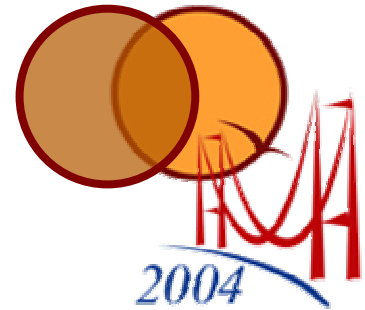


IMHO...

(In Mike's Humble Opinion)



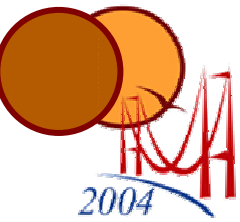
- what have we learned (so far)?
- what is exciting (to me)?
- what do I tell my condensed-matter colleagues in the coffee room?

Mike Lisa
Ohio State University

What have we learned at RHIC?

~~An~~ *This* experimentalist's Perspective *

- Wise “forefathers” designed **complex** detectors in anticipation of a **complex** problem





Time to Physics

Again, learn from the past:

First CDF publication:
Transverse-Momentum Distributions of Charged Particles Produced in p-pbar Interactions at 630 and 1800 GeV, F. Abe et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 61, 1819 (1988).

- ~One year from data-taking.
- Much simpler final state!

- ➡ *We will be hard-pressed to reach this goal*
- ➡ *And much harder-pressed to maintain "CDF-like" rate*

Bill Zajc, "Day-1 Physics @ RHIC"
RHIC Winter Workshop, LBL '99

09-Jan-98

W.A. Zajc

VOLUME 61, NUMBER 16

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

10 OCTOBER 1988

Transverse-Momentum Distributions of Charged Particles Produced in $p\bar{p}$ Interactions at $\sqrt{s} = 630$ and 1800 GeV

F. Abe,¹⁶⁹ D. Amaldi,¹⁷⁰ G. Apollinari,¹⁷¹ G. Ascoli,¹⁷² M. Aiba,¹⁶⁰ P. Auschiesh,¹⁶⁴ A. R. Baden,¹⁶⁰ A. Barbaro-Galleani,¹⁶¹ V. E. Barnes,¹⁶² F. Bedeschi,¹¹³ S. Bellare,¹¹² G. Bellotti,¹¹¹ J. Bellinger,¹⁶³ J. Beringer,¹⁶⁵ A. Bertevas,¹⁶⁶ P. Borge,¹⁶³ S. Bortolucci,¹⁶⁵ S. Bradner,¹⁷³ M. Brolley,¹⁶² R. Blair,¹⁶³ C. Blocker,¹⁷⁴ J. Boll,¹⁶² A. W. Booth,¹⁶² G. Brandenburg,¹⁶⁴ D. Brown,¹⁶³ A. Byon,¹⁶² K. L. Byrum,¹⁶³ M. Campbell,¹⁶³ R. Carey,¹⁶⁰ W. Casibon,¹⁶¹ D. Carlson,¹⁷⁵ J. T. Carroll,¹⁶⁰ R. Casperson,¹⁶³ F. Cervelli,¹⁷¹ K. Chadwick,¹⁶³ T. Chapin,¹¹⁰ G. Chiarini,¹¹² W. Chinnoway,¹⁶⁷ S. Chongwi,¹⁶³ D. Cina,¹⁶⁷ D. Cooner,¹⁶³ M. Costanza,¹⁶³ J. Cooper,¹⁶³ M. Cordero,¹⁶³ M. Costantini,¹⁶² C. Day,¹⁶⁰ R. Dall'Abbon,¹⁶¹ M. Dall'Ora,¹¹² L. DeMartino,¹⁶² T. Davis,¹⁶⁰ D. DiBriano,¹¹² R. Diebold,¹⁶³ F. Dittus,¹⁶¹ A. DiVirgilio,¹¹³ J. R. Elias,¹⁶² R. Ely,¹⁶¹ S. Errede,¹⁷⁶ B. Esposito,¹⁶¹ A. Feldman,¹⁶³ R. Flaugher,¹⁶⁴ E. Focardi,¹¹¹ G. W. Foster,¹⁶⁰ M. Franklin,¹⁶⁷ J. Freeman,¹⁶⁰ H. Frisch,¹⁶³ Y. Fukui,¹⁶⁰ A. F. Garkis,¹⁶² P. Giannetti,¹¹¹ N. Giokaris,¹⁶³ P. Giromini,¹⁶² L. Gladys,¹⁶³ M. Gold,¹⁶⁰ K. Goulianos,¹¹⁰ C. Grosso-Fischer,¹⁶² C. Haber,¹⁶⁰ S. R. Haber,¹⁶⁰ R. Handler,¹⁶¹ R. M. Harris,¹⁶³ J. Hauer,¹⁶³ T. Hasting,¹⁶⁰ R. Hollebeck,¹⁶⁴ L. Holloway,¹⁶⁷ F. Ho,¹⁶⁰ B. Hubbard,¹⁶¹ P. Hurst,¹⁶³ J. Hutch,¹⁶⁰ H. Jensen,¹⁶⁰ R. F. Johnson,¹⁶⁰ U. Jost,¹⁶⁰ R. W. Kania,¹⁶⁰ T. Kanou,¹⁶² S. Kanda,¹⁶³ D. A. Karabel,¹⁶³ I. Karliner,¹⁶³ E. Kassar,¹⁶¹ R. Kephart,¹⁶³ P. Kesten,¹⁶³ H. Kessler,¹⁶¹ S. Kim,¹⁶⁰ L. Kirsch,¹⁶³ K. Kondo,¹⁶⁰ U. Koss,¹⁶¹ S. E. Kuhlmann,¹⁶³ A. T. Lammson,¹⁶² W. Li,¹⁶³ T. Lee,¹⁶⁰ N. Lockyer,¹⁶⁰ F. Marchetto,¹⁶² R. Moskaleff,¹⁶² I. A. Mariani,¹⁶² P. McIntyre,¹⁶² A. Menzione,¹⁶¹ T. Meyer,¹⁶³ S. Milazzo,¹⁶¹ M. Miller,¹⁶² T. Minashi,¹⁶⁰ S. Miscotti,¹⁶¹ M. Mishkin,¹⁶⁰ S. Miyashita,¹⁶⁰ N. Mondal,¹⁶³ S. Muel,¹⁶⁴ Y. Morita,¹⁶² A. Mukherjee,¹⁶⁰ C. Newman-Holmes,¹⁶⁰ L. Nodulman,¹⁶³ R. Poldert,¹⁶³ A. Pira,¹⁶³ J. Pollock,¹⁶¹ T. J. Phillips,¹⁶³ H. Piskare,¹⁶³ R. Piskarek,¹⁶¹ L. Pondrom,¹⁶³ J. Proudfoot,¹⁶¹ G. Puzi,¹¹³ D. Quarrie,¹⁶⁰ K. Ragan,¹⁶⁰ G. Reidinger,¹⁶¹ I. Rhoades,¹⁶³ T. Rinnout,¹⁶³ L. Ristori,¹⁶⁰ T. Rzhaly,¹⁶⁰ A. Rodman,¹⁶¹ A. Sasaoki,¹⁶² R. Sead,¹⁶³ V. Scarfone,¹⁶³ P. Schleichach,¹⁶¹ E. E. Schmidt,¹⁶⁰ P. Schwaner,¹⁶¹ M. H. Schuch,¹⁶² R. Schultze,¹⁶¹ A. Scribano,¹⁶² S. Segler,¹⁶⁰ M. Schlegel,¹⁶⁰ P. Seftini,¹¹³ M. Shapiro,¹⁶¹ M. Sheaff,¹⁶² M. Shihara,¹⁶⁰ M. Shacter,¹⁶¹ J. Siegrist,¹⁶³ P. Silervo,¹⁶¹ J. Siskin,¹⁶¹ D. A. Smith,¹⁶¹ F. D. Snider,¹⁶¹ R. St. Denis,¹⁶⁴ A. Stefanini,¹⁶¹ Y. Takaiwa,¹⁶⁴ K. Takikawa,¹⁶⁰ S. Tarem,¹⁶³ D. Theis,¹⁶⁰ A. Tolstoy,¹⁶¹ G. Tonelli,¹⁶³ Y. Tury,¹⁶³ F. Ungaro,¹⁶⁰ D. Underwood,¹⁶³ R. Vidsal,¹⁶⁰ R. G. Wagner,¹⁶¹ R. L. Wagner,¹⁶¹ J. Walsh,¹⁶³ T. Watts,¹⁶⁰ R. Webb,¹⁶⁰ T. Werthminger,¹⁶¹ S. White,¹⁶⁰ A. Wickland,¹⁶¹ H. H. Williams,¹⁶⁰ T. Yamamoto,¹⁶⁰ A. Yamashita,¹⁶² K. Yasuda,¹⁶⁰ G. F. Yeh,¹⁶² J. Yeh,¹⁶⁰ and F. Zetzi,¹⁶⁴

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Measurements of inclusive transverse-momentum spectra for charged particles produced in proton-antiproton collisions at \sqrt{s} of 630 and 1800 GeV are presented and compared with data taken at lower energies.

PACS number: 13.32.Nc



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~1 year after
 Y1 "End of Major Operations":
 14 RHIC physics papers
 To date: ~80 (expt) physics papers

Measurements of inclusive transverse-momentum spectra for charged particles produced in proton-antiproton collisions at \sqrt{s} of 630 and 1800 GeV are presented and compared with data taken at lower energies.

PACS number: 13.25.Dq

1819

09-Jan-98

Bill Zajc, "Day-1 Physics @ RHIC"
RHIC Winter Workshop, LBL '99

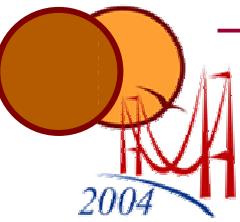
W.A. Zajc

What have we learned at RHIC?

~~An~~ *This* experimentalist's Perspective *

- Wise “forefathers” designed **complex** detectors in anticipation of a **complex** problem
- Tremendous output since late 2000 – ~80 physics papers / 3 years!
- **Huge diversity of results**
 - hard probes (J/ψ , D, jets...)
 - momentum-space shapes (spectra, v_2 , v_4 ...)
 - femtoscopy (HBT, non-id correlations, cluster/coalescence...)
 - fluctuations ($\langle p_T \rangle$, net charge...)
 - chemistry (yields, resonances, strangeness...)
- **Huge systematics**
 - particle type (mass, quark content, σ , collision stage)
 - rapidity (parton x)
 - $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (ε)
 - centrality (ε , **shape**)
 - system (A-A, p/d-A, p-p) – “clean” (?) references

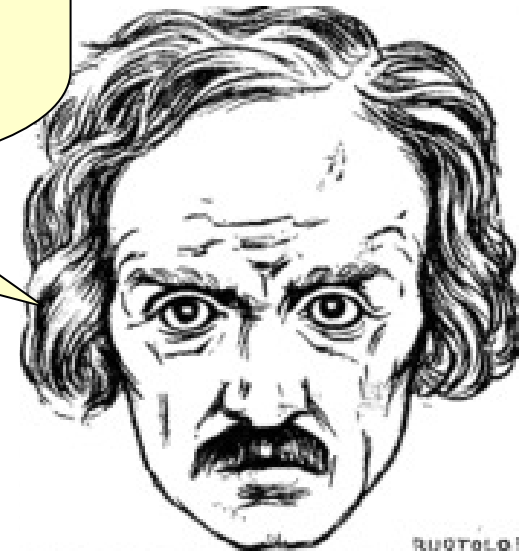
* complete with bias/ignorance



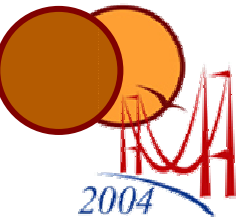
Sophisticated tools to study a complex system

A warning from the king of dour...

“[In a system] where the pieces have different and bizarre motions, with various and variable values, what is only complex is mistaken (a not unusual error) for what is profound.”



Edgar Allen Poe, in *Murders in the Rue Morgue* (1841)
discussing chess enthusiasts



PID'd access to range of p_T scales

Most compelling observations so far: [hard]

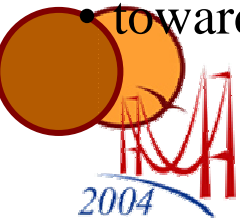
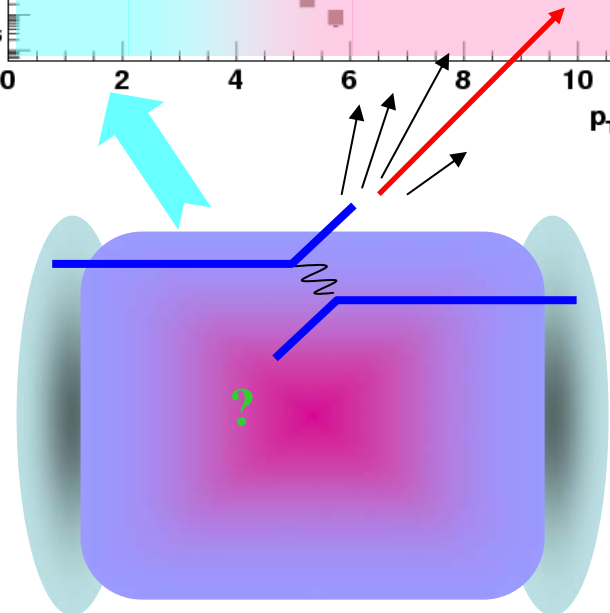
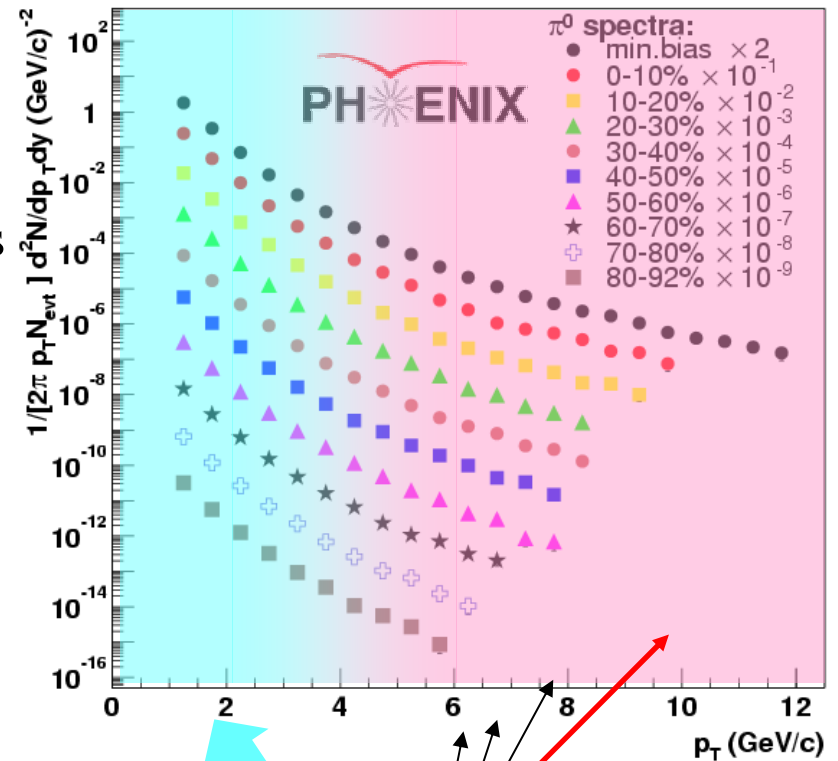
- hard **probes** of bulk **medium**
 - **probes** “calibrated”/calculable at high p_T
 - **medium** decays (99.5%) to low p_T particles
 - QGP: low-Q phenomenon

Most frustrating observations so far: [soft]

- less clear “new” message from **medium itself**
 - dynamic/timescale/chemistry systematics
 - importance of understood reference

Most exciting observations so far: [“firm”]

- particle-identified intermediate- p_T R_{AA} , v_2
 - *non-trivial interaction* of **probe** – **medium**?
 - evidence towards partonic medium
 - towards a more unified picture?



[hard] On the right track...

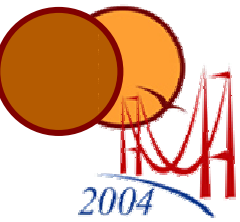
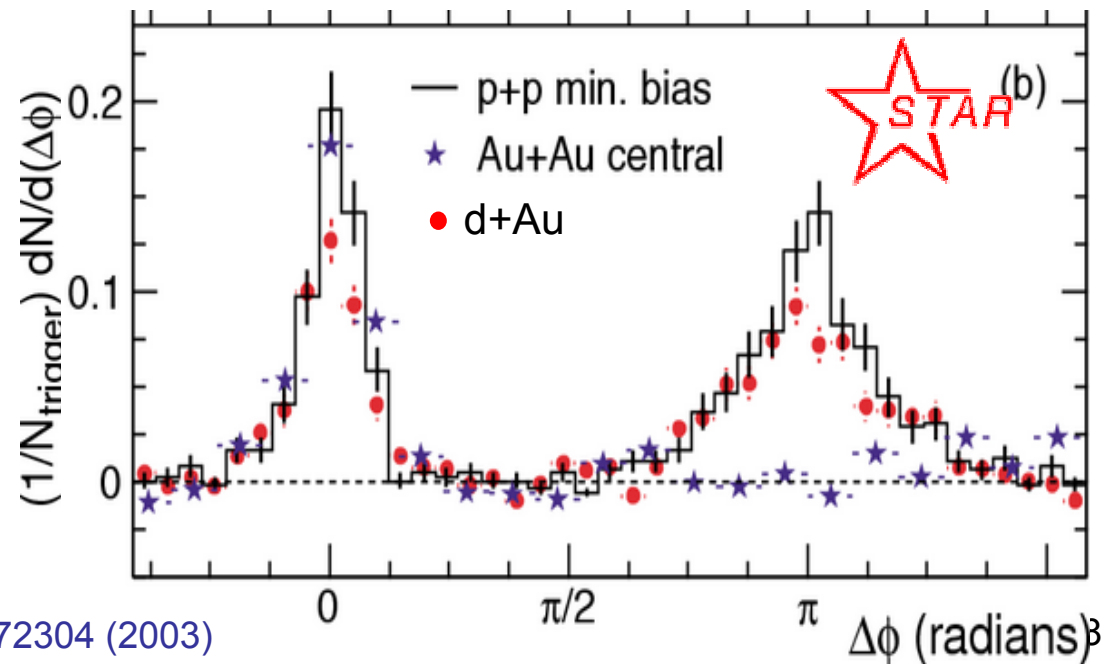
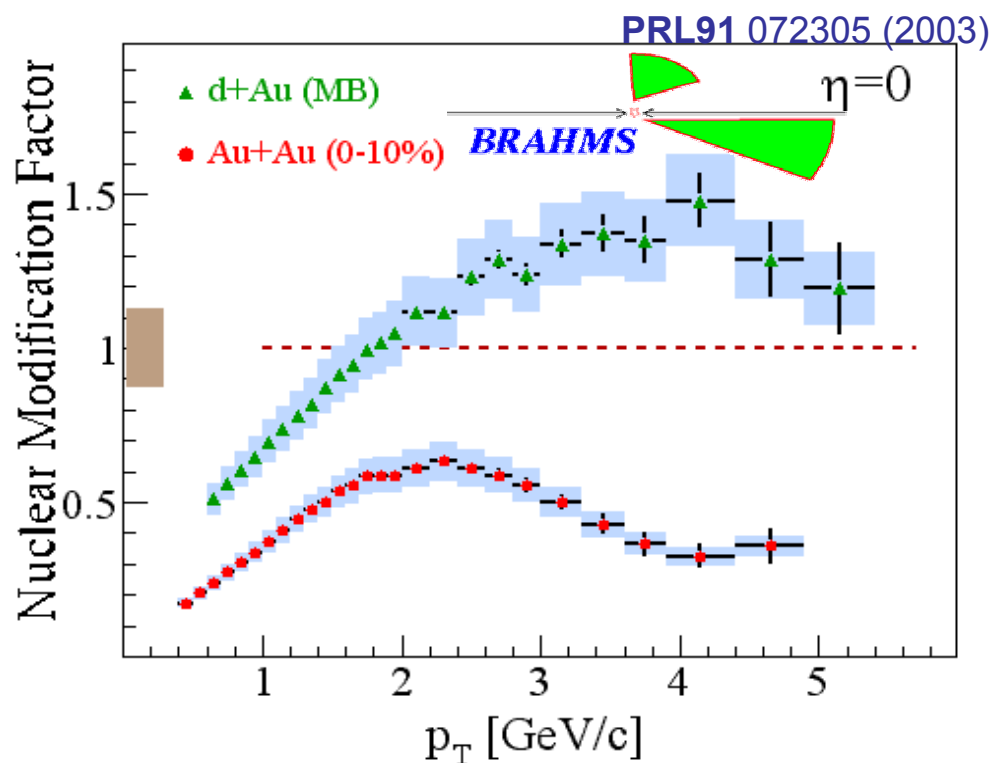
Singles spectra:

clear difference to **references**

- **pp** – a **medium** effect
- **dAu** – a **final state** effect
- **lower \sqrt{s}** – a **new** final state medium effect

more differential: $\Delta\phi$ distributions

- “**calibrated**” **probe** suppression (jets)
- near-side structure *suggests* **parton** ΔE (?)



[hard] On the right track...

Singles spectra & $\Delta\phi$ distributions

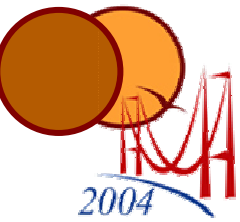
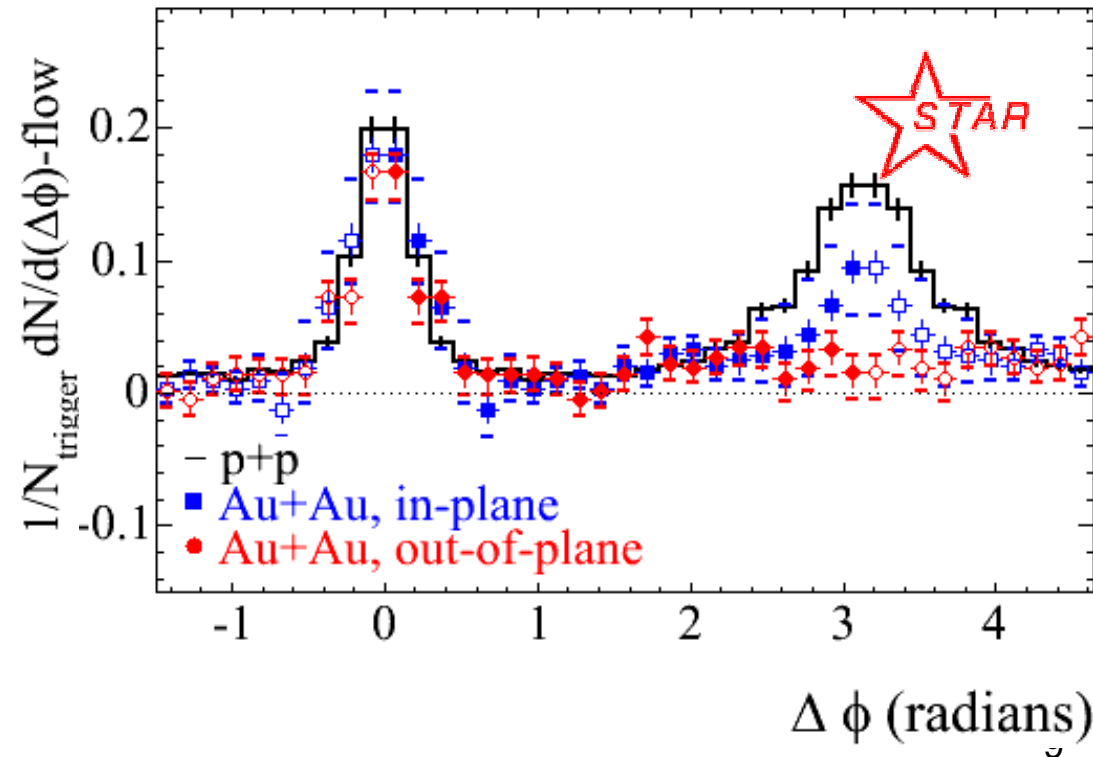
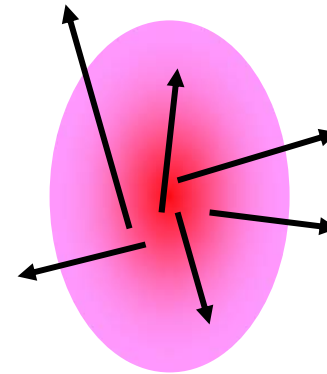
- final state medium-induced jet “quenching”

important: lower $p_{T,assoc}$

- jets poking through?

even more differential: jets vs. RP

- expected from above inferences
- “self-referential”
- consistent picture?
- nail down $\Delta E(L)$ contribution



[hard] On the right track...

Singles spectra & $\Delta\phi$ distributions

- final state medium-induced jet “quenching”

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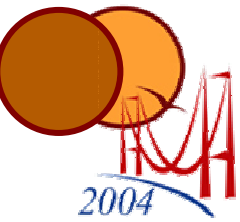
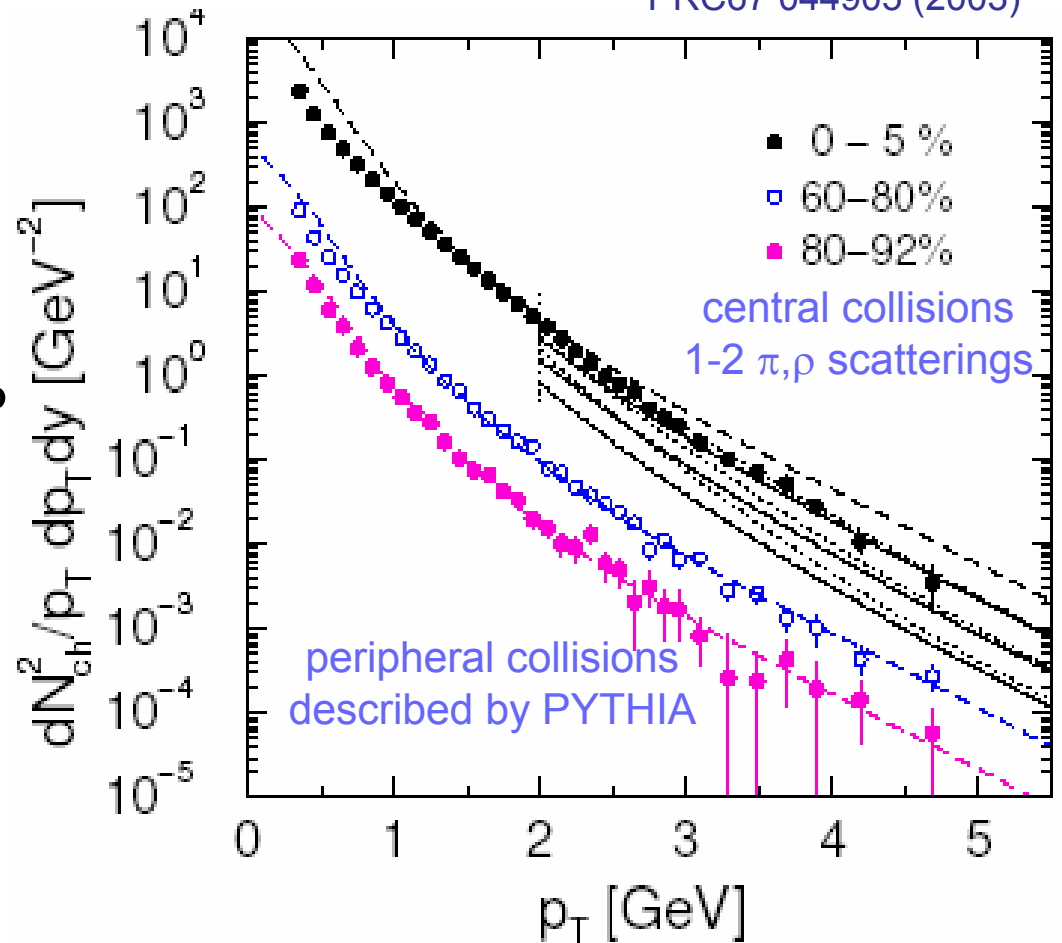
- jet tomography $\Delta E(L)$

Could it be (“pre-”)hadronic?

- unscientific to dismiss it outright

data: h- from PHENIX

Gallmeister, Greiner & Xu
PRC67 044905 (2003)



[hard] On the right track...

Singles spectra & $\Delta\phi$ distributions

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even more differential: jets vs. RP

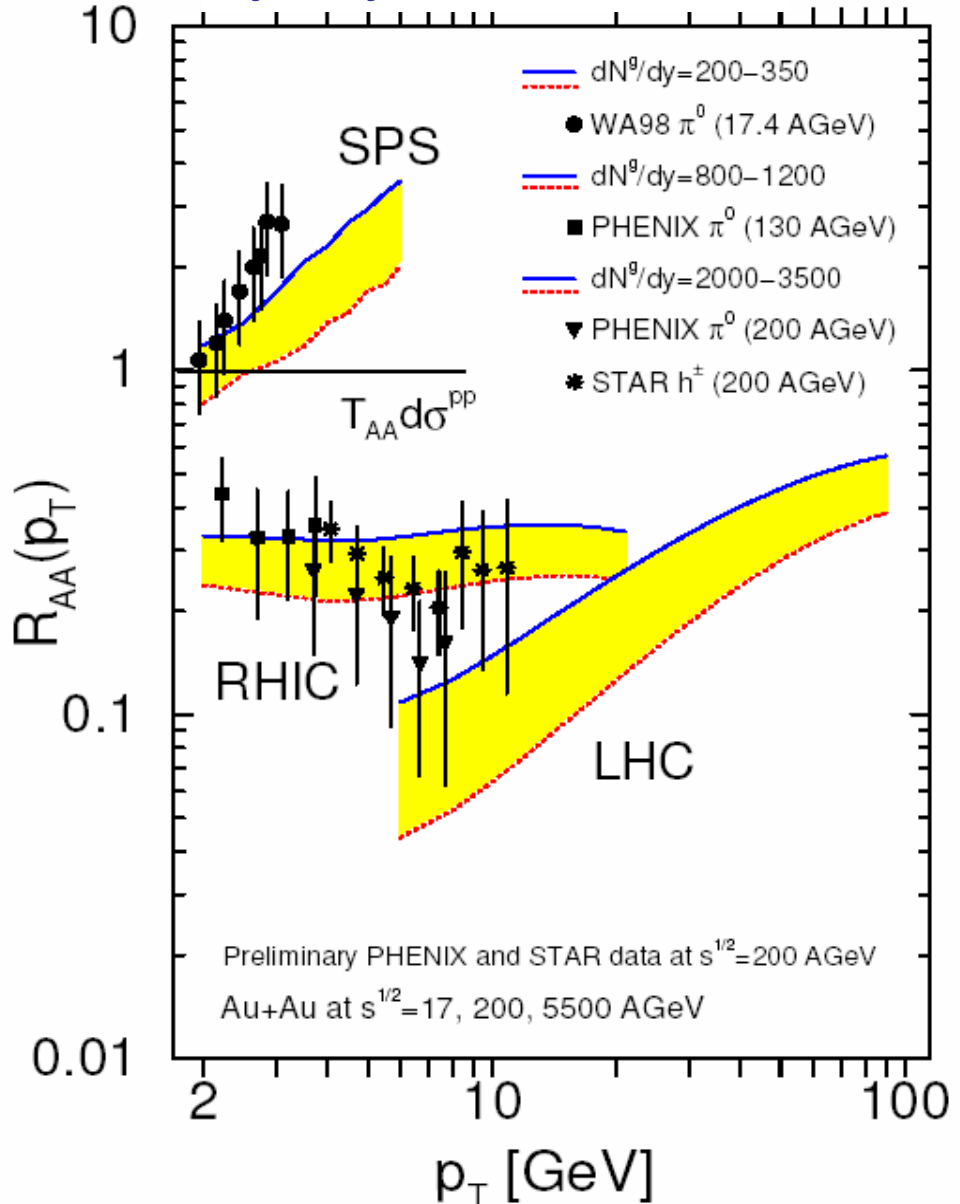
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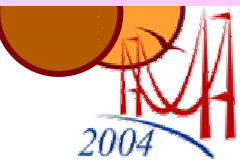
- unscientific to dismiss it outright
- OTOH, my \$\$: partonic ΔE

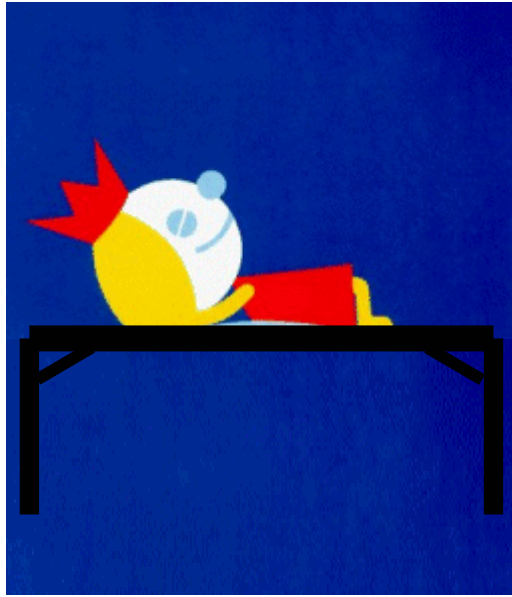
$$dN_{ch}^2/p_T dp_T dy [\text{GeV}^{-2}]$$

Gyulassy et al, nucl-th/0302077



For now: limited information content





[hard]



[firm]

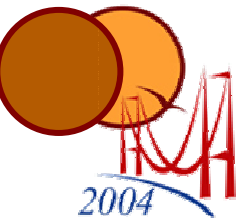


[soft]

Dense

Compelling!

Explore further!

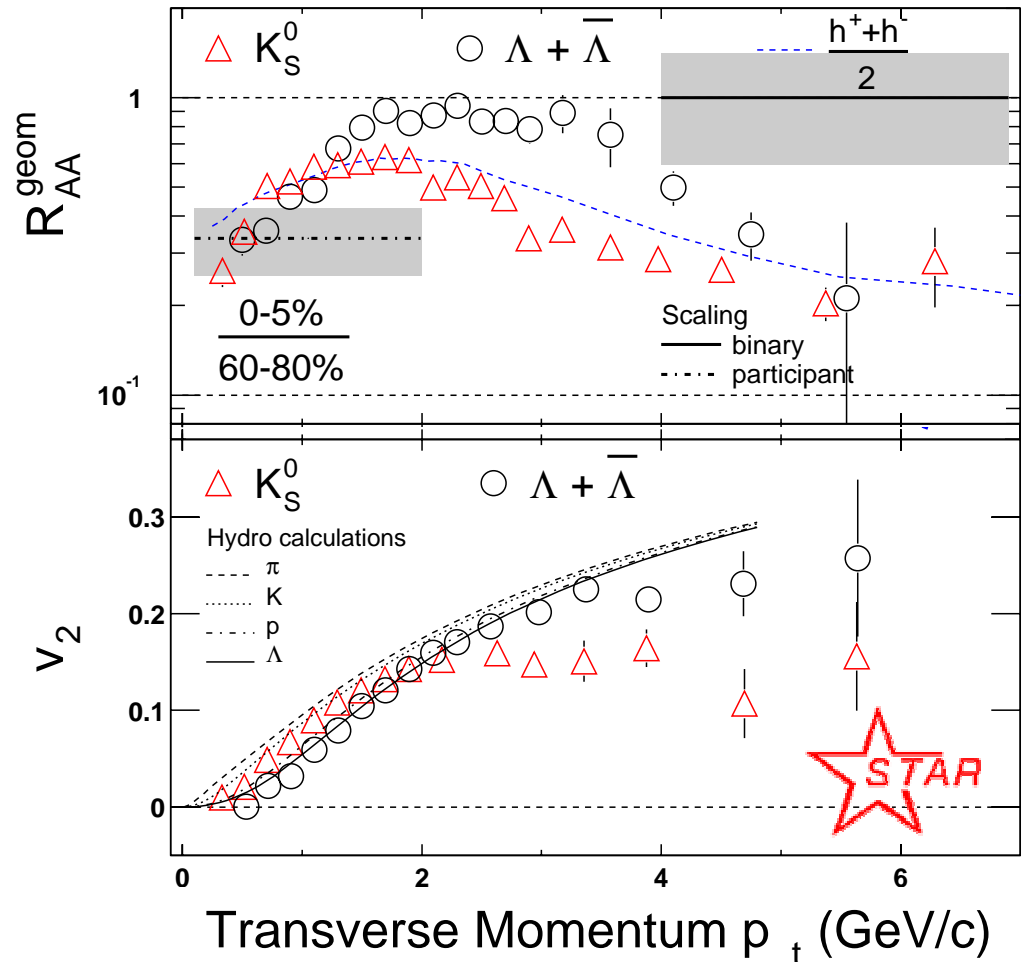


With PID - [firm]

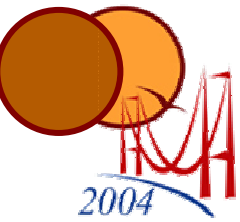
Definitely on the right track...

hadronic ΔE ?

- lots of theory arguments, but...
- $R_{AA}[\Lambda] > R_{AA}[K]$ ($\Delta E_\Lambda < \Delta E_K$)
 – related: “anomalous” B/M
- $v_2[\Lambda] > v_2[K]$ ($\Delta E_\Lambda > \Delta E_K$)
- hadron absorption
 → (almost) “too large” v_2



nucl-ex/0306007



With PID - [firm]

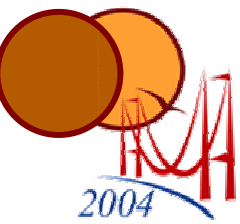
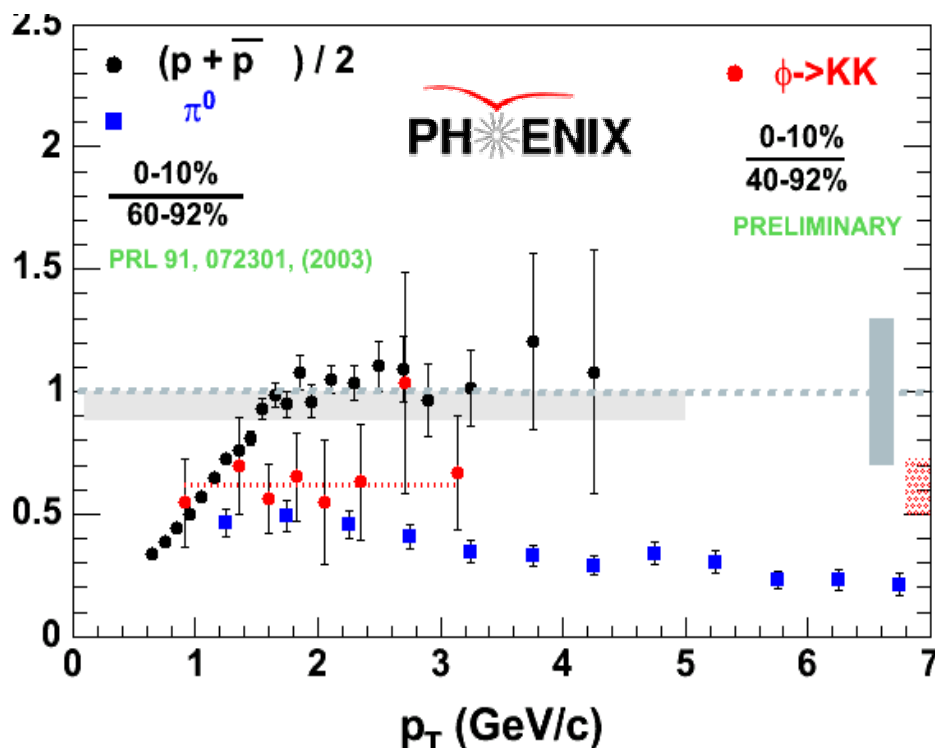
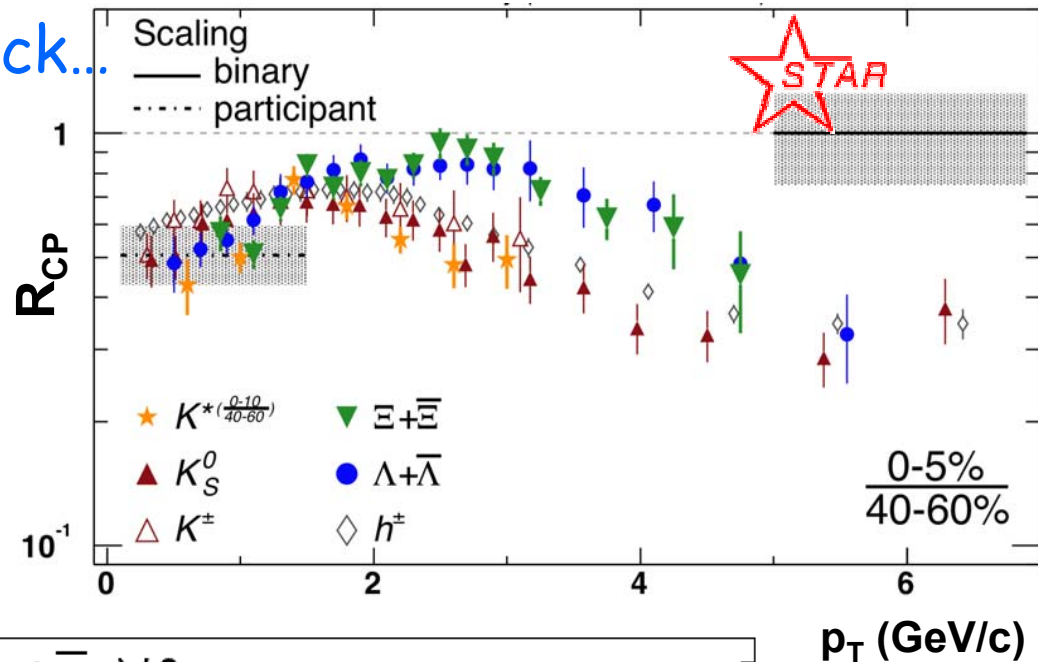
Definitely on the right track...

hadronic ΔE ?

- no

soft (hydro) + hard (parton ΔE)?

- would imply *mass* systematics
- (better stats on ϕ impt)



T. Frawley, QM04

ma lisa - QM04

With PID - [firm]

Definitely on the right track...

hadronic ΔE ?

- no

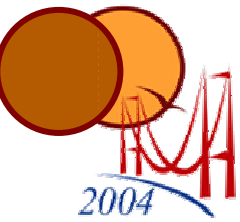
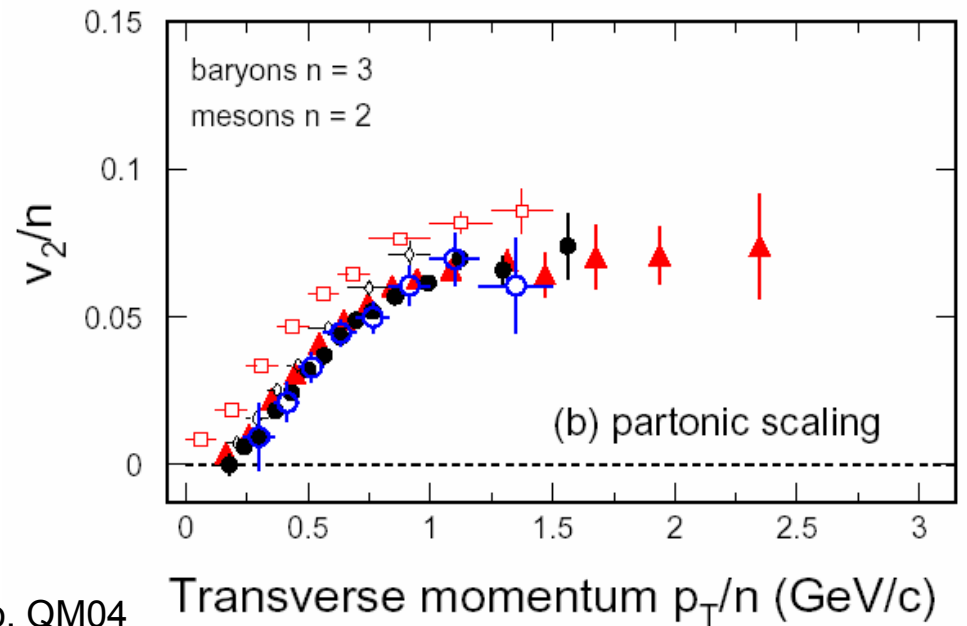
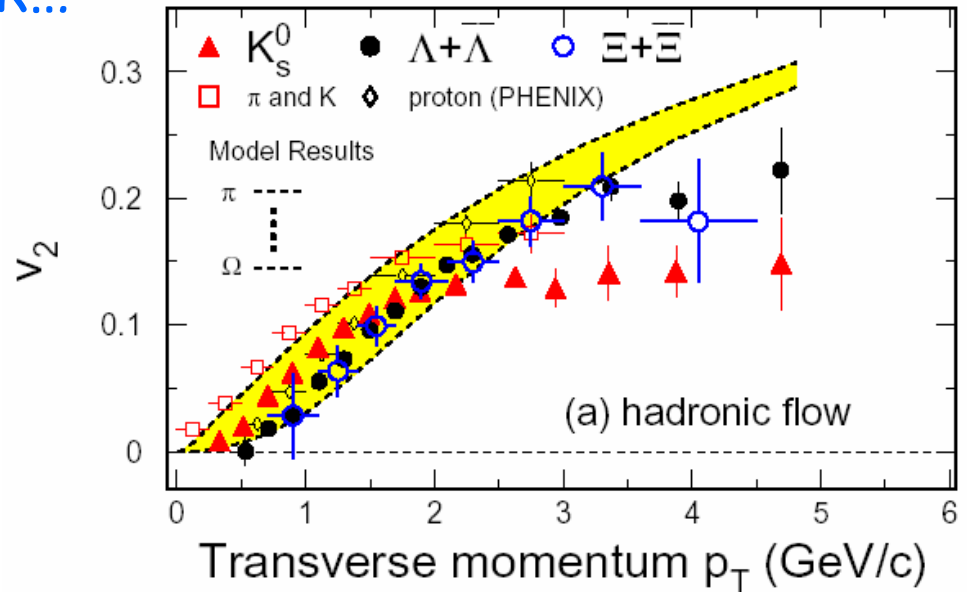
soft (hydro) + hard (parton ΔE)?

- not only

In azimuth: v_2 “n scaling”

- partonic systematics
 - ($v_2[\eta]$ will be nice)
- very suggestive of coalescence scenario

Au+Au at $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 200$ GeV



With PID - [firm]

Definitely on the right track...

hadronic ΔE ?

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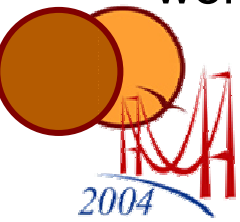
In azimuth: v_2 “n scaling”

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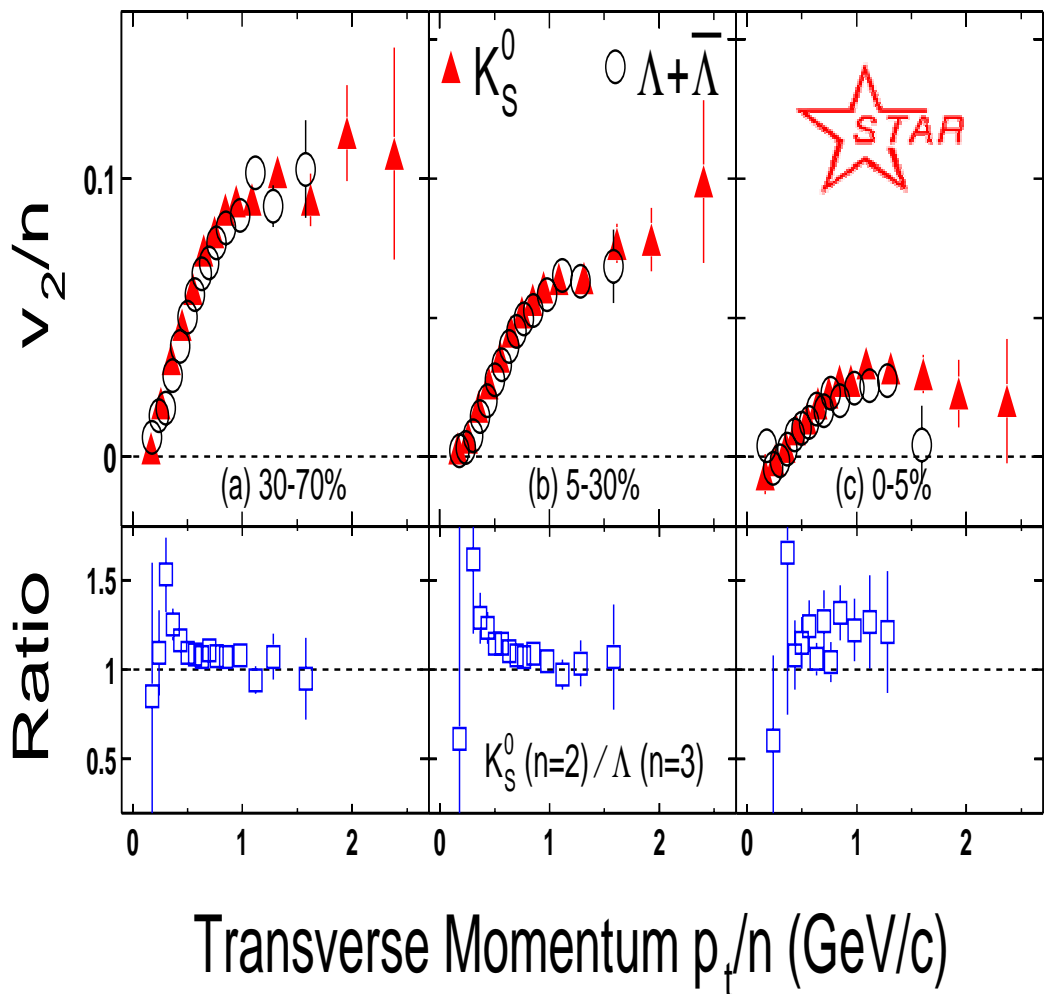
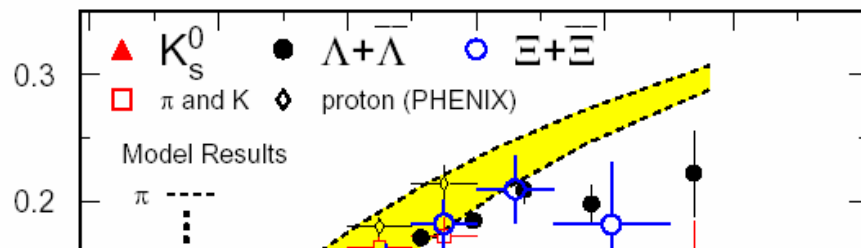
→ very suggestive of coalescence scenario

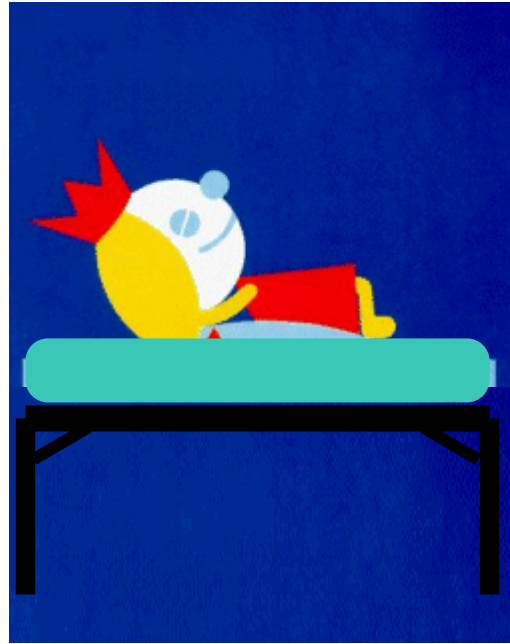
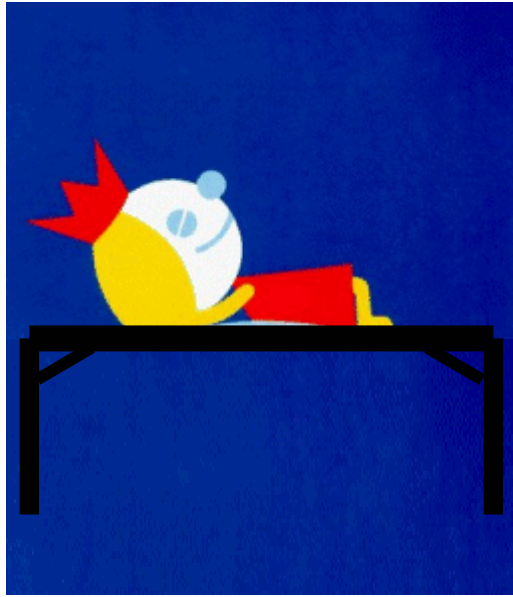
- push down in p_T ?

- “works” to $p_T^q \sim 500 \text{ MeV} \sim 3T^q$



Au+Au at $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 200 \text{ GeV}$





[hard]



[firm]



[soft]

Dense, partonic

Compelling!

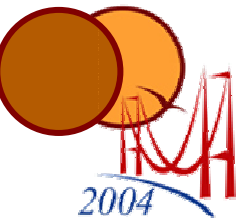
Explore further!

hadronization of

thermal (?) quarks

delve into the medium!

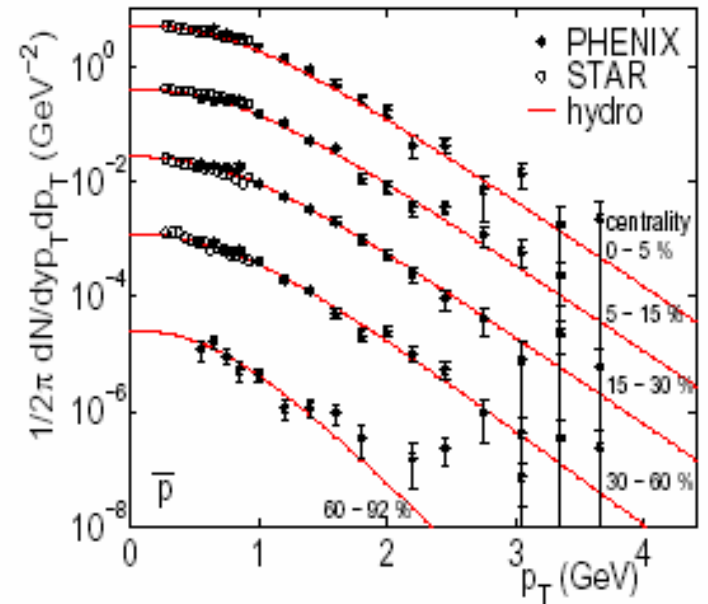
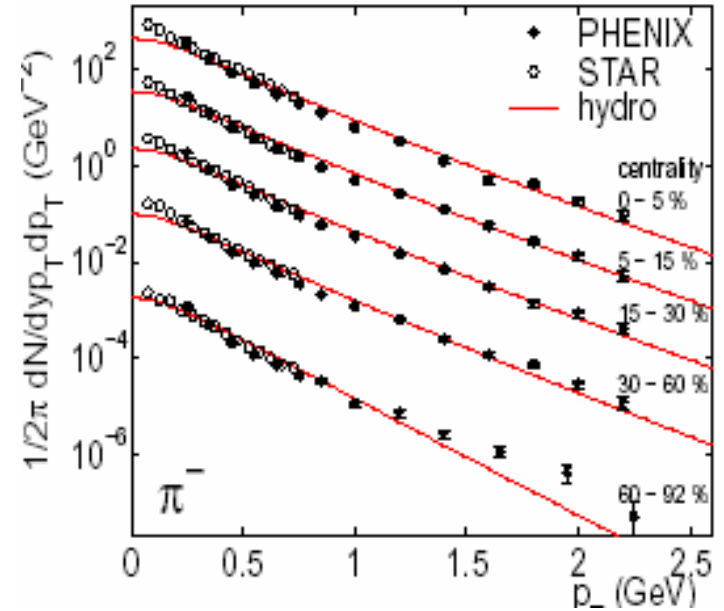
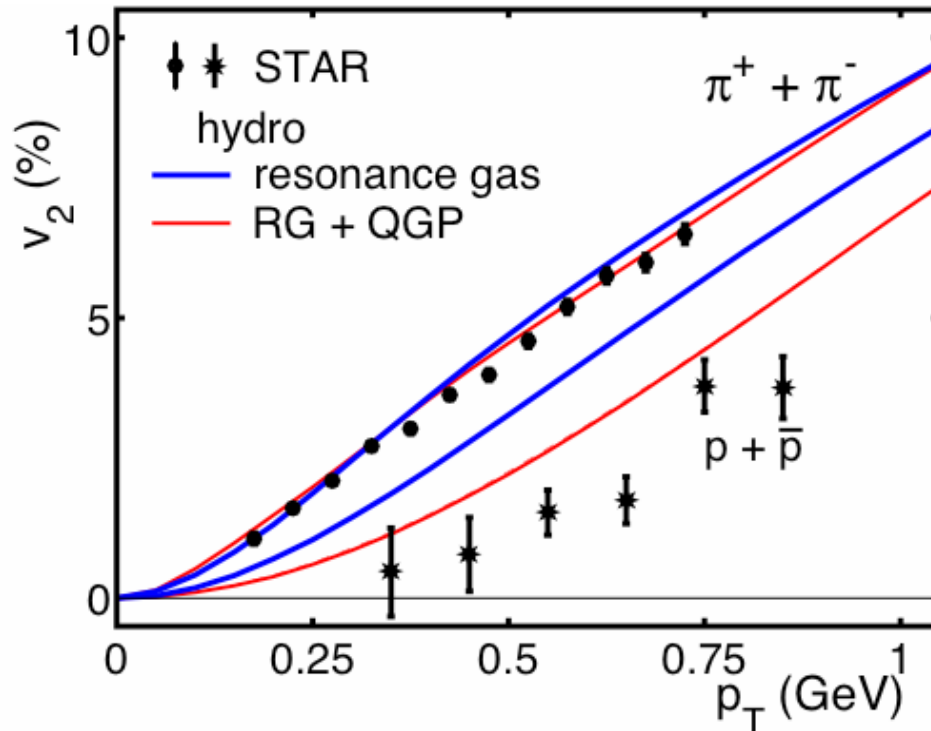
the medium...!



[soft] On the right track to...what?

Dominant soft sector theme:

- soft sector is **flow-dominated** ["fact"]
 - $dN(m)/p_T$, $v_2(p_T, m)$, HBT, non-id...
- hydro – works well in **p**-sector
 - probably early thermalization claim is correct [opinion]



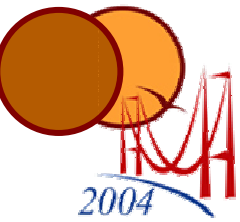
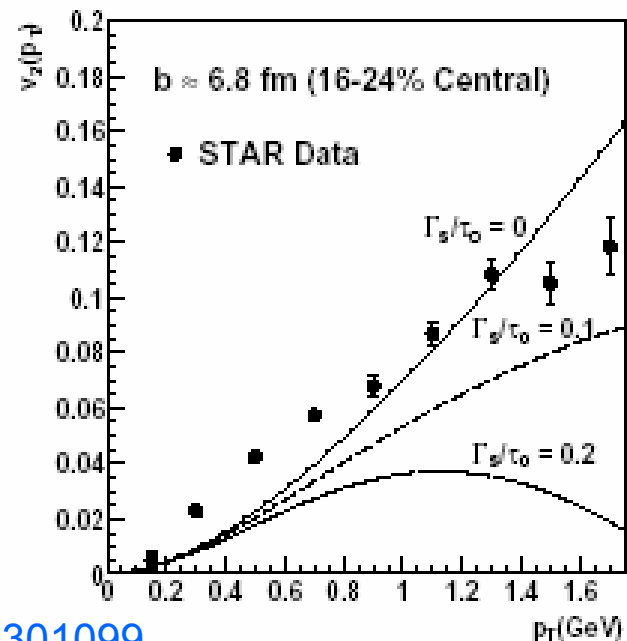
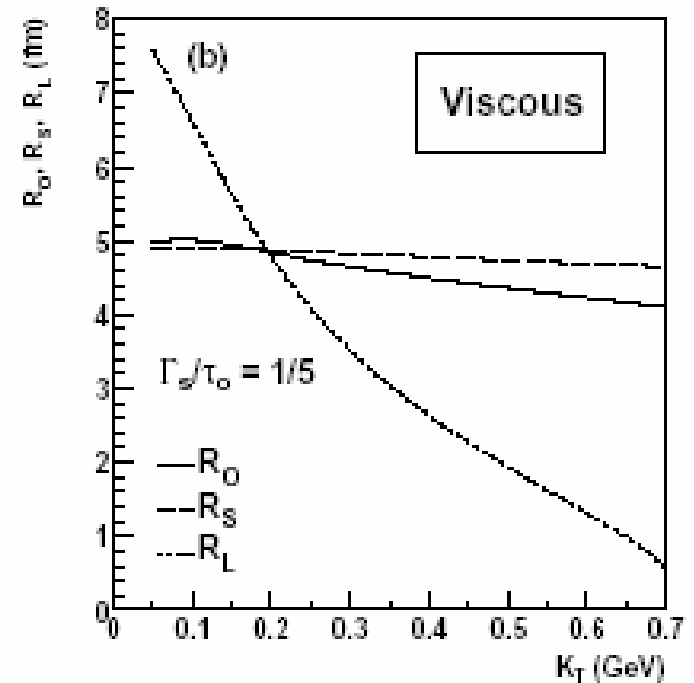
[soft] On the right track to...what?

Dominant soft sector theme:

- hydro-like flow describes **p**-sector

Bugaboo: space-time (HBT, etc.)

- very difficult to describe simultaneously p- and x-space in “real” models



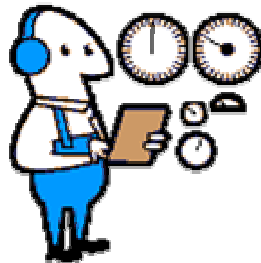
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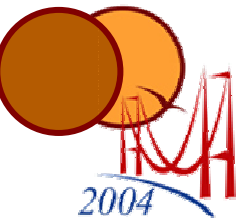
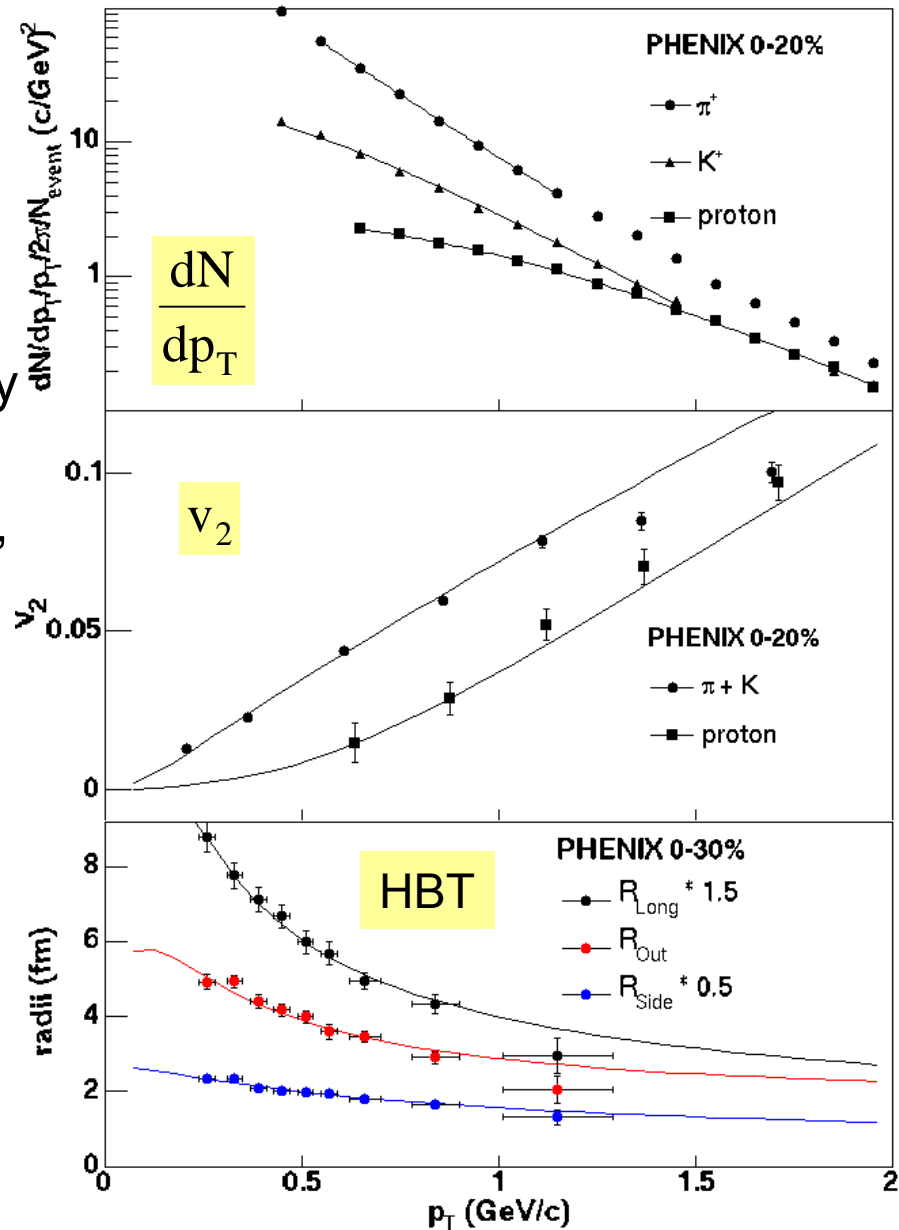
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“BlastWave” fits



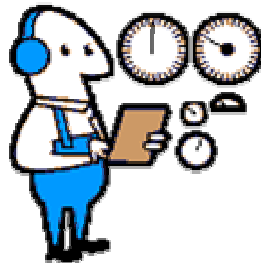
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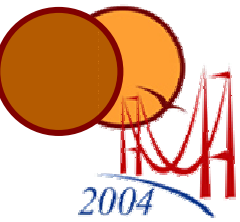
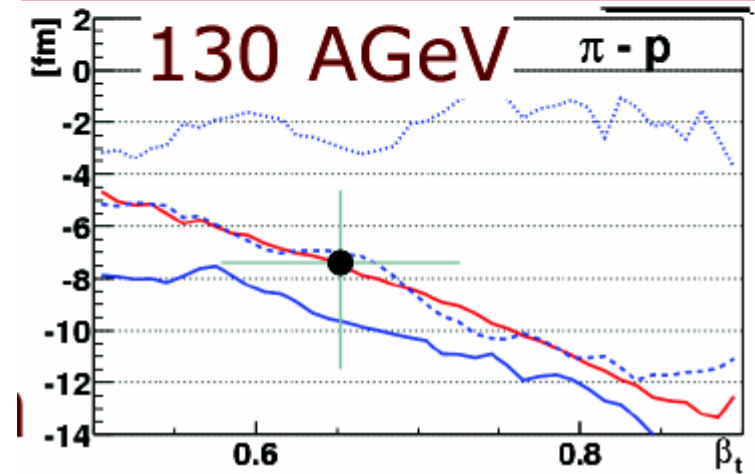
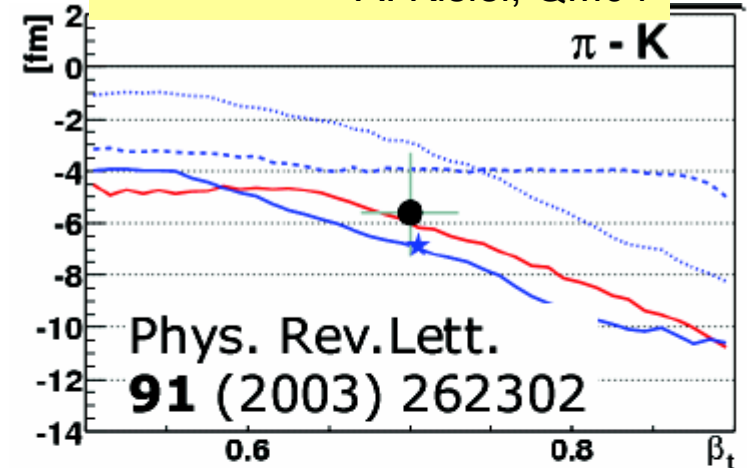
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“BlastWave” fits

Shift in emission points

A. Kisiel, QM04



[soft] On the right track to...what?

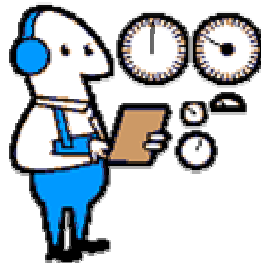
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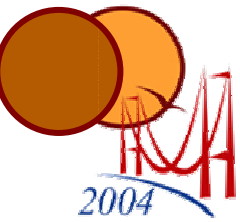
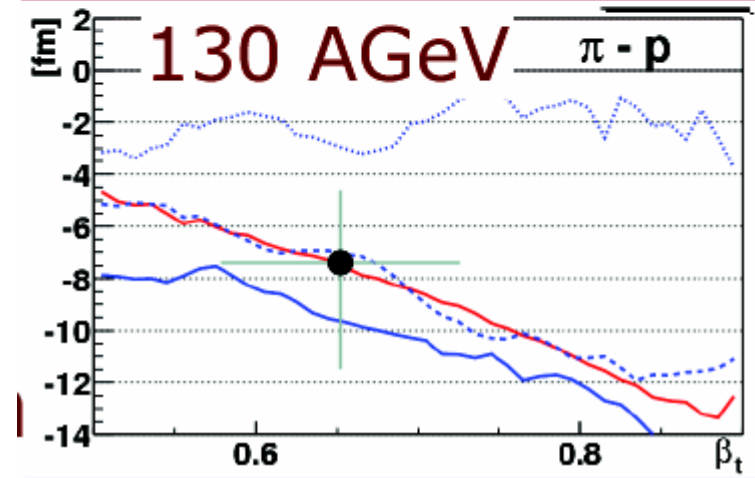
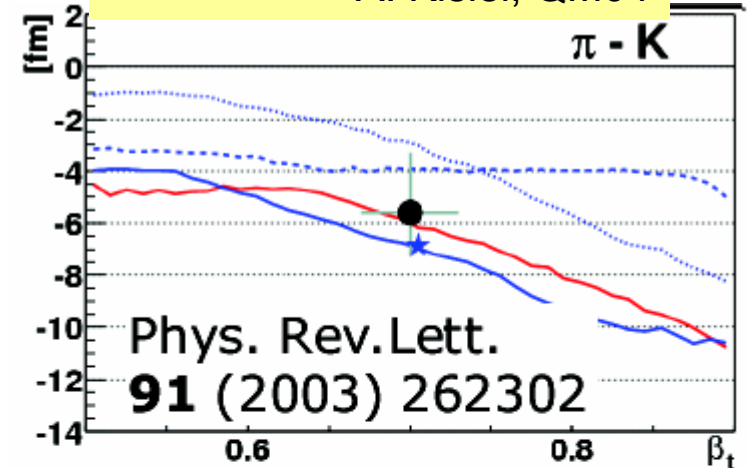
– short timescales!



“BlastWave” fits

Shift in emission points

A. Kisiel, QM04



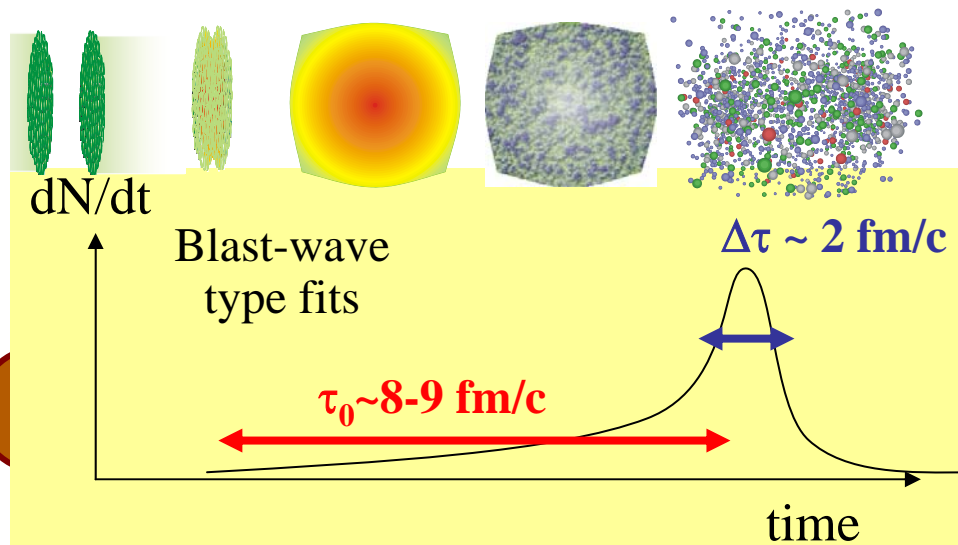
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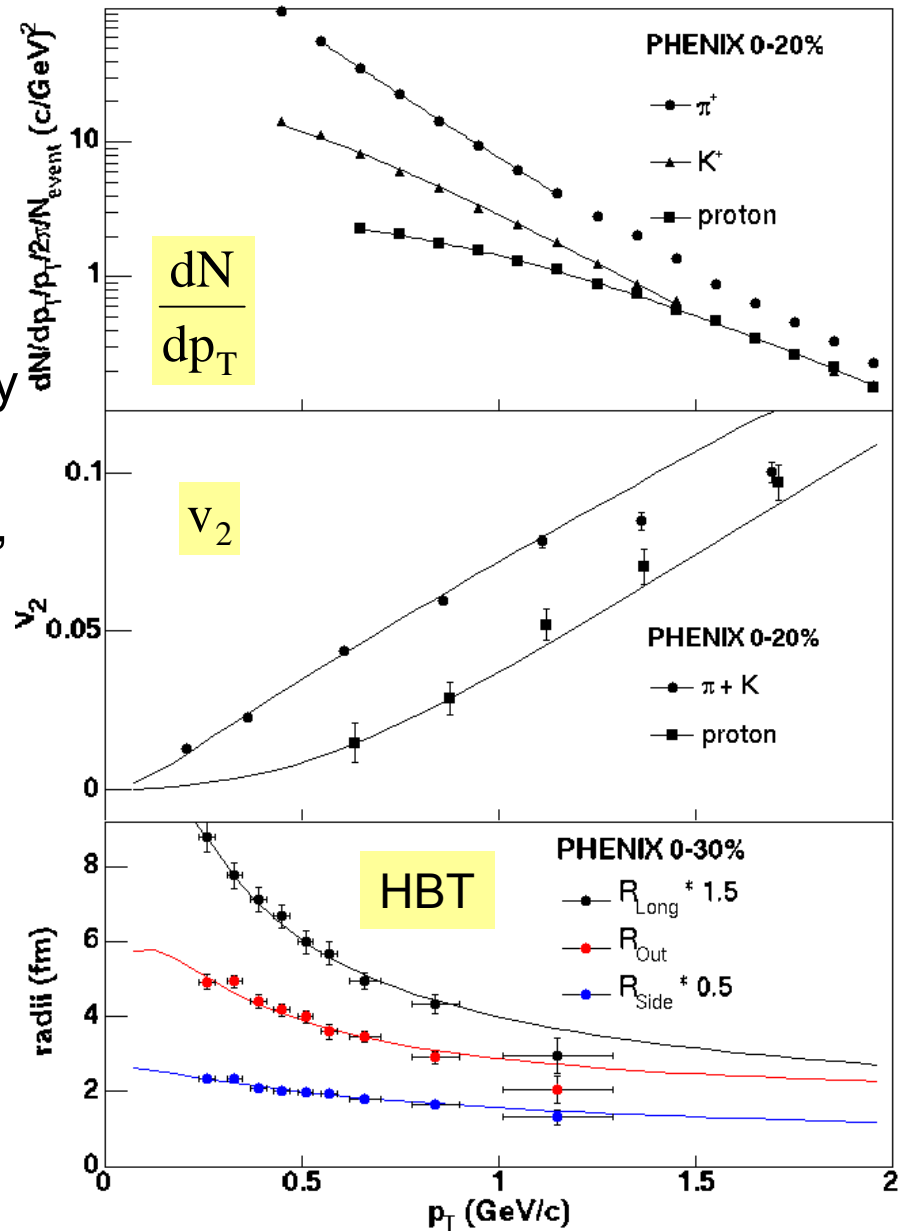
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“BlastWave” fits



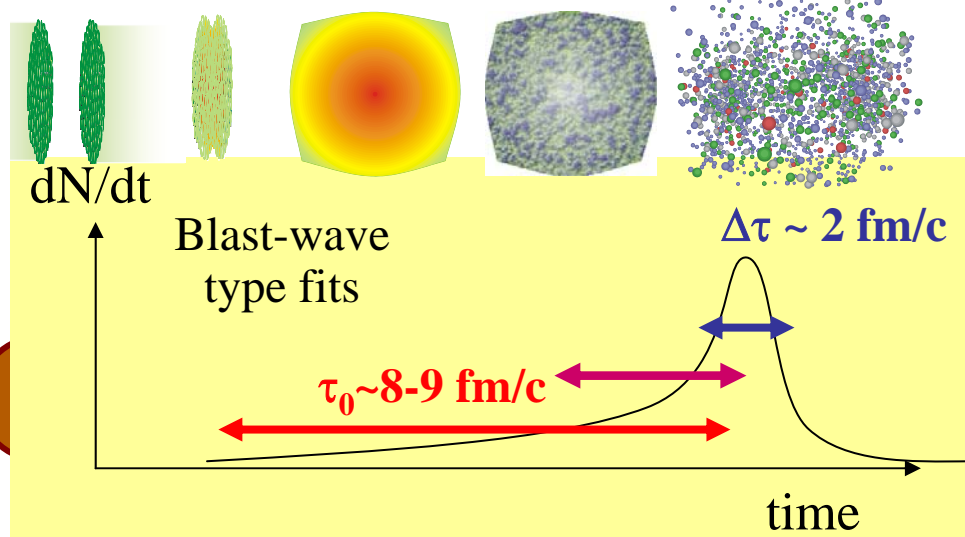
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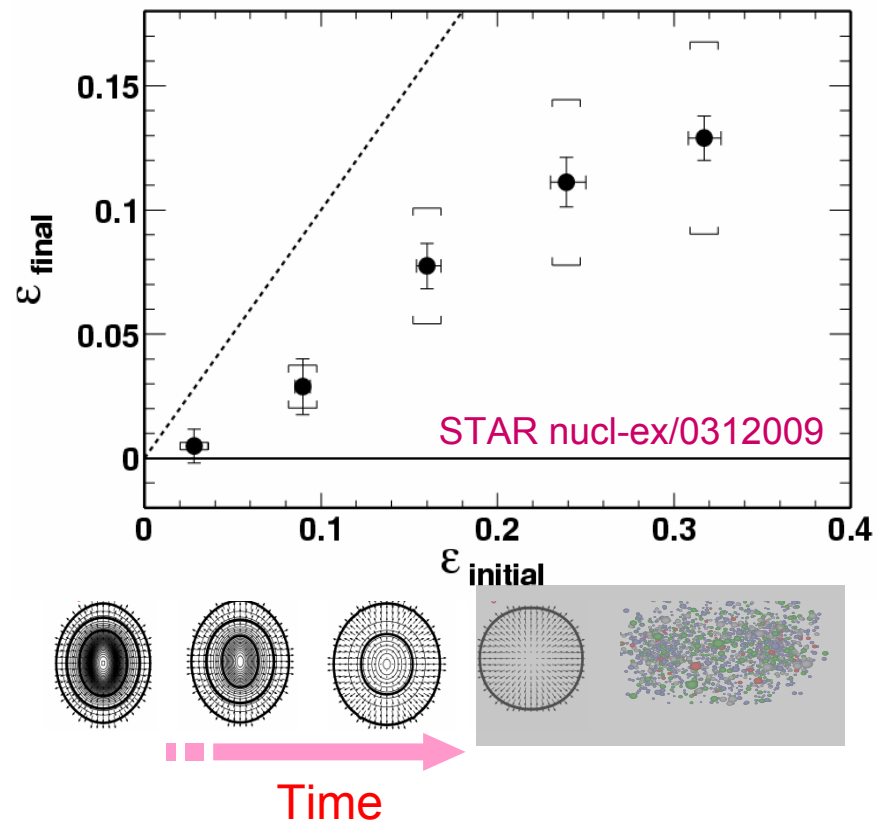
Bugaboo: space-time (HBT, etc.)

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 - short timescales!



More hints of short timescales

- azimuthally-sensitive HBT
 - source shape!!



- $t_K - t_{Ch} \approx 5 \text{ fm}/c$ (entropy, K^*/K)

O. Barannikova, P. Fachini

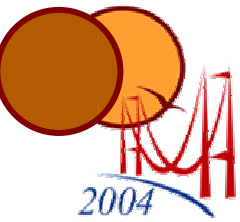
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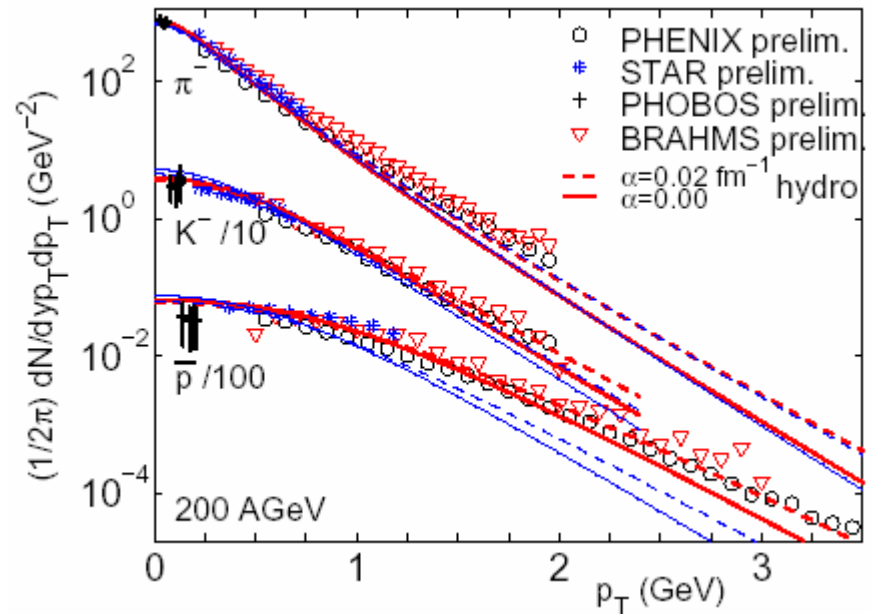
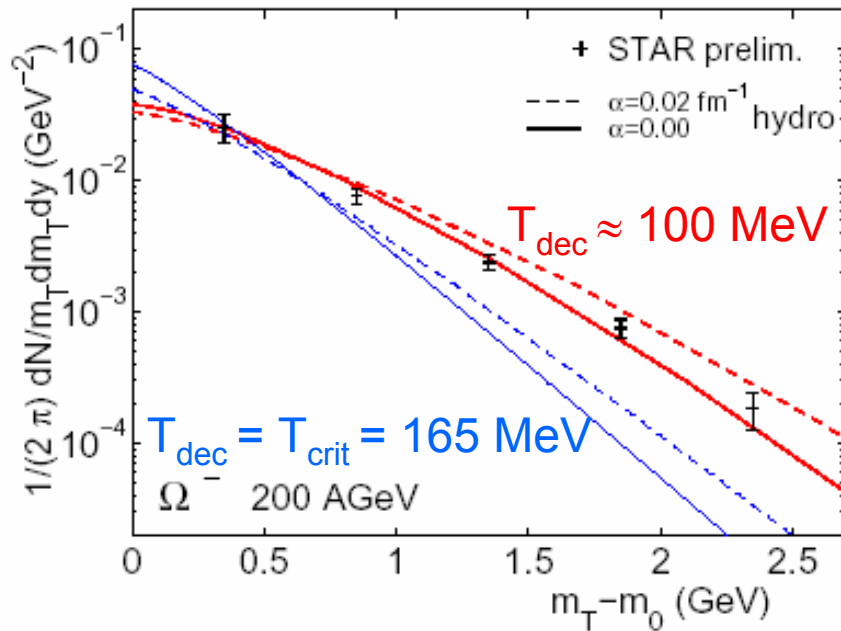
Bugaboo: space-time (HBT, etc.)

- (admittedly) *simple* estimates indicate shorter timescales than naturally turn up in models
- IMHO, these simple models contain a kernel of truth, and should not be discarded
- certainly, there is no indication for *long* timescales (originally expected / hoped for) in the data



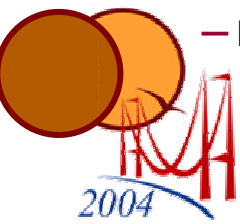
side comment:

BlastWave models are useful, but do not **abuse**



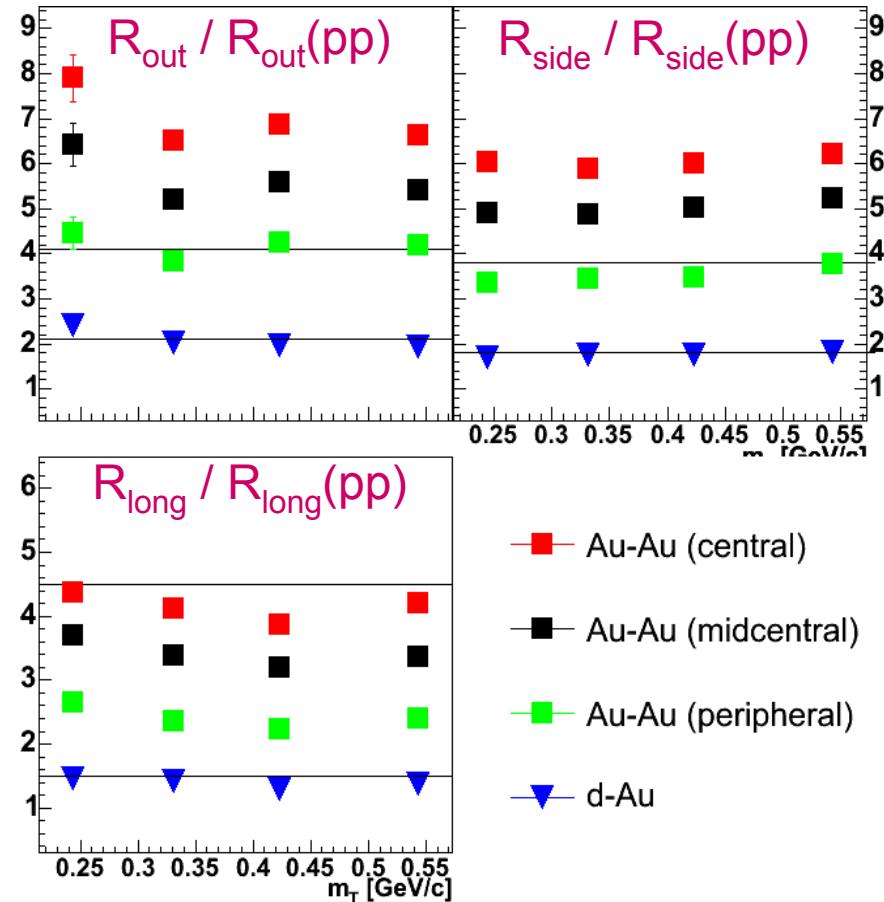
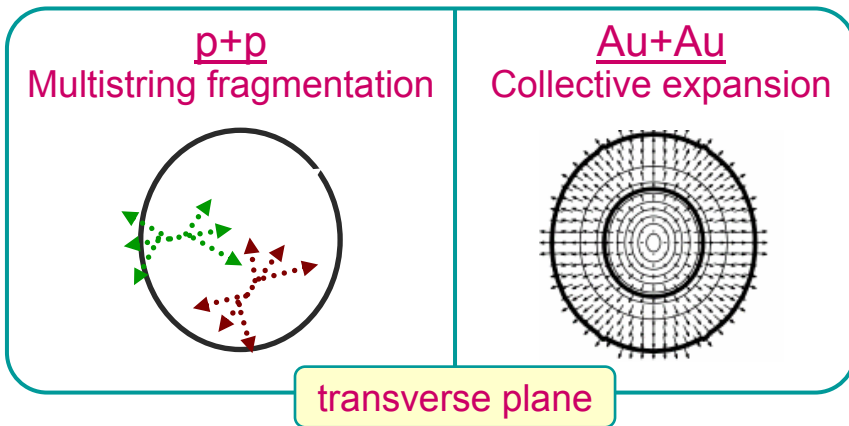
- hydro seems to “work” for multistrange particles as for the rest
- FO hypersurface matters especially for heavy particles [Heinz&Kolb]
- [opinion]: **if** (!) “real” model (hydro) works for Ξ , Ω , why trust **instead** a parameterization?

– may be early FO, but BW fits are not evidence for it

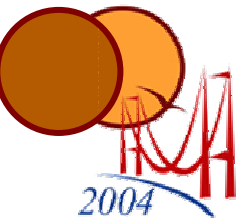


soft sector- do we have a clean reference?

- HBT $R(k_T)$ in AA and pp *presumably* (?) due to different physics
- Flat AA/pp ratio ?!?
- experimentalists hate “coincidences” ☹️



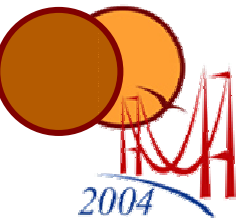
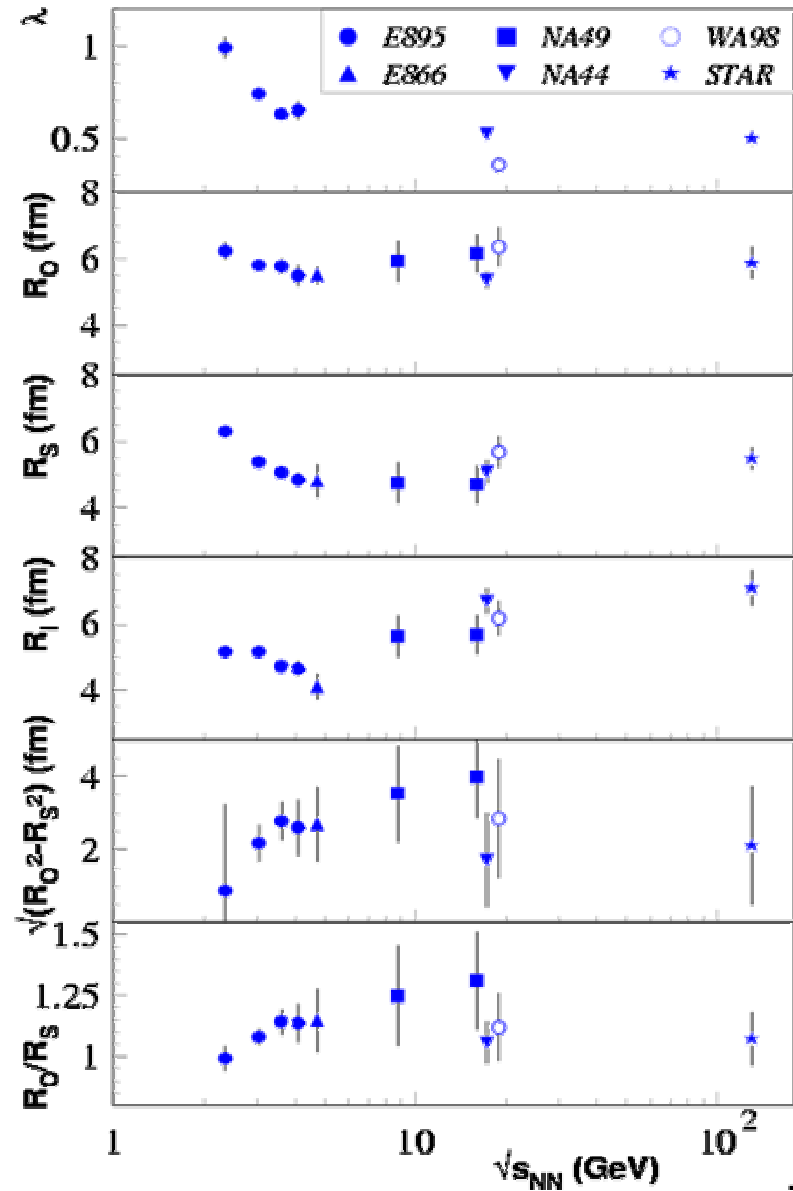
T. Gutierrez for STAR Coll, poster



soft sector- do we have a clean reference?

HBT and soft-sector variables in general:

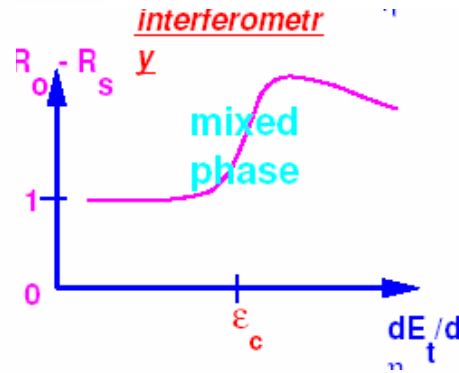
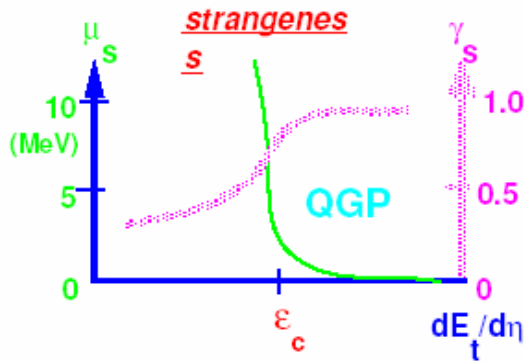
- relatively featureless terrain *
- usually “explainable”/describable by unremarkable physics (e.g. $\lambda_{FO} = 1$ fm)
- similar for flow, strangeness, dN/dy
- often similar problems at lower \sqrt{s}
 - where to hang one’s hat?



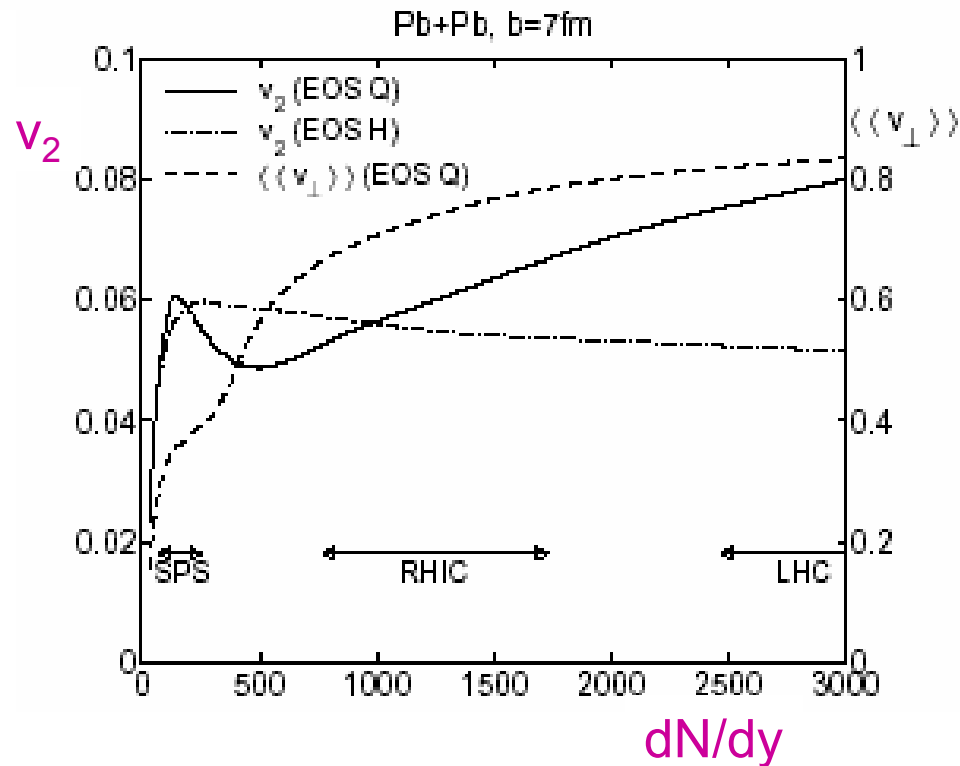
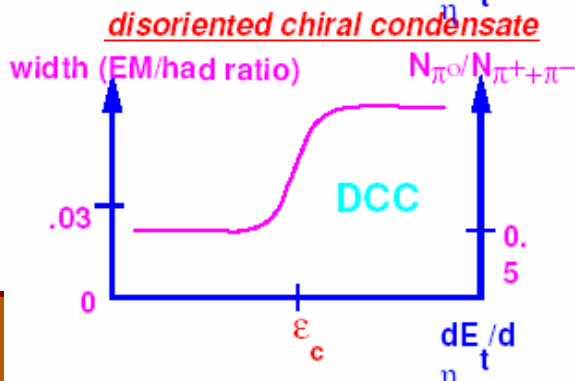
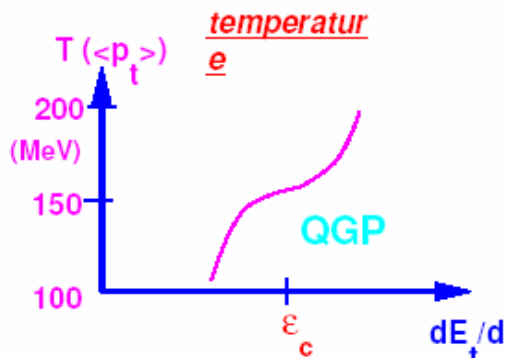
* but: horns et al.

soft-sector dreams...

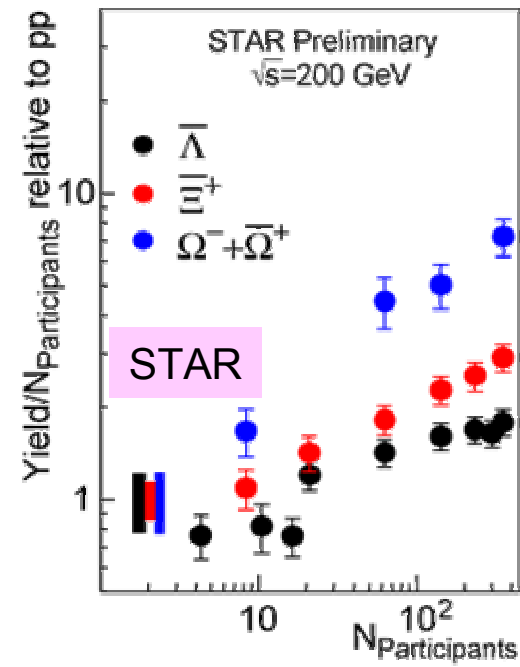
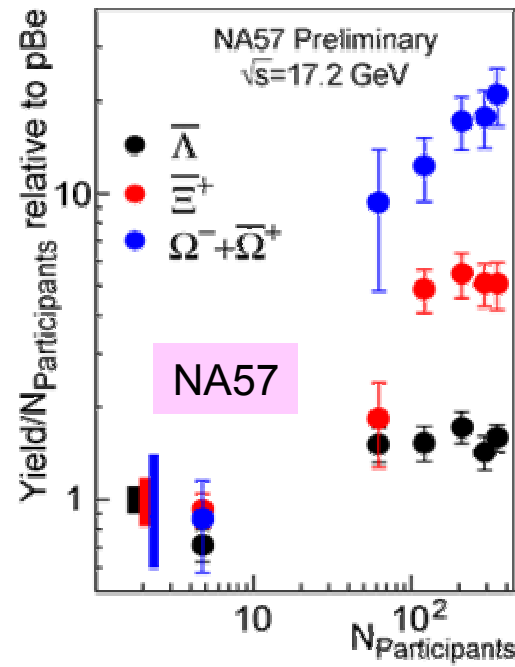
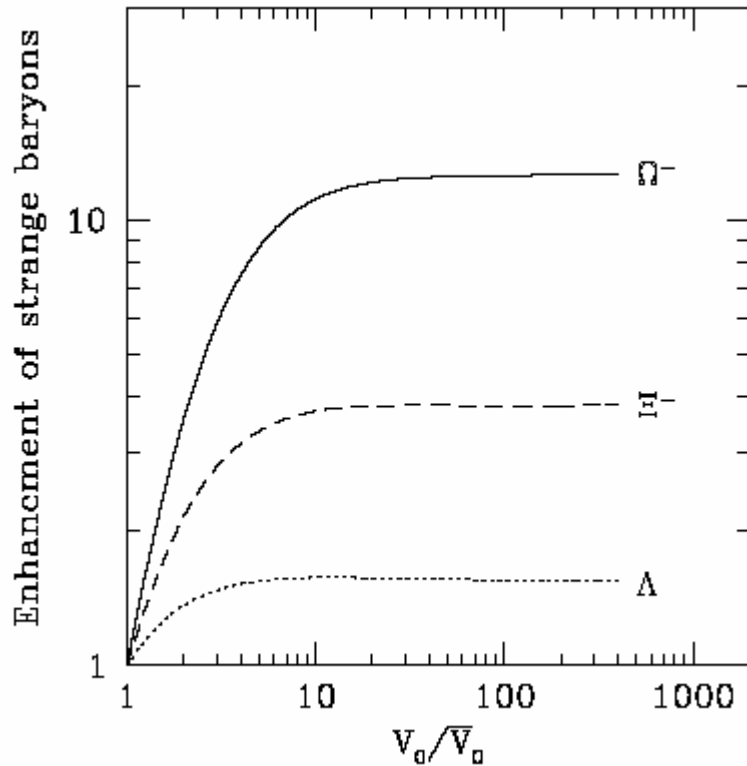
SIGNATURES



“we were naïve”



Strangeness thermalization/equilibration?

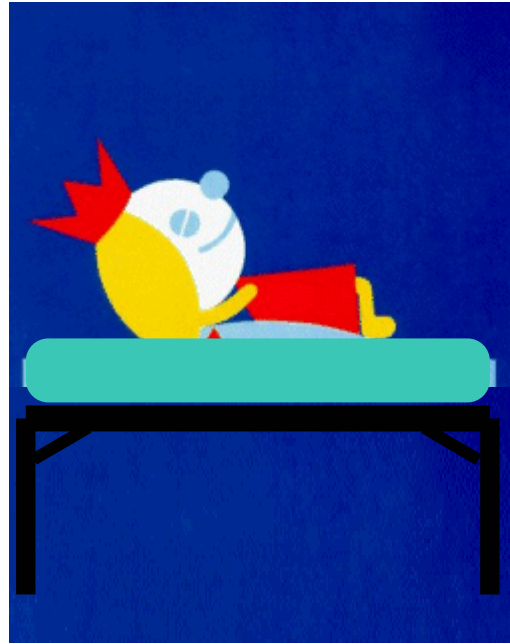
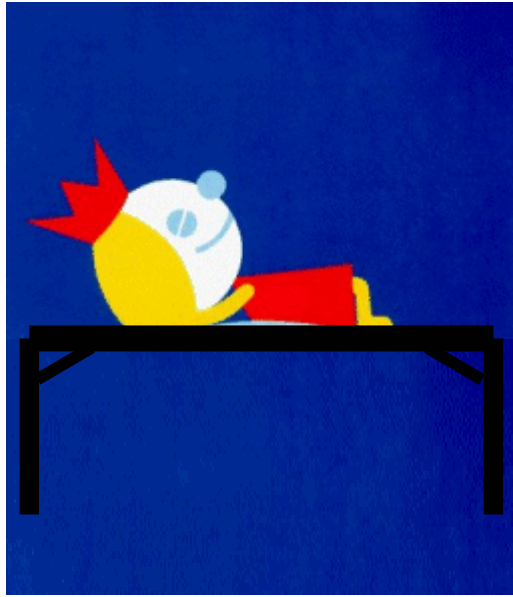


1. it saturates, but just at the very end
2. it equilibrates, but in addition, we have contributions from hard processes?

Hamieh, Redlich, Tounsi
PLB486 61 (2000)

Do we understand our **reference** systematics (centrality)?





[hard]



[firm]



[soft]

Dense, partonic

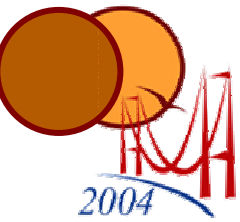
Compelling!

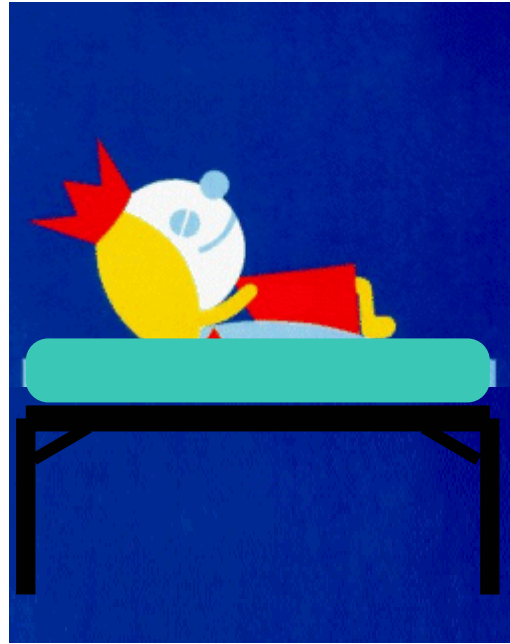
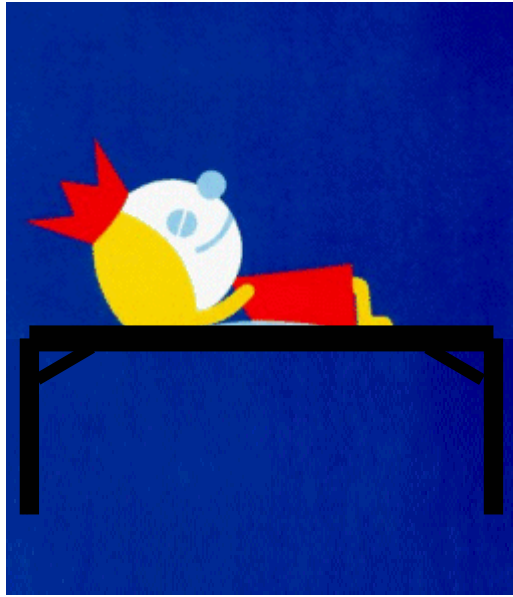
Explore further!

hadronization of
thermal (?) quarks
delve into the medium!

high ϵ
high pressure
short τ 's [IMHO]

no clear indication
of something really "new"





cup half full:

- *beautiful measurements*
- will be exciting to *systematically* learn why/how this *most important sector* hides its secrets

[hard]



[firm]



[soft]

Dense, partonic

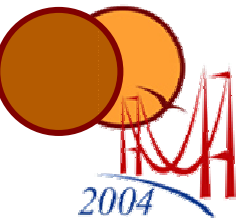
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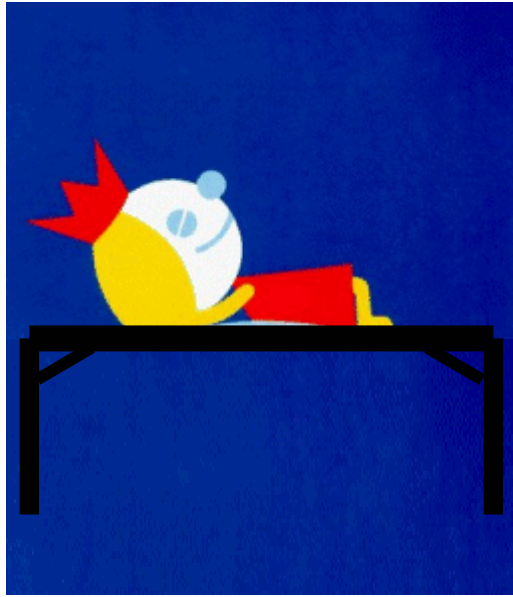
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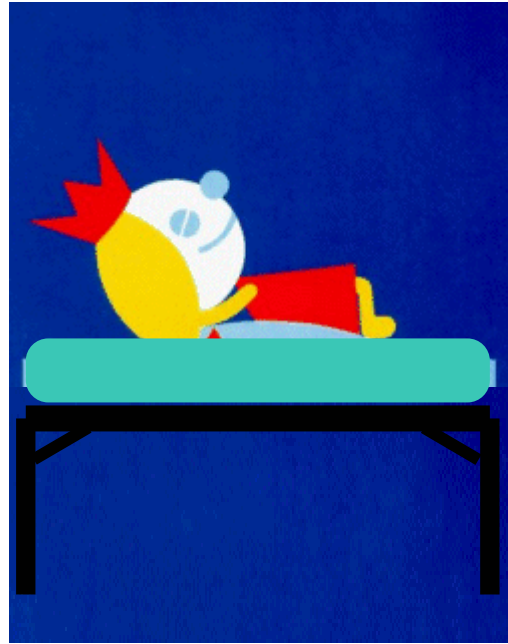
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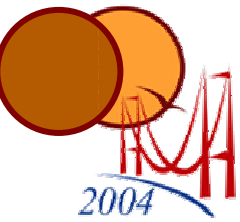
[hard]

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Compelling!
Explore further!



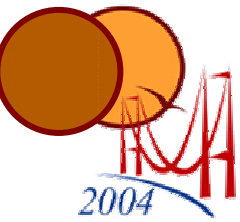
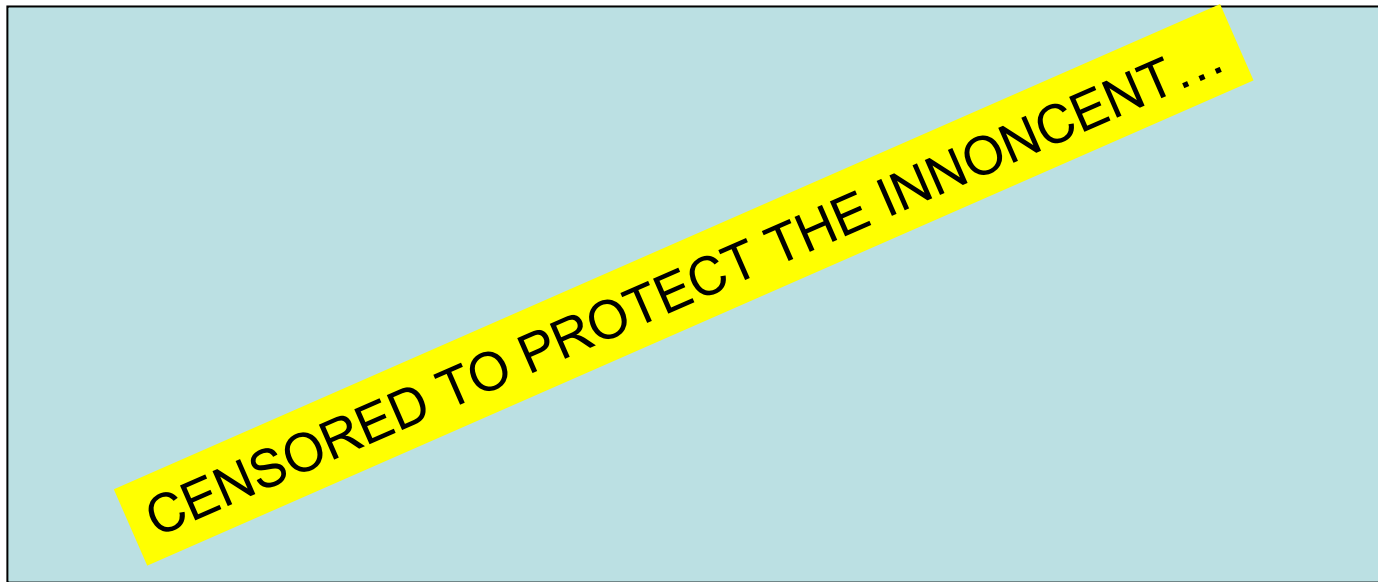
[firm]

hadronization of
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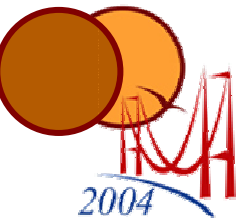
Sorry I couldn't mention *your* favourite observations...

Special thanks to...

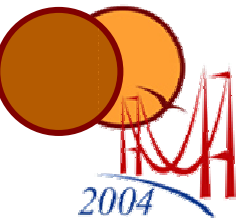


David Scott 1979

“In the development of RHI studies, a form of intellectual Ludditism appears to be prevalent. There is a tendency to assume that no significant progress is being made, when in fact intriguing and unexplainable phenomena exist, the ultimate understanding of which is likely only to come from sustained research”

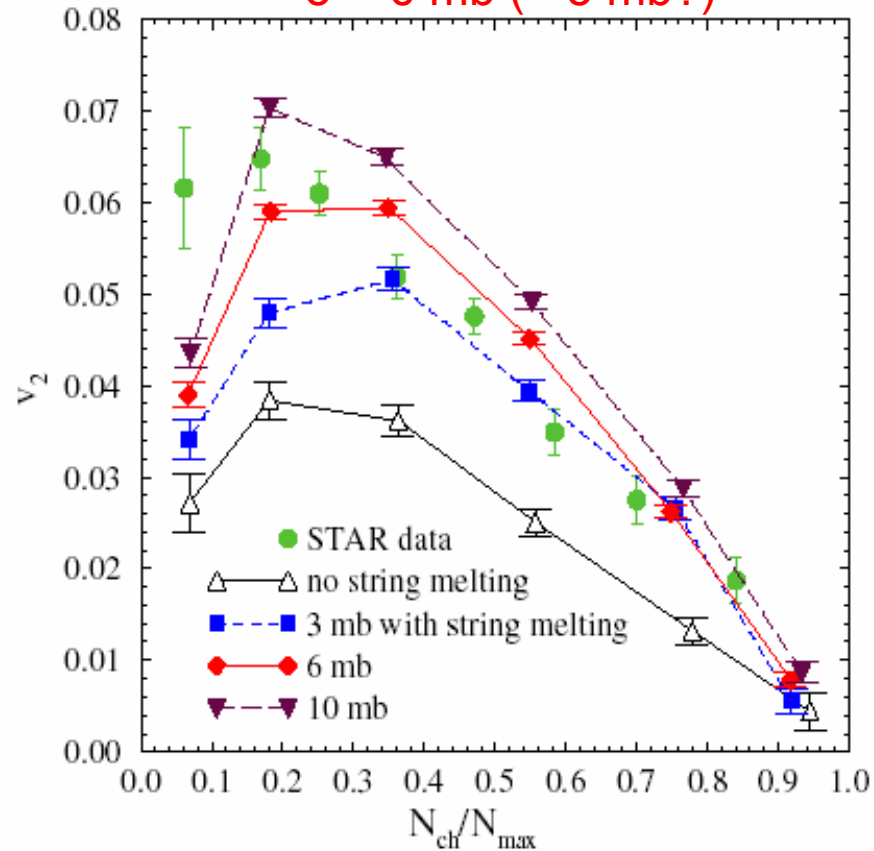


The End

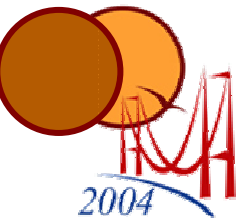
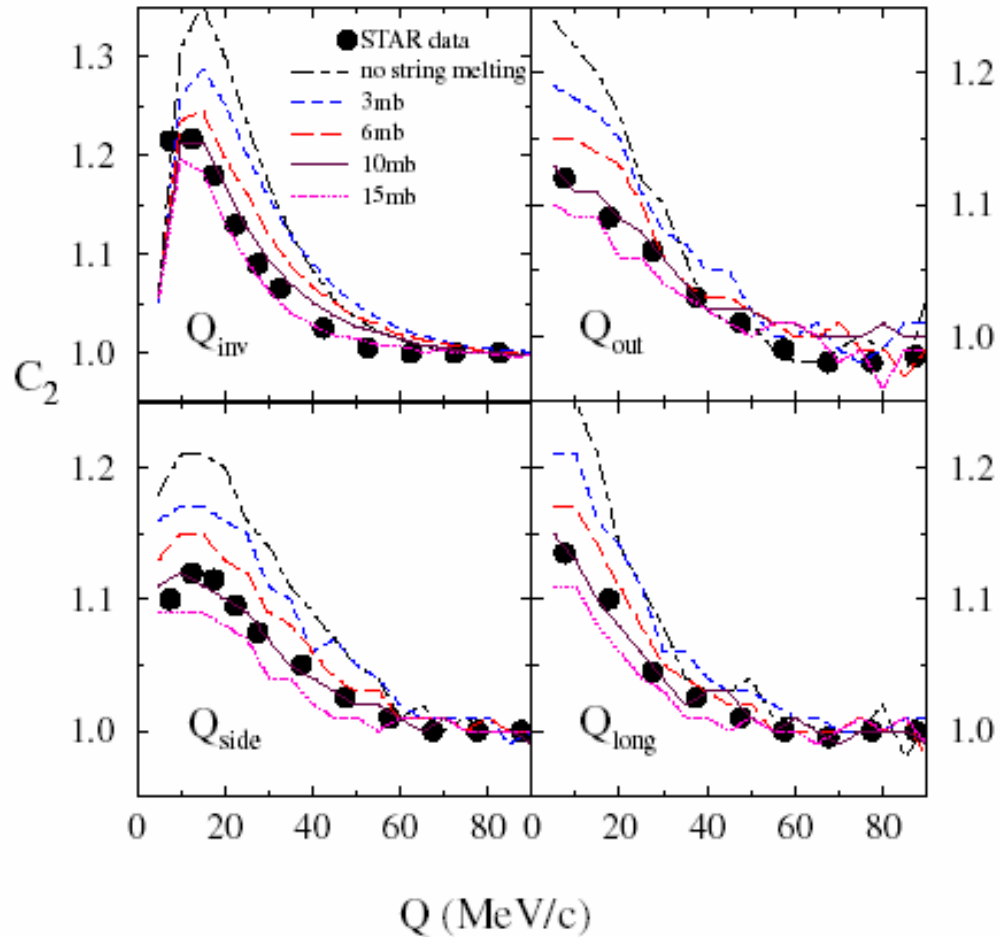


v2 and HBT from AMPT?

$\sigma < 6$ mb (~ 3 mb?)



$\sigma \sim 10$ mb



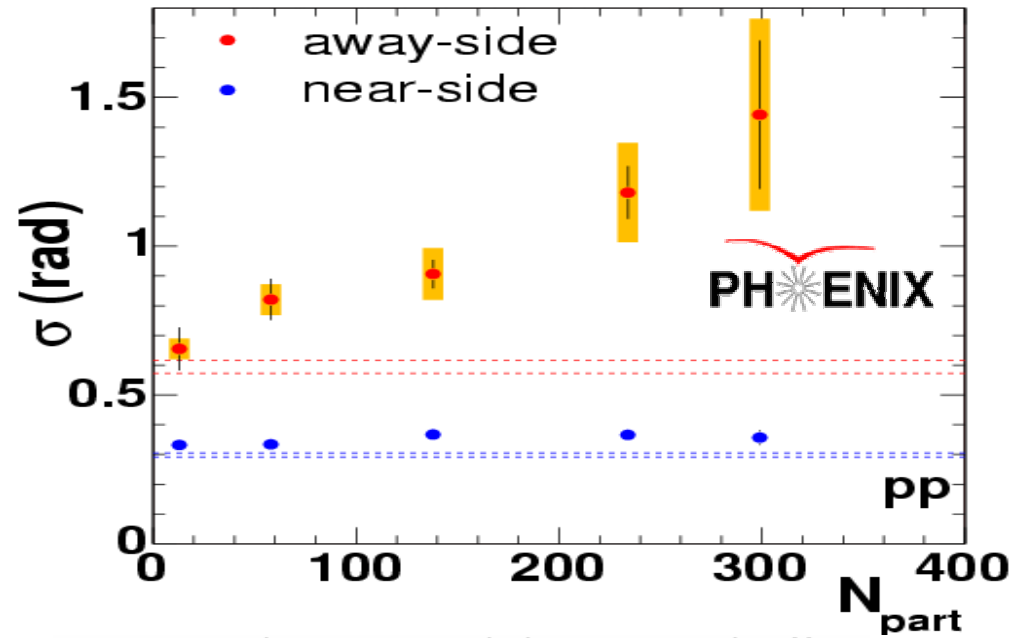
[hard] On the right track...

Singles spectra & $\Delta\phi$ distributions

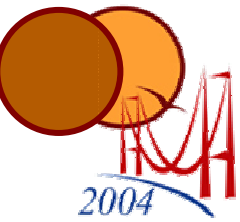
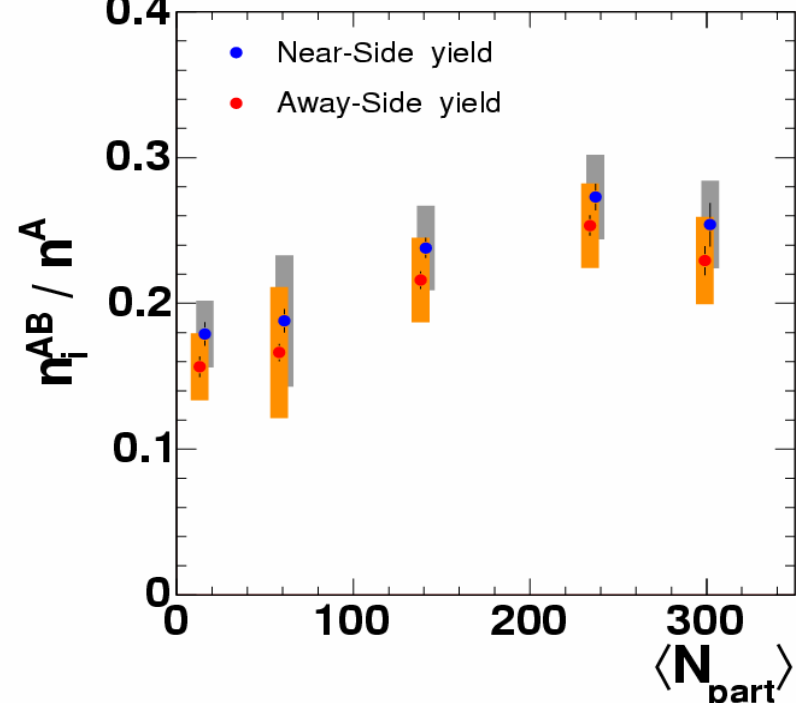
- final state medium-induced jet “quenching”

important: lower $p_{T,assoc}$

- jets poking through?



$(2.5 < p_{T,assoc} < 4.0) \otimes (1.0 < p_{T,trigg} < 2.5)$ GeV/c



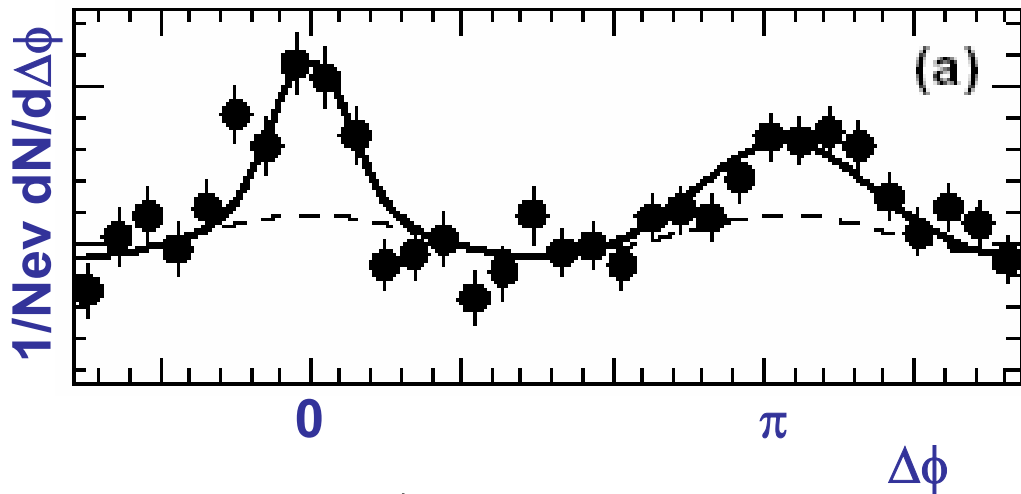
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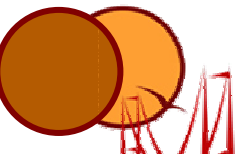
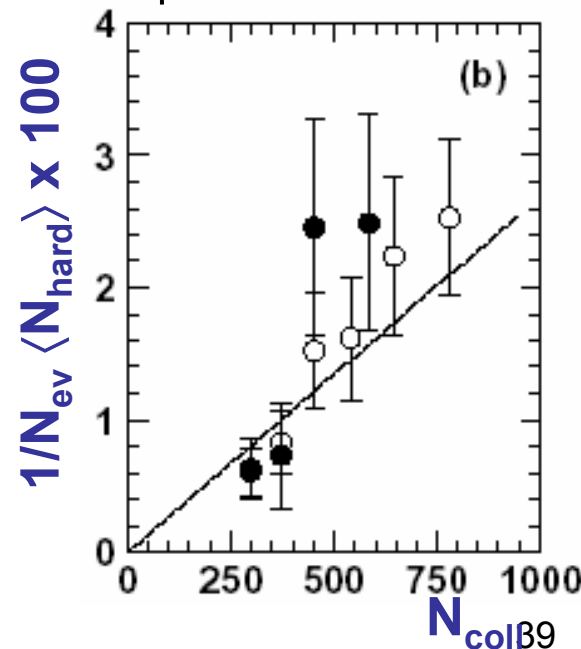
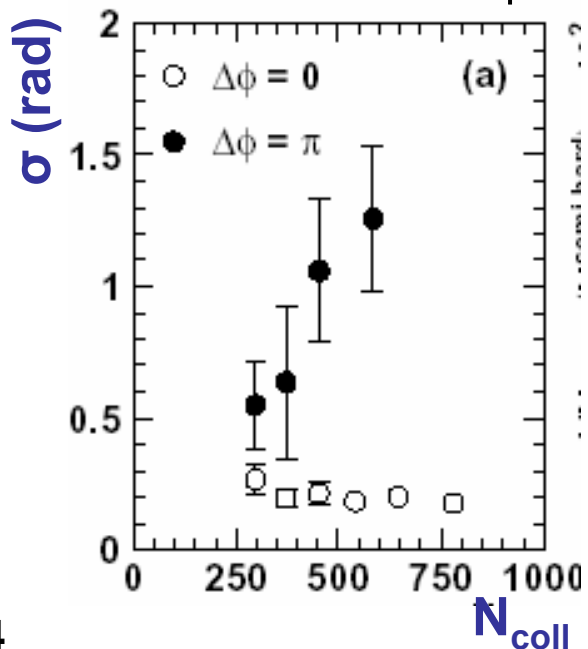
important: lower $p_{T,assoc}$

- jets poking through?
- low \sqrt{s} reference: broadening; no suppression
 - jets ?
 - new effect at RHIC



Pb+Pb $\sqrt{s}=18$ GeV

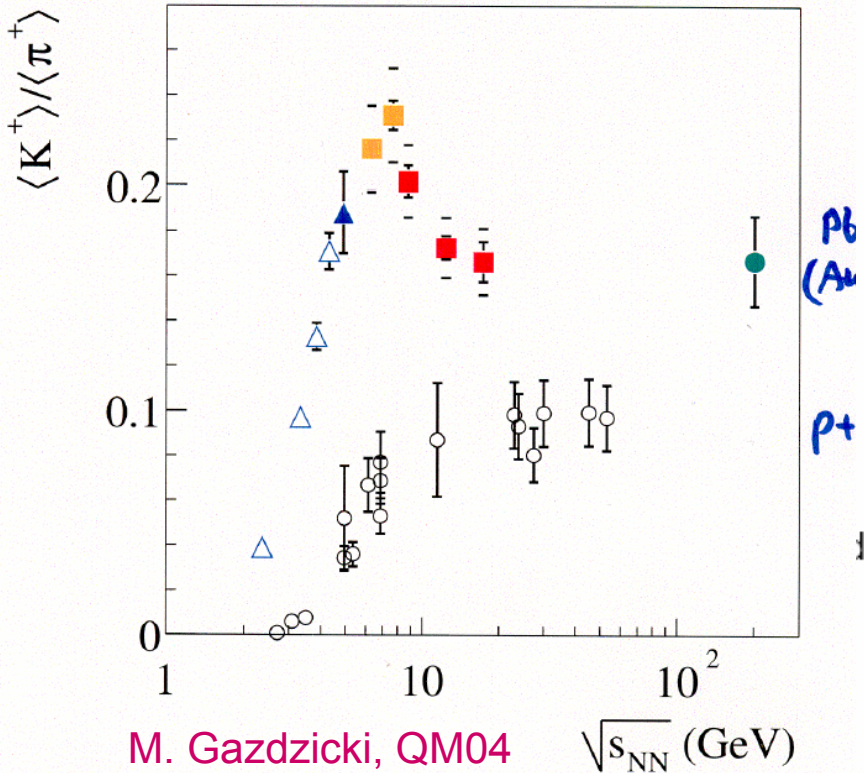
○ $\Delta\phi=0$ ● $\Delta\phi=\pi$



horns, steps, kinks

- How could an experimentalist *not* be intrigued by a sharp horn!?
- troubling coincidence of microhorn
- IMHO, I don't have a well-formed opinion

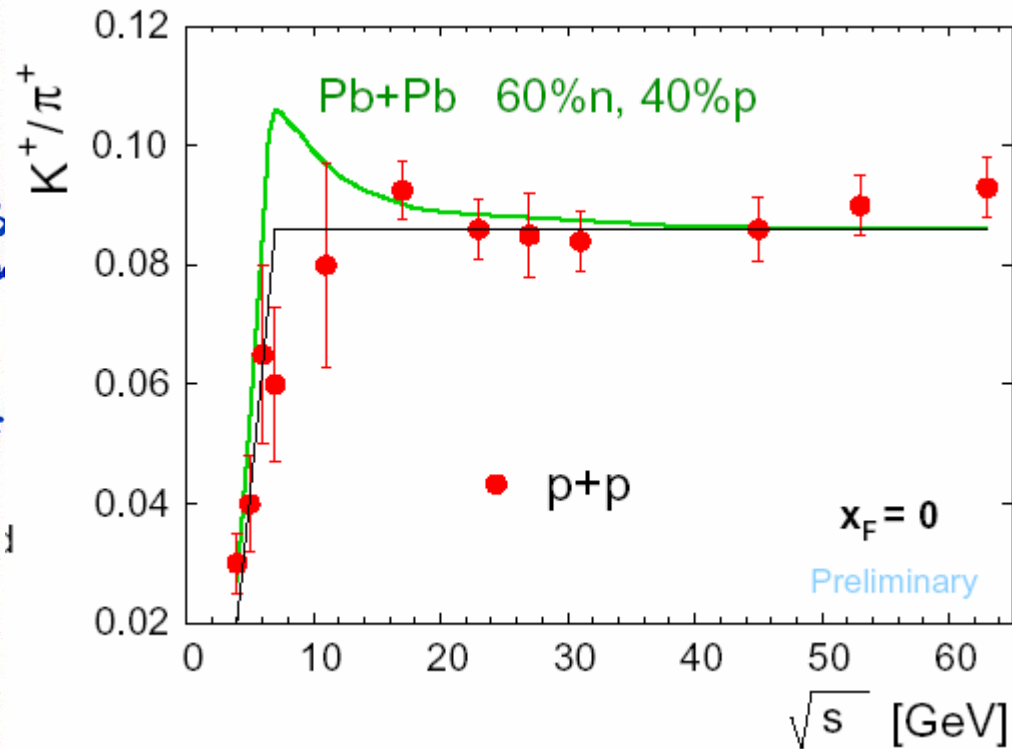
A+A – The Matterhorn



M. Gazdzicki, QM04

$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)

isospin weighted N+N \neq p+p :
the microhorn

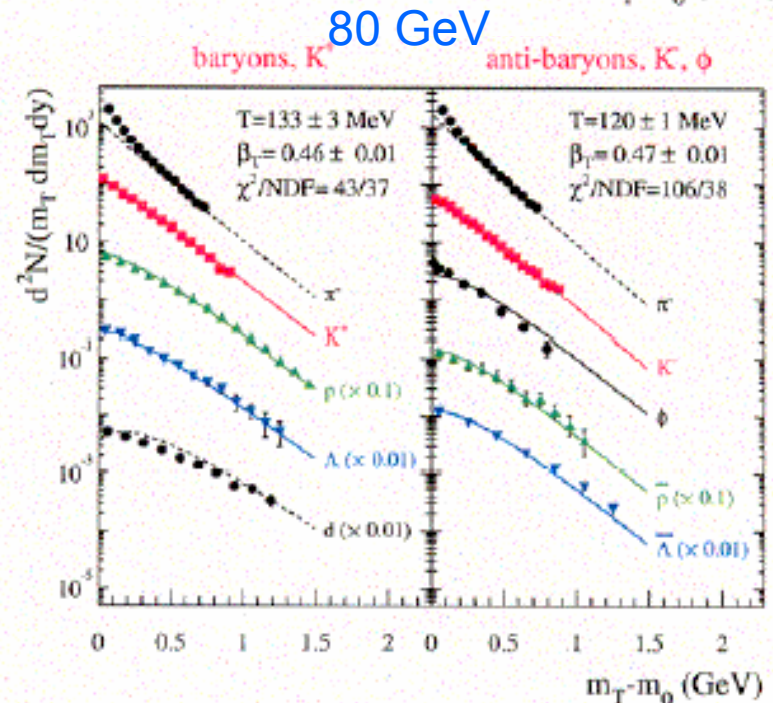
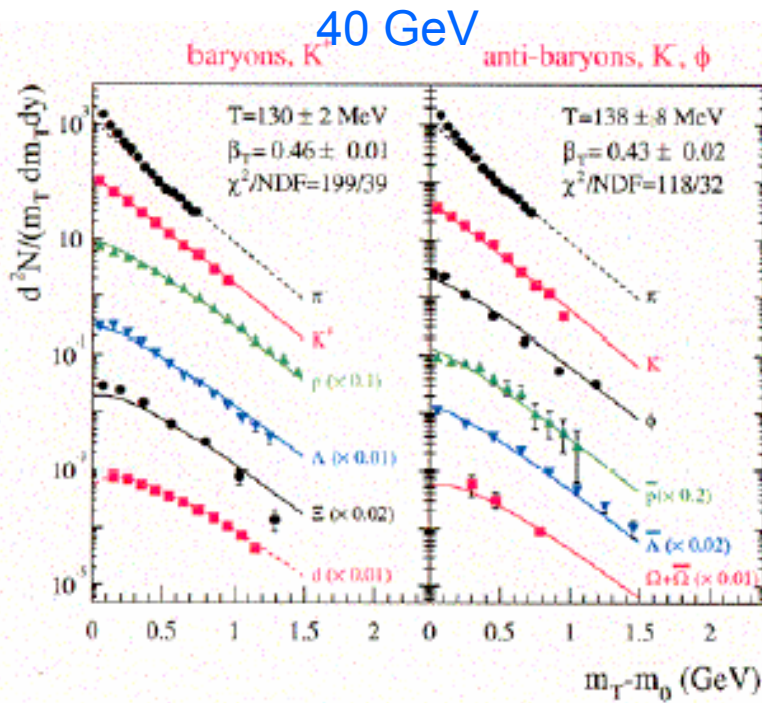
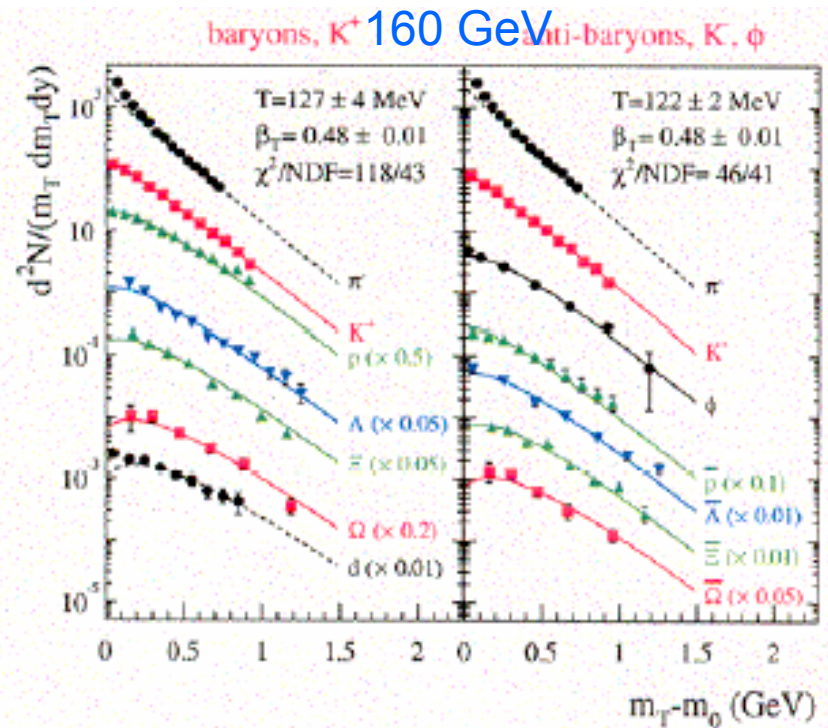


A. Rybicki, QM04

\sqrt{s} [GeV]

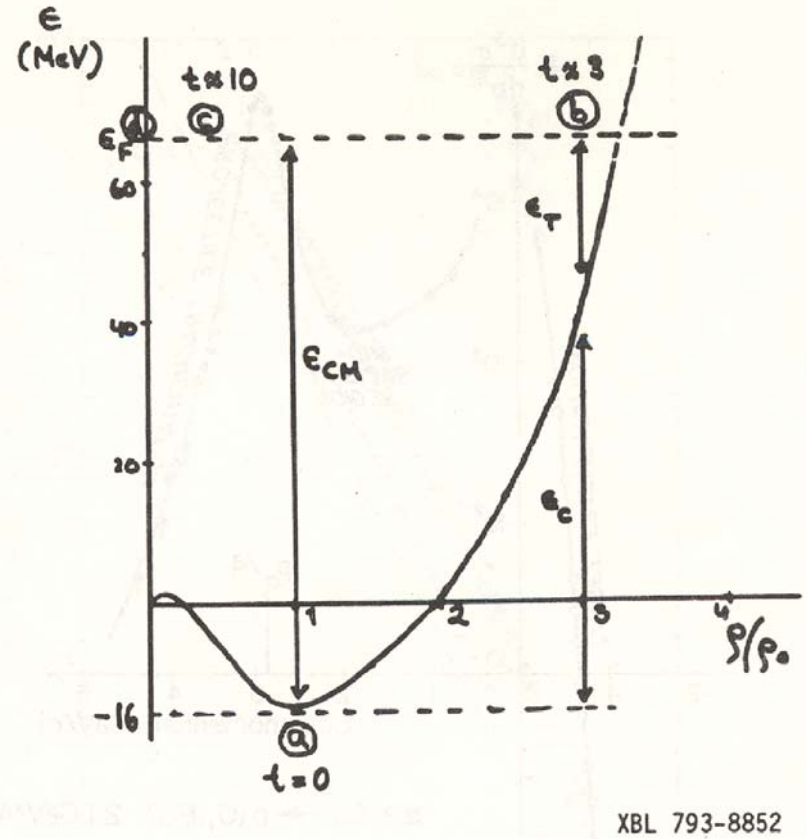
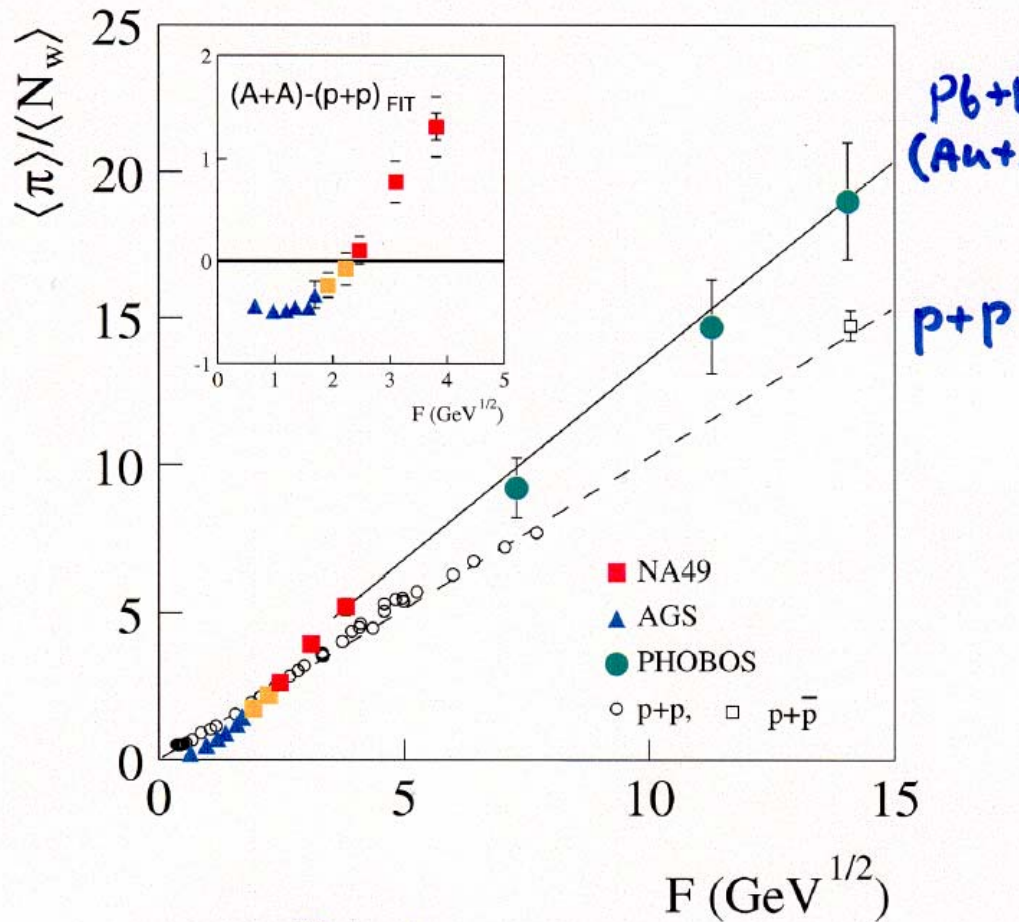
horns, steps, kinks

- Unclear to me why exponential fit just to K^+ is appropriate
- OTOH, claim is ~ 2 MeV variation with fit range



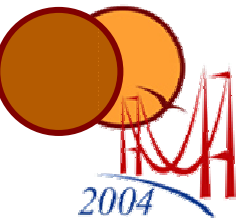
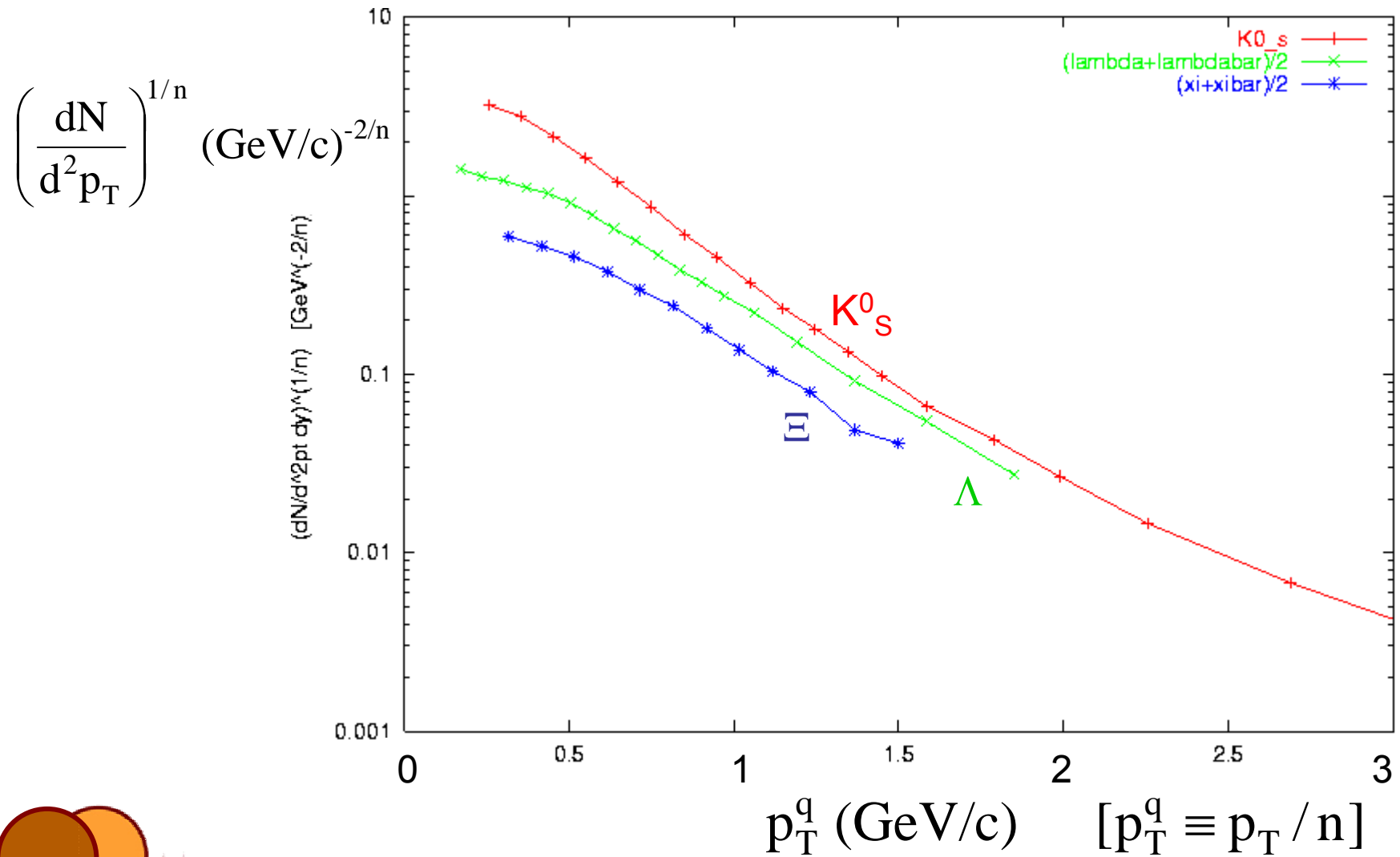
horns, steps, kinks

- not connected to old (Bevalac) ideas of EoS, compression, energy conservation (and $N+\Delta \rightarrow N+N$)?



LBL Streamer chamber group 1979
c/o Reinhardt Stock

scaled pT spectra - c/o Molnar & Voloshin

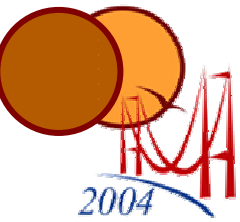
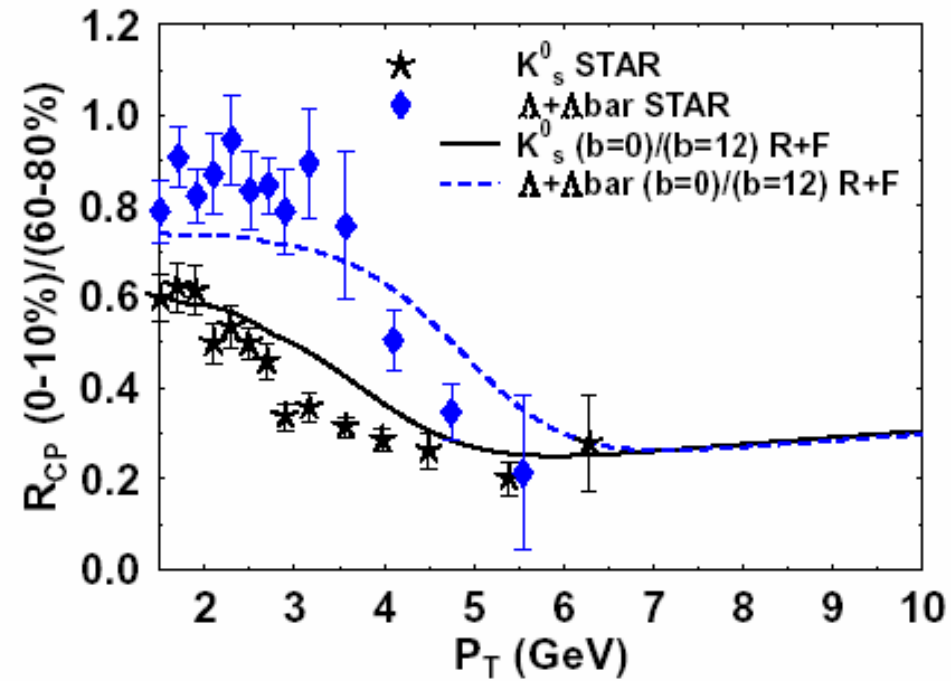


With PID - [firm]

Definitely on the right track...

Fries et al, PRC68 044902 (2003)

Coalescence models (various flavors)



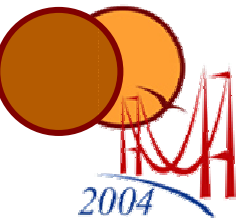
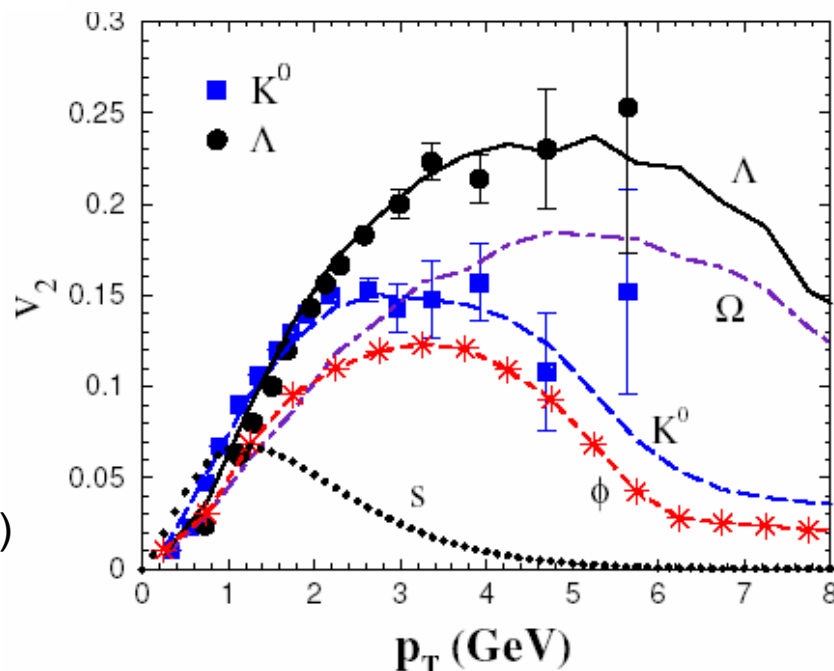
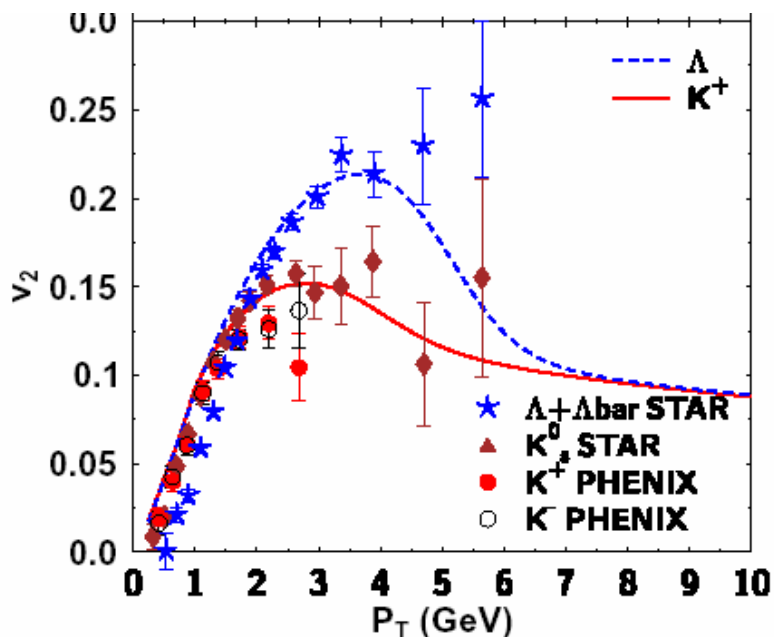
With PID - [firm]

Definitely on the right track...

Fries et al, PRC68 044902 (2003)

Coalescence models (various flavors)

- promising, distinguishable models
 - $v_2[s] = v_2[u,d]$?
 - interaction b/t hard/soft quarks?
 - dynamics of hadronization!!
- Molnar parton cascade
 - $\sigma \approx 3 \text{ mb} (\neq 10 \text{ mb})$
 - $dN/d\eta \approx 1500-3000$ (\sim Gyulassy)



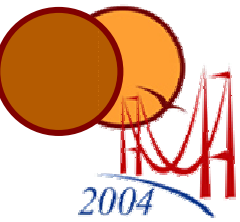
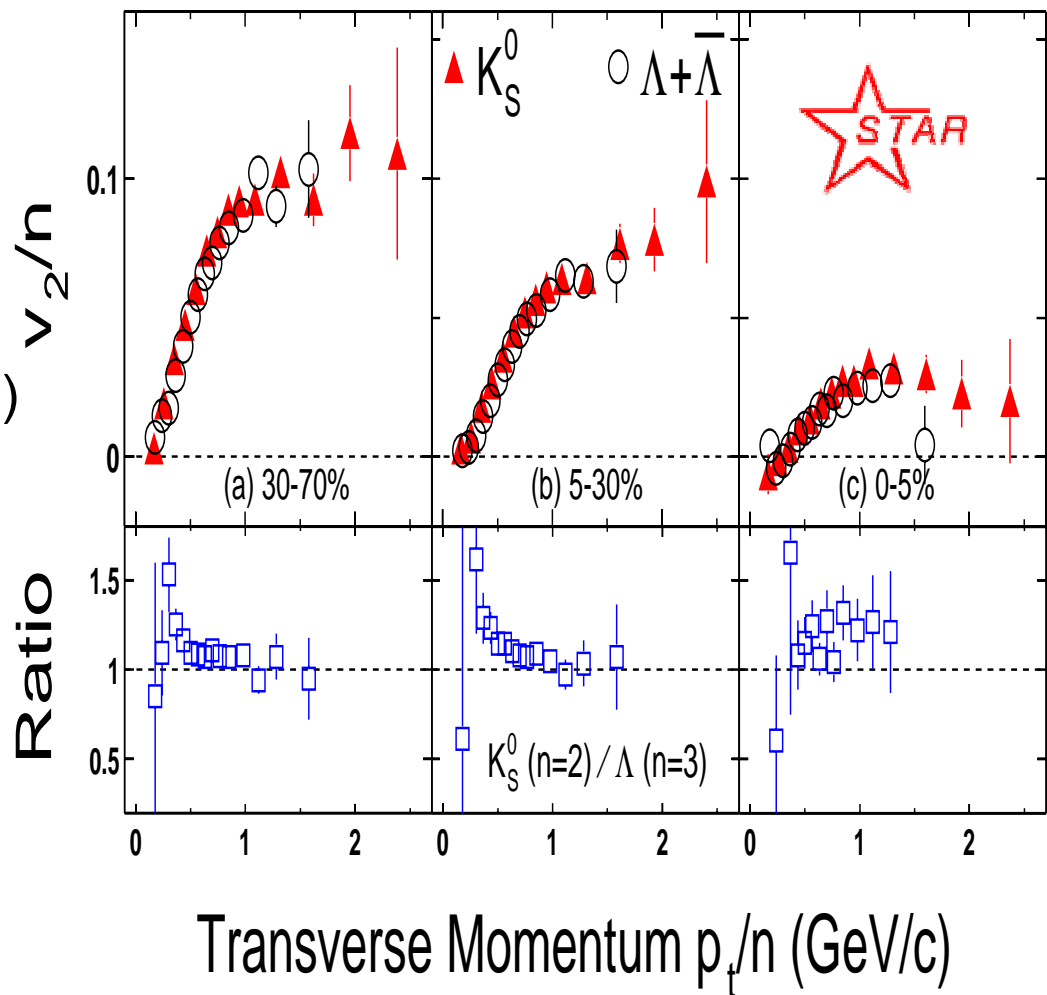
Greco, Ko, Levai PRC68 034904 (2003)

With PID - [firm]

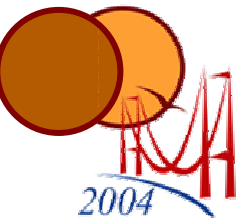
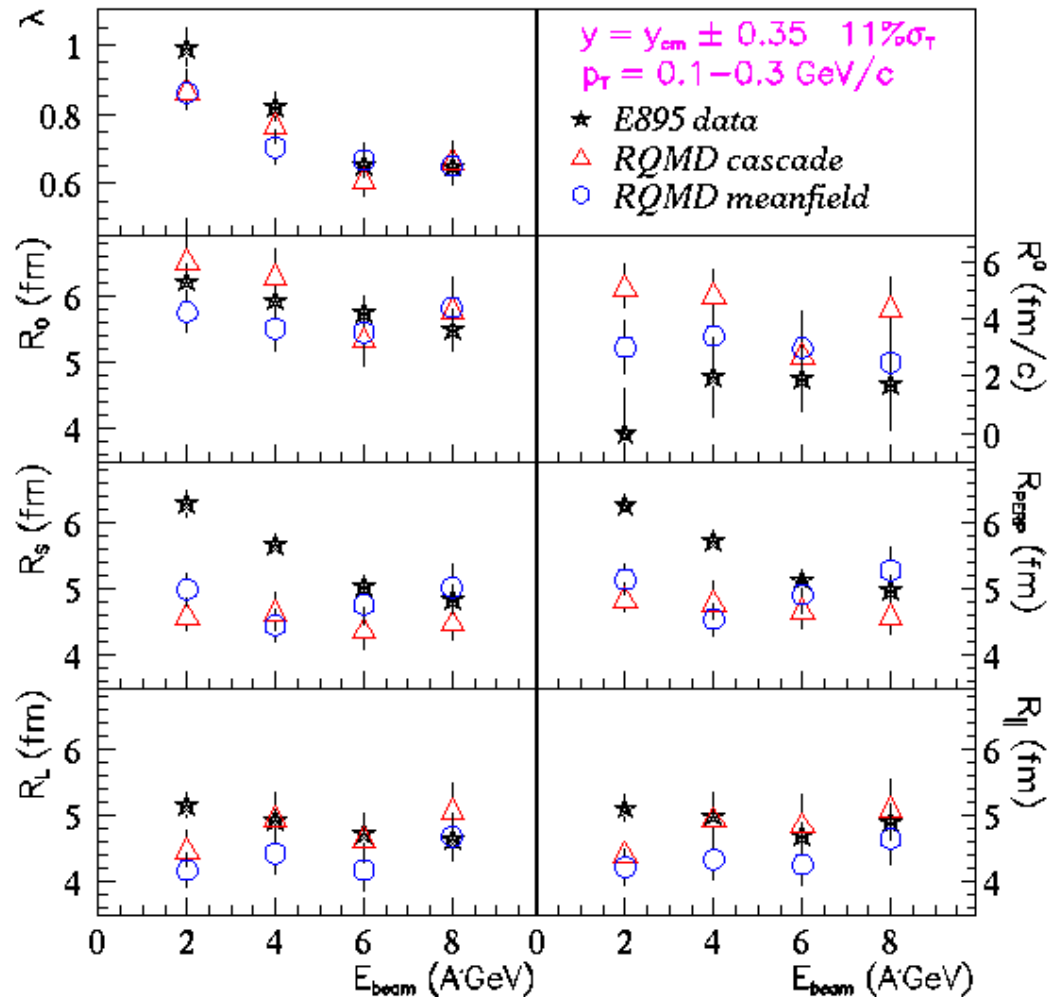
Definitely on the right track...

Coalescence models (various flavors)

- promising, distinguishable models
 - $v_2[s] = v_2[u,d]$?
 - interaction b/t hard/soft quarks?
 - dynamics of hadronization!!
- Molnar parton cascade
 - $\sigma \approx 3 \text{ mb}$ ($\neq 10 \text{ mb}$)
 - $dN/d\eta \approx 1500-3000$ (\sim Gyulassy)
- push down in p_T ?
 - “works” to $p_T^q \sim 500 \text{ MeV} \sim 3T^q$

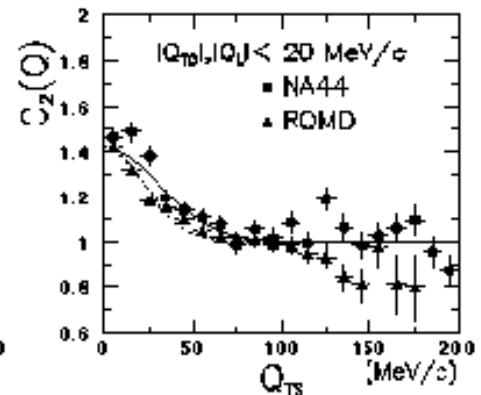
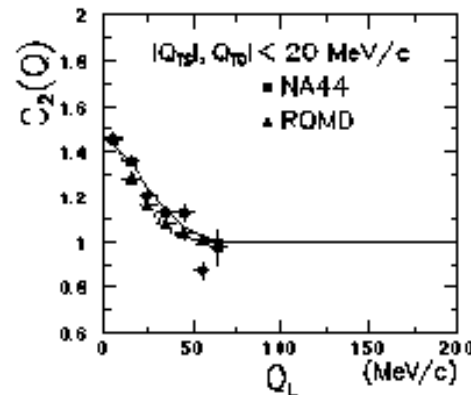
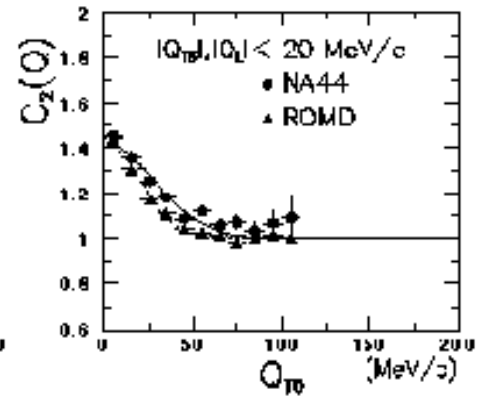
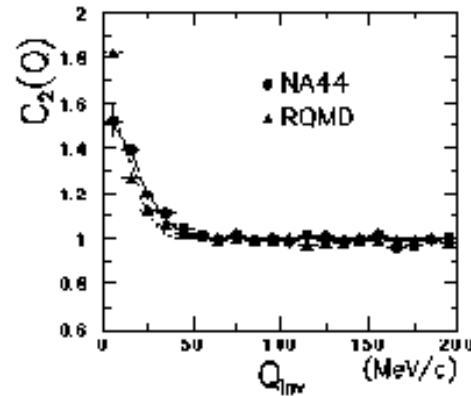


problems at lower \sqrt{s} ... AGS



Testing the model at the SPS

- For π^- ...
- Model *underpredicts* apparent size below 10 AGeV...
- *overpredicts* size at 158 AGeV
- Extrapolation to RHIC???



I.G. Bearden et al (NA44)

PRC58, 1656 (1998)

D. Hardtke, Ph.D. thesis (1997)

NA44

RQMD

R_{out}

4.88 ± 0.21

6.96 ± 0.14

R_{side}

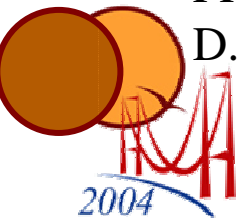
4.45 ± 0.32

6.23 ± 0.20

R_{long}

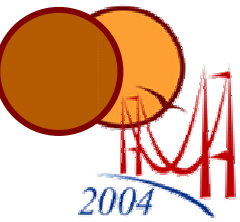
6.03 ± 0.35

7.94 ± 0.21



soft - cont

- equilibration – no saturation of multistrange w/ Npart:
 - argument 1:
 - it *does* saturate, but only for last 1-2 datapoints
 - GCE works (but maybe only for last datapoint)
 - if only we had higher Npart points, we'd see it flatten out
 - [opinion] strikes me as strange – I hate coincidences
 - argument 2:
 - it *does* equilibrate, so *would* flatten, but Nbinary contributions are added on top
 - but then wouldn't there be too *much* of strangeness for GCE in central?
 - [opinion] **reference** (low Npart collisions) systematics not understood



soft sector- do we have a clean reference?

- more HBT “puzzles”?
 - $R(kT)$ in AuAu attributed to flow – seems reasonable & jibes w/ p-space
 - $R(kT)$ in pp *presumably* arises from different physics (tilted strings etc)
 - why $R(kT)_{AA} / R(kT)_{pp}$ is flat? – As experimentalist, I hate coincidences!
 - not-understood **reference** ☹
- strangeness
 - steps, kinks, horns – as an experimentalist, I *am* intrigued by the *data*, but
 - kink: explainable by “old” concepts of EoS / compressibility energy conservation
 - step: I do not find exponential fit to just K^+ spectrum “model-independent”
 - horn: Rybicki’s isospin arguments ring true: Again, I hate coincidences
 - again, **reference** system (NN) details may not be properly accounted for

