

# Heavy Flavor and Quarkonia in PHENIX

Brandon Blankenship (Vanderbilt University)  
for the PHENIX collaboration

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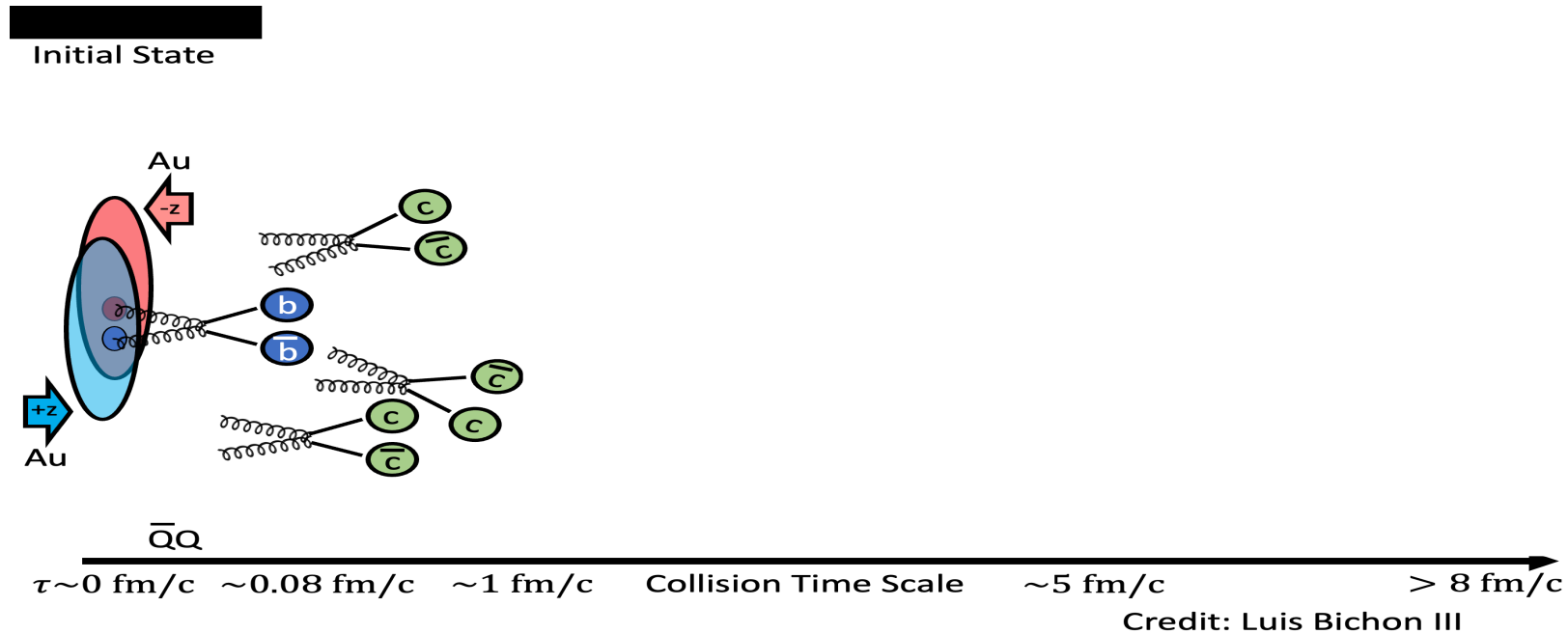
Supported in part by DOE grant Grant No. DE-FG05-92ER40712

# Outline

- Why heavy flavor and why study rapidity dependence?
- PHENIX detector
- Overview of current results
- Ongoing analyses
- Summary and outlook

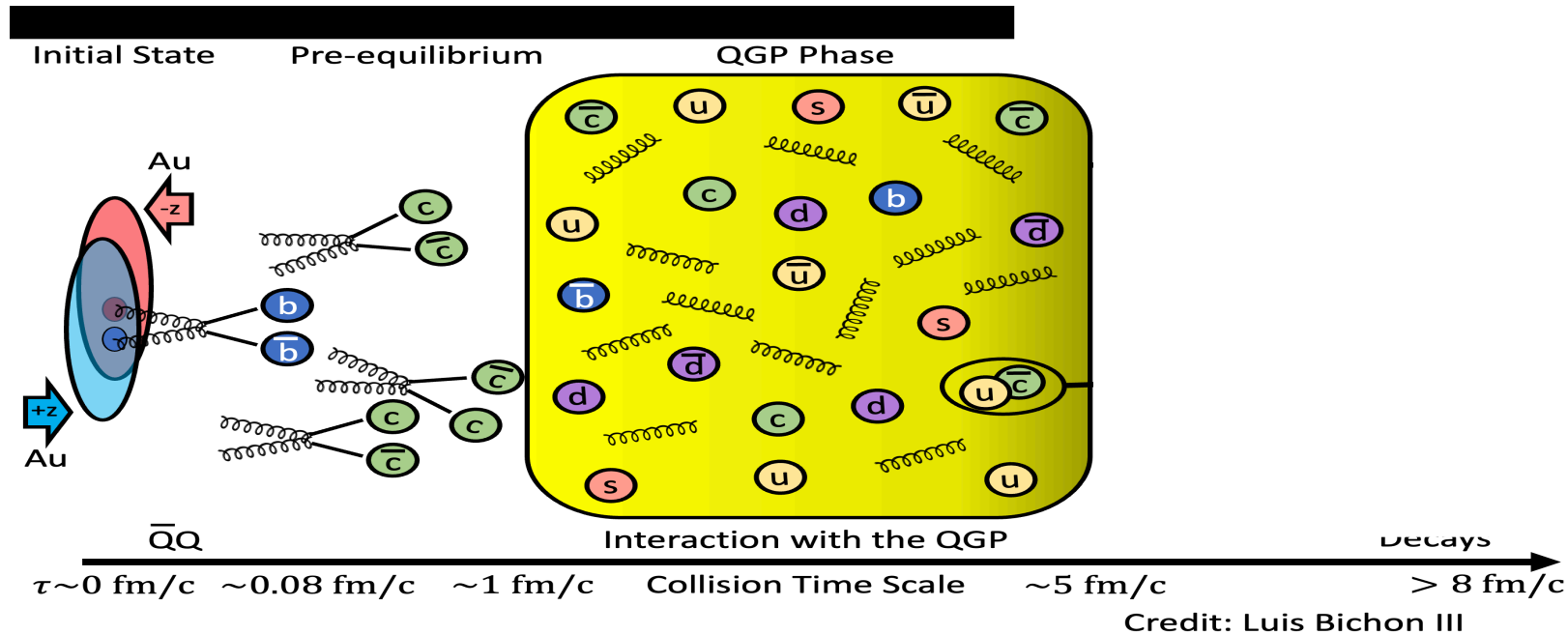
# Heavy flavor as a probe of the QGP

- Large mass of heavy quarks  $\rightarrow$  only produced in initial hard scatterings



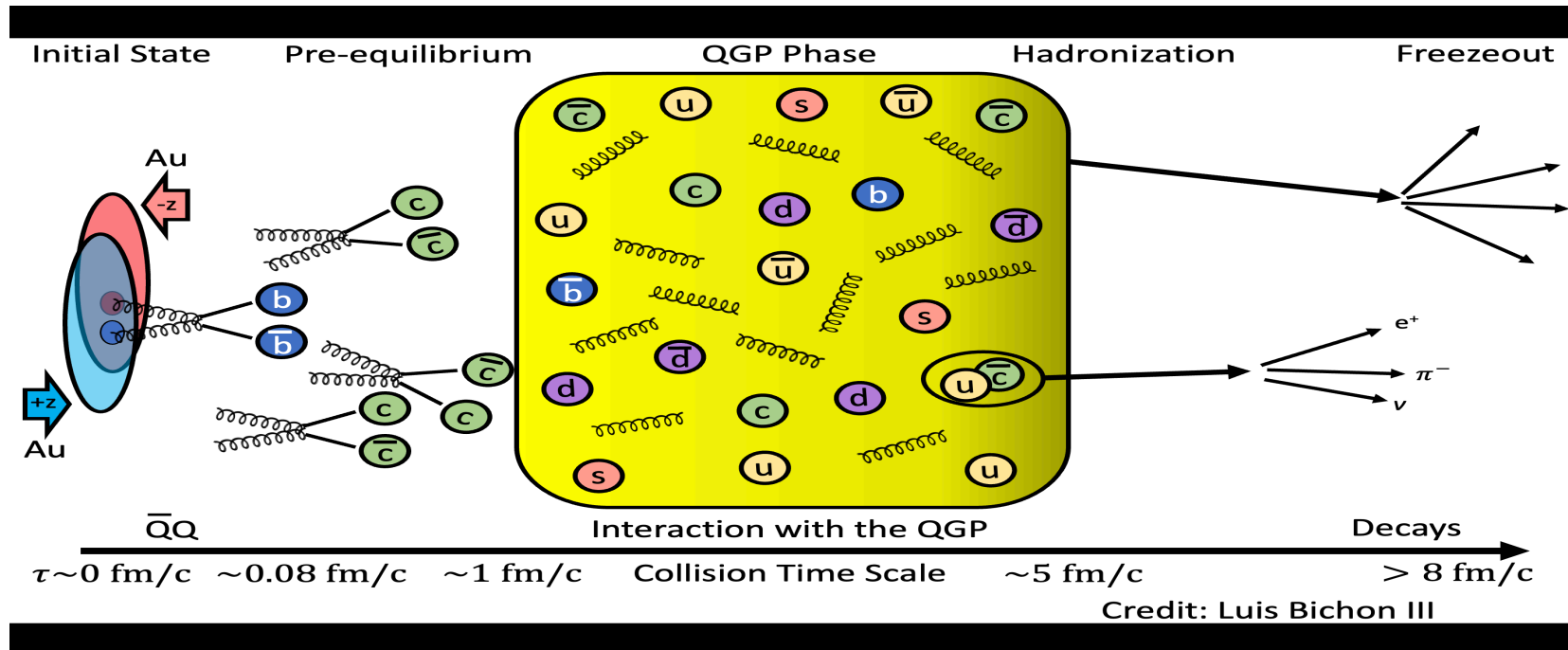
# Heavy flavor as a probe of the QGP

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- Energy loss and flow effects as they pass through QGP  $\rightarrow$  particle yields and angular distributions can be modified by interaction with the QGP

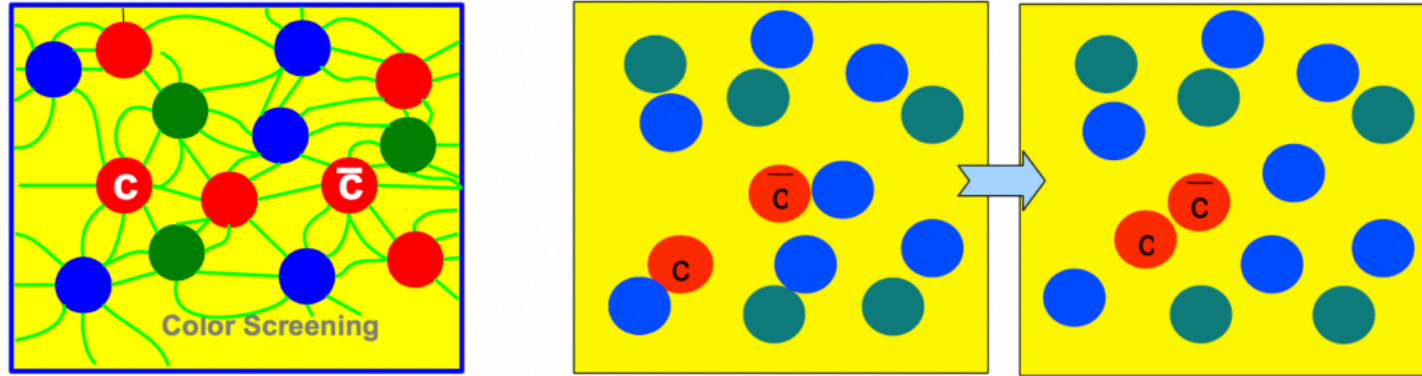


# Heavy flavor particles as a probe of the QGP

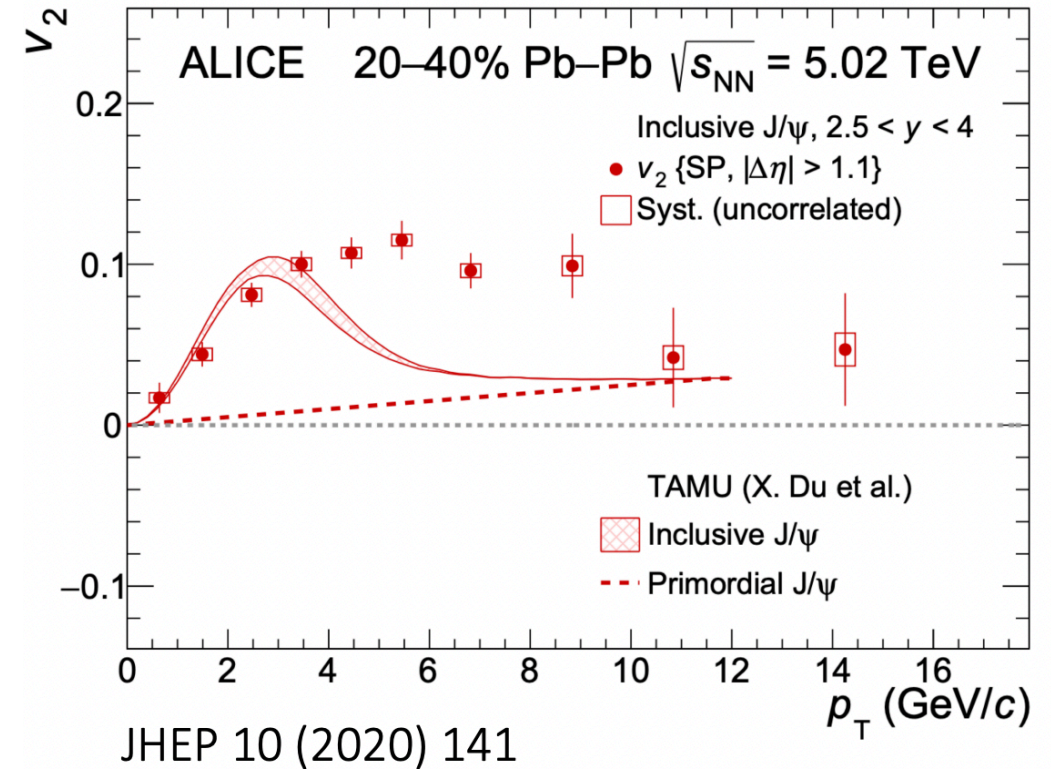
- Large mass of heavy quarks → only produced in initial hard scatterings
- Energy loss and flow effects as they pass through QGP → particle yields and angular distributions can be modified by interaction with the QGP
- Heavy flavor particles reconstructed or their semi-leptonic decays → understanding of heavy quark interaction with QGP medium



# J/Ψ $R_{AA}$ and $v_2$ as probes of QGP



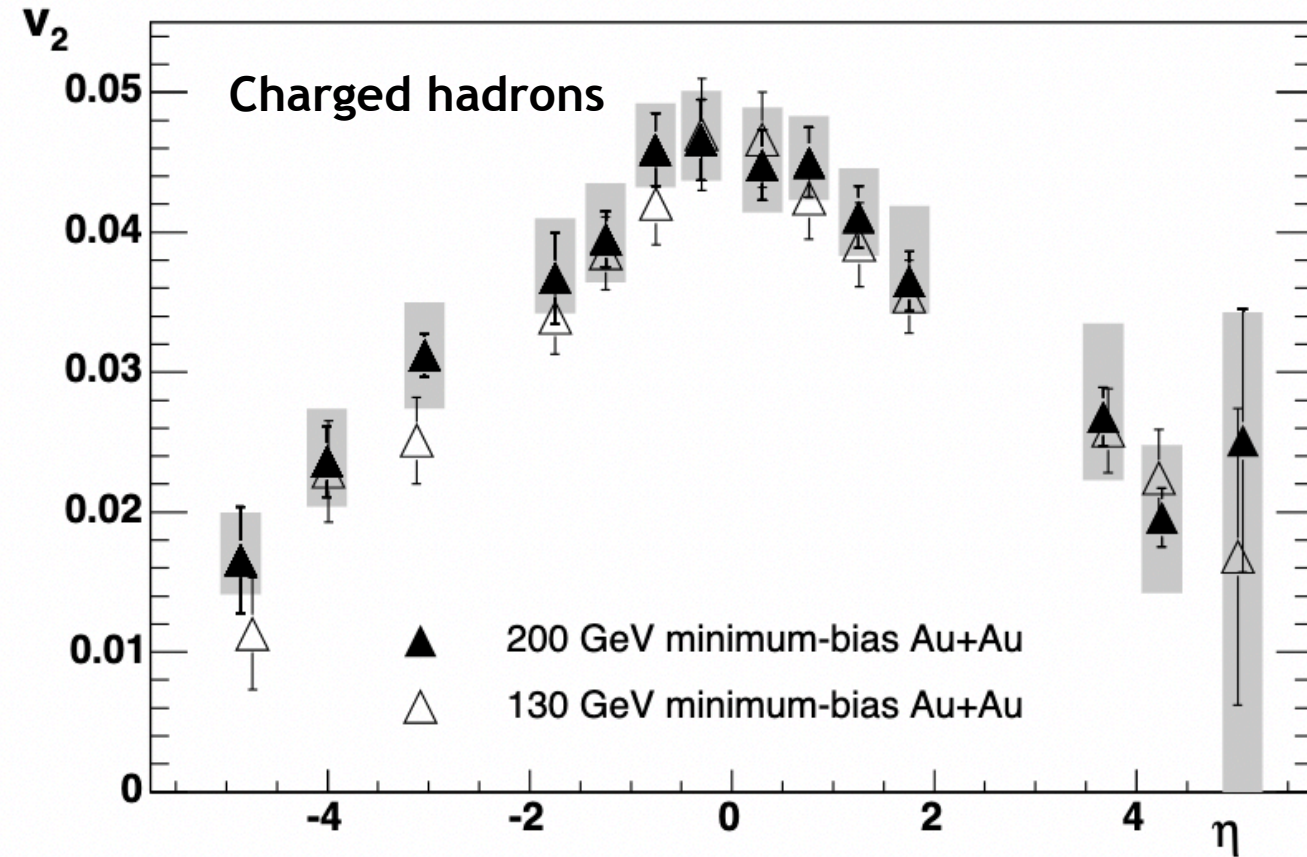
- Quarkonium suppression probes T and density of QGP
- Multiple mechanisms for J/Ψ flow
  - Path length dependent dissociation
  - Charm equilibration and J/Ψ regeneration
  - Primordial J/Ψ equilibration - small effect



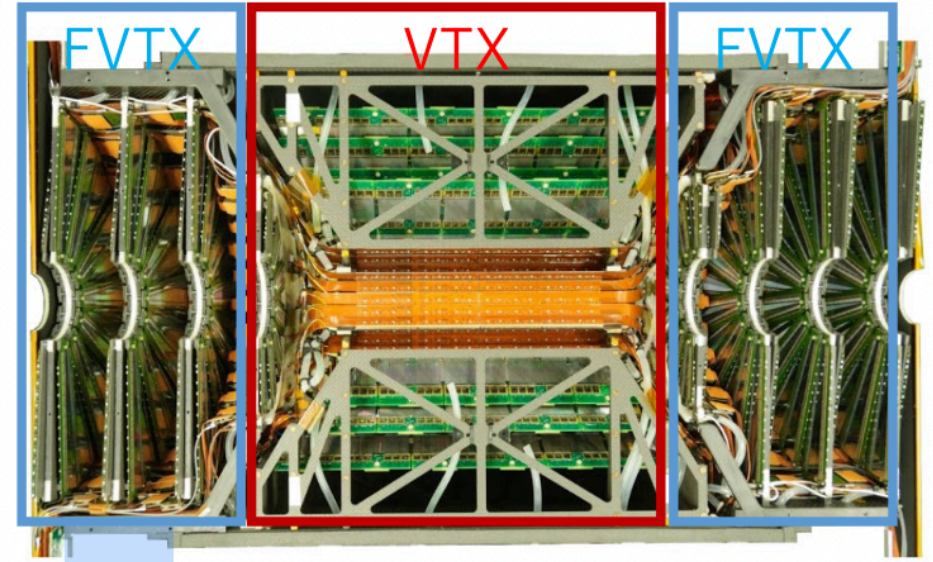
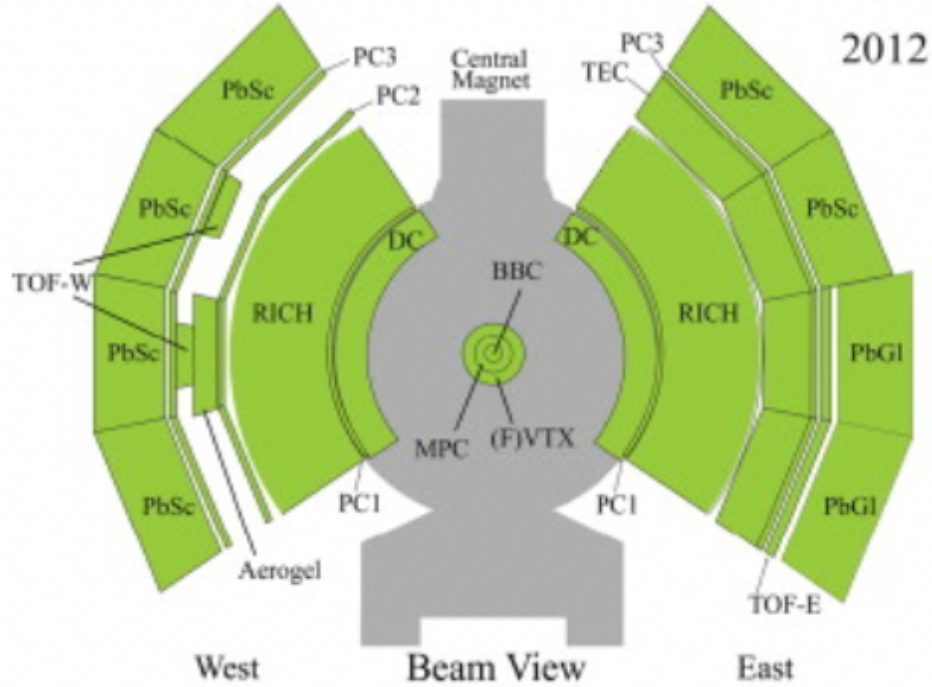
# Rapidity dependence of QGP interactions

- Rapidity dependence of flow gives access to the longitudinal dynamics of QGP
- Heavy flavor and quarkonia dynamics have rapidity-dependent initial state effects
- PHENIX has unique capabilities at RHIC for separating charm and beauty with decay vertex determination at forward rapidity

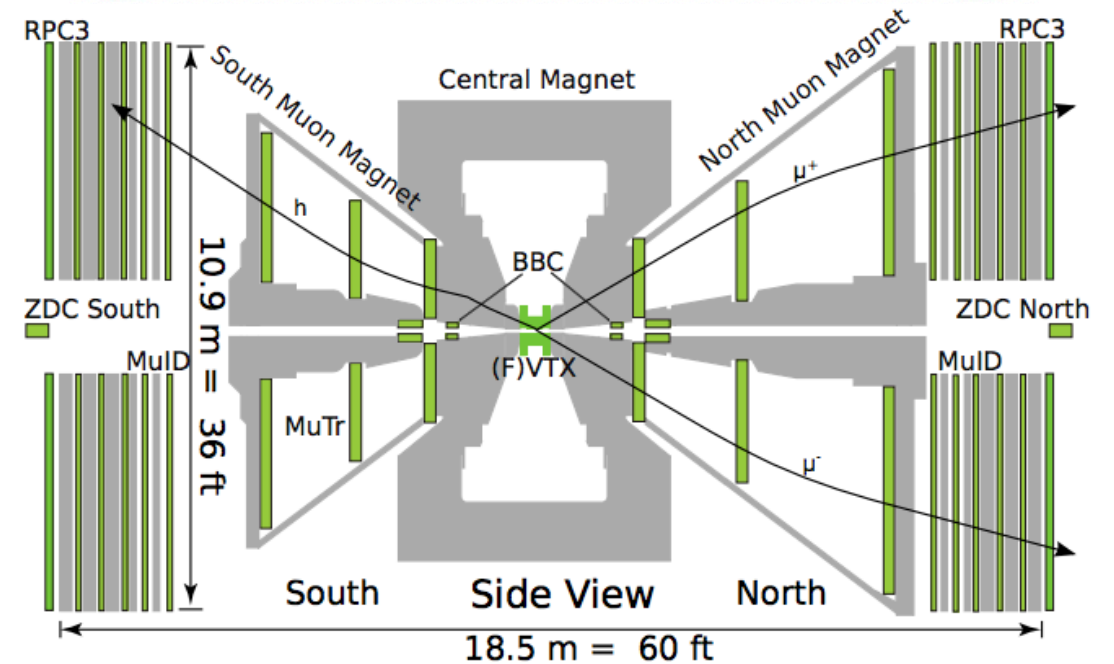
PHOBOS, PRL 89 (2002), 222301



# PHENIX detector

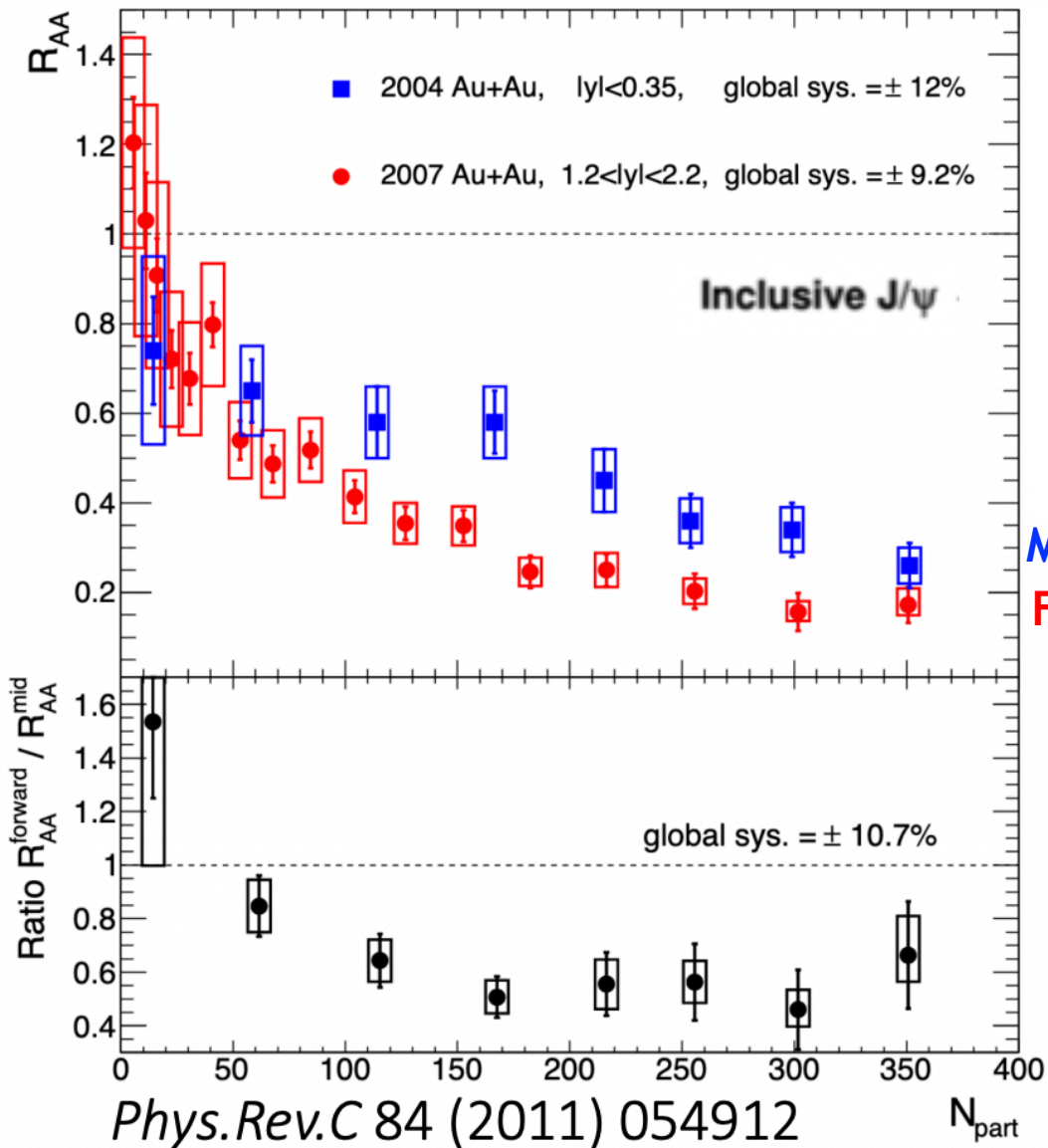


- **Central arms:**  $|y| < 0.35$ 
  - electrons, hadrons, and photons
- **Muon arms:**  $1.2 < |y| < 2.2$ 
  - muons and hadrons
- **VTX-FVTX:** Precise HF tracking and ID over full PHENIX rapidity range

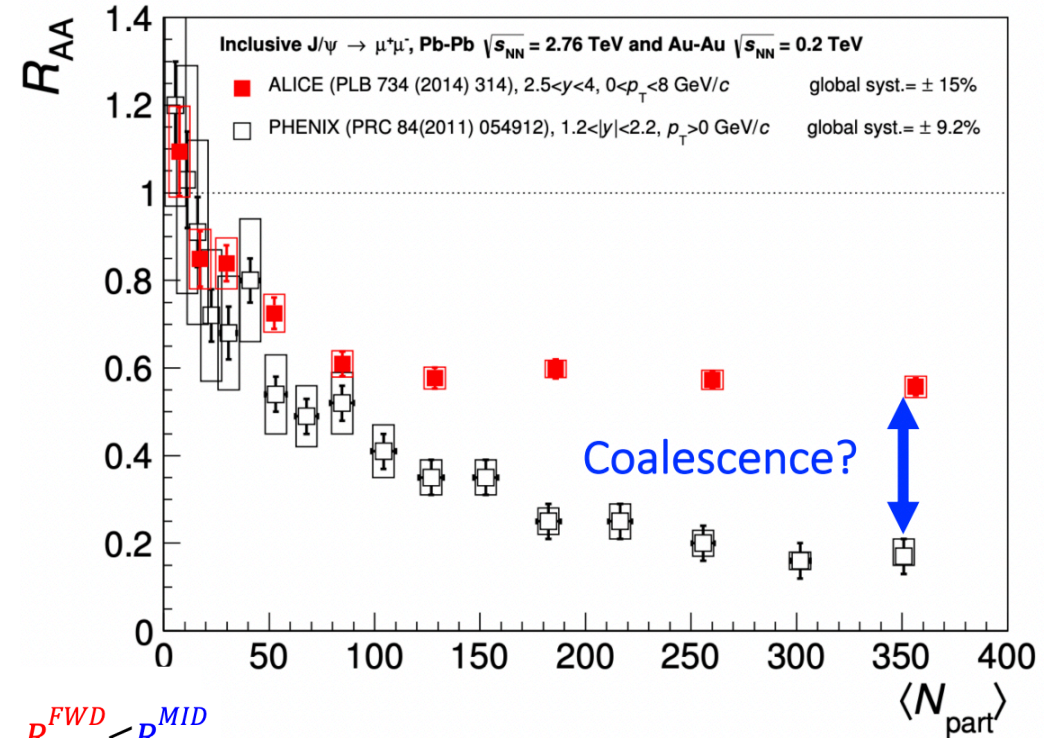




# J/Ψ R<sub>AA</sub> and coalescence

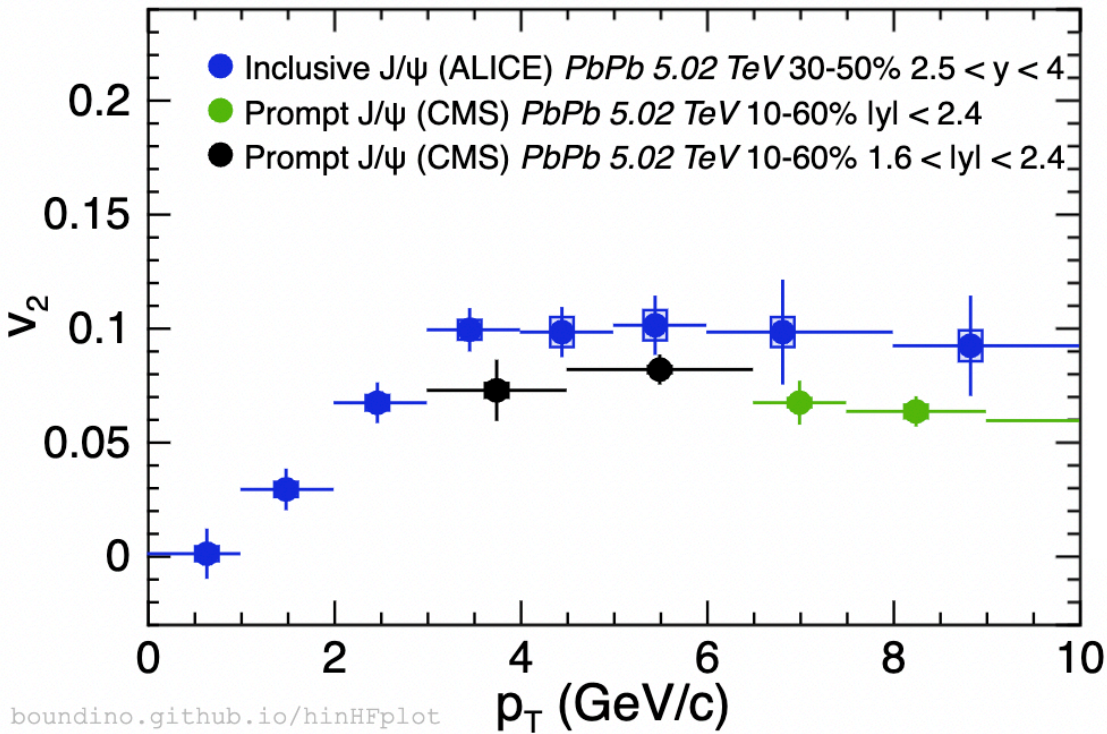


Mid-rapidity  
Forward

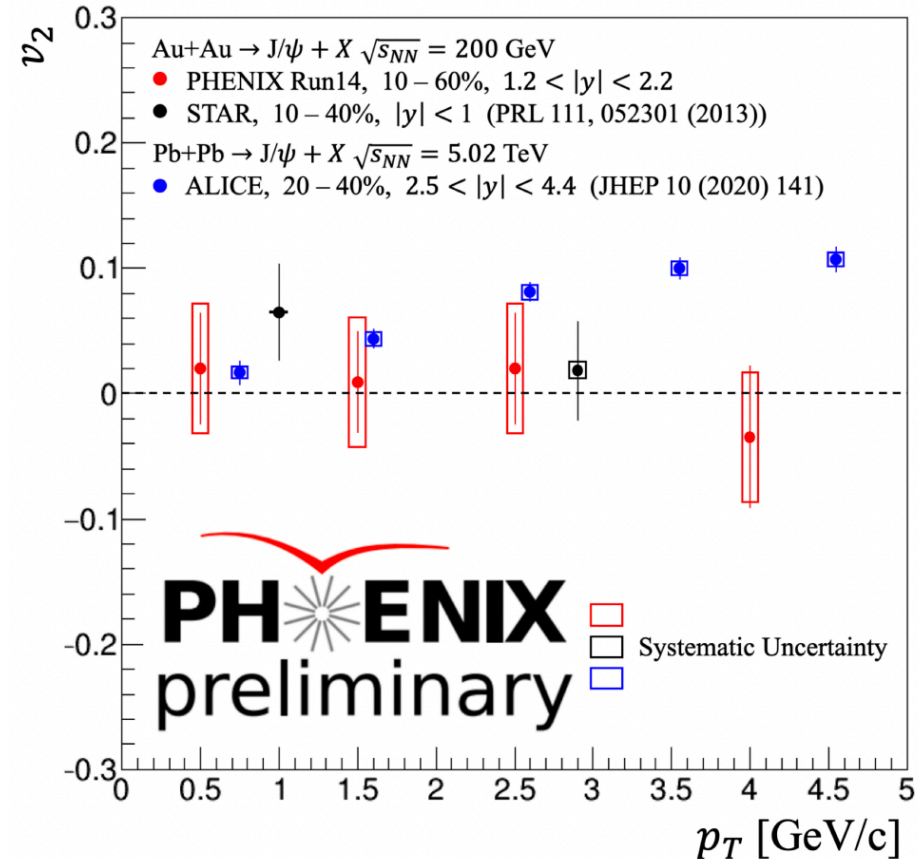


- At RHIC:  $R_{AA}^{\text{FWD}} < R_{AA}^{\text{MID}}$
- LHC vs RHIC:  $R_{AA}^{\text{RHIC}} < R_{AA}^{\text{LHC}}$
- Both contrary to expectations of how medium density and temperature influence suppression
- Coalescence can explain these results as at RHIC energies most  $c\bar{c}$  pairs are produced at mid-rapidity and ~10x more  $c\bar{c}$  pairs are produced at LHC energies compared to RHIC

# $v_2$ of $J/\Psi$ at RHIC and LHC



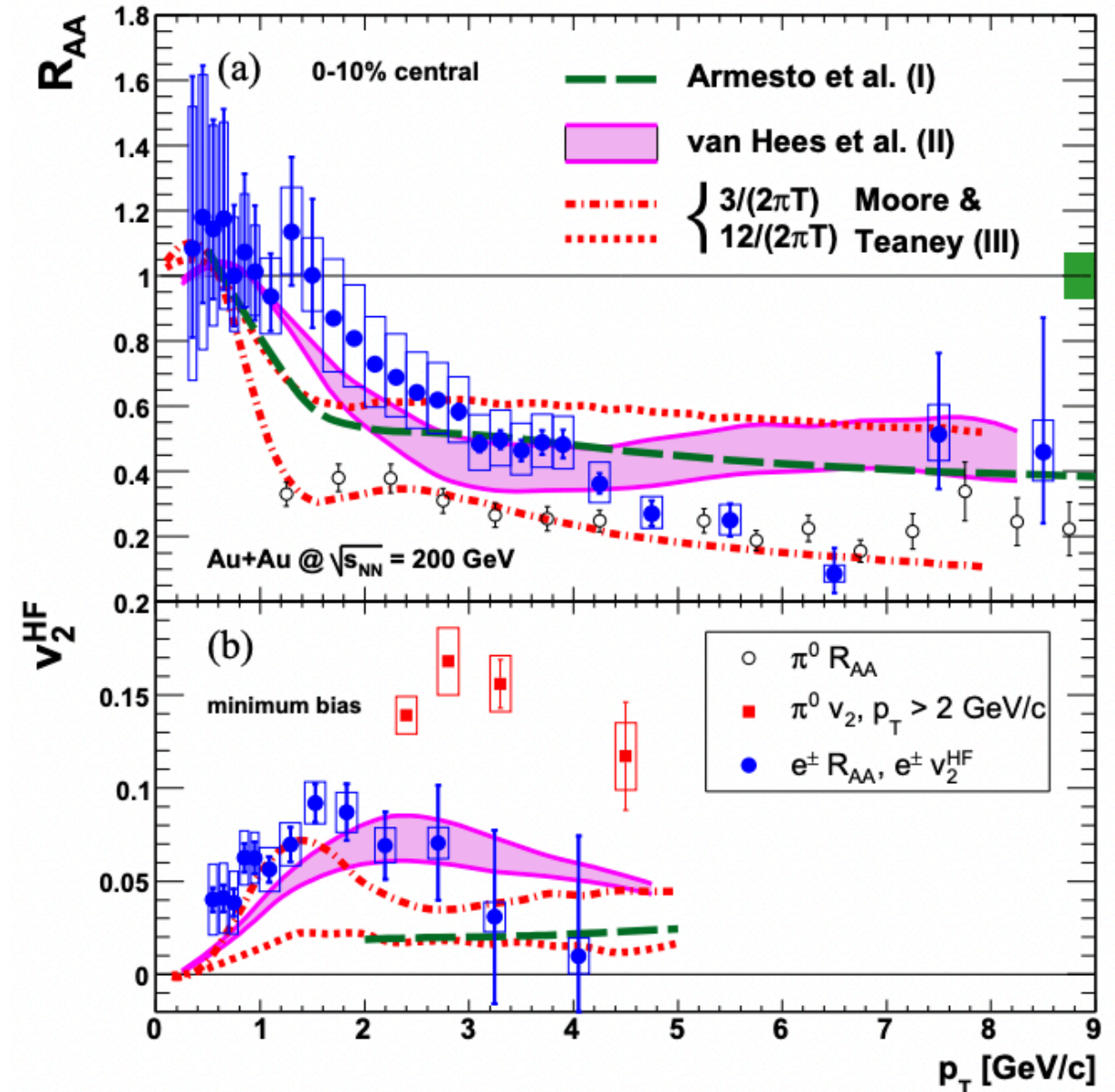
- ▶ JHEP 10 (2020) 141
- ▶ CMS-PAS-HIN-21-008
- ▶ CMS-PAS-HIN-21-008



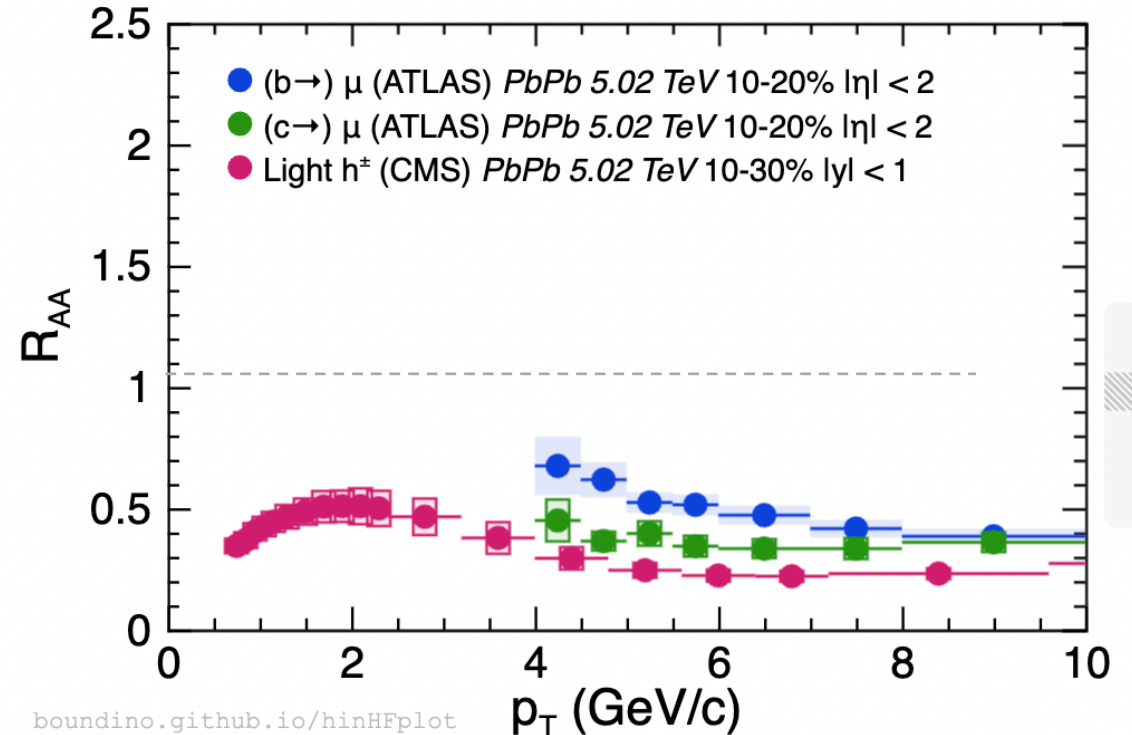
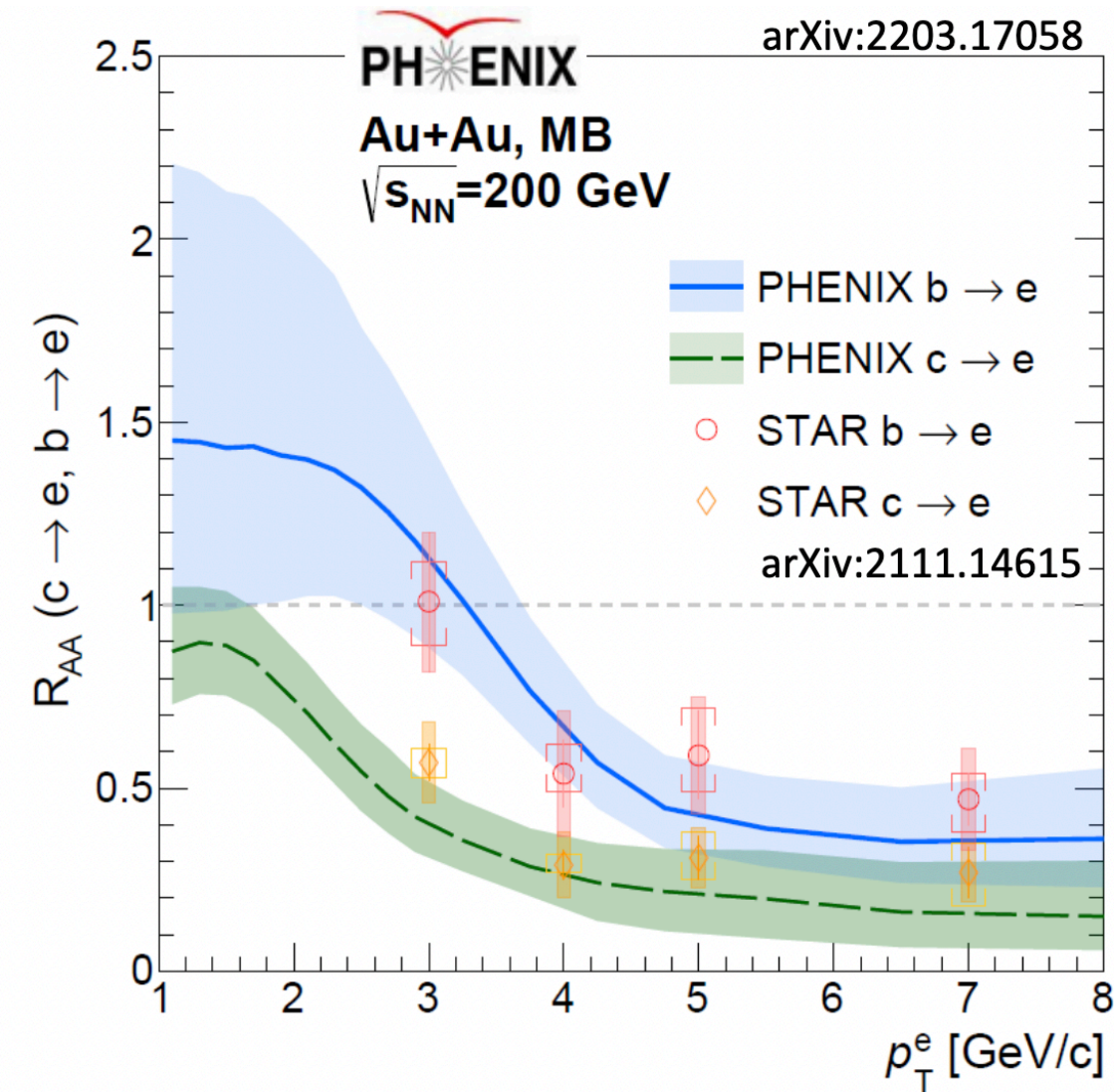
- At LHC energies,  $J/\Psi$  has significant  $v_2$  across rapidity
- At RHIC,  $v_2$  of  $J/\Psi$  is consistent with zero both at mid- and forward rapidity
- Improvement needed for RHIC results to assess the role of coalescence

# Inclusive heavy flavor $v_2$ and $R_{AA}$

- Electrons from inclusive heavy flavor show significant  $R_{AA}$  suppression and non-zero  $v_2$
- Both measurements show significant differences compared to neutral pions
  - Indicates mass ordering of particle interactions with QGP
- Do separated  $c$  and  $b$  exhibit the same mass ordering behavior?



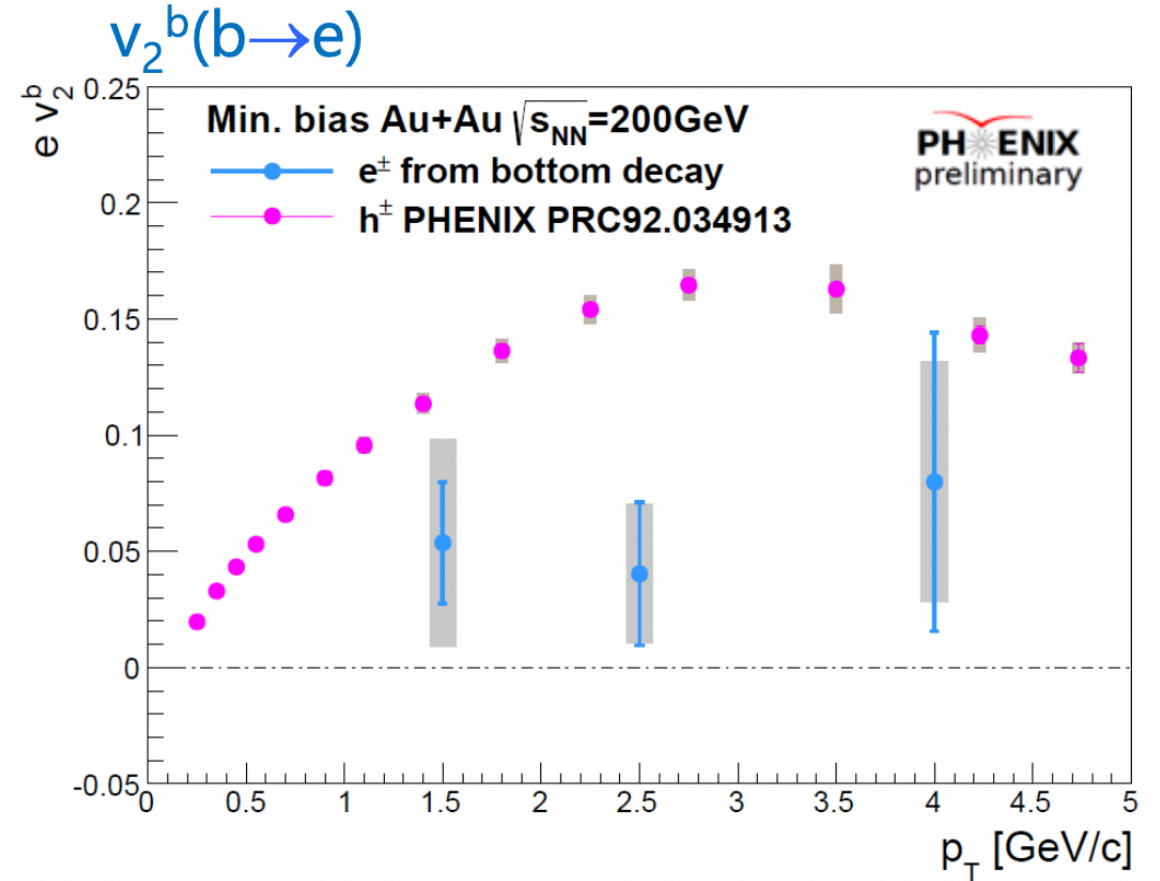
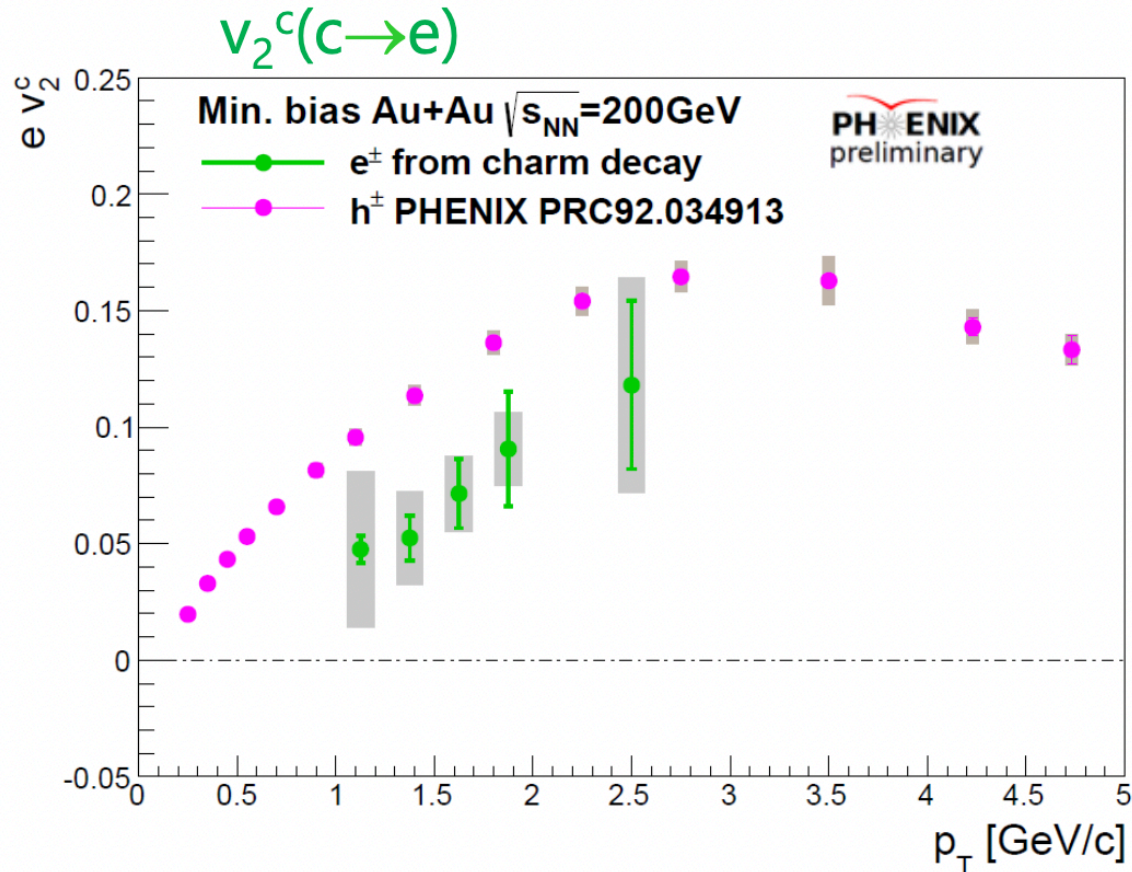
# $R_{AA}$ of separated *charm* and *beauty*



▶ PLB 829 (2022) 137077 ▶ PLB 829 (2022) 137077   
 ▶ JHEP 04 (2017) 039

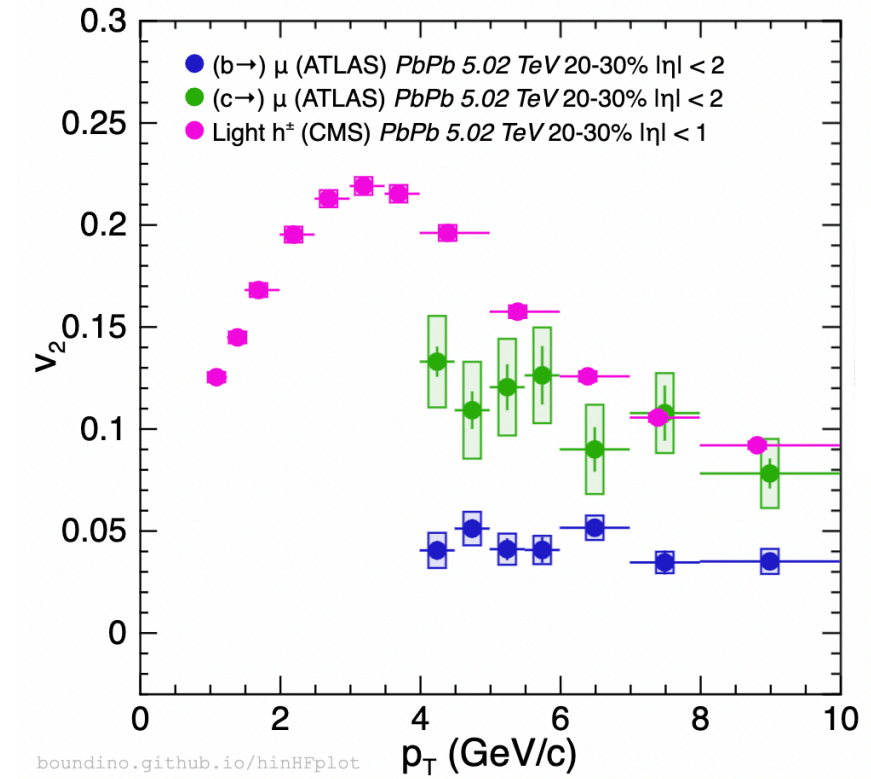
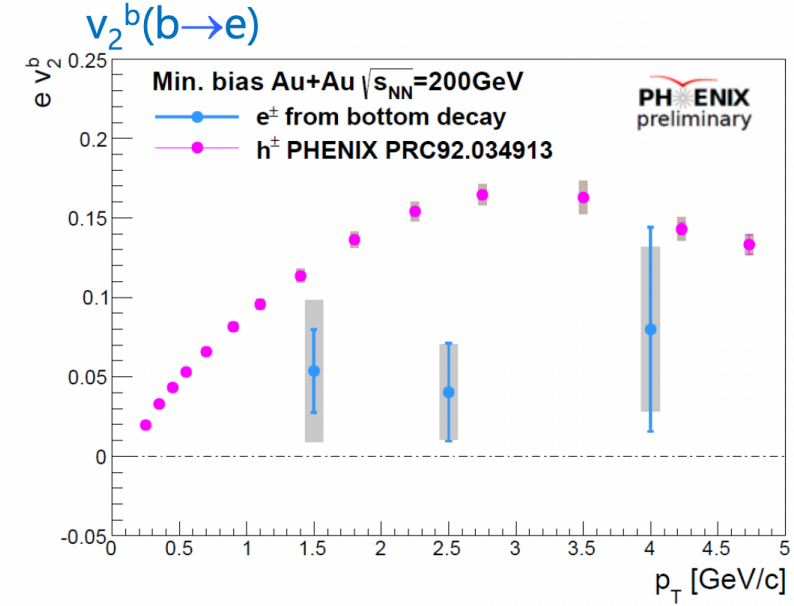
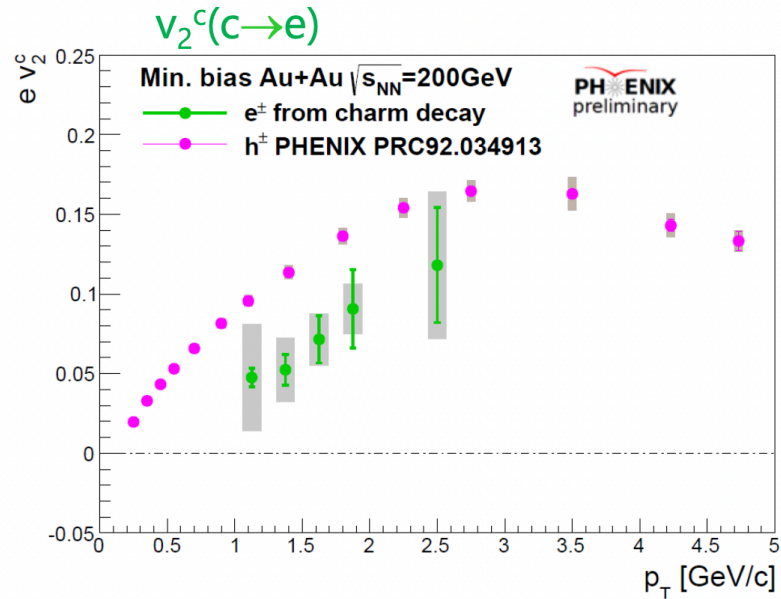
- Clear mass ordering between  $b \rightarrow l$  and  $c \rightarrow l$  at RHIC and LHC energies
- $R_{AA}$  measurement of open heavy flavor at forward rapidity will provide further insights

# PHENIX separated $c$ and $b$ $v_2$



- $v_2(c \rightarrow e)$  is positive with  $\sim 3.5$  sigma and follows trend of charged hadron  $v_2$
- $v_2(b \rightarrow e)$  indicates positive with 1.1 sigma
- Mass ordering is seen, as in  $R_{AA}$

# $v_2$ of separated $c$ and $b$



- $v_2$  of  $c$  and  $b$  are different at both RHIC and LHC
- Extending the PHENIX measurement to forward rapidity is necessary for a more complete understanding of heavy flavor interactions with QGP

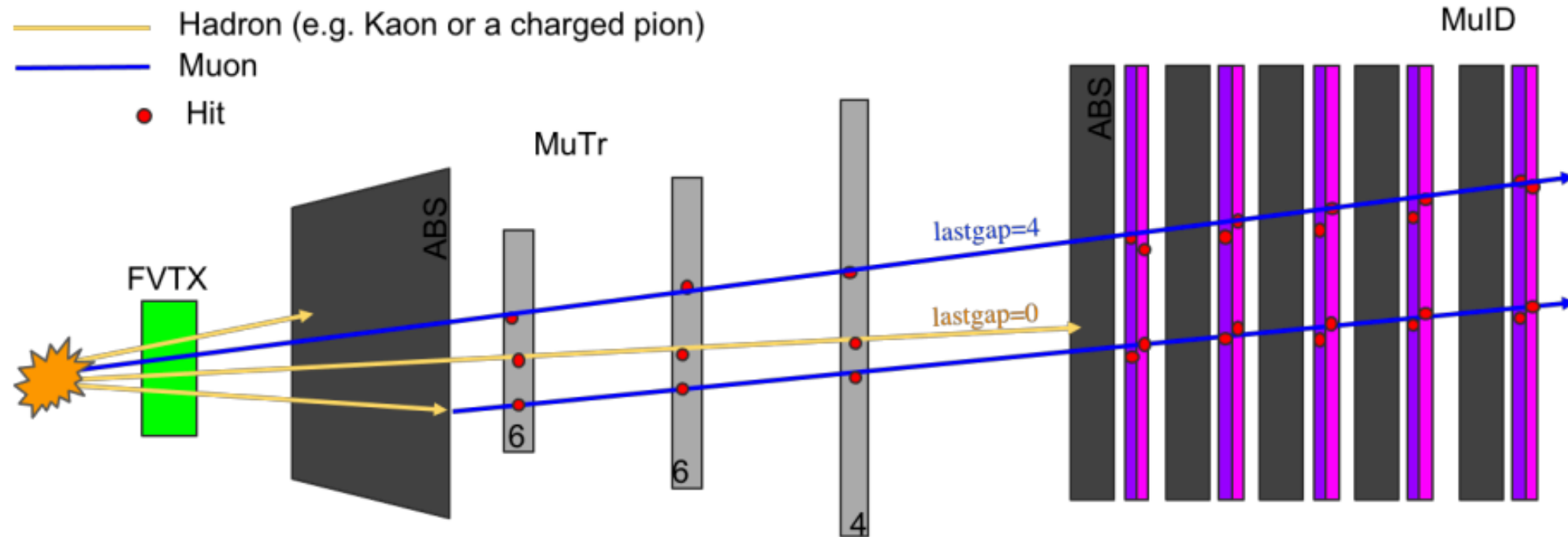
[boundino.github.io/hinHFplot](https://github.com/boundino/hinHFplot)

▶ PLB 807 (2020) 135595

▶ PLB 807 (2020) 135595

▶ PLB 776 (2017) 195

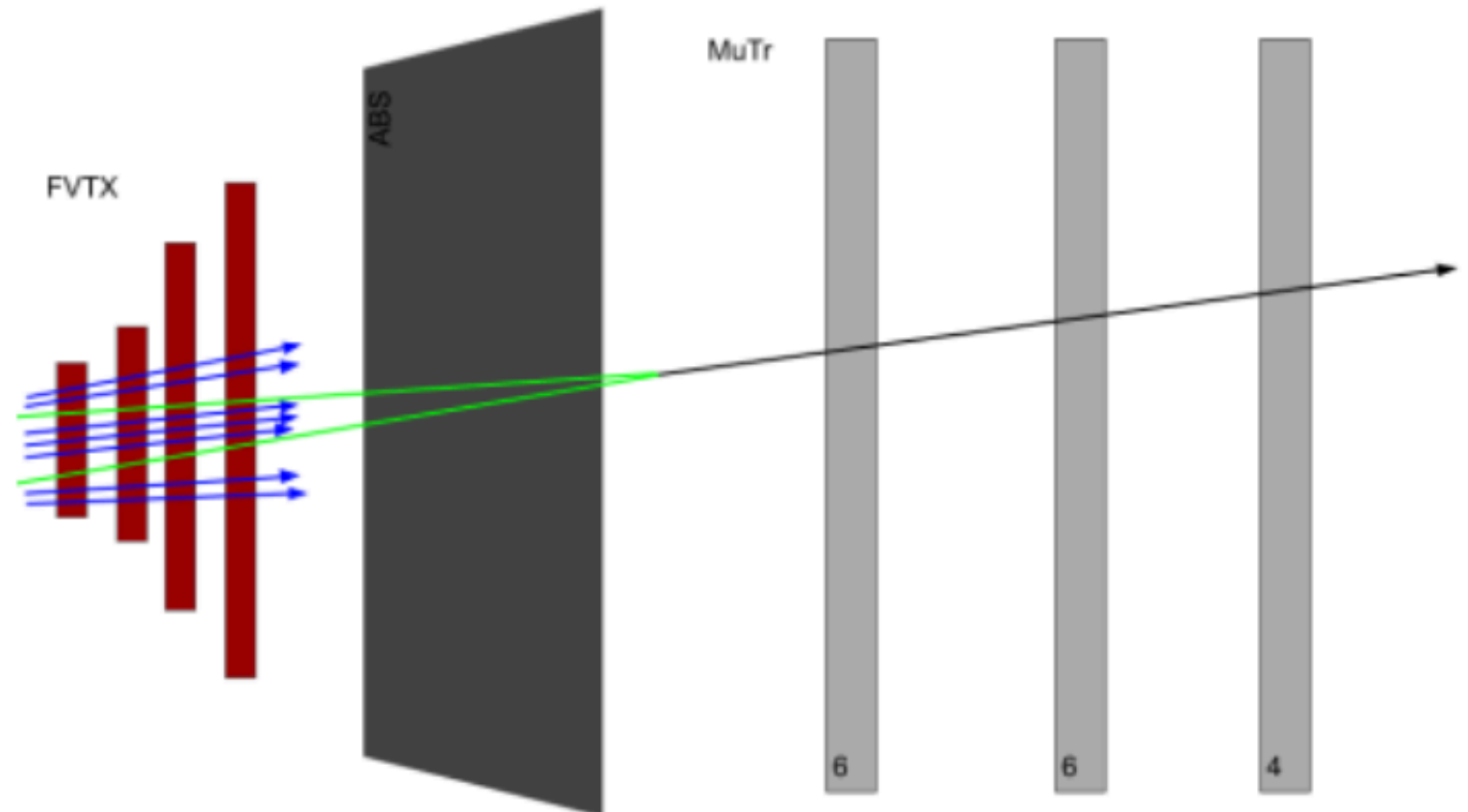
# Analysis in PHENIX muon arms



- PHENIX muon arms consist of forward vertex detector (FVTX), absorber, muon tracker (MuTr) and muon identification (MuID)
  - FVTX: precise decay vertex measurement
  - MuTr: tracking and momentum info for particles that make it past absorber
  - MuID: layers of larocci tubes and absorber to filter out remaining hadrons

# Track matching and background subtraction in Au+Au

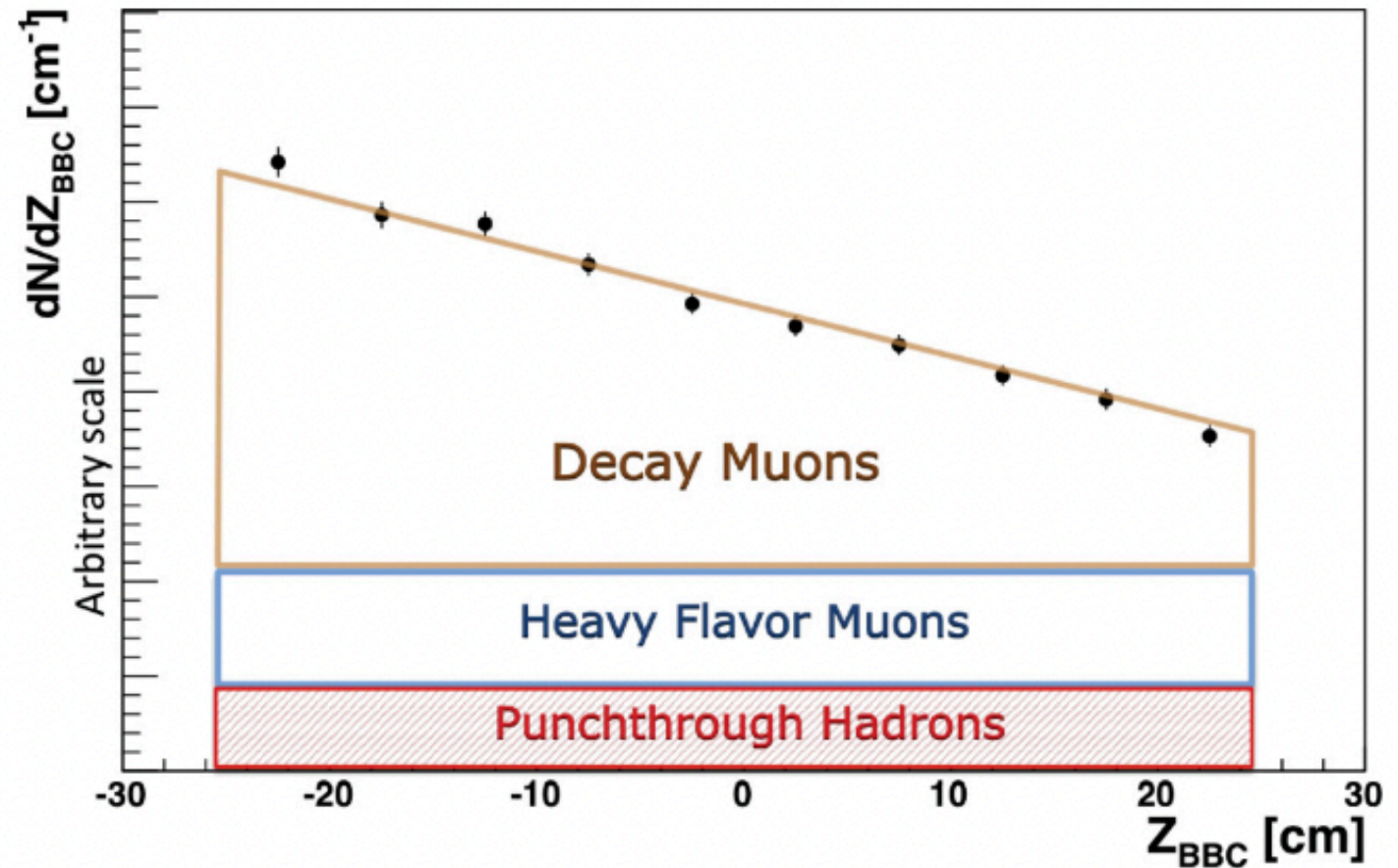
- Due to particles scattering in absorber material a single MuTr track can match to multiple tracks in the FVTX
- Because of this we combine a single MuTr track with all matched FVTX tracks and with tracks from 5 mixed events with similar Z vertex and multiplicity
- By normalizing the mixed event data and subtracting it out we resolve mismatching issues between detectors





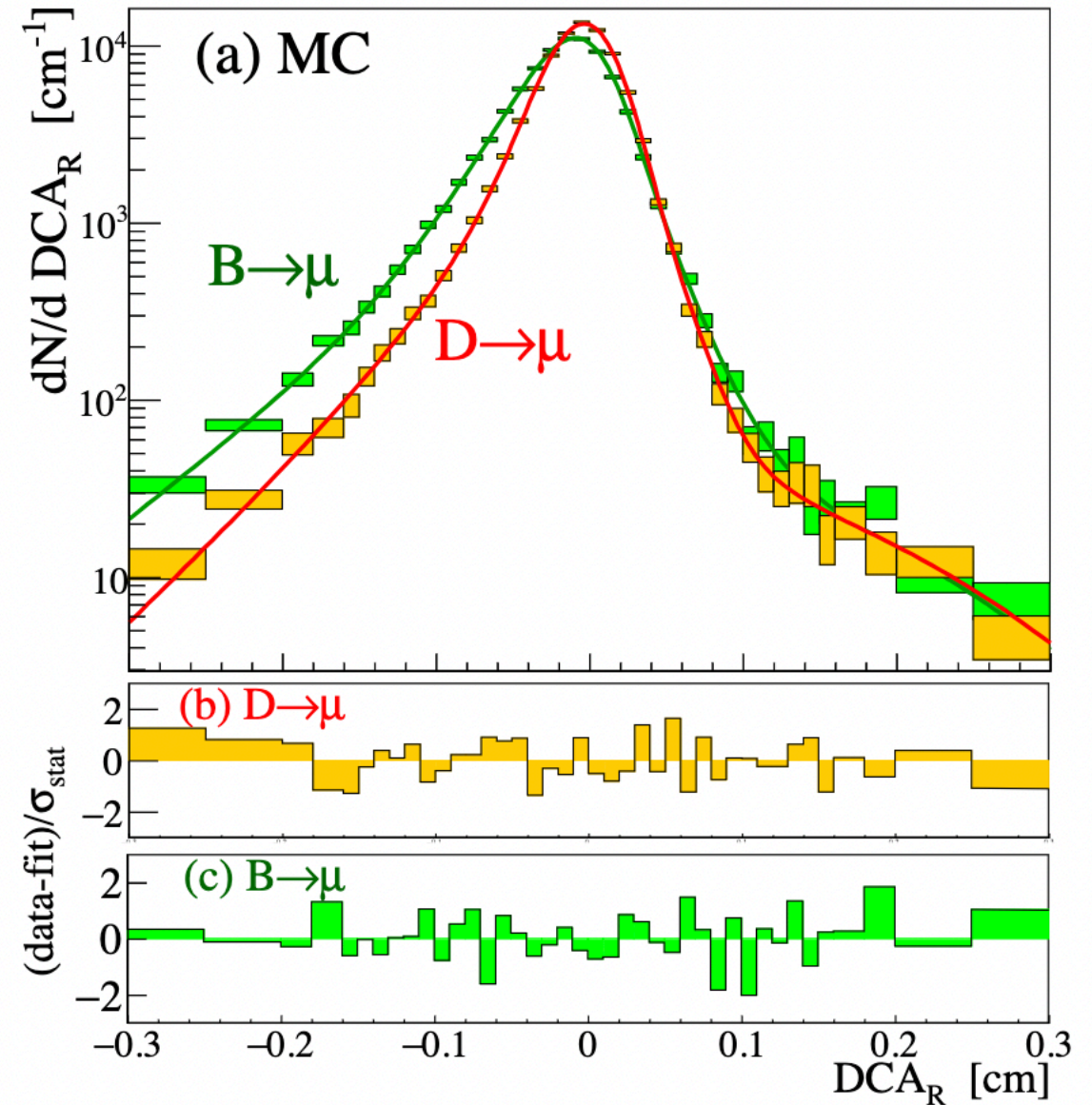
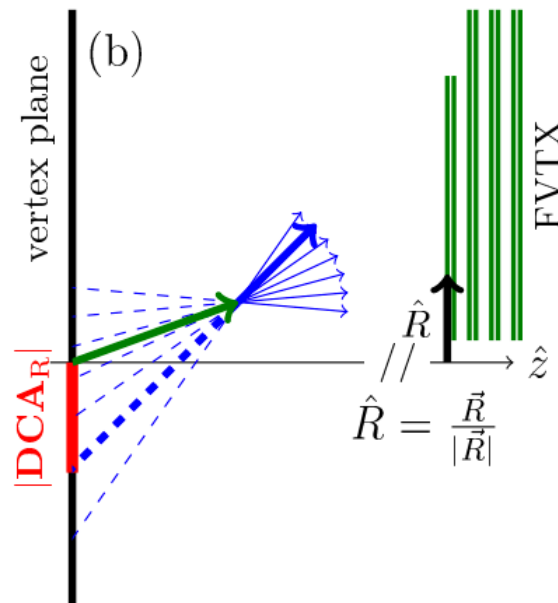
# Z vertex dependence of hadron decay

- Long decay length of kaons and pions  $\rightarrow$  yield of muons from light hadron decays is Z vertex dependent
- Use this to separate inclusive muon yield into light and heavy flavor decay components  $\rightarrow$  Measure HF  $v_2$



# Using $\text{DCA}_R$ to separate $c$ and $b$

- Measure secondary vertex of decay muons with FVTX  $\rightarrow$  statistically separate  $B \rightarrow \mu$  and  $D \rightarrow \mu$  decays
- $\text{DCA}_R$  measurements provide means to separate  $b$  and  $c$



# Summary

- PHENIX has measurements of open and closed heavy flavor  $v_2$  and  $R_{AA}$
- Coalescence of  $cc$  pairs could explain the difference between forward and mid-rapidity  $J/\Psi$   $R_{AA}$  results
  - $J/\Psi$   $v_2$  at RHIC has no rapidity dependence, but the results are not yet conclusive
- $v_2$  and  $R_{AA}$  light and heavy flavor ( $c$  and  $b$ ) show mass ordering at mid-rapidity
  - Measurements will be extended to forward rapidity to get a more complete understanding of heavy flavor interactions with QGP
- Inclusion of the Run16 Au+Au 200 GeV dataset will double statistics for ongoing PHENIX heavy flavor analyses

## Stay tuned !

Brandon Blankenship, Hard Probes 2023



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# Back-ups



# Ongoing PHENIX muon arm analysis

Measure  $v_2$  in lastgap=2/3 and lastgap=4 of MuID



Use tuned simulation to determine hadron/muon contamination in lastgaps



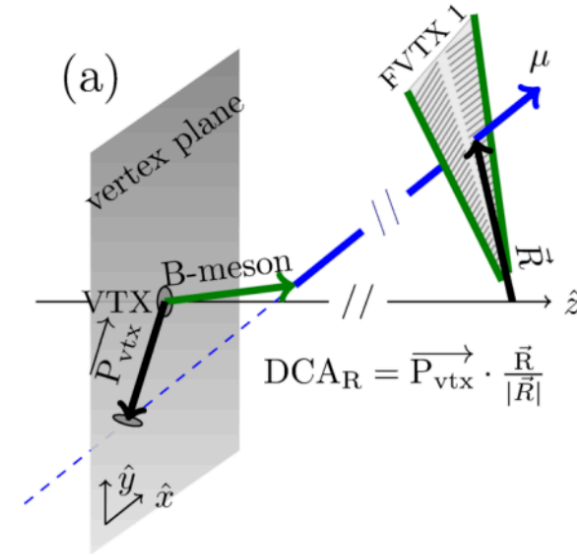
Use Z vertex dependency to determine light hadron decay contribution to inclusive  $\mu v_2$



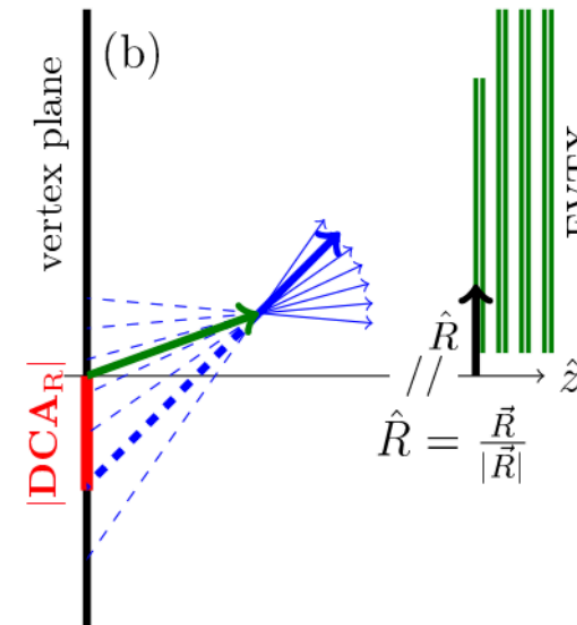
Statistically separate  $D \rightarrow \mu$  and  $B \rightarrow \mu$  to obtain separated  $c$  and  $b v_2$  at forward rapidity

# Radial distance of closest approach ( $DCA_r$ )

- $DCA_r$  is determined by projecting the particle track determined by the FVTX onto a plane in the z-axis located at the initial collision point
- Essentially this is a measurement of the distance from the primary vertex at which a particle was produced, i.e. for a prompt particle  $DCA_r = 0$
- With a precise measurement you can separate detected muons according the particle from which they decayed



3D visualization of  $DCA_r$



$r$ - $z$  plane visualization of  $DCA_r$