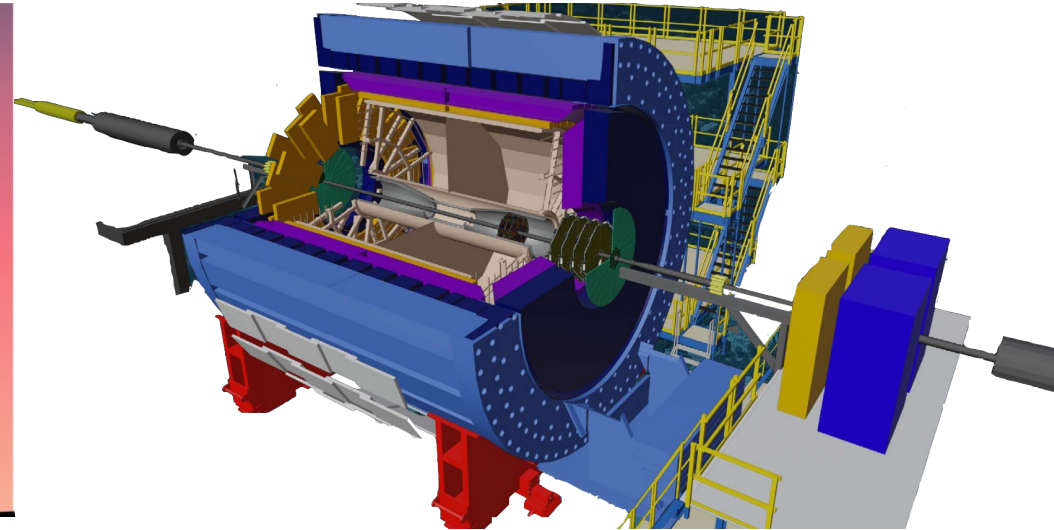


# Overview of the STAR experiment



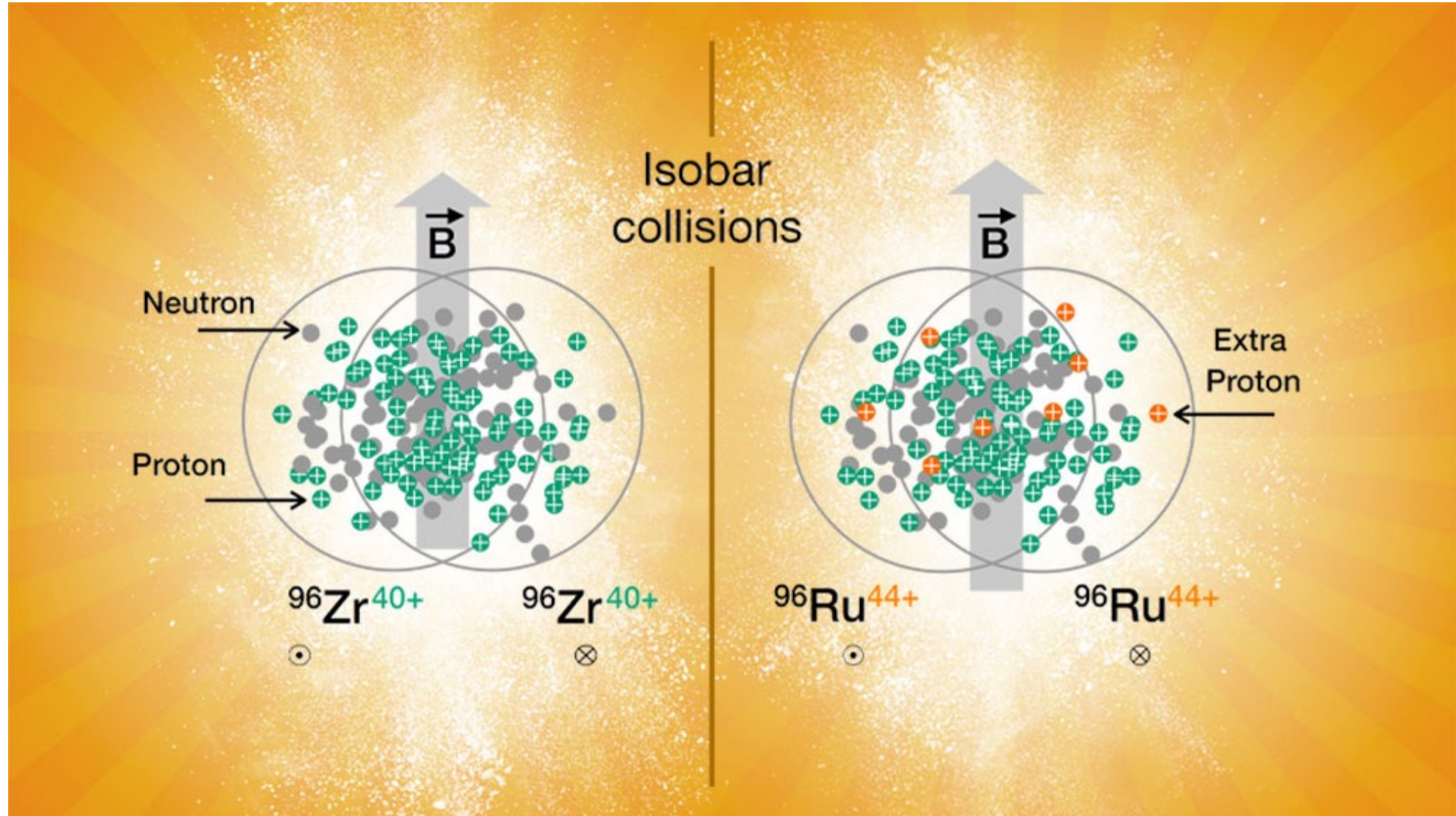
Niseem Magdy Abdelrahman  
Stony Brook University  
[niseemm@gmail.com](mailto:niseemm@gmail.com)

CIPANP-2022

# Outline

- I. Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect
  - a) Isobaric collision results
  
- II. New insights into the collective effects
  - a) Beam-energy scan
  - b) Different collision systems
  
- III. New insights into the nuclear shape and structure
  - a) Deformation of the U nuclei
  - b) Deformation study using the isobaric collisions

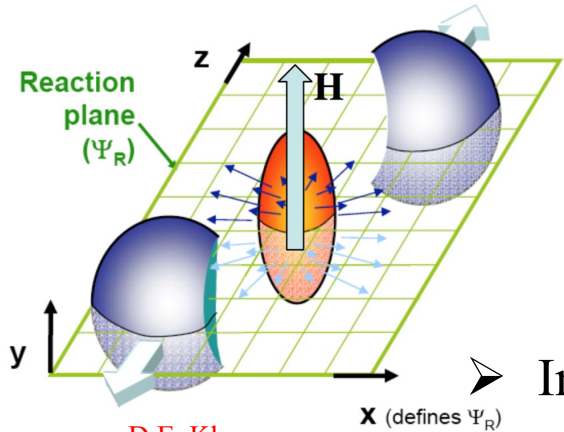
# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect



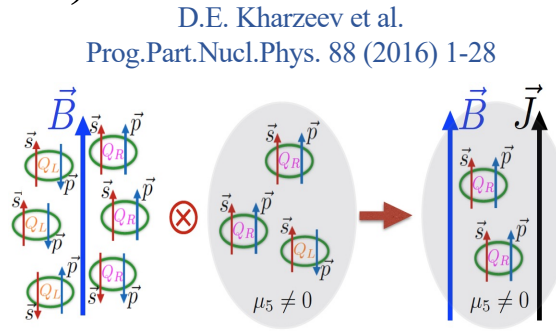


# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect

## ➤ Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)



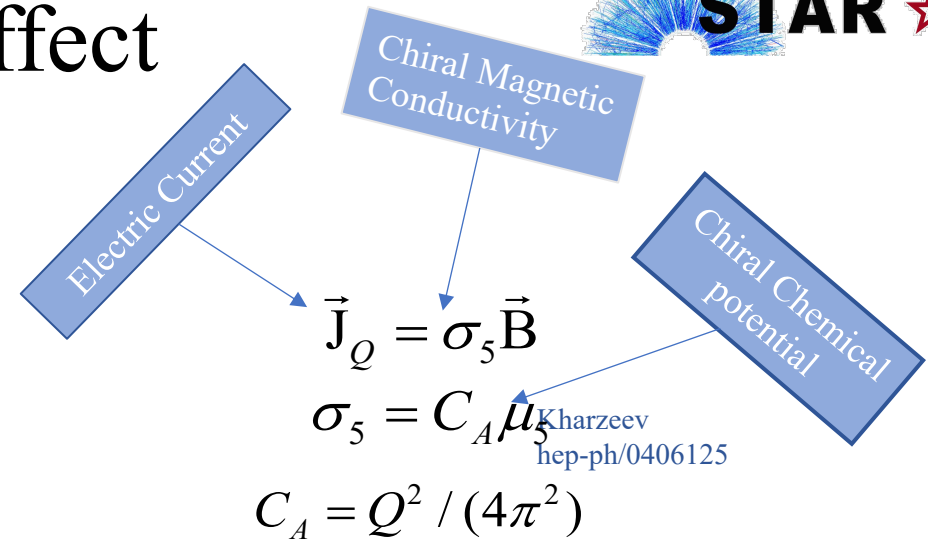
D.E. Kharzeev  
Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 75 (2014) 133-151



D.E. Kharzeev et al.  
Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys. 88 (2016) 1-28

➤ In non-central collisions, a strong magnetic field is created  $\perp$  to  $\Psi_{RP}$

➤ The magnetic field acts on the chiral fermions with  $\mu_5 \neq 0$  leading to an electric current along the magnetic field which results in a charge separation



CME-driven charge separation leads to a dipole term in the azimuthal distribution of the produced charged hadrons:

$$\frac{dN^{ch}}{d\phi} \propto 1 \pm 2 a_1^{ch} \sin(\phi) + \dots \quad a_1^{ch} \propto \mu_5 \vec{B}$$

Can we identify & characterize this dipole moment?

The CME correlators have been used extensively for experimental measurements.



# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect

## ➤ Correlators to measure dipole charge separation

S. Voloshin, PRC 70 057901 (2004)

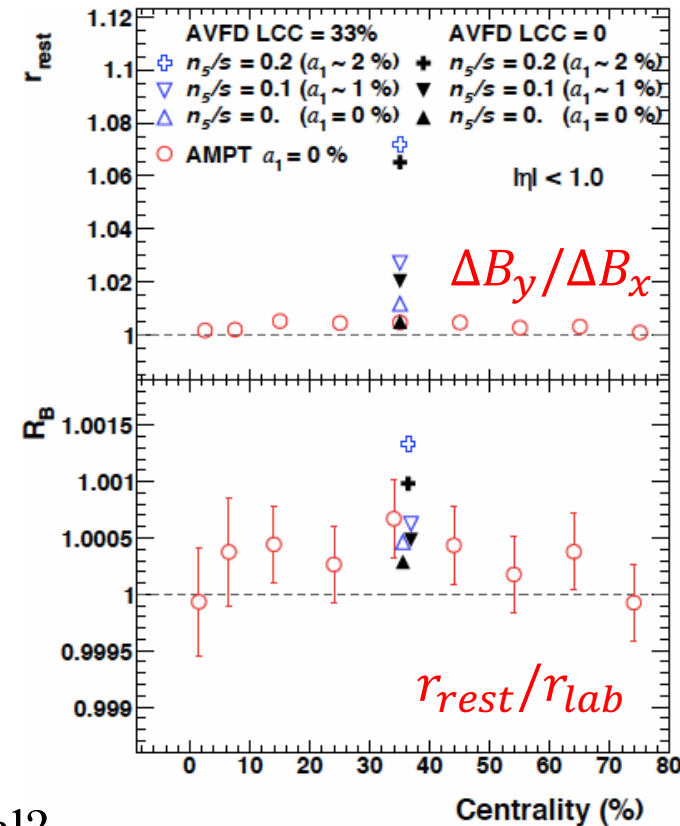
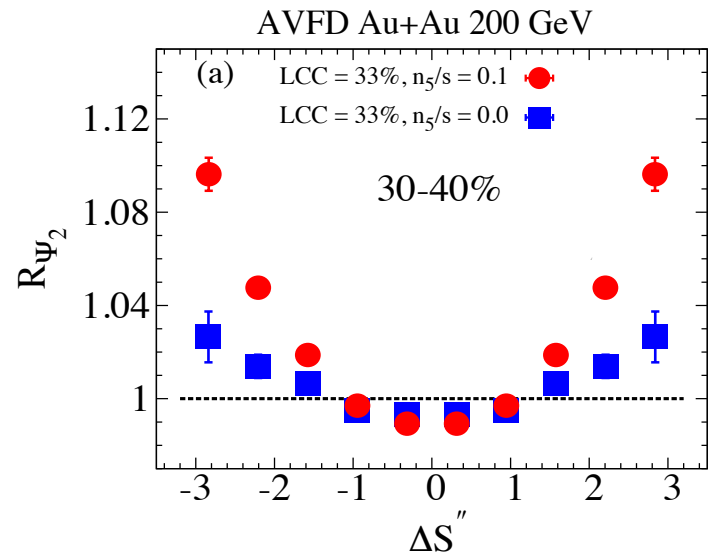
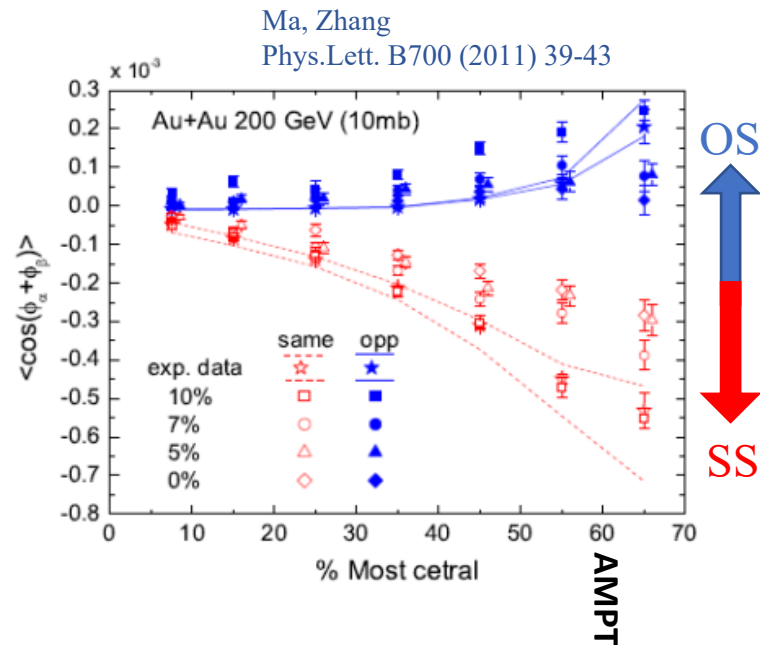
N. Magdy, et al, PRC 97 6, 061901 (2018)

A. Tang, Chinese Phys. C 44 054101 (2020)

A well-known approach is to use the  $\gamma$  correlator to measure the dipole charge separation

The  $R_{\Psi_m}(\Delta S)$  correlation function method is used to measure the dipole charge separation

The signed balance function method is recently used to measure the dipole charge separation



- The correlators' responses are similar for signal and background
- Background can account for a **part**, or **all** of the observed charge separation signal?

# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect

➤ Separating the signal from background is the main subject of the isobar collisions



N. Magdy, et al. PRC 98 (2018) 6, 061902

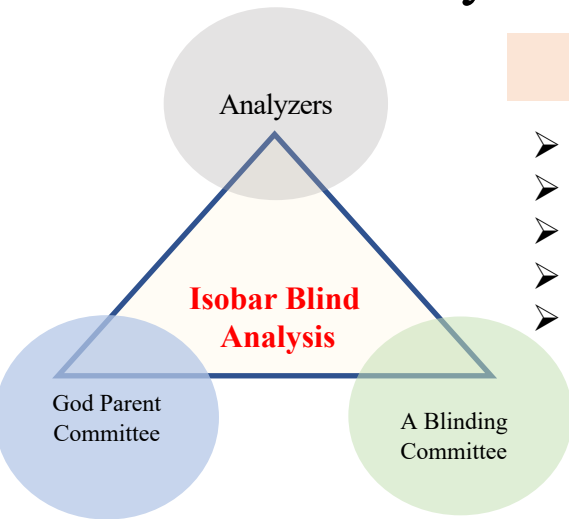
A. Tang, CPC 44 054101 (2020)

H-J. Xu, et al, CPC 42, 084103 (2018)

S. Voloshin, PRC 98, 054911 (2018)

J. Zhao, et al, EPJC 79 (2019) 168

➤ Isobar Analysis: A large, collective effort



## 5-Isobar Blind Analyses

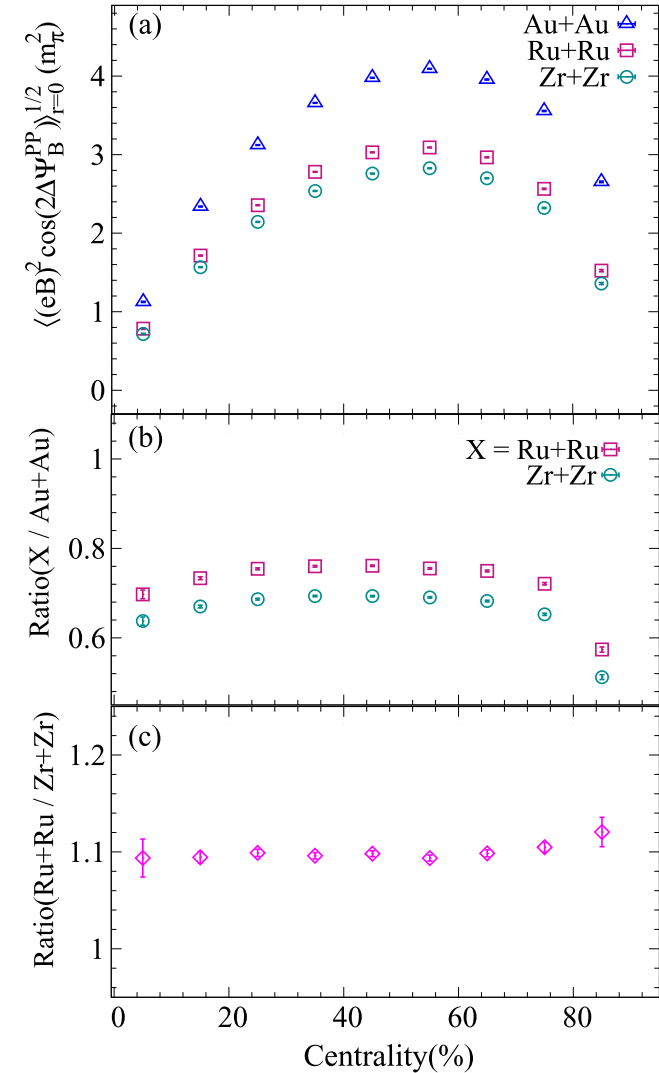
- $\Delta\gamma, \Delta\delta$  and  $\kappa$
- $\Delta\gamma, \Delta\delta$  and  $\Delta\gamma(\Delta\eta)$
- $\Delta\gamma$  in PP/SP and  $\Delta\gamma(M_{inv})$
- $\Delta\gamma$  in PP/SP
- $R(\Delta S)$  Correlator.

## Case for CME:

- $\Delta\gamma$  and its derivatives
- $\Delta\gamma/v_2(\text{Ru/Zr}) > 1$
- $\Delta\gamma_{112}/v_2(\text{Ru/Zr}) > \Delta\gamma_{123}/v_3(\text{Ru/Zr})$
- $\kappa(\text{Ru/Zr}) > 1$
- $f_{CME}^{\text{Ru}} > f_{CME}^{\text{Zr}} > 0$
- $\sigma_{R\psi_2}^{-1} \left( \frac{\text{Ru}}{\text{Zr}} \right) > 1$

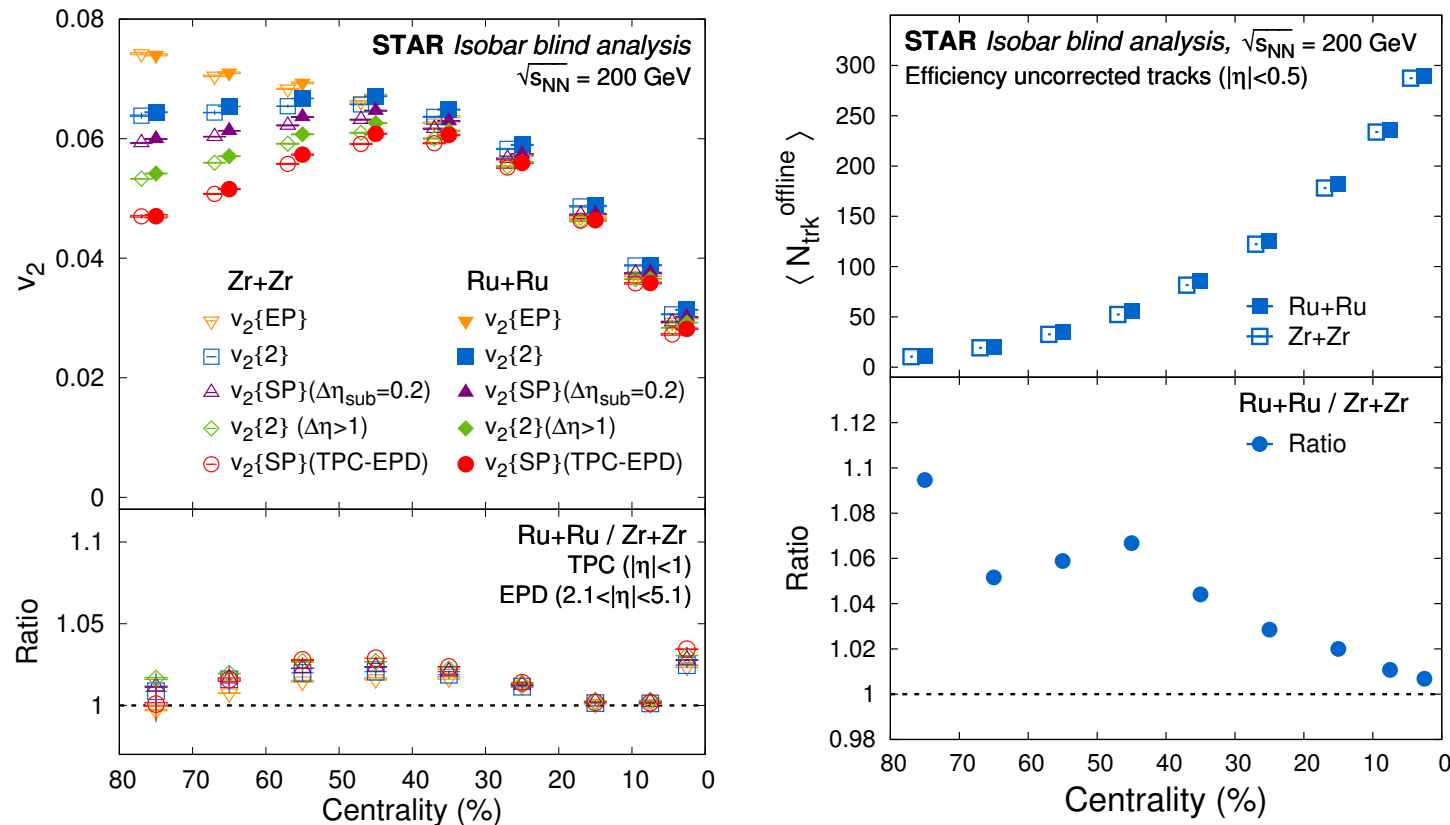
BNL, CCNU, Fudan, Huzhou, Purdue, SINAP, Stony Brook, Tsukuba, UCLA, UIC, and Wayne State

Niseem Magdy, et al. PRC 98 (2018) 6, 061902



# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect

## ➤ Isobar Analysis: Expected CME background in isobar



## ➤ Observed differences in multiplicity and $v_2$ for the same centrality

- ✓ Background differences between the two isobars are more complicated than previously thought
- ✓ **The predefined CME signature could be invalid**

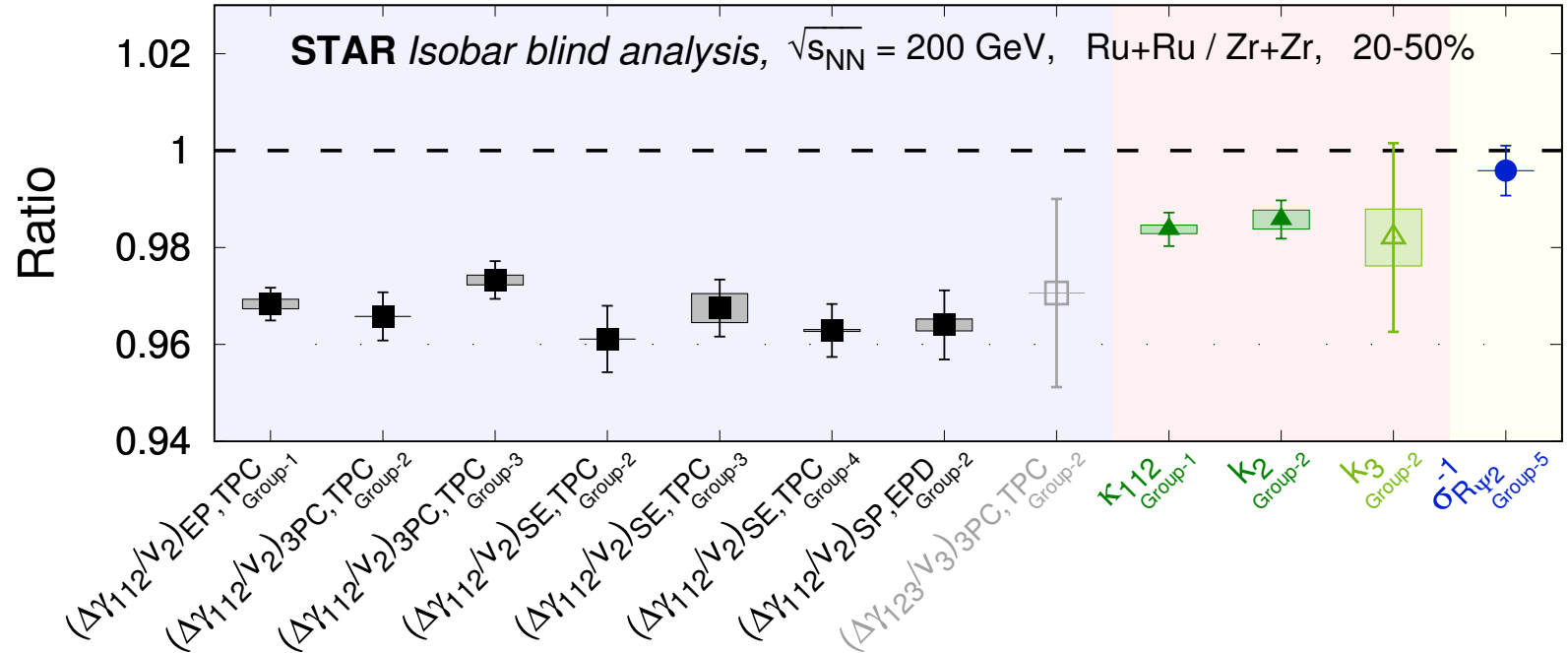


# I) Isobar collisions and magnetic field effect

## ➤ Isobar Analysis: Results

### Predefined CME signature:

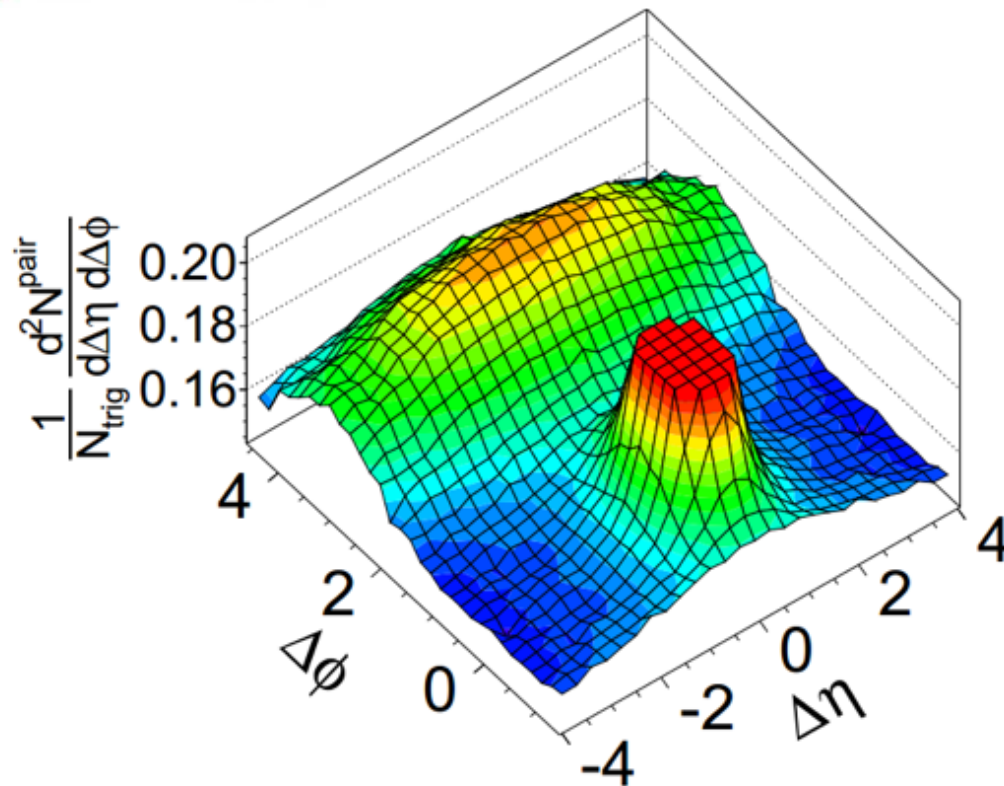
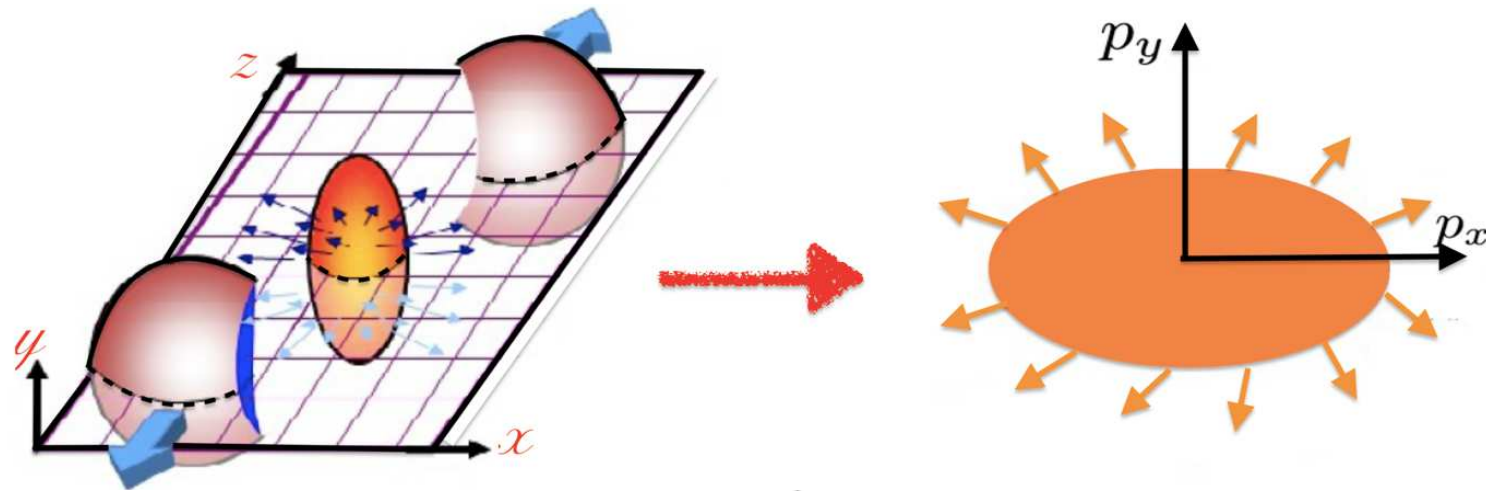
- ✓  $\Delta\gamma$  and its derivatives
  - $\Delta\gamma/v_2(\text{Ru/Zr}) > 1$
  - $\Delta\gamma_{112}/v_2(\text{Ru/Zr}) > \Delta\gamma_{123}/v_3(\text{Ru/Zr})$
  - $\kappa(\text{Ru/Zr}) > 1$
- ✓  $\sigma_{R\psi_2}^{-1} \left( \frac{\text{Ru}}{\text{Zr}} \right) > 1$



The predefined CME signature is not observed

- ✓ Not an indication for the absence of the CME in the individual signal
  - Ongoing work to characterize the effects of backgrounds

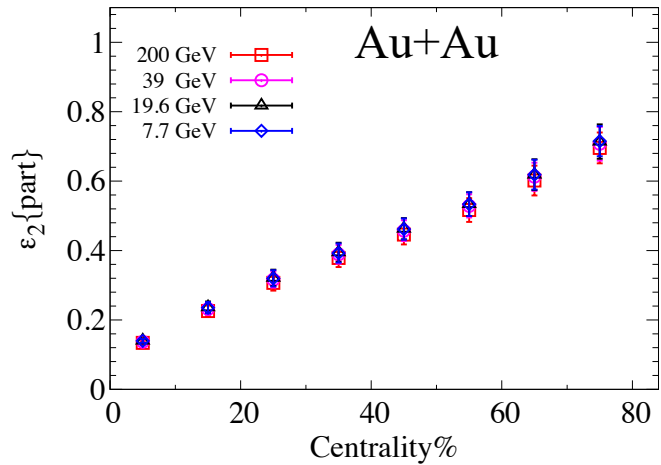
# II) New insights into the collective effects



# II) New insights into the collective effects

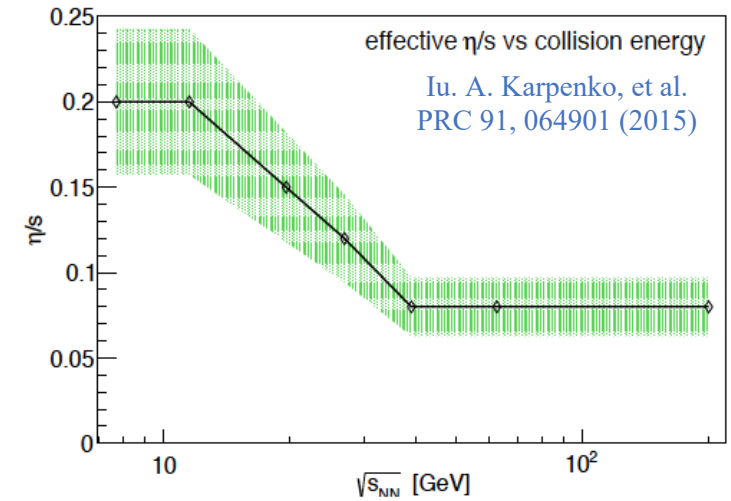
➤ Higher order flow harmonics are sensitive probes for  $\frac{\eta}{s}(T)$  due to their enhanced viscous response

- Beam energy dependence for a given collision system:

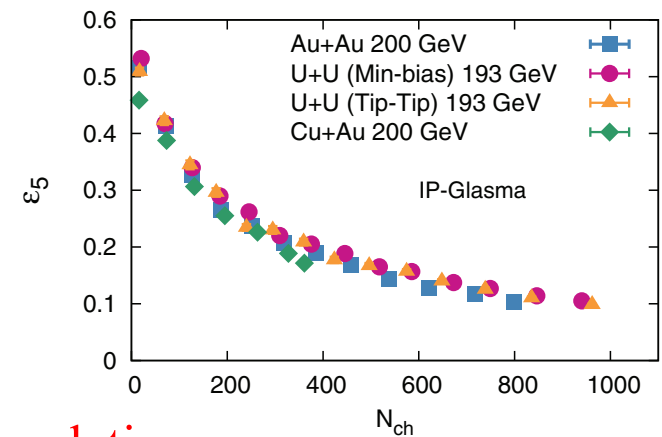
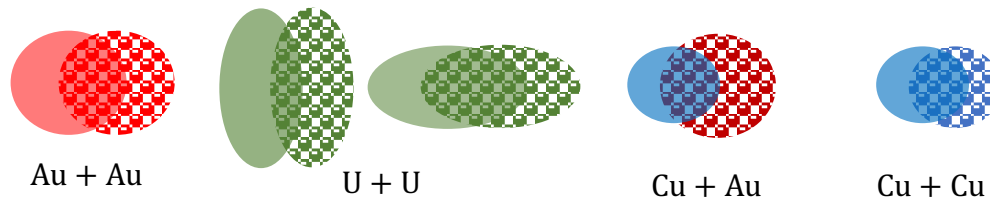
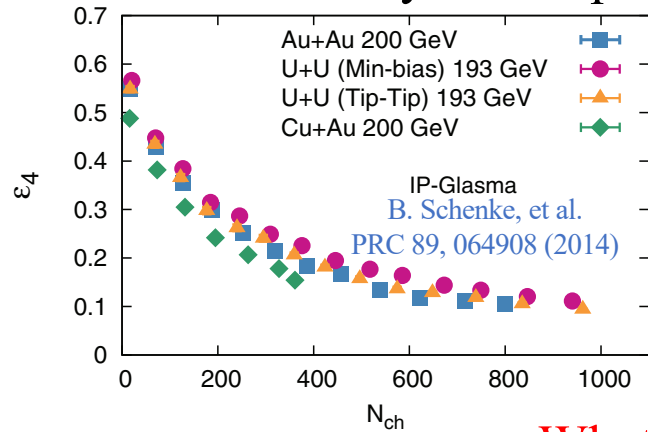


✓ Initial-state spatial anisotropy is approximately beam energy independent.

✓ Viscous attenuation ( $\propto \frac{\eta}{s}(T)$ ) is beam energy dependent.



- Collision system dependence at a given beam energy:



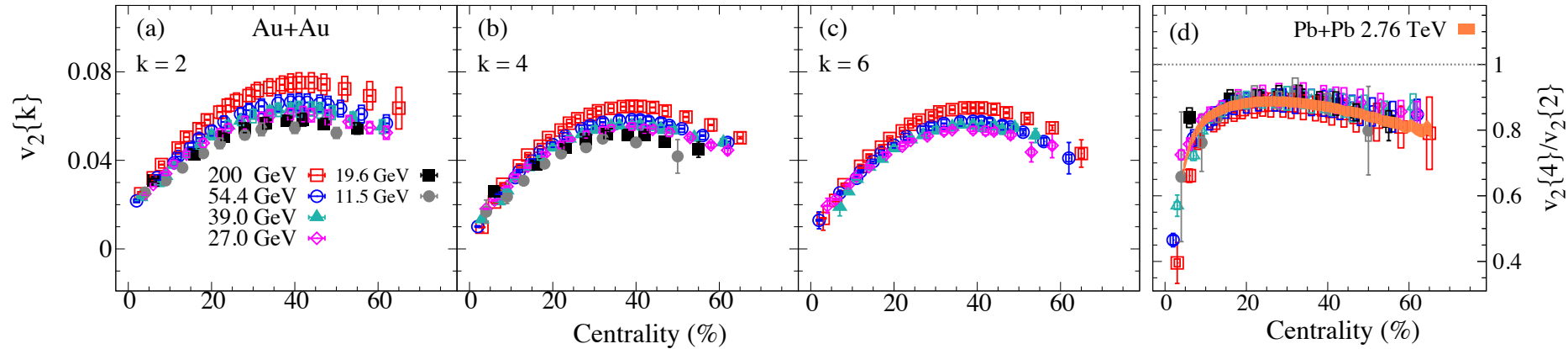
What are the respective roles of  $\epsilon_n$  and its fluctuations and correlations, flow correlations and  $\frac{\eta}{s}(T)$  as a function of beam energy?



# II) New insights into the collective effects

➤ Beam energy dependence for a given collision system:

STAR Collaboration, arXiv:2201.10365

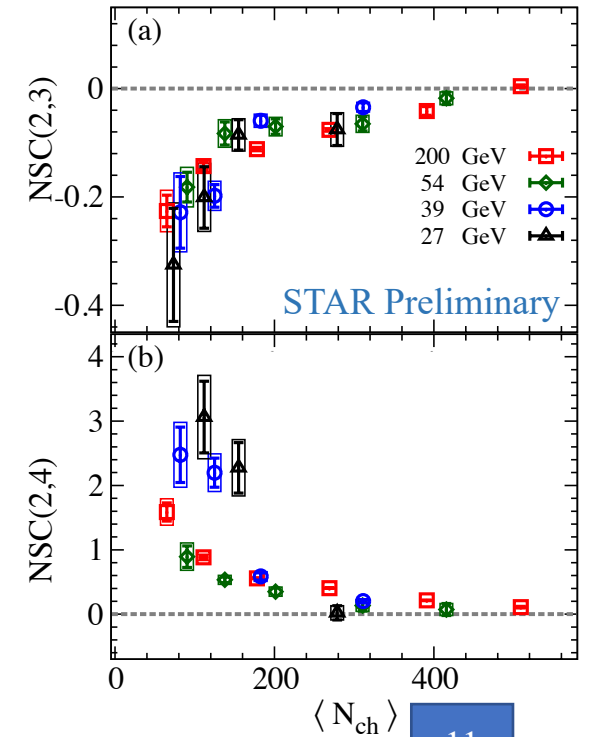
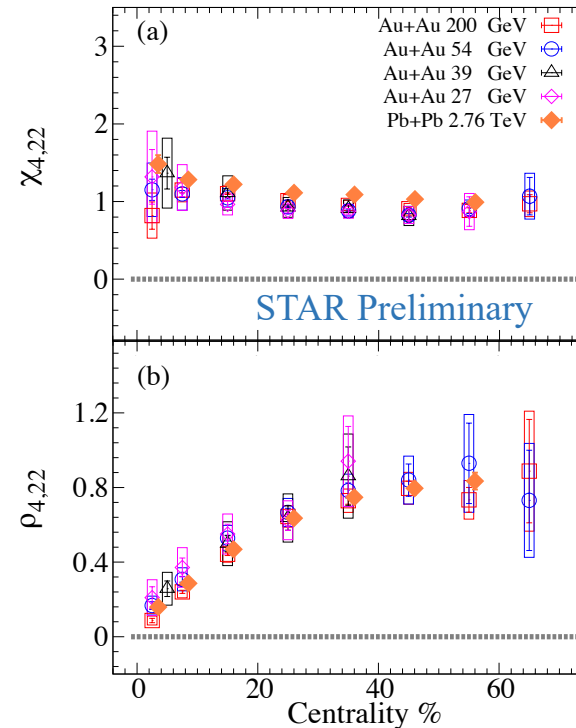


➤ The flow harmonics depend on beam energy.

✓ Sensitive to the viscous effects ( $N_{ch}$ ,  $\langle p_T \rangle$ ,  $\frac{\eta}{s}$ , ...)

➤ The dimensionless parameters show similar values and trends for different beam energies.

✓ Sensitive to the  $\epsilon_n$  and its fluctuations and correlations



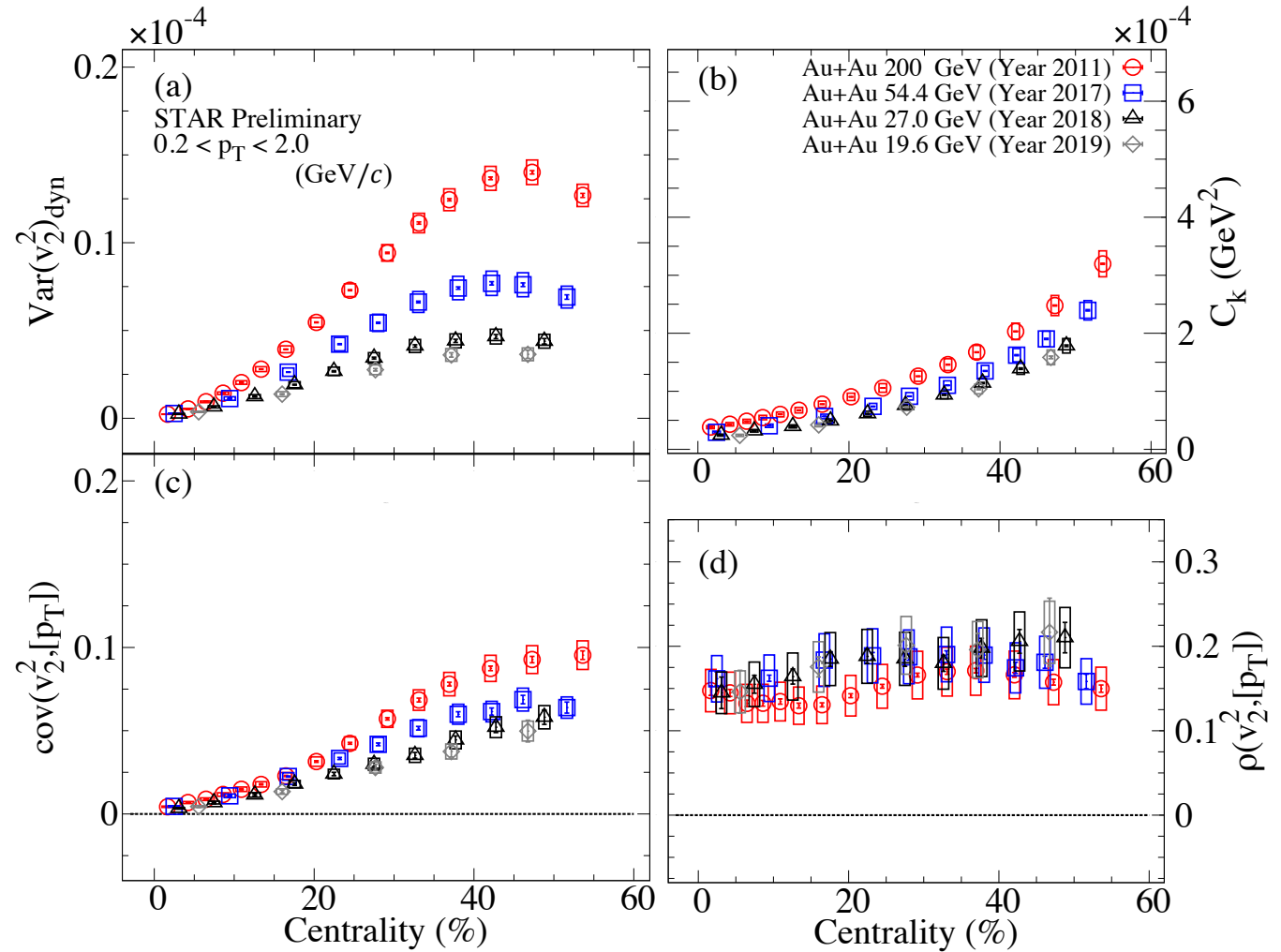
## II) New insights into the collective effects

➤ Beam energy dependence for a given collision system:

➤  $v_2^2, [p_T]$  correlations

- $Var(v_2^2)_{dyn}$  decreases with beam-energy
  - $C_k$  decreases with beam-energy
  - $cov(v_2^2, [p_T])$  decreases with beam-energy
- ✓ Sensitive to the viscous effects ( $N_{ch}, \langle p_T \rangle, \frac{\eta}{s}, \dots$ )

- The Pearson correlation,  $\rho(v_2^2, [p_T])$ , shows no significant energy dependence within the systematic uncertainties
- ✓ Sensitive to the  $\epsilon_n$  and its fluctuations and correlations

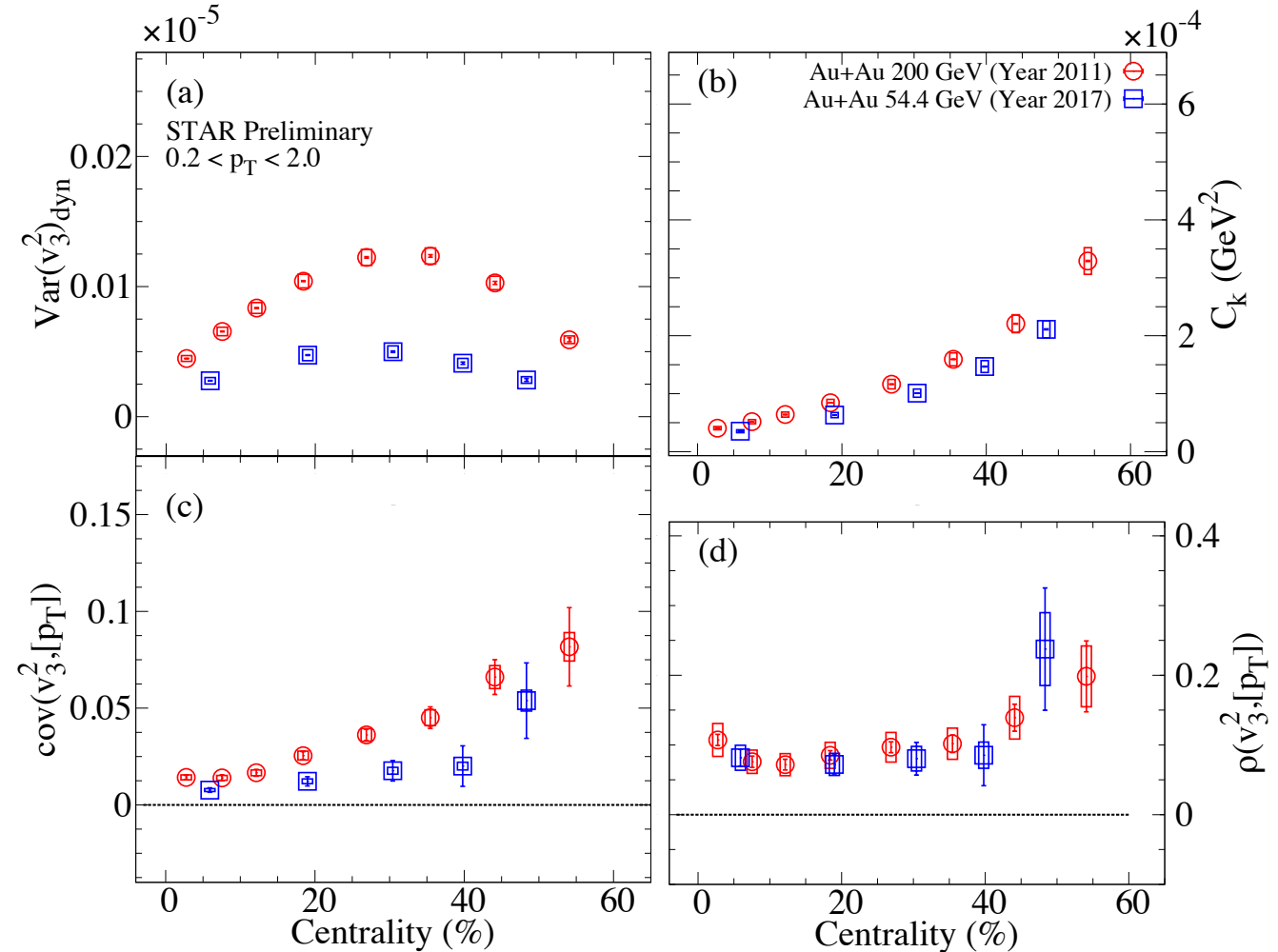


## II) New insights into the collective effects

➤ Beam energy dependence for a given collision system:

➤  $v_3^2, [p_T]$  correlations

- $Var(v_3^2)_{dyn}$  decreases with beam-energy
- $C_k$  decreases with beam-energy
- $cov(v_3^2, [p_T])$  decreases with beam-energy
  - ✓ Sensitive to the viscous effects ( $N_{ch}, \langle p_T \rangle, \frac{\eta}{s}, \dots$ )
- The Pearson correlation,  $\rho(v_3^2, [p_T])$ , shows no significant energy dependence within the systematic uncertainties
  - ✓ Sensitive to the  $\epsilon_n$  and its fluctuations and correlations





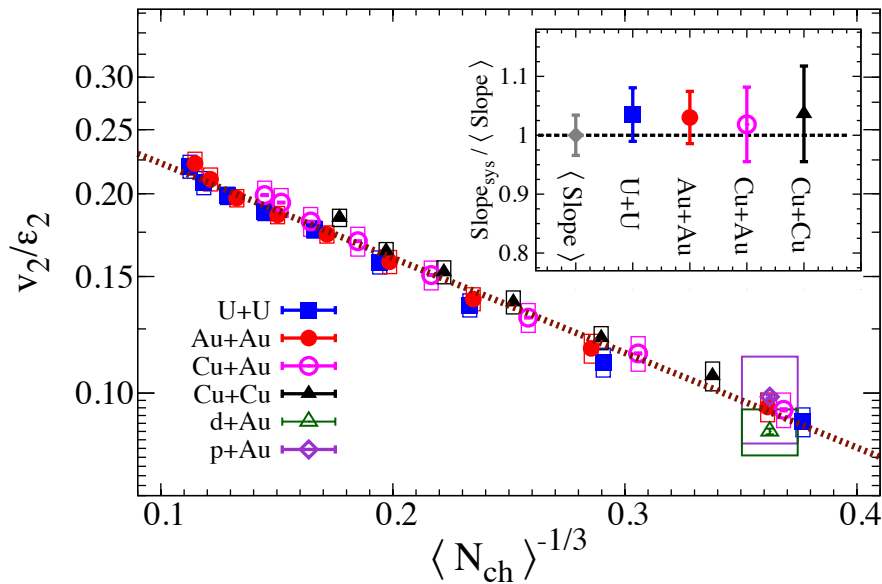
# II) New insights into the collective effects

➤ Collision system dependence at a given beam energy:

$$\ln(v_n/\varepsilon_n) \propto -(\eta/s)\langle N_{Ch} \rangle^{-1/3}$$

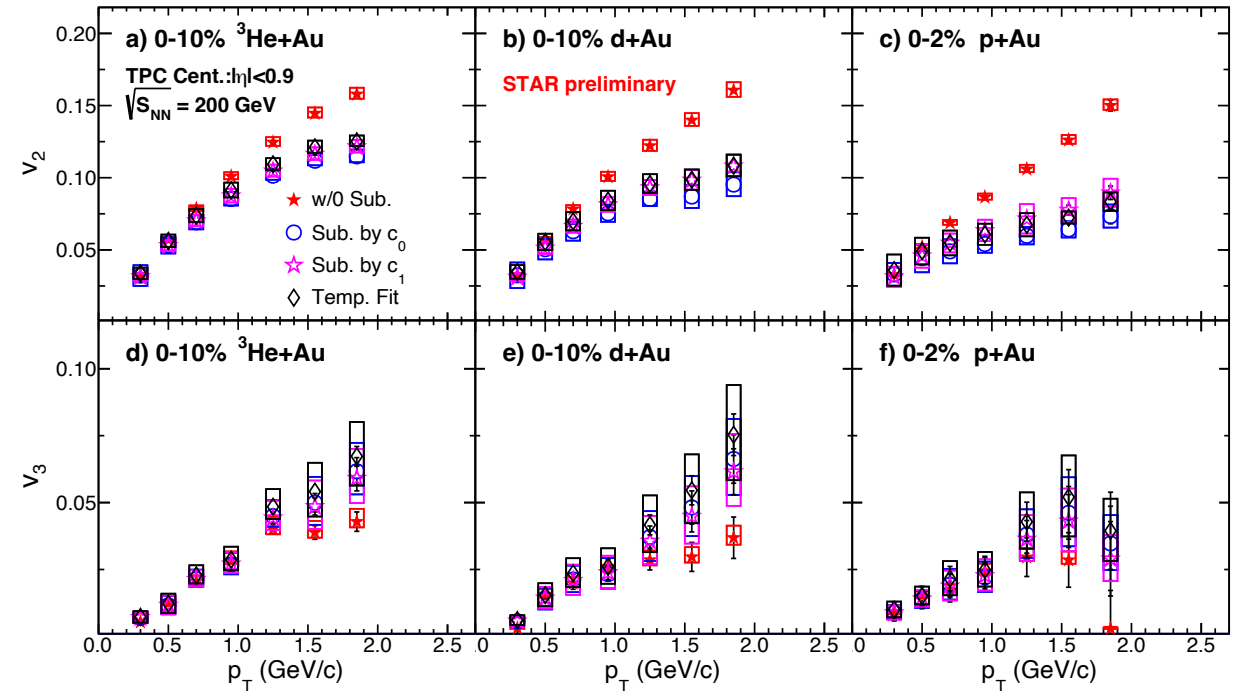
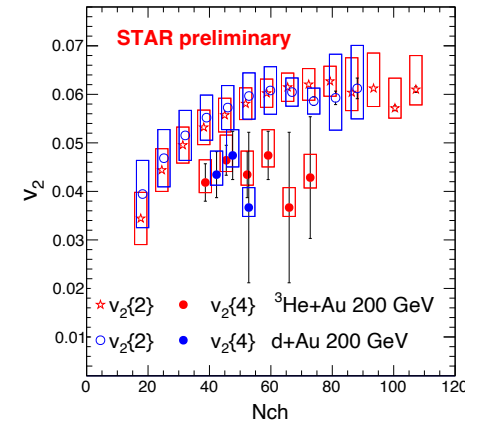
$v_2$  and  $\ln\left(\frac{v_2}{\varepsilon_2}\right)$  vs.  $\langle N_{Ch} \rangle^{-1/3}$  for different collision systems

STAR Collaboration, Phys.Rev.Lett. 122 (2019) 17, 172301



➤  $\frac{v_2}{\varepsilon_2}$  for all systems scales to a single curve.

R. Lacey for the STAR Collaboration  
Nuclear Physics A 00 (2020) 1–4

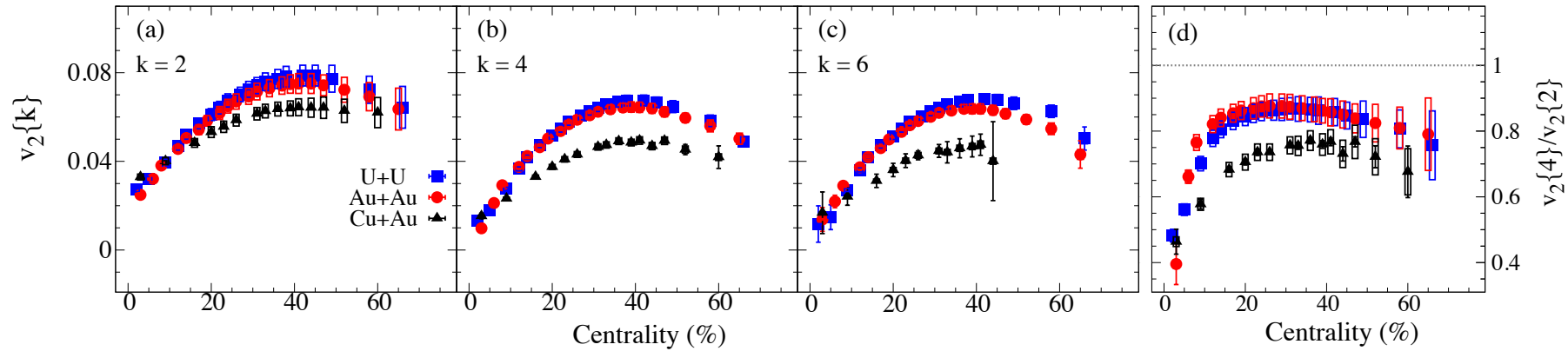


➤ At similar  $N_{ch}$  different systems show similar values and trends

# II) New insights into the collective effects

➤ Collision system dependence at a given beam energy:

STAR Collaboration, arXiv:2201.10365

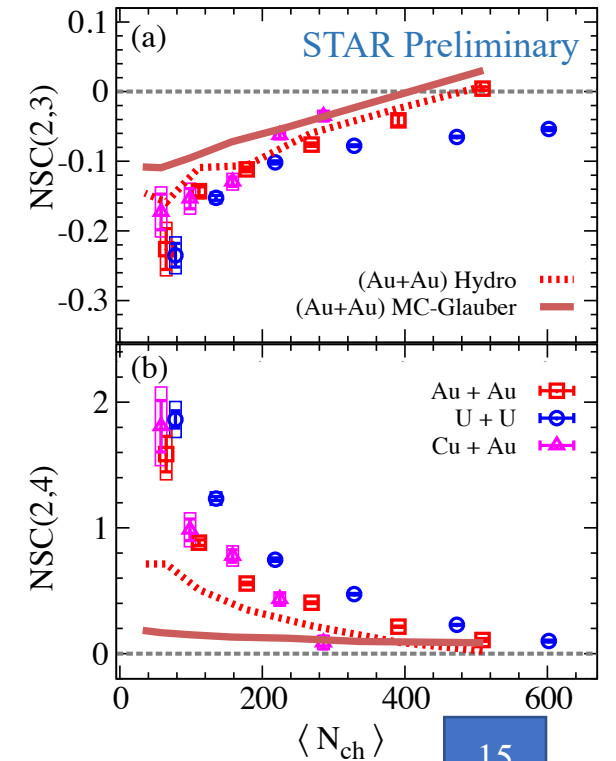
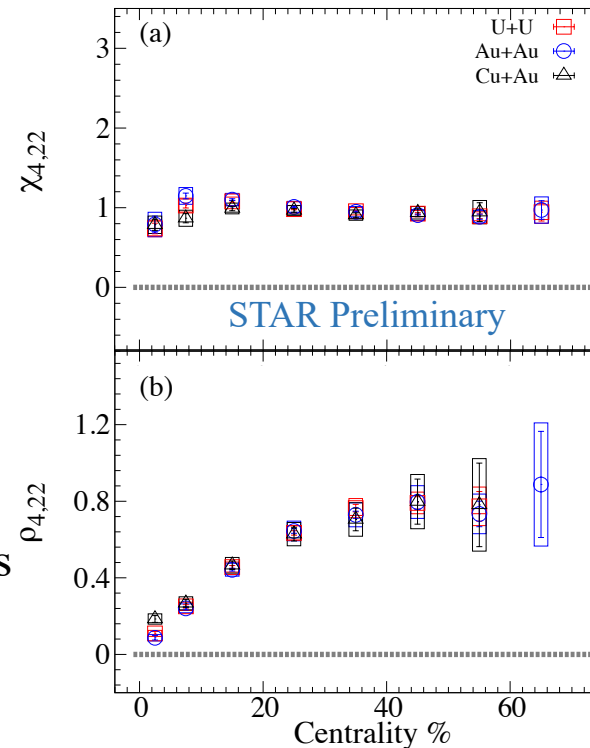


➤ The flow harmonics depend on beam energy.

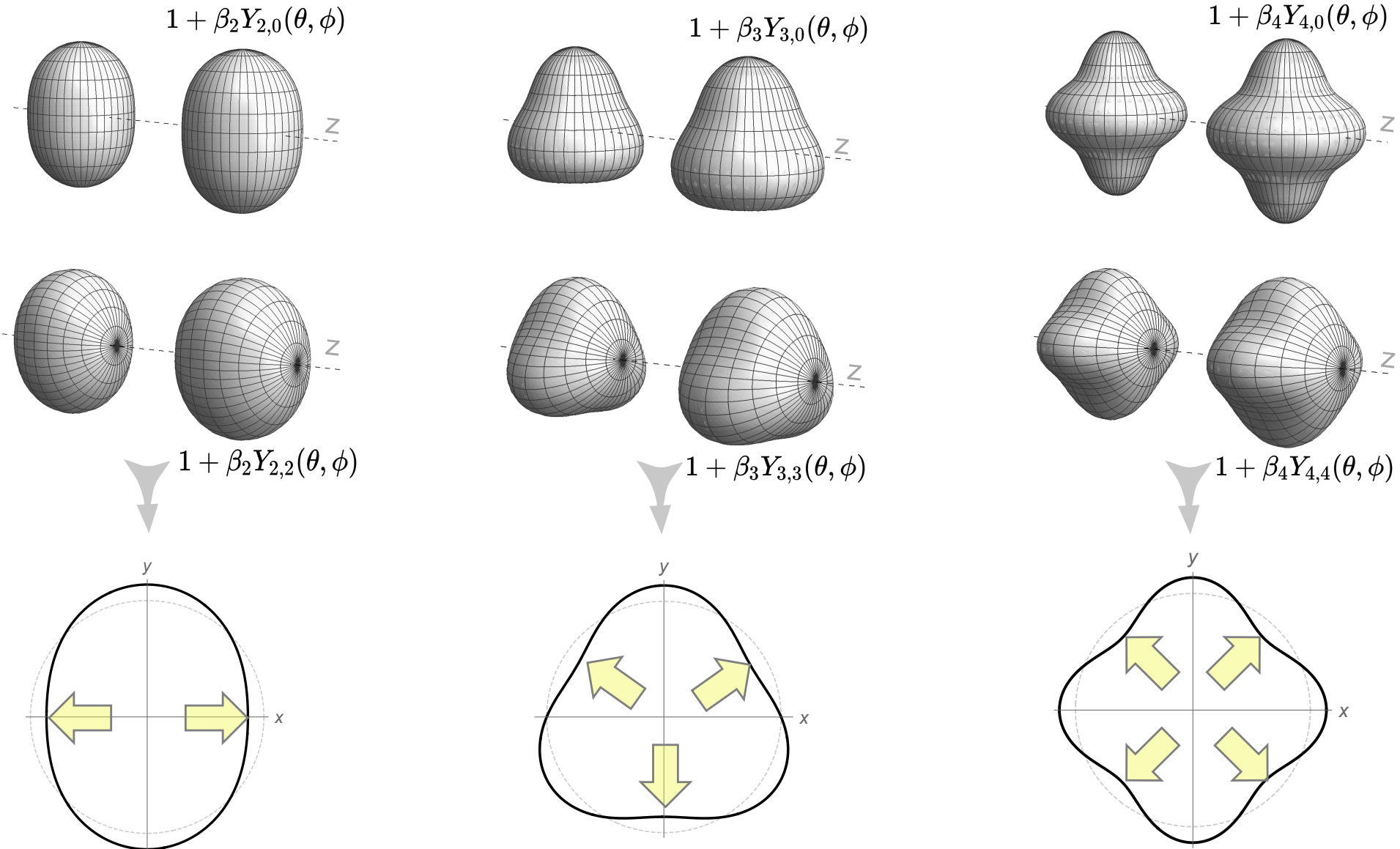
✓ Sensitive to the viscous effects ( $N_{ch}$ ,  $\langle p_T \rangle$ ,  $\frac{\eta}{s}$ , ...)

➤ The dimensionless parameters show similar values and trends for different beam energies.

✓ Sensitive to the  $\epsilon_n$  and its fluctuations and correlations



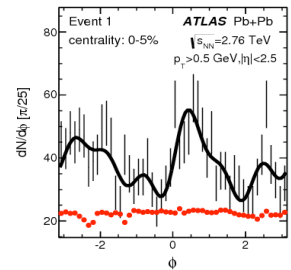
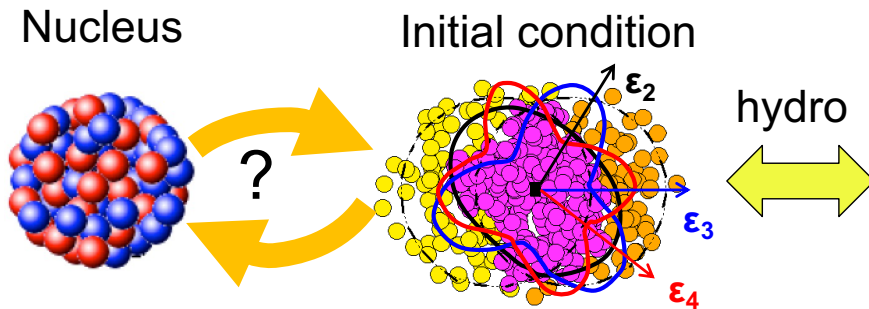
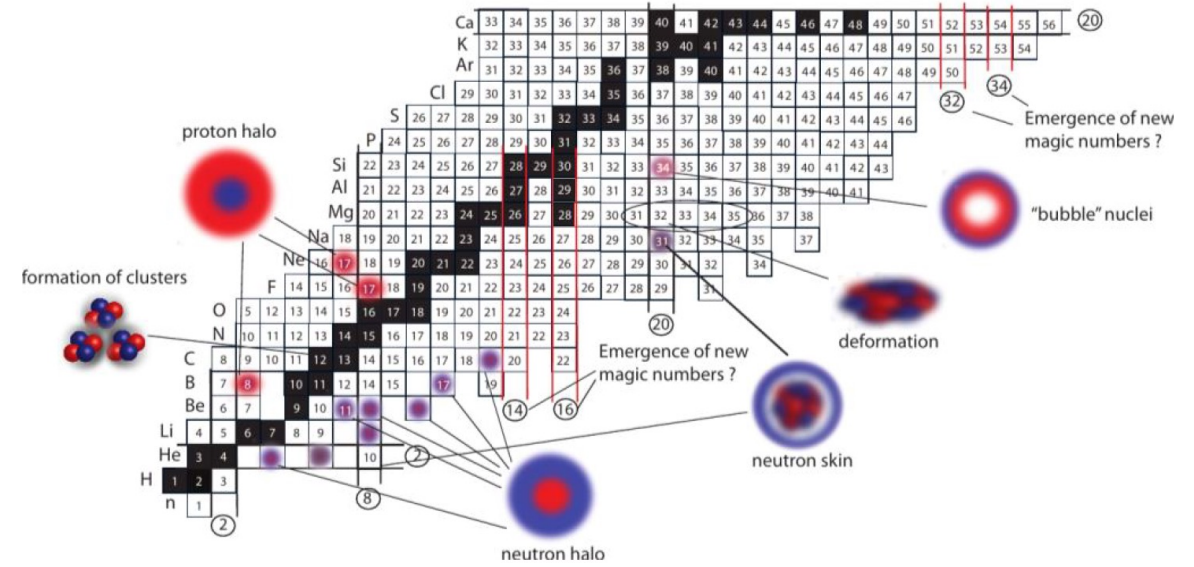
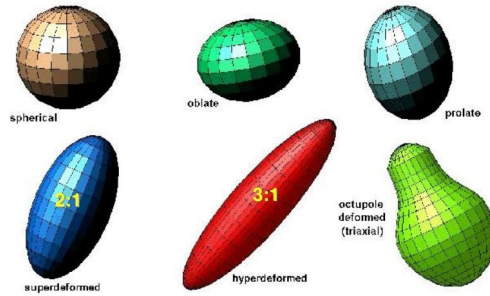
# III) New insights into the nuclear shape and structure





# III) New insights into the nuclear shape and structure

- The rich structure of atomic nuclei
- Collective phenomena can reflect:
  - ✓ Clustering, halo, skin, bubble...
  - ✓ Quadrupole/octupole/hexadecapole deformations
  - ✓ Nontrivial evaluation with N and Z.



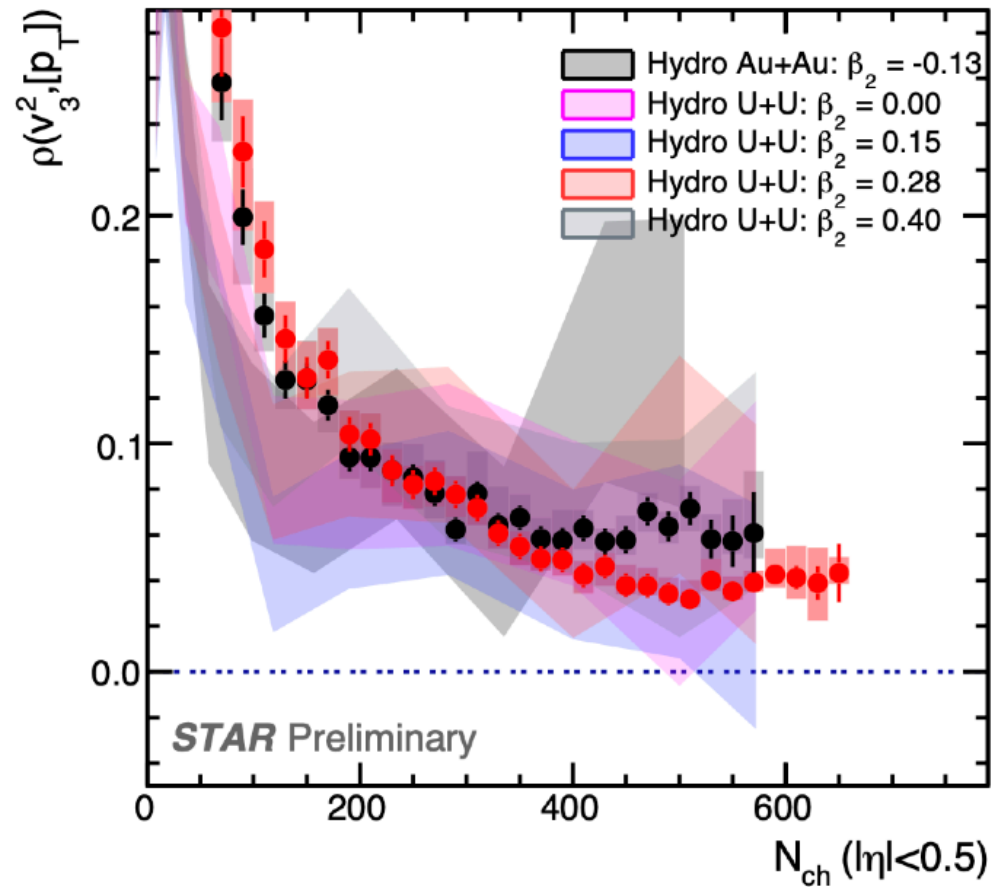
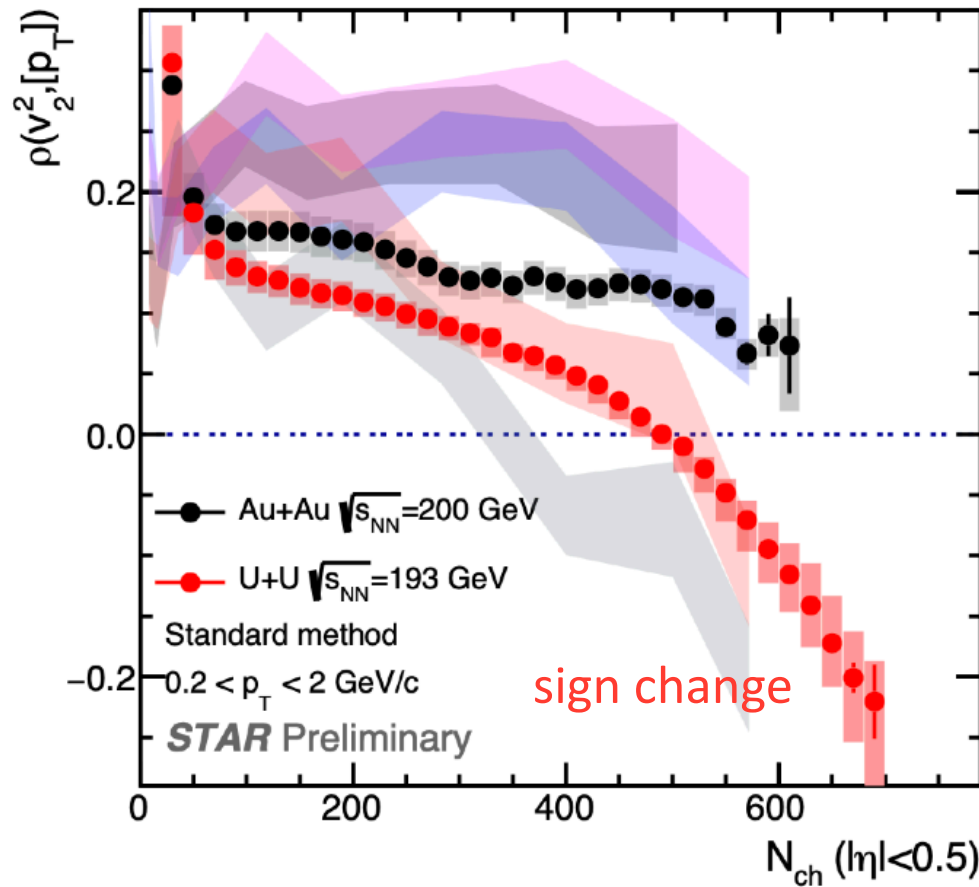
High energy:  
Linear response in each event?

$$N_{ch} \propto N_{part} \quad \frac{\delta[p_T]}{[p_T]} \propto -\frac{\delta R_{\perp}}{R_{\perp}} \quad V_n \propto \mathcal{E}_n \quad n=2,3$$

# III) New insights into the nuclear shape and structure

➤ Probing nuclear deformation in heavy-ion collisions

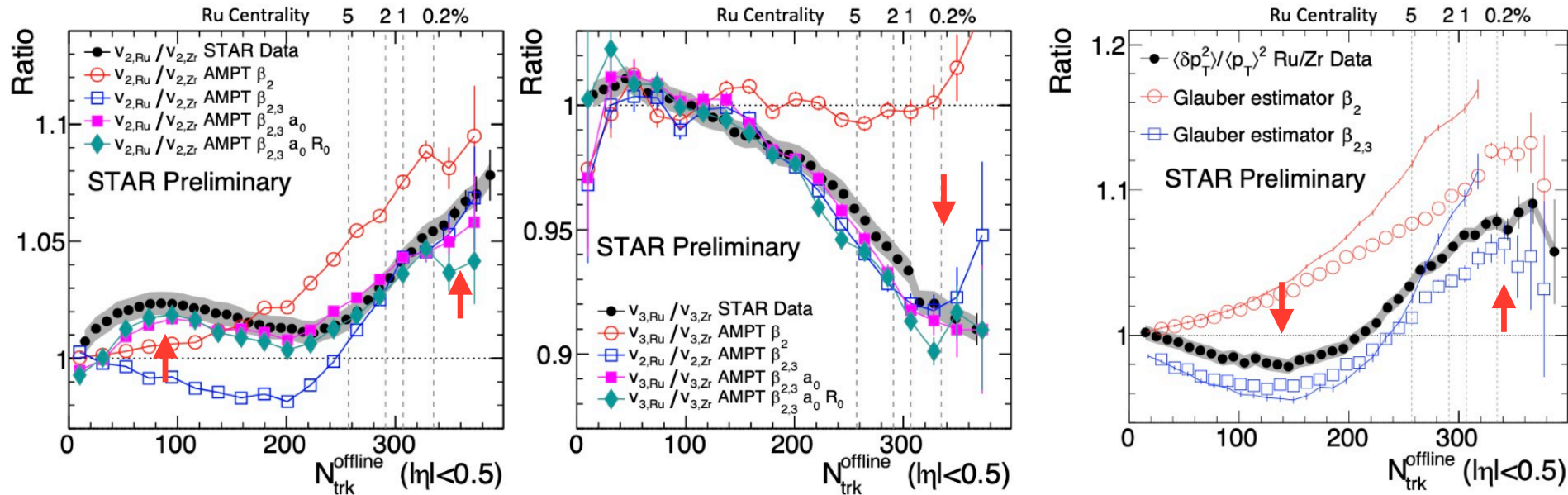
$$\rho(v_n^2, [p_T]) = \frac{\text{cov}(v_n^2, [p_T])}{\sqrt{\text{Var}((v_n^2)_{\text{dyn}} \langle \delta p_T \delta p_T \rangle)}}$$



Sign change of  $\rho(v_2, [p_T])$  confirms that U is prolate and  $\beta_{2,U} = 0.28 \pm 0.03$  (IPGlasma + Hydro)

# III) New insights into the nuclear shape and structure

## ➤ Probing nuclear deformation in heavy-ion collisions



- Mapping on same  $N_{trk}^{offline}$  instead of centrality
- The ratios show non-monotonic trends
- The ratios well constrain the nuclear structure parameters

$$\beta_{2,Ru} = 0.16 \pm 0.02$$

$$\beta_{3,Zr} = 0.20 \pm 0.02$$

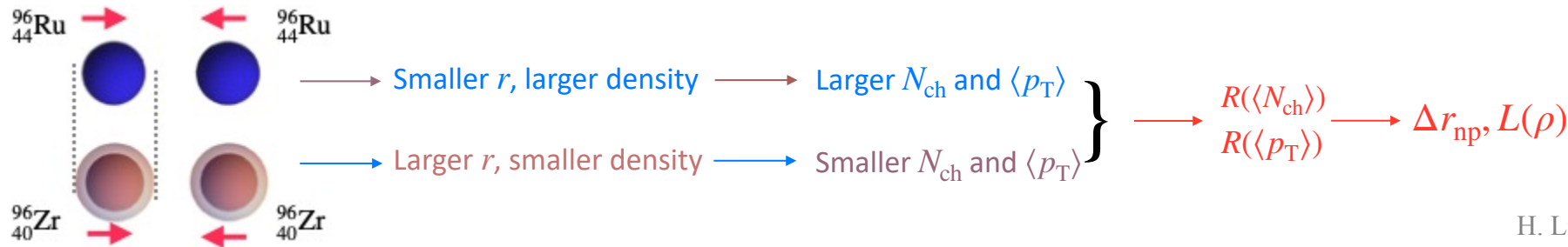
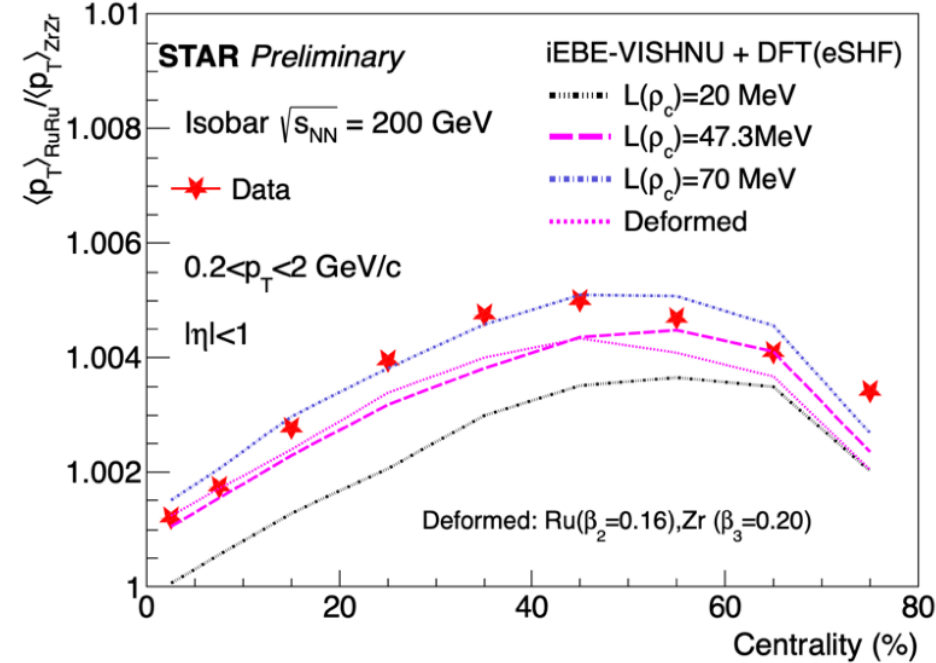
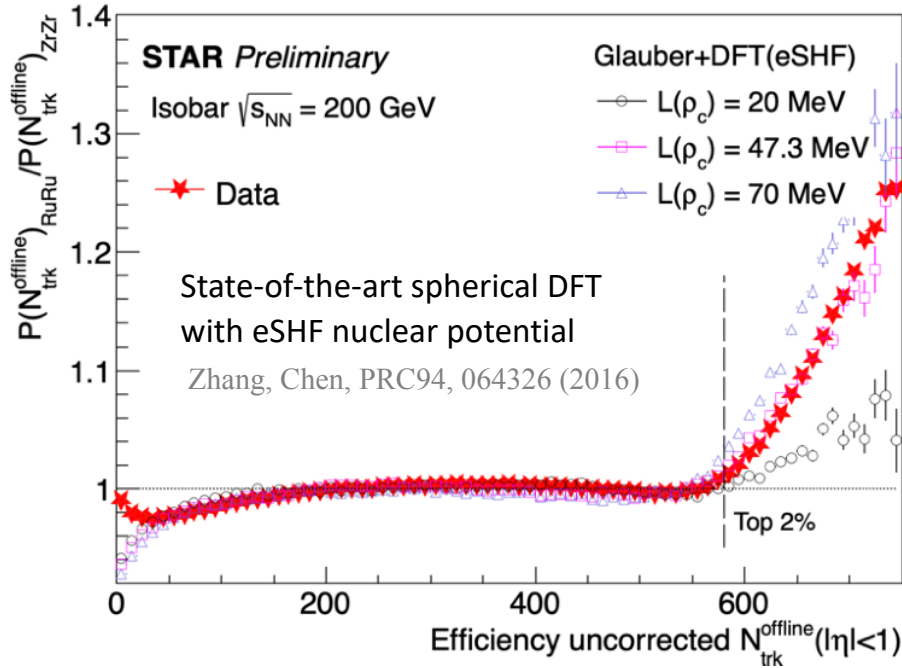
Estimate based on AMPT

C. Zhang, J. Jia, PRL128, 022301 (2022)  
 J. Jia and C. Zhang, arXiv:2111.15559  
 B. Pritychenko, et.al. At.Data Nucl.Data Tables 107, 1 (2016)  
 T. Kebedi, et.al. At.Data Nucl.Data Tables 80, 35 (2002)

Species	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$a_0$ (fm)	$R_0$ (fm)
Ru	0.162	0	0.46	5.09
Zr	0.06	0.20	0.52	5.02

# III) New insights into the nuclear shape and structure

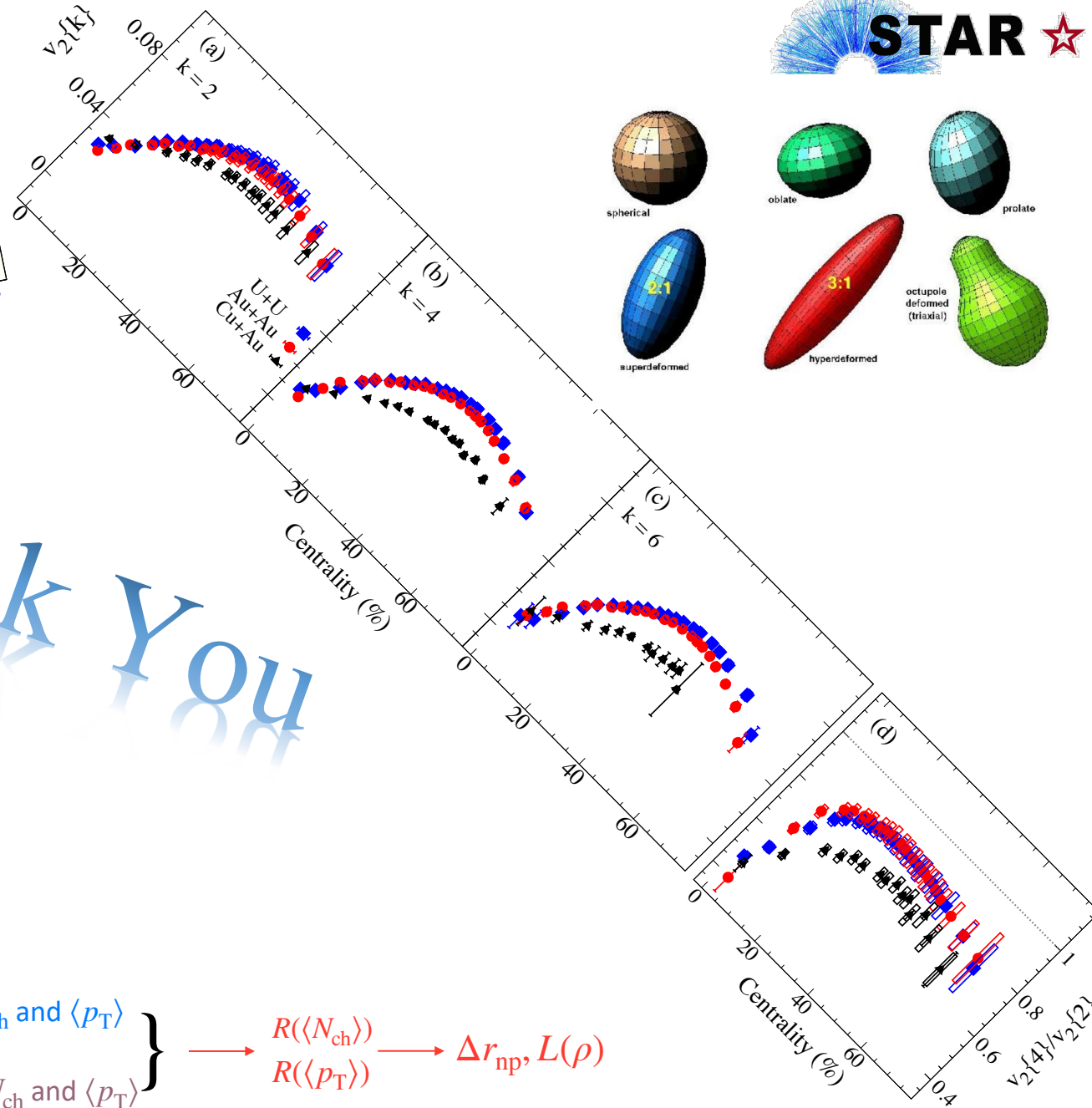
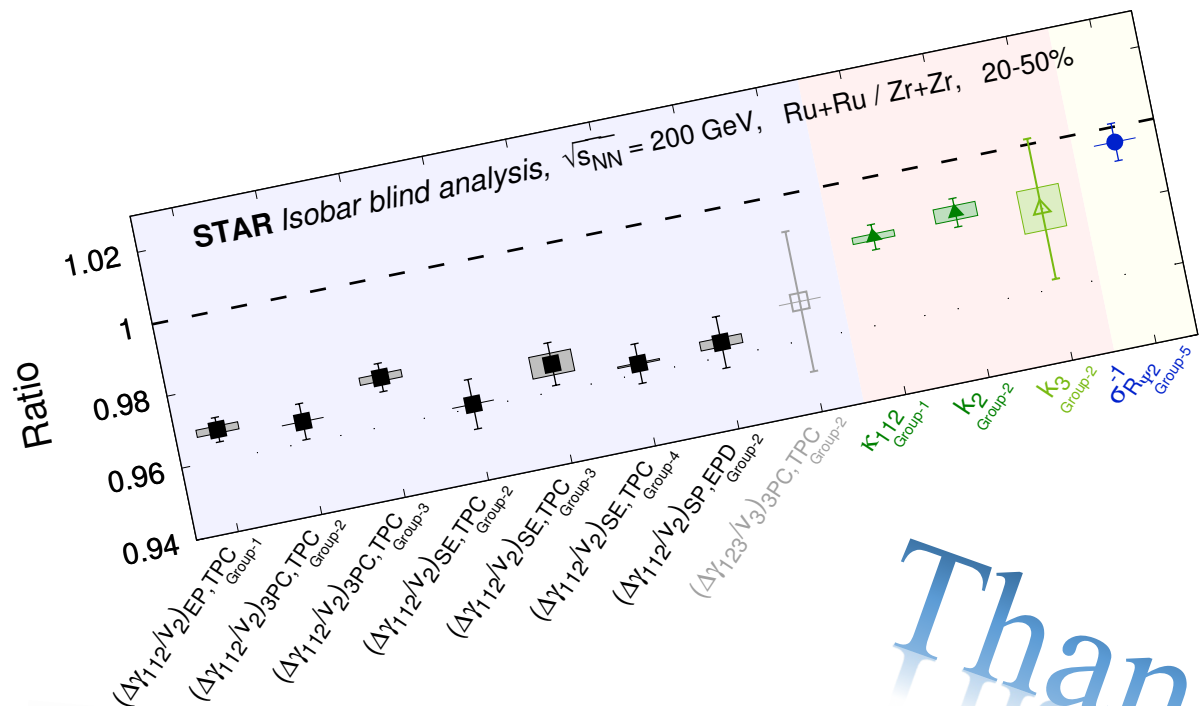
- Probing neutron skin thickness and symmetry energy in isobar collisions



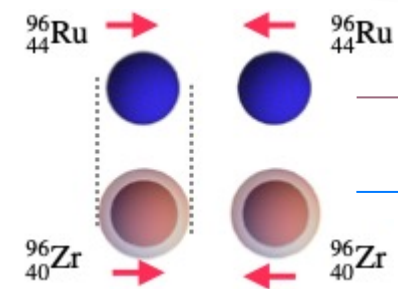
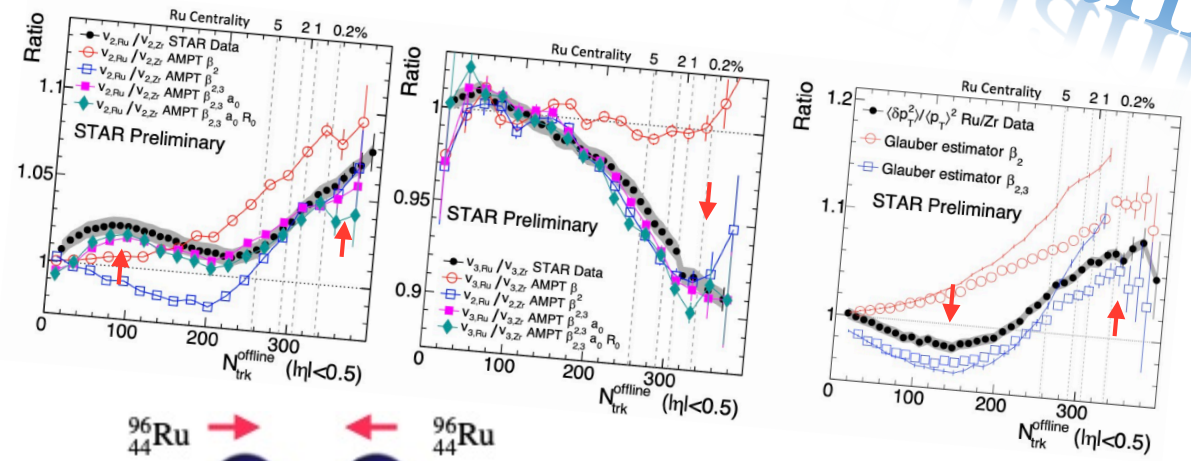
H. Li, HJX, et.al, PRL125, 222301 (2020)  
HJX, et.al arXiv:2111.14812

The multiplicity and  $\langle p_T \rangle$  differences can probe neutron skin and symmetry energy





Thank You



$\rightarrow$  Smaller  $r$ , larger density  $\rightarrow$  Larger  $N_{ch}$  and  $\langle p_T \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow$  Larger  $r$ , smaller density  $\rightarrow$  Smaller  $N_{ch}$  and  $\langle p_T \rangle$

$$\left. \begin{matrix} R(\langle N_{ch} \rangle) \\ R(\langle p_T \rangle) \end{matrix} \right\} \rightarrow \Delta r_{np}, L(\rho)$$