

# STATISTICAL HADRONIZATION MODEL FOR LOW-ENERGY HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS

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INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS  
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# INTRODUCTION

**Heavy-ion collisions at lower beam energies** provide access to QCD matter at **high net-baryon densities**.

Basic description is obtained with transport models (UrQMD) and the emphasis is usually put on non-equilibrium features.

*S. A. Bass et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 41, 255 (1998),*

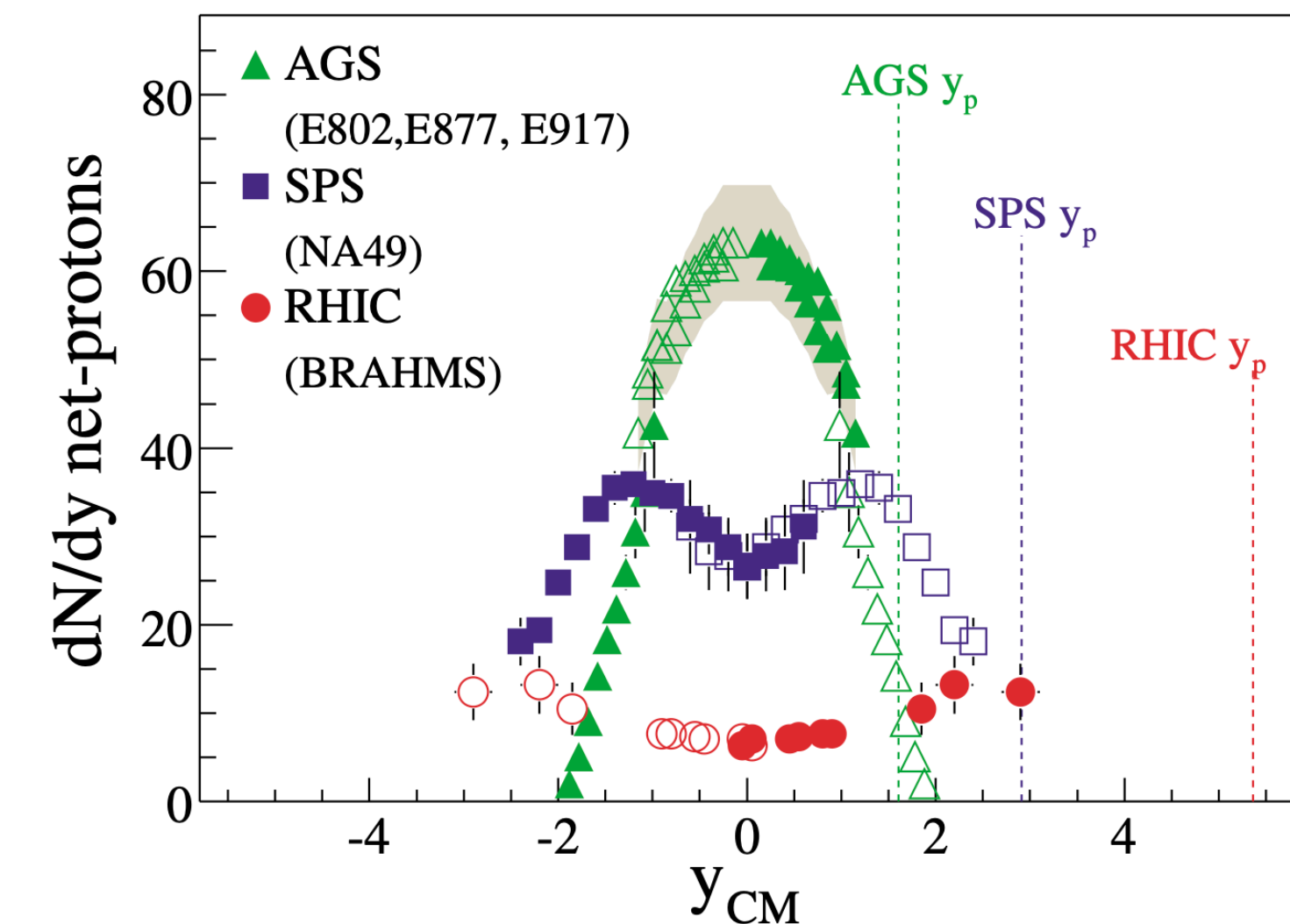
*O. Buss, et al, Phys. Rept. 512, 1 (2012),*

*H. Petersen, D. Oliinychenko, M. Mayer, J. Staudenmaier, and S. Ryu, Nucl. Phys. A 982, 399 (2019),*

*C. Hartnack, R. K. Puri, J. Aichelin, J. Konopka, S. A. Bass, H. Stoecker, and W. Greiner, Eur. Phys. J. A 1, 151 (1998)*

*W. Cassing and E. L. Bratkovskaya, Phys. Rept. 308, 65 (1999).*

*I. G. Bearden et al. (BRAHMS), PRL 93, 102301 (2004)*



**The problem of whether the fireball that is formed in the few-GeV energy regime is thermalized remains a matter of debate.**

The study of **hadron yields** and **spectra** is crucial to answer this question.

# INTRODUCTION

**Thermal models** of hadron production (based on the idea of **statistical hadronization**) have been very successful in **describing hadron yields in various collision processes**.

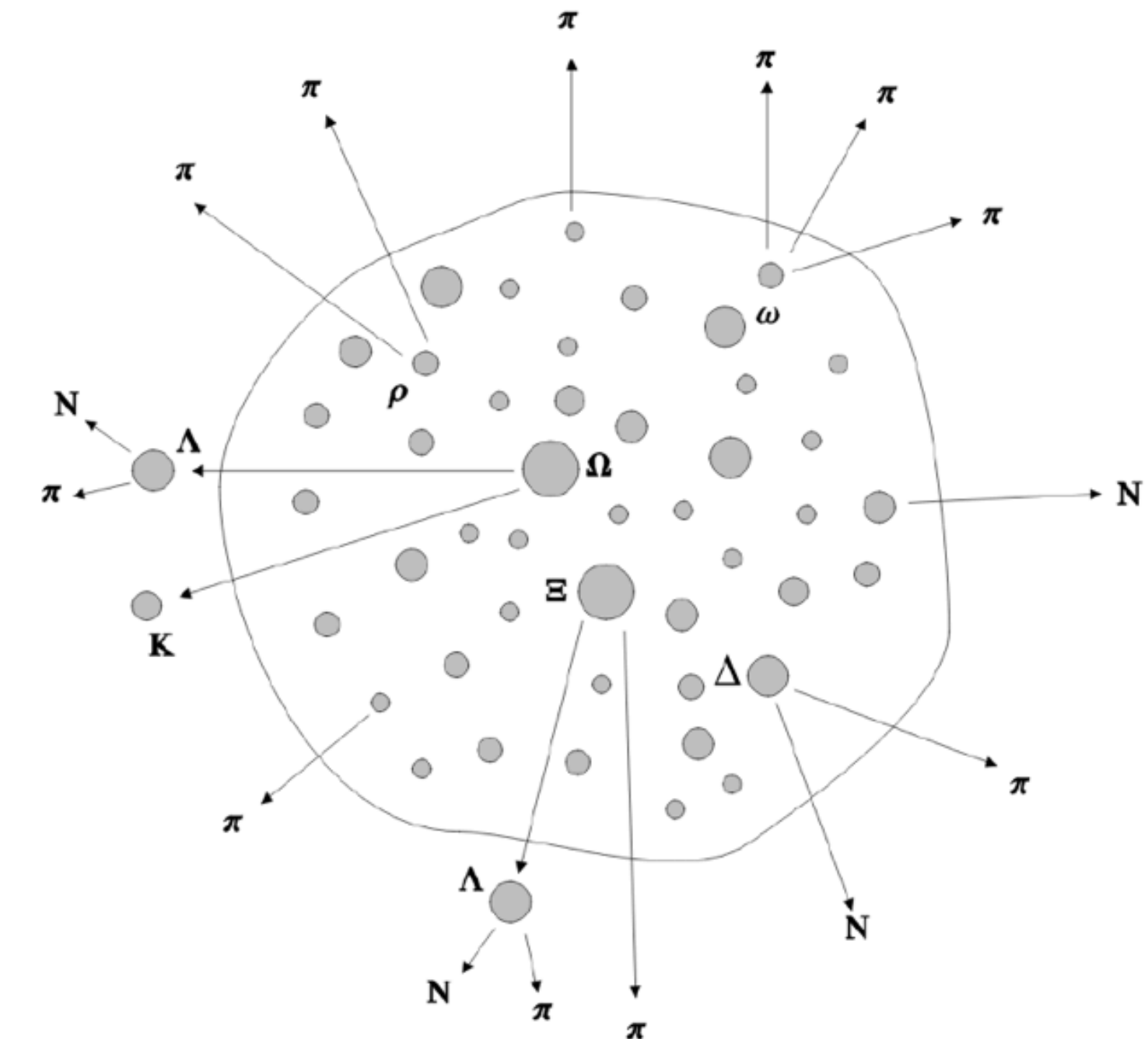
*J. Cleymans, H. Satz, F. Becattini, M. Gazdzicki, J. Sollfrank, W. Florkowski, W. Broniowski, J. Letessier, J. Rafelski, R. Stock, M. I. Gorenstein, A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger, K. Redlich, and J. Stachel ...*

The **hadron yields** can be explained over several orders of multiplicity by fixing just **a few thermodynamic parameters**.

Matter formed at the chemical freeze-out is treated as multicomponent **ideal hadron resonance gas**.

The role of hadronic resonances is crucial in describing the data at high energies (~400 states are included).

At lower energies their role is diminished.



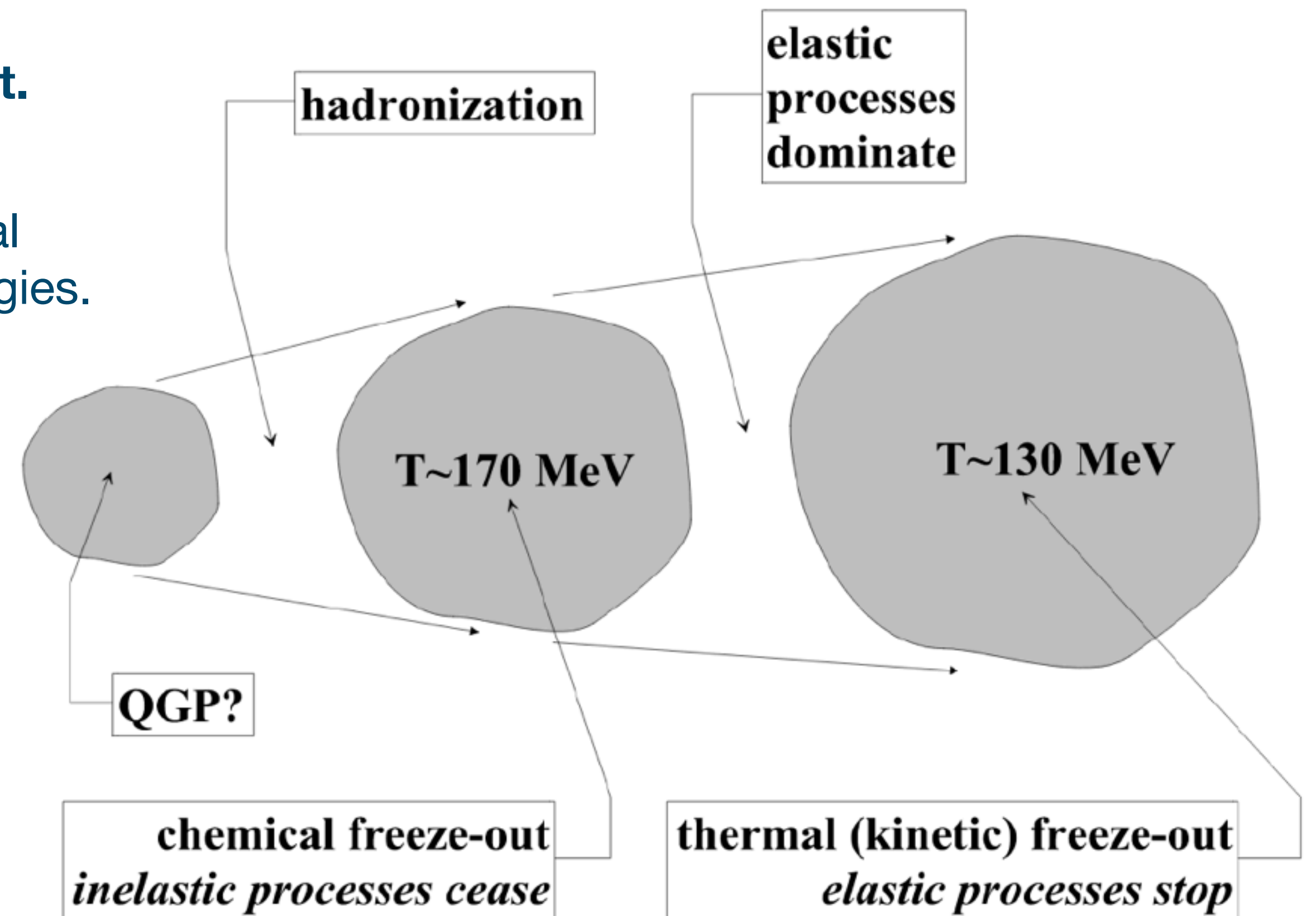
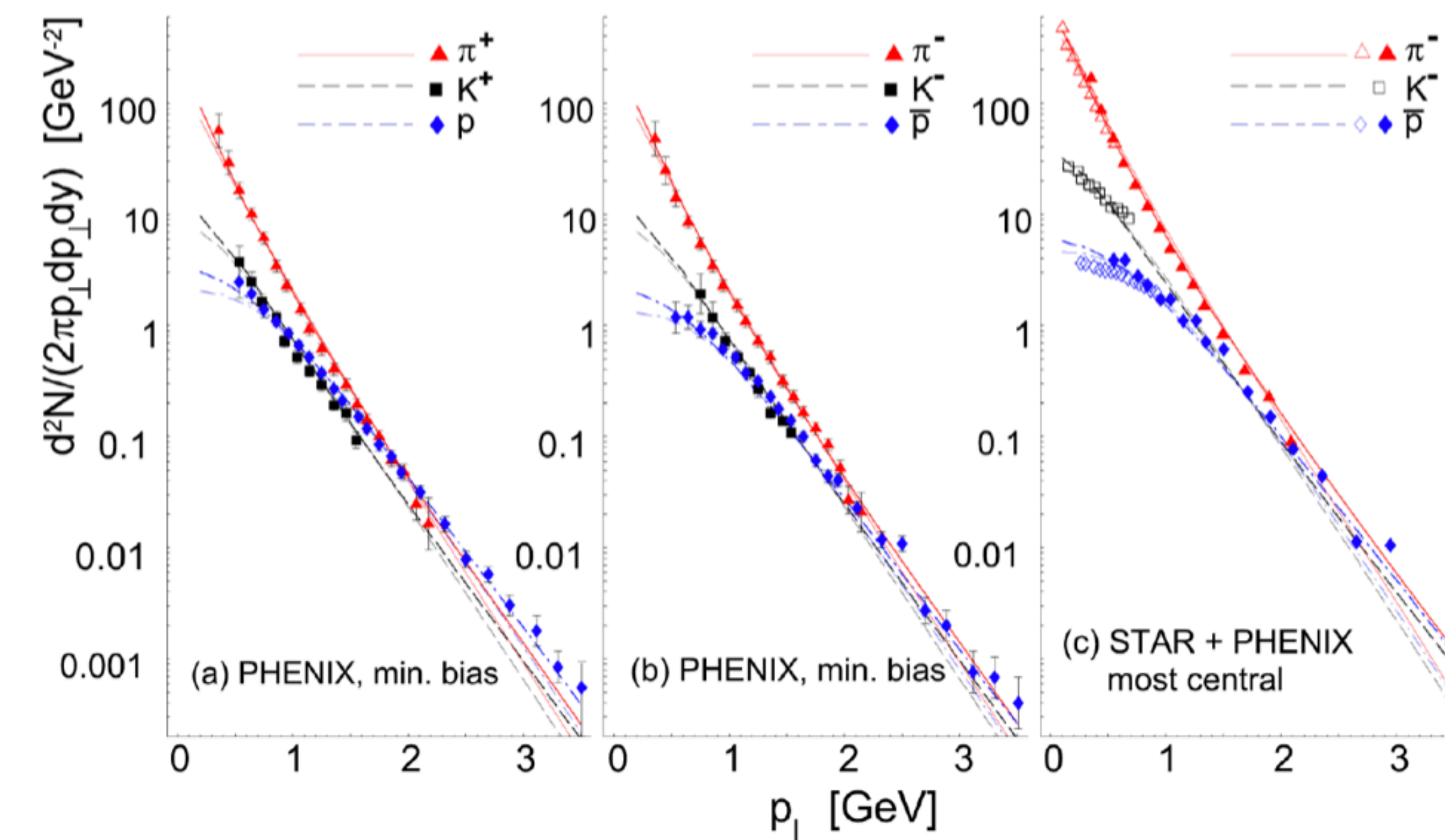
# INTRODUCTION

1) Studies of ratios of hadron yields define **chemical freeze-out**.

2) Studies of spectra of hadrons define **kinetic freeze-out**.

We adopt the **single-freeze-out scenario** where chemical and kinetic freeze-outs coincide - successful at high energies.

*W. Broniowski, W. Florkowski, PRL 87, 272302 (2001)*





# BLAST-WAVE MODELS

Instead of determining freeze-out conditions from hydrodynamic simulations one can **model the freeze-out conditions (hypersurface and flow)**.

In the original formulation of the **blast-wave model by Siemens and Rasmussen (SR)** the **freeze-out was spherical and the flow was radial**.

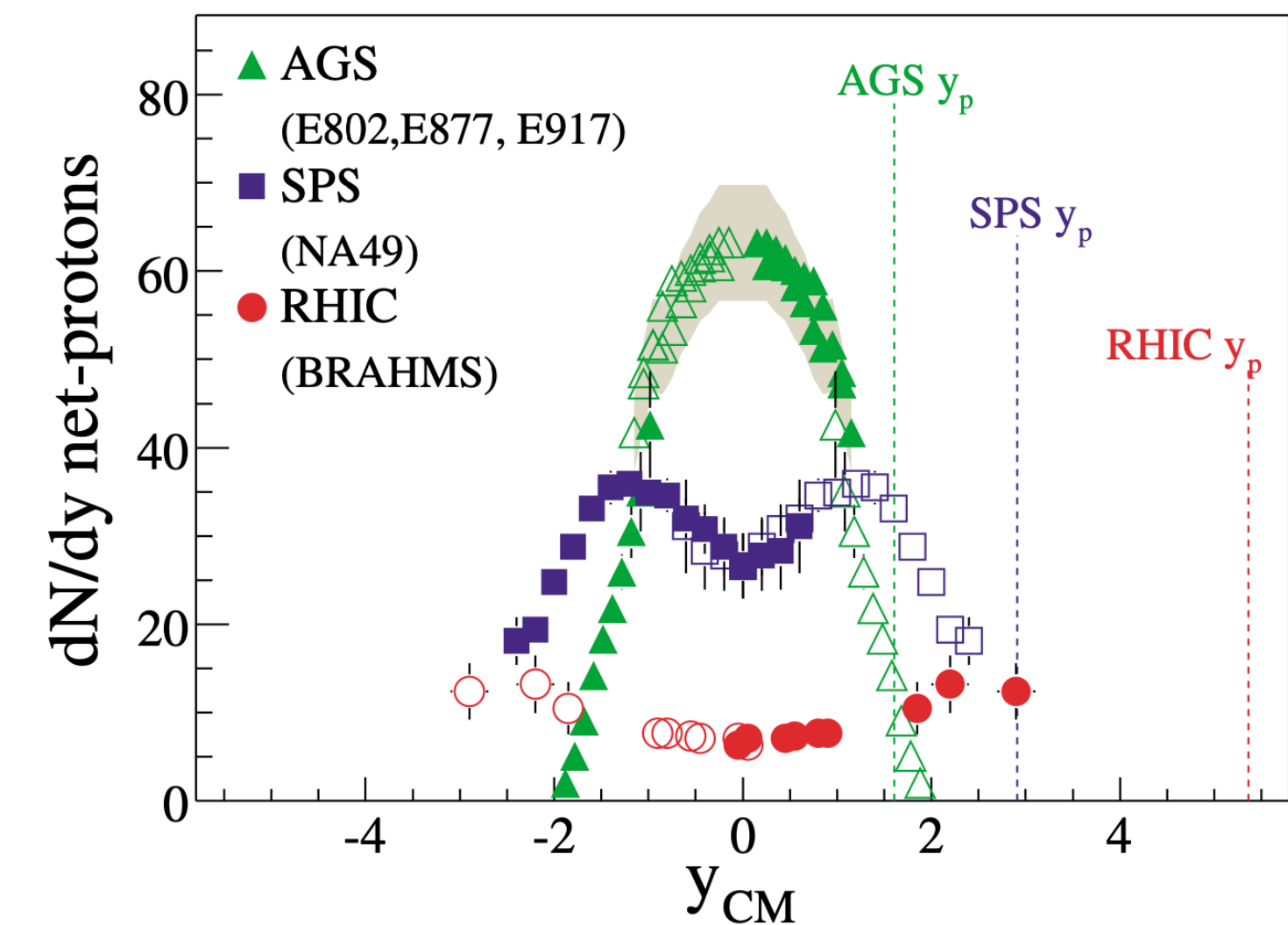
*P. Siemens and O. Rasmussen, PRL 42, 880 (1979)*

This approach was modified for higher energies (RHIC and LHC) assuming boost-invariance and cylindrical symmetry.

*E. Schnedermann, J. Sollfrank, U. Heinz, PRC 48, 2462 (1993)*

**We aim to re-examine RS model in the context of low-energy collision measurements performed by HADES where boost-invariance is not observed.**

*I. G. Bearden et al. (BRAHMS), PRL 93, 102301 (2004)*



# COOPER-FRYE FORMULA

**Invariant momentum spectrum** of particles emitted from an expanding source is given by

*F. Cooper and G. Frye, PRD 10, 186 (1974).*

$$E_p \frac{dN}{d^3p} = \int d^3\Sigma_\mu(x) p^\mu f(x, p)$$

$$E_p = \sqrt{m^2 + \mathbf{p}^2}.$$

Assuming a **spherically symmetric source** the freeze-out points are defined by the space-time coordinates

$$x^\mu = (t, \mathbf{x}) = (t(\zeta), r(\zeta) \mathbf{e}_r)$$

$$\mathbf{e}_r = (\cos \phi \sin \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \theta) \quad \zeta \longrightarrow (t(\zeta), r(\zeta))$$

$$d^3\Sigma_\mu = -\epsilon_{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma} \frac{\partial x^\alpha}{\partial a} \frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial b} \frac{\partial x^\gamma}{\partial c} da db dc.$$



$$d^3\Sigma_\mu = (r'(\zeta), t'(\zeta) \mathbf{e}_r) r^2(\zeta) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi d\zeta.$$

We assume **sudden freezeout**

$$t(r) = \text{const}$$

With the hadron four-momentum parametrized as  $p^\mu = (E_p, p \mathbf{e}_p)$   $\mathbf{e}_p = (\cos \varphi \sin \vartheta, \sin \varphi \sin \vartheta, \cos \vartheta)$

We get

$$d^3\Sigma(x) \cdot p = E_p \sin \theta d\theta d\phi r^2 dr$$

# LOCAL THERMAL EQUILIBRIUM

Assume that the hadron system formed is very close to **local thermodynamic equilibrium**

$$f(x, p) = \frac{g_s}{(2\pi)^3} \left[ \Upsilon^{-1} \exp \left( \frac{p \cdot u}{T} \right) - \chi \right]^{-1}$$

The fugacity is defined as

*G. Torrieri, S. Steinke, W. Broniowski, W. Florkowski, J. Letessier, and J. Rafelski, CPC 167, 229 (2005).*

$$\Upsilon = \gamma_q^{N_q + N_{\bar{q}}} \gamma_s^{N_s + N_{\bar{s}}} \exp \left( \frac{\mu}{T} \right) \quad \mu = \sum_Q Q \mu_Q \quad Q \in \{B, I_3, S\}$$

We allow for **strangeness undersaturation** (characteristic feature at low beam energies).

# HUBBLE-LIKE RADIAL FLOW

We introduce a **spherically symmetric flow**

$$u^\mu = \gamma(r)(1, v(r)e_r)$$

In the **original SR blast-wave model**, it was assumed that the thermodynamic parameters as well as the radial flow velocity are constant

$$(T = \text{const}, \mu = \text{const}, v = v_0 = \text{const})$$

We take **Hubble-like flow**

$$v(r) = \tanh(Hr)$$

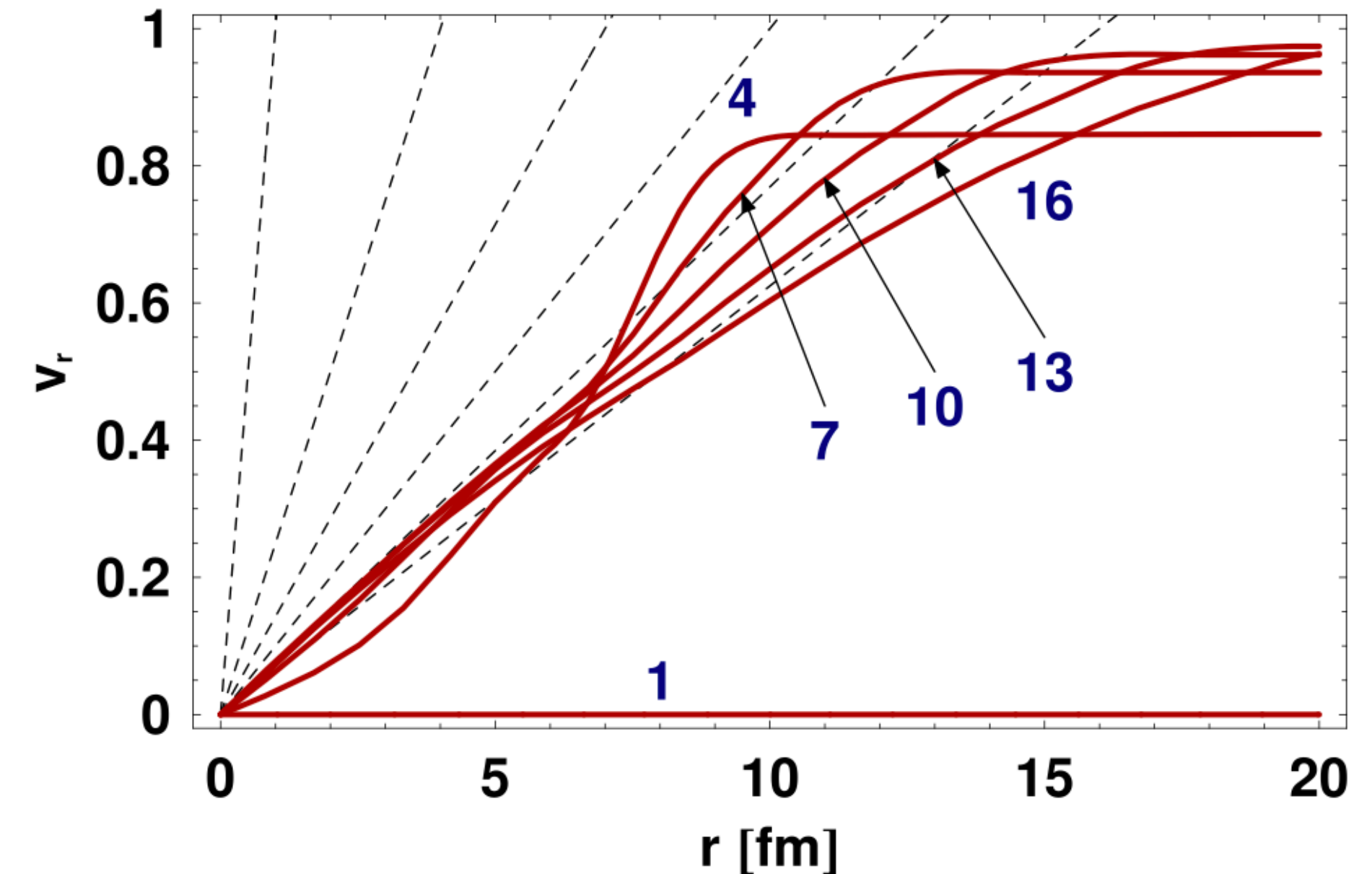
The parameter **H** plays a role of the **Hubble constant** in the theory of expanding Universe.

As a result we get

$$p \cdot u = \gamma(E_p - pv\kappa)$$

$$\kappa \equiv e_p \cdot e_r$$

*M. Chojnacki, W. Florkowski, and T. Csorgo, PRC 71, 044902 (2005).*



Condition of constant radial flow breaks requirement that the flow at the center of the system should vanish.

Results of hydrodynamic calculations indicate that the **radial flow linearly grows with radius** for small values of  $r$ .



# THERMINATOR

Our freeze-out prescription is implemented in the **THERMINATOR** Monte Carlo hadron generator which allows for studies of hadron production taking place on **arbitrary freeze-out hypersurfaces** defined in the four-dimensional space-time.

*A. Kisiel, T. Taluc, W. Broniowski, and W. Florkowski, Comput. Phys. Commun. 174, 669 (2006).*

*M. Chojnacki, A. Kisiel, W. Florkowski, and W. Broniowski, Comput. Phys. Commun. 183, 746 (2012).*

THERMINATOR generates primordial particles at the freeze-out hypersurface.

Unstable particles are then allowed to decay contributing to feed-down.

The code includes contributions from decays of all heavier resonances — most of them are very small or negligible.

The largest contribution comes from decays of the lowest-lying baryonic resonance, i.e., Delta (1232).

# THERMODYNAMIC PARAMETERS

**We obtain thermodynamic model parameters from the ratios of experimental yields measured by HADES in Au+Au collisions at 2.4 GeV.**

We assume that the **protons finally bound in the emitted deuterons, tritons, and Helium nuclei were initially frozen out as unbound nucleons**; hence, they are included in the proton yield

$$N = \int d^3\Sigma_\mu(x) \int \frac{d^3p}{E_p} p^\mu f(x, p).$$

$$N = n(T, \Upsilon) \int d^3\Sigma_\mu(x) u^\mu(x) \equiv n(T, \Upsilon) \mathcal{V},$$

**In the studies of the ratios of hadronic yields the invariant volume cancels (if the thermodynamic parameters are constant on the freeze-out hypersurface!).**

$$T = 49.6 \pm 1 \text{ MeV}, \mu_B = 776 \pm 3 \text{ MeV},$$

$$\mu_{I_3} = -14.1 \pm 0.2 \text{ MeV}, \mu_S = 123.4 \pm 2 \text{ MeV},$$

$$\gamma_s = 0.16 \pm 0.02$$

TABLE I. Particle multiplicities used in the determination of the freeze-out parameters. Protons bound in nuclei are taken into account as shown.

Particle	Multiplicity	Uncertainty	Ref.
p	77.6	$\pm 2.4$	[29,31]
p (bound)	46.5	$\pm 1.5$	[29,31]
$\pi^+$	9.3	$\pm 0.6$	[32]
$\pi^-$	17.1	$\pm 1.1$	[32]
$K^+$	$5.98 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$\pm 6.79 \cdot 10^{-3}$	[33]
$K^-$	$5.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$\pm 5.96 \cdot 10^{-5}$	[33]
$\Lambda$	$8.22 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$^{+5.2}_{-9.2} \cdot 10^{-3}$	[34]

$\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 2.4 \text{ GeV}$  full phase space for the 10% Au-Au collisions

[29] M. Szala (HADES), *Light nuclei formation in heavy ion collisions measured with HADES*

[31] M. Szala (HADES), *Springer Proc.Phys.* 250 (2020) 297-301

[32] J. Adamczewski-Musch et al., (HADES) *EPJA* 56 (2020) 10, 259

[33] J. Adamczewski-Musch et al. (HADES), *PLB* 778, 403 (2018).

[34] J. Adamczewski-Musch et al. (HADES), *PLB* 793, 457 (2019).



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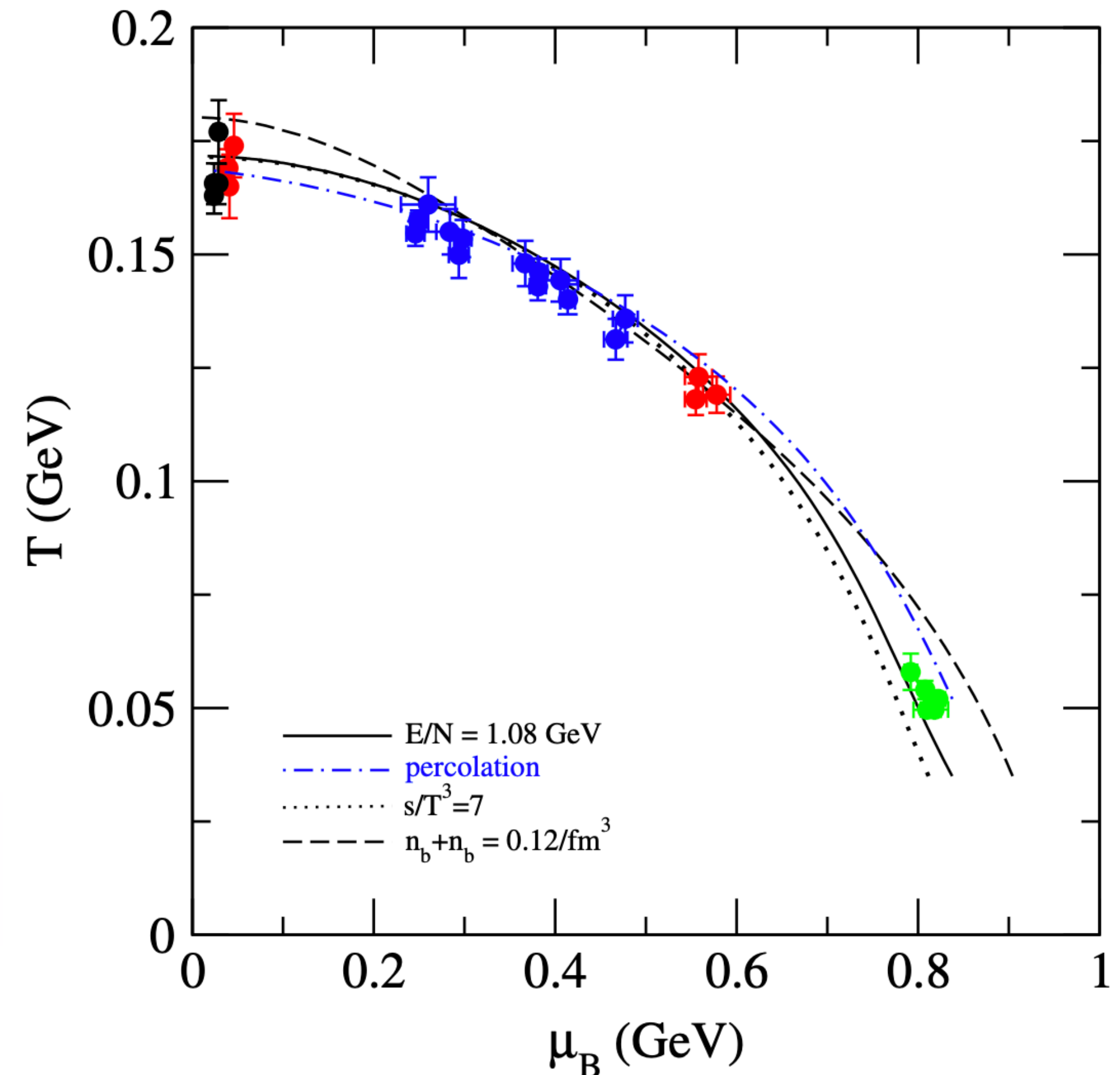
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*J. Cleymans, H. Oeschler, K. Redlich, and S. Wheaton, PRC 73, 034905 (2006).*



# TRANSVERSE-MOMENTUM AND RAPIDITY SPECTRA

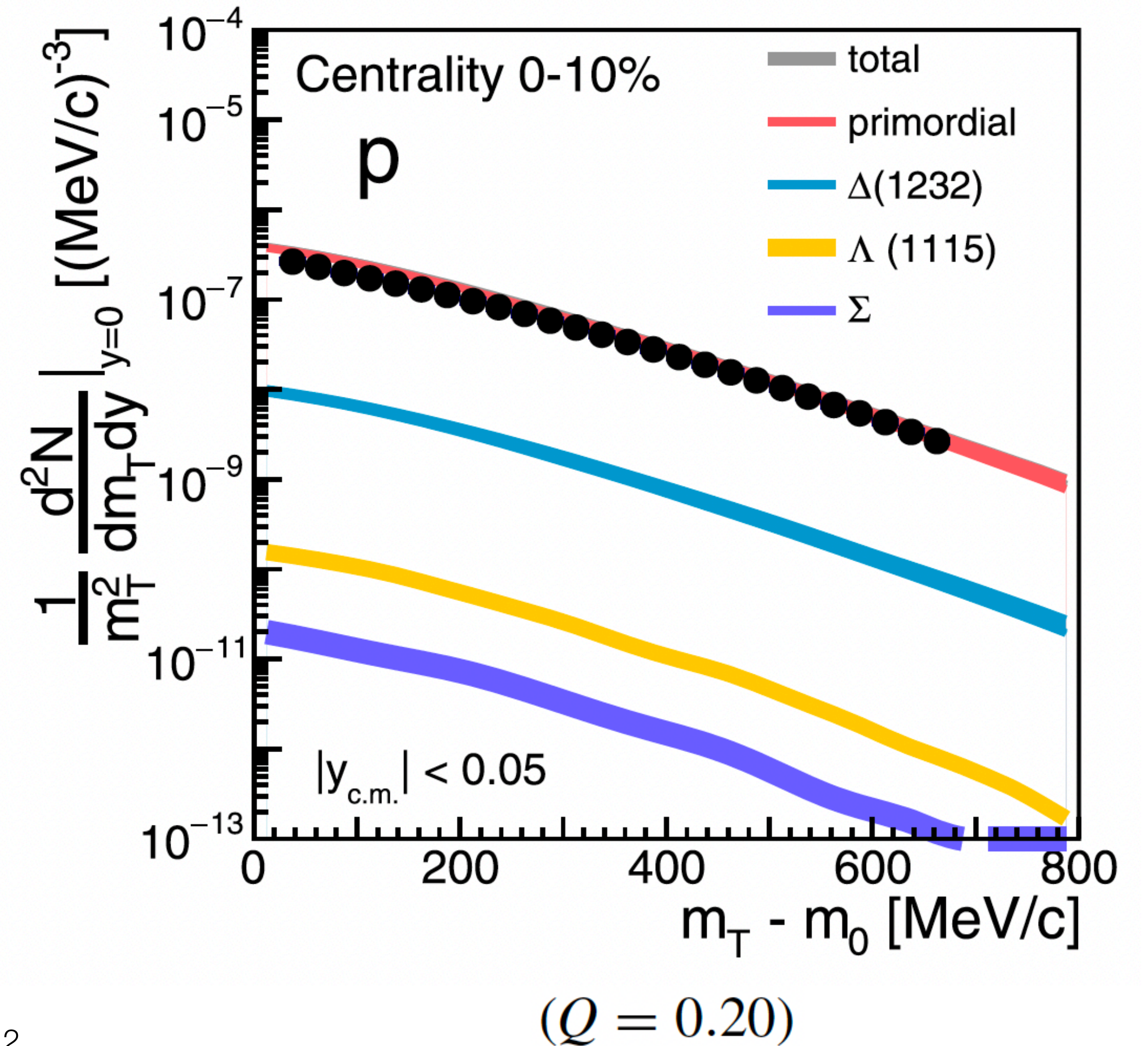
For a fixed value of **H**, the absolute normalization of the yields determines the value of **R**.  
Hence we may treat **R** as a function of **H** and we are left with only one independent parameter **H**.

Value of H is obtained from the fit of the proton transverse-mass spectrum by minimization of the quadratic deviation

$$Q^2(H) = \sum_i \frac{(Q_{i,\text{model}}(H) - Q_{i,\text{exp}})^2}{Q_{i,\text{exp}}^2}.$$

$$R = 16.02 \text{ fm}$$

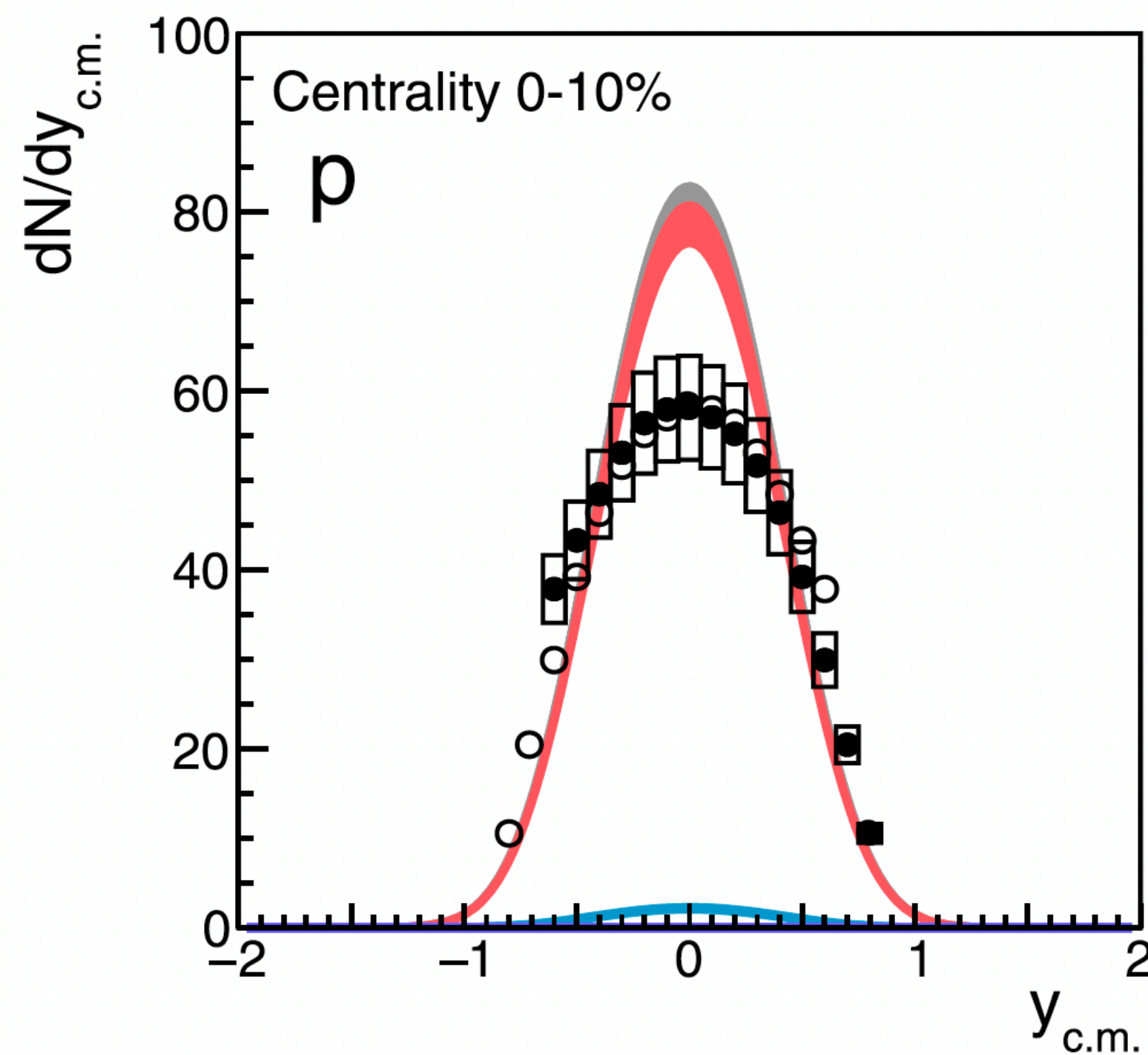
$$H = 0.04 \text{ 1/fm}$$



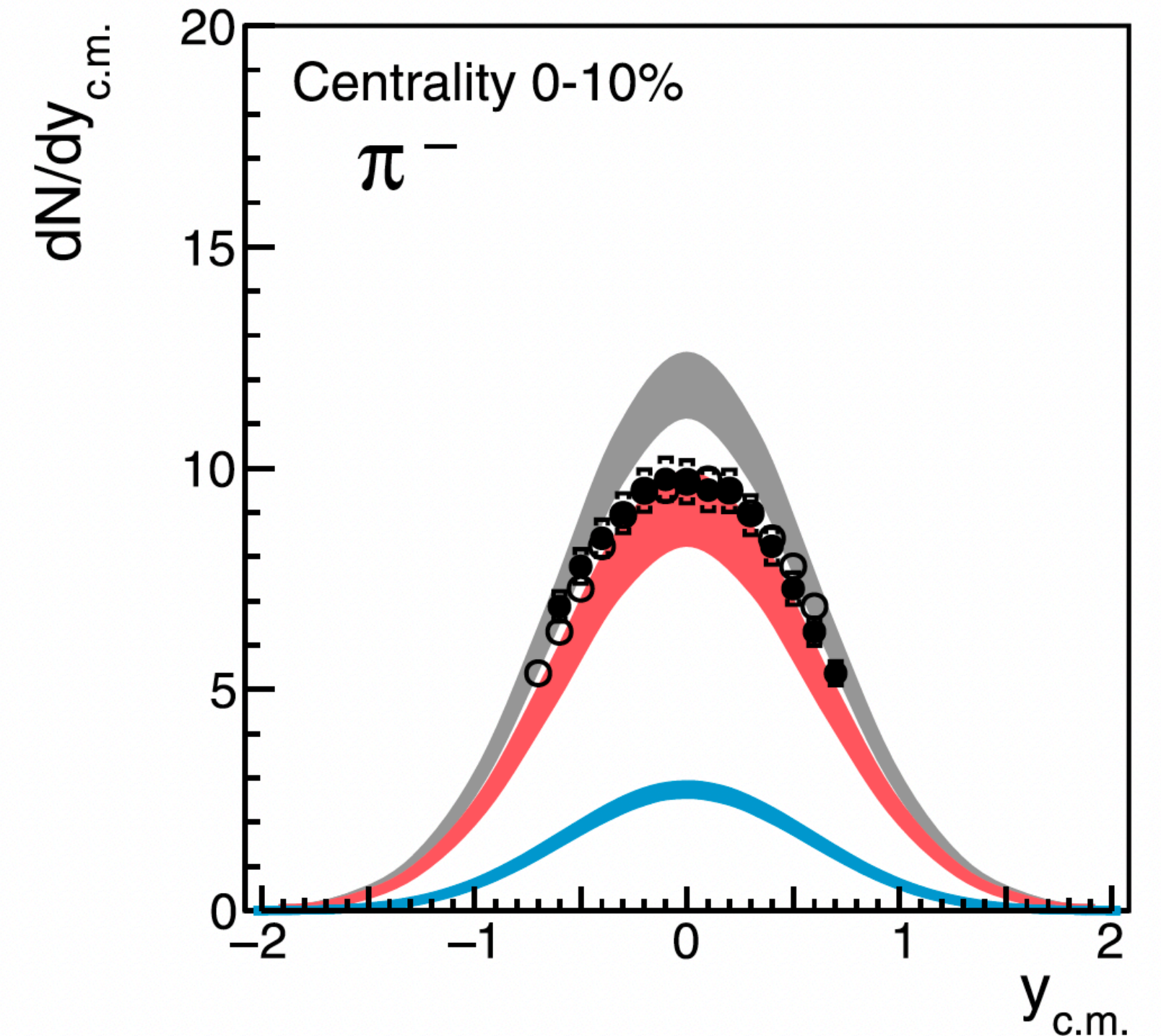
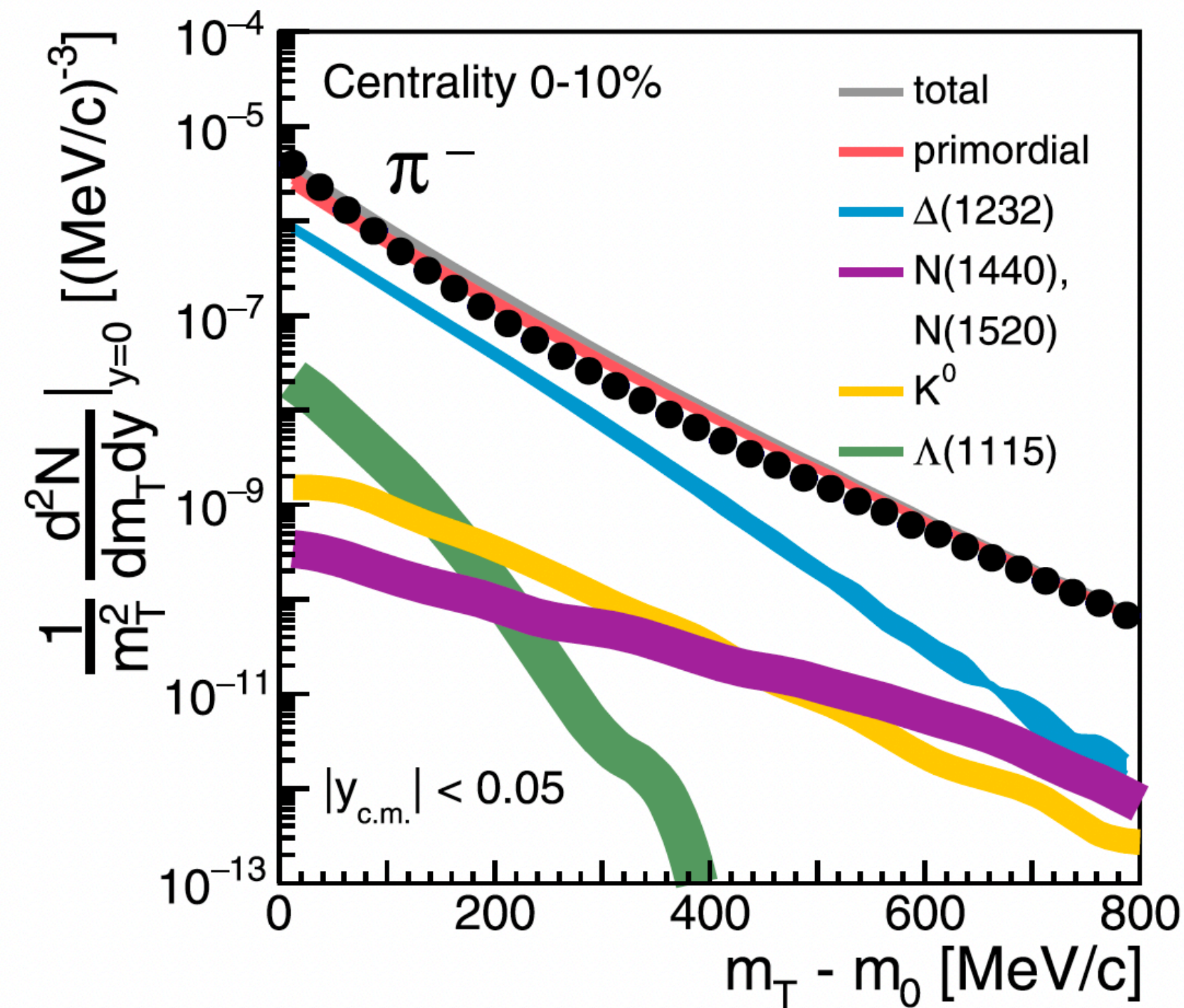


# TRANSVERSE-MOMENTUM AND RAPIDITY SPECTRA

Having determined the value of  $H$ , we can predict other model spectra.



$$Q = 0.28$$

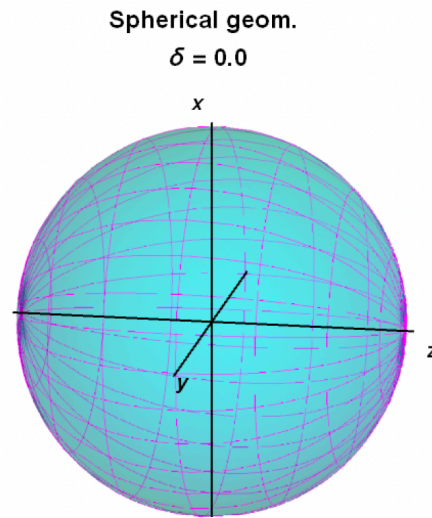
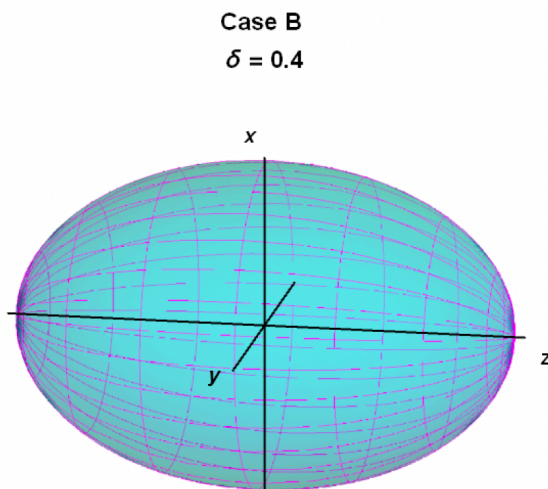
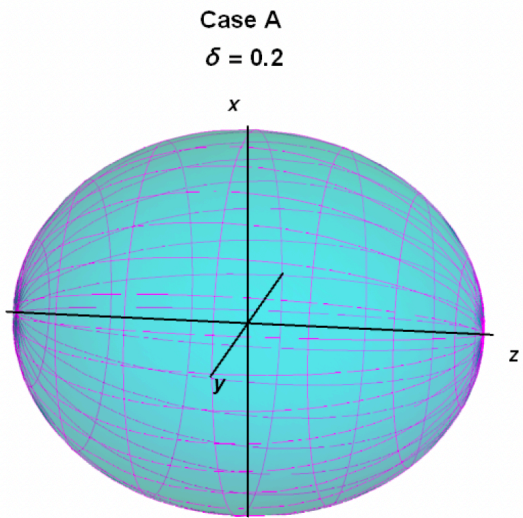


The fact that the rapidity distribution is equally well described (compared to the transverse-mass distribution) points out the **approximate spherical symmetry** of the produced system!



# SPHEROIDAL EXTENSION

$$x^\mu = (t, r\sqrt{1-\epsilon}\sin\theta\hat{\mathbf{e}}_\rho, r\sqrt{1+\epsilon}\cos\theta)$$
$$u^\mu = \gamma(\zeta, \theta) \left(1, v(\zeta)\sqrt{1-\delta}\sin\theta\hat{\mathbf{e}}_\rho, v(\zeta)\sqrt{1+\delta}\cos\theta\right)$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_\rho = (\cos\phi, \sin\phi)$$



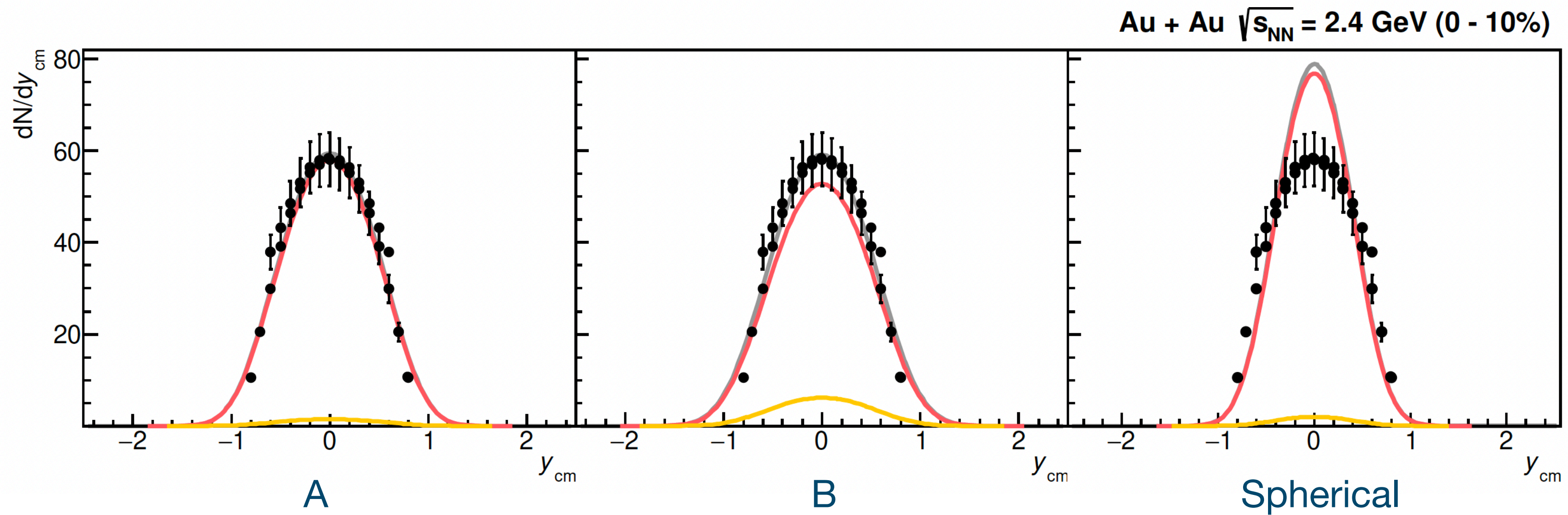
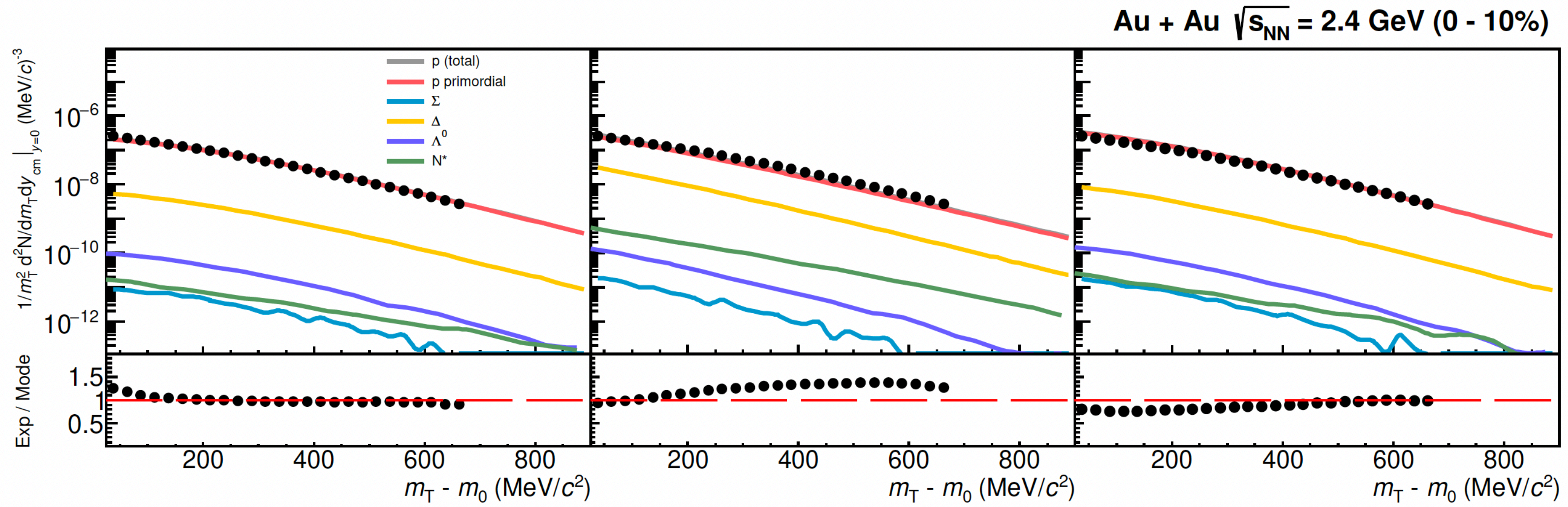
We take for comparison  
transverse mass distributions  
of protons, + and - pions  
in five center-of-mass  
rapidity intervals:  
[0:45;0:35],  
[0:25;0:15],  
[0:05; 0:05],  
[0:15; 0; 25],  
[0:35; 0:45]

Parameter	Spherical geometry, Ref. [29]	Case A	Case B
$T$ (MeV)	49.6	49.6	70.3
$R$ (fm)	16.0	15.7	6.06
$\mu_B$ (MeV)	776	776	876
$\mu_S$ (MeV)	123.4	123.4	198.3
$\mu_{I_3}$ (MeV)	-14.1	-14.1	-21.5
$\gamma_S$	0.16	0.16	0.05
$\chi^2/N_{\text{df}}$	$N_{\text{df}} = 0$	$N_{\text{df}} = 0$	1.13/2
$H$ (GeV)	0.008	0.01	0.0225
$\delta$	0	0.2	0.4
$\sqrt{Q^2}$	0.285	0.238	0.256

$S = 0$  and  $Q/B = 0.4$

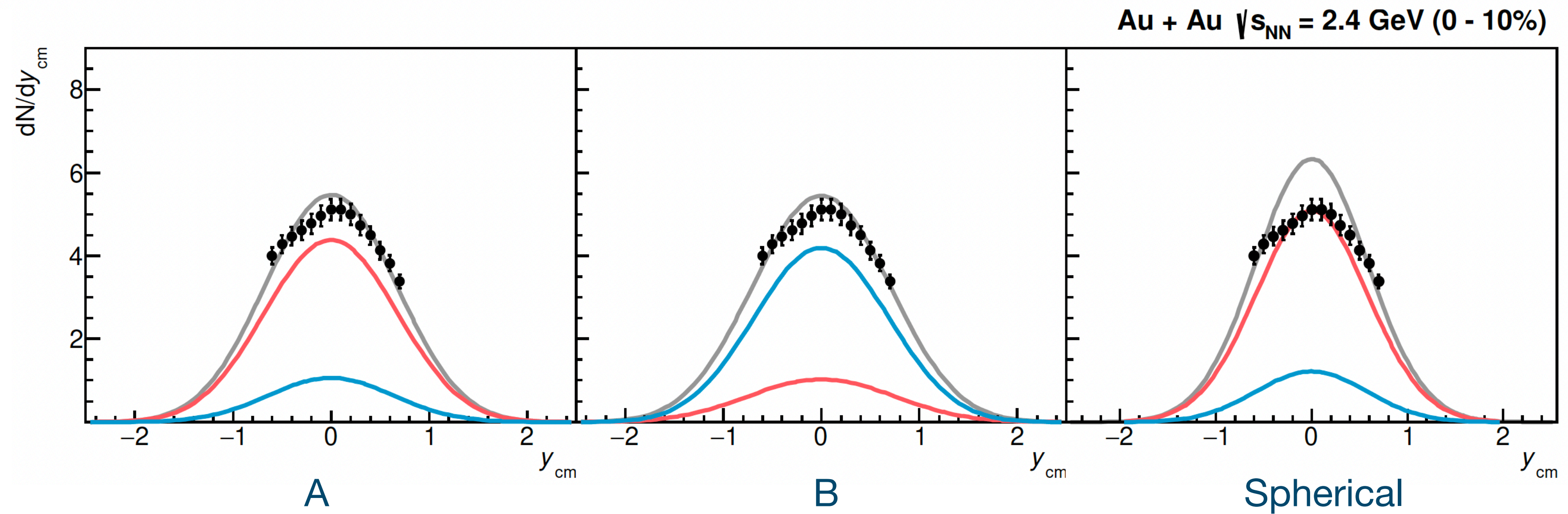
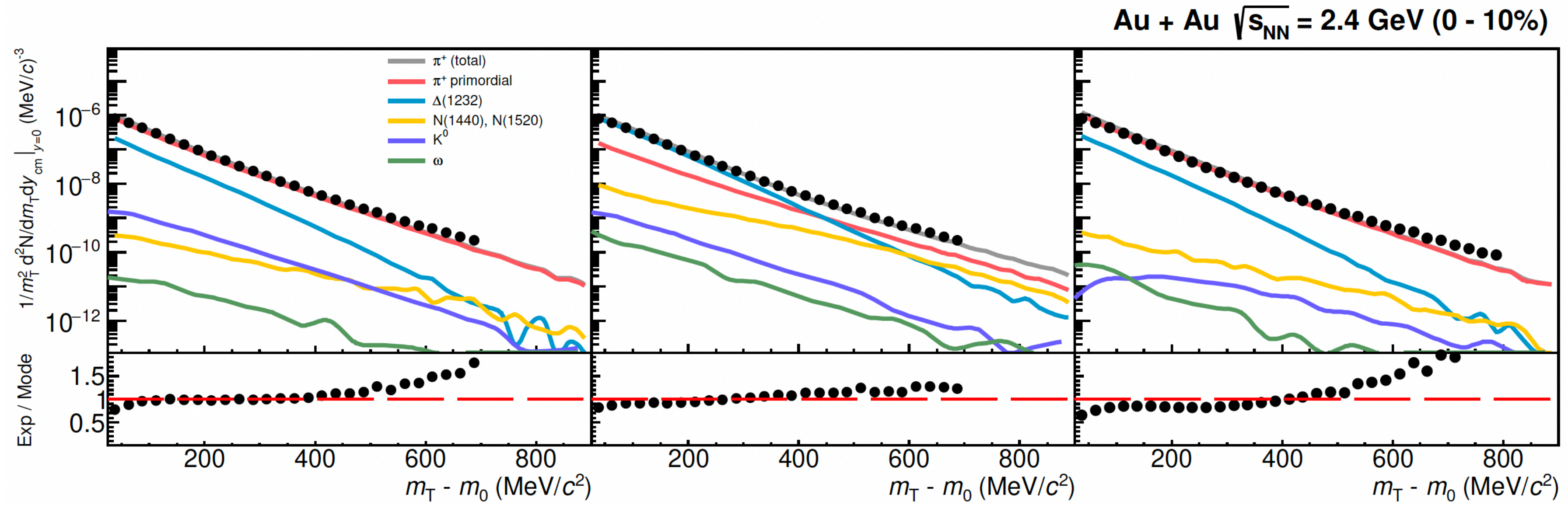


# RESULTS



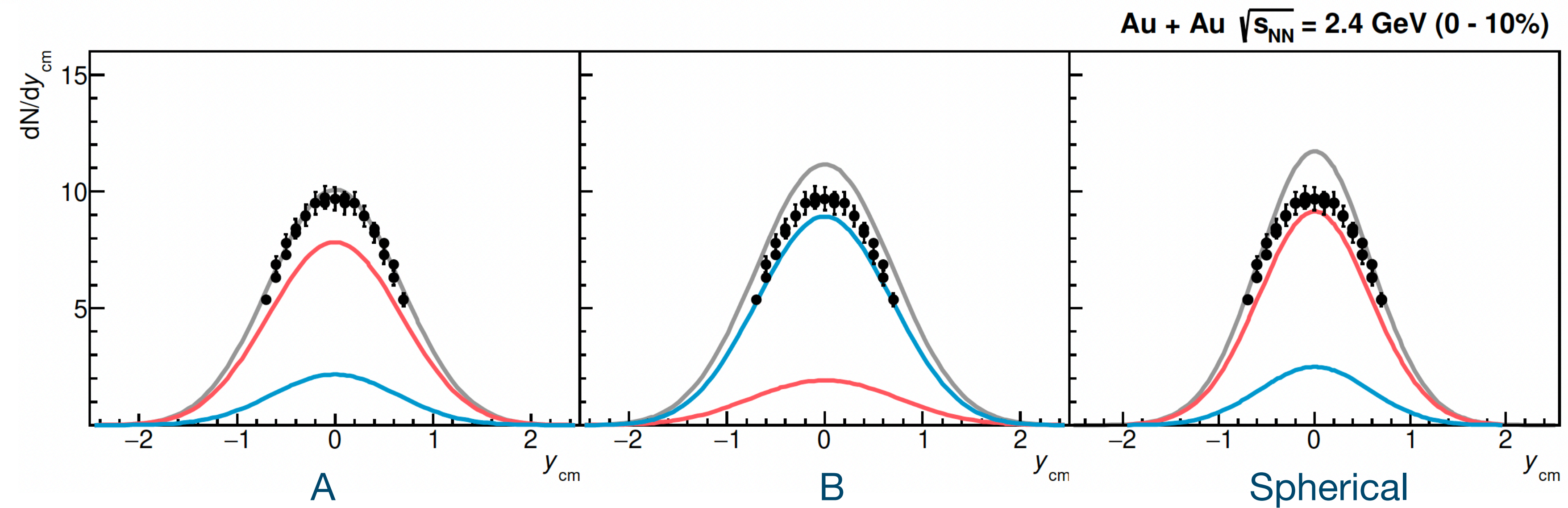
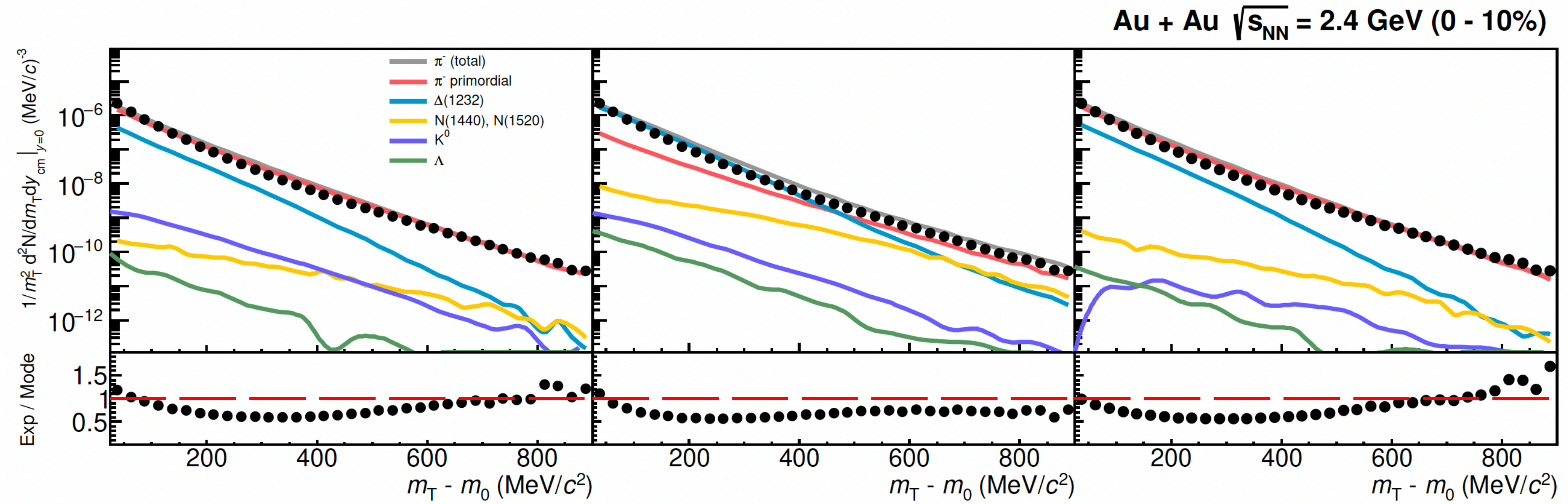


# RESULTS





# RESULTS



# CONCLUSIONS

We have **studied the rapidity and transverse mass spectra of protons and pions** produced in Au-Au collisions at 2.4 GeV and measured by HADES.

We have found that they can be **well reproduced in a extended SR model** that assumes **single freeze-out of hadrons from a hypersurface spheroidal along beam direction**.

Our framework modifies and extends RS approach by incorporation of the Hubble-like expansion of matter, inclusion of the resonance decays, and spheroidal deformation of the source.

We have found that the presence of the **Delta resonance affects the spectra of pions**, while the contributions from other resonances can be neglected.

The **obtained thermodynamic parameters agree well with the universal freeze-out curve established by other groups**.

Our results bring **evidence for substantial thermalization of the matter produced in the few-GeV energy range and its nearly spherical expansion**.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.**