

# Measurement of Direct Photon Higher Order Azimuthal Anisotropy in $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200\text{GeV}$ Au+Au Collisions at RHIC-PHENIX

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## Introduction

Direct photon: all photons except those coming from hadron decays.

They are powerful tools to study the QGP.

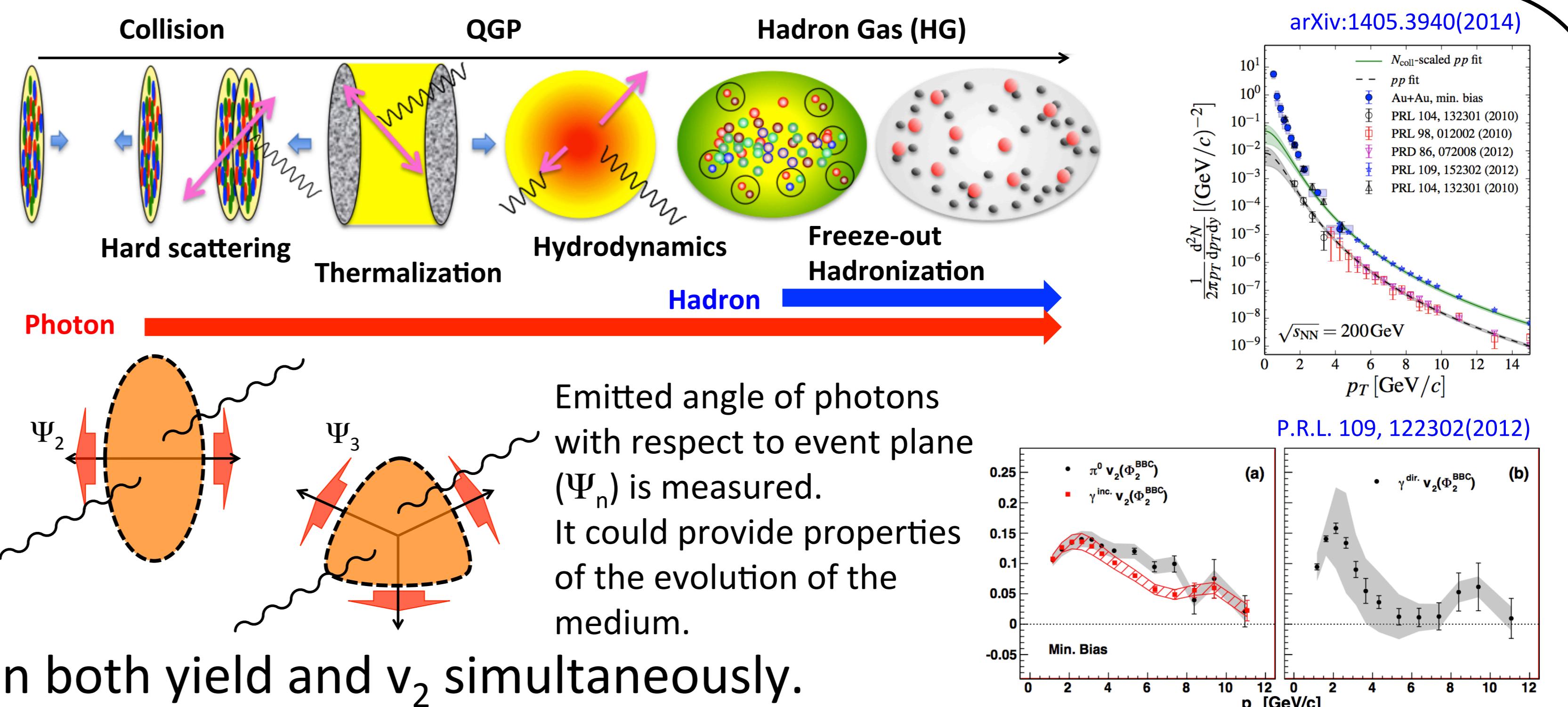
- ✓ Do not strongly interact with the medium
- ✓ Created during all stages

Direct photon  $p_T$  spectra and  $v_2$  have been measured.

- Large excess of photon yield in Au+Au
- High effective temperature (240 MeV)
- Large  $v_2$  comparable with hadron  $v_2$

Significant theoretical efforts are begin made to explain both yield and  $v_2$  simultaneously.

**Direct photon  $v_3$  originating from the initial geometry fluctuation may help disentangling different sources of photons.**

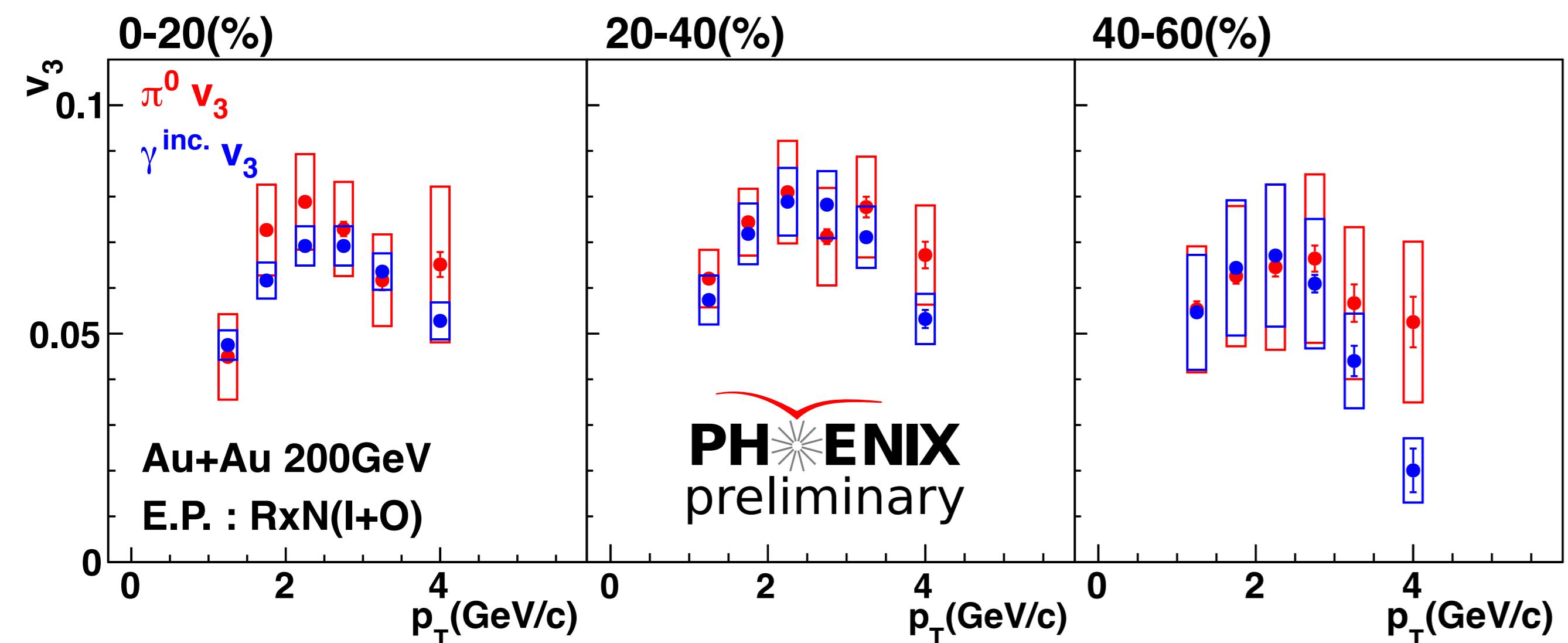


## Analysis Flow

Photons and neutral pions are reconstructed by Electromagnetic calorimeter ( $|\eta| < 0.35$ ).

Event Plane ( $\Psi_n$ ) is defined by Reaction Plane detector (RxN) ( $1 < |\eta| < 2.8$ ).

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_n = \langle \cos \{n(\phi - \Psi_n)\} \rangle \\ v_n^{true} = v_n^{obs.} / \text{Res}(\Psi_n) \end{array} \right.$$



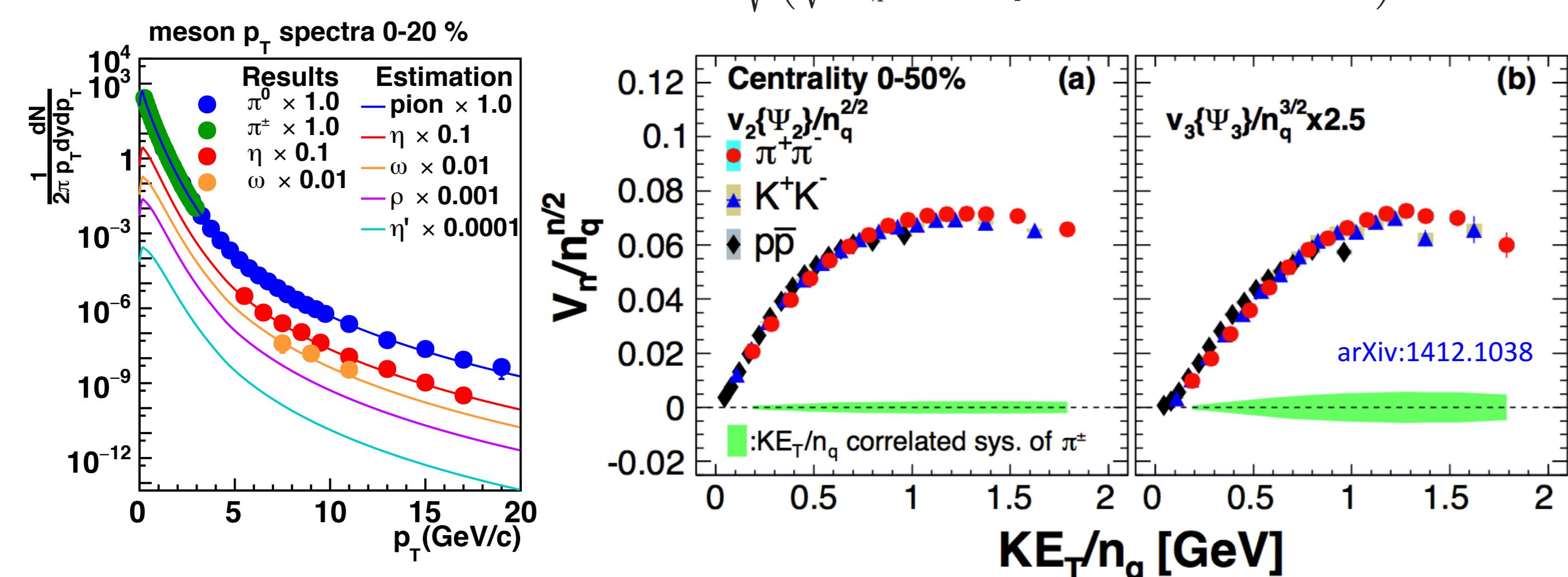
Decay photon  $v_n$  is simulated from mesons such as  $\eta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $\eta'$  which are estimated from pion.

- $p_T$  spectra :  $m_T$  scaling

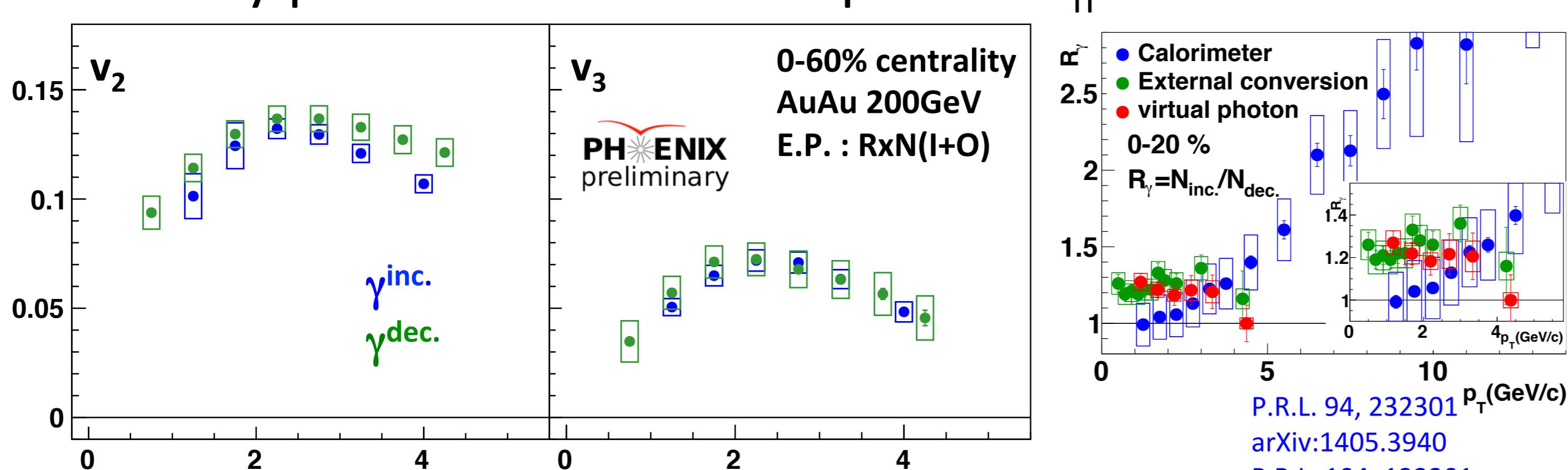
$$p_{T,\text{meson}} = \sqrt{p_{T,\text{pion}}^2 + M_{\text{meson}}^2 - M_{\text{pion}}^2}$$

- $v_n$  : the number of constituent quark scaling (NCQ)

$$p_{T,\text{meson}} = \sqrt{\left(\sqrt{p_{T,\text{pion}}^2 + M_{\text{pion}}^2} - M_{\text{pion}} + M_{\text{meson}}\right)^2 - M_{\text{meson}}^2}$$



✓ Decay photon and inclusive photon  $v_n$

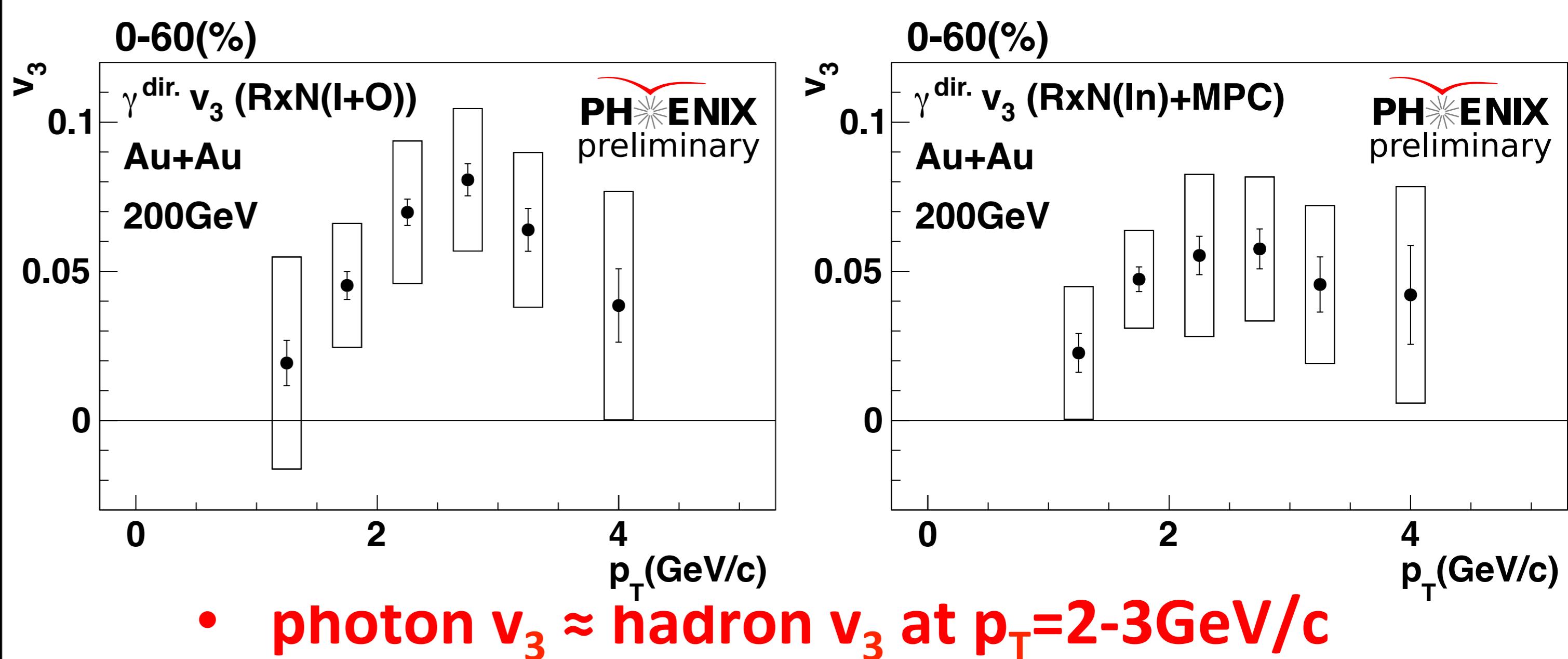


Direct photon  $v_n$  is extracted.

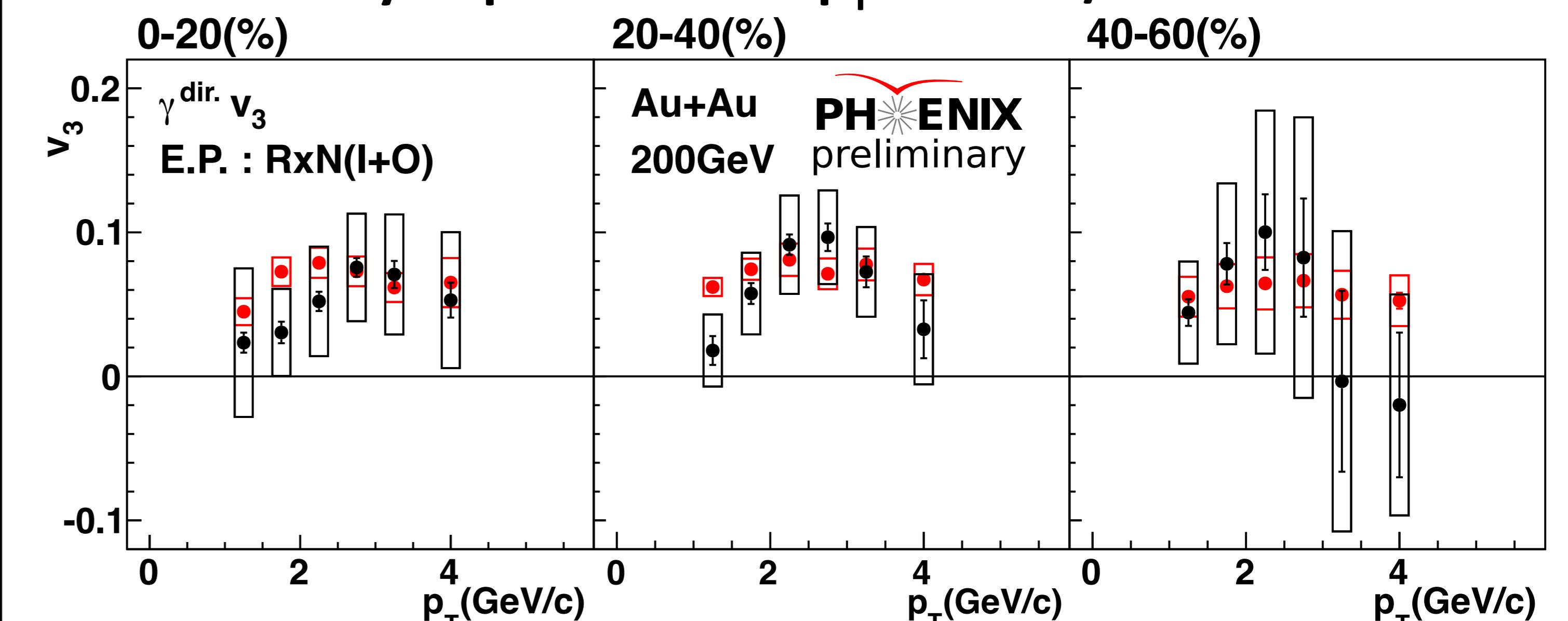
$$v_n^{\text{dir.}} = \frac{R_\gamma v_n^{\text{inc.}} - v_n^{\text{dec.}}}{R_\gamma - 1}$$

- $v_n^{\text{dir.}}$  : Direct photon  $v_n$
- $v_n^{\text{inc.}}$  : Inclusive photon  $v_n$
- $v_n^{\text{dec.}}$  : Decay photon  $v_n$
- $R_\gamma$  : Photon excess over known BG photons

## Results

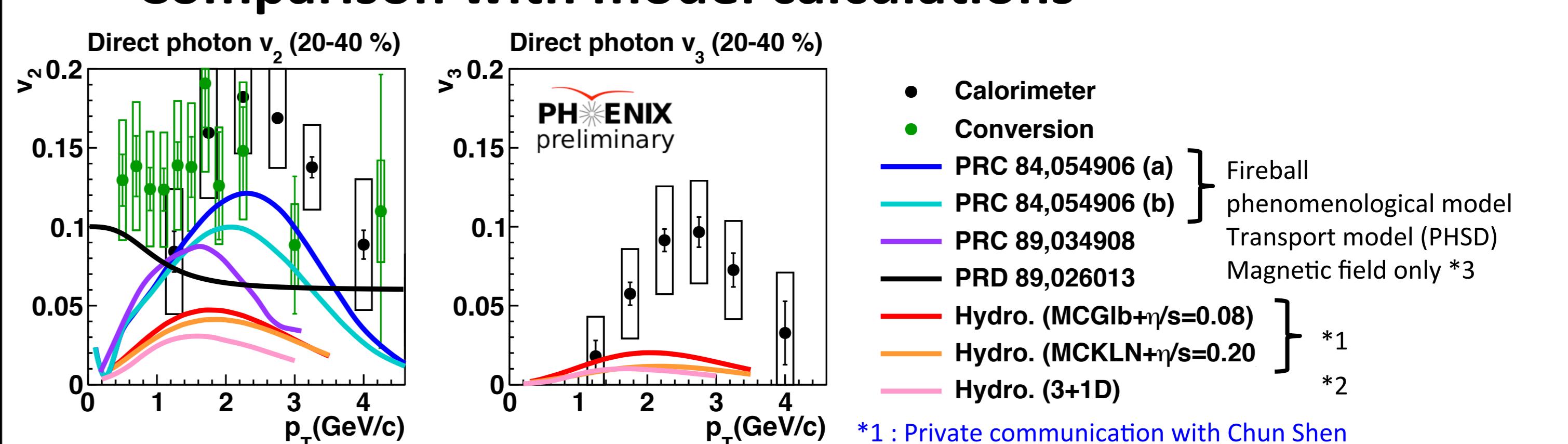


✓ Centrality dependence at  $p_T < 6\text{ GeV}/c$



• Photon  $v_n$  could be developed both at initial stage and expansion of medium (like hadron  $v_n$ ).

✓ Comparison with model calculations



• The models including photons from late stage relatively describe experimental measurement.

## Conclusion

- Positive and non-zero photon  $v_3$  is measured in low  $p_T$ .
- Centrality dependence of photon  $v_n$  is similar to that of hadron  $v_n$  at  $p_T = 2-3\text{ GeV}/c$ .
- Photon  $v_n$  could be described by the models that take photons from late stage into account.