

## Xiaochun He Georgia State University for the PHENIX Collaboration

Pioneering High Energy Nuclear Ion eXperiment

10/21/2011

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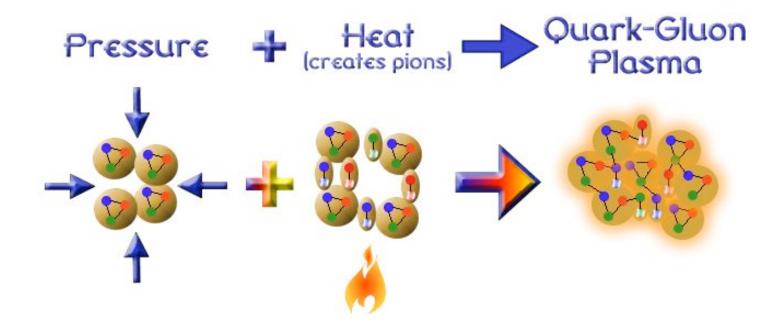
## Xiaochun He Georgia State University for the PHENIX Collaboration

- Physics motivations
- Highlights from PHENIX (selected!)
- Recent exciting results
  - ✓ Temperature measurement
  - $\checkmark$  Heavy quarkonia suppression
- Summary & future plans

Pioneering High Energy Nuclear Ion eXperiment



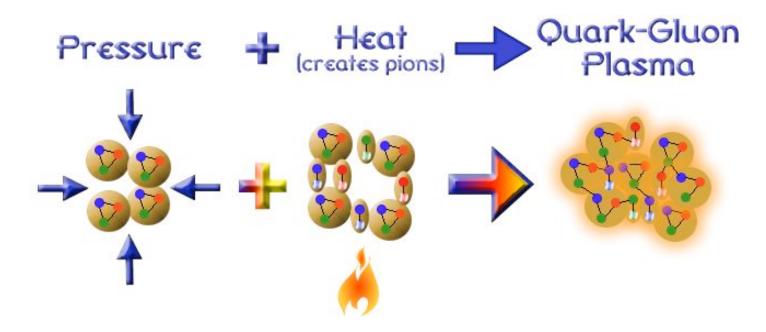
# **Physics Motivations**







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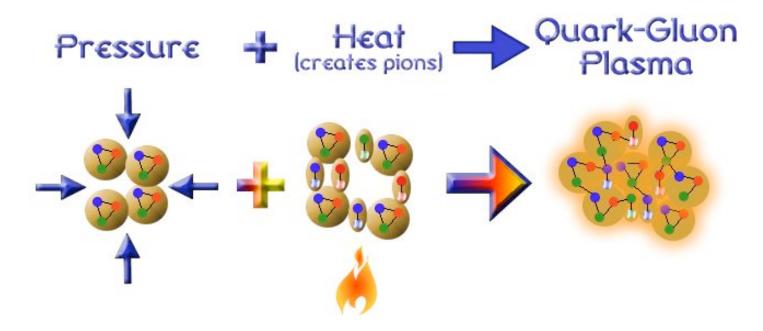


• It is probably the only venue to study the properties of extreme high temperature and density QCD matter experimentally in a controlled environment, i.e., to explore the <u>QCD matter phase space</u>.



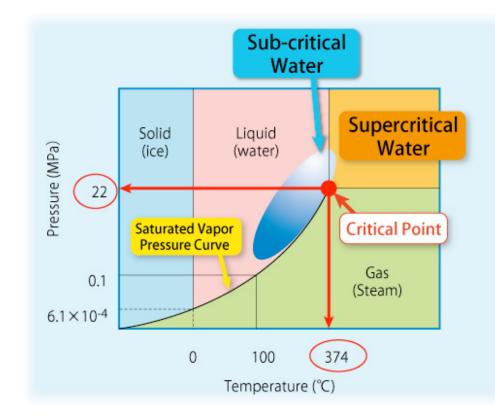


# **Physics Motivations**



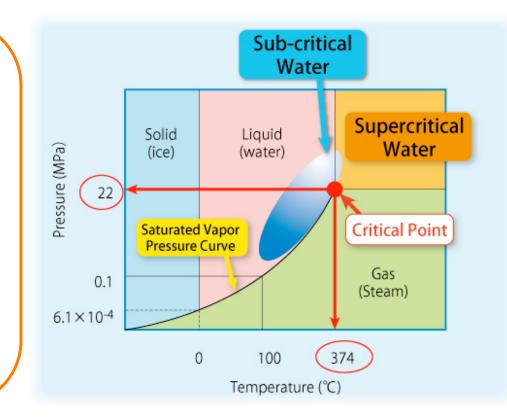
- It is probably the only venue to study the properties of extreme high temperature and density QCD matter experimentally in a controlled environment, i.e., to explore the <u>QCD matter phase space</u>.
- It also provides a laboratory-based test of the standard model of cosmology "big bang".

# **Phase Diagram (H<sub>2</sub>O) – We Have Done This!**



# **Phase Diagram (H<sub>2</sub>O) – We Have Done This!**

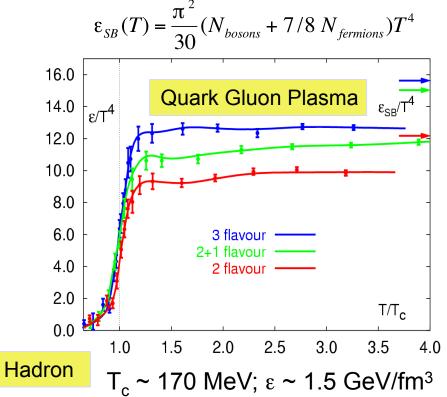
A fundamental understanding requires the knowledge of i)The location of the Critical End Point (CEP) ii)The location of phase coexistence lines iii)The properties of each phase



# This knowledge is fundamental for studying the phase space properties of any substance !



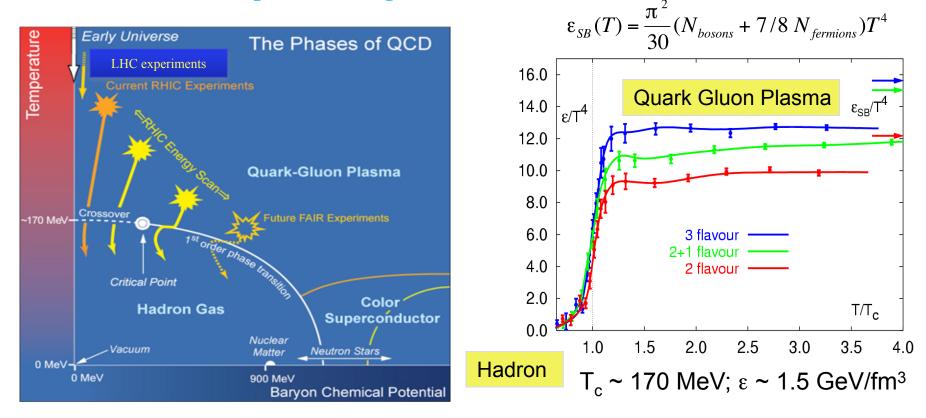
• The colliding nuclei at RHIC energies would melt from protons and neutrons into a collection of quarks and gluons





# **Explore QCD Phase Space**

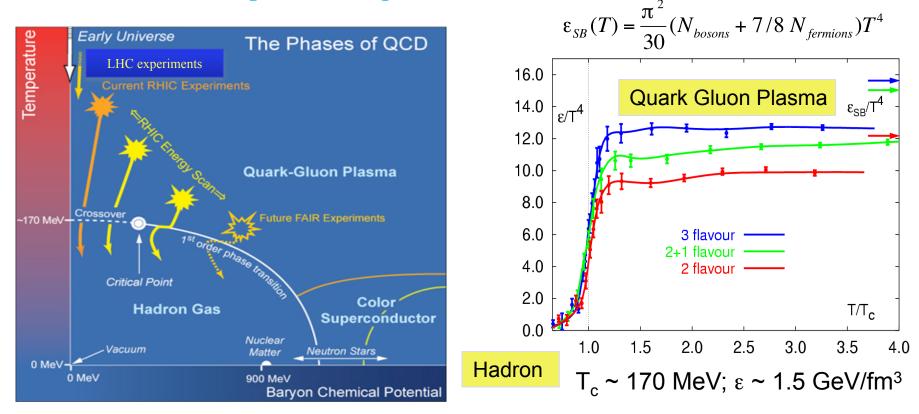
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# **Explore QCD Phase Space**

• The colliding nuclei at RHIC energies would melt from protons and neutrons into a collection of quarks and gluons



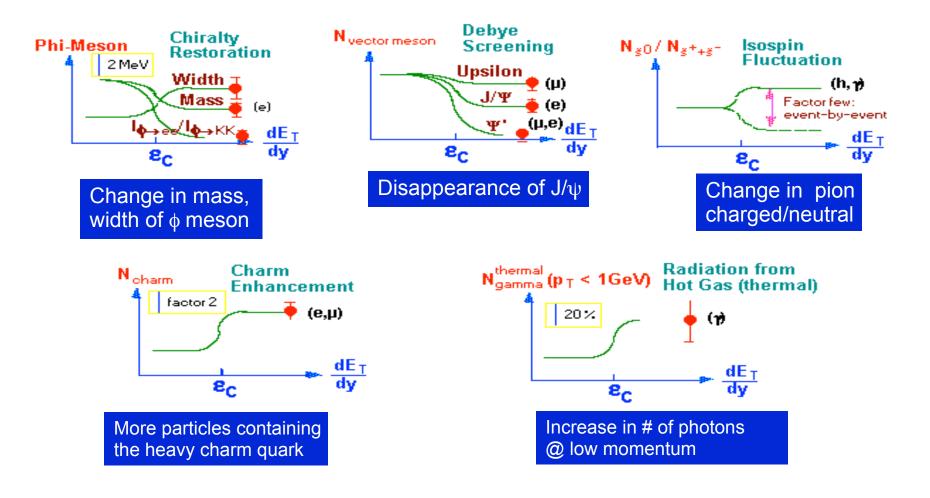
Measure the initial temperature of matter formed at RHIC Is  $T_{init}$  higher than  $T_c \sim 170$  MeV?

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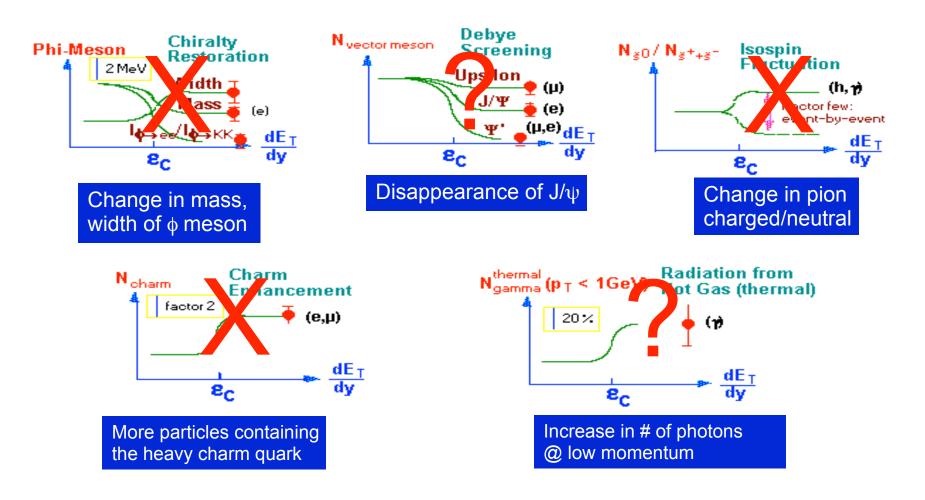
# What We Set Out to Measure? (>25 yrs)

# Theorists predicted a number of signals that might abruptly manifest themselves as soon as we crossed the critical temp. & density for the phase transition



# How Did We Do on the Predictions?

Theorists predicted a number of signals that might abruptly manifest themselves as soon as we crossed the critical temp. & density for the phase transition





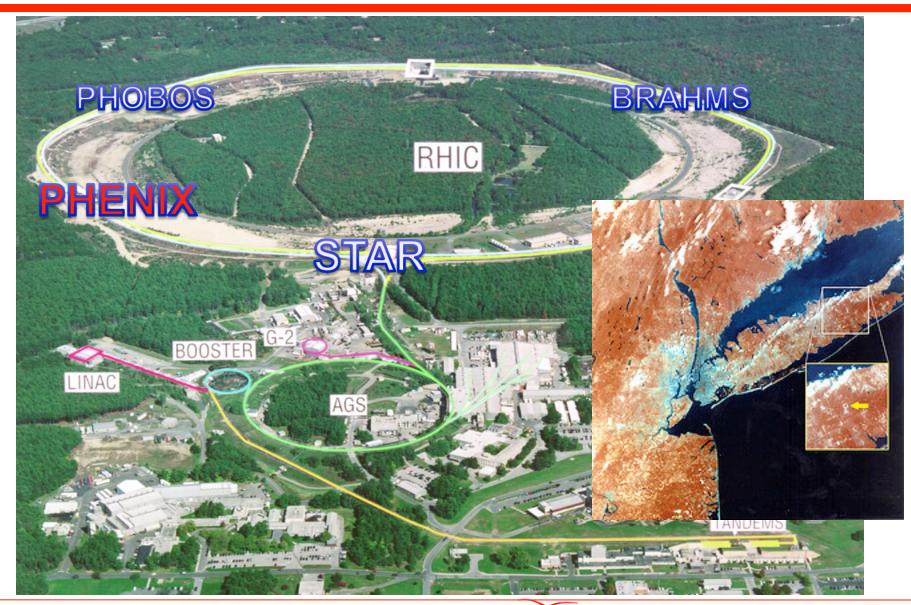
## **RHIC Birdview**



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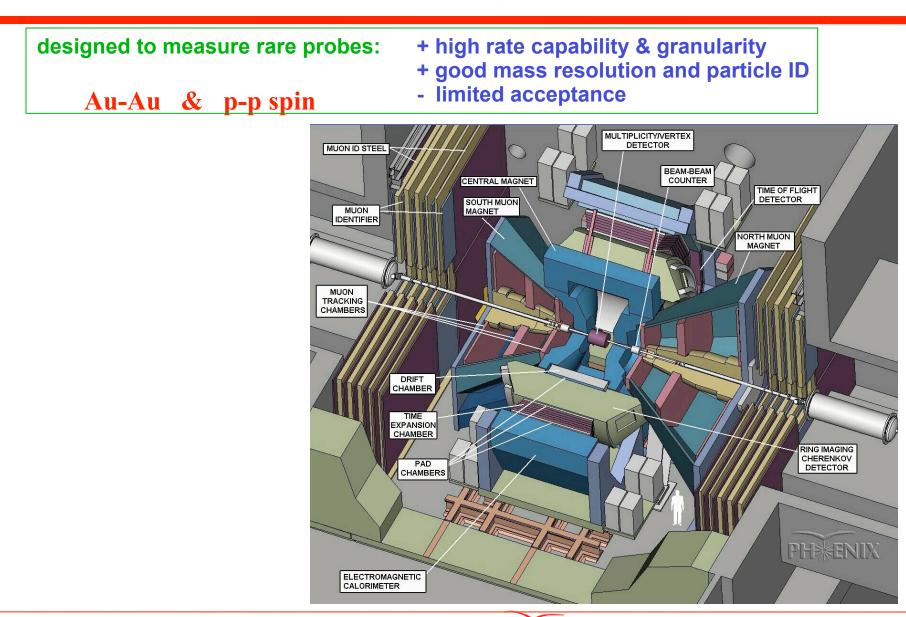
## **RHIC Birdview**



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# **PHENIX Experiment**



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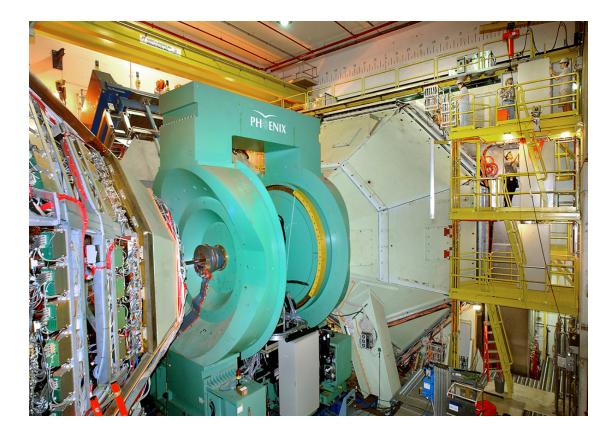
# **PHENIX Experiment**

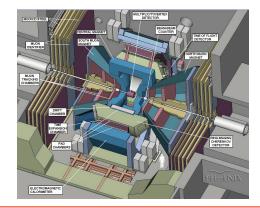
designed to measure rare probes:

Au-Au & p-p spin

2 central arms

- + high rate capability & granularity
- + good mass resolution and particle ID
- limited acceptance





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# **PHENIX Experiment**

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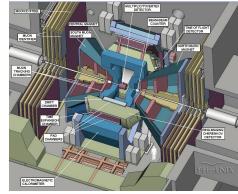
- + high rate capability & granularity
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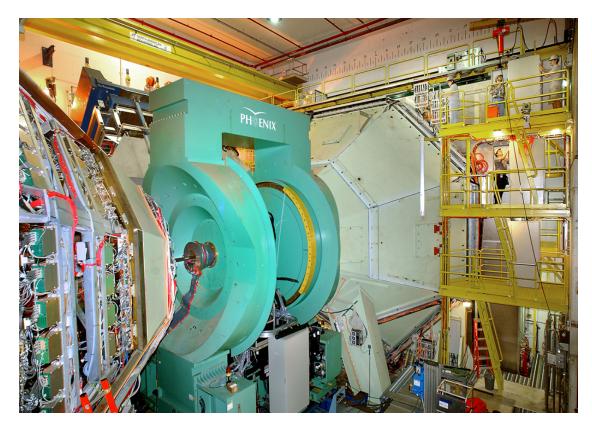
electrons, photons, hadrons

- charmonium J/ψ, ψ' -> e⁺e⁻
- vector meson r, w, φ -> e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>
- $= \text{ high } p_T \qquad \pi^o, \pi^+, \pi^-$
- direct photons
- open charm
- hadron physics

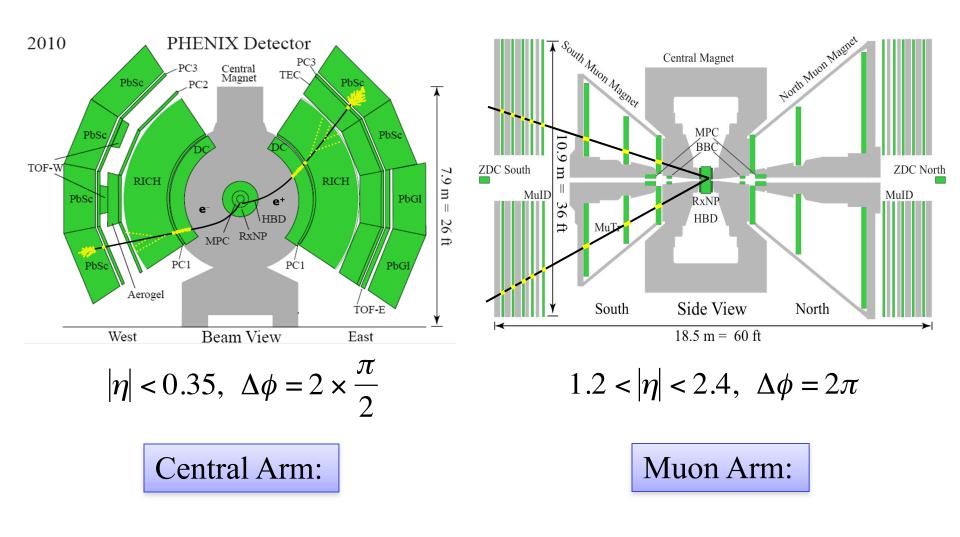
### 2 muon arms



- limited acceptance



# **The PHENIX Detector Acceptance**





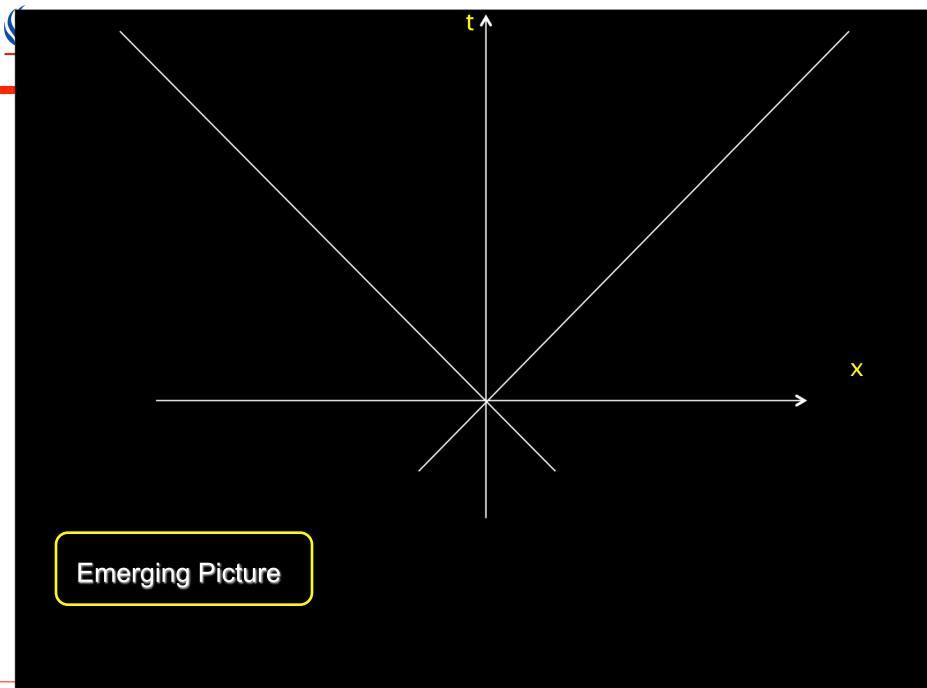
## **Run Summary**

#### RHIC operating modes and total integrated luminosity delivered to 5 experiments

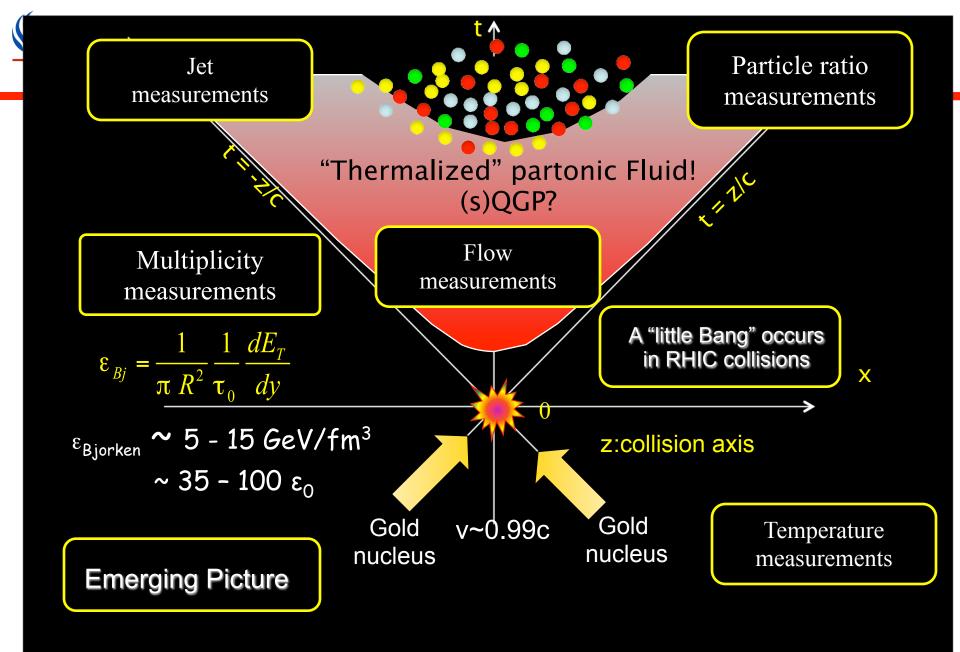
Run	species	total particle energy [GeV/nucleon]	calendar time in physics	total delivered luminosity	average store polarization
Run-1 CY2000 FY2000	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	27.9	3 shifts	< 0.001µb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	65.2	5.3 weeks	20 μb <sup>-1</sup>	_
Run-2 CY2001/02 FY2001/02	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	15.9 weeks	258 μb <sup>-1</sup>	-
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	9.8	2 shifts	0.4 μb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	polarized p-p	100.0	<ol> <li>8.3 weeks total, no continous physics operation</li> </ol>	1.4 pb <sup>-1</sup>	14%
Run-3 CY2002/03 FY2003	d-Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	10.2 weeks	73 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	polarized p-p	100.0	9.0 weeks total, no continous physics operation	5.5 pb <sup>-1</sup>	34%
Run-4 CY2003/04 FY2004	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	12.0 weeks	3.53 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	31.2	9 days	67 μb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	polarized p-p	100.0	6.1 weeks total, no continous physics operation	7.1 pb <sup>-1</sup>	46%
<u>Run-5</u> CY2004/05 FY2005	Cu <sup>29+</sup> -Cu <sup>29+</sup>	100.0	7.8 weeks	42.1 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	Cu <sup>29+</sup> -Cu <sup>29+</sup>	31.2	12 days	1.5 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	Cu <sup>29+</sup> -Cu <sup>29+</sup>	11.2	5 shifts	0.02 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	polarized p-p	100.0	9.4 weeks	29.5 pb <sup>-1</sup>	47%
	polarized p-p	204.9	2 stores	0.1 pb <sup>-1</sup>	30%
Run-6 CY2006 FY2006	polarized p-p	100.0	13.1 weeks	88.6 pb <sup>-1</sup>	55%
	polarized p-p	31.2	12 days	1.05 pb <sup>-1</sup>	50%
Run-7 CY2006/07 FY2006	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	12.8 weeks	7.25 nb <sup>-1</sup>	-
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	4.6	3 shifts total, no continous physics operation	test only	_
Run-8 CY2007/08 FY2008	d-Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	9.0 weeks	437 nb <sup>-1</sup>	_
	polarized p-p	100.0	3.4 weeks	38.4 pb <sup>-1</sup>	44%
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	4.6	3 shifts	—	_
Run-9 CY2008/09 FY2009	pol. p-p	250.0	4.1 weeks	110.4 pb <sup>-1</sup>	34%
	polarized p-p	100.0	9.9 weeks	114.0 pb <sup>-1</sup>	56%
	polarized pp2pp	100.0	3.5 days	0.6 nb <sup>-1</sup>	63%
Run-10 CY2009/10 FY2010	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	100.0	10.9 weeks	10.0 nb <sup>-1</sup>	—
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	31.2	2.9 weeks	0.56 nb <sup>-1</sup>	—
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	19.5			
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	<sup>3.85</sup> Run-1	1: Au+Au, p+p, Run-	12 starts in Janu	lary next y
	Au <sup>79+</sup> -Au <sup>79+</sup>	5.75			_

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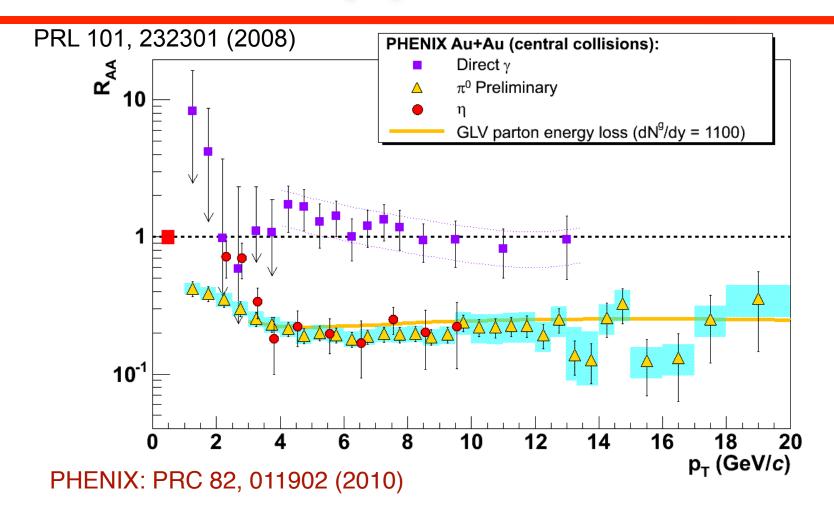
#### X.HE, SESAPS2011 PH<sup>\*</sup>ENIX



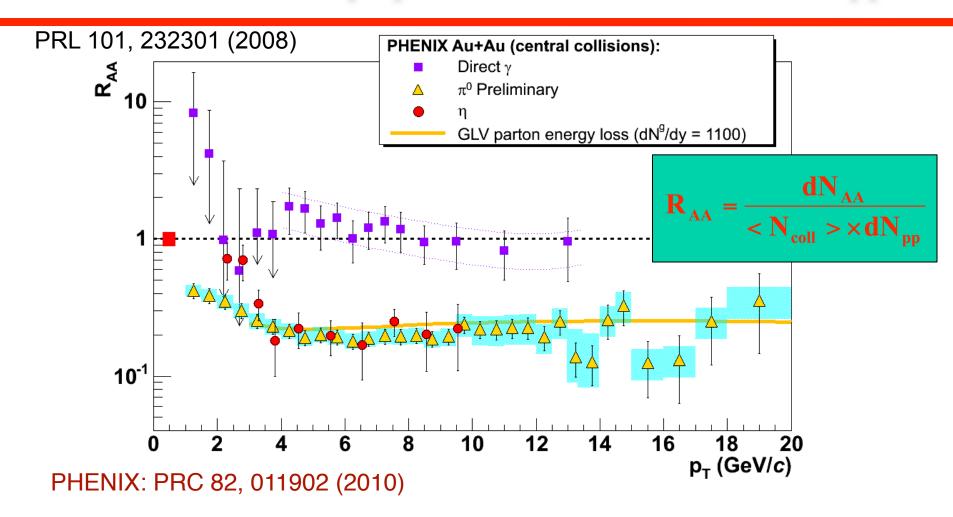




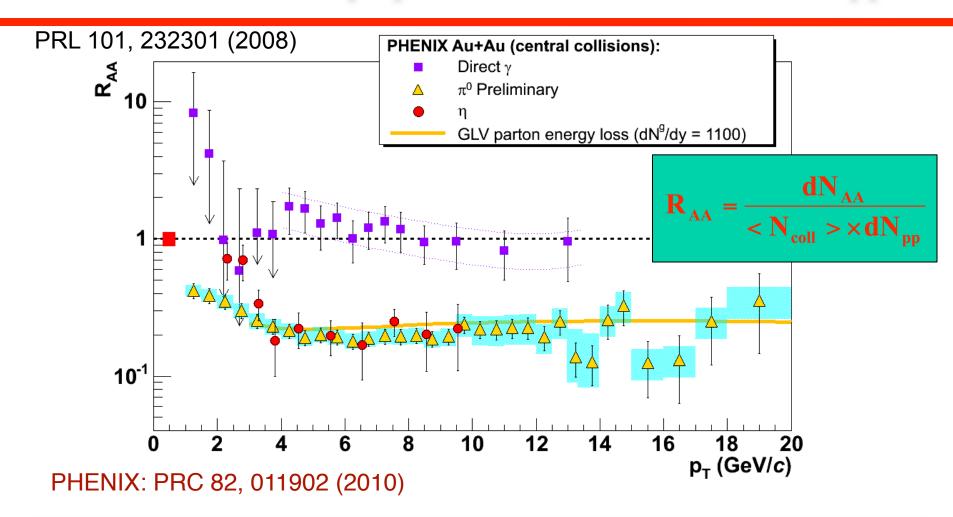
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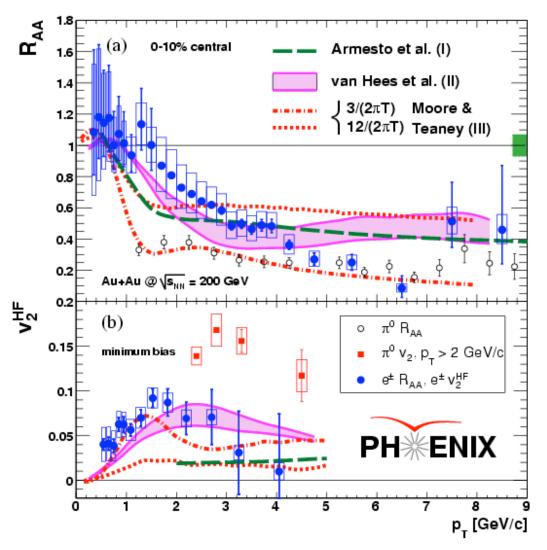
# **The matter is so opaque that even a 20 GeV** $\pi^0$ is stopped.



• Suppression is very strong ( $R_{AA}$ =0.2!) and flat up to 20 GeV/c

# **The matter is so dense that even heavy quarks are stopped**

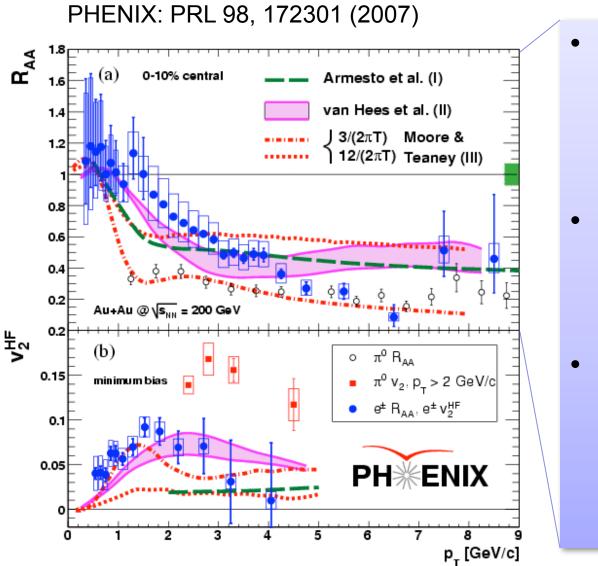
#### PHENIX: PRL 98, 172301 (2007)



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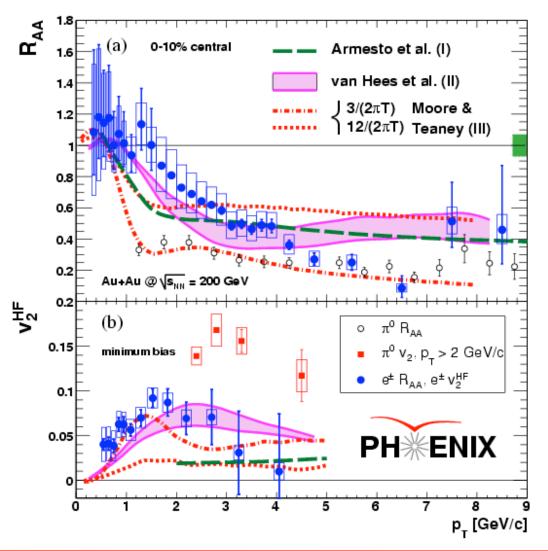
## The matter is so dense that even heavy quarks are stopped



- Even heavy quark (charm) suffers substantial energy loss in the matter
- The data provide a strong constraint on the energy loss models.
- The data suggest large c-quark-medium cross section; evidence for strongly coupled QGP.

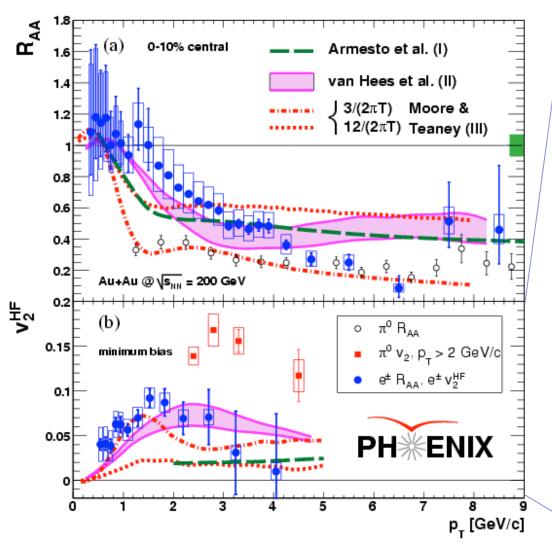
## The matter is so strongly coupled that even heavy quarks flow

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### The matter is so strongly coupled that even heavy quarks flow

PHENIX: PRL 98, 172301 (2007)

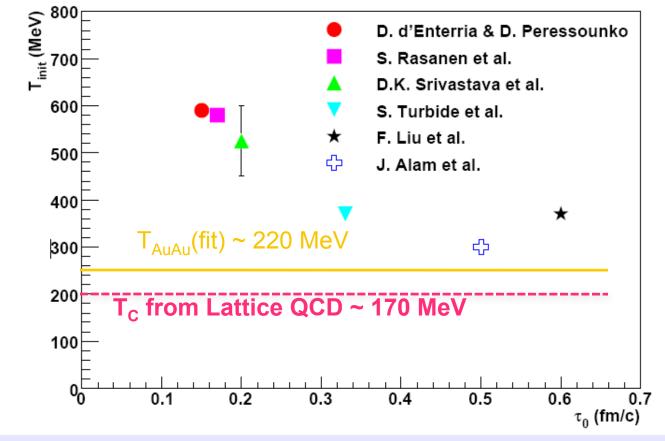


- Charm flows, but not as strong as light mesons.
- Drop of the flow strength at high p<sub>T</sub>. Is this due to b-quark contribution?
- The data favors the model that charm quark itself flows at low p<sub>T</sub>.

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### The matter is so hot that it emits thermal photon copiously Initial temperature

PHENIX, PRC 81, 034911 (2010)



From data: $T_{ini} > T_{AuAu} \sim 220 \text{ MeV}$ From models: $T_{ini} = 300 \text{ to } 600 \text{ MeV}$  for  $t_0 = 0.15 \text{ to } 0.6 \text{ fm/c}$ Lattice QCD predicts a phase transition to quark gluon plasma at  $T_c \sim 170 \text{ MeV}$ 

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#### Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 132301 (2010)

"Enhanced production of direct photons in Au+Au collisions at sqrt (s\_NN)=200 GeV and implications for the initial temperature"

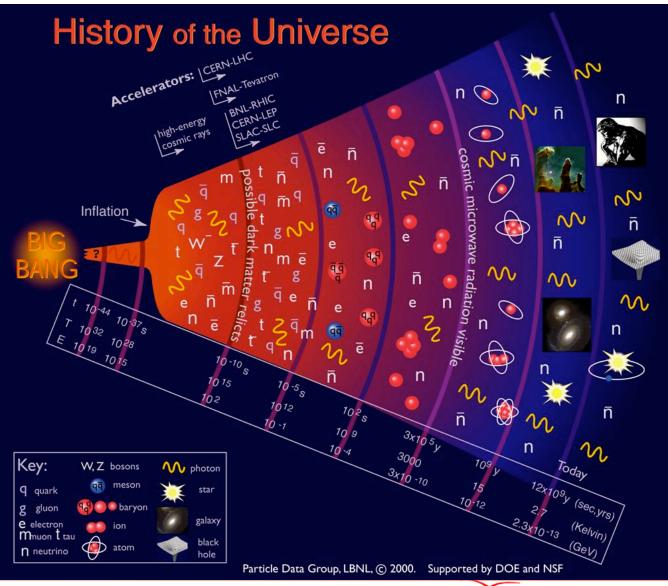
# **TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT**





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### **Temperature** is an Important Physical Variable in the Standard Model of Cosmology

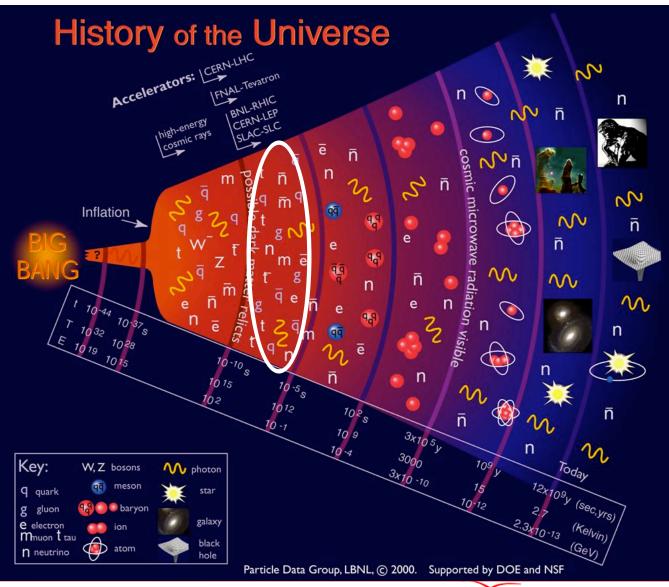


#### X.HE, SESAPS2011 PH<sup>\*</sup>ENIX



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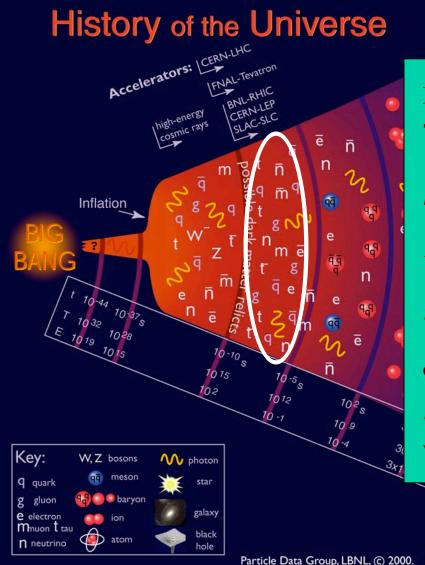
### **Temperature** is an Important Physical Variable in the Standard Model of Cosmology



#### X.HE, SESAPS2011 PH<sup>\*</sup>ENIX



### **Temperature** is an Important Physical Variable in the Standard Model of Cosmology



### http://pdg.lbl.gov

In the early Universe, i.e., at very high T: The approximate energy density is given as  $\rho = \left(\sum_{B} g_{B} + \frac{7}{8} \sum_{F} g_{F}\right) \frac{\pi^{2}}{30} T^{4} = \frac{\pi^{2}}{30} N(T) T^{4}$ And the age of the Universe  $t = \left(\frac{90}{32\pi^3 G_{\rm e} N(T)}\right)^{1/2} T^{-2}$ or  $tT_{MeV}^2 = 2.4 [N(T)]^{-1/2}$ where t in seconds,  $T_{MeV}$  in MeV. 10-12 Sec, Vrs

2.3×10-13

(Kelvin)

Particle Data Group, LBNL, © 2000. Supported by DOE and NSF

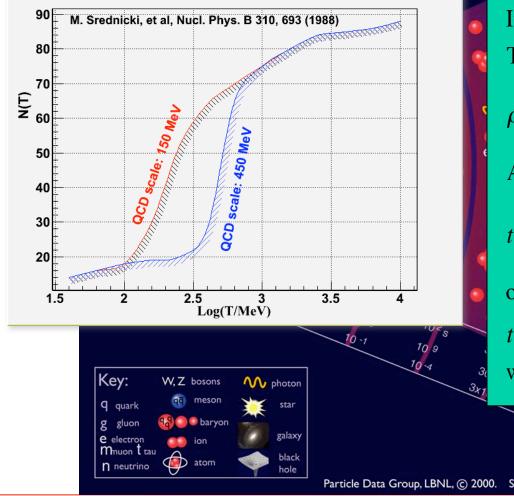
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### **Temperature** is an Important Physical Variable in the **Standard Model of Cosmology**

### History of the Universe



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Particle Data Group, LBNL, © 2000. Supported by DOE and NSF

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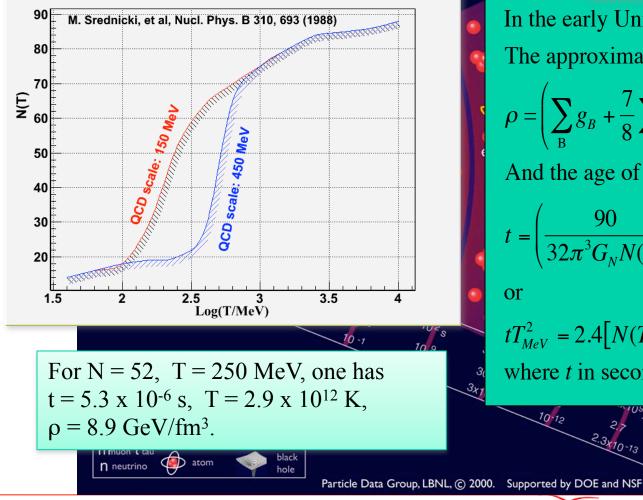
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## **Remote Temperature Sensing**







#### **Remote Temperature Sensing**



• Hot objects produce thermal spectrum of EM radiation.





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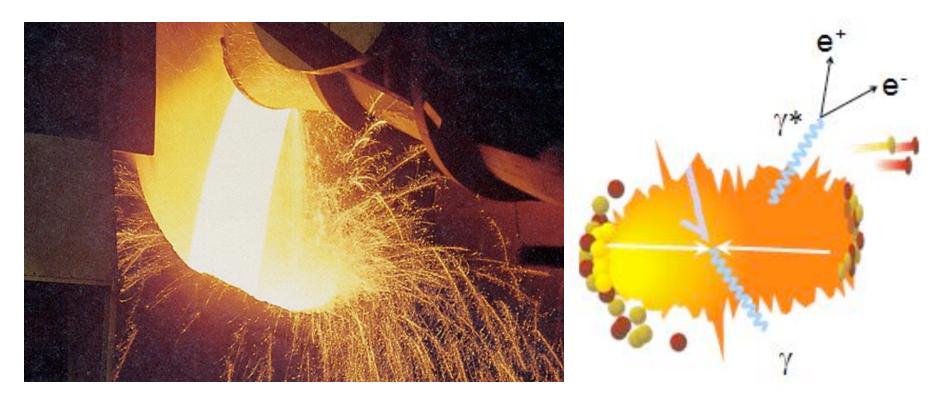


- Hot objects produce thermal spectrum of EM radiation.
- Red clothes are NOT red hot, reflected light is not thermal.

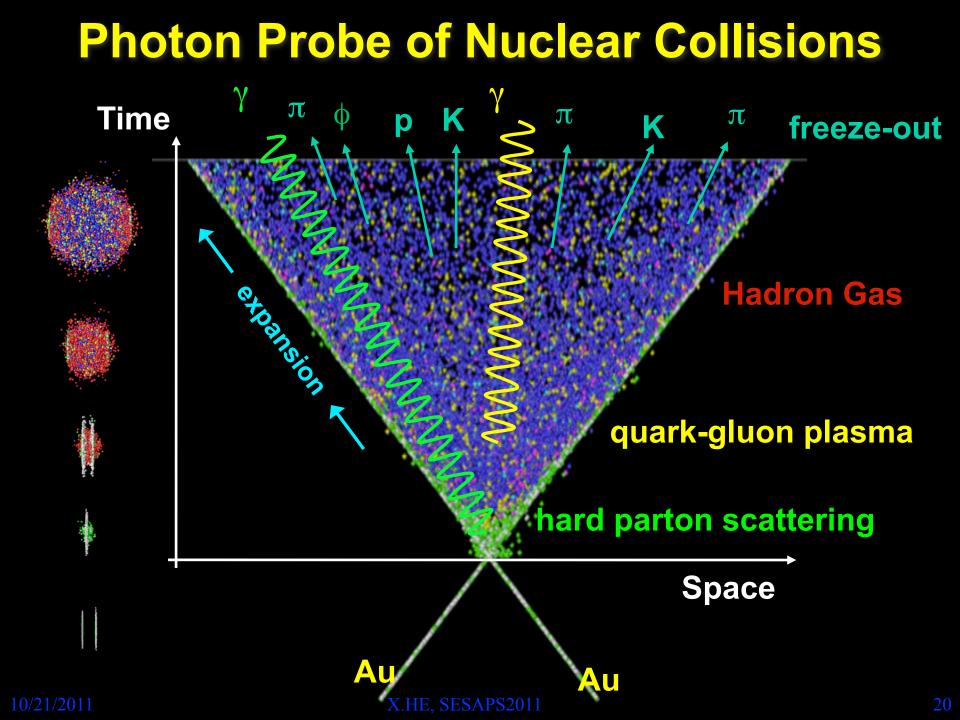


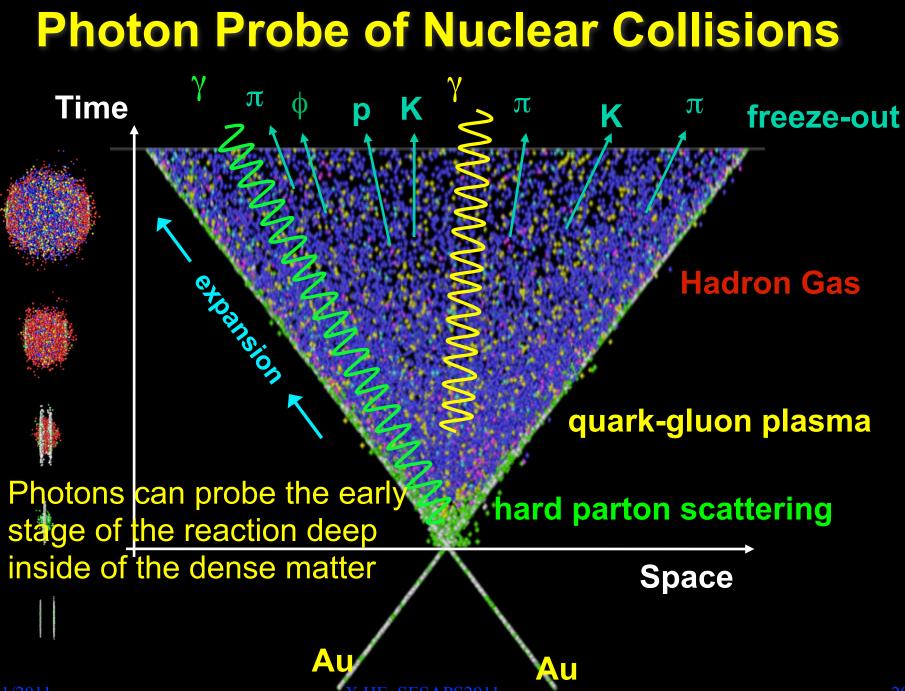
#### Not Red Hot!

# Thermal photon from hot matter



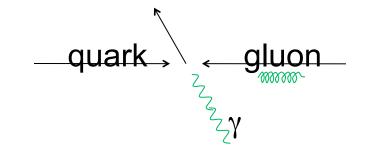
Hot matter emits thermal radiation Temperature can be measured from the emission spectrum





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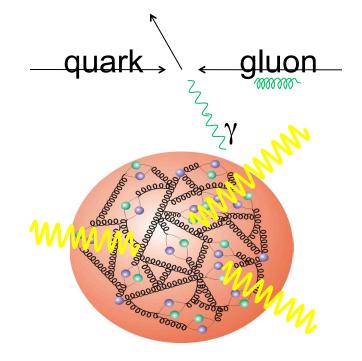




*pQCD direct photons* from initial *hard scattering* of quarks and gluons



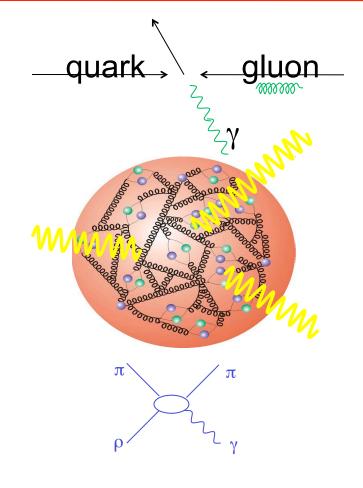




*pQCD direct photons* from initial *hard scattering* of quarks and gluons

*Thermal photons* from hot *quark gluon plasma* 



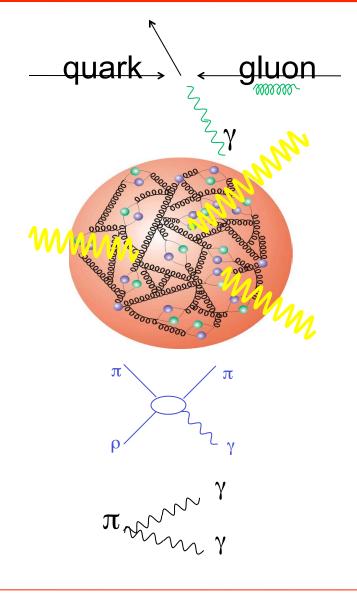


*pQCD direct photons* from initial *hard scattering* of quarks and gluons

*Thermal photons* from hot *quark gluon plasma* 

*Thermal photons* from *hadron gas* after hadronization





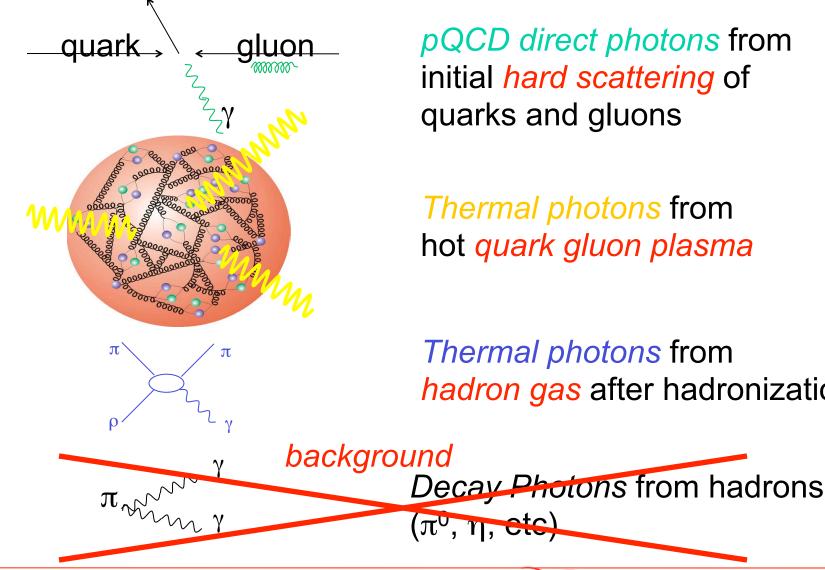
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Decay Photons from hadrons  $(\pi^0, \eta, \text{ etc})$ 





pQCD direct photons from initial hard scattering of quarks and gluons

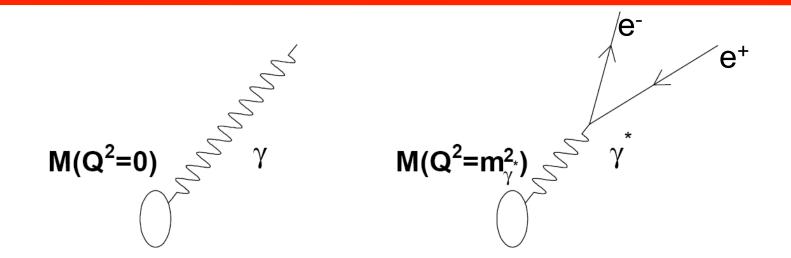
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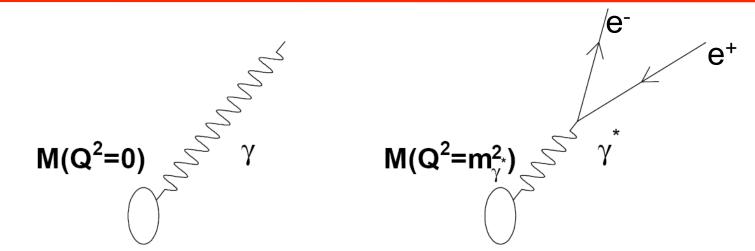
Thermal photons from hadron gas after hadronization

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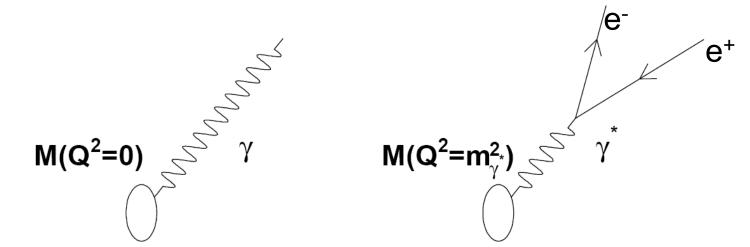






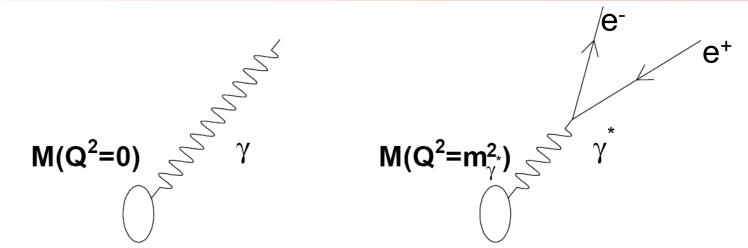
• Source of real photon should also be able to emit virtual photon



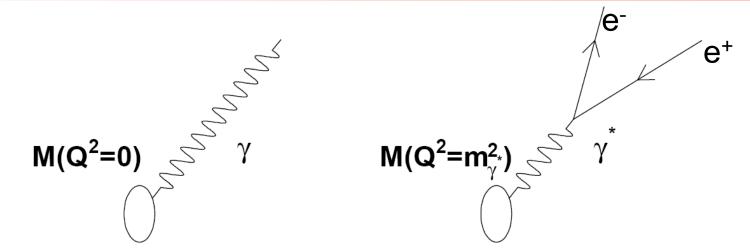


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- At  $m \rightarrow 0$ , the yield of virtual photons is the same as real photon

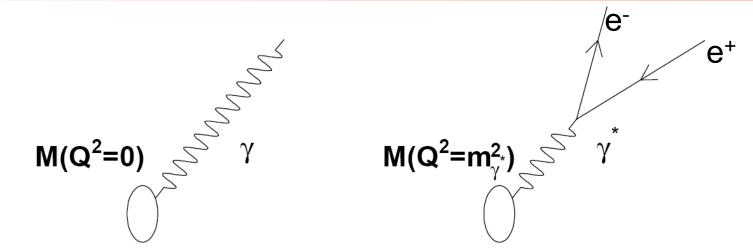




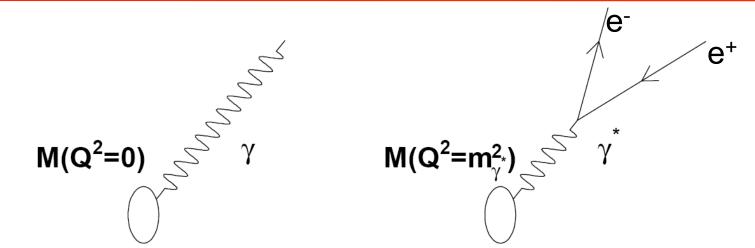
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- → Real photon yield can be measured from virtual photon yield, which is observed as low mass e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> pairs
- Advantage: hadron decay background can be substantially reduced. For m>m<sub> $\pi$ </sub>,  $\pi^0$  decay photons (~80% of background) are removed



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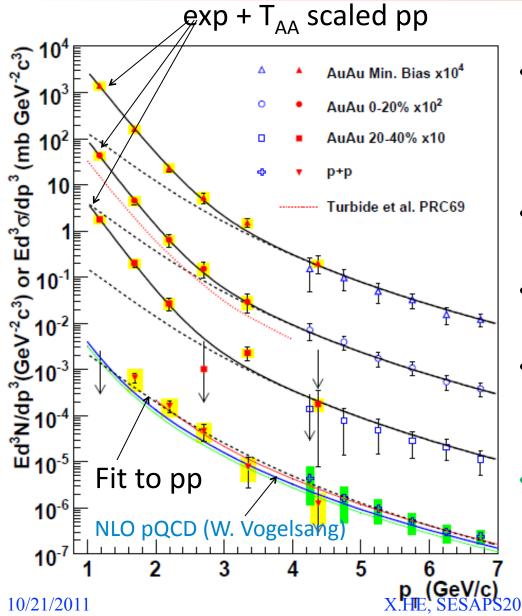
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- $\rightarrow$  S/B is improved by a factor of five
- Other advantages: photon ID, energy resolution, etc
- Cost: the yield is reduced by a large factor (~  $\alpha/3\pi$  ~ 1/1000)



#### **Direct Photon Spectra**



A. Adare et al., PRL 104, 132301 (2010)

- Direct photon measurements
  - real (p<sub>T</sub>>4GeV)
  - virtual (1<p<sub>T</sub><5GeV)</p>
- pQCD consistent with p+p down to p<sub>T</sub>=1GeV/c
- Au+Au data are above N<sub>coll</sub> scaled p+p for p<sub>T</sub> < 2.5 GeV/c</li>
- Au+Au = scaled p+p + exp:  $T_{AuAu} = 221 \pm 19^{\text{stat}} \pm 19^{\text{syst}} \text{MeV}$
- Theoretical prediction of thermal photon by Turbide et al. agrees with the data within about a factor of two.

**PH**\*ENIX



"... If high energy heavy ion collisions lead to the formation of a hot quark-gluon plasma, then color screening prevents c-cbar binding in the deconfined interior of the interaction region ... It is concluded that J/Ψ suppression in nuclear collisions should provide an unambiguous signature of quark-gluon plasma Quafformately in a hot QGP - Matsui & Satz 1986, Karsch et al. 1988

#### **HEAVY QUARKONIA**



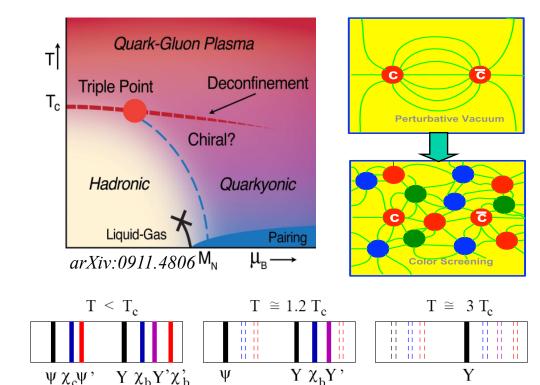
### Melting - Quarkonia in A+A

state	J/ψ	$\chi_{c}$	Ψ	Y <sub>1S</sub>	Y <sub>2S</sub>	Y <sub>3S</sub>
mass [GeV]	3.10	3.53	3.6	9.46	10.02	10.36
radius [fm]	0.25	0.36	0.4	0.14	0.28	0.39

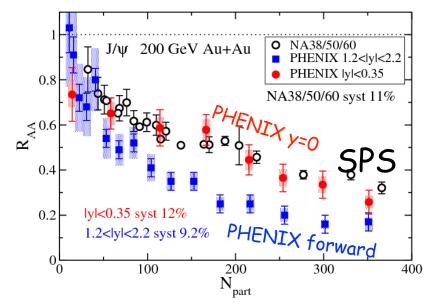
- Each quarkonium has different binding radius.

hep-ph/0609197v1 H. Satz

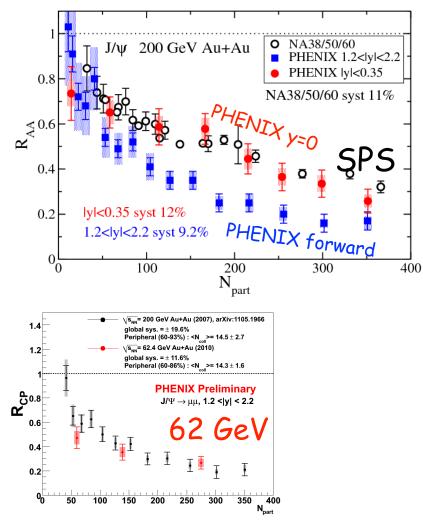
Binding of a g-gbar pair is subject to color screening in QGP.
Temperature of QGP can be probed by measurement heavy guarkonia.



PHENIX arXiv:1103.6269

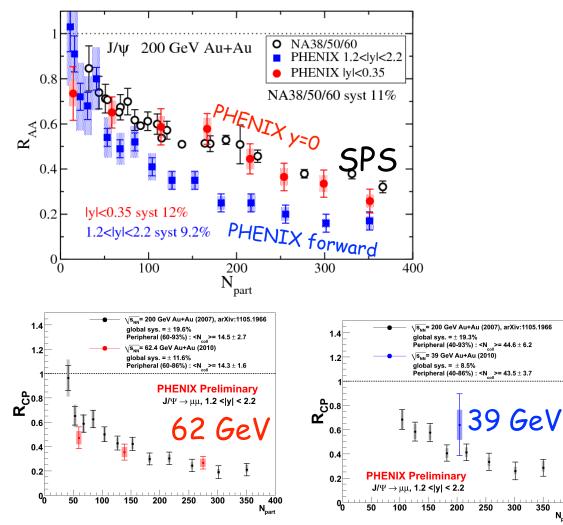


PHENIX arXiv:1103.6269



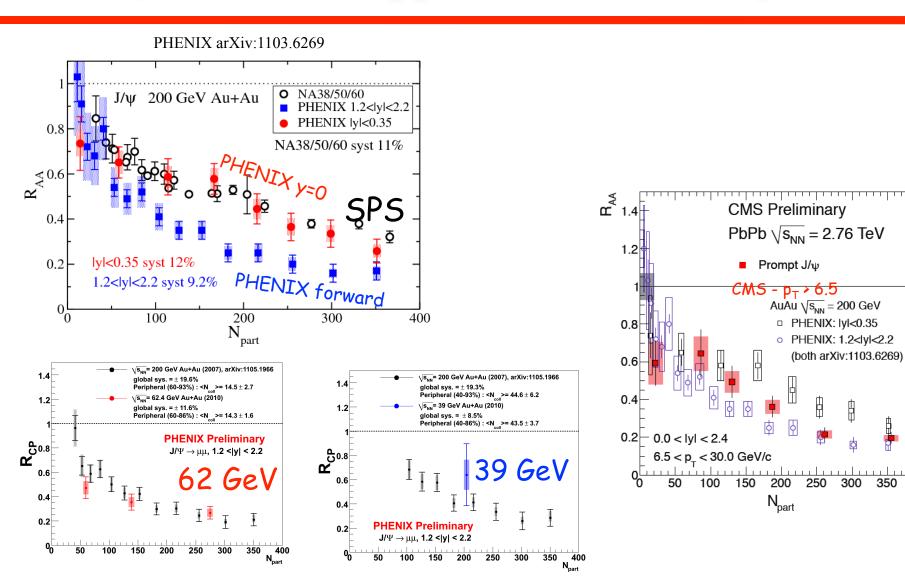
10/21/2011

PHENIX arXiv:1103.6269

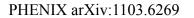


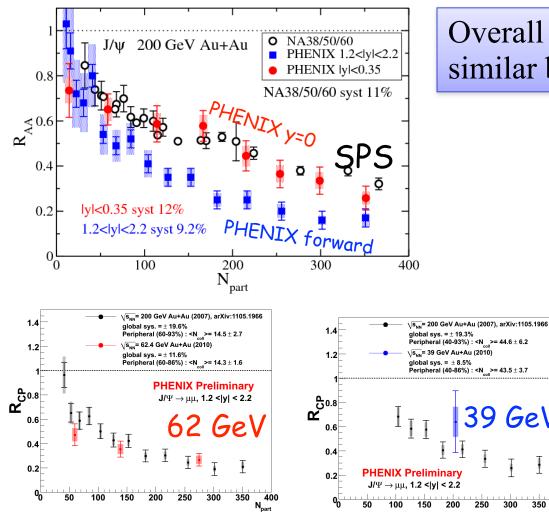
350

400 N<sub>part</sub>

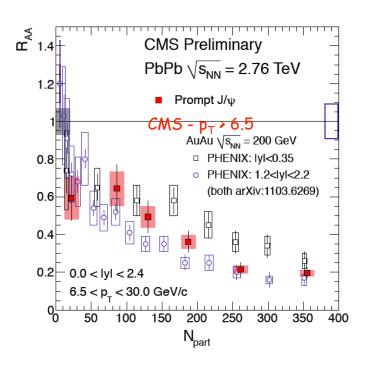


400









250

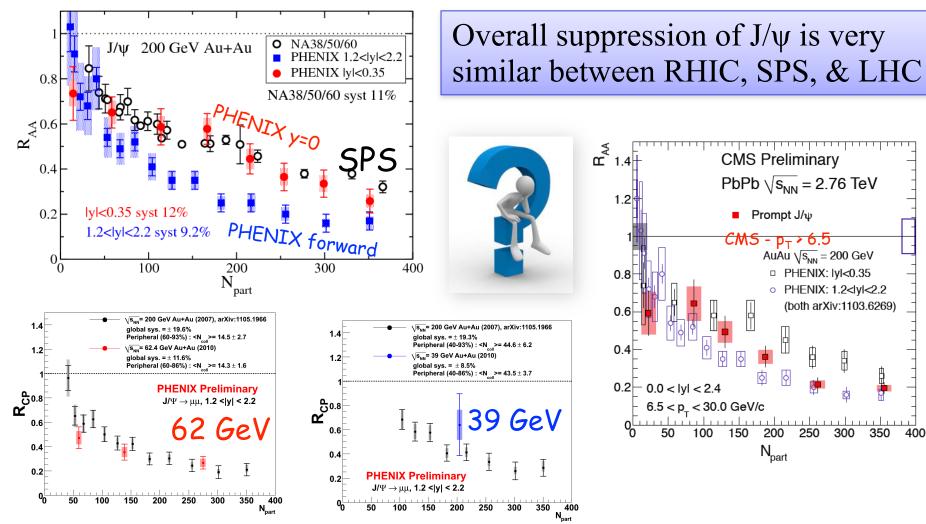
39 GeV

300

350

400 N<sub>part</sub>

PHENIX arXiv:1103.6269



AuAu  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$ 

PHENIX: lyl<0.35</p>

250

200

Npart

150

• PHENIX: 1.2</br>

(both arXiv:1103.6269)

300

350

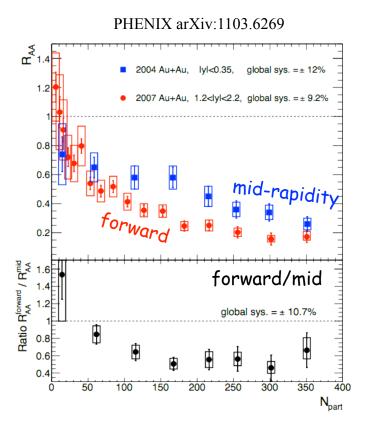
400

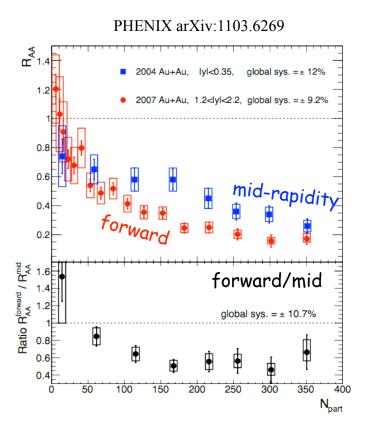
PbPb  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76 \text{ TeV}$ 

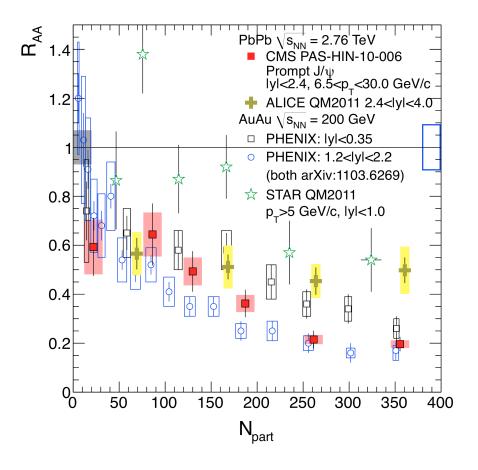
**CMS** Preliminary

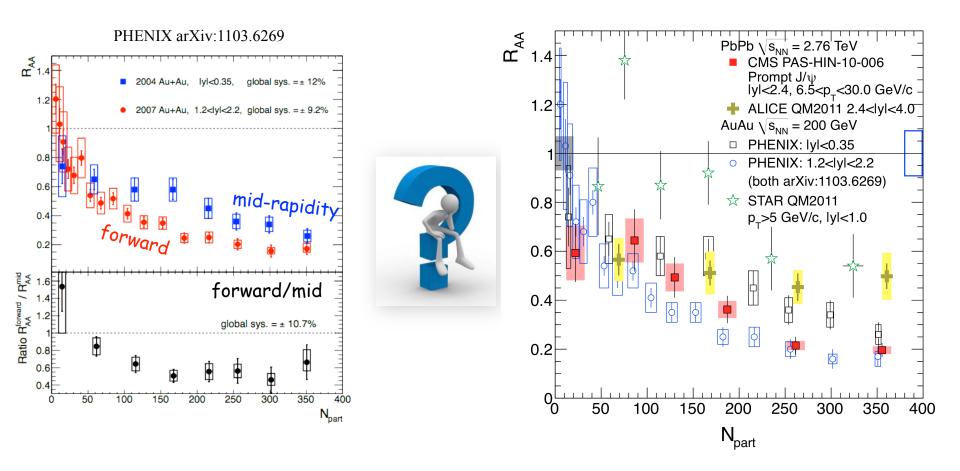
Prompt J/ψ

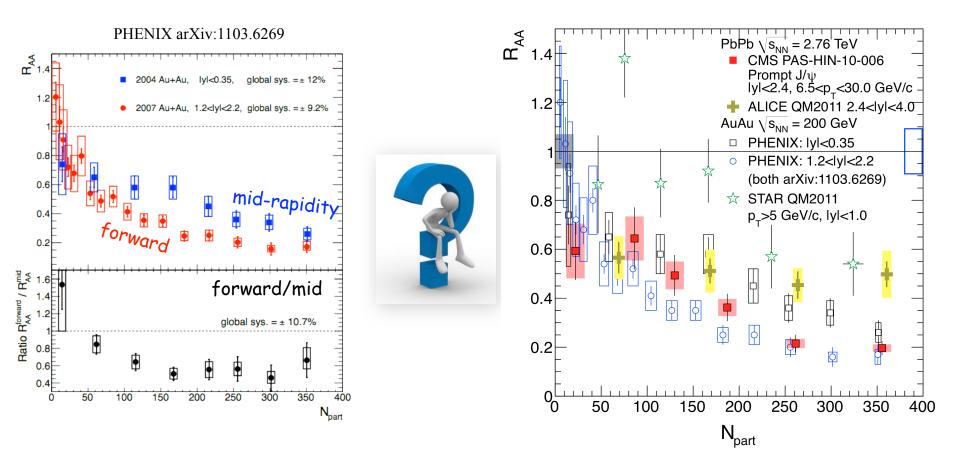
CMS - p<sub>T</sub> > 6.5







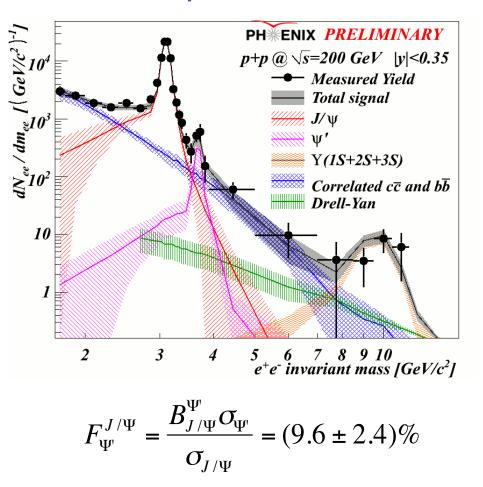




Forward-rapidity is suppressed more than Mid-rapidity

#### **Better Knowledge about the Baseline**

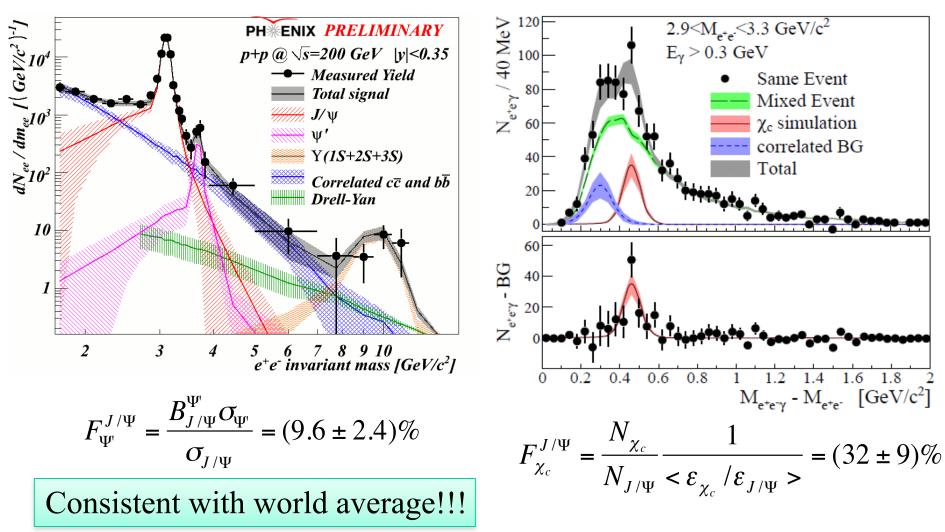
 $\psi' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ 



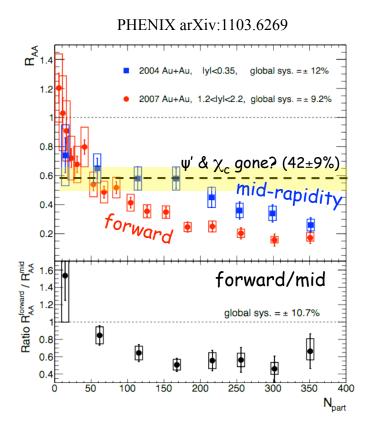
#### **Better Knowledge about the Baseline**

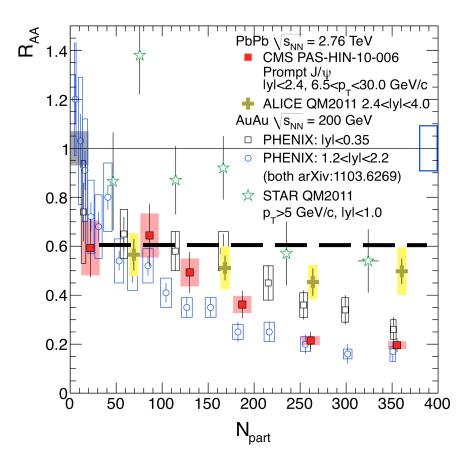
 $\psi' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ 

 $\chi_{c} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ 

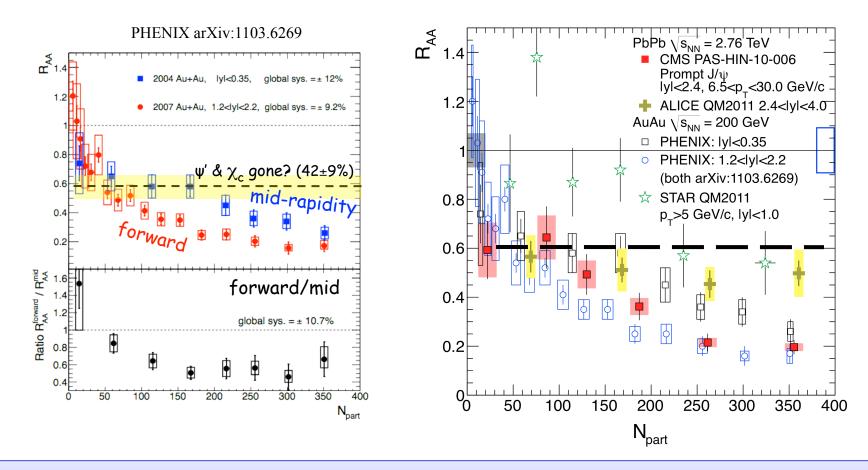


### **Quarkonia Suppression with Feed-down**





### **Quarkonia Suppression with Feed-down**



If  $\Psi$ ' and  $\chi_c$  are melted already, they account for ~40% maximum. The suppression is much stronger in more central collisions!

X.HE, SESAPS2011 PH ENIX

### **PHENIX Is Rigorously Disentangling CNM Effects !!!**

CNM effects appear to provide a large fraction of the observed suppression; so difficult to conclude much w/o a thorough understanding of CNM and its extrapolation to A+A from d+A

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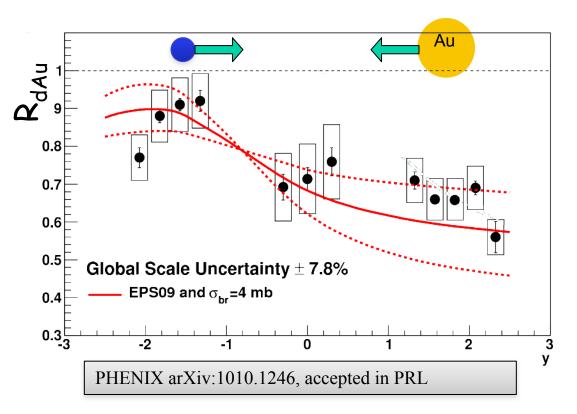
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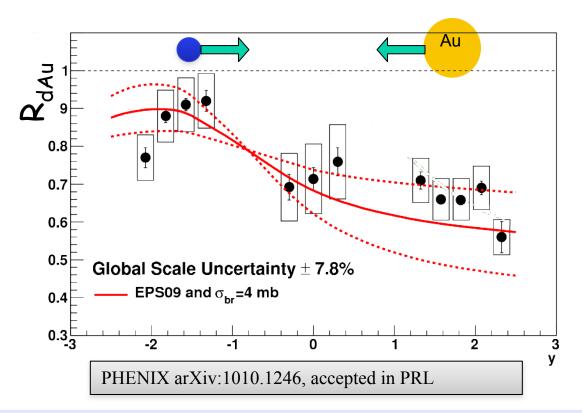
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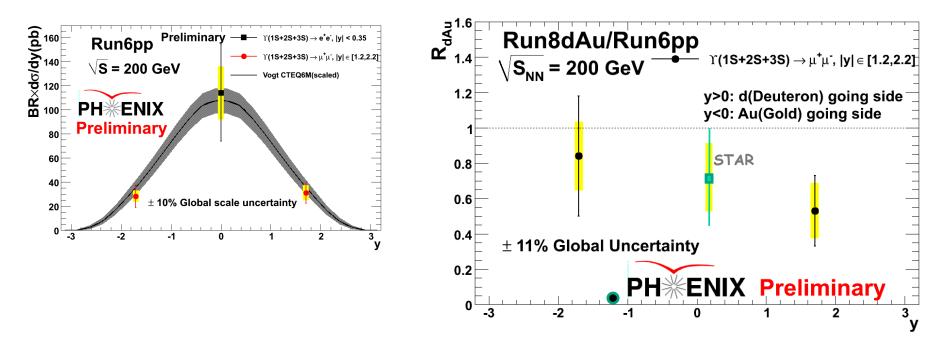


• It looks like that we have to understand CNM in a fundamental way in order to obtain reliable/quantitative extrapolations to A+A.



## Heavier Quarkonia - Upsilons

### Upsilons suppressed in CNM at RHIC



- Upsilon suppression in Au+Au at RHIC watch out for CNM suppression.
- PHENIX has not completed the Upsilon suppression analysis for Au+Au yet. Hopefully it will come out soon.



The heavy flavor program for the next five years will be dominated by the new capabilities brought by the VTX and FVTX silicon detectors.

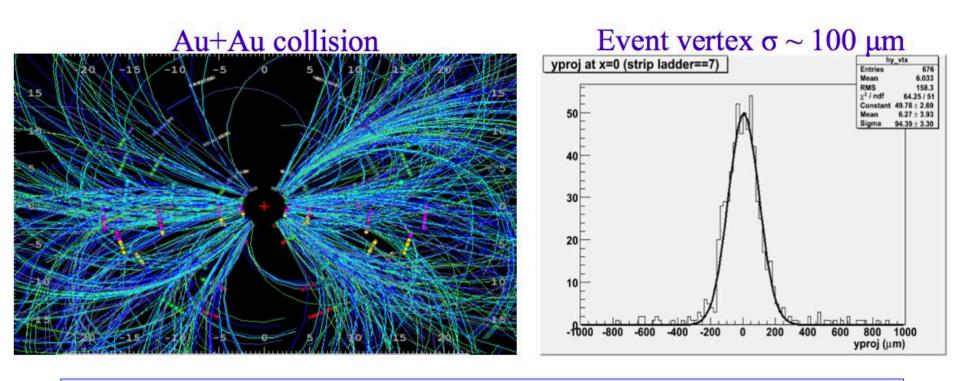
Beyond five years, the opportunity exists with sPHENIX to build a data set that will allow us to quantitatively use heavy flavors to characterize the thermodynamics of QGP.

# **FUTURE WORK**





VTX – 2 pixel, 2 stripixel layers – added in Run 11, operating in Au+Au coverage |η| < 1 Added capabilities to central arms:</li>
•Separating D and B decays
•Improving mass resolution for quarkonia

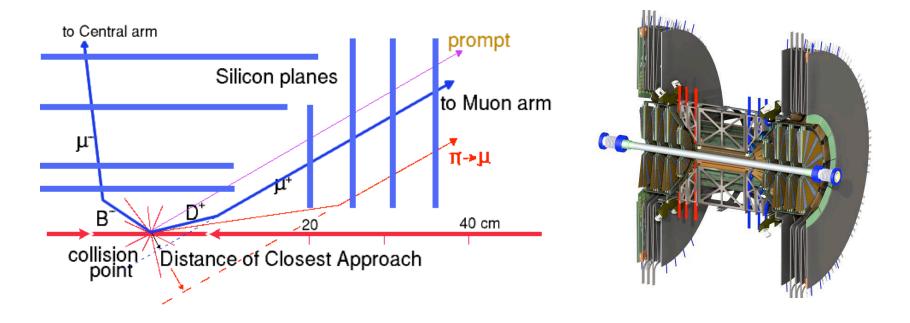


**Data analysis is ongoing!** Expecting much improved results!





### **FVTX – To Be Installed in Run-12**



- Mean π,K -> m, e decay distance is large
- D, B mesons travel some distance before semileptonic decay to muons or electrons
- Prompt m, e have 0 DCA
- By measuring the DCA to the primary vertex, we can separate D, B decays from prompt leptons and from long-lived decays from  $\pi$ , K

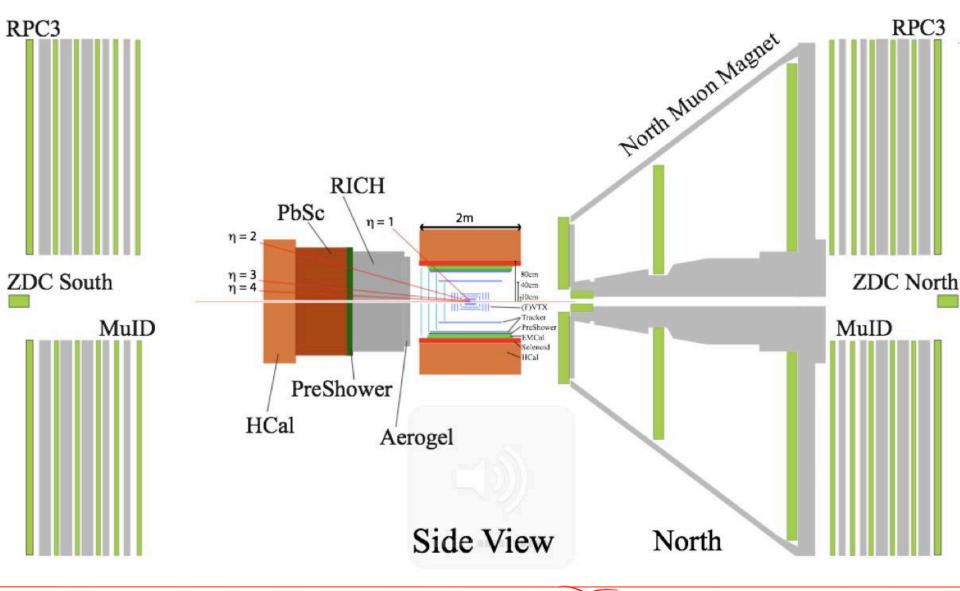


### Projected Luminosities & Strawman PHENIX Run Plan

	Run	Species	√s	Wks	±30 cm	±10 cm	Pol	Comments	
	11	p+p	500	10	27 pb <sup>-1</sup>		50%(L)	W program + $\Delta G$	
		Au+Au	19.6	1.5	13.7M MB evts			energy scan	
		Au+Au	200	8		700 μb <sup>-1</sup>		heavy flavor (VTX)	
	12	p+p	200	5	13.1 pb <sup>-1</sup>	4.7 pb <sup>-1</sup>	60%(T)	HI ref. + transv. spin	
		p+p	500	8	100 pb <sup>-1</sup>	35 pb <sup>-1</sup>	50%(L)	W program $+\Delta G$	
		Au+Au	200	7		$800 \ \mu b^{-1}$		Heavy flavor (FVTX/VTX)	
		U+U	200	1.5		0.3 nb <sup>-1</sup>		explore geometry	
		Au+Au	27	1	5.2 μb <sup>-1</sup>			energy scan	
	13	p+p	500	10	200 pb <sup>-1</sup>	74 pb <sup>-1</sup>	60%(L)	W program	
		p+p	200	5	20 pb <sup>-1</sup>	4.7 pb <sup>-1</sup>	60%(T)	HI ref. + transv. spin	
		Cu+Au	200	5		2.4 nb <sup>-1</sup>		geometry	
		U+U	200	5		0.57 nb <sup>-1</sup>		geometry	
	14	p+p	200	10	34 pb <sup>-1</sup>	12 pb <sup>-1</sup>	65%(T)	HI ref. + transv. spin	
		p+p	62	3	0.6 pb <sup>-1</sup>	0.2 pb <sup>-1</sup>	60%(T/L)	HI ref. + transv. spin	
		d+Au	200	8	260 nb <sup>-1</sup>	150 nb <sup>-1</sup>		CNM	
		d+Au	62	2	6.5 nb <sup>-1</sup>	3.8 nb <sup>-1</sup>		CNM	
	15	Au+Au	200	10		2.8 nb <sup>-1</sup>		high bandwidth	
		Au+Au	62	4		0.13 nb <sup>-1</sup>		HF vs √s	
10	21/2011	p+ <sup>3</sup> He	132	5			(T)	test run	
10/	121/2011 A.IIE, SESAI 52011 PH茶ENIX								

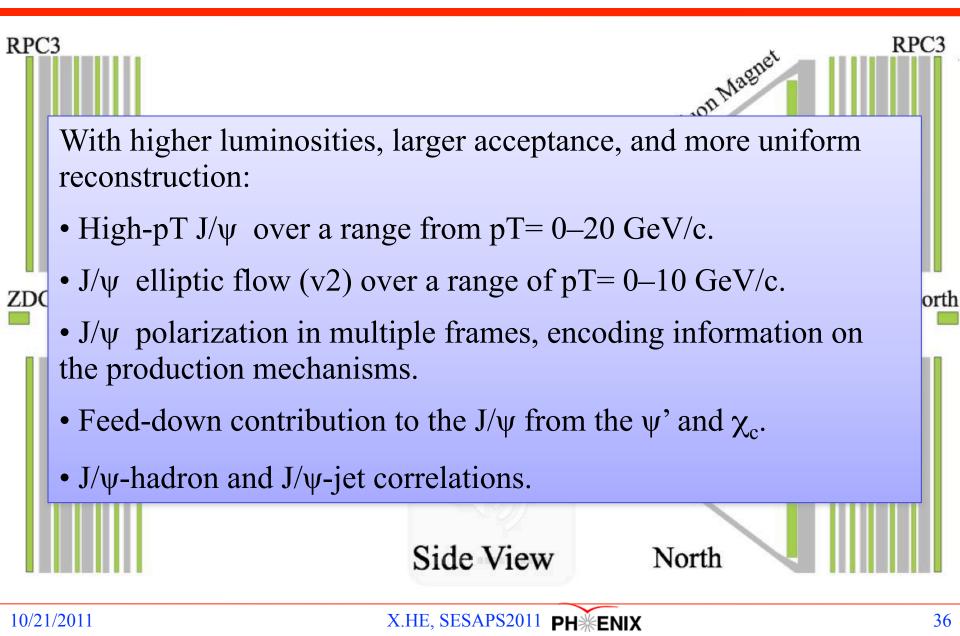


### sPHENIX – Current Thinking





## sPHENIX – Current Thinking





- The matter created in Au+Au collisions at per nucleon-nucleon cms energy of 200 GeV is **dense**. Quarks (both the light and the heavy) and gluons experience large energy loss while traversing this medium.
- The system is rapidly **thermalized** from the measurement of elliptic flow of light and charmed hadrons. The quark number scaling of the flow  $(v_2)$  indicates the partonic nature of the thermalized medium.
- Such a hot and dense medium emits **thermal radiation**. The observation of thermal photons allows the determination of the initial temperature of the matter!
- Quantitative study of heavy quarkonia suppression continues.



### The dust isn't likely to settle soon!

Stay tuned.







## BACKUPS





### **The PHENIX Experiment**

Tale of the Tape:

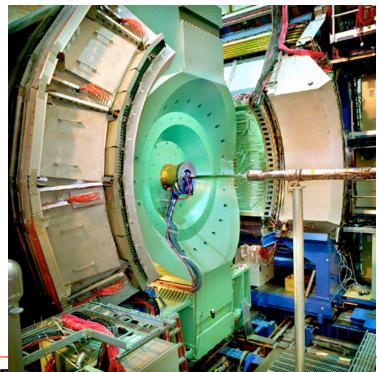
Begun Operation June 2000
550 Scientists, 14 Countries, 69 Inst.

- 18 Detector subsystems
- ≻4 Spectrometer arms
  - Large electromagnets
- ≻Total weigh = 3500 Tons
- >>300,000 readout channels now
- >3,000,000 channels w/Upgrades

>125 Varieties of custom printed circuit boards

 We can take 16 Terabytes of data/day
 Fills One 100 GB computer hard disk every 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> minutes

 Operate 7-8 months/year (24/7)
 Maintain/repair 4-5 months/yr
 Major components built everywhere
 US, Russia, Japan, Brazil, Israel, France, Sweden, Germany, Korea
 It takes ~110 people/wk to operate
 PHENIX while taking data PHENIX is designed to probe fundamental features of the strong nuclear force, Quantum Chromo Dynamics (QCD)
PHENIX took approx. 10 years and \$120M to design, build & commission
We are finishing our 9<sup>th</sup> year of operation





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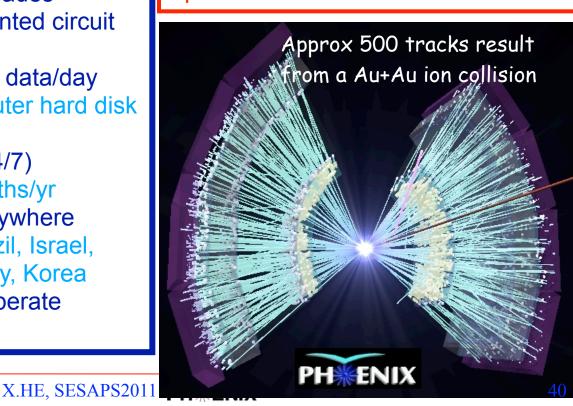
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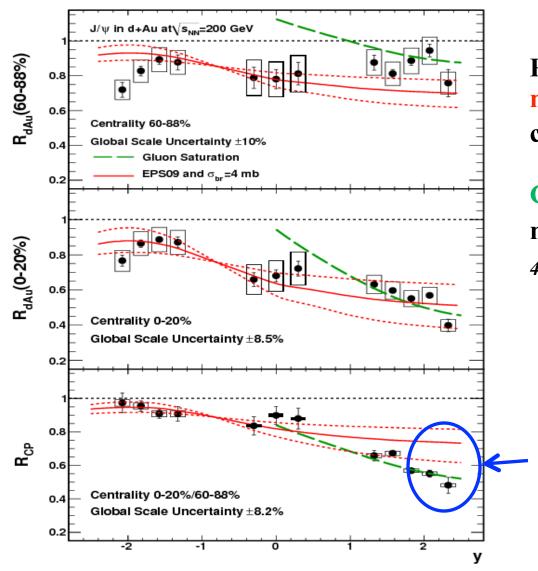
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#### What are the CNM effects that are so strong in Quarkonia production?

#### $J/\psi$ in d+Au - learning about CNM thickness dependence (I)



PHENIX arXiv:1010.1246, accepted in PRL

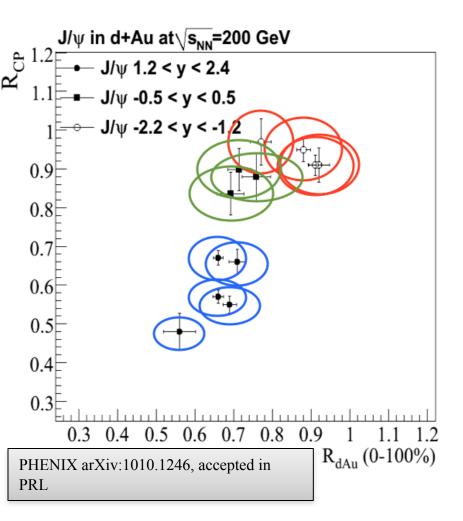
Reasonable agreement with EPS09 nPDF +  $\sigma_{br}$ =4 mb for central collisions but not peripheral

CGC calculations can't reproduce mid-rapidity (*Nucl. Phys. A 770(2006)* 40)

EPS09 with linear thickness dependence fails to describe centrality dependence of forward rapidity region.



What are the CNM effects that are so strong in Quarkonia production?  $J/\psi$  in d+Au – learning about CNM thickness dependence (II)

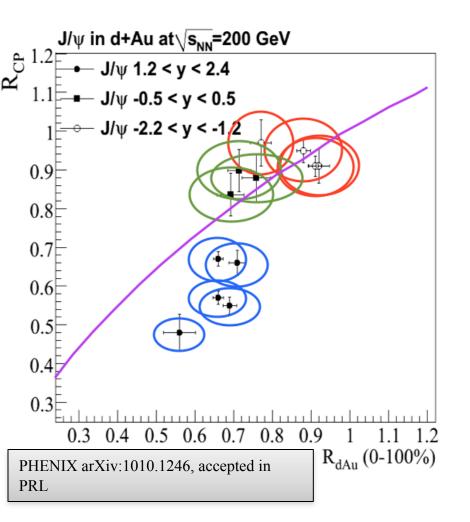


Vary the strength of suppression (a) & see what relationship between  $R_{dAu}$  and  $R_{CP}$  is given strictly by Glauber geometry for different dependences on density-weighted thickness  $\Lambda(r_T) = \int_{\rho_0}^{\sigma_T} dz \rho(z, r_T)$  Woods-Saxon

Break-up has exponential dependence
EPS09 & initial-state dE/dx have unknown dependences



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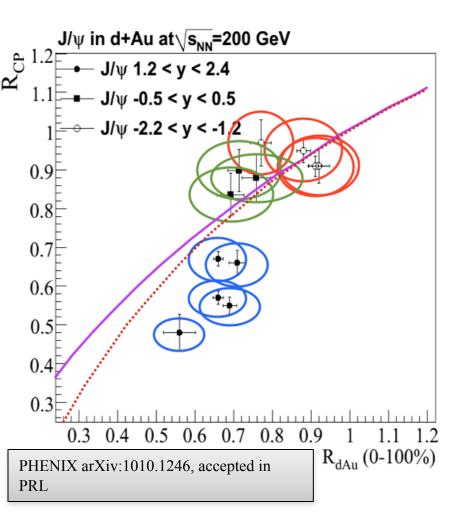


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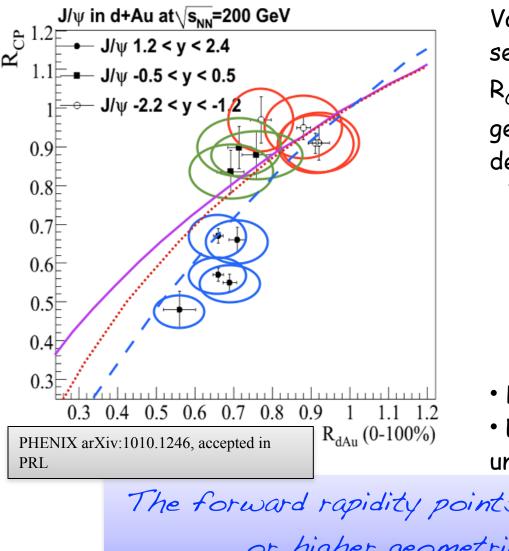
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10/21/2011

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- Break-up has exponential dependence
- EPS09 & initial-state dE/dx have unknown dependences

The forward rapidity points suggests a quadratic or higher geometrical dependence X.HE, SESAPS2011 PH\*\*ENIX



• Our expanding universe must have started out much hotter and denser than it is today because the expansion caused matter and energy to cool down and spread out with time.



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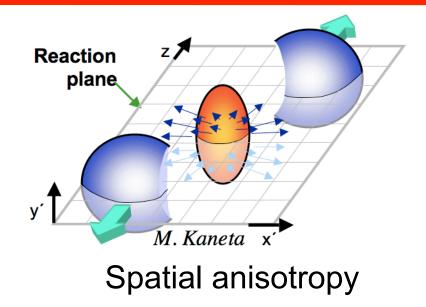
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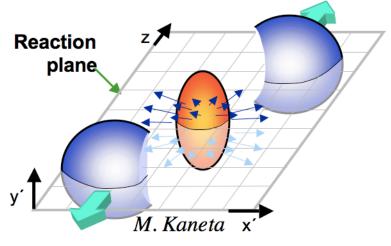
### **Reaction Plane and Elliptic Flow**







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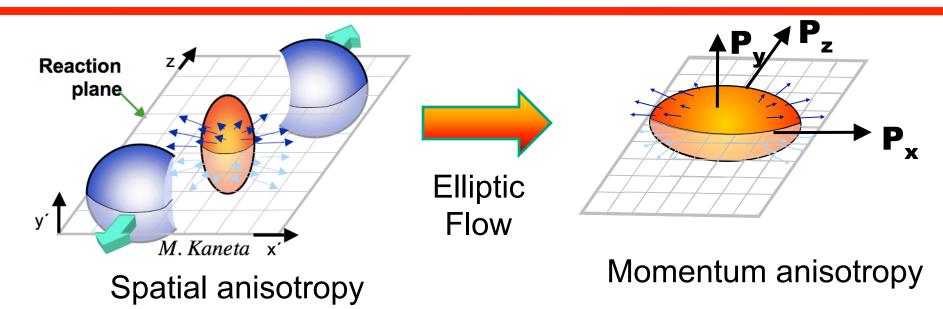
### Spatial anisotropy

Fourier expansion of the distribution of produced particle angle wrt reaction plane ( $\Delta \phi$ ):

$$\frac{dN}{d\Delta\varphi} = N_0 \left[ 1 + 2v_1 \cos 2\Delta\varphi + 2v_2 \cos 2\Delta\varphi + \cdots \right]$$



## **Reaction Plane and Elliptic Flow**



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$$\frac{dN}{d\Delta\varphi} = N_0 \Big[ 1 + 2v_1 \cos 2\Delta\varphi + 2v_2 \cos 2\Delta\varphi + \cdots \Big]$$

- Momentum anisotropy reflects the characteristics of the hot, dense medium
  - Small mean free path, thermalization, pressure gradients
- $v_2$  long considered a powerful probe for QGP studies