



# Critical Comparison of 3-Particle Correlation and 3-Particle Cumulant Method: *Why I Believe the Former*

Jason Glyndwr Ulery  
25 February 2009

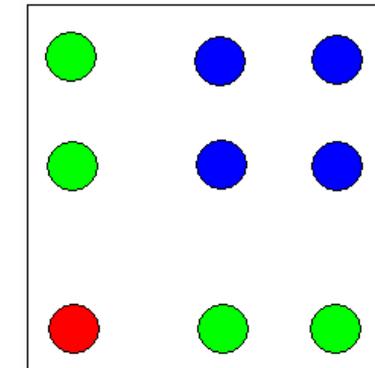
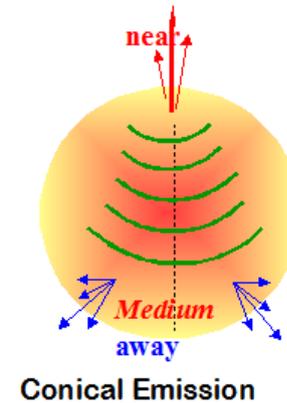
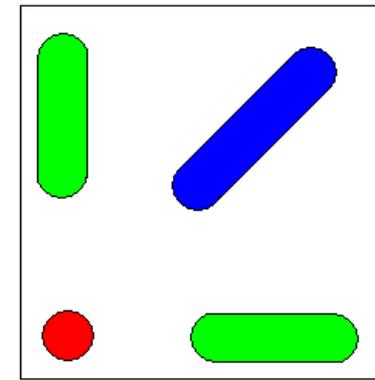
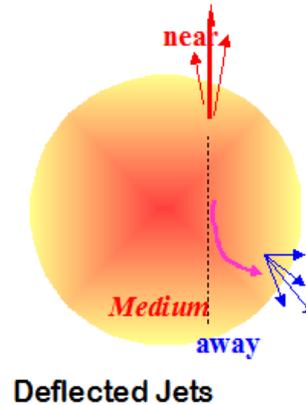
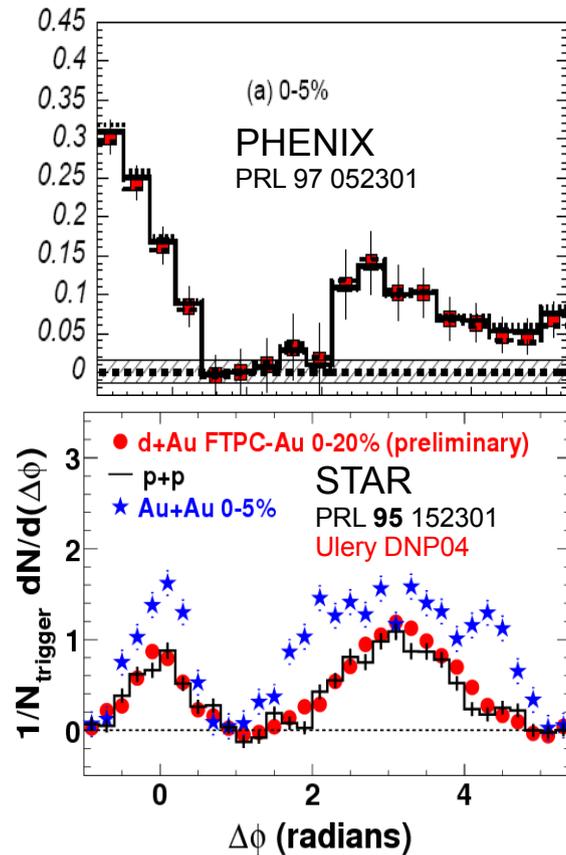
CATHIE-RIKEN Workshop:  
Critical Assessment of Theory and Experiment on  
Correlations at RHIC



# Outline

- ◆ Introduction and Motivation
- ◆ 3-Particle Cumulant
- ◆ 3-Particle Correlation
- ◆ Comparison
  - ◆ Term by term
  - ◆ Simulation
- ◆ Summary

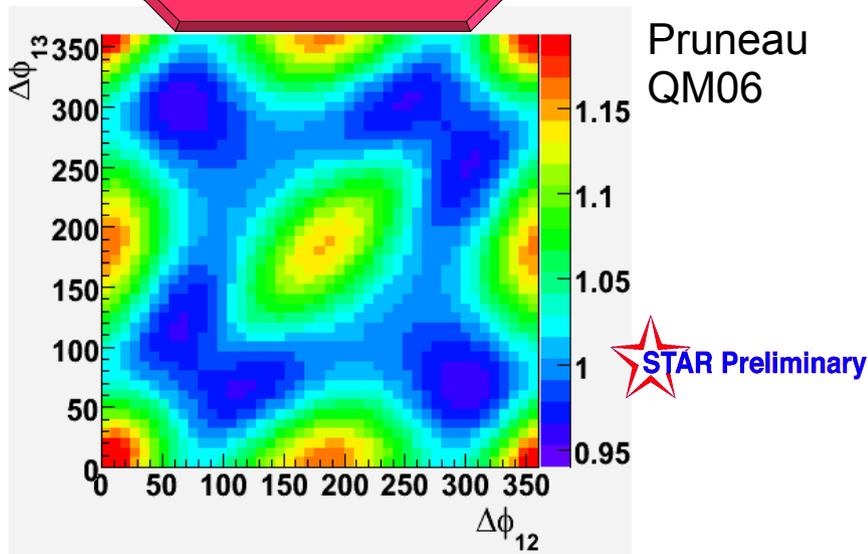
# Why Study 3-Particle Correlations?



- ◆ Modification to the away-side peak.
- ◆ 3-particle can distinguish conical emission from deflected jets.

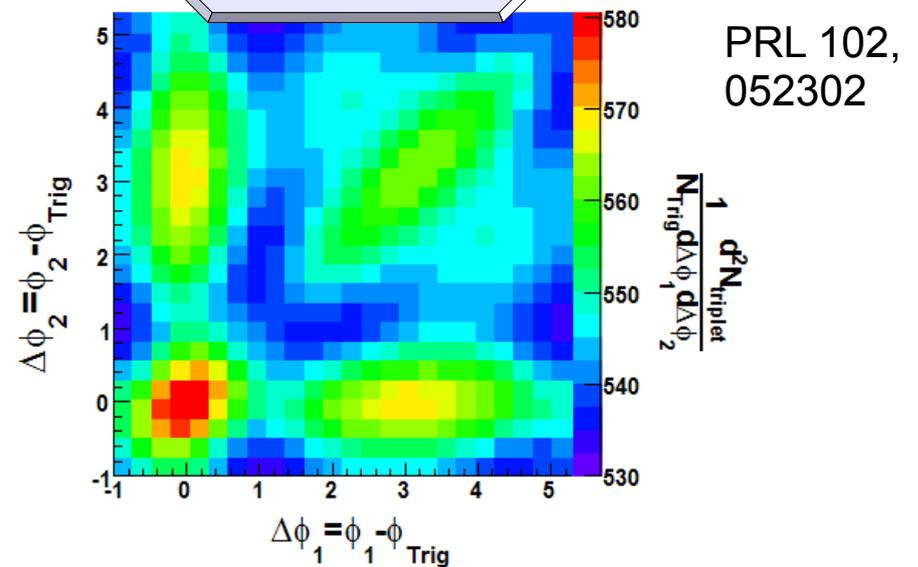
# Methods

## Cumulant



- Model independent
- Unable to interpret without model.
- No normalization
- First order flow cancellation

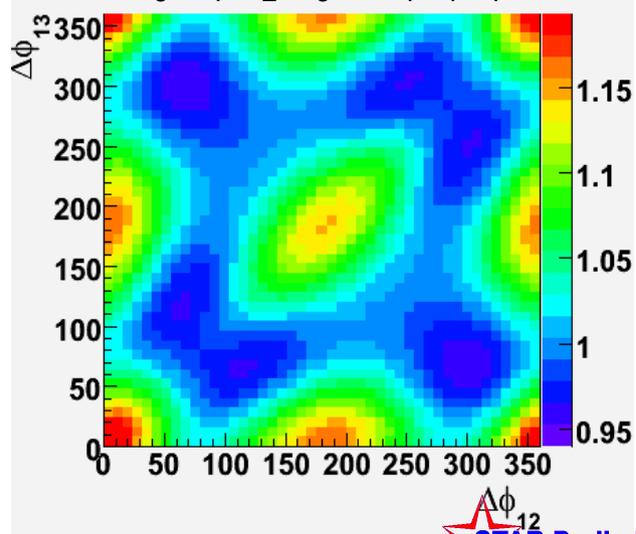
## Correlation



- Model dependent
- Interpretable within the model.
- ZYAM normalization
- Explicit flow subtraction

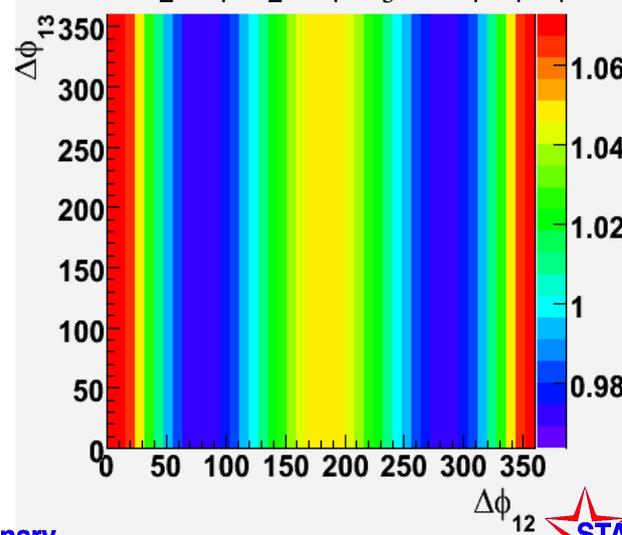
# 3-Particle Cumulant

$$\rho_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3) / [\rho_1 \rho_1 \rho_1]$$



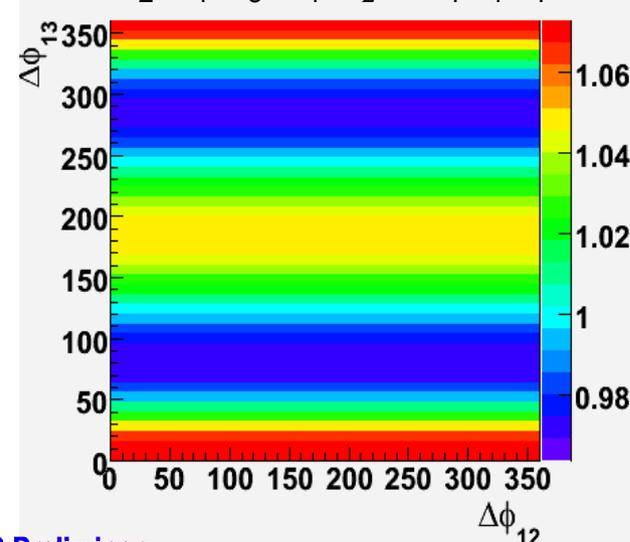
STAR Preliminary

$$\rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_2) \rho_1(\phi_3) / [\rho_1 \rho_1 \rho_1]$$

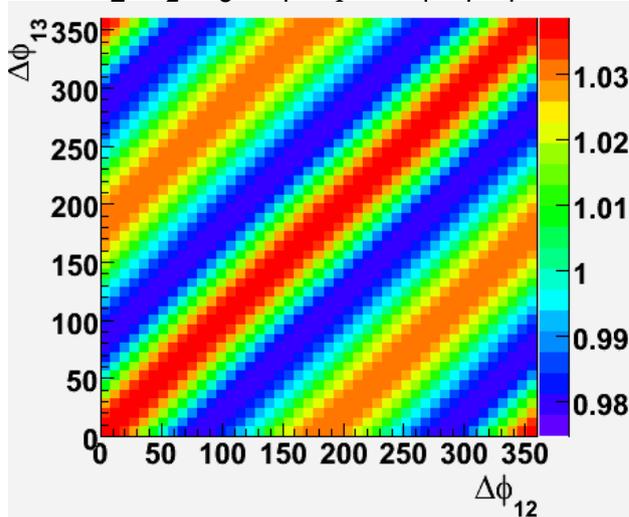


STAR Preliminary

$$\rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_3) \rho_1(\phi_2) / [\rho_1 \rho_1 \rho_1]$$

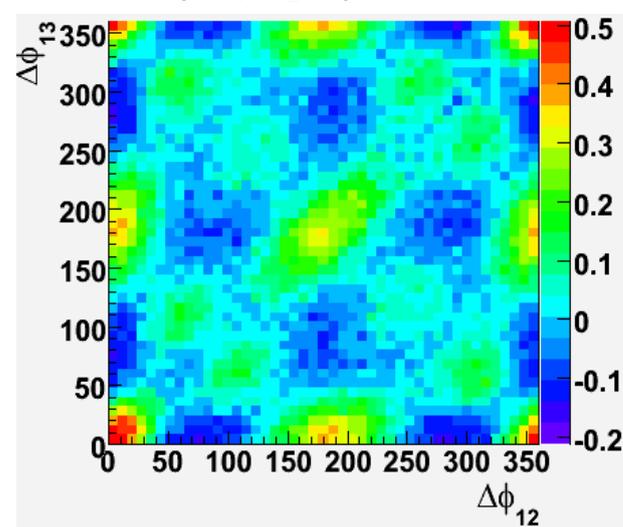


$$\rho_2(\phi_2, \phi_3) \rho_1(\phi_1) / [\rho_1 \rho_1 \rho_1]$$

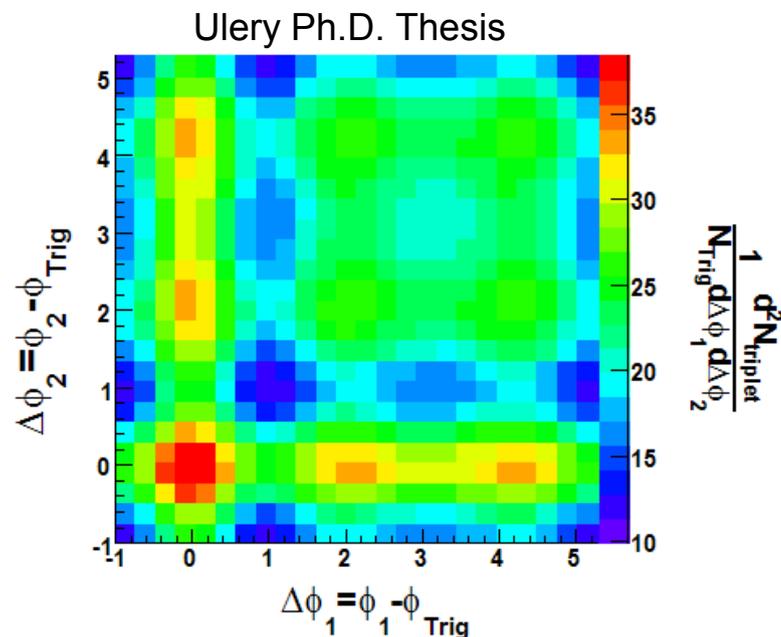
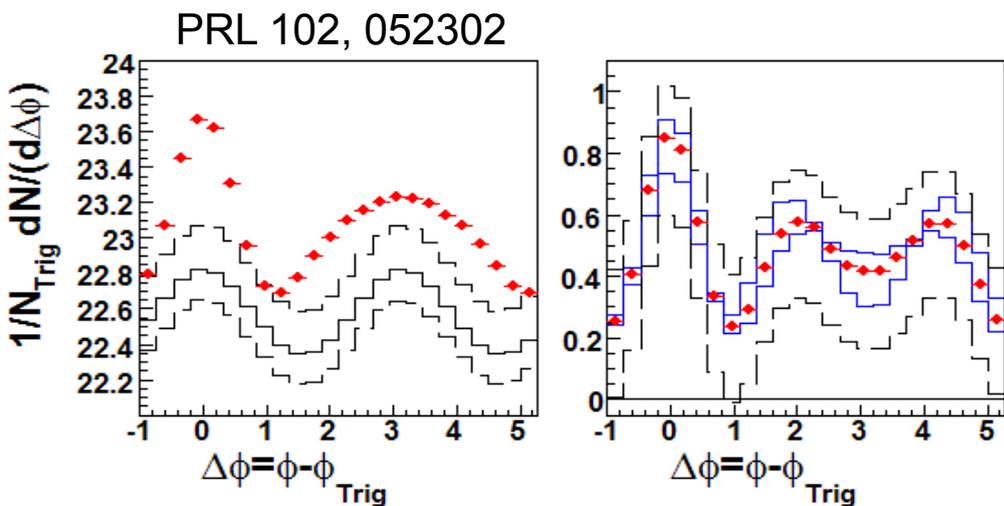


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$$C_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3)$$



# 3-Particle Correlation: Hard-Soft

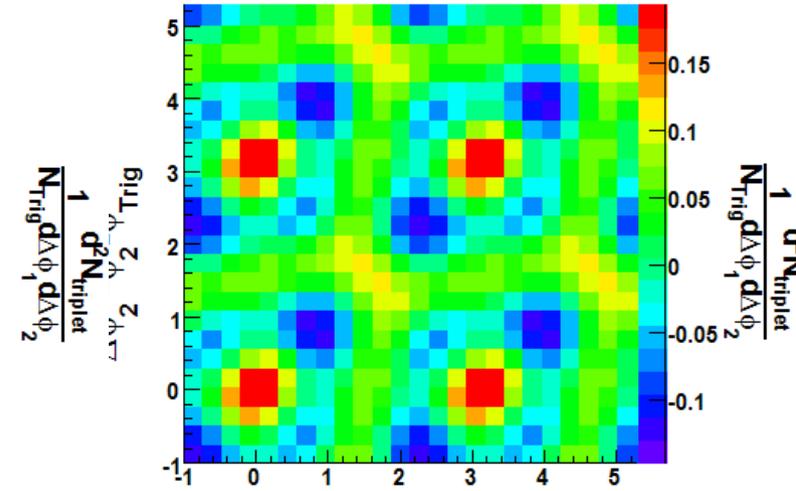
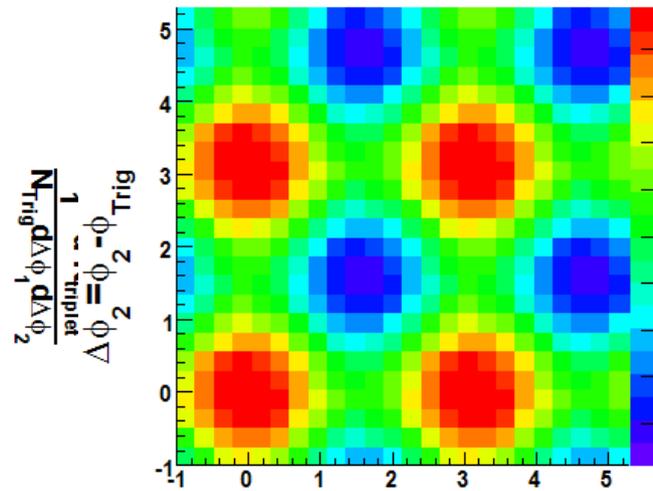
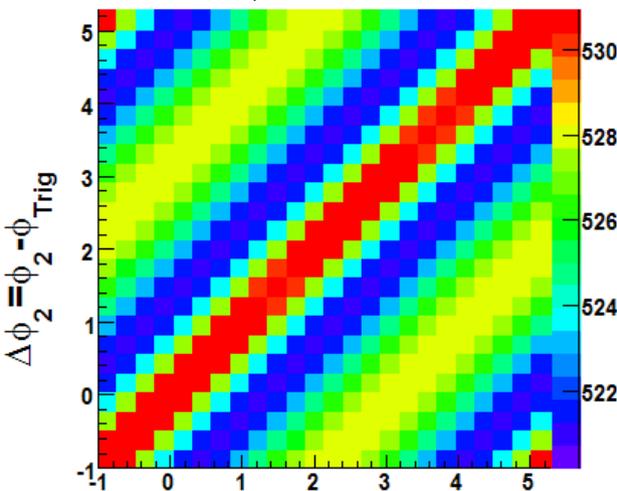


- ◆ Normalized mixed event 2-particle background folded with the 2-particle jet-like correlation. (norm. factor **a**)
- ◆ Contains the non-flow 2-particle correlations.
- ◆ Note: done in 6 bins of trigger particle relative to EP

# 3-Particle Correlation: Soft-Soft and Flow

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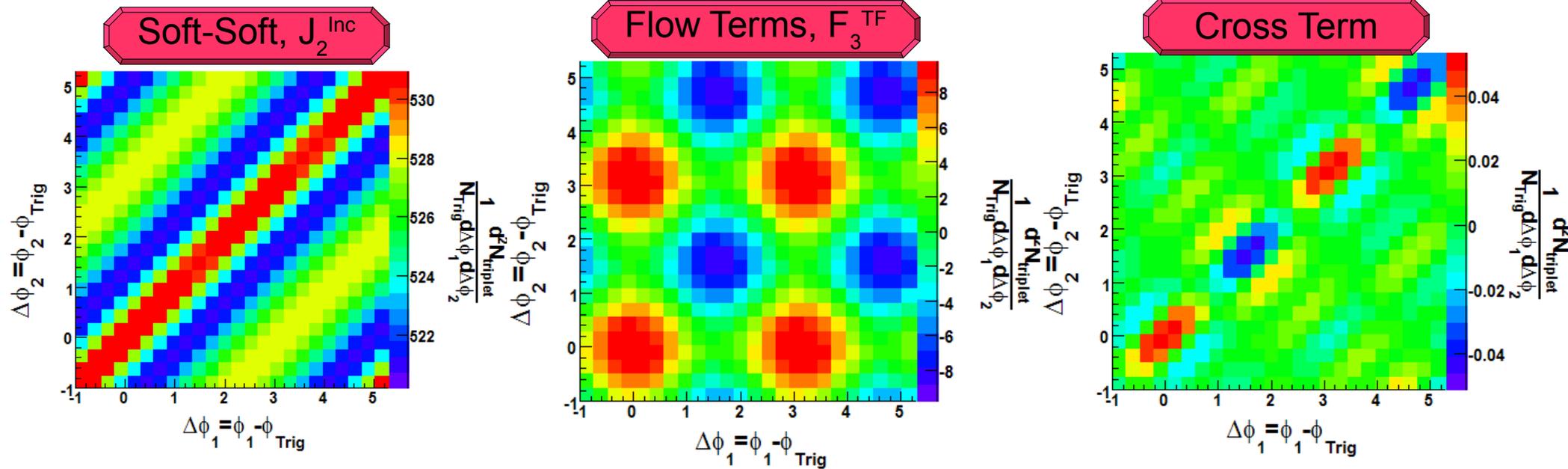
$\Delta\phi_1 = \phi_1 - \phi_{1 \text{ Trig}}$   
 Soft-Soft,  $J_2^{\text{Inc}}$

$\Delta\phi_1 = \phi_1 - \phi_{1 \text{ Trig}}$   
 $v_2 v_2$

$\Delta\phi_1 = \phi_1 - \phi_{1 \text{ Trig}}$   
 $v_4 v_4$  &  $v_2 v_2 v_4$

- Soft-soft contains correlations between the associated particles independent of the trigger.
- Flow terms contain  $v_2$  and  $v_4$  related correlations.
- normalized by  $a^2 b$

# Soft-Soft Cross Term



- Higher order correction for correlation of the non-flow component of the soft-soft with the reaction plane.

# Mathematics

## 3-Particle Cumulant:

$$C_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3) = \frac{\rho_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3) - \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_2)\rho_1(\phi_3) - \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_3)\rho_1(\phi_2) - \rho_2(\phi_2, \phi_3)\rho_1(\phi_1)}{\rho_1(\phi_1)\rho_1(\phi_2)\rho_1(\phi_3)} + 2$$

## 3-Particle Correlation

$$\begin{aligned} J_3^{\text{Final}} = & J_3(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) \\ & - \{ [J_2(\Delta\phi_1) - \mathbf{a}B_{\text{inc}}(1+F(\Delta\phi_1))] \otimes [\mathbf{a}B_{\text{inc}}(1+F(\Delta\phi_2))] \\ & + [J_2(\Delta\phi_2) - \mathbf{a}B_{\text{inc}}(1+F(\Delta\phi_2))] \otimes [\mathbf{a}B_{\text{inc}}(1+F(\Delta\phi_1))] \} \\ & - \mathbf{a}^2\mathbf{b} J_2^{\text{Inc}}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) [1 + F_3^{\text{TF}}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) / J_2^{\text{Inc,flow}}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2)] \end{aligned}$$

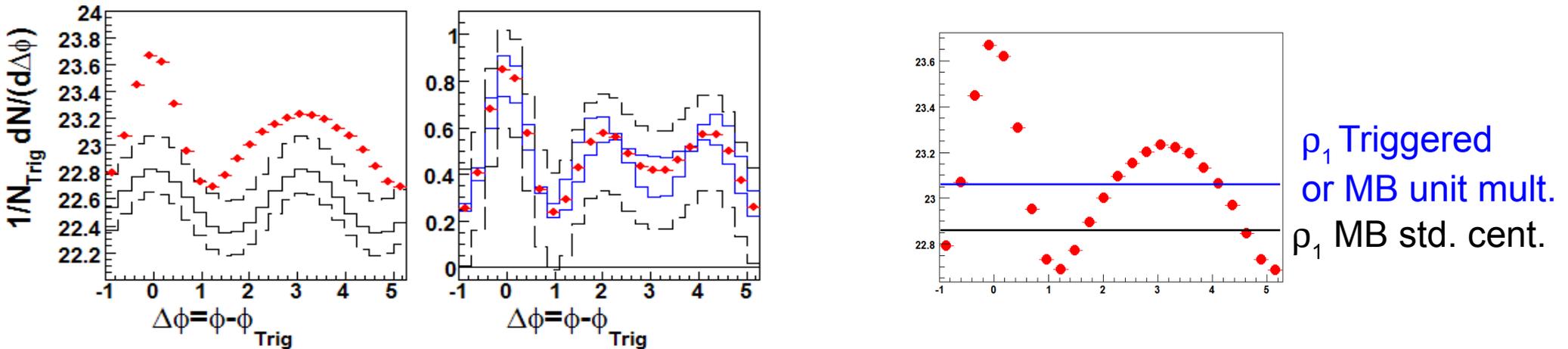
# Normalization

## 3-Particle Correlation

- ◆ **a** determined such that the background subtracted 3-particle correlation is ZYAM
- ◆ **b** = 
$$\frac{\langle N_{Trig} (N_{Trig} - 1) \rangle / \langle N_{Trig} \rangle^2}{\langle N_{Inc} (N_{Inc} - 1) \rangle / \langle N_{Inc} \rangle^2}$$
  - ◆ accounts for  $\langle a \rangle^2 \neq \langle a^2 \rangle$
  - ◆ assumes the deviation from Poisson statistics for underlying events is the same as for entire triggered event
- ◆ For 0-5% most central:
  - ◆ **a** = 0.994 + 0.005 - 0.004
  - ◆ **b** = 1.00021 + 0.0003 - 0.0005

# Normalization

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- ◆ 3-Particle Correlation:

- ◆ background level always fixed by ZYAM

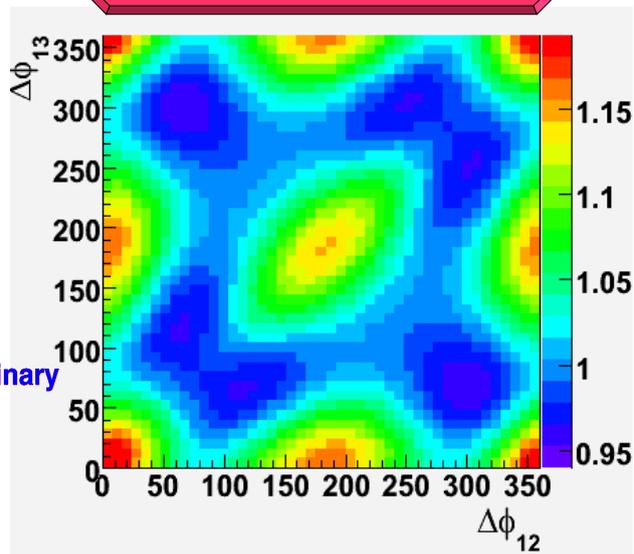
- ◆ 3-Particle Cumulant:

- ◆ level dependent mixed event selection (minimum bias events or triggered events, multiplicity bin width etc...)

# Comparison Raw

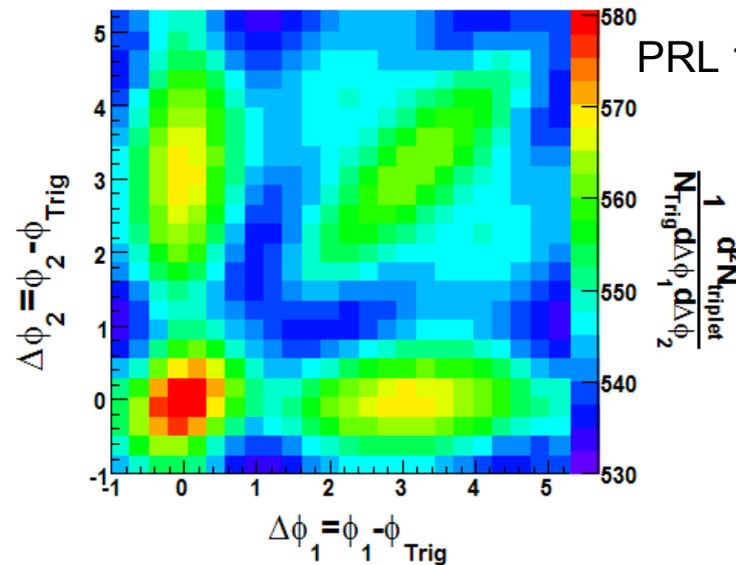
$$\rho_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3) / [\rho_1 \rho_2 \rho_3]$$

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★ STAR Preliminary

$$J_3(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2)$$



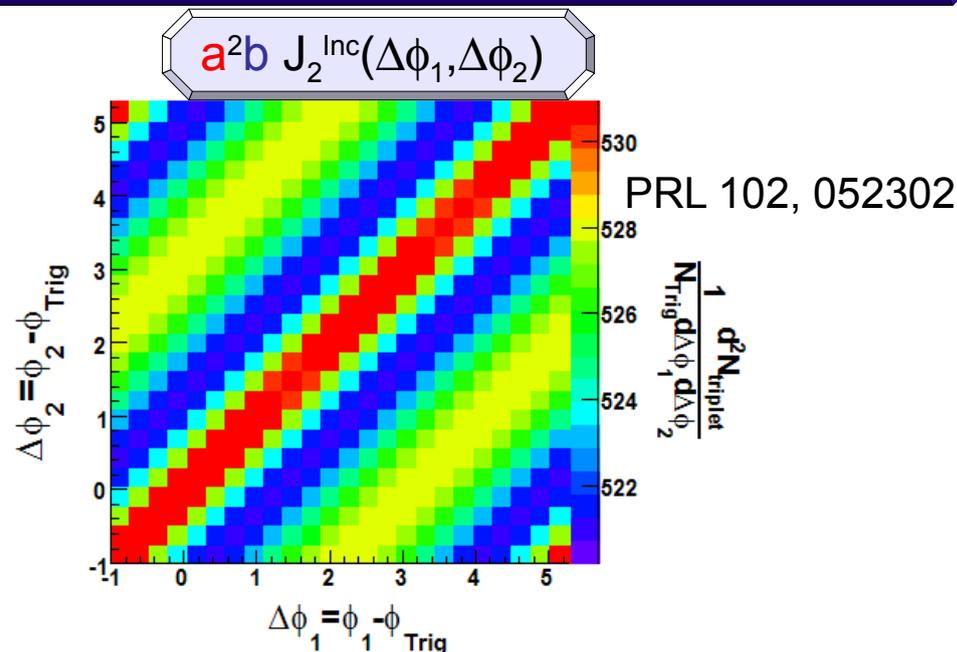
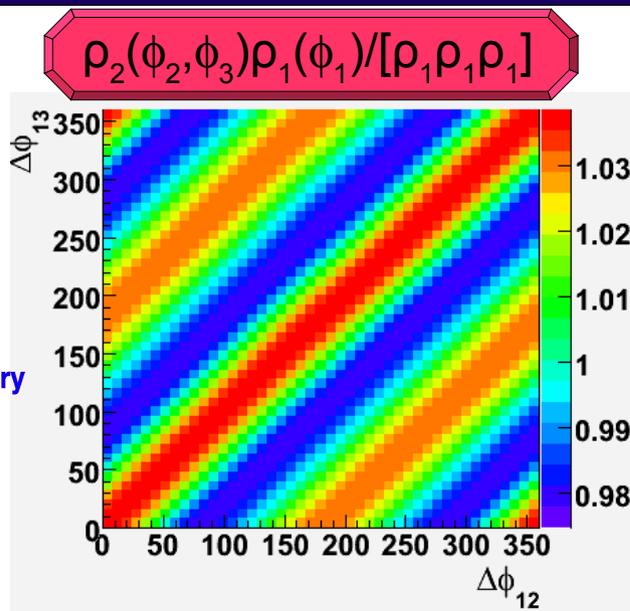
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- Only difference in the unsubtracted signals should be a scaling factor that persists through all terms.
  - I'll refer to as  $k$

# Comparison Soft-Soft

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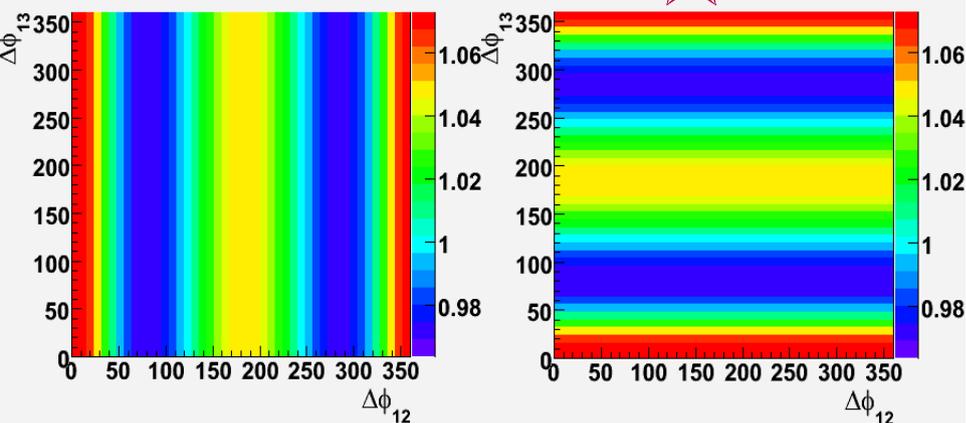


- ◆ Additional difference due to normalization.
- ◆ Different by factor of  $ka^2b$ .
  - ◆ This is largely a pedestal shift as this term has a small signal on a large background.

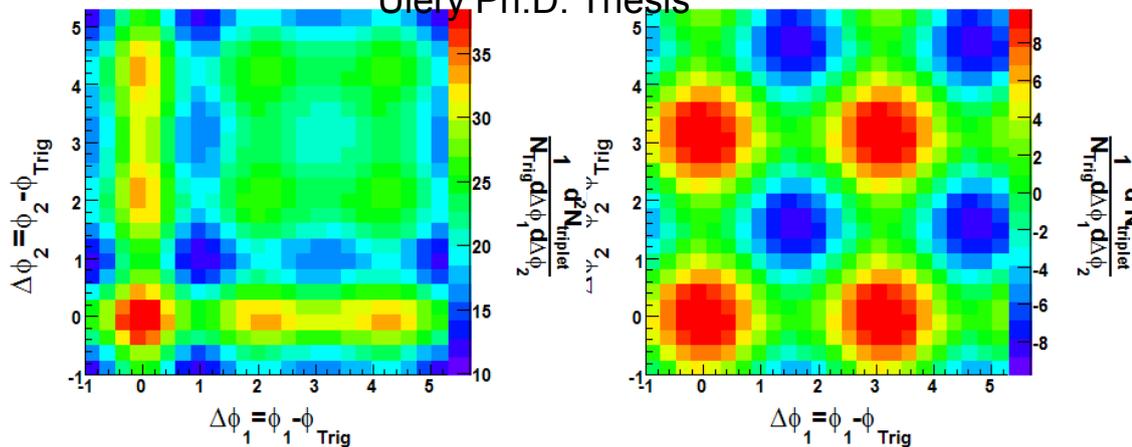
# Comparison Hard-Soft and Flow

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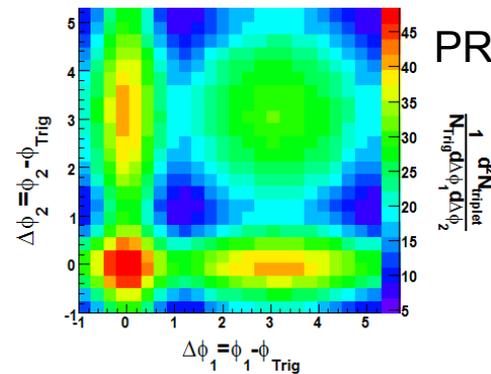


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$$[\rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_2)\rho_1(\phi_3) + \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_3)\rho_1(\phi_2)] / [\rho_3(\phi_1)\rho_3(\phi_2)\rho_3(\phi_3)]$$

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- Here the comparison gets a bit more complicated. Terms have to be summed from both analyses for comparison.

# Difference Hard-Soft and Flow

$$[\rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_2)\rho_1(\phi_3) + \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_3)\rho_1(\phi_2)] / [\rho_3(\phi_1)\rho_3(\phi_2)\rho_3(\phi_3)]$$

Cumulant Terms

$$\{[J_2(\Delta\phi_1) - aB_{inc}(1+F(\Delta\phi_1))] \otimes [aB_{inc}(1+F(\Delta\phi_2))] + [J_2(\Delta\phi_2) - aB_{inc}(1+F(\Delta\phi_2))] \otimes [aB_{inc}(1+F(\Delta\phi_1))]\} \\ + a^2b J_2^{inc}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) [F_3^{TF}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) / J_2^{inc,flow}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2)]$$

Correlation Terms

$$\text{let } J'_2 = J_2 - aB_{inc}(1+F)$$

◆ Difference is:

$$\text{◆ } k[aB_{inc}\{J'_2(\Delta\phi_1)F(\Delta\phi_2) + J'_2(\Delta\phi_2)F(\Delta\phi_1)\}] \quad \text{Jet-Flow Cross Term}$$

$$\text{◆ } +(a-1)B_{inc}[J'_2(\Delta\phi_1) + J'_2(\Delta\phi_2)] \quad \text{Residual 2-Particle Correlation}$$

$$\text{◆ } +a^2(b\langle J_2^{inc} \rangle - B_{inc}^2)(v_2v_2 + v_4v_4) \quad \text{Residual 2-Particle Flow}$$

$$\text{◆ } +a^2b\langle J_2^{inc} \rangle v_2v_2v_4 \quad \text{3-Particle Flow}$$

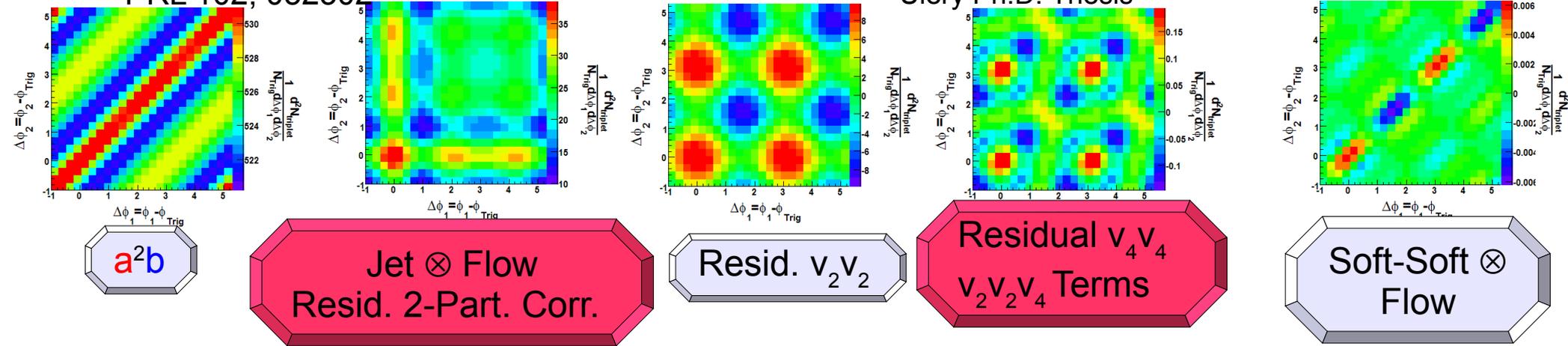
$$\text{◆ } +a^2b F_3^{TF}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) [J_2^{inc}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) / J_2^{inc,flow}(\Delta\phi_1, \Delta\phi_2) - 1] \quad \text{Soft-Soft-Flow}$$

Cross Term - very small

# Difference Terms

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$a^2b$

Jet  $\otimes$  Flow  
Resid. 2-Part. Corr.

Resid.  $v_2 v_2$

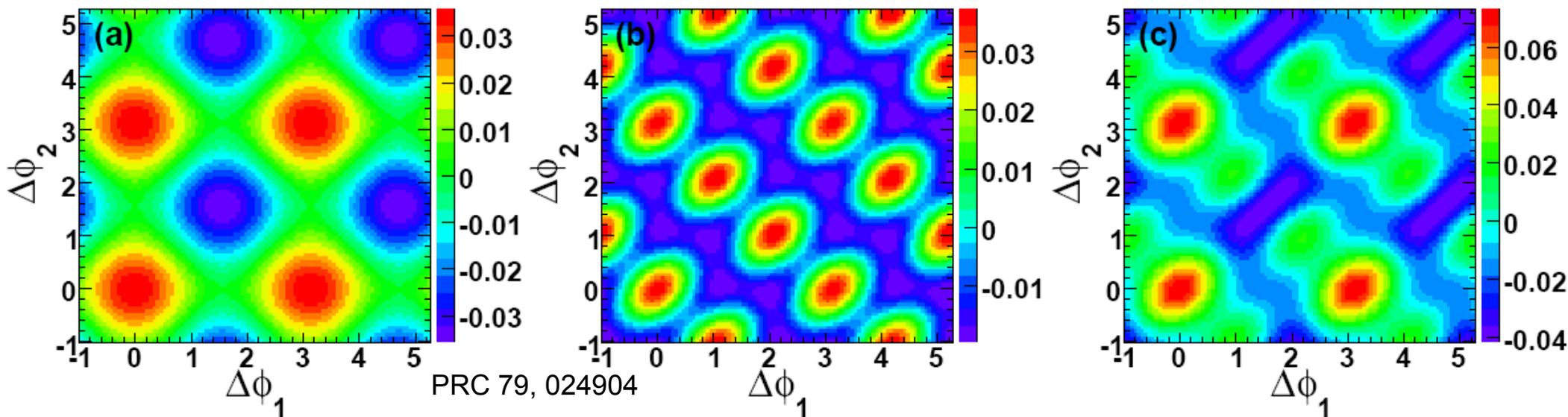
Residual  $v_4 v_4$   
 $v_2 v_2 v_4$  Terms

Soft-Soft  $\otimes$   
Flow

- Visual Summary.
- (note the analyses are equivalent iff  $a=1$ ,  $b=1$ ,  $v_2=0$ , and  $v_4=0$ , other than the constant factor)

# 3-Particle Cumulant From Only Flow

From calculation with  $v_2^{(t)} = 7.5\%$ ,  $v_2^{(1)} = v_2^{(2)} = 5\%$ ,  $v_4 = v_2^2$ . and  $\langle B_1^2 \rangle - \langle B_1 \rangle^2 = 0.1 \langle B_1 \rangle$ .



Residual  $v_2 v_2$  and  $v_4 v_4$  if  $\langle B^2 \rangle \neq \langle B \rangle^2$

Irreducible Flow from  $v_2 v_2 v_4$

$(c) = (a) + (b)$

- If only flow is present 3-particle cumulant will still give a signal.

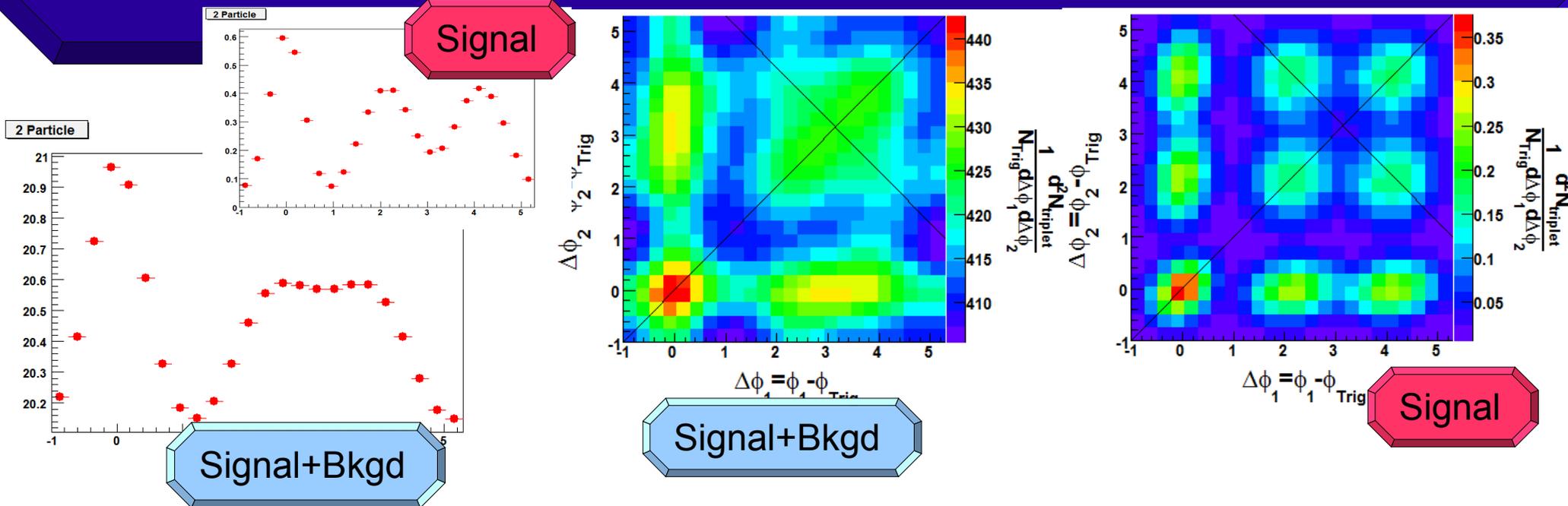
# Reaction Plane Frame 3-Particle Cumulant

$$C_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \psi) = \frac{\rho_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \psi) - \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_2, \psi)\rho_1(\phi_3, \psi) - \rho_2(\phi_1, \phi_3, \psi)\rho_1(\phi_2, \psi) - \rho_2(\phi_2, \phi_3, \psi)\rho_1(\phi_1, \psi)}{\rho_1(\phi_1, \psi)\rho_1(\phi_2, \psi)\rho_1(\phi_3, \psi)} + 2$$

$$C_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3) = \int C_3(\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \psi) d\psi$$

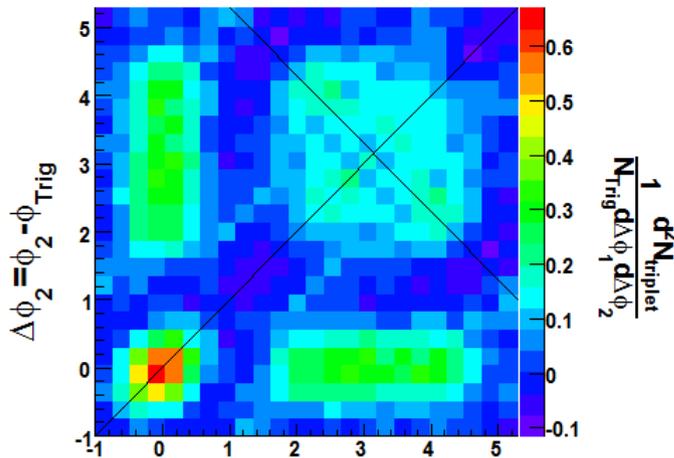
- The cumulant can handle to flow if the reaction plane angle is taken into account.
- In practice could be done using measured  $v_2$  and  $v_4$ .
- This method should be consistent with the 3-Particle Correlation Method except for the normalization.

# Toy Model Simulation

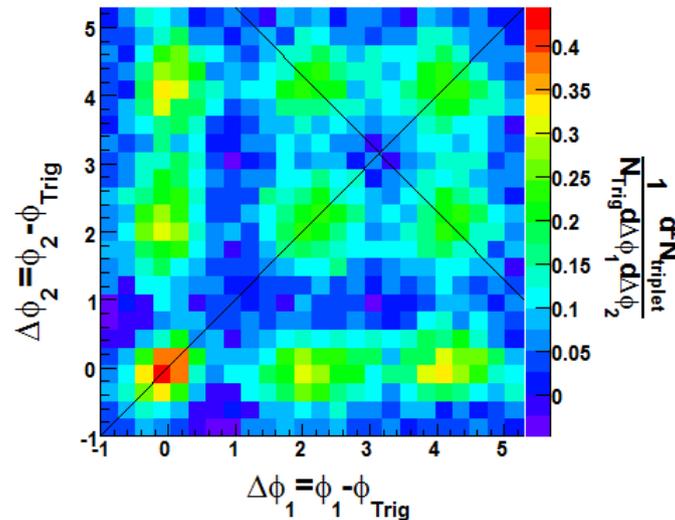


- ◆ Jet axis correlated with reaction plane.
- ◆ Poisson # of triggers about jet axis.
- ◆ Poisson # of associated jet particles in 3 Gaussians about jet axis.
- ◆ Poisson # of background particles with  $v_2$ .
- ◆ Background level,  $v_2$ , and jet correlation similar to real data.

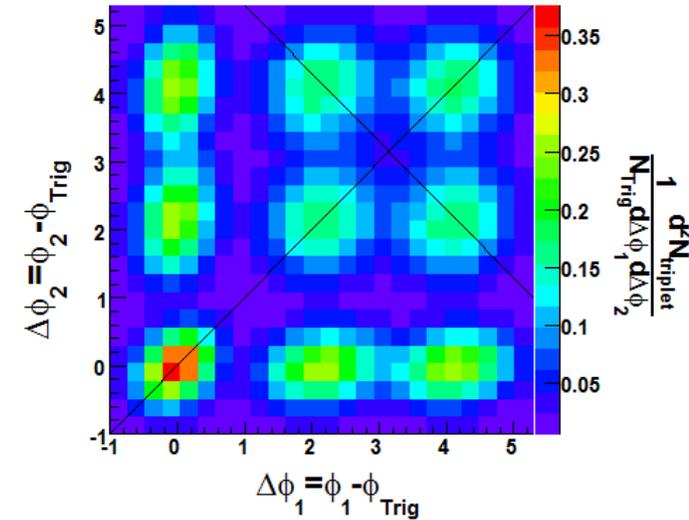
# Toy Model



$a=b=1$   
No Flow Subtraction  
Cumulant Equivalent



3-Particle Correlation

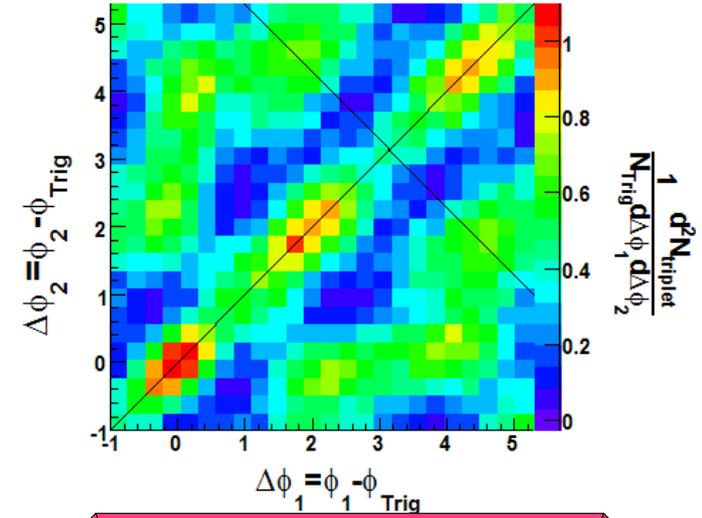
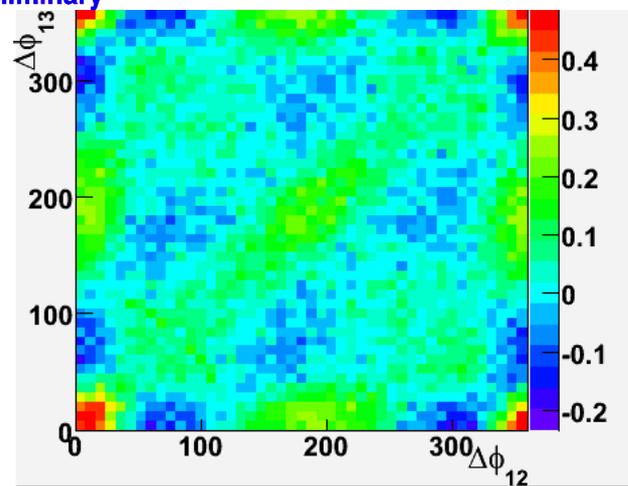
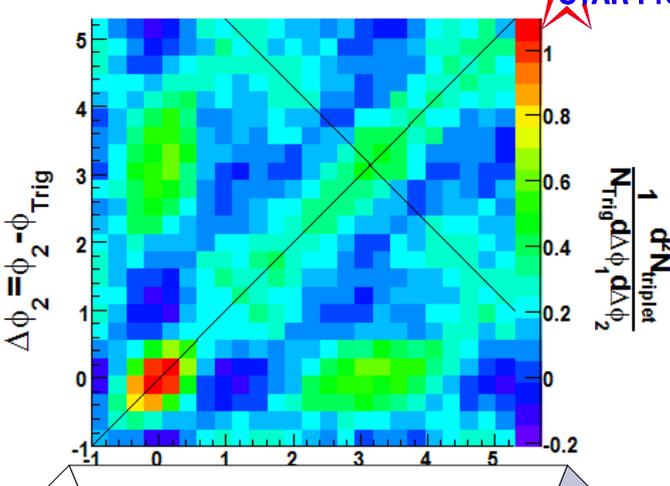


True Signal

- 3-Particle Correlation reproduces the signal.
- 3-Particle Cumulant does not, (Jet $\otimes$ Flow).
- Poisson generation, signal is not ZYAM, true level of background is  $a=b=1$ .

# Real Data Comparison

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$a=b=1$   
No Flow Subtraction  
Cumulant Equivalent

3-Particle Cumulant

3-Particle Correlation

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- Cumulant equivalent analyses consistent with the Cumulant
- Cumulant displays no distinct off-diagonal peaks.
- 3-Particle Correlation displays significant peaks.

# Summary

- ◆ Two analyses are consistent iff  $a=b=1$  and no flow is subtracted.
- ◆ 3-Particle Correlation:
  - ◆ Removes all known backgrounds
  - ◆ Significant signal
    - ◆ interpretable within the model assumptions.
- ◆ 3-Particle Cumulant:
  - ◆ Model independent, uninterpretable without a model.
  - ◆ Residual 2-particle correlations and flow in addition to 3-particle correlations.