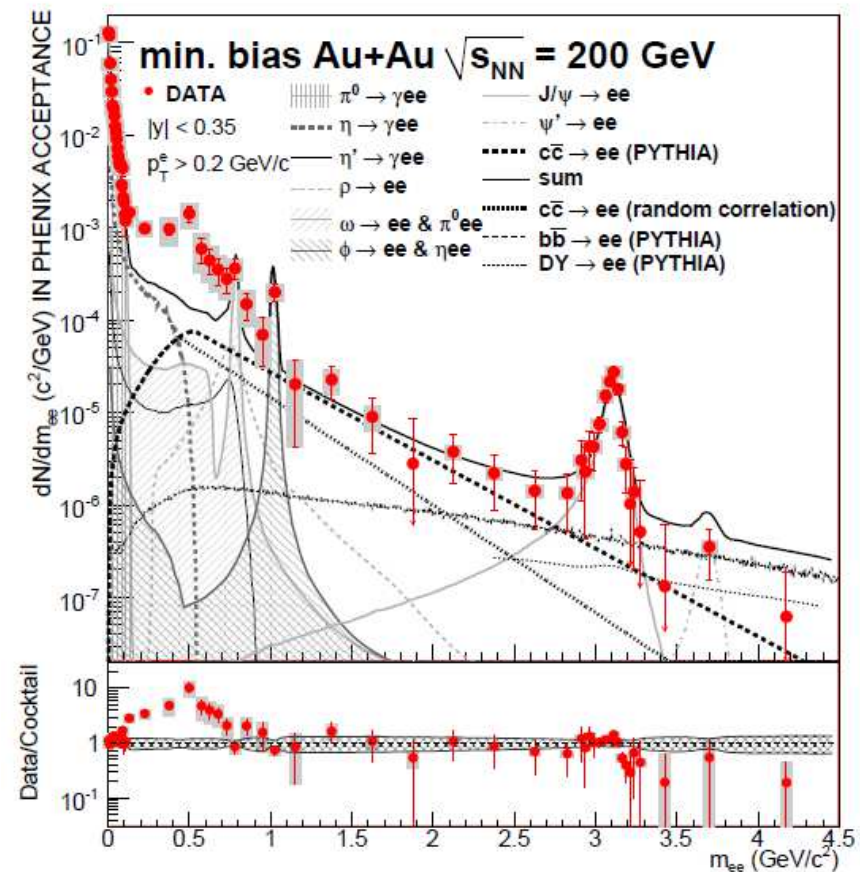
Phys. Lett. B 670, 313 (2009)

arXiv:0912.0244



● Data and Cocktail of known sources

● Excellent Agreement



● Data and Cocktail of known sources

● Striking Enhancement at and below the  $\omega$  mass.



# Estimate of Expected Sources

- Hadron decays:

- Fit  $\pi^0$  and  $\pi^\pm$  data p+p or Au+Au

$$E \frac{d^3\sigma}{d^3p} = \frac{A}{\left(\exp(-ap_T - bp_T^2) + p_T/p_0\right)^n}$$

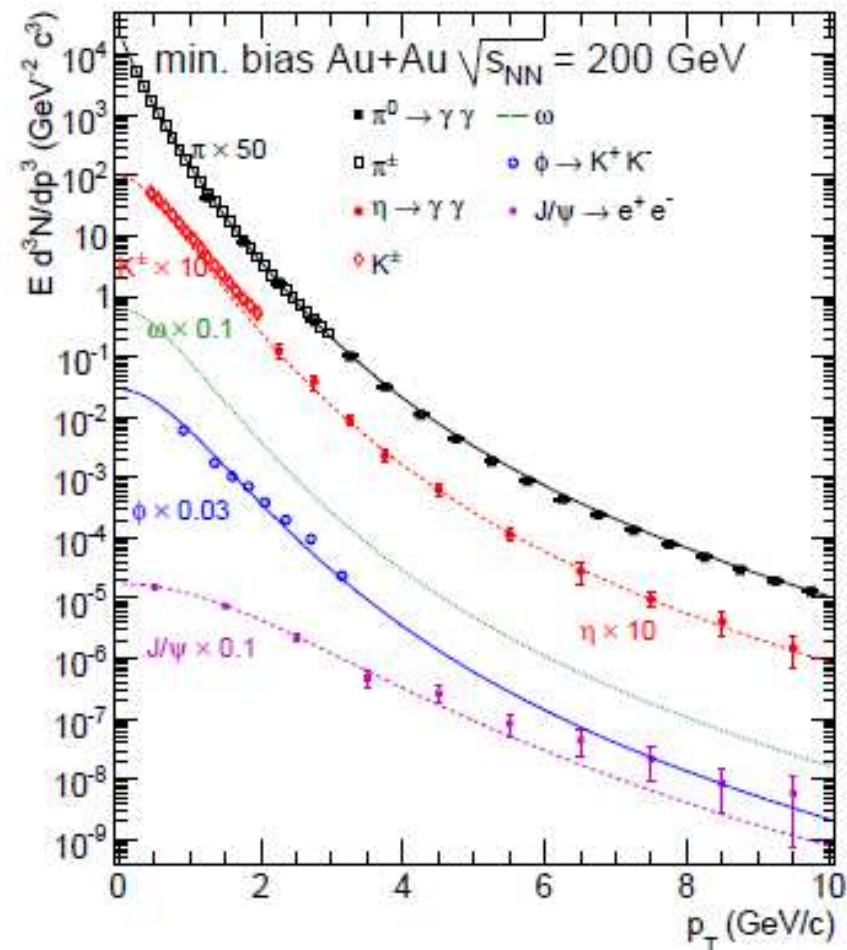
- For other mesons  $\eta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $J/\psi$  etc. replace  $p_T \rightarrow m_T$  and fit normalization to existing data where available

**Hadron data follows “ $m_T$  scaling”**

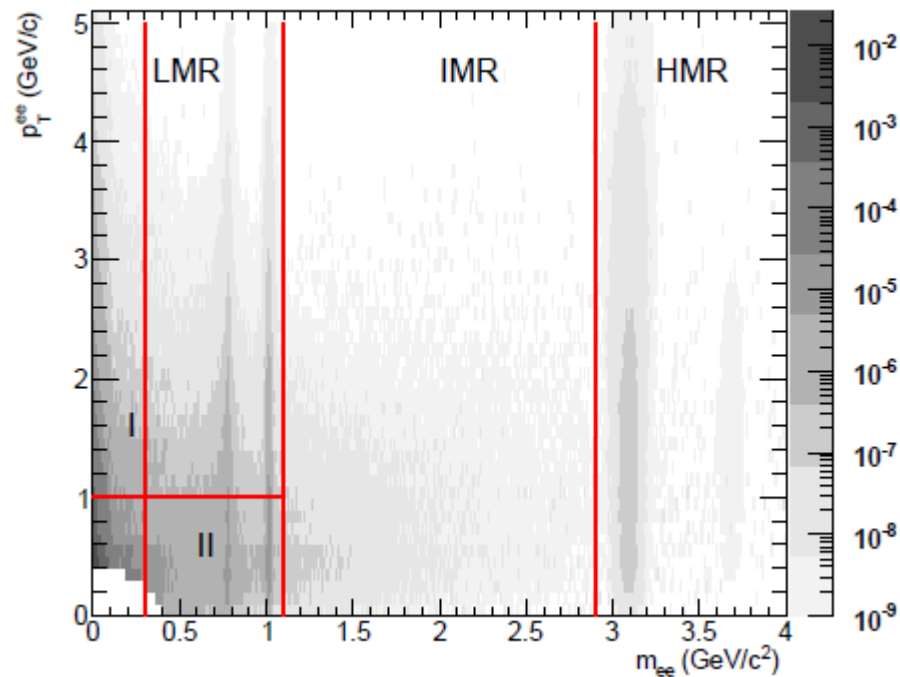
- Heavy flavor production:

- $\sigma_c = N_{\text{coll}} \times 567 \pm 57 \pm 193 \mu\text{b}$  from single electron measurement

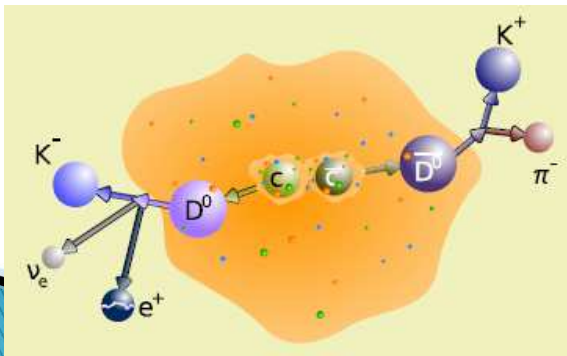
**Predict cocktail of known pair sources**



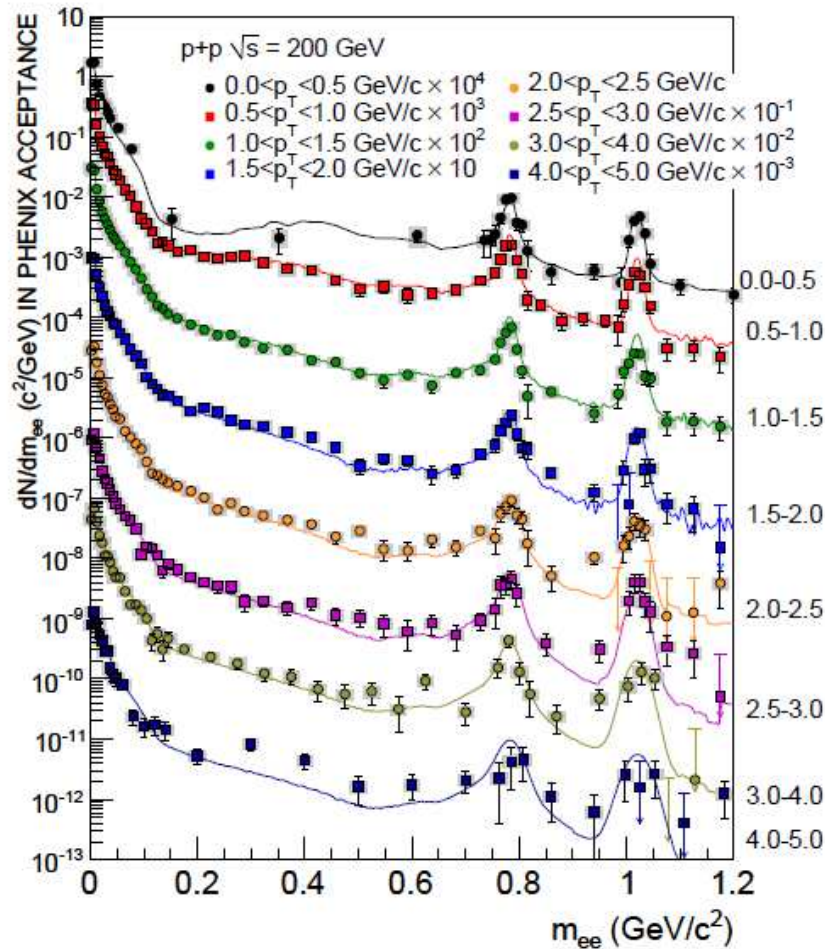
# Methodical Spectral Analysis



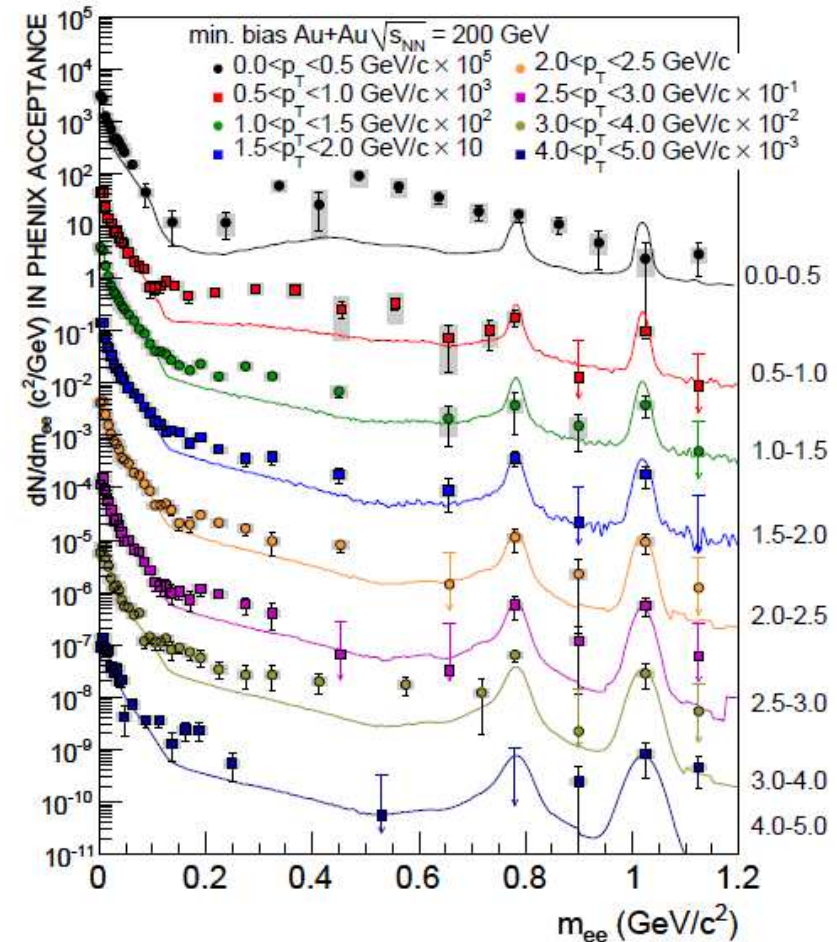
- ▶ IMR in cocktail is dominated by correlated open charm.
- ▶ LMR-I wherein  $m_{ee} \ll p_T$
- ▶ LMR-II where the above condition does not apply.



# LRM divided into $p_T$ Slices



- ▶ pp shows excess growing with  $p_T$ .
- ▶ pp excess slopes downward.

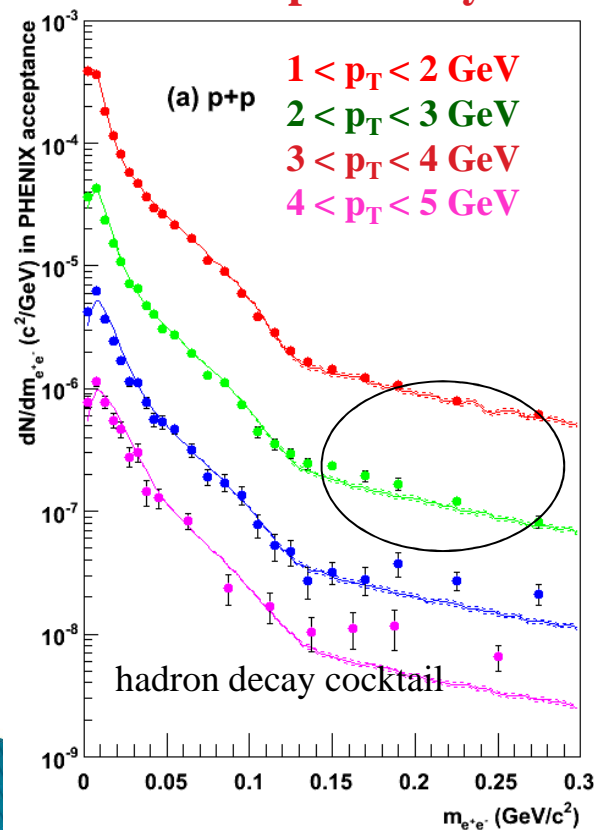


- ▶ AuAu shows excess at all  $p_T$
- ▶ AuAu excess similarly shaped to pp in higher  $p_T$  region

# Direct (pQCD) Radiation

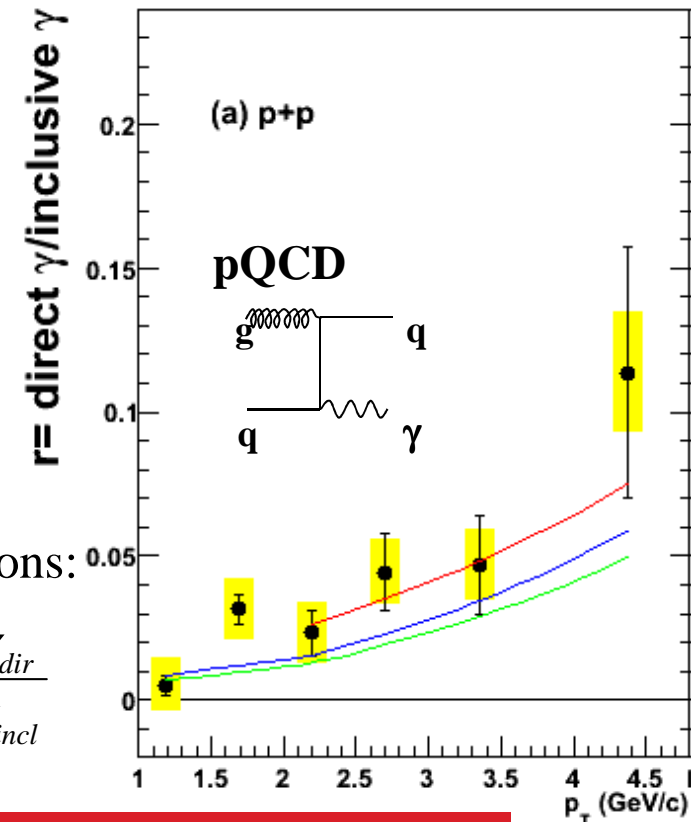
- Measuring direct photons via virtual photons:
  - any process that radiates  $\gamma$  will also radiate  $\gamma^*$
  - for  $m \ll p_T$   $\gamma^*$  is “almost real”
  - extrapolate  $\gamma^* \rightarrow e+e^-$  yield to  $m = 0 \rightarrow$  direct  $\gamma$  yield
  - $m > m_\pi$  removes 90% of hadron decay background
  - S/B improves by factor 10: 10% direct  $\gamma \rightarrow$  100% direct  $\gamma^*$

arXiv:0804.4168



access above cocktail  
fraction or direct photons:

$$r = \frac{\gamma_{dir}^*}{\gamma_{incl}^*} = \frac{\gamma_{dir}}{\gamma_{incl}}$$

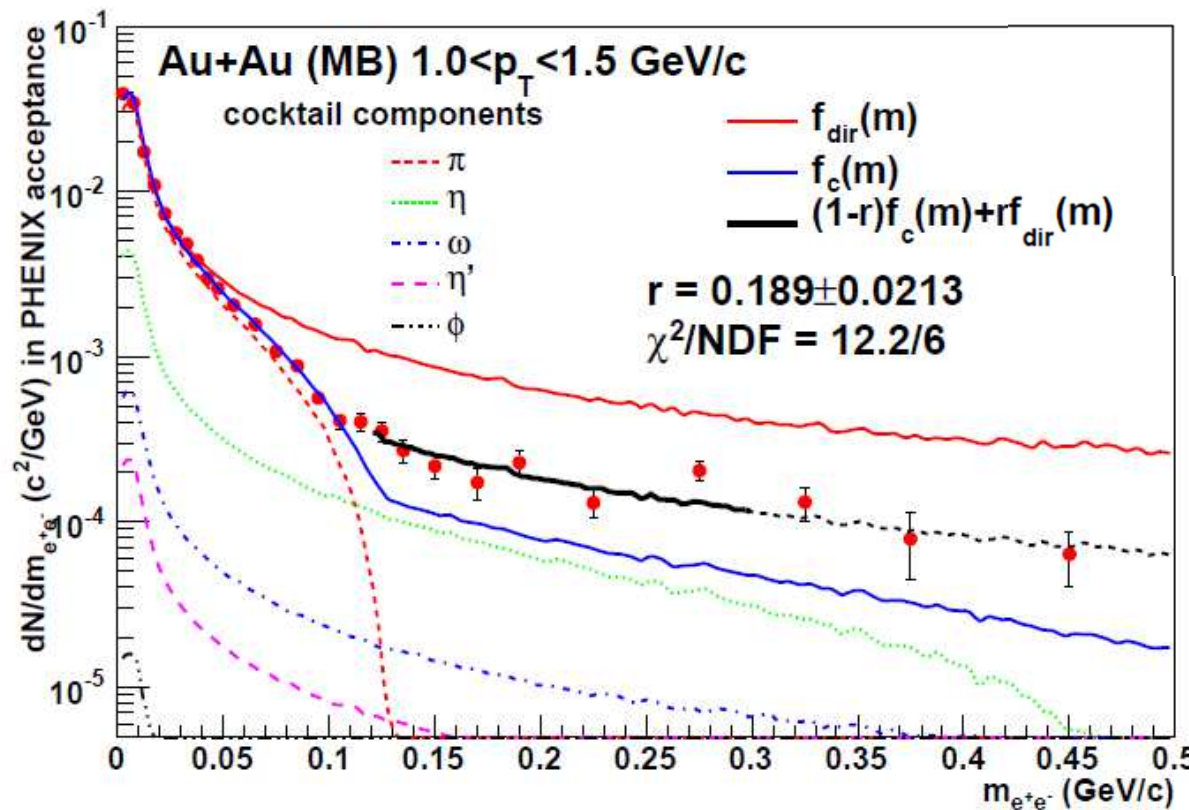


Small excess for  $m \ll p_T$  consistent with pQCD direct photons



# Fit Mass Distribution to Extract the Direct Yield:

- ▶ Example: one pT bin for Au+Au collisions



$$\frac{d^2 N_{ee}}{dm_{ee} dp_T} = \frac{2\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{1}{m_{ee}} L(m_{ee}) S(m_{ee}, p_T) \frac{dN_\gamma}{dp_T},$$

$$L(m_{ee}) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_e^2}{m_{ee}^2} \left(1 + \frac{2m_e^2}{m_{ee}^2}\right)}.$$

$$S_{\text{KW}}(M) = |F_P(M^2)|^2 \left(1 - \frac{M^2}{m_P^2}\right)^3$$

**Yield truncated  
at parent mass**

$f_c(m_{ee})$  and  $f_{\text{dir}}(m_{ee})$   
normalized to data  
for  $m_{ee} < 30 \text{ MeV}$

**Direct  $\gamma^*$  yield fitted in range 120 to 300 MeV**  
**Insensitive to  $\pi^0$  yield**



# Interpretation as Direct Photon

Relation between real and virtual photons:

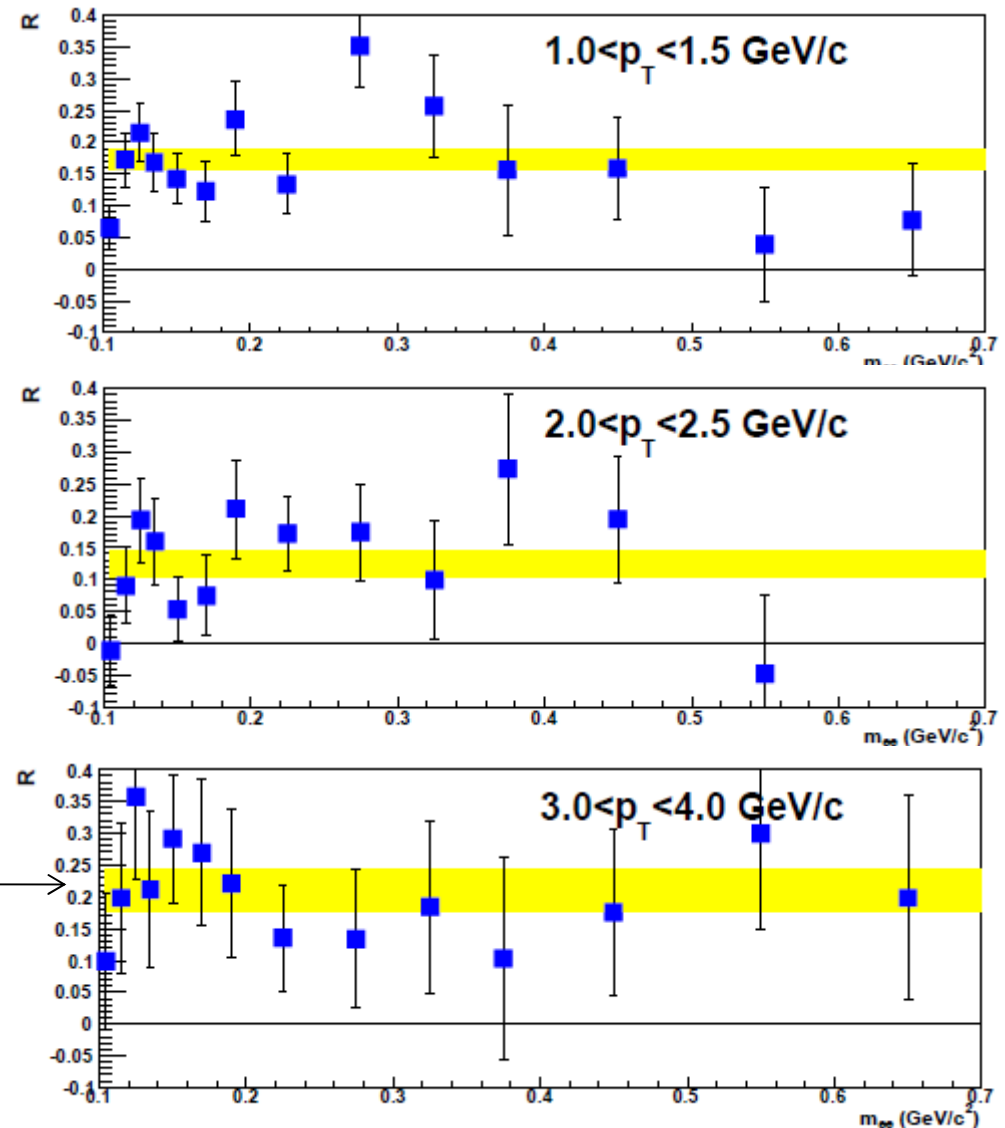
$$\frac{d\sigma_{ee}}{dM^2 dp_T^2 dy} \cong \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{1}{M^2} L(M) \frac{d\sigma_\gamma}{dp_T^2 dy}$$

Extrapolate real  $\gamma$  yield from dileptons:

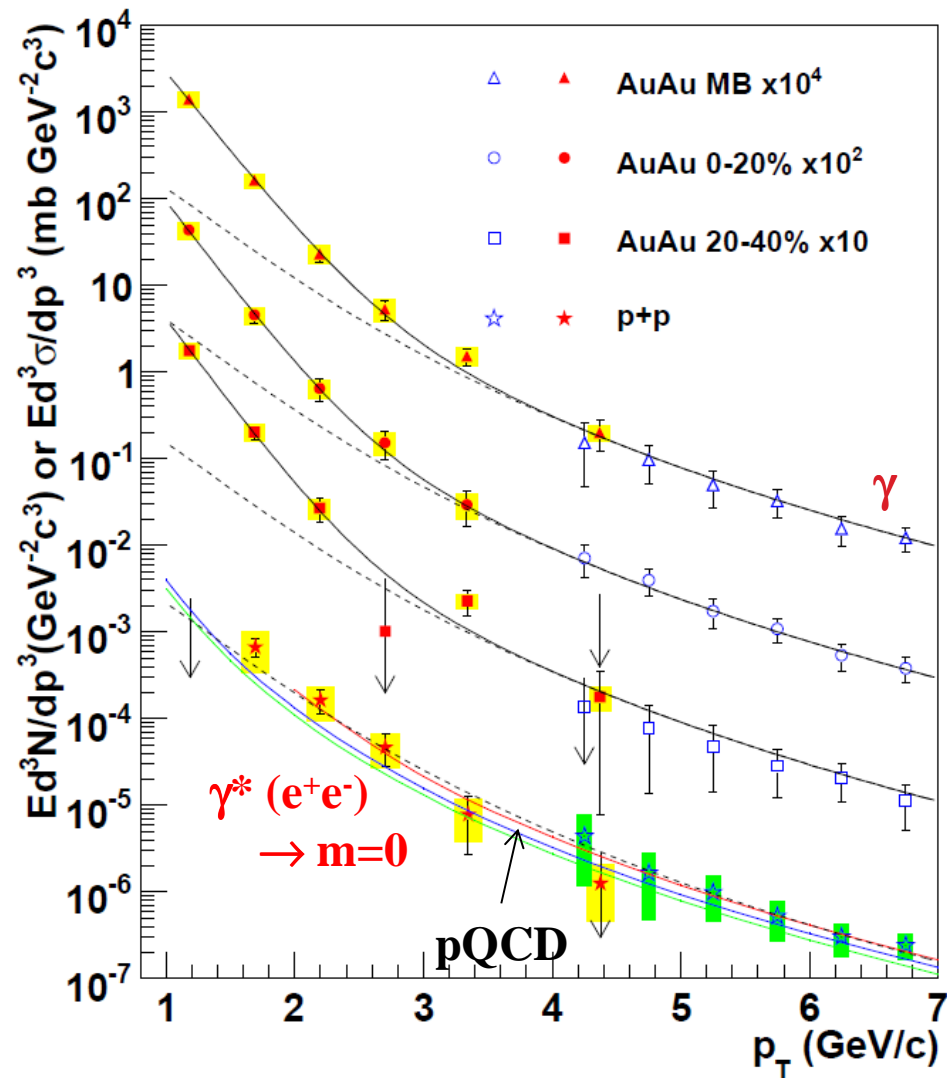
$$M \times \frac{dN_{ee}}{dM} \rightarrow \frac{dN_\gamma}{dM} \quad \text{for } M \rightarrow 0$$

**Virtual Photon excess  
At small mass and high  $p_T$   
Can be interpreted as  
real photon excess**

no change in shape  
can be extrapolated  
to  $m=0$



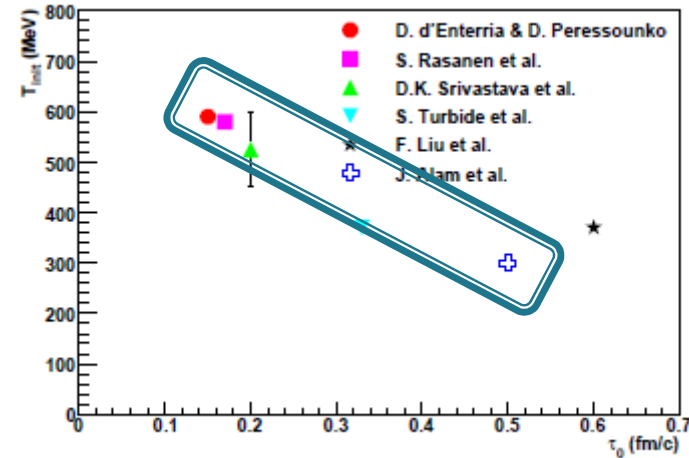
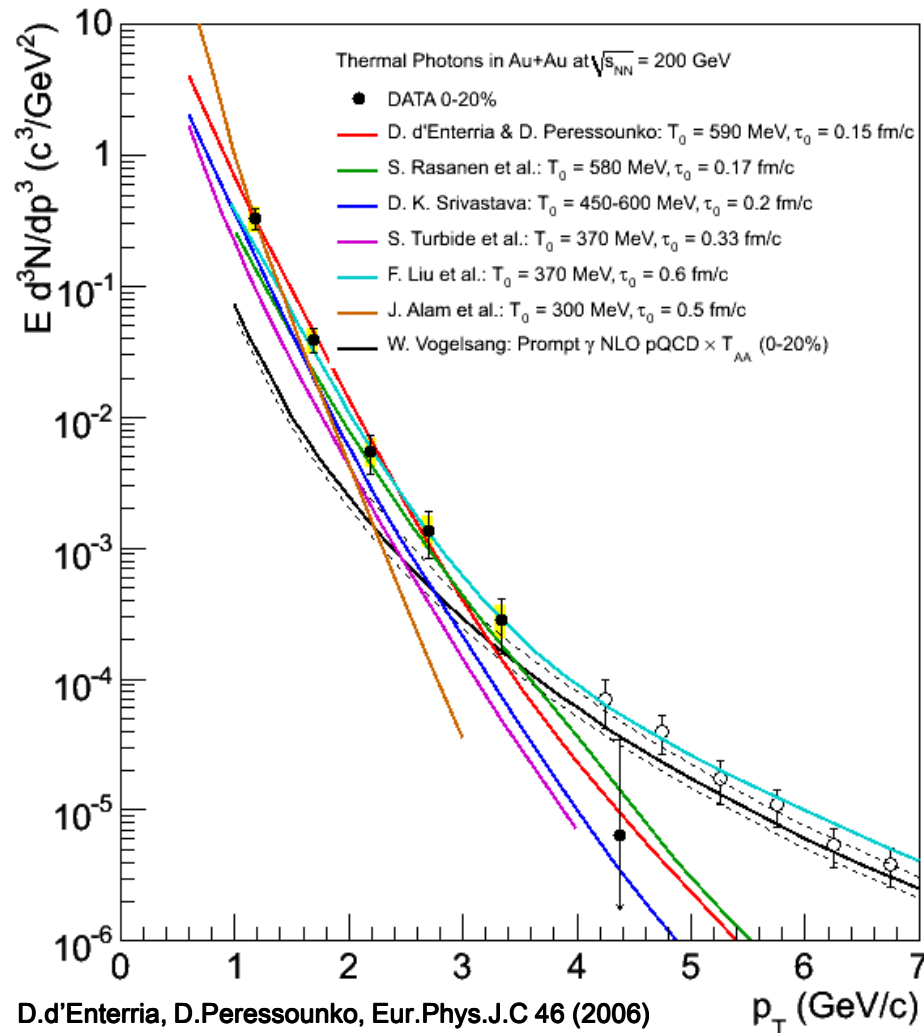
# Thermal Radiation at RHIC



- ▶ Direct photons from real photons:
  - Measure inclusive photons
  - Subtract  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  decay photons at  $S/B < 1:10$  for  $p_T < 3 \text{ GeV}$
- ▶ Direct photons from virtual photons:
  - Measure  $e^+e^-$  pairs at  $m_\pi < m \ll p_T$
  - Subtract  $\eta$  decays at  $S/B \sim 1:1$
  - Extrapolate to mass 0

**First thermal photon measurement in RHI Collisions!**

# Calculation of Thermal Photons

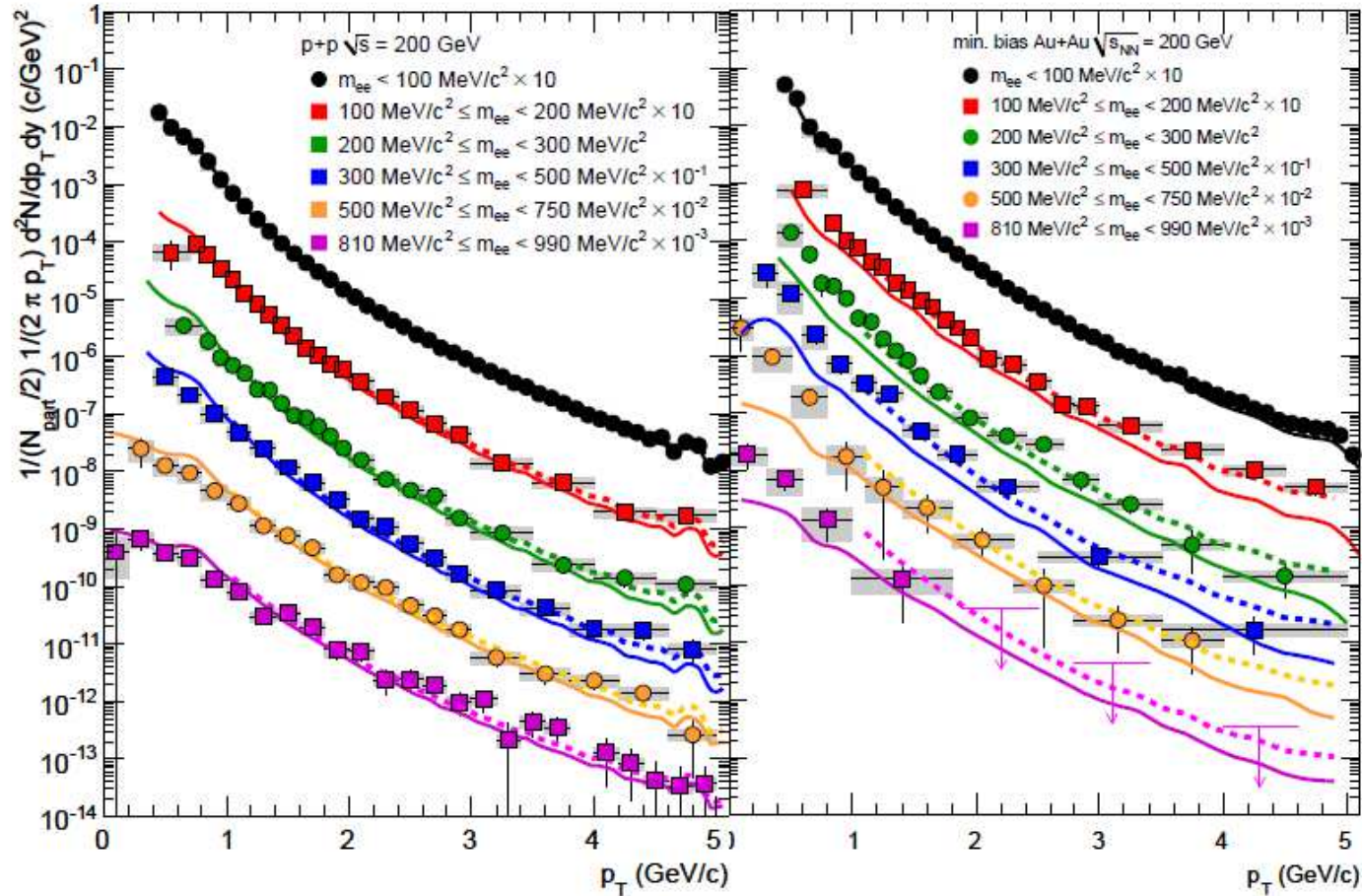


## ► Initial temperatures and times from theoretical model fits to data:

- 0.15 fm/c, 590 MeV (d'Enterria et al.)
- 0.2 fm/c, 450–660 MeV (Srivastava et al.)
- 0.5 fm/c, 300 MeV (Alam et al.)
- 0.17 fm/c, 580 MeV (Rasanen et al.)
- 0.33 fm/c, 370 MeV (Turbide et al.)

**$T_{ini} = 300$  to  $600$  MeV**  
 **$\tau_0 = 0.15$  to  $0.5$  fm/c**

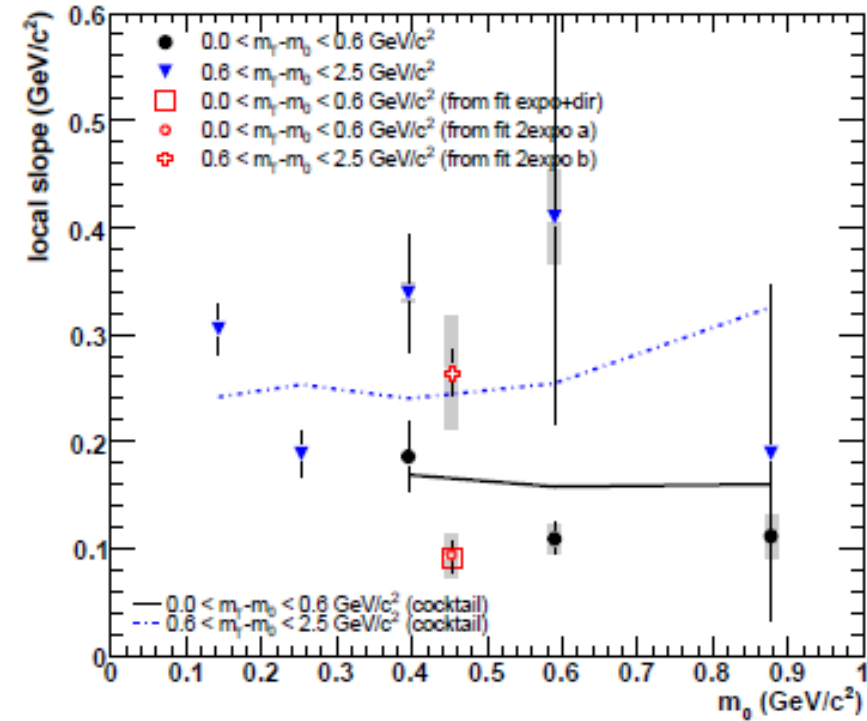
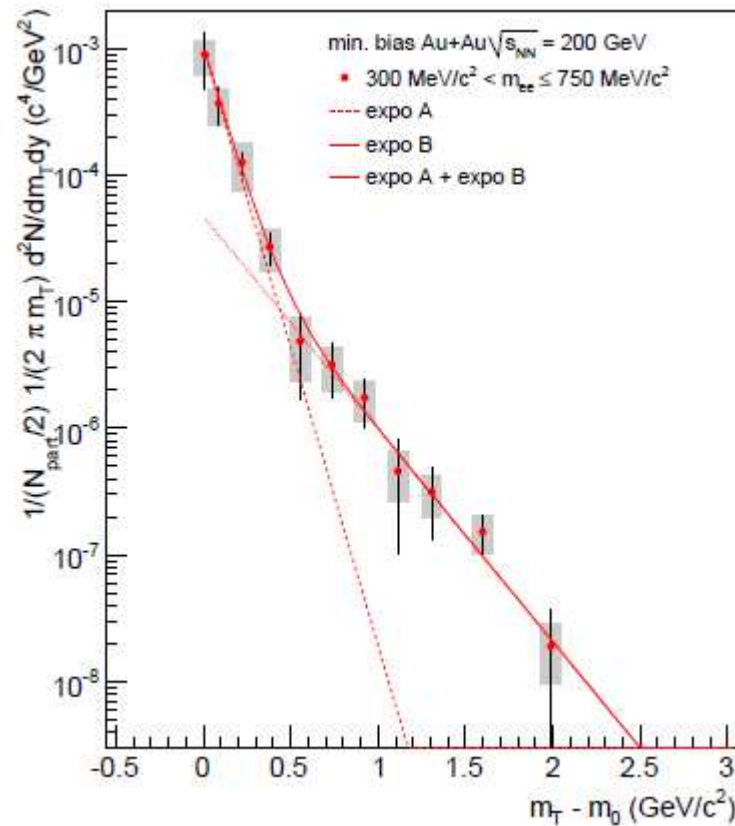
# $p_T$ Spectra



pp well described by Cocktail + gamma.  
 AuAu not well described:  
 Additional excess at low  $p_T$

Thomas K Hemmick

# Local Slopes – Cold Component



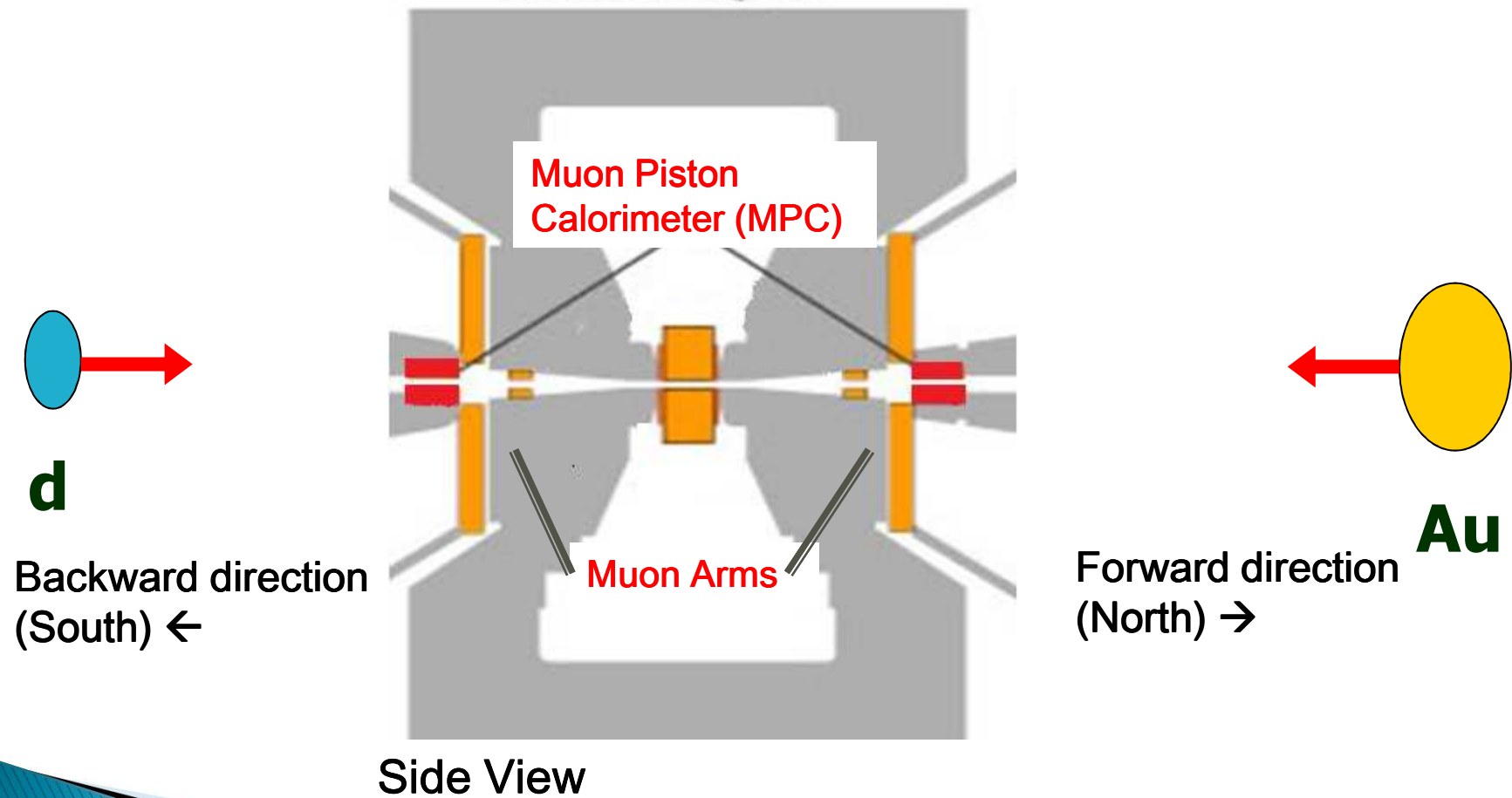
**Soft component below  $m_T \sim 500 \text{ MeV}$ :**

**$T_{\text{eff}} < 120 \text{ MeV}$  independent of mass  
 more than 50% of yield**



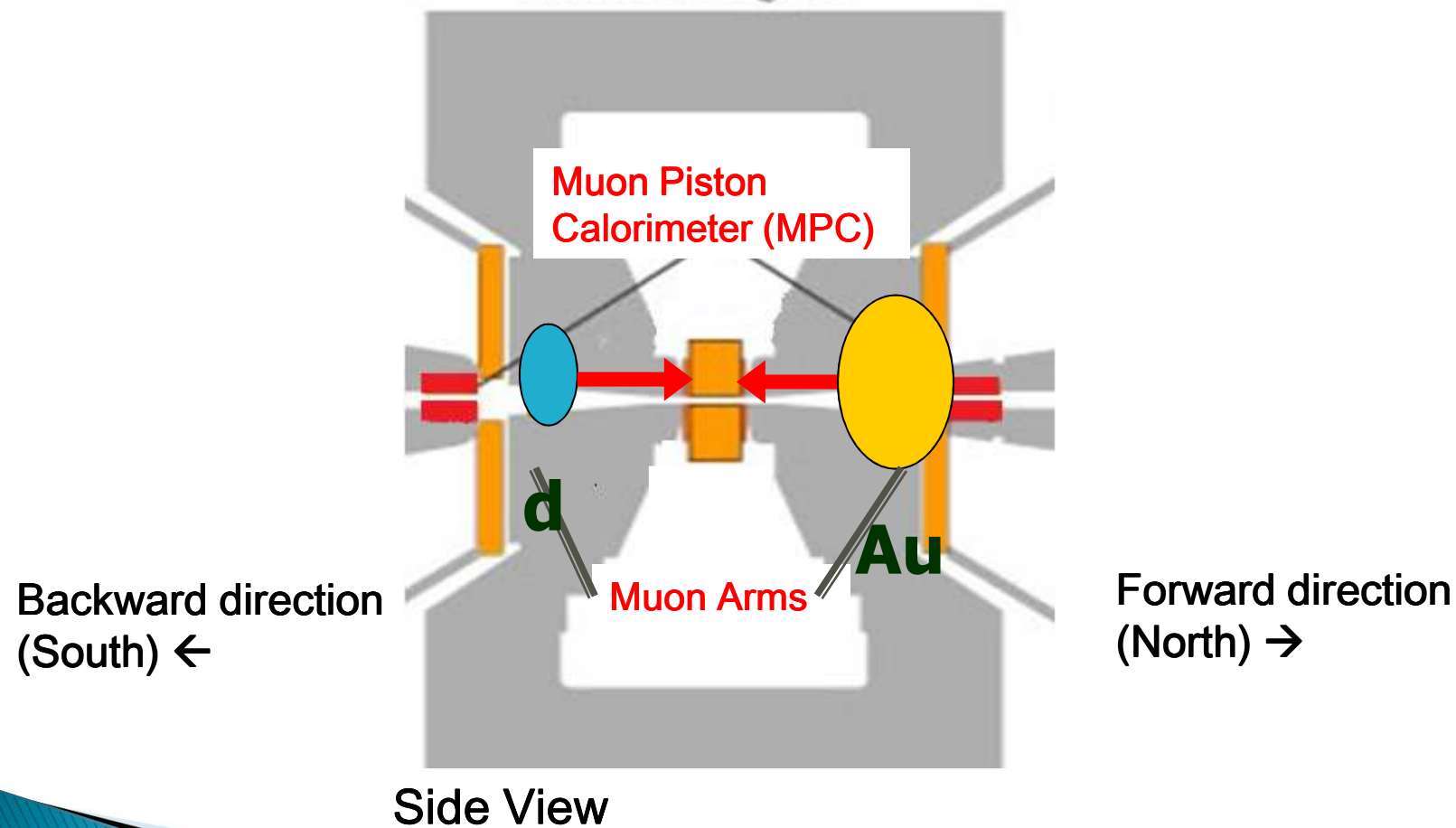
# *CGC Revisited* 200 GeV d+Au

PHENIX central spectrometer magnet



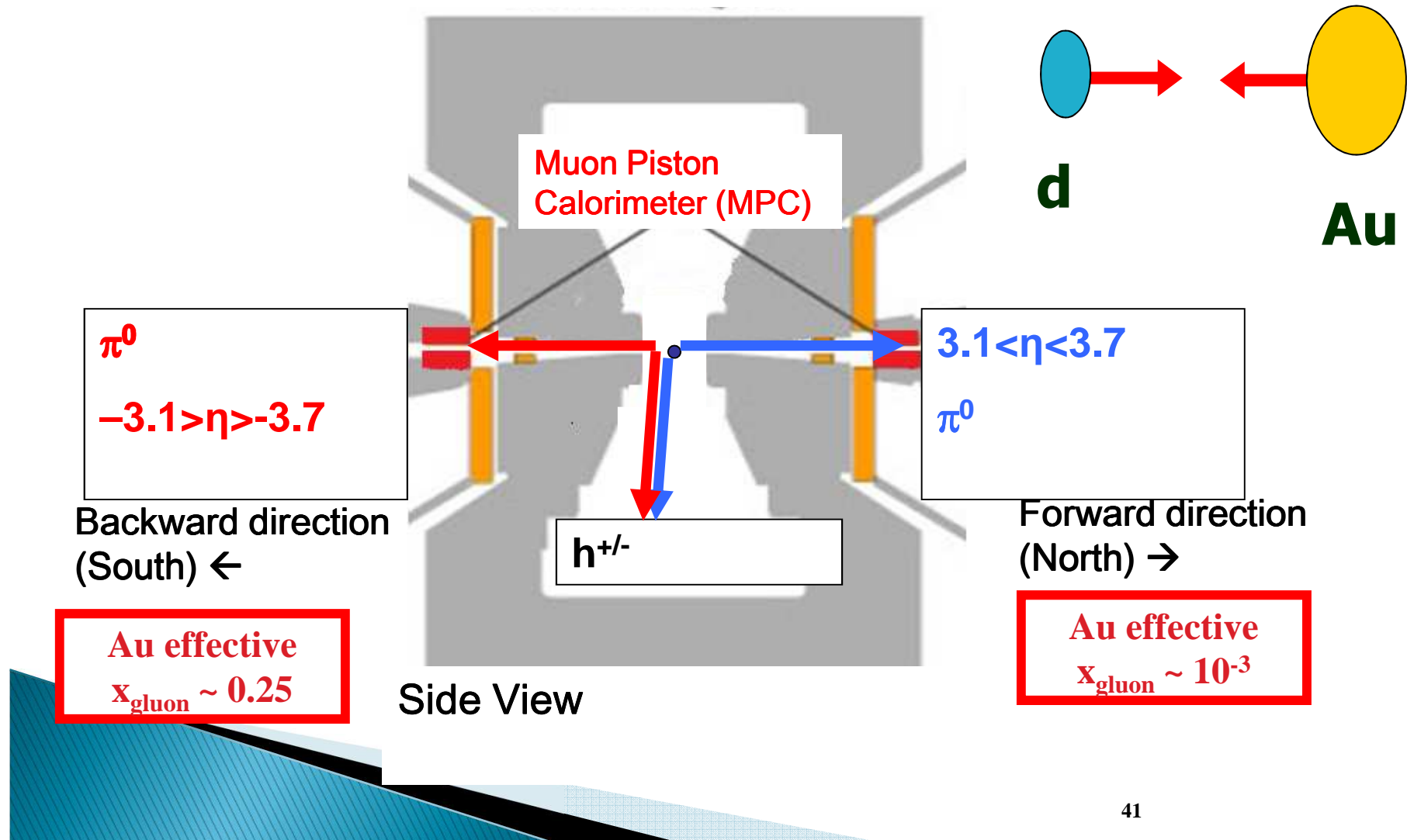
# *CGC Revisited* 200 GeV d+Au

PHENIX central spectrometer magnet

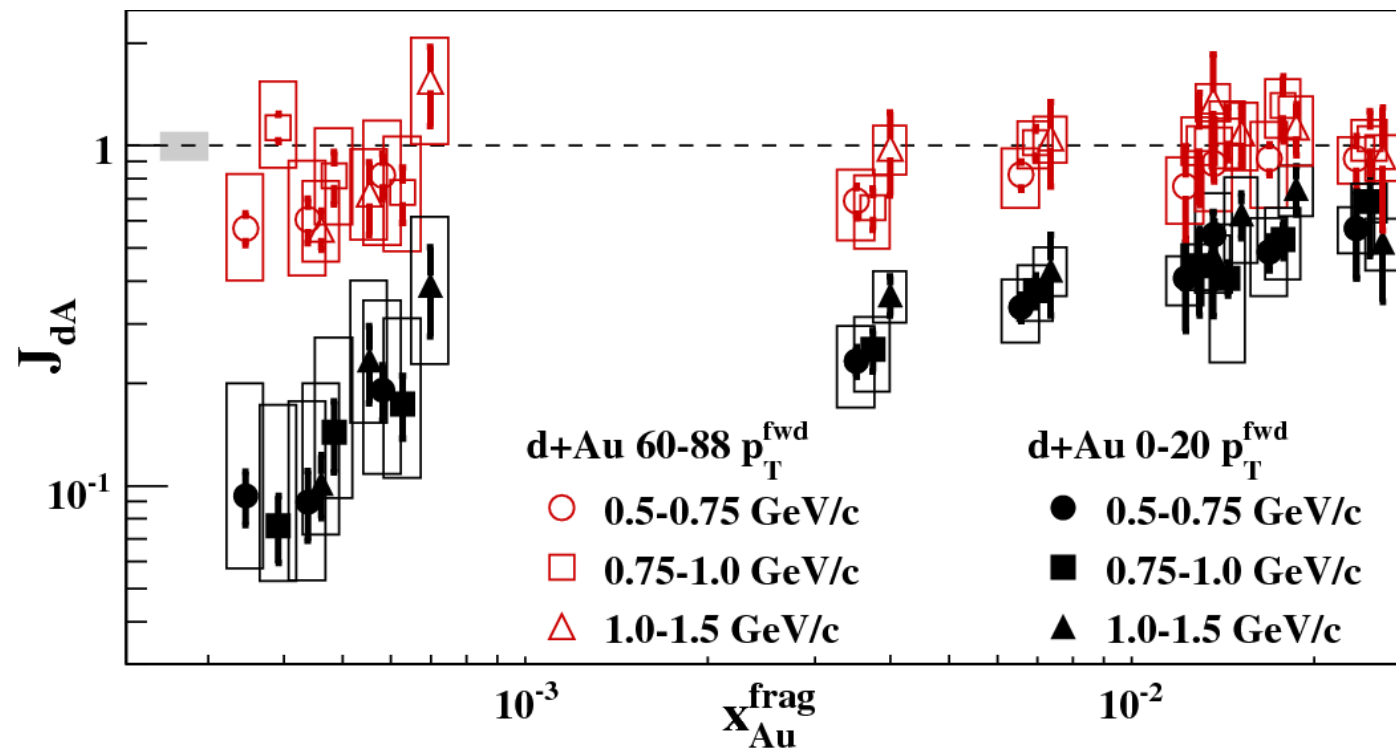


# Di-Jet Correlations Span $\eta$ and $x$

PHENIX central spectrometer magnet

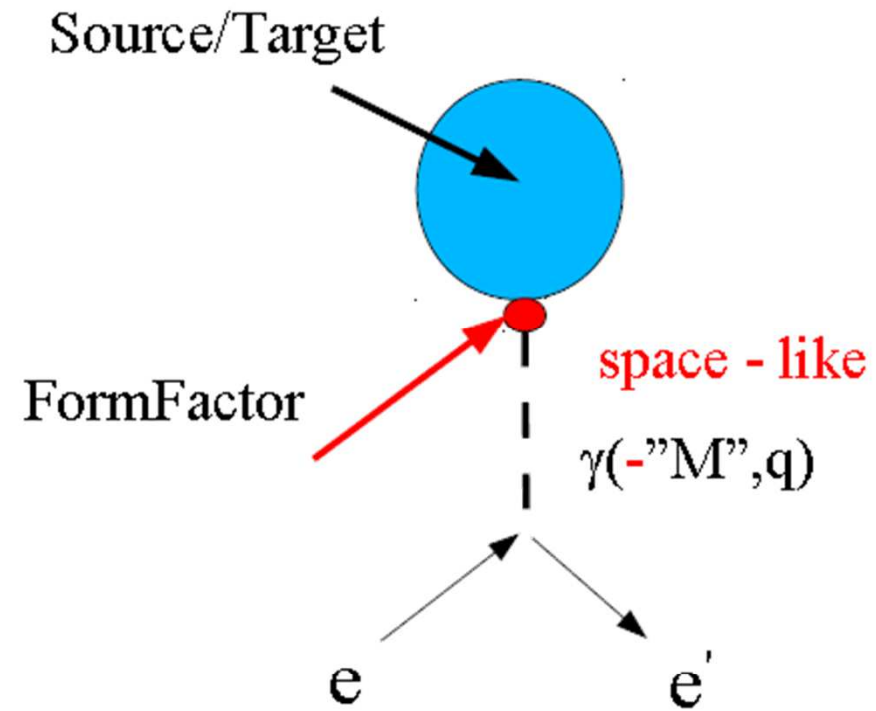


# Revisiting Color Glass Condensate



- ▶ d+Au results at mid rapidity show that jet suppression is a final state effect.
- ▶ However, at very low  $x$ , suppression is seen.
- ▶ Hints of CGC?
- ▶ What to do next?

# Dileptons vs Electron Scattering

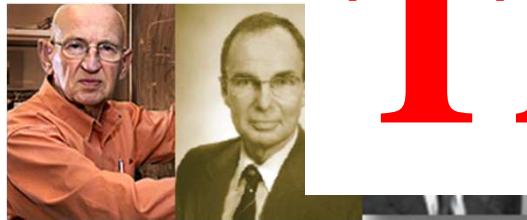
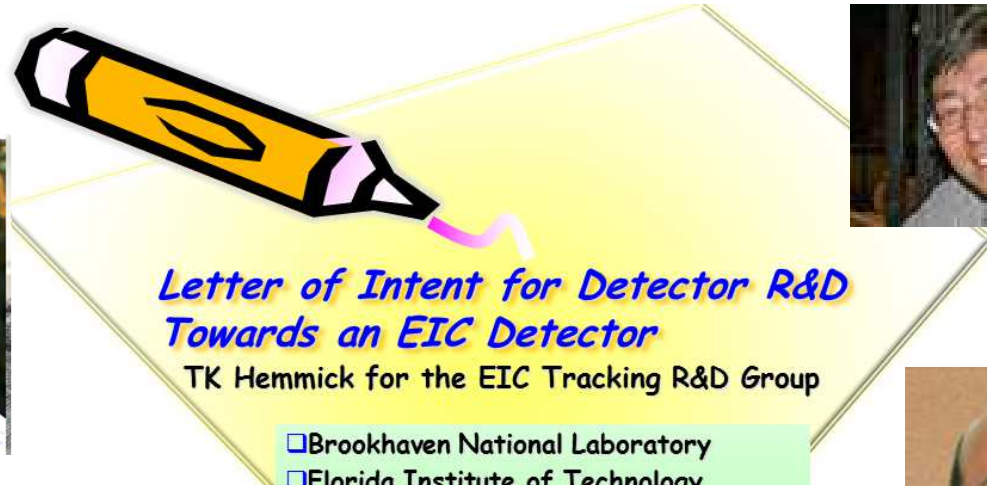


Measures “space structure”

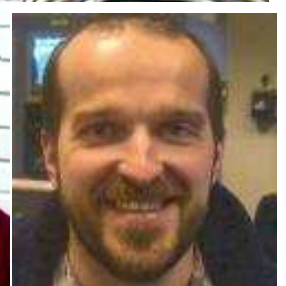
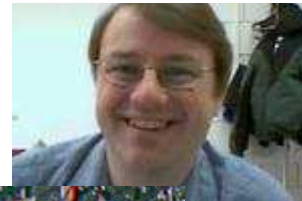
$$S(0, q) \rightarrow S(r)$$



# New Friends and Collaborators...



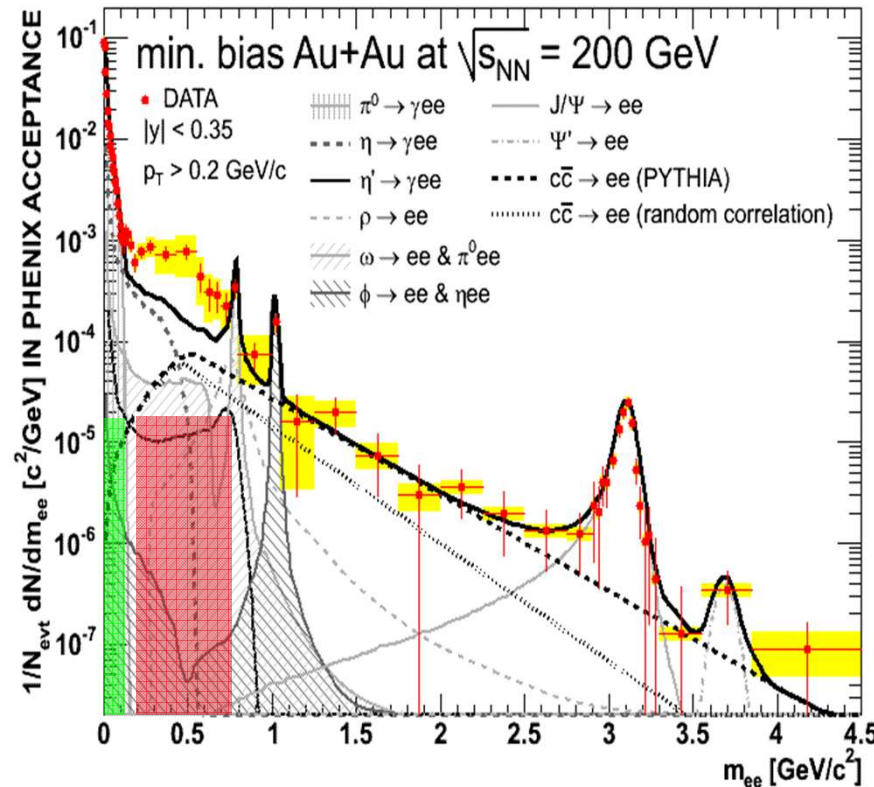
# Thank You



# Backups...

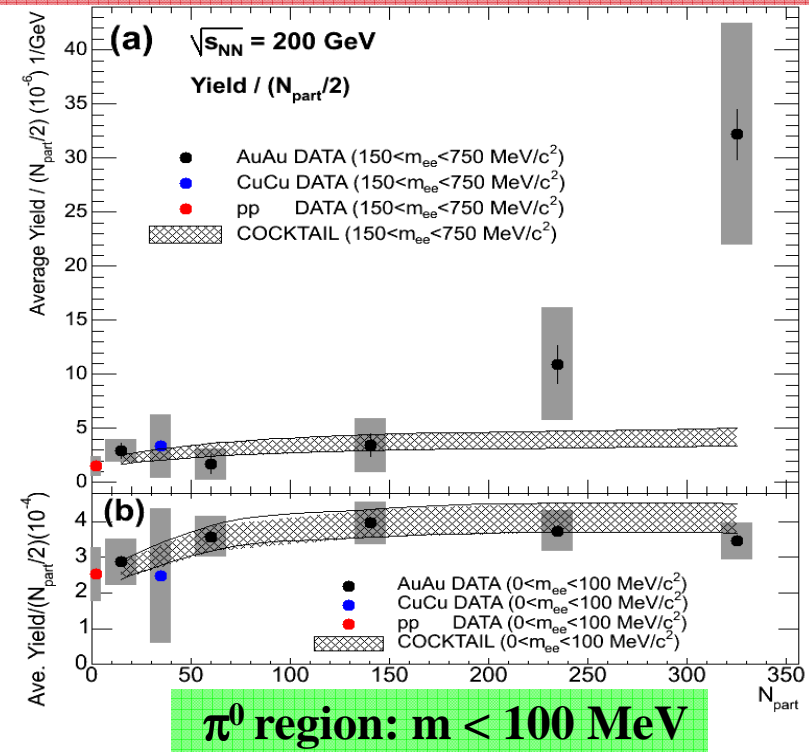


# Au+Au Dilepton Continuum



- ▶ Excess  $150 < m_{ee} < 750$  MeV:  
 $3.4 \pm 0.2(\text{stat.}) \pm 1.3(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.7(\text{model})$
- ▶ Intermediate-mass continuum: consistent with PYTHIA if charm is modified room for thermal radiation

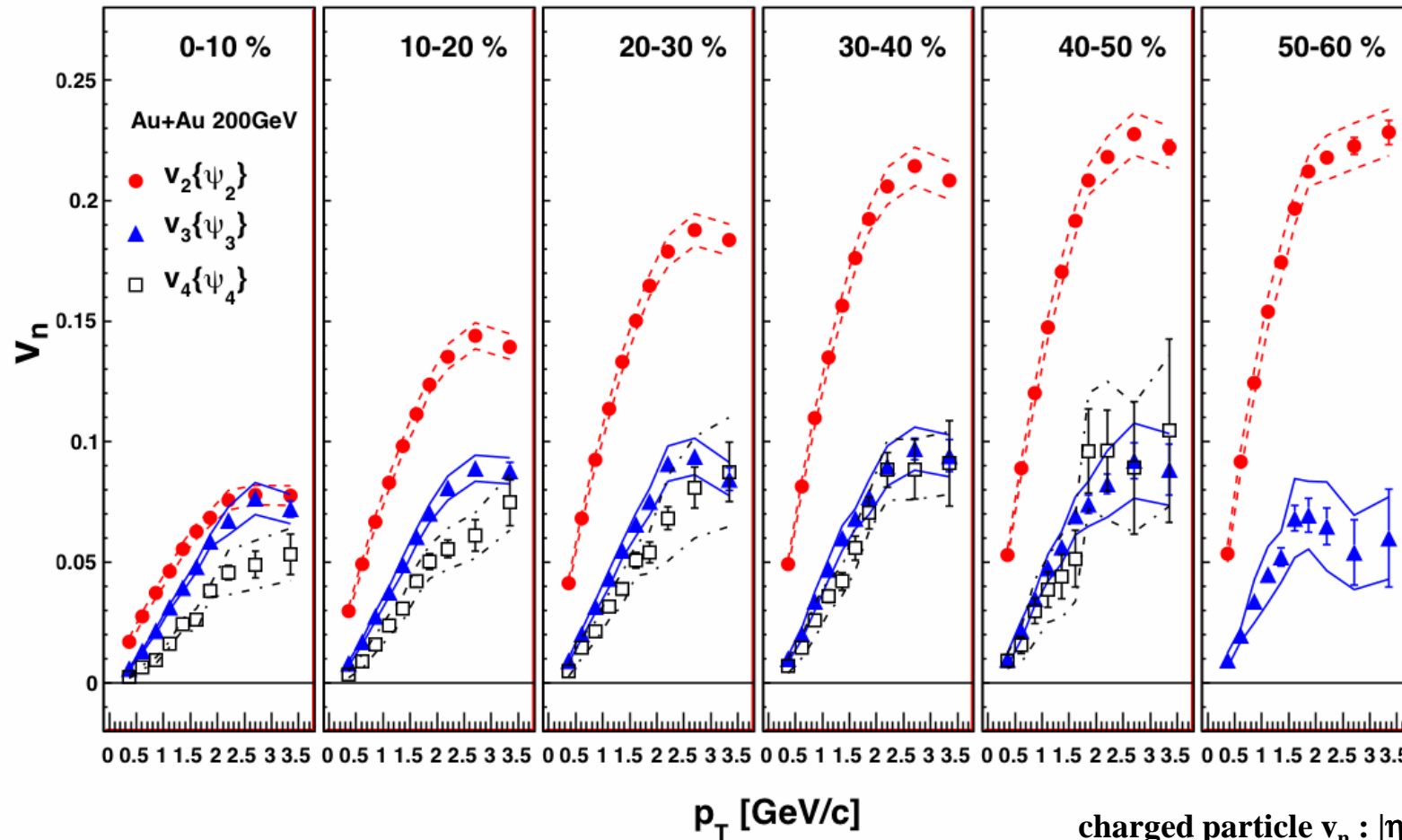
Excess region:  $150 < m < 750$  MeV



- Yield / ( $N_{part}/2$ ) in mass windows
- $\pi^0$  region: production scales approximately with  $N_{part}$
- Excess region: expect contribution from hot matter
  - in-medium production from  $\pi\pi$  or  $qq$  annihilation
  - yield should scale faster than  $N_{part}$

# $v_2\{\Phi_2\}, v_3\{\Phi_3\}, v_4\{\Phi_4\}$ at 200GeV Au+Au

arXiv:1105.3928



- (1)  $v_3$  is comparable to  $v_2$  at 0~10%
- (2) weak centrality dependence on  $v_3$
- (3)  $v_4\{\Phi_4\} \sim 2 \times v_4\{\Phi_2\}$

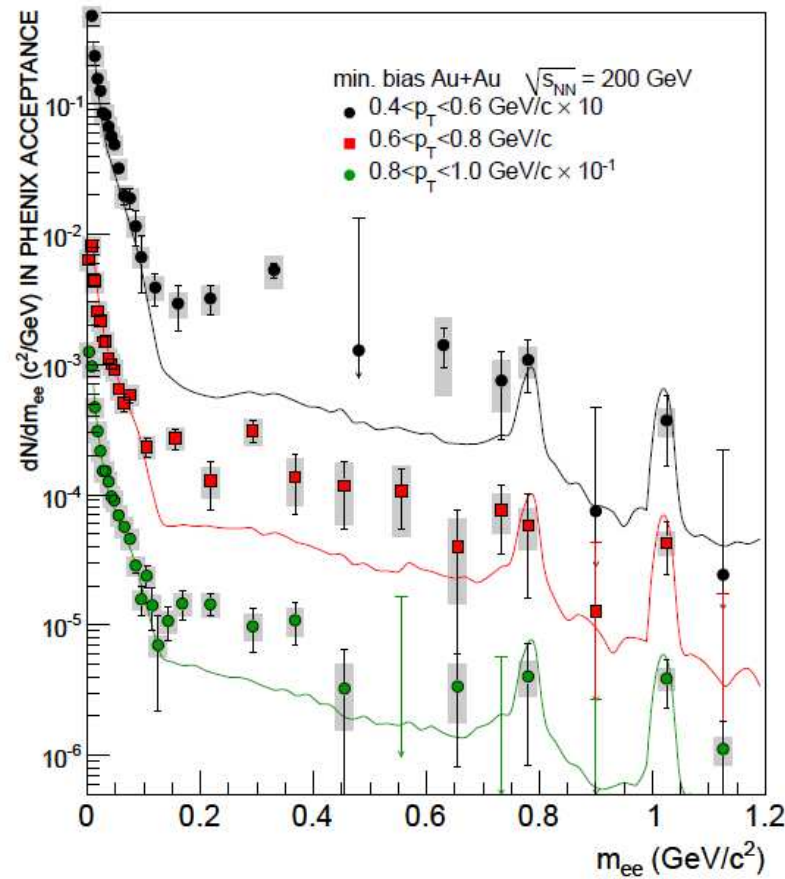
charged particle  $v_n : |\eta| < 0.35$   
reaction plane  $\Phi_n : |\eta| = 1.0 \sim 2.8$

All of these are consistent with initial fluctuation.

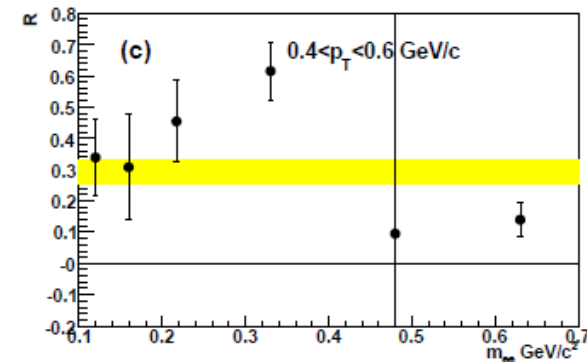
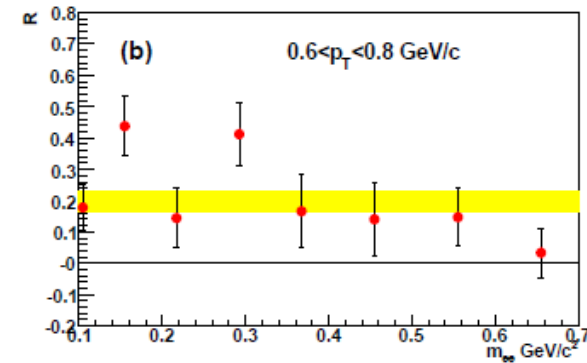
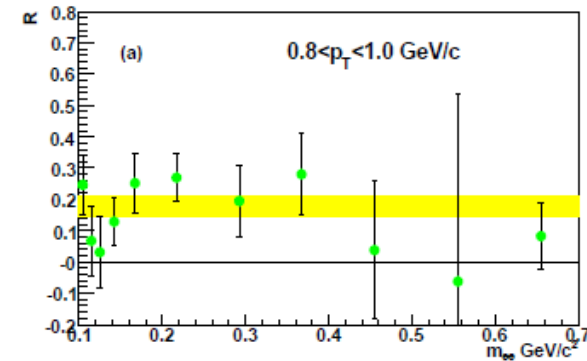


# $p_T < 1$ GeV Enhancement

Poorly described as  $\gamma^*$

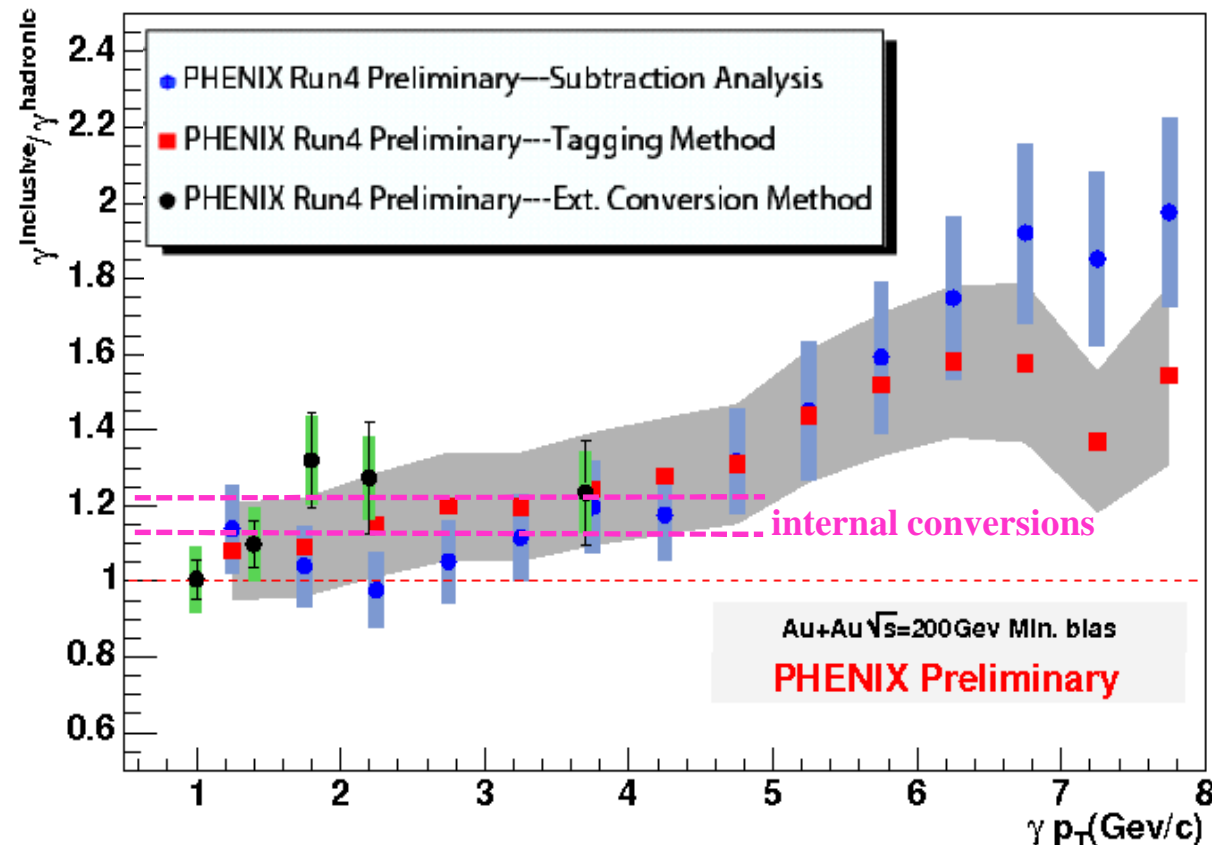


Low mass excess in Au-Au concentrated at low  $p_T$ !





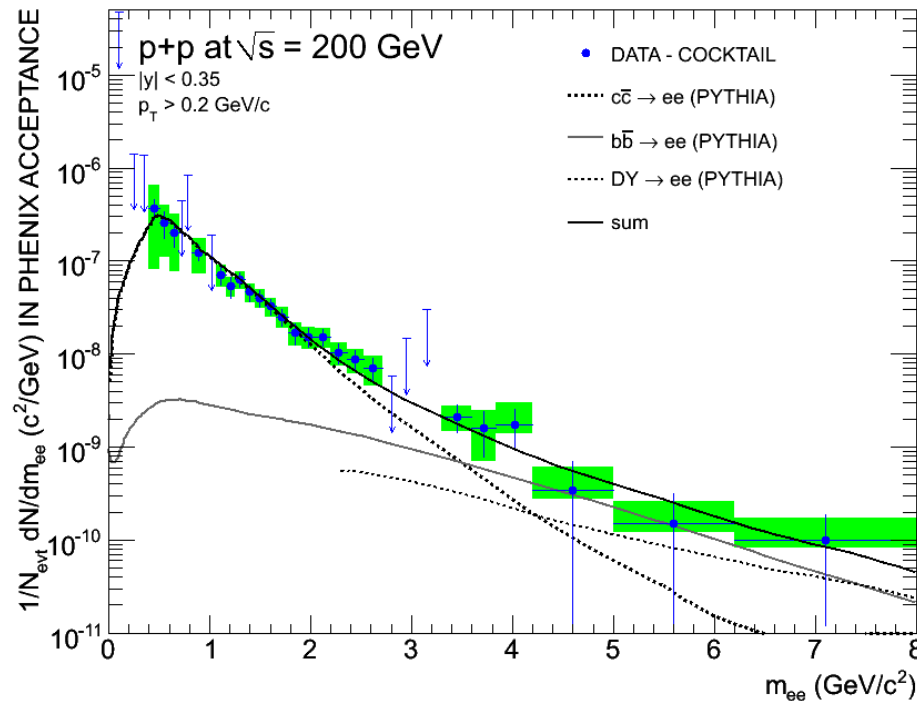
# Search for Thermal Photons via Real Photons



- ▶ PHENIX has developed different methods:
  - Subtraction or tagging of photons detected by calorimeter
  - Tagging photons detected by conversions, i.e.  $e^+e^-$  pairs
- ▶ Results consistent with internal conversion method

# IMR Region ( $\phi \rightarrow J/\psi$ )

Subtract hadron decay contribution  
and fit difference:



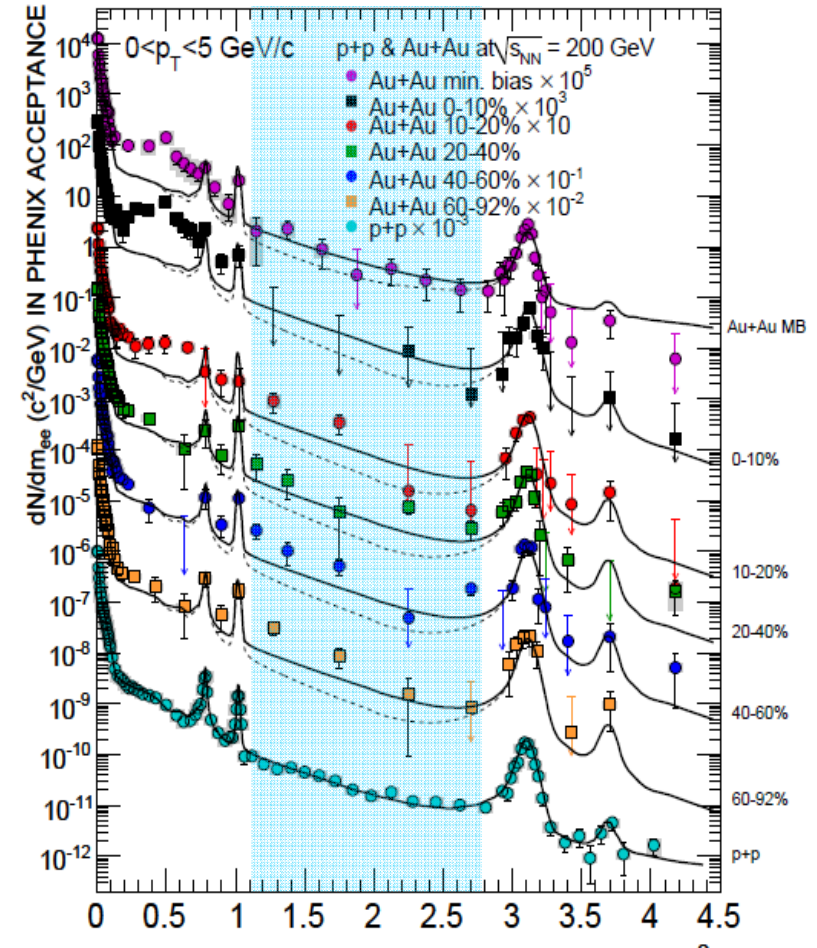
Charm: after cocktail subtraction

□  $\sigma_c = 544 \pm 39$  (stat)  $\pm 142$  (sys)  $\pm 200$  (model)  $\mu\text{b}$

Simultaneous fit of charm and bottom:

□  $\sigma_c = 518 \pm 47$  (stat)  $\pm 135$  (sys)  $\pm 190$  (model)  $\mu\text{b}$

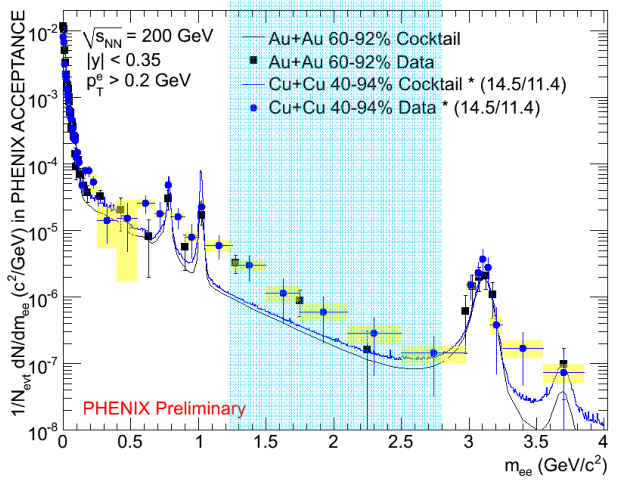
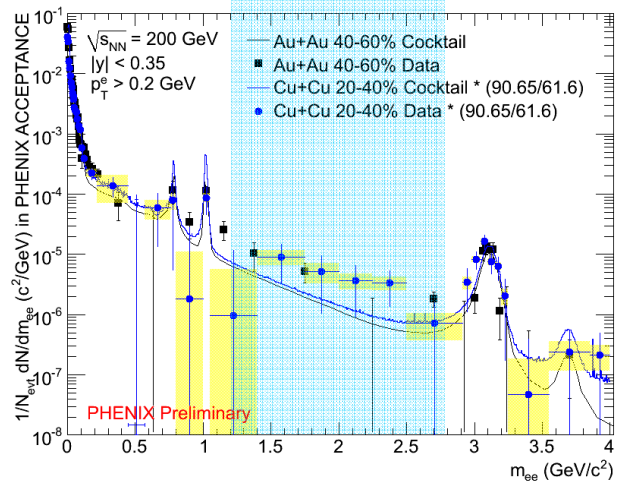
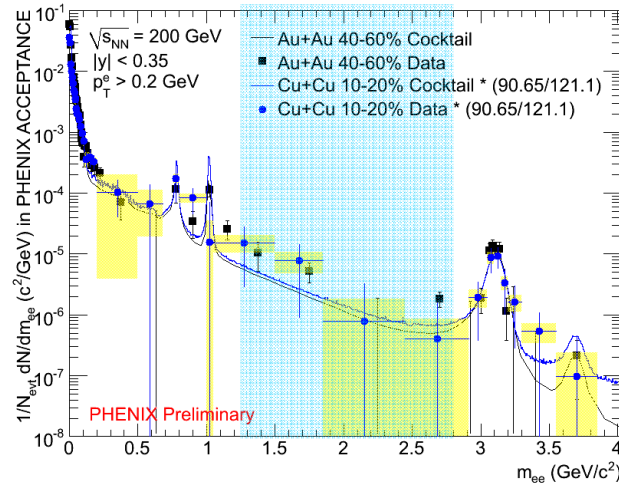
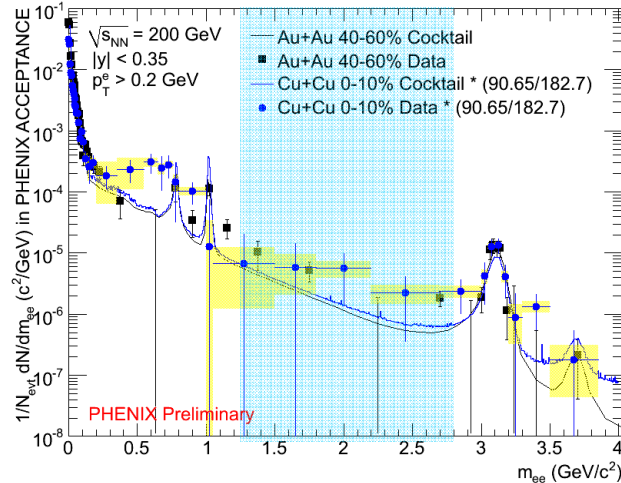
□  $\sigma_b = 3.9 \pm 2.4$  (stat)  $+3/-2$  (sys)  $\mu\text{b}$



Surprise!

- AuAu matches cocktail in MB.
- Slightly higher in peripheral
- Dashed line is result of max. smearing of charm pairs.

# Cu+Cu Au+Au comparison



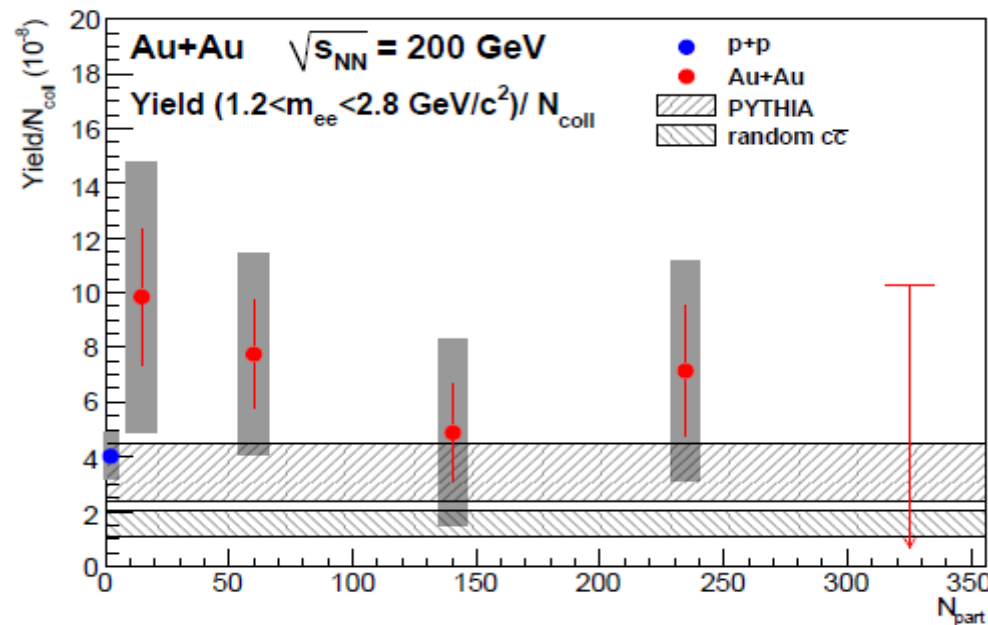
**Spectral modification should lower yield.**

- Charm singles are well known to be strongly modified by the medium.
- These effects should lower the IMR yield most at the most central bin.

**Prompt yields were observed by NA60 in this regime.**

- Prompt yields might rise with centrality.
- Competing or compensating effects?

# AuAu IMR yield vs Centrality.



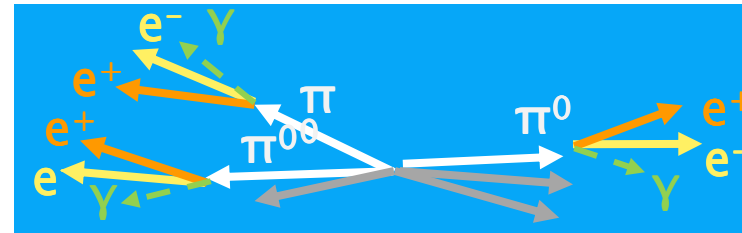
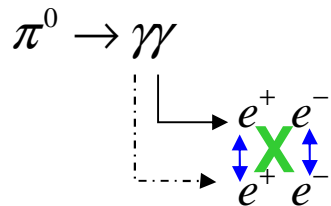
- ▶ Because of large errors, the IMR of AuAu is still consistent with unmodified scaled pp or Pythia.
- ▶ Additional sources may also be present since “suppression” due to charm spectral modification is not observed in the pair data.

# Challenge for PHENIX: Pair Background

- ▶ No background rejection → Signal/Background  $\geq 1/100$  in Au–Au
- ▶ Unphysical correlated background
  - Track overlaps in detectors
  - Not reproducible by mixed events: removed from event sample (pair cut)
- ▶ Combinatorial background:  $e^+$  and  $e^-$  from different uncorrelated source

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \textcircled{e^+} \textcircled{e^-} \gamma \qquad \gamma \rightarrow \textcircled{e^+} \textcircled{e^-}$$

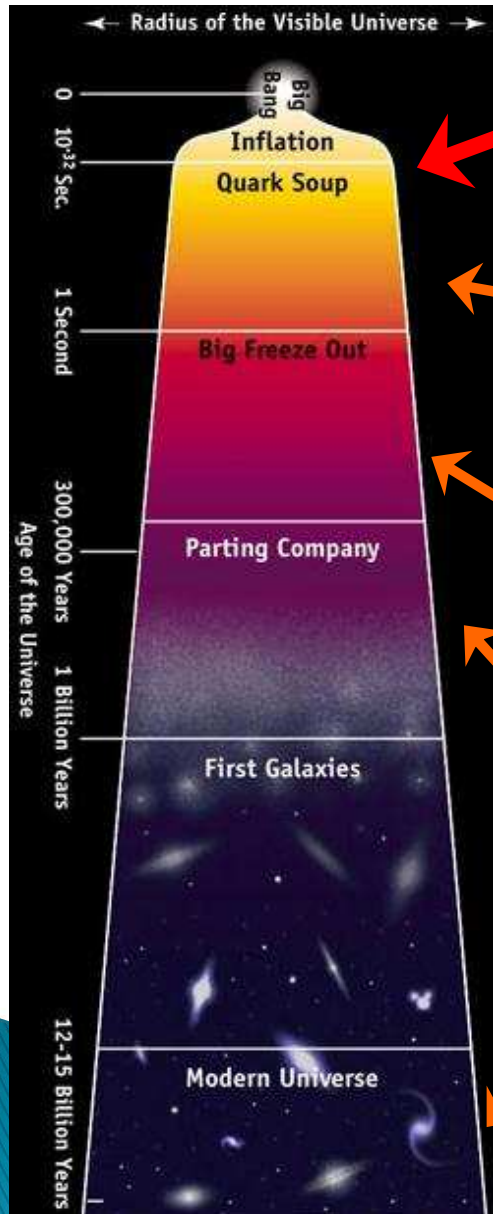
- Need event mixing because of acceptance differences for  $e^+$  and  $e^-$
- Use like sign pairs to check event mixing
- 
- ▶ Correlated background:  $e^+$  and  $e^-$  from same source but not “signal”
  - “Cross” pairs
    - “jet” pairs



- Use Monte Carlo simulation and like sign data to estimate and subtract background



# Evolution of the Universe



## Reheating Matter

Standard Model (N/P) F

Too hot for nuclei to bind

Nuclear/Particle (N/P)

Synthesis builds

Nucle Force...Nucle

Stars convert gravitational energy to temperature.

They “replay” and finish nucleosynthesis

~15,000,000 K in the center of our sun.

Quark-

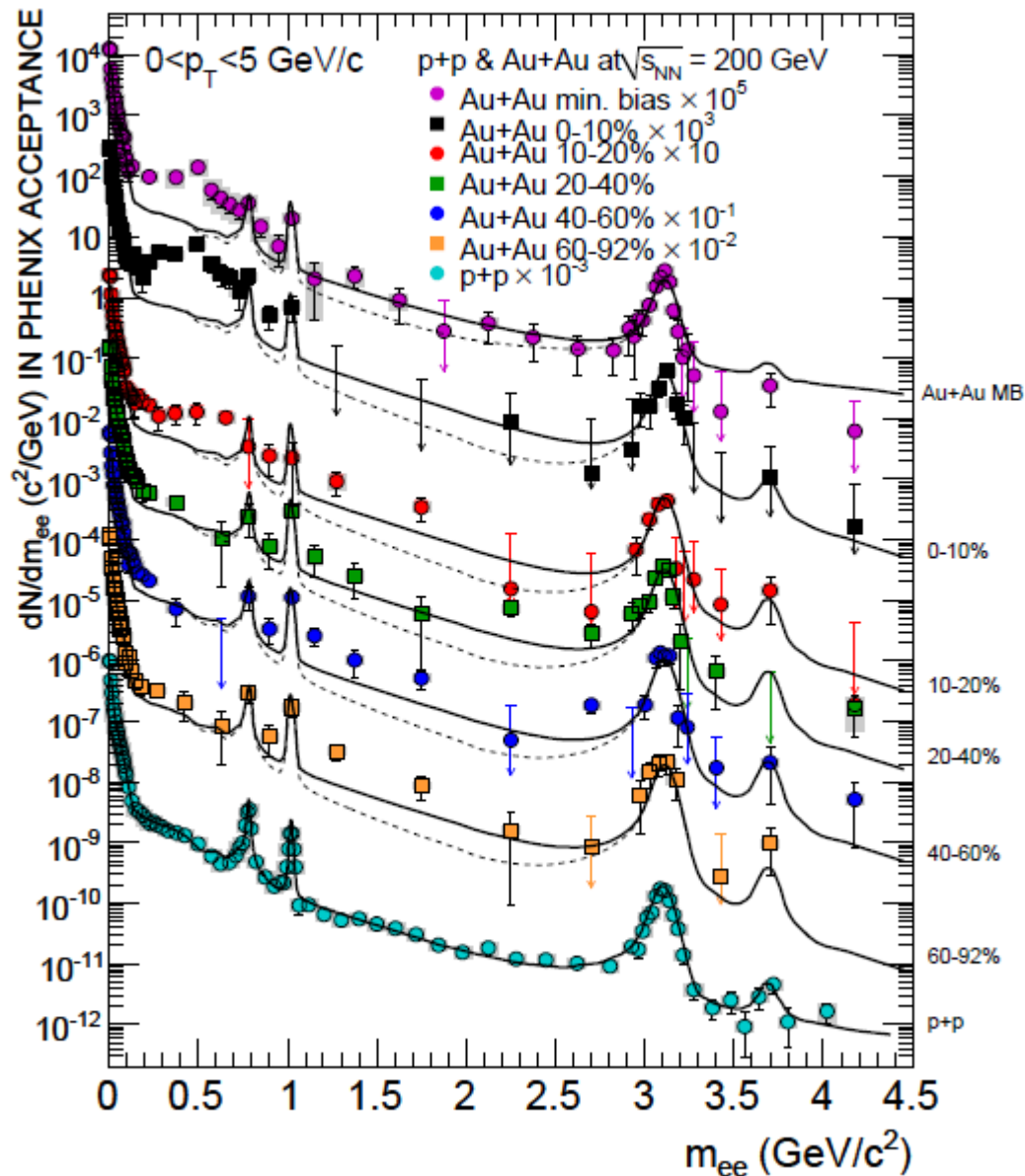
Collisions of “Large” nuclei convert beam energy to temperatures above 200 MeV or 1,500,000,000,000 K

- ~100,000 times higher temperature than the center of our sun.

- “Large” as compared to mean-free path of produced particles.

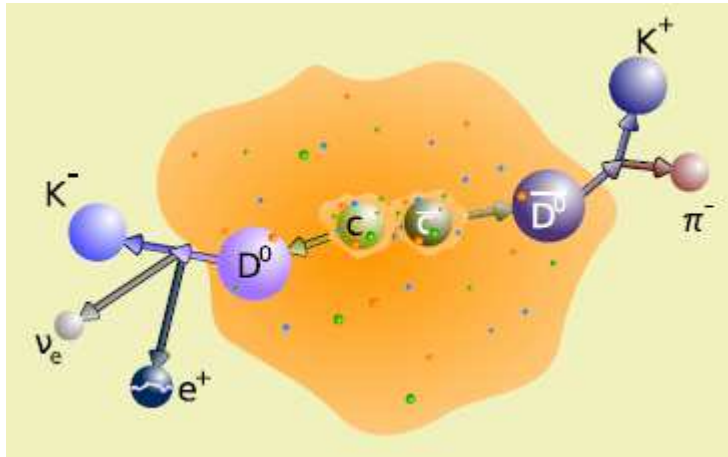
Solid  
Liquid  
Gas

# Centrality Dependence

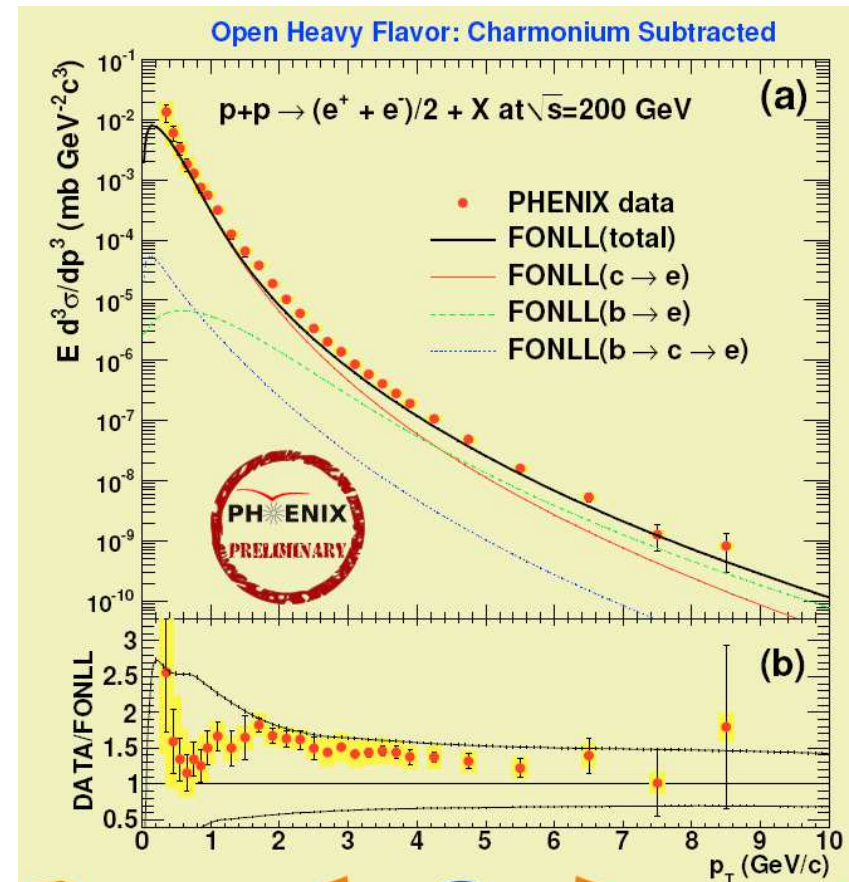


- ▶ Enhancement in low mass region is a strong function of centrality.
- ▶ Statistics are also sufficient to analyze  $p_T$  dependence.
- ▶ Need methodical approach to the spectra.

# Heavy Flavor from Single Leptons

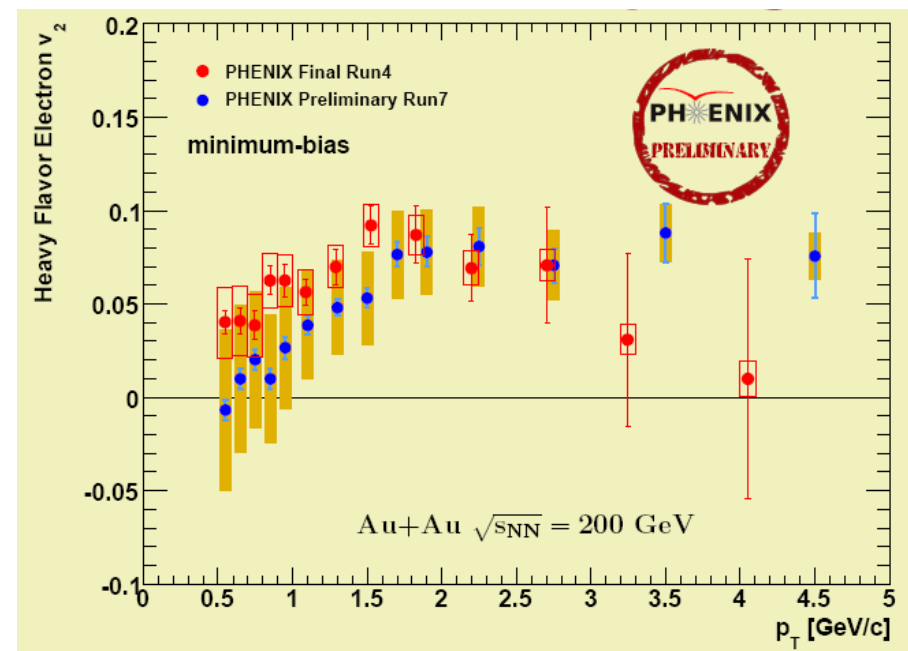
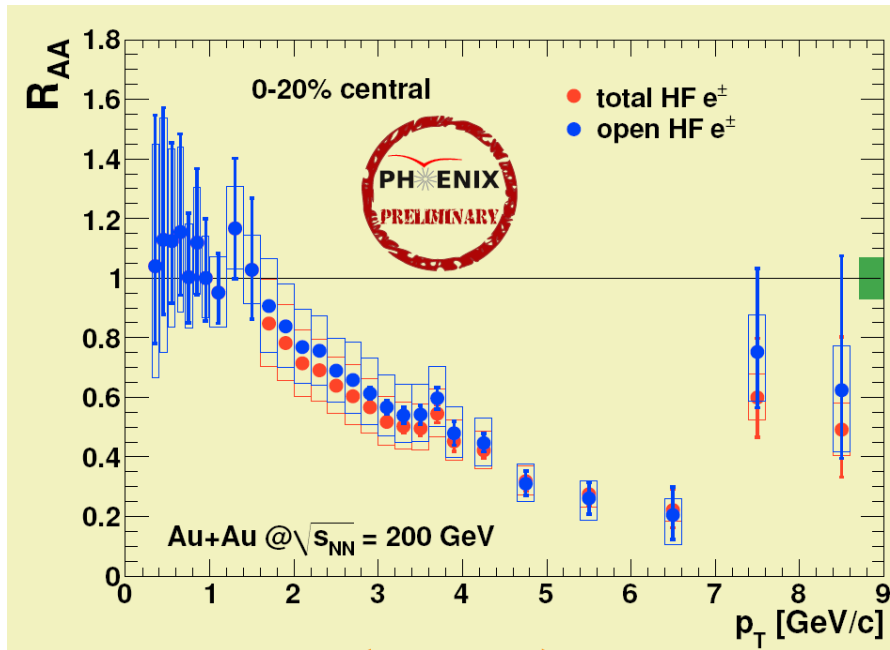


- ▶ Open Charm (and bottom) states decay with significant branching ratios (~10%) semi-leptonically.
- ▶ Parent quark mass makes these the dominant source at high  $p_T$
- ▶ Cocktail (or convertor) subtraction yields spectrum of heavy flavor lepton decays.



- pp results presented both as inclusive heavy flavor and “open” heavy flavor.
- Good agreement with pQCD

# Heavy Flavor Leptons in AuAu



- ▶ Heavy Flavor shows suppression similar to  $\pi^0$  at full RHIC Energy.
- ▶ Heavy Flavor even flows.
- ▶ These results are the principal ones that define  $\eta/s$ .
- ▶ Similar conclusion for muons from CuCu: suppression similar to  $\pi$

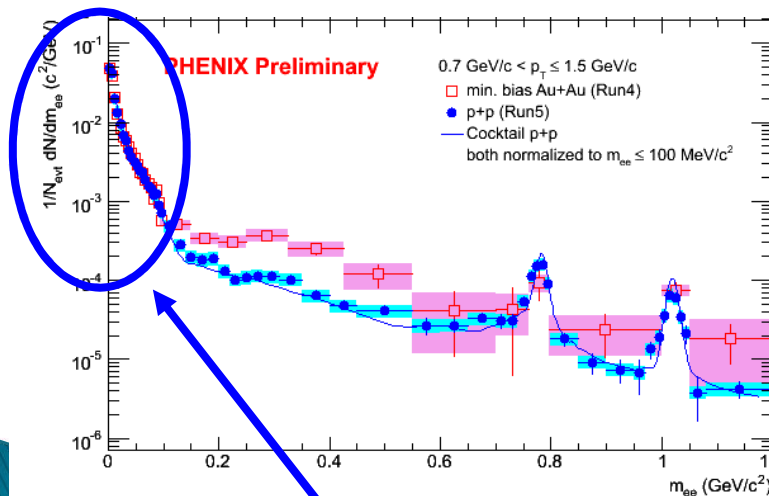


# Future of the Continuum at RHIC

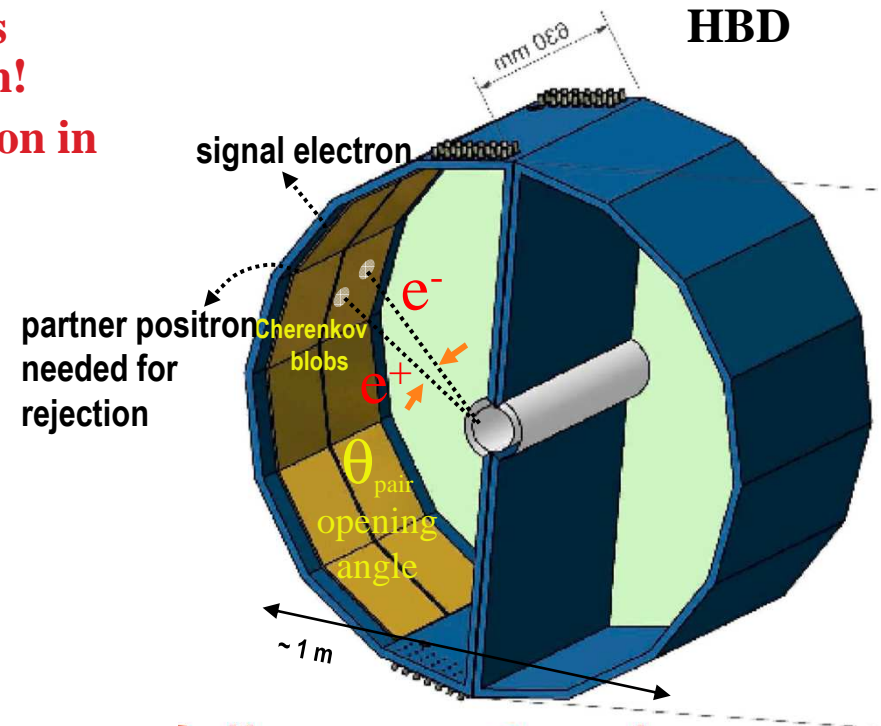
## ● Open experimental issues

- Large combinatorial background prohibits precision measurements in low mass region!
- Disentangle charm and thermal contribution in intermediate mass region!

**Need tools to reject  
photon conversions and Dalitz decays  
and to identify open charm**



**False combinations dominated by  
region where yield is largest**



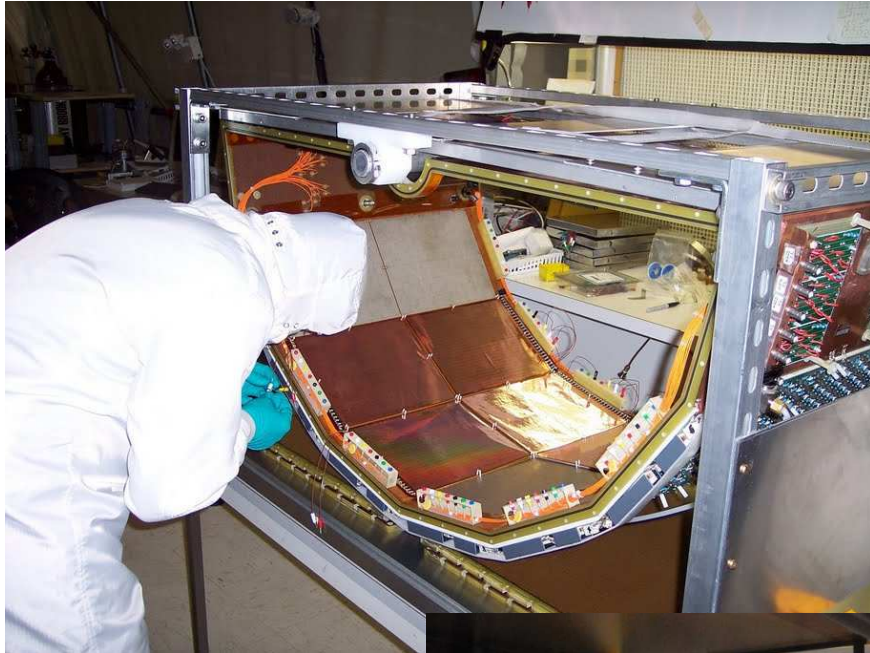
## ► HBD is fully operational

- Proof of principle in 2007
- Taking data right now with p+p
- Hope for large Au+Au data set in 2010

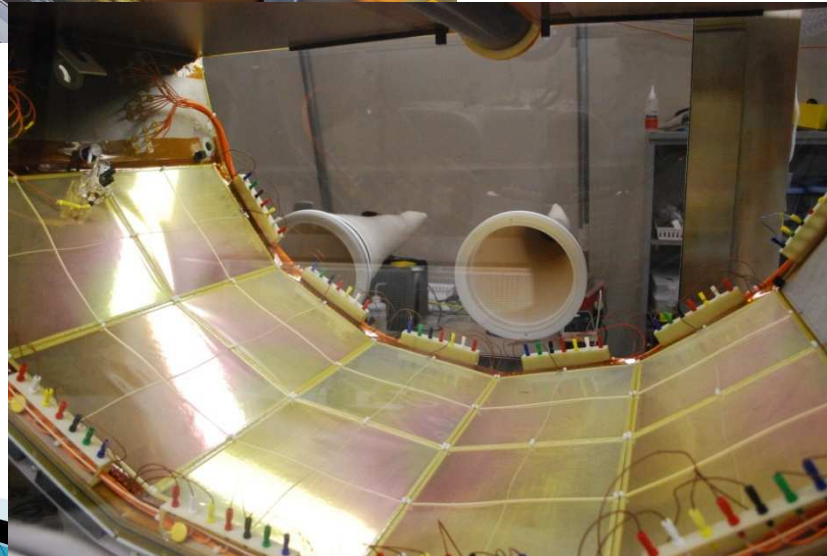


# HBD Construction

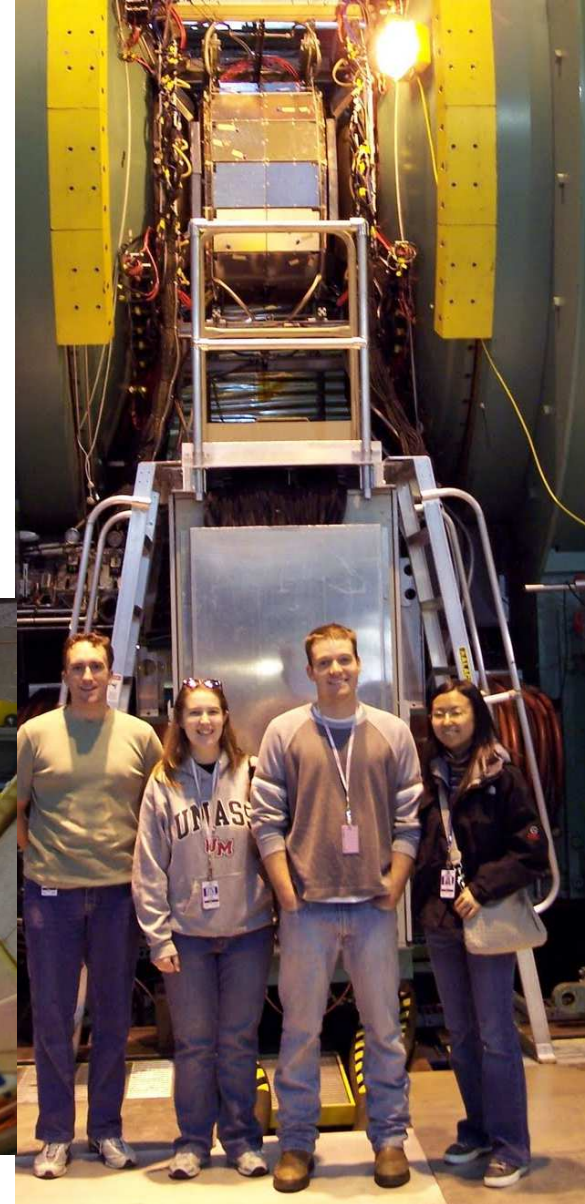
**“Standard” CERN Cu GEM foils in HBD**



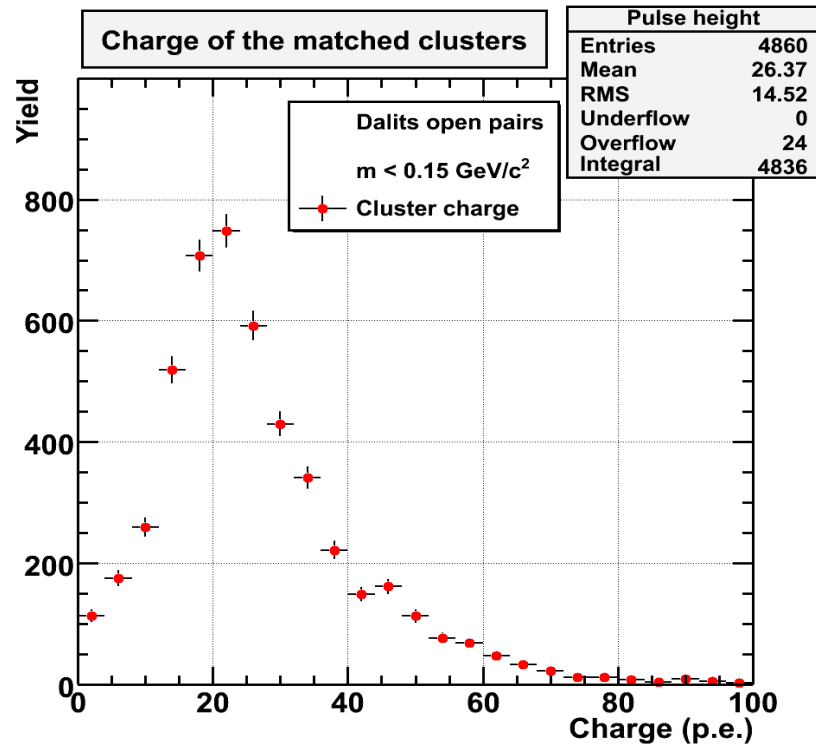
**CSI photocathods  
on GEM foils**



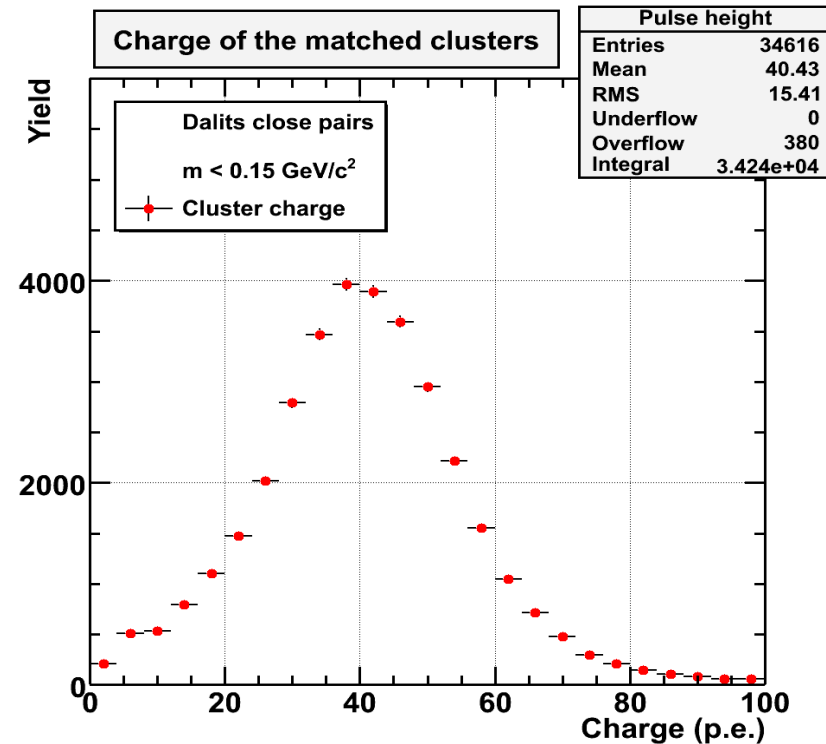
**2<sup>nd</sup> HBD installed in PHENIX**



# Single and Double Response



2009-07-14



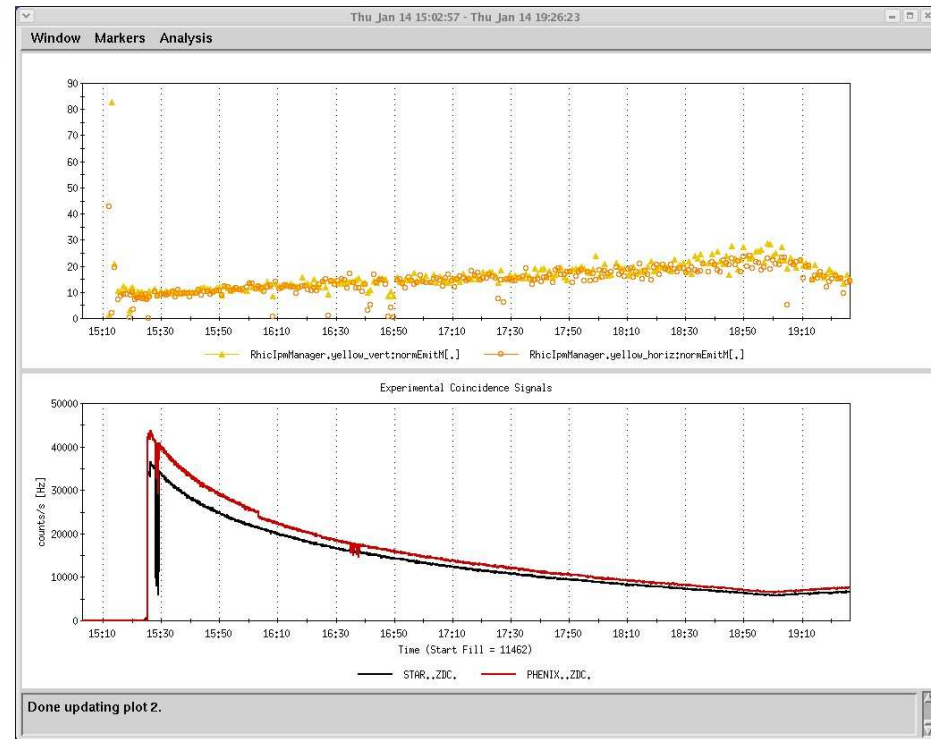
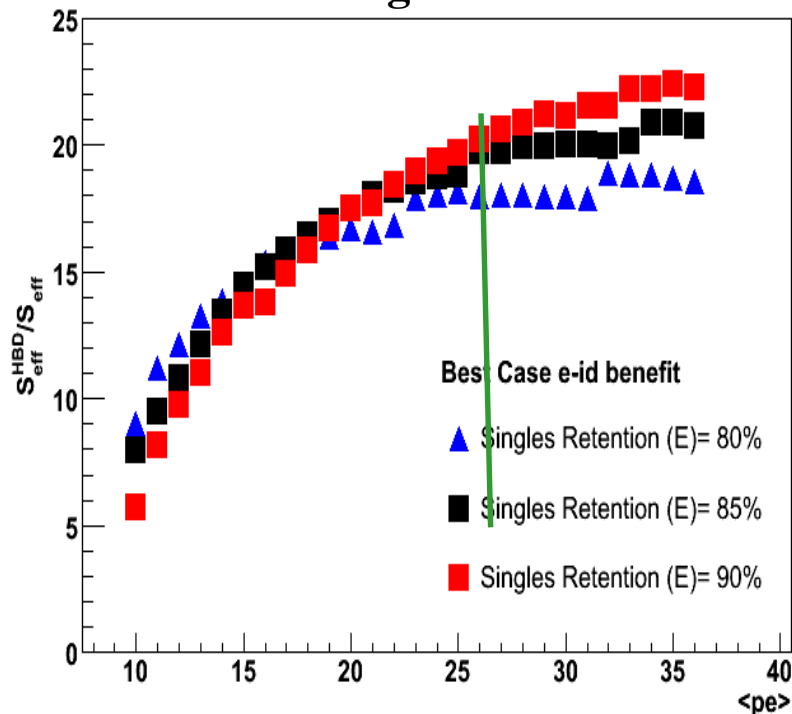
2009-07-14

- ▶ Using low mass pairs, one can select a sample with large opening angle (isolated) or small opening angle (overlapping)
- ▶ The responses are 20 p.e. & 40 p.e. respectively. (WOW!)

# Compared to Run 4 Results

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{S_{eff}}} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_{stat}^1 + \sigma_{sys}^2}}{S} = \frac{\sqrt{(\sqrt{S} + BG)^2 + (BG \times \sqrt{\sigma_{LikeSign}^2 + (0.2\%)^2})^2}}{S}$$

**Improvement of effective  
Signal vs <Npe> for same  
length run.**

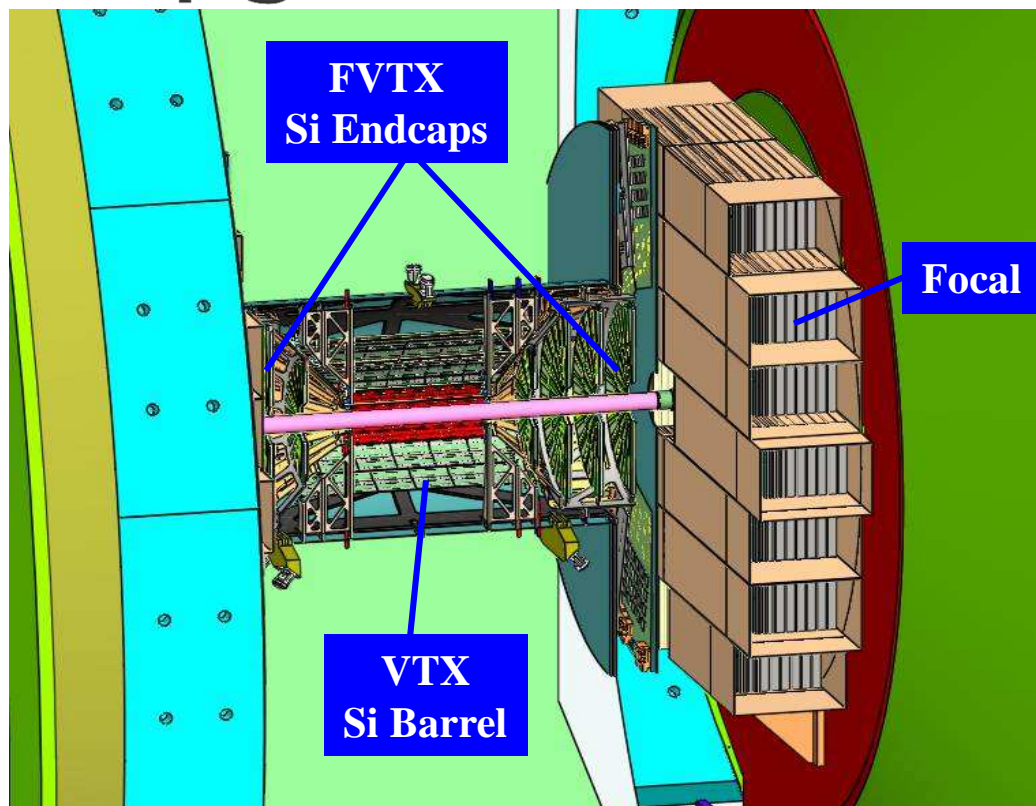


**Stochastic Cooling at RHIC**

**Effective statistics increased at least by factor 32  
→ errors reduced by factor 5.6 – 8.5**



# PHENIX Upgrades @ Vertex



VTX, FVTX and NCC add key measurements to RHIC program:

Heavy quark characteristics in dense medium

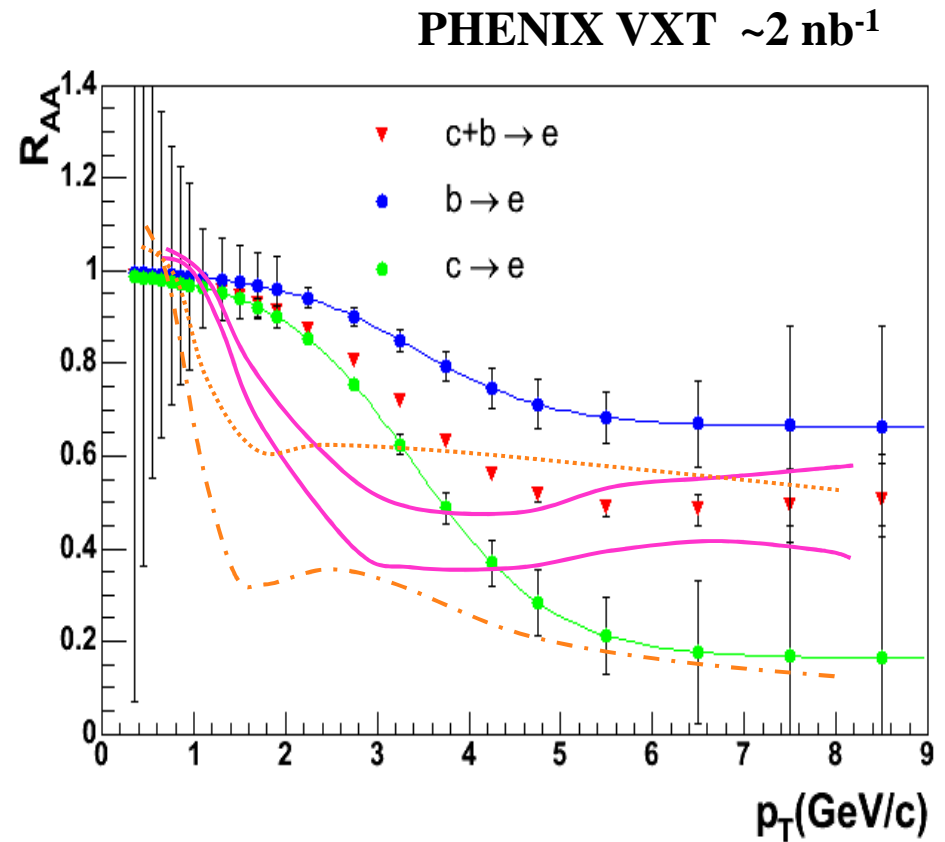
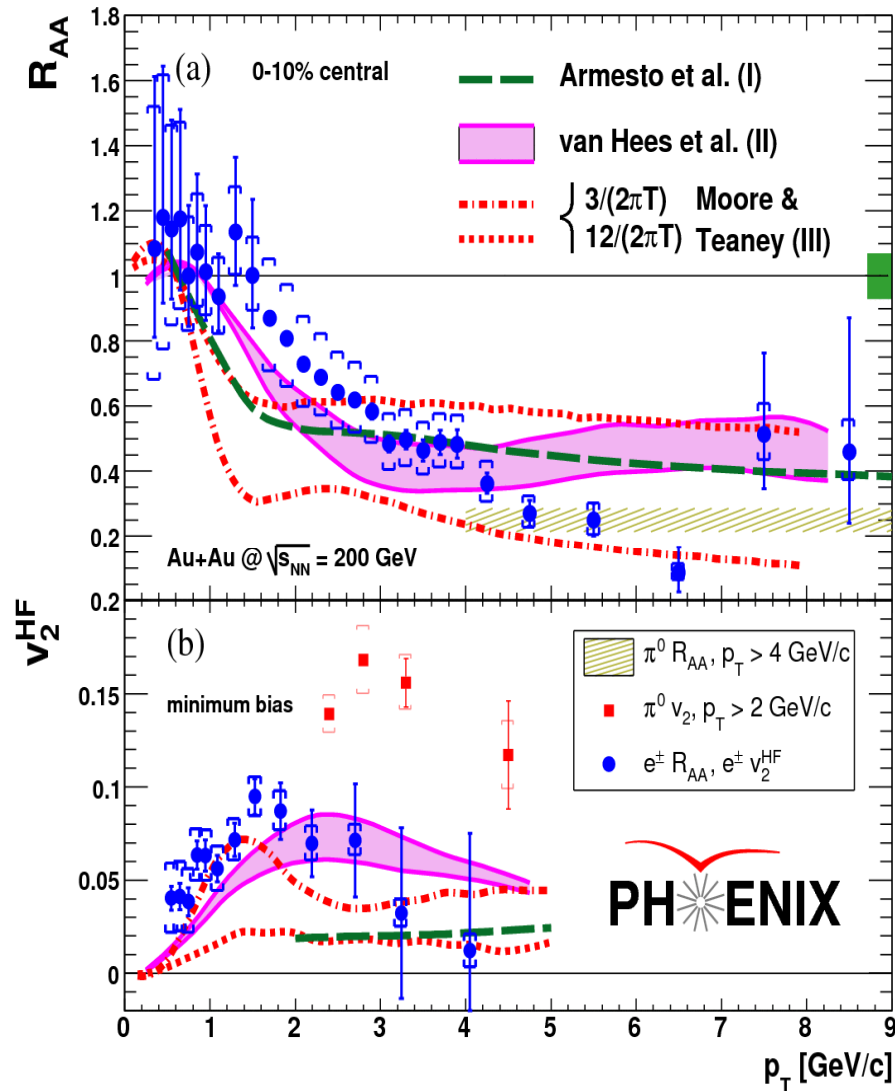
Charmonium spectroscopy ( $J/\psi$ ,  $\psi'$ ,  $\chi_c$  and  $\Upsilon$ )

Light quark/gluon energy loss through  $\gamma$ -jet

Gluon spin structure ( $\Delta G/G$ ) through  $\gamma$ -jet and c,b quarks

$A$ -,  $p_T$ -,  $x$ -dependence of the parton structure of nuclei

# $R_{AA}(c \rightarrow e)$ and $R_{AA}(b \rightarrow e)$ with VTX

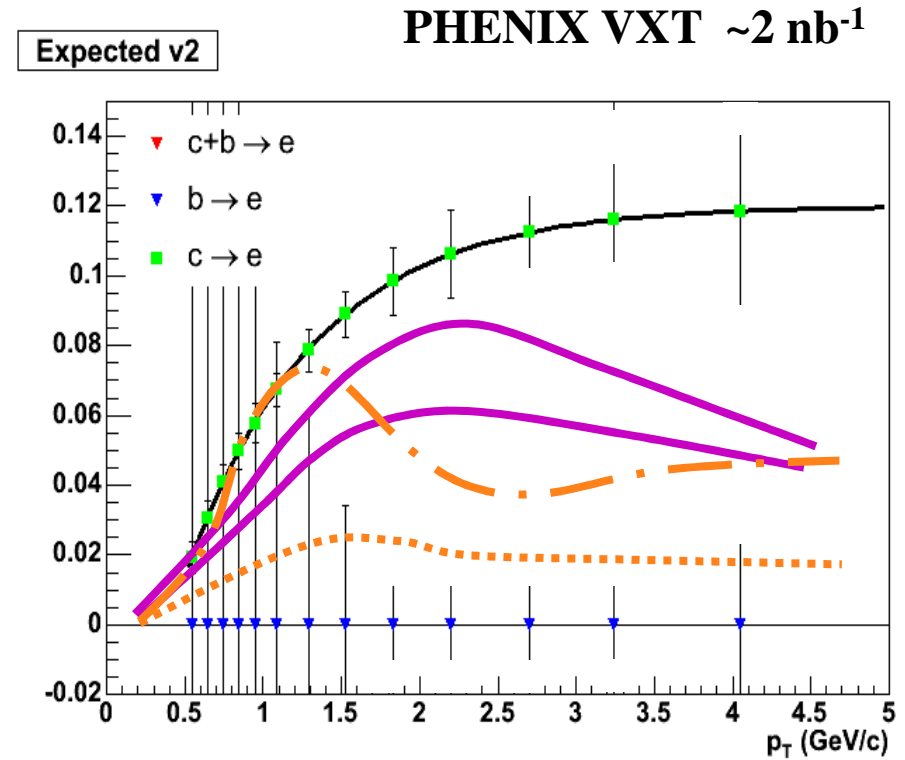
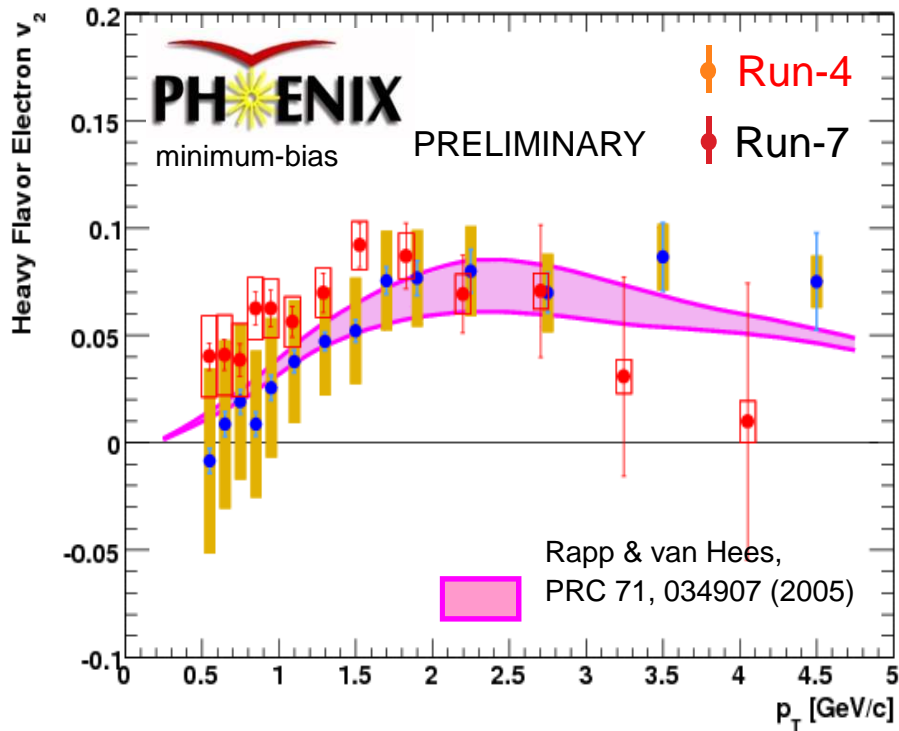


RHIC II increases statistics by factor  $>10$

**Decisive measurement of  $R_{AA}$  for both c and b**



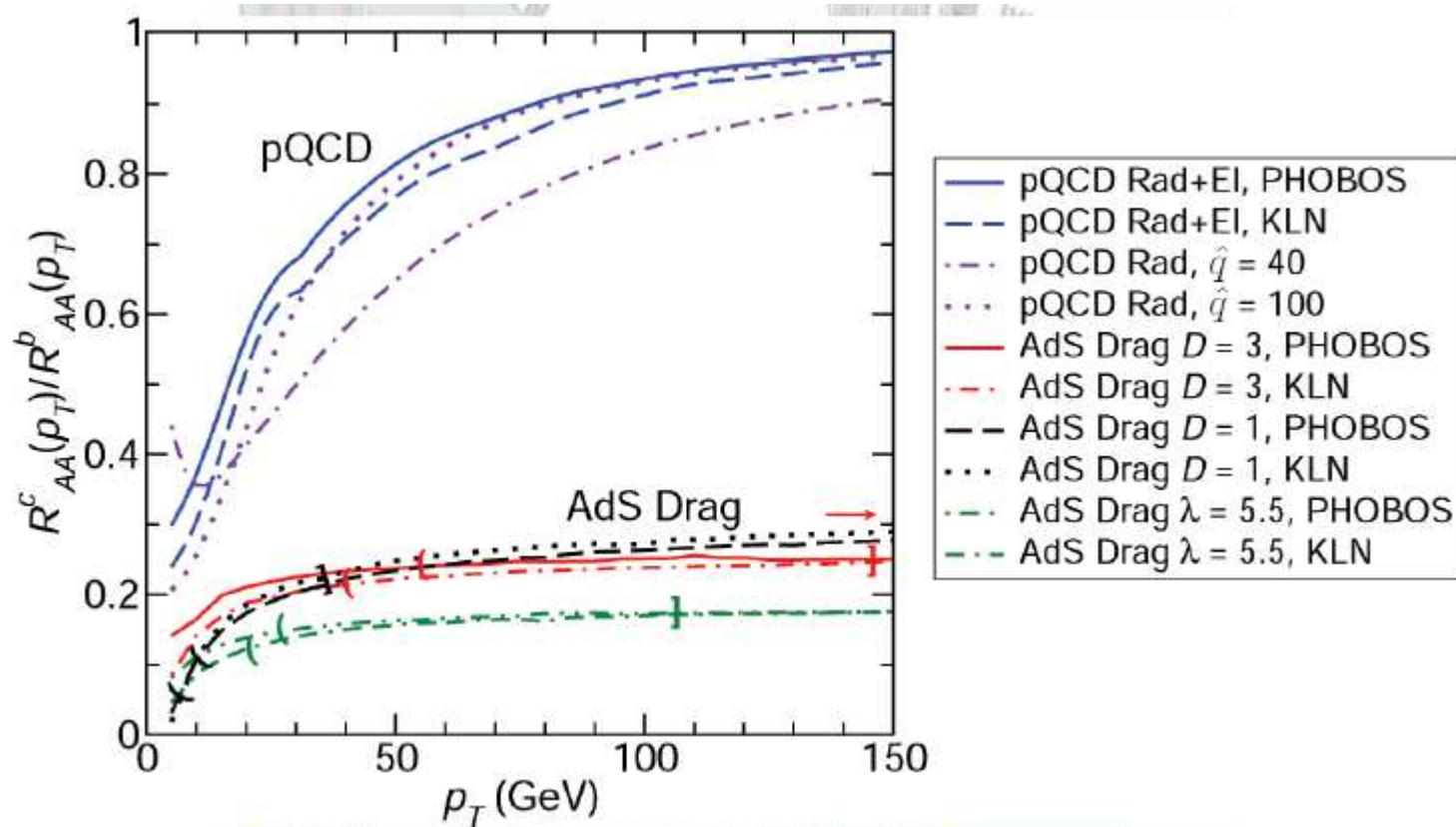
# $v_2(b \rightarrow e)$ and $v_2(c \rightarrow e)$ with VTX



RHIC II increases statistics by factor  $>10$

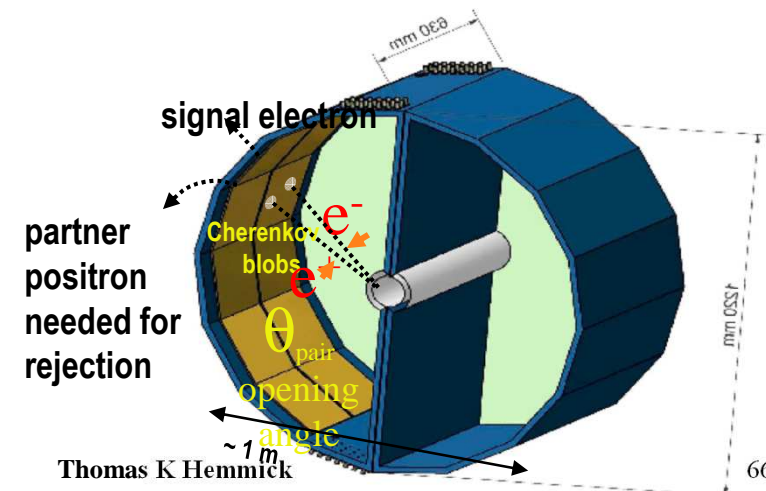
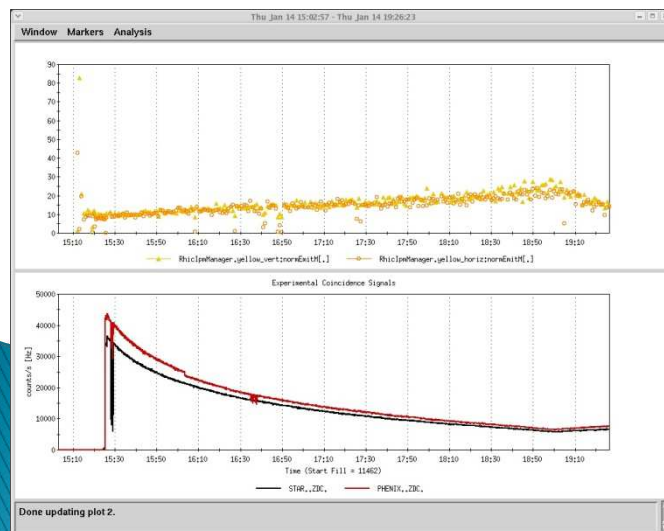
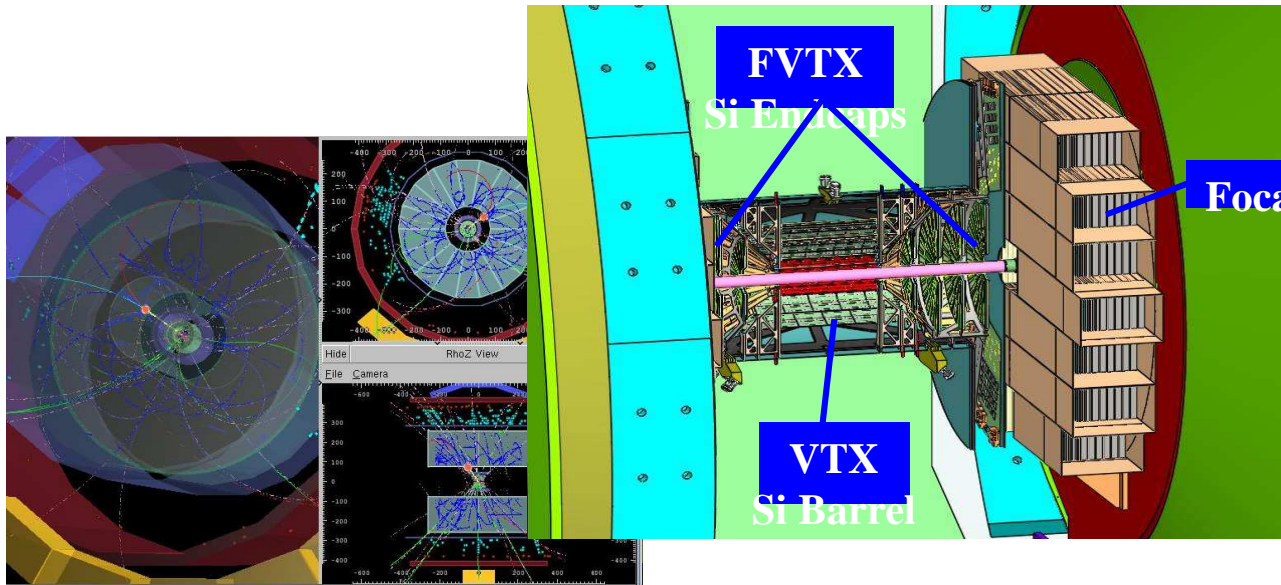
**Decisive measurement of  $v_2$  for both c and b**

# Importance of c/b Separation



- ▶ Immovable Object – Irresistable Force Problem.
- ▶ I'm again rooting for the immovable object!

# Future Looks Bright!



Thomas K Hemmick

# Summary

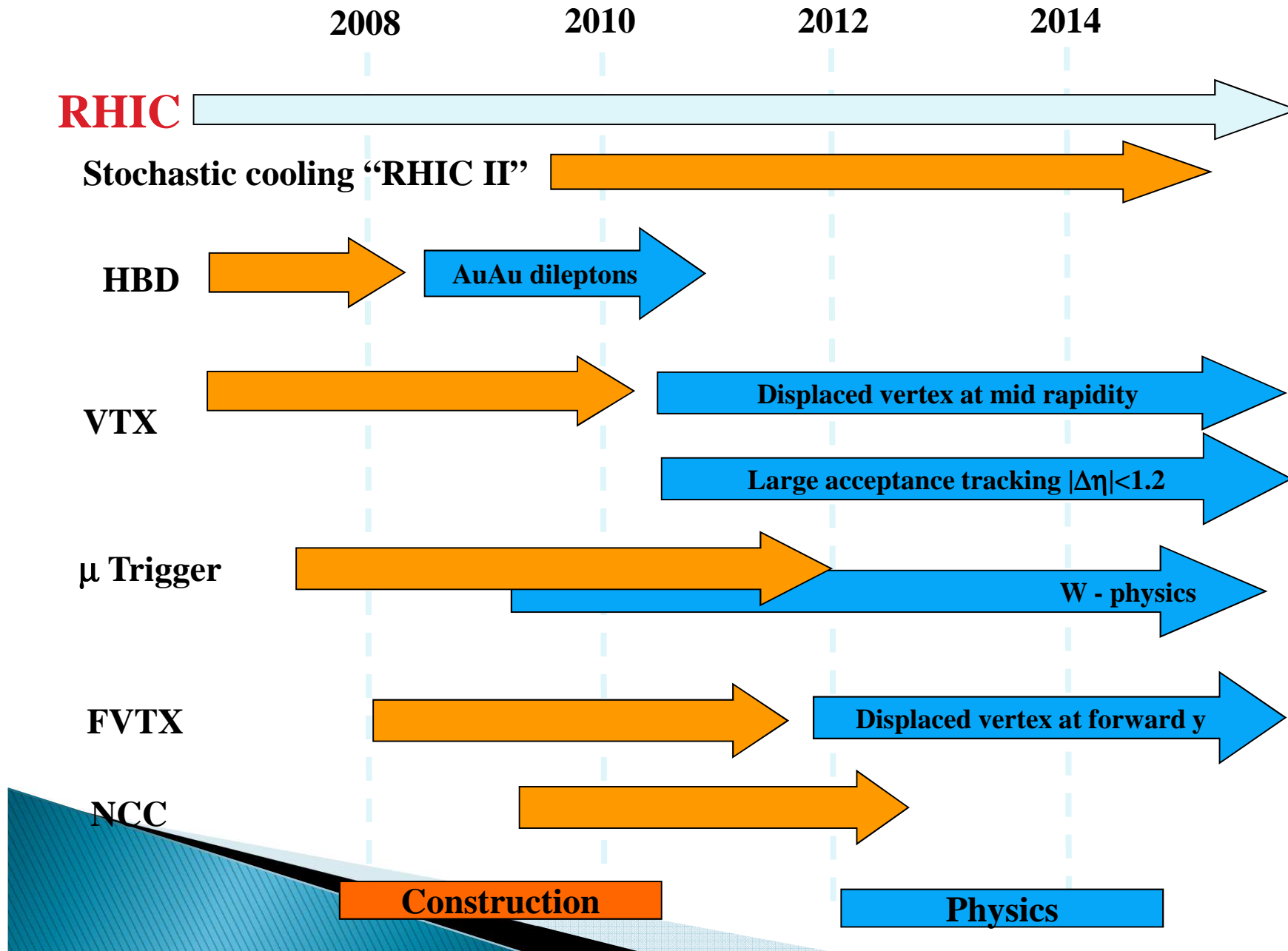
- ▶ PHENIX results on dielectrons reveal a wealth of information:
  - Normalization of cocktail
  - Correlated charm
  - Correlated bottom
  - Low Mass Enhancement (primarily at low  $p_T$ )
  - Direct Virtual Photons
- ▶ Results will be dramatically improved by use of the HBD during Run-10.
  - Practical for 200, 62.4, ~39, (27) GeV.
  - Impractical below these energies before RHIC II.
  - However, detector will be removed prior to Run-11.
- ▶ PHENIX results on single leptons show that:
  - Heavy flavor is modified at high  $p_T$ .
  - Heavy Flavor Flows.
  - Effects may (need more stats) vanish by 62.4 GeV
- ▶ VTX & FVTX upgrades will dramatically improve heavy flavor capabilities and allow individual tagging of leptons from heavy flavor decay.

## ► Backups...



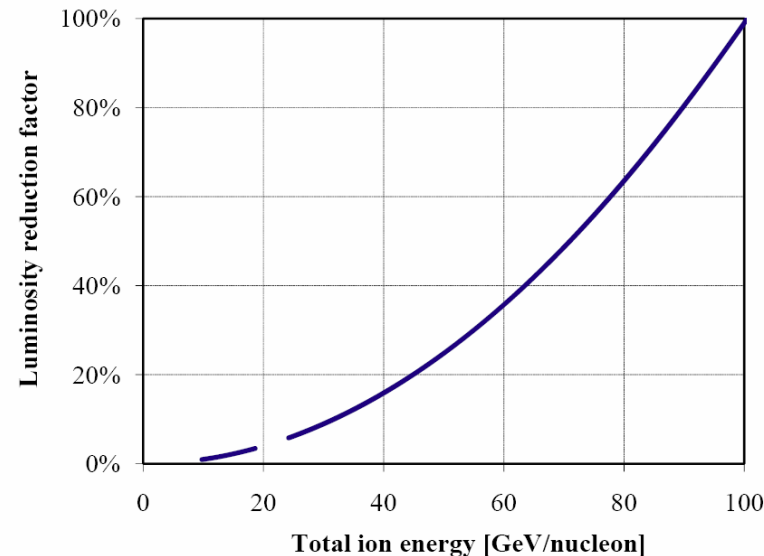


# Timeline of PHENIX Upgrades



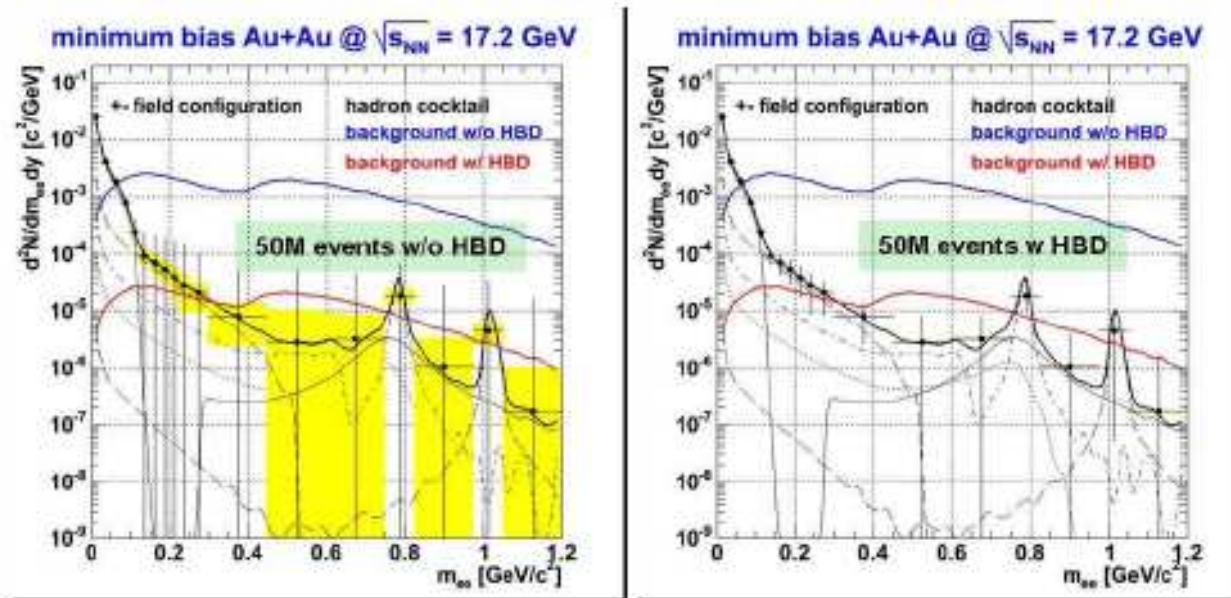
# Examining these signatures at finite $\mu_B$

| $\mu_B$ | $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ |
|---------|-----------------|
| 550     | 5               |
| 470     | 6.3             |
| 410     | 7.6             |
| 380     | 8.8             |
| 300     | 12.3            |
| 220     | 18              |
| 150     | 28              |
| 75      | 60              |



- ▶ Critical Point and the Onset of Deconfinement studies necessarily involve lowering the beam energy in the machine.
- ▶ Luminosity scales as the square of beam energy.
- ▶ Furthermore, heavy quarks suffer in production rate at lower energies.
- ▶ The product of these factors limits all present RHIC experiment capabilities, but will be offset by future efforts:
  - Stochastic Cooling for high energy running.
  - E-beam cooling (3–6 X) for below 10.7 GeV running.

# Dielectron Capabilities at low Energy

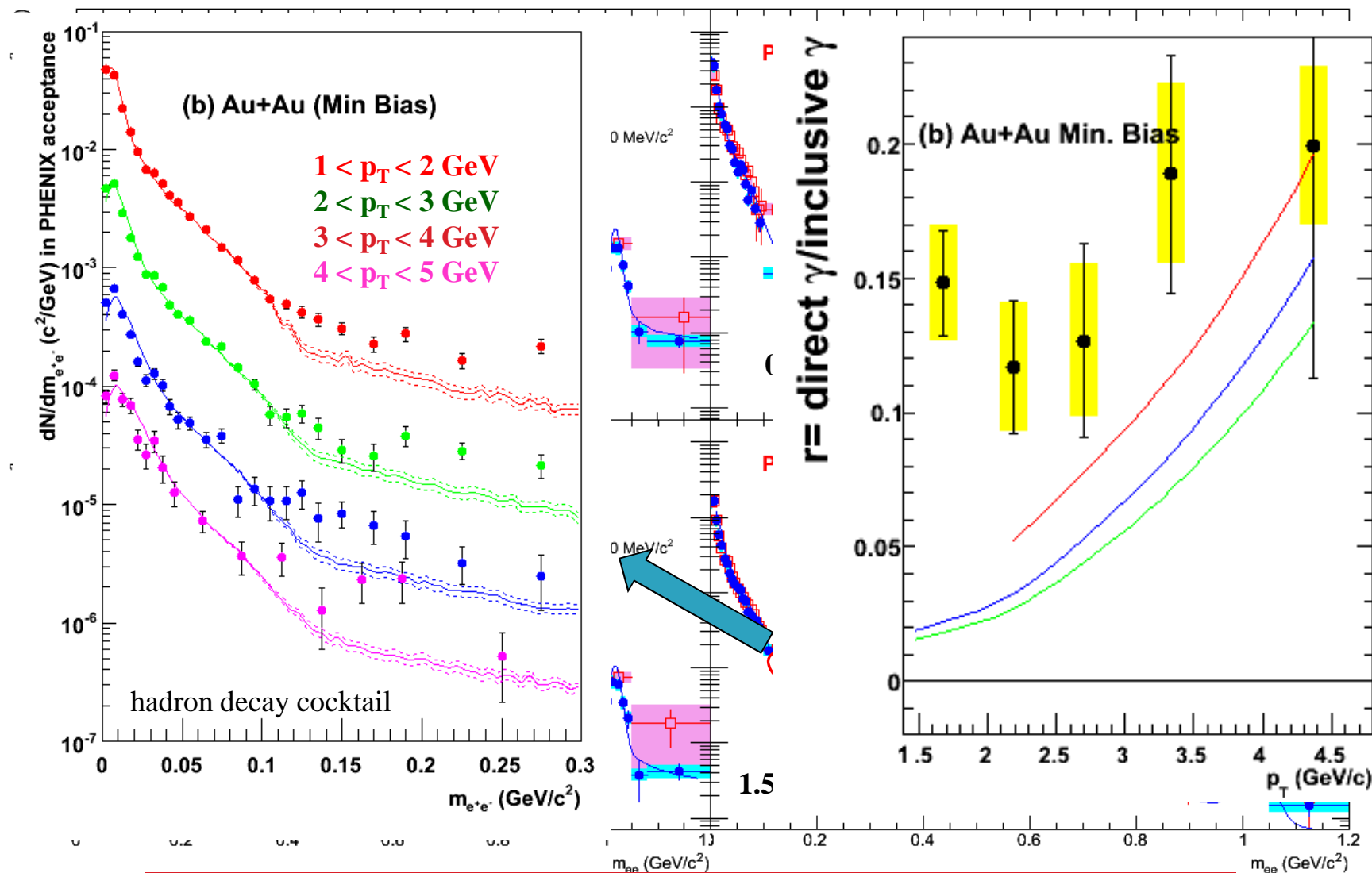


- ▶ With the inclusion of the HBD, PHENIX could get a marginal measurement for energies as low as 17.2 GeV w/ 50 M-evts
- ▶ However(!!!), the rate of collisions at this low energy makes the collection time for 50 million evts prohibitively long.
  - Practical di-electron measurements are at 62.4 & ~39 GeV.
  - Marginal measurements available at 27 GeV.
  - Impractical due to running time at lower energy.

# Dilepton Excess at High $p_T$ – Small Mass

arXiv: 0706.3034

arXiv: 0802.0050



**Significant direct photon excess beyond pQCD in Au+Au**

# Interpretation as Direct Photon

Relation between real and virtual photons:

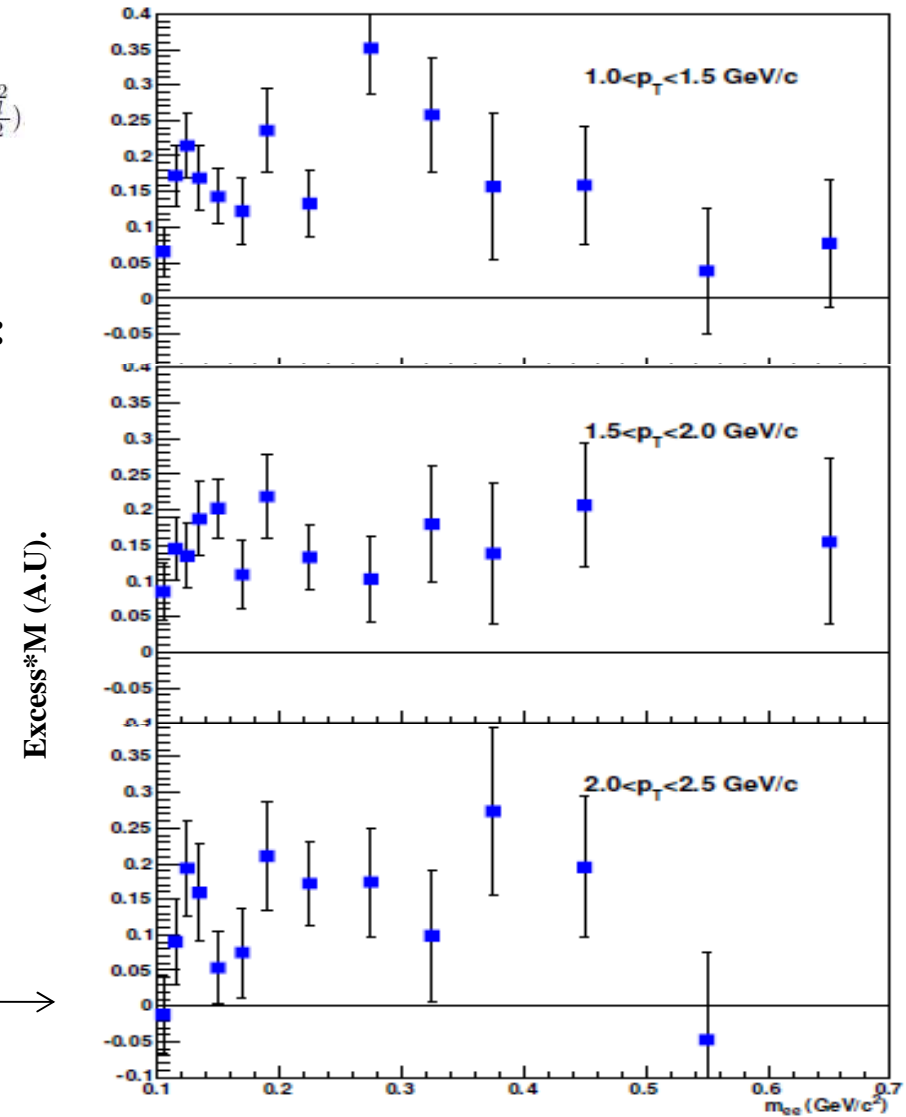
$$L(M) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_l^2}{M^2}} \left(1 + \frac{2m_l^2}{M^2}\right)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{ee}}{dM^2 dp_T^2 dy} \cong \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{1}{M^2} L(M) \frac{d\sigma_\gamma}{dp_T^2 dy}$$

Extrapolate real  $\gamma$  yield from dileptons:

$$M \times \frac{dN_{ee}}{dM} \rightarrow \frac{dN_\gamma}{dM} \quad \text{for } M \rightarrow 0$$

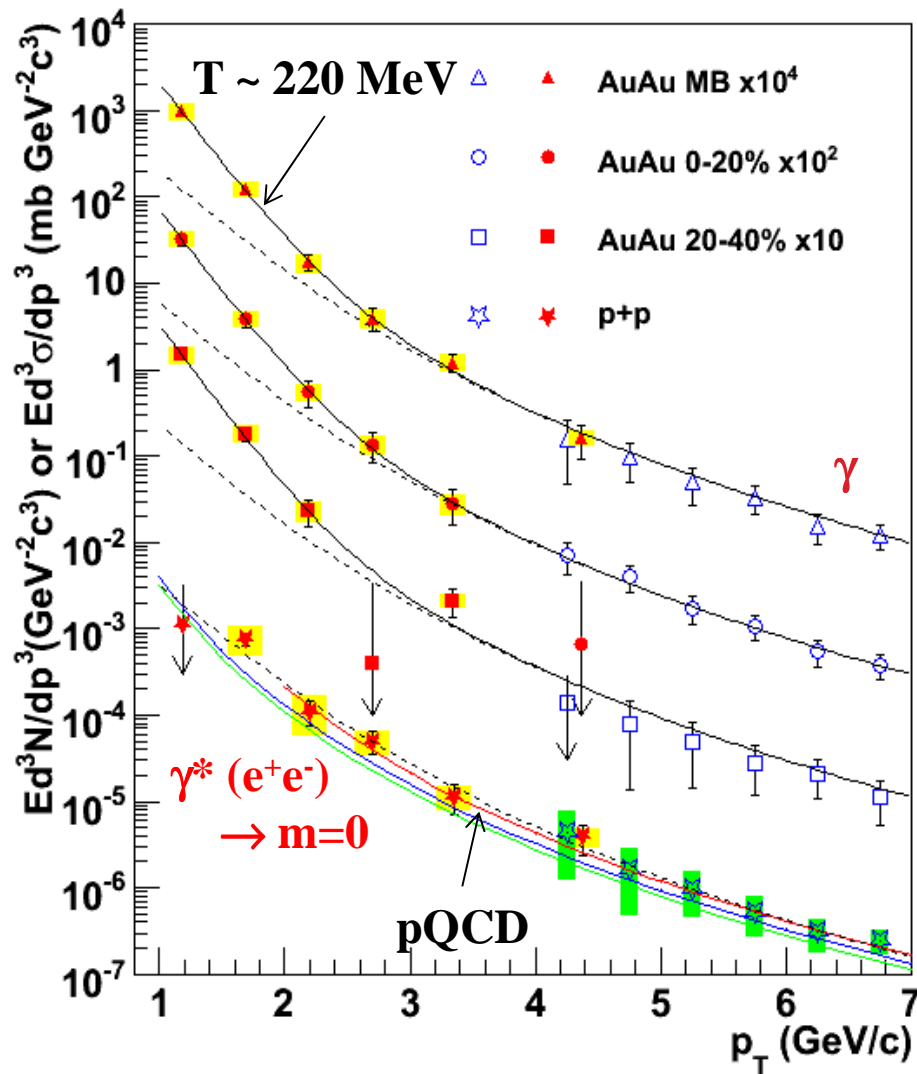
**Virtual Photon excess  
At small mass and high  $p_T$   
Can be interpreted as  
real photon excess**



no change in shape  
can be extrapolated  
to  $M=0$



# FIRST MEASUREMENT OF THERMAL Radiation at RHIC



Direct photons from real photons:

- Measure inclusive photons
- Subtract  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  decay photons at  $S/B < 1:10$  for  $p_T < 3$  GeV

Direct photons from virtual photons:

- Measure  $e^+e^-$  pairs at  $m_\pi < m \ll p_T$
- Subtract  $\eta$  decays at  $S/B \sim 1:1$
- Extrapolate to mass 0

**First thermal photon measurement:**  
 $T_{ini} > 220 \text{ MeV} > T_C$

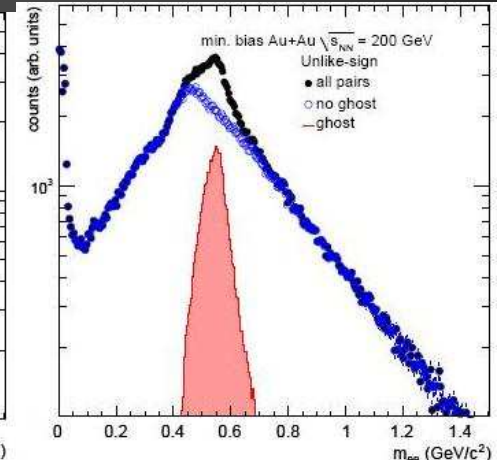
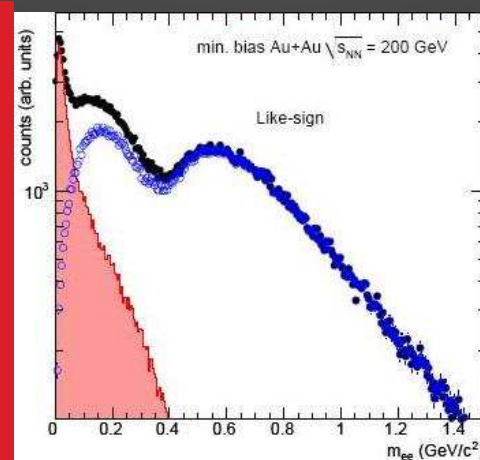
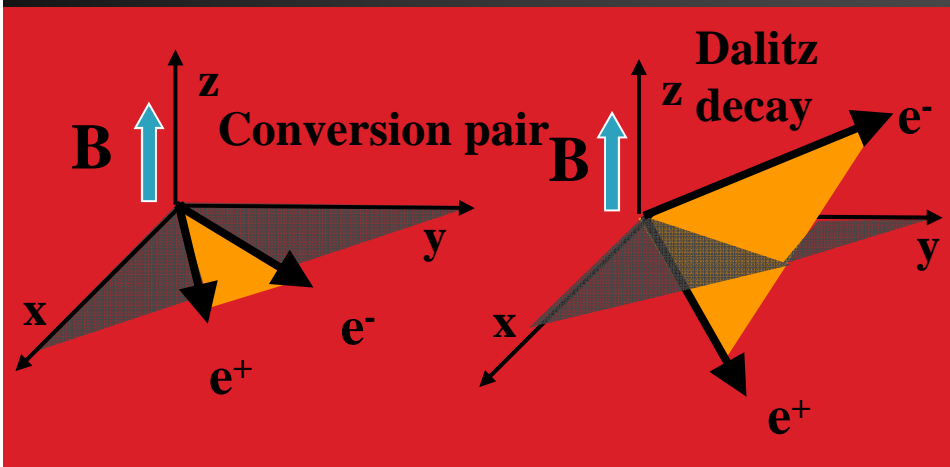
# False Pair Rejection

## ► Conversion Pairs

- Opening angle in the plane perp. to B field
  - Charges ordered by B field
- Mass of the pair is roughly proportional to the radius of the conversion point

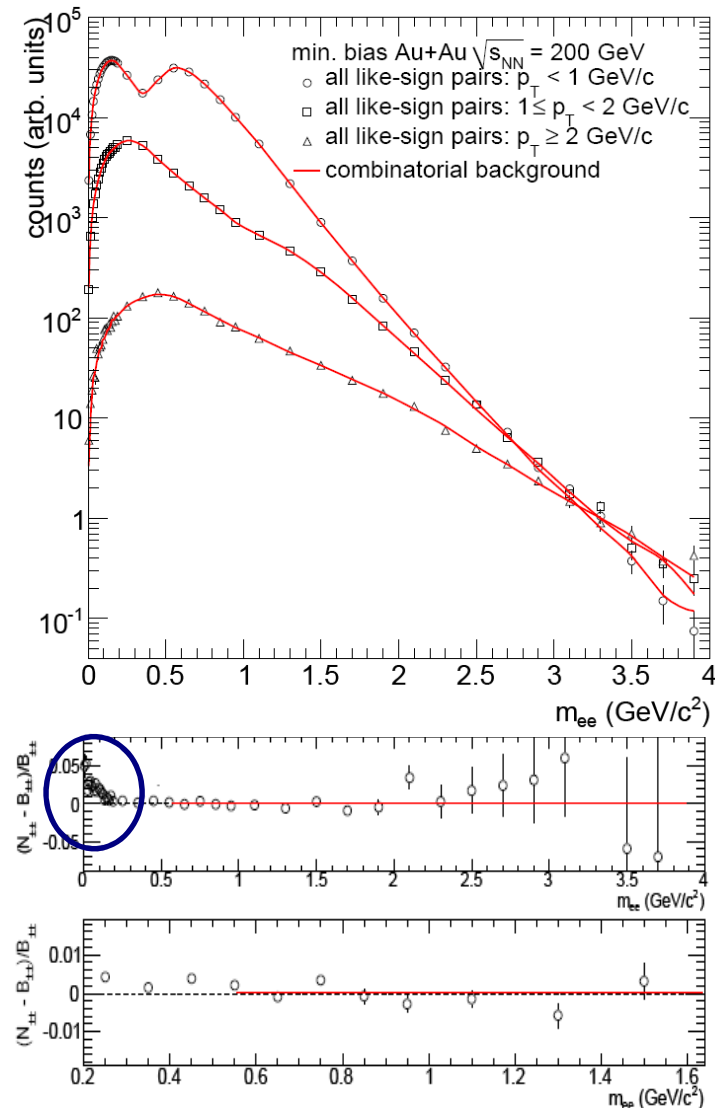
## ► Overlapping Pairs

- RICH ring overlap
- Require pairs are separated by twice the nominal ring size



# Combinatorial Background

- ▶ Largest background in heavy ions
  - Large multiplicities
- ▶ Shape determined by event mixing
- ▶ Normalization determined using the like-sign pairs in regions where combinatorial dominates



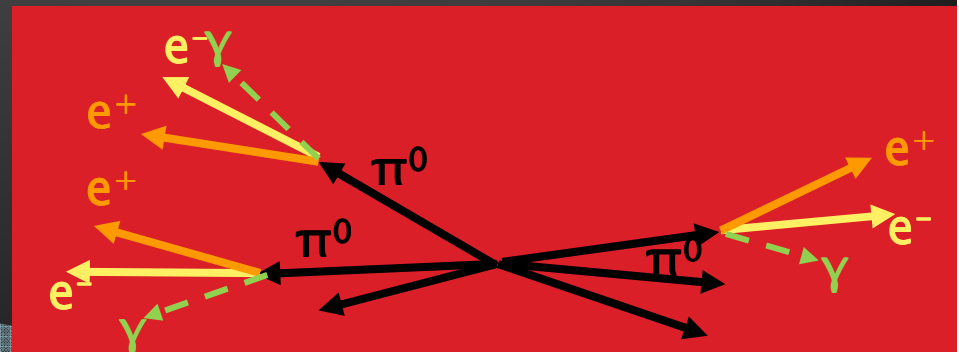
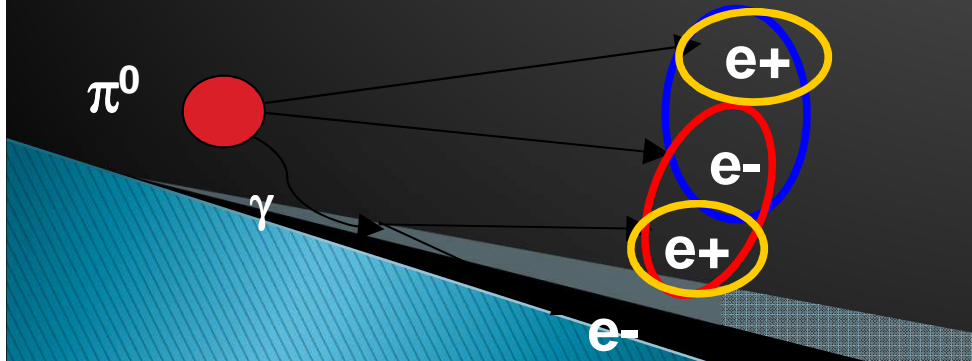
# Correlated Background

## ▶ “Cross” pairs

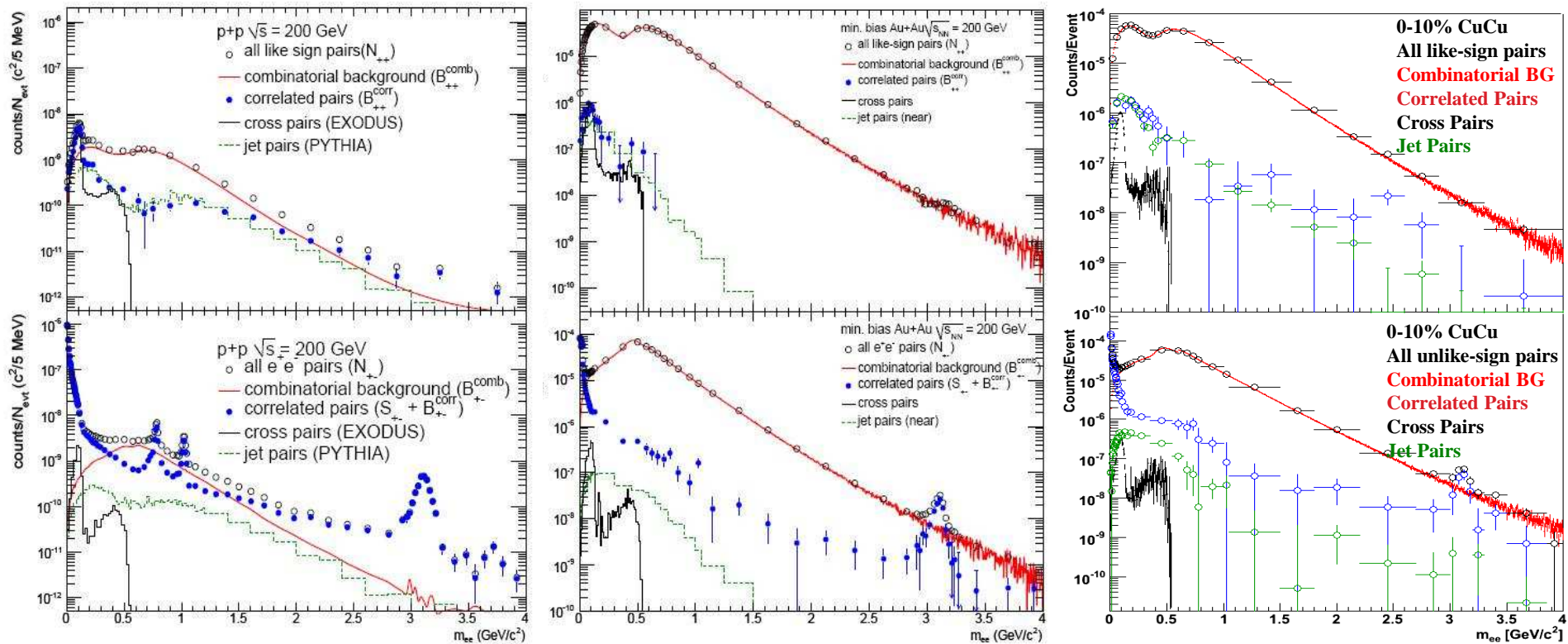
- Decays that produce multiple lepton pairs
  - Double dalitz, double conversion, dalitz + conversion
  - Like-sign and unlike-sign pairs produced at same rate
- Simulated with Exodus
  - Pions, etas only sizable source

## ▶ Jet Background

- Pions in jets dalitz decay into electrons
  - Produced electron pairs are correlated by the jet
  - Like-sign and unlike-sign pairs produced at same rate
- Simulated with Pythia



# Full Background Removal



- In Cu+Cu and Au+Au jet awayside component ( $d\phi > 90$ ) altered to account for jet modification in HI systems