

Mechanisms for deuteron production in heavy-ion collisions

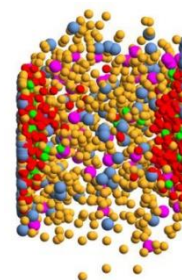
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&

**Gabriele Coci, Susanne Gläsel, Viktor Kireyeu, Joerg Aichelin,
Vadym Voronyuk, Christoph Blume, Vadim Kolesnikov,
Jan Steinheimer, Marcus Bleicher**

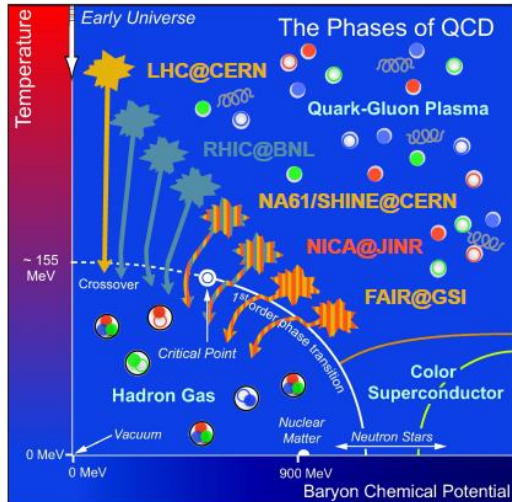


EMMI Workshop “4th Workshop on Anti-Matter, Hyper-Matter
and Exotica Production at the LHC”,
University of Bologna, Italy, 13-17 February 2023



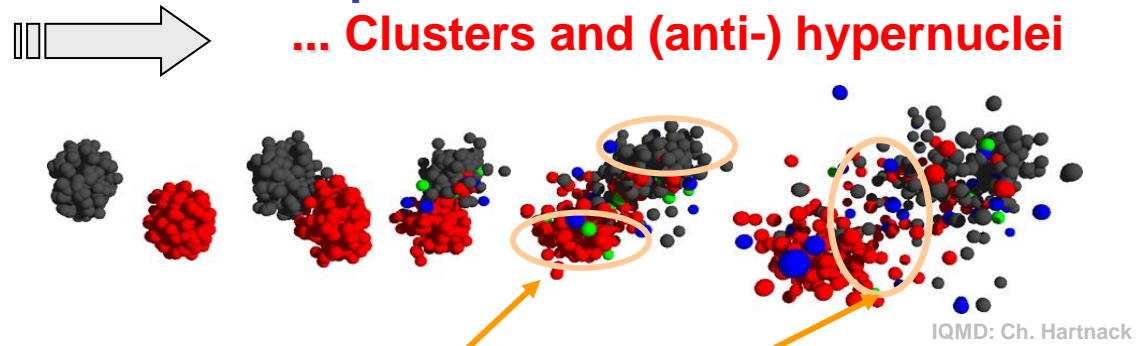
The ,holy grail' of heavy-ion physics:

The phase diagram of QCD



Experimental observables:

... Clusters and (anti-) hypernuclei



- projectile/target spectators → heavy cluster formation
- midrapidity → light clusters

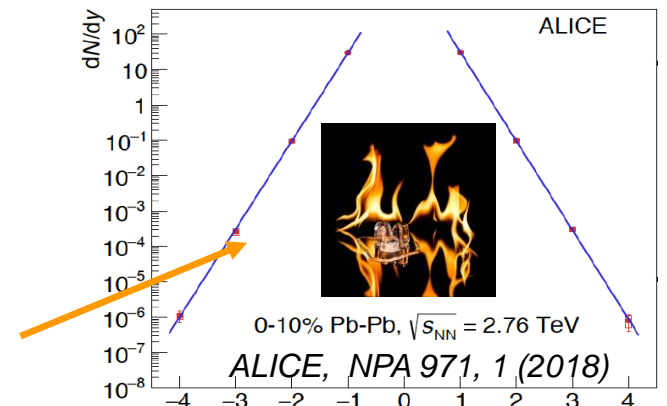
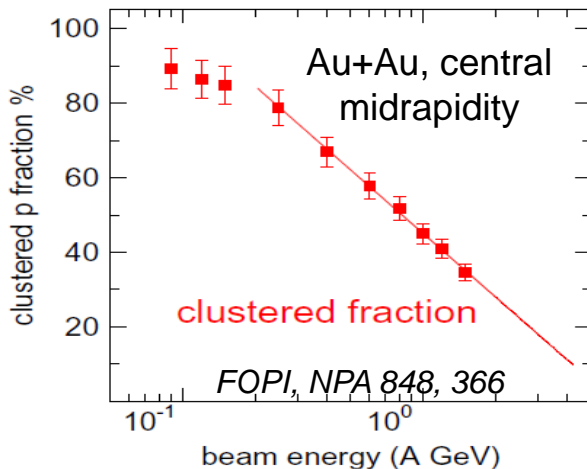
! Hyperons are created in participant zone

(Anti-) hypernuclei production:

- at mid-rapidity by coalescence of Λ with nucleons during expansion
- at projectile/target rapidity by rescattering/absorption of Λ by spectators

High energy HIC:
,Ice in a fire' puzzle:
how the weakly bound objects can be formed and survive in a hot environment ?!

- Clusters are very abundant at low energy



Modeling of cluster and hypernuclei formation

Existing models for cluster formation:

❑ statistical model:

- assumption of thermal equilibrium

→ don't provide information on the dynamical origin of cluster formation

❑ coalescence model:

- determination of clusters at a freeze-out time by coalescence radii in coordinate and momentum space

→ cf. talk by Tom Reichert

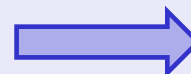
In order to understand the **microscopic origin** of cluster formation one needs a realistic model for the **dynamical time evolution** of the HIC

→ **transport models:**

dynamical modeling of cluster formation based on interactions:

- via potential interaction – **'potential' mechanism** → cf. talk by Susanne Glässel

-- by scattering – **'kinetic' mechanism**





PHQMD: a unified n-body microscopic transport approach for the description of heavy-ion collisions and **dynamical cluster formation** from low to ultra-relativistic energies

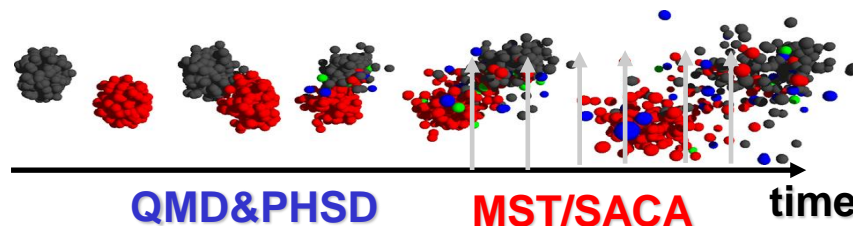
Realization: combined model **PHQMD = (PHSD & QMD) & (MST/SACA)**

Parton-Hadron-Quantum-Molecular Dynamics

Initialization → propagation of baryons:
QMD (Quantum-Molecular Dynamics)

Propagation of partons (quarks, gluons) and mesons
+ **collision integral** = interactions of hadrons and partons (QGP)
from **PHSD** (Parton-Hadron-String Dynamics)

Cluster recognition:
SACA (Simulated Annealing Clusterization Algorithm)
or **MST** (Minimum Spanning Tree)



J. Aichelin et al.,
PRC 101 (2020) 044905;
S. Gläsel et al.,
PRC 105 (2022) 1

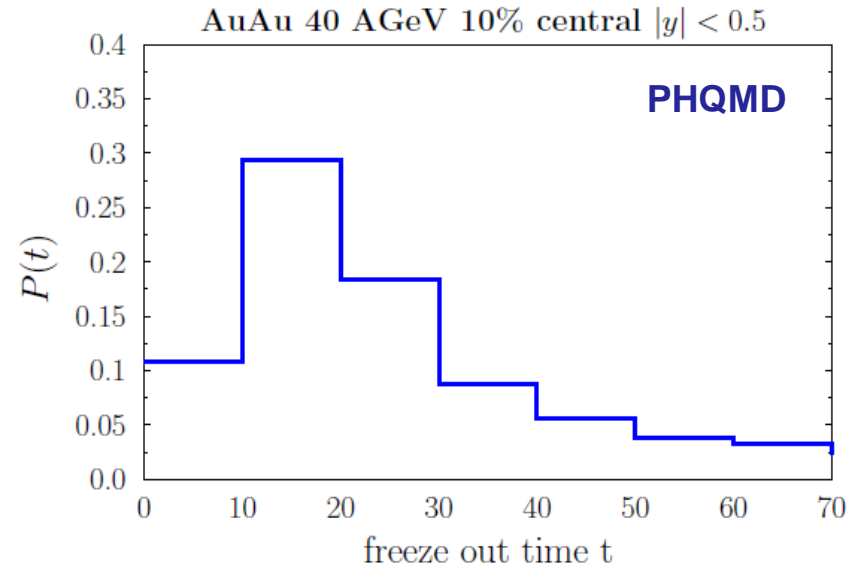
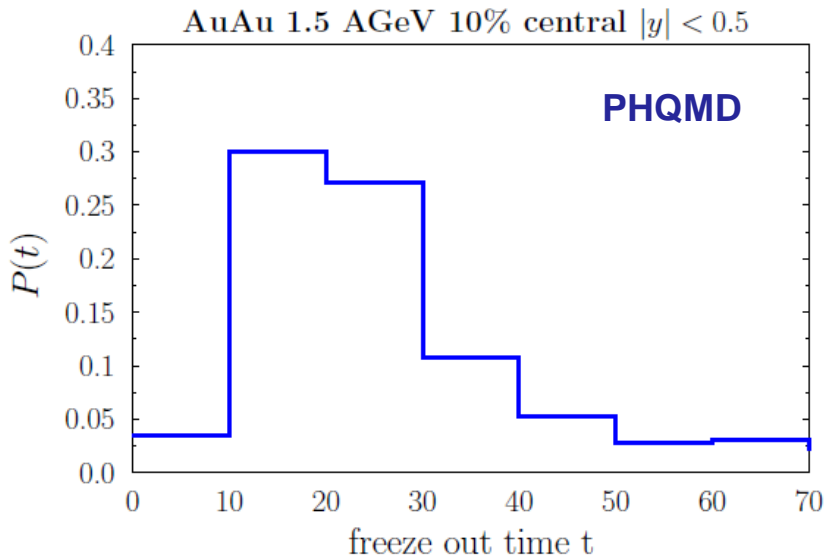
→ cf. talk by Susanne Gläsel

**Where are the clusters formed
during heavy-ion collisions?**

**MST vs. coalescence
in PHQMD and UrQMD**

PHQMD: When does the system freeze out?

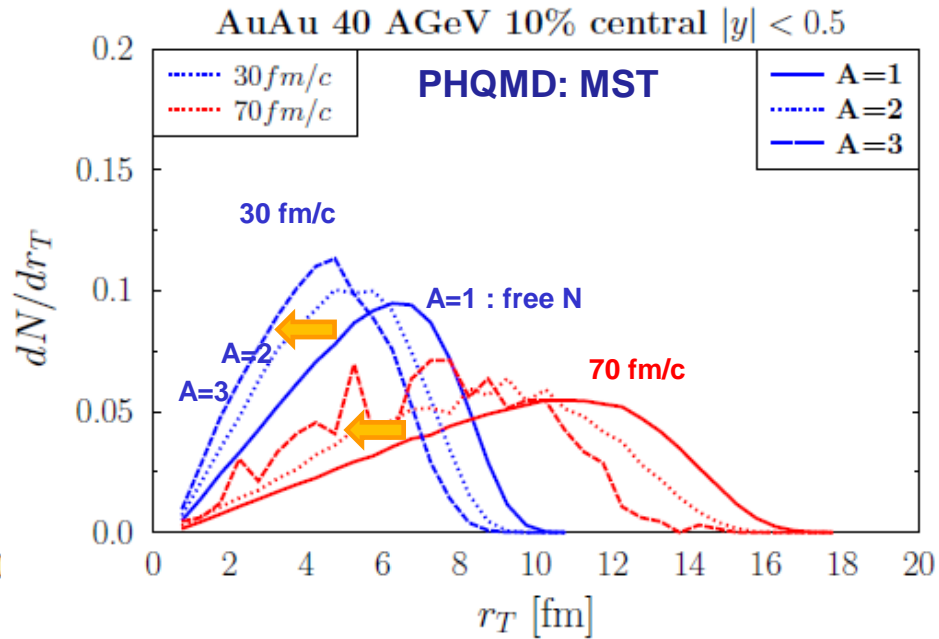
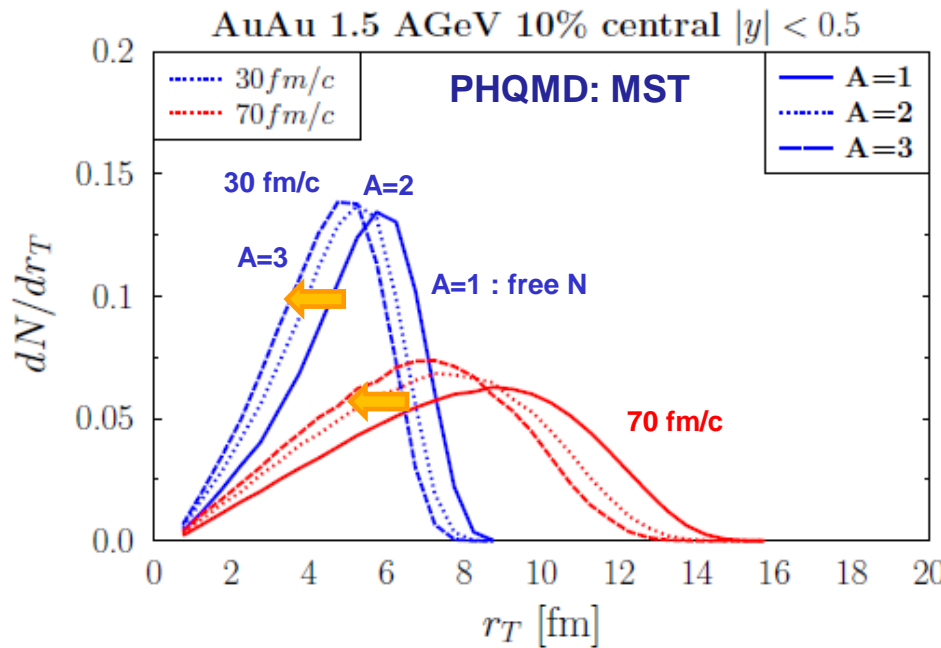
- The normalized distribution of the **freeze-out time of baryons** (nucleons and hyperons) which are finally observed at mid-rapidity $|y| < 0.5$
 - * Here freeze-out time as defined by the **last elastic or inelastic collision**, after that **only potential interaction** between baryons occurs



- ➔ Freeze-out time of baryons in Au+Au at 1.5 AGeV and 40 AGeV:
 - **similar profile** since expansion velocity of mid-rapidity fireball is roughly independent of the beam energy

PHQMD: Where are the clusters formed?

- ❑ The MST snapshot (taken at time 30 and 70 fm/c) of the **normalized distribution of the transverse distance r_T of the nucleons to the center of the fireball.**
- ❑ It is shown for $A=1$ (free nucleons) and for the nucleons in $A=2$ and $A=3$ clusters

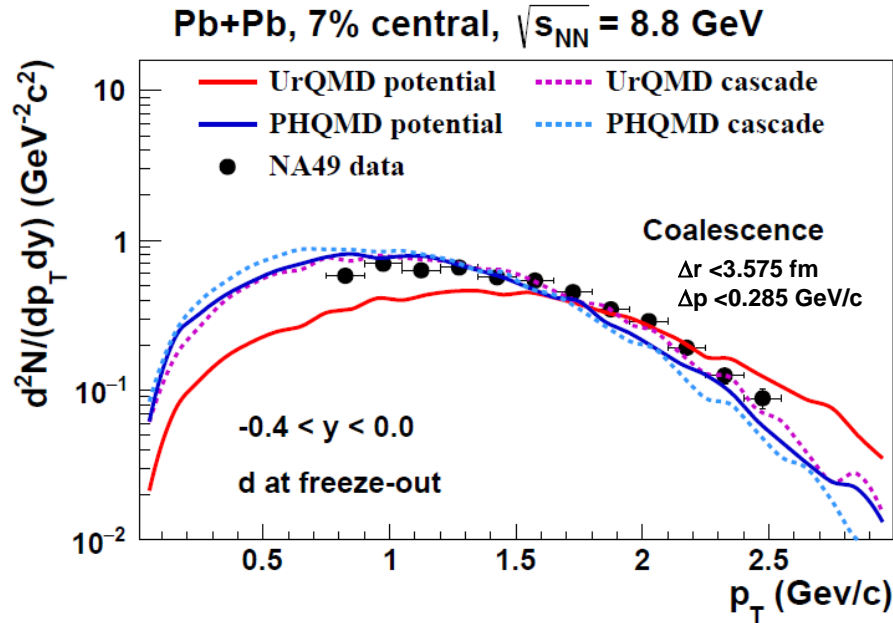


- ➔ **Transverse distance profile** of free nucleons and clusters are different!
- ➔ Clusters are mainly formed **behind the 'front'** of free nucleons of expanding fireball
- ➔ **'ice' is behind the 'fire'** ➔ cluster can survive

Comparison of the coalescence and MST for d applied to PHQMD and UrQMD

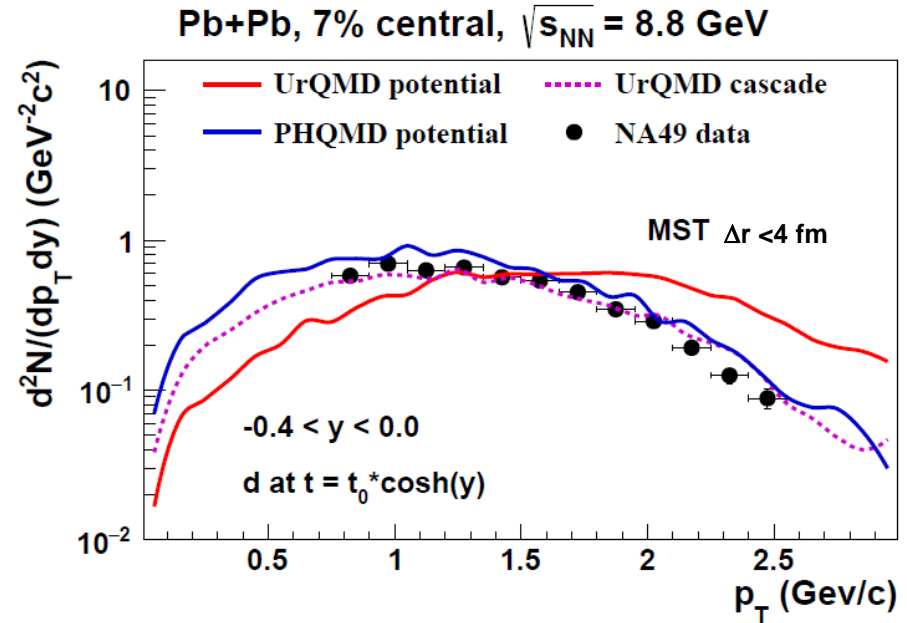
Coalescence

applied to PHQMD and UrQMD



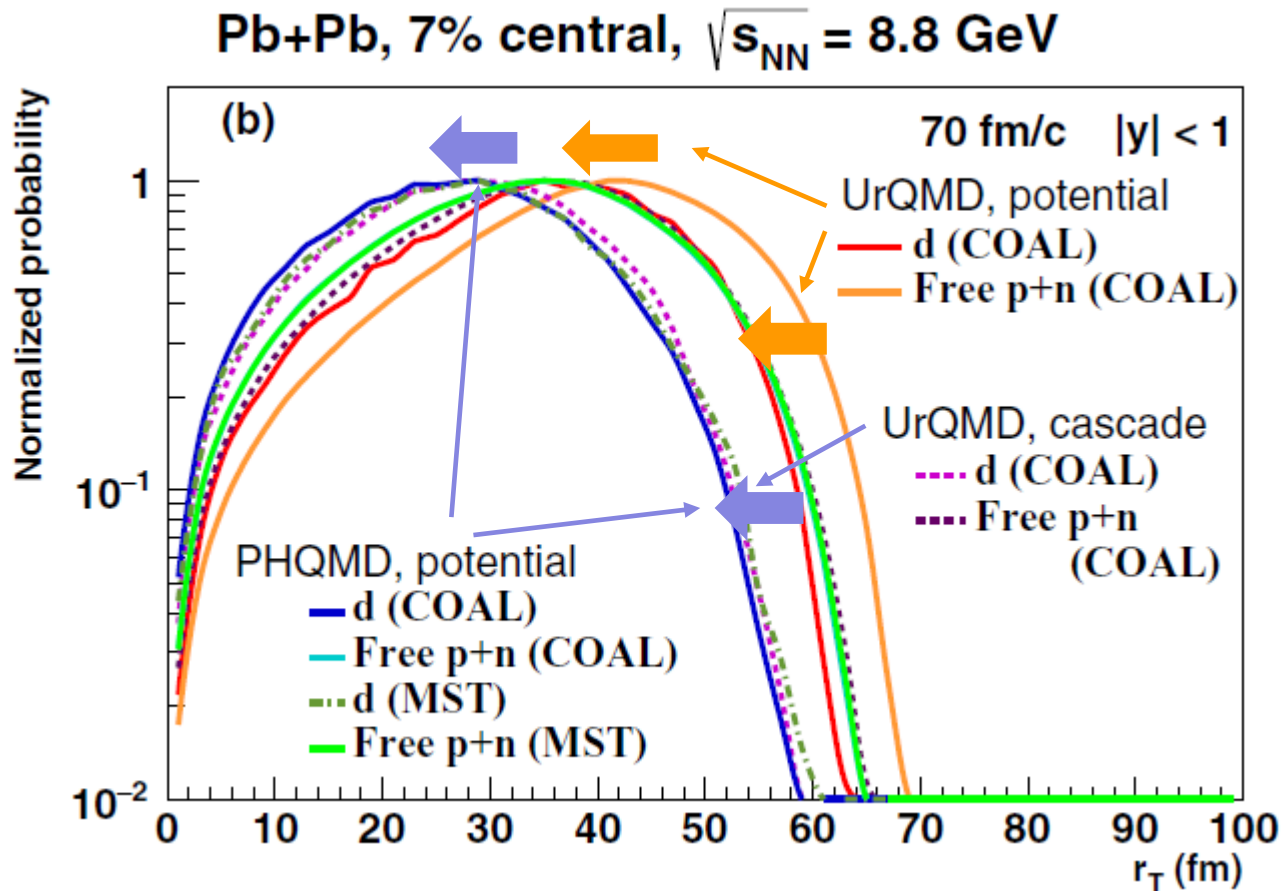
MST

applied to PHQMD and UrQMD



- **Coalescence and MST** give very **similar** multiplicities and y- and p_T -distributions
- PHQMD and UrQMD results in the cascade mode are very similar
- Deuteron production is sensitive to the realization of potential in transport approaches

PHQMD & UrQMD: Comparison of the coalescence and MST for d

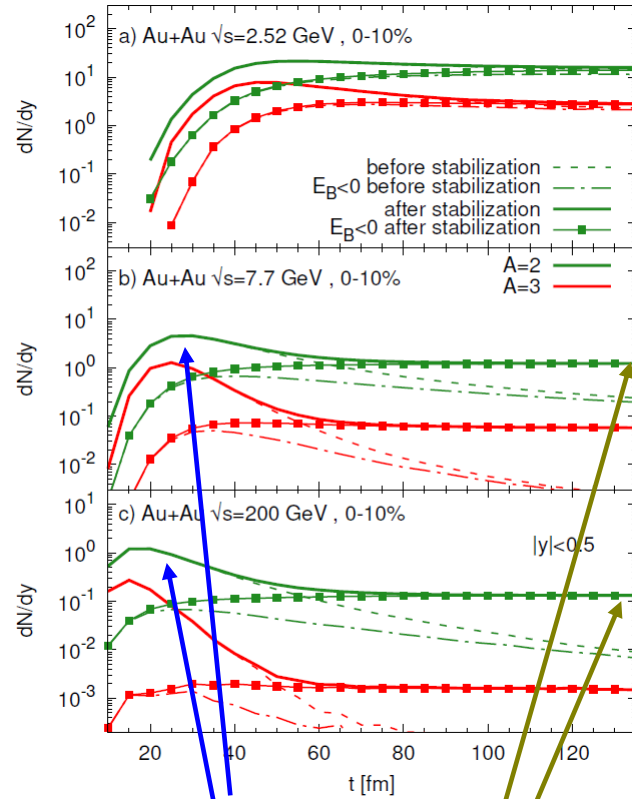


- Coalescence as well as the MST procedure show that the **deuterons remain in transverse direction closer to the center** of the heavy-ion collision than free nucleons
- deuterons are **behind** the fast nucleons (and pion wind)

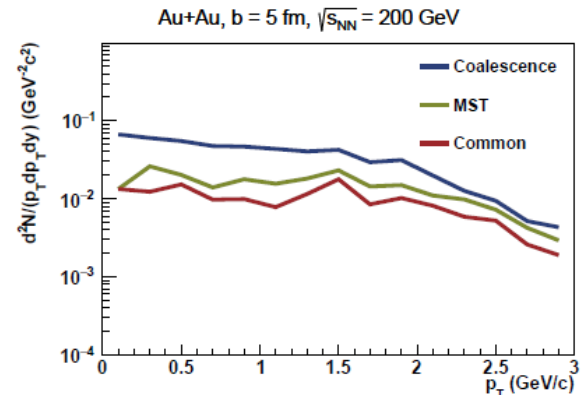
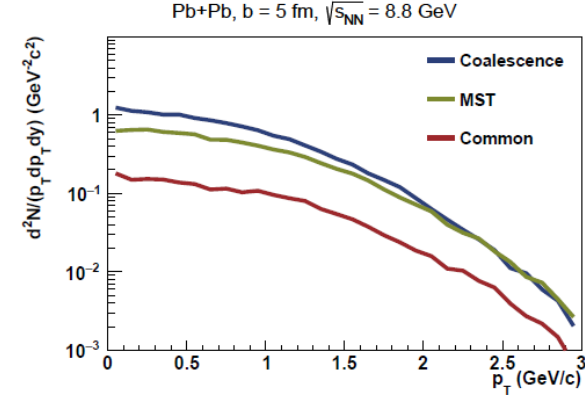
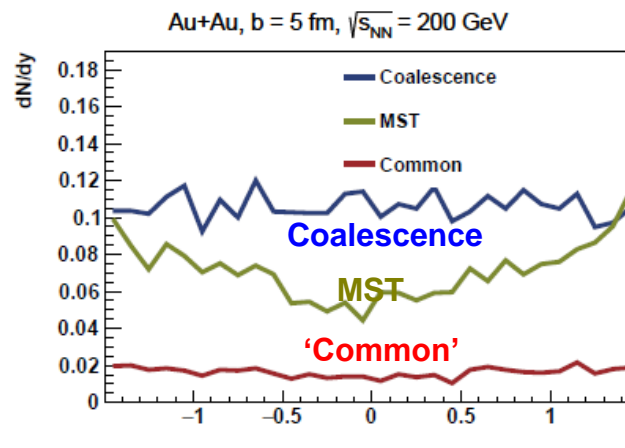
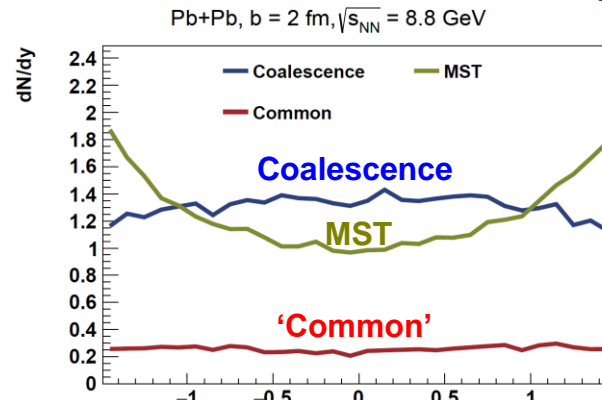
PHQMD: Comparison of the coalescence and MST for d

MST

PHQMD



time: freeze-out \rightarrow asymptotic



- ❑ At mid-rapidity only 20% of coalescence deuterons (at freeze-out) are found by MST (asymptotically)
- ❑ Rapidity and p_T distributions from MST and coalescence have a different shape \rightarrow make it possible to be distinguishable in experiments!

Kinetic mechanism for deuteron production in PHQMD



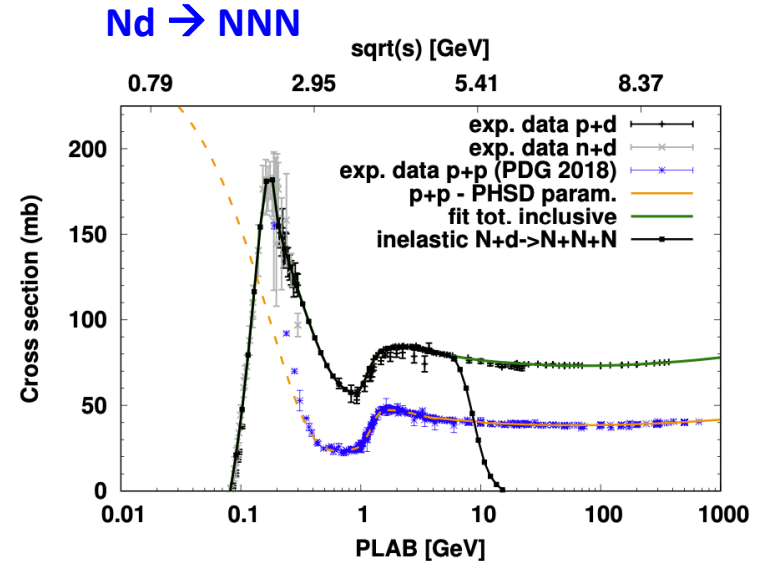
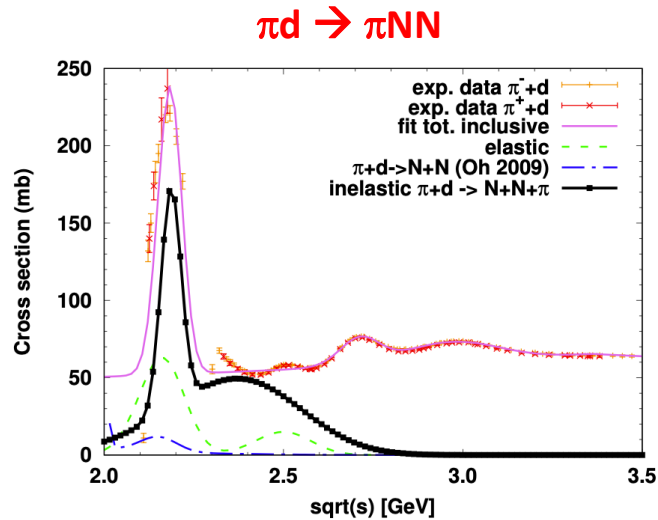
Gabriele Coci et al., in preparation

Deuteron production by hadronic reactions

“Kinetic mechanism”

- 1) hadronic inelastic reactions $NN \leftrightarrow d\pi$, $\pi NN \leftrightarrow d\pi$, $NNN \leftrightarrow dN$
- 2) hadronic elastic $\pi+d$, $N+d$ reactions

Hadronic reactions for $d+\pi$ and $d+N$ scattering have very large cross sections $\sigma_{\text{peak}} \approx 200$ mb



the rates for the inverse processes $pNN \rightarrow pd$, $NNN \rightarrow dN$ in hadronic matter are large due to the time-reversal symmetry

* Kinetic production by inverse reaction $N + p + n \rightarrow N + d$ first studied in HICs at $E_{\text{Lab}} \sim 1$ AGeV by P.J. Siemens, J. Kapusta PRL 43 (1979) 1486

Models for deuteron production by hadronic reactions

- SMASH, AMPT: Inverse reactions $X+N+N \rightarrow X+d$ ($X=\pi, N$ with X catalyzer)

important for d formation in HICs

- at RHIC and LHC energies: large π abundance
 - \rightarrow deuterons form by π -catalysis: $\pi+p+n \rightarrow \pi+d$
- at SIS energies: large N abundance
 - \rightarrow deuterons form by N -catalysis: $N+p+n \rightarrow N+d$

- SMASH (hydro + kinetic): $\pi NN \leftrightarrow d\pi$, $NNN \leftrightarrow dN$ are realized

- via fictitious dibaryon resonance d' as two-step processes of $N+N \rightarrow d'$ and $\pi + d' \rightarrow \pi + d$

D. Oliinychenko PRC 99 (2019) 4, 044907

- via $3 \leftrightarrow 2$ transition rates

J. Staudenmaier et al., PRC 104 (2021) 3, 034908

- AMPT: $\pi NN \leftrightarrow d\pi$ via impulse approximation:

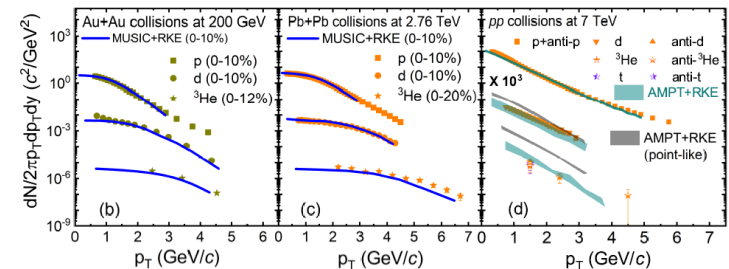
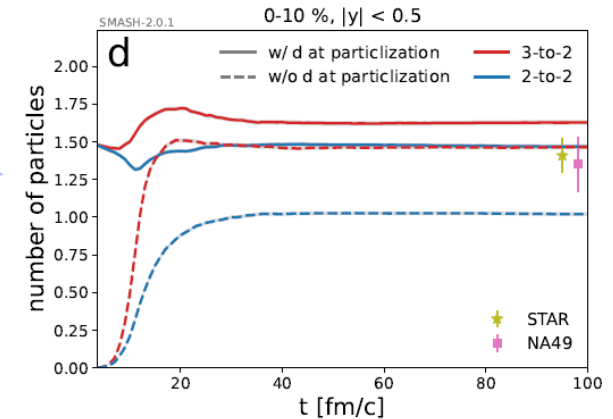
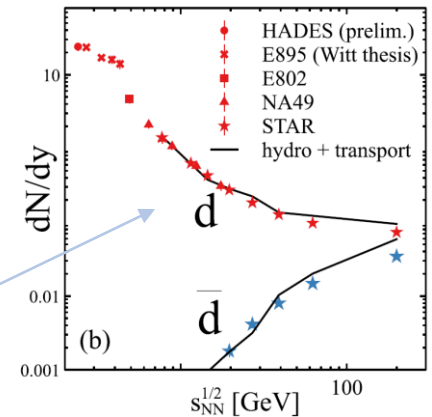
$$\mathcal{M}_{\pi d \rightarrow \pi NN} \rightarrow \langle \tilde{p}_N | \phi_d \rangle \mathcal{M}_{\pi N \rightarrow \pi N}$$

+ accounting of the finite size of deuterons via Wigner function

$$|\phi_d(\tilde{\mathbf{p}})|^2 = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \gamma_d W_d = (4\pi\sigma_d^2)^{3/2} e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{p}}^2\sigma_d^2}$$

leads to the suppression of d production in pp

K.-J. Sun, R. Wang, C.-M. Ko et al., 2106.12742



Collision Integral: covariant rate formalism

- Covariant collision rate for deuteron production for 3→2 reactions is the number of reactions in the covariant volume $d^4x = dt \cdot dV$:

$$\frac{dN_{coll}[3 + 4 + 5 \rightarrow 1(d) + 2]}{dt dV} = \int \left(\prod_{k=3}^5 \frac{d^3 p_k}{(2\pi)^3 2E_k} f_k(x, p_k) \right) \times \int \frac{d^3 p_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \int \frac{d^3 p_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2} W_{3,2}(p_3, p_4, p_5; p_1, p_2) (2\pi)^4 \delta(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4 - p_5)$$

W. Cassing, NPA 700 (2002) 618
 E. Seifert, W. Cassing, PRC 97 (2018) 024913, (2018) 044907

PHSD: **Multi-meson fusion** reactions
 $m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n \leftrightarrow B + Bbar$
 $m = \pi, \rho, \omega, \dots$ $B = p, \Lambda, \Sigma, \Xi, \Omega$, (>2000 channels)

- Using the assumption that the **transition amplitude** depends only on invariant energy : $W(\sqrt{s})$ and using a **detailed balance**, the covariant collision rate can be expressed in terms of the reaction probability $P_{2,3}$ which is proportional to 2→3 total cross sections
 With **test particle ansatz** the transition rate for 3→2 reactions in cells of volume ΔV_{cell} is:

$$\frac{\Delta N_{coll}[3 + 4 + 5 \rightarrow 1(d) + 2]}{\Delta N_3 \Delta N_4 \Delta N_5} = P_{3,2}(\sqrt{s})$$

Energy and momentum of final particles

2,3-body phase space integrals [Byckling, Kajantie]

$$P_{3,2}(\sqrt{s}) = F_{spin} F_{iso} P_{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) \frac{E_1^f E_2^f}{2E_3 E_4 E_5} \frac{R_2(\sqrt{s}, m_1, m_2)}{R_3(\sqrt{s}, m_3, m_4, m_5)} \frac{1}{\Delta V_{cell}}$$

$$P_{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) = \sigma_{tot}^{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) v_{rel} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta V_{cell}}$$

Reaction probability 2→3 ~ total cross sections for 2→3 reaction

PHQMD: deuteron reactions in the box

$\pi+p+n \leftrightarrow d+\pi$, $p+n+N \leftrightarrow d+N$, $N+N \leftrightarrow d+\pi$, $d+X$ elastic

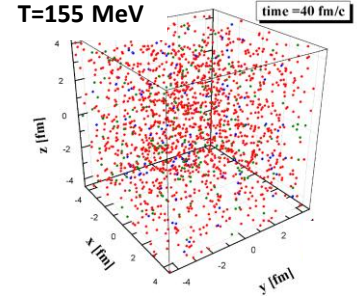
- $2 \rightarrow 2$ and $2 \rightarrow 3$ either by **geometric criterium** or **stochastic method**

Kodama et al. Phys. Rev. C 29 (1984)

W. Cassing NPA 700 (2002) 618

$$d_T < \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{tot}^{2,3}(\sqrt{s})}{\pi}}$$

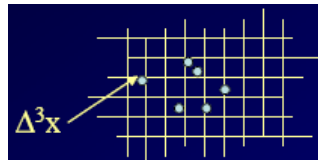
$$P_{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) = \sigma_{tot}^{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) v_{rel} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta V_{cell}}$$



- $3 \rightarrow 2$ realized via covariant rate formalism by **stochastic method**

W. Cassing NPA 700 (2002) 618

- Numerically tested in "static" box



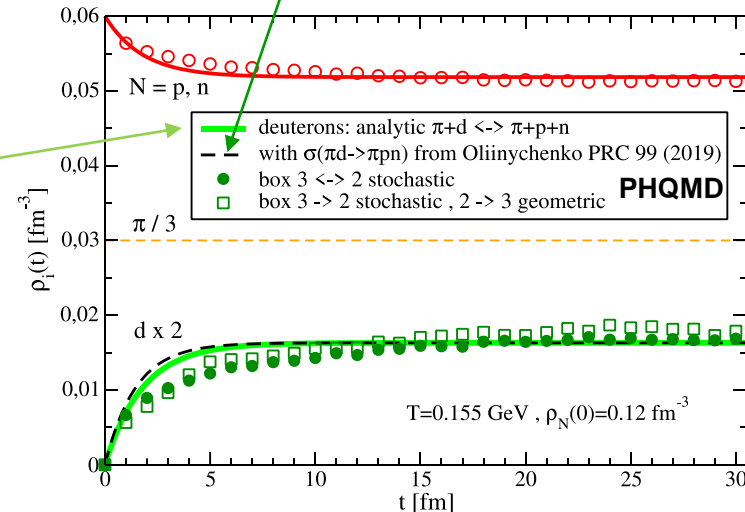
- PHQMD provides a good agreement with **analytic solutions** from rate equations

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda}_d = \sum \langle v_{rel} \sigma_{\pi d} \rangle \left(\frac{g_d g_\pi}{g_N^2 g_\pi} \lambda_N^2 - \lambda_d \right) n_\pi^{eq} \lambda_\pi \\ \dot{\lambda}_N = - \sum \langle v_{rel} \sigma_{\pi d} \rangle \left(\frac{g_d g_\pi}{g_N^2 g_\pi} \lambda_N^2 - \lambda_d \right) n_\pi^{eq} \lambda_\pi \\ \dot{\lambda}_\pi = 0 \end{cases} \quad + \text{initial conditions}$$

[Y. Pan S. Pratt, PRC 89 (2014), 044911]

Comparison to SMASH cross sections: $F_{iso} = 1$

J. Staudenmaier et al., PRC 104 (2021) 3, 034908



Density inside the box at temperature T: $\rho_i = n^{eq}(T) * \lambda_i(t)$

Isospin deuteron reactions in the box

$\pi+N+N \leftrightarrow d+\pi$, $d+N \leftrightarrow p+n+N$, $N+N \leftrightarrow d+\pi$, $d+X$ elastic

Novel aspects in PHQMD:

$N+N+\pi$ inclusion of **all possible channels** allowed by total isospin T conservation:

$$P_{3,2}(\sqrt{s}) = F_{spin} F_{iso} P_{2,3}(\sqrt{s}) \frac{E_1^f E_2^f}{2E_3 E_4 E_5} \frac{R_2(\sqrt{s}, m_1, m_2)}{R_3(\sqrt{s}, m_3, m_4, m_5)} \frac{1}{\Delta V_{cell}}$$

$\pi^{\pm,0} + p + n \leftrightarrow \pi^{\pm,0} + d$

$\pi^- + p + p \leftrightarrow \pi^0 + d$

$\pi^+ + n + n \leftrightarrow \pi^0 + d$

$\pi^0 + p + p \leftrightarrow \pi^+ + d$

$\pi^0 + n + n \leftrightarrow \pi^- + d$

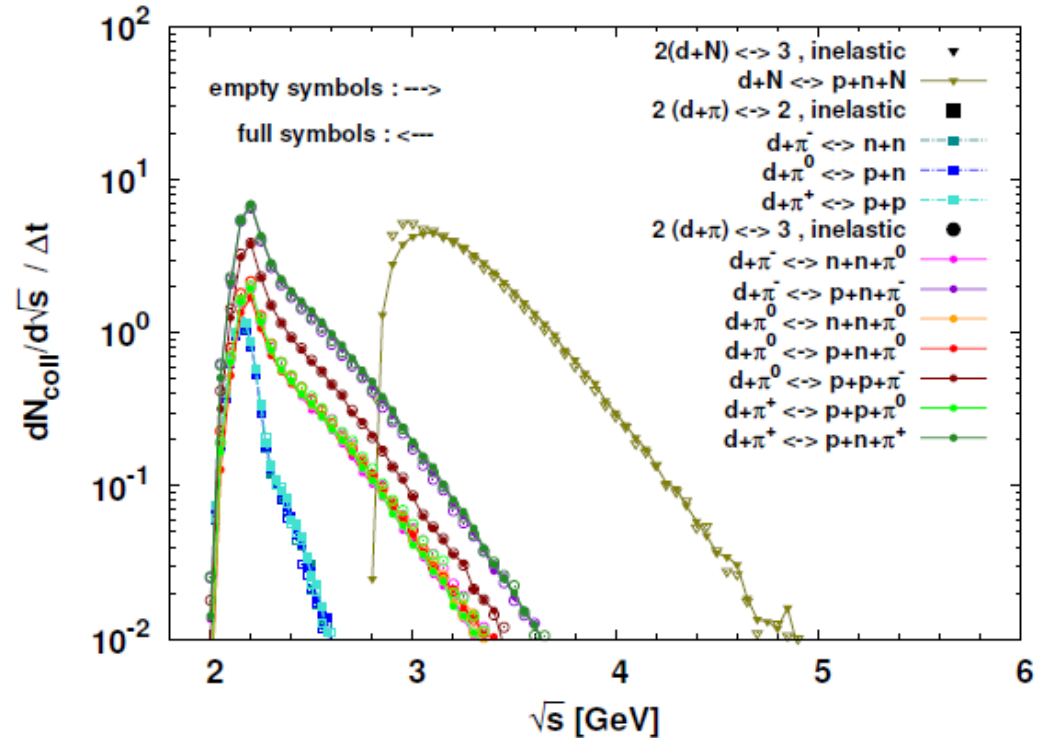
- $NN\pi$ expanded as superposition of eigenstates of total isospin T

$$|N, N, \pi\rangle = \sum_T \sum_{T_3=-T}^{-T} \langle T, T_3 | N, N, \pi \rangle |T, T_3\rangle$$

- Fourier coefficient of eigenstate of total isospin 1 (= T(d π)=T(π))

$$F_{iso} = |\langle N, N, \pi | T(d + \pi) = 1, T_3 \rangle|^2$$

➔ For the realistic description of HICs: Important to account for all possible isospin channels !

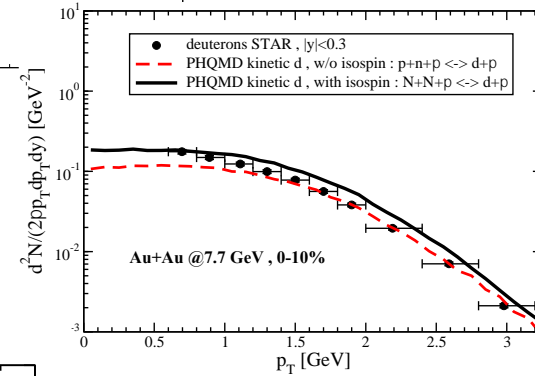
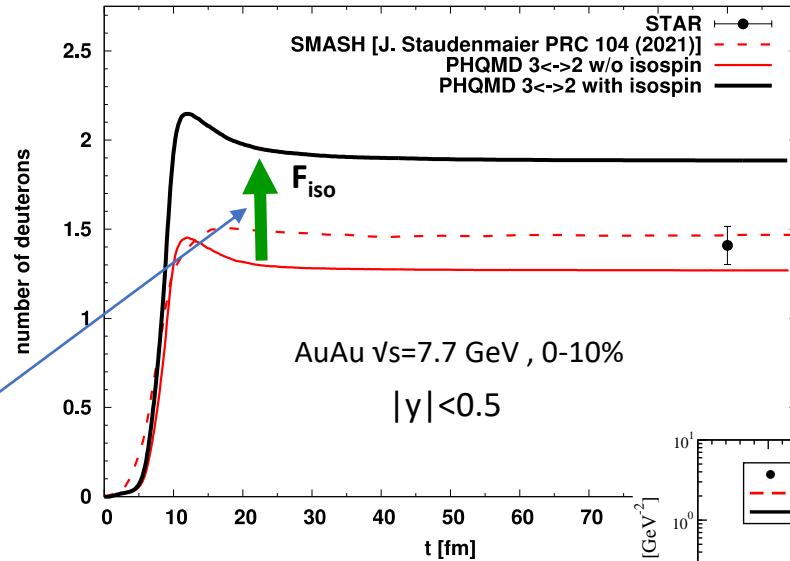


➔ Detailed balance condition fulfilled

Kinetic deuterons in PHQMD – isospin effects

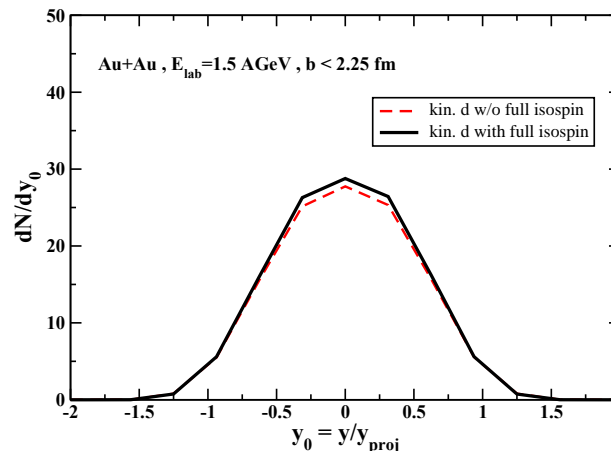
RHIC BES energy $\sqrt{s} = 7.7$ GeV:

- Hierarchy due to large π abundance
 $\pi + N + N \rightarrow \pi + d \gg N + p + n \rightarrow N + d$
- Inclusion of **all isospin channels** enhances deuteron yield $\sim 50\%$.
- p_T slope is not affected



GSI SIS energy $\sqrt{s} < 3$ GeV :

- **Baryon** dominated matter
- Enhancement due to inclusion of isospin $\pi + N + N$ channels is **negligible**



How to account for the **quantum nature of deuteron**, i.e. for

- 1) the finite-size of d in **coordinate space** (d is not a point-like particle) – for in-medium d production
- 2) the **momentum correlations** of p and n inside d

Realization 1) assume that a deuteron can not be formed in a high density region, i.e. if there are other particles (hadrons or partons) inside the ‘excluded volume’:

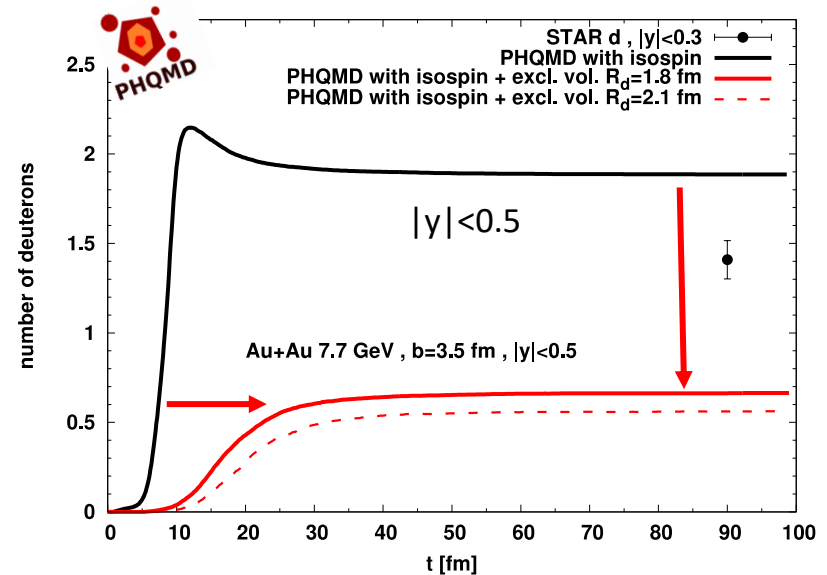
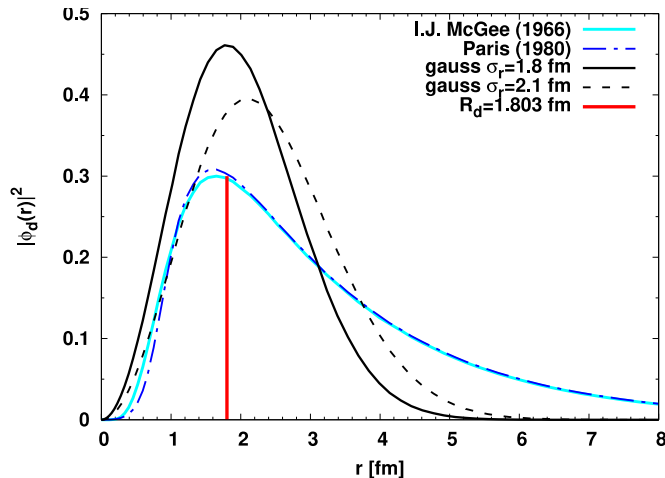
Excluded-Volume Condition:

$$|\vec{r}(i)^* - \vec{r}(d)^*| < R_d$$

“ i ” is any particle not participating in $\pi NN \rightarrow \pi d$, $NNN \rightarrow Nd$, $NN \rightarrow d\pi$
 $*$ means that positions are in the cms of pre-calculated “candidate” deuteron

The exclusion parameter R_d is tuned to the physical radius

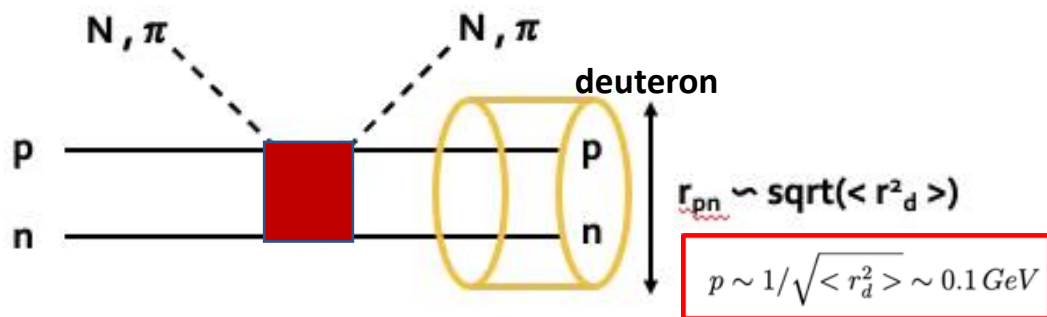
$$\langle r_d^2 \rangle = \int_0^\infty r^2 |\phi_d(r)|^2 dr \sim (1.8 \text{ fm})^2$$



- Strong reduction of d production!
- p_T slope is not affected by excluded volume condition

2) QM properties of deuteron must be also in momentum space

→ **momentum correlations of pn-pair**

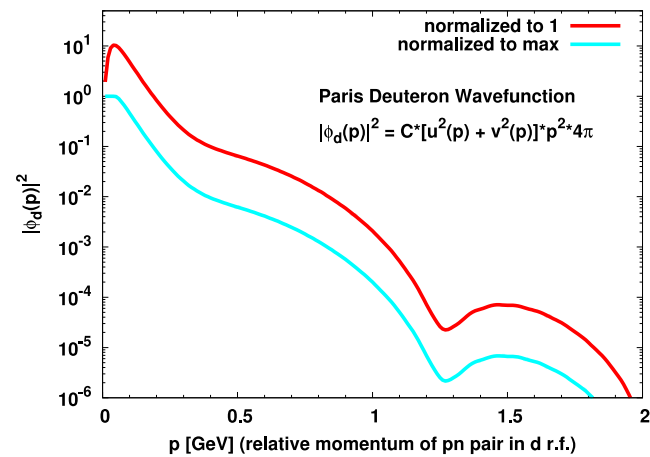


IA: [Haidelbauer, Uzikov PLB 562(2003)]

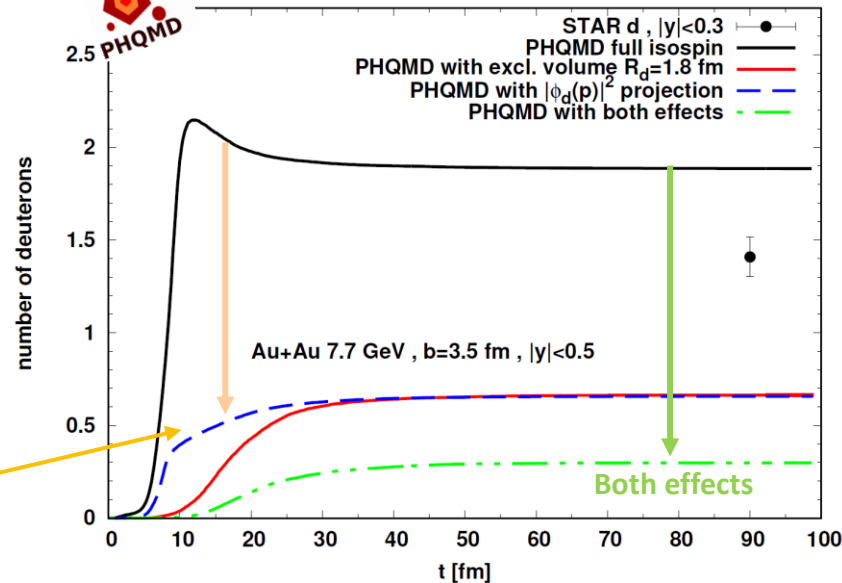
[Hoftiezer et al. PRC23 (1981)]

Same spirit - IA in AMPT [K.-J. Sun, R. Wang, C.-M. Ko et al., 2106.12742]

- For a “candidate” deuteron calculate the relative momentum p of the interacting pn-pair in the deuteron rest frame
- The probability of the pn-pair to bind into a final deuteron with momentum p is given by the DWF $|\phi_d(p)|^2$
- Bound pn-pairs are selected by projection on DWF $|\phi_d(p)|^2$



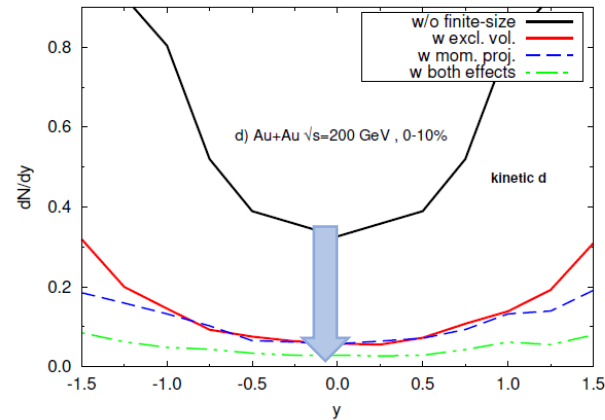
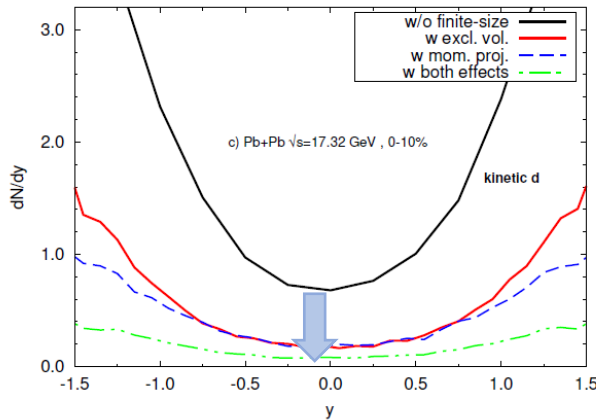
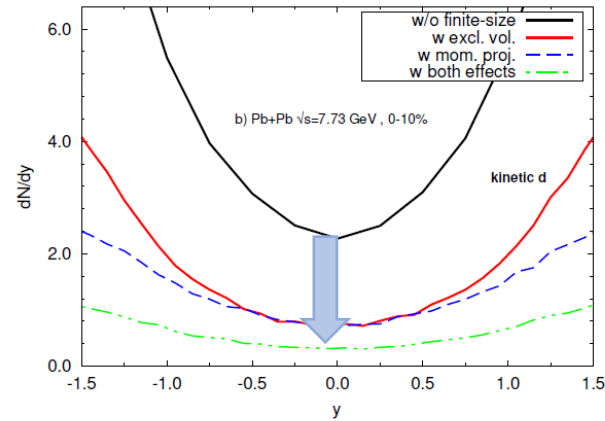
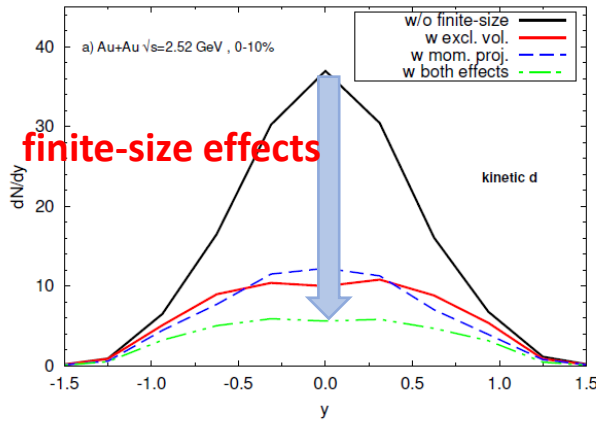
[Lacombe et al. PL (1981)]



□ **Strong reduction** of d production by projection on DWF $|\phi_d(p)|^2$

Kinetic vs. potential deuteron production

Total deuteron production = Kinetic mechanism with finite-size effects
 + MST (with stabilization) identification of deuterons (“stable” bound ($E_B < 0$) $A=2, Z=1$ clusters)



- Kinetic deuterons: **finite-size effects** (momentum projection + excluded volume) lead to a **strong suppression** of deuteron production at all energies
- Shape of y -distribution is different for different mechanisms of d production!

Kinetic vs. potential deuteron production

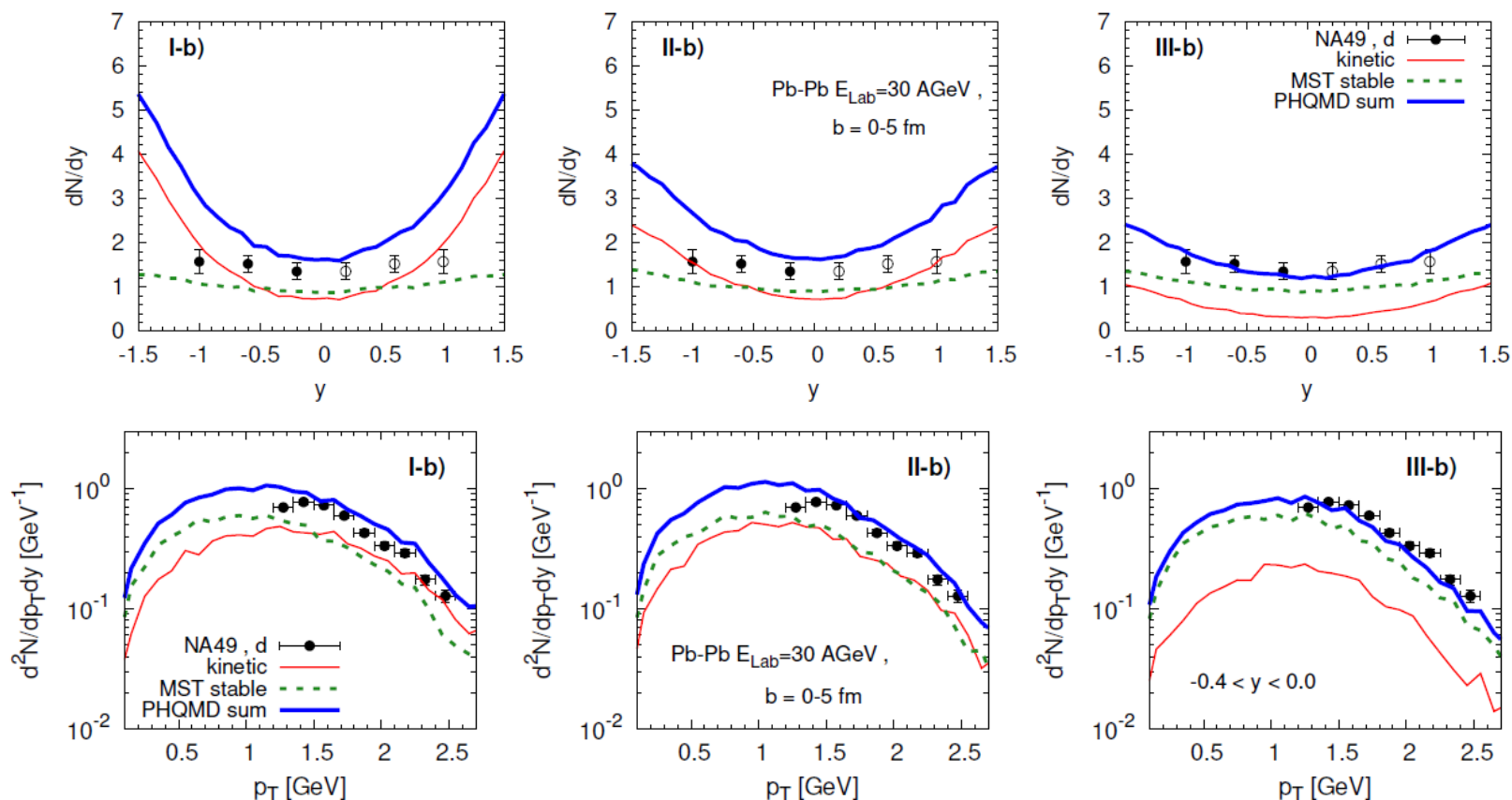
Total deuteron production = **Kinetic mechanism with finite-size effects**
 + **MST (with stabilization)** identification of deuterons ("stable" bound ($E_B < 0$) $A=2, Z=1$ clusters)

Finite-size effects for kinetic deuterons:

1) excluded-volume

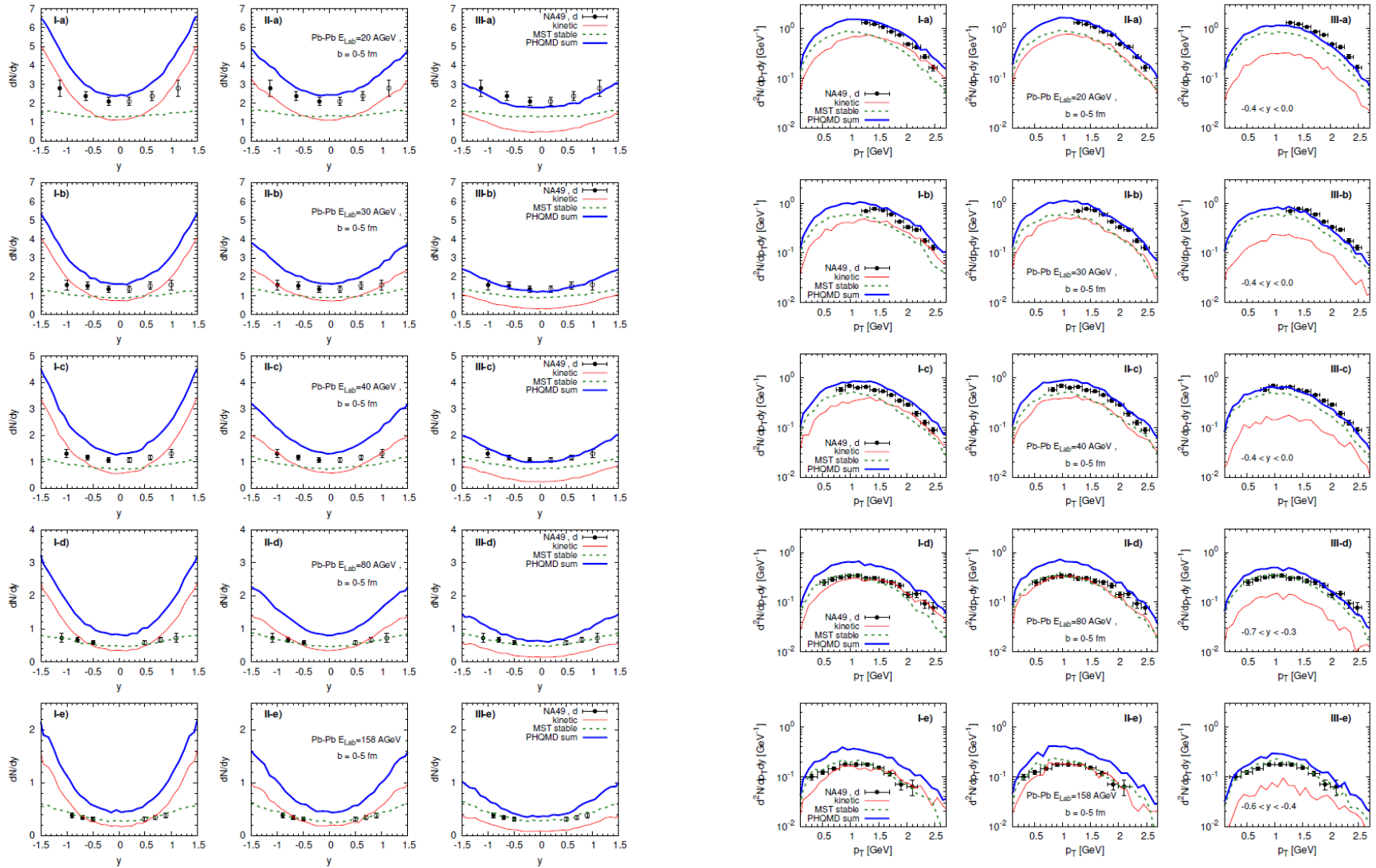
2) Momentum projection

3) both effects



- Good description of **mid-rapidity** NA49 data [PRC 94 (2016) 04490699]

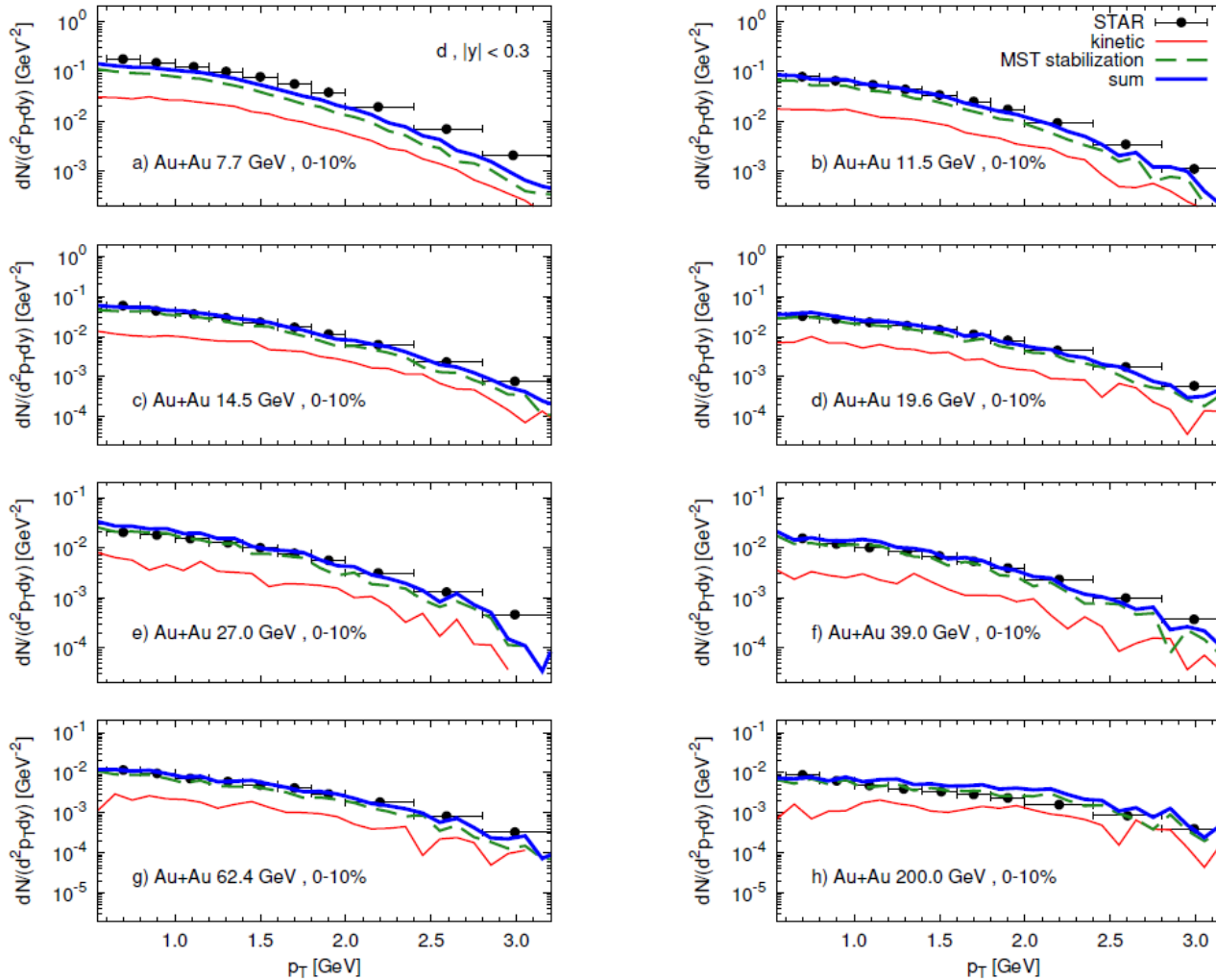
Kinetic vs. potential deuteron production



**Total deuteron production = Kinetic mechanism with finite-size effects
+ MST (with stabilization) identification of deuterons ("stable" bound ($E_B < 0$) $A=2$, $Z=1$ clusters)**

Kinetic vs. potential deuteron production

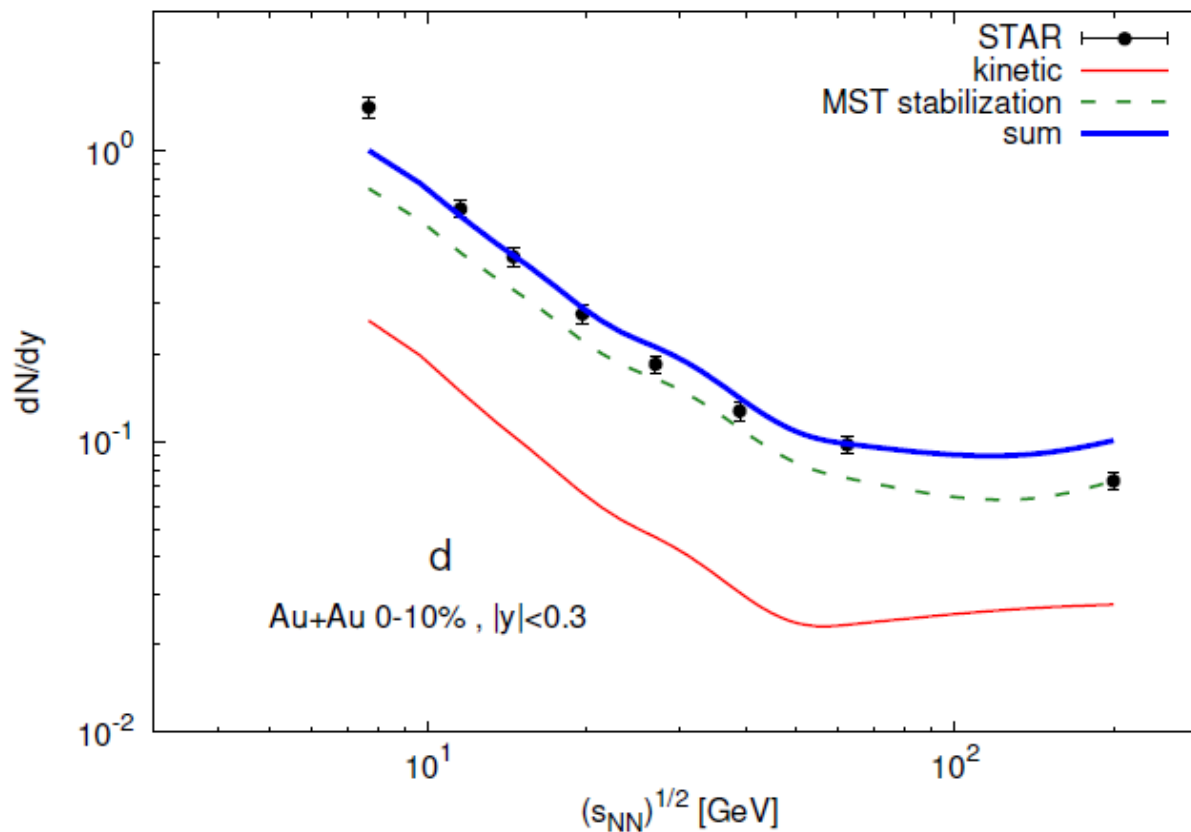
Total d = Kinetic mechanism with finite-size effects + MST (with stabilization) identification of d



➔ Good description of **mid-rapidity** STAR data [PRC 99, (2019)]

Kinetic vs. potential deuteron production

Excitation function dN/dy of deuterons at midrapidity



- PHQMD provides a good description of STAR data on d yield at midrapidity
- **The potential mechanism is dominant for d production at all energies!**

Summary

- ❑ The **PHQMD** is a **microscopic n-body transport approach** for the description of heavy-ion dynamics and cluster and hypernuclei formation

combined model **PHQMD** = (PHSD & QMD) & (MST | SACA)

- ❑ Clusters are formed dynamically by **potential interactions** among nucleons and hyperons and identified by **Minimum Spanning Tree** model
- ❑ **Kinetic mechanism** for deuteron production is implemented in the PHQMD with inclusion of **full isospin** decomposition for hadronic reactions which enhances d production
- ❑ However, accounting for the **quantum properties of the deuteron**, modelled by the finite-size excluded volume effect in coordinate space and projection of relative momentum of the interacting pair of nucleons on the deuteron wave-function in momentum space, leads to a **strong reduction** of d production, especially at target/projectile rapidities
- ❑ The PHQMD reproduces cluster and hypernuclei data on dN/dy and dN/dp_T as well as **ratios d/p** and \bar{d}/\bar{p} for heavy-ion collisions from AGS to top RHIC energies (cf. talk by Susanne Glässel)

A detailed analysis reveals that stable **clusters are formed**

- shortly after elastic and inelastic collisions have ceased
- behind the front of the expanding energetic hadrons
- **since the 'fire' is not at the same place as the 'ice', cluster can survive**
- ❑ PHQMD and UrQMD give very similar **coalescence and MST distributions of deuterons**
- ❑ Shape of y - and p_T - distributions depends on a **production mechanism** → possibility to distinguish between **production mechanisms experimentally!**

Thank you for your attention !

Thanks to the Organizers !



<https://phqmd.gitlab.io/>
(under construction)