

Properties of hot dense matter from colliding nuclei*



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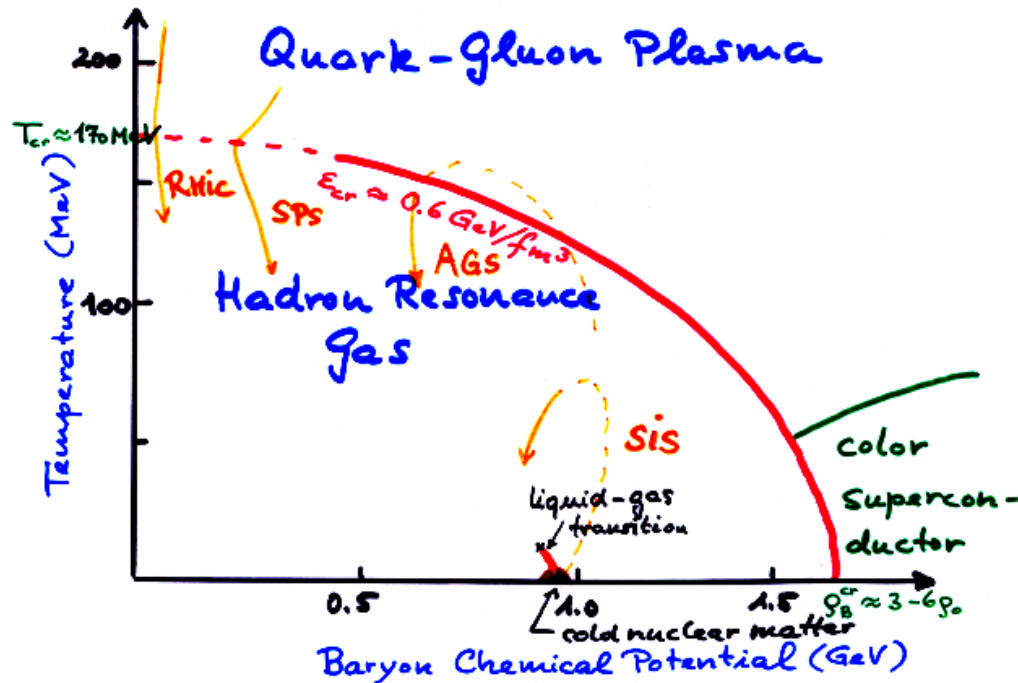
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RHIC Goals:

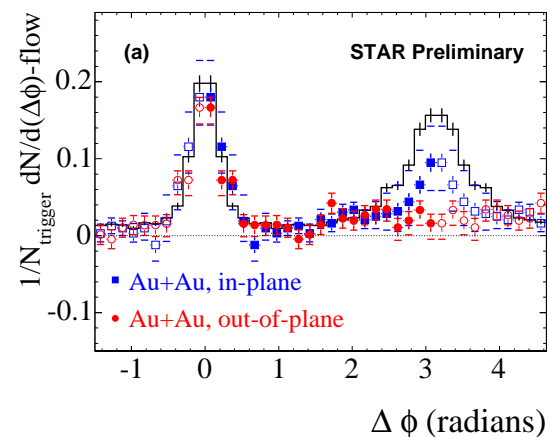
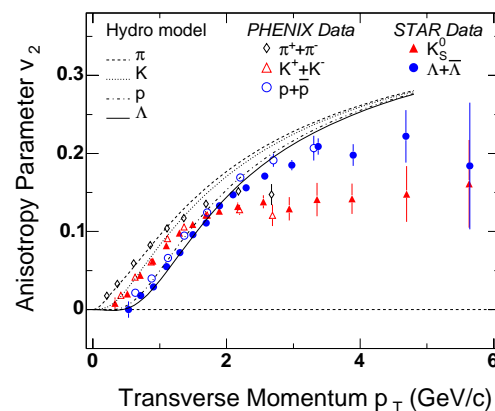
- Create and study the Quark-Gluon Plasma
(= thermalized medium of deconfined quarks and gluons in which chiral symmetry is restored, i.e. $\langle \bar{\psi}\psi \rangle = 0$)
- Explore the QCD phase diagram:



⇒ Condensed Matter Physics with Strongly Interacting Particles
(QCD instead of QED)

How to measure the properties of the created matter?

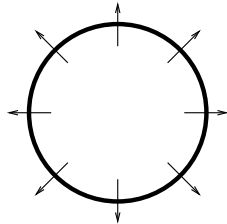
- explore its collective behaviour (radial and elliptic transverse flow)
thermalization? equation of state? gas or liquid? viscosity? color conductivity?
- study how it affects calibrated hard probes (parton energy loss, JET, J/ψ suppression, charm flow, . . .)
- measure its electromagnetic radiation



Flow – an unavoidable consequence of thermalization:

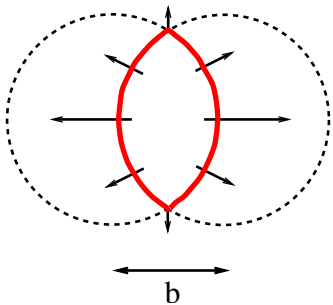
QGP \implies an (approximately) thermalized system of quarks and gluons
 \implies thermal pressure gradients \implies **collective flow**

Radial flow:



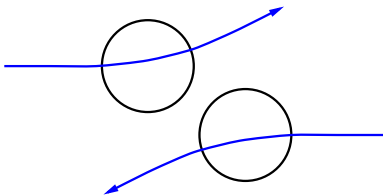
- \rightarrow the only type of transverse flow in $b = 0$ collisions between equal spherical nuclei
- \rightarrow integrates pressure history over entire expansion stage
- \rightarrow observable via effect of $\langle v_{\perp} \rangle$ on slope of m_{\perp} spectra

Elliptic flow ($b \neq 0$ or collisions between deformed nuclei, e.g. U+U):



- \rightarrow peaks at midrapidity
- \rightarrow requires spatial deformation of reaction zone at thermalization
- \rightarrow magnitude of signal probes degree and time of thermalization
- \rightarrow shuts itself off as dynamics reduces deformation (H. Sorge)
- \rightarrow sensitive to Equation of State during first ~ 5 fm/c

Directed flow ($b \neq 0, y \neq 0$):



- \rightarrow generated **very** early while nuclei penetrate each other
- \rightarrow dominated by early non-equilibrium processes
- \rightarrow becomes weaker with increasing collision energy

Hydrodynamics – the natural tool to study flow:

Relativistic Hydrodynamics:

Conservation of energy, momentum and baryon number

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu j^\mu &= 0\end{aligned}$$

with energy momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}(x) = (e(x) + p(x)) u^\mu(x) u^\nu(x) - g^{\mu\nu} p(x)$
and baryon current $j^\mu(x) = n(x) u^\mu(x)$

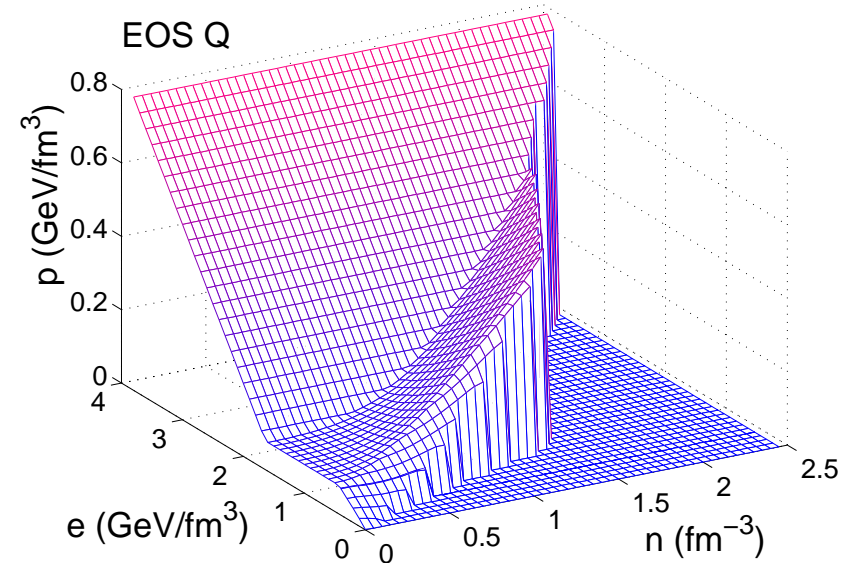
Equation of state:

- EOS I: ultrarelativistic ideal gas, $p = \frac{1}{3} e$
- EOS H: hadron resonance gas, $p \sim 0.15 e$
- EOS Q: Maxwell construction between
EOS I and EOS H

critical temperature $T_{\text{crit}} = 0.164 \text{ GeV}$

⇒ bag constant $B^{1/4} = 0.23 \text{ GeV}$

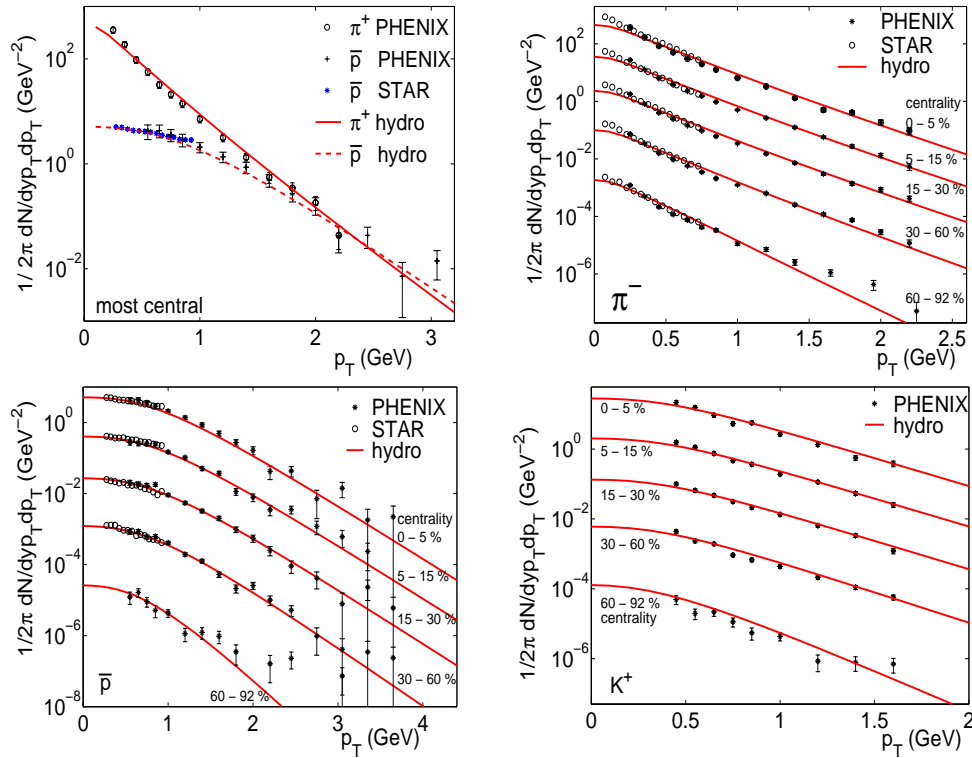
latent heat $\Delta e = 1.15 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$



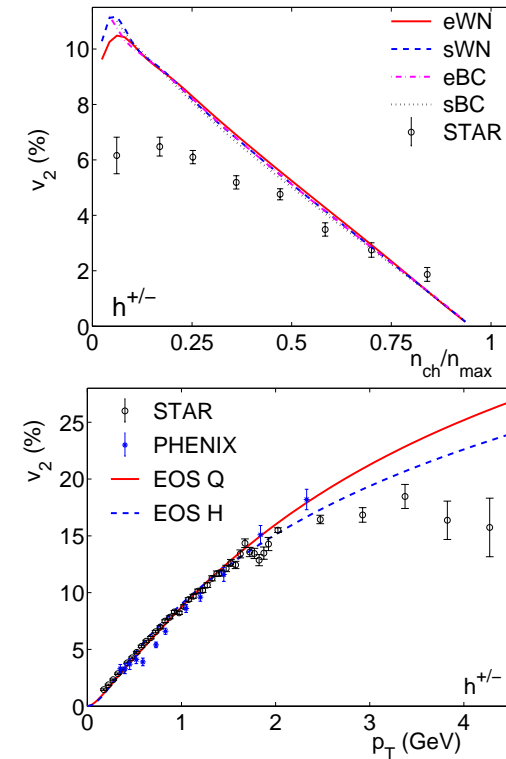
Implement exact longitudinal boost invariance for simplicity ($Y \approx 0$ only)

Hydrodynamic description of single-particle spectra:

Single particle spectra from central and peripheral
Au+Au @ 130 A GeV (STAR, PHENIX):



Centrality and momentum
dependence of elliptic flow
(STAR, PHENIX, PHOBOS):



Model parameters fixed with π , \bar{p} spectra at $b = 0$;
all other spectra predicted (UH & P.Kolb, hep-ph/0204061).

What is fitted, what is predicted?

Au+Au @ 130 A GeV:

$$\tau_{\text{eq}} = 0.6 \text{ fm}/c, \quad e_{\text{max}}(b=0) = 24.6 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3, \quad \langle e \rangle(\tau=1 \text{ fm}/c) = 5.4 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$$
$$T_{\text{max}}(b=0) = 340 \text{ MeV}, \quad T_{\text{chem}} = T_{\text{had}} = 165 \text{ MeV}, \quad T_{\text{dec}} = 130 \text{ MeV}$$

All fit parameters are fixed in central ($b=0$) collisions:

- Glauber model \Rightarrow shape of initial transverse entropy and baryon density profiles $s(\mathbf{r}, \tau_{\text{eq}}), n_B(\mathbf{r}, \tau_{\text{eq}})$
 \Rightarrow free parameters $s_0(\tau_{\text{eq}}), n_0(\tau_{\text{eq}})$, soft/hard fraction
- Measured p/π ratio \Rightarrow fixes n_0/s_0
- Total charged multiplicity $dN_{\text{ch}}/dy \Rightarrow$ fixes product $\tau_{\text{eq}} \cdot s_0(\tau_{\text{eq}})$
- soft/hard fraction \Rightarrow fixed through centrality dependence of dN_{ch}/dy
- Shape of π, p spectra \Rightarrow fixes decoupling temperature T_{dec} and radial flow $\langle v_{\perp} \rangle$
- Final radial flow $\langle v_{\perp} \rangle \Rightarrow$ “fixes” τ_{eq} [upper limit] (flow needs time and pressure to develop)
- Equation of State \Rightarrow compute $e_0 = e_{\text{max}}(b=0), T_{\text{max}}(b=0)$ from s_0, n_0

Predictions (no additional parameters!):

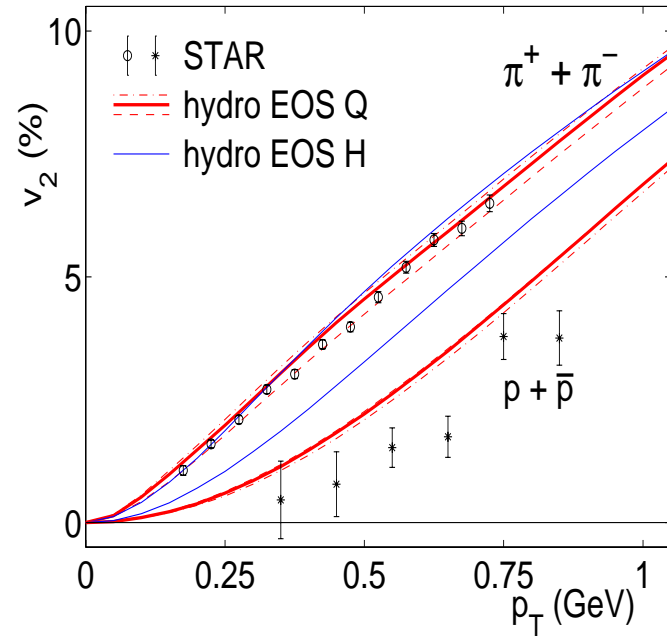
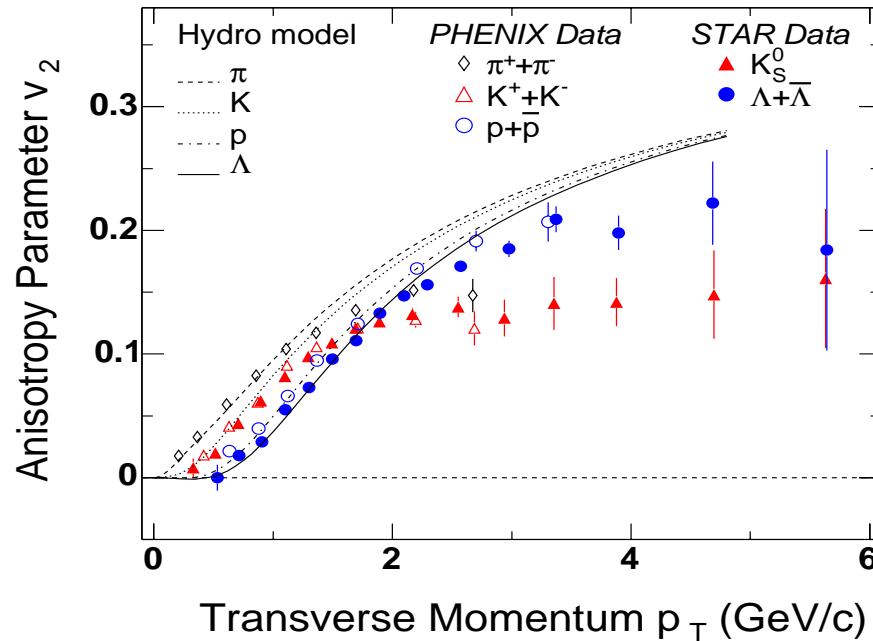
- All hadron spectra other than p, π in $b=0$ collisions
- All hadron spectra and elliptic flow coefficients for non-central collisions at any impact parameter

Shortcomings of early hydro calculations (repaired in later versions):

- EOS assumes chemical equilibrium all the way down to T_{dec}
- No transverse dynamics before τ_{eq}

Rest mass dependence of differential elliptic flow (the “fine structure”)

STAR Coll., PRL 87, 182301 (2001) and PRL 92, 052302 (2004); PHENIX Coll., PRL 91, 182301 (2003)

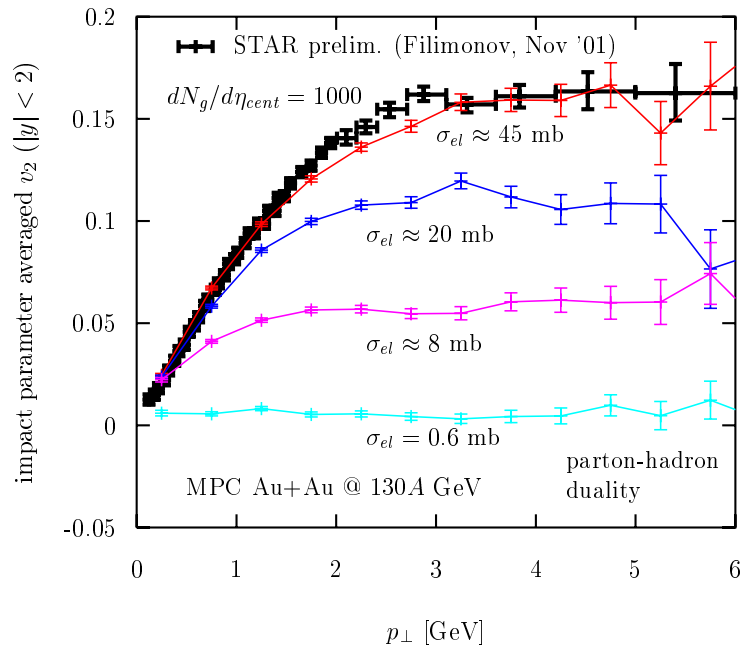


Data follow the hydrodynamically predicted rest mass dependence of $v_2(p_\perp)$ out to $p_\perp \sim 1.5$ GeV for mesons and out to $p_\perp \sim 2.3$ GeV for baryons
 \implies bulk of matter ($> 99\%$ of all particles) behaves hydrodynamically!

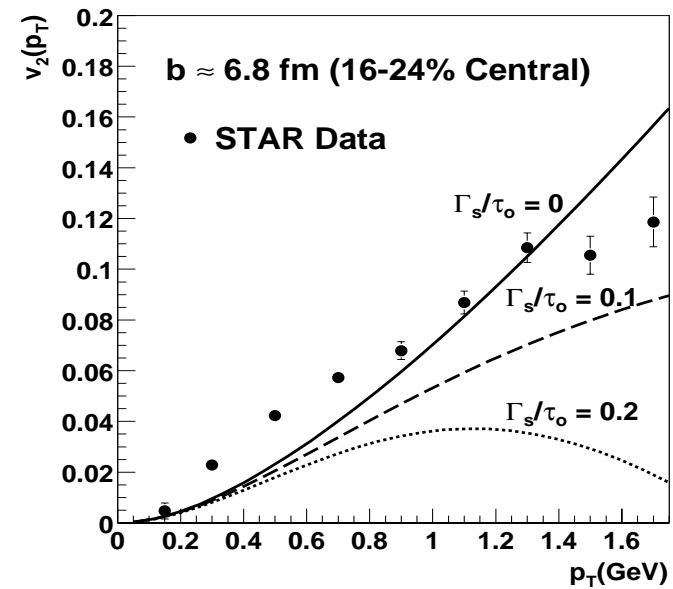
Note: mass-splitting of v_2 (“fine structure”) sensitive to EOS!

Breakdown of hydrodynamics at high p_{\perp} : upper limits for the QGP viscosity

D. Molnár and M. Gyulassy, NPA 697 (2002) 495



D. Teaney, PRC 68 (2003) 034913



$$\Gamma_s = \frac{4}{3}\eta/(T \cdot s)$$

- For sufficiently (very) large σ_{el} , $v_2(p_{\perp})$ from covariant parton transport model MPC follows hydrodynamic curve at low p_{\perp} and reproduces observed saturation at high p_{\perp}
- Similar pattern is seen in viscous hydrodynamics: viscous corrections increase $\sim p_{\perp}^2$
- v_2 data suggest $\frac{\Gamma_s}{\tau} < 0.1$, close to **minimum viscosity** $\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi}$ (Son et al. 2002)
- More quantitative constraints on η require viscous hydrodynamics code

Why is this important?

- v_2 requires rescattering/reinteractions among produced matter
 \implies final state \neq initial state
- microscopic studies (Zhang et al. 1999, Molnar & Gyulassy 2002): v_2 is a monotonic function of $\sigma\rho \sim 1/\lambda$; ideal fluid limit reached as $\lambda \rightarrow 0$
- v_2 data @ RHIC \approx exhaust hydro limit \implies fast, efficient thermalization
- v_2 needs spatial deformation (rescattering maps ϵ_x onto v_2) \implies sensitive to early collision stage; data require $\tau_{\text{therm}} \leq 1 \text{ fm}/c$ (we use $0.6 \text{ fm}/c$)
- since the hydrodynamic upper limit can only be approached from below and is \approx exhausted by the data, the data provide stringent limits on viscosity and other transport coefficients
- since hydrodynamics works, we can use it to estimate initial energy density and lifetime of the plasma: $e_{\text{init}} \simeq (10 - 20) \times e_{\text{crit}}$, $T_{\text{init}} \simeq 2 \times T_{\text{crit}}$, $\tau_{\text{had}} - \tau_{\text{therm}} \simeq 5 - 7 \text{ fm}/c$
- Theoretically, there exists only one viable concept that fits all of these properties: the QGP.
- RHIC data tell us that the QGP behaves like an almost ideal fluid and must therefore be strongly interacting.

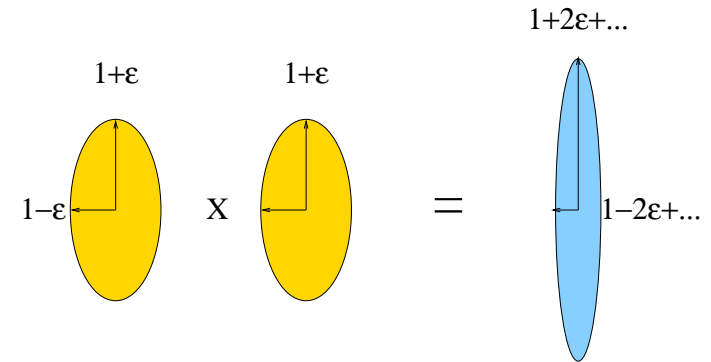
Quark number scaling at intermediate p_{\perp} : coalescence

D. Molnár and S. Voloshin, PRL 91 (2003) 092301

Narrow wave function limit ($\mathbf{q} = 0$): $\frac{dN_M}{d\phi} \propto \left(\frac{dN_q}{d\phi}\right)^2$, $\frac{dN_B}{d\phi} \propto \left(\frac{dN_q}{d\phi}\right)^3$

$$v_2^M(p_{\perp}) \approx v_2^a\left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{2}\right) + v_2^{\bar{a}}\left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{2}\right)$$

$$v_2^B(p_{\perp}) \approx v_2^a\left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{3}\right) + v_2^b\left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{3}\right) + v_2^c\left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{3}\right)$$



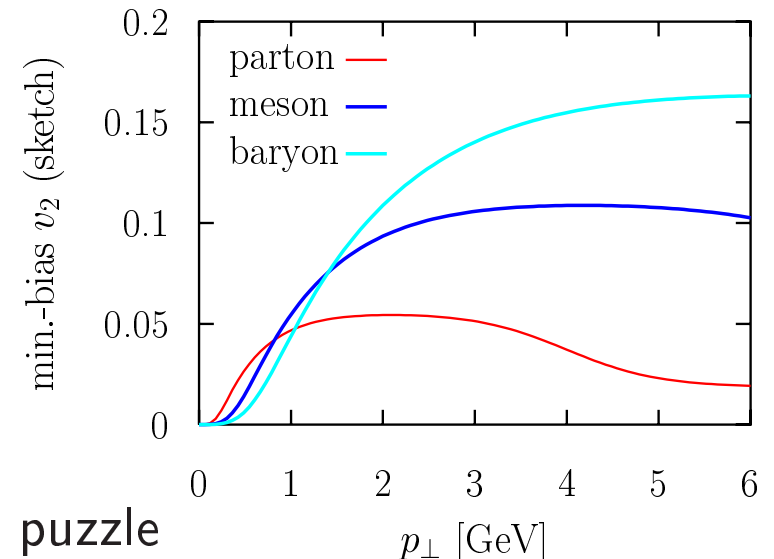
⇒ **Hadron v_2 amplified at high p_{\perp} :**

If all quark flavors have same v_2 :

3× for baryons

2× for mesons

$$v_2^h(p_{\perp}) \approx n \times v_2^q(p_{\perp}/n)$$

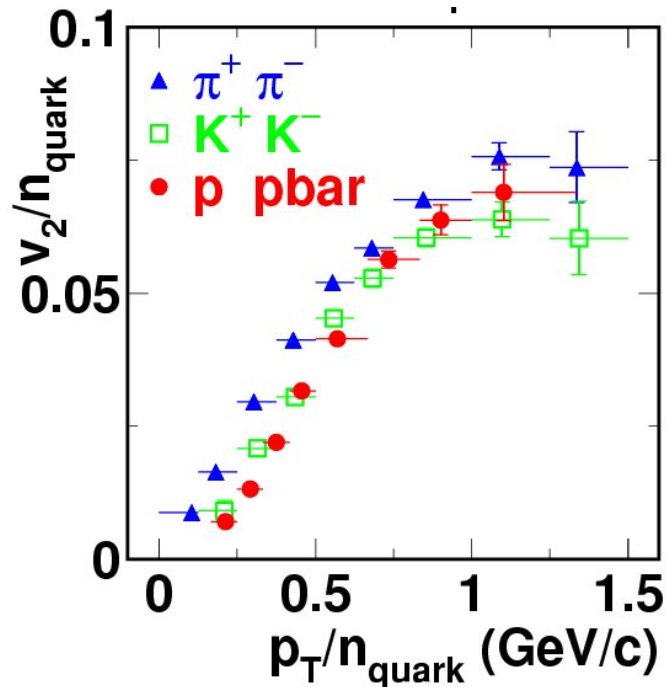


- This **KEY EFFECT** alleviates the opacity puzzle (smaller parton v_2 needed)

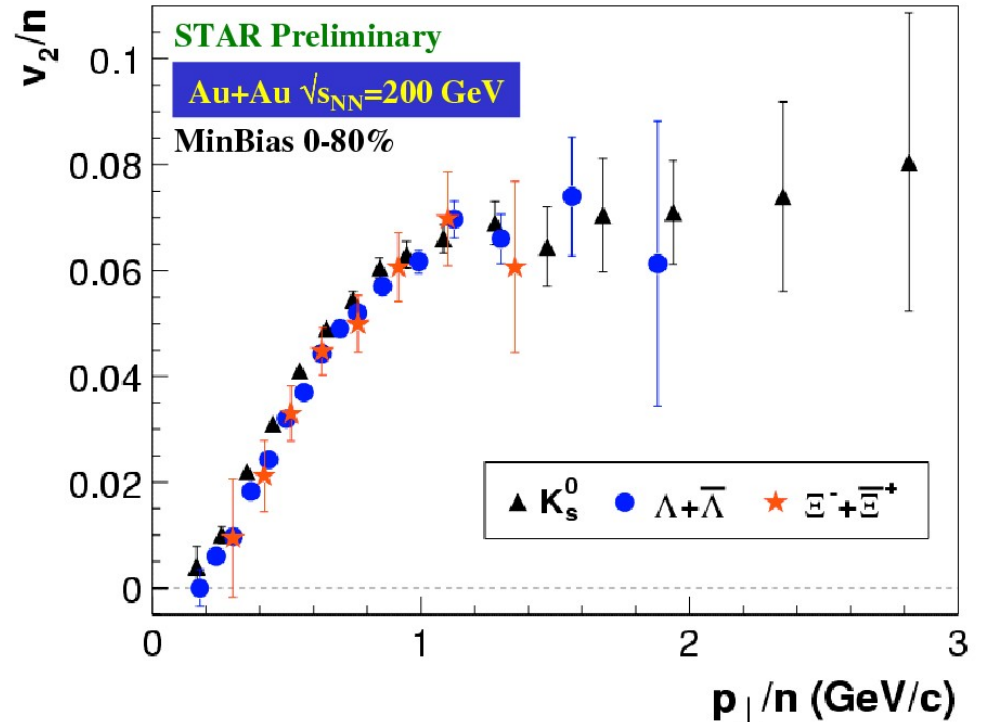
Note: Parton v_2 can be extracted only because it breaks away from hydro at high p_T !

Experimental extraction of parton elliptic flow (I)

PHENIX Coll., PRL 91 ('03) 182301



J. Castillo (STAR Coll.), nucl-ex/0403027

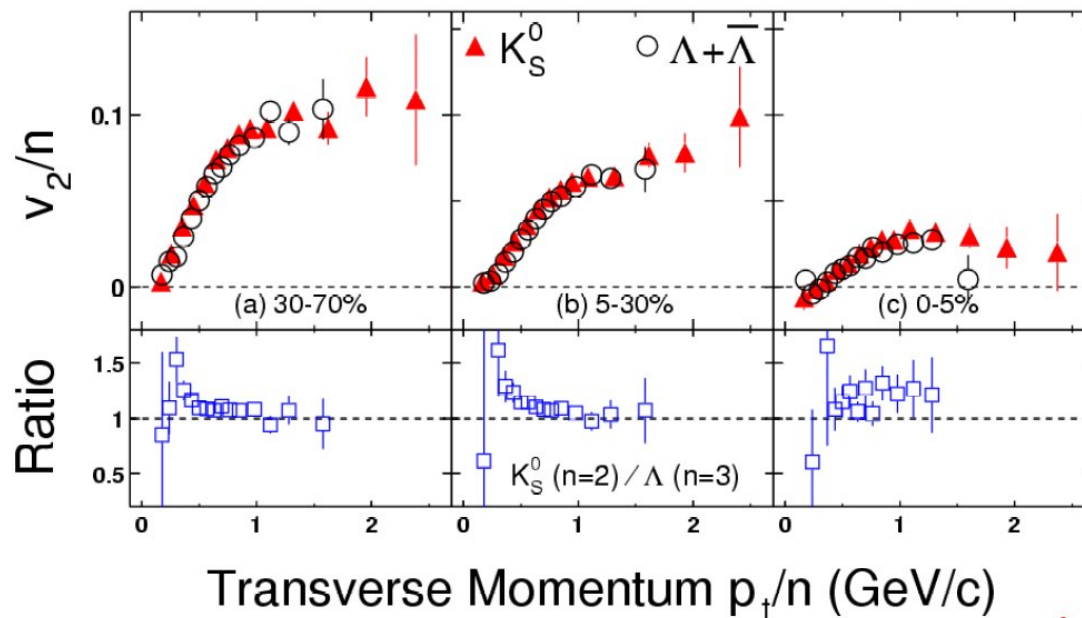


- Coalescence predictions confirmed for π , K , K_0 , p , Λ , Ξ
- RHIC data indicate $v_2^q \approx v_2^s$
- Parton elliptic flow follows hydro to $p_{T,break} \approx 750 \text{ MeV}$, saturates at $\approx 7\%$ in min. bias. collisions

Experimental extraction of parton elliptic flow (II)

P. Sorensen (STAR Coll.), J.Phys. G30 ('04) S217

This **parton coalescence** rescaling seems to work for each of our centrality intervals



UCLA

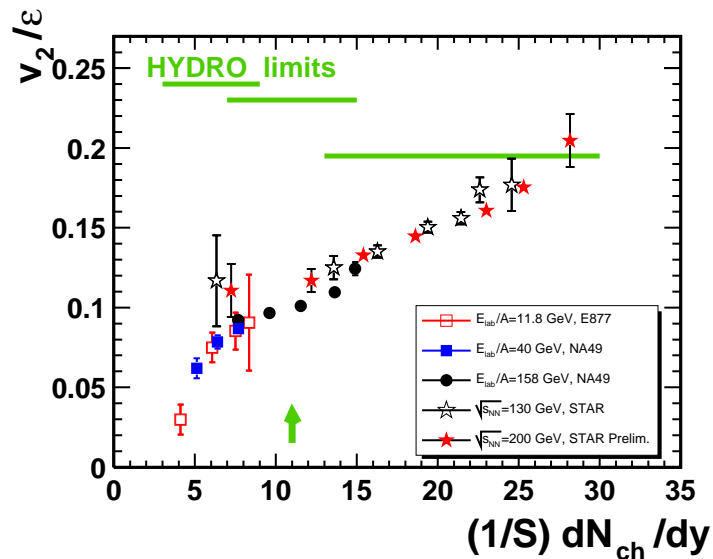
Paul Sorensen



- Note:
- Parton v_2 can be extracted only because it breaks away from hydro at high p_\perp
 - Valence quark number scaling indicates **quark deconfinement!**

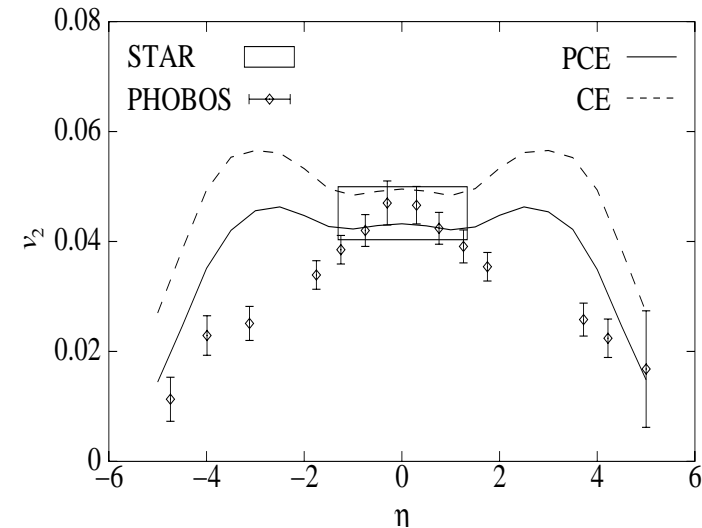
Limits of ideal fluid dynamics: smaller, less dense systems

STAR, PRC 66 ('02) 034904; NA49, PRC 68 ('03) 034903



3d hydro:

T. Hirano, PRC 65 ('02) 011901; 66 ('02) 054905



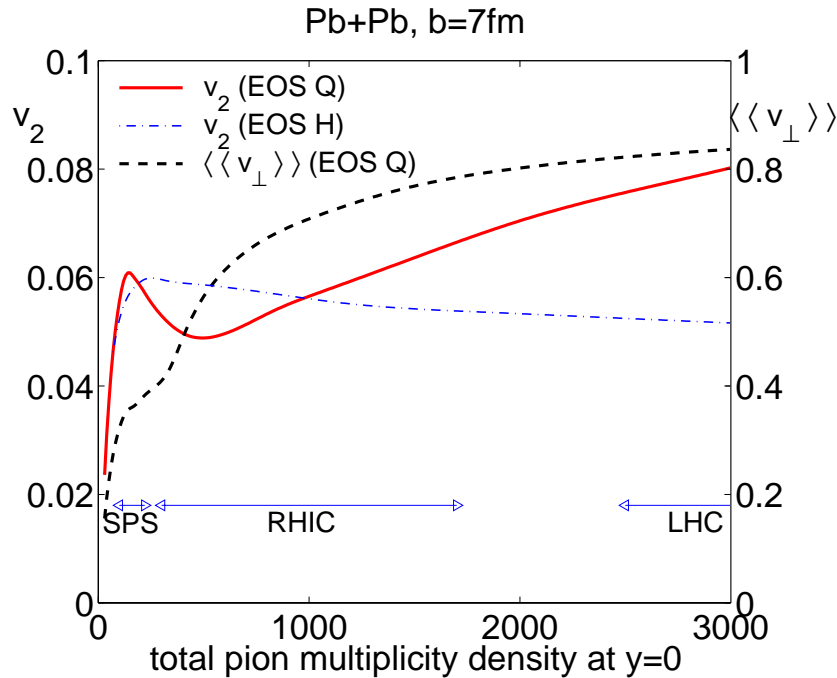
- $\frac{v_2^{\text{measured}}}{v_2^{\text{hydro}}}$ scales with $\frac{1}{S} \frac{dN_{ch}}{dy} \propto s_{\text{init}}$
- $e_{\text{init}} > 10 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ needed for v_2 to saturate before hadronization and to exhaust ideal hydro limit!
- hydrodynamics predicts non-monotonic v_2/ϵ : between AGS and RHIC it **decreases**, due to softening of EOS by quark-hadron transition (Kolb, Sollfrank, UH, PRC 62 (2000) 054909)
- data show instead monotonous **increase** of v_2/ϵ with $\sqrt{s} \Rightarrow$ the inability of viscous hadronic phase to build elliptic flow kills the phase transition signature!

Breakdown of ideal hydro: the viscous hadron gas fluid

Excitation function of elliptic flow:

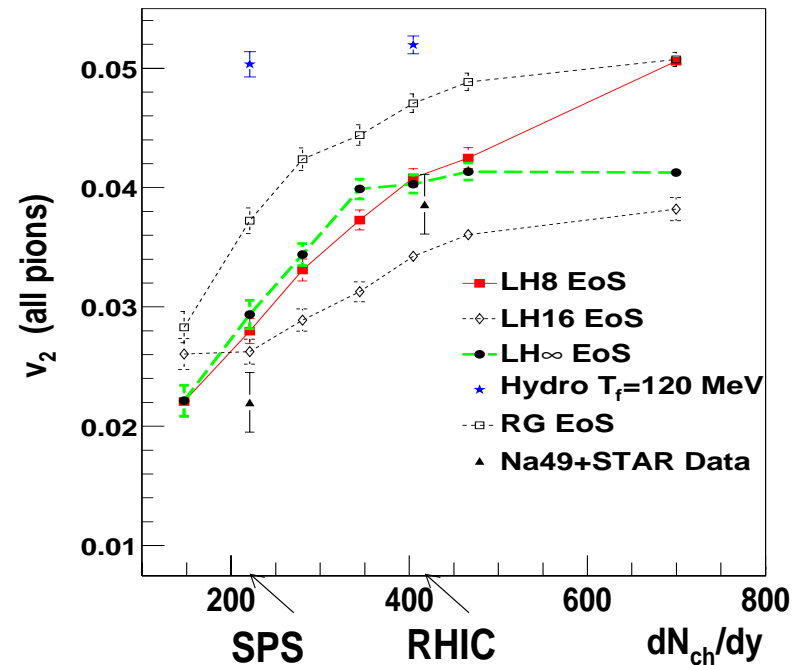
Ideal hydro

P. Kolb, J. Sollfrank, U.H., PRC 62 ('00) 054909



Hydro + RQMD

D. Teaney, J. Lauret, E. Shuryak, nucl-th/0110037

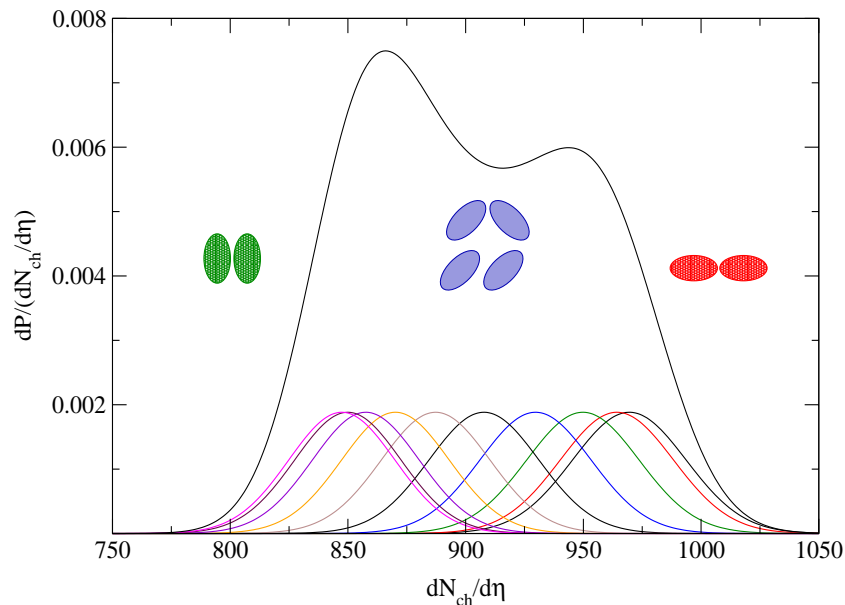


Hadron resonance gas is very viscous and does not respond strongly to spatial eccentricity \implies non-monotonic behaviour of v_2 resulting from dip in c_s^2 near phase-transition is erased!

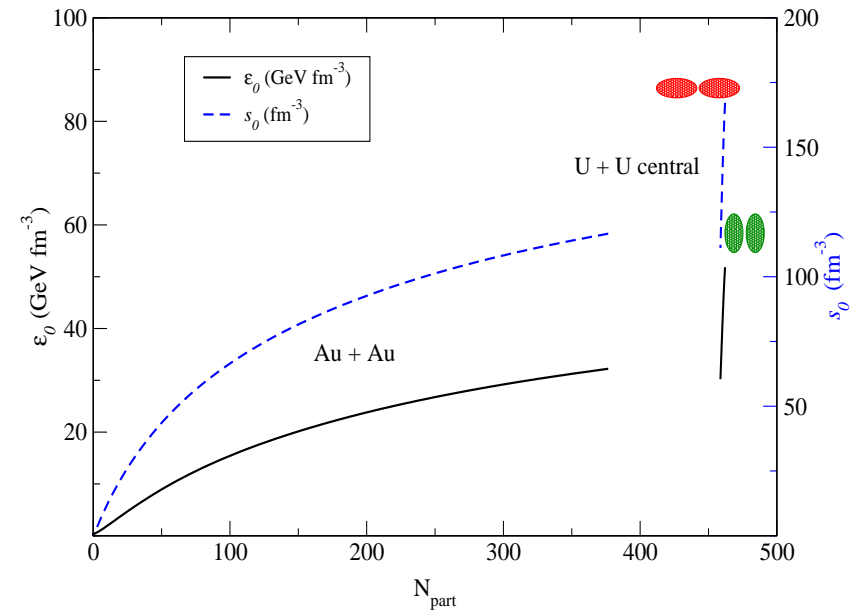
The ultimate test of hydrodynamics at RHIC: fully aligned (“zero spectators”) U+U at 200 A GeV

A.J. Kuhlman, U.H., in preparation

Multiplicity distribution for full overlap
U+U collisions at 200 A GeV



Initial maximal energy and entropy density
for Au+Au and U+U collisions



- $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ in head-on-head collisions $\approx 14\%$ larger than in side-on-side collisions
- e_0 in head-on-head U+U collisions $\approx 65\%$ larger than in side-on-side U+U and $b=0$ Au+Au!
- ϵ_x (side-on-side U+U) $\approx \epsilon_x$ ($b=7$ fm Au+Au), at 30% higher e_0

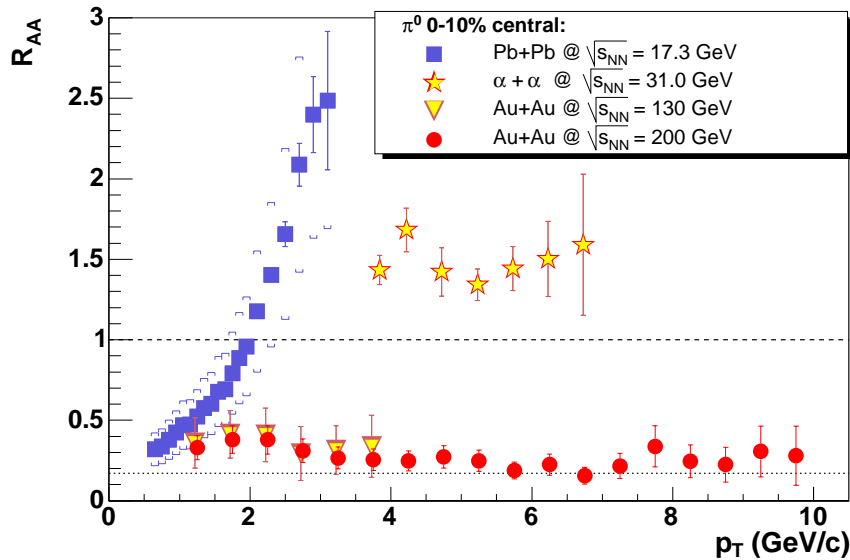
Suppression of high p_T hadron production in Au+Au:

$$R_{AA}(p_T; b) = \frac{\frac{dN_{AA}}{dp_T}(b)}{N_{\text{coll}}(b) \frac{dN_{pp}}{dp_T}}$$

M. Gyulassy and I. Vitev,
PRL 89 (2002) 252301

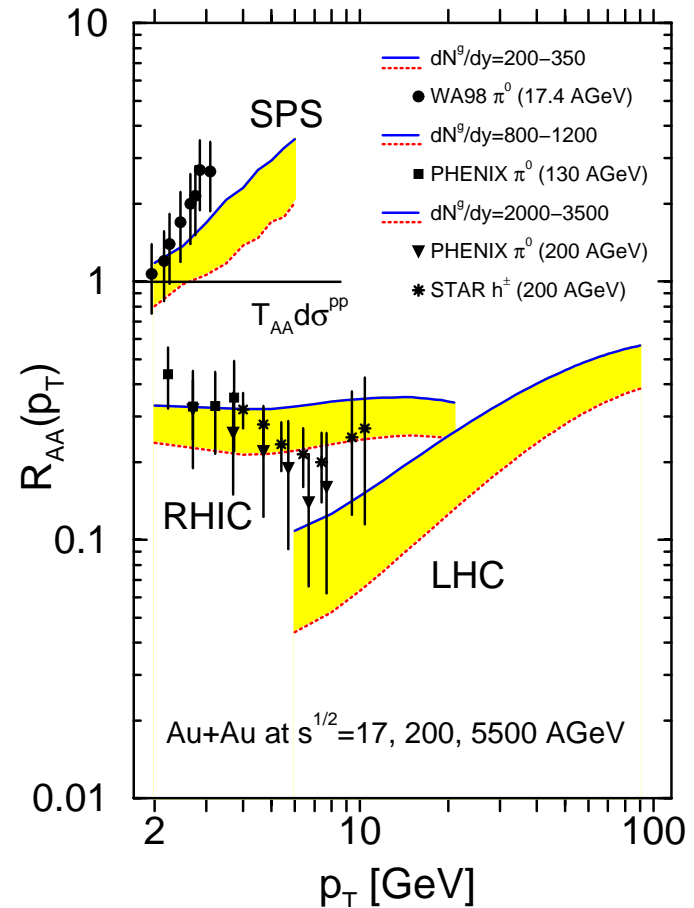
Au+Au at $\sqrt{s} = 130$ and 200 A GeV

PHENIX Coll., PRL 88 (2002) 022301; PLB 561 (2003) 82



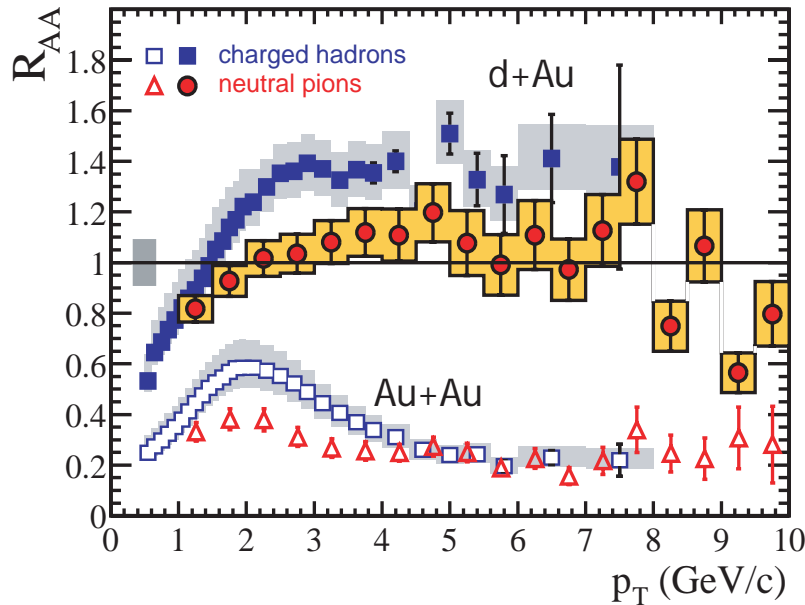
$$\Rightarrow \frac{dN_g}{dy} = 1000 \pm 200$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle e \rangle (\tau_0 = 0.2 \text{ fm}) \approx 20 \text{ GeV/fm}^3 !$$

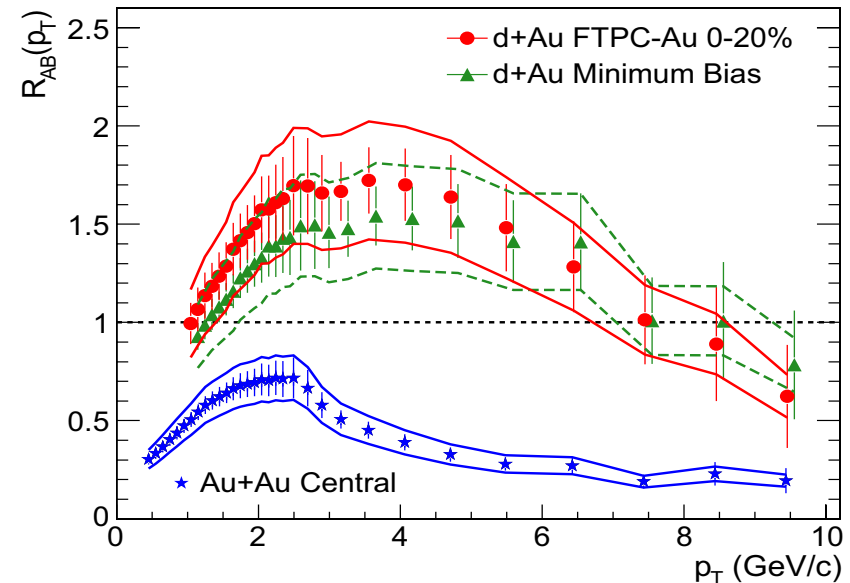


No high p_T suppression in d+Au:

PHENIX Coll., PRL, nucl-ex/0306021



STAR Coll., PRL, nucl-ex/0306024

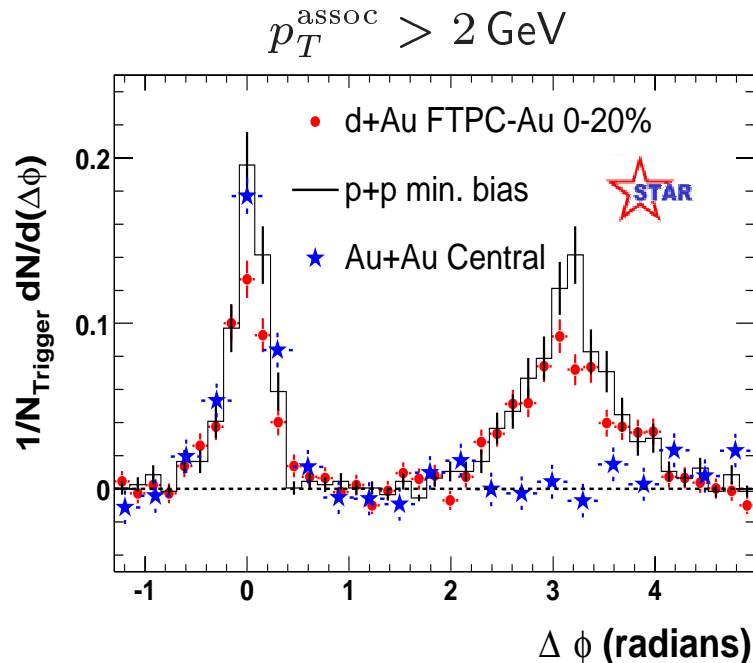


- as collision centrality increases, R_{AA} **increases** in d+Au (Cronin effect) but **decreases** in Au+Au
- high- p_T suppression absent in d+Au \implies suppression in Au+Au not due to nuclear wavefunction (e.g. CGC) but a **final state effect**

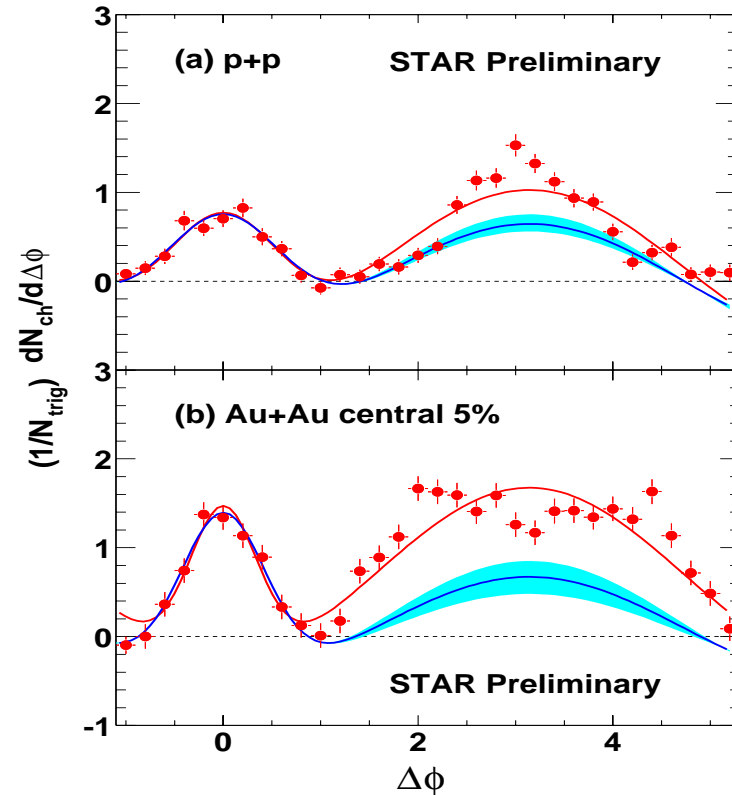
Jet quenching in central Au+Au collisions:

STAR Coll., F. Wang, Quark Matter 2004

STAR Coll., PRL 91 (2003) 072304



$0.15 < p_T^{\text{assoc}} < 4 \text{ GeV}$



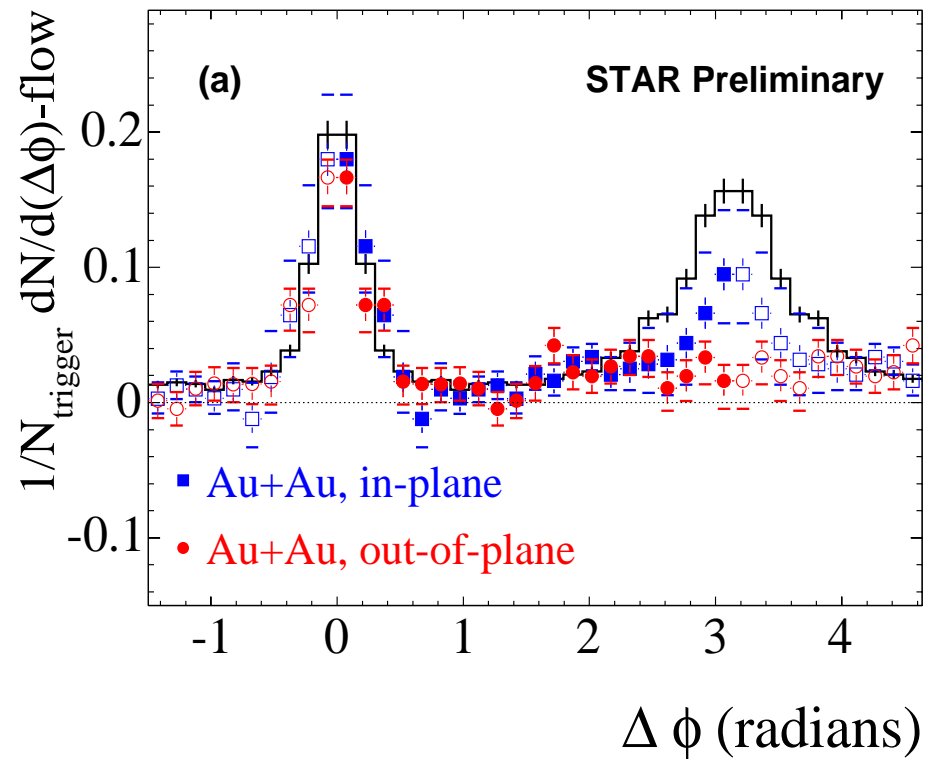
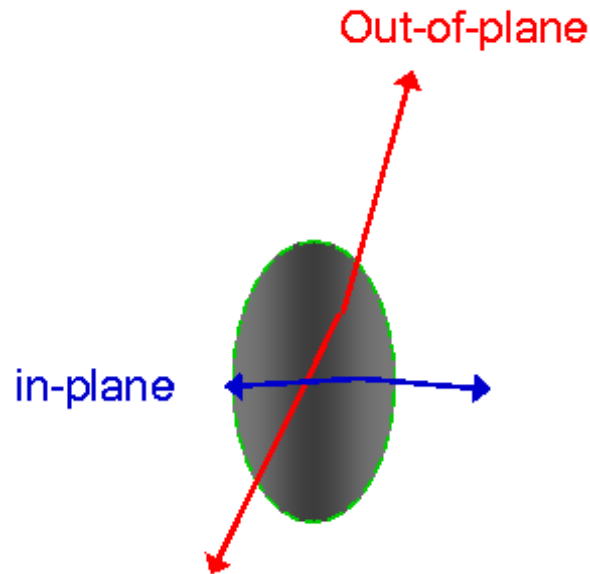
- trigger particle for near-side jet has $4 < p_T < 6 \text{ GeV}$
- away-side jet ($p_T > 2 \text{ GeV}$) visible in p+p and d+Au, but fully quenched in central Au+Au
- energy of quenched jet appears as additional multiplicity of low- p_T particles opposite to trigger particle
- \implies “thermalization” of intermediate- p_T jets!

JET: Jet Emission Tomography

Path length dependence of parton energy loss:

STAR Coll., nucl-ex/0403018, Quark Matter 2004

Emission angle dependence:

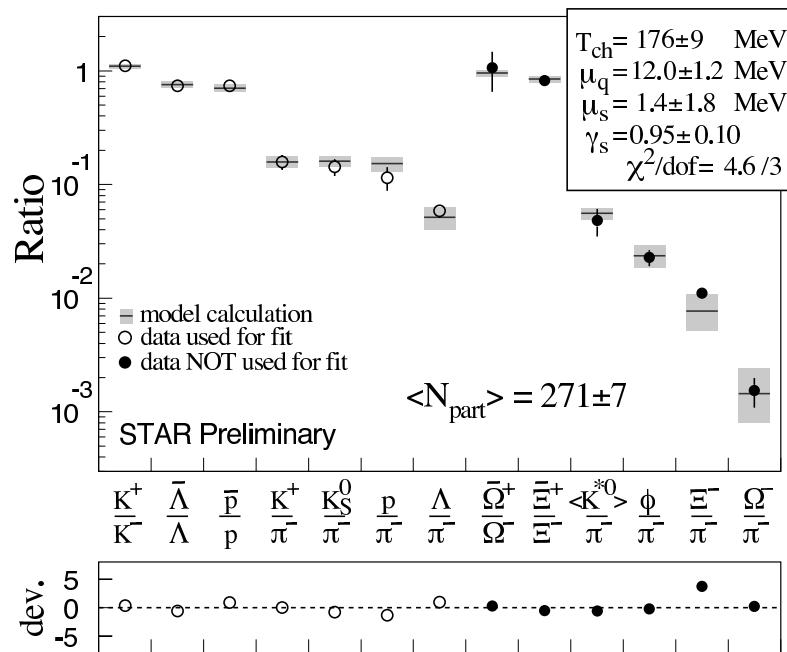


- medium opaque for colored particles
- energy loss increases strongly with path length

Chemical Freeze-out at $T_{\text{had}} \simeq 170 \text{ MeV}$

Central Au+Au @ 130 A GeV

(STAR Coll., G. van Buren, QM2002)



Abundance ratios of stable hadrons decouple in **maximum entropy state** of “**apparent chemical equilibrium**” with $T_{\text{chem}} \simeq T_{\text{had}} \simeq 170 \text{ MeV}$

\Rightarrow Need non-equilibrium chemical potentials $\mu_i(T)$ for hadrons i to keep abundance ratios constant at $T < T_{\text{chem}}$.

(R. Rapp, PRC 66 (2002) 017901

T. Hirano, PRC 66 (2002) 054905

D. Teaney, nucl-th/0204023)

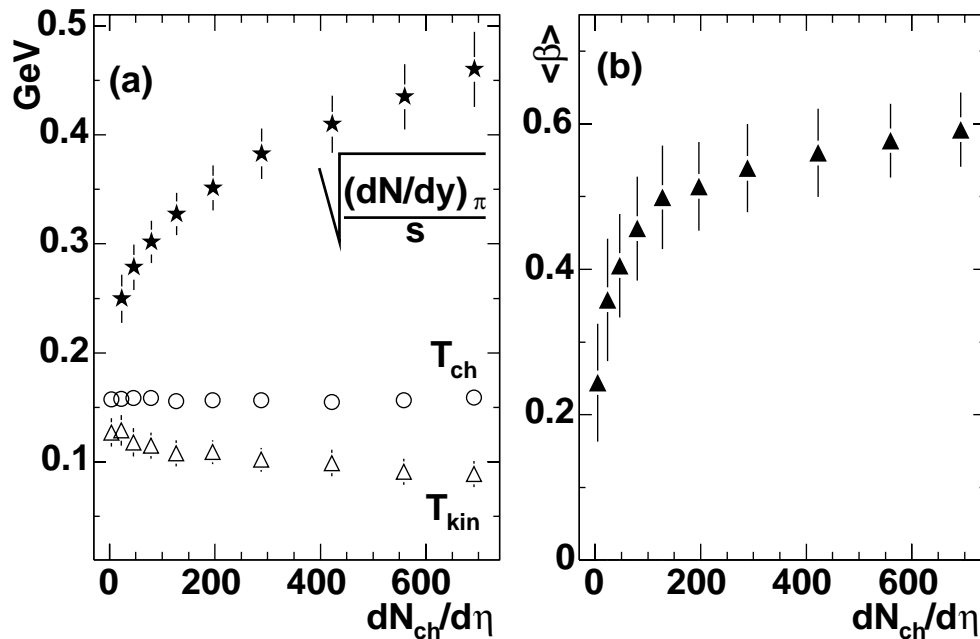
Note: Hadron abundances are in **statistical**, not in **kinetic** chemical equilibrium!

Requires **pre-hadronic phase** with **large strangeness correlation volume**.

Chemical vs. kinetic freeze-out: Evidence for a phase transition at $T_{\text{had}} \simeq 170 \text{ MeV}$

Central Au+Au @ 200 A GeV

(STAR Coll., PRL 92 (2004) 112301)



- Kinetic freeze-out temperature T_{kin} and radial flow velocity $\langle\beta_{\perp}\rangle$ depend on collision centrality, but T_{chem} does not!

- Centrality dependence of T_{kin} reflects centrality dependence of hydrodynamic expansion rate $\partial \cdot u$ through kinetic freeze-out criterium:

$$\tau_{i,\text{therm}} = \frac{1}{\sum_j \langle v_{ij} \sigma_{ij} \rangle \rho_j}$$

$$\simeq \tau_{\text{exp}} = \frac{1}{\partial \cdot u}.$$

Insensitivity of T_{chem} to collective expansion rate implies immediate chemical decoupling at hadron formation \implies chemical reaction rates must drop precipitously at $T_{\text{chem}} = T_{\text{had}} \iff$ **Phase transition at T_{had} !**

So what are the properties of the hot dense matter formed at RHIC?

- It's thermalized: elliptic flow, hadron abundances, hadron spectra at $p_{\perp} < 2 \text{ GeV}/c$
- It's dense! $\langle e \rangle \approx 20 - 30 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ at $\tau_0 = 0.2 \text{ fm}/c$, $\langle e \rangle \approx 10 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ at $\tau_{\text{therm}} = 0.6 \text{ fm}/c$ (elliptic flow, parton energy loss) \implies matter initially in QGP state.
- It's strongly coupled: $\tau_{\text{therm}} < 1 \text{ fm}/c$ (elliptic flow) \implies not a perturbative quark-gluon gas
- It behaves like an almost ideal fluid with very low viscosity (elliptic flow, hadron spectra)
- It's very opaque to hard colored probes: parton energy loss, JET
- Evidence for deconfinement (indirect): quark-number scaling of v_2 and R_{CP} at intermediate p_{\perp} (quark coalescence)
- Evidence for chiral symmetry restoration (indirect): flavor equilibration of hadron yields, disappearance of the ρ peak in e^+e^- spectra at SPS
- Evidence for a phase transition at $T_{\text{had}} \approx 170 \text{ MeV}$: centrality independence of $T_{\text{chem}} = T_{\text{had}}$, rest mass dependence of v_2

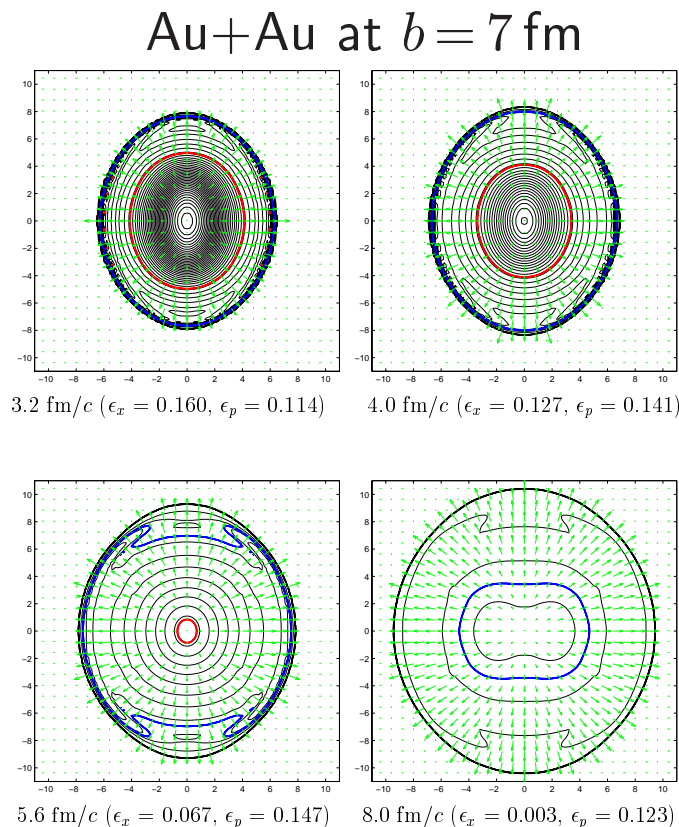
What else would we like to find out?

- Better constraints on τ_{therm} and EOS: precision flow studies and systematics (both theory and expt.)
- Better understanding of the interplay between the hydrodynamic early QGP and viscous late hadronic stages (more hybrid simulations (H2H, . . .))
- Better constraints on QGP transport coefficients of from data: requires more statistics (expt.) and a relativistic viscous hydrodynamic code (thy.)
- Hard evidence for deconfinement: charmonium and bottonium spectroscopy, direct photon spectra, quadratic path length dependence of non-abelian parton energy loss (precision JET)
- Hard evidence for chiral symmetry restoration: low mass dilepton spectra, hadron mass shifts in dense hadronic matter, constraints on chemical reaction rates in QGP phase from direct photons
- Phase transition or rapid cross-over? Event-by-event fluctuations
- Better understanding of QGP thermalization processes: Charm energy loss and flow; detailed exploration of gluon saturation physics (“color glass condensate”) ideas at forward rapidities; new theory tools for strongly coupled plasmas; quantum transport theory

Beginning of a program of systematic precision studies of the QGP at RHIC!

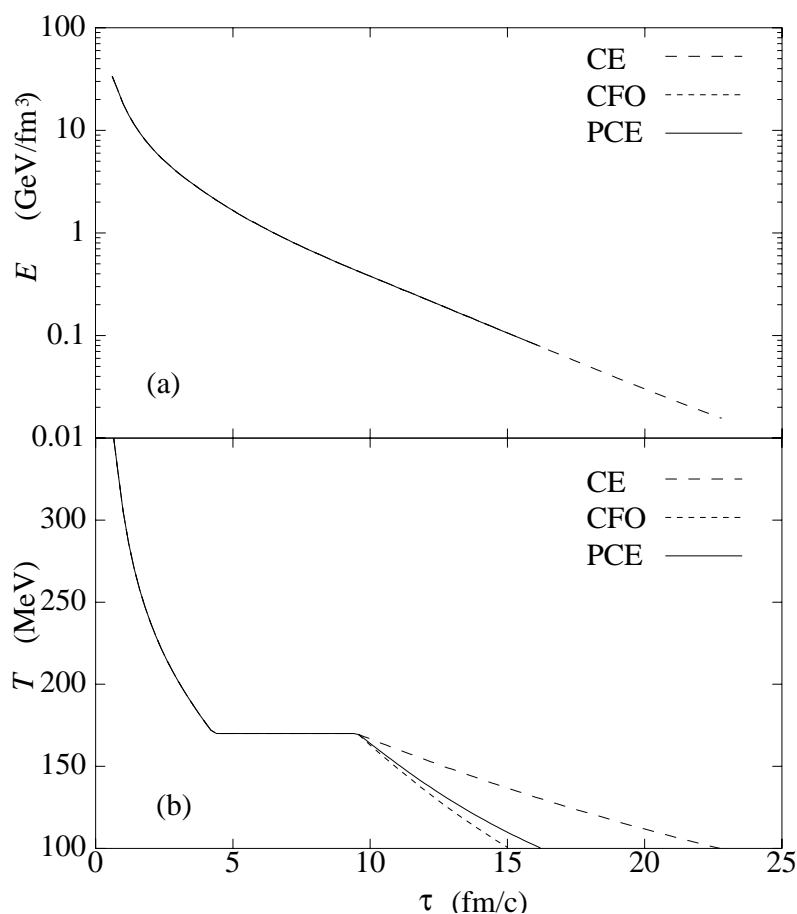
Supplements

Radial and elliptic flow from hydrodynamics:



- when do elliptic and radial flow develop?
- how is elliptic flow related to the time-dependent spatial deformation $\epsilon_x = \frac{\langle\langle y^2 - x^2 \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle y^2 + x^2 \rangle\rangle}$?
- how do radial and elliptic flow depend on the EOS?
- what is the source deformation at freeze-out?
- is there enough time before freeze-out to change sign of ϵ_x ?

Expansion with non-equilibrium chemical potentials:



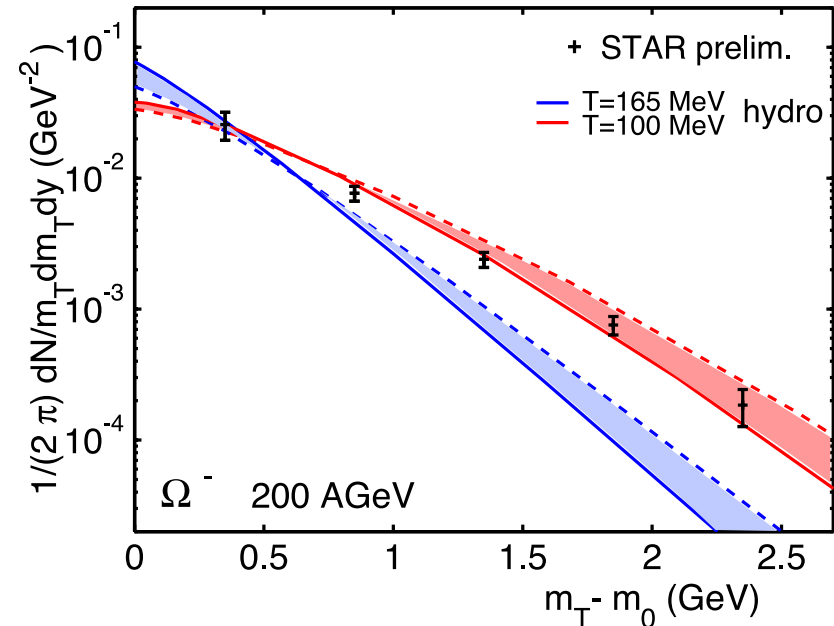
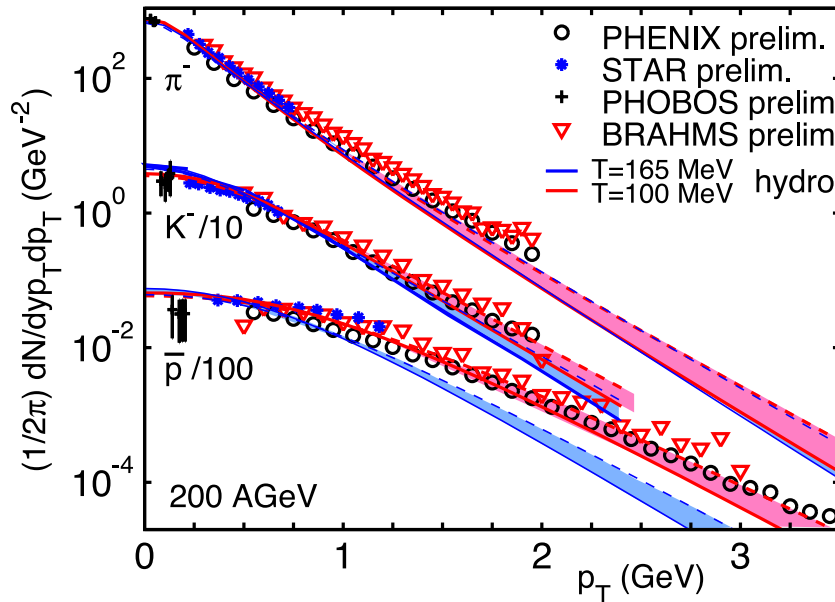
T. Hirano, PRC 66 (2002) 054905

- Non-equilibrium hadronic potentials **do not alter the equation of state $p(e)$**
 \Rightarrow unchanged time evolution of energy density $e(\tau)$
- They do, however, change $e(T)$
 \Rightarrow same energy density corresponds to lower temperature
 \Rightarrow system cools faster
- Freeze-out at fixed energy density
 \Rightarrow same time, same flow, but lower temperature

200 A GeV Au+Au spectra and hydrodynamics

hydro: Kolb & Rapp, PRC 67 (2003) 044903

C. Suire (STAR), NPA 715 (2003) 470c



Hydro parameters: $\tau_{eq} = 0.6 \text{ fm}/c$, $s_0 \equiv s_{max}(b=0) = 110 \text{ fm}^{-3}$, $s_0/n_0 = 250$
 $T_{chem} = T_{crit} = 165 \text{ MeV}$, $T_{dec} = 100 \text{ MeV}$

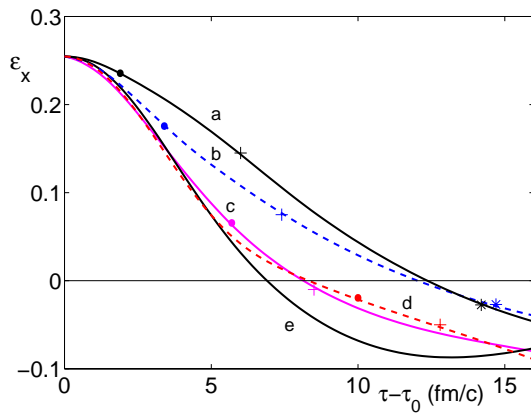
- Note:**
- Hydro does not create enough radial flow already at T_c to describe baryon spectra
 - Multistrange baryons seem to fully participate in continued radial flow build-up during late hadronic phase!

Evolution of anisotropies in Au+Au at $b = 7$ fm

(P. Kolb, J. Sollfrank, U.H., PRC 62 (2000) 054909)

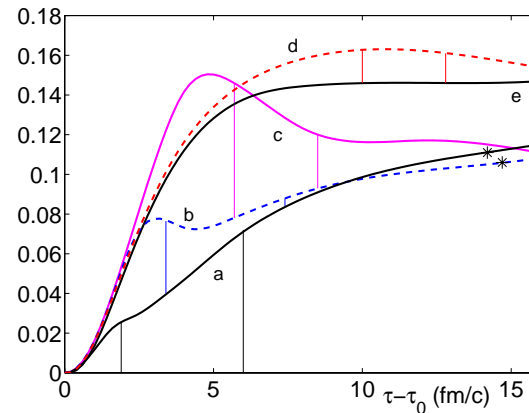
for various initial energy densities

$a \hat{=} 9.0$, $b \hat{=} 25$, $c \hat{=} 175$, $d \hat{=} 25000$ GeV/fm³; $e \hat{=} \text{ideal gas limit}$



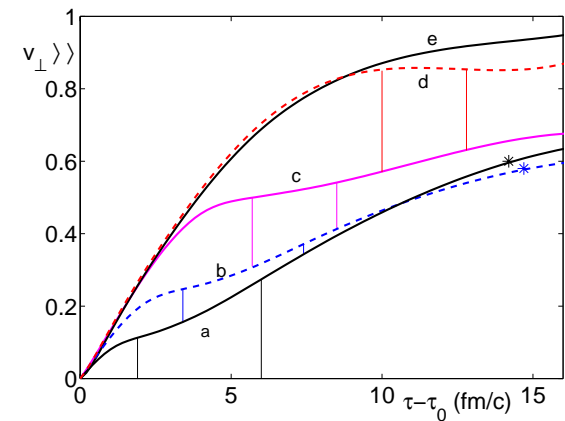
spatial eccentricity

$$\epsilon_x = \frac{\langle\langle y^2 - x^2 \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle y^2 + x^2 \rangle\rangle}$$



momentum anisotropy

$$\epsilon_p = \frac{\langle\langle T^{xx} - T^{yy} \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle T^{xx} + T^{yy} \rangle\rangle}$$



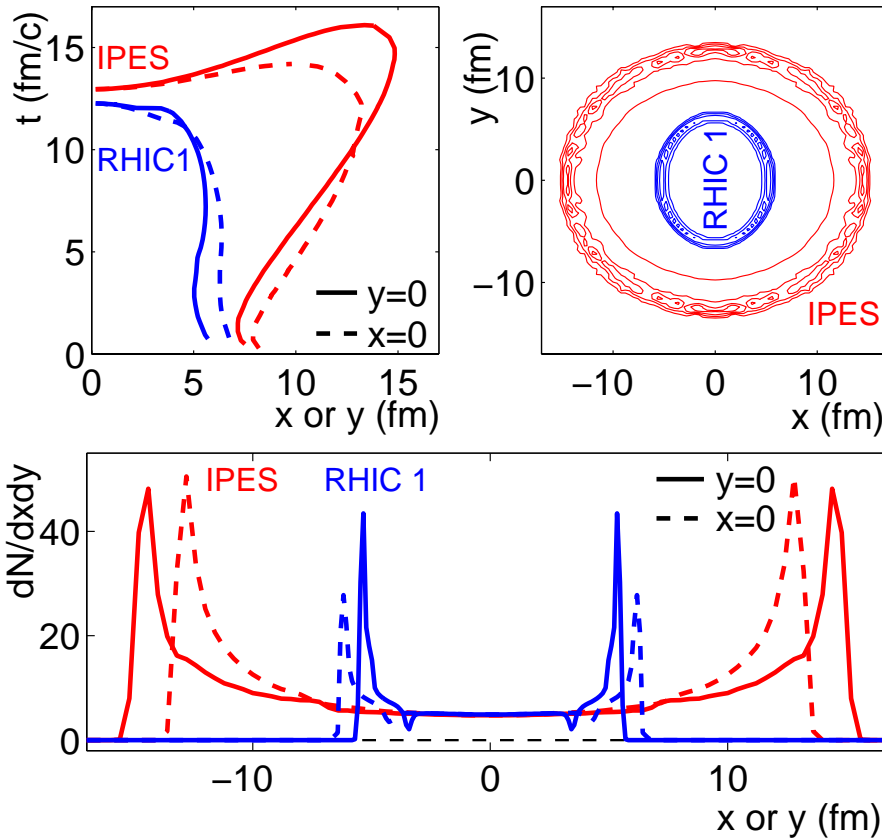
radial flow

$$\langle\langle v_{\perp} \rangle\rangle = \frac{\langle\langle \gamma (v_x^2 + v_y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle \gamma \rangle\rangle}$$

Final spatial eccentricity can be measured with asHBT:

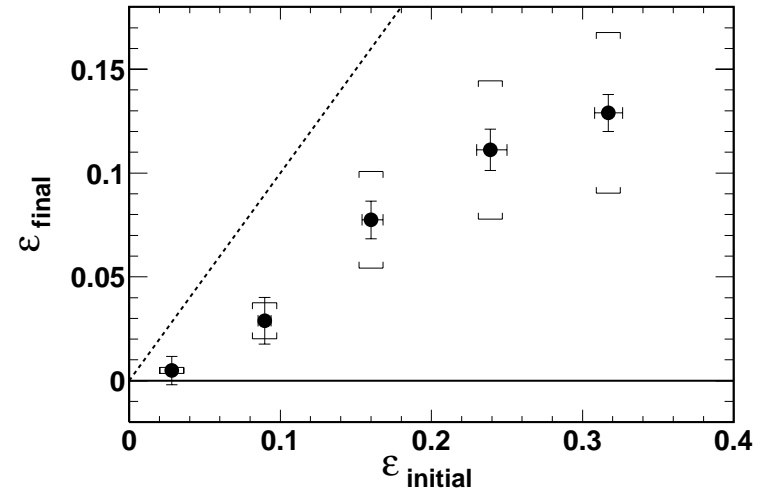
Hydro: Au+Au at $b = 7$ fm
 $(\epsilon_x^{\text{initial}} = 0.25)$

UH, P. Kolb, PLB 542 ('02) 216



Data: Au+Au at 200 A GeV

STAR Coll., PRL 93 ('04) 012301



STAR: $\frac{\epsilon_x^{\text{final}}}{\epsilon_x^{\text{initial}}} = \frac{0.11 \pm 0.035}{0.22} = 0.46 \pm 0.15$

Hydro: $\frac{\epsilon_x^{\text{final}}}{\epsilon_x^{\text{initial}}} = \frac{0.14}{0.25} = 0.56$

Note: Freeze-out distribution integrates over $\tau \Rightarrow \epsilon_x(\tau > 12 \text{ fm}/c) < 0$, but $\epsilon_x^{\text{final}} > 0$!

Hydro gives consistent space-time evolution (“HBT puzzle” has another reason)

$dN/d\eta$ vs. centrality: Au+Au vs. central U+U

A.J. Kuhlman, U.H., in preparation

