

# RHIC and the QGP at 10: from the “age of discovery” to the “age of exploration”

*QCHS IX*

*Madrid - August 2010*

*Helen Caines - Yale University*

”The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of  
something we do not understand” - Frank Herbert



# *“Birthday” celebrations at BNL*

**90**  
Courant  
(Birthday)

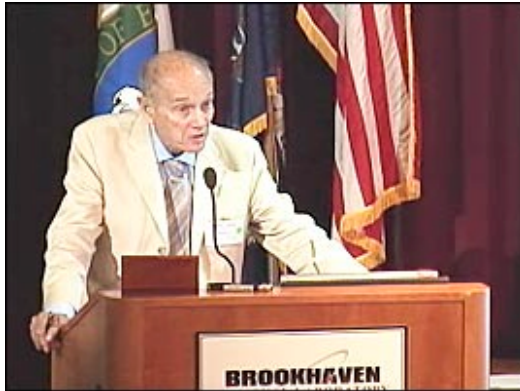
**50**  
AGS  
(Operations)

**10**  
RHIC  
(Operations)

## *Celebration*

Marking Important BNL Science Milestones

James Cronin  
Nobel Prize -1980



with Val Fitch : proved  
that K decays break  
fundamental symmetries

Ernest Courant  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday



helped formulate the  
concept of “strong  
focusing” accelerators

Samuel C.C. Ting  
Nobel Prize -1976



with Burton Richter :  
discovered the J/Ψ

# ***RHIC NYT headlines from the past decade***

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**Just What Does Happen When 'Worlds' Collide?** May 2000

**A Coming-Out Party for a Particle Collider** Jan 2001

**Gauging a Collider's Odds of Creating a Black Hole** - April 2008

**Trying to Cook a Soup of Free-Range Quarks** Jan 2001

**In Lab's High-Speed Collisions, Things Just Vanish** March 2005

**One Trillion Degrees, Even Gold Turns Into the Sloshiest Liquid** April 2005

**Getting the Most Bang Out of Quarks and Gluon** May 2007

**Experiments on Dense Matter Evoke Big Bang** Jan 2001

**In a Lab on Long Island, a Visit to the Big Bang** Jan 2003

**In Brookhaven Collider, Scientists Briefly Break a Law of Nature**

Feb 2010

**Nuclear Physics: Not Just for Men** - May 2007

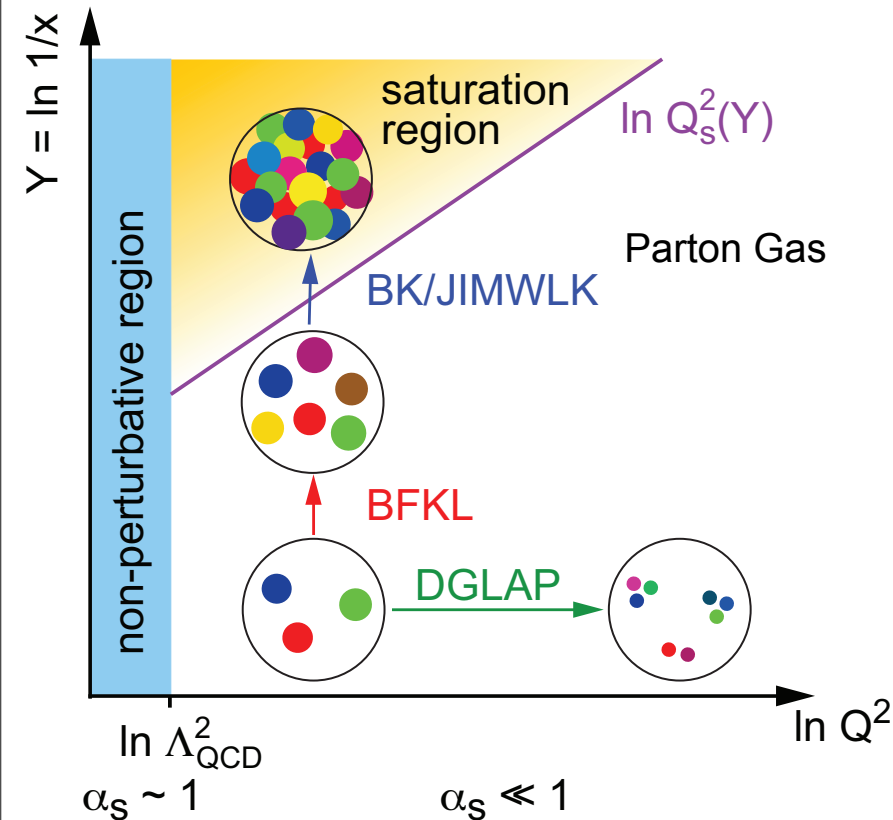
**Scientists Deciphering Atomic Forces Report Hottest, Densest**

**Matter Ever Observed** June 2003

**Digging Ourselves a Black Hole** August 2008

# Initial conditions at RHIC - CGC

Gluon density increases with decreasing  $x$   
Can't grow continuously must saturate



CGC - Color Glass Condensate  
semi-classical effective field theory  
for low- $x$  gluons in nuclei saturation  
of gluons at low  $x$

Gluons (color) with long evolution  
time scales (glass)  
and high occupation numbers  
(condensate)

Incoherent sum of partons  
( $A^*$ proton)  $\rightarrow$  thin wall of coherent  
gluons randomly distributed

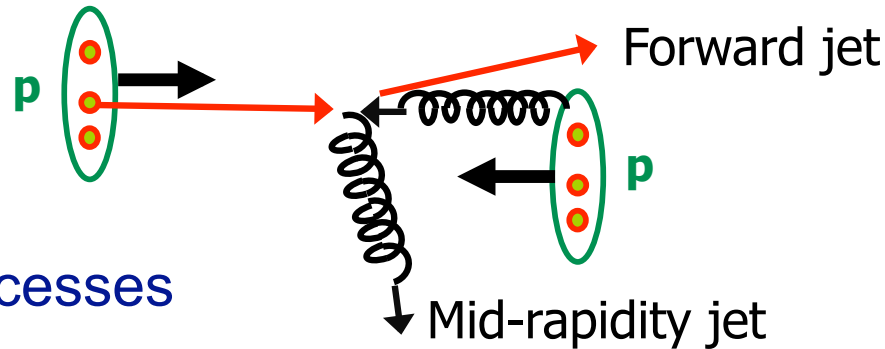
Predicted to occur at low  $x$  ( $10^{-3}$ )  $\rightarrow$  forward  $y$  at RHIC

# Initial conditions at RHIC - CGC

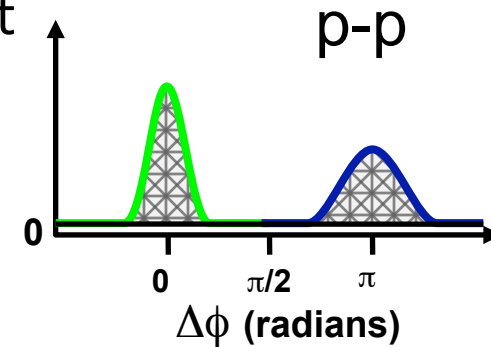
Scattering:

Dilute  
systems (p-p):

low gluon density  
pQCD like  $2 \rightarrow 2$  processes



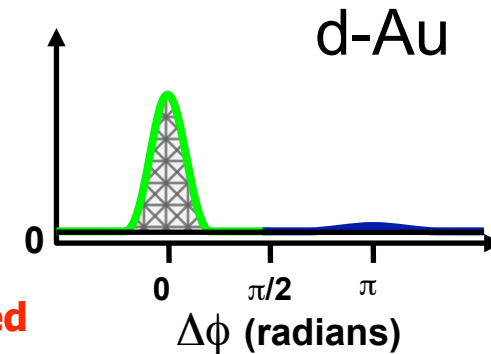
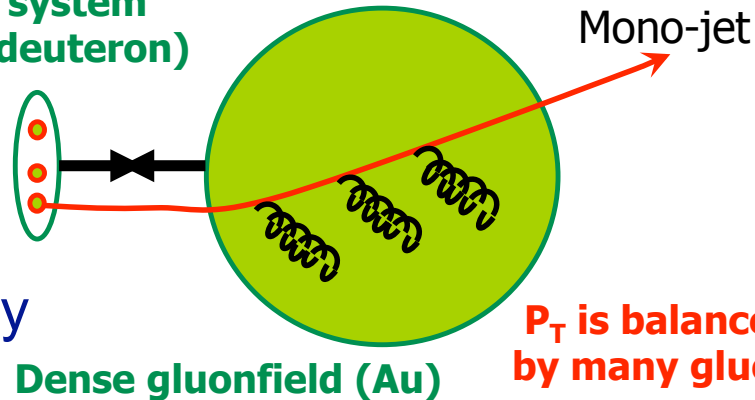
$\Delta\Phi$  Correlation



Saturated (CGC)  
systems (d-Au):

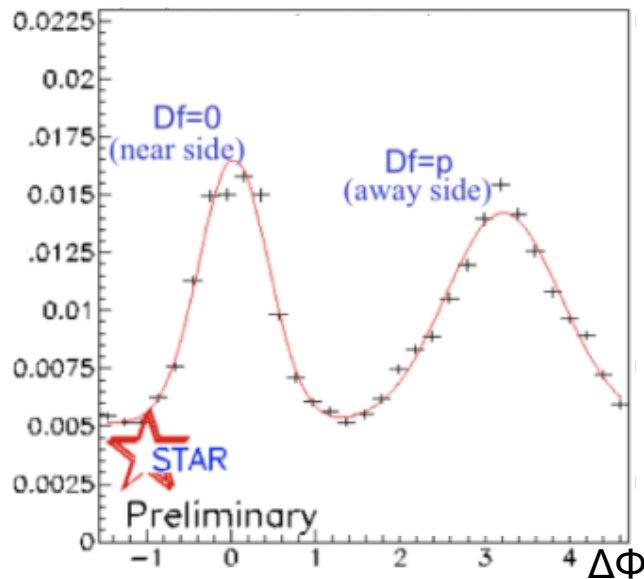
high gluon density  
recoil balanced by many  
soft gluons  
mono-jets  $2 \rightarrow 1$  processes

Dilute parton  
system  
(deuteron)



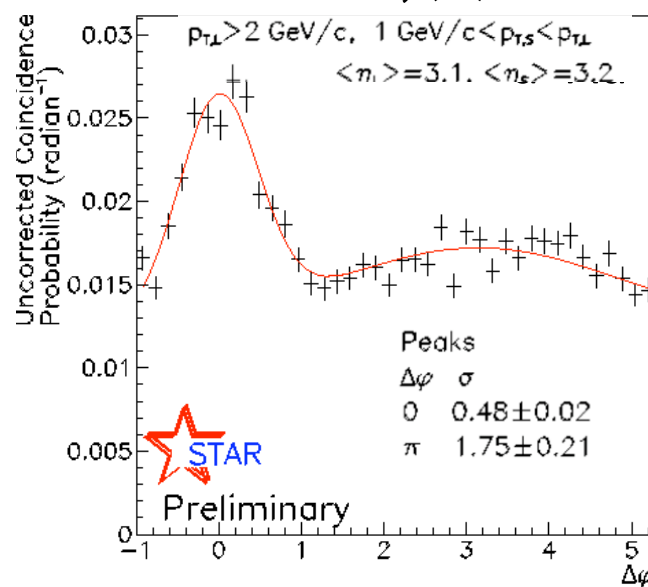
# Forward-Forward correlations

p-p



E.Braidot RBRC-Glasma 2010

Central d-Au,  $\langle b \rangle \sim 2.7$  fm



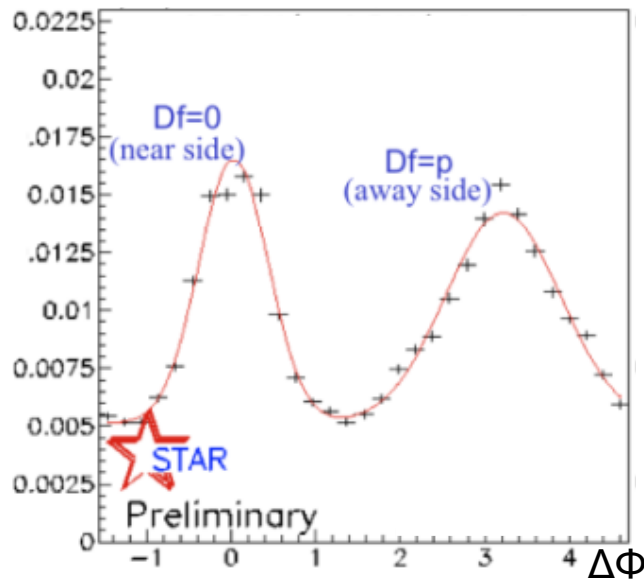
Peripheral:  
d-Au  $\sim$  p-p

Forward-mid:  
d-Au  $\sim$  p-p

- Near-side peak (d-Au) = Near-side peak (p-p)
- Away-side peak (d-Au)  $\ll$  Away-side peak (p-p)
- Away-side width (d-Au)  $\gg$  Away-side width (p-p)

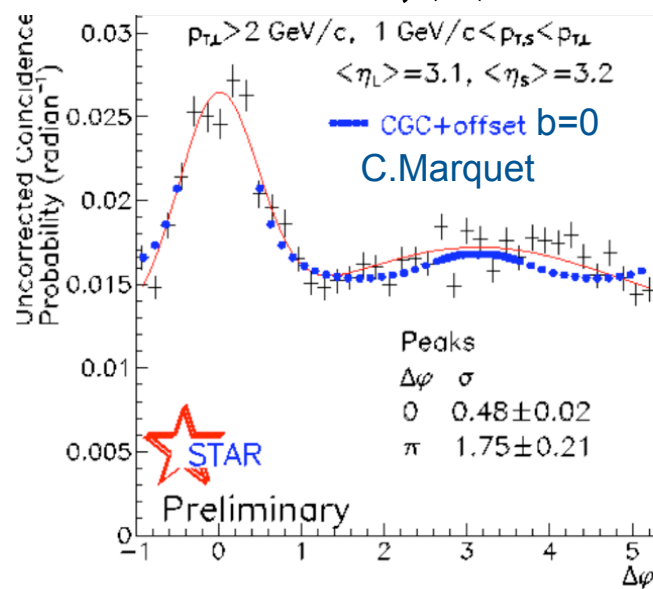
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CGC calc:

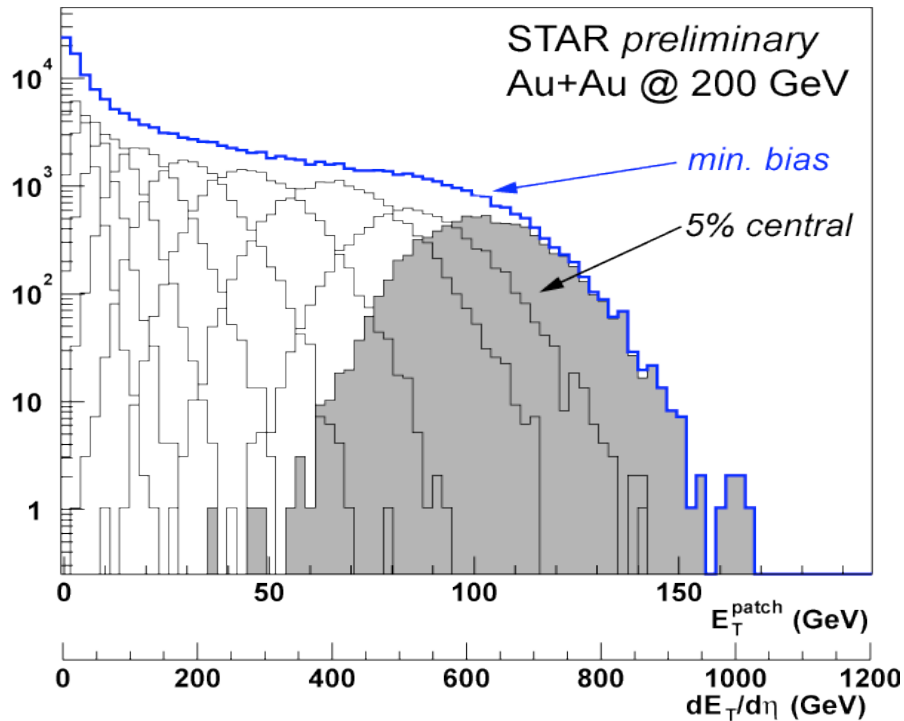
C.Marquet arXiv:0708.0231, K.Tuchin arXiv:0912.5479

Good agreement with central data

Predict centrality dependence

First hint of CGC at RHIC:  
 $x(\text{Forward } y_{\text{RHIC}}) \sim x(\text{Mid } y_{\text{LHC}})$

# Early conditions at RHIC - $\varepsilon$



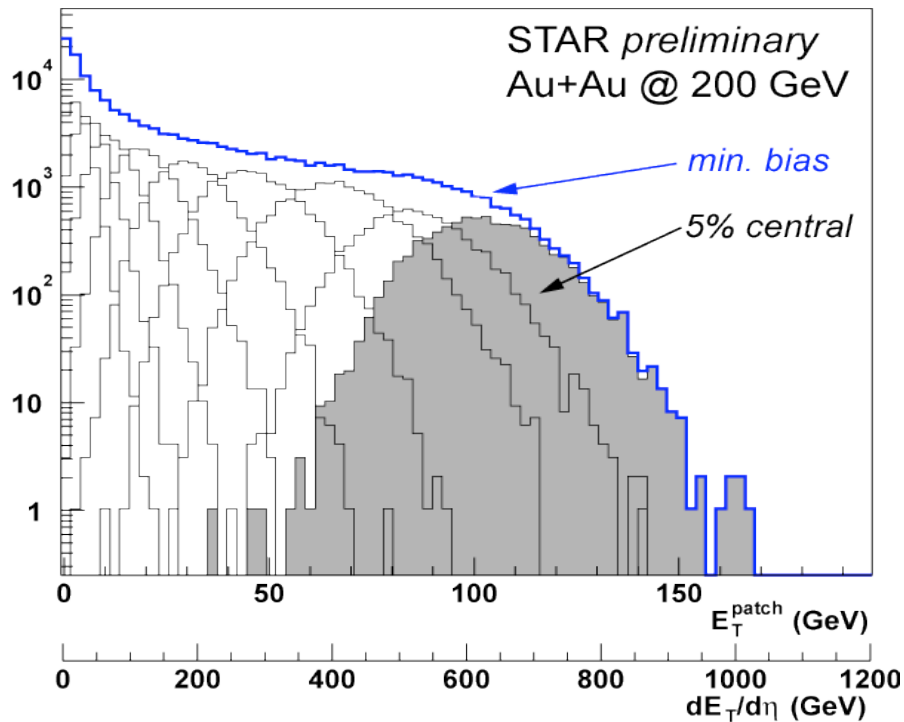
Central events: 26 TeV (out of 39.4 TeV) is removed from beam

$$\varepsilon_{Bj} = \frac{\Delta E_T}{\Delta V} = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \frac{1}{\tau_0} \frac{dE_T}{dy}$$

$R \sim 6.5$  fm

Time it takes to  
thermalize system

# Early conditions at RHIC - $\epsilon$

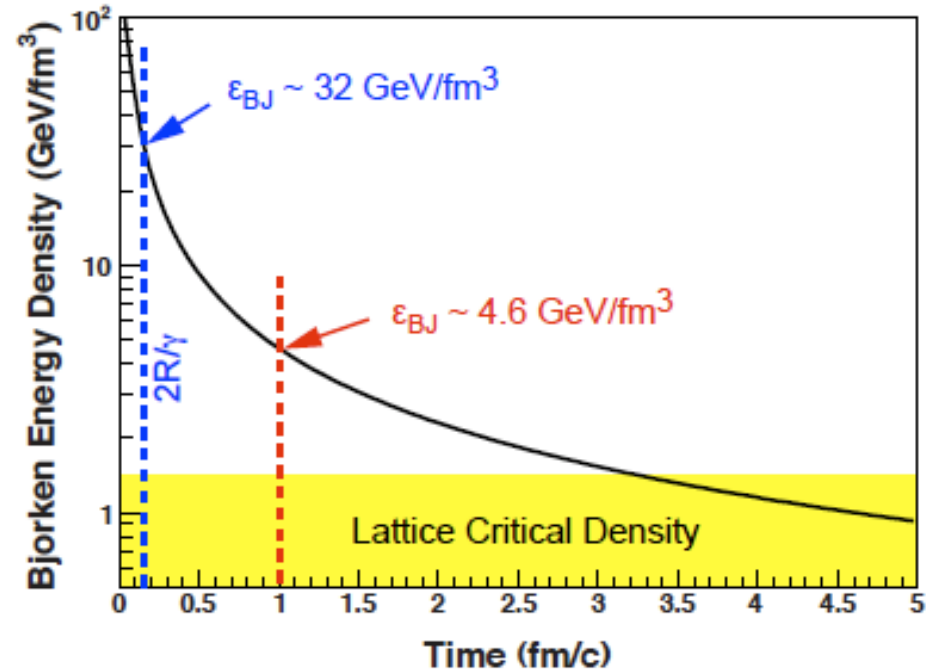


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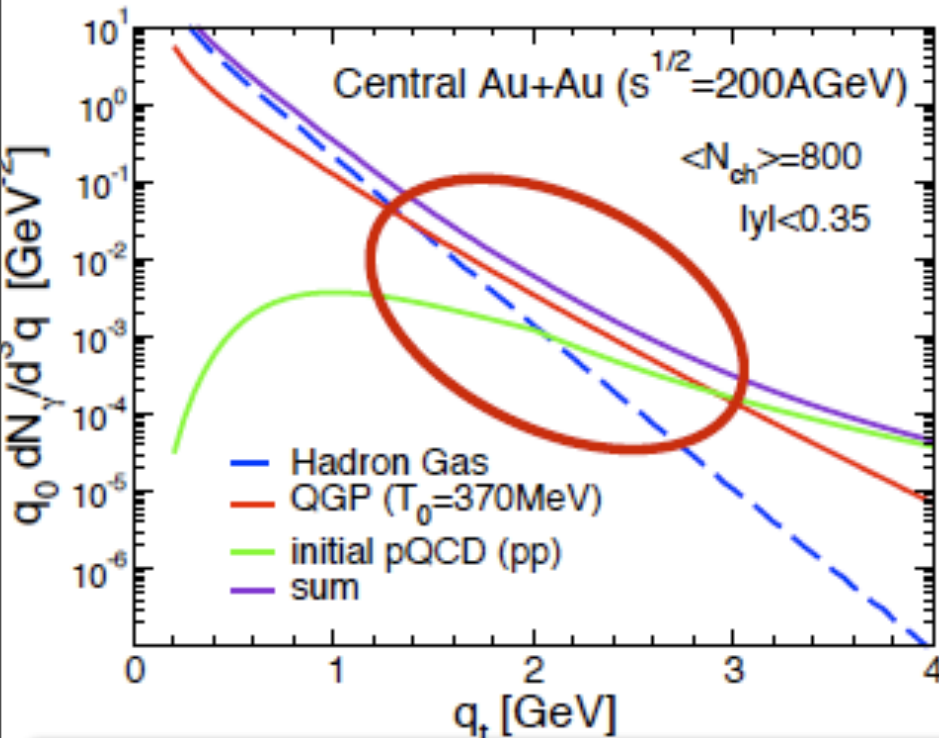
$\epsilon_{Bj} \approx 5.0$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>  
 $\sim 30$  times normal  
 nuclear density  
 $\sim 5$  times  $> \epsilon_{\text{critical}}$   
 (lattice QCD)

# Early conditions at RHIC - T

## Direct Photons:

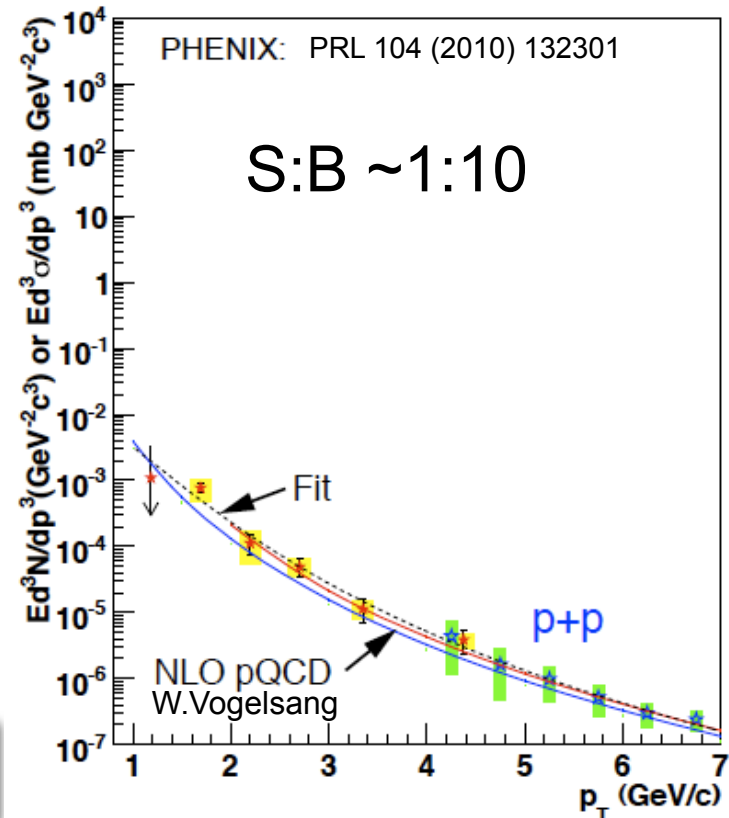
- no charge or color → don't interact with medium
- emitted over all lifetime → convolution of all T

Theory well developed

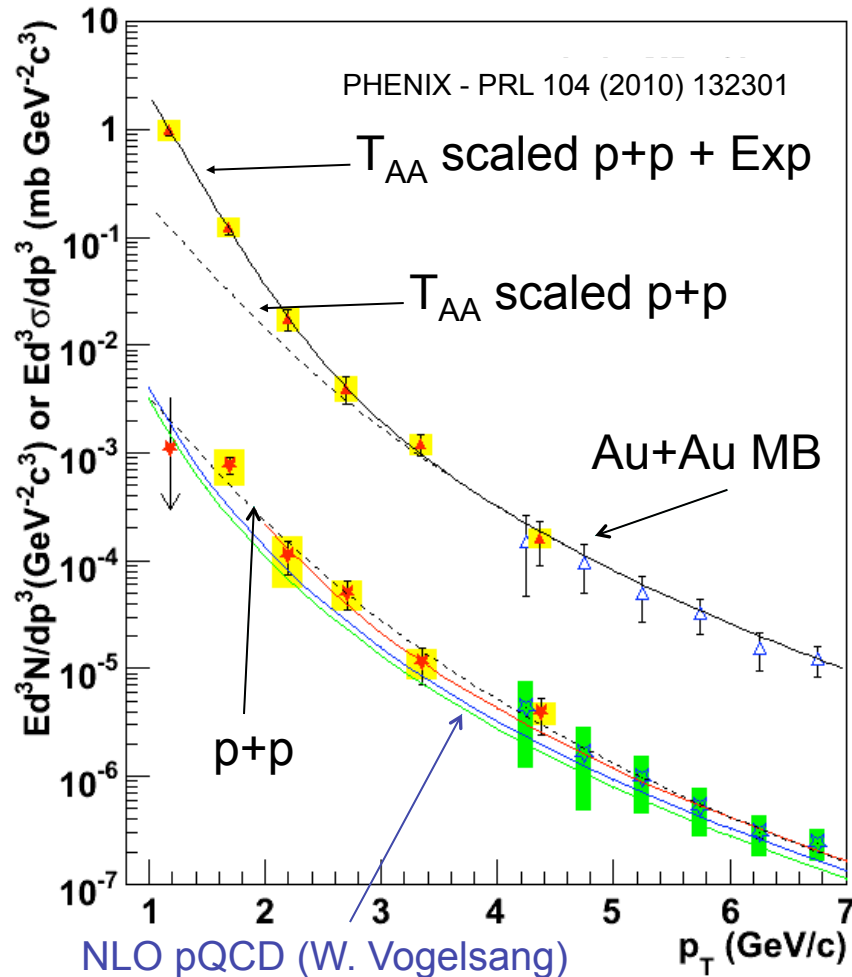


QGP dominates:  $1 < p_T < 3 \text{ GeV}/c$

Measurement and corrections under control



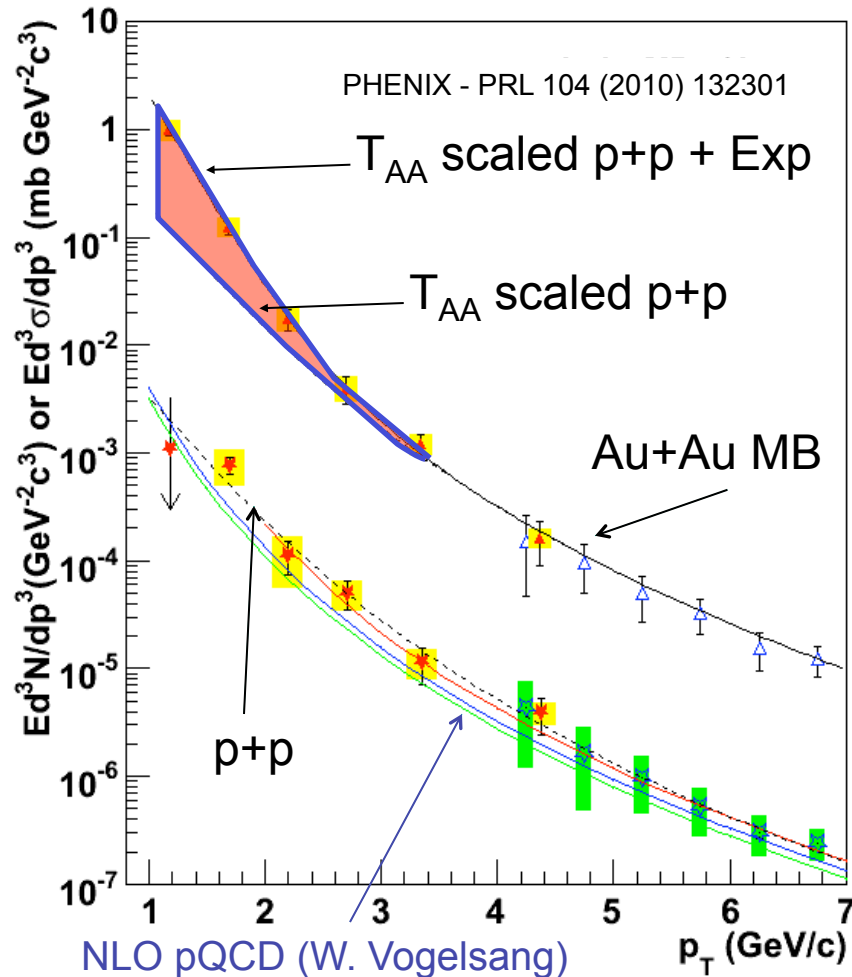
# Early conditions at RHIC - T



Au-Au:  
After background subtraction  
spectrum well fit by:

$T_{AA}$  scaled p+p + Exp

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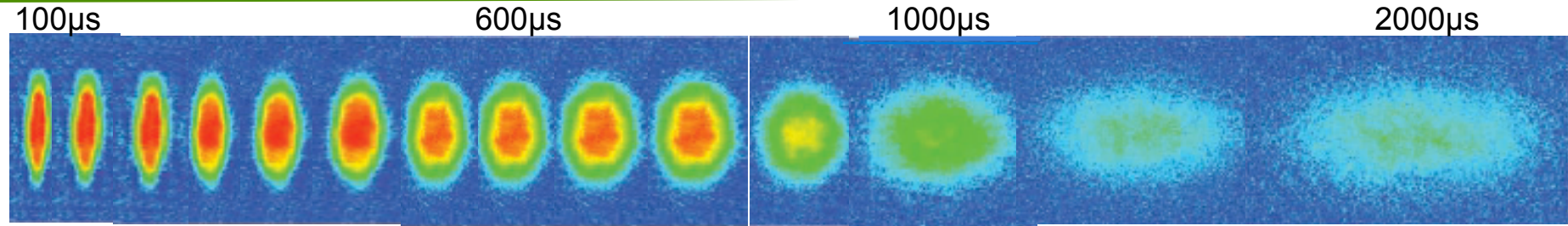
$T_{AA}$  scaled p+p + Exp

Emission rate and shape  
consistent with that from a  
hot thermally equilibrated  
medium

$T = 300 - 600 \text{ MeV}$   
 $> 2 \cdot T_c$   
 $\tau < 1 \text{ fm/c}$

First experimental observation of  $T > T_c$

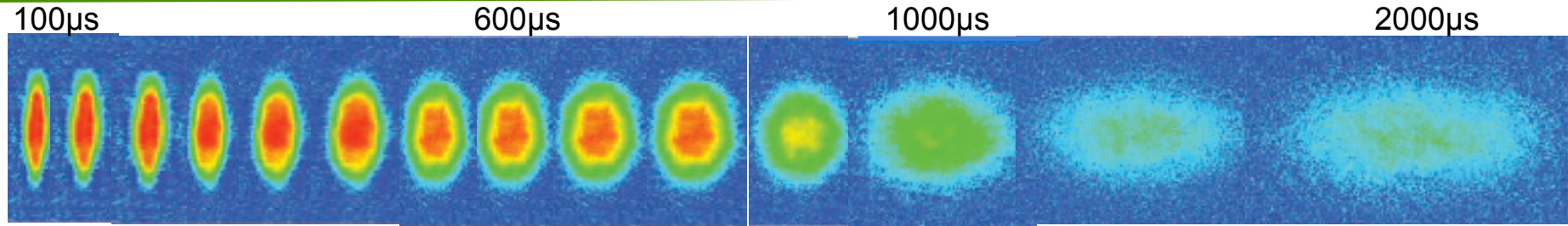
# Flowing like a “Perfect” liquid



—M. Gehm, et al. *Science* 298 2179 (2002)

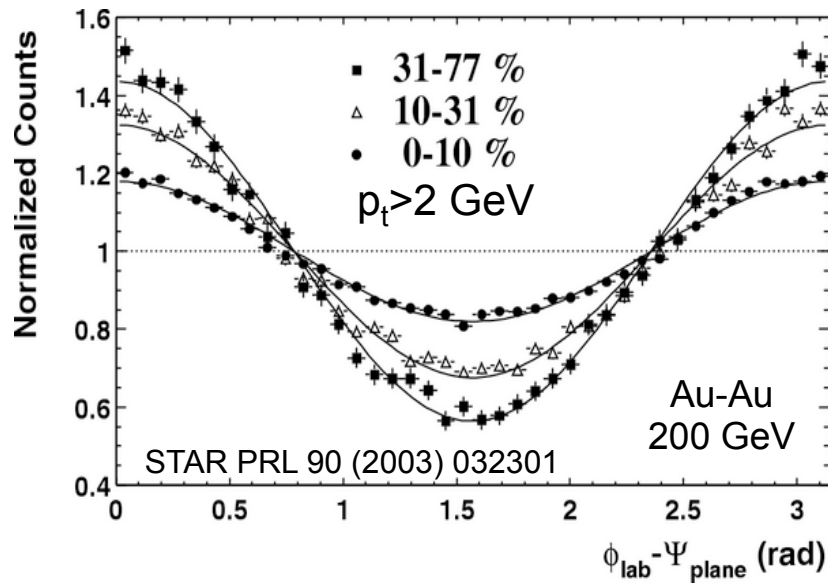
- Very strong elliptic flow  $\rightarrow$  early equilibration

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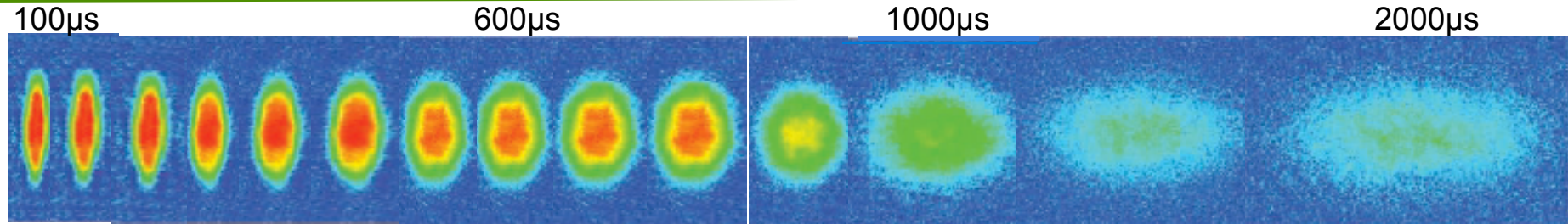


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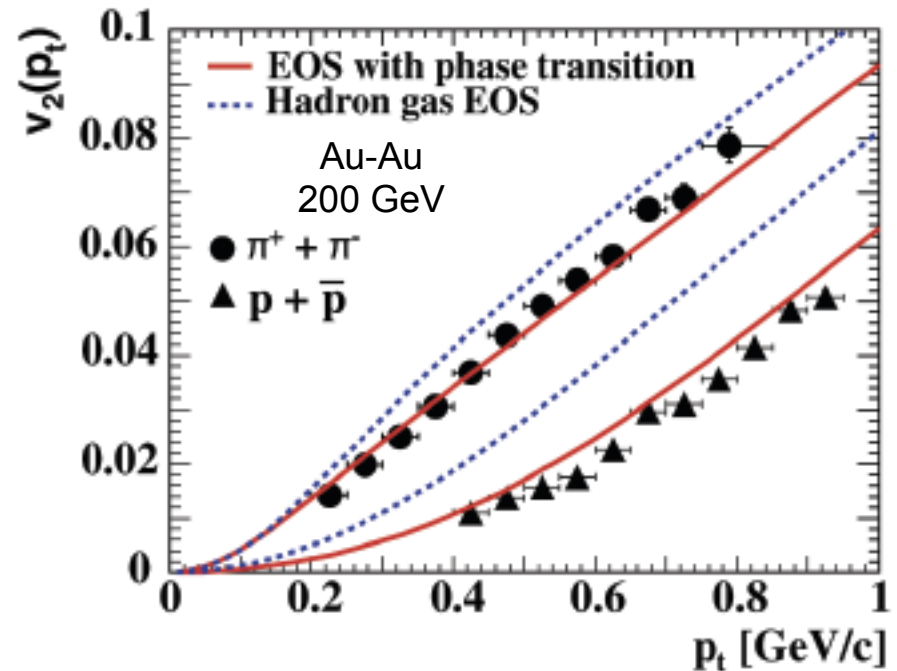
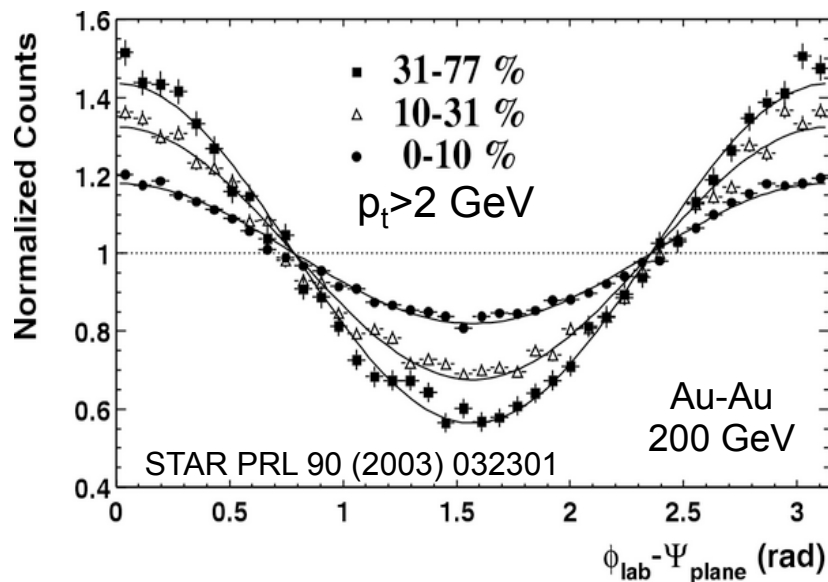


# Flowing like a “Perfect” liquid



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- Very strong elliptic flow → early equilibration



- Pure hydrodynamical models including QGP describe elliptic and radial flow

**QGP is a “perfect” fluid**

# How perfect is the “Perfect fluid”

Viscosity

$$\eta \sim n\bar{p}\lambda$$
$$= n\bar{p}\frac{1}{n\sigma} = \frac{\bar{p}}{\sigma}$$

- small  $\eta \rightarrow$  large coupling

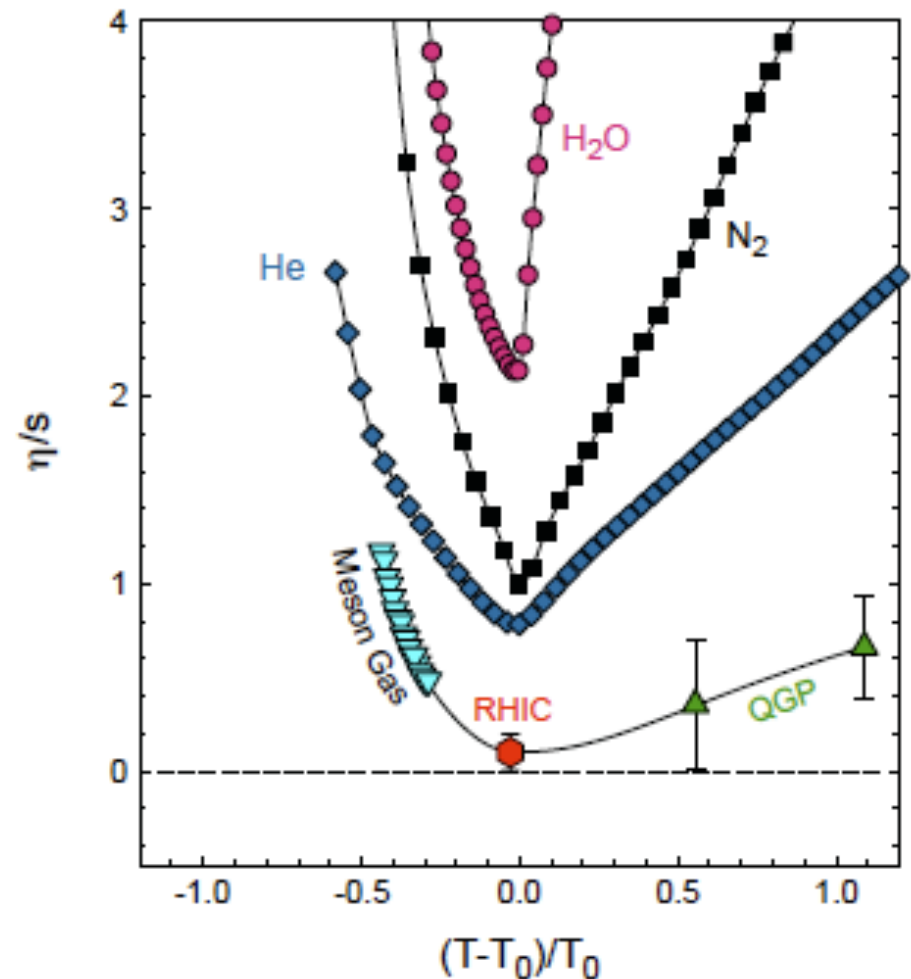
String theory (AdS/CFT)  
predicts a lower bound:

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \geq \frac{\hbar}{4\pi}$$

The Shear Viscosity of Strongly Coupled N=4  
Supersymmetric Yang-Mills Plasma G. Policastro,  
D.T. Son, A.O. Starinets PRL 87: 081601 (2001).

water under normal condition

$$\eta/s \sim 380 \hbar/4\pi$$



# How perfect is the “Perfect fluid”

## Viscosity

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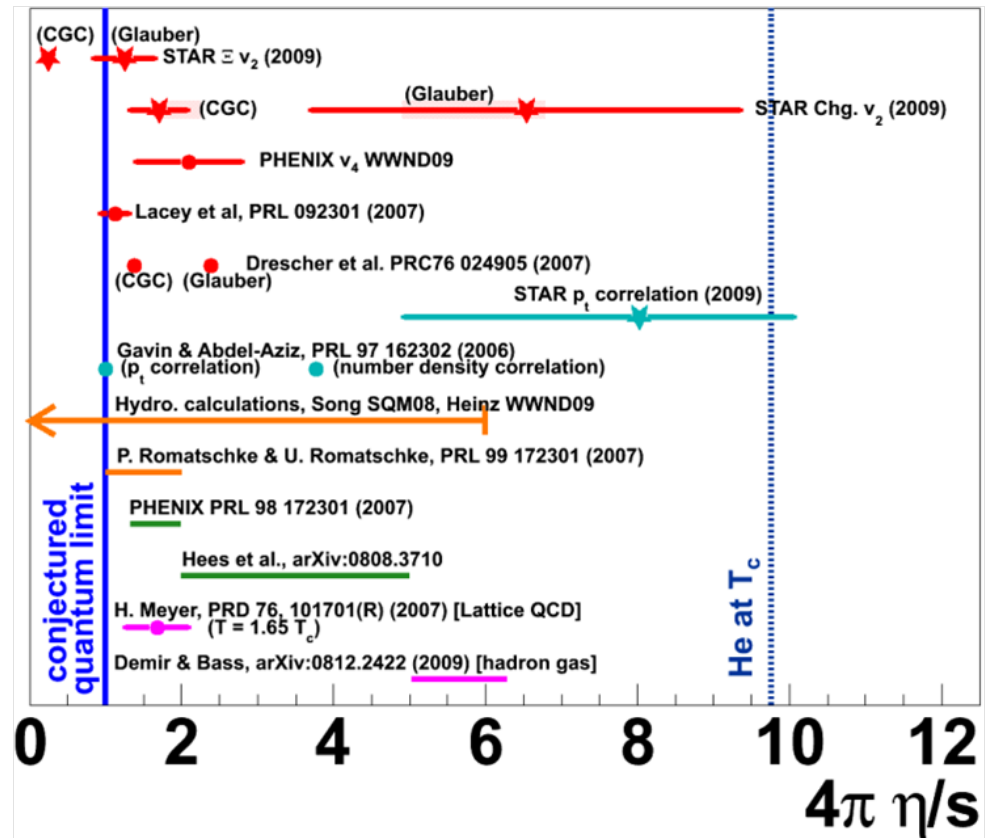
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**ALL results close to the limit**



Many ways have been devised to extract  $\eta/s$  from data

**QGP  $\rightarrow$  sQGP**

# There are partonic degrees of freedom

- Elliptic flow is additive.
- If partons are flowing the *complicated* observed flow pattern in  $v_2(p_T)$  for hadrons

$$\frac{d^2 N}{dp_T d\phi} \propto 1 + 2 v_2(p_T) \cos(2\phi)$$

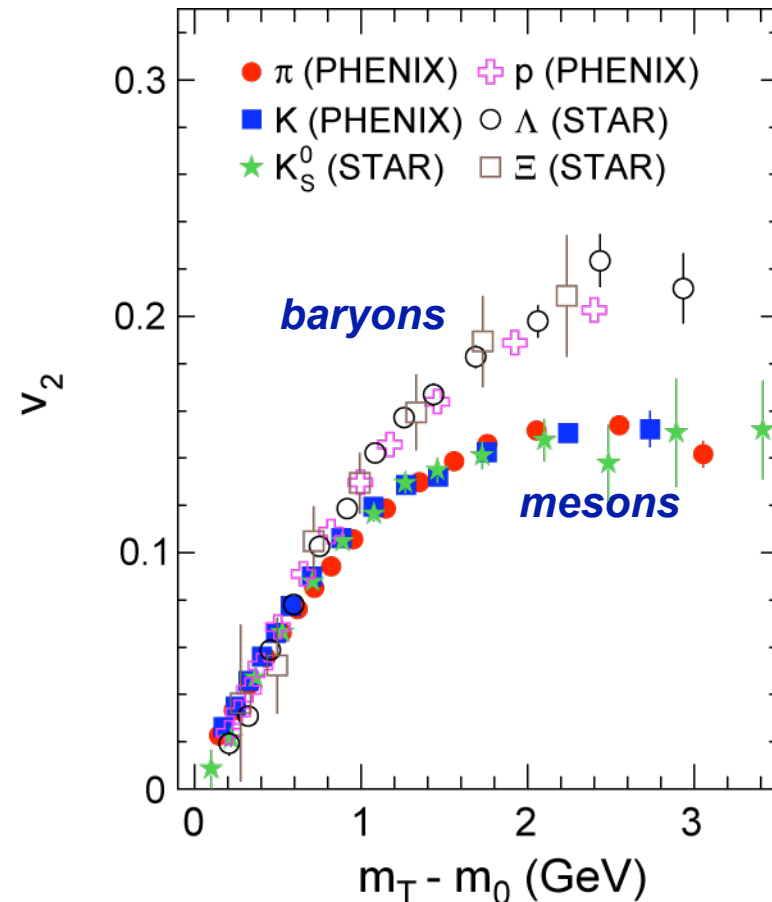
should become *simple* at the quark level

$$p_T \rightarrow p_T / n$$

$$v_2 \rightarrow v_2 / n ,$$

$n = (2, 3)$  for (meson, baryon)

$$m_T = \sqrt{p_T^2 + m_0^2}$$



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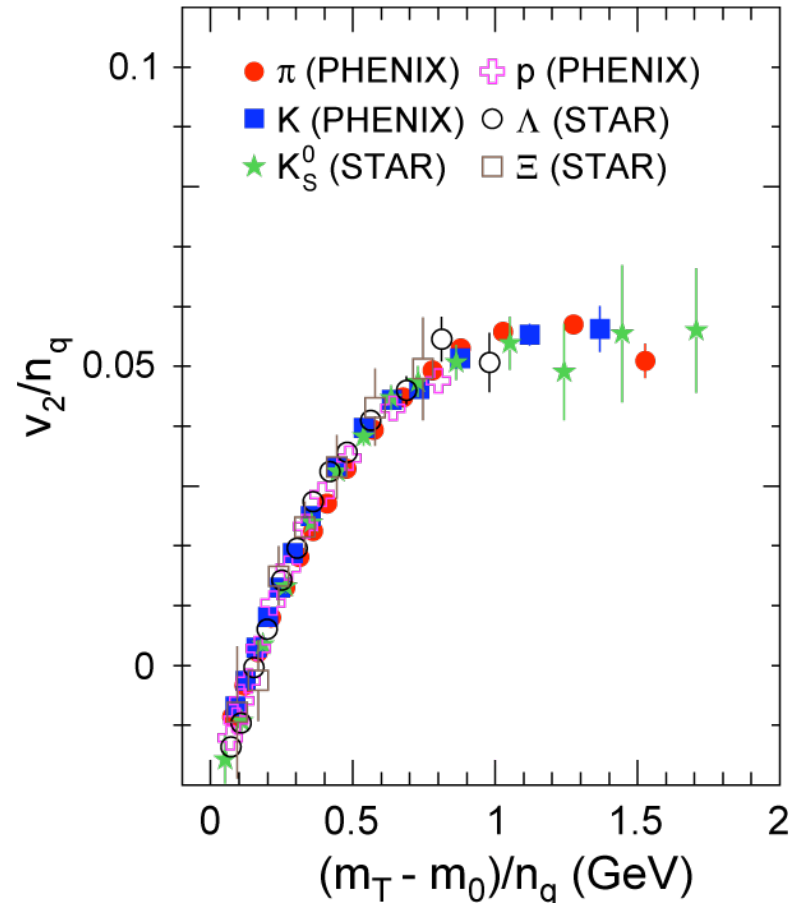
$$v_2 \rightarrow v_2 / n ,$$

$n = (2, 3)$  for (meson, baryon)

Works for  $p, \pi, K_S^0, \Lambda, \Xi$ ..

$$v_2^s \sim v_2^{u,d} \sim 7\%$$

$$m_T = \sqrt{p_T^2 + m_0^2}$$



Constituents of QGP are partons

# *Summary of first decade of RHIC - I*

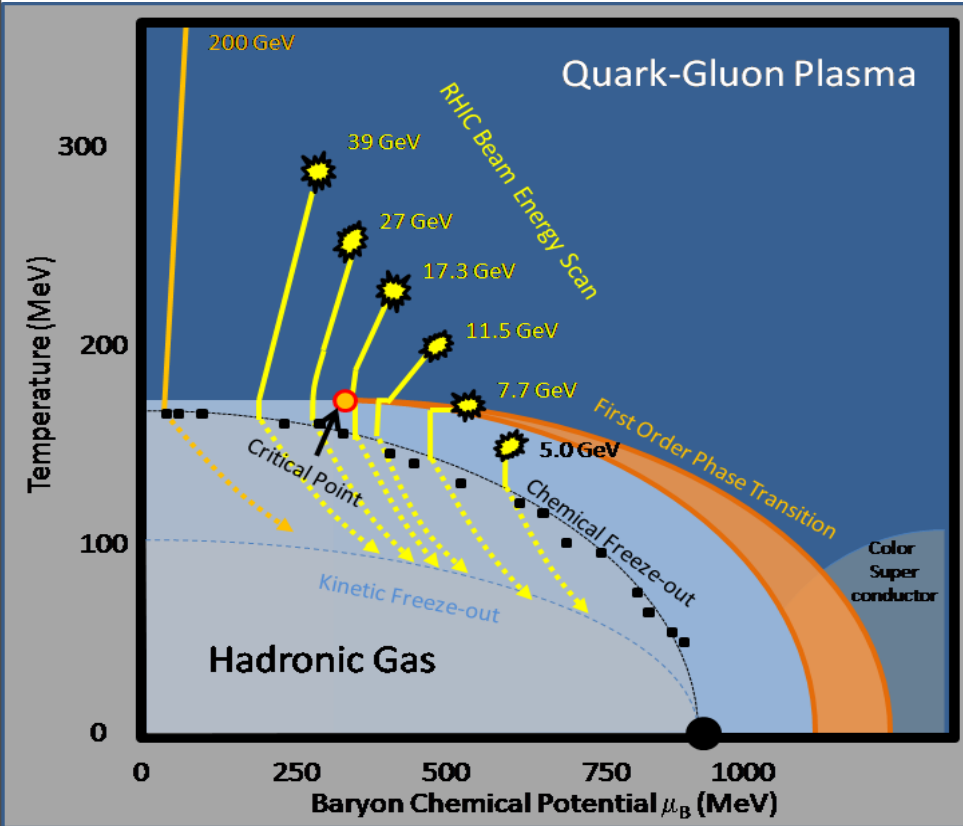
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- Energy density in the collision region is way above that where hadrons can exist
- The initial temperature in the collision region is way above that where hadrons can exist
- The medium has quark and gluon degrees of freedom in initial stages

We have created a new state of matter at RHIC  
- the sQGP

- A sQGP: flows like an almost “perfect” liquid  
interacts strongly with partons passing through it

# RHIC: the Beam Energy Scan



RHIC such a versatile machine need to make good use of it

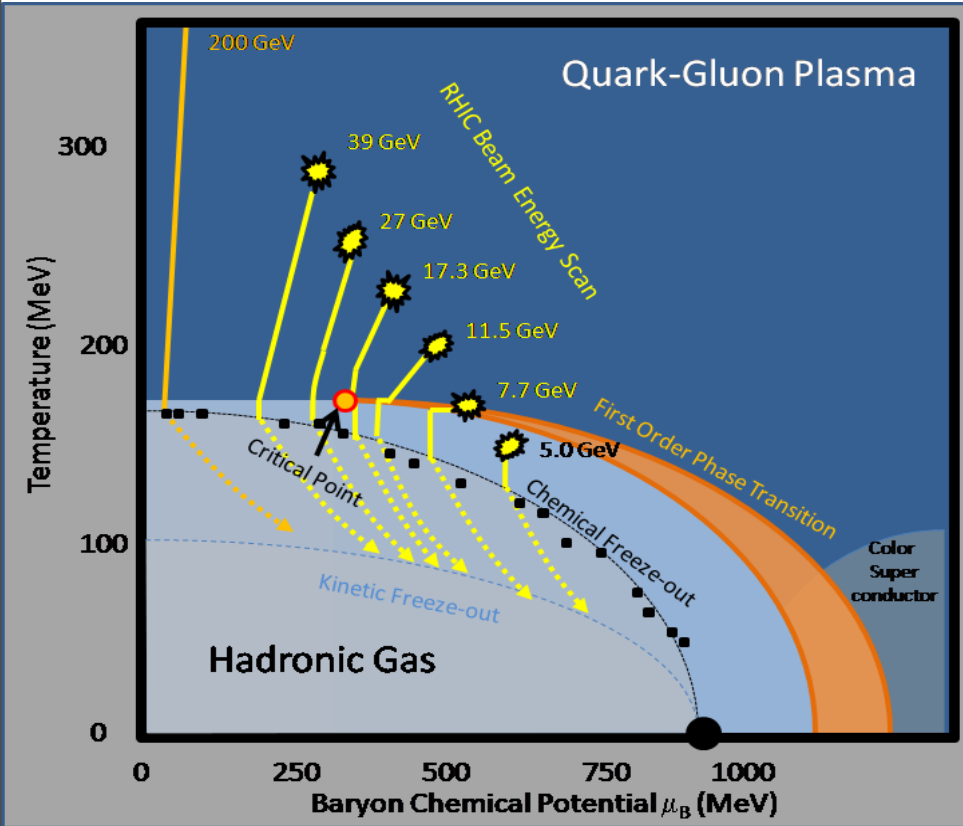
Lattice QCD predicts:

- High  $T$  & Low  $\mu_B$   
**Cross-over**
- High  $\mu_B$  & Low  $T$  -  
**1<sup>st</sup> order transition**
- Mid  $\mu_B$  & Mid  $T$  -  
**Critical Point**

Evidence of a critical point and/or 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition?

What  $\sqrt{s}$  does sQGP “turn off”?

# RHIC: the Beam Energy Scan



Location of CP not known -  
experimental search needed

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need to make good use of it

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What  $\sqrt{s}$  does sQGP “turn off”?

Scan began this year, data at  $\sqrt{s} = 62, 39, 11.5$  and  $7.7$  GeV  
data currently being analyzed -watch this space

# *Hard probes of dense matter (Bricks)*

quark (color triplets)



gluons (color octets)



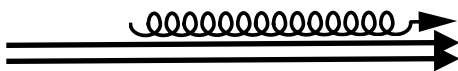
$\gamma^*$ , Z: colorless



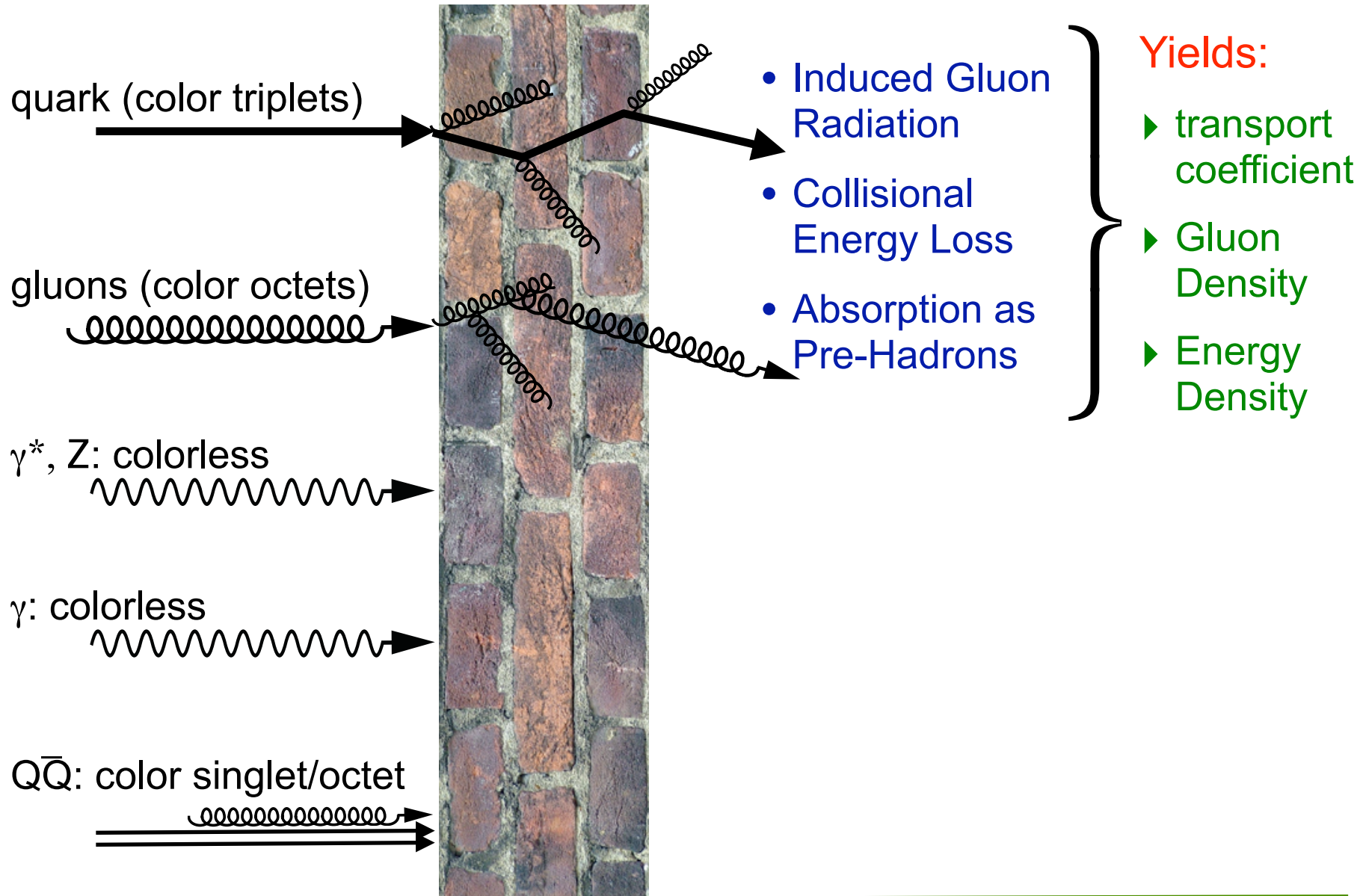
$\gamma$ : colorless



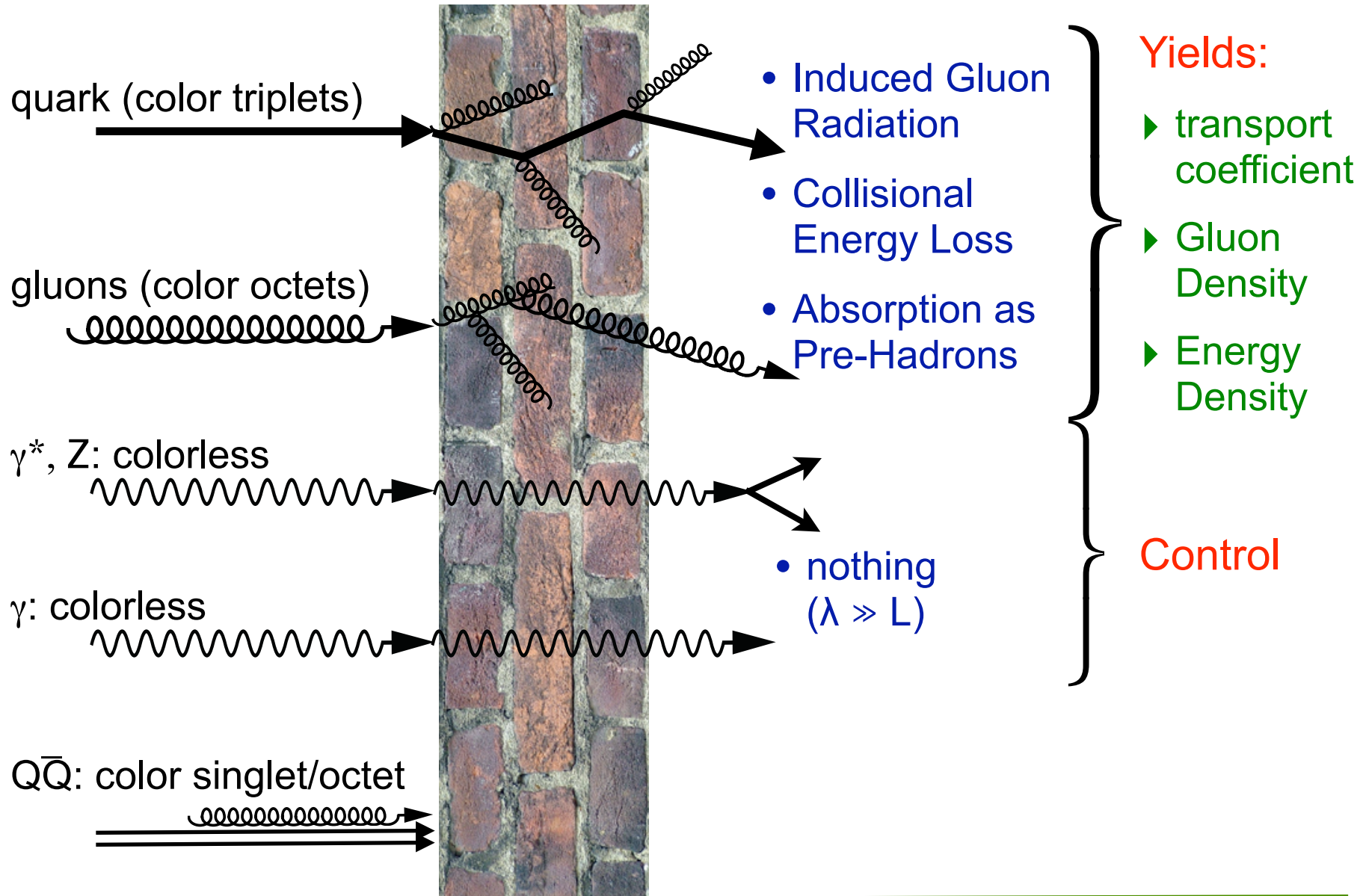
$Q\bar{Q}$ : color singlet/octet



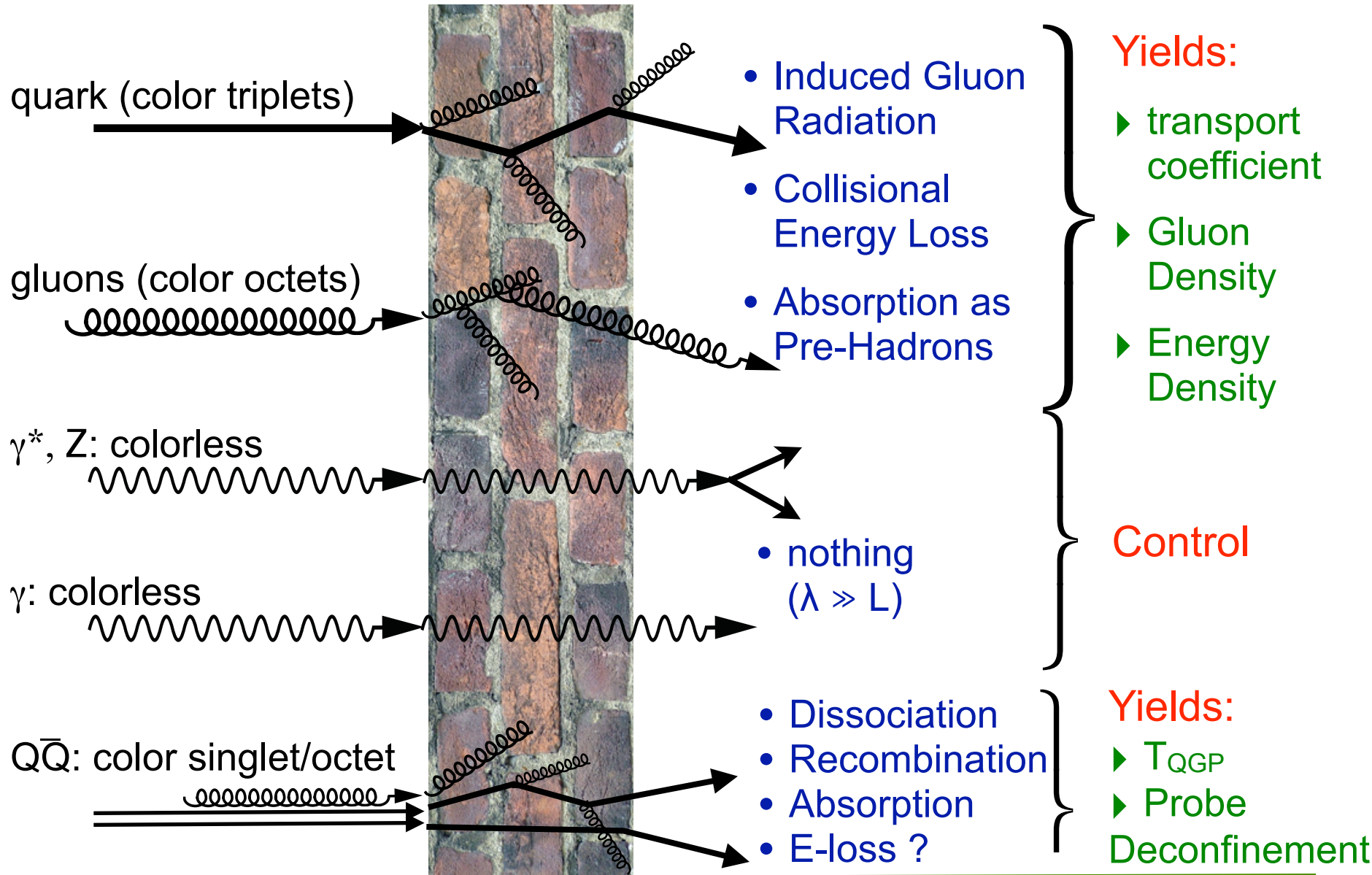
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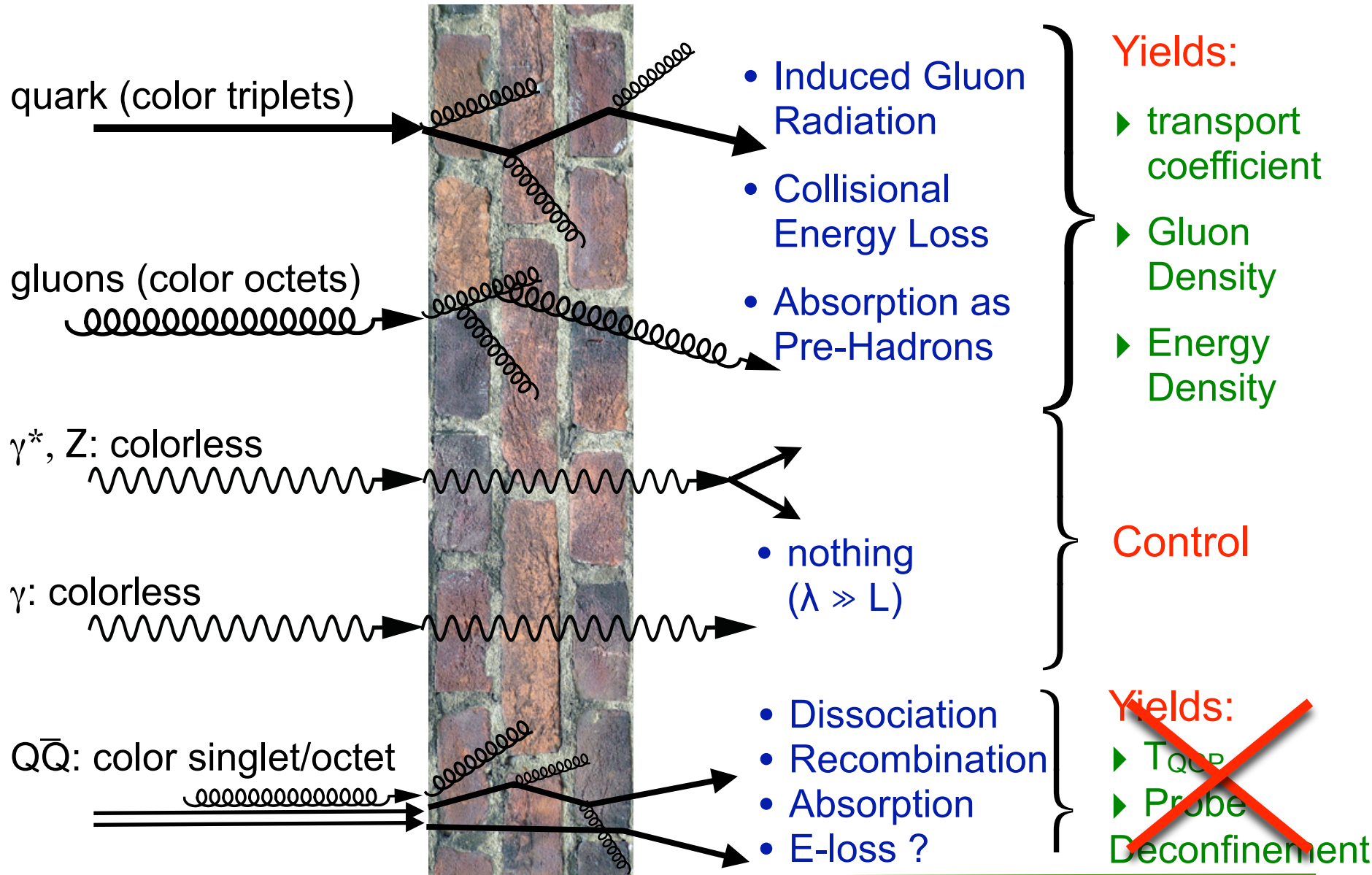
# Hard probes of dense matter (Bricks)



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# Hard probes of dense matter (Bricks)



# Probing for the QGP

p-p - No QGP, baseline measure

d-A - No QGP, initial state effects

A-A - QGP created

Nuclear modification factor:

$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{Yield(A+A)}{Yield(p+p) \times \langle N_{coll} \rangle}$$

Ave. no of p-p collisions in A-A collision

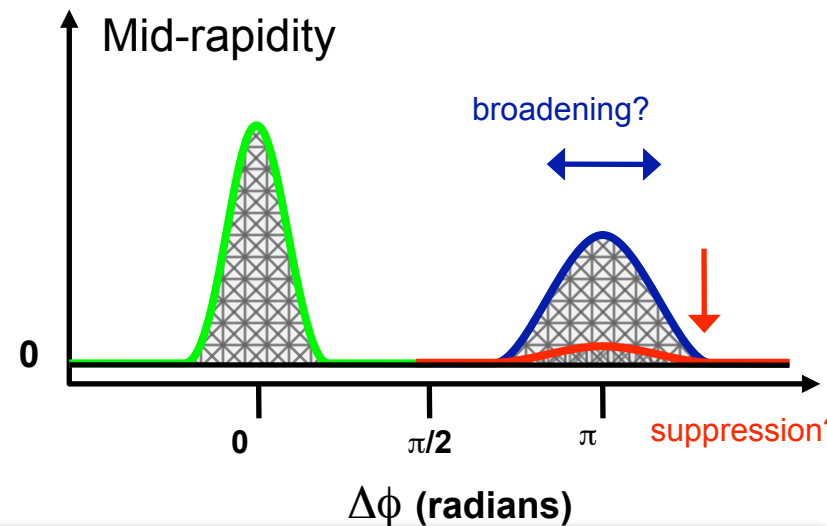
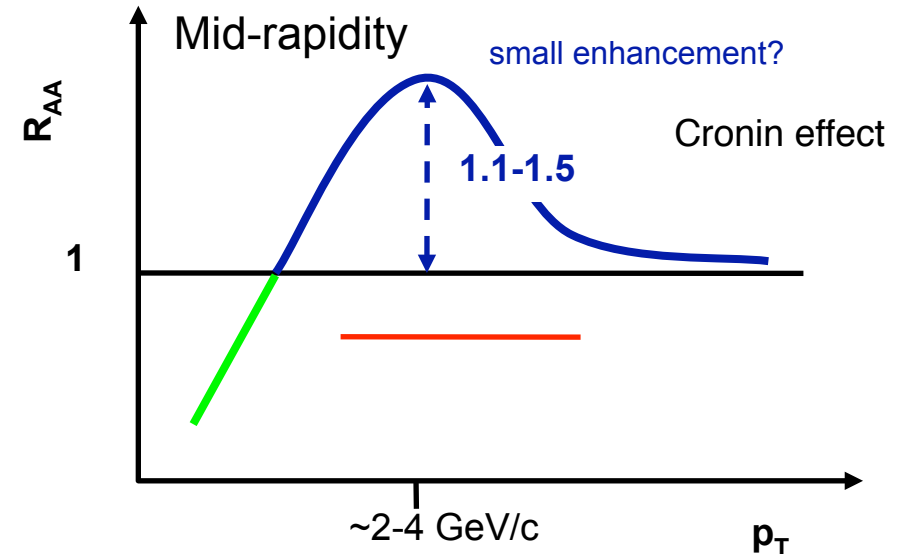
d-A: Cronin enhancement

A-A: High  $p_T$  suppression

Away-side di-hadron correlations:

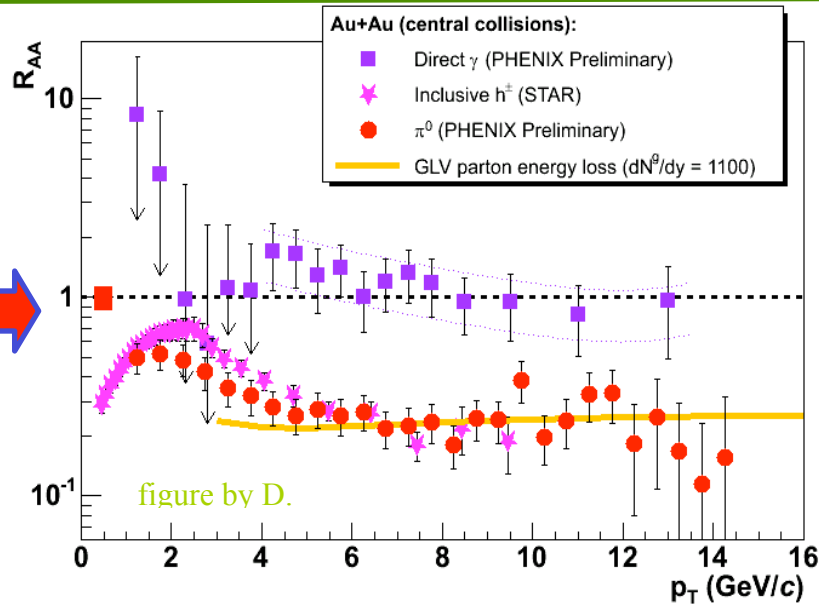
d-A: p-p like

A-A: Strong suppression



Clean separation of initial state (d-Au) and QGP (Au-Au) effects

# High- $p_T$ suppression

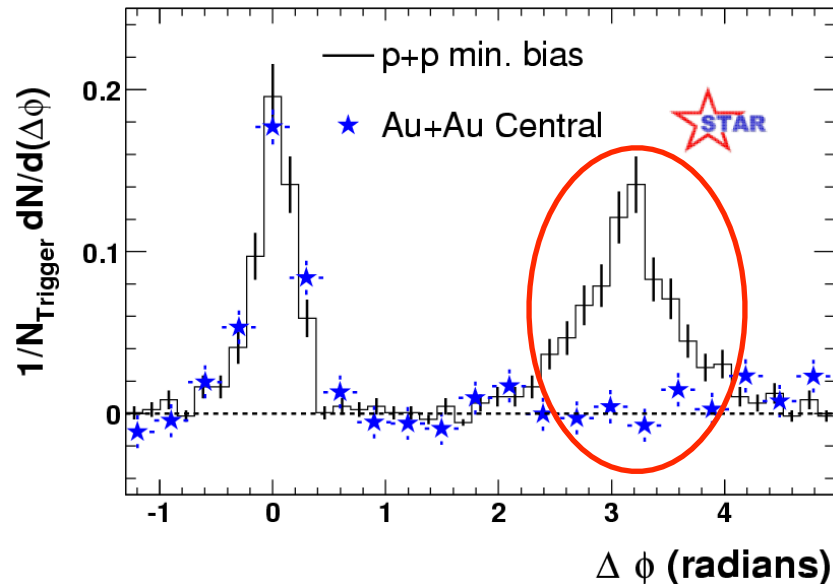
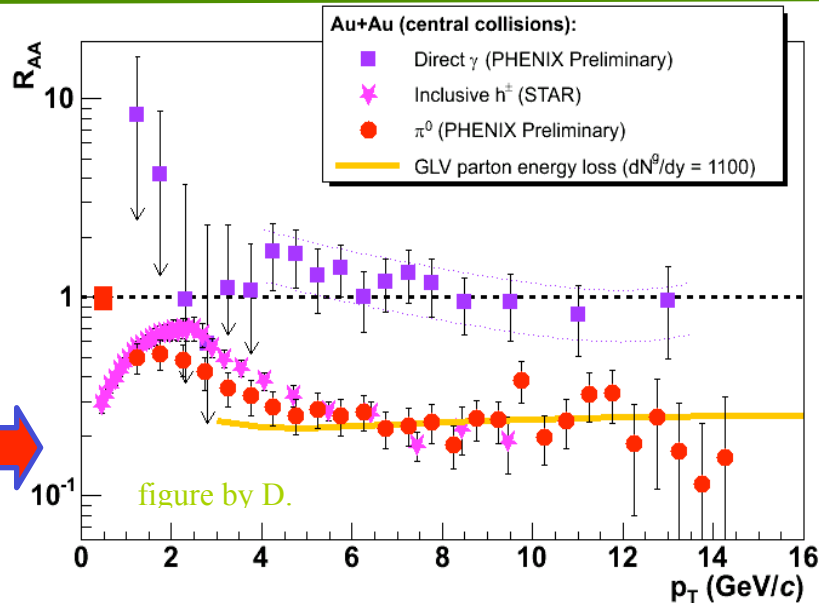


## Observations at RHIC:

### 1. Photons **not** suppressed

- Good!  $\gamma$  don't interact with medium
- $N_{\text{coll}}$  scaling works

# High- $p_T$ suppression



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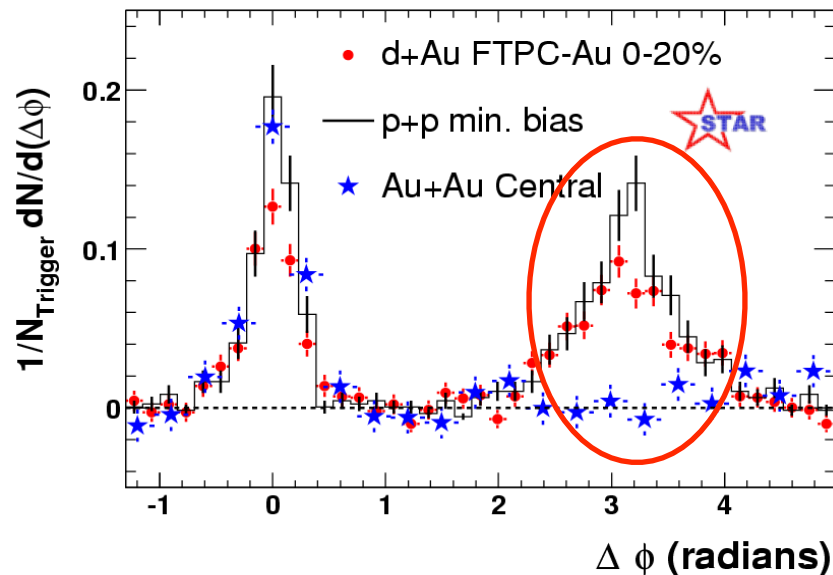
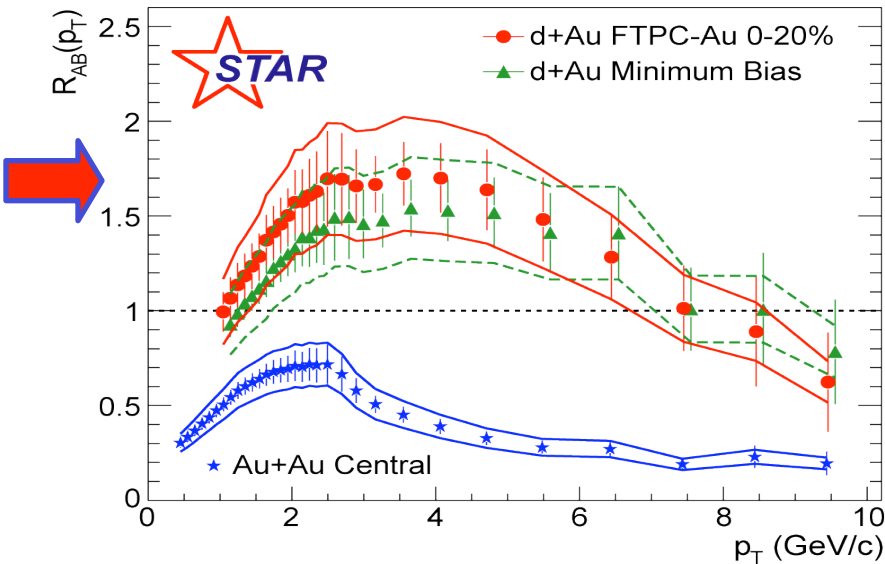
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### 2. Hadrons **suppressed** in central Au-Au

- $R_{AA}$  - factor 5 suppression
- Away-side jet highly quenched

# High- $p_T$ suppression



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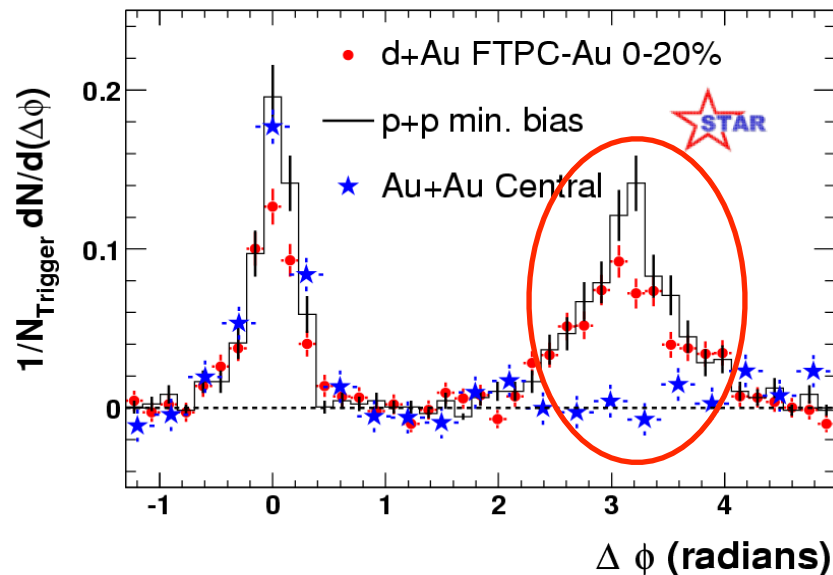
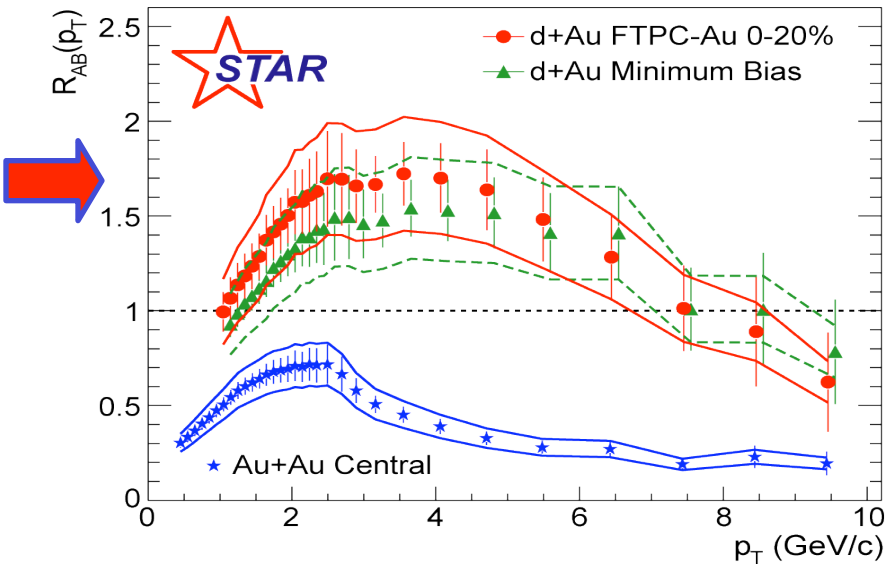
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### 3. Hadrons **not** suppressed in d-Au

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- Away-side jet p-p like

# High- $p_T$ suppression



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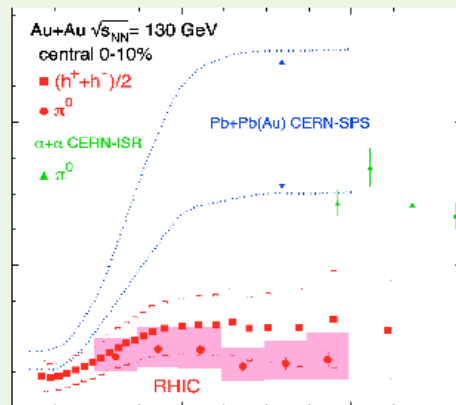
sQGP - strongly coupled:  
colored objects suffer large E loss

# High- $p_T$ suppression

## PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

14 January 2002

Volume 88, Number 2



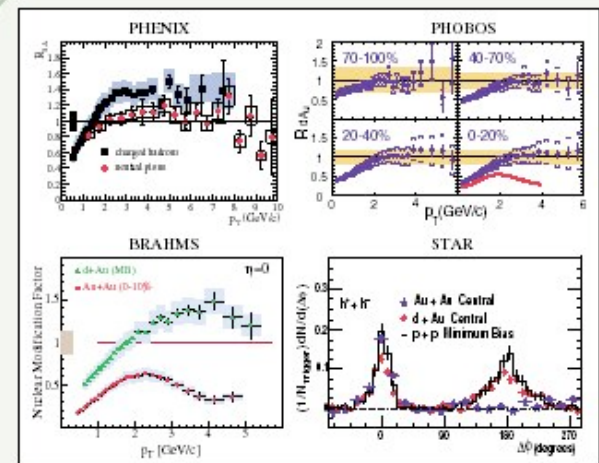
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## PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Articles published week ending  
15 AUGUST 2003

Volume 91, Number 7



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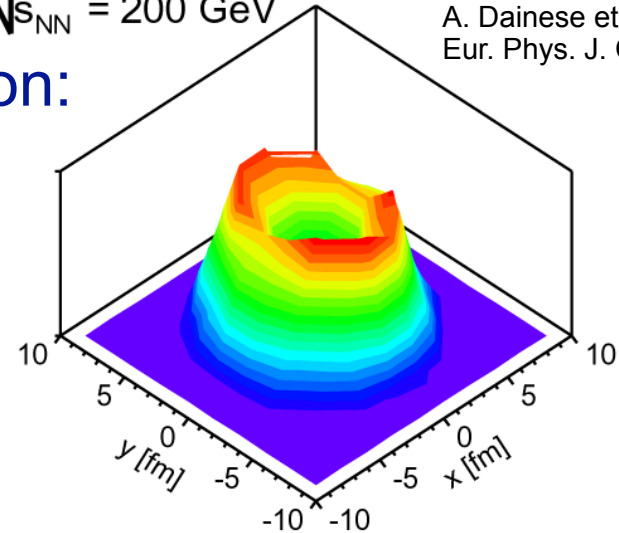
# *The limitations of $R_{AA}$*

Insensitivity to  $\hat{q}$  due to surface emission:

$\hat{q} = \langle p_T^2 \rangle$  transferred from the medium to a hard gluon per unit path length

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

A. Dainese et al.,  
Eur. Phys. J. C38(2005) 461



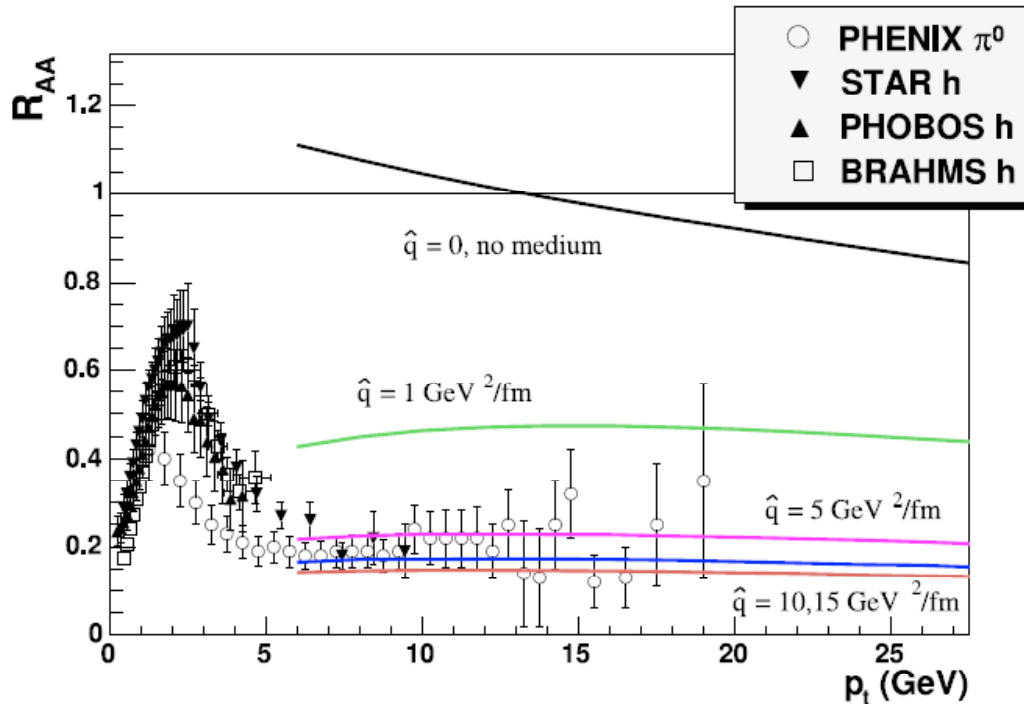
Distributions of parton production points in the transverse plane

# The limitations of $R_{AA}$

Insensitivity to  $\hat{q}$  due to surface emission:

$\hat{q} = \langle p_T^2 \rangle$  transferred from the medium to a hard gluon per unit path length

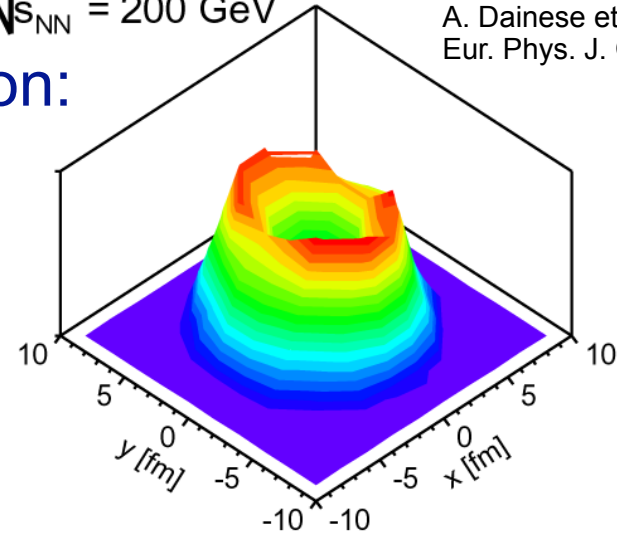
$R_{AA} > 0$  even for highest densities



[Eskola, Honkanen, Salgado, Wiedemann (2004)]

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

A. Dainese et al.,  
Eur. Phys. J. C38(2005) 461



Distributions of parton production points in the transverse plane

Rough correspondence:

$$\bar{\hat{q}} = 10 \frac{\text{GeV}^2}{\text{fm}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{dN^g}{dy} \approx 1800$$

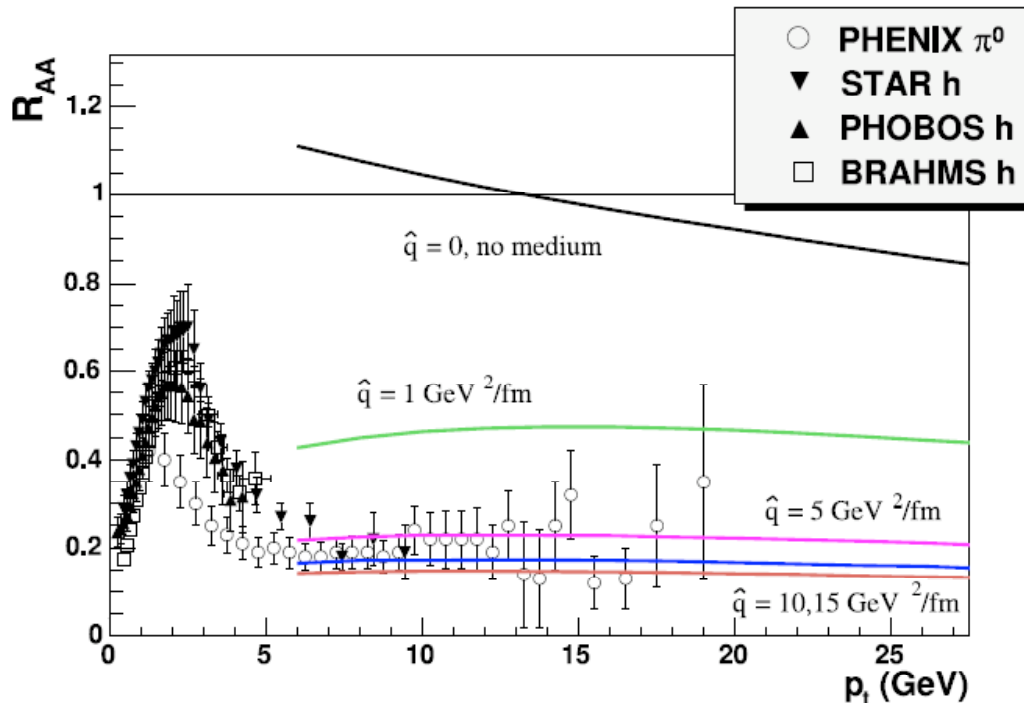
$$\bar{\hat{q}} = 5 \frac{\text{GeV}^2}{\text{fm}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{dN^g}{dy} \approx 900$$

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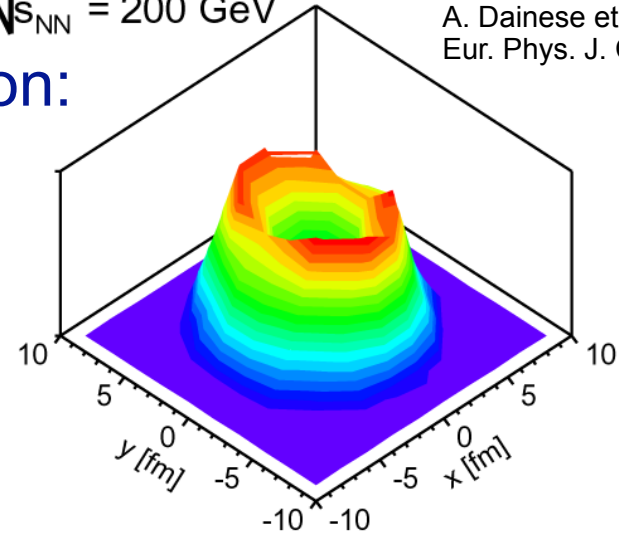
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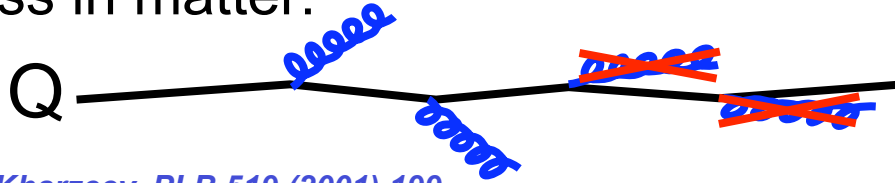
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**Need more sensitive tool**

# Heavy quarks are *gray* probes

Dead cone effect implies lower heavy quark energy loss in matter:

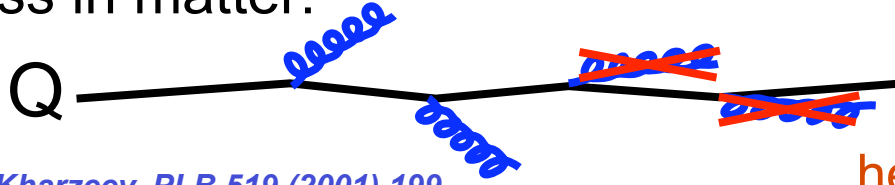


$$\omega \left. \frac{dI}{dw} \right|_{\text{HEAVY}} = \frac{\omega \left. \frac{dI}{dw} \right|_{\text{LIGHT}}}{\left( 1 + \left( \frac{m_Q}{E_Q} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\theta^2} \right)^2}$$

*Dokshitzer and Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199.*

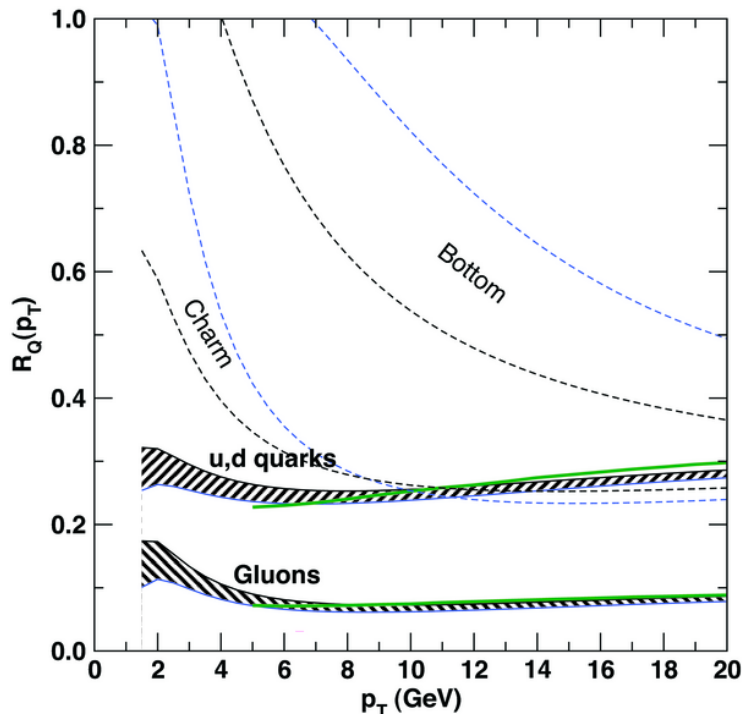
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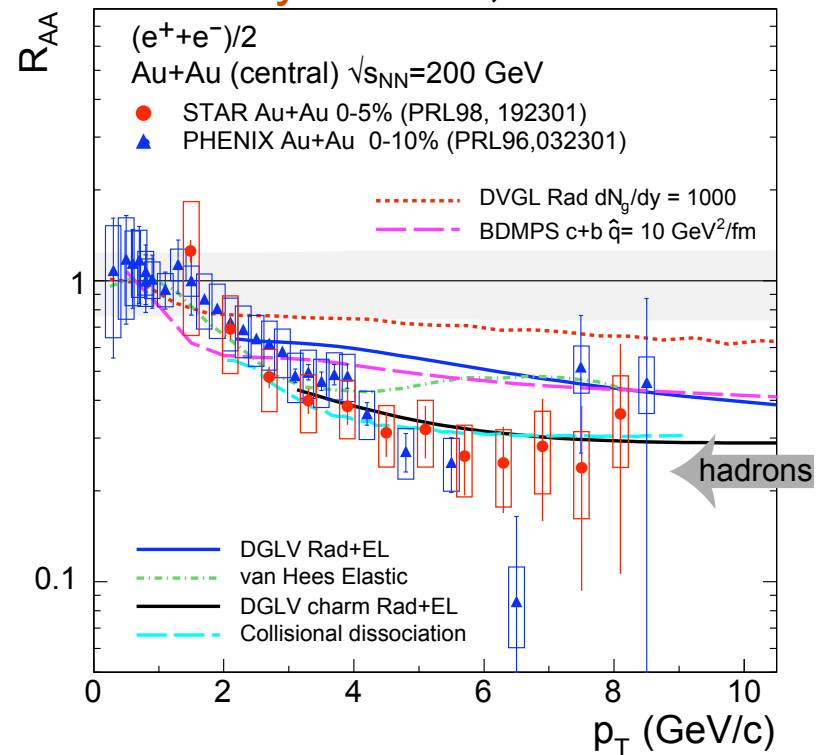
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Dokshitzer and Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199.



Wicks et al, Nucl. Phys. A784 (2007) 426

heavy flavor c,b  $\rightarrow$  e K  $\nu$

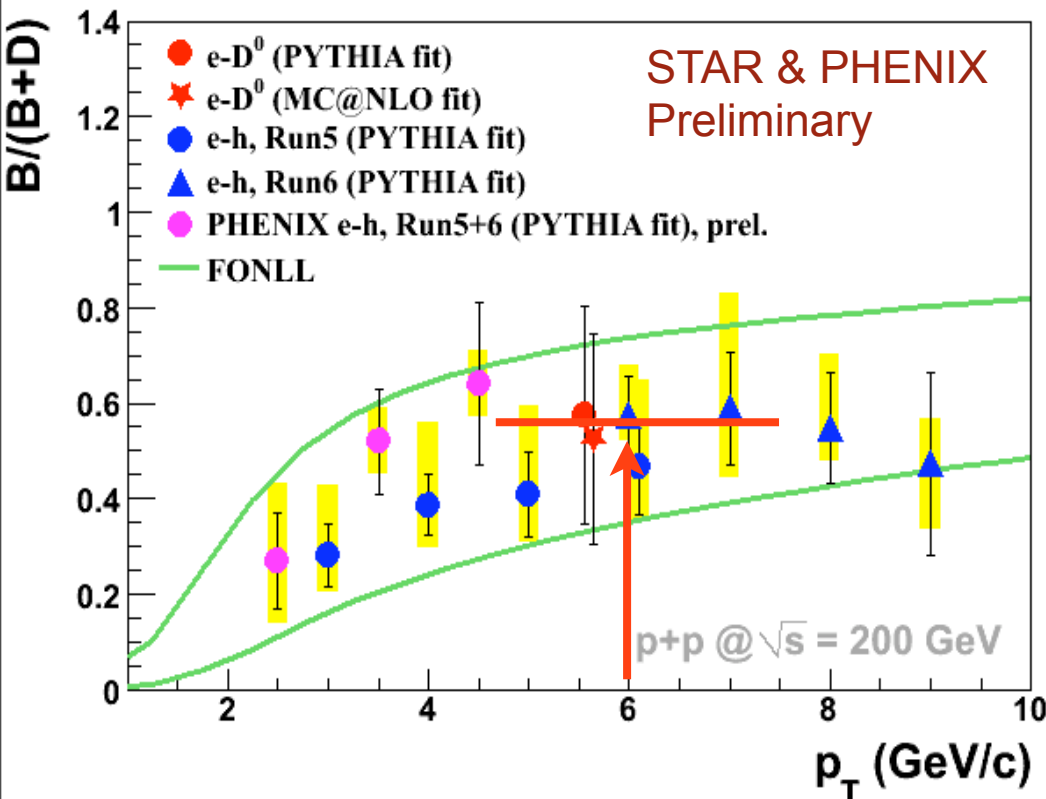


Heavy flavor JUST as suppressed

# *It gets worse ... bottom not gray either*

Can get  $R_{AA}$  only if:

include radiation and elastic collisional energy loss  
assume **all** non-photonic energy loss comes from c



BUT STAR and PHENIX show b contribution in p+p collisions  
 $\Rightarrow \sim 55\%$  at  $p_T^e = 6$  GeV/c

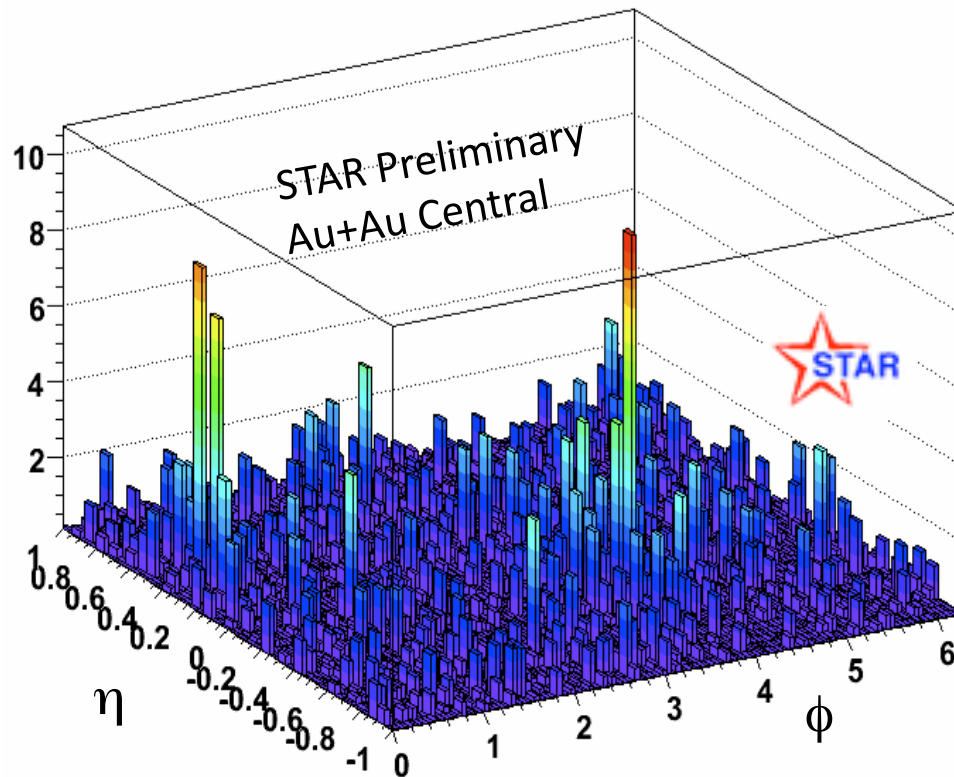
Beauty appears equally suppressed

We still don't fully understand energy loss

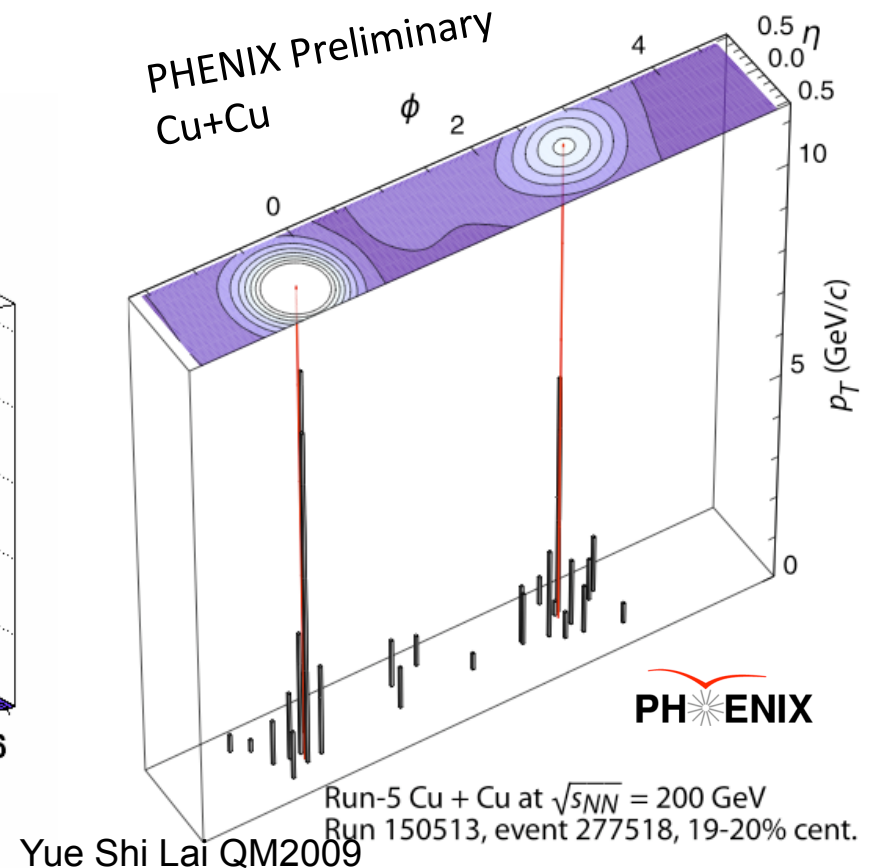
Needed to measure b and c  $R_{AA}$  independently AND accurately

A key measurement for RHIC upgrades and the LHC

# Jets at RHIC



Joern Putschke HP2008



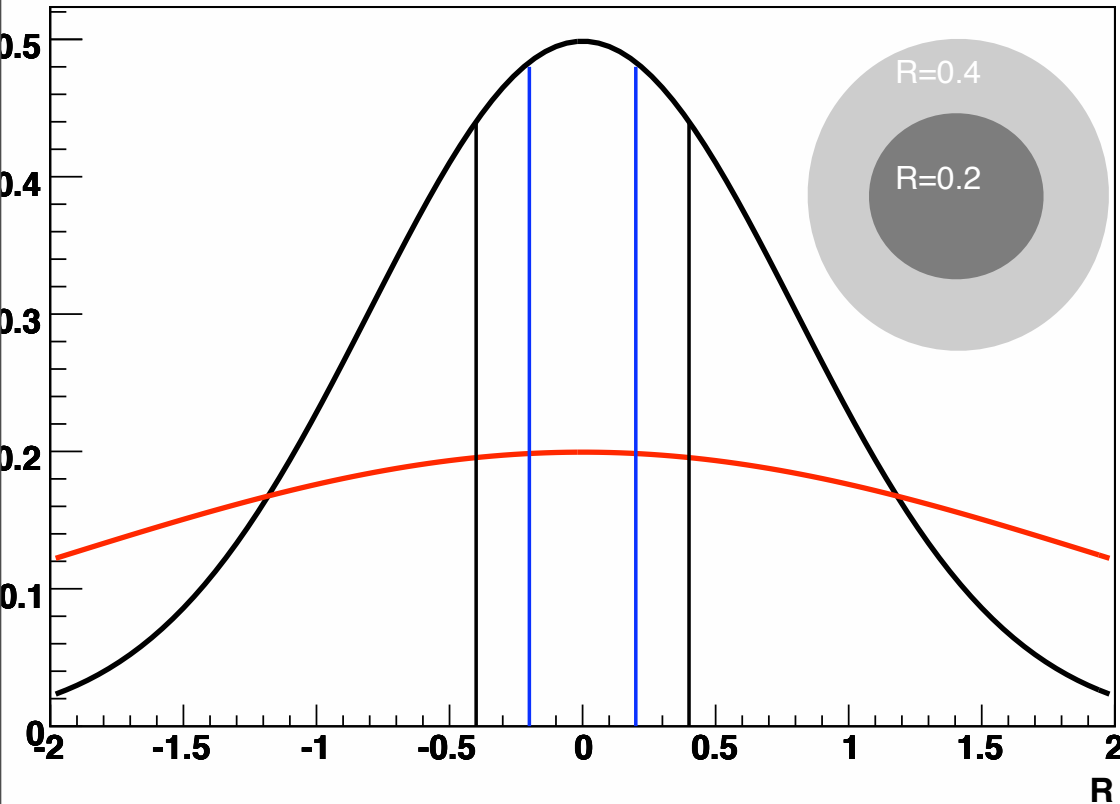
Clearly visible above background in both experiments

Underlying event a significant challenge - **magnitude** & **fluctuations**

Tools (i.e. FastJet package, gaussian filters) and methods (unfolding) developed to extract and correct the data

# Look at the jet energy profile

Calc  $N_{\text{jet}}(R=0.2)/N_{\text{jet}}(R=0.4)$   
as function of  $p_{\text{T,jet}}$



M. Ploskon QM2009

For fixed partonic  $p_{\text{T}}$   
 $\text{ratio(narrow)} > \text{ratio(broad)}$   
i.e.  
 $\text{ratio(p-p)} > \text{ratio(Au-Au)}$   
due to QGP interactions

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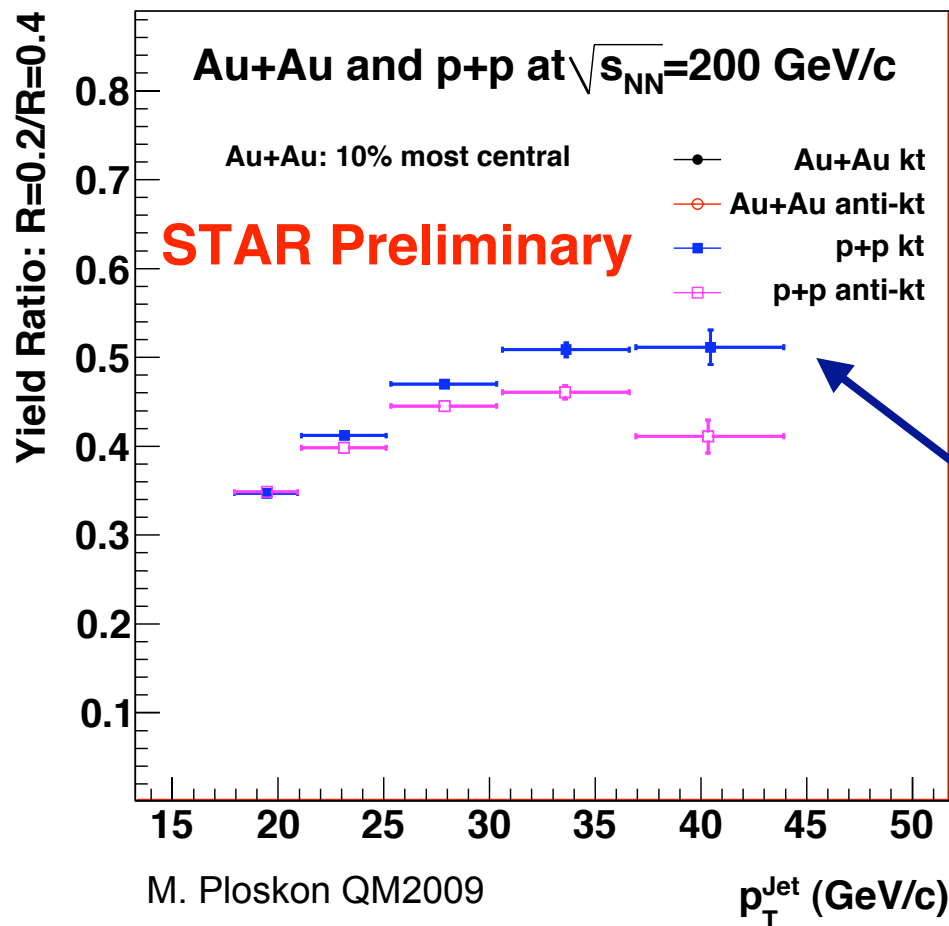
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p-p:

“Focussing” of jet with  
increasing jet energy



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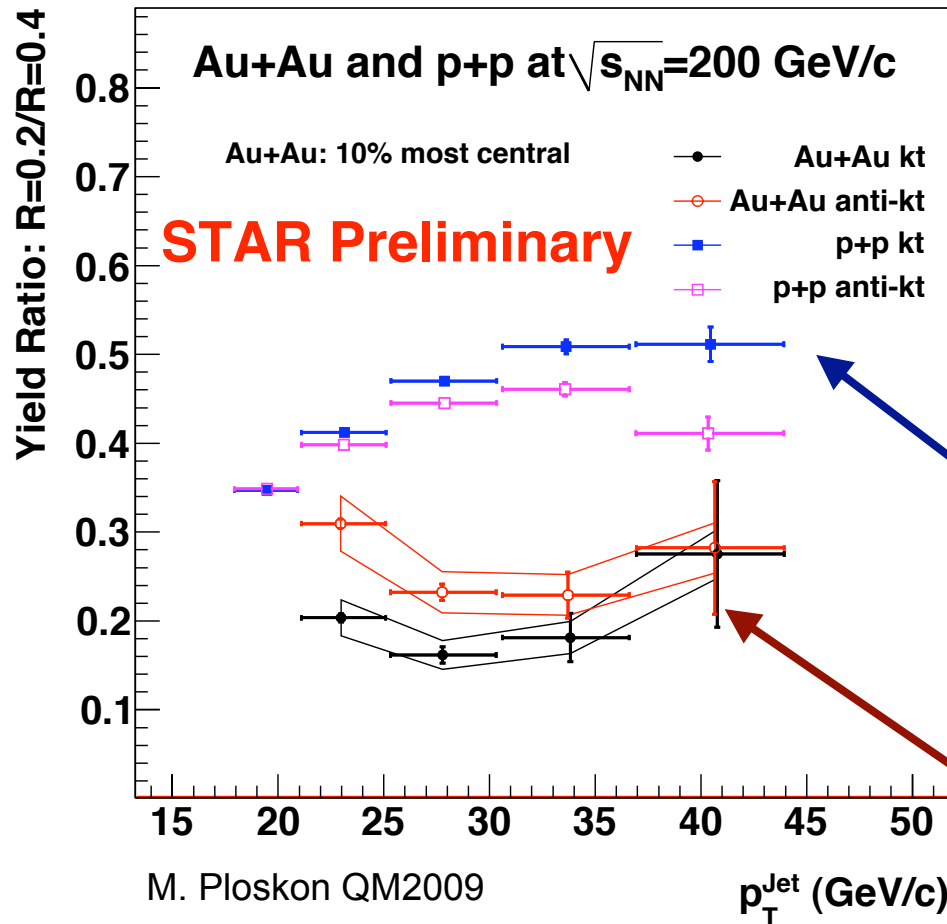
$\text{ratio}(p-p) > \text{ratio}(\text{Au-Au})$   
due to QGP interactions

p-p:

“Focussing” of jet with  
increasing jet energy

Au-Au:

“Broadening” of jet with  
increasing jet energy

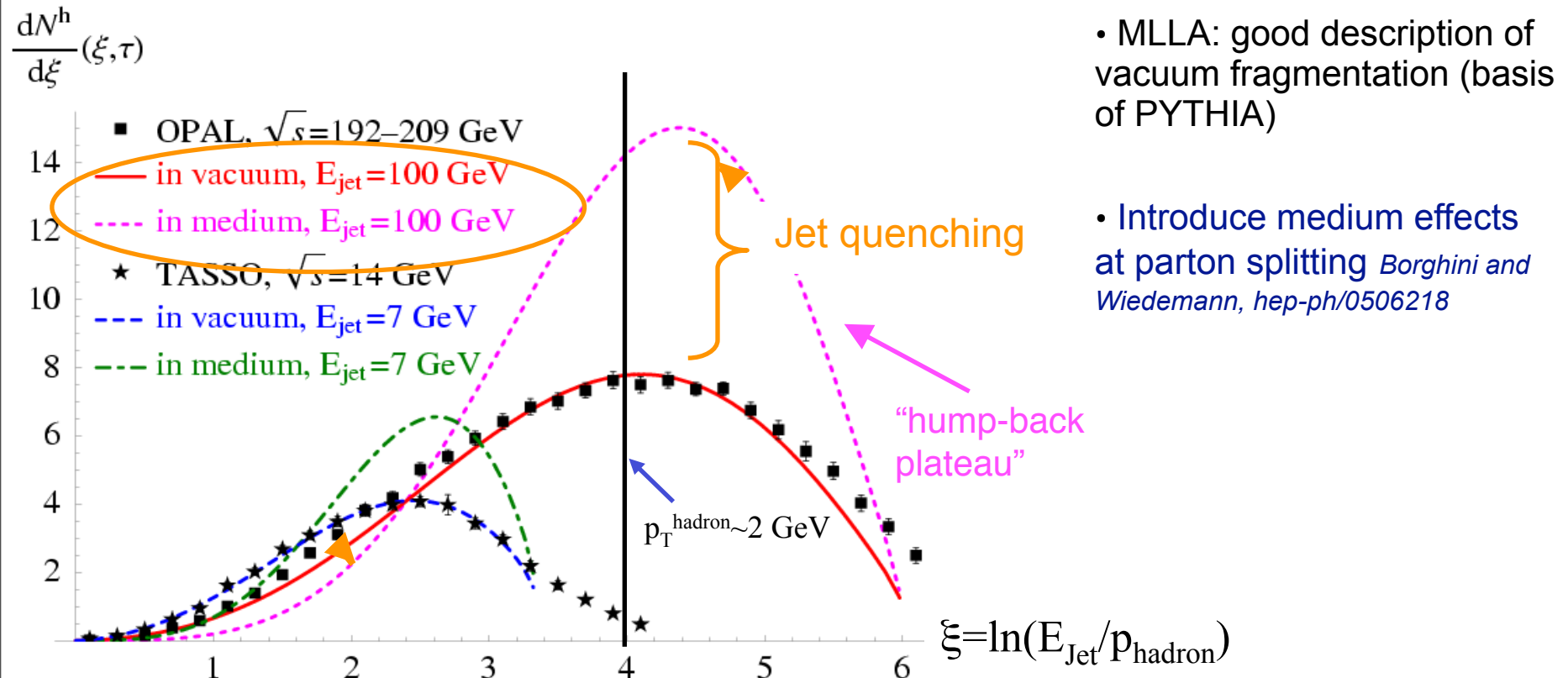


De-focussing of energy profile when  
jet passes through sQGP

# Modification of the fragmentation

$p$  and  $E$  must be conserved so quenched energy must appear somewhere

Prediction that the fragmentation function is modified in the presence of a QGP - more and softer particles produced



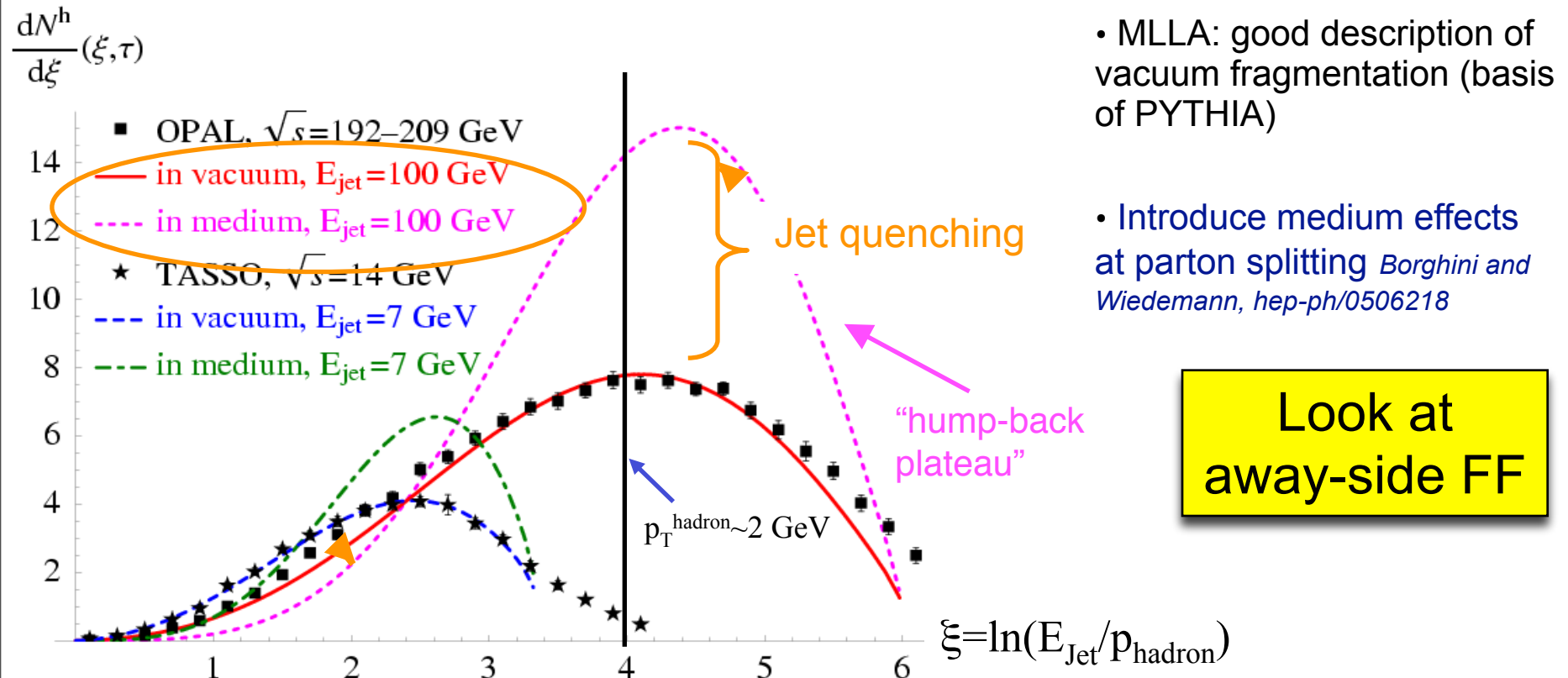
- MLLA: good description of vacuum fragmentation (basis of PYTHIA)

- Introduce medium effects at parton splitting *Borghini and Wiedemann, hep-ph/0506218*

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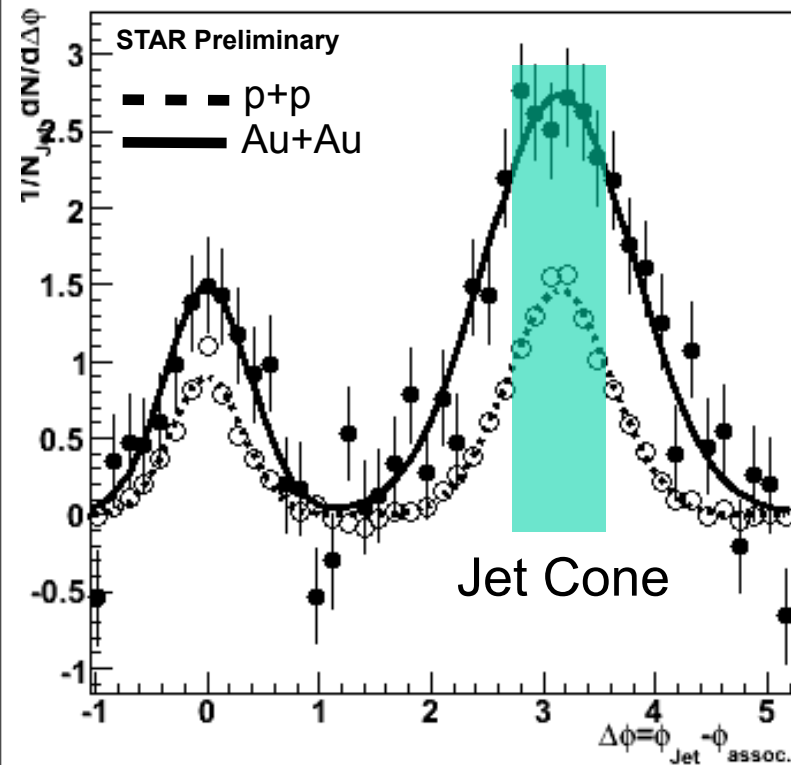


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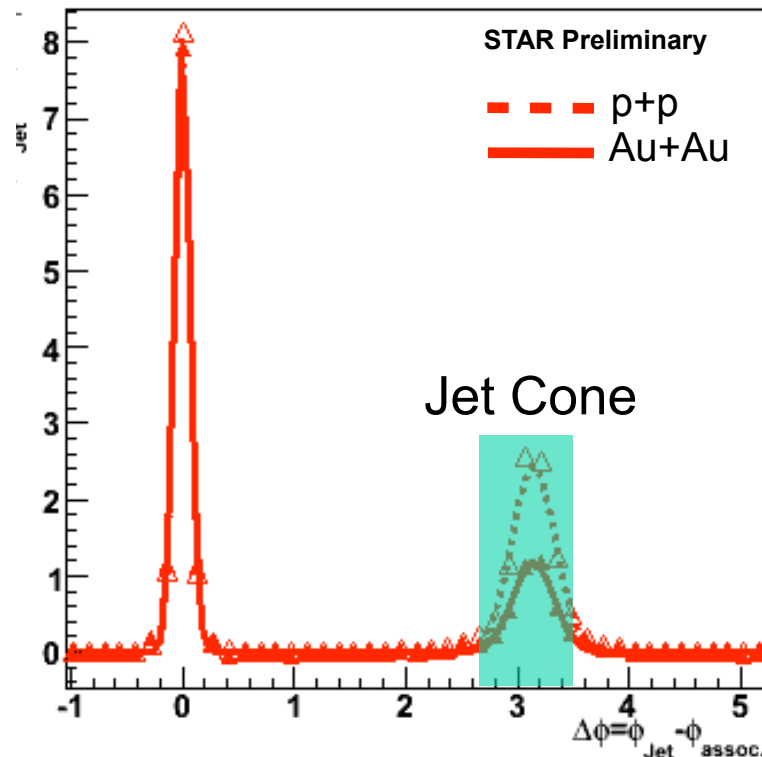
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# Jet-hadron correlations

$0.2 < p_{t, \text{assoc}} < 1.0 \text{ GeV/c}$



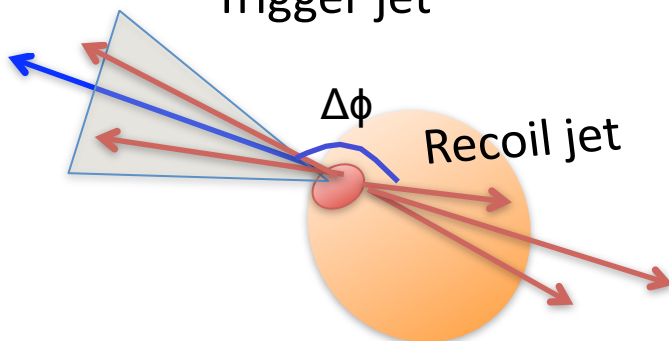
$p_{t, \text{assoc}} > 2.5 \text{ GeV/c}$



Au+Au 0-20%  
High Tower Trigger  
1 tower  
 $0.05 \times 0.05 (\eta \times \phi)$   
with  $E_t > 5.4 \text{ GeV}$

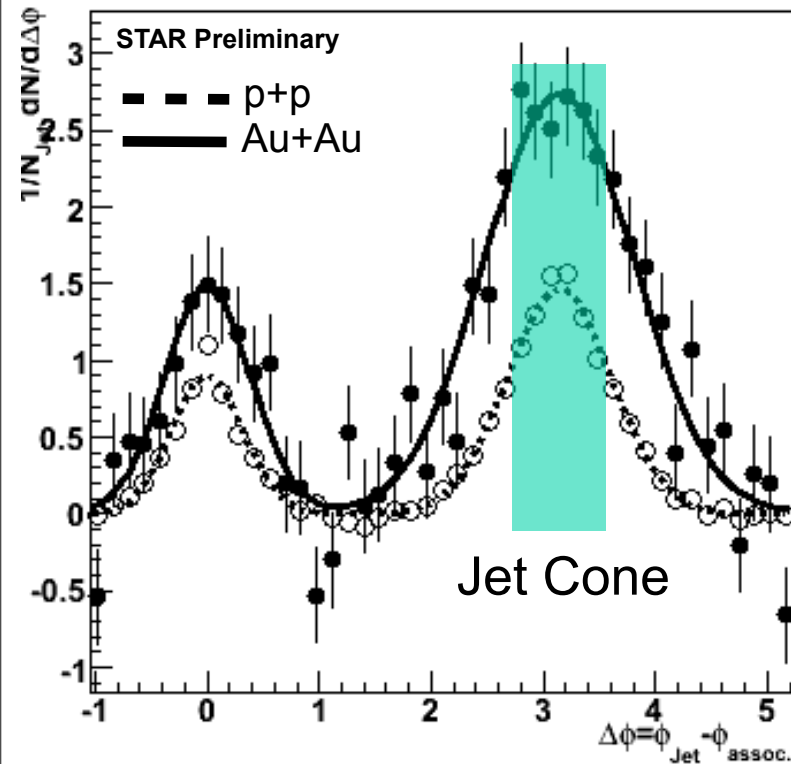
Jet trigger:  
Anti- $k_T$ ,  
 $R=0.4$ ,  
 $p_{t, \text{rec}}(\text{jet}) > 20 \text{ GeV}$   
using  
 $p_{t, \text{particle}} > 2 \text{ GeV}$

J. Putschke RHIC/AGS 2009  
Trigger jet

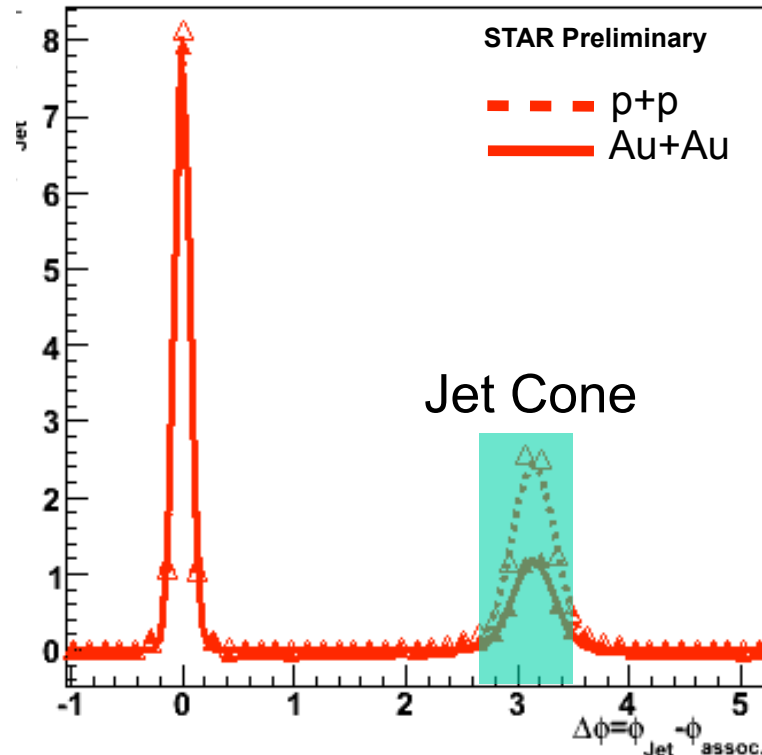


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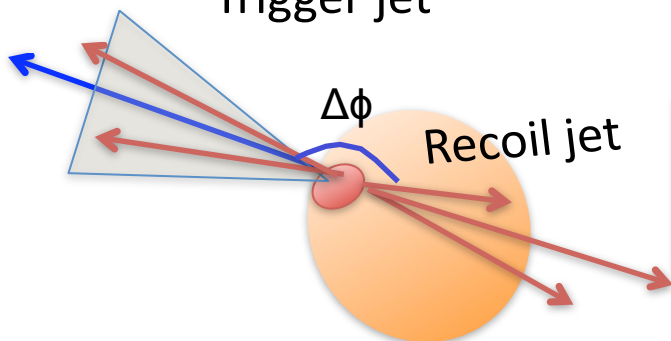


Au+Au 0-20%  
High Tower Trigger  
1 tower  
0.05x0.05 ( $\eta \times \phi$ )  
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J. Putschke RHIC/AGS 2009  
Trigger jet

Away-side: Broadening  
Softening



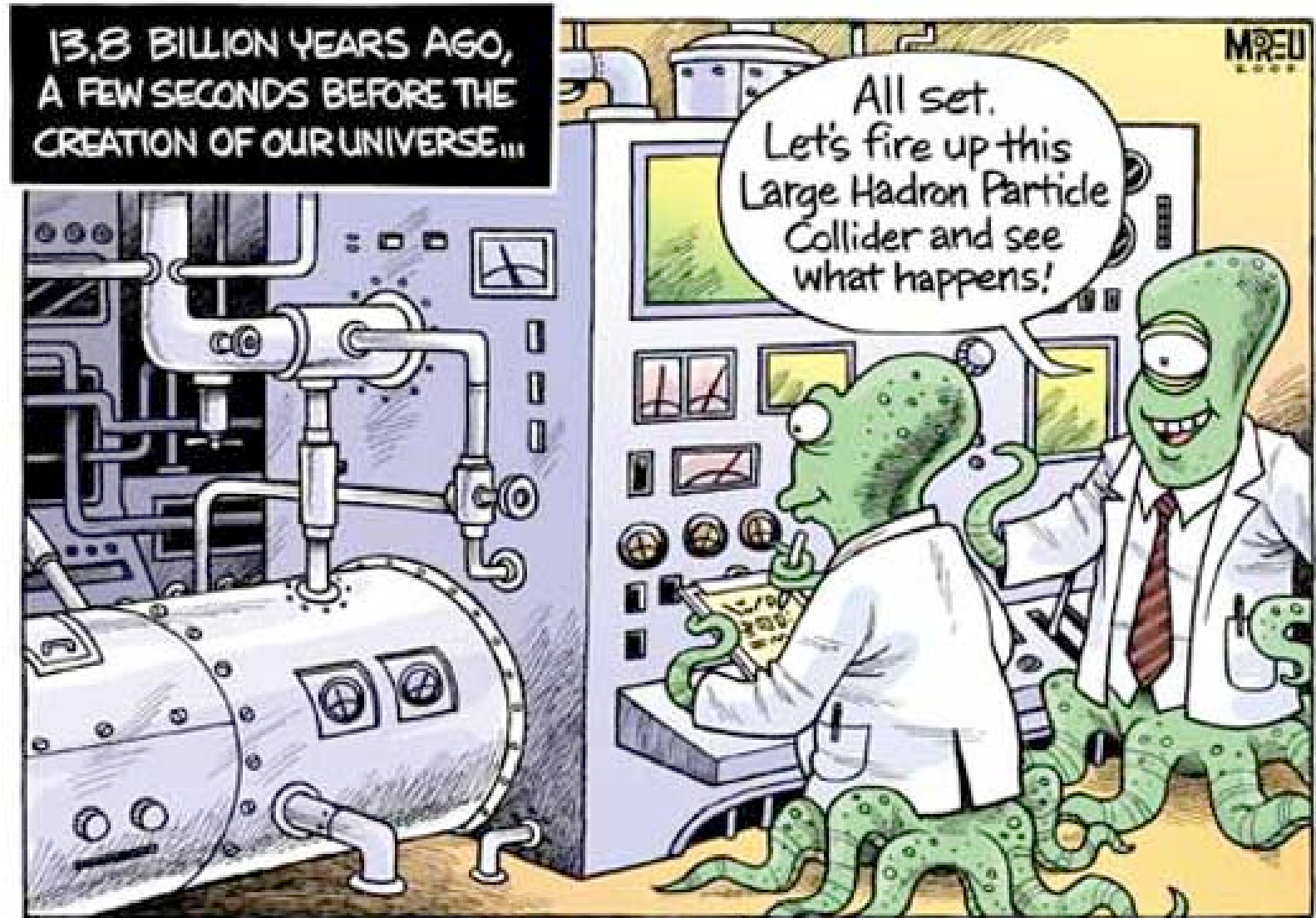
First direct measurement of Modified  
Fragmentation due to presence of sQGP

# *Summary of first decade of RHIC - II*

- p-p data well described by pQCD calculations at high  $p_T$
- Cold nuclear matter effects are there (d-Au  $R_{AA}$  and di-hadron correlations) but cannot explain Au-Au data
- Large suppression of high  $p_T$  hadrons in the presence of a sQGP
- c and b quarks interact as strongly as the light quarks and gluons ( $R_{AA}$  of non-photonic e)
- no theory yet available to precisely describe all suppression results
- Strong evidence of broadening of the jet energy profile ( $R=0.2/R=0.4$ )
- Quenched jet energy reappears as numerous large angle, low  $p_T$ , particles (jet-hadron correlations)

Results can be explained as due to significant partonic energy loss in the sQGP before fragmentation - numerous details left to be understood

# The LHC continues the investigation...



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# *BACKUP SLIDES*