

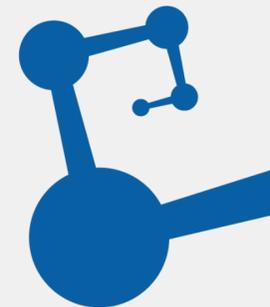
# MID: a muon detector for the ALICE 3 upgrade project

Jesús Eduardo Muñoz Méndez  
for the ALICE collaboration

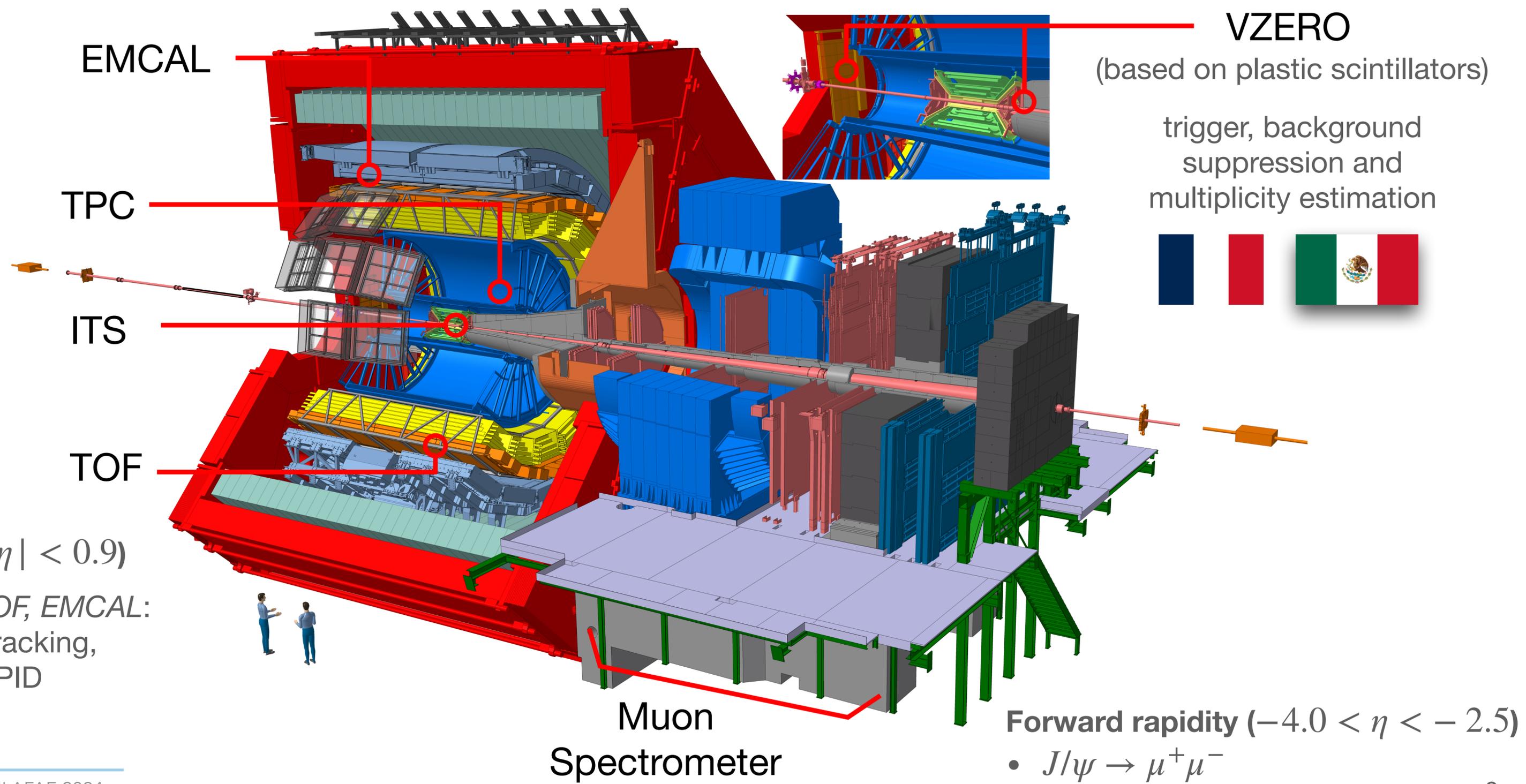
XV Latin American Symposium on High Energy Physics

4 November, 2024

Instituto de  
Ciencias  
Nucleares  
UNAM

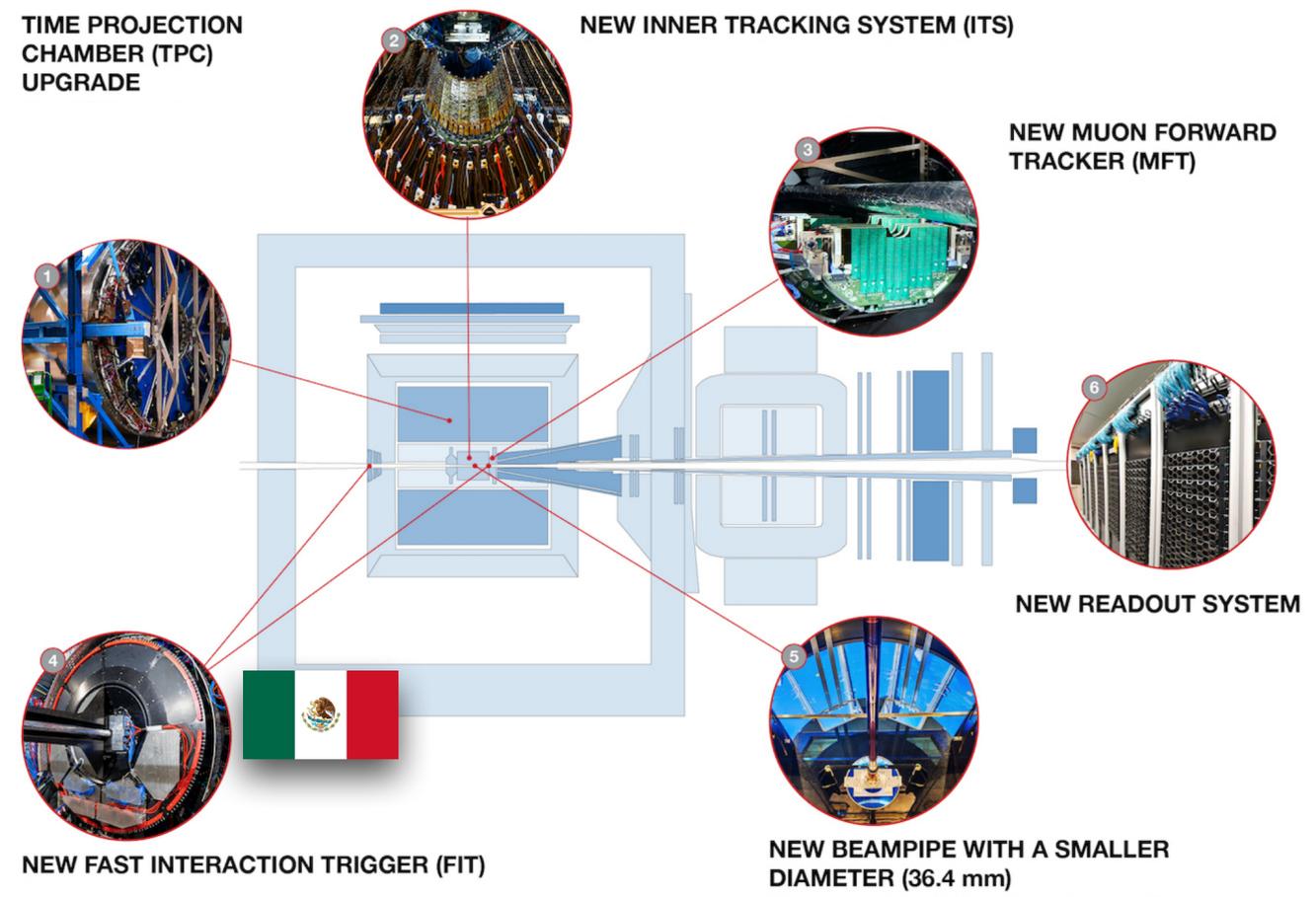


# ALICE in Run 2



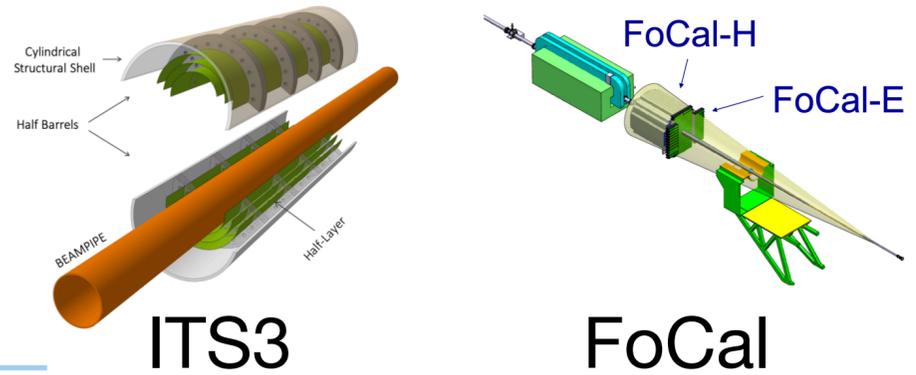
# ALICE in Run 3 and 4

## ALICE DETECTOR LS2 UPGRADES



ALICE in current Run 3:

Upcoming upgrades for Run 4:



Several upgrades to the experiment have been done, and some are on the way..

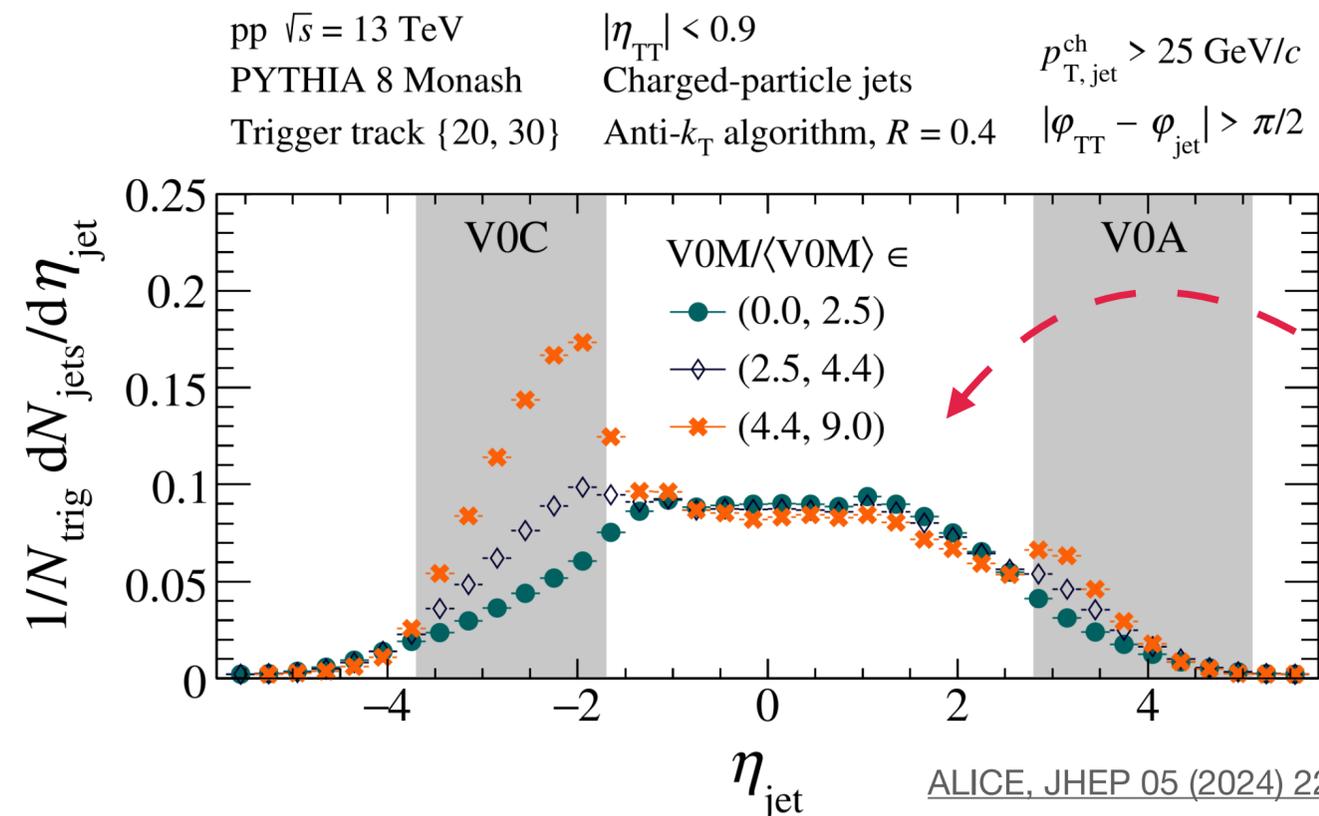
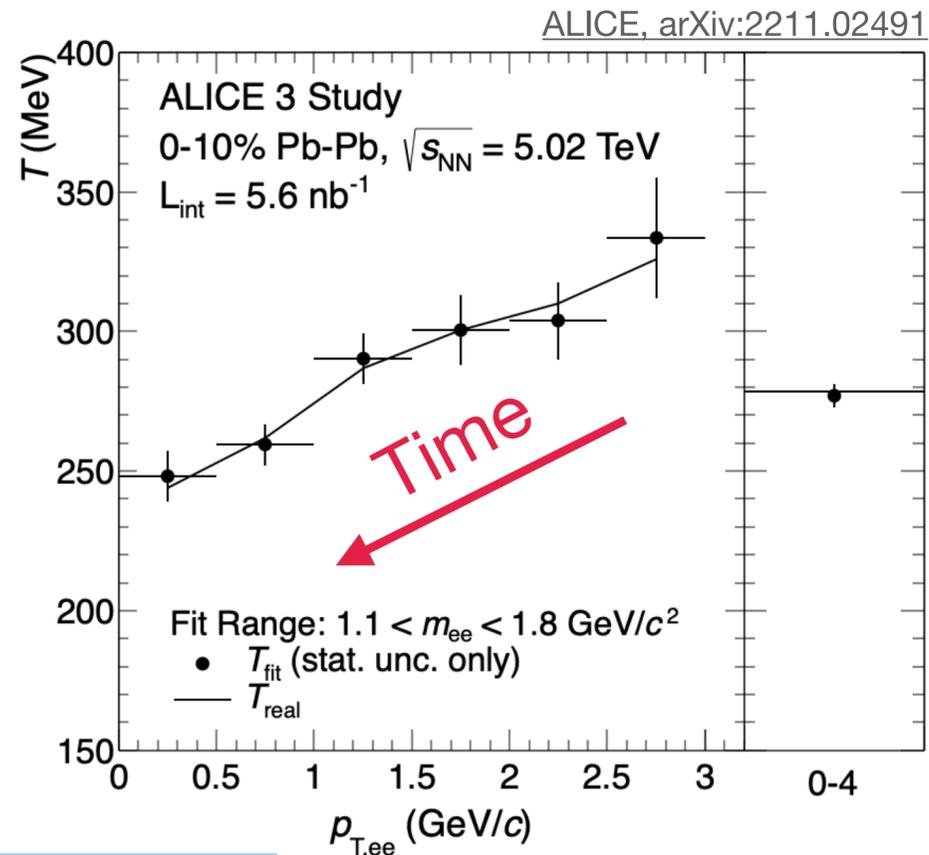
Among the expected measurements during Runs 3 and 4 we have

- Medium effects on single heavy-flavour hadrons
- Time averaged thermal QGP radiation
- Collective effects from small to large systems

**Nonetheless, some fundamental questions will still remain open...**

# Open questions after Run 4

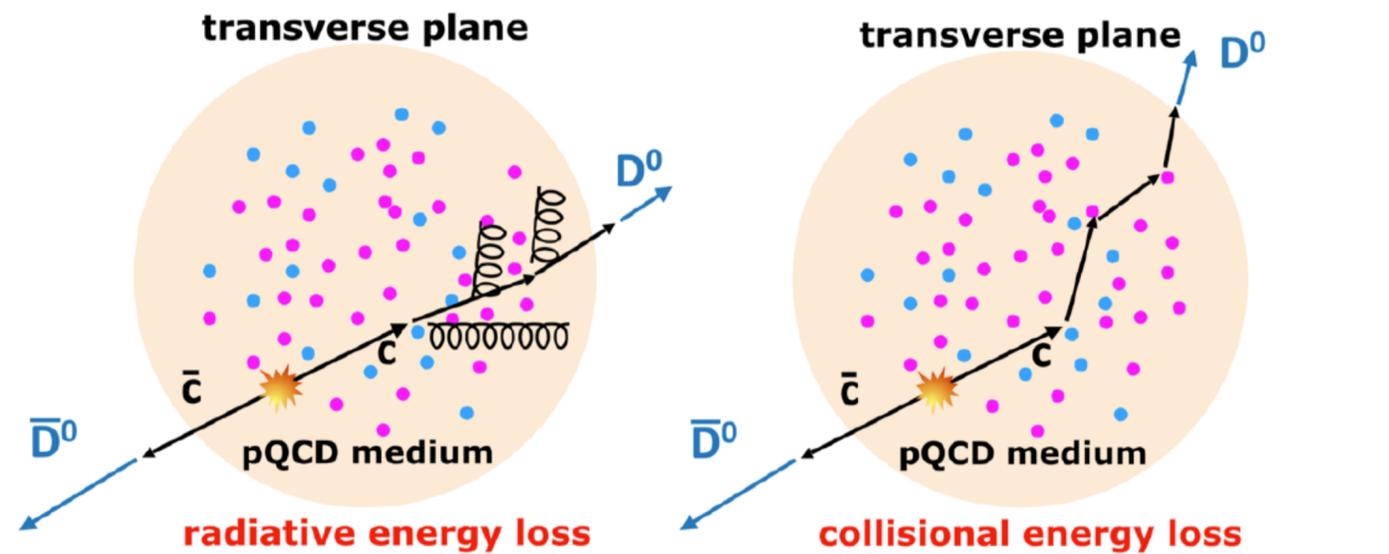
- **More detailed evolution of the QGP through thermal radiation**
- **Origin of QGP-like effects in small systems**
- Formation and interaction of exotic hadronic states
- Transport and hadronization of heavy flavor hadrons in the medium: azimuthal distributions, n-parton scattering dynamics, multi-charm baryons ( $\Xi_{cc}^{++}$  and  $\Omega_{cc}^+$ ), suppression and recombination of charm and beauty quarks



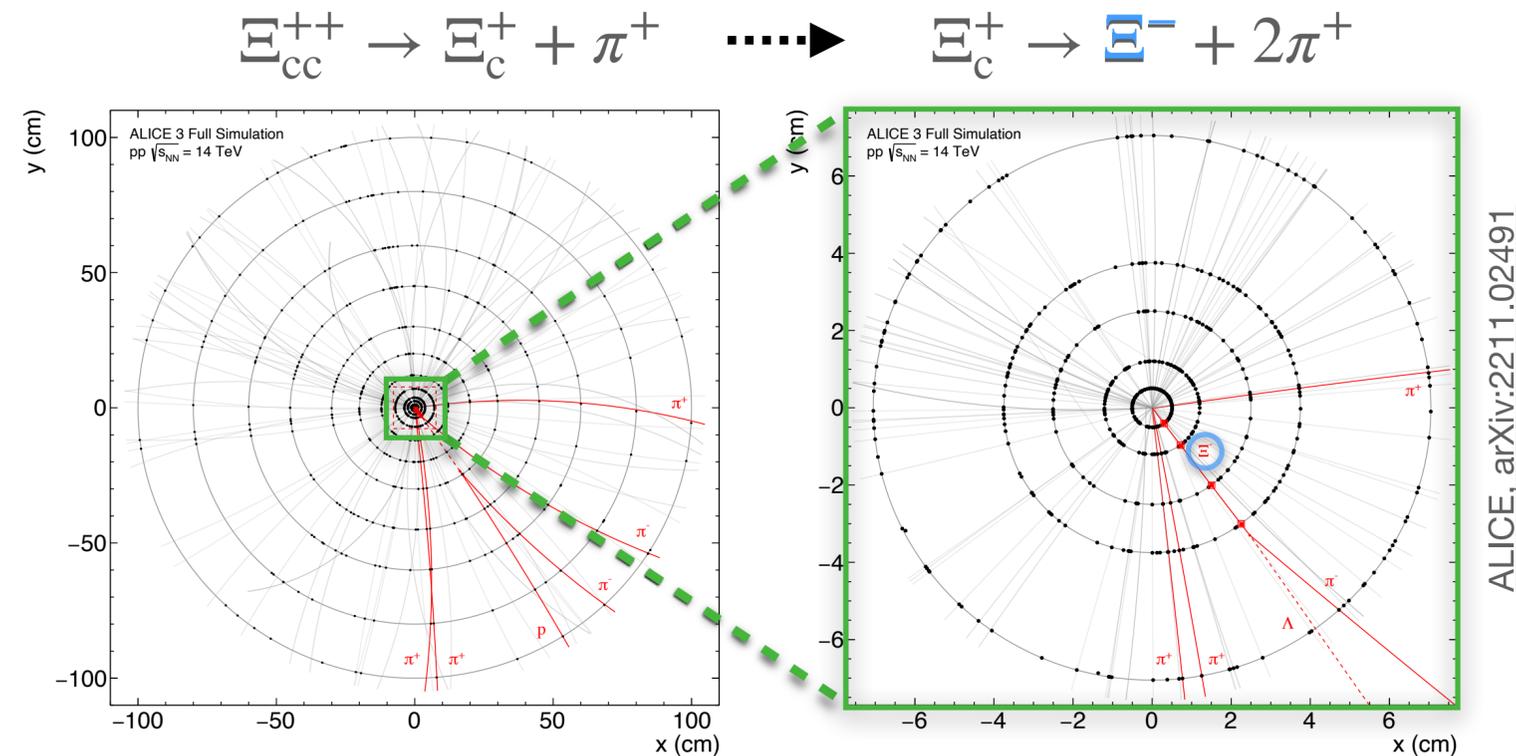
Bias toward local fluctuations  
( see Paola Vargas talk: 8/11/24 12:15 h [QCD4] )

# Open questions after Run 4

- More detailed evolution of the QGP through thermal radiation
- Origin of QGP-like effects in small systems
- **Formation and interaction of exotic hadronic states**
- **Transport and hadronization of heavy flavor hadrons in the medium:** azimuthal distributions, multi-charm baryons ( $\Xi_{cc}^{++}$  and  $\Omega_{cc}^+$ ), n-parton scattering dynamics, suppression and recombination of charm and beauty quarks



Higher purity and signal efficiency with a bigger acceptance is needed

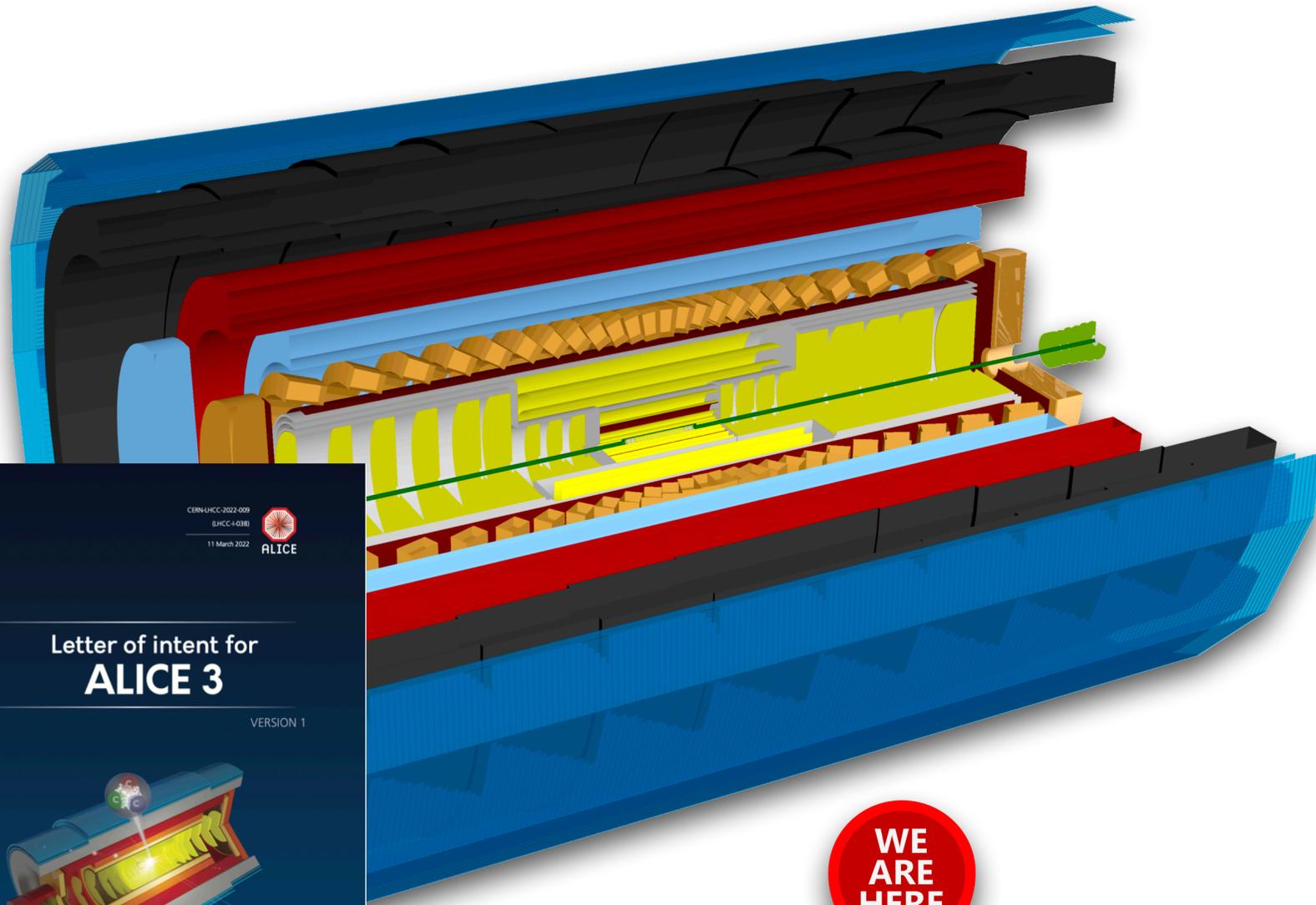


Outstanding tracking resolution is required

# ALICE 3 : a next-generation heavy-ion experiment

To address these open questions, the ALICE collaboration has proposed an upgrade to the experiment with...

- excellent resolution
- tracking and PID over a greater acceptance:  
 $|\eta| < 4$
- higher interaction and readout rate

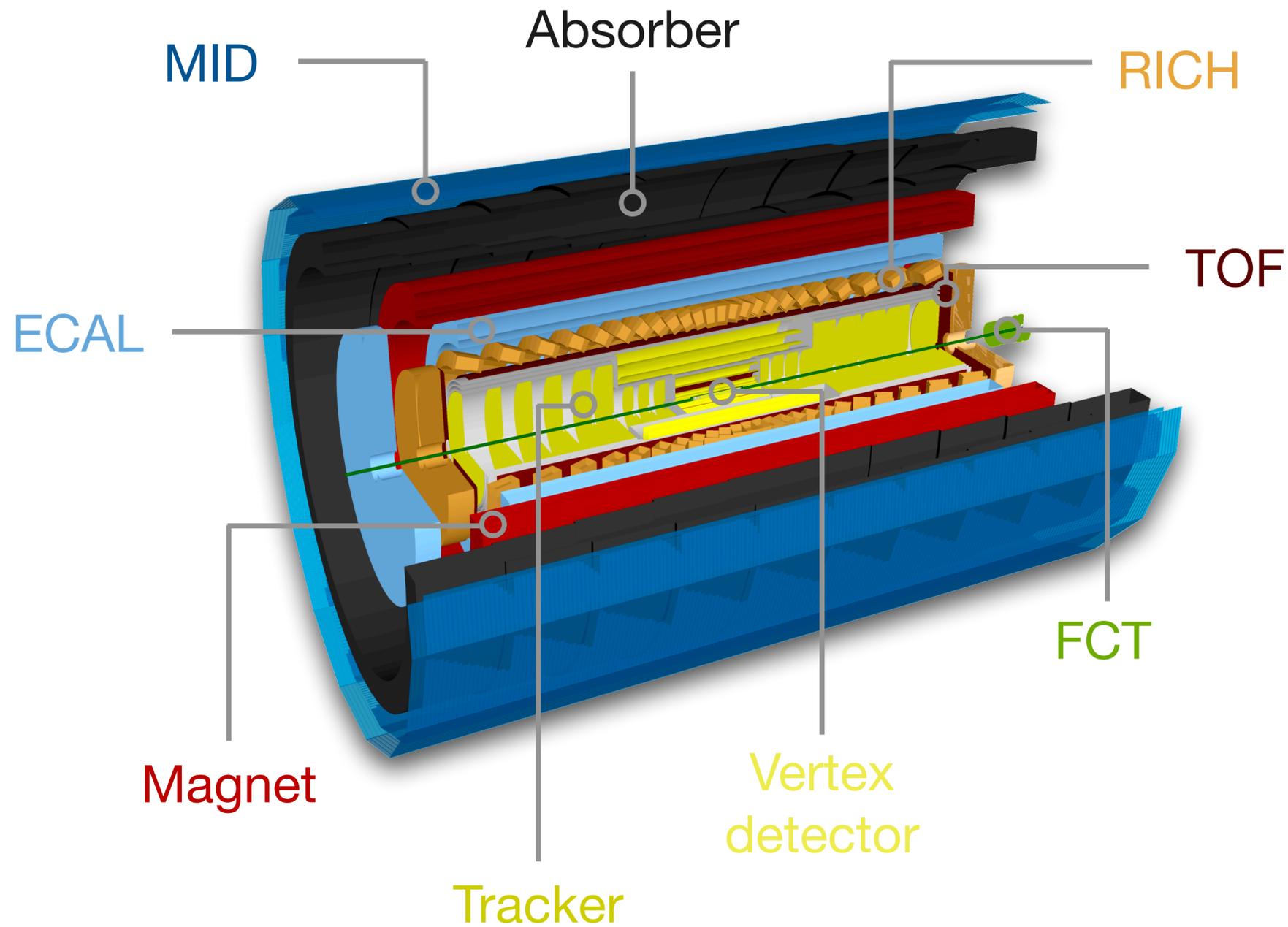


ALICE, arXiv:2211.02491

WE ARE HERE

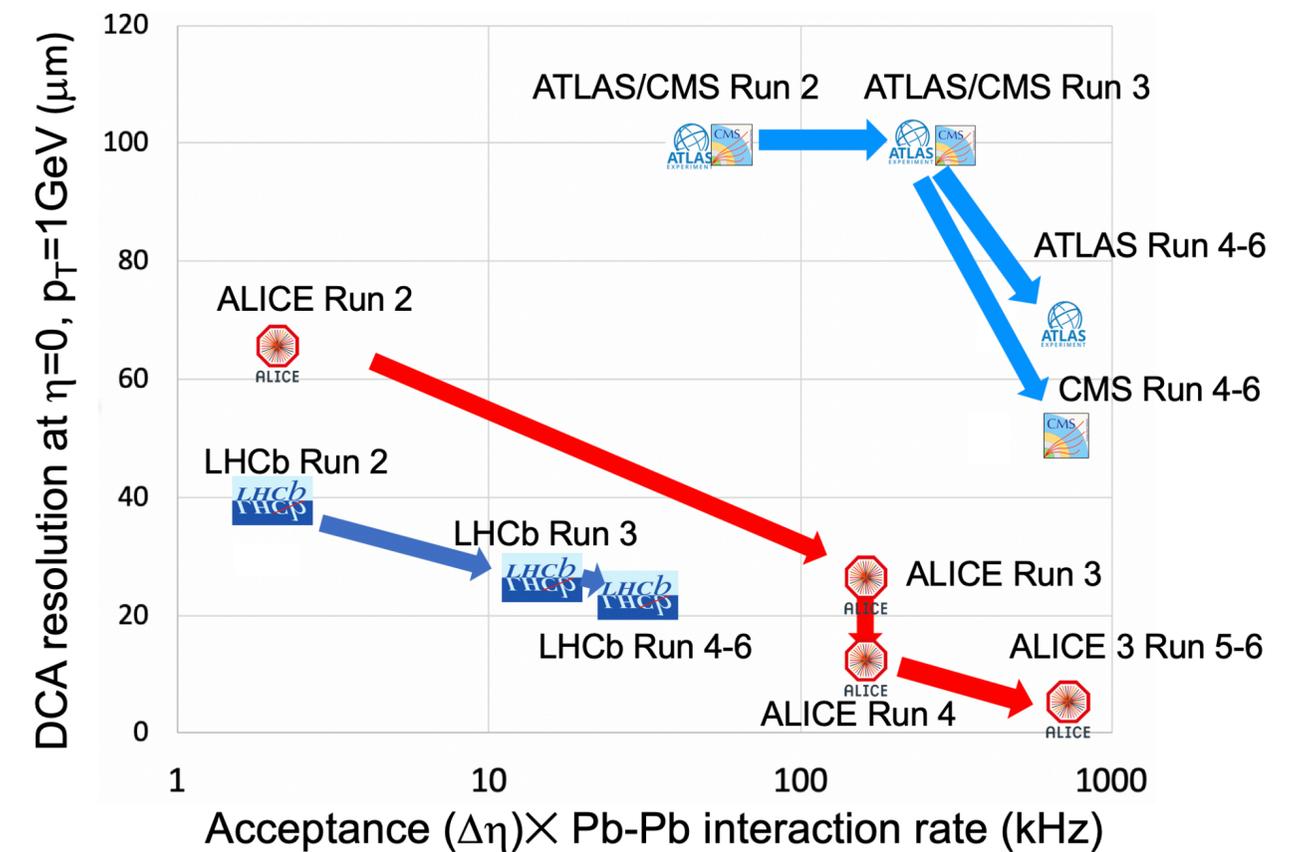


# ALICE 3



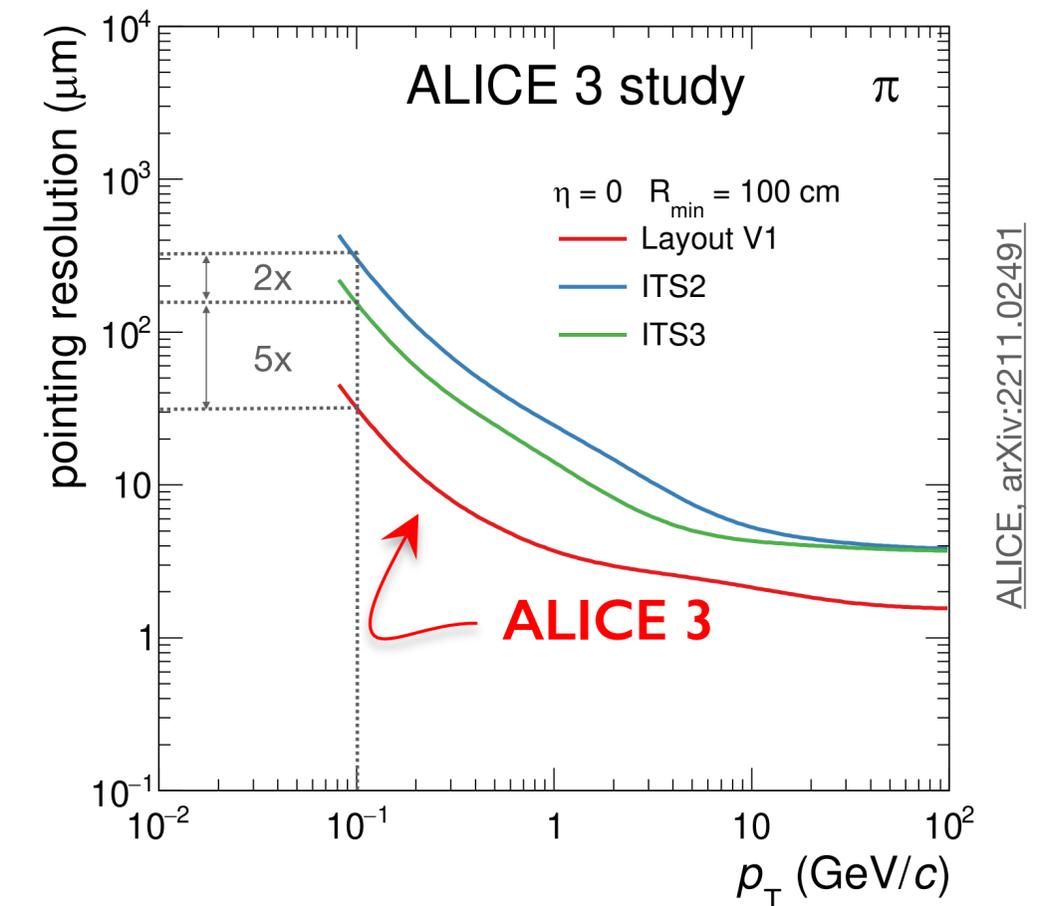
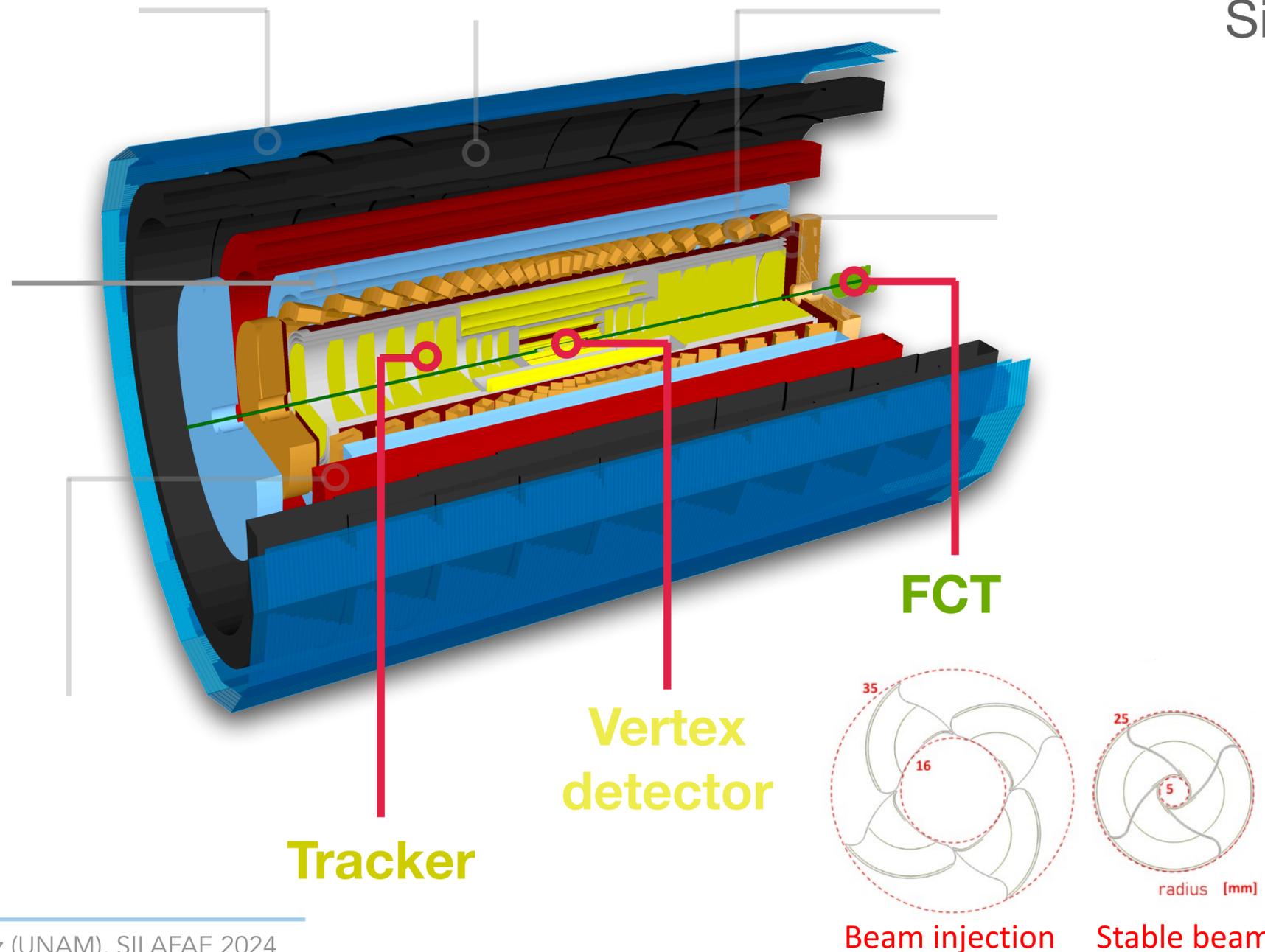
## ALICE 3 features:

Overall, ALICE 3 will bring unique and unprecedented features to LHC, combining an excellent tracking and interaction rate

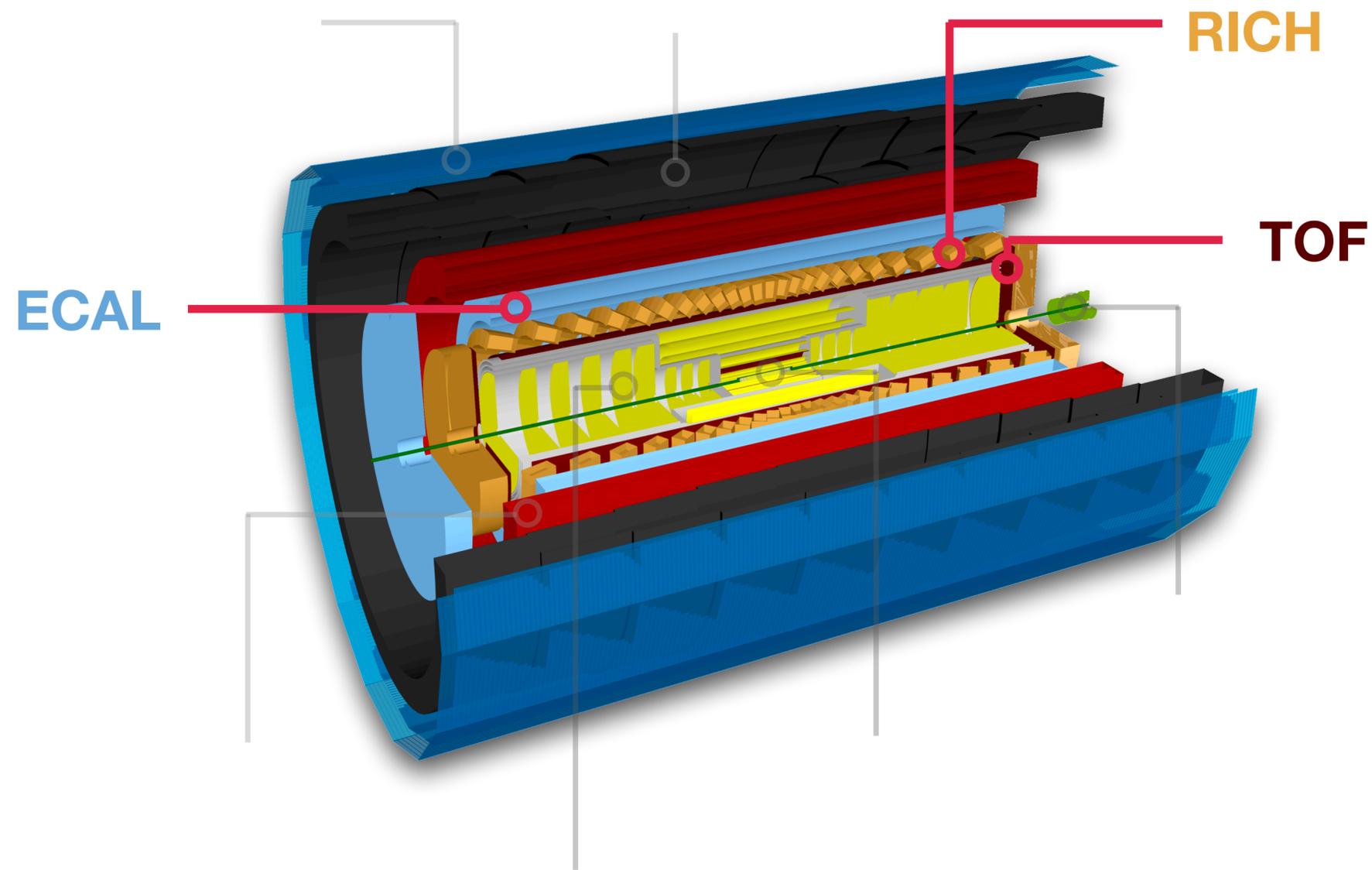


## ALICE 3 features:

Silicon pixel tracker with a high resolution

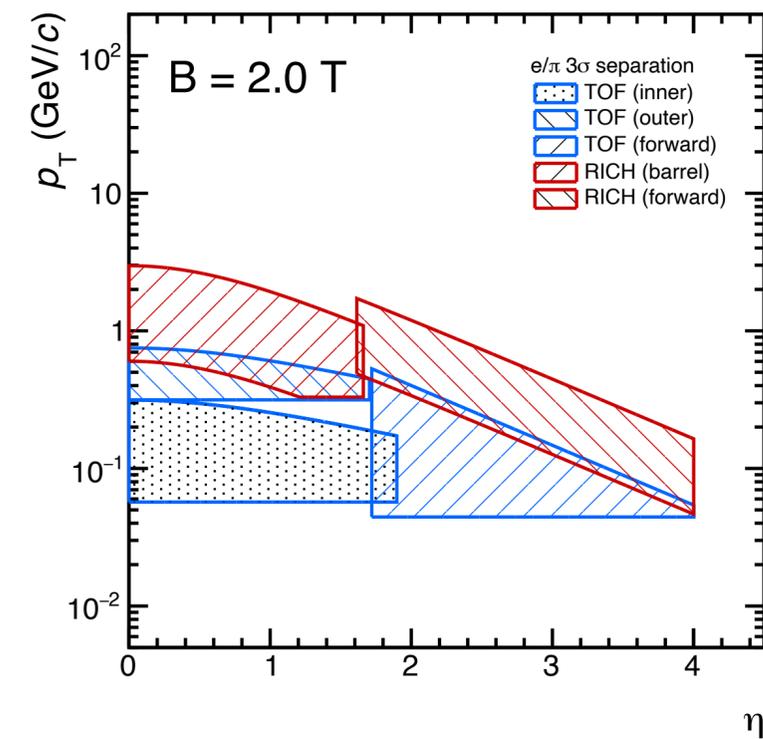


and a retractable vertex detector that can close down to 5 mm



## ALICE 3 features:

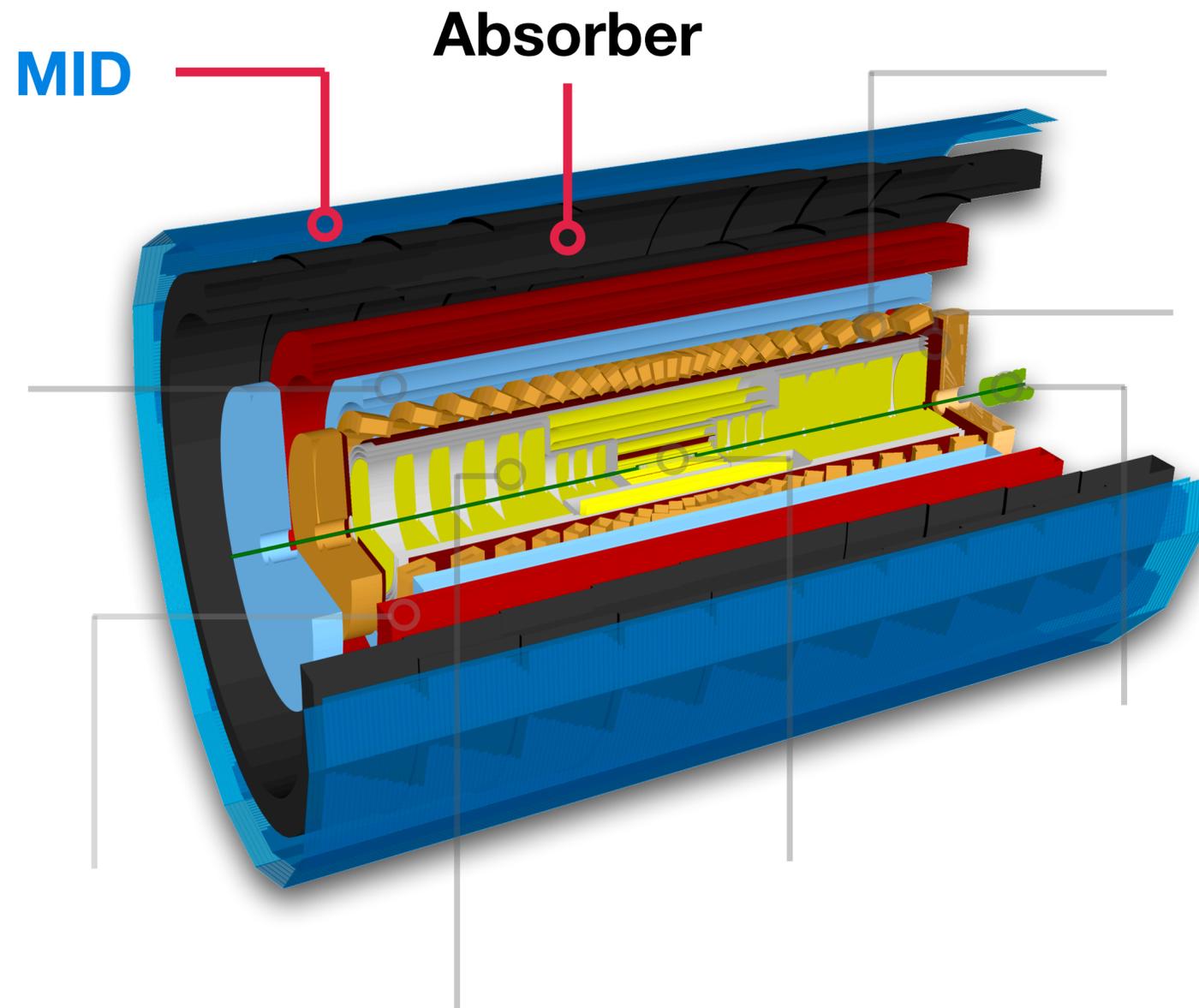
$e/\pi/K/p$  and  $\gamma$  PID over large acceptance  
 $-4 < \eta < 4$



ALICE, arXiv:2211.02491

ECAL: High-energy electrons and photon identification

- Barrel ( $|\eta| < 1.5$ )
- Endcap ( $1.5 < \eta < 4$ )



## ALICE 3 features:

Muon identification for charmonia and exotic hadrons

**CMS** and **ATLAS**:

$\mu$  identification  
down to  
 $p_T \approx 3 - 4 \text{ GeV}/c$

**ALICE 3:**

optimized to  
identify  $\mu$  down to  
 $p_T = 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$

**VS**

**LHCb:**

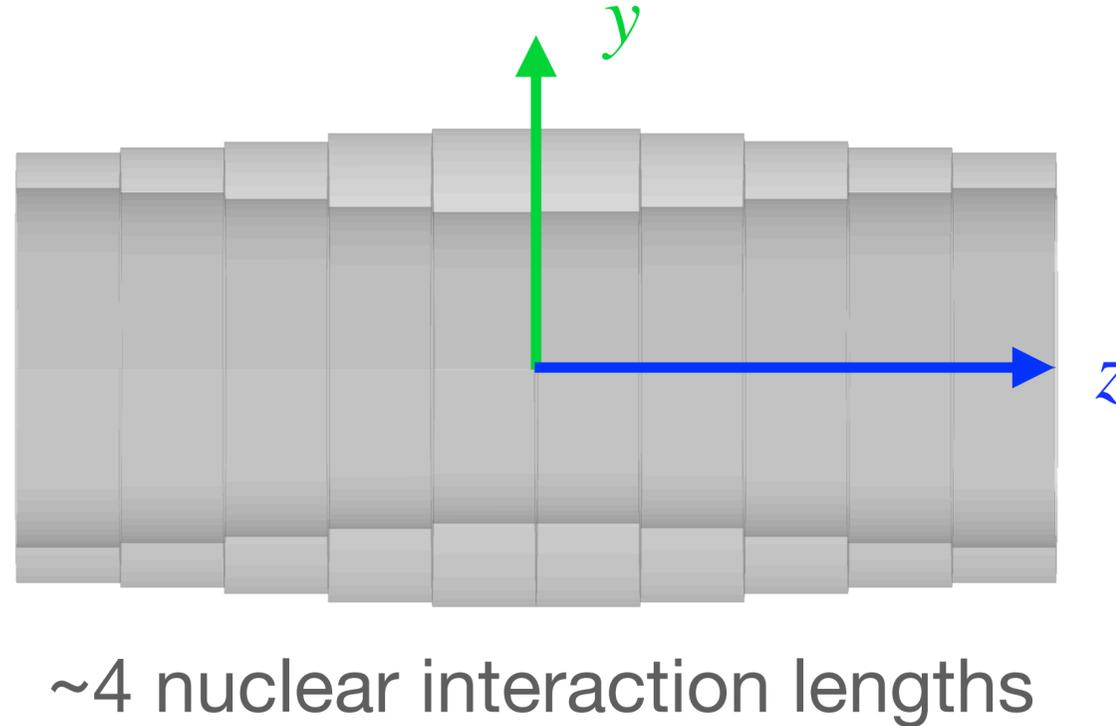
$J/\psi$  at rest but  
only at forward  
rapidity

**ALICE 3:**

$J/\psi$  at rest for a  
wider rapidity  
 $|y| < 1.24$

# ALICE 3 MID

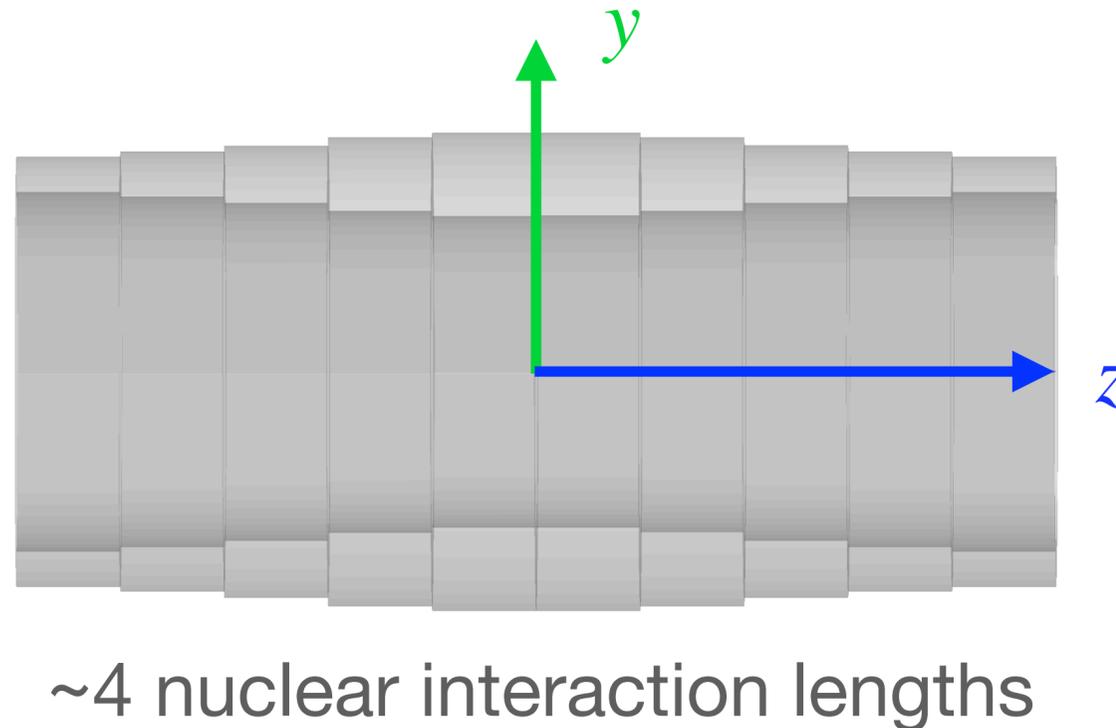
The MID considers a magnetic iron *absorber* with varying thickness



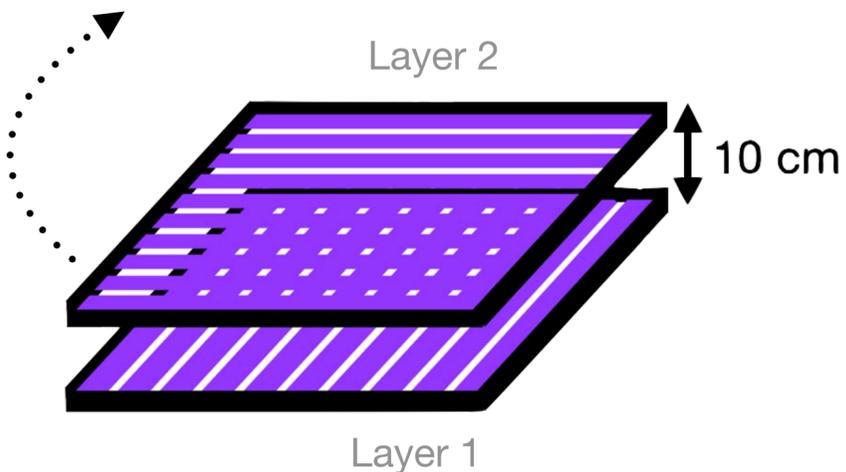
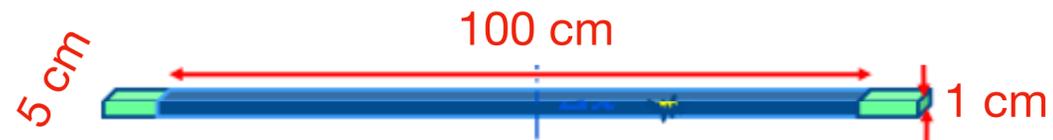
- $10^{-2}$  hadron rejection factor
- Low charged particle fluence rate:  $\sim 4 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$
- Scattering within the absorber:  $\sim 5 \text{ cm}$  for  $p=1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$  (granularity of  $5 \times 5 \text{ cm}^2$  is enough for  $1.5\text{-}5 \text{ GeV}/c$ )

# ALICE 3 MID

The MID considers a magnetic iron *absorber* with varying thickness



- $10^{-2}$  hadron rejection factor
- Low charged particle fluence rate:  $\sim 4 \text{ Hz/cm}^2$
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Regarding the muon chambers, there are some candidates

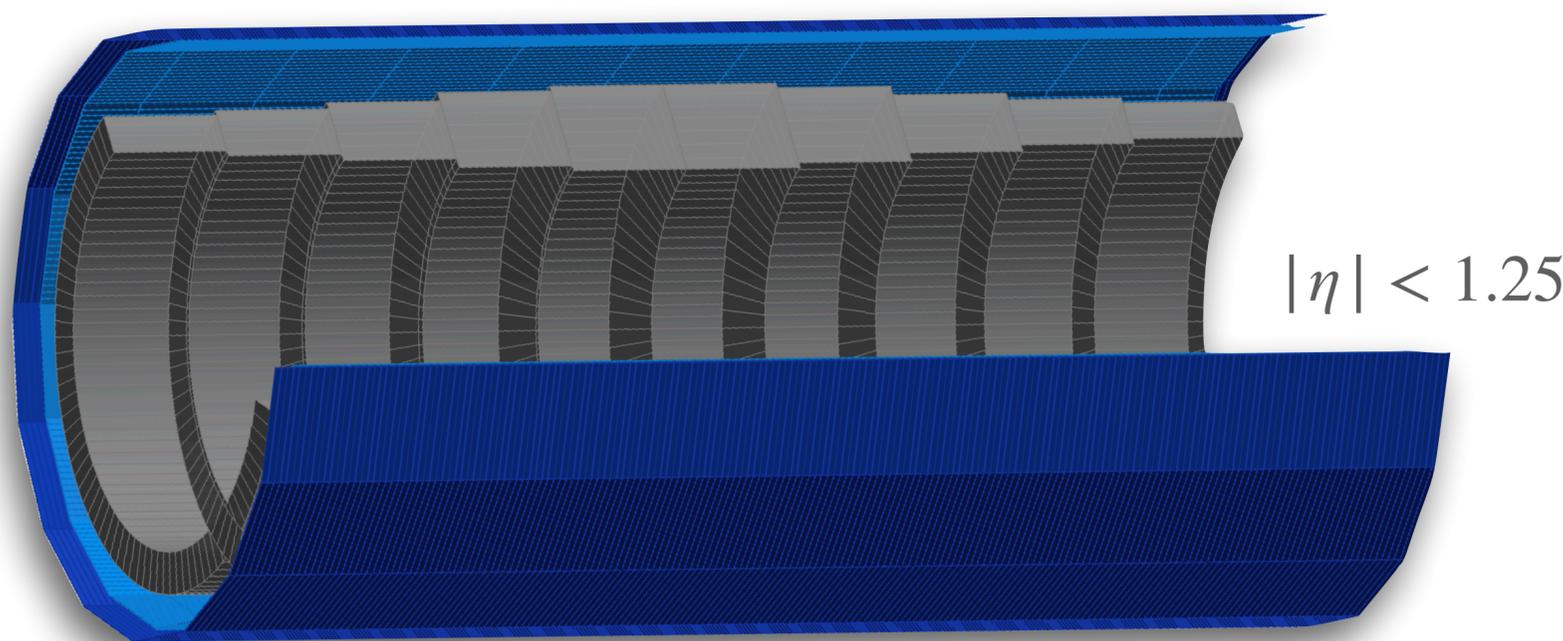
- Plastic scintillators and silicon photomultiplier (SiPM) for readout
- Multi-Wire Proportional Chambers (MWPCs)
- Resistive Plate Chambers (RPCs)

# MID (plastic scintillator option)

## Baseline option:

Low cost plastic scintillator bars (FNAL-NICADD) equipped with wave-length shifting fibers and SiPM

- **simplicity** (no need of gas mixture)
- **excellent timing resolution** (ns)
- **good performance on light-yield output** (around 40 photoelectrons)



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TECHNICAL REPORT

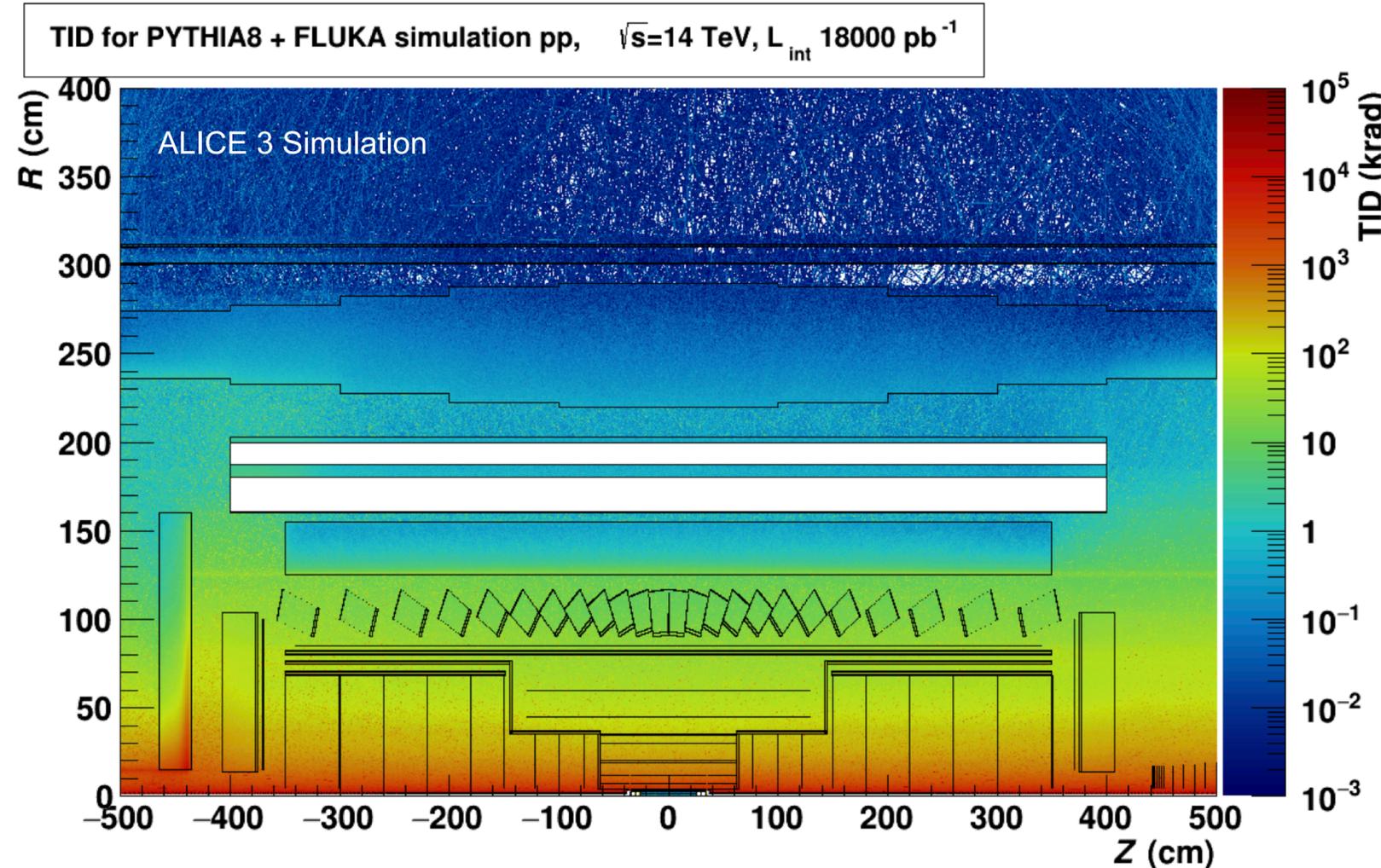
**Characterisation of plastic scintillator paddles and lightweight MWPCs for the MID subsystem of ALICE 3**

Ruben Alfaro,<sup>a</sup> Mauricio Alvarado Hernández,<sup>b</sup> Gyula Bencédi,<sup>c</sup>  
 Juan Carlos Cabanillas Noris,<sup>d</sup> Marco Antonio Díaz Maldonado,<sup>b</sup>  
 Carlos Duarte Galvan,<sup>c</sup> Arturo Fernández Téllez,<sup>f</sup> Gergely Gábor Barnaföldi,<sup>c</sup>  
 Ádám Gera,<sup>c</sup> Varlen Grabsky,<sup>a</sup> Gergő Hamar,<sup>c</sup> Gerardo Herrera Corral,<sup>g</sup>  
 Ildelfonso León Monzón,<sup>e</sup> Josué Martínez García,<sup>f</sup> Mario Iván Martínez Hernandez,<sup>f</sup>  
 Jesús Eduardo Muñoz Méndez,<sup>b</sup> Richárd Nagy,<sup>c</sup> Rafael Ángel Narcio Laveaga,<sup>d</sup>  
 Antonio Ortiz,<sup>b,\*</sup> Mario Rodríguez-Cahuantzi,<sup>f</sup> Solangel Rojas Torres,<sup>h</sup>  
 Tímea Szollosova,<sup>h</sup> Miguel Enrique Patiño Salazar,<sup>b</sup> Jared Pazarán García,<sup>b</sup>  
 Hector David Regules Medel,<sup>f</sup> Guillermo Tejeda Muñoz,<sup>f</sup> Paola Vargas Torres,<sup>b</sup>  
 Dezső Varga,<sup>c</sup> Róbert Vértesi,<sup>c</sup> Yael Antonio Vasquez Beltran,<sup>f</sup>  
 Carlos Rafael Vázquez Villamar<sup>b</sup> and Irandheny Yoval Pozos<sup>f</sup>

R. Alfaro et. al., JINST 19 (2024) 04, T04006

|                                 | Absorber | MID layer 1 | MID layer 2 |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Inner radius (m)                | 2.20     | 3.01        | 3.11        |
| Outer radius (m)                | 2.90     | 3.02        | 3.12        |
| Total length (m)                | 10       | 10          | 10.5        |
| No. of sectors in $z$           | 9        | 10          | 10          |
| No. of sectors in $\varphi$     | 1        | 16          | 16          |
| Scintillator bar length (cm)    | –        | 99.8        | 123.5       |
| Scintillator bar width (cm)     | –        | 5.0         | 5.0         |
| Scintillator bar thickness (cm) | –        | 1.0         | 1.0         |

# Radiation load studies for ALICE 3

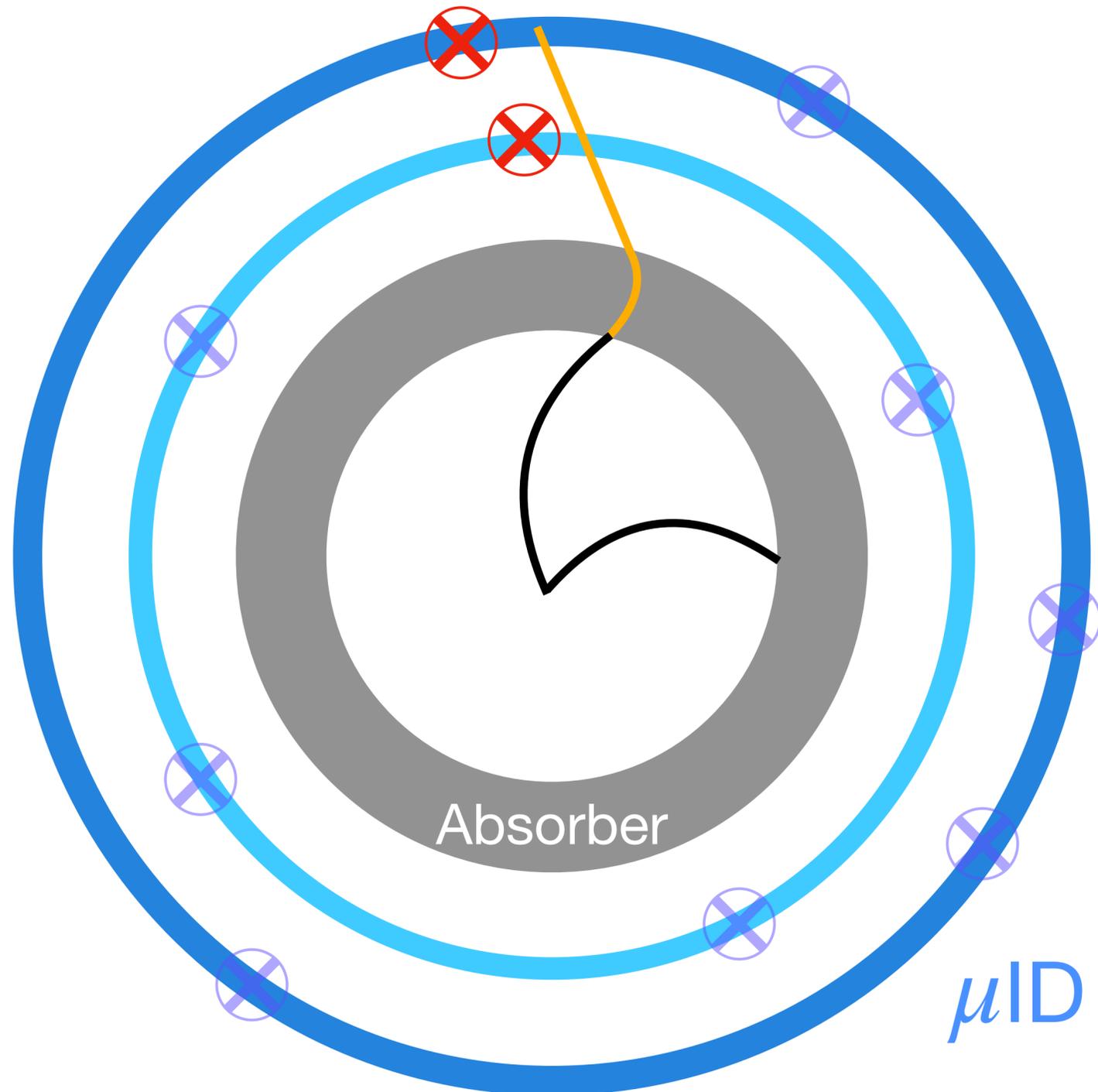


|                                   | pp                   | Pb-Pb             |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| TID (rad)                         | 54                   | 0.94              |
| NIEL (1 MeV neq/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | $3.4 \times 10^{10}$ | $4.7 \times 10^8$ |

Table. Radiation load in the MID simulated with FLUKA for the Run 5+6 period

- **No significant decrease in light yield** due to the expected TID for baseline option scintillators [FERMILAB-PUB-05-344]
- **Our typical signals ~40 photoelectrons**, therefore single photoelectron detection with the SiPM is not required (impossible at  $10^{11}$  MeV neq/ cm<sup>2</sup> at room temp.) [Nucl. Instrum. Meth. Phys. Res A, A 922 (2019)]

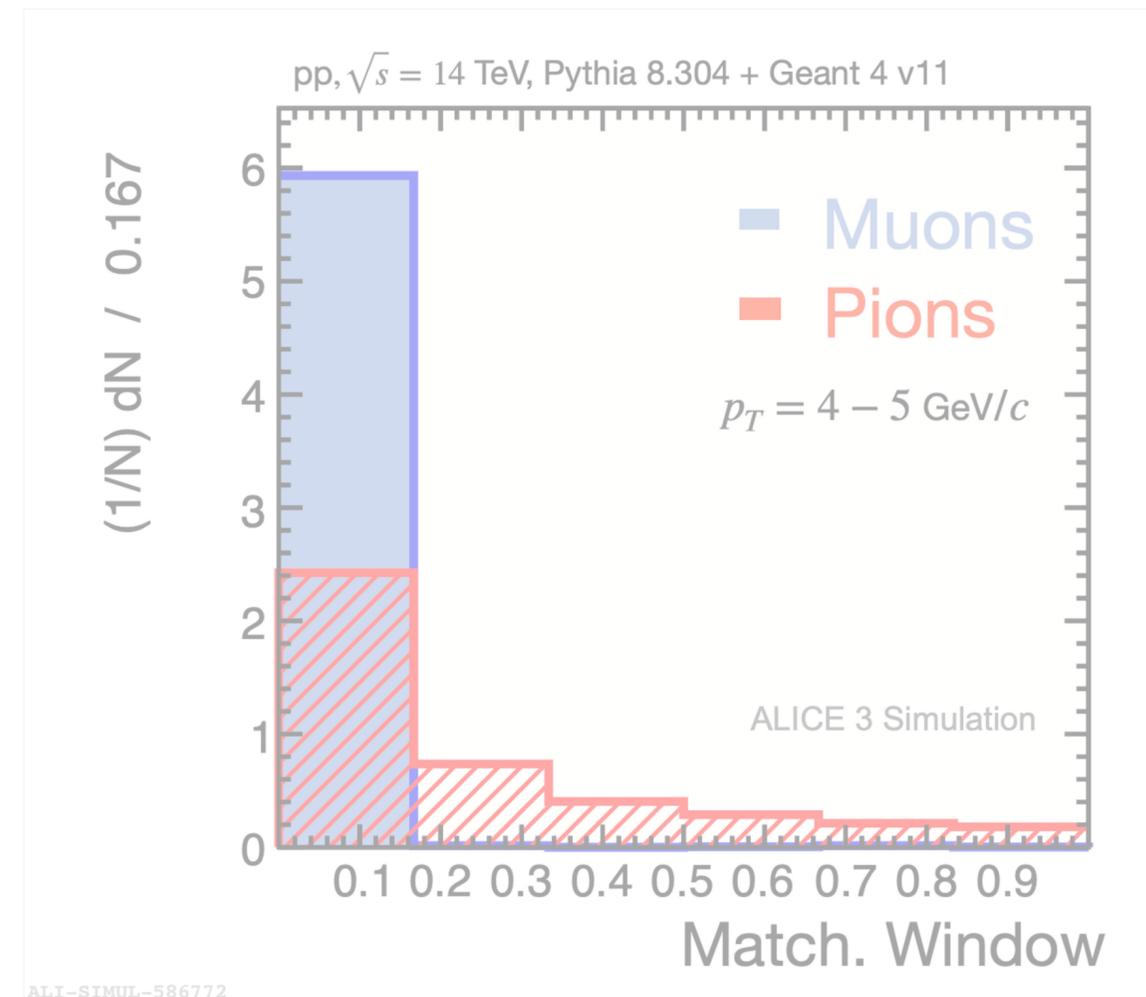
# Muon tagging



- Muon tagging is done by matching **activated bars** in the MID with tracks from the tracker
- All primary tracks are extrapolated to the MID
- Selection criteria are obtained via **boosted decision trees (BDT)**

## How to pick a set of **variables** for the training of the BDT?

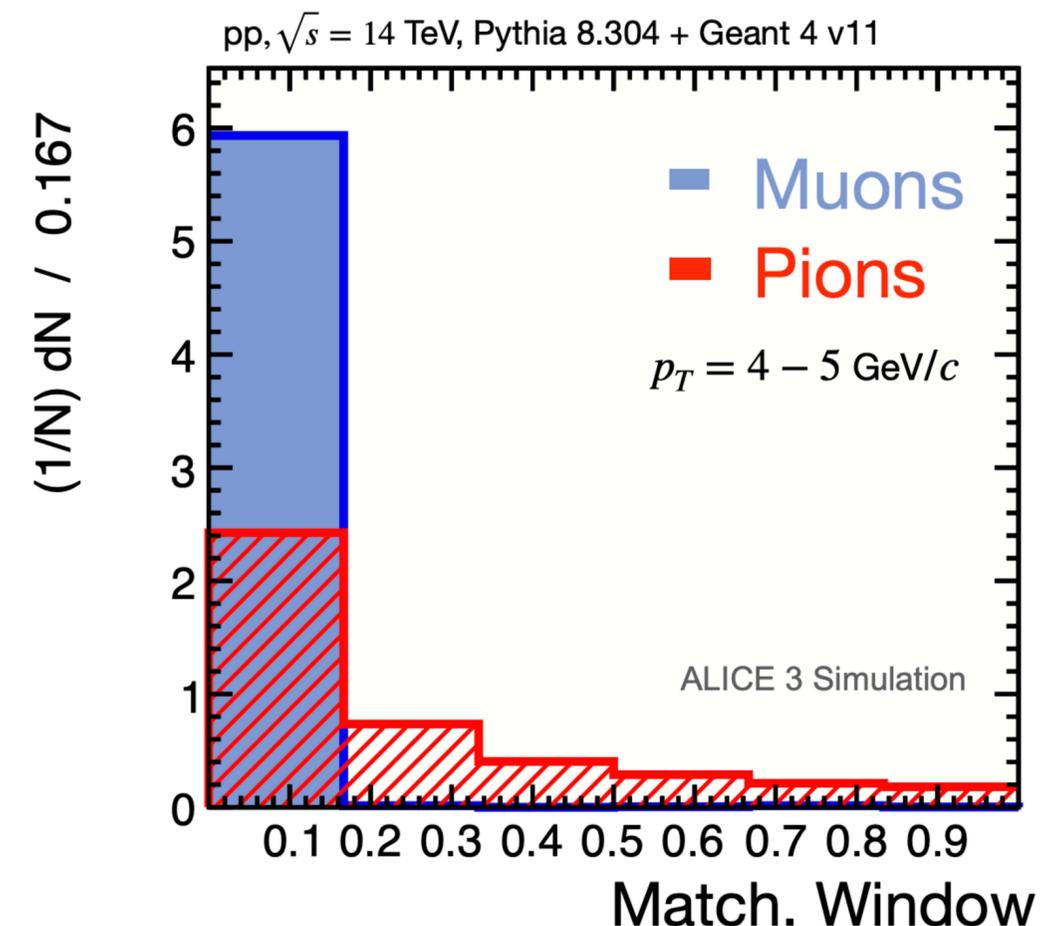
- Momentum before the absorber
- **Matching window** ( $\Delta\eta$ ,  $\Delta\phi$ )
- Number of bars activated around the extrapolation
- **Highest energy deposition** in the activated bars around to the extrapolation
- **Arrival time**



$$MW = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2} = \sqrt{(\eta^{\text{extr.}} - \eta^{\text{bar}})^2 + (\phi^{\text{extr.}} - \phi^{\text{bar}})^2}$$

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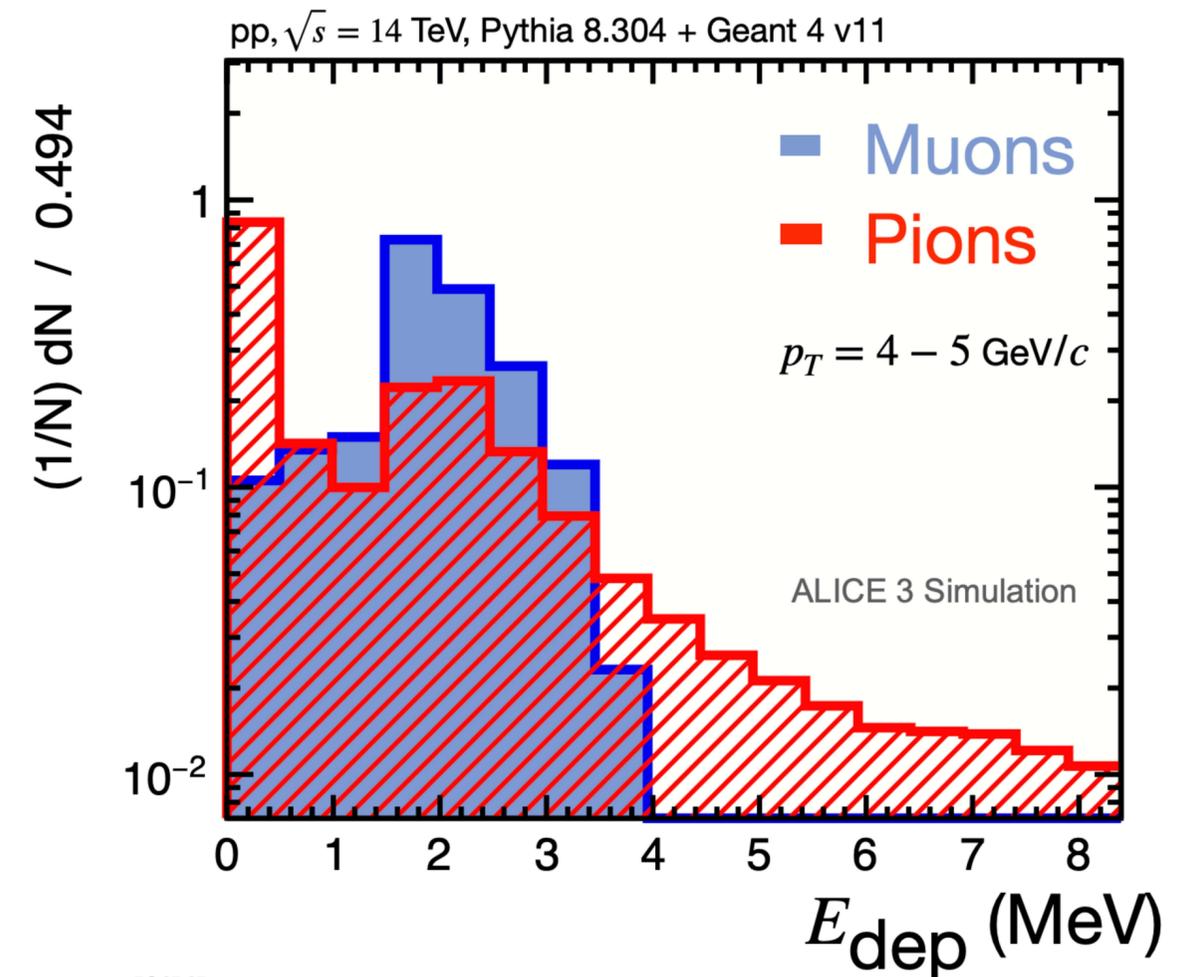


ALI-SIMUL-586772

$$MW = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2} = \sqrt{(\eta^{\text{extr.}} - \eta^{\text{bar}})^2 + (\phi^{\text{extr.}} - \phi^{\text{bar}})^2}$$

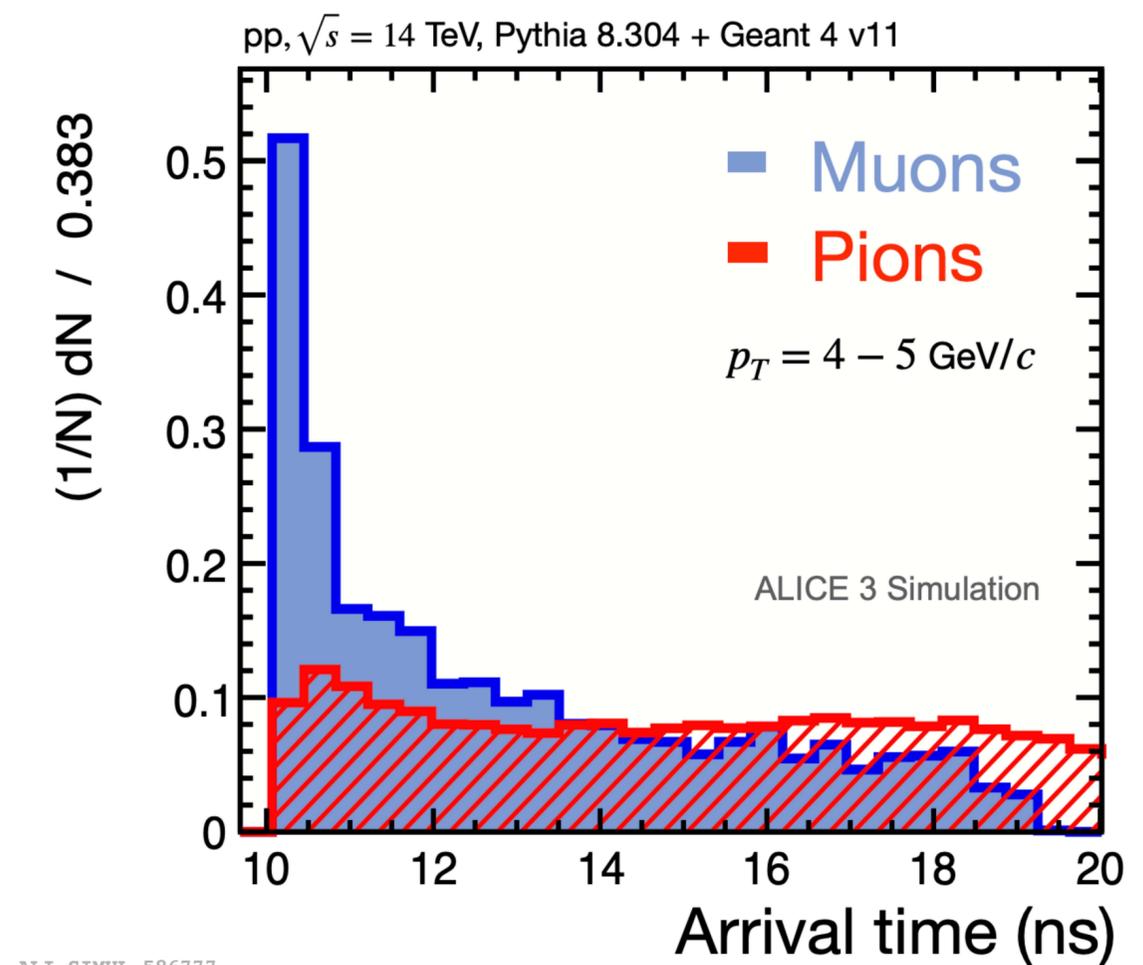
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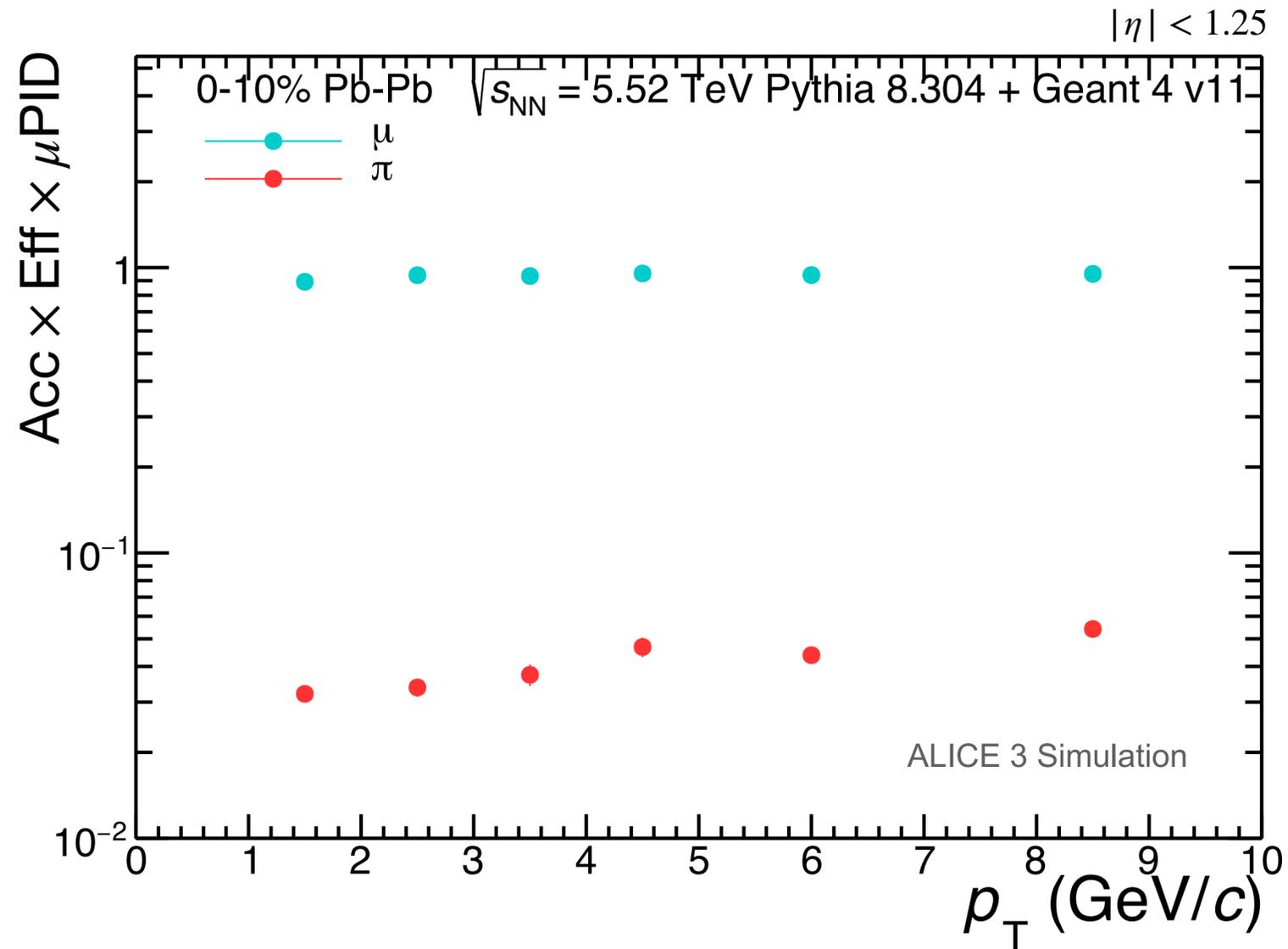
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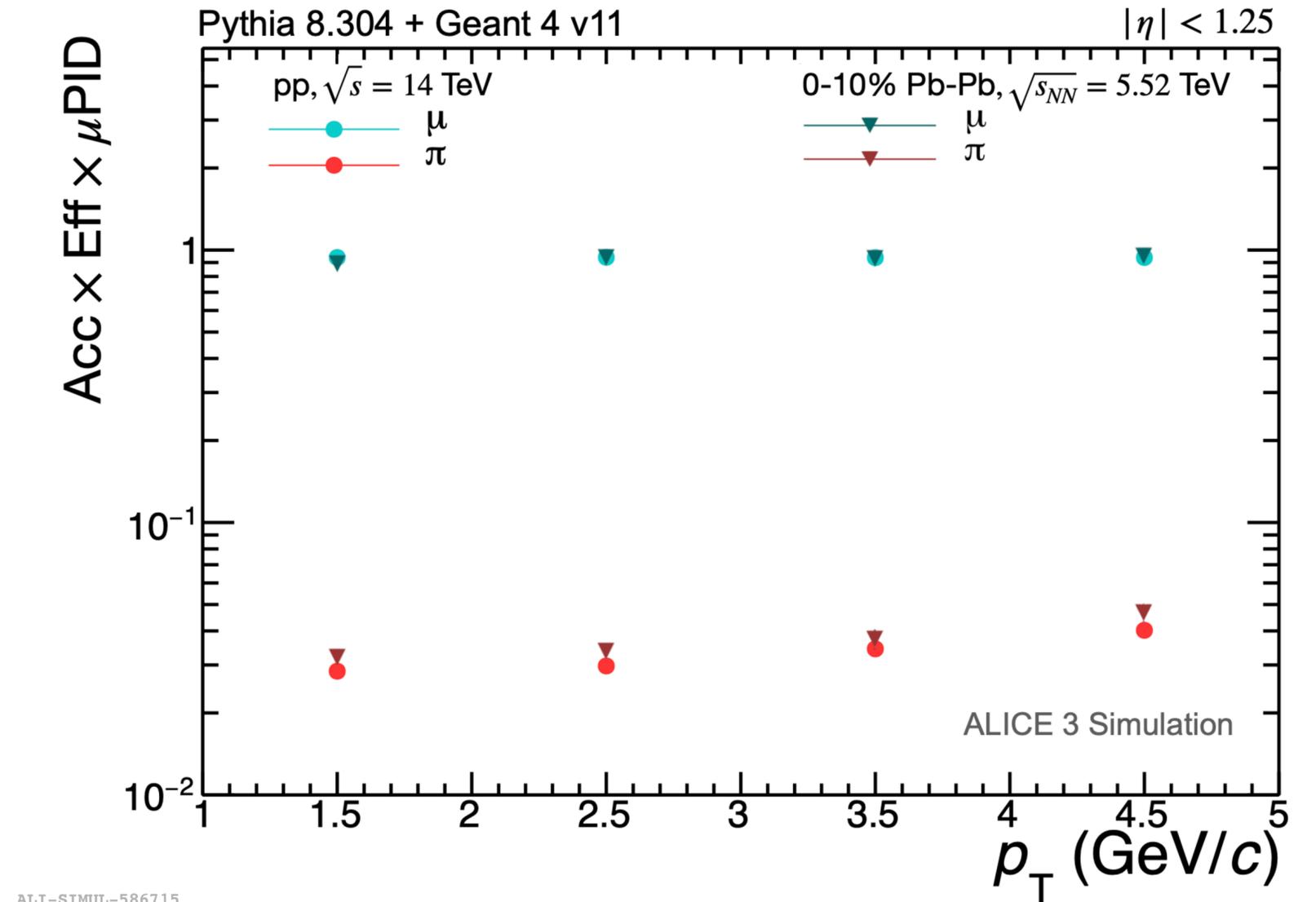
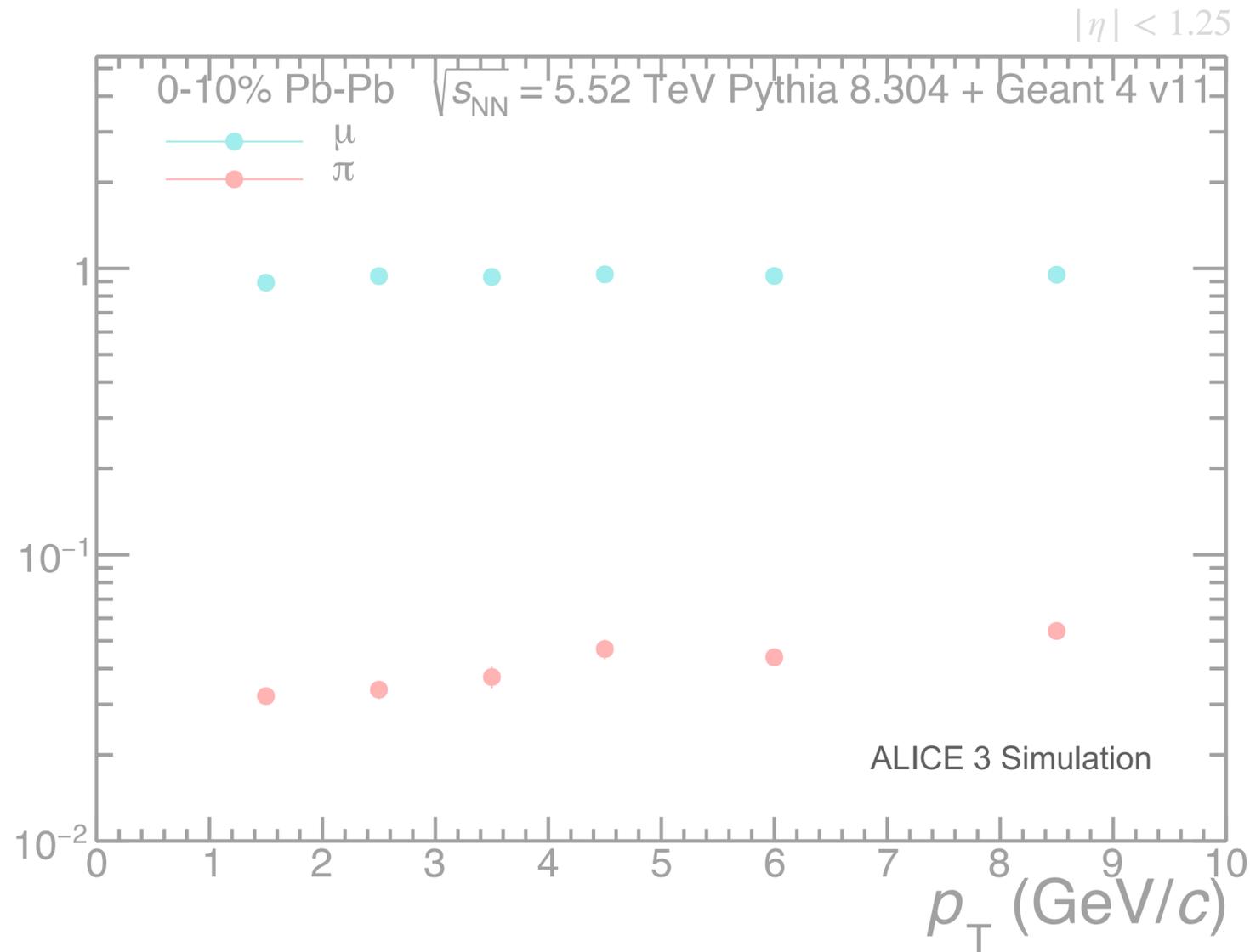
ALI-SIMUL-586777

# Pb-Pb and pp performance



- **Muon efficiency** around 94% for  $p_T > 1.5$  GeV/c
- **Pion rejection** at the level of 3-5%

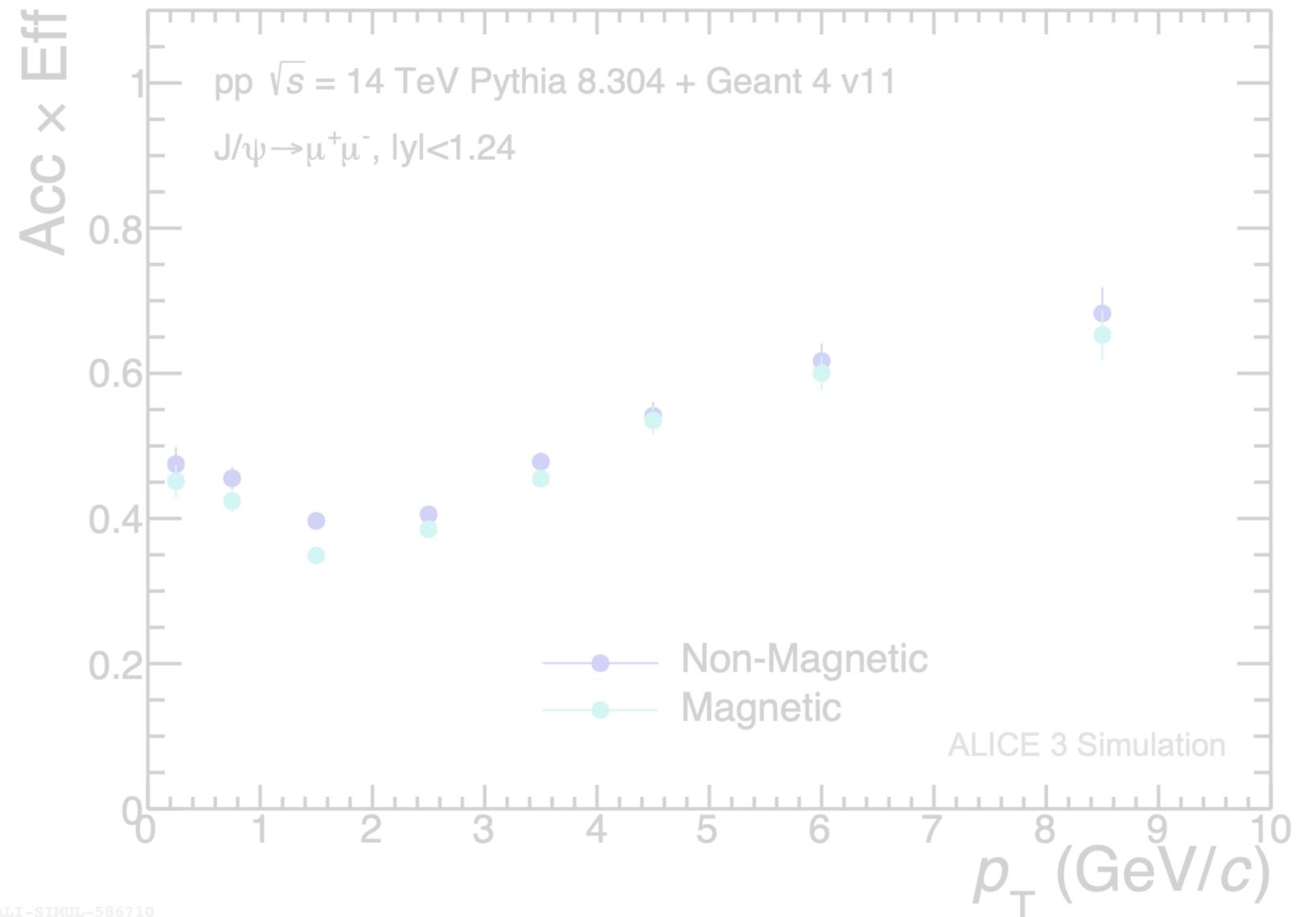
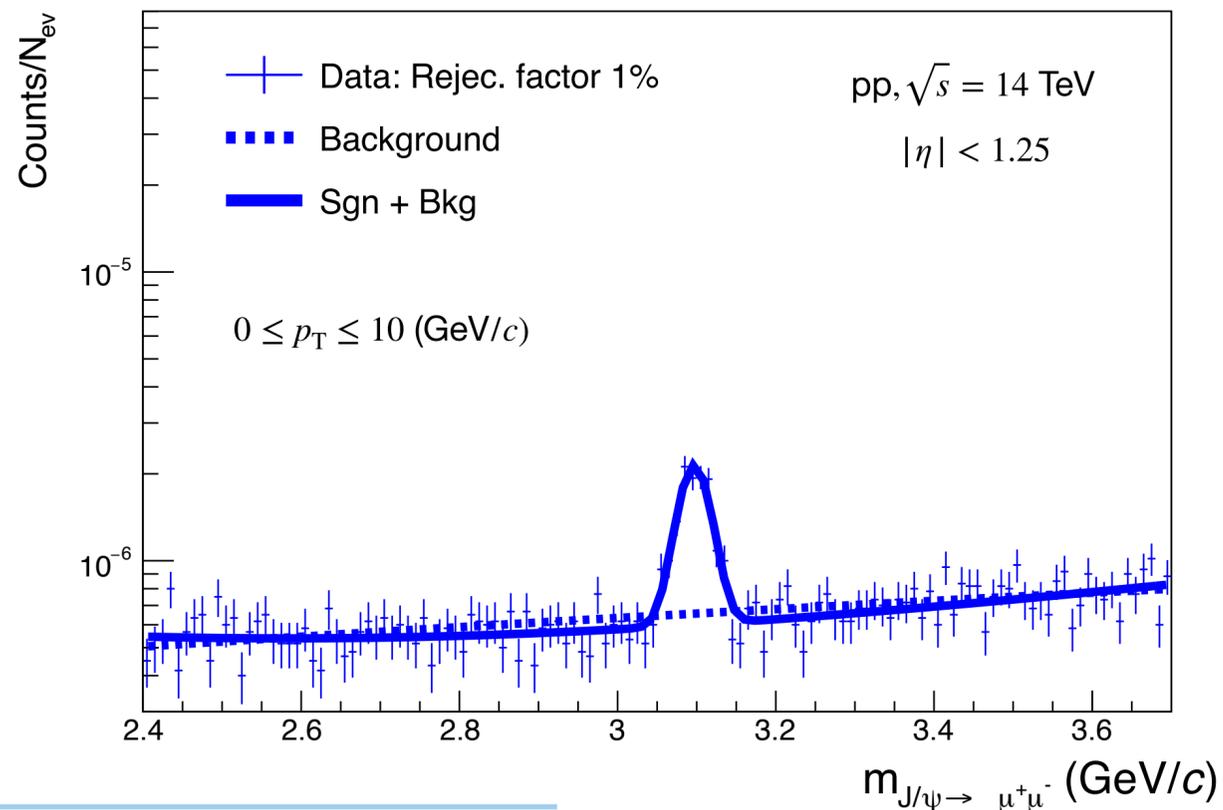
# Pb-Pb and pp performance



- Slightly above to the the pion rejection factor obtained in **pp simulations**

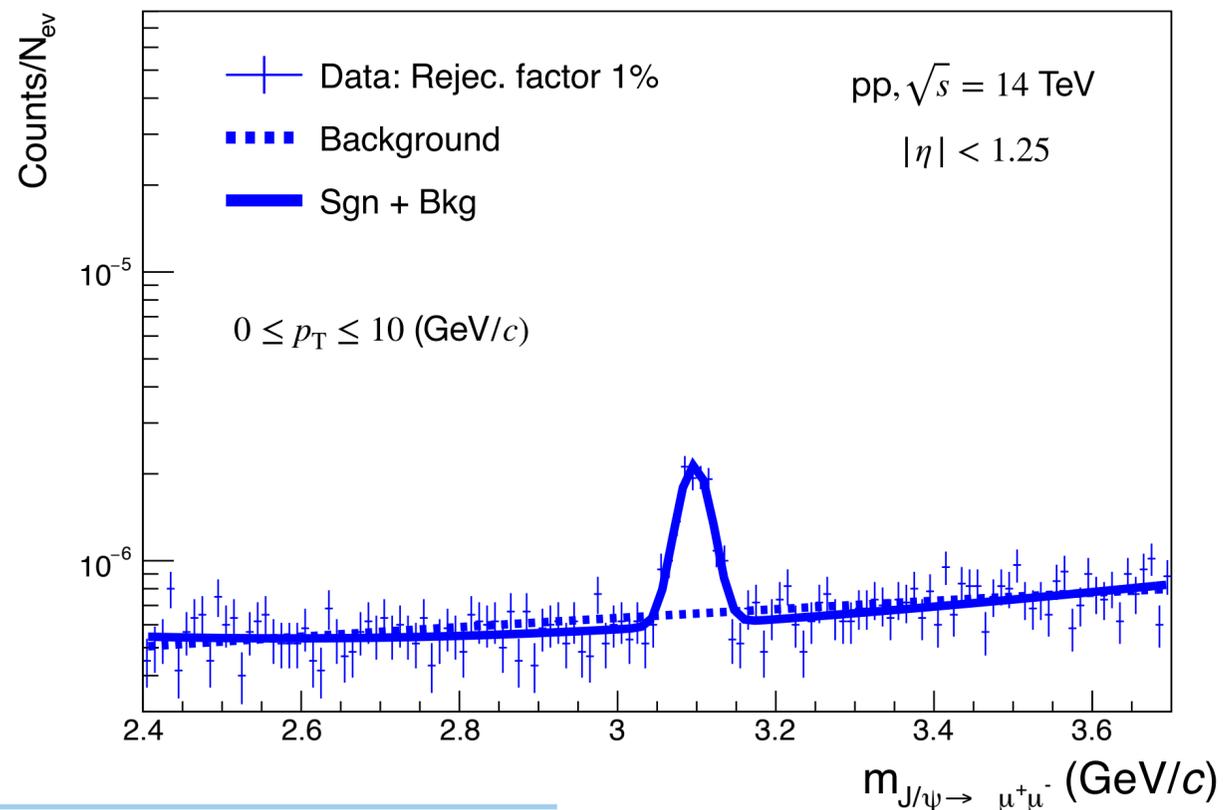
# $J/\psi$ reconstruction

The MID will allow the reconstruction of  $J/\psi$  down to  $p_T = 0$  via its dimuon decay channel

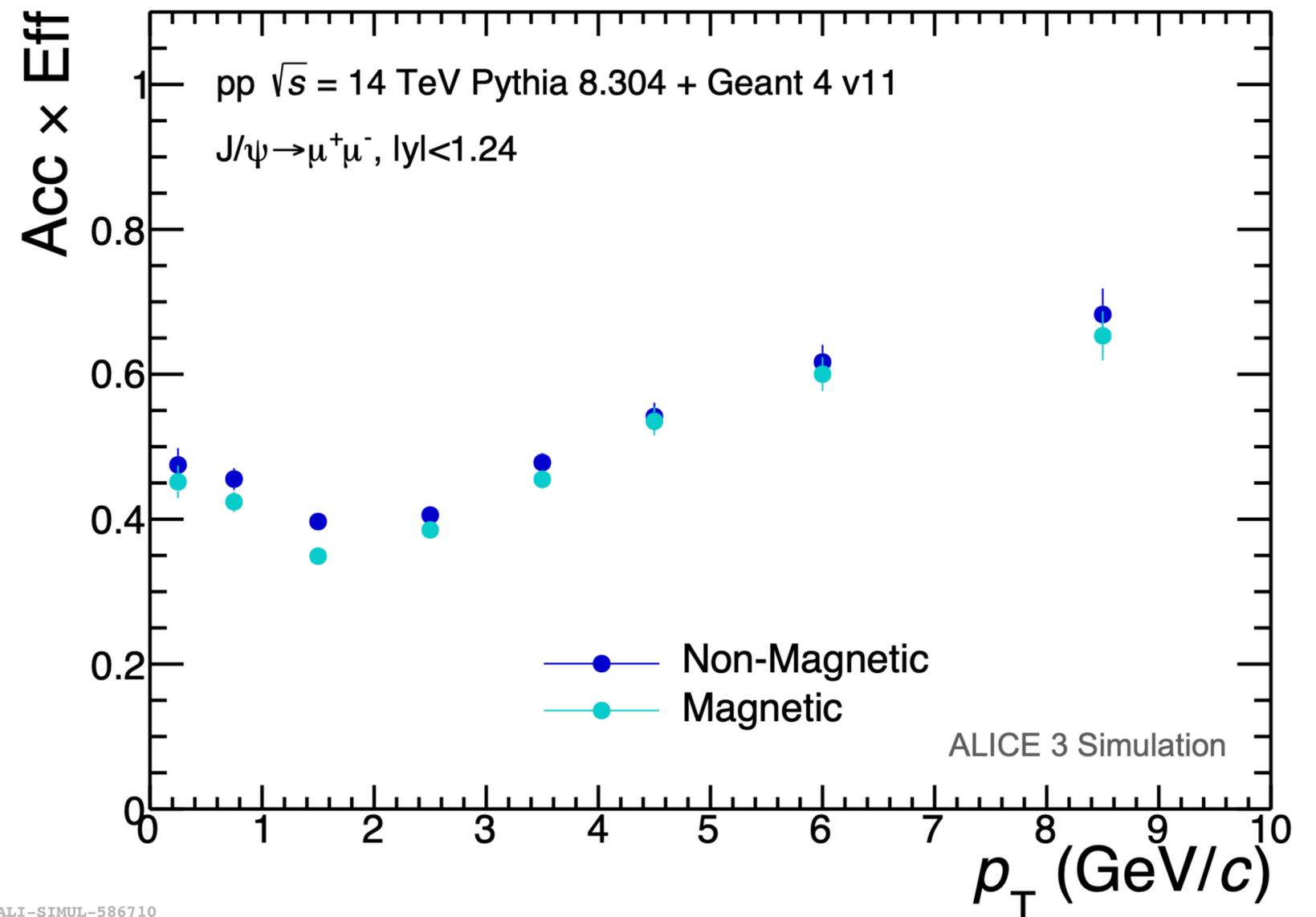


# $J/\psi$ reconstruction

The MID will allow the reconstruction of  $J/\psi$  down to  $p_T = 0$  via its dimuon decay channel



Reconstruction efficiency is **weakly affected** by the choice of the absorber



# $J/\psi$ reconstruction

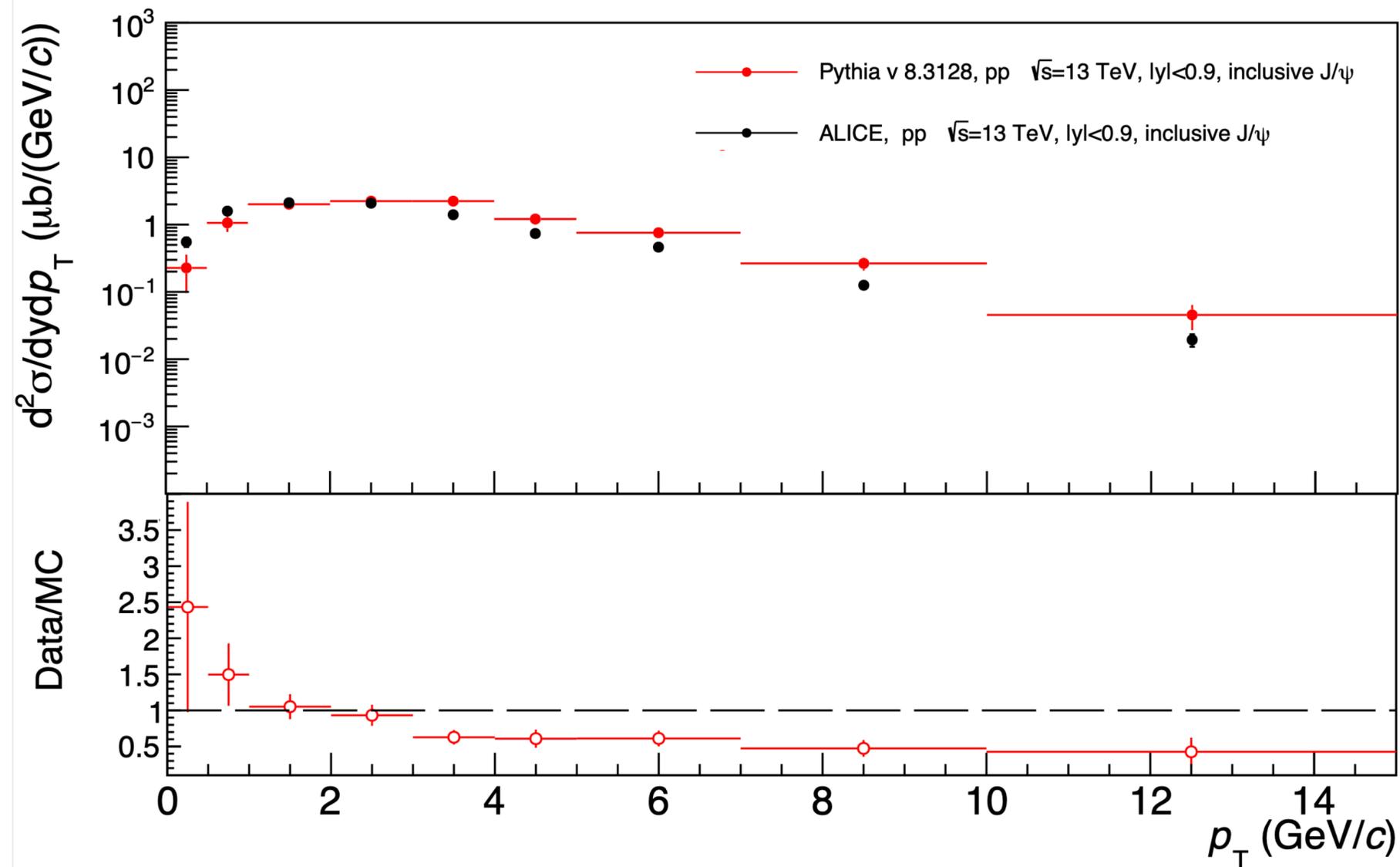


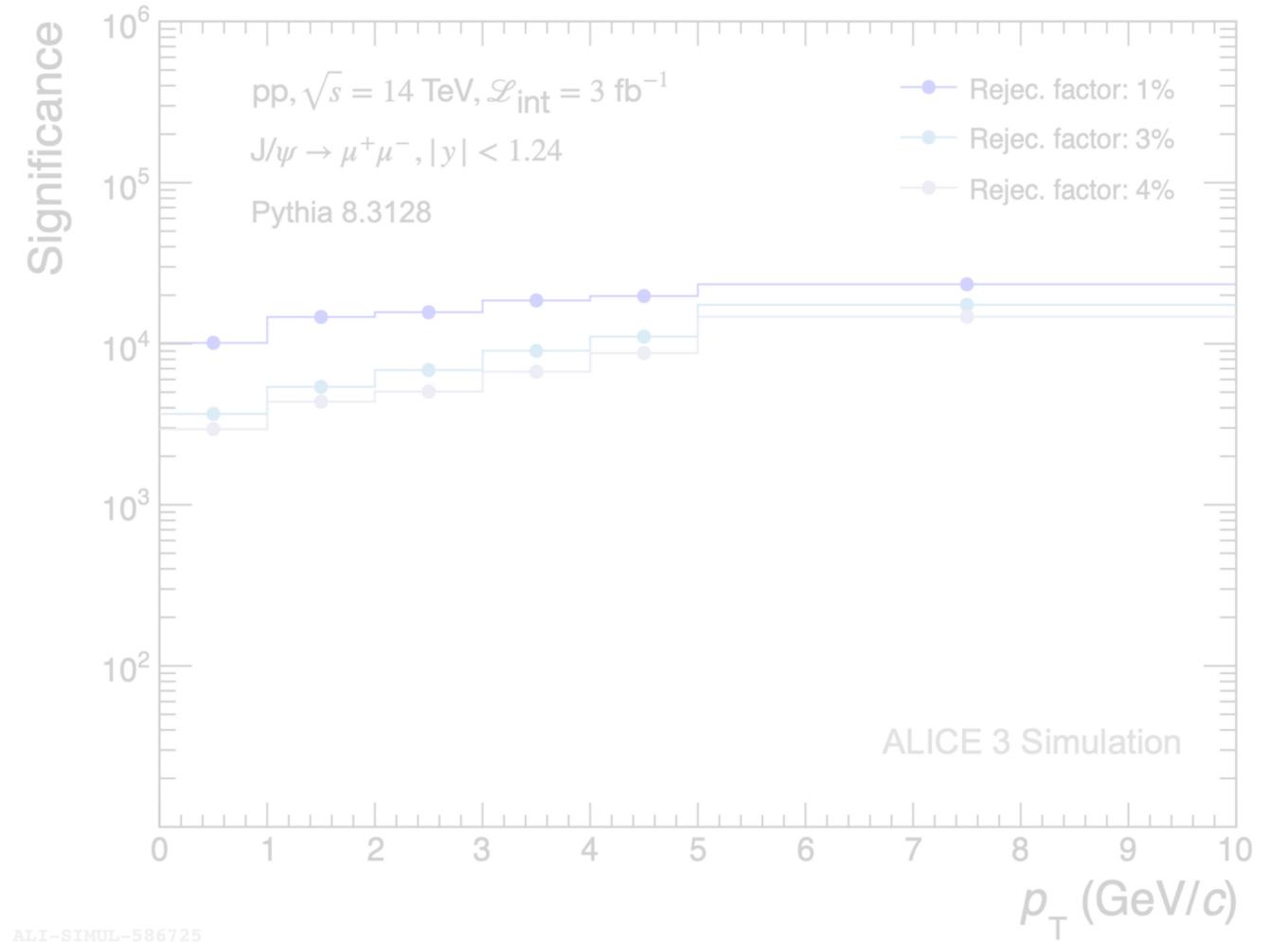
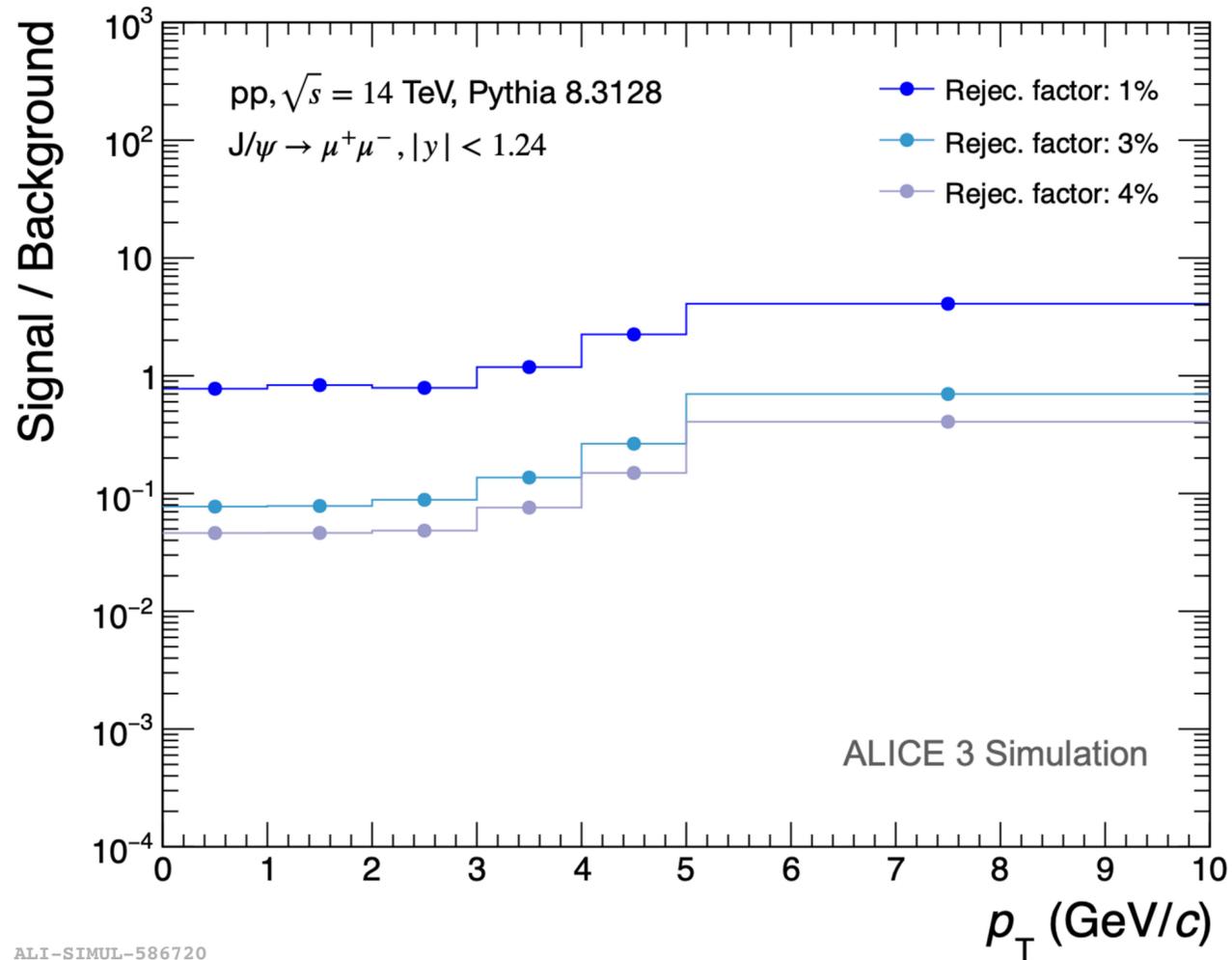
Fig. Inclusive  $J/\psi$  production cross section at midrapidity in pp collisions. Data taken from [ALICE, Eur. Phys. J. C 81, 1121 (2021)]

## Disclaimer:

In the following results, PYTHIA's cross section needs to be corrected in order to match experimental measurements of  $J/\psi$ .

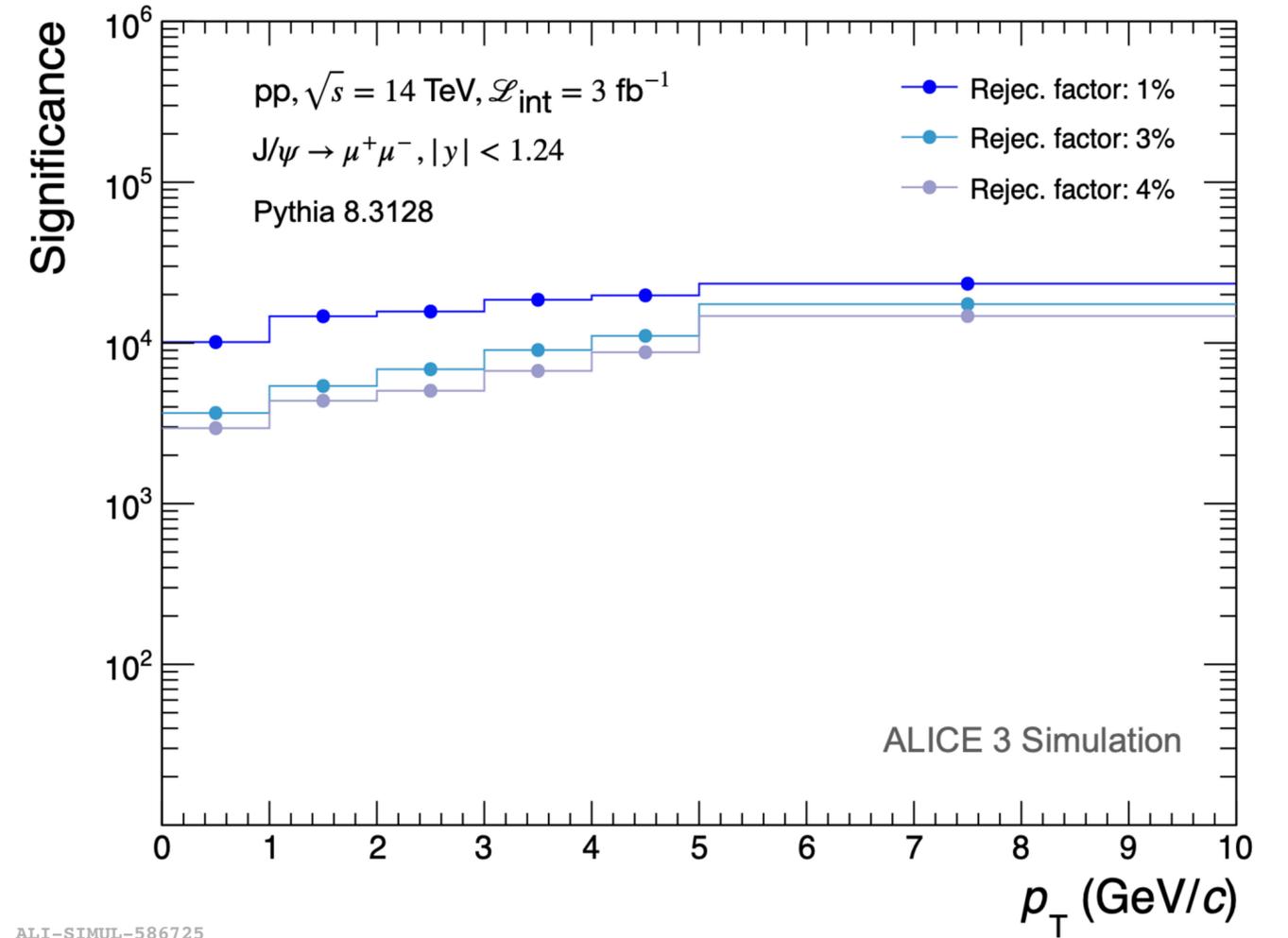
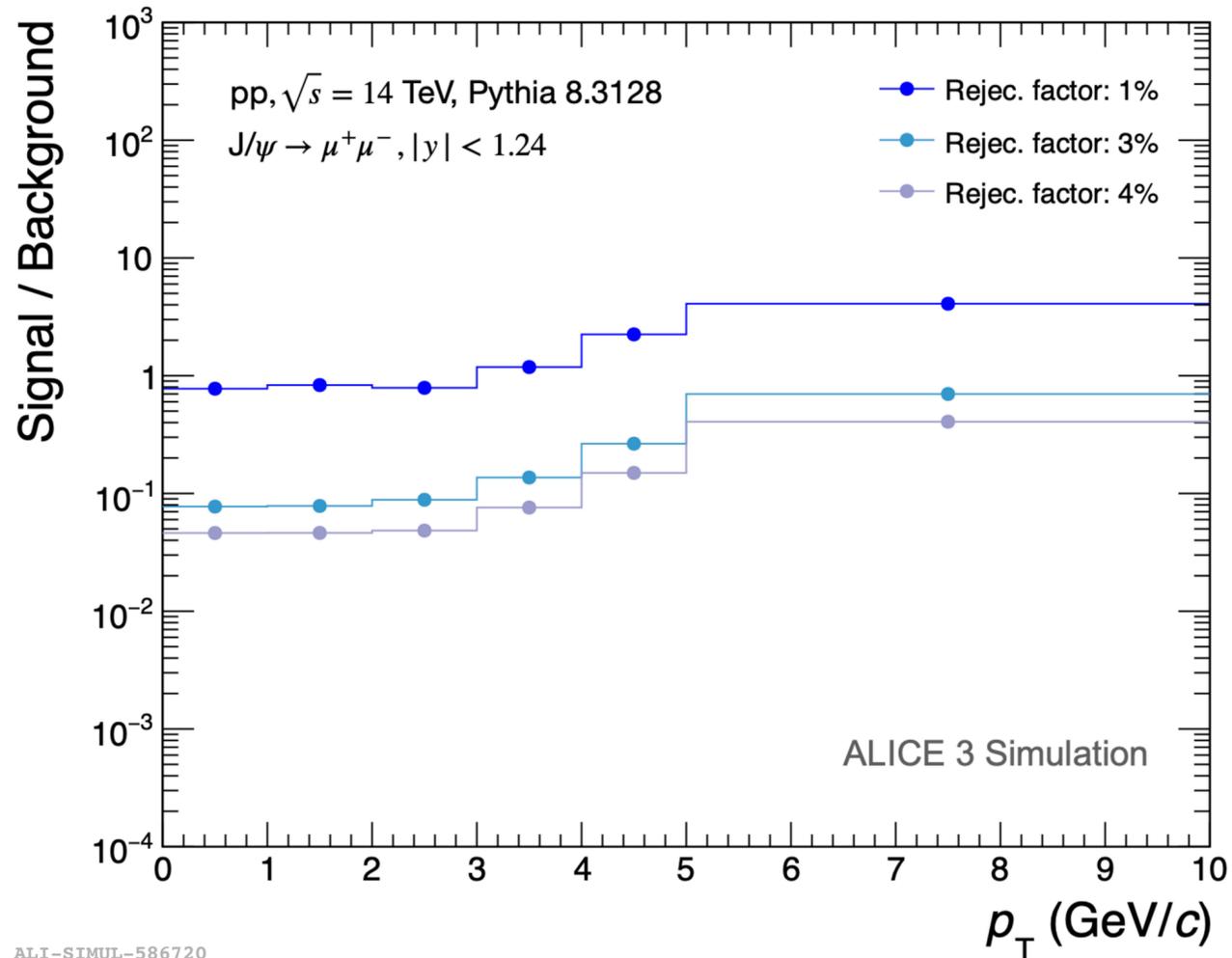
Nonetheless, we still can make some remarks without this correction...

# $J/\psi$ reconstruction (pp collisions)



Even though the signal-to-background ratio varies with the **pion rejection factors...**

# $J/\psi$ reconstruction (pp collisions)



Even though the signal-to-background ratio varies with the **pion rejection factors**...

...the **significance is less affected**, ensuring reliable detection of the signal across different conditions

# Summary

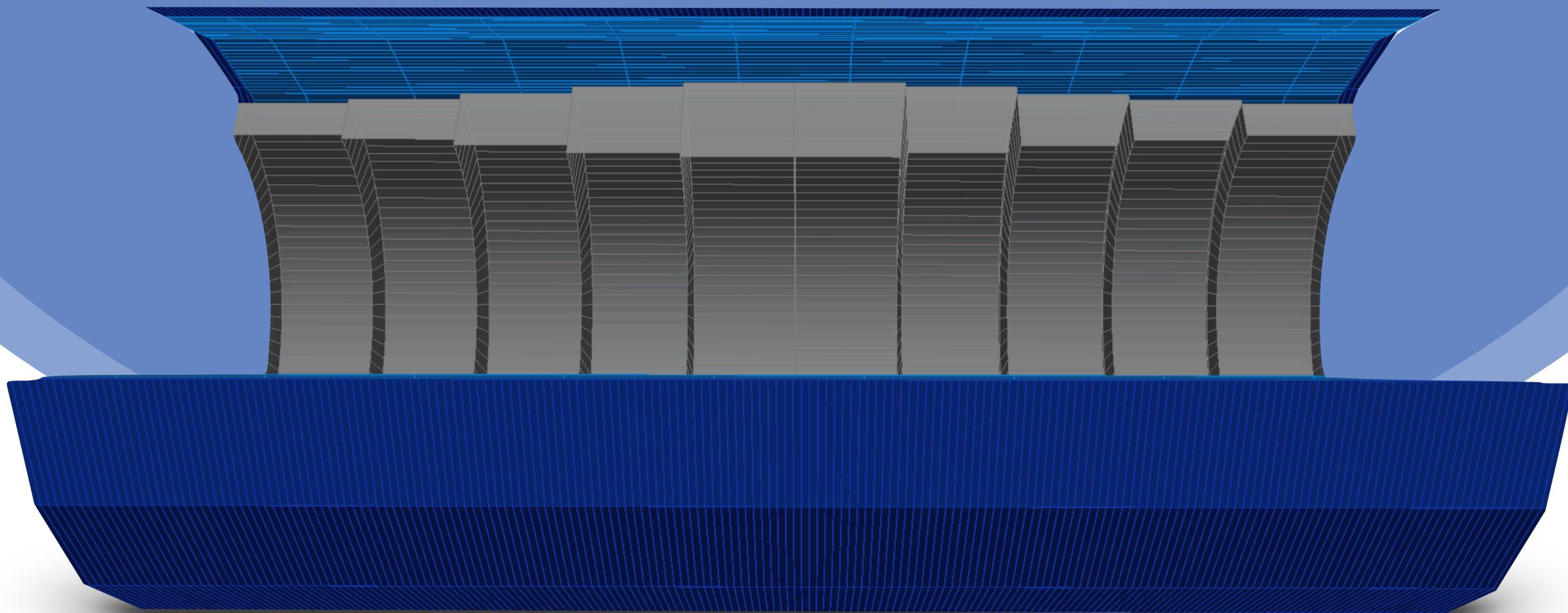
ALICE 3 will provide access to further understand the hottest- and longest-lived QGP available in any laboratory, with the MID playing an important role in this exploration

- **Simulations of the MID show a competitive performance in both pp and Pb-Pb simulations**
- **Significance results suggest that detecting reliable signals under varying pion rejection factors is plausible**
- **The expected radiation load does not represent a problem for plastic scintillators + SiPM**
- **Results on a first prototype of the MID are on their way** ( see Antonio Paz talk: 05/11/24, 19:15 [QCD2] )

**Scintillators represent an excellent candidate for the MID**

(very simple, robust, cheap, excellent timing performance)

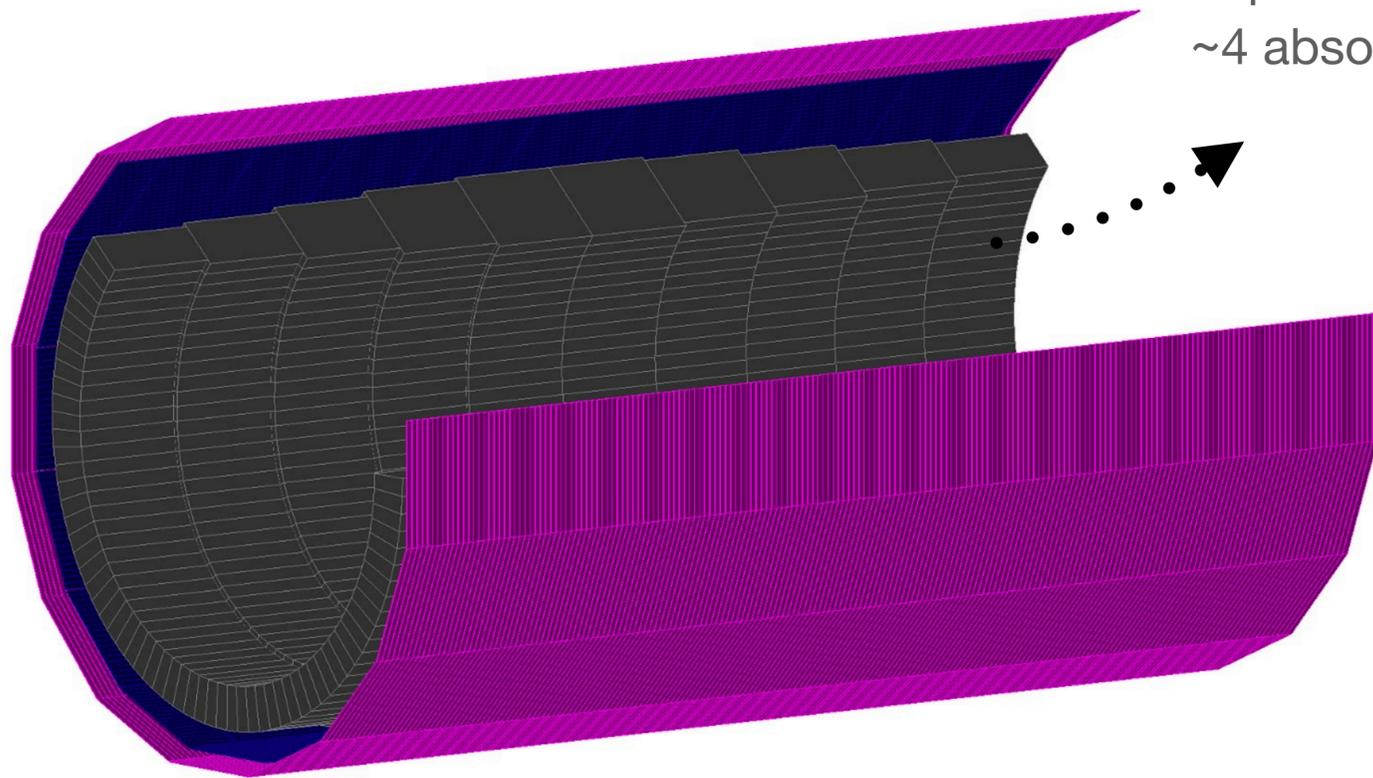
Thank you  
for your attention!



**Backup**

# MID specifications

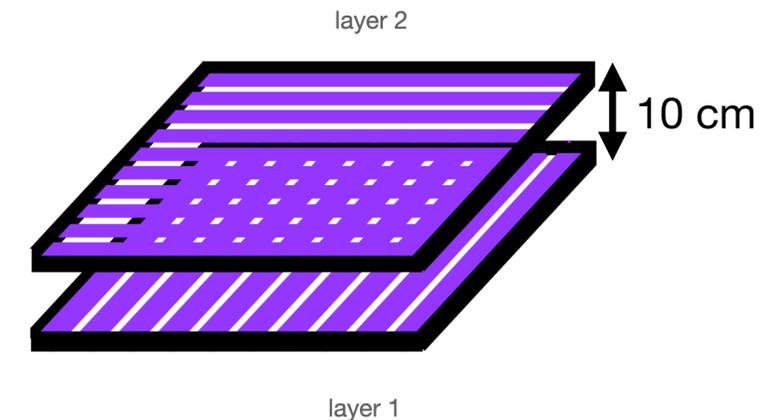
$$|\eta| < 1.25$$



Iron absorber,  
pseudorapidity-  
dependent thickness:  
~4 absorption lengths

|                           | Absorber | MID layer 1 | MID layer 2 |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Inner radius (m)          | 220      | 301         | 311         |
| Outer radius (m)          | 290      | 302         | 312         |
| z range (m)               | 10       | 10          | 10.5        |
| No. sectors in z          | 9        | 10          | 10          |
| No. sectors in $\phi$     | 1        | 16          | 16          |
| Scint. bar length (cm)    |          | 99.8        | 123.5       |
| Scint. bar width (cm)     |          | 5.0         | 5.0         |
| Scint. bar thickness (cm) |          | 1.0         | 1.0         |

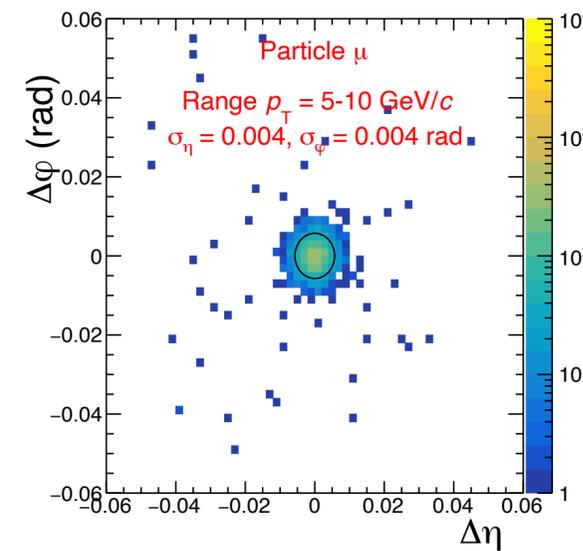
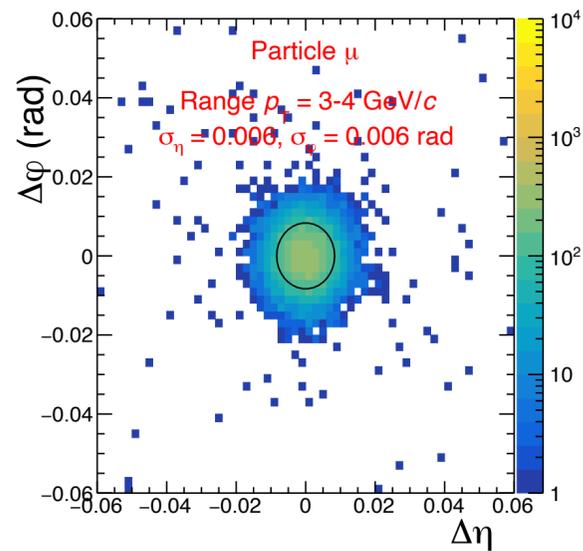
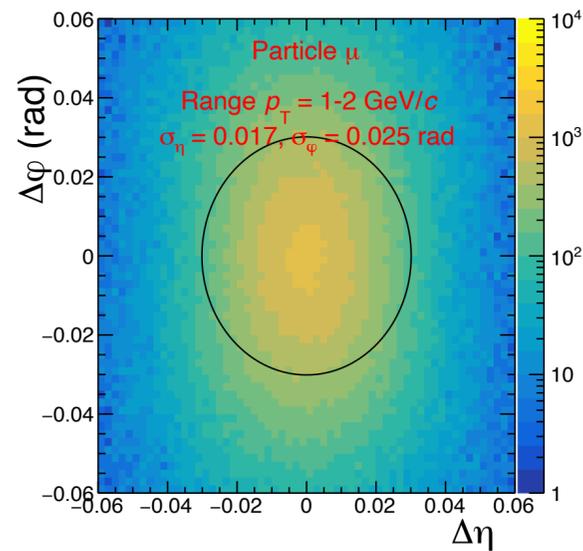
No. of bars  
4048 in layer 1  
3200 in layer 2



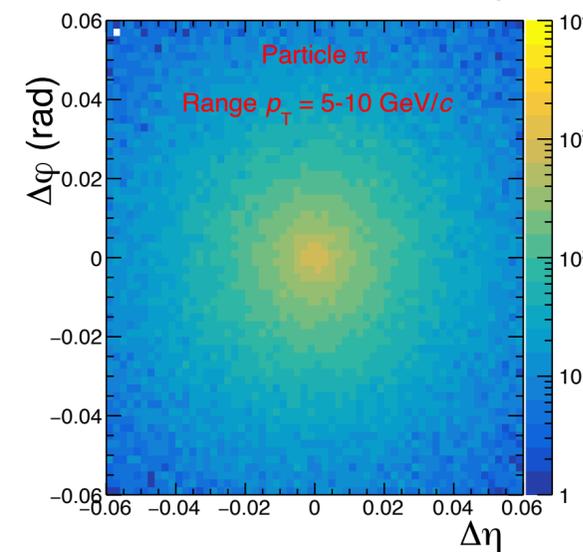
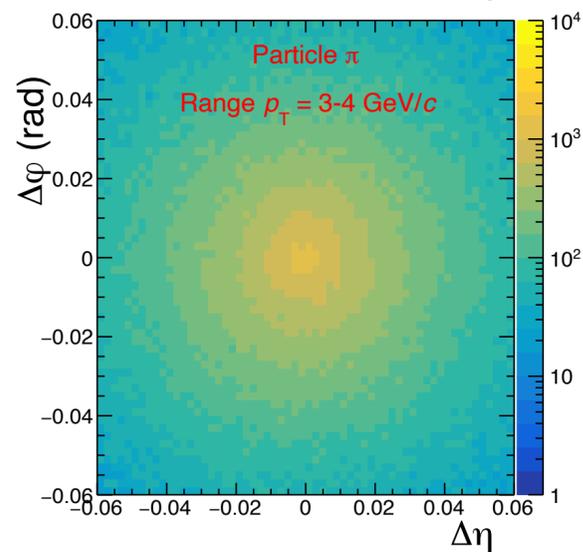
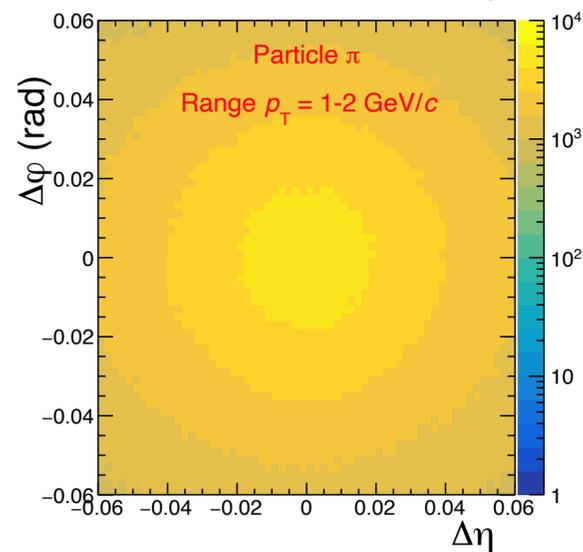
One of the proposals for the MID are **plastic scintillators equipped with wavelength-shifting fiber and SiPM for readout**

# Matching window ( $\Delta\eta$ , $\Delta\phi$ )

$\mu$   $\rightarrow$



$\pi$   $\rightarrow$

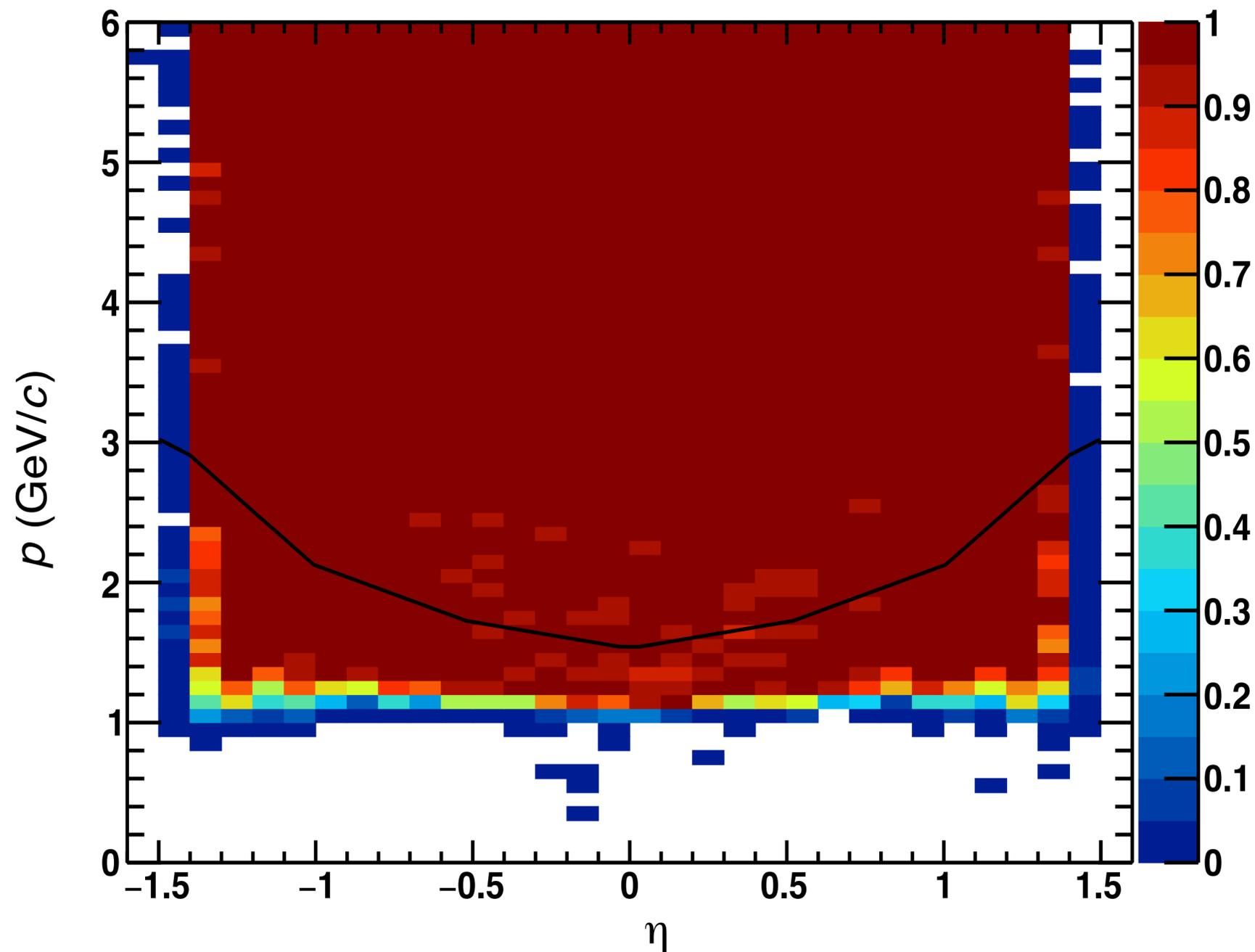


$$\Delta\phi = \phi^{\text{extr.}} - \phi^{\text{bar}}$$

$$\Delta\eta = \eta^{\text{extr.}} - \eta^{\text{bar}}$$

The muon candidates are those within the MW:  $R = \sqrt{\sigma_{\Delta\eta}^2 + \sigma_{\Delta\phi}^2}$

# Single muon acceptance vs $p$ and pseudorapidity



Solid black line:

approximate minimum momentum to have non-zero  $J/\psi$  acceptance down to

$$p_{\text{T}} = 0 \text{ and } |y| < 1.5$$

(Calculation by Antonio Uras)

Optimization of the absorber leads to good acceptance for  $J/\psi$