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Recent Results from the PHENIX Collaboration at RHIC

Alexandre Lebedev (Iowa State University)

Outline

Jets in PHENIX

- d+Au
- Cu+Au

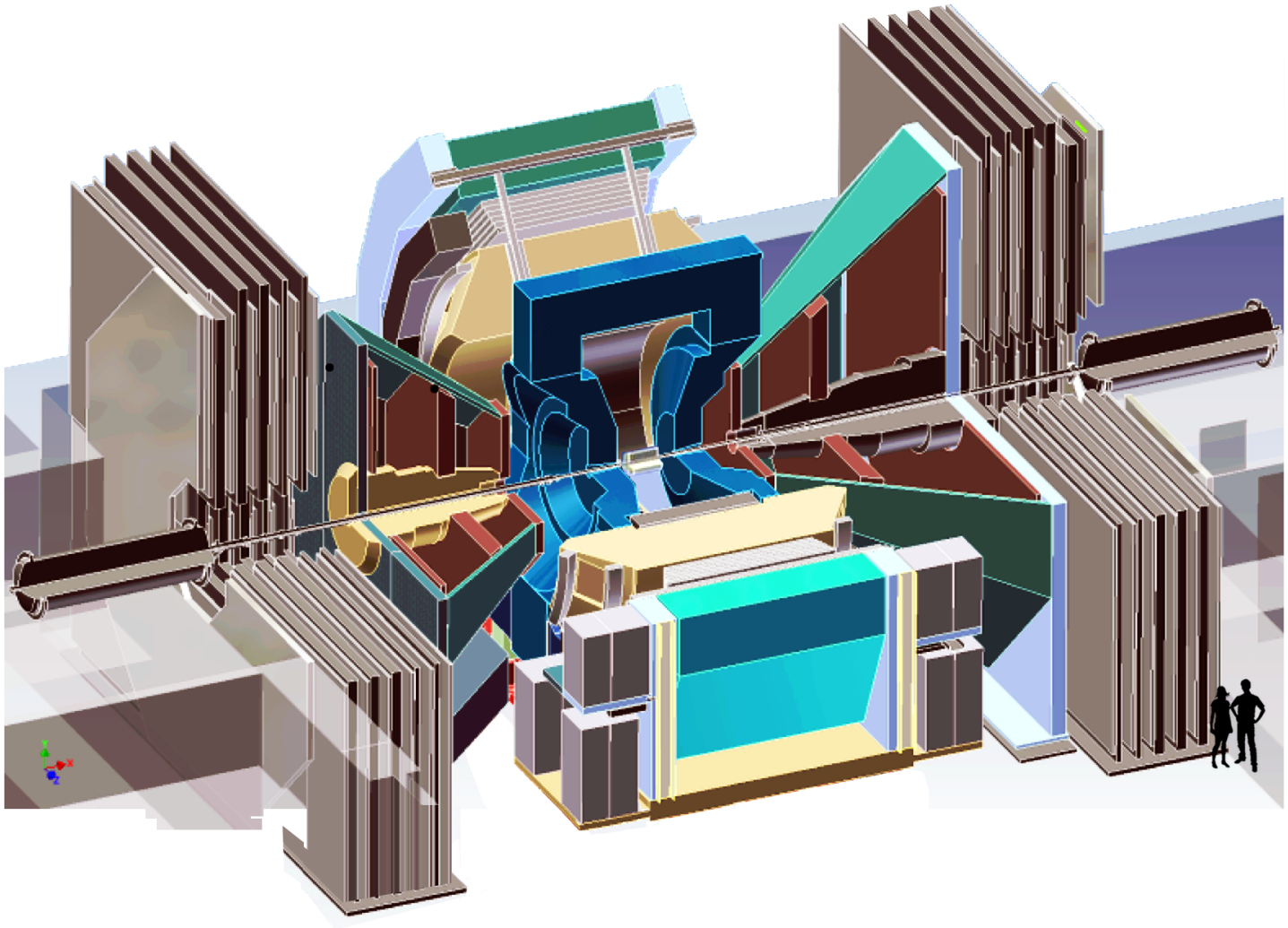
Quarkonia in PHENIX

- ψ' / J/ψ ratio in p+A
- B → J/ψ in p+p and Cu+Au

Direct photons

See also PHENIX talks about open heavy flavor (Takashi Hachiya) and collective behavior in small systems (Julia Velkovska)

The PHENIX Detector



Central Arms

$|\eta| < 0.35$ $\Delta\phi = 2 \times \pi/2$

Tracking chambers for hadrons

EMCal for photons.

Muon Arms

$1.2 < |\eta| < 2.2$ $\Delta\phi = 2\pi$

$P > 2$ GeV

Central and forward silicon vertex detectors

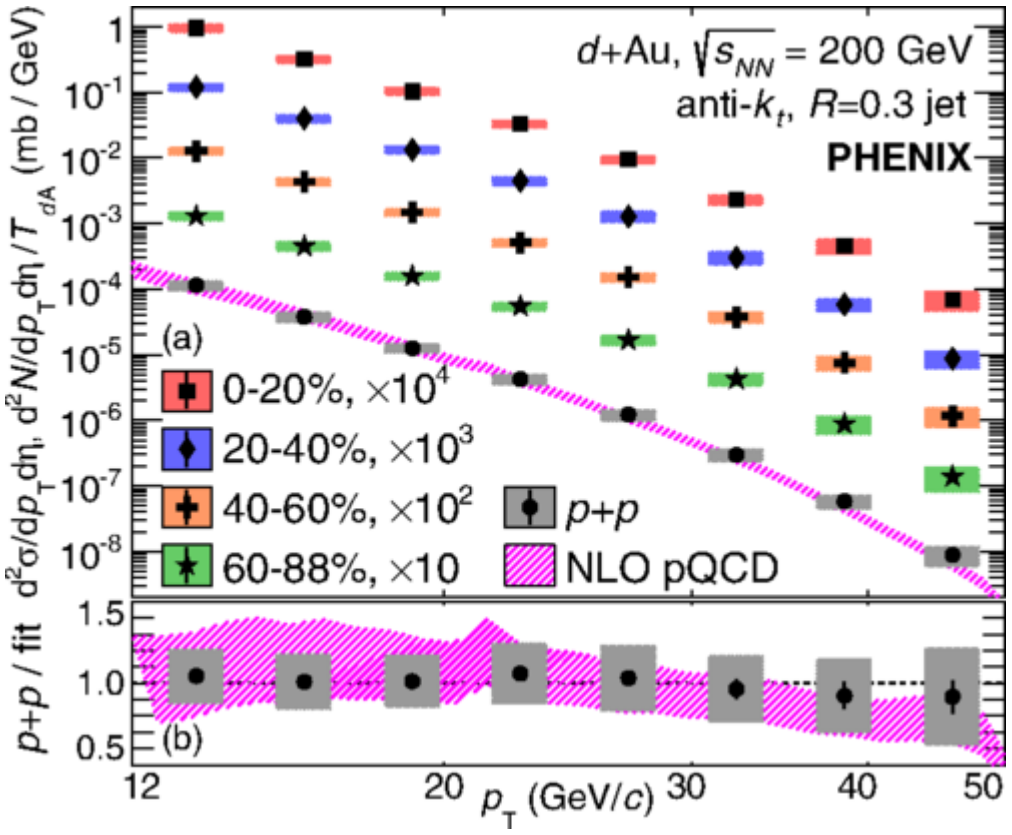
for precise vertex measurement.

Jets in PHENIX

Jets in p+p and d+Au

Jets are measured with anti-k_T algorithm (R=0.3) using track p_T and EMCal cluster energy.

Phys. Rev. Lett. 116 (2016) 122301



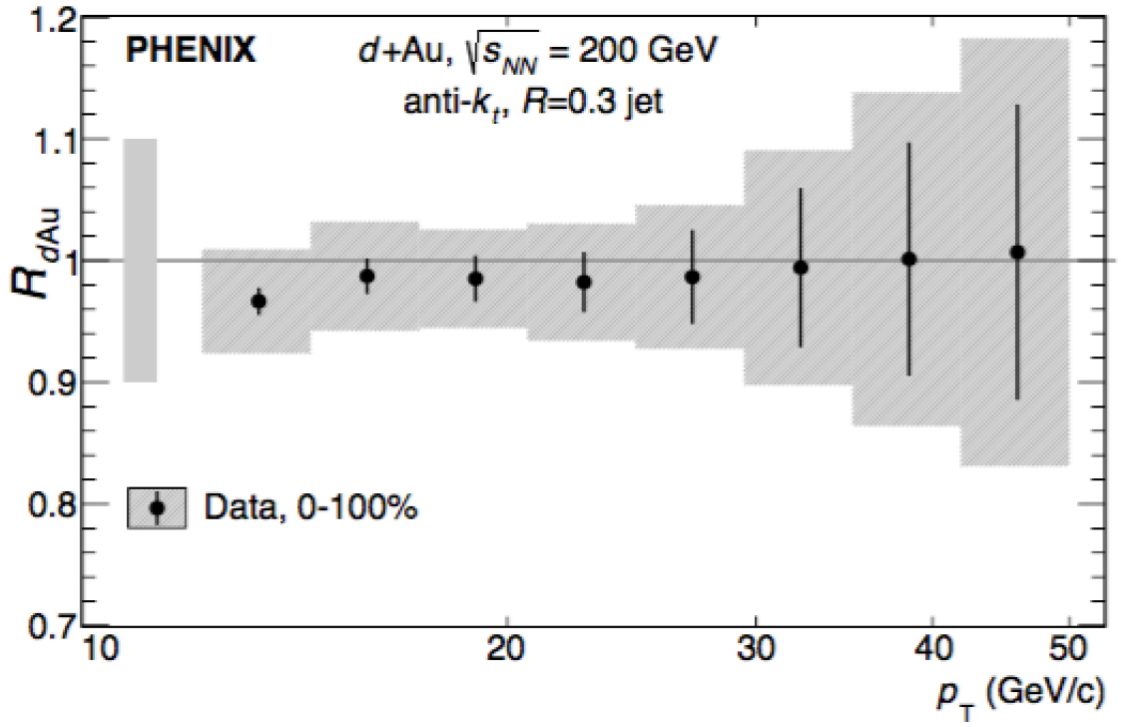
p + p consistent with NLOJET++ with NNPDF2.3 and hadronization corrections from Pythia.

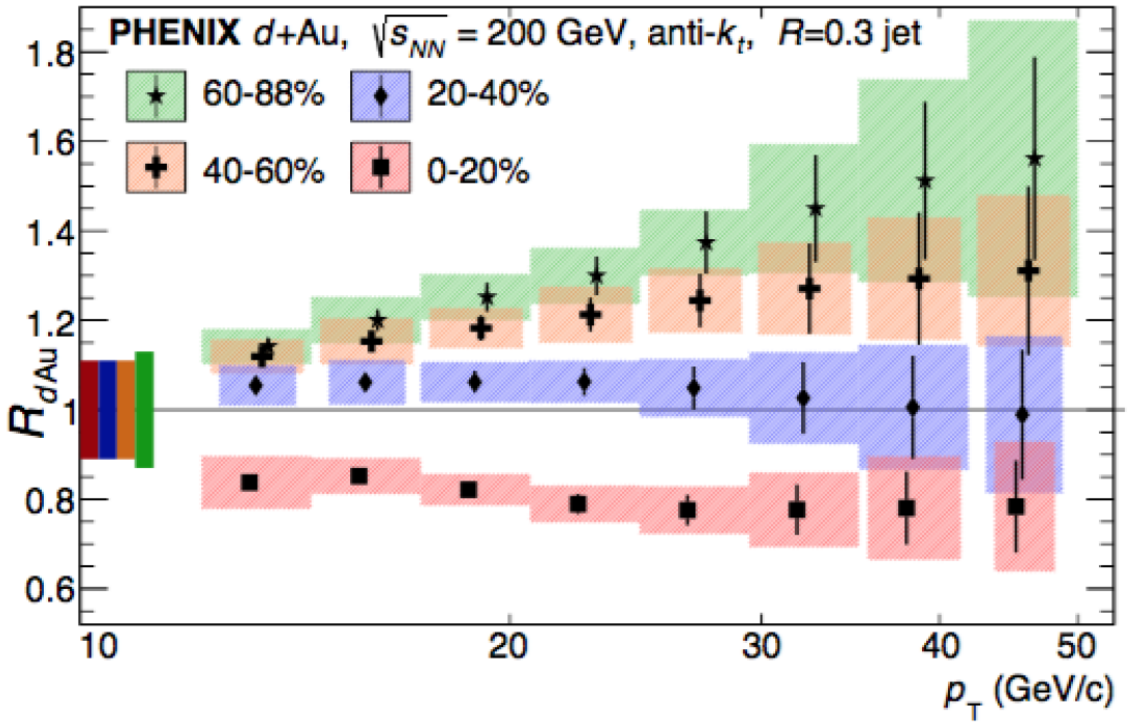
Nuclear modification factor $\mathbf{R_{AA}}$ is yield in nucleus-nucleus collisions divided by yield in p+p collisions scaled by number of binary collisions (N_{COLL}) calculated using Glauber model.

Jet R_{dAu}

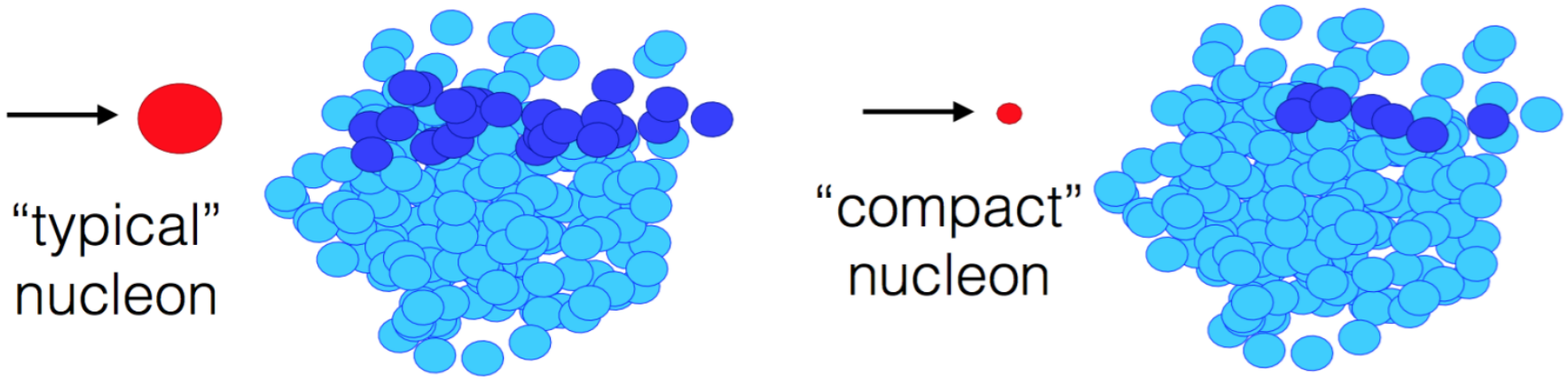
For minimum bias d+Au collisions jets scale as N_{COLL}

…but centrality dependence is surprising:
in peripheral collisions jets are enhanced!
Similar observation in ATLAS [PLB 748 (2015) 392] where it is explained as R_{CP} scaling with proton x.





Nucleus is probing nucleon?



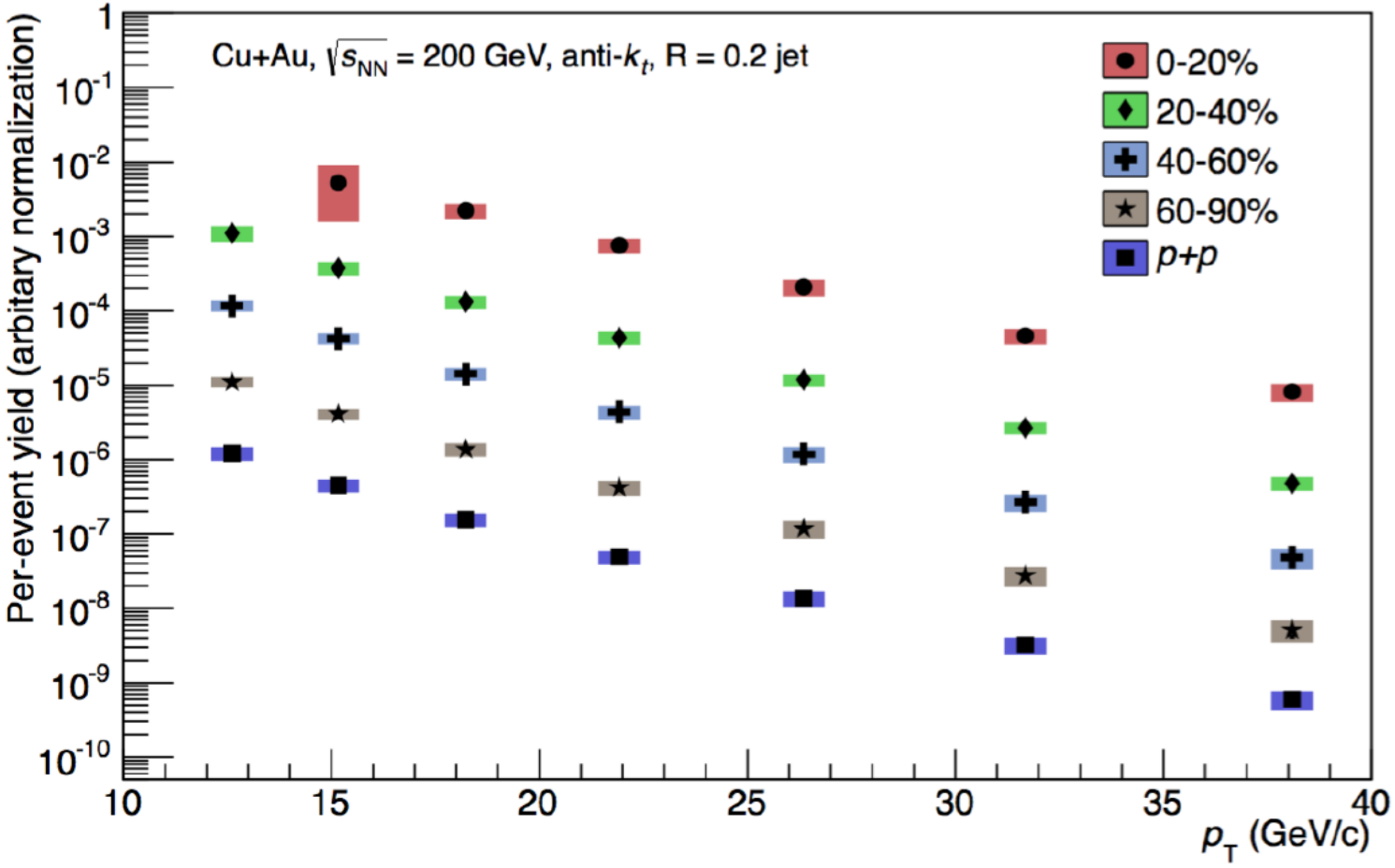
A proton with a high-x parton will be "smaller" than average and strike fewer protons.

Smaller than average N_{COLL} causing R_{dA} to be greater than 1.

Several theoretical efforts in this area: Perepelitsa, Cole and Strickman (PRC 93 (2016) 011902), Bzdak et al. hep-ph/1408.3156, Armesto et al. PLB 747 (2015) 441

Jets in Cu+Au

Problem: large underlying event background



Anti-k_T R=0.2 to reduce underlying event background

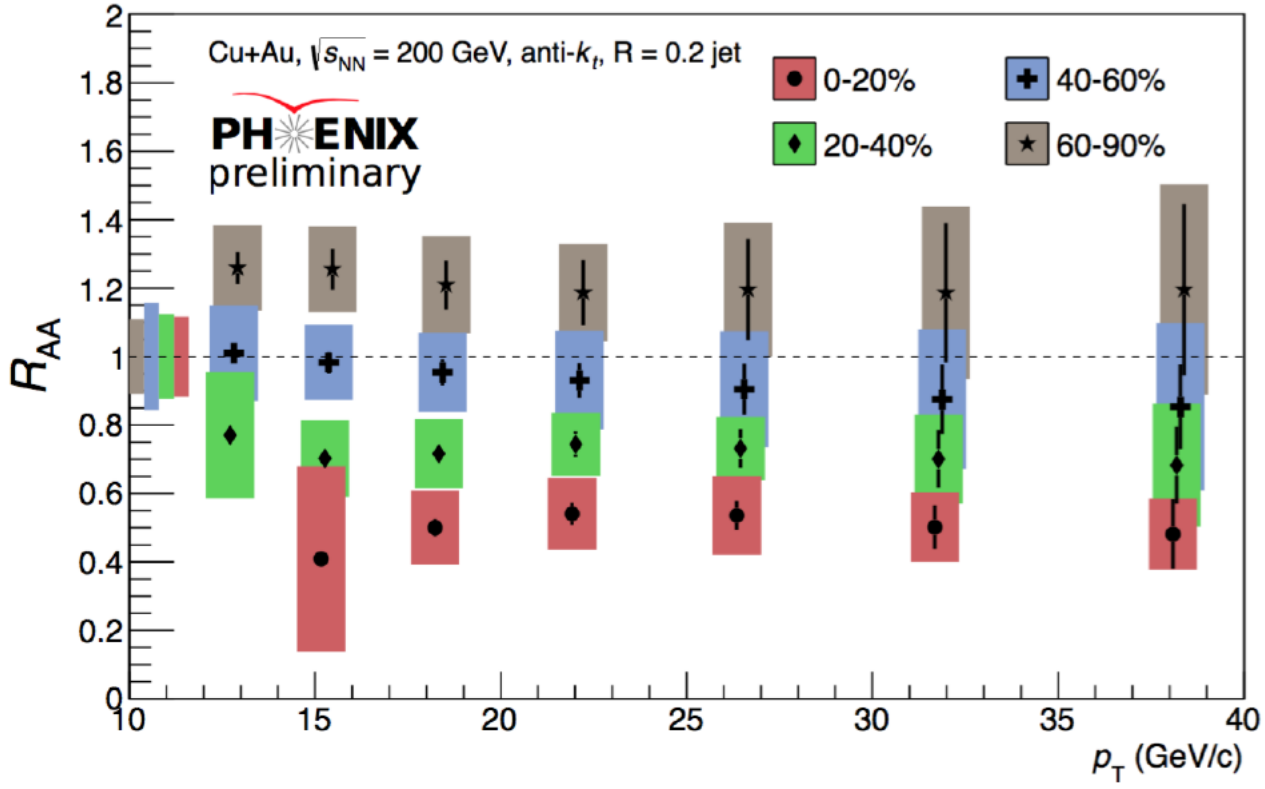
Data-driven underlying event determination:

- Reconstruct jets from randomly shuffled tracks and clusters.
- Fake rate ~30% at 15 GeV and drops to 5% by 25 GeV.

Jet R_{CuAu}

Suppression by factor of ~2 in most central collisions.

Hint of enhancement in most peripheral.



ψ' / J/ψ ratio

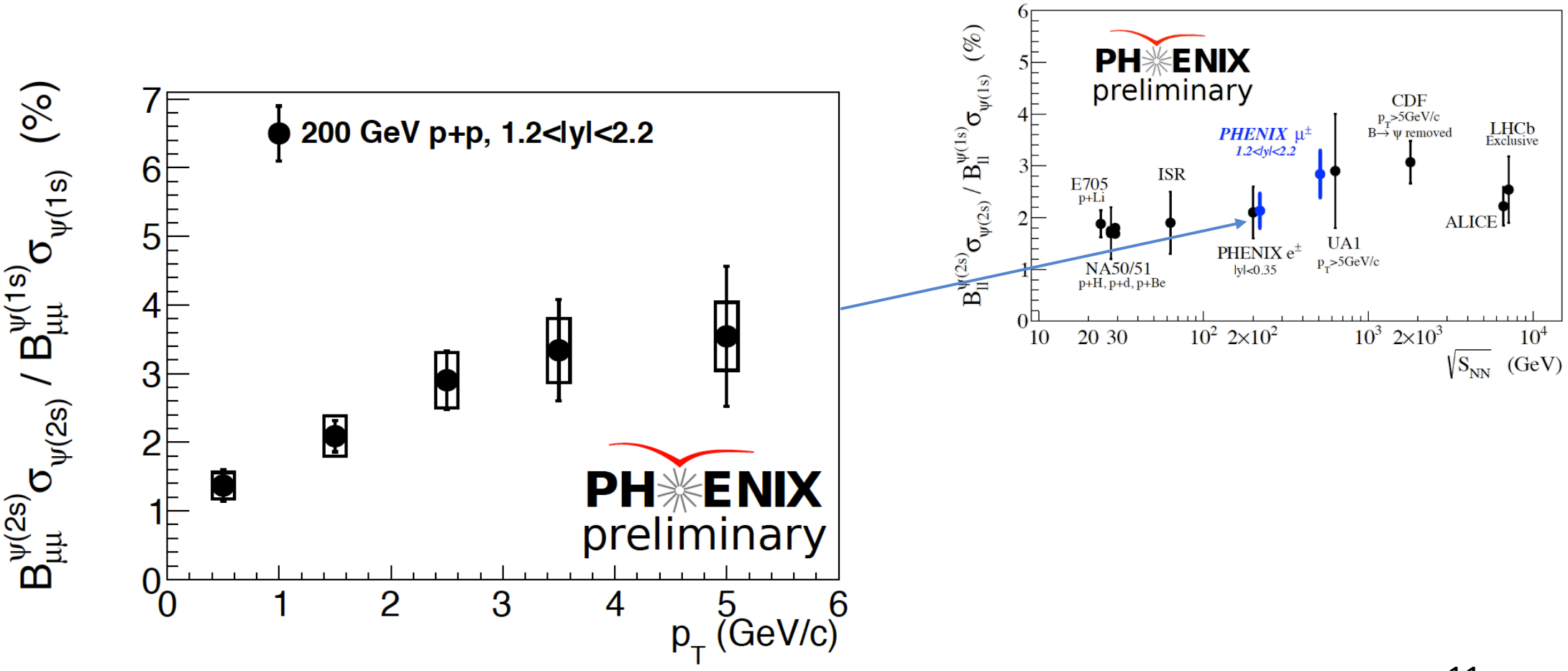
Heavy charm quarks are produced in initial hard scattering, production can be calculated in perturbatve QCD approach.

$c\bar{c}$ pairs form J/ψ and ψ' at the later stages of the collision, with very different binding energies (640 and 50 MeV).
Differences between J/ψ and ψ' help to understand final state effects.

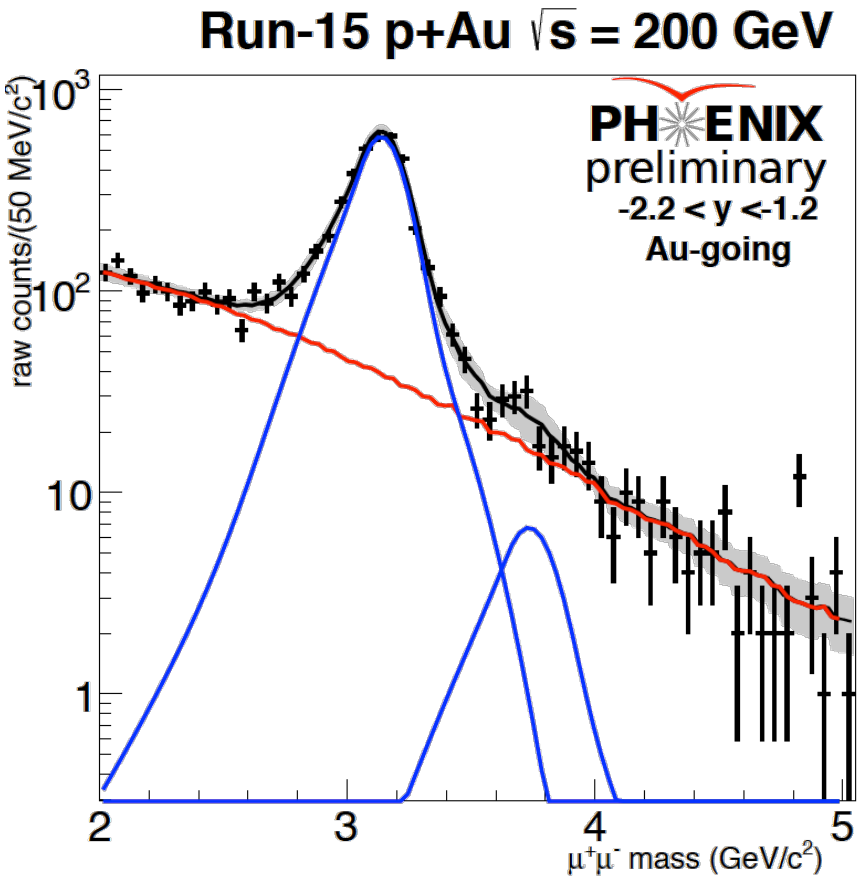
ψ' measurement in p+p at forward rapidity

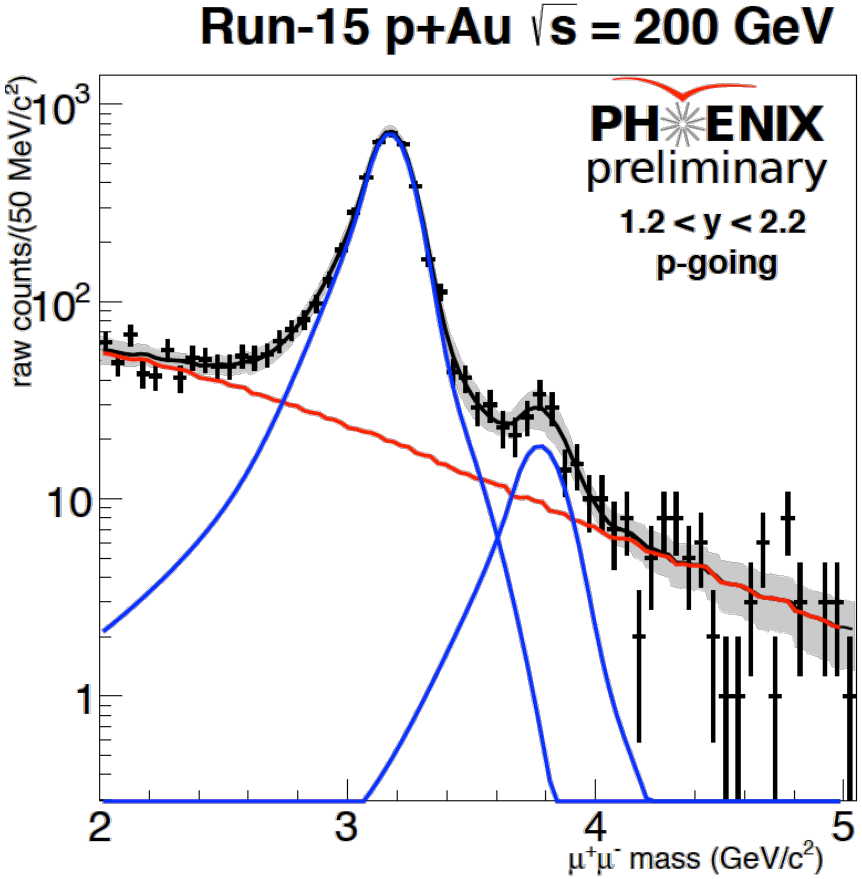
Measurement in Muon Arms, at forward/backward rapidity

Baseline for suppression measurement in p+Au and p+Al



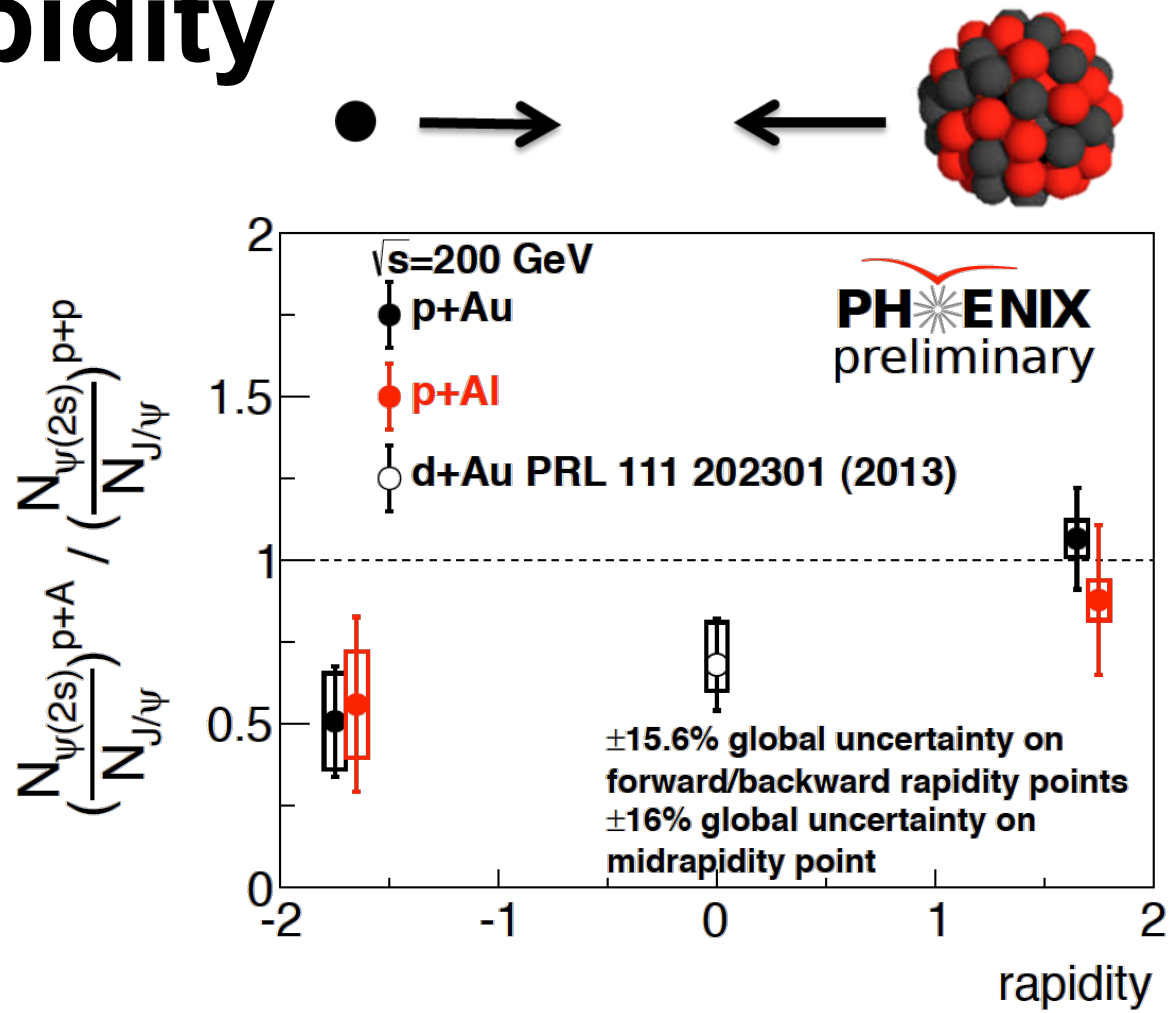
Di-muon mass in p+Au at forward rapidity





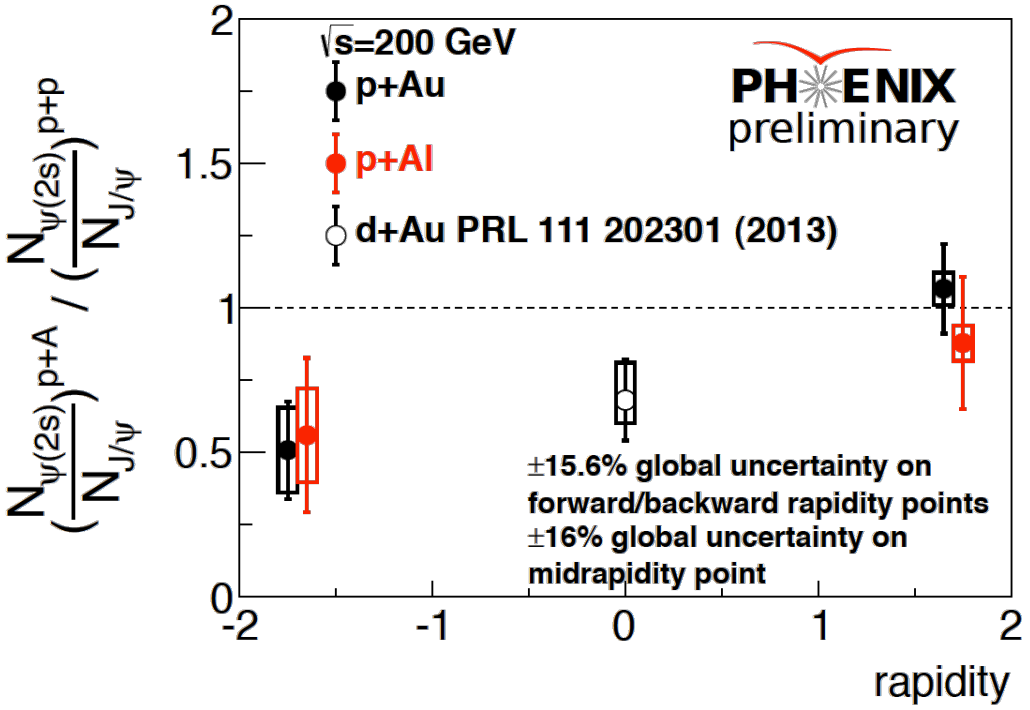
Clearly seen suppression in Au-going direction.

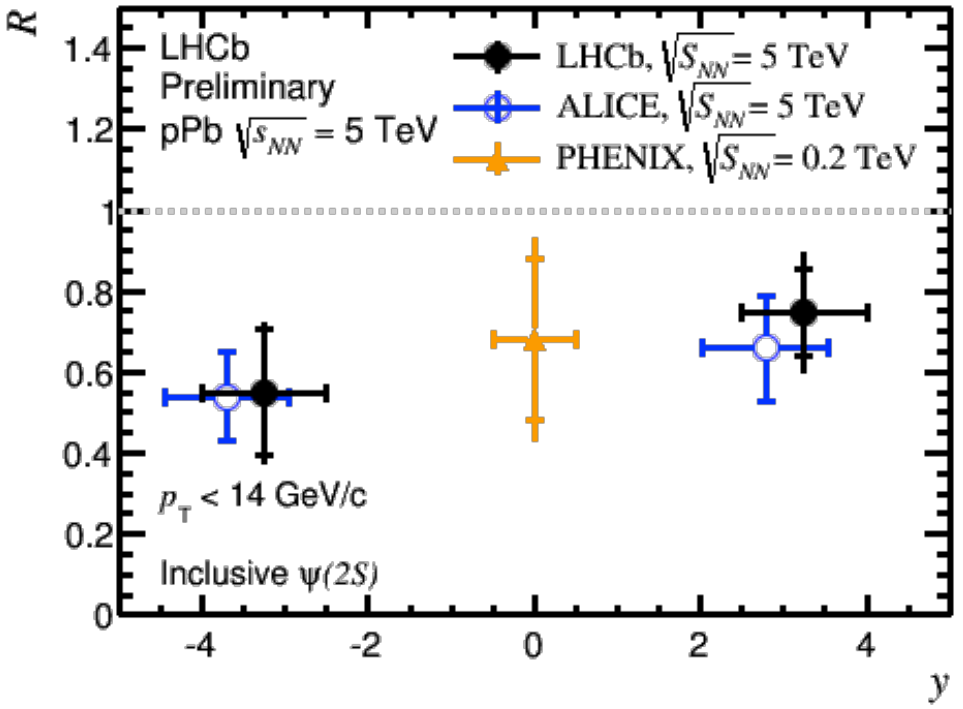
Relative ψ' suppression vs. rapidity



Strong relative suppression in Au-going direction, no difference in p-going direction.
Indicates importance of quarkonia breakup by co-movers?

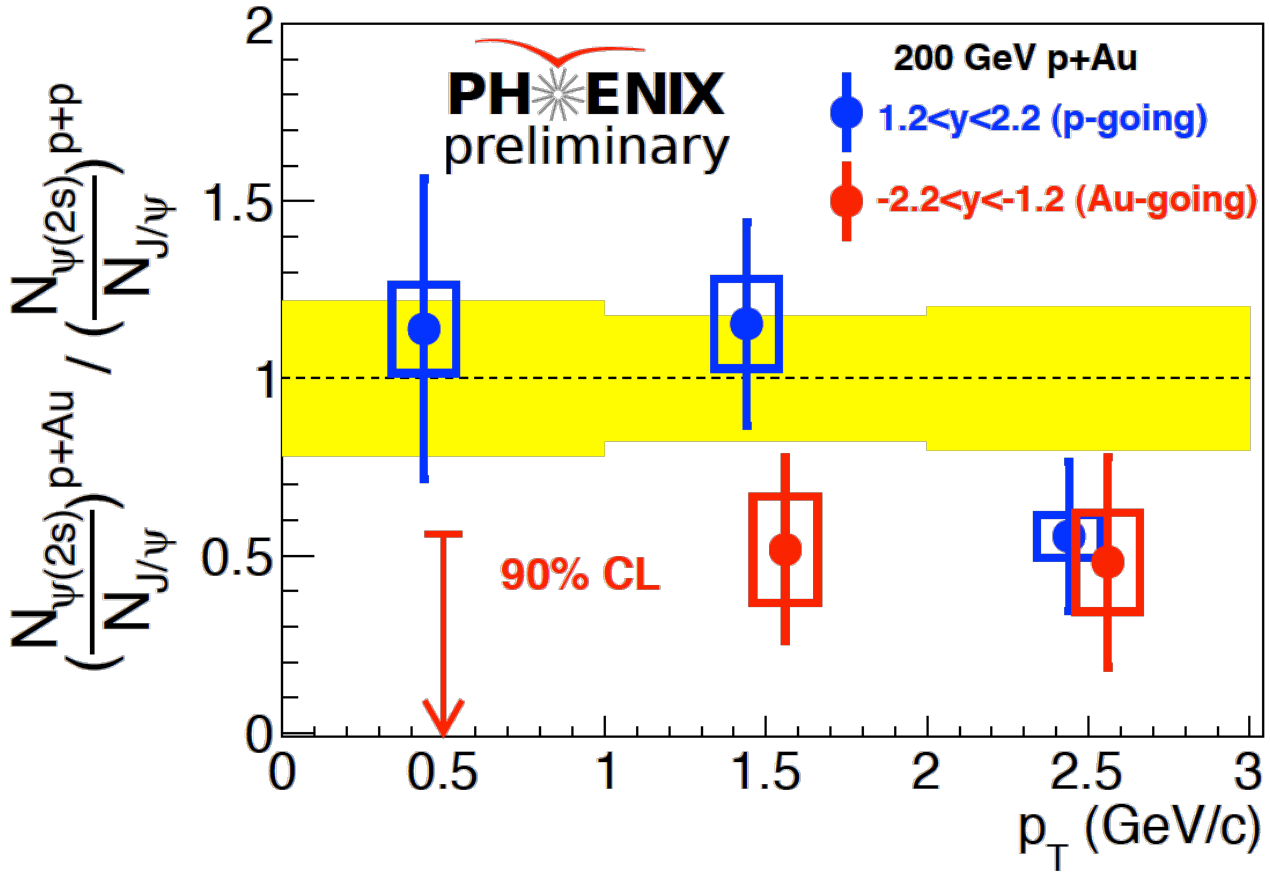
Comparison with LHC





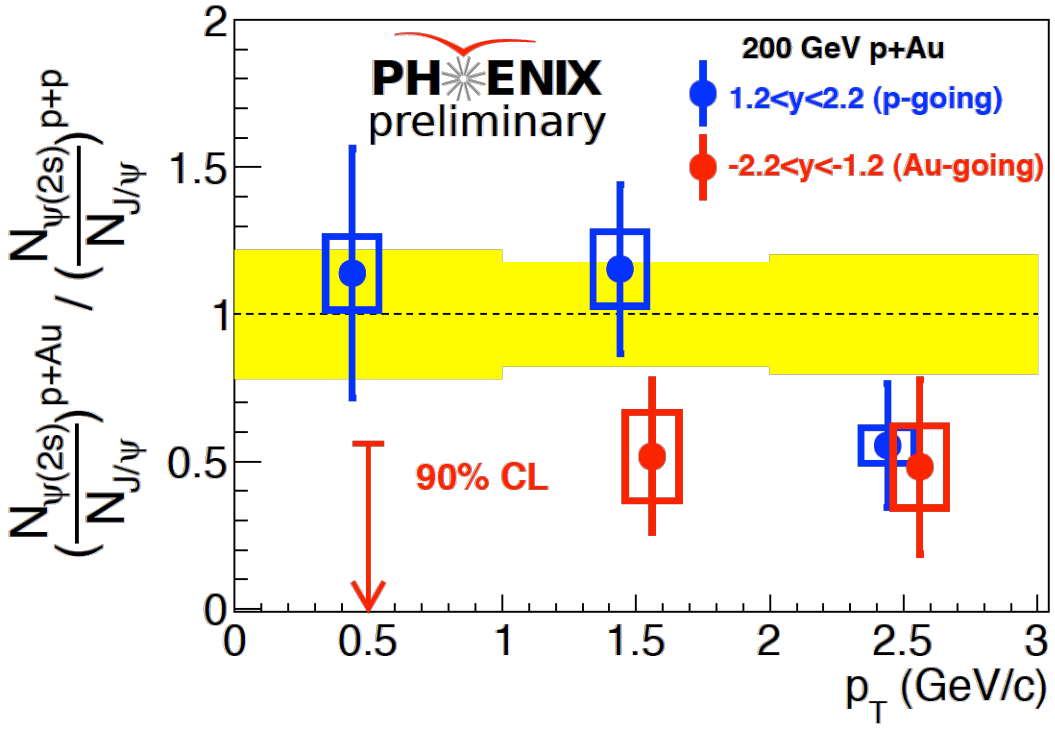
While relative suppression in heavy-ion-going direction is similar at RHIC and LHC, in p-going direction at LHC there is also rather strong suppression.
A hint that co-movers or breakup in nucleus are unlikely explanation at LHC?
However, the difference in p-going direction is within experimental uncertainty.

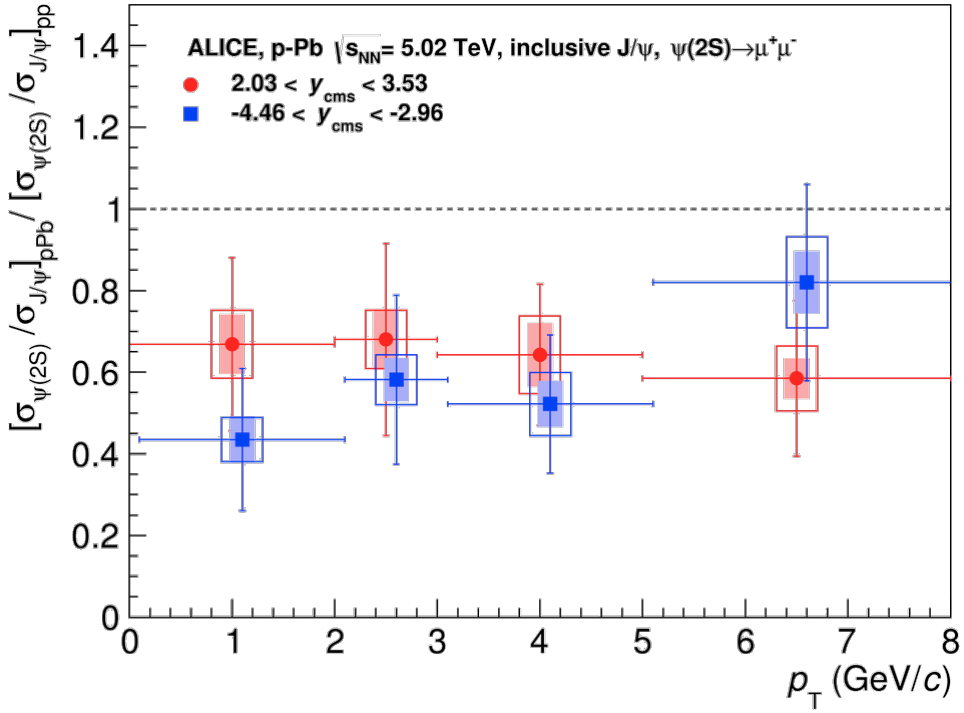
p_T dependence of relative suppression



Slowest ψ's (spend most time with soft co-movers) are gone!

Comparison with LHC





Again, little difference between forward/backward at LHC.
And again, although the plots look qualitatively different, the difference is within experimental uncertainty.
Could this imply that co-mover breakup is not the dominant effect at LHC energies?

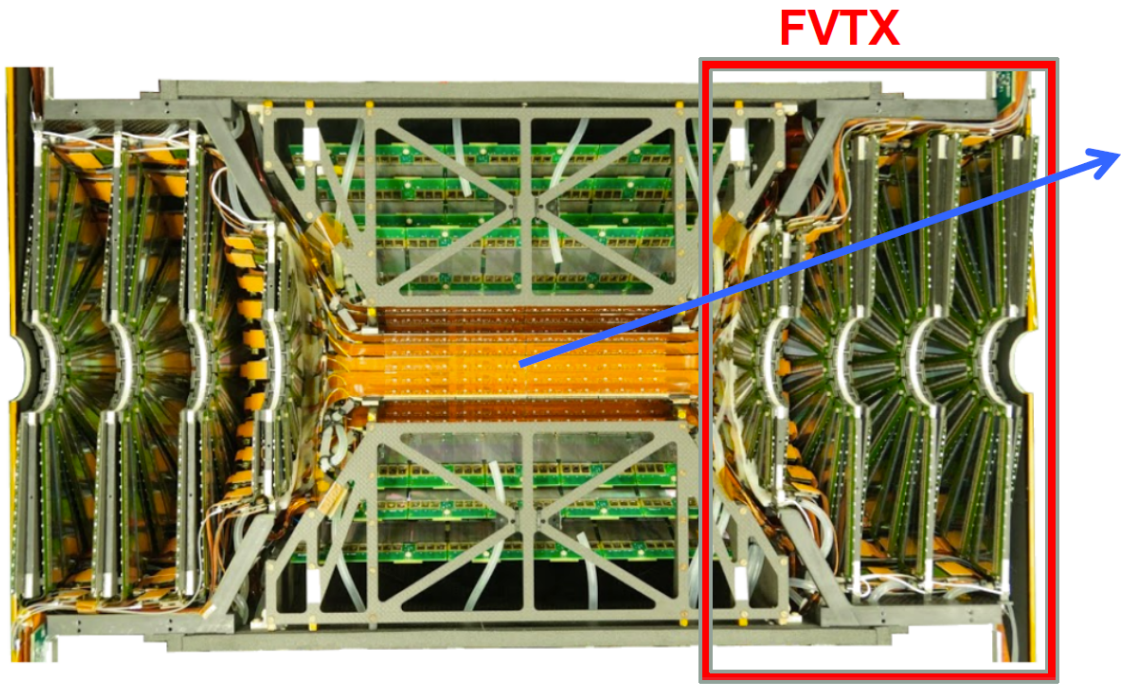
$B \rightarrow J/\psi$

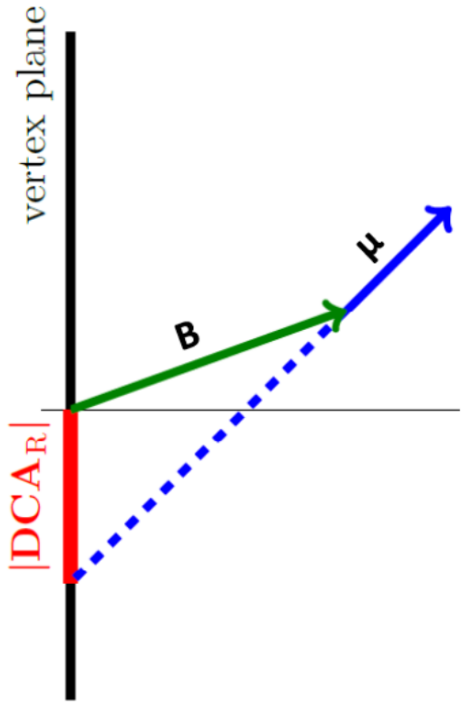
In heavy ion collisions J/ψ produced from B decay are sensitive to different initial state and final state effects than J/ψ produced directly.

In p+p the measurement of $B \rightarrow J/\psi$ helps constrain gluon PDFs in different regions of x and Q^2.

B → J/ψ measurement

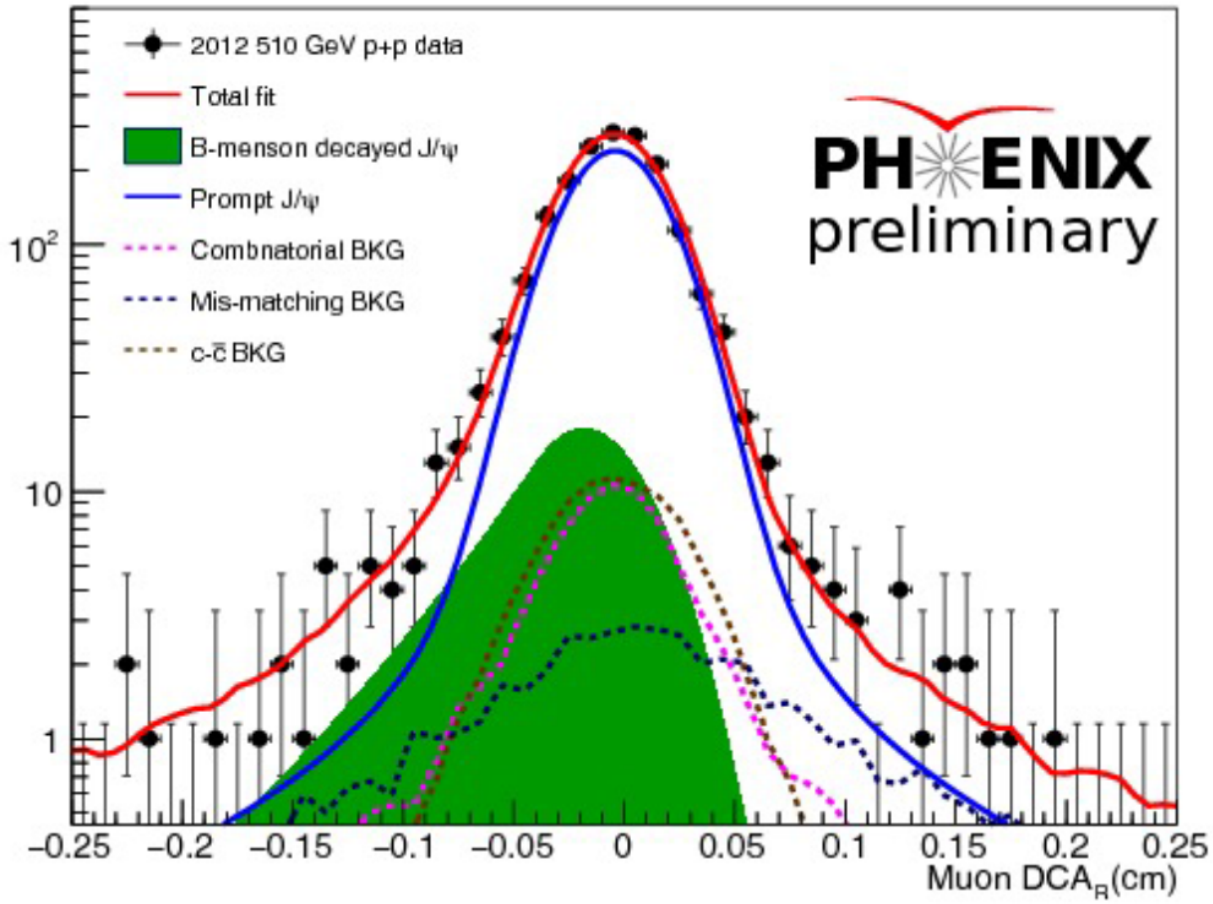
B → J/ψ fraction was measured by precise determination of distance of closest approach in the plane perpendicular to the beam (DCA_R) using forward silicon vertex detector (FVTX).



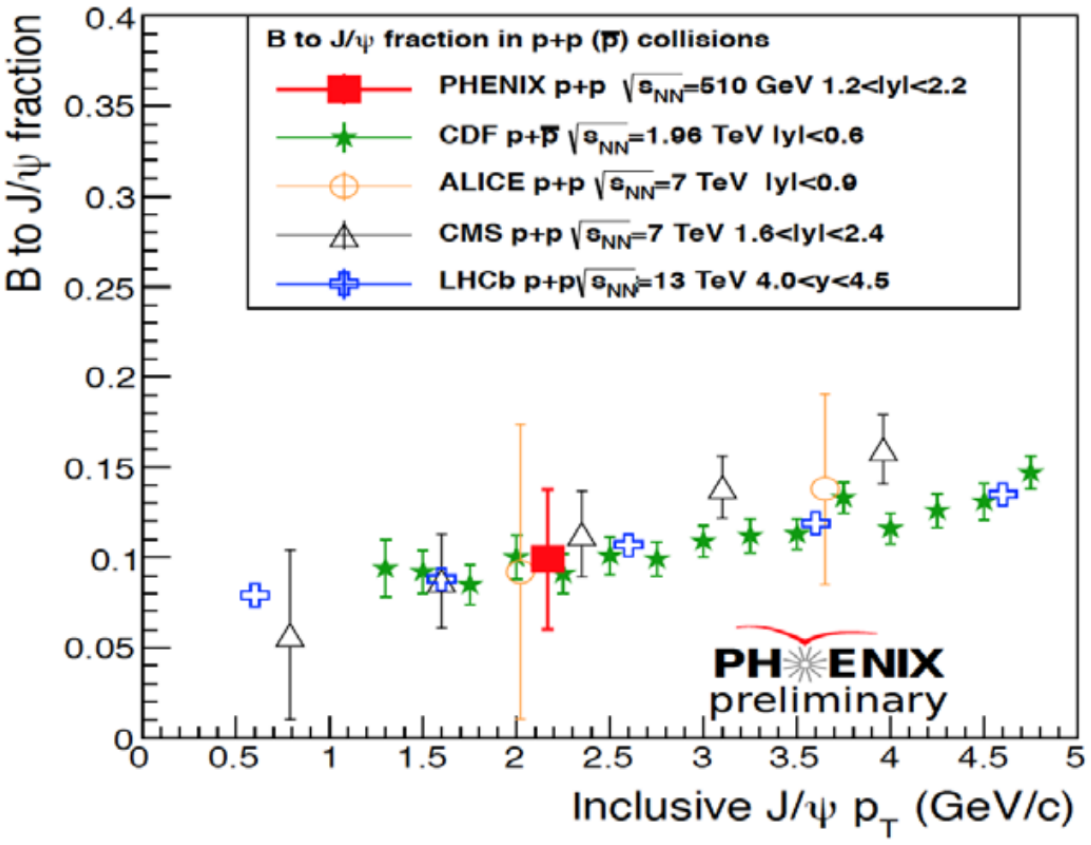


B → J/ψ in p+p at 510GeV

measure and unfold all components



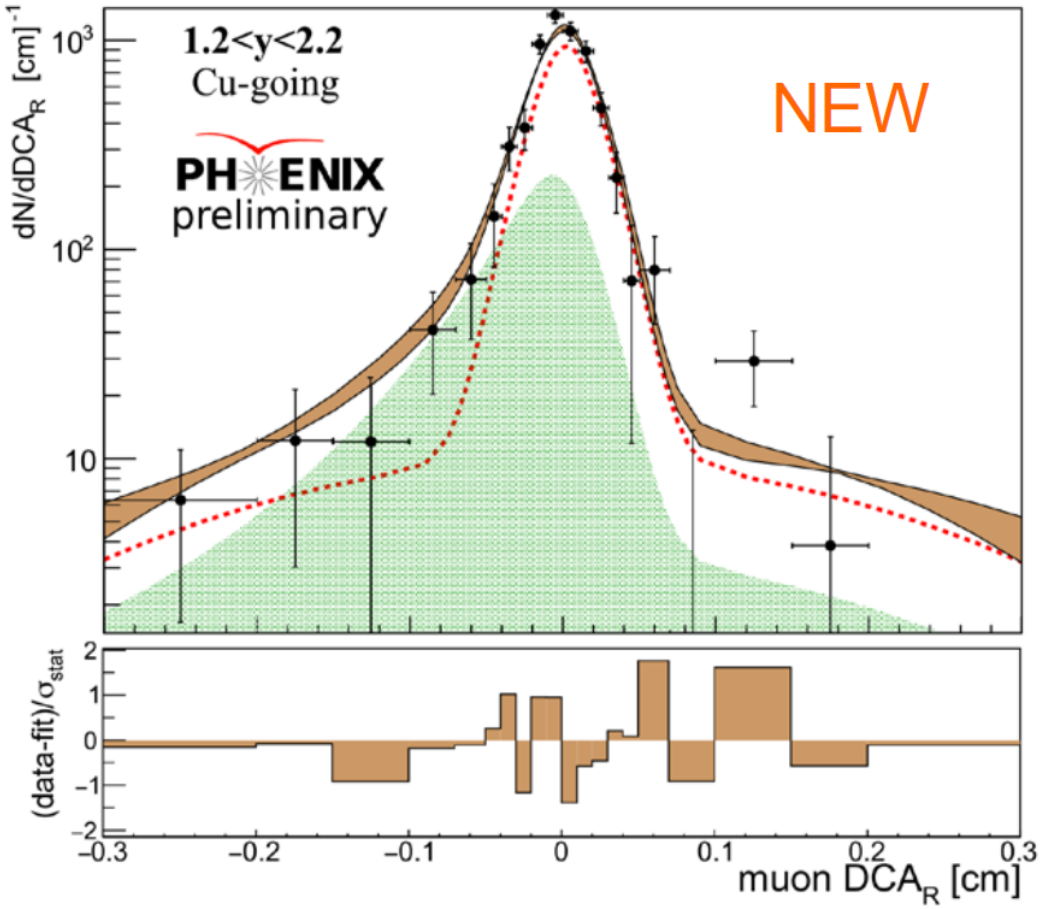
fraction consistent with other measurements at different energies

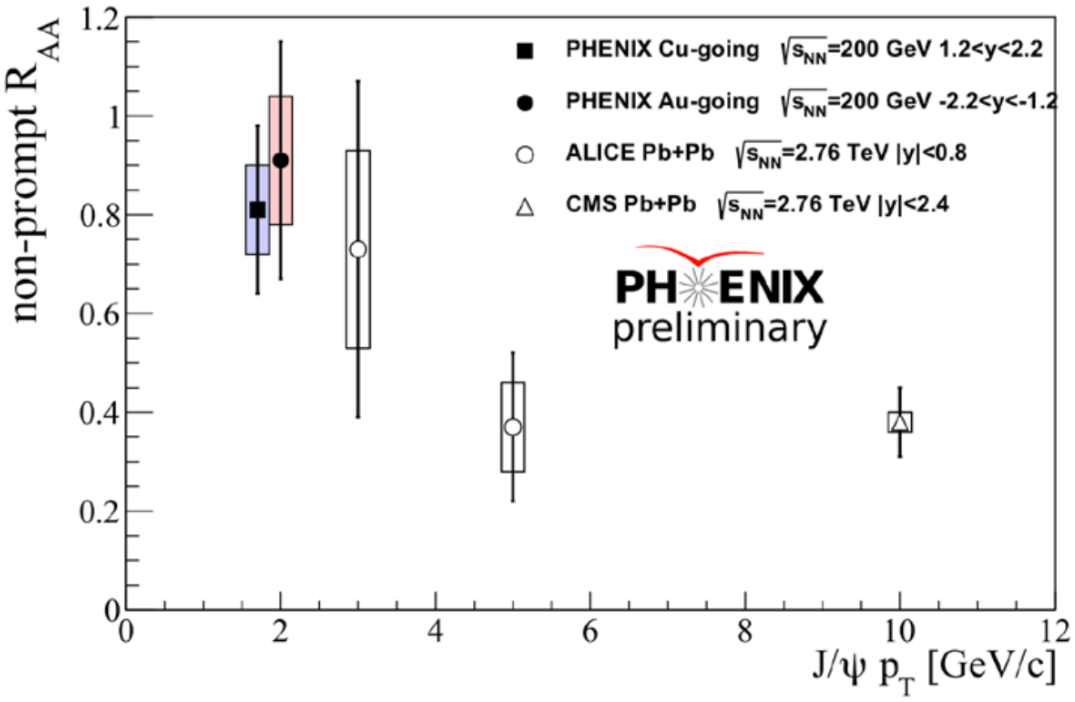


B → J/ψ in Cu+Au at 200 GeV

Calculate R_{AA} by dividing B → J/ψ fractions in Cu+Au and p+p

$$R_{AA}^{B\to J/\psi} = \frac{F_{B\to j/\psi}^{AA}}{F_{B\to j/\psi}^{pp}} R_{AA}^{J/\psi} = \frac{F_{B\to j/\psi}^{AA}}{0.1} R_{AA}^{J/\psi}$$





Direct photons in Au+Au

Direct photons don’t interact.

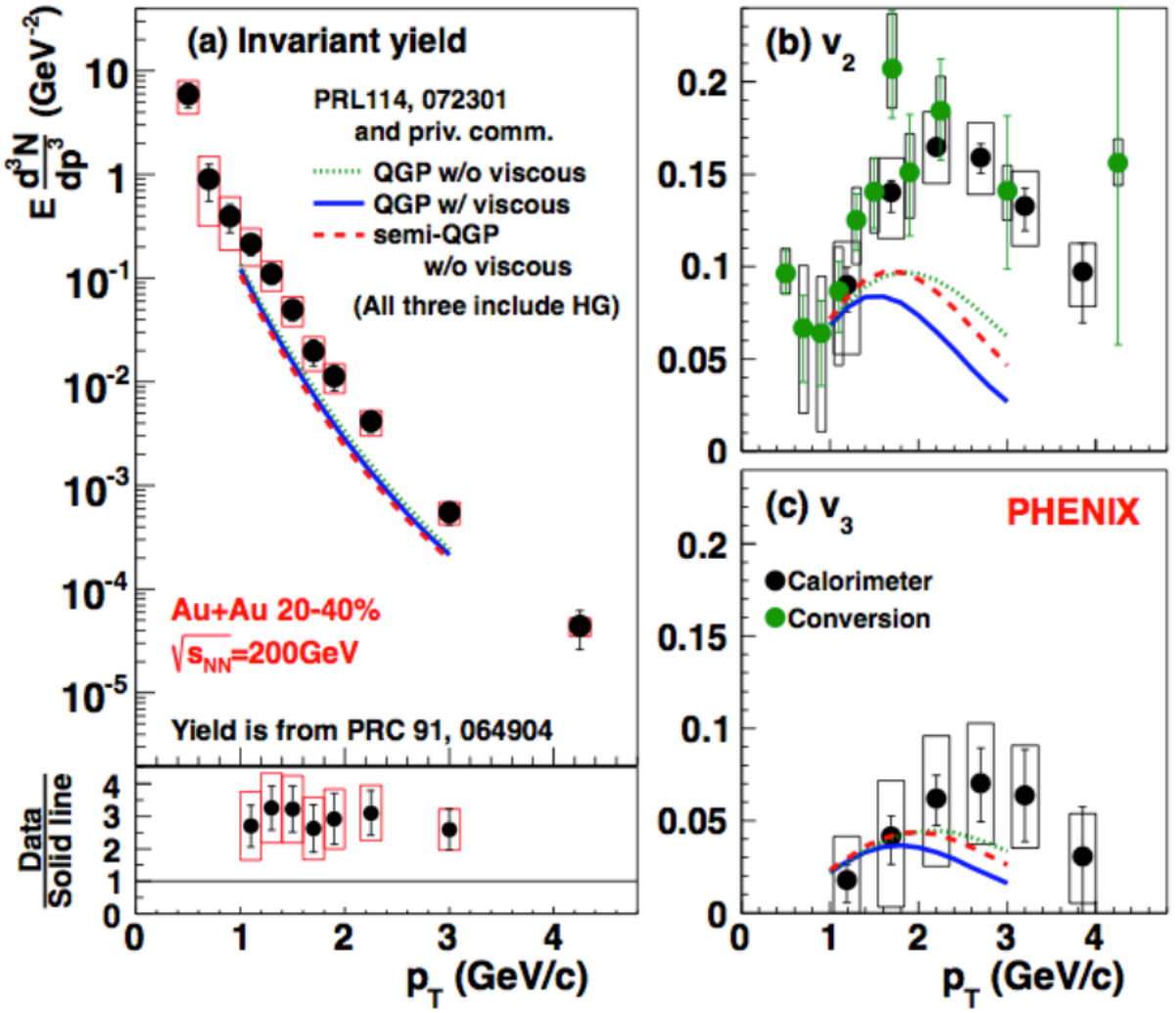
Provide signal from whole event evolution,
from the the earliest time to the final stages of the collision.

Measurement is challenging due to large background.
PHENIX uses two different methods of direct (and inclusive) photon measurement for consistency check:

- conversion-based method (from di-electron invariant mass)
- EMCal-based method (clusters with CPV and shower shape cuts)

Direct photon flow and yield

arXiv:1509.07758



Yield and v_2 is large compared to prediction of hydrodynamic models

Simultaneous description of large yield and large flow is difficult.

Many more photons need to come from late stages of the collision, when flow has developed.

Conclusions

- The PHENIX experiment has measured jets in p+p, d+Au, and Cu+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s}$ = 200 GeV.
  - Significant enhancement of jets in peripheral d+Au collisions is observed. Can be interpreted as “nucleus probing a nucleon”.
  - In central Cu+Au collisions jets are suppressed by a factor of ~2. A hint of enhancement in most peripheral?
- In p+A ψ' suppression is larger than that of J/ψ in Au-going direction, and same in p-going direction. Very strong ψ' suppression at low p_T. Indicates importance of quarkonia breakup by co-movers.
- Measured B → J/ψ fraction in p+p collisions is consistent with that at different $\sqrt{s}$ Small modification in Cu+Au.
- Direct photons yield and flow are larger than expected from models.