

# Femtoscscopy in heavy-ion collision experiments at various $\mu_B$

Introduction

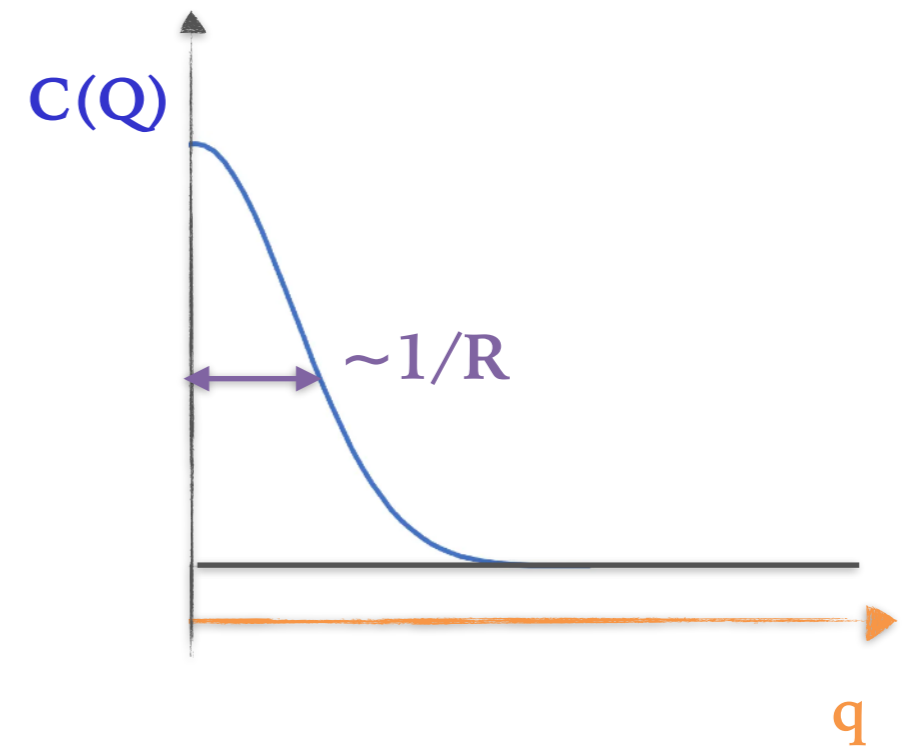
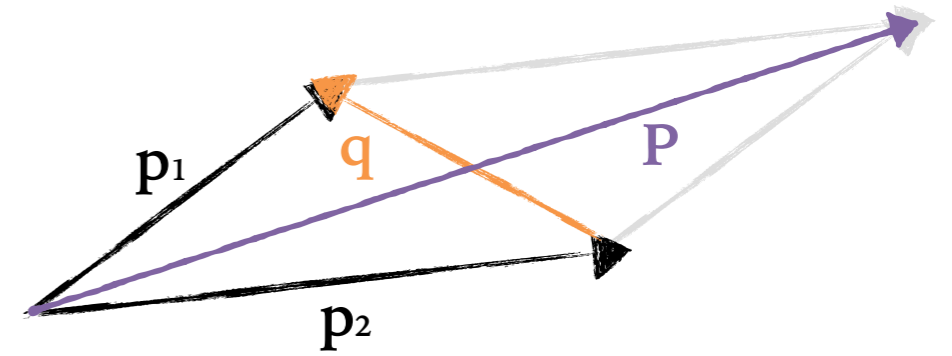
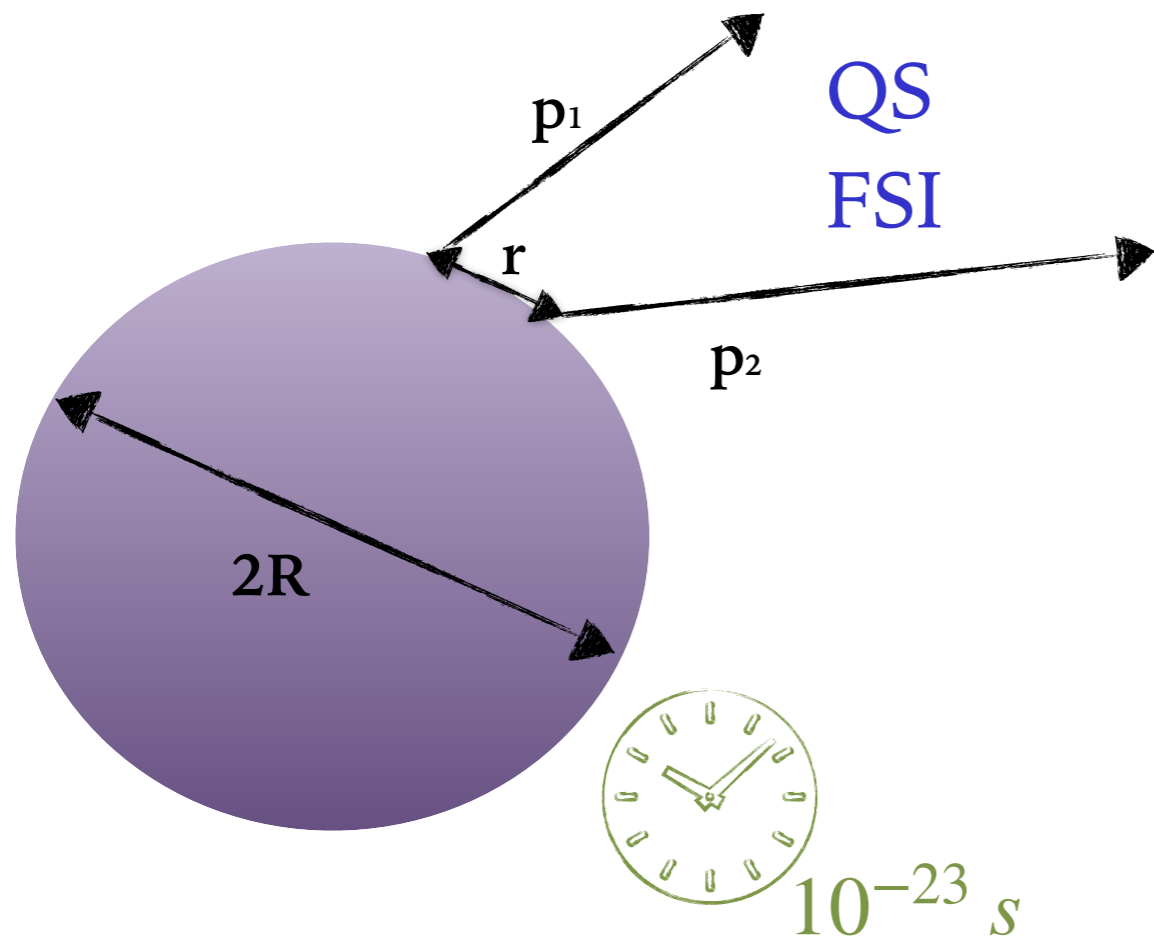
Scanning QCD phase diagram:

- neutron stars
- neutron star mergers
- phase transitions

Summary

Hanna Zbroszczyk

WPCF 2023, November 6-10, 2023, Catania, Italy



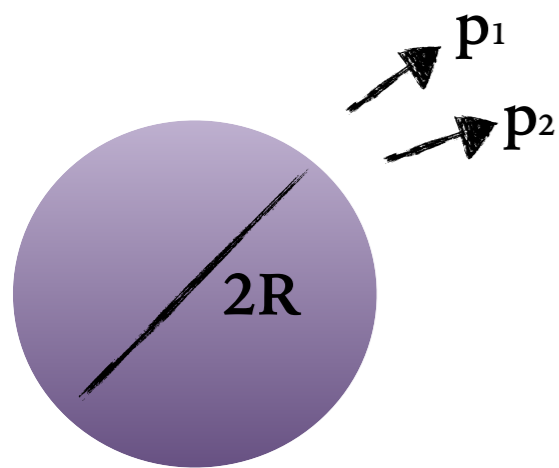
# Femtoscscopy

... the method to probe **geometric** and **dynamic** properties of the source



# Classic femtoscopy

Femtoscopy (originating from HBT):  
the method to probe **geometric** and **dynamic** properties of the source



Space-time properties ( $10^{-15}m$ ,  $10^{-23}s$ ) determined thanks to two-particle correlations:

**Quantum Statistics** (Fermi-Dirac, Bose-Einstein);

**Final State Interactions** (Coulomb, strong)

$$C(k^*, r^*) = \int \overset{\text{determined}}{S(r^*)} \overset{\text{assumed}}{|\Psi(k^*, r^*)|^2} d^3r^* = \overset{\text{measured}}{\frac{Sgnl(k^*)}{Bckg(k^*)}}$$

$S(r^*)$  - source function

$\Psi(k^*, r^*)$  - two-particle wave function (includes e.g. FSI interactions)

$\frac{Sgnl(k^*)}{Bckg(k^*)}$  - correlation function

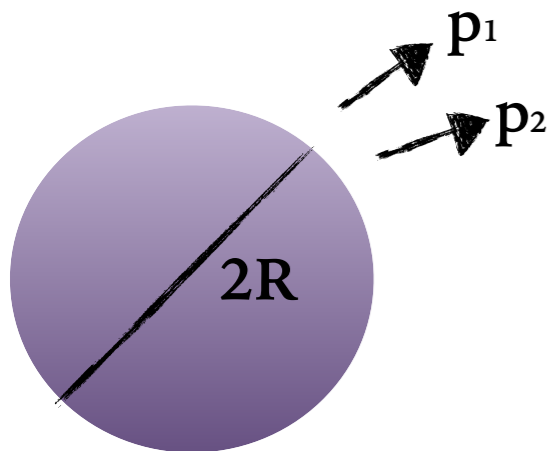
# Gateway to study interactions

If we assume we know the **source function**, measured **correlations** are used to determine **interactions in the final state**.

Space-time properties ( $10^{-15}m, 10^{-23}s$ ) determined thanks to two-particle correlations:

Quantum Statistics (Fermi-Dirac, Bose-Einstein);

Final State Interactions (Coulomb, strong)



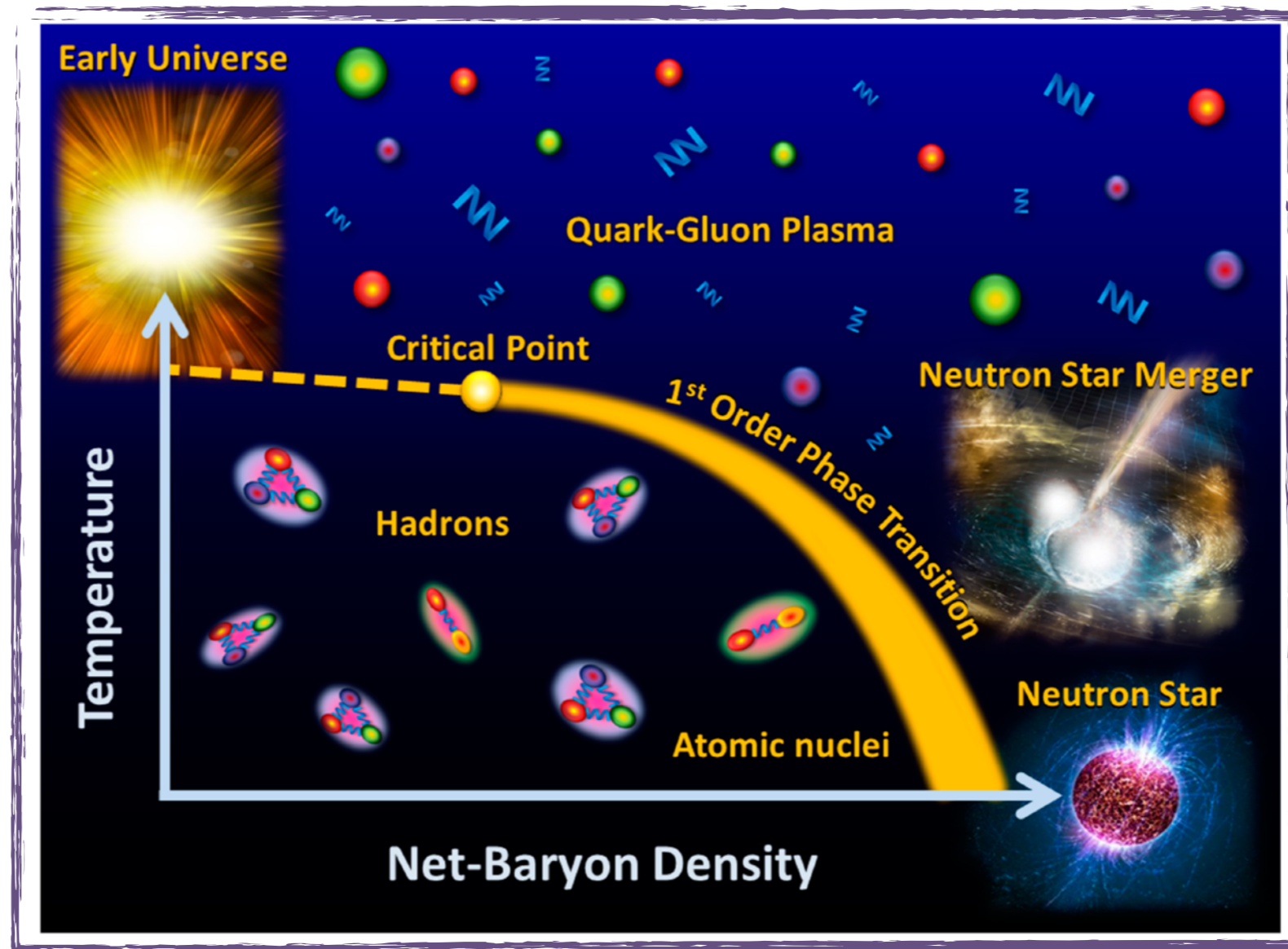
$$C(k^*, r^*) = \int \overset{\text{assumed}}{S(r^*)} \overset{\text{determined}}{|\Psi(k^*, r^*)|^2} d^3r^* = \overset{\text{measured}}{\frac{S_{\text{gnl}}(k^*)}{B_{\text{ckg}}(k^*)}}$$

$S(r^*)$  - source function

$\Psi(k^*, r^*)$  - two-particle wave function (includes e.g. FSI interactions)

$\frac{S_{\text{gnl}}(k^*)}{B_{\text{ckg}}(k^*)}$  - correlation function





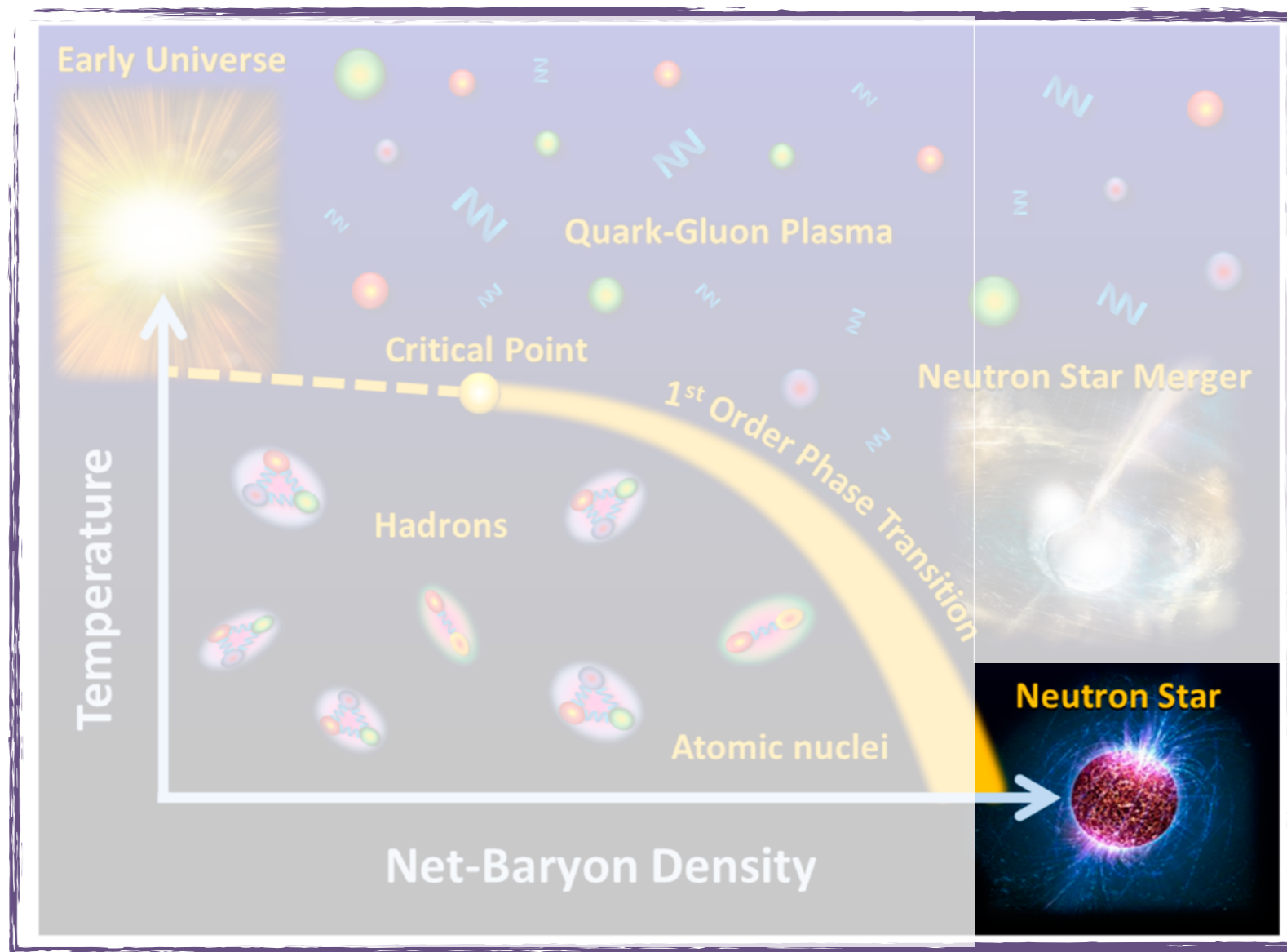
<https://www.researchgate.net>

# Scanning various $\mu_B$

- .. to study strongly interacting matter
- .. to explore unknown QCD territory

# Neutron stars

Exploration of unknown QCD territory: high  $\mu_B$



Temperature  
 $T < 10 \text{ MeV}$

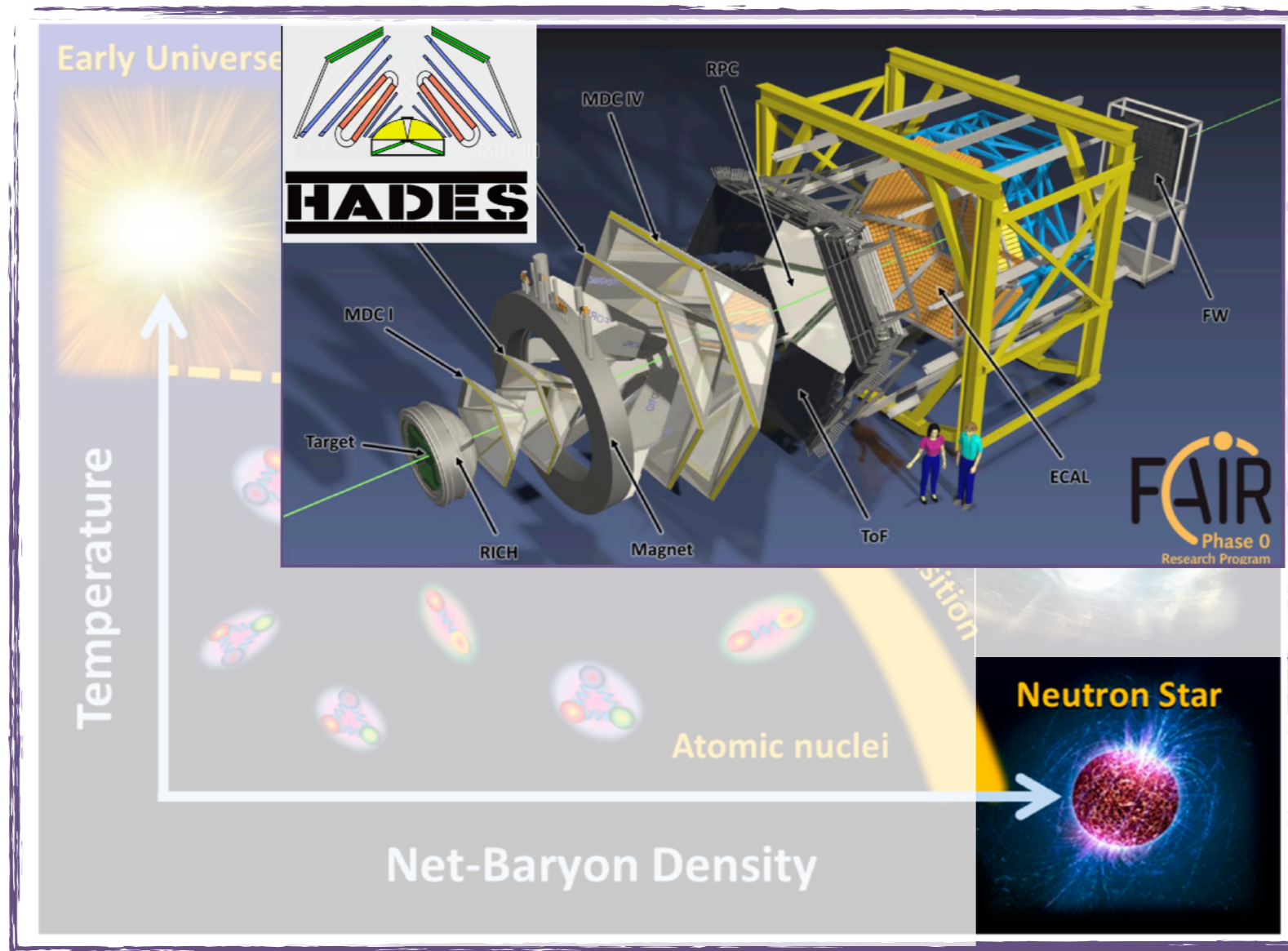
Density  
 $n < 10n_0$

Lifetime  
 $t \sim \text{long}$

<https://www.researchgate.net>

# Neutron stars

Exploration of unknown QCD territory: high  $\mu_B$



Temperature  
 $T < 10 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 3n_0$

Lifetime  
 $t \sim \text{long}$

<https://www.researchgate.net>



# Neutron star puzzle

- **Hyperons:** expected in the core of neutron stars; conversion of N into Y energetically favorable.
- Appearance of Y: The relieve of Fermi pressure → **softer EoS** → mass reduction (incompatible with observation).

$$M_{NS} \approx 1 \div 2 M_{\odot}$$

$$R \approx 10\text{-}12 \text{ km}$$

$$\rho \approx 3 \div 5 \rho_0$$

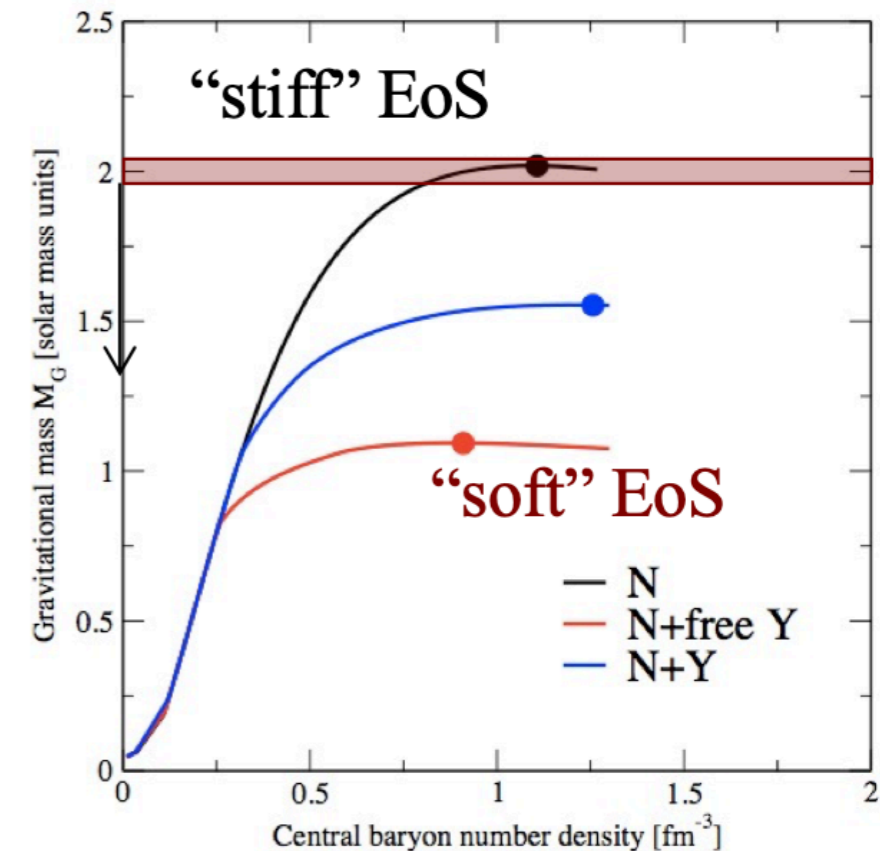
The solution requires a mechanism that could provide the **additional pressure** at high densities needed to make the EoS stiffer.

A few possible mechanisms, one of them:

- **Two-body YN & YY interactions**

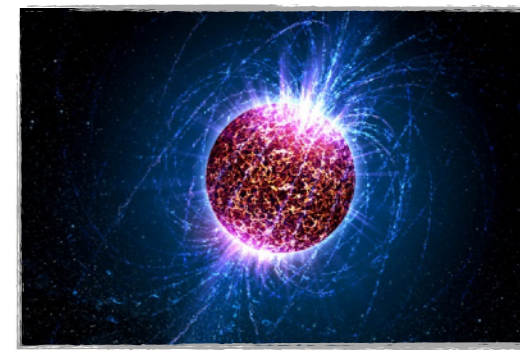
A lot of experimental and theoretical effort to understand:

- The **KN** interaction, governed by the presence of  $\Lambda(1405)$
- The nature of  $\Lambda(1405)$ , the consequences of **KNN** formation
- **K** and  $\bar{K}$  investigated to understand kaon condensation



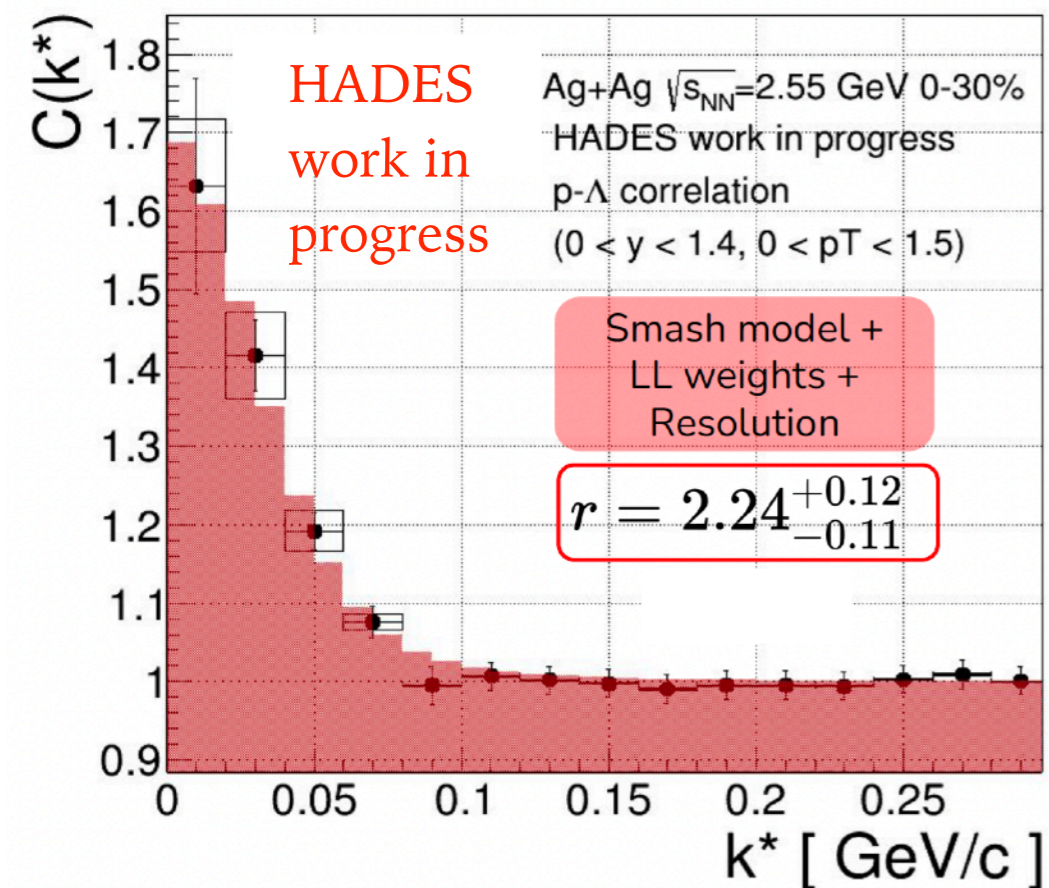
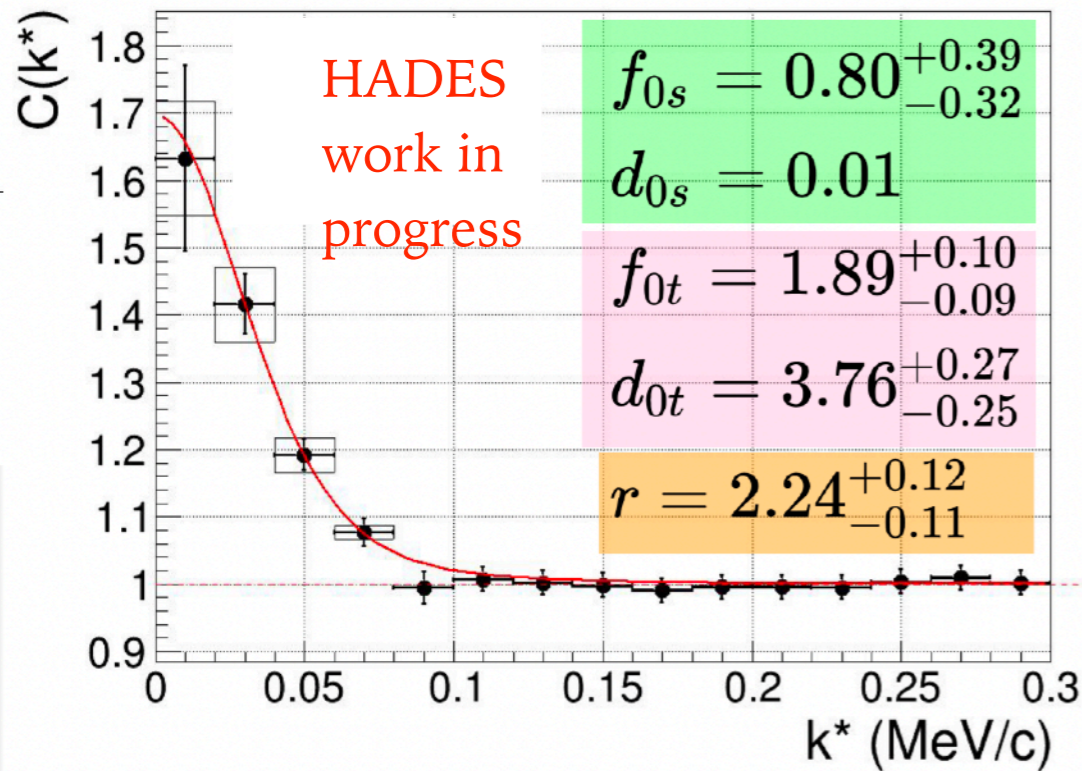
$$\rho_0 \approx 2.8 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$$

# YN and YY interactions



- **Experiment:** More ... and more!  
interest about YN and YY interactions!
- **Theory:** Major steps forward have been taken (Lattice QCD).
- **Numerous theoretical predictions exist, many experimental searches look for evidence for bound states.**
- The existence of **hypernuclei** (confirmed by attractive YN interaction) → indicates the possibility to bind Y to N.
- The measurement of the YN and YY interactions leads to important implications for the possible formation of **YN or YY bound states.**
- A precise knowledge of these interactions help to explore unknown structure of neutron stars.





## Physics Image Extraction

Formalism with  
 Lednicky-Lyuboshitz  
 (L-L) approach

$R_G$  : spherical Gaussian source of pairs  
 $f_0$  : scattering length  
 $d_0$  : effective range

## Major assumptions:

- ❖ Smoothness approximation for source function
- ❖ Effective range expansion for  $\Psi(\mathbf{r}^*, \mathbf{k}^*)$
- ❖ Static and spherical Gaussian source
  - Single particle source:  $S_i(x_i, p_i^*)$
  - Pair source (radius  $R_G$ ):  $S(x, p^*) \propto e^{-x^2/2R_G^2} \delta(t - t_0)$
- ❖ Approximate the wave function by its asymptotic form

$$C(\mathbf{k}^*) \approx 1 + \frac{|f(k)|^2}{2R_G^2} F(d_0) + \frac{2\text{Re}f(k)}{\sqrt{\pi}R_G} F_1(2kR) - \frac{\text{Im}f(k)}{R_G} F_2(2kR_G)$$

$$\frac{1}{f(k)} \approx \frac{1}{f_0} + \frac{d_0 k^2}{2} - ik$$

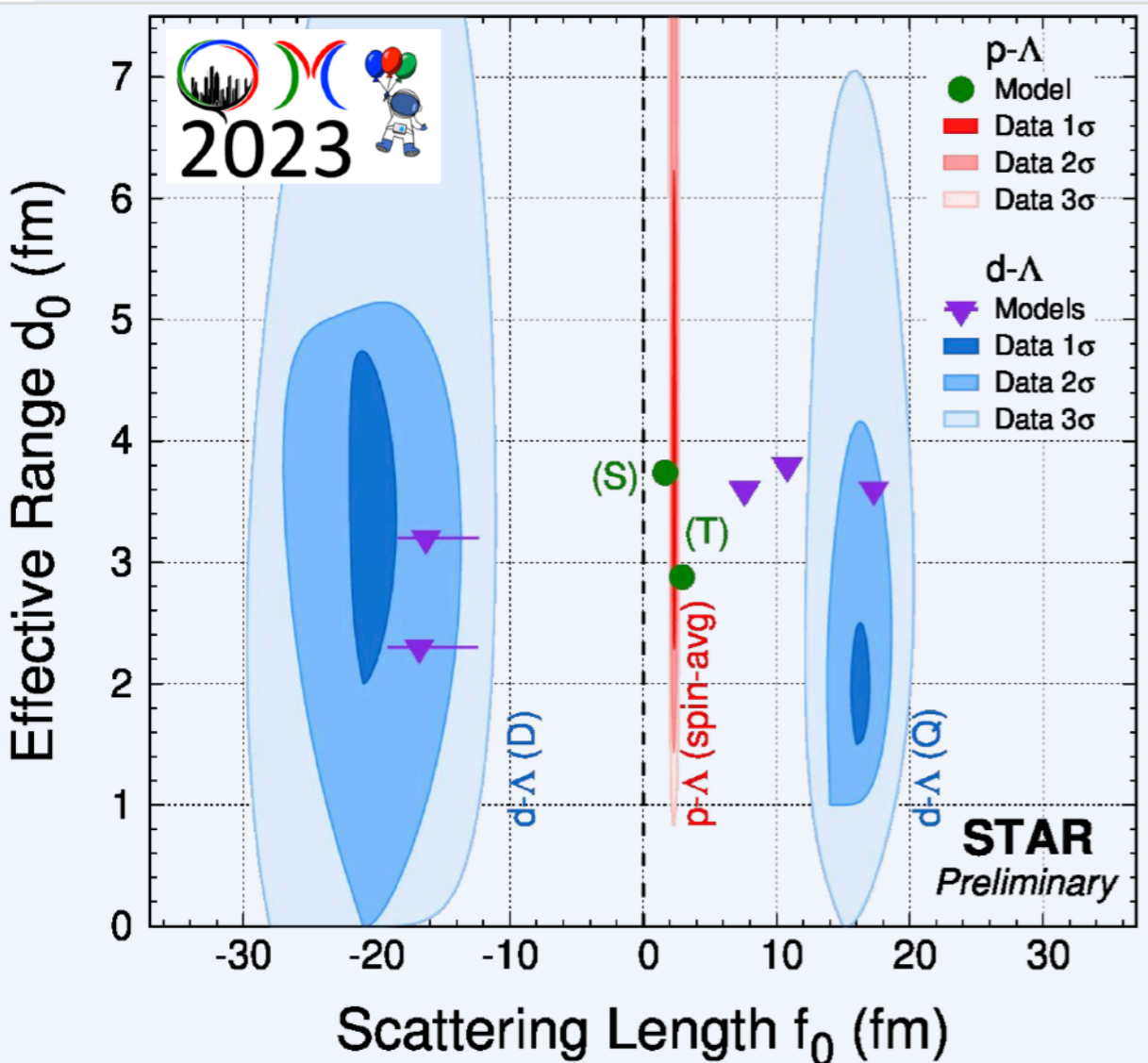
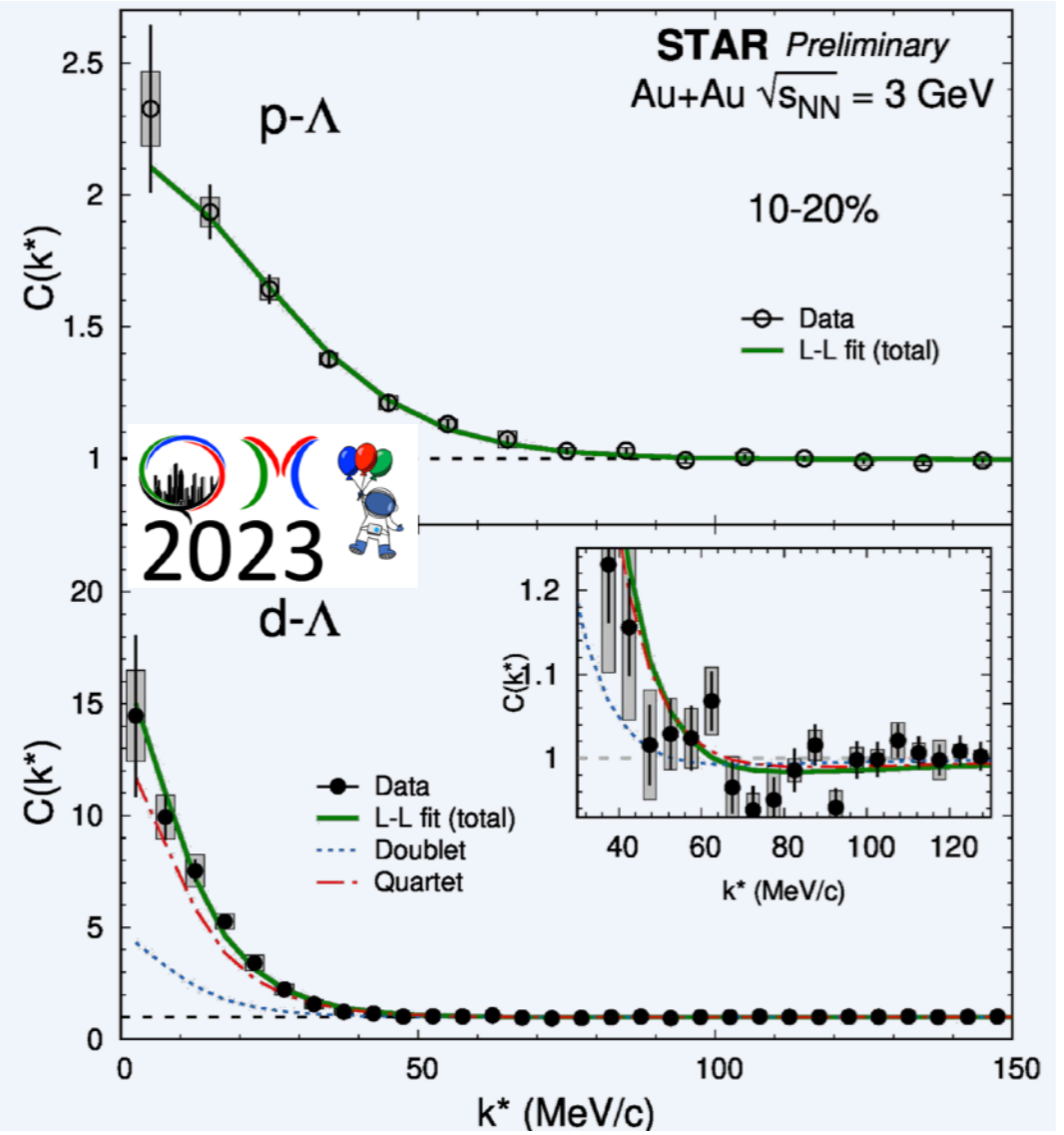
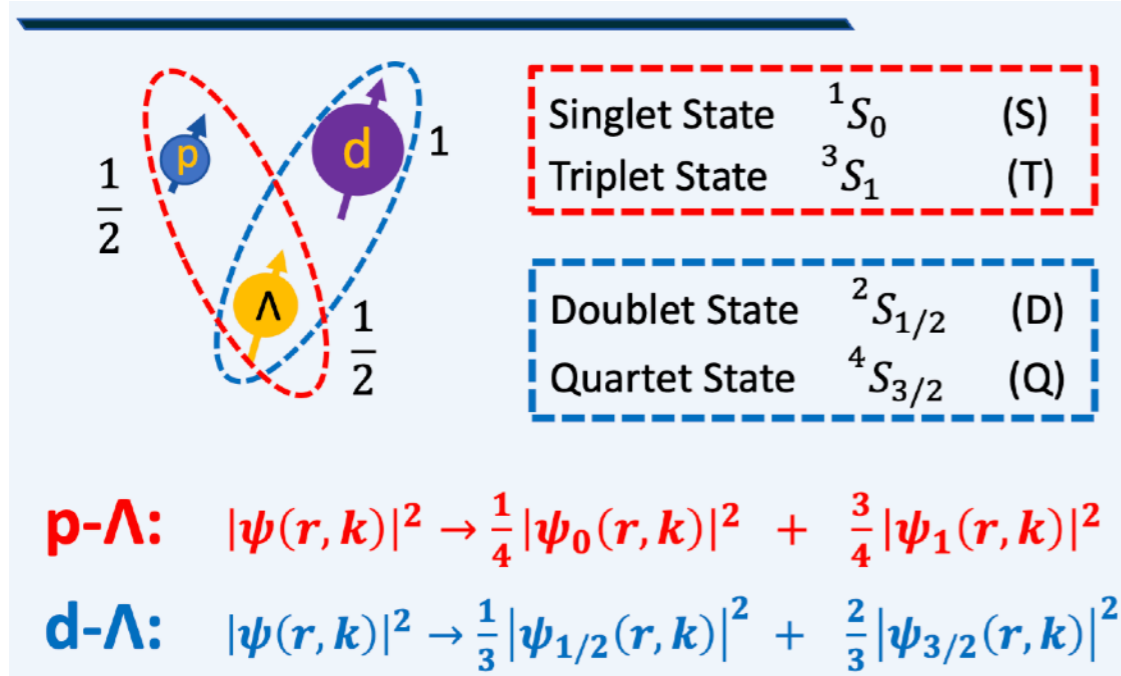
Different  $f_0$  and  $d_0$  for  
 different spin states

Separate spin-states



# YN interactions at STAR

Zhi Qin



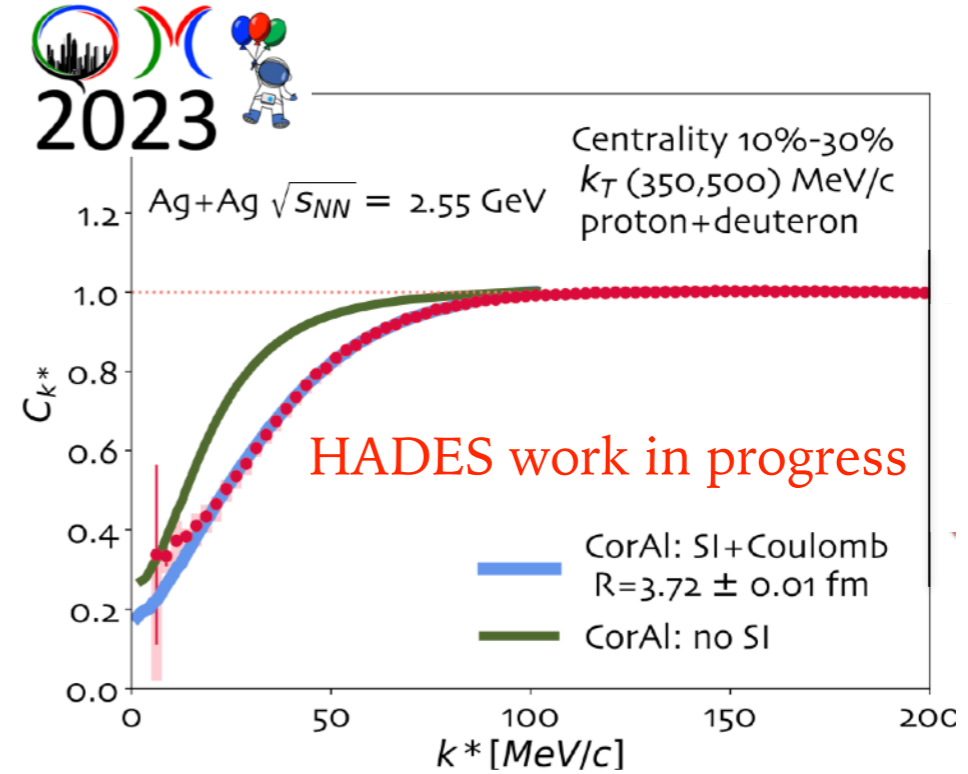
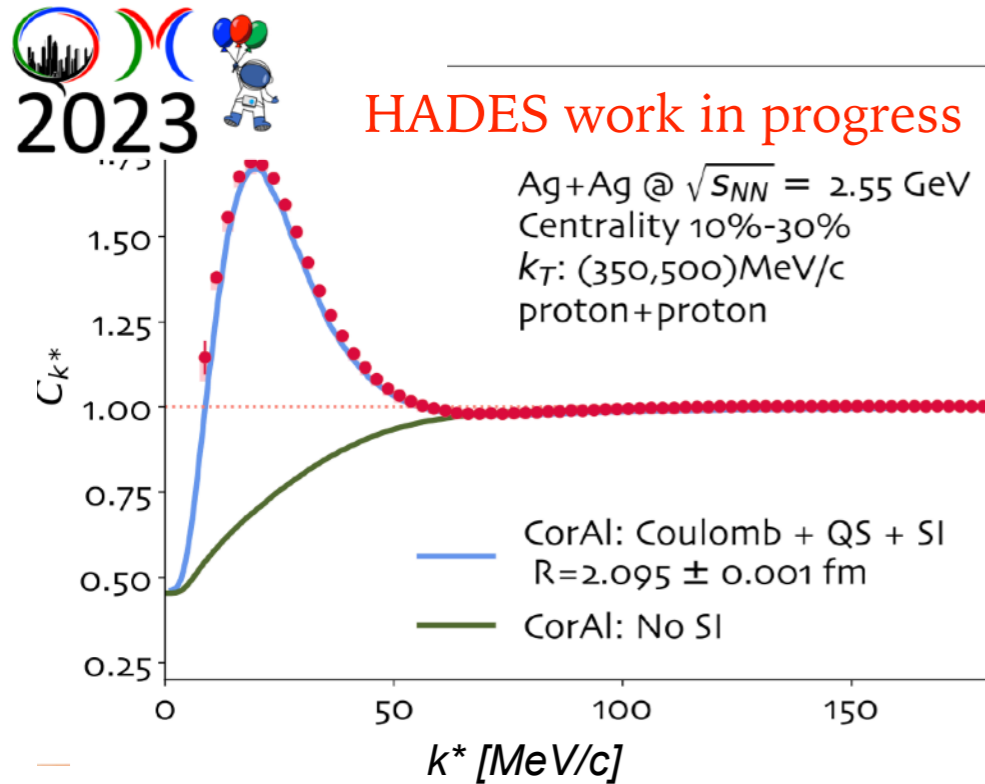
Different spin states with different FSI parameters

**p- $\Lambda$  correlation:** currently spin-averaged fit

**d- $\Lambda$  correlation:** spin-separated fit

# Light nuclei production at HADES

Maria Stefaniak



Door to study fundamental interactions, additional nucleons:  $p \rightarrow d \rightarrow t$  and  ${}^3_2\text{He}$   
 What is the production mechanisms of nuclear fragments / clusters?

- thermal production?
- coalescence?

Proton-proton and proton-deuteron FSI described by potentials:

p-p: V.G.J.Stoks et al., Phys.Rev.C 49,2950 (1994)

p-d: T.C. Black et al., Phys.Lett.B 471, 103 (1999)

# THERMINATOR 2

Sz. Harabasz, J. Kołaś, HZ, et. al  
*Phys. Rev. C* 107, 034917

Thermal models of hadron production have been successful in describing hadron yields in various collision processes.

Matter is treated as **non-interacting hadron resonance gas**.

Ratios of measured particle yields → location on the phase diagram.

A few thermodynamic parameters fixed → **hadron yields**.

The role of hadronic resonances crucial at **high energies** (~400 states).  
At **lower energies** their role is **diminished**.

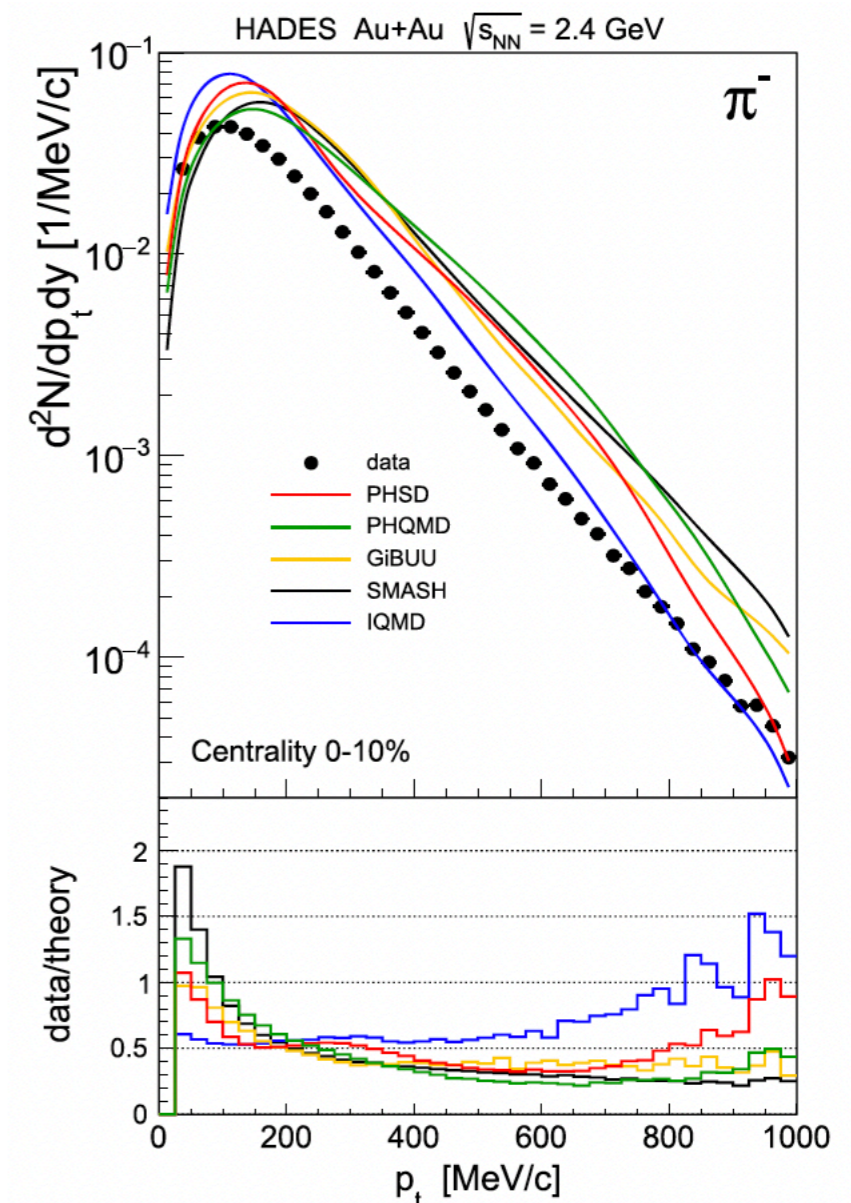
**Is the fireball in few-GeV energy regime thermalized? Debate..**

The study of hadron yields and spectra is crucial here.

A few-GeV regime still puzzling for the transport models.

Instead of determining freeze-out conditions from hydrodynamic / transport one can **model the freeze-out conditions (hypersurface and flow)**.

Jędrzej Kołaś



HADES, *Eur.Phys.J.A* 56 (2020) 259



# Light nuclei production at HADES with THERMINATOR 2 model

Jędrzej Kołaś

In the original formulation of the blast-wave model by **Siemens and Rasmussen (SR)** the freeze-out was spherical and the flow was radial.

→ Modified for RHIC and LHC (boost-invariance and cylindrical symmetry).

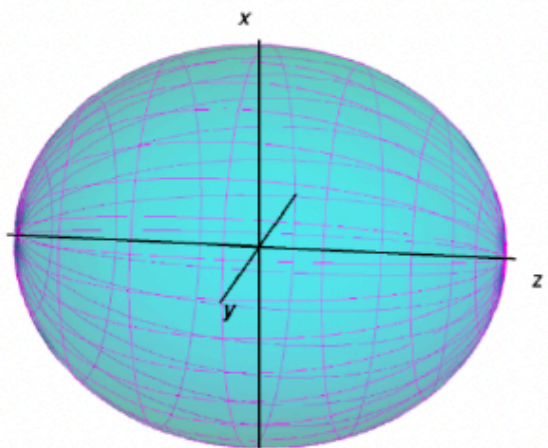
SR model is re-examined in low-energy collision measurements by HADES (boost-invariance is not observed).

Parameter	Case A	Case B	Case C
$T$ (MeV)	49.6	70.3	63.1
$R$ (fm)	15.7	6.06	9.29
$\mu_B$ (MeV)	776	876	782
$\mu_S$ (MeV)	123.4	198.3	145.7
$\mu_{I_3}$ (MeV)	-14.1	-21.5	-24.5
$\gamma_S$	0.16	0.05	0.04
$\chi^2/N_{df}$	$N_{df} = 0$	1.13/2	62.30/5
$H$ (GeV)	0.01	0.0225	0.016
$\delta$	0.2	0.4	0.4
$\sqrt{Q^2}$	0.238	0.256	0.323

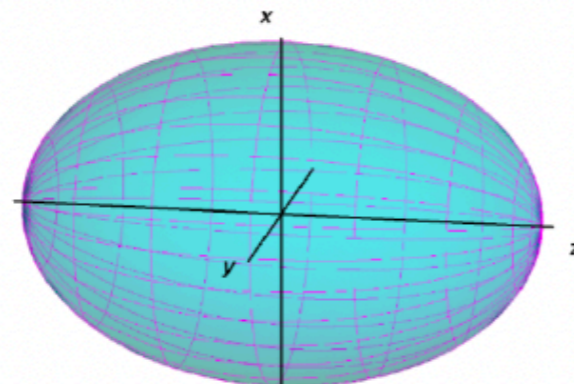
Coalescence

Thermal

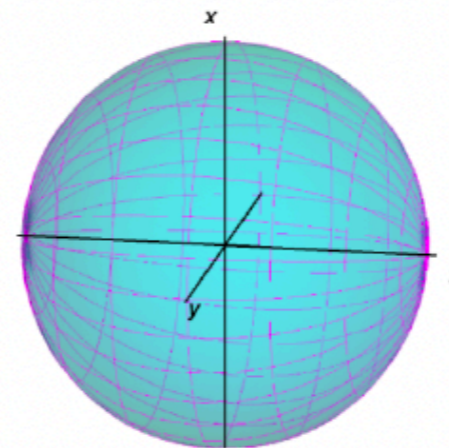
Case A  
 $\delta = 0.2$



Case B  
 $\delta = 0.4$



Spherical geom.  
 $\delta = 0.0$



Sz. Harabasz, J. Kołaś, HZ, et. al  
*Phys. Rev. C* 107, 034917

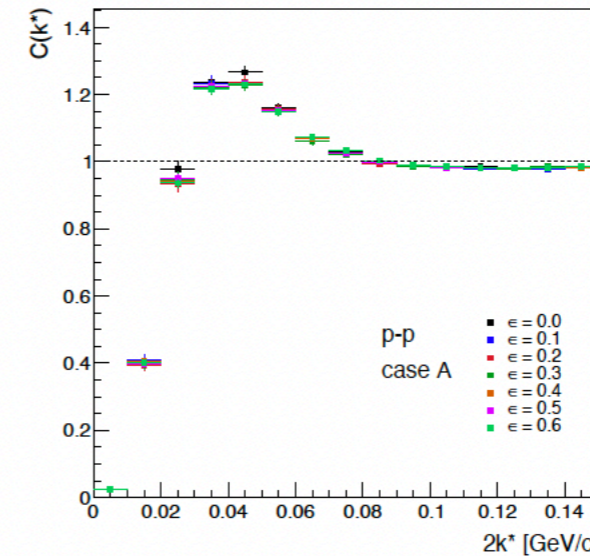
# Light nuclei production at HADES with THERMINATOR 2 model

Jędrzej Kołaś

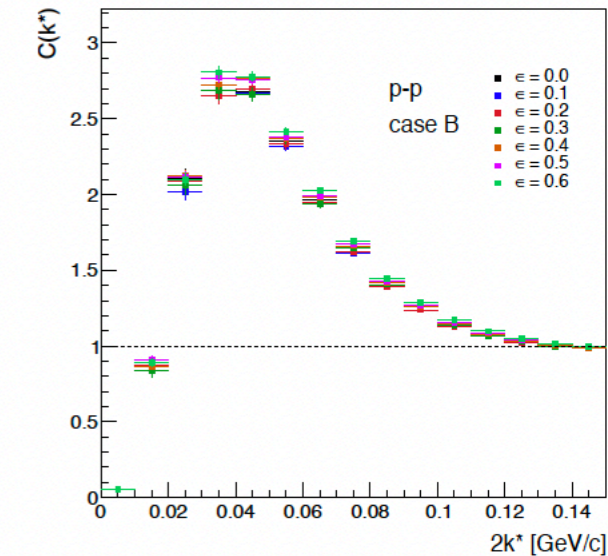
In the original formulation of the blast-wave model by Siemens and Rasmussen (SR) the freeze-out was spherical and the flow was radial.

→ Modified for RHIC and LHC (boost-invariance and cylindrical symmetry).

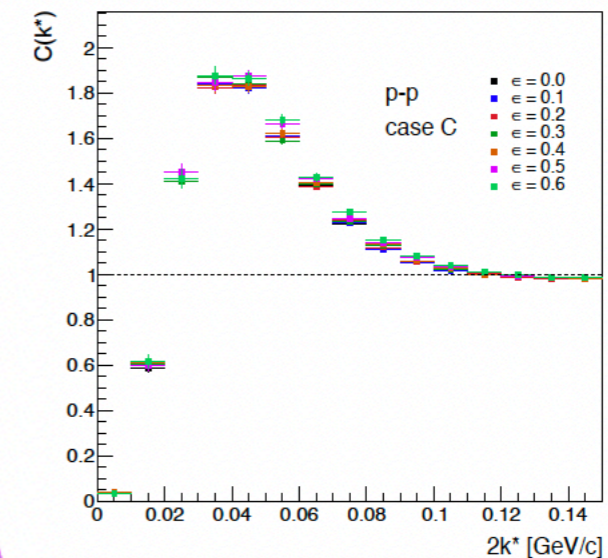
SR model is re-examined in low-energy collision measurements by HADES (boost-invariance is not observed).



(a) Case A.



(b) Case B.

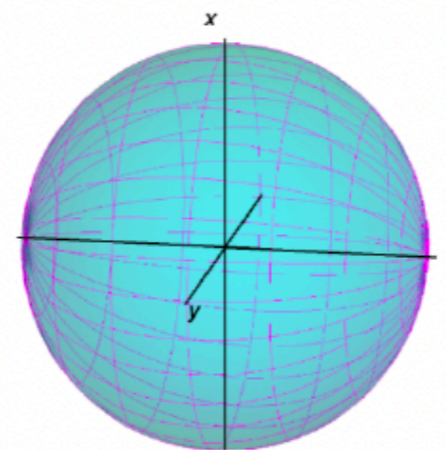
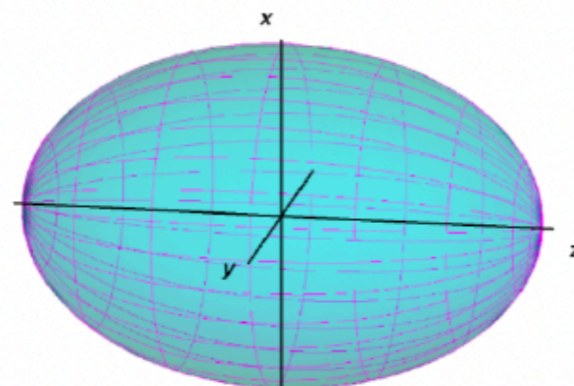
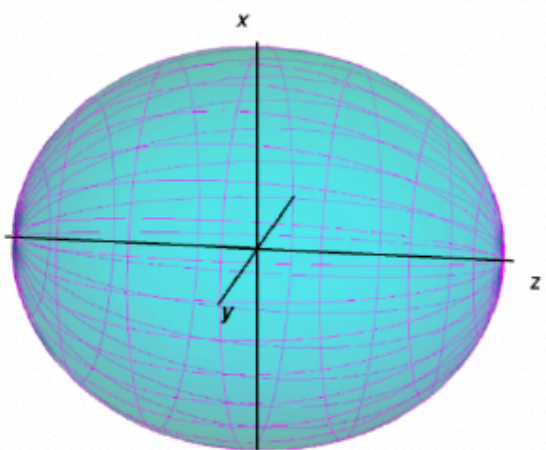


(c) Case C.

Case A  
 $\delta = 0.2$

Case B  
 $\delta = 0.4$

Spherical geom.  
 $\delta = 0.0$

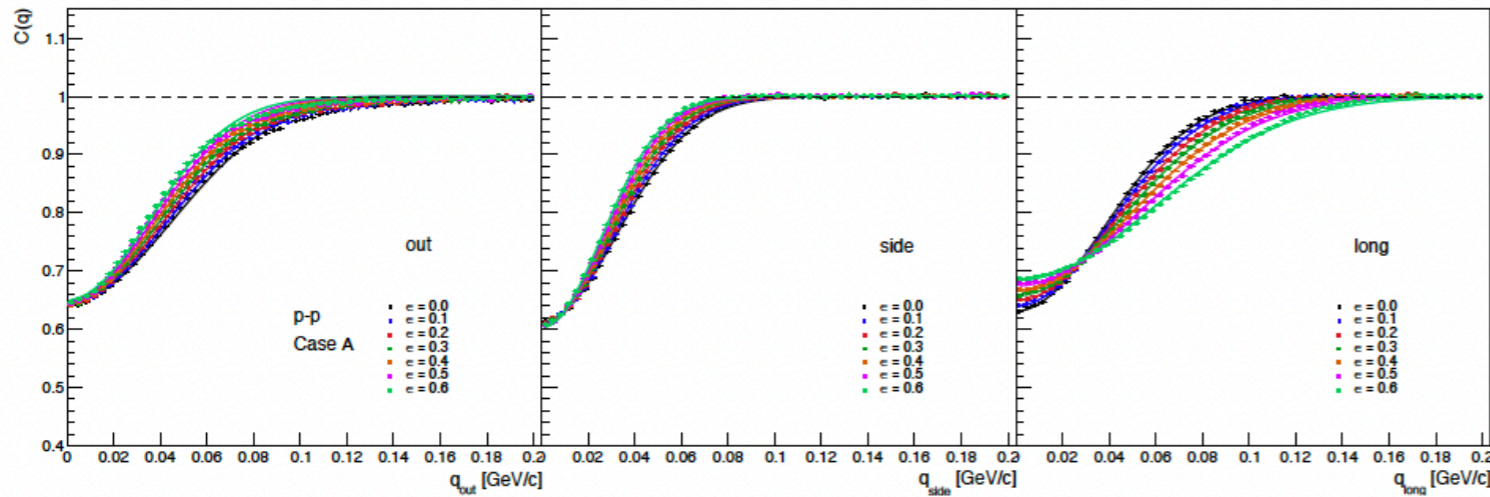


M. Kurach, B.Sc. thesis, WUT'23



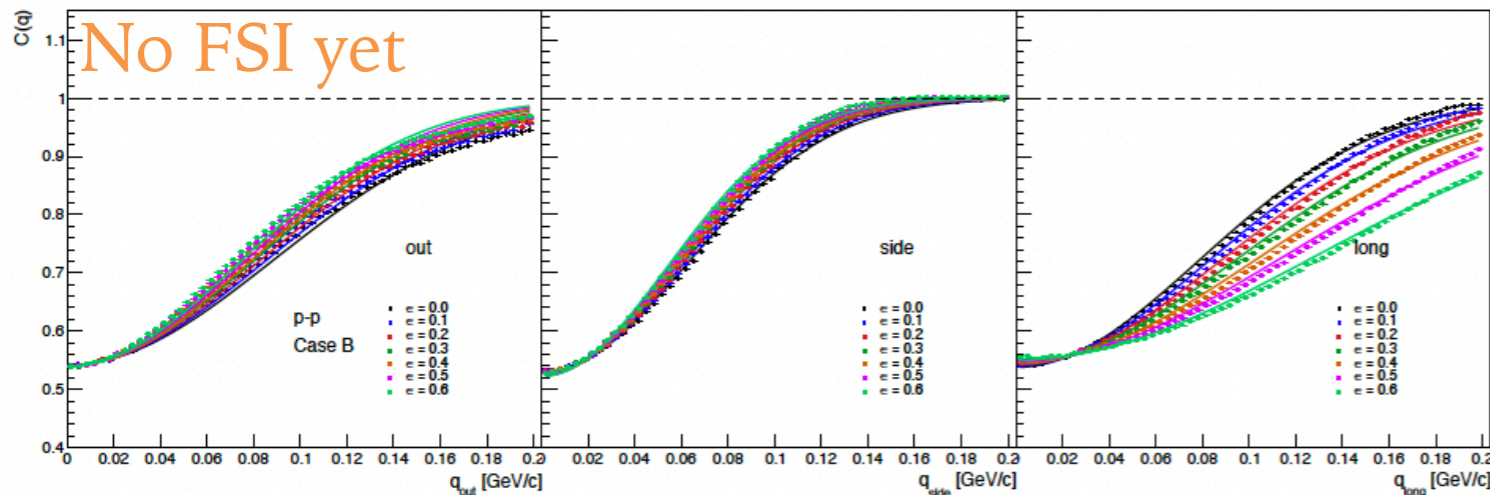
# Light nuclei production at HADES

Jędrzej Kołaś



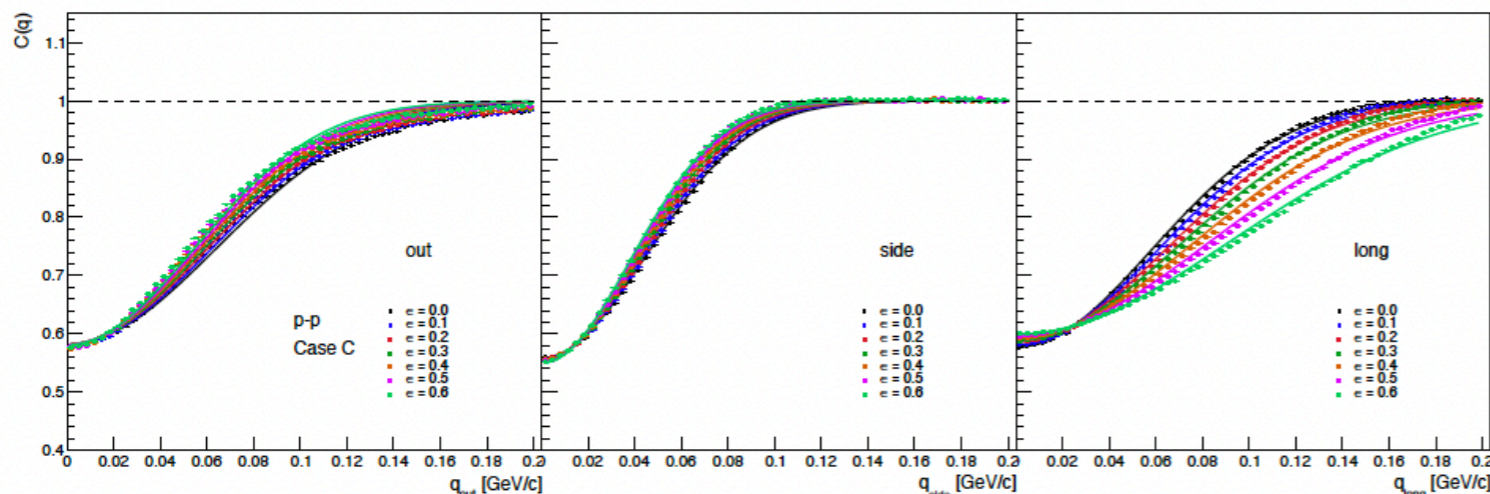
(a) Case A.

Only FD correlations

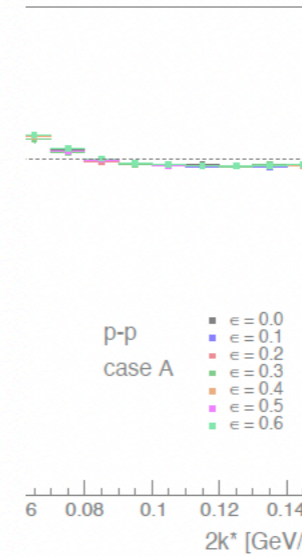


(b) Case B.

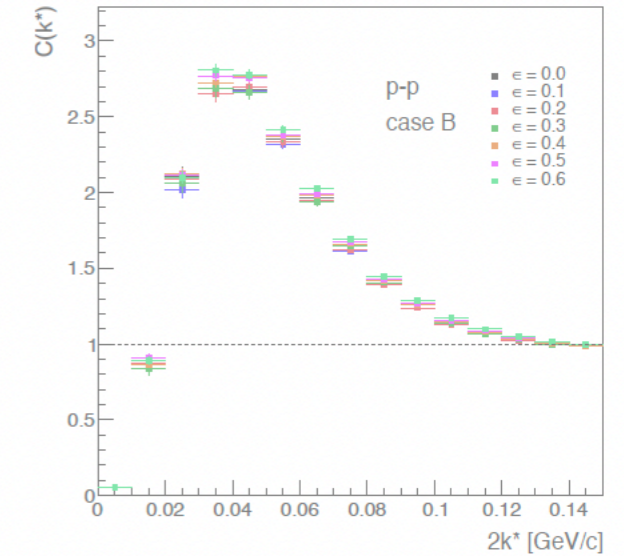
No FSI yet



(c) Case C.

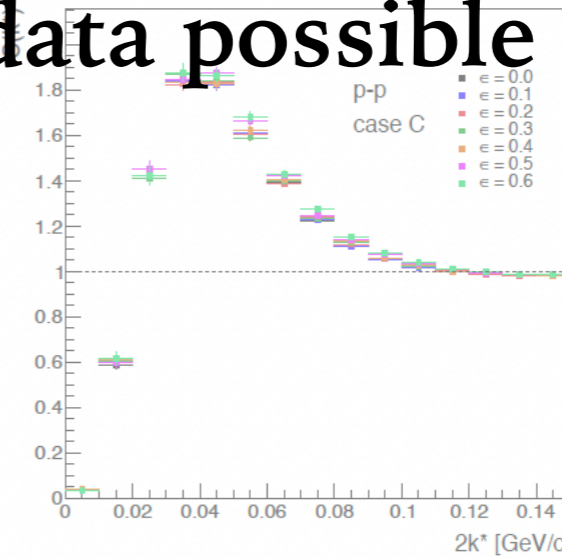


(i) Case A.



(b) Case B.

Comparison to HADES data possible in future



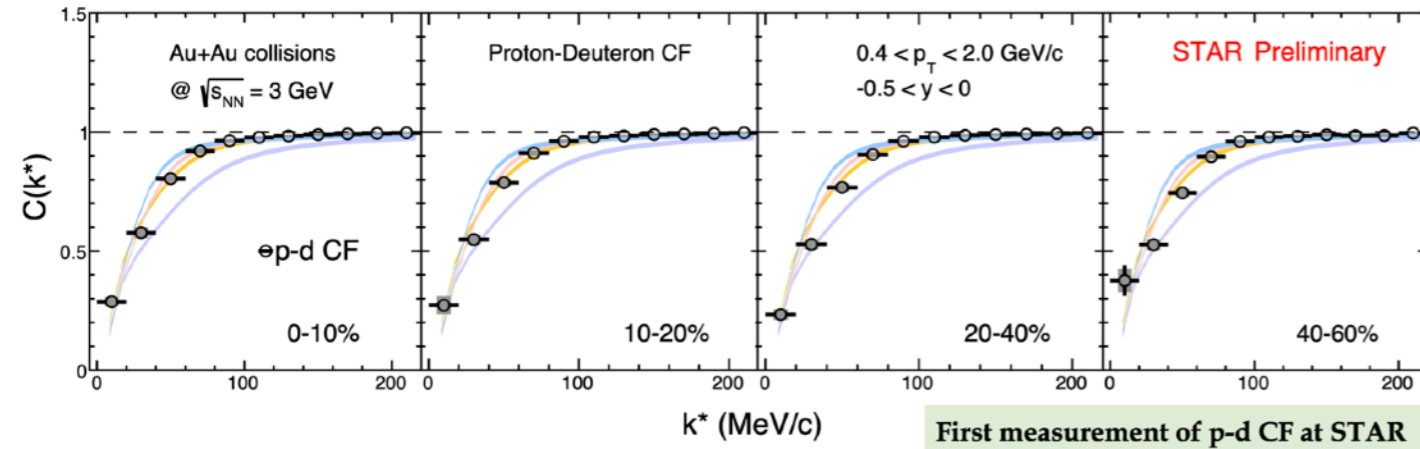
(c) Case C.

M. Kurach, B.Sc. thesis, WUT'23

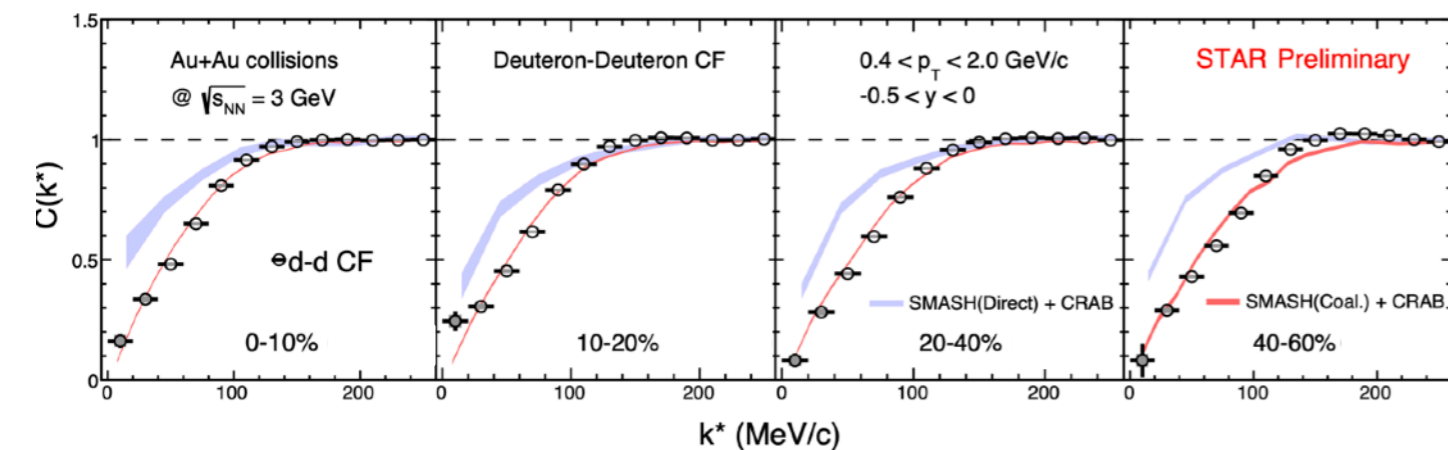
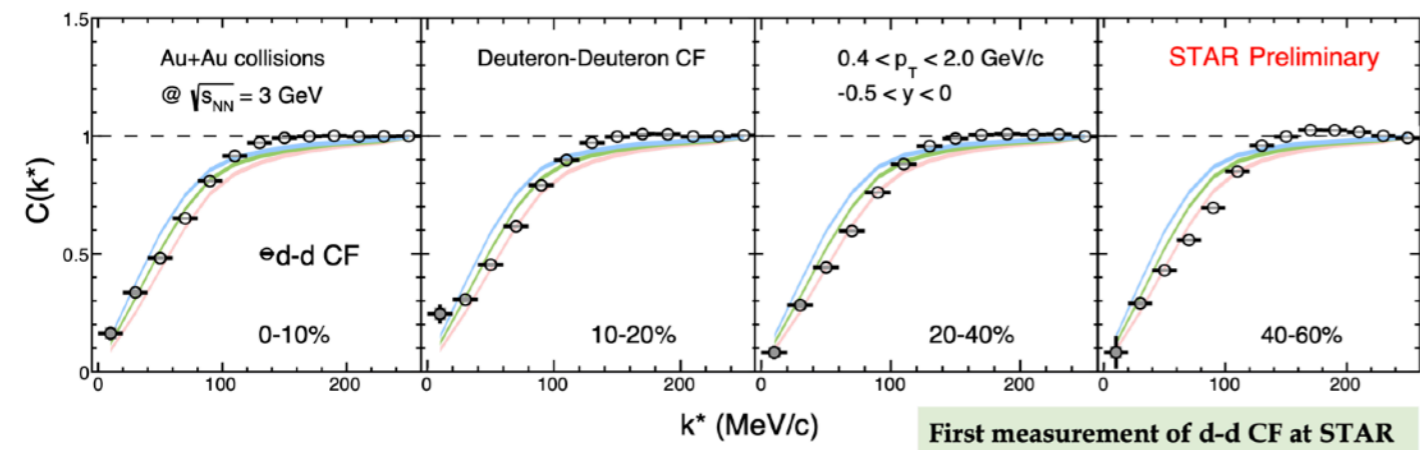


# Light nuclei production at STAR

- First measurement of proton-deuteron and deuteron-deuteron correlation functions from STAR



- Proton-deuteron and deuteron-deuteron correlations qualitatively described by theory;



- Deuteron-deuteron correlations described better by the model including coalescence. Light nuclei are likely to be formed via coalescence.

# E-M probes at HADES

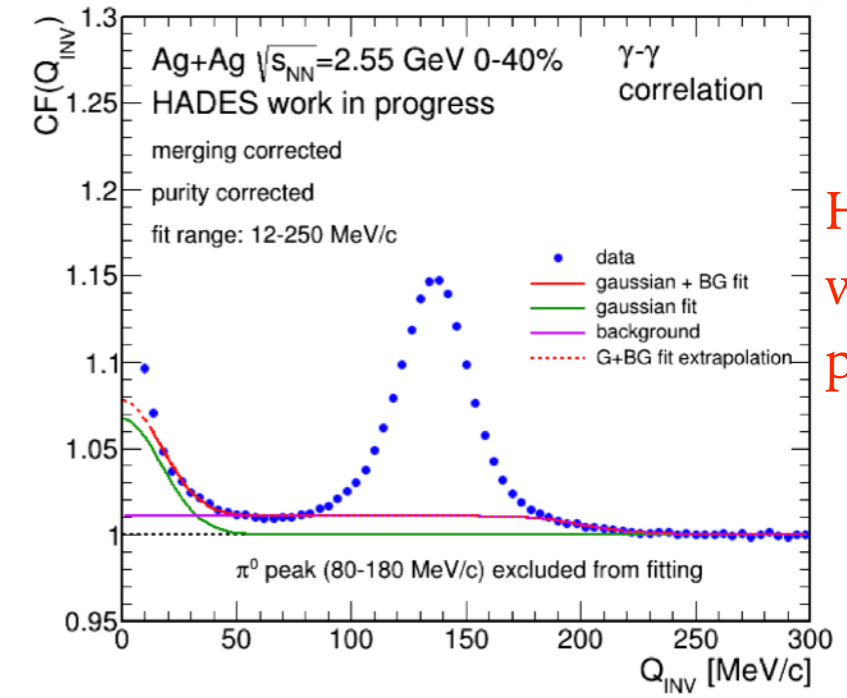
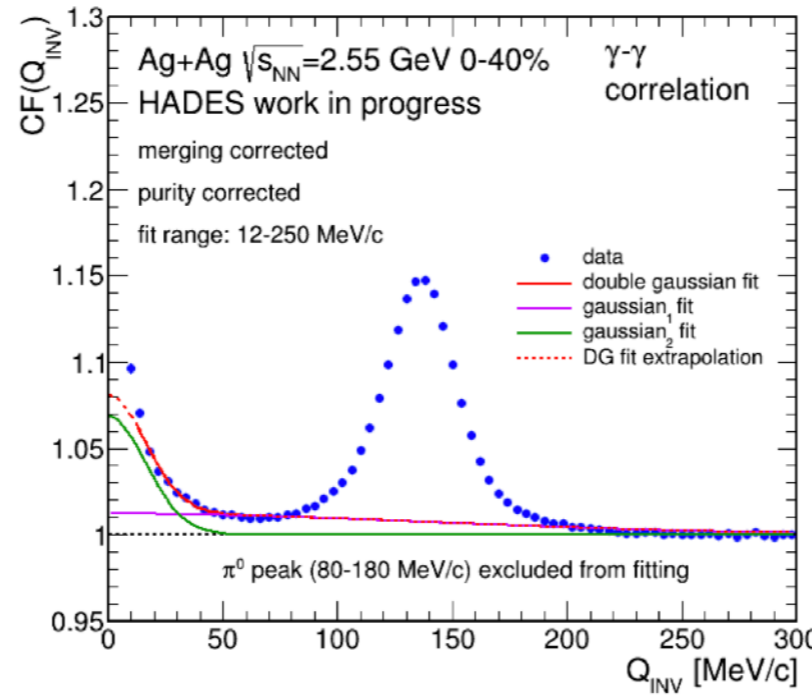
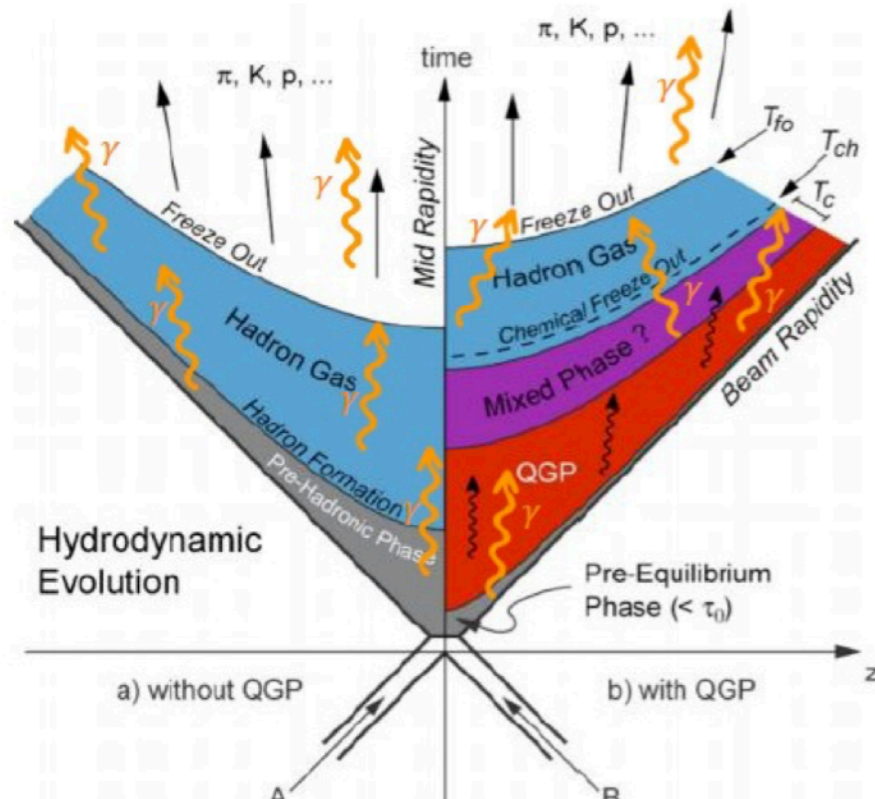
Mateusz Grunwald

**What if:**

Non-interacting bosons → assuming 2 sources  
(double gaussian or gaussian + some background)

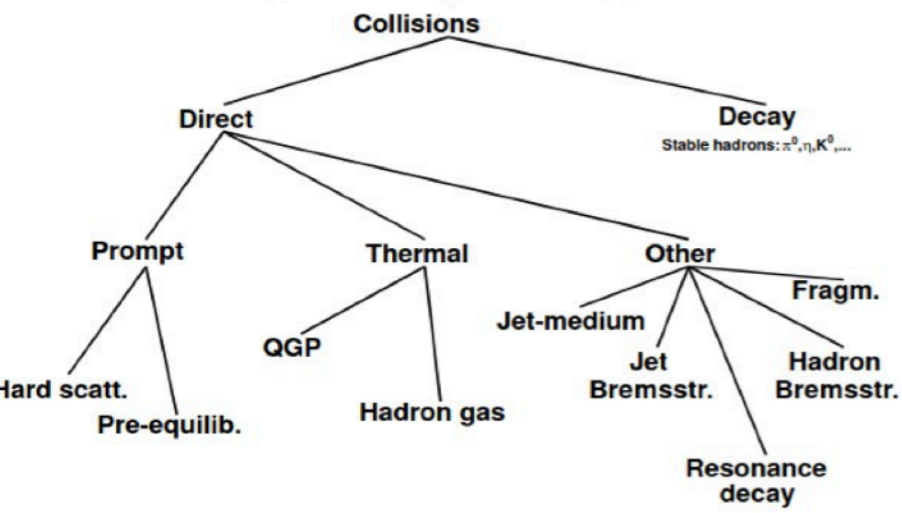
$$CF(Q_{inv}) = 1 + \lambda_1 e^{-Q_{inv}^2 \cdot R_1^2} + \lambda_2 e^{-Q_{inv}^2 \cdot R_2^2}$$

$$CF(Q_{inv}) = 1 + \lambda e^{-Q_{inv}^2 \cdot R^2} + \frac{a_0}{(1 + (a_1 \cdot Q_{inv})^{a_2})}$$



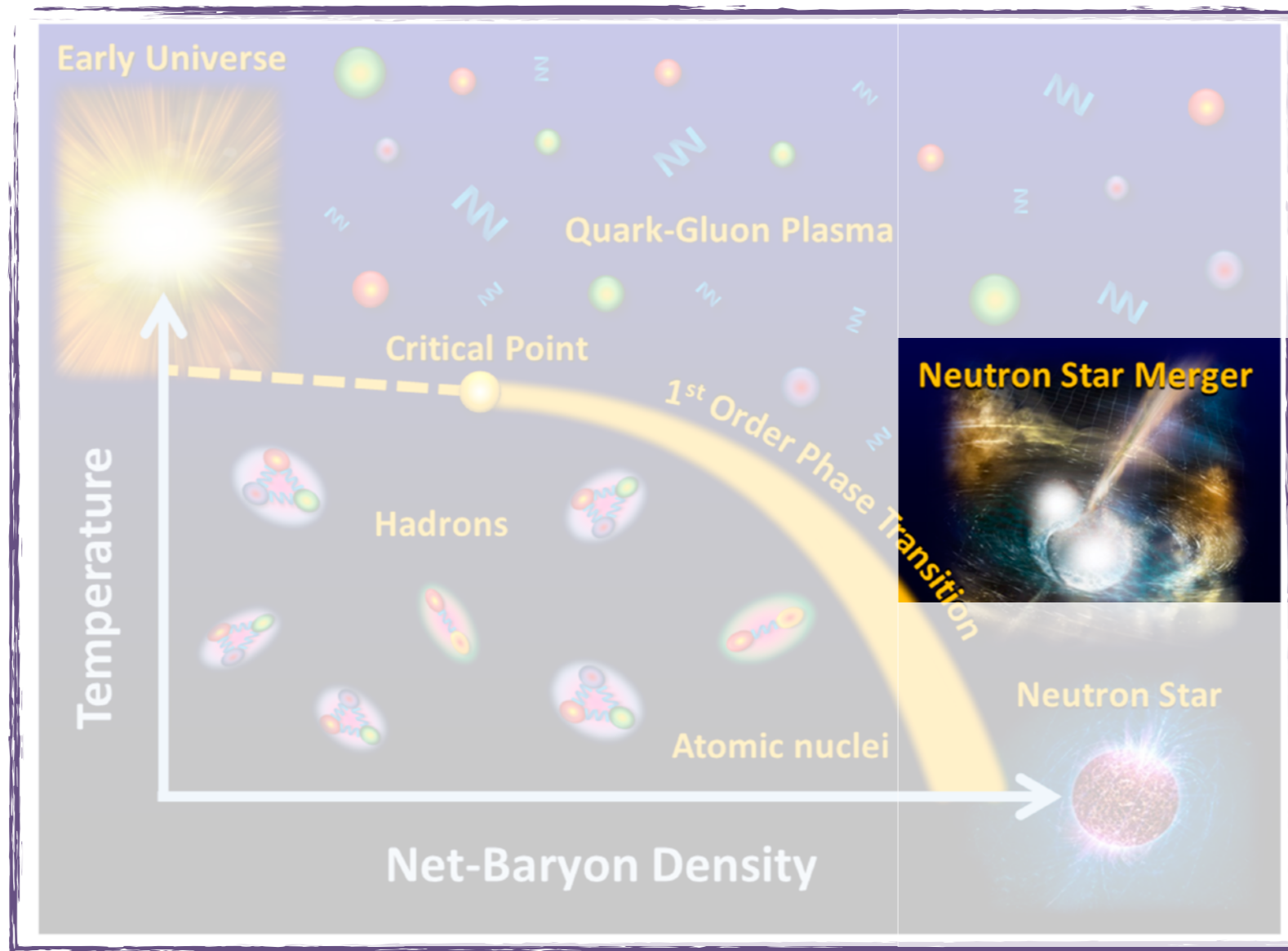
HADES work in progress

E-M probes signal various stages of the system's evolution;  
 Information about early stages (inaccessible for hadrons);  
 Access before freeze-out era;  
 A way to hunt for direct photons.



# Neutron star mergers

Exploration of unknown QCD territory: still high  $\mu_B$



Temperature  
 $T < 50 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 2 - 6n_0$

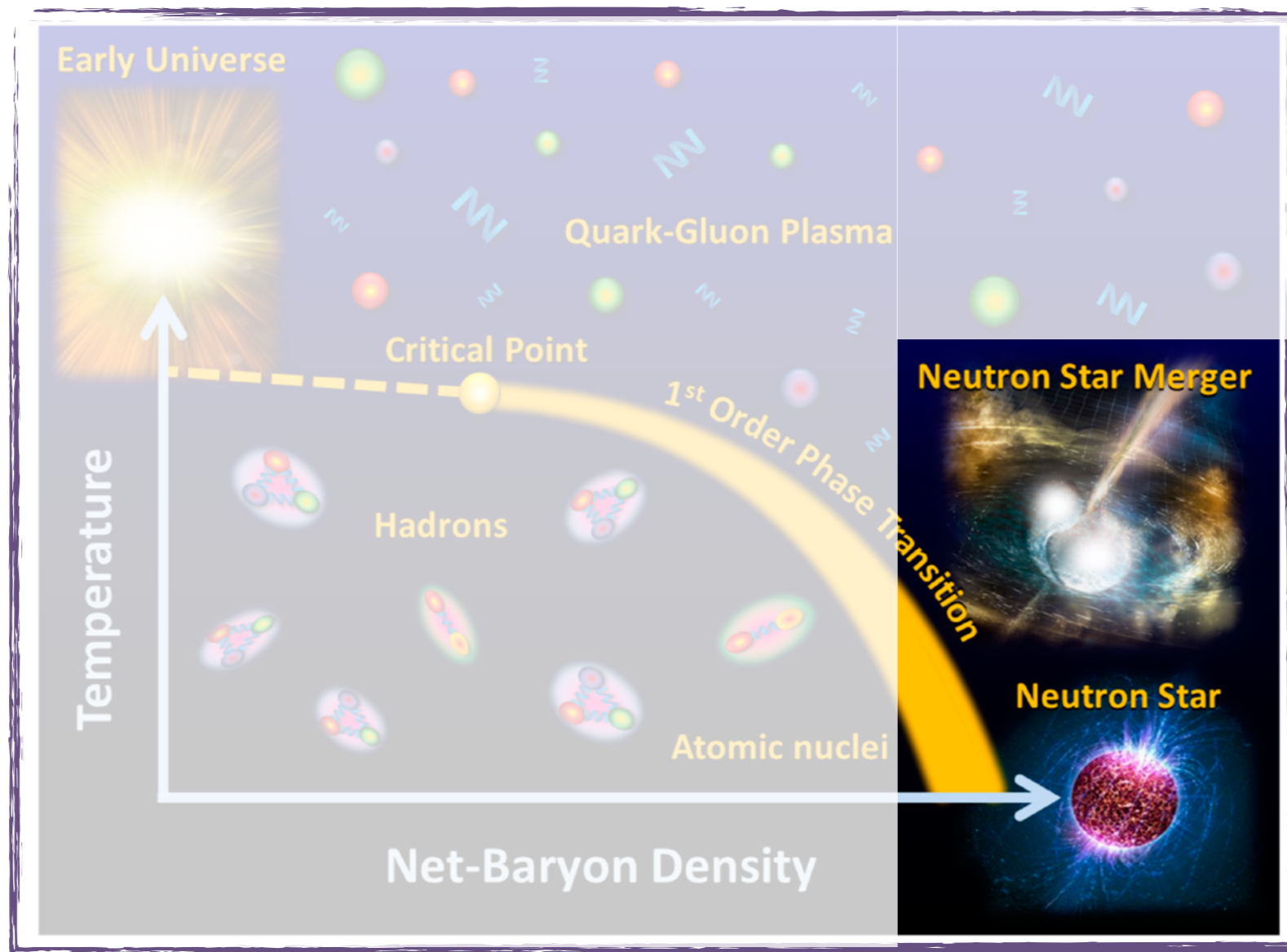
Reaction time  
 $t \sim 10 \text{ ms}$   
(GW170817)

<https://www.researchgate.net>



# Neutron star mergers

## CBM and HADES future



<https://www.researchgate.net>

Temperature  
 $T < 50 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 2 - 6n_0$

Reaction time  
 $t \sim 10 \text{ ms}$   
 (GW170817)

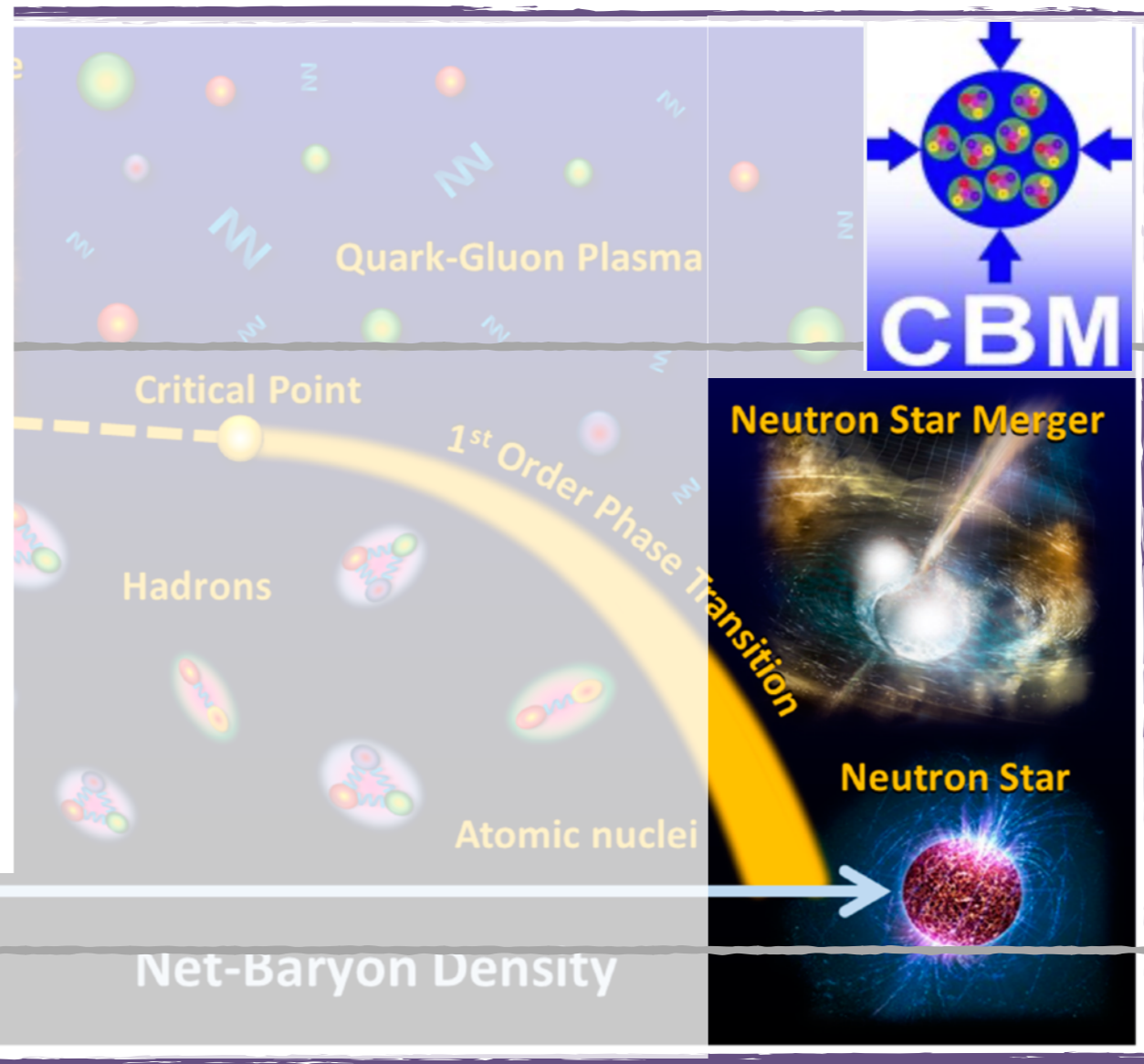
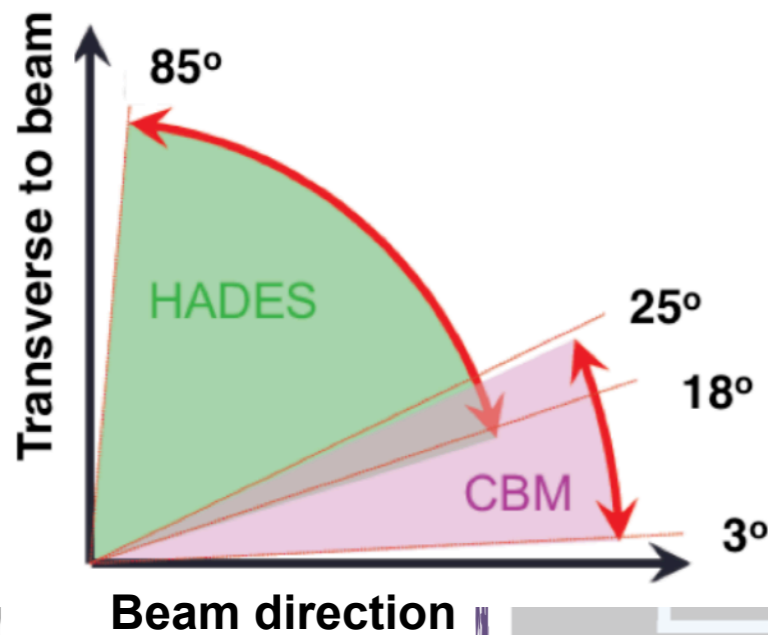
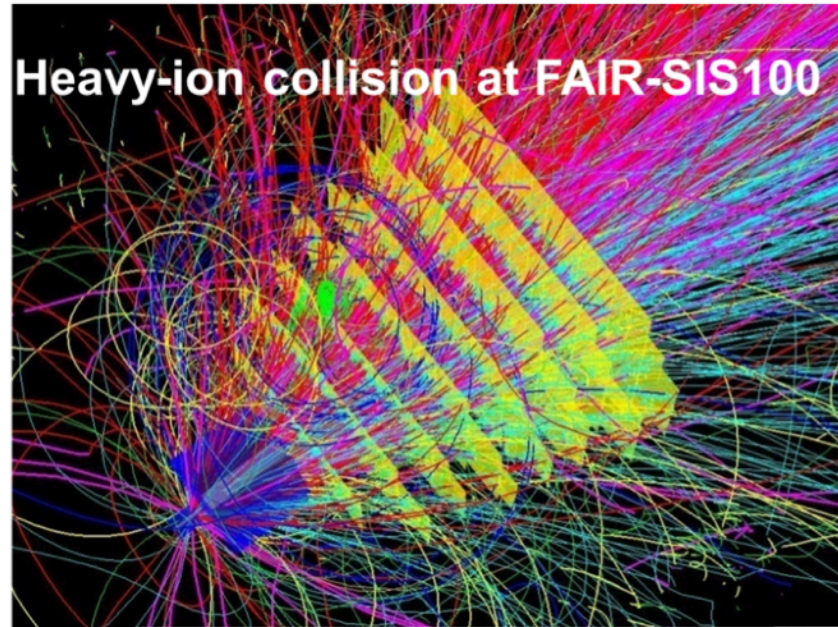
Temperature  
 $T < 10 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 10n_0$

Lifetime  
 $t \sim \text{infinity}$

# CBM and HADES future

Daniel Wielanek



Temperature  
 $T < 50 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 2 - 6n_0$

Reaction time  
 $t \sim 10 \text{ ms}$   
(GW170817)

Temperature  
 $T < 10 \text{ MeV}$

Density  
 $n < 10n_0$

Lifetime  
 $t \sim \text{infinity}$

<https://www.researchgate.net>

SIS-100:	Temperature $T < 120 \text{ MeV}$	Density $n < 8n_0$	Reaction time $t \sim 10^{-23} \text{ s}$
----------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------	--



# NSM and HIC

Top row: simulation of neutron stars mergers

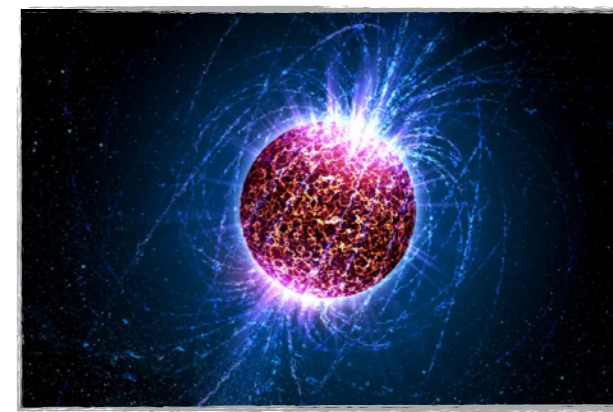
2 neutron stars of  $1.35 M_{\odot}$  each,

merging into a single object ( $2R \sim 10 \text{ km}$ ,  $n \simeq 5n_0$ ,  $T \leq 20 \text{ MeV}$ ).

Overlap region:  $t \simeq 20 \text{ ms}$ ,  $n \simeq 2n_0$ ,  $T \simeq 75 \text{ MeV}$

▲ - max. temperature

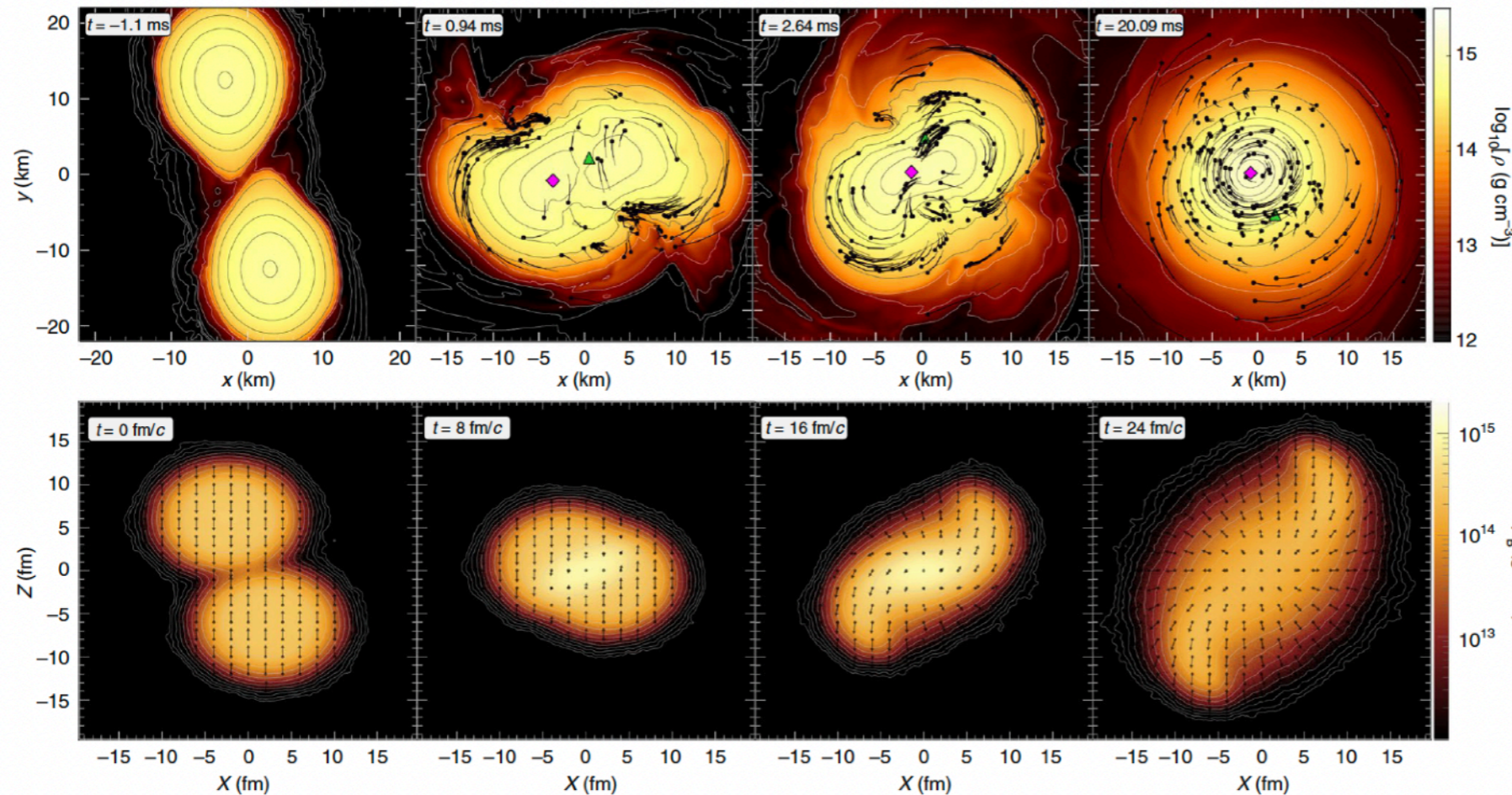
◆ - max. density



Bottom row: non-central-collision Au+Au at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42 \text{ GeV}$

$n \simeq 3n_0$ ,  $T \simeq 80 \text{ MeV}$

HADES, *Nature Phys.* 15, 1040–1045 (2019)



Similar densities and temperatures are achieved.

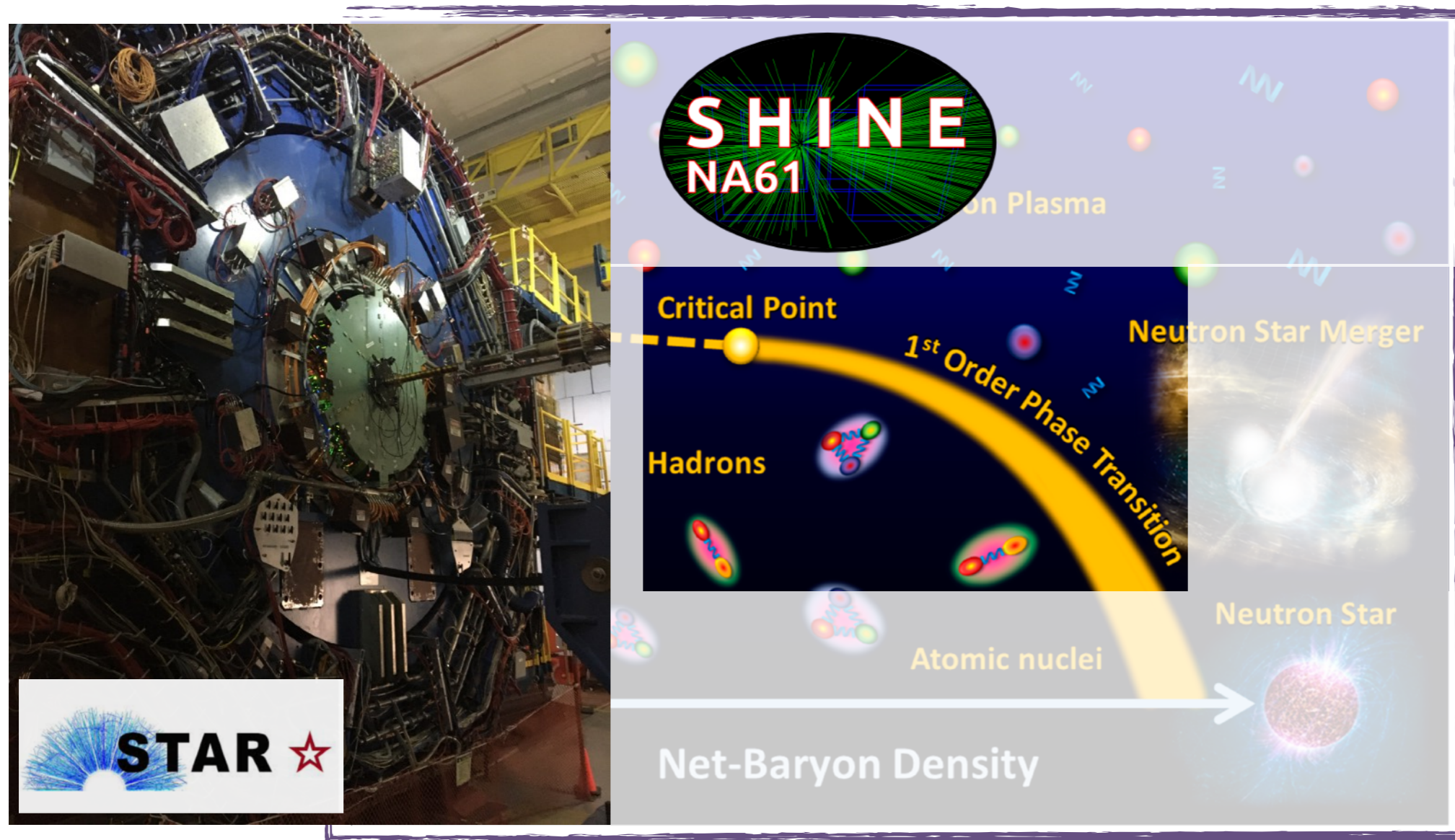
Space and time scales are vastly different (km - NS, fm - HIC).

The collision events differ in duration by 20 orders of magnitude.



# Phase transitions

Exploration of unknown QCD territory: moderate  $\mu_B$

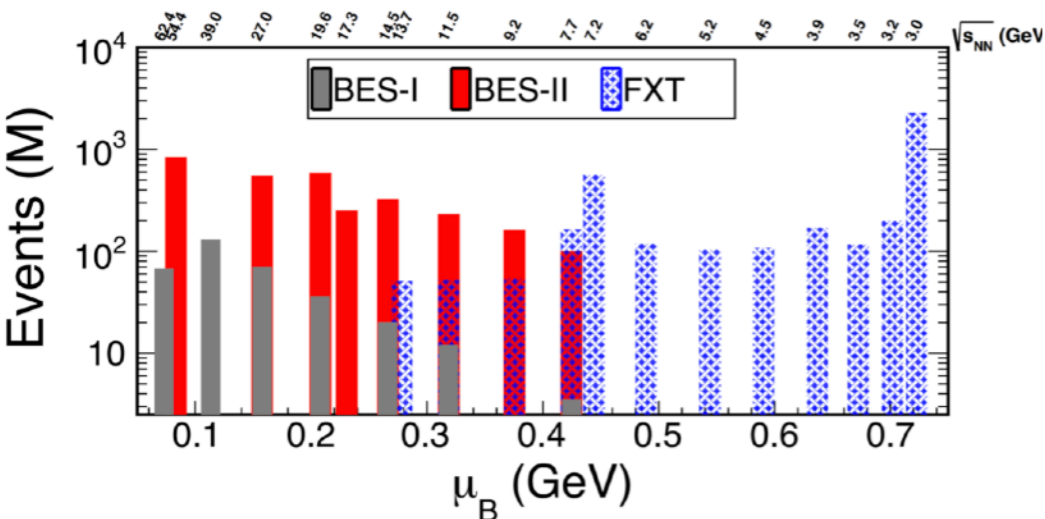
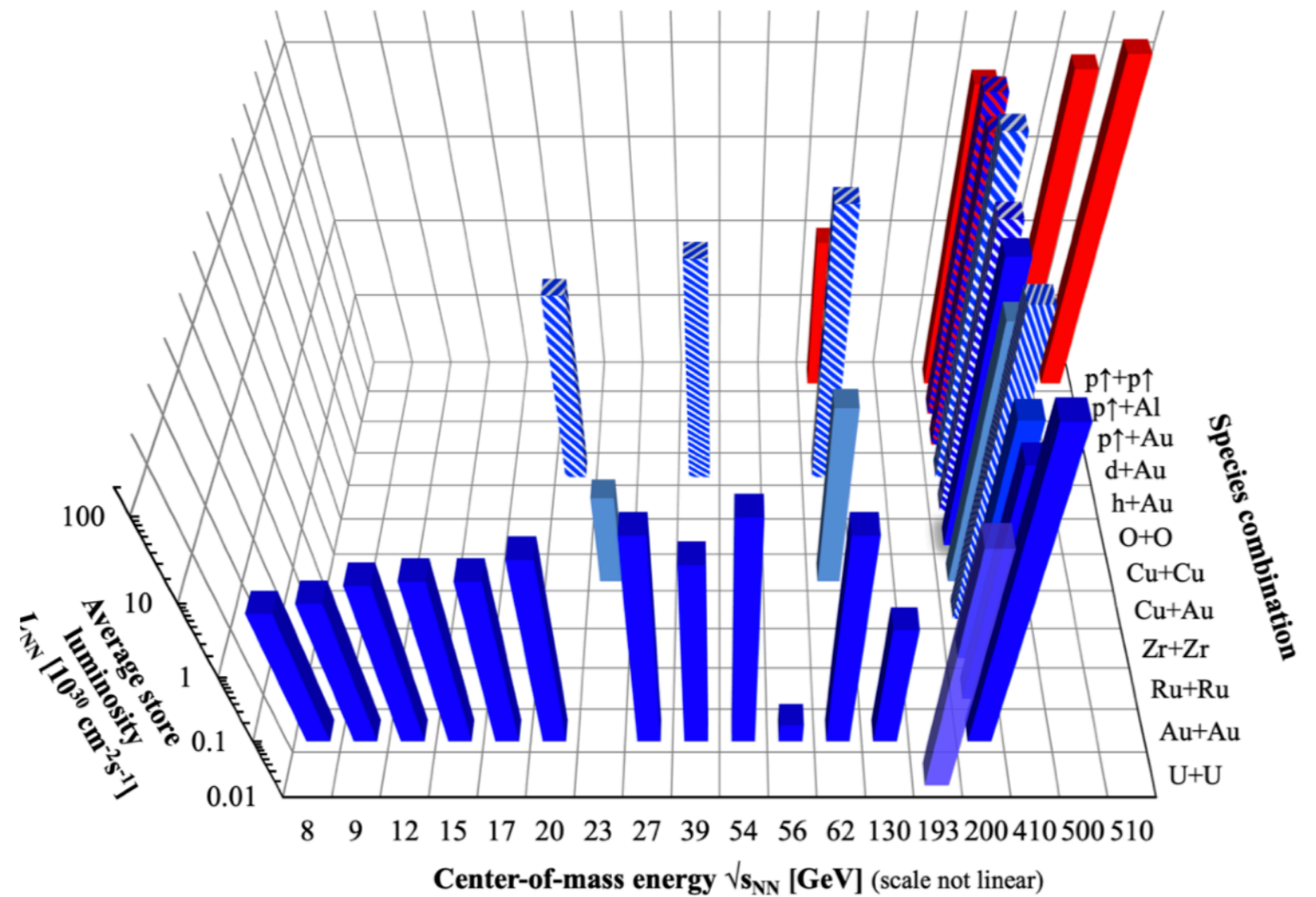
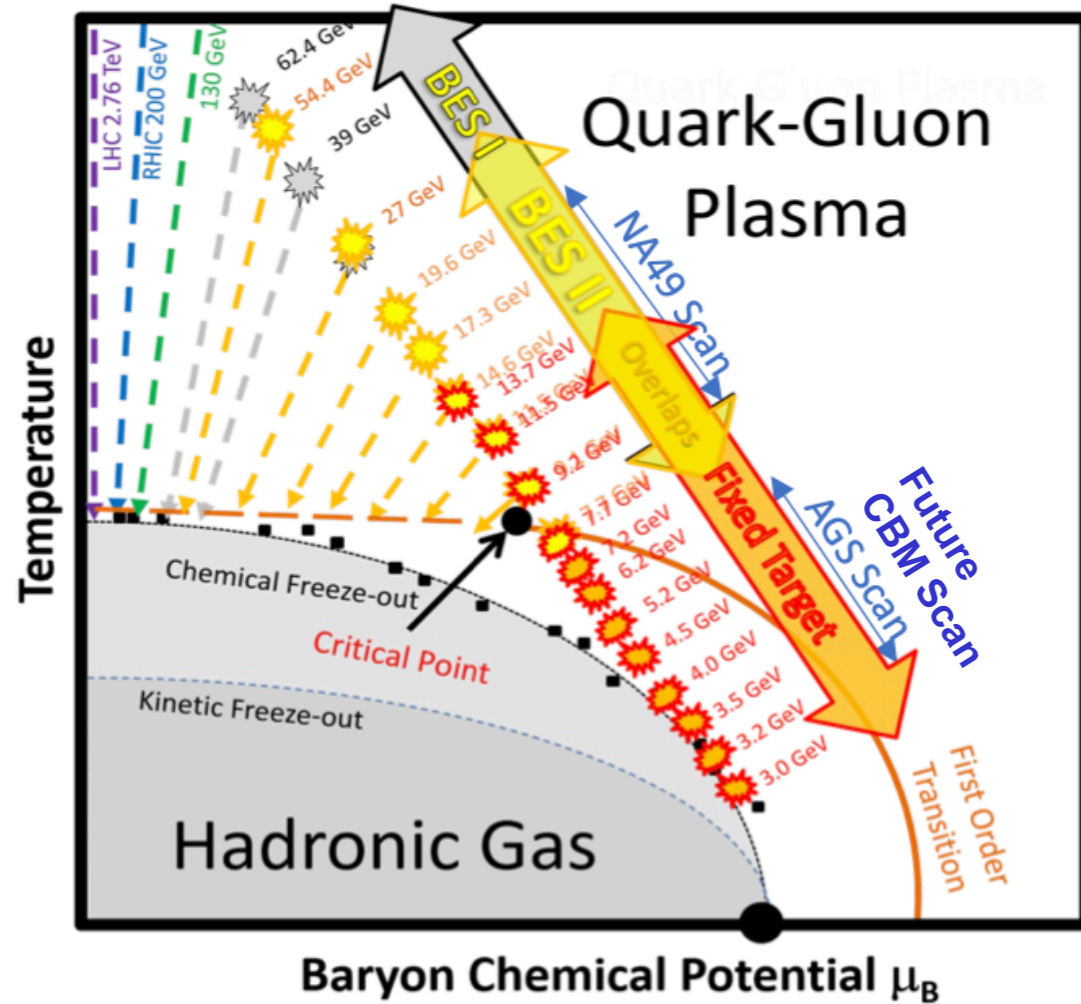


Searching for phase transitions signatures

<https://www.researchgate.net>

# Beam Energy Scan at STAR

RHIC energies, species combinations and luminosities (Run-1 to 22)

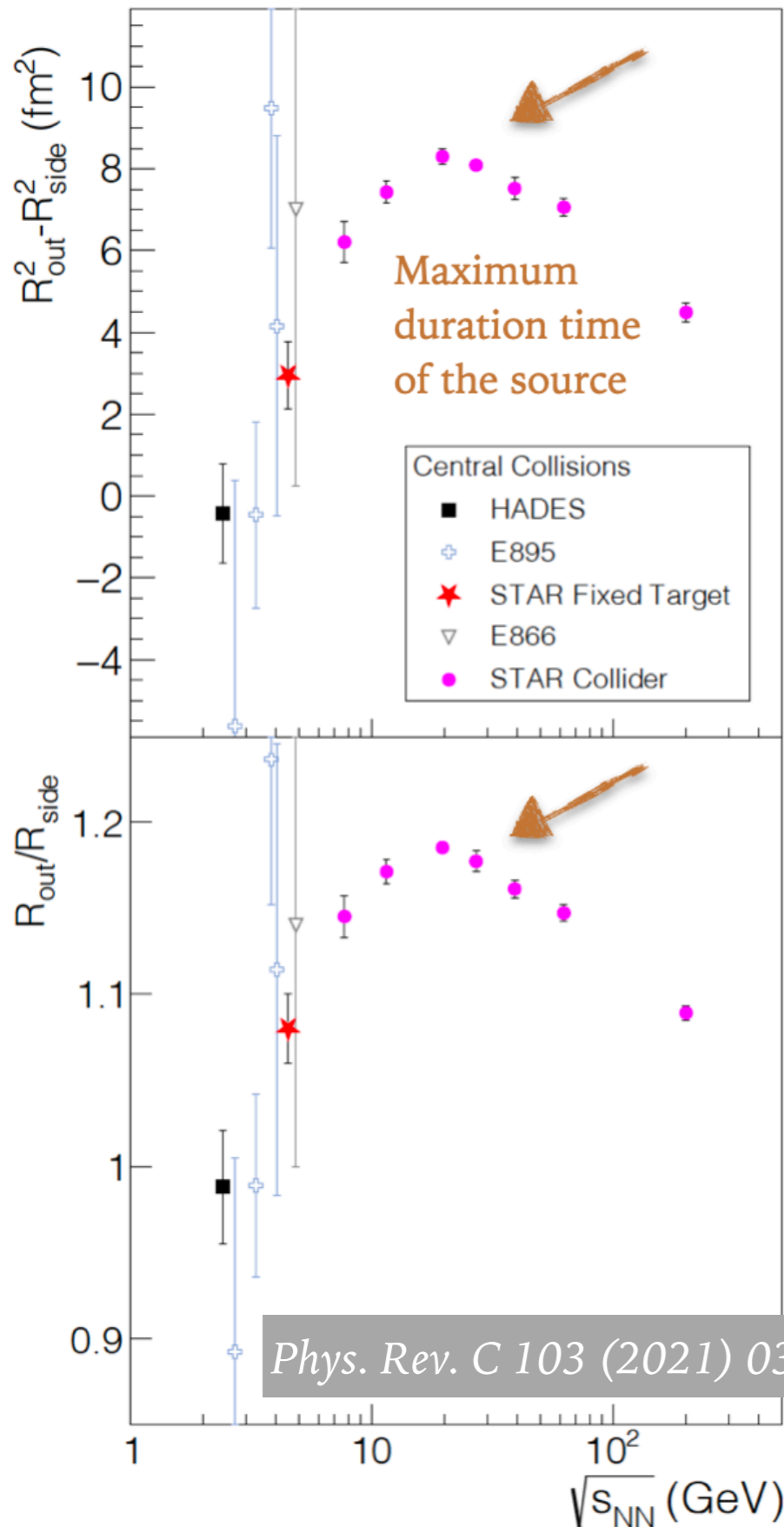


- Beam Energy Scan: Au+Au 3-62.4 GeV**
1. Search for turn-off of QGP signatures
  2. Search for signals of the first-order phase transition
  3. Search for QCD critical point

Fixed-Target Program: Au+Au: 3.0-13.7 GeV

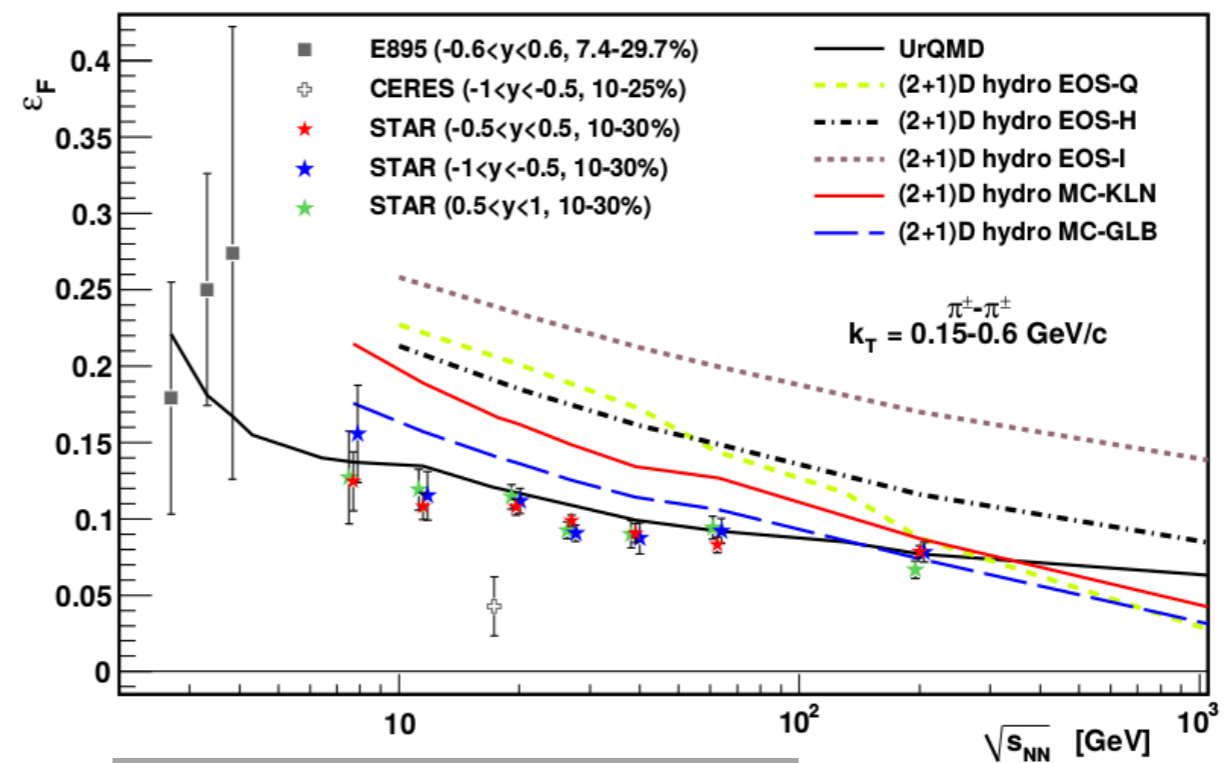


# Looking for phase transition



- ›  $R_{\text{side}}$  spatial source evolution in the transverse direction
- ›  $R_{\text{out}}$  related to spatial and time components
- ›  $R_{\text{out}}/R_{\text{side}}$  signature of phase transition
- ›  $R_{\text{out}}^2 - R_{\text{side}}^2 = \Delta\tau^2 \beta_t^2$ ;  $\Delta\tau$  – emission time
- ›  $R_{\text{long}}$  temperature of kinetic freeze-out and source lifetime

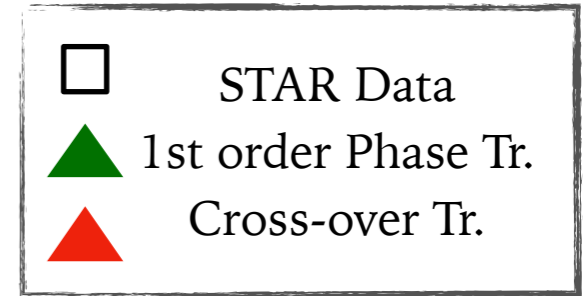
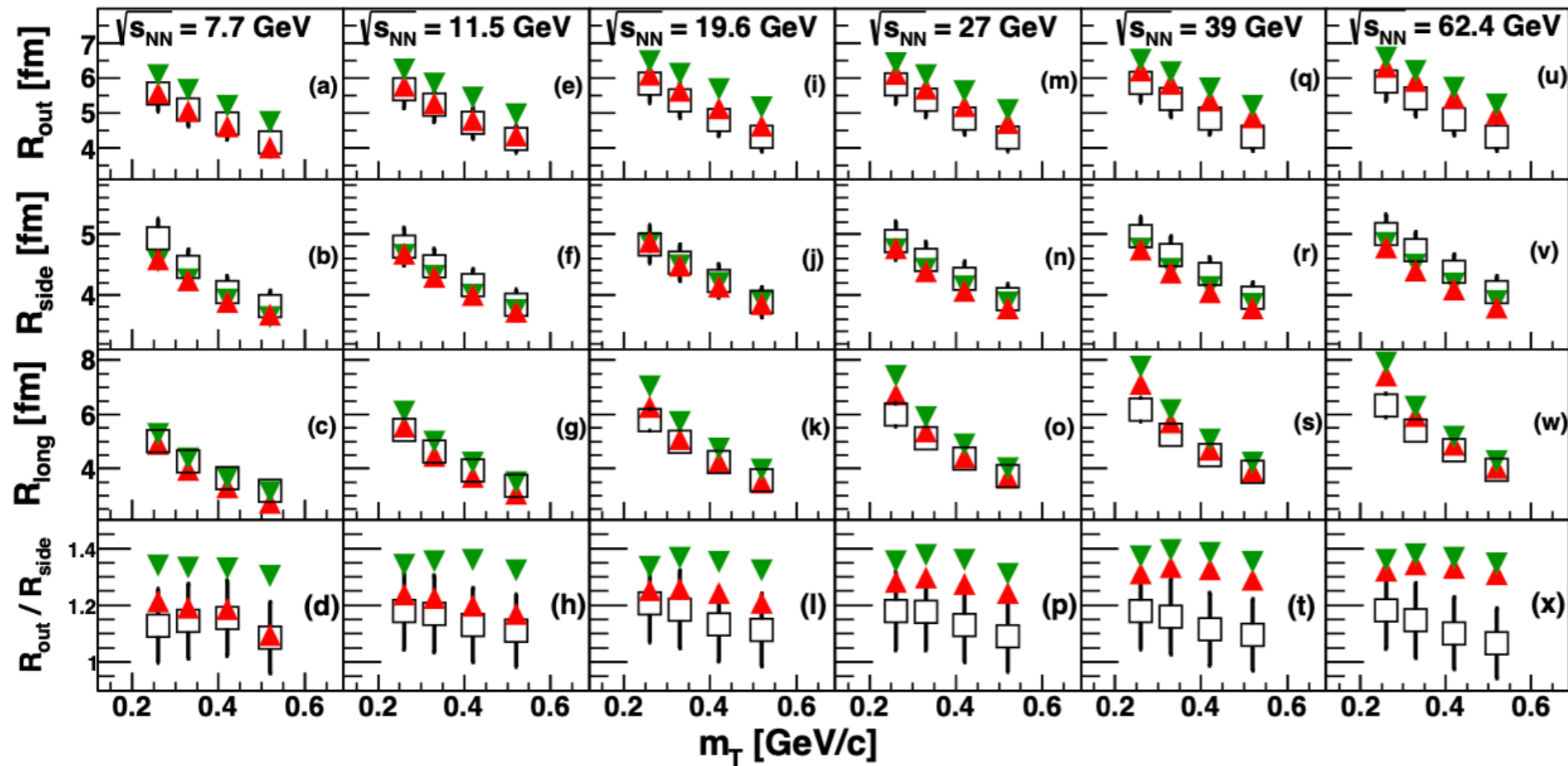
System evolves faster in the reaction plane



*Phys. Rev. C 92 (2015) 14904*



# How to measure phase transition?



vHLEE (3+1)-D viscous hydrodynamics: Iu. Karpenko, P. Huovinen, H. Petersen, M. Bleicher; Phys.Rev. C 91, 064901 (2015), arXiv:1502.01978, 1509.3751



HadronGas + Bag Model  $\rightarrow$  1<sup>st</sup> order PT ; P.F. Kolb, et al, PR C 62, 054909 (2000)

Chiral EoS  $\rightarrow$  crossover PT (XPT); J. Steinheimer, et al, J. Phys. G 38, 035001 (2011)

vHLEE + UrQMD model verify sensitivity of HBT measurements to the first-order phase transition

Phys. Rev. C 96 (2017) no.2, 024911

# How to measure a phase transition? CP?

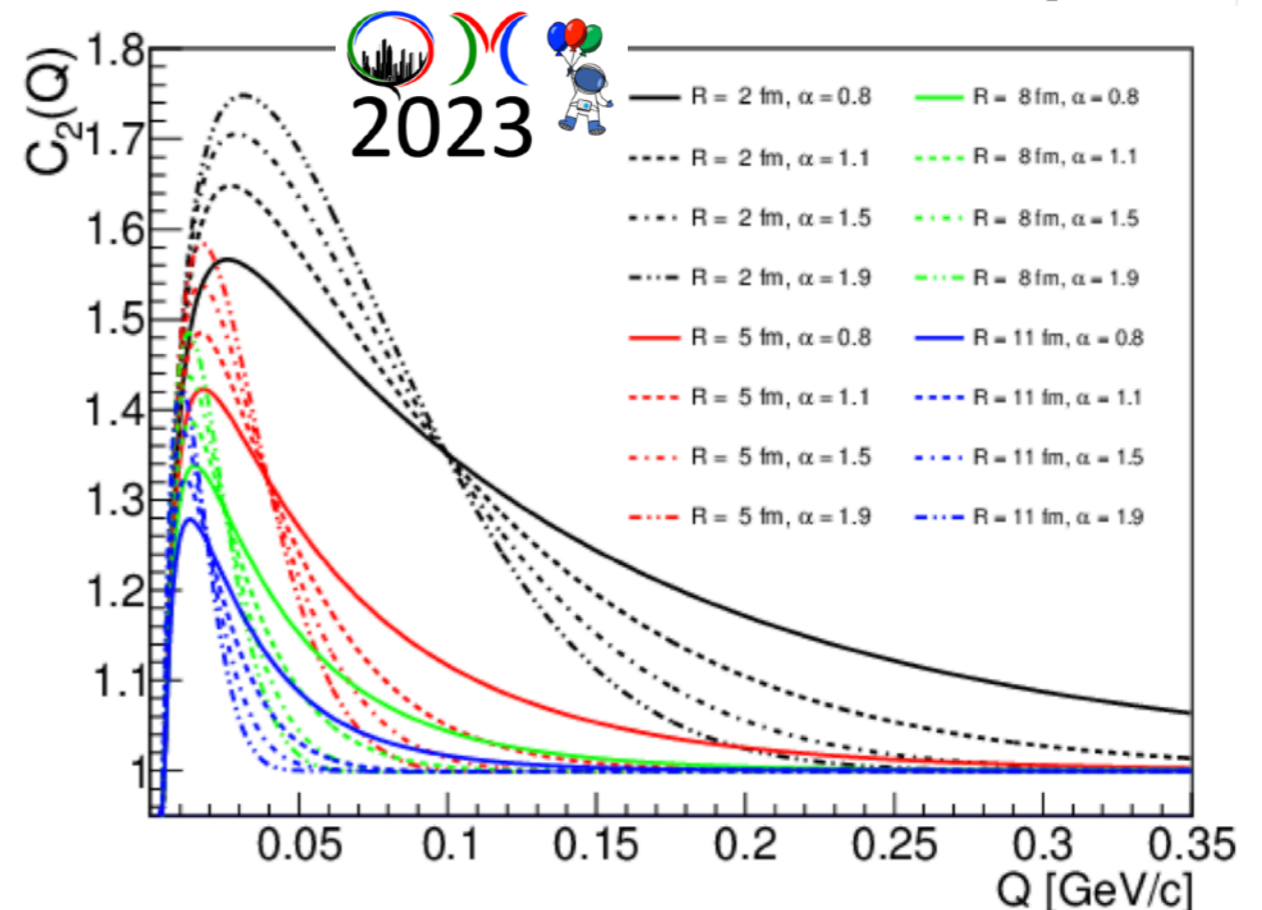
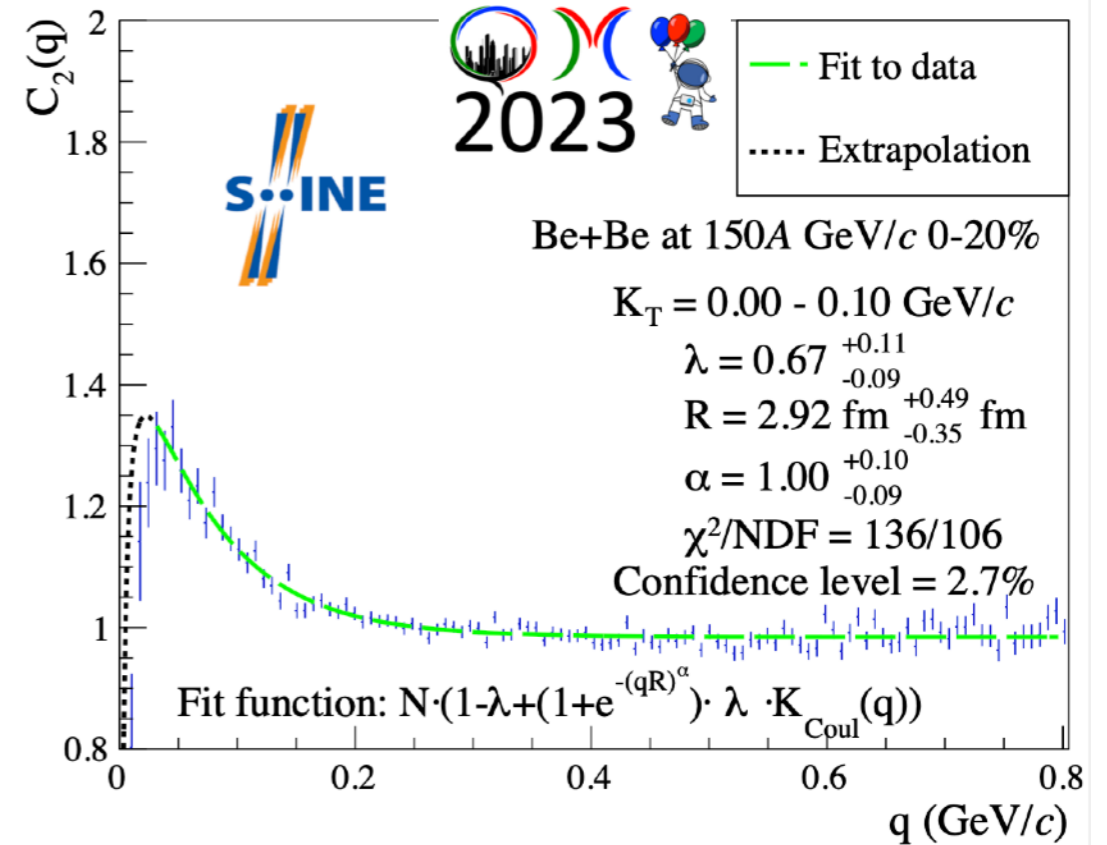
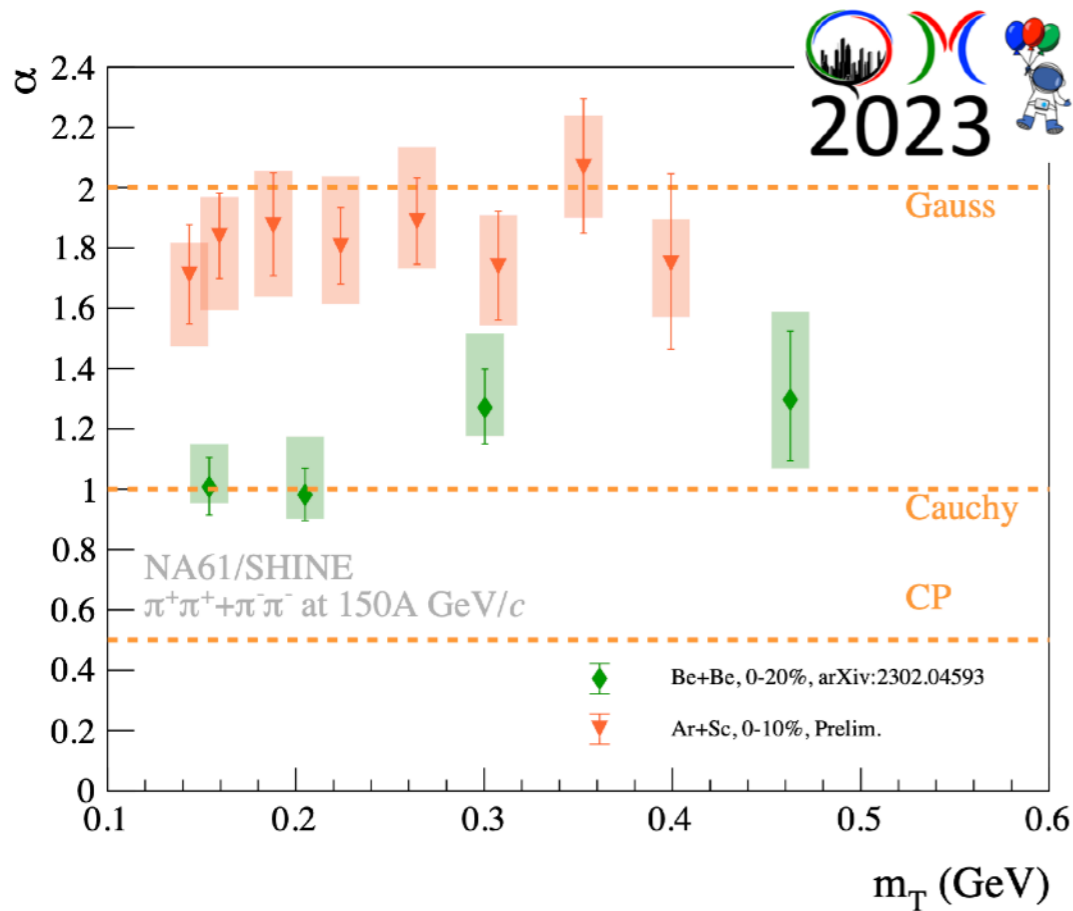
Barnabas Porty

Levy-stability index

$\alpha = 2$  - Gauss

$\alpha = 1$  - Cauchy

$\alpha = 0.5$  - expected near the CP



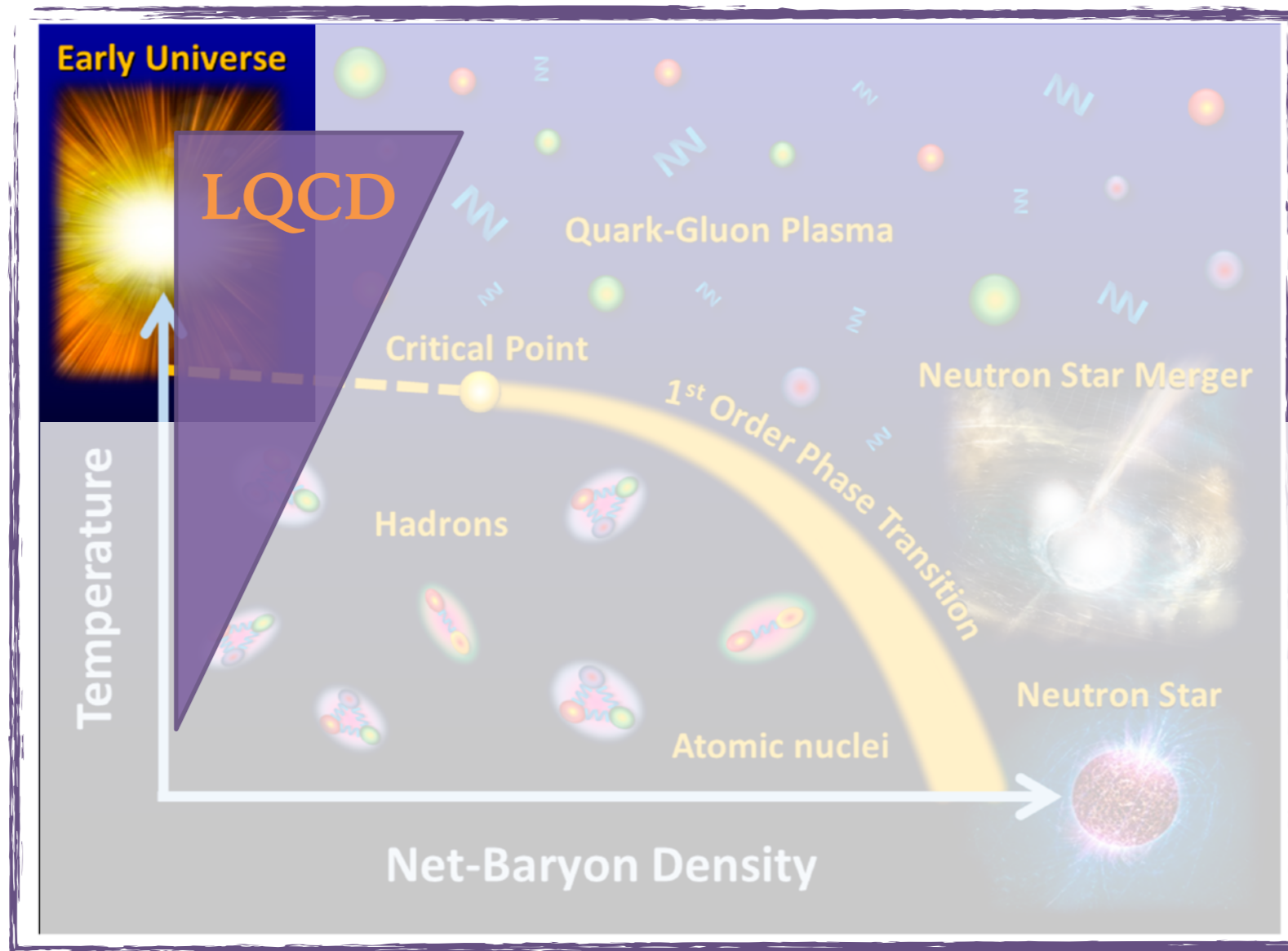
Levy-stability index

Far away from the CP



# Early Universe

Exploration of ~~unknown~~ from lattice QCD: vanishing  $\mu_B$

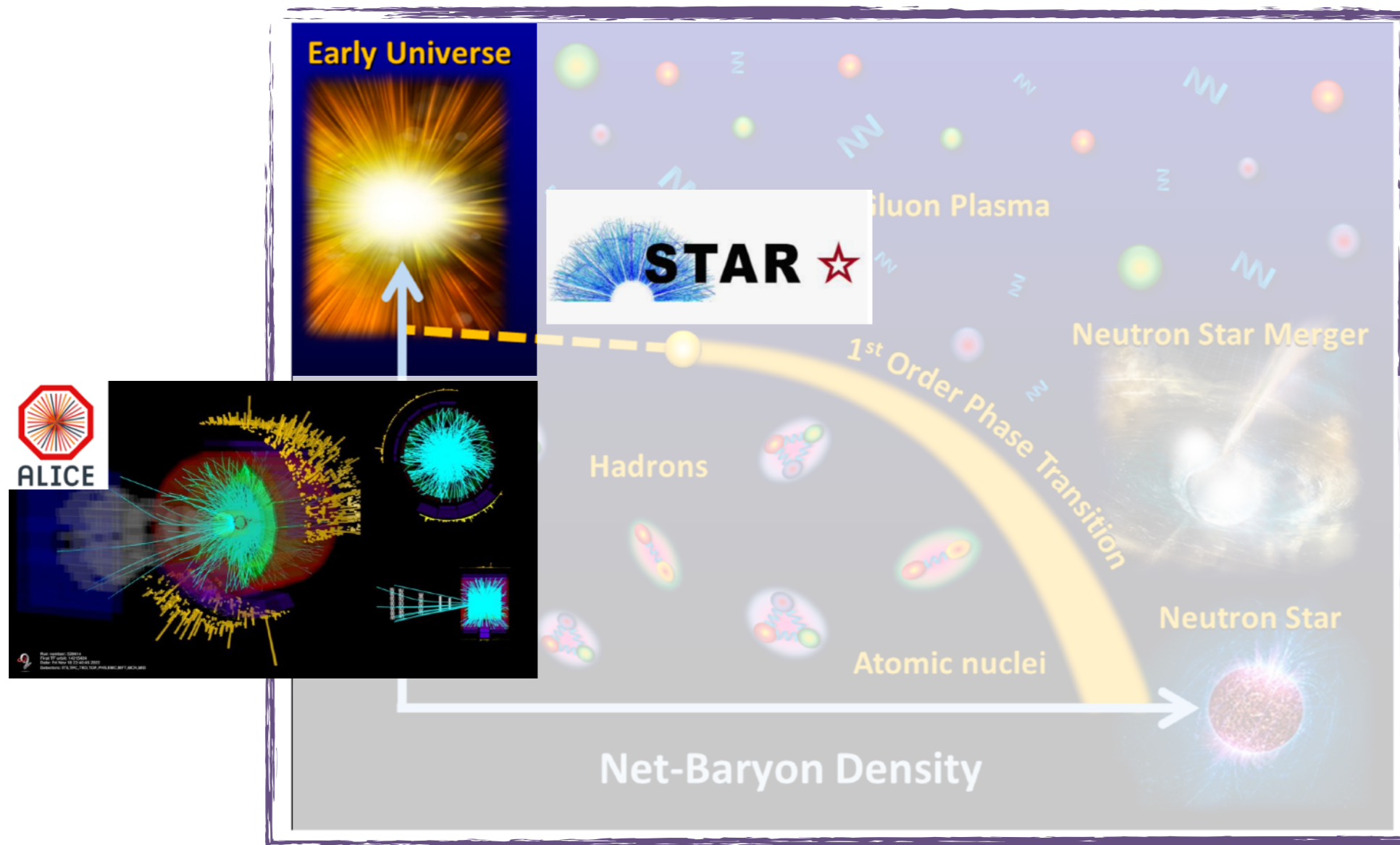


Studies of  
Early  
Universe

<https://www.researchgate.net>

# Early Universe

Exploration of ~~unknown~~ from lattice QCD: vanishing  $\mu_B$



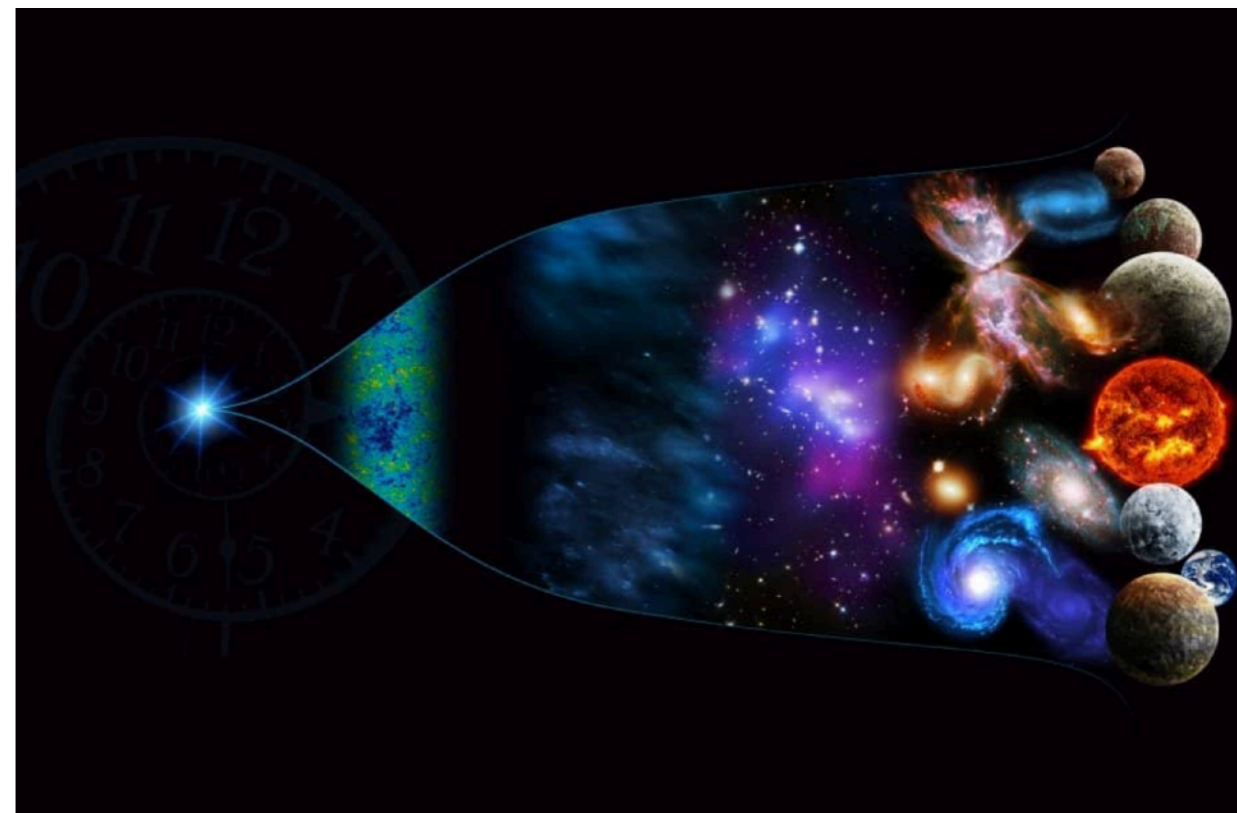
Studies of  
Early  
Universe

<https://www.researchgate.net>



# Early Universe, vanishing $\mu_B$

- Probe the condition  $\sim$ Early Universe,
- Very high abundances of particles produced,
- Statistical heaven to study exotic particles,
- Studies of heavy-flavor,
- Incredible laboratory of anti-matter.



<https://insidetheperimeter.ca/the-universe-before-atoms/>

A few speakers:

**Marcin Kucharczyk** - Bose-Einstein correlations at LHCb

**Dimitar Mikhaylov** - Studying the low-energy scattering among hadrons using correlation techniques at the LHC

**Małgorzata Janik** - Matter -antimatter interactions

**Wioleta Rzęsa** - First measurement of properties of strong interaction between (anti-)deuterons and charged kaons in Pb–Pb collisions with ALICE

... and more!

# Summary



# Collisions of (heavy) ions give us access to:

## High T, low $\mu_B$

- Cross-over to QGP  $\rightarrow$  Investigations of properties of QGP
- LQCD: no CP indication for  $\mu_B/T < 3$

## Lower T, high $\mu_B$

- Phase structure?
  - first-order phase transition?
  - CP?
  - New phases of QCD?
- Characterization of dense matter,
- EOS?
- Properties of hadrons?



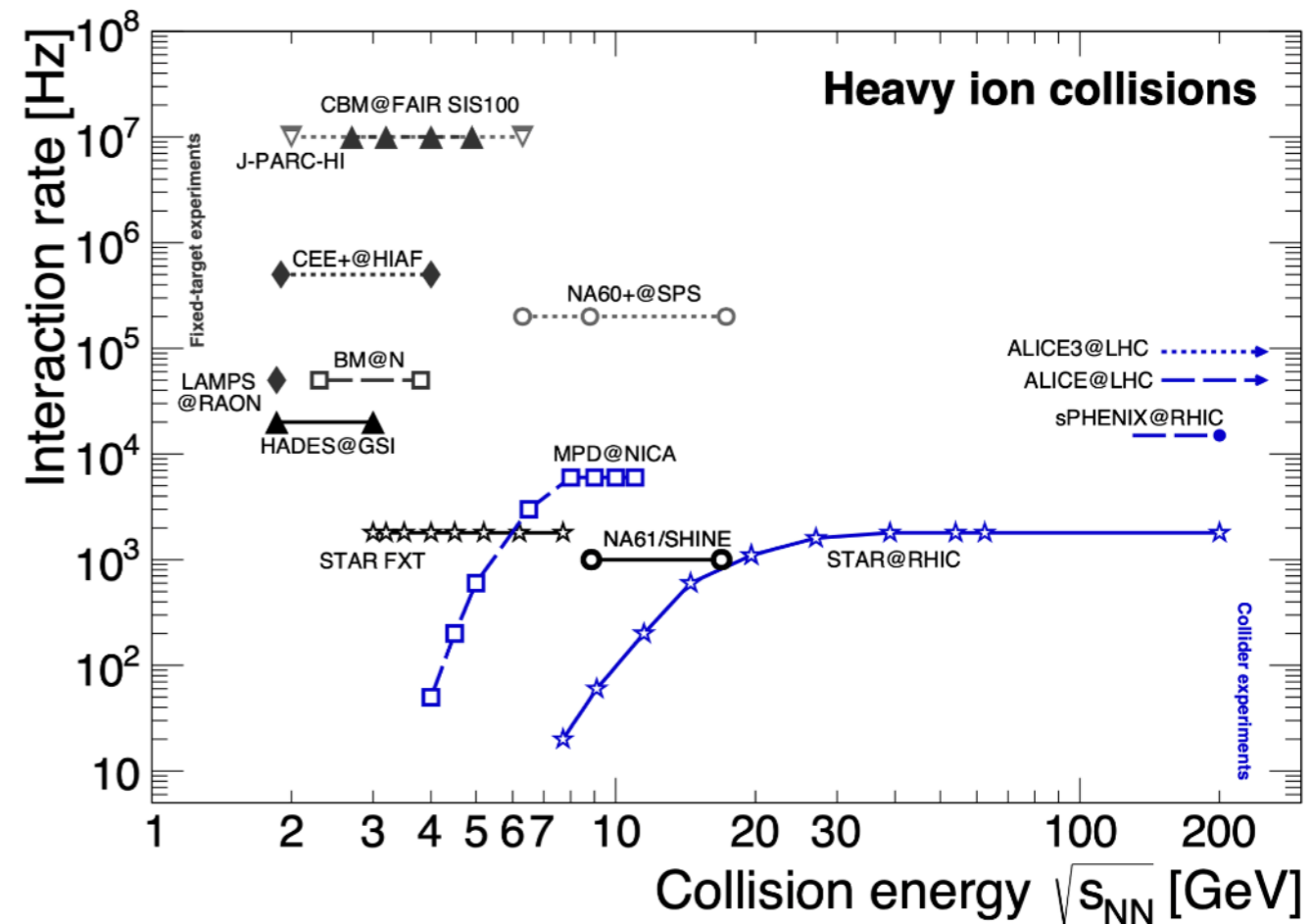
Collisions of (heavy) ions give us access to:  
High T, low  $\mu_B$

- Cross-over to QGP  $\rightarrow$  Investigations of properties of QGP
- LQCD: no CP indication for  $\mu_B/T < 2$



Lower T,  $\mu_B$

- Phase str
- first-c
- CP?

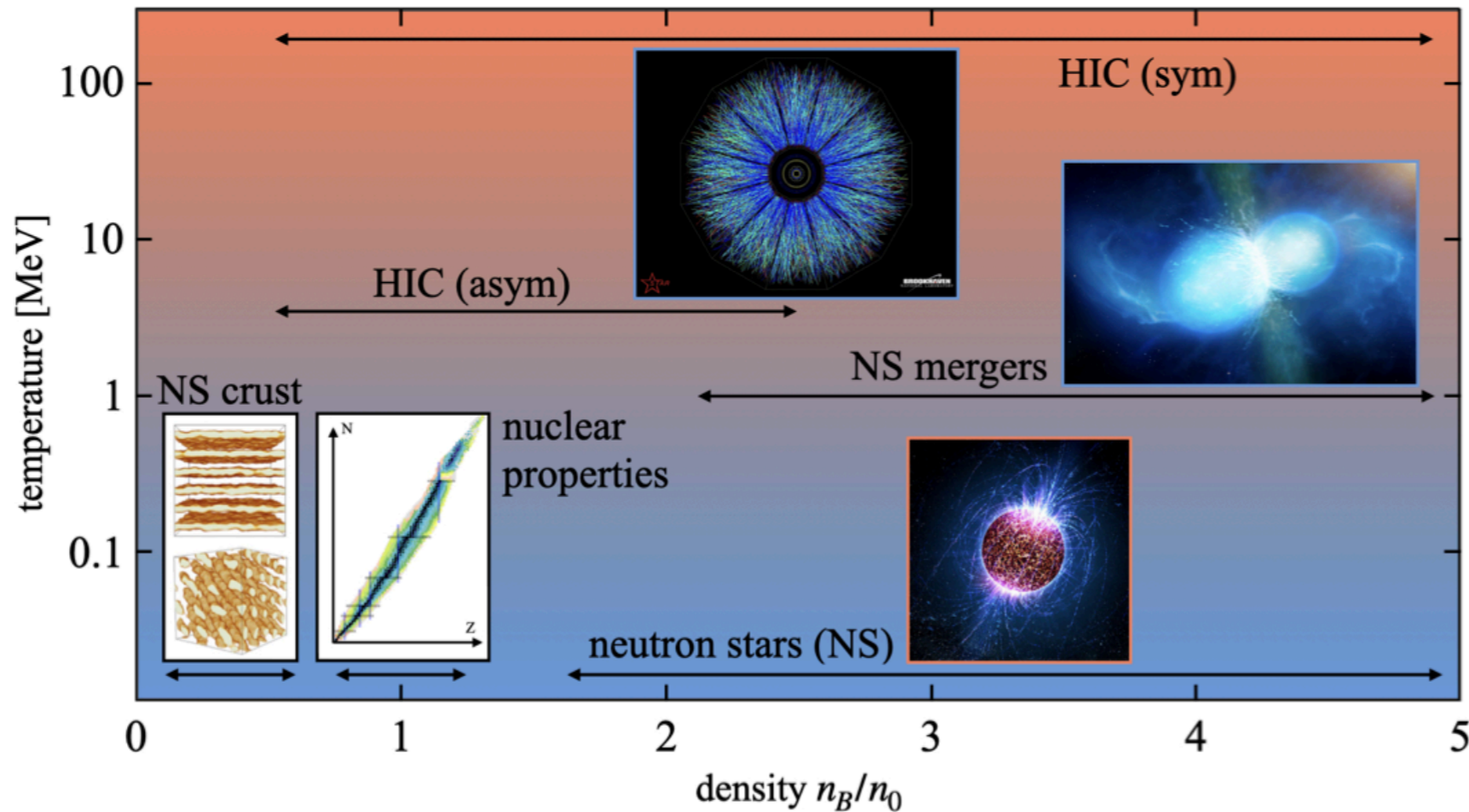


Brazie mille!



# Various nuclear densities

A. Sorensen, HZ et al.  
[arXiv:2301.13253 \[nucl-th\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.13253)



$$\epsilon(n_n, n_p) = \epsilon_{SNM}(n) + S(n)\delta^2$$

$\epsilon_{SNM}(n)$  - energy per nucleon of symmetric nuclear matter

$\delta > 0.8$  - neutron stars

**HIC (asym):**  $< 600$  AMeV

**HIC (sym):** broad range of energy, including high-energies