

High-Energy Heavy-Ion Collision Physics

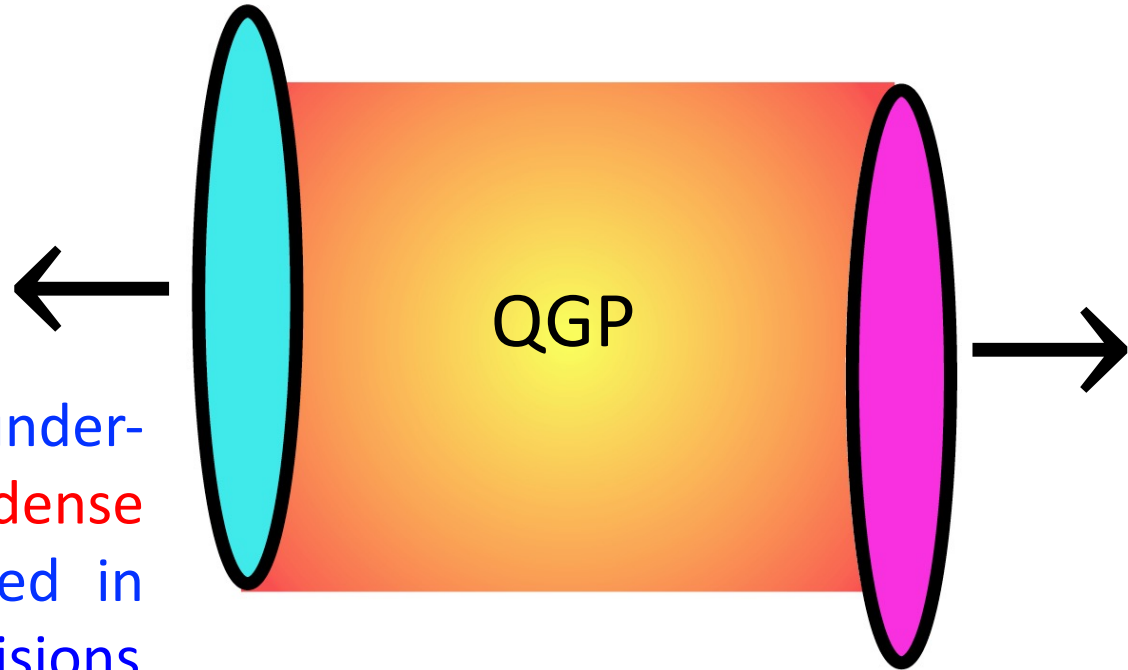
Part 2: Selected experimental results

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2 February 2023

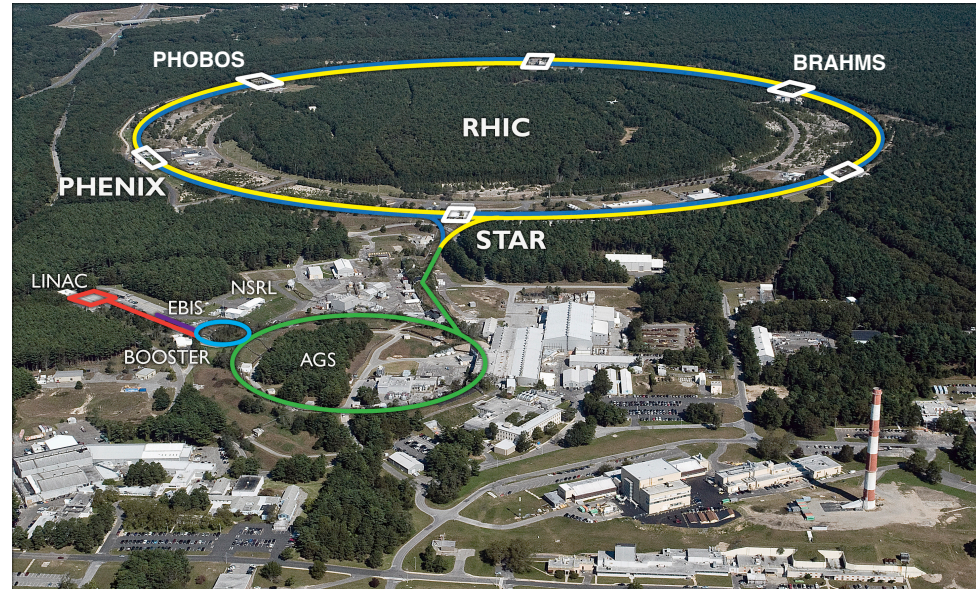


- The main goal is to understand the dynamics of **dense and hot medium** created in relativistic heavy-ion collisions
- Based on the calculations of the QCD lattice model, it is expected that in nuclear collisions at high energy, there are sufficient conditions to create QGP

Heavy-Ion Colliders

LHC @ CERN

RHIC @ BNL

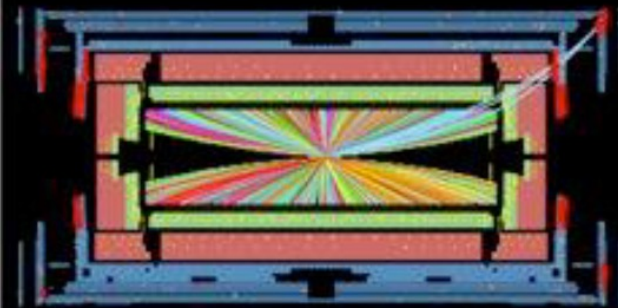
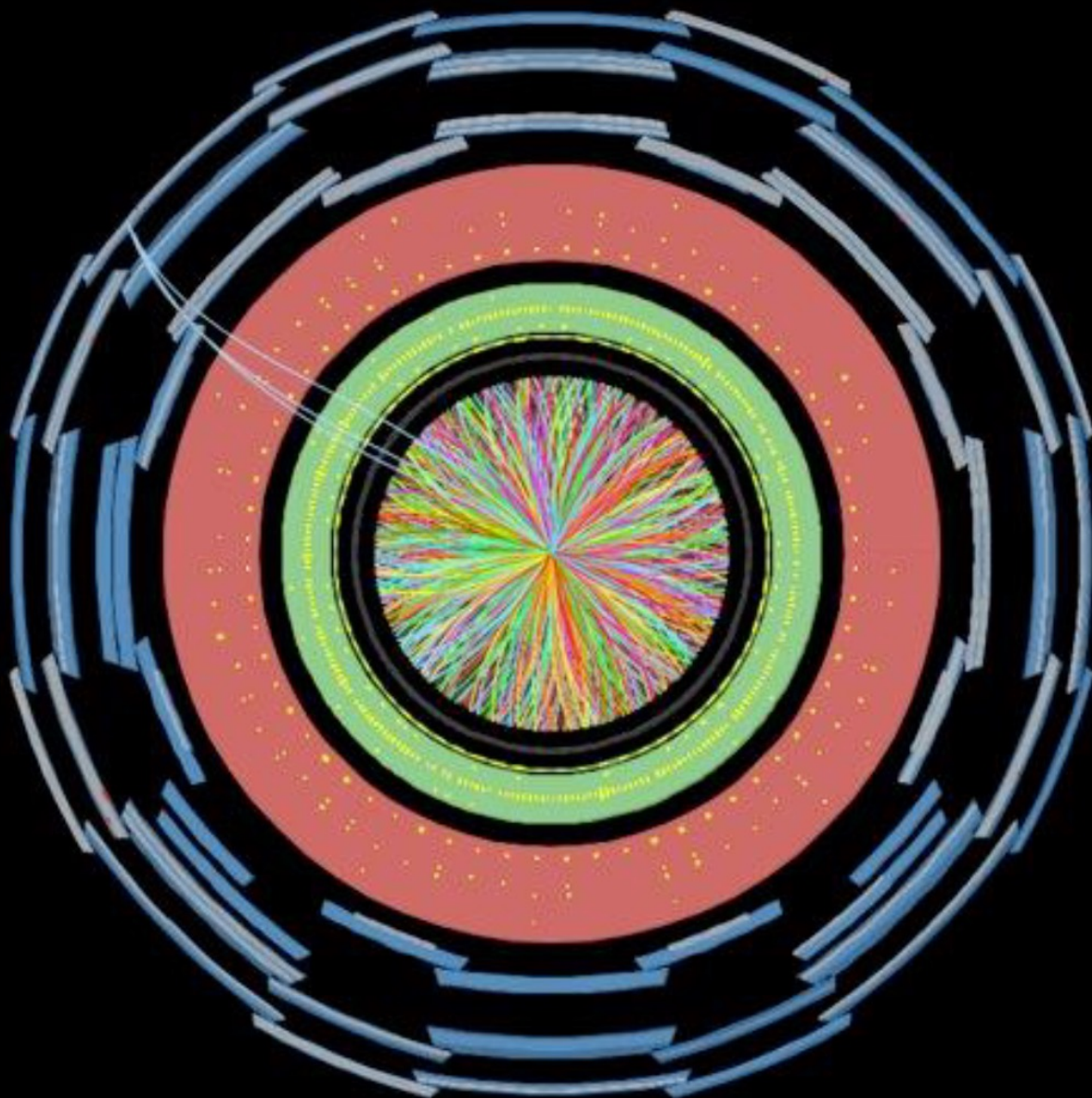


Species	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)
Pb+Pb	2.76, 5.02, 5.36
Xe+Xe	5.44
p+Pb	5.02, 8.16
p+p	2.76, 5.02, 8, 13

Species	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)
Au+Au	7.7-200
p+p	up to 500
Other collisions at RHIC: p+Al, p+Au, d+Au, Cu+Cu, Cu+Au, Zr+Zr, Ru+Ru, U+U	

Soft Particle Production in Heavy-Ion Collisions

A Heavy-Ion Collision



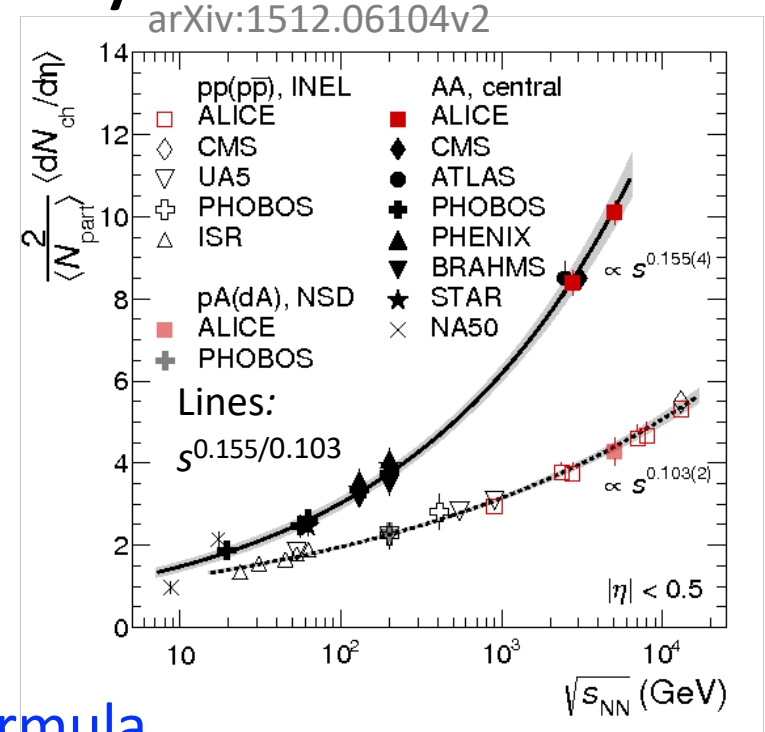
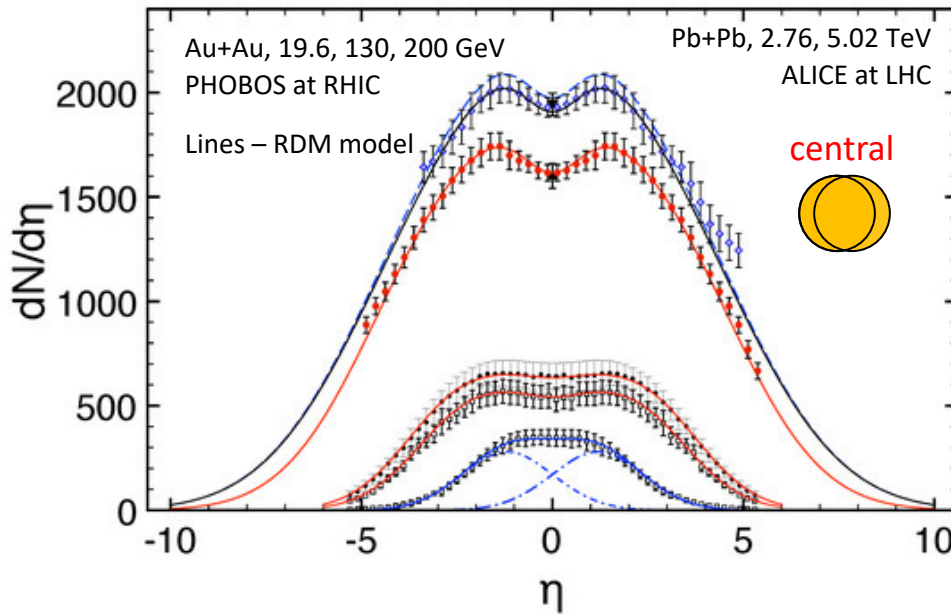
 **ATLAS**
EXPERIMENT

Run Number: 168665, Event Number: 246577

Date: 2010-11-08 12:25:35 CET

Snapshot of a heavy ion collision
directly from the ATLAS experiment

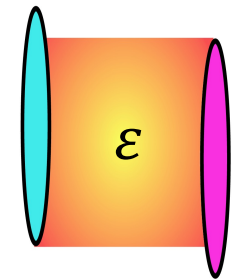
Particle Production in Heavy-Ion Collisions



- Collision energy in QGP, Bjorken formula

$$\varepsilon = \frac{dE_t}{dy} \frac{1}{A\tau} \approx \frac{3}{2} \langle m_t \rangle \frac{dN}{dy} \frac{1}{A\tau} \approx \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sim 5 \text{ GeV/fm}^3 - \text{RHIC} \\ \sim 20 \text{ GeV/fm}^3 - \text{LHC} \end{array} \right.$$

E_t is the total transverse energy
 A overlap area of two colliding ions
 τ is the thermalization time

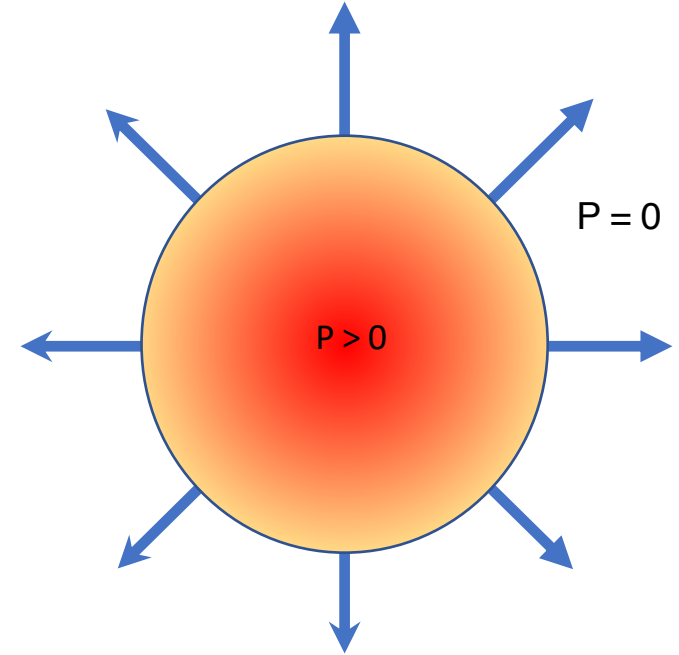
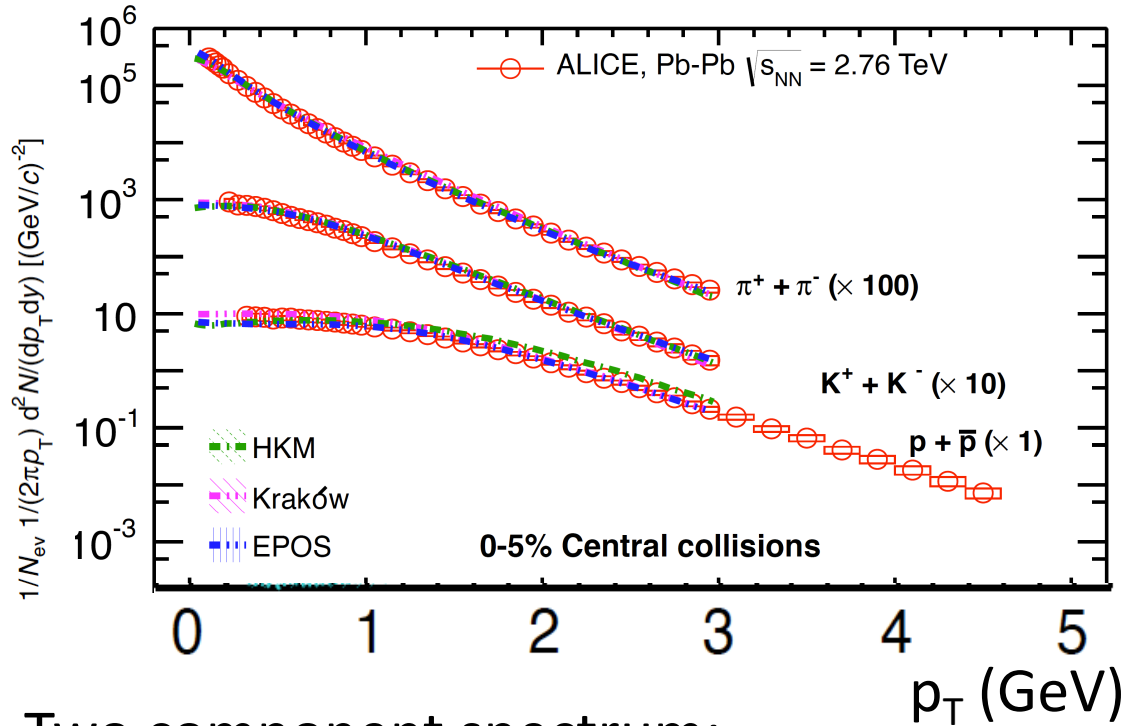


$$\varepsilon \gg \varepsilon_c \sim 1 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{(E + p_{\parallel})}{(E - p_{\parallel})} \quad \eta = -\ln \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$

Radial Flow - p_T -Spectra of Identified Particles

Carry information about the dynamics of interactions in QGP



Two component spectrum:

- Soft part ($p_T \lesssim 2$ GeV) - spectra are exponential and become flatter with increasing particle mass. Signature of collective radial flow

$$T_{eff} \approx T_{fo} + \frac{m_h \langle \beta_T \rangle^2}{2}$$

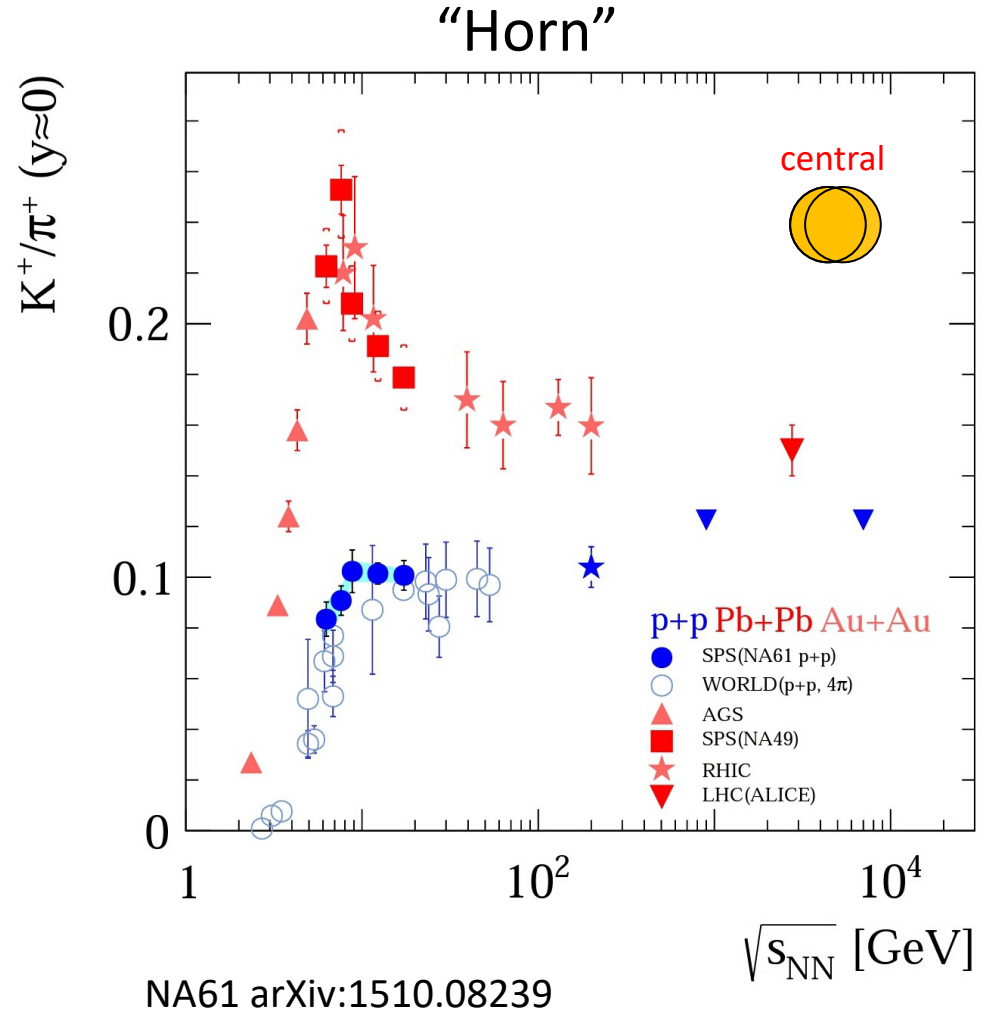
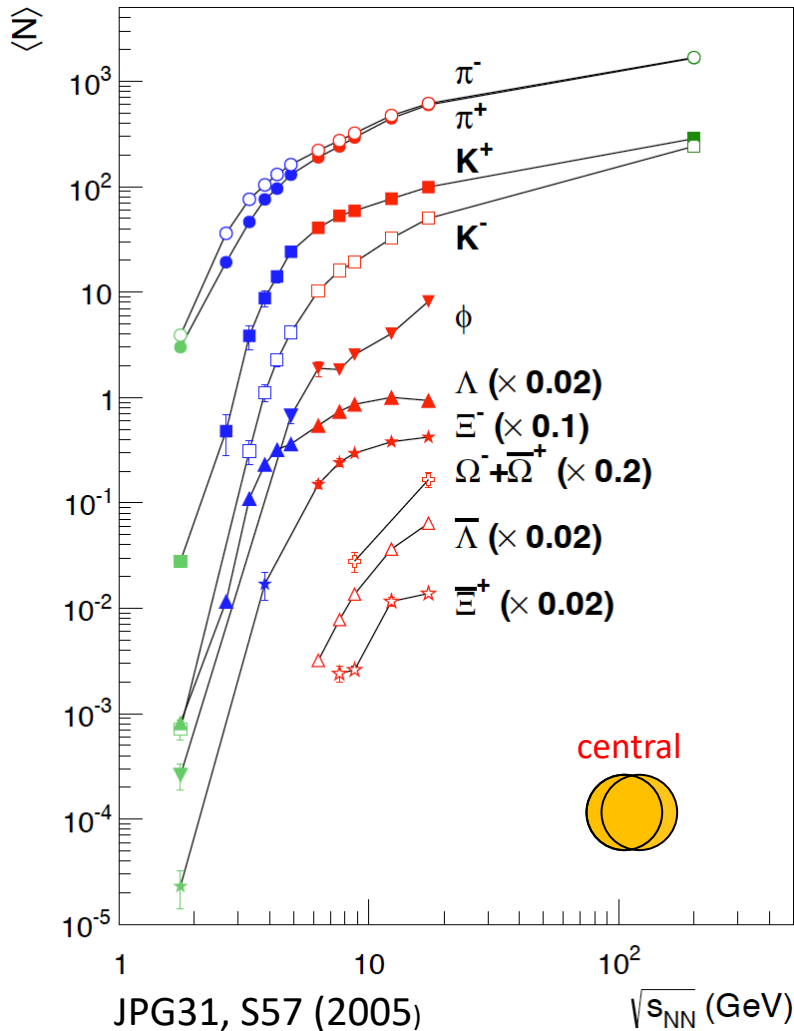
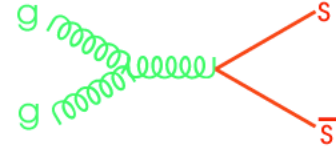
Blast Wave Fit: $\beta \approx 0.7c$

Strangeness Enhancement - QGP Signature

Strangeness is newly produced (no s-Quarks in nucleons)

J. Rafelski and B. Müller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 48, 1066 (1982) – predictions

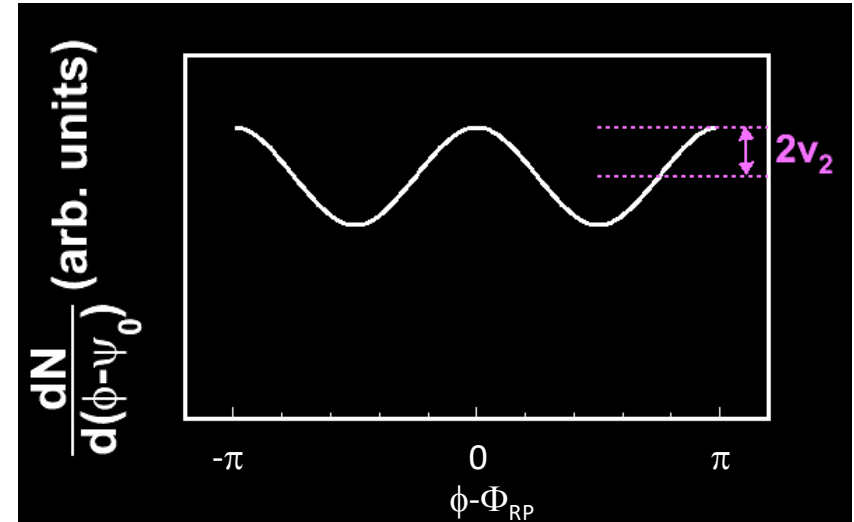
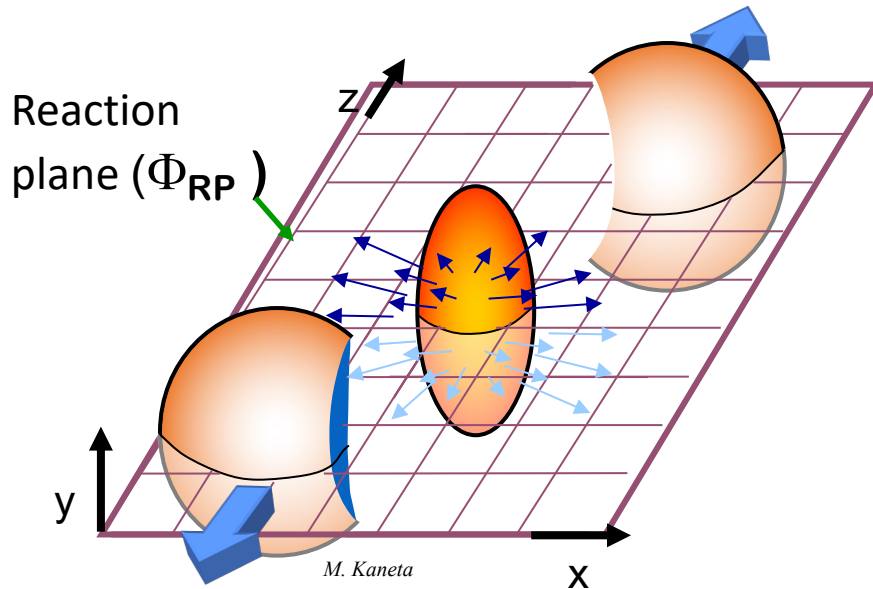
- Energy needed to produce $s\bar{s}$ pair ≈ 200 MeV ($>2m_s$)



Azimuthal Anisotropy (Collectivity)

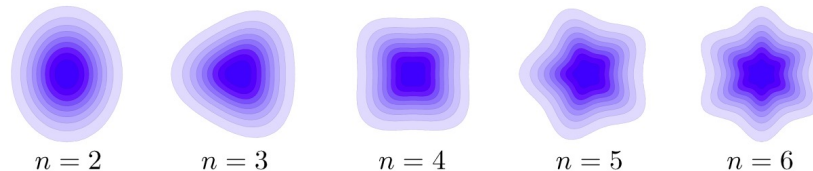
Azimuthal Anisotropy of Produced Particles

Signature of strongly interacting QGP



- Anisotropy is “driven” by asymmetry in initial geometry
- Pressure gradients lead to azimuthal anisotropy (collectivity)

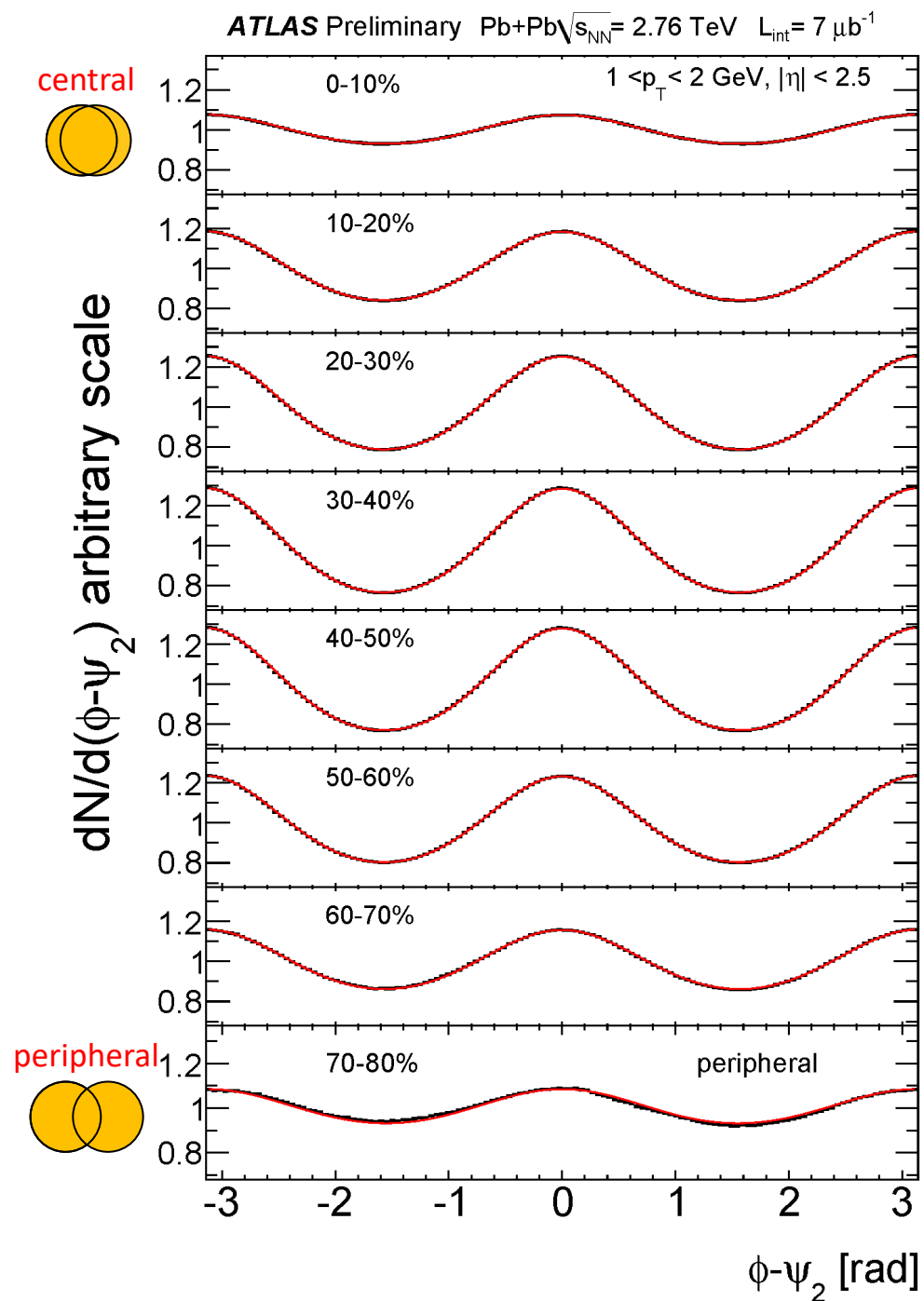
$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + \sum_n 2v_n \cos[n(\phi - \Phi_n)] \quad v_n = \langle \cos(n(\phi - \psi_{RP})) \rangle$$



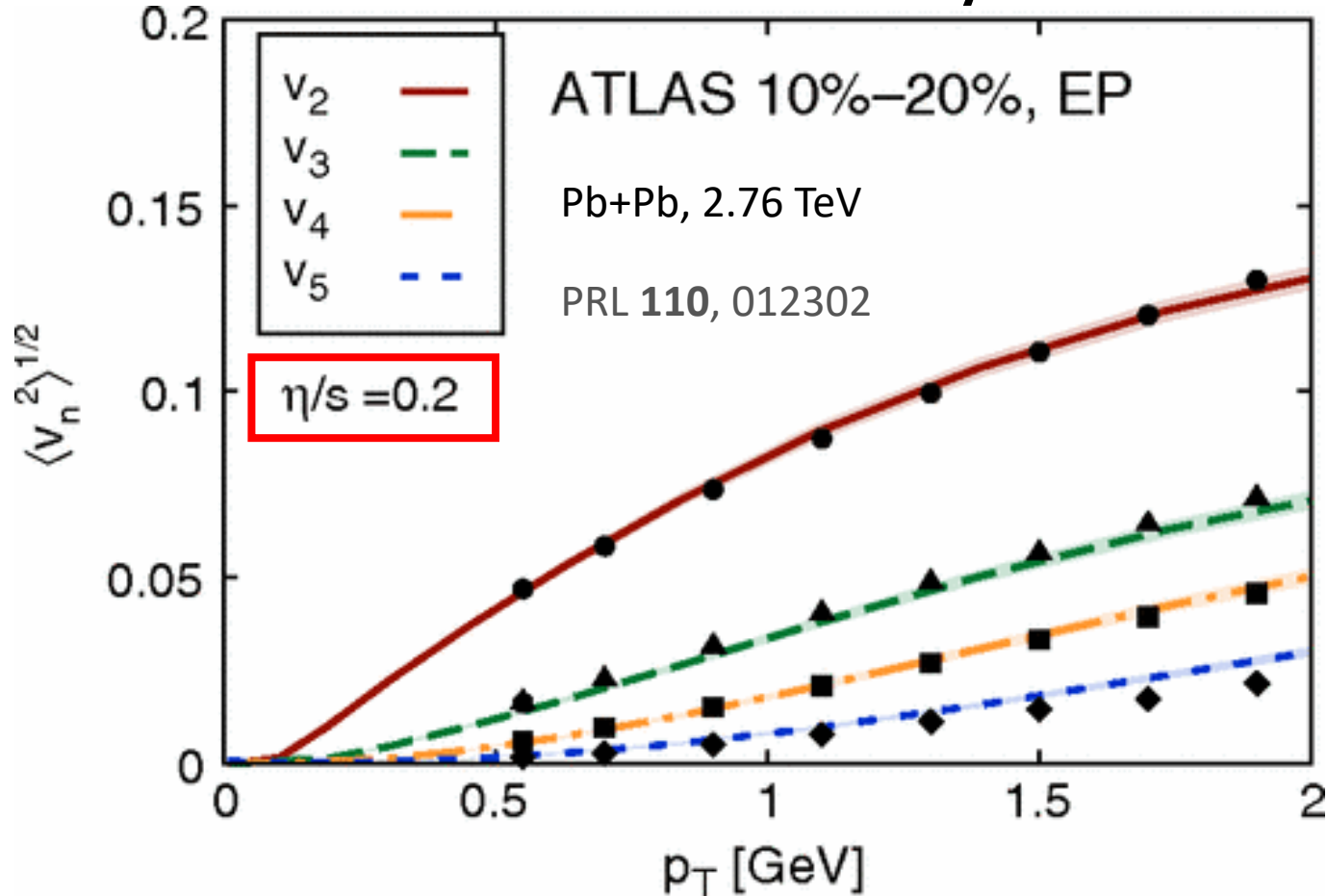
- v_2 – elliptic flow, dominant harmonic

Azimuthal Anisotropy in 5.02 TeV Pb+Pb Collisions

- Φ_{RP} is approximated by event plane obtained from FCal, ψ_2



Flow Harmonics in Heavy-Ion Collisions

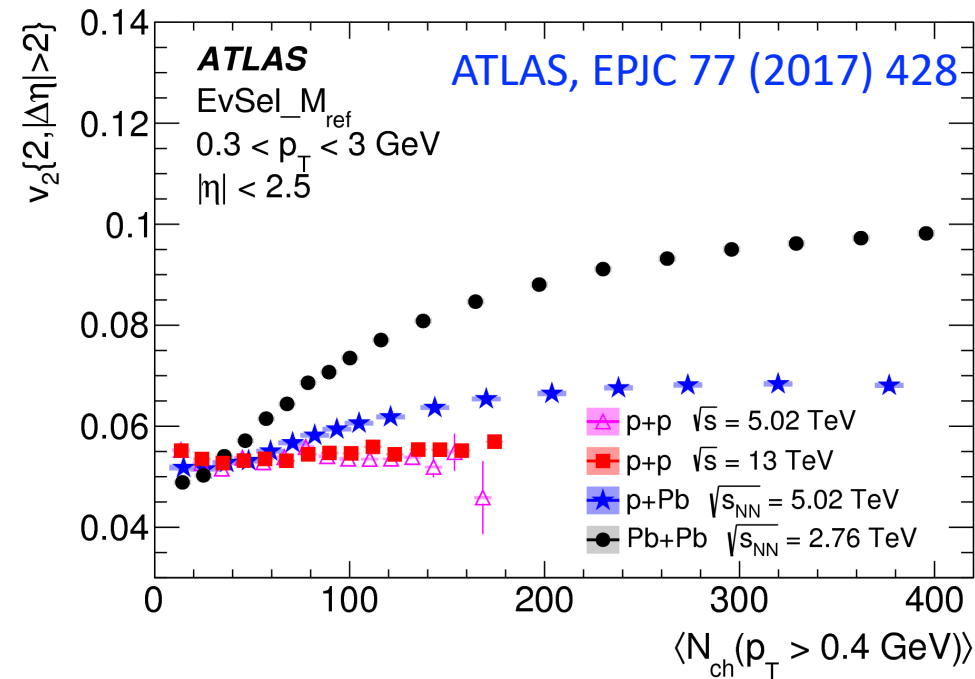


- Large azimuthal flow is observed, v_2 dominates
- Hydrodynamic models well describe v_n harmonics
 - QGP as almost ideal fluid (small viscosity)

RHIC's Major Discovery \rightarrow QGP *paradigm shift*

Collectivity in Small Systems

Significant anisotropy was also observed in pp collisions at the LHC
(first by CMS, JHEP 1009:021, 2010)



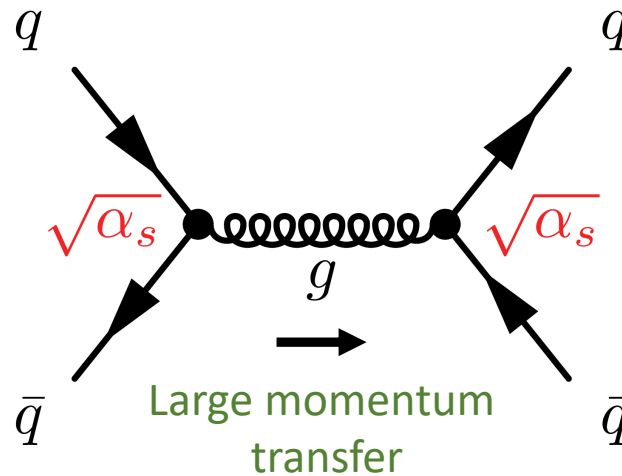
- In pp and $p+Pb$ collisions similar flow harmonics as in heavy-ion collisions are observed.
- Small system flow results are supported by hydrodynamical models, (e.g. Phys.Rev.C 85(2012) 014911)

However, more studies are needed to address open questions

- Is QGP present in small collision systems?
- ...

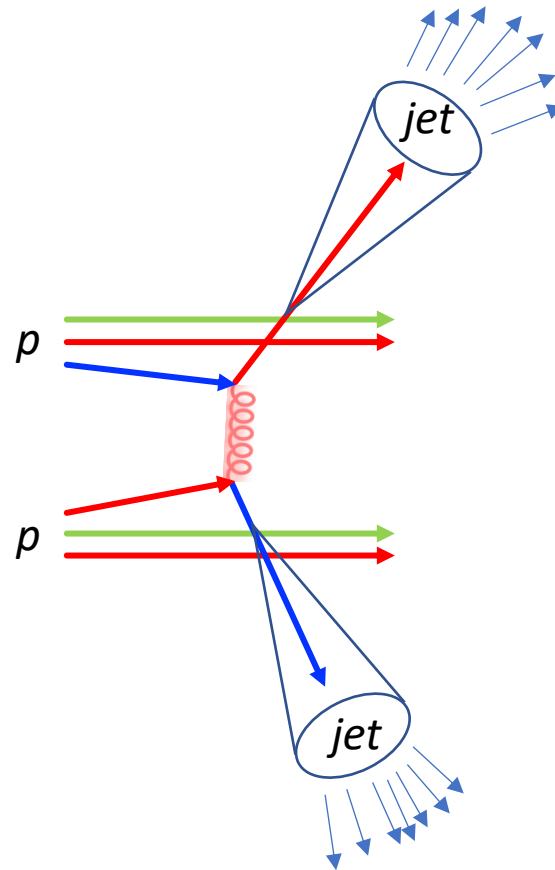
Hard Particle Production in Heavy-Ion Collisions

Hard Particle Production in Heavy-Ion Collisions



- Hard particles ($p_T \gtrsim 2$ GeV) originate from hard parton scatterings, at large Q
- Perturbative QCD works ($\alpha_s \ll 1$)

Jet – Collective Spray of Hadrons

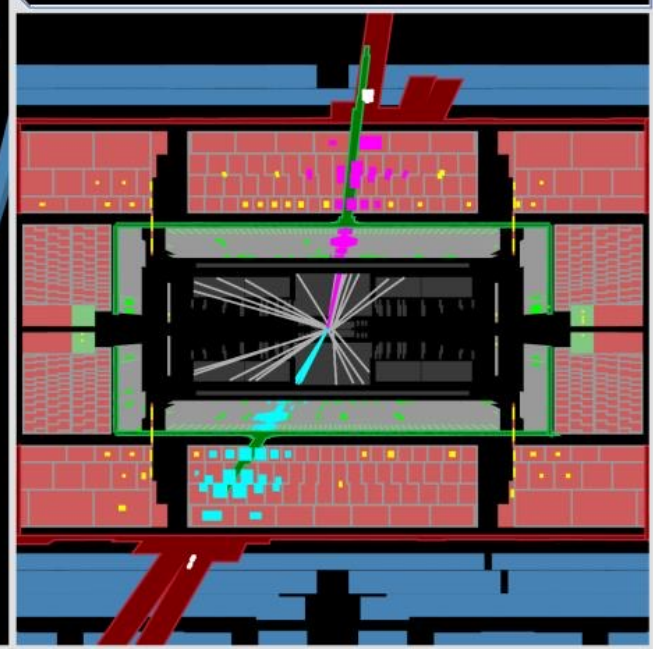
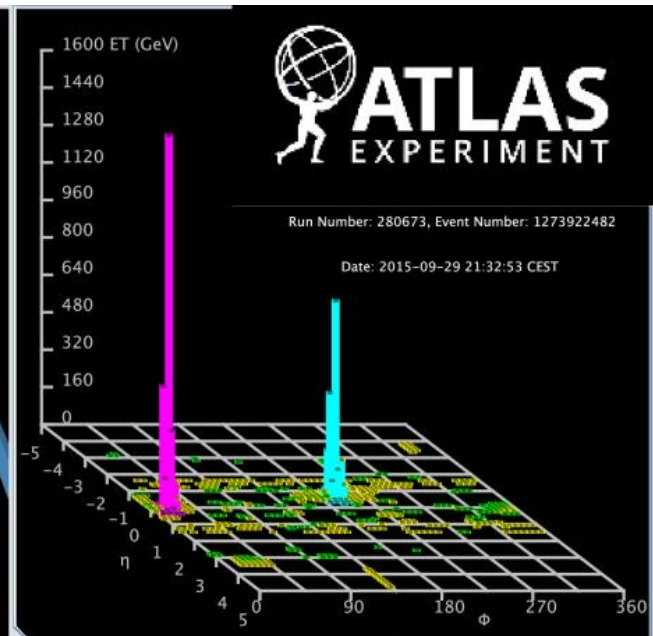
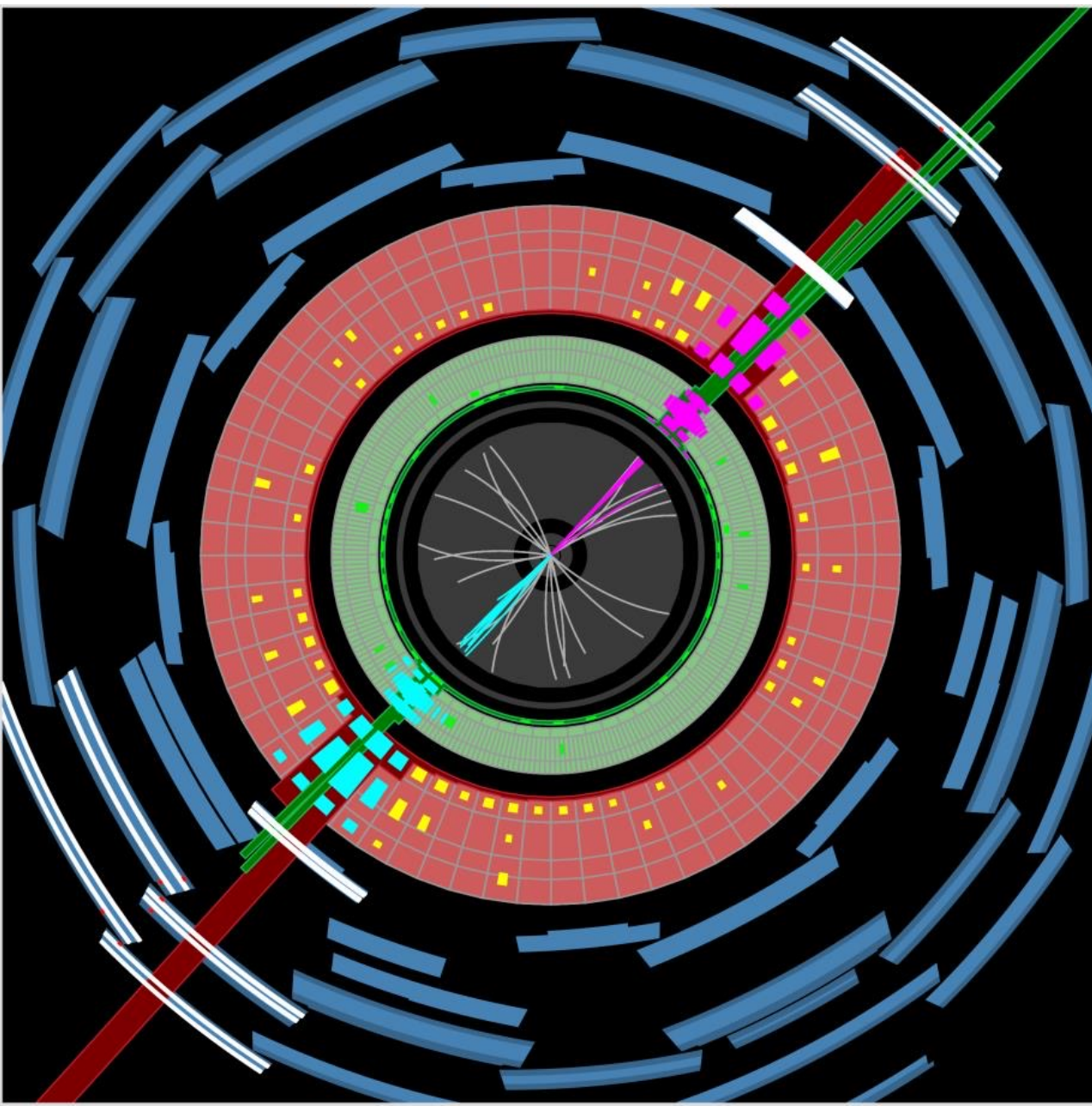


Jet cone,

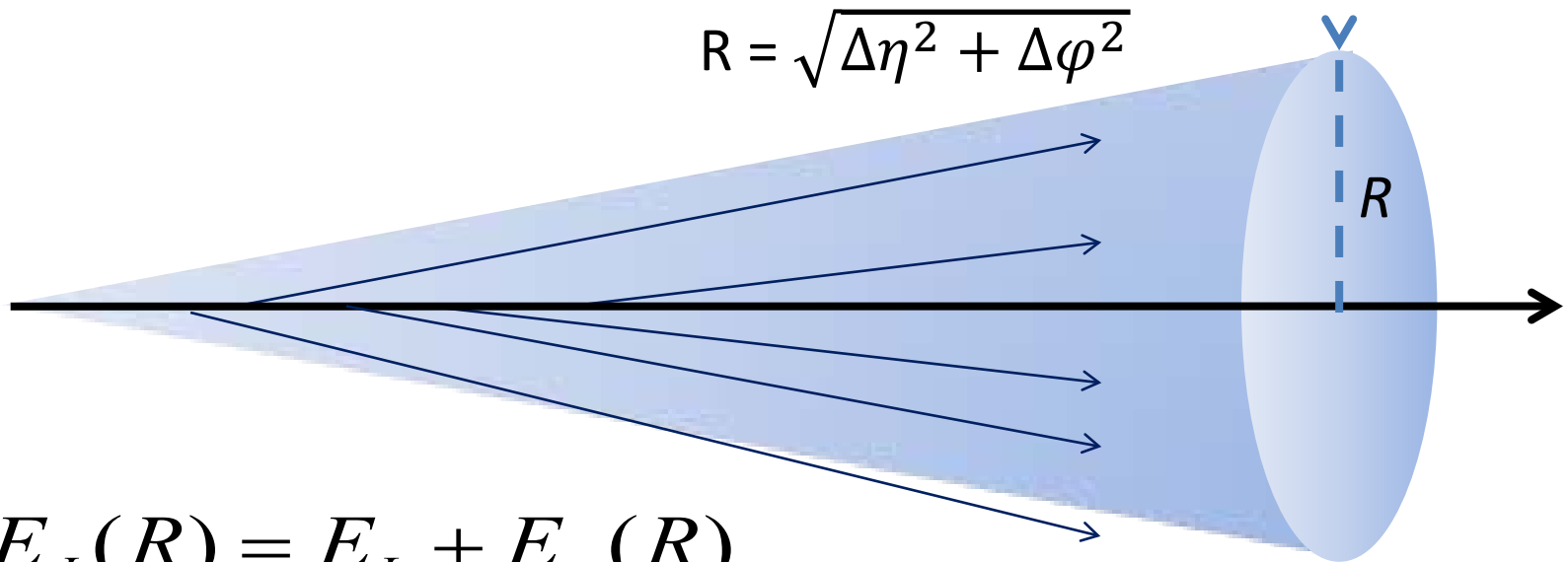
$$R = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2}$$

- Jet: a bunch of collimated particles in a narrow R cone generated by hadronization of a common source
- At the LHC, hard processes lead to abundant jet production

2-jet Event (dijet) in the ATLAS Experiment



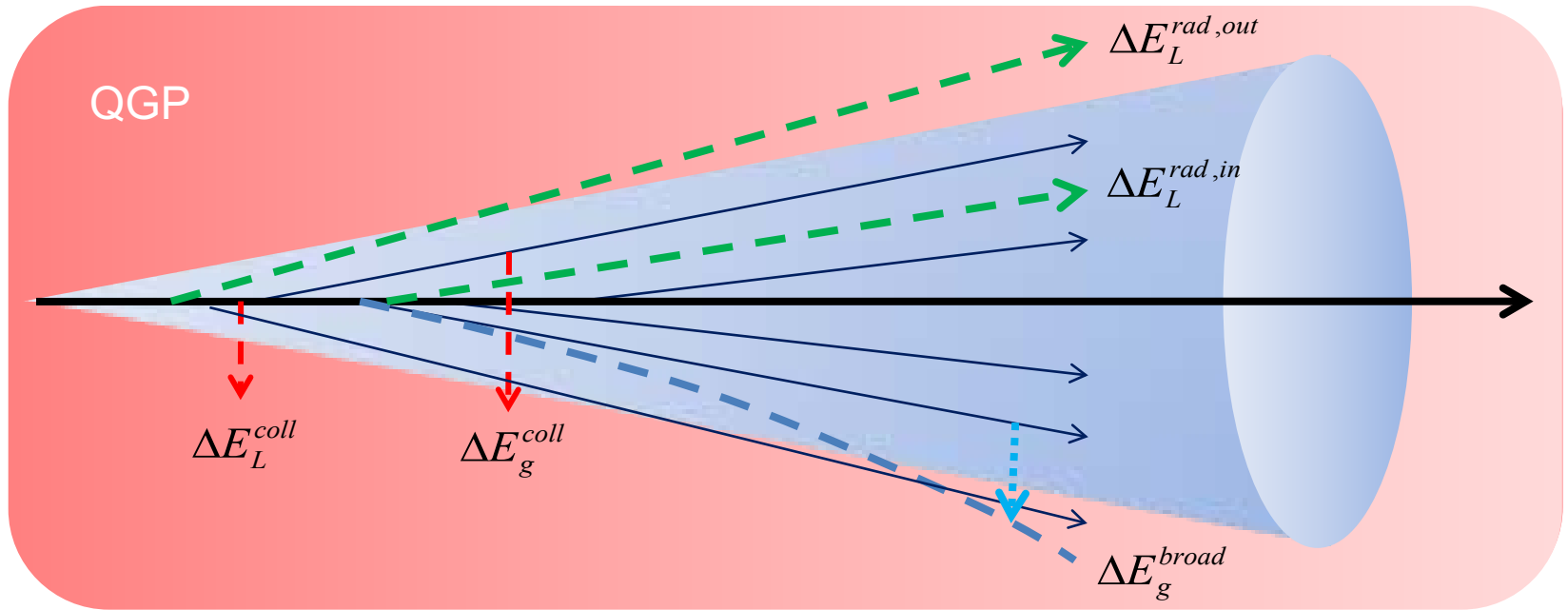
Jets in Vacuum



$$E_J(R) = E_L + E_g(R)$$

For pp, partonic jet shower in vacuum is composed of:
Leading Parton and Radiated Gluons

Jets in Medium



For AA, additional processes are present:

Leading Parton:

- E transfer to medium via elastic collisions
- Gluons radiated due to interactions with the medium

Radiated Gluons:

- E transfer to medium via elastic collisions
- E transfer out of jet cone from multiple scattering

Jets loose energy in the medium X.-N. Wang and M. Gyulassy, PRL 68 (1992) 1480

Measure of Jet Production Modification

- Nuclear-modification factor:

$$R_{AA} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{coll}}} \frac{\text{Venn diagram}}{\text{Venn diagram}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{coll}}} \frac{\frac{dN_{AA}}{dp_T}}{\frac{dN_{pp}}{dp_T}}$$

← Jet yield in AA

← Jet yield in pp (reference)

↑

The number of binary NN interactions
(or T_{AA} if cross-sections are compared)

$R_{AA}=1$ → scaling

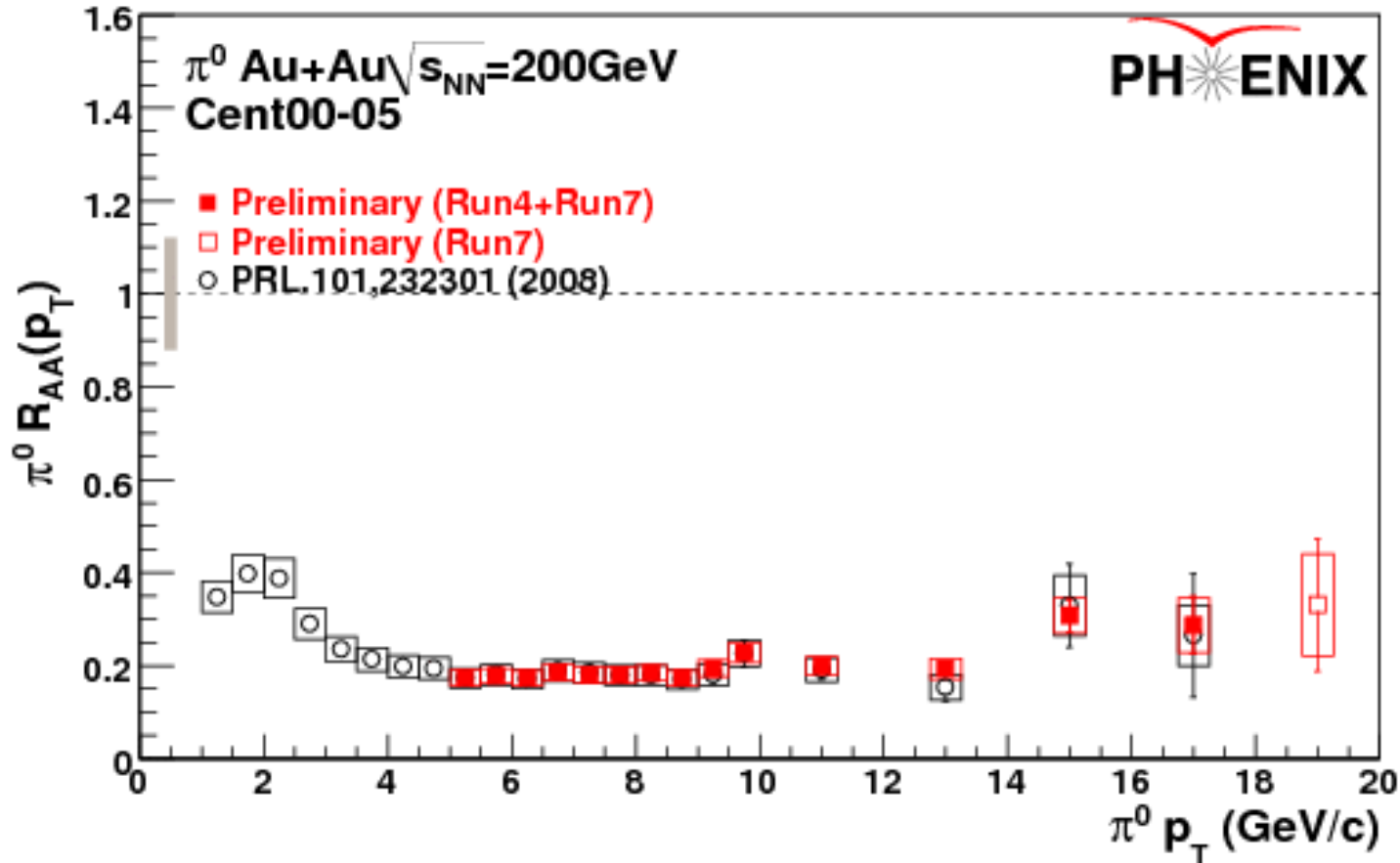
$R_{AA}<1$ → suppression (aka quenching)

$R_{AA}>1$ → enhancement

R_{AA} can be measured for different objects: jets, Z, pions, ...

$\pi^0 R_{AA}$ in 200 GeV Au+Au Collisions (RHIC)

p_T dependence in different centrality intervals:



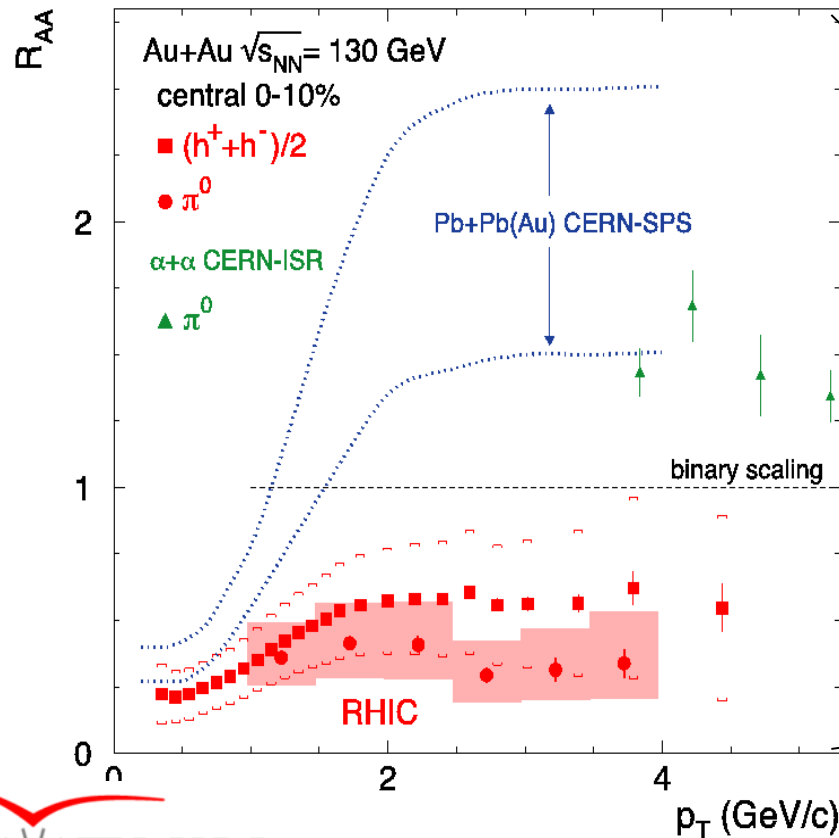
- R_{AA} for π^0 measured up to $p_T = 20$ GeV (central Au+Au)
- $R_{AA} \approx 0.2$ in central Au+Au up to highest p_T ($5 < p_T < 20$ GeV) – strong suppression

Historical Remark

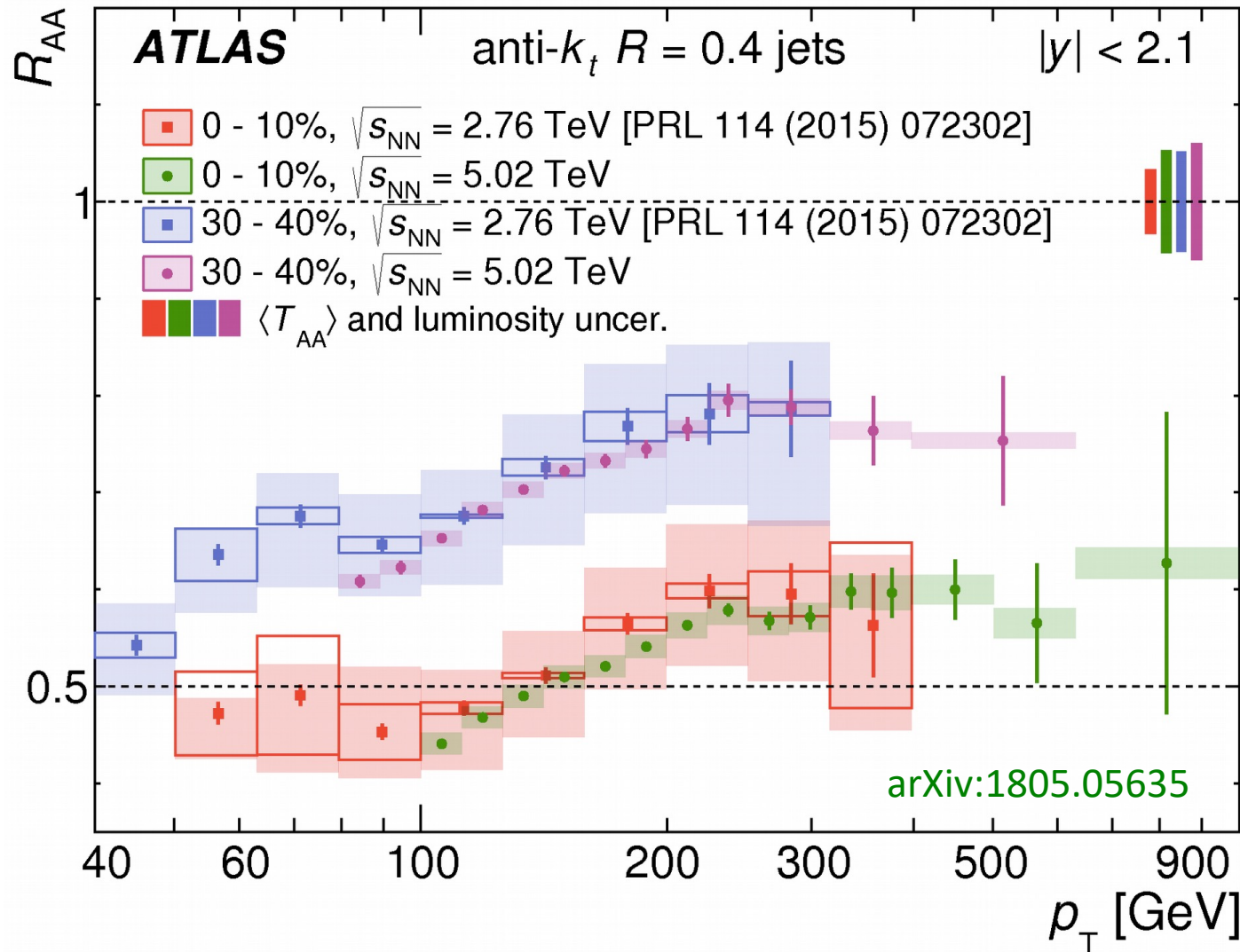
Jet Quenching - 21 Years Ago

Next RHIC's Major Discovery → QGP *paradigm shift*

Discovery of a strong “jet” suppression → QGP a strongly interacting medium



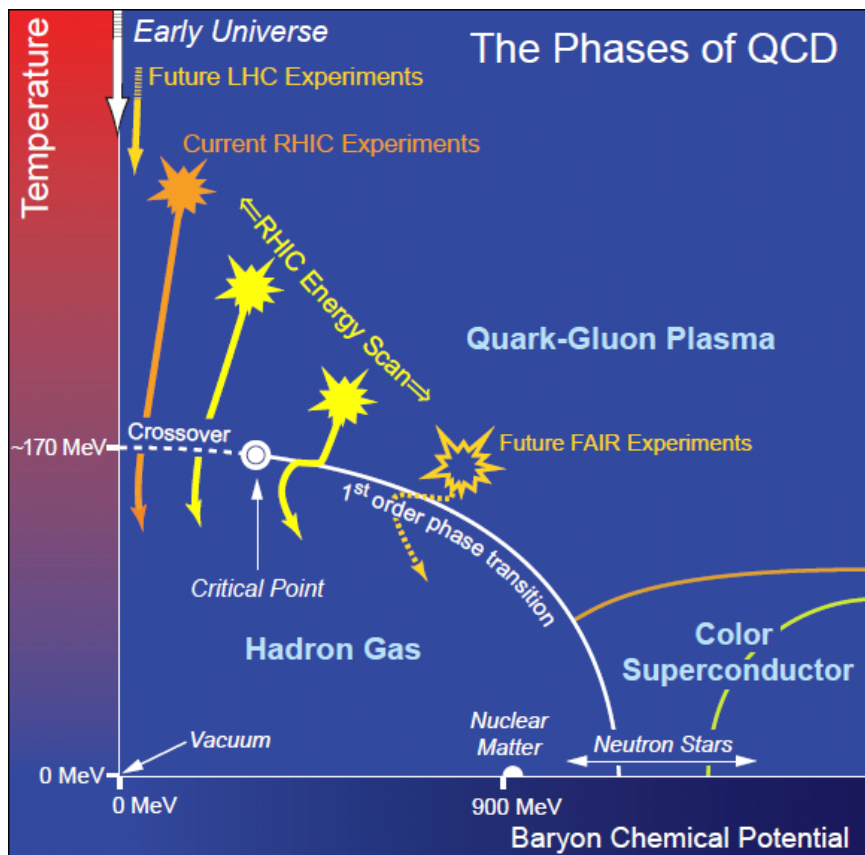
Jet R_{AA} in Pb+Pb Collisions at the LHC



- Suppression of jet yield is observed in central Pb+Pb collisions
- A weak decrease of suppression with p_T is observed
- Same magnitude of R_{AA} is seen between 2.76 TeV and 5.02 TeV

Outlook

Future of High-Energy Heavy-Ion Research



High energy HI collisions ($\mu_B \approx 0$):

- Quantify properties of the QGP fluid
- Explore collectivity in small systems
- ...

Low energy HI collisions ($\mu_B \gg 0$):

- Onset of deconfinement by energy scan
- Exploration of the phase transition in QCD
 - Search for the Critical Point
- QGP at high μ_B (Neutron Star EoS)
- ...

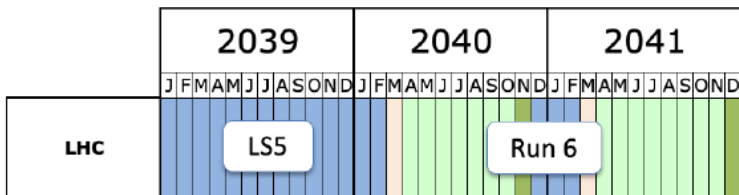
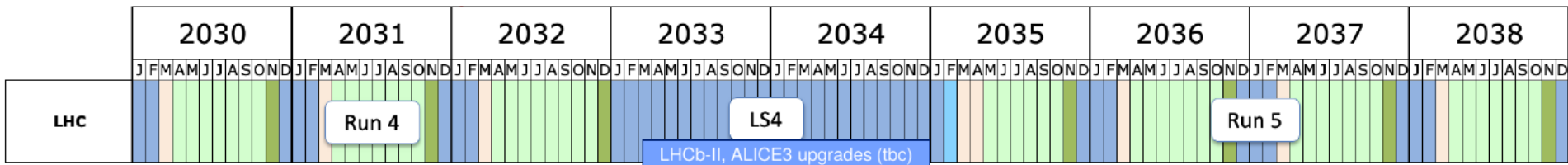
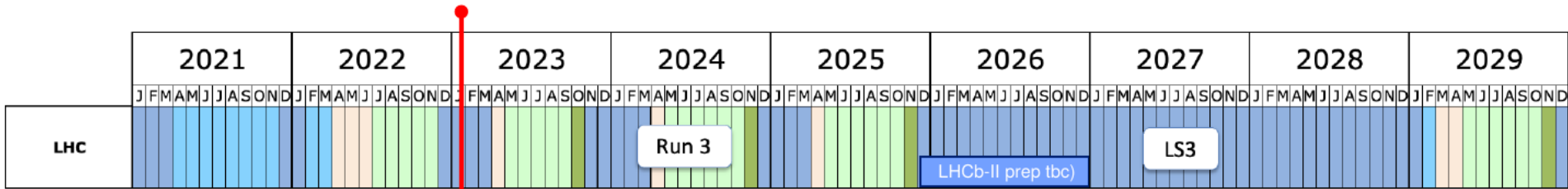
High-Energy Heavy-Ion Collisions

Facility	RHIC	LHC	HE-LHC, FCC / SppC
Experiments	sPHENIX, STAR	ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb, ?	?
When	2023 – 2025	2023-2032, >2032	>2040?, >2045?
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	0.2	5.5	10.5, 39
Int. rate (kHz)	~15	~50	~100 (HE-LHC), ~2500 (FCC)

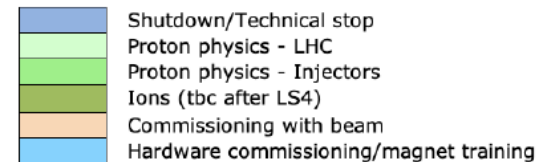
Andrea Dainese, QM 2019

- General future goals of HI collisions at the LHC ([arXiv:1812.06772](https://arxiv.org/abs/1812.06772))
- Future accelerators FCC/SppC will open completely new opportunities for heavy-ion collision physics

LHC timeline for Heavy-Ion Runs



From [talk](#) M. Lamont and R. Bruce



- In the future, continue with one-month ion runs at the end of the year
- Three ion runs planned in Run 3, after cut of 2022 run
- In Run 4 four ion runs planned

Summary

- QCD ab initio calculations predict existence of deconfined phase in heavy-ion collisions
 - Phase transition to QGP at $T_c \sim 155$ MeV
- Dynamical features of the hot and dense medium created in heavy-ion collisions
 - Energy density ~ 20 x critical energy density for QGP formation
 - Significant strangeness enhancement
 - Very strong radial flow, $\beta \approx 0.7$
 - Strong elliptical flow – QGP behaves as nearly ideal fluid
 - Strong suppression of jets and high p_T particles
 - ...
- Significant azimuthal anisotropy observed in small systems

Significant part of the HI programme at the LHC is ahead as well as plenty of exciting physics

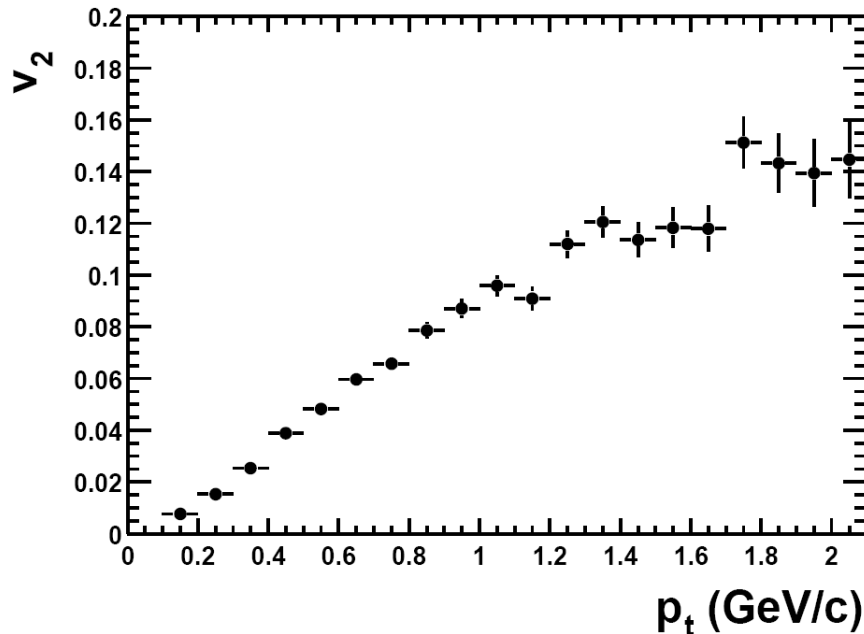
Historical Remark

- Large Azimuthal Anisotropy at RHIC

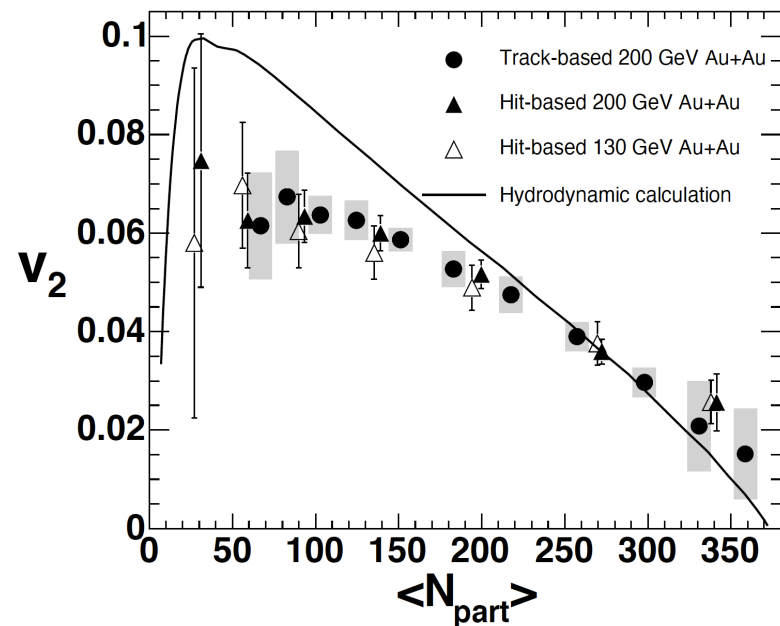
First RHIC's Major Discovery in 2000 → *QGP Paradigm Shift*

Discovery of strong “elliptic” flow consistent with hydrodynamical calculations -> QGP as almost perfect fluid

STAR, [Phys.Rev.Lett.86:402-407,2001](#)



PHOBOS, [Nucl. Phys. A 757 \(2005\) 28](#)



Heavy Ion Collision Event

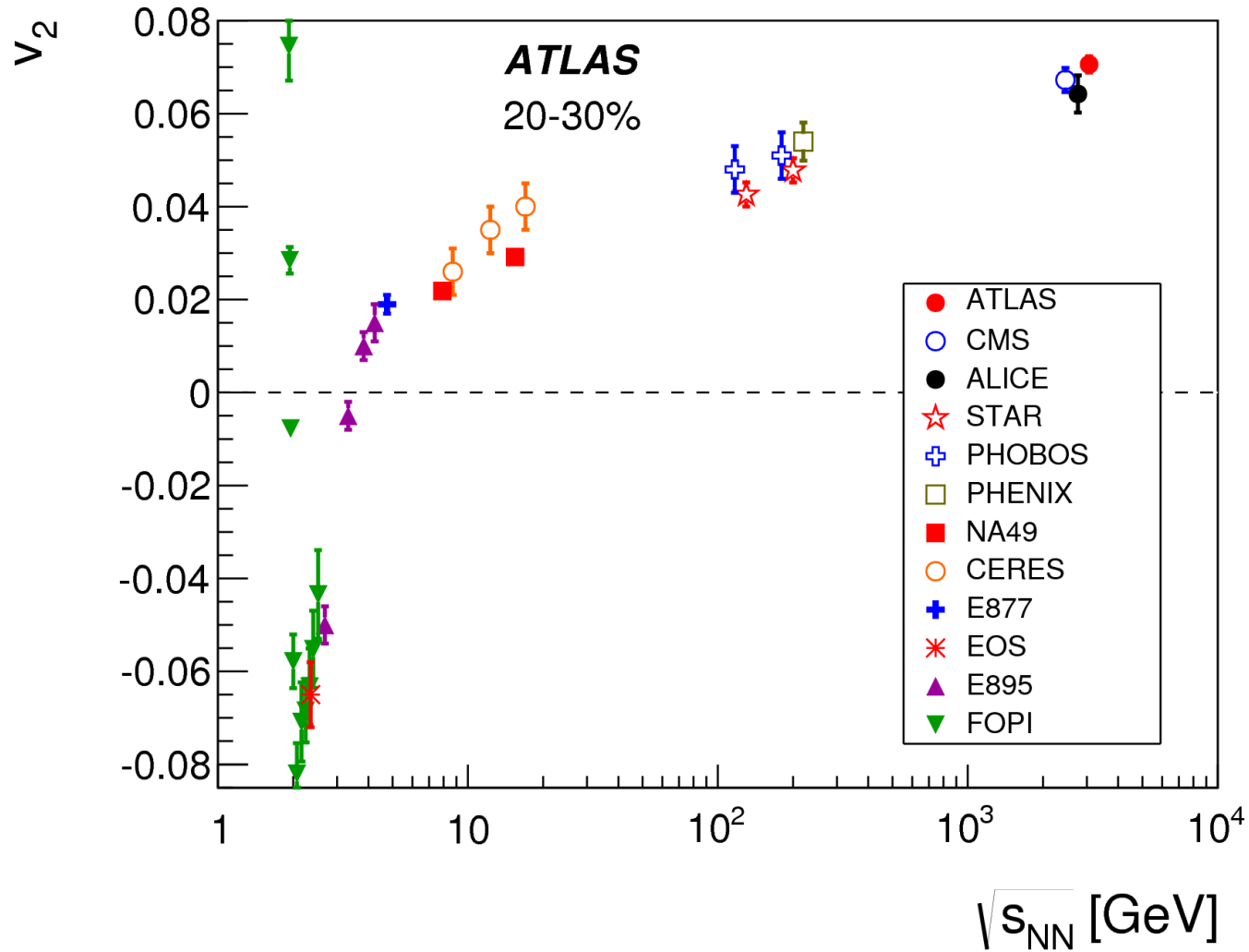


2 Forward Calorimeters (FCal) are used for RP approximation: $3.2 < |\eta| < 4.9$.

Tracks from Inner Detector are used for flow harmonics determination: $|\eta| < 2.5$

$$v_n = \langle \cos(n(\phi - \psi_{RP})) \rangle$$

Elliptic Flow, v_2



Strong azimuthal anisotropy in ultra-relativistic HI collisions