

***‘Photo-production’ of J/ψ & high mass e^+e^- pairs
in Ultra-Peripheral Au+Au Collisions
at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV in PHENIX***

David Silvermyr, ORNL
for the PHENIX collaboration

La Londe-les-Maures, September 2008

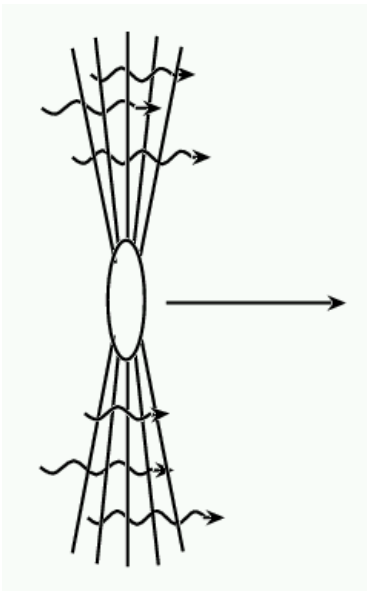


Overview

- *Physics intro: $\gamma\gamma$, γA collisions in UltraPeripheral A+A*
- *Experimental aspects: Ultraperipheral A+A collisions
(signatures, background, triggers, detectors, analysis cuts, ...)*
- *Results: Quarkonia and continuum γ -production in UPC @ RHIC (PHENIX)*

Electromagnetic Field of a Relativistic Charged Particle

Fermi 1924: *The effect of the electromagnetic field of a relativistic particle is equivalent to a flux of photons with a continuous energy spectrum.* (hep-th/0205086)



Quantum Mechanical derivation
1935 by Weizsäcker, Williams.



Weizsäcker-Williams method

Ultra-peripheral collisions

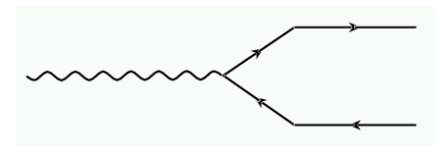
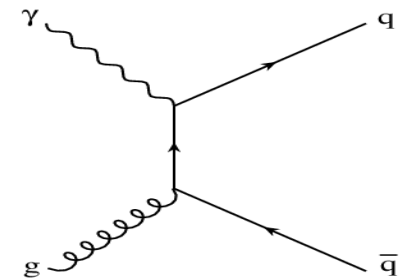
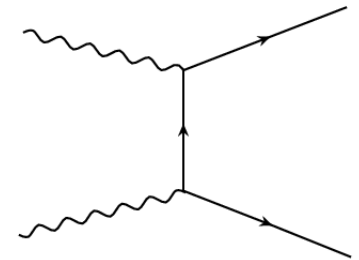
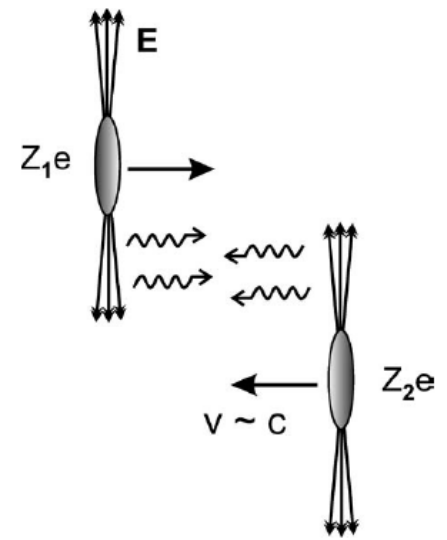
We study "collisions" with $b > 2R..$

The photons and nuclei can interact in several ways

1. Electromagnetic interaction, two-photon

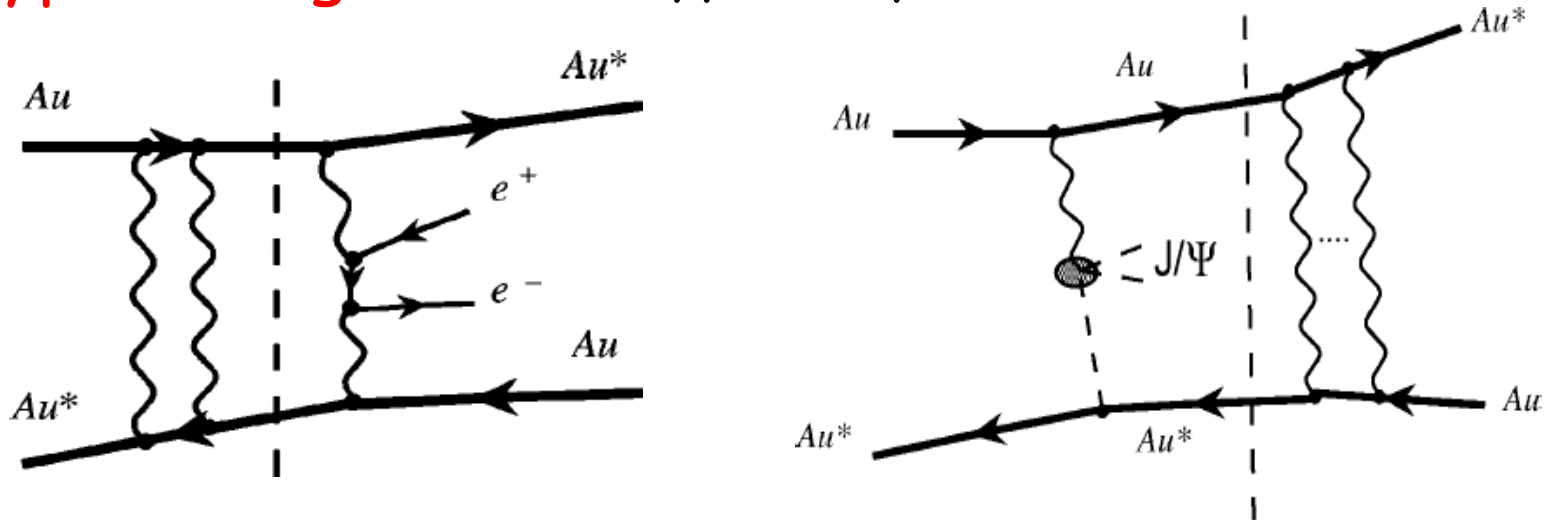
2. Direct photonuclear interaction, gamma+parton ($\gamma+g \rightarrow qq, \gamma+q \rightarrow \text{jet}+\text{jet}$)

3. Resolved photonuclear interaction (VMD), elastic or inelastic



$\gamma\gamma, \gamma A$ physics in UPC A+A collisions

➤ Typical diagrams for $\gamma\gamma$ and γA collisions:



➤ **Main interest** of γ -induced collisions in UPC A+A collisions

- Precision QCD: Low bkgd & simpler initial state than nuclear A+A colls.
- Measurements: Dilepton pairs, hard photo-production (Quarkonia, jets, heavy-Q), ...
- Physics topics: QED in strong regime ($Z\alpha_{em} \sim 1$), nuclear $G_A(x, Q^2)$ function, small-x physics, QQbar dynamics in cold nuclear matter, ccbar (bbar) spectroscopy, ..

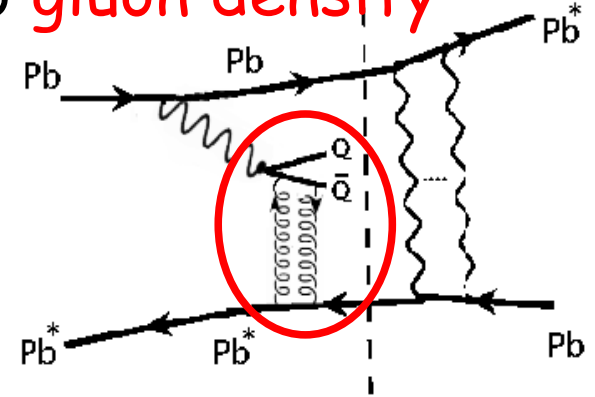
$xG_A(x, Q^2)$ via diffractive QQ γ -production (UPC)

- $\gamma+A \rightarrow VM+A$ ($VM=J/\Psi, \Upsilon$) sensitive to **gluon density squared**:

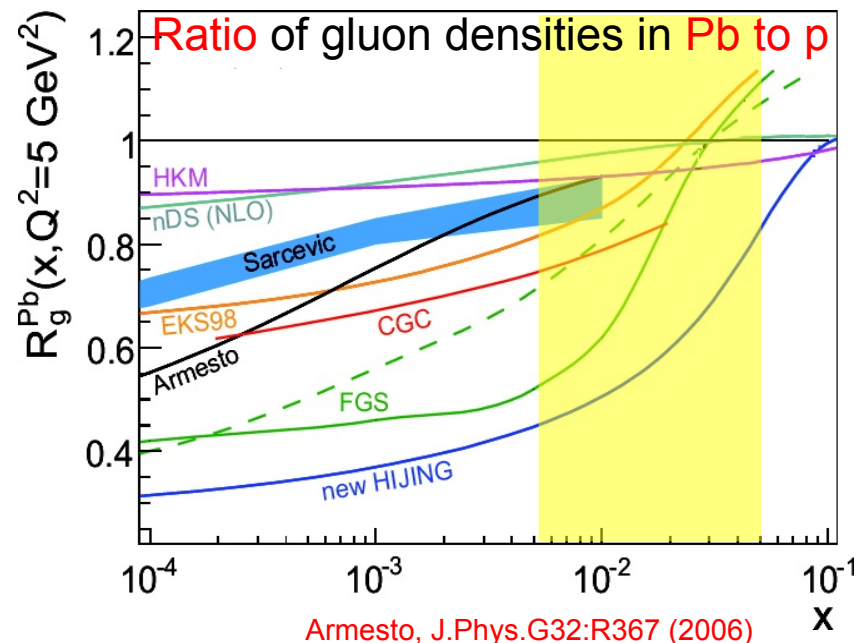
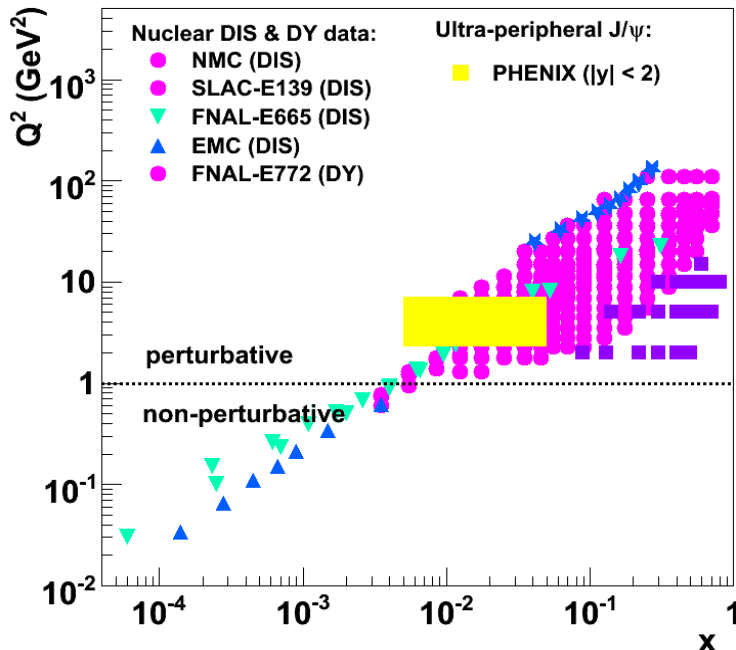
$$\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow VA}(s_{\gamma N}) \sim \left. \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma N \rightarrow VN}(s_{\gamma N})}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\min}} \left[\frac{G_A(x_1, x_2, t=0, Q_{\text{eff}}^2)}{AG_N(x_1, x_2, t=0, Q_{\text{eff}}^2)} \right]^2$$

Strikman, Frankfurt, Guzey, et al.

- Kinematical (x, Q^2) domains covered experimentally:



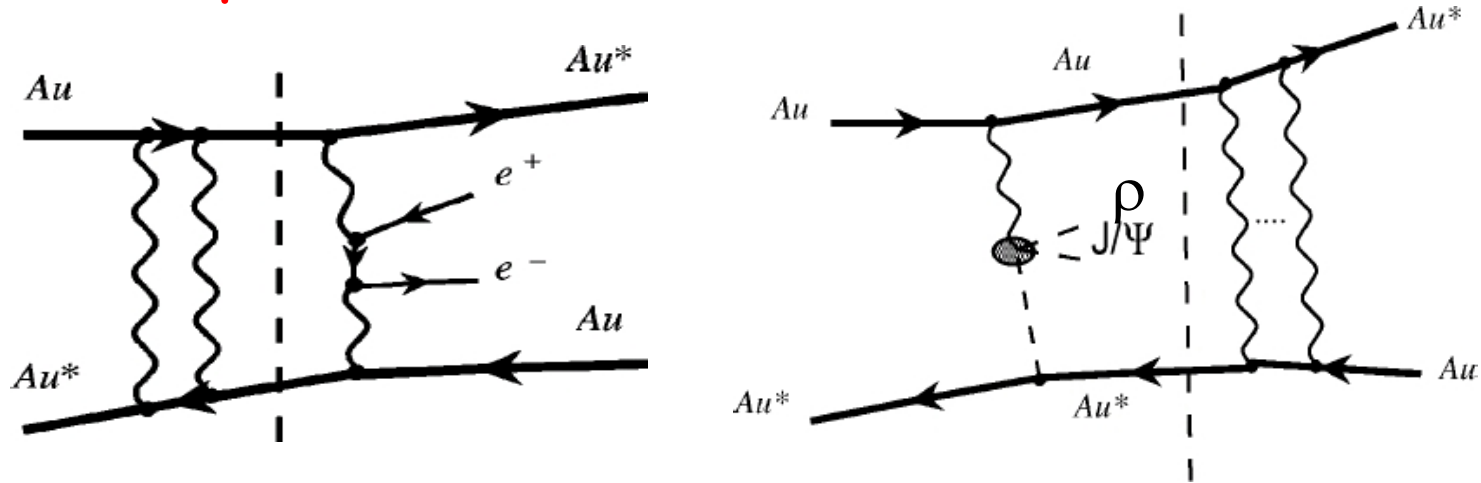
- Large uncertainties in $xG(x, Q^2)$ for $x < 10^{-2}$!



Armesto, J.Phys.G32:R367 (2006)

Existing $\gamma\gamma$, γA measurements @ RHIC

➤ Measured processes in A+A UPC collisions:



➤ STAR (published):

(1) Coherent ρ production: $\gamma + A \rightarrow A^* + \rho (\rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)$

(2) Dielectron continuum at low m_{inv} : $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow (A^*) + e^+ e^-$

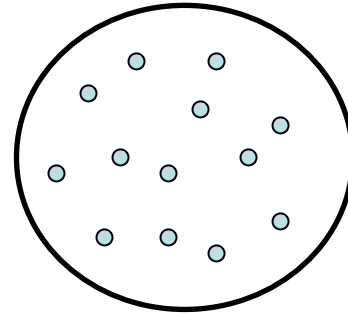
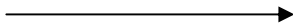
➤ PHENIX (preliminary):

(1) Coherent J/ψ production: $\gamma + A \rightarrow A^* + J/\psi (\rightarrow e^+ e^-)$

(2) Dielectron continuum at high m_{inv} : $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow (A^*) + e^+ e^-$

Coherence

Photon flux: $\sim Z^2$ (EPA; Fermi, WW)



Many scattering centra

Total scattering amplitude:

$$F(k, k') = \sum_{i=1}^A f_i(k, k') e^{iq \cdot x_i}$$



$$\int \rho(x) e^{iq \cdot x} d^3x$$

$A \cdot F(q)$

$F(q)$ – Nuclear
Form Factor

$t = \mathbf{q}^2$; For small mom. transfers:

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \right|_{\gamma A} = A^2 \left. \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \right|_{\gamma p} |F(t)|^2$$

$\sim 4 \cdot 10^4$ for Au..

(assuming no shadowing)

$\rightarrow 0$ for $q > 1/R$

$1/R \sim 30$ MeV/c for Au

Two-photon interactions (and any coherent process) will be significant only at high energies:

Max CM energies, W , at different heavy-ion accelerators, determined by the coherence requirement:

$$W \approx 2 \gamma_{\text{CM}} (hc/R)$$

For Au/Pb

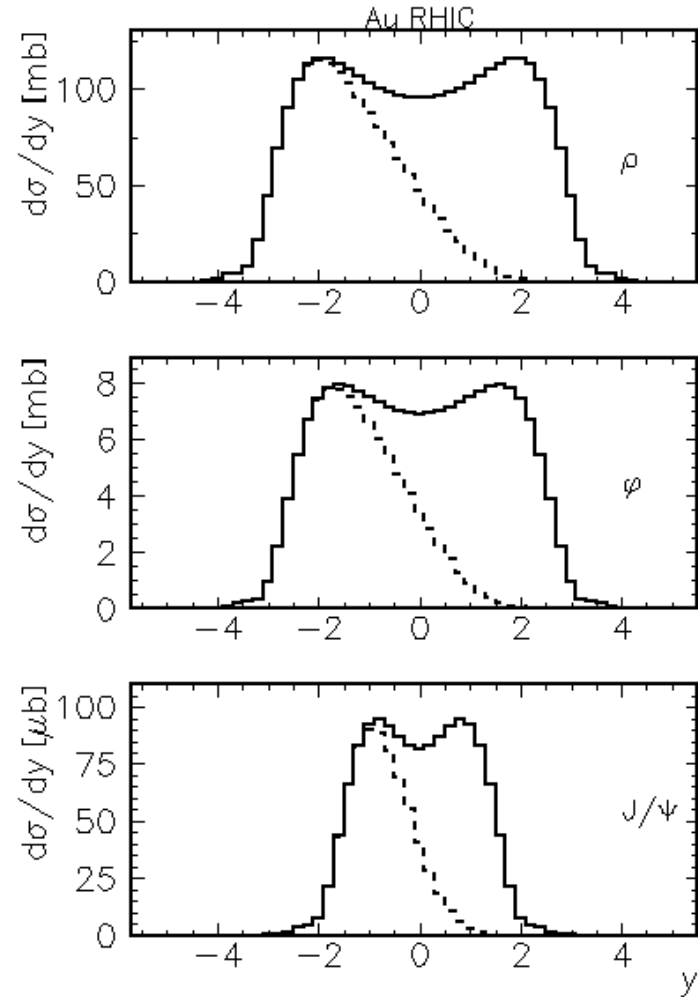
	γ_{CM}	W [GeV]
BNL AGS	3	0.1
CERN SPS	9	0.5
<hr/>		
RHIC	100	6
LHC	2940	160

RHIC is the first heavy-ion accelerator where significant particle production can occur in ultra-peripheral collisions/coherent interactions.

(cutoff not sharp though; and incoherent processes could contribute at e.g. SPS or CEBAF energies)

A model [STARLight] predicts cross sections, rapidity and p_T distributions of e.g. vector mesons.

For Au+Au 200 GeV at RHIC:



	σ [mb] (req. Xn)	
ρ	590	(170)
ω	59	(17)
ϕ	39	(13)
J/ψ	0.29	(0.16)

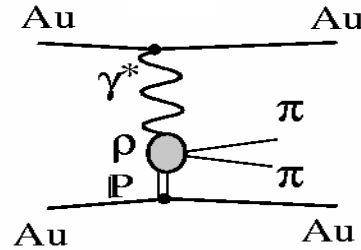
[Baltz, Klein, Nystrand: PRC 60(1999)014903, PRL 89(2002)012301]

**Cross sections in the 0.3-600 mb range!
Requiring (Xn) neutron coinc. lowers σ by factor 1.8 - 3.5, but useful for trigger.**

Photonuclear part dominates over $\gamma+\gamma$
The p_T distribution determined by the nuclear Form Factor, $p_T \sim 1/R$

STAR Result

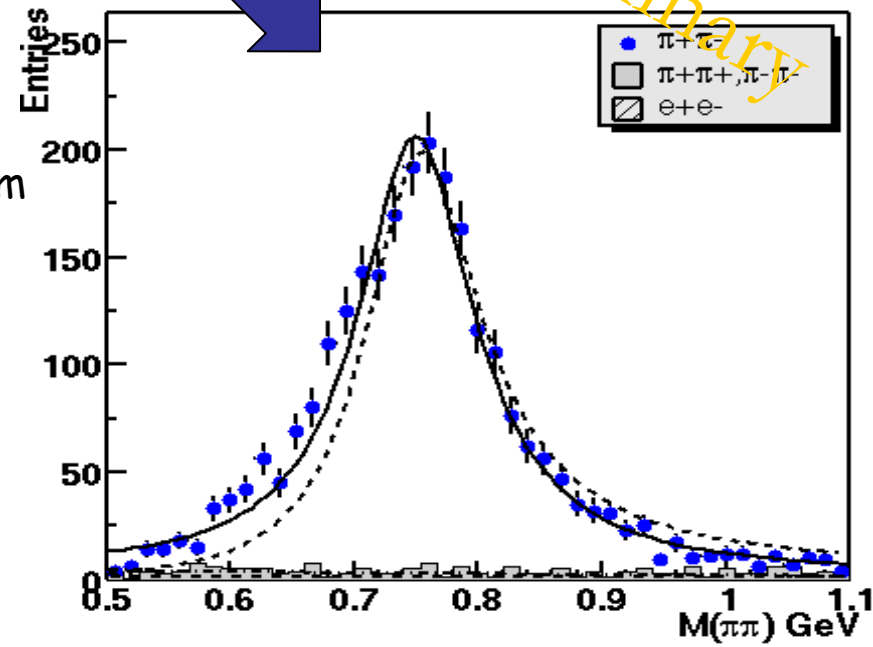
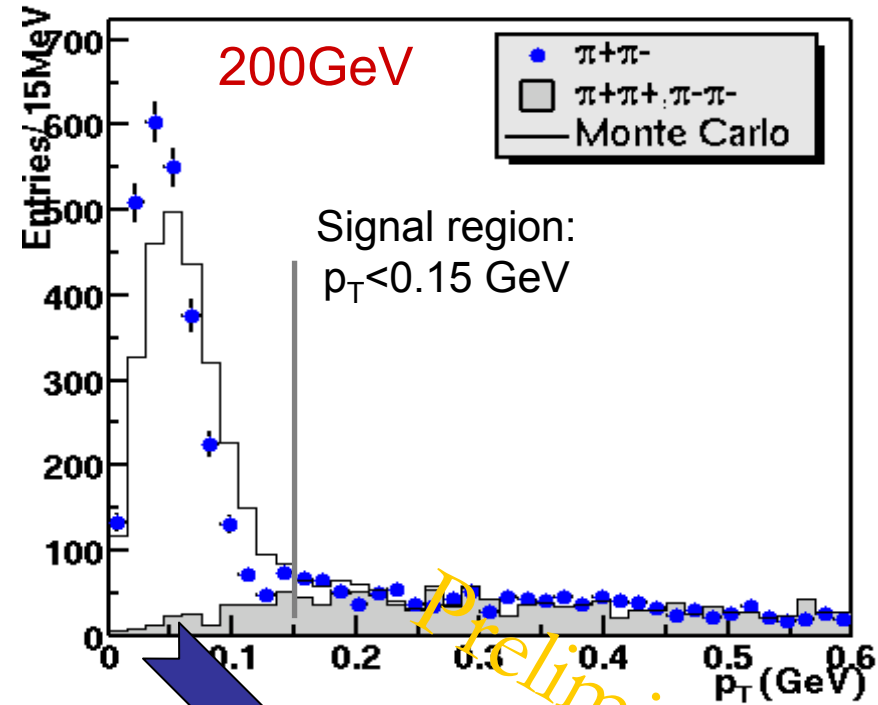
Topology Trigger
 $AuAu \Rightarrow AuAu \rho^0$



- Peak at low $p_T \Rightarrow$ coherent interaction

Cross-sections consistent with expectations from STARLight

[PRL 89(2002)272302 - result at 130 GeV;
 also see e^+e^- low M_{inv} continuum result (52 pairs):
 PRC 70 (2004) 031902(R)]



Preliminary

$\gamma\gamma, \gamma A$ collisions: experimental signatures



[All here also valid for: $A + A \rightarrow A + A + \gamma + \gamma \rightarrow A + A + X$]

➤ Central rapidities:

(1) **Low multiplicities:** $N \ll 10$

(2) **Low total transverse momentum** ("coherence condition"):

$$p_T < \sqrt{2} \hbar / R_A \quad \text{or} \quad p_T \sim m_{\text{inv}} / \gamma \sim 30 - 50 \text{ MeV}$$

(3) **Zero net charge:** even # of charged tracks of opposite signs.

➤ (Very) Forward rapidities:

(4) Large probability of multiple e.m. interactions

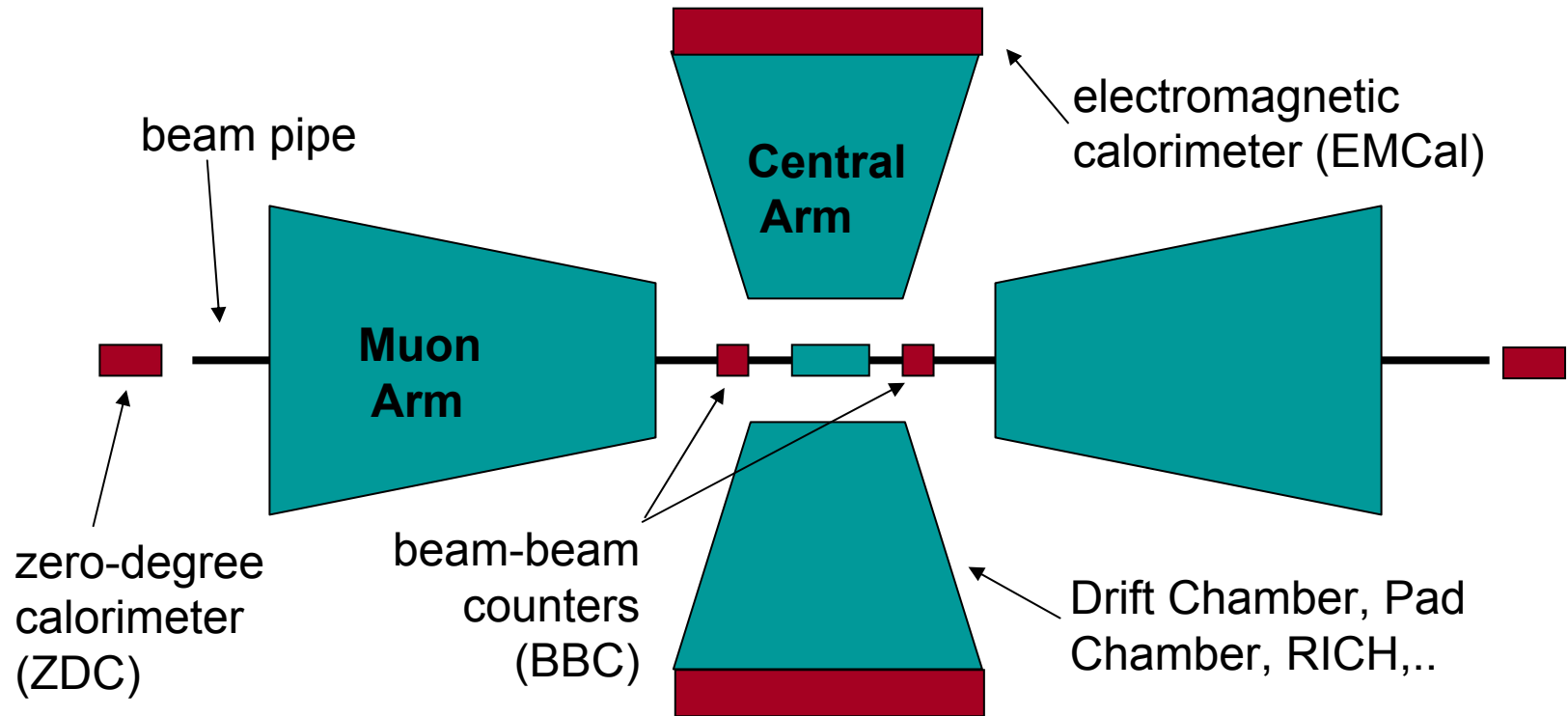
(3γ exch.): **Mutual Coulomb excitation** (GDR)

leading to A^* dissociation via **(forward) neutron**

(Xn) emission: $P \sim 30-50\%$ (J/Ψ).

Note: Coulomb-dissoc. probab. **factorizes**
in UPC cross-section calculations¹²

PHENIX (bird's eye view)



Strengths and weaknesses:

- + Designed for lepton and photon detection, high rate and rare triggers.
- Limited acceptance
[2×90 deg. in ϕ , $|\eta| < 0.35$ used here]

Goal [Run4 (2004)]:

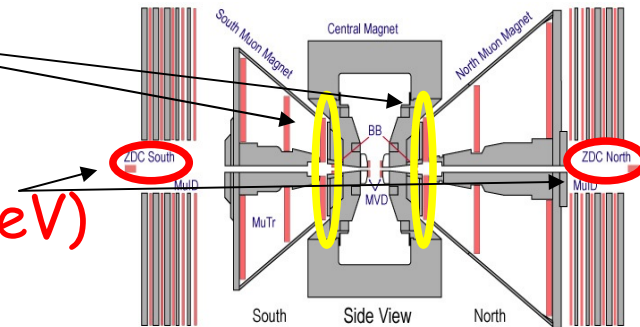
Via electron channel, look for heavier vector meson (J/Ψ) and continuum at higher M_{inv} .

$\gamma + A \rightarrow J/\Psi + A$: UPC trigger example

PHENIX Run-4 (2004) AuAu UPC trigger:
Sensitive to $\gamma + Au \rightarrow Au^* + J/\Psi(\rightarrow e^+e^-)$

➤ L1 UltraPeripheral Trigger:

- Veto on coincident BBC ($|y| \sim 3-4$):
[avoid periph. nuclear, beam-gas colls.]
- Neutron(s) in at least one ZDC ($E > 30$ GeV)
[sensitive to Au^* Coulomb dissociation]
- Large energy ($E > 0.8$ GeV) cluster in EMCal:
[e^+e^- decay from J/Ψ]



➤ Events collected ($\sim 0.4\%$ of MinBias (BBC) trigger)

PHENIX UPC analysis cuts

➤ Global cuts:

- Std. vtx. cut: $|z_{\text{vtx}}| < 30$ cm
- **Multiplicity(tracks) < 15** [removes non-UPC events]

➤ Loose PID e^\pm cuts (compared to std. AuAu-nuclear analysis):

- RICH: $n_0 \geq 2$ [# of photo-tubes within nominal ring radius]
- Track-EMCal matching (plus no dead tower within 2x2).
- $E_1 > 1$ GeV || $E_2 > 1$ GeV [offline high- p_T trigger threshold]

➤ Pair cuts:

arm1 != arm2 [back-to-back di-electrons from J/ψ ~at rest]

➤ Residual **background subtraction**:

$m_{\text{inv}}[\text{unlike-sign ee pairs}] - m_{\text{inv}}[\text{like-sign ee pairs}]$

$\gamma + A \rightarrow J/\Psi + A$: possible background sources (I)

$$A + A \rightarrow A + A + \gamma \rightarrow A + A + J/\Psi$$

➤ "Non-physical":

(1) **Cosmic rays**: no ZDC, no good vtx.

(2) **Beam-gas**: no good vtx., large multiplicity, asymmetric dN/dy

Trigger level

$\gamma + A \rightarrow J/\Psi + A$: possible background sources (II)

Physical processes (possibly affecting final signal):

(3) **Peripheral nuclear $A+A$** : "large" multiplicity, large p_T (~ 2 GeV/c)

(4) **Hadronic diffractive** (Pomeron-Pomeron, rapidity gap evt.):
forward proton emission, larger p_T : $p_T(\gamma\gamma) < p_T(PP)$, like-sign pairs.
Hard-diffractive **J/Ψ** production.

(5) **Incoherent UPC $\gamma+n \rightarrow n+J/\Psi$** : $p_T(\gamma\gamma) < p_T(\gamma P)$, wider & asymm. dN/dy
 ≥ 2 neutrons (induced nuclear break-up) w/ same direction as J/Ψ .

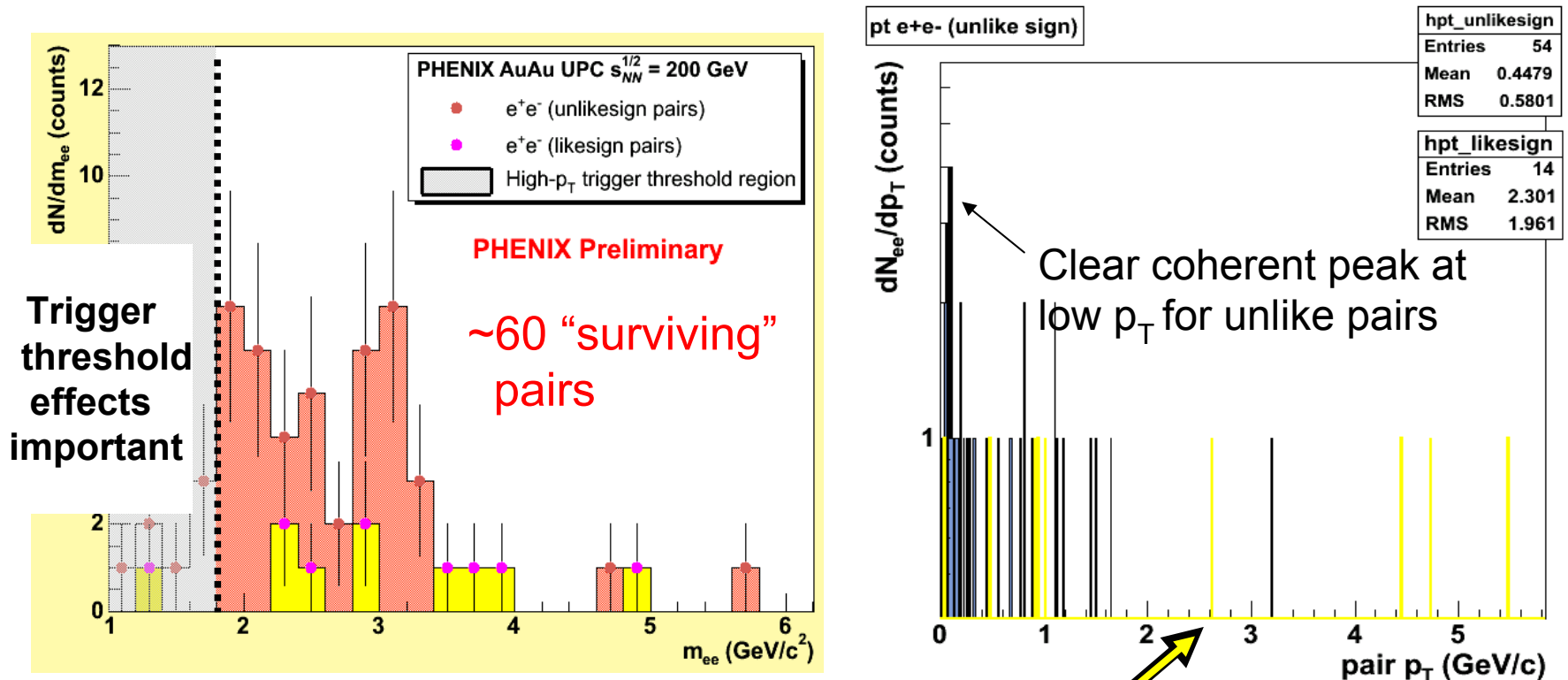
(6) **Other coherent UPC** processes:

$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ (Important !) , $\gamma A \rightarrow \text{jet}(s)+A$ (lower cross-sections) ?

PHENIX UPC Preliminary Results

AuAu UPC preliminary results (I): dN/dm_{inv} , dN/dp_T ee pairs

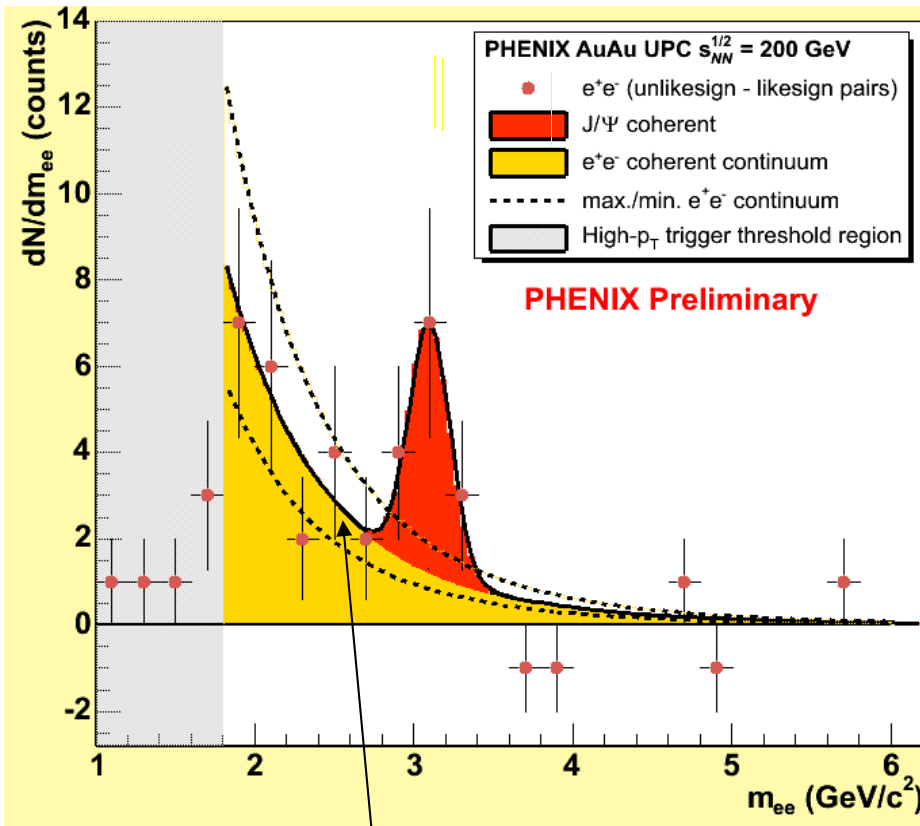
- dN/dm_{inv} , dN/dp_T distributions after QA, global-, single- & pair- cuts for unlike-sign (red) and like-sign (yellow) pairs:



- **Very small wrong-sign background** (located in “non-coherent” high p_T region) well reproduced by MC.
 -Can be removed by tighter eID (E/p) cuts that were however not used in preliminary analysis shown here.

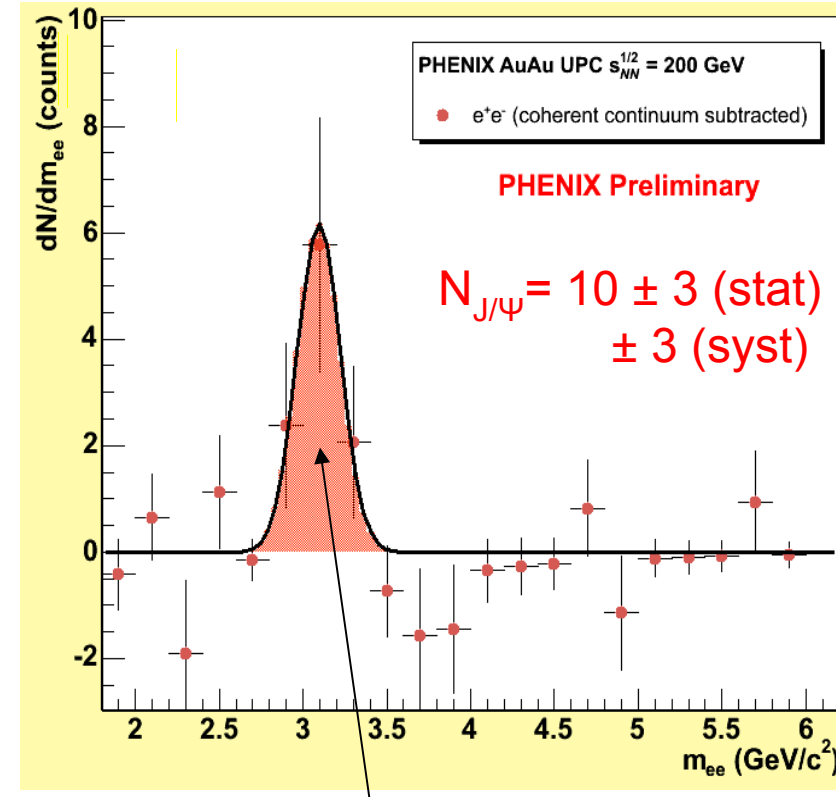
AuAu UPC preliminary results (II): dN/dm_{inv} e⁺e⁻ pairs

- dN/dm_{inv} (backgd subtracted) & with 2 fits of expected e⁺e⁻ continuum shape (normalized at m_{ee} = 1.8 – 2.2 GeV/c²)



Shape of e⁺e⁻ continuum in good agreement w/ theoretical input + full-MC resp.+ reco

- dN/dm_{inv} after e⁺e⁻ continuum subtraction



J/ψ peak & width in good agreement w/ theoretical input + full MC resp.+reco

Peak ~ 3.10 GeV/c²; Width ~ 130 MeV/c² 20

Monte Carlo: dN/dM_{inv} J/Ψ & e^+e^- continuum

- Good agreement with expected signals from “Starlight” MC

J. Nystrand / Nuclear Physics A 752 (2005) 470c–479c

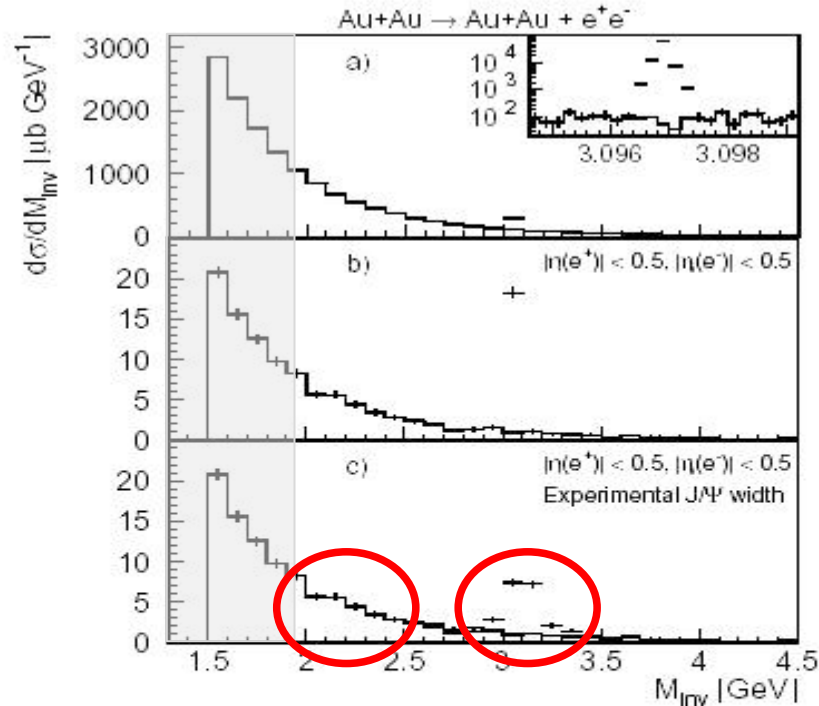


Figure 4. The differential cross section $d\sigma/dM_{inv}$ for dielectron production in ultra-peripheral Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{nn}} = 0.2$ TeV. The histograms show the two-photon contribution, and the bars or crosses show the sum of the two-photon and $J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+e^-$ contribution. The inset in a) has an expanded M_{inv} scale. The distributions have been calculated from a Monte Carlo simulation. 700k e^+e^- -pairs with $M_{inv} > 1.5$ GeV have been generated, corresponding to an intergrated luminosity of $500 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$.

Continuum Cross sections

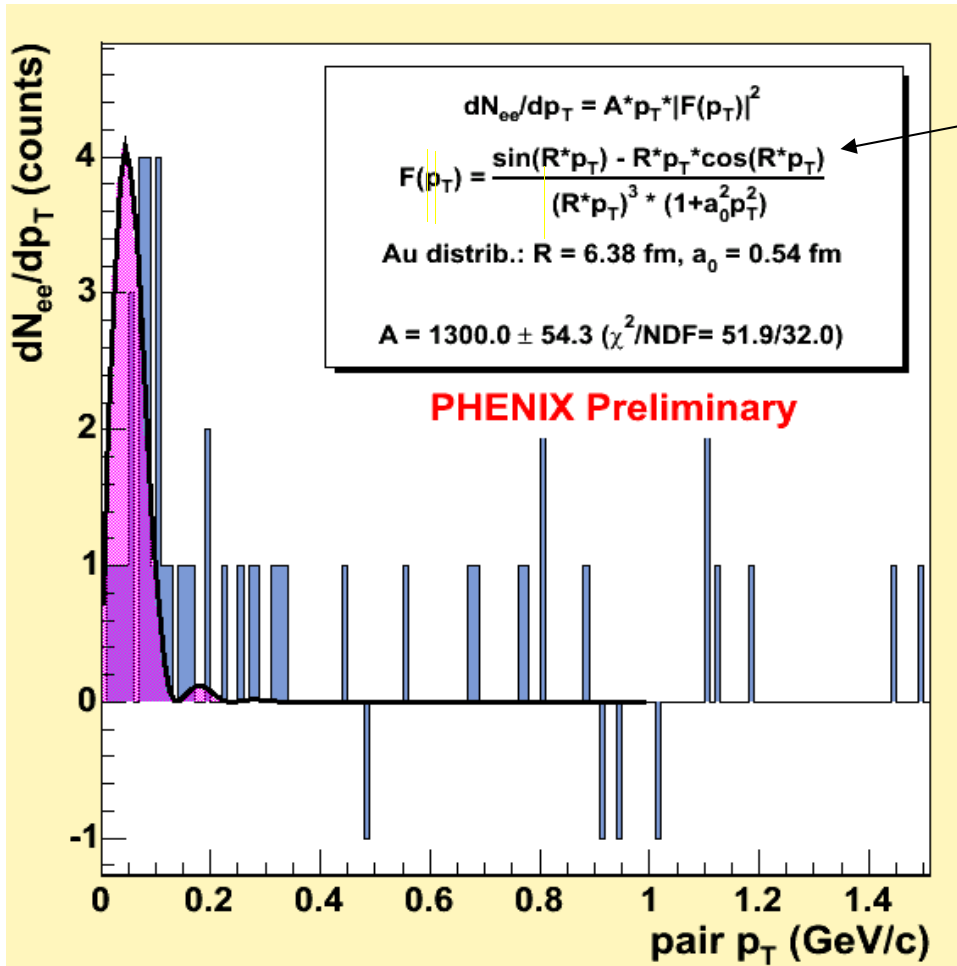
Total, Au+Au \rightarrow Au+Au+e+e- : 32000 b
(Alscher-Hencken-Trautmann-Baur, PRA 55(1997)396)

With minv cut:

	Total	Xn-fragmentation
Minv > 1.5 GeV	1.4 mb	0.61 mb
Minv > 3.0 GeV	45 μ b	25 μ b
Minv > 6.0 GeV	450 nb	300 nb

Xn-fragmentation = Coulomb break-up of one or both nuclei.

AuAu UPC preliminary results (III): dN/dp_T e⁺e⁻ pairs



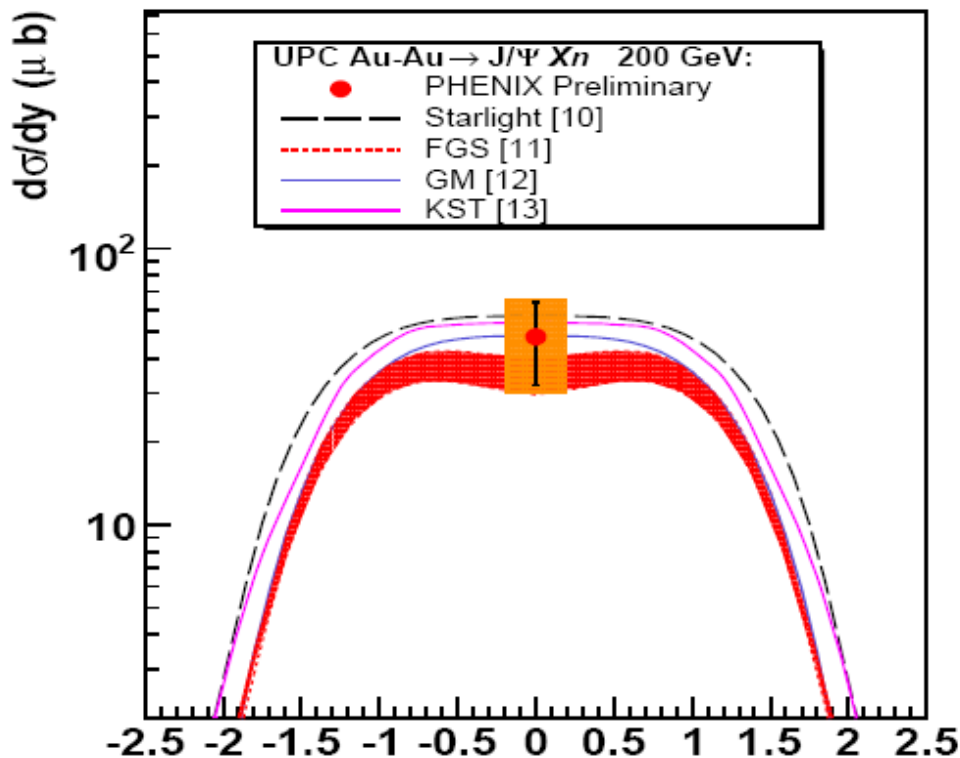
[*] Nuclear form factor fit from
J.Nystrand, nucl-th/0112055

➤ dN_{ee}/dp_T peaked at low
p_T ~ 90 MeV/c as expected
for coherent production.

Good detailed agreement
w/ theoretical expectations [*]

AuAu UPC preliminary results (IV): J/ψ cross-section

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\sigma_{J/\psi}/dy|_{y=0} &= 1/BR \times 1/(\text{Acc}|_{y=0} \cdot \epsilon) \times 1/\epsilon_{\text{trig}} \times 1/L_{\text{int}} \times N_{J/\psi}/\Delta y = \\
 &= 1/(5.9\%) \times 1/(5.7\% \cdot 56.4\%) \times 1/(90\%) \times 1/120 \mu\text{b}^{-1} \times (10 \pm 3 \pm 3) = \\
 &= 48. \pm 16. \text{ (stat)} \pm 18. \text{ (syst)} \mu\text{b}
 \end{aligned}$$



- Measured J/ψ yield at y=0 consistent w/ theoret. calcs.
- Syst. uncertainty: coherent e⁺e⁻ continuum under J/ψ (work in progress).
- Reduction of stat. errors need larger luminosity.
- Current uncertainties preclude yet detailed study of crucial model ingredients:
G_A(x, Q²), σ(J/ψ absorption)

[10] Starlight: S.R. Klein, J.Nystrand PRC 60(1999)014908, NPA 752(2005)470.

[11] M. Strikman, M. Tverskoy, M. Zhalov, PLB 626(2005)72.

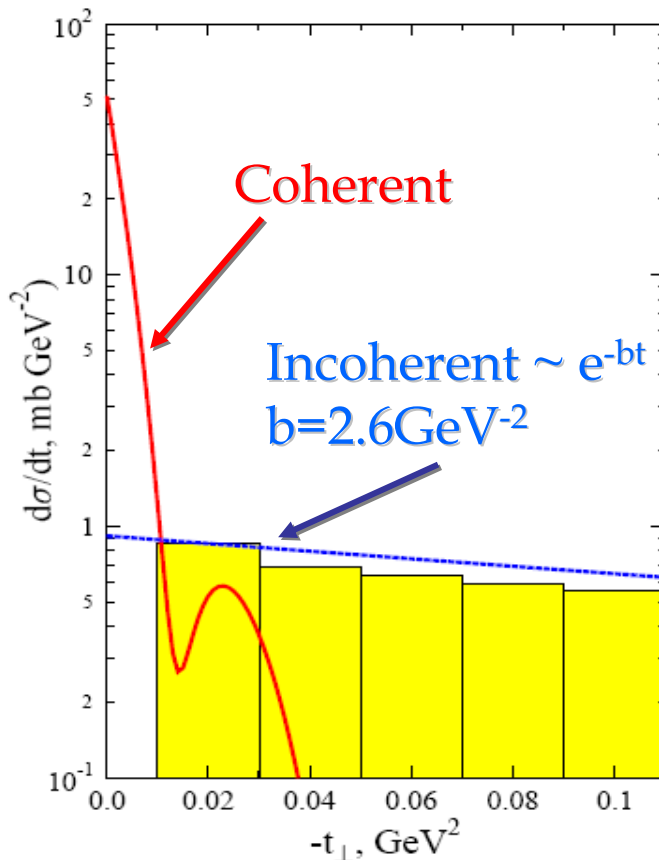
[12] V. P. Goncalves and M. V. T. Machado, arXiv:0706.2810 (2007).

[13] Yu. P. Ivanov, B. Z. Kopeliovich and I. Schmidt, arXiv:0706.1532 (2007).

Incoherent J/ Ψ production

- How to separate incoherent from the coherent?

Via t distribution, $t=p_T^2$



Study yield as a function of cuts in t , and compare with cut expectations.

Eg. a la

Tight cut:

$$N1 = 0.9 * C + 0.05 * I \text{ [below]}$$

$$N2 = 0.1 * C + 0.95 * I \text{ [above]}$$

Looser cut:

$$N3 = 0.95 * C + 0.3 * I \text{ [below]}$$

$$N4 = 0.05 * C + 0.7 * I \text{ [above]}$$

Looking Forward

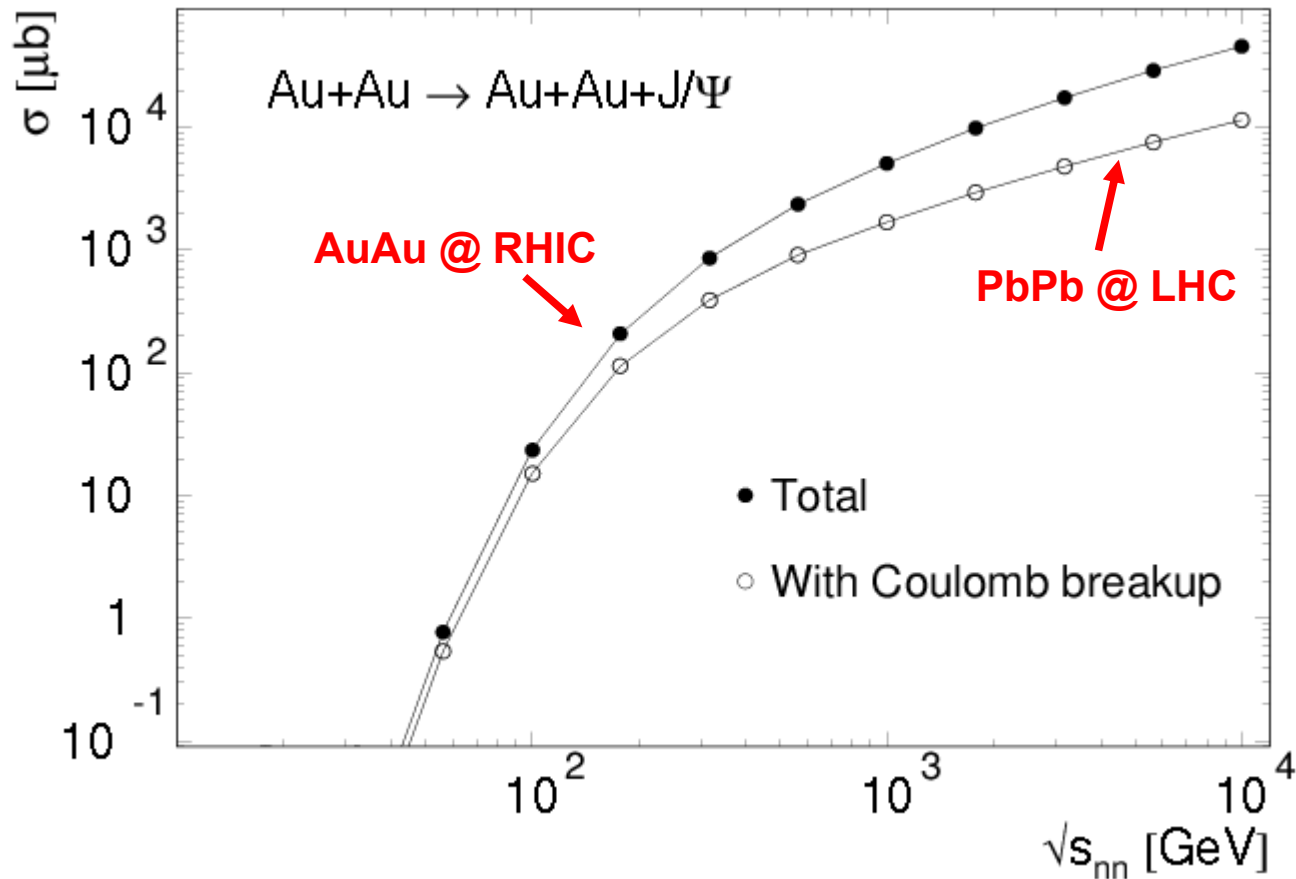
Goal: Publish the Run4 (2004) results
[turn preliminary into final results a.s.a.p.]

Increased luminosity in later runs should allow for a more significant result.

[Side note: Longer term future at RHIC includes eRHIC, whose program is being defined now – input from this community is most welcomed.]

And then there is also the LHC..

J/ Ψ Excitation Function



Changes from RHIC \rightarrow LHC:

ρ : RHIC 590mb \rightarrow LHC 5200mb

factor 9

J/ ψ RHIC 0.3 mb \rightarrow LHC 32mb

factor 100!

Summary

- **UPC A+A collisions** generate high-energy γ beams for "non-QGP" studies: $\gamma+\gamma$, $\gamma+A$ physics
- Physics topics in UPC quarkonia photo-production:
 - Nuclear $G_A(x, Q^2)$ at small- x [Gluon saturation, CGC, ...], QQbar propagation in cold nuclear matter, QQbar spectroscopy: $\gamma+\gamma \rightarrow 0^{+-} 2^{++}$ states, ...
- Lessons from RHIC (STAR and PHENIX):
 - Efficient trigger w/ forward neutron tagging (A^* dissociation) + high- p_T at $y=0$
 - Physics signal accessible w/ relative "simple" cuts & analysis
 - Good theoretical description of J/ψ (pQCD) & high-mass e^+e^- (QED)
 - Large source of syst. uncertainty for J/ψ : coherent $\gamma+\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ physics background
 - Run-7 (2007): expected x3 stat. improvement for more significant result
- Prospects for LHC:
 - Unexplored kinematic regime (max. energies ever, small- x , $\gamma+A \rightarrow \Upsilon$, ...)
 - Expected rates orders of magnitude higher than at RHIC; triggering is a key issue.

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Moscow 119992, Russia

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PHENIX

14 Countries; 69 Institutions



600+ Collaborators

600+ MByte/s peak

600+ TByte/run (year)

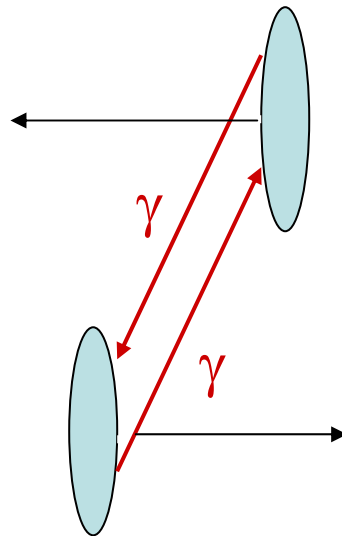
July 2007

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Backup slides

Electromagnetic interactions in heavy-ion interactions vs. in e^+e^- and ep (eA)

- Directional symmetry. Both beams (nuclei) can act as photon emitter or target.
- Away from $\gamma=0$, the different photon emitter/target combinations give different contributions.
- Strong fields lead to high probability for emission of multiple photons.

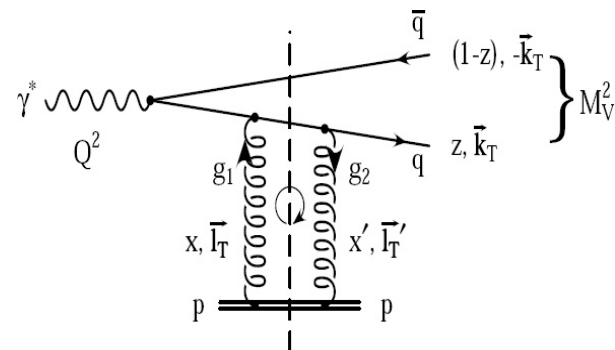


xG(x, Q²) via diffractive QQ γ -production (HERA)

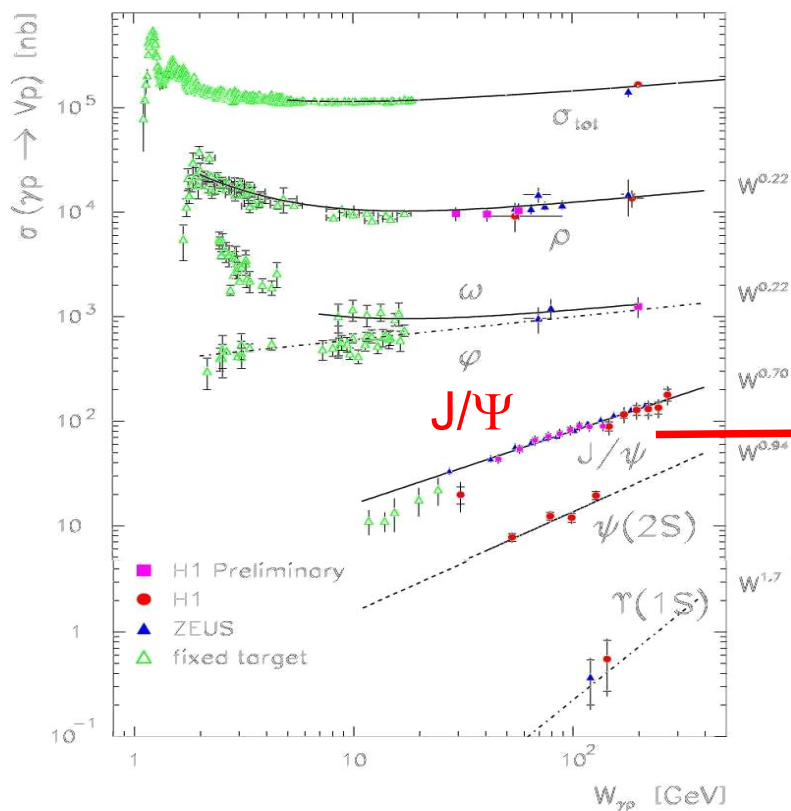
➤ $\gamma + p \rightarrow VM + p$ ($VM = J/\Psi, \Upsilon$) sensitive to **gluon density squared**:

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow V p)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{\alpha_s^2 \Gamma_{ee}}{3\alpha M_V^5} 16\pi^3 [xG(x, Q^2)]^2, \text{ with } Q^2 = M_V^2/4$$

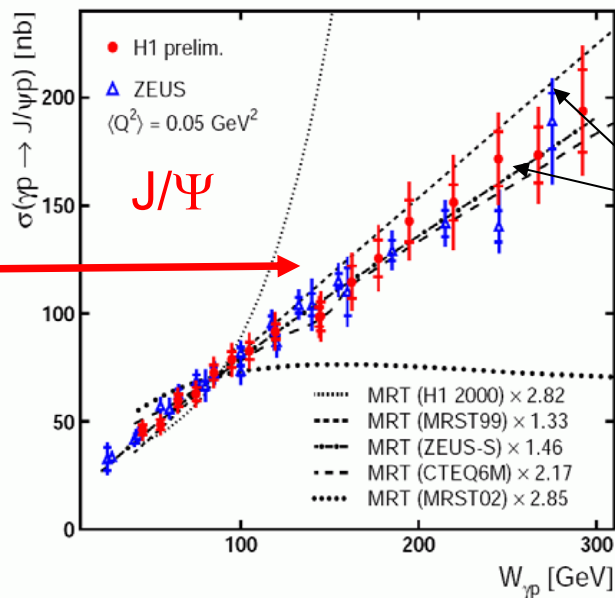
$$x = M_V^2/W_{\gamma p}^2$$



Ryskin et al. ZPC 76 (1997)231



perturbative QCD calculations available:



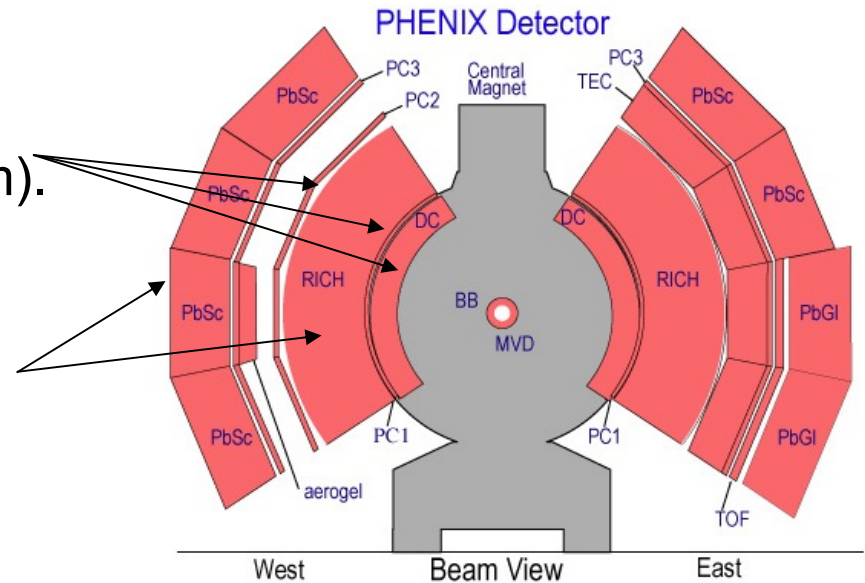
Discriminates different Ansätze of $xG(x, Q^2)$

Fleischmann, Teubner DIS07

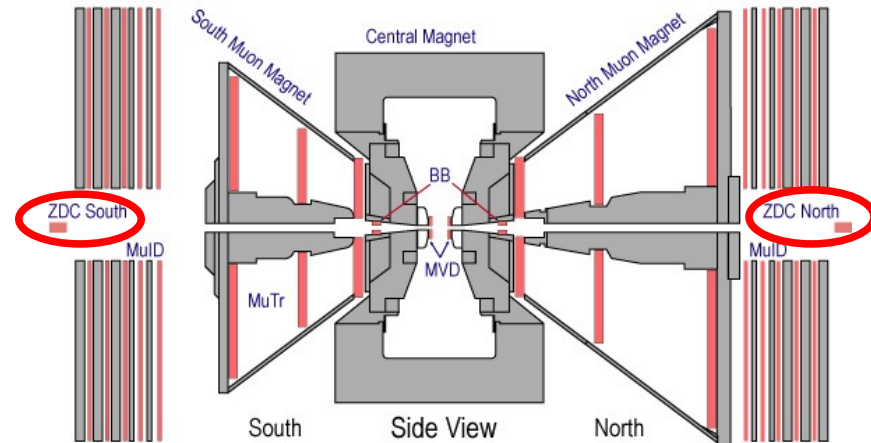
PHENIX UPC- key measurement detectors

➤ **DC + PCs:** Full central-arm charged tracking (e^\pm momentum).

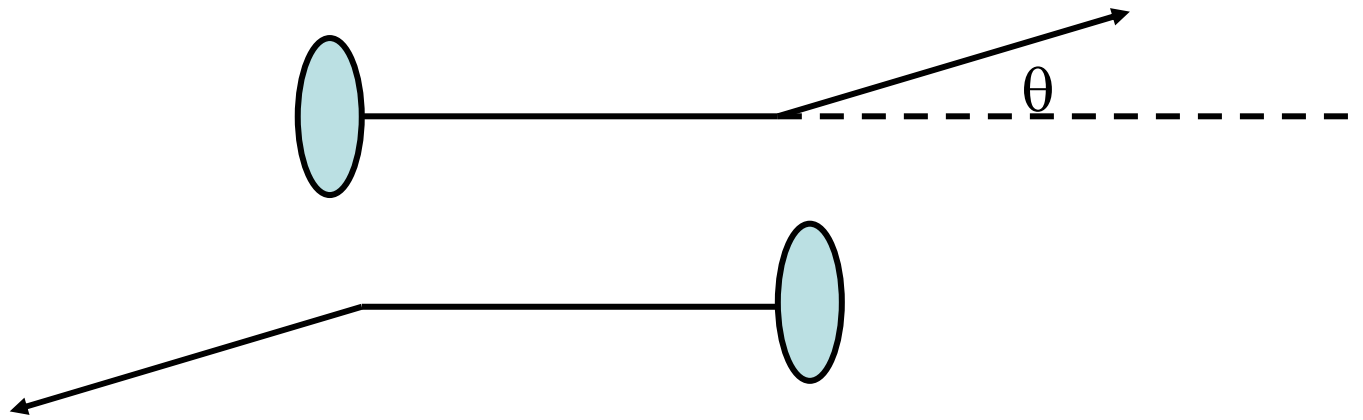
➤ **RICH + EMCal:** e^\pm identification in central rapidity, and triggering (ERT)



➤ **ZDC:** Forward neutron detection (Au^* dissociation):



No tagging of the nuclei



The coherence requirement limits the angular deflection to

$$\theta \sim 0.175 / (\gamma \cdot A^{4/3})$$

At RHIC

Au	A=197	$\theta \sim 1 \mu\text{rad}$
Si	A=28	$\theta \sim 17 \mu\text{rad}$

At LHC

Pb	A=208	$\theta \sim 0.05 \mu\text{rad}$
Ar	A=40	$\theta \sim 0.3 \mu\text{rad}$

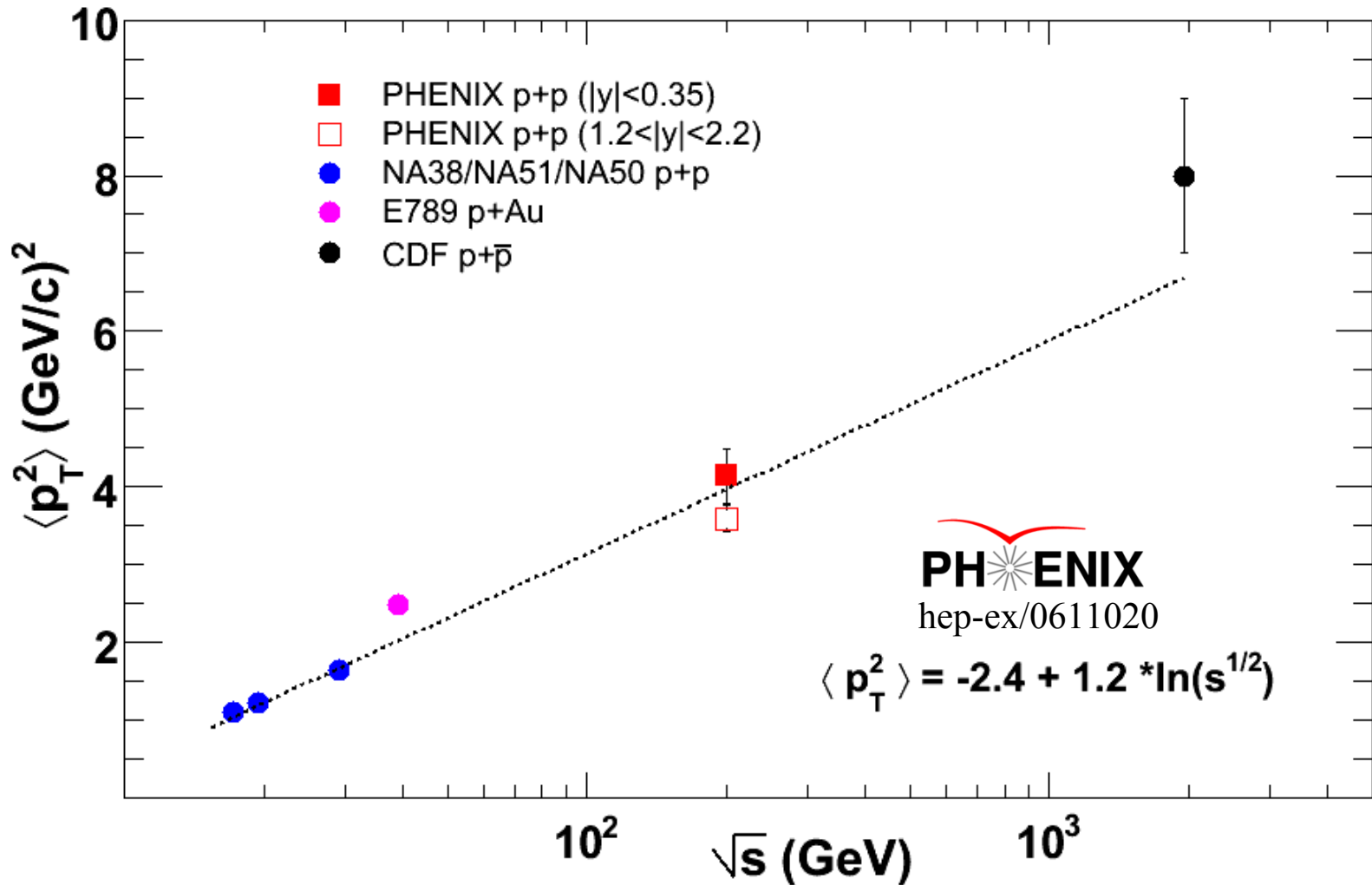
⇒ Not possible to tag the outgoing nuclei. Might be possible with protons.

Experimental method: Rapidity gaps, reconstruct the entire event, signal of coherence from low p_T .

Intermission: 'Normal' J/psi distr.

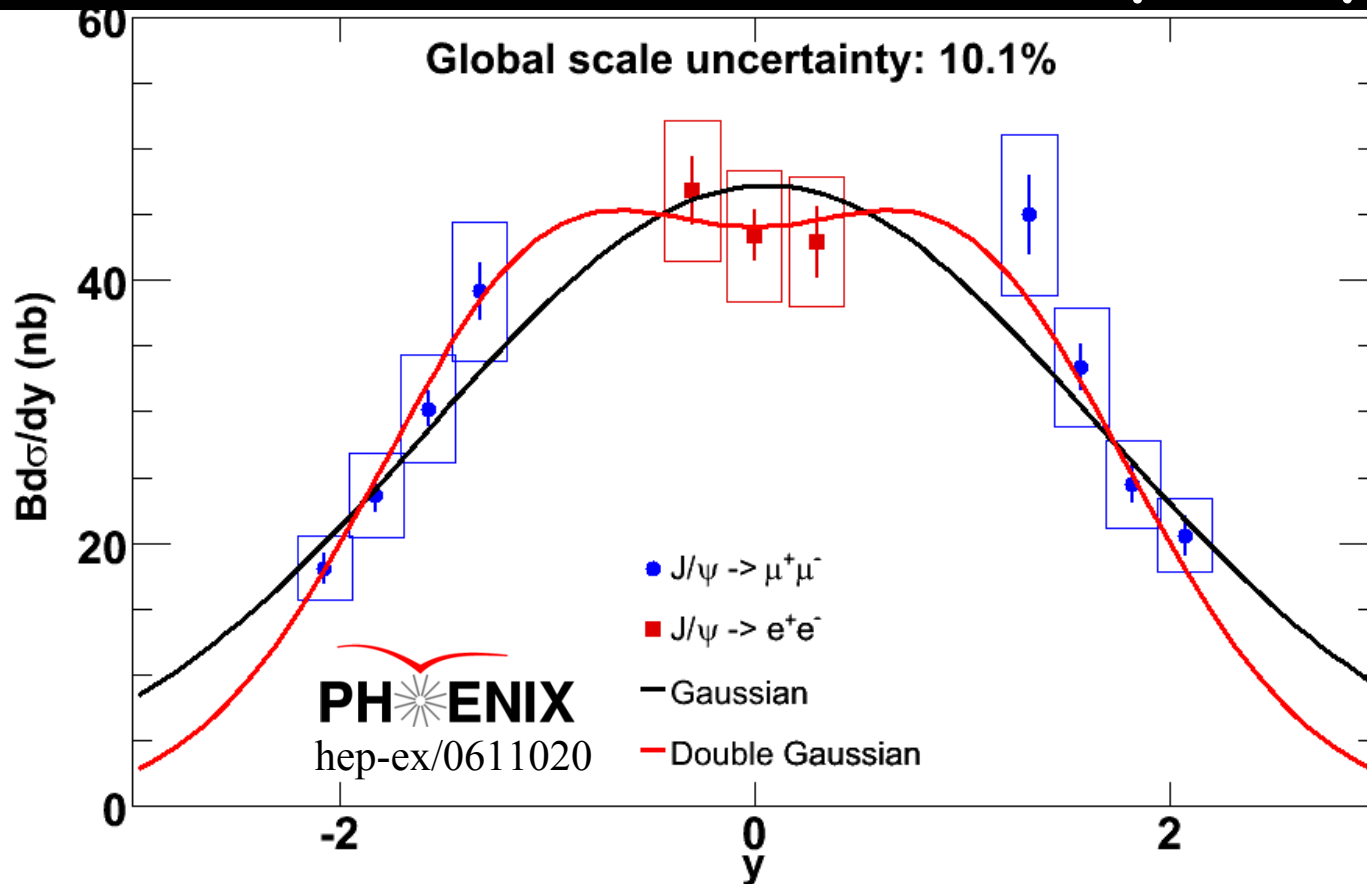
Results from regular p+p interactions shown for comparison..

$\langle p_T^2 \rangle$ vs Collision Energy



PHENIX $\langle p_T^2 \rangle$ measurements compared to measurements at other energies. As a function of collision energy approx. a linear dependence on the $\ln(\sqrt{s})$.
- *Significantly larger p_T values than for coherent interactions.*

J/ψ Cross Section vs Rapidity



- The statistics available are large enough to allow eleven rapidity bins!
- p+p data now limited by systematic error not statistics
- The data slightly favor a flat distribution over the rapidity range $|y| < 1.5$

But!

- Remember the systematic errors on the mid and forward rapidity points are independent \therefore a narrower distribution is not excluded.

Even with this very good stat., the shape is not unambiguously defined.