

INSTITUTE for NUCLEAR THEORY

Intersection of nuclear structure and high-energy nuclear collisions

Isobar Run: Motivation and Outcome

Fuqiang Wang
Purdue University



OUTLINE

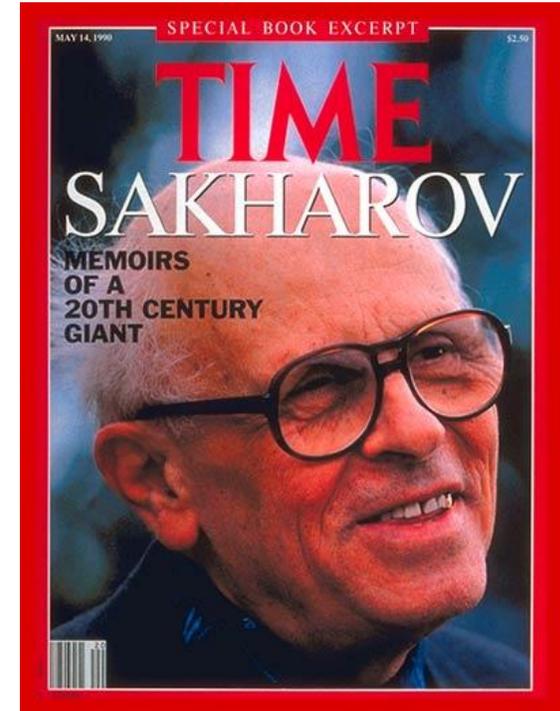
1. Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)
2. Measuring CME — the background issue
3. Motivation for the isobar run
4. Outcome from the isobar run
5. Byproduct — turn bad into good

OUR UNIVERSE IS REALLY STRANGE!

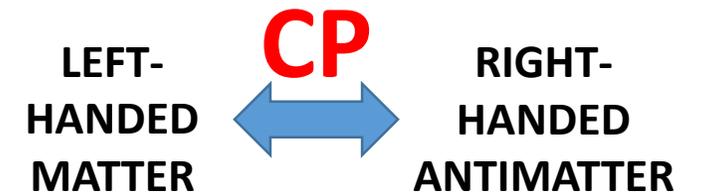
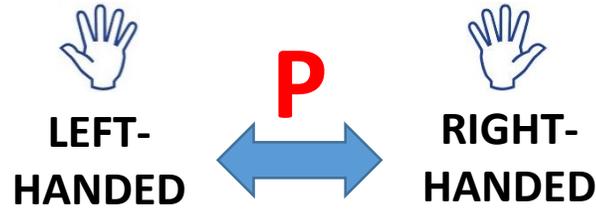
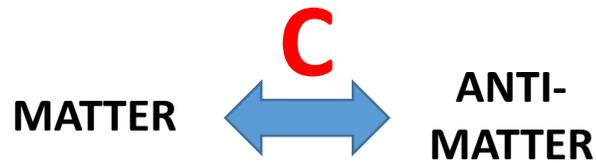
- **Started with Big Bang, with equal matter and anti-matter.
Today: All are matter, almost no visible anti-matter.**
- **Only left-handed neutrinos and right-handed antineutrinos;
No right-handed neutrinos, no left-handed antineutrinos.**

MATTER-ANTIMATTER ASYMMETRY

- Why? How?
- **Sakharov's** three conditions –JETP Lett. 5 (1967) 24
 - Baryon number violation
 - Non-equilibrium
 - **CP violation** (physical laws governing matter and antimatter differ)



CP VIOLATION



$$\Gamma(p_L^+ \rightarrow e_R^+ \gamma_L) \neq \Gamma(p_L^- \rightarrow e_R^- \gamma_L)$$

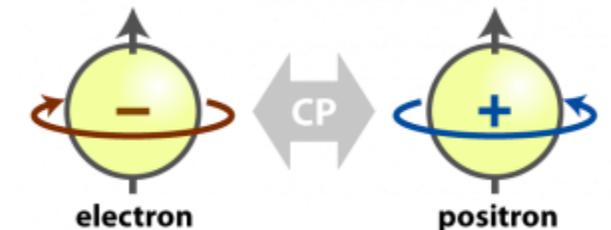
$$\Gamma(p_R^+ \rightarrow e_L^+ \gamma_R) \neq \Gamma(p_R^- \rightarrow e_L^- \gamma_R)$$

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$$\Gamma(p_R^+ \rightarrow e_L^+ \gamma_R) \neq \Gamma(p_L^- \rightarrow e_R^- \gamma_L)$$



C violation not enough as sum of the left sides (matter) can still equal to sum of the right sides (antimatter).
Need additionally **CP violation**.



Somehow our universe preferred matter over antimatter, and left over right.

Something must have happened in the early universe that favored matter over anti-matter.

All anti-matter is annihilated with matter, with tiny matter excess ($10^{-9} \sim 10^{-10}$) that makes up today's universe.

THE θ -VACCUM

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \sum_q \left(\underbrace{\bar{\psi}_{qi} i\gamma^\mu \left[\delta_{ij} \partial_\mu + ig \left(G_\mu^\alpha t_\alpha \right)_{ij} \right]}_{\text{quarks}} \underbrace{\psi_{qj}}_{\text{quarks}} - m_q \bar{\psi}_{qi} \psi_{qi} \right) - \underbrace{\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha G_\alpha^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{gluons}} + \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$$

$= \frac{1}{2} (E^2 - B^2)$

't Hooft vacuum

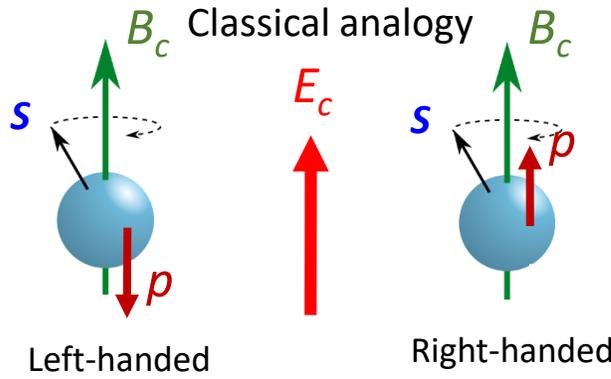
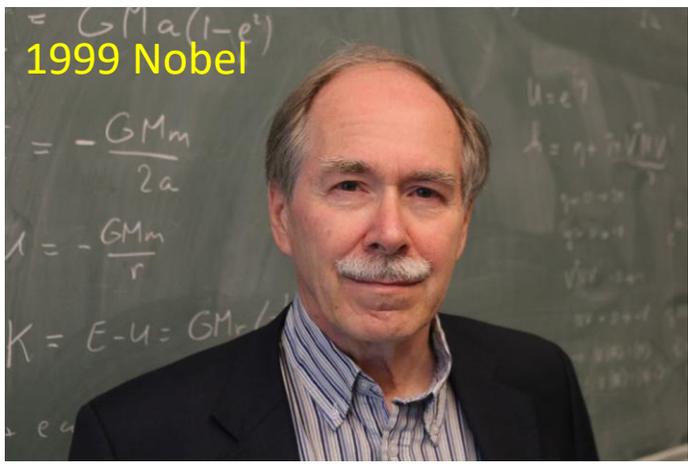
$$+ \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$$

$$= -\theta \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \vec{E}_\alpha \cdot \vec{B}_\alpha$$

Gluon
pseudoscalar
density

Explicitly breaks CP symmetry

E: C-odd, P-odd, T-even
B: C-odd, P-even, T-odd



At $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \neq 0$, particle number for a given chirality is not conserved quantum mechanically (Adler-Bell-Jackiw anomaly, 1969)

$$Q_W = \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \int G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu} drdt$$

Topological charge Q_W appreciably nonzero at high temperature
Fluctuating vacuum domains in the early universe: $N_R - N_L = Q_W \neq 0$

PHYSICAL REVIEW D VOLUME 14, NUMBER 12 15 DECEMBER 1976

Computation of the quantum effects due to a four-dimensional pseudoparticle*

G. 't Hooft[†]
Physics Laboratories, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
(Received 28 June 1976)

A detailed quantitative calculation is carried out of the tunneling process described by the Belavin-Polyakov-Schwarz-Tyupkin field configuration. A certain chiral symmetry is violated as a consequence of the Adler-Bell-Jackiw anomaly. The collective motions of the pseudoparticle and all contributions from single loops of scalar, spinor, and vector fields are taken into account. The result is an effective interaction Lagrangian for the spinors.

THE θ -VACCUUM IS TOPOLOGICAL

't Hooft vacuum

$$+\theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$$

$$= -\theta \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \vec{E}_\alpha \cdot \vec{B}_\alpha$$

Topological charge (quantum number):

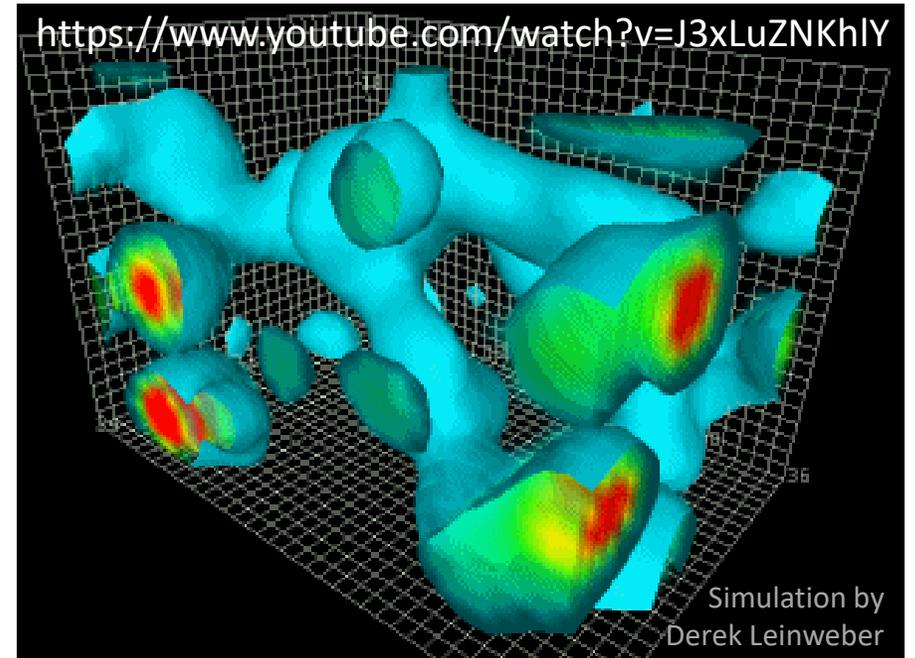
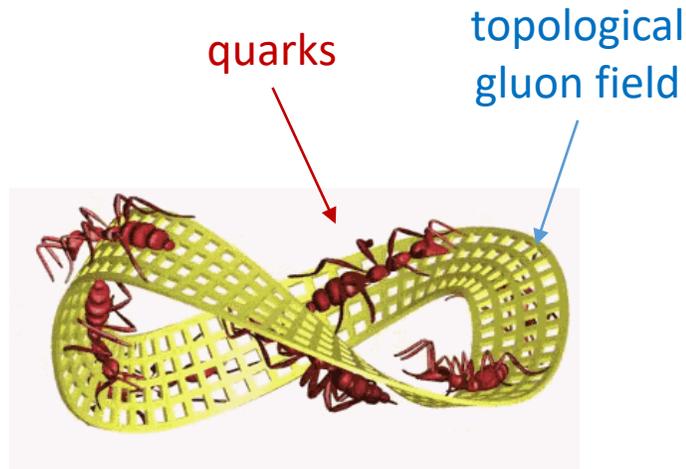
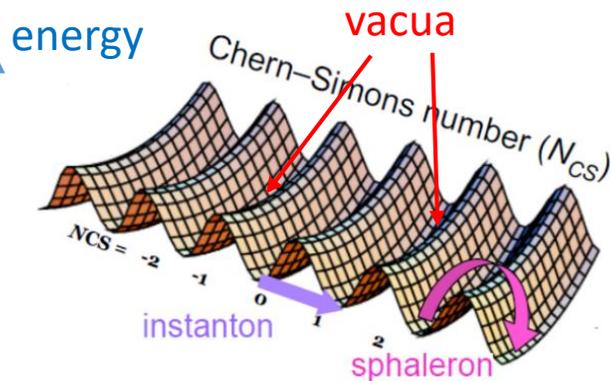
$$Q_W = \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \int G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu} d\mathbf{r}dt$$

$$N_R - N_L = Q_W$$

CS winding number: $N_{CS} = \nu = Q_W$

$$A = \sum_\nu e^{i\nu\theta} A_\nu \quad \nu = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

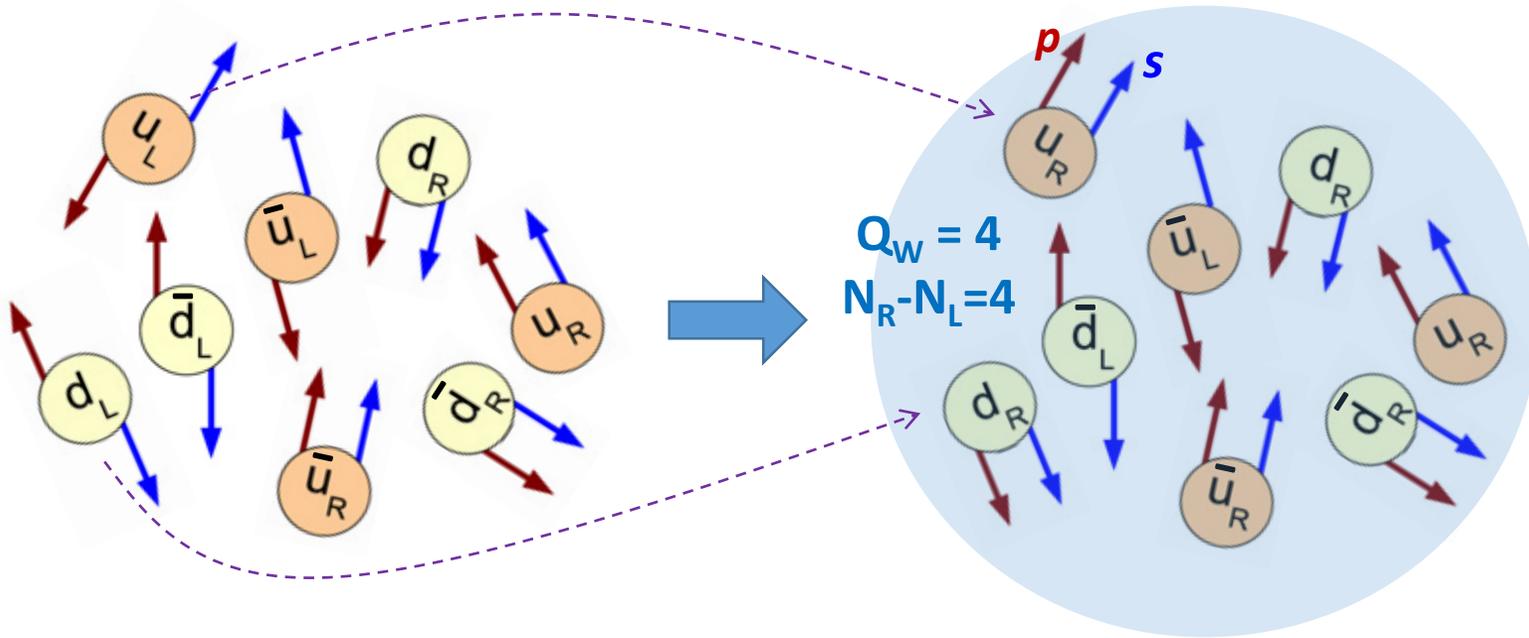
Contributions from $\nu \neq 0$ breaks the $U(1)_A$ symmetry
 QCD vacuum fluctuation \rightarrow **Chiral anomaly** \rightarrow
 Topological gluon field \rightarrow **Chirality imbalance**



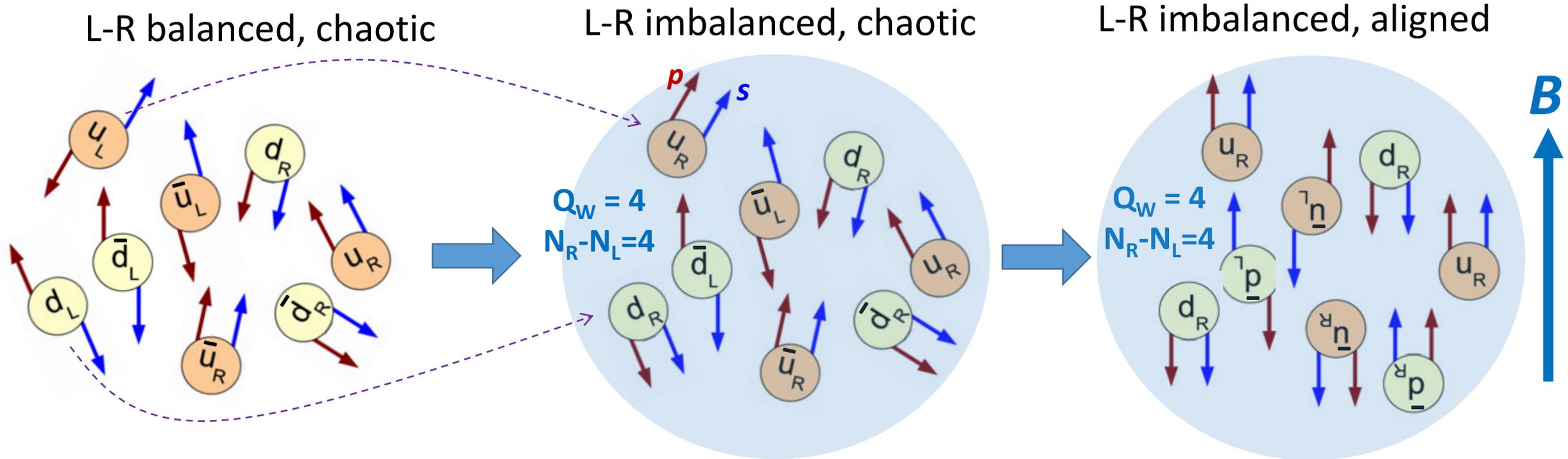
CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECT

L-R balanced, chaotic

L-R imbalanced, chaotic



CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECT



How strong is the needed magnetic field?

Want the Landau energy gap \gg thermal momentum ~ 1 GeV

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2m} \left[\hat{p}_x^2 + (\hat{p}_y - qB\hat{x})^2 + \hat{p}_z^2 \right]$$

$$E_n = (n + 1/2) \hbar \omega_c \quad (\text{where } \omega_c = qB / m)$$

$$eB \sim 2mE / \hbar \sim 2 \times 5 \text{ MeV} \times 1 \text{ GeV} \sim 10^4 \text{ MeV}^2 = 0.5 m_\pi^2 \sim 10^{13} \text{ T}$$

$$p[\text{GeV}] = 0.3 B[\text{Tm}] \Rightarrow 1 \text{ T} = \frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{0.3 \text{ m}} = \frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{0.3 \times 10^{15} \text{ fm}} \sim \frac{1 \text{ GeV} \cdot \text{MeV}}{1.5 \times 10^{12}} \sim 7 \times 10^{-10} \text{ MeV}^2$$

$$E = -\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

Charge Separation

STRONG MAGNETIC FIELD & CME



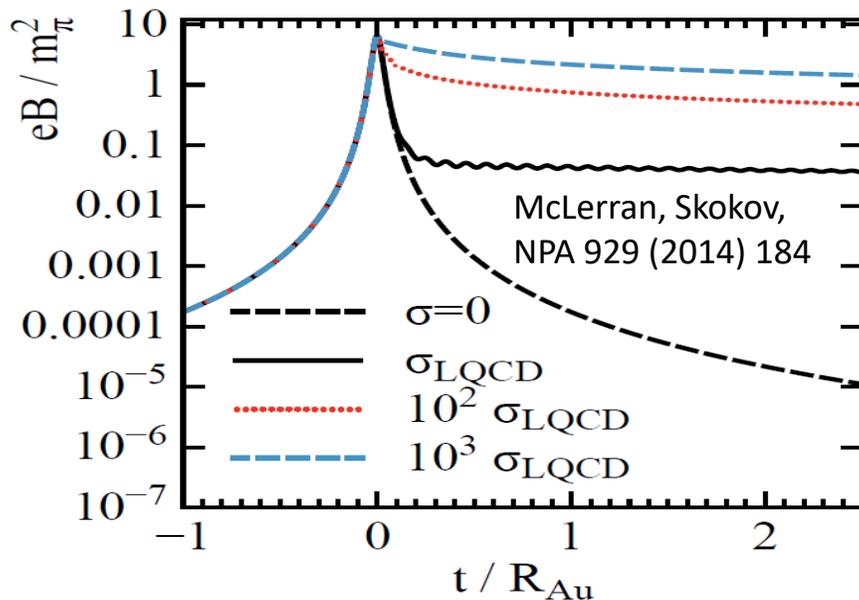
$$B = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \cdot \frac{qv}{r^2} \cdot \gamma \cdot 2 = 10^{-7} \frac{50 \cdot 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \cdot 3 \times 10^8}{(7 \times 10^{-15})^2} \cdot 100 \cdot 2 = 10^{15} \text{ T} \approx 40 m_\pi^2$$



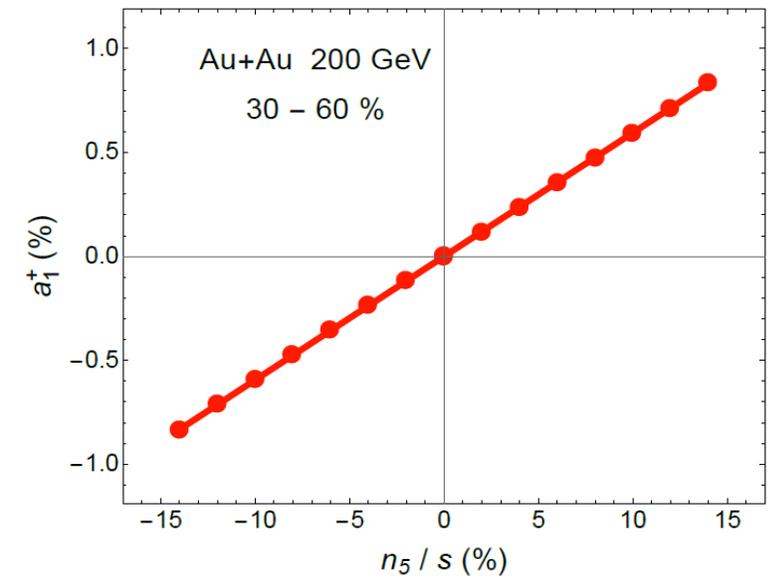
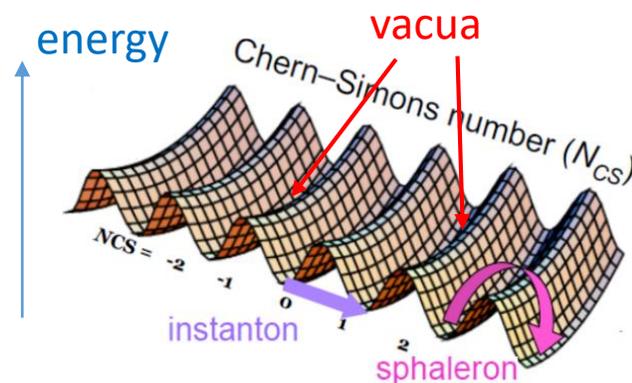
Shi et al., Annals Phys 394 (2018) 50

$$\sqrt{\langle n_5^2 \rangle} \simeq \frac{Q_s^4 (\pi \rho_{tube}^2 \tau_0) \sqrt{N_{coll.}}}{16\pi^2 A_{overlap}}$$

$$n_5 = n_R - n_L, \quad n_5 / s \sim 10\%$$

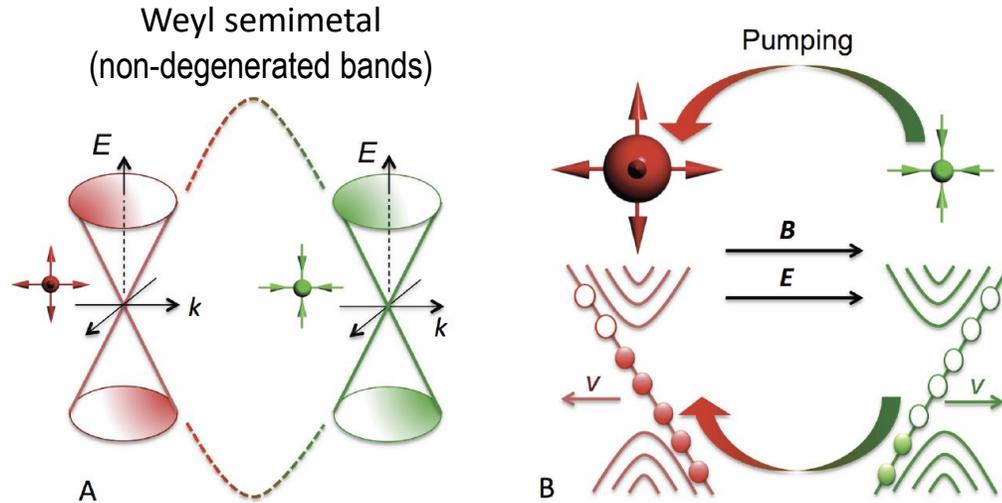


How large should the CME be
→ matter-antimatter asymmetry?



CME IN CONDENSED MATTER

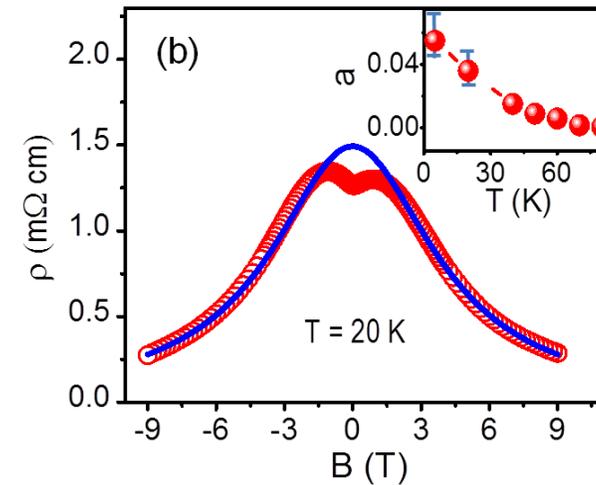
S.Y. Xu, et al., Science 349 (2015) 613–617
 B.Q. Lv, et al., Phys. Rev. X 5 (2015) 031013
 X. Huang, et al., Phys. Rev. X 5 (2015) 031023
 Qiang Li et al., Nat. Phys. 12 (2016) 550



Non-zero chiral chemical potential:

$$\mu \equiv \mu_L - \mu_R \propto \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$$

CME current:
$$\vec{J}_{CME} = \frac{e^2}{2\pi^2} \mu \vec{B} \propto B^2$$



Small cusps at very low field are due to the weak anti-localization

Quadratic field dependence of the magneto-conductance at $B//I$ is a clear indication of the CME

Man-made chiral asymmetry + Magnetic field (and magnetic moment) \rightarrow CME must result

CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECT (CME)

The strong interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \sum_q \left(\bar{\psi}_{qi} i\gamma^\mu \left[\delta_{ij} \partial_\mu + ig \left(G_\mu^\alpha t_\alpha \right)_{ij} \right] \psi_{qj} - m_q \bar{\psi}_{qi} \psi_{qj} \right) - \frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha G_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$$

quarks
quark-gluon interactions
quarks
gluons

't Hooft vacuum

$$+ \theta \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \tilde{G}_\alpha^{\mu\nu}$$

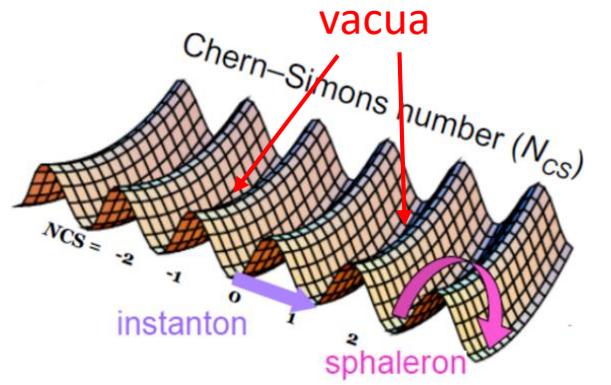
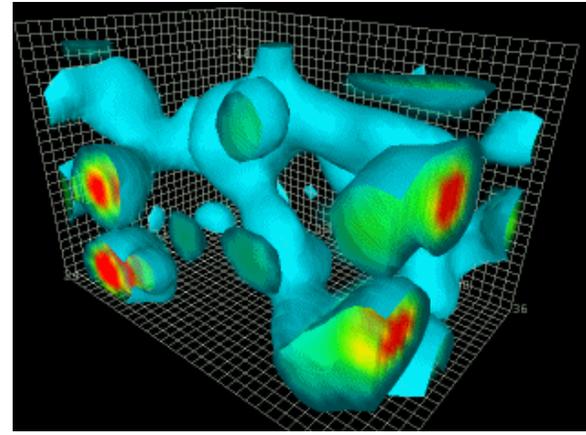
$$= -\theta \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \vec{E}_\alpha \cdot \vec{B}_\alpha$$

to solve the $U(1)_A$ problem (1976)

E: C-odd, P-odd, T-even
B: C-odd, P-even, T-odd

Explicitly breaks CP

Early universe ultraviolet $\theta \approx 1$?? \gg current infrared $\theta \approx 0$



Kharzeev, Pisarski, Tytgat, PRL81(1998)512

QCD vacuum fluctuation, chiral anomaly, topological gluon field

$B \sim 10^{15} \text{ T}$

X (defines Ψ_R)

Kharzeev, et al. NPA 803 (2008) 227

1

2

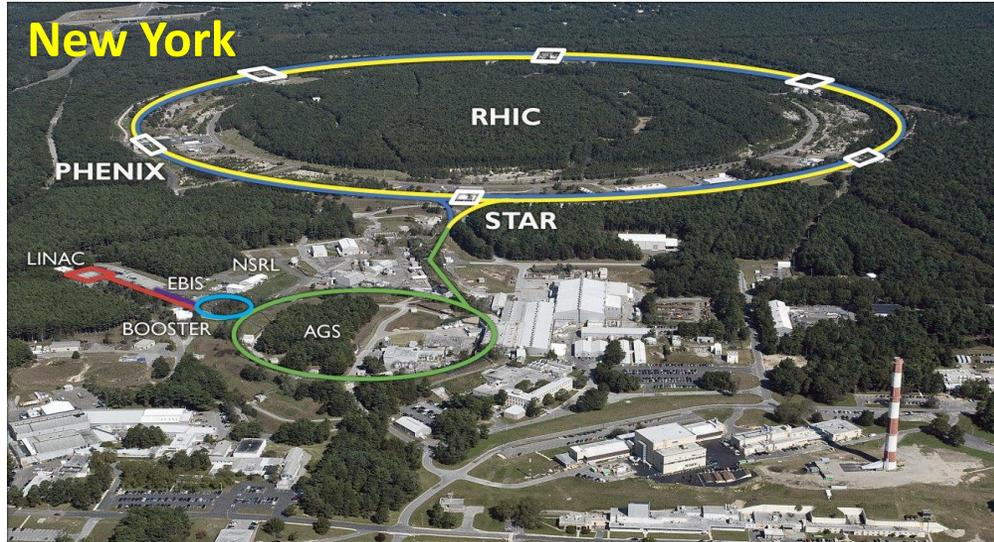
$Q_w \neq 0$

3

Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)

Discovery of the CME would imply: Chiral symmetry restoration (current-quark DOF & deconfinement); $UA(1)$ chiral anomaly; Local P/CP violation that may solve the strong CP problem (matter-antimatter asymmetry)

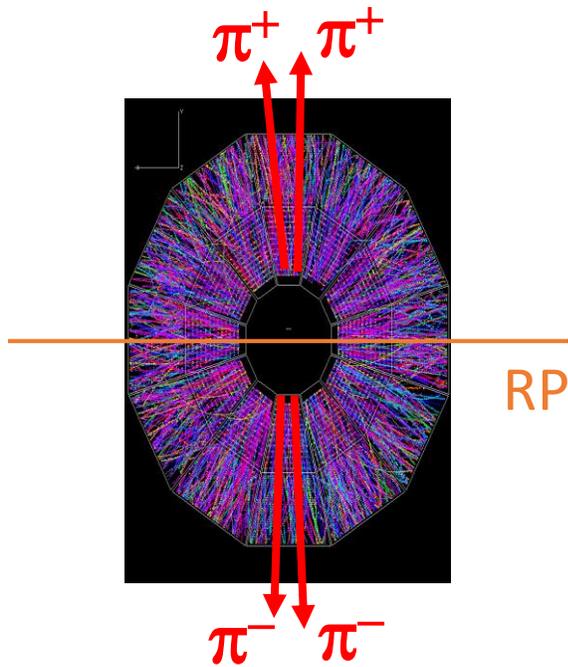
MEASURING CME – the background issue



High energy machines to collide heavy ions
to recreate the early universe

THE $\Delta\gamma$ CORRELATOR

Look for charge separation



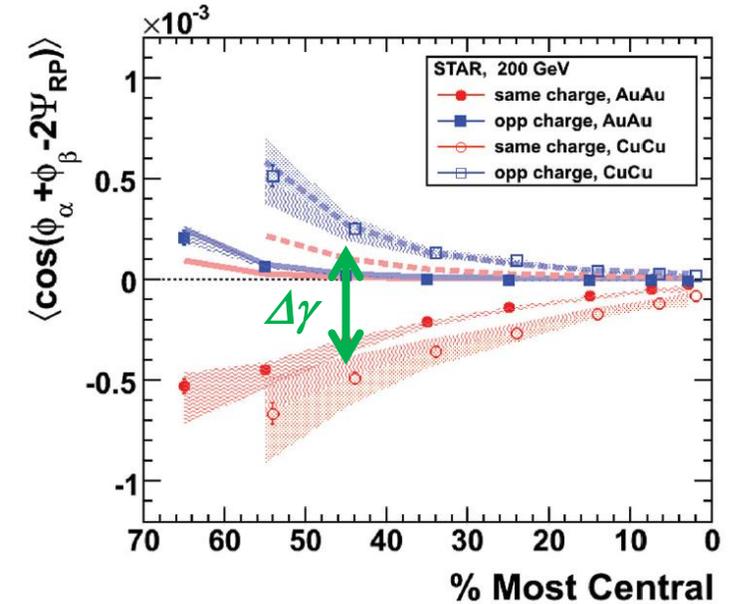
Voloshin, PRC 2004

$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \cos(\varphi_{\alpha} + \varphi_{\beta} - 2\varphi_{RP}) \rangle$$

$$\gamma_{+,-,-+} > 0, \quad \gamma_{++,--} < 0$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \gamma_{\text{opposite-sign}} - \gamma_{\text{same-sign}} > 0$$

STAR, PRL 2009, PRC 2010



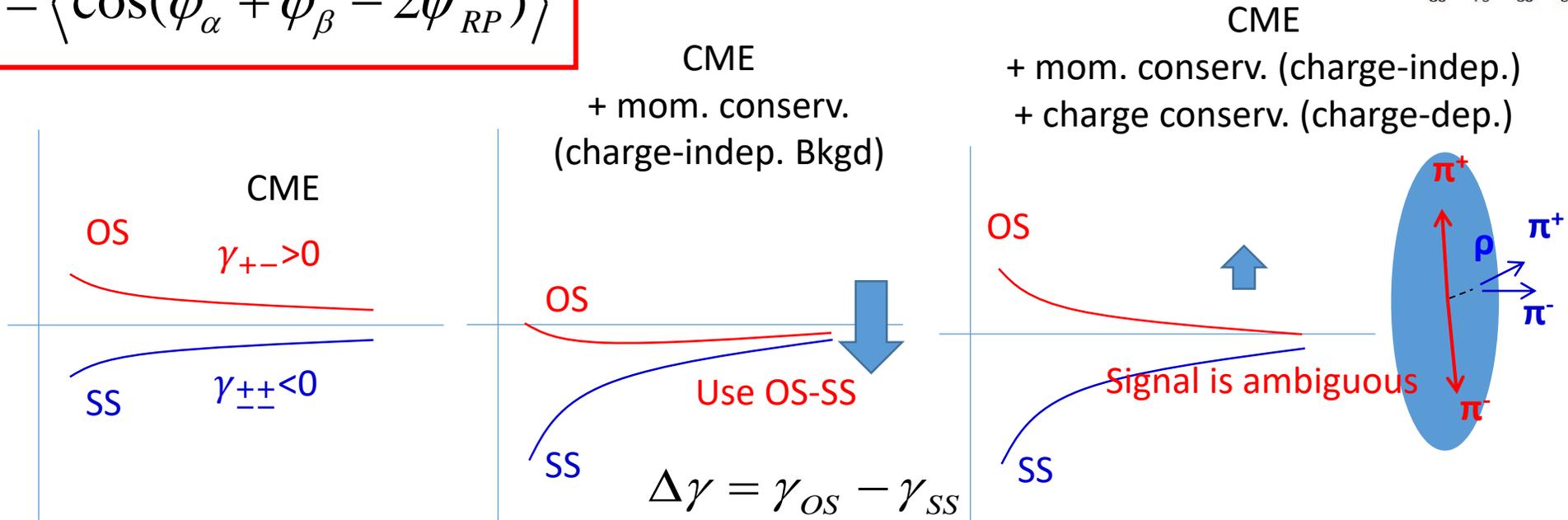
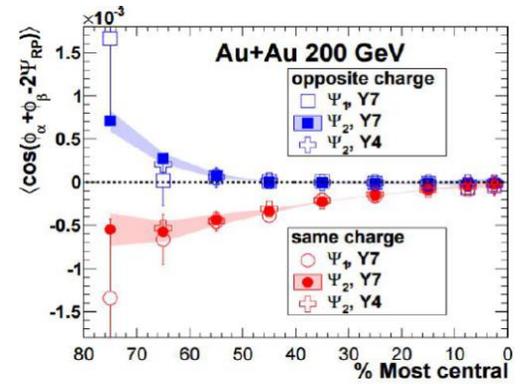
Significant signal

$$\Delta\gamma \sim 5 \times 10^{-4}$$

BACKGROUNDS IN γ CORRELATORS

Voloshin 2004; FW 2009; Bzdak, Koch, Liao 2010; Pratt, Schlichting 2010; ...

$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\psi_{RP}) \rangle$$



$$dN_{\pm} / d\varphi \propto 1 + 2v_1 \cos \varphi_{\pm} + 2a_{\pm} \cdot \sin \varphi_{\pm} + 2v_2 \cos 2\varphi_{\pm} + \dots$$

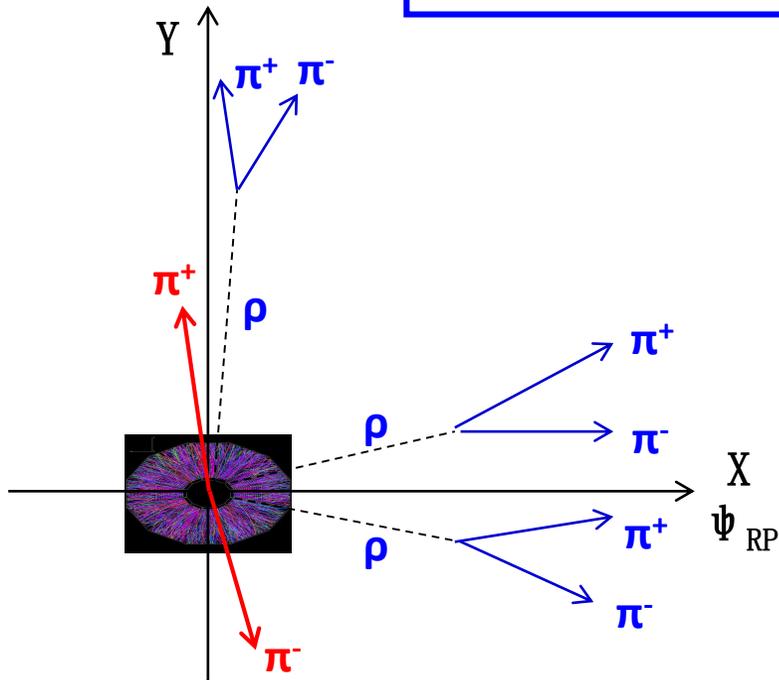
$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \underbrace{\left[\langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha - \psi_{RP}) \cos(\varphi_\beta - \psi_{RP}) \rangle \right]}_{\langle v_{1,\alpha} v_{1,\beta} \rangle \approx 0} - \underbrace{\left[\langle \sin(\varphi_\alpha - \psi_{RP}) \sin(\varphi_\beta - \psi_{RP}) \rangle \right]}_{\text{CME: } \langle a_\alpha a_\beta \rangle} + \underbrace{\left[\frac{N_{cluster}}{N_\alpha N_\beta} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\varphi_{cluster}) \cos(2\varphi_{cluster} - 2\varphi_{RP}) \rangle \right]}_{\text{charge-indep. + charge-dep.}}$$

BACKGROUND IN $\Delta\gamma$ CORRELATOR

Voloshin 2004; FW 2009; Bzdak, Koch, Liao 2010; Pratt, Schlichting 2010; ...

$$\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\psi_{RP}) \rangle$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \gamma_{OS} - \gamma_{SS}$$



$$dN_{\pm} / d\varphi \propto 1 + 2v_1 \cos \varphi^{\pm} + 2a_{\pm} \cdot \sin \varphi^{\pm} + 2v_2 \cos 2\varphi^{\pm} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\alpha\beta} &= \left[\langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha - \psi_{RP}) \cos(\varphi_\beta - \psi_{RP}) \rangle - \langle \sin(\varphi_\alpha - \psi_{RP}) \sin(\varphi_\beta - \psi_{RP}) \rangle \right] \\ &+ \left[\frac{N_{cluster}}{N_\alpha N_\beta} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\varphi_{cluster}) \cos(2\varphi_{cluster} - 2\varphi_{RP}) \rangle \right] \\ &= \left[\langle v_{1,\alpha} v_{1,\beta} \rangle - \langle a_\alpha a_\beta \rangle \right] + \frac{N_{cluster}}{N_\alpha N_\beta} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\varphi_{cluster}) \rangle v_{2,cluster} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\gamma = 2 \langle a_1^2 \rangle + \frac{N_\rho}{N_\alpha N_\beta} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\varphi_\rho) \rangle v_{2,\rho}$$

Flow-induced charge-dependent background:
nonflow coupled with flow

$$\Delta\gamma_{Bkg} \propto v_2 / N$$

BACKGROUND IS LARGE

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **81**, 064902 (2010)

Effects of cluster particle correlations on local parity violation observables

Fuqiang Wang

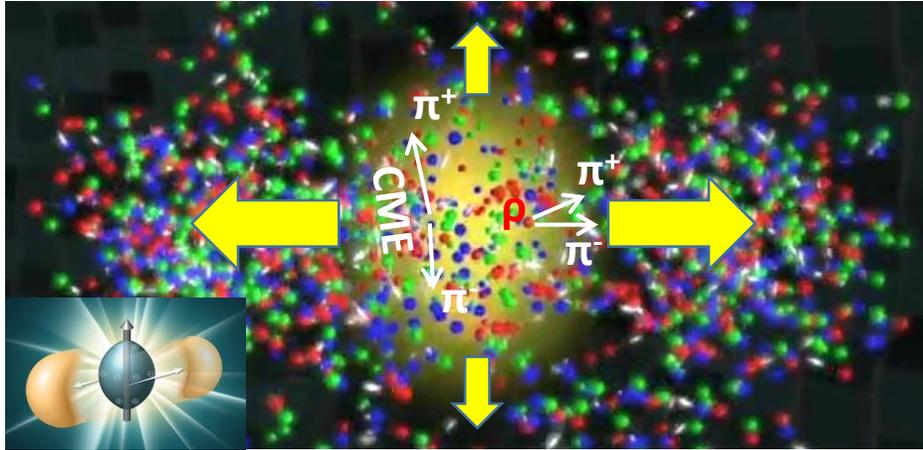
Department of Physics, Purdue University, 525 Northwestern Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907, USA

(Received 20 November 2009; revised manuscript received 15 April 2010; published 7 June 2010)

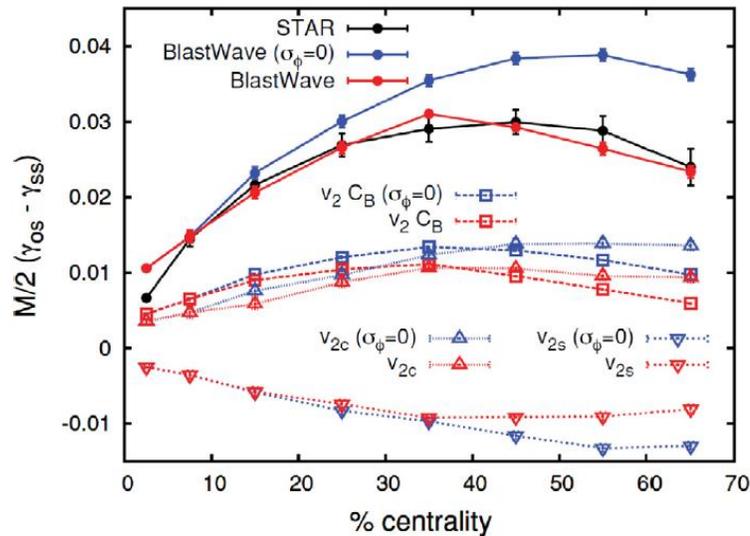
We investigate effects of cluster particle correlations on two- and three-particle azimuth correlator observables sensitive to local strong parity violation. We use two-particle angular correlation measurements as inputs and estimate the magnitudes of the effects with straightforward assumptions. We found that the measurements of the azimuth correlator observables in the STAR experiment can be entirely accounted for by cluster particle correlations together with a reasonable range of cluster anisotropy in nonperipheral collisions. Our result suggests that new physics, such as local strong parity violation, may not be required to explain the correlator data.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevC.81.064902

PACS number(s): 25.75.Gz, 25.75.Ld



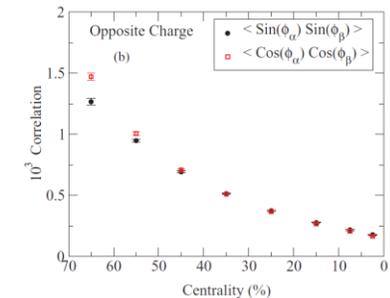
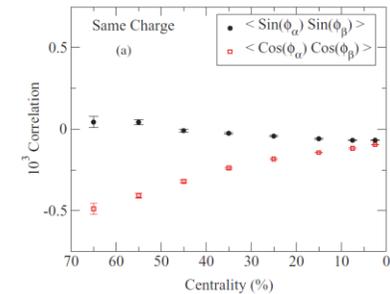
Schlichting, Pratt, PRC 83 (2011) 014913



Bzdak, Koch, Liao, PRC 81 (2010) 031901(R)

$$\Delta\gamma_{\text{Bkg}} = \frac{N_\rho}{N_\alpha N_\beta} \langle \cos(\varphi_\alpha + \varphi_\beta - 2\varphi_\rho) \rangle v_{2,\rho}$$

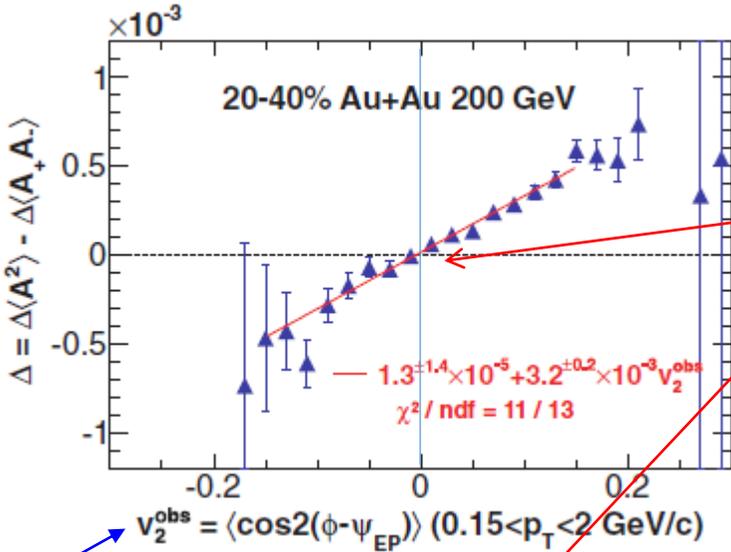
$$20/100^2 \times 0.65 \times 0.1 \sim 10^{-4}$$



STATISTICAL EVENT-SHAPE-ENGINEERING

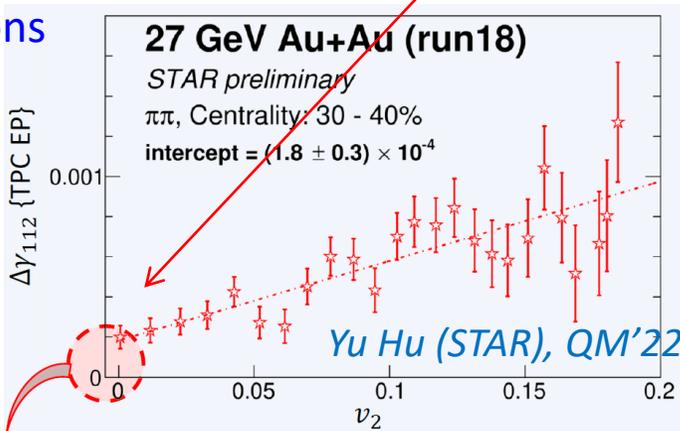
STAR, PRC 89 (2014) 044908

Here Δ is similar to $\cos(\alpha+\beta-2\psi)$ correlator



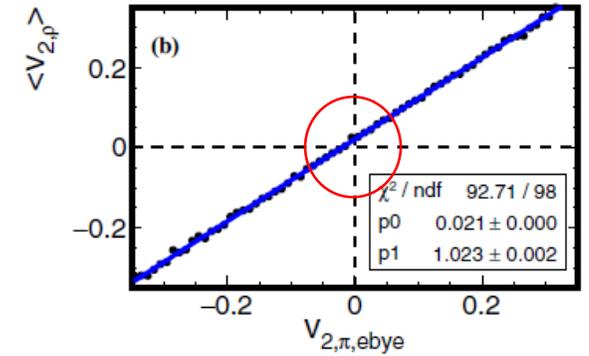
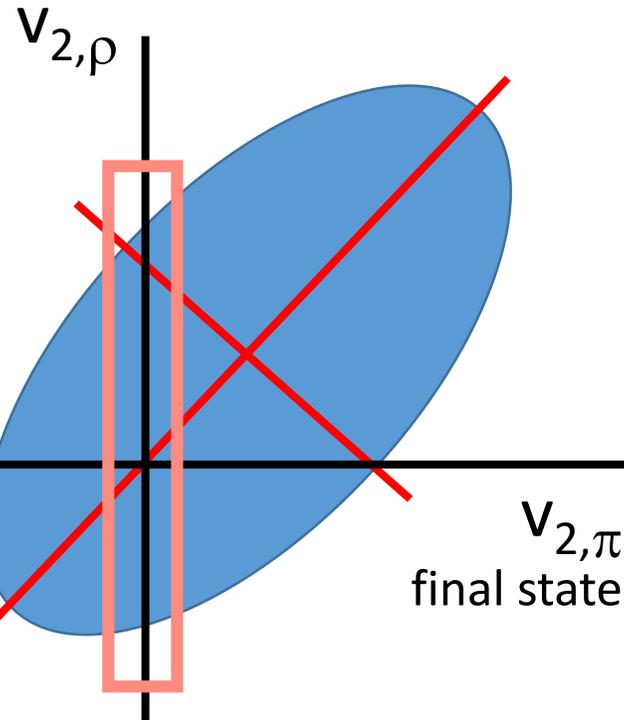
Primarily stat. fluctuations

Event-by-event v_2 technique



$$\Delta\gamma = 2 \langle a_1^2 \rangle \frac{v_{2,c\perp B}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N^2} \frac{v_{2,2p} v_{2,c}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N^3 v_{2,c}^*}$$

Still has residual background, because background $\sim v_{2,\rho}$ not $v_{2,\pi}$
FW, Jie Zhao, PRC 95 (2017) 051901(R)



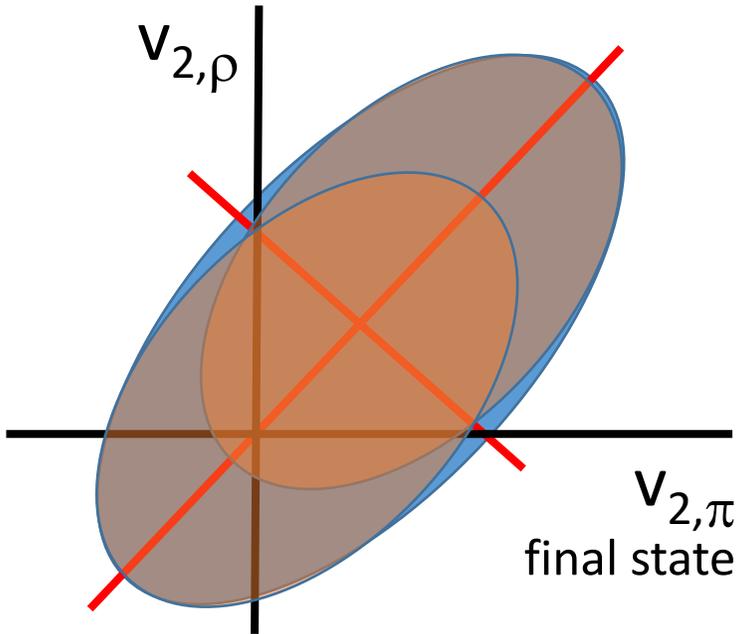
- Engineering on stat. fluctuations
- Background suppressed, but not totally eliminated
- LHC does not have this issue as v_2 selection in different phase space

DYNAMICAL EVENT-SHAPE-ENGINEERING

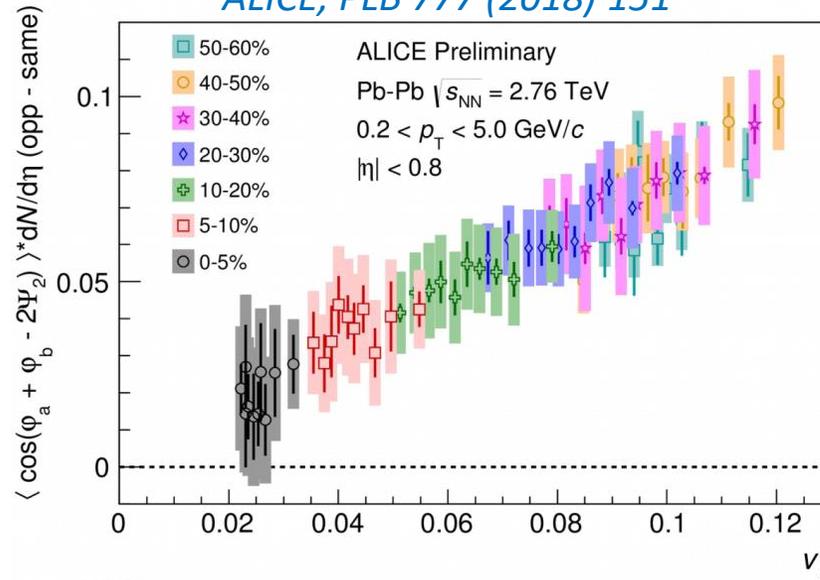
Schukraft, Timmins, Voloshin, *PLB* 719 (2013) 394

$$\Delta\gamma = 2 \langle a_1^2 \rangle \frac{v_{2,c\perp B}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N^2} \frac{v_{2,2p} v_{2,c}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N^3 v_{2,c}^*}$$

ESE displaced from α, β phase space

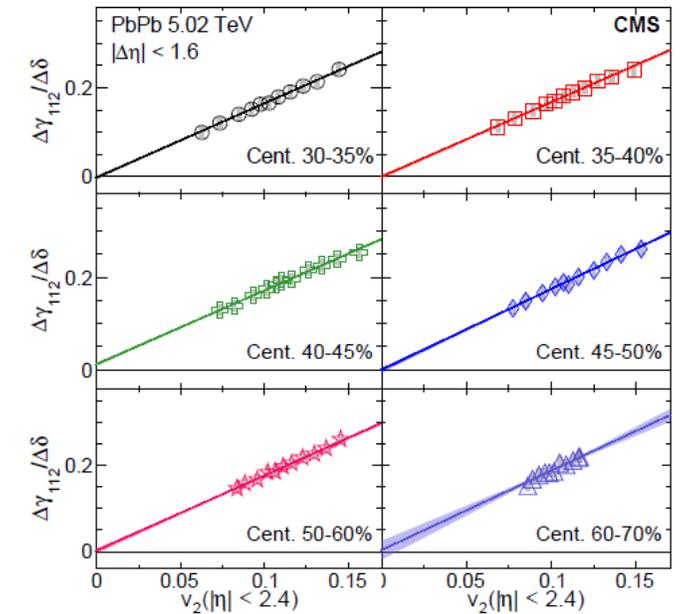


ALICE, *PLB* 777 (2018) 151



More sophisticated (model-dep.)
assumption of B dependence on v_2
within a given centrality
Upper limit 26%

CMS, *PRC* 97 (2018) 044912



Assume CME does not depend
on v_2 within a given centrality
Upper limit 7%

Promising way to extract possible CME signal. Will need to assess nonflow effects

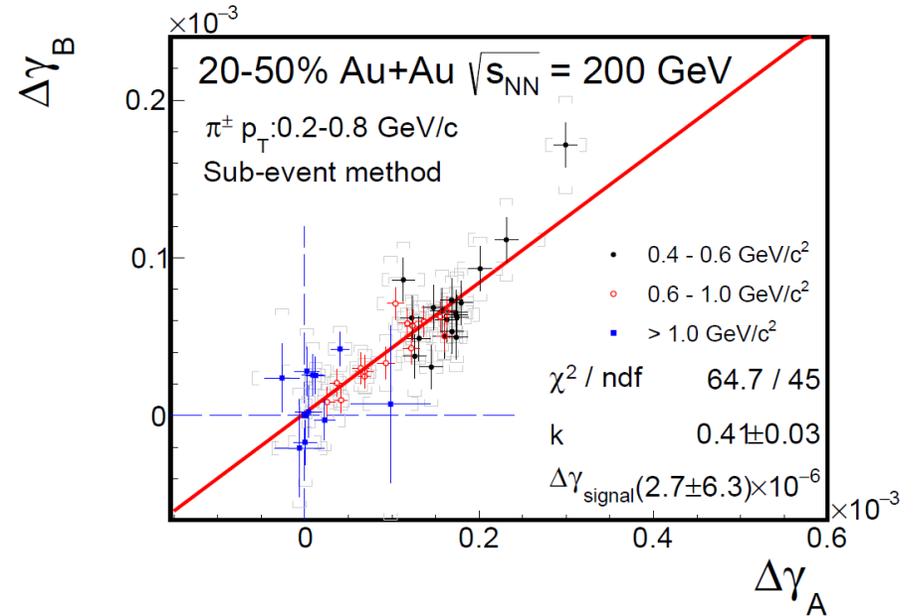
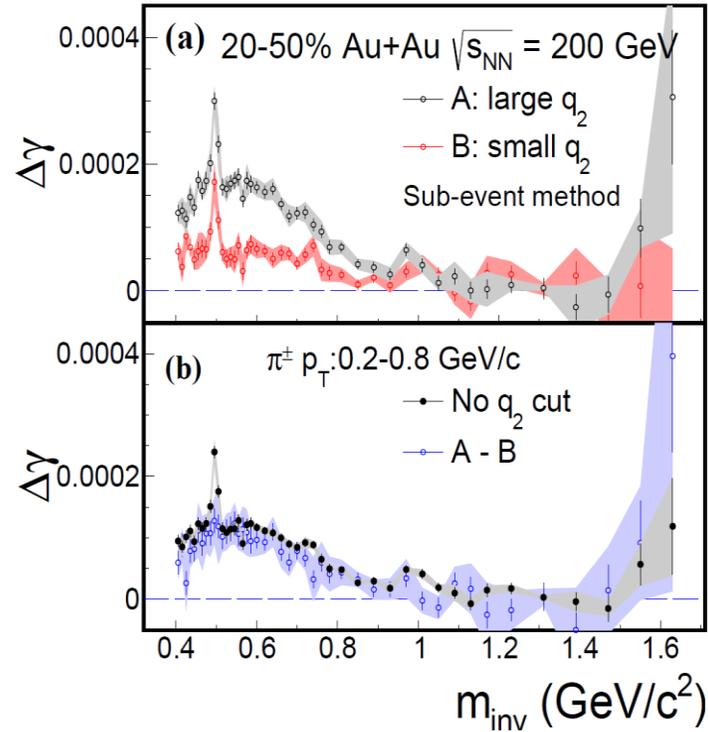
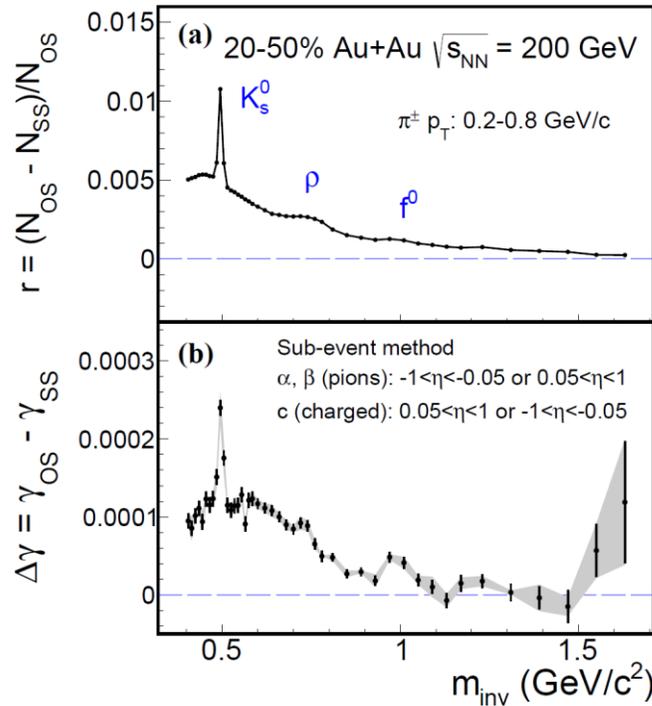
THE INVARIANT MASS DEPENDENCE

Zhao, Li, Wang, *Eur.Phys.J.C* 79 (2019) 168

STAR, *PRC* 106 (2022) 034908, *arXiv:2006.05035*

$$\Delta\gamma = 2 \langle a_1^2 \rangle \frac{v_{2,c\perp B}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N^2} \frac{v_{2,2p} v_{2,c}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N^3 v_{2,c}^*}$$

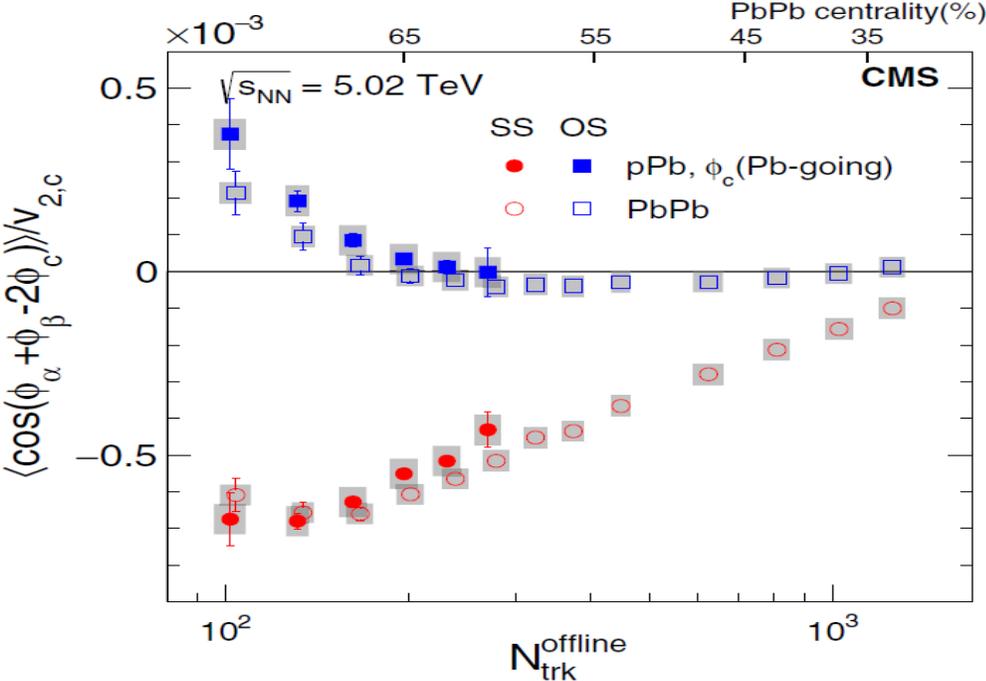
$$\Delta\gamma_B = k \Delta\gamma_A + (1-k) \Delta\gamma_{\text{sig}}$$



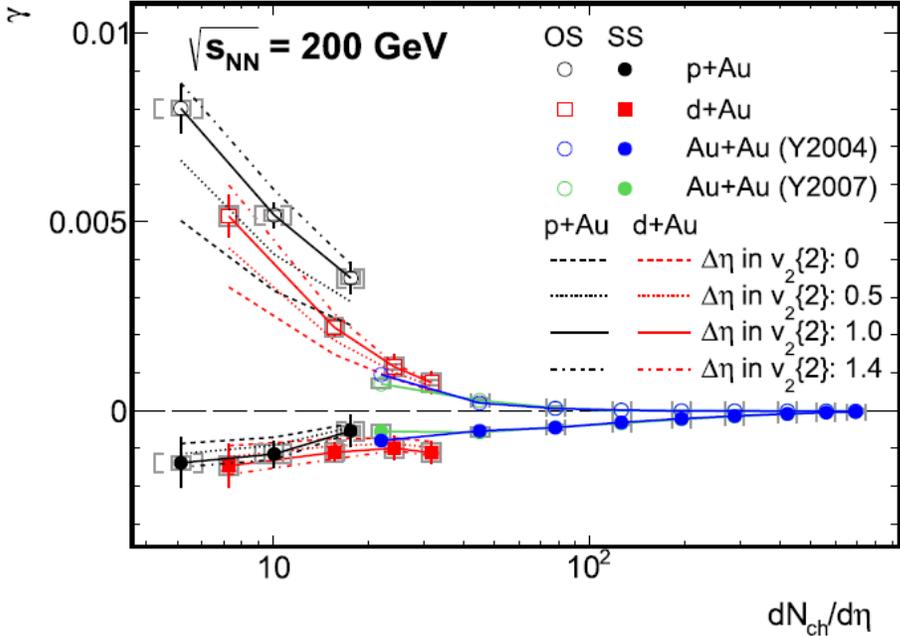
CME fraction = $(2 \pm 4 \pm 5)\%$
 CME upper limit 15% at 95% CL

LARGE SIGNALS ALSO IN SMALL SYSTEMS

CMS, PRL 118 (2017) 122301



STAR, PLB 798 (2019) 134975



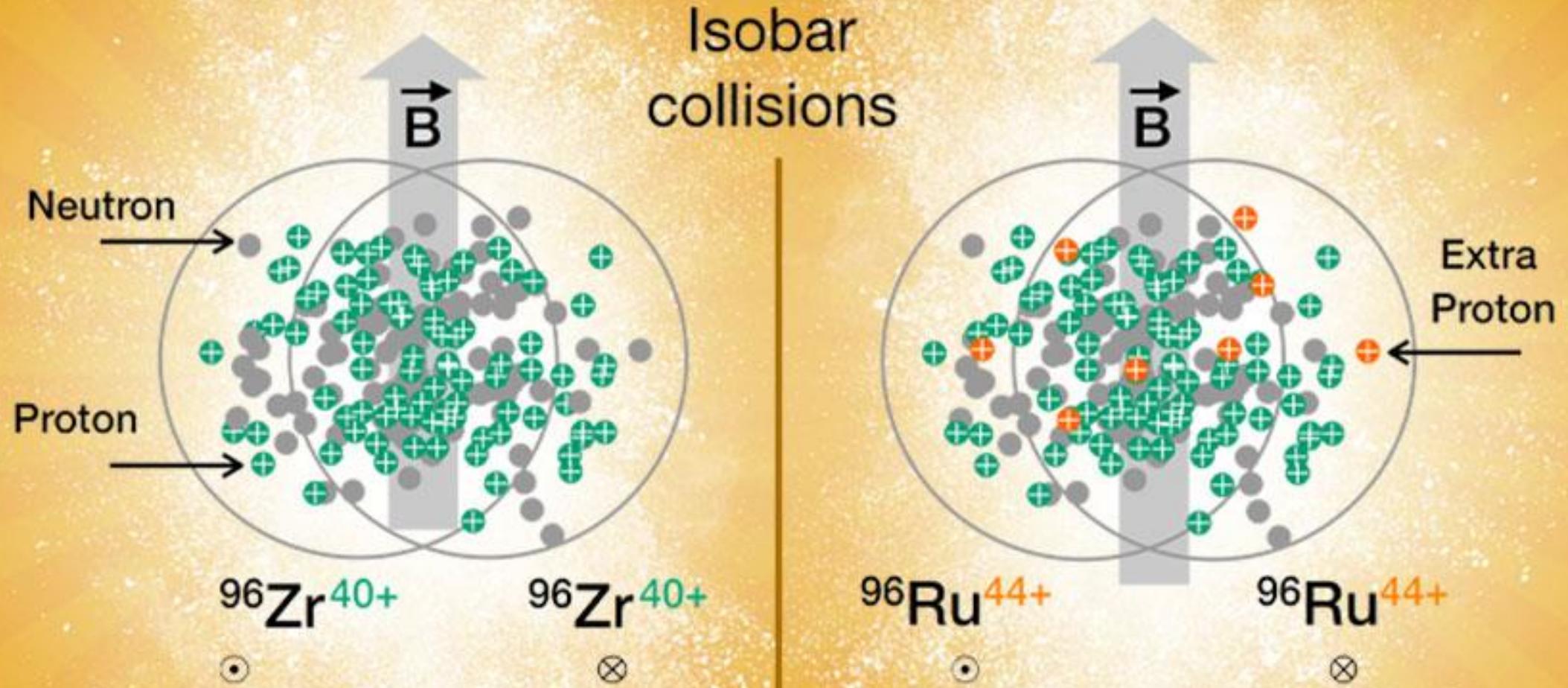
When background is large, comparative measurements are often the best and the most robust.

- Spectator Plane (SP) vs. Participant Plane (PP)
 - Pro: within the same event, physics guaranteed to be identical
 - Con: SP measured by ZDC, with poor EP resolution

- Ru+Ru vs. Zr+Zr
 - Pro: both measured by TPC, with good EP resolution
 - Con: collision systems are not identical

3

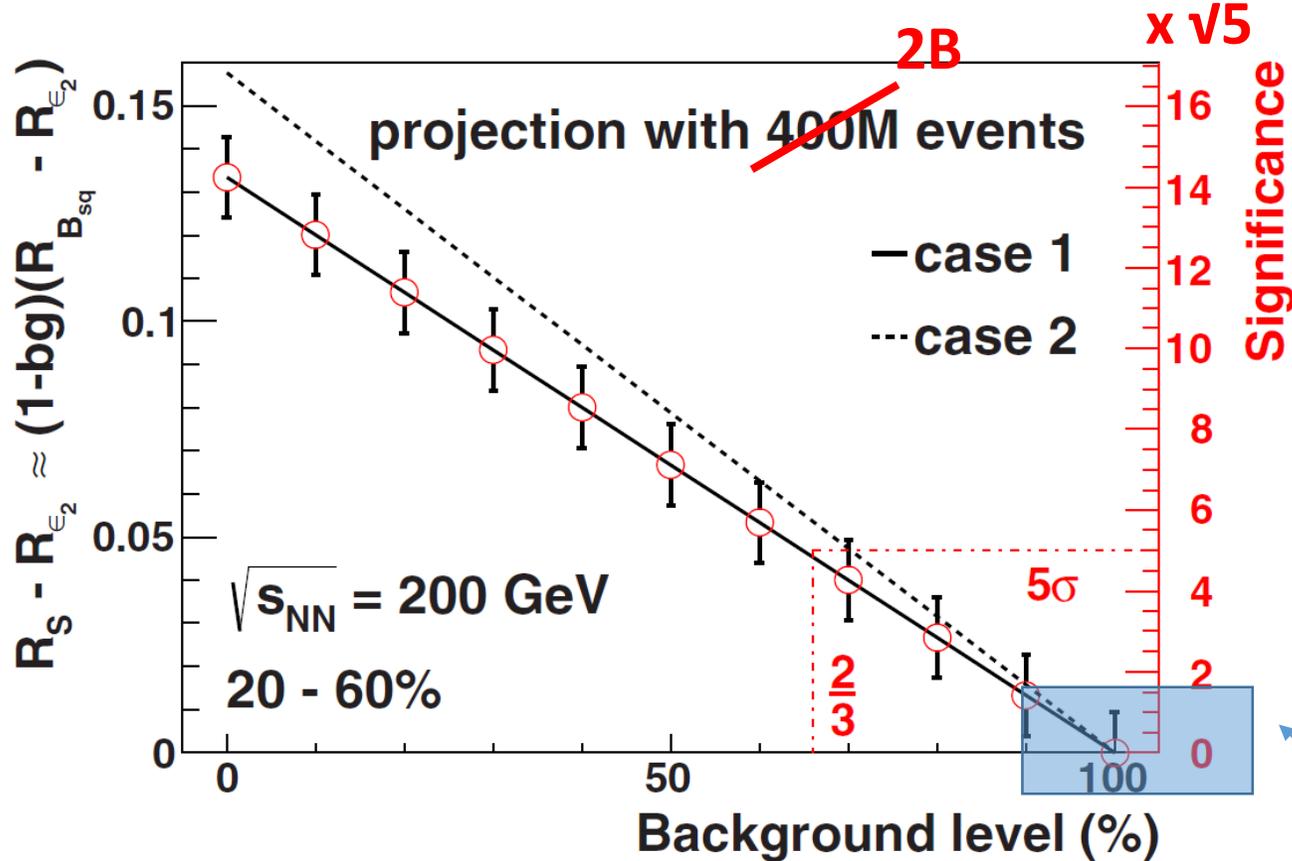
MOTIVATION for Isobar Run



Same A → Same background
Different Z → Different signal

ISOBAR S/B ESTIMATES

Deng et al. PHYSICAL REVIEW C **94**, 041901(R) (2016)



Back-of-envelop:

$$\delta(\Delta\gamma) \approx \frac{2/\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{(N_{\text{POI}}/2)^2}} \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_{\text{evt}}}} \cdot \frac{1}{R_{\text{EP}}} \approx 0.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

$N_{\text{POI}} \approx 160$ $\Delta\gamma$ $N_{\text{evt}} \approx 0.7B$ (20-50%) $R_{\text{EP}} \approx 0.5$

Precision on Ru/Zr: $\frac{\delta(\Delta\gamma)}{\Delta\gamma} \approx 3 \times 10^{-4} \cdot \sqrt{2} \approx 0.4\%$

Statistical uncertainty = 0.4%

If isobar $f_{\text{CME}}=10\%$, then signal = $15\% \cdot 10\% = 1.5\%$

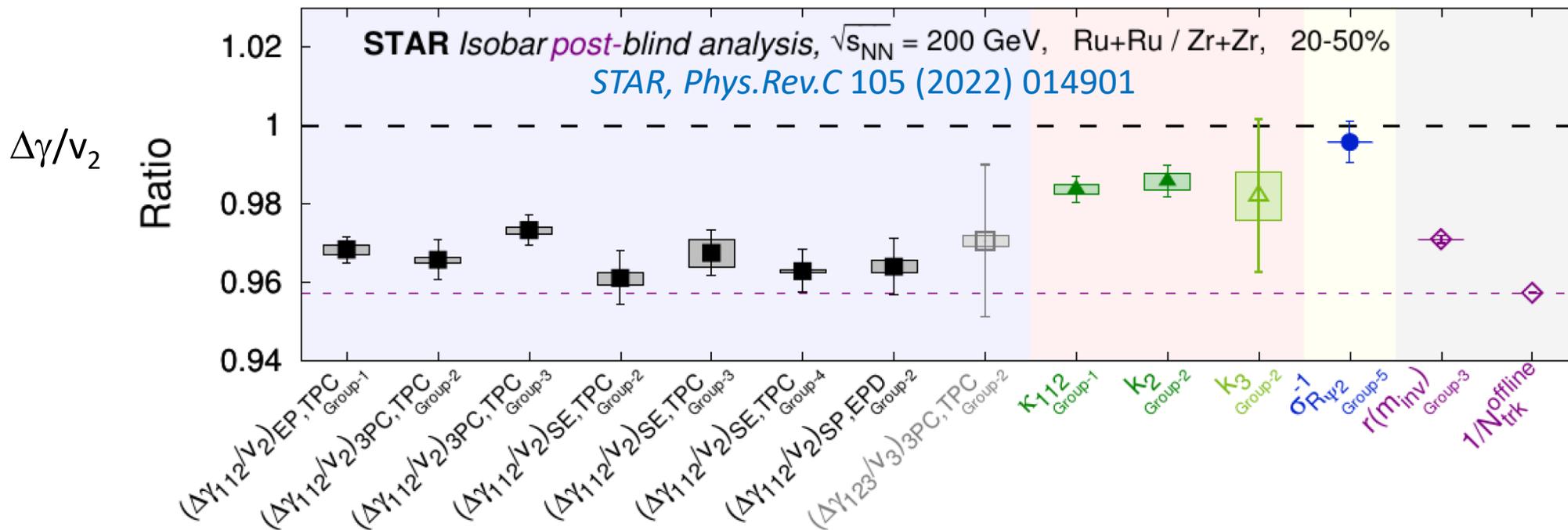
Ru/Zr = $1.015 \pm 0.004 \rightarrow 4\sigma$ effect

4

ISOBAR Run Outcome

Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Isobar Collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC, arXiv:2109.00131, *Phys. Rev. C* 105 (2022) 014901

Press release: <https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/news.php?a=119062>



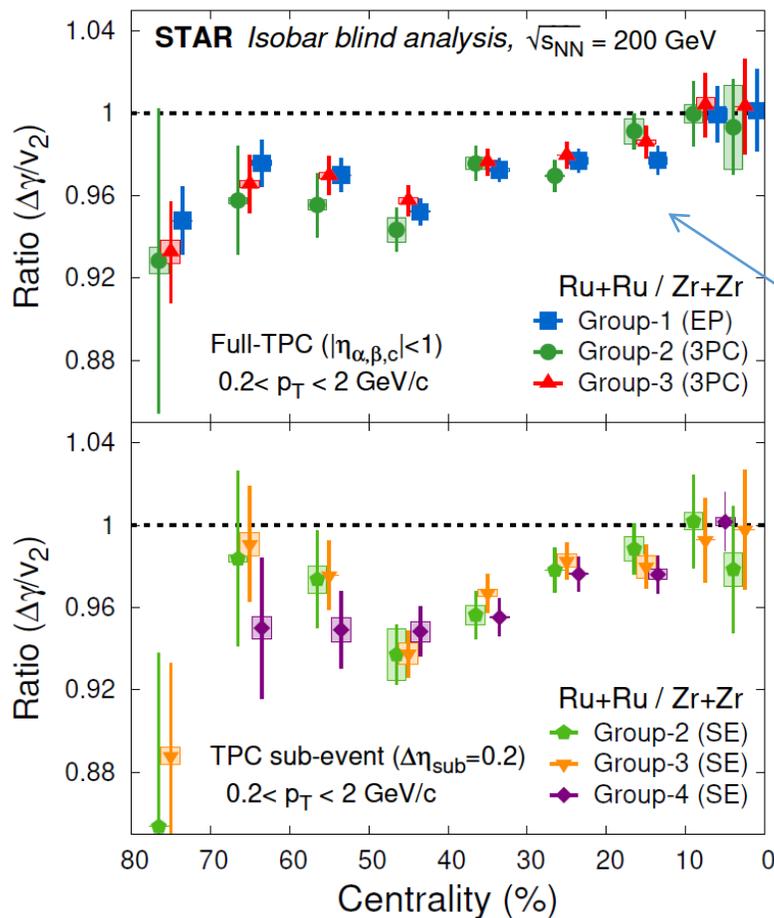
Precision of 0.4% is indeed achieved!

ISOBAR DATA $\Delta\gamma/v_2$

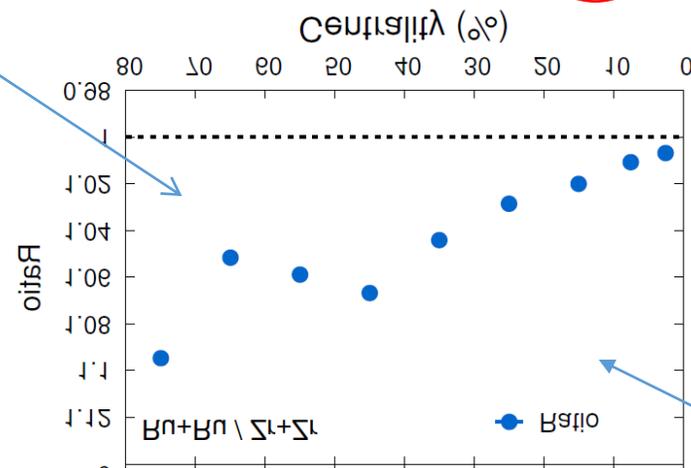
STAR, Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 014901, arXiv: 2109.00131

But results all below unity: trivial multiplicity dilution effect

$$\Delta\gamma_{\text{bkgd}} = \frac{4N_{2p}}{N^2} \langle \cos(\phi_\alpha + \phi_\beta - 2\phi_{2p}) \rangle v_{2,2p}$$



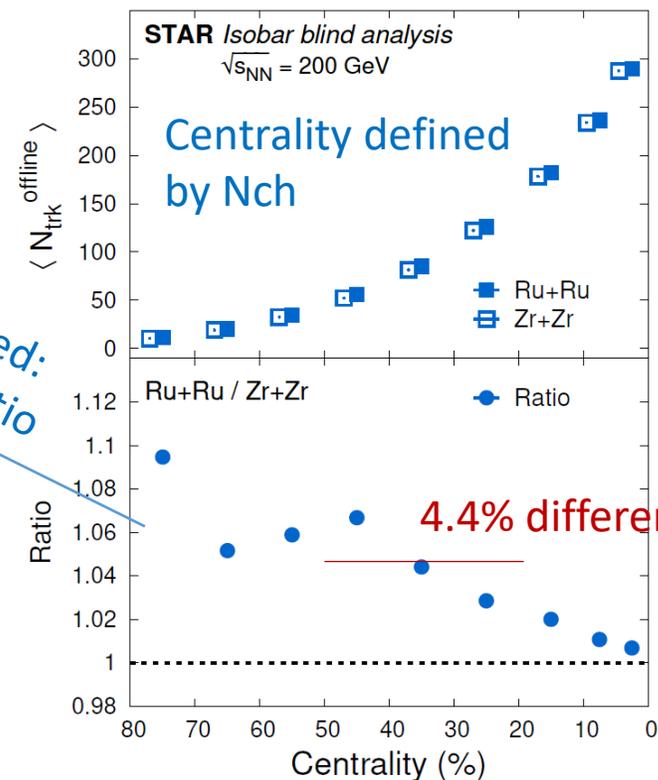
Indeed 0.4% precision!



$\Delta\gamma/v_2$ follows closely with N_{ch}

$N\Delta\gamma/v_2$ would be better

Flipped:
1/N ratio

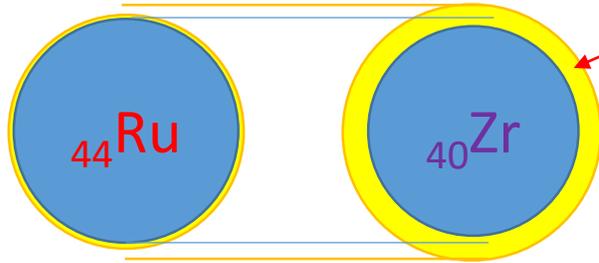


ISOBARS ARE NOT IDENTICAL

Multiplicities differ by 4.4%!

Predicted by DFT: *Haojie Xu et al. PRL 121 (2018) 022301*

Hanlin Li et al. PRC 98 (2018) 054907



Halo-type

$$\rho \propto \left[1 + \exp\left(\frac{r-R}{a}\right) \right]^{-1}$$

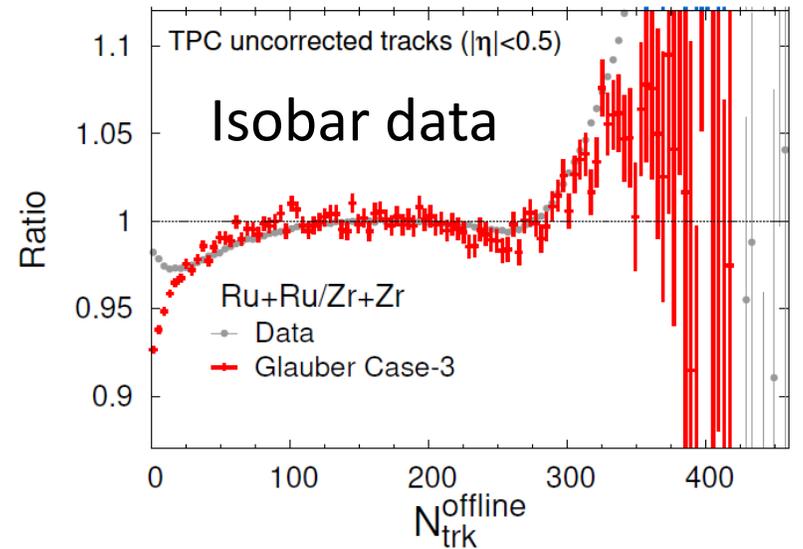
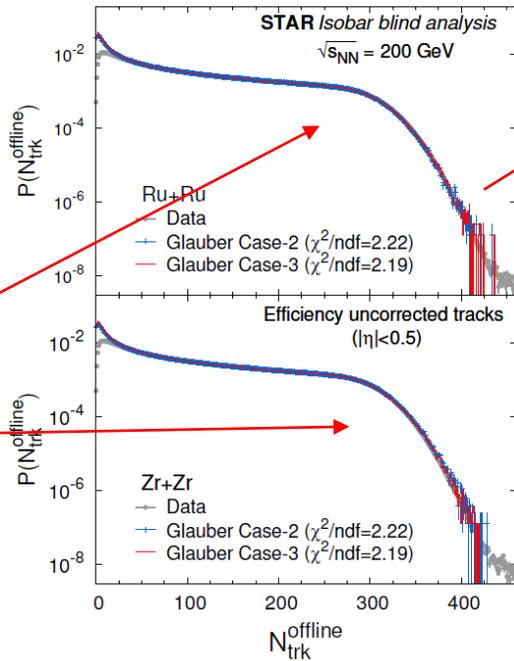
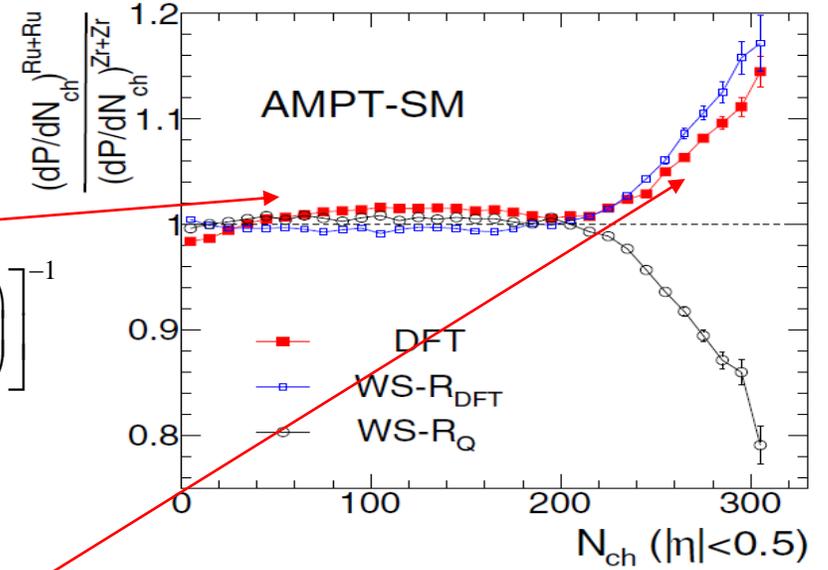
Larger charge radius
Little neutron skin

Smaller charge radius
Thicker neutron skin

Overall size: Ru < Zr

→ Larger energy density in Ru > Zr

→ Larger multiplicity in Ru > Zr

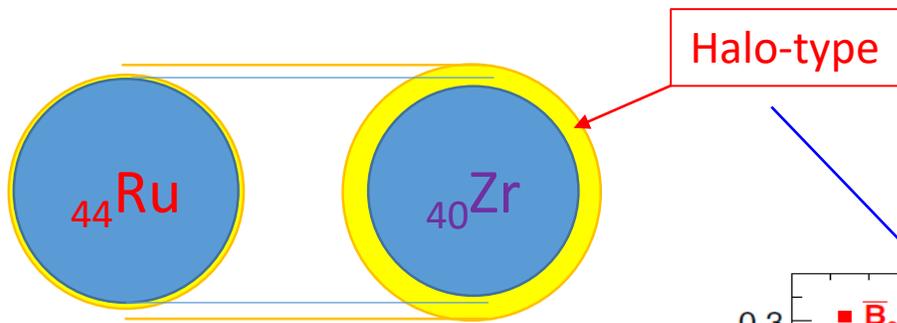


ISOBARS ARE NOT IDENTICAL

v_2 differ by 2-3%!

Predicted by DFT: *Haojie Xu et al. PRL 121 (2018) 022301*

Hanlin Li et al. PRC 98 (2018) 054907



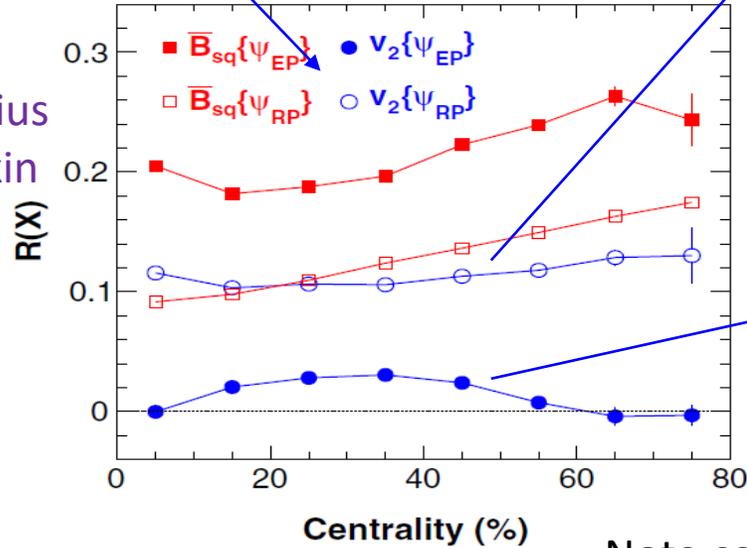
Larger charge radius
Little neutron skin

Smaller charge radius
Thicker neutron skin

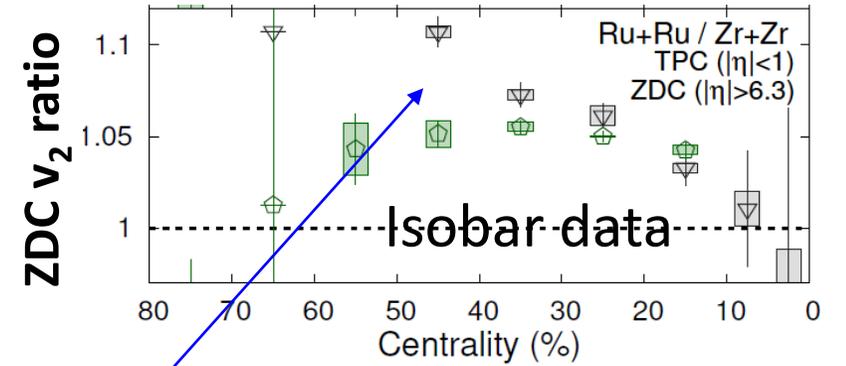
$$\Delta\gamma_{\text{bkgd}} = \frac{4N_{2p}}{N^2} \langle \cos(\phi_\alpha + \phi_\beta - 2\phi_{2p}) \rangle v_{2,2p}$$

Normalize by v_2 and $N \rightarrow N\Delta\gamma/v_2$

Halo-type



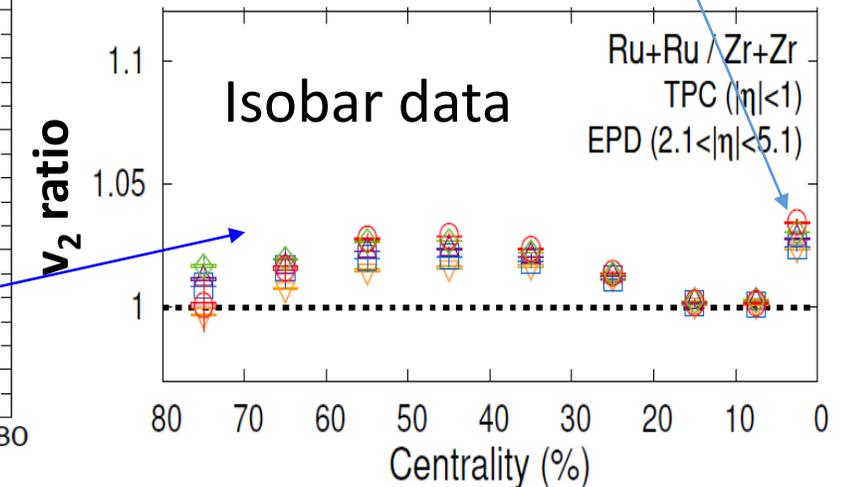
Note centrality axis flip



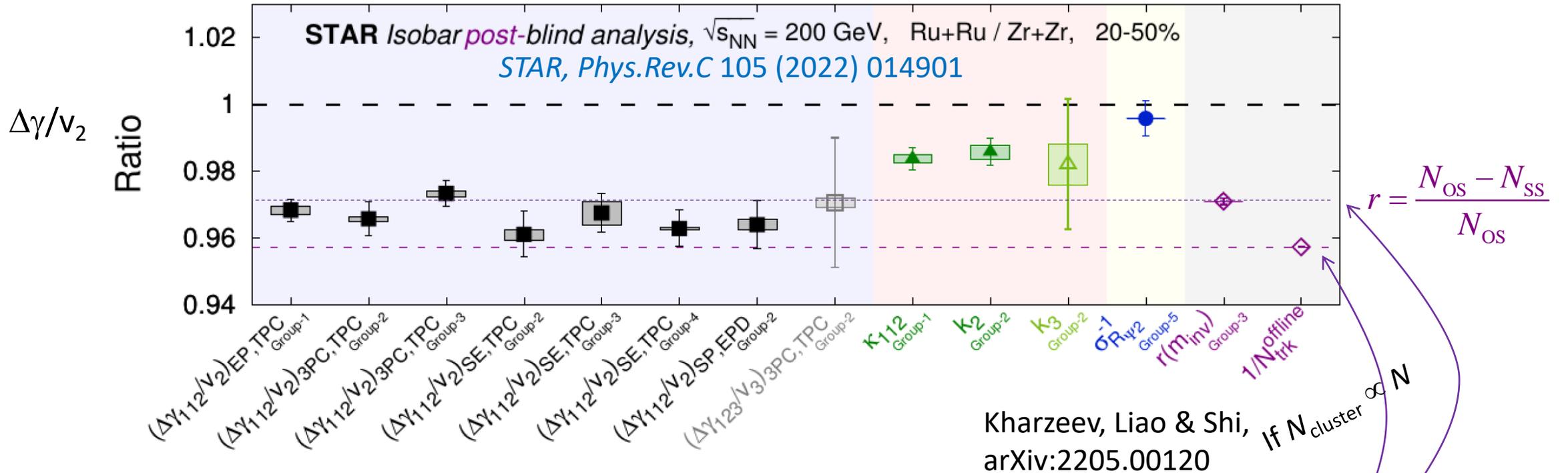
Nuclear deformity:

Deng et al. PRC 94 (2016) 041901(R)

Zhang & Jia, PRL 128 (2022) 022301



ISOBAR RESULTS



- $\Delta\gamma/v_2$ isobar ratio smaller than unity
- Primary reason is mult. difference

REMAINING NONFLOW EFFECTS

FENG Yicheng (STAR): QM'2022, SQM'2022

Feng, FW, et al., PRC 105 (2022) 024913, arXiv:2106.15595

$$C_3 = \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N^2} v_{2,2p} v_2 + \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N^3}; \quad C_{2p} \equiv \langle \cos(\alpha + \beta - 2\phi_{2p}) \rangle$$

$$C_{3p} \equiv \langle \cos(\alpha + \beta - 2c) \rangle_{3p}$$

$$\varepsilon_2 \equiv \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N} \cdot \frac{v_{2,2p}}{v_2}$$

$$\varepsilon_3 \equiv \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N}$$

$$v_2^{*2} = v_2^2 + v_{2,nf}^2$$

$$\varepsilon_{nf} \equiv v_{2,nf}^2 / v_2^2$$

$$N \approx N_+ \approx N_-$$

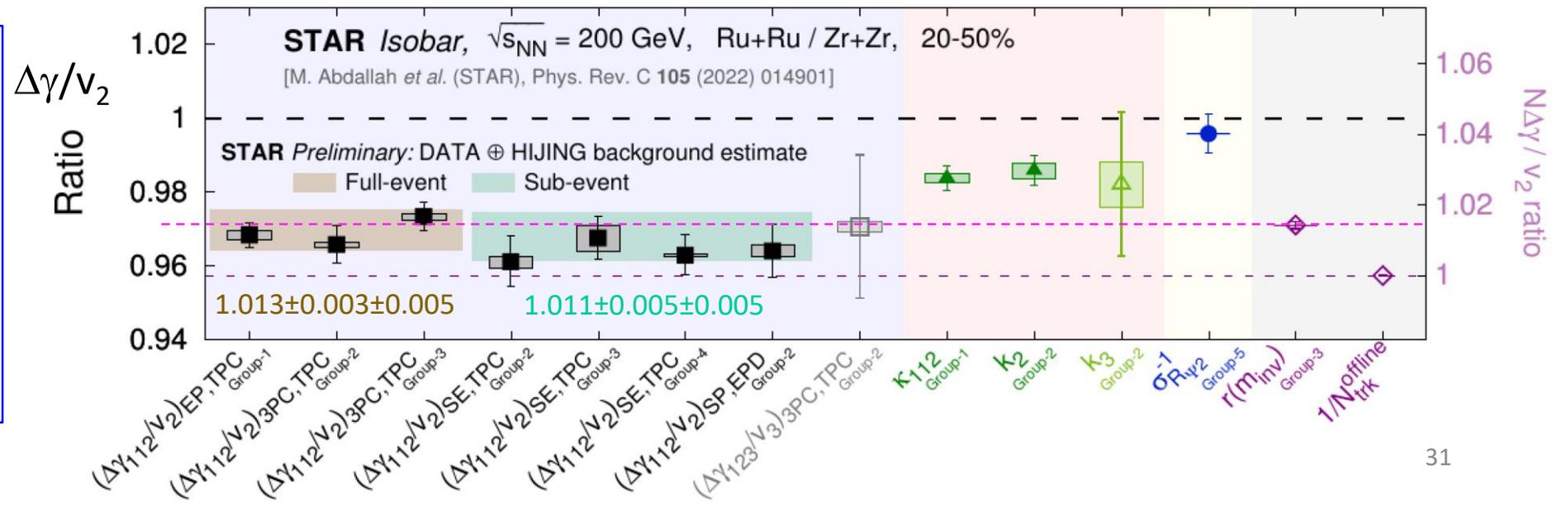
$$\Delta X \equiv X^{Ru} - X^{Zr}$$

$$\frac{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{Ru}}{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{Zr}} \equiv \frac{(NC_3/v_2^{*2})^{Ru}}{(NC_3/v_2^{*2})^{Zr}} \approx \frac{\varepsilon_2^{Ru}}{\varepsilon_2^{Zr}} \cdot \frac{(1+\varepsilon_{nf})^{Zr}}{(1+\varepsilon_{nf})^{Ru}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 + \frac{\varepsilon_3/\varepsilon_2}{Nv_2^2}\right)^{Ru}}{\left(1 + \frac{\varepsilon_3/\varepsilon_2}{Nv_2^2}\right)^{Zr}} \approx \frac{\varepsilon_2^{Ru}}{\varepsilon_2^{Zr}} - \frac{\Delta\varepsilon_{nf}}{1+\varepsilon_{nf}} + \frac{\varepsilon_3/\varepsilon_2}{1 + \frac{\varepsilon_3/\varepsilon_2}{Nv_2^2}} \left(\frac{\Delta\varepsilon_3}{\varepsilon_3} - \frac{\Delta\varepsilon_2}{\varepsilon_2} - \frac{\Delta N}{N} - \frac{\Delta v_2^2}{v_2^2} \right)$$

Current total uncertainty:
 $0.4\% \oplus 0.3\% \oplus 0.5\% = 0.7\%$

Assuming 15% B^2 diff:
 $\delta f_{CME} = 0.7\%/15\% = 5\%$

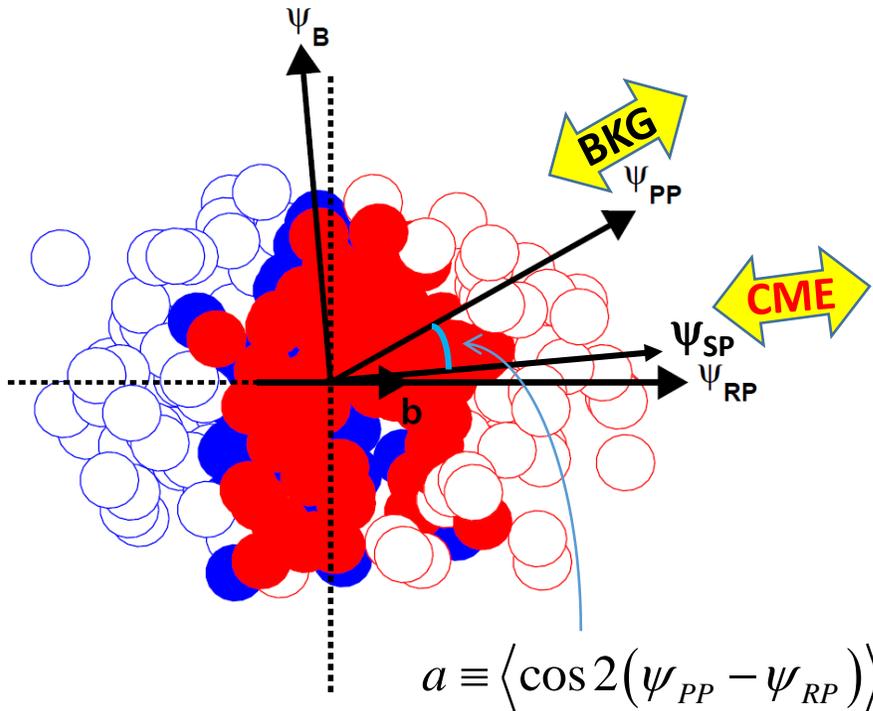
My conservative estimate:
 $f_{CME} < 10\%$ at 98% CL



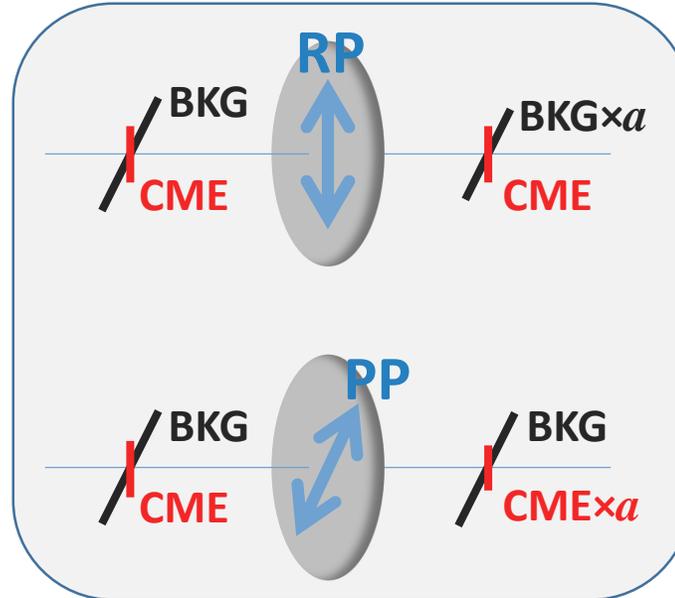
SPECTATOR & PARTICIPANT PLANES

H.-j. Xu, FW, et al., CPC 42 (2018) 084103, arXiv:1710.07265

$$\Delta\gamma = 2 \langle a_1^2 \rangle \frac{v_{2,c\perp B}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{2p} N_{2p}}{N^2} \frac{v_{2,2p} v_{2,c}}{v_{2,c}^*} + \frac{C_{3p} N_{3p}}{2N^3 v_{2,c}^*}$$



INTRA-EVENT "CME- v_2 FILTER"



IN THE SAME EVENT

$$\Delta\gamma_{\{SP\}} = \frac{\Delta\gamma_{CME\{PP\}}}{a} + a\Delta\gamma_{Bkg\{PP\}}$$

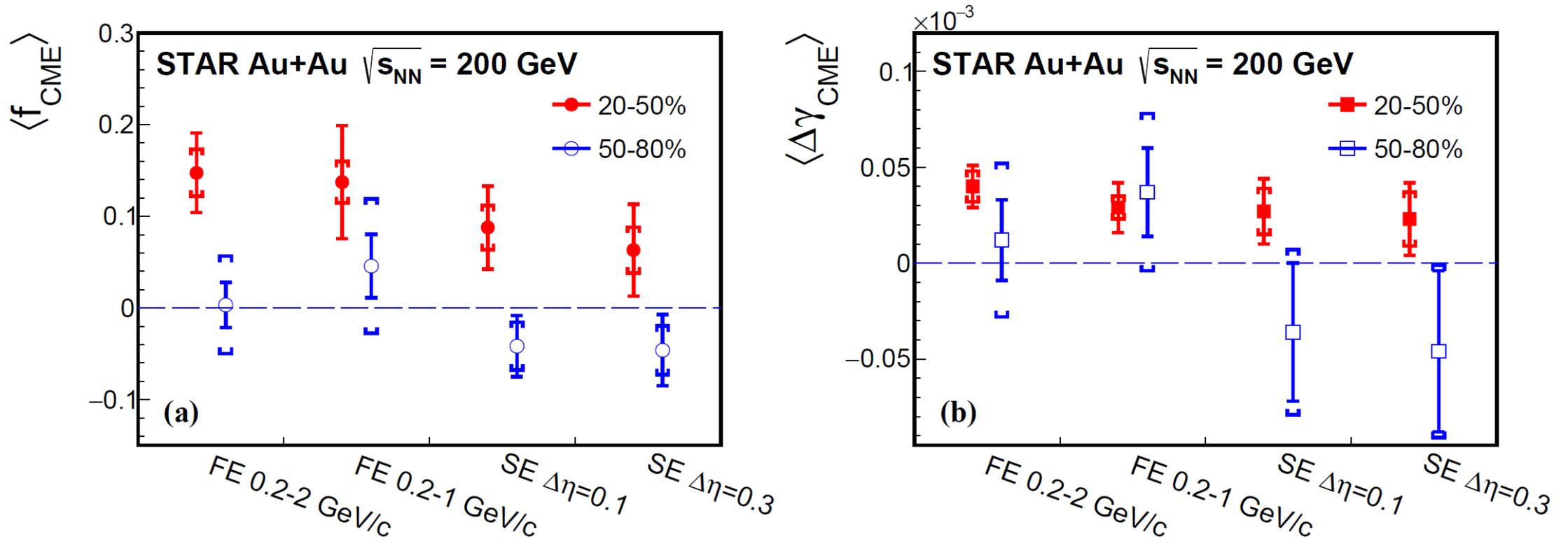
$$\Delta\gamma_{\{PP\}} = \Delta\gamma_{CME\{PP\}} + \Delta\gamma_{Bkg\{PP\}}$$

$$f_{CME} = \frac{\Delta\gamma_{CME\{PP\}}}{\Delta\gamma_{\{PP\}}} = \frac{A/a - 1}{1/a^2 - 1}$$

$$A = \Delta\gamma_{\{SP\}} / \Delta\gamma_{\{PP\}}, \quad a = v_2\{SP\} / v_2\{PP\}$$

Au+Au Collisions at 200 GeV (2.4B MB)

STAR, PRL 128 (2022) 092301, arXiv:2106.09243

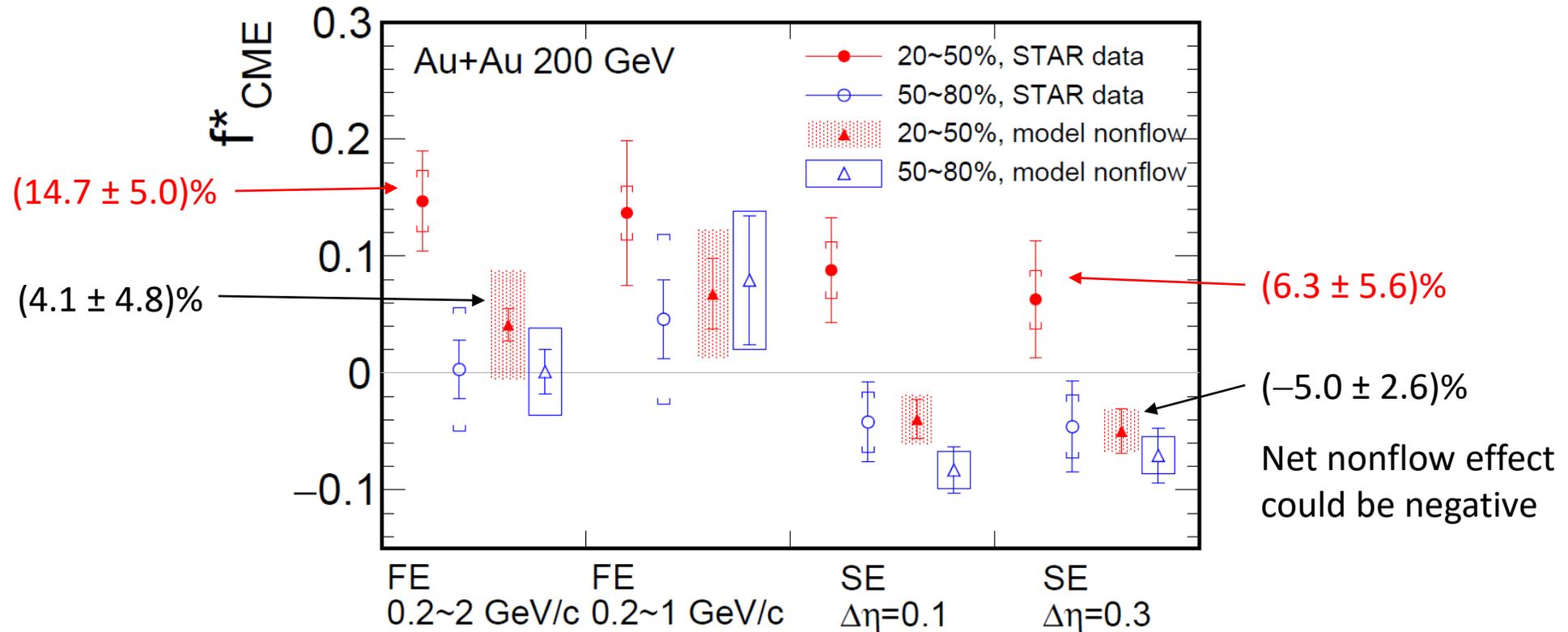


- Peripheral 50-80% collisions: consistent-with-zero signal with relatively large errors
- Mid-central 20-50% collisions: indication of finite CME signal with 1-3 σ significance
- How much is there remaining nonflow contamination?

IMPLICATIONS TO Au+Au DATA

STAR, PRL 128 (2022) 092301, arXiv:2106.09243

Feng, FW, et al., PRC 105 (2022) 024913, arXiv:2106.15595

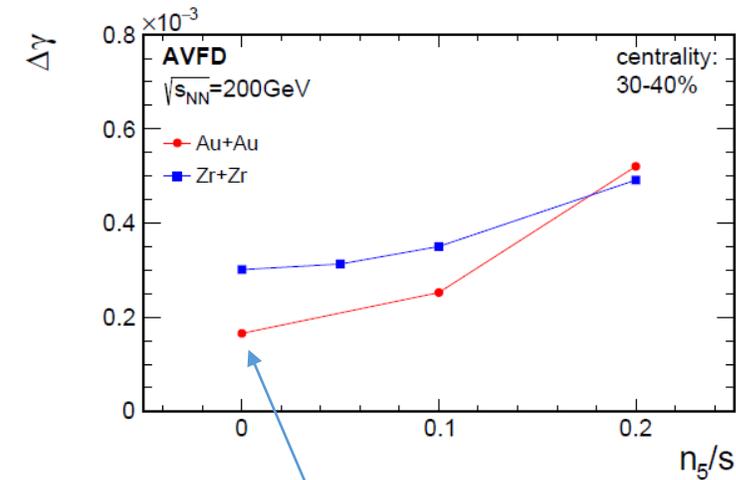


There may indeed be hint of CME in the Au+Au data

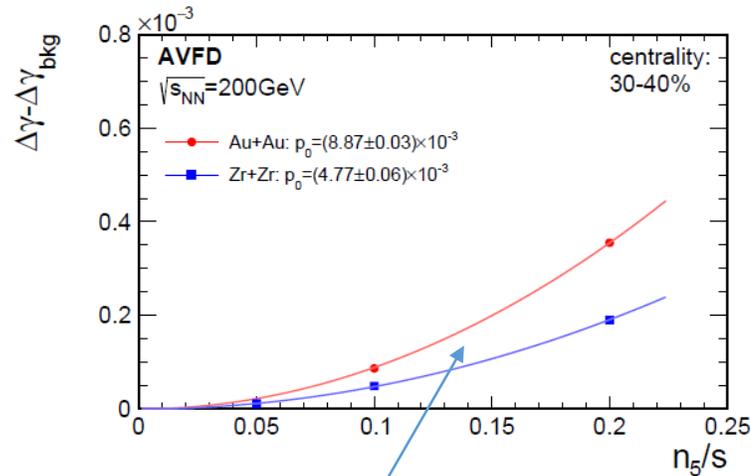
ISOBAR SIGNAL MAY BE EXPECTED SMALL

Feng, Lin, Zhao & FW, PLB 820 (2021) 136549, arXiv:2103.10378

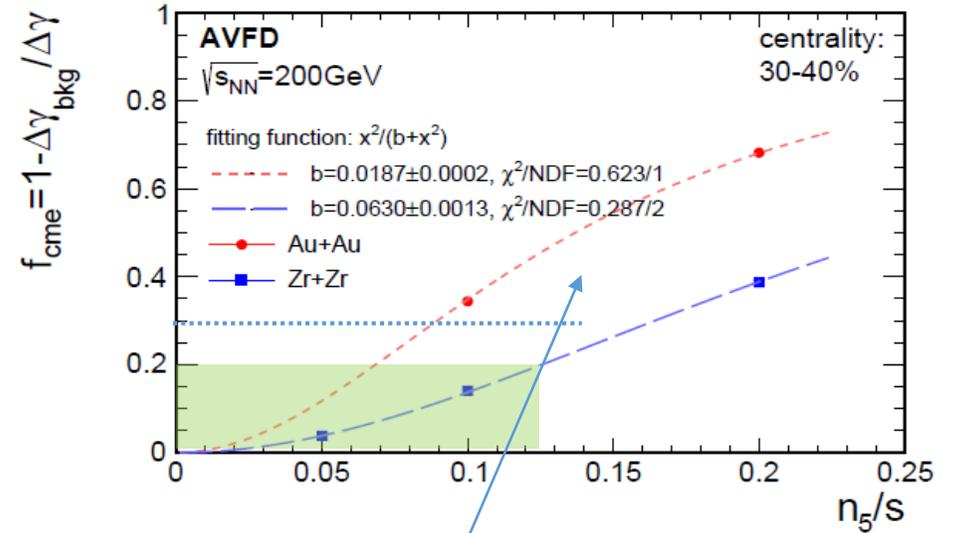
AVFD simulations in preparation for isobar blind analysis



Background $\propto 1/N$
isobar/AuAu ~ 2



Mag. field $B \sim A/A^{2/3} \sim A^{1/3}$
 $\Delta\gamma_{\text{CME}} \sim B^2 \sim A^{2/3}$
Signal: AuAu/isobar ~ 1.5



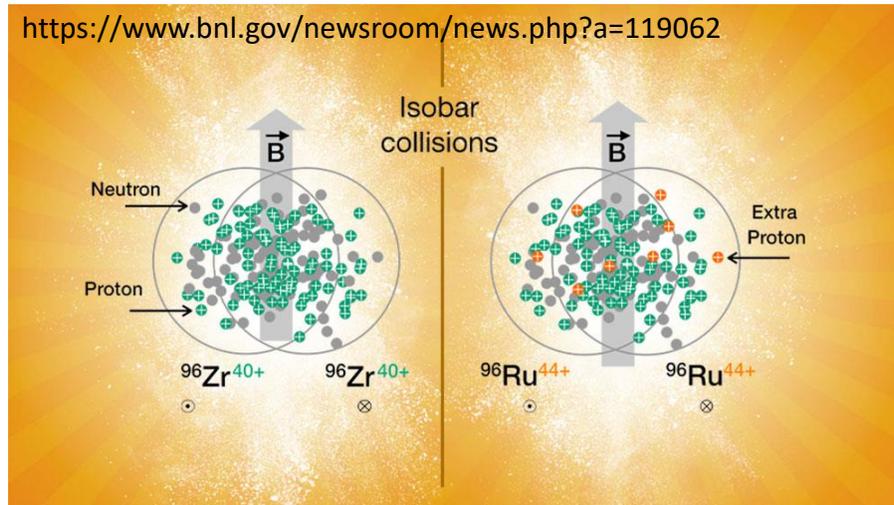
Could be x3 reduction in f_{CME} at the same n_5/s
If AuAu $f_{\text{CME}} = 10\%$, then isobar 3% (1σ effect)
 $\text{Ru/Zr} = 1 + 15\% * 3\% = 1.005 (\pm 0.004)$

Caveats: Axial charge densities and sphaleron transition probabilities could be different between Au+Au and isobar, e.g. AVFD-glasma μ_5/s : isobar/AuAu ~ 1.5

ISOBAR S/B ESTIMATES

Voloshin, PRL 105 (2010) 172301

<https://www.bnl.gov/newsroom/news.php?a=119062>



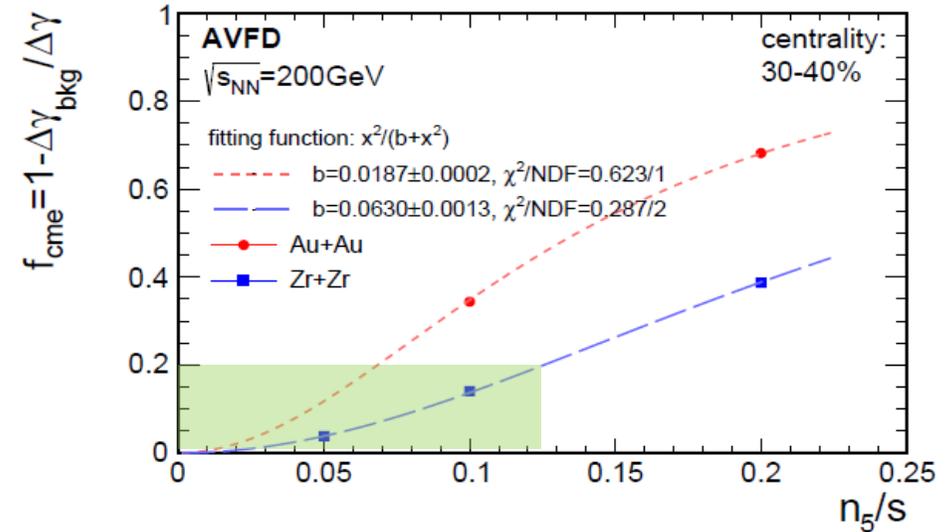
$\Delta\gamma \propto B^2$, differ by 15% between isobars

If CME signal in isobar \sim Au+Au \sim 10%,

then $\Delta\gamma^{\text{Ru}}/\Delta\gamma^{\text{Zr}} - 1 \sim 1.5\%$.

With 0.4% uncertainty, $\sim 4\sigma$ effect

Feng, Lin, Zhao & FW, PLB 820 (2021) 136549, arXiv:2103.10378



If CME signal in isobar is x3 small

than in Au+Au, then $\sim 1\sigma$ effect

5

BYPRODUCTS – Turn bad into good

- Use isobar collisions to probe nuclear structure

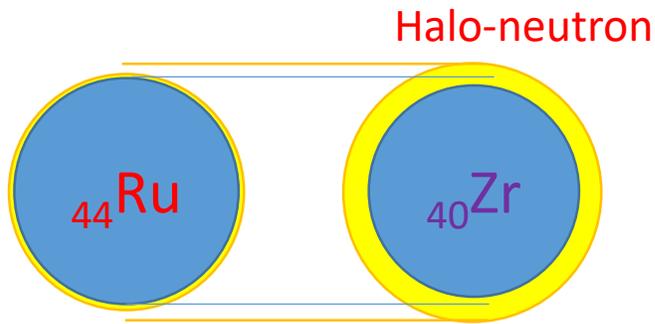
ISOBAR BYPRODUCT – SYMMETRY ENERGY

- Nearly identical nuclei
- Exquisitely matched running conditions, frequently alternating beam species
- Well controlled systematics, largely canceled

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E_0(\rho) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)\delta^2 + O(\delta^4); \quad \rho = \rho_n + \rho_p; \quad \delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho};$$

Slope parameter : $L \equiv L(\rho) = 3\rho \left[\frac{dE_{\text{sym}}(\rho)}{d\rho} \right]_{\rho=\rho_0}$ saturation density

$$L(\rho_c) = 3\rho_c \left[\frac{dE_{\text{sym}}(\rho)}{d\rho} \right]_{\rho=\rho_c=0.11\rho_0/0.16}$$



Larger L , harder EOS
 \Updownarrow
 Smaller δ to lower E
 \Updownarrow
 Smaller ρ_n , larger Δr_{np}

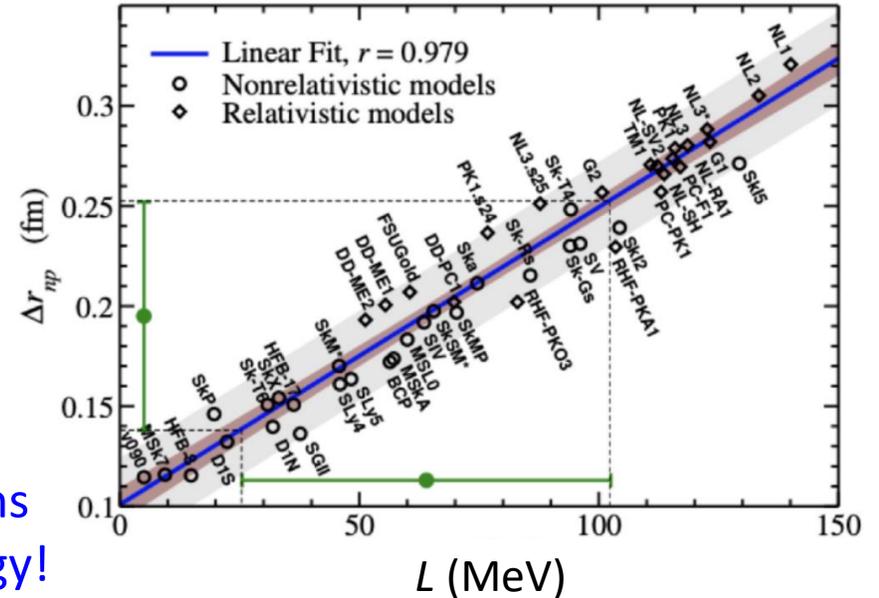
Brown, PRC 85, 5296 (2000)
 Furnstahl, NPA 706, 85 (2002)
 Roca-Maza et al., PRL 106, 252501 (2011)

Larger charge radius
 Little neutron skin

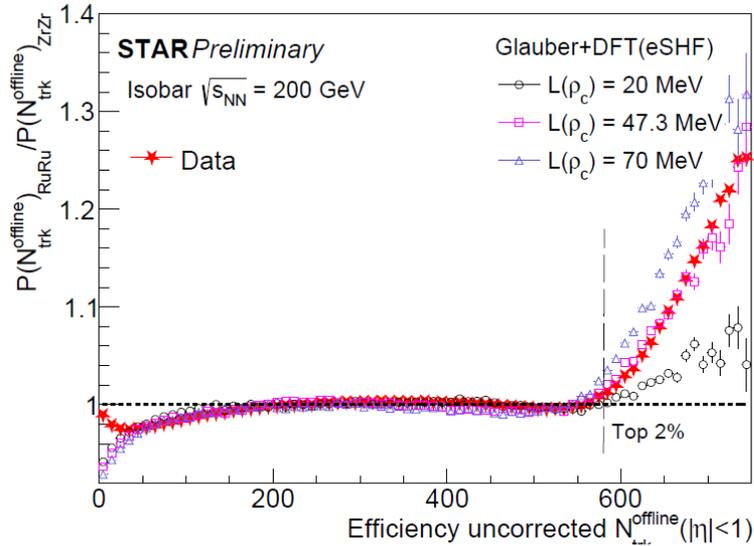
Smaller charge radius
 Thicker neutron skin

Overall size: Ru < Zr
 → Larger energy density in Ru > Zr
 → Larger multiplicity in Ru > Zr

Relativistic heavy-ion collisions
 can probe the symmetry energy!



ISOBAR BYPRODUCT – SYMMETRY ENERGY



Hanlin Li, Haojie Xu, et al., PRL 125, 222301 (2020)

Haojie Xu, QM 2022, arXiv:2208.06149

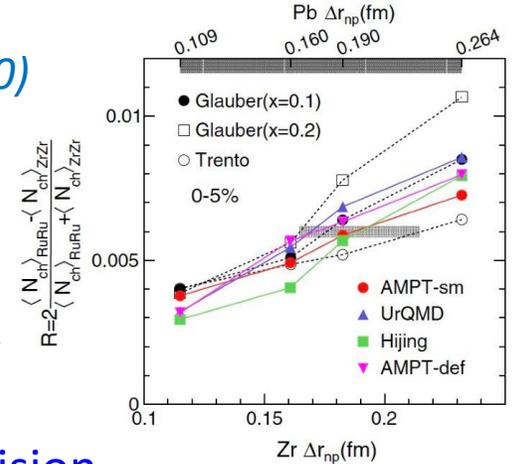
Zhang & Chen, PRC 94, 064326 (2016)

$$\Delta r_{np,Zr} = 0.195 \pm 0.019 \text{ fm}$$

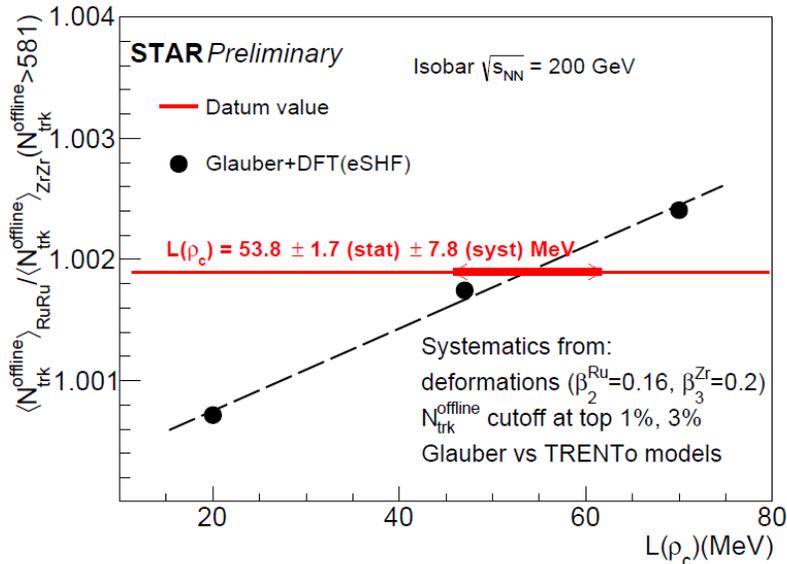
$$L(\rho_c) = 53.8 \pm 1.7 \pm 7.8 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta r_{np,Ru} = 0.051 \pm 0.009 \text{ fm}$$

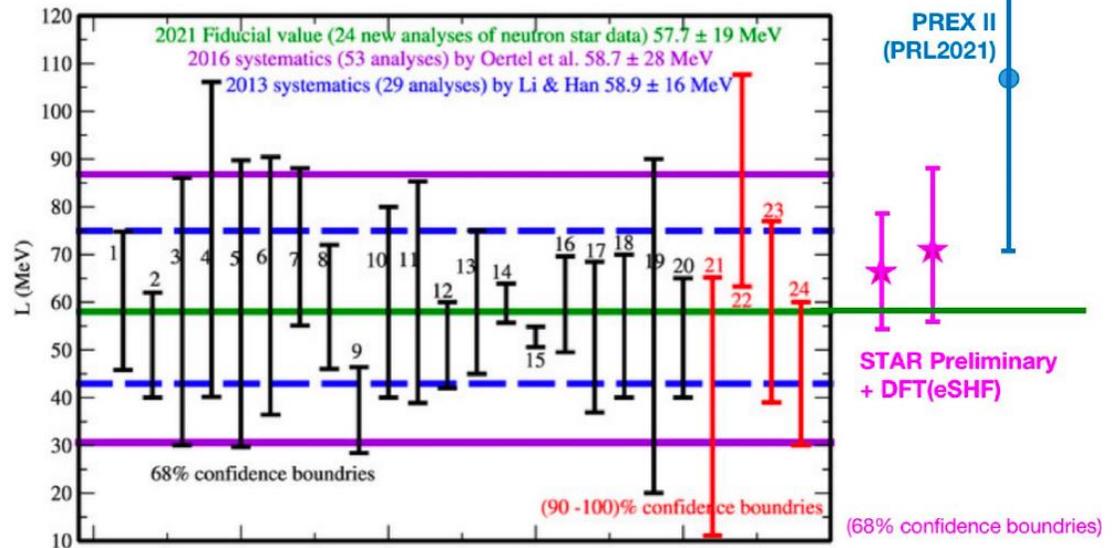
$$L(\rho) = 65.4 \pm 2.1 \pm 12.1 \text{ MeV}$$



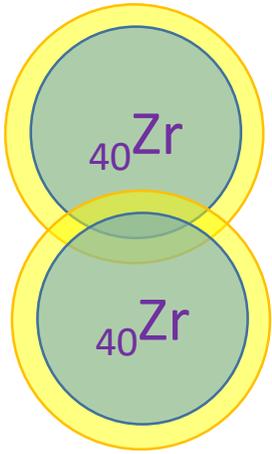
Consistent with world data, with good precision



B. Li, et al Universe 7, 182 (2021)



NET-CHARGE IN GRAZING ISOBAR COLLISIONS



Larger neutron skin of colliding nuclei
 More nn collisions in grazing impact
 Fewer participant charges
 Smaller net-charge at mid-rapidity

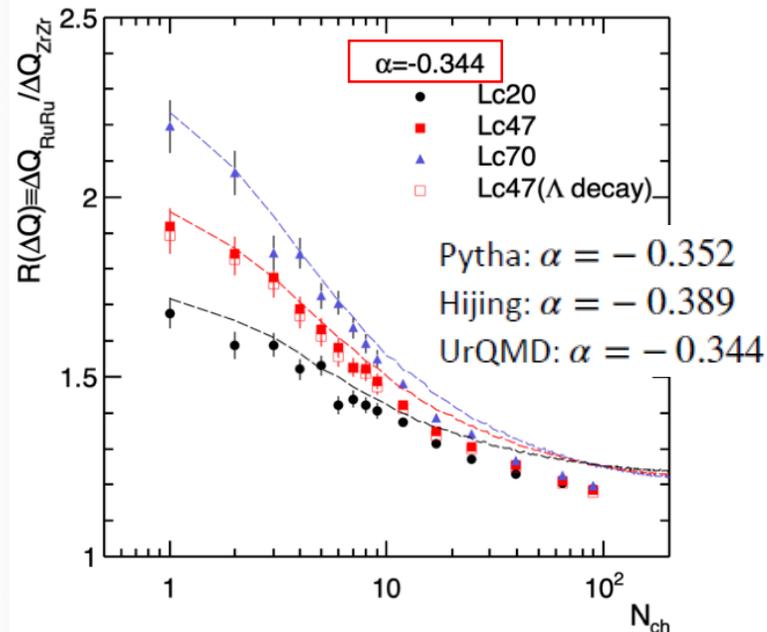
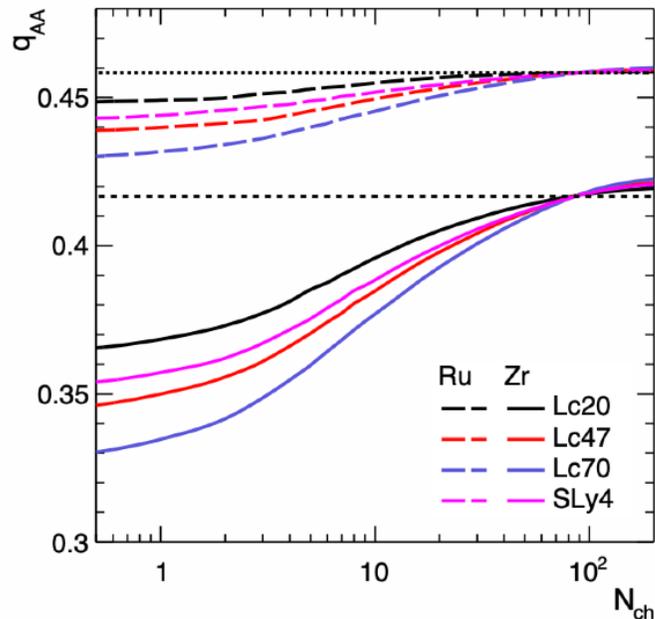
Haojie Xu et al., PRC 105, L011901 (2022)

Superimposition assumption:

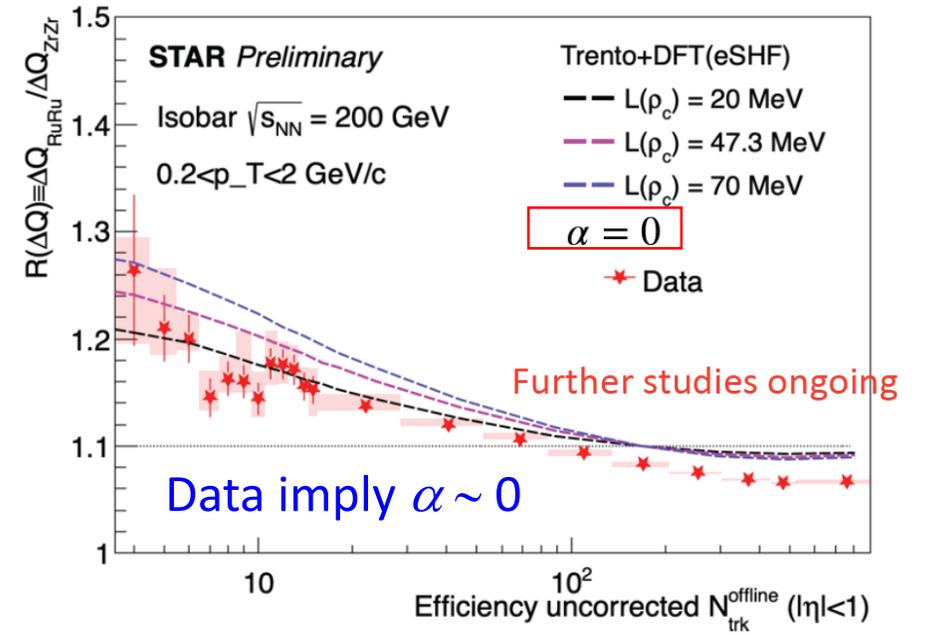
$$R(\Delta Q) = \frac{q_{RuRu} + \alpha/(1 - \alpha)}{q_{ZrZr} + \alpha/(1 - \alpha)}$$

q_{AA} : participant $p/(p+n)$

$$\alpha = \Delta Q_{nn} / \Delta Q_{pp}$$



Haojie Xu, QM 2022, arXiv:2208.06149



SUMMARY

- CME is a fundamental physics in QCD and the Standard Model; may be pertinent to left/right, matter/antimatter asymmetry
- Isobar collisions have been a powerful tool, but background is too large that statistics aren't enough to make a decisive conclusion. Not a contradiction to Au+Au where a $\sim 2\sigma$ effect is observed.
- Somewhat unexpected but pleasant byproduct: high sensitivity to nuclear structure