

Onset of deconfinement in nucleus-nucleus collisions

*M. Gazdzicki
Frankfurt, Kielce*

THE PROBLEM

- Strongly interacting matter:
phases and transitions

AND ITS SOLUTIONS:

PAST (this talk)

- ● Observation of the onset of deconfinement

AND FUTURE (CPOD, next week)

- ● ● Search for the critical point

THE PROBLEM

- Strongly interacting matter:
phases and transitions

What are the phases of strongly interacting matter?

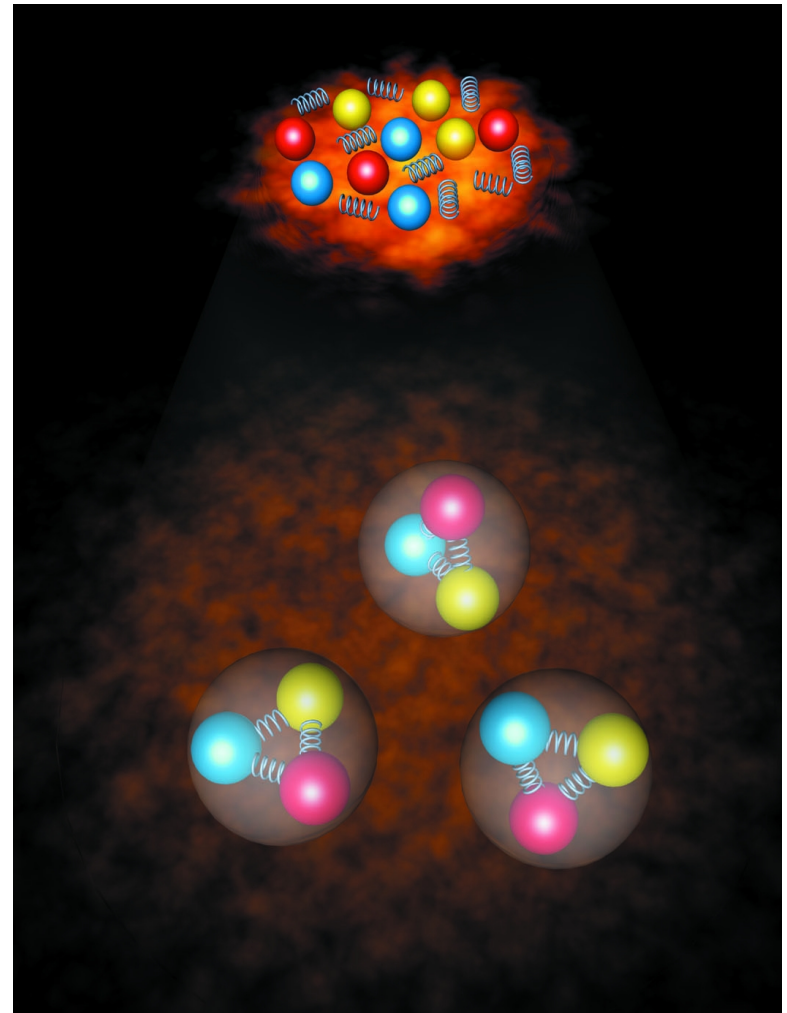
How do the transitions between them look like?

Phases of water

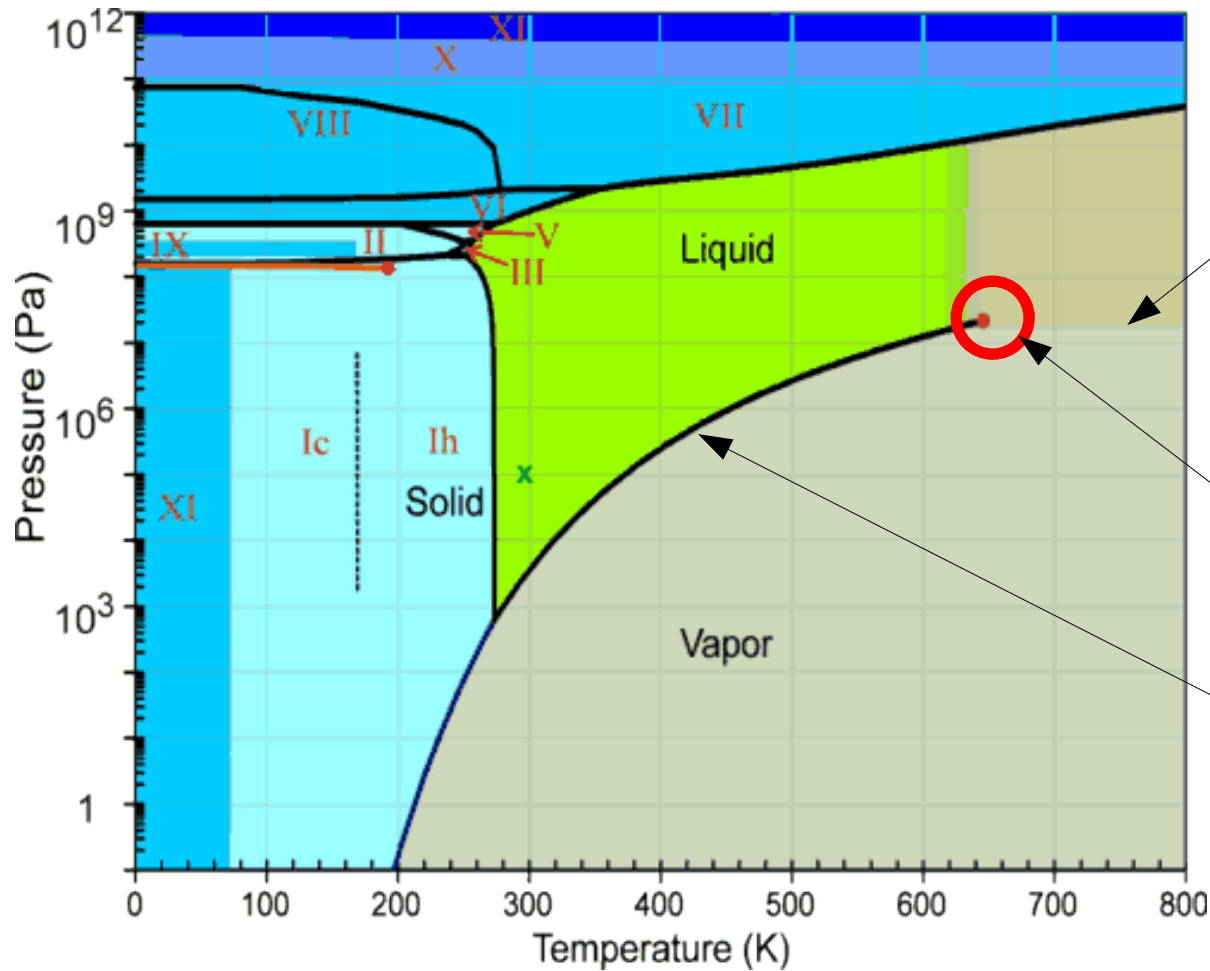


?

Phases of strongly interacting matter



Phase diagram of water

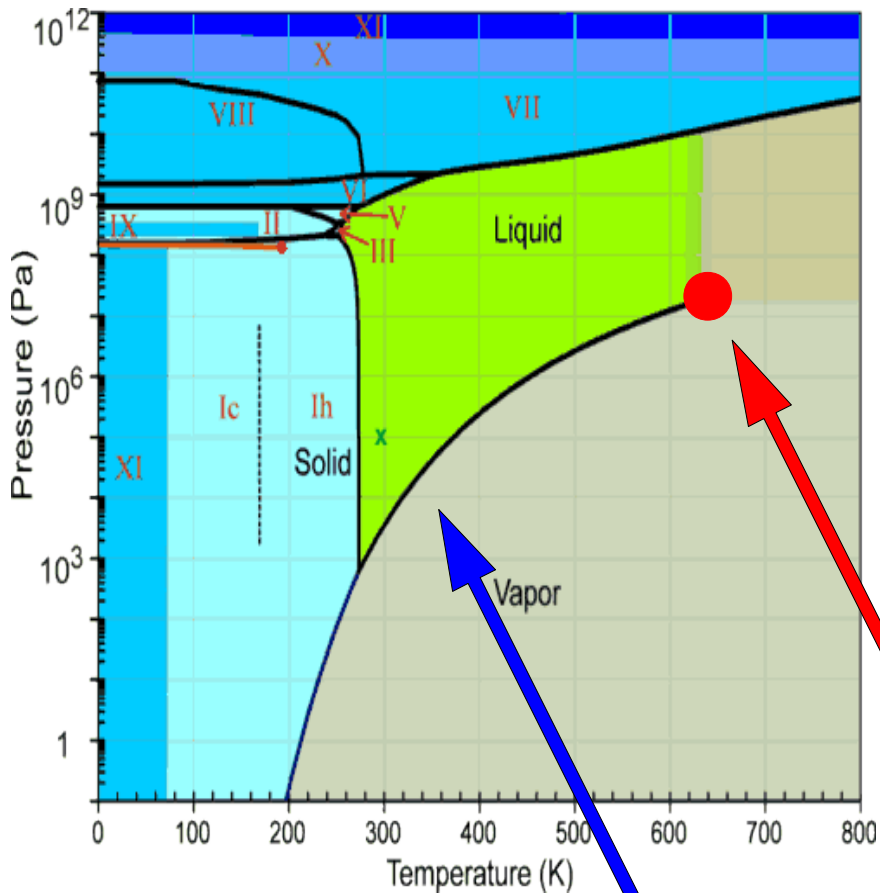


cross-over

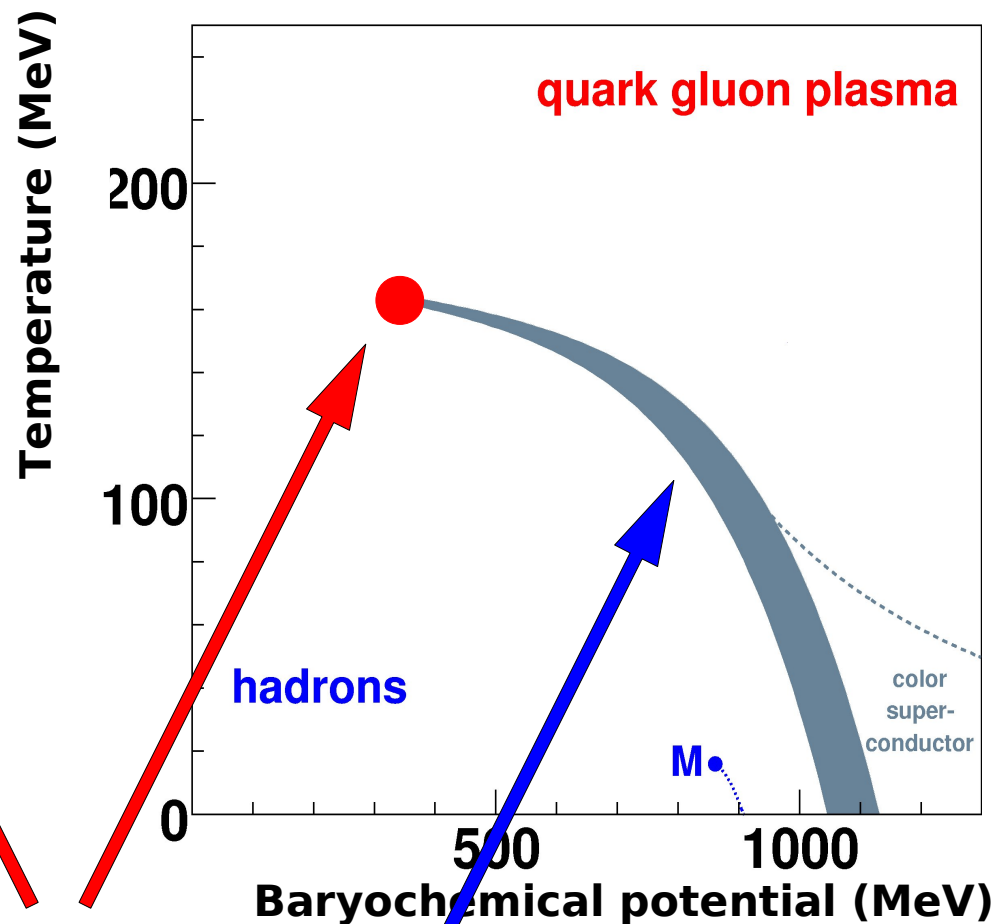
critical point

1st order phase transition

The phase diagram of water is well established

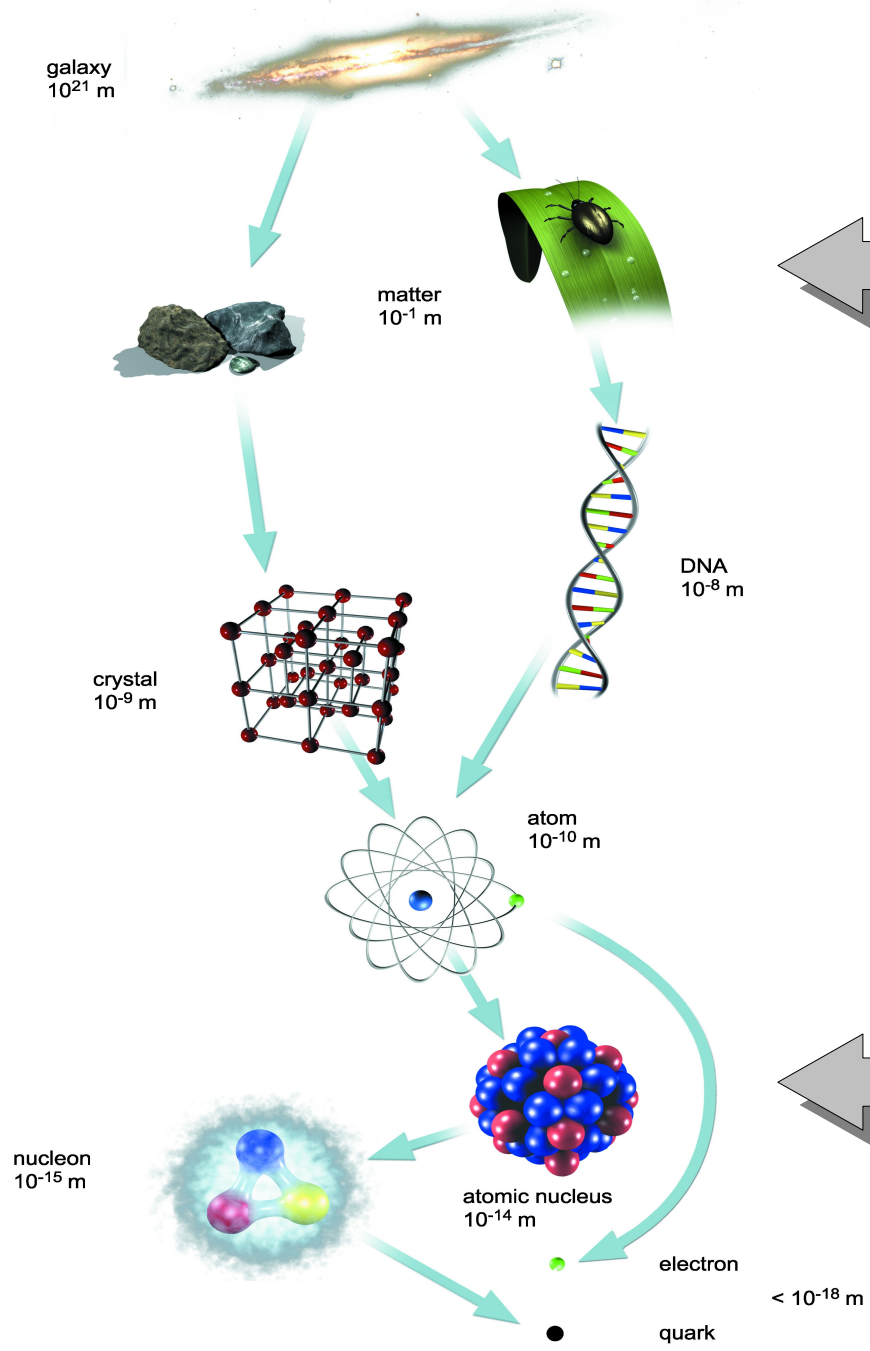


The phase diagram of strongly interacting matter is under study

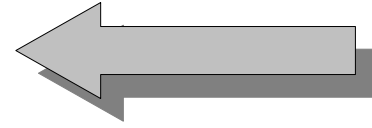


critical point

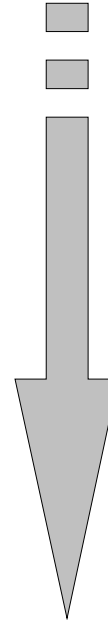
1st order phase transition



In our daily life ...



droplets of water



10^{-12}

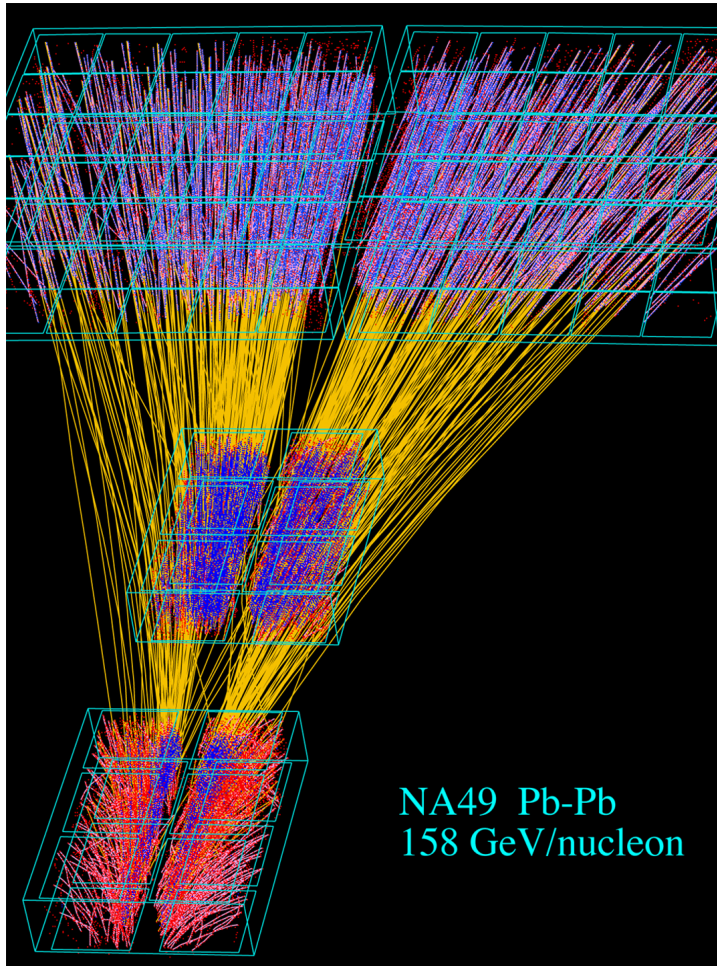


droplets of strongly interacting matter

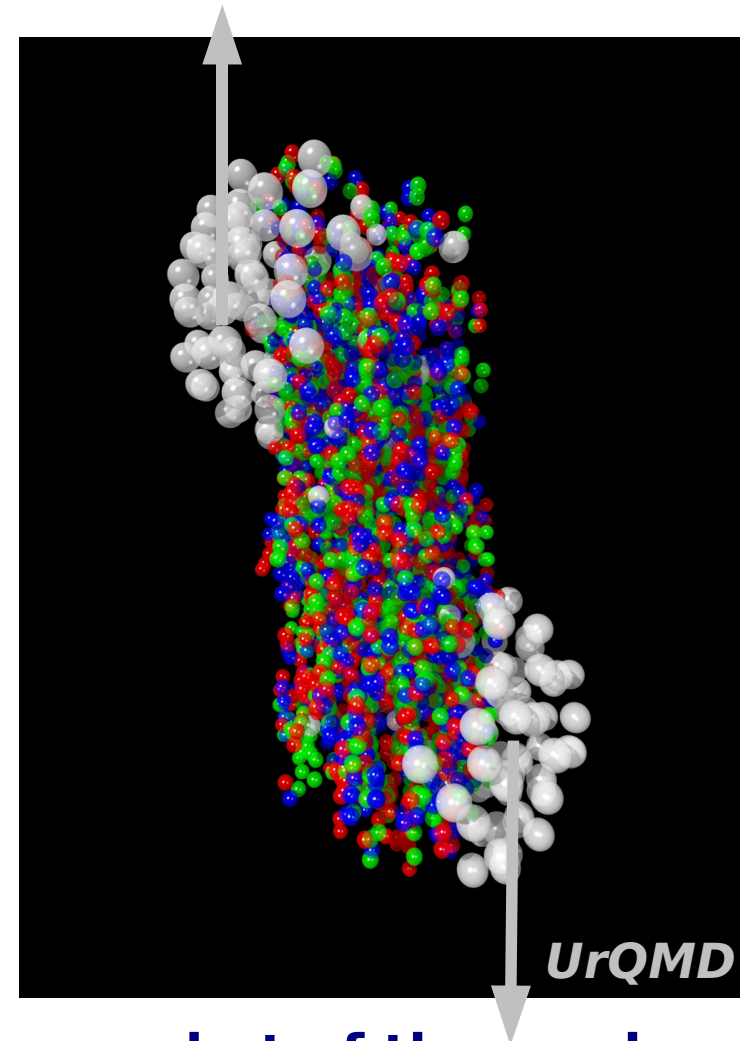
the properties of strongly interacting matter can be studied only in collisions of heavy nuclei

COLLISIONS OF TWO NUCLEI

-the only tool to study properties of strongly interacting matter in the laboratory



**produced particles measured
in the NA49 apparatus
(scale 10 m)**

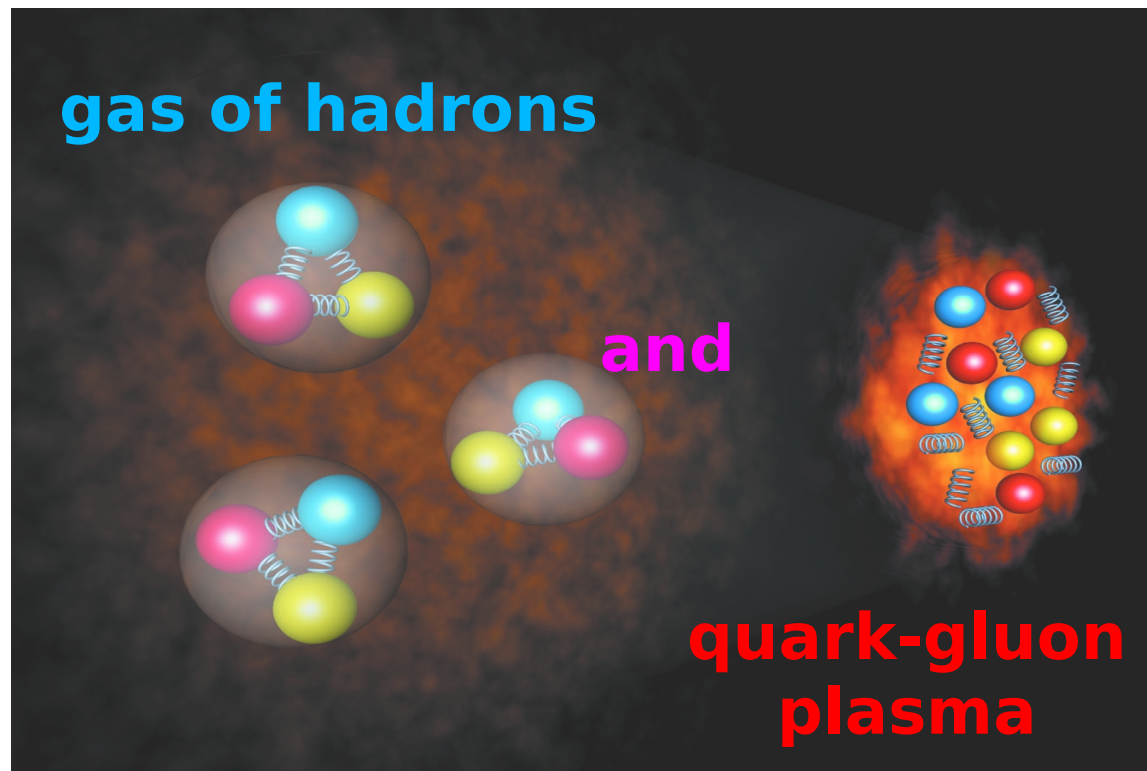


**snapshot of the produced
matter after the collision
(scale 10^{-14} m)**

Two basic states of strongly interacting matter are expected

Hadron gas at low densities

Quark-gluon plasma at high densities



... Shuryak ...

Superdense Matter: Neutrons or Asymptotically Free Quarks?

J. C. Collins and M. J. Perry

*Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge,
Cambridge CB3 9EW, England*

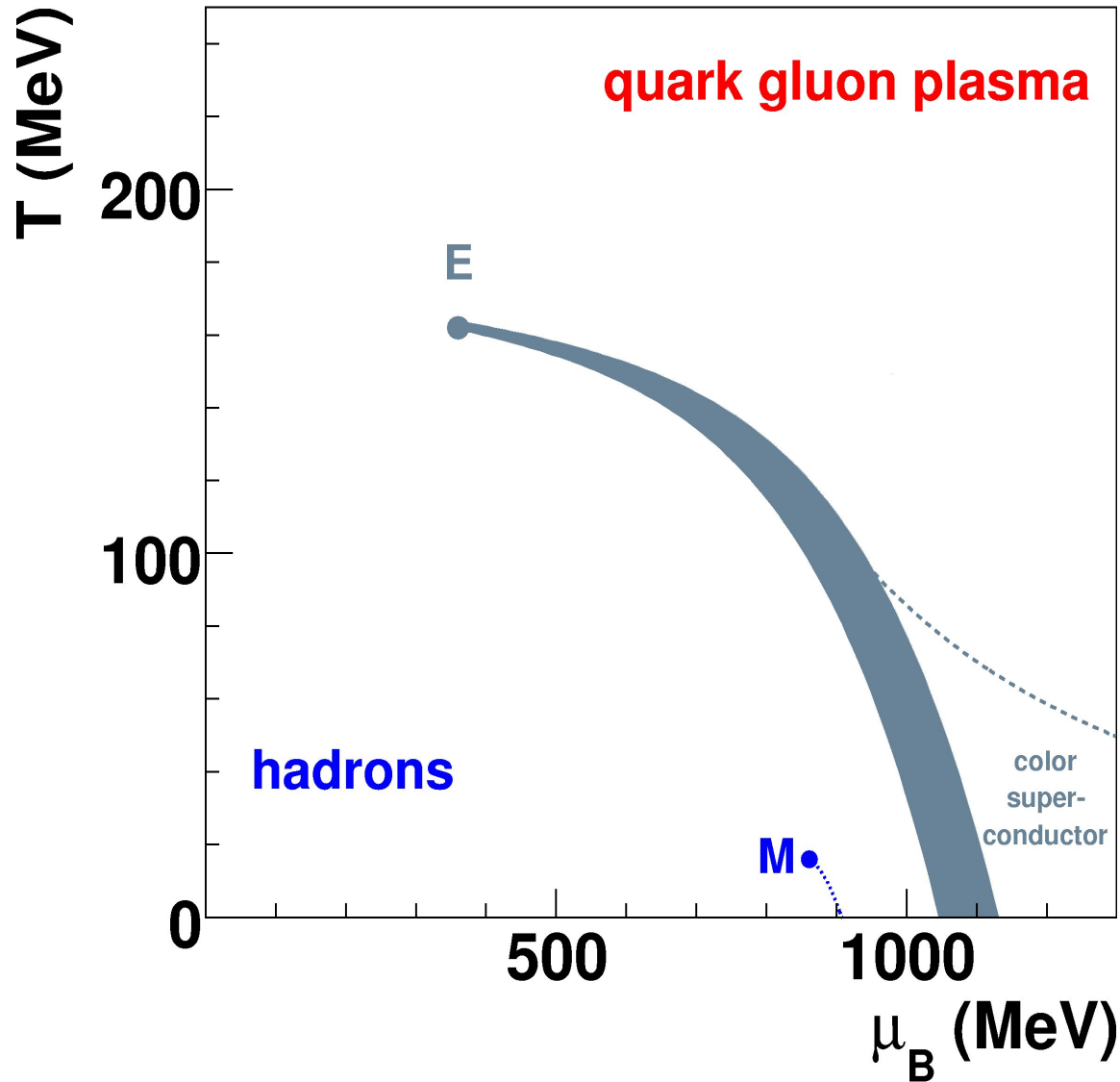
(Received 6 January 1975)

We note the following: The quark model implies that superdense matter (found in neutron-star cores, exploding black holes, and the early big-bang universe) consists of quarks rather than of hadrons. Bjorken scaling implies that the quarks interact weakly. An asymptotically free gauge theory allows realistic calculations taking full account of strong interactions.

We first give arguments leading to this idea. It is commonly believed that hadrons consist of quarks⁵⁻⁷ despite the apparent nonexistence of free quarks.⁸ There are two main reasons for this belief. First, a quark model explains^{5,6} many properties of the hadron spectrum, and of strong-interaction decays. Secondly we have Bjorken scaling⁷ in the deep inelastic scattering of leptons by nucleons. Basically, this indicates that hadrons consist of pointlike objects (partons) which interact weakly with each other when close together. Analysis of the data indicates that partons are the fractionally charged spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ Gell-Mann-Zweig quarks. Since free quarks are not observed,⁸ it is assumed that they are permanently bound in hadrons⁹ by a mechanism as yet unknown, but much speculated on.

A neutron has a radius¹⁰ of about 0.5–1 fm, and so has a density of about 8×10^{14} g cm⁻³, whereas the central density of a neutron star^{1,2} can be as much as 10^{16} – 10^{17} g cm⁻³. In this case, one must expect the hadrons to overlap, and their individuality to be confused. Therefore, we suggest that matter at such high densities is a quark soup.

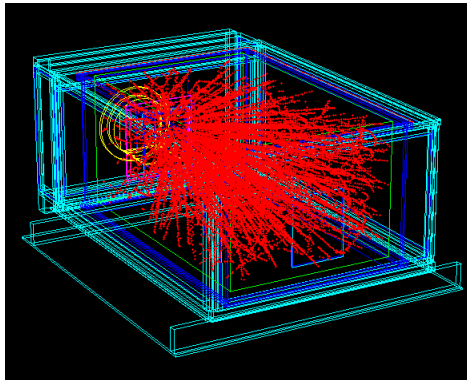
Hypothetical phase diagram of strongly interacting matter



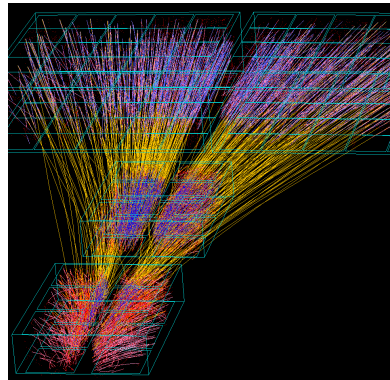
● ● Observation of the onset of deconfinement

- Brief history of the CERN SPS ion programs and NA49
- ■ Observation of the onset of deconfinement

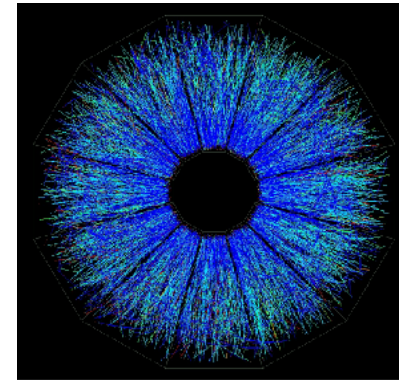
BNL AGS → CERN SPS → BNL RHIC



E895



NA49



STAR

■ Brief history of the CERN SPS ion programs and NA49

*Rafelski, Muller
Matsui, Satz*

1986-1991: Pioneering study with O and S beams
Strangeness enhancement and J/ψ suppression
⇒ Simple superposition models do not work



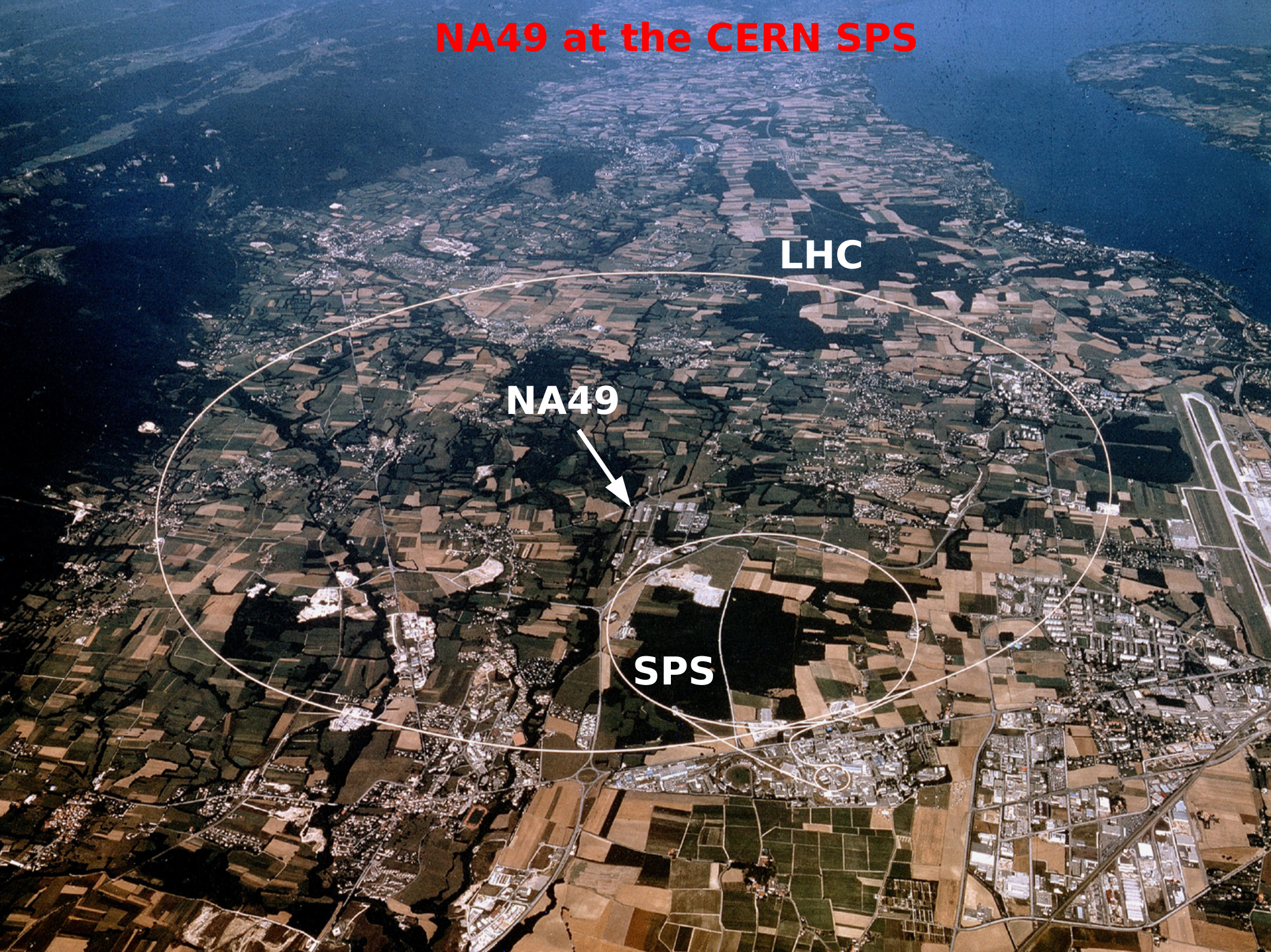
1994-2000: Pb+Pb collisions at the top SPS energy
anomalous J/ψ suppression, statistical properties of hadron production, direct photons
⇒ Is a new state of matter created?



M.G., Gorenstein

1998-2002: Pb+Pb collisions at low SPS energies
(NA49 energy scan program at the CERN SPS)
Anomalies in energy dependence of hadron production
⇒ Observation of the onset of deconfinement

NA49 at the CERN SPS



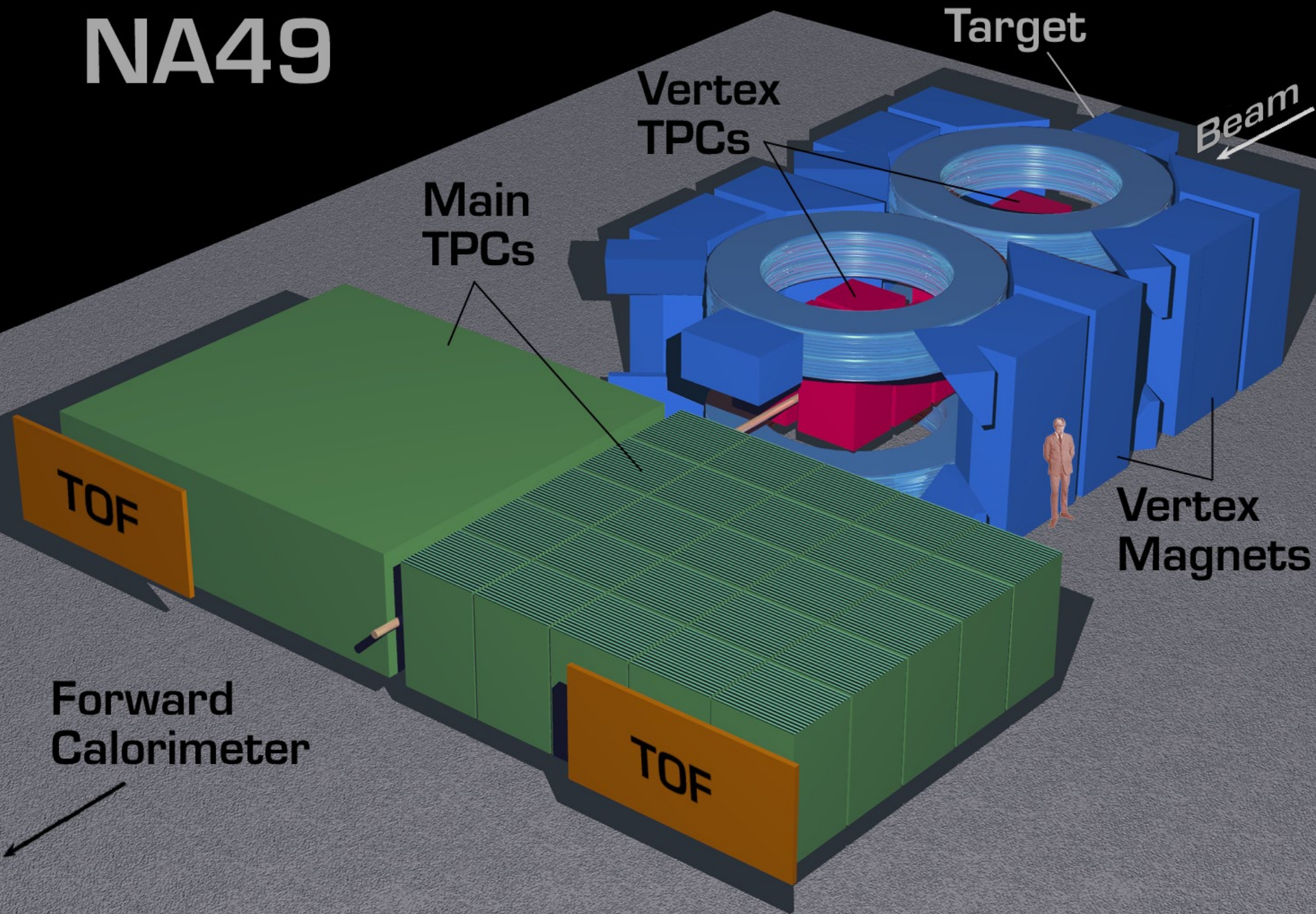
LHC

NA49

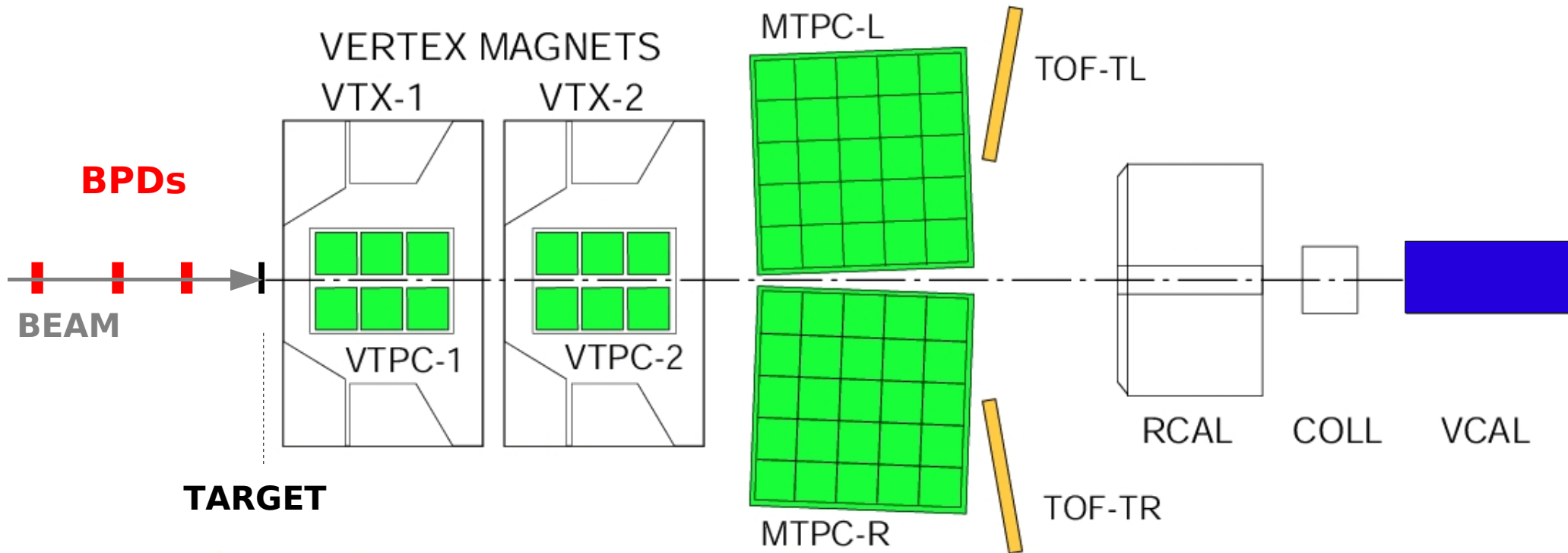


SPS

NA49



NA49 at CERN SPS



BPDs:
coordinates of the beam particle
+ z-TARGET:
coordinates of the interaction point (x,y,z)

TPCs:
for each track: electric charge, momentum, mass (dE/dx),
for more than one track: common origin point (coordinates of main or secondary vertex)

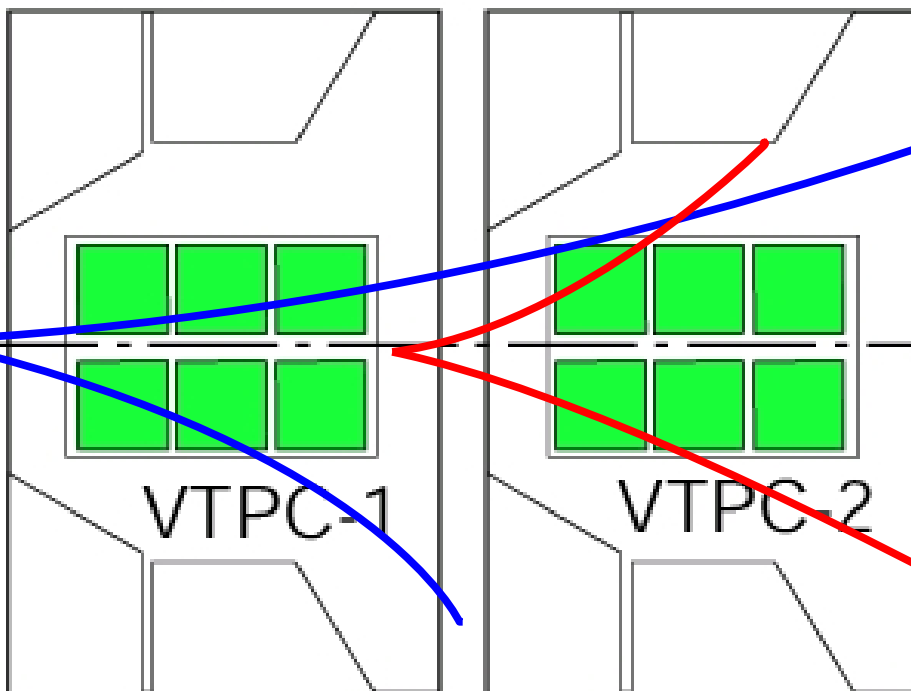
TOFs:
mass (tof)

VCAL:
energy of projectile spectators (centrality of the collision)

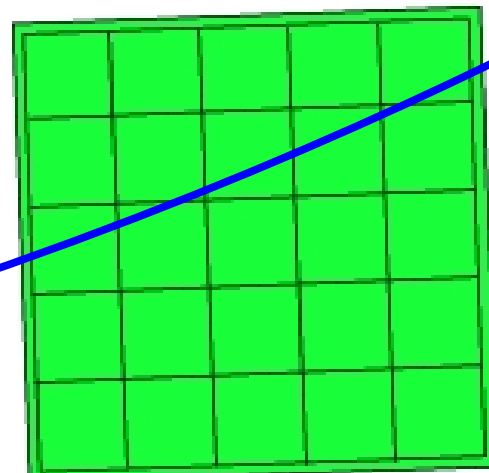
VERTEX MAGNETS

VTX-1

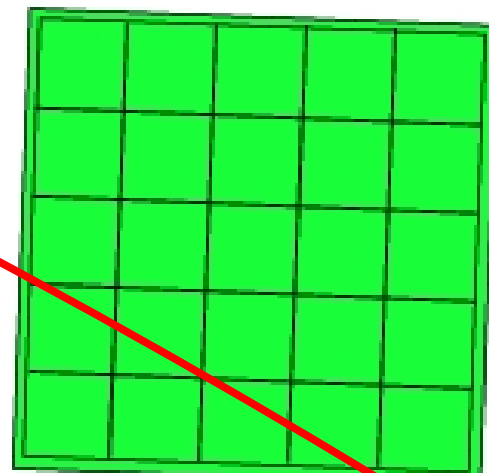
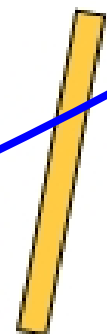
VTX-2



MTPC-L



TOF-TL



MTPC-R

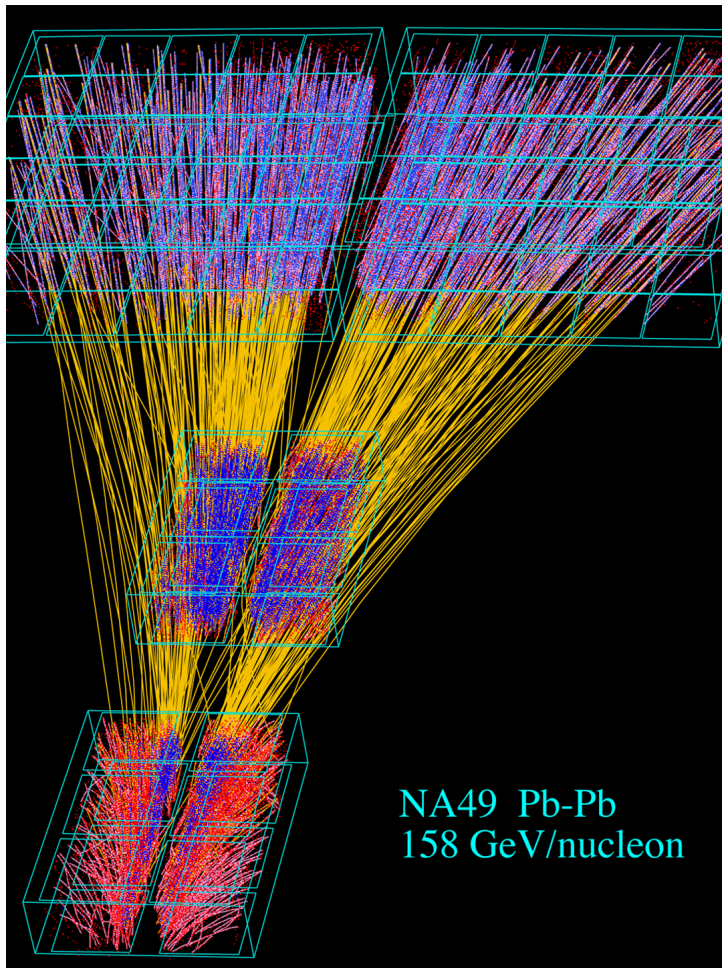
TOF-TR



main vertex tracks

V0 tracks

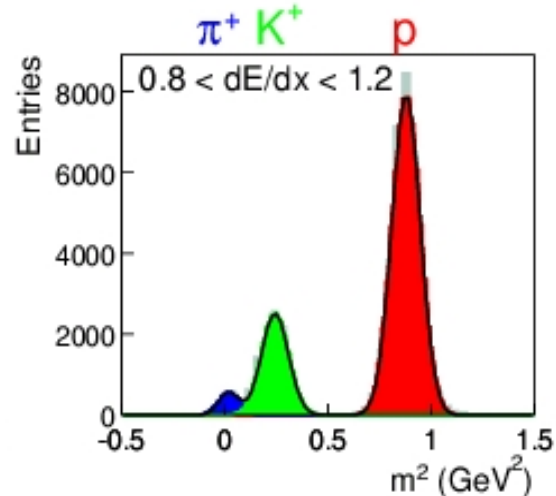
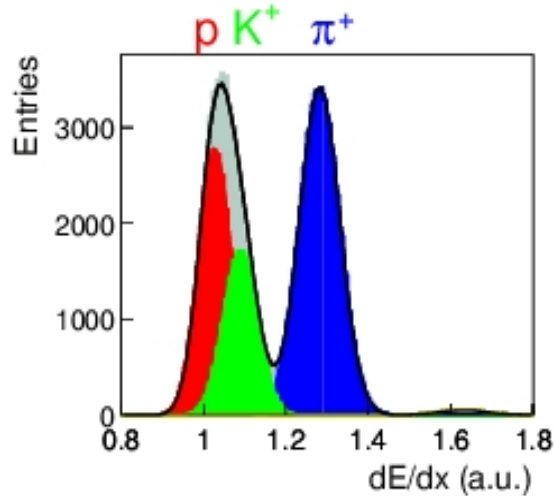
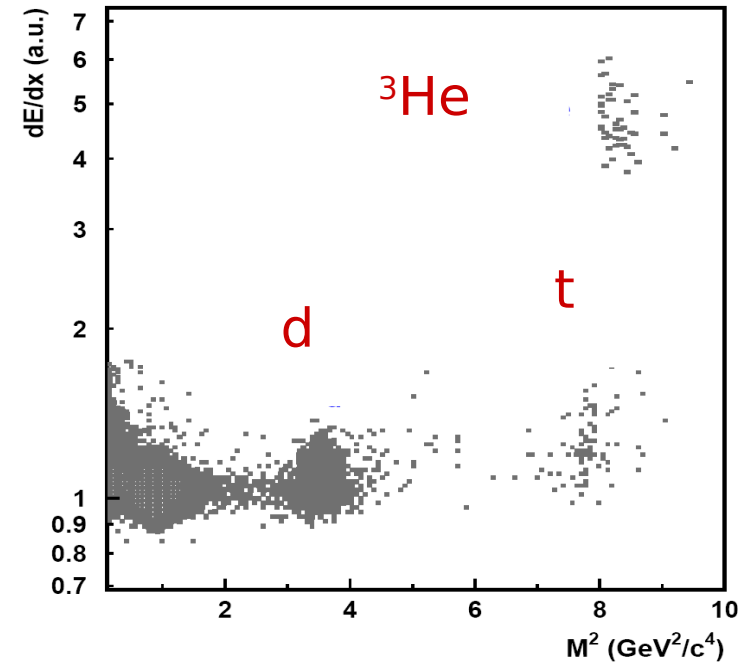
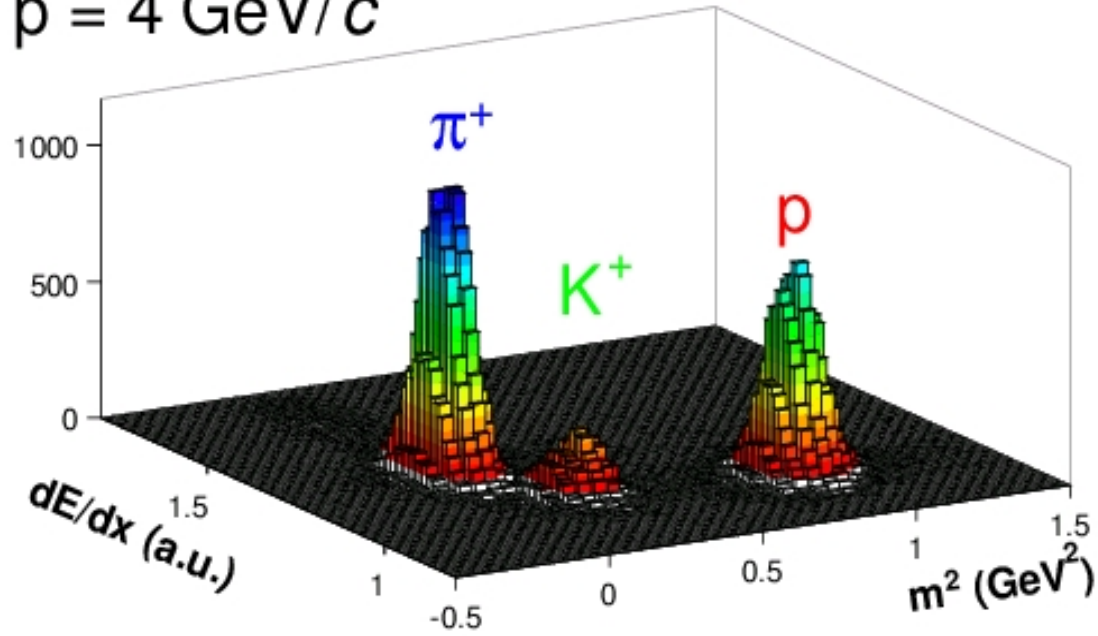
NA49 at the CERN SPS



- A large acceptance: $\approx 50\%$
- A high momentum resolution:
 $\sigma(p)/p^2 \approx 10^{-4} \quad ((\text{GeV}/c)^{-1})$
- A good particle identification:
 $\sigma(\text{TOF}) \approx 60 \text{ ps},$
 $\sigma(dE/dx)/\langle dE/dx \rangle \approx 0.04,$
 $\sigma(m_{inv}) \approx 5 \text{ MeV}$

Mass measurements via $dE/dx + \text{tof}$

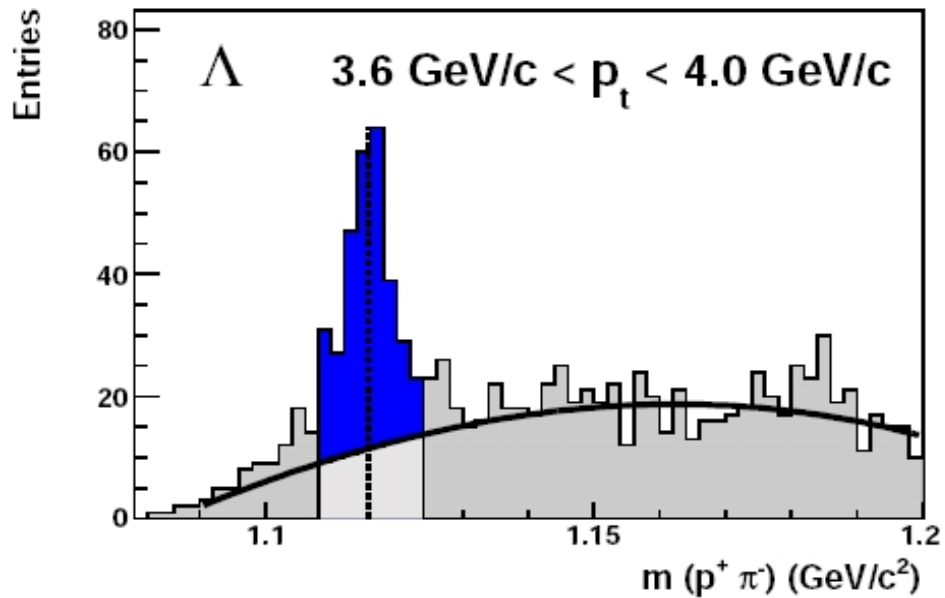
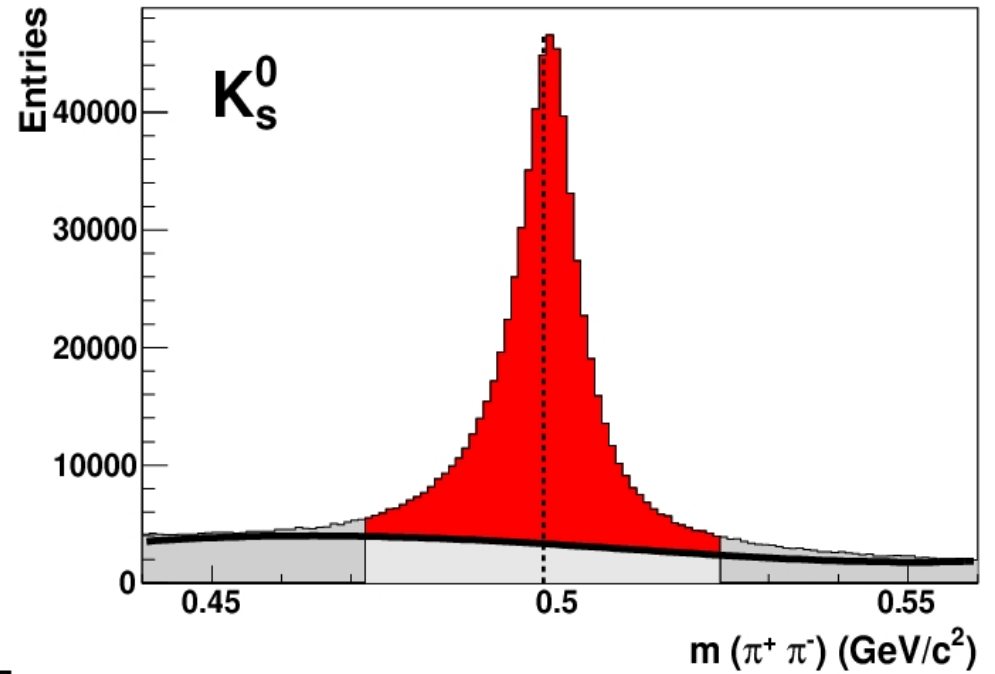
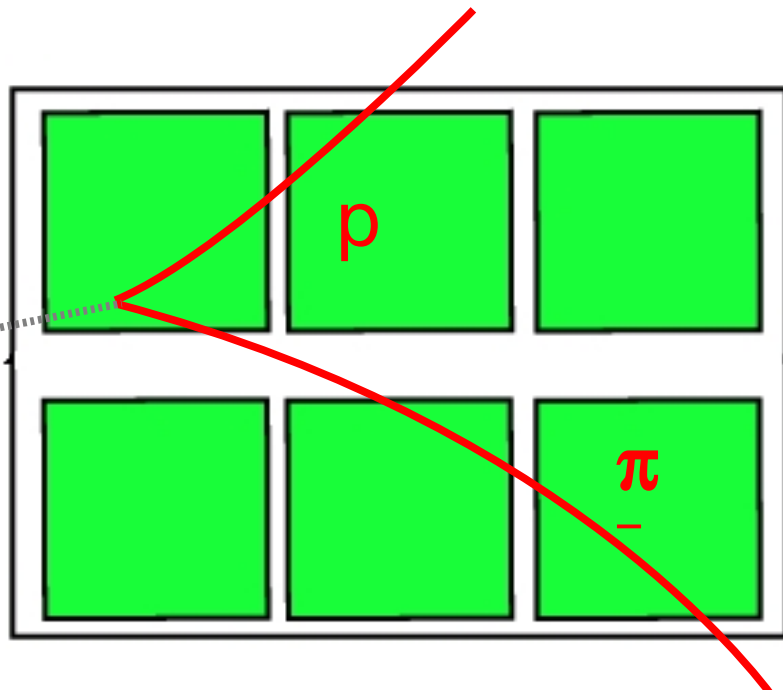
$p = 4 \text{ GeV}/c$



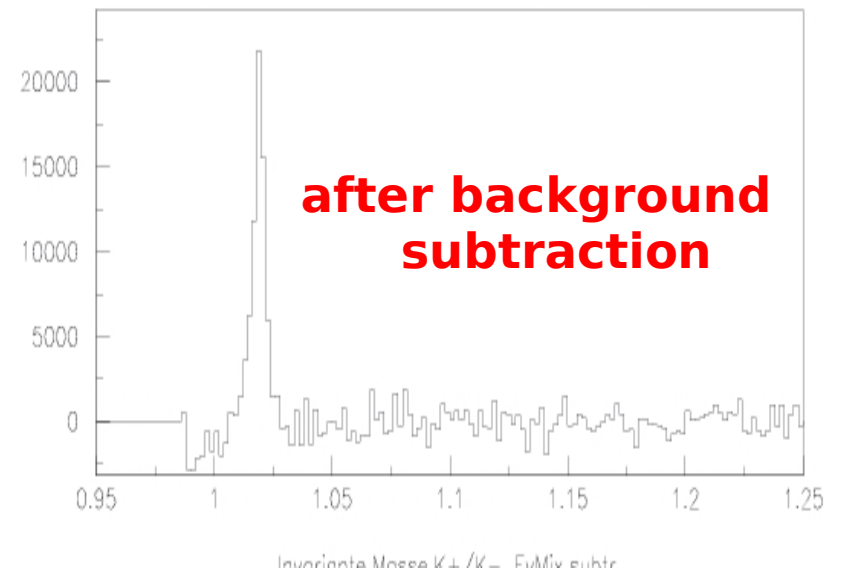
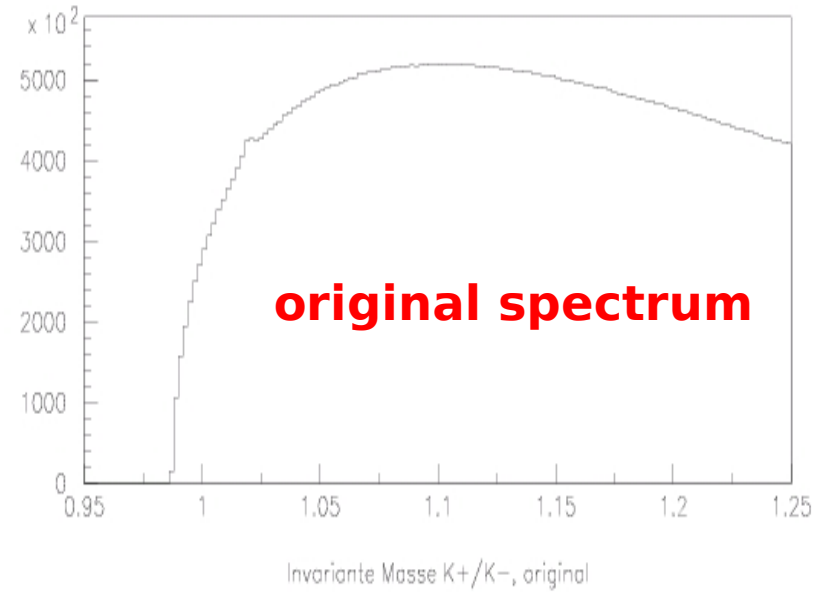
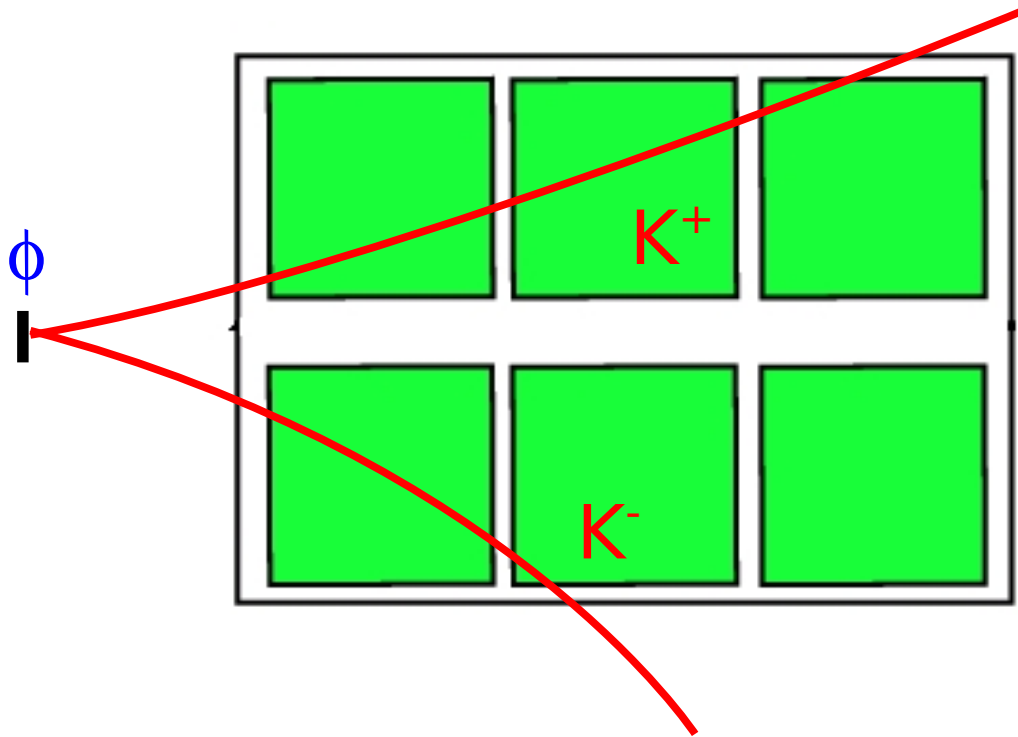
$$\sigma(TOF) \approx 60 \text{ ps},$$

$$\sigma(dE/dx) / \langle dE/dx \rangle \approx 0.04$$

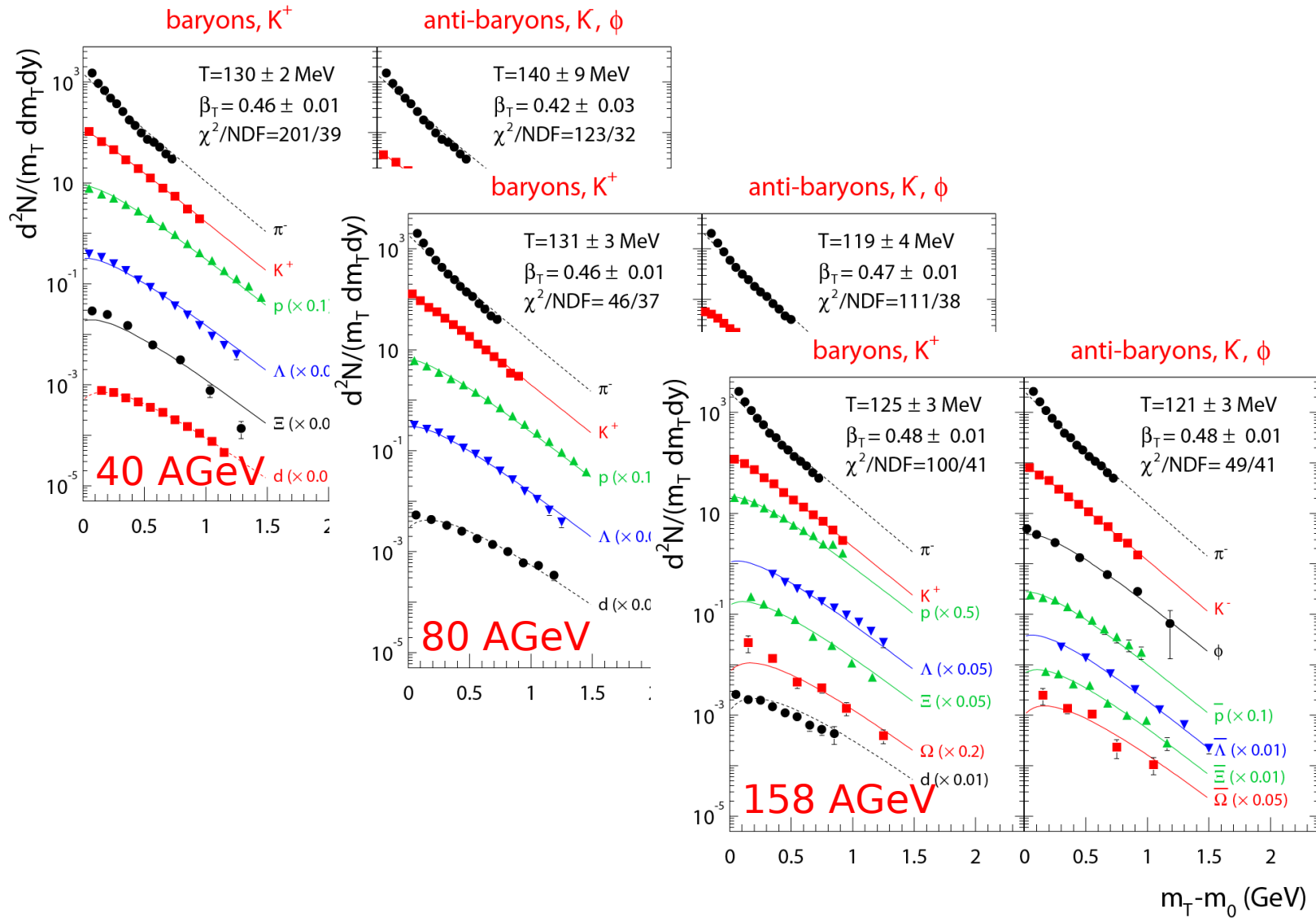
PID via decay topology and invariant mass



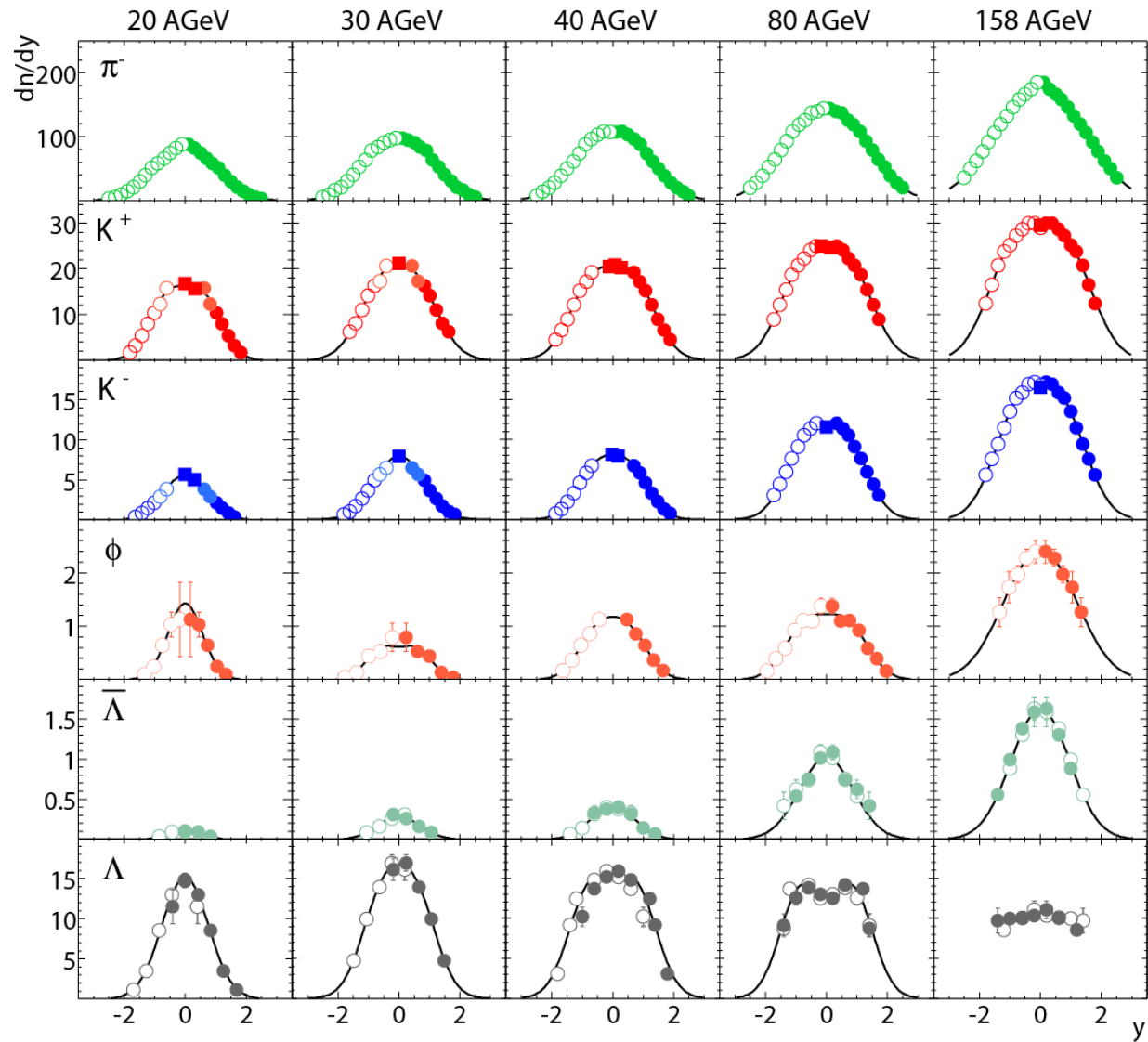
PID via invariant mass



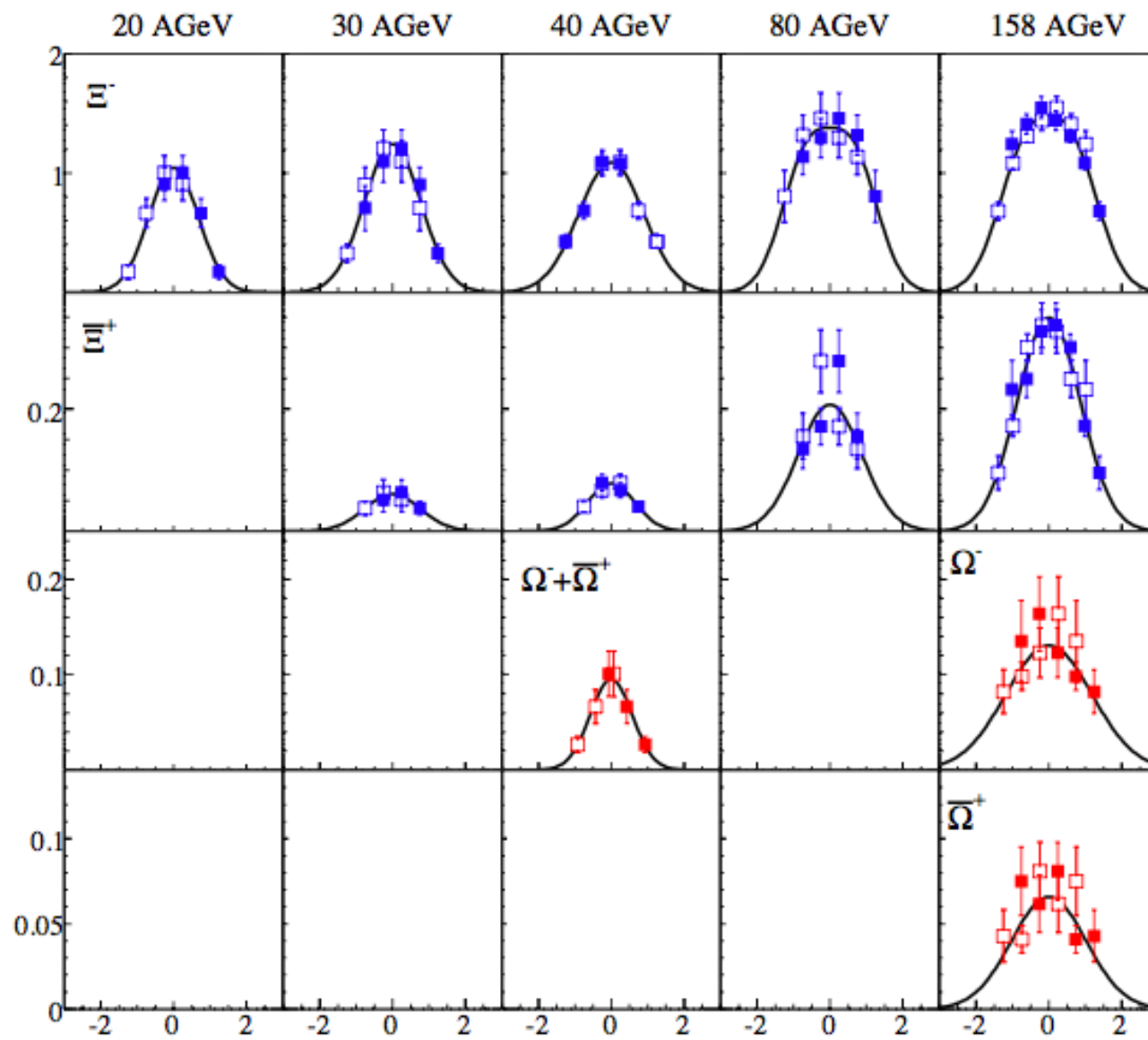
central Pb+Pb collisions at the SPS energies



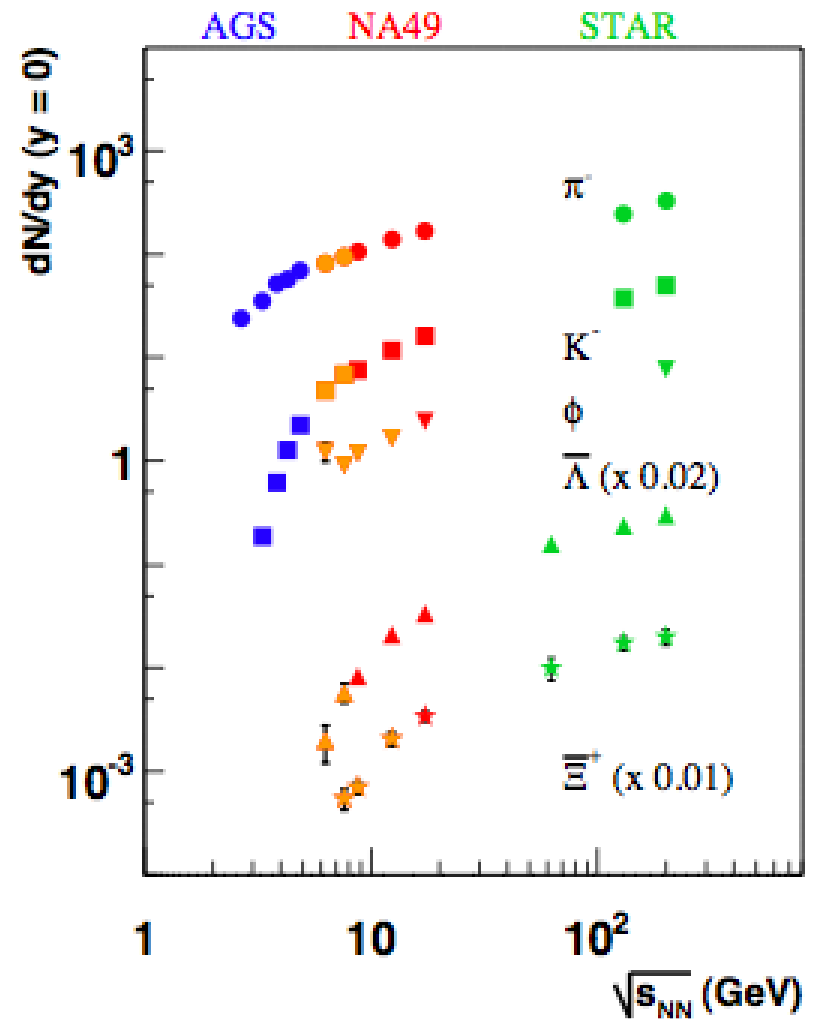
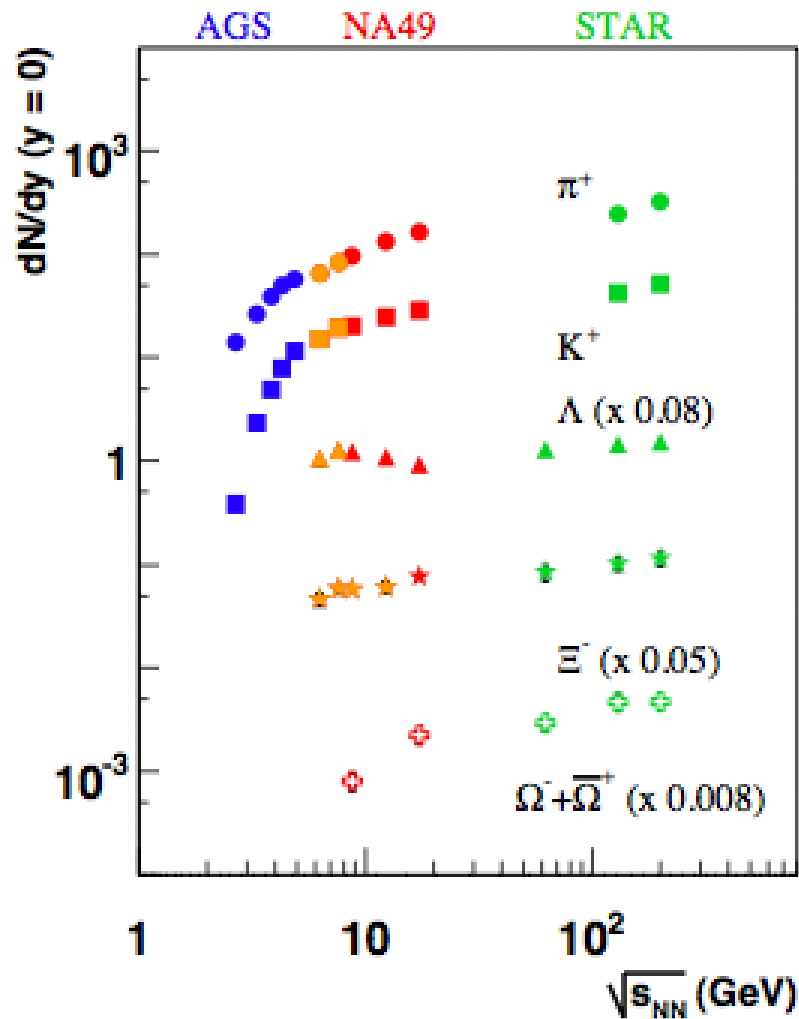
central Pb+Pb collisions at the SPS energies



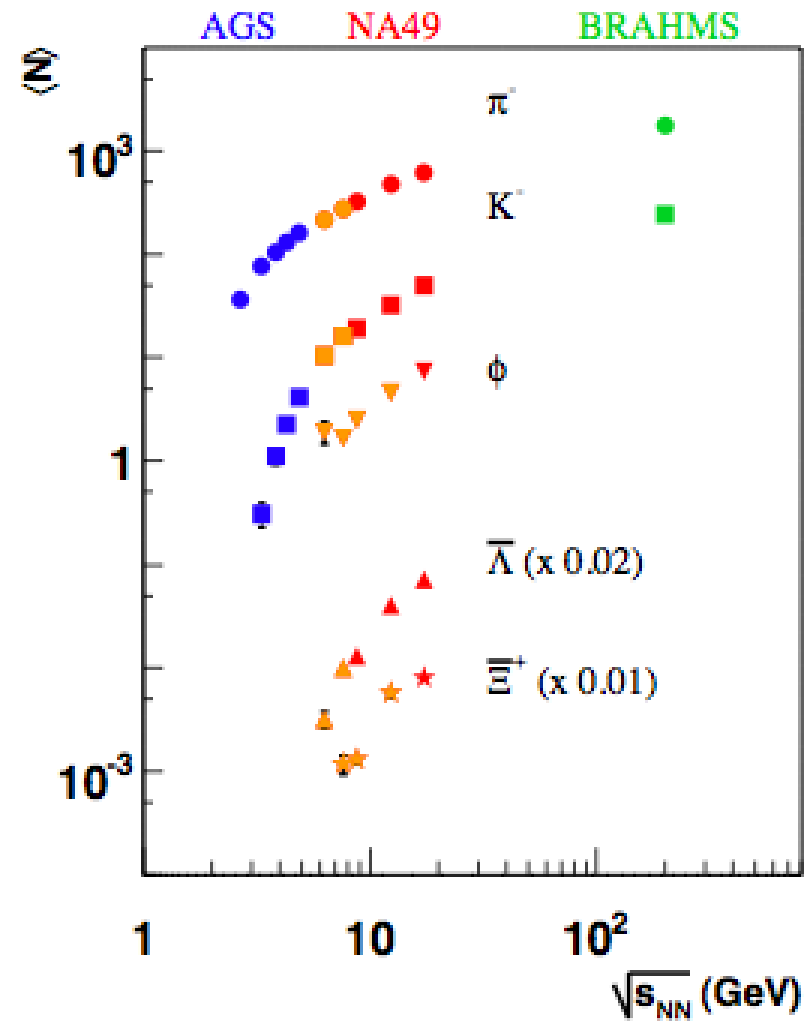
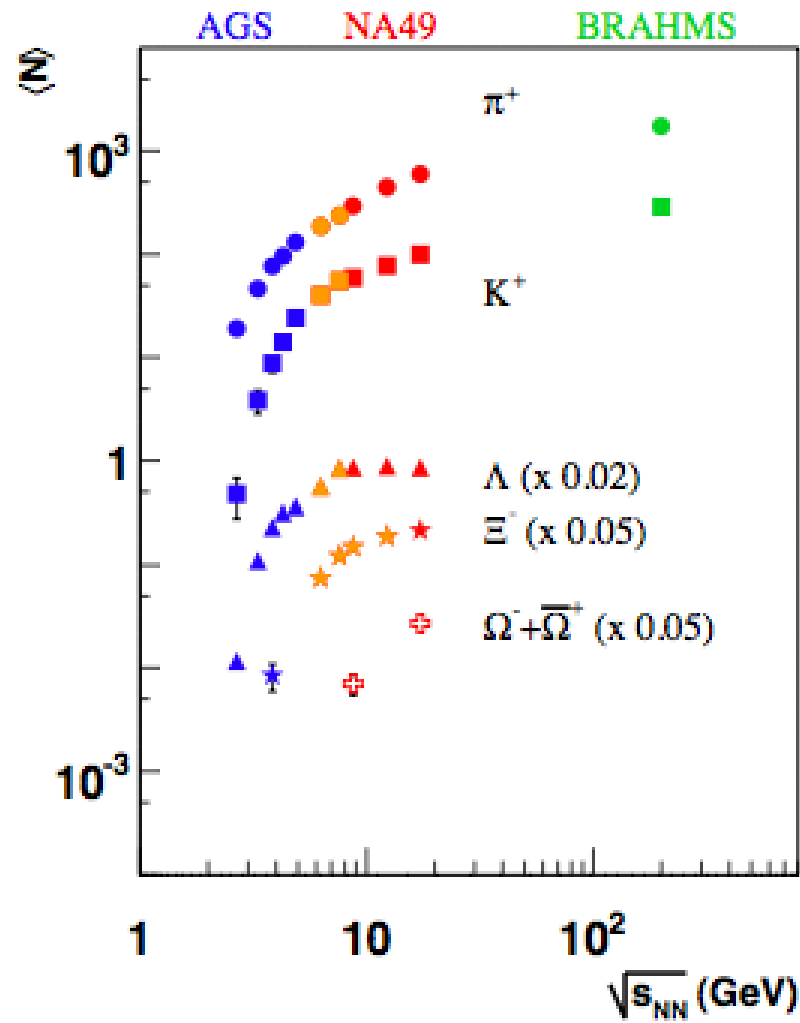
central Pb+Pb collisions at the SPS energies

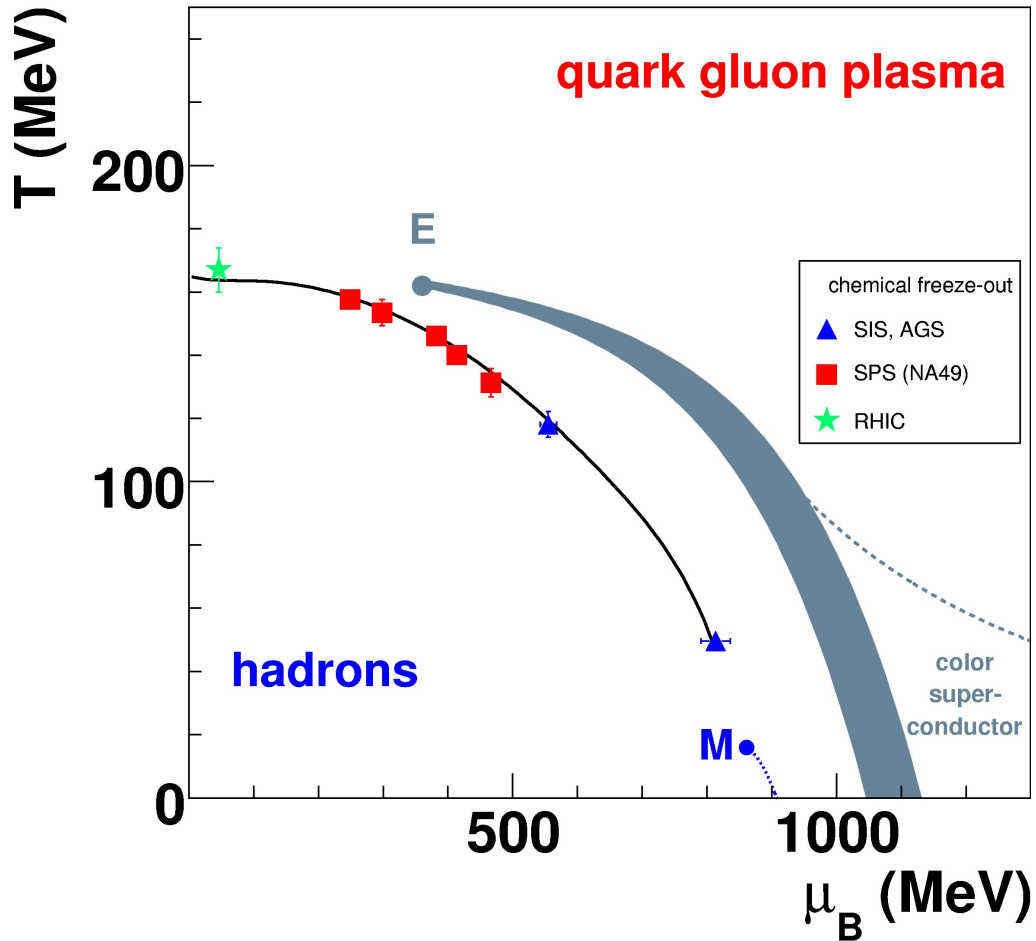


central Pb+Pb (Au+Au) collisions



central Pb+Pb (Au+Au) collisions





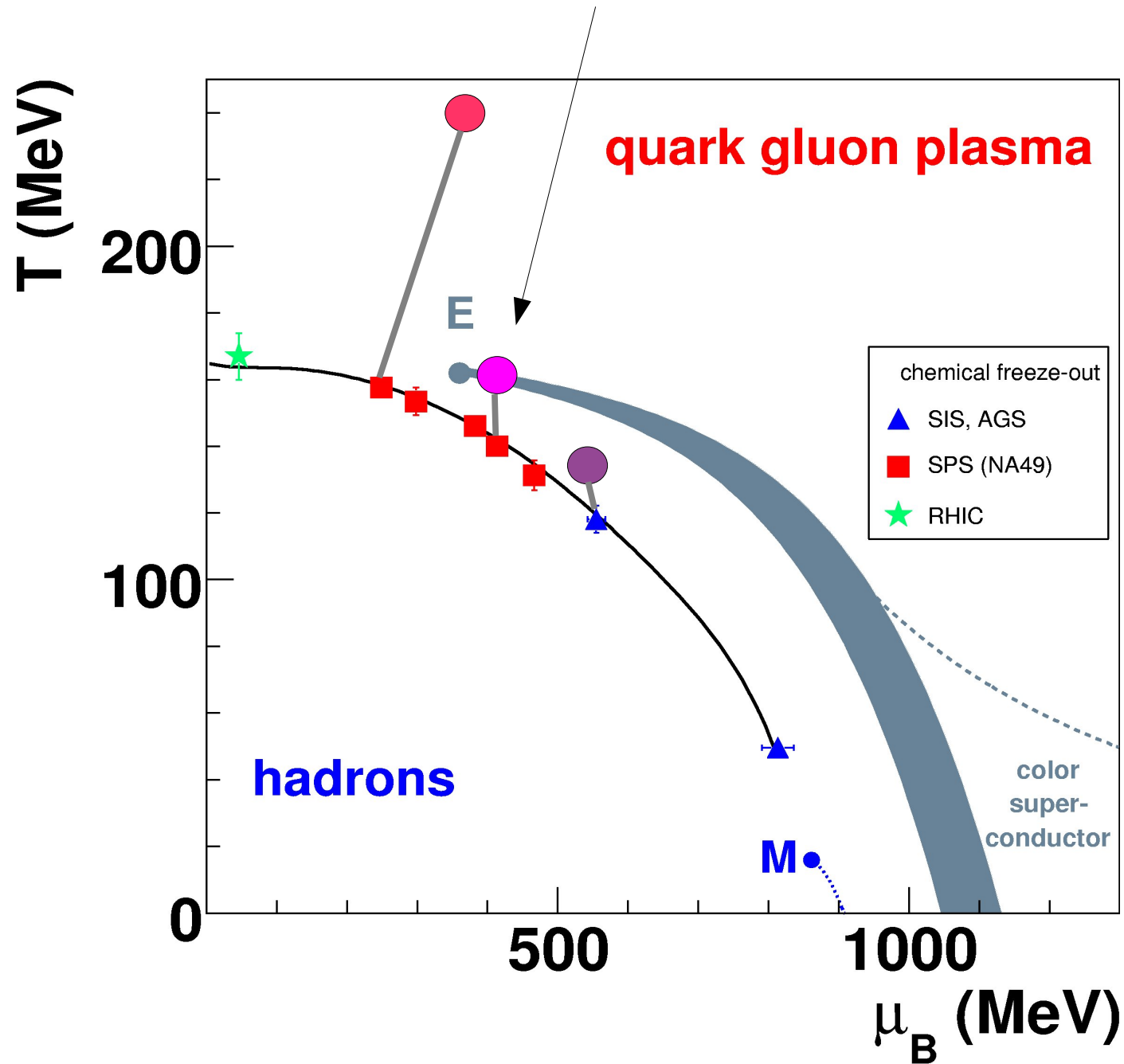
Freeze-out points of central heavy ion collisions at SPS are close to the phase boundary



Its possible that the early stage crosses the phase boundary at SPS energies (onset of deconfinement)

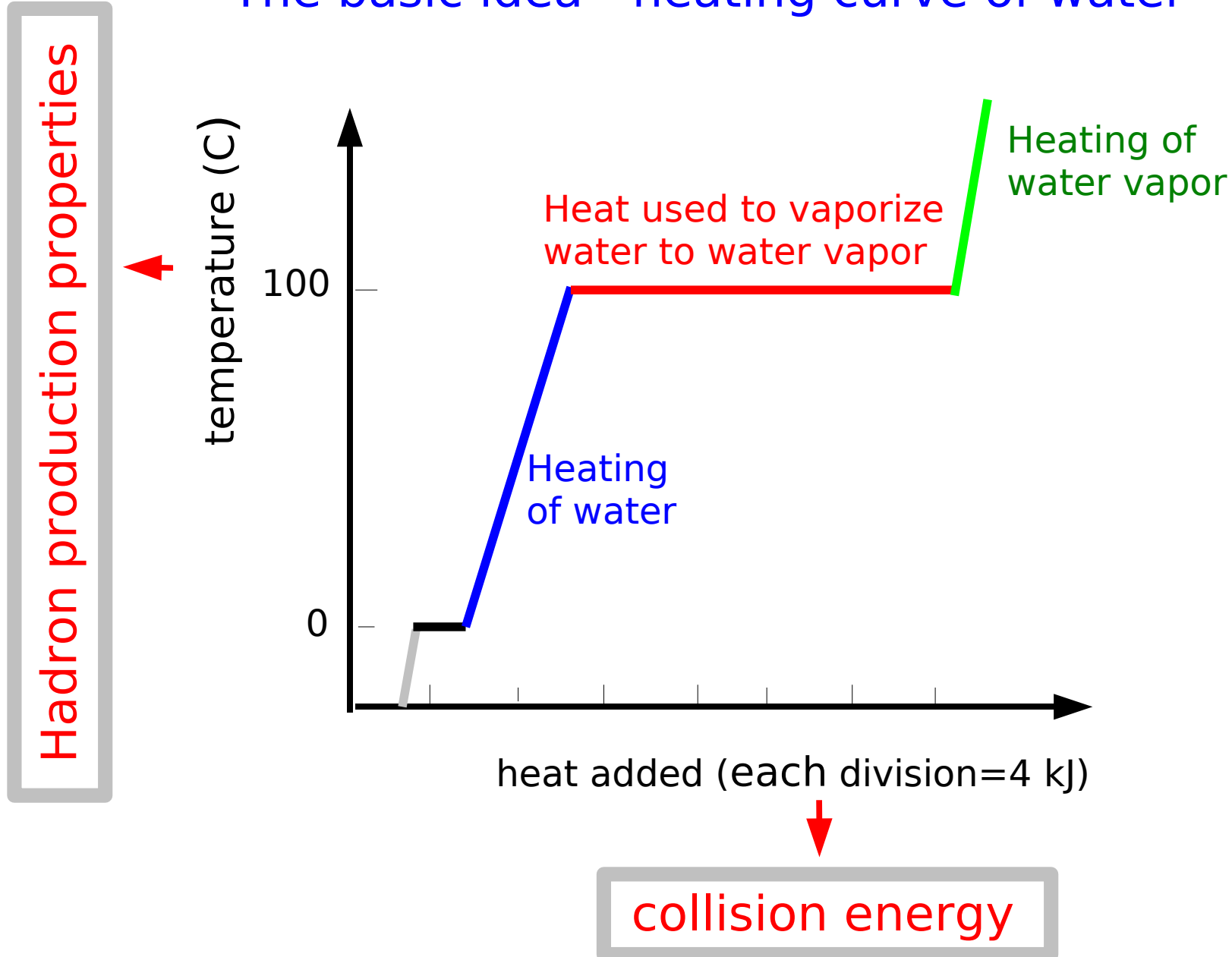
*HG fits: Becattini et al.,
Cleymans, Redlich et al.*

Onset of deconfinement:
the early stage hits the transition line



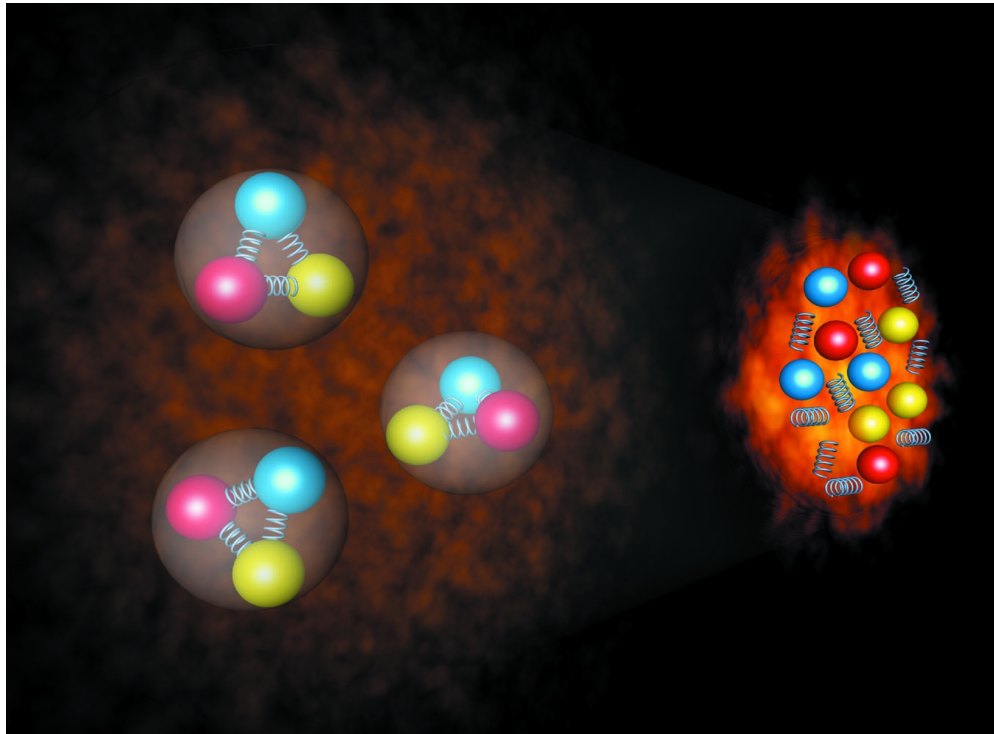
■ ■ Onset of deconfinement at the CERN SPS

The basic idea - heating curve of water



Heating curves of strongly interacting matter

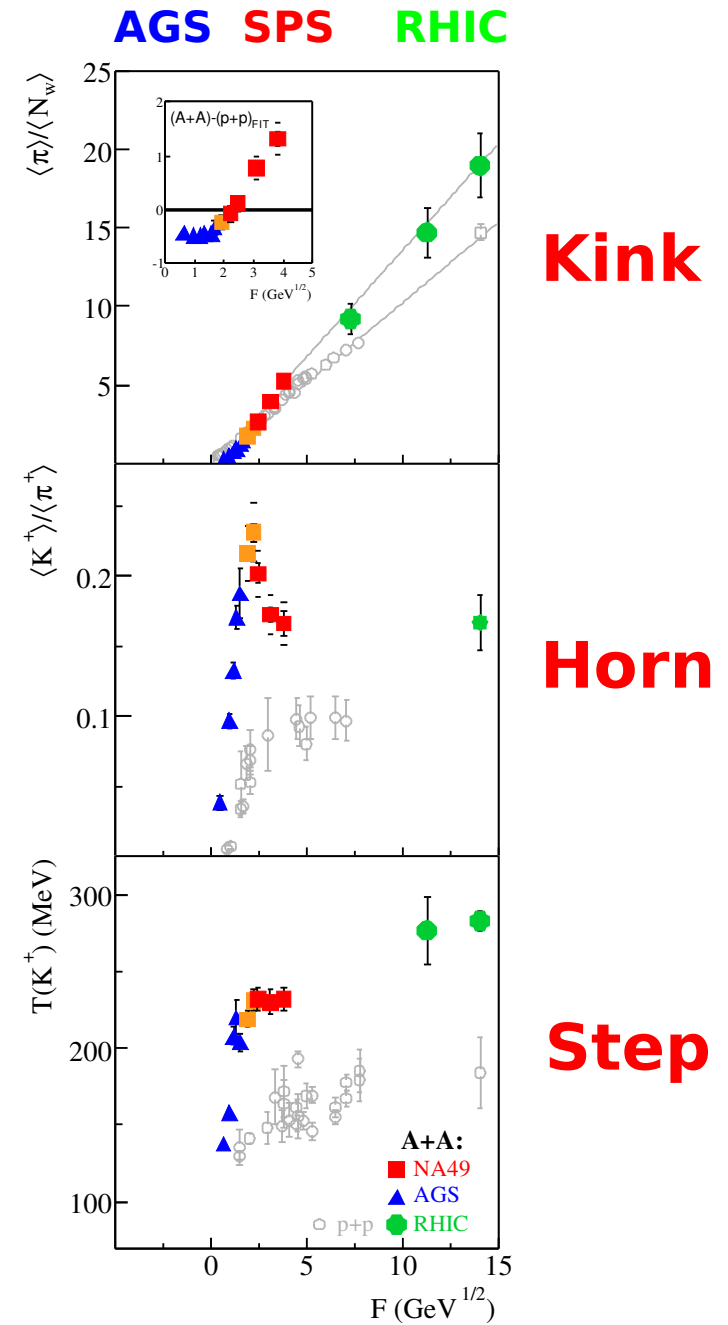
hadrons mixed QGP



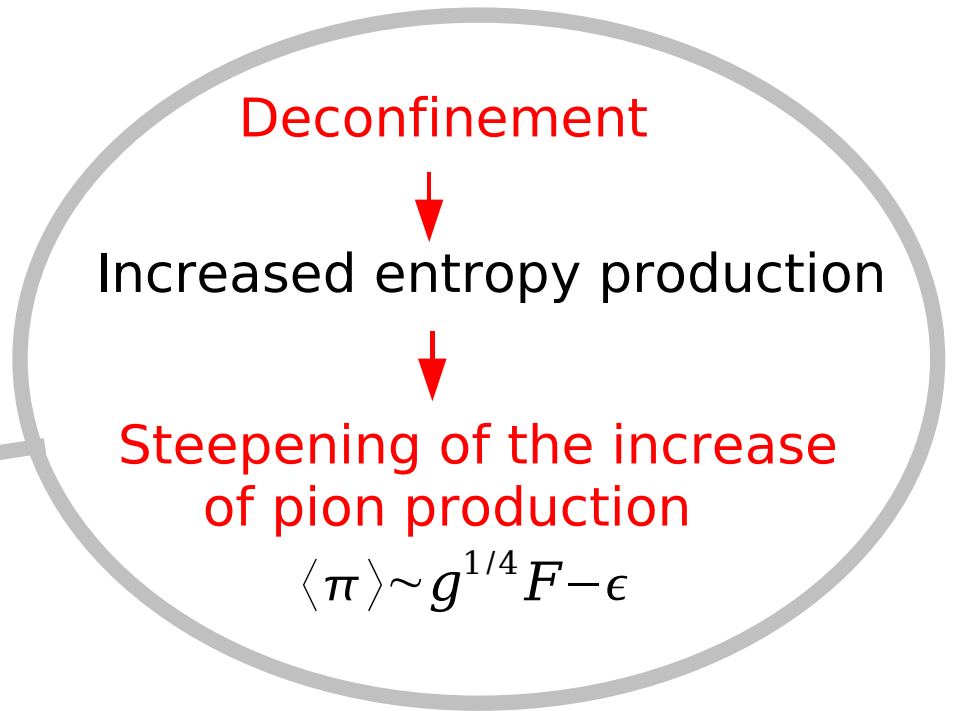
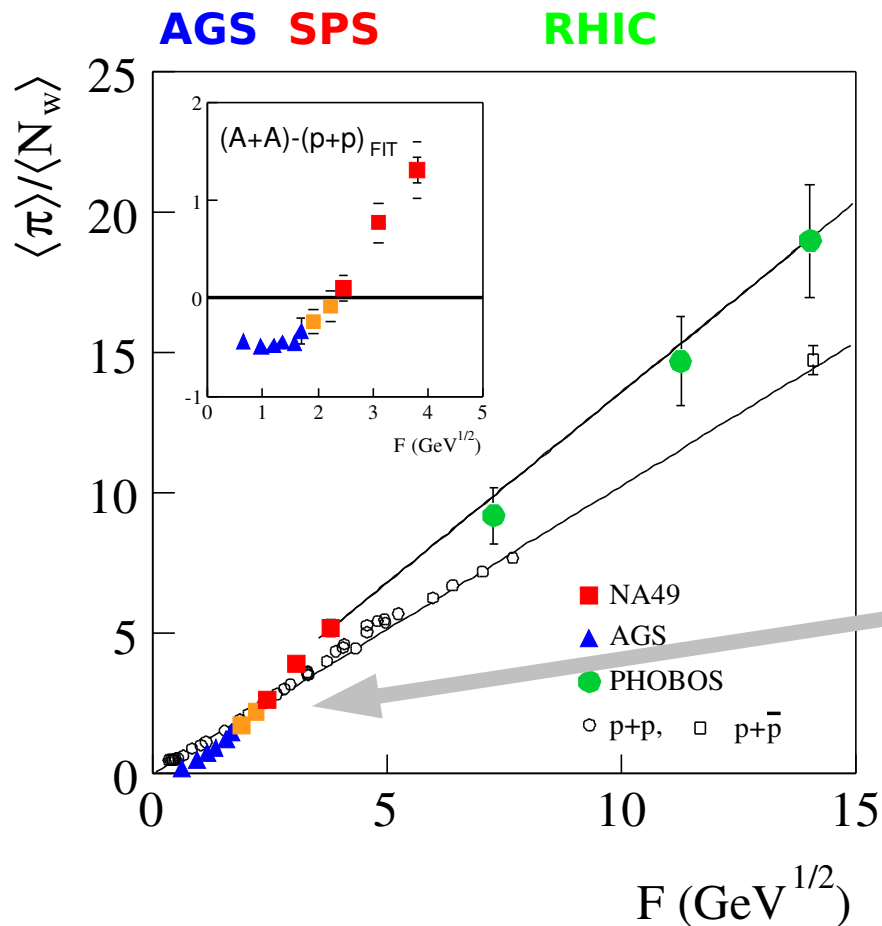
AGS SPS RHIC

collision energy

hadronic observables



The kink in pion multiplicity



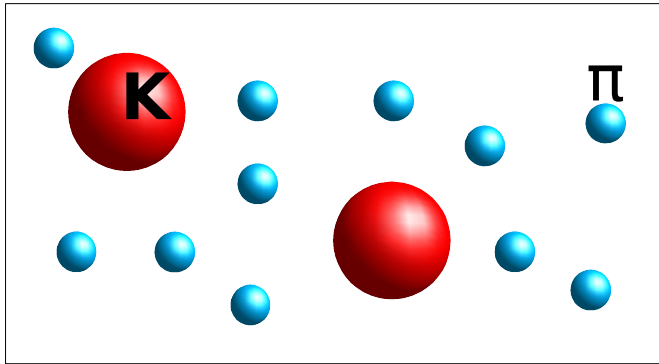
$$F \approx \sqrt{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}$$

$\langle \pi \rangle$ - total pion multiplicity

$\langle N_W \rangle$ - number of interacting nucleons

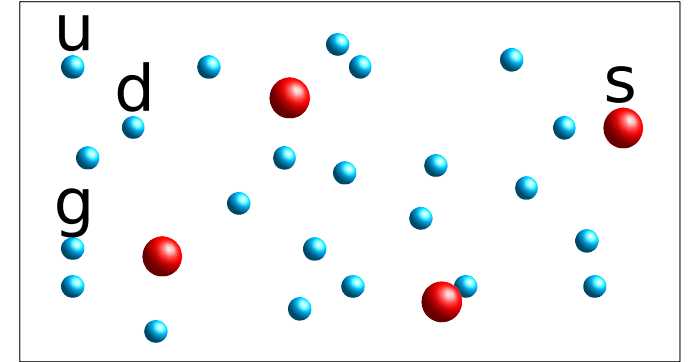
A toy model of the horn

hadron gas

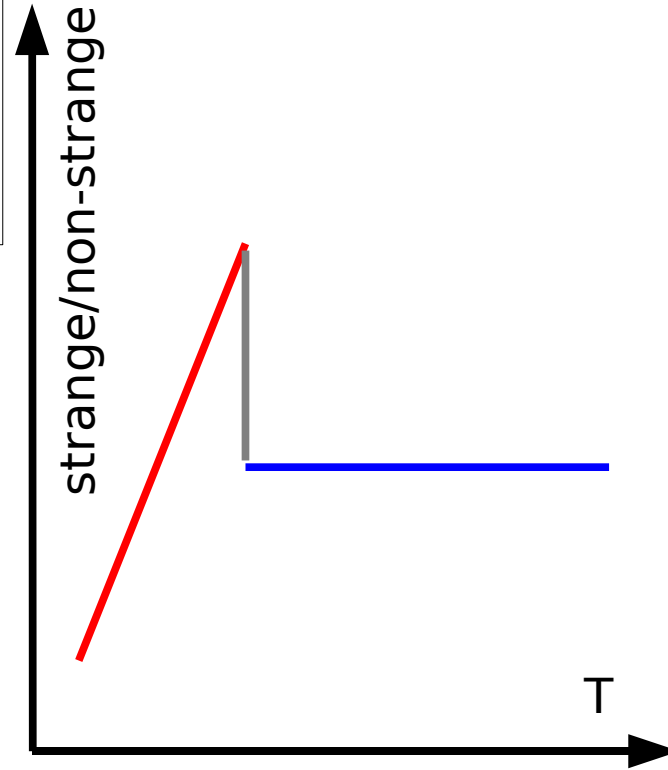


$$\frac{\langle K \rangle}{\langle \pi \rangle} \propto \frac{MT^{3/2}}{T^3} \cdot e^{-M/T}$$

quark-gluon plasma



$$\frac{\langle s \rangle}{\langle u+d+g \rangle} \propto \frac{T^3}{T^3} = \text{const}(T)$$

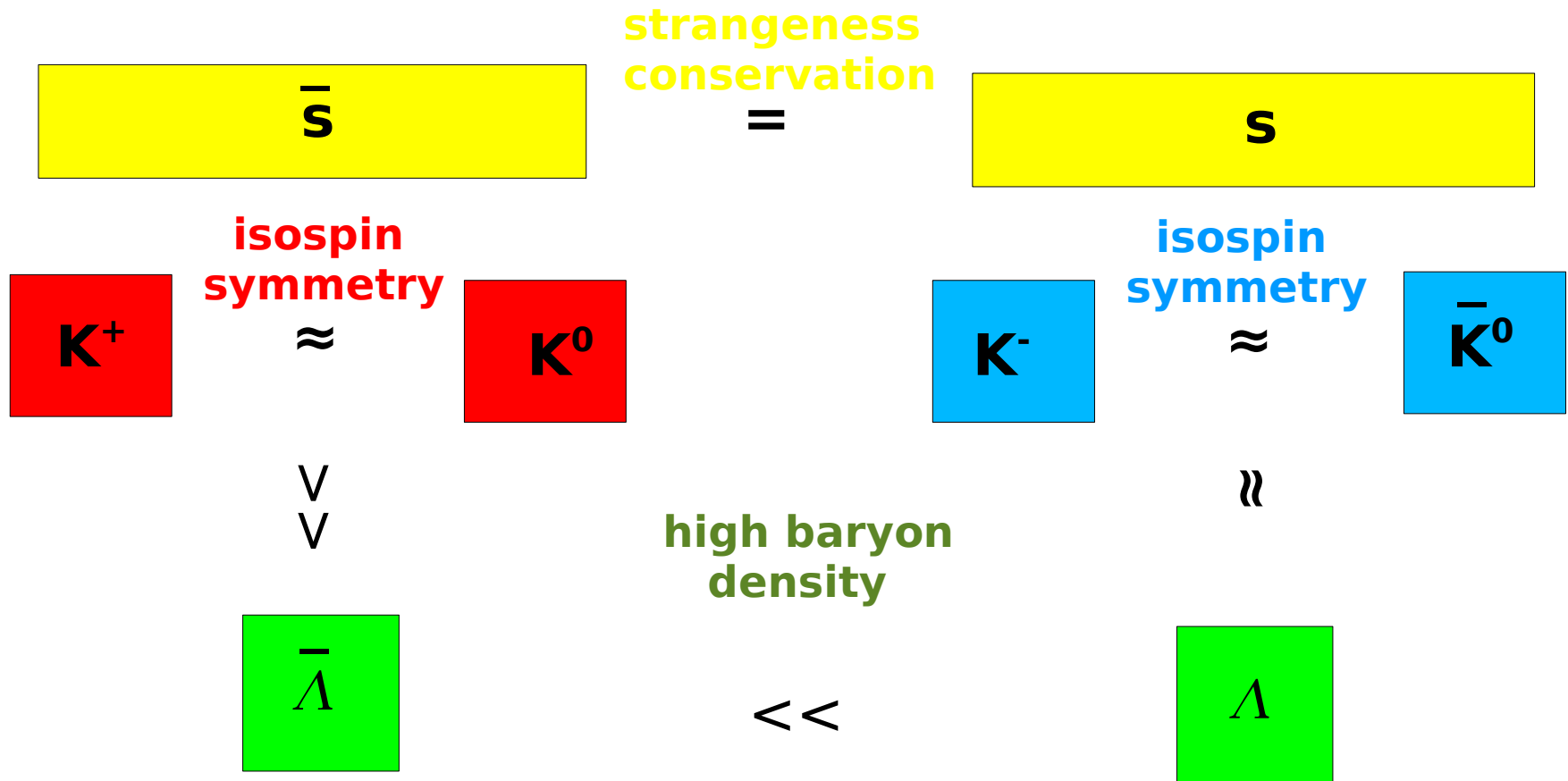


$$\langle n \rangle = \frac{gV}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3p \frac{1}{e^{E/T} \pm 1}$$

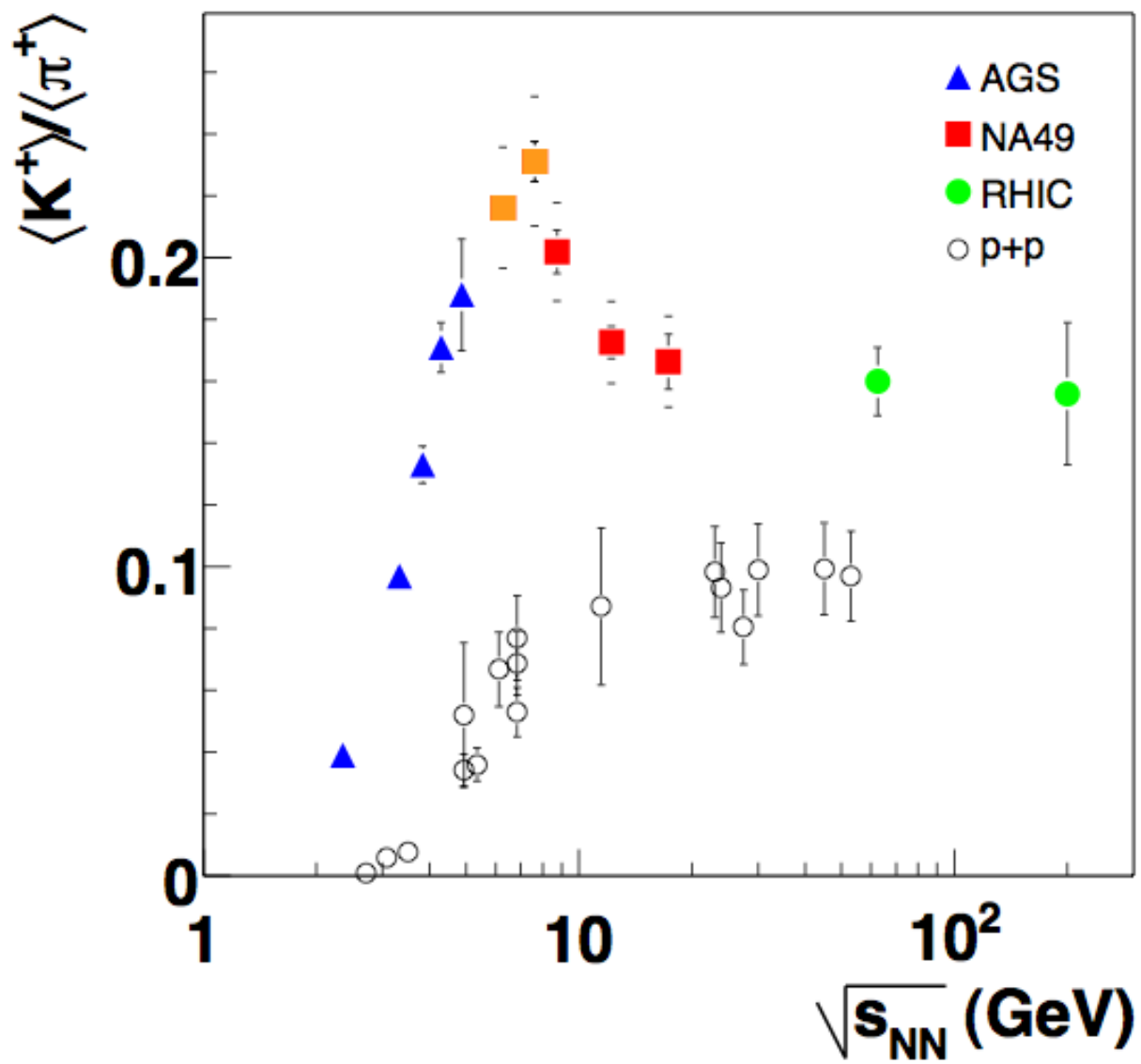
$$\approx gV \frac{2\pi^2}{4.45} T^3 \quad \text{for light particles}$$

$$\approx gV \left(\frac{MT}{2\pi}\right)^{3/2} e^{-M/T} \quad \text{for heavy particles}$$

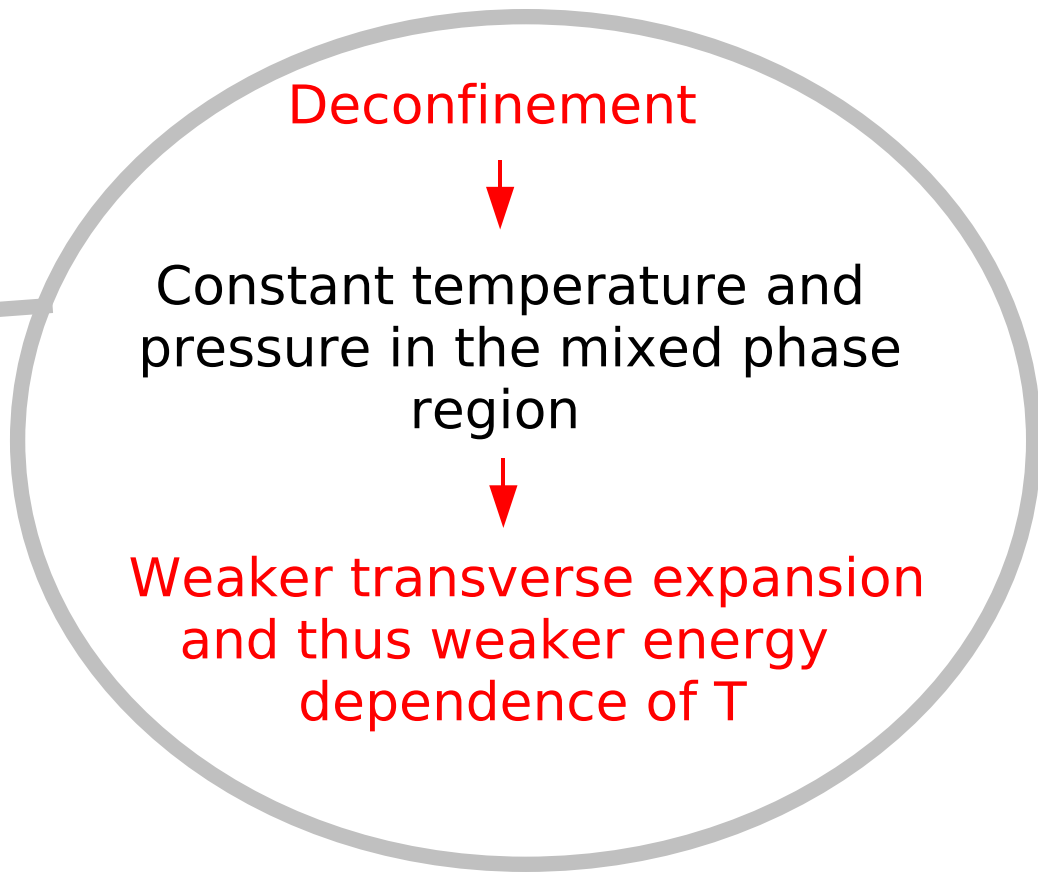
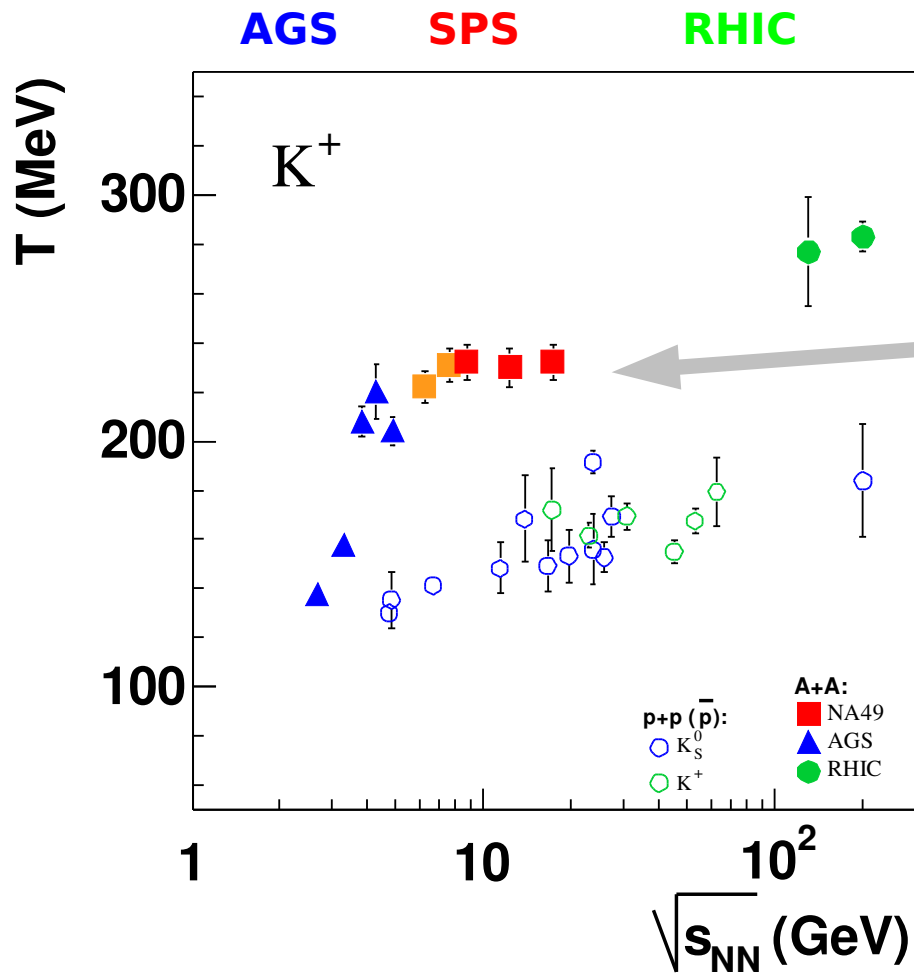
main strangeness carriers



■ sensitive to strangeness content only
■ ■ sensitive to strangeness content and baryon density



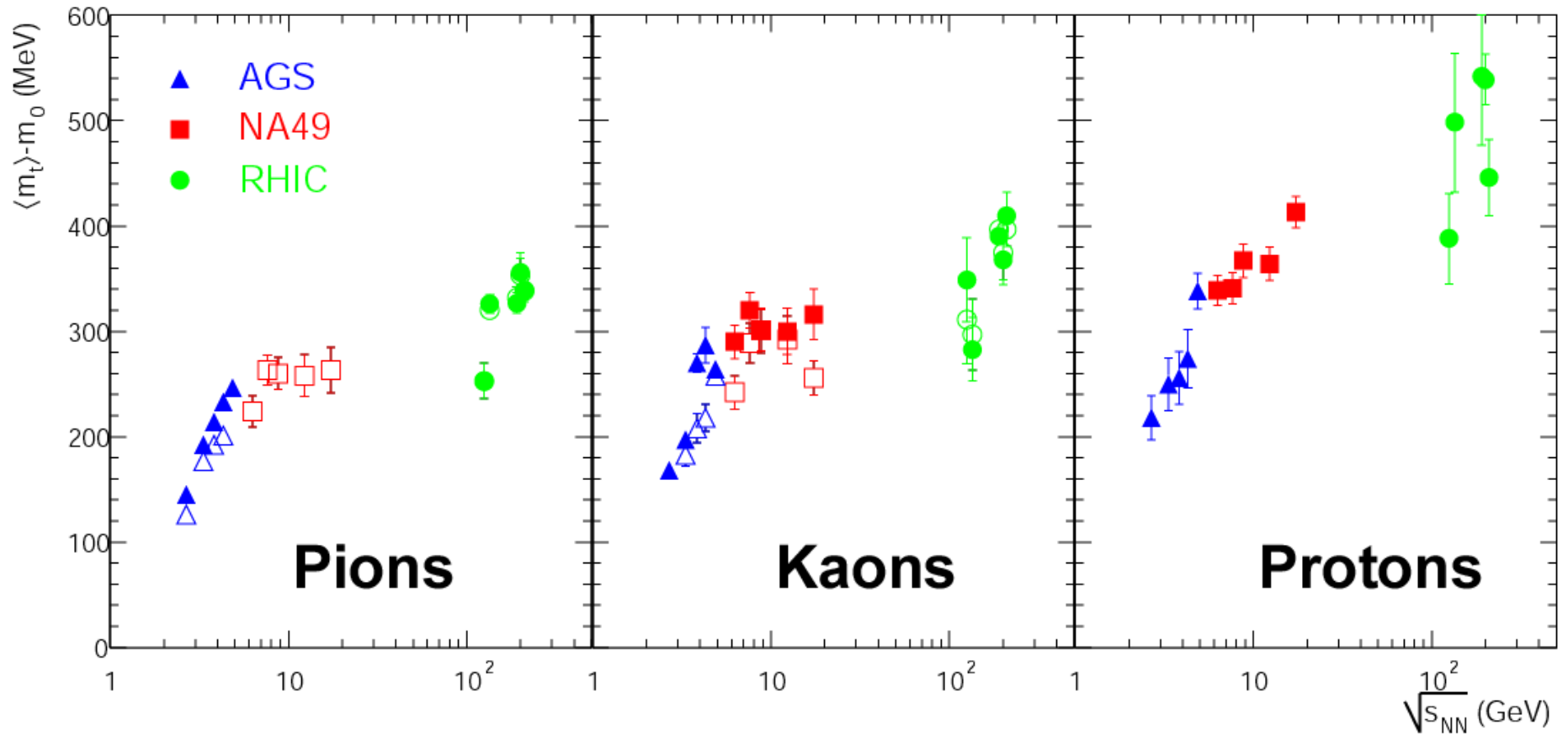
The step in m_T slopes



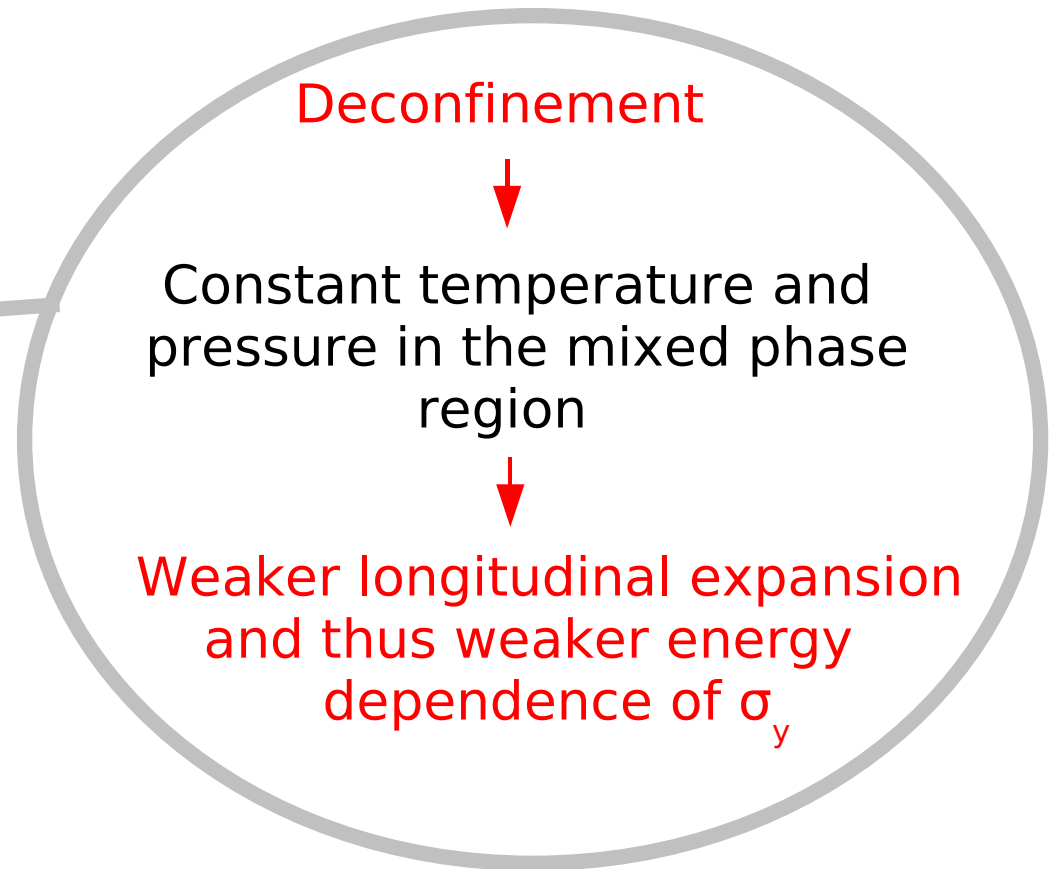
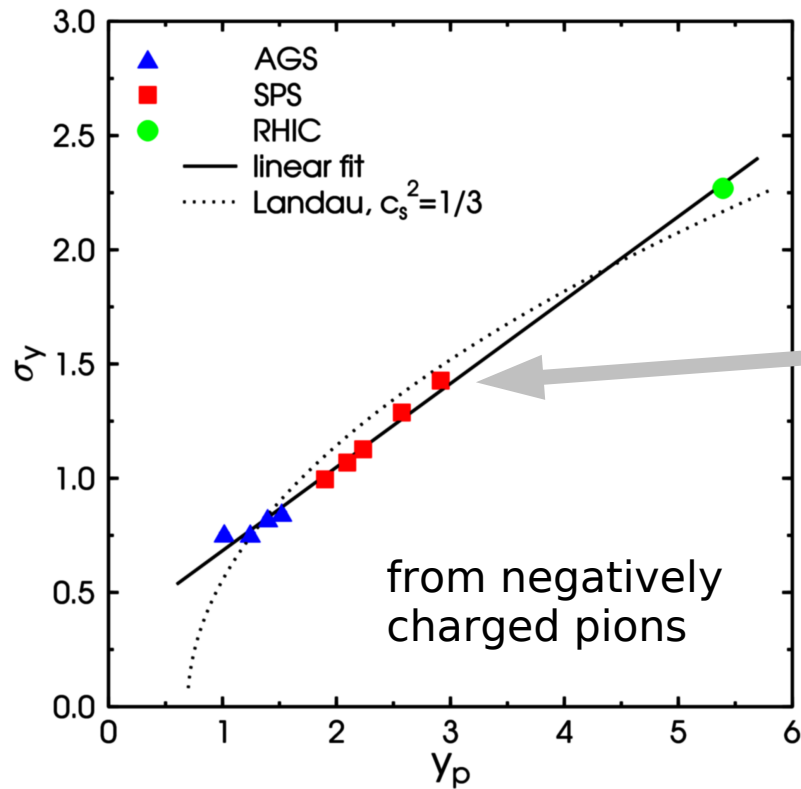
T - inverse slope parameter of transverse mass spectra

Gorenstein, M.G., Bugaev (Shuryak, van Hove)

... and in $\langle m_T \rangle$ of various hadrons



The weakening of longitudinal expansion ...

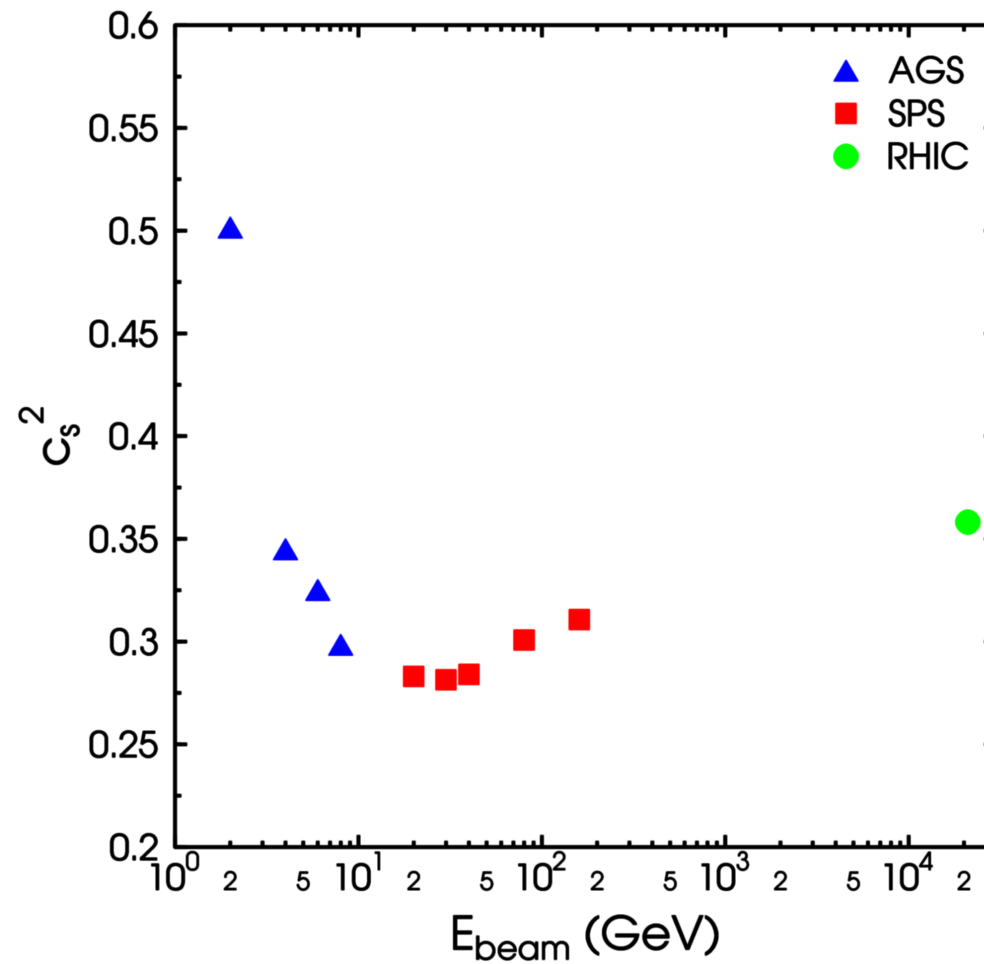


Hydrodynamical Landau model:
(E.Shuryak, *Yad.Fiz.* **16**, 395 (1972))

$$\sigma_y^2 = \frac{8}{3} \frac{c_s^2}{1-c_s^4} \ln(\sqrt{s_{NN}} / 2m_p)$$

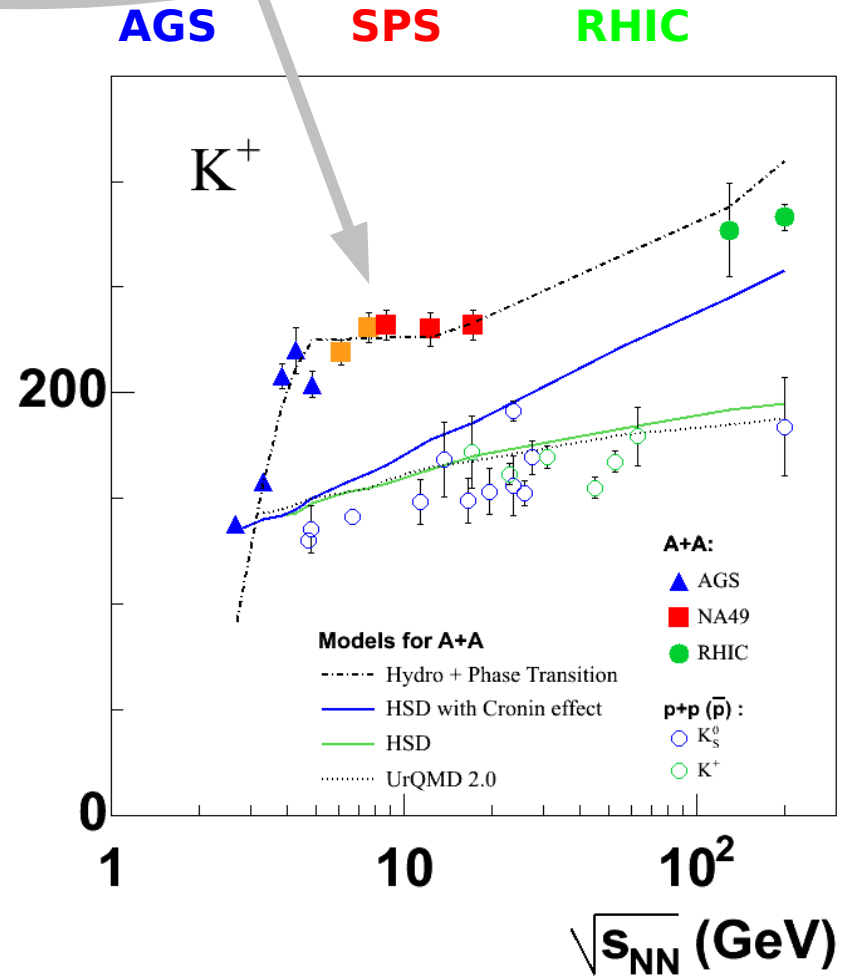
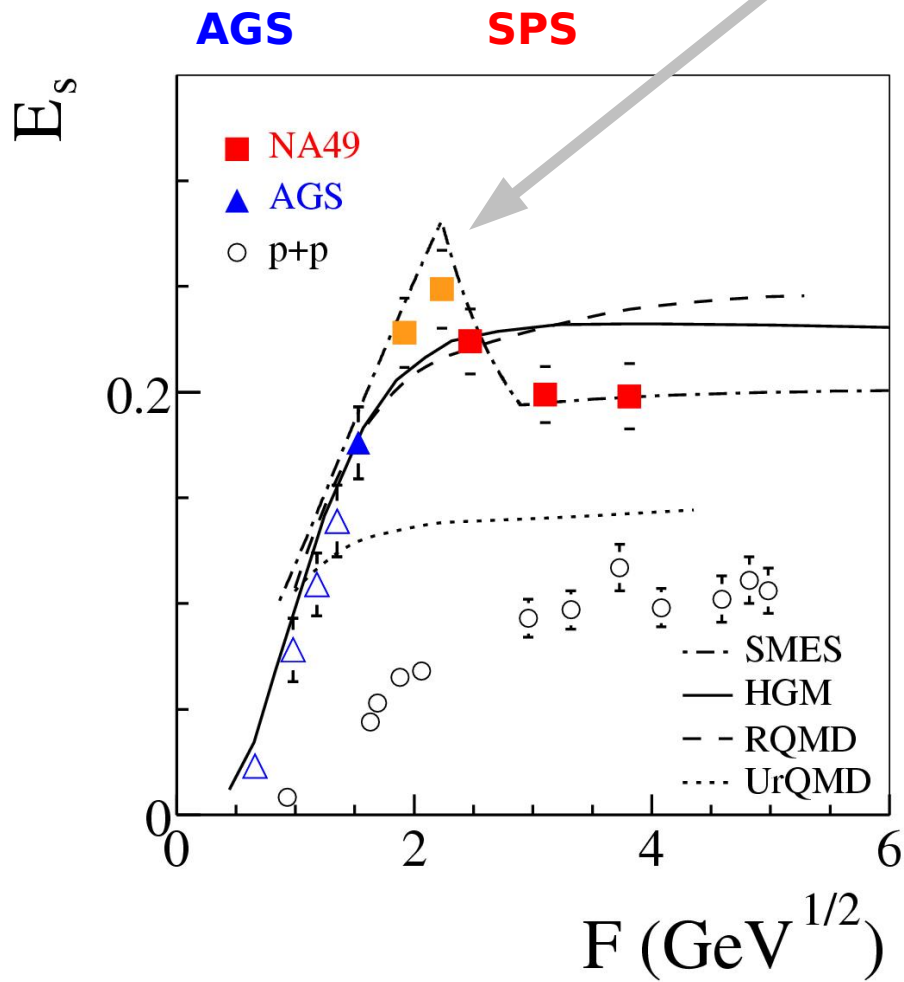
Bleicher

... and the **dale** in sound velocity



The models

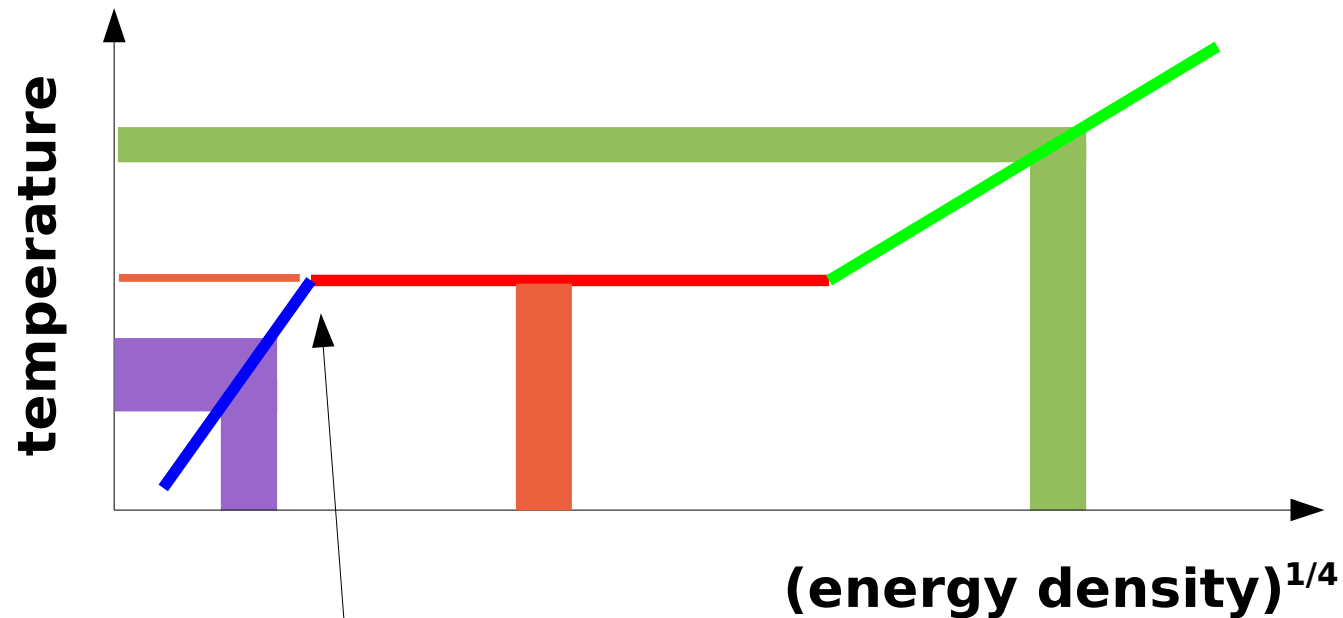
Models with the 1st order phase transition reproduce the data



$$E_s = (\langle \Lambda \rangle + \langle K + \bar{K} \rangle) / \langle \pi \rangle$$

Strangeness fluctuations and deconfinement

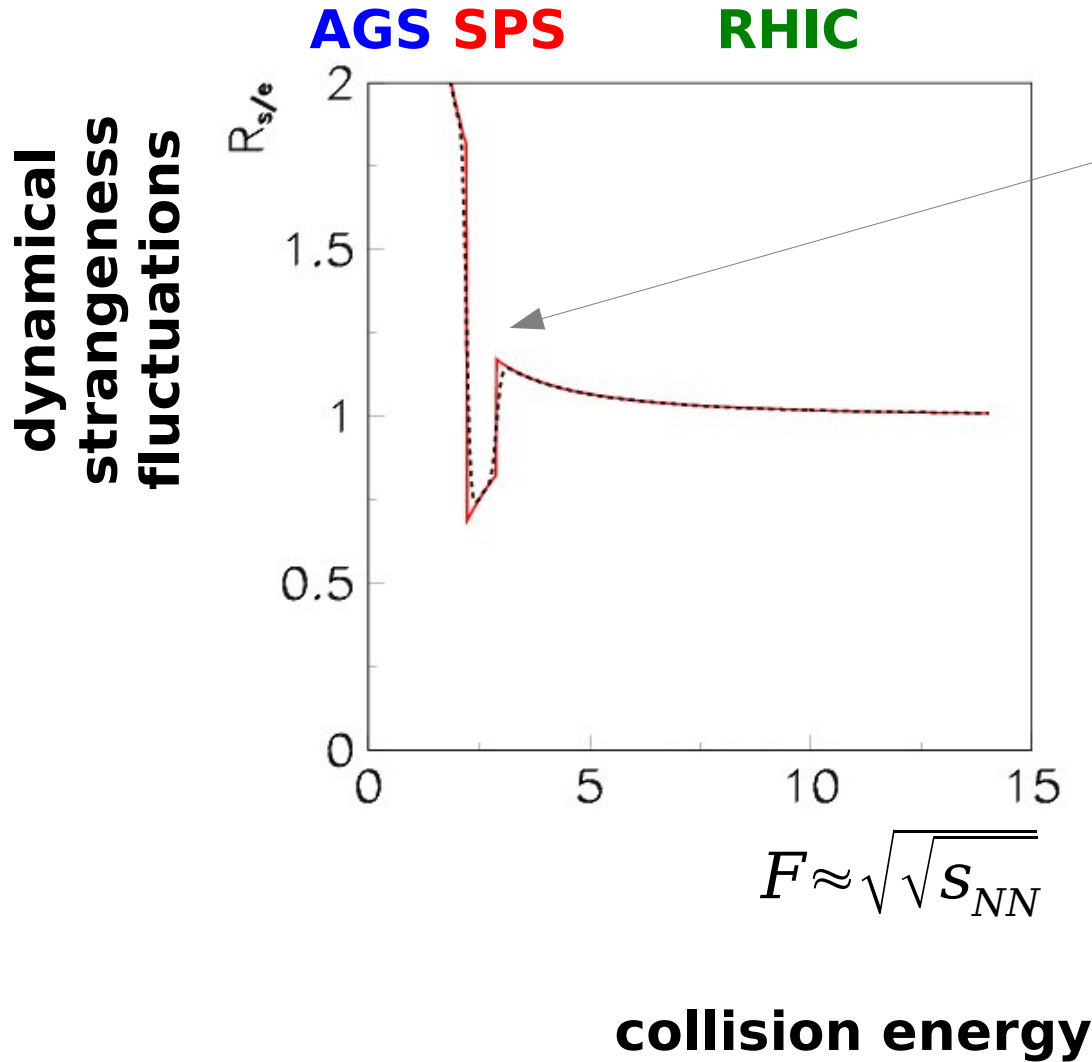
Response to the initial energy density fluctuations depends on the Equation of State at the early stage of the collisions



onset of deconfinement

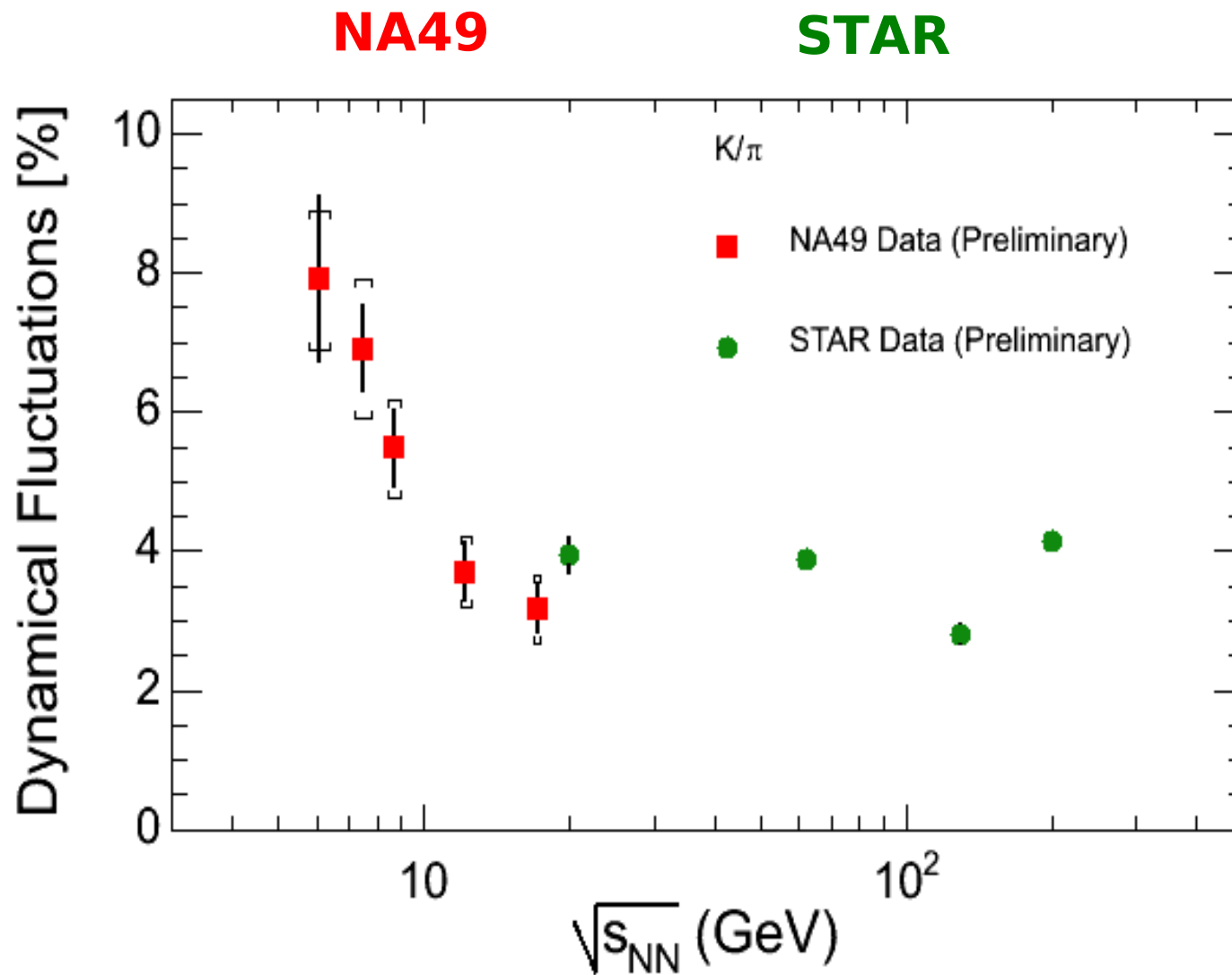
Gorenstein, M.G., Zozulya, PL B585:237, 2004

... and the energy dependence of
dynamical strangeness fluctuations



**The onset of
deconfinement
is signaled by
a rapid change of
the energy dependence**

Kaon/pion fluctuations



Is this the first fluctuation signal of the onset of deconfinement?

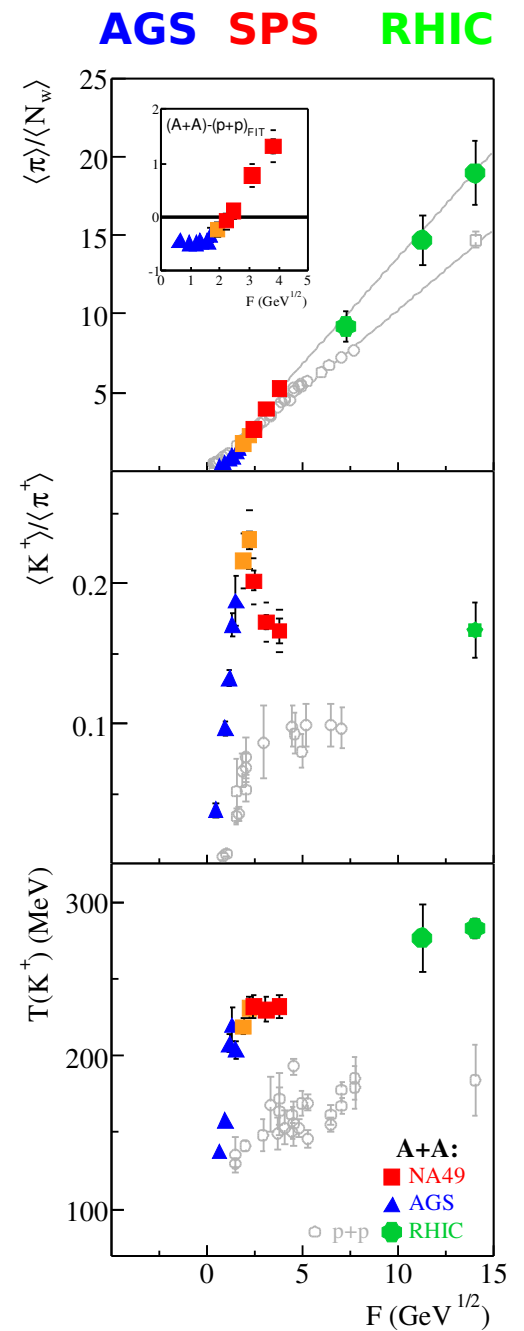
Summary

- Several anomalies in hadron production are observed at low SPS energies
- The onset of observed anomalies is located at about 30A GeV
- The anomalies cannot be reproduced by the models without phase transition
- Measured rapid changes are consistent with models assuming 1st order PT



FUTURE

hadronic observables



collision energy

Additional slides

