Experimental Approach to the QCD Phase Diagram & Search for the Critical Point

Grazyna Odyniec / LBNL, Berkeley

The John Cramer Symposium
University of Washington, Seattle, September 10-11, 2009

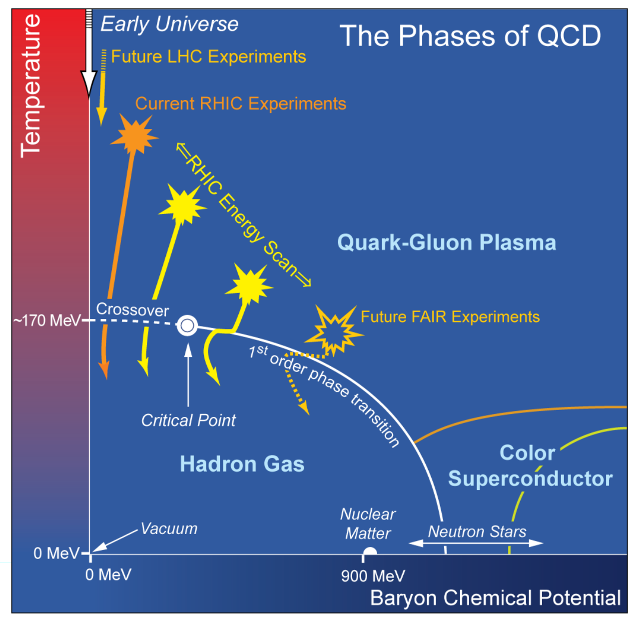
Outline :

QCD phase diagram

Heavy Ion Collisions – the only experimental tool

BES @ RHIC: Physics goals and observables:

- search for the CP and 1st order phase transition
- demonstrate the onset of deconfinement (QGP)



USA-NSAC 2007 Long-range Plan

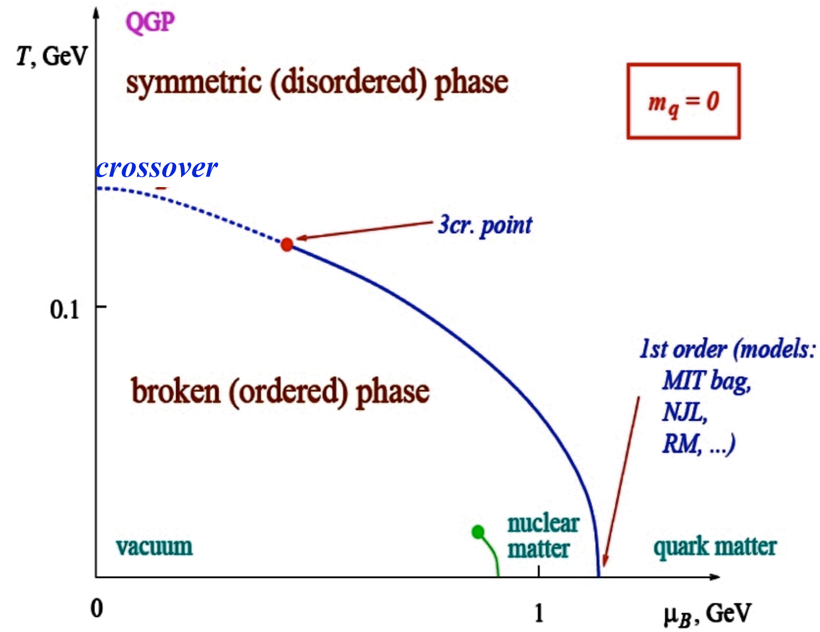
QCD phase diagram - Theory

M.Stephanov, hep-ph/0402115v1 (March 2006)

Theory at the "edges" is believed to be well understood:

1. Lattice QCD finds a rapid, but smooth, crossover at large T and m_B~0
2. Various models find a strong 1st order transition at large m_B

So, there must be a critical point, <u>but where?</u>



Lattice at $m_B \neq 0$: serious problems, several methods on lattice, no agreement so far:

⟶ CP range: $160 < m_B < 500$ MeV

Given the significant theoretical difficulties, data may lead the study of QCD phase diagram

➡ <u>Beam Energy Scan</u> Program at RHIC will cover this range

Beam Energy Scan at RHIC: $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ~ 5-50 GeV

<u>experimental window to QCD phenomenology</u>
at finite temperature and baryon number density

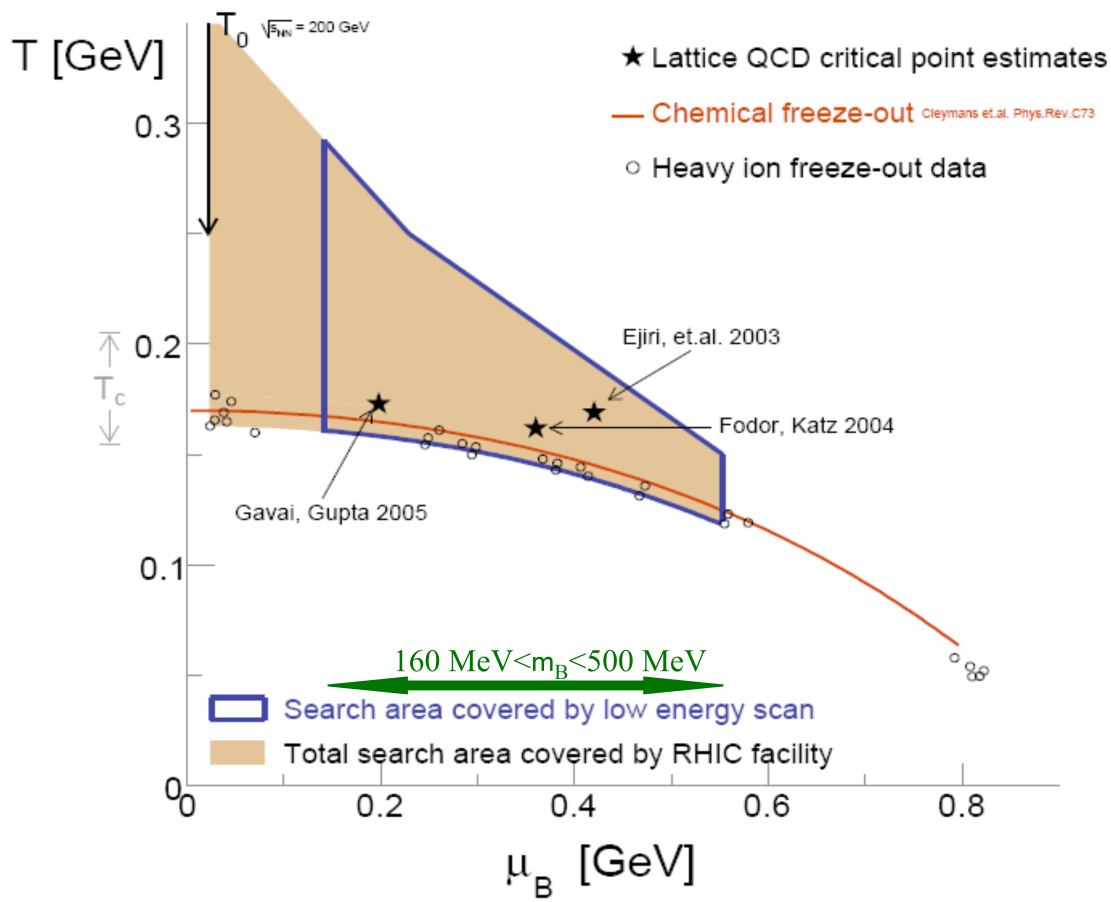
at RHIC : indications of sQGP
but remain <u>unknown</u>:

- boundary between hadronic and partonic phases
- critical point

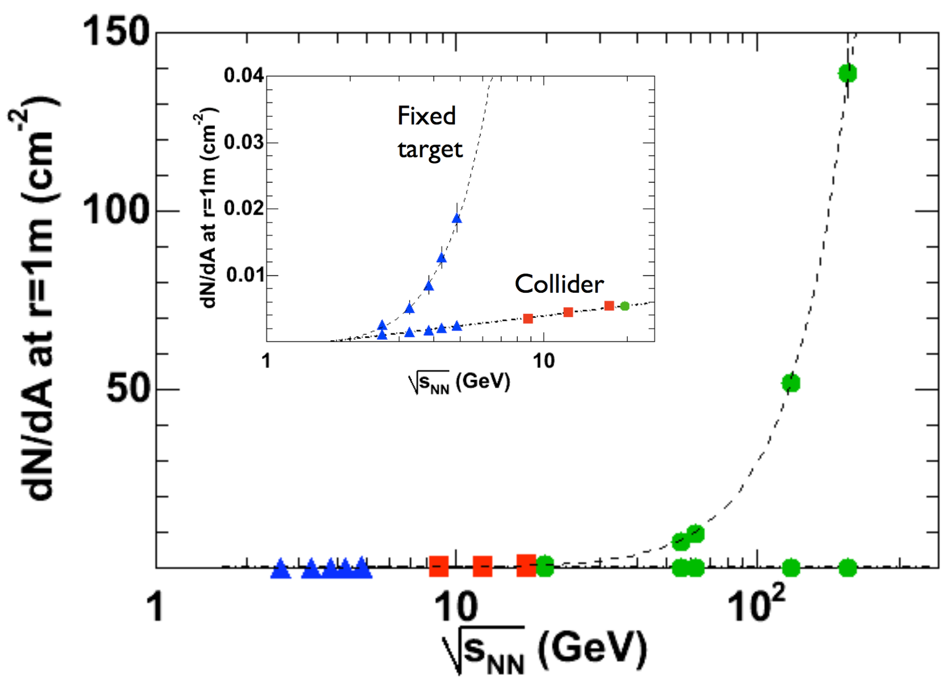
HOW to investigate it ? BES @ RHIC

also: SPS, FAIR (fixed target)

INT Program "The QCD Critical Point"
Univ. of Washington, Seattle, 2008

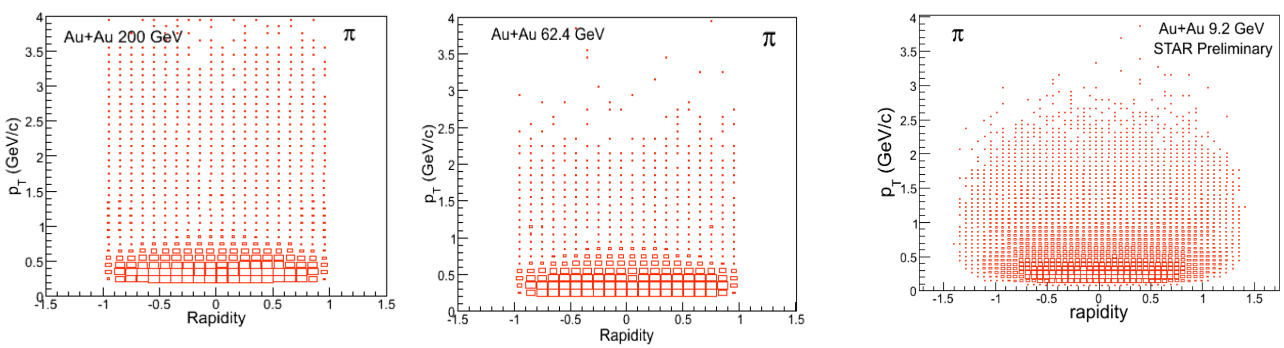


Why RHIC is such an excellent choice ? - Collider



1.

Variation of particle density with beam energy slower. Occupancy in detectors reasonable compared to fixed target experiments at similar collision energy

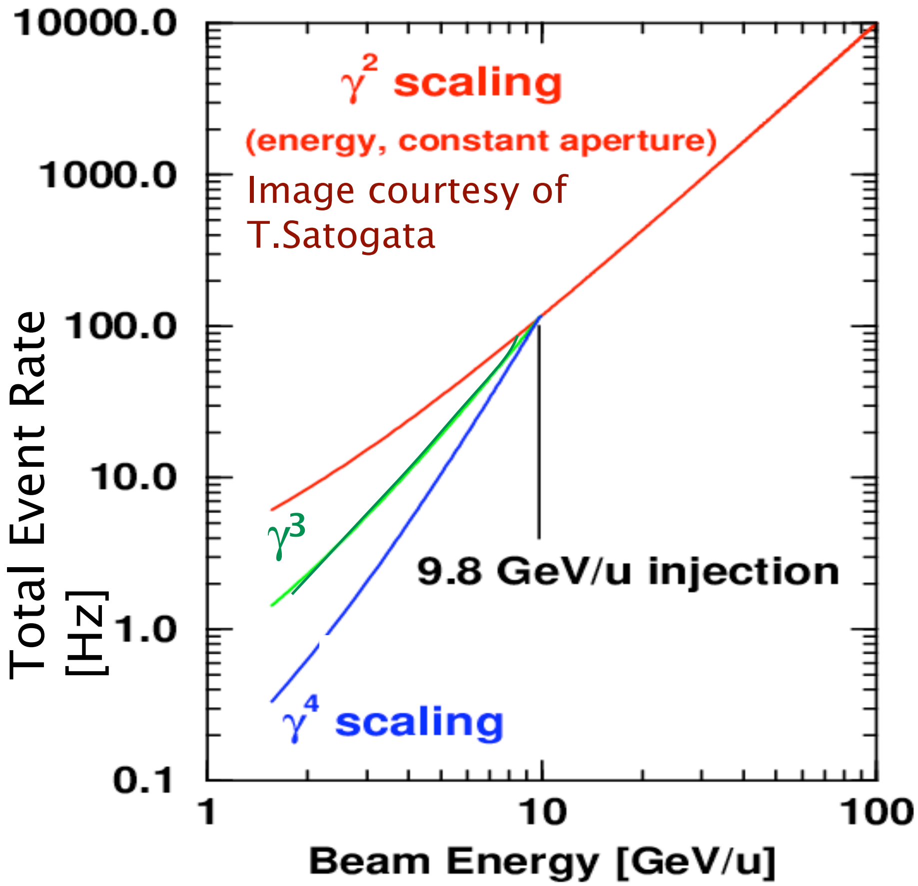


2.

Uniform acceptance for different particle species and for different beam energies in the same experimental setup

Excellent control of systematics !

Luminosity is the key issue



Determined collision rate for 2008 9.2 GeV Au+Au test to be ~1Hz.

Rate can be increased by:

- factor 2 by adding more bunches, only 56 used for tests (max 120).
- factor 3-6 by operating with higher charge in bunches.
- factor few by running in continuous injection mode
- electron cooling in RHIC (in 2012)

Expect to reach γ^3 rate even at lowest energies

BES: Experimental Program

<u>Search for:</u>

(1) indications of the existence of Critical Point & phase transition

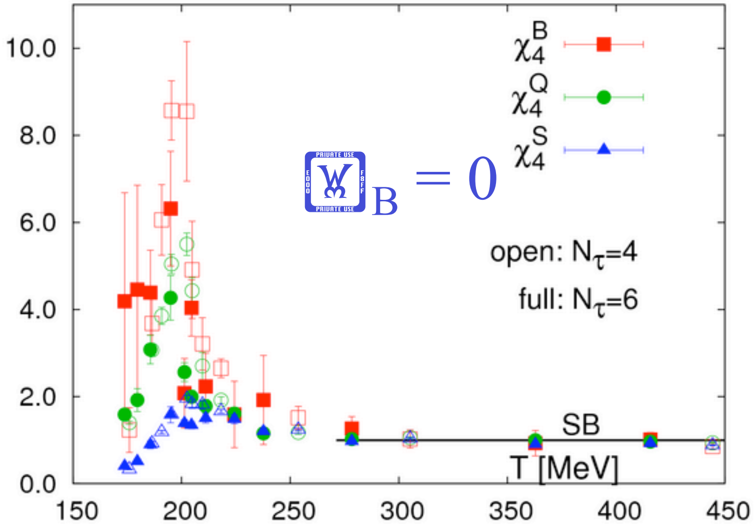
- fluctuation measures
    - higher moments of net proton distribution (kurtosis) ★
- azimuthally-sensitive femtoscopy
- elliptic & directed flow
- …

(2) disappearance of signals of partonic activities seen at 200 GeV

- disappearance of constituent-quark-number scaling of v_2 ★
- disappearance of hadron suppression in central collisions
- disappearance of ridge
- local parity violation
- …

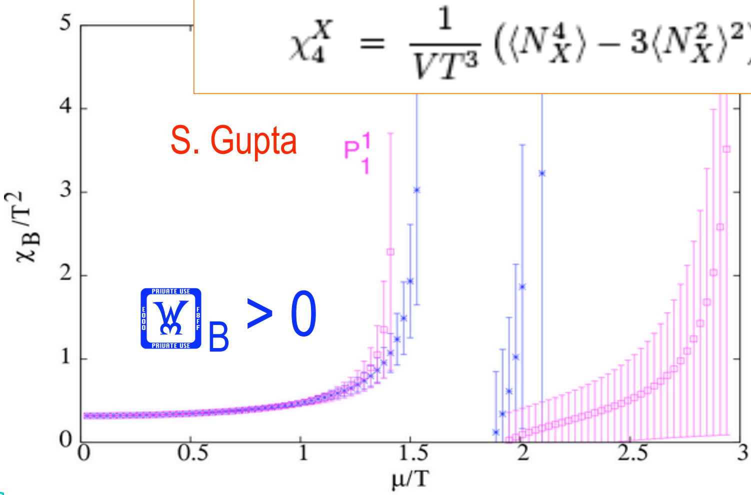
http://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0493

Search for the QCD Critical Point : Higher Moments



$$\chi_2^X = \frac{1}{VT^3}\langle N_X^2 \rangle$$

$$\chi_4^X = \frac{1}{VT^3}\left(\langle N_X^4 \rangle - 3\langle N_X^2 \rangle^2\right)$$



<u>Thermodynamics:</u> Divergence of susceptibilities for conserved quantities (B,Q,S) at critical point.

<u>Lattice QCD</u>: Spikes for both χ_B and χ_S

Berdnikov, Rajagopal, PRD61, 105017 (00)
Stephanov, Rajagopal, Shuryak, PRD 60, 114028 (99)
Hatta, Stephanov, PRL. 91, 102003 (03)

<u>Observable:</u>

Kurtosis of net-proton & net-C

- *connect to lattice calculations!*
- *sensitive to long range fluctuations*

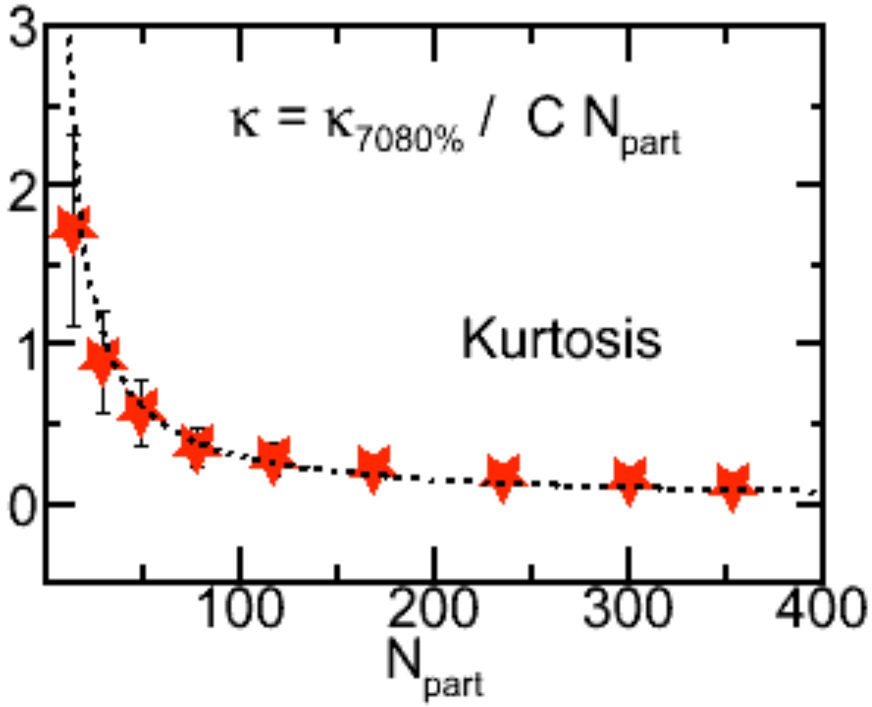
<u>Caveats</u>: dynamical effects in collisions

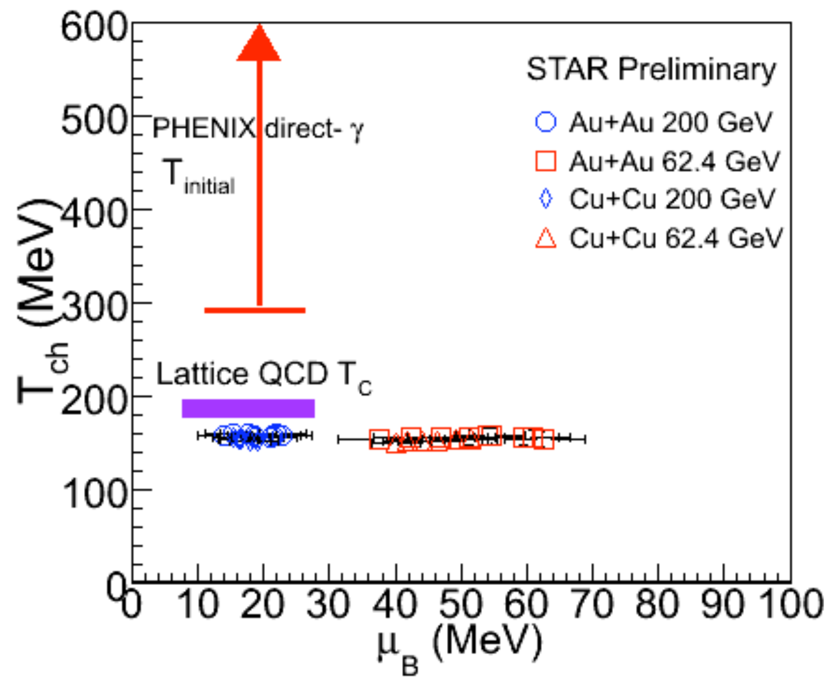
- *finite time and size*
- *critical slowing*

Centrality dependence of net-proton Kurtosis

STAR Preliminary:

200 GeV Au+Au ($m_B \leq 25$ MeV)





First Kurtosis measurement for net-protons in high-energy nuclear collisions

Monotonic behavior observed at relatively small m_B region → baseline

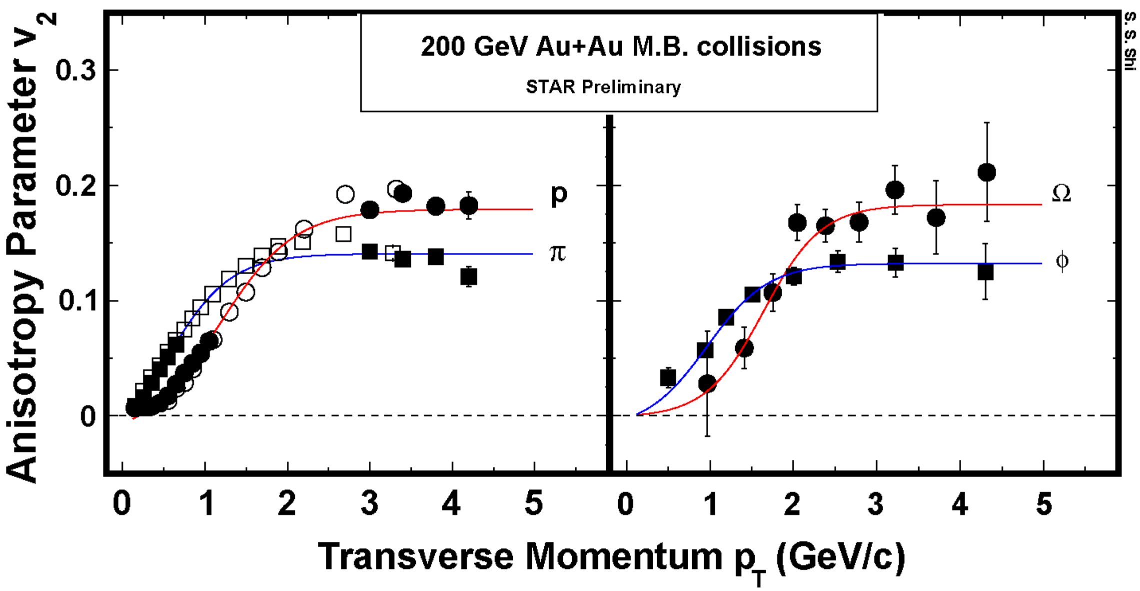
Disappearance of partonic activities (I)

(Onset of sQGP)

disappearance of n_q scaling, disappearance of hadron suppression at high pt, … (a long list)

n_q scaling observed at RHIC:

STAR, QM 2009

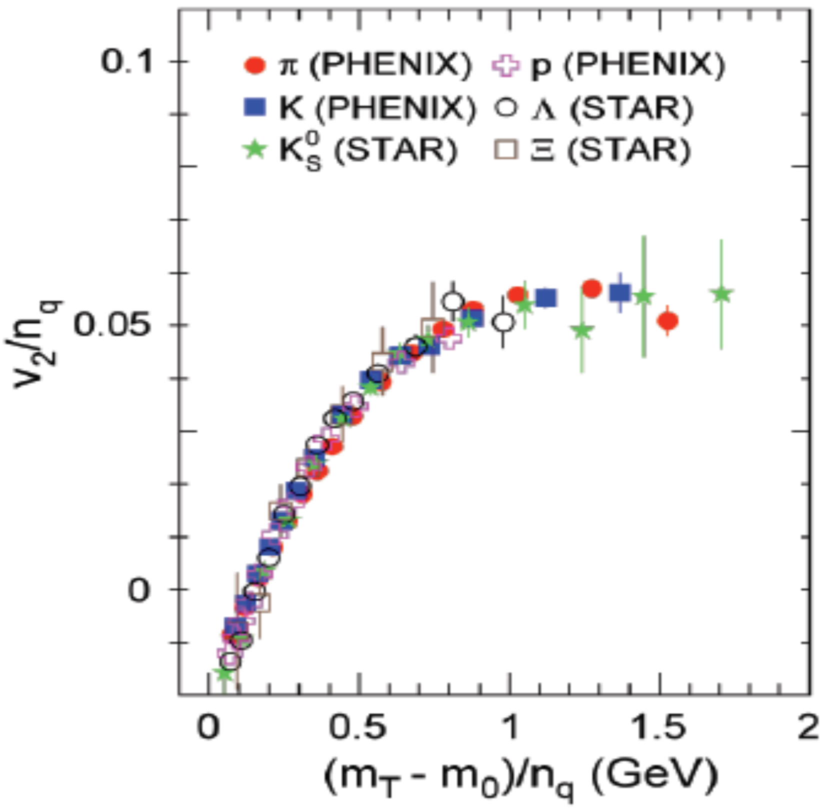


(1) Mass separation at low p_T

(2) Light and heavy quarks have similar magnitude of flow

(3) In intermediate p_T: separation between baryon and meson band

Disappearance of partonic activities (II)



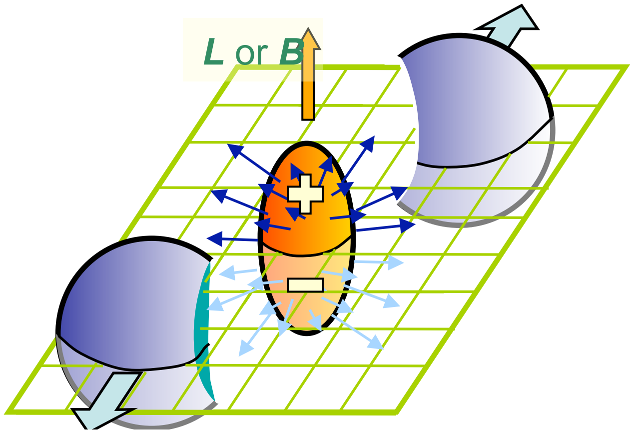
Scaling flow parameters by quark content n_q (baryons=3, mesons=2) resolves meson-baryon separation of final state hadrons

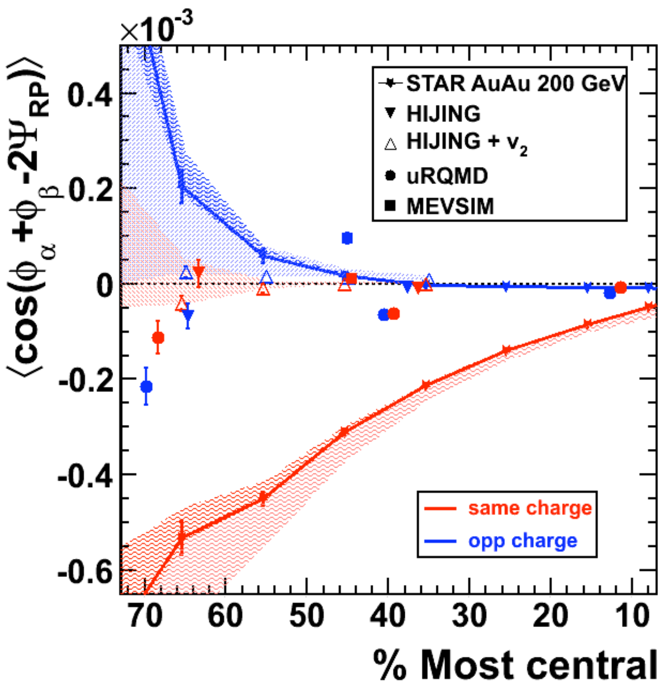
flow developed in pre-hadronic stage
DECONFINEMENT at RHIC

With lowering energy, disappearance of n_q scaling would suggest that we exit partonic dof world

Local Parity Violations in Deconfined Medium

D.E. Kharzeev et al, NPA 803, 227 (2008)
K. Fukushima et al, PRD 78, 074033 (2008)





(1) Under strong magnetic field, when the system is in the state of deconfinement and chiral symmetry restoration is reached, local fluctuation may lead to parity violation.

(2) Experimentally one would observe the separation of the charges in high-energy nuclear collisions.

(3) In RHIC Beam Energy Scan program:

- test the model prediction

- the energy when the charge separation disappear => phase boundary http://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/starnotes/public/sn0493

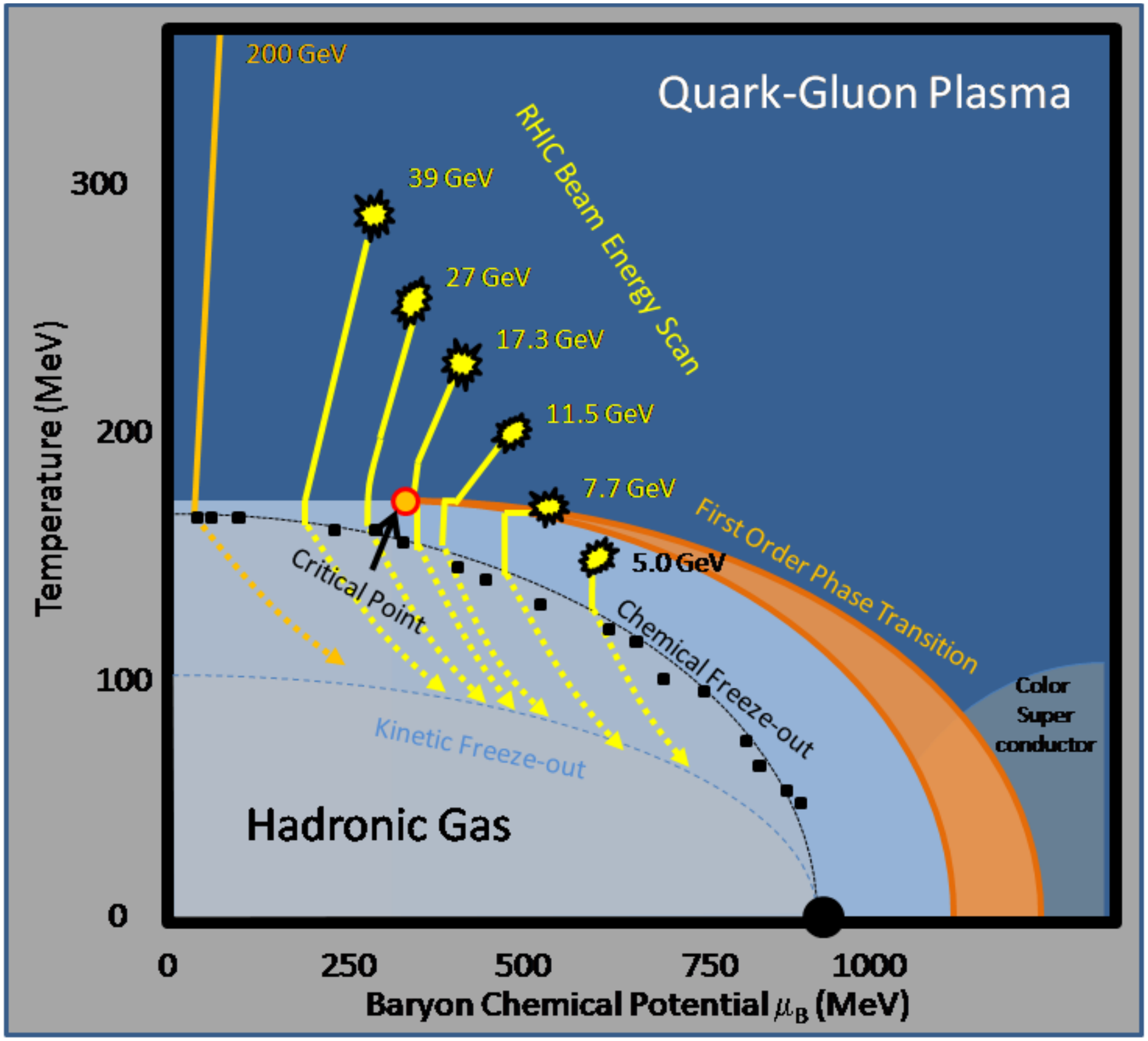
	Collision Energies (GeV)	**5**	**7.7**	**11.5**	**17.3**	**27**	**39**
	Observables	Millions of Events Needed					
Critical Point Signatures	v_2 (up to ~1.5 GeV/c)	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**
	v_1	0.5	**0.5**	**0.5**	**0.5**	**0.5**	**0.5**
	Azimuthally sensitive HBT	4	**4**	**3.5**	**3.5**	**3**	**3**
	PID fluctuations (K/p)	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	net-proton kurtosis	5	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**
	differential corr & fluct vs. centrality	4	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**
Deconfinement Signatures	n_q scaling p/K/p/L $(m_T-m_0)/n<2$GeV	8.5	**6**	**5**	**5**	**4.5**	**4.5**
	f/W up to $p_T/n_q=2$ GeV/c		56	25	**18**	**13**	**12**
	R_{CP} up to p_T ~4.5 GeV/c (at 17.3) 5.5 (at 27) & 6 GeV/c (at 39)				**15**	**33**	**24**
	untriggered ridge correlations		27	13	**8**	**6**	**6**
	parity violation		**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**

Requested Beam Energies and # of Days Running (from STAR BUR)

Beam Energy sqrt(s) (GeV)	m_B (MeV)	Event Rate (Hz)	Days/1M Events	Events proposed	8-hr days proposed
5	550	0.8	45	200 k	9
7.7	410	3	11	5M	56
11.5	300	10	3.7	5M	19
17.3	230	33	1.1	15M	16
27	150	92	0.4	33M	12
39	110	190	0.2	24M	5

Sufficient rates for the initial physics program at all energies

"binary" experiment: YES/NO (no "maybe's" & more statistics needed)



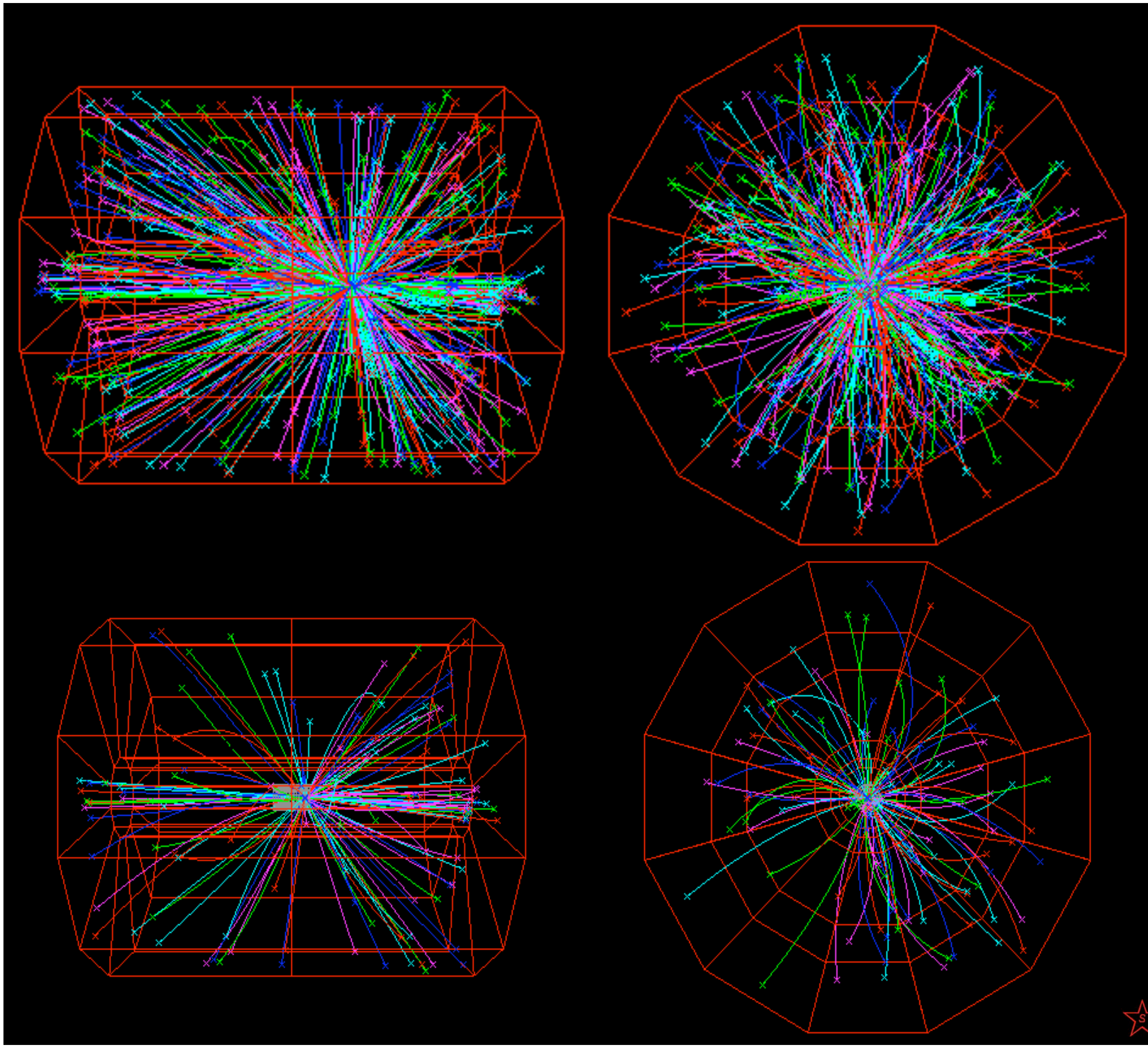
BES @ RHIC:
run 10 and 11

PAC recommendations, May 2008:

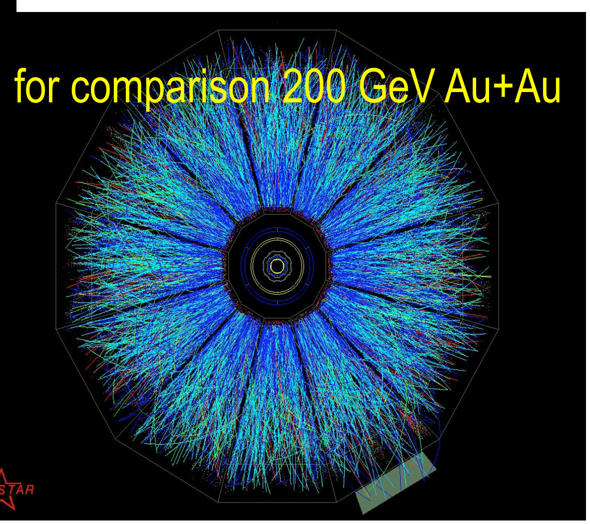
"The search for the QCD Critical Point is a "must do" experiment"

BERKELEY LAB

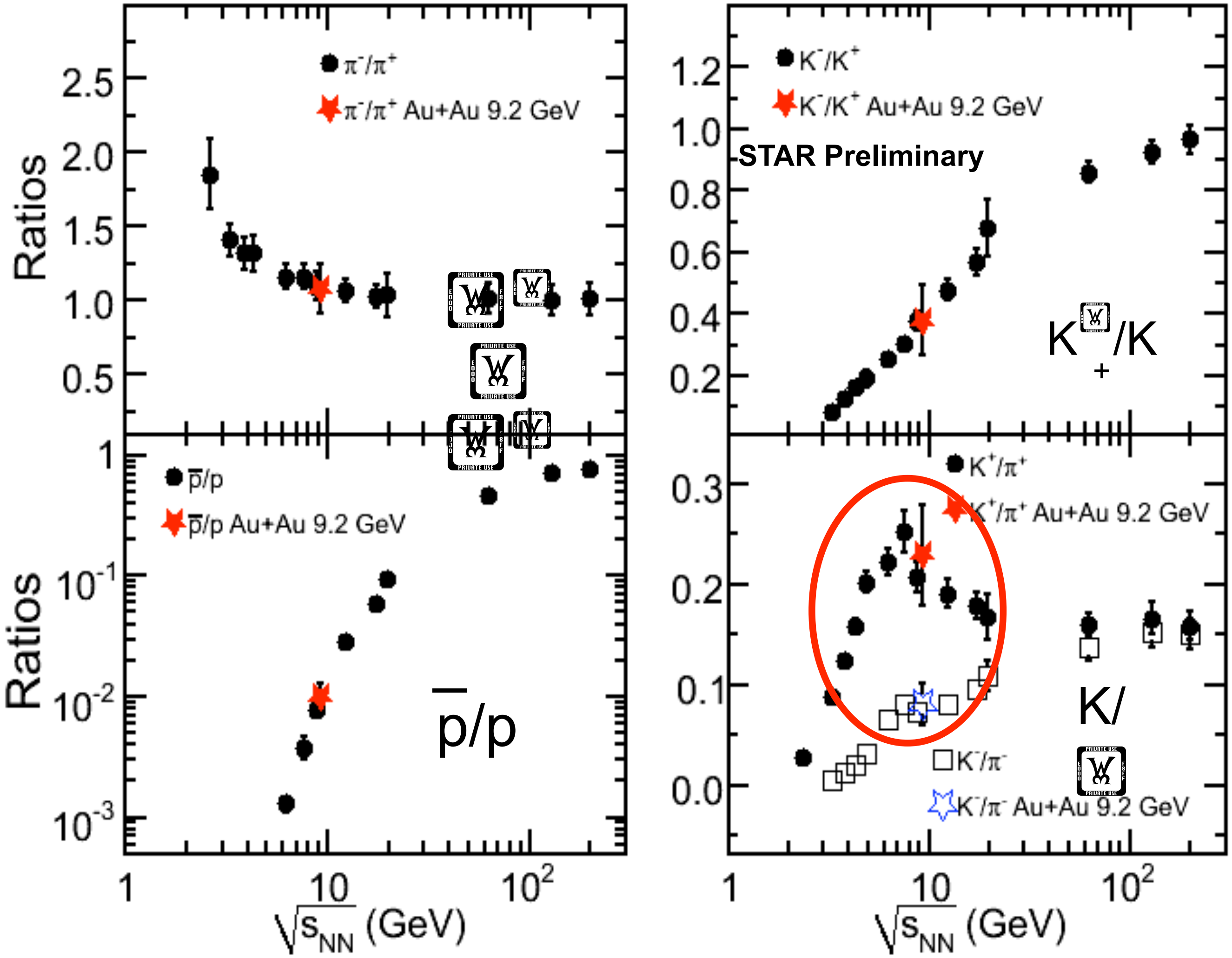
STAR has experience with low energy running



9.2 GeV Au+Au
March 2008



STAR experiment demonstrated capabilities



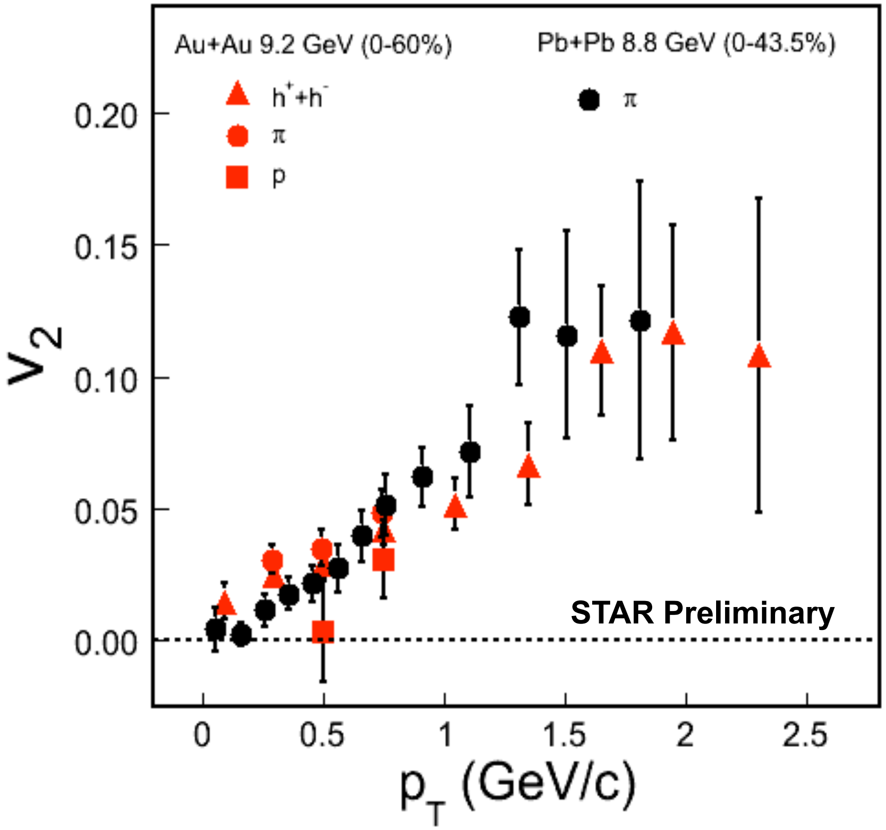
9.2 GeV results consistent with the published data

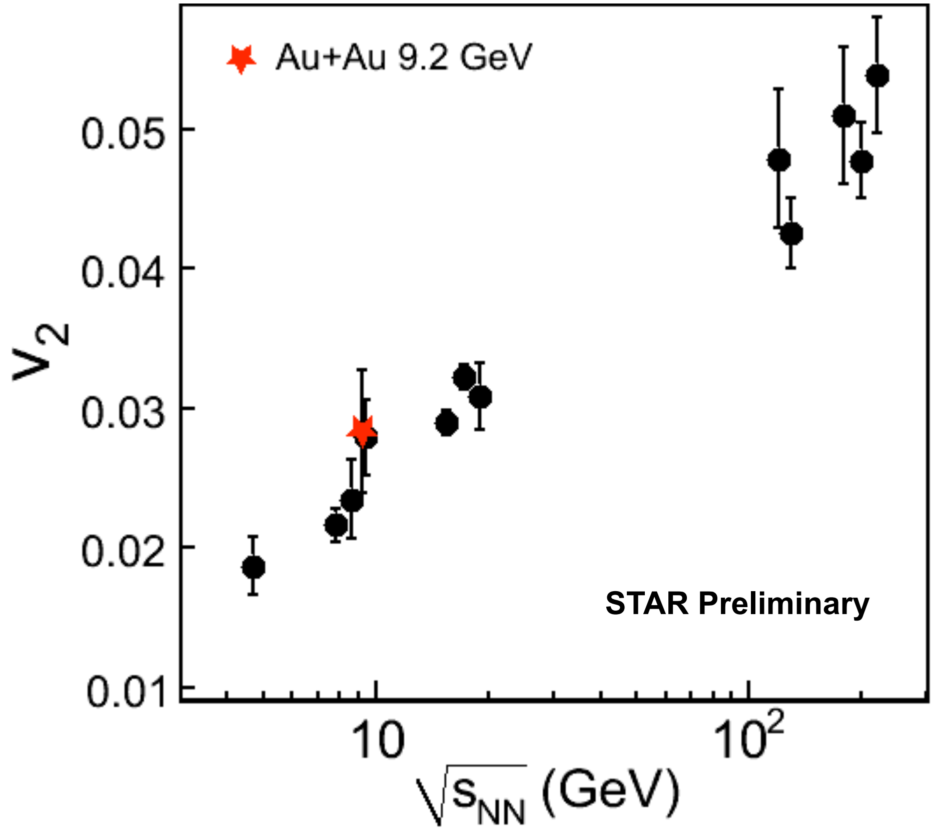
STAR : PRC 79 (2009) 034909, arXiv: 0903.4702

NA49 : PRC 66 (2002) 054902, PRC 77 (2008) 024903, PRC 73 (2006) 044910

E802(AGS) : PRC 58 (1998) 3523, PRC 60 (1999) 044904, PRC 62 (2000) 024901, PRC 68 (2003) 054903

Elliptic Flow



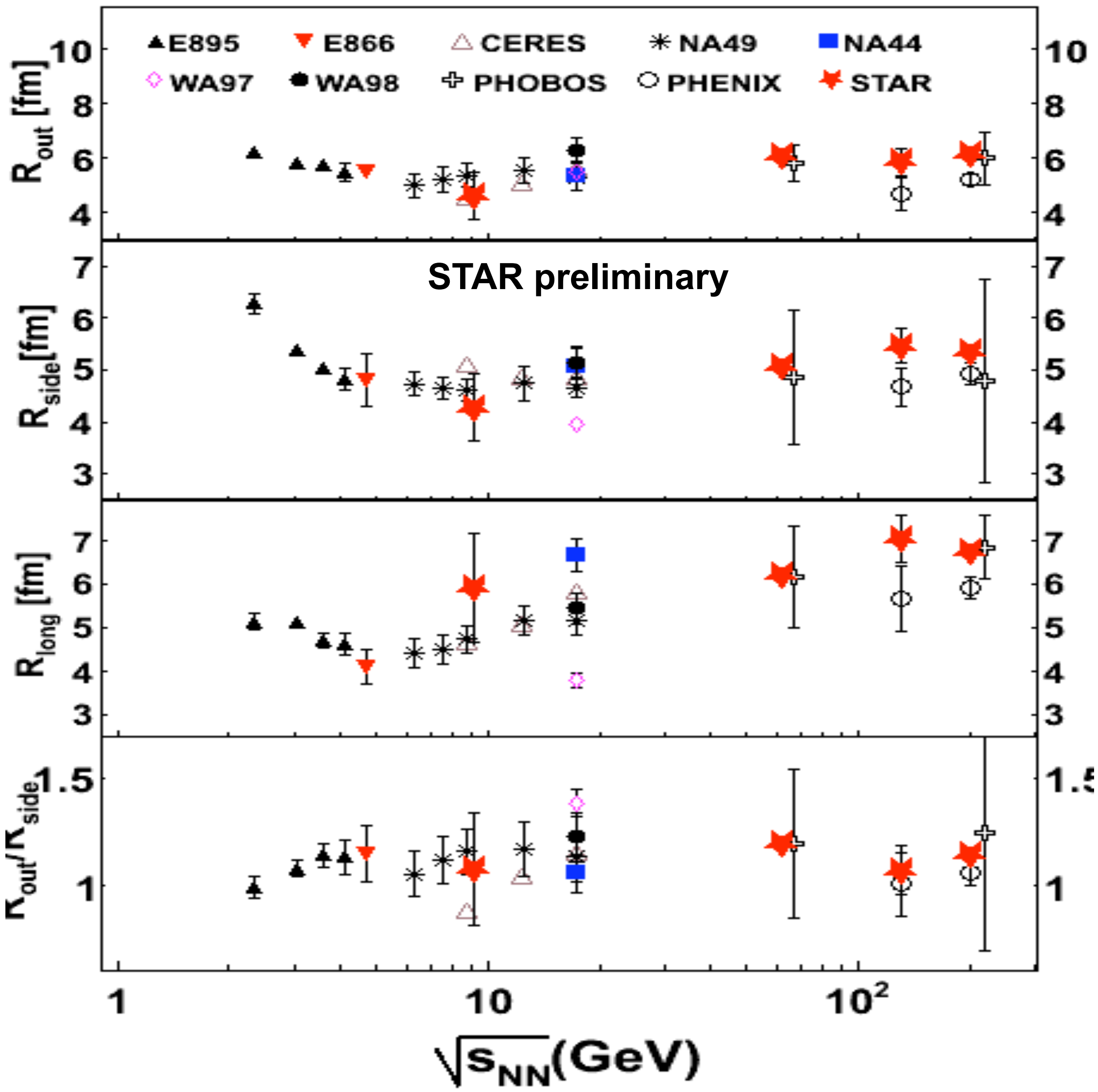


STAR and NA49 results are consistent

STAR 9.2GeV v_2 fits with the observed trends

NA49 : PRC 68 (2003) 034903
AGS : PLB 474 (2000) 27
STAR : PRC 77 (2008) 054901 : PRC 75 (2007) 054906, PRC 72 (2005) 014904
PHOBOS : PRC 72 (2005) 051901 : PRL 98 (2007) 242302
PHENIX : PRL 98 (2007) 162301

Pion Interferometry



error bars for Au+Au 9.2 GeV are statistical
systematic errors < 10 % for all radii

STAR : PRC 71 (2005) 044906, PRL 87 (2001) 082301
PHENIX : PRL 88 (2002) 192302, PRL 93(2004) 152302

E802 : PRC 66 (2002) 054906
CERES : NPA 714 (2003) 124
E895 :PRL 84 (2000) 2798
PHOBOS : PRC 73 (2006) 031901
NA44 : PRC 58 (1998) 1656
E866 : NPA 661 (1999) 439
NA49 : PRC 77 (2008) 64908
WA97 : JPG 27 (2001) 2325

9.2 GeV Au+Au paper in preparation (PRC)

Results from the 9.2 GeV run demonstrate STAR readiness to take up the proposed Beam Energy Scan Program

Summary – part I (BES@RHIC)

Main directions of Beam Energy Scan program at RHIC are established:

- Search for turn-off of sQGP signatures
- Search for the evidence of CP and/or 1st order phase transition
- \+ many other measurements

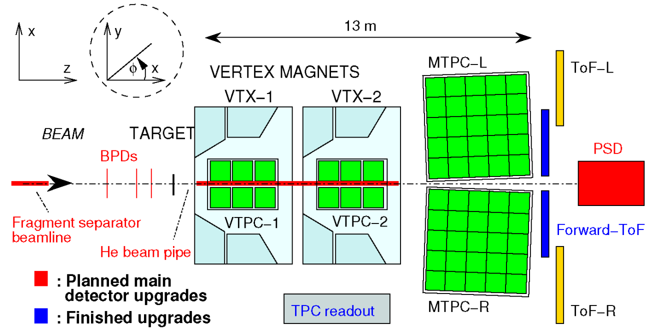
We propose to first scan available phase space with 6 equally spaced points between 5 and 39 GeV (we already have 62, 130, 200 data), and return to “interesting” regions for more detailed studies in the next year

STAR is ready:

- STAR BES program will be definite
- Demonstrated capabilities to complete program
- Perfect time: low interior mass, PID due to TOF, DAQ with DAQ1000

CERN Beam Energy Scan Program – NA61/ SHINE

Outline of setup.



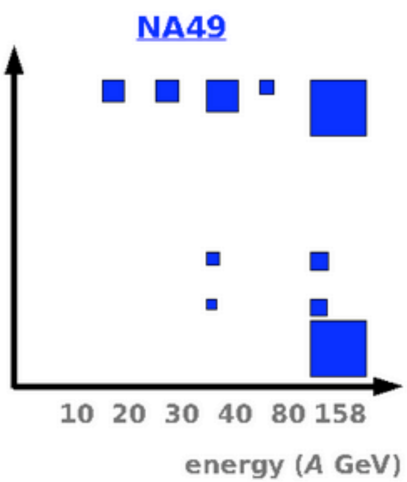
Detector upgrades are necessary.

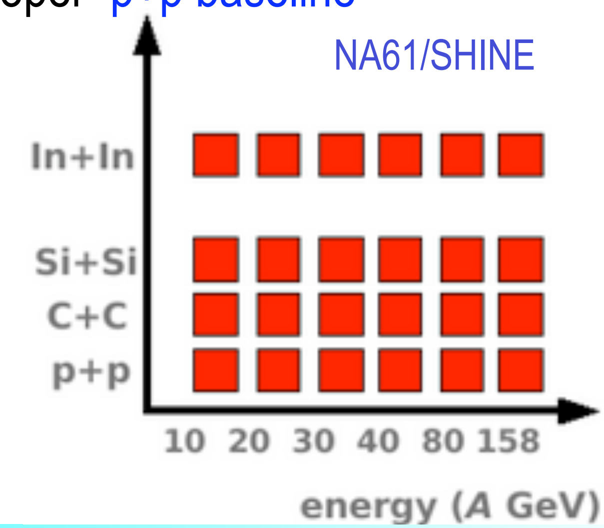
What is the difference vs. NA49 ?

New spectator calorimeter for centrality selection
Forward Time-Of-Flight
Beam pipe
TPC readout

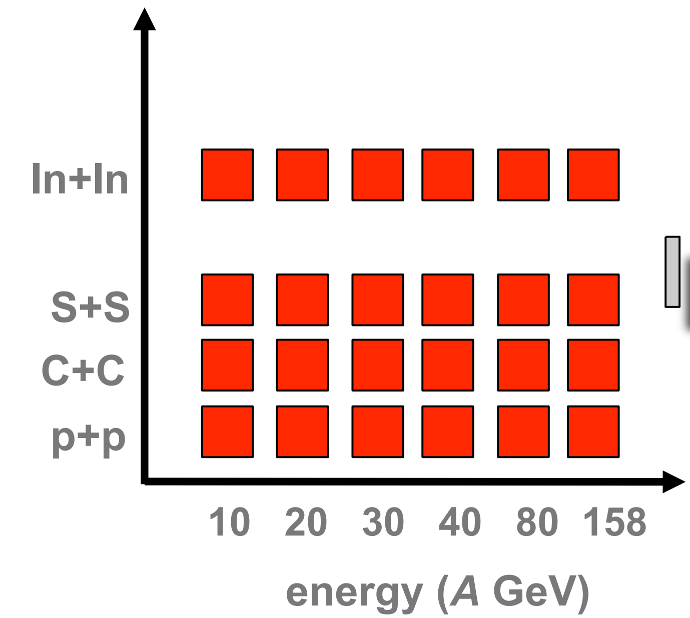
Physics program:

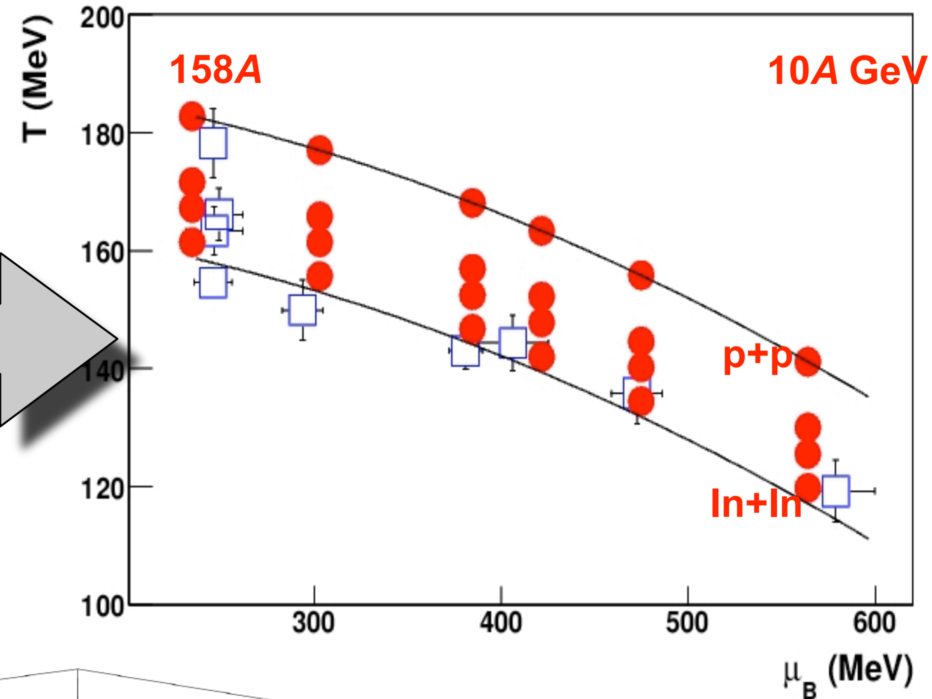
Studying QCD Critical Point and Onset of various observations with varying colliding ion size, collision centrality and having a proper p+p baseline

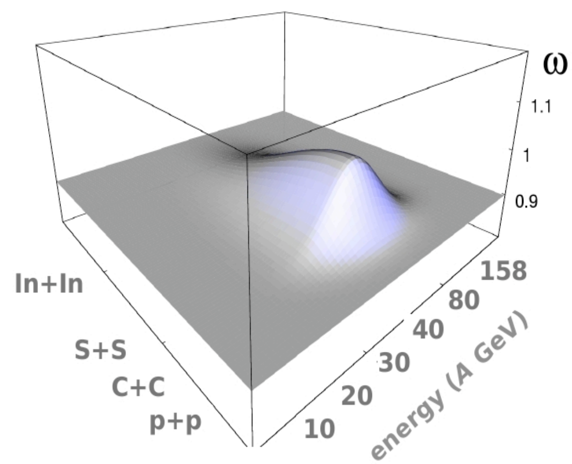




NA61/Shine search for the critical point







Look for the hill of fluctuations

Train is leaving the station …

BES at RHIC (STAR,PHENIX, collider exp.) starting date December 2009 (run 10) to continue in 2011 (run 11)

BES at CERN (NA61/Shine, fixed targ.exp.) starting date with ion data 2011 (A~30) to continue in 2012 and 2013 (with lighter and heavier ions)

Other facilities: FAIR/Darmstad, NICA/Dubna – much later (~ 2015)


No turning
back,
John !


It is not enough to watch
from a distance …


That’s right !
CP search is waiting ….


Happy Birthday, John !
And many happy returns of
this special day …
x 15


"THE MOST EXCITING NOVEL ABOUT THE CUTTING EDGE OF PHYSICS SINCE TIMESCAPE." David Brin
TWISTOR
Z=82
Z=28
Z=20
Z=8

Thank you !