

# The Equation of State of Symmetric Nuclear Matter from Intermediate Energy Heavy-Ion Data

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“Dense Nuclear Matter Equation of State from Heavy-Ion Collisions”  
5-9 December 2022, INT, USA



# Overview

## Motivation

## Model Details

- dcQMD – interaction parametrization
- Medium modification of cross-section
- Threshold effects
- Initial/final state treatment

## Study of EoS of SNM

- Stopping observables
- Transverse flow
- Elliptical flow

## Perspectives

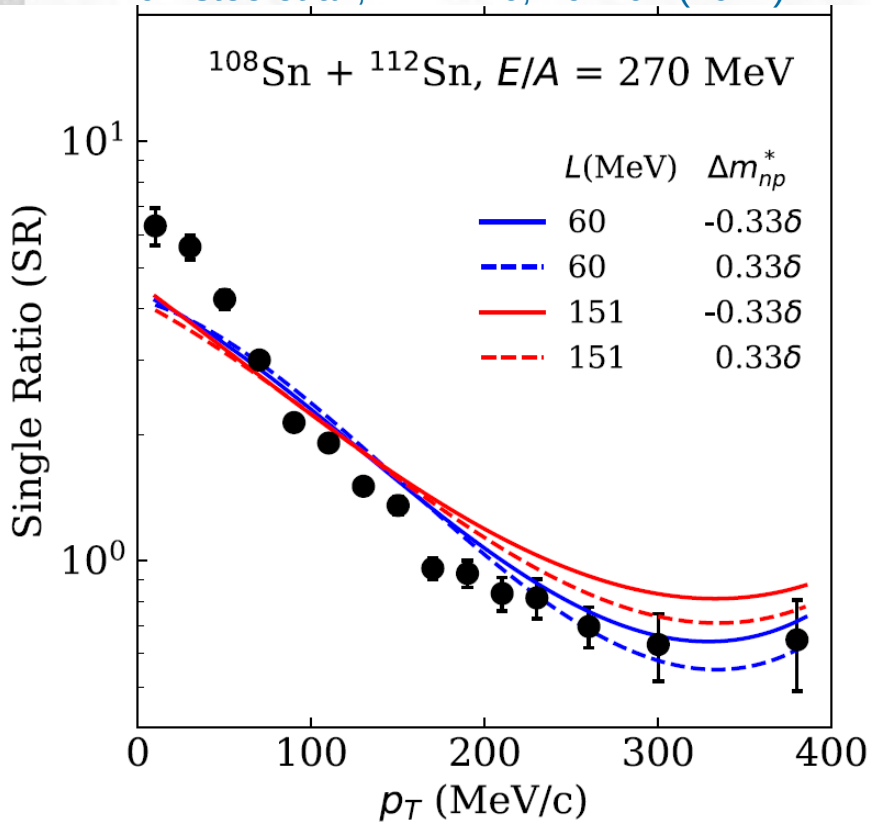
- Prerequisites for HIC above 1.0 GeV/nucleon
- Improving reaction dynamics for QMD models

## Summary & Conclusions

# Motivation

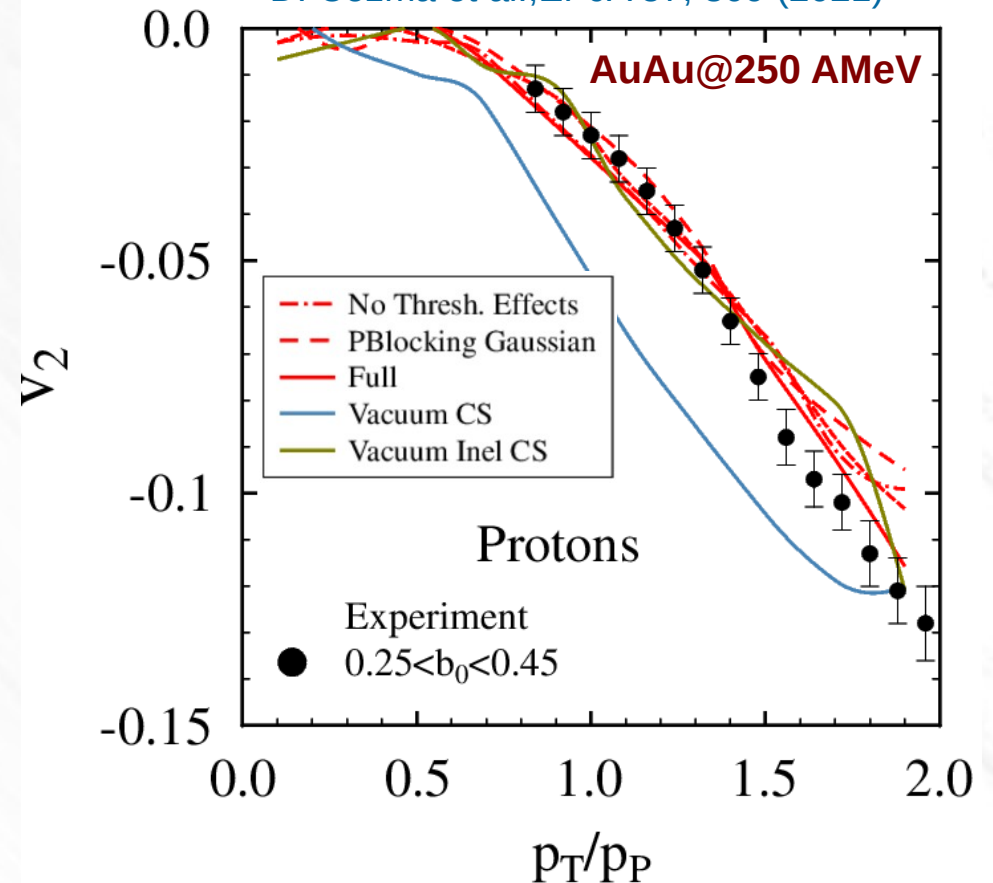
- latest version of the dcQMD model used to study symmetry energy with pion production
- empirical effective isoscalar mass  $m^*=0.70$
- compressibility modulus close to world average  $K_0=245$  MeV
- in-medium modification factor adjusted to qualitatively describe nucleonic observables

J.Estee et al., PRL 126, 162701 (2021)



possible source of discrepancy at medium  $p_T$  values: somewhat unrealistic dynamics

D. Cozma et al., EPJA 57, 309 (2021)



Experimental data: (FOPI) NPA 876, 1 (2012)  
similar quality of description of exp. data  
for p,d,t, $\alpha$  in the energy range 150-800 A MeV

# Model Details

dcQMD transport model: newest version [EPJA 57, 309 \(2021\)](#)

an upgraded version of TuQMD, see H. Wolter et al.

[Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 125, 103962 \(2022\)](#)

# Interaction (nucleonic d.o.f.)

momentum dependent potential **MDI2** -generalization of MDI of

Das, Das Gupta, Gale, Li PRC67, 034611 (2003)

$$\frac{E}{N}(\rho, \beta, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2} A_1 u + \frac{1}{2} A_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) u \beta^2 + \frac{B u^\sigma}{\sigma+1} (1 - \mathbf{x} \beta^2) + \frac{D u^2}{3} (1 - \mathbf{y} \beta^2)$$

$$+ \frac{+1}{u \rho_0^2} \sum_{\tau, \tau'} C_{\tau\tau'} \int \int d^3 p d^3 p' \frac{f_\tau(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') f_{\tau'}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')}{1 + (\vec{\mathbf{p}} - \vec{\mathbf{p}}')^2 / \Lambda^2}$$

$$A_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = A_2^0 + \frac{2 \mathbf{x} B}{\sigma+1} \bar{u}^{\sigma-1} + \frac{2 \mathbf{y} D}{3} \bar{u} \quad u = \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}$$

Fit:

$U_\infty, K, J_0, m^*$  -isoscalar

$S(\tilde{u}), L, K_{\text{sym}}, \delta m_{\text{isv}}$  -isovector

$C_l - C_u$

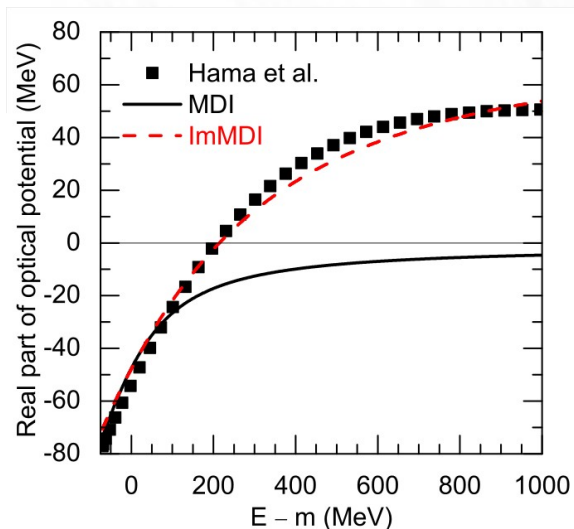
momentum dependent part: similar with that of J. Xu et al. PRC 91, 014611 (2015)

(see also C. Hartnack, J. Aichelin PRC 49, 2801 (1994) )

used previously to test model dependence: flow ratio PRC 88, 44912 (2013)

pion multiplicity ratio PLB 753, 166 (2016)

independent part: extra term (vary L vs.  $K_{\text{sym}}$  and also  $J_0$  vs. K independently)



from J. Xu et al. PRC 91, 014611 (2015)

Input		Parameters	
$\rho_0$ [ $\text{fm}^{-3}$ ]	0.16	$A$ [MeV]	708.001
$E_B$ [MeV]	-16.0	$C_l$ [MeV]	-13.183
$m_s^*/m$	0.70	$C_u$ [MeV]	-140.405
$\delta_{n-p}^*$ ( $\rho_0, \beta = 0.5$ )	0.165	$B$ [MeV]	137.305
$K_0$ [MeV]	245.0	$\sigma$	1.2516
$J_0$ [MeV]	-350.0	$\tilde{A}_l$ [MeV]	-130.495
$\tilde{\rho}$ [ $\text{fm}^{-3}$ ]	0.10	$\tilde{A}_u$ [MeV]	-8.828
$S(\tilde{\rho})$ [MeV]	25.4	$D$ [MeV]	7.357

# Collision Term

## Elastic baryon-baryon collisions

below pion production threshold: Li-Machleidt

Li, Machleidt PRC 48, 1702 (1993),

Li, Machleidt PRC 49, 566 (1994)

above pion production threshold: Cugnon

## in-medium modification factor

- collision criterion based on effective masses determined using EoM (consistency with the  $dt \rightarrow 0$  fm/c limit)
- in-medium modification of elastic cross-sections function

$$\sigma^{med} = f(\rho, \delta) \sigma_{mod}^{vac}$$

$$f(\rho, \delta) = \exp[\alpha \rho / \rho_0 + \beta_1 \delta \rho / \rho_0 + \beta_2 (\tau_1 + \tau_2) \delta \rho / \rho_0]$$

$\sigma_{mod}^{vac}$  – flux and phase-space factors

computed using effective masses

B.A. Li et al. PRC72, 064611 (2005)

$f(\rho, \delta)$  – accounts for medium modifications of transition matrix due to departure from the quasi-particle picture

C. Fuchs et al. PRC 64, 024003 (2001)

$\beta_1=0$  and  $\beta_2=0$  in this study

**Inelastic baryon-baryon, meson-baryon collisions** (related only to pion production)

## two step process:

- resonance excitation in baryon-baryon collisions parametrization of the OBE model of S.Huber et al., NPA 573, 587 (1994)
- resonance decay: Breit-Wigner shape of the resonance spectral function J. Weil et al, PRC 94, 054905 (2016)
- charge exchange reactions: NR->NR'

## pion absorption:

-resonance model (all 4\* resonances below 2 GeV)

K. Shekhter, PRC 68, 014904 (2003)

inelastic channels: mass scaling formula

$$\sigma_{N\Delta}(\rho, \beta, p) = \sigma_{N\Delta}^{vac}(p) \frac{\mu_{ini}(\rho, p)}{\mu_{ini}^{vac}(p)} \frac{\mu_{fin}(\rho, p)}{\mu_{fin}^{vac}(p)}$$

See also Larionov et al., NPA 728, 135 (2003)

# Threshold Effects (dcQMD)

- **direct consequence** of imposing (total) energy conservation in the medium

$$\sqrt{p_1^2 + m_1^2} + U(p_1) + \sqrt{p_2^2 + m_2^2} + U(p_2) = \sqrt{p_1'^2 + m_1'^2} + U(p_1') + \sqrt{p_2'^2 + m_2'^2} + U(p_2')$$

- **rarely considered** in transport models below 1 AGeV, with a few exceptions:  
 RBUU: G. Ferini et al. PRL 97, 202301 (2006), RVUU: T. Song, C.M. Ko PRC 91, 014901 (2015);  
 $\chi$ BUU: Z. Zhang et al, PRC 98, 054614 (2018)
- **required** for thermodynamical consistency of the model  
 Z.Zhang et al, PRC 97, 014610 (2018)
- **reactions**: NN  $\leftrightarrow$  NR, R  $\leftrightarrow$  N $\pi$  (R  $\leftrightarrow$  N $\pi\pi$  not corrected)
- **assumptions** (dcQMD):
  - two-body collisions are part of N-body one
  - in-medium two-body collisions modeled as a succession of bare (vacuum-like) collisions followed/preceded by energy exchanges with the fireball, while momentum is conserved
  - reaction with highest probability: corresponds to the one which included the bare collision of highest probability

Example: NN  $\rightarrow$  N $\Delta$

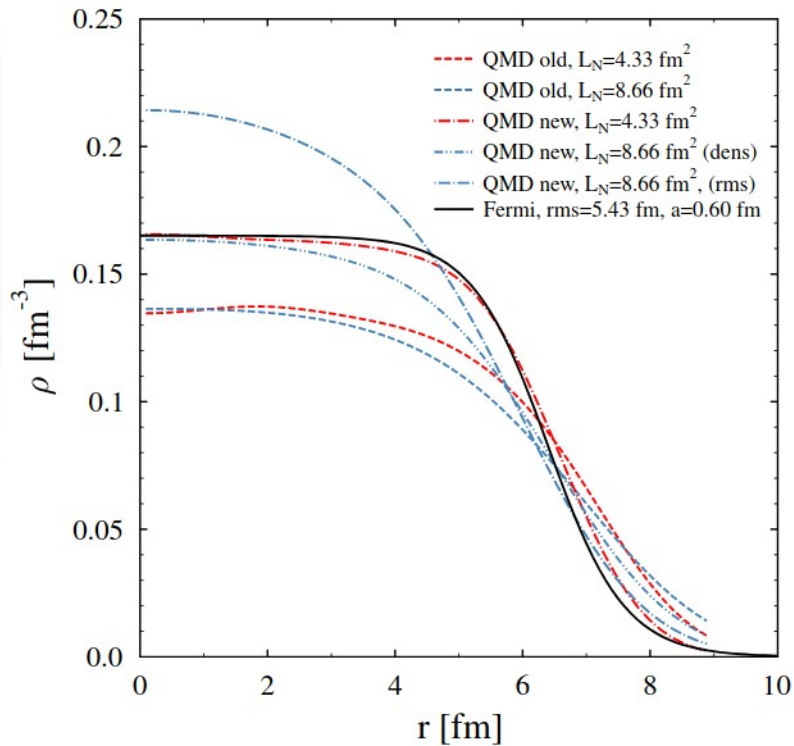
$$\sigma_{NN \rightarrow N\Delta}^{(med)}(s^*) = \frac{\mu^{(ini)*}}{\mu^{(ini)}} \frac{\mu^{(fin)*}}{\mu^{(fin)}} \sigma_{NN \rightarrow N\Delta}^{(vac)}(s^*)$$

$$s^* = \text{Max}\{s^{ini}, s^{fin}\}$$

Introduced in TuQMD/dcQMD in [DC, PLB 753, 166 \(2016\)](#)

# Initial/Final State

## Initial state density profile of nuclei



- nuclei initialized with realistic charge radii and neutron skins
- larger  $L_N^2$  leads to stronger tails and consequently lower reduced impact parameter (flow at projectile/target rapidities affected most visibly)

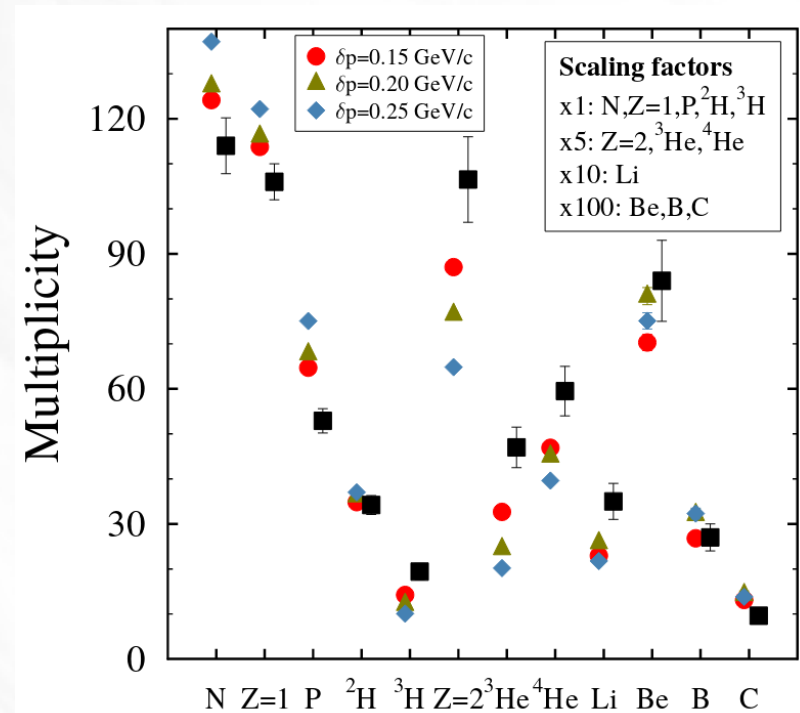
**this study:**  $L_N^2=5.0 \text{ fm}^2$

**Minimum spanning tree (MST)** algorithm  
all clusters with  $A \leq 15$ , 23 additional  
 $A > 15$  (B,C,N,O)

Stable : lifetime > 1ms

Unstable : decay into stable using known decay channels

Au+Au @ 400 A MeV  $b < 2.0 \text{ fm}$



**this study:**  $\delta r=4.0 \text{ fm}$ ,  $\delta p=0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$



# Study EoS of SMN

stopping and flow observables for protons and light clusters  
in AuAu collisions of impact energy 0.15-0.80 GeV/nucleon (FOPI Coll)

# Rapidity Spectra

- used in the past to fix in-medium modification factor of elastic cross-sections

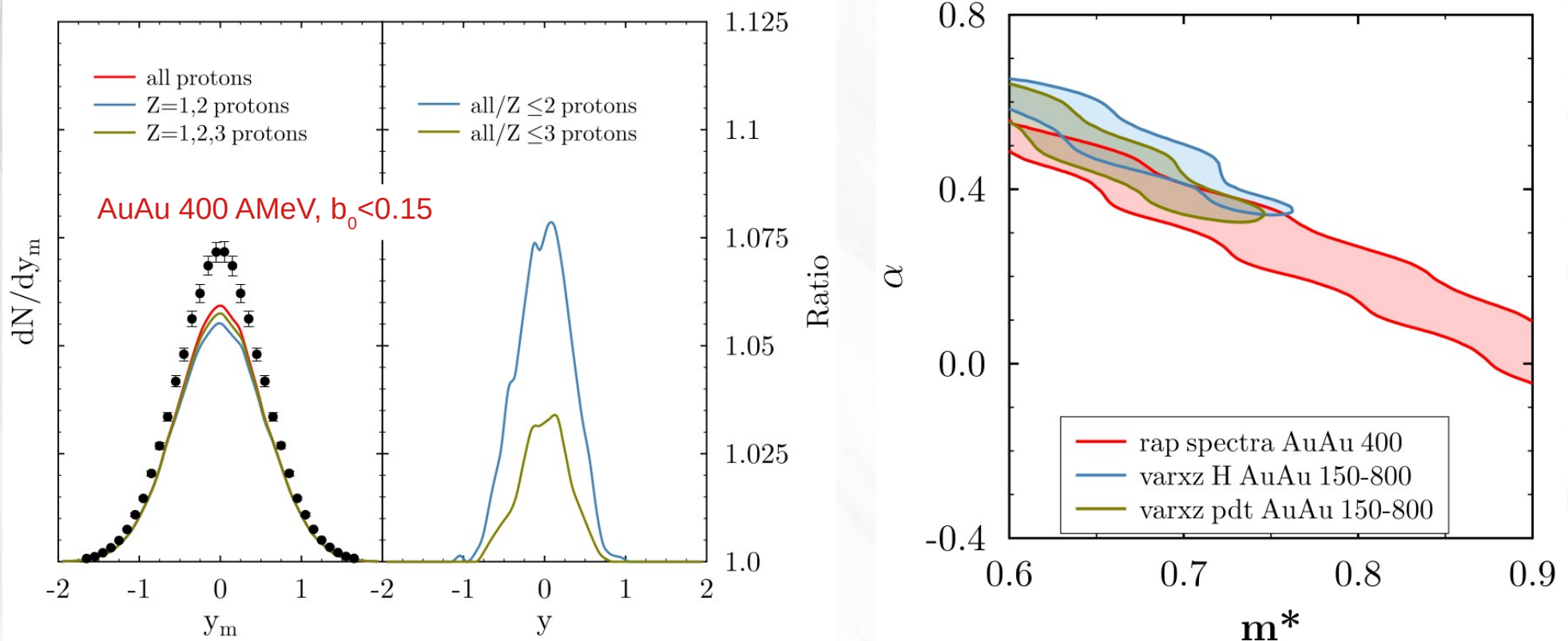
see e.g. P. Danielewicz et al., *Science* 298, 1592 (2002)

- varxz (H) and constrained transverse CI rapidity spectra for AuAu used in this study

FOPI exp data: W. Reisdorf et al. *NPA* 848, 366 (2010)



ratio of transverse-to-longitudinal variances of rapidity spectra

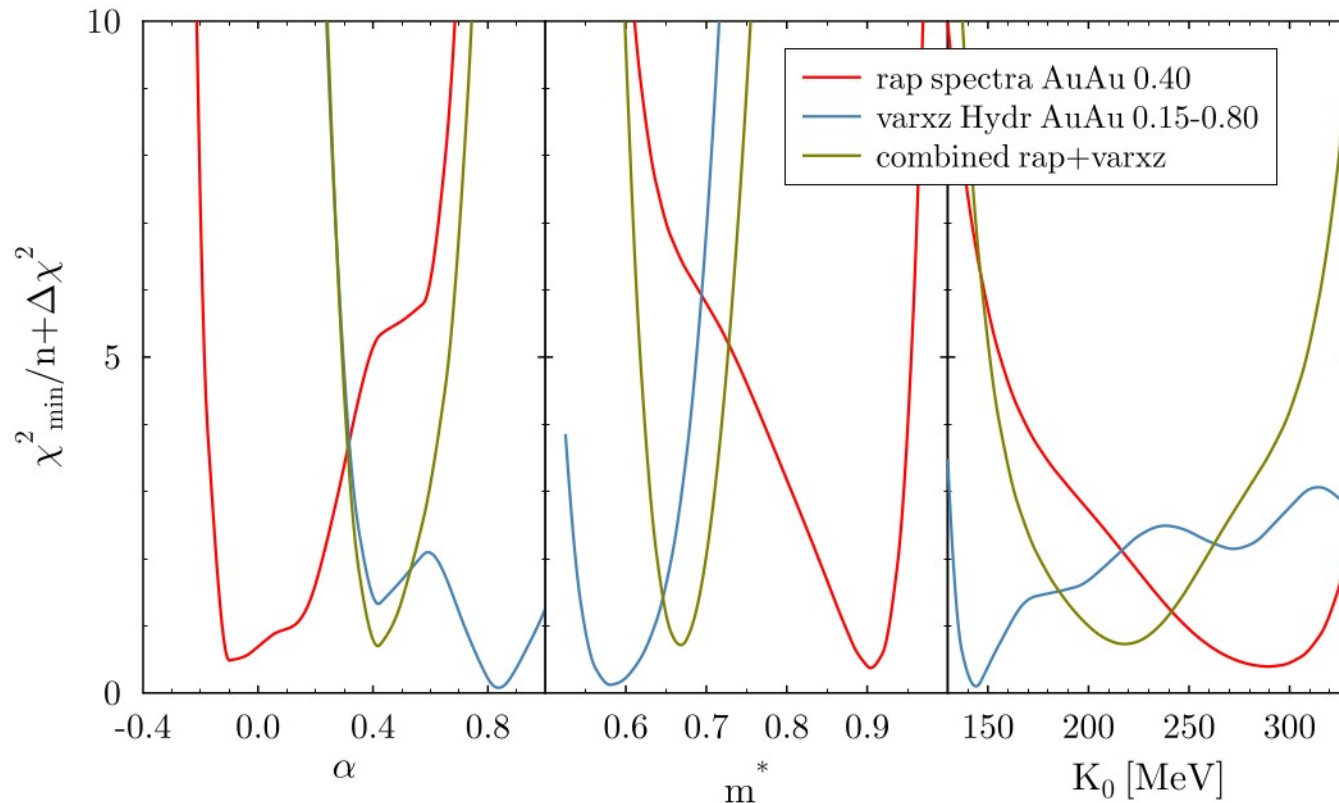


weaker correlation between  $\alpha$  and  $K_0$  also evidenced

# Rapidity Spectra

- sizable sensitivity of varxz observables to EoS has been previously evidenced

W. Reisdorf et al. NPA 848, 366 (2010)



$K_0 = 218 \pm 40$  MeV

- current model reproduces impact energy dependence of varxz observables

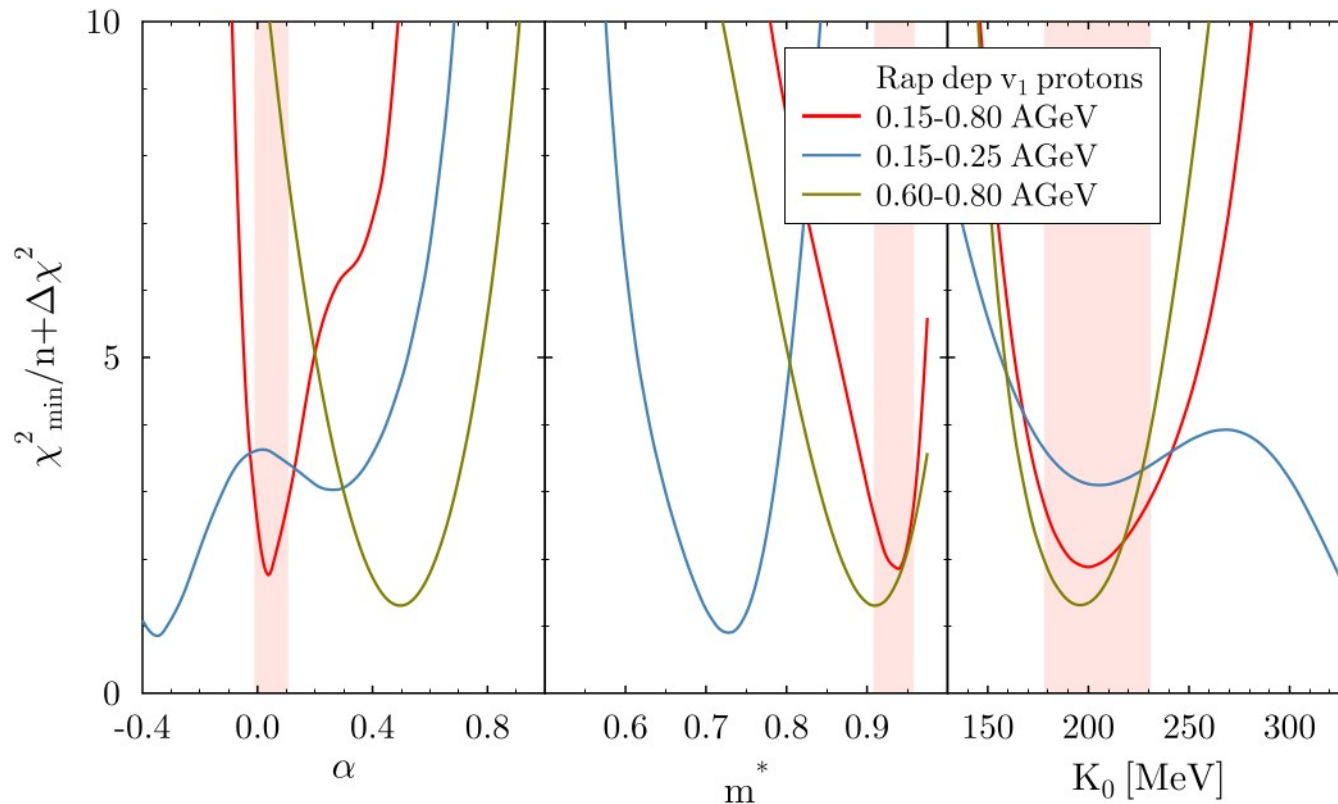
EPJA 57, 309 (2021)

- different ( $\alpha, m^*$ ) values depending on choice of observable(s)
- medium modification factor of cross-sections at  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho_F$  is similar ( $\sim 0.65$ )

# Proton Transverse Flow

**Experimental data set:** proton rapidity dependent  $v_1$   
ut0 > 0.8 – 150, 250 AuAu 0.25 <  $b_0$  < 0.45  
ut0 > 0.4 – 400, 600, 800 AuAu 0.25 <  $b_0$  < 0.45

W. Reisdorf et al.,  
NPA 876, 1 (2012)



**68% CL Result**

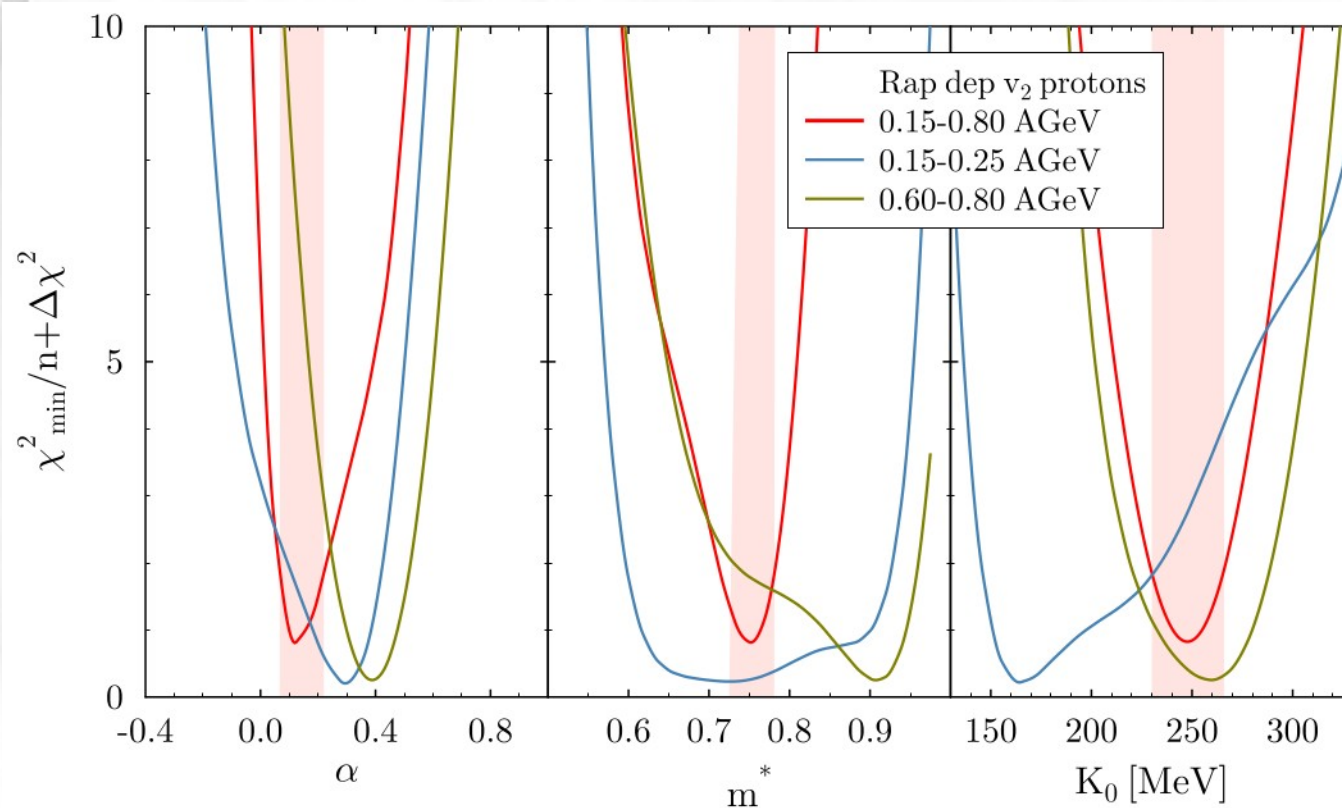
$\alpha = 0.040 - 0.051 + 0.067$   
 $m^* = 0.936 - 0.032 + 0.022$   
 $K_0 = 200 - 22 + 31$  MeV

stronger in-medium modification factor at lower impact energies possibly connected to an insufficient Pauli blocking of final state of two-body collisions

# Proton Elliptic Flow

Experimental data set: proton rapidity dependent  $v_2$   
 $ut_0=p_T/p_p > 0.8 - 150-800$  AuAu  $0.25 < b_0 < 0.45$

W. Reisdorf et al.,  
 NPA 876, 1 (2012)



68% CL Result

$$\alpha = 0.130 - 0.063 + 0.090$$

$$m^* = 0.751 - 0.036 + 0.030$$

$$K_0 = 248 - 18 + 18 \text{ MeV}$$

$$v_2 = v_{20} + v_{22} y_0^2$$

$$v_{2n} = |v_{20}| + |v_{22}|$$

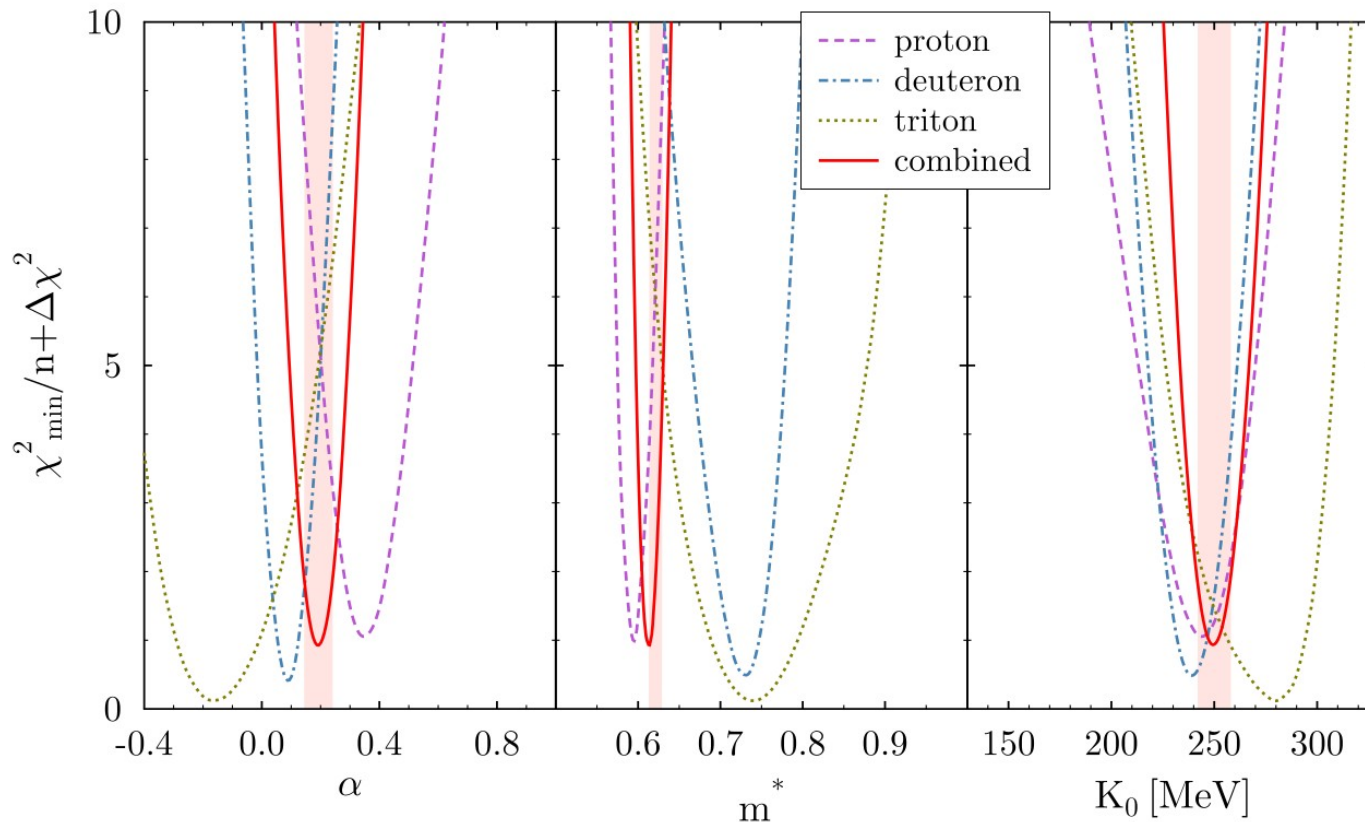
IQMD protons  $v_{2n}$ :  $K_0 = 232 \pm 30$  MeV (light cluster soften the reported combined result)

A. Le Fevre et al., NPA 945, 112 (2016)

# $P_T$ dependent Elliptic Flow

Experimental data set: p,d,t transverse momentum dependent  $v_2$   
 $|y| < 0.4$  – 150-800 AuAu  $0.25 < b_0 < 0.45$

W. Reisdorf et al.,  
 NPA 876, 1 (2012)



**PRELIMINARY**

68% CL Result

$$\alpha = 0.192 - 0.048 + 0.049$$

$$m^* = 0.621 - 0.008 + 0.008$$

$$K_0 = 250 - 8 + 8 \text{ MeV}$$

model dependence  
 due to coalescence  
 afterburner not accounted !

IQMD full result  $v_{2n}$ :  $K_0 = 190 \pm 30$  MeV (light clusters: p,d,t, $\alpha$ )

A. Le Fevre et al., NPA 945, 112 (2016)

# Elliptic Flow (Combined Result)

Experimental data set: p rapidity dependent  $v_2$   
p,d,t transverse momentum dependent  $v_2$

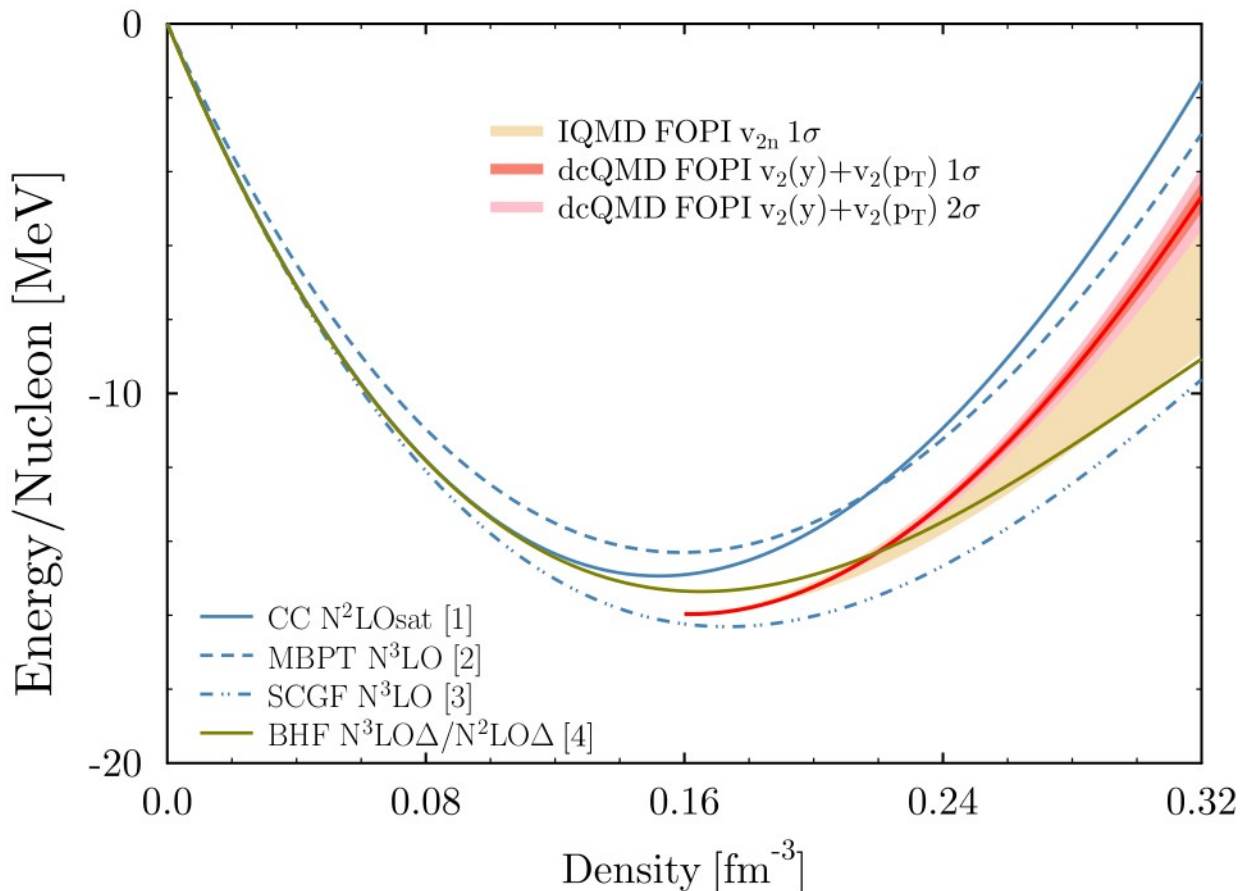
inclusion of  $v_1$  data leads to a sub-optimal fit ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} \sim 2$ )

**68% CL Result**

$$\alpha = 0.287 \pm 0.036$$

$$m^* = 0.624 \pm 0.009$$

$$K_0 = 236 \pm 6 \text{ MeV}$$



**IQMD result:**

A. Le Fevre et al., NPA 945, 112 (2016)

**Microscopic calculations:**

1. A. Ekstrom et al., PRC 91, 051301 (2015)
2. C. Drischler et al., PRC 102, 054315 (2020)
3. A. Carbone, PRR 2, 023227 (2020)
4. D. Logoteta, PRC 94, 064001 (2016)

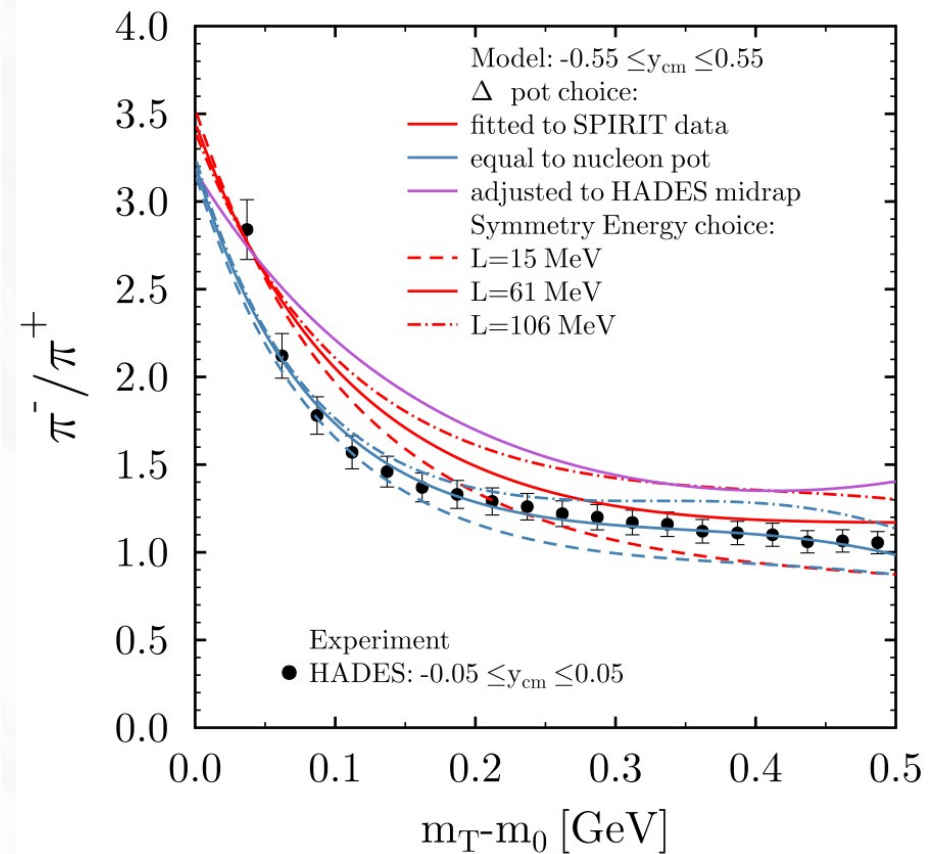
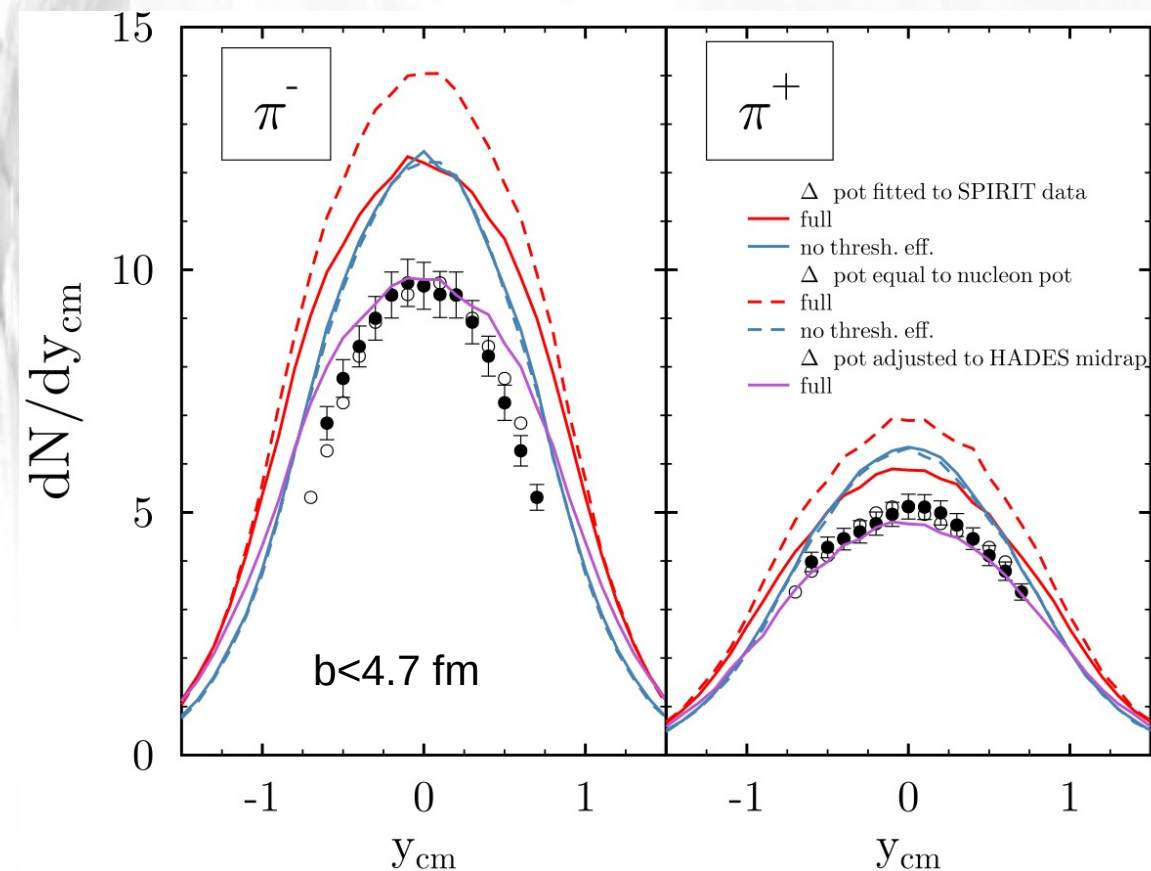
# Perspectives



# Pion production in AuAu at 1.23 AGeV

J. Adamczewski-Musch et al. (HADES), EPJA 56, 259 (2020)

**Note:** HADES pion total yield are larger than FOPI yields at 1.2 GeV by about 30%  
very preliminary calculation addressing the feasibility of studying the symmetry energy

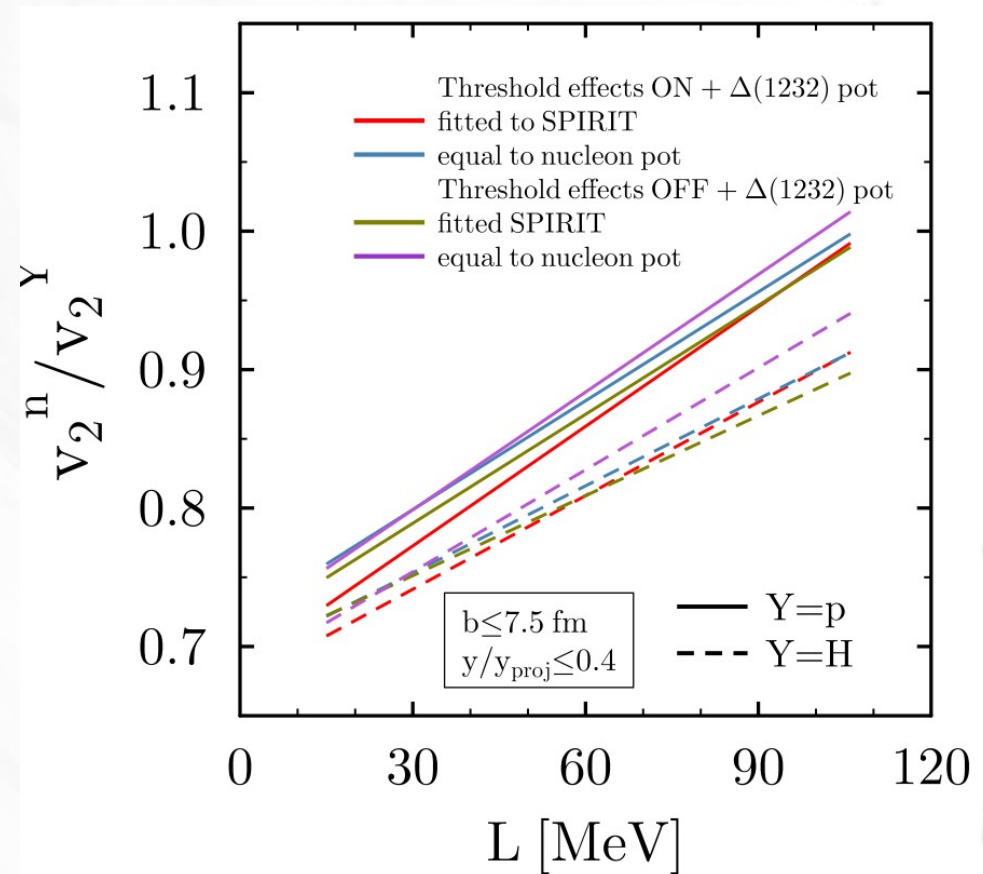
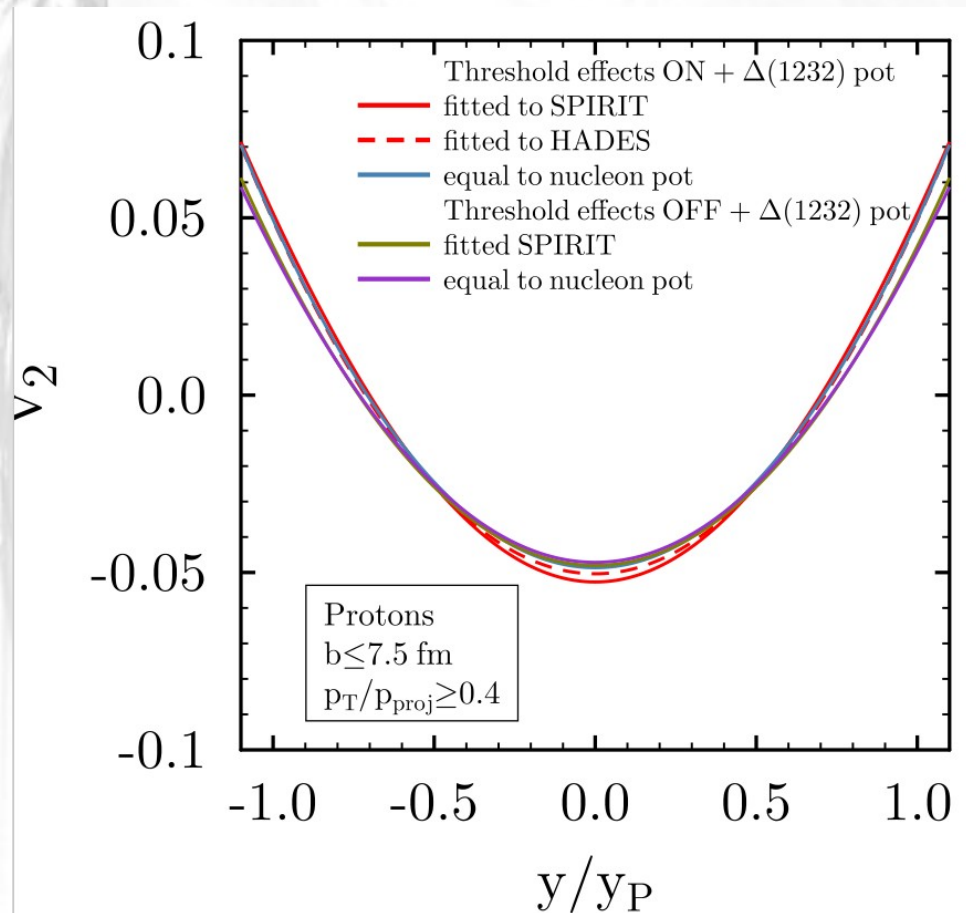


-alternative approach to a systematic description of HADES rapidity and transverse mass spectra: K. Godbey et al. PLB 829, 137134 (2022)

# Sensitivity to Resonance Meanfield

chosen impact energy: 1.0 GeV/nucleon (AuAu)

about 20% of nucleons excited into  $\Delta(1232)$  at the highest density for central collisions



compressibility modulus: extracted from  $v_2(y)$

impact of  $\Delta(1232)$  potential on proton  $v_2(y)$ :  $\sim 15\%$  ( $1.5\sigma$ )

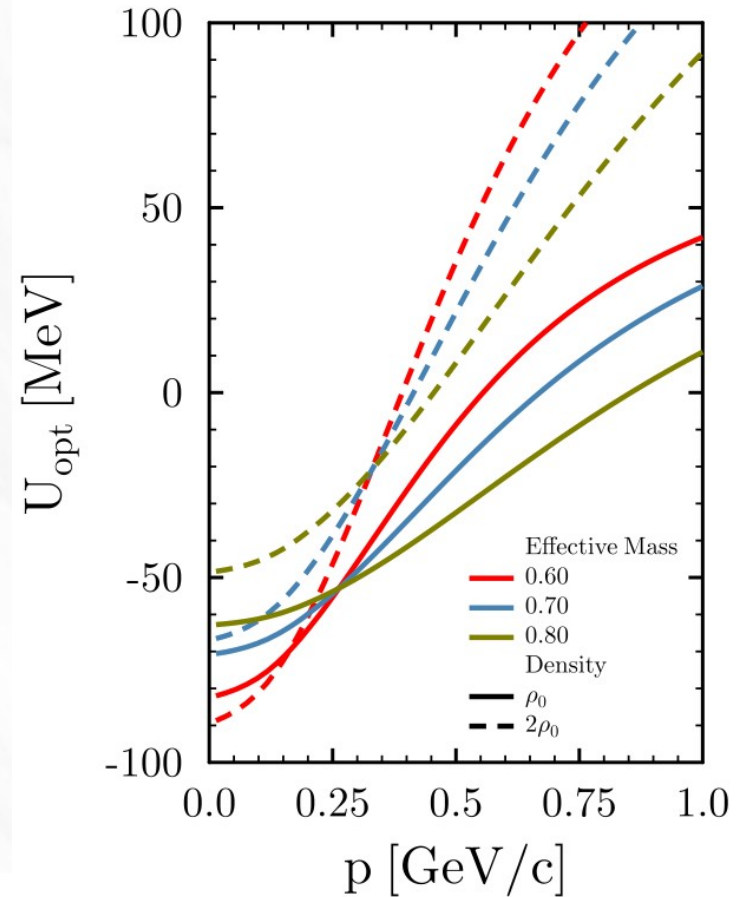
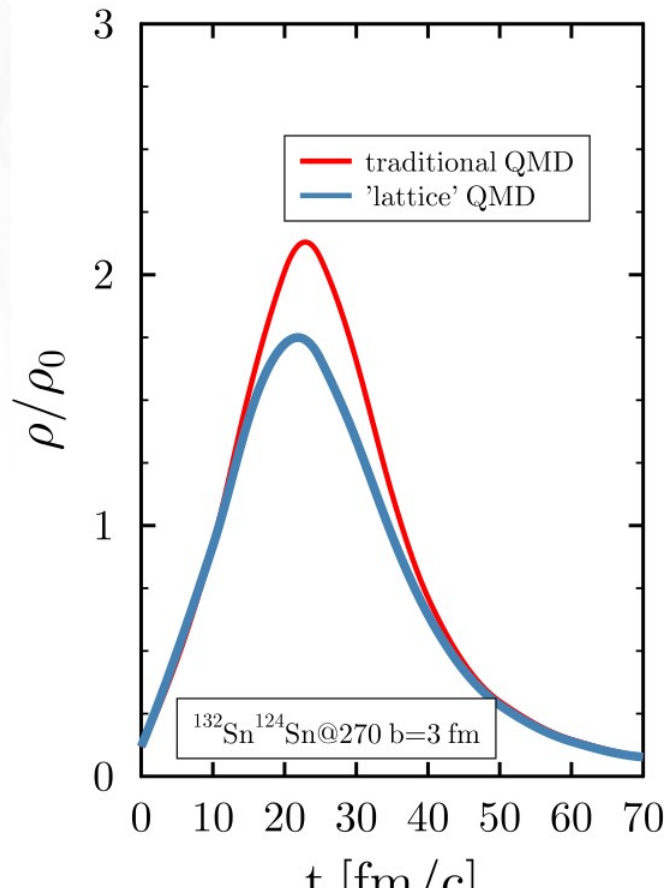
omission equivalent to  $\delta K_0 = -30$  MeV

impact on  $v_2^n/v_2^Y$ :  $\sim 5\%$  equivalent to  $\delta L = 10$  MeV

# Momentum dependence

elliptic flow constraint for effective mass:  $m^*=0.624 \pm 0.009$

**possible reasons:** compensate for unrealistic density evolution; high density dependence of optical potential deviates from the assumed linear

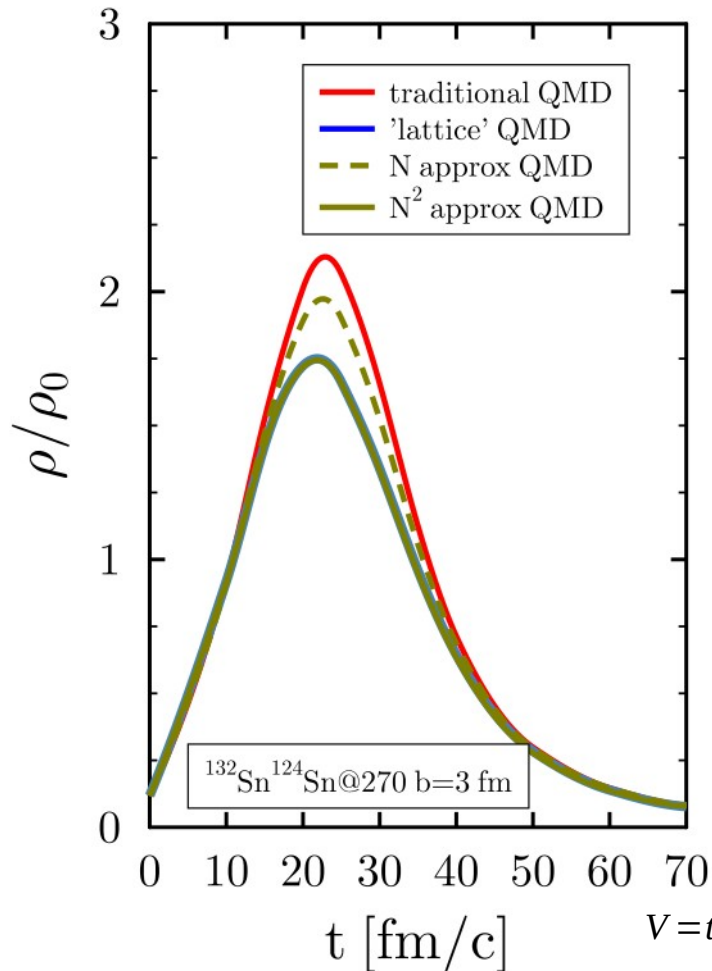


$$\frac{\beta}{\eta + 1} \int \frac{\rho^\eta}{\rho_0^\eta} \rho d^3 \mathbf{r} = \frac{\beta}{\eta + 1} \sum_{i=1}^N \left\langle \frac{\rho^\eta}{\rho_0^\eta} \right\rangle_i \approx \frac{\beta}{\eta + 1} \sum_{i=1}^N \left\langle \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} \right\rangle_i^\eta$$

Y. Yang et al., PRC 104, 024605 (2021)

for a comparison to BUU models, see M. Colonna et al. (TMEP Coll), PRC 104, 024603 (2021)

# Proposed Approximation



- zero range two-body+ zero range density dependent two-body interaction operators

$$V = \sum_{j>i} t_1 \delta(\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j) + \sum_{j>i} t_2 \rho^{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j}{2} \right) \delta(\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j)$$

- perform Weyl transform and use the Ansatz for the total wave function of the system as a product of Gaussian wave-packets

$$V = t_1 \sum_i \rho_{\text{int}}(\vec{r}_i) + \frac{t_2}{(\pi L^2)^{3/2}} \sum_{j>i} e^{-\frac{(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2}{L^2}} I(\gamma; L^2; \frac{\vec{r}_i + \vec{r}_j}{2})$$

$$\rho_{\text{int}}(\vec{r}_i) = \frac{1}{(\pi L^2)^{3/2}} \sum_{j \neq i} e^{-\frac{(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2}{L^2}}$$

$$I(\gamma; L^2; \vec{r}_0) = \frac{1}{(\pi L^2/4)^{3/2}} \int d^3 r \rho^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}) e^{-4(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0)^2/L^2}$$

- the expression I(...) can be evaluated analytically for  $\gamma=2$  (besides the trivial case  $\gamma=1$ )

$$I(\gamma=2; L^2; \vec{r}_0) = \frac{1}{(3/4 \pi L^2)^{3/2}} \sum_k e^{-\frac{(\vec{r}_k - \vec{r}_0)^2}{3/4 L^2}} = \rho_{3b}(\vec{r}_0; \alpha L^2)$$

make the approximation:  $I(\gamma; L^2; \vec{r}_0) = \rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}_0; \alpha L^2)$

$$V = t_1 \sum_i \rho_{\text{int}}(\vec{r}_i) + \frac{t_2}{(\pi L^2)^{3/2}} \sum_{j>i} e^{-\frac{(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2}{L^2}} \rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{\vec{r}_i + \vec{r}_j}{2}; \alpha L^2 \right) \quad \alpha=3/4 \text{ good approximation}$$

$N^2$  approximation QMD : the above

$$N \text{ approximation QMD : } \rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{\vec{r}_i + \vec{r}_j}{2}; \alpha L^2 \right) \approx \frac{1}{2} [\rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}_i; \alpha L^2) + \rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}_j; \alpha L^2)]$$

$$\text{traditional QMD : } \rho_{3b}^{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{\vec{r}_i + \vec{r}_j}{2}; \alpha L^2 \right) \approx \frac{1}{2} [\rho_{\text{int}}^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}_i) + \rho_{\text{int}}^{\gamma-1}(\vec{r}_j)]$$

# Required/Desired Future Developments

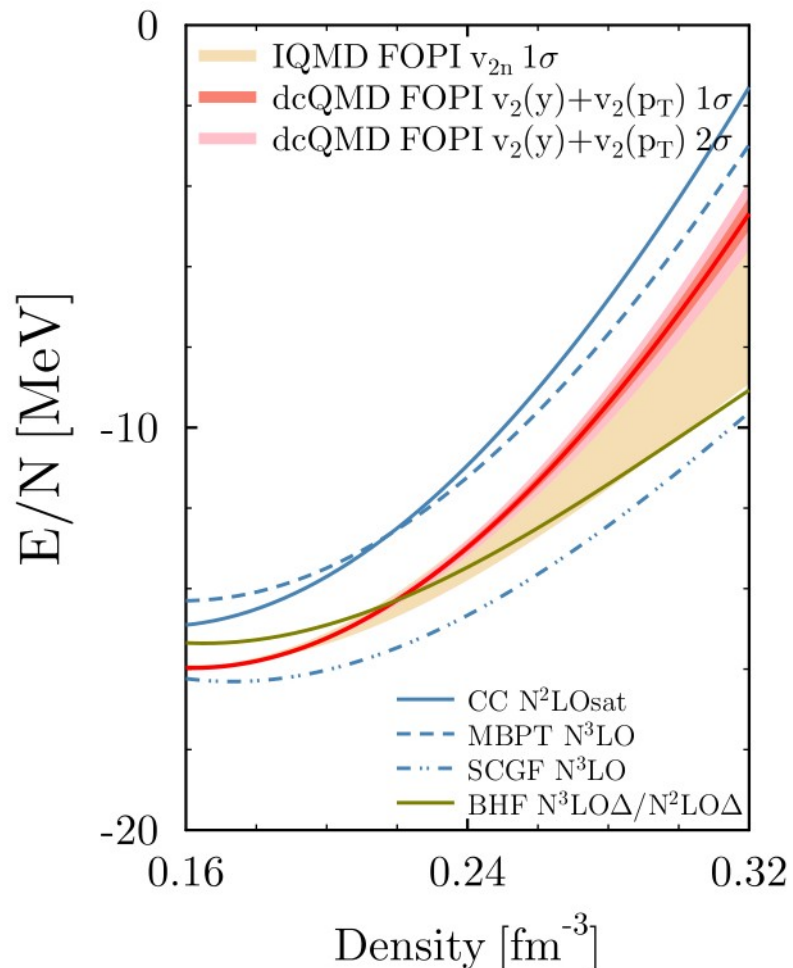
**Theoretical side:** - improve time evolution of the reaction using more accurate approximations for 3-body terms of the interaction

- does description of experimental data require a density dependence of the optical potential that deviates from the assumed linear one ?
- improve model to be used for a robust & accurate study of the EoS using reactions above 1 GeV/nucleon (relevance of nucleonic resonances for the evolution of the system)
- relativistic dynamics

**Experimental side:**

- coalescence invariant (H+He at minimum) observables to avoid model dependence on determining final state spectra
- understanding of the observed discrepancy between FOPI and HADES pion multiplicities in AuAu collisions at 1.2 GeV/nucleon (of utmost importance for extracting accurate information on the EoS in the vicinity of  $2\rho_0$  and above)

# Summary & Conclusions



- **Study of SNM EoS using nucleonic observables** in AuAu collision of intermediate impact energy (0.15-0.80 GeV/nucleon)
- **transverse rapidity spectra**: mostly constrain the in-medium modification factor of elastic NN cross-sections
- **rapidity dependent transverse flow**: moderately accurate value for  $K_0$ , points towards stronger in-medium modification of  $c_s$  at low impact energy
- **rapidity dependent elliptic flow**: moderately accurate value for  $K_0$ , compatible with other similar studies (IQMD+FOPI)
- **transverse momentum dependent elliptic flow**: very accurate constraint for  $K_0$ , some tension with momentum dependence of the empirical optical pot.
- **probing higher densities**: impact of nucleonic resonances has to be accounted accurately

## 68% CL Result

$$\alpha = 0.287 \pm 0.036$$

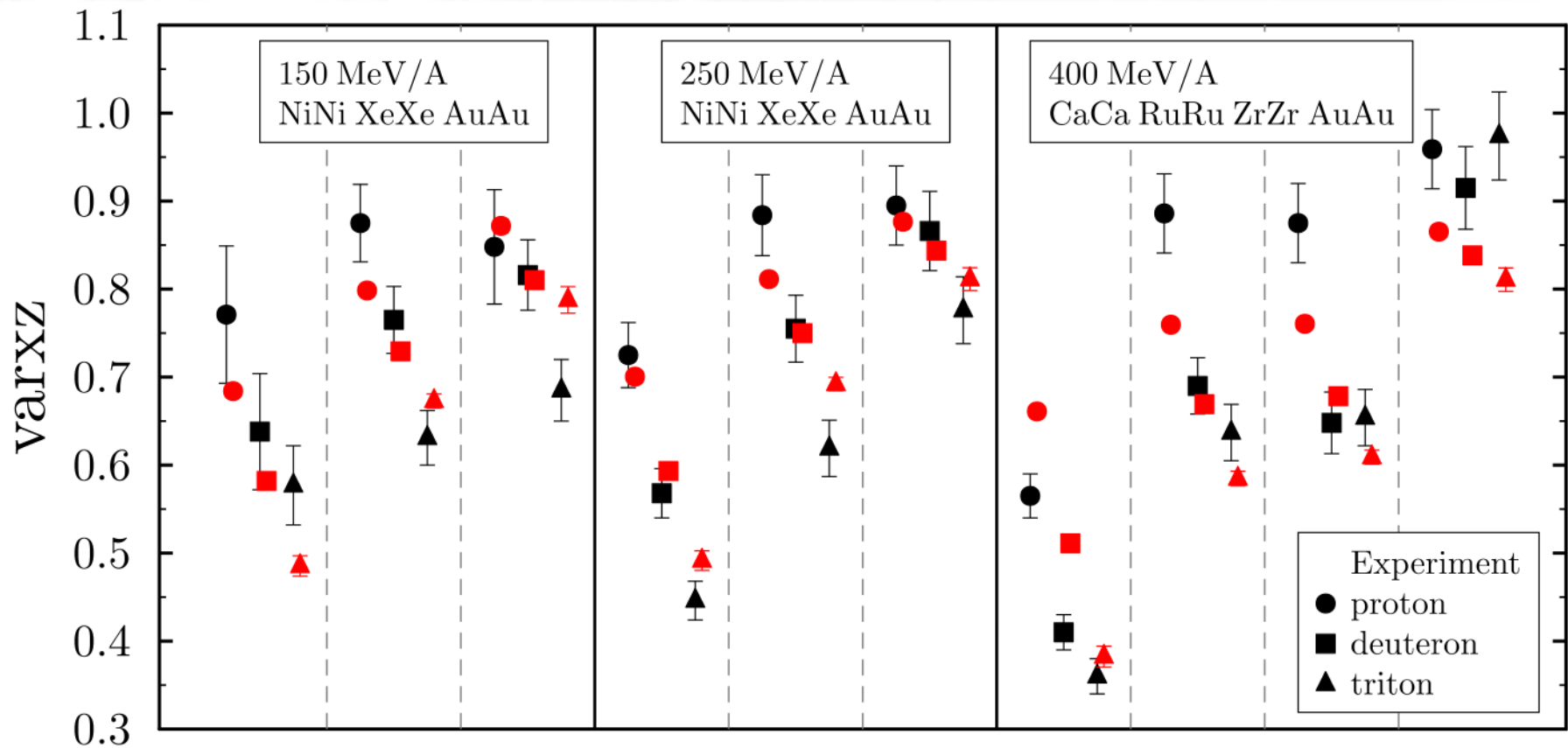
$$m^* = 0.624 \pm 0.009$$

$$K_0 = 236 \pm 6 \text{ MeV}$$

- Perspectives:**
- improve description of reaction dynamics using more accurate estimation of the 3-body term
  - **extend the model to accurately study EoS above  $2\rho_0$**  using HIC of impact energy above 1.0 GeV/nucleon (multi-pion decay channels of resonances)

# Stopping: Theory vs. Experiment

10 systems (FOPI experiment, see W.Reisdorf et al. NPA 848, 366 (2010))

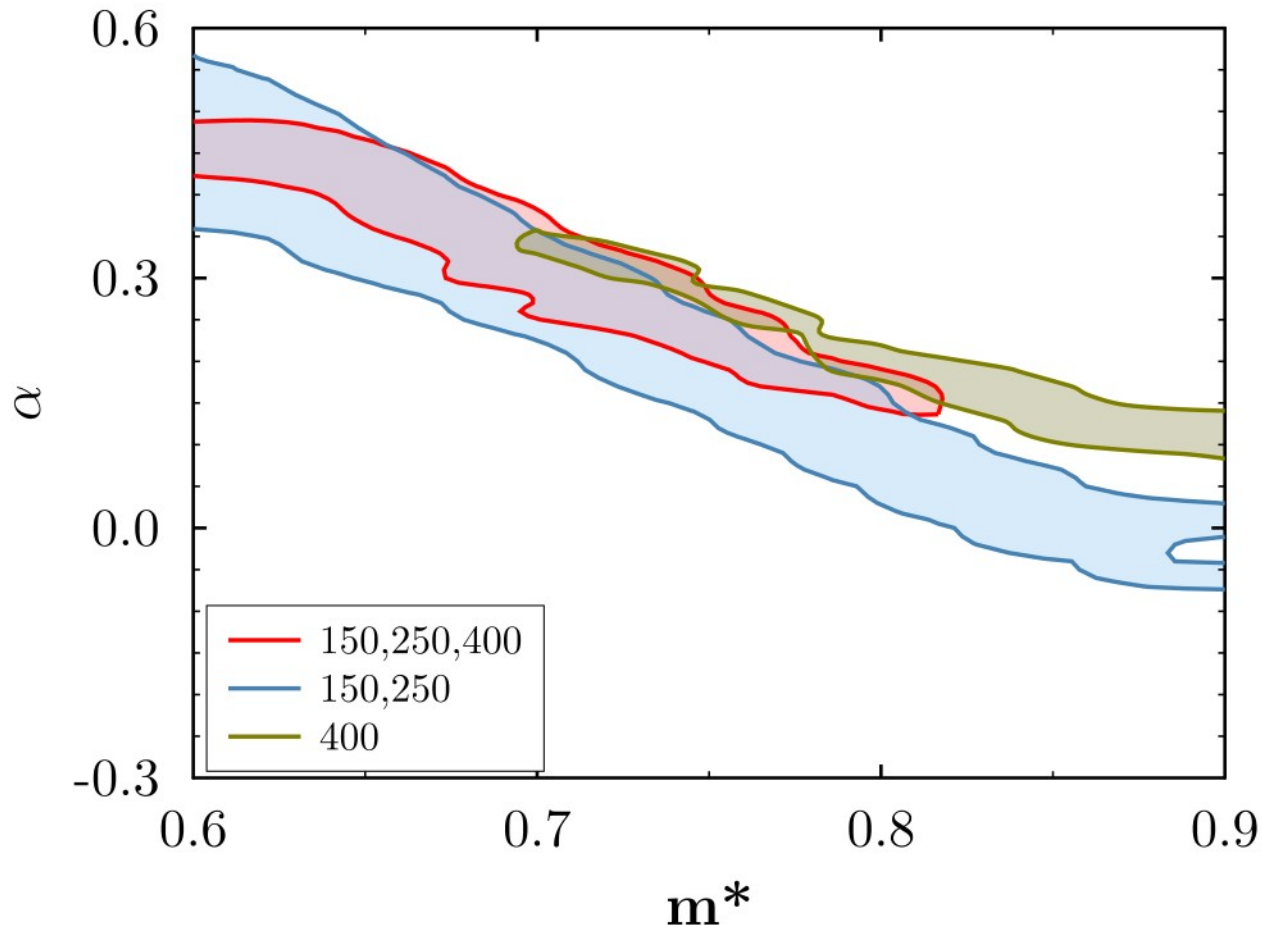


Best fit achieved for:  $\alpha=0.33$ ,  $\beta=-0.60$   
 $m^*=0.705$ ,  $\Delta m^*_{np}=0.250 \delta$

Quality of the fit:  
 $\chi^2_{\min}/\text{d.o.f.}=4.2$

Fitting each specie (p, d or t) separately/alone does improve the quality of the fit

# Correlations between parameters



Contours – limits of allowed parameter space at  $1\sigma$  CL

Medium modification factor of cross-sections at saturation varies from 0.65 to 0.90 for the shown range of isoscalar effective mass

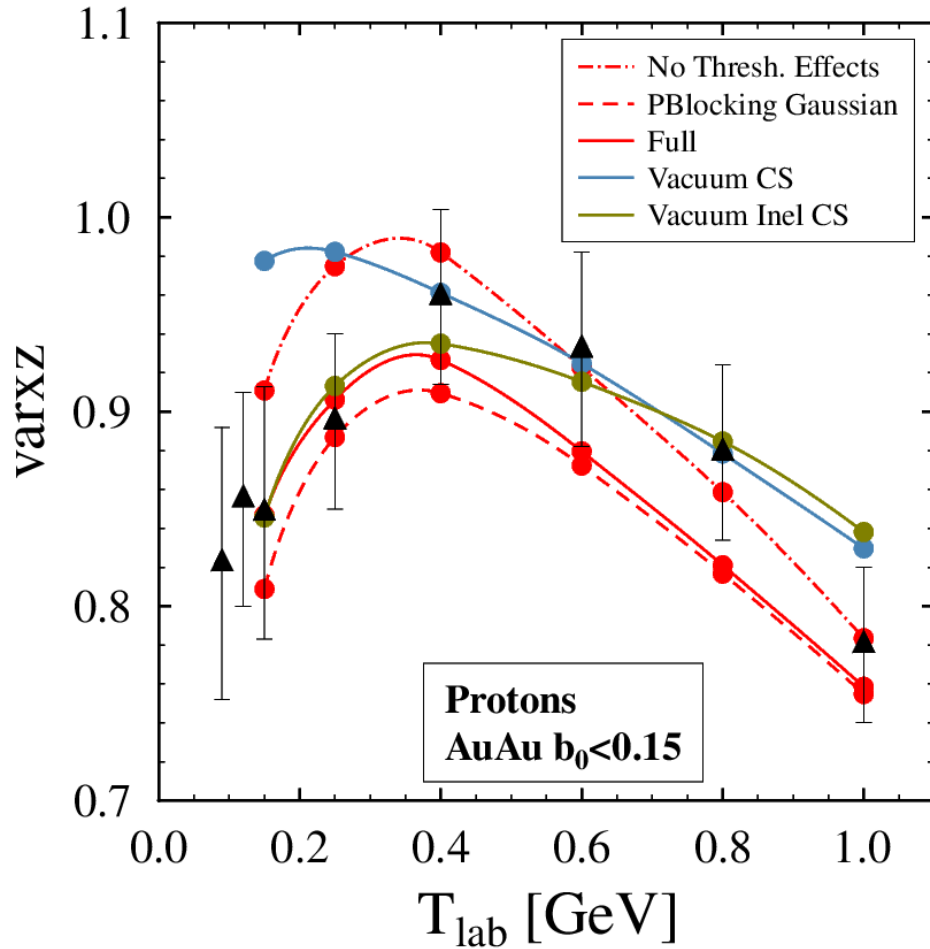
Flows –  $\alpha$  and  $m^*$  are correlated (rather than anti-correlated as observed for varxz)

no statistically significant correlation between isovector parameters

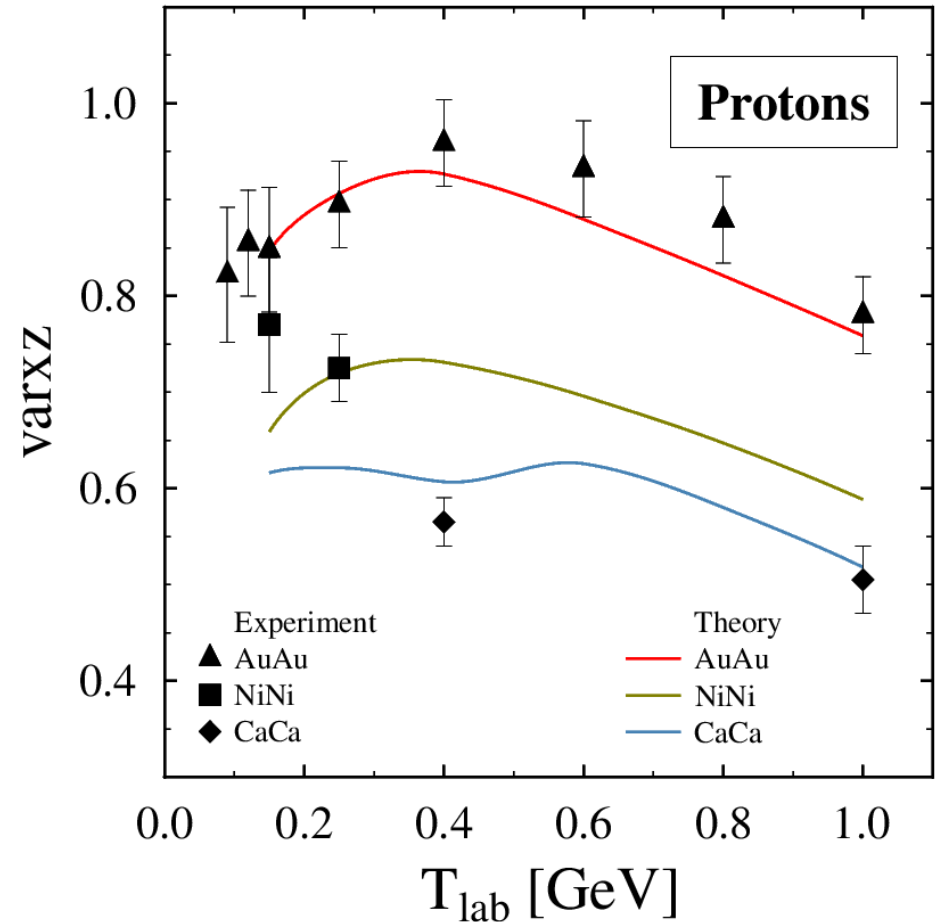


# Stopping

## Model dependence



## System size dependence



light cluster experimental stopping underestimated: deuterons (moderately), tritons (severely)

Experimental data: W. Reisdorf et al. (FOPI) NPA 848, 366 (2010)