中国科学技术大学
University of Science and Technology of China

Overview of Open Heavy Flavor and Quarkonia Physics at STAR

Kaifeng Shen (for the STAR collaboration)

University of Science and Technology of China

(skfwyl@ustc.edu.cn)

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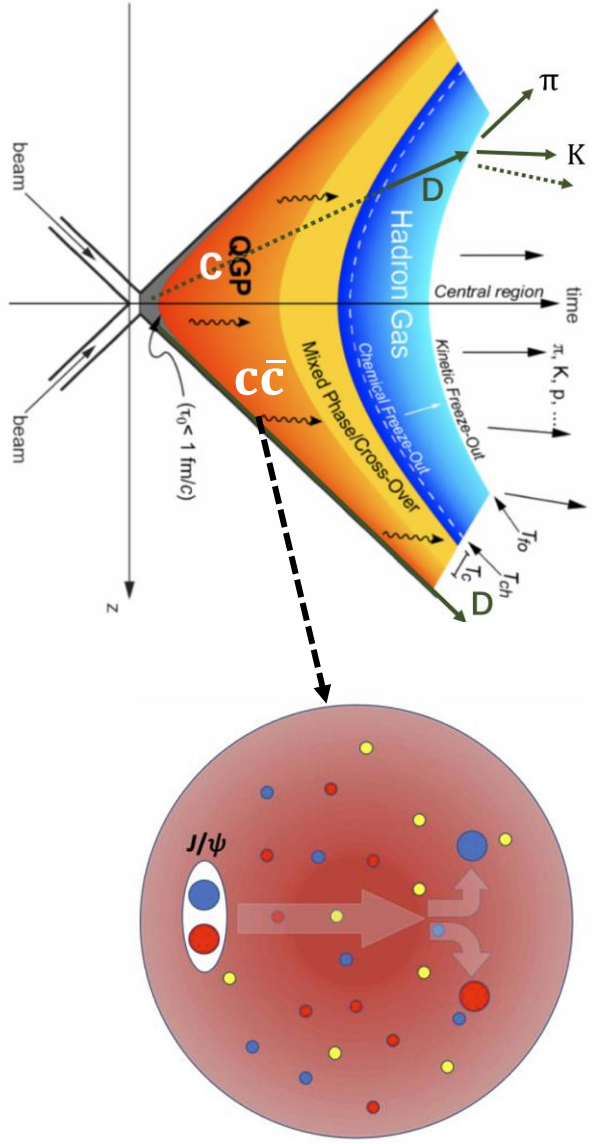
Outline

- Experimental Probes for Deconfinement
- Open Heavy Flavor Physics at STAR
- Quarkonia Physics at STAR
- Summary and Outlooks

Experimental Probes for Deconfinement

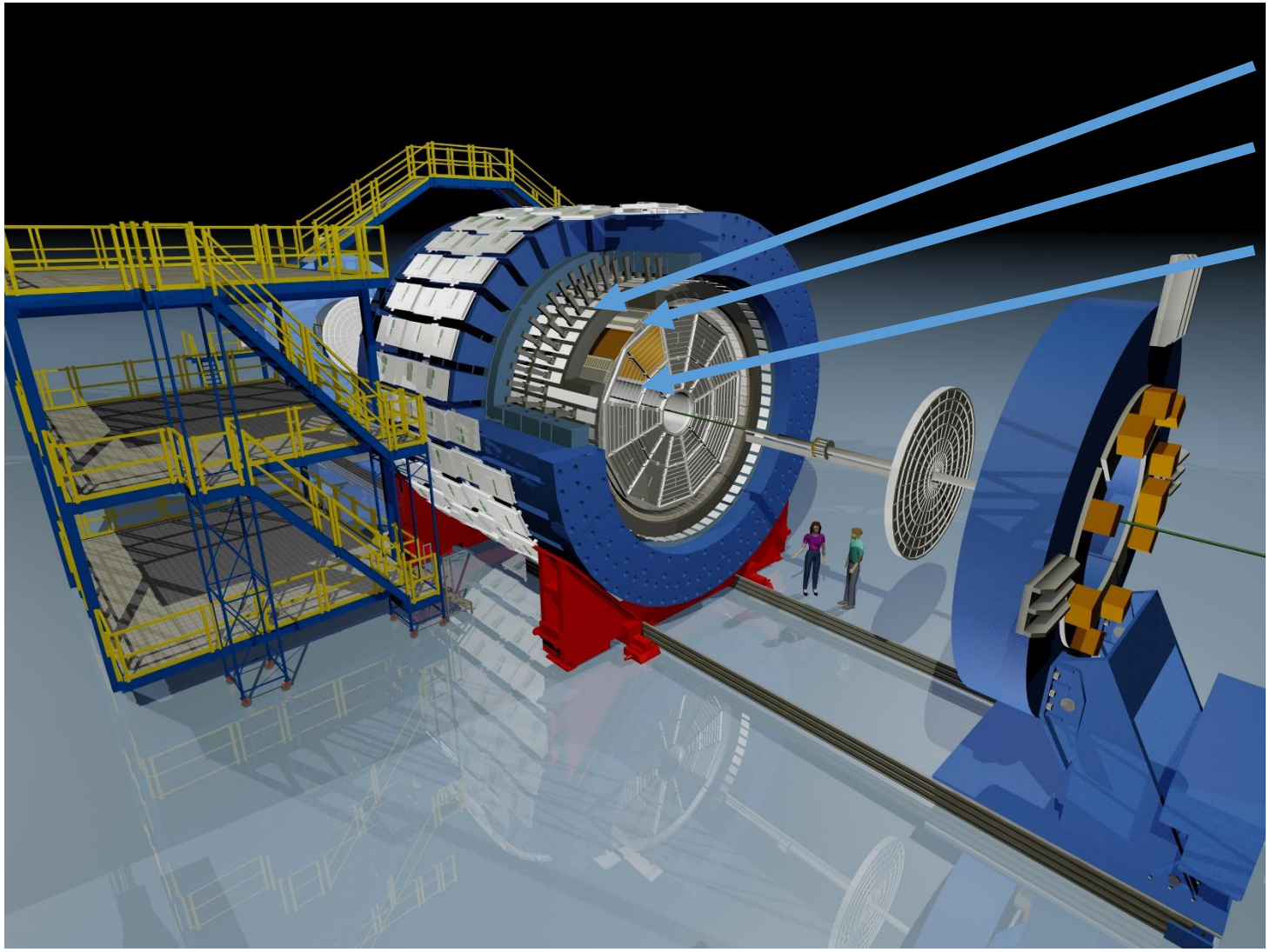
Heavy-flavour as probes of the QGP

- Mainly produced from initial hard partonic scattering, $m_{c,b} > \Lambda_{\mathrm{QCD}}$
- Experience the entire evolution of the QPG, loss energy through Gluon radiation or Collisional energy loss
- The $Q\bar{Q}$ pair bound state can be dissociated or regenerated in the QGP



Credit: Boris Hippolyte & Qian Yang

The Solenoid Tracker At RHIC



- ✓ BEMC: E_0/p, high p_T electron identification
- ✓ TOF: Time of flight, particle identification
- ✓ TPC: Tracking, momentum and particle identification(dE/dx)

Presented collision system:

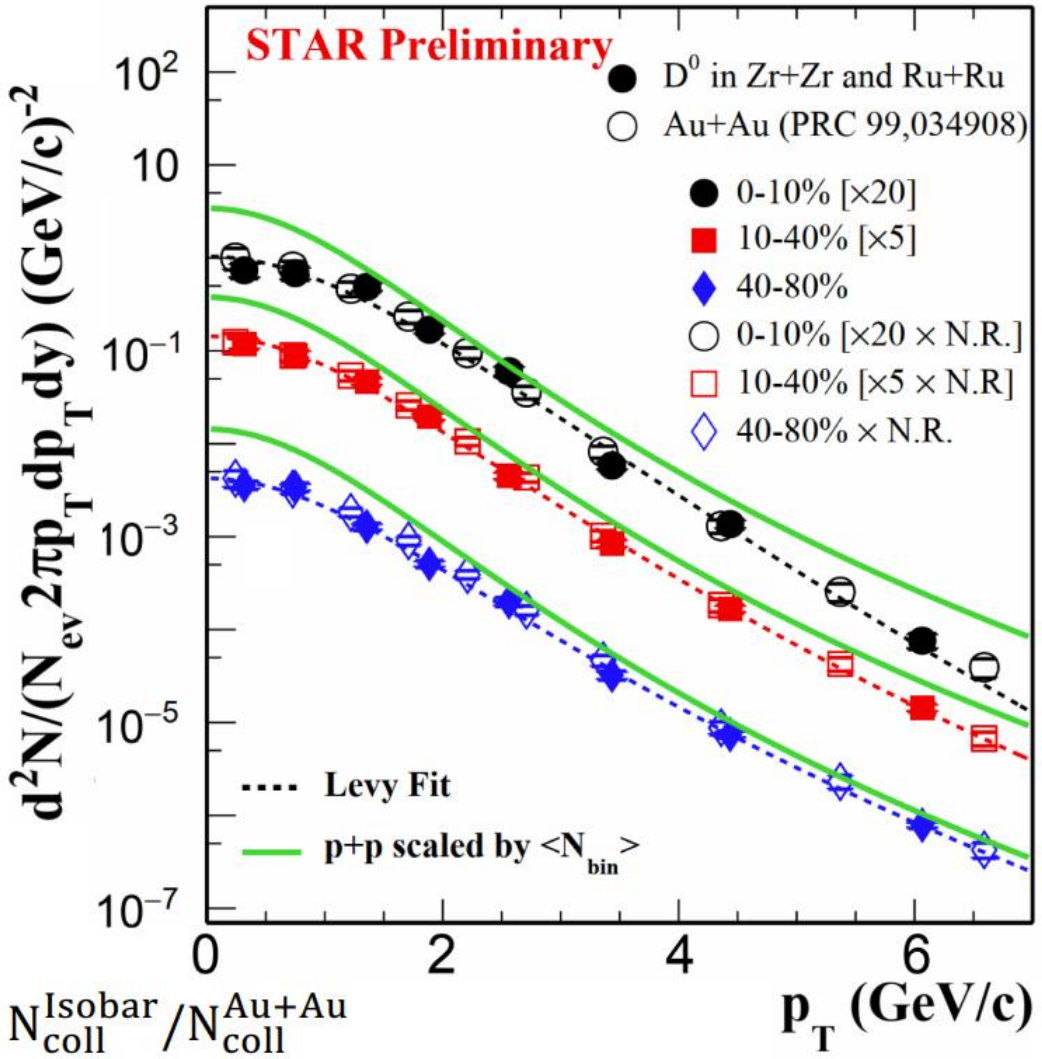
- Au+Au at 14.6-200 GeV
- Ru+Ru & Zr+Zr at 200 GeV
- p+p at 500 GeV

Kinematic acceptance:

- $p_T > 0.2$ GeV/c
- $|\eta| < 1$

Open Heavy Flavor Physics at STAR

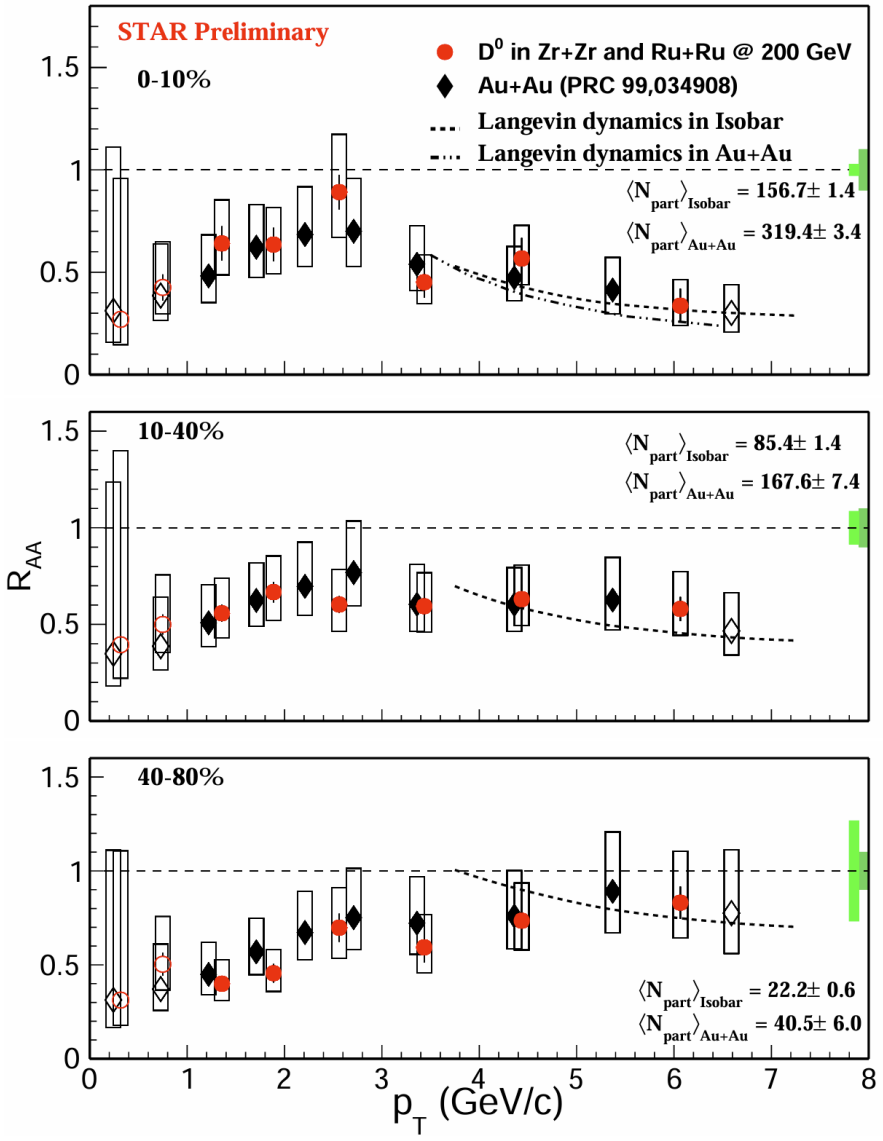
D^0 meson measured in different collision systems



$$N.R. = N_{coll}^{Isobar} / N_{coll}^{Au+Au}$$

- D^0 meson has been measured in isobaric collisions
- D^0 yield follows N_{coll} scaling within uncertainties between Zr+Zr, Ru+Ru and Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV

D^0 meson: energy loss in QGP



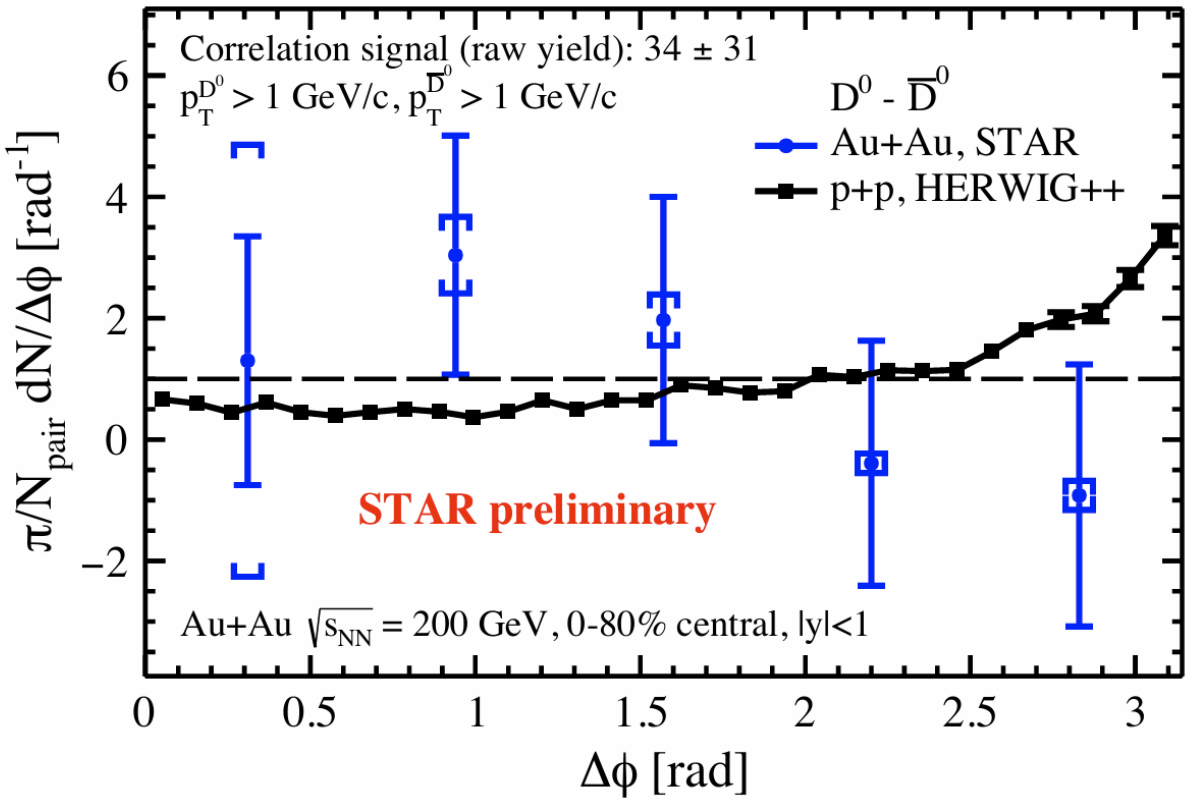
- D^0 meson R_{AA} is significantly suppressed at high-p_T in central collisions
- More suppression towards central collisions
- Similar suppression is observed between isobar and Au+Au collisions
- Consistent with model calculations based on radiative and collisional energy loss

Model calculation: G. Qin, private communication

D^0-$\overline{D^0}$ meson: azimuthal correlations

- Weaker correlation is expected in heavy ion collisions compared to that in p+p collisions at $\Delta\phi \approx \pi$, due to energy loss and thermalization in QGP

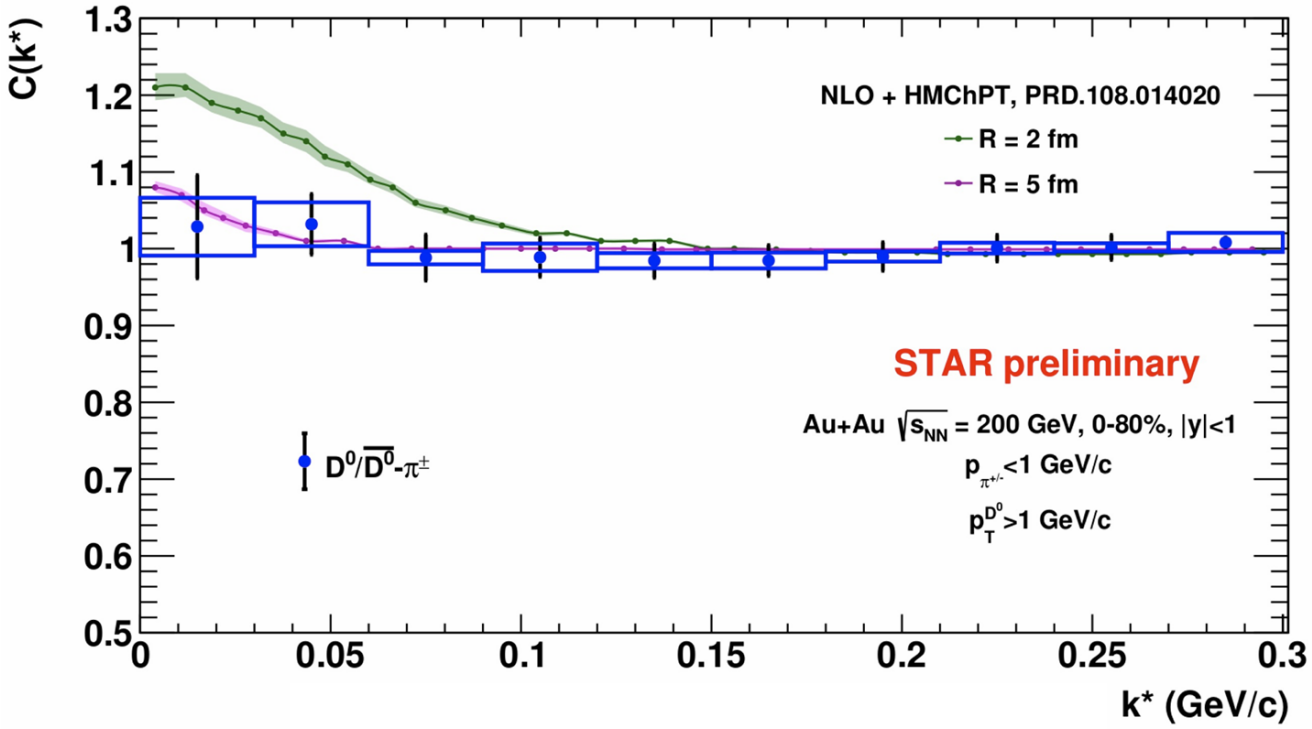
Phys. Lett. B 647 (2007) 366–370



- No azimuthal correlation is seen within current uncertainties

D^0-$\pi^{\pm}$ femtoscopic correlations

- The final state interaction(FSI) measured in femtoscopic CFs

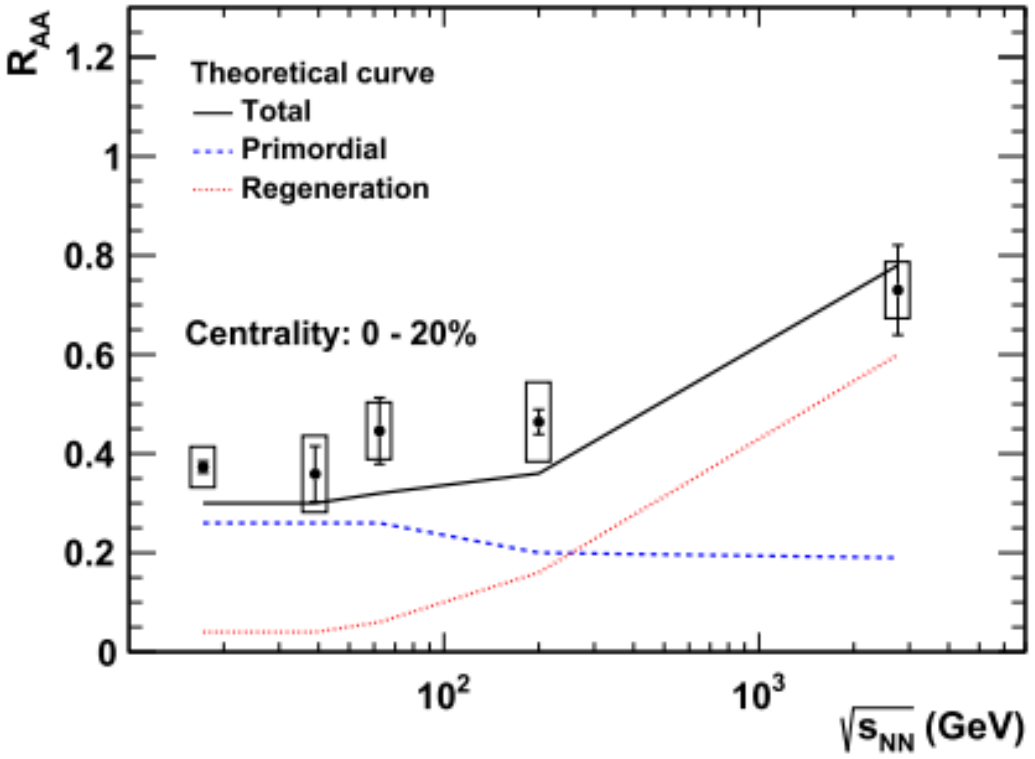


- No significant correlations is observed within current uncertainties
- Consistent with model calculation with R = 5 fm or maybe larger

Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 014020

Quarkonia Physics at STAR

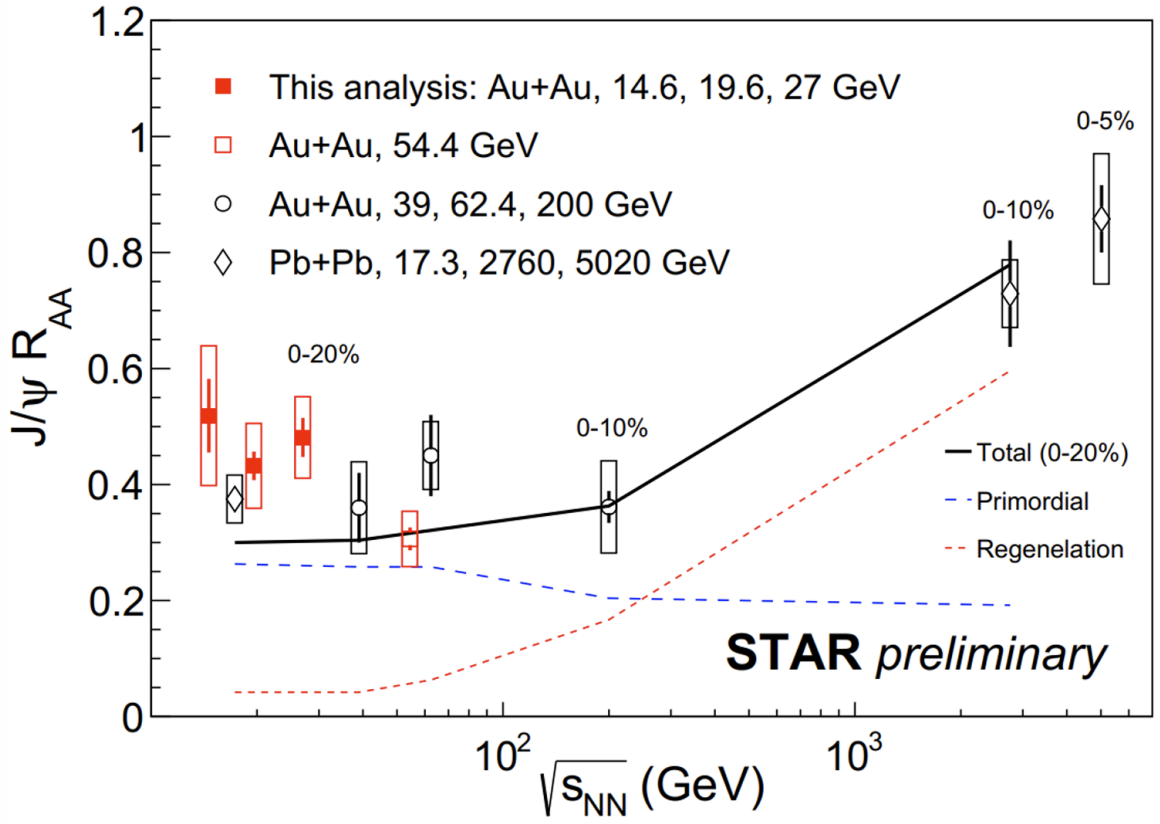
Collision energy dependence of QGP property



(STAR) Phys. Lett. B 771 (2017) 13-20

- Measurement J/ψ suppression in different collision energy → understand collision energy dependence of QGP property
- Beam Energy Scan Ⅱ at STAR: Unique opportunity to study the collision energy dependence, 10-20 times higher statistics than BES-Ⅰ

J/ψ suppression measured at different energies



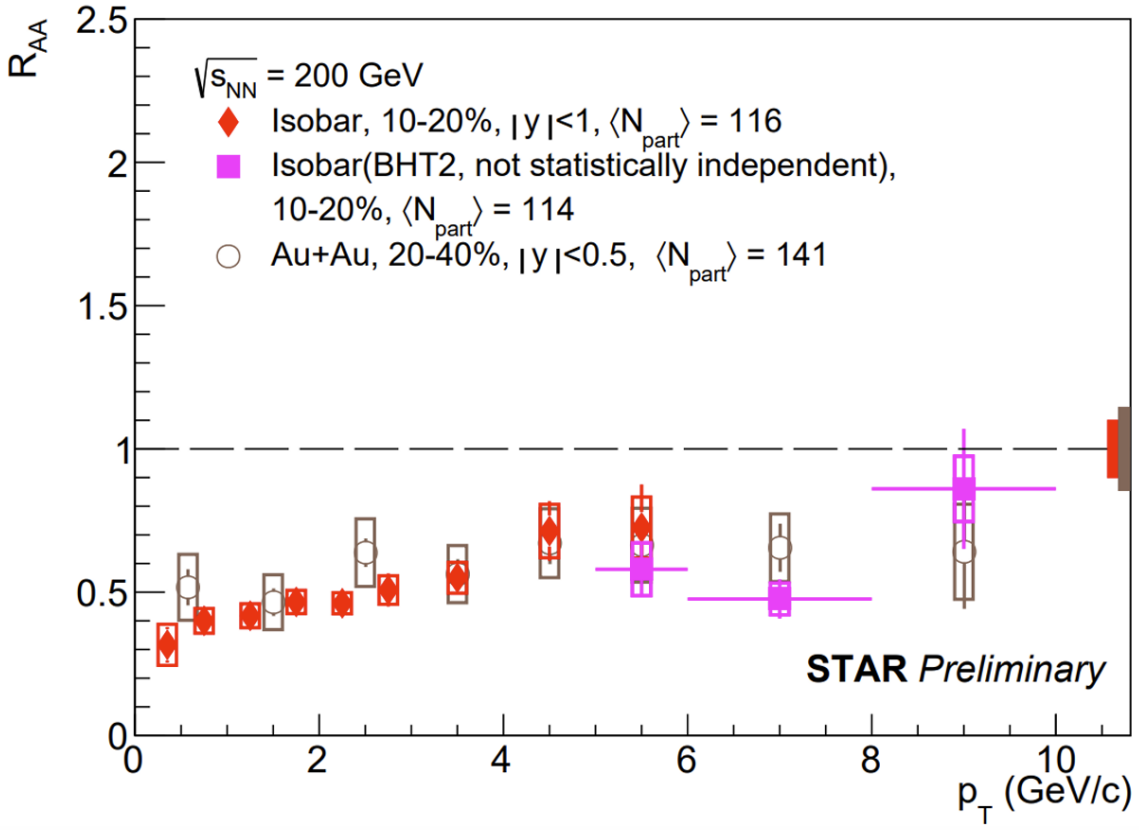
Phys. Rev. C 82 (2010) 064905 (private communication)

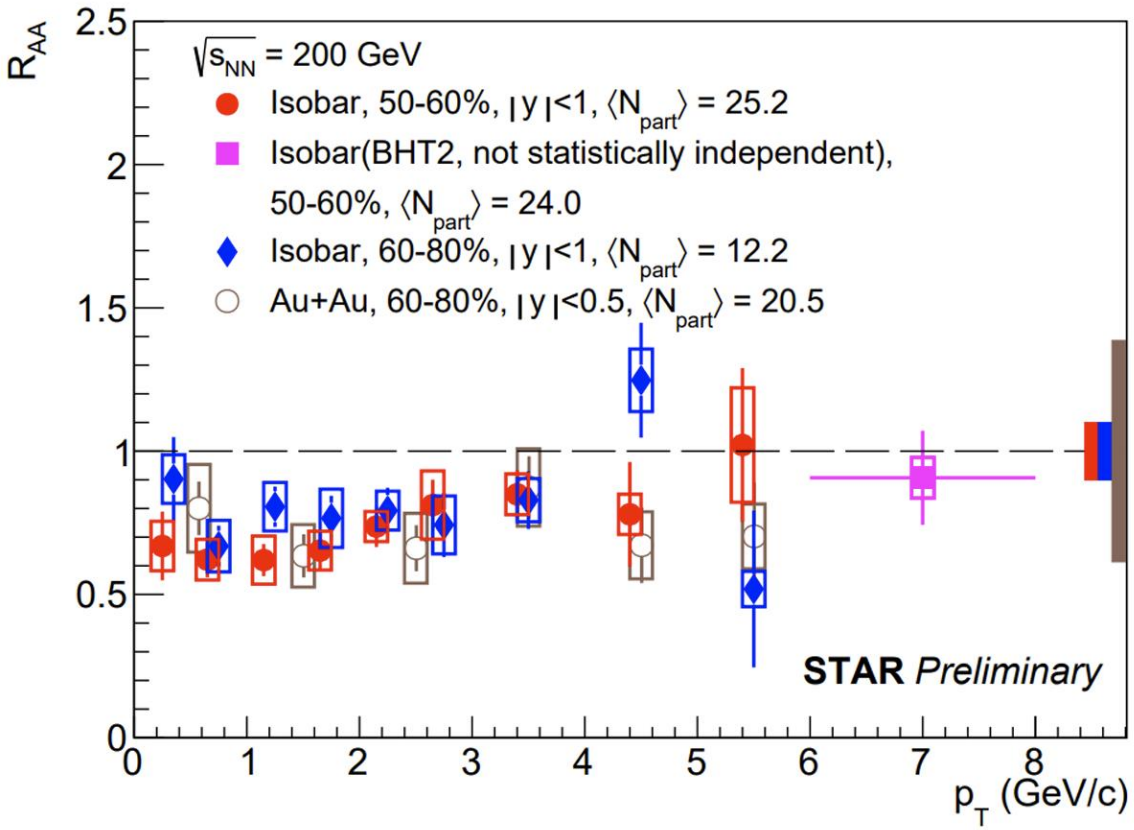
- No significant energy dependence of nuclear modification factor within uncertainties at $\sqrt{S_{NN}} \leq 200$ GeV

(NA50) Phys. Lett. B 477 (2000) 28
(ALICE) Phys. Lett. B 734 (2014) 314
(STAR) Phys. Lett. B 771 (2017) 13-20
(STAR) Phys. Lett. B 797 (2019) 134917
(ALICE) PLB 849 (2024) 138451

J/ψ suppression measured at different systems

- The size of hot and dense medium → the corresponding J/ψ suppression

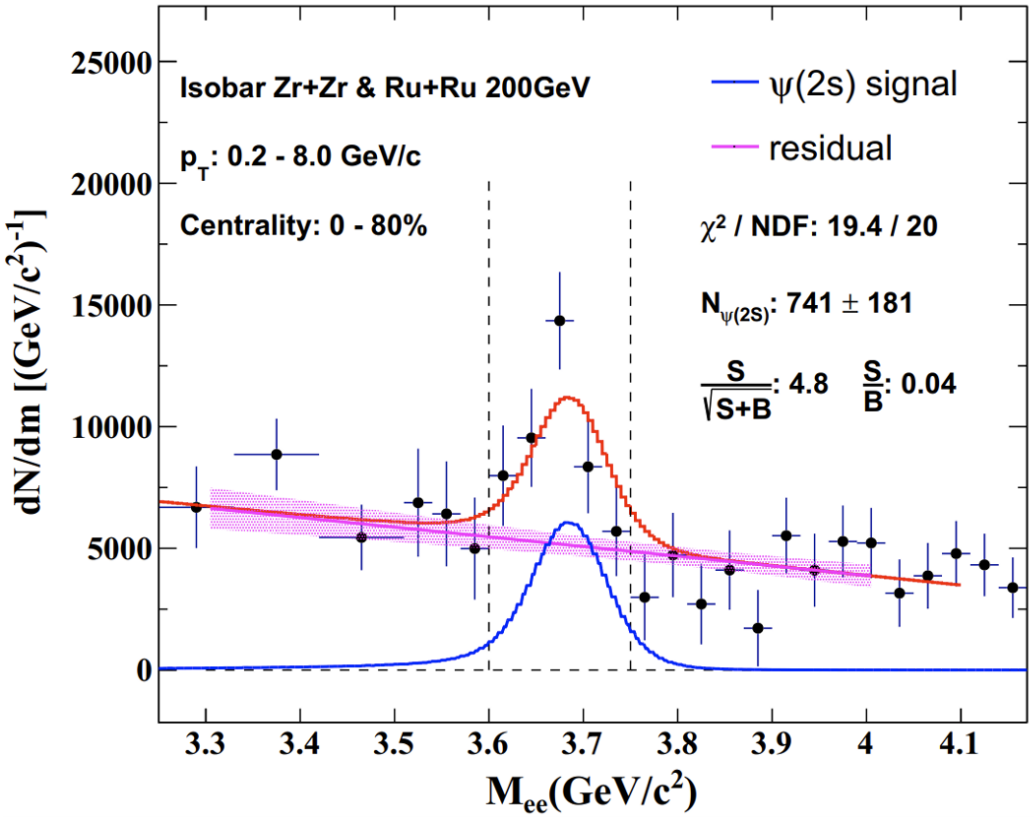


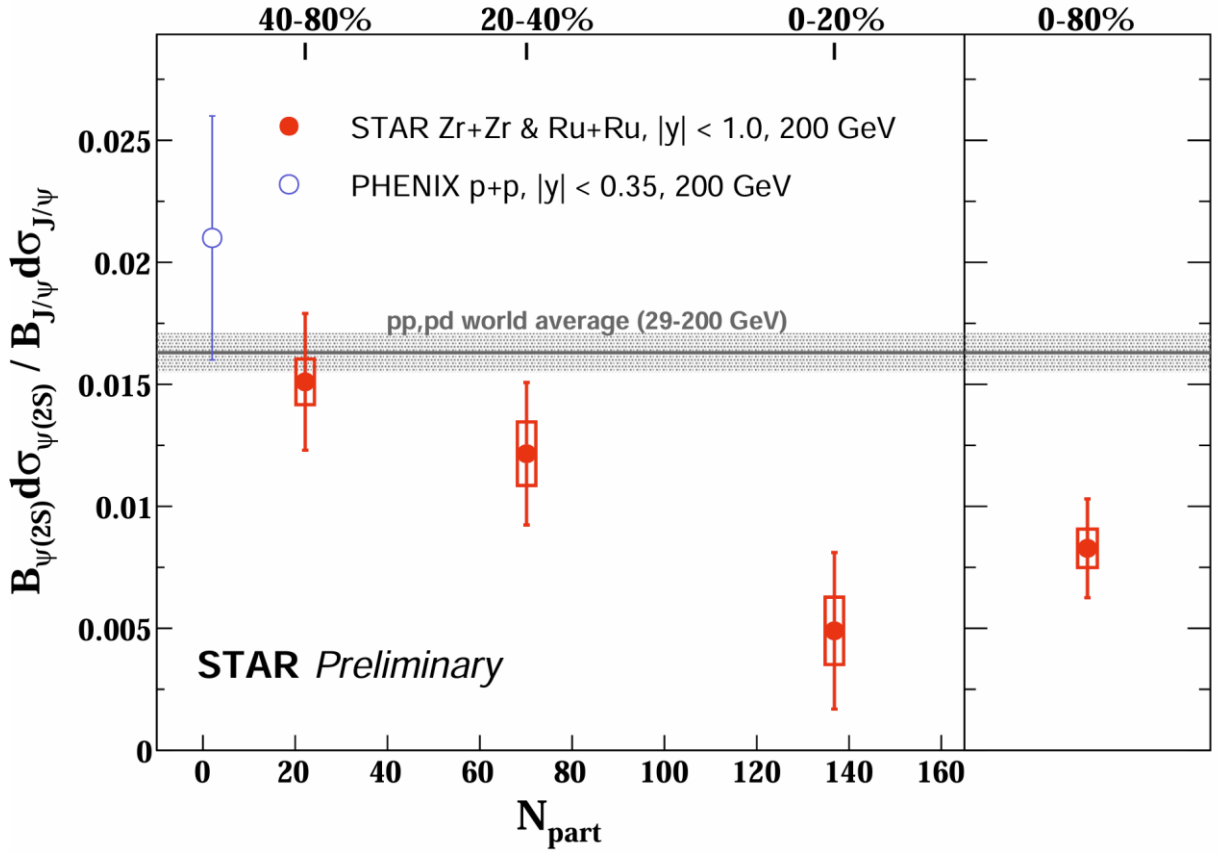


- In isobaric collisions, highest precision measurement at RHIC to date
- No significant collision system dependence of J/ψ suppression at similar $\langle N_{\mathrm{part}} \rangle$ range

Charmonium sequential suppression

- The suppression level related to the binding energy of charmonium



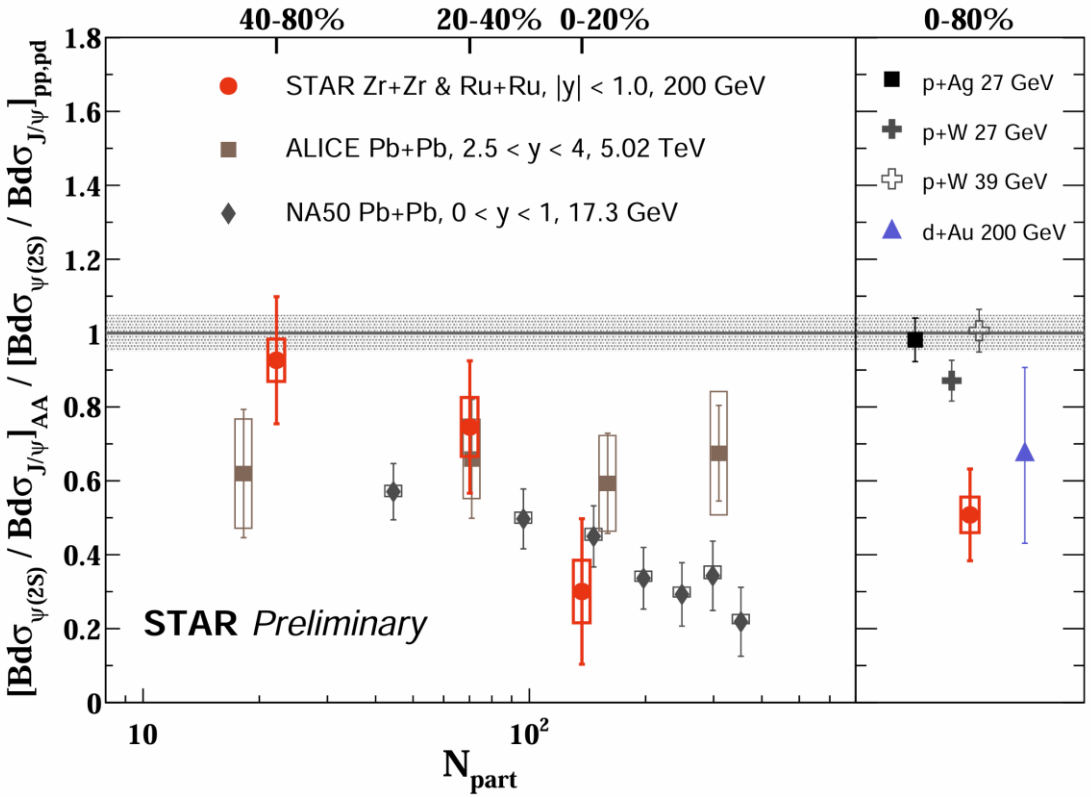


- A clear $\psi(2s)$ signal is observed in isobaric collisions

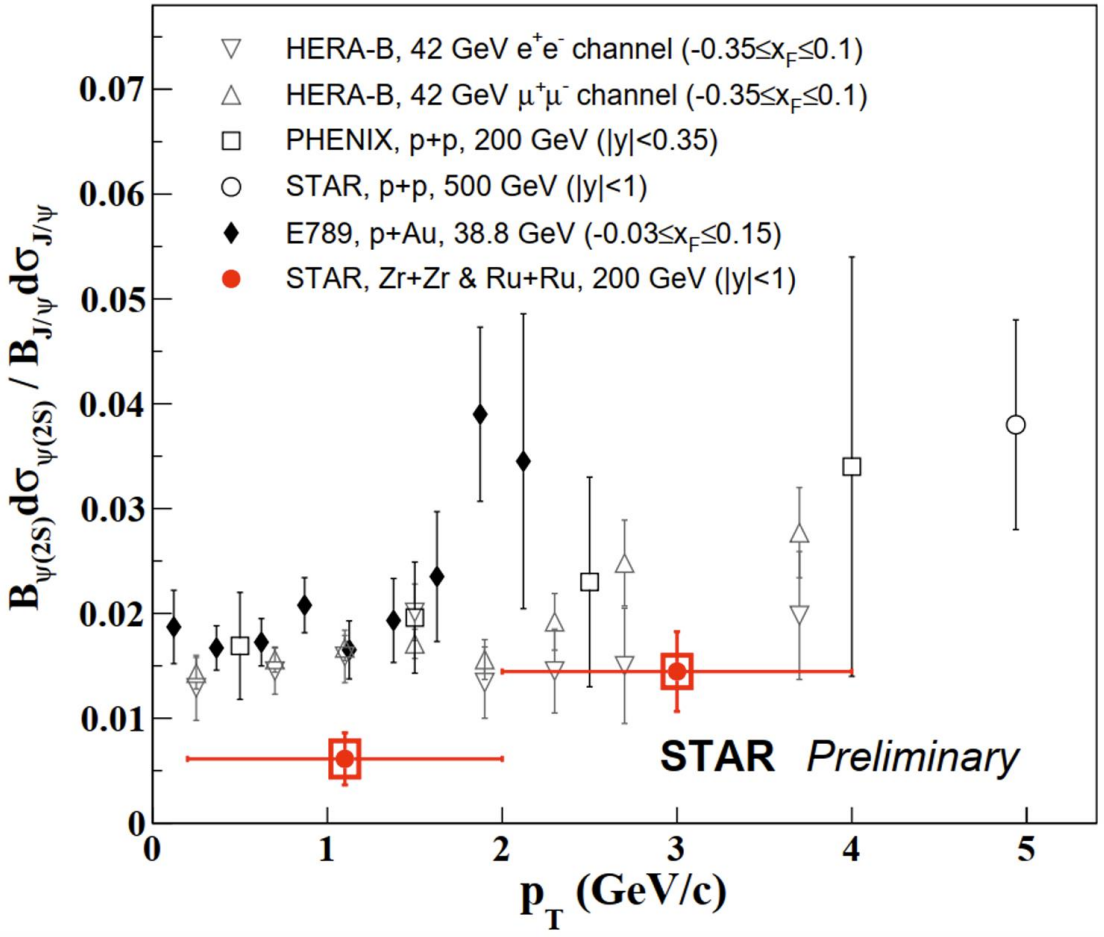
(PHENIX) Phys.Rev.D, 85,092004 (2012)
(NA51) Phys.Lett.B 438 (1998) 35-40

- First observation of charmonium sequential suppression in heavy ion collisions at RHIC (3.5σ)

$\psi(2s)$ over J/ψ ratio vs centrality and p_{T}



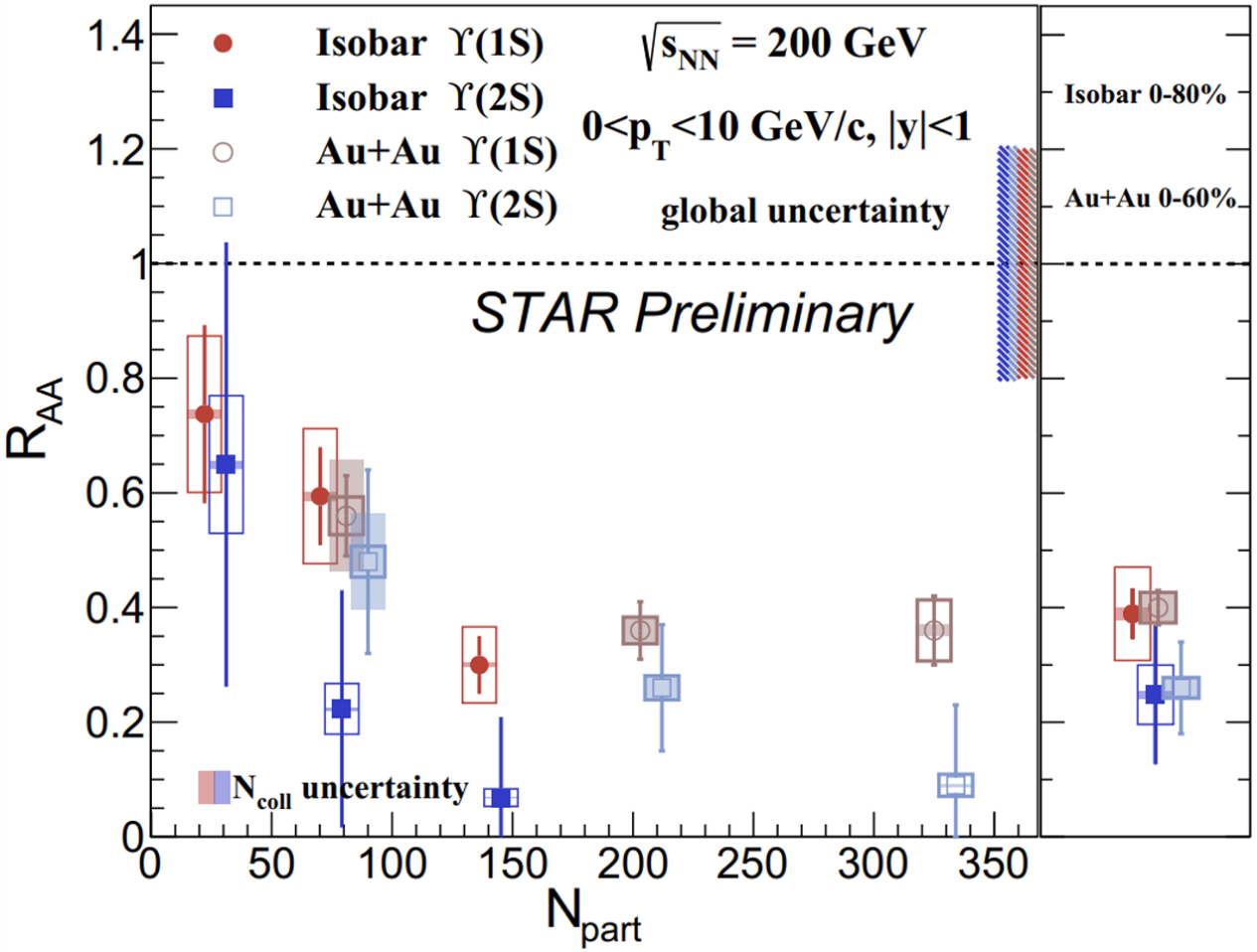
(PHENIX) Phys.Rev.D, 85,092004 (2012)
(NA51) Phys.Lett.B 438 (1998) 35-40



- Centrality dependence trend at RHIC seems more similar to that at SPS than at LHC
- Significantly lower than that in p+p and p+A collisions at p_{T} <2 GeV/c

ϒ suppression at different systems

- Smaller regeneration effect

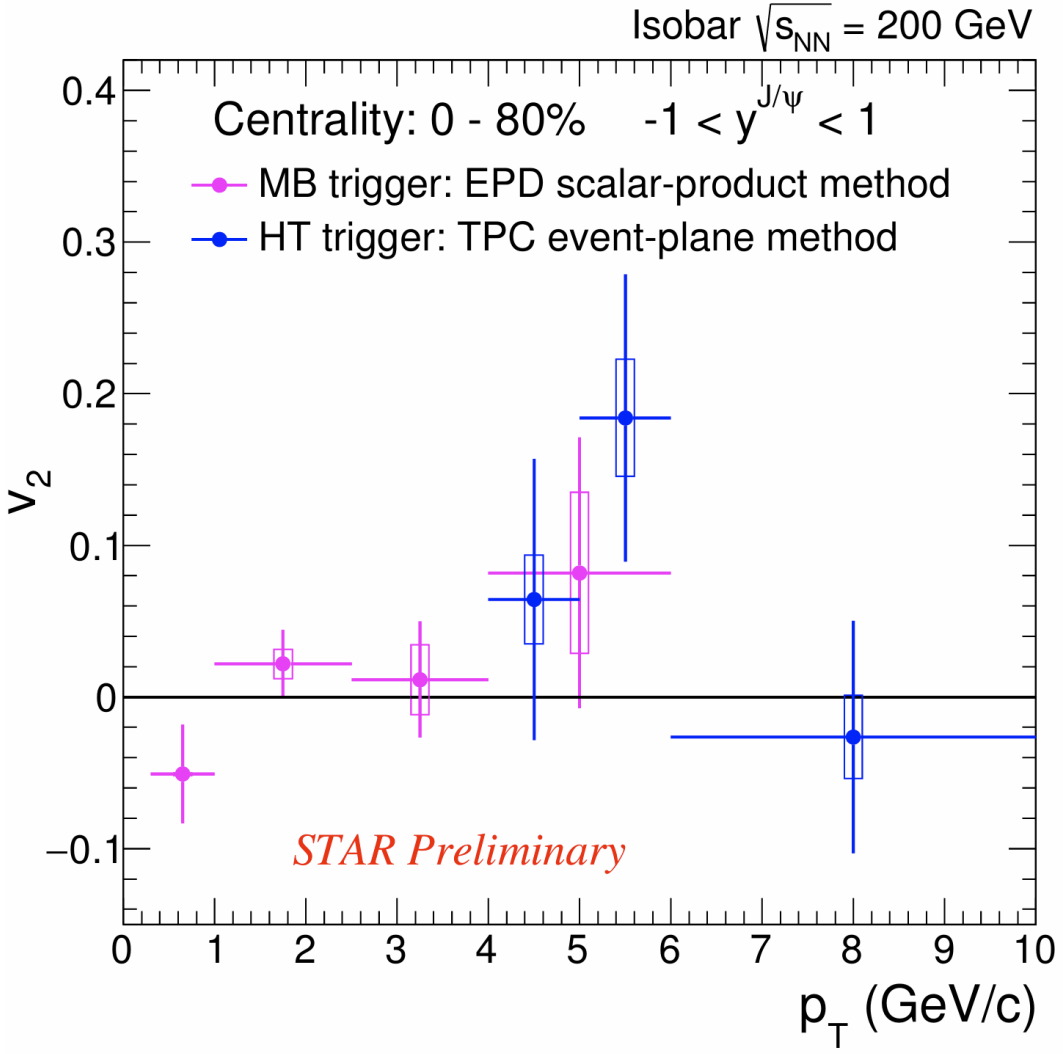


(STAR) Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (2023) 112301

- Consistent suppression is observed between isobar and Au+Au collisions in similar $\langle N_{\mathrm{part}} \rangle$ range
- Hint of sequential suppression in isobaric collisions

J/ψ v_2 in isobaric collisions at RHIC top energy

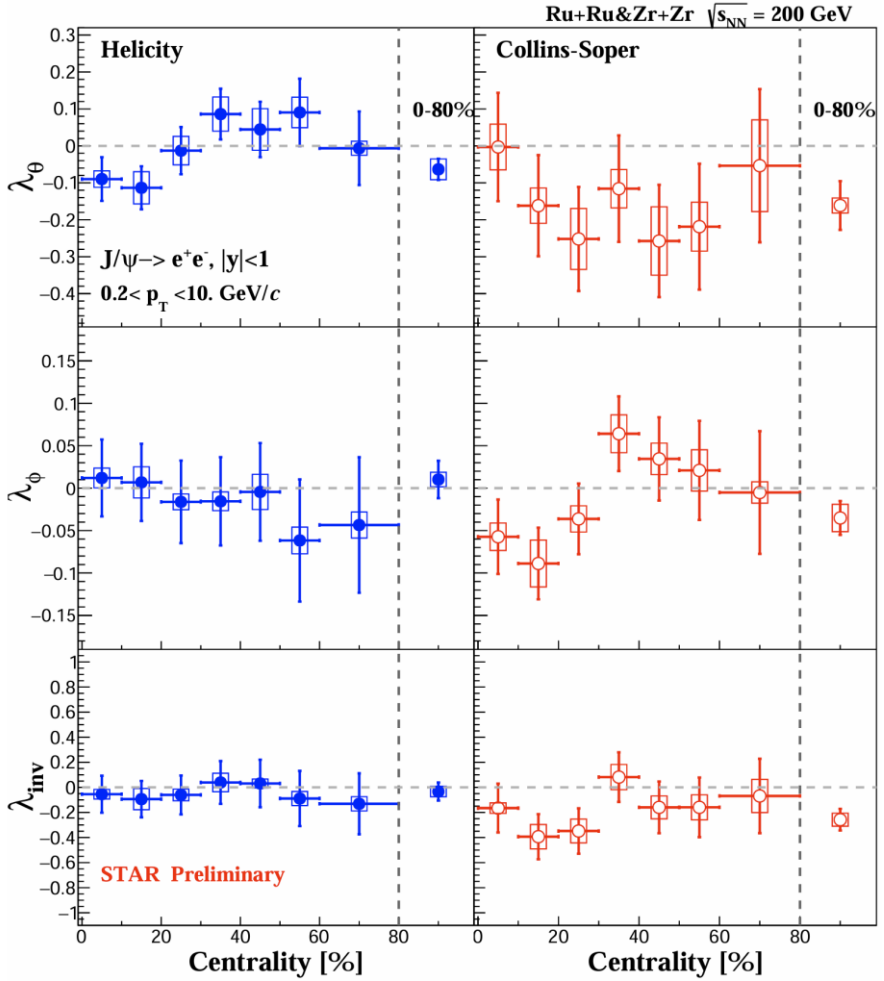
- Charm quark thermalization level at RHIC



- No significant J/ψ v_2 signal is observed under current uncertainties in isobaric collisions
- Smaller regeneration effect at RHIC?

J/ψ polarization in isobaric collisions

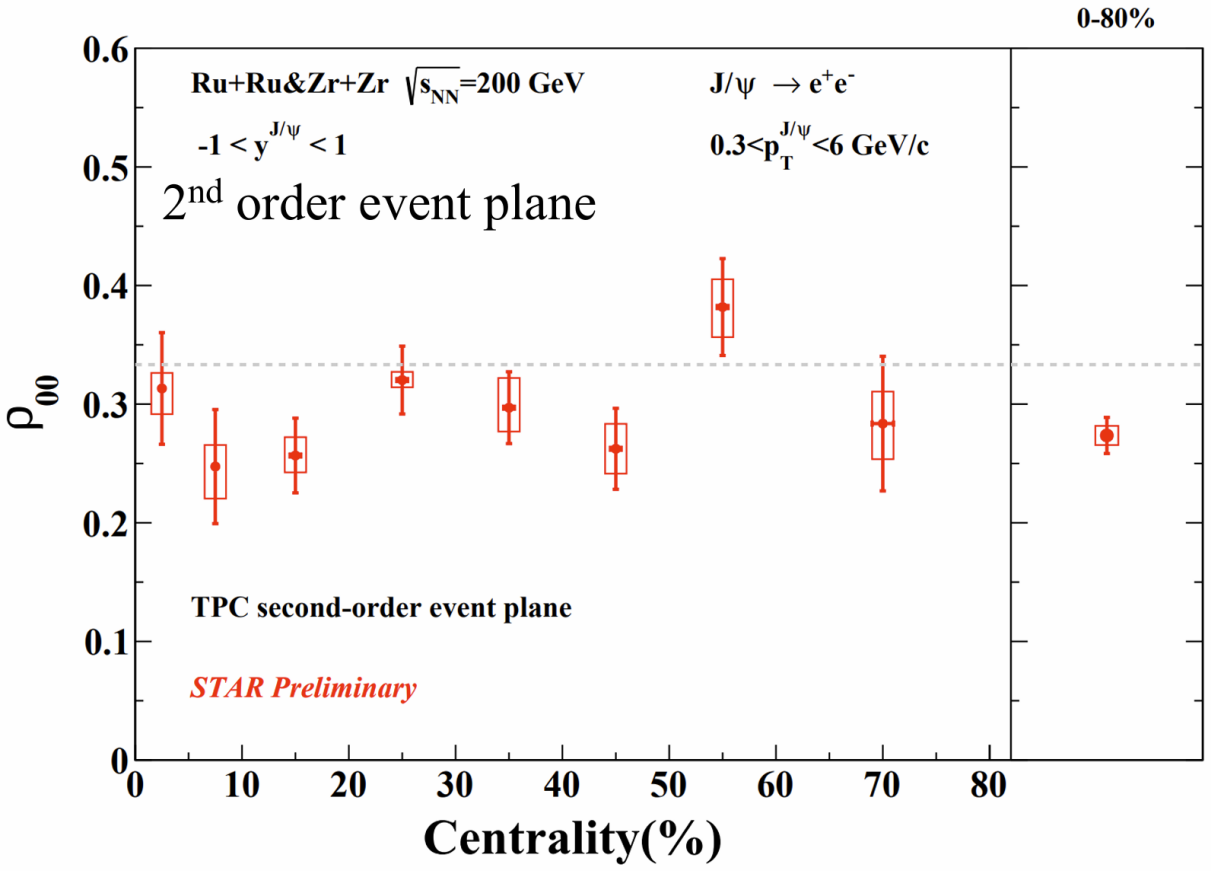
- J/ψ polarization → the production mechanism
- Possible difference between heavy ion collisions and p+p collisions

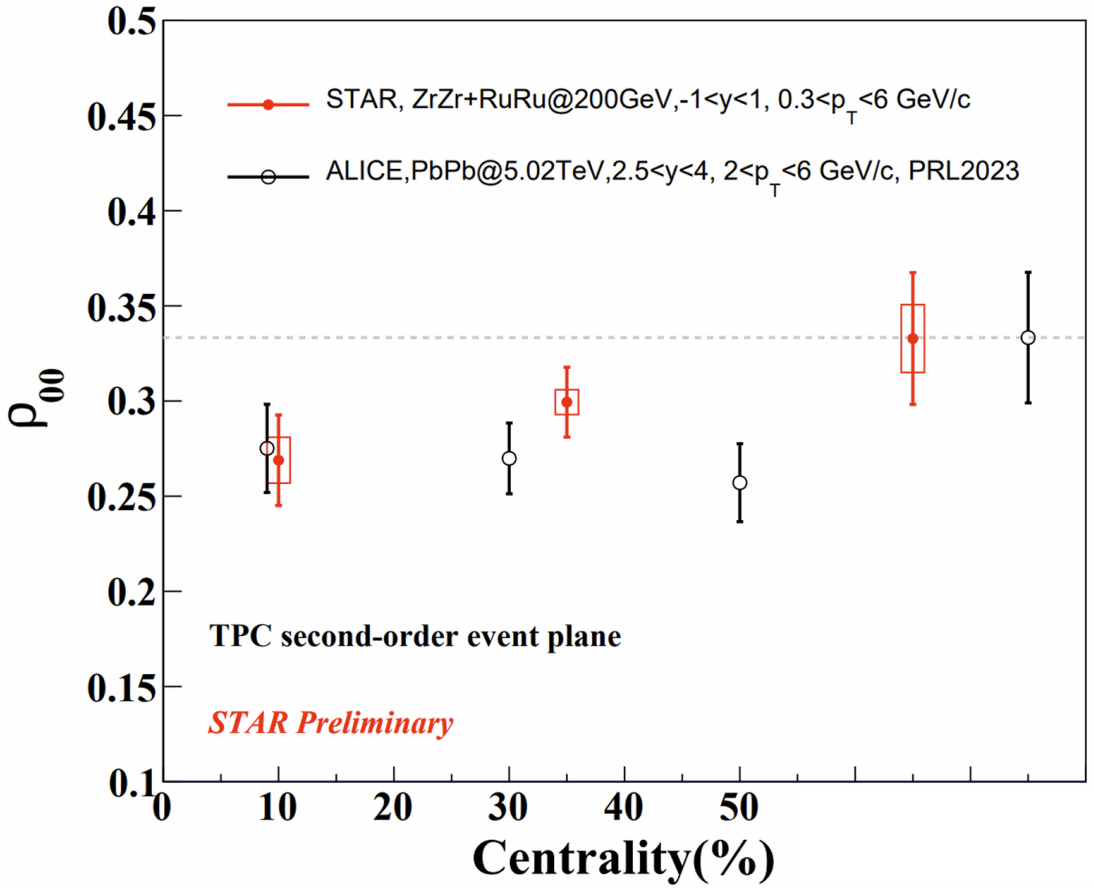


- λ_θ and λ_ϕ are consistent with zero within uncertainties
- No significant centrality dependence are observed

J/ψ global spin alignment in isobaric collisions

- Respect to the Event Plane： axis orthogonal to reaction plane

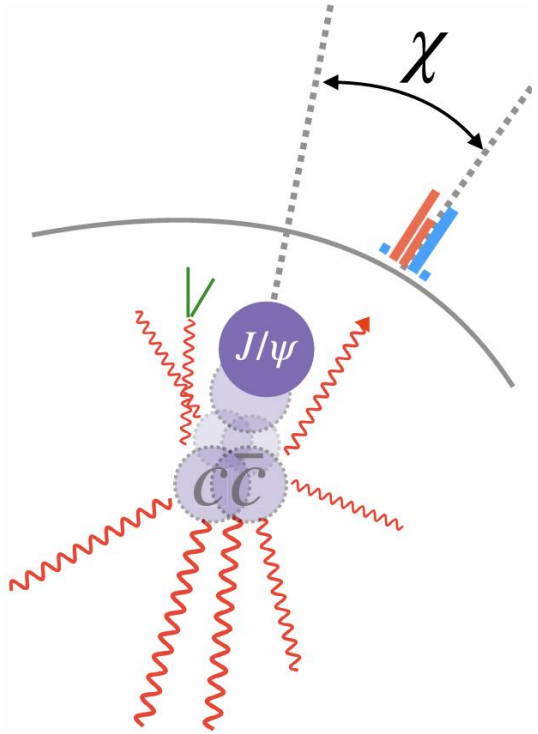




(ALICE) Phys. Rev. L 131 4, 042303 (2023)

- The ρ_{00} at RHIC is lower than 1/3 (3.5σ), and comparable to LHC results

J/ψ energy correlator

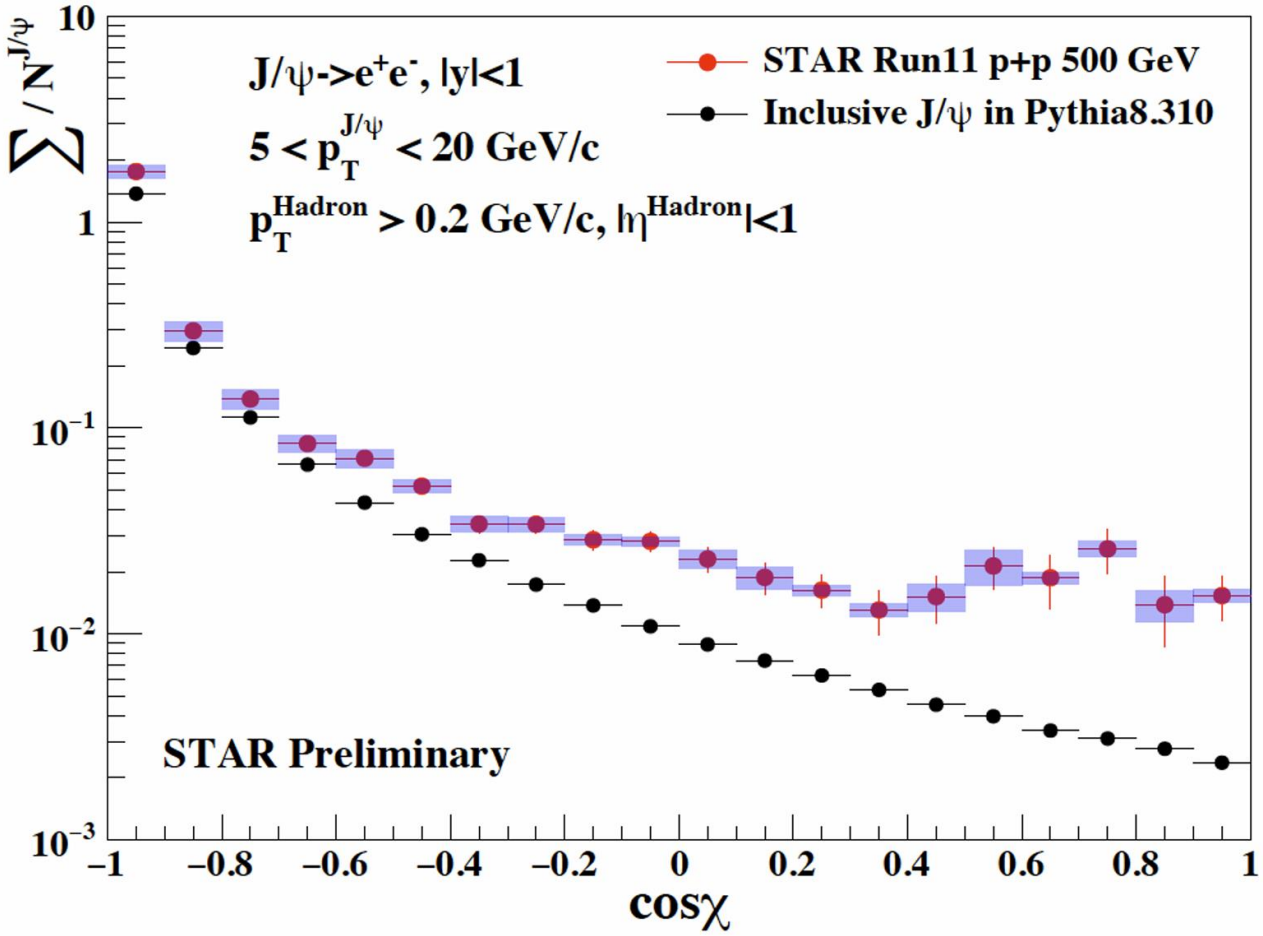


$$\Sigma(\cos\chi) = \int d\sigma \sum_i \frac{E_i}{M} \delta(\cos\chi - \cos\theta_i),$$

- J/ψ as a tagged meson, sensitive to hadronization of $c\bar{c} \rightarrow$ J/ψ +X
- χ is measured in the J/ψ rest frame:
  - Perturbative processes contribution dominate at cos(χ) < 0
  - Non-perturbative processes contribution dominate at cos(χ) $\geq$ 0

Phys. Rev. L 133, 191901 (2024)

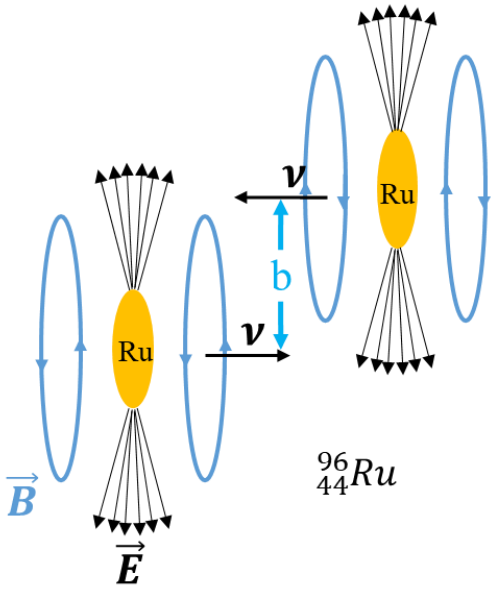
J/ψ energy correlator measured at RHIC-STAR

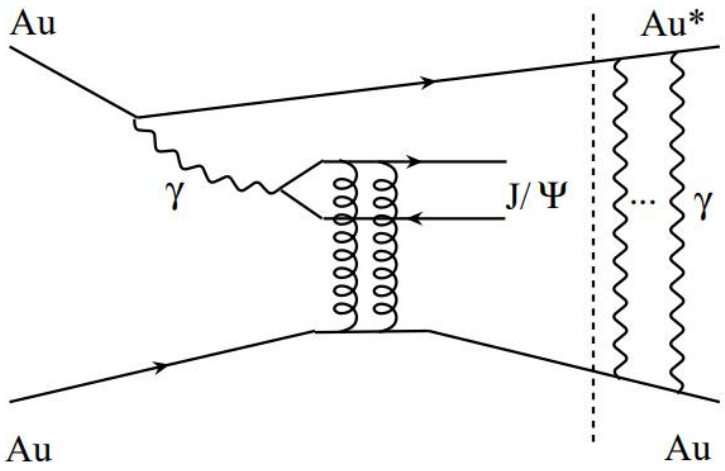


- The J/ψ energy correlator has been measured firstly at RHIC-STAR
- No significant cos(χ) dependence of the J/ψ energy correlator at cos(χ) > 0, while the measurement is different compared to that in pythia8 (~7σ)

Coherent J/ψ photoproduction

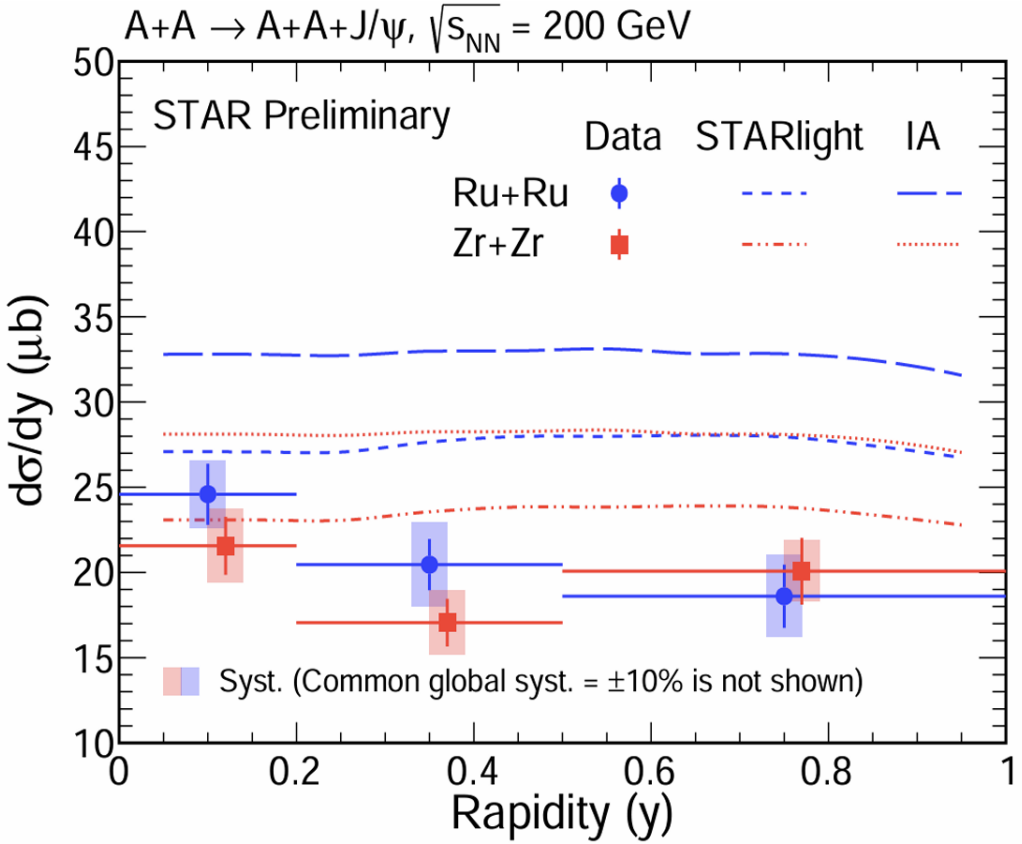
- Transverse EM fields can be equal to a flux of quasi-real photon ($\propto Z^2$, and $q^2 < (\hbar/R_A)$)
- These photons are linearly polarized

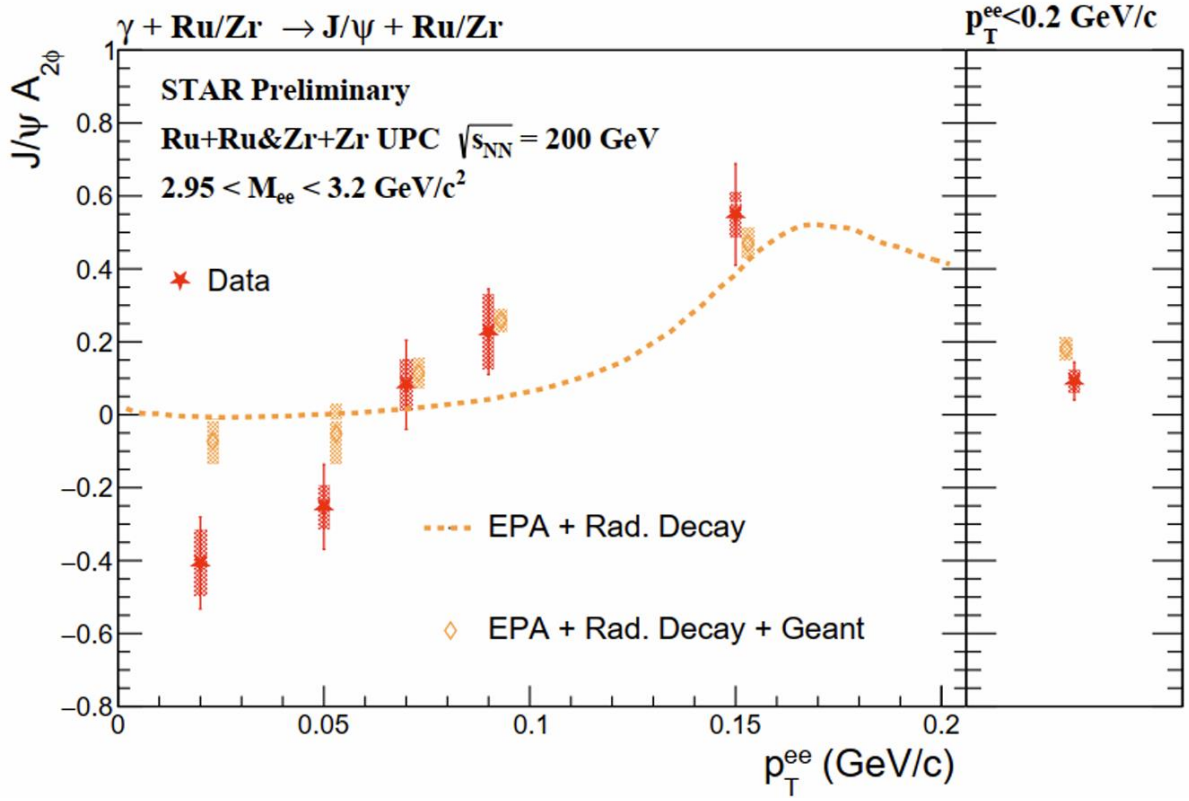




- Coherent: J/ψ production at low p_T^2 (≤0.02 (GeV/c)^2), while both nuclei stay intact
- Insightful probe of initial state of nucleus

Coherent J/ψ photoproduction in isobar UPCs

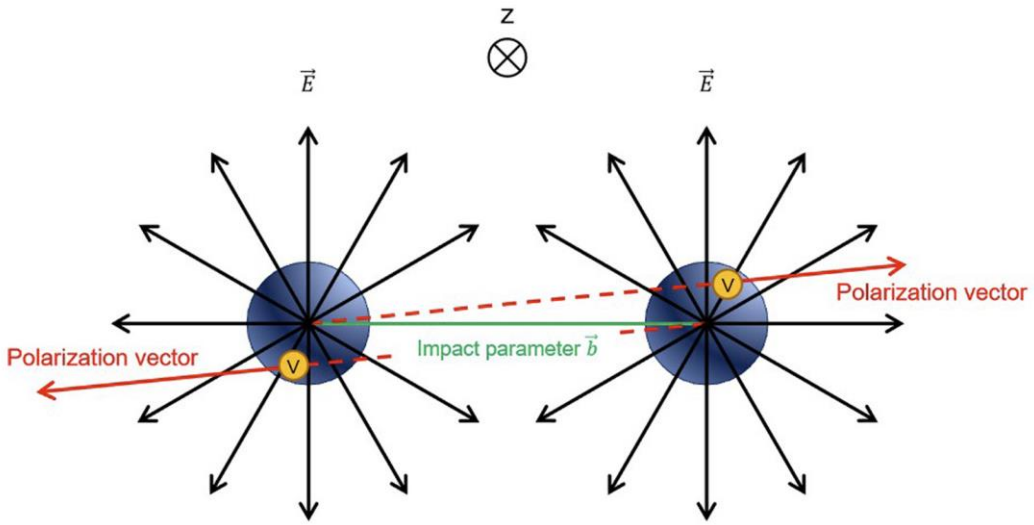




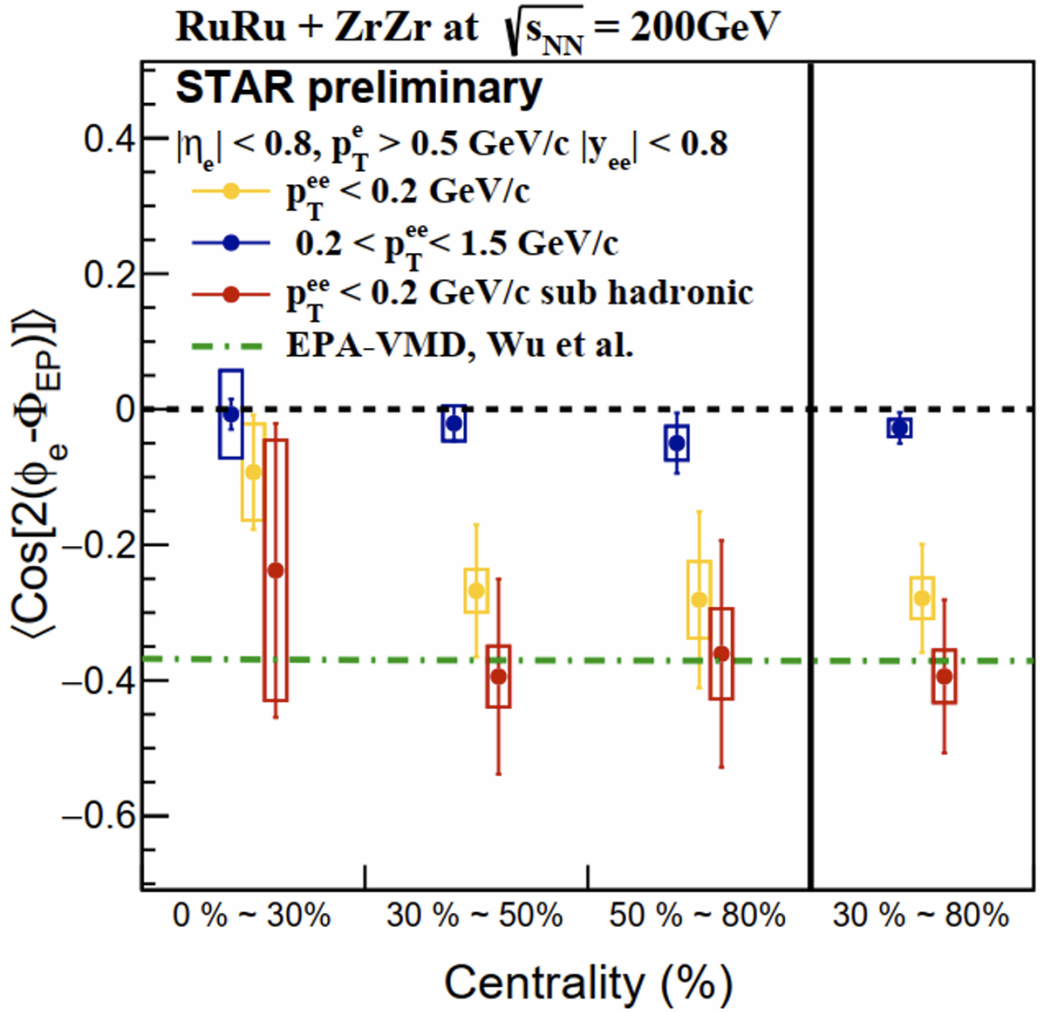
- Data ~20% lower than STARlight (with nucleon shadowing)
- Data ~30% lower than IA, strongly suppressed

- The J/ψ $A_{2\phi}$ changes from negative to positive with increasing p_{T}

Coherent J/ψ decay anisotropy in isobar PCs



Phys. Rev. Res. 4, L042048 (2022)



- The evidence of decay anisotropy from photon polarization aligned with impact parameter

Summary and Outlook

Open heavy flavor:

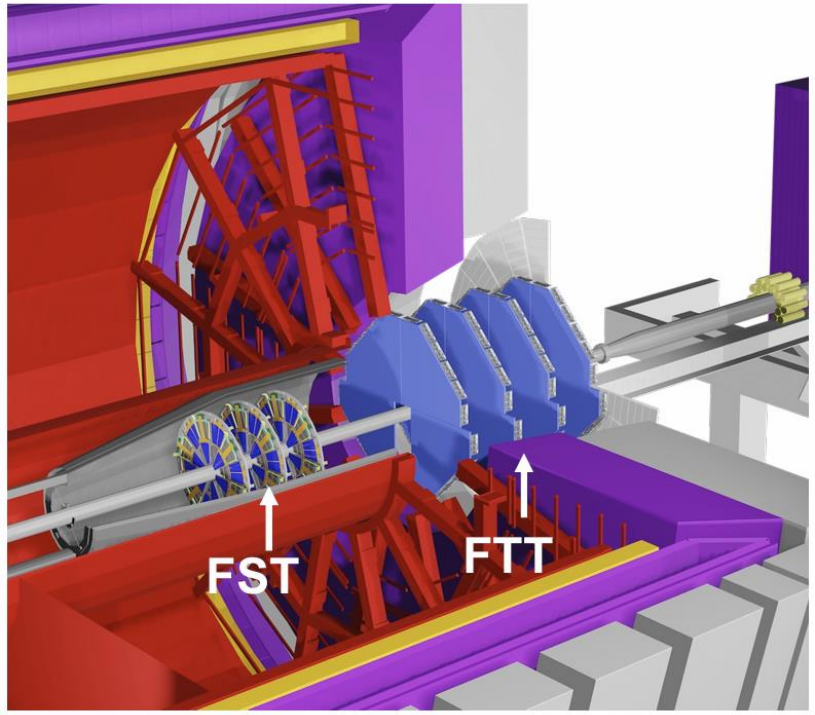
- Energy loss: similarity of D^0 in isobar and Au+Au collision
- Final state interaction: no clear azimuthal correlation and D^0-$\pi^{\pm}$ correlations

Quarkonia:

- Collision energy and system dependence: no significant dependence has been observed; first measured charmonium sequential suppression in heavy ion collisions at RHIC
- Polarization and spin alignment: J/ψ polarization around zero, ρ_{00} at RHIC is lower than 1/3 (3.5σ)
- Hadronization process: first measured J/ψ energy correlator
- Photo-nuclear production: coherent J/ψ strongly suppressed; evidence of decay anisotropy

Summary and Outlook

- Run23-25: large samples of p+p, (p+Au), and Au+Au collisions
- STAR forward upgrade(2.5<|η|<4): Forward Tracking System & Forward Calorimeter System



2.5 < η < 4

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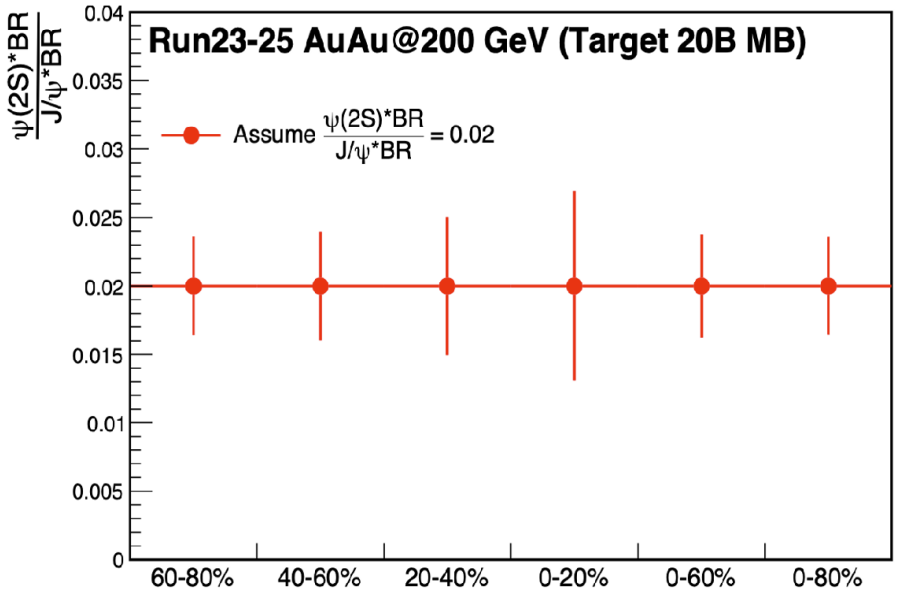
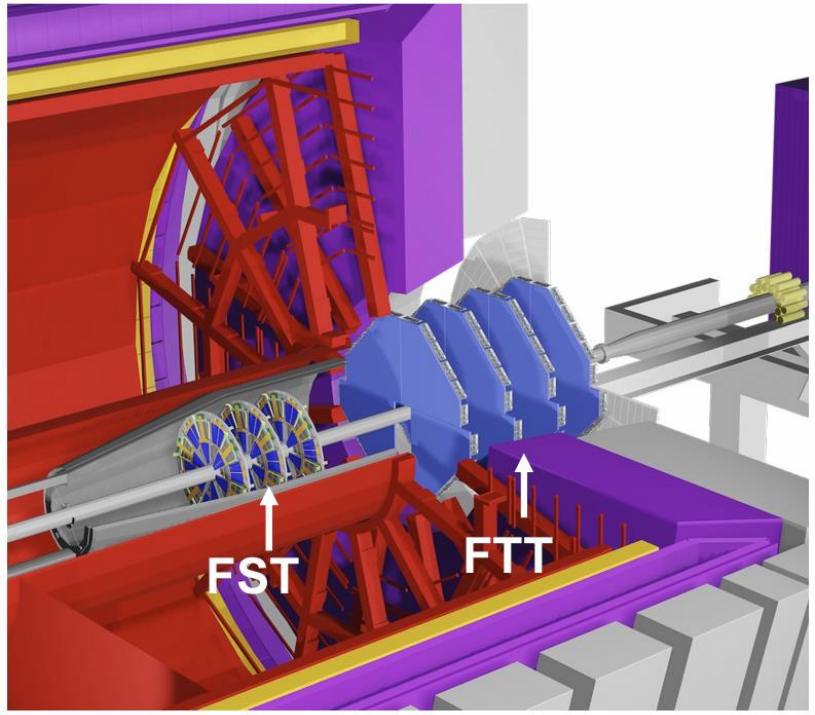


STAR BUR Run25 2024

Summary and Outlook

- Run23-25: large samples of p+p, (p+Au), and Au+Au collisions
- STAR forward upgrade(2.5<|η|<4): Forward Tracking System & Forward Calorimeter System



2.5 < η < 4

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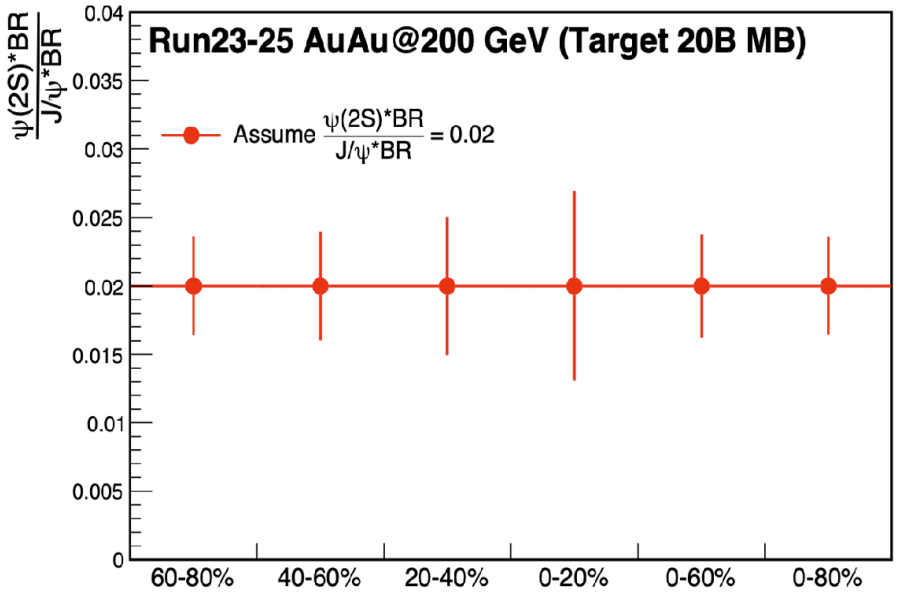
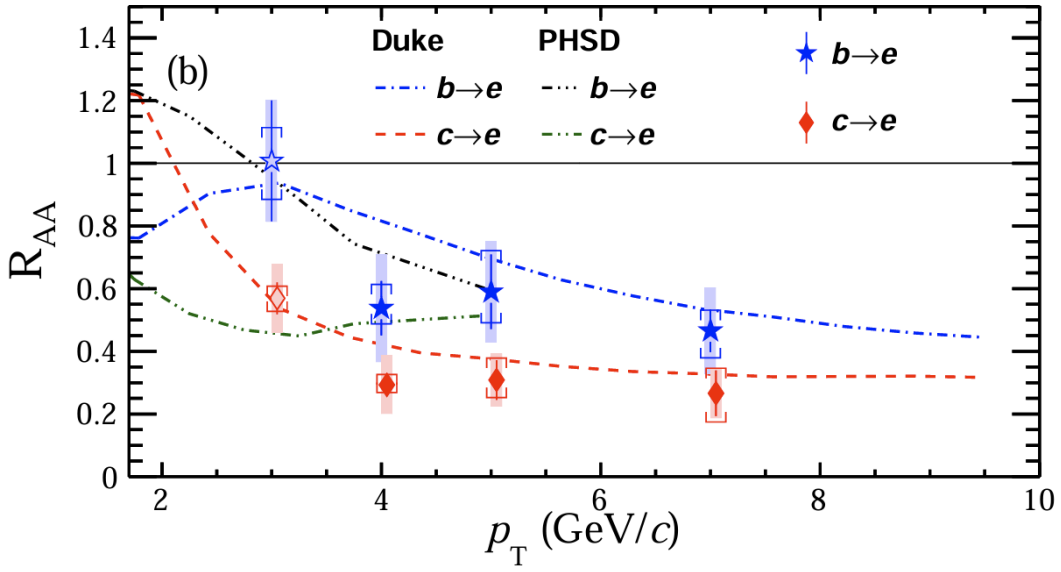
Thanks!

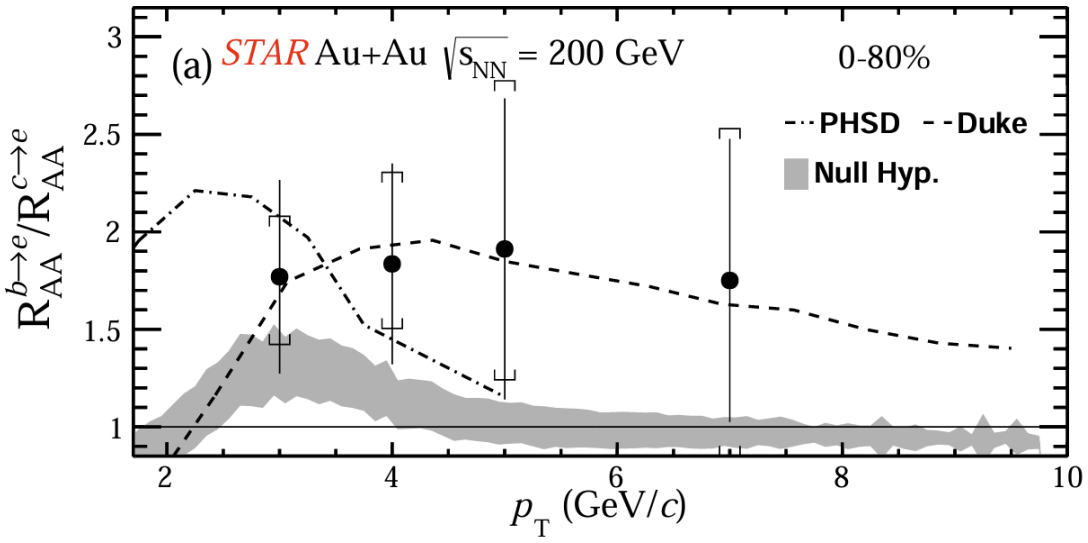


STAR BUR Run25 2024

Back up

b/c → e: energy loss in QGP

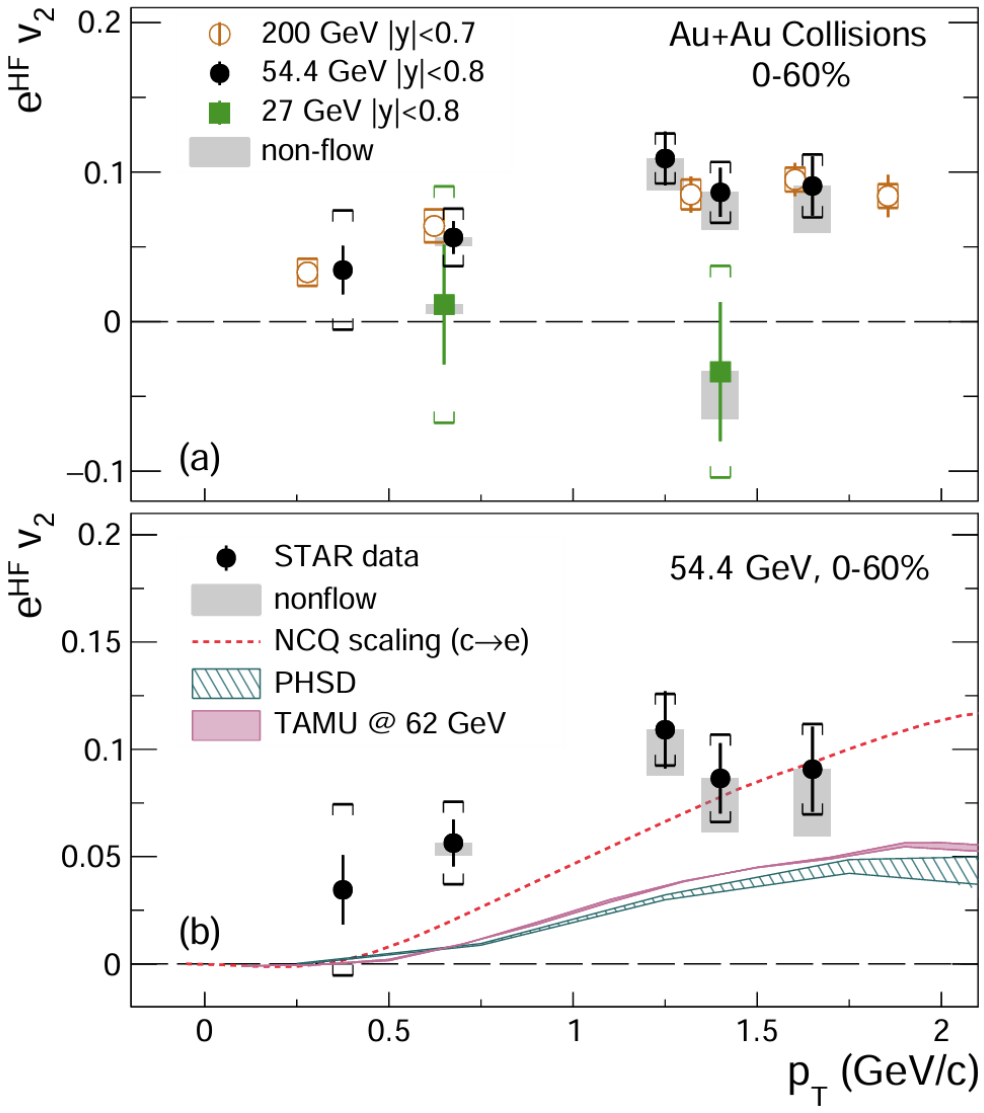




- The b/c-decay electron R_{AA} are suppressed at high-p_T in Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV
- The b-decay electron R_{AA} are systematically larger than c-decay R_{AA}, consistent with mass hierarchy of parton energy loss
- Consistent with model calculations including mass-dependent energy loss mechanisms

(STAR) EPJC 82 (2022) 1150
Duke: Phys. Rev. C 92, 024907 (2015)
PHSD: Phys. Rev. C 78, 034919 (2008), Nucl. Phys. A 831, 215 (2009)

b/c → e: collectivity in QGP



- The e^{HF} have non-zero and comparable v_2 in Au+Au collisions at 54.4 and 200 GeV → indicates that charm quarks interact strongly with the QGP medium
- The e^{HF} v_2 at 27 GeV Au+Au collisions are consistent with zero
- The e^{HF} v_2 at 54.4 GeV Au+Au collisions are Consistent with model calculations, which assume that elastic collision scattering dominated

(STAR) Phys. Lett. B 844 (2023) 138071
TAMU: Phys. Rev. C 91,024904 (2015).
PHSD: Phys. Rev.C 92, 014910 (2015), Phys. Rev. C 96,014905 (2017)