

# BNL STAR Group Efforts

Biennial Science and Technology Review of RHIC

Lijuan Ruan, BNL

- **Group composition and responsibilities**
- **Operation support**
- **Science highlights**
- **Upgrade involvement and leadership**
- **Research relevant to EIC science case**
- **Summary**



# BNL STAR Heavy Ion Group

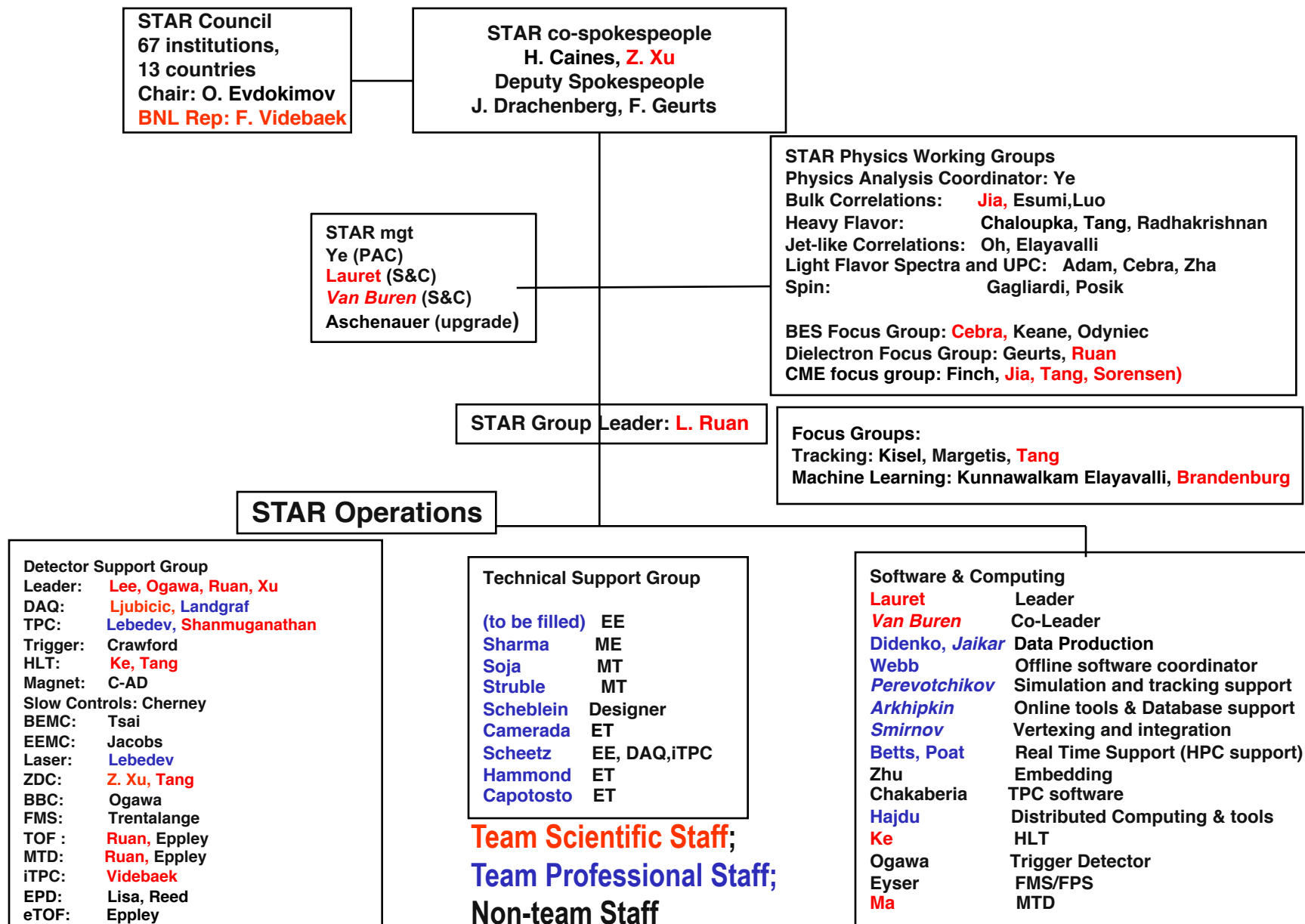
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## BNL STAR group dual mission:

- Support for the existing detector systems, operation, data taking and processing, along with development of new detector technology
- Ground-breaking scientific research to utilize these systems to their fullest potential, taking advantage of detailed expertise and knowledge of the detector capabilities
  - Ratio research : operations (8.95 FTE : 23.4 FTE)

BNL STAR group plays central and critical role to the success of the STAR experiment in all of these areas

# The researchers and their roles at STAR



# STAR Operations Group

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- Key experimental support in STAR Technical support Group
  - Essential for maintenance and installation of new detectors

Leader: [Lee](#), [Ogawa](#), [Ruan](#), [Xu](#)

Mechanical Engineer [Sharma](#)

Facility Manager [Struble](#)

Mechanical Tech [Soja](#), [Struble](#)

Mechanical Designer for modification new detectors [Scheblein](#)

- Electronics development, support and repair for STAR sub systems

Electronics Engineers [Valentio](#) (head, left in May 2019), [Scheetz](#) (phase retirement)

Electronics Technicians: [Camarda](#), [Capotosto](#), [Hammond](#).



# Electronics Group Activities

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2017:

\* iTPC (1 sector)

FEE prototype production  
RDO prototype production  
Padplane production  
Power supply

\* EPD

Differential Receiver Board  
Power Supply Box  
Cable installation

\* Trigger

QT-BOC fabrication  
TDSMI fabrication  
QT-8 (for PMTs)  
QT-8 (for SiPM)  
QT32C design/production

\* Forward ECal

DEP16 prototype  
Cable installation

\* Gated Grid:

Driver & control boards

2018:

\* iTPC (24 sectors)

FEE and RDO final revisions  
FEE test/production/installation  
RDO test/production/installation  
Padplane design/fabrication  
Gridleak board design/fabrication  
Power supply replacement  
Fiber runs to DAQ room  
Installation of DAQ computers

\* Trigger

QT32C install/setup  
VME crate maintenance

\* ETOF

East floor rack preparation  
Cat6 & HV cable installation  
Fiber runs to DAQ room  
HV distribution boxes

\* TPC air handler

debugging  
remote controls

\* sTGC

test setup R&D

2019-2020:

\* Forward Ecal/Hcal

Design/produce custom crate  
configuration/w high speed  
backplane

Passive Patch Panel design/production  
DEP32 design/production  
Active Patch Panel design/production  
DEPIO design/production  
DEP cables/installation  
LED maintenance system  
Profile LED temperature and positioning

\* sTGC

HV Protection Box

\* Gated Grid

Driver & control board repair/test

\* BEMC

Fuse modifications

\* iTPC:

JTAG interface implementation

# Software And Computing (S&C)

## Team Composition

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### Core team

- Leader: Lauret
  - Other core activities: Infrastructure, RACF liaison, Cyber Security, OSG
- Co-Leader: *Van Buren*
  - Other core activities: Calibration coordinator, NPPS liaison
- Offline software: *Webb, Perevoztchikov, Smirnov*
  - Tracking support: *Perevoztchikov*
  - Integration, sub-system support and vertexing: *Smirnov*
- Database activities, online MetaData: *Arkhipkin*
- Software librarian & Data production coordinators: *Didenko, Jaikar (1/2)*
- Distributed production, distributed computing technology and online tool support: *Hajdu*
- Real-time, Online and user support: *Betts and Poat*
  - Grid Operation point of contact: *Betts*
  - DOE/NP, HPC/Cori support: *Poat (Lauret as PI)*

# Software And Computing (S&C)

## Responsibilities

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- The S&C team is responsible for
  - The STAR specific infrastructure (online resources, online networking, Meta-Data archiving, ...) in support of the data taking, run monitoring as well as STAR specific user support (real-time support)
  - The development of core framework components, tools and techniques in support of the scientific program. This includes framework development, simulation and modeling, global tracking, global calibration, efficient access to database, efficient retrieval of data from mass storage, ...
  - The data reduction and production to physics usable quantities to sustain the experiment's Physics analysis (local and distributed data production)
- The Core team provides technical expertise critical for timely and correct physics results and to ensure data quality as it is recorded – it coordinates activities sustained by external workforce.
- We continue to
  - Seek toward automation of tasks, optimization of resources and environment/workflow preservation (via virtualization)
  - Focus on publishing our work (community benefit). The OSG/NP proposal aims at publishing the best practice and lesson learn for a wide NP community benefit (ALICE, Jlab, ...)
- Due to increase workload (15 years datasets analyzed, more sub-systems including iTPC), workforce was refocused on software support as well as production and “early” QA.
  - The re-assignment of dedicated workforce to a new NPPS group (in Italic) is being closely followed (without their constant effort on STA, issues may arise)
  - As last year, with reduced staffing, the following activities are "best effort" basis only: Event Display and visualization, ROOT framework development, Grid activity overall coordination, EIC synergy
  - Machine Learning becoming relevant, a new Machine Learning focus group was created leveraging efforts across the collaboration's workforce (soft coordination)

# Group Hardware Operational Responsibilities

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Operation leader: Lee, Ogawa, Ruan (Xu)

TPC Hardware: Lebedev, Shanmuganathan

DAQ: Ljubicic, Landgraf

ZDC: Z.Xu, Tang

TOF- MTD: Ruan

iTPC: Videbaek

HLT: Ke, Tang

HCAL pixelation R&D: Bland

# Publication, Leadership & Awards

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STAR had 11 publications in FY17, 18 in FY18, 13 in FY19 and 8 submitted.

The BNL group had 17 papers as co-PAs, and 19 papers as GPC members (including chairs).

Chair of RHIC/AGS users group: Ruan (July 2015 - 2018 June)

Co- Chairing of EIC science task force: Ullrich

## Awards

STAR team receives Secretary's Achievement Award in 2018.

Flemming Videbaek receives a Certificate of Appreciation from DOE in 2019.

# Research Highlights

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Tightly coupled responsibilities for hardware, software, and analysis provide the BNL STAR group a uniquely fertile ground for new uses of the STAR detector

## Focus of local researchers

- Heavy flavor, exotics, and dileptons
    - Utilizing RHIC II luminosity and upgrades
      - Z. Xu, Tang, Ullrich, Ruan, Ma, Yang, Brandenburg, Videbaek, Dunlop
  - Flow and correlations: utilizing RHIC flexibility
    - Energy and beam species to constrain system properties with flow phenomena
    - Chiral Magnetic Effect/Wave
    - Initial state fluctuations, viscosity, vorticity, equation of state
- Sorensen, Prithwish, Tang, Upsal, Jia

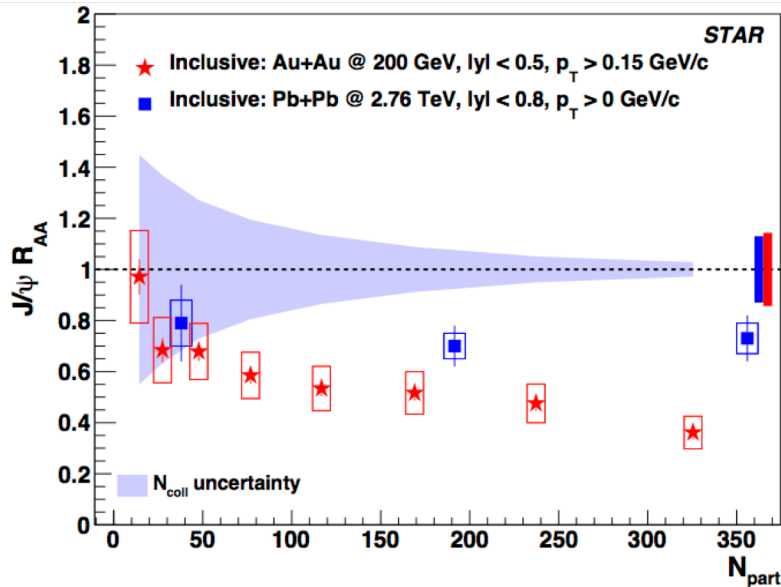
## Extremely important for the collaboration:

Pool of local expertise for supervision of visiting students, post-docs

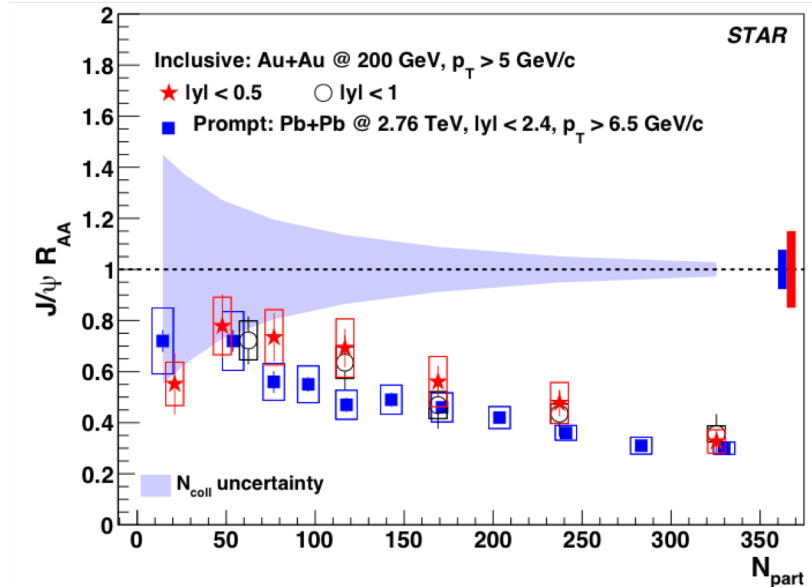
# J/ψ suppression pattern

STAR Collaboration, arXiv: 1905.13669, accepted by PLB

$p_T > 0.15$  GeV/c



$p_T > 5$  GeV/c



Ma, Ruan

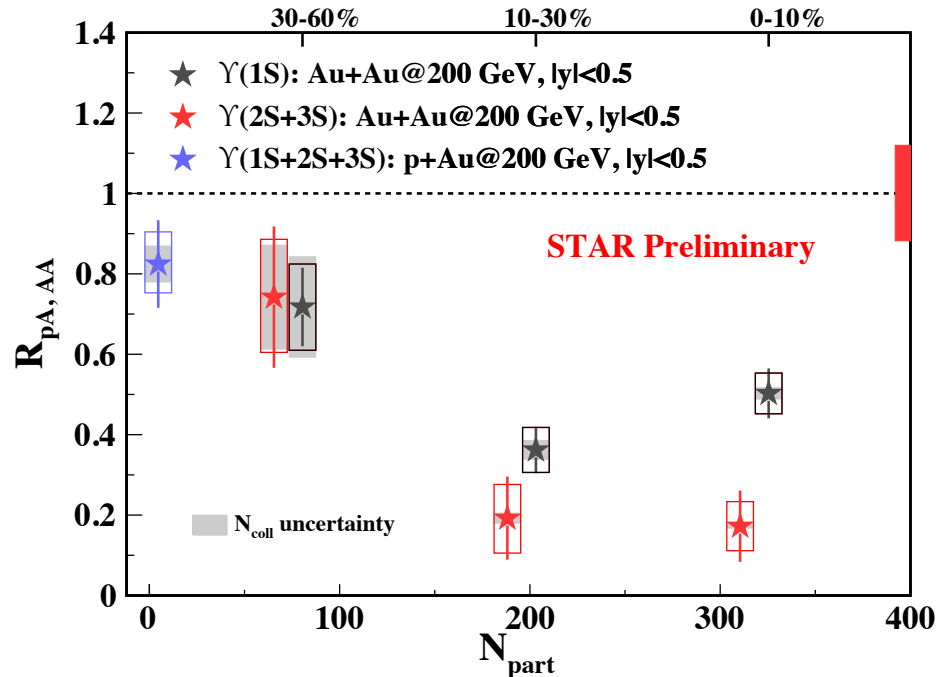
J/ψ through its dileptonic decay: indicator of deconfinement

consistent with more significant contribution from c $\bar{c}$  recombination at LHC energies

Interplay between color screening and recombination: describe the J/ψ suppression pattern and flow measurements

# Different $\Upsilon$ states suppression

STAR Collaboration, QM2018



Ma, Ruan, Yang

0.28, 0.56, 0.78 fm for  $\Upsilon(1S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(2S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(3S)$ .

Negligible contribution from  $b$  and  $\bar{b}$  recombination at RHIC

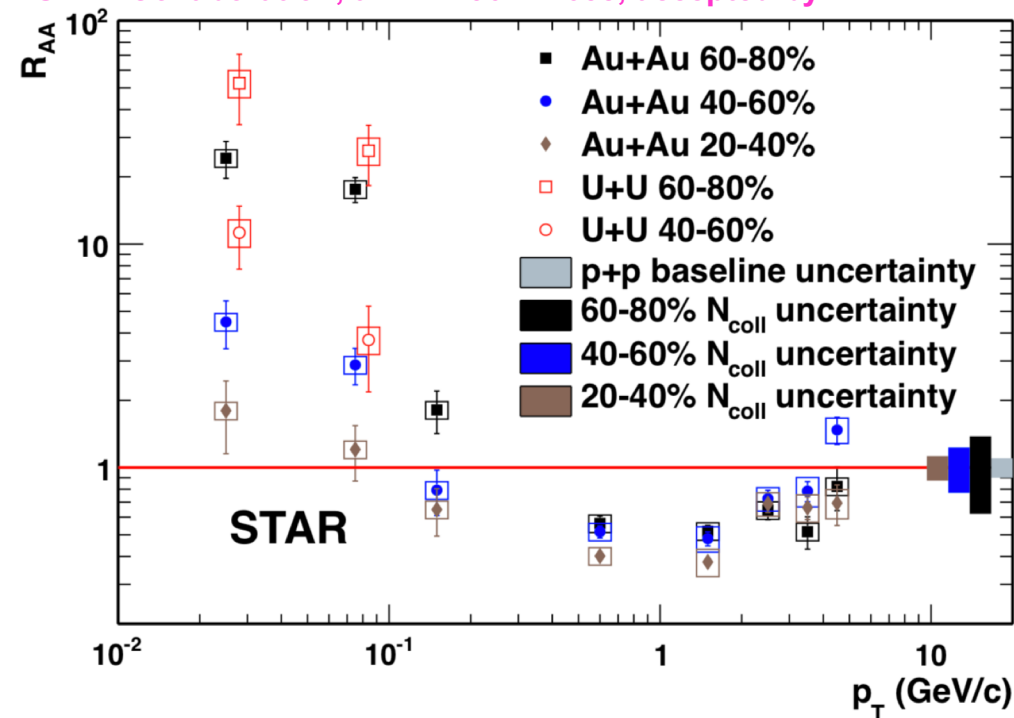
A better probe to study color-screening feature of QGP.

Sequential suppression at RHIC!

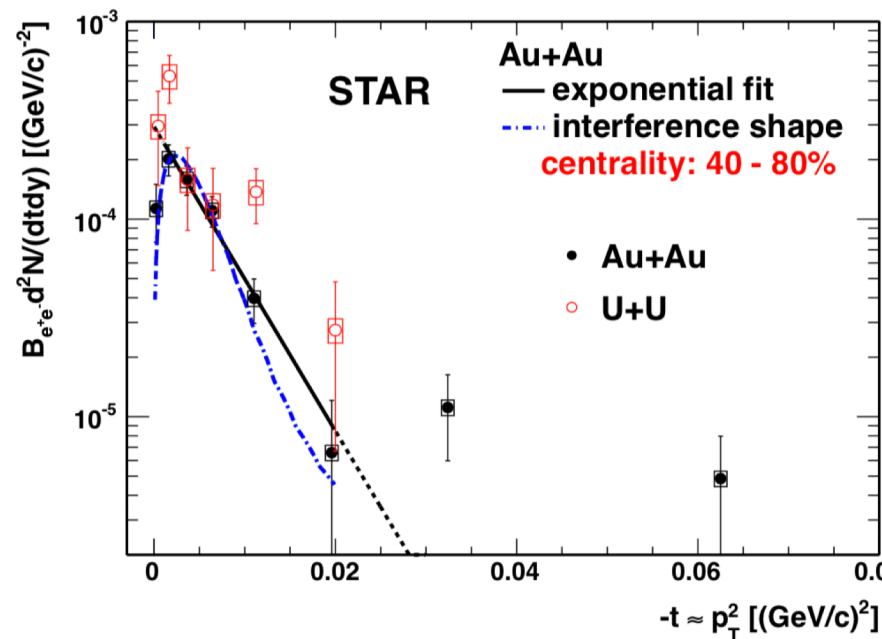


# Very low $p_T$ $J/\psi$ in heavy ion collisions

STAR Collaboration, arXiv: 1904.11658, accepted by PRL



Ruan, Yang, Xu



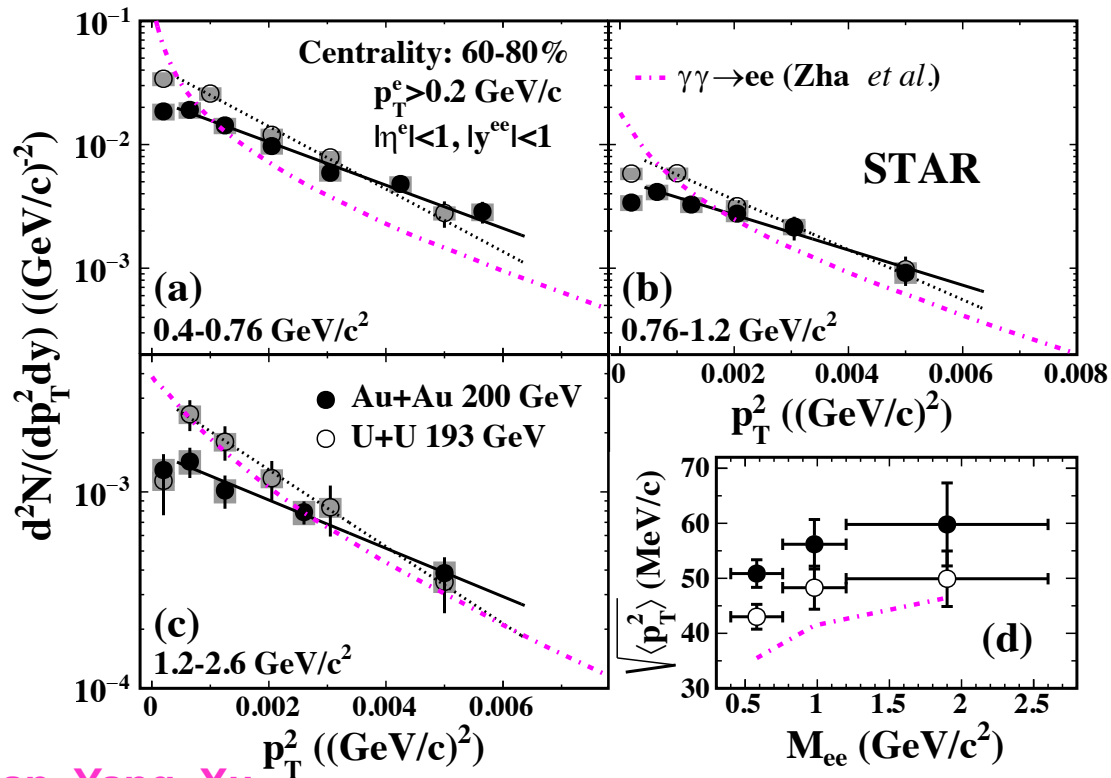
Large enhancement of  $J/\psi$  yield observed in peripheral A+A collisions!

Slope parameter consistent with the size of the Au nucleus.

Interference structure observed. **Coherent photon-nucleus interactions!**

# Very low $p_T$ electron-positron excess

STAR: Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 (2018) 132301



Ruan, Yang, Xu

**Coherent photon-photon interaction!!**

$p_T^2$  distribution: more broadened than the STAR-light calculation  
Detailed study of impact parameter dependence is underway

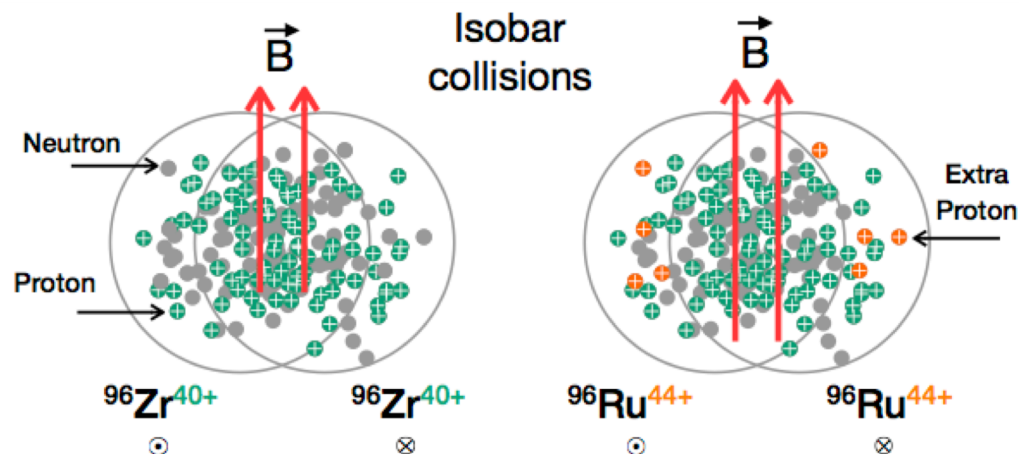
# Decisive tests of CME using Isobar collisions

Voloshin, Phys.Rev.Lett. 105 (2010) 172301

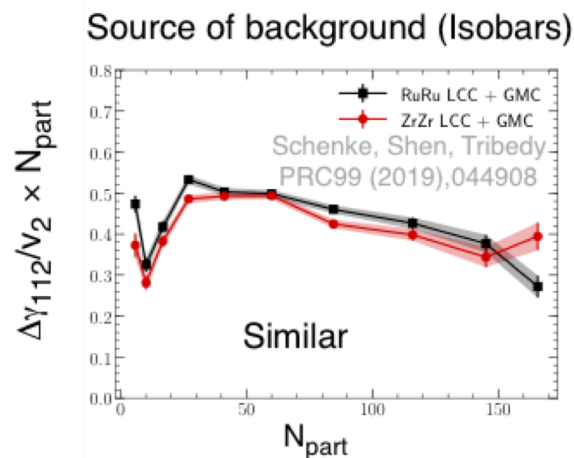
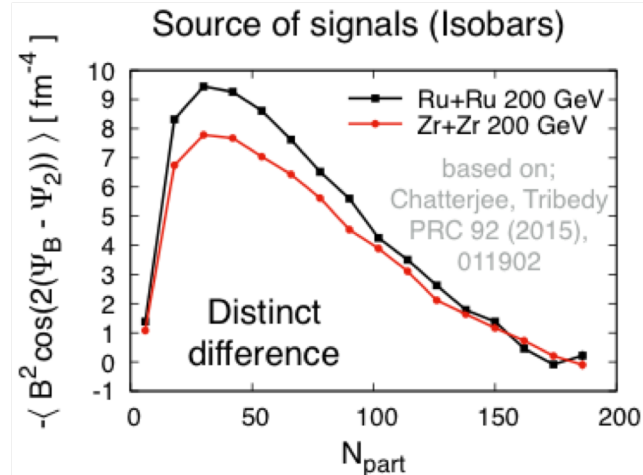
Testing the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Central  $U + U$  collisions

Sergei A. Voloshin  
Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201, USA

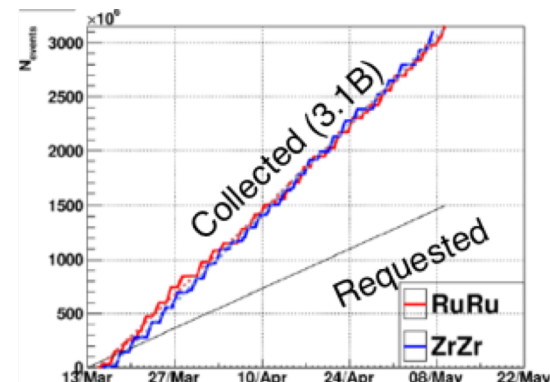
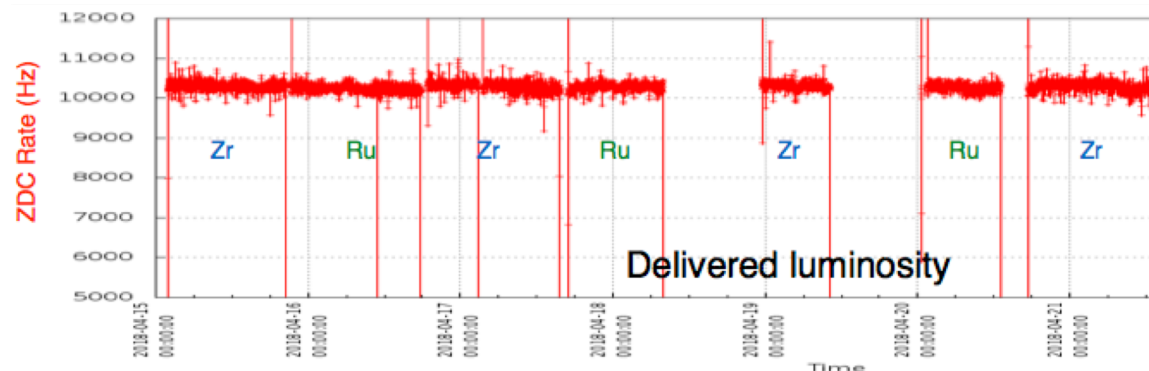
The charge separation dependence on the strength of the magnetic field can be further studied with collision of isobaric nuclei, such as  $^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$  and  $^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$ . These nuclei have the same mass number, but differ by the charge.



10% larger B-field in Ru+Ru but similar background as Zr+Zr makes Isobar collisions an ideal place to make a decisive test of CME

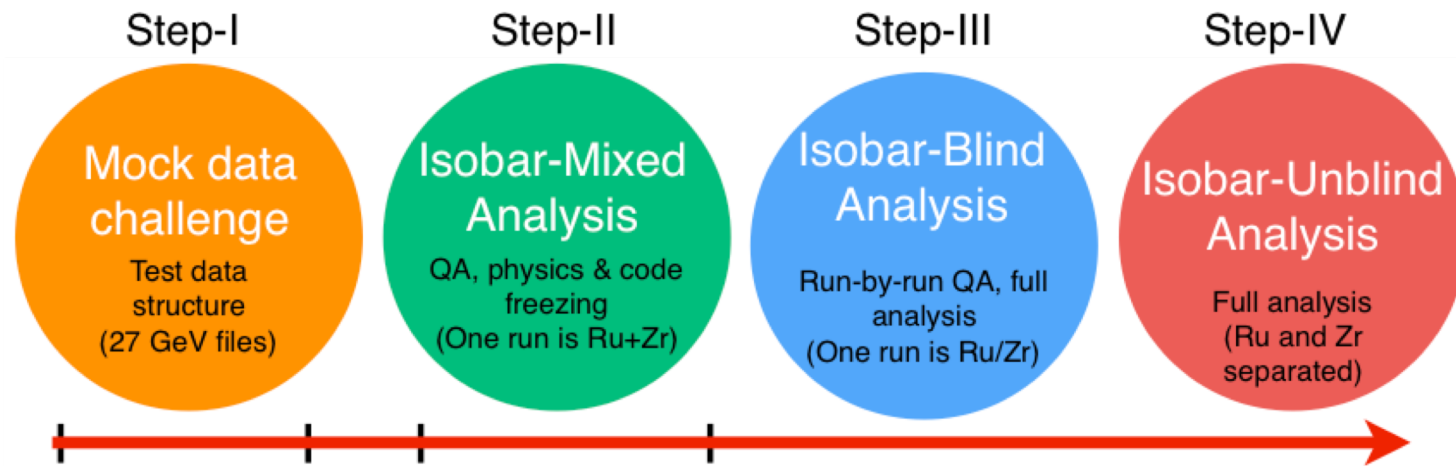


# Isobar data collection and blind analysis



3.1B events for both Ru+Ru, Zr+Zr collected over 8 weeks

Blind analysis ongoing by four independent groups (BNL-Fudan, UIC-SBU, UCLA, Purdue)



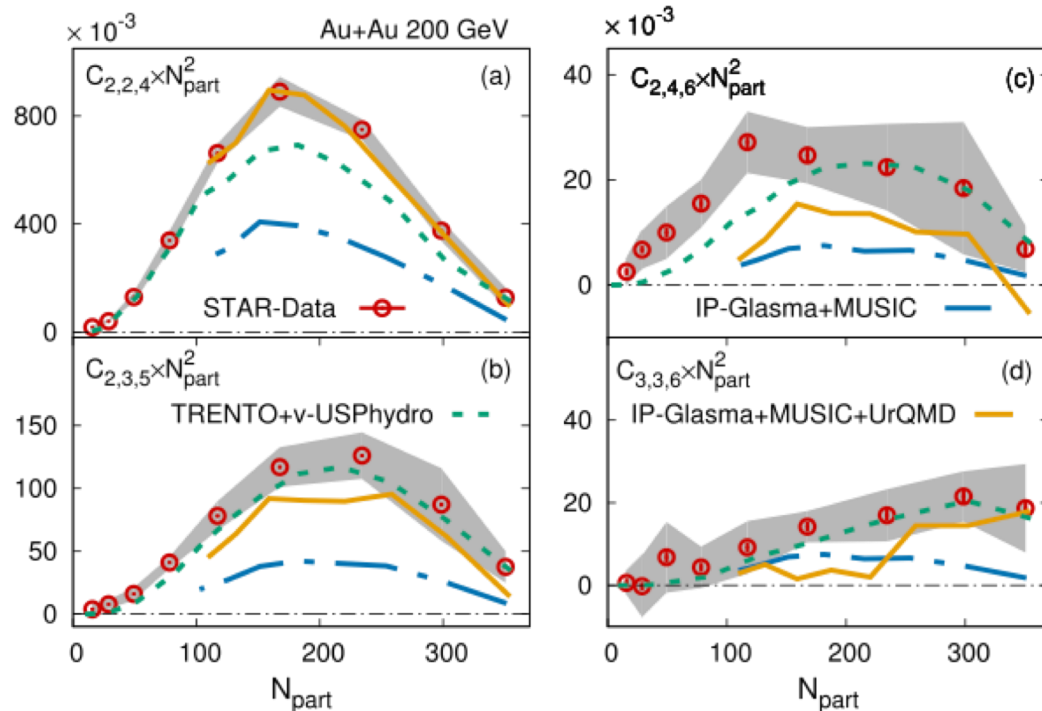
First blind analysis, new detector (EPD) many challenges, currently between Step-II & III

**Tribedy**

# Three-particle mixed harmonic correlations

STAR Collaboration (L. Adamczyk et al.), Phys. Lett. B 790 (2019) 81-88

STAR Collaboration (L. Adamczyk et al.), Phys. Rev. C 98 (2018), 034918

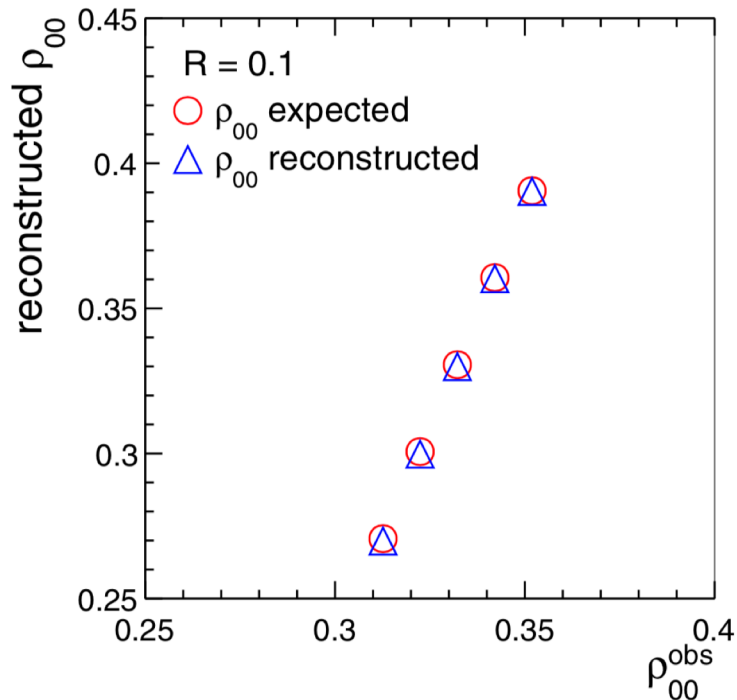


First measurements of the charge inclusive three-particle azimuthal correlations → Insights on non-linear hydro response & temperature dependence of viscosity

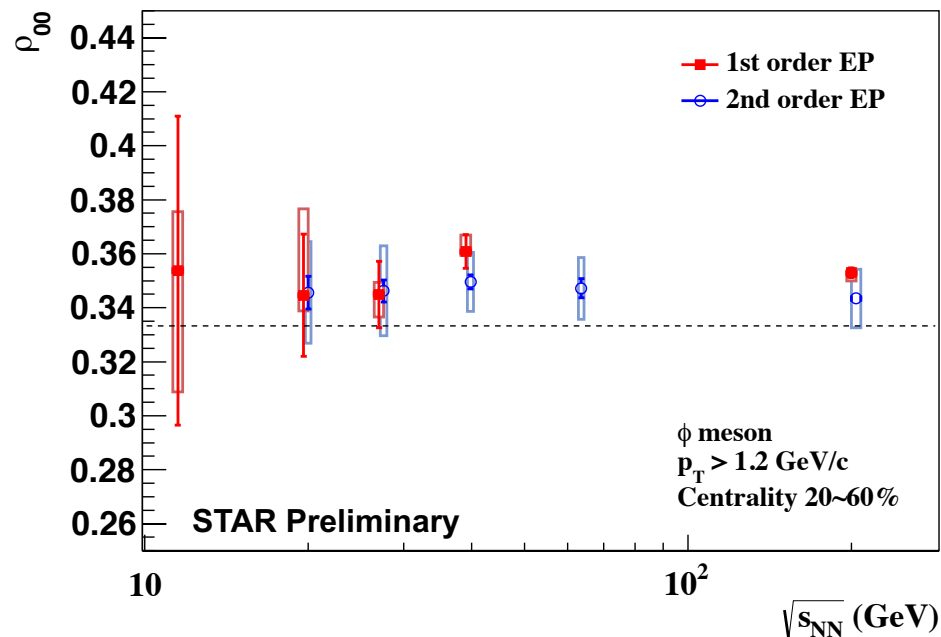
Hydrodynamic model shows dominant contribution from the viscosity of hadronic phase to harmonic event-plane correlation at RHIC

Sorensen and Tribedy

# Global spin alignment measurement



Tang, Chirality workshop 2018

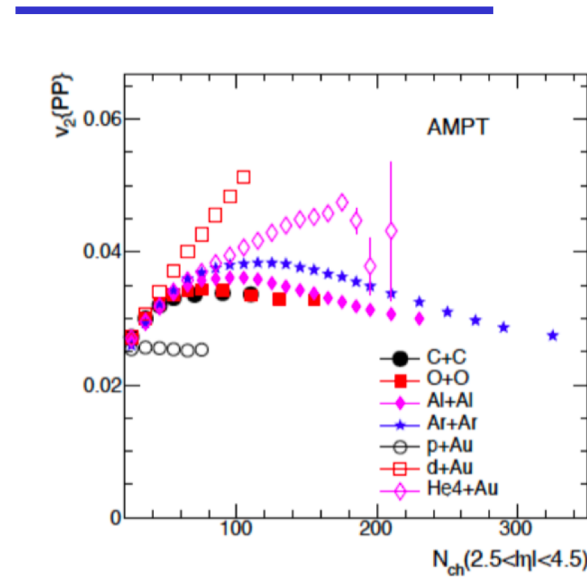
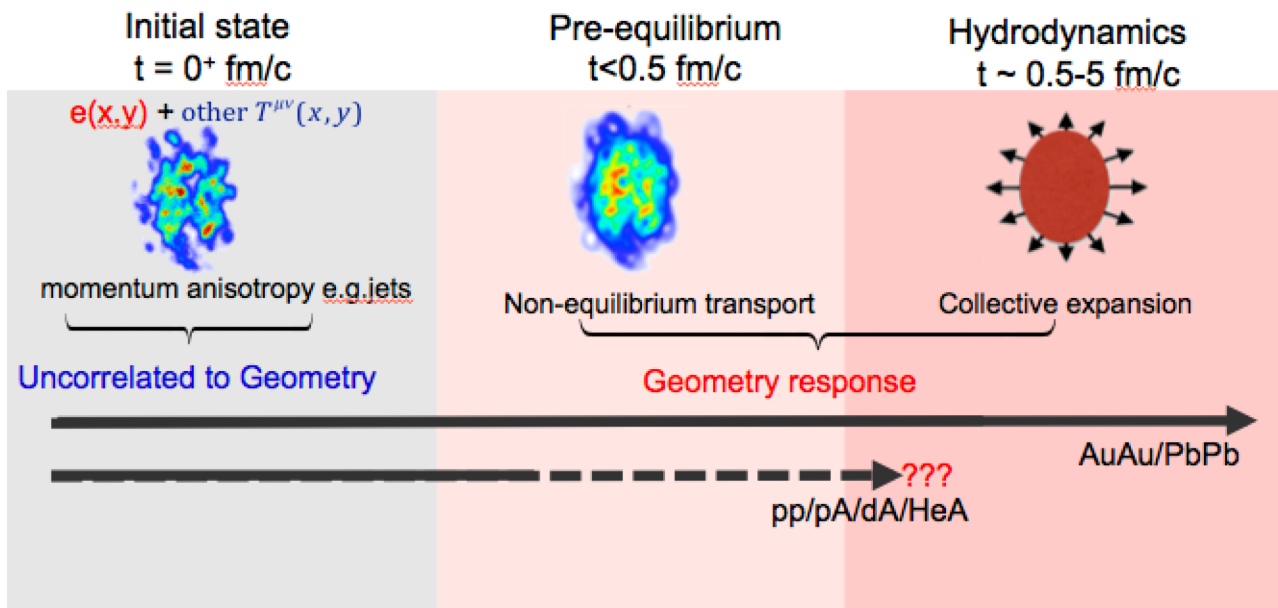


The procedure for measuring global spin alignment is thoroughly investigated with practical considerations (resolution, acceptance etc.)

Significant global spin alignment observed at 200 and 39 GeV. Its implication is under discussion with theorists.

Tang

# Pushing for a future small system scan



arXiv:1904.10415

Can we disentangle these three scenarios?

Drastically different geometry response between symmetric and asymmetric system

Extend the level-arm to disentangle contributions from three stages

- Where initial-stage interactions become sub-dominant?
- What is the role of pre-equilibrium vs. hydrodynamics?

Further system-size scan needed! Only RHIC can do this!

Jia



# High Level Trigger (HLT) development

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1. HLT good event selection has become a default requirement of the STAR trigger setup. In all STAR heavy-ion experiments, HLT good event selection provide real-time QA, live feedback to CAD and provide a major metric to track the STAR data taking progress.
  2. Completely refactor the HLT software with multithreading technology to fully release the computing power of Xeon Phi coprocessors (Landgraf and Ke)
  3. Extended the HLT calibration server with automatic TPC space charge calibration
  4. Parallelize the HLT QA server to increase the QA throughput and better utilize the hardware
- 
1. Deployed a distributed storage system based on Ceph, using the existing disk slots of HLT cluster. The Ceph system provides a unified storage space of 30TB with up to 1GB/s write and 2GB/s read bandwidth. This storage system make the HLT express production possible. It can also be extended at anytime.



# Tracking focus group (TFG) development

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1. Together with experts from Ivan Kiesel's group ( Frankfurt), [improved CA tracker performance](#). CA tracker is now integrated into STAR reconstruction software.
2. Together with experts from Frankfurt, demonstrated that KFParticle has considerable advantage over conventional vertex construction. [Provided KFParticle package as PID option for STAR](#).
3. [Developed an express data production framework](#), which uses the redundant HLT CPU resources to produce ~70% of the HLT good events within hours of data taking. [The HLT express production enabled quick QA and express analysis](#). The prototype have already processed all the currently collected energies of BES-II.

# STAR upgrades for BES-II (a)

## iTPC

The iTPC project had a tight schedule, but was completed with installation of 24 new sectors and associated electronics

Data taking in Run-19 was successful

The group had leading roles in all phases of project

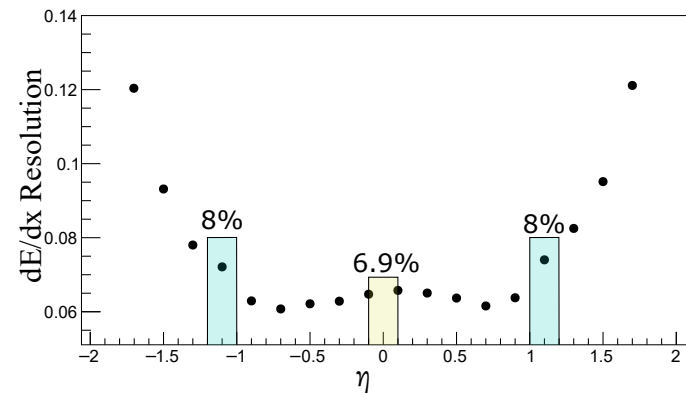
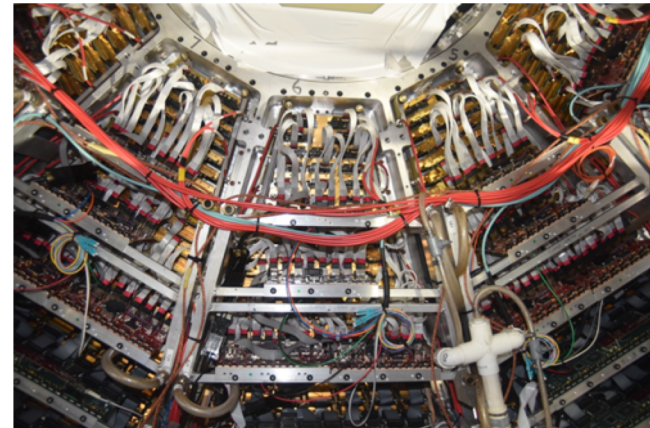
Project manager: **Videbaek**

Installation tooling, integration: Sharma, Lebedev, Shanmuganathan

Electronics: **Ljubicic** Scheetz (retired) STSG

Simulations, calibrations: Fisyak, vanBuren

Optimal performance parameters were demonstrated in May



# STAR upgrades for BES-II (b)

## Event Plane Detector (EPD)

Fully installed and operational  
for Run-18

Mechanical Integration  
Sharma, STSG



## eTOF

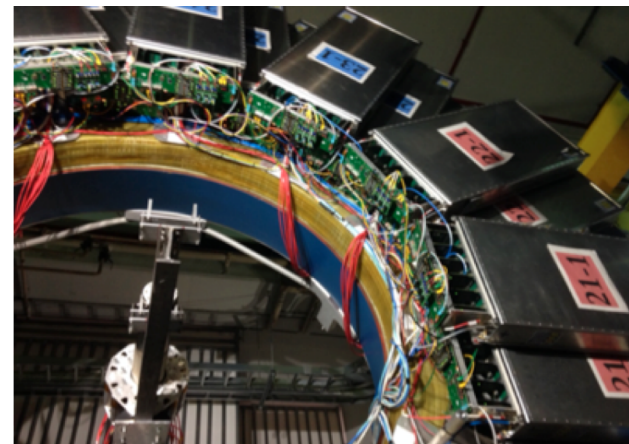
STAR CBM phase 0  
collaboration

Installed for Run-19

Mechanical Integration, gas  
system: Sharma, Lebedev  
STSG

DAQ trigger integration

Ljubicic



# STAR forward upgrade

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- Proposal: sharpen the physics case for heavy ion collisions: Ruan, Sorensen, Jia, Tribedy, Xu. Simulation efforts from S&C core team members: Webb, Ogawa, Perev, Lauret, Van Buren.

After a successful cost and schedule review on Nov 18, 2019:

- The small-strip Thin Gap Chamber project manager: Ruan
- Forward Silicon Tracker deputy project manager: Videbaek
- Software coordinator: James Daniel Brandenburg
- Mechanical/DAQ integration: Rahul, Ljubicic ...

# EIC Science in STAR

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- STAR group involved in EIC efforts since 2007
- Active group member: T. Ullrich, J.H. Lee, L. Ruan
- Key authors of major EIC papers (White Paper (Eur.Phys.J. A52 (2016)), Energy Assessment Paper (Rept.Prog.Phys. 82 (2019))
- Core member of BNL EIC Working Group are also member in STAR but funded through PD (see A. Desphande's talk)
- EIC Working Group at BNL chaired by T. Ullrich and J.H. Lee
- Generic EIC Detector R&D Program coordinated by T. Ullrich since 2014 (see A. Desphande's talk)
- Active participation in
  - ▶ EIC LDRD program (Ullrich, Ruan)
  - ▶ Joint BNL/SBU CFNS center
    - J.H. Lee is Scientific Coordinator on the BNL side
    - Lee and Ullrich are both member of the CFNS program steering committee
  - ▶ EIC User Group:
    - Ullrich is BNL's representative on the EIC User Group Steering Committee.
- Frequent EIC related talks, seminars & colloquiums. Various EIC related publications (Lee, Ullrich)

# Summary

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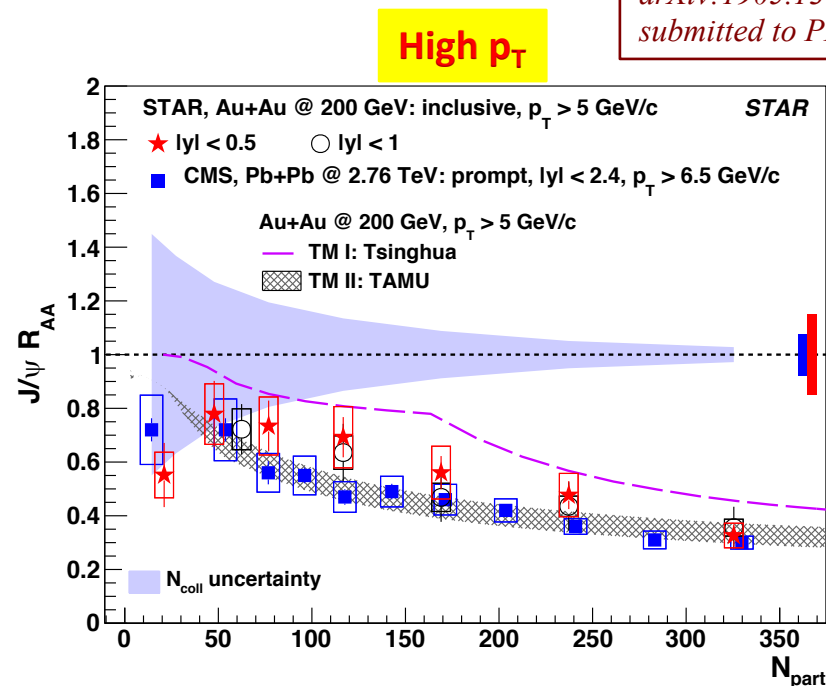
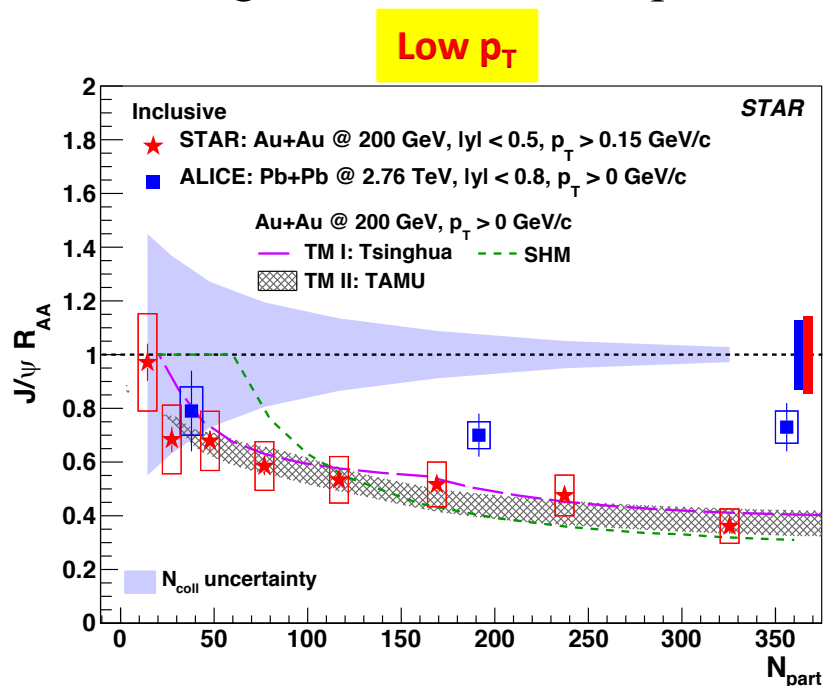
# Backup

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# Au+Au @ 200 GeV: $J/\psi$ $R_{AA}$ vs. centrality

- Utilizing the Muon Telescope Detector at STAR

*arXiv:1905.13669  
submitted to PLB*



- Low  $p_T$ : significantly larger suppression at RHIC than LHC in central collisions
  - Less regeneration contribution at RHIC
- High  $p_T$ : indication of less suppression at RHIC
  - Lower medium temperature at RHIC
- Transport model calculations describe data well at low  $p_T$ , but have some difficulties at high  $p_T$ 
  - Opportunity for further improvements

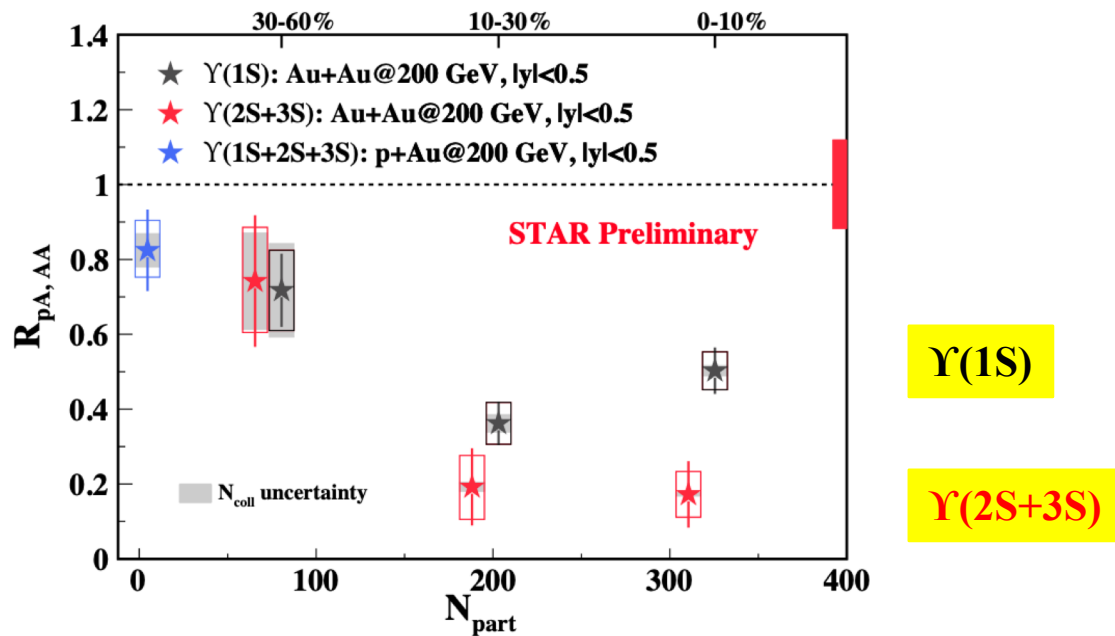
*ALICE : PLB 734 (2014) 314  
CMS: JHEP 05 (2012) 063*

*Tsinghua: PRC 89 (2014) 054911  
TAMU: PRC 82 (2010) 064905  
SHM: Nature 561 (7723) (2018) 321*



# Au+Au @ 200 GeV: $\Upsilon$ $R_{AA}$ vs. centrality

- Combined dimuon and dielectron results



- Peripheral: suppression comparable to that measured in p+Au
- Peripheral  $\rightarrow$  central: increasing suppression consistent with enhanced hot medium effects
- Central:  $\Upsilon(2S+3S)$  is more suppressed than  $\Upsilon(1S)$ , as expected from the “sequential melting” picture of the color screening effect**