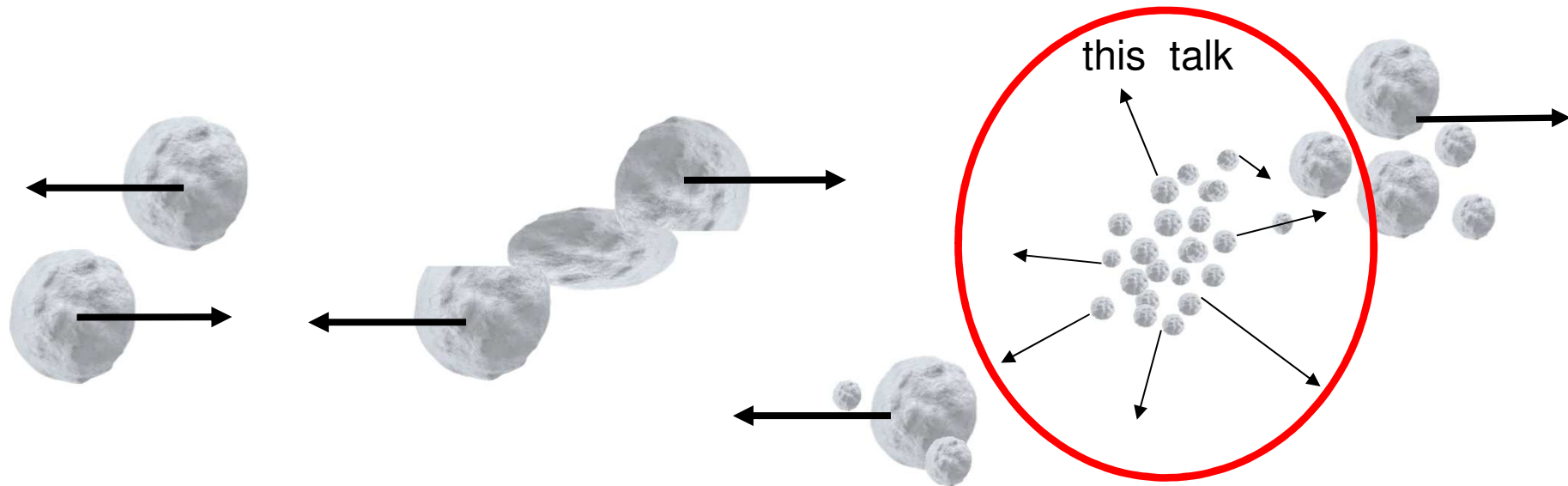


## *Light nuclei formation at SIS energies*

Y. Leifels for the FOPI collaboration  
and with FOPI data  
*GSI Helmholtzzentrum für  
Schwerionenforschung, Darmstadt*

EMMI Workshop  
11.02.-13.02.2019  
GSI

# Formation of light nuclei in heavy ion collisions

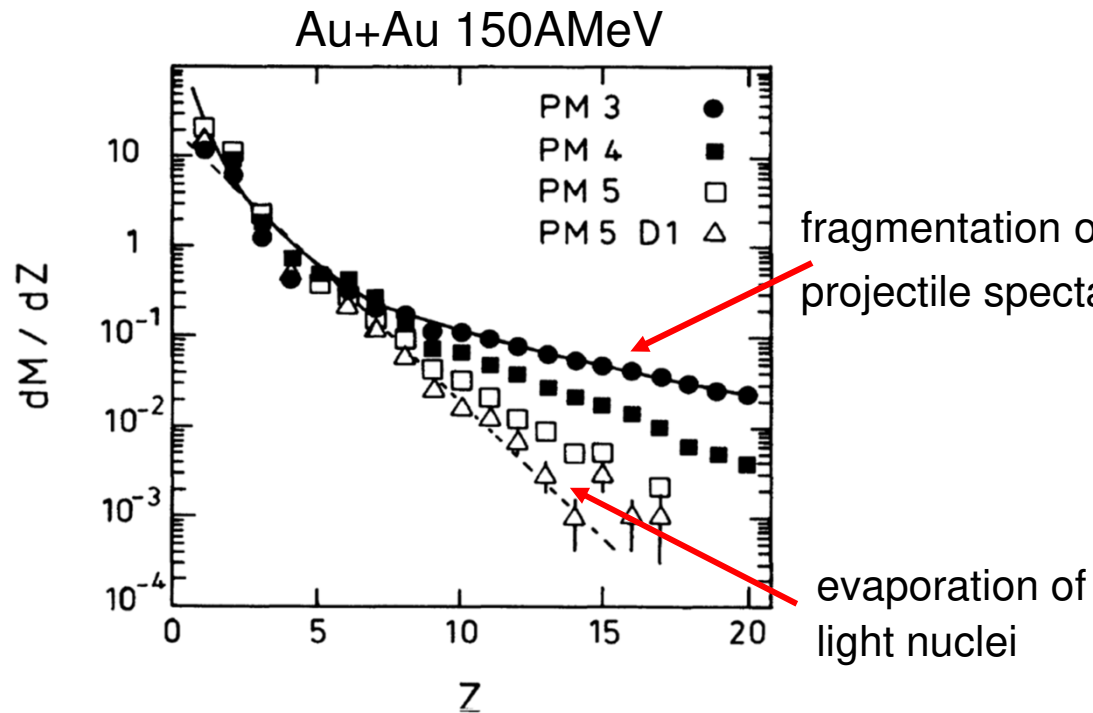


- Source at mid-rapidity
- observed best in central collisions
- no clear separation between projectile/target spectators and participants
- complete dynamical description needed

# Formation of light nuclei in heavy ion collisions

- centrality dependence

$$1 < \theta_{\text{lab}} < 30^\circ$$



*C. Kuhn et al., PRC 48, 1232 (1993)*

- exponential behaviour of  $Z$  distributions observed in most central collisions
  - evaporation mechanism
- in peripheral collisions flattening of the shape
  - multi-fragmentation

# Outline

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Experimental setup & dataset

FOPI history

Analysis technique

Reaction plane determination

Fourier expansion of azimuthal distributions

Quadrant method

Selected results

Global features

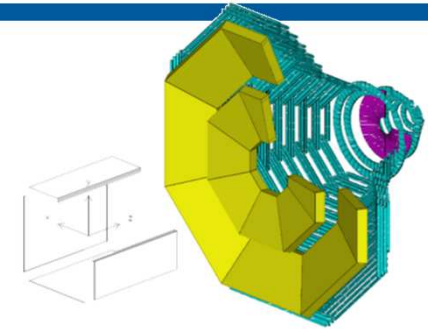
Stopping

Collective flow of charged baryons

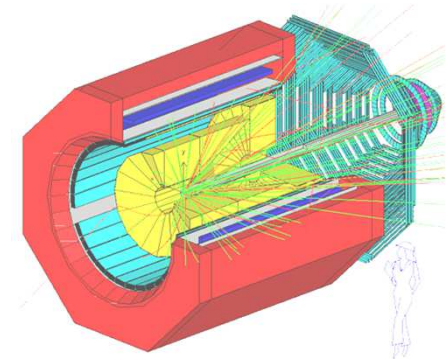
Conclusions

# FOPi data sets

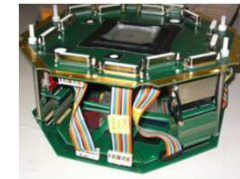
Phase I 1990 – 1992  
Setup: no magnetic field,  
forward wall & ionisation chambers  
Main physics: **radial expansion, fragment formation**  
Systems: Au+Au, Xe+CsJ  
Beam energy: 0.1 – 0.8 AGeV



Phase II 1993 – 1998  
Setup: tracking in solenoid, forward wall  
Main physics: **stopping, EOS**  
Systems: Ca+Ca, Ru/Zr + Ru/Zr, Au+Au  
Beam energy: 0.4 – 1.5 AGeV



Phase III 2001 – 2012  
Setup upgrades: DAQ (2001), TOF (2007),  $\Lambda$  – trigger (2008), Gem-TPC (2010)  
Main physics: strangeness in dense medium  
Systems: Ni+Ni, Al + Al, Ni+Pb, Ru+Ru  
 $\pi^-$  + C,Cu,Pb  
Beam energy: 1.6 – 1.9 AGeV



# Motivation: Equation of state of nuclear matter

Nuclear matter equation of state

- infinite symmetric nuclear matter  $N=Z$
- ground state properties:  $\rho_0 = 0.16 \text{ N/fm}^3$  and  $E(\rho_0) = -16 \text{ MeV}$
- expansion in density:

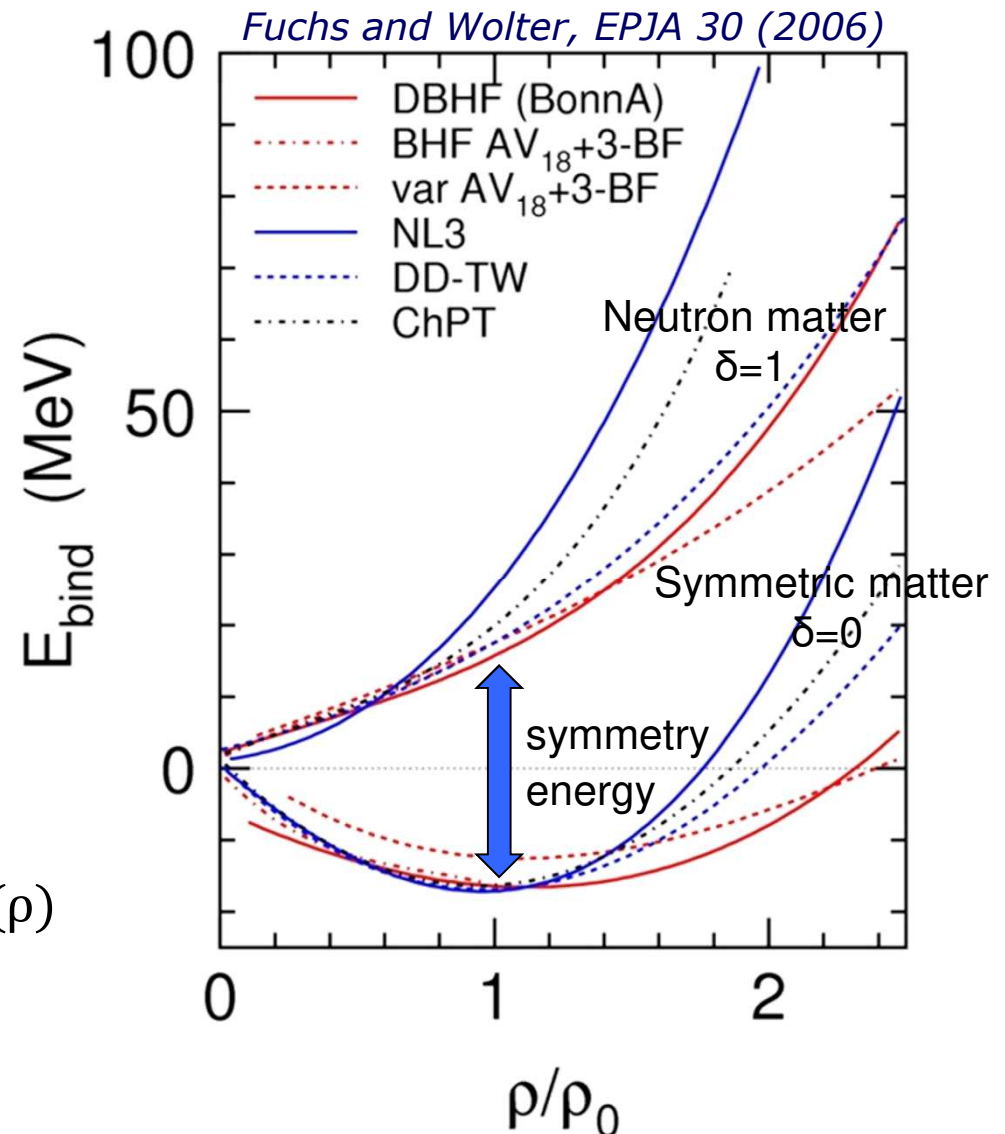
$$E(\rho, T = 0, \delta = 0) = E_0 + \frac{K}{18\rho^2} (\rho - \rho_0)^2 + \dots$$

From symmetric nuclear matter to neutron matter:

$$\delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho}$$

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E_{\text{SNM}}(\rho, \delta = 0) + \delta^2 E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$$

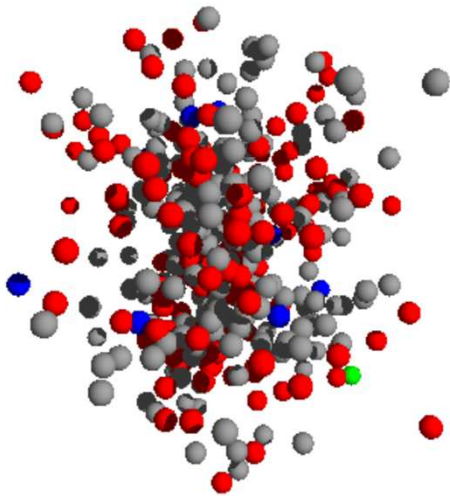
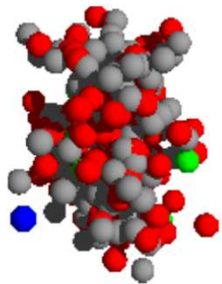
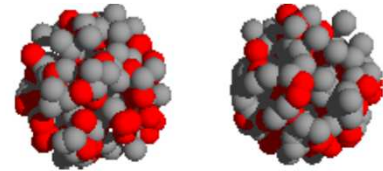
In heavy ion reactions n-p asymmetries are small with respect to neutron stars



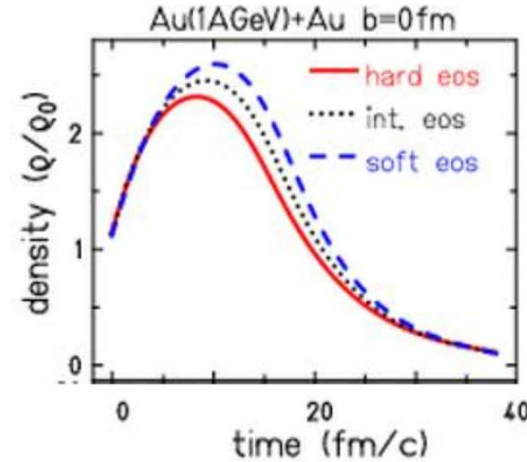


# Nuclear EOS and heavy ion collisions

IQMD: C. Hartnack, EPJ 1, 151 (1997)

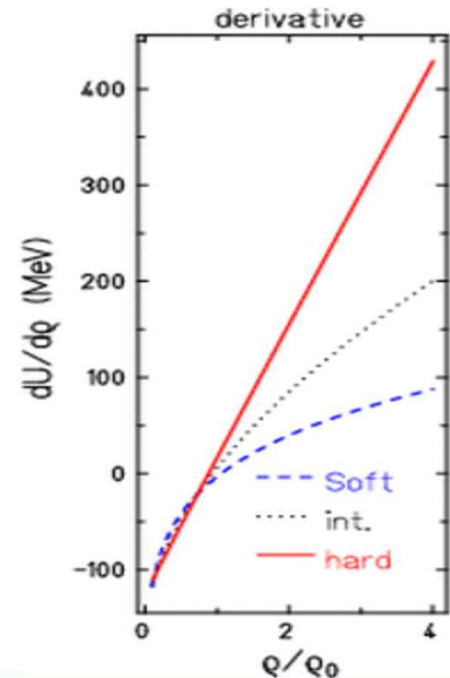


EOS  
(in-medium)  
cross sections  
effective masses  
Pauli - blocking



**Density**

(in medium)  
particle production

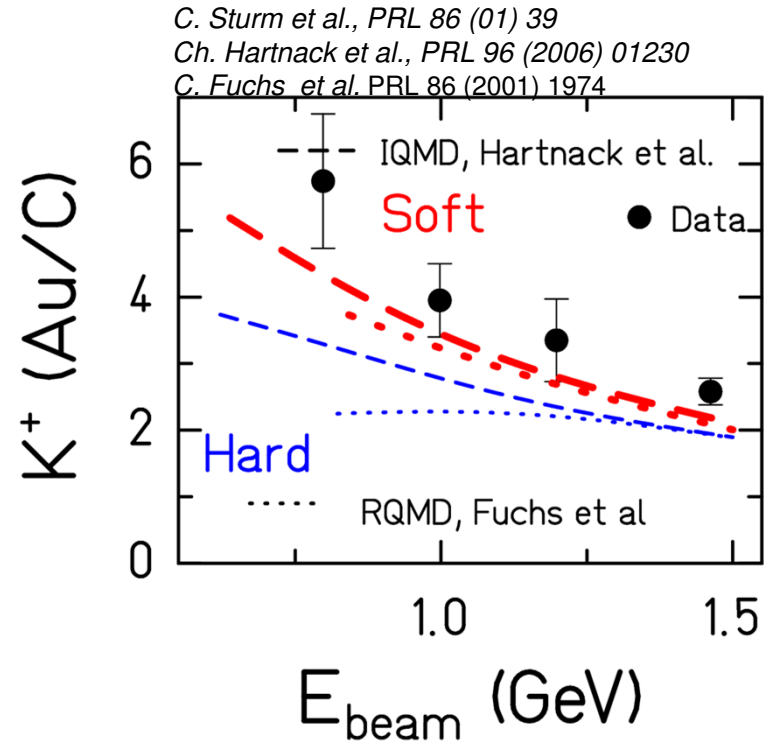
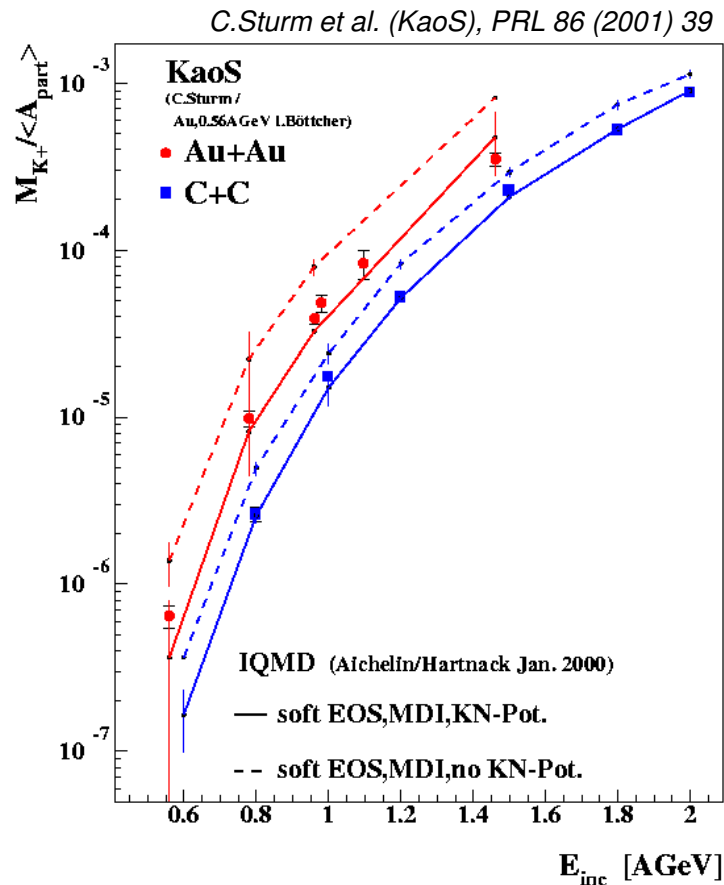


**Pressure**

(in medium)  
particle propagation

collective flow

# Probing the EOS with Kaon production



Ratio of yields stable against variation of  $K^+$  production cross section

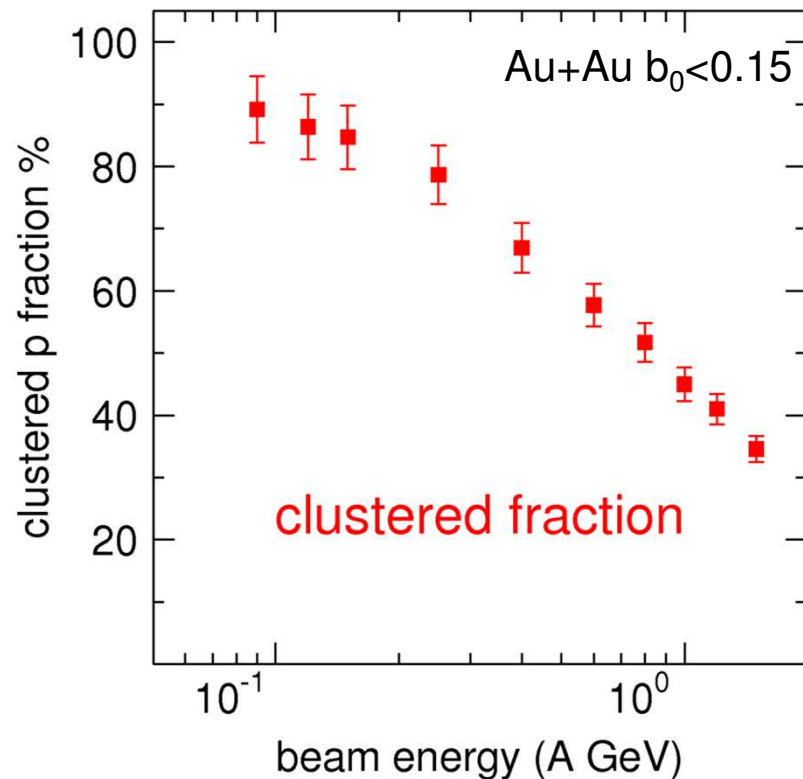
Strong sensitivity to EOS due to multistep production (formation of nucleon resonances, e.g.  $\Delta$ )

-> soft EOS ( $K=200$ )

Isospin dependence of EOS [  $N/Z(Au) = 1.49$  ]

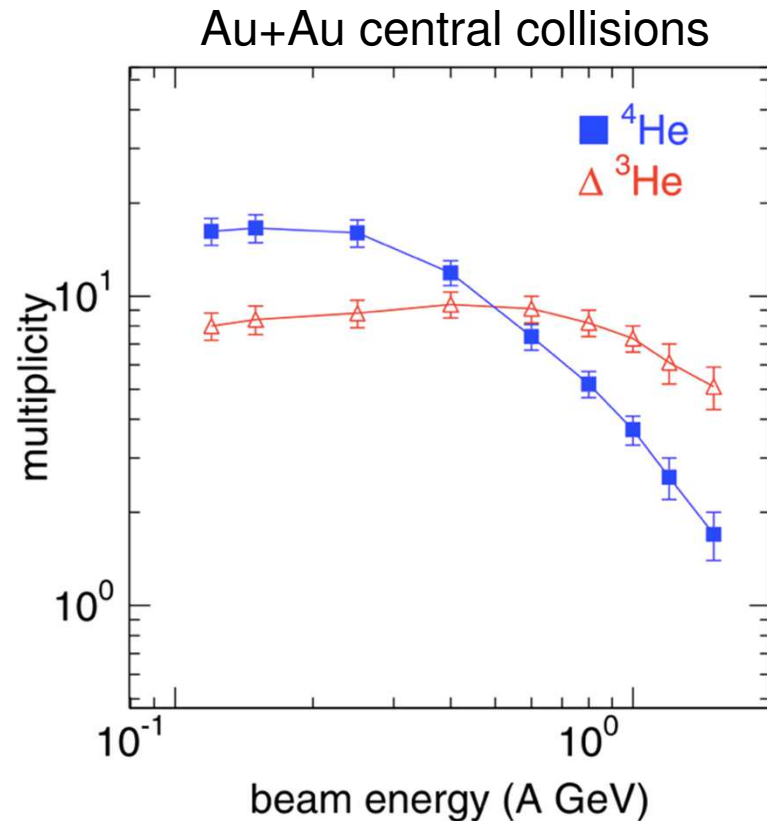


# Formation of light nuclei in heavy ion collisions



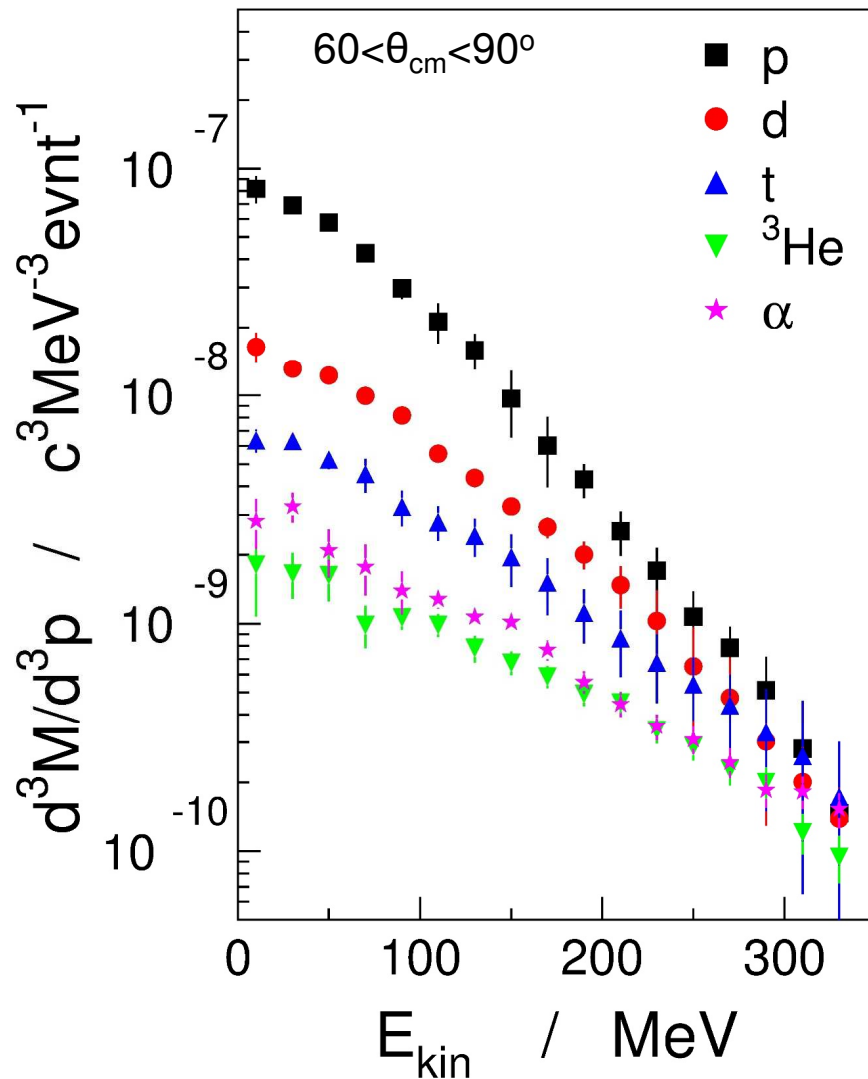
- high degree of cluster formation even in most central collisions
  - cluster production influences phase space distributions of all particles
  - clusters are less disturbed by „thermal noise“
    - stronger flow patterns than protons
    - generally: higher mass, stronger flow
- Statistical/thermal models (QSM, WIX/FRESCO)
- does not lead to consistent results (yields vs spectra, *Poggi et al 1993*)

# Light nuclei are not formed by coalescence



- light nuclei are formed in a multitude of processes
  - primordial
    - e.g.  ${}^3\text{He}$
  - primordial with subsequent capture of neutrons or other particles
    - e.g.  ${}^4\text{He}$
  - secondary after the decay of heavier fragments
    - e.g.  ${}^4\text{He}$ , t
- but NOT generally by coalescence
  - only at high energies ( $>1.5\text{A GeV}$ ) or in light systems where cluster production can be treated perturbatively

# Light nuclei formation at 250 MeV



Au+Au 250 MeV  $b < 3.5$  fm

*G. Poggi et al. NPA 586 (1995) 755*

## <sup>3</sup>H and <sup>3</sup>He yields

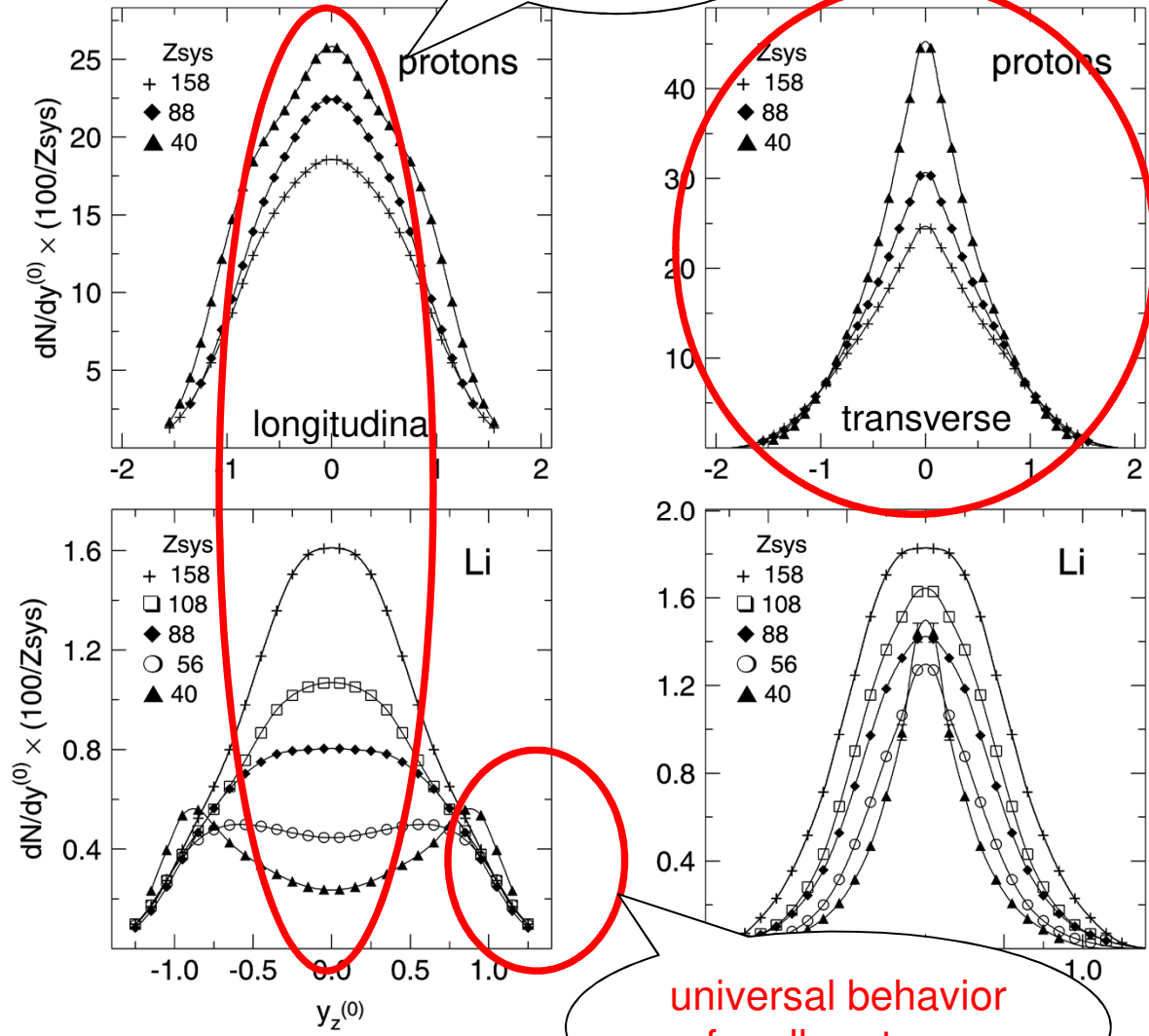
- at low kinetic energies large differences
- spectra converging at high kinetic energies
- <sup>3</sup>He shows larger inverse slope parameter than <sup>3</sup>H
  - larger than the difference in Coulomb energies
  - difference diminishes with energy, vanished at 600 A MeV Au+Au
  - secondary decay of heavier clusters contributes more to the <sup>3</sup>H spectrum
  - n capture on <sup>3</sup>He

# Formation of ${}^6\text{Li}$ in heavy ion collisions

- system size dependence

more protons bound in heavy systems

100 AMeV (Au+Au, Xe+CsJ, Zr+Zr, Ca+Ca)



universal behavior for all systems

- unbound protons  $\leftrightarrow$  bound light nuclei
- more fragments in heavier systems
  - radial flow larger in heavy systems
  - correlation between cluster multiplicities and collective radial flow
- normalized transverse rapidity distributions similar at high rapidities

W. Reisdorf et al., *PLB* 595, 118 (2004)  
 W. Reisdorf et al., *NUPA* 848, 366 (2010)

# Radial flow of light nuclei

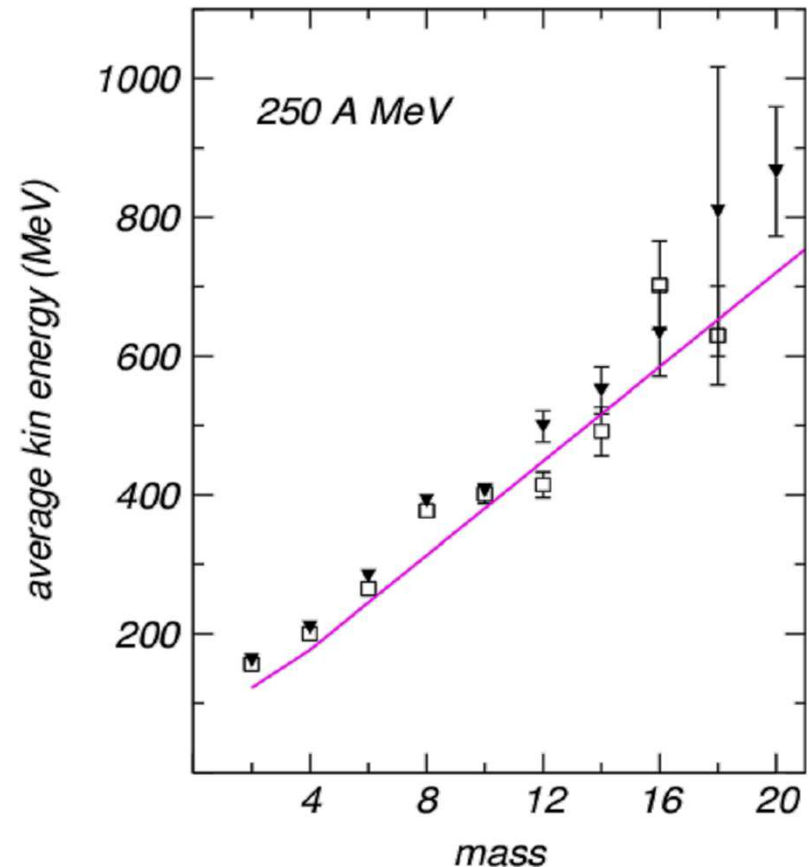
- Generally defined (in experimental papers) as an azimuthally symmetric collective expansion of the emitting source
- Predicted by Hydrodynamical model
  - Bondorf et.al. NPA296(1978)320, Siemmens &
  - Rasmussen PRL 42(1979) 880
  - (Stoecker & Greiner, Phys. Rep. 137 (1986) 227)
- Observed for the first time in central Au+Au collisions at 150AMeV (FOPI@GSI) S.G. Jeong et al (FOPI), PRL 72 (1994) 3468

→ Large fraction of the initial KE (~30%) is converted into the collective expansion  
→ Implications on collision dynamics and underlying reaction mechanisms

Described by:

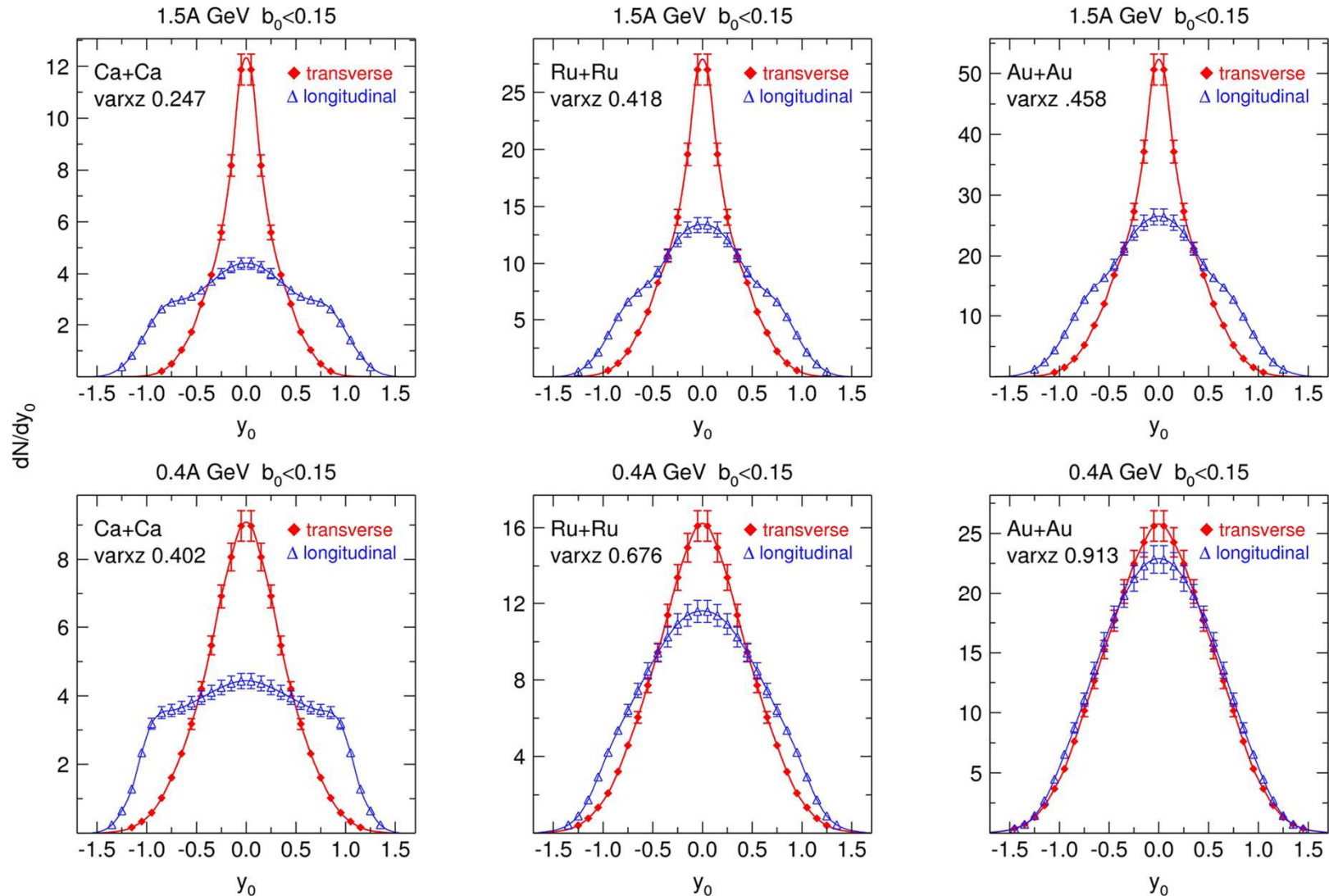
$$E_{kin} = (\gamma_{flow} - 1) \cdot m_N \cdot A + E_0$$

W.Reisdorf et al (FOPI), NPA612(97)493



# Rapidity distributions of light nuclei

deuterons





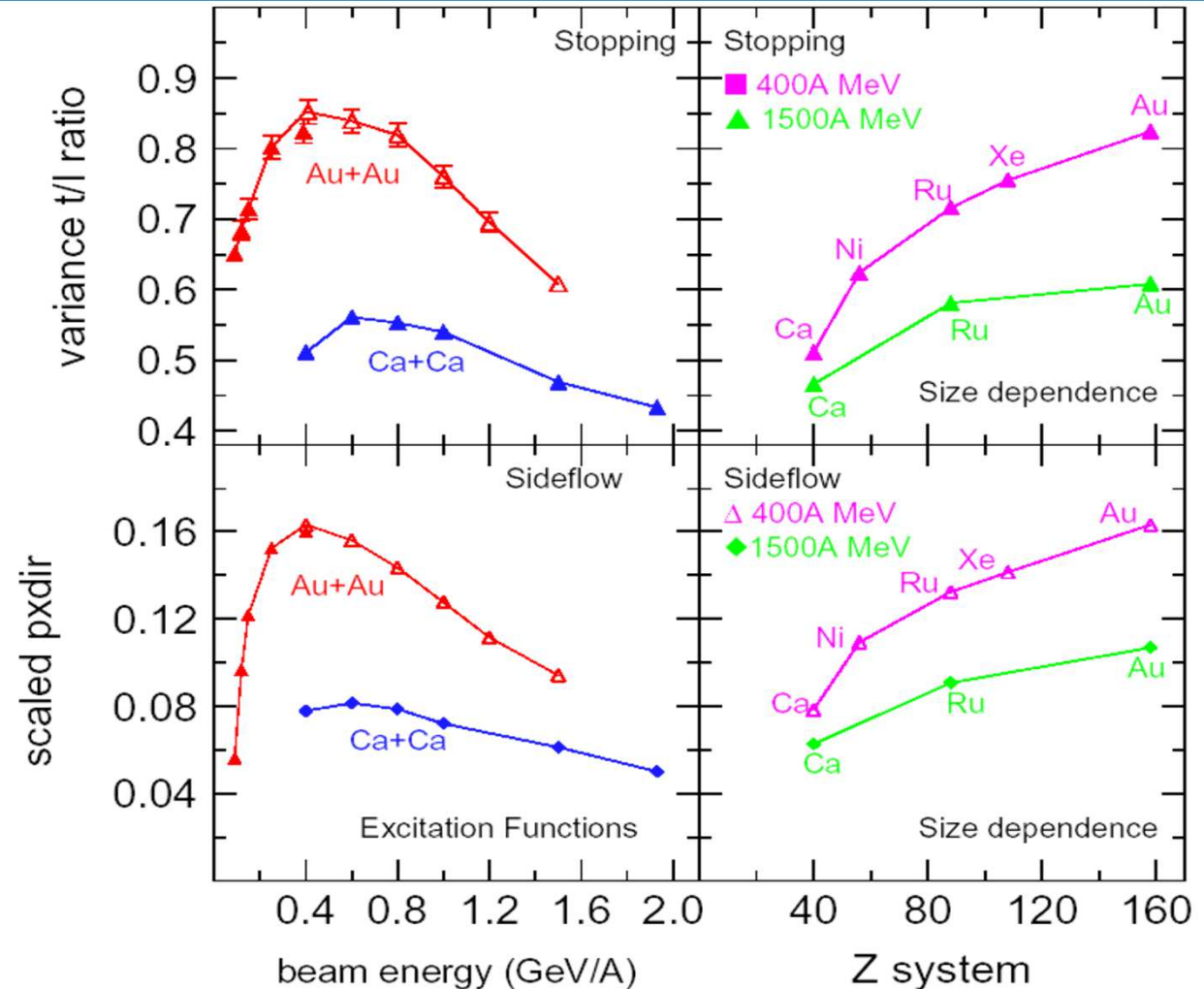
# Correlation between stopping and directed flow

Stopping  
 $b/b_{\max} < 0.15$   

$$\frac{\sigma^2(y_t)}{\sigma^2(y_z)}$$

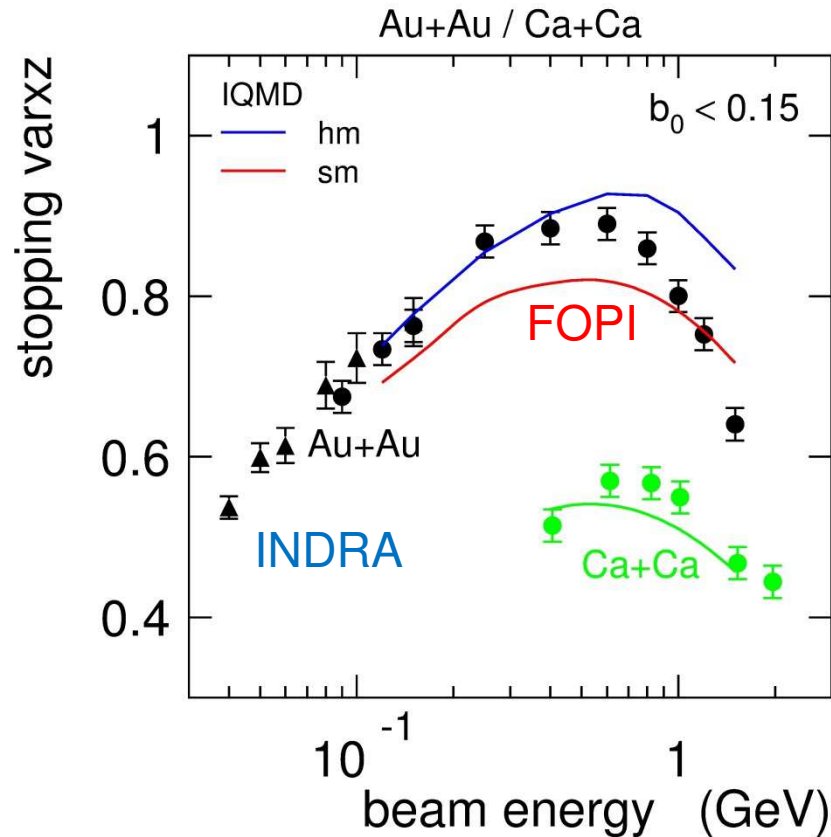
Sideflow  
 $b/b_{\max} \approx 0.4$   

$$p_x^{dir} = \frac{\sum_i \text{sign}(y_i) Z_i u_{xi}}{\sum_i Z_i}$$



Pressure (flow) correlates with energy density (stopping) => EOS accessible,  
 System size dependence does not show a plateau => transport models necessary.

# Stopping in heavy ion collisions ( $Z < 5$ )



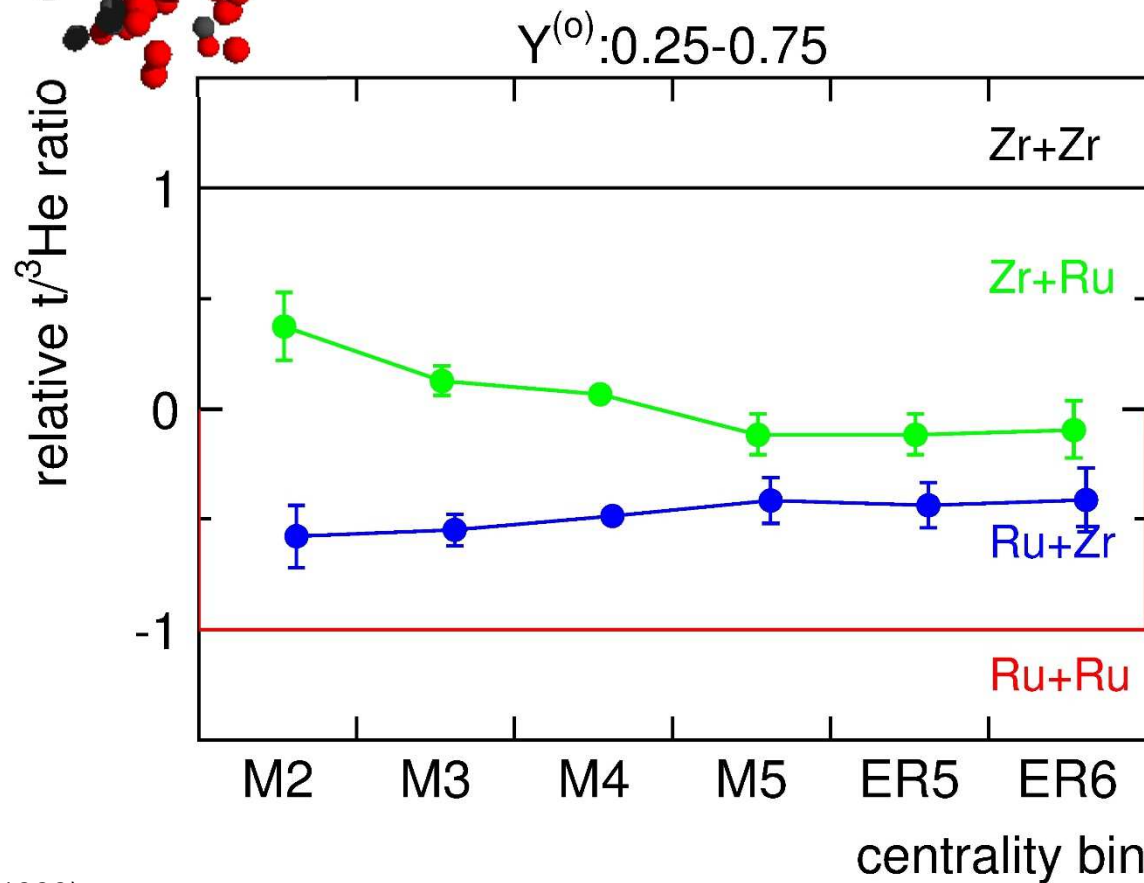
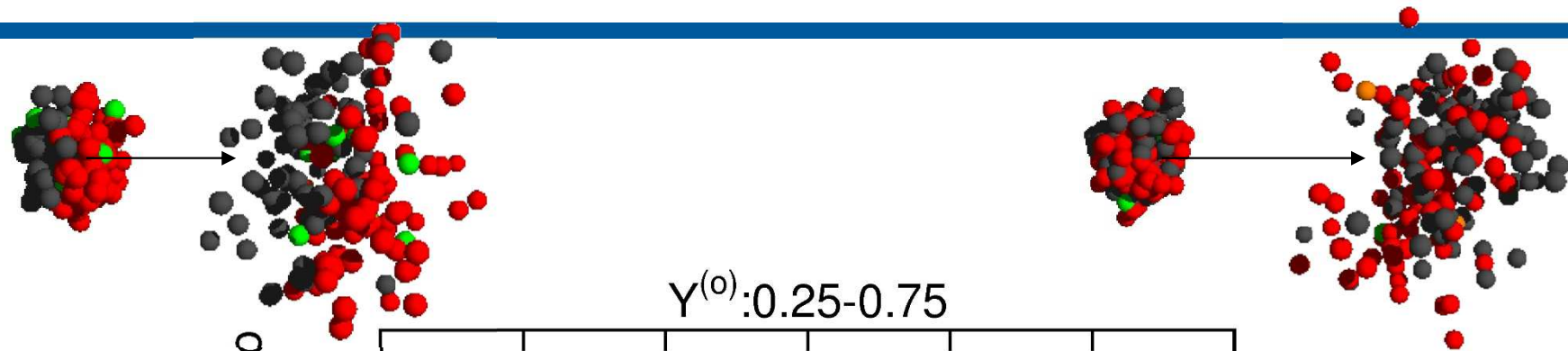
- Stopping deduced from phase space distributions

$$\text{var } xz = \frac{\sigma_{y_x}^2}{\sigma_{y_z}^2}$$

- microscopic models reproduce the stopping reasonably well
- sensitive to in-medium modifications of NN cross sections and polar angle distributions of NN scattering

Data: FOPI+Indra, A.Andronic et al.  
 Eur.Phys. J.30 (2006) 31-46  
 IQMD, C. Hartnack et al. EPJ A1 (1997) 151

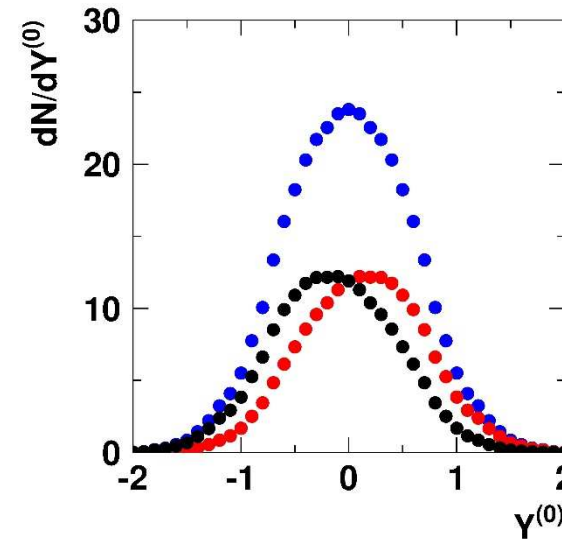
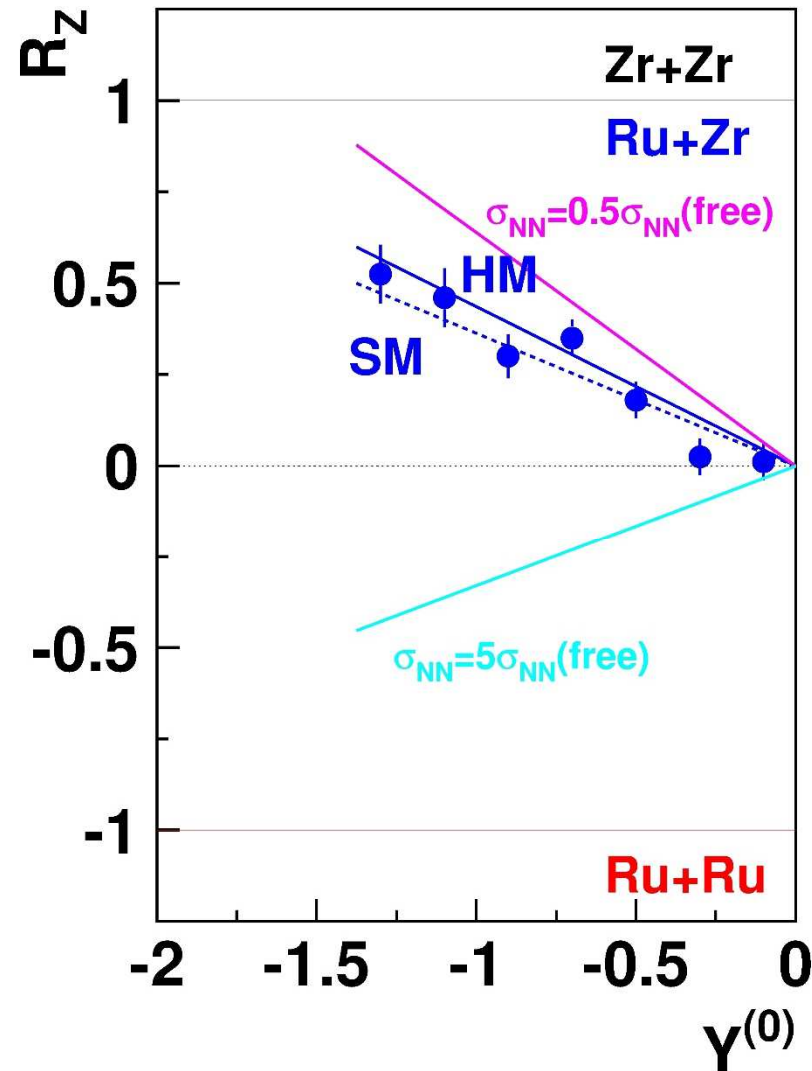
# Testing stopping and equilibration with t and $^3\text{He}$



**400 AMeV**  
Masse 96  
 $Z(\text{Zr}) = 40$   
 $Z(\text{Ru}) = 44$

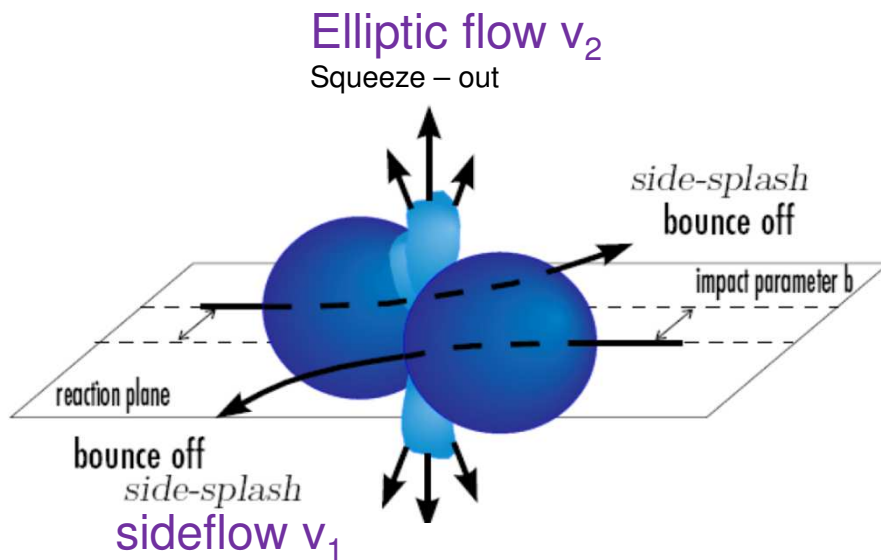
*F. Rami et al., PRL (1999)*

# Testing stopping and equilibration mit $Z=1$ nuclei



- with measured rapidity distribution deconvolution of target and projectile contributions
- smooth linear evolution of all observables
  - not completely stopped, not mixed
  - not equilibrated
  - dynamically evolving
- at 1.5 AGeV a more mixed source is observed!!

# Collective flow



Phase space distribution  
with respect to reaction plane  $\Phi_R$

$$\varphi' := \varphi - \Phi_R$$

$$\frac{d^3N}{p_t dp_t dy d\varphi'} \propto (1 + 2v_1 \cos(\varphi') + 2v_2 \cos(2\varphi') + \dots)$$

Fourier expansion coefficients

$$v_1 = \left\langle \frac{p_x}{p_t} \right\rangle = \langle \cos \varphi' \rangle \quad \text{sideflow}$$

$$v_2 = \left\langle \frac{p_x^2 - p_y^2}{p_x^2 + p_y^2} \right\rangle = \langle \cos 2\varphi' \rangle \quad \text{elliptic flow}$$

Discovery: Bevalac

*H.A. Gustafsson, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 52 (1984) 1590.*

*R.E. Renfordt, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 53 (1984) 763.*

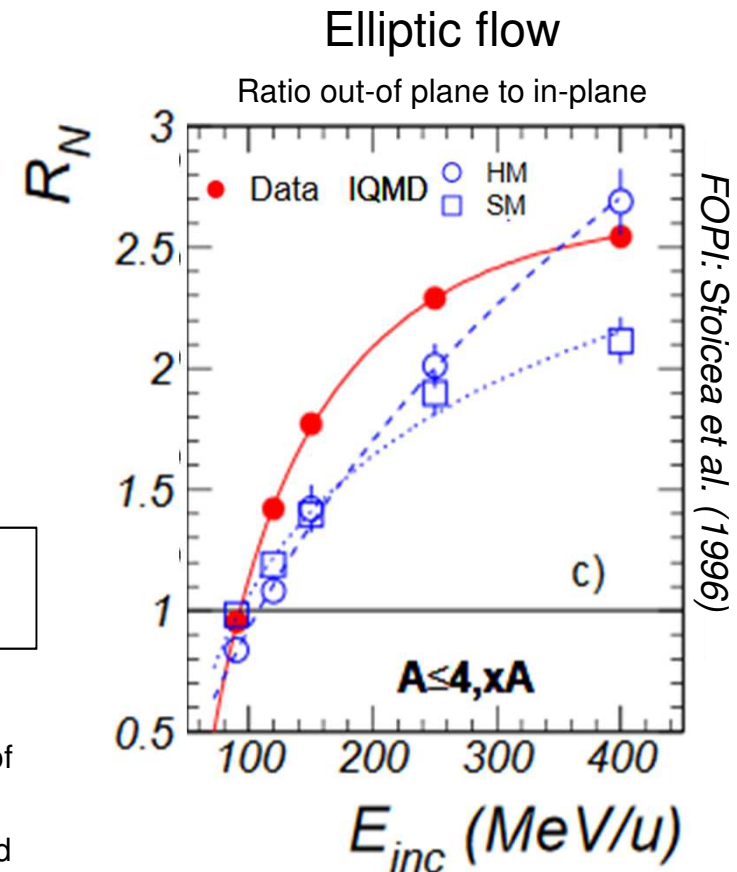
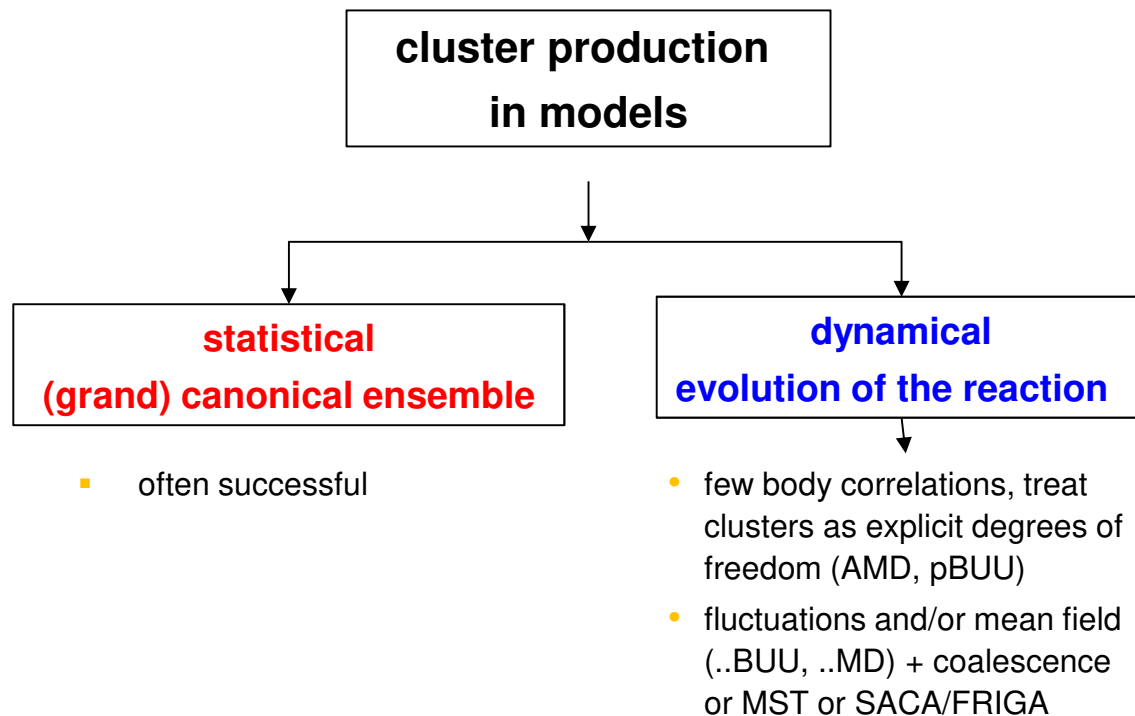
Quantitatively correctable for finite number  
fluctuations !

*S. Voloshin, Y. Zhang, hep-ph/9407082*

*J.Y. Ollitrault, nucl-ex/9711003*

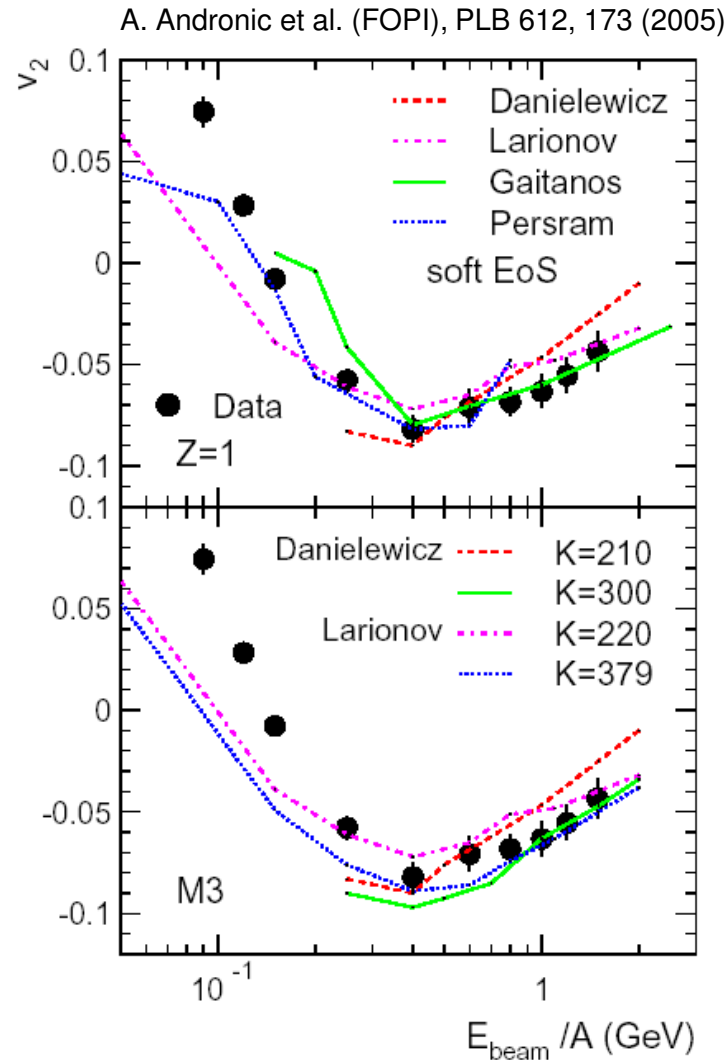
# Flow of light nuclei

- fragments much more sensitive to dynamical effects
- clusters formation is omnipresent in HIC, important for analysis (observables depend on degree of cluster formation)





# Elliptic flow in comparison to models



Ambiguities in the interpretation.

Imperfections in event selection

'Z=1', 'M3'

Single observable is not sufficient to disentangle

EOS

(in-medium) cross section

momentum dependent interaction

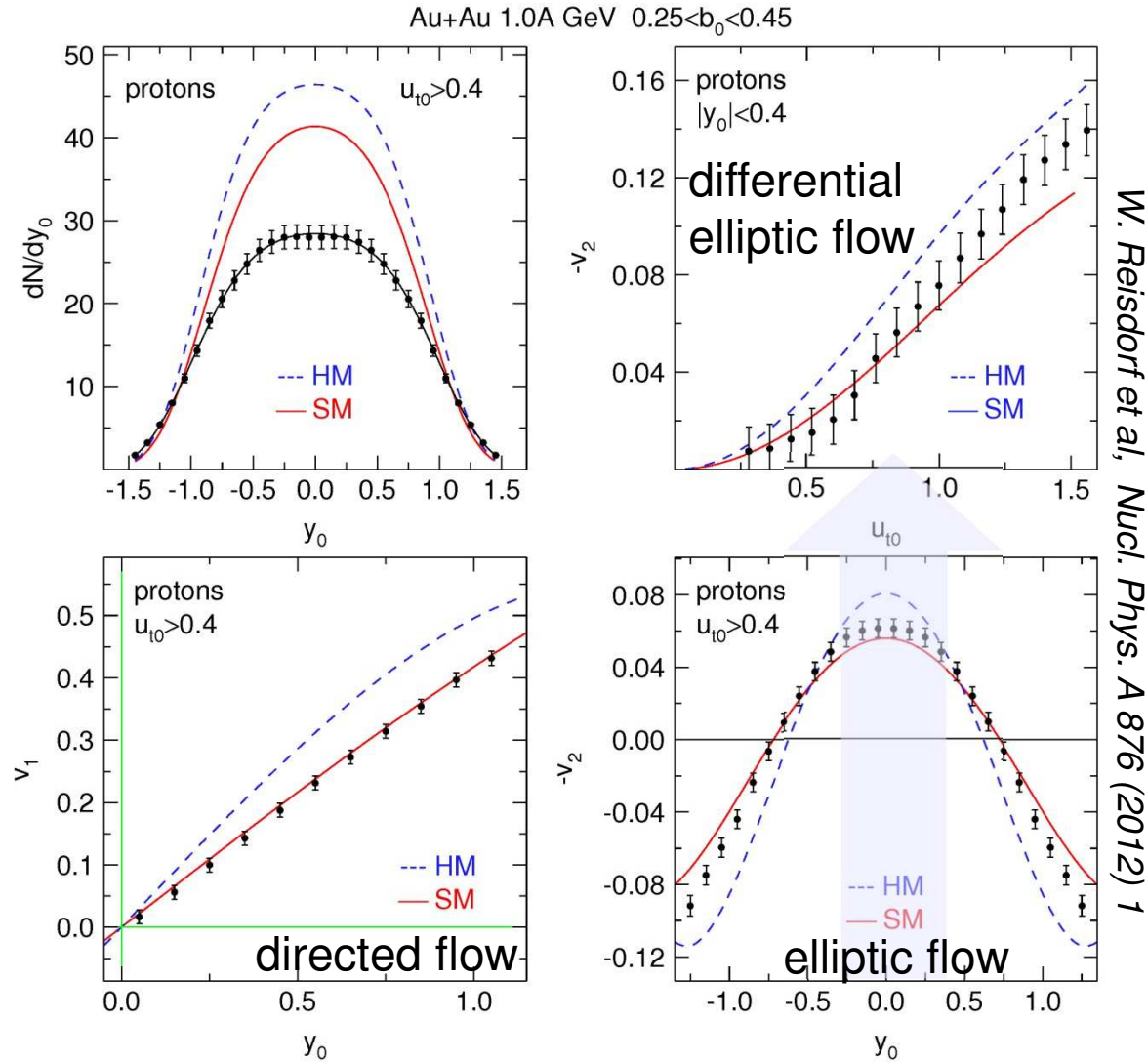
Strategy:

use one model as reference ->

IQMD

compare other models to IQMD

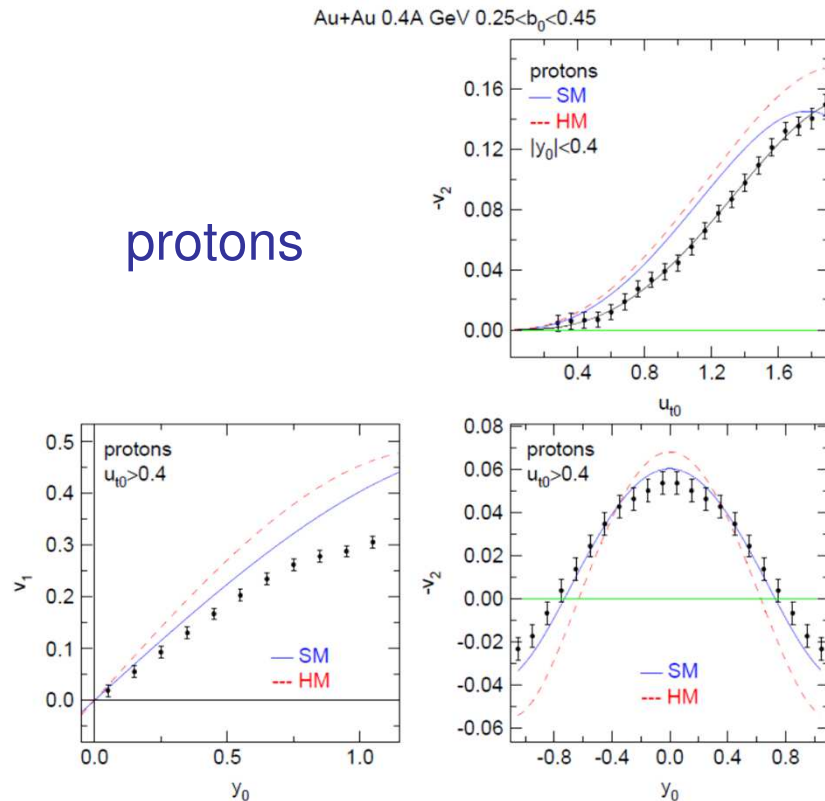
# Collective flows in Au+Au collisions at 1.0A GeV



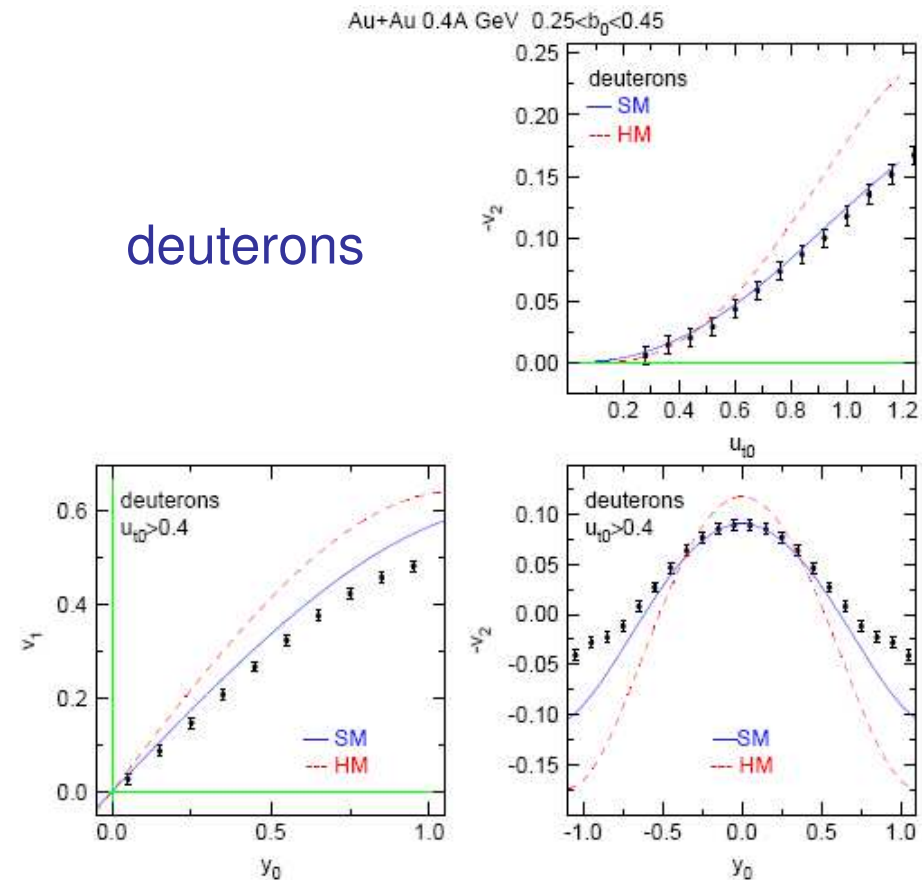
# Flow of light nuclei in Au+Au at 0.4A GeV

W. Reisdorf et al. (FOPI), NPA 876, 1 (2012)

protons



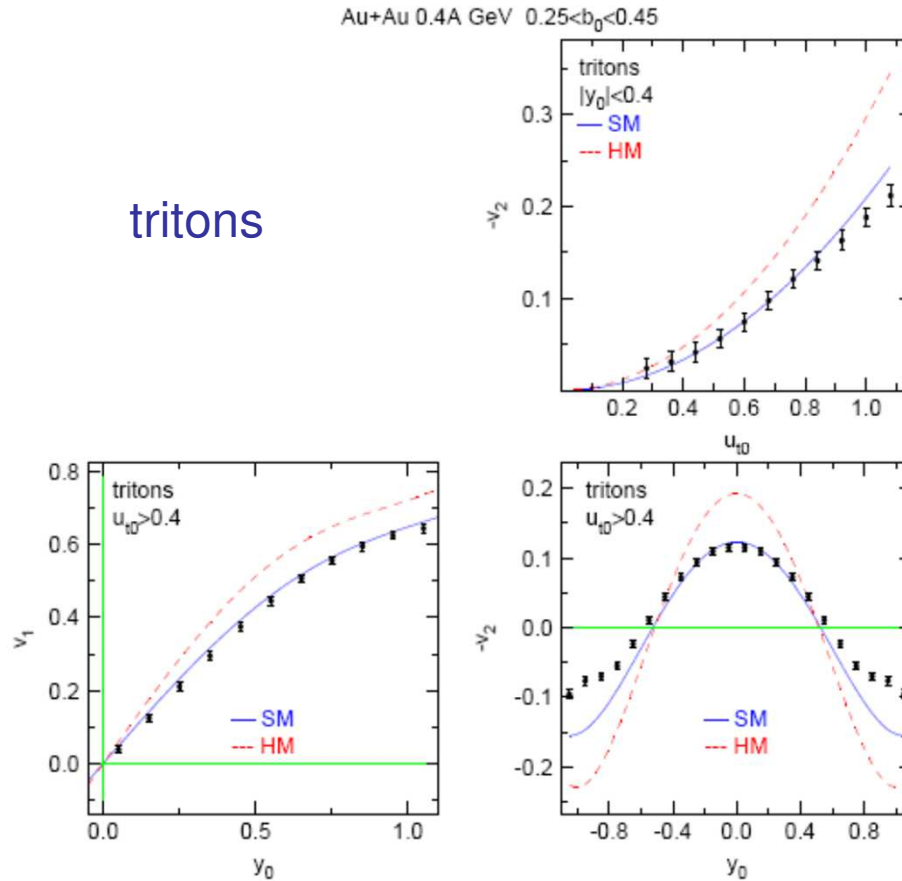
deuterons



- heavier clusters (d) are less influenced by thermal noise → stronger flow
- no mass scaling observed
- EOS impacts the whole phase space distribution
- Proton and deuteron distributions favor a soft EOS (IQMD).

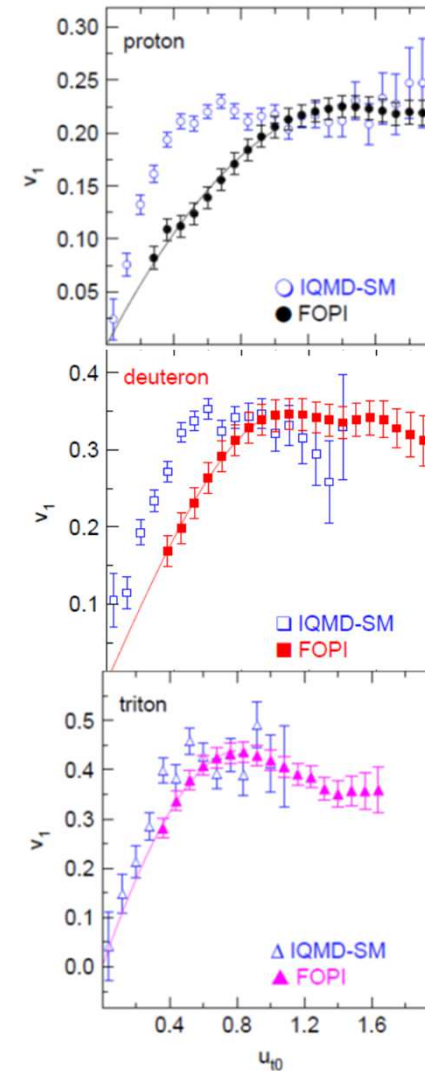
# Flow of light nuclei in Au+Au collisions at 0.4 AGeV

tritons

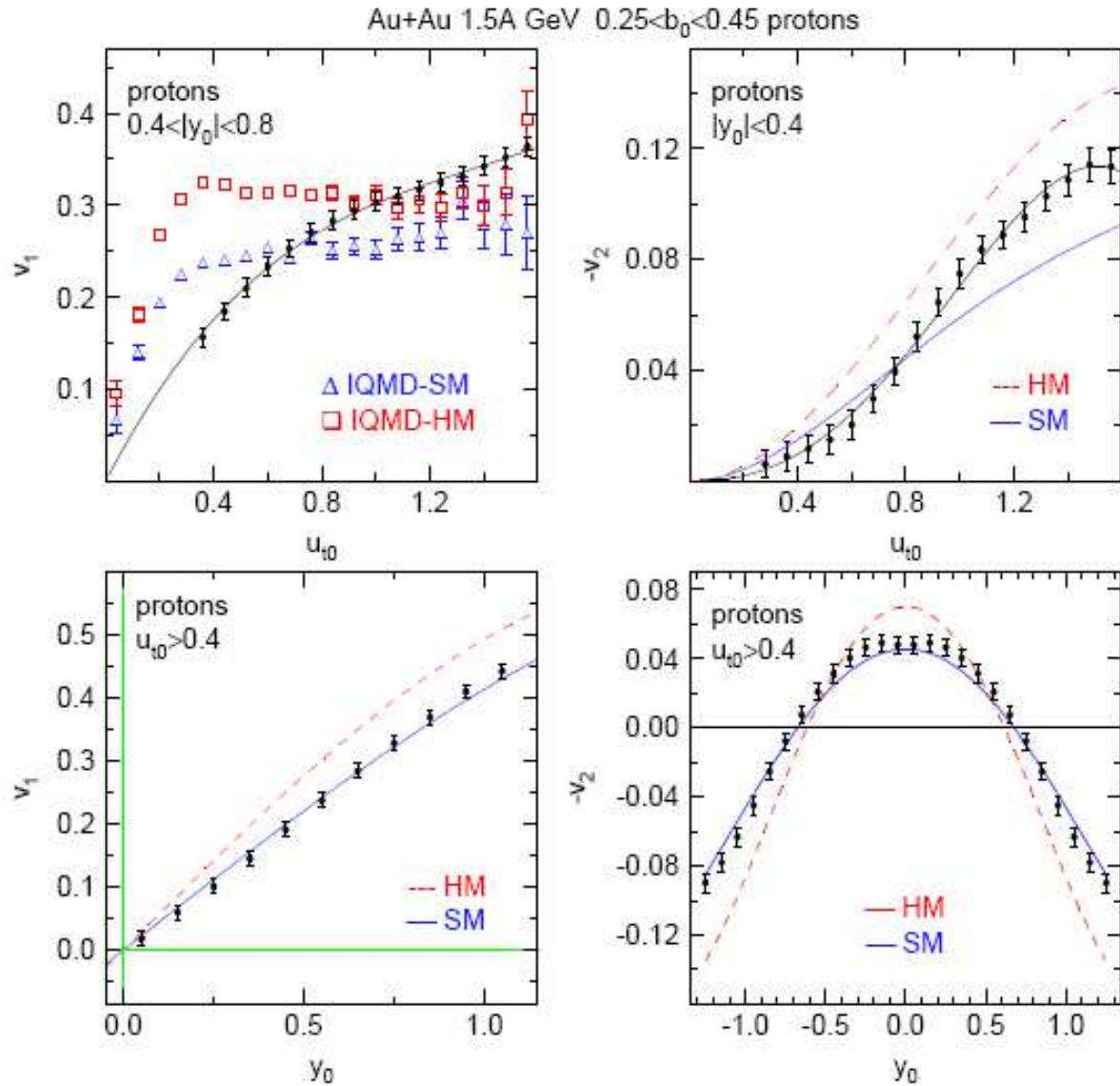


- Flow pattern of heavy clusters is described by SM despite the mismatch in the overall yield.
- Mismatch in differential sideflow point to insufficient description of clusterisation.

differential sideflow:  
 $0.3 < |y_0| < 0.7$



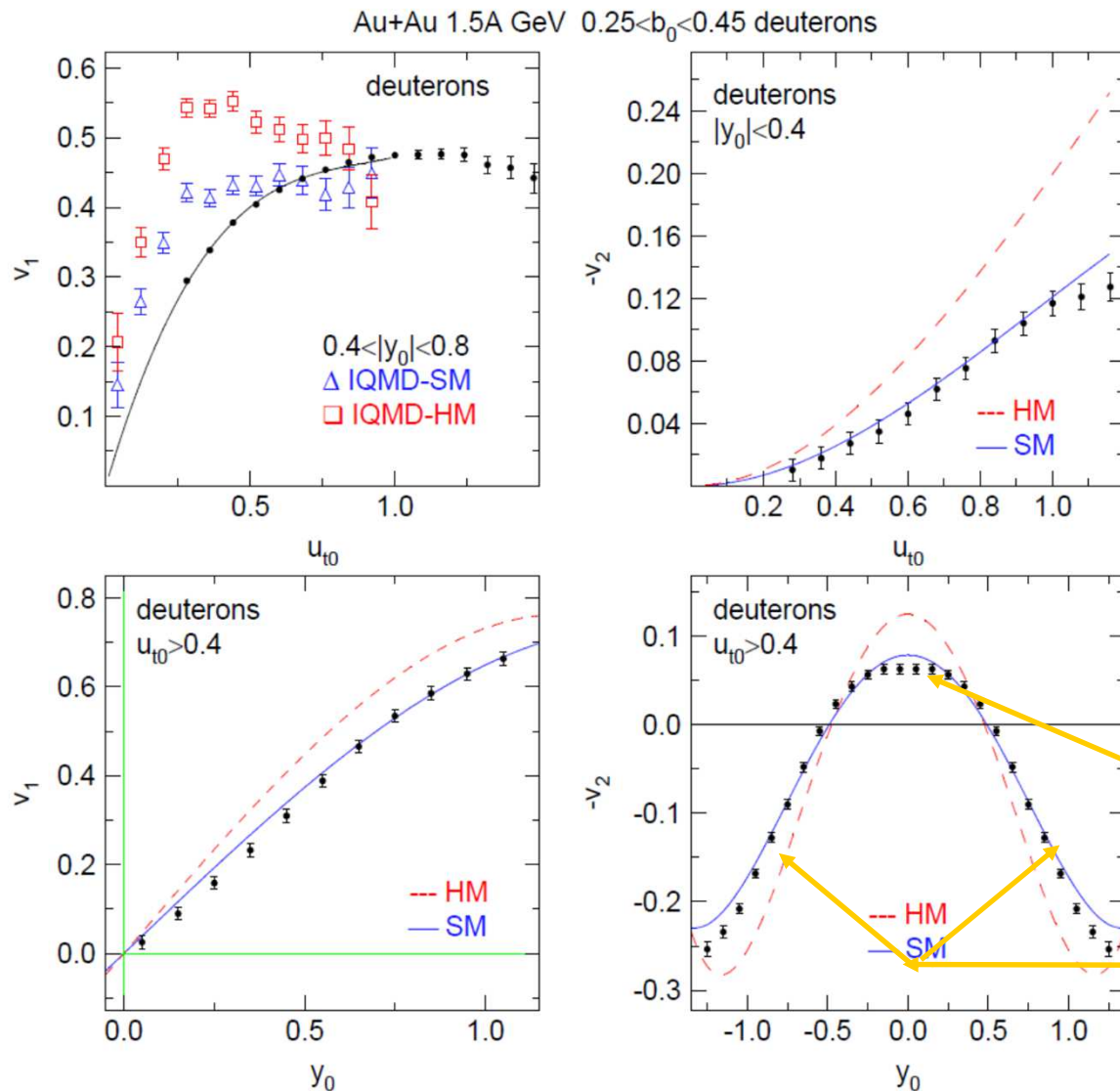
# Flows of protons at higher energies



W. Reisdorf et al. (FOPI), NPA 876, 1 (2012)

No perfect agreement,  
preference for EOS with SM

# Flows of deuterons at higher energies



W. Reisdorf et al. (FOPI), NPA 876, 1 (2012)

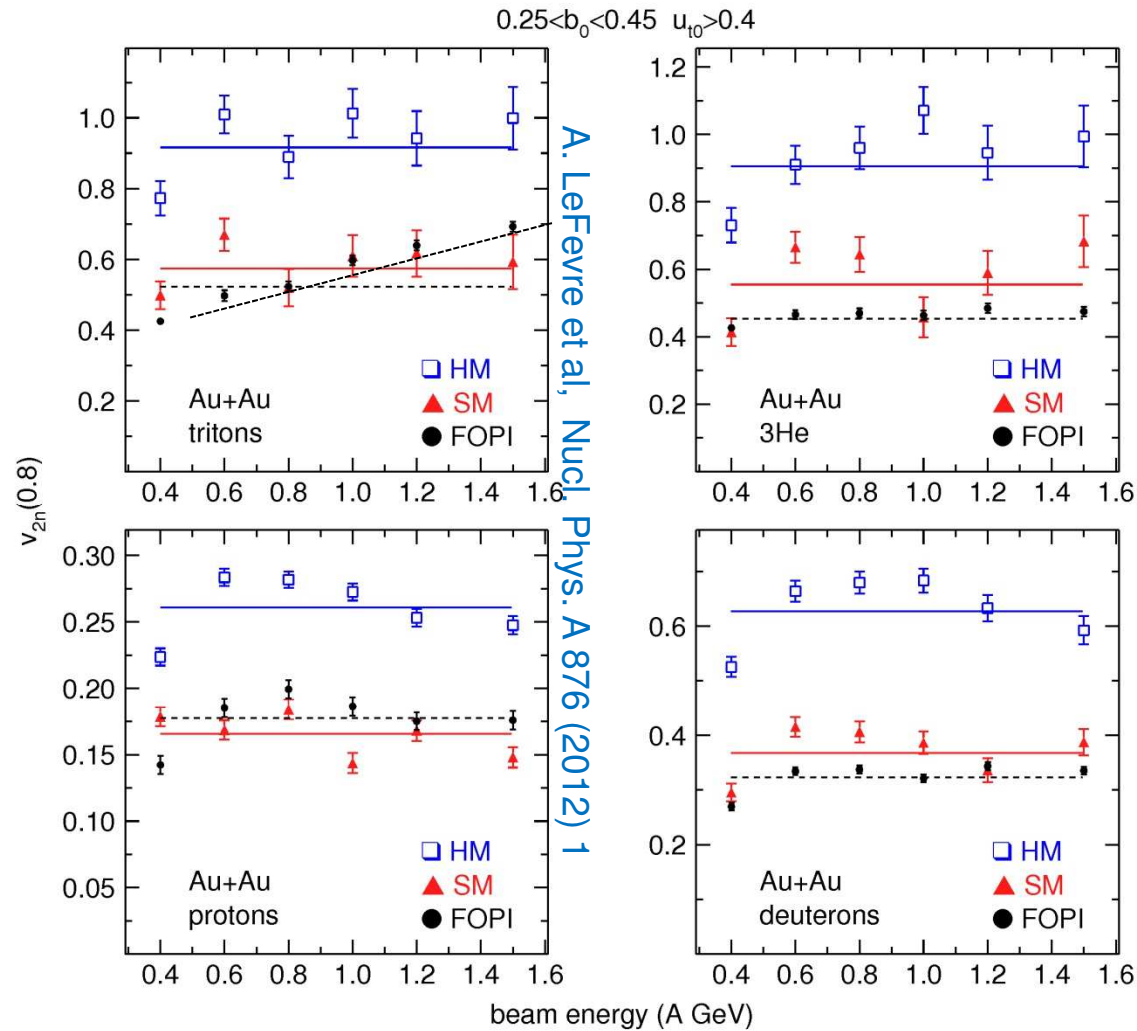
- composite particles are less influenced by thermal noise, **larger flows**
- flow pattern of clusters described by IQMD SM despite mismatch in the overall yields
- mismatch in the region of target/projectile rapidity point to insufficient description of clusterization

$$v_2(Y^{(0)}) = v_{20} + v_{22} \cdot Y^{(0)2}$$

$$v_{2n} = |v_{20}| + |v_{22}|$$



# Elliptic flow of light charged clusters



- influence of clusterisation is partially removed by using this observable
- isotopically resolved elliptic flow is described by IQMD employing an SM EOS
- huge difference for the two types of EOS (SM and HM), much larger than the experimental error bars
- promising observable to constrain the symmetry energy

# Summary

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- light nuclei are copiously formed in heavy ion reactions
  - primordial
  - after secondary decays
  - ....
- their formation cannot be described consistently in thermal models
  - for yields rather low temperatures are required
- phase space distributions of light nuclei are less disturbed by thermal noise
  - radial flow
  - side/elliptic flows
- they formation cannot be described easily
  - no coalescence
  - MST's often used, need a lot of tuning
  - more advanced models describing the complete dynamics are needed
    - our solution FRIGA (see Arnaud's talk, work in progress, needs benchmarking with data)
    - other solutions: AMD....

# Thank you for your attention

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