

# Anomalous diffusion of pions at RHIC

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## **Introduction:**

**Normal diffusion**

**Anomalous diffusion**

**Model simulation of anomalous diffusion of pions at RHIC**

**PHENIX nucl-ex/0605032: evidence for a heavy tail of  $S(r)$**

**Selection of a model**

**Rescattering effects**

**Powerlaw tails**

**Particle id dependence**

**Anomalous diffusion and a second order QCD phase transition:  
future measurements: how to falsify these scenarios?**

# Discovering New Laws

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"In general we look for a new law by the following process. First we guess it. Then we compare the consequences of the guess to see what would be implied if this law that we guessed is right. Then we compare the result of the computation to nature, with experiment or experience, compare it directly with observation, to see if it works. If it disagrees with experiment it is wrong.

In that simple statement is the key to science. It does not make any difference how beautiful your guess is. It does not make any difference how smart you are, who made the guess, or what his name is — if it disagrees with experiment it is wrong."

/R.P. Feynman/

# Normal diffusion and Gaussian sources

R. Metzler, J. Klafter / Physics Reports 339 (2000) 1-77

$$W_j(t + \Delta t) = \frac{1}{2}W_{j-1}(t) + \frac{1}{2}W_{j+1}(t)$$

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = K_1 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} W(x, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = -K_1 k^2 W(k, t),$$

$$W(k, t) = \exp(-K_1 k^2 t),$$

$$W(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi K_1 t}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4K_1 t}\right)$$

$$W_0(x) \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} W(x, t) = \delta(x).$$

$$W_{j \pm 1}(t) = W(x, t) \pm \Delta x \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} + \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial x^2} + O([\Delta x]^3)$$

$$W_j(t + \Delta t) = W_j(t) + \Delta t \frac{\partial W_j}{\partial t} + O([\Delta t]^2)$$

$$K_1 \equiv \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0, \Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2\Delta t}$$

$$[K_1] = \text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$W_j(t) \sim S(x, t)$$

Jumps nearest neighbouring cells

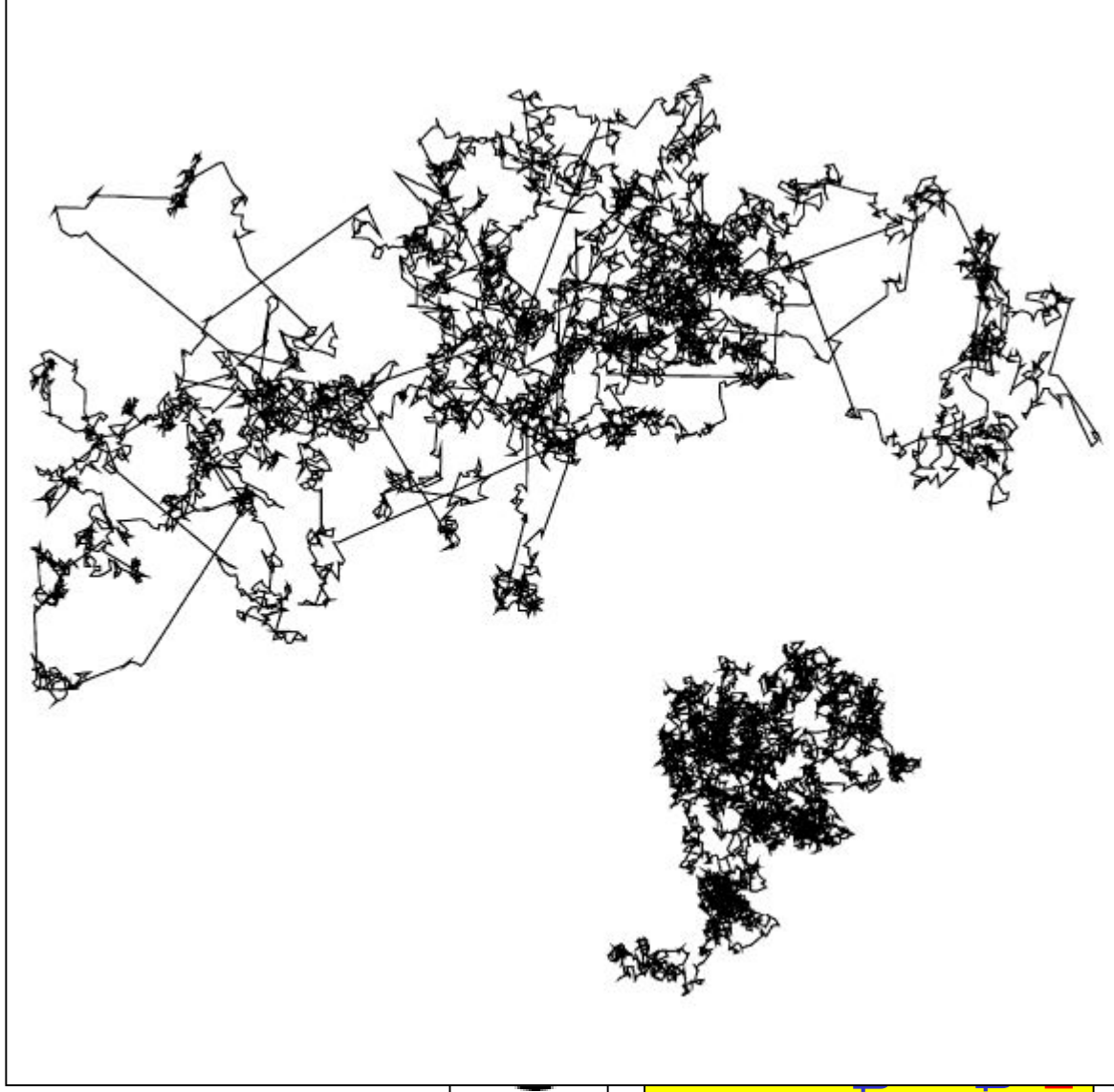
$$j-1 \rightarrow j, \quad j+1 \rightarrow j$$

Master equation ~ Boltzmann equation

Diffusion equation

Scattering: time independent mean free path  
 -> corresponds to Gaussian random walk  
normal (Gaussian) diffusion of pions  
 in homogeneous medium

# Anomalous diffusion and Levy stable laws



$$dx \psi(x, t)$$

$$W(x, v, t)$$

$$W$$

Rescaled  
with  
ano

system  
tions  
ireball

# Anomalous diffusion and Levy stable laws

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R. Metzler, J. Klafter / *Physics Reports* 339 (2000) 1–77

*The universality:* The detailed structure of the propagator  $W(r, t)$ , i.e., the probability density function (pdf) for the initial condition  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} W(r, t) = \delta(r)$ , depends, in general, on the special shape of the underlying geometry. However, the interesting part of the propagator has the asymptotic behaviour  $\log W(r, t) \sim -c\xi^u$  where  $\xi \equiv r/t^{\alpha/2} \gg 1$  which is expected to be universal. Here,  $u = 1/(1 - \alpha/2)$  with the anomalous diffusion exponent  $\alpha$  defined below. The fractional equations we consider in the following are universal in this respect as we do not consider any form of quenched disorder. Our results for anomalous diffusion are equivalent to findings from random walk models on an isotropic and homogeneous support.

*The non-universality:* In contrast to Gaussian diffusion, fractional diffusion is non-universal in that it involves a parameter  $\alpha$  which is the order of the fractional derivative. Obviously, nature often violates the Gaussian universality mirrored in experimental results which do not follow the Gaussian predictions. Fractional diffusion equations account for the typical “anomalous” features which are observed in many systems.

Relevant mathematical tools:

Generalized Boltzmann equation

Rescattering in a time dependent mean free path system

-> corresponds to random Levy walk

but let us look for a realistic model first

# Selection of the MC model

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- Conventional hadronic cascade model
- Describes single particle spectra
- Describes elliptic flow data
- Describes HBT data [ w/o any puzzle]  
hence yields a good description of the hadronic final state i.e. an acceptable model of  $S(r)$  !
- Well documented and easy to use
- Works at CERN SPS as well as at RHIC energies
- Contains the most important  
short and long lived resonances  
e.g.  $\omega$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\eta'$  (halo of long-lived resonances)  
AND includes their rescattering in the code

# HRC and exact Buda-Lund hydro solutions

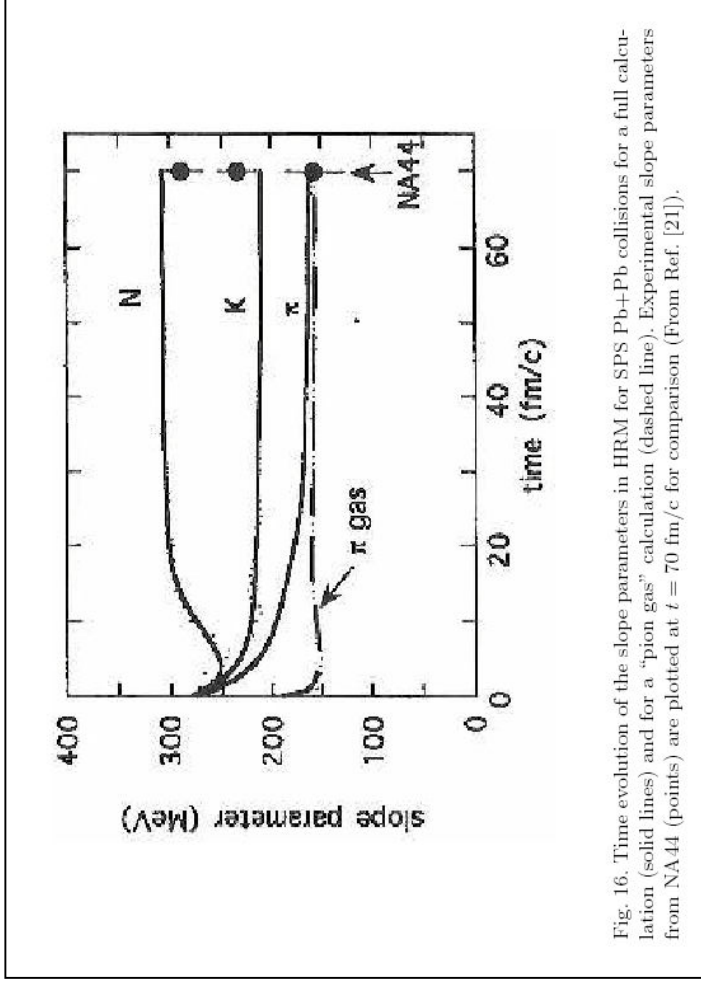
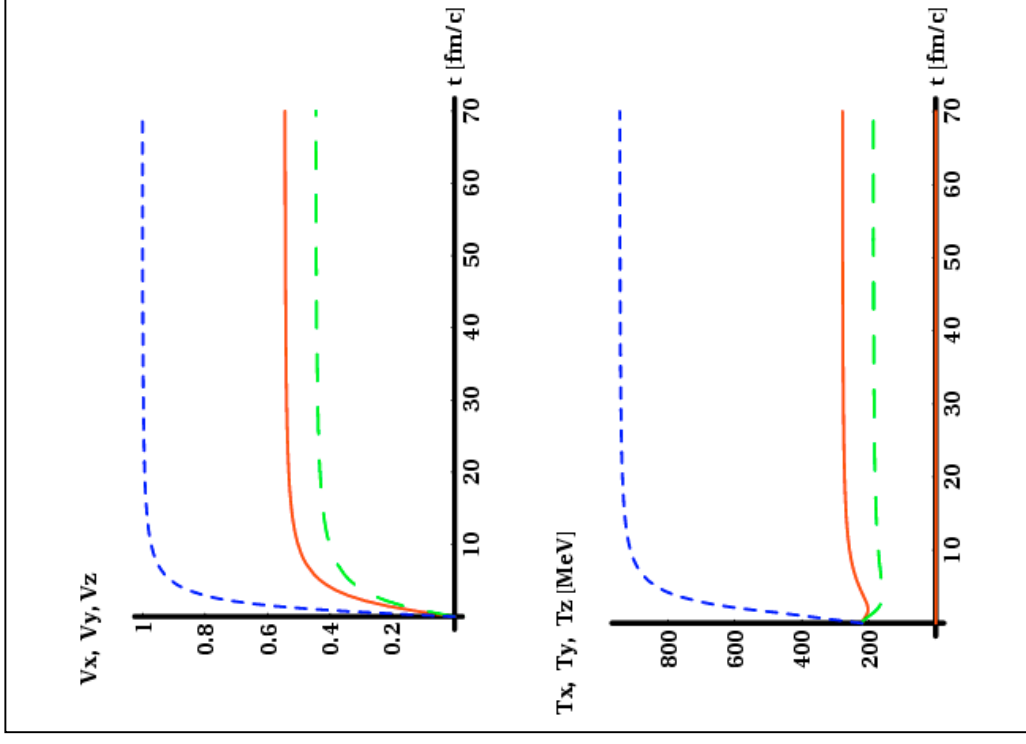


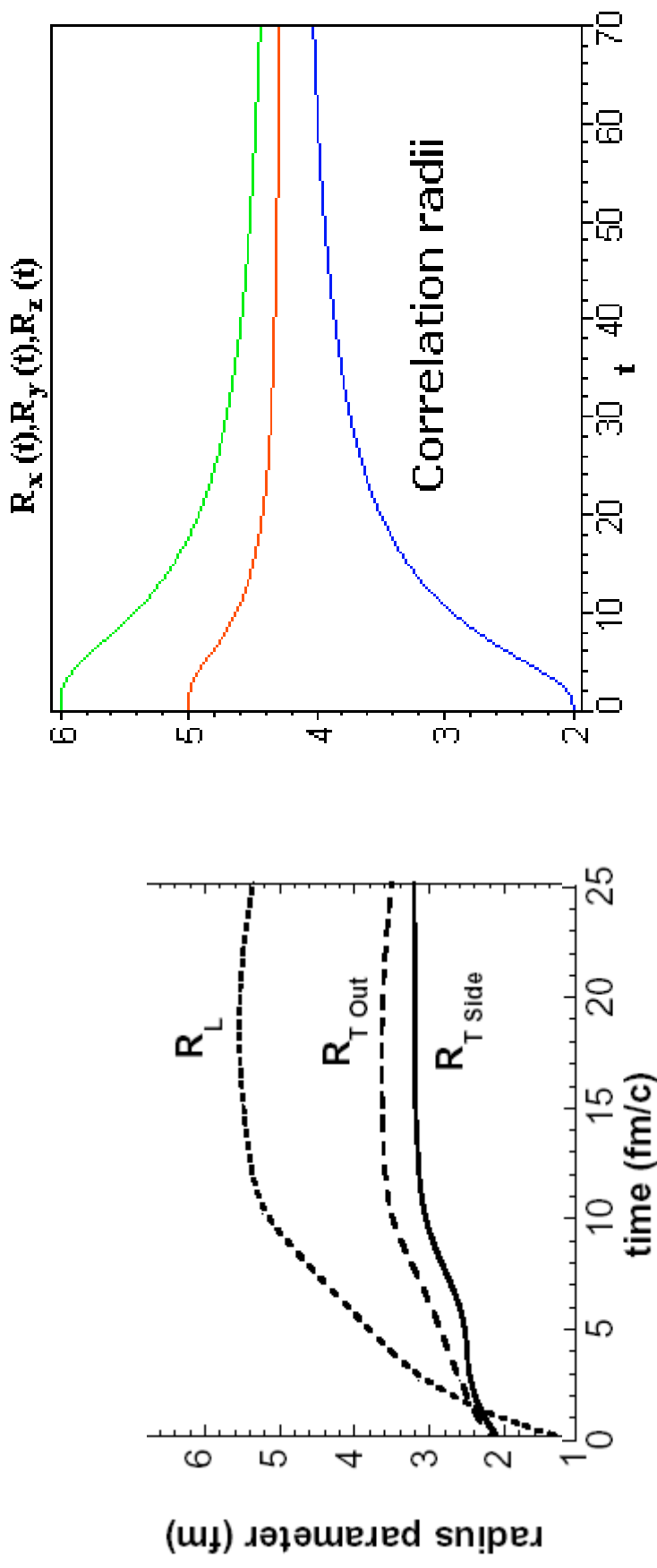
Fig. 16. Time evolution of the slope parameters in HRM for SPS Pb+Pb collisions for a full calculation (solid lines) and for a "pion gas" calculation (dashed line). Experimental slope parameters from NA44 (points) are plotted at  $t = 70$  fm/c for comparison (From Ref. [21]).



Hadronic Rescattering Model (HRM): first use of the word „shooting” when predicting spectra. HRM and Buda-Lund hydrodynamical calculations: self-quenching effect.

# HRC and exact Buda-Lund hydro solutions: HBT

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HRM and Buda-Lund hydrodynamical calculations: self-quenching effect.  
HBT radii stop to evolve in time, although the system keeps on expanding (rescatterings or hydrodynamical evolution).

# HRC and exact Buda-Lund hydro solutions: v2

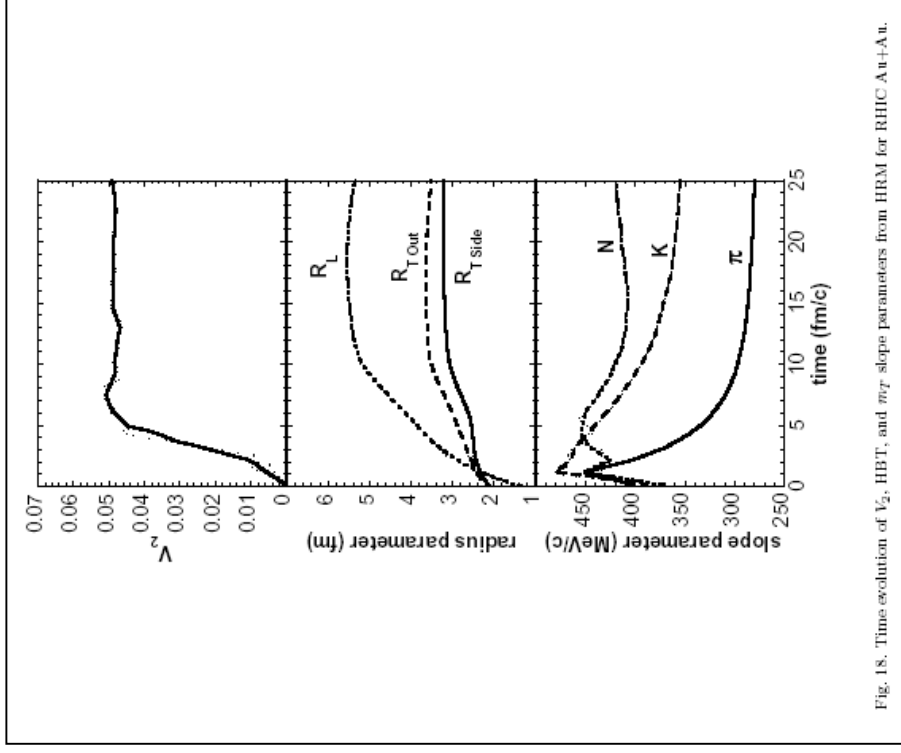
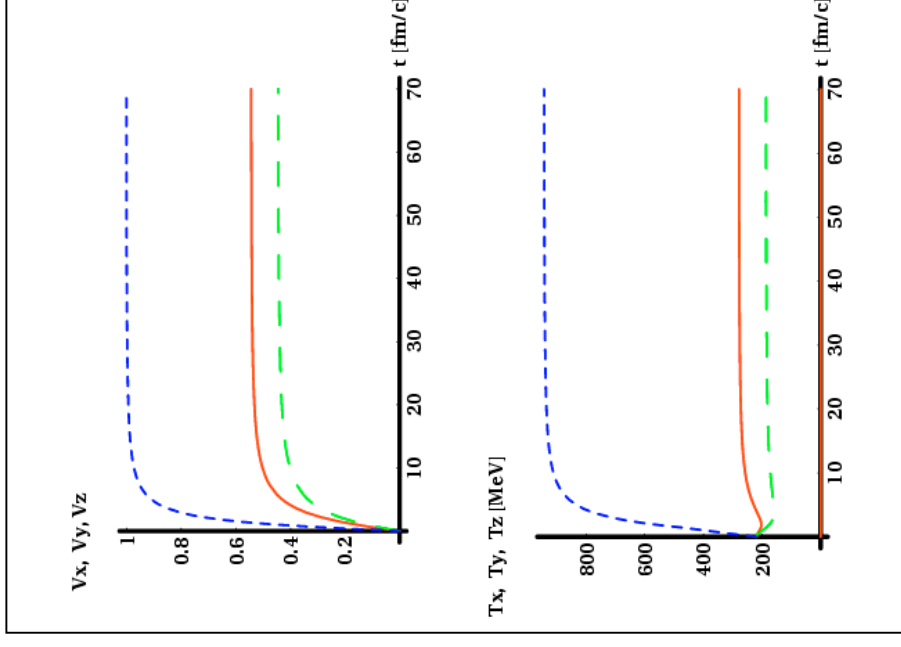
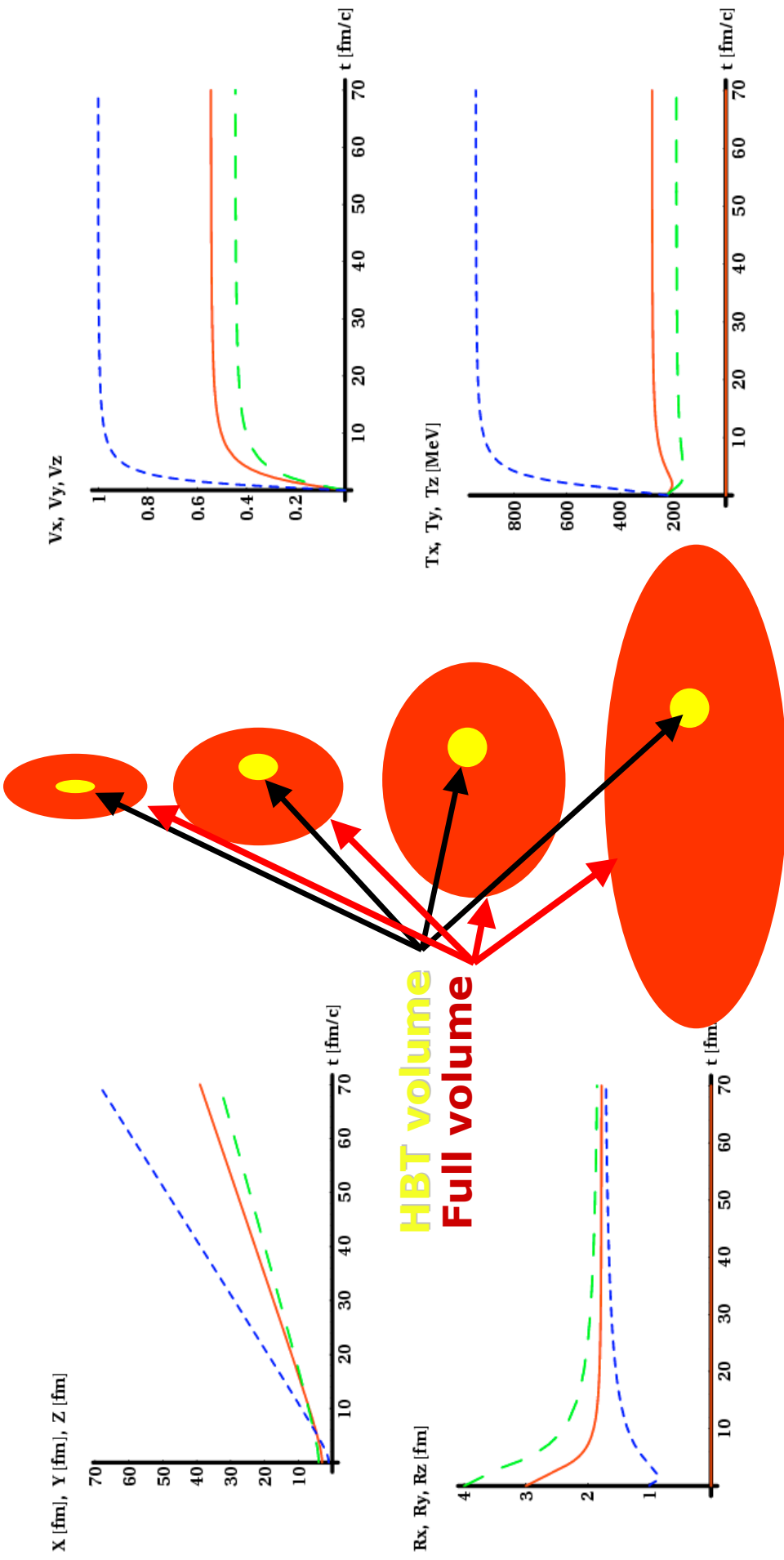


Fig. 18. Time evolution of  $v_2$ , HBT, and  $m_T$  slope parameters from HRM for RHIC Au+Au.



HRM and Buda-Lund hydrodynamical calculations: self-quenching effect.  
 Elliptic flow freezes out at the same time when the spectra (slopes) stop to evolve in time, although the system keeps on expanding (rescatterings or hydrodynamical evolution).

# Solution of the “HBT puzzle”



**HBT volume**  
**Full volume**

Geometrical sizes keep on increasing. Expansion velocities tend to constants.  
 HBT radii  $R_x$ ,  $R_y$ ,  $R_z$  approach a direction independent constant.  
 Slope parameters tend to direction dependent constants.  
 General property, independent of initial conditions - a beautiful exact result.

# Understanding hydro & HRC

New exact solutions of 3d nonrelativistic hydrodynamics+

HRC calculations: time evolution similar to a shot!

Hydro:

Description of data

Shot of an arrow:



Hitting the target

Initial conditions  
Equation of state  
Freeze-out  
Data comparison  
Differences  
exactly the same  
EoS and



velocity  
potential  
t  
lls  
tial (?)  
n  
aneously (!)  
n be  
ne potential

Universal scaling of  $v_2$

In a perfect shot, the shape of trajectory is a parabola

Viscosity effects

Drag force of air

## More than hydro: tails of particle production

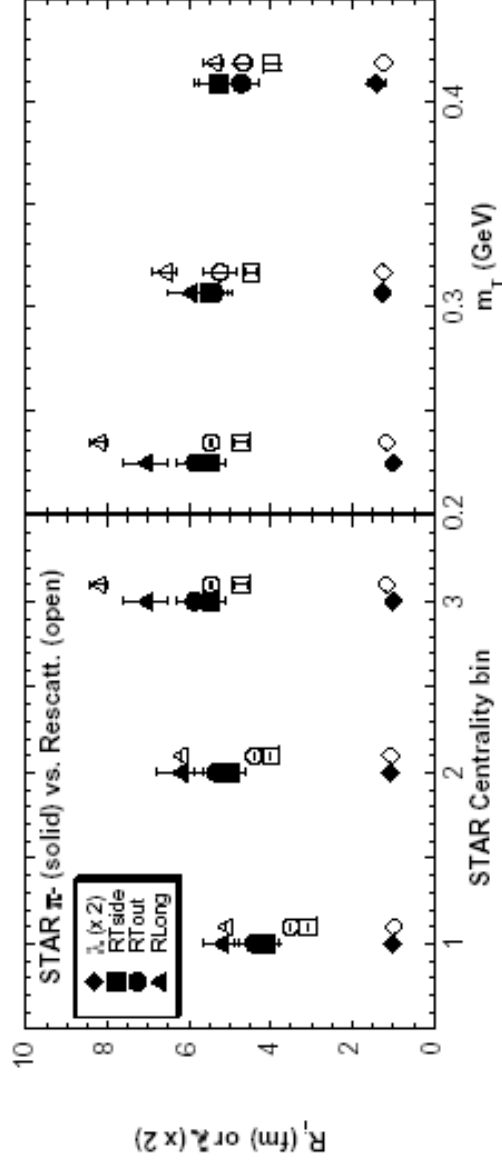
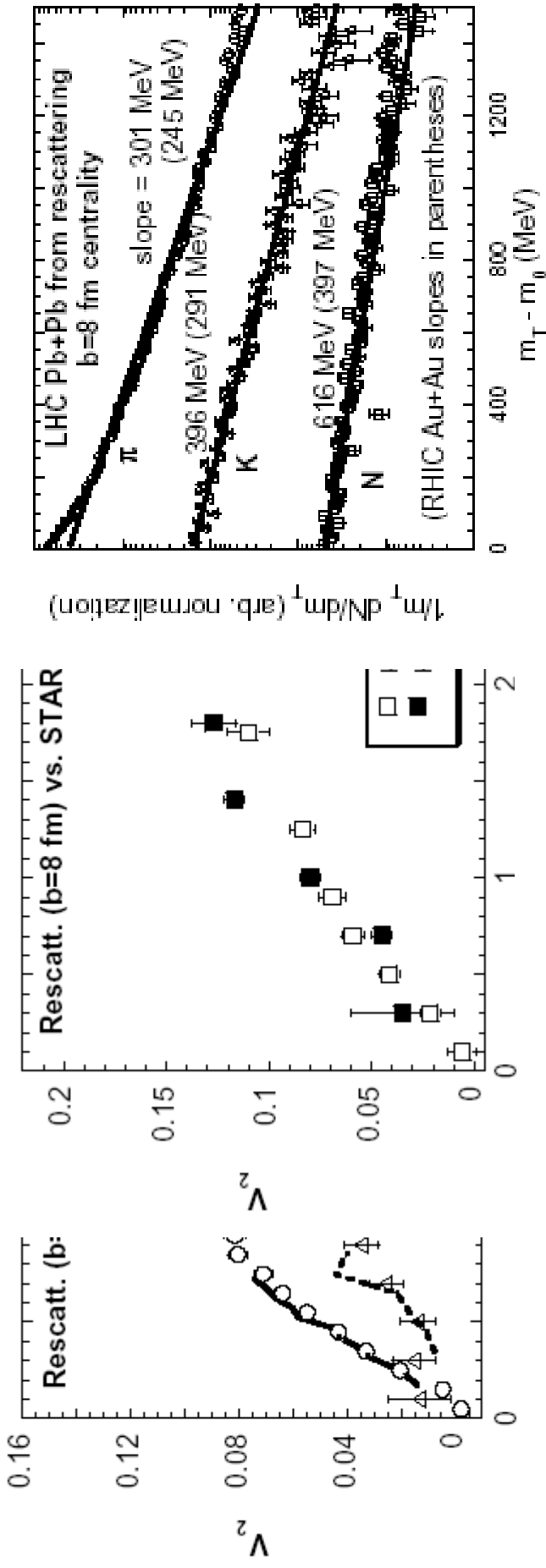
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What about the rescattering after hydrodynamics freezes out?

How to distinguish hydro + ideal freeze-out (Therminator)

from cascades and hydro+cascade scenario?

# Demonstration: Model vs Au+Au 200GeV



Hadronic Rescattering

Model (HRM):

Tom Humanic,

reviewed in

nucl-th/0510049

Int.J.Mod.Phys.E15:197-236,2006

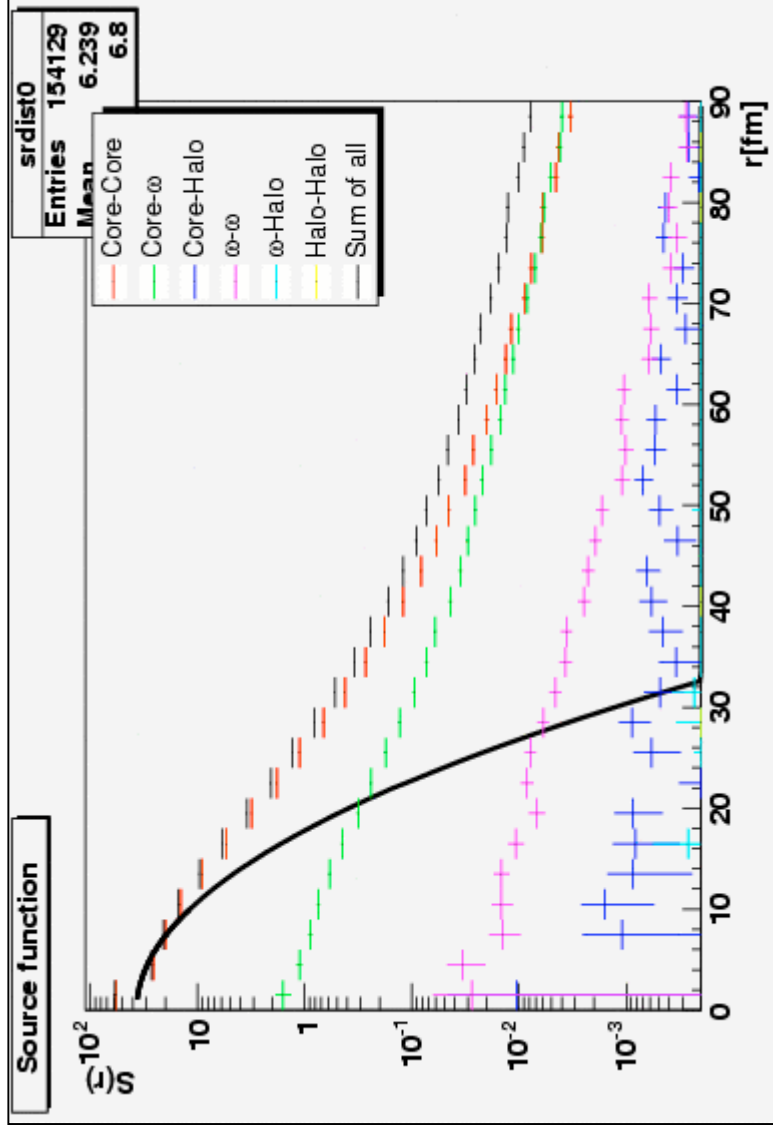
**OK at the freeze-out**

# Important properties of Tom's HRC

- Conventional hadronic cascade model
  - Has an adaptive bin size in the time direction:  
hence no natural time scale in the code
  - Contains the cascading of the most abundant hadrons:
 

$\rho$	$\Gamma(\rho)$	=	152 MeV
$\Delta$	$\Gamma(\Delta)$	=	120 MeV
$K^*$	$\Gamma(K^*)$	=	50 MeV
$\omega$	$\Gamma(\omega)$	=	8.4 MeV
$\eta$	$\Gamma(\eta)$	=	0.0012 MeV
$\eta'$	$\Gamma(\eta')$	=	0.200 MeV
$\phi$	$\Gamma(\eta')$	=	4.4 MeV
$\Lambda$	$\Gamma(\eta')$	=	$2.5 \times 10^{-12}$ MeV
- direct  $\pi$
- core:  $\bar{h}/\Gamma < 4$  fm
- $\omega$ :  $\bar{h}/\Gamma = 23.5$  fm
- halo:  $\bar{h}/\Gamma > 40$  fm
- but neglect of electric charge

# Tom's HRC: cuts for Fig.1 of nucl-ex/0605032

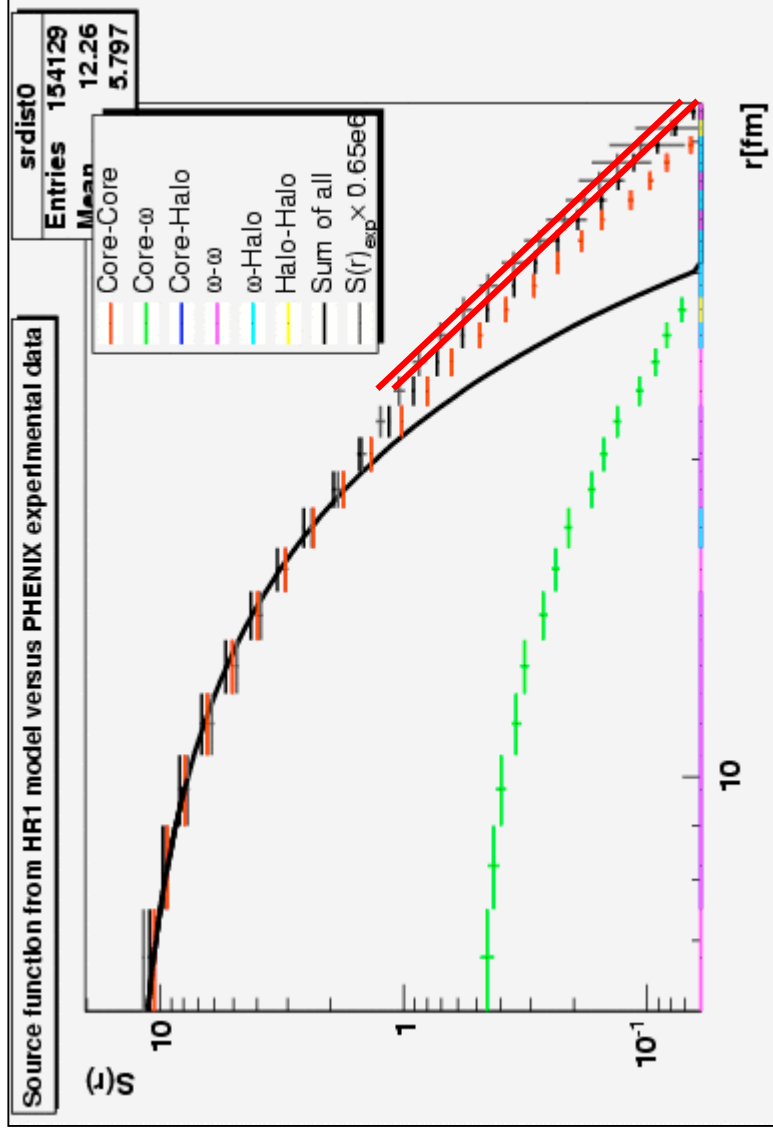


Gaussian to first few points fails at heavy tail core-core pairs reproduce heavy tail omega-core pairs: small dominate for  $r > 80$  fm only all other pairs have negligible contribution

Au+Au 200 GeV  
0-20 % centrality  
 $-0.5 < y < 0.5$   
0.20 GeV  $< kT < 0.36$  GeV  
pions (no charge selection)

	core	$\omega$	halo
core	x		
$\omega$		x	
halo			x

# nucl-ex/0605032 Fig.1 b and HRM, log-log scale



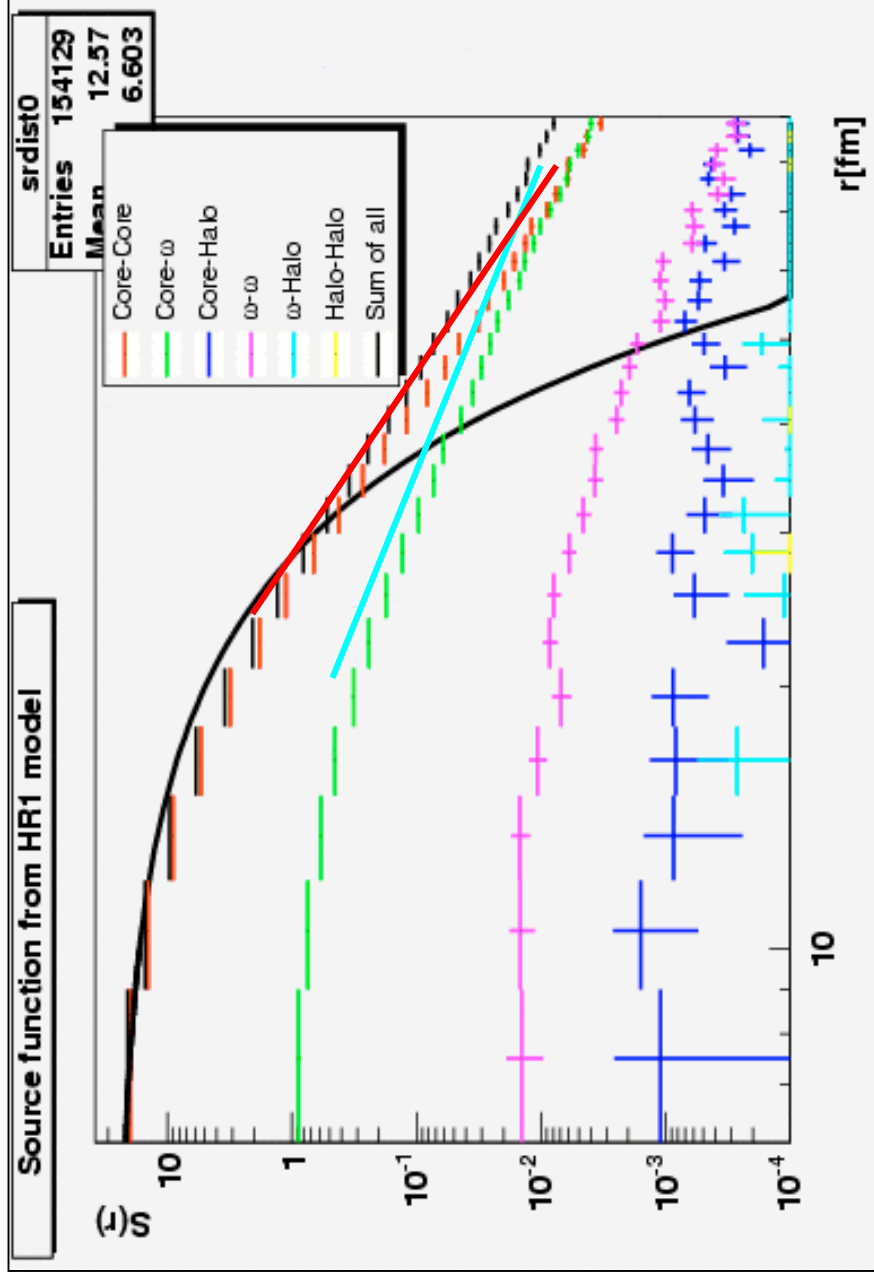
A power-law tail

due to rescattering (in HRM)

-> corresponds to Levy distributions

Reason: adaptive scale in HRM, corresponding to anomalous diffusion (in contrast to Gaussian diffusion)

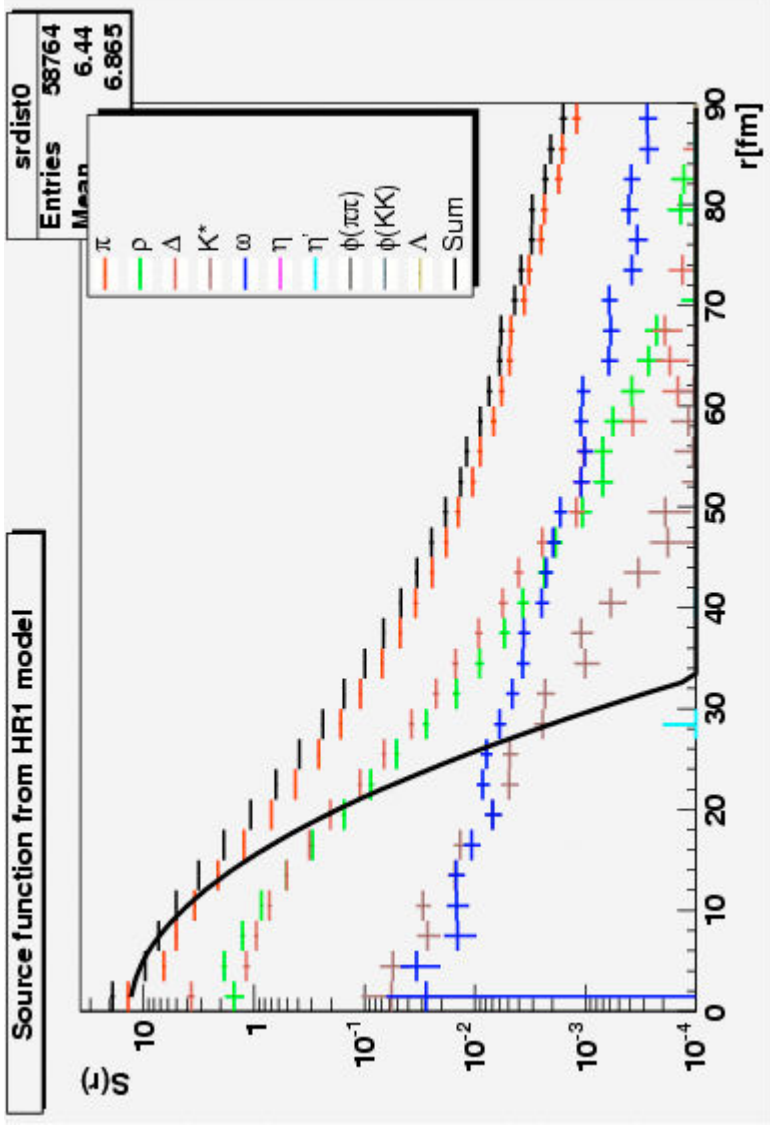
# Same plot, on a larger, log-log scale



Prediction: at a larger scale power-law tail  
has two components: core-core and omega-core  
-> corresponds to sum of Levy distributions  
but rescattering is dominant (core-core) for  $r < 80$  fm in HRC

# More detailed decomposition

	$\pi$	$\rho$	$\Delta$	$K^*$	$\omega$	$\eta$	$\eta'$	$\phi$
$\pi$	x							
$\rho$		x						
$\Delta$			x					
$K^*$				x				
$\omega$					x			
$\eta$						x		
$\eta'$							x	
$\phi$								x



Now all resonances are decomposed  
 dominant component: pion-pion rescattering  
 -> corresponds to random Levy walk  
 anomalous diffusion of pions in an expanding fireball

# Detailed investigations:

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Investigation of the role of cuts

-centrality

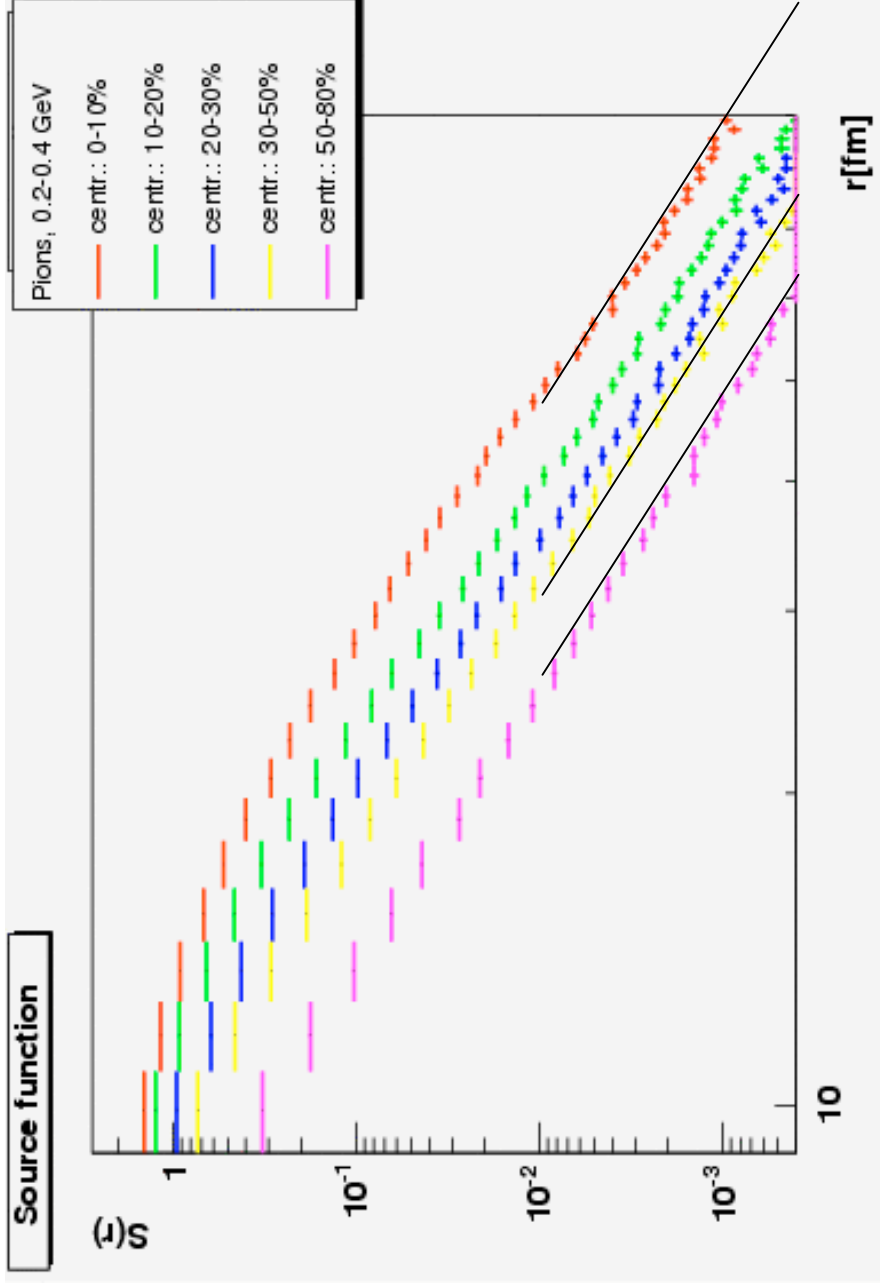
- $k_T$

-PID

Is the effect particular or general,  
valid for all cuts in nucl-ex/0605032 Fig. 3 (a-c,d-f)

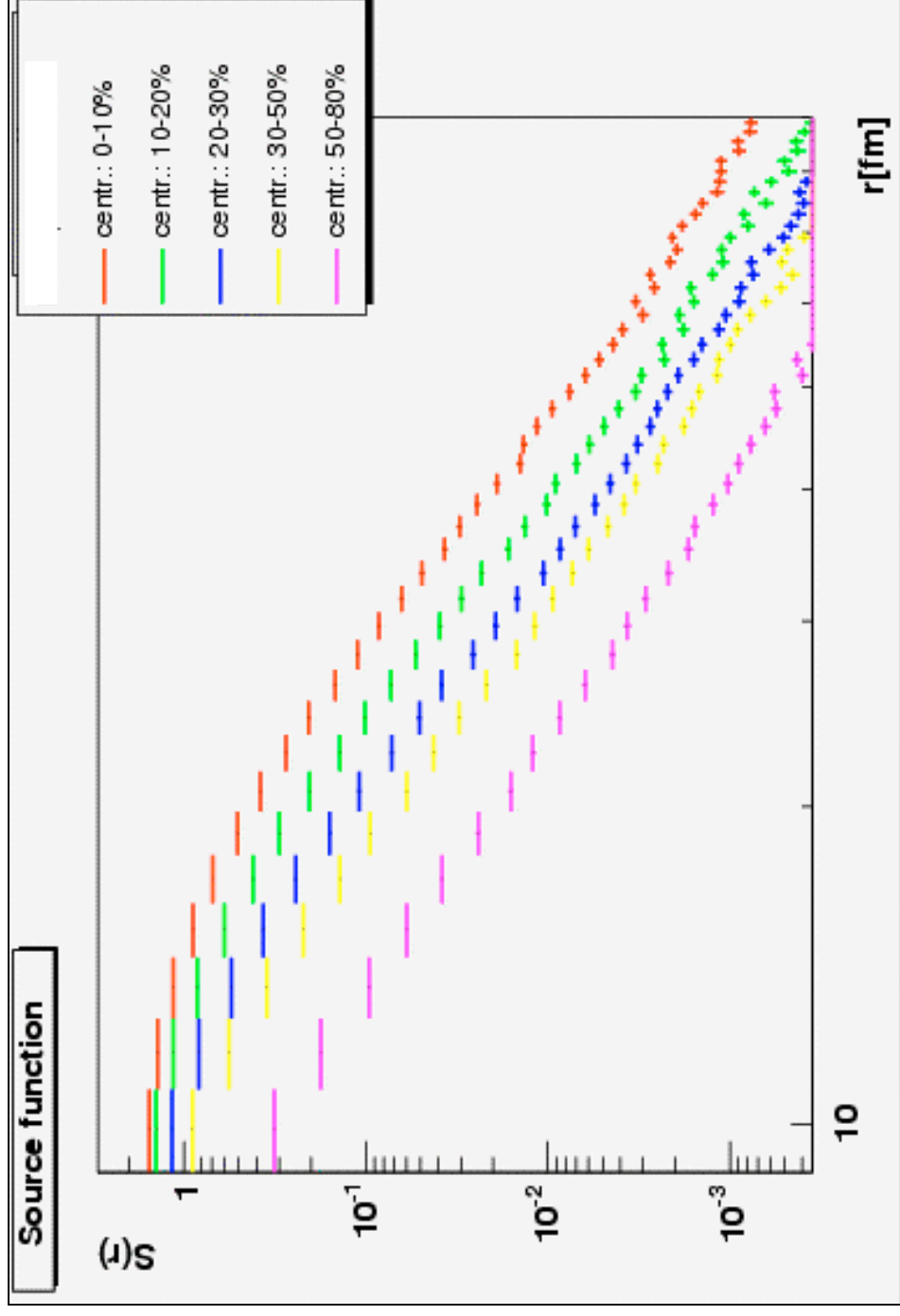
Centrality	$k_{T1}$ (MeV)	$k_{T2}$ (MeV)	$k_{T3}$ (MeV)
0-10 %	200-400	500-1000	-
10-20 %	same	s	-
20-30 %	s	s	-
30-50 %	s	s	-
50-80 %	s	s	-
0-20 %	200-360	360-480	480-600
40-80 %	same	same	same

# Centrality dependence $0.2 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 0.4 \text{ GeV}$ , pions



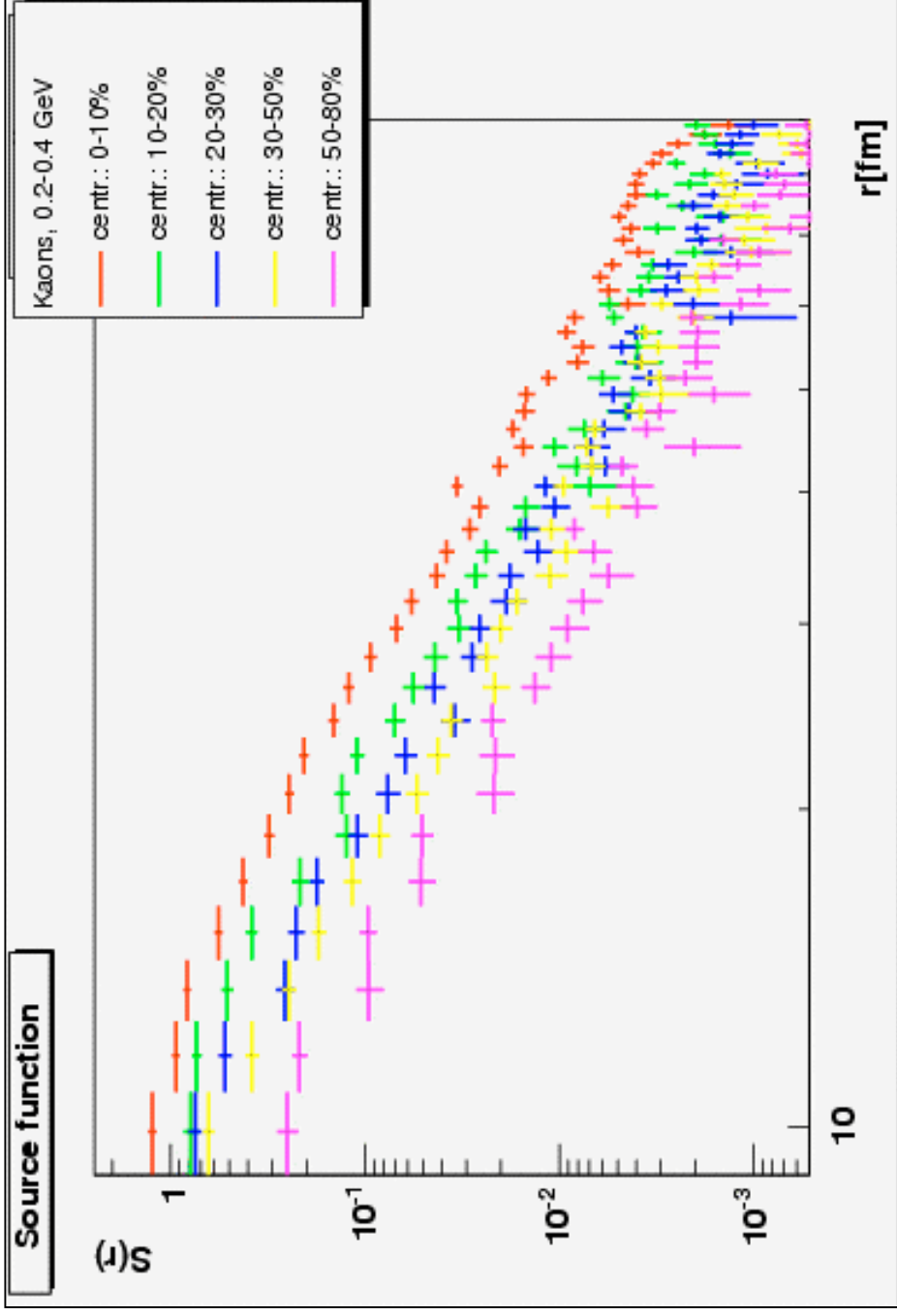
After a Gaussian start, a heavy tail in all centrality class exponent (log-log slope) weakly depends on centrality

# Centrality dependence, $0.5 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 1.0 \text{ GeV}$ , pions



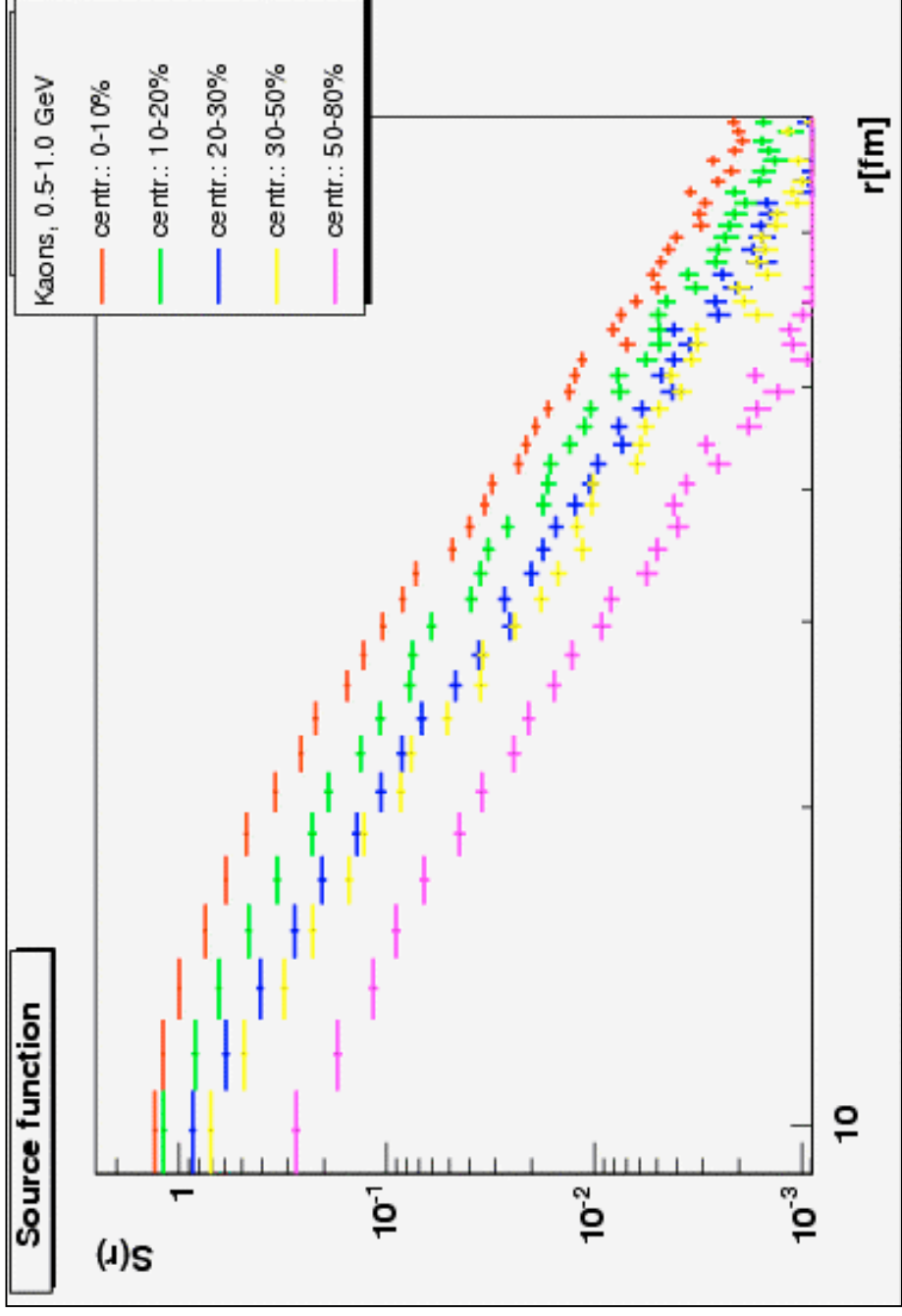
Same as at low  $k_T$ : a heavy tail in all centrality class  
exponent (log-log slope) weakly depends on centrality

# Centrality dependence $0.2 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 0.4 \text{ GeV}$ , kaons



The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap,  
a tail exists in all centrality class also for kaons  
exponent (log-log slope) weakly depends on centrality

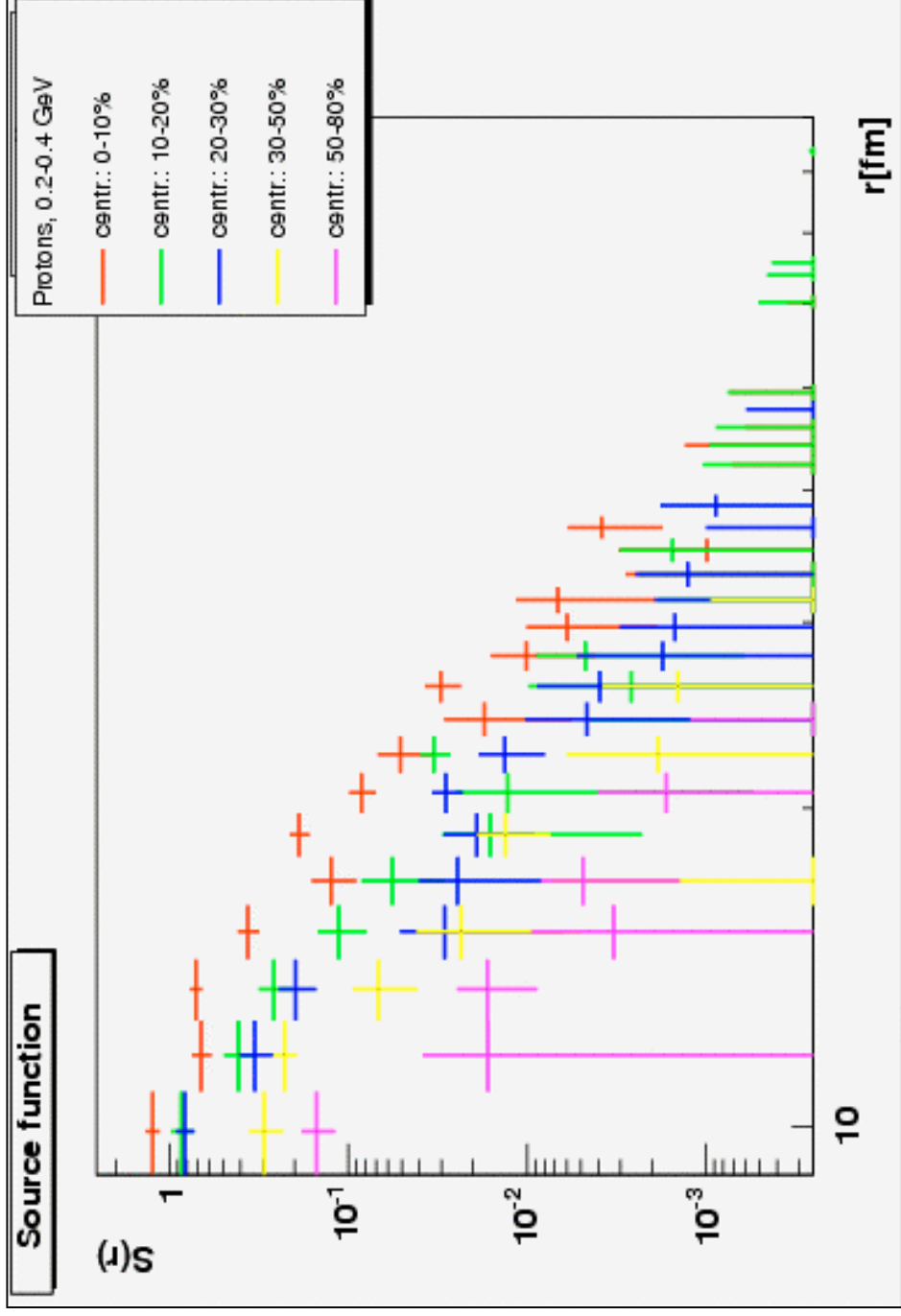
# Centrality dependence $0.5 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 1.0 \text{ GeV}$ , kaons



The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap, a tail exists in all centrality class also for kaons at higher  $k_T$  exponent (log-log slope) weakly depends on centrality

# Centrality dependence

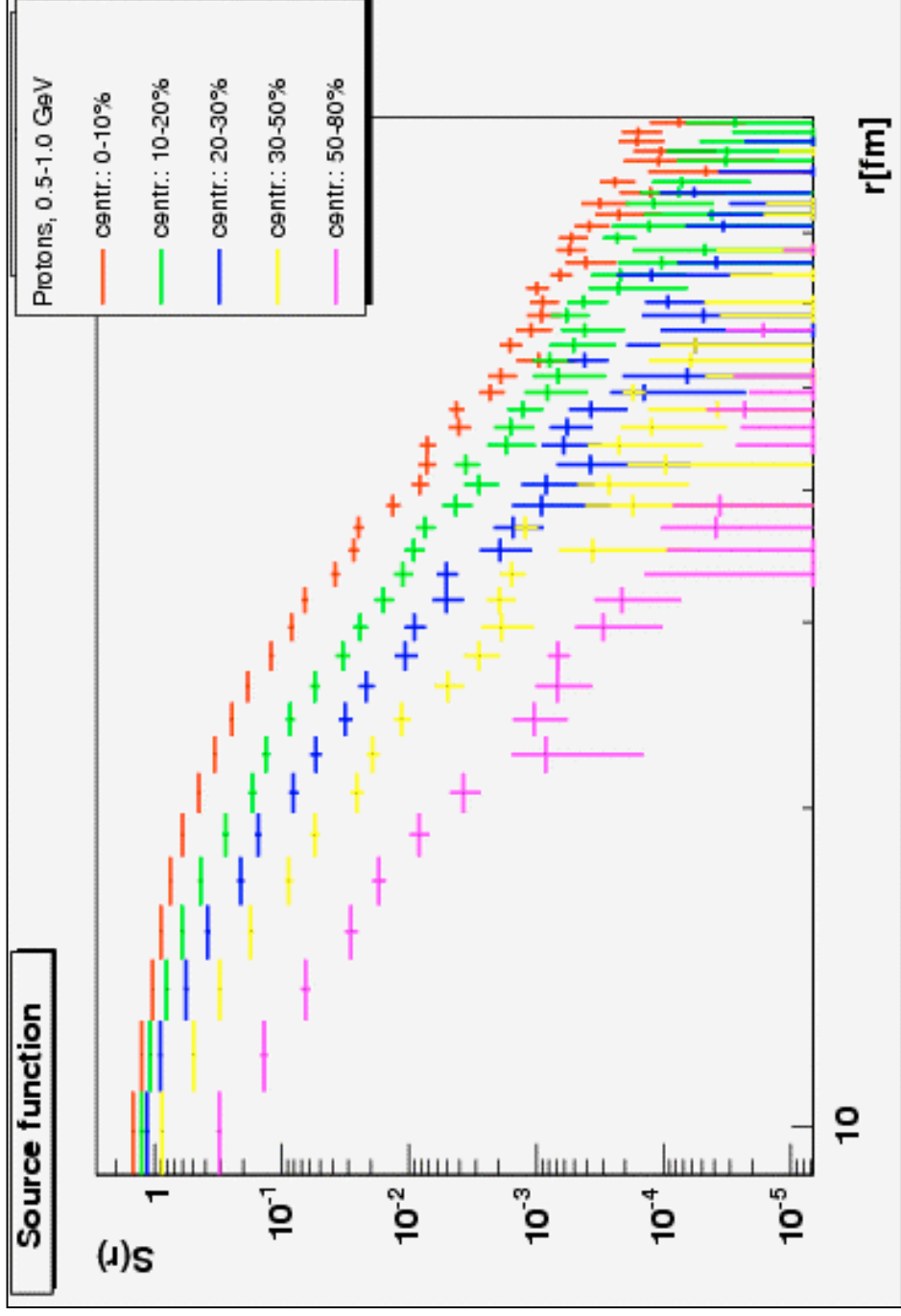
## $0.2 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 0.4 \text{ GeV}$ , protons



Problems with statistics in simulation for protons  
exponent (log-log slope) **weakly** depends on centrality

# Centrality dependence

$0.5 \text{ GeV} < k_T < 1.0 \text{ GeV}$ , protons

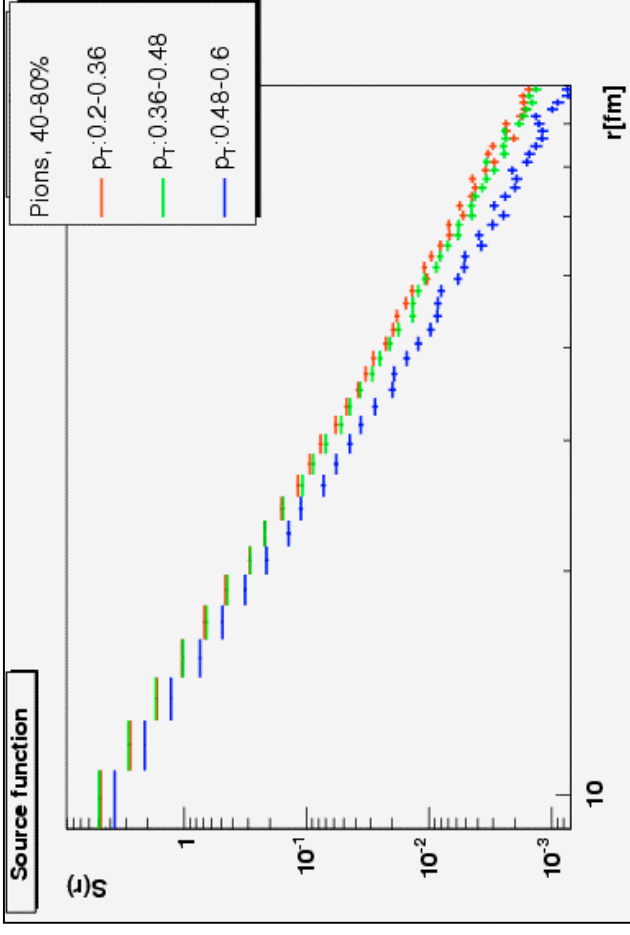
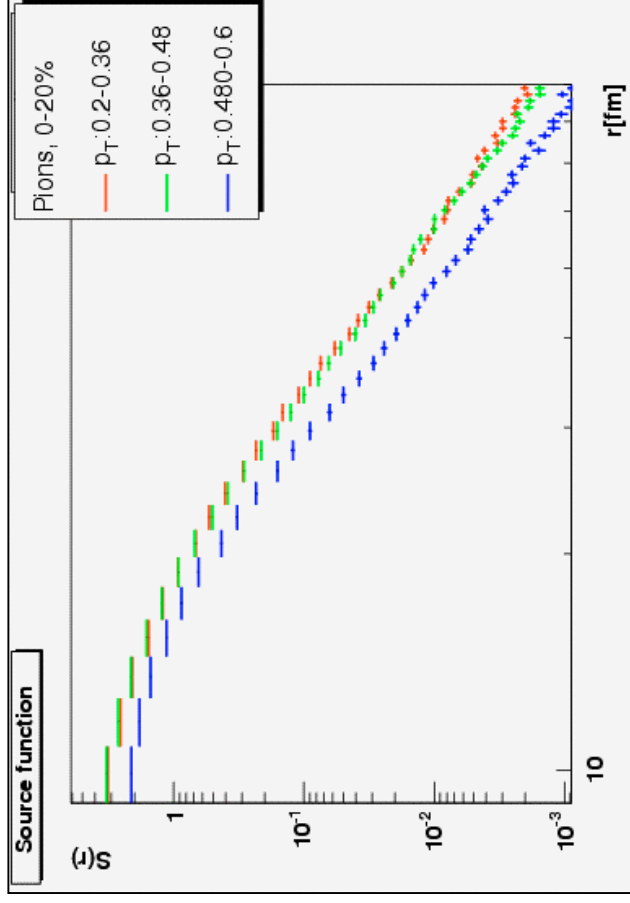


The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap, a tail exists in all centrality class also for protons and weakly depends on centrality in the MC simulation

# Momentum dependence

## 0-20 % and 40-80%, pions

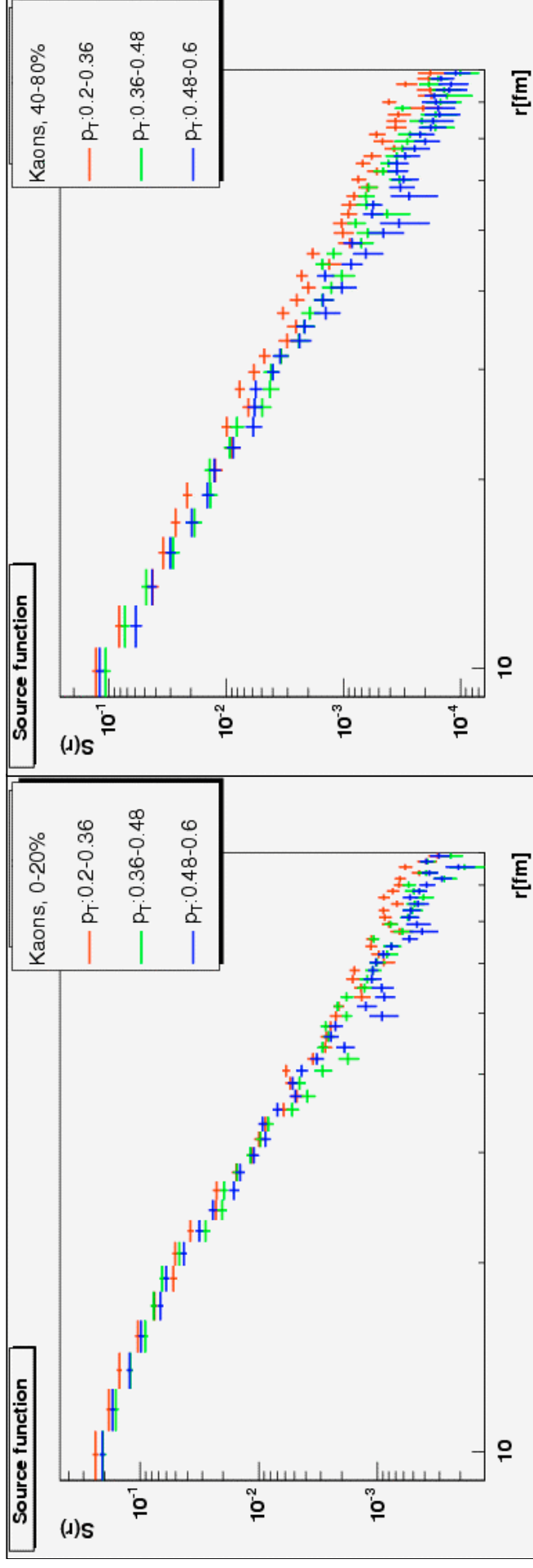
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The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap, a tail weakly depends on  $k_T$  in the MC simulation

# Momentum dependence

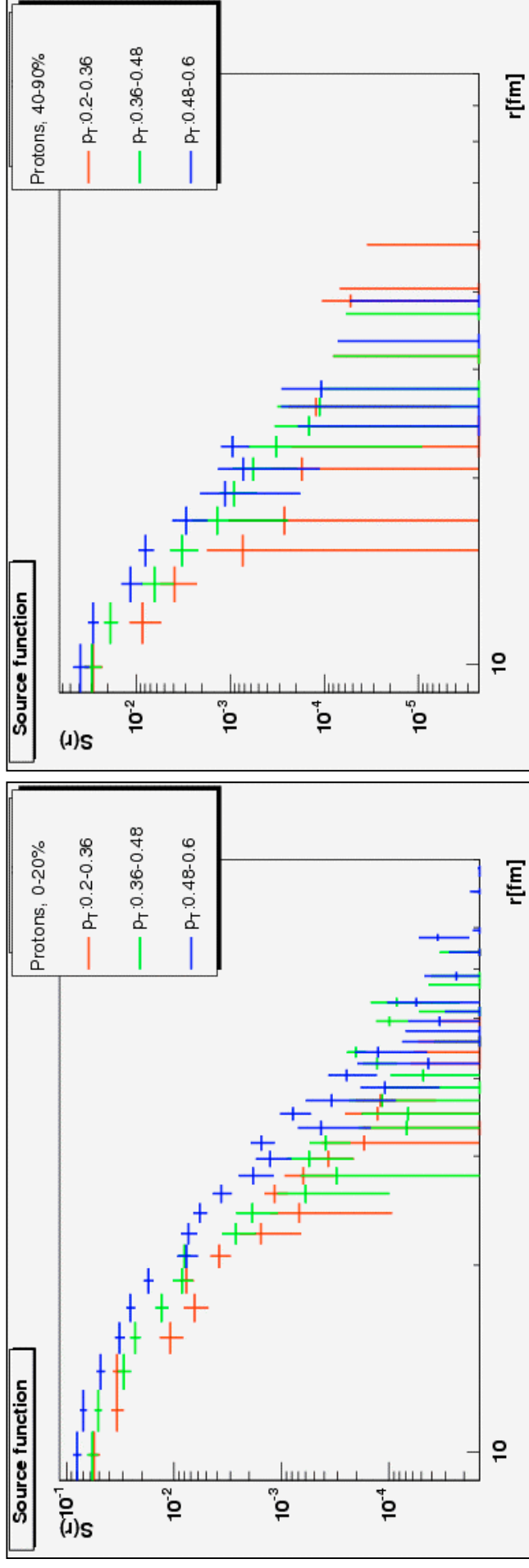
## 0-20 % and 40-80%, kaons



The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap,  
a tail weakly depends on  $k_T$  in the MC simulation  
even for kaons

# Momentum dependence

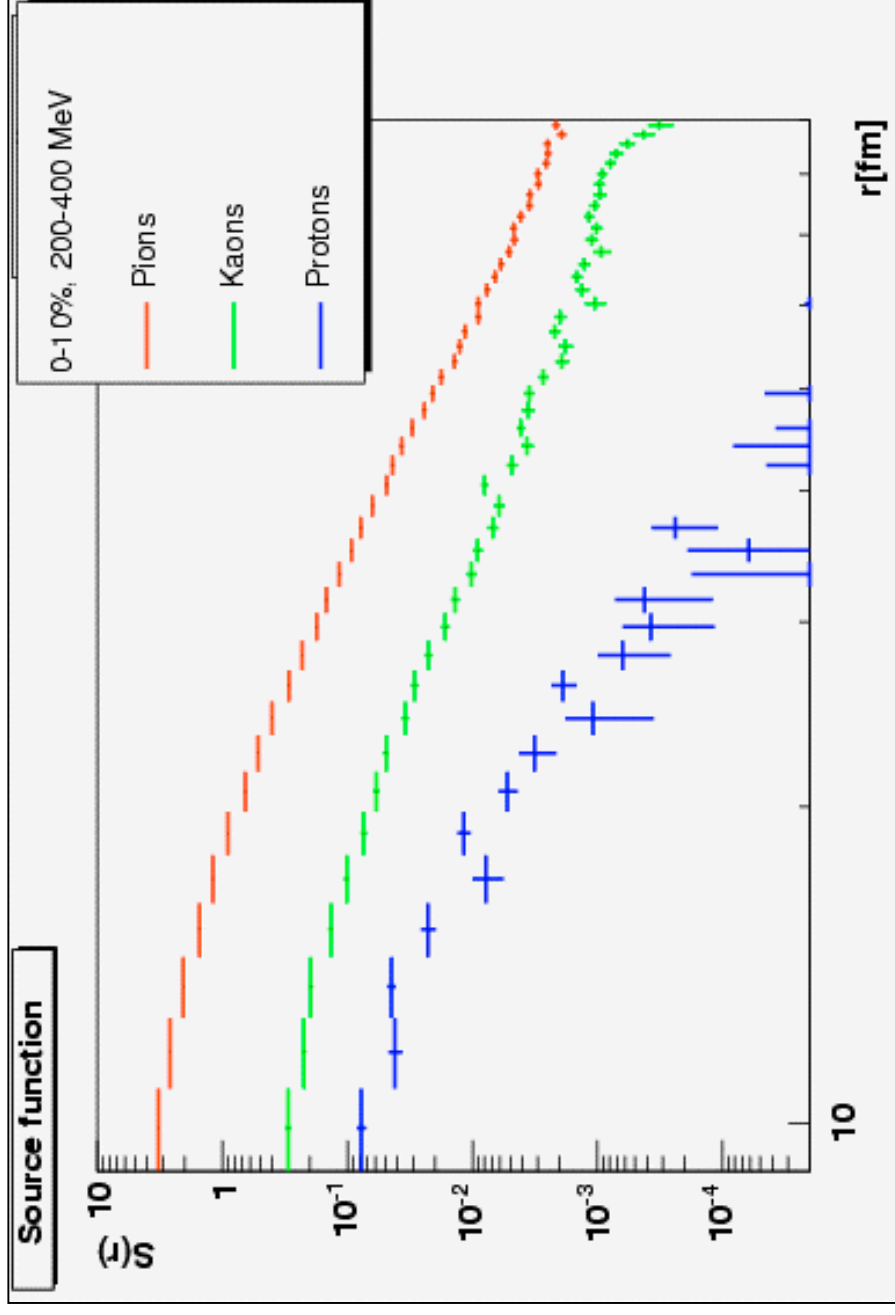
## 0-20 % and 40-80%, protons



The Gaussian width decreases with decreasing overlap,  
a tail weakly depends on  $k_T$  in the MC simulation  
even for protons - does it depend on anything at all??

# PID dependence

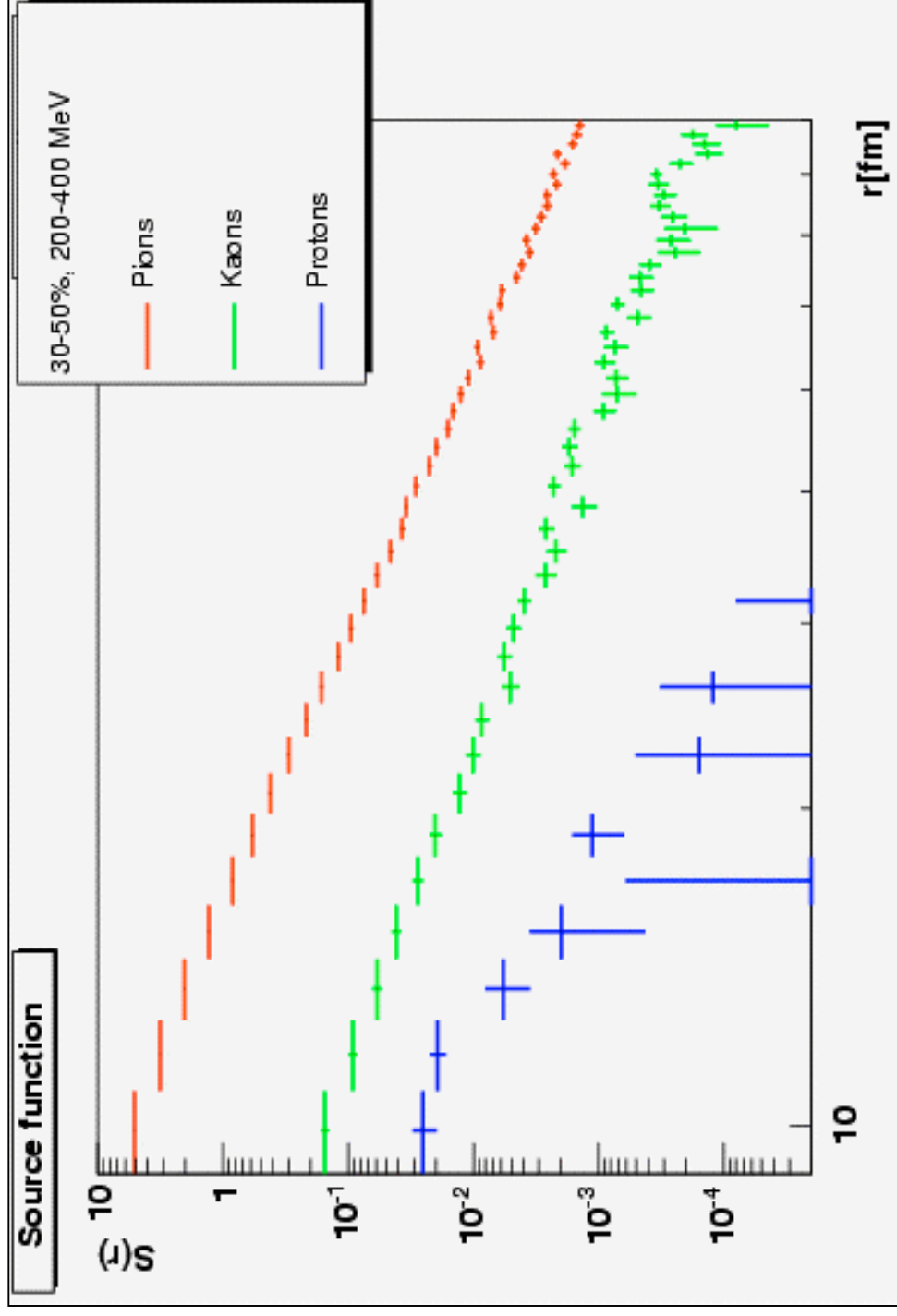
## 0-10 % and 200-400 MeV



The tail strongly depends on PID (particle type)  
in the MC simulation  
largest for kaons - that have the smallest cross sections

# PID dependence

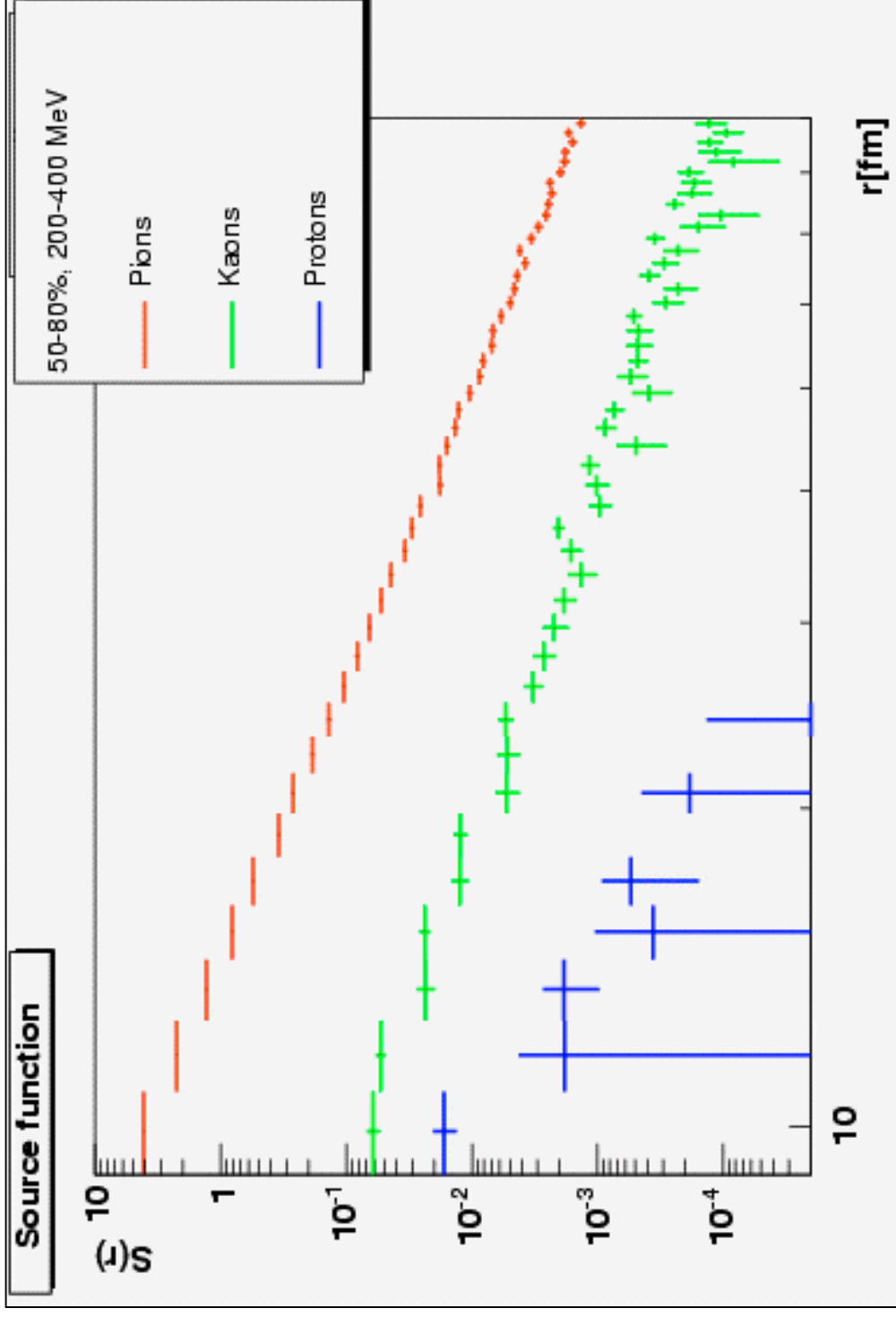
## 30-50 % and 200-400 MeV



The tail strongly depends on PID  
largest for kaons - that have the smallest cross sections

# PID dependence

## 50-80 % and 200-400 MeV



The same, strong PID dependence

# Conclusions, summary

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In a hadronic rescattering MC simulation:

- a heavy tail exists  
in all centrality,  $k_T$  range of PHENIX nucl-ex/0605032

- it is of a power-law type (linear on log-log plot)

$$\alpha \sim 1.3$$

- exponent weakly depends on centrality and  $k_T$

- exponent strongly depends on PID  
(particle cross section) in the MC simulation

Consequence:

a 2<sup>nd</sup> order QCD phase transition  $\alpha \sim 0.5$   
and rescattering lead to different Lévy exponents -  
check PID dependence of  $\alpha$  first!