

# Collective flow in *small* systems

– *lessons, puzzles and opportunities*

Wei Li  
Rice University

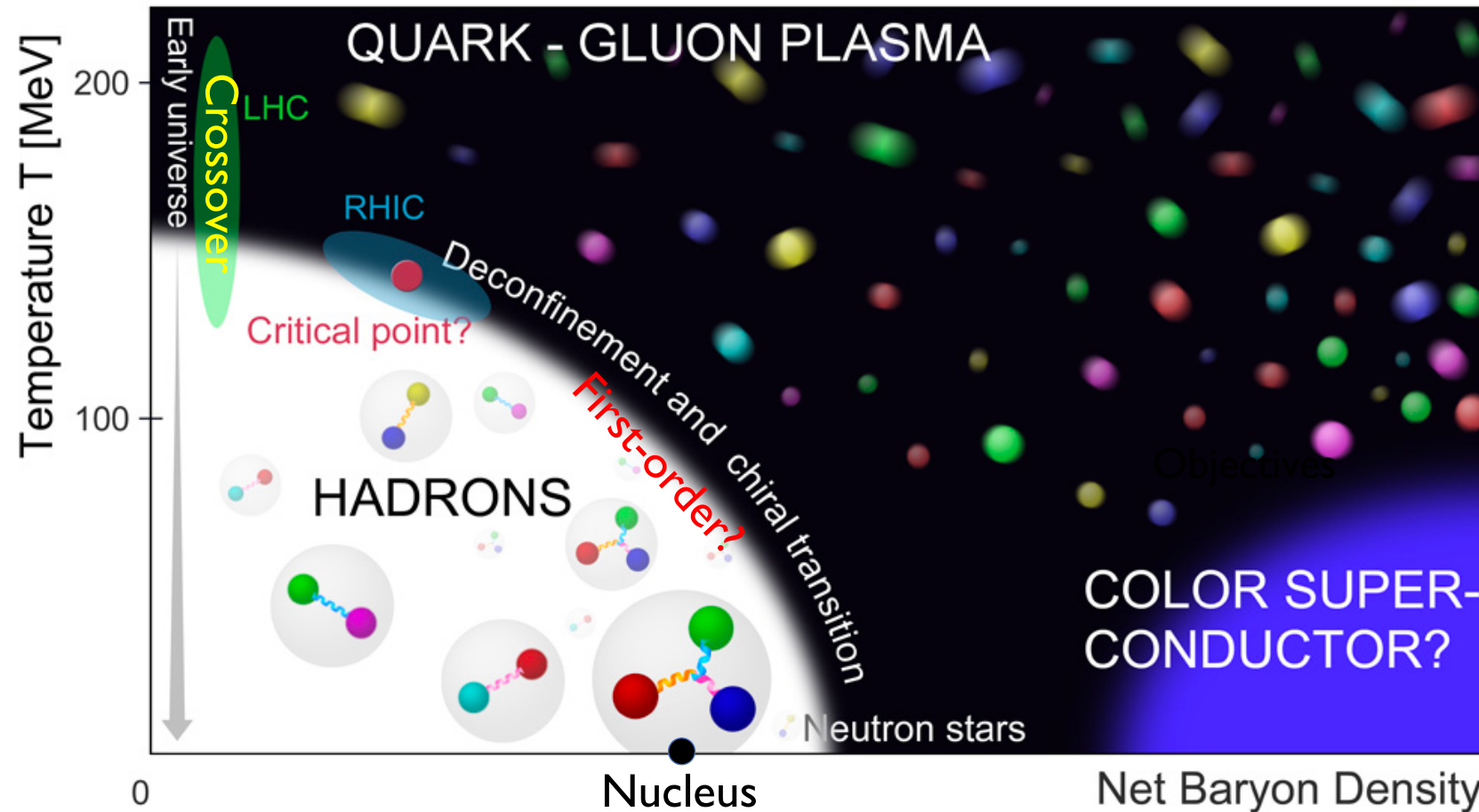
RHIC-BES seminar series  
November 10, 2020



# How large is large? How small is small?



# Physics of QCD many-body systems



Key objectives:

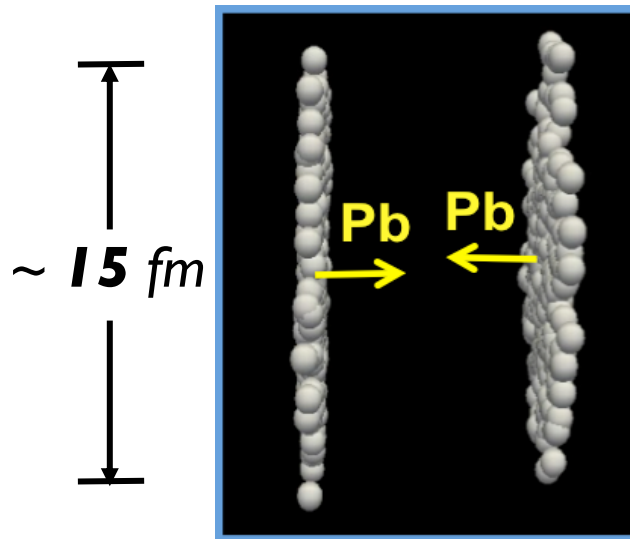
- Search for and study deconfined quark-gluon matter
- Understand nature of QCD phase transitions

# Recreating “Little Bangs” in the lab

## Nuclear Physics

### Colliding large *nuclei*

T.D. Lee, RMP 47, 267(1975)

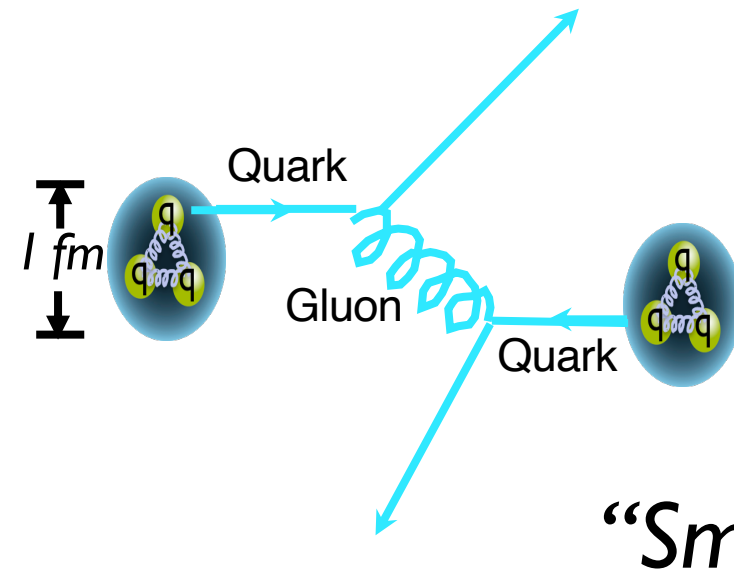


“Large”

VS.

## High Energy Physics

### Proton-proton

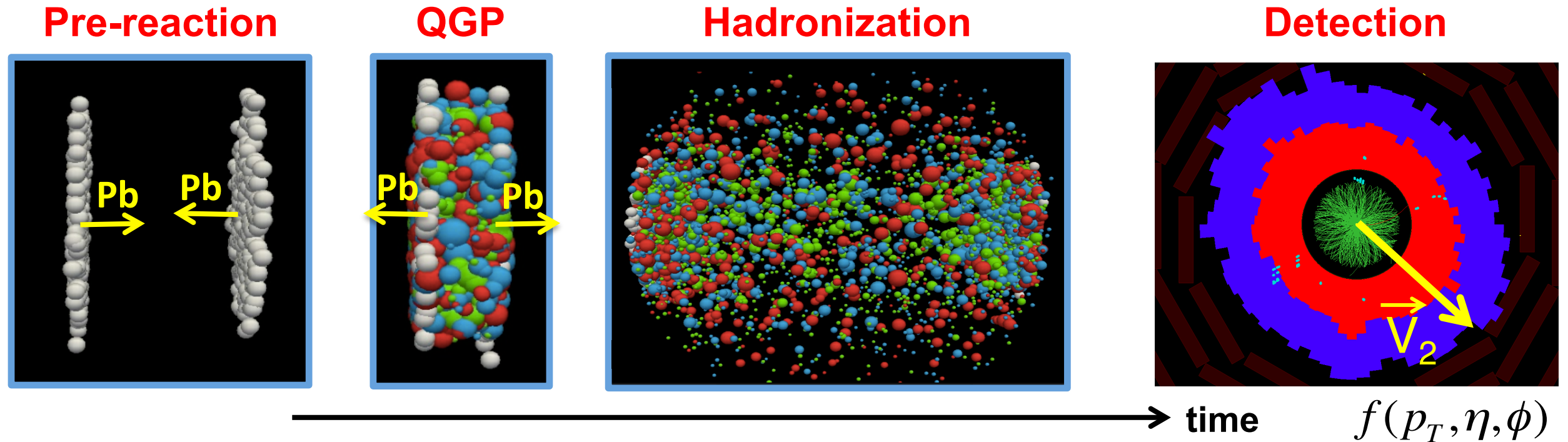


“Small”

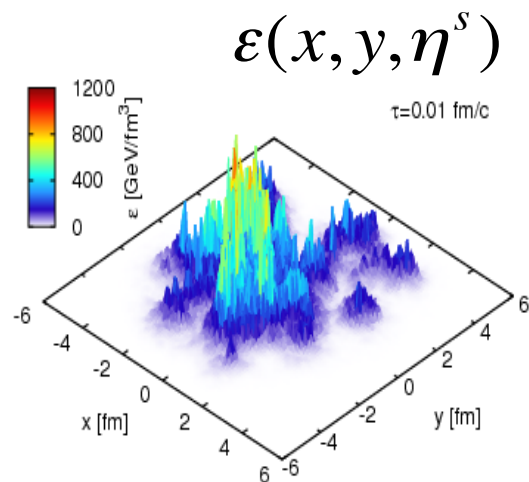
Large volume to form a medium  
and interact with hard probes (jets)

Point-like, too small for  
partonic rescatterings!

# Standard paradigm of heavy ion collisions



**Initial state:**



Pre-equilibrium

Hydrodynamics

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 + (\eta, \zeta, \dots)$$

Freeze-out;  
Hadronic transport

**Final-state collective flow:**

$$f(p_T, \eta, \phi) = N(p_T, \eta) \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \vec{V}_n(p_T, \eta) e^{-in\phi}$$

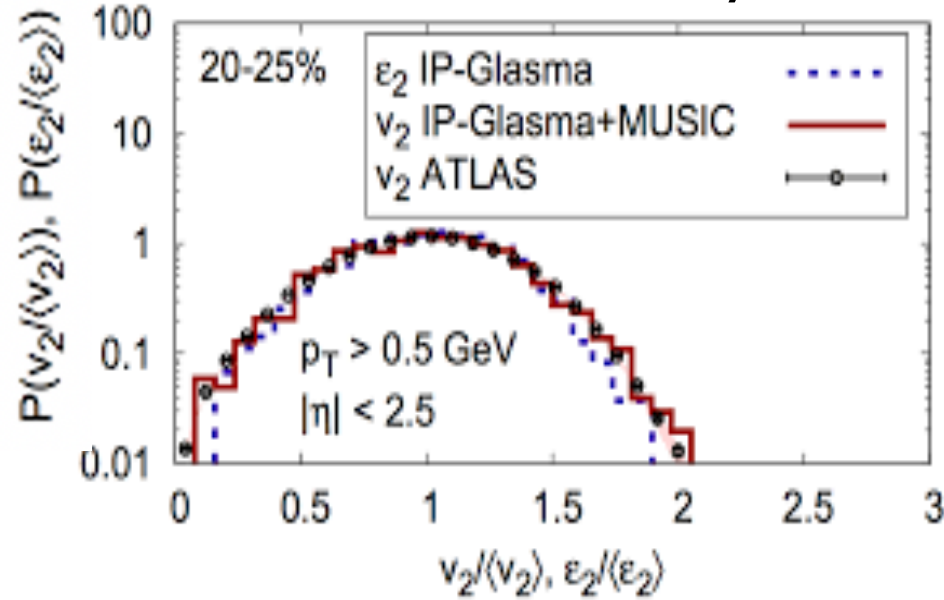
Radial flow

Anisotropy flow

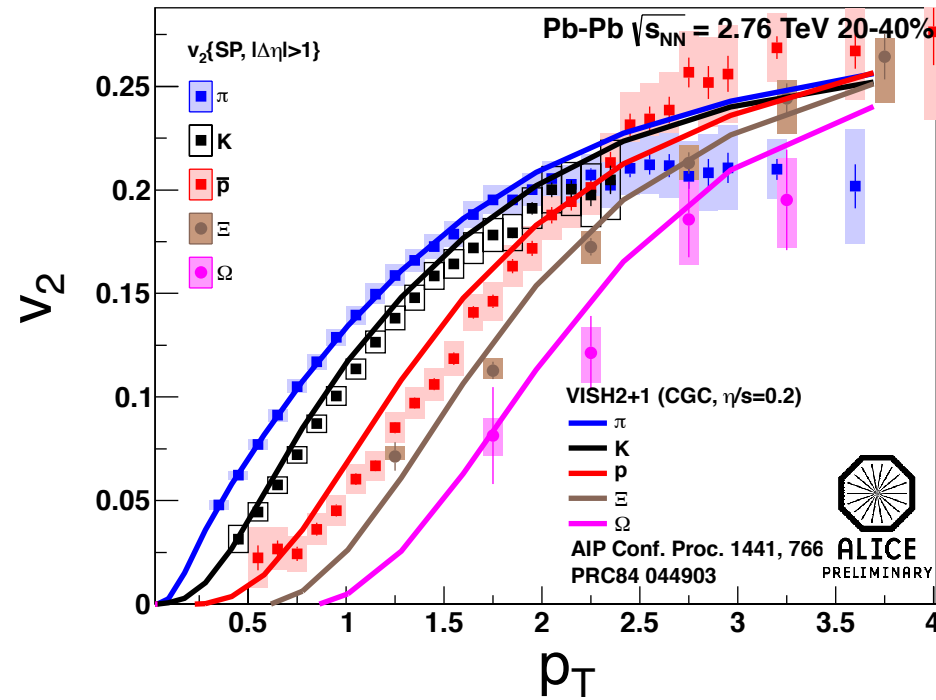
$$\vec{V}_n = v_n e^{in\psi_n}$$

# Collective flow in large systems

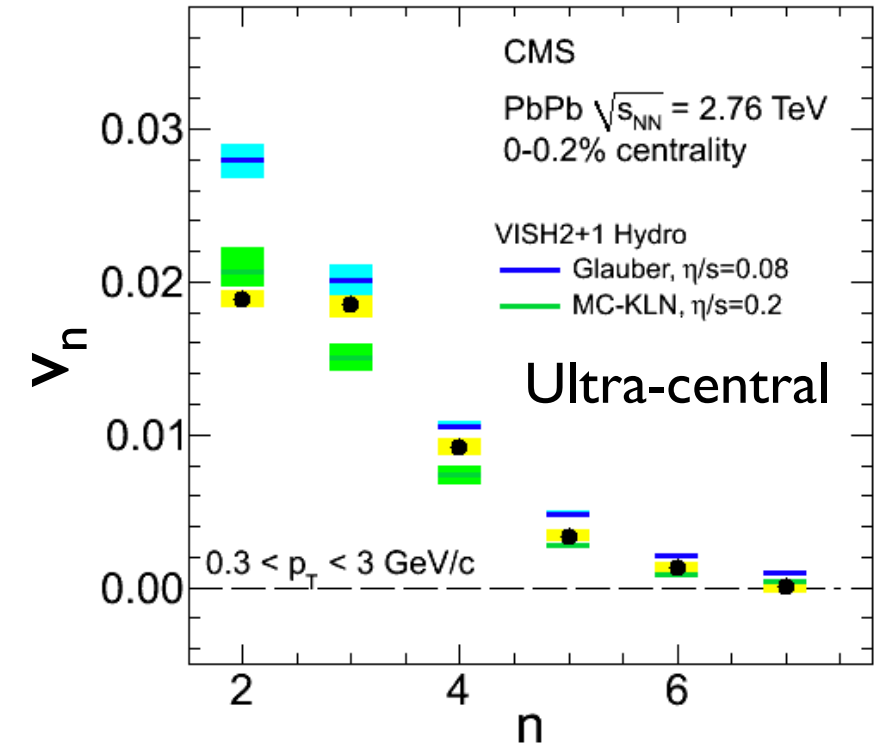
“Geometry” at work  
event-by-event



“Mass ordering”



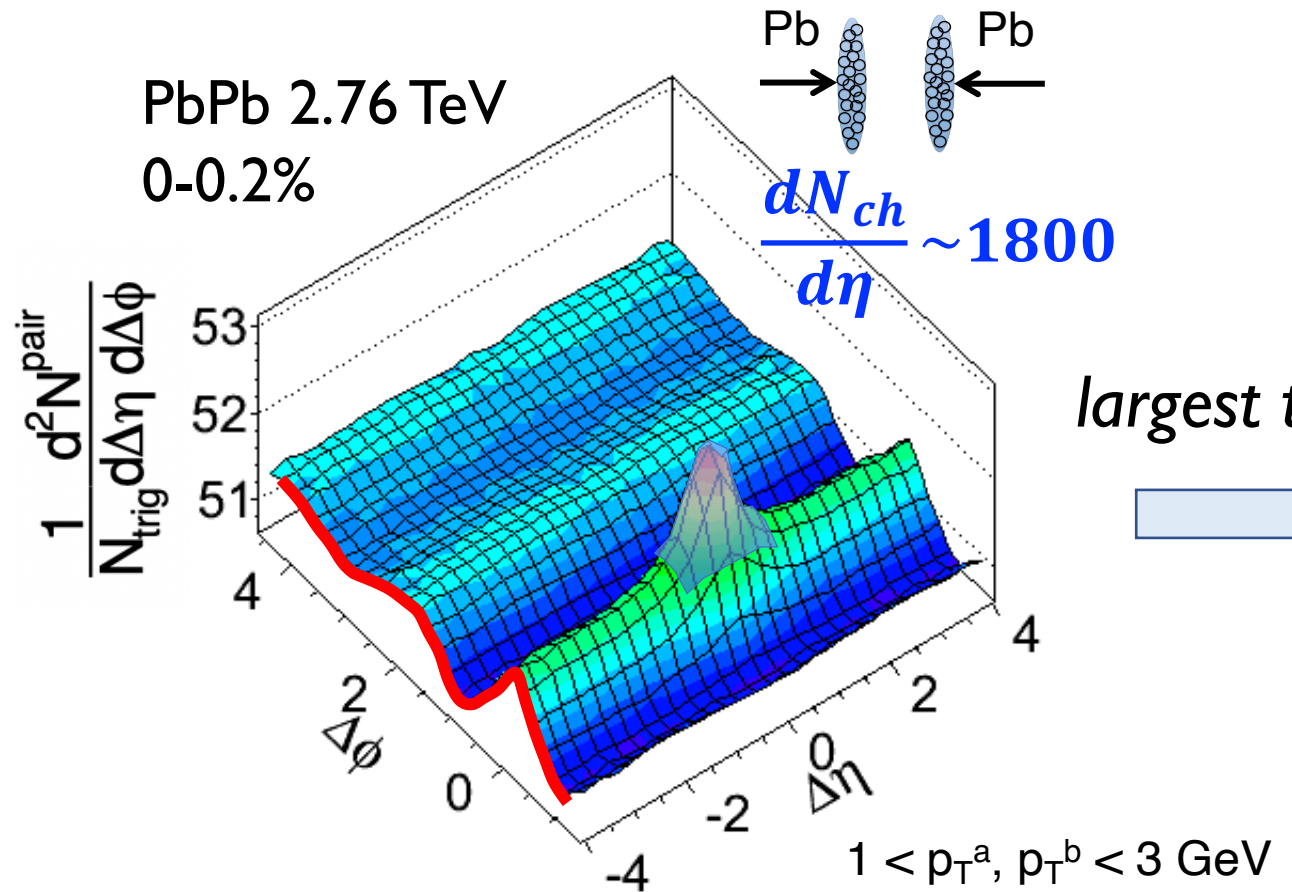
“Fine imprints” of QGP



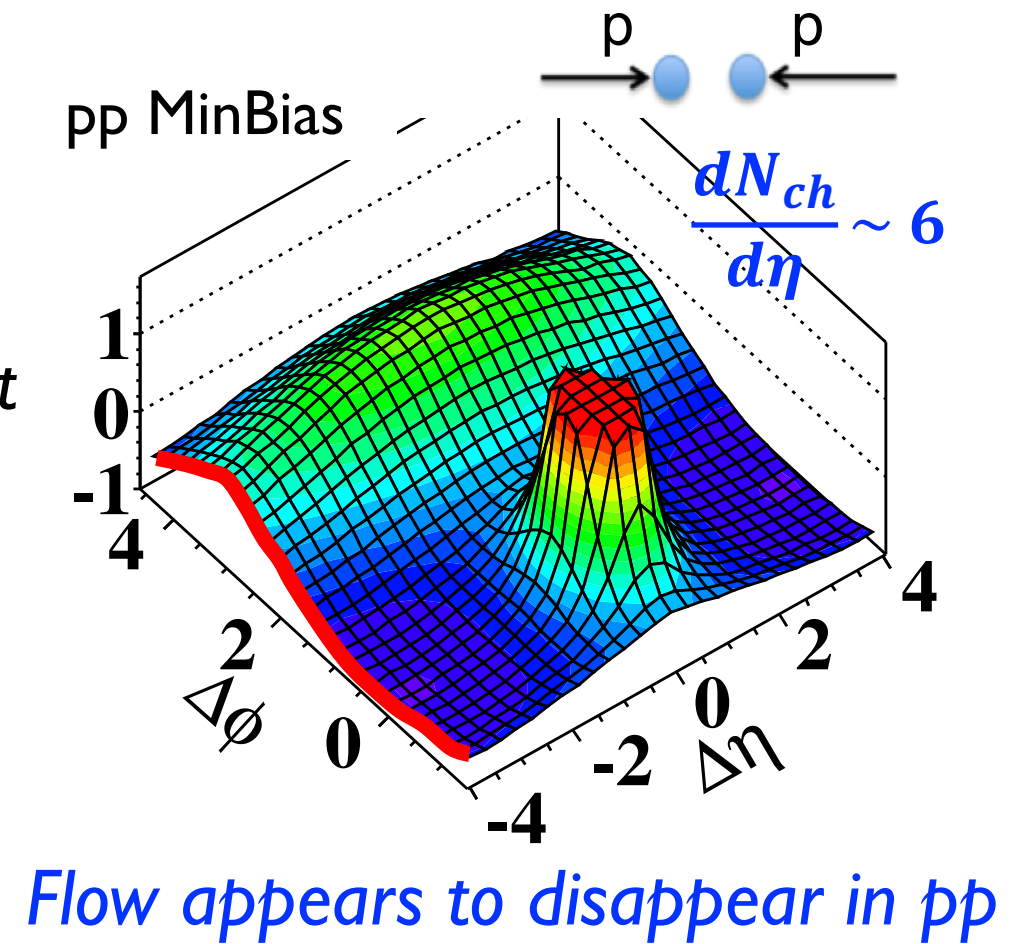
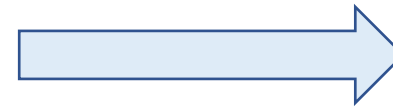
Some tension between  $v_2$  vs  $v_3$

- ✓ Described by nearly ideal ( $\eta/s \sim 0.08-0.2$ ) hydro. – “perfect liquid”
- ✓ Initial “geometry” driven:  $v_{2,3} = \kappa \epsilon_{2,3}$

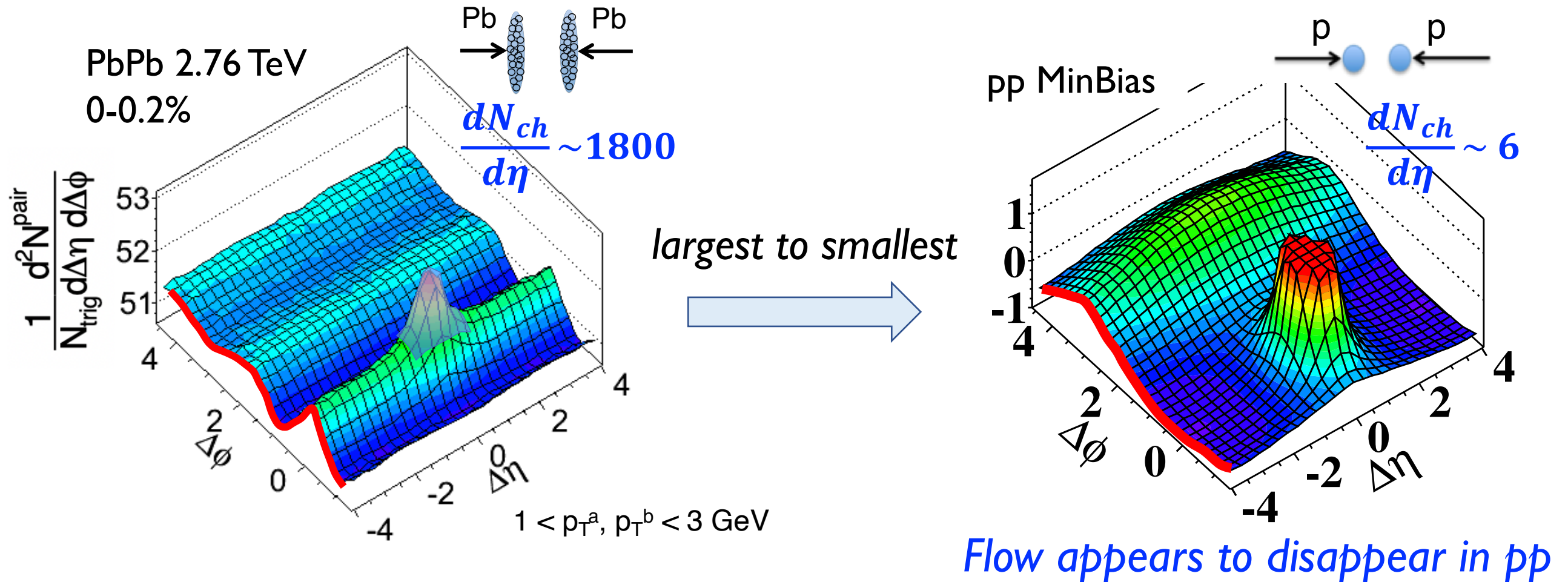
# Collective flow in large systems



*largest to smallest*



# Collective flow in large systems

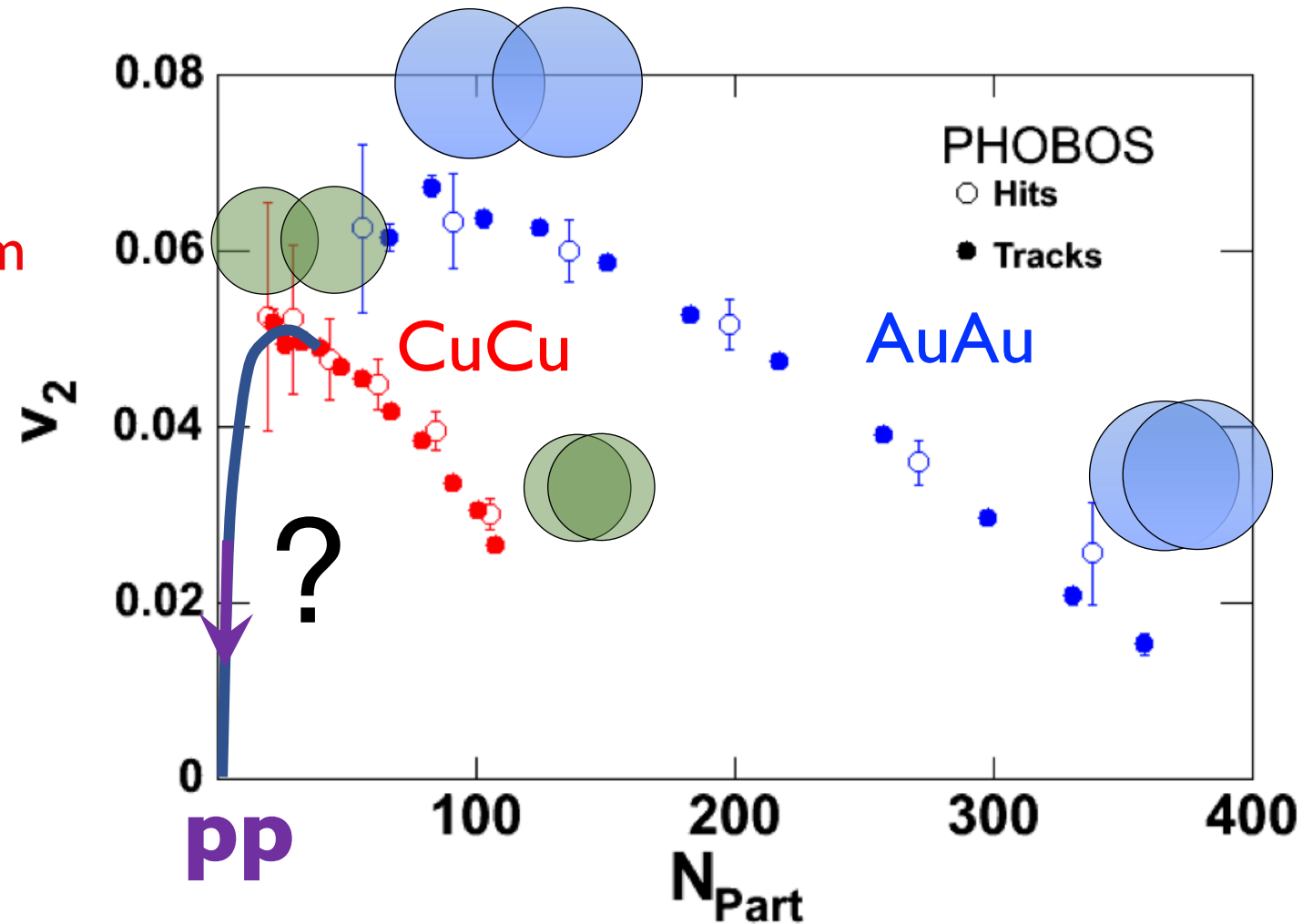


- When and how does it turn off as system size decreases (or if at all)?
- Is “QGP” always a “perfect liquid” no matter how small it is?  
(QCD is intrinsically nonperturbative, as opposed to QED)



# How small a “QGP fluid” can be?

Smaller CuCu system  
at RHIC (2005)



- When and how does it turn off as system size decreases (or if at all)?
- Is “QGP” always a “perfect liquid” no matter how small it is?  
(QCD is intrinsically nonperturbative, as opposed to QED)

# How small a "QGP fluid" can be?



Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

FERMILAB-Conf-90/205-E  
[E-735]

## A Quark-Gluon Plasma Search in $\bar{p}$ -p at $\sqrt{s}=1.8$ TeV \*

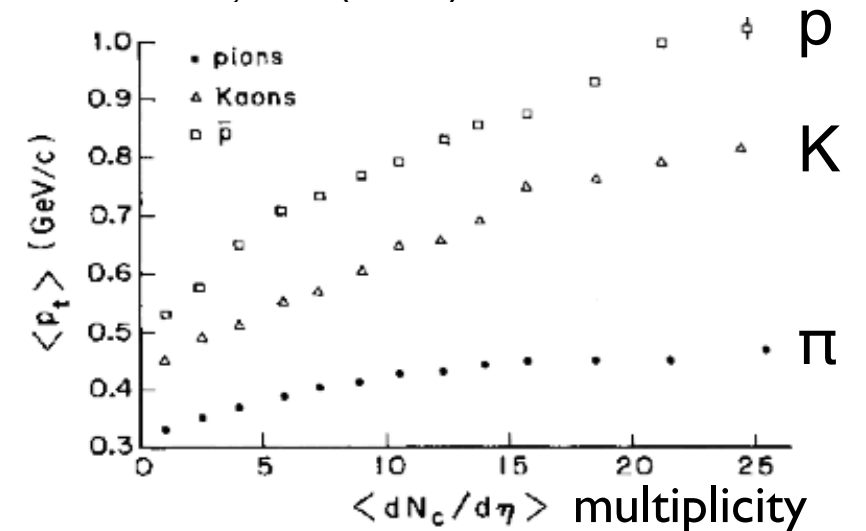
The E-735 Collaboration

presented by

Frank Turkot  
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory  
P.O. Box 500  
Batavia, Illinois 60510

October 8, 1990

PRD48, 984 (1993)



## Landau (1955): hydrodynamics in pp

### 88. A HYDRODYNAMIC THEORY OF MULTIPLE FORMATION OF PARTICLES

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Experiment shows that in collisions of very fast particles a large number of new particles are formed in multi-prong stars. The energy of the particles which produce such stars is of the order of  $10^{12}$  eV or more. A characteristic feature is that such collisions occur not only between a nucleon and a nucleus but also between two nucleons. For example, the formation of two mesons in neutron-proton collisions has been observed at comparatively low energies, of the order of  $10^9$  eV, in cosmotron experiments<sup>1</sup>.

Fermi<sup>2,3</sup> originated the ingenious idea of considering the collision process at very high energies by the use of thermodynamic methods. The main points of his theory are as follows.

(1) It is assumed that, when two nucleons of very high energy collide, energy is released in a very small volume  $V$  in their centre of mass system. Since the nuclear interaction is very strong and the volume is small, the distribution of energy will be determined by statistical laws. The collision of high-energy particles may therefore be treated without recourse to any specific theories of nuclear interaction.

(2) The volume  $V$  in which energy is released is determined by the dimensions of the meson cloud around the nucleons, whose radius is  $\hbar/\mu c$ ,  $\mu$  being the mass of the pion. But since the nucleons are moving at very high speeds, the meson cloud surrounding them will undergo a Lorentz contraction in the direction of motion. Thus the volume  $V$  will be, in order of magnitude,

$$V = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left( \frac{\hbar}{\mu c} \right)^3 \frac{2M c^2}{E'} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $M$  is the mass of a nucleon and  $E'$  the nucleon energy in the centre of mass system.

(3) Fermi assumes that particles are formed, in accordance with the laws of statistical equilibrium, in the volume  $V$  at the instant of collision. The particles formed do not interact further with one another, but leave the volume in a "frozen" state.

С. З. Беленький и Л. Д. Ландау, Гидродинамическая теория множественного образования частиц, *Успехи Физических Наук*, 56, 309 (1955).

S. Z. Belenkij and L. D. Landau, Hydrodynamic theory of multiple production of particles, *Nuovo Cimento*, Supplement, 3, 15 (1956).

## Fermi (1950): statistical approach in pp

241.

### HIGH ENERGY NUCLEAR EVENTS

« Progr. Theor. Theoret. Phys. », 5, 570-583 (1950).

#### ABSTRACT

A statistical method for computing high energy collisions of protons with multiple production of particles is discussed. The method consists in assuming that as a result of fairly strong interactions between nucleons and mesons the probabilities of formation of the various possible numbers of particles are determined essentially by the statistical weights of the various possibilities.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION.

The meson theory has been a dominant factor in the development of physics since it was announced fifteen years ago by Yukawa. One of its outstanding achievements has been the prediction that mesons should be produced in high energy nuclear collisions. At relatively low energies only one meson can be emitted. At higher energies multiple emission becomes possible.

In this paper an attempt will be made to develop a crude theoretical approach for calculating the outcome of nuclear collisions with very great energy. In particular, phenomena in which two colliding nucleons may give rise to several  $\pi$ -mesons, briefly called hereafter pions, and perhaps also to some anti-nucleons, will be discussed.

In treating this type of processes the conventional perturbation theory solution of the production and destruction of pions breaks down entirely. Indeed, the large value of the interaction constant leads quite commonly to situations in which higher approximations yield larger results than do lower approximations. For this reason it is proposed to explore the possibilities of a method that makes use of this fact. The general idea is the following:

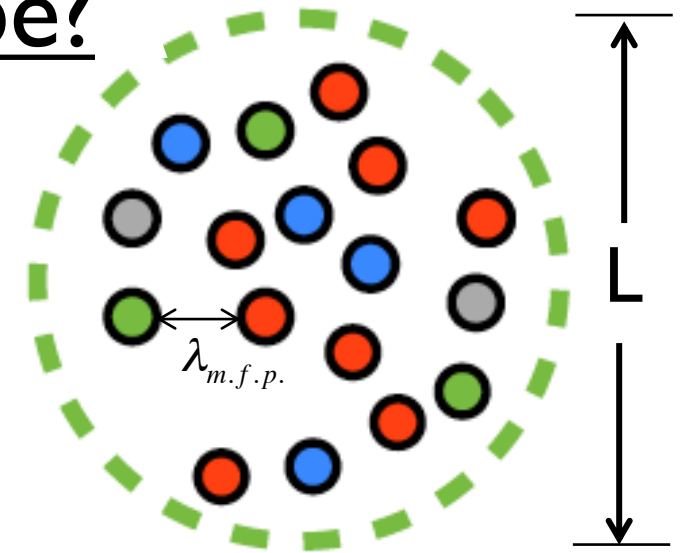
When two nucleons collide with very great energy in their center of mass system this energy will be suddenly released in a small volume surrounding the two nucleons. We may think pictorially of the event as of a collision in which the nucleons with their surrounding retinue of pions hit against each other so that all the portion of space occupied by the nucleons and by their surrounding pion field will be suddenly loaded with a very great amount of energy. Since the interactions of the pion field are strong we may expect that rapidly this energy will be distributed among the various degrees of freedom present in this volume according to statistical laws. One can then compute statistically the probability that in this tiny volume a certain number of pions will be created with a given energy distribution. It is then assumed that the

# How small a “QGP fluid” can be?

Hydrodynamics applies when:

$$L \gg \lambda_{m.f.p.}$$

where  $\lambda_{m.f.p.} \sim \frac{1}{g^4 T}$

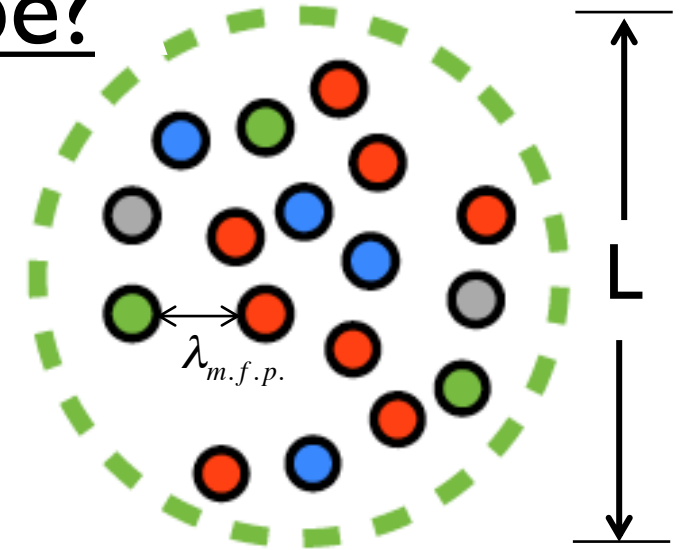


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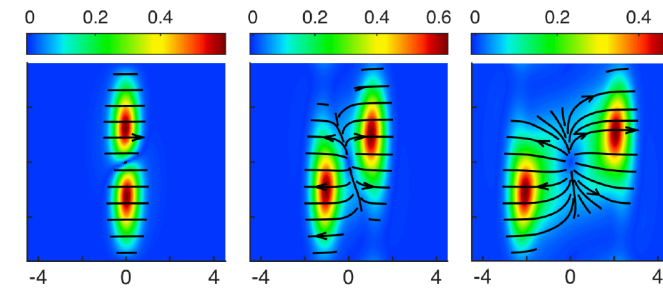
$$L \gg \lambda_{m.f.p.}$$

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- For  $g \sim 1$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow LT \gg 1$       OR

- In the limit of  $g \rightarrow \infty$   
 $LT \sim 1$



P. Chesler

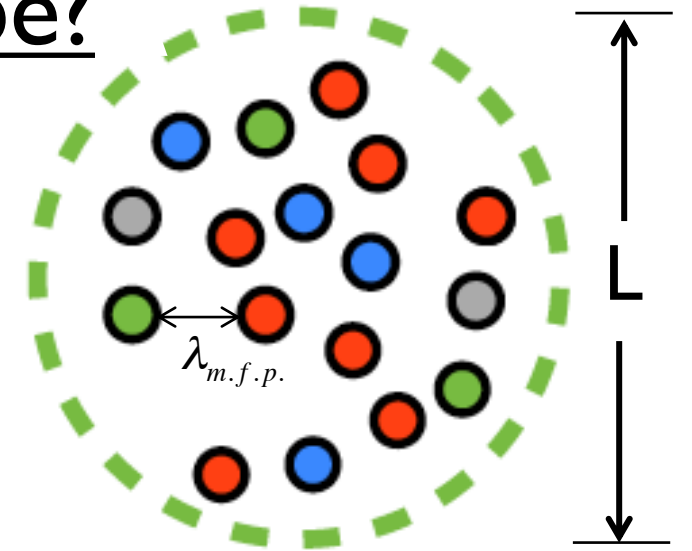
QGP fluid in pp

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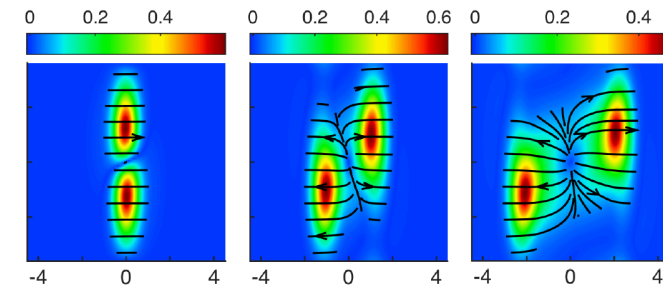
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## Experimental handles:

$$N_{trk} \sim (LT)^3$$

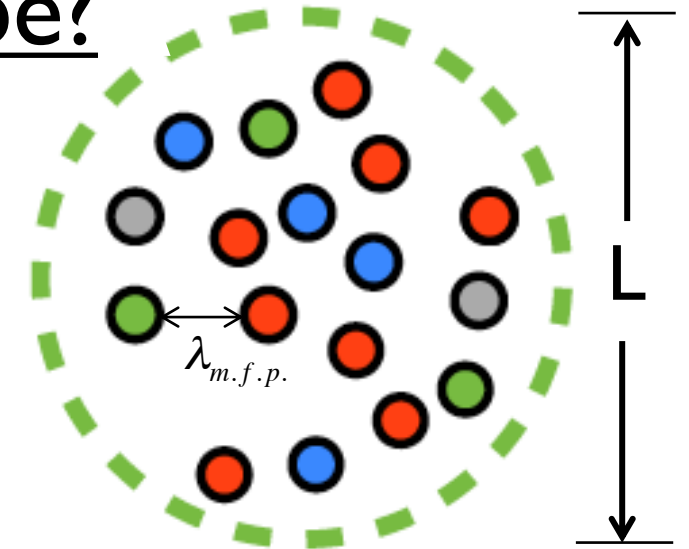
$$(N_{trk}/L^3 \sim s \sim T^3)$$

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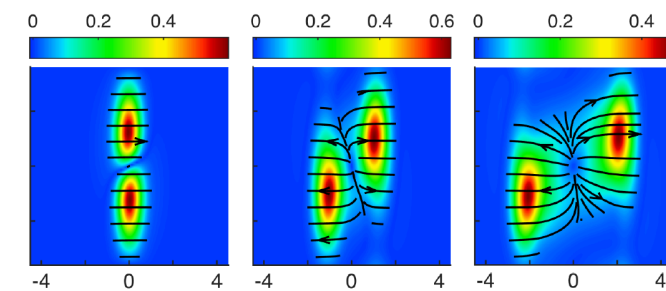
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P. Chesler      QGP fluid in pp

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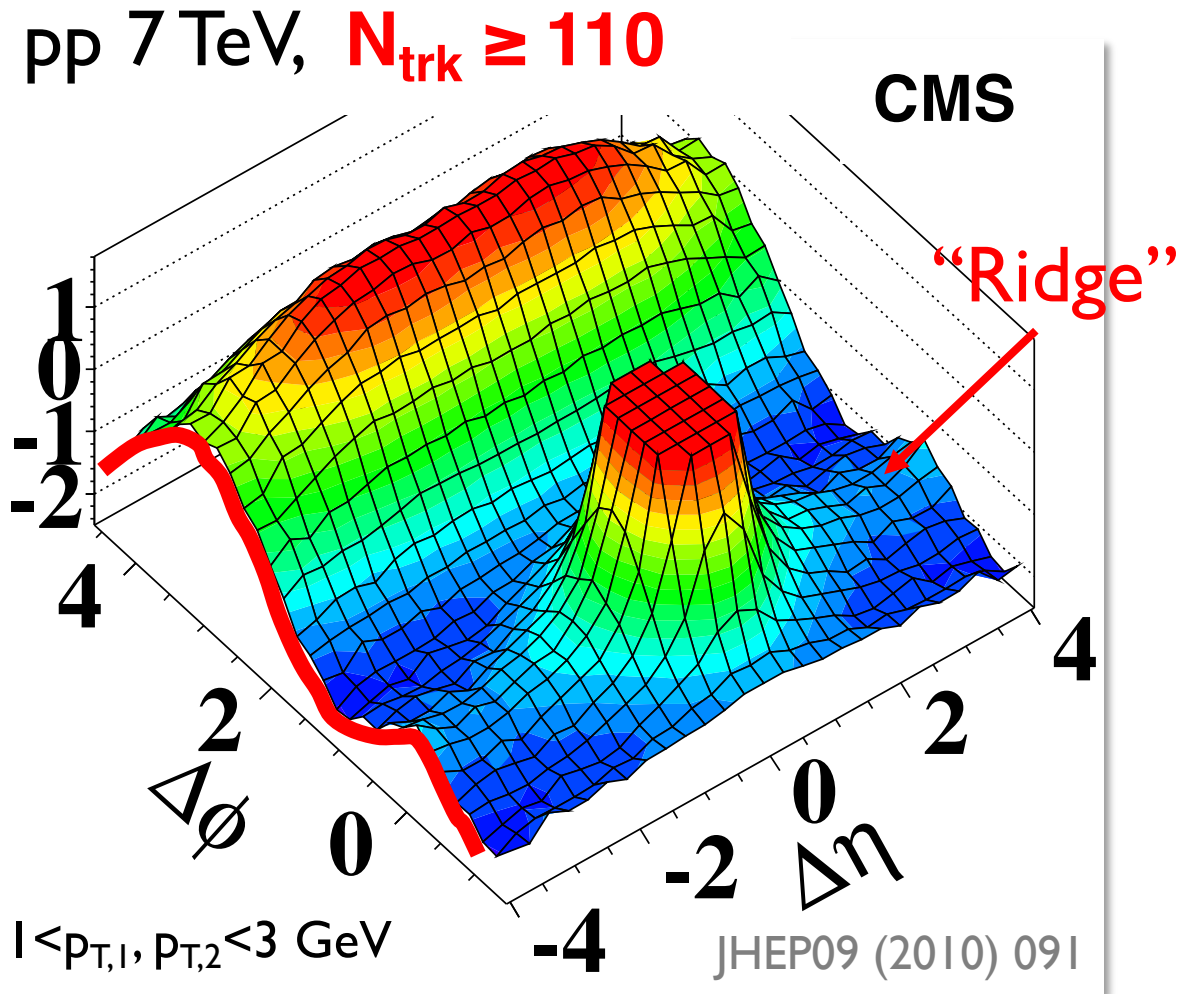
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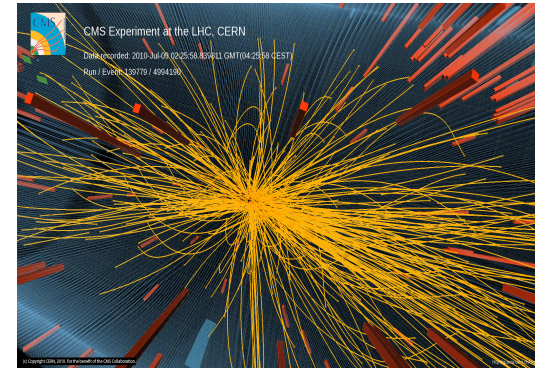
### *Pushing to extreme domains of applicability:*

- Small  $N_{trk}$ ,  $L$  (and collision energy)?
- Different (hard) probes (to vary the coupling)

# Observation of “flow” in small systems



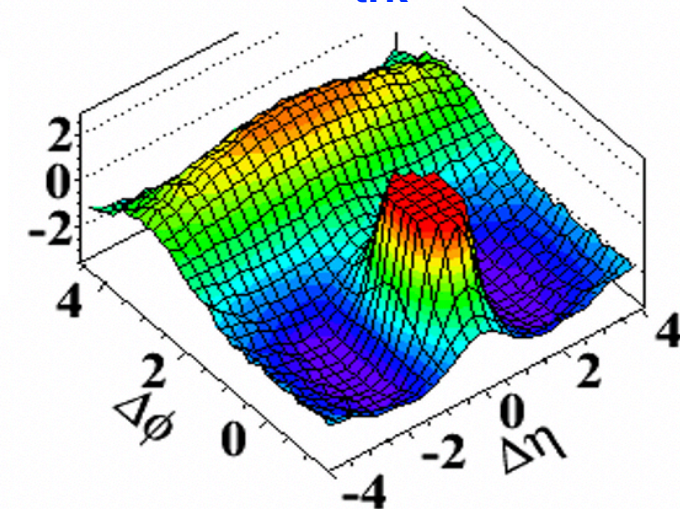
Rare, high multiplicity pp,  $N_{\text{trk}} > 110$



Small  $L$ , but large  $N_{\text{trk}}$

$O(10^{-6})$  most violent events

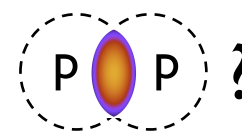
PYTHIA8,  $N_{\text{trk}} \geq 110$



NO “ridge” in MC models

A QGP droplet at sub-fermi scales in pp?

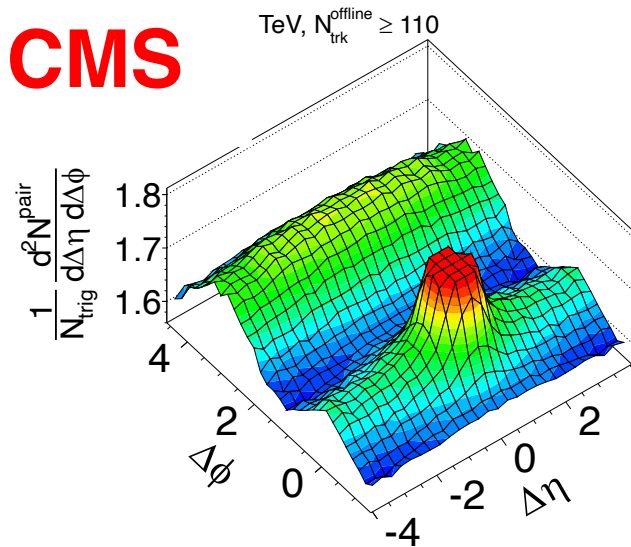
Or there is NO QGP anywhere?!



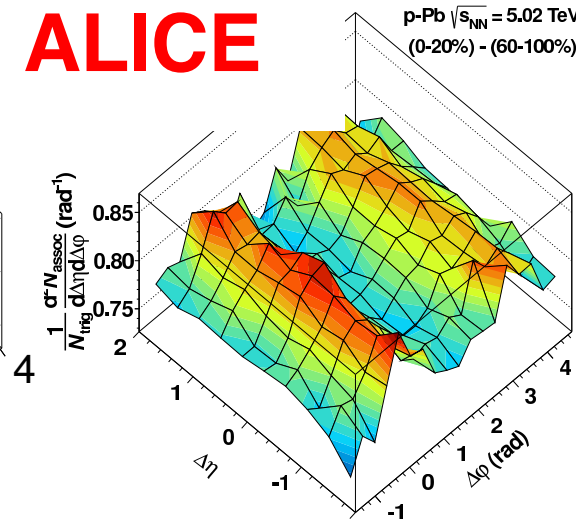
# Observation of “flow” in small systems

Ridge tsunami in pA at the LHC (>2012)

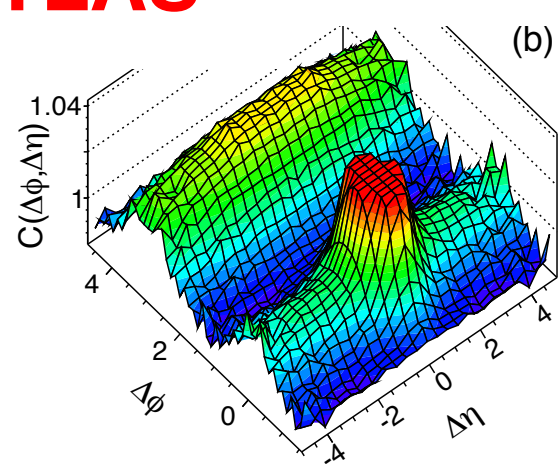
**CMS**



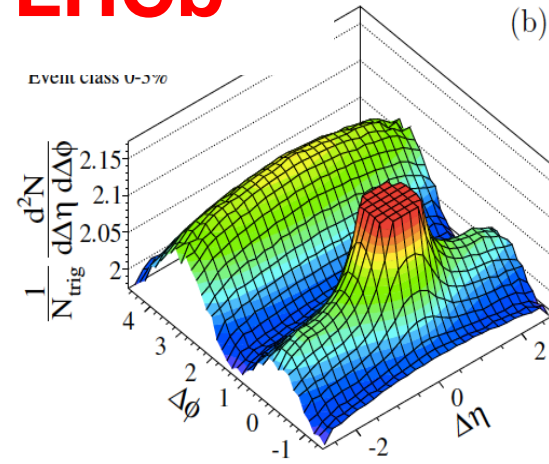
**ALICE**



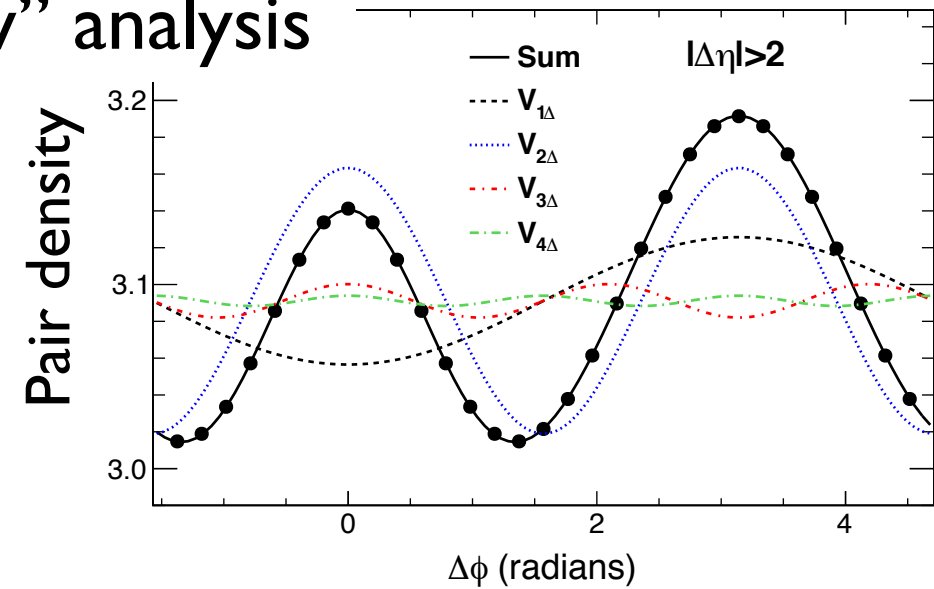
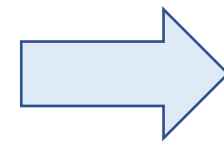
**ATLAS**



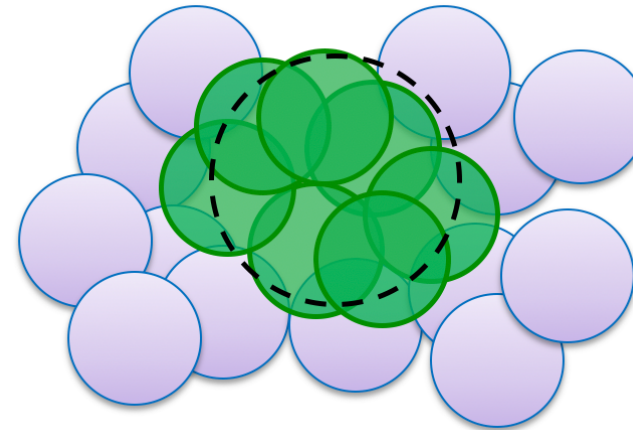
**LHCb**



“Flow” analysis



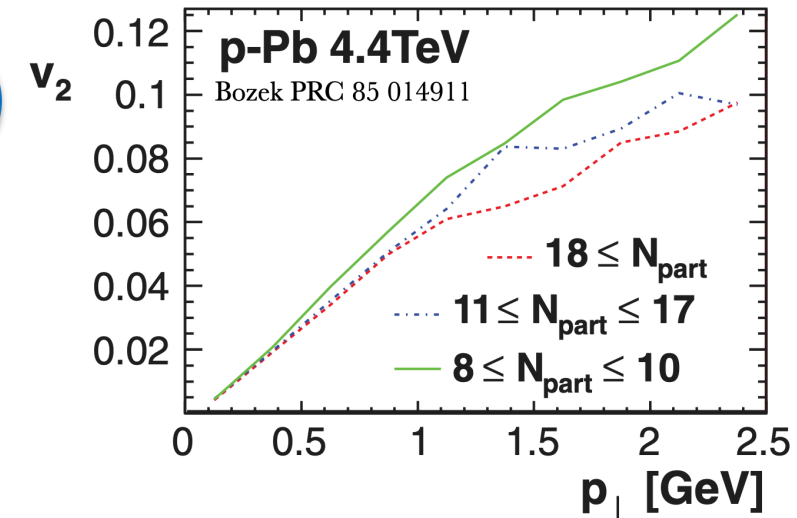
Geometry in pA



Proton projectile

Nucleus Participants

Hydro. prediction

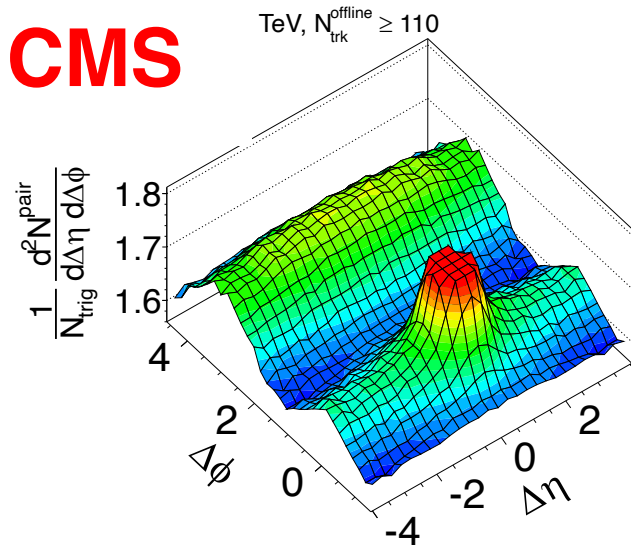




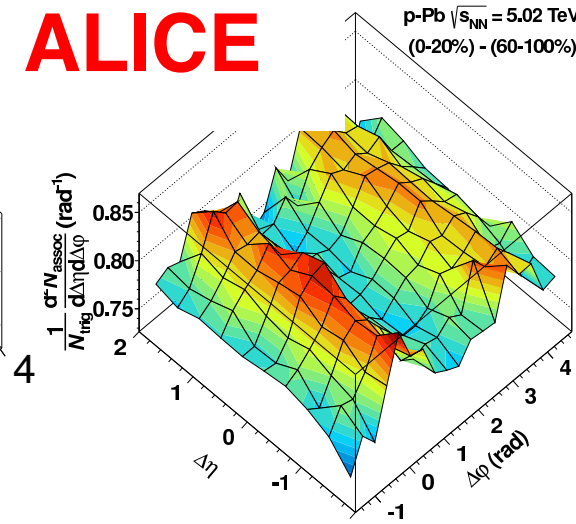
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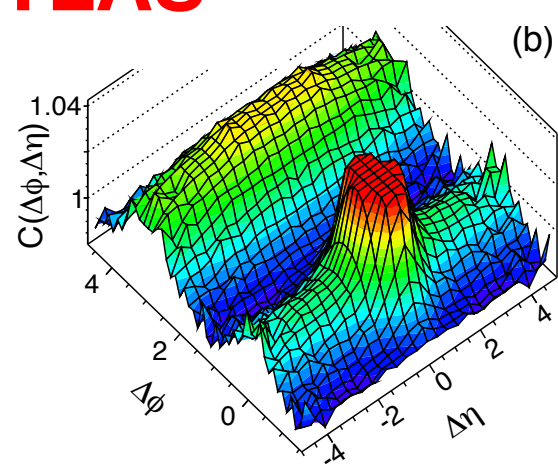
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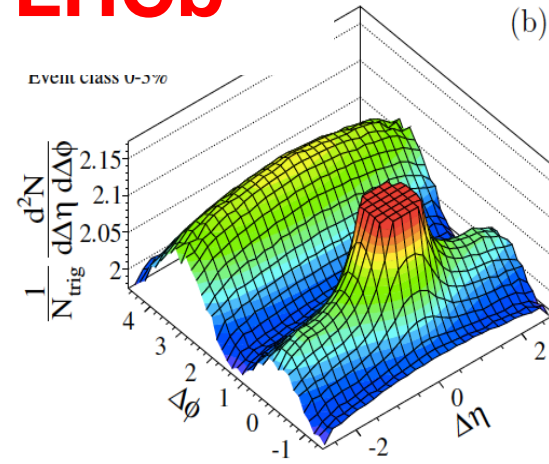
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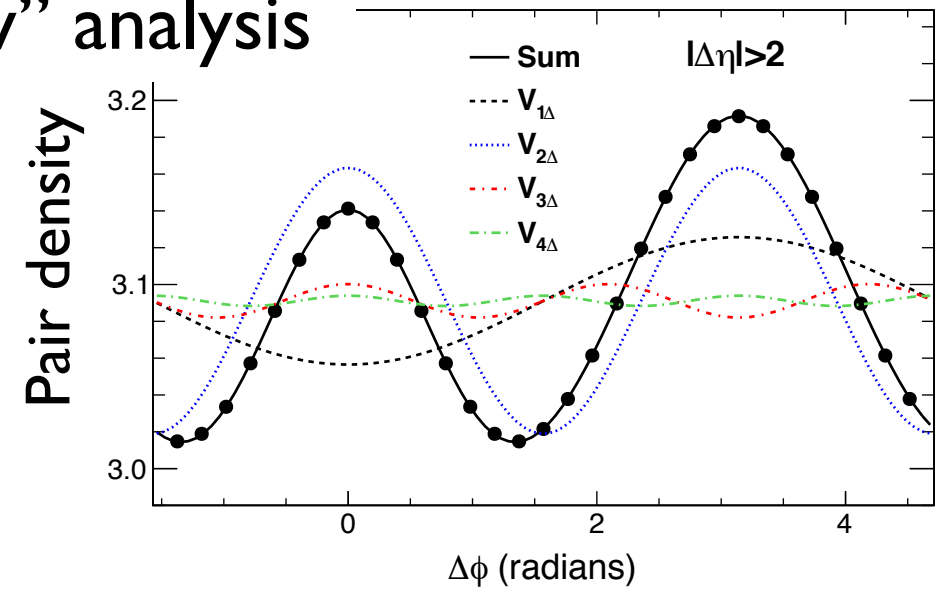
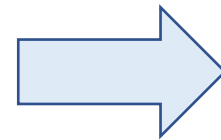
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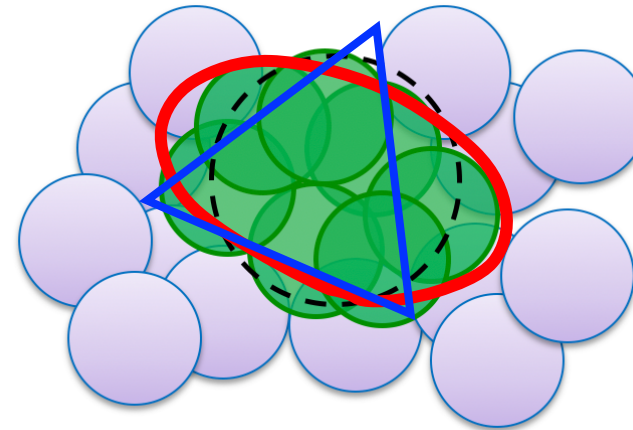
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“Flow” analysis



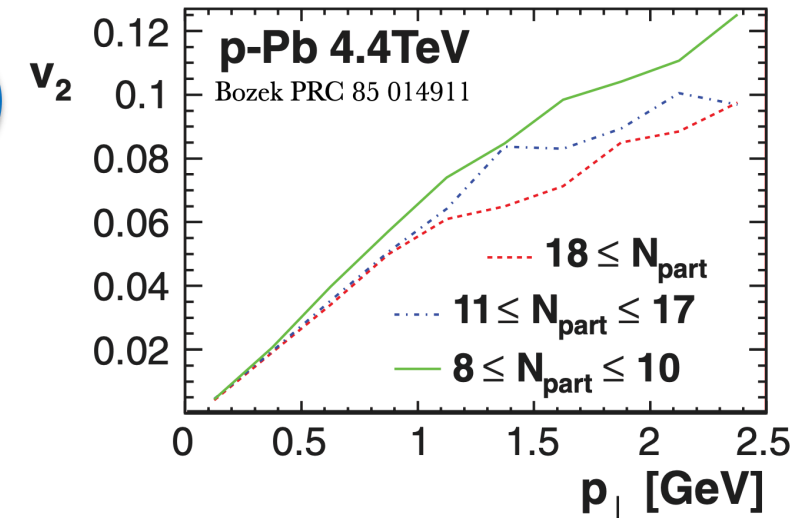
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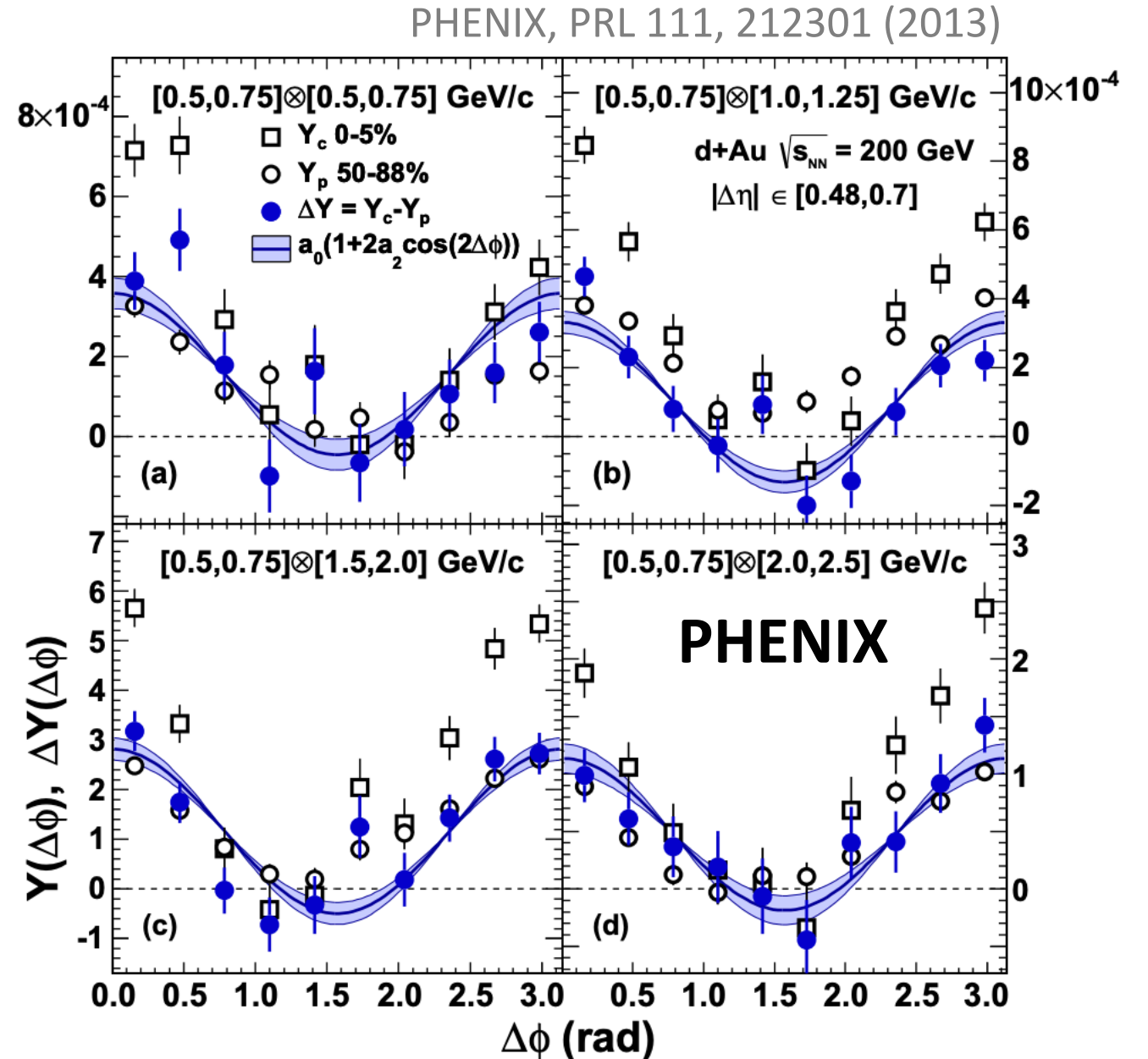
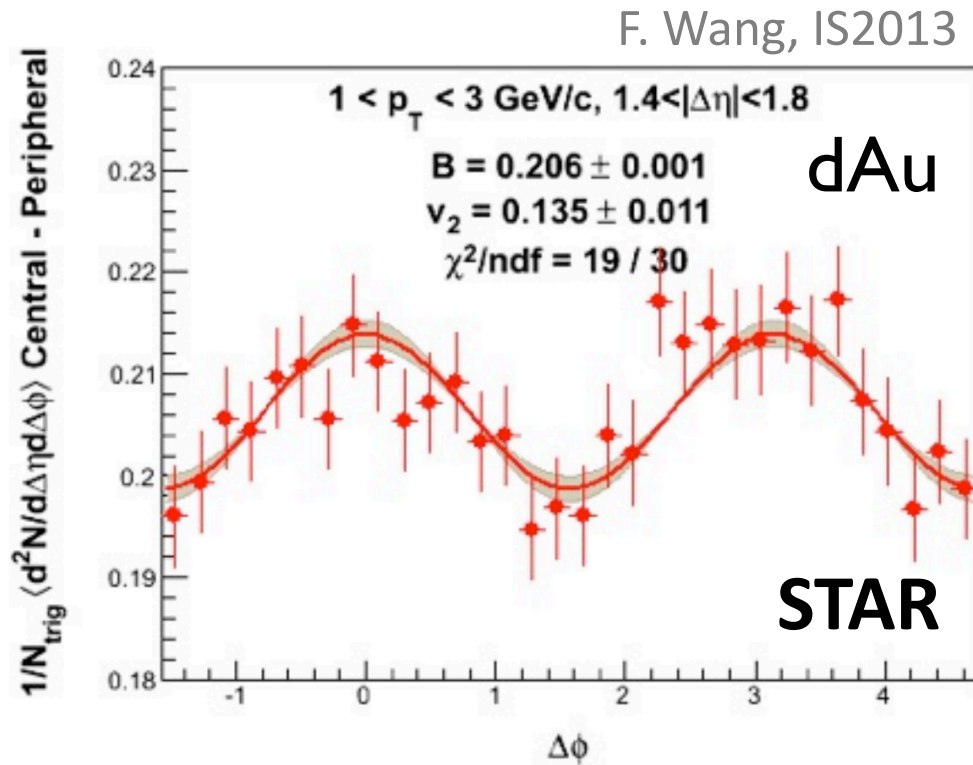
Nucleus Participants

Hydro. prediction



# Observation of “flow” in small systems

Ridge in dAu at RHIC  
(data taken in 2008)



# Origin of the ridge in small systems?

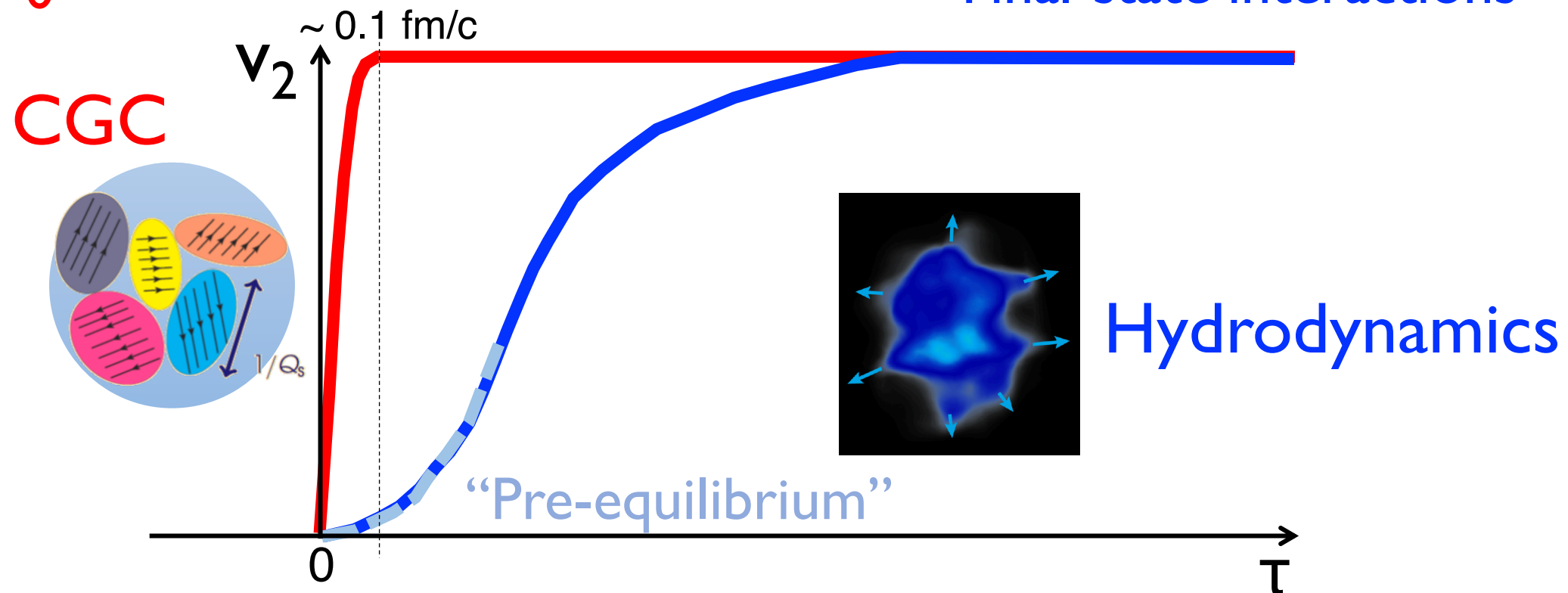
## Initial-State Correlations (ISC)

- Momentum collectivity at  $t \sim 0$

## Final-State Correlations (FSC)

vs.

- Initial geometry driven
- Final-state interactions



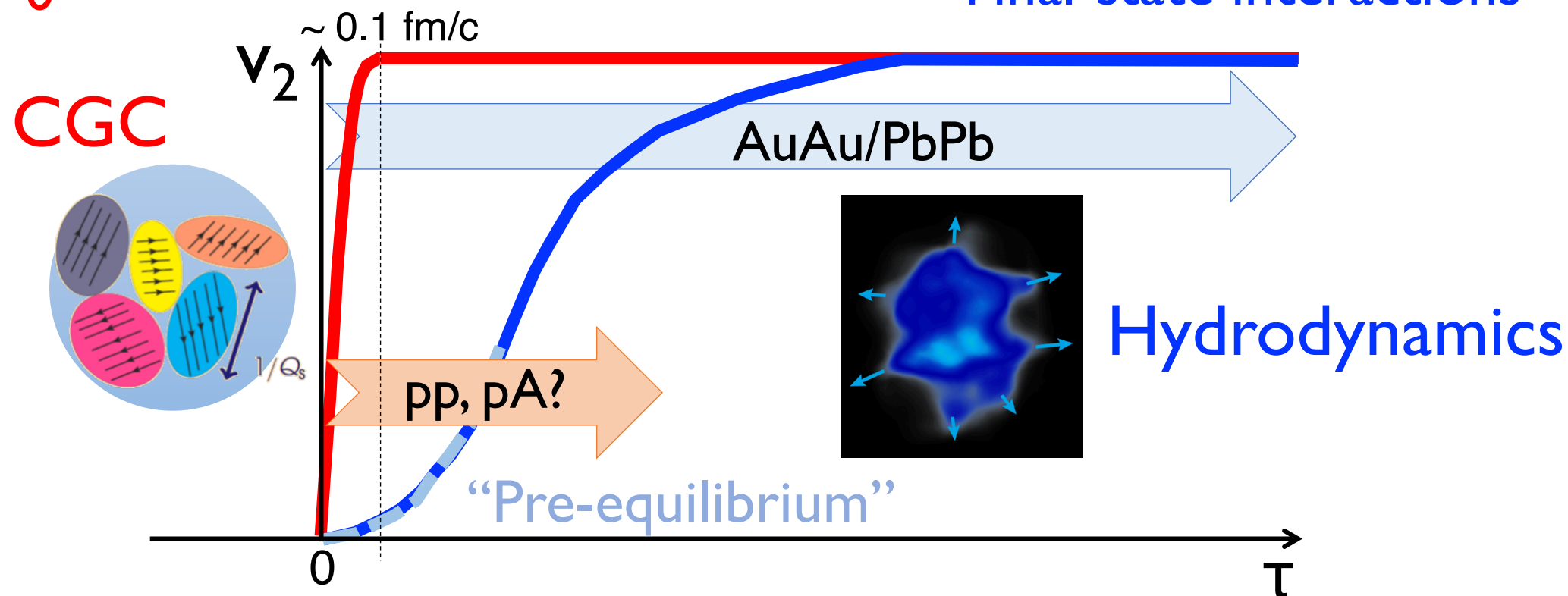
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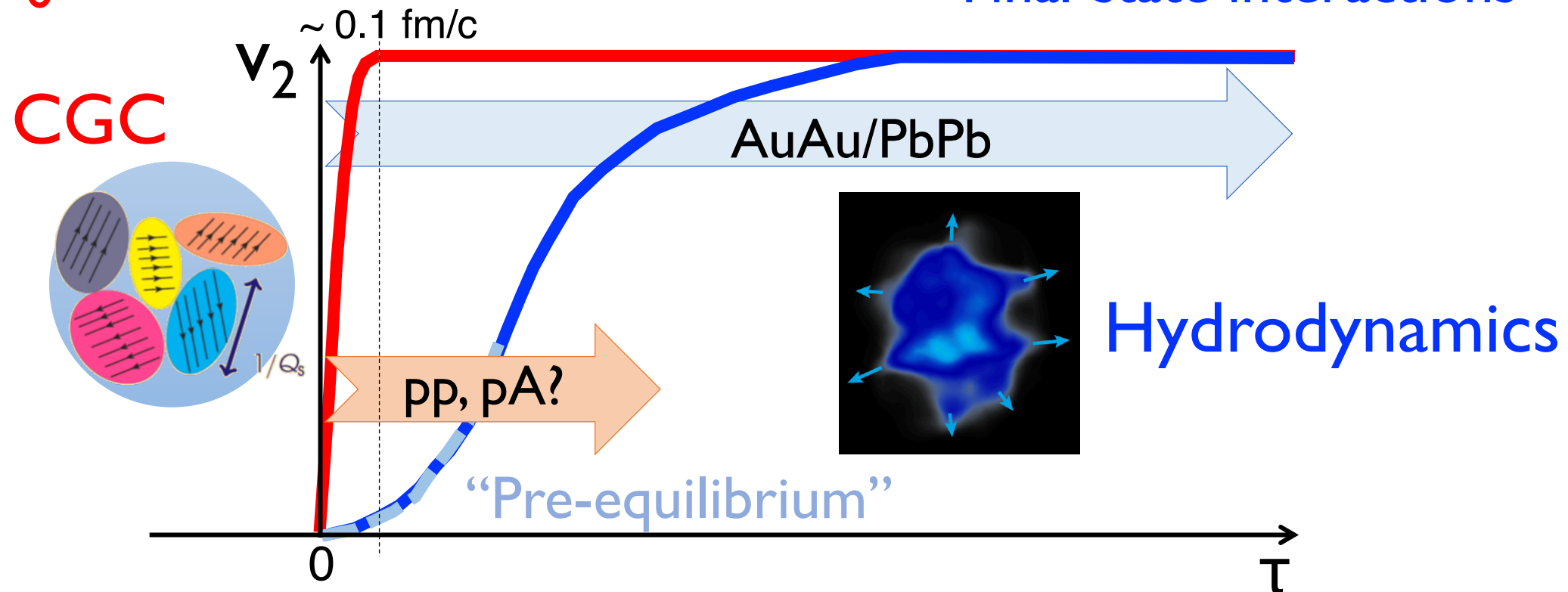
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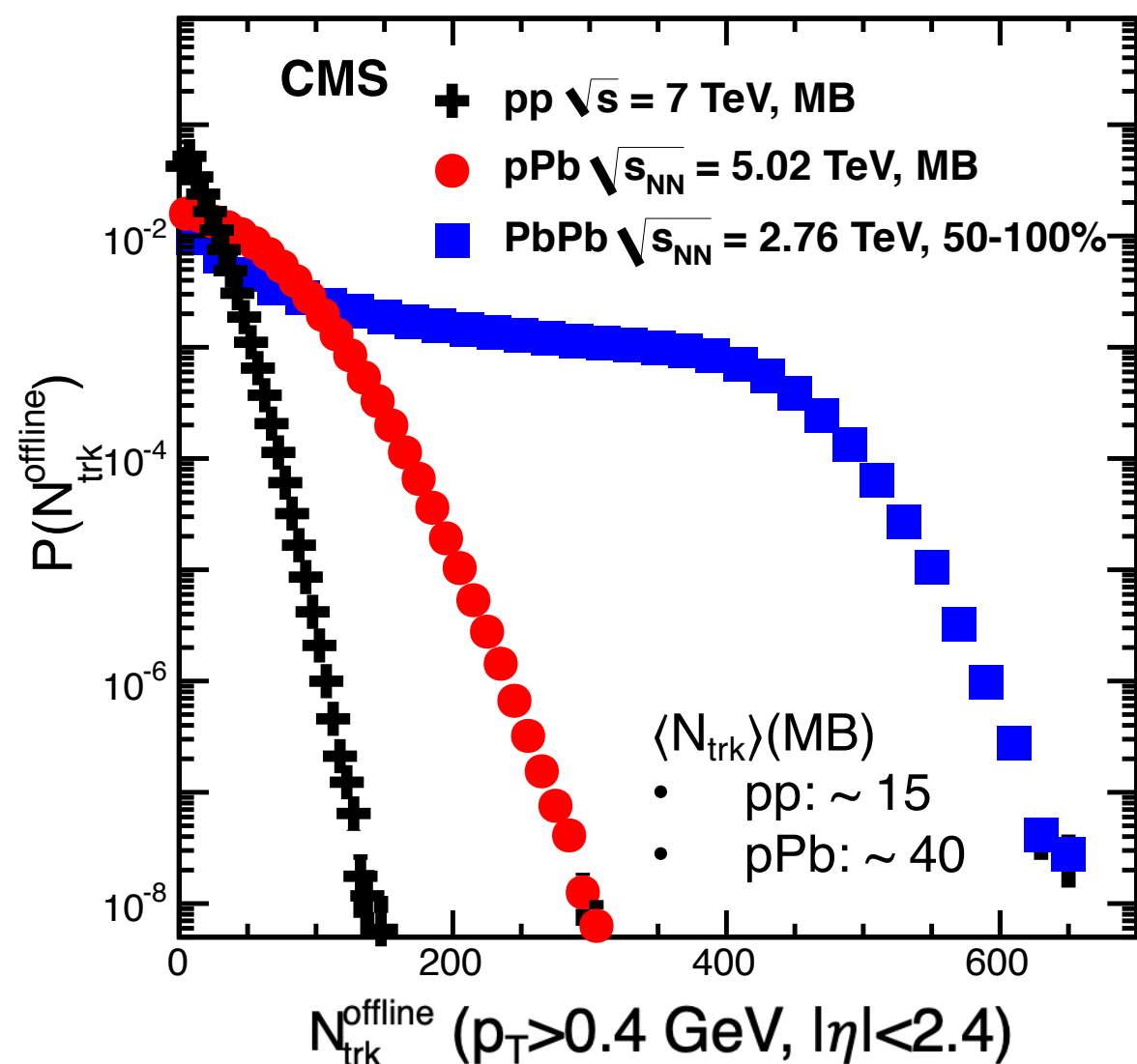
- vs.
- Initial geometry driven
  - Final-state interactions



Pushing the boundaries of knowledge to extreme domains

- Is there evidence/need for “new” physics?

# Centrality vs. Event Activity ( $N_{\text{trk}}$ ) classification



Centrality in AA has a geometric meaning but NOT the case in small system (pp, pA)

- L and  $N_{\text{trk}}$  vary together in AA while L is more or less fixed in pp/pA

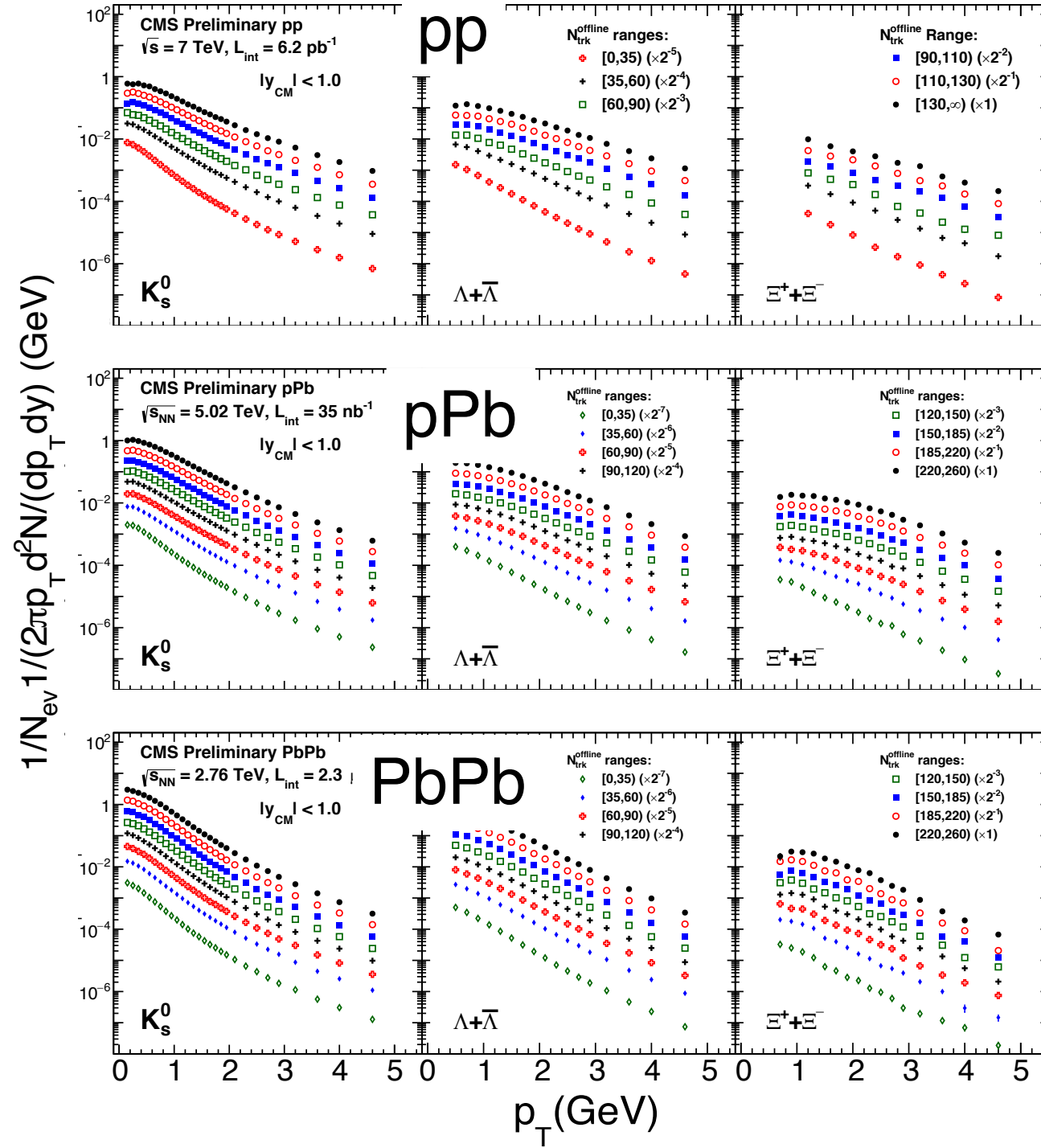
Event activity represents the “system size”

- drawbacks: experiment dependent

$N_{\text{trk}}^{\text{offline}}$	Fraction			$\langle N_{\text{trk}}^{\text{offline}} \rangle$			$\langle N_{\text{trk}}^{\text{corrected}} \rangle$		
	5 TeV	7 TeV	13 TeV	5 TeV	7 TeV	13 TeV	5 TeV	7 TeV	13 TeV
MB	1.0	1.0	1.0	13	15	16	$16 \pm 1$	$17 \pm 1$	$19 \pm 1$
[0, 10)	0.48	0.44	0.43	4.8	4.8	4.8	$5.8 \pm 0.3$	$5.5 \pm 0.2$	$5.9 \pm 0.3$
[10, 20)	0.29	0.28	0.26	14	14	14	$17 \pm 1$	$16 \pm 1$	$17 \pm 1$
[20, 30)	0.14	0.15	0.15	24	24	24	$28 \pm 1$	$28 \pm 1$	$30 \pm 1$
[30, 40)	0.06	0.08	0.08	34	34	34	$41 \pm 2$	$40 \pm 2$	$42 \pm 2$
[40, 60)	0.03	0.05	0.07	47	47	47	$56 \pm 2$	$54 \pm 2$	$58 \pm 2$
[60, 85)	$3 \times 10^{-3}$	$7 \times 10^{-3}$	0.02	66	67	68	$80 \pm 3$	$78 \pm 3$	$83 \pm 3$
[85, 95)	$9 \times 10^{-5}$	$3 \times 10^{-4}$	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	88	89	89	$106 \pm 4$	$103 \pm 4$	$109 \pm 4$
[95, 105)	$2 \times 10^{-5}$	$9 \times 10^{-5}$	$5 \times 10^{-4}$	98	99	99	$118 \pm 5$	$114 \pm 4$	$121 \pm 5$
[105, 115)	$5 \times 10^{-6}$	$2 \times 10^{-5}$	$2 \times 10^{-4}$	108	109	109	$130 \pm 5$	$126 \pm 5$	$133 \pm 5$
[115, 125)	$1 \times 10^{-6}$	$8 \times 10^{-6}$	$6 \times 10^{-5}$	118	118	119	$142 \pm 6$	$137 \pm 5$	$145 \pm 6$
[125, 135)	$2 \times 10^{-7}$	$2 \times 10^{-6}$	$2 \times 10^{-5}$	126	128	129	$153 \pm 6$	$149 \pm 6$	$157 \pm 6$
[135, 150)	$5 \times 10^{-8}$	$4 \times 10^{-7}$	$8 \times 10^{-6}$	139	140	140	$167 \pm 7$	$162 \pm 6$	$171 \pm 7$
[150, $\infty$ )	$5 \times 10^{-9}$	$8 \times 10^{-8}$	$2 \times 10^{-6}$	155	156	158	$186 \pm 8$	$181 \pm 7$	$193 \pm 8$

*Provide full information if possible*

# Spectra and “radial flow” in small systems

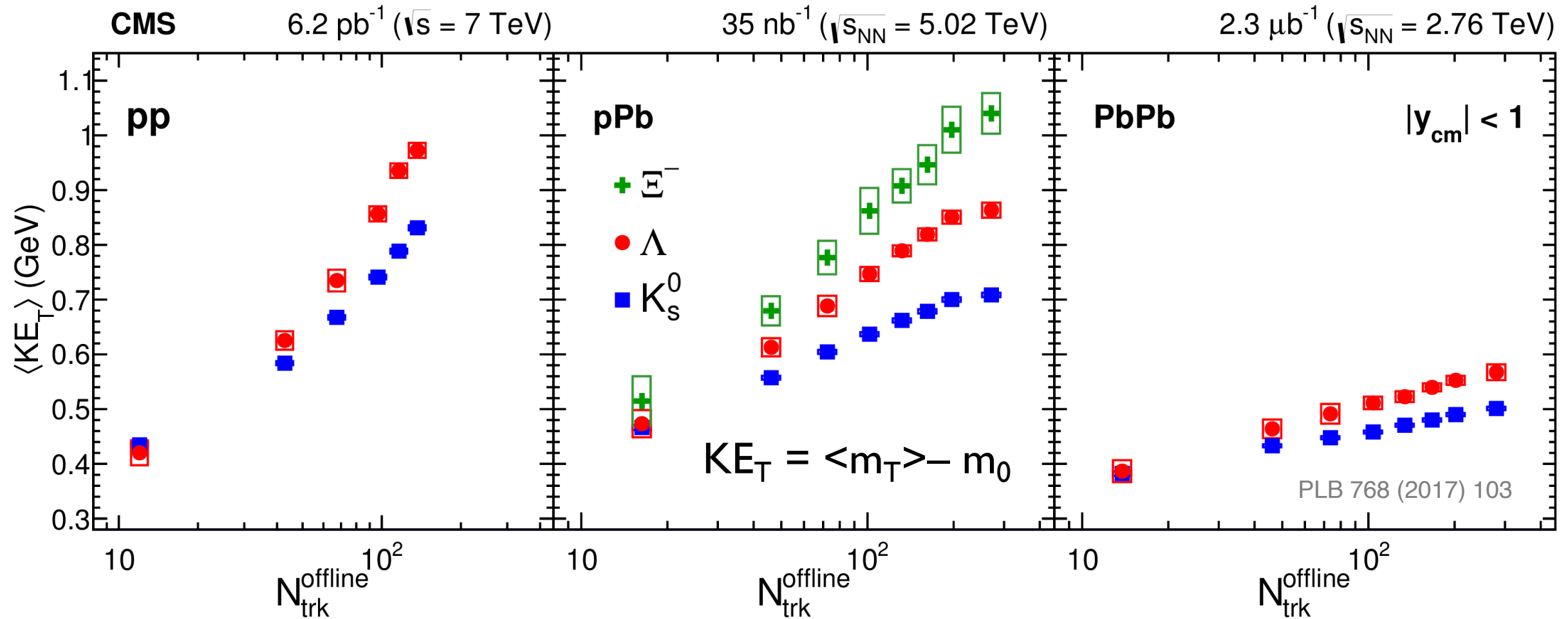


$$|y_{\text{cm}}| < 1$$

How does spectra shape evolves with

- particle species
- $N_{\text{trk}}$
- system size
- particle rapidity

# Spectra and “radial flow” in small systems

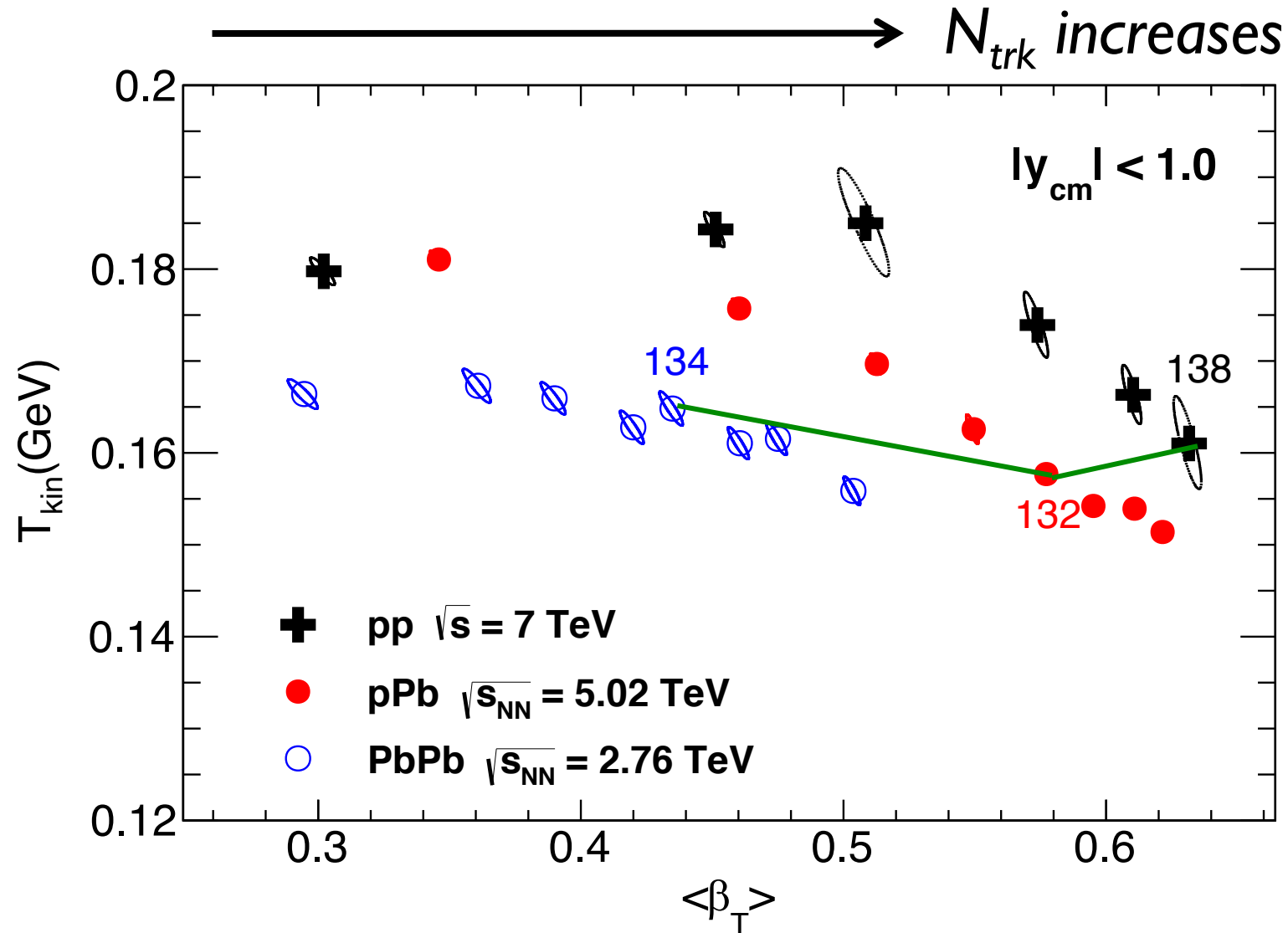


Mass-dependent splitting of  $KE_T$  as  $N_{\text{trk}}$  increases, faster in small systems

– common velocity field



# Spectra and “radial flow” in small systems



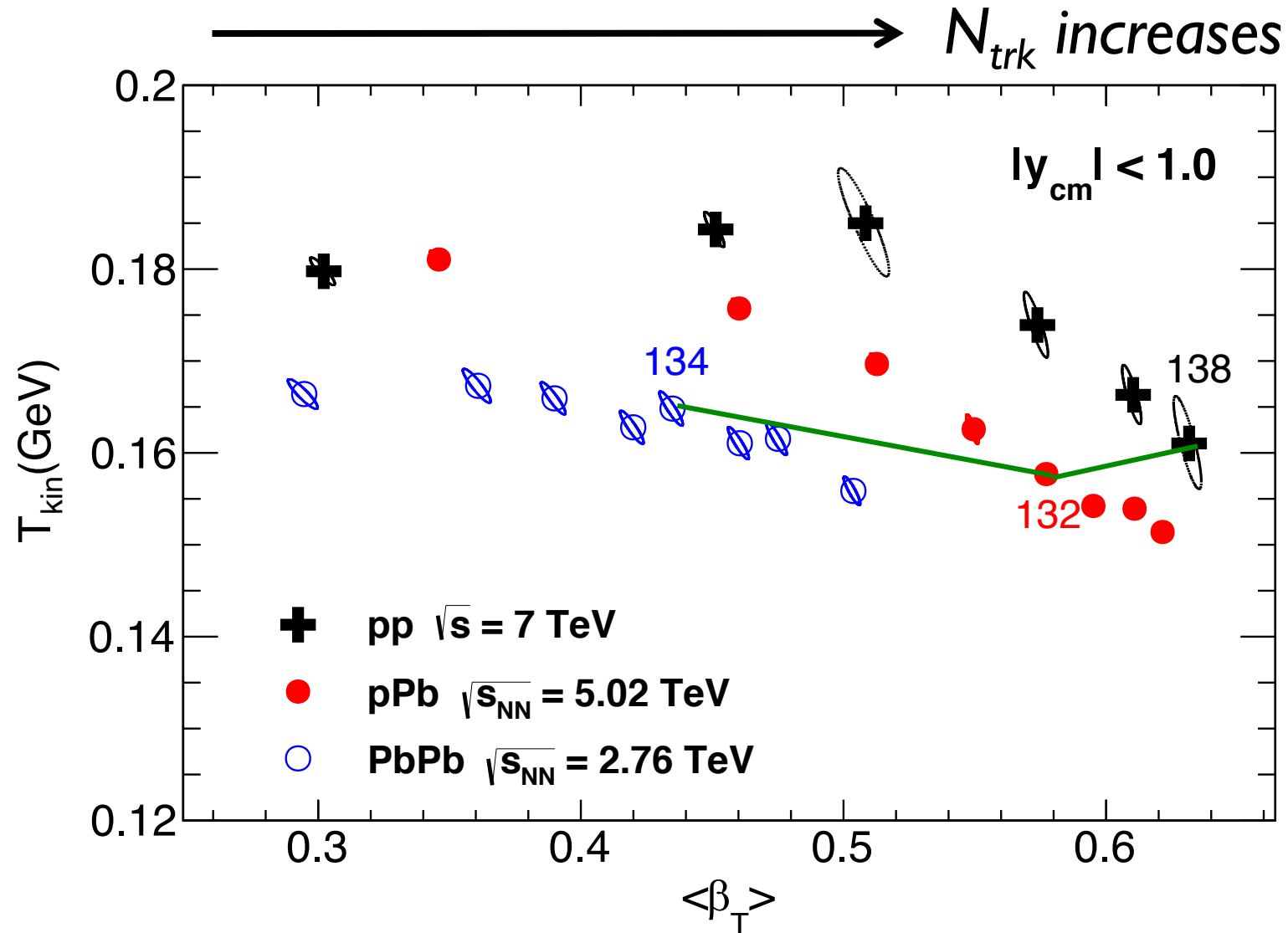
Simultaneous Blast-Wave fits:

$$\langle \beta_T \rangle_{pp} > \langle \beta_T \rangle_{pPb} > \langle \beta_T \rangle_{PbPb}$$

for similar  $N_{trk}$

Some features reproduced by color reconnection model

# Spectra and “radial flow” in small systems



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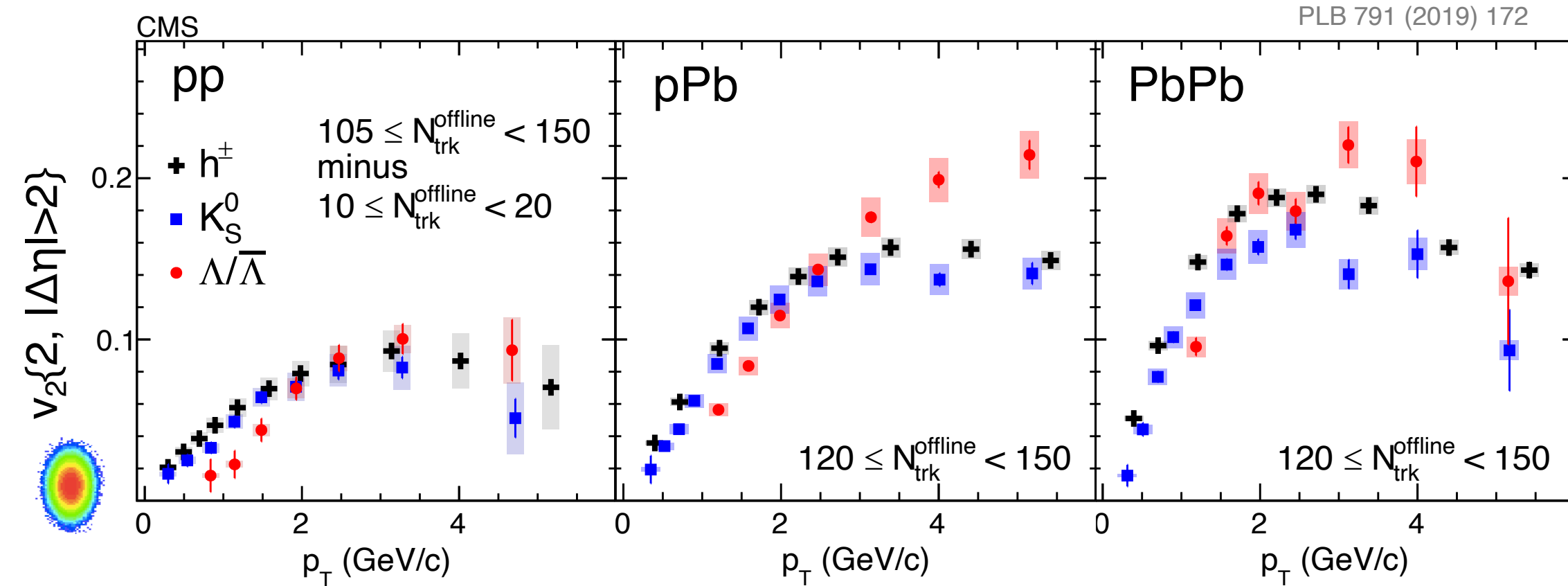
for similar  $N_{\text{trk}}$

*Smaller QGP more explosive?!*

Some features reproduced by color reconnection model

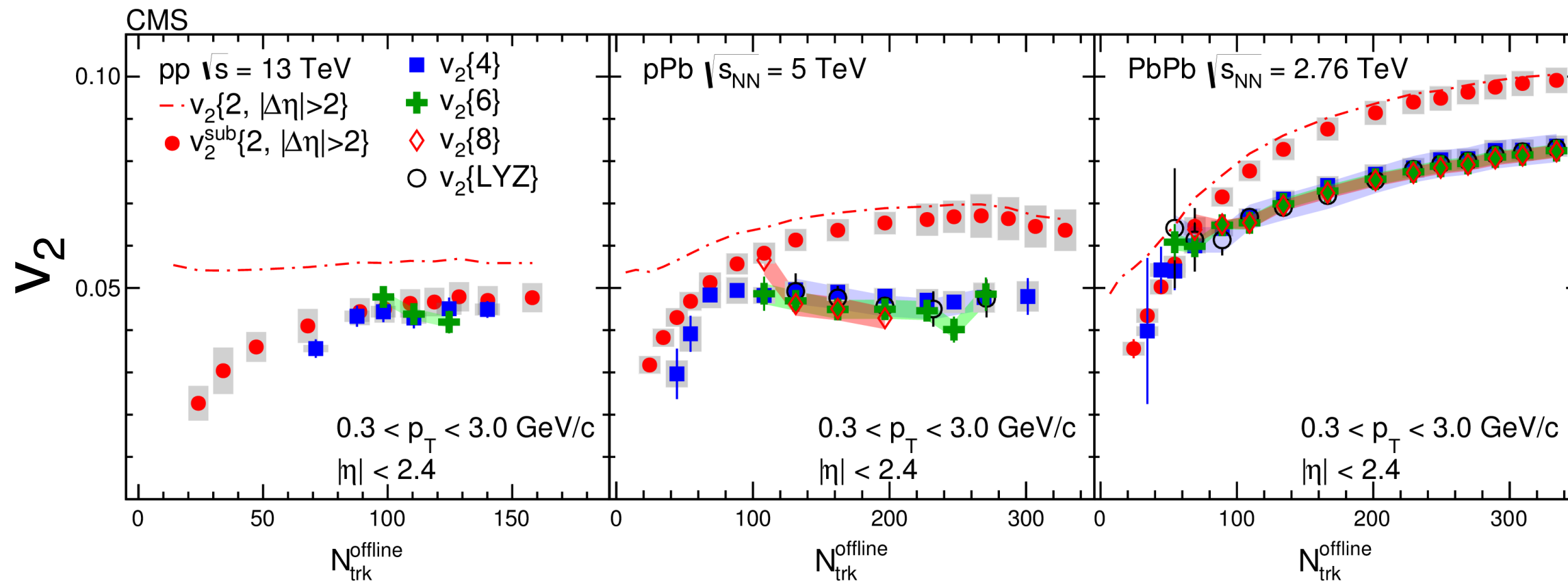
# Anisotropy flow in small systems

## Mass ordering of $v_2$



*Smaller QGP more explosive?!*

# Everything flows ?!

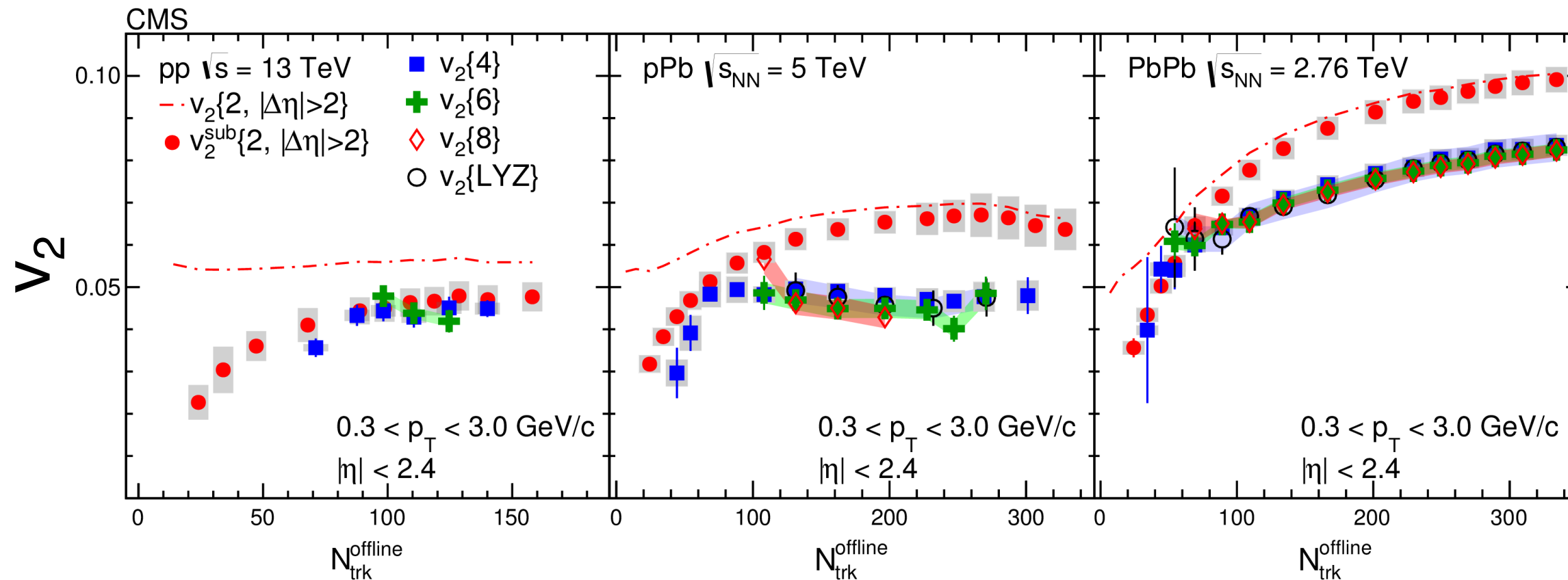


For  $N_{\text{trk}} > \sim 100$ ,

Strong, direct evidence for long-range collectivity!

$v_2\{4\} \approx v_2\{6\} \approx v_2\{8\}$  (“nonflow” insignificant for low  $p_T$ )

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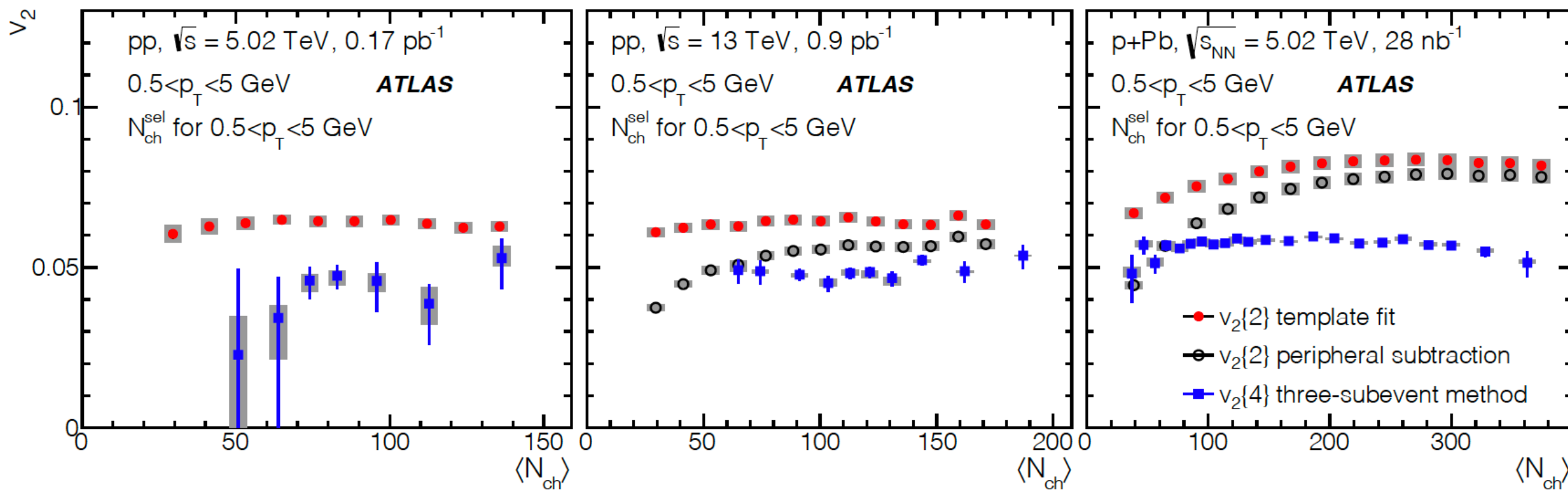
$v_2\{4\} \approx v_2\{6\} \approx v_2\{8\}$  (“nonflow” insignificant for low  $p_T$ )

Does collective flow eventually turn off at very low  $N_{\text{trk}}$ ?

# Everything flows ?!

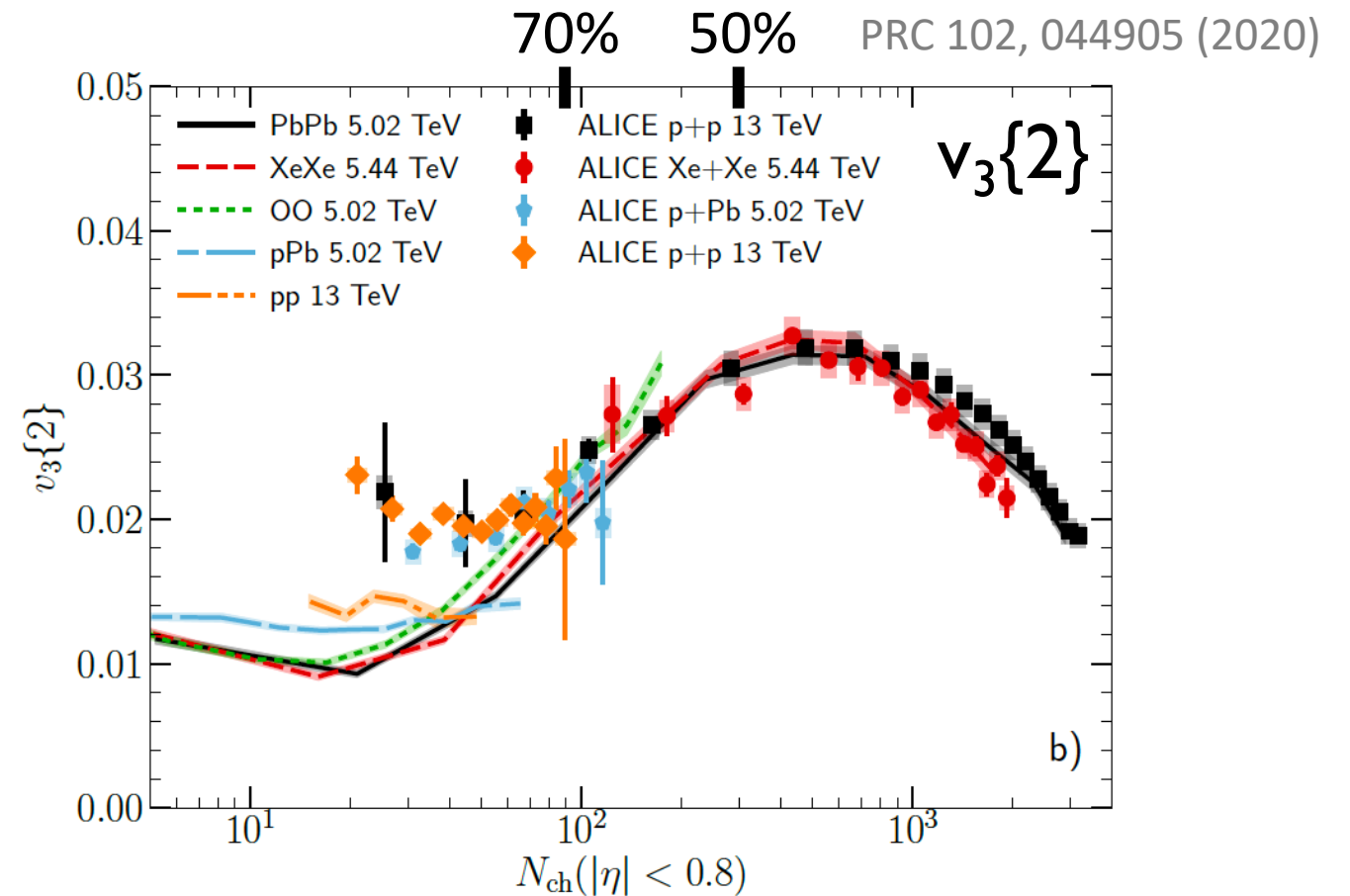
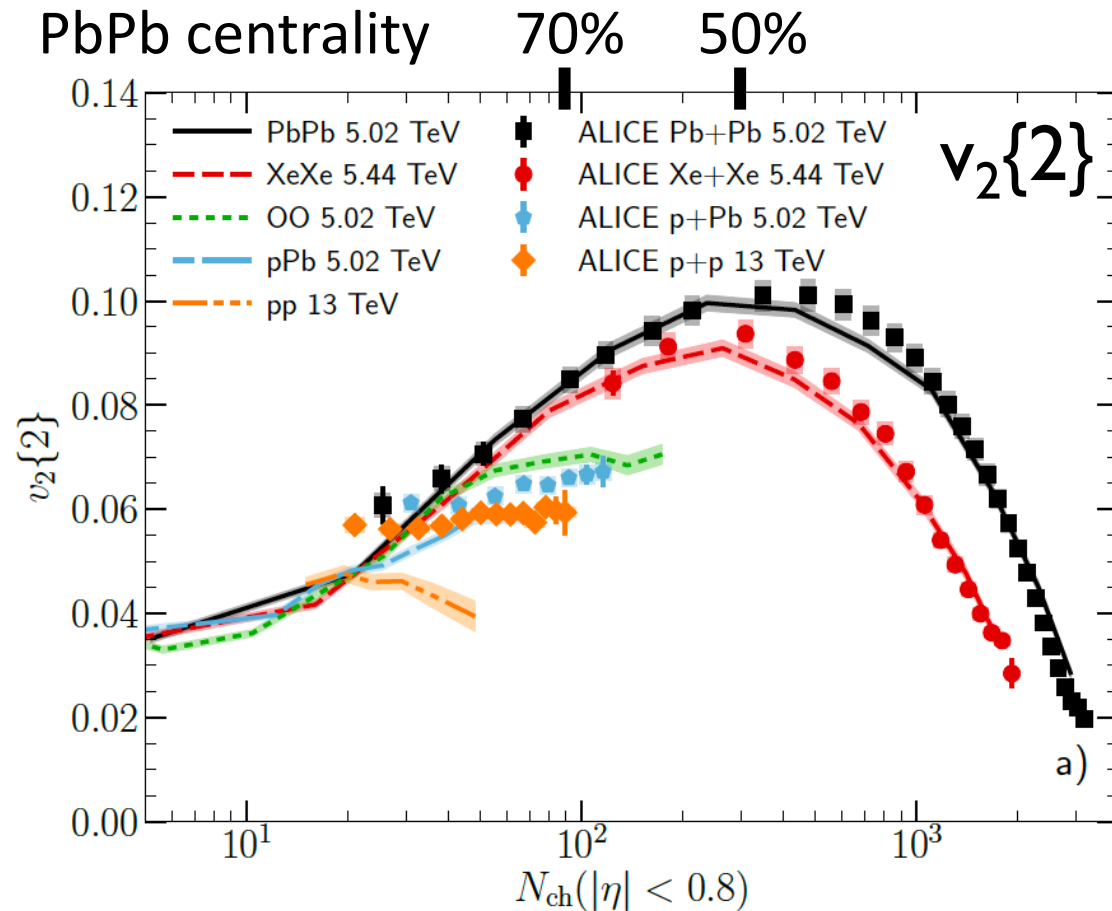
Subevent cumulants to suppress nonflow at low  $N_{\text{trk}}$

PRC 97, 024904 (2018)



Does collective flow eventually turn off at very low  $N_{\text{trk}}$ ?

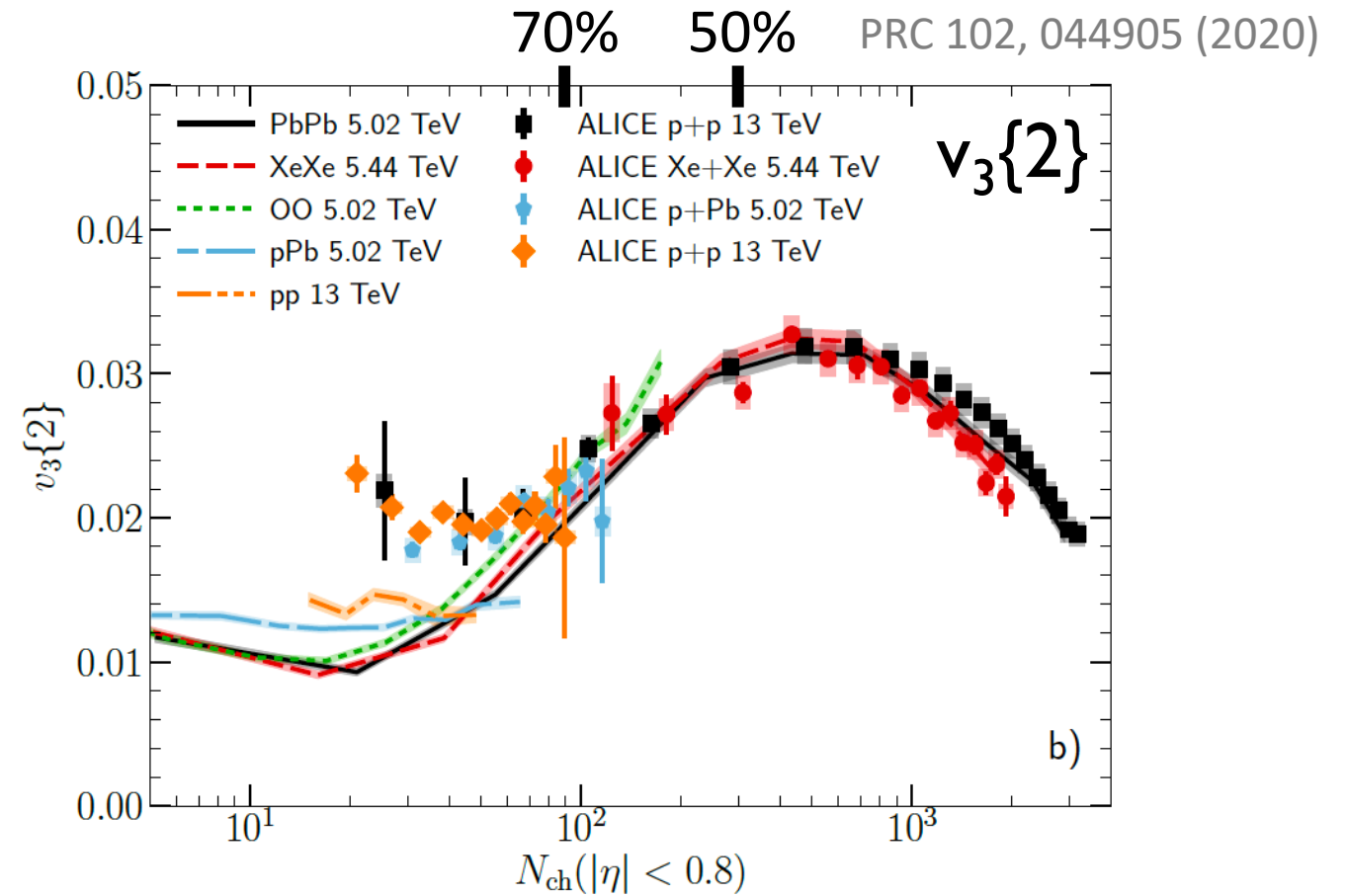
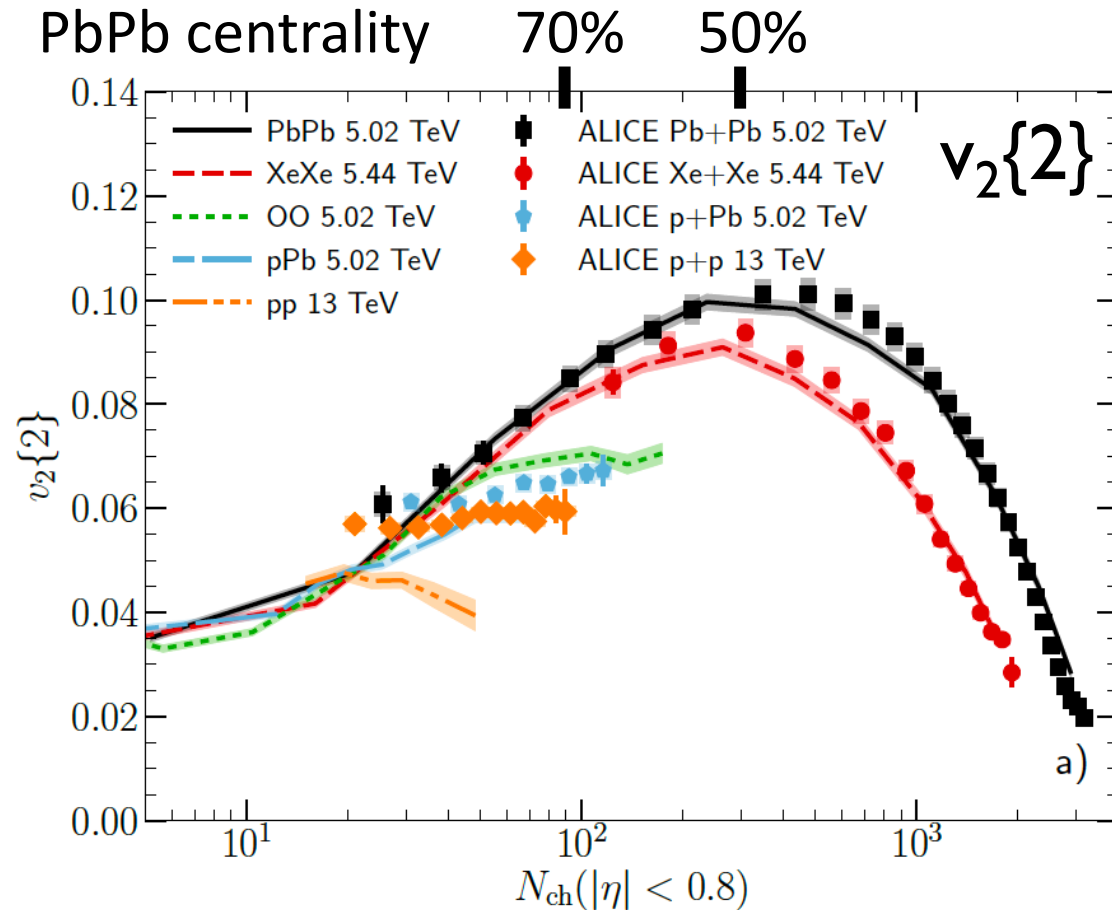
# Origin of flow in small systems



## IP-Glasma (w/ ISC)+MUSIC+UrQMD

- Good description of PbPb data but not the case for pp/pPb data

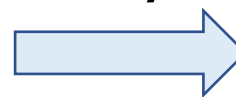
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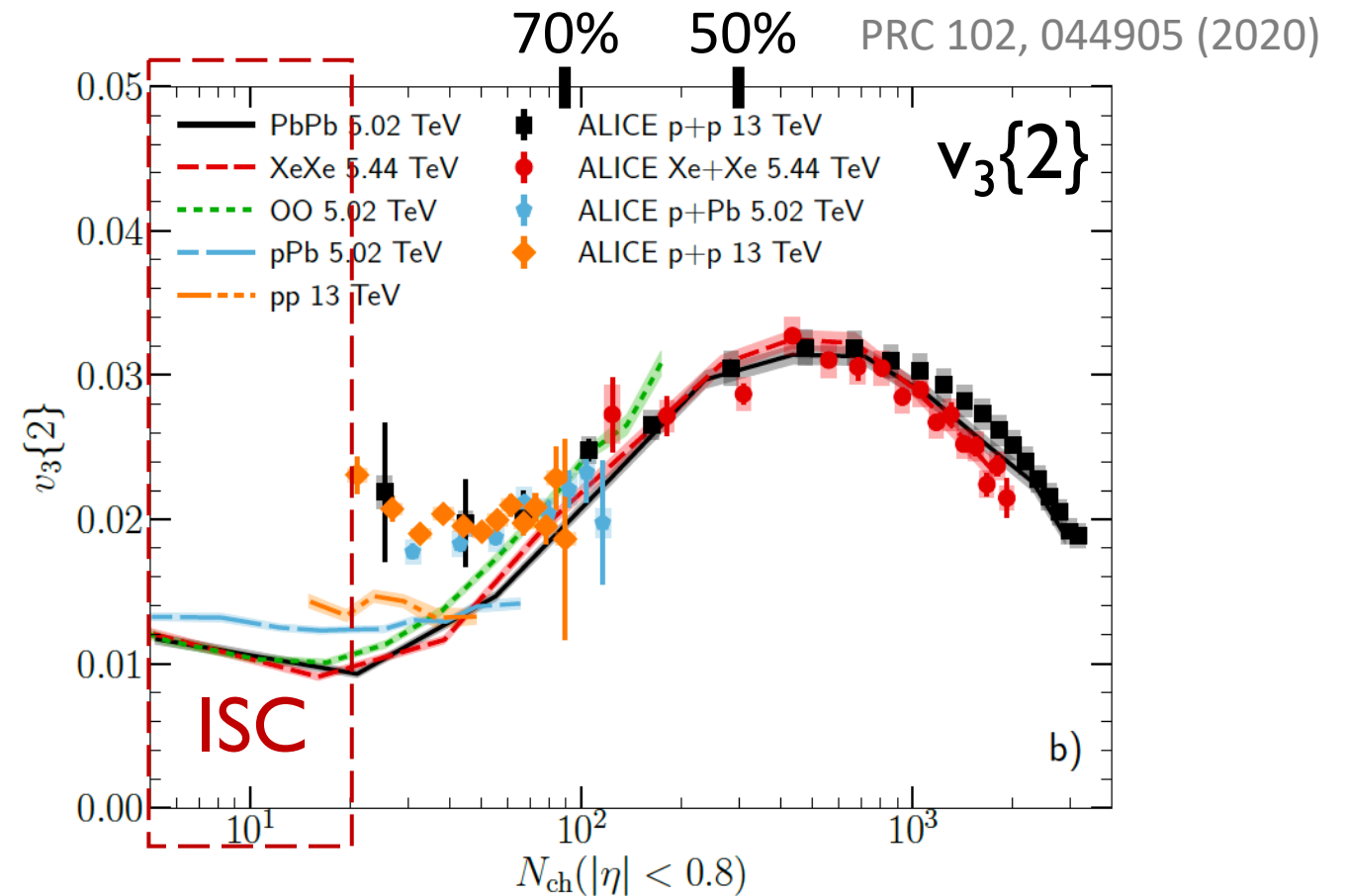
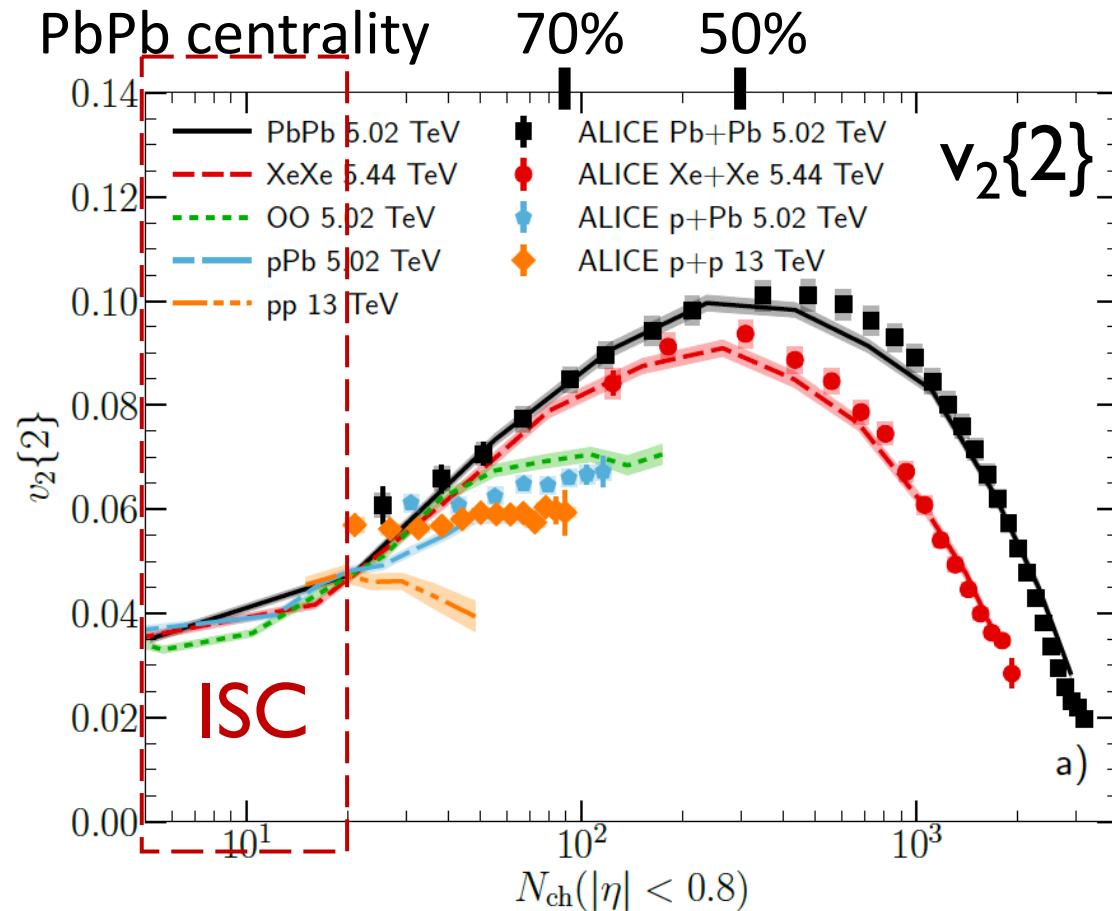
why?



- (1) Modeling of initial geometry?  $\eta/s$ ? etc.
- (2) Hydro. (grad. exp.) breakdown?
- (3) Other sources of correlations (ISC)?



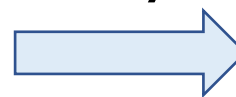
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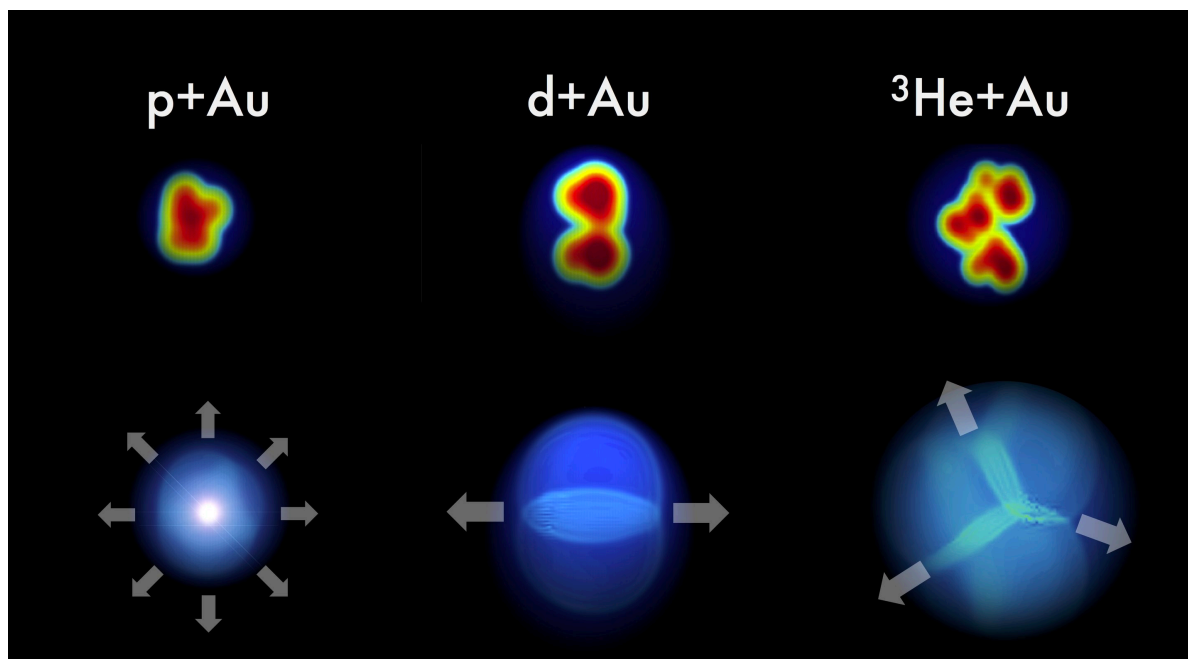
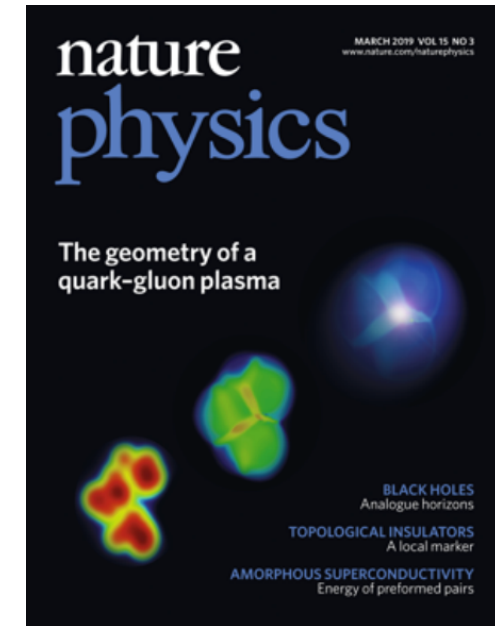
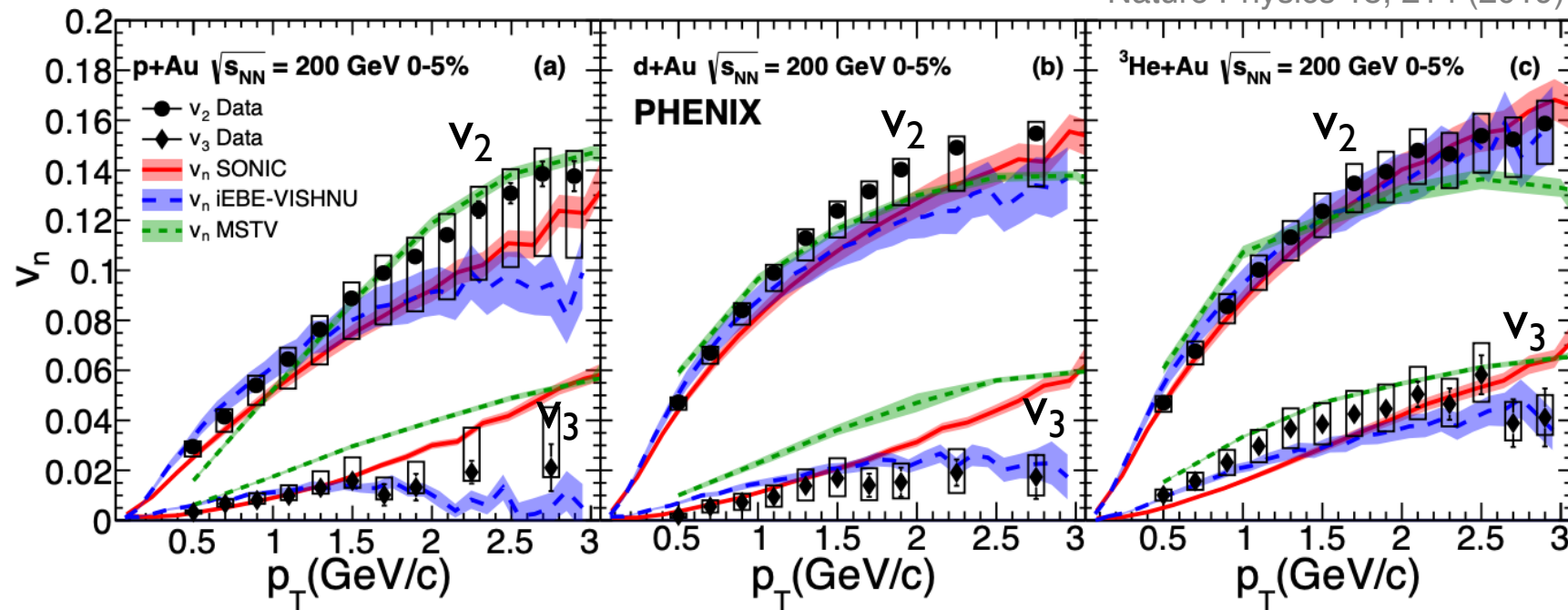
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# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

Nature Physics 15, 214 (2019)

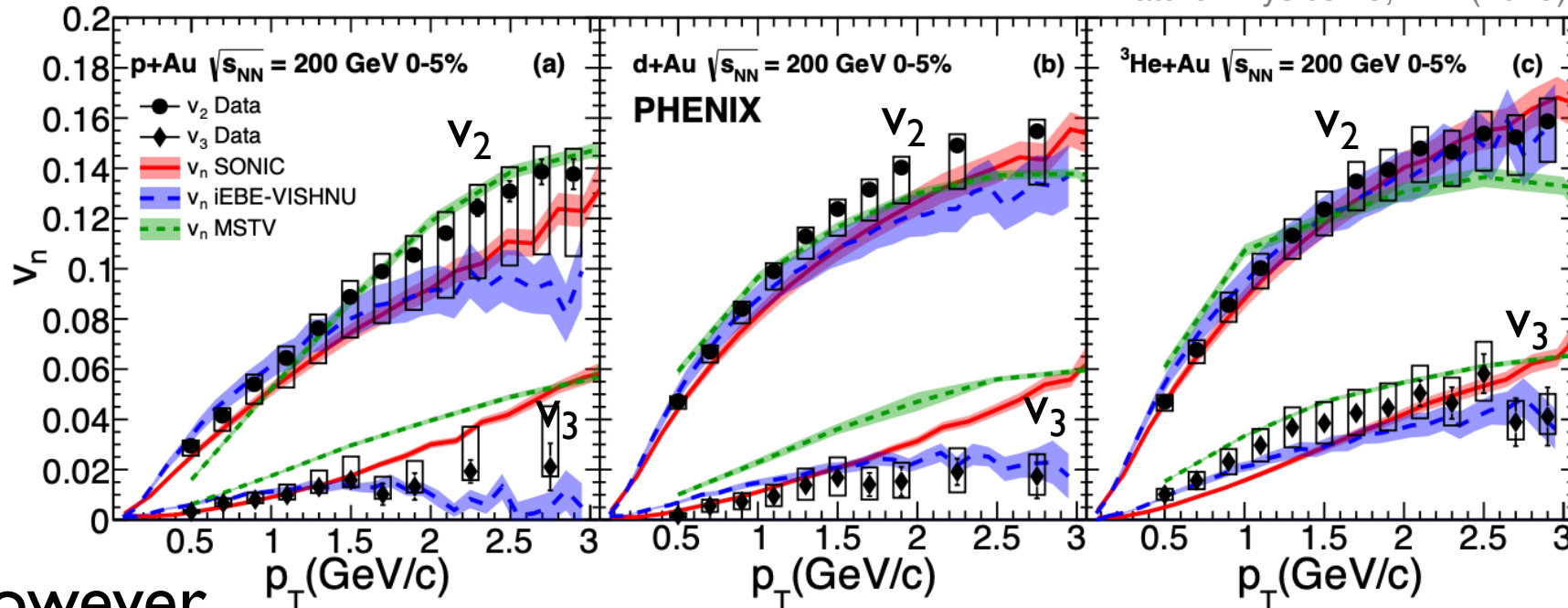


Expect from geometry:

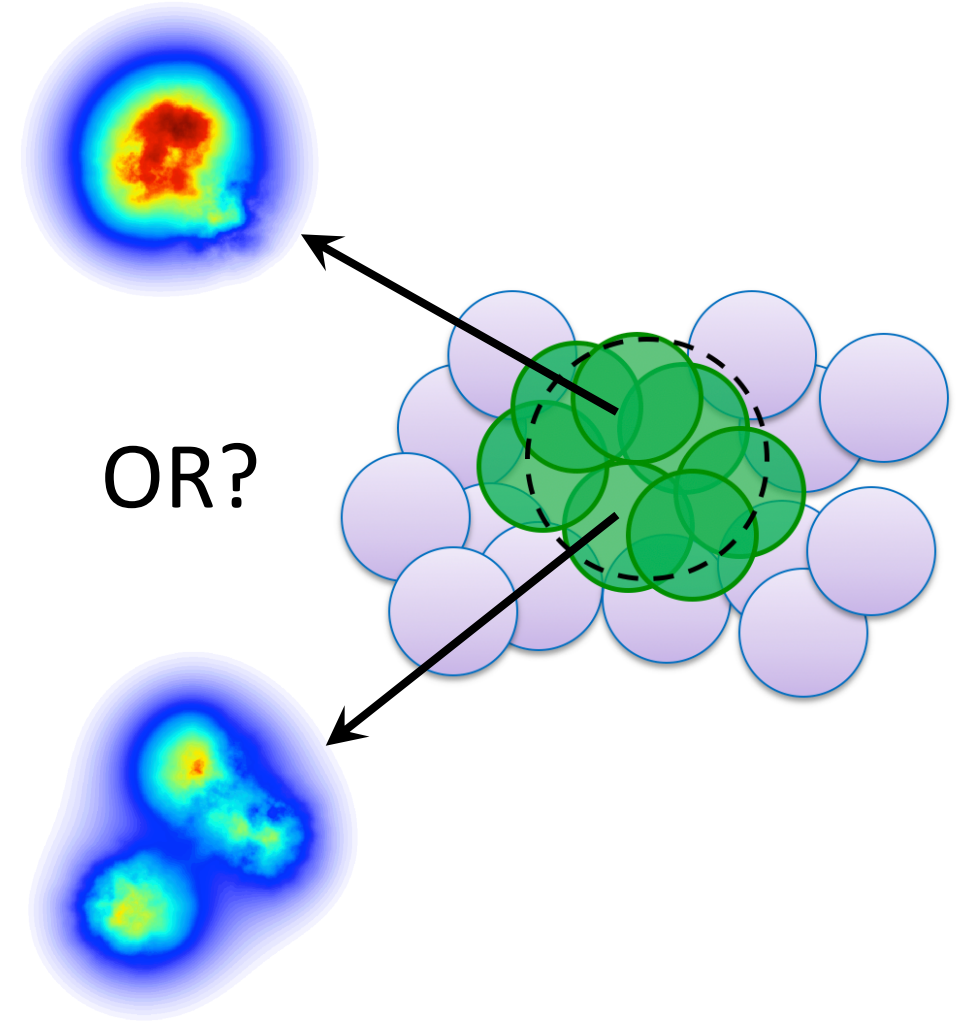
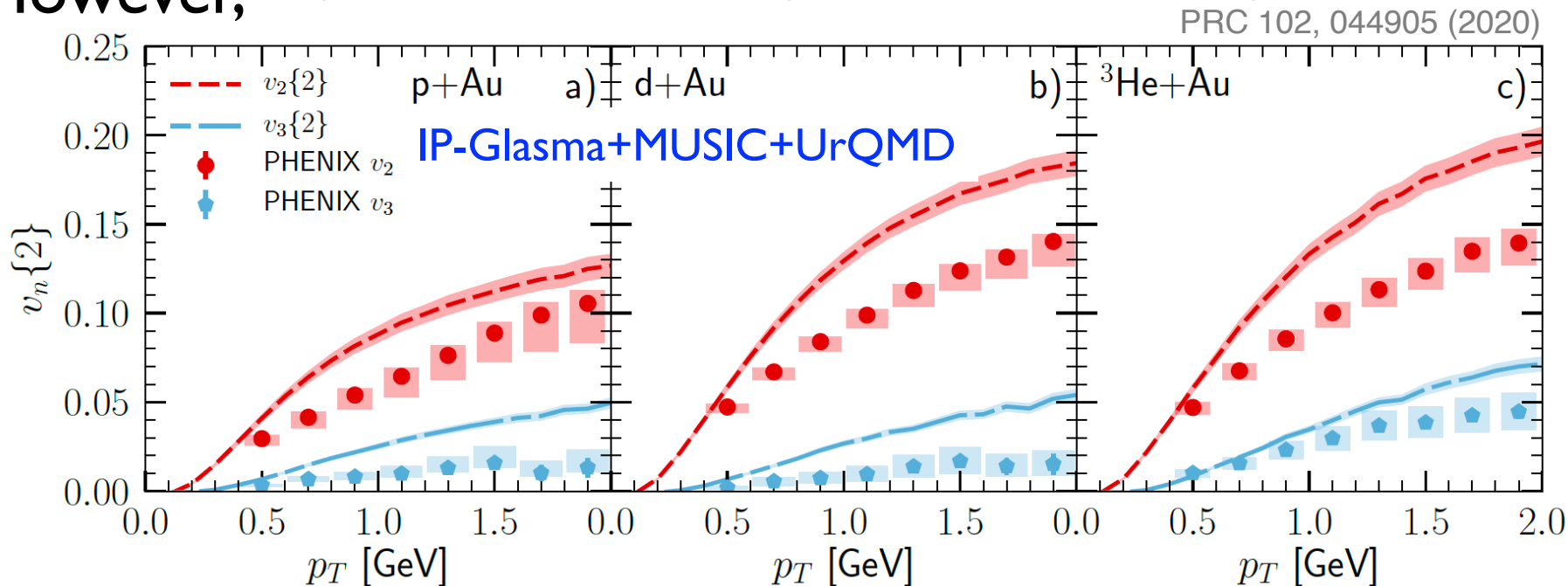
- $\epsilon_2^{pAu} < \epsilon_2^{dAu} \approx \epsilon_2^{3HeAu}$
- $\epsilon_3^{pAu} \approx \epsilon_3^{dAu} < \epsilon_3^{3HeAu}$

# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

Nature Physics 15, 214 (2019)



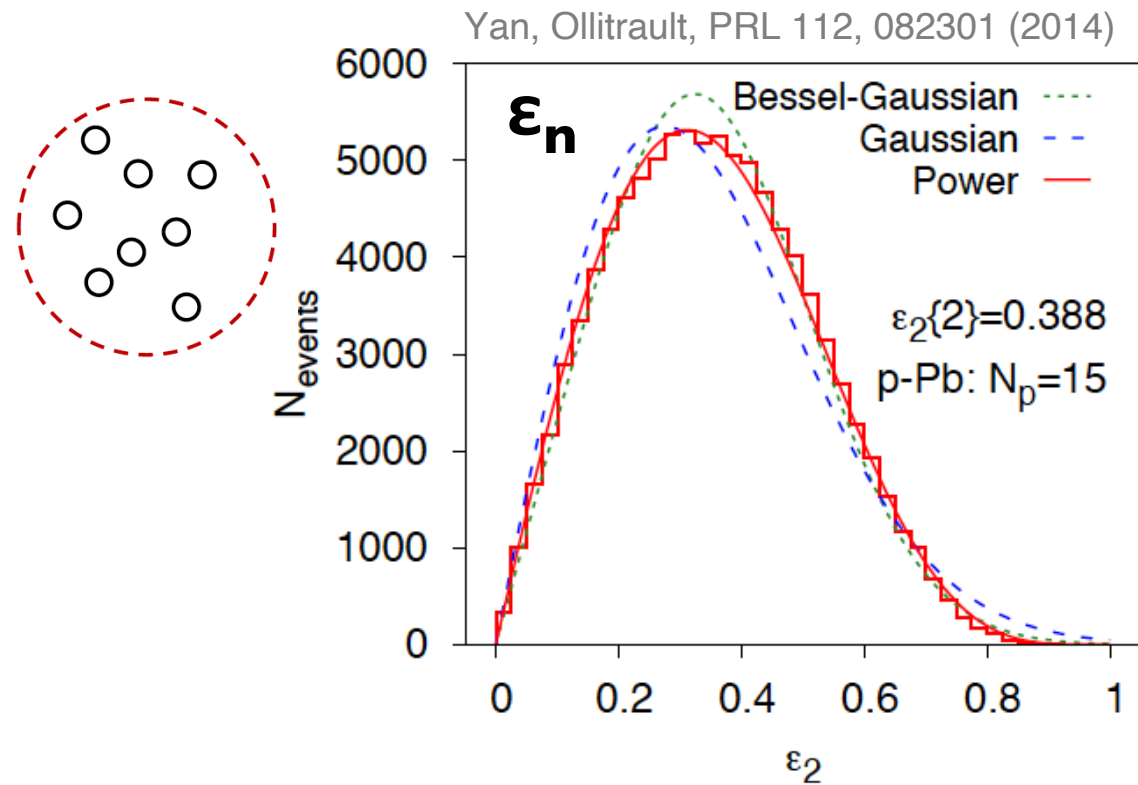
However,



How to model proton  $\epsilon_s$ ?  
Can it be measured?

# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

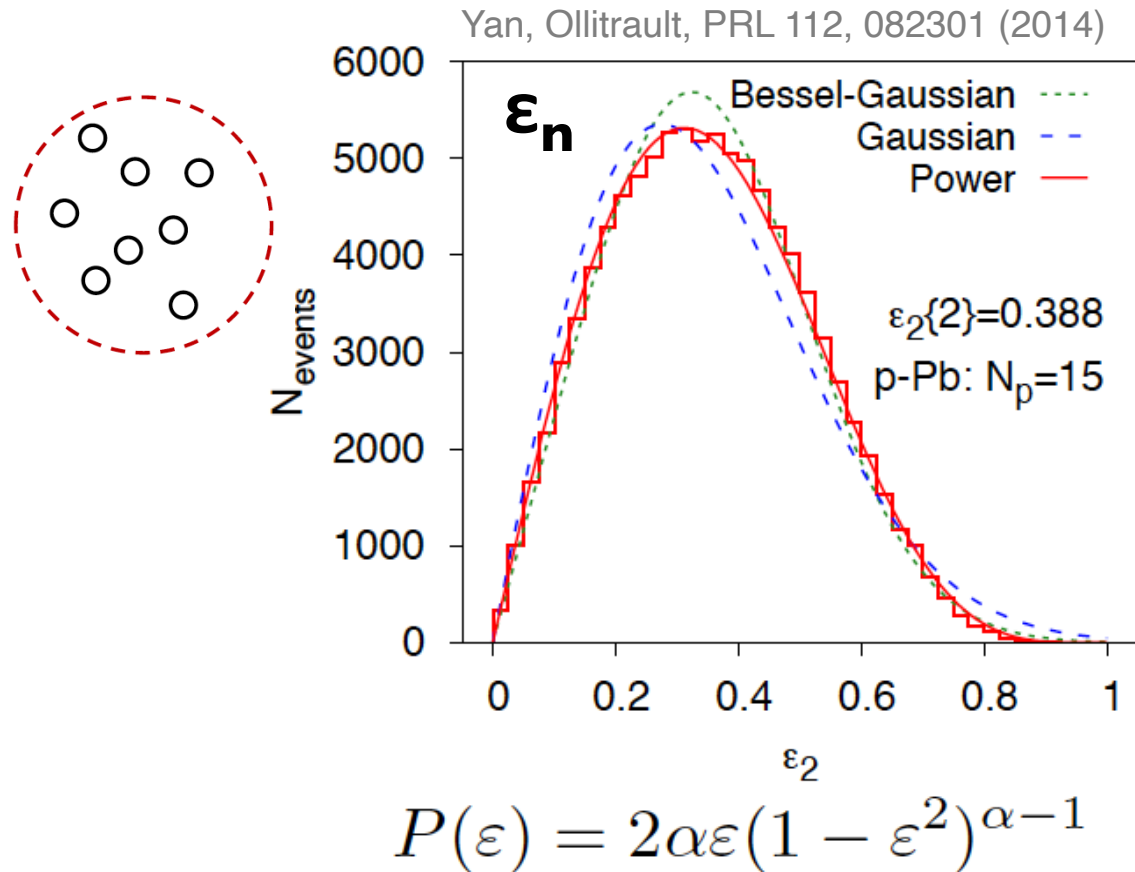
## Universal fluctuation-driven geometry



$$P(\epsilon) = 2\alpha\epsilon(1 - \epsilon^2)^{\alpha-1}$$

# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

## Universal fluctuation-driven geometry



*linear*  
 $\longrightarrow \mathbf{v}_{2,3}\{m\}$   
 ( $m = 2, 4, 6, 8 \dots$ )

Predictions (nearly model indep.):

(1) Fine splitting of  $v_2\{m\}$ :

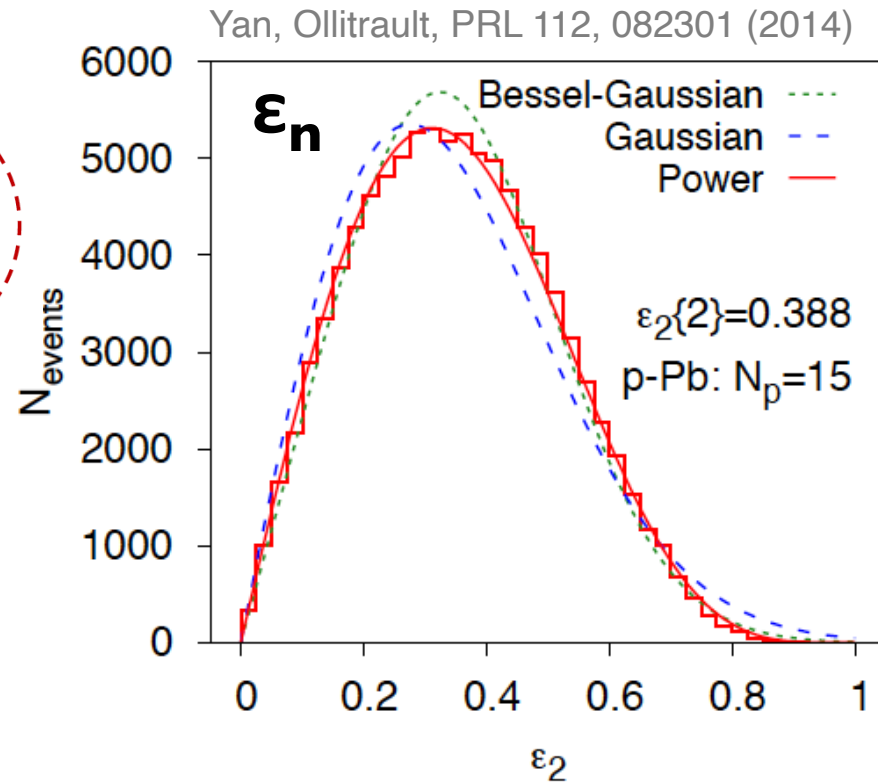
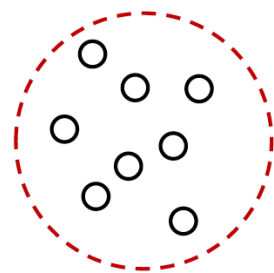
$$v_2\{2\} : v_2\{4\} : v_2\{6\} : v_2\{8\}$$

(depending on  $N_p$ )

(2) 
$$\frac{v_2\{4\}}{v_2\{2\}} \approx \frac{v_3\{4\}}{v_3\{2\}}$$

# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

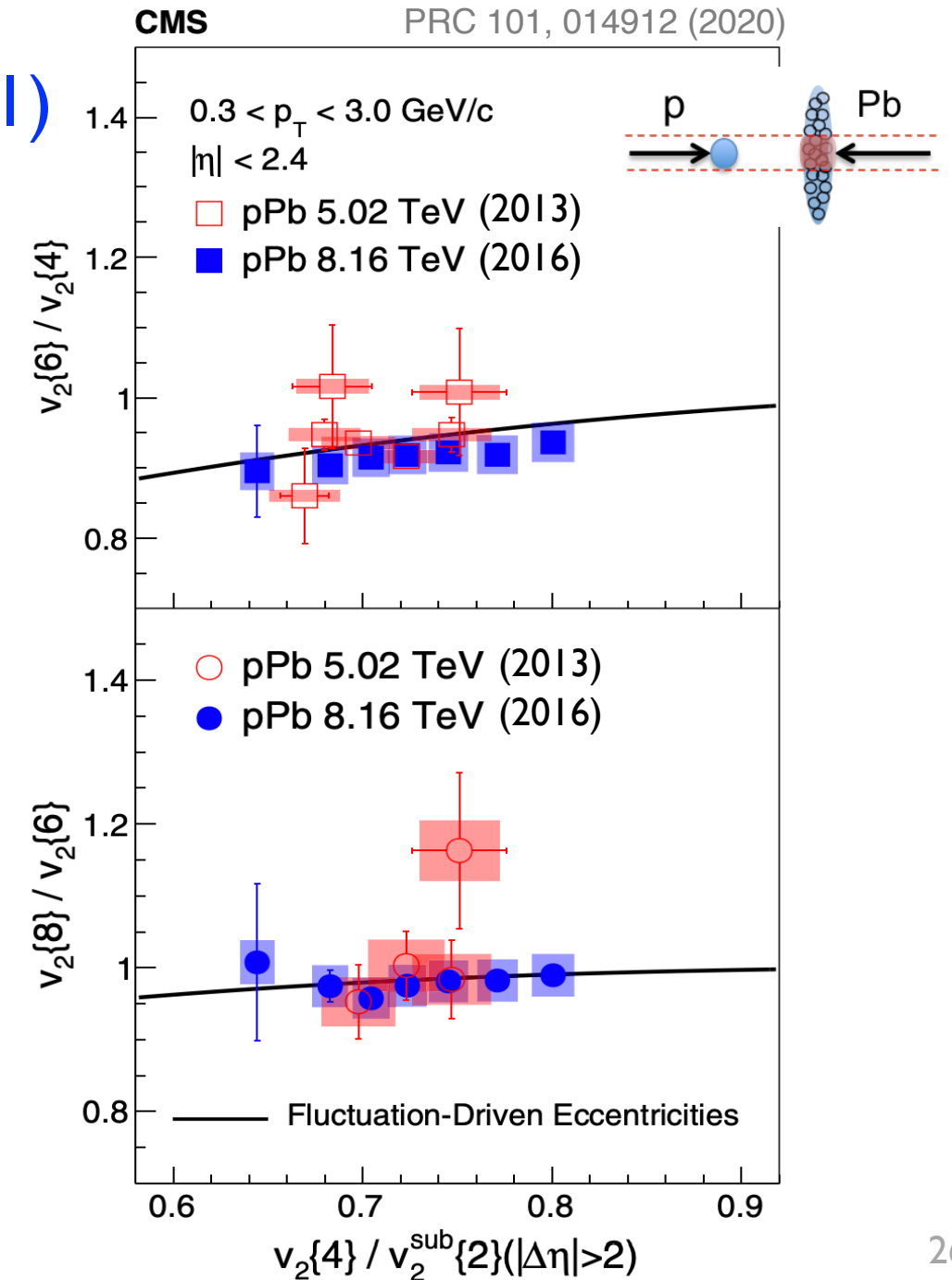
## Universal fluctuation-driven geometry



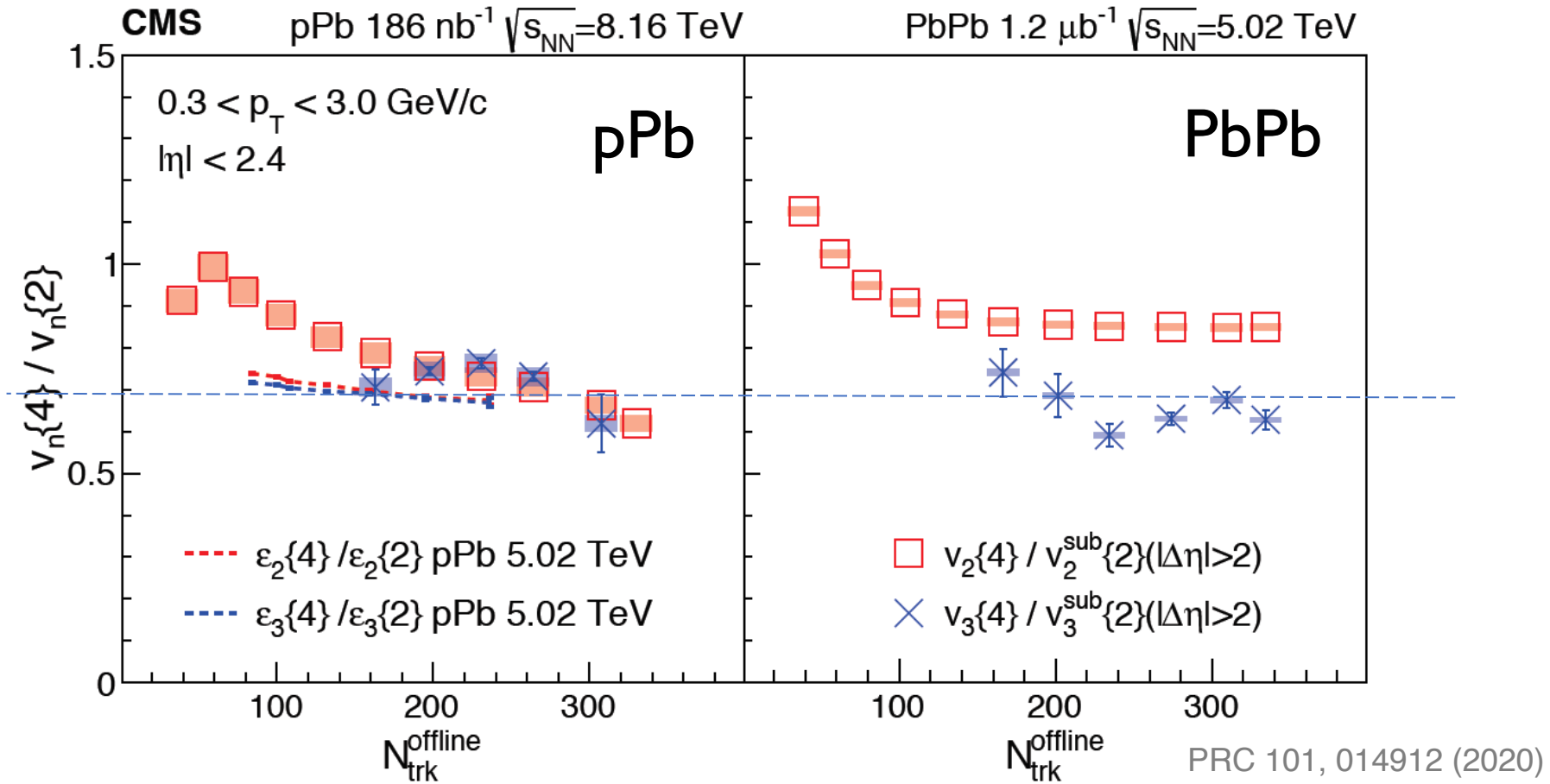
$$P(\epsilon) = 2\alpha\epsilon(1 - \epsilon^2)^{\alpha-1}$$

*linear*  
 $\longrightarrow v_{2,3}\{m\}$   
 ( $m = 2, 4, 6, 8 \dots$ )

Prediction (I)  
 confirmed



# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

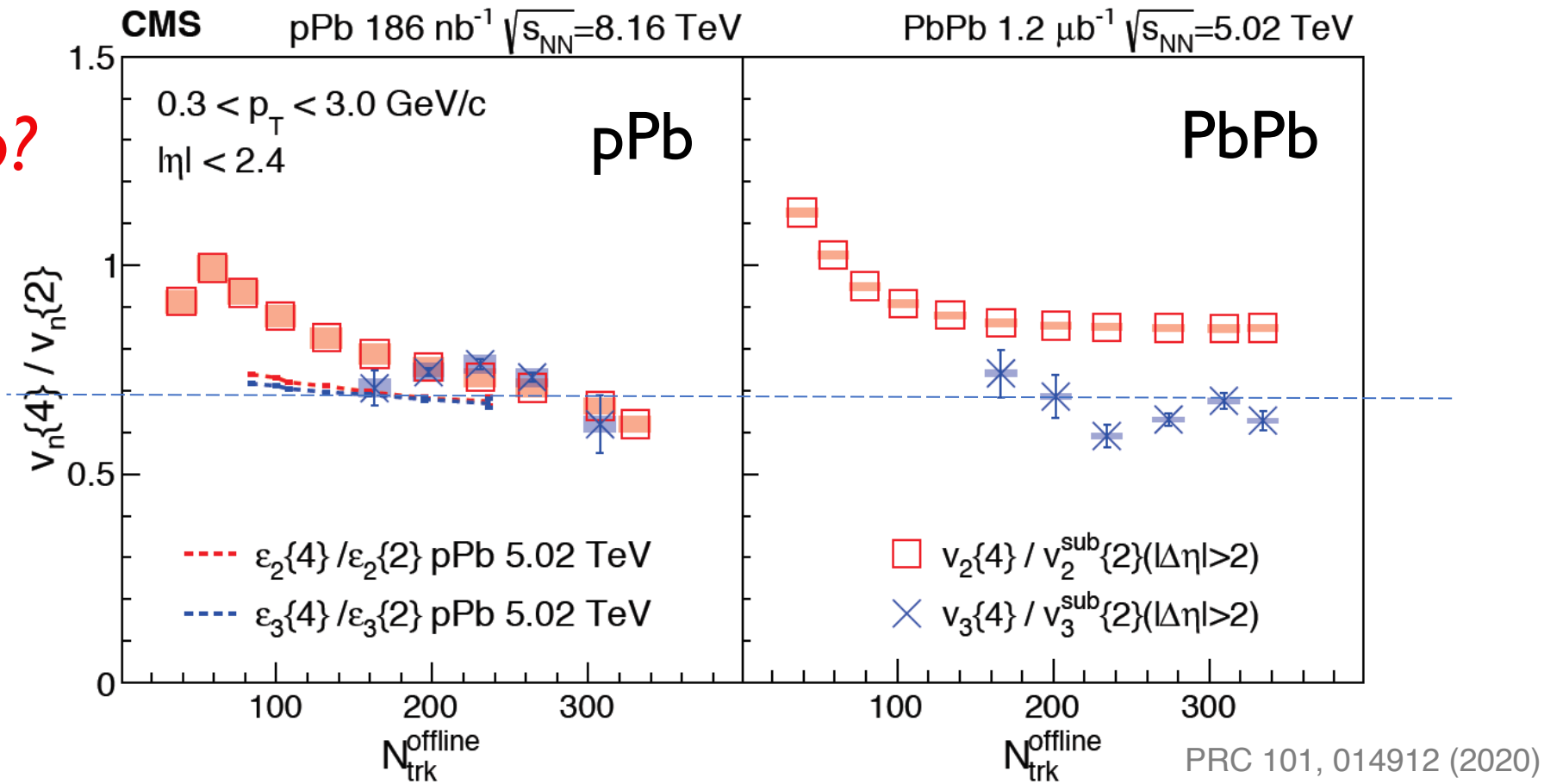


Prediction (2) confirmed!

- $\frac{v_2\{4\}}{v_2\{2\}} \approx \frac{v_3\{4\}}{v_3\{2\}}$  in pPb
- $\frac{v_3\{4\}}{v_3\{2\}}$  similar in pPb and PbPb

# (I) Role of initial geometry in small system

*How about pp?*



Prediction (2) confirmed!

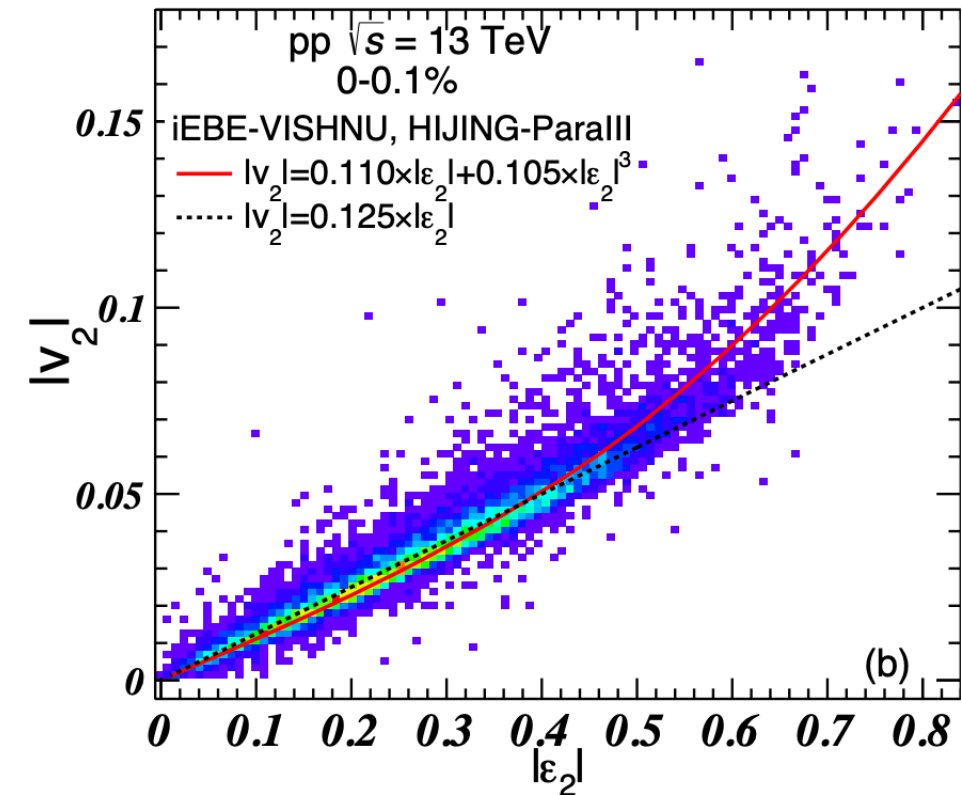
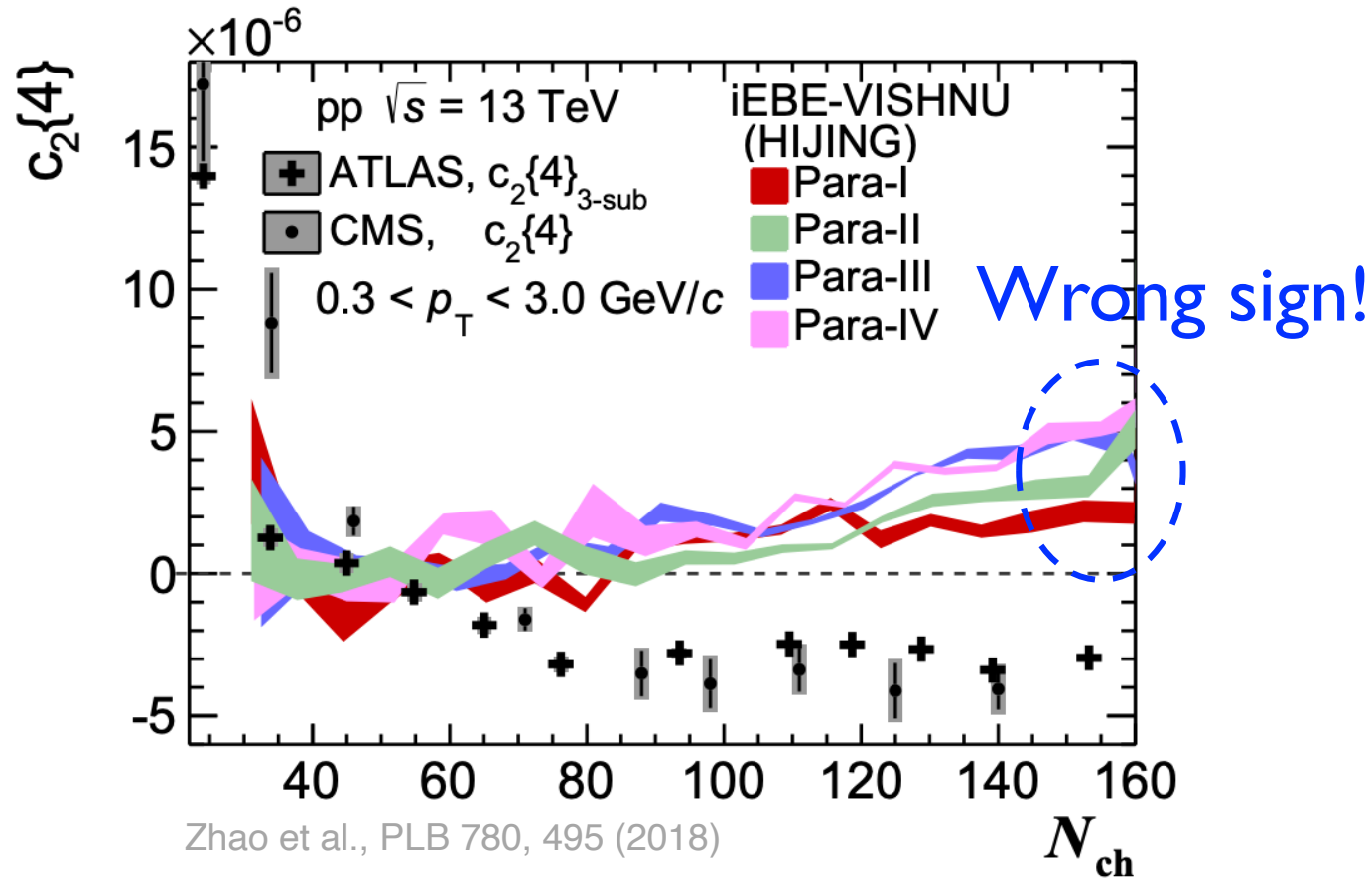
*No room/need for “new physics”!*

- $\frac{v_2\{4\}}{v_2\{2\}} \approx \frac{v_3\{4\}}{v_3\{2\}}$  in pPb
- $\frac{v_3\{4\}}{v_3\{2\}}$  similar in pPb and PbPb



## (2) Does hydrodynamics break down?

– If so, how to observe it decisively?



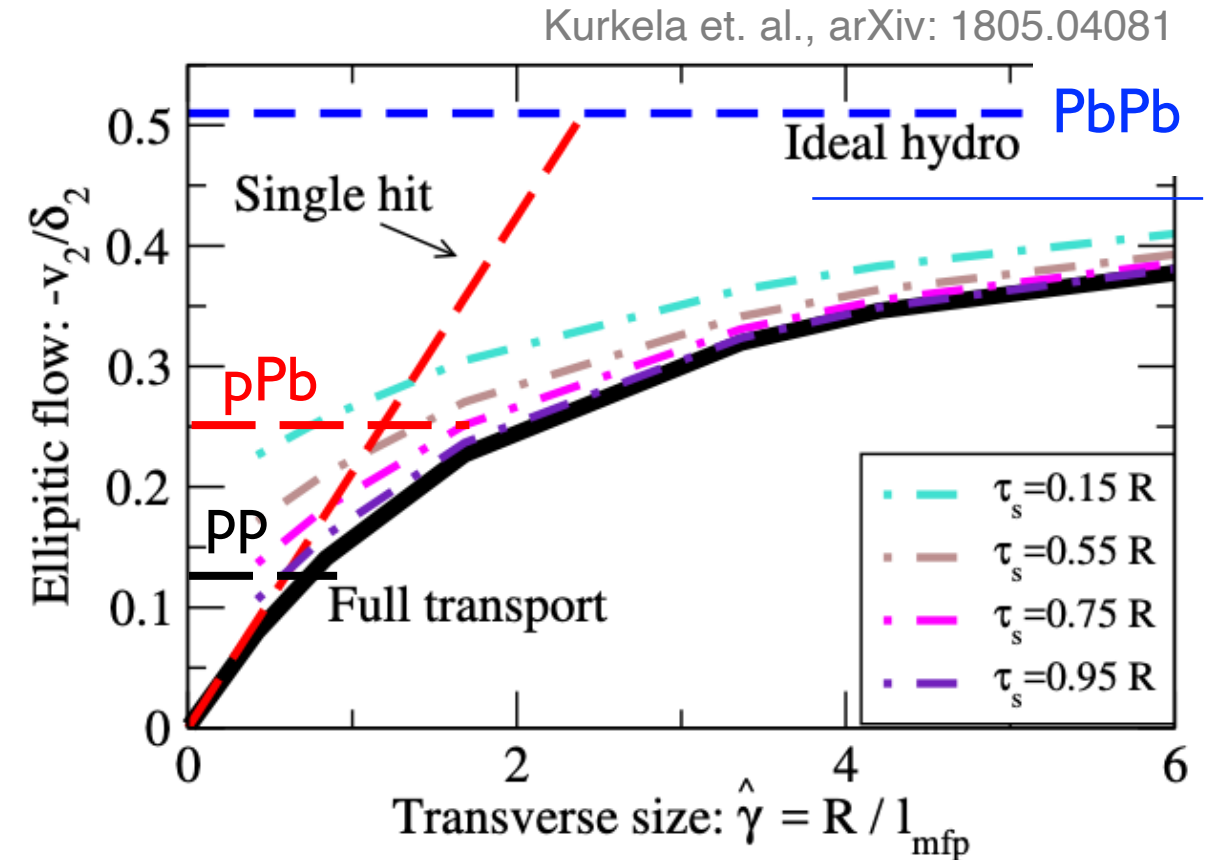
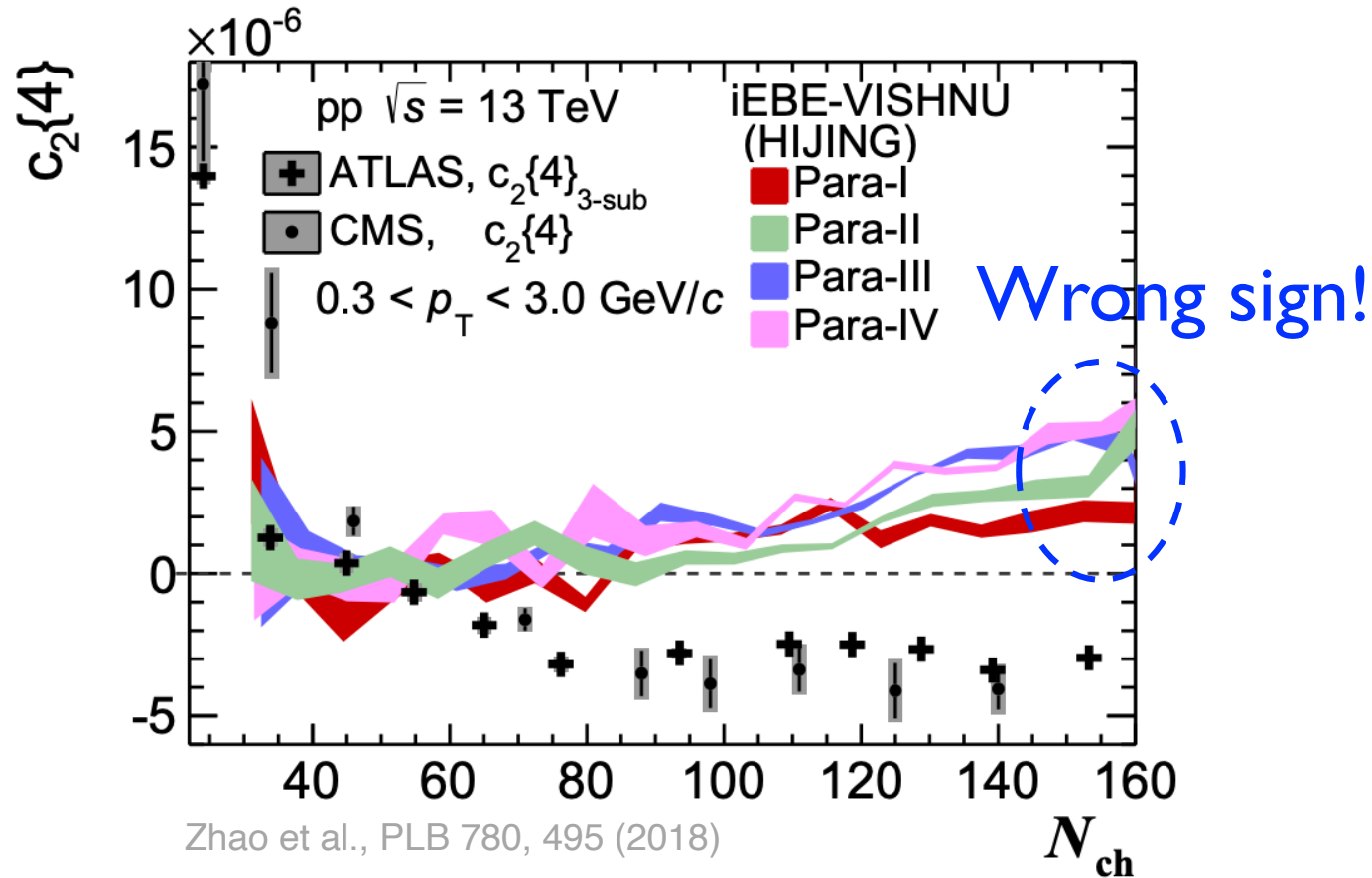
Hydro fails to describe  $v_n\{4\}$  data in pp

- Non-linear response:  $v_2 \neq \kappa \epsilon_2$
- $\kappa$  is small ( $\sim 0.1$ )  $\Rightarrow$  large smearing in  $v_2$

➤  $v_2$  fluctuation does not follow that of  $\epsilon_2$  in pp hydro. model

## (2) Does hydrodynamics break down?

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Hydro fails to describe  $v_n\{4\}$  data in pp

Transport approach more effective in retaining  $v_2 = \kappa \varepsilon_2$  ? AMPT?

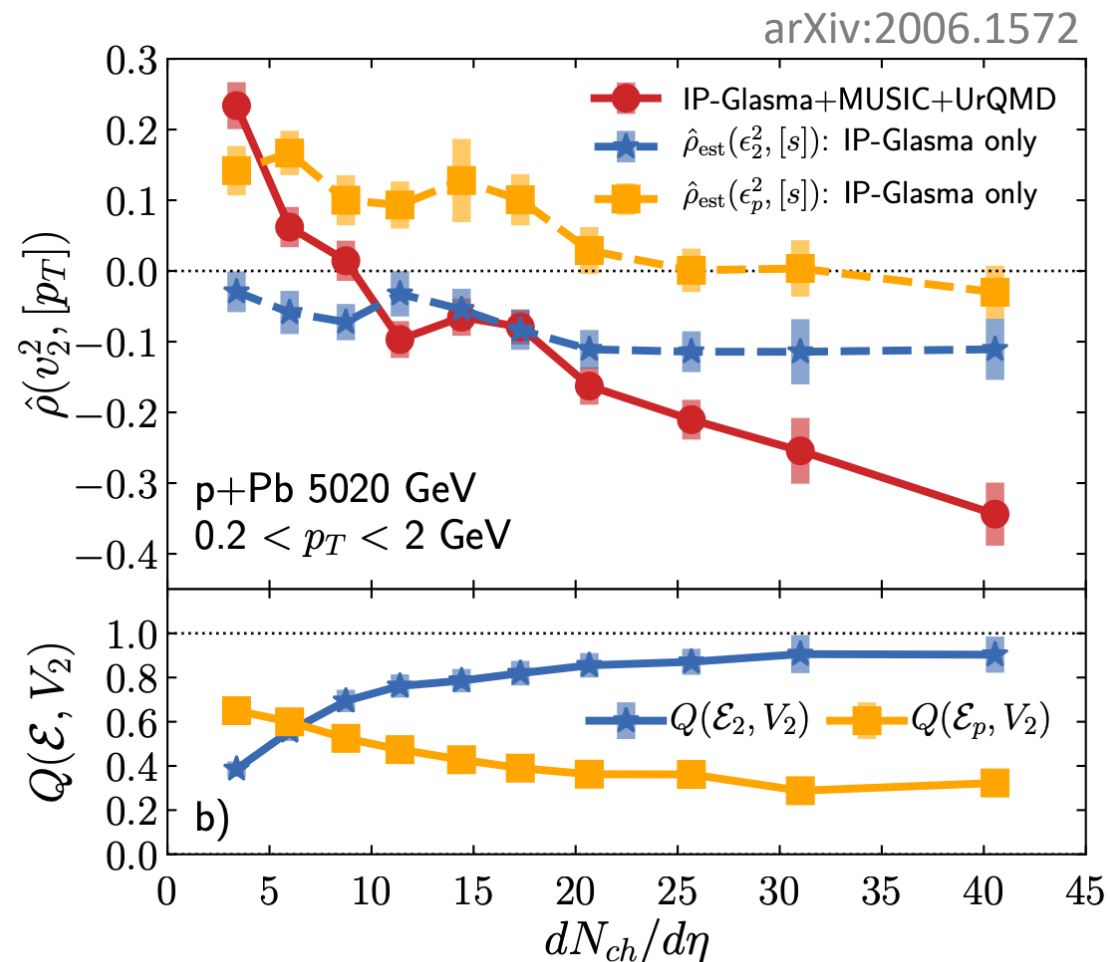
➤ *Dilute system* with a few scatterings in pp (pA), instead of a QGP droplet?

### (3) Do initial-state correlations exist?

– *If so, how to observe it decisively?*

**ISC** is predicted to be prominent at very low  $N_{\text{trk}}$

$v_2$ - $p_T$  correlations as a promising observable



$\hat{\rho}(v_2^2, [p_T]) > 0$  for **ISC**  
 $\hat{\rho}(v_2^2, [p_T]) < 0$  for **FSC**

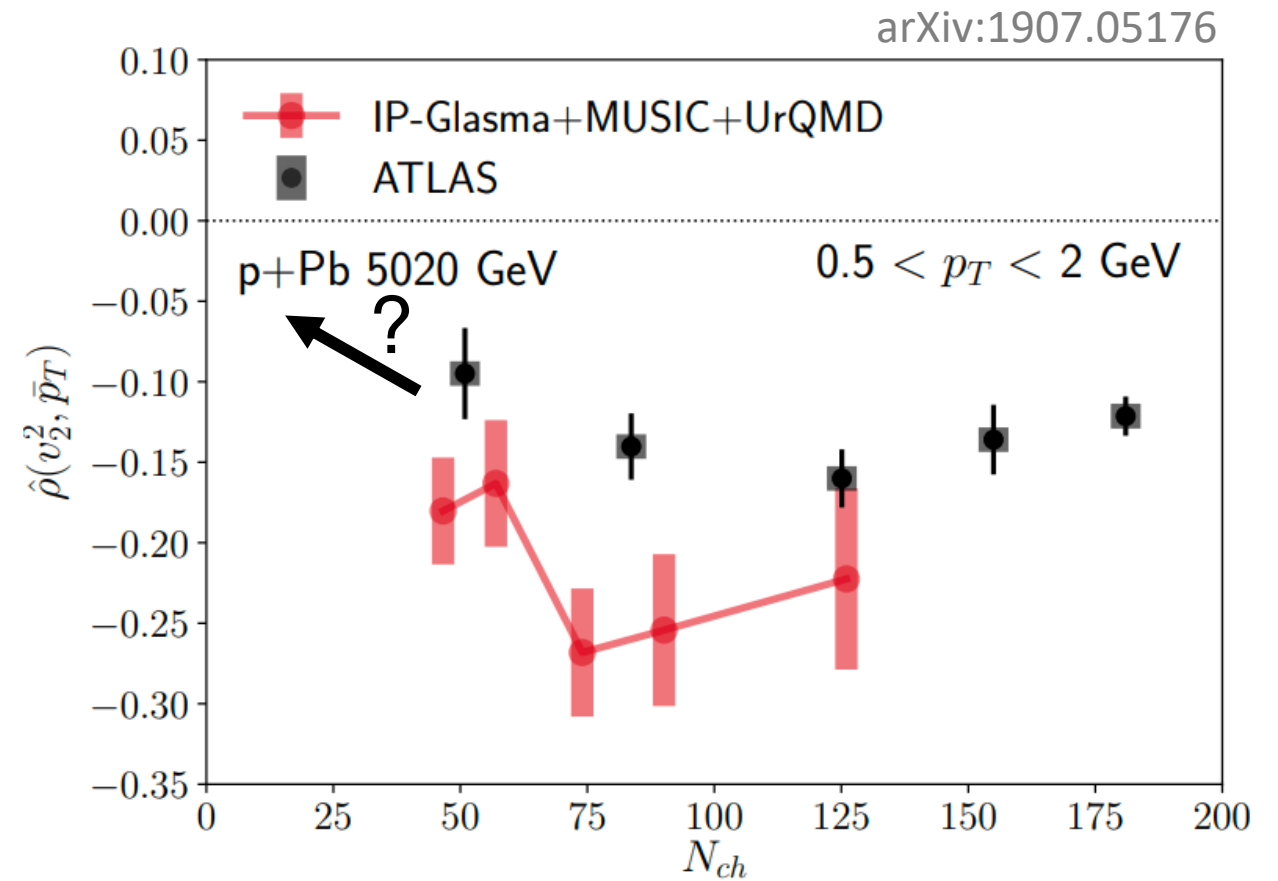
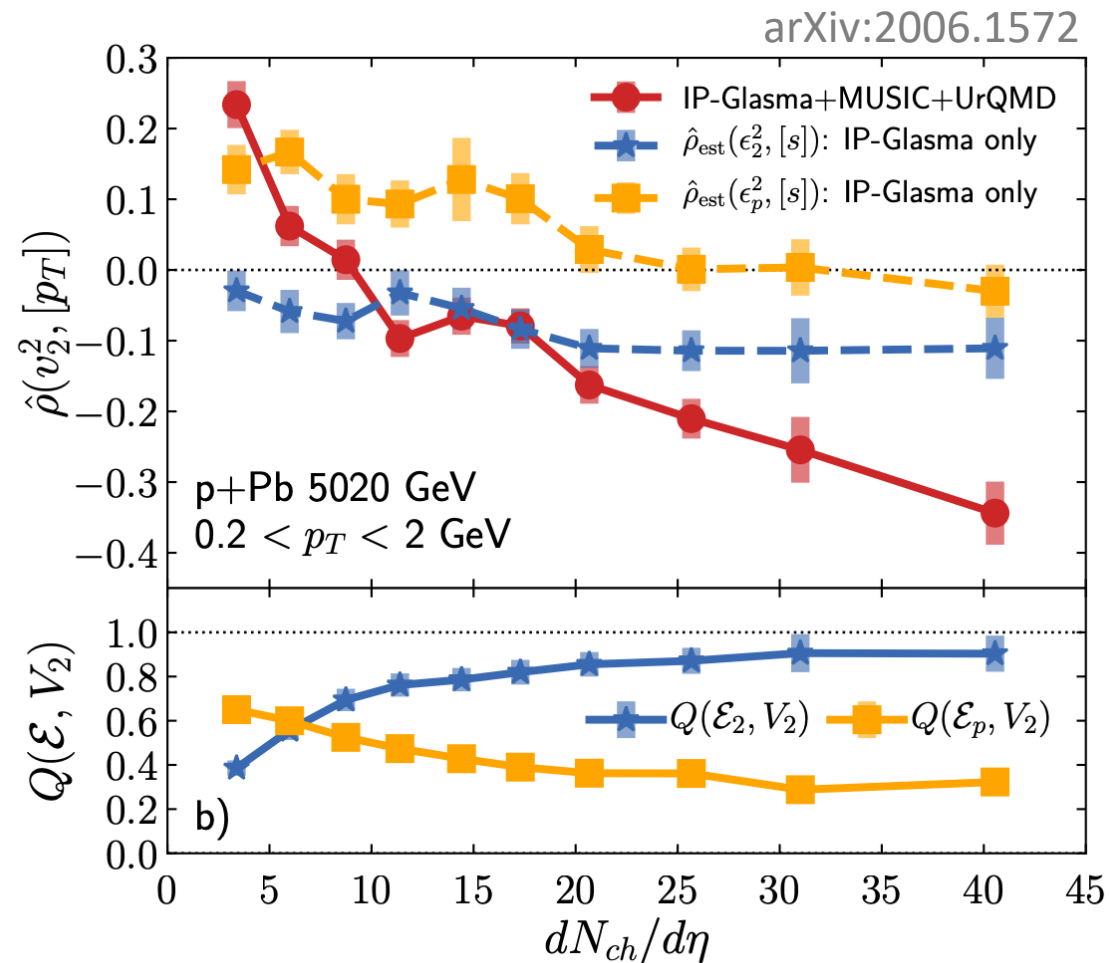
Still need to check its performance with nonflow at low  $N_{\text{trk}}$

# (3) Do initial-state correlations exist?

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$v_2$ - $p_T$  correlations as a promising observable



# Summary (Part I)

## *Lessons:*

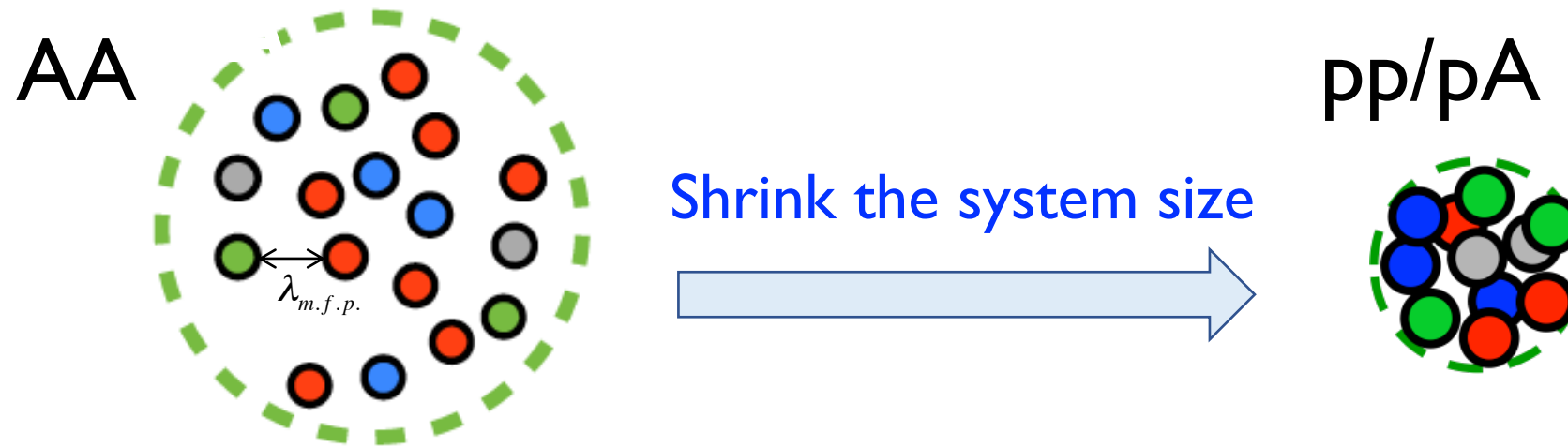
- Collective flow observed across all systems with high multiplicities
- Strong evidence for initial-geometry driven in pA and AA via high precision measurements

## *Puzzles/open issues:*

- Low multiplicity region:
  - Does collectivity extend down to low  $N_{\text{trk}}$ ?
  - Is ISC present and observable?
- pp remains a big challenge:
  - How to properly model proton eccentricity?
  - Is hydro. really applicable to pp? wrong sign for  $v_2\{4\}$ !

Keep pushing to extreme domains:

## Heavy quark collectivity in small systems

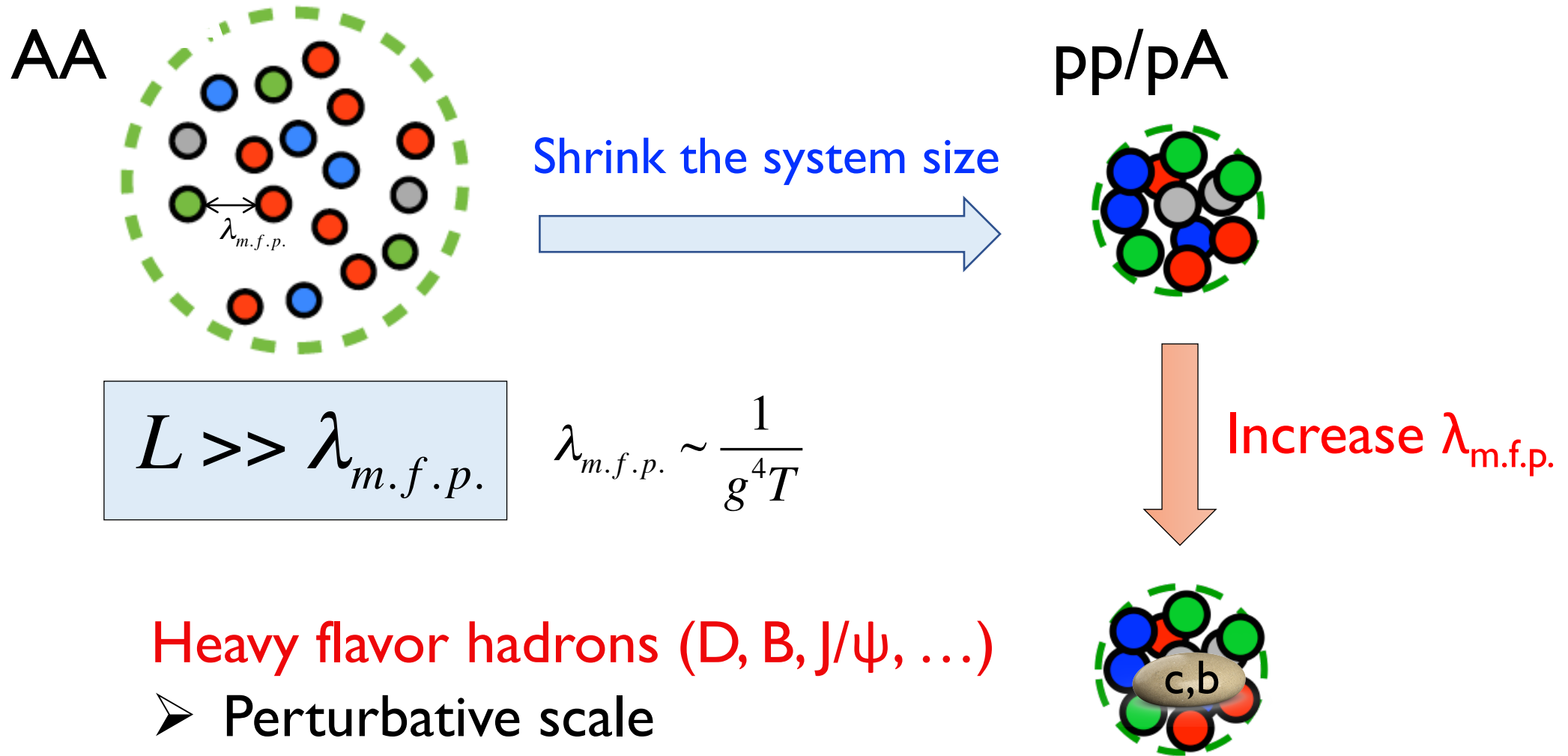


$$L \gg \lambda_{m.f.p.}$$

$$\lambda_{m.f.p.} \sim \frac{1}{g^4 T}$$

Keep pushing to extreme domains:

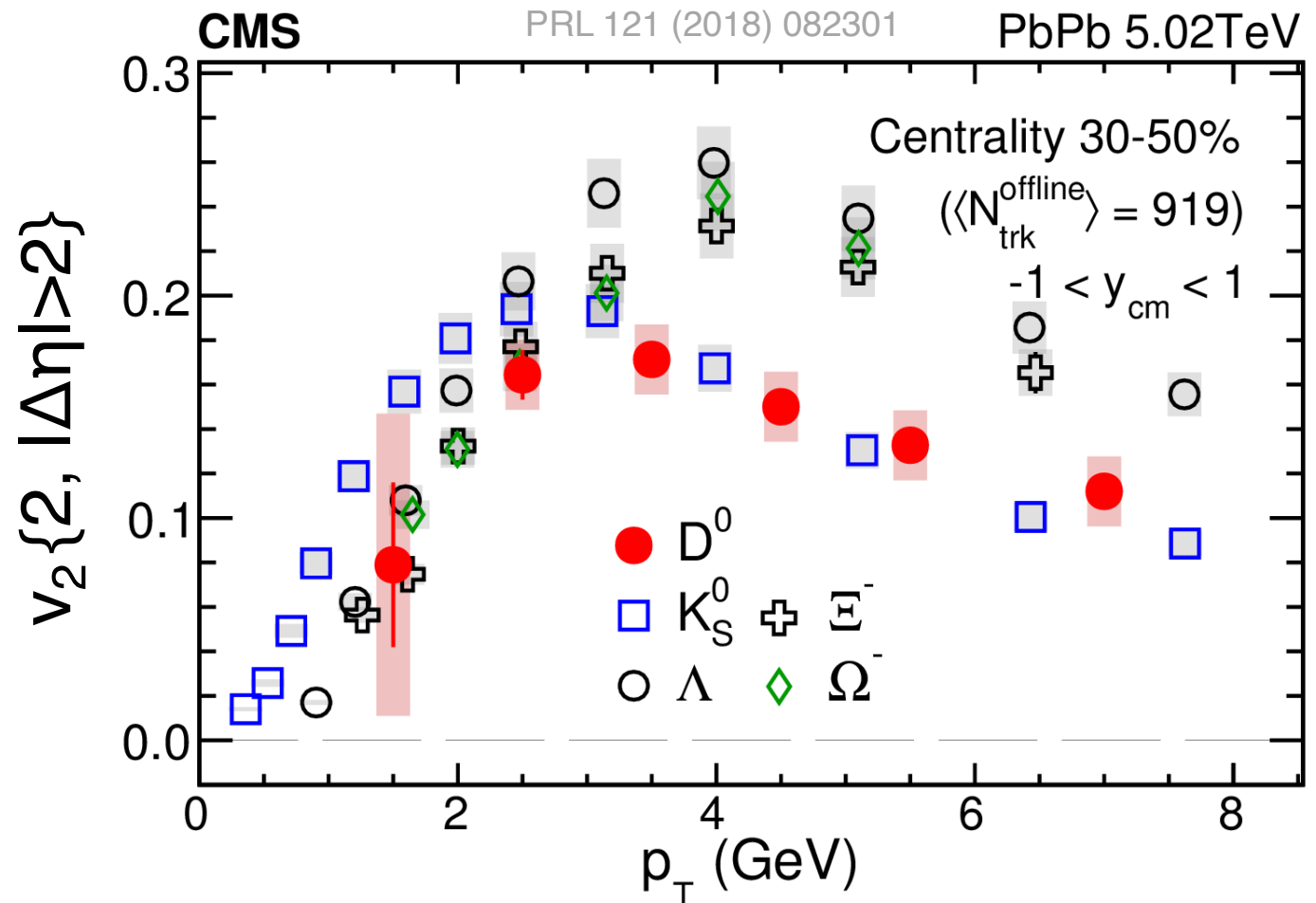
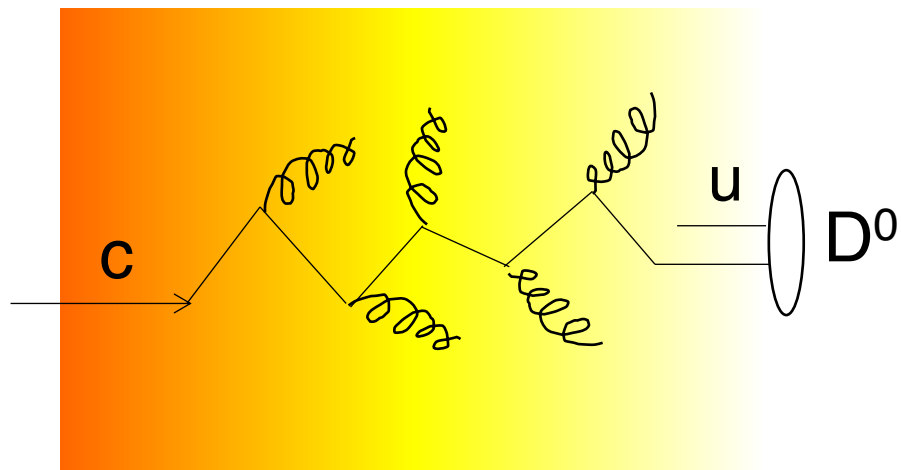
## Heavy quark collectivity in small systems



Heavy flavor hadrons (D, B, J/ $\psi$ , ...)

- Perturbative scale
- Produced at early stages

# Heavy quark collectivity in large AA systems



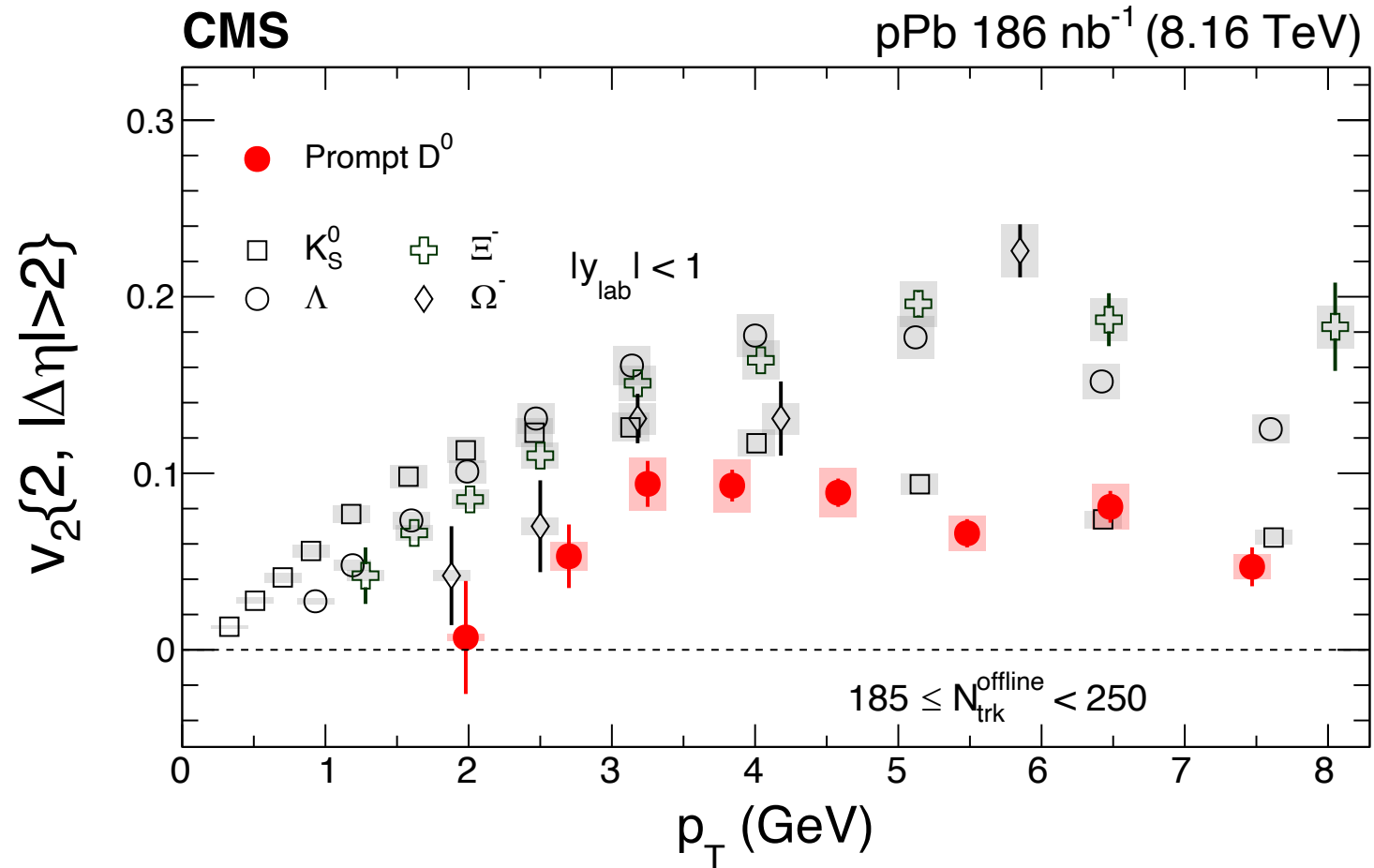
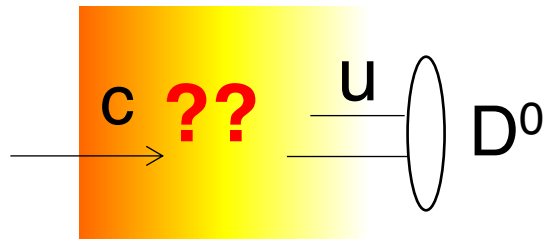
Strong charm flow similar to light flavor in AA at RHIC and the LHC



# Heavy quark collectivity in **small** systems

Shrink the system size:  $N_{\text{trk}} \sim 900 \rightarrow N_{\text{trk}} \sim 200$

In small systems?

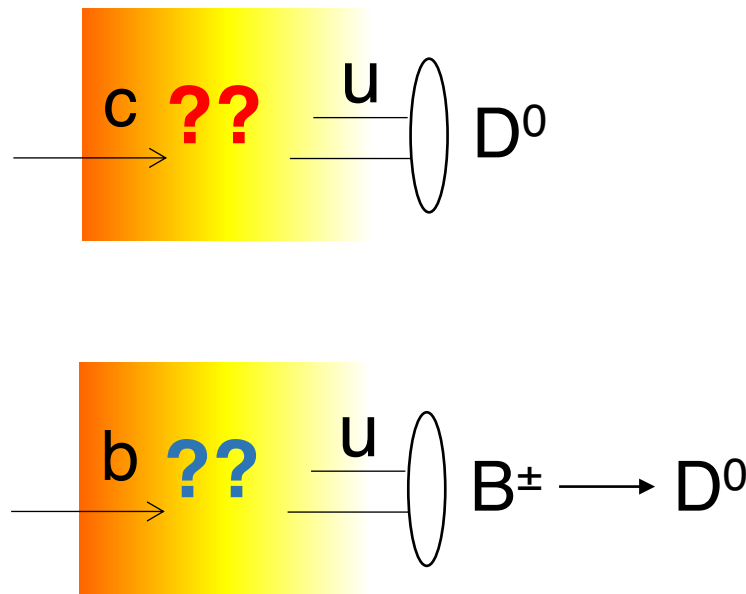


✓ **Strong charm flow**, maybe some indication  $< v_2(K)$

# Heavy quark collectivity in **small** systems

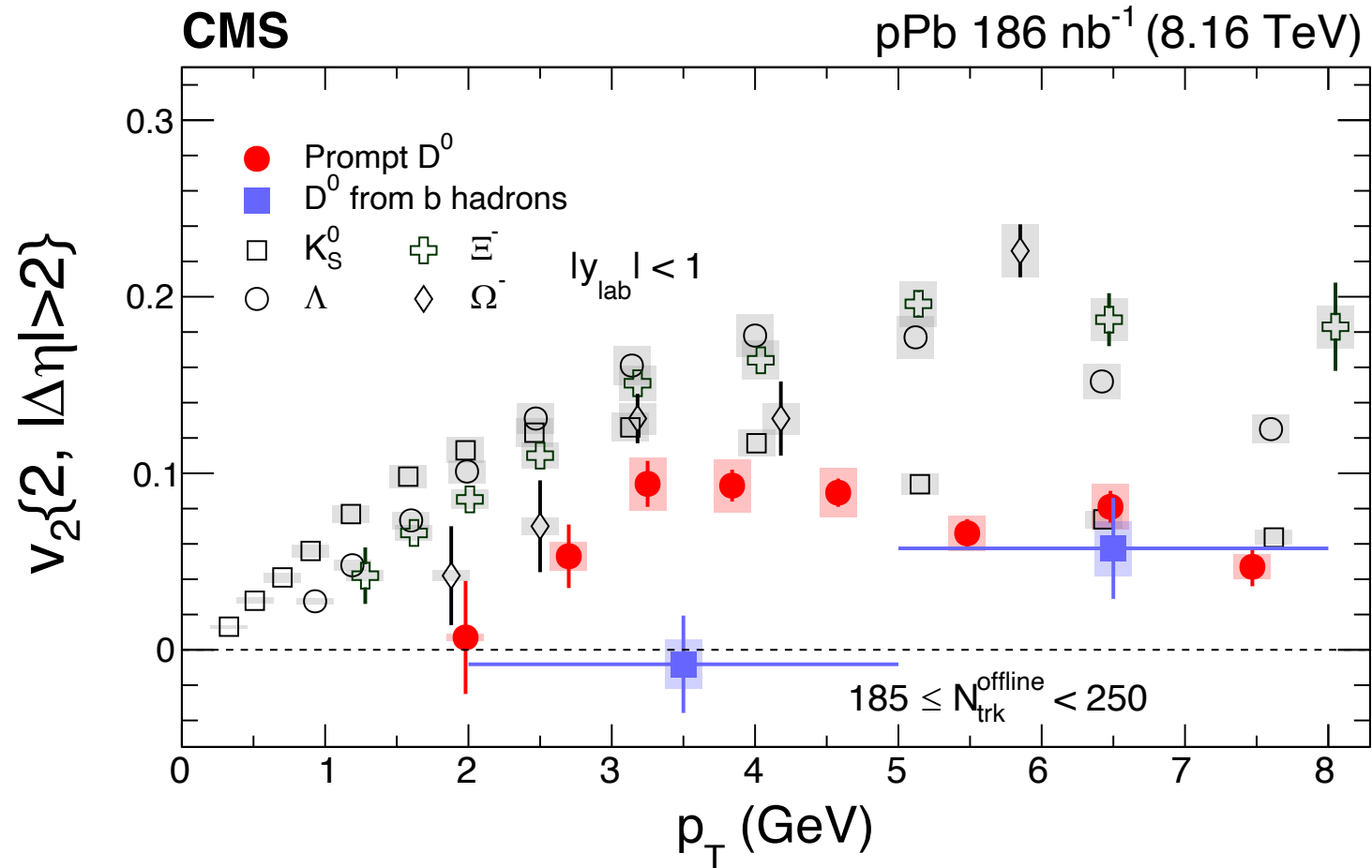
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In small systems?



**Charm** vs. **Beauty**

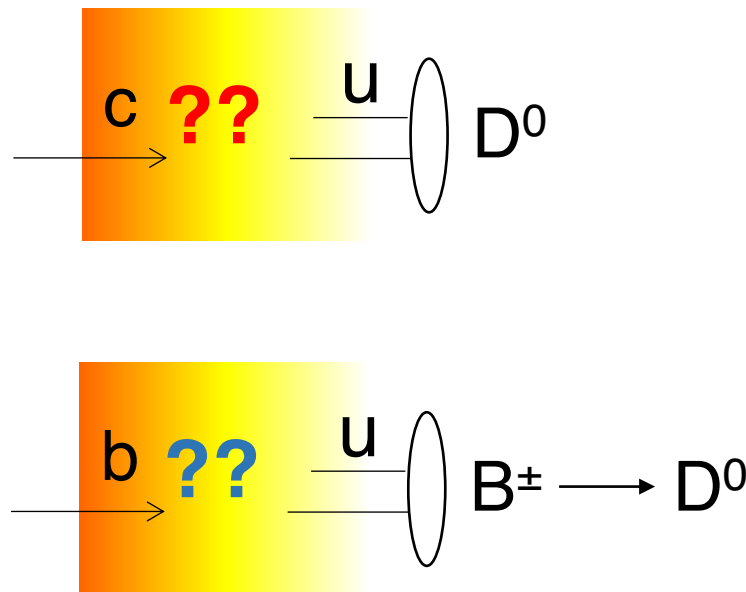
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- ✓ **Beauty flow  $<$  charm flow (flavor hierachy)?!**



# Heavy quark collectivity in **small** systems

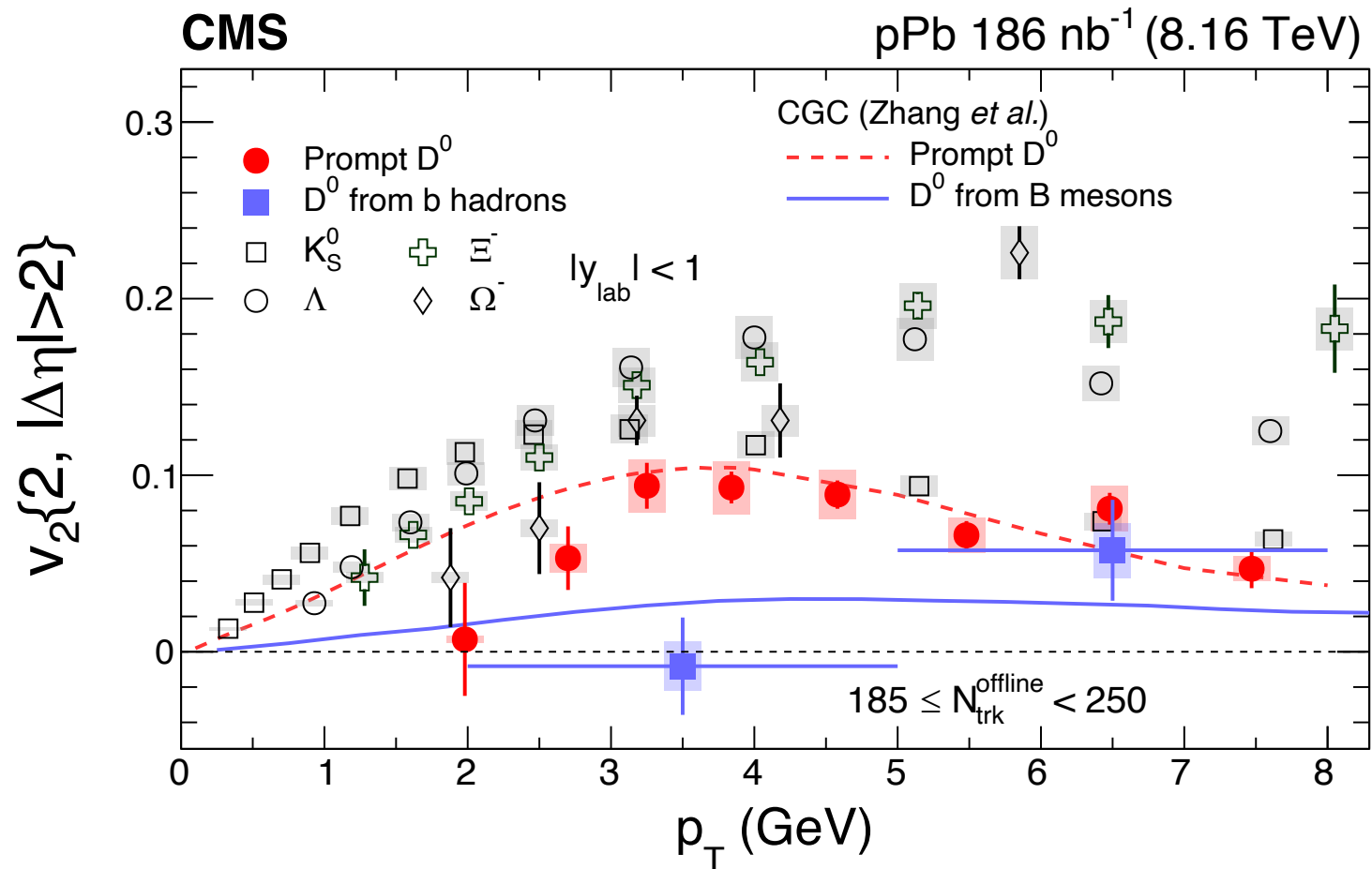
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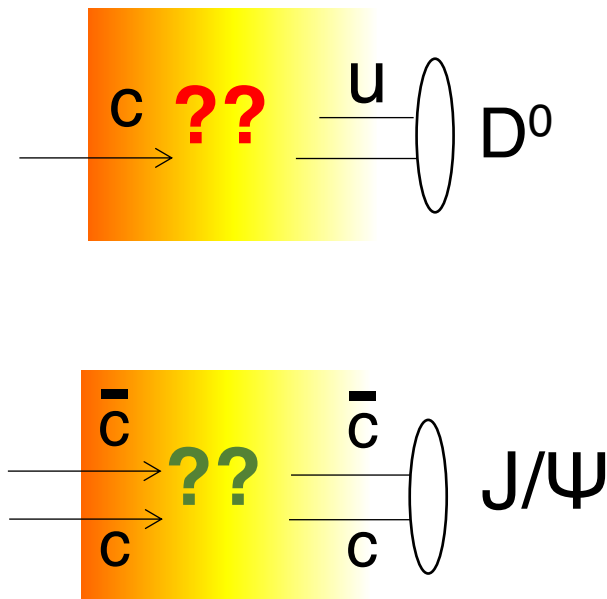
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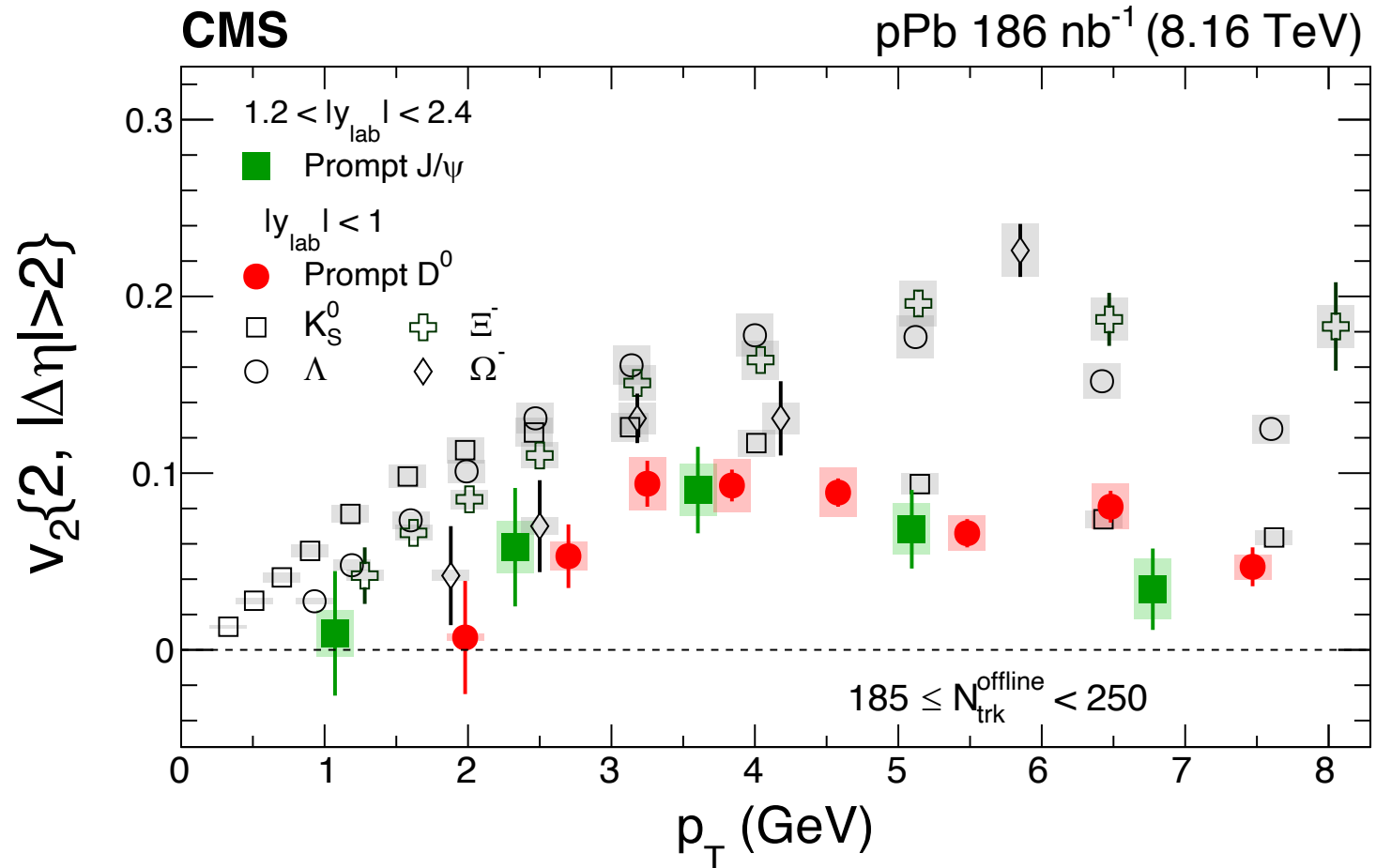
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In small systems?



Open vs. Hidden

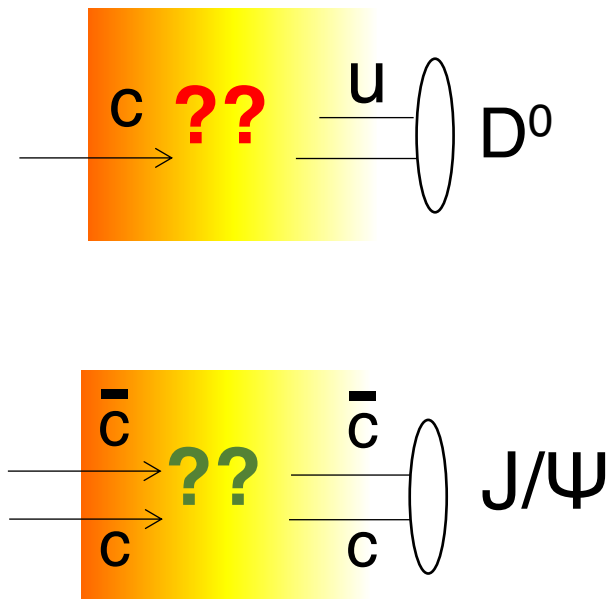


- ✓ Strong charm flow, maybe some indication  $< v_2(K)$
- ✓ (Surprisingly!?) large J/ψ  $v_2$  signal → ISC needed?

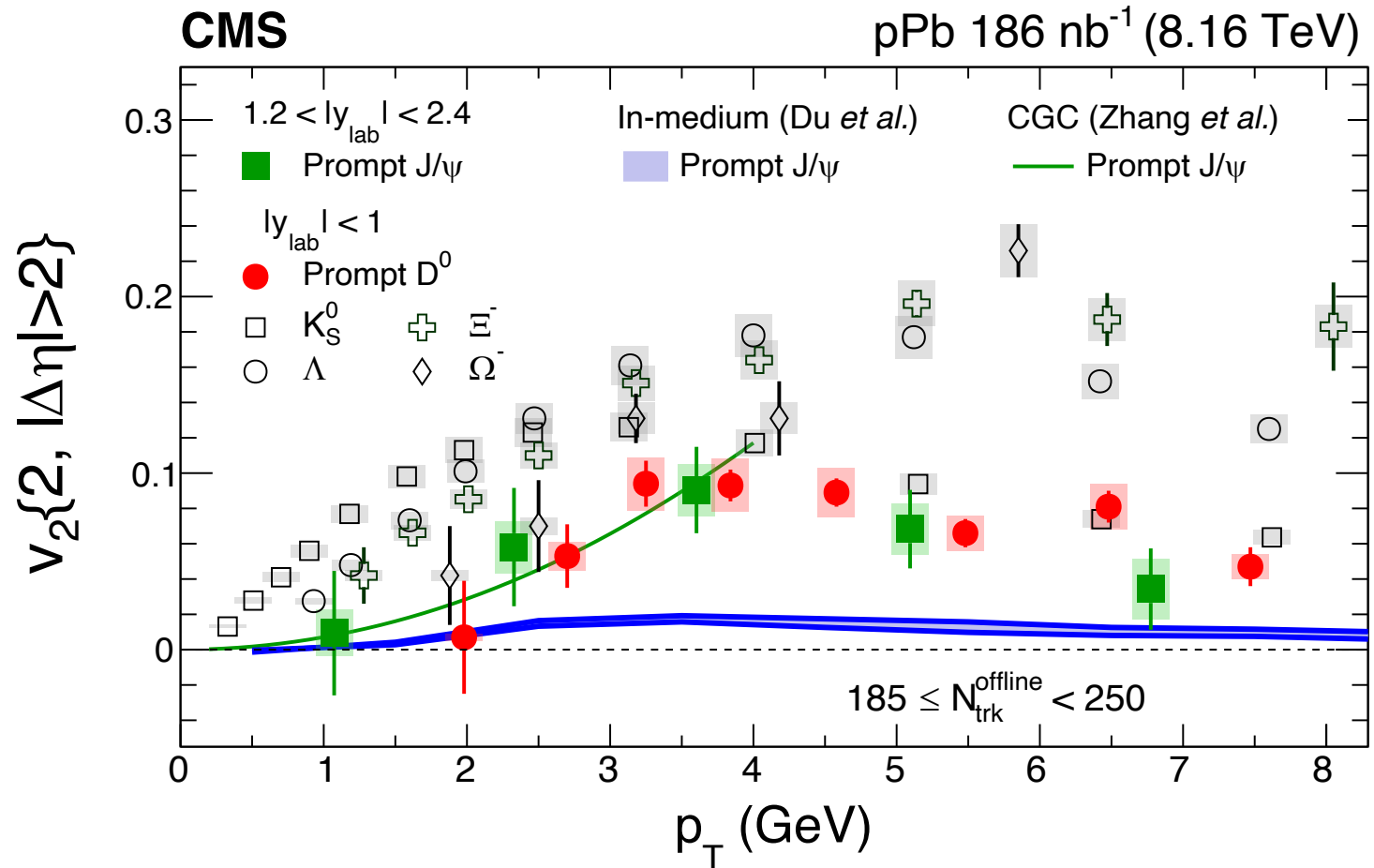
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Open vs. Hidden



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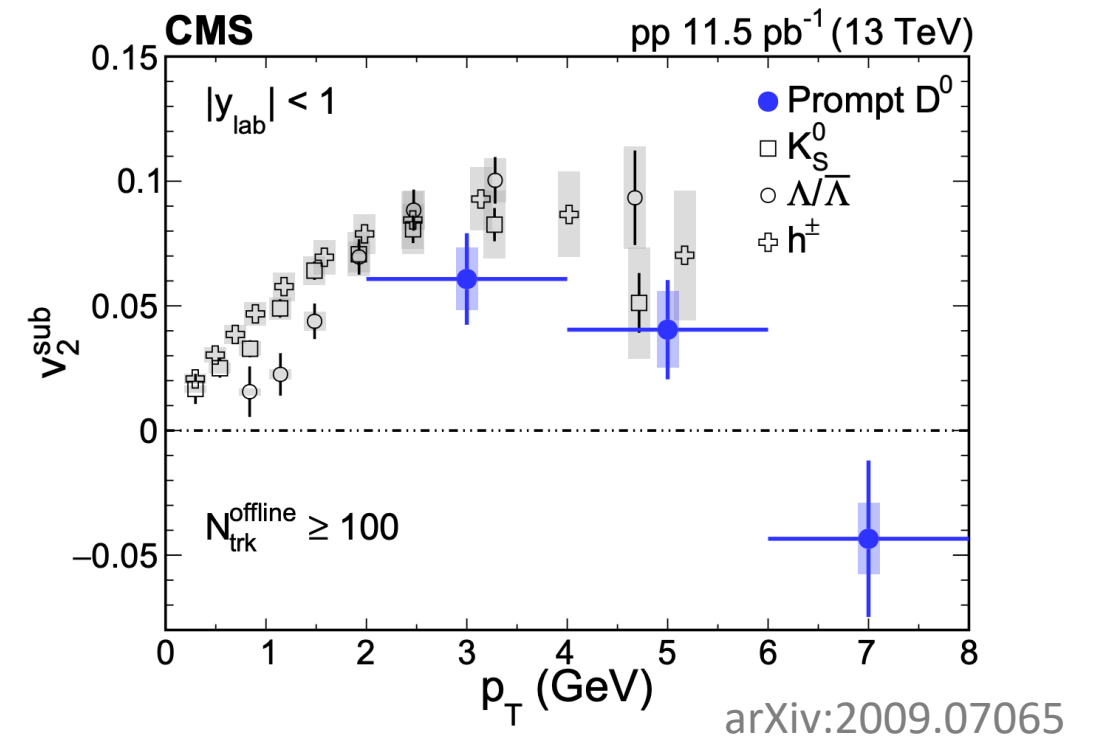
# Heavy quark collectivity in **small** systems

## Summary and outlook

	pp		pPb	
	$v_2$	yield	$v_2$	yield
Open <b>Charm</b> Meson	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open <b>Beauty</b> Meson	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open <b>Charm</b> Baryon	✗	✓	✗	✓
Open <b>Beauty</b> Baryon	✗	✗	✗	✗
Charmonia	✗	✓	✓	✓
Bottomonia	✗	✓	✗	✓

Most ✓ to be improved with better precision

## Prompt $D^0$ in HM pp



# Future opportunities for small systems

## Proposed LHC run schedule

HI-LHC HI yellow report: arXiv: 1812.06772

Run3

Year	Systems, $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$	Time	$L_{int}$
2021	Pb–Pb 5.5 TeV	3 weeks	2.3 nb <sup>-1</sup>
	pp 5.5 TeV	1 week	3 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE), 300 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS), 25 pb <sup>-1</sup> (LHCb)
2022	Pb–Pb 5.5 TeV	5 weeks	3.9 nb <sup>-1</sup>
	O–O, p–O	1 week	500 μb <sup>-1</sup> and 200 μb <sup>-1</sup>
2023	p–Pb 8.8 TeV	3 weeks	0.6 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS), 0.3 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE, LHCb)
	pp 8.8 TeV	few days	1.5 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE), 100 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS, LHCb)
2027	Pb–Pb 5.5 TeV	5 weeks	3.8 nb <sup>-1</sup>
	pp 5.5 TeV	1 week	3 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE), 300 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS), 25 pb <sup>-1</sup> (LHCb)
2028	p–Pb 8.8 TeV	3 weeks	0.6 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS), 0.3 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE, LHCb)
	pp 8.8 TeV	few days	1.5 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ALICE), 100 pb <sup>-1</sup> (ATLAS, CMS, LHCb)
2029	Pb–Pb 5.5 TeV	4 weeks	3 nb <sup>-1</sup>
Run-5	Intermediate AA	11 weeks	e.g. Ar–Ar 3–9 pb <sup>-1</sup> (optimal species to be defined)
	pp reference	1 week	

Run4

Detector upgrades

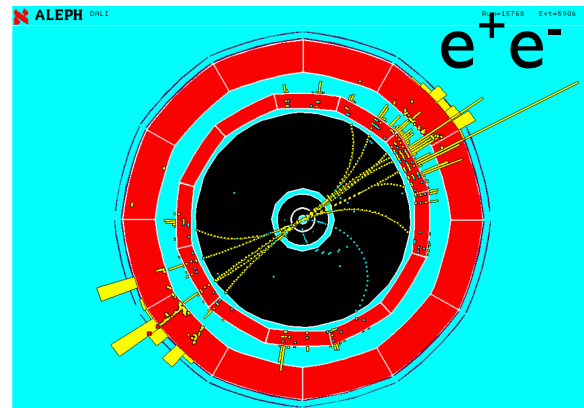


First OO 200 GeV likely at RHIC in 2021! Strong synergy with the LHC

➤ Smaller AA system with better controlled geometry

# Where else to find “QGP”?

Keep pushing to extreme domains: smaller than pp?

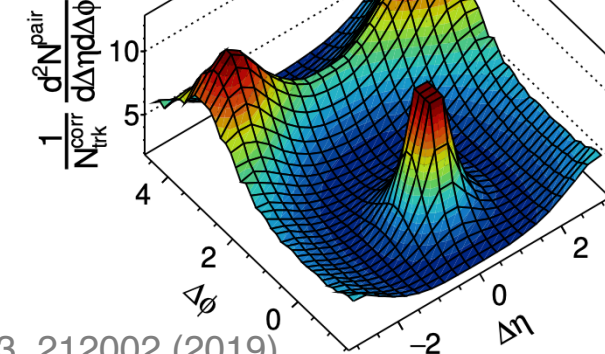


ALEPH  $e^+e^- \rightarrow$  hadrons,  $\sqrt{s} = 91\text{ GeV}$

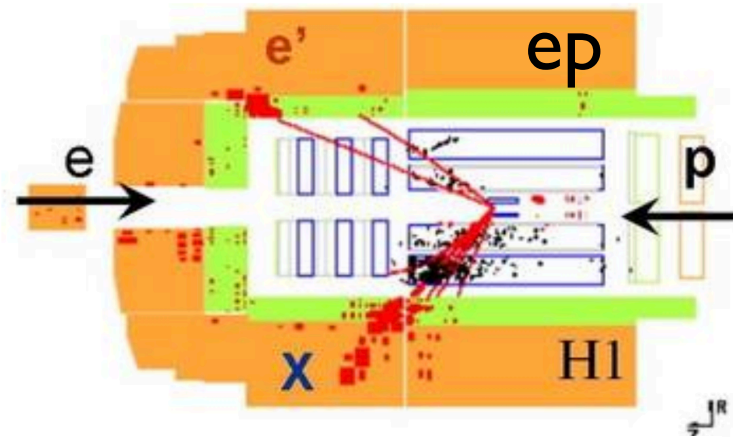
$N_{\text{trk}} \geq 30$ ,  $|\cos(\theta_{\text{lab}})| < 0.94$

$p_{\text{T}}^{\text{lab}} > 0.2\text{ GeV}$

Lab coordinates

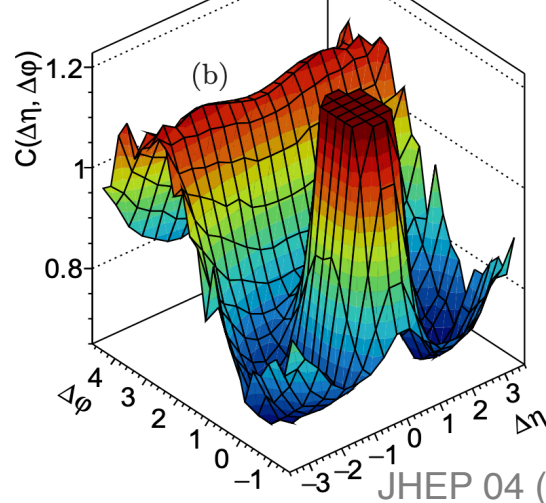


PRL 123, 212002 (2019)

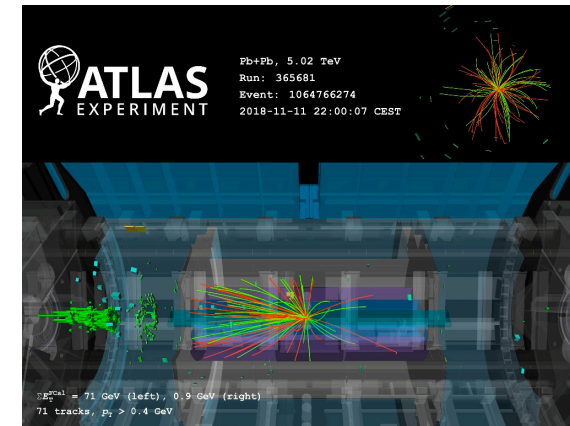


ZEUS

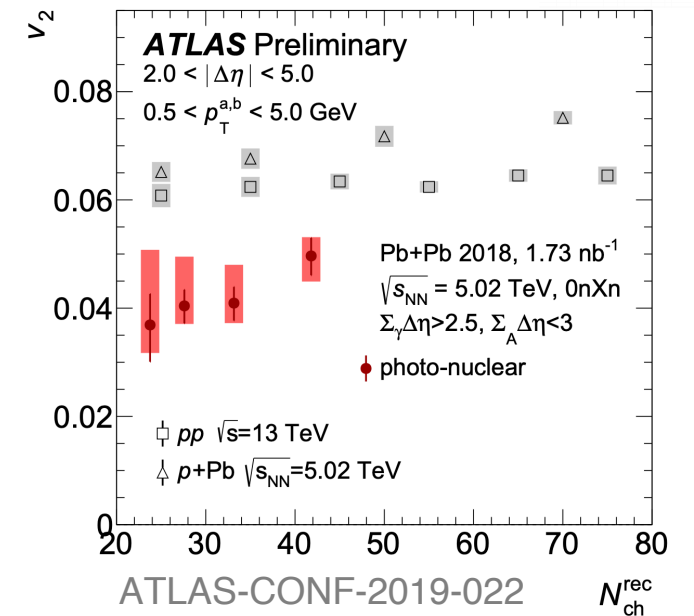
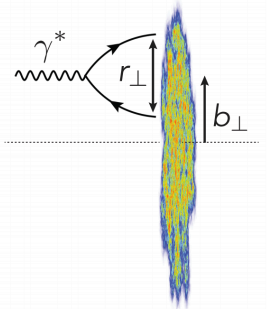
$15 \leq N_{\text{ch}} < 30$



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$\gamma A$  and  $\gamma p$

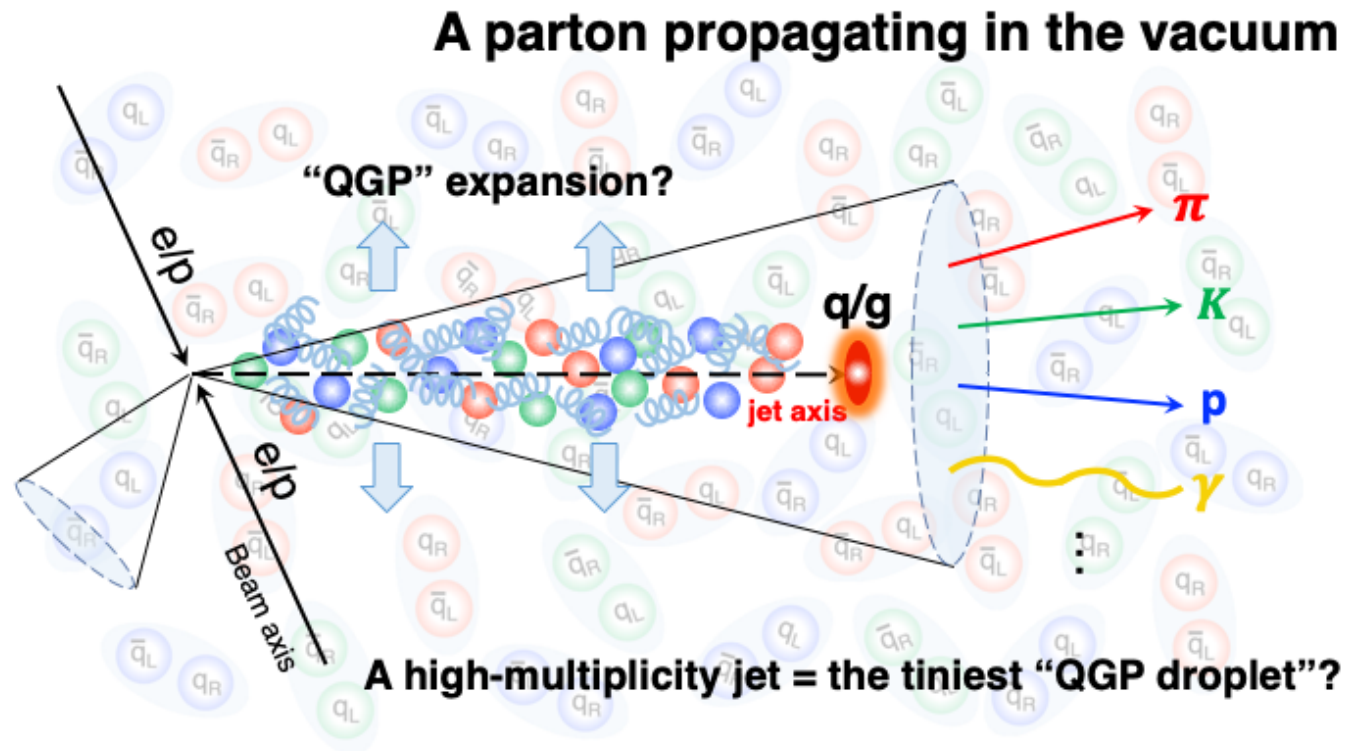


- No ridge seen so far, esp. hard to reach high multiplicities
- $v_2$  in  $\gamma A$ : “flow” or “nonflow”? MC Models? **Search at EIC?**

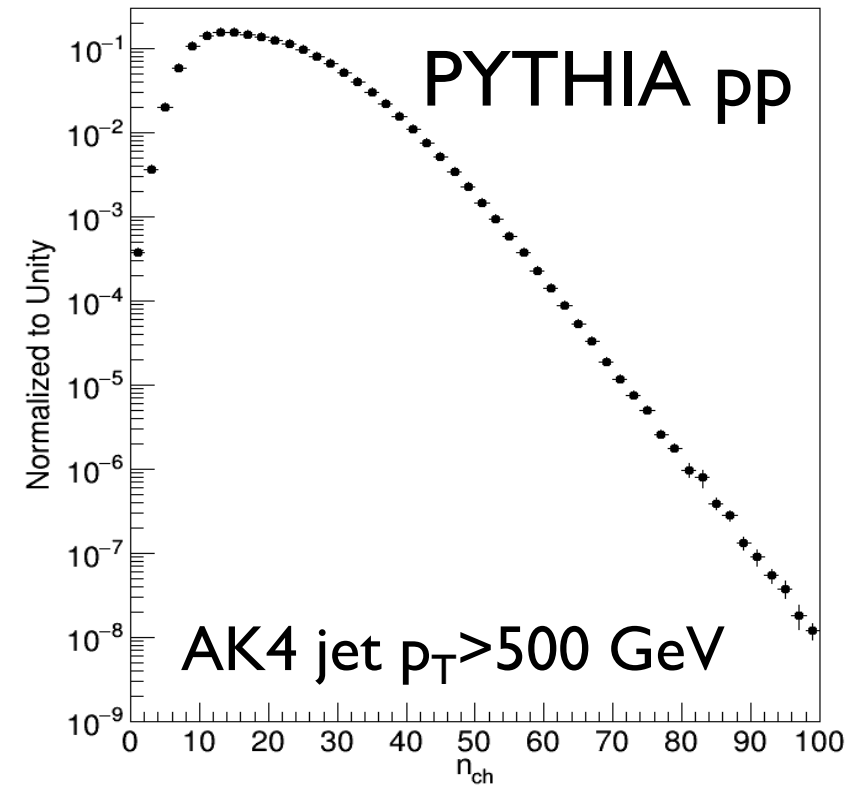


# Where else to find “QGP”?

Keep pushing to extreme domains: QGP from a single parton?

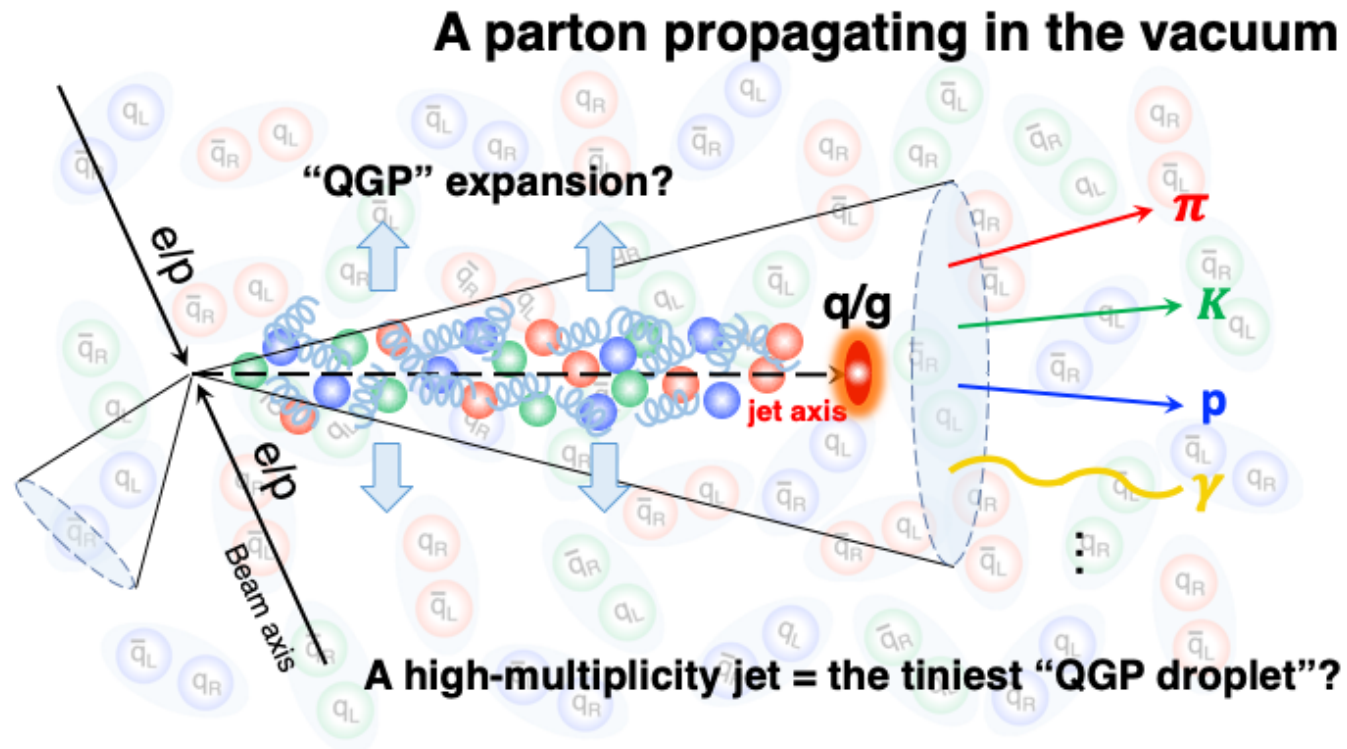


Charged multiplicity from a jet

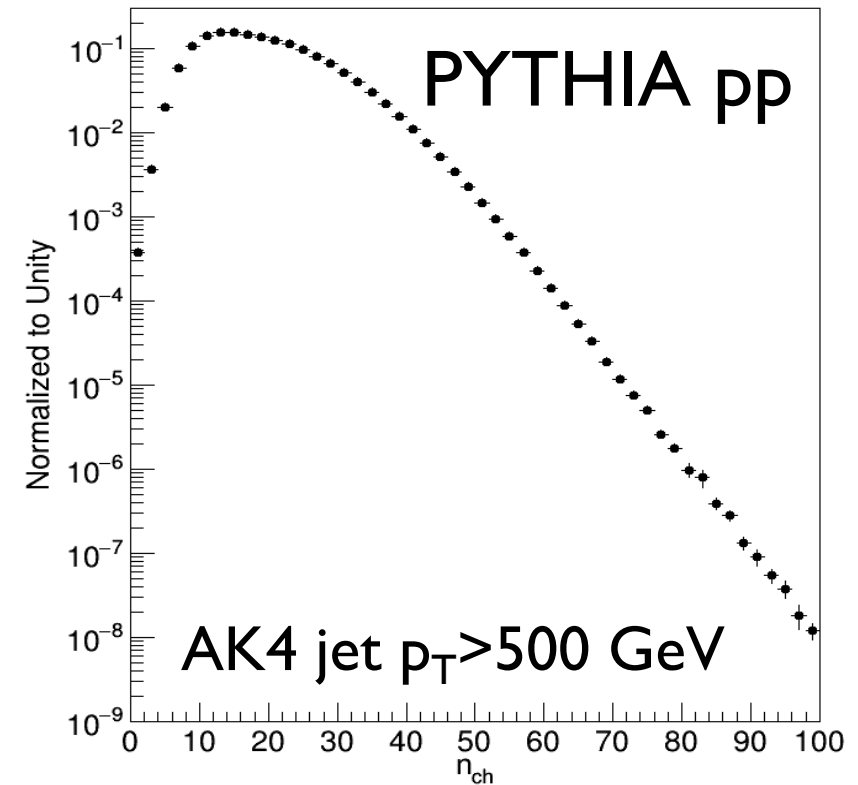


# Where else to find “QGP”?

Keep pushing to extreme domains: QGP from a single parton?



Charged multiplicity from a jet

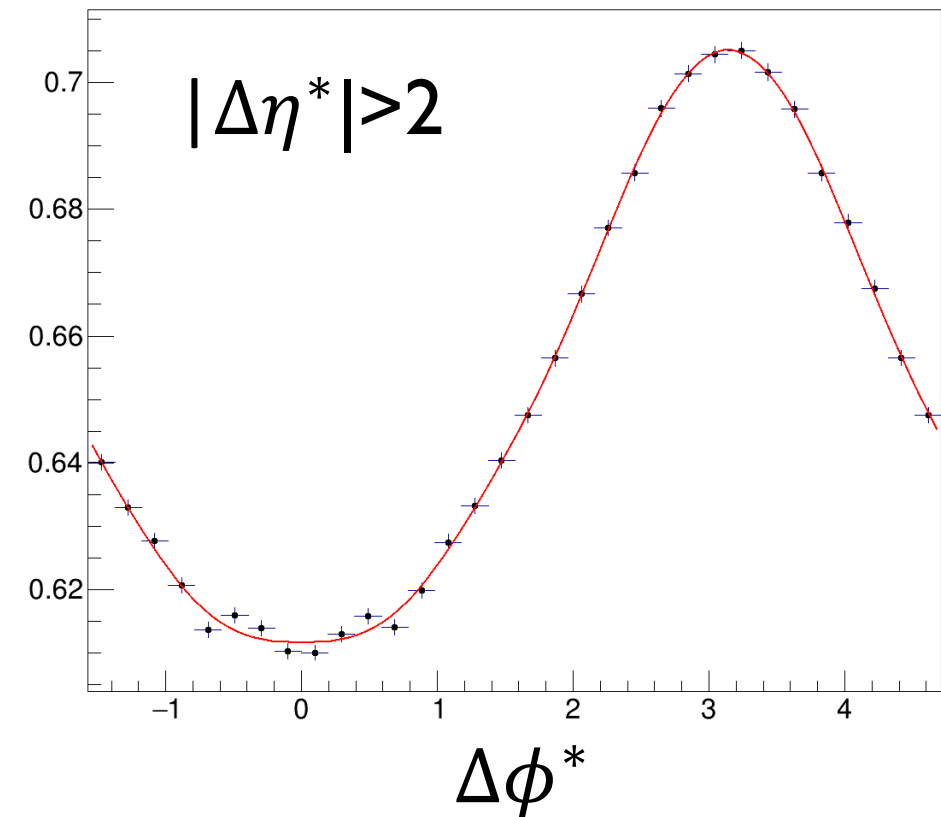
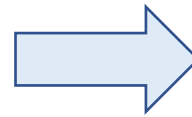
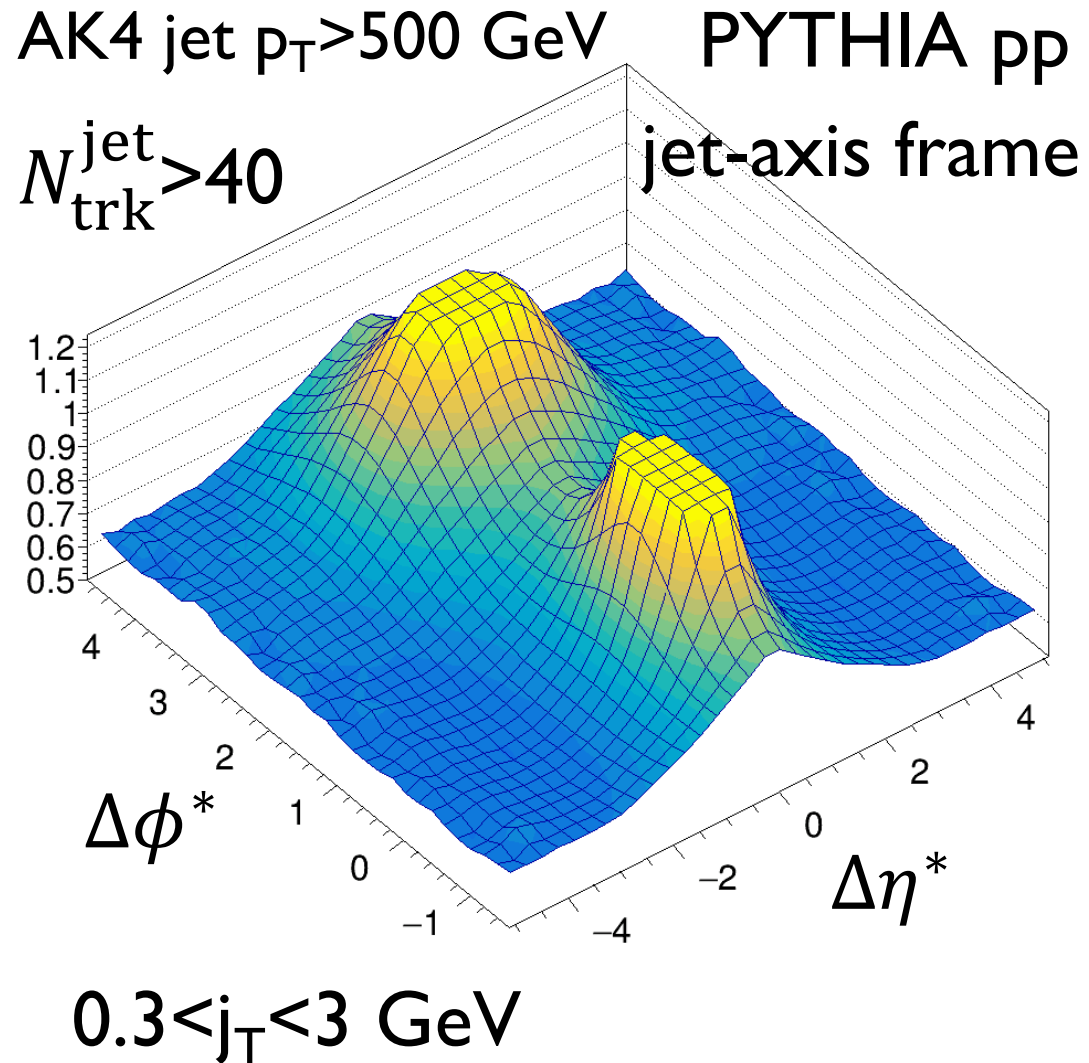


Is soft fragmentation process reminiscent of “QGP” expansion?

“Thermal” feature observed in  $e^+e^-$  related to a single-parton “QGP”?

# Where else to find “QGP”?

Keep pushing to extreme domains: QGP from a single parton?



Not very different from beam axis

# Summary

Very exciting past 10 years with small systems!

- Understood better the collectivity at where it is expected  
– “*Large systems*”
- Discovered the collectivity at where it was not expected  
and making rapid progress in understanding it – “*Small systems*”

Exciting opportunities ahead to look for collectivity elsewhere  
and learn about QCD in most extreme conditions

# Acknowledgement



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

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Office of Science



Alfred P. Sloan  
FOUNDATION



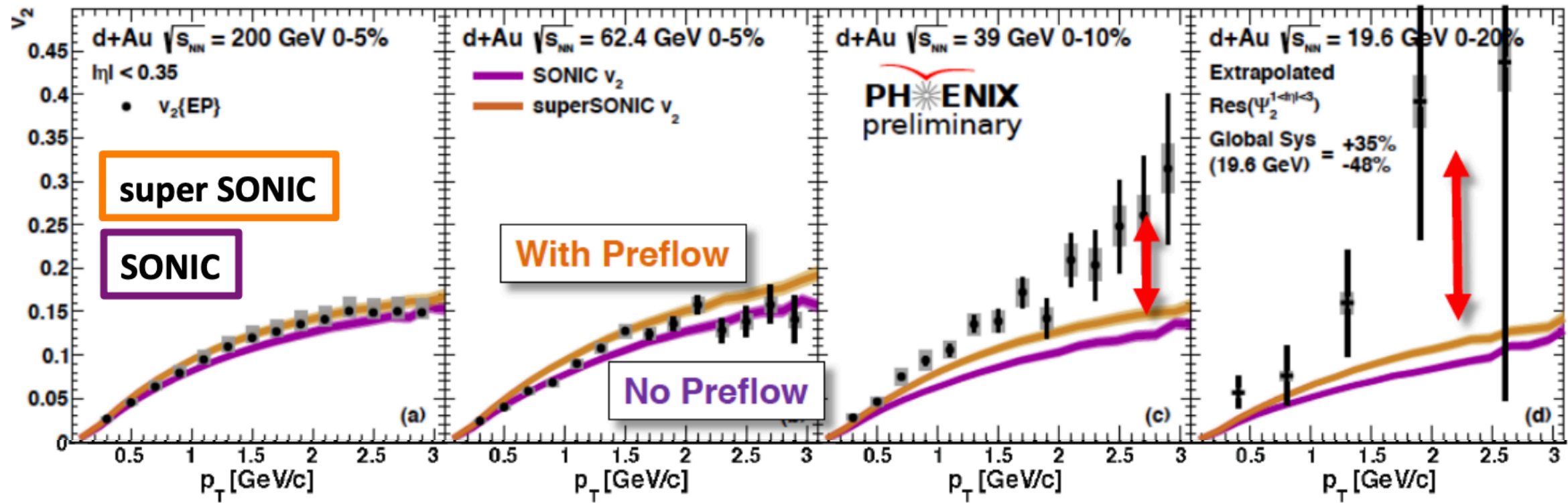
# Backups

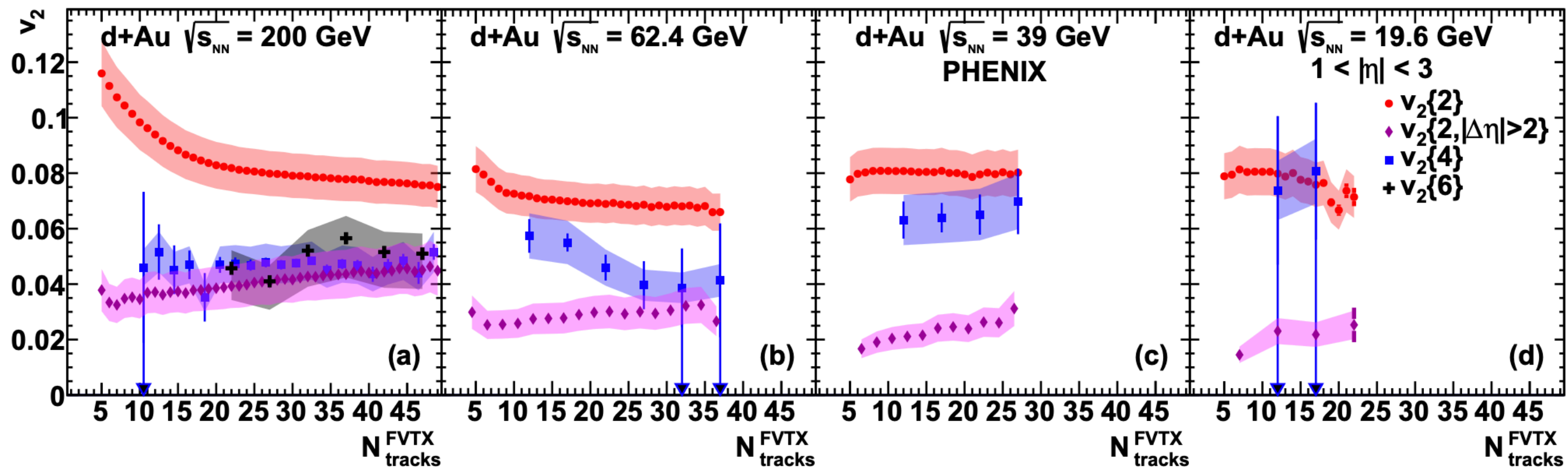
200 GeV

62 GeV

39 GeV

20 GeV

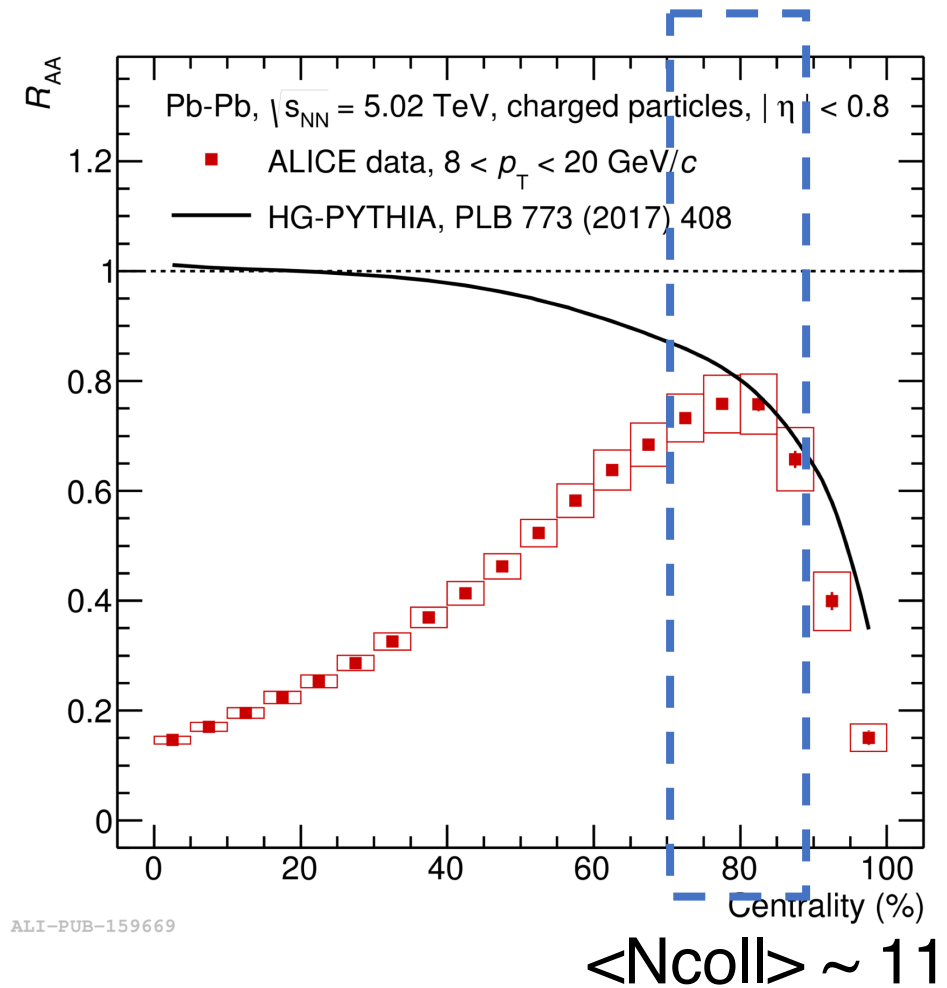
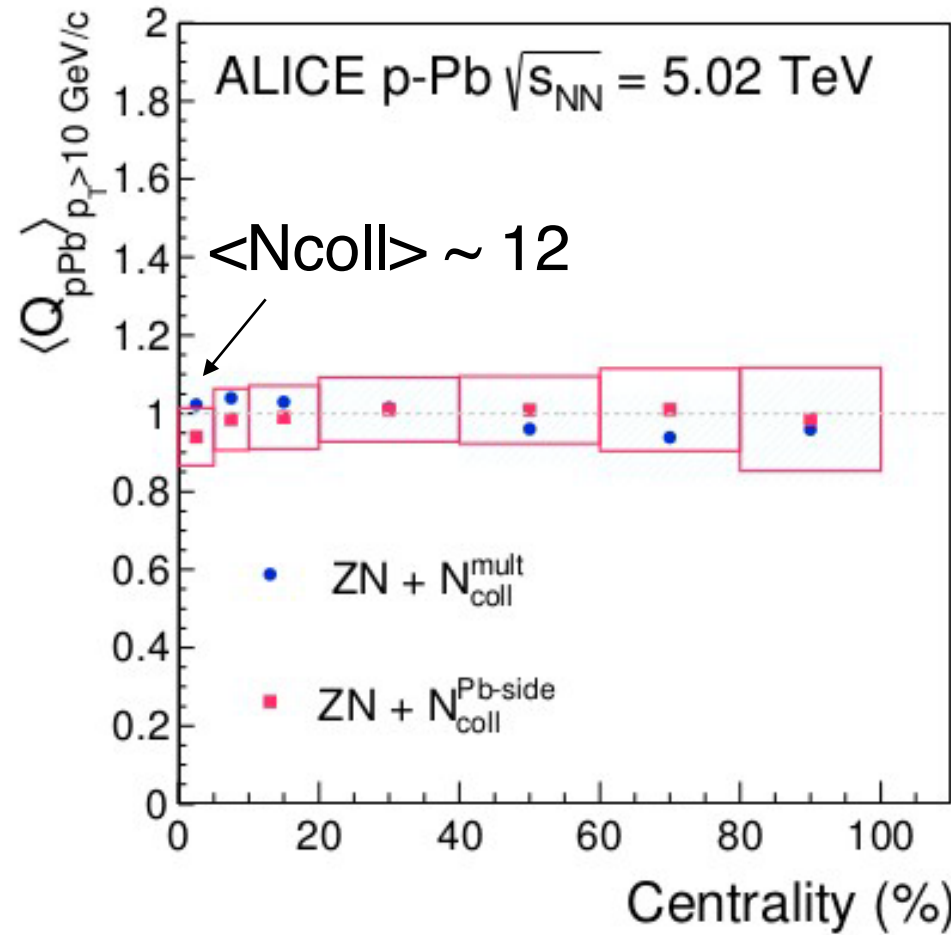






# Evidence for later-time interactions?

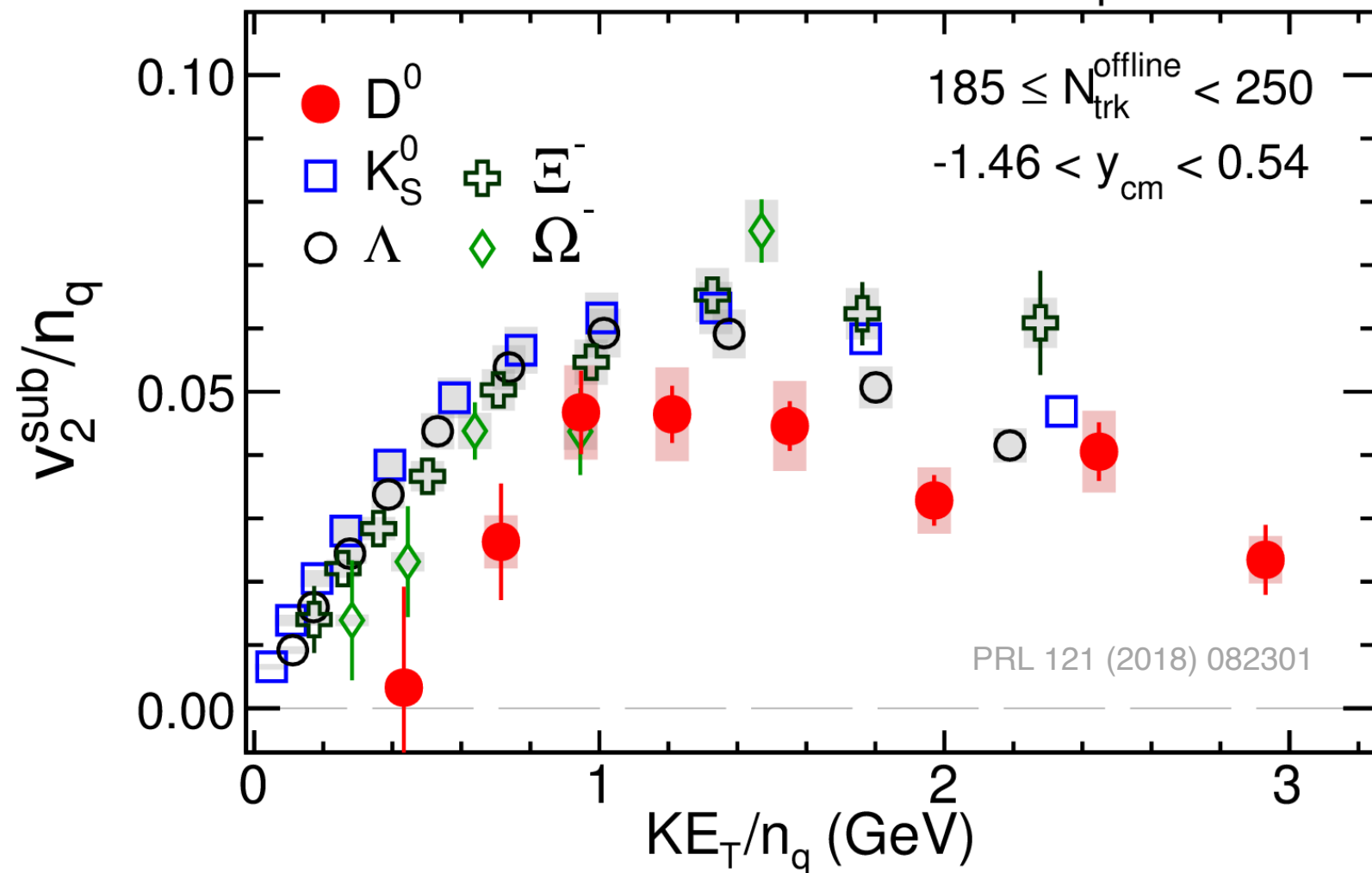
## Nuclear modification factors

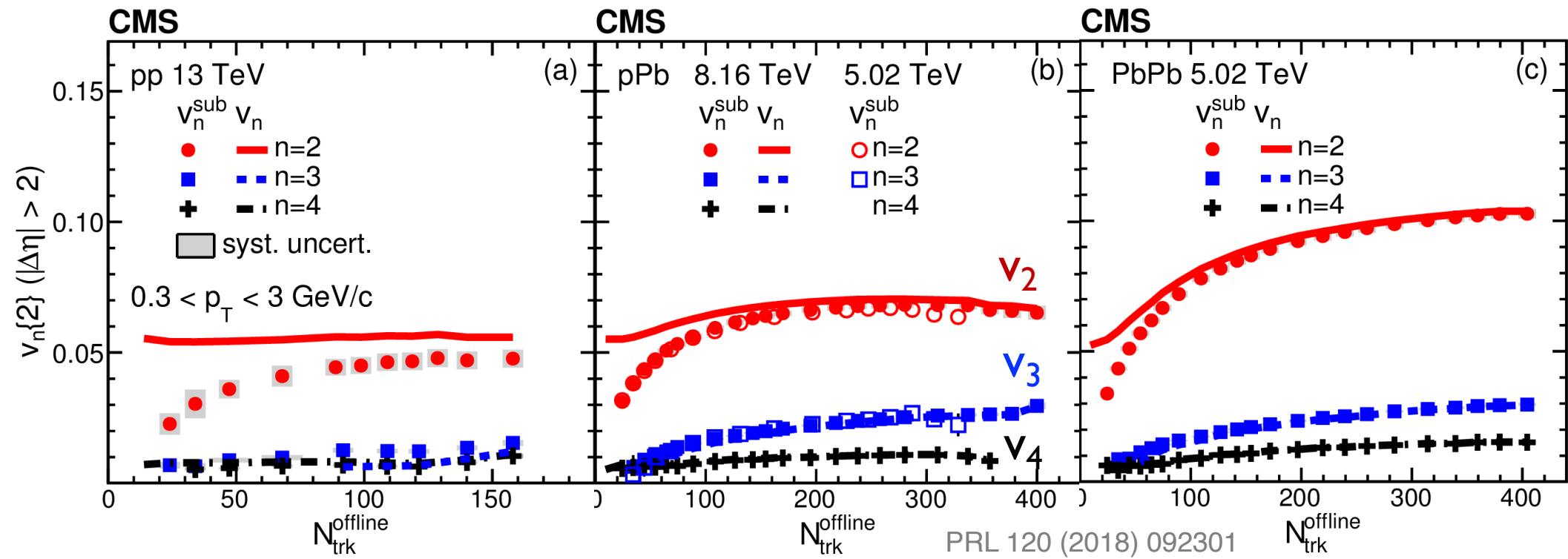


“Absence” of jet quenching consistent with expectation

CMS

pPb 8.16TeV



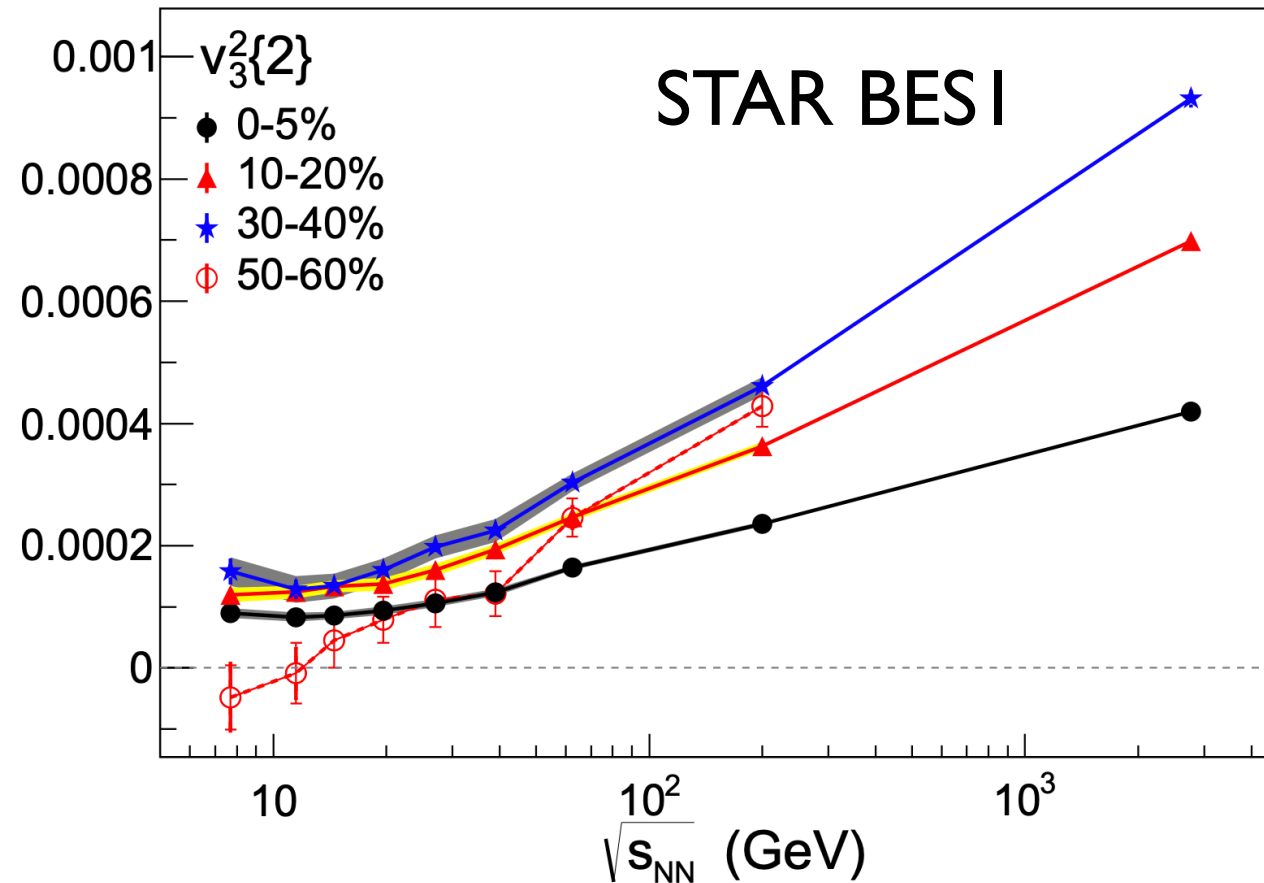


# Collective flow in AuAu at BES 2

Low energy AuAu are also effectively “small”

$$L \gg \lambda_{m.f.p.}$$

$$\lambda_{m.f.p.} \sim \frac{1}{g^4 T}$$



Collective flow in AuAu vs  $N_{trk}$  at BES2 highly interesting!