

# Global Spin Alignment of $\phi$ and $K^{*0}$ Mesons in 19.6 GeV Au+Au Collisions from BES-II

Gavin Wilks

([gwilks3@uic.edu](mailto:gwilks3@uic.edu))

University of Illinois at Chicago

05/25/2022

# Motivation for Analysis

- BES-II provides significantly more statistics for lower collision energies.
  - BES-I 19.6 GeV: ~19M events after cuts
  - BES-II 19.6 GeV: ~400M events after cuts
- Preliminary results for BES-I energies show increasing global spin alignment for  $\phi$ -meson at lower AuAu collision energies  $\leq 19.6$  GeV.
  - Clarify  $\rho_{00}$  behavior in lower energy regime.
- Cross-check  $\rho_{00}$  values for  $K^{*0}$  from BES-I. No significant deviation from 1/3.

# Introduction to Spin Alignment

Preferential alignment of a particle's spin along the orbital angular momentum produced in heavy-ion collisions.

$\rho_{00}$ : 00<sup>th</sup> element of the spin density matrix.

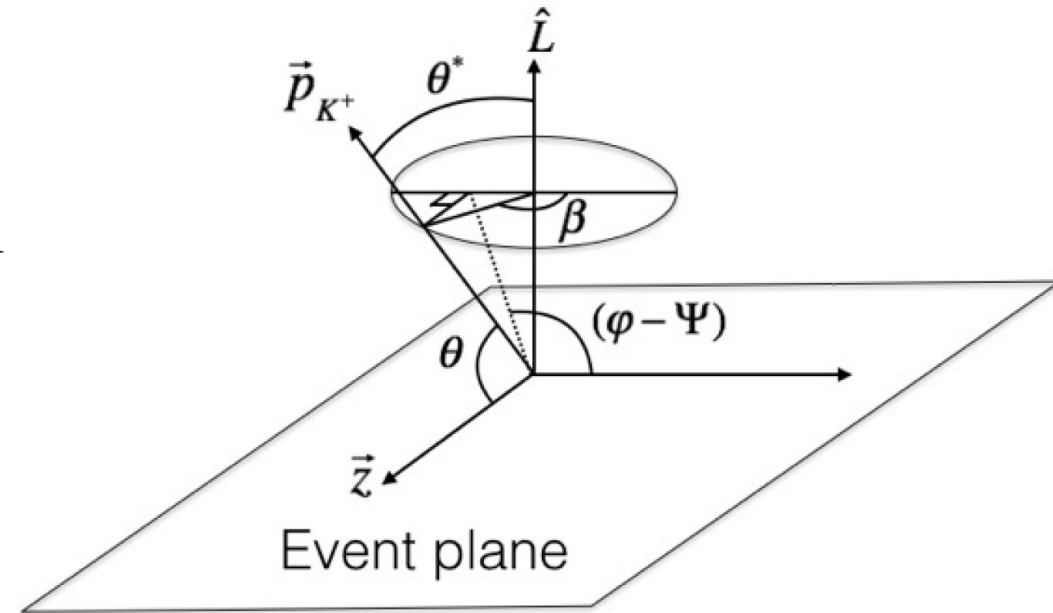
$\theta^*$ : angle between  $K^+$  daughter and polarization axis in parent's rest frame.

$\rho_{00}$  is found by fitting the parent particle's yield ( $N$ ) vs  $\cos(\theta^*)$ .

$$\frac{dN}{d \cos \theta^*} = N_0 \times [(1 - \rho_{00}) + (3\rho_{00} - 1) \cos^2 \theta^*]$$

Nucl. Phys.B18,332(1970)

$\rho_{00} \neq 1/3$  indicates spin alignment.



Phys. Rev. C **98**, 044907

# Data and analysis cuts

**Au+Au 19.6 GeV, BES-II**

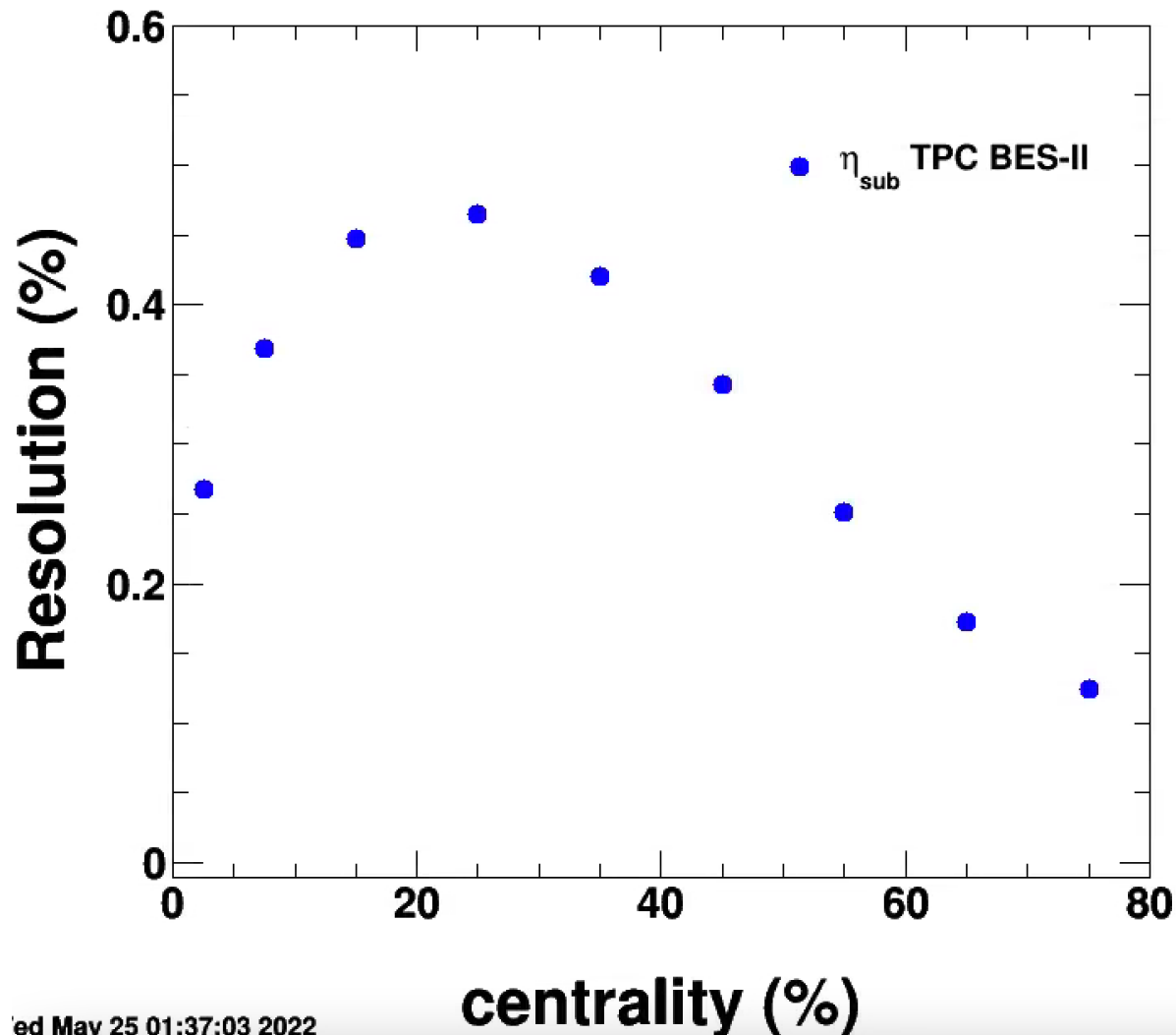
## **Event Cuts**

- Vertex:  $|V_z| < 70$  cm  
 $|V_r| < 2$  cm
- nBTOFMatch  $> 2$
- Trigger IDs (minbias):  
640001, 640011, 640021,  
640031, 640041, 640051

## **Track Cuts**

- $0.1 < |p_T| < 10.0$   
GeV/c
- $|DCA| < 3.0$  cm
- TPC hits  $> 15$
- TPC hit ratio  $> 0.52$
- $|\eta| < 1.0$

# TPC Event Plane (2<sup>nd</sup> order)



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Order EP Cuts

-  $0.15 \text{ GeV}/c < |p_T| < 2.0 \text{ GeV}/c$

$|DCA| < 1.0 \text{ cm}$

$|\eta| < 1.0$

- Total  $\eta$  separation for sub-event planes = 0.10

- Run-by-run, Centrality, and Vz binning for re-centering and shift calibrations.

- Vz bins =  $\{(-70, -30], (-30, 0], (0, 30], (30, 70)\}$

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# Default $\phi$ PID and Reconstruction settings

PID

$K^{+/-}$

$|DCA| < 2.0$

TPC:  $|n\sigma_K| < 2.0$

TOF:  $0.16 < m_2 < 0.36$

Fitting+BG subtraction

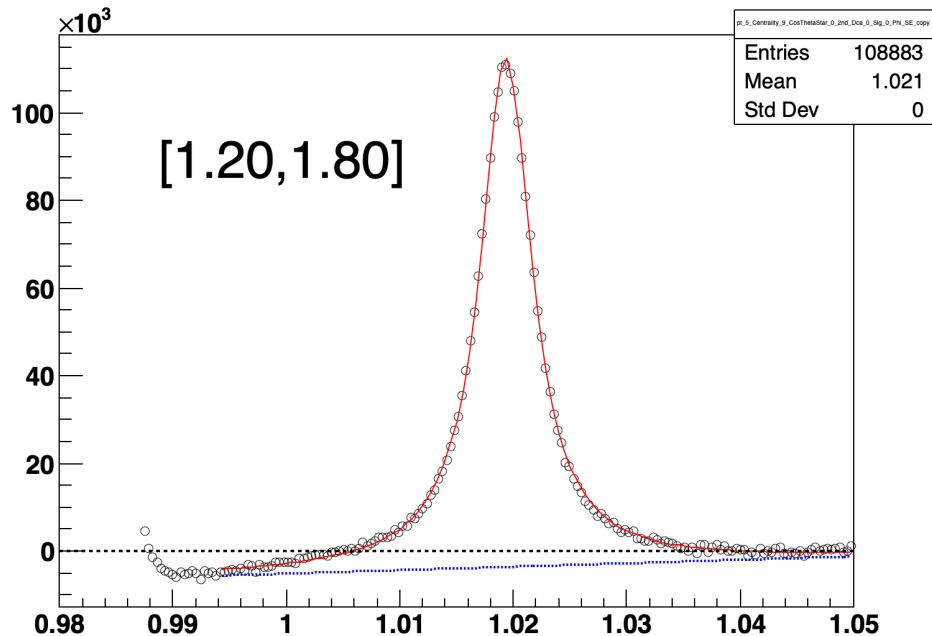
Mixed event background

Background normalized to tail of signal+background,  $m=[1.04,1.05]$  GeV

Breit-wigner + residual poly1 for fit

Fit region  $m = [0.994,1.05]$  GeV

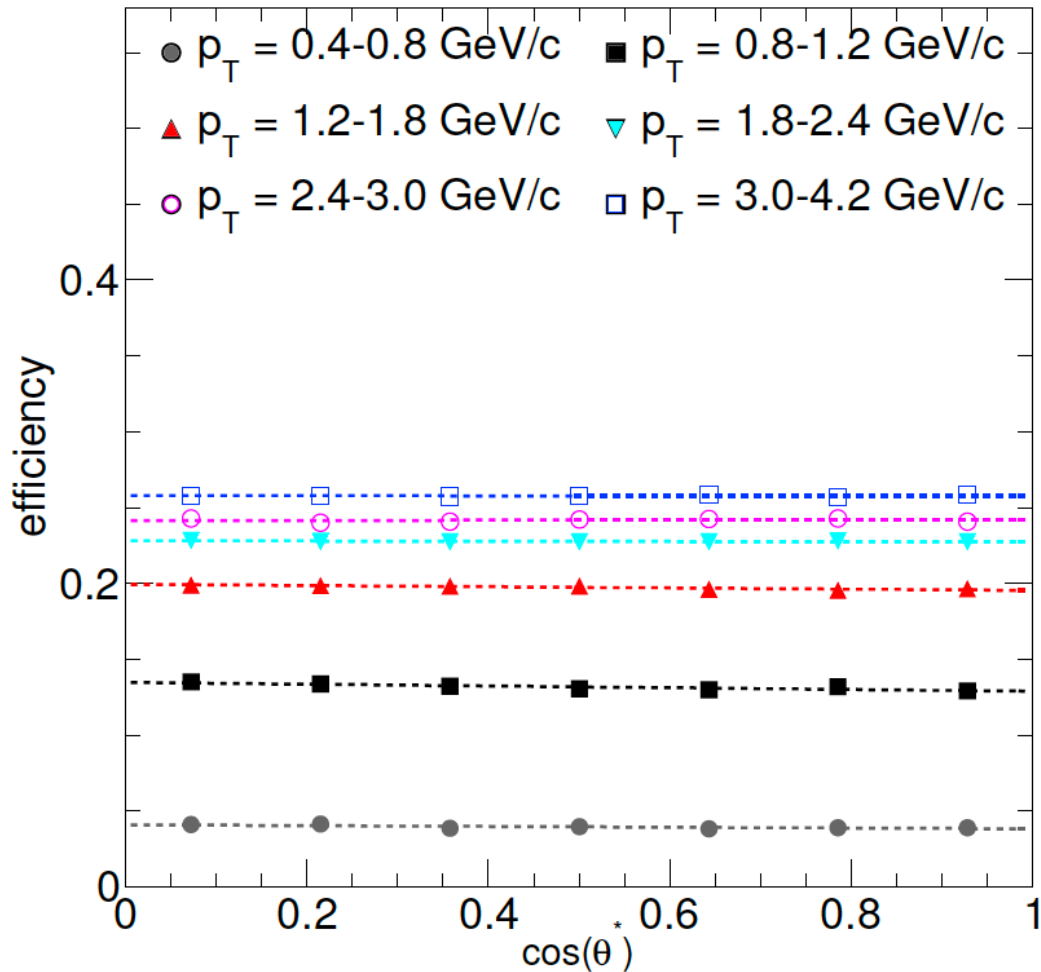
Integration signal extraction in region  $[m-2\Gamma, m+2\Gamma]$



# $\phi$ meson Efficiency vs $\cos(\theta^*)$

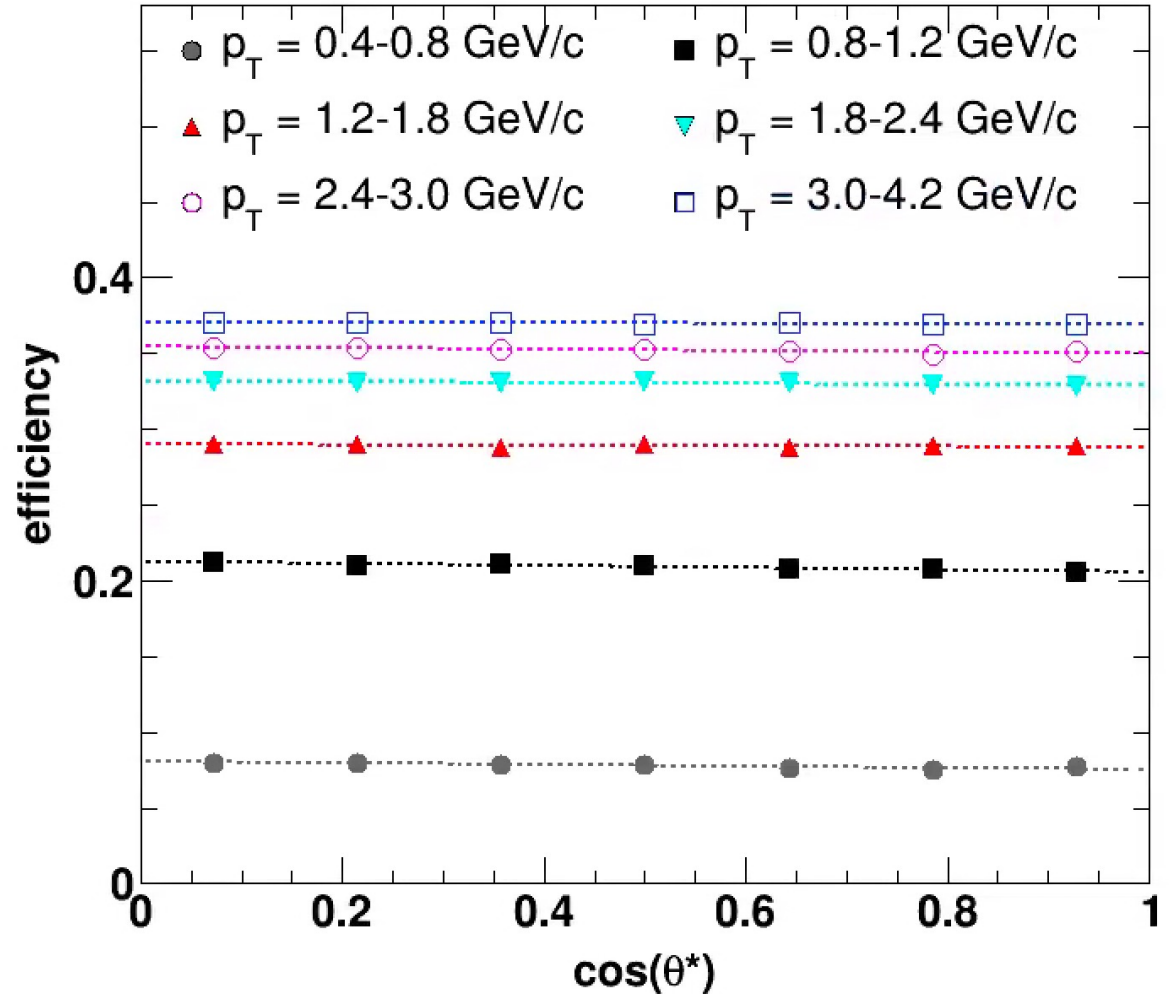
BES-I

AuAu 19GeV 20%-60%



BES-II

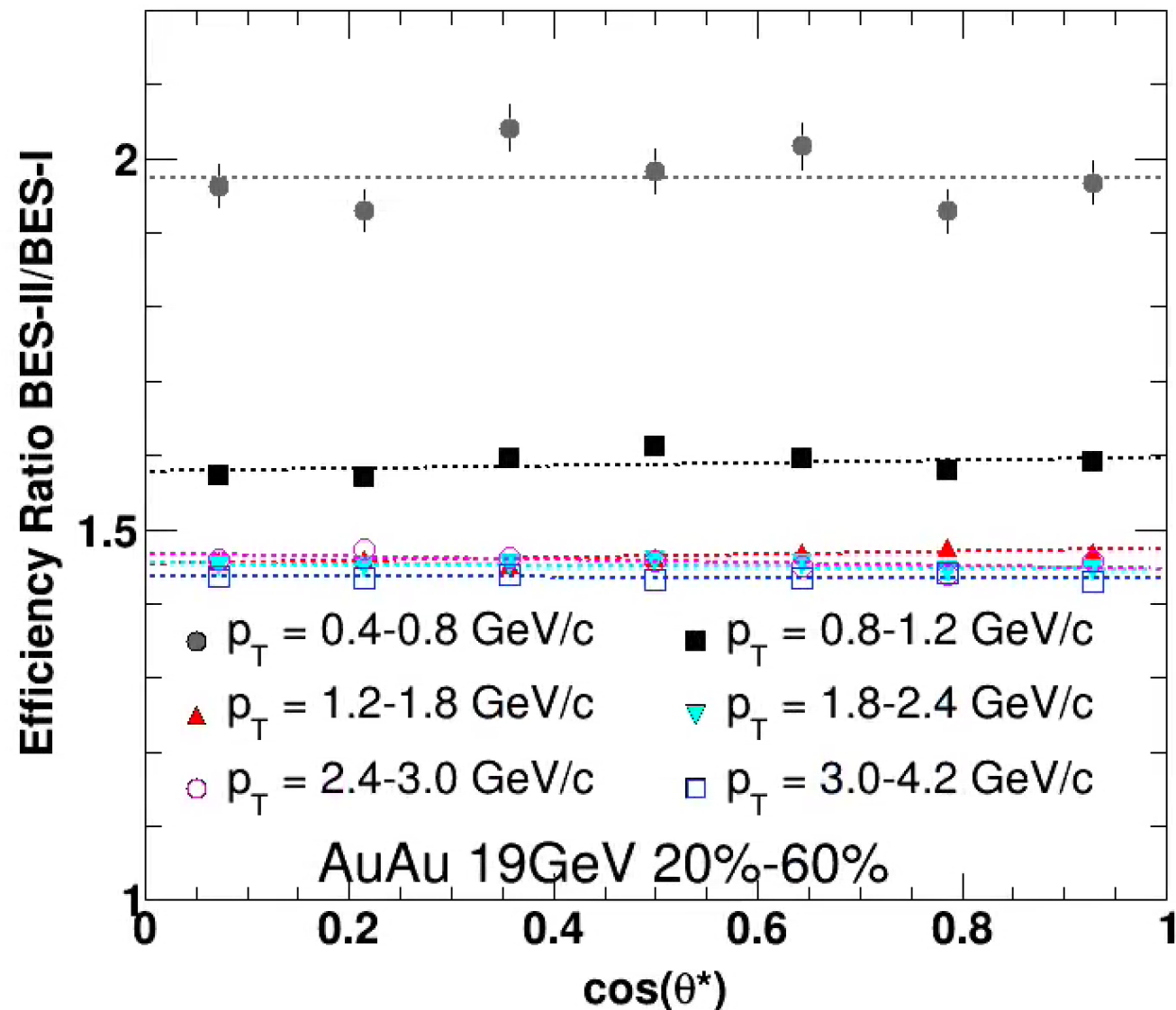
AuAu 19GeV 20%-60%



# Efficiency vs $\cos(\theta^*)$

No direct answer to why we see a slight negative linear slope with respect to  $\cos(\theta^*)$ .

Linear trends of the two data sets appear consistent overall.



$p_T = 0.4-0.8$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.9745 +/- 0.0225	slope = -0.0010 +/- 0.0391
$p_T = 0.8-1.2$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.5781 +/- 0.0080	slope = 0.0185 +/- 0.0139
$p_T = 1.2-1.8$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.4535 +/- 0.0044	slope = 0.0209 +/- 0.0077
$p_T = 1.8-2.4$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.4545 +/- 0.0038	slope = -0.0081 +/- 0.0066
$p_T = 2.4-3.0$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.4675 +/- 0.0036	slope = -0.0206 +/- 0.0063
$p_T = 3.0-4.2$ GeV/c	y-int = 1.4370 +/- 0.0024	slope = -0.0037 +/- 0.0041



# Resolution and Acceptance Correction

- Decay  $\phi$ -meson in Pythia6 with the following kinematics.
  - Random  $p_T$  from measured spectra in specific  $p_T$  bin.
  - Random rapidity from uniform distribution over  $[-1,1]$
  - Random  $\phi$  using measured elliptic flow as input.
- Calculate  $\cos(\theta^*)$  for  $K^+$  daughter.
- Use  $\phi$ -meson yield vs  $\cos(\theta^*)$  from simulation to calculate  $F$  (acceptance coefficient)

$$\left[ \frac{dN}{d \cos \theta^* d\beta} \right]_{|\eta|} = \frac{dN}{d \cos \theta^* d\beta} \times g(\theta^*, \beta).$$

$$g(\theta^*, \beta) \propto 1 + F \cos^2 \theta^* + F \sin^2 \theta^* \cos 2\beta.$$

$$g(\theta^*) \propto 1 + F \cos^2 \theta^*$$

# Resolution and Acceptance Correction

- Since we do not know the reaction plane and can only calculate the event plane with a finite resolution, we must change coordinates to a primed frame for our calculation in which,

$$\Psi' = \Psi + \Delta.$$

- We can extract  $\rho_{00}$  from the the updated function where F is set by simulation.

$$\left[ \frac{dN}{d \cos \theta'^*} \right]_{|\eta|} \propto \left( 1 + \frac{B'F}{2} \right) + (A' + F) \cos^2 \theta'^* \\ + (A'F - \frac{B'F}{2}) \cos^4 \theta'^*,$$

$$A' = \frac{A(1 + 3R)}{4 + A(1 - R)} \quad A = \frac{3\rho_{00} - 1}{1 - \rho_{00}} \\ B' = \frac{A(1 - R)}{4 + A(1 - R)}$$

# EP Resolution and Acceptance Correction

- To ensure  $\rho_{00}$  with respect to the 2<sup>nd</sup> order EP is consistent with  $\rho_{00}$  with respect to the 1<sup>st</sup> order EP one must use the 2<sup>nd</sup> order EP “resolution” with respect to the reaction plane that the 1<sup>st</sup> order EP is perturbing around.

$$R_{21} = \langle \cos 2(\Psi_2 - \Psi_{r,1}) \rangle$$

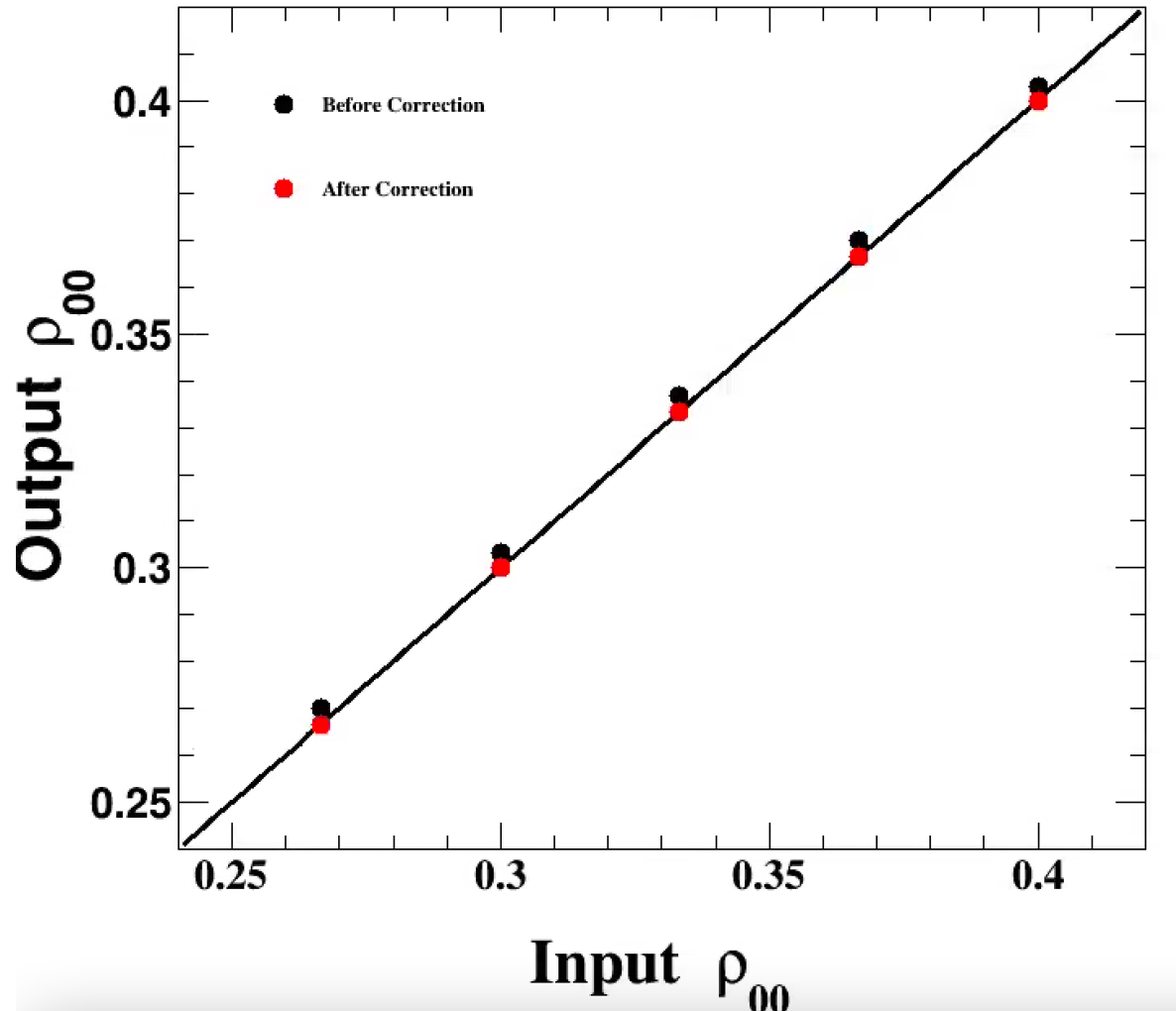
- $R_{21}$  can be found by using the following relation.

$$\begin{aligned} D_{12} &\equiv \langle \cos 2(\Psi_1 - \Psi_2) \rangle \\ &= \langle \cos 2(\Psi_1 - \Psi_{r,1} + \Psi_{r,1} - \Psi_2) \rangle \\ &\approx \langle \cos 2(\Psi_1 - \Psi_{r,1}) \rangle \langle \cos 2(\Psi_{r,1} - \Psi_2) \rangle \\ &= R_1 \cdot R_{21}. \end{aligned}$$

- Since we are using the 2<sup>nd</sup> order **sub-event** plane for our  $\rho_{00}$  calculations, we must use  $R_{21}^{Sub}$  instead.

$$R_{21}^{Sub} = R_{21} / \sqrt{2}$$

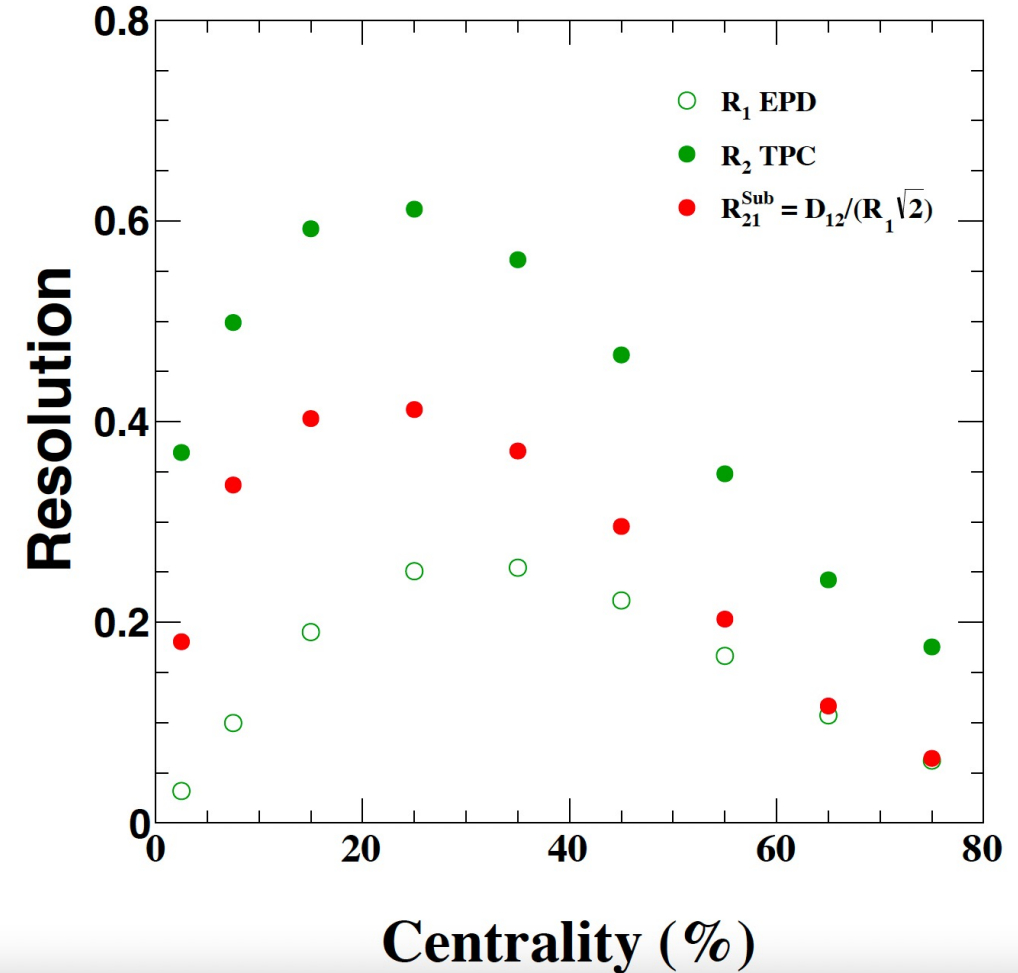
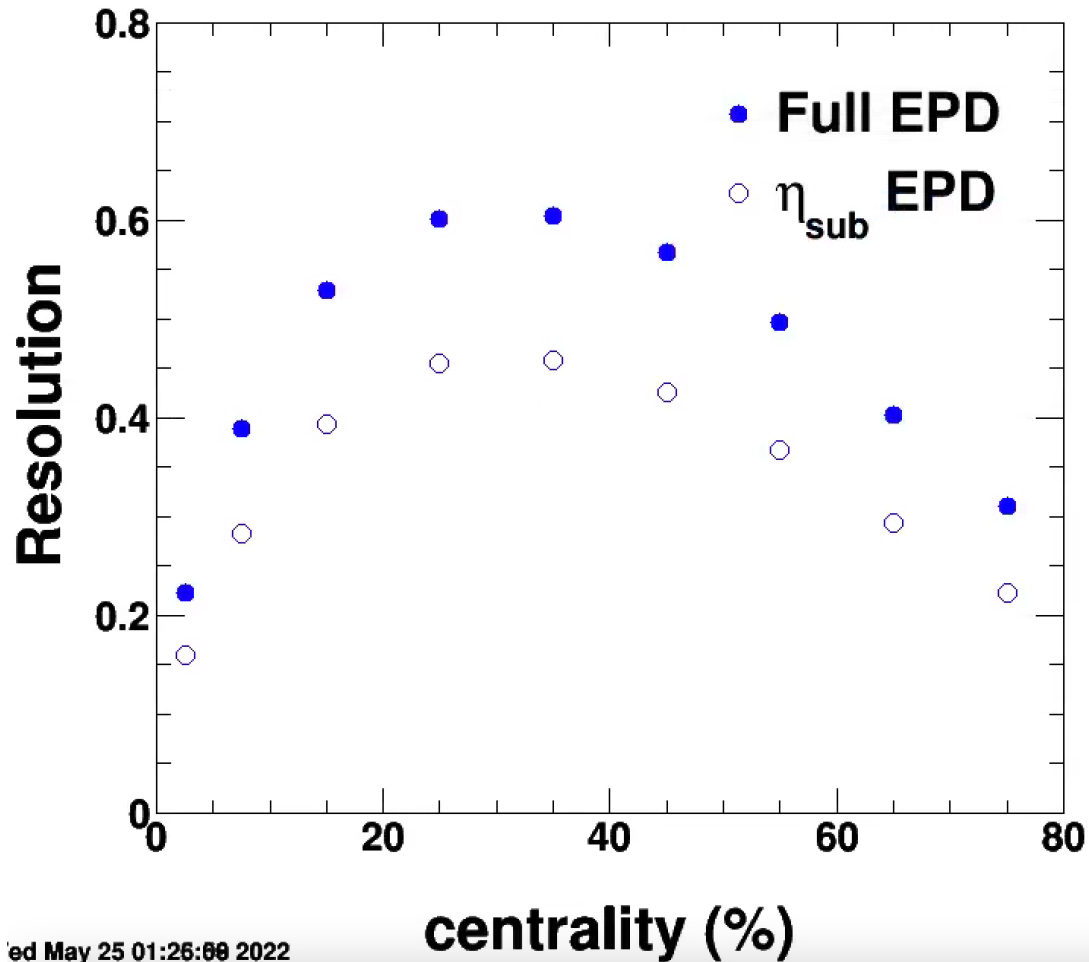
# Acceptance Correction QA



- Input a  $\rho_{00}$  value to acceptance simulation.
- Grab output  $\rho_{00}$  and apply acceptance correction.
- Input and acceptance corrected output match!

# 1<sup>st</sup> Order EPD EP Resolution & $R_{21}^{\text{Sub}}$

$\eta$  weights implemented



# $\phi$ -meson $\rho_{00}$ vs $p_T$

**Mid-central Au+Au collisions (20-60%)**

**BES-II** Weighted average over  $p_T$ :

$$\rho_{00}^{\text{II}} = 0.3512 \pm 0.0026 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.0013 \text{ (sys)}$$

$$\rho_{00}^{\text{II}} > 1/3 \text{ with } 6.15\sigma$$

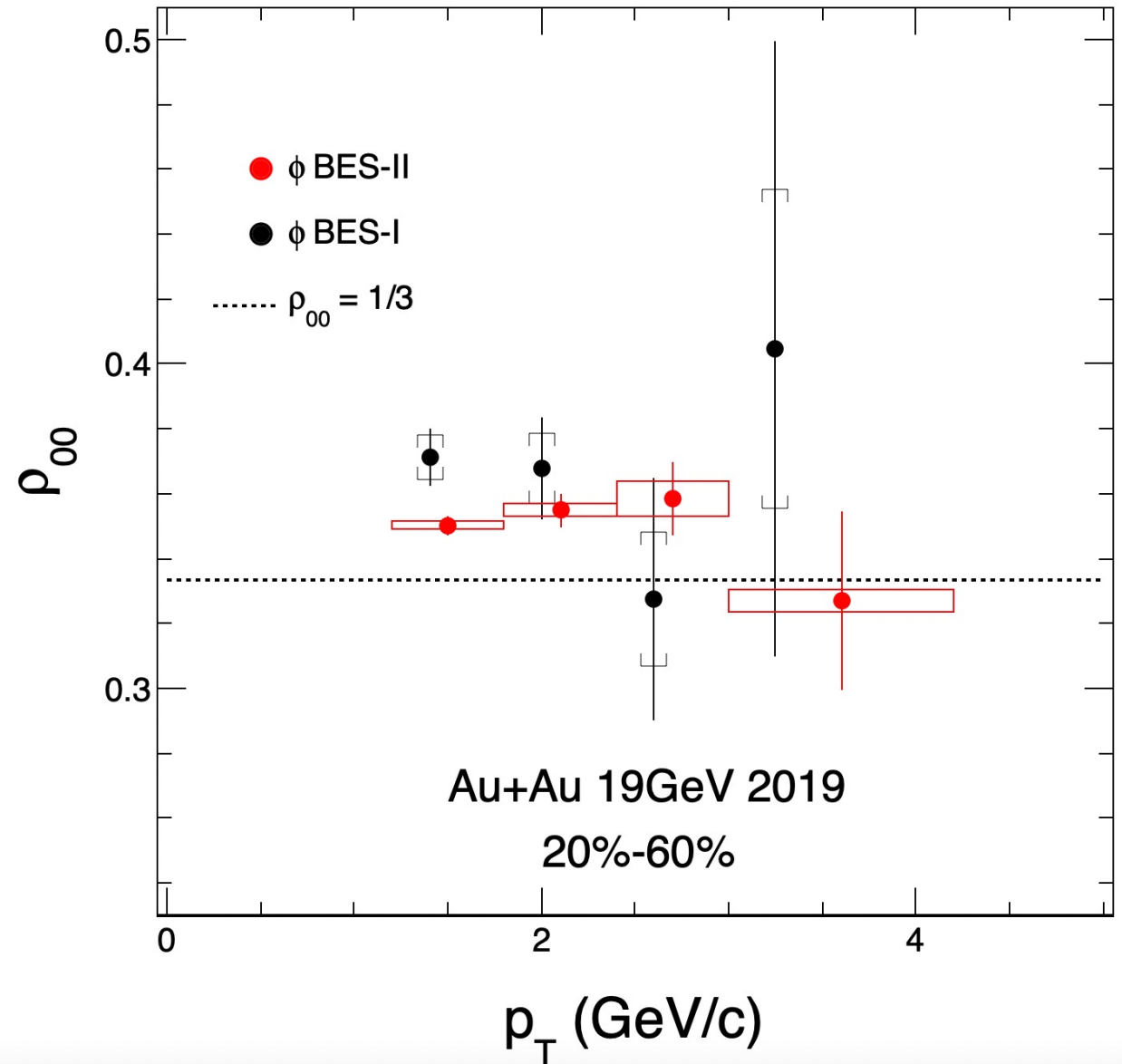
**BES-I** Weighted average over  $p_T$ :

$$\rho_{00}^{\text{I}} = 0.370 \pm 0.008 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.007 \text{ (sys.)}$$

$$\rho_{00}^{\text{I}} > 1/3 \text{ with } 3.5\sigma$$

$$\rho_{00}^{\text{II}} < \rho_{00}^{\text{I}} \text{ with } 1.7\sigma$$

Non-trivial  $p_T$  dependence.



# Default $K^{*0}$ PID and Reconstruction settings

## PID

$K^{+/-}$

$|DCA| < 2.0$

If TPC:  $|n\sigma_K| < 2.0$

Else, use TOF:  $0.16 < m_2 < 0.36$

$\pi^{+/-}$

$|DCA| < 2.0$

If TPC:  $|n\sigma_\pi| < 2.0$

Else, use TOF:  $-0.2 < m_2 < 0.15$

## Fitting+BG subtraction

Rotated pairs background

Background normalized to tail of signal+background,  $m=[1.15,1.2]$  GeV

Breit-wigner + residual poly2 for fit

Fit region  $m = [0.77,1.06]$  GeV

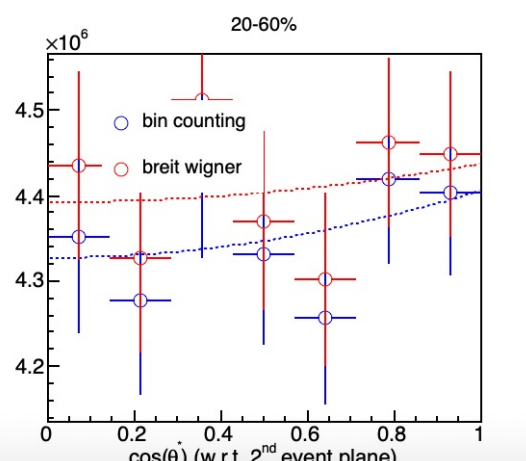
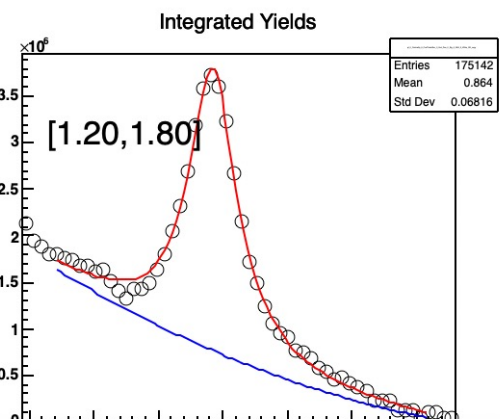
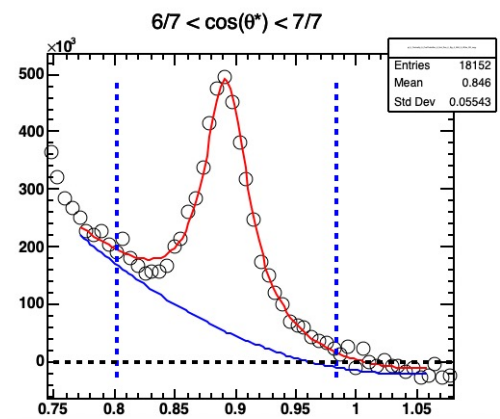
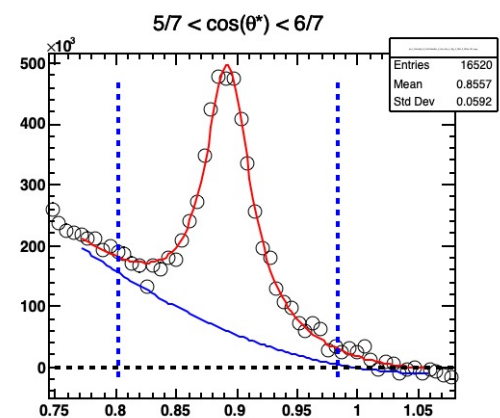
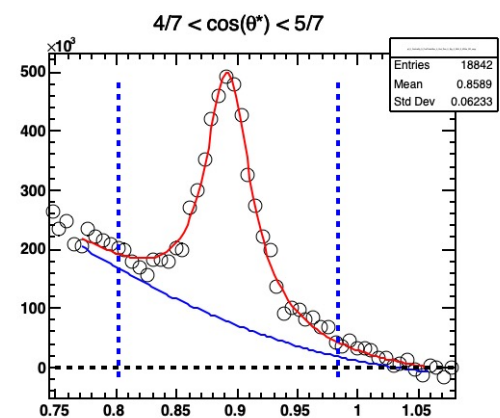
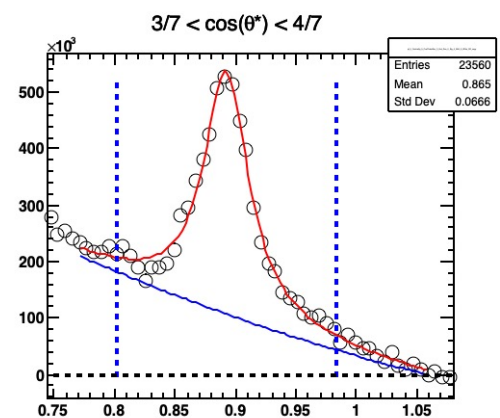
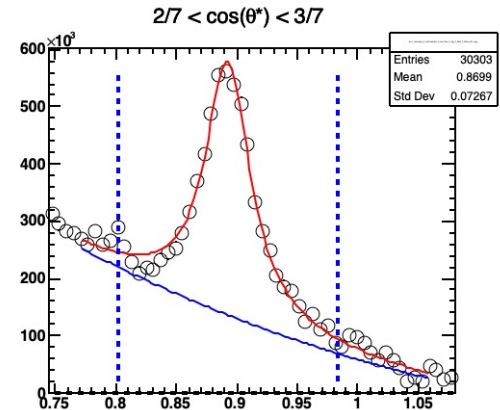
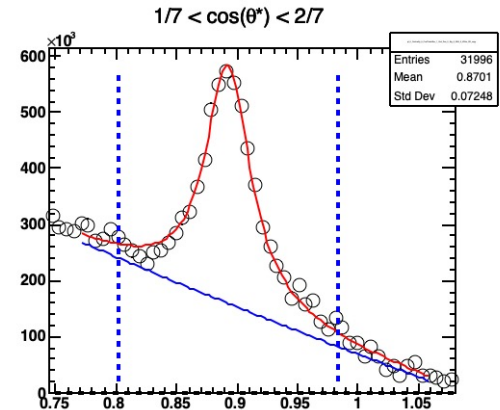
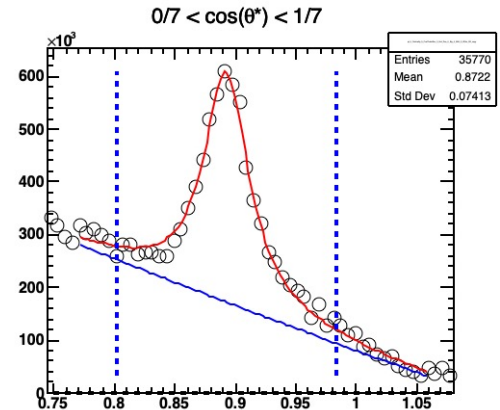
Integration signal extraction in region  $[m-2\Gamma, m+2\Gamma]$

# Raw $K^{*0}$ Yields vs $\cos(\theta^*)$

20-60% Centrality

$p_T = [1.2, 1.8]$  GeV/c

Poly2 residual backgrounds have similar shapes in each  $\cos(\theta^*)$  bin.





# $K^{*0}$ raw $\rho_{00}$ vs $p_T$

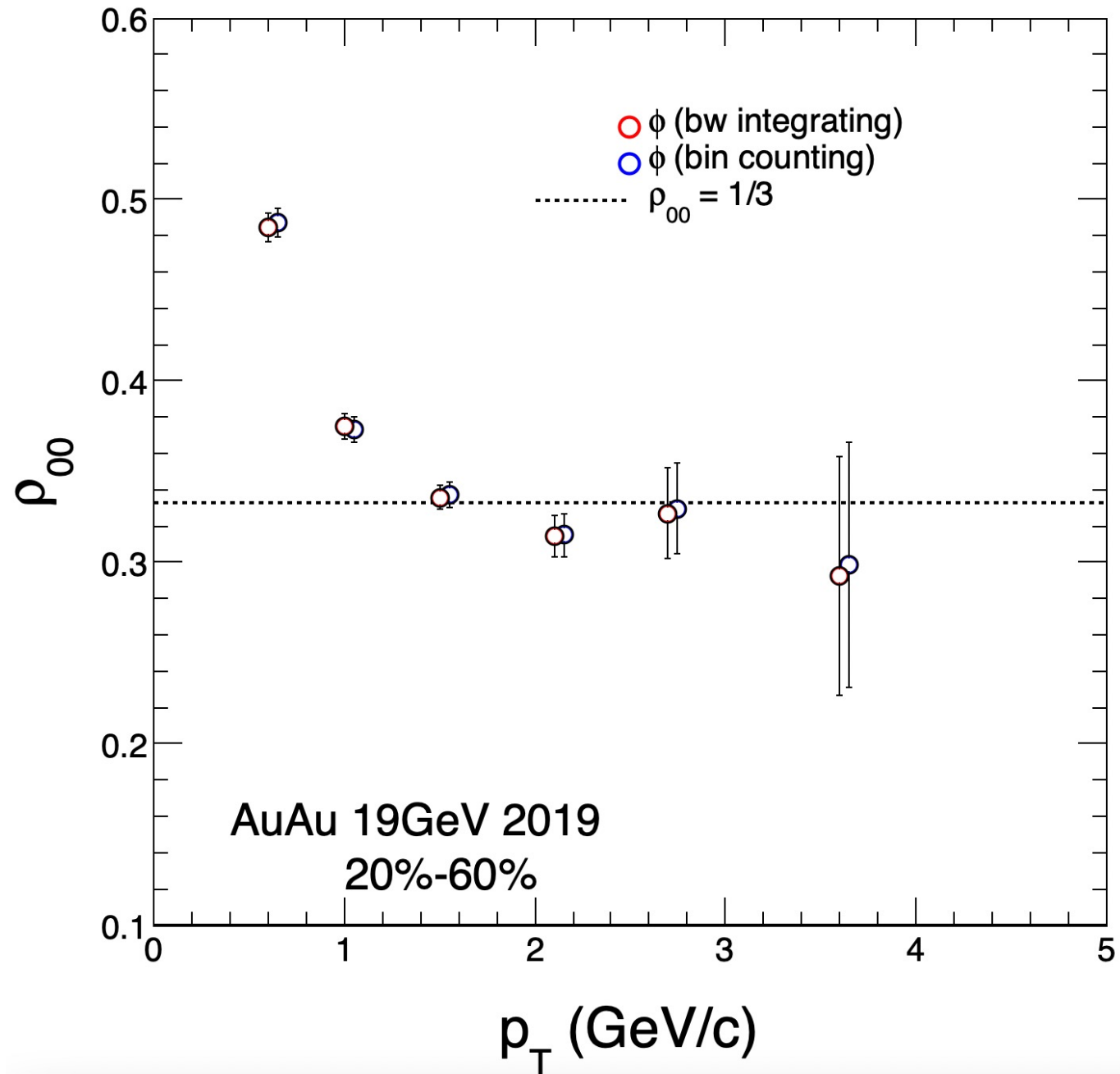
20-60% Centrality

Efficiency vs  $\cos(\theta^*)$  will be performed with the same simulation procedure as  $\phi$ .

No ToF Matching Efficiency.

Acceptance + Resolution correction.

We have everything for the resolution correction already.



# Summary and Outlook

Efficiency vs.  $\cos(\theta^*)$  linear trends are consistent between BES-I and BES-II.

First look at fully corrected  $\phi$ -meson  $\rho_{00}$  for 19.6 GeV BES-II data set.

We want to do some more QA for the acceptance + resolution correction step.

First look at raw  $\rho_{00}$  for  $K^{*0}$  for 19.6 GeV BES-II data set.

We will perform efficiency, acceptance and resolution corrections very similarly to  $\phi$ .

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

# BACKUP SLIDES

# $\phi$ Meson Efficiency vs $\cos(\theta^*)$

Using method laid out by Xu Sun in his analysis note from BES-I:

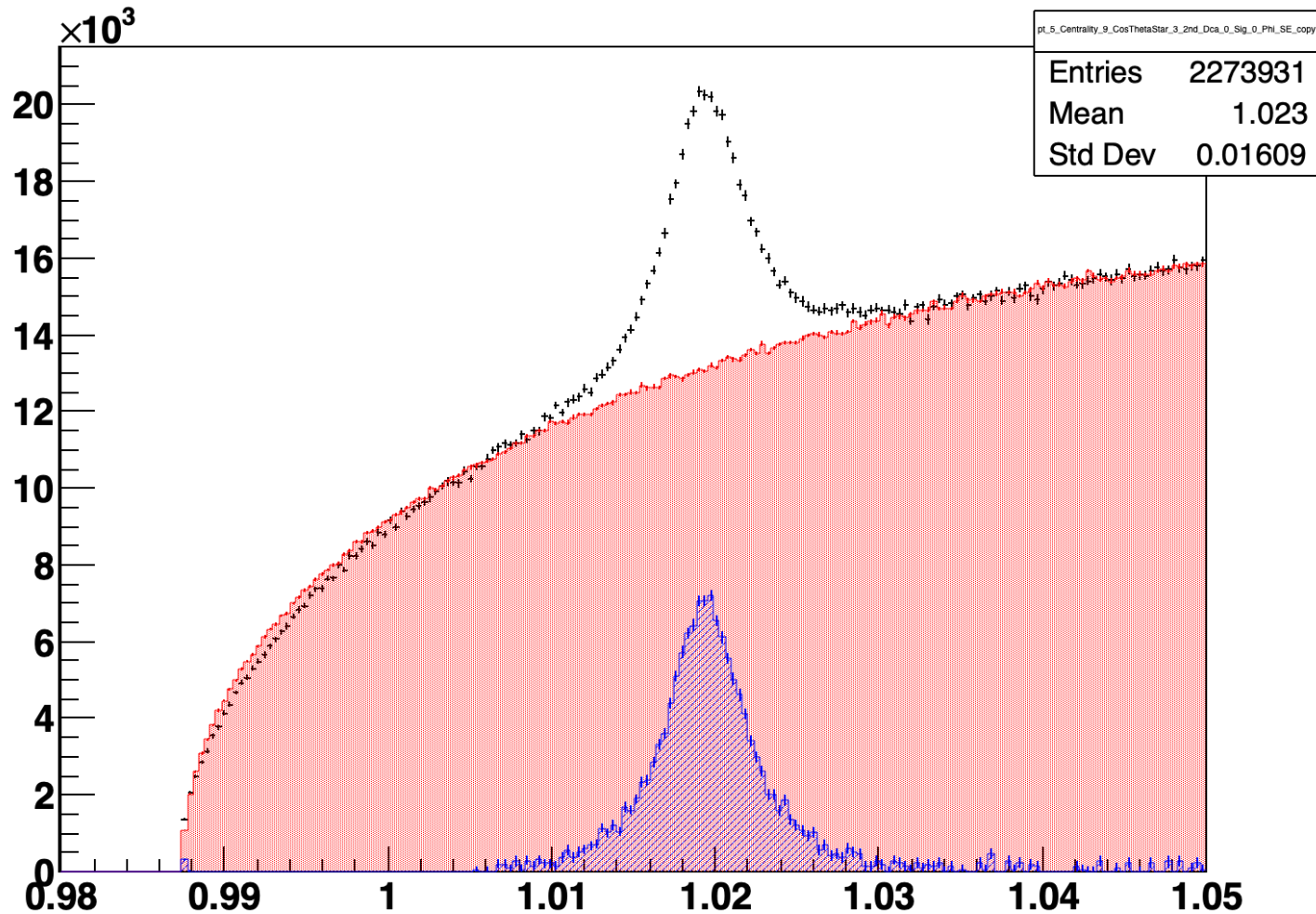
- Use Pythia6 for sim.

- Decayed  $K^+$  and  $K^-$  will go through a MC process to simulate TPC and ToF effect.
- Two independent random numbers will be generated for each decay daughter and compared with TPC Kaon tracking efficiency and ToF matching efficiency (with different fitting procedure described in 3.1.3) in a specific binning as shown in Sec. 3.1.1 and 3.1.3.
- If both random numbers are smaller than the corresponding Kaon efficiency, this track will be kept, otherwise, this track will be killed ( $\epsilon_{p_T,|\eta|<1} = \epsilon_{TPC} * \epsilon_{ToF}$ ).
- If both  $K^+$  and  $K^-$  survived from above MC process, reconstructed  $\phi$ -meson will be filled into a  $\cos(\theta^*)$  histogram and compared with MC distribution to extract  $\phi$ -meson efficiency.

# ToF Matching Efficiency

- Evaluated using real data.
- $N_{\text{TPC}}$  = tracks passing strict  $|n\sigma| < 0.6$  cut in addition to TPC performance cuts in attempts to accurately identify desired daughter particle,  $K^{+/-}$ .
- $N_{\text{ToF}}$  = tracks with  $\beta > 0$  and pass the above cuts.
- Matching Efficiency =  $N_{\text{ToF}} / N_{\text{TPC}}$
- There is some hadron contamination addressed by applying fit excluding specific regions of matching efficiency.

# $\phi$ Meson Signal Extraction



## **Kaon cuts**

$$0.16 < M^2 < 0.36 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

$$|n\sigma| < 2.5$$

Full 19.6 GeV data set.

Mixed event background normalized to the same event signal between  $[1.04, 1.05]$ .

Subtract normalized mixed event background from same event signal.

# $\phi$ Meson Invariant Mass

20-60% Centrality

$1.2 < p_T < 1.8 \text{ GeV}/c$

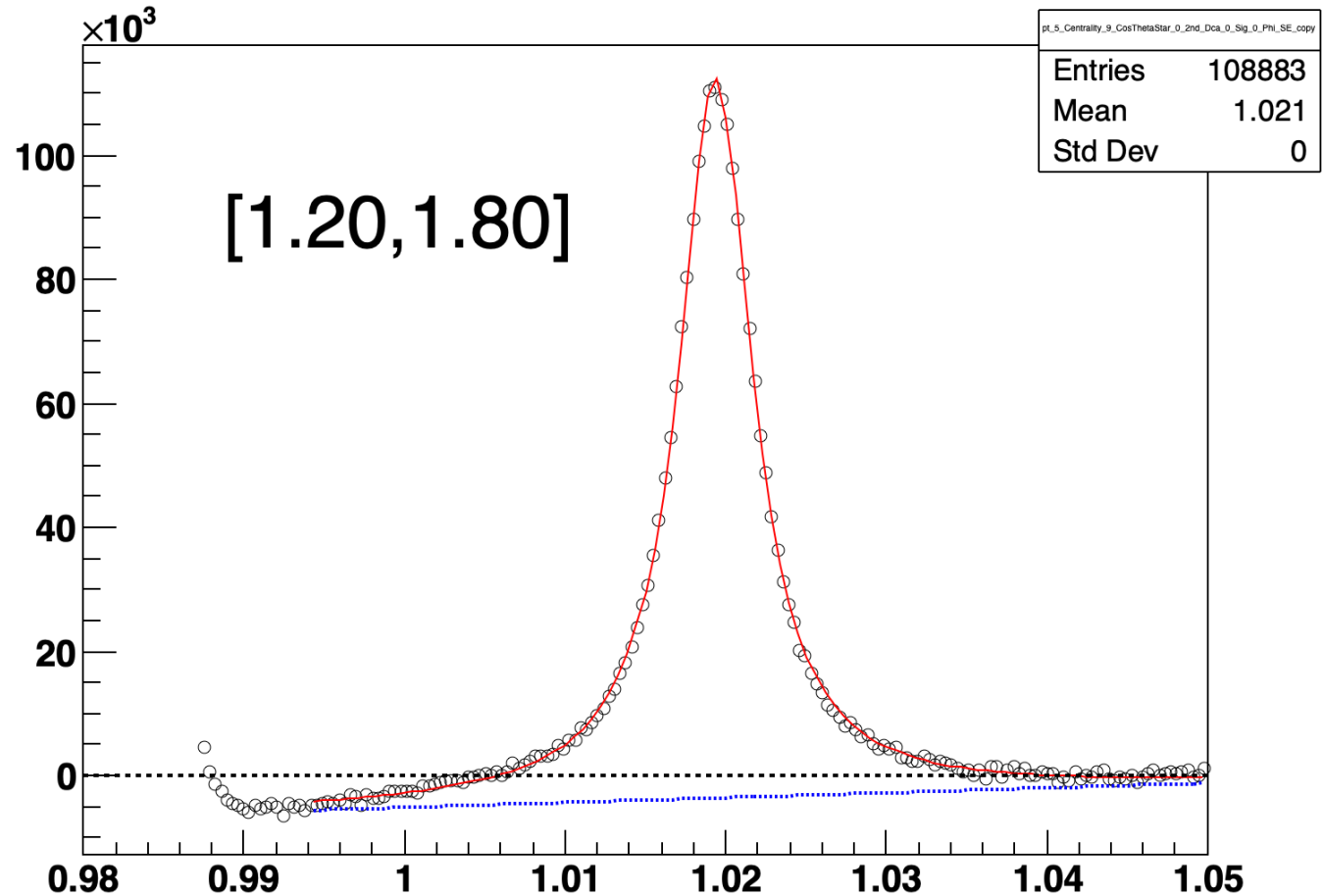
Mass yields fit with Breit-Wigner + poly1:

$$BW(m_{inv}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{A\Gamma}{(m - m_\phi)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2}$$

$\phi$ -meson yields are found by bin counting and integrating between  $[m_\phi - 2\Gamma, m_\phi + 2\Gamma]$  in each  $\cos(\theta^*)$  bin

$\Gamma$  and  $m_\phi$  are fixed from  $\cos(\theta^*)$  integrated yields.

Fit each  $\cos(\theta^*)$  with BW+poly1 with fixed values from above .



# Invariant Mass Yields

## Bin counting

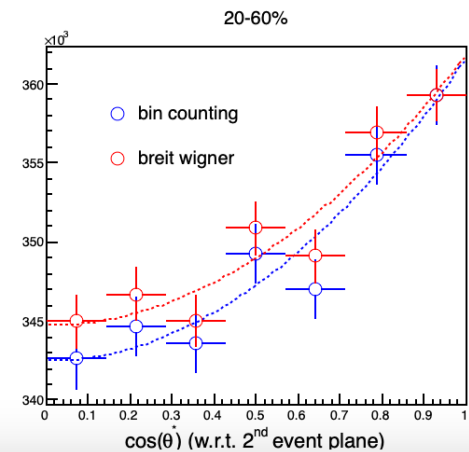
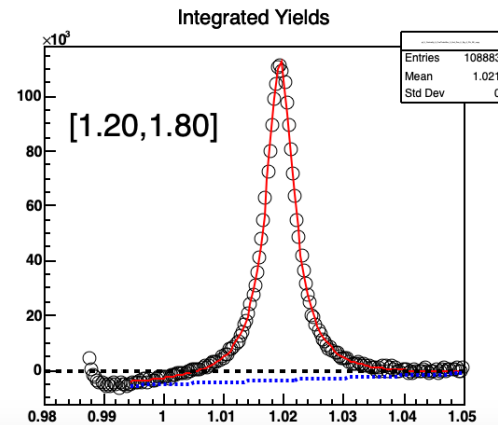
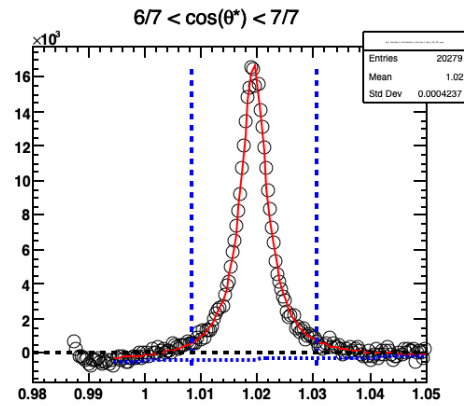
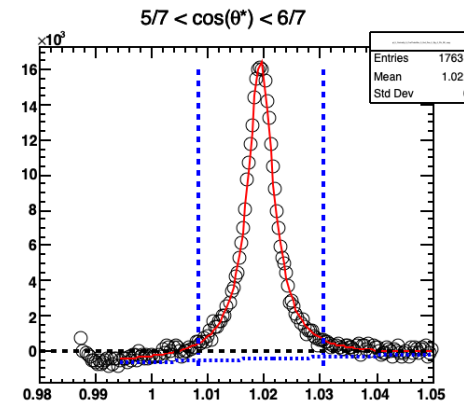
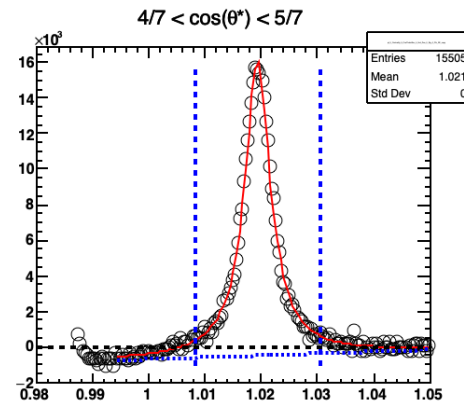
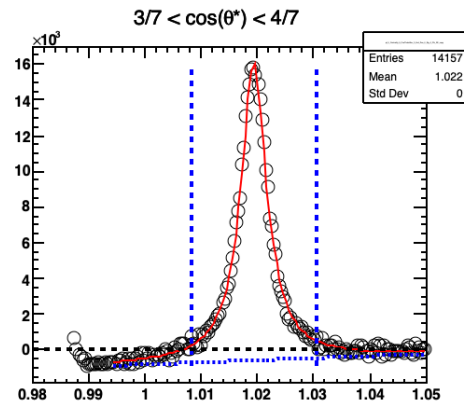
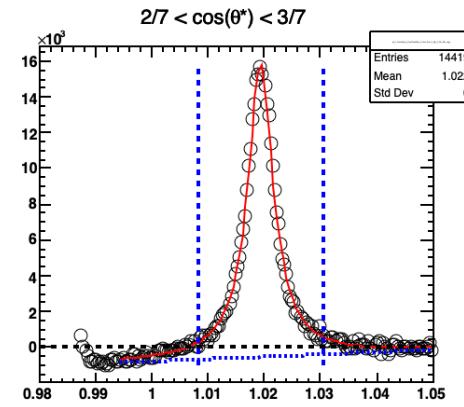
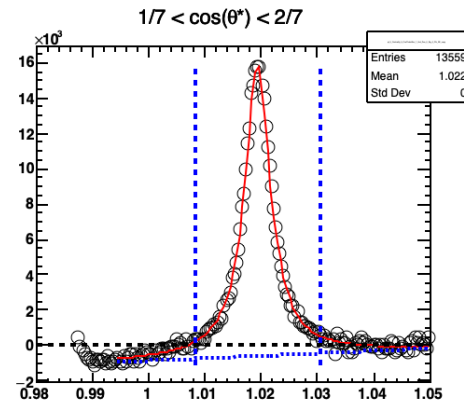
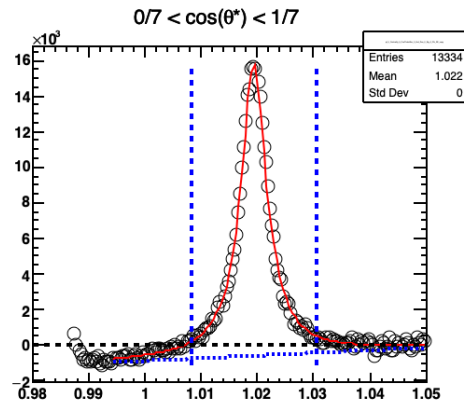
- Simply count the individual bins between  $[m_\phi - 2\Gamma, m_\phi + 2\Gamma]$  and subtract integrated linear background in same range.

## Integrated

- Use BW+poly1 fit in individual  $\cos(\theta^*)$  bins and subtract integrated linear background in same range.

Fit yields vs  $\cos(\theta^*)$  with following function to extract  $\rho_{00}$ .

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*} = N_0 \times [(1 - \rho_{00}) + (3\rho_{00} - 1) \cos^2 \theta^*]$$

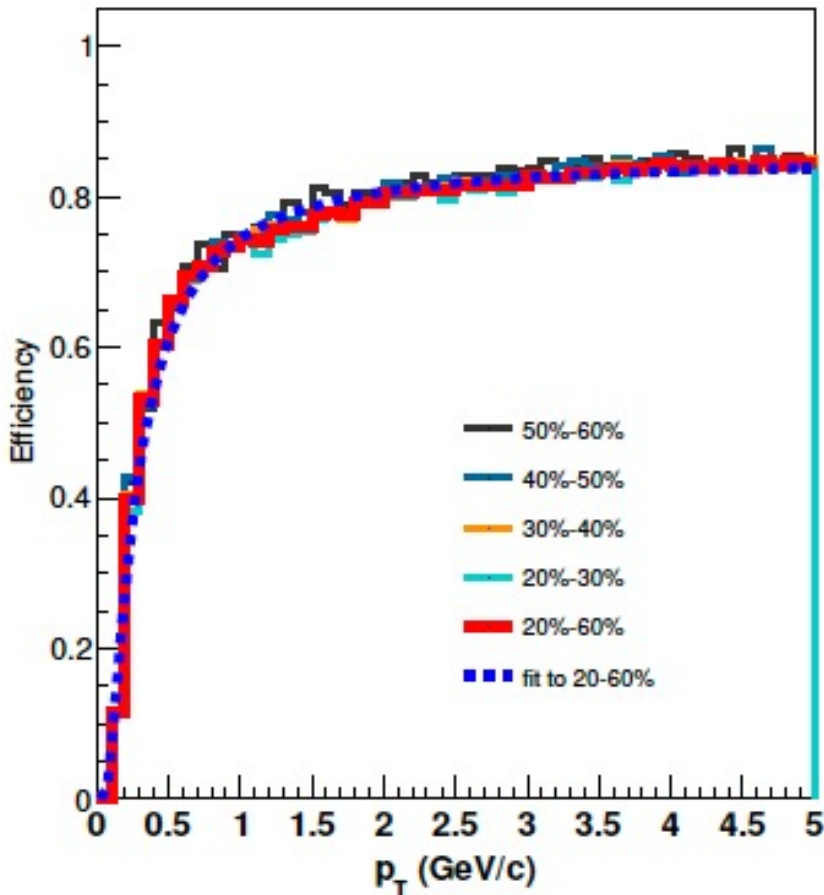




# BES-I/II TPC Efficiency Comparison

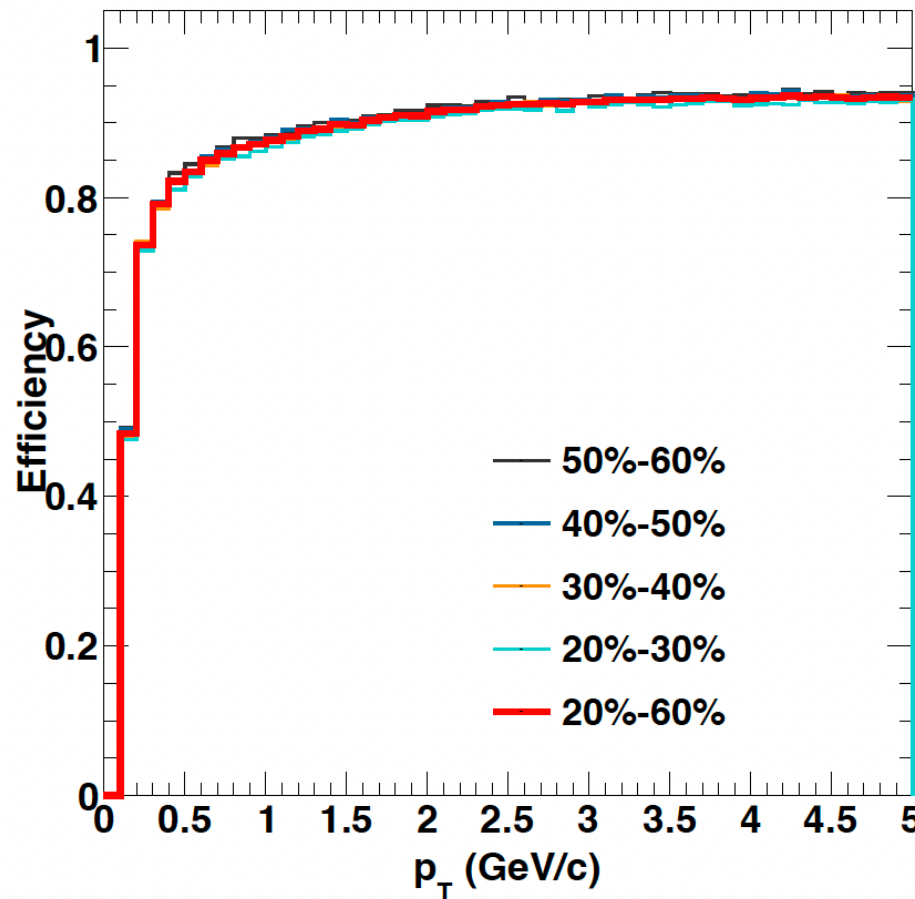
BES-I

$K^+$  @ Au+Au 19GeV



BES-II

$K^+$  @ Au+Au 19GeV



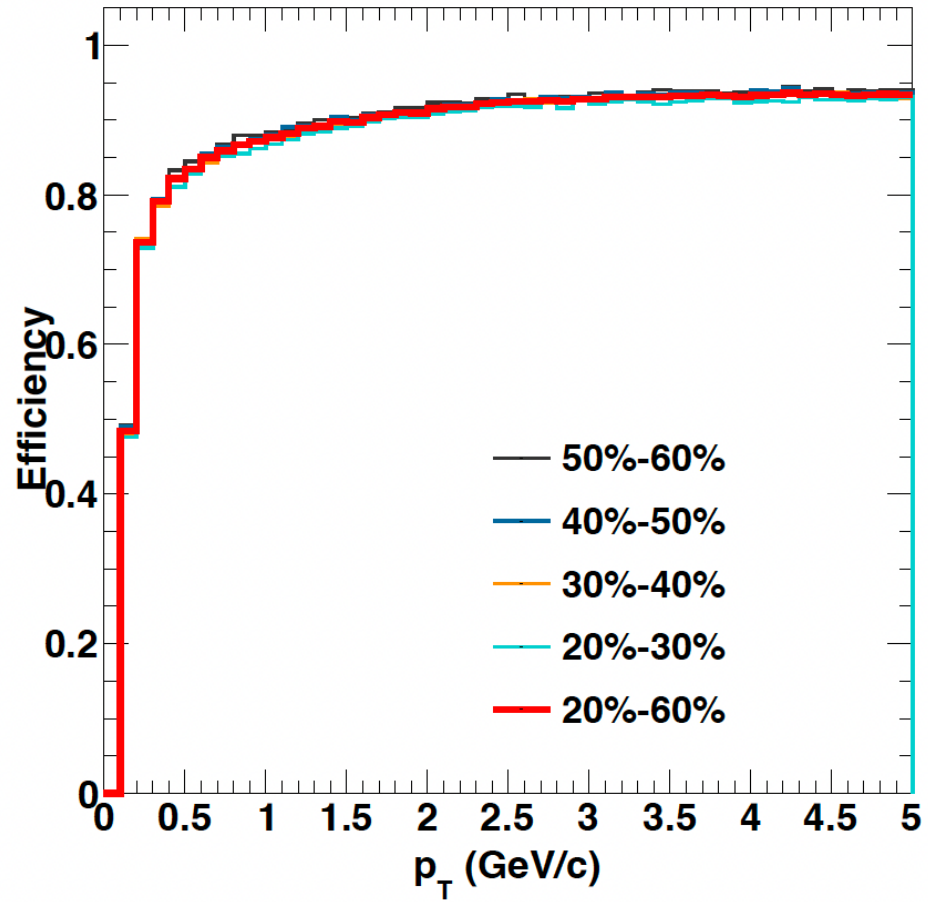
Standard STAR embedding procedure.

We embed individual daughter particles  $K^{+/-}$

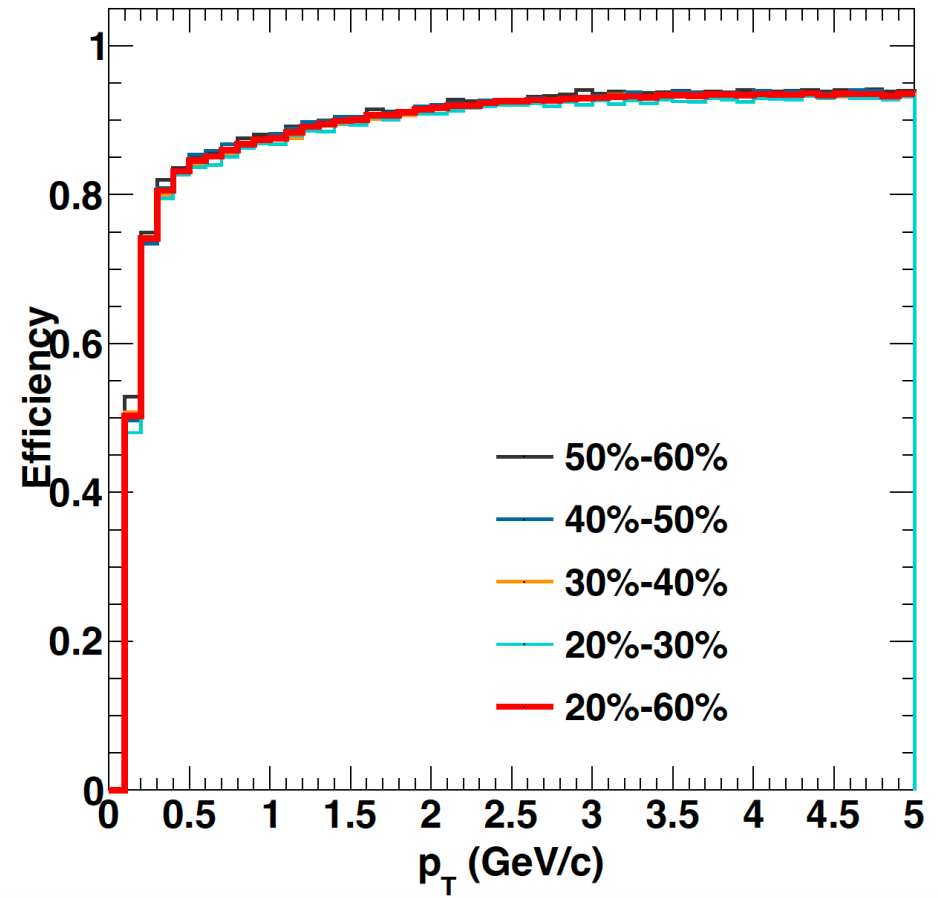
BES-II has ~10% higher TPC Tracking efficiency than BES-I.

- TPC upgrades

**K<sup>+</sup> @ Au+Au 19GeV**



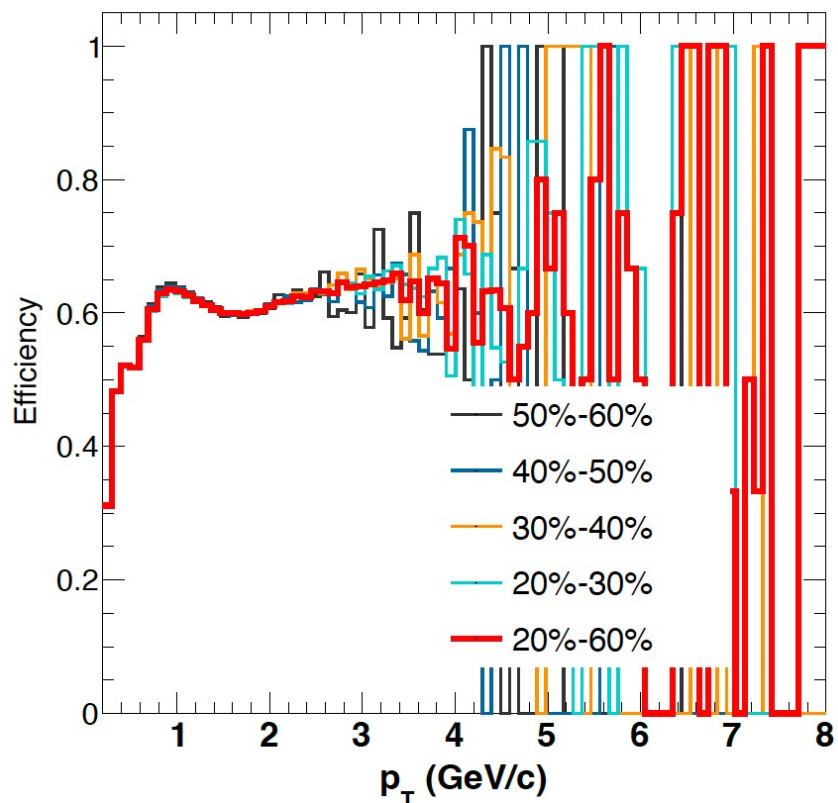
**K<sup>-</sup> @ Au+Au 19GeV**



# BES-I/II ToF Matching Efficiency Comparison

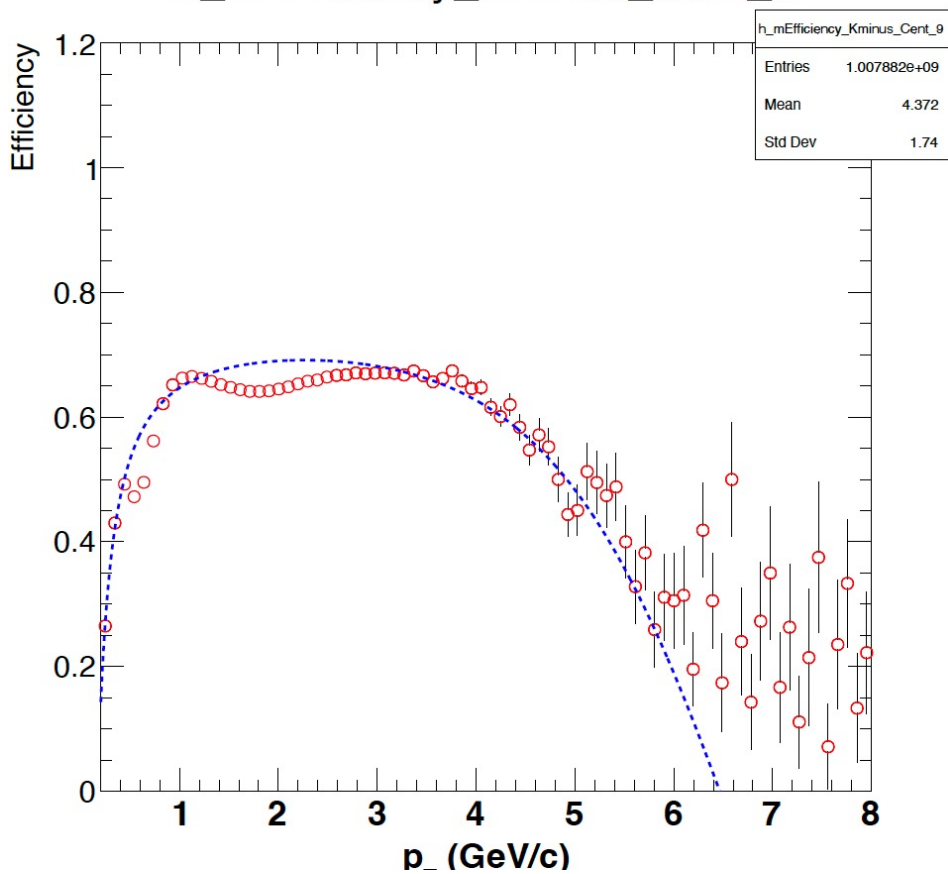
BES-I

$K^-$  @ Au+Au 19GeV



BES-II

h\_mEfficiency\_Kminus\_Cent\_9



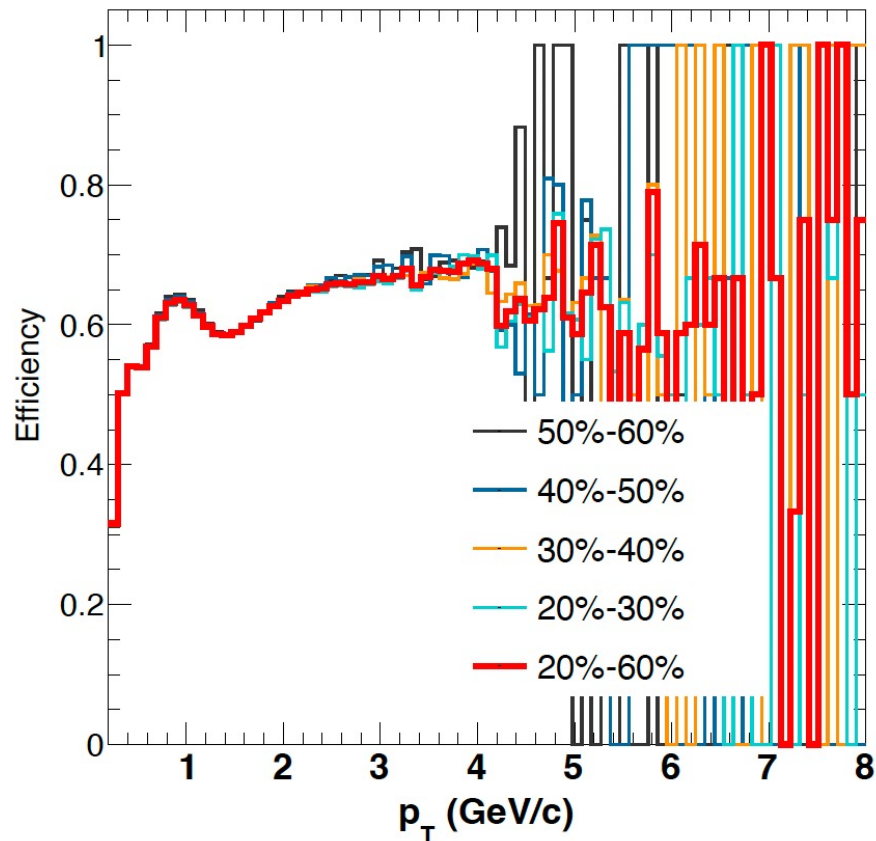
Comparing  $K^-$  20-60% for BES-I to BES-II

Note: Scales are slightly different

# BES-I/II ToF Matching Efficiency Comparison

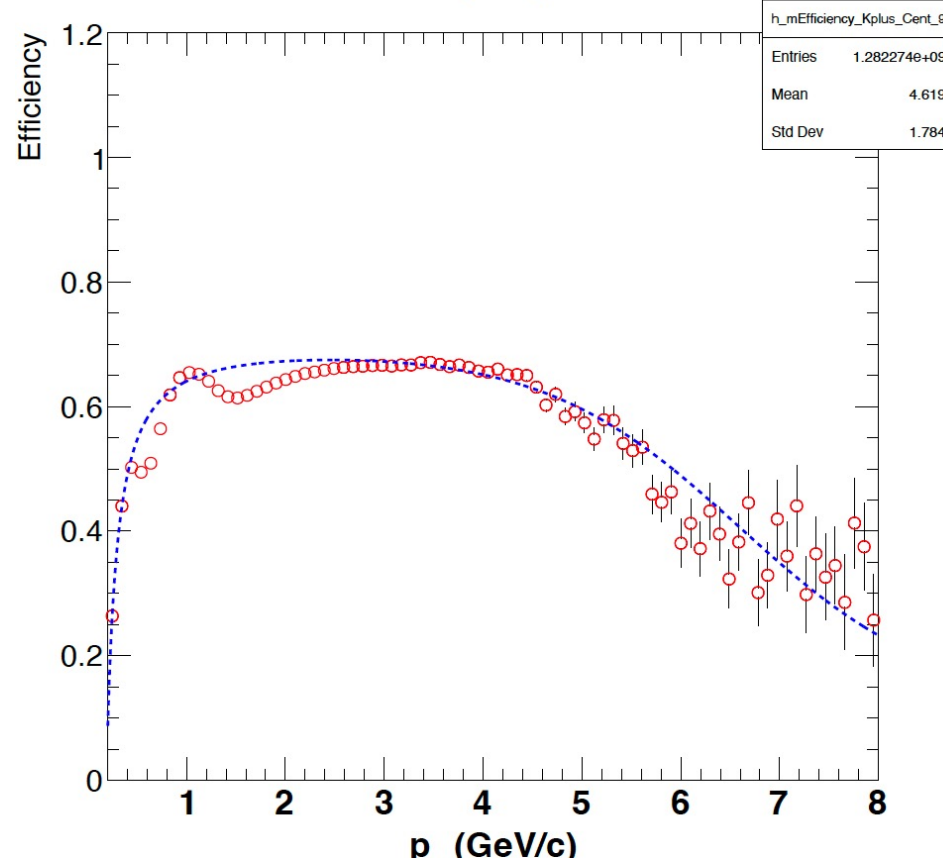
BES-I

$K^+$  @ Au+Au 19GeV



BES-II

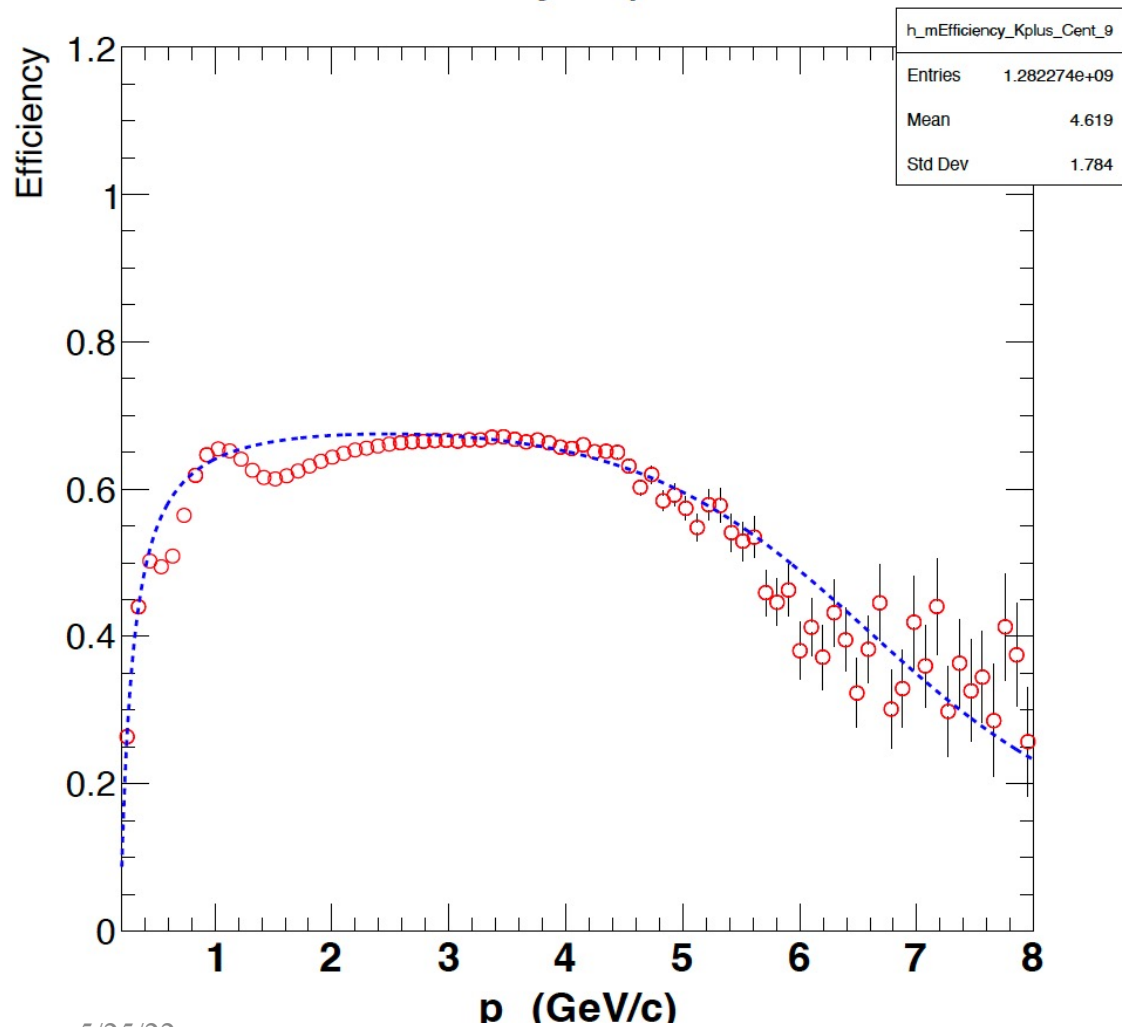
h\_mEfficiency\_Kplus\_Cent\_9



Comparing  $K^+$   
20-60% for BES-I  
to BES-II

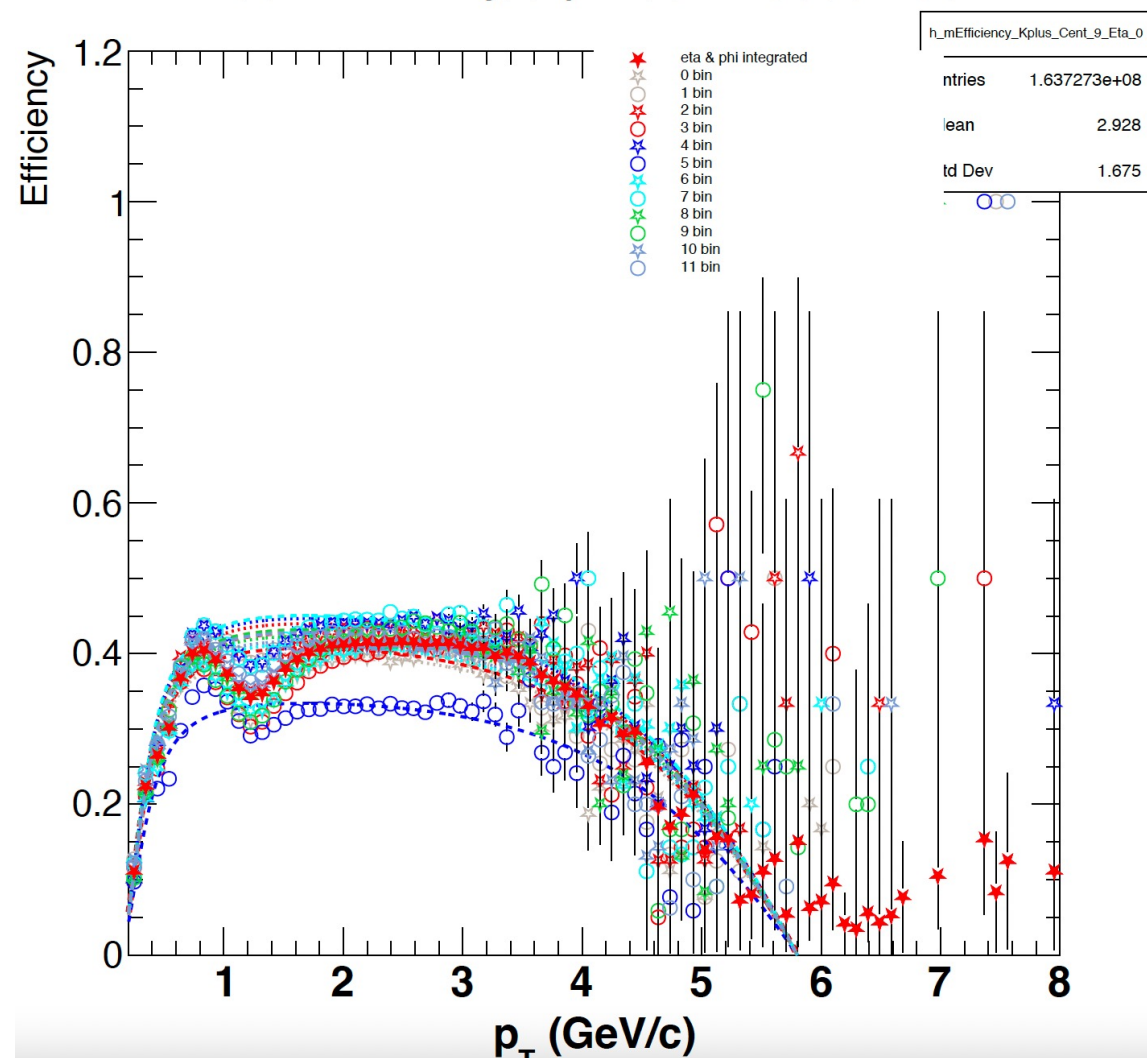
Note: scales are  
slightly different

### h\_mEfficiency\_Kplus\_Cent\_9



5/25/22

### h\_mEfficiency\_Kplus\_Cent\_9\_Eta\_0



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# $\phi$ -meson $\rho_{00}$ vs $p_T$ : Systematics

1. Choose central values for each source of systematic error.
2. Vary one cut at a time while keeping the others at the default value. Calculate  $\rho_{00}$  for each variation and calculate the sources error with:

$$\Delta\rho_{00,sys}^i = \frac{\rho_{00,max}^i - \rho_{00,min}^i}{\sqrt{12}}$$

3. Combine all sources of systematics:

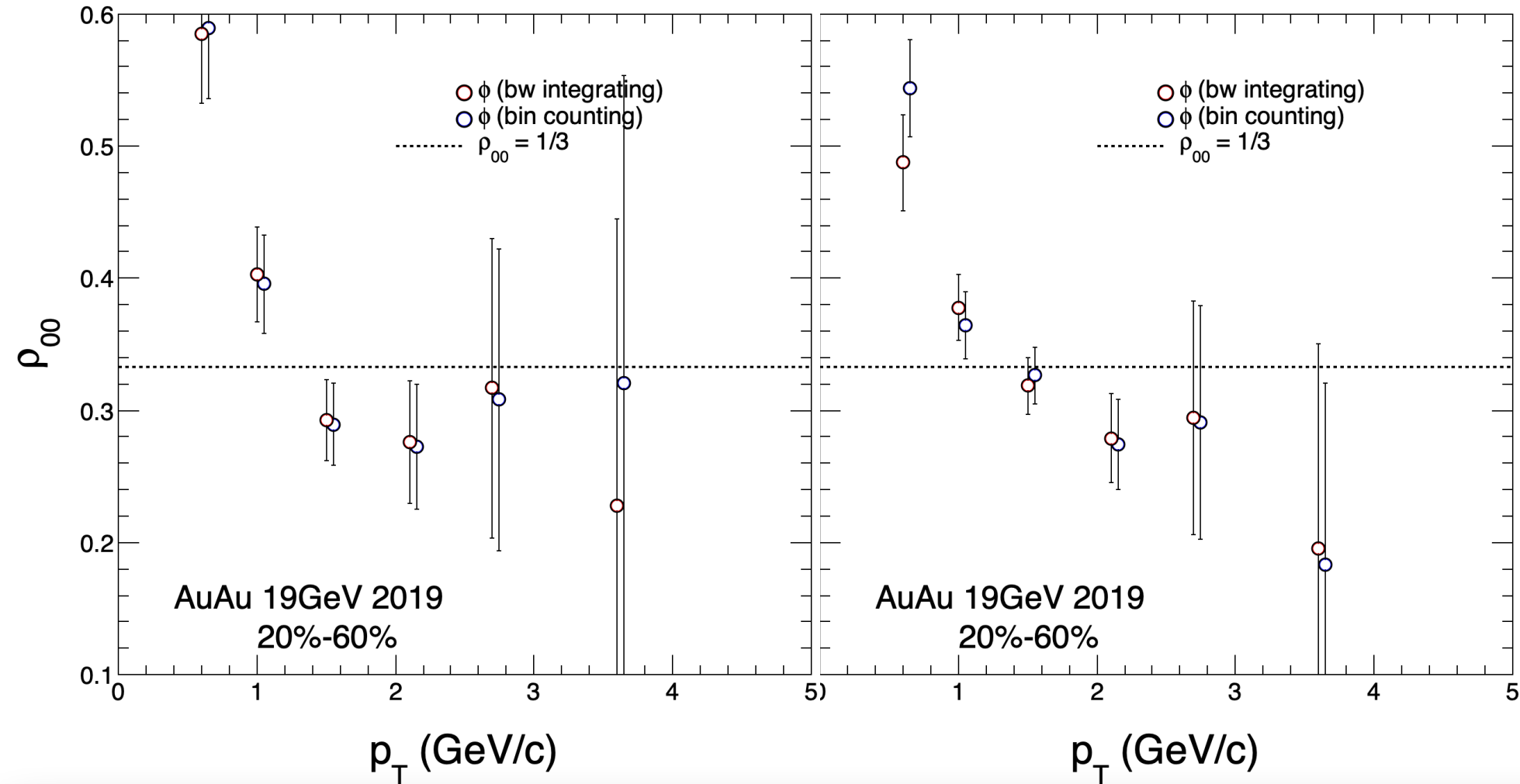
$$\Delta\rho_{00,sys} = \sqrt{\sum_i (\Delta\rho_{00,sys}^i)^2}$$

	Central	Variations
dca	< 2.0	< 2.0, < 2.5, < 3.0
$ n\sigma_K $	< 2.5	< 2.0, < 2.5, < 3.0
Normalization range for mixed-events background	[1.04, 1.05]	[1.04, 1.05], [0.99,1.00] and both
Yield extraction	breit-wigner integration	bin counting and breit-wigner integration
Counting and integration range	< 2.0 $\sigma$	< 2.0 $\sigma$ , < 2.5 $\sigma$ , < 3.0 $\sigma$

# $K^{*0} \rho_{00}$ vs $p_T$

## Rotated Pairs Background

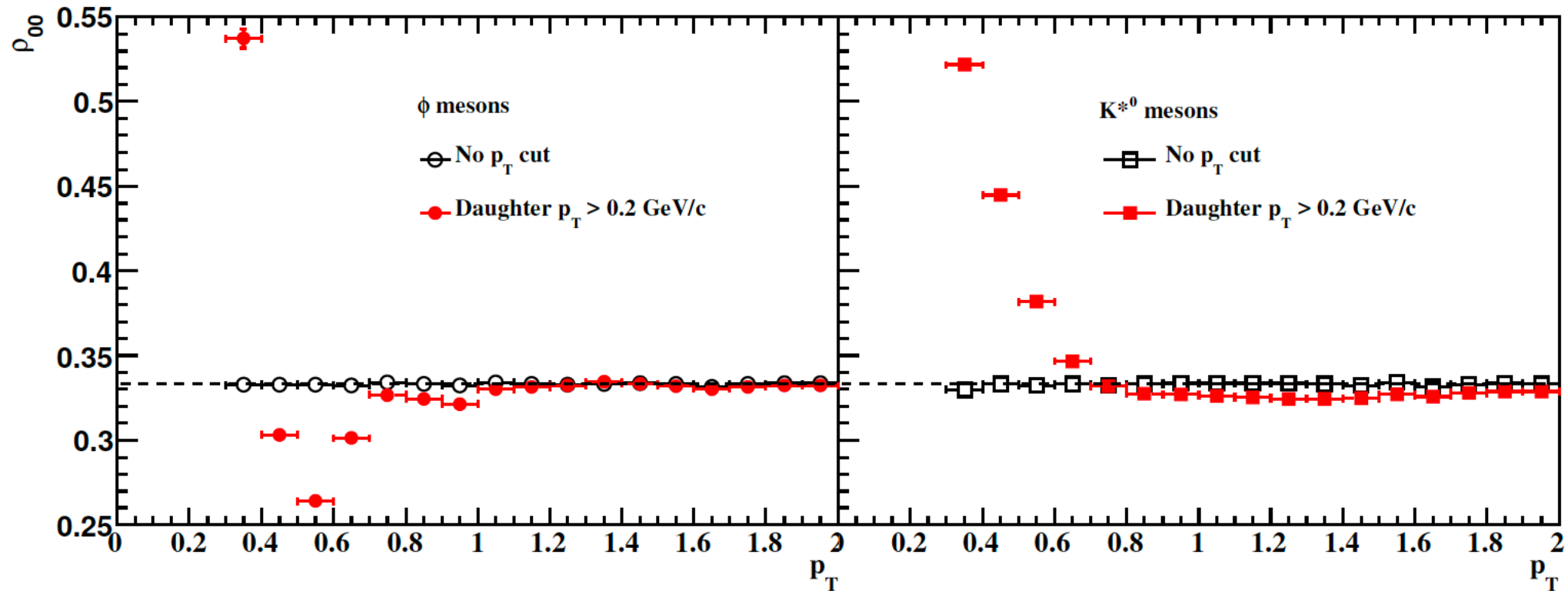
## Mixed Event Background



Methods consistent within uncertainties for  $p_T > 0.8$  GeV/c.

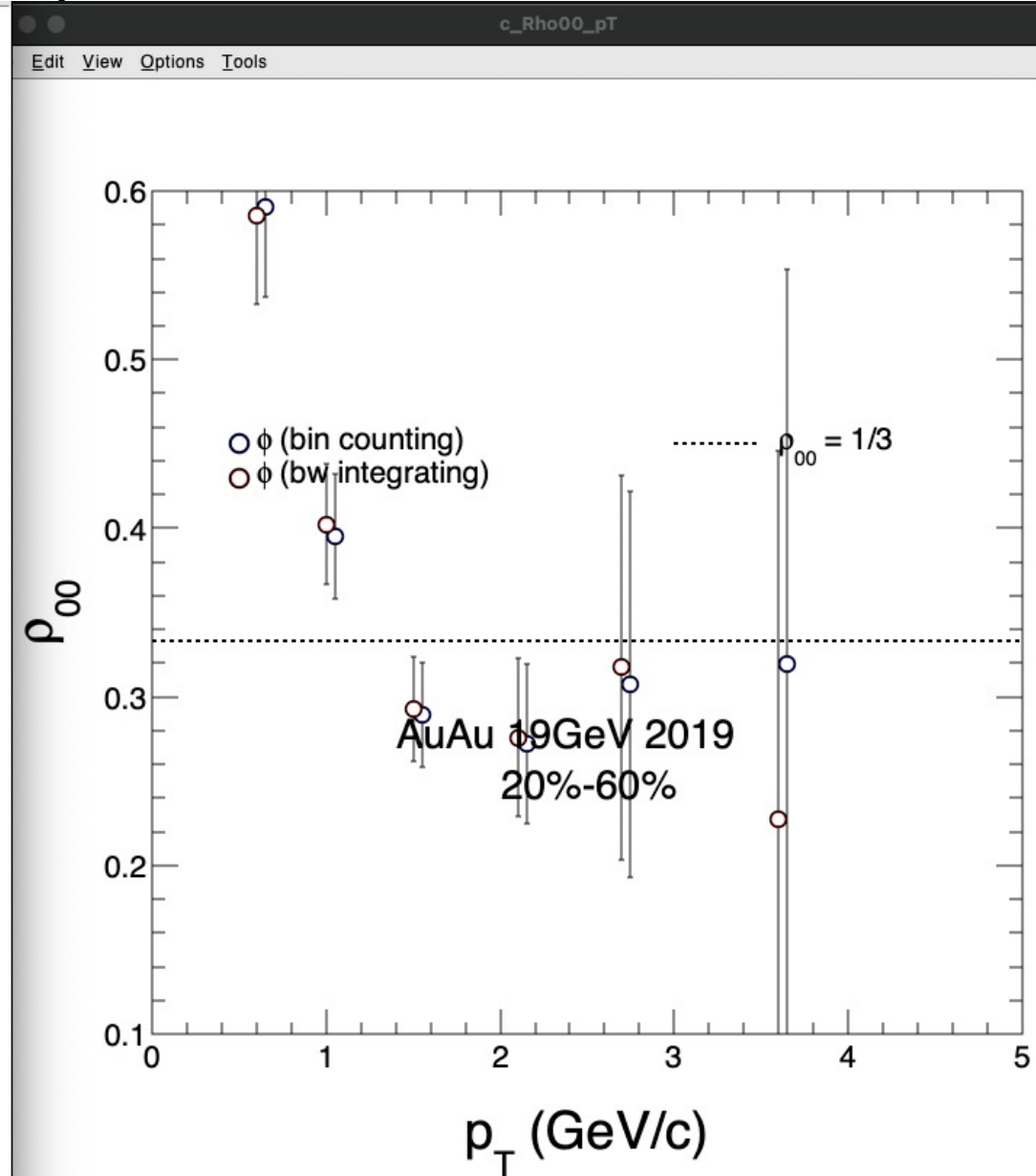
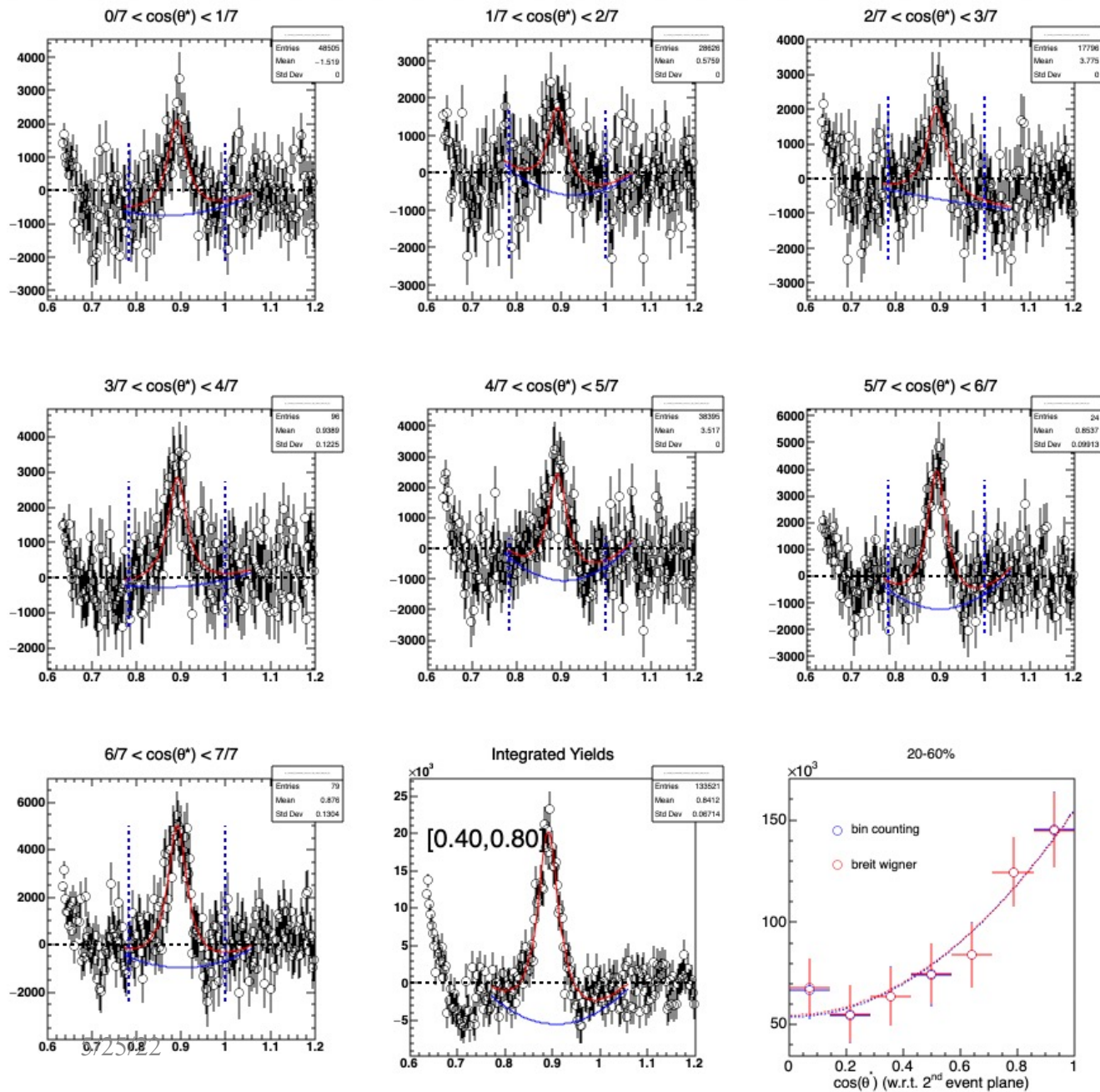
# Increase in $K^{*0} \rho_{00}$ in low $p_T$ region

- Loss of information due to minimum  $p_T$  cut.
- Below results are from simulation.



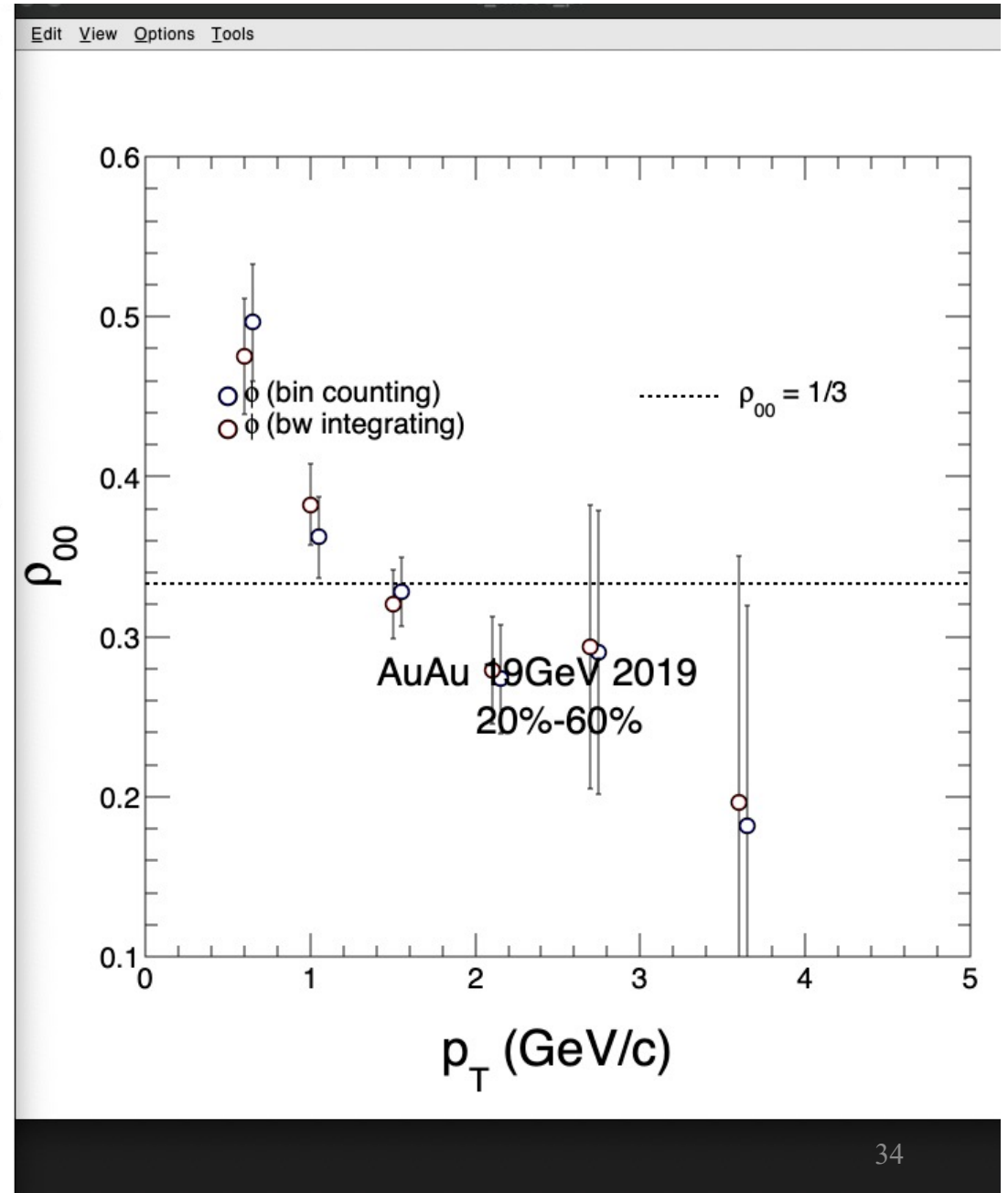
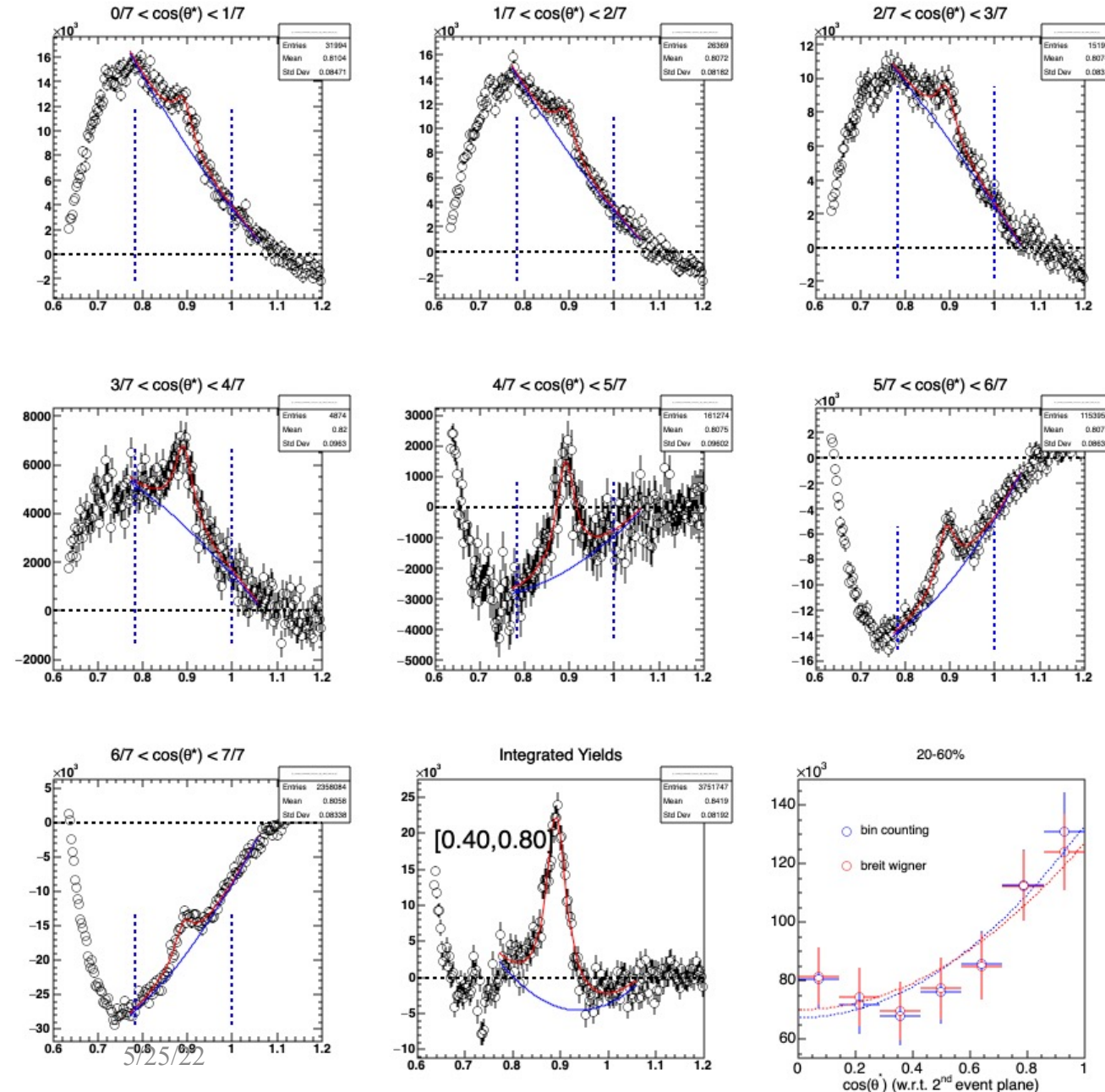


# Rotated Same Event BG, ToF & TPC

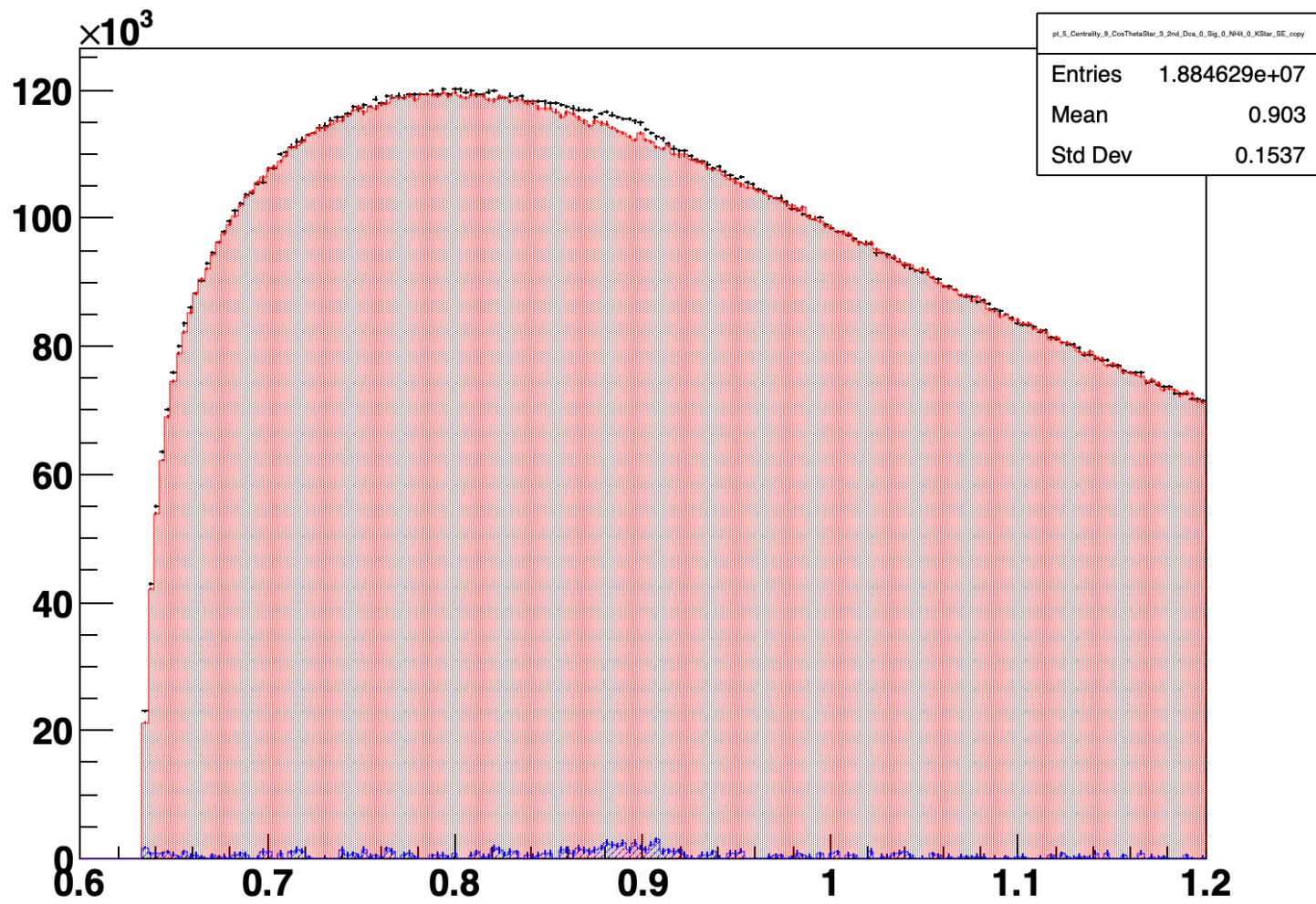


# Mixed Event BG = 3 PSIZ bins, 10 VZ bins, 10F &

## TDC



# $K^{*0}$ Meson Signal Extraction



## Kaon cuts

$$0.16 < M^2 < 0.36 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

$$|n\sigma| < 2.0$$

## Pion cuts

$$-0.2 < M^2 < 0.15 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

$$|n\sigma| < 2.0$$

~10% of 19.6 GeV data set.

Rotated pairs background normalized to the same event signal between [1.15,1.20].

Subtract normalized rotated event background from same event signal.

Performed same analysis with mixed event background.

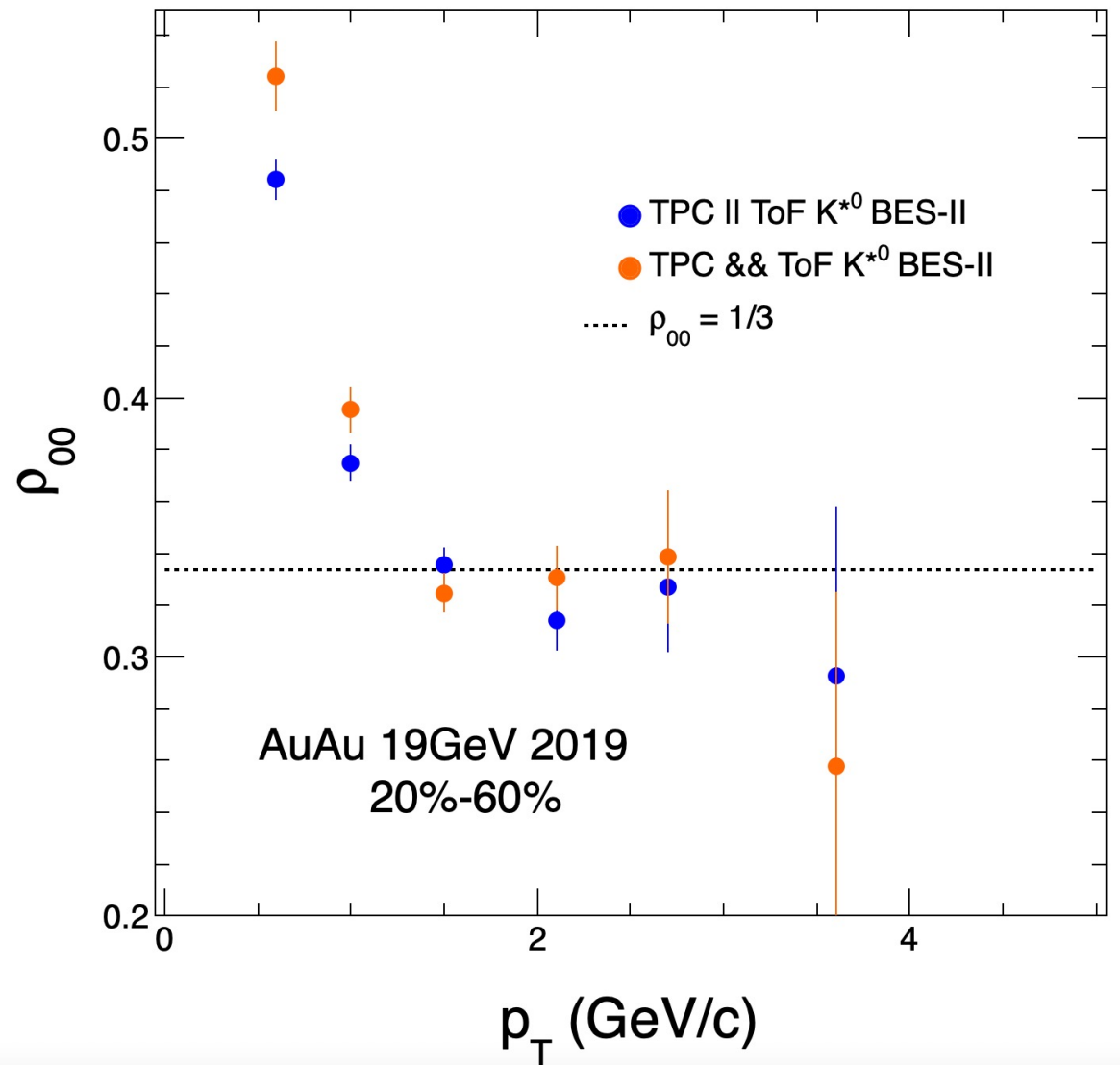
# PID Selection Difference

Raw  $\rho_{00}$  using BW integration for yields is shown.

Points are consistent in  $p_T$  bins  $\geq 1.2$  GeV/c.

$p_T < 1.0$  GeV/c was not presented for BES-I. Low  $p_T$  cut effects.

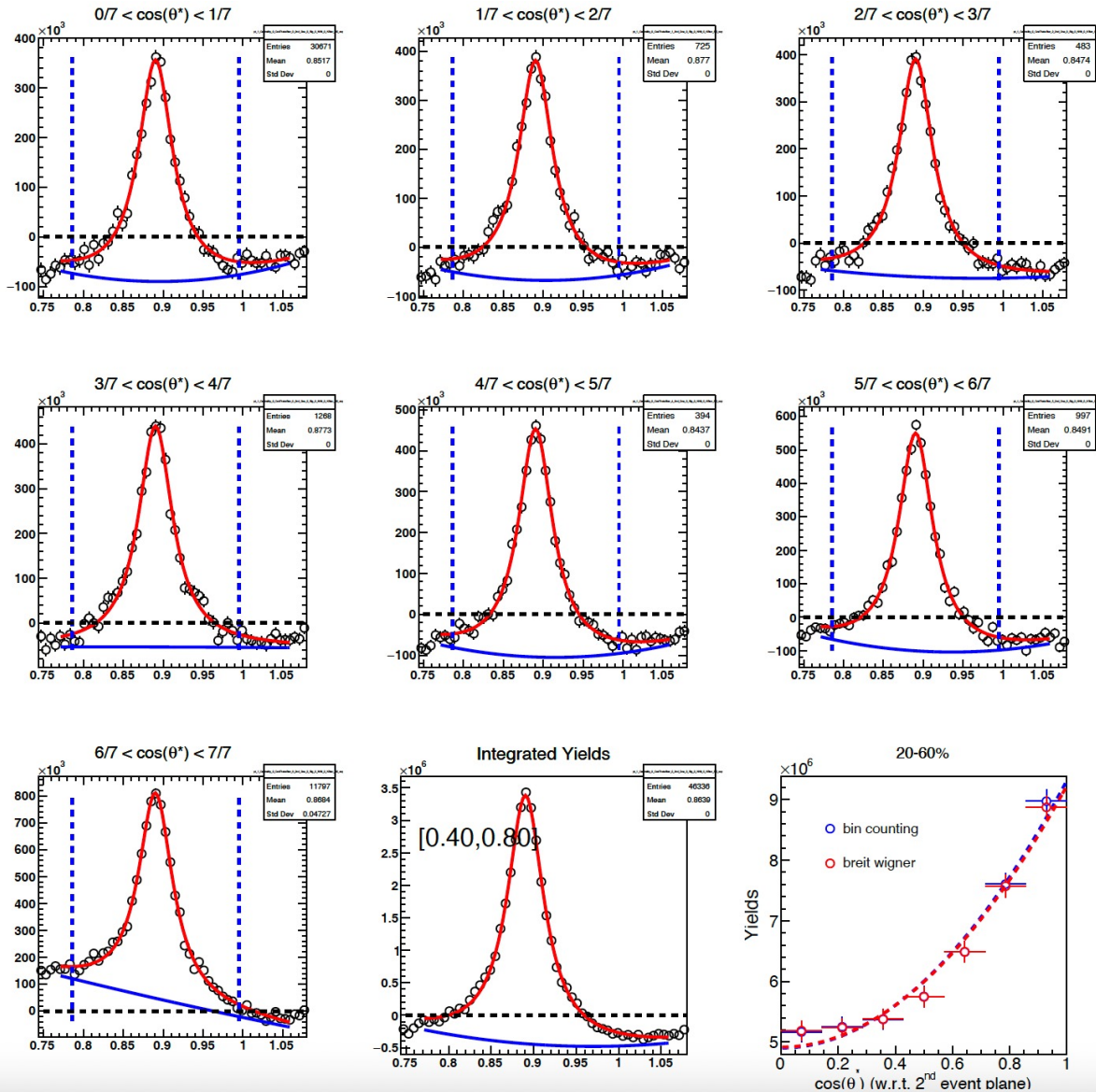
Statistical uncertainty is slightly lower for ToF || TPC (BES-I method).



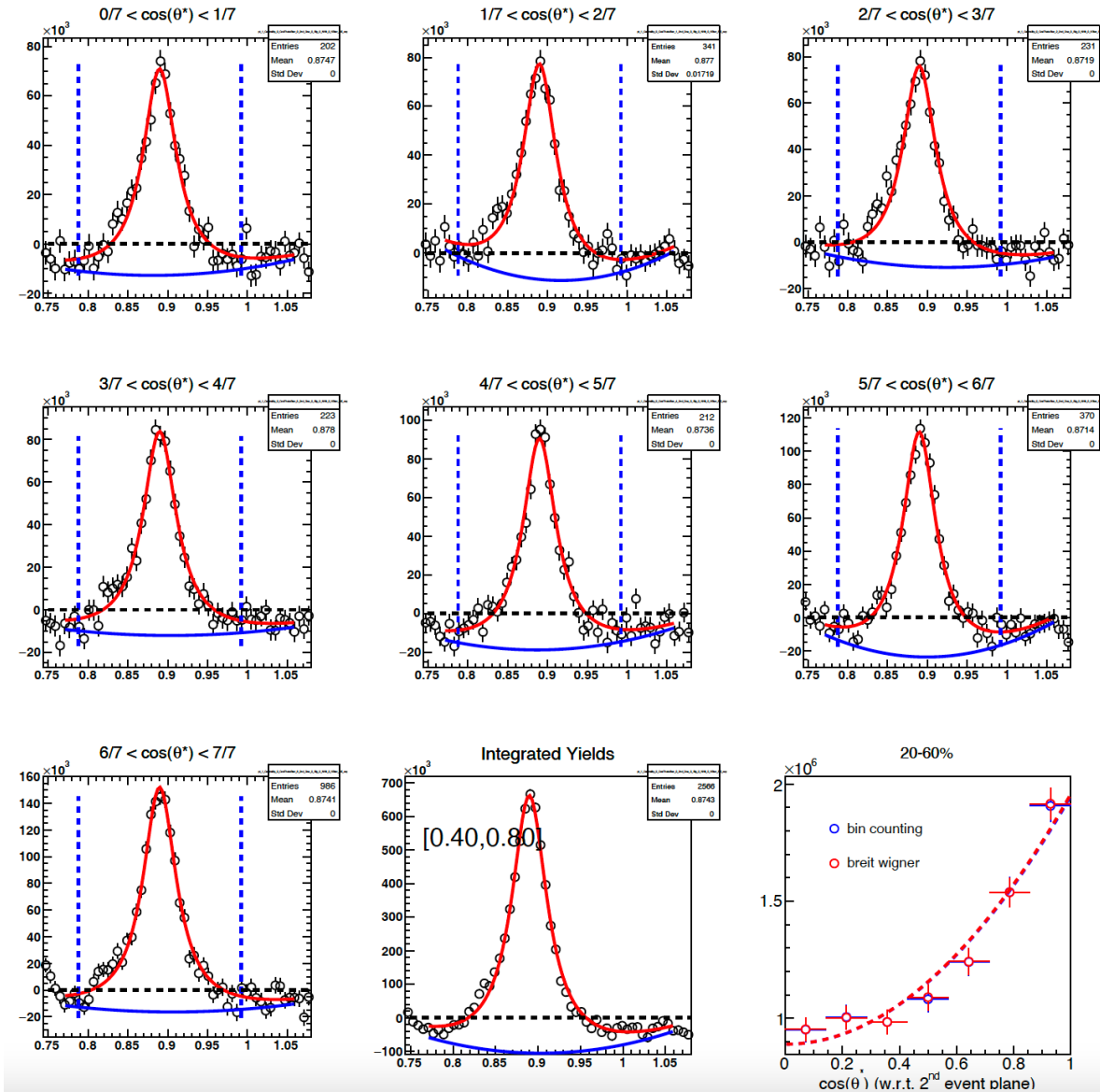
pt = 0.6000:	ToF    TPC = 0.4842 +/- 0.0079 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.5241 +/- 0.0137 (stat)	sigma = 2.52
pt = 1.0000:	ToF    TPC = 0.3749 +/- 0.0069 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.3953 +/- 0.0090 (stat)	sigma = 1.81
pt = 1.5000:	ToF    TPC = 0.3356 +/- 0.0066 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.3247 +/- 0.0078 (stat)	sigma = 1.07
pt = 2.1000:	ToF    TPC = 0.3141 +/- 0.0114 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.3303 +/- 0.0123 (stat)	sigma = 0.97
pt = 2.7000:	ToF    TPC = 0.3271 +/- 0.0251 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.3386 +/- 0.0255 (stat)	sigma = 0.32
pt = 3.6000:	ToF    TPC = 0.2926 +/- 0.0657 (stat)	ToF && TPC = 0.2579 +/- 0.0670 (stat)	sigma = 0.37

# $pT = [0.4, 0.8]$ GeV/c (20-60%)

ToF || TPC

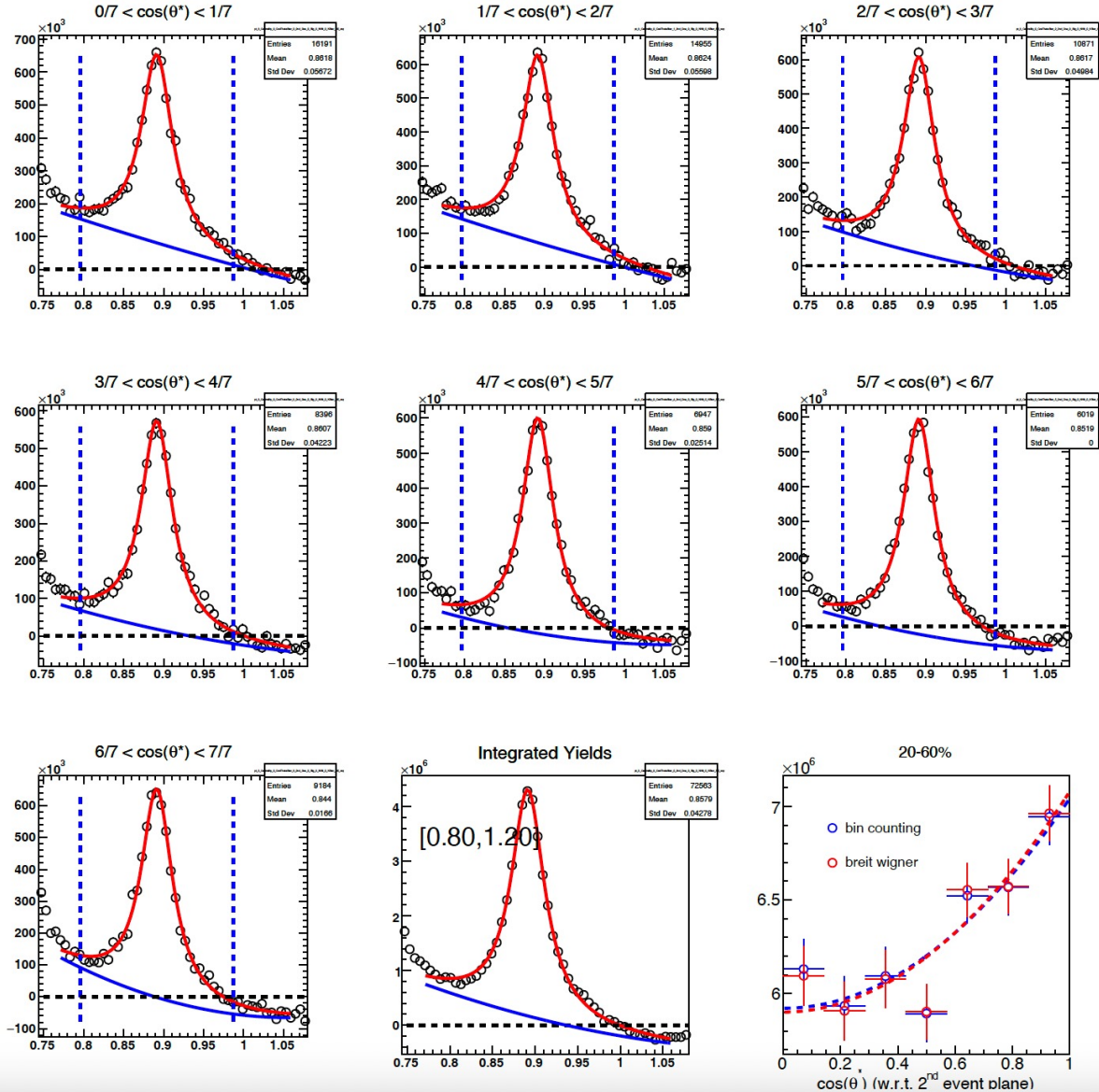


ToF && TPC

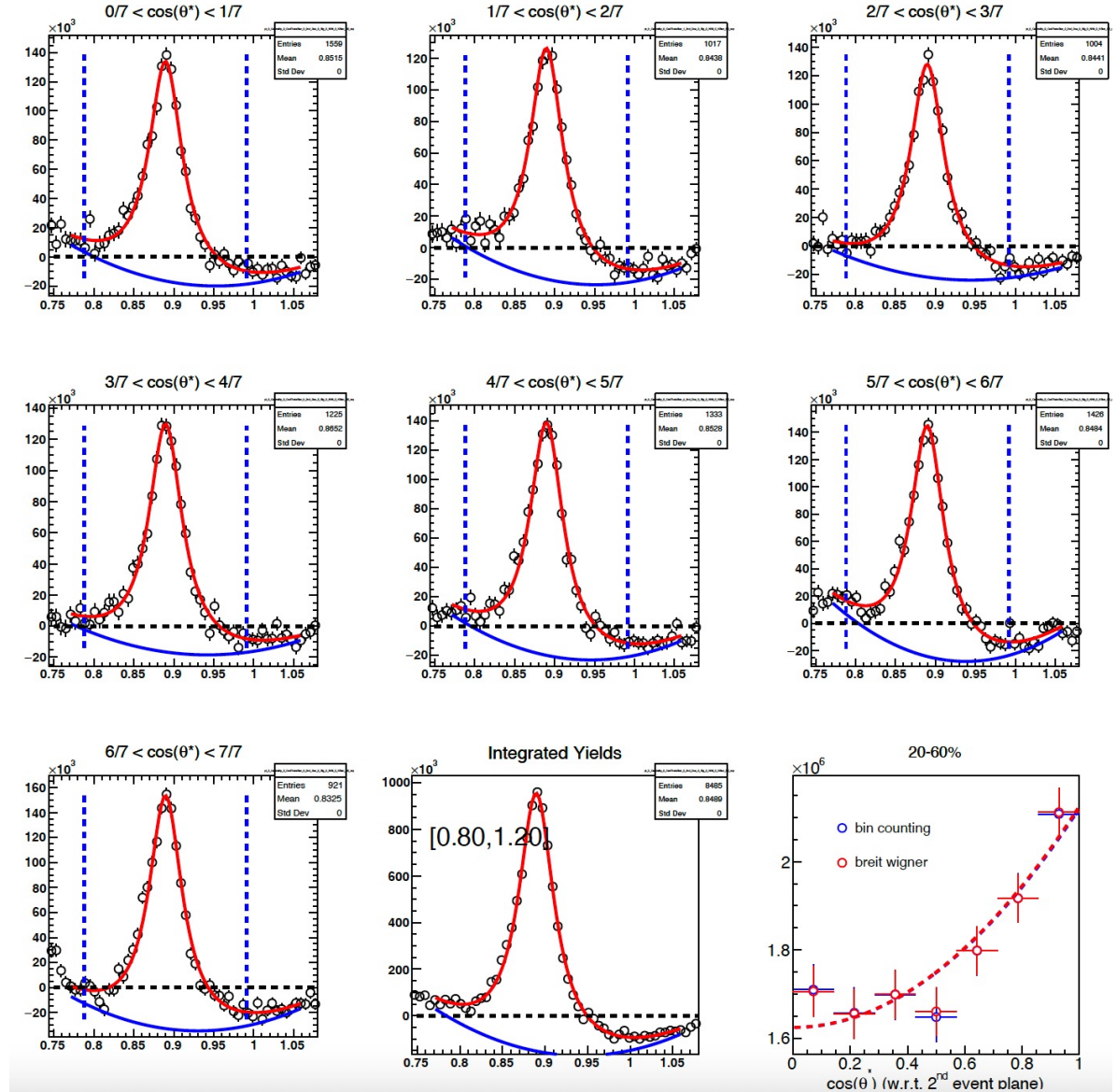


# $p_T = [0.8, 1.2]$ GeV/c (20-60%)

ToF || TPC

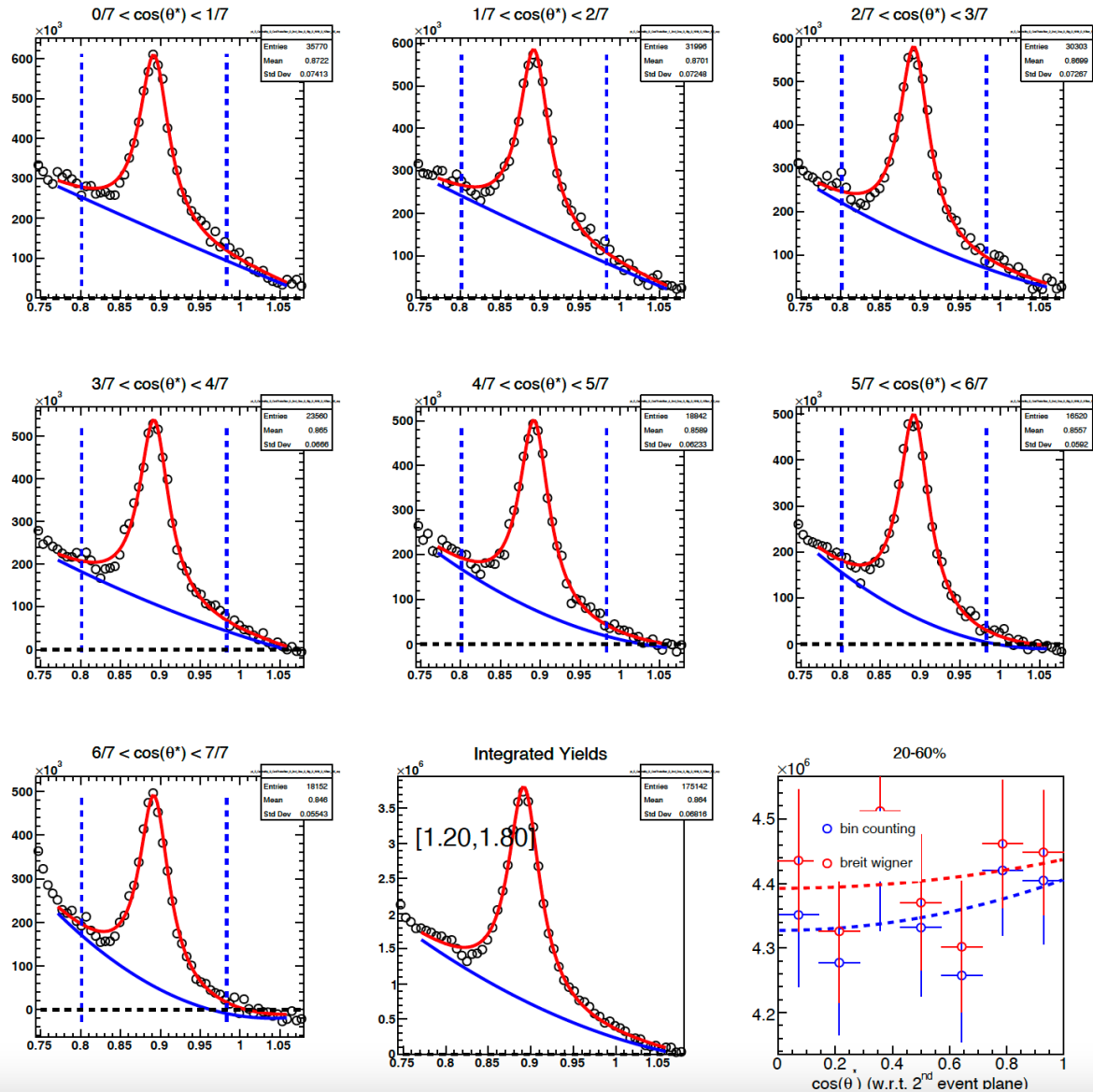


ToF && TPC

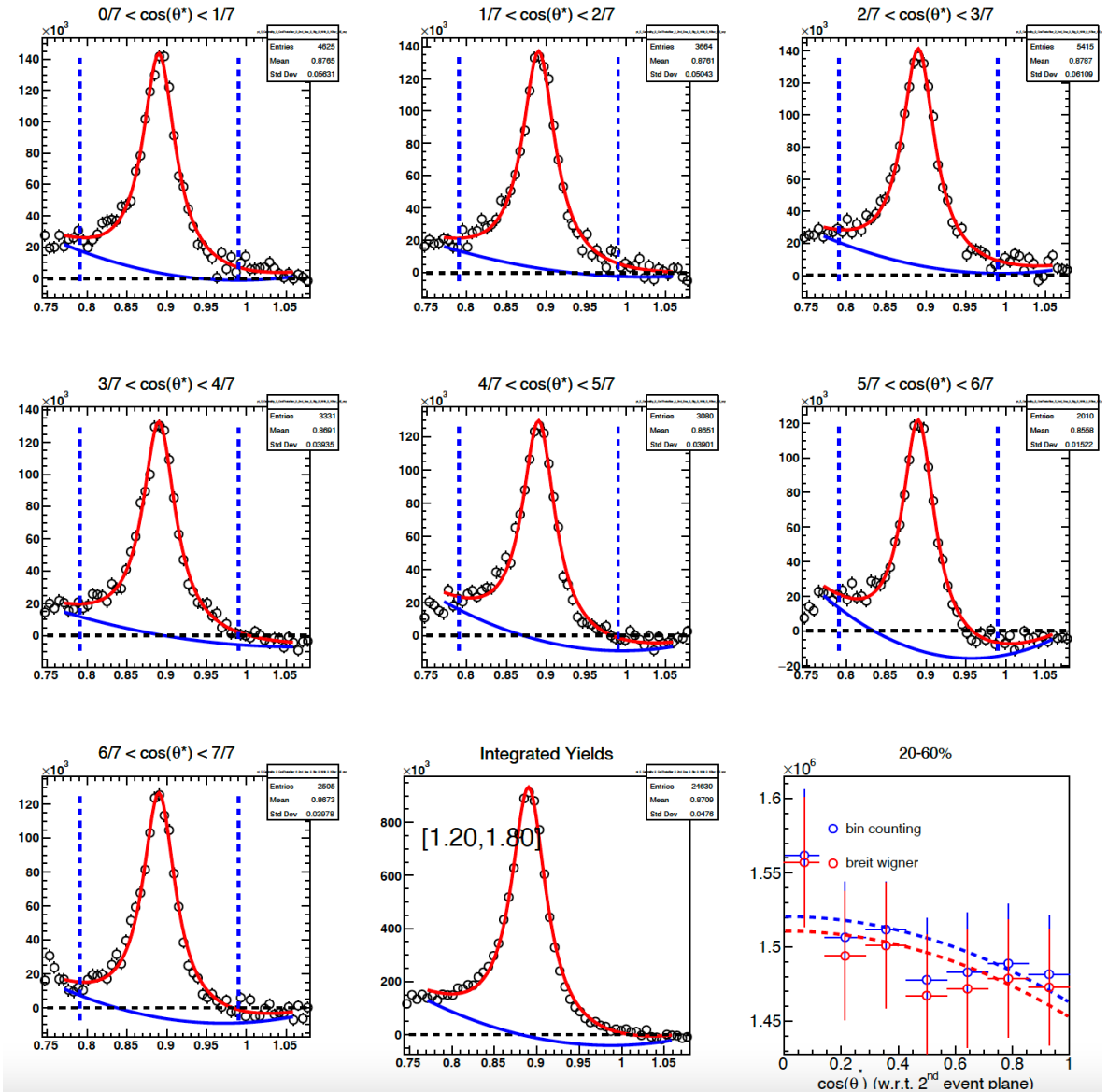


# $pT = [1.2, 1.8] \text{ GeV}/c$ (20-60%)

ToF || TPC



ToF && TPC

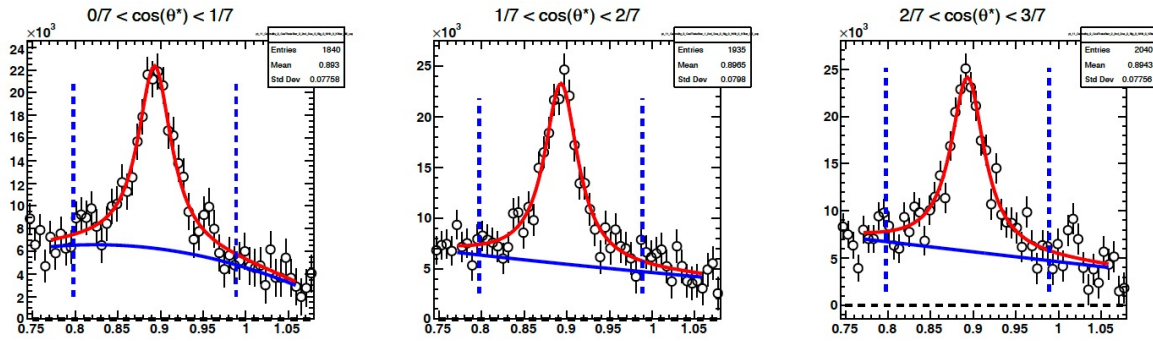




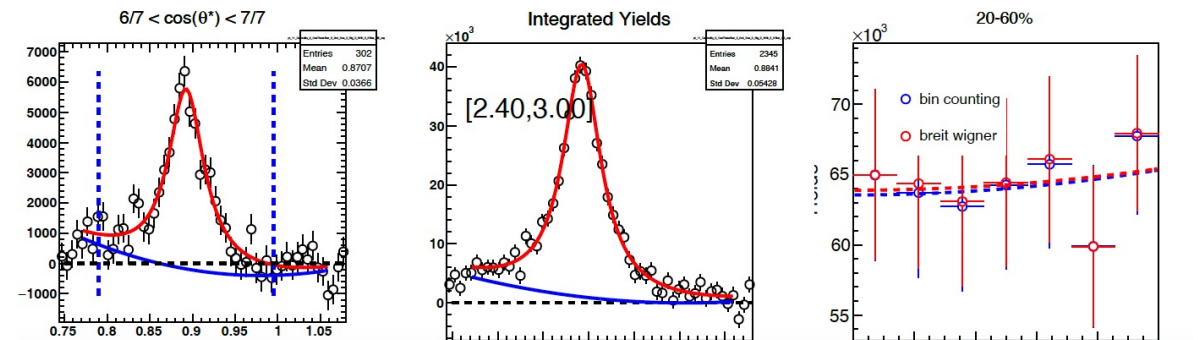
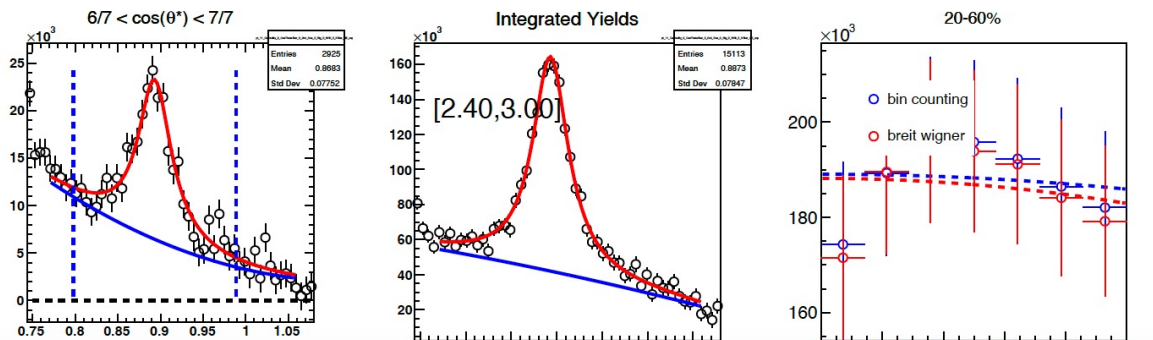
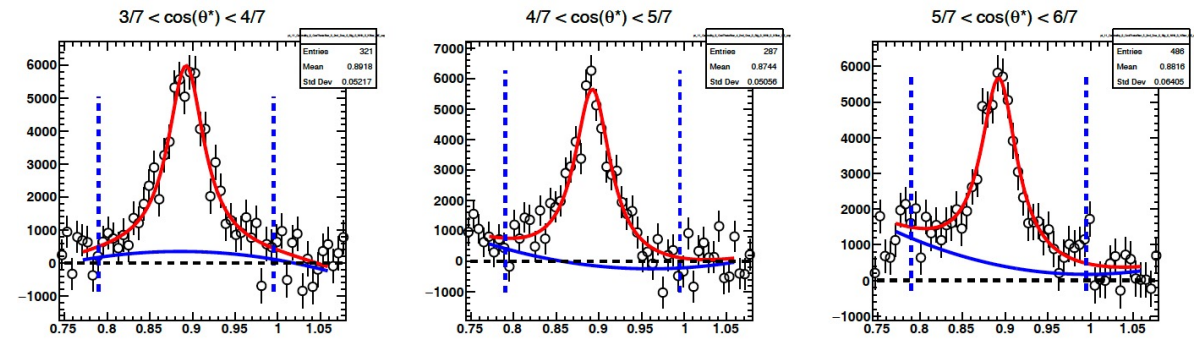
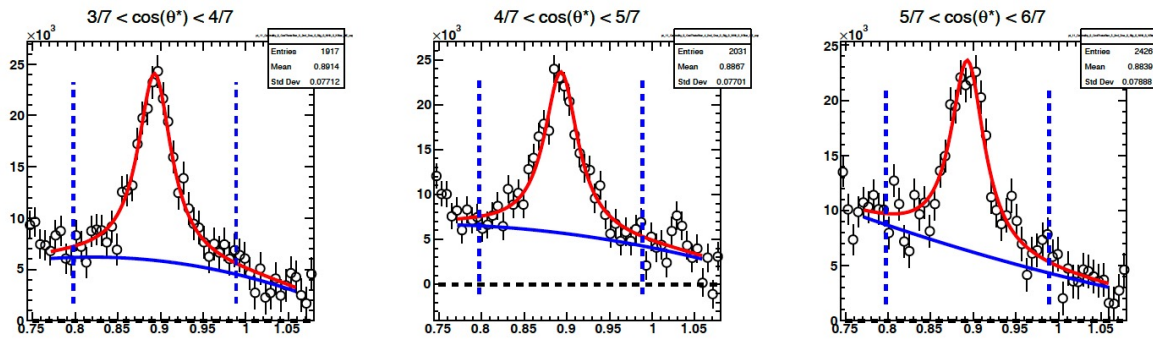
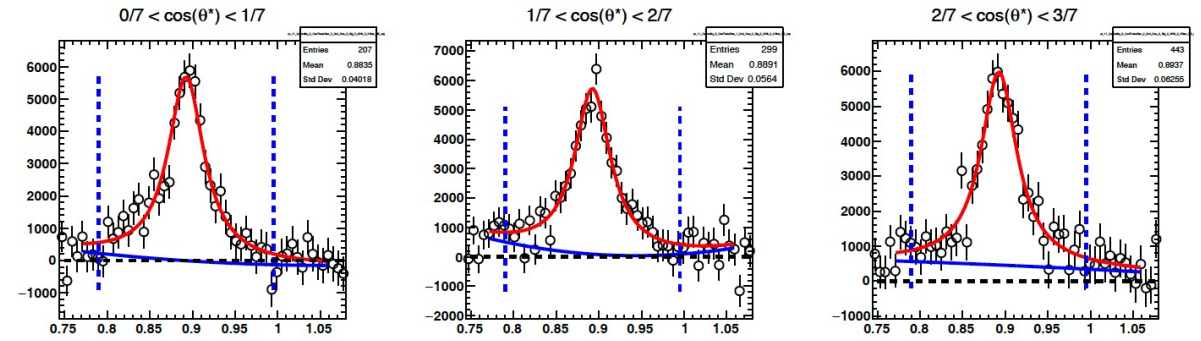


# $p_T = [2.4, 3.0]$ GeV/c (20-60%)

ToF || TPC

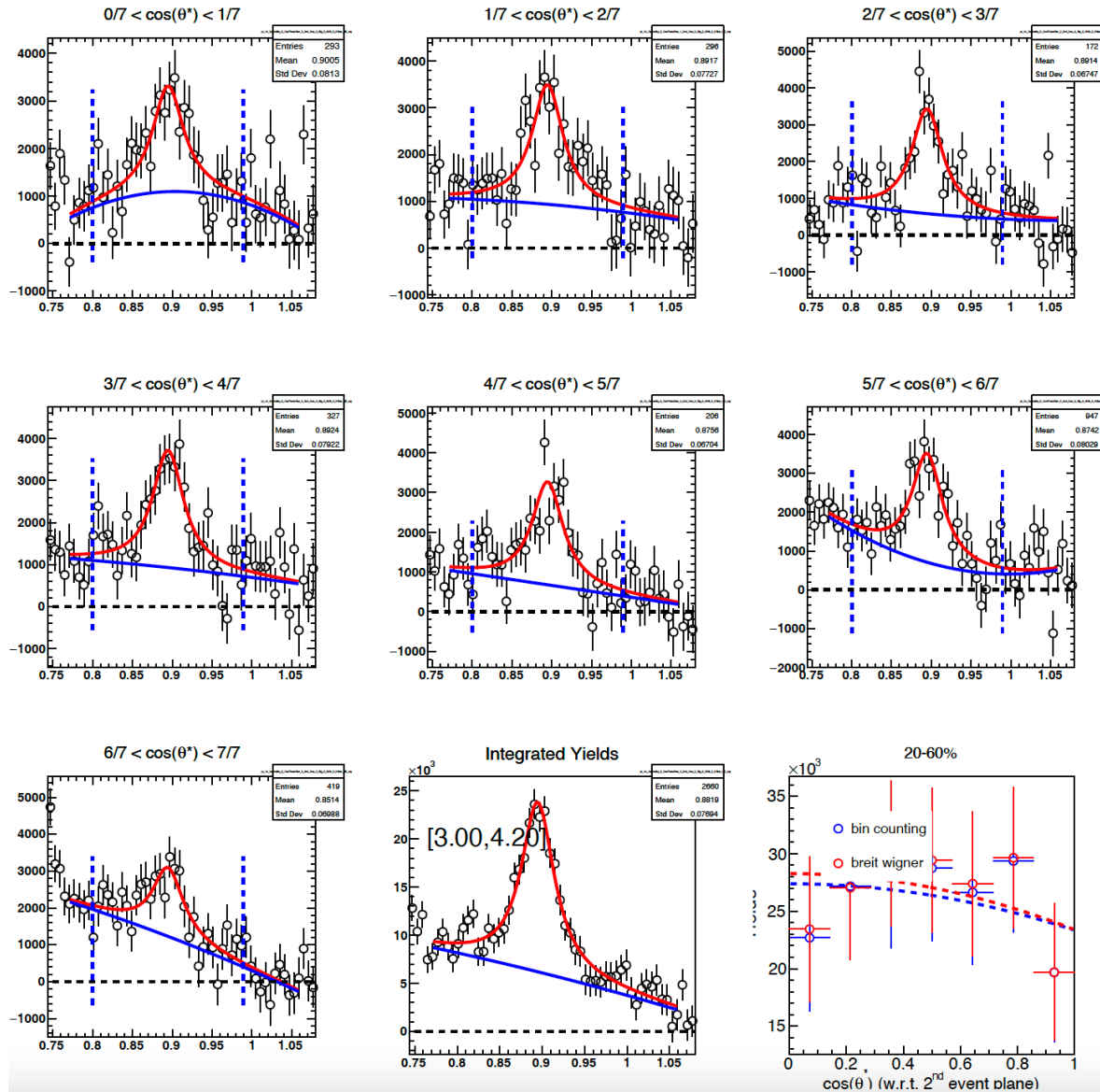


ToF && TPC



# $p_T = [3.0, 4.2] \text{ GeV}/c$ (20-60%)

ToF || TPC



ToF && TPC

