

# Heavy flavor production at RHIC

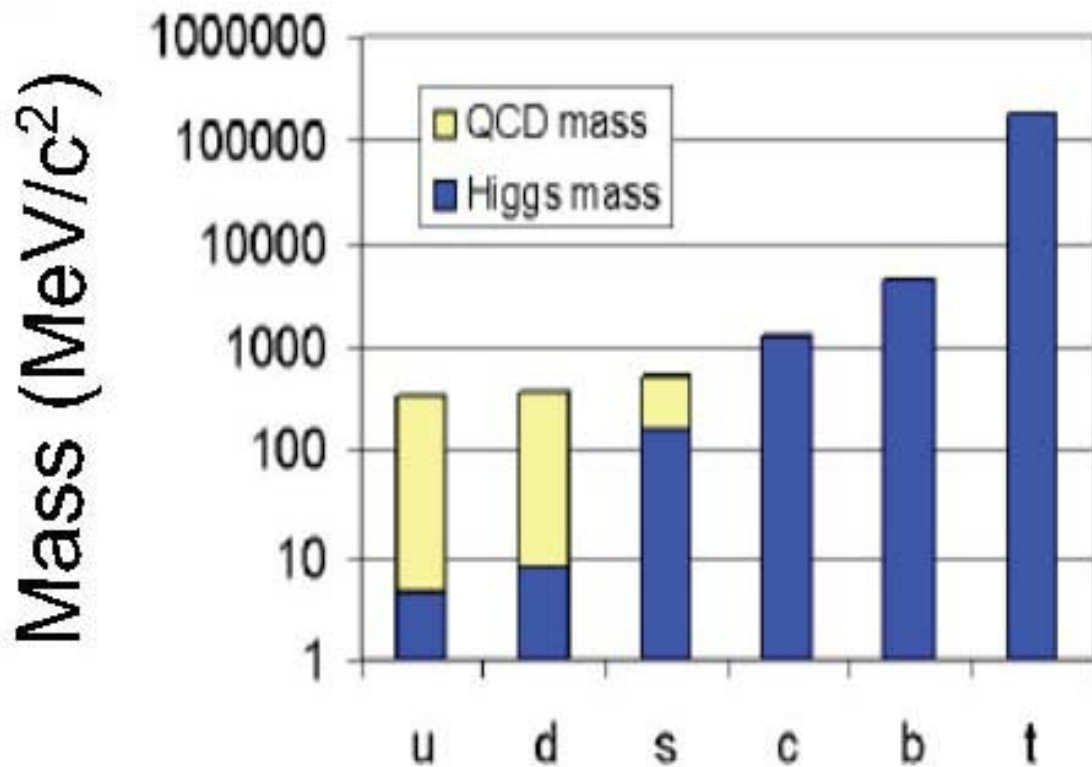


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(*Brookhaven National Laboratory*)

## Outline:

- **Introduction**
- **The recent results**
- **The future measurements**
- **Summary**

# The mass



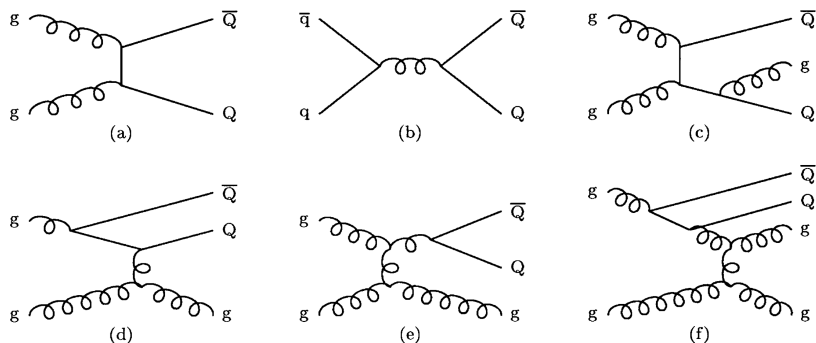
Heavy flavor mass, comes from the Higgs mechanism, no effect from the QCD chiral symmetry breaking.

Light flavor mass, affected by chiral symmetry breaking.

# Heavy flavor and quarkonium production

$$M_c \approx 1.3 \text{ GeV}$$

$$M_b \approx 4.8 \text{ GeV} \gg T_c, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, M_{\text{uds}}$$



Produced at initial impact through hard process, penetrating probe.

Produced by gluon fusion, quark-antiquark annihilation, gluon emission, flavor excitation, and gluon splitting ...

Charm quark into hadrons (~10% to baryon, ~1% into  $J/\psi$ , and others to mesons)

QQbar transition into quarkonium through color singlet, color octet, and color evaporation approaches.

# What have we learnt over the last 15 years

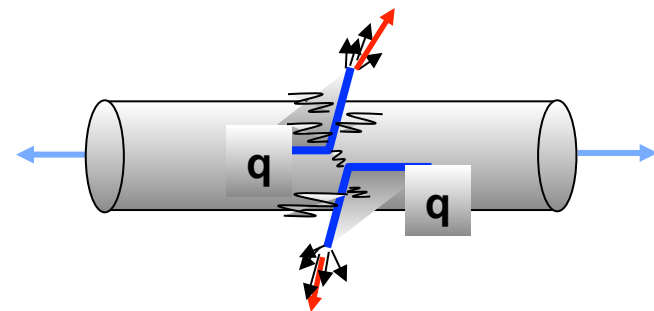
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At RHIC and LHC, **strongly interacting Quark-Gluon Plasma** created. It is a liquid-like.

What we still need to know about the liquid:

- When high energy parton,  $g$ ,  $q$ ,  $Q$  traverses the liquid, **how does the parton lose energy?**
- If we throw  $Q$  into the liquid, **does it flow and thermalize with the liquid?**
- If we throw  $Q\bar{Q}$  into the liquid, does the potential between them change? **Color screening?**
- Do we observe signature of chiral symmetry restoration in the hot, dense liquid?
- .....

# Why heavy flavor?



RHIC: Nucl. Phys. A 757 (2005)

**Fragmentation for p+p collisions for hadrons at  $p_T > 2$  GeV/c:  
convolution of  $\text{PDF} \otimes \text{pQCD} \otimes \text{FF}$**

**In central Au+Au collisions at RHIC:  
Fragmentation + energy loss  
at  $p_T > 6$  GeV/c**

**Recombination/Coalescence for hadron  
production at 2-6 GeV/c**

$$M_c \approx 1.3 \text{ GeV}$$

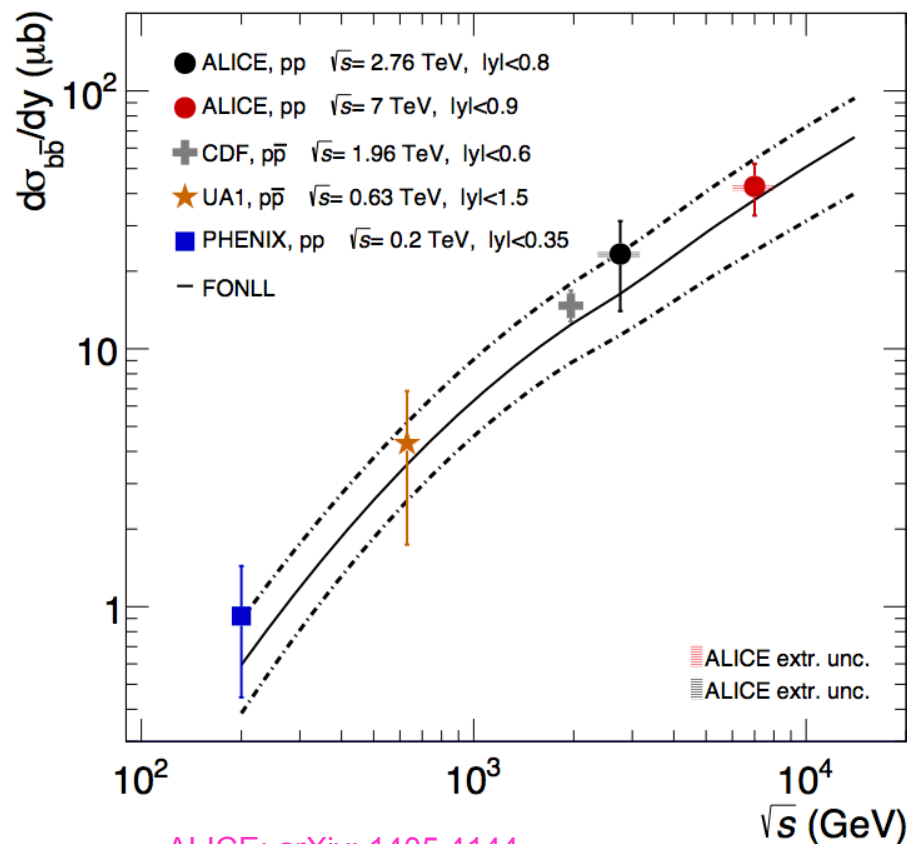
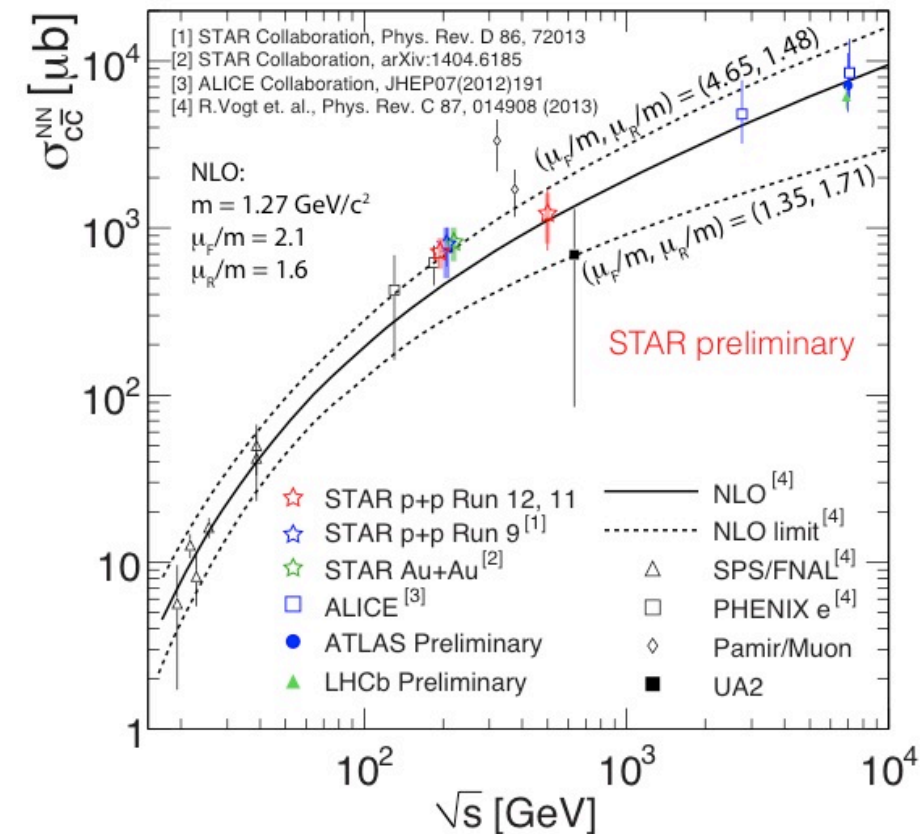
$$M_b \approx 4.8 \text{ GeV} \gg T_c, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, M_{\text{uds}}$$

Produced at initial impact through hard process, penetrating probe.

At high  $p_T > 6$  GeV/c, study color charge and mass dependence of energy loss: D, B,  $\pi$   $R_{AA}$

At low to intermediate  $p_T$ , study heavy quark diffusion coefficient, thermalization, and recombination with light quark.

# Heavy flavor total cross section



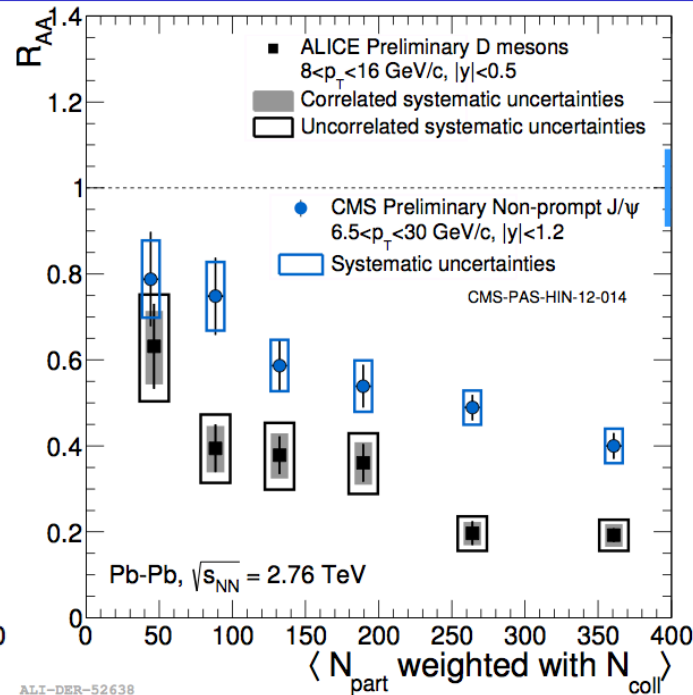
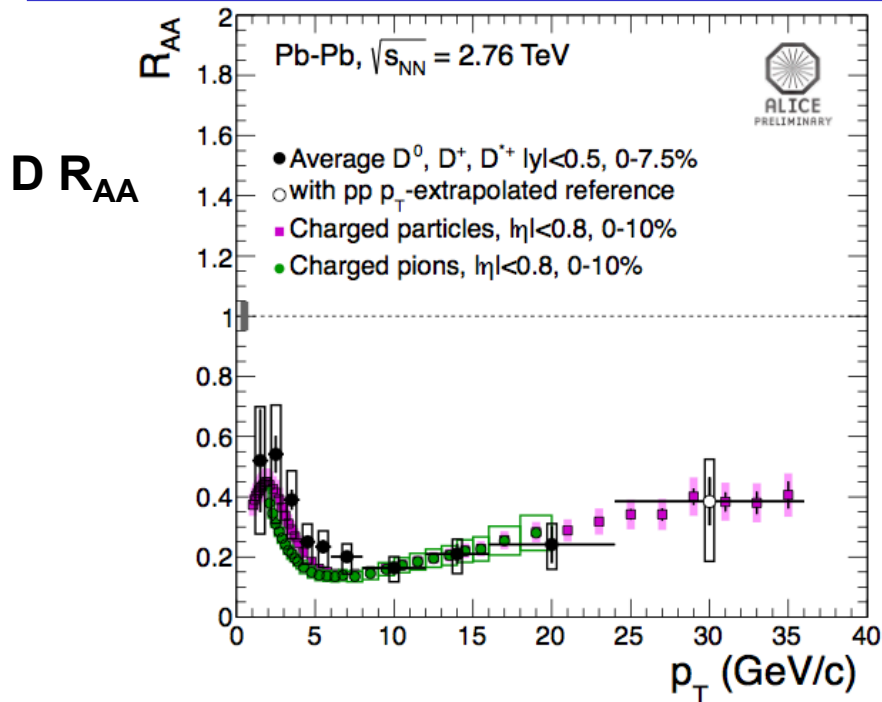
**Charm cross section follows  $N_{\text{bin}}$  scaling from p+p to Au+Au collisions**

**Expect to get 60 ccbar and 2 bbbar pairs in central Pb+Pb collisions at 2.76 TeV**

**Expect to get 15 ccbar and 0.1 bbbar pairs in central Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV**

**Coalescence from bbbar to  $\Upsilon$  is negligible at RHIC.**

# Constrain energy loss mechanism

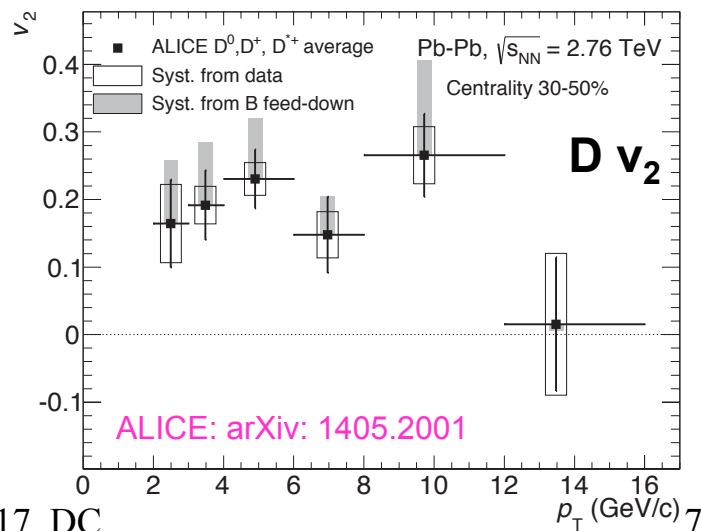


$B \rightarrow J/\psi$   $R_{AA}$

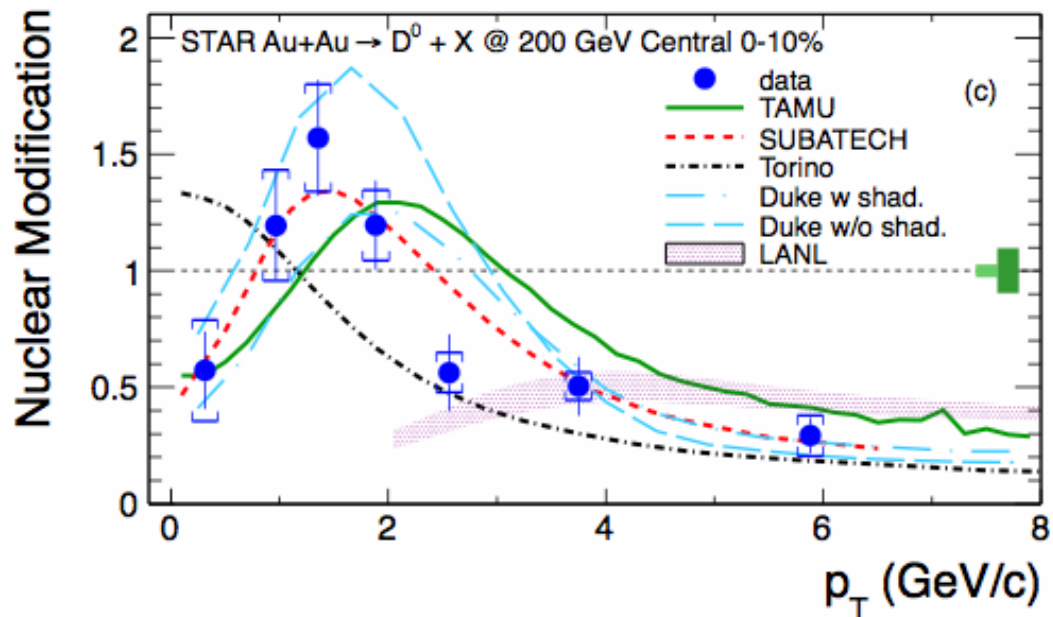
D  $R_{AA}$

- At  $p_T > 6$  GeV/c:  
 $R_{AA}(D) \approx R_{AA}(\pi) < R_{AA}(B \rightarrow J/\psi)$ ;  
substantial  $v_2$  for D meson at 2-10 GeV/c.

probe color charge and mass dependence of energy loss



# Low $p_T$ to constrain diffusion coefficient



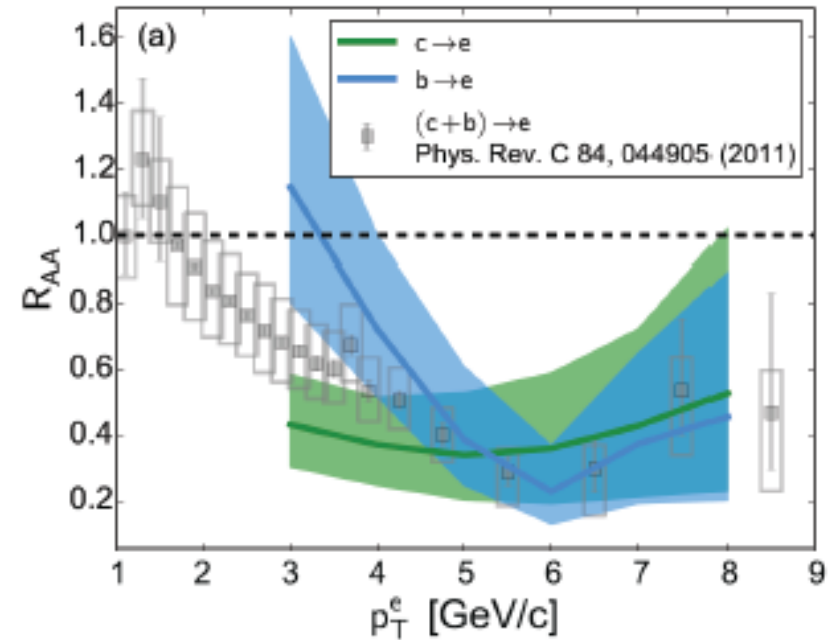
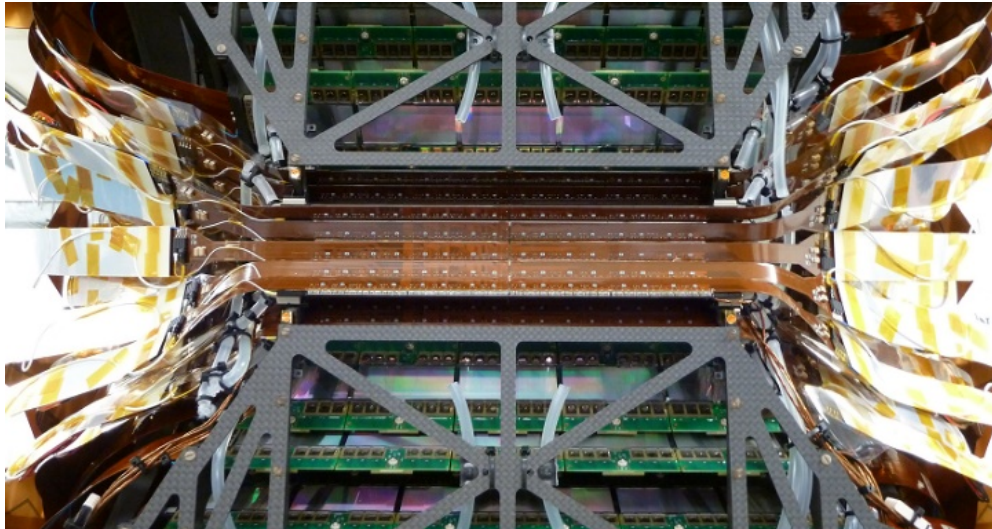
STAR: arXiv: 1404.6185, accepted by PRL

- **A maximum at  $p_T \sim 1.5$  GeV/c: consistent with models including strong coupling of the heavy quarks to the QGP and their hadronization via coalescence:**
- **Heavy quark diffusion coefficient  $D_s(2\pi T) = 3-5$  at  $\sim T_c$  constrained by RHIC and LHC measurements (He, Fries, Rapp PRL110(2013)112301).**



# Electrons from charm and bottom with PHENIX VTX

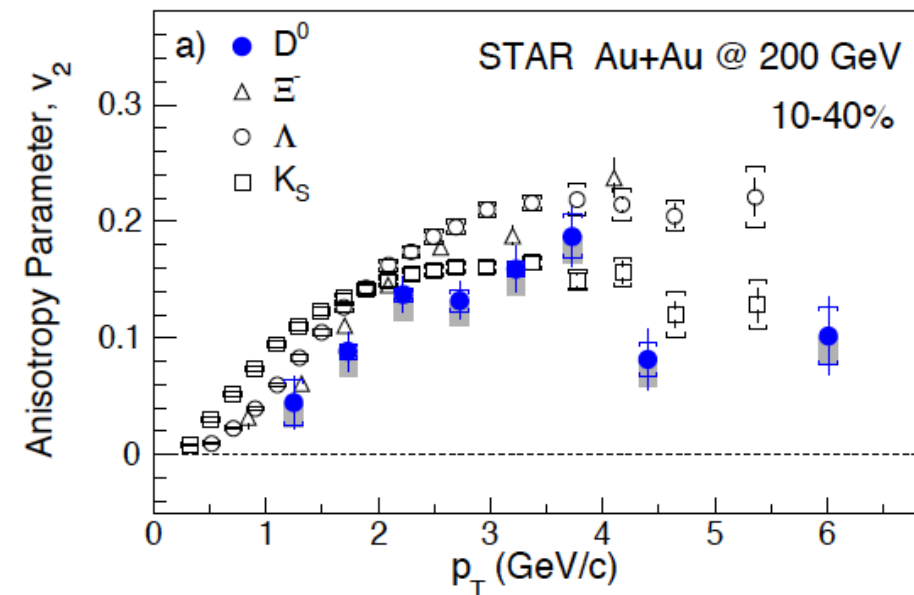
Phys. Rev. C 93 (2016) 034904



separate charm from beauty in semileptonic decays  
first measurement from 2011

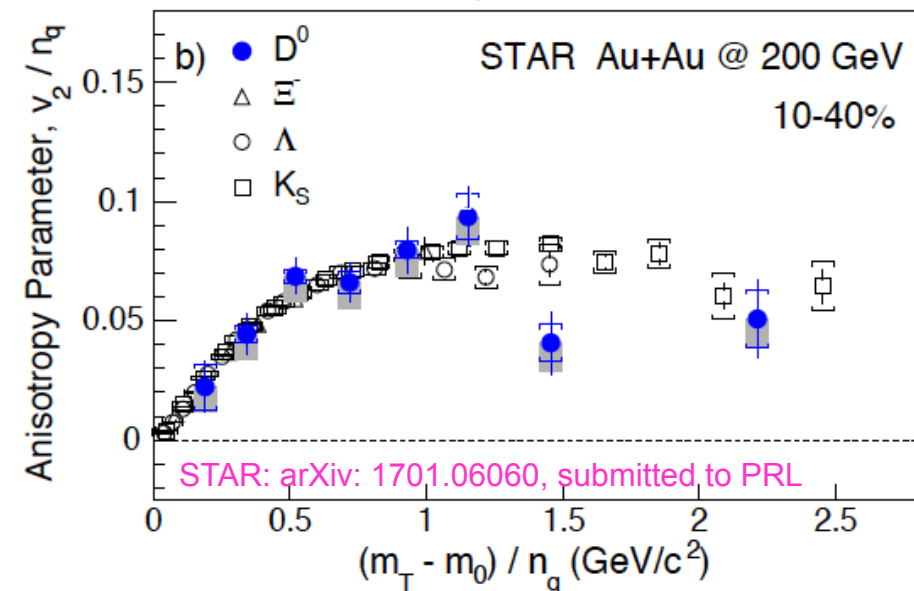
Much more data from Runs 2014-2016.

# Open charm with the HFT

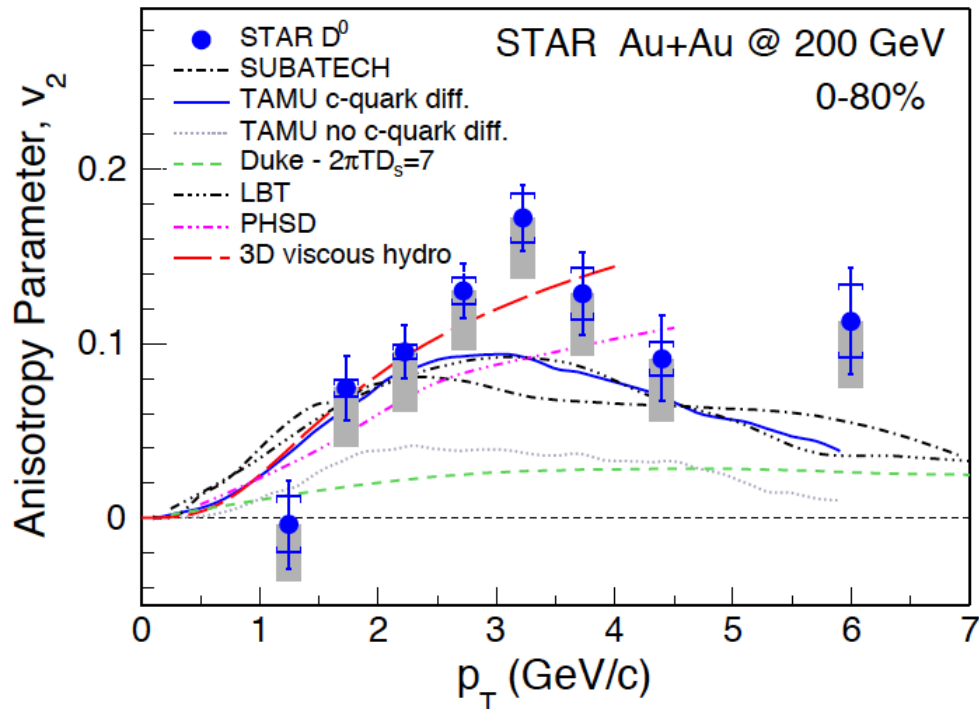
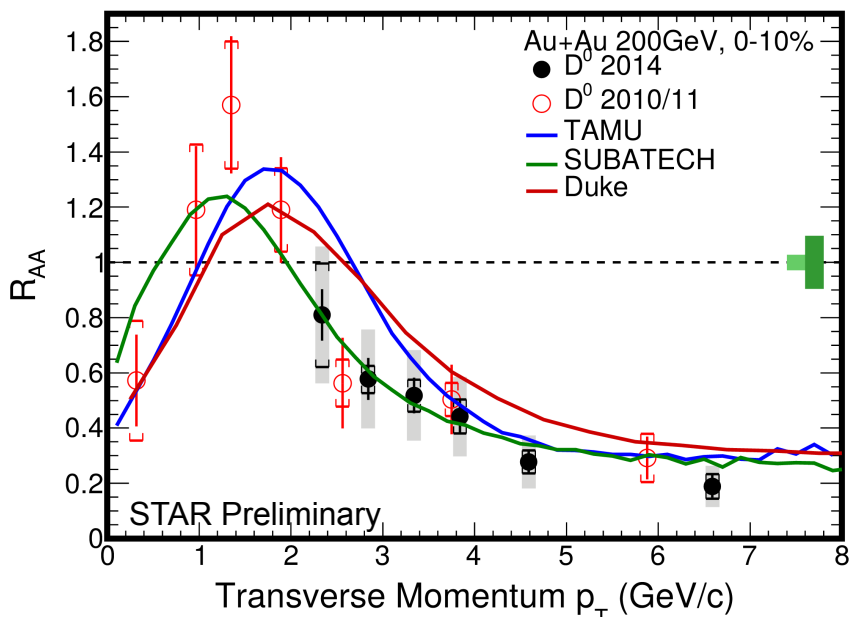


Charm quark flows, interacts with medium strongly.

D meson  $v_2$  follows mass ordering at low  $p_T$ , follow the kET scaling. Indicate that charm quark reaches local thermalization in the medium.

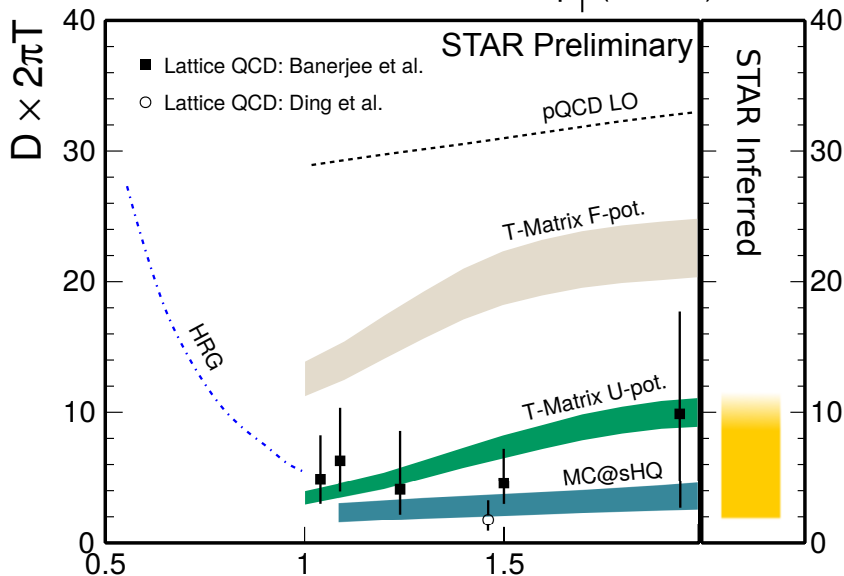


# Open charm with the HFT



STAR: arXiv: 1701.06060, submitted to PRL

Models with charm diffusion coefficient ( $D \times 2\pi T$ ) of 2-12 describe STAR  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  data.

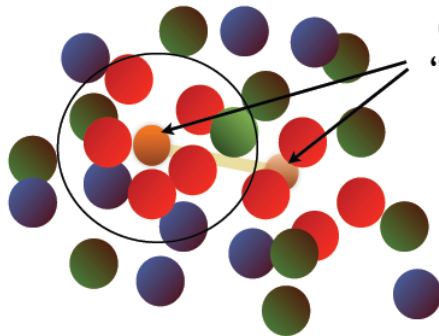


# Quarkonium as a QGP indicator

## color screening

### Matsui-Satz: screening the potential

Screening in a deconfined medium: effective charge of Q and  $\bar{Q}$  reduced

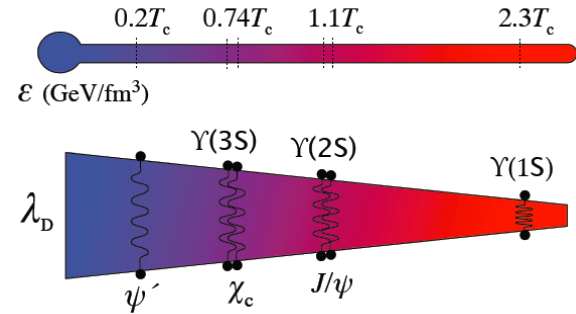


Q and  $\bar{Q}$  cannot "see" each other  
 $r_D < r_{Q\bar{Q}}$

Assume: medium effects described with a T-dependent potential

$$-\frac{\alpha_{eff}}{r} e^{-r/r_D(T)}$$

Courtesy from A. Mocsy



**Different quarkonium states:**

**Heavy but small,**

**0.28, 0.56, 0.78 fm for Y(1S), Y(2S), Y(3S).**

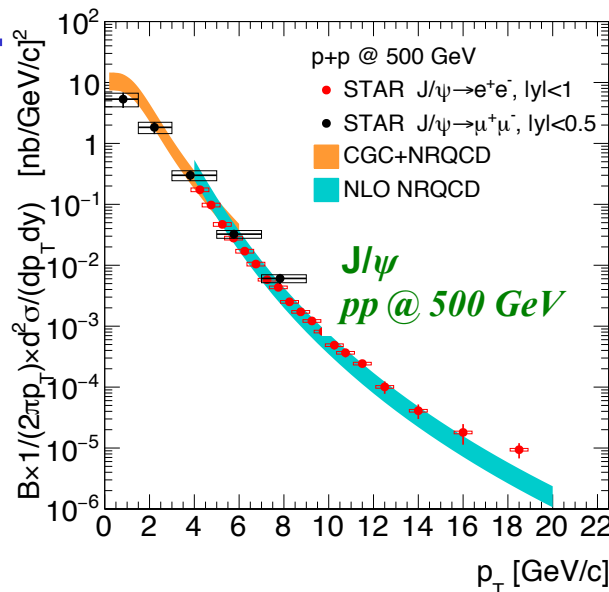
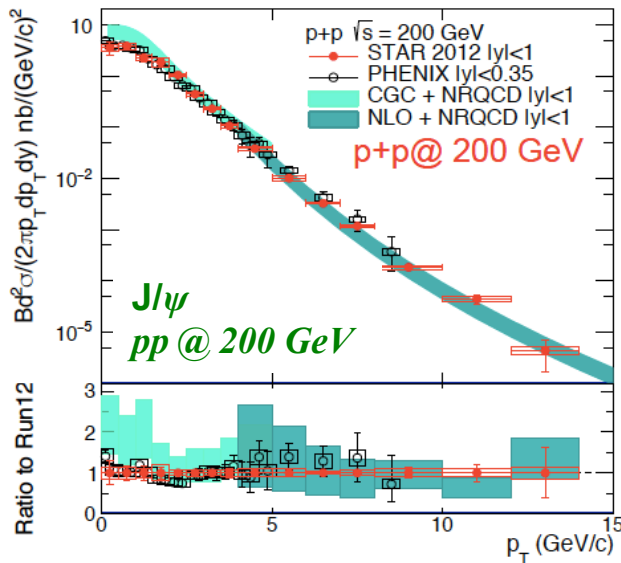
**provide distance scales to probe QGP:  
different dissociation temperatures.**

A+A collisions: **color screening, gluon dissociation, recombination; jet quenching, formation time; cold nuclear matter effect** requires measurements:

- 1) energy, collision system size, centrality, rapidity, and  $p_T$  dependences in heavy ion collisions
- 2) understand p+p, p+A production mechanisms

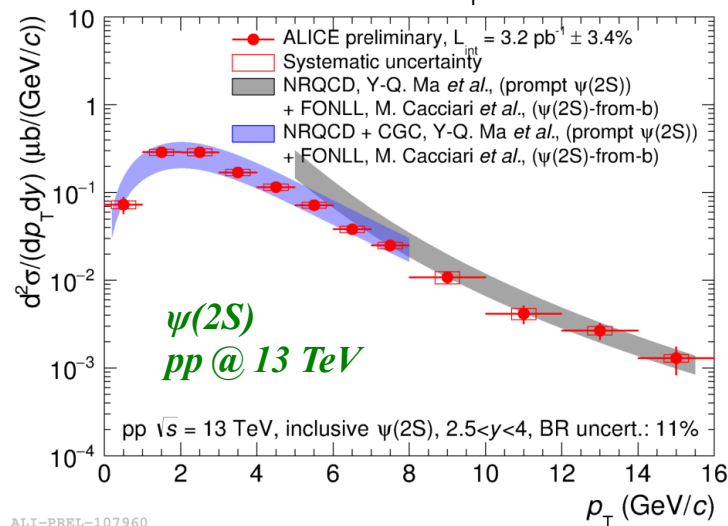
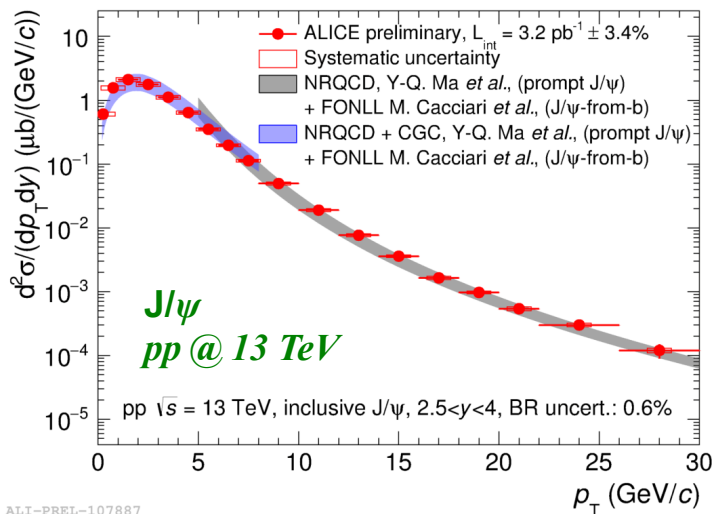
# Charmonium cross-section in pp

STAR



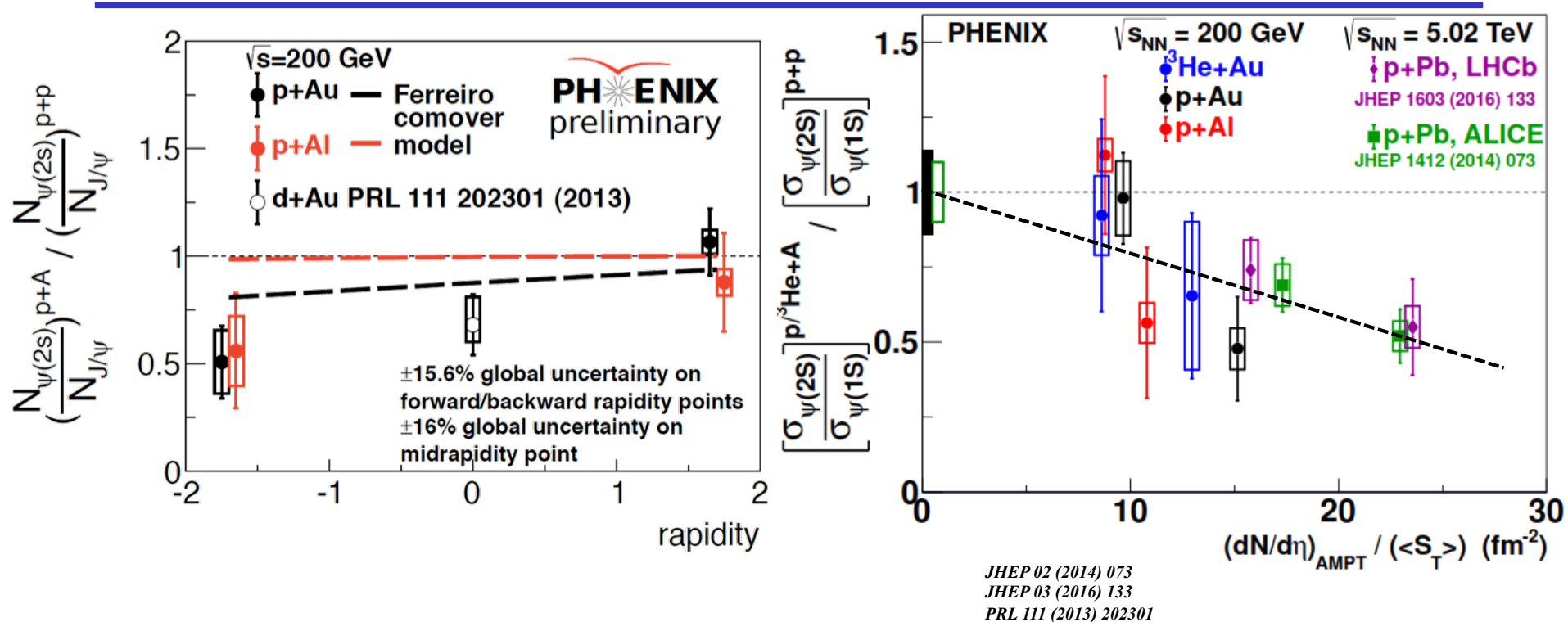
Theory:  
PRL 106 (2011) 042002  
PRL 113 (2014) 192301  
JHEP 1210 (2012) 137

ALICE



- Good understanding of charmonium cross section for  $\sqrt{s} = 0.2 - 13 \text{ TeV}$

# $R_{p(d)A}[\psi(2S)]$ versus $R_{p(d)A}(J/\psi)$

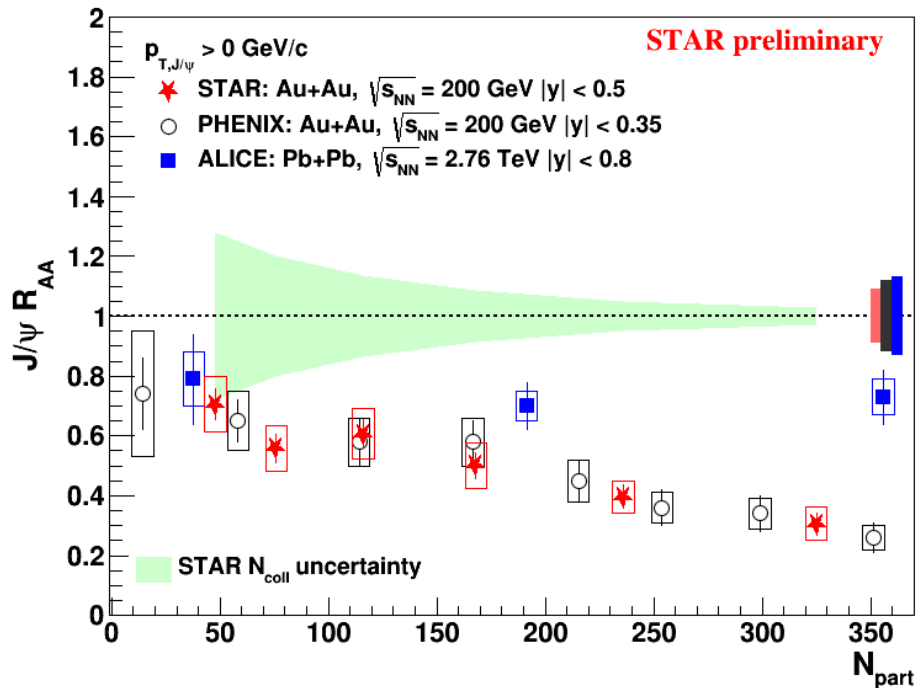


**RHIC:  $R_{p(d)A}[\psi(2S)] < R_{p(d)A}(J/\psi)$  on the A going direction and at midrapidity**

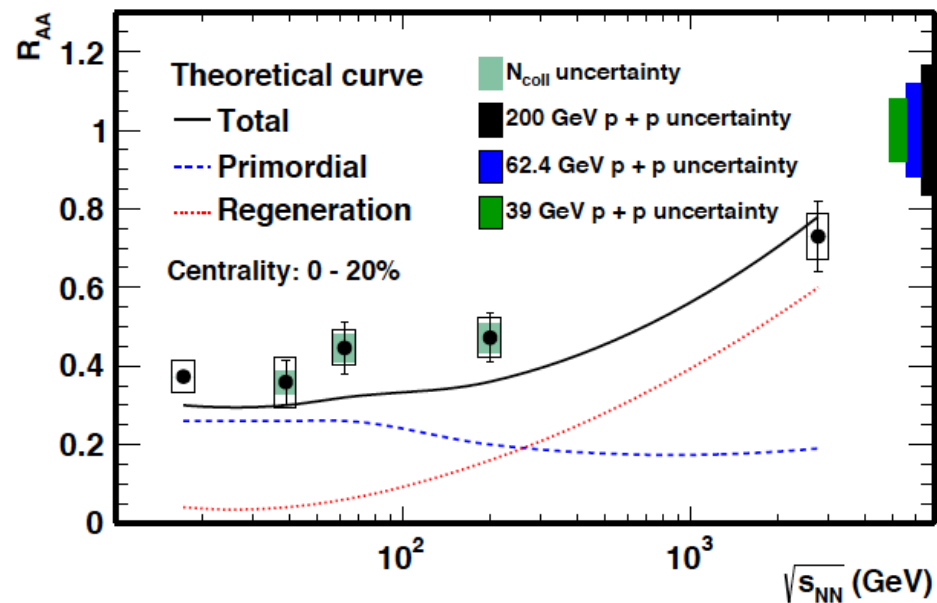
**LHC:  $R_{pA}[\psi(2S)] < R_{pA}(J/\psi)$  on the A and p going direction and at midrapidity**

**Consistent with co-mover suppression picture.**

# J/ψ suppression pattern



STAR Collaboration, SQM2016



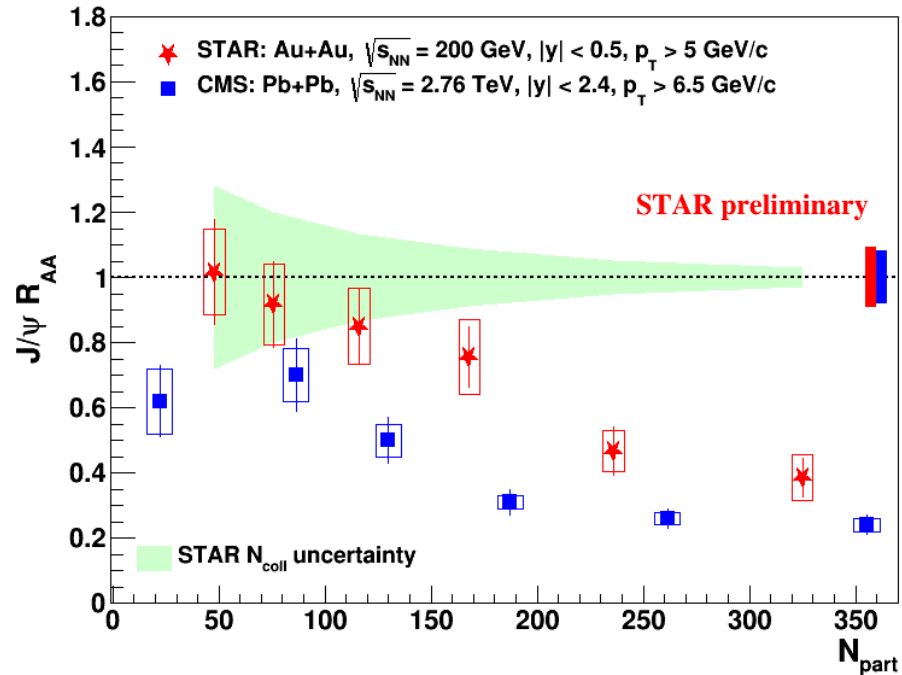
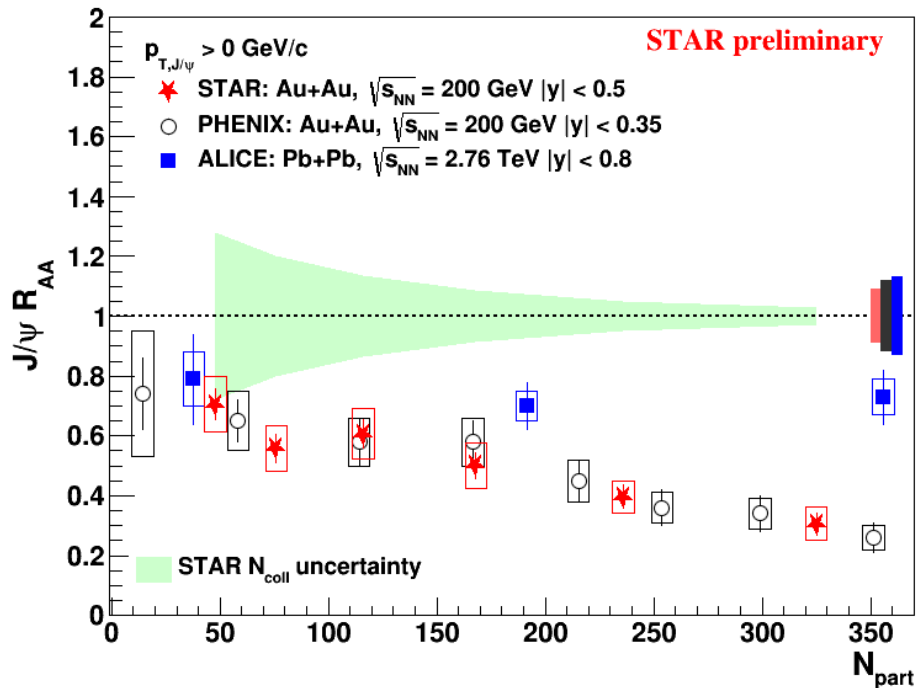
STAR Collaboration, 1607.07517

J/ψ through its dileptonic decay: indicator of deconfinement

consistent with more significant contribution from c $\bar{c}$  recombination at LHC energies

Interplay between color screening and recombination: describe the J/ψ suppression pattern and flow measurements

# J/ψ suppression pattern



STAR Collaboration, SQM2016

J/ψ through its dileptonic decay: indicator of deconfinement

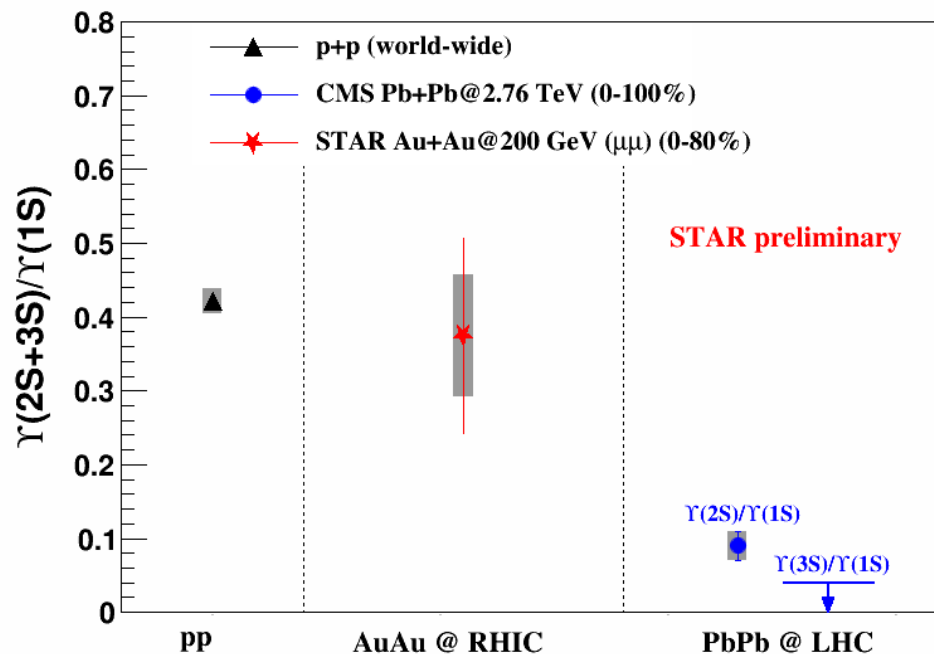
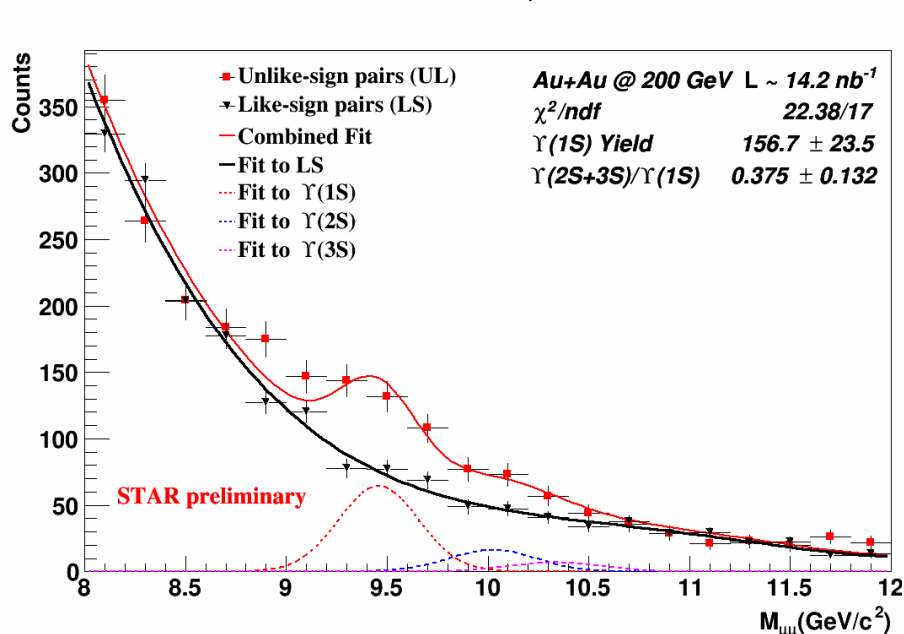
consistent with more significant contribution from c $\bar{c}$  recombination at LHC energies

Interplay between color screening and recombination: describe the J/ψ suppression pattern and flow measurements



# Different $\Upsilon$ states ratio

STAR Collaboration, SQM2016



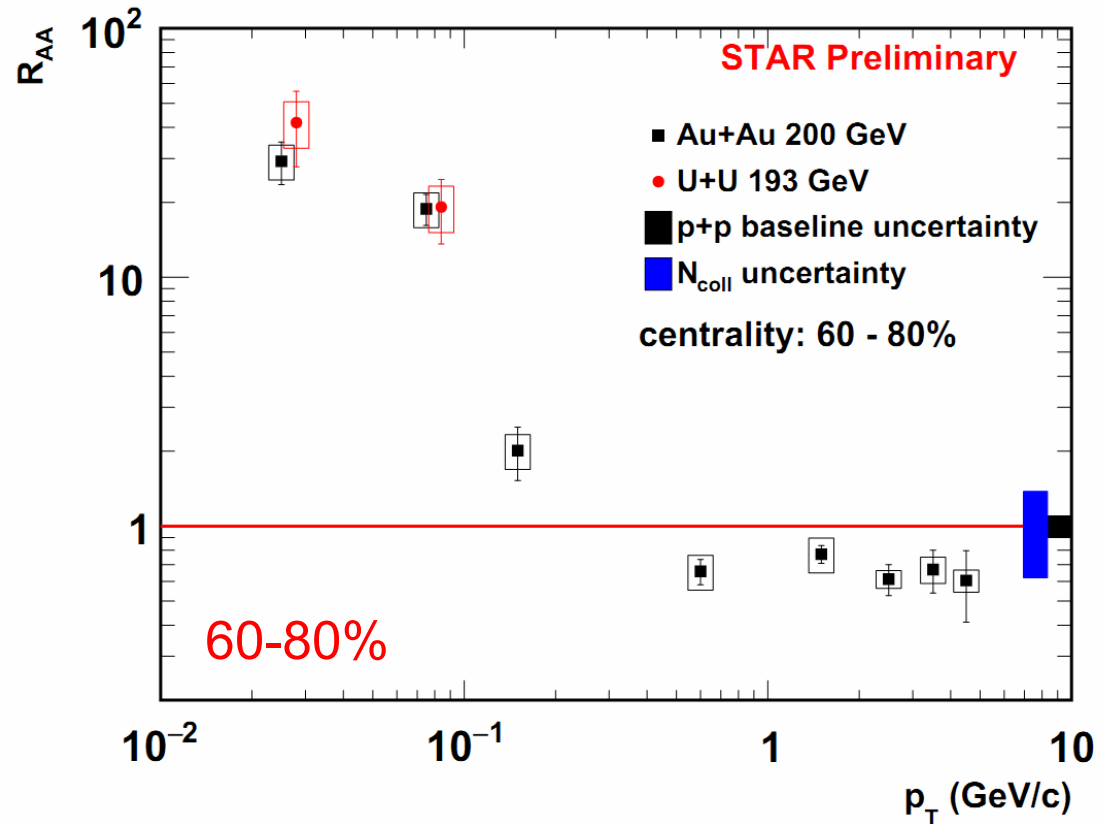
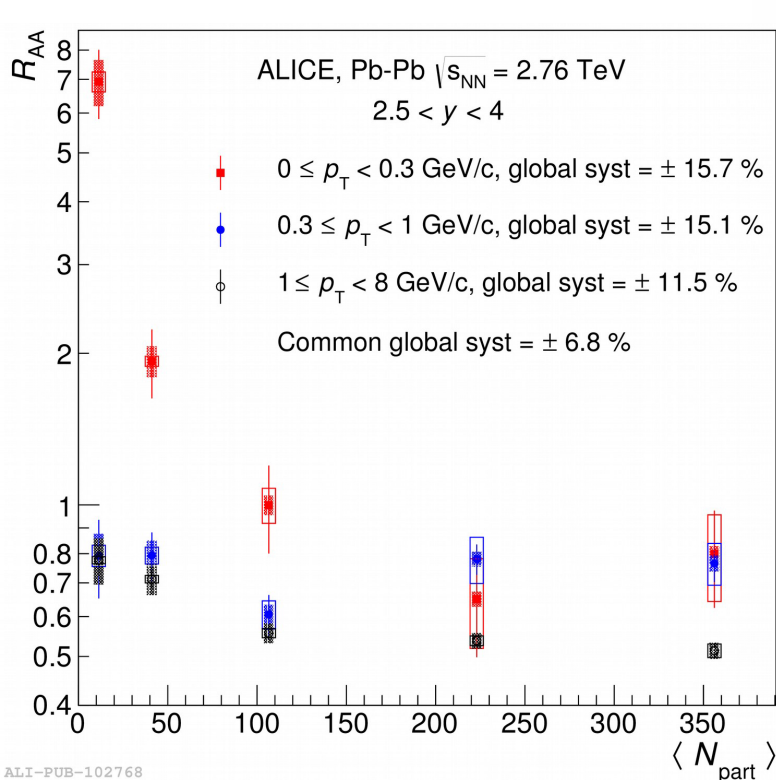
0.28, 0.56, 0.78 fm for  $\Upsilon(1S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(2S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(3S)$ .

Negligible contribution from b and bbar recombination at RHIC

A better probe to study color-screening feature of QGP.

A hint of  $\Upsilon(2S+3S)$  less suppressed at RHIC than at LHC!

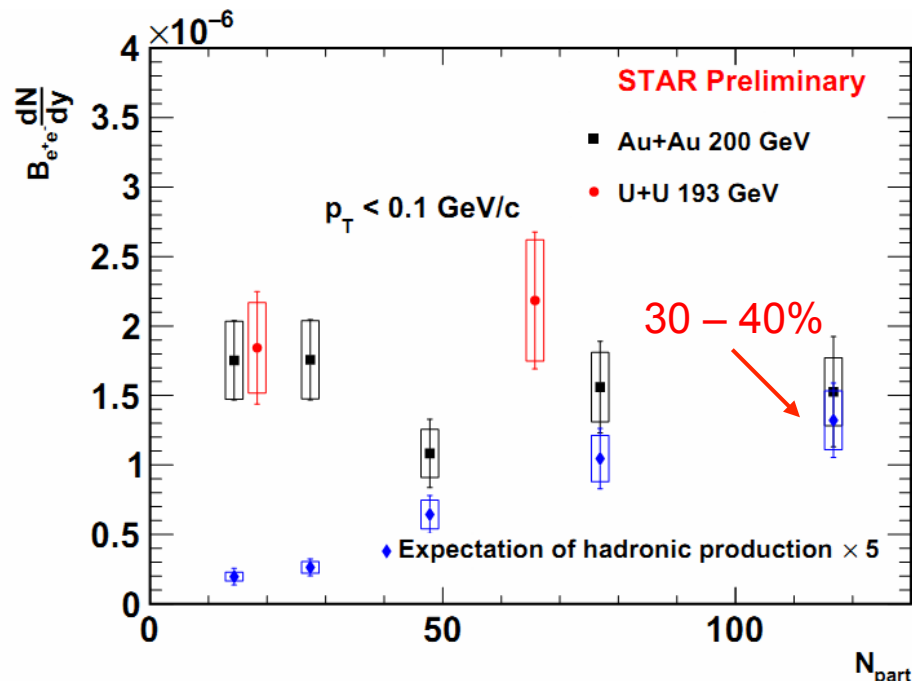
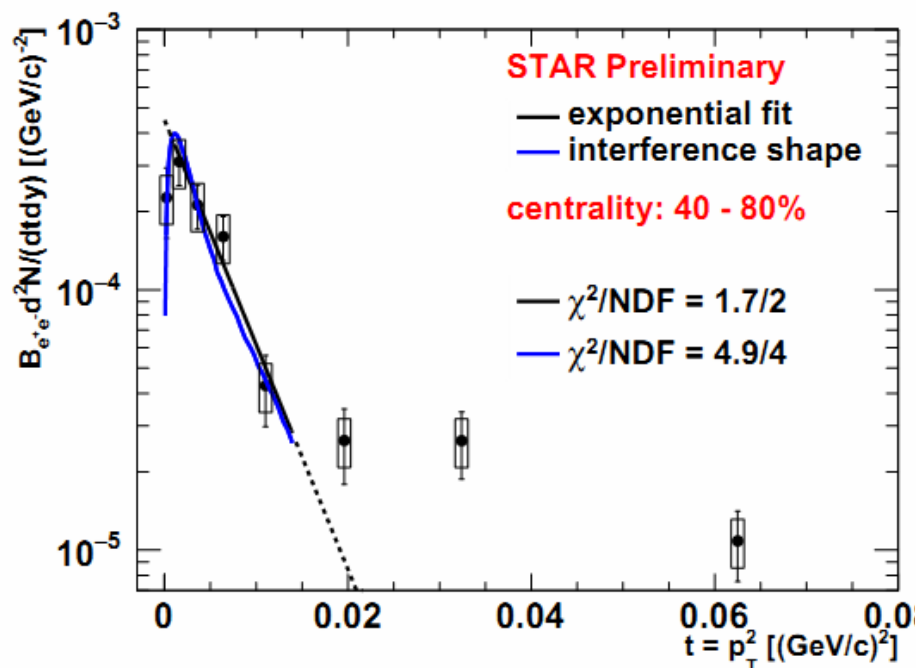
# Very low $p_T$ $J/\psi$ : largely enhanced!



Large enhancement of  $J/\psi$  yield observed in peripheral A+A collisions!

Prominent centrality and  $p_T$  dependence.

# J/ψ yield : $t=p_T^2$ and centrality dependence

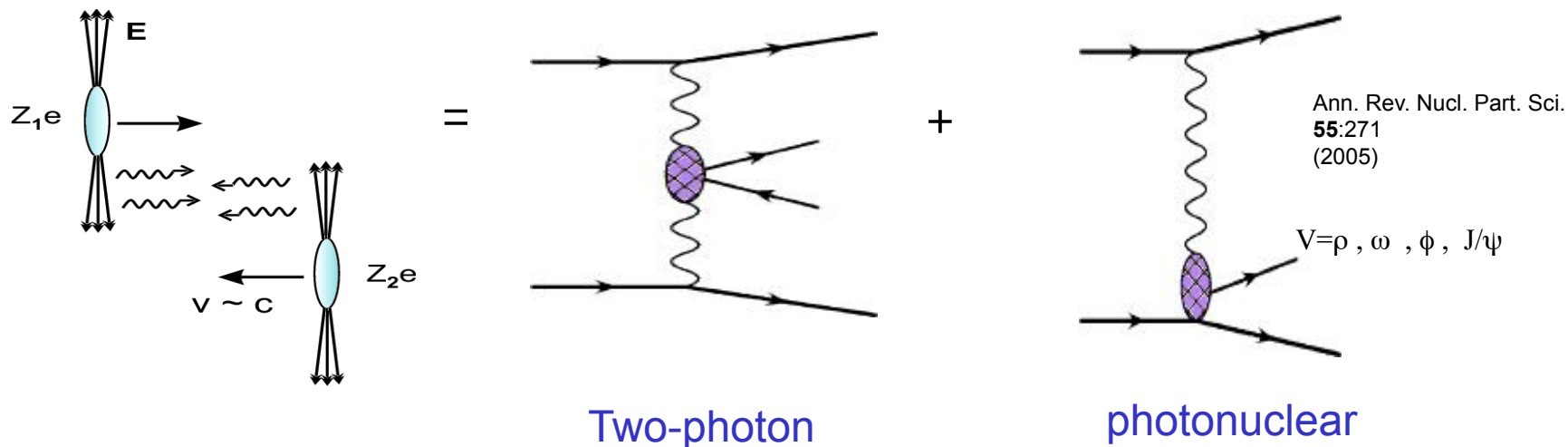


Slope parameter consistent with the size of the Au nucleus. Interference structure observed. **Coherent photon-nucleus interactions?**

No significant centrality dependence of the excess yield! **Interplay between photon flux cancellation in the overlapped area and the distance of the spectators of the two nuclei?**

Simulations ongoing and need theoretical inputs!

# Coherent photonuclear and two-photon processes



Studied extensively in ultra-peripheral collisions

**How is the  $J/\psi$  from coherent photonuclear process affected by hot and cold QCD matter! Why do we still be able to observe these  $J/\psi$ s?**

A new tool to study enriched multi-body dynamics on the strong QCD force!

# Achievements and Open questions

## Heavy flavor:

total cross section follows  $N_{\text{bin}}$  scaling.

very interesting feature in D meson  $R_{AA}$  at  $p_T < 5$  GeV at RHIC.

At high  $p_T$ ,  $R_{AA}(D) \sim R_{AA}(\pi) < R_{AA}(B \rightarrow J/\psi)$  at LHC.

D meson flows and the  $v_2$  follows the mass ordering and kET scaling.

**Quarkonia:** the centrality and  $p_T$  dependence of  $J/\psi$  suppression pattern at

RHIC and LHC can be interpreted as the interplay of two key ingredients:

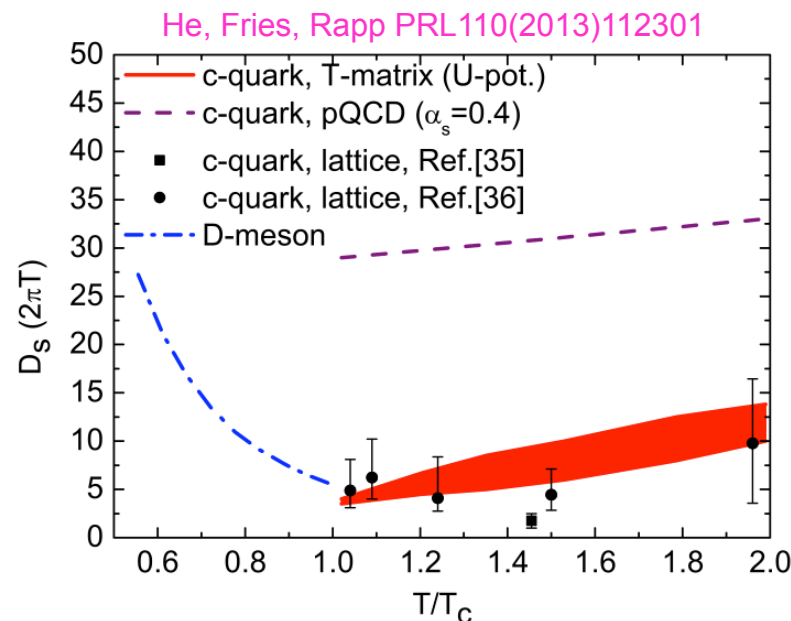
recombination and color screening;

Sequential melting for  $\Upsilon(1S, 2S, 3S)$  at LHC.

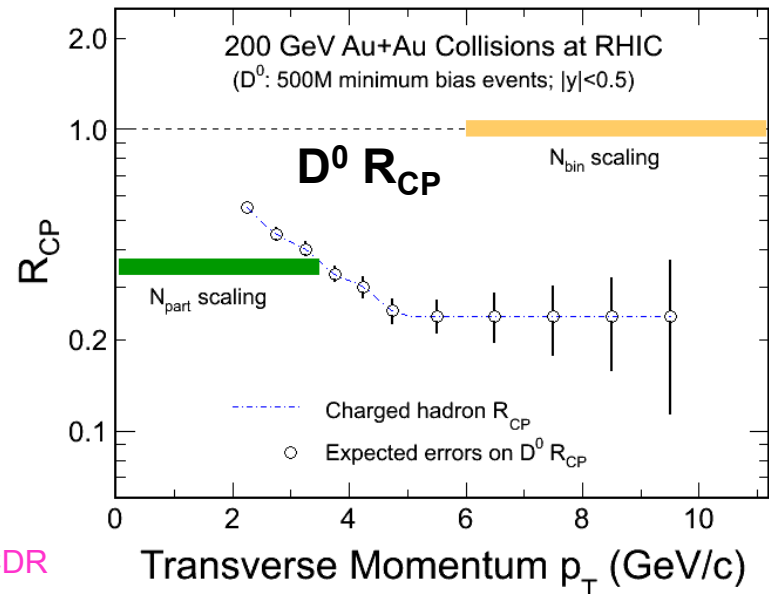
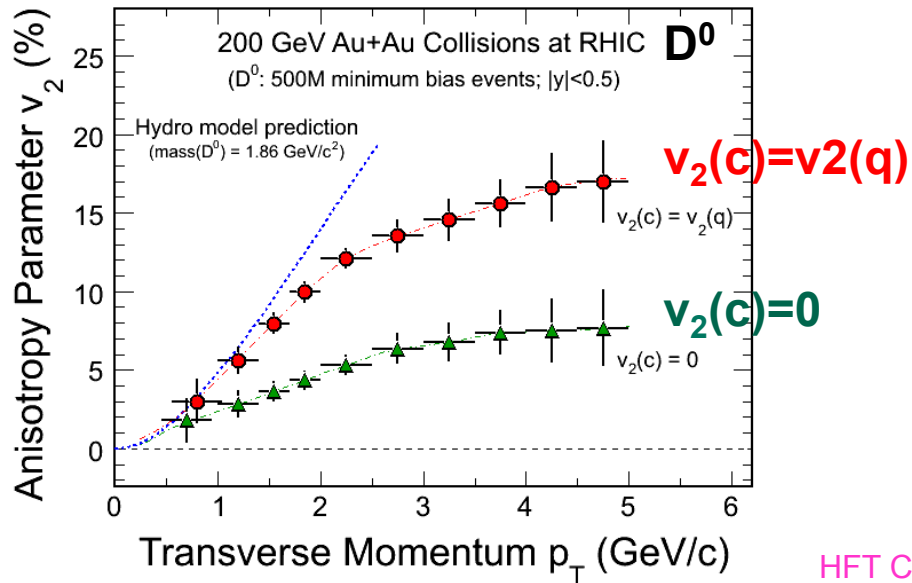
**We are in the era to study color screening features of hot, dense medium**

Questions: How does heavy flavor diffusion coefficient depend on temperature?

How does the in-medium QCD force depend on temperature? ...

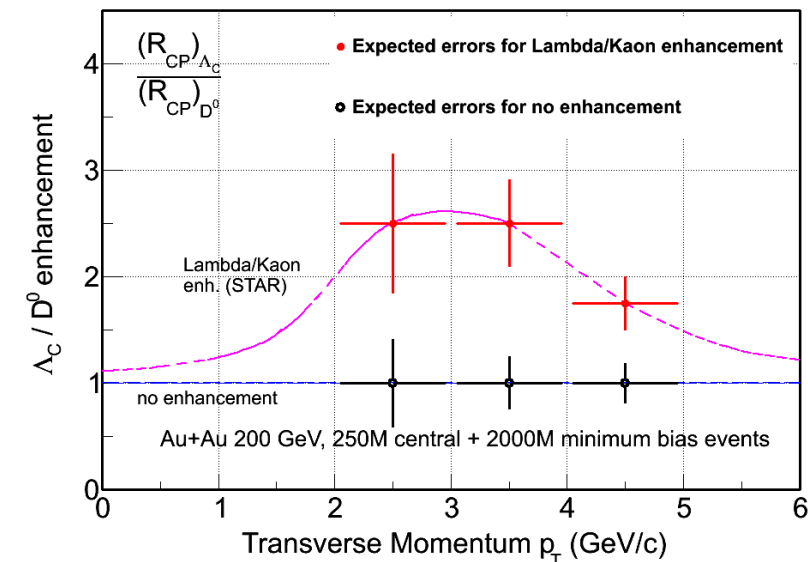


# The HFT – study heavy flavor dynamics



HFT CDR

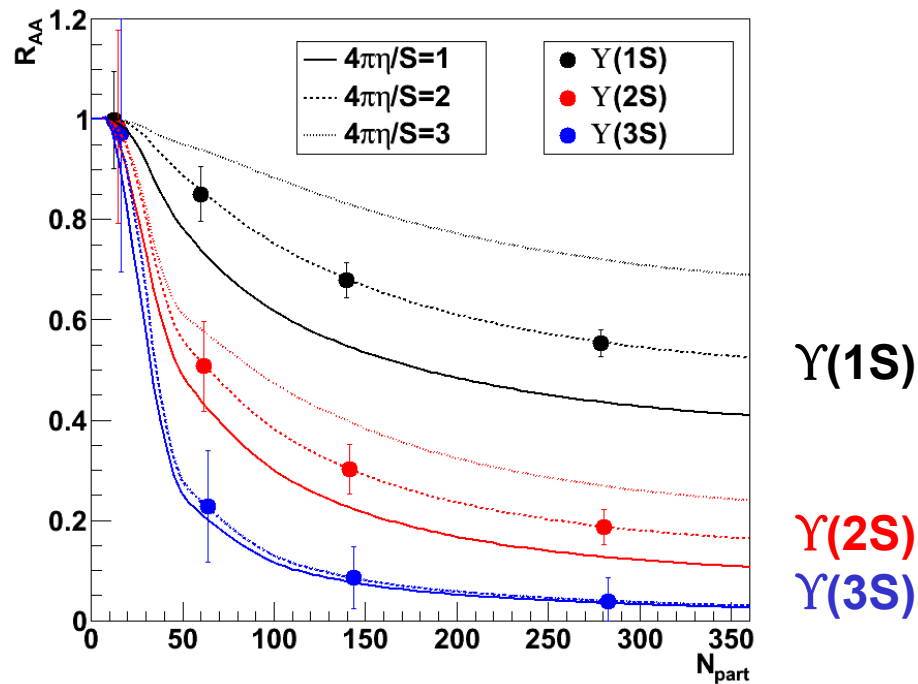
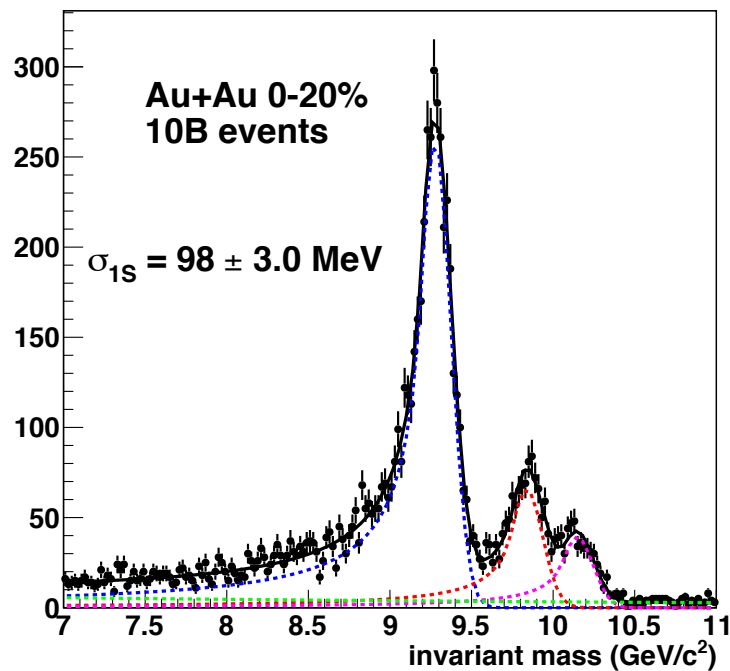
$R_{CP}(\Lambda_c) / R_{CP}(D^0)$



$v_2$ , baryon/meson ratios,  $R_{CP}$  to understand heavy quark dynamics in the medium:  
heavy quark transport coefficients,  
thermalization with medium,  
energy loss mechanism.

# sPHENIX: Quarkonium measurements for 2020+

$Y(1S,2S,3S) \rightarrow e^+e^-$



sPHENIX will provide more precise measurements.

Constrain color screening feature and initial temperature of QGP evolution.

# Summary

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Our current measurements demonstrate that

- heavy flavor quarks are strongly coupled to the medium.
- different  $\Upsilon$  states are sequentially melted.

The data start to constrain heavy quark diffusion coefficient and  $Q\bar{Q}$  potential in hot, dense matter semi-quantitatively.

The data of next decade will put stringent constraints on

- temperature-dependent heavy quark diffusion coefficient.
- charm and bottom thermalization.
- temperature-dependent in-medium QCD force.
- mass-dependent radiative energy loss.



# Open questions on quarkonia

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Turn qualitative features into quantitative understanding!

- Understand our p+p reference: CS versus CO contributions et al.
- Knowing the p+p production mechanism is crucial in order to obtain a complete picture in heavy ion collisions: for example, a colored object will lose energy when traversing the medium. Has this effect been considered in theoretical calculations?
- Dynamic modeling is critical!

Will the coherent photo-nuclear quarkonium production be helpful to probe the in-medium QCD force?