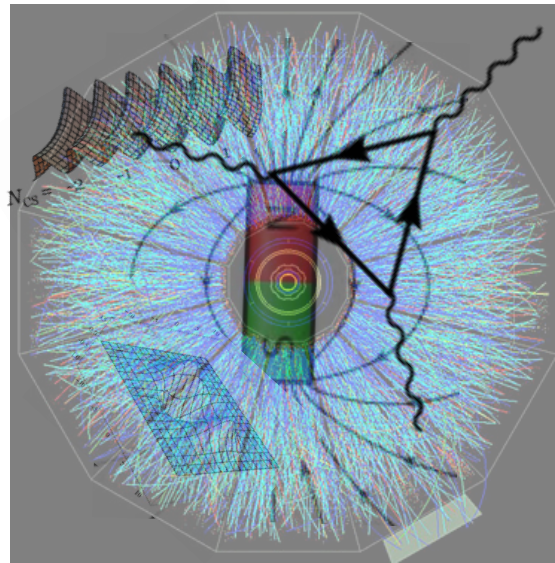


# **Novel Phenomena in Quantum Chromo Matter**

## **I. Chiral Magnetic Effect and Isobar Collisions**



**Jinfeng Liao**

Indiana University, Physics Dept. & CEEM

**Research Supported by NSF & DOE**



---

# INTRODUCTION

---

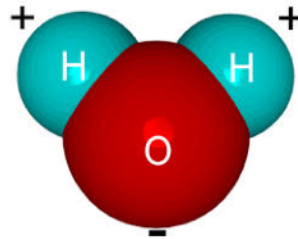
# Nuclear Physics: Exploring the Heart of Matter

*The physical world has a hierarchy of structures.*

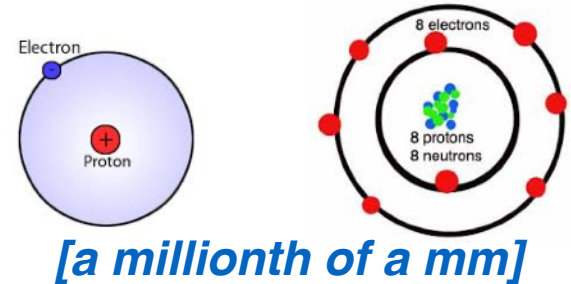
**matter**



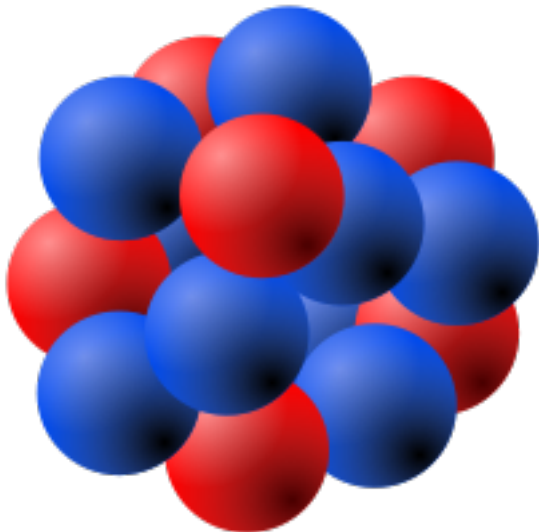
**molecule**



**atoms**

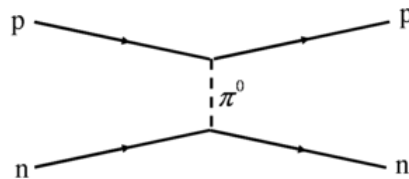
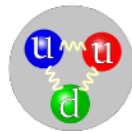


**atomic nucleus**

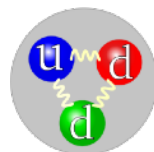


[a trillionth of a mm]

**proton**

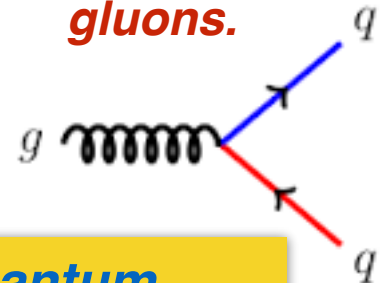


**nuclear force**



**neutron**

**Most basic entities:  
quarks  
and  
gluons.**



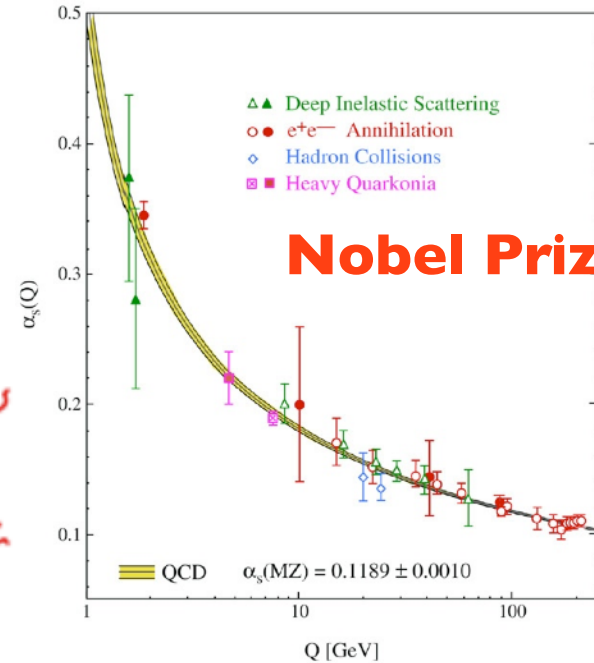
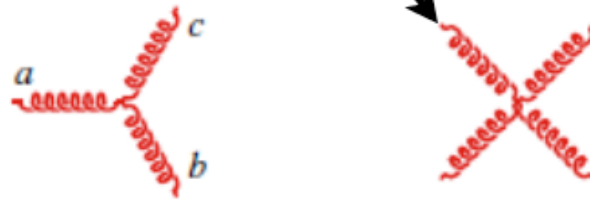
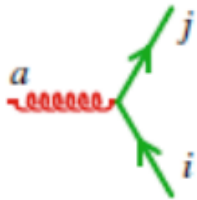
**Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)**

# Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

*The fundamental theory of strong nuclear force:  
QCD, a non-Abelian gauge theory of quarks and gluons*

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(i\partial - M - g\mathcal{A}_a G^a)\psi - \frac{1}{4}F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}^a$$

$$F_a^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A_a^\nu - \partial^\nu A_a^\mu - g f_{abc} A_b^\mu A_c^\nu$$



*Asymptotic Freedom: coupling becomes large  
at low energy or long distance scale.*

$$\Lambda_{QCD} \sim 200\text{MeV} \quad R \sim 1\text{ fm}$$

*where “quark math”  
becomes very hard!*

# Emergent Phenomena in NP/QCD

F. Wilczek  
@ QM2014



The study of the strong interactions is now a mature subject - we have a theory of the fundamentals\* (QCD) that is correct\* and complete\*.

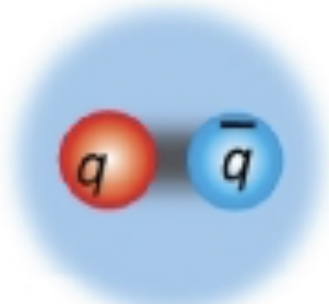
In that sense, it is akin to atomic physics, condensed matter physics, or chemistry. The important questions involve emergent phenomena and “applications”.

It *embodies* many deep aspects of relativistic quantum field theory (confinement, asymptotic freedom, anomalies/instantons, spontaneous symmetry breaking ...)

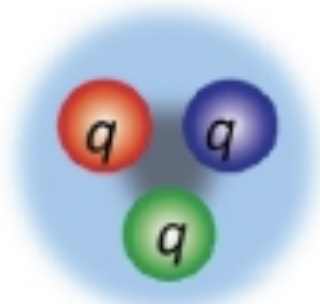
# The Quark Math/Mystery: Exotic Hadrons?!

**Confinement: non-perturbative force binds quarks in hadrons.  
What are possible? Why some are possible and some not?**

Standard Hadrons

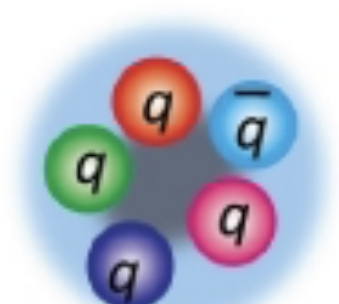
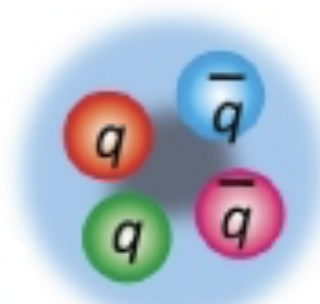


Meson



Baryon

Exotic Hadrons

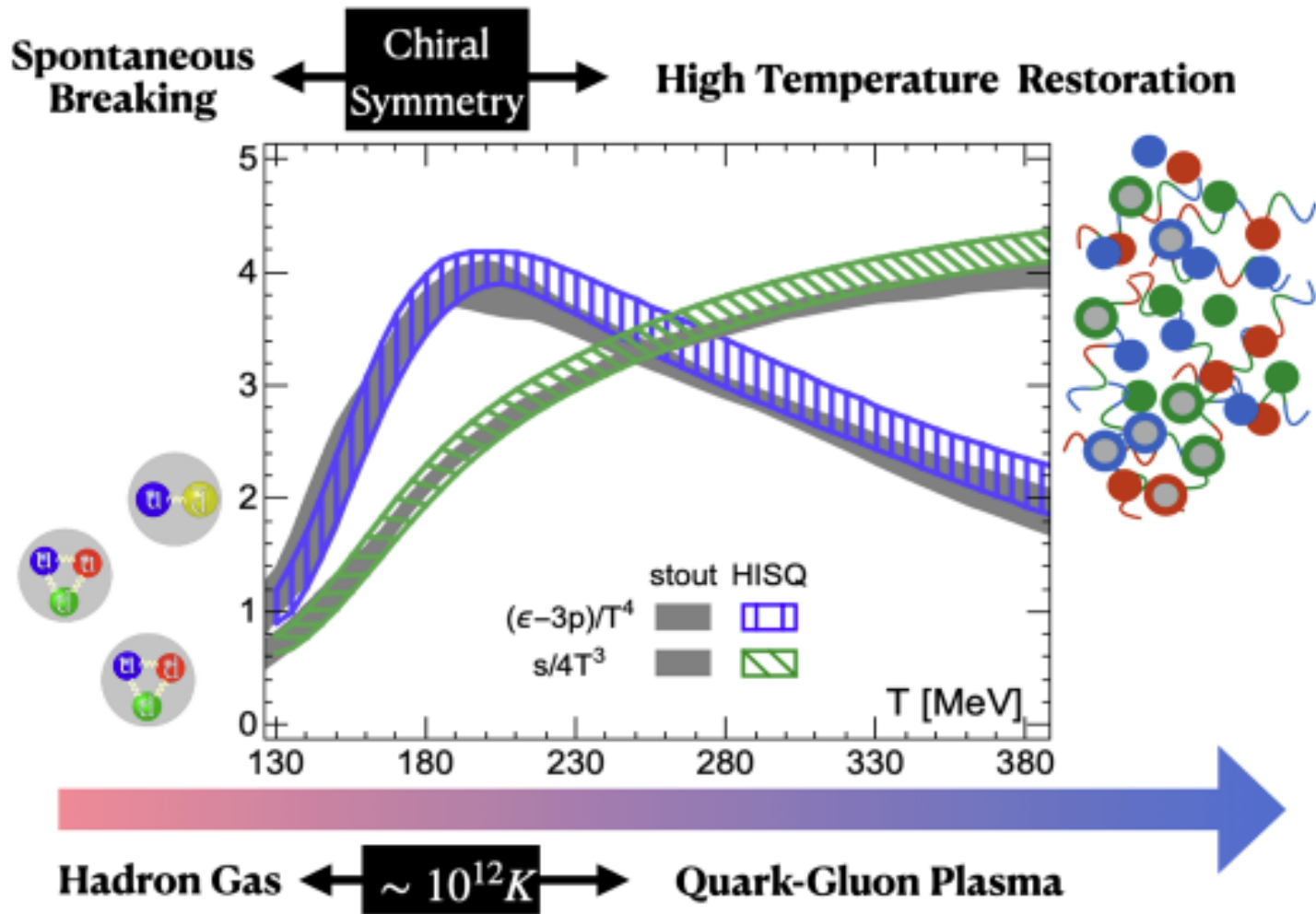


**Understanding the “quark math” of hadrons:**

**Unravel the mysteries of nonperturbative QCD force  
between quarks/antiquarks;**

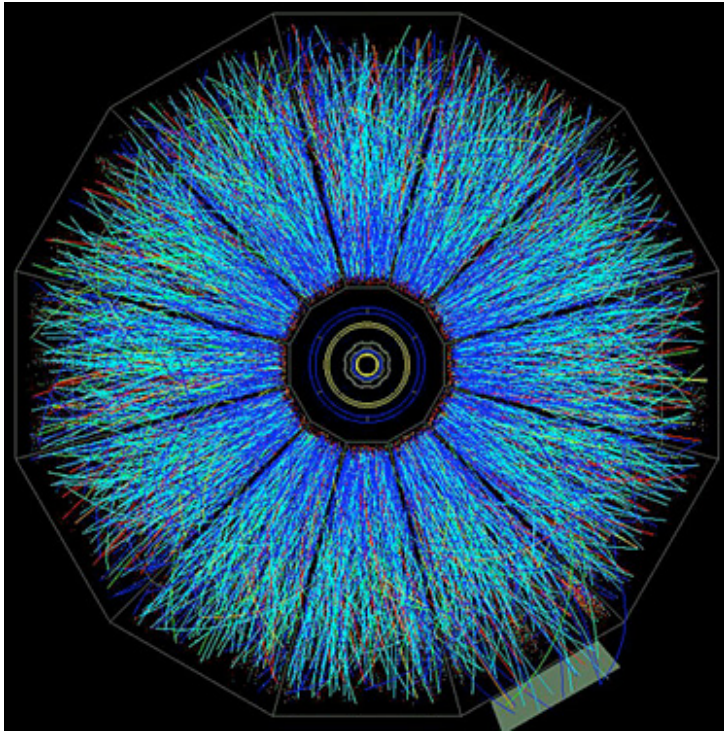
**An exciting frontier of today’s nuclear physics research**

# Cooking up a “Quark Soup”



*“Condensed matter physics of QCD”*

# Little Bangs in Heavy Ion Collisions (HIC)



*our most powerful  
heating machine ever*

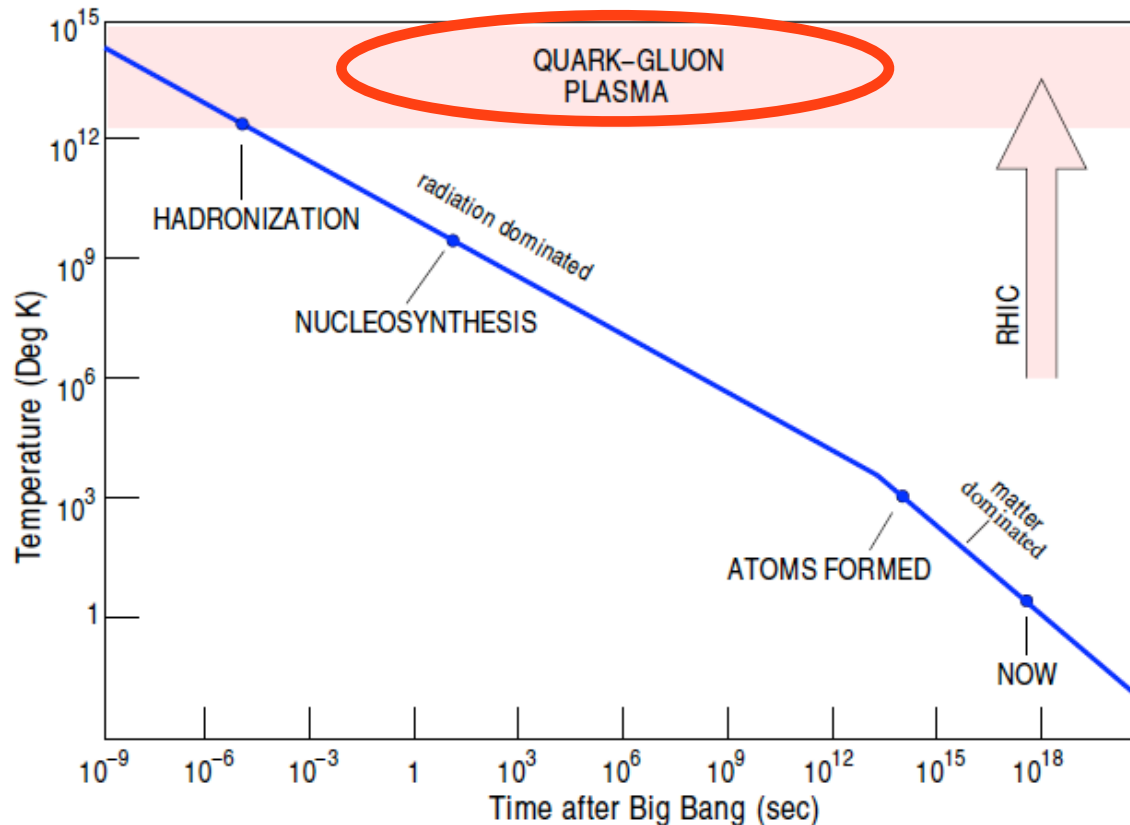


*Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP):  
A New phase of matter*



# QGP: An Old Phase of Matter

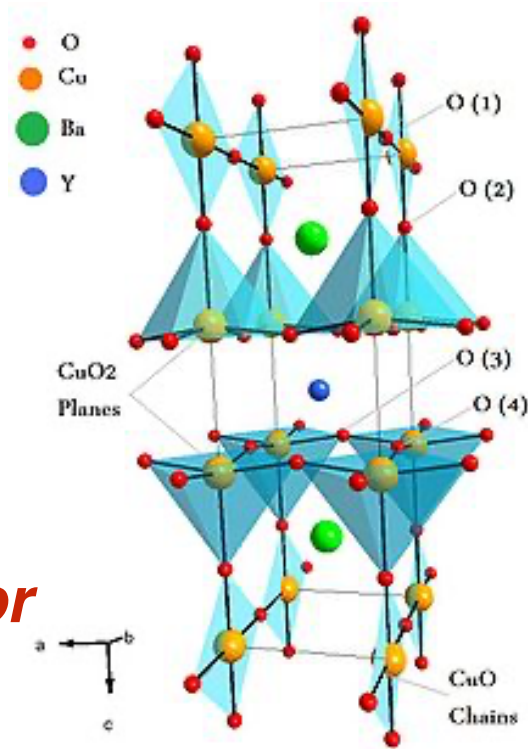
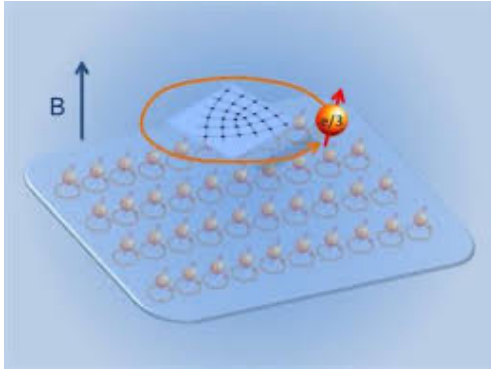
*The highest ever temperature was in the beginning of universe.  
The QGP temperature was available back then.*



*The quark-gluon plasma is an old phase of matter!  
Heavy ion collision is the only venue for replicating and  
studying the early universe environment.*

# What's Next? Dialing All Knobs You've Got!

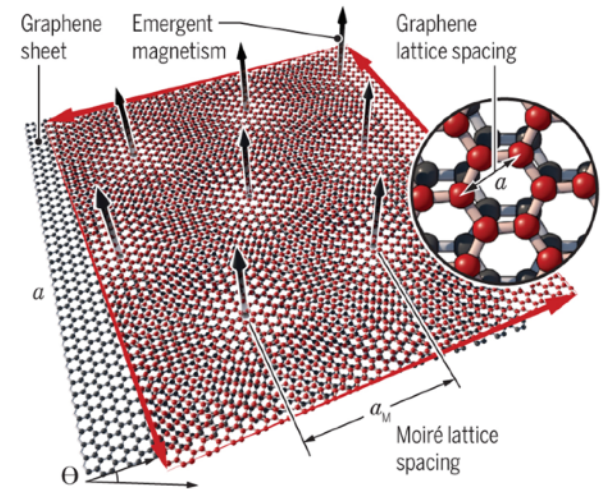
## Quantum hall effect



## High- $T_c$ superconductor

### Twisted bilayer graphene

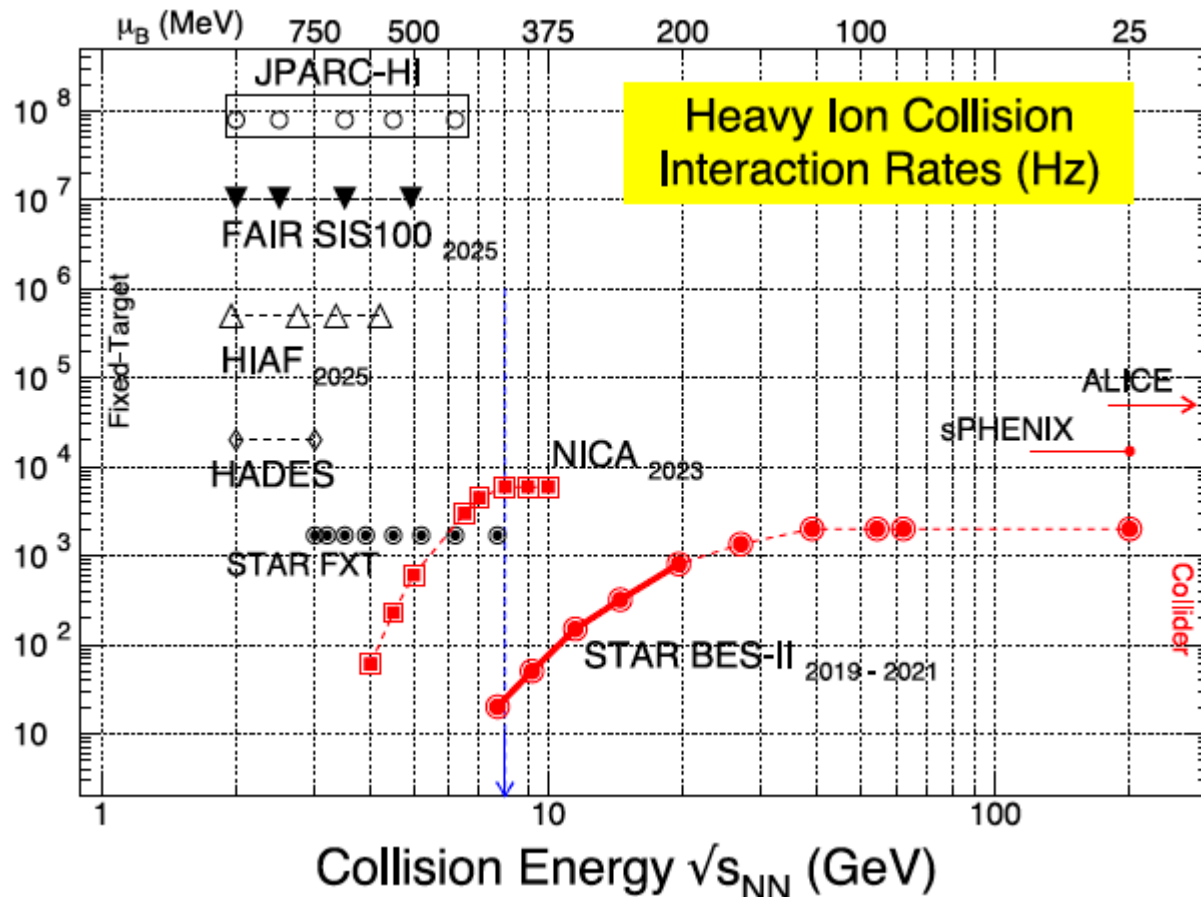
The two sheets are twisted by a small angle ( $\Theta$ ), creating a Moiré pattern that makes the bilayer both electrically insulating, with conducting edge states (red arrows), and magnetic.



**“Magic angle”**

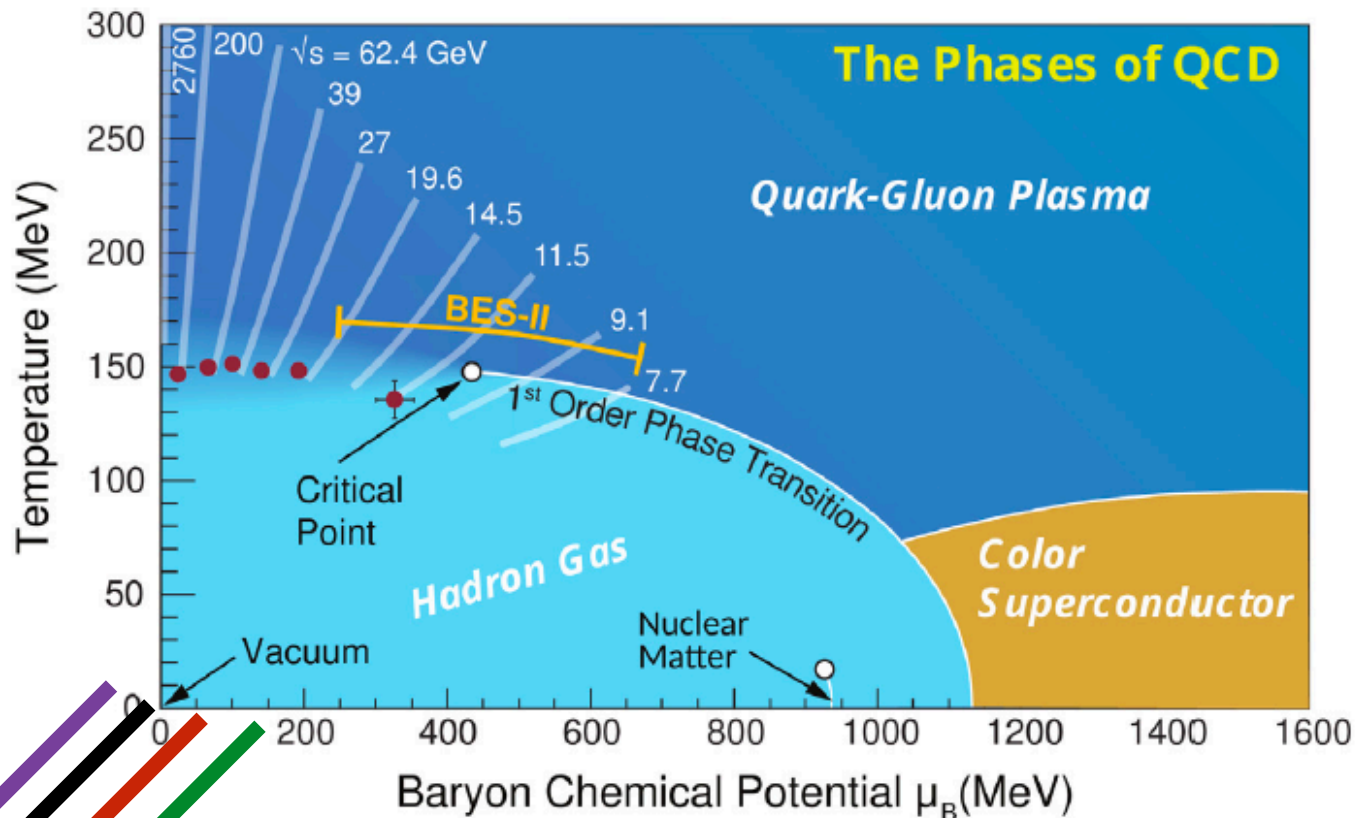
# Collisions Across Wide Beam Energy Range

*Relativistic nuclear collisions have been and will continue to be done from  $O(1)$  GeV to  $O(1000)$  GeV beam energy!*

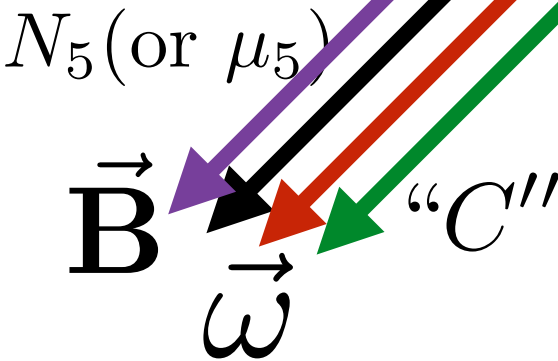


*“Mapping the Phases of Quantum Chromodynamics with Beam Energy Scan”,  
Bzdak, Esumi, Koch, JL, Stephanov, Xu, Phys. Rep. 853(2020)1-87.*

# Charting the Quantum Chromo Matter



**Opening many novel dimensions  
for exploring  
Quantum Chromo Matter!**



---

# CHIRAL MAGNETIC EFFECT

---

# Spin & Chirality

**Dirac fermion in massless limit:  
chirality well defined**

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \bar{\Psi}_L \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \Psi_L + \bar{\Psi}_R \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \Psi_R$$

**Axial symmetry**

**→ classical conserved axial current**

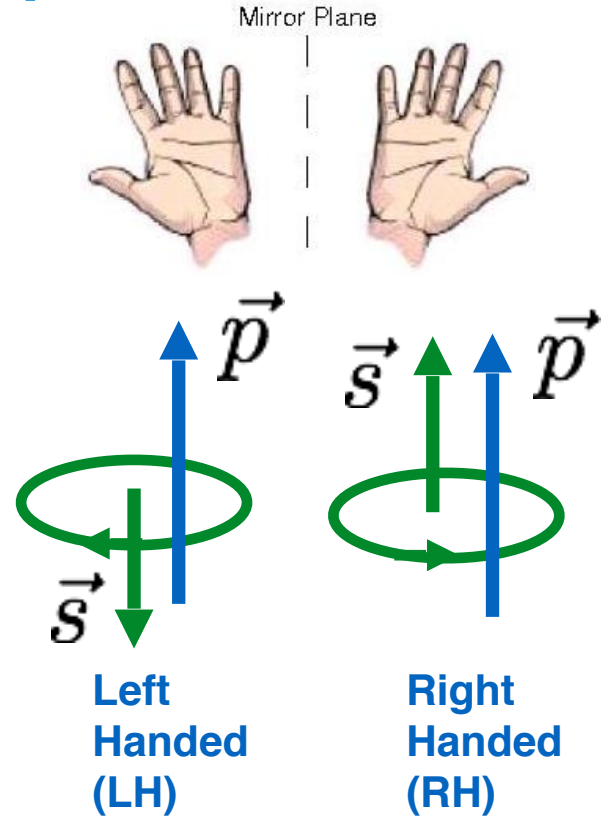
**Specific correlation**

**between spin and momentum!!**

**A (large) mass term spoils all that:**

$$m \bar{\Psi} \Psi = m (\bar{\Psi}_L \Psi_R + \bar{\Psi}_R \Psi_L)$$

$$\partial_\mu J_5^\mu = 2im \bar{\Psi} \gamma^5 \Psi$$



**In QCD:**

$$M = m - 2G \langle \bar{\psi} \psi \rangle$$

**Constituent**

**SM**

**Chiral  
condensate**

**(Nearly) chiral quarks only upon chiral restoration**

# Chiral Anomaly

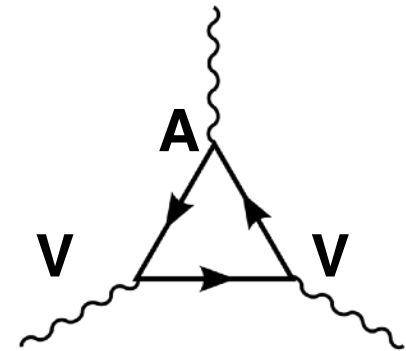
*Chiral anomaly is a fundamental aspect of QFT with chiral fermions.*

*Classical axial symmetry broken at QM level:*

$$\partial_\mu J_5^\mu = C_A \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$$

$$dQ_5/dt = \int_{\vec{x}} C_A \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$$

- \*  $C_A$  is universal anomaly coefficient
- \* Anomaly is intrinsically QUANTUM effect



[e.g.  $\pi^0 \rightarrow 2 \text{ gamma}$ ]

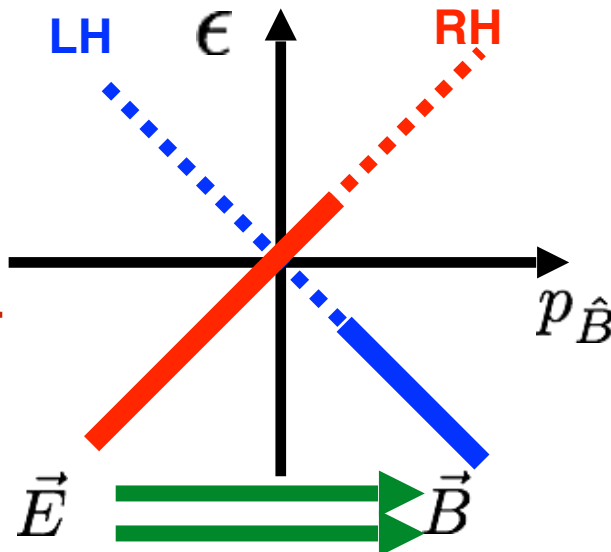
Micro symmetry



macro properties

What does chiral anomaly imply for matter?

Illustration based on LLL



# Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME): Macroscopic Chiral Anomaly

Chirality & Anomaly & Topology

$$\vec{J} = \frac{Q^2}{2\pi^2} \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

Electric  
Current

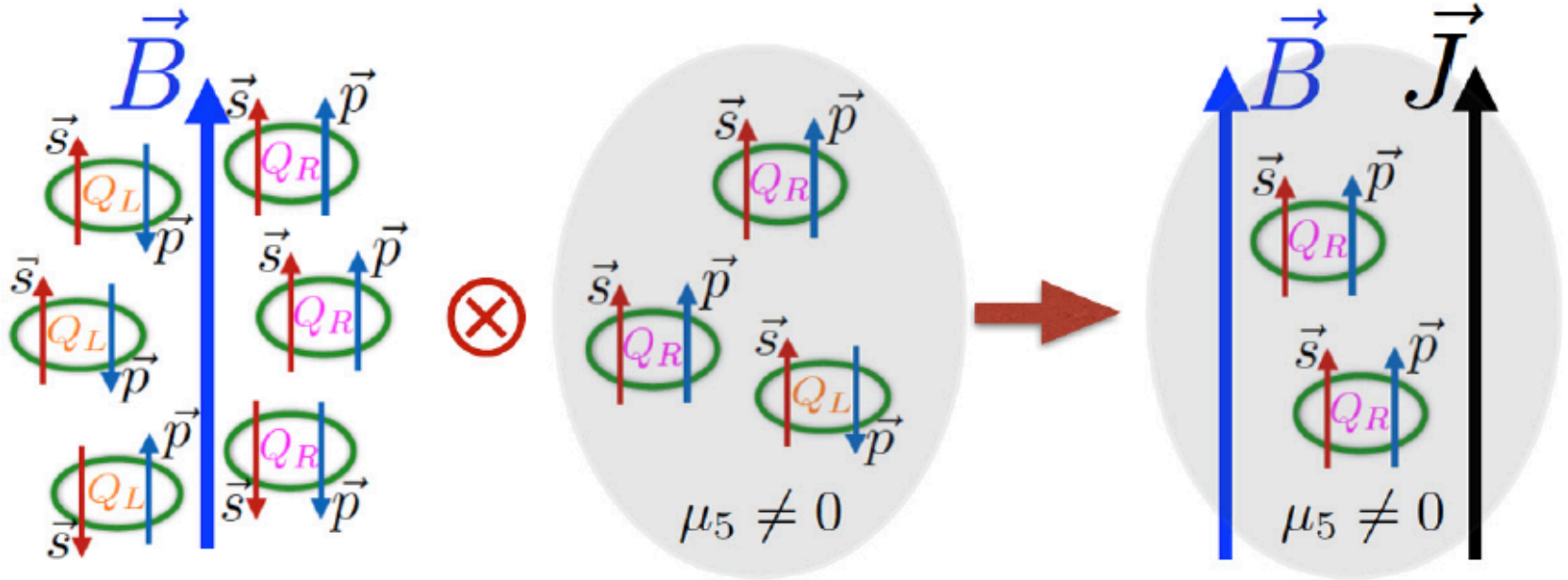
Magnetic  
Field

Q.M. Transport

[Kharzeev, Fukushima, Warringa, McLerran, ...]



# CME: Interplay of B- and Chirality- Polarizations



[arXiv:1511.04050]

## Intuitive understanding of CME:

**Magnetic Polarization**  $\rightarrow$   
correlation between micro.  
**SPIN & EXTERNAL FORCE**



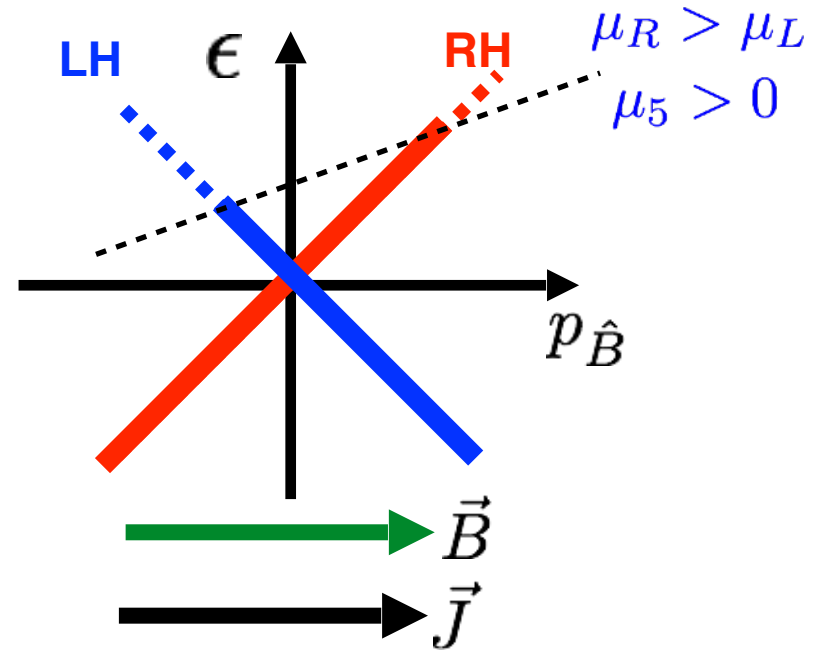
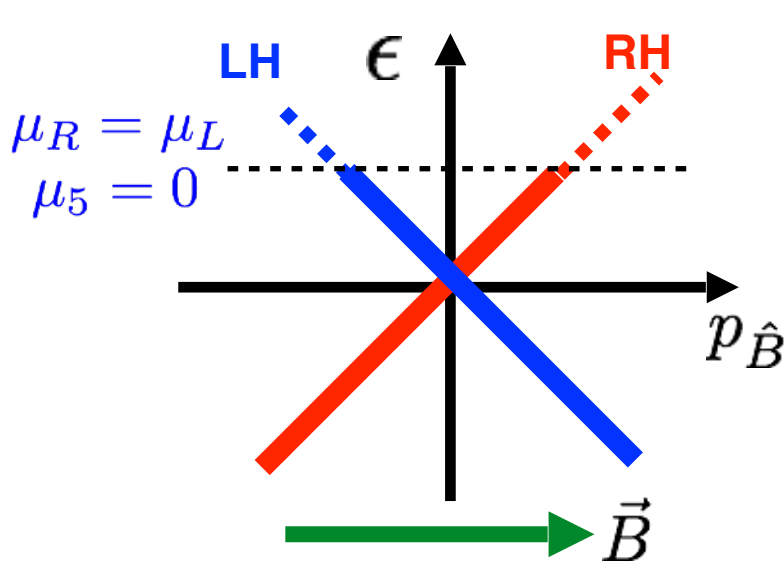
**Chirality Polarization**  $\rightarrow$   
correlation between directions of  
**SPIN & MOMENTUM**



**Transport current along magnetic field**

$$\vec{J} = \frac{Q^2}{2\pi^2} \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

# Connecting CME with Anomaly



*One may recognize deep connection between CME & anomaly.*

$$\partial_\mu J_5^\mu = C_A \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{J} = \sigma_5 \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

*The CME conductivity is*

*\* fixed entirely by quantum anomaly*

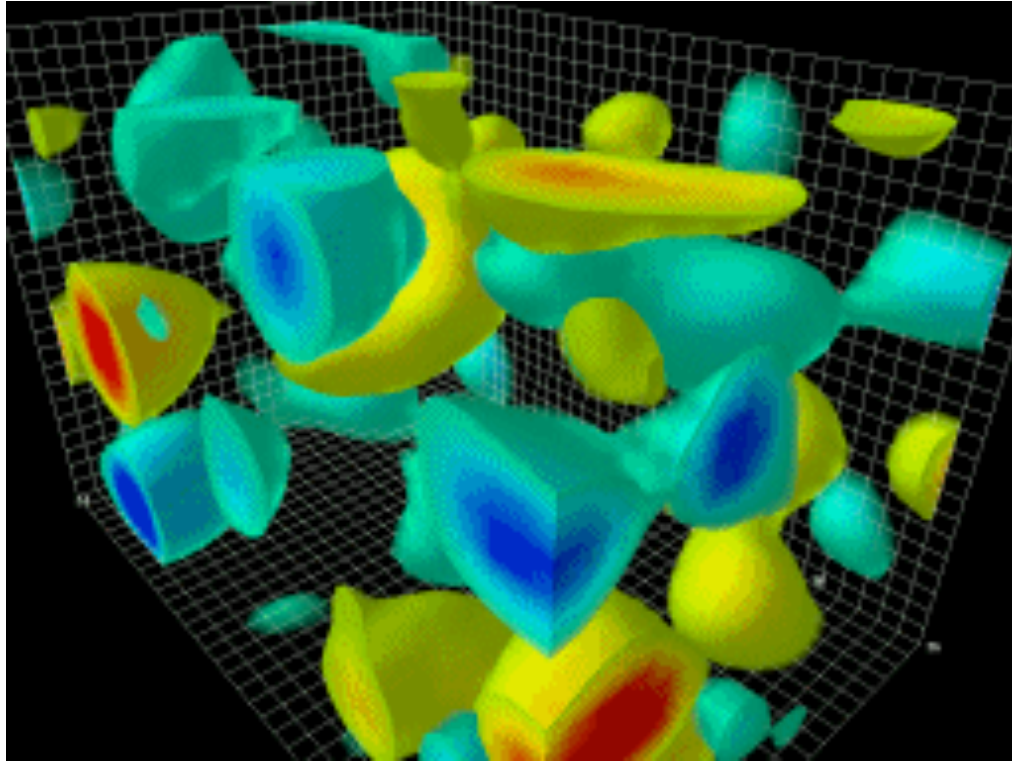
*\* T-even, non-dissipative*

*\* universal from weak to strong coupling*

*Macroscopic effect of chiral anomaly!*

# Topologically Nontrivial Gluon Fields

*Instantons/spherulons:  
twisting color orientation of gluon  
fields around spacetime boundary*



$$Q_w = \frac{1}{32\pi^2} \int d^4x (gG_a^{\mu\nu}) \cdot (g\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^a) \sim \vec{E}^a \cdot \vec{B}^a \quad \text{P \& CP ODD}$$

# A Deep Mathematical Connection

## *Atiyah-Singer Index Theorem*

Abel Prize 2004

**Theorem** (M.F. Atiyah and I.M. Singer): *Let  $P(f) = 0$  be a system of differential equations. Then*

$$\text{analytical index}(P) = \text{topological index}(P) .$$



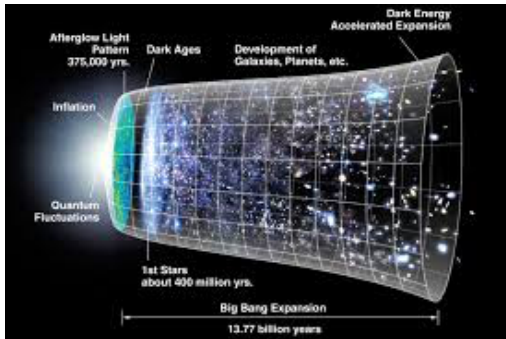
$$N_R - N_L = N_5 = 2Q_w$$



**Net chirality  $\leftrightarrow$  topo fluctuations & chiral restoration**

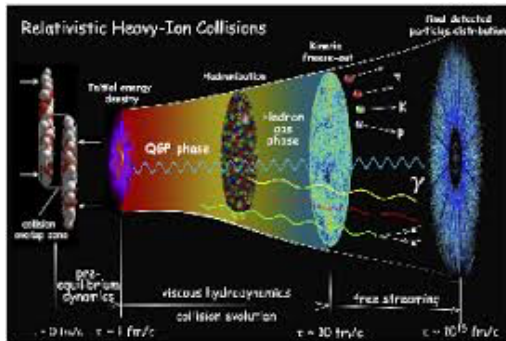
**Probing topology & chirality is of fundamental interest!**

# CME: A Cosmic Connection

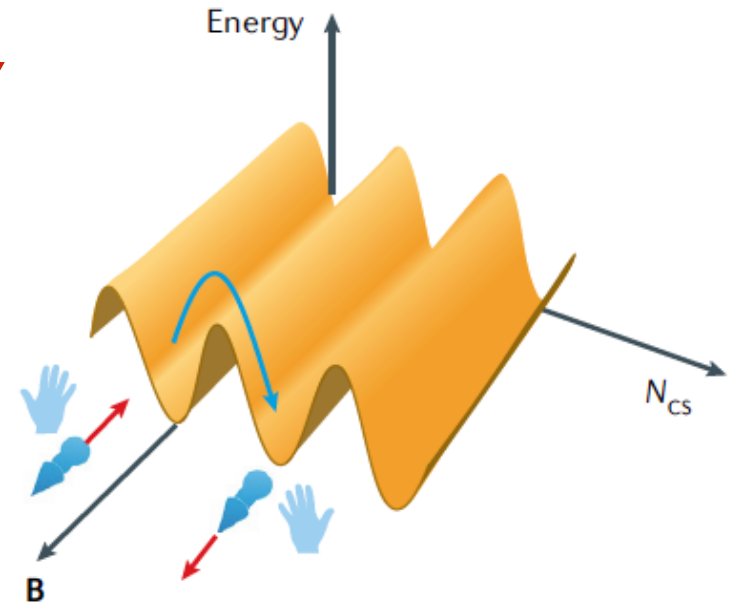


**Cosmic topo. →  
Baryon Asymmetry**

**Rapidly expansion +  
Topological transitions in  
non-Abelian gauge plasma**



**Heavy ion topo. →  
Chiral Asymmetry**



**CME allows probing this mechanism via laboratory experiments and helps understand “why we are here”.**

# More Chiral Transport Phenomena

- *Chiral separation effect (CSE)*
- *Chiral electric separation effect (CESE)*
- *Chiral vortical effect (CVE)*
- *Chiral magnetic/vortical waves*
- *Chiral plasma instabilities*
- *.....*

# Strong Interdisciplinary Interests

- *Condensed matter: CME in semimetals*
- *Astrophysics: leptons in supernova / compact star*
- *Cosmology: analogy between Baryo-genesis and Chiro-genesis*
- *Plasma physics: MHD with CME & magnetic helicity*
- *Quantum information: devices based on CME*
- *QFT & many-body theory: new “playground” (chiral transport theory; chiral hydrodynamics; ...)*

# Exciting Progress: See Recent Reviews

[Kharzeev & JL, Nature Reviews Physics 3\(2021\)1, 55-63](#)

[Bzdak, Esumi, Koch, JL, Stephanov, Xu, arXiv:1906.00936 \[Phys. Rep. 853 \(2020\) 1-87\].](#)

[Kharzeev, JL, Voloshin, Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 88, 1 \(2016\)\[arXiv:1511.04050\].](#)

[Gao, Ma, Pu, Wang, Nucl. Sci. Tech., 31 \(2020\) no.9, 90.](#)

[Wang, Zhao, Nucl. Sci. Tech., 29 \(2018\) no.12, 179.](#)

[Hattori, Huang, Nucl. Sci. Tech., 28 \(2017\) no.2, 26.](#)

[Huang, Rep.Prog.Phys 79\(2016\)076302.](#)

[Fukushima, arXiv:1812.08886, PPNP2019.](#)

[Zhao, Wang, arXiv:1906.11413, PPNP2019.](#)

[Li, Wang, arXiv: 2002.10397, ARNPS2020](#)

[Becattini, Lisa, arXiv: 2003.03640, ARNPS2020](#)

[Miransky & Shovkovy, Phys. Rept. 576\(2015\)1.](#)



---

# SEARCH FOR CME IN HEAVY ION COLLISIONS

---

# The Starting Point of (Modern) CME

BNL-NT-04/21; June 9, 2004

## Parity violation in hot QCD: why it can happen, and how to look for it

Dmitri Kharzeev<sup>1</sup>





<sup>1</sup>*Physics Department,  
Brookhaven National Laboratory  
Upton, NY 11973-5000  
(Dated: October 22, 2018)*

The arguments for the possibility of violation of  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{CP}$  symmetries of strong interactions at finite temperature are presented. A new way of observing these effects in heavy ion collisions is proposed – it is shown that parity violation should manifest itself in the asymmetry between positive and negative pions with respect to the reaction plane. Basing on topological considerations, we derive a *lower* bound on the magnitude of the expected asymmetry, which may appear within the reach of the current and/or future heavy ion experiments.

[\[arXiv:hep-ph/0406125\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0406125)

# Laying Theoretical Foundation

The effects of topological charge change in heavy ion collisions:  
“Event by event  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{CP}$  violation”

Dmitri E. Kharzeev,  Larry D. McLerran   and  
Harmen J. Warringa 

<sup>a</sup> *Department of Physics, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton NY 11973, USA*

<sup>b</sup> *RIKEN BNL Research Center, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY 11973, USA*

---

## Abstract




Quantum chromodynamics (QCD) contains field configurations which can be characterized by a topological invariant, the winding number  $Q_w$ . Configurations with nonzero  $Q_w$  break the charge-parity ( $\mathcal{CP}$ ) symmetry of QCD. We consider a novel mechanism by which these configurations can separate charge in the presence of a background magnetic field – the “Chiral Magnetic Effect”. We argue that sufficiently large magnetic fields are created in heavy ion collisions so that the Chiral Magnetic Effect causes preferential emission of charged particles along the direction of angular momentum. Since separation of charge is  $\mathcal{CP}$ -odd, any observation of the Chiral Magnetic Effect could provide a clear demonstration of the topological nature of the QCD vacuum. We give an estimate of the effect and conclude that it might be observed experimentally.

---

[arXiv:0711.0950]

[arXiv:0808.3382]

## The Chiral Magnetic Effect

Kenji Fukushima,<sup>1,\*</sup>  Dmitri E. Kharzeev,<sup>2,†</sup>  and Harmen J. Warringa<sup>2,‡</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>*Yukawa Institute, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton NY 11973, USA*

(Dated: August 25, 2008)

Topological charge changing transitions can induce chirality in the quark-gluon plasma by the axial anomaly. We study the equilibrium response of the quark-gluon plasma in such a situation to an external magnetic field. To mimic the effect of the topological charge changing transitions we will introduce a chiral chemical potential. We will show that an electromagnetic current is generated along the magnetic field. This is the Chiral Magnetic Effect. We compute the magnitude of this current as a function of magnetic field, chirality, temperature, and baryon chemical potential.

# Starting Point of Exp Search

## Parity violation in hot QCD: how to detect it

Sergei A. Voloshin

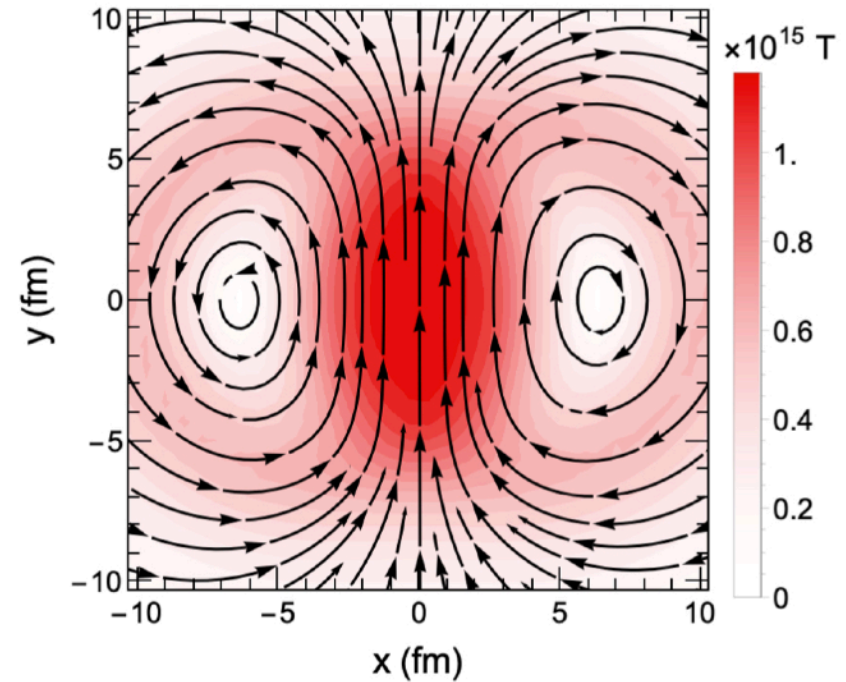
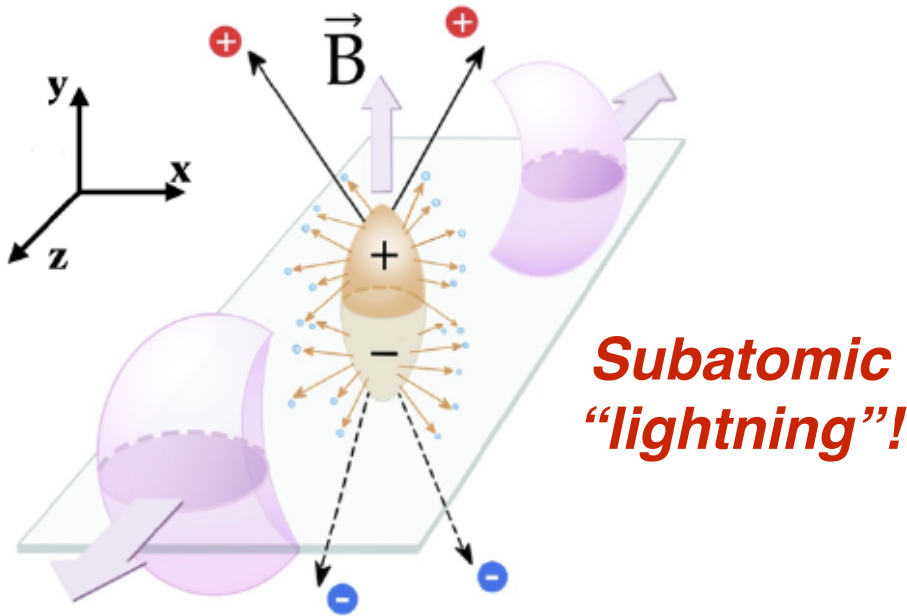
*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201*

(Dated: November 2, 2018)

In a recent paper (arXiv:[hep-ph/0406125](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0406125)) entitled *Parity violation in hot QCD: why it can happen, and how to look for it*, D. Kharzeev argues for the possibility of  $\mathcal{P}$ - and/or  $\mathcal{CP}$ - violation effects in heavy-ion collisions, the effects that can manifest themselves via asymmetry in  $\pi^\pm$  production with respect to the direction of the system angular momentum. Here we present an experimental observable that can be used to detect and measure the effects.

***[arXiv:hep-ph/0406311]***

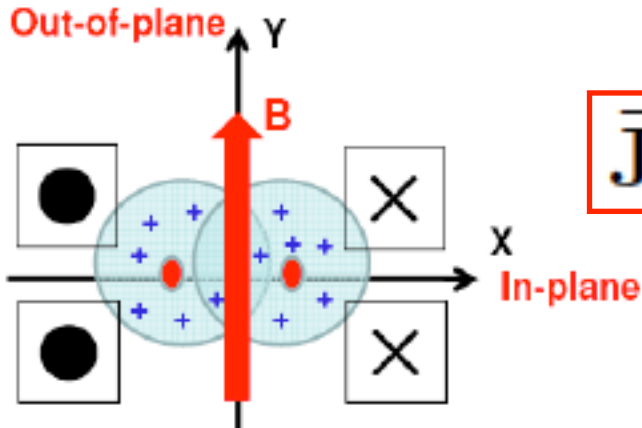
# Heavy Ion Collision: the Most Magnetized Fluid



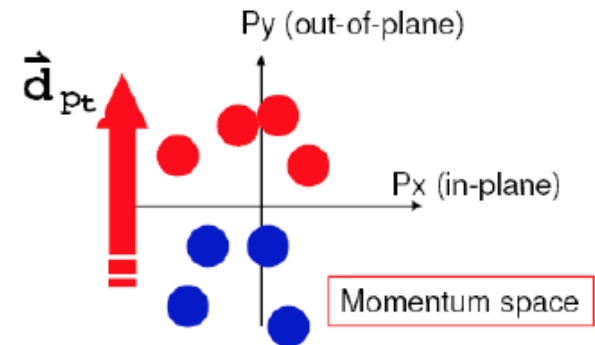
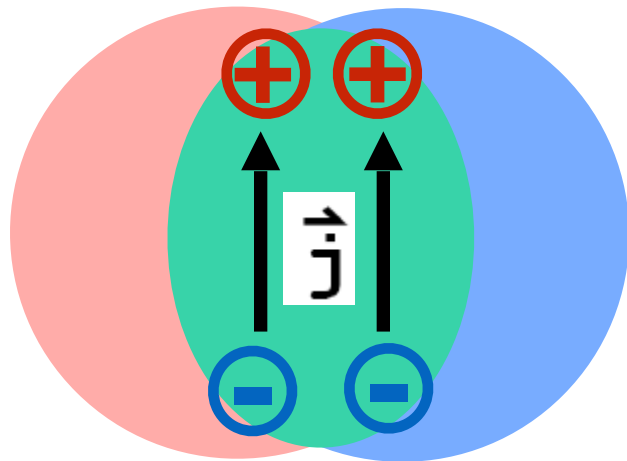
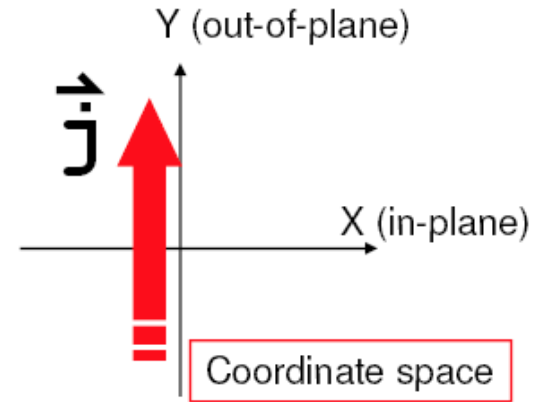
**The strongest B field  $\sim 10^{15}$  Tesla**

$$E, B \sim \gamma \frac{Z\alpha_{EM}}{R_A^2} \sim 3m_\pi^2$$

# From CME to Charge Separation



$$\vec{J} = \sigma_5 \mu_5 \vec{B}$$



*Charge Separation or  
Electric Dipole in Pt Space  
(along out-of-plane)*

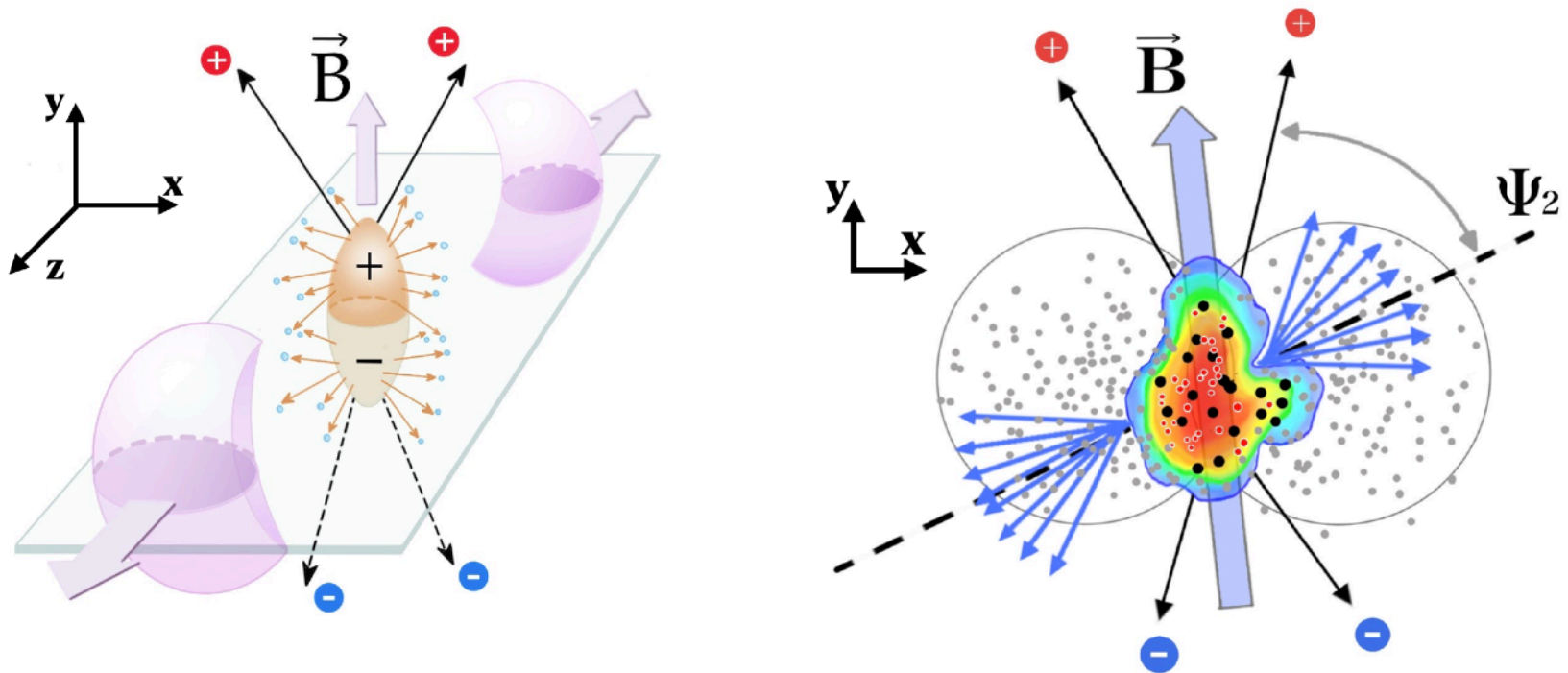
$$\frac{dN_{\pm}}{d\phi} \propto \dots + a_{\pm} \sin(\phi - \Psi_{RP})$$

$$\langle a_{\pm} \rangle \sim \pm \langle \mu_5 \rangle B$$

[Kharzeev 2004; Kharzeev, McLerran, Warringa, 2008; ...]

# Looking for CME Signals in Nuclear Collisions

*CME transport induces a charge dipole distribution along magnetic field direction in the QGP fluid.*



*A specific emission pattern of charged particles along B field:  
Same-sign hadrons emitted preferably side-by-side;  
Opposite-sign hadrons emitted preferably back-to-back.*

# The Gamma Correlator

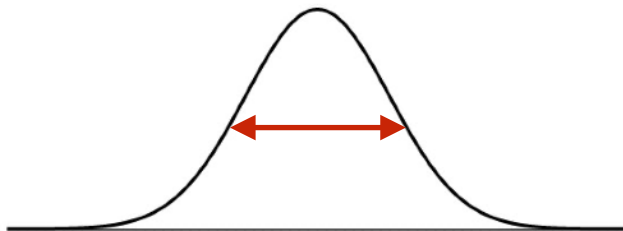
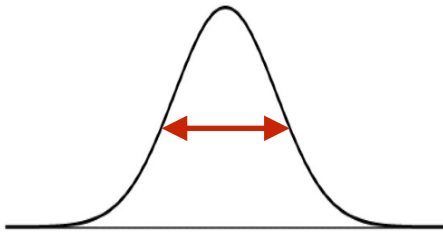
$$\frac{dN_{\pm}}{d\phi} \propto \dots + a_{\pm} \sin(\phi - \Psi_{RP})$$

$$\langle a_{\pm} \rangle \sim \pm \langle \mu_5 \rangle B$$

**Average gives zero; can only look for fluctuations/variance!**

$$\gamma_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta}) \rangle = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha}) \cos(\phi_{\beta}) \rangle - \langle \sin(\phi_{\alpha}) \sin(\phi_{\beta}) \rangle$$

**Looking for a dipole fluctuation  
DIFFERENCE between  
In-plane and out-of-plane**



**Looking for DIFFERENCE  
between same-sign pairs and  
opposite-sign pairs**

$$\gamma_{CME}^{SS} \rightarrow -\langle a_1^2 \rangle$$

$$\gamma_{CME}^{OS} \rightarrow +\langle a_1^2 \rangle$$



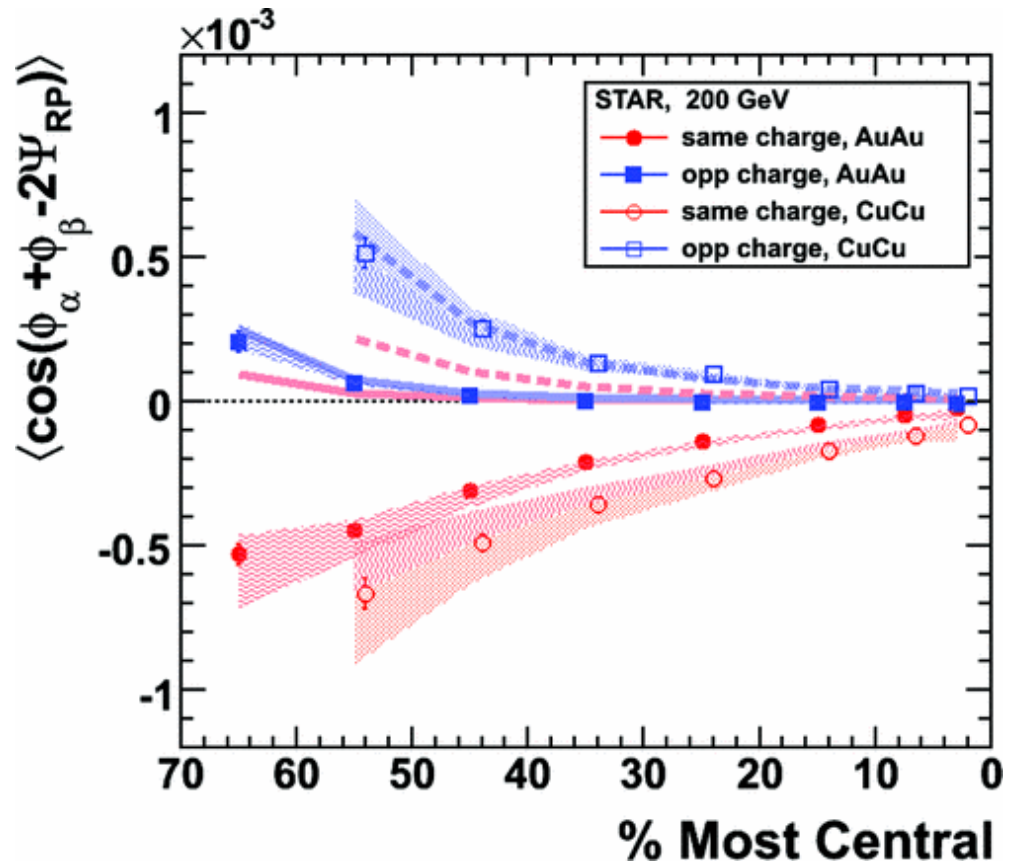
# The 2009 STAR Results

## Azimuthal Charged-Particle Correlations and Possible Local Strong Parity Violation

B. I. Abelev *et al.* (STAR Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 251601 – Published 14 December 2009

*Data could be in line with CME expectations.*



# (Almost Immediate) Skepticism

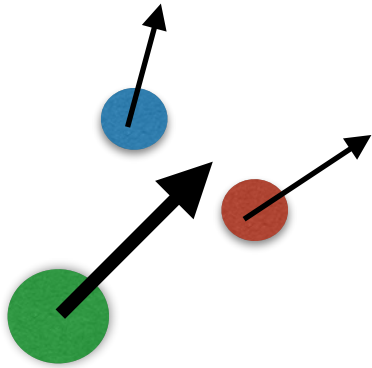
[F. Wang, arXiv:0911.1482] **Resonance decay**

## Effects of Cluster Particle Correlations on Local Parity Violation Observables

Fuqiang Wang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics, Purdue University, 525 Northwestern Ave., West Lafayette, IN 47907*

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



**Roughly scaling**  
 $\sim \sqrt{2}/N$

## Alternative Contributions to the Angular Correlations Observed at RHIC Associated with Parity Fluctuations

Scott Pratt

*Department of Physics and Astronomy and National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory,  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824*

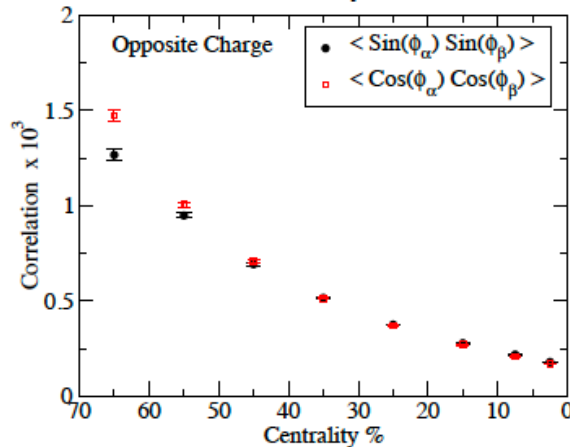
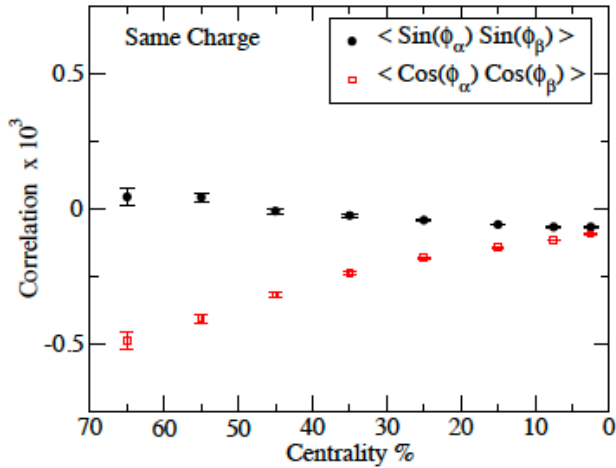
(Dated: April 13, 2019)

Recent measurements at RHIC of angular correlations of same-sign vs. opposite sign pairs have been interpreted as evidence for large-scale fluctuations of parity-odd fields. In this paper, we provide alternative explanations of the same phenomena based on correlations from charge and momentum conservation overlaid with elliptic flow. These effects are shown to produce correlations with similar magnitudes as those measured. Other correlations are also considered, but estimates of their size suggest they are inconsequential.

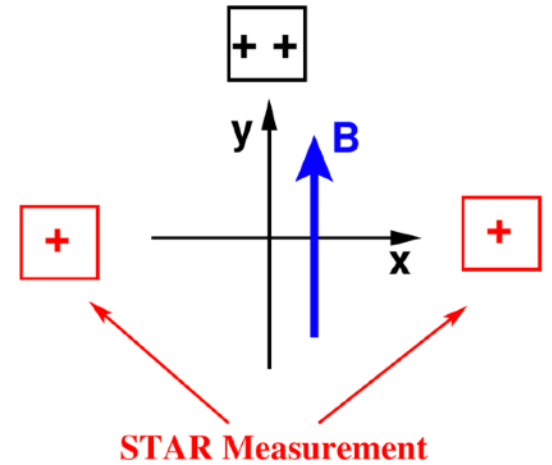
**Local charge conservation (LCC)** [S. Pratt, arXiv:1002.1758]

# (Almost Immediate) Skepticism

$$\delta_{\alpha,\beta} = \langle \cos(\phi_\alpha - \phi_\beta) \rangle = \langle \cos(\phi_\alpha) \cos(\phi_\beta) \rangle + \langle \sin(\phi_\alpha) \sin(\phi_\beta) \rangle$$



Chiral Magnetic Effect



**Transverse momentum conservation (TMC)**

[Bzdak, Koch, JL: arXiv:0912.5050;1005.5308;1008.4919]

# Facing the Setback

$\hat{O} \times 10^3$	$\langle \cos(\phi_1 + \phi_2) \rangle_{++}$	$\langle \cos(\phi_1 + \phi_2) \rangle_{+-}$	$\langle \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \rangle_{++}$	$\langle \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \rangle_{+-}$
CME	$-(0.1 - 1)$	$+(0.01 - 0.1)$	$+(0.1 - 1)$	$-(0.01 - 0.1)$
LCC	$\sim 0$	$+(0.1 - 1)$	$\sim 0$	$+(1 - 10)$
TMC	$\sim -0.1$	$\sim -0.1$	$\sim -1$	$\sim -1$
DATA	$-0.45$	$+0.06$	$-0.38$	$+1.97$

[Bzdak, Koch, JL: arXiv:1008.4919]

**Redefining the question:  
Is there anything remaining?  
What fraction of gamma could  
still be from CME?**

**Not the time to give up yet!  
— think about the search for  
e.g. EDM, WIMP, 2-beta decay,  
magnetic monopoles, ...**



**Hunts Needle in a Haystack**

How LONG does it take to find a needle in a haystack? Jim Moran, Washington, D. C., publicity man, recently dropped a needle into a convenient pile of hay, hopped in after it, and began an intensive search for (a) some publicity and (b) the needle. Having found the former, Moran abandoned the needle hunt.

**Image source:**

**<http://blog.modernmechanix.com/hunts-needle-in-a-haystack/>**

# Fighting with Backgrounds

*Two-component decomposition:*

$$\gamma = \kappa v_2 F - H$$

F: Bulk Background

$$\delta = F + H$$

H: Possible Pure CME Signal =  $(a_{1,CME})^2$

[Bzdak, Koch, JL: arXiv:1207.7327]

$$H_{SS} - H_{OS} \leftrightarrow 2(a_1)^2$$

*Various new approaches:*

**Vary  $v_2$  for fixed B:**

*AuAu v.s. UU;*

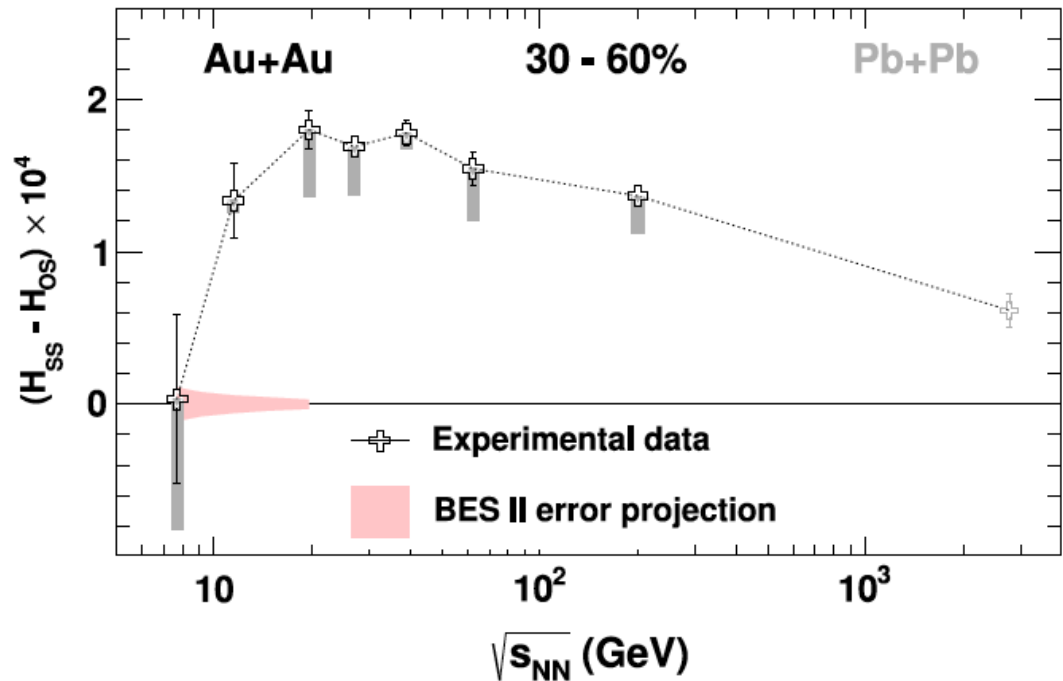
*Varying event-shape;*

*2-component subtraction.*

**Vary B for fixed  $v_2$ :**

*Isobaric collisions with*

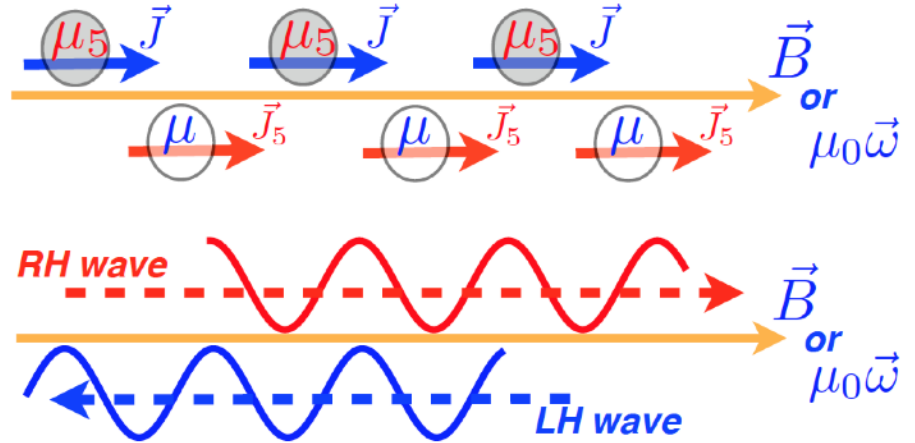
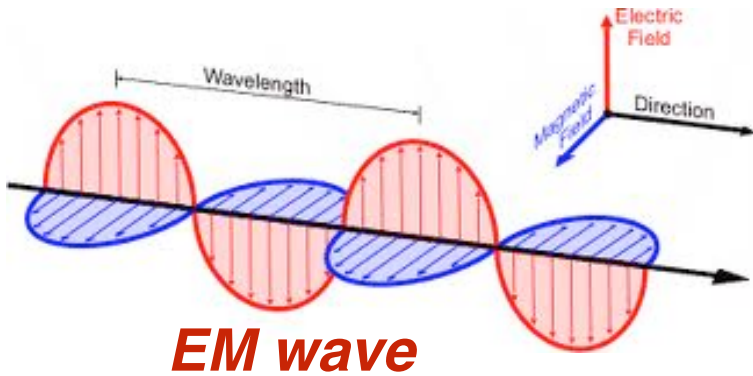
*RuRu v.s. ZrZr*



**STAR PRL2014**

# Chiral Magnetic Wave (CMW)

*Wave: propagating “oscillations” of two coupled quantities e.g. sound wave (pressure & density); EM wave (E & B fields)*



**CME + CSE  $\rightarrow$  gapless collective excitations, the CMW**

$$\vec{J} = \sigma_5 \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{J}_5 = \sigma_5 \mu \vec{B}$$

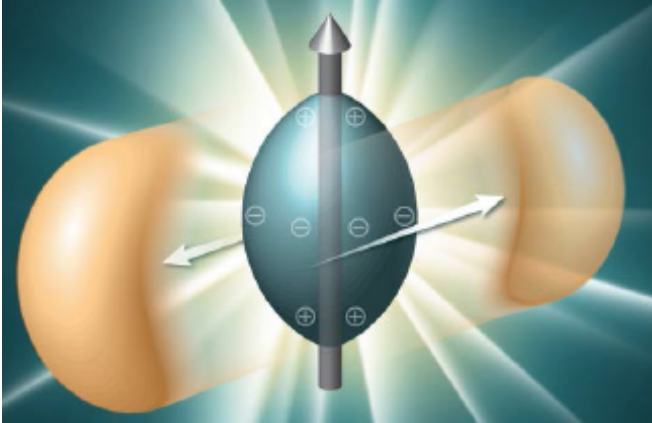


$$\left( \partial_0 \pm \frac{(Qe)}{(4\pi^2)\chi} \vec{B} \cdot \nabla \right) \delta J_{R/L}^0 = (\partial_0 \pm v_B \partial_{\hat{B}}) \delta J_{R/L}^0 = 0.$$

# CMW Induced Flow Splitting

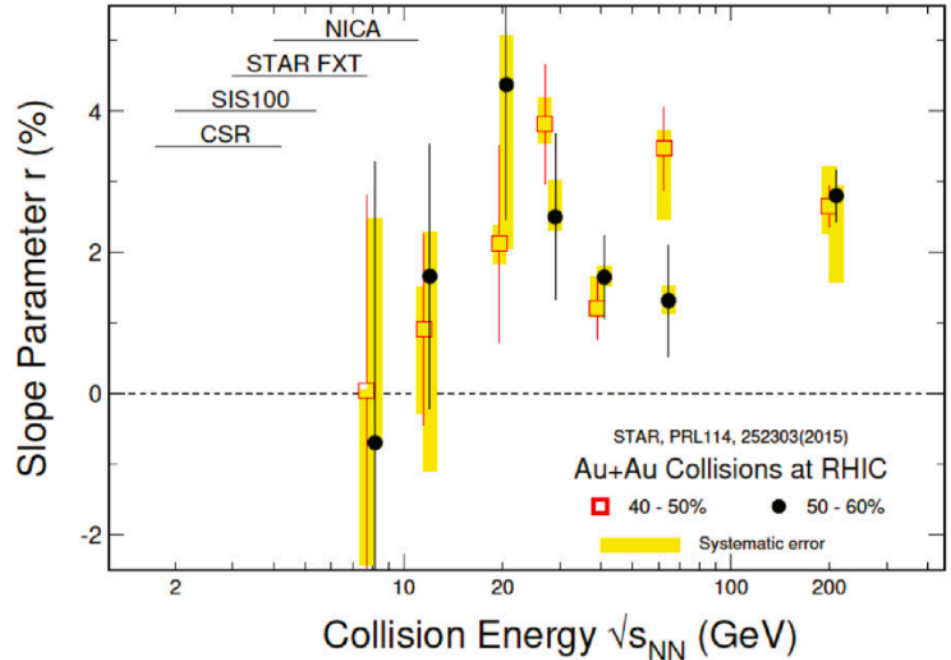
*CMW* → *charge quadrupole of QGP* → *elliptic flow splitting*

[Burnier, Kharzeev, JL, Yee, PRL2011; and arXiv: 1208.2537]



$$v_2^- - v_2^+ = r_e A$$

*charge quadrupole  
due to CMW transport*



*Positive exp. hints*

[STAR, PRL2015]

[Also seen by ALICE@LHC]

# Toward the Next Stage (~2015)

- *A status report*
- *CME in semimetals*
- *Quark Matter 2015*
- *Chirality meeting series*
- *Beam Energy Scan Theory (BEST) Collaboration*
- *Isobar task force*

Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 88 (2016) 1–28

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ppnp](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ppnp)

ELSEVIER

Review

Chiral magnetic and vortical effects in high-energy nuclear collisions—A status report

D.E. Kharzeev<sup>a,b</sup>, J. Liao<sup>c,d,\*</sup>, S.A. Voloshin<sup>e</sup>, G. Wang<sup>f</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3800, USA  
<sup>b</sup> Department of Physics and RIKEN-BNL Research Center, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY 11973-5000, USA  
<sup>c</sup> Physics Department and Center for Exploration of Energy and Matter, Indiana University, 727 E Third Street, Bloomington, IN 47405, USA  
<sup>d</sup> RIKEN BNL Research Center, Bldg. 510A, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY 11973, USA  
<sup>e</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, Wayne State University, 666 W. Hancock, Detroit, MI 48201, USA  
<sup>f</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

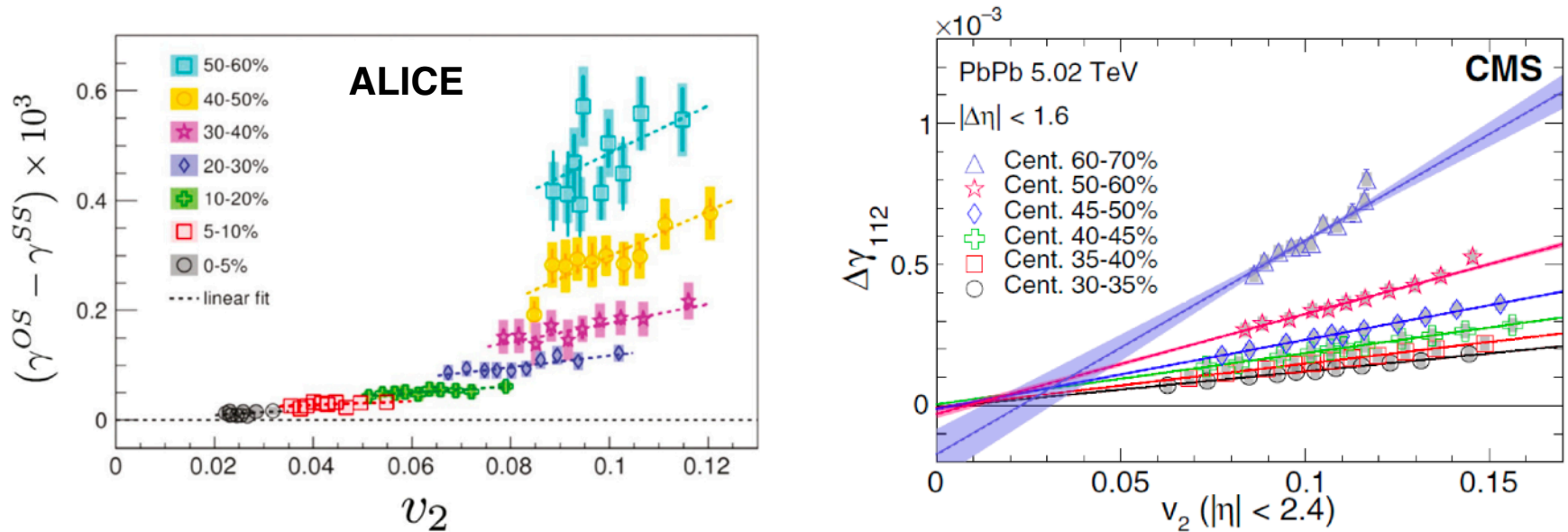
CrossMark

**Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.**  
**88(2016)1-28**  
**[arXiv: 1511.04050]**



# Strong Exp. Activities

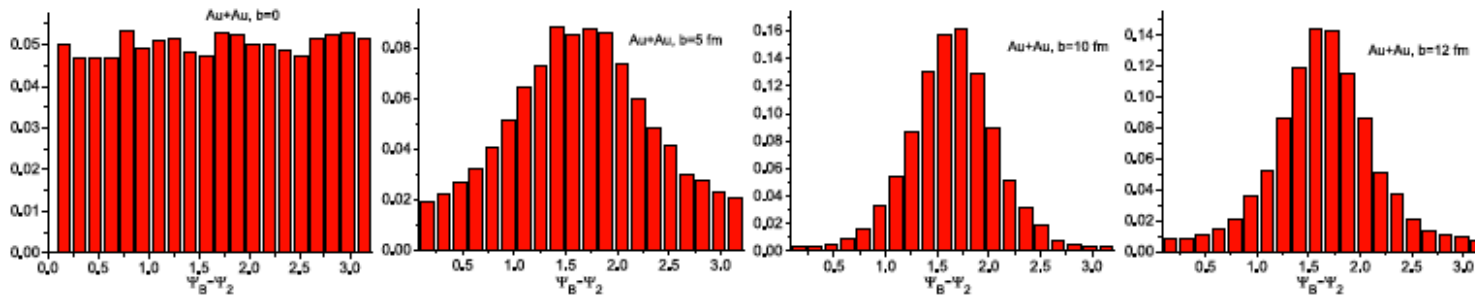
- **New analysis strategies to extract signal out of backgrounds**
- **Efforts by STAR, ALICE, CMS @ RHIC and LHC**
- **Search from  $\sim 10\text{GeV}$  to  $\sim 5020\text{GeV}$  beam energies**
- **Various colliding systems pA, dA, CuCu, AuAu, UU, PbPb**



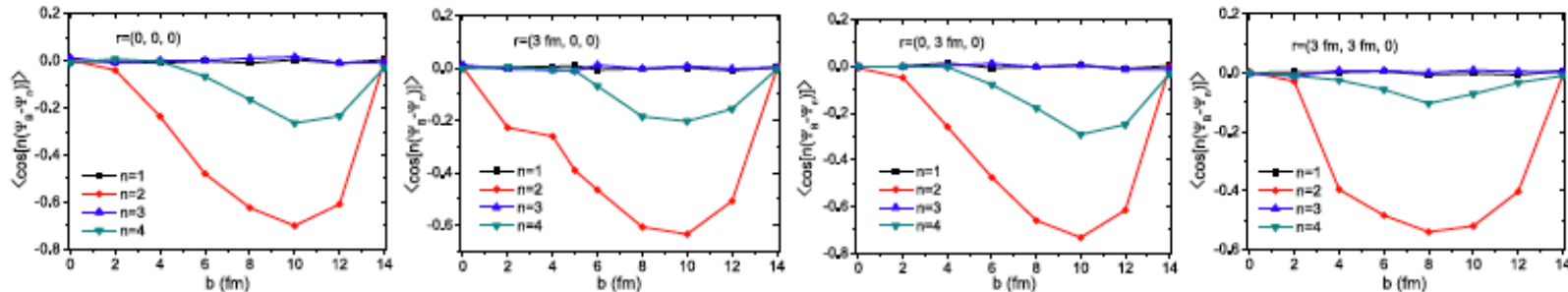
**Event shape engineering**

# Strong Exp. Activities

- *New analysis strategies to extract signal out of backgrounds*
- *Efforts by STAR, ALICE, CMS @ RHIC and LHC*
- *Search from  $\sim 10\text{GeV}$  to  $\sim 5020\text{GeV}$  beam energies*
- *Various colliding systems pA, dA, CuCu, AuAu, UU, PbPb*



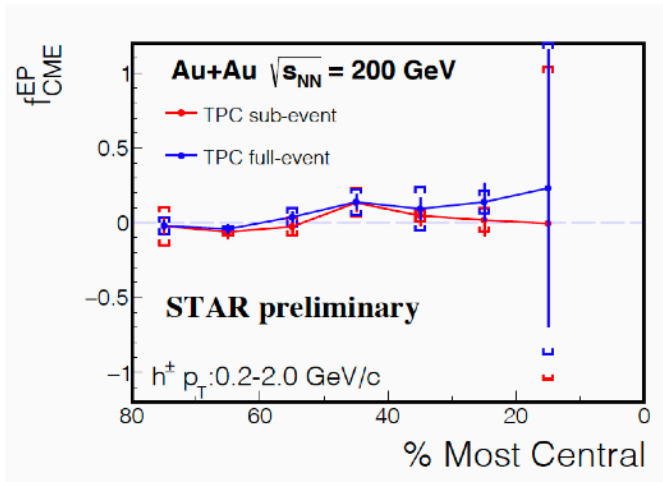
*[Bloczynski, Huang, Zhang, JL arXiv:1209.6594\[PLB\]](#)*



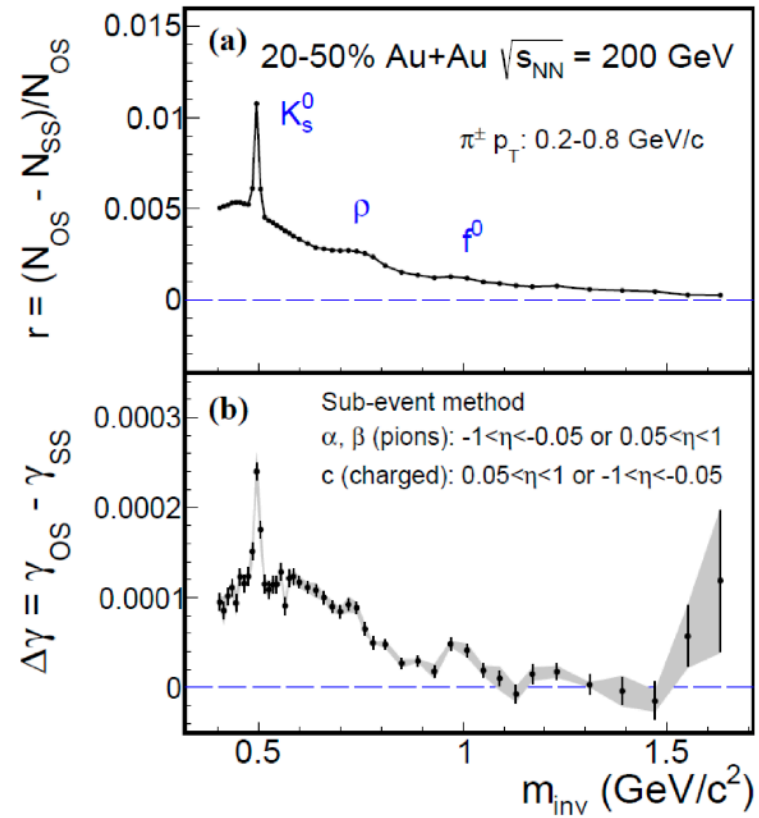
*Fuqiang. Wang, et al; also Voloshin:  
gamma-RP versus gamma-EP*

# Strong Exp. Activities

- **New analysis strategies to extract signal out of backgrounds**
- **Efforts by STAR, ALICE, CMS @ RHIC and LHC**
- **Search from ~10GeV to ~5020GeV beam energies**
- **Various colliding systems pA, dA, CuCu, AuAu, UU, PbPb**



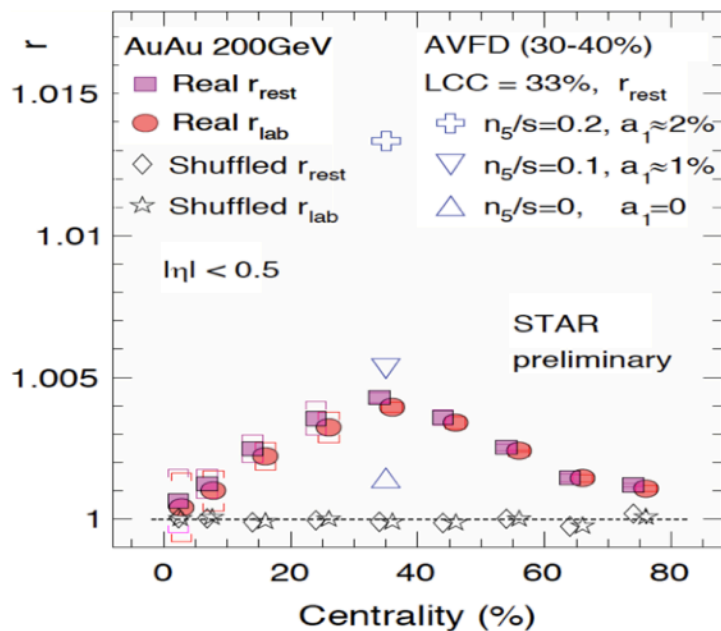
**Extraction of signal ratio via EP/RP**



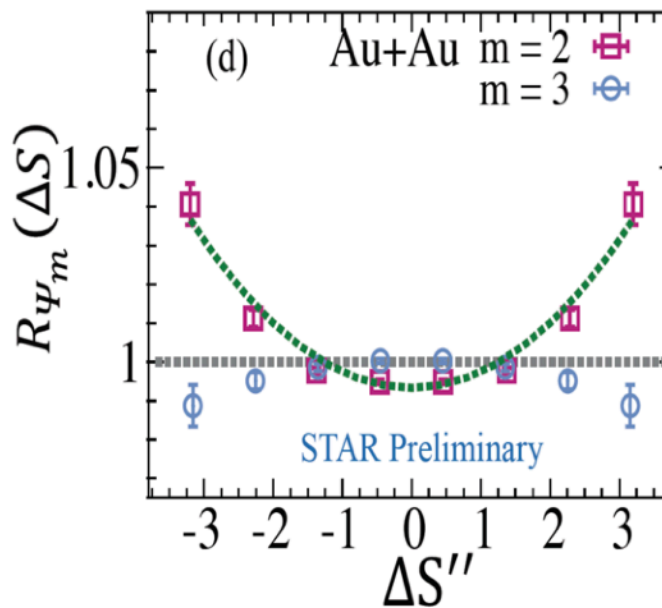
**Invariant mass selection**

# Strong Exp. Activities

- *New analysis strategies to extract signal out of backgrounds*
- *Efforts by STAR, ALICE, CMS @ RHIC and LHC*
- *Search from ~10GeV to ~5020GeV beam energies*
- *Various colliding systems pA, dA, CuCu, AuAu, UU, XeXe, PbPb*



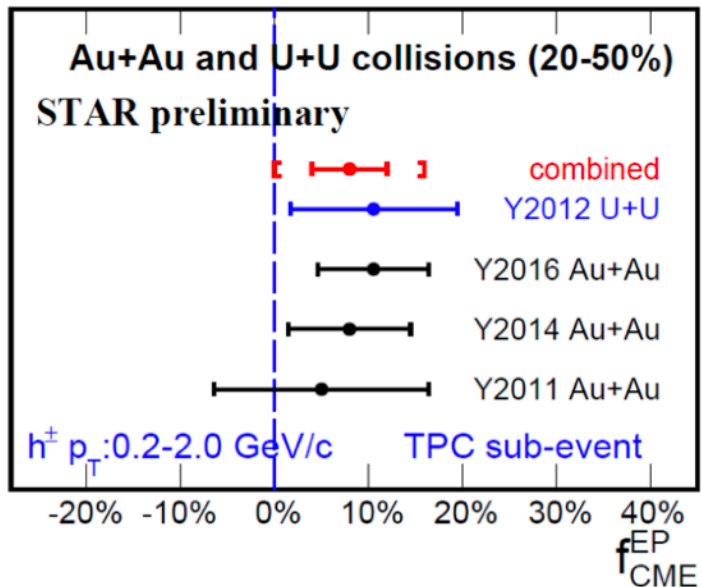
**A. Tang:**  
**Signed balance function**



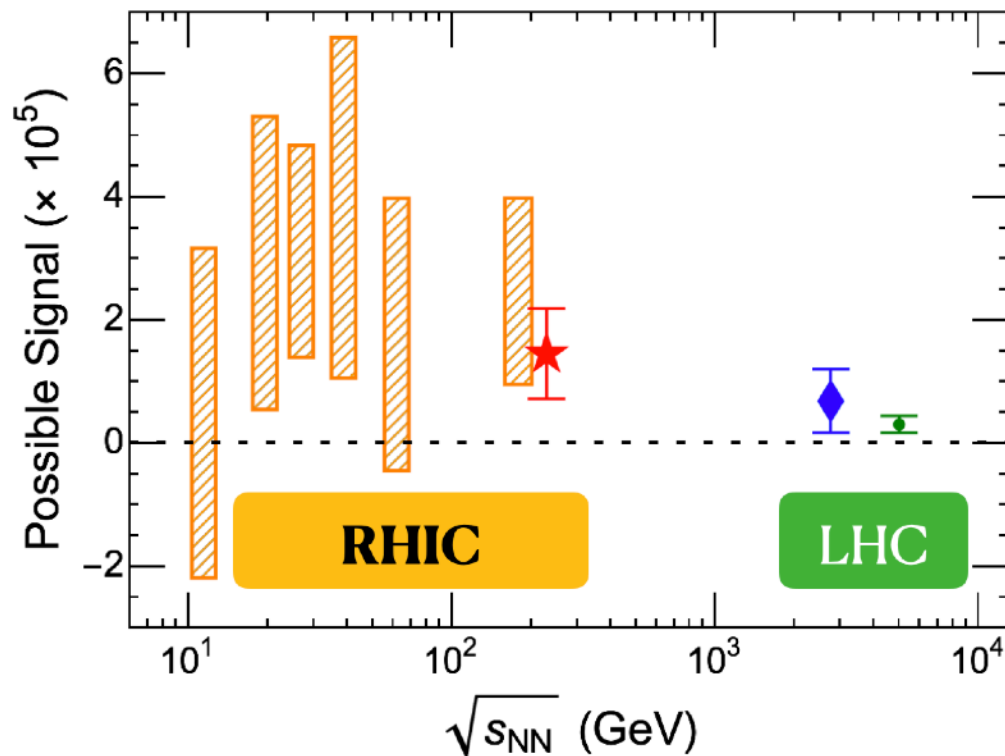
**R. Lacey, et al:**  
**R-correlator**

# Where Did We Stand (till ~2020)?

[STAR compilation @QM19]



*A very positive hint,  
yet inconclusive.*

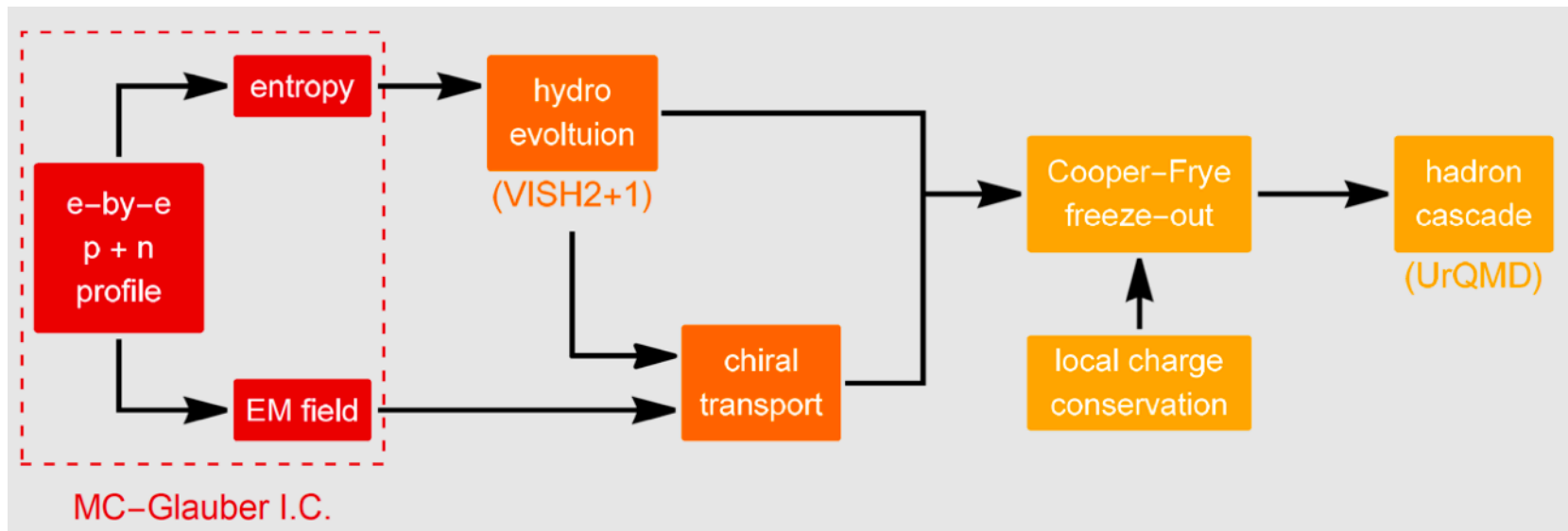
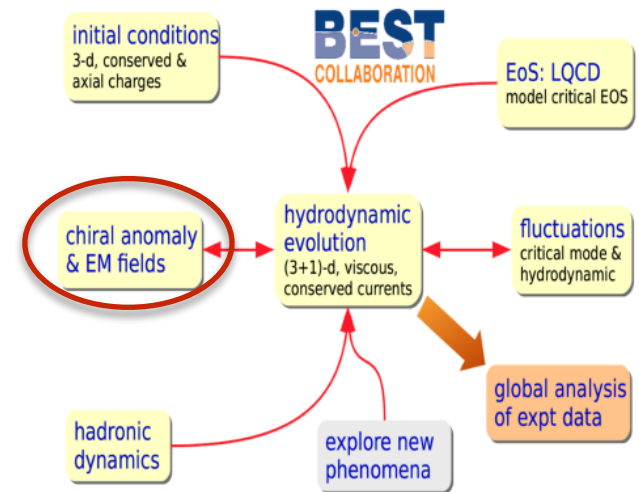


[Kharzeev, JL, arXiv:2102.06623;  
Nature Rev Phys 3, 55-63 (2021)]

# CME Working Group @ BEST Collaboration

*Theoretical tool for quantitative predictions of CME and related backgrounds is crucial!*

**EBE-AVFD:**  
*event-by-event anomalous-viscous fluid dynamics*



[Shuzhe Shi, JL, ..., arXiv:1611.04586; 1711.02496; 1910.14010]

[BEST Collaboration publication: Nucl. Phys. A 1017(2022)122343]

# Hydrodynamic Realization of CME in HIC

## Anomalous-Viscous Fluid Dynamics

$$D_\mu J_R^\mu = + \frac{N_c q^2}{4\pi^2} E_\mu B^\mu \quad D_\mu J_L^\mu = - \frac{N_c q^2}{4\pi^2} E_\mu B^\mu$$

$$J_R^\mu = n_R u^\mu + v_R^\mu + \frac{N_c q}{4\pi^2} \mu_R B^\mu \quad \text{CME}$$

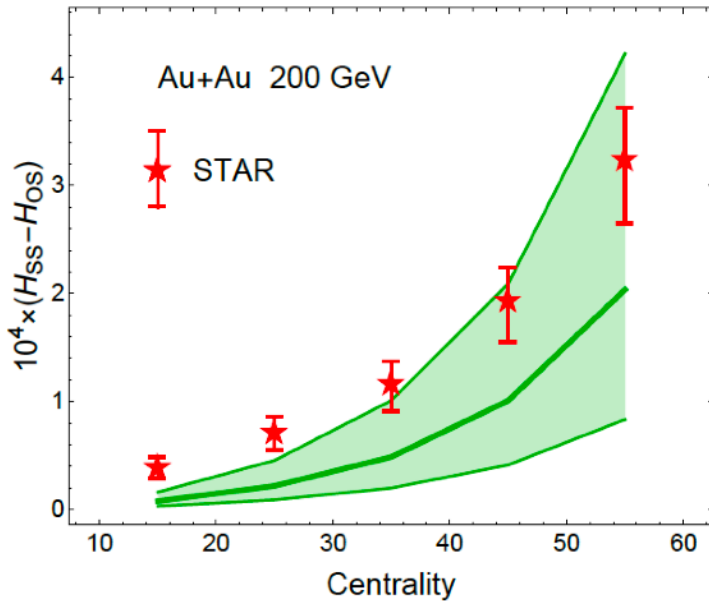
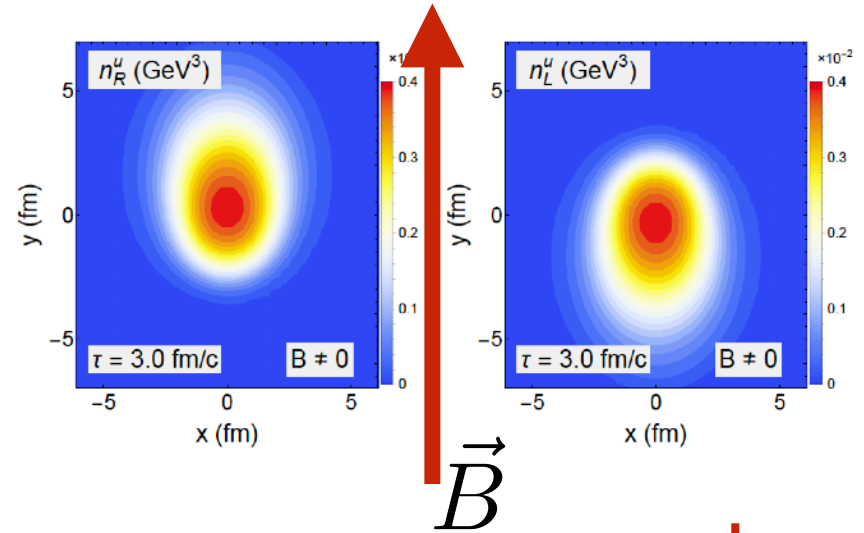
$$J_L^\mu = n_L u^\mu + v_L^\mu - \frac{N_c q}{4\pi^2} \mu_L B^\mu$$

Viscous Effect

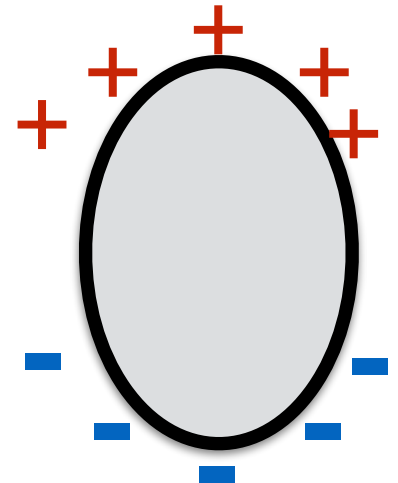
$$\Delta_\nu^\mu d v_{R,L}^\nu = - \frac{1}{\tau_{rhx}} (v_{R,L}^\mu - v_{NS}^\mu)$$

$$v_{NS}^\mu = \frac{\sigma}{2} T \Delta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \frac{\mu}{T} + \frac{\sigma}{2} q E^\mu$$

on top of VISH2+1D -- OSU Group



**Chirality imbalance**  
 $\rightarrow$   
**R/L asymmetry**  
 $\rightarrow$   
**charge asymmetry**



[Shi, JL, ..., arXiv:1611.04586; 1711.02496; 1910.14010]

# EBE-AVFD as a Key Theoretical Tool

***EBE-AVFD has now become a widely used tool for developing CME observables, calibrating sensitivity to signals and backgrounds, as well as obtaining quantitative understanding of data.***

Chinese Physics C Vol. 46, No. 1 (2022) 014101

## **Investigation of experimental observables in search of the chiral magnetic effect in heavy-ion collisions in the STAR experiment\***

Subikash Choudhury<sup>1</sup> Xin Dong<sup>2</sup> Jim Drachenberg<sup>3</sup> James Dunlop<sup>4</sup> ShinIchi Esumi<sup>5</sup> Yicheng Feng(冯毅程)<sup>6</sup>  
Evan Finch<sup>7</sup> Yu Hu(胡昱)<sup>1,4</sup> Jiangyong Jia<sup>4,8</sup> Jerome Lauret<sup>4</sup> Wei Li<sup>9</sup> Jinfeng Liao(廖劲峰)<sup>10</sup>  
Yufu Lin(林裕富)<sup>11,12†</sup> Mike Lisa<sup>13</sup> Takafumi Niida<sup>5</sup> Robert Lanny Ray<sup>14</sup> Masha Sergeeva<sup>15</sup>  
Diyu Shen(申迪宇)<sup>1‡</sup> Shuzhe Shi(施舒哲)<sup>16</sup> Paul Sorensen<sup>4</sup> Aihong Tang(唐爱洪)<sup>4</sup> Prithwish Tribedy<sup>4</sup>  
Gene Van Buren<sup>4</sup> Sergei Voloshin<sup>17</sup> Fuqiang Wang(王福强)<sup>6</sup> Gang Wang(王钢)<sup>15</sup> Haojie Xu(徐浩洁)<sup>18</sup>  
Zhiwan Xu(徐之湾)<sup>15</sup> Nanxi Yao<sup>15§</sup> Jie Zhao(赵杰)<sup>6</sup>

***[STAR CME & Shuzhe Shi & JL, CPC46(2022)4,014101, arXiv:2105.06044 ]***



# Transport Model Studies of CME

**\* Approach based on transport models.**

- **AMPT based**  
(Guoliang Ma, Yugang Ma, X.G. Huang, .....

Refs:

Phys.Rev. C94 (2016) 041901; Phys. Rev. C 97, 044901 (2018);  
Phys. Rev. C 97, 024910 (2018); Phys. Rev. C 99, 034903 (2019);  
Phys. Lett. B 792 (2019) 413; Phys. Rev. C 99, 054906 (2019);  
Phys.Rev.C 101 (2020) 2, 024916.

- **Chiral kinetic transport based**  
(Che-ming Ko and collaborators)

Refs:

Phys.Rev.C 98 (2018) 1, 014911; Phys.Rev.C 95 (2017) 3, 034909;  
Phys.Rev.C 94 (2016) 4, 045204; Phys.Lett.B 769 (2017) 219-222.

---

# ISOBAR COLLISIONS

---

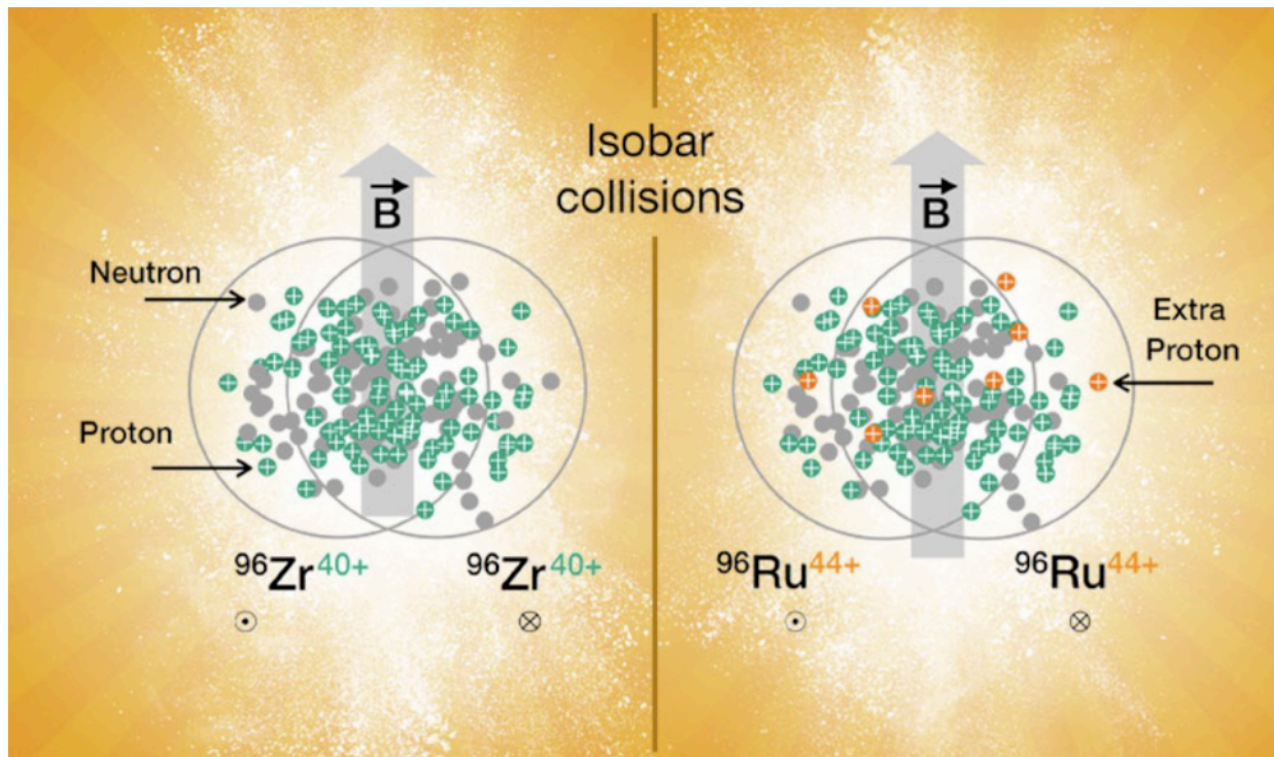
# A New Hope: Isobar Collisions

[Voloshin, PRL 105, 172301 (2011)]

[arXiv:1608.00982]

## Chiral Magnetic Effect Task Force Report

Vladimir Skokov (co-chair),<sup>1,\*</sup> Paul Sorensen (co-chair),<sup>2,†</sup> Volker Koch,<sup>3</sup>  
Soeren Schlichting,<sup>2</sup> Jim Thomas,<sup>3</sup> Sergei Voloshin,<sup>4</sup> Gang Wang,<sup>5</sup> and Ho-Ung Yee<sup>6,1</sup>

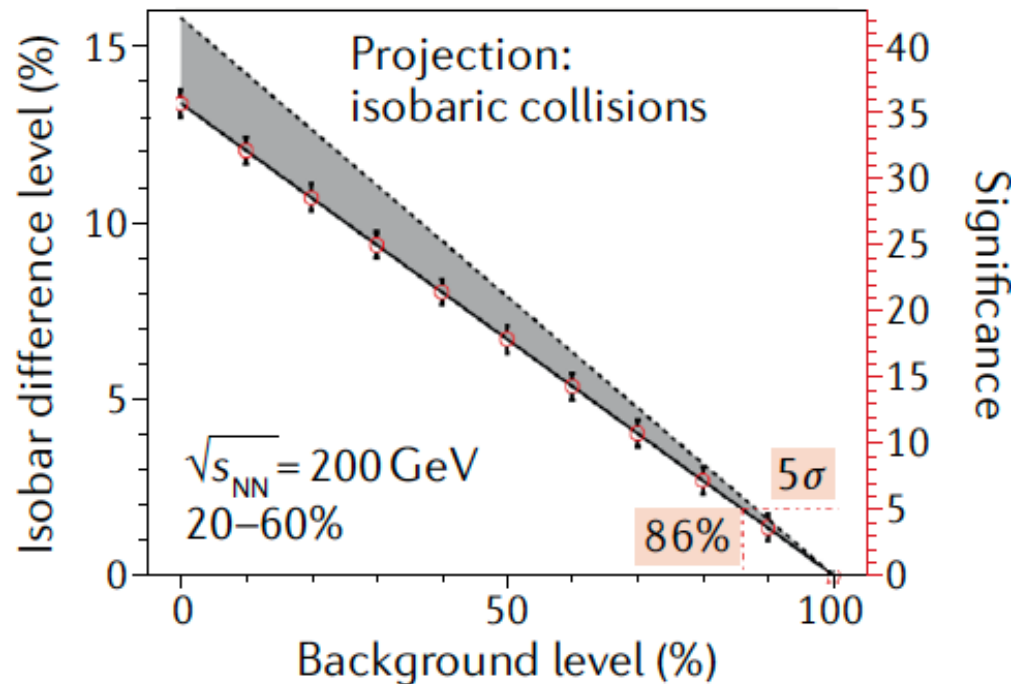
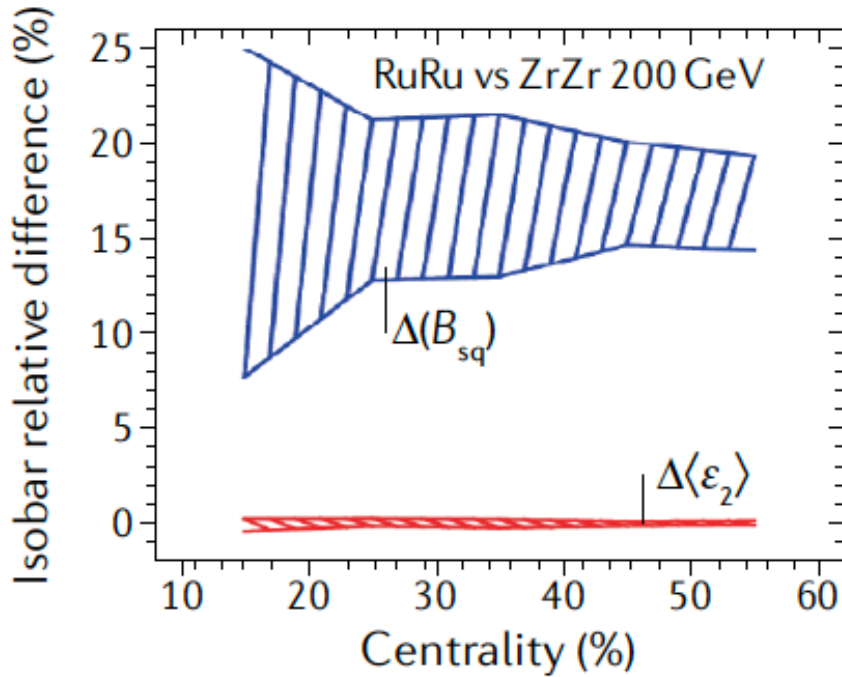
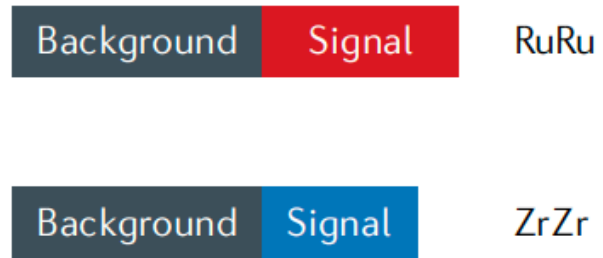


[image from Helen Caines talk @ Chirality 2021]

# Isobar Collision Experiment

**Exciting opportunity of discovery:  
~2 billion events collected for each  
system; results in ~ months!!!**

Charge-asymmetry  
correlation measurement

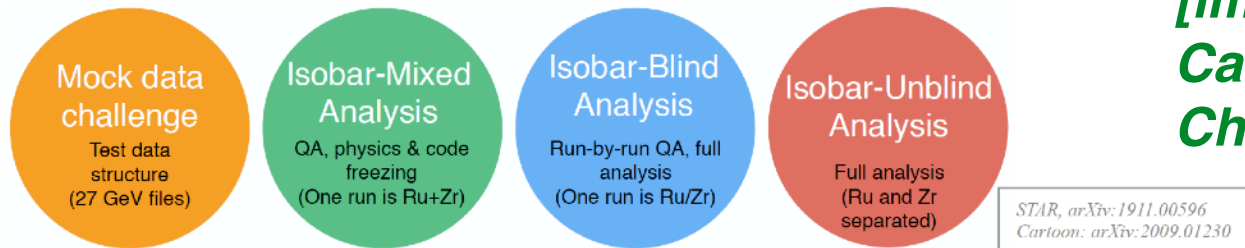


**More discussions in  
Nature Reviews Physics 3, 55-63 (2021)  
[arXiv:2102.06623]**

# The Blind Analyses

## *Decision to blind the analyses*

2017 PAC recommended **blind analyses** of **CME** using Run-18 isobar data  
Methods developed and accepted by collaboration in January 2018, well before 2018 data-taking



*[image from Helen Caines talk @ Chirality 2021]*

### Step-1, “The Reference”

Provide output files composed of collision data from a **mix** of the two isobar species  
As much as possible, order of collision “events” **respects time-dependent changes in detector conditions**

**Analysis code** and **time-dependent QA** tuned and frozen

### Step-2, “The run by run QA sample”

Provide files that blind the isobar species but do not “mix” data from different data acquisition runs

Only allow “run-by-run” corrections and code alteration directly resulting from these correctior

### Step-3, Full un-blinding

Analysis completed and published as is

Combined effort of many many people in STAR

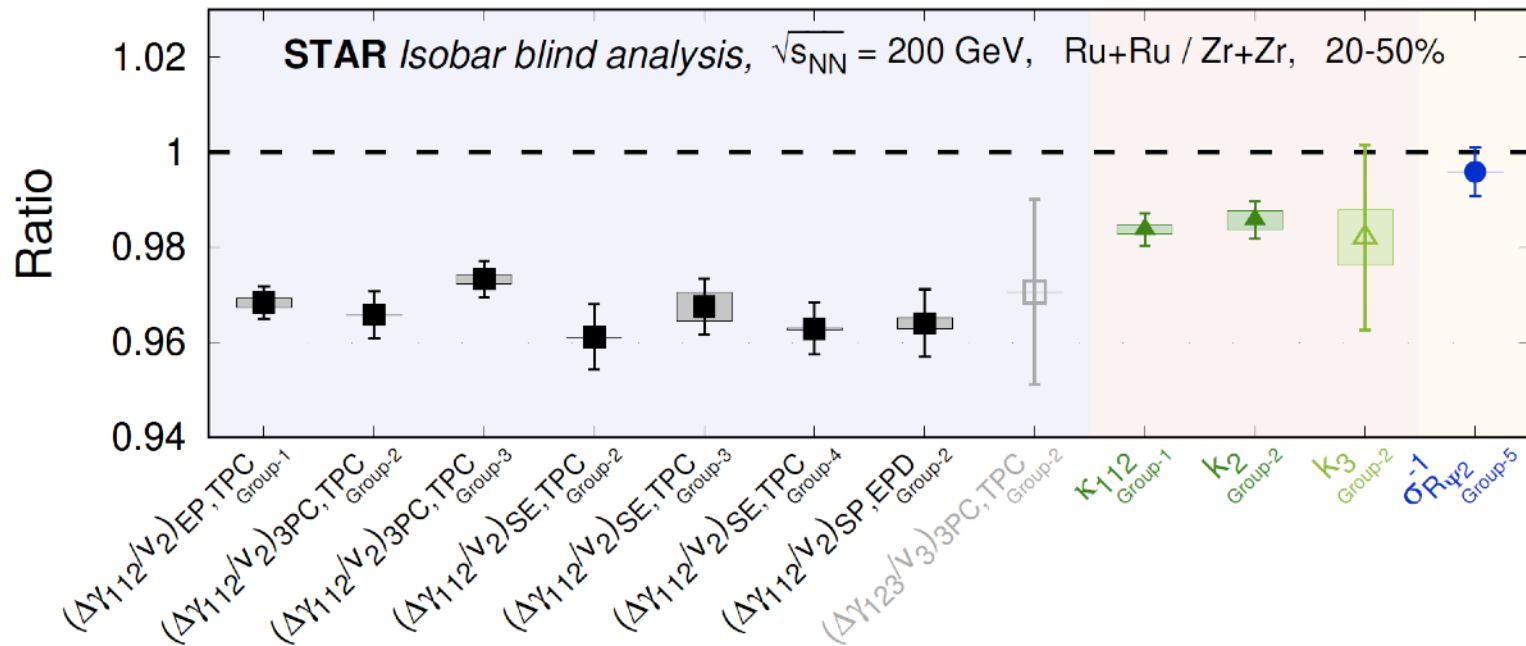
*[STAR Collaboration, Nucl.Sci.Tech. 32 (2021) 5, 48]*

# The Isobar Collision Experiment

Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Isobar Collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC

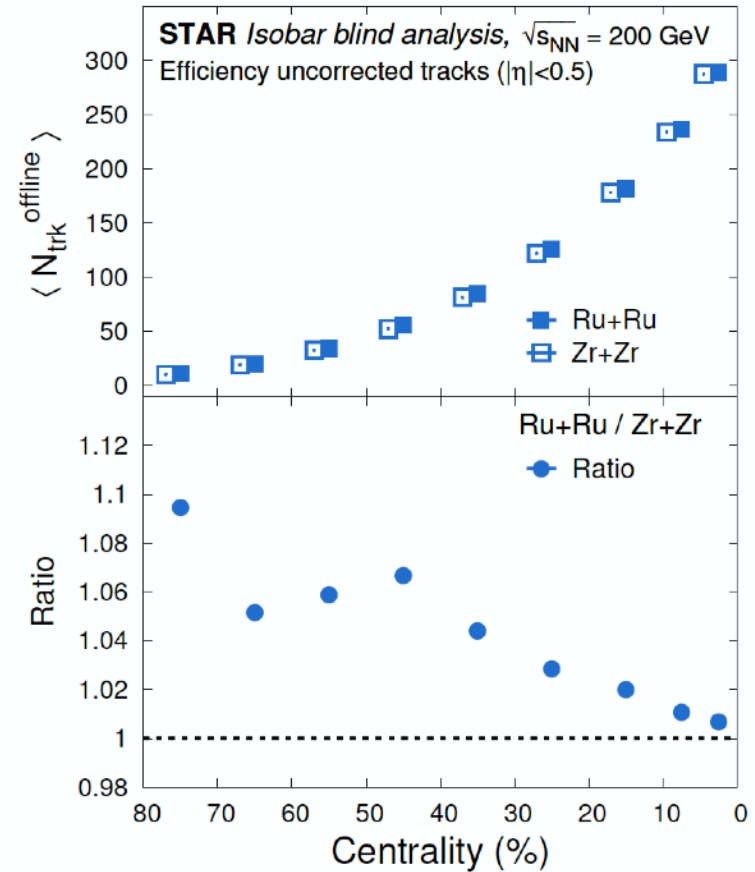
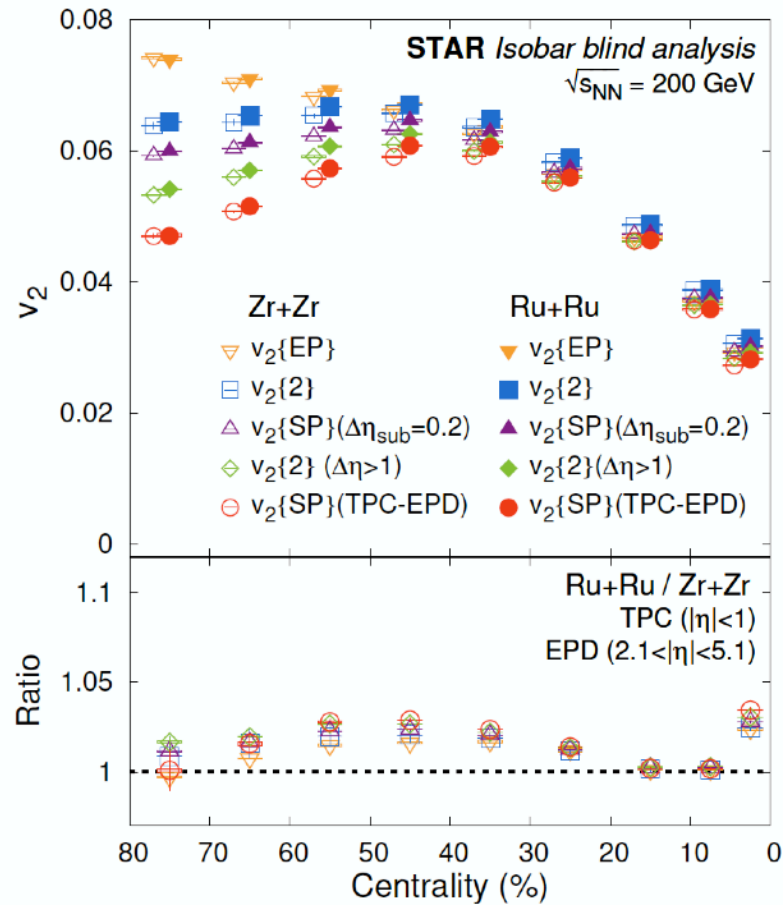
**Predefined criteria:**  
 $Signal(Ru)/Signal(Zr) > 1$

**[STAR paper: 2109.00131  
 Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 1, 014901]**



**Predefined baseline (background only):**  
 $Signal(Ru)/Signal(Zr) = 1$

# The Trouble: A Failed Assumption



***A few percent level of difference in the bulk properties between the isobar pairs: non-identical background correlations!***

# The Isobar Collision Experiment

Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Isobar Collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC

**[STAR paper: 2109.00131  
Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 1, 014901]**

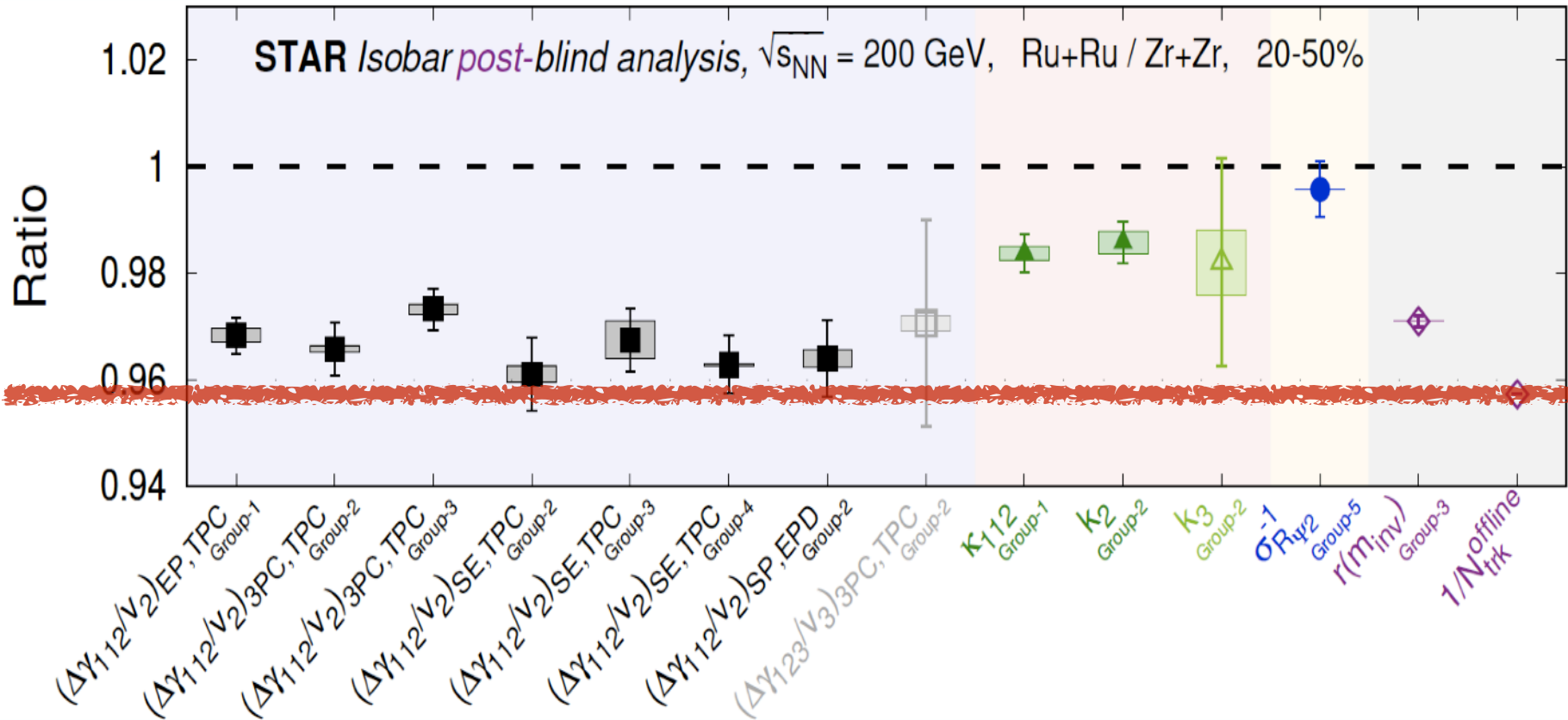
## VII. CONCLUSION

We report an experimental test of the Chiral Magnetic Effect by a blind analysis of a large statistics data set of isobar  $^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}+^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$  and  $^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}+^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$  collisions at nucleon-nucleon center-of-mass energy of 200 GeV, taken in 2018 by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC. The backgrounds are reduced using the difference in observables between the two isobar collision systems. The criteria for a positive CME observation are predefined, prior to the blind analysis, as a significant excess of the CME-sensitive observables in Ru+Ru collisions over those in Zr+Zr collisions. Consistent results are obtained by the five independent groups in this blind analysis. Significant differences in the multiplicity and flow harmonics are observed between the two systems in a given centrality, indicating that the magnitude of the CME background is different between the two species. A precision down to 0.4% is achieved in the relative magnitudes of pertinent observables between the two isobar systems. No CME signature that satisfies the predefined criteria has been observed in isobar collisions in this blind analysis.

***The predefined criteria is wrong.  
No real conclusion could be made yet about signal.***



# Where is the Baseline ?!

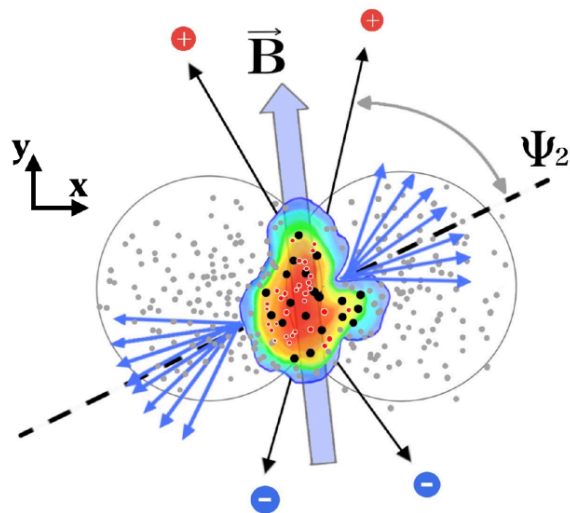
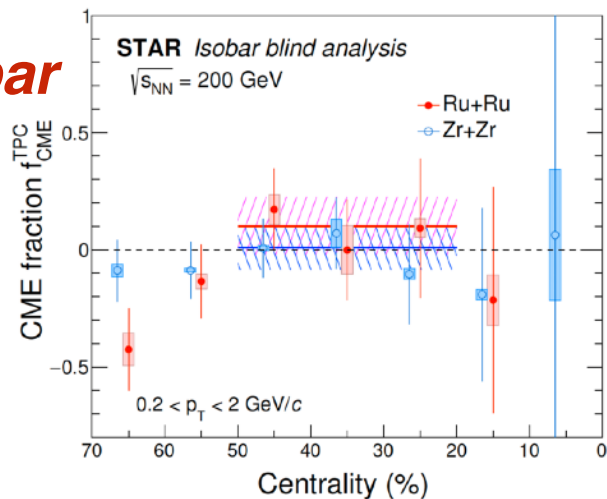


***There appears room for potential CME signal above the 1/N line!  
Need accurate calibration of the true baseline!***

# Direct Hints of Signal

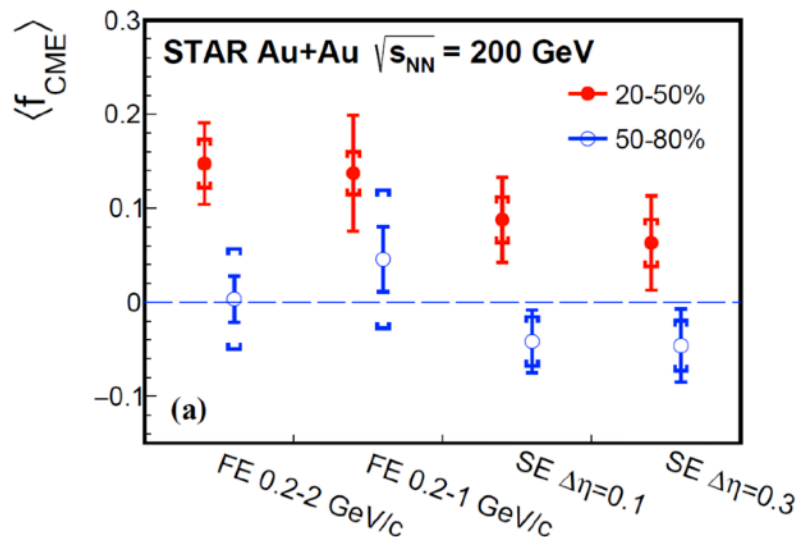
*A method based on RP versus EP appears promising.  
A coherent understanding of AuAu + isobars is important.*

**Isobar**



STAR, arXiv:2106.09243

**AuAu**



*Signal correlates better with y-axis;  
Bkg correlates more with Psi\_2 axis.*

Bloczynski, Huang, Zhang,  
JL, arXiv:1209.6594[PLB]

EXP method: Voloshin;  
Fuqiang Wang, et al.

# Isobar Backgrounds

**Key for success: identical bulk between RuRu & ZrZr .**

**There may be worries owing to uncertainty in nuclear geometry.**

S. Shi, H. Zhang, D. Hou, JL, arXiv:1807.05604;

H.J. Xu, et al, PRL2018; H. Elfner & collaborators, arXiv: 1908.10231

**Strategies to overcome the issue:**

- apply joint multiplicity— ellipticity cut for event samples
- stay at the relatively peripheral region

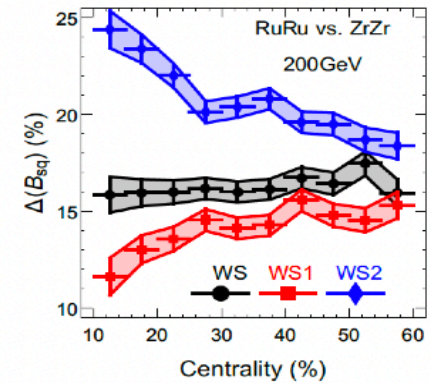
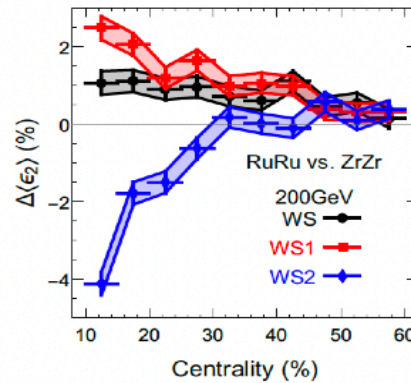


Fig. 1. (Color online) The relative difference in eccentricity  $\Delta\langle\epsilon_2\rangle$  (left) and projected magnetic-field-strength-squared  $\Delta(B_{sq})$  (right) between RuRu and ZrZr, with conventional centrality event selection.

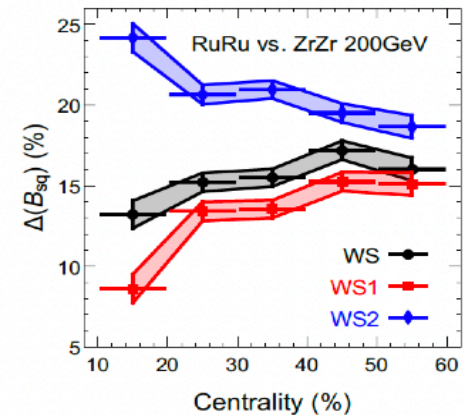
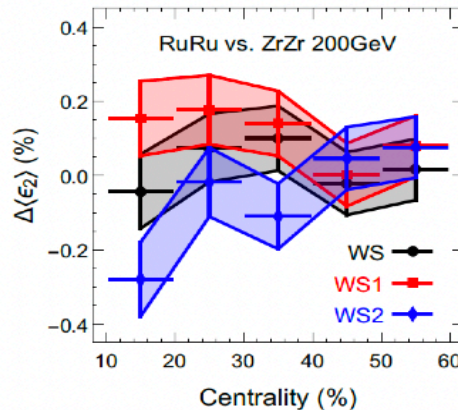


Fig. 2. (Color online) The relative difference in eccentricity  $\Delta\langle\epsilon_2\rangle$  (left) and projected magnetic-field-strength-squared  $\Delta(B_{sq})$  (right) between RuRu and ZrZr, with the proposed joint (multiplicity + ellipticity-flow) event selection.

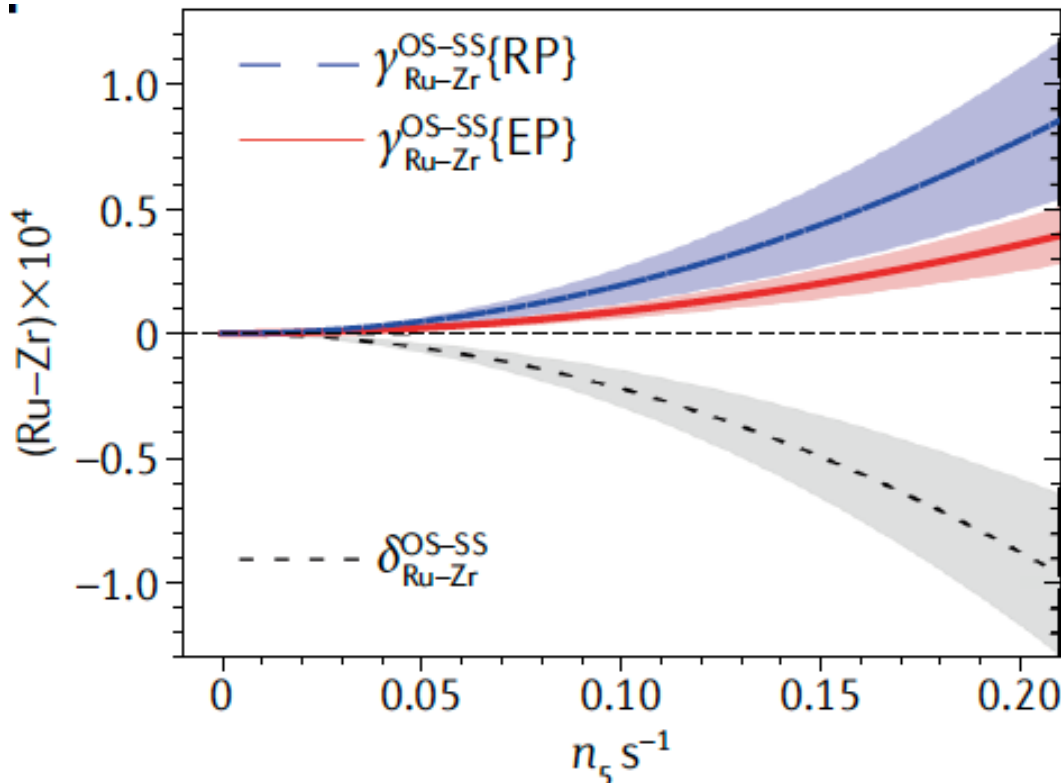
# Theoretical Predictions from EBE-AVFD

*Quantitative predictions of CME signal with proper multiplicity-v2 joint selections that suppress background difference.*

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **125**, 242301 (2020)

Signatures of Chiral Magnetic Effect in the Collisions of Isobars

Shuzhe Shi,<sup>1</sup> Hui Zhang,<sup>2,3,4</sup> Defu Hou,<sup>2,\*</sup> and Jinfeng Liao<sup>5,†</sup>



$$\zeta_{\text{isobar}}^{RP} \equiv \frac{\gamma_{Ru-Zr}^{OS-SS} \Big|_{RP}}{\delta_{Ru-Zr}^{OS-SS} \Big|_{RP}} \simeq -(0.90 \pm 0.45)$$

$$\zeta_{\text{isobar}}^{EP} \equiv \frac{\gamma_{Ru-Zr}^{OS-SS} \Big|_{EP}}{\delta_{Ru-Zr}^{OS-SS} \Big|_{EP}} \simeq -(0.41 \pm 0.27)$$

# Initial Conditions & Nuclear Geometry

*One person's trouble may be another person's opportunities...*

*J. Jia, C. Zhang; Fuqiang Wang, et al; Guoliang Ma, et al; H. Song, et al; van der Schee; .....*

RBRC Workshop: Physics Opportunities from the RHIC Isobar Run

 25 Jan 2022, 08:30 → 28 Jan 2022, 17:30 US/Eastern

 Virtual Event

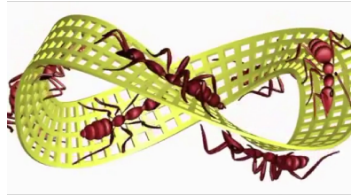
---

# SUMMARY

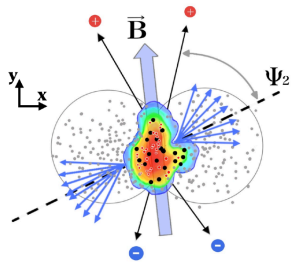
---

# Summary

$$N_R - N_L = N_5 = 2Q_w$$



$$\vec{J} = \frac{Q^2}{2\pi^2} \mu_5 \vec{B}$$



**EXP correlations  
In heavy ion collisions**

[arXiv: 2106.10847](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.10847)

- *The physics of CME is rich and fundamental.*
- *The search for CME in heavy ion collisions is of great importance yet challenging.*
- *Existing data show positive hints of signals but are inconclusive due to strong backgrounds.*
- *Isobar collisions collect a high precision data set with potential for finding CME.*

# What's Next?

*Near term focus of theoretical efforts:*

*Nailing down the correct baseline for the isobar contrast;*

*Obtaining a precise understanding of isobar bulk properties;*

*Using EBE-AVFD*

*+ well informed nuclear structure inputs*

*+ data calibration for bulk properties*

*—> establish baseline for various observables*

*—> further examine responses to CME signals*

*—> quantify signal level in statistically meaningful way*

*Experimental efforts:*

*— isobar post-blind analyses ongoing*

*— new analysis strategies for isobars (e.g. multiplicity cut; event shape; etc)*

*— high precision AuAu analysis (2~3 sigma —> 5 sigma??)*

***Exciting time (over next couple years): stay tuned !!***