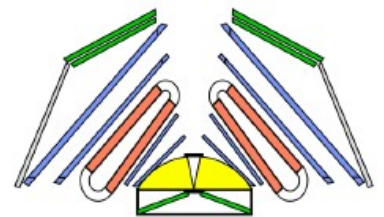


Photon HBT

AND THE

Prophecy of 2 dimensions

$Ag + Ag 1.58 A GeV$



HADES

Mateusz Grunwald



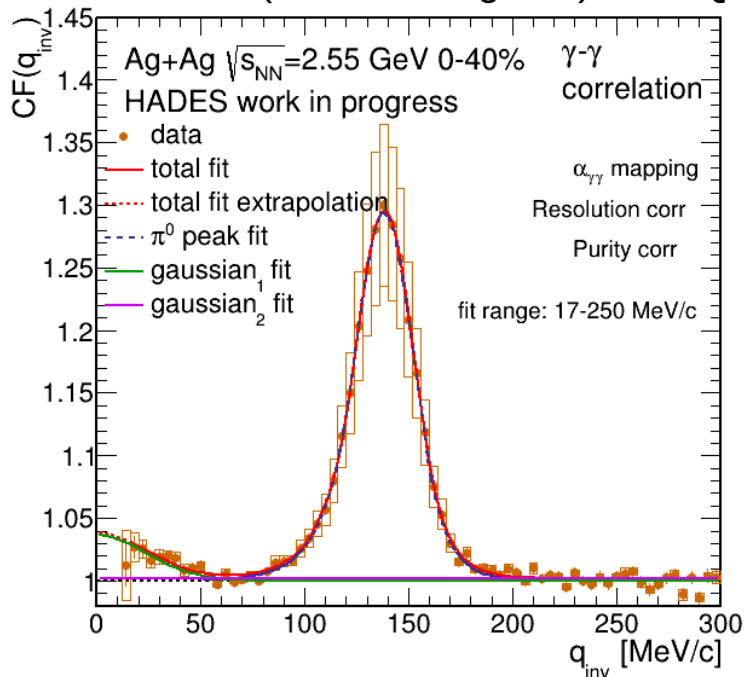
Faculty
of Physics

WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

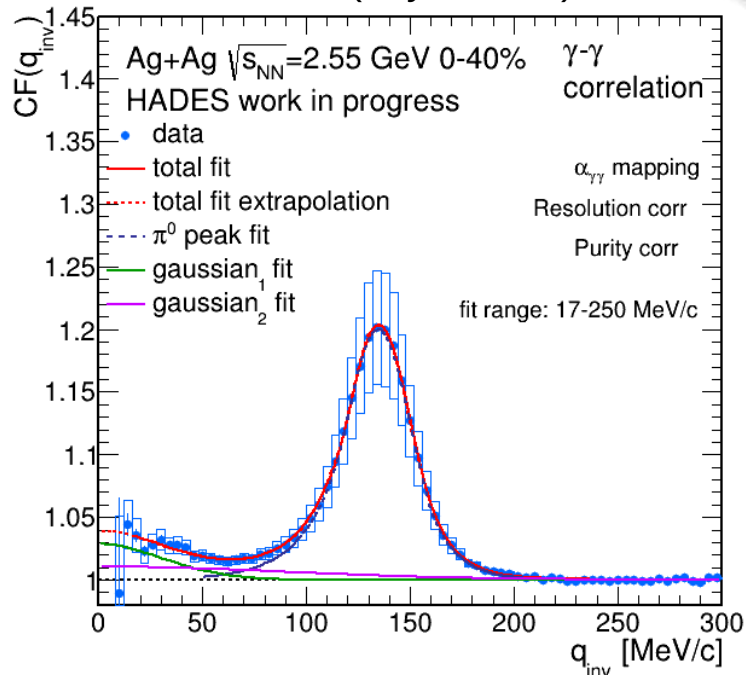
Warsaw University
of Technology

Recap from (second to) last CM – γ - γ CFs fits

Simulations (SMASH+ Hgeant) = **no QS**



Data (days 74-80)



$$CF(q_{inv}) = 1 + \lambda_1 \exp(-q_{inv}^2 R_1^2) + \lambda_2 \exp(-q_{inv}^2 R_2^2) + f_{\pi^0}(q_{inv}, \mu_{\pi^0}, \sigma_{\pi^0}, k_L, k_H)$$

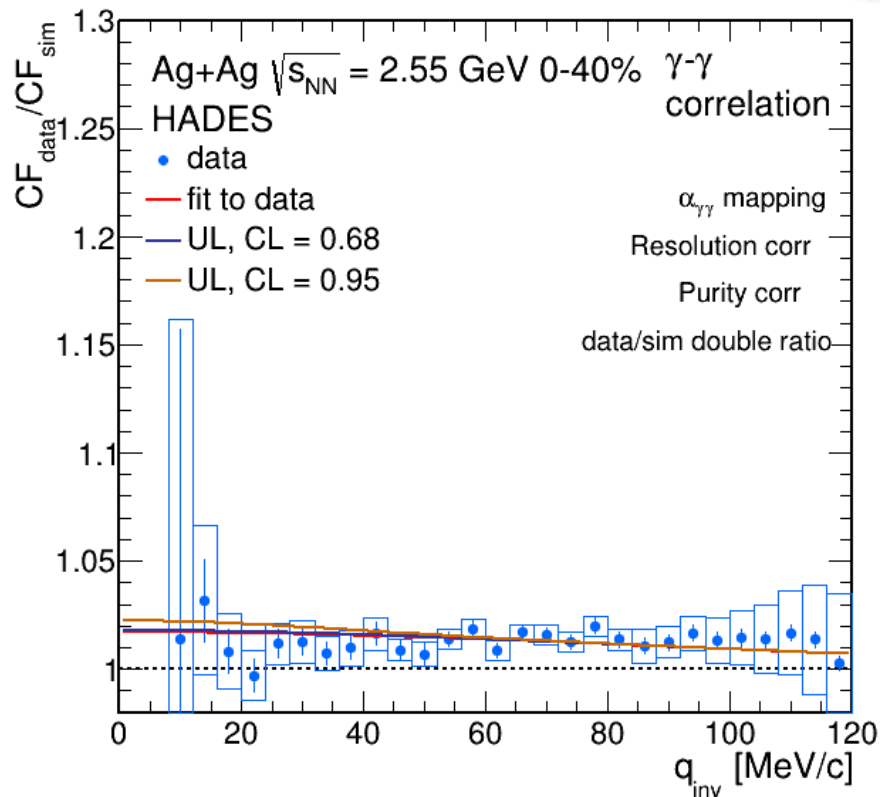
Systematics calculated with Barlow Test

Recap from last CM – upper limits



fit range: (17;100) [MeV/c]
 k pseudo-experiments: 100000
 $R_1 = 4.59$ [fm]
 $R_2 = 1.55$ [fm] ; $\lambda_2 \cdot 10^{-2} = 1.71$

	Fit to data	1σ (CL=0.68) upper limit	2σ (CL=0.95) upper limit
χ^2 (fit)	33.13	34.47	43.60
NDF	19	21 (all par fixed)	21 (all par fixed)
χ^2 /NDF	1.74	1.64	2.08
$\lambda_1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0 +/- 0.06	0.08	0.53
$\Delta\chi^2$	-	1.34269	10.4759
$\Delta\chi^2_{\text{crit}}$	-	1.34494	10.4935



Recap from last CM – analysis summary



- The analysis is complete – we do not see any significant direct photon related signal
- The F-C method was utilized to get an upper limit on direct photon correlation strength (λ_1), being $\approx 8 \cdot 10^{-4}$ for CL=0.68 and $\approx 5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ for CL=0.95.
- The paper is almost done

Eur. Phys. J. C manuscript No.
(will be inserted by the editor)

Study of two-photon femtoscopic correlations in Ag+Ag collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV with HADES

HADES collaboration

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Received: date / Accepted: date

Recap for

Summary

- The analysis is complete and significant direct photon correlations
- The F-C method was used on direct photon correlations $8 \cdot 10^{-4}$ for $CL=0.68$ and
- The paper is almost done



Me, finishing the analysis

One-, two-, and three-dimensional photon femtoscopy

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²Physikalisches Institut, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

(Dated: February 13, 2026)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.12184>

* joking aside, I'm happy he wrote to me about that paper

correlations in Ag+Ag collisions at

¹, M. Becker¹², A. Belounnas¹⁴,
I. Ciepał⁴, J. Dreyer⁷,
Tsch¹⁸, P. Fonte²⁰, J. Friese¹¹,
Jrunwald¹⁷, M. Gumberidze⁶,
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116 Prague, Czech Republic
1 Republic

Why 2D correlation?

gle α . The invariant momentum difference Q_{inv} coincides with the invariant mass and is equal to

$$Q_{\text{inv}} = \sqrt{2 p_1 p_2 (1 - \cos \alpha)} \quad (3)$$

$$= 2 \sqrt{p_1 p_2} \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} . \quad (4)$$

In the limits of collinear and back-to-back pairs it becomes

$$Q_{\text{inv}} = \begin{cases} \sqrt{p_1 p_2} \alpha , & \text{for } \alpha \rightarrow 0 , \\ 2 \sqrt{p_1 p_2} = 2p , & \text{for } \alpha \rightarrow \pi . \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

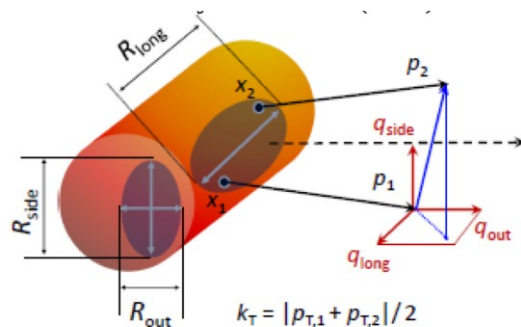
As one can see, Q_{inv} is not directly sensitive to the energy difference between the two photons. For pairs of massive identical particles a vanishing Q_{inv} implies $\mathbf{p}_1 = \mathbf{p}_2$. For photons it does not. Q_{inv} mostly reflects q_{side} and q_{long} and is only weakly related to q_{out} . This means that the Bose-Einstein peak, which sits at $q_{\text{out}} = q_{\text{side}} = q_{\text{long}} = 0$, in $C(Q_{\text{inv}})$ is diluted by uncorrelated pairs with large q_{out} . This deficiency of $C(Q_{\text{inv}})$ has been noticed (Refs. [15-17, 19, 20]; see also Eq. (38) in Ref. [1]) and the resulting reduction of the peak amplitude λ was estimated and corrected for by performing a simulation accounting for the detector acceptance, the shape of the photon spectrum, and the assumed R_{out} [20].

Preserving the full height of the BE peak and at the same time keeping the π^0 peak narrow is possible in a two-dimensional analysis

$$C(\Delta E, Q_{\text{inv}}) . \quad (6)$$

Why 2D correlation?

long - determined by the beam direction
out - determined by the pair trans. momentum
side - perpendicular to *long* and *side*



Our representation (6) is closely related to

$$C(q_{out}, \sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2}). \quad (8)$$

The resulting relation between the $(\Delta E, Q_{inv})$ coordinates and $(q_{out}, \sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2})$ in LCMS is shown in Fig. 1. In the region below 0.1 GeV/c, where the Bose-Einstein peak is expected to be located for direct photons from heavy-ion collisions, the two sets of variables are very close to each other.

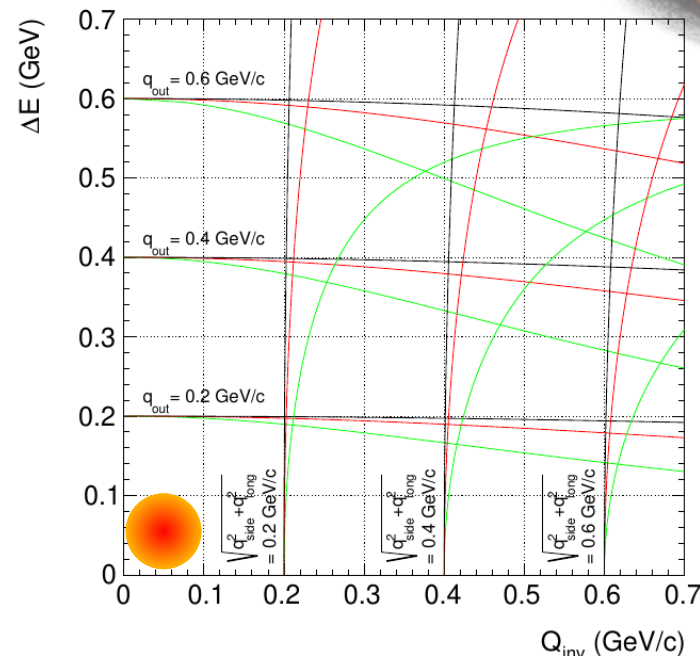


FIG. 1. Mapping of $(q_{out}, \sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2})$ on the $(\Delta E, Q_{inv})$ plane in LCMS. Lines of constant q_{out} and those of constant $\sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2}$ are shown in green, red, and black for the pair momentum K of 0.3, 0.6, and 1.2 GeV/c, respectively. In the region below 0.1 GeV/c, where the Bose-Einstein peak is expected to be located for direct photons from heavy-ion collisions, the two representations are very close to each other.

Why 2D correlation?

long - determined by the beam direction
out - determined by the pair trans. momentum
side - perpendicular to *long* and *side*

Seems fairly easy to check if we can even attempt this (just add extra dimension to the CF), so let's check it!

Our representation (6) is closely related to

$$C(q_{out}, \sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2}). \quad (8)$$

The resulting relation between the $(\Delta E, Q_{inv})$ coordinates and $(q_{out}, \sqrt{q_{side}^2 + q_{long}^2})$ in LCMS is shown in Fig. 1. In the region below 0.1 GeV/c, where the Bose-Einstein peak is expected to be located for direct photons from heavy-ion collisions, the two sets of variables are very close to each other.

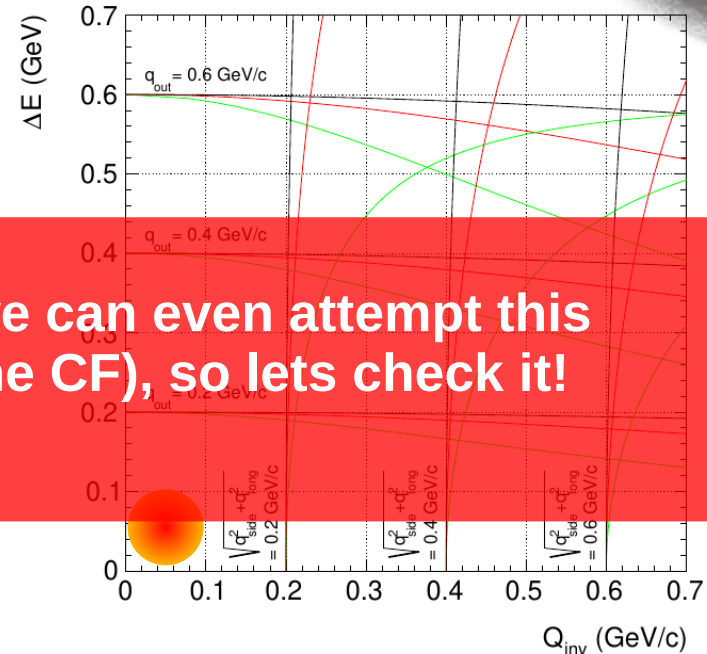
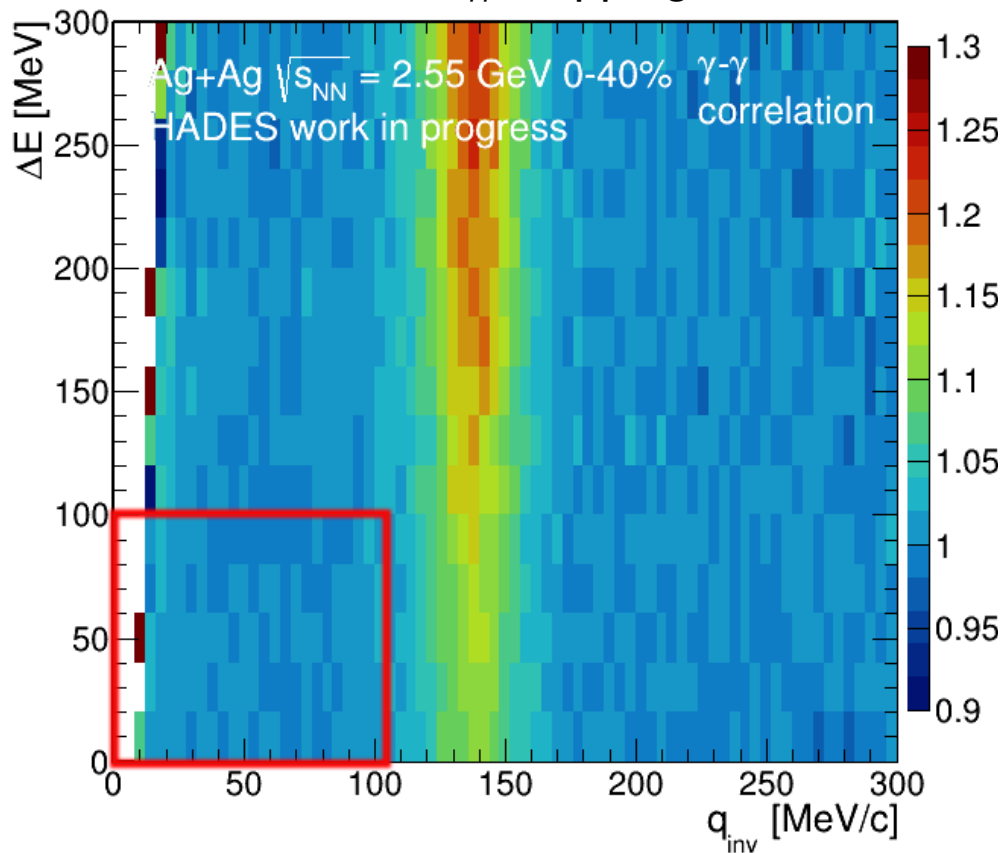


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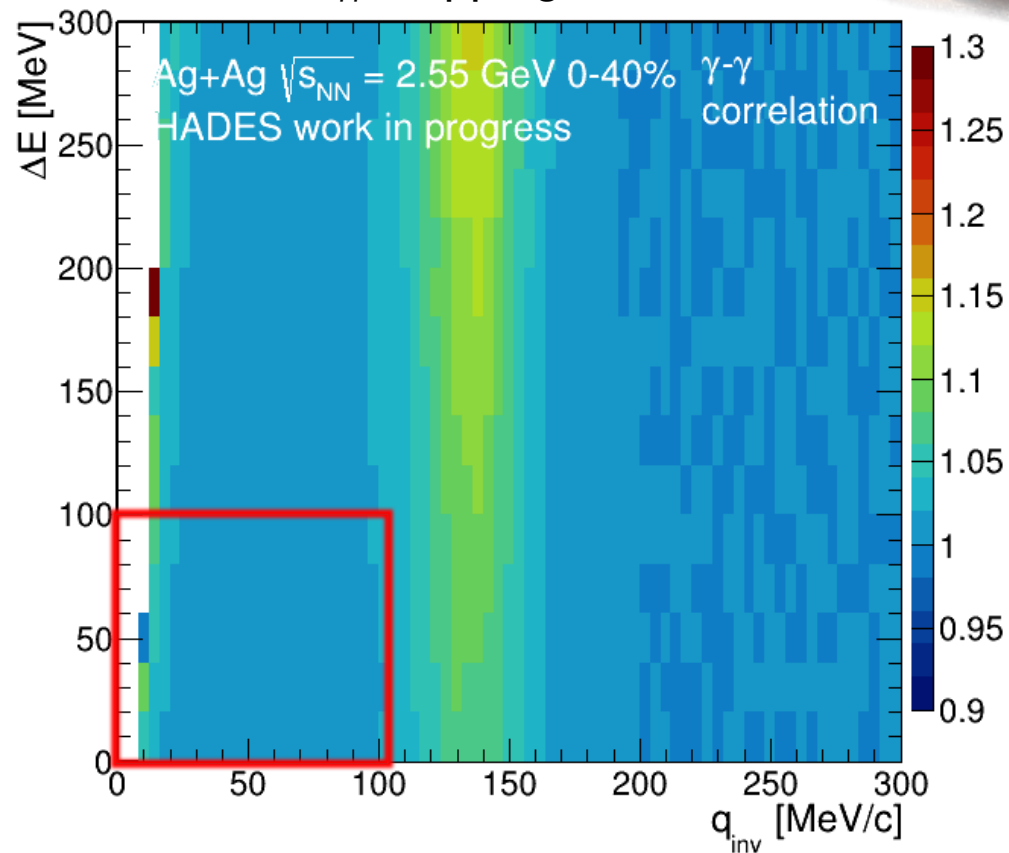
2D correlation attempt



Simulations, $\alpha_{\gamma\gamma}$ mapping



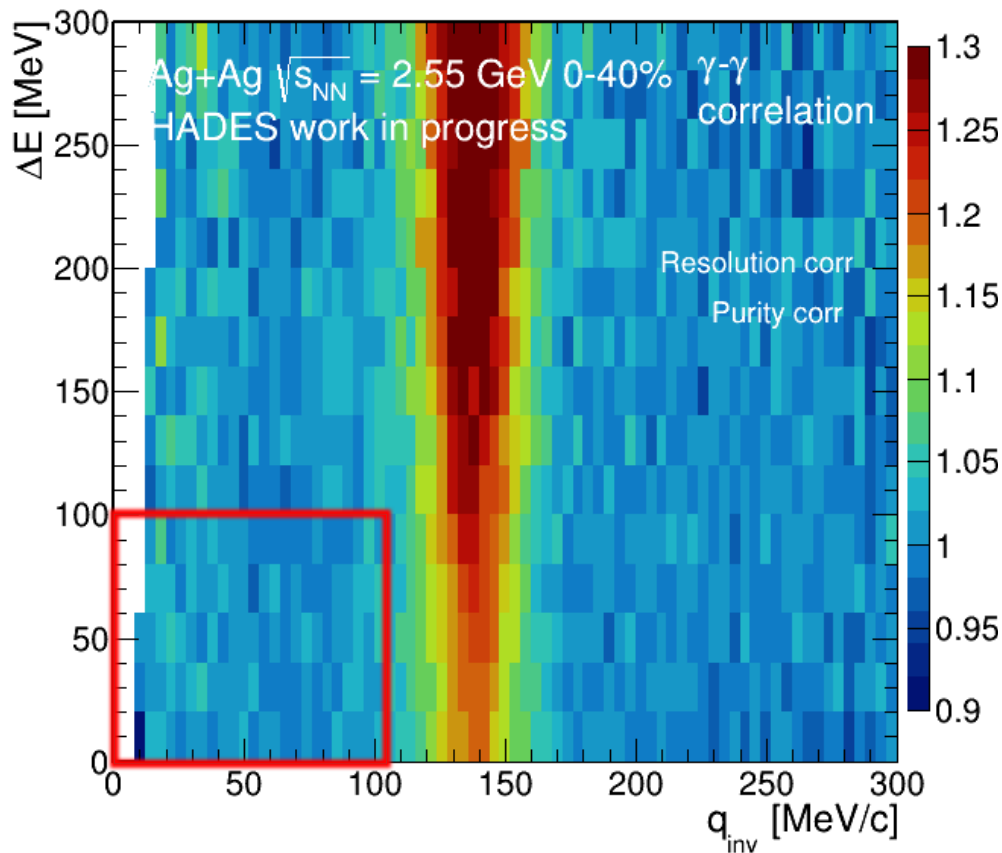
Data, $\alpha_{\gamma\gamma}$ mapping



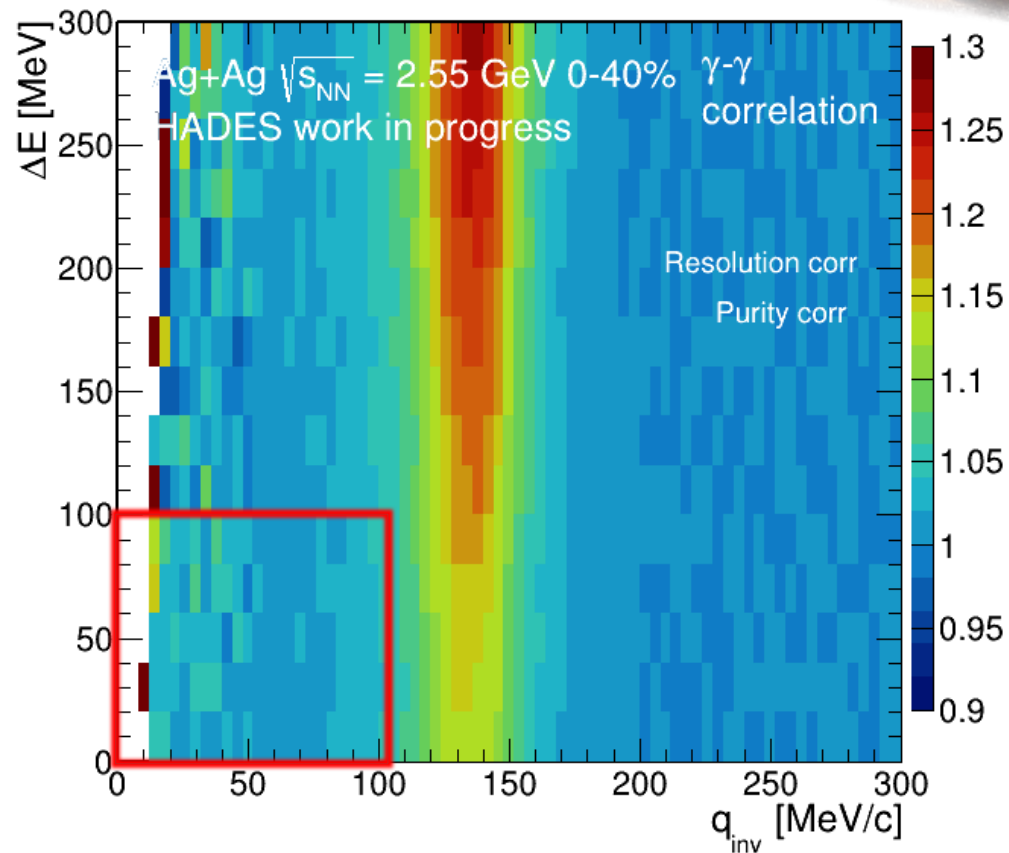
2D correlation attempt



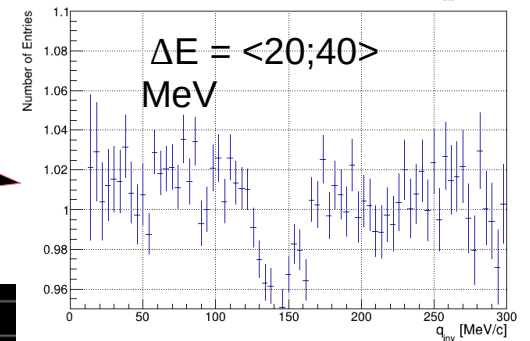
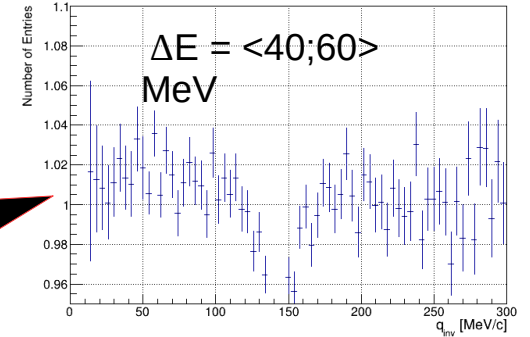
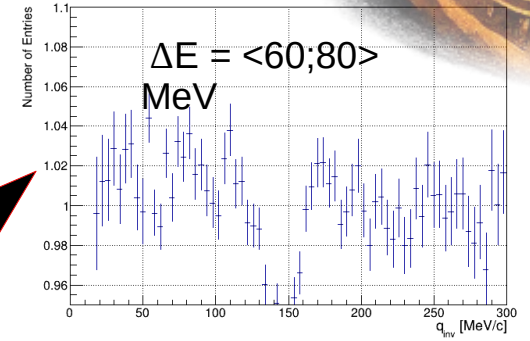
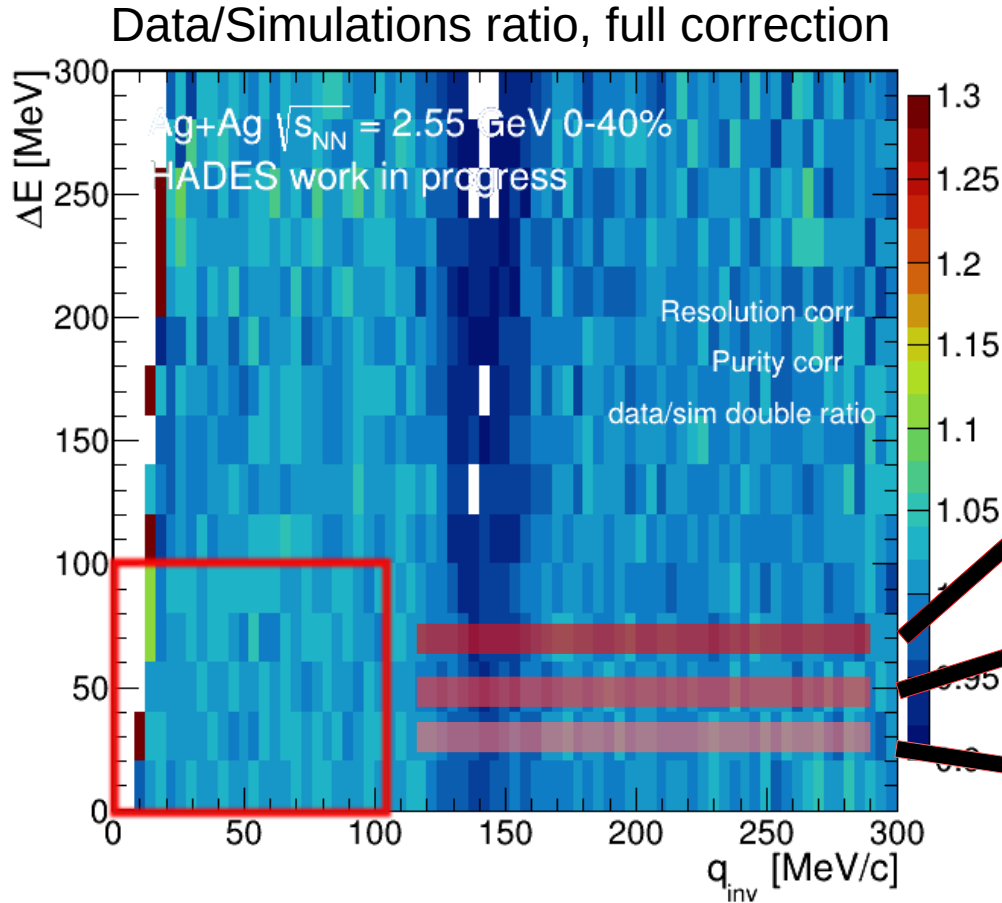
Simulations, full correction



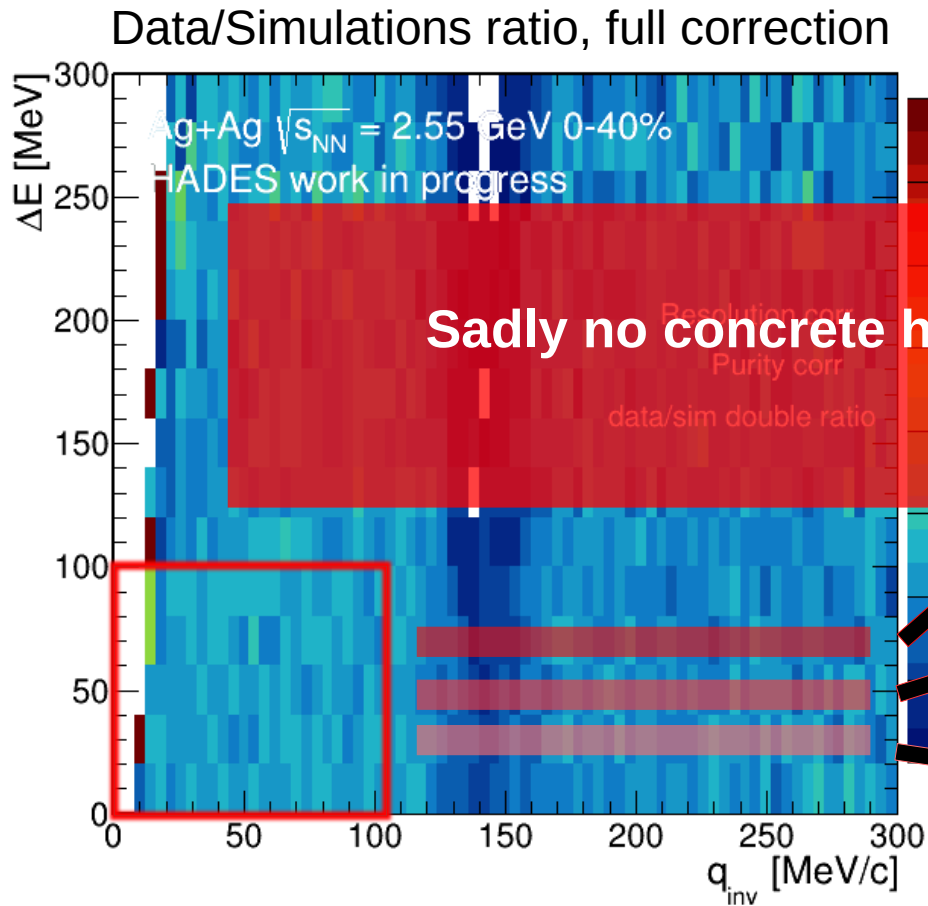
Data, full correction



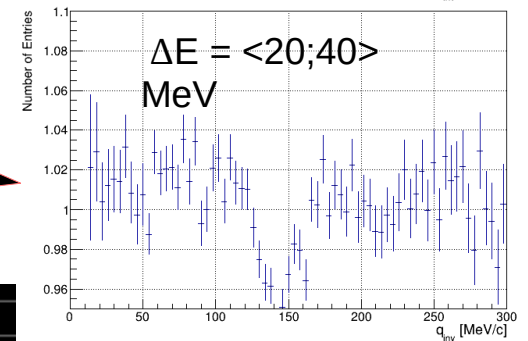
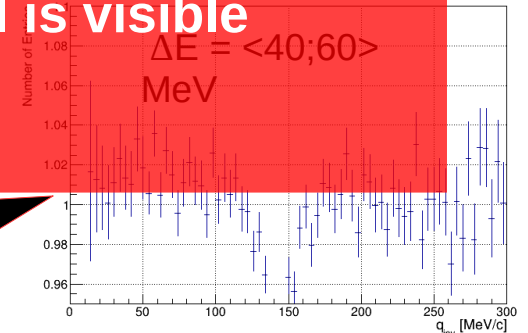
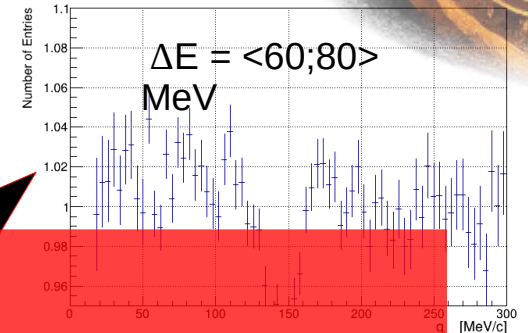
2D correlation attempt



2D correlation attempt



Sadly no concrete hint of direct γ signal is visible



Summary

Eur. Phys. J. C manuscript No.
(will be inserted by the editor)

- The 2D correlations were attempted, to check if we have a “diluted peak” case
- We don’t (or at the very least we cannot see anything more using 2D correlations)
- The paper is almost done (finalizing the discussion with internal referees)

Study of two-photon femtosopic correlations in Ag+Ag collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.55$ GeV with HADES

HADES collaboration

R. Abou Yassine^{7,14}, J. Adamczewski-Musch⁶, C. Asa⁹, M. Becker¹², A. Belounnas¹⁴, A. Blanco², C. Blume^{9,6,*}, L. Chlad^{15,*}, P. Chudoba⁴, I. Ciepa¹, J. Dreyer¹, W.A. Esmail⁶, L. Fabbietti¹¹, H. Floersheimer¹, J. Förtsch¹⁸, P. Fonte^{2,6}, J. Friese¹¹, I. Fröhlich¹, T. Galatyuk^{2,6,*}, R. Greifehagen^{8,4}, M. Grunwald¹⁷, M. Gumberidze⁶, S. Harabasz^{7,14}, T. Heinz², C. Höhne^{12,6}, F. Hojiej¹⁴, R. Holzmann⁶, H. Huck³, M. Idzik³, B. Kämpfer^{8,4}, K.-H. Kampert¹⁸, B. Kardan^{9,*}, V. Kedych¹, S. Kim¹⁸, I. Koenig⁶, W. Koenig⁶, M. Kohl^{9,*}, J. Kolas¹⁷, G. Kornakov¹⁷, R. Kotte⁸, I. Kres¹⁸, W. Krueger², A. Kugler¹⁵, R. Lalik³, S. Lebedev⁶, S. Linev⁶, E. Líz⁶, L. Lopes¹, M. Lorenz^{9,6}, A. Malige³, J. Markert⁶, T. Matulewicz¹⁶, S. Maurus¹¹, V. Metz¹², J. Michel⁹, A. Molenda³, C. Miintz⁹, M. Nabroth⁹, L. Naumann³, K. Nowakowski³, A. Opichal^{15,13}, J. Orliński¹⁶, J.-H. Otto¹², M. Parschau¹, C. Pauly¹⁸, D. Pawłowska-Szymanska¹⁷, V. Pechenov⁶, O. Pechenova⁴, D. Pfeifer¹⁸, K. Piasecki¹⁶, J. Pietraszko⁶, T. Povar¹⁸, K. Prościński¹⁰, A. Prozorov^{15,7}, W. Przygoda³, K. Pysz², B. Ramstein¹⁴, N. Rathod¹⁷, J. Ritman^{6,4}, A. Rost¹⁶, A. Rustamov⁶, P. Salabura³, J. Saraiva², K. Scharmann¹², N. Schild⁷, E. Schwab⁶, F. Scozzi^{7,14}, F. Seck¹, I. Selyuzhenko⁶, U. Singh⁵, L. Skorpil⁹, J. Smyski³, S. Spies³, A. Sreejith¹⁸, H. Ströbele⁹, J. Stroth^{9,6,*}, K. Sumara³, O. Svoboda¹⁵, M. Szala³, P. Tlustý¹⁵, M. Traxler⁶, S. Treliński⁴, I. C. Udrea^{7,6}, F. Ulrich-Pur⁶, C. Ungethüm¹, V. Wagner¹⁵, A.A. Weber¹², C. Wendisch⁵, J. Wirth^{11,10}, A. Władyszewska^{5,6}, H.P. Zbroszczyk¹, E. Zherebtsova⁴, M. Zieliński⁵, P. Zumbbruch⁶

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⁸Institut für Strahlenphysik, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf, 01314 Dresden, Germany

⁹Institut für Kernphysik, Goethe-Universität, 60438 Frankfurt, Germany

¹⁰“Excellence Cluster ‘Origin and Structure of the Universe’”, 85748 Garching, Germany

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^g also at Czech Technical University in Prague, 16000 Prague, Czech Republic

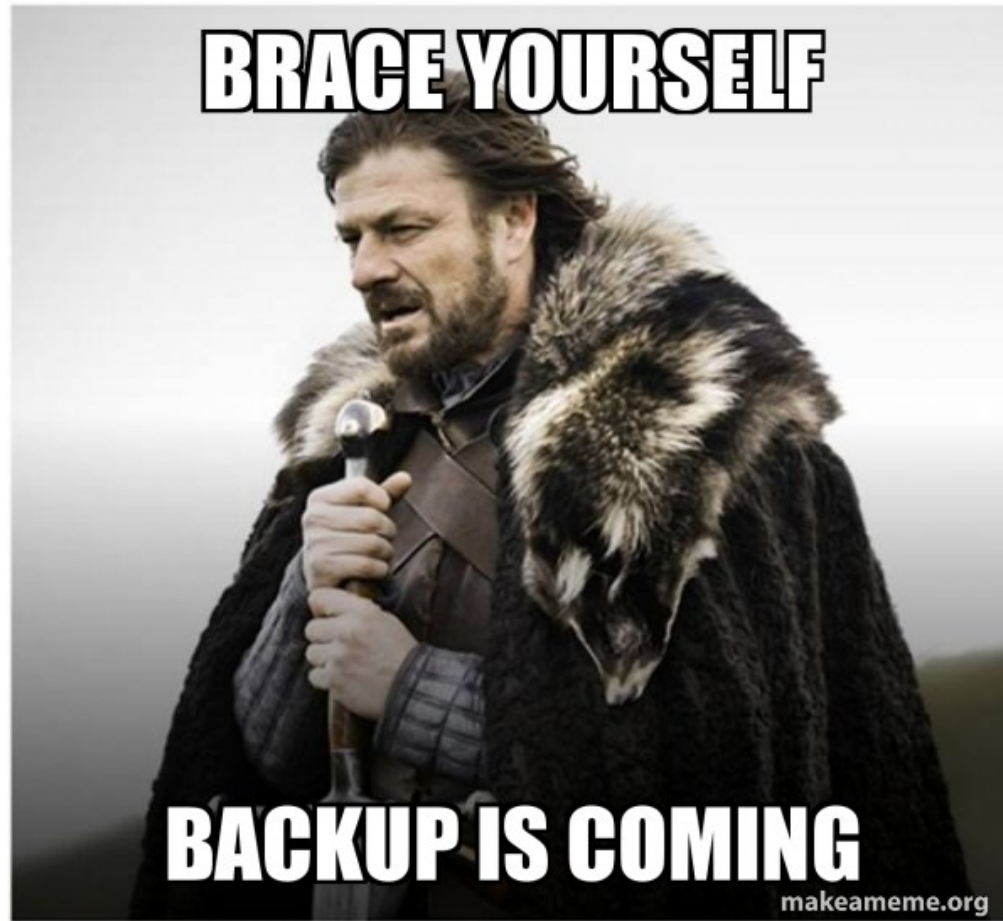
^h also at University of Wrocław, 50-204 Wrocław, Poland

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Received: date / Accepted: date

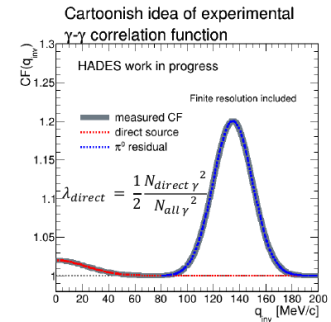
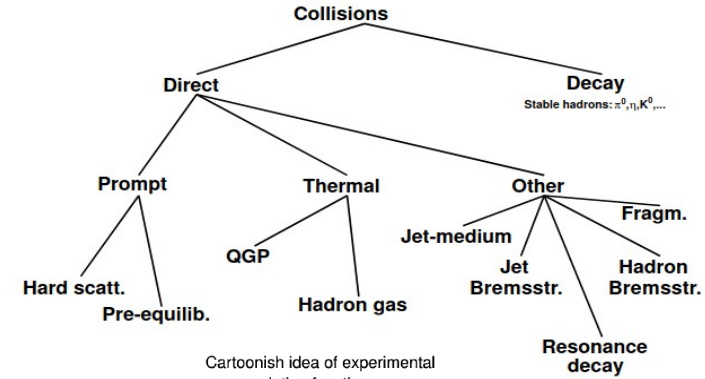
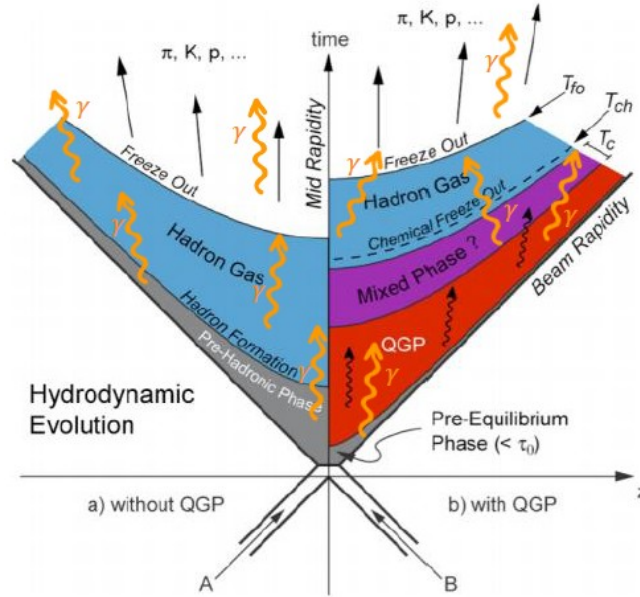


Backup



Why photons?

- Undistorted signal
- Information about early stages (inaccessible for hadrons → **complementary analysis to “standard” HBT**)
- Probing before-freezout era
- **A way to hunt for direct photons at low p_T / low collision energy & high multiplicity environment**



$$\lambda_{direct} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N_{ydirect}}{N_{yall}} \right)^2 \ll 10^{-1}$$

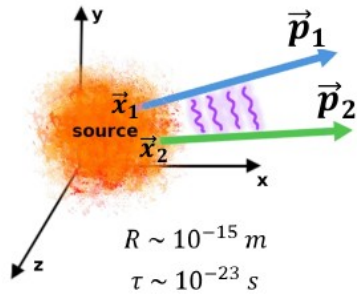


$$N_{ydirect} = \sqrt{2 \lambda_{direct}} N_{yall}$$

$$Q_{INV} = \sqrt{(\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2)^2 - (E_1 - E_2)^2} = M_{\gamma\gamma} \quad M_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{2 E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos(\alpha_{\gamma\gamma}))}$$

Femtoscscopy

Goal - measure source's space-time characteristics and/or interactions between particles through low relative momentum correlations.



Theory

Single particle emission function: $P(\vec{p}) = \int S(\vec{x}) d^3x$

Two particle emission function: $P(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2) = \int S(\vec{x}_1; \vec{x}_2) |\Psi(\vec{x}_1, \vec{p}_1; \vec{x}_2, \vec{p}_2)|^2 d^3x_1 d^3x_2$

Correlation function: $CF(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2) = \frac{P(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2)}{P(\vec{p}_1)P(\vec{p}_2)}$

\vec{x} : particle's position

\vec{p} : particle's momentum

$\Psi(\vec{x}_1, \vec{p}_1; \vec{x}_2, \vec{p}_2)$: two particle's wave function

$S(\vec{x})$: source function

$q = |\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2|$: momentum difference

$N_{same}(q)$: same event distribution

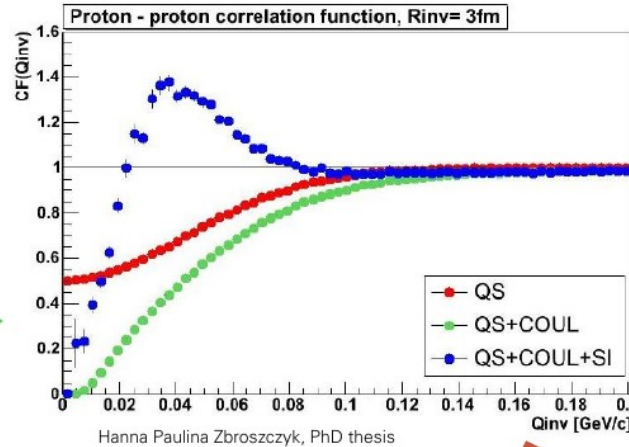
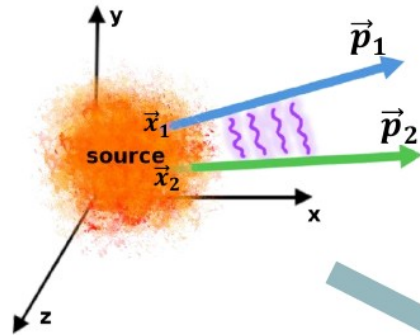
$N_{mixed}(q)$: mixed event distribution

Experiment

Correlation function:

$$CF(q) = \frac{N_{same}(q)}{N_{mixed}(q)}$$

Femtoscscopy



Effects and interactions:

- **QS** – quantum statistics (Bose-Einstein or Fermi-Dirac), identical particles
- **Coul** – Coulomb interactions, charged particles
- **SI** – strong interactions, hadrons

$q = |\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2|$: momentum difference
 $r = |\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2|$: relative distance

$$CF(q) = \int S(r) |\Psi(r, q)|^2 d^3r$$

Determine the geometry and dynamic properties (traditional femtoscopy)

Determine the interactions (non-traditional femtoscopy)

Mapping 2.0 – improved merging correction

Previously:

- **Only minimum bias case** (one map to fix them all)
- **Arbitrary** (by eye) chosen thresholds for sizes combinations
- **Quite complex fitting function, requiring border cases to work properly** (every “bigger” sizes combination has to have threshold larger or equal to smaller one)

$$f(s_1, s_2) = As_1^2 + Bs_2^2 + Cs_1s_2 + Ds_1 + Es_2 + F$$

+ border cases

Currently:

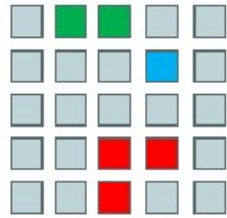
- **Separate cases for every 10% centrality class**
- Chosen by **cutoff percentage** (dependent on size, centrality and combination of sizes), limited at 99.9%
- **Simplified fitting function, with no border cases**

$$f(s_1, s_2) = As_1^2 + Bs_2^2 + Cs_1s_2 + ~~Ds_1 + Es_2 + F~~$$

~~+ border cases~~

```
double cutoff = 0.83; // how much of split garbage we want to reject (1=all)
double midcentralReduction = 0.02; // how much we reduce cutoff for 10-20 and 20-30%
double peripheralReduction = 0.06; // how much we reduce cutoff for 30-40%
double nonDiagonalIncrease = 0.07; // how much we increase cutoff for non-diagonal cases per size difference
double sizeIncrease = 0.06; // how much we increase cutoff per size of each cluster
double thresholdLimit = 4.8; // lowest acceptable threshold (hardware limit)
```

Mapping idea



Modules are $\sim 2.2^\circ$ (92 mm) wide,
Can't separate 2γ within 300 ps interval

Opening angle „hardware threshold“
 $\sim 4.4^\circ$ (for 2 „size 1“ clusters)

γ triggers:

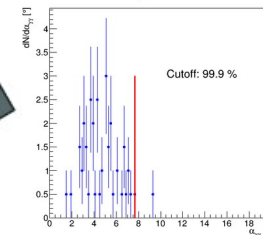
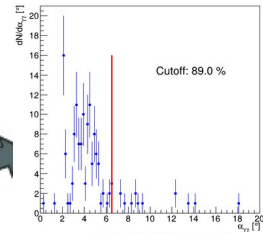
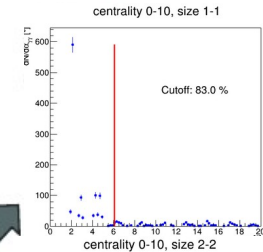
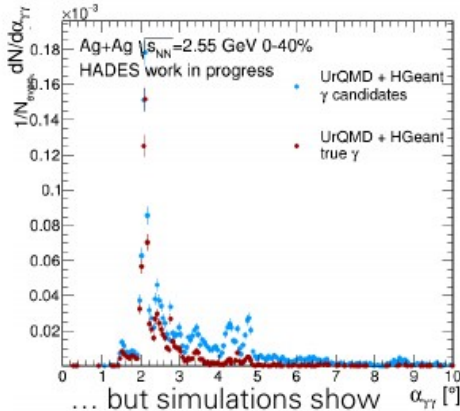
1 module \rightarrow cluster size 1

2 modules \rightarrow cluster size 2

3 modules \rightarrow cluster size 3

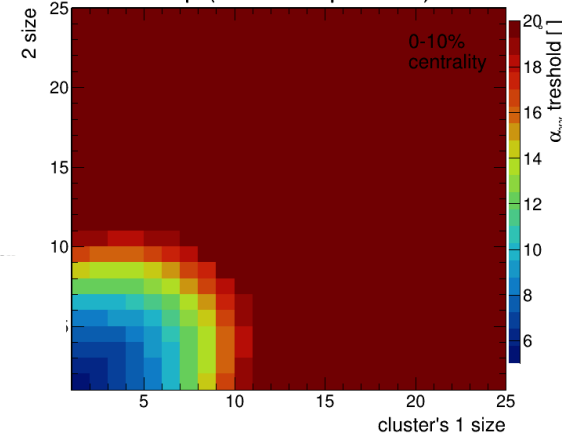
...

ECAL $\alpha_{\gamma\gamma}$, same Geant track pairs

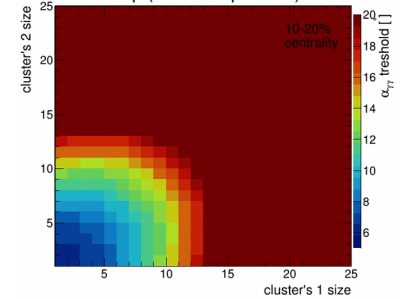


$\alpha_{\gamma\gamma} [^\circ]$

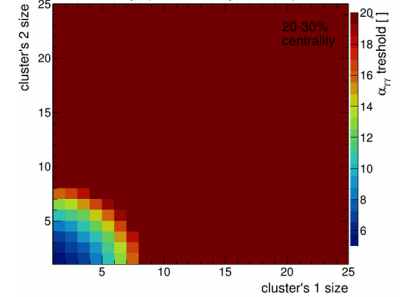
Fitted threshold map (with extrapolation)



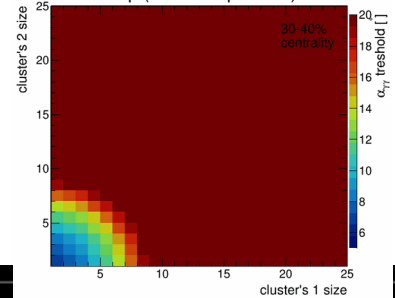
Fitted threshold map (with extrapolation)



Fitted threshold map (with extrapolation)



Fitted threshold map (with extrapolation)



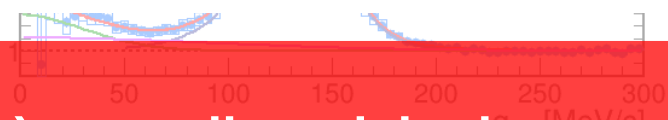
Recap from last CM – $\gamma\text{-}\gamma$ CFs fits

Table 3 Obtained fit parameters for simulation (Fig. 6, left panel)

parameter	value	stat. uncert.	syst. uncert. (Barlow)
χ^2/NDF	1.09		
R_1 [fm]	5.82	± 0.59	+0.16 – 0.67
$\lambda_1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	3.64	± 0.70	+1.04 – 1.12
R_2 [fm]	0.00	± 0.83	+0.00 – 0.00
$\lambda_2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0.20	± 0.09	+0.08 – 0.05
μ_{π^0} [MeV/c ²]	138.42	± 0.11	+0.06 – 0.18
σ_{π^0} [MeV/c ²]	14.22	± 0.15	+0.15 – 0.09
k_L	1.14	± 0.04	
k_H	1.53	± 0.10	

Table 4 Obtained fit parameters for real data (Fig. 6, right panel)

parameter	value	stat. uncert.	syst. uncert. (Barlow)
χ^2/NDF	2.11		
R_1 [fm]	4.59	± 0.42	+0.45 – 0.39
$\lambda_1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	2.85	± 0.28	+0.96 – 1.23
R_2 [fm]	1.55	± 0.13	+0.03 – 0.00
$\lambda_2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	1.04	± 0.22	+0.20 – 0.21
μ_{π^0} [MeV/c ²]	135.04	± 0.04	+0.16 – 0.22
σ_{π^0} [MeV/c ²]	15.55	± 0.06	+0.14 – 0.19
k_L	0.91	± 0.02	
k_H	1.28	± 0.02	



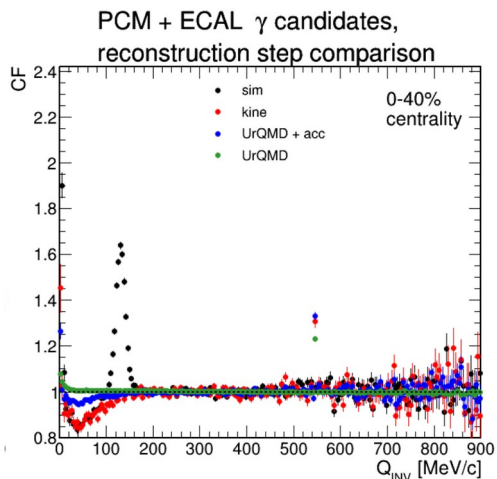
Similar values of R_1 and $\lambda_1 \rightarrow$ that's (sadly) not a direct-ish photon signal,
but some apparatus effect.

$$CF(q_{inv}) = 1 + \lambda_1 \exp(-q_{inv}^2 R_1^2) + \lambda_2 \exp(-q_{inv}^2 R_2^2) + f_{\pi^0}(q_{inv}, \mu_{\pi^0}, \sigma_{\pi^0}, k_L, k_H)$$

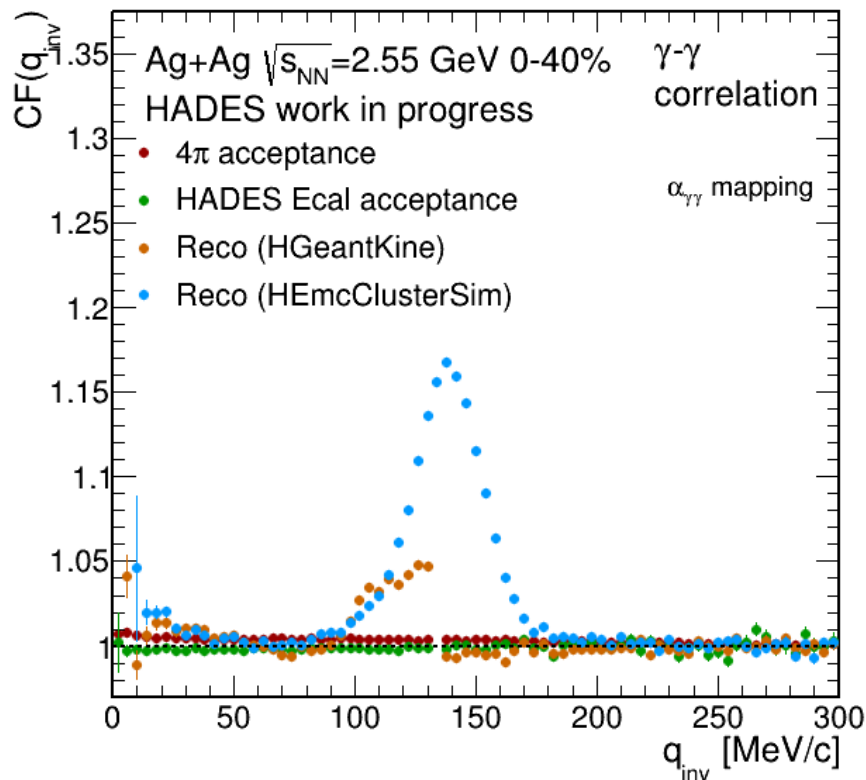
Systematics calculated with Barlow Test

Recap from last CM – reconstruction fault

Quite some time ago when I was working on hybrid approach (PCM+Ecal) I've found some strange effects are related to reconstruction of (Ecal) photons.



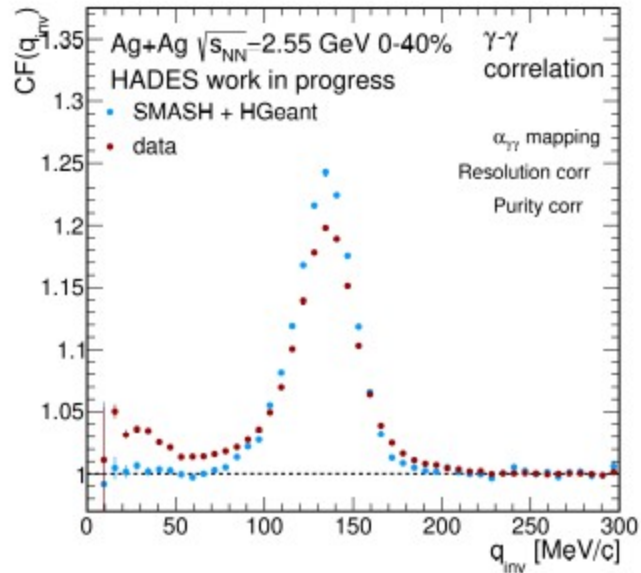
... and it seems to be the case here as well! No such effect is visible before reconstruction!



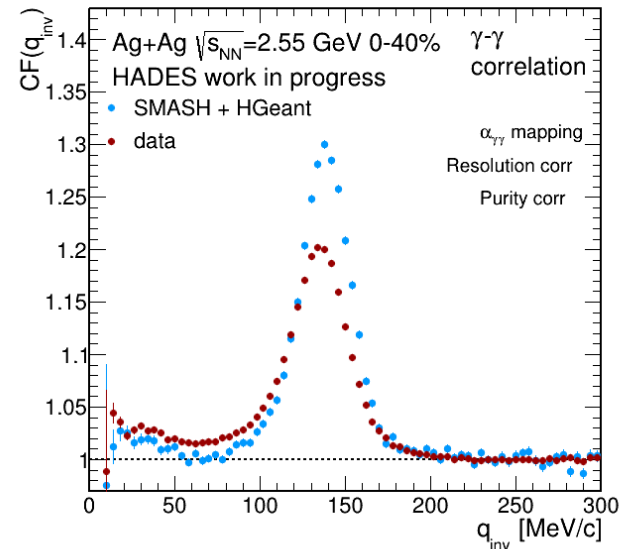
This is probably caused by reconstruction algorithm (cluster finder parameters)

CF before & after changed cluster finder

My digitizer, sim-like cluster finder (all cluster sizes)



My digitizer, data-like cluster finder (cluster sizes < 4)



π^0 - π^0 residual correlation

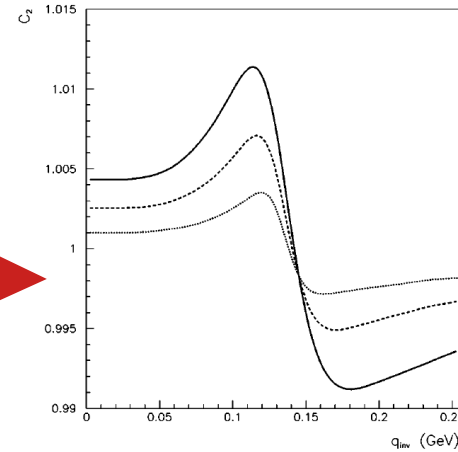
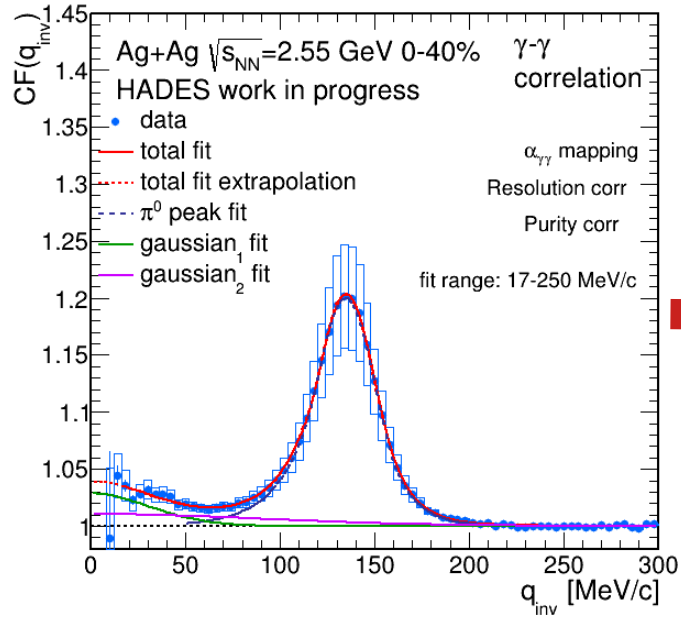
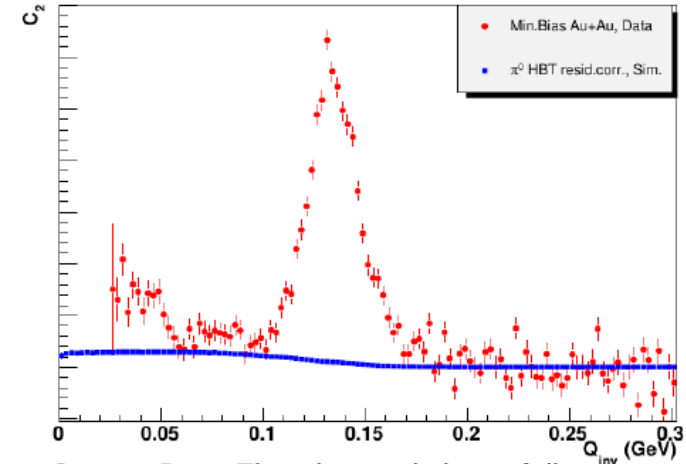


FIG. 1. Correlation functions for photons, produced by pions for three radii R_{inv} of the pion correlation function: 4 fm (solid line), 5 fm (dashed line), and 7 fm (dotted line).

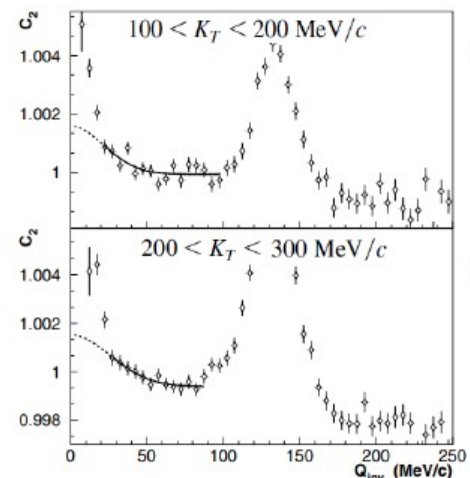


Source: Bose-Einstein correlations of direct photons in Au+Au collisions at $s_{NN}/\sqrt{200}$ GeV, D.Peressounko (for the PHENIX Collaboration), Int.J.Mod.Phys.E16:2235-2240,2007

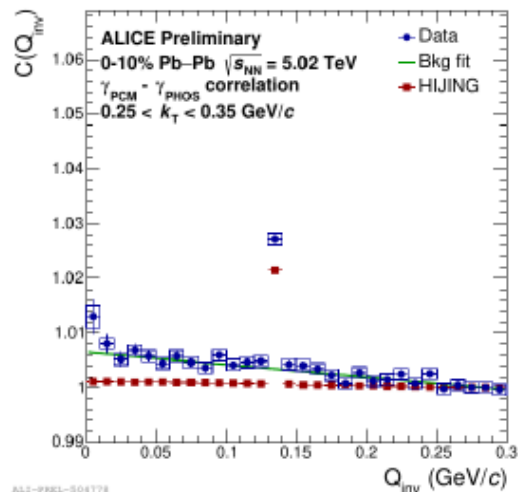
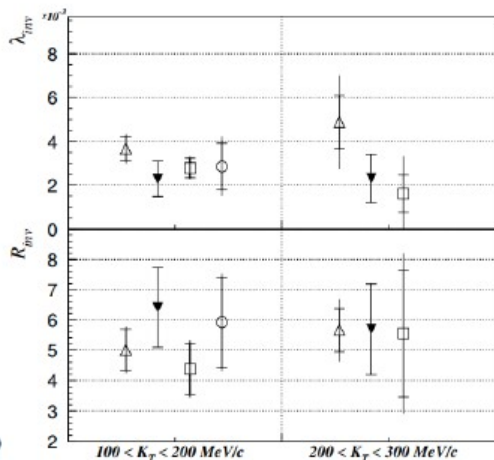
- R_1 [fm]: $4.59 \pm 0.42 + 0.45 - 0.39$
- $\lambda_1 (\cdot 10^{-2})$: $2.85 \pm 0.28 + 0.96 - 1.23$
- R_2 [fm]: $1.55 \pm 0.13 + 0.03 - 0.00$
- $\lambda_2 (\cdot 10^{-2})$: $1.04 \pm 0.22 + 0.21 - 0.22$
- μ_{π^0} [MeV]: $1.35 \cdot 10^2 \pm 0.04 + 0.16 - 0.22$
- σ_{π^0} [MeV]: $1.55 \cdot 10^1 \pm 0.06 + 0.14 - 0.19$

Source: Hanbury Brown–Twiss interferometry of direct photons in heavy ion collisions
D. Peressounko, PHYSICAL REVIEW C 67, 014905 (2003)

Other experiment results

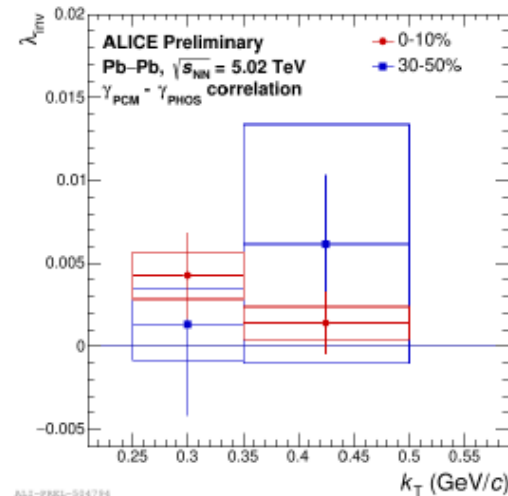


Interferometry of Direct Photons in Central 208Pb 208Pb Collisions at 158A GeV, Aggarwal, M. M., Physical Review Letters, 93(2). doi:10.1103/physrevlett.93.022301



ALICE-PREL-504778

Direct photon production and HBT correlations in Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV with ALICE experiment, Meike Charlotte Danisch on behalf of the ALICE Collaboration, Acta Physica Polonica B Proceedings Supplement



ALICE-PREL-504794