

Questions from conveners:

How can correlations be used to determine  
the size of the interaction and phase transitions?

# An approach to QCD phase transition via multiplicity fluctuations and correlations

**Kensuke Homma**  
**Hiroshima University**

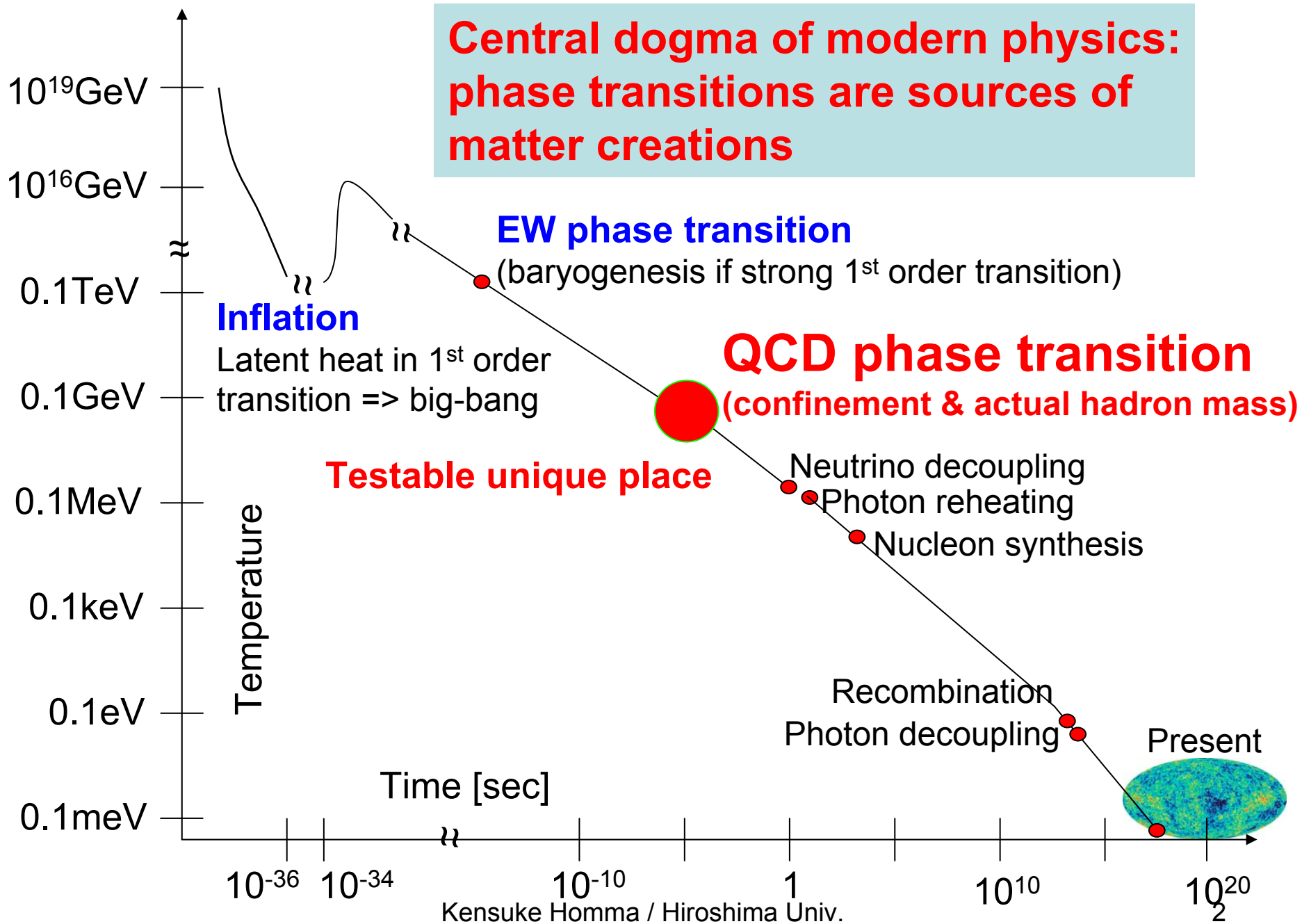
- 1. Why we search for QCD phase transition**
- 2. An experimental approach to critical phenomena at RHIC-PHENIX**

ISMD 2008

19 Sep, 2008 in DESY, Hamburg, Germany

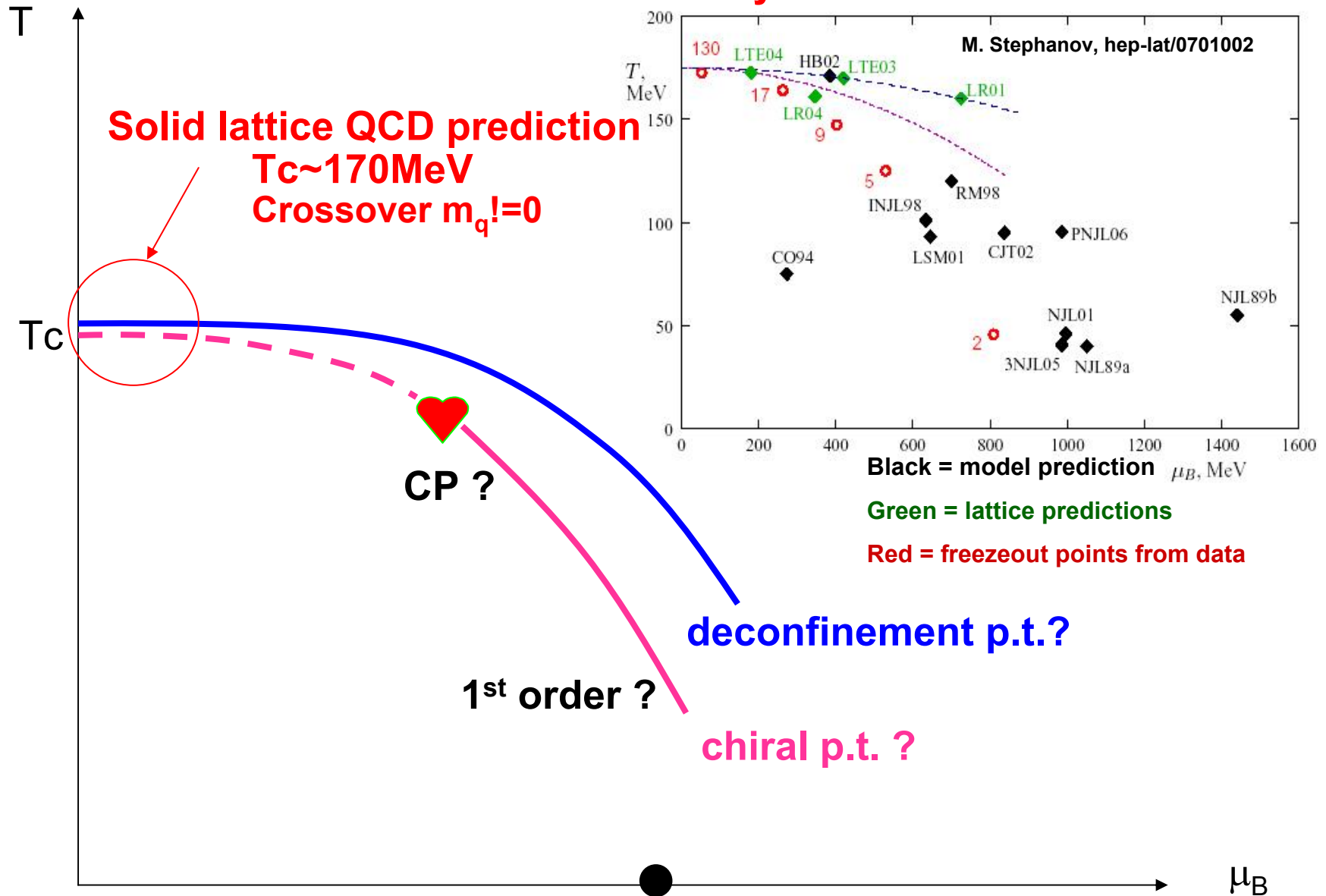
Kensuke Homma / Hiroshima Univ.

# Phase transitions in the early universe



# Conjectured QCD phase diagram

Many theoretical activities on CP



# What can we refute?

Good scientific subjects in a strict sense:

- If we find an octopus on Mars→we can refute a hypothesis that there is no creature on Mars.
- If we can not find Higgs below 1TeV→we can refute the Higgs sector of the standard model.
- If we find that transition at finite  $T$  and  $\mu_B/T_c \ll 1$  is NOT crossover→we can refute QCD in non perturbative region.

However,

even if we can not find a critical point, we can not refute QCD at finite  $T$  and finite  $\mu_B$  (at this moment).

Then, what can we refute?

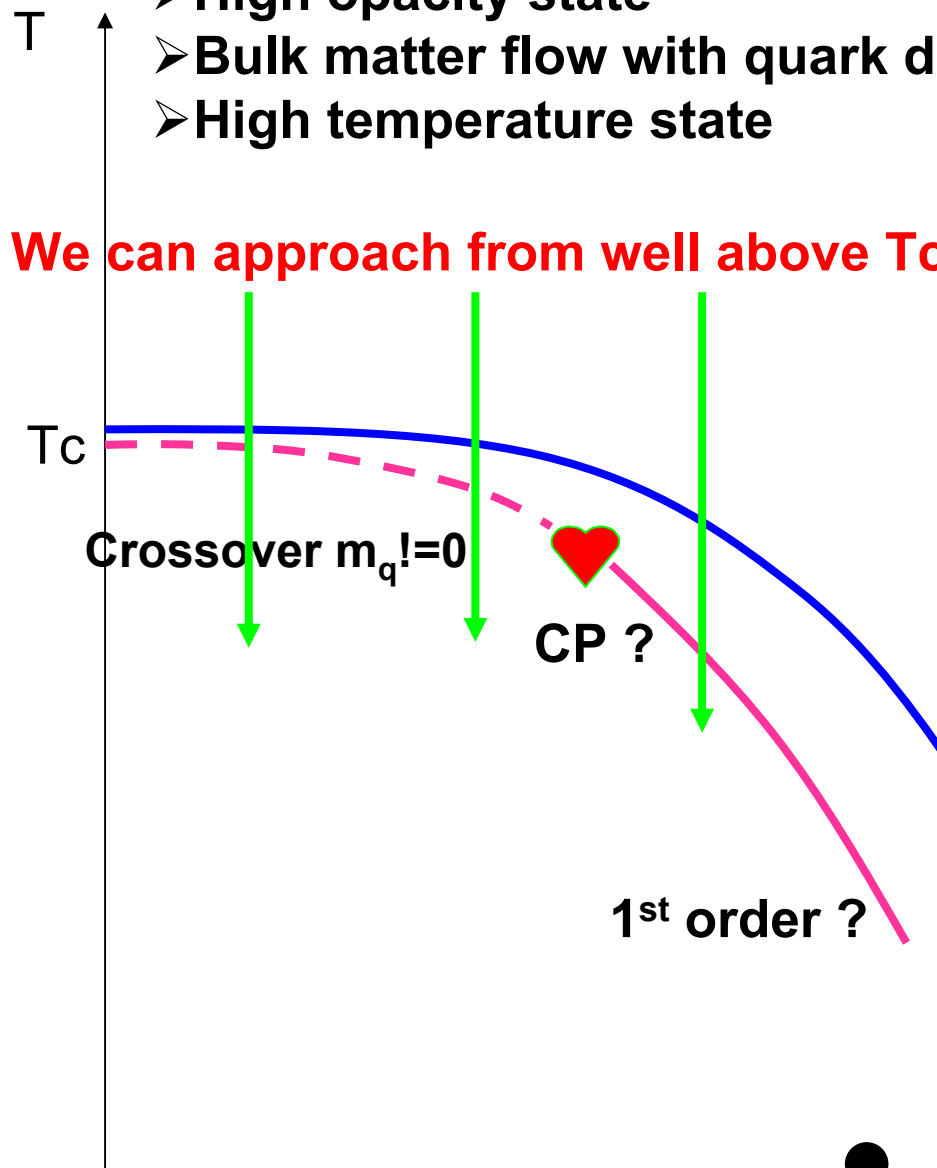
If we find a critical point→we can refute the empty diagram at the QCD scale→it supports the central dogma that vacuum phase transitions can be sources of matter creations.

**This subject has an impact even beyond the QCD scale !**

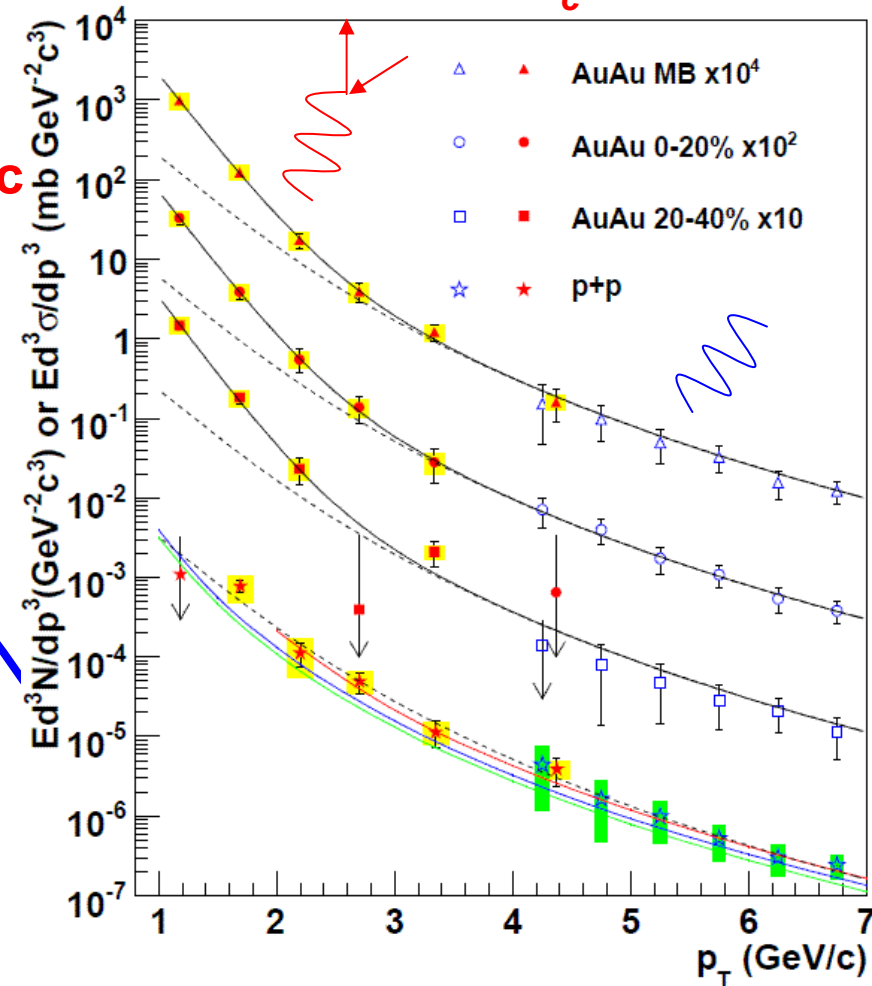
# RHIC achievements

- High opacity state
- Bulk matter flow with quark d.o.f
- High temperature state

**We can approach from well above  $T_c$**



**$T = 221 \pm 23(\text{stat}) \pm 18(\text{sys})$**   
**Lattice result  $T_c \sim 170 \text{ MeV}$**



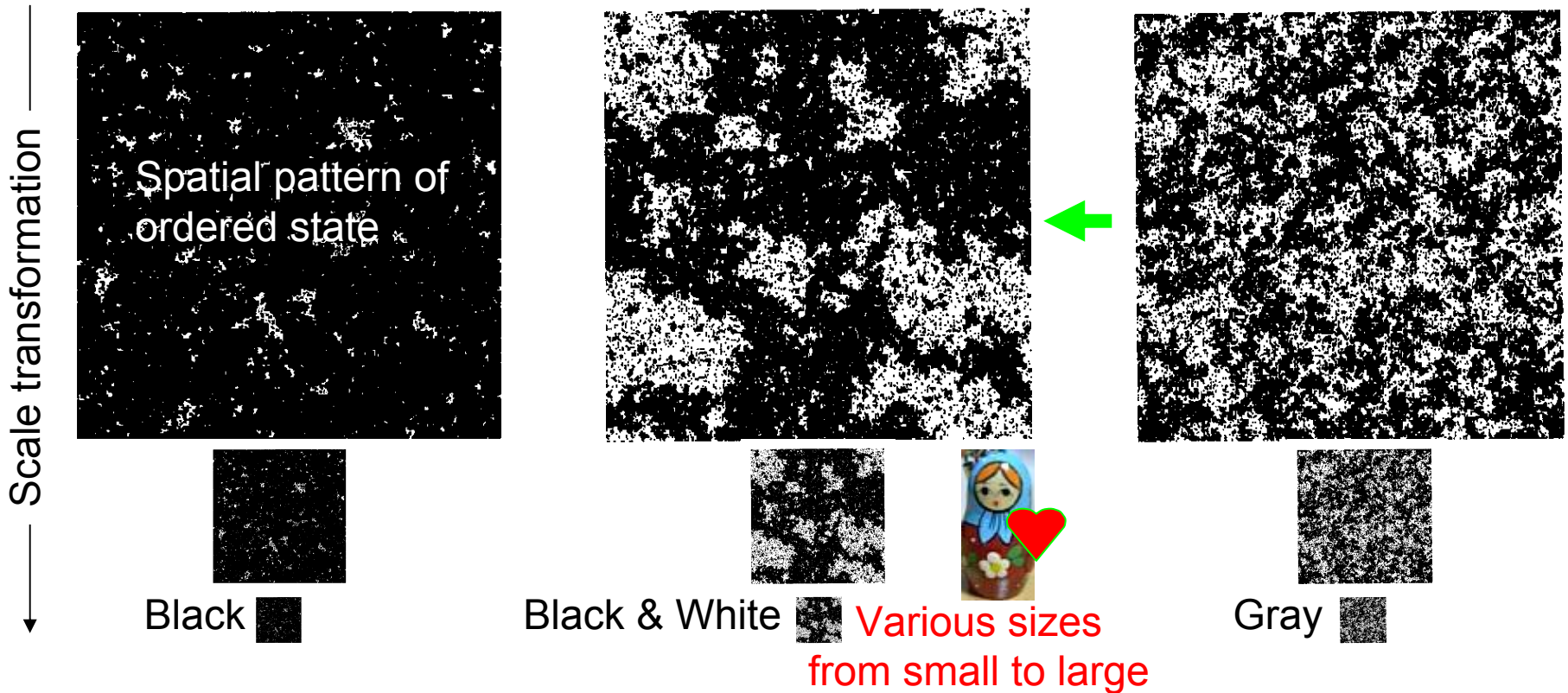
arXiv:0804.4168v1 [nucl-ex] 25 Apr 2008

# What is the critical behavior ?

Ordered  $T=0.995T_c$

Critical  $T=T_c$

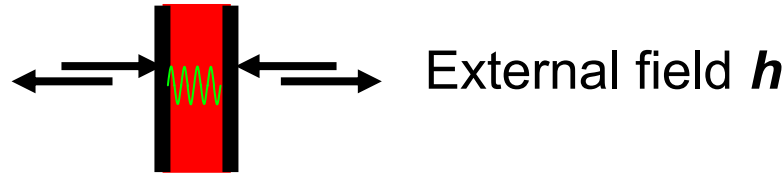
Disordered  $T=1.05T_c$



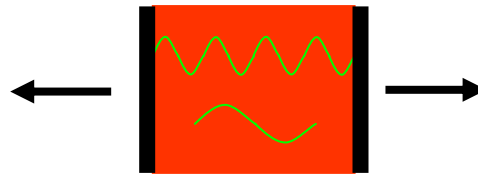
Focus of this talk is search for a transition of the correlation size from  $T > T_c$  to  $T = T_c$  at RHIC

# A picture of expanding medium in early stage

Initial stage

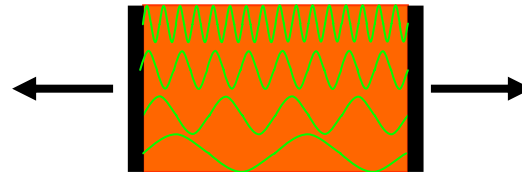


$T > T_c$



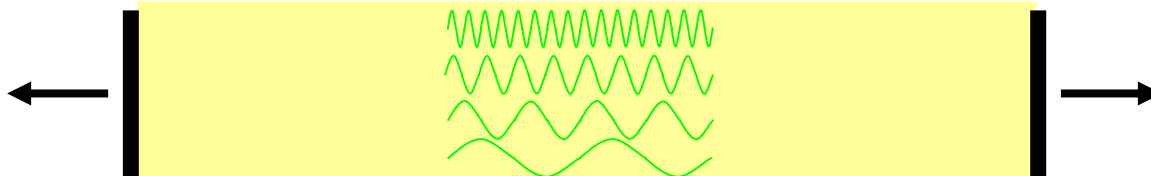
**Longitudinal field  
density fluctuations from  
the mean density is a  
natural order parameter**

$T = T_c$



$$\phi(z) = \rho(z) - \langle \rho \rangle$$

$T < T_c$



We may expect freeze of initially embedded fluctuation  
due to rapid dilution of medium in the longitudinal direction

# Density-density correlation in longitudinal space

Longitudinal space coordinate  $z$  can be transformed into rapidity coordinate in each proper frame of sub element characterized by a formation time  $\tau$  at which dominant density fluctuations are embedded.

$$z = \tau \sinh(y)$$

$$t = \tau \cosh(y)$$

$$dz = \tau \cosh(y) dy$$

Due to relatively rapid expansion in  $y$ , analysis in  $y$  would have an advantage to extract initial fluctuations compared to analysis in transverse plane in high energy collision.

$$g(T, \phi, h) - g_0 = \int_{\delta y} dy \int_{s_{\perp}} d^2 x_{\perp} \left[ \frac{1}{2\tau^2 \cosh(y)} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \cosh(y) \left( \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_{\perp} \phi)^2 + U(\phi) \right) \right]$$

In narrow midrapidity region like PHENIX,  $\cosh(y) \sim 1$  and  $y \sim \eta$ .

# Direct observable for Tc determination

GL free energy density  $g$  with  $\phi \sim 0$  from high temperature side is insensitive to transition order, but it can be sensitive to  $T_c$

$$g(T, \phi, h) = g_0 - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} A(T) (\nabla \phi)^2}_{\text{spatial correlation}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} a(T) \phi^2}_{\phi \text{ disappears at } T_c \rightarrow a(T) = a_0(T - T_c)} + \cancel{\frac{1}{4} b \phi^4} + \cancel{\frac{1}{6} c \phi^6} \dots - h \phi$$

Fourier analysis on

$$G_2(y) = \langle \phi(0) \phi(y) \rangle$$

$$\langle |\phi_k|^2 \rangle = Y \int G_2(y) e^{-ik(y)} dy$$

$$\langle |\phi_k|^2 \rangle = \frac{NT}{Y} \frac{1}{a(T) + A(T)k^2}$$

Susceptibility

$$\chi_k = \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial h} \propto \left( \frac{\partial^2 (g - g_0)}{\partial \phi_k^2} \right)^{-1} = \frac{1}{a_0(T - T_c)(1 + k^2 \xi^2)}$$

Susceptibility in long wavelength limit

$$\chi_{k=0} = \frac{1}{a_0(T - T_c)} \propto \frac{\xi}{T} G_2(0)$$

1-D two point correlation function

$$G_2(y) = \frac{NT}{2Y^2 A(T)} \xi(T) e^{-|y|/\xi(T)}$$

Correlation length

$$\xi(T)^2 \equiv \frac{A(T)}{a_0(T - T_c)}$$

Product between correlation length and amplitude can also be a good indicator for  $T \sim T_c$

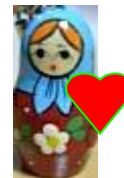
# Strategy to determine $T_c$

## Step1.

Search for increase of correlation length and susceptibility (amplitude x correlation length) determined by exponential form in  $T > T_c \rightarrow T \sim T_c$

## Step2.

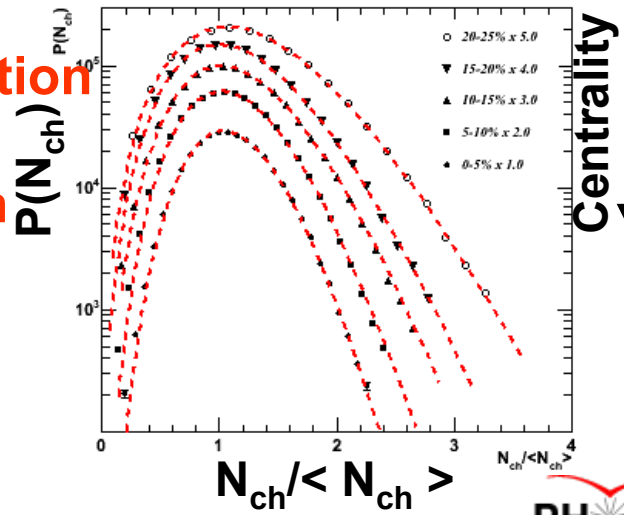
Search for transition of two point correlation from exponential to power law form which needs higher order terms in the free energy density. This would be a stronger indication of  $T = T_c$ .



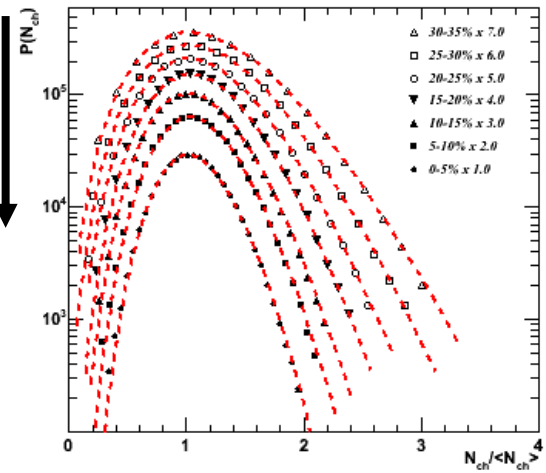
# Density measurement: inclusive $dN_{ch}/d\eta$

**Negative Binomial Distribution (NBD) perfectly describes multiplicities in all collision systems and centralities at RHIC.**

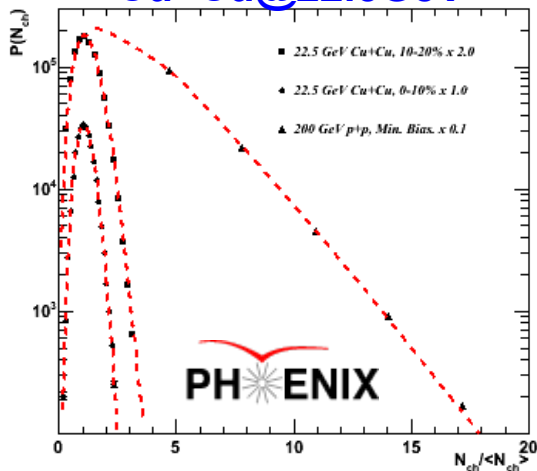
**Cu+Cu@62.4GeV**



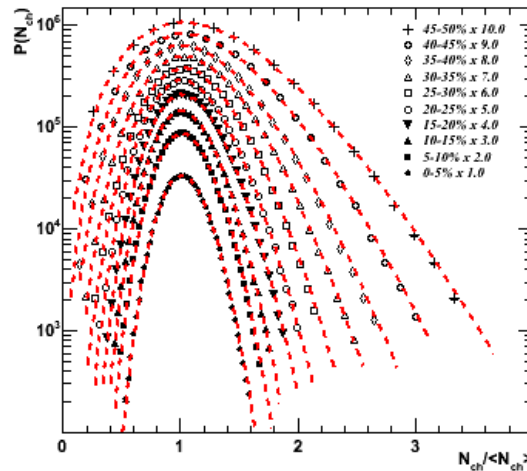
**Cu+Cu@200GeV**



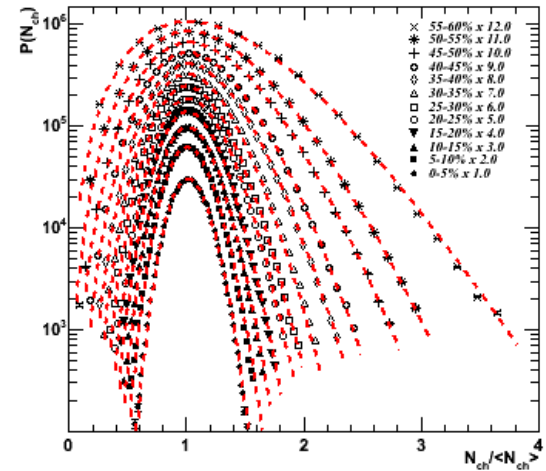
**p+p@200GeV**  
**Cu+Cu@22.5GeV**



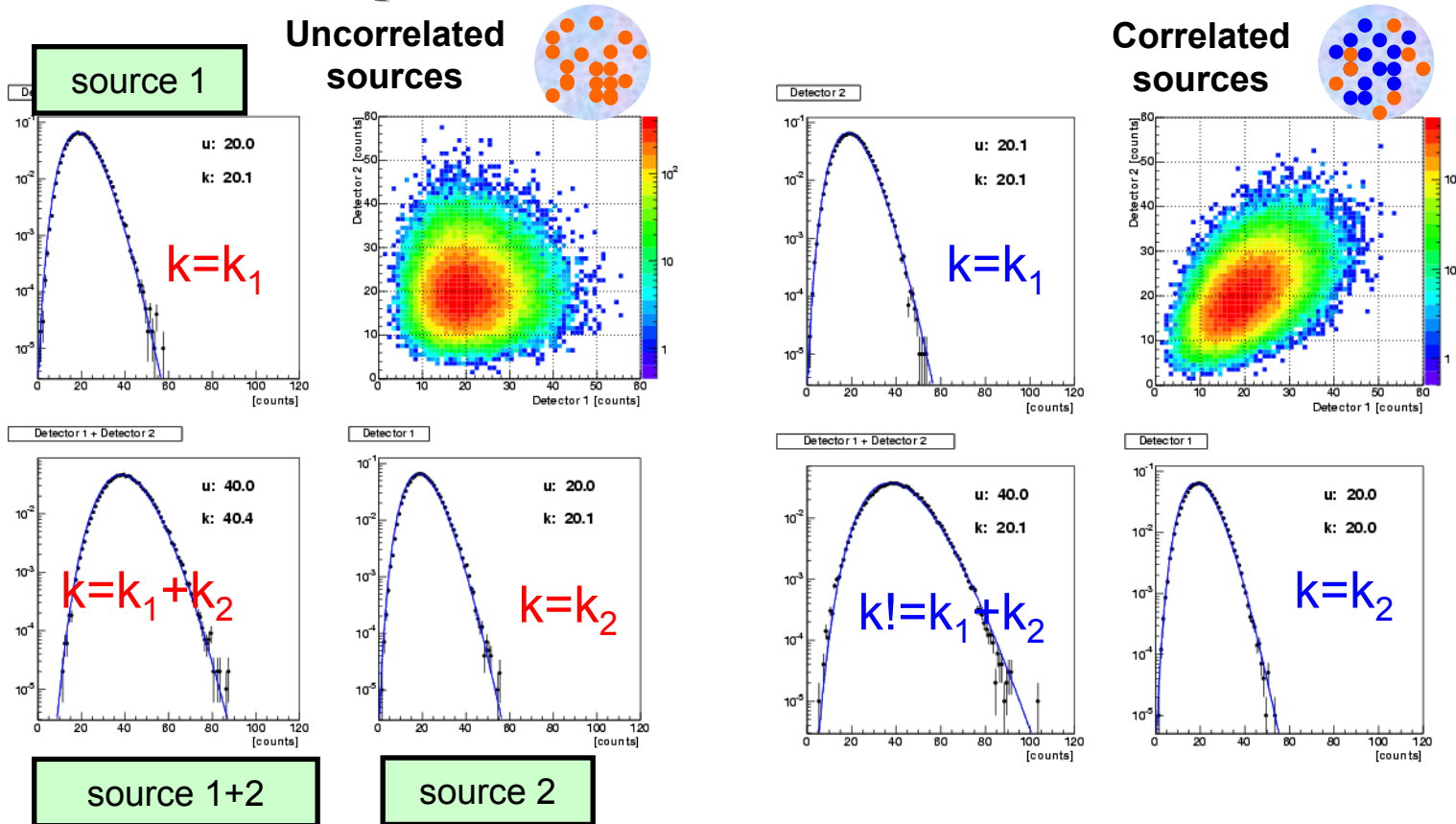
**Au+Au@62.4GeV**



**Au+Au@200GeV**



# Two point correlation via NBD

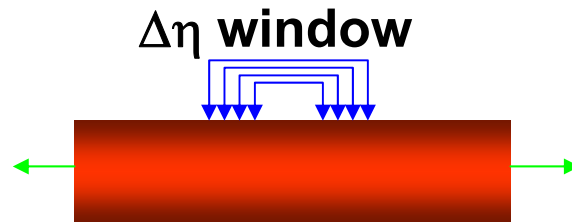


**NBD**  $P_n^{(k)} = \frac{\Gamma(n+k)}{\Gamma(n-1)\Gamma(k)} \left( \frac{\mu/k}{1+\mu/k} \right)^n \frac{1}{(1+\mu/k)^k}$  **k=1 Bose-Einstein**  
**k=∞ Poisson**

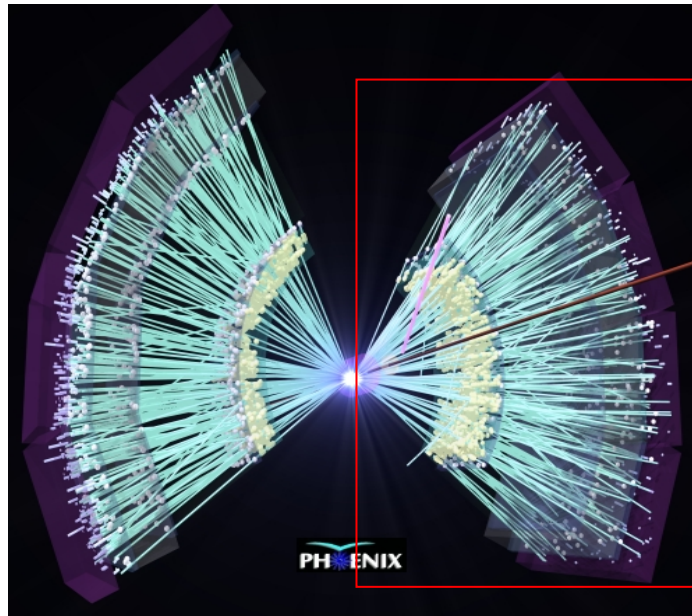
$$\frac{\sigma^2}{\mu^2} = \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{k} \quad \mu \equiv \langle n \rangle$$

**1/k corresponds to integral of two point correlation**

# Differential multiplicity measurements



$\Delta\eta < 0.7$  integrated over  $\Delta\phi < \pi/2$  and  $p_T > 0.1 \text{ GeV}$



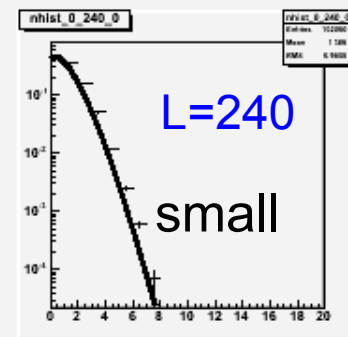
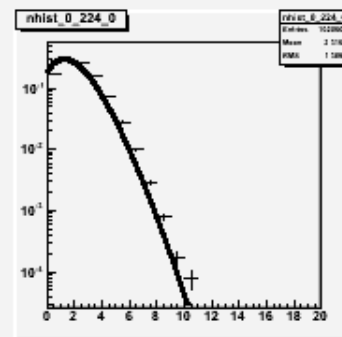
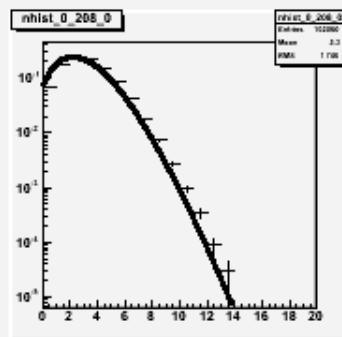
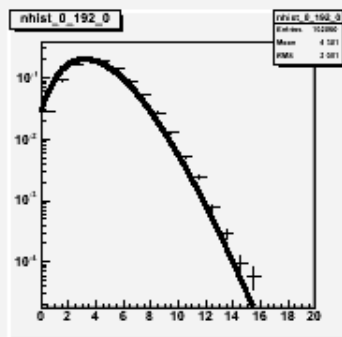
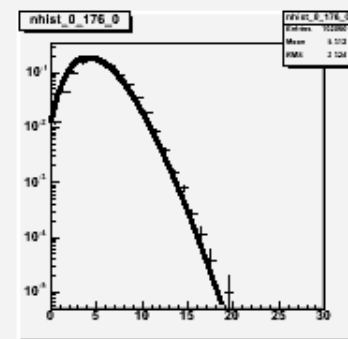
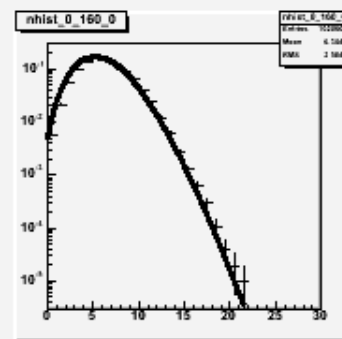
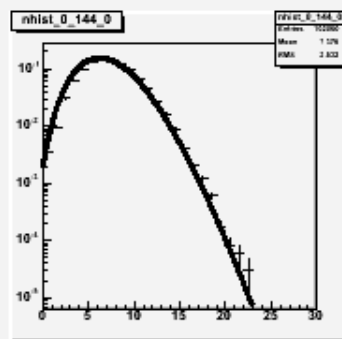
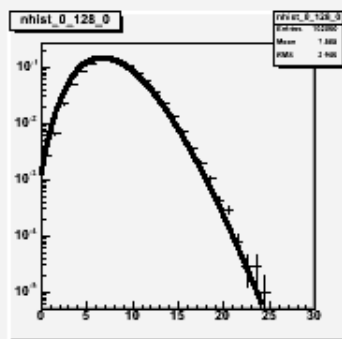
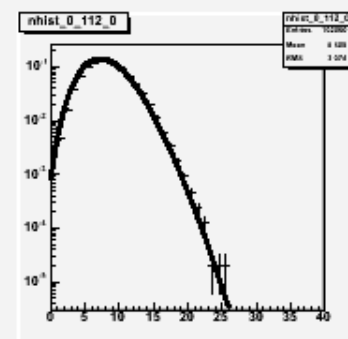
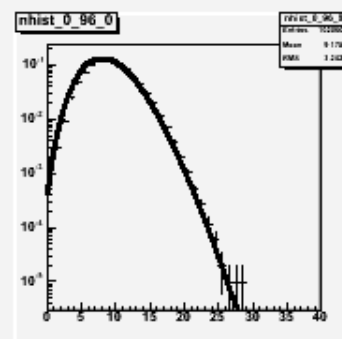
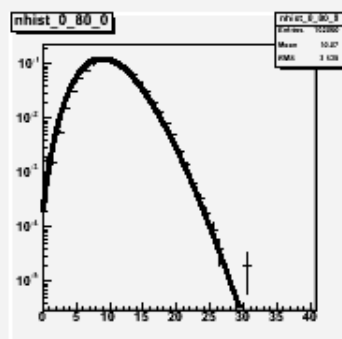
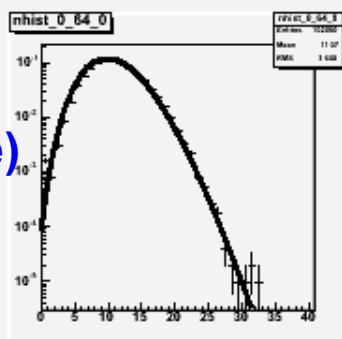
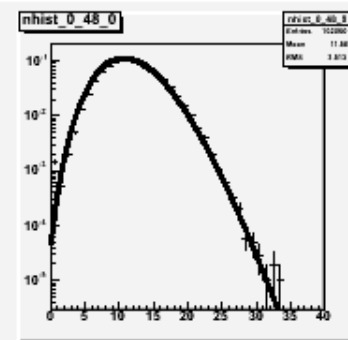
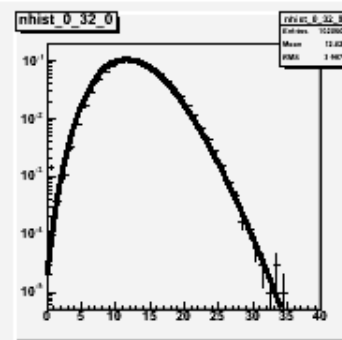
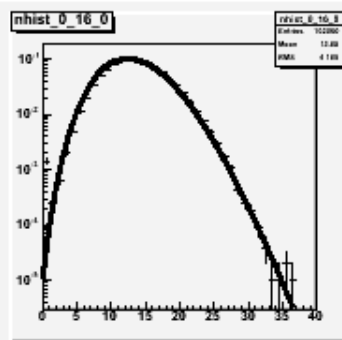
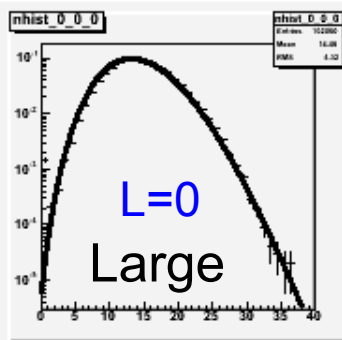
**Zero magnetic field to  
enhance low  $p_T$  statistics  
per collision event.**

# NBD fits at each window size in

## CuCu@200

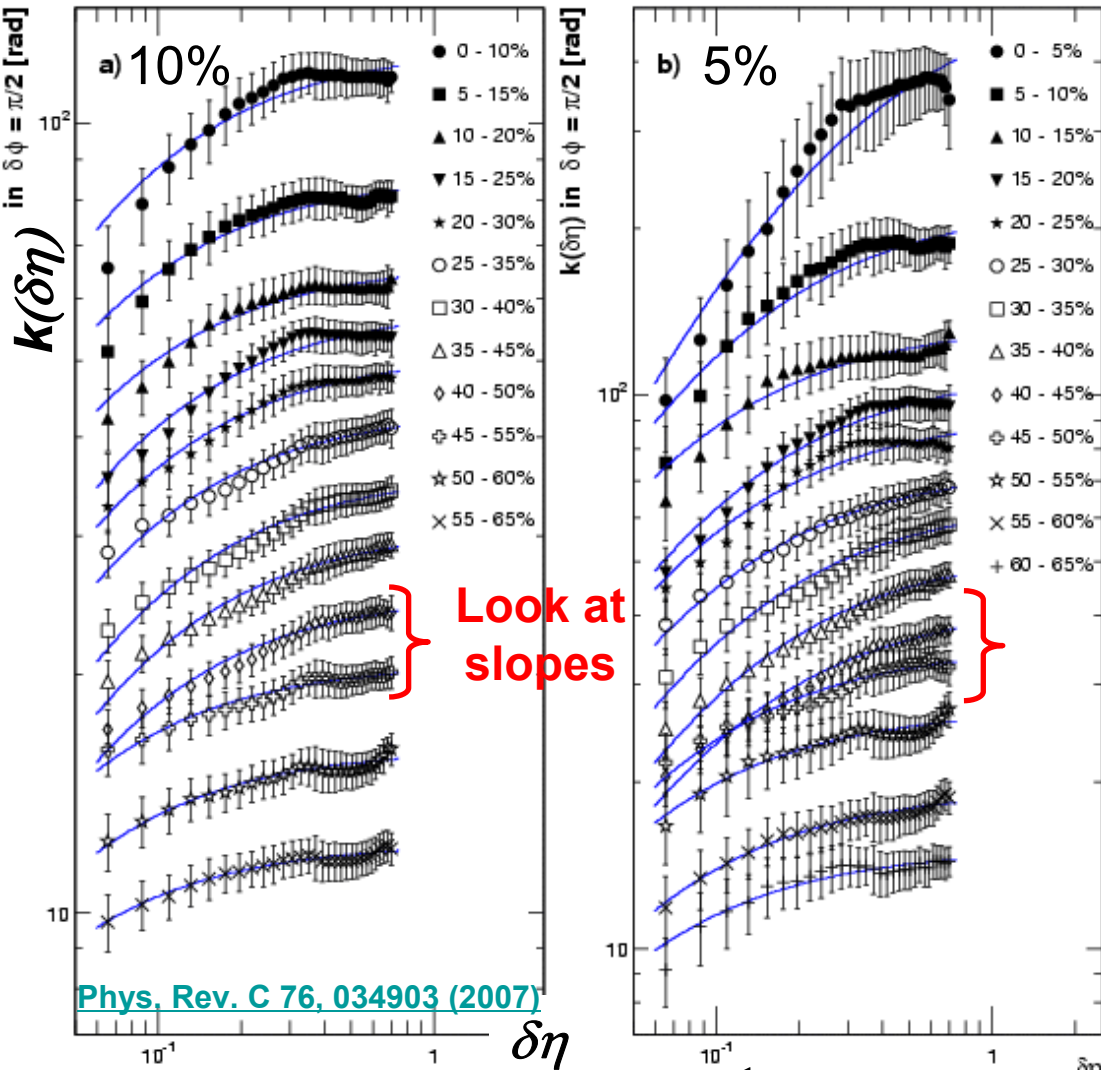
Level (window size)  
 $L=2^8(1-\delta\eta/\Delta\eta_{\text{PHENIX}})$

16 fit examples in  
most left edge in  
top 10% events  
out of  $2^8/2*(1+2^8)$   
times NBD fits



# Extraction of $\alpha\xi$ product

Fit with approximated functional form



Approximated functional form

$$k(\delta\eta) = \frac{1}{2\alpha\xi/\delta\eta + \beta} \quad (\xi \ll \delta\eta)$$

Parametrization of two particle correlation

$$C_2(\eta_1, \eta_2) \equiv \rho_2(\eta_1, \eta_2) - \rho_1(\eta_1)\rho_1(\eta_2)$$

$$\frac{C_2(\eta_1, \eta_2)}{\bar{\rho}_1^2} = \alpha e^{-\delta\eta/\xi} + \beta$$

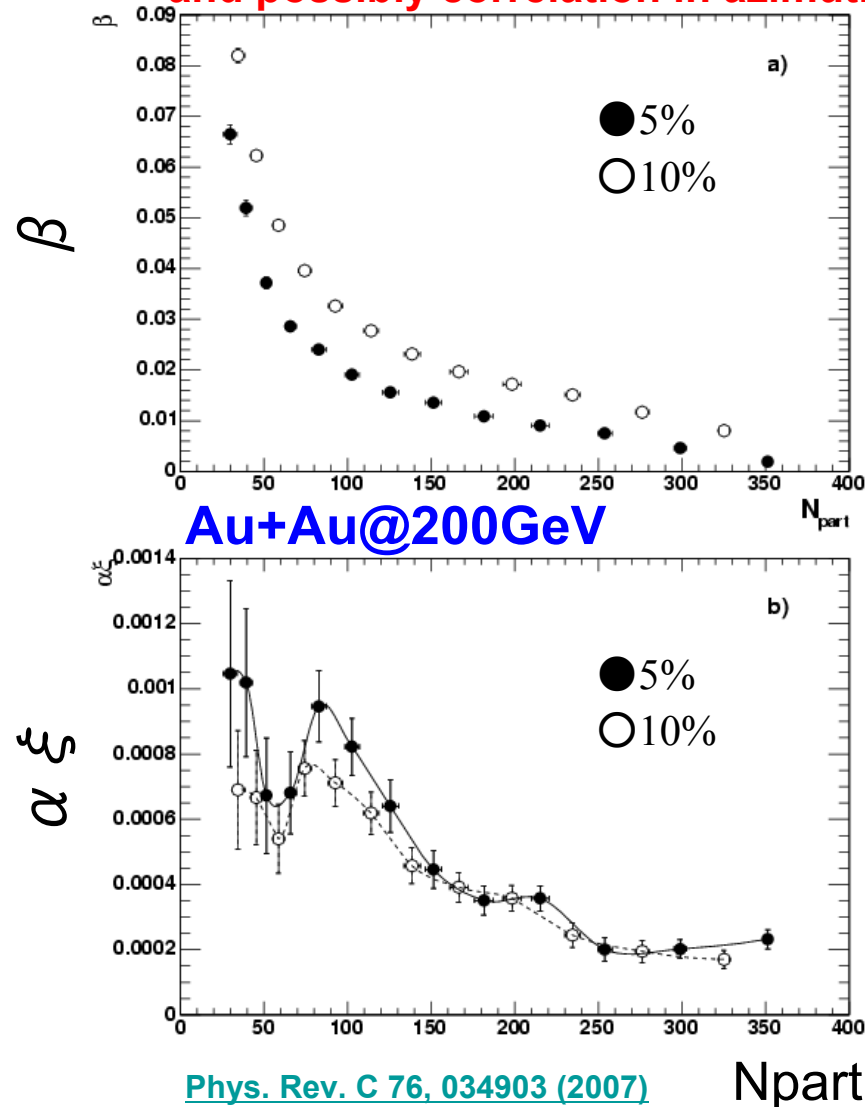
$\beta$  absorbs rapidity independent bias: Npart fluctuation and reaction plane rotation and v2

Exact relation with NBD  $k$

$$\begin{aligned} k^{-1}(\delta\eta) &= \frac{\langle n(n-1) \rangle}{\langle n \rangle^2} - 1 \\ &= \frac{\int_0^{\delta\eta} \int_0^{\delta\eta} C_2(\eta_1, \eta_2) d\eta_1 d\eta_2}{\delta\eta^2 \bar{\rho}_1^2} \\ &= \frac{2\alpha\xi^2 (\delta\eta/\xi - 1 + e^{-\delta\eta/\xi})}{\delta\eta^2} + \beta \end{aligned}$$

# $\alpha \xi, \beta$ vs. Npart

Dominantly Npart fluctuations  
and possibly correlation in azimuth



$\beta$  is systematically shift to lower values as the centrality bin width becomes smaller from 10% to 5%. This is understood as fluctuations of Npart for given bin widths

$\alpha \xi$  product, which is monotonically related with  $\chi_{k=0}$  indicates the non-monotonic behavior around Npart  $\sim 90$ .

$$\alpha \xi = \chi_{k=0} T / \bar{\rho}_1^2 \propto \bar{\rho}_1^{-2} \frac{T}{|T - T_c|}$$

**Significance with Power + Gaussian:**  
3.98  $\sigma$  (5%), 3.21  $\sigma$  (10%)

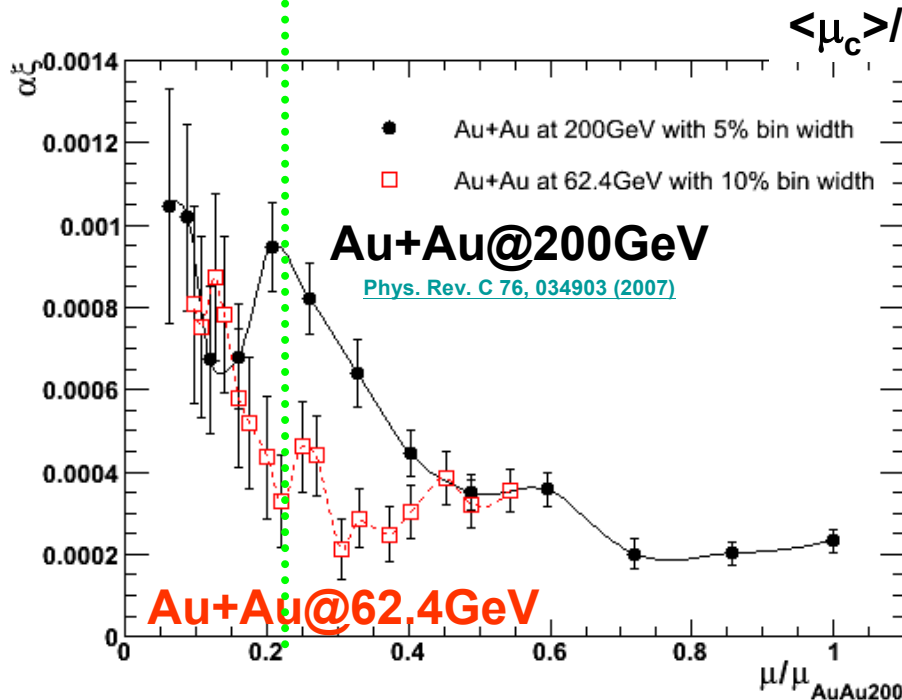
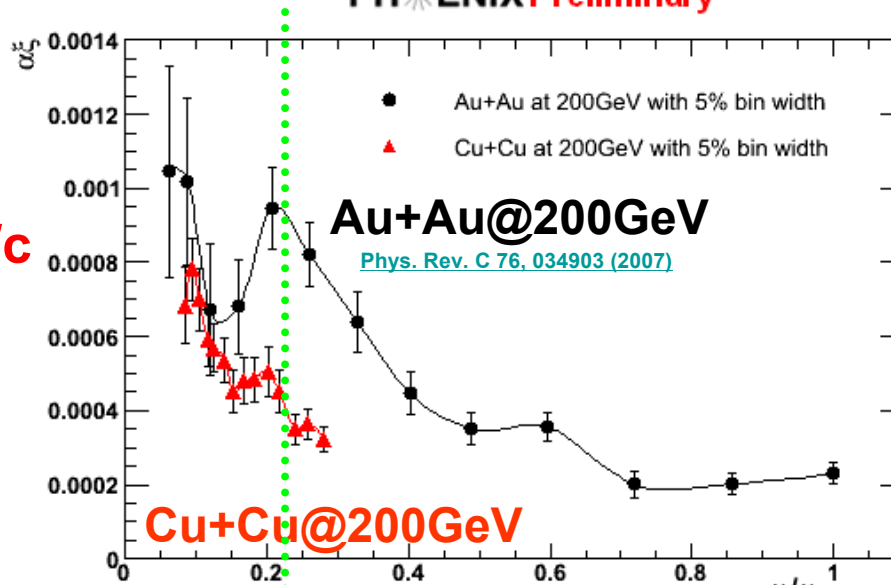
**Significance with Line + Gaussian:**  
1.24  $\sigma$  (5%), 1.69  $\sigma$  (10%)

# Comparison of three collision systems

PHENIX Preliminary

$N_{part} \sim 90$  in  
**AuAu@200GeV**  
 $\epsilon_{BJT} \sim 2.4 \text{ GeV/fm}^2/c$

$\alpha_\xi$



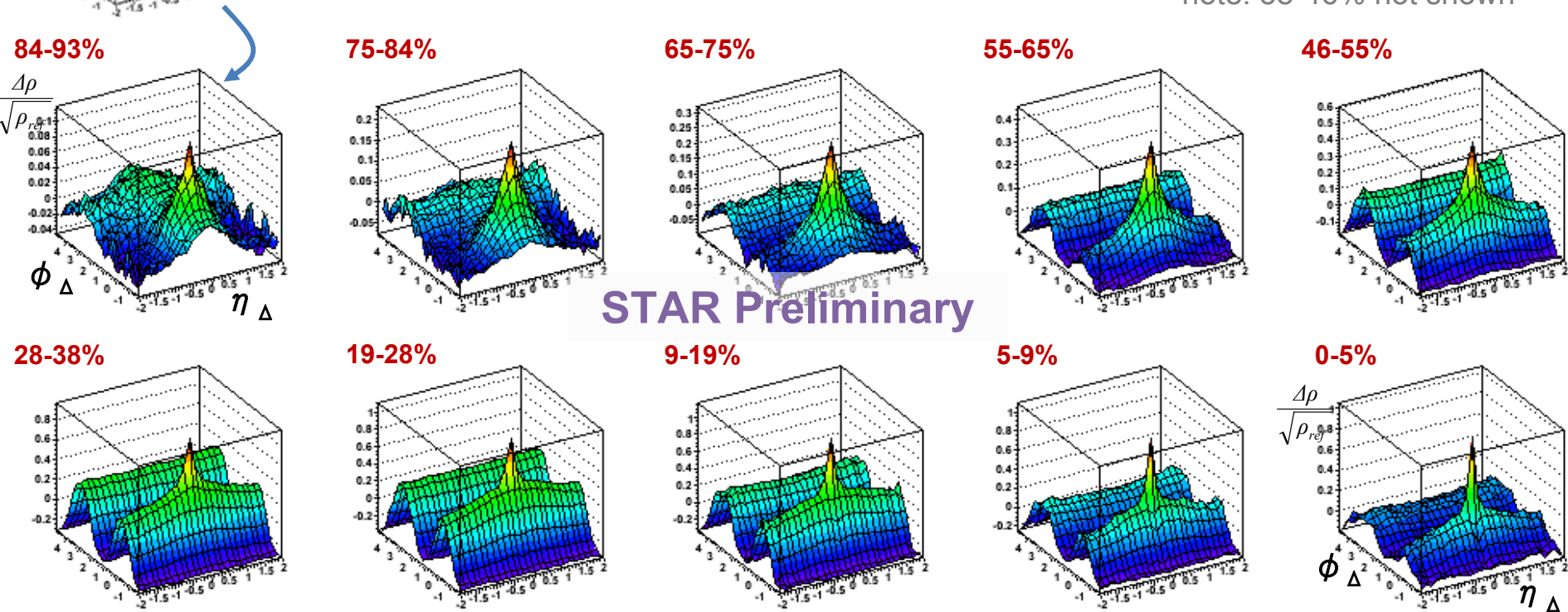
$\langle \mu_c \rangle / \langle \mu_c \rangle_{@AuAu200}$

**Normalized mean  
 multiplicity to that  
 of top 5% in  
 Au+Au@200GeV**

# How about STAR?

Analyzed 1.2M minbias 200 GeV Au+Au events, and 13M 62 GeV minbias events (not shown) Included all tracks with  $p_T > 0.15$  GeV/c,  $|\eta| < 1$ , full  $\phi$

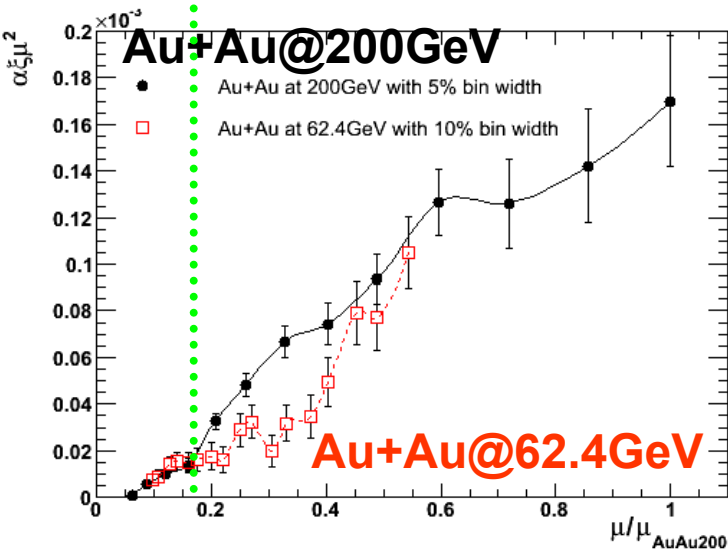
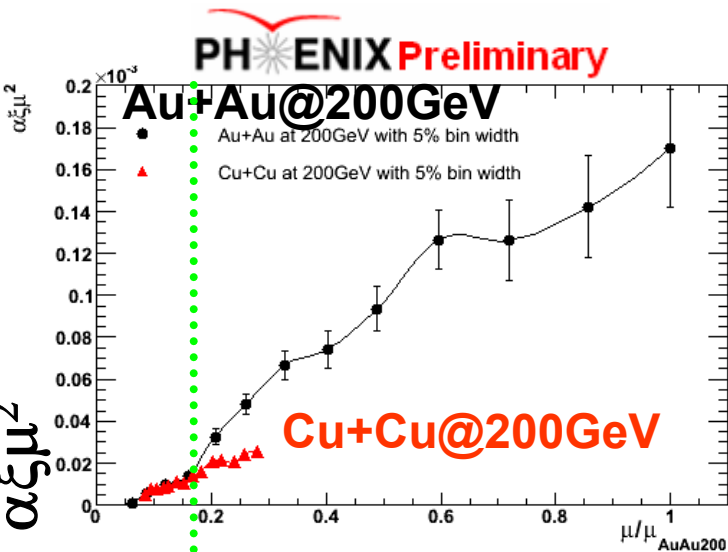
note: 38-46% not shown



We see the evolution of correlation structures from peripheral to central Au+Au

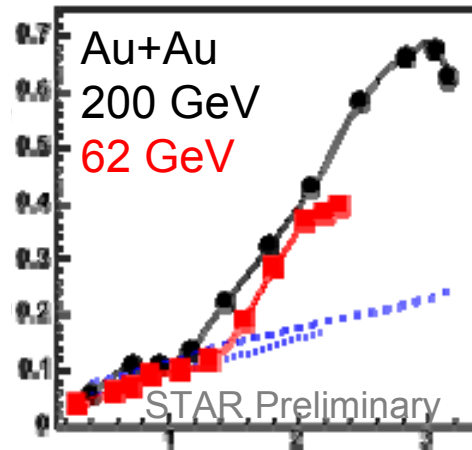
Slide from M. Daugherty, STAR Collaboration presented at QM08

# Similarity to STAR mini jet results at low $p_T$

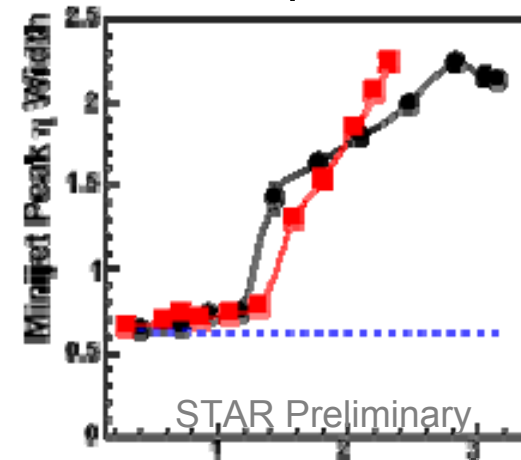


$$\langle \mu_c \rangle / \langle \mu_c \rangle_{@AuAu200}$$

Peak Amplitude



Peak  $\eta$  Width



X

$\epsilon_{BJ}$  M. Daugherty: QM2008  $\epsilon_{BJ}$

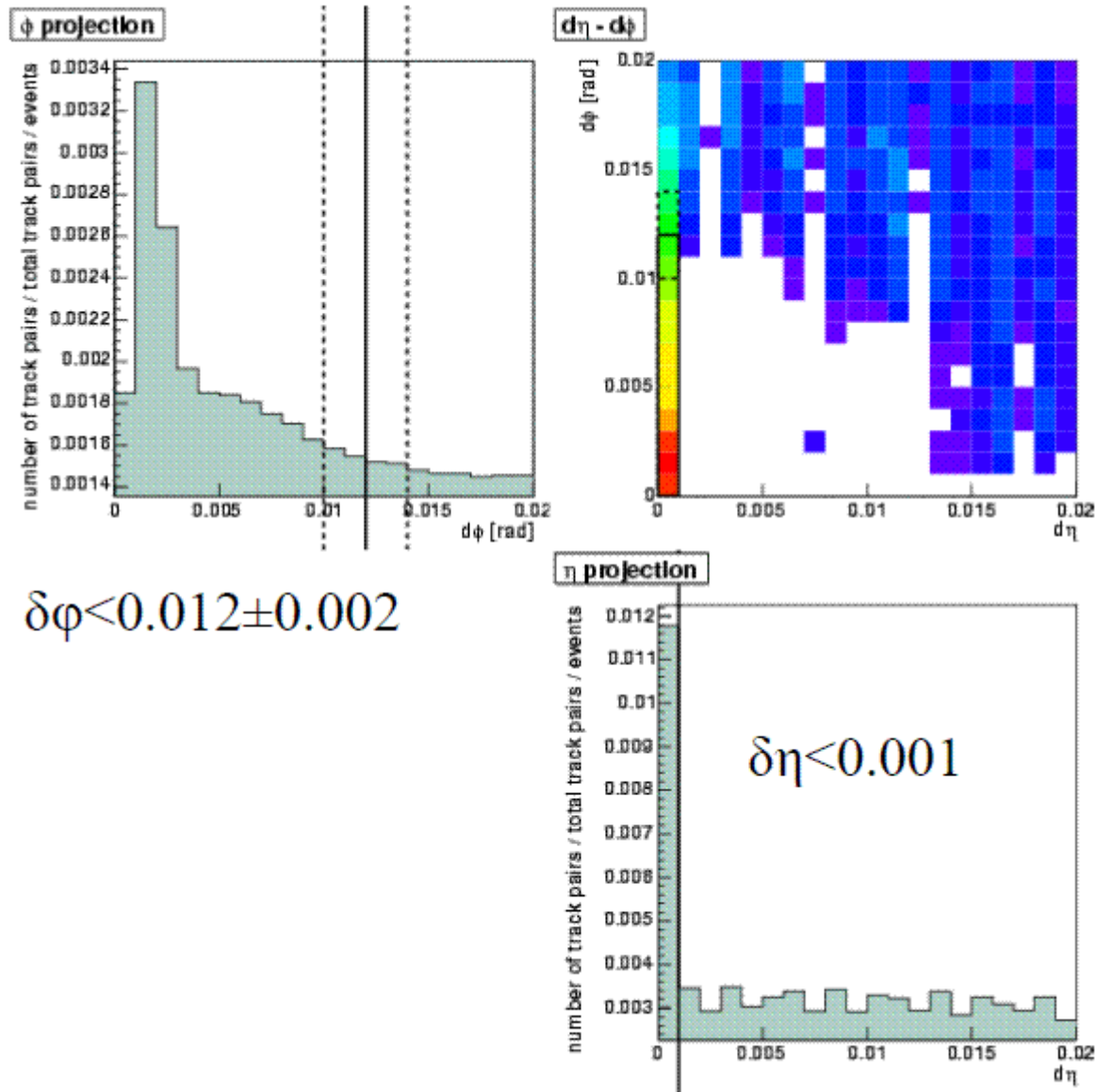
Equivalent quantity;  
 $\chi T \propto \alpha \xi \mu^2 \propto \text{amplitude} \times \text{width}$   
 shows similar trends to what  
 STAR sees.

# Summary

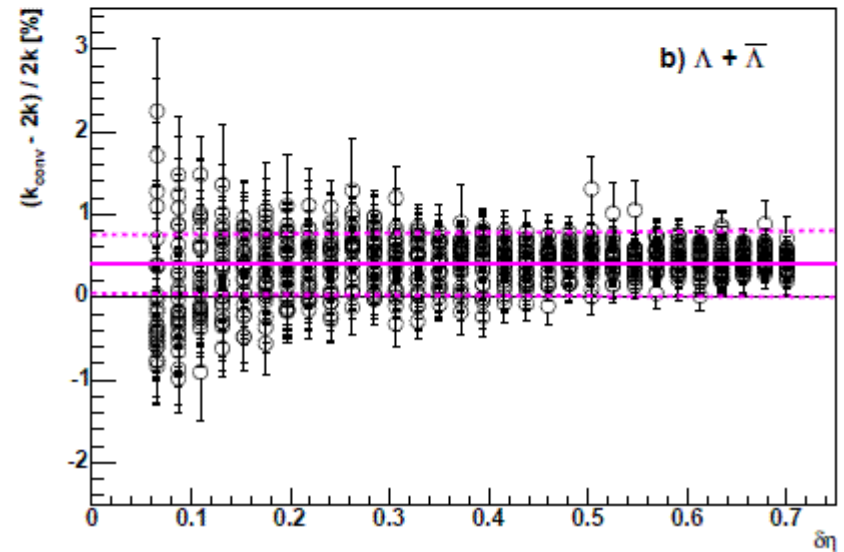
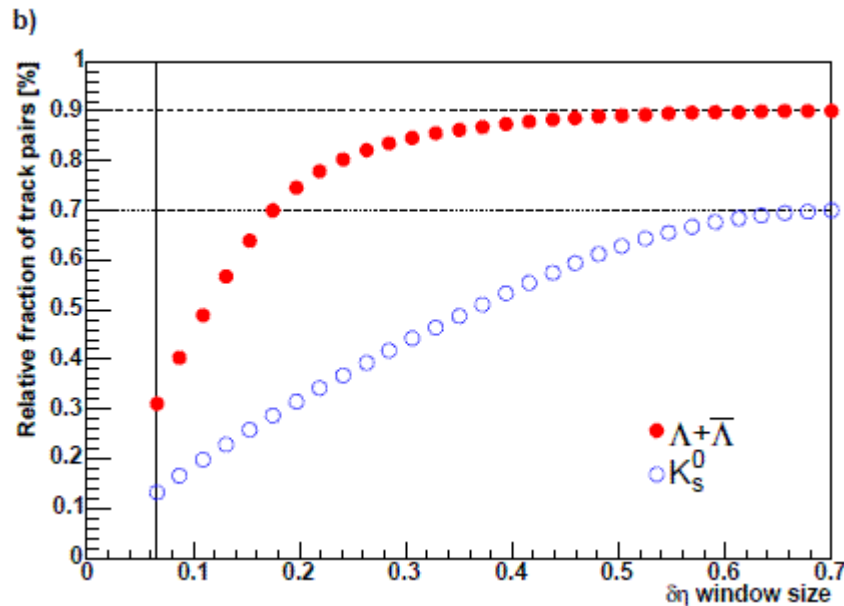
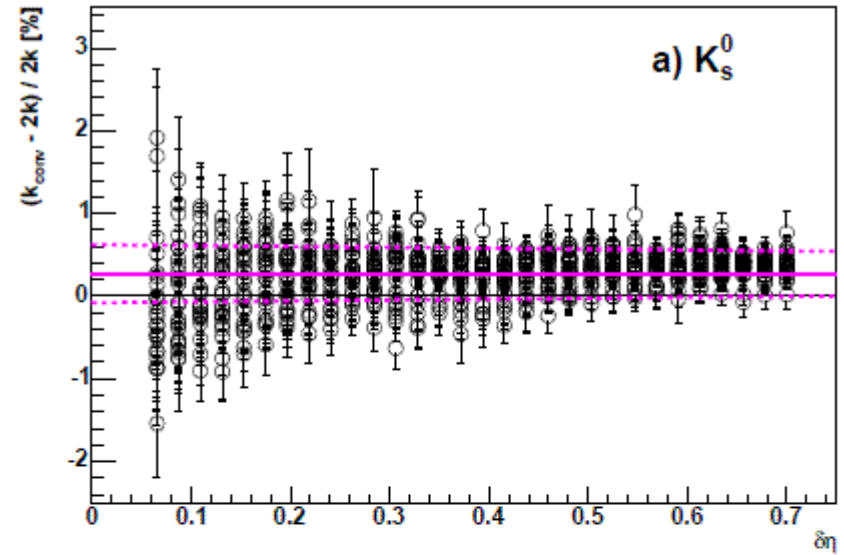
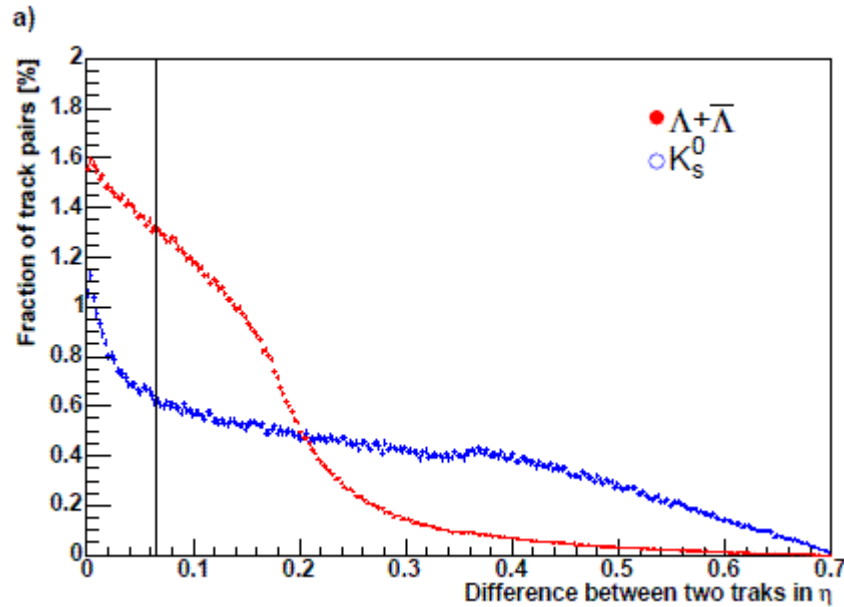
1. RHIC created strongly coupled high temperature & opaque state with partonic d.o.f. **This is the very beginning of the scientific program on quantitative understanding of the QCD phase structure.**
2. Correlation function derived from GL free energy density up to 2<sup>nd</sup> order term in the high temperature limit (exponential form) is consistent with what was observed in NBD  $k$  vs  $\delta\eta$  in three collision systems. The  $\alpha\xi$  as a function of  $N_{part}$  indicates a possible non monotonic increase at  $N_{part}\sim 90$  in Au+Au@200GeV. However, transitions from exponential to power law function were not seen.
3. Centrality dependence of the product between susceptibility and temperature ( $\chi T \propto \alpha\xi\mu^2$ ) is qualitatively consistent with what STAR observed by amplitude and width parameter in  $\eta$  correlations with low  $p_T$  particles.

**Buck up**

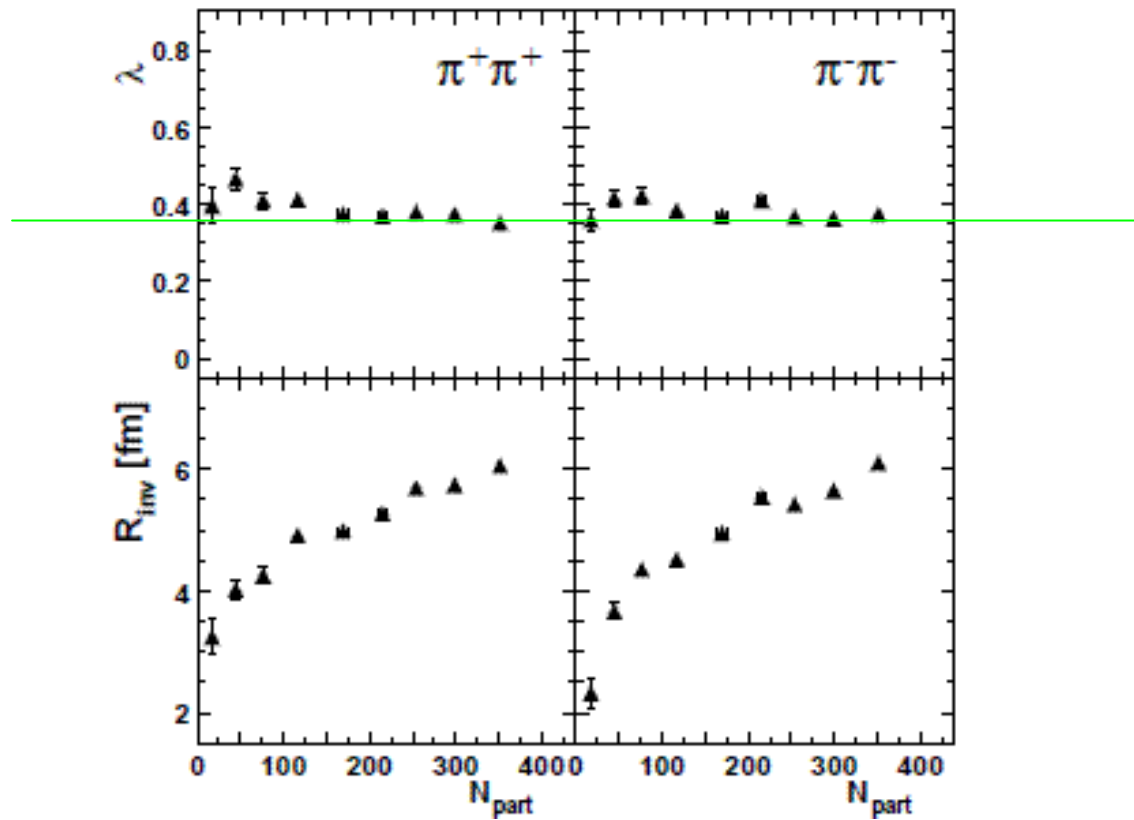
# Trivial correlations (ghost & $\gamma \rightarrow ee$ )



# Trivial correlations (weak decays)



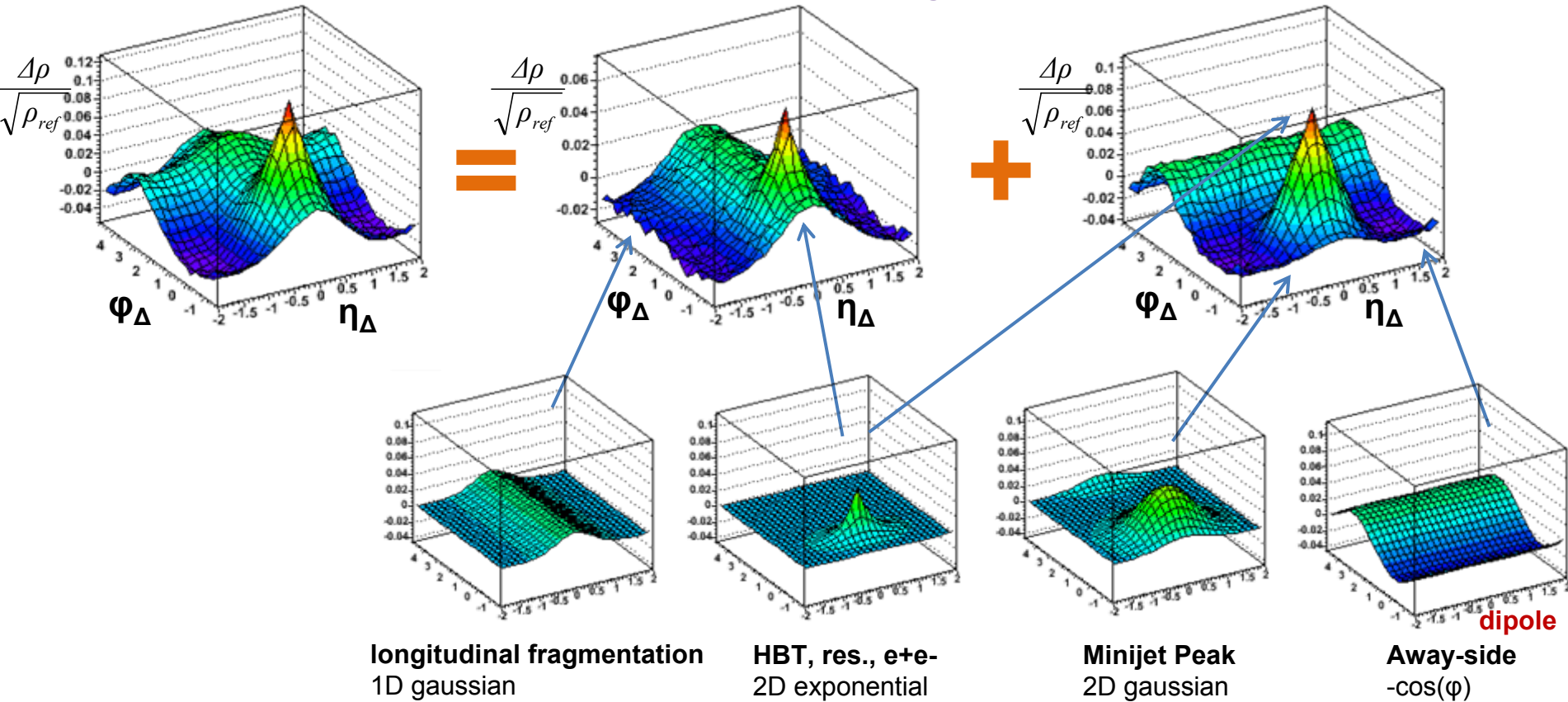
# Trivial correlations (HBT)



# Fit Function (in 5 Easy Pieces)

Proton-Proton fit function

STAR Preliminary



Au-Au fit function

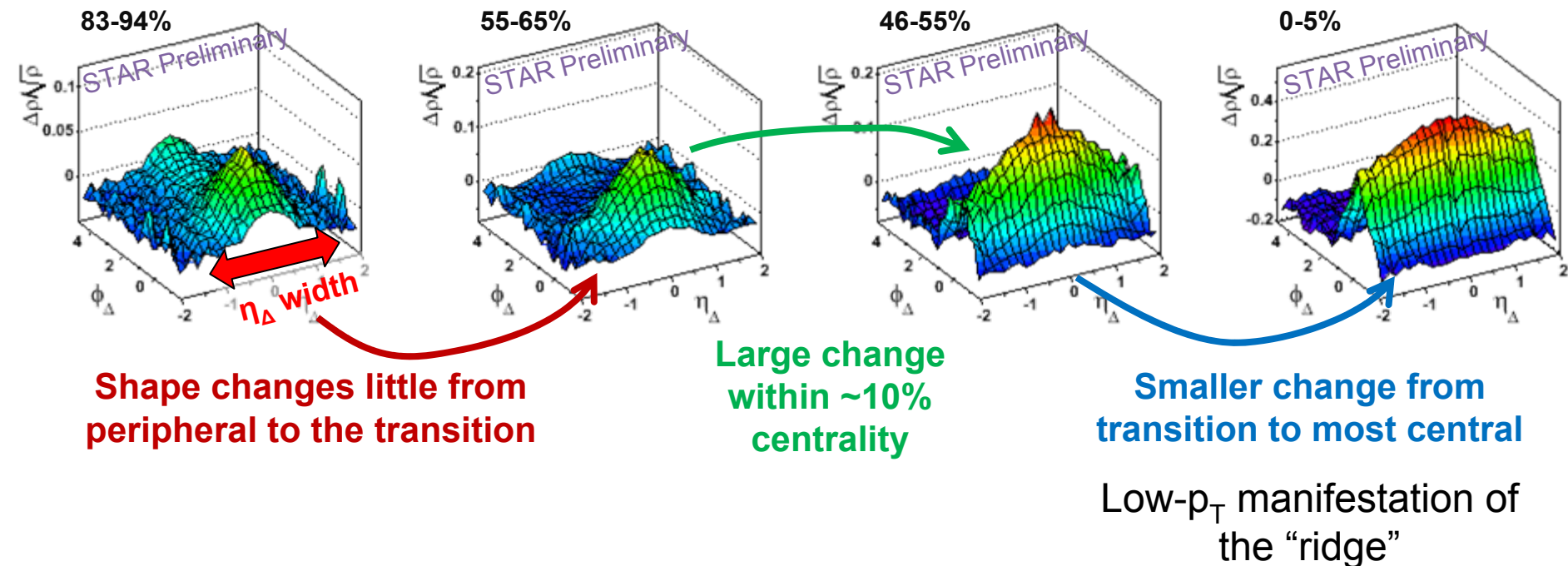
Use proton-proton fit function +  $\cos(2\phi_\Delta)$  quadrupole term ("flow").  
This gives the ***simplest possible*** way to describe Au+Au data.

Note: from this point on we'll include entire momentum range instead of using soft/hard cuts

# Transition

Does the transition from narrow to broad  $\eta_\Delta$  occur quickly or slowly?

data - fit (except same-side peak)

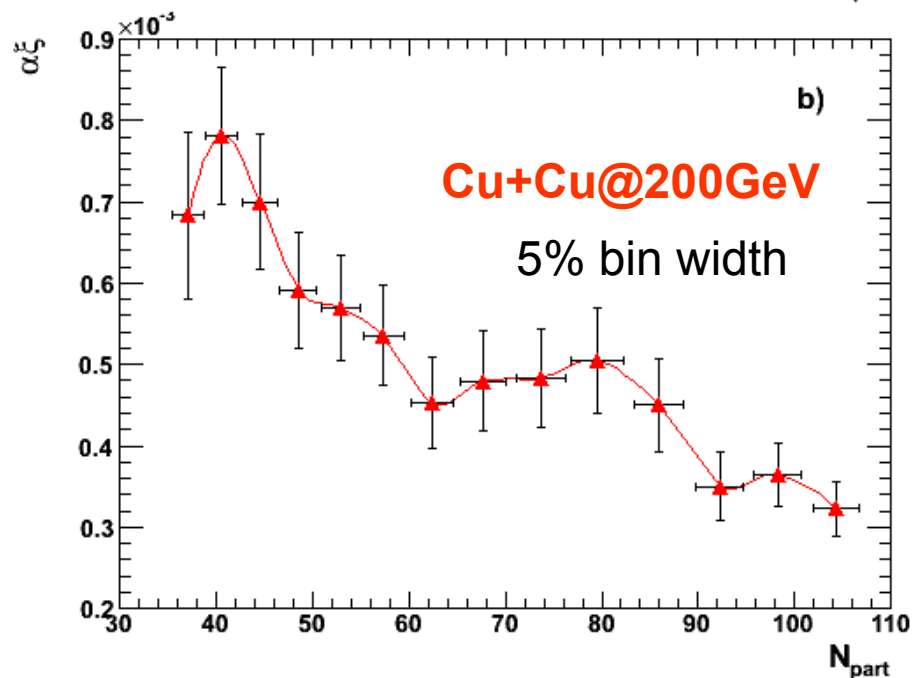
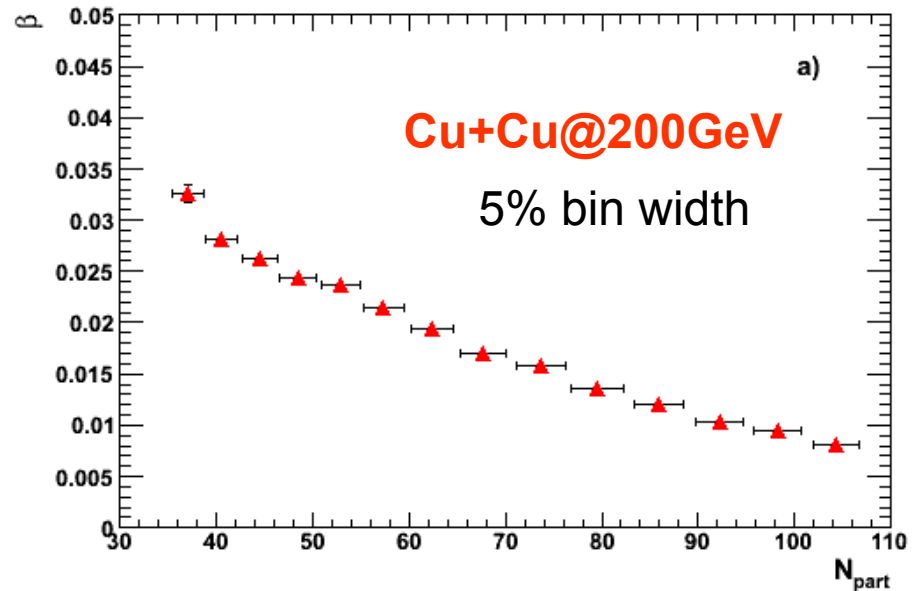
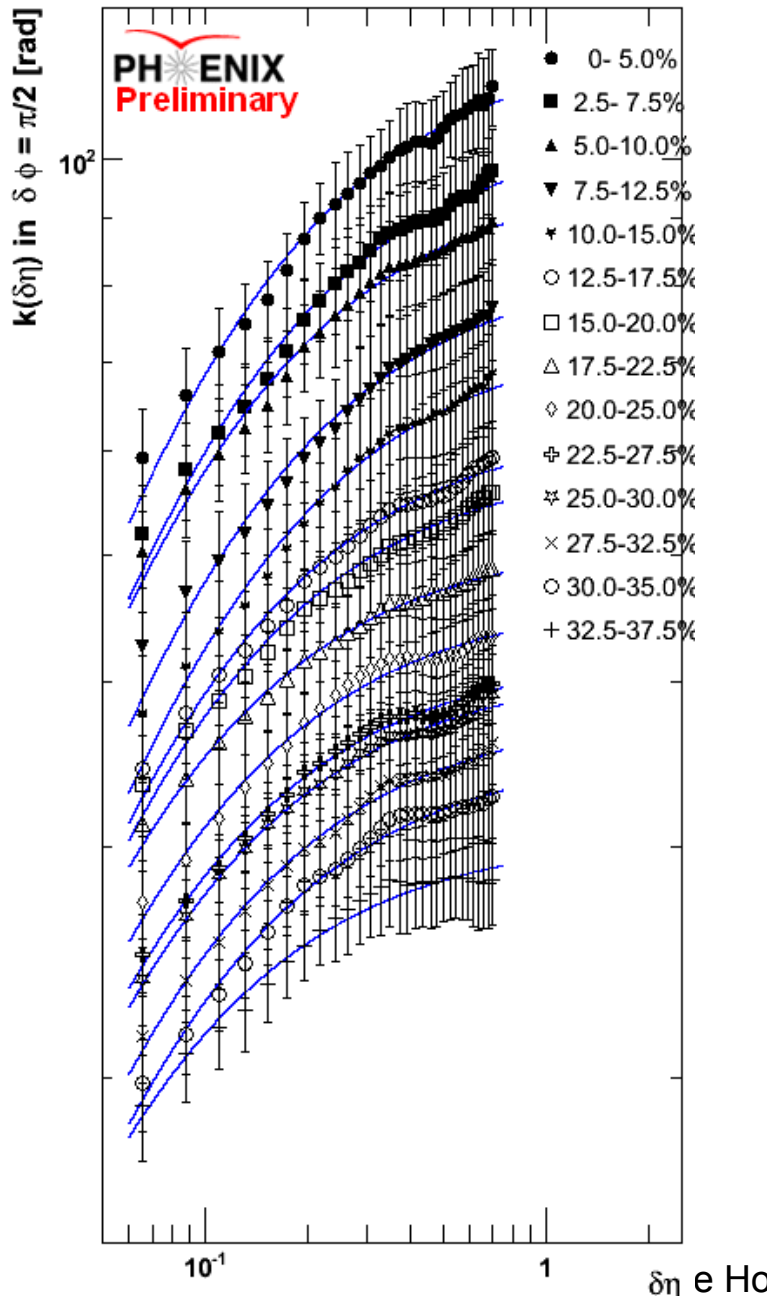


***The transition occurs quickly***

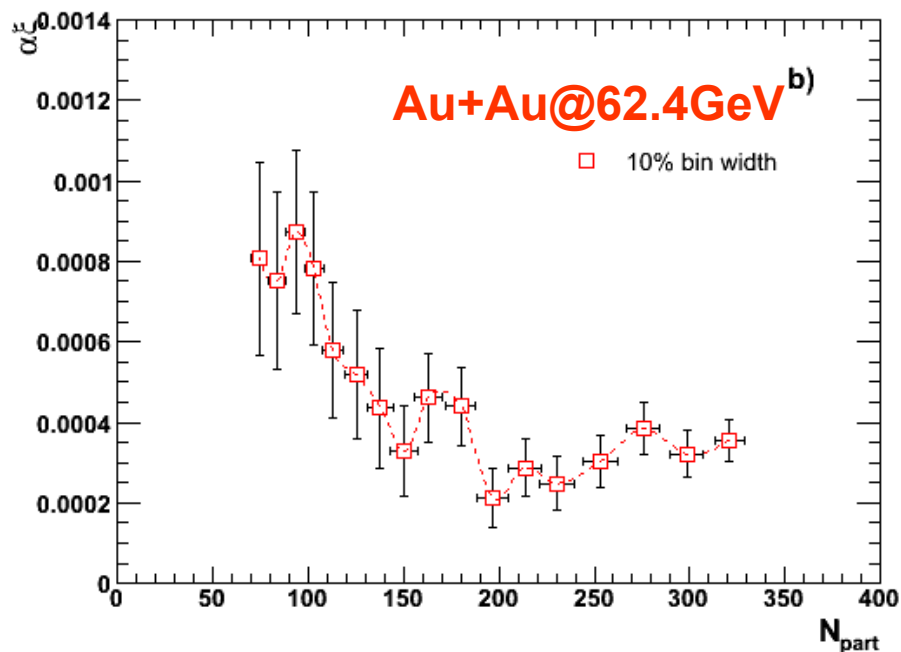
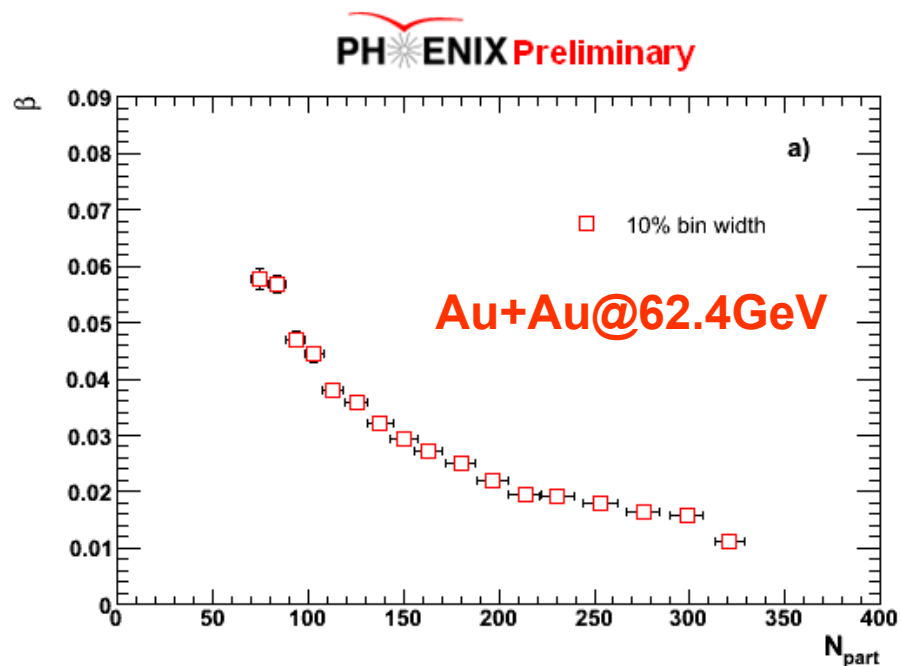
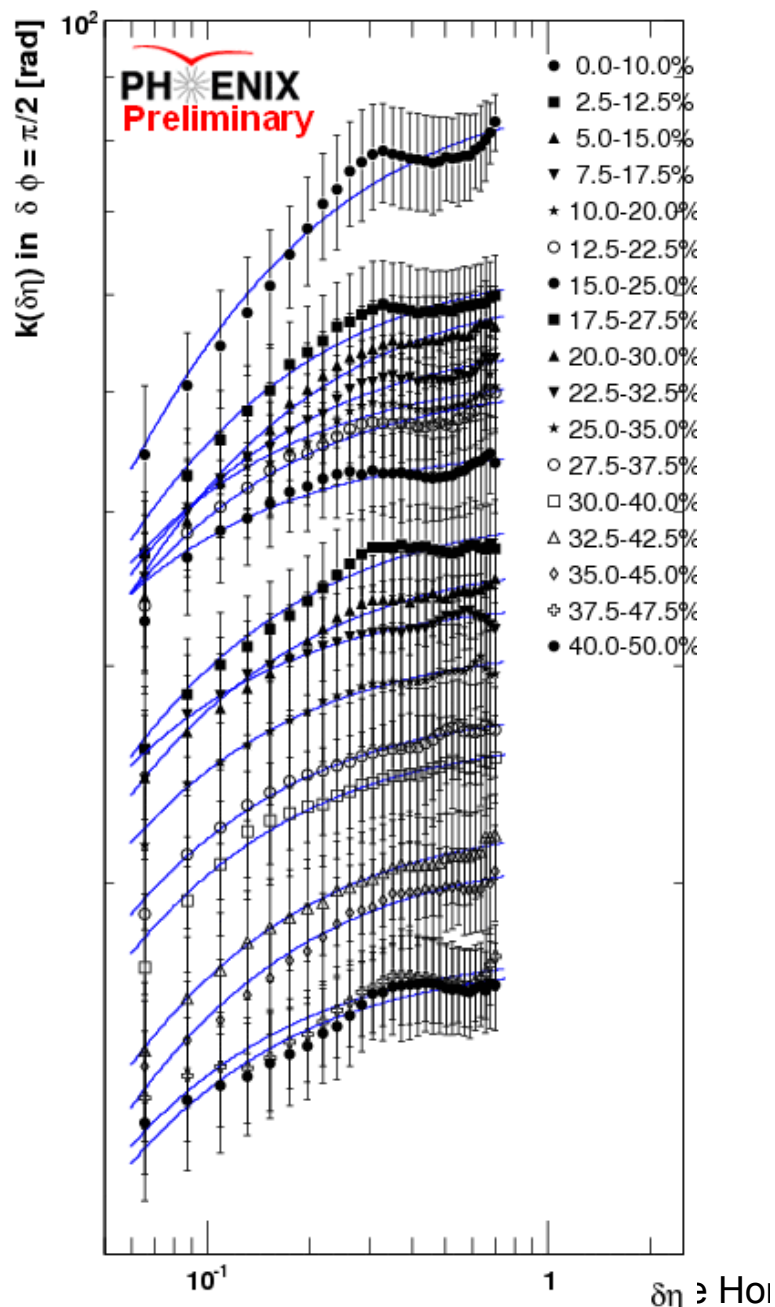
Slide from M. Daugherty, STAR Collaboration presented at QM08

# Analysis in smaller system: Cu+Cu@200GeV

PHENIX Preliminary



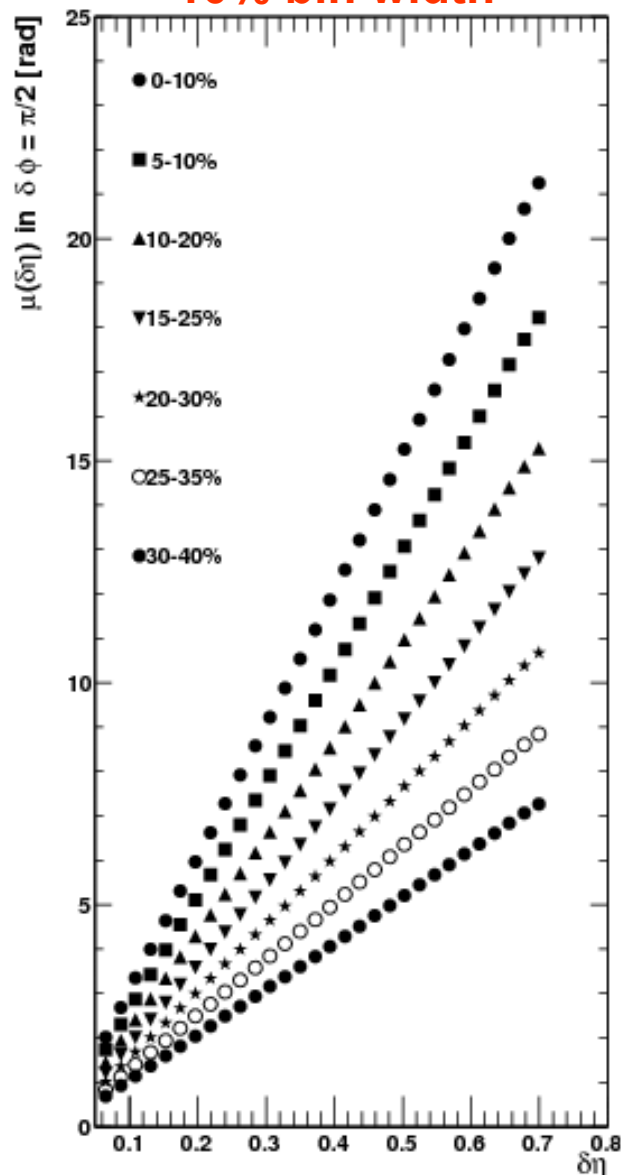
# Analysis in lower energy: Au+Au@62.4GeV



# Corrected mean multiplicity $\langle \mu_c \rangle$

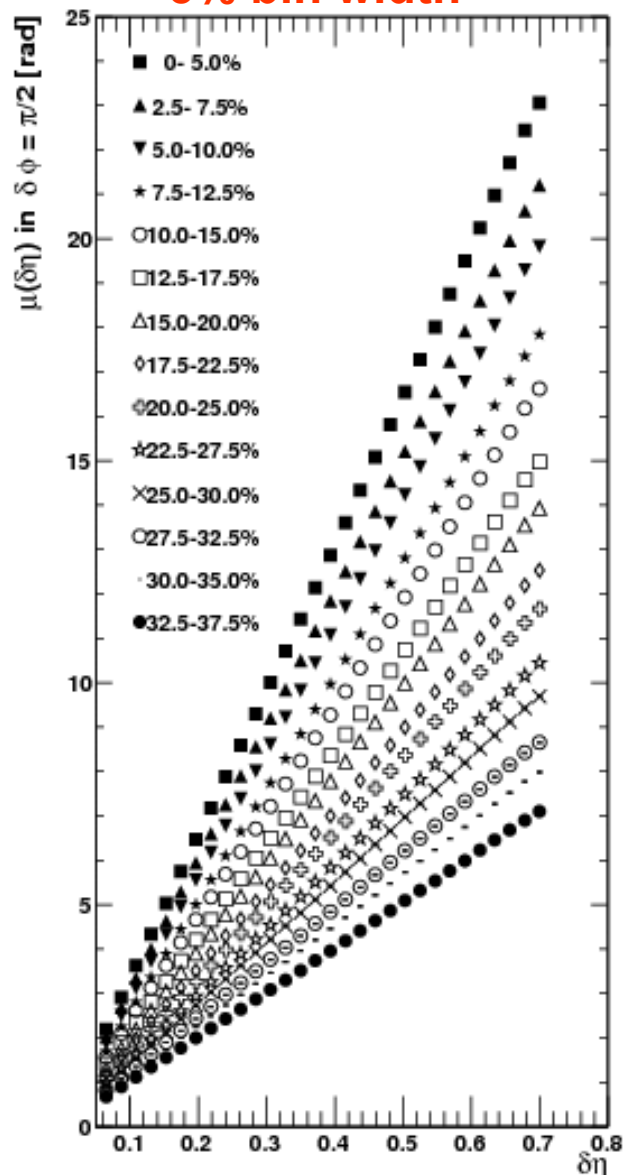
Cu+Cu@200GeV

10% bin width



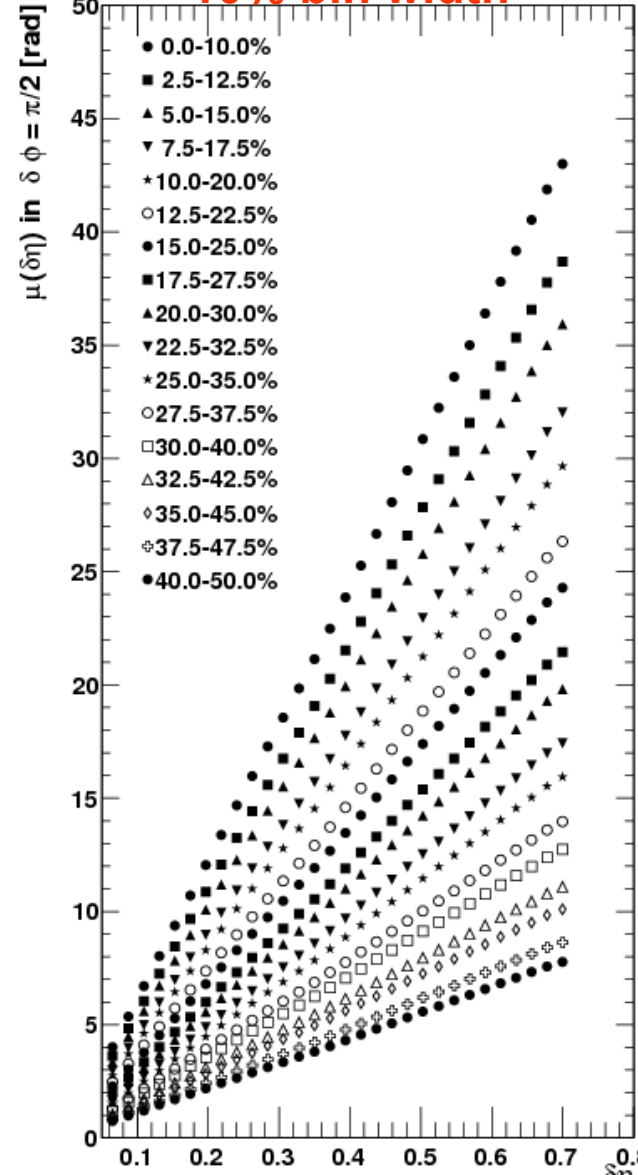
Cu+Cu@200GeV

5% bin width



Au+Au@62.4GeV

10% bin width



# Simple base line: Participant Superposition Model

- In a Participant Superposition Model, multiplicity fluctuations are given by:

$$\omega_N = \omega_n + \langle N \rangle \omega_{Np}$$

where  $\omega = \sigma^2/\mu$ .  $\omega_N$  = total fluctuation,  $\omega_n$  = fluctuation in each source (e.g. hadron-hadron collision),  $\omega_{Np}$  = fluctuation in number of sources (participants),  $\langle N \rangle$  = mean multiplicity per wounded nucleon.

- After correcting for fluctuations due to impact parameter,  $\omega_N = \omega_n$  is independent of centrality.

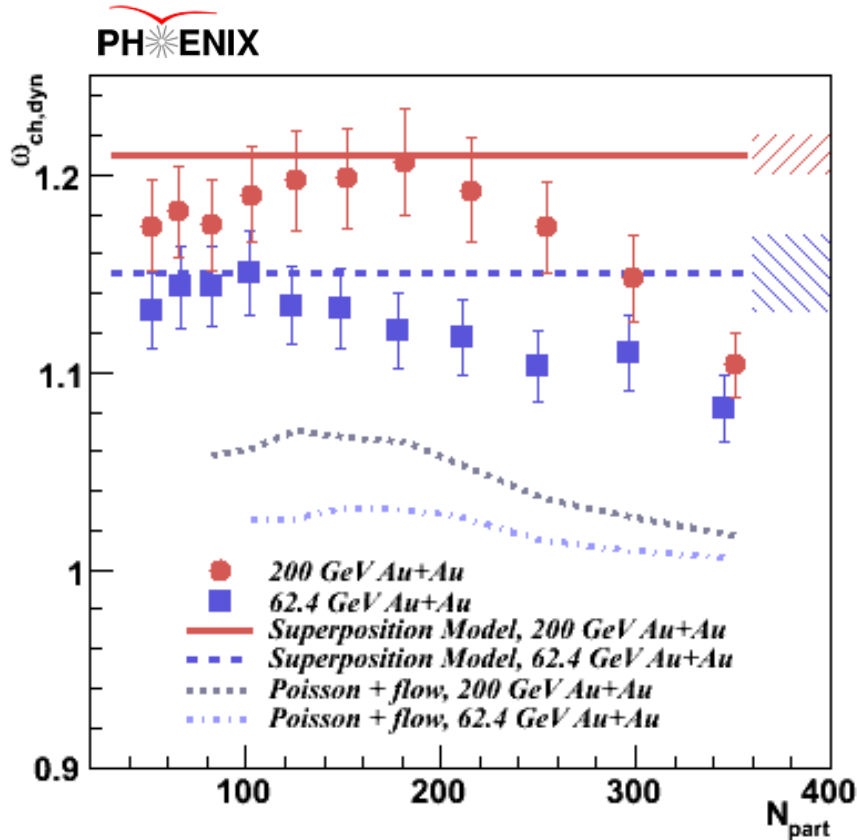
- Multiplicity fluctuations are also dependent on acceptance:

$$\omega_n = 1 + f(\omega_n - 1)$$

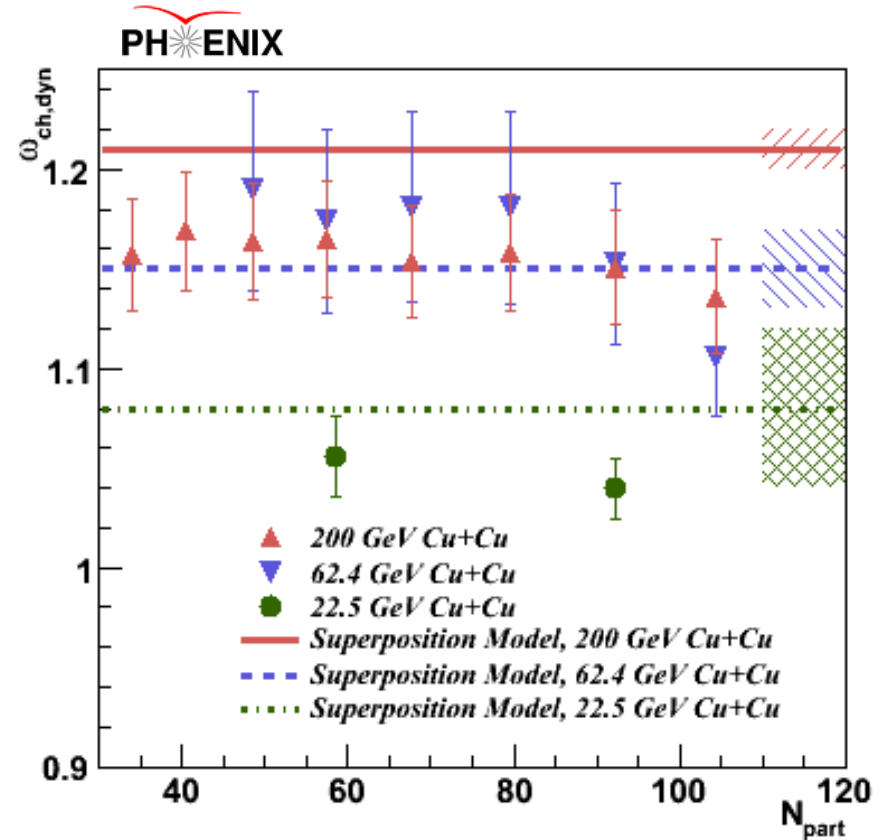
where  $f = N_{\text{accepted}}/N_{\text{total}}$ .  $\omega_n$  = fluctuations from each source in  $4\pi$

# Multiplicity Fluctuation Results

Bottom line: Near the critical point, the multiplicity fluctuations should exceed the superposition model expectation → **No significant evidence for critical behavior is observed.**



**Centrality dependence is dominated by elliptic flow**

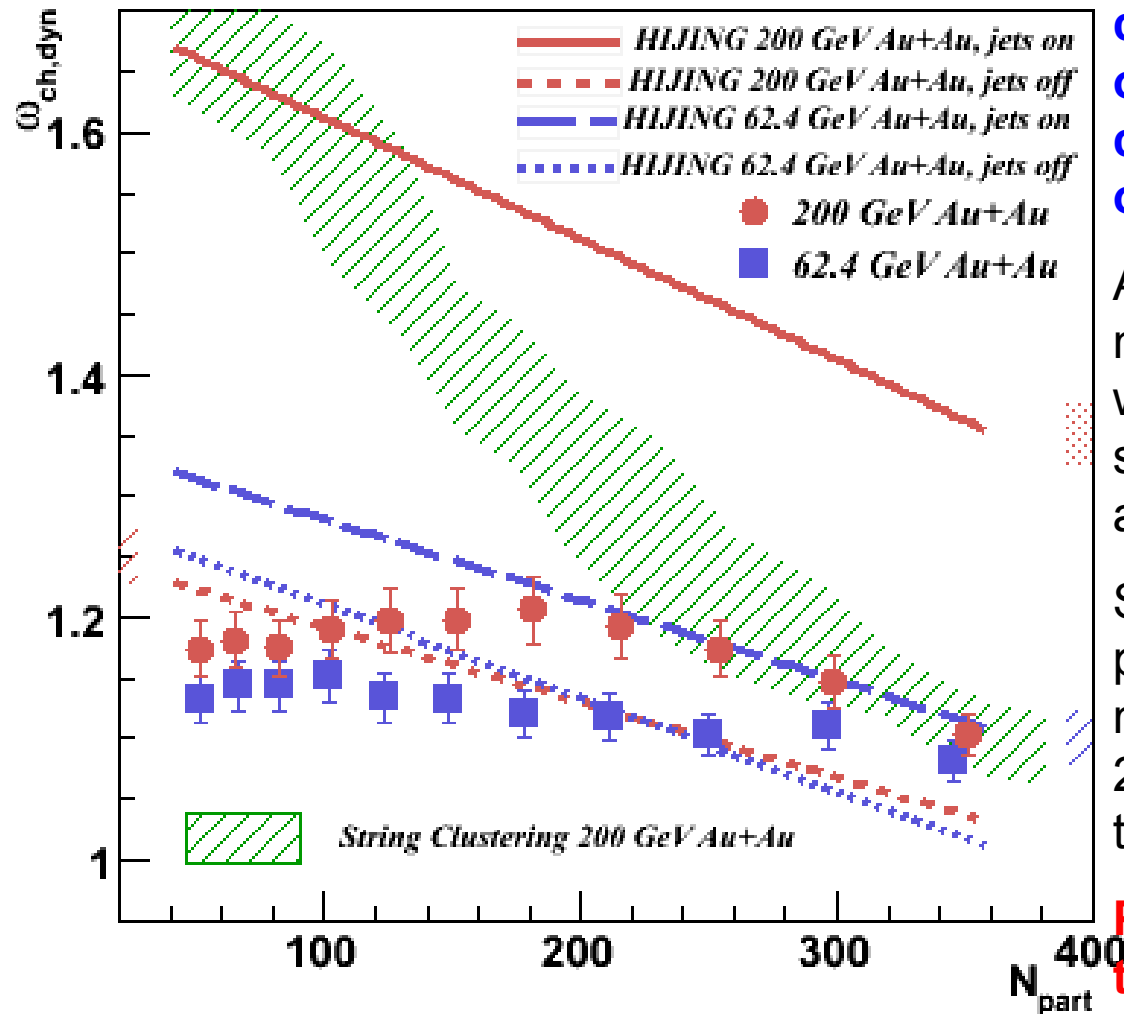


Superposition model at 200 GeV taken from PHENIX measurements of 200 GeV p+p. The results agree with UA5 measurements in PHENIX's pseudorapidity window.

Superposition model at 22 GeV taken from NA22 measurements in PHENIX's pseudorapidity window.

Superposition model at 62 GeV taken from interpolation of UA5 results in PHENIX's pseudorapidity window.

# String Percolation Model



**String percolation: strings form clusters of geometrically overlapping strings and each cluster emits particles depending on the number strings.**

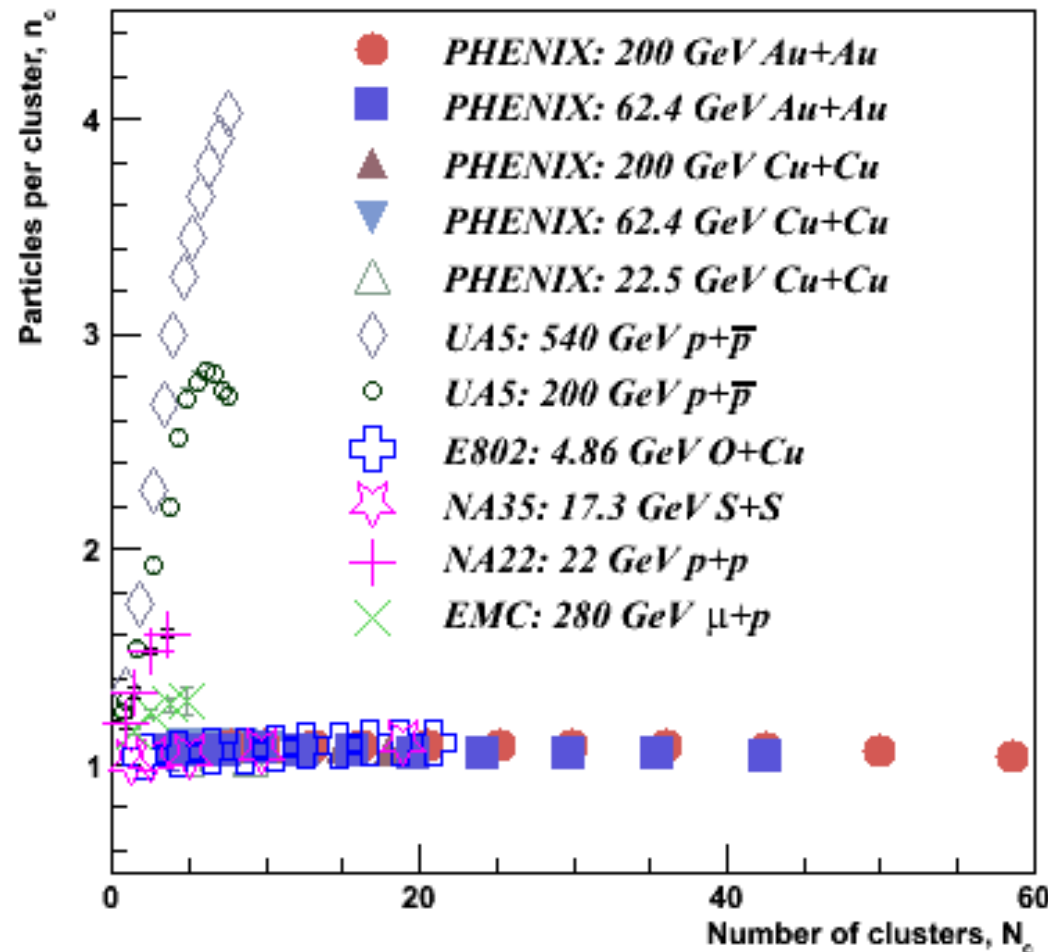
As the centrality increases, the number of clusters decreases along with the variance of the number of strings per cluster, which results in a decrease of scaled variance.

Shown in green are the direct predictions of the string percolation model (PRC72,024907(2005)) for 200 GeV Au+Au, scaled down to the PHENIX acceptance.

**Percolation still does not explain the plateau in the most peripheral Au+Au collisions.**

# CLAN Model

A. Giovannini et al., Z. Phys. C30 (1986) 391.



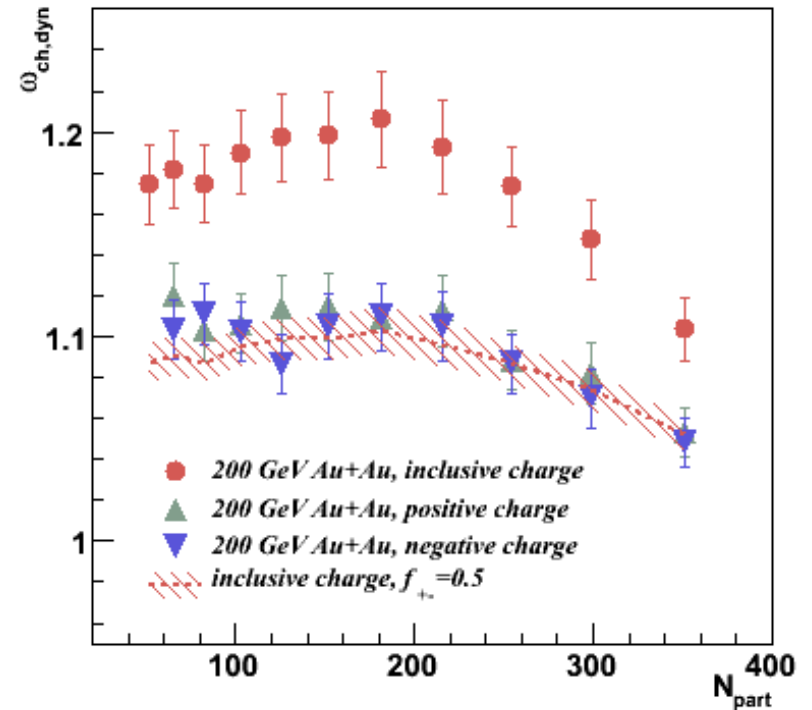
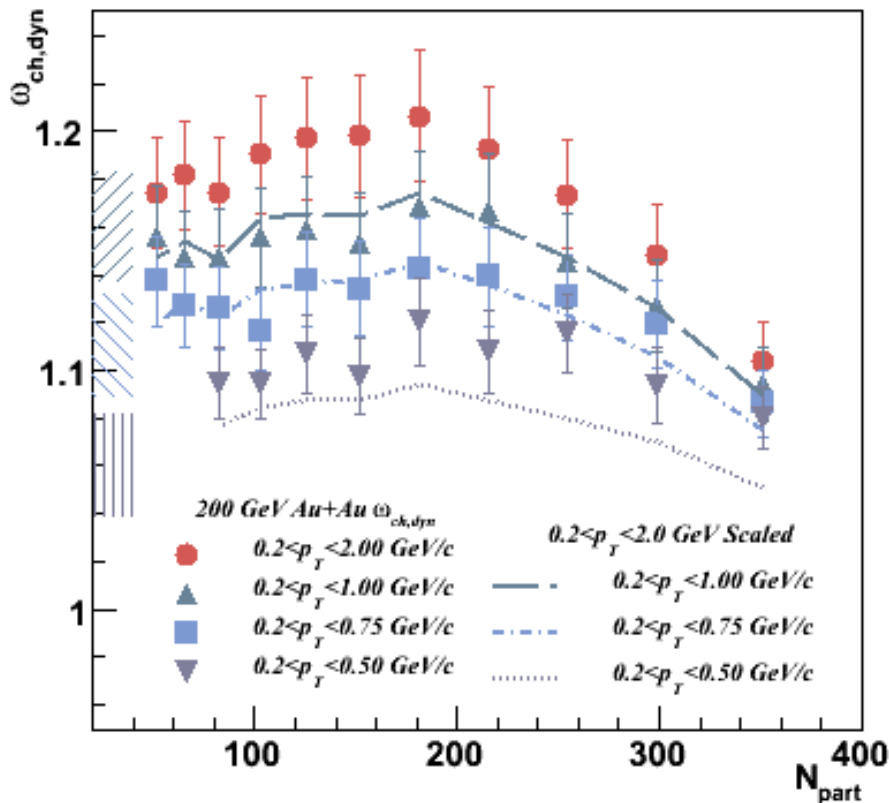
The CLAN model was developed to attempt to explain the reason that p+p multiplicities are described by NBD rather than Poisson distributions.

Hadron production is modeled as independent emission of a number of hadron clusters,  $N_c$ , each with a mean number of hadrons,  $n_c$ . These parameters can be related to the NBD parameters:

$$N_c = k_{\text{NBD}} \log(1 + \mu_{\text{ch}}/k_{\text{NBD}}) \text{ and } \langle n_c \rangle = (\mu_{\text{ch}}/k_{\text{NBD}})/\log(1 + \mu_{\text{ch}}/k_{\text{NBD}}).$$

**A+A collisions exhibit weak clustering characteristics, independent of collision energy.**

# Charge and $p_T$ -Dependence



$$\omega_{+-} = 1 + f(\omega_{\text{inclusive}} - 1)$$

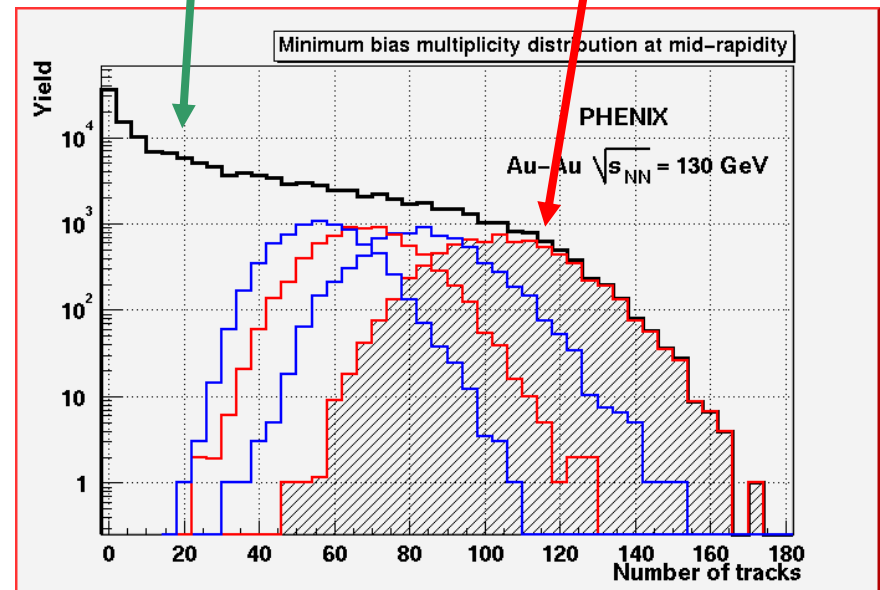
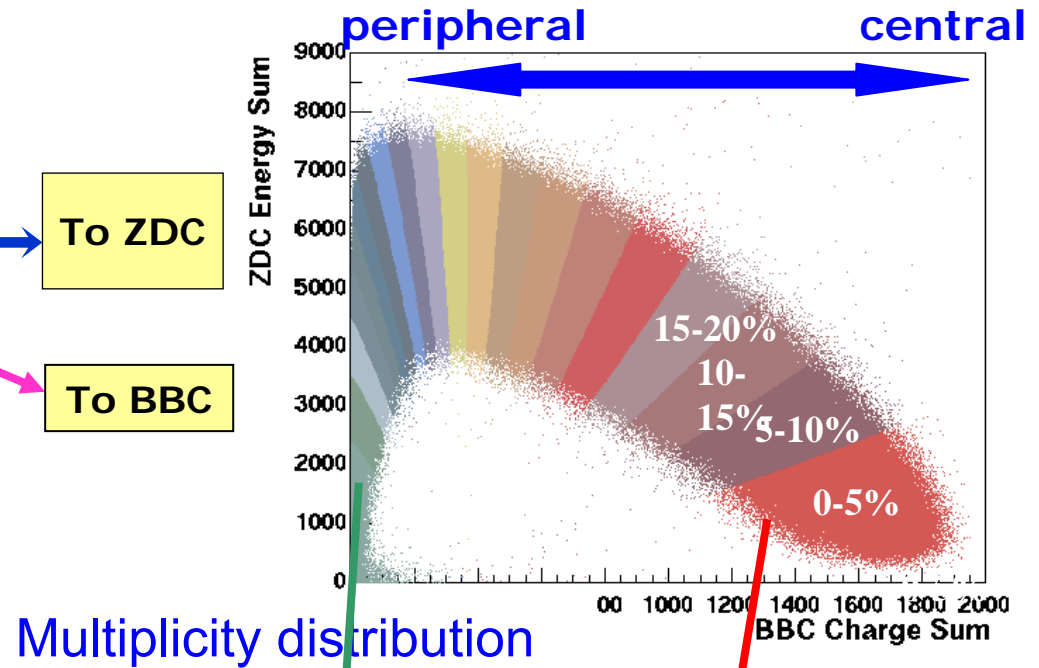
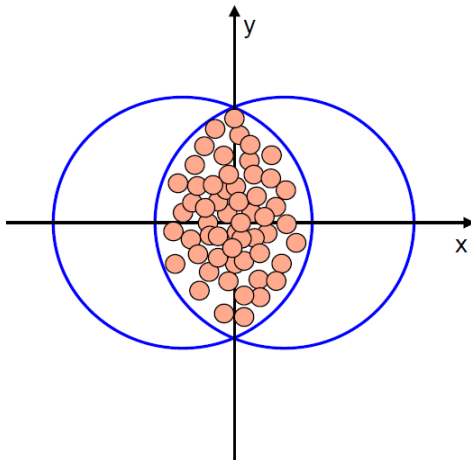
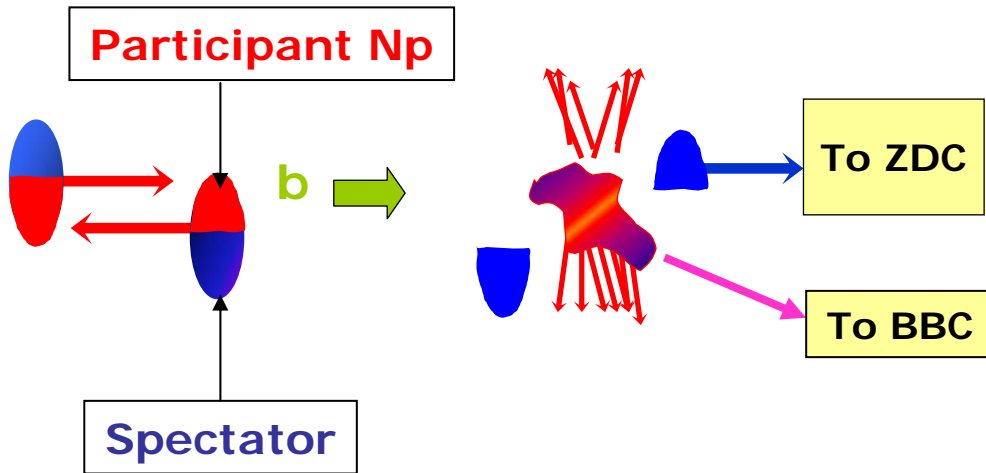
where  $f=0.5$ .

Within errors, no charge dependence of the fluctuations is seen for 200 GeV Au+Au.

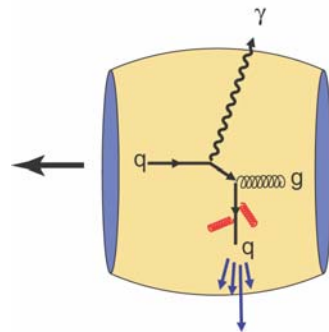
If  $p_T$ -dependence is random, the scaled variance should scale with  $\langle N \rangle$  in the same manner as acceptance:

$$\omega_{pT} = 1 + f(\omega_{pT,\text{max}} - 1)$$

# Number of participants, $N_p$ and Centrality



# Is medium dense enough?

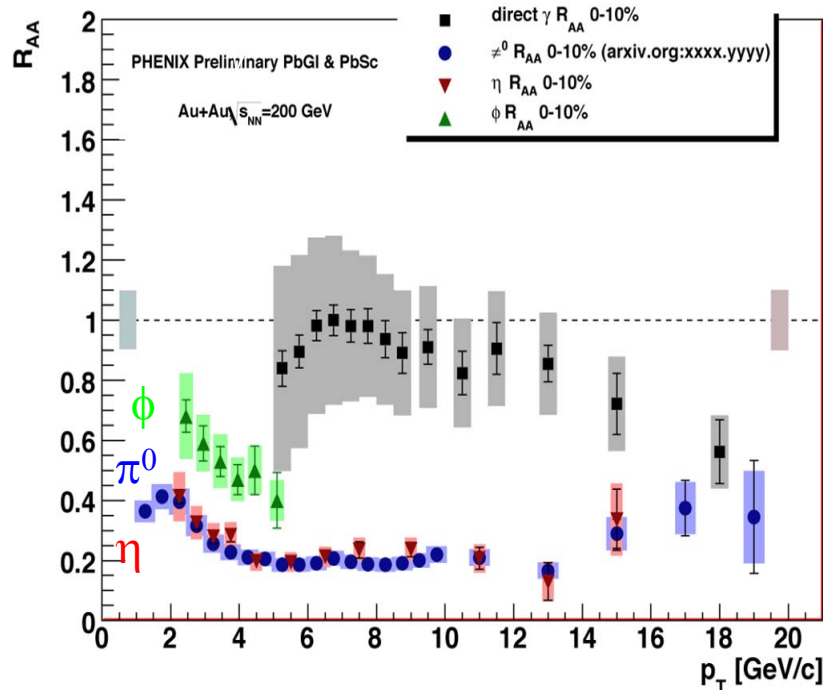


## Nuclear Modification Factor

$$R_{AA} \equiv \frac{d^2N^{AA}/dydp_T}{d^2N^{pp}/dydp_T \cdot \langle N_{coll}^{AA} \rangle}$$

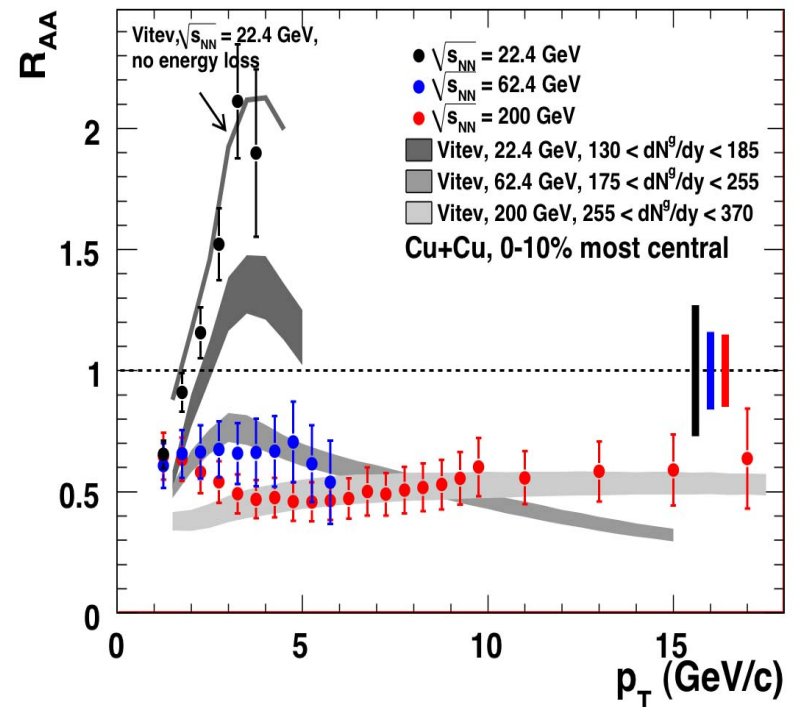
## Particle Species

$\pi^0$  Au+Au 200 GeV (Run 4)



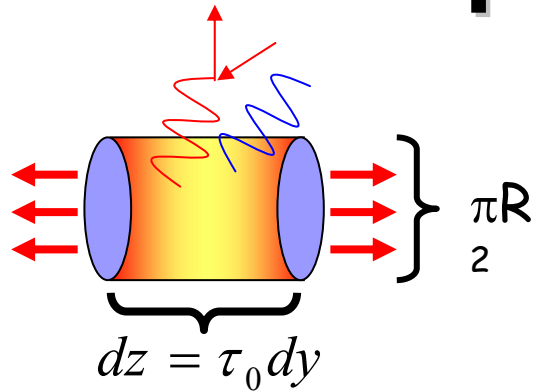
## Energy

$\pi^0$  Cu+Cu 22,62,200 GeV (Run 5)

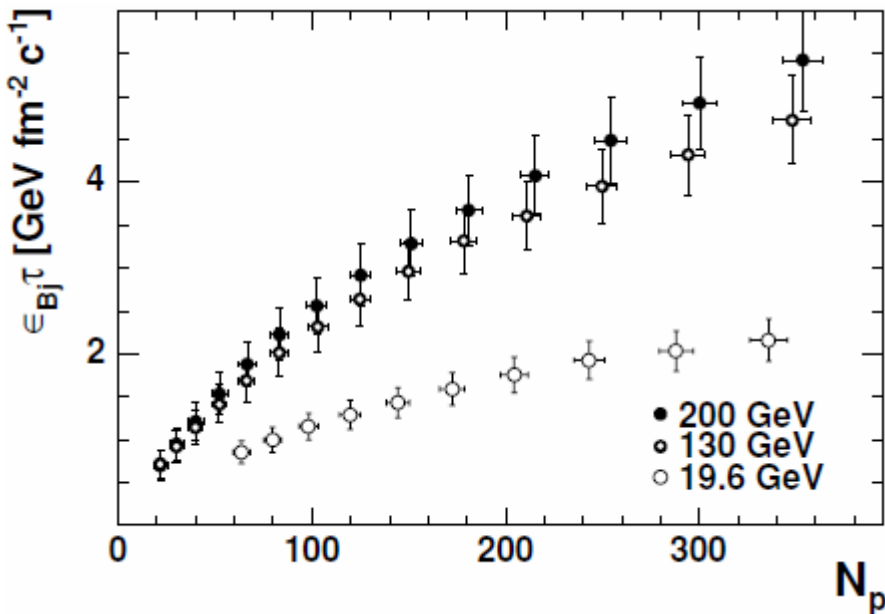


arXiv:0801.4555

# Is initial temperature high enough?

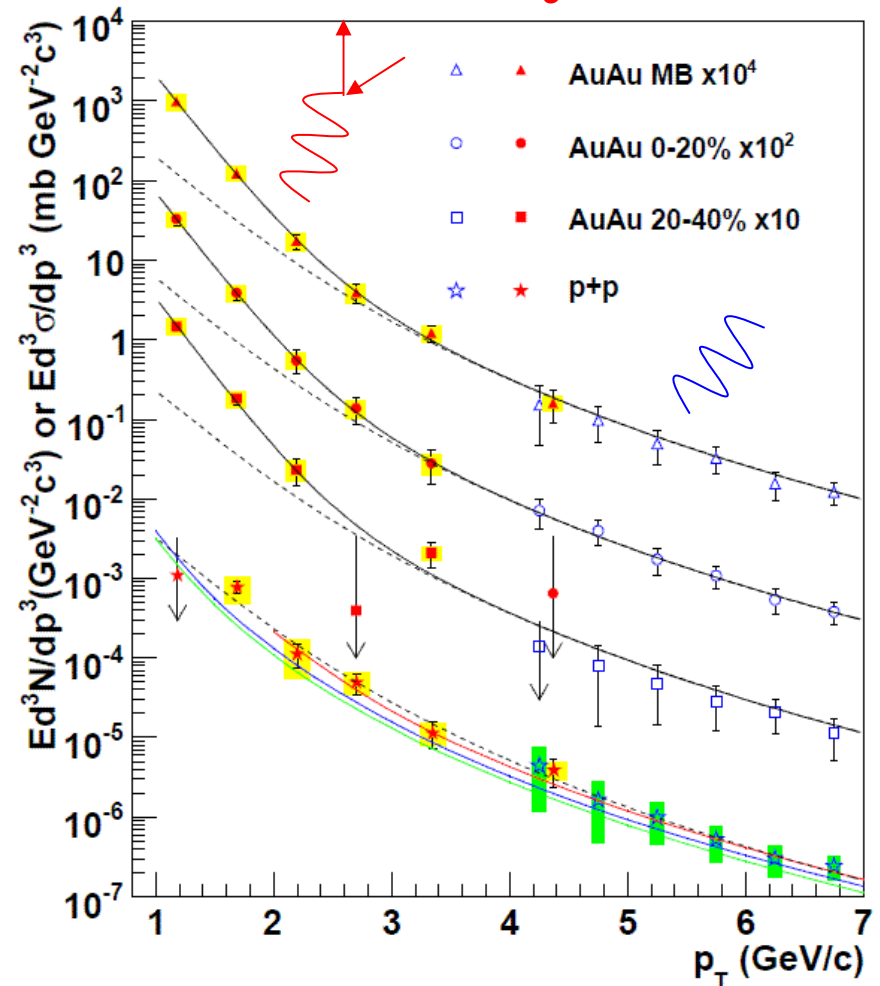


$$\varepsilon_{Bj} = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \frac{1}{\tau_0} \frac{dE_T}{dy}$$



PHYSICAL REVIEW C 71, 034908 (2005)

In central Au+Au collision  
 $T = 221 \pm 23(\text{stat}) \pm 18(\text{sys})$   
 Lattice result  $T_c \sim 170 \text{ MeV}$

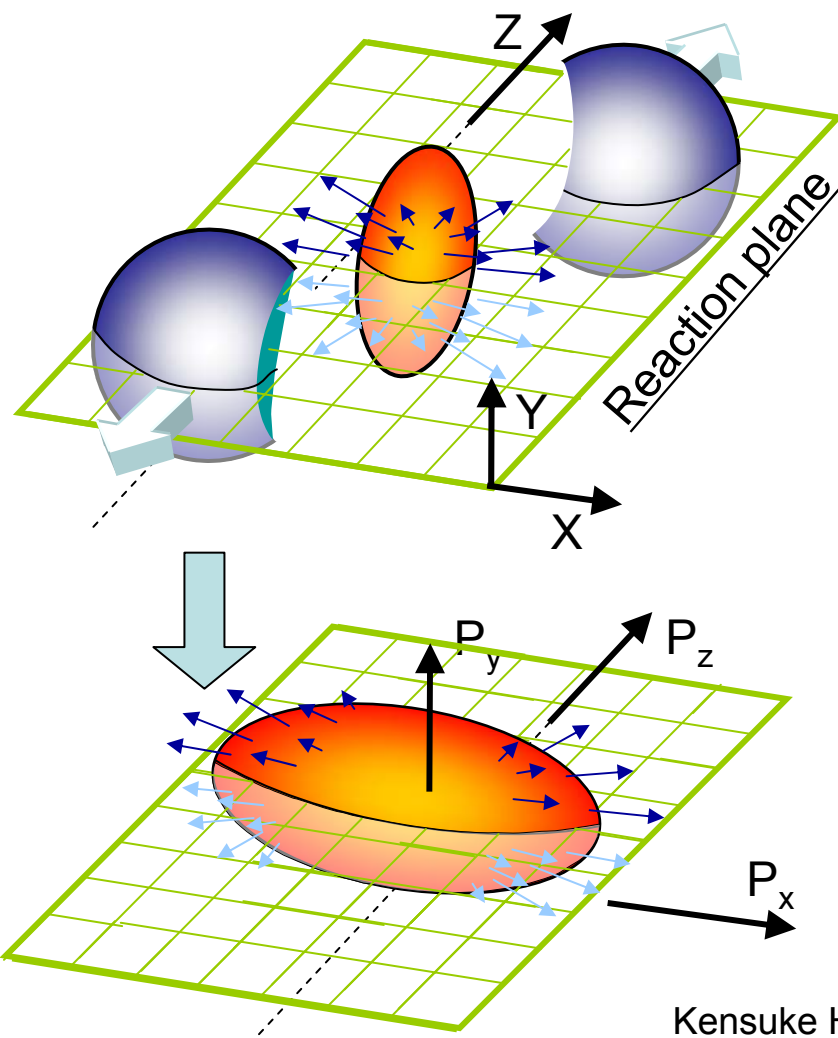


arXiv:0804.4168v1 [nucl-ex] 25 Apr 2008

# Is bulk collective motion seen?

$$E \frac{d^3 N}{d^3 p} =$$

$$\frac{1}{\pi} d^2 \frac{N}{dp_T^2 dy} [1 + 2v_1 \cos(\varphi - \Psi_R) + 2v_2 \cos(2[\varphi - \Psi_R]) + \dots]$$



**PHENIX** (Phys.Rev.Lett.91, Preliminary: QM05, QM06)

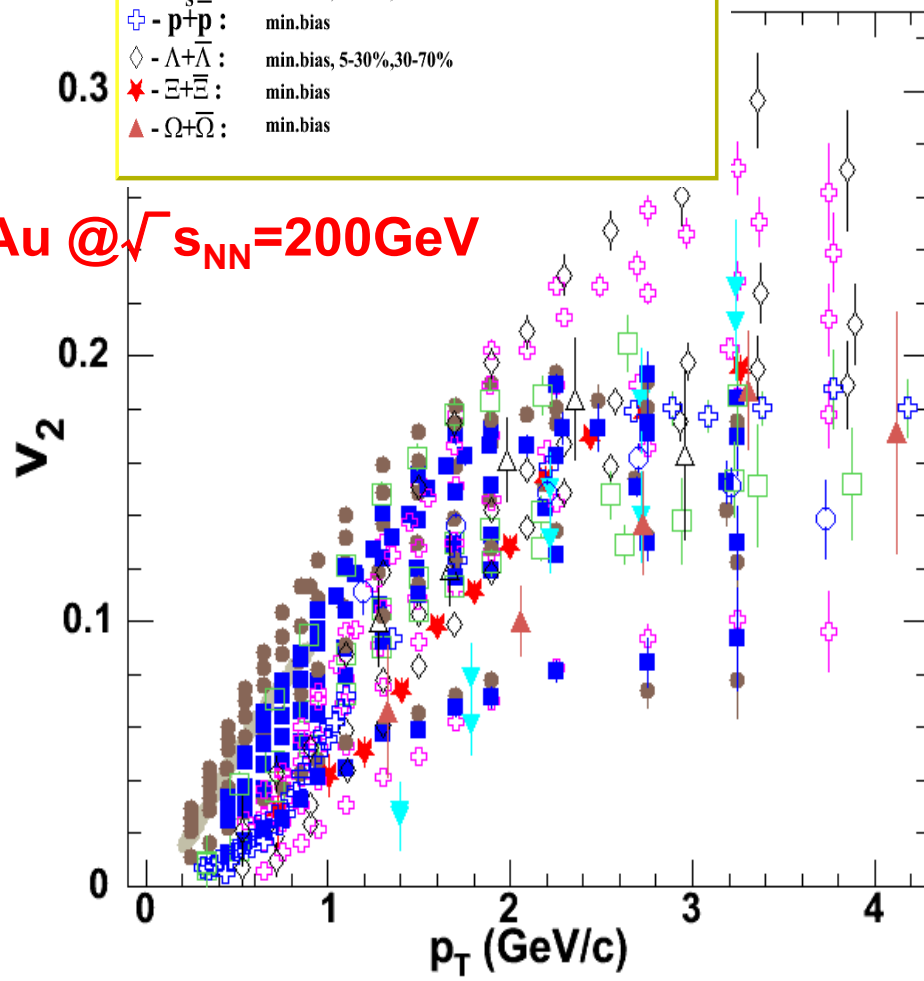
- -  $\pi^+ + \pi^-$ : min.bias, 0-10%, 10-20%, 20-30%, 30-40%, 20-60%
- -  $\pi^0$ : min.bias
- -  $K^+ + K^-$ : min.bias, 0-10%, 10-20%, 20-30%, 30-40%, 20-60%
- ✚ -  $p + \bar{p}$ : min.bias, 0-10%, 10-20%, 20-30%, 30-40%, 20-60%
- ▼ -  $d$ : min.bias, 10-50%
- △ -  $\phi$ : 20-60%

**STAR** (Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, Phys. Rev. C 72 (2005), Preliminary QM05, SQM06)

- -  $\pi^+ + \pi^-$ : min.bias
- -  $K_S^0$ : min.bias, 5-30%, 30-70%
- ✚ -  $p + \bar{p}$ : min.bias
- ◇ -  $\Lambda + \bar{\Lambda}$ : min.bias, 5-30%, 30-70%
- ★ -  $\Xi + \bar{\Xi}$ : min.bias
- ▲ -  $\Omega + \bar{\Omega}$ : min.bias

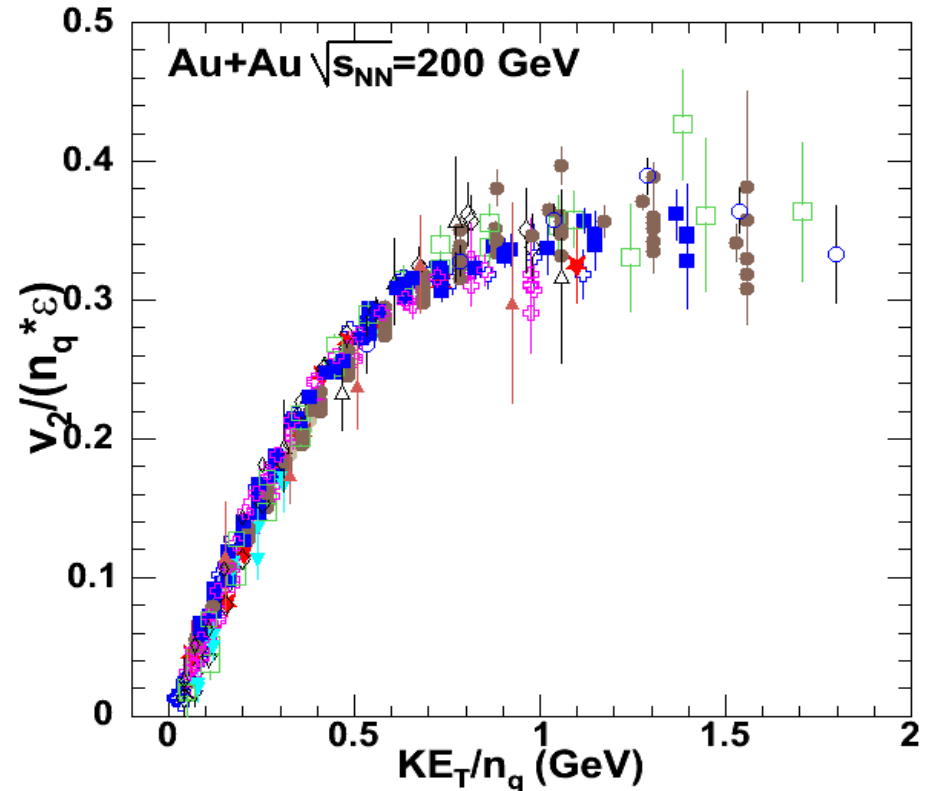
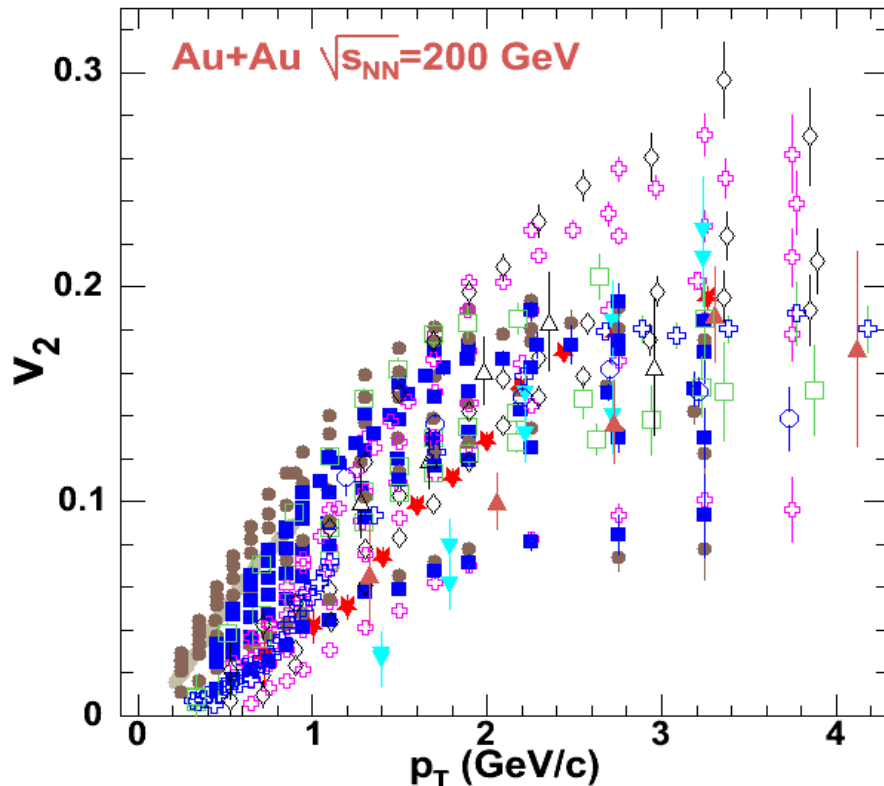
0.3

**Au+Au @  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=200\text{GeV}$**



# Any partonic degree of freedom?

Constituent quark number,  $n_q$  scaling



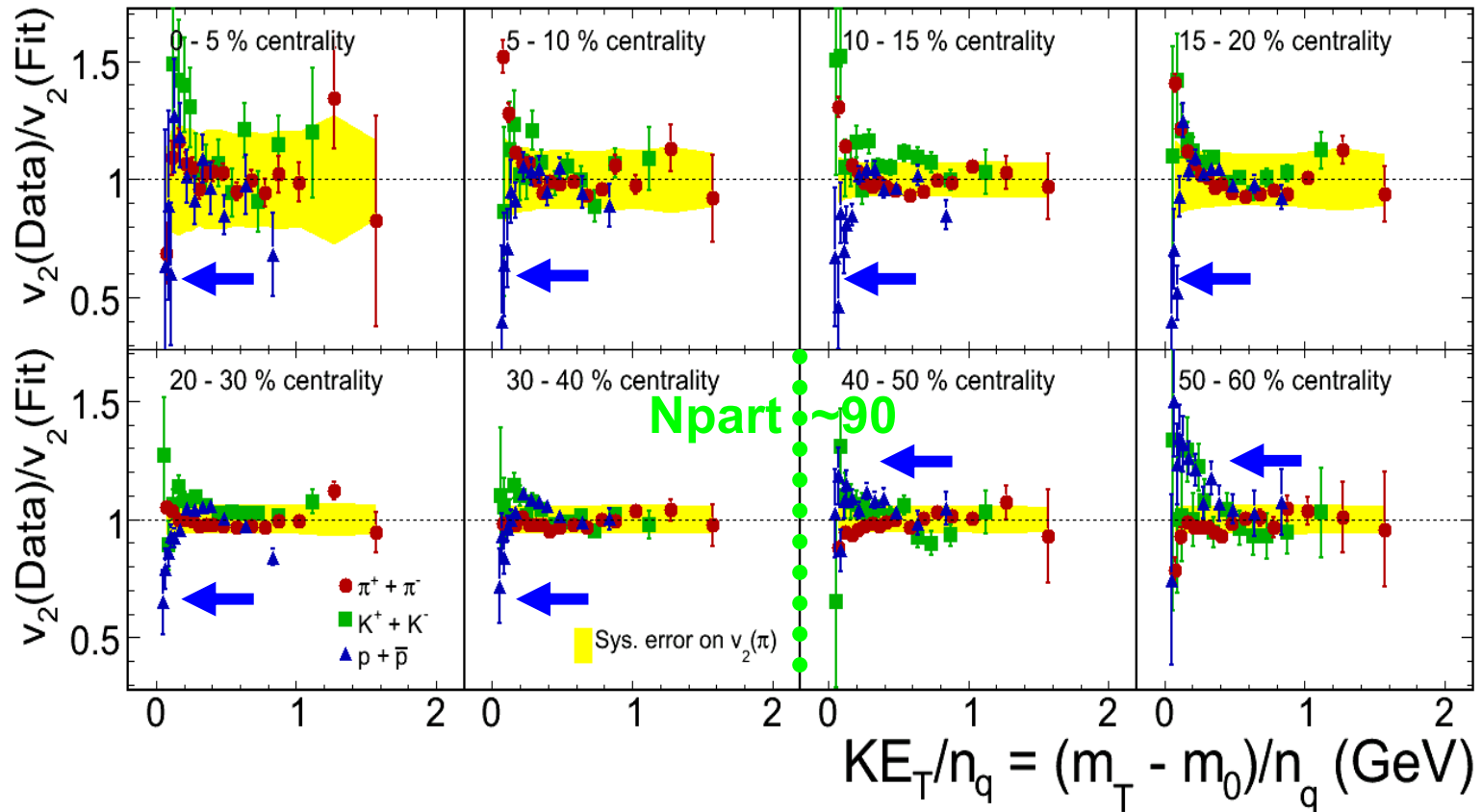
$$KE_T = m(\gamma_T - 1) = m_T - m$$

**Are there symptoms in  
other observables at  
around the same Npart?**

# Deviation from scaling at low $KE_T$ region ?

PHENIX PRELIMINARY

Au + Au @  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 0.35$



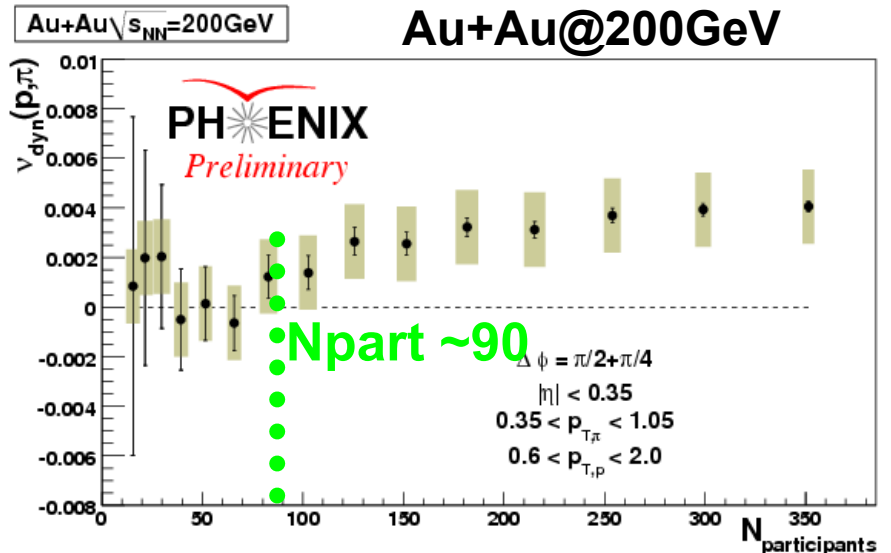
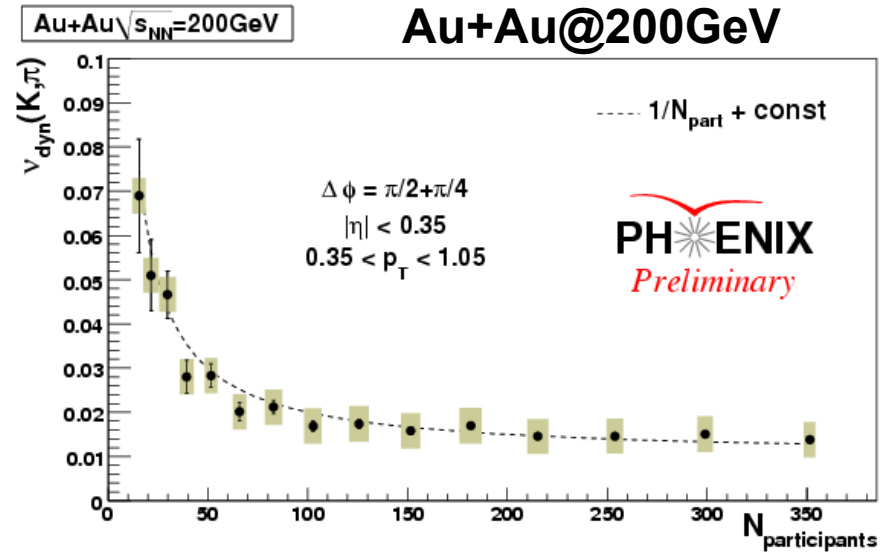
In lower  $KE_T$ , there seems to be different behaviors between baryon and mesons. The transition is at  $N_{part} \sim 90$ .

Low mass sigma field may repulse pion and attract proton?

# Meson-meson and baryon-meson fluctuations

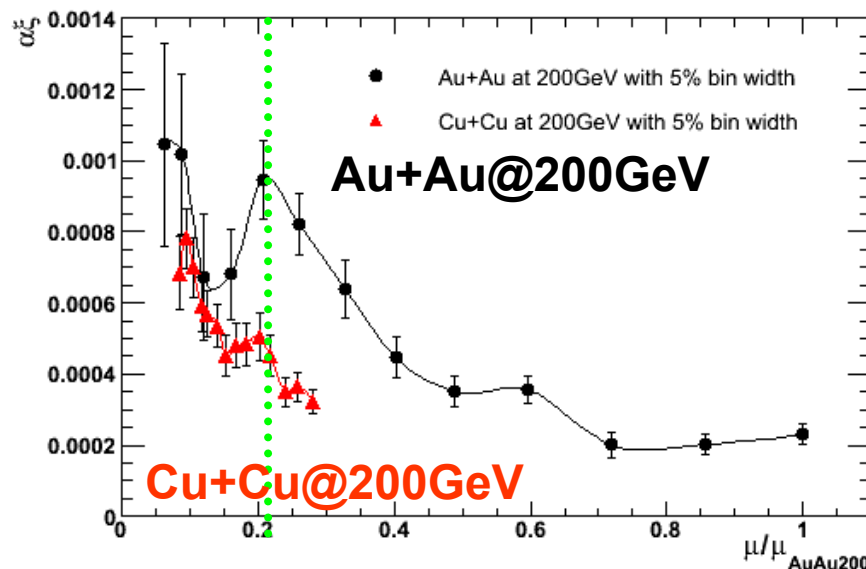
$$v_{dyn}(K, \pi) = \frac{\langle \pi(\pi-1) \rangle}{\langle \pi \rangle^2} + \frac{\langle K(K-1) \rangle}{\langle K \rangle^2} - 2 \frac{\langle \pi K \rangle}{\langle \pi \rangle \langle K \rangle}$$

$$v_{dyn}(p, \pi) = \frac{\langle \pi(\pi-1) \rangle}{\langle \pi \rangle^2} + \frac{\langle p(p-1) \rangle}{\langle p \rangle^2} - 2 \frac{\langle \pi p \rangle}{\langle \pi \rangle \langle p \rangle}$$



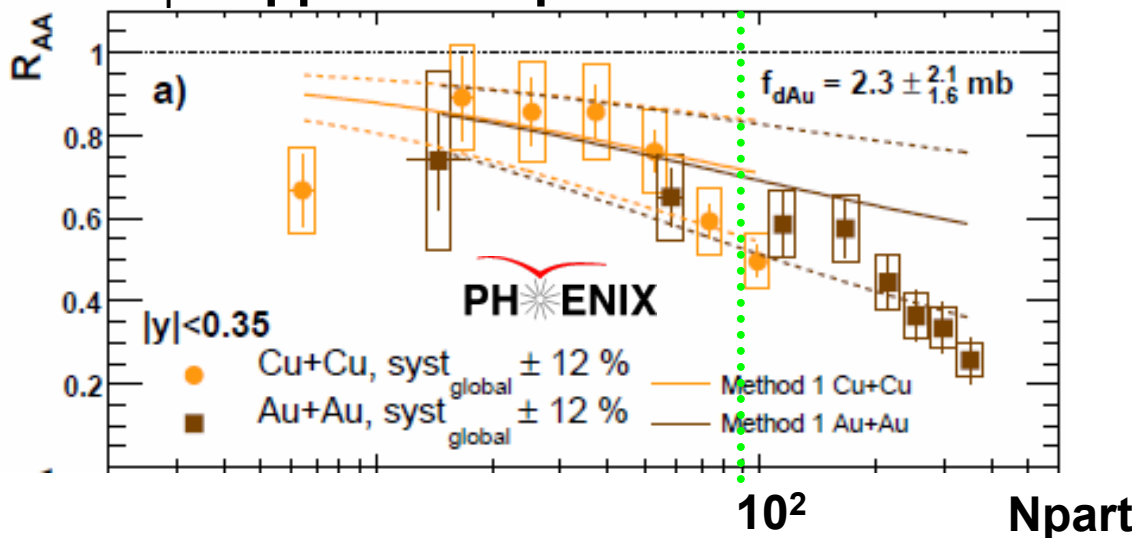
# How about $\langle c\bar{c} \rangle$ suppression?

PHENIX Preliminary



$N_{part} \sim 90$  in  
AuAu@200GeV  
 $\epsilon_{BJ}\tau \sim 2.4 \text{ GeV/fm}^2/c$

## J/ $\psi$ suppression pattern



arXiv:0801.0220v1 [nucl-ex]