

# **Density dependent QCD effects in pp collisions**

## **Unexpected Revelations and Valuable Insights at LHC energies**

**Andreas Morsch  
CERN**

## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

insights for centrality selection

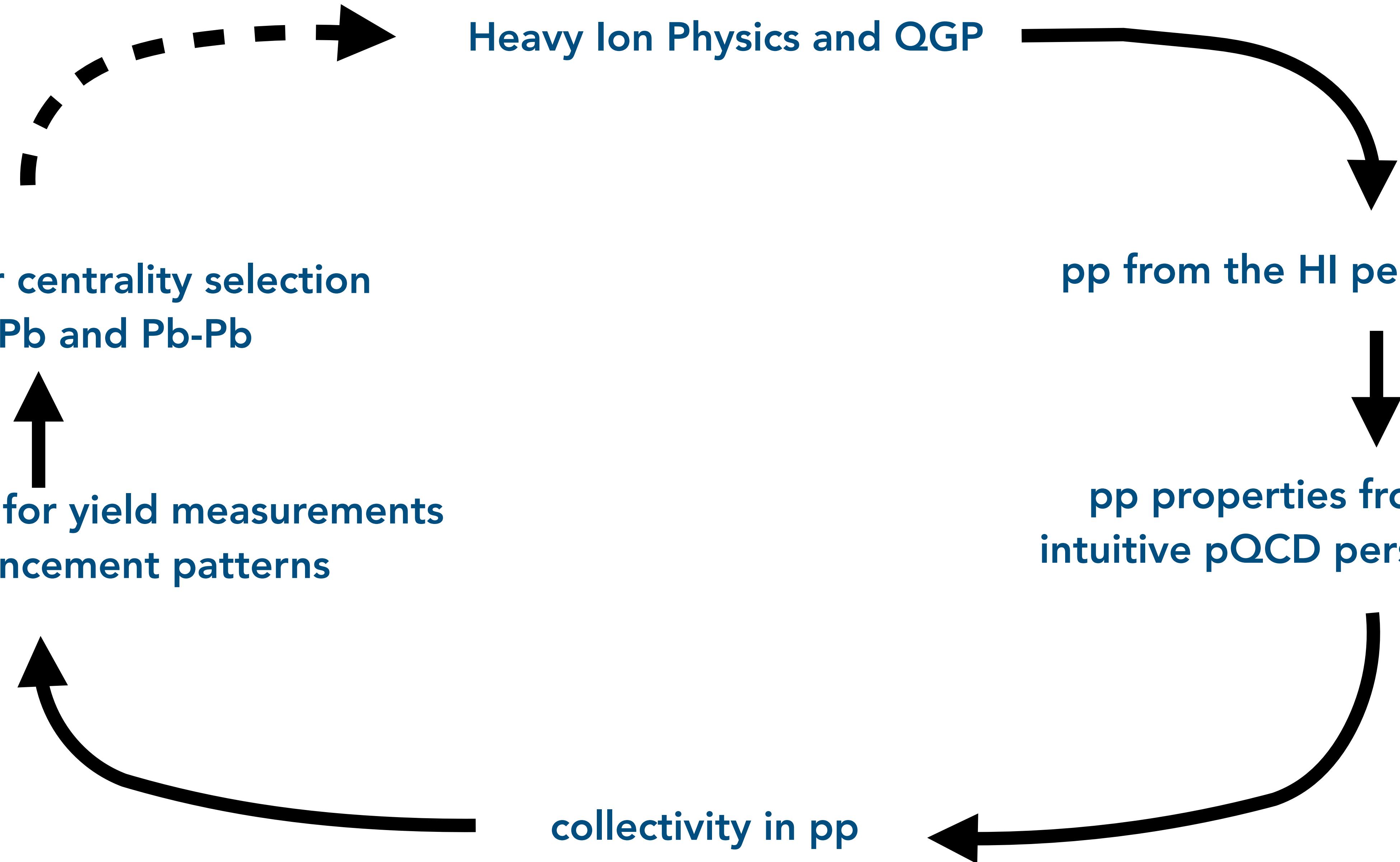
in p-Pb and Pb-Pb

challenges for yield measurements  
enhancement patterns

collectivity in pp

pp from the HI perspective

pp properties from an  
intuitive pQCD perspective



## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

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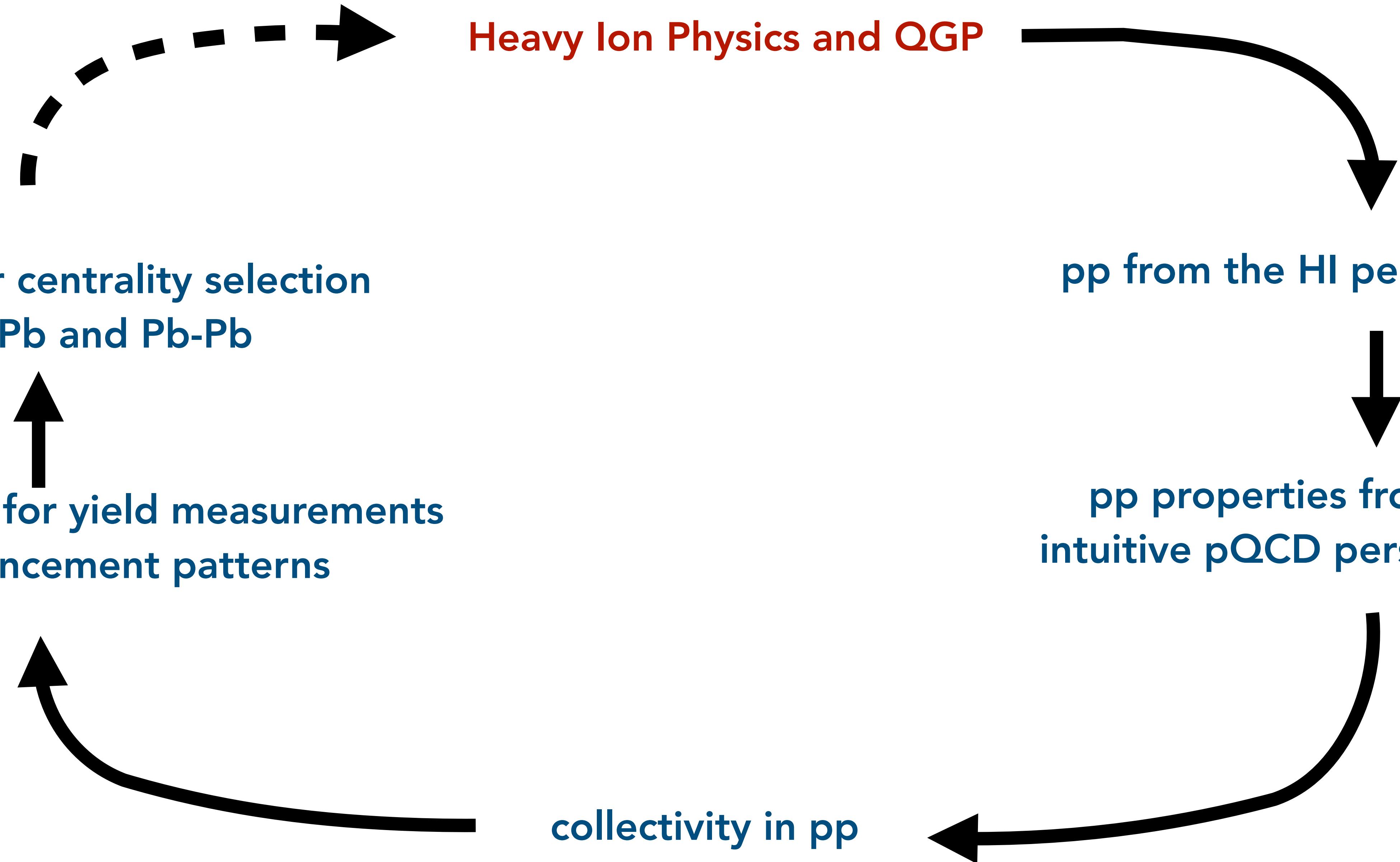
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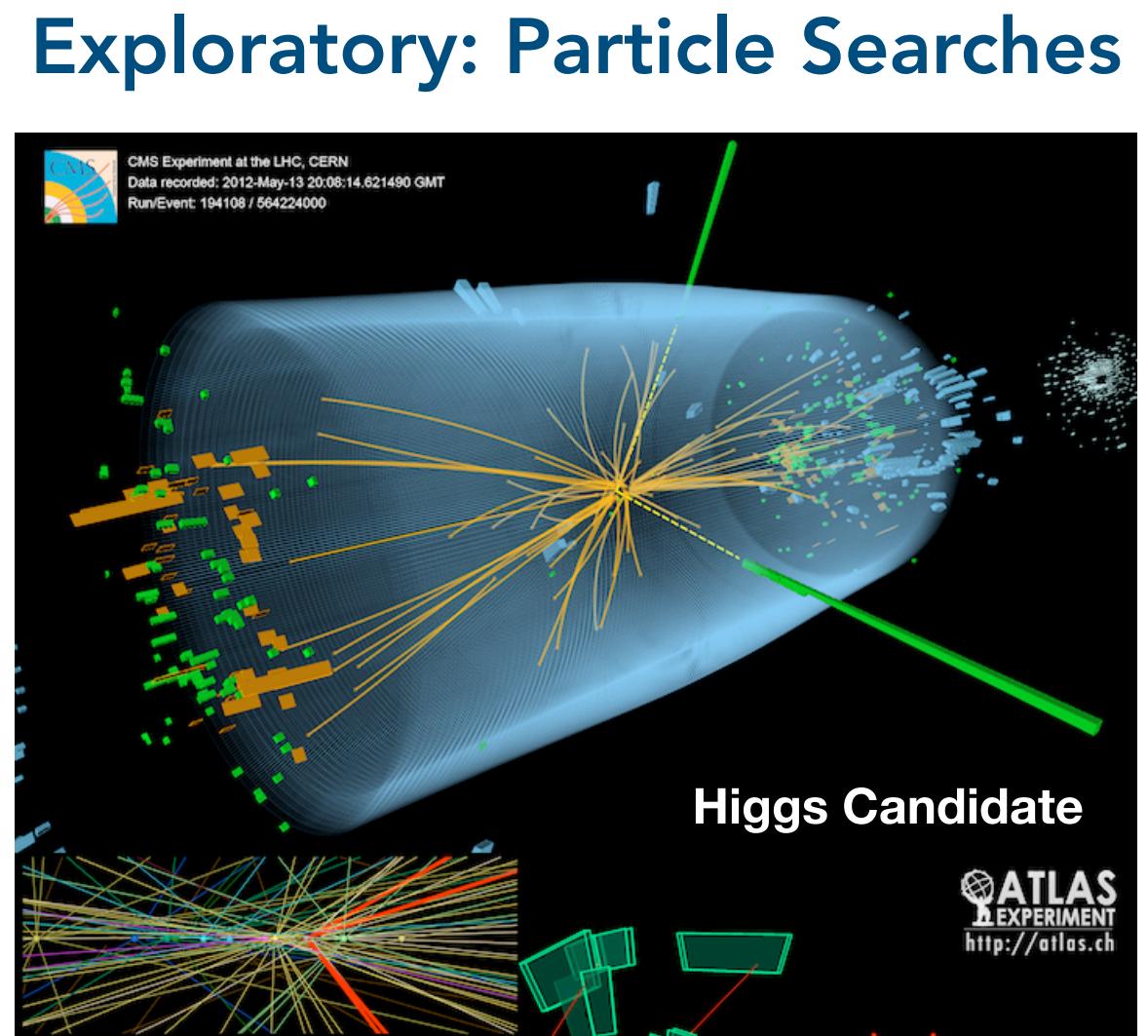
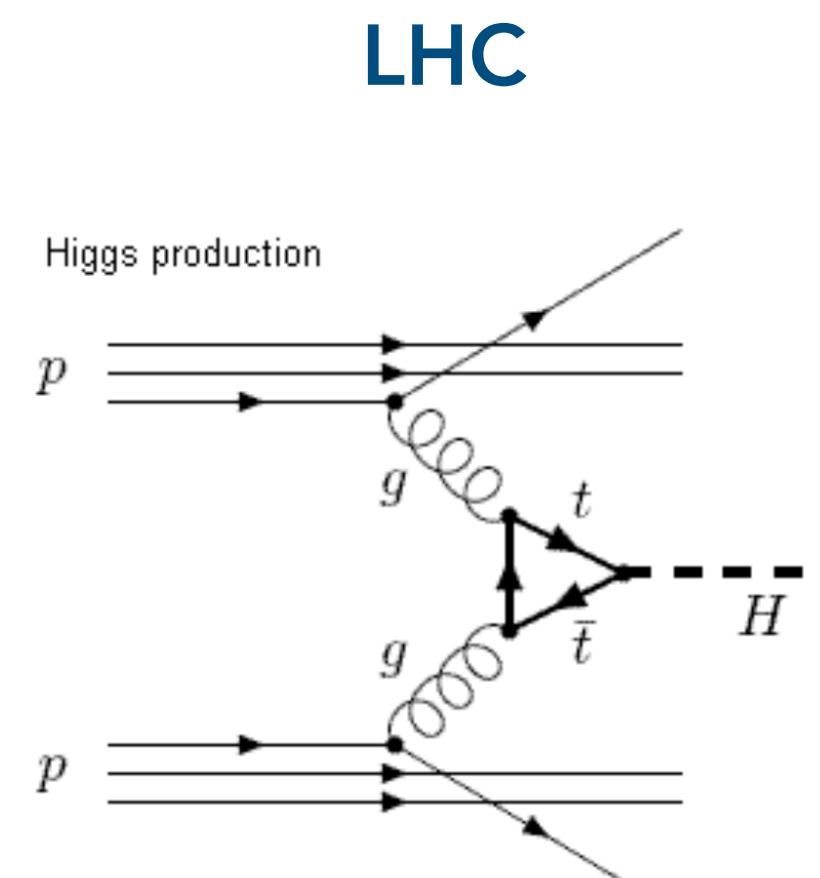
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pp from the HI perspective

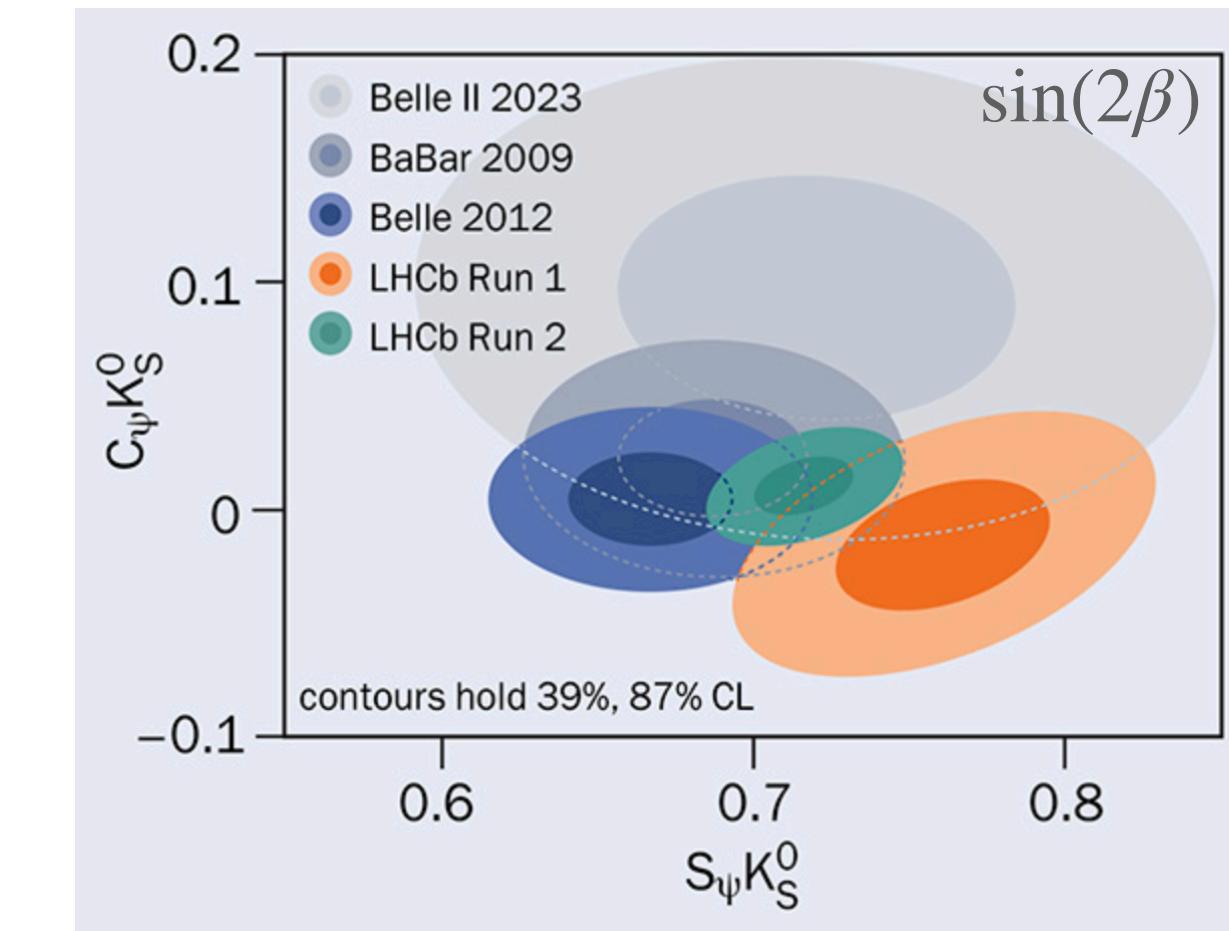
pp properties from an  
intuitive pQCD perspective



# What is the nature of the Universe? What is it made of?

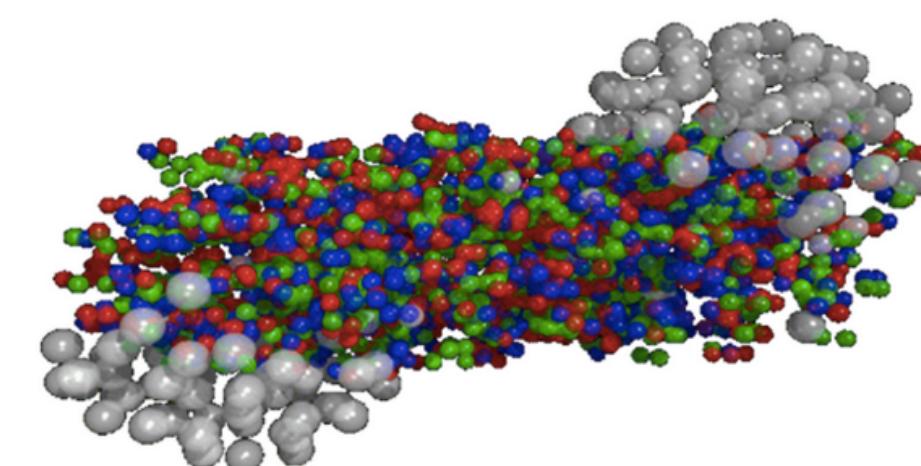


Precision Measurements ("b-factory")

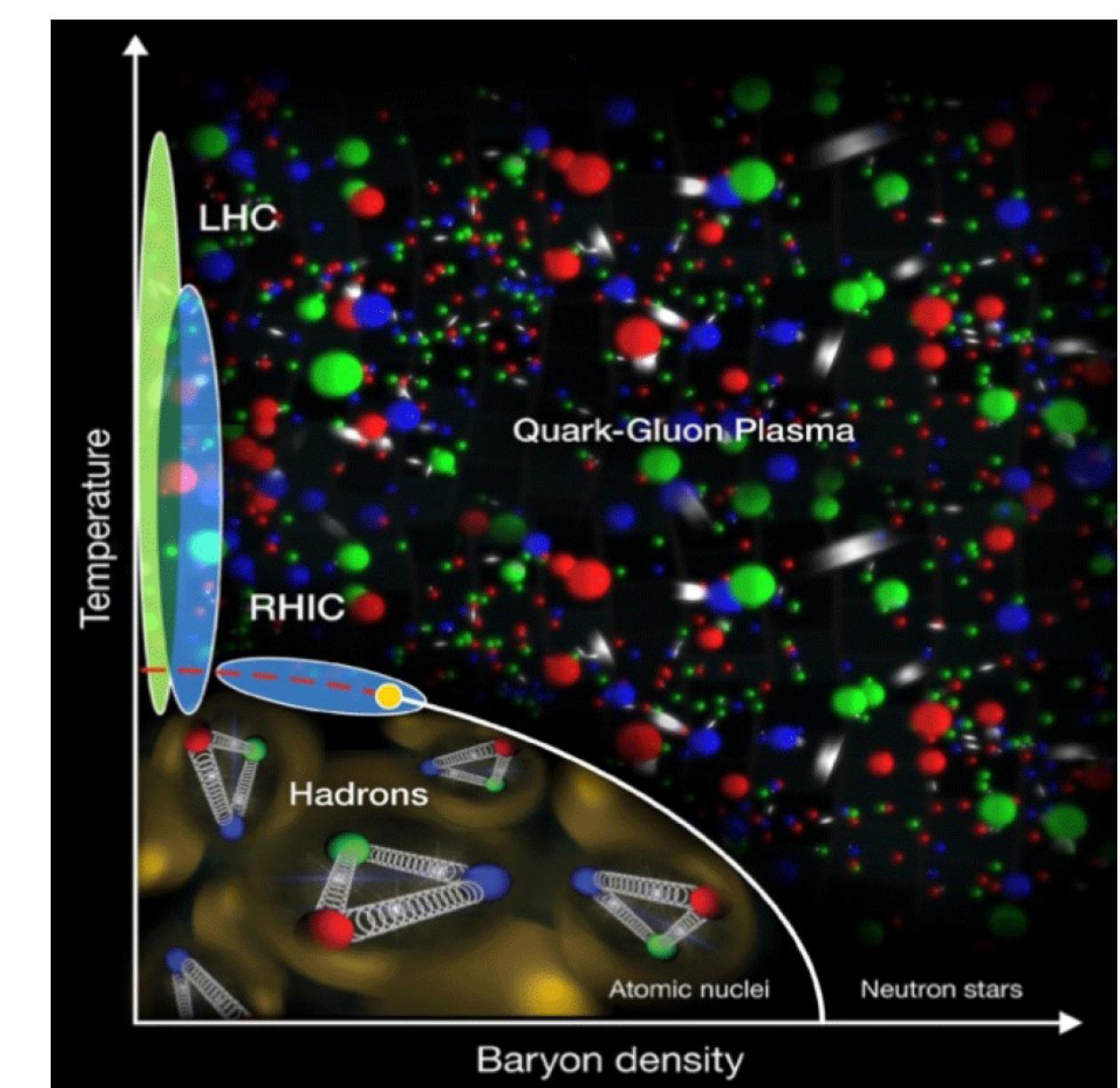


Our quest is not complete without ...

... Study **matter** under extreme conditions ( $T, \rho$ ) with ultra-relativistic heavy ion collisions

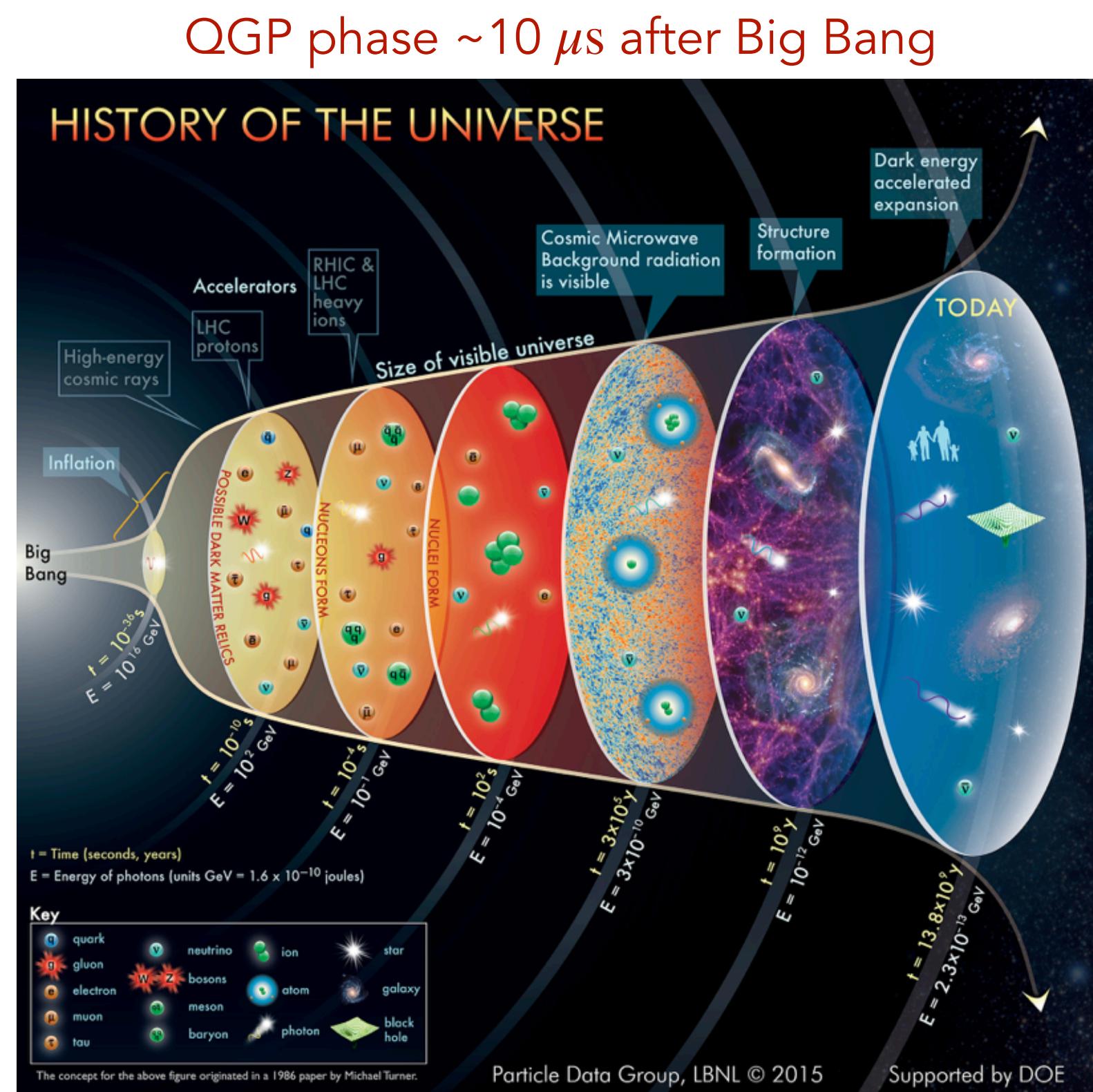


Quantum Chromo Dynamics (QCD) predicts phase transition to Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP)

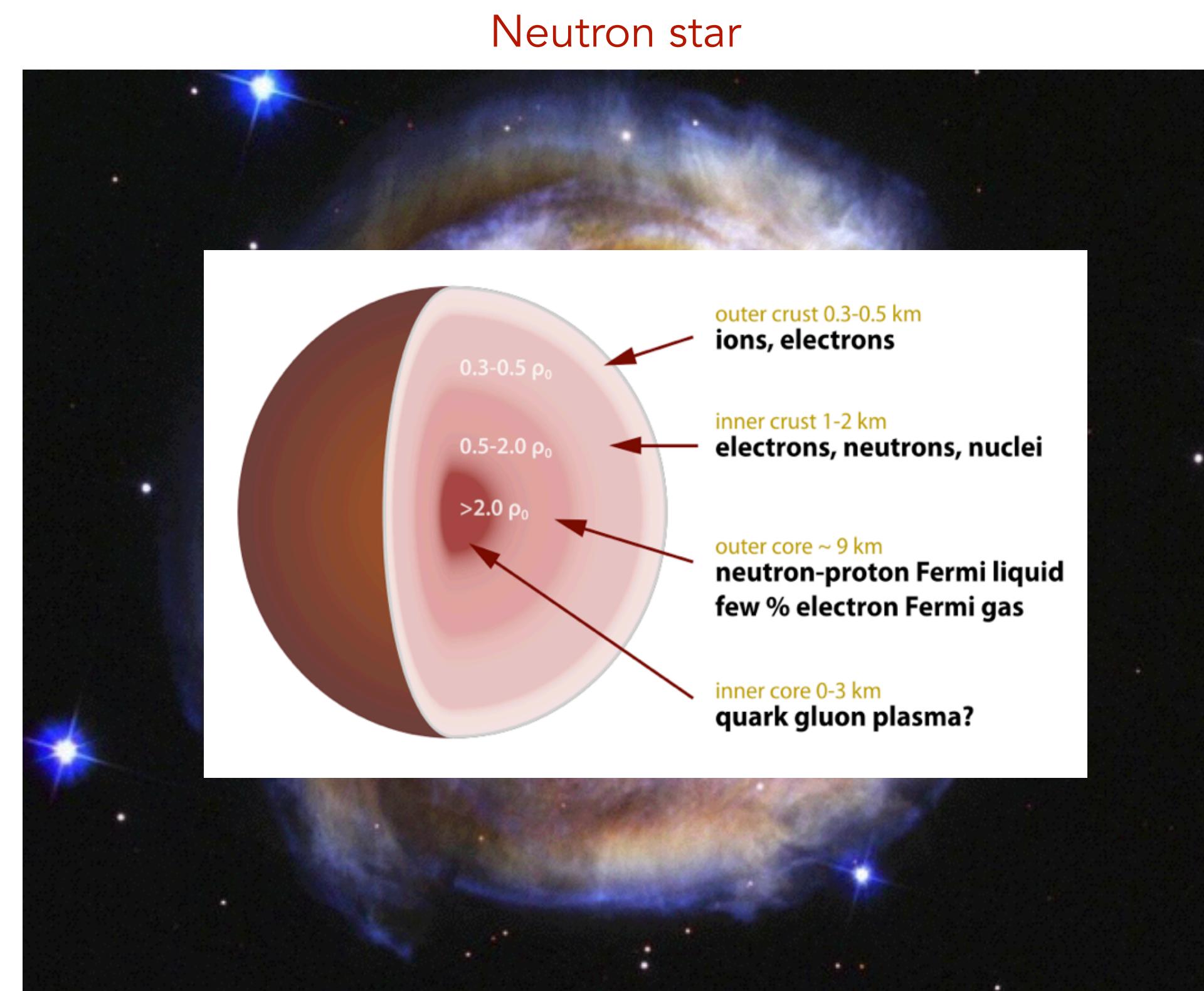


# Matter under extreme conditions

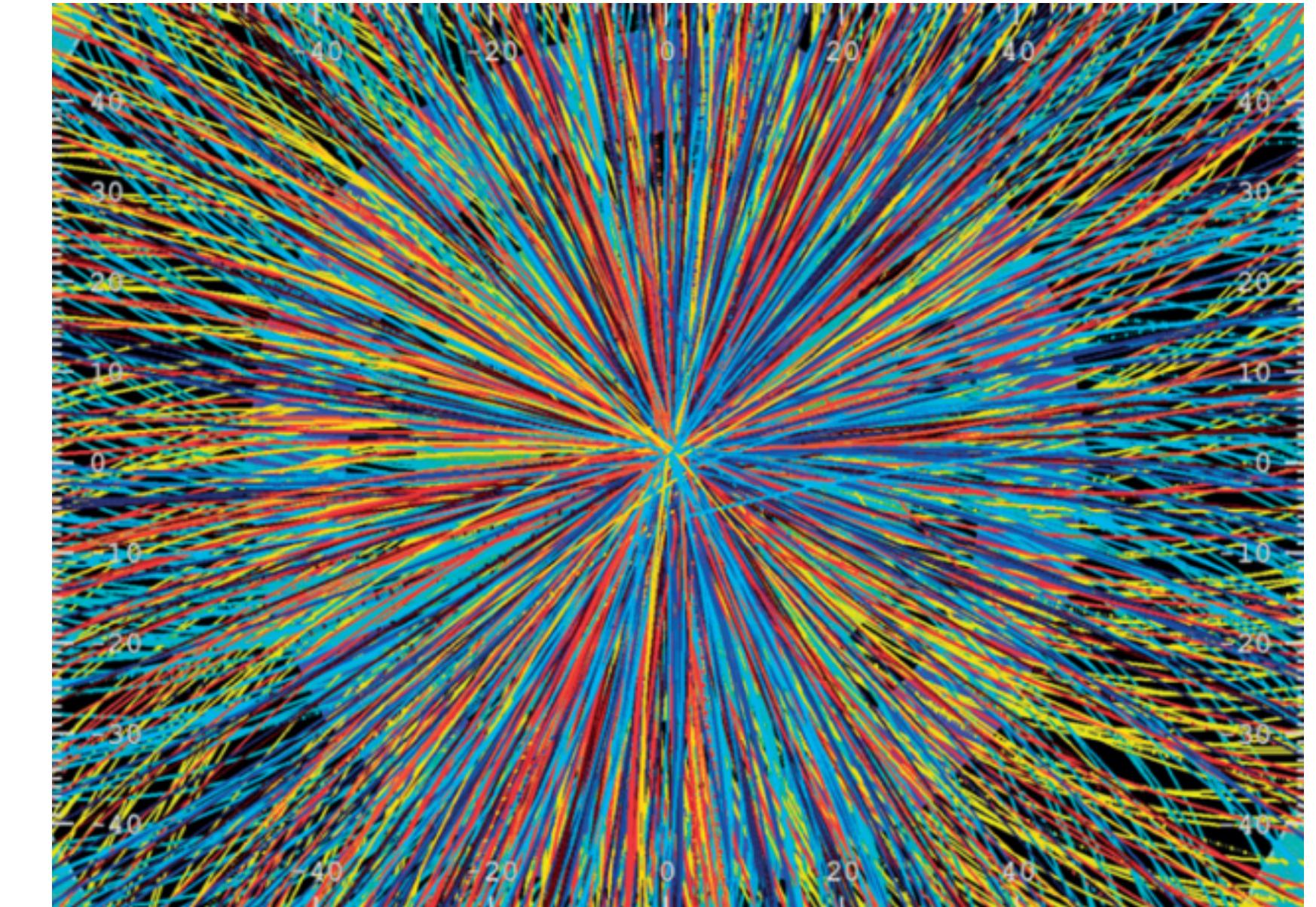
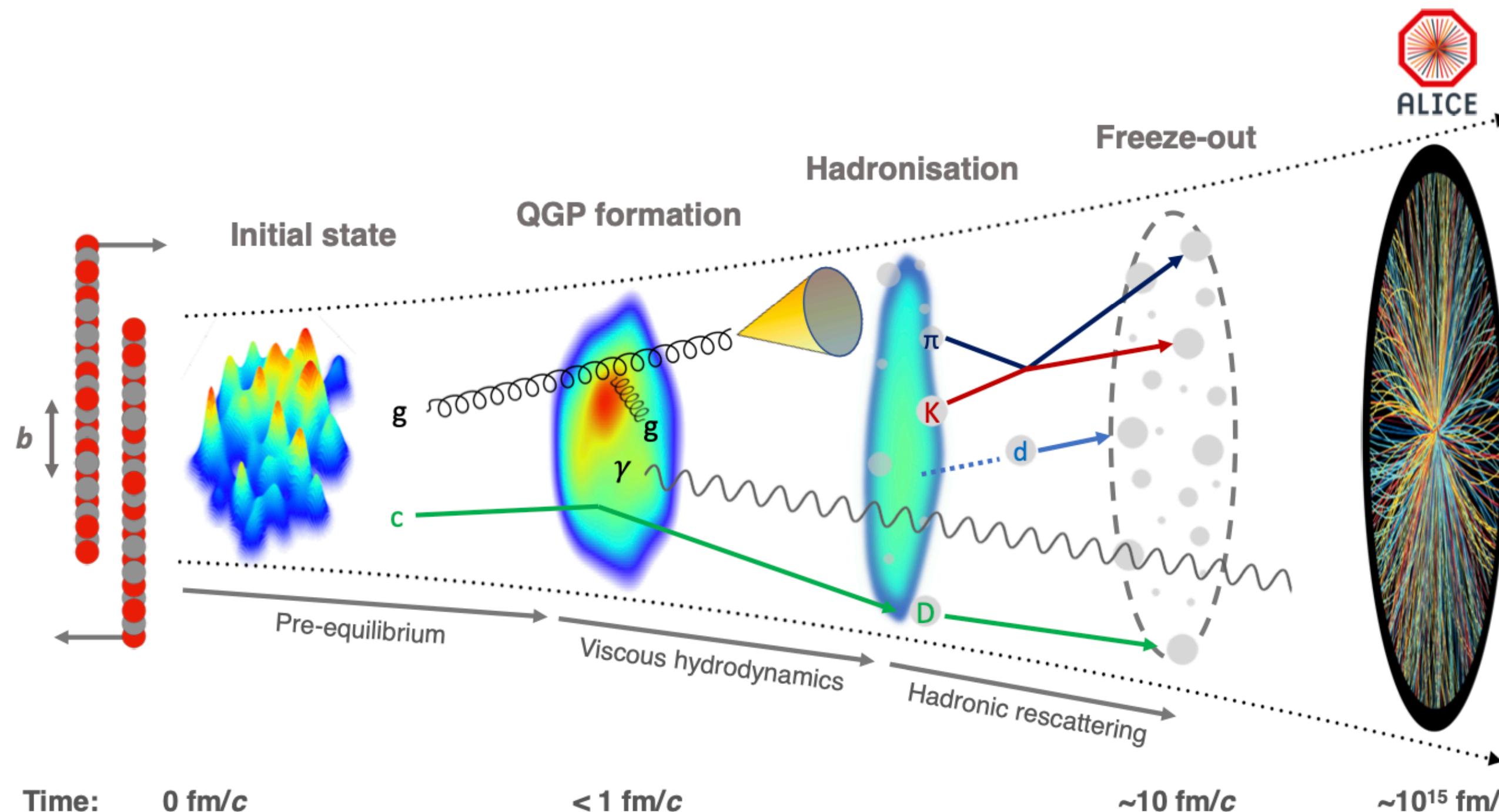
High temperatures:  $4 \cdot 10^{12}$  K  
( $10^5$  x temperature in interior of sun)



High pressure / density  $10^{34}$  Pa  
(road roller placed on the area of the size of a proton)



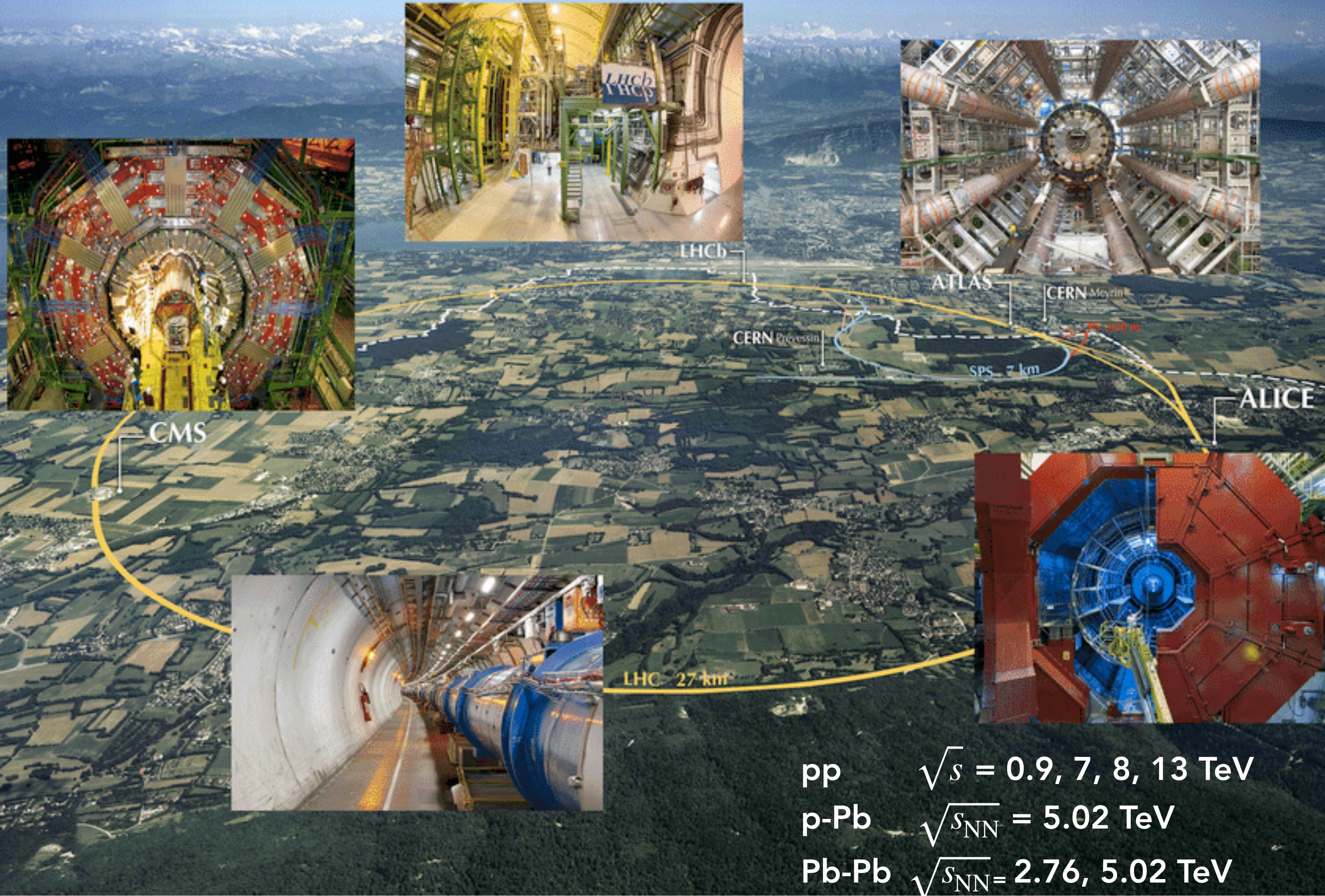
# QGP created in HI collision is ephemeral



$$\text{at LHC: } \frac{dN_{\text{ch}}}{d\eta} \approx 2000 \text{ (in central collisions)}$$

- In HI collision QGP produced under “explosive conditions”
  - Matter evolving through several phases
  - QGP phase lasts only  $10^{-23}$  s
  - **Only final state particles are directly observable as messengers of the earlier phases ... and there are many of them ...**

4 large LHC experiments participate in Pb-Pb programme  
about 1 month per year dedicated to HI physics

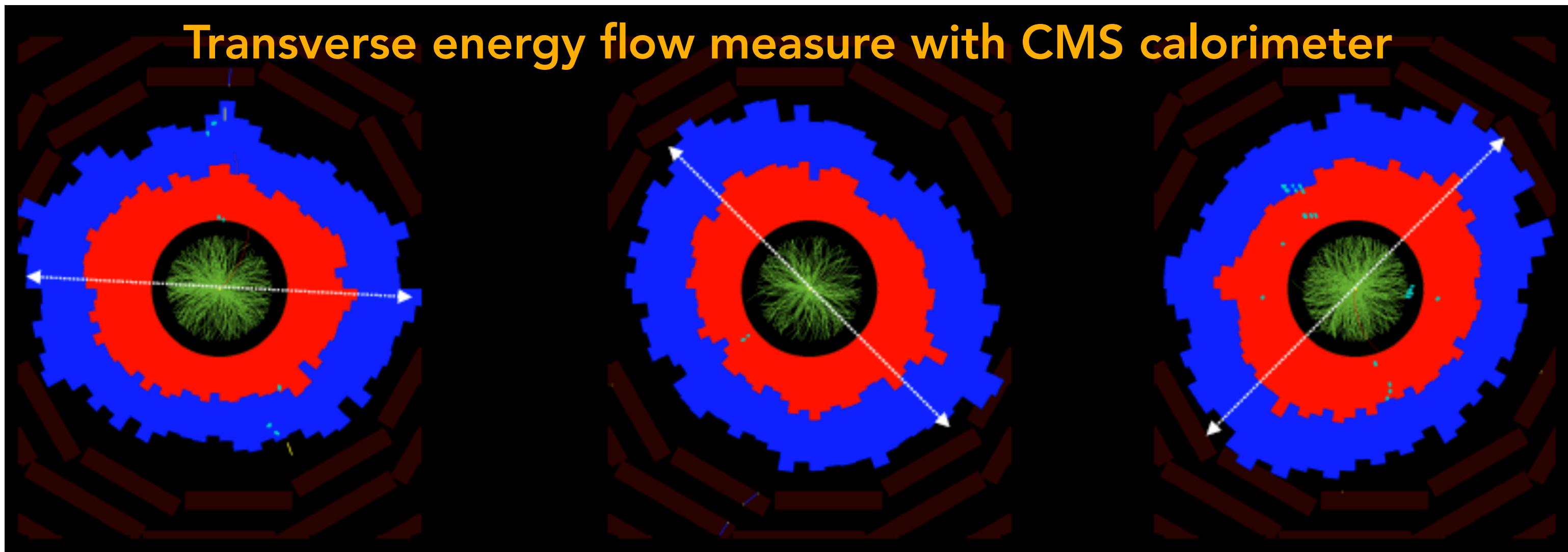


pp       $\sqrt{s} = 0.9, 7, 8, 13 \text{ TeV}$   
p-Pb     $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$   
Pb-Pb    $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 2.76, 5.02 \text{ TeV}$

# QGP @ LHC: naked eye effects

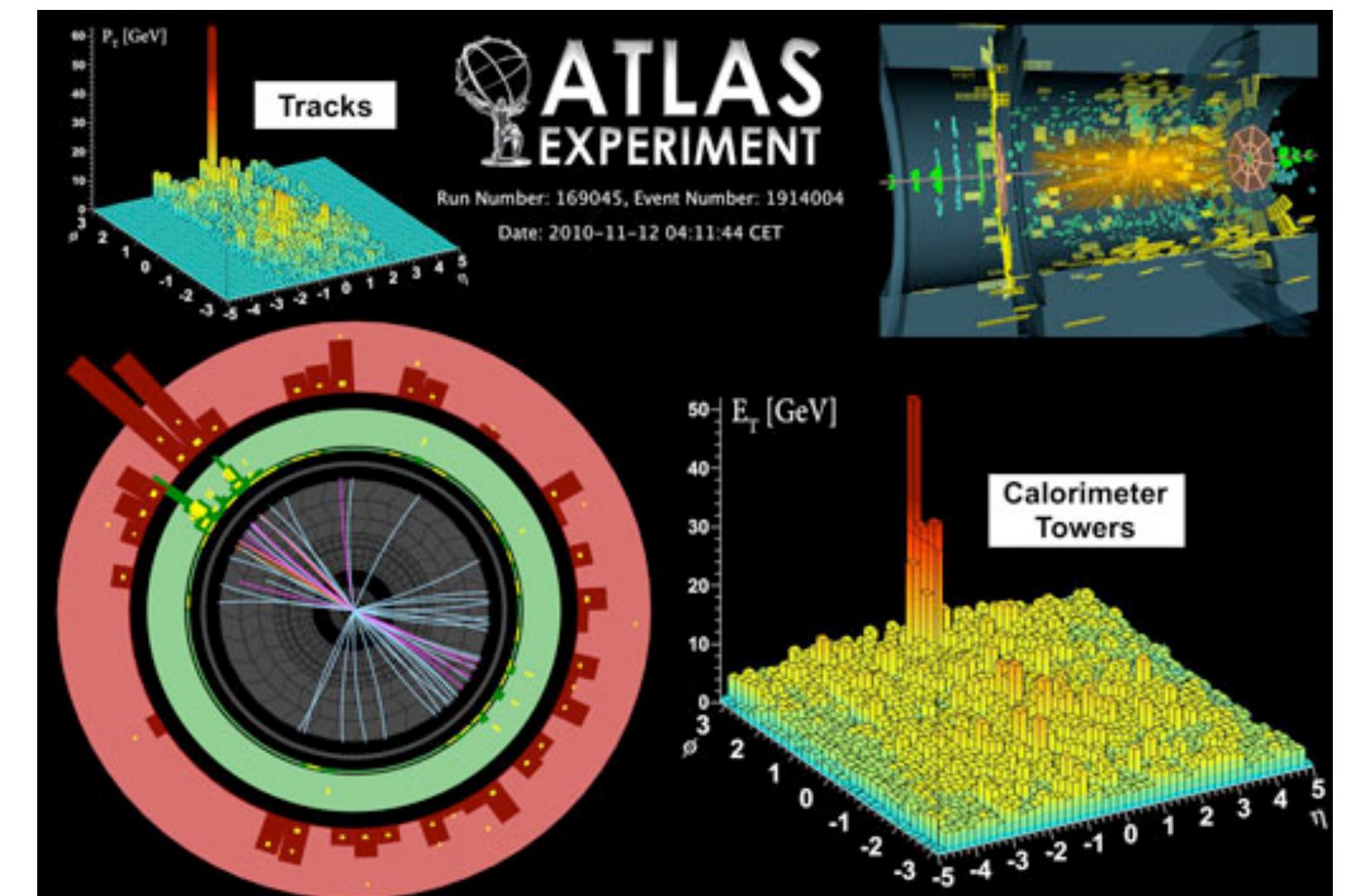
## Collective effects

QGP: strongly coupled, low-viscosity



## Jet quenching

QGP has strong effect on parton shower evolution  
induced gluon radiation



And also:

- $J/\psi$  enhancement in regions where the charm density is high  $\Rightarrow$  freely roaming charm quarks
- Enhanced production of multi-strange baryons
- ...

Allow to characterise the medium in terms of  $T$ , energy density, viscosity, diffusion parameter, ...

## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

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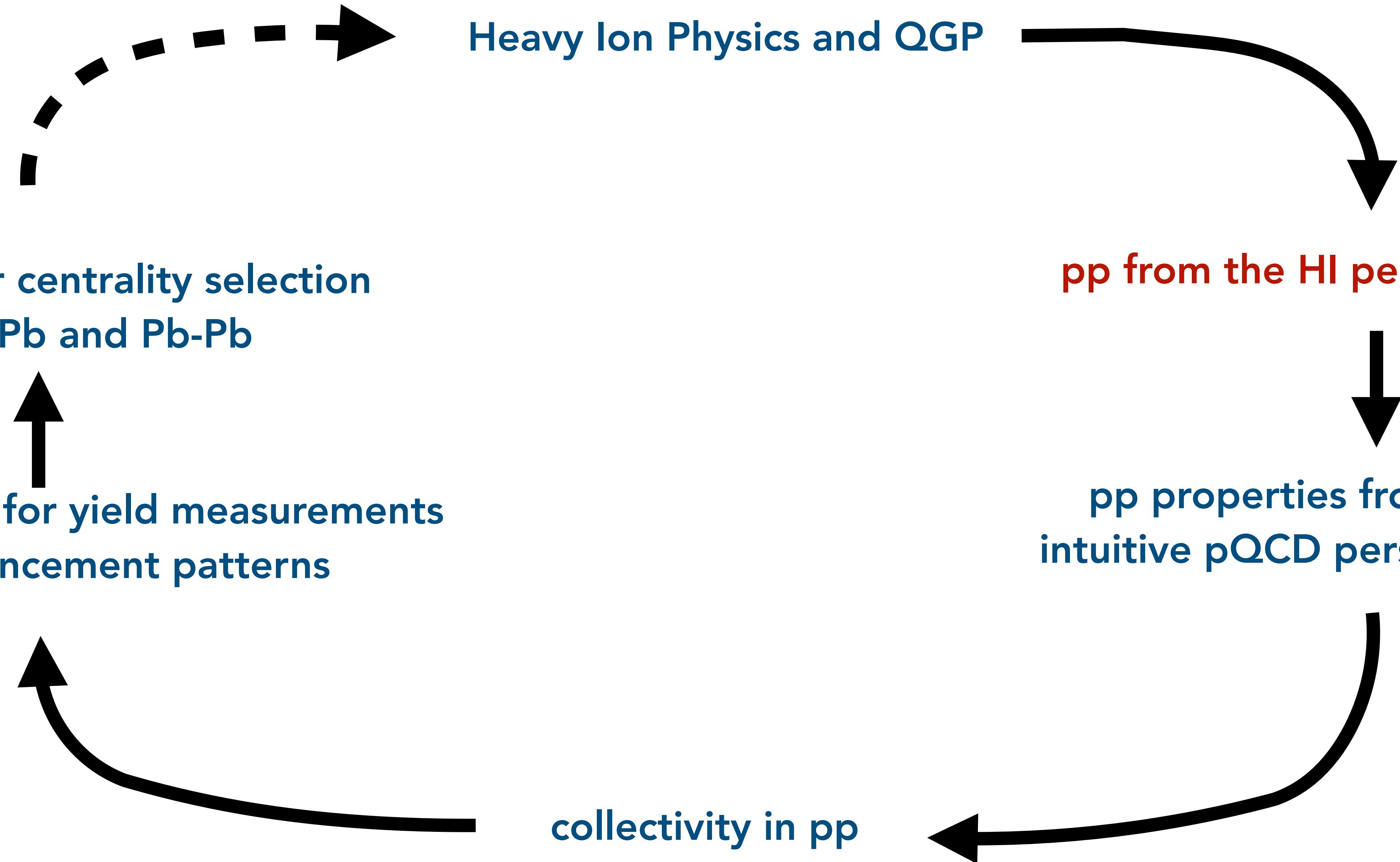
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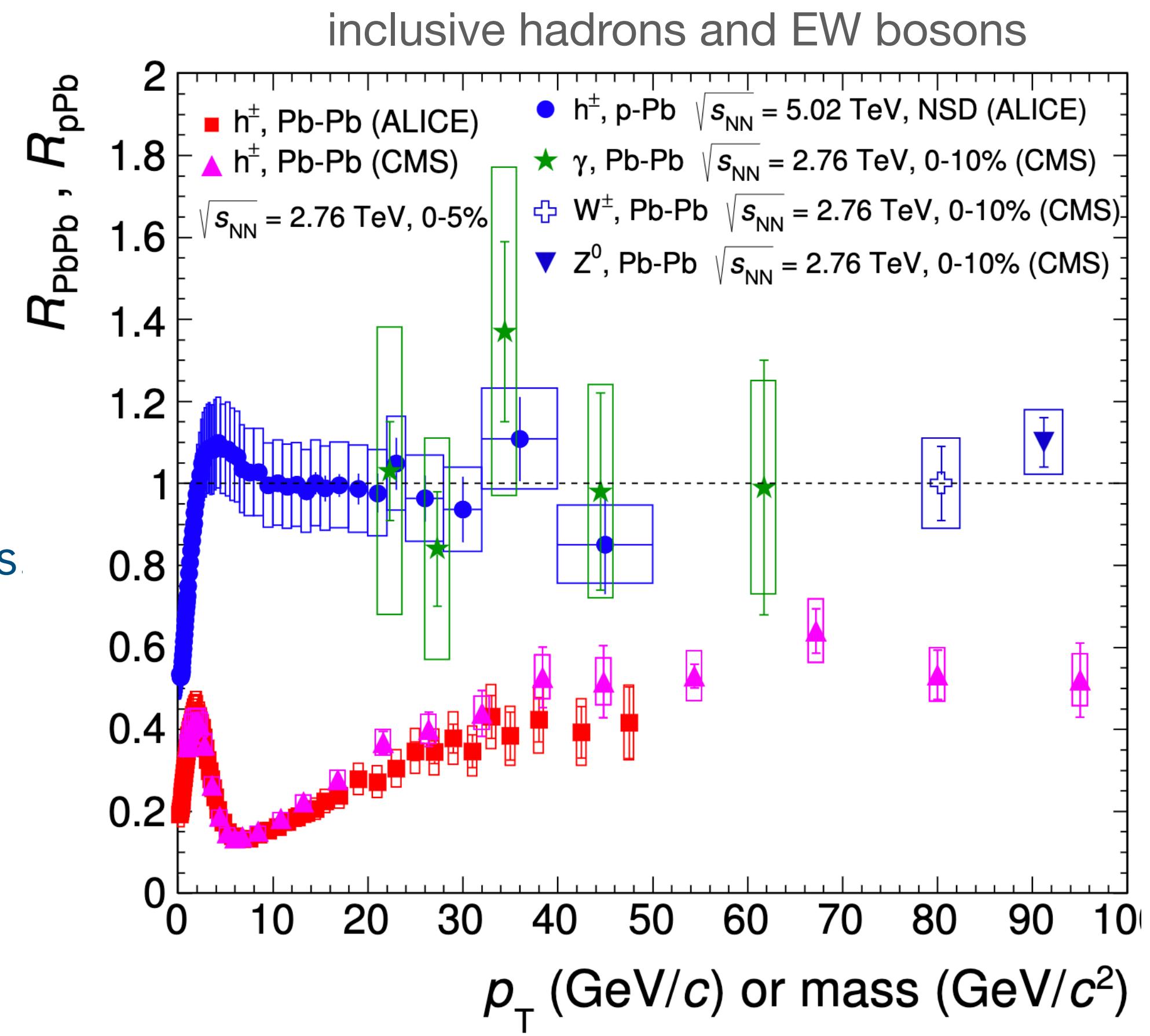
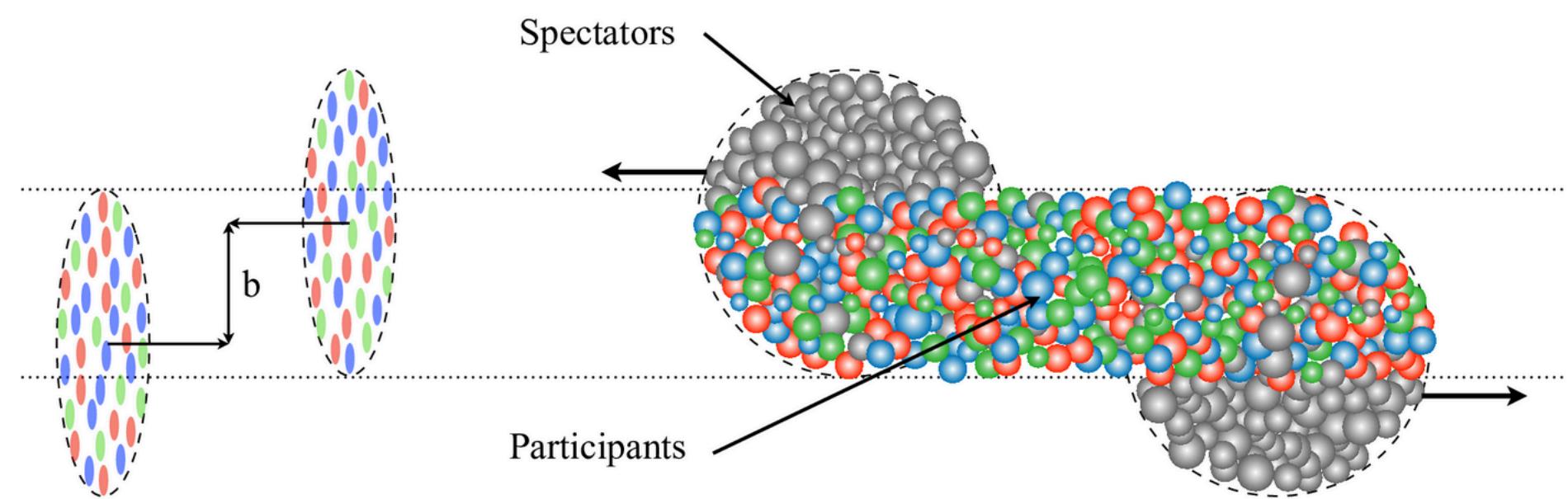


# Rôle of pp physics: a reference

## Nuclear modification factor $R_{AA}$

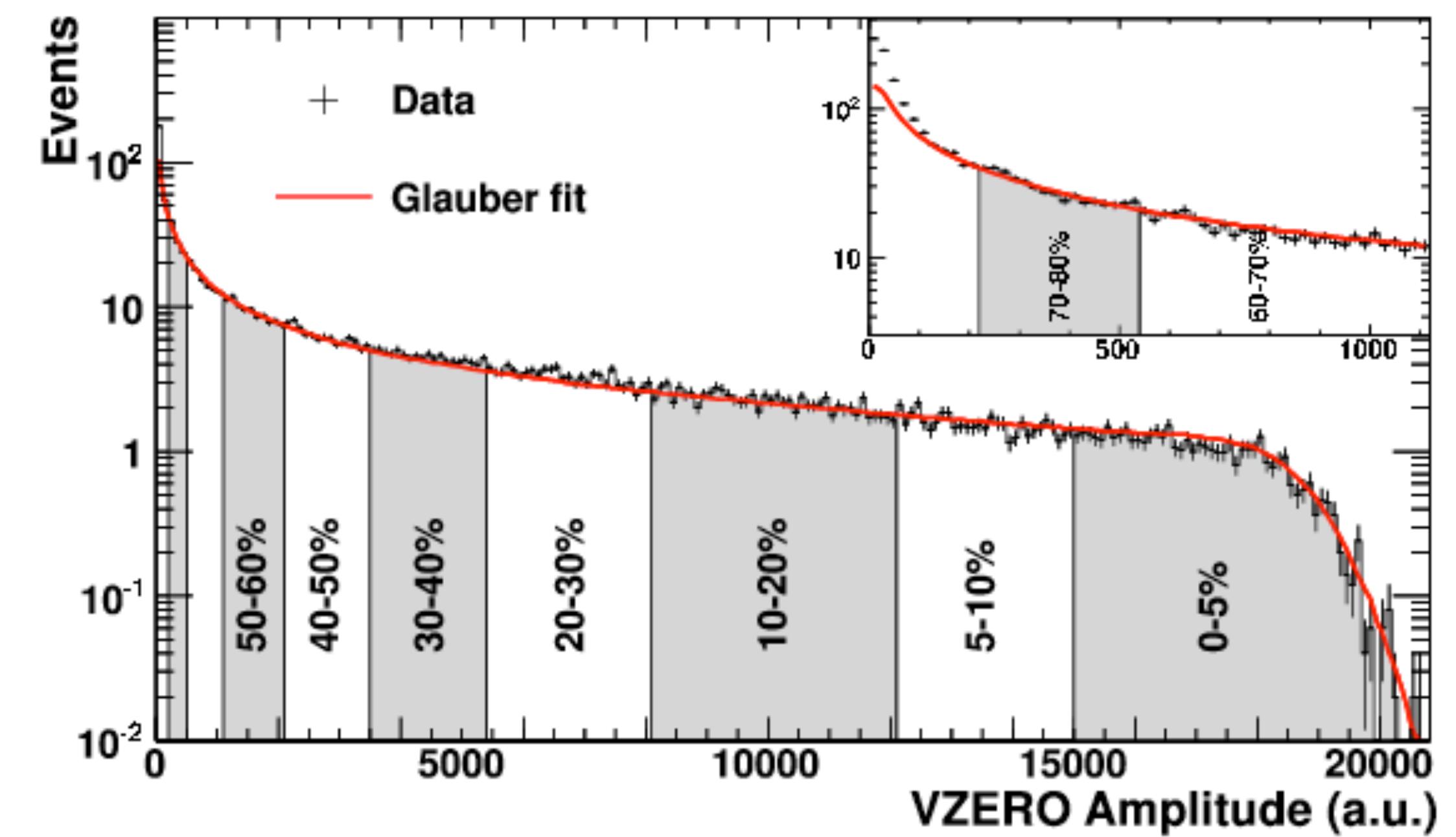
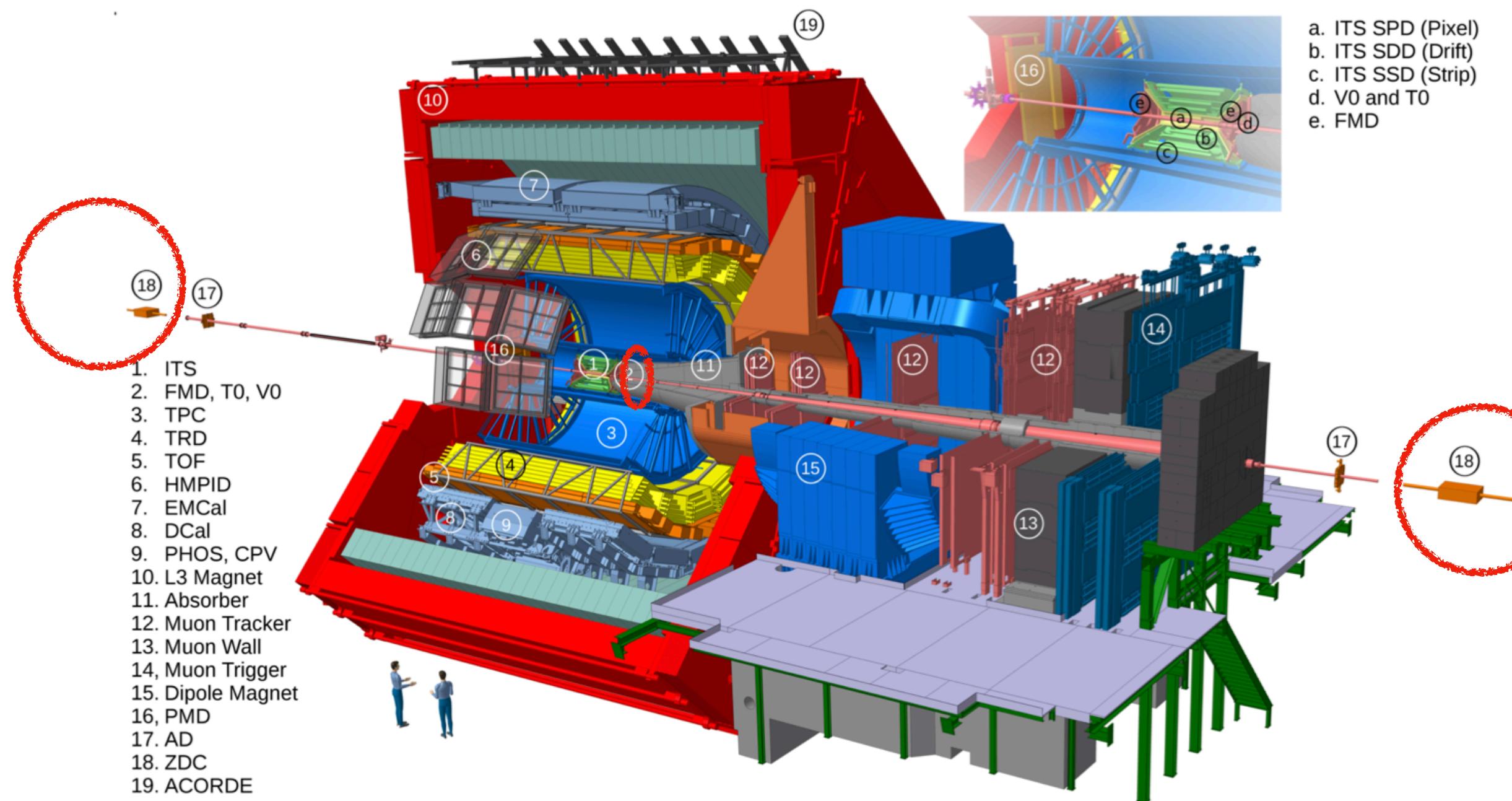
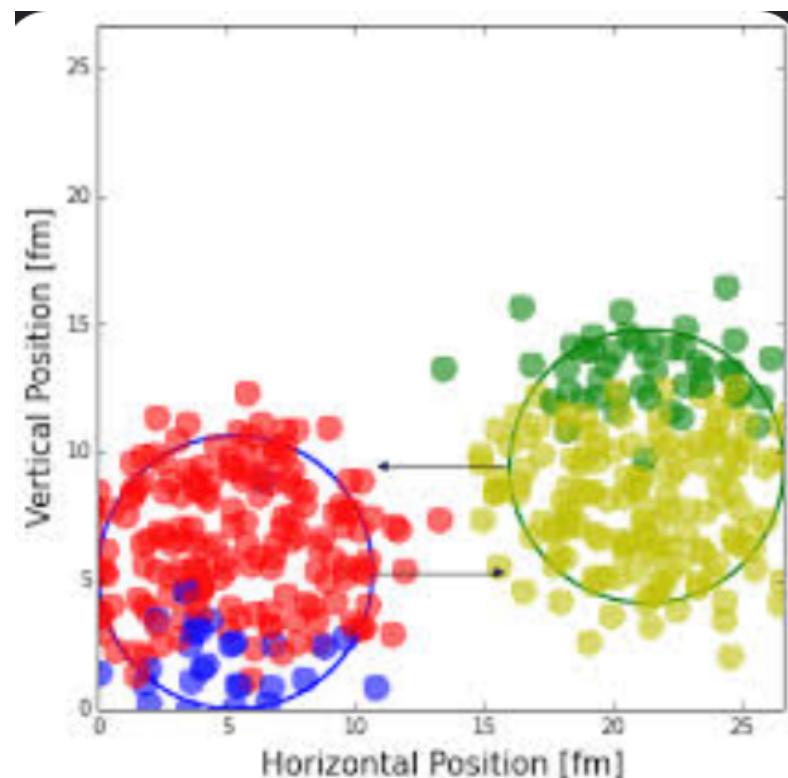
$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{\frac{d\sigma_{PbPb}^{\text{cent}}}{dp_T}}{N_{\text{col}} \frac{d\sigma_{pp}^{\text{cent}}}{dp_T}}$$

- Centrality class (cent): on average  $N_{\text{col}}$  binary nucleon-nucleon collisions
- Reference corresponds to incoherence superposition of  $N_{\text{col}}$  pp collisions.
- Assume  $R_{AA} = 1$  without any nuclear effects.

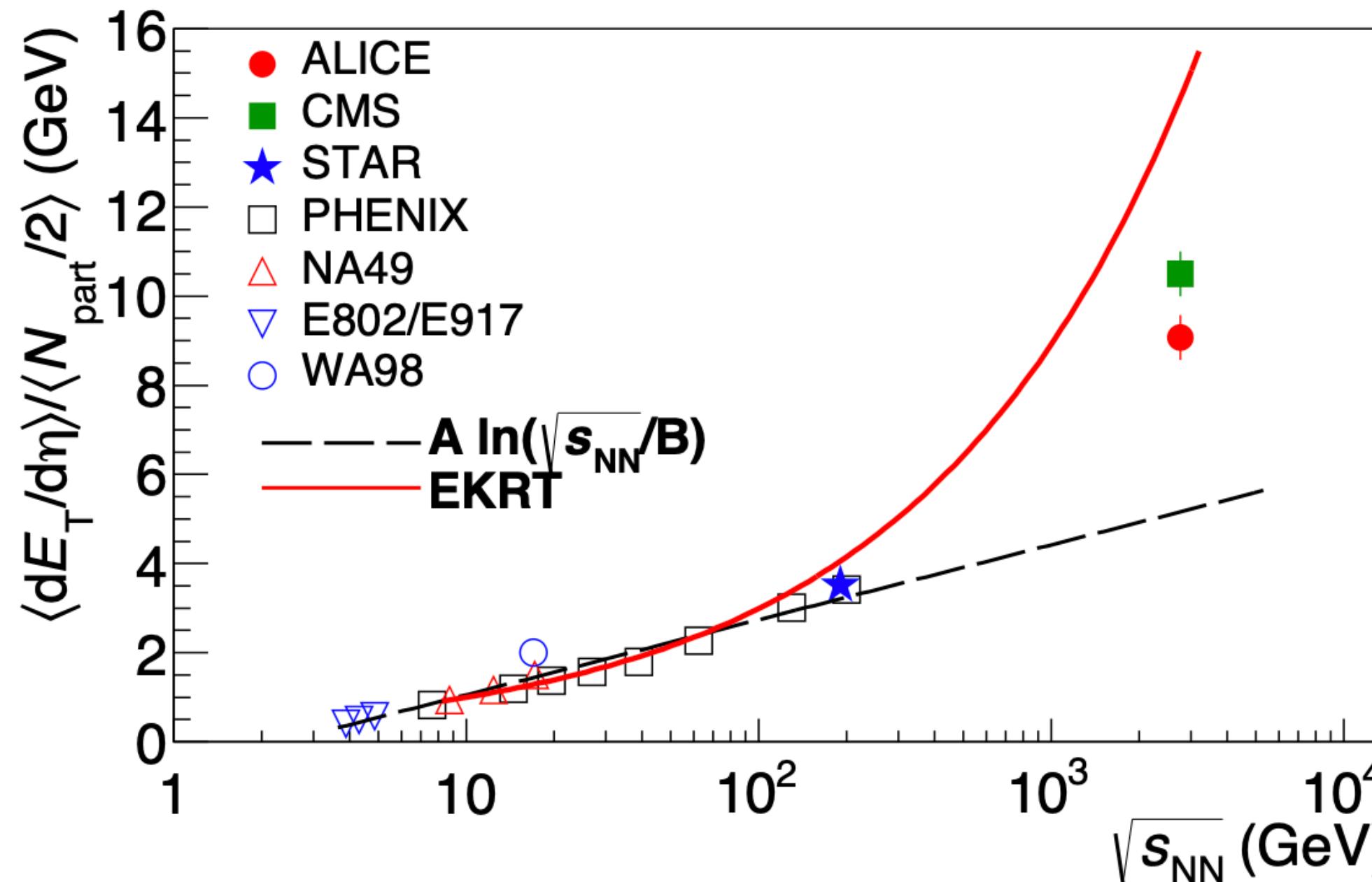


# Centrality and the rôle of pp-physics

- Centrality is determined experimentally via multiplicity or summed energy measurement.
- Link to impact parameter measurement via Glauber model fit
- Fit accounts for fluctuations of multiplicity per nucleon-nucleon (pp, nn) collision
  - Better understanding of these fluctuations from study of pp collisions



# More than a reference: high density QCD with pp collisions?



## Day One Proton-Proton Physics with the ALICE Central Detector

P. Giubellino, S. Kiselev, W. Klemp, A. Morsch, G. Paic, J.-P. Revol  
and K. Safarik

ALICE 2000-28  
Internal Note / PHY  
24 November 2000

**Table 6:** Comparison of average kinematic parameters for pp and Pb-Pb collisions.

	$\langle E \rangle$ (MeV)	$dN_{ch}$ $dy$	$V_i$ (fm $^3$ )	$\epsilon_i$ (GeV/fm $^3$ )
pp ( $\sqrt{s} = 630$ GeV)	400	4	4.5	0.5
pp ( $\sqrt{s} = 1.8$ TeV)	400	5.3	4.5	0.7
pp ( $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV)	500	7	4.5	1.2
Au-Au (RHIC)	500	650–850 <sup>1</sup>	153	3.1–4.1
Pb-Pb (LHC)	500	2000–8000	159	10–38

- From Bjorken estimate for energy density

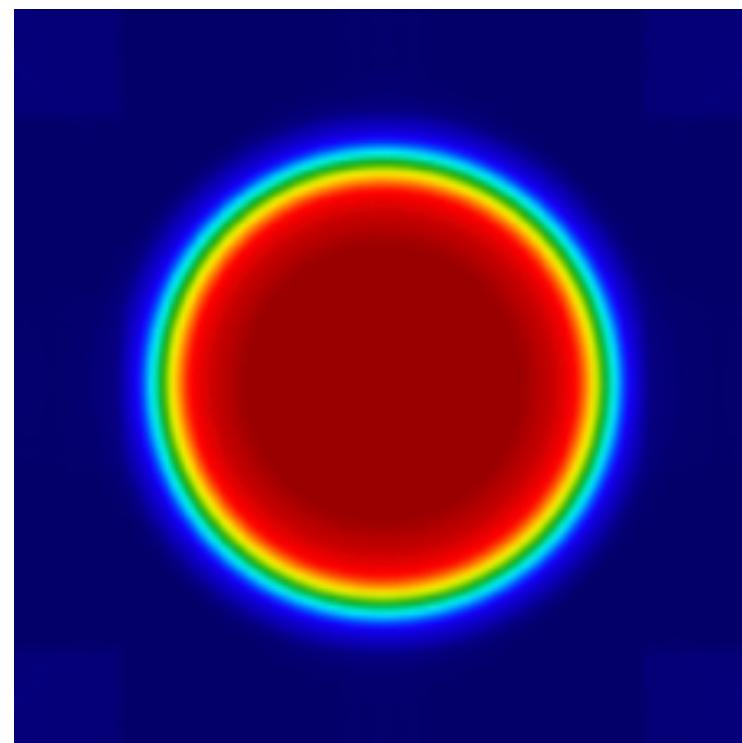
$$\epsilon_i \approx \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{1 \text{ fm } \pi R_N^2 A^{\frac{2}{3}}} \langle E_T \rangle \frac{dN_{ch}}{d\eta} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{1 \text{ fm } \pi R_N^2 A^{\frac{2}{3}}} \langle \frac{dE_T^{ch}}{d\eta} \rangle$$

- In central Pb-Pb collisions

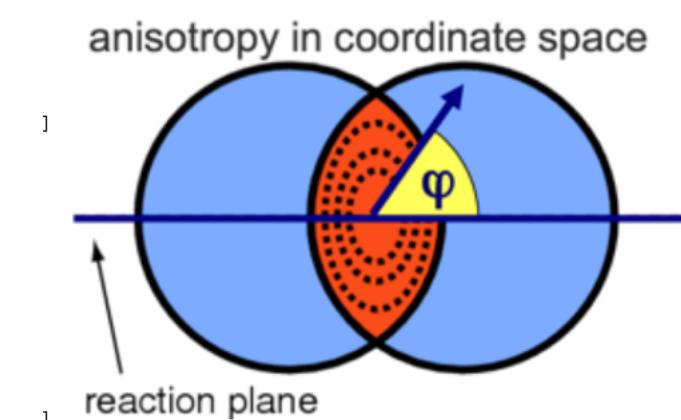
- Average  $\approx 14$  GeV/fm $^3$
- Core density  $\approx 21$  GeV/fm $^3$

We can see that going from the CERN proton-antiproton collider to the LHC in proton mode, the average energy density does not change very much (Table 6), going from 0.5 to 1.2 GeV/fm $^3$ . However, we should be able to observe events up to 10 times the average charged particle multiplicity, which will provide energy densities of 12 GeV/fm $^3$ , comparable to those of heavy-ion collisions.

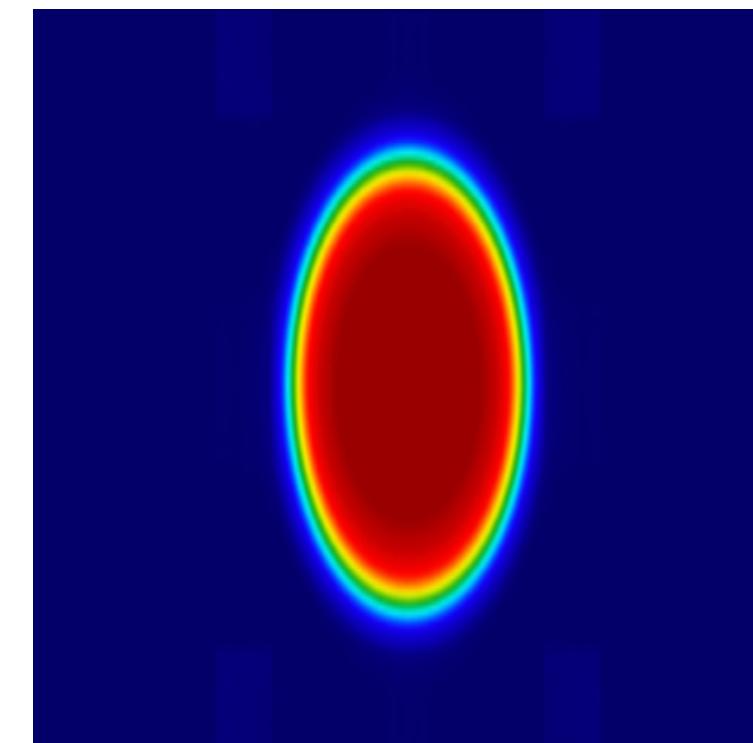
# Initial conditions and collective motion (flow)



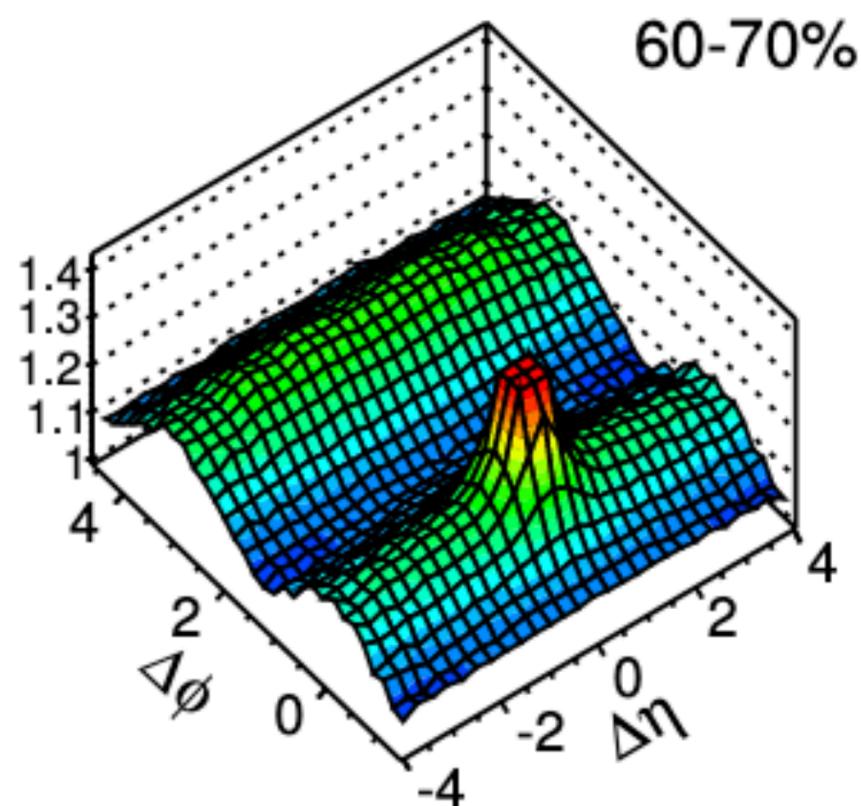
isotropic pressure gradients



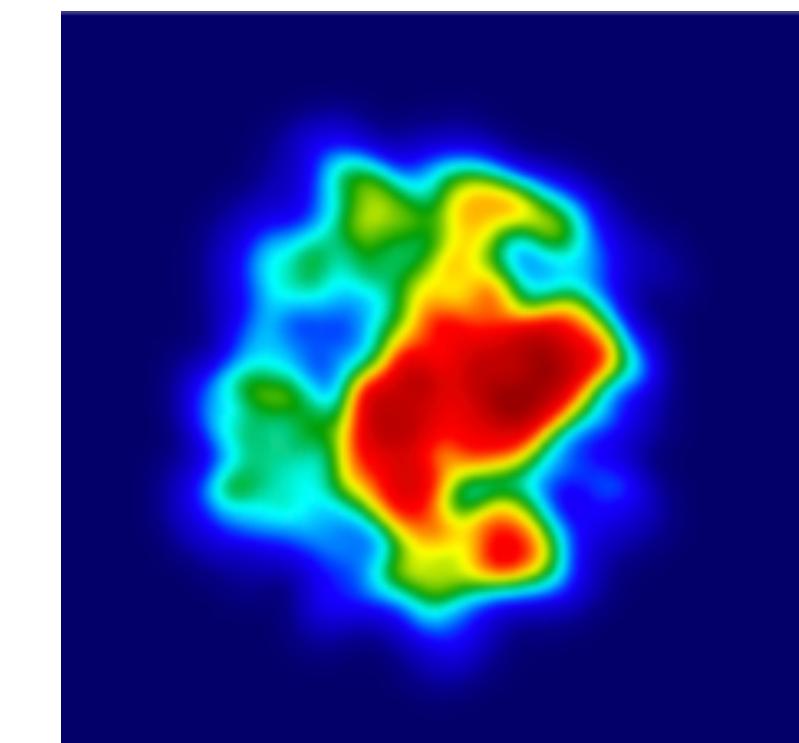
$$E \frac{d^3N}{d^3\vec{p}} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^3N}{p_T dp_T dy} \left[ 1 + \sum_1^\infty v_n \cos(n(\varphi - \Psi_n)) \right]$$



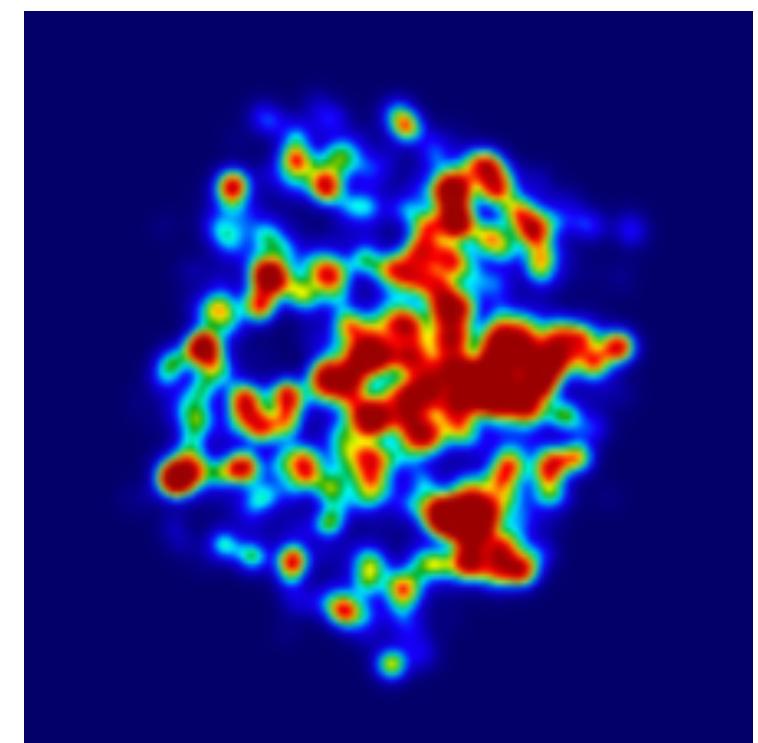
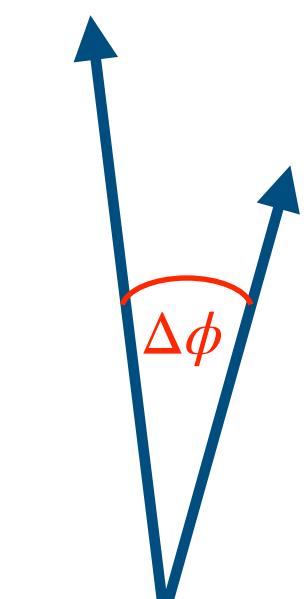
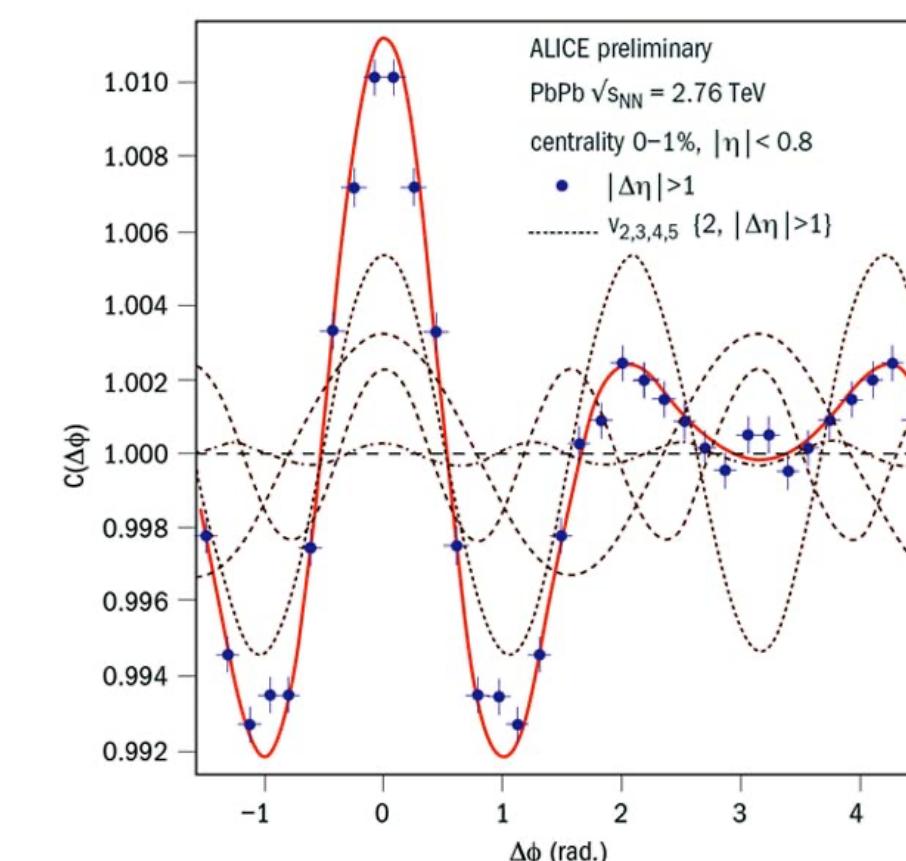
smooth initial conditions ( $\mathcal{O}(5 \text{ fm})$ )  
elliptic flow



CMS, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1201.3158.pdf>



fluctuations of nucleon positions ( $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ fm})$ )  
higher harmonics

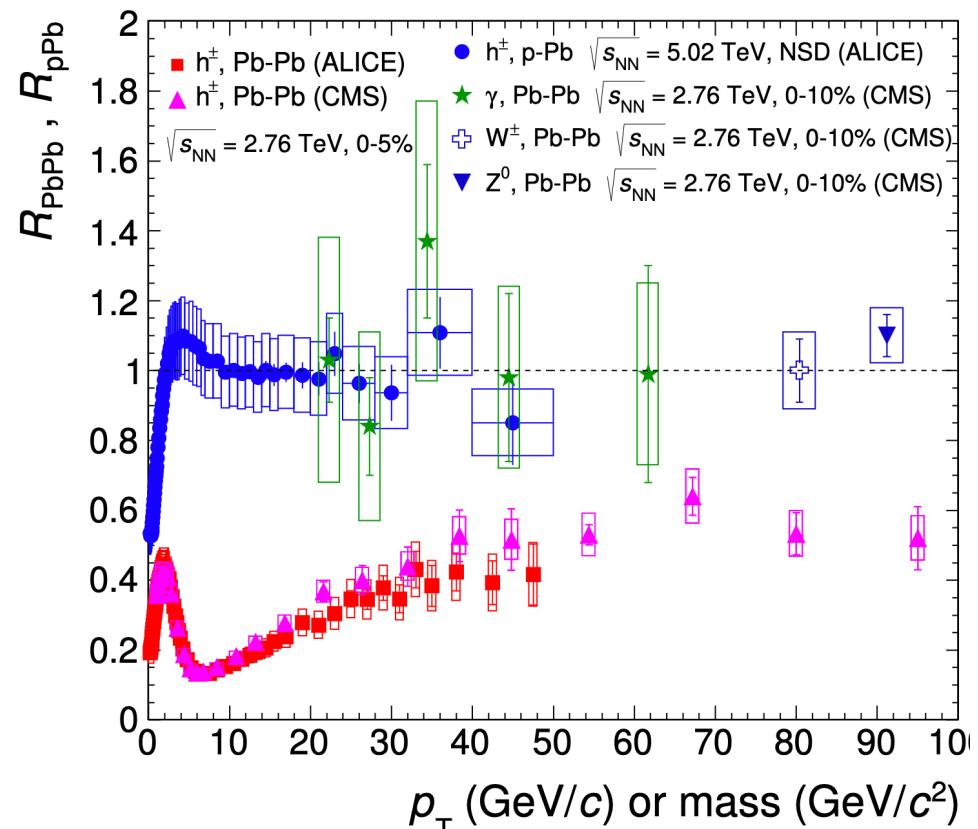


sub-fm fluctuations  
present also in pp!

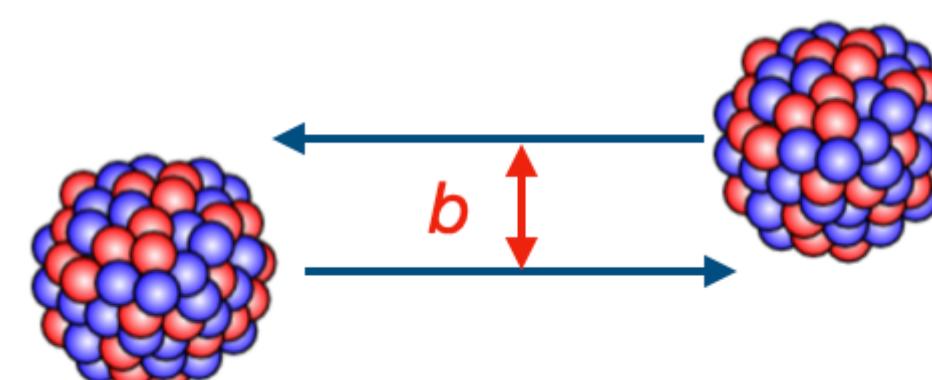
Medium shows a very strong response to the initial shape of overlap region

# Summary: Interest in pp from HI perspective

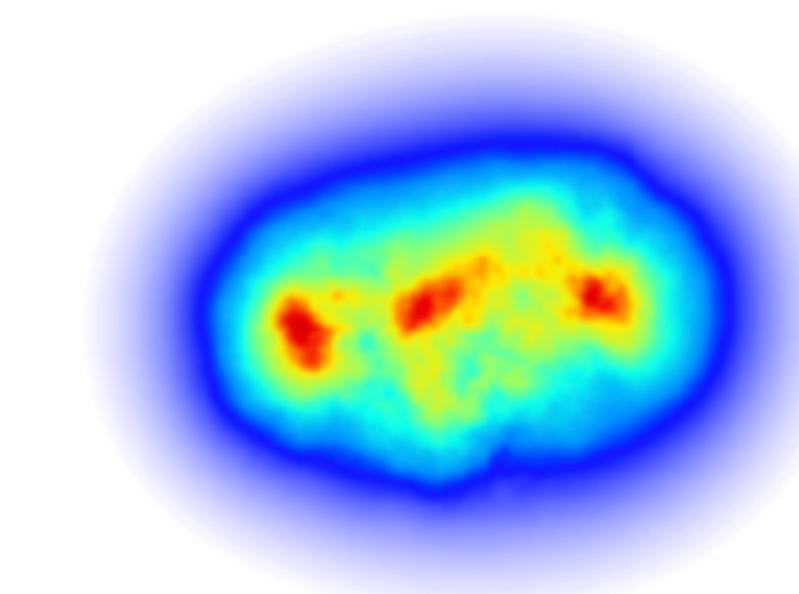
reference system



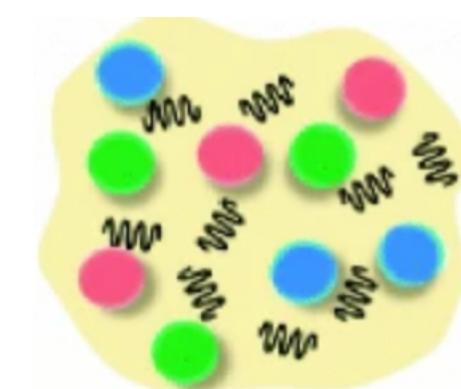
improve understanding  
of centrality selection



sub-fm fluctuations



laboratory for high-density QCD?



## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

insights for centrality selection

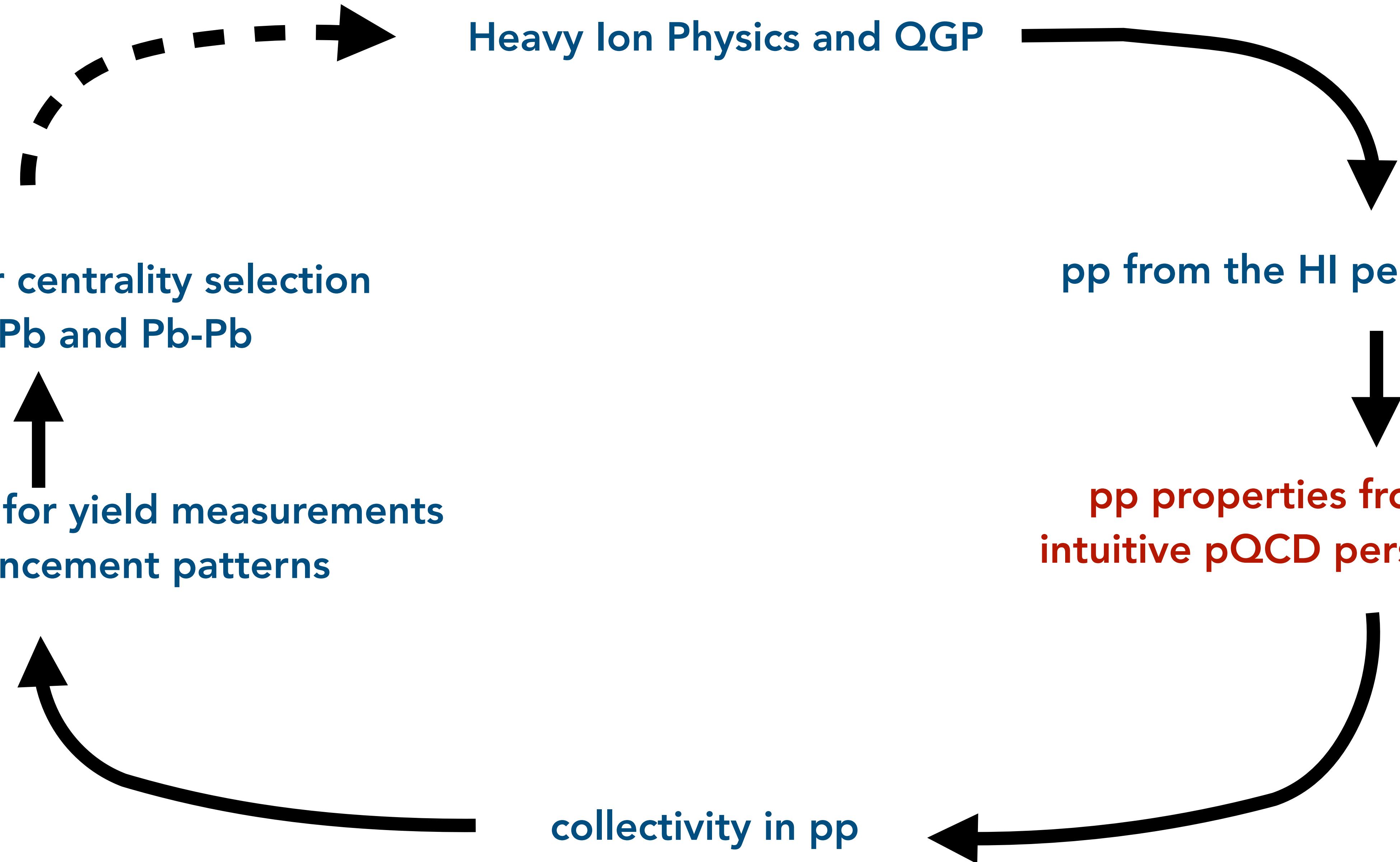
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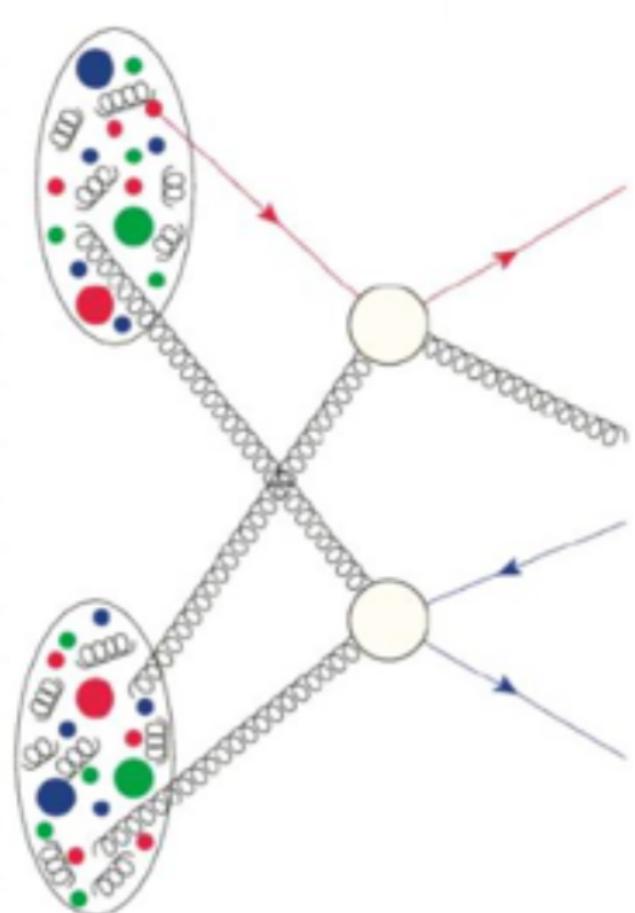


# High density pp at LHC from pQCD perspective

- Straightforward interpretation of pQCD  $\sigma_{2\rightarrow 2} > \sigma_{\text{tot}}$
- Number of  $2\rightarrow 2$  scatterings per event assuming naïve **factorization**:

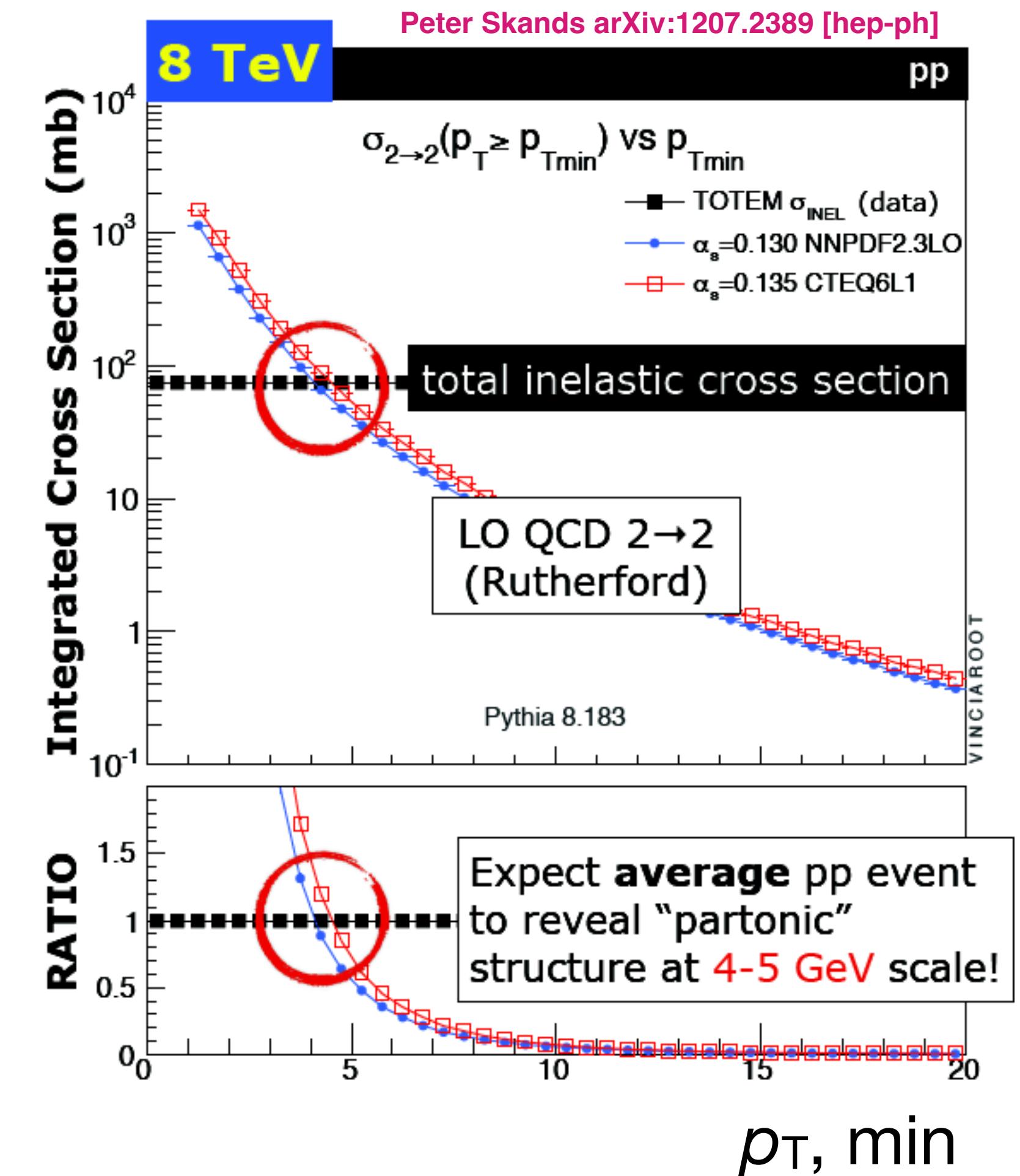
$$\langle n_{2\rightarrow 2} \rangle = \frac{\sigma_{2\rightarrow 2}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}}$$

$$P_n = \frac{\langle n_{2\rightarrow 2} \rangle^n}{n!} e^{-\langle n_{2\rightarrow 2} \rangle}$$

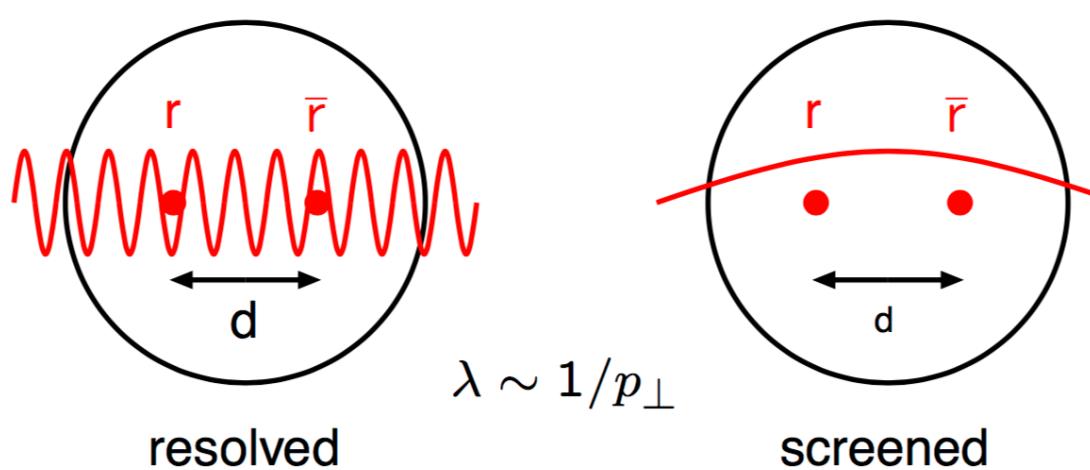
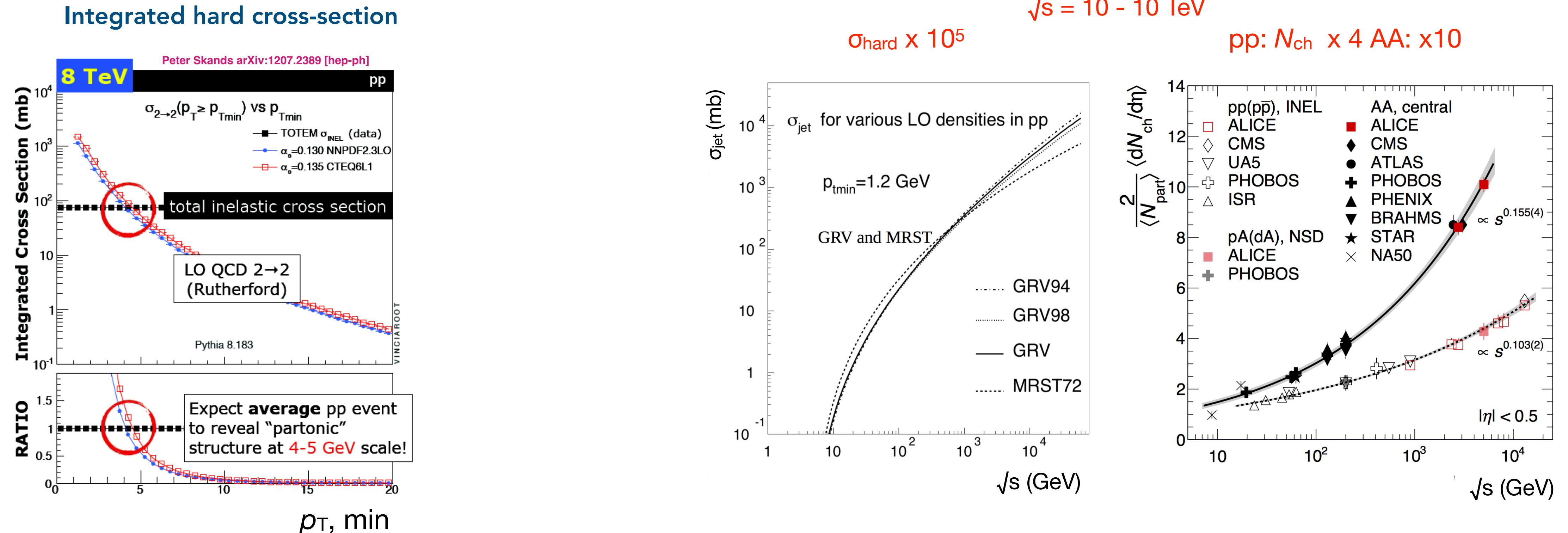


**At LHC multiple hard scatterings at perturbative scales**  
**~5 per minimum bias collision**

**Integrated hard cross-section  
above cut-off  $p_{T\min}$**



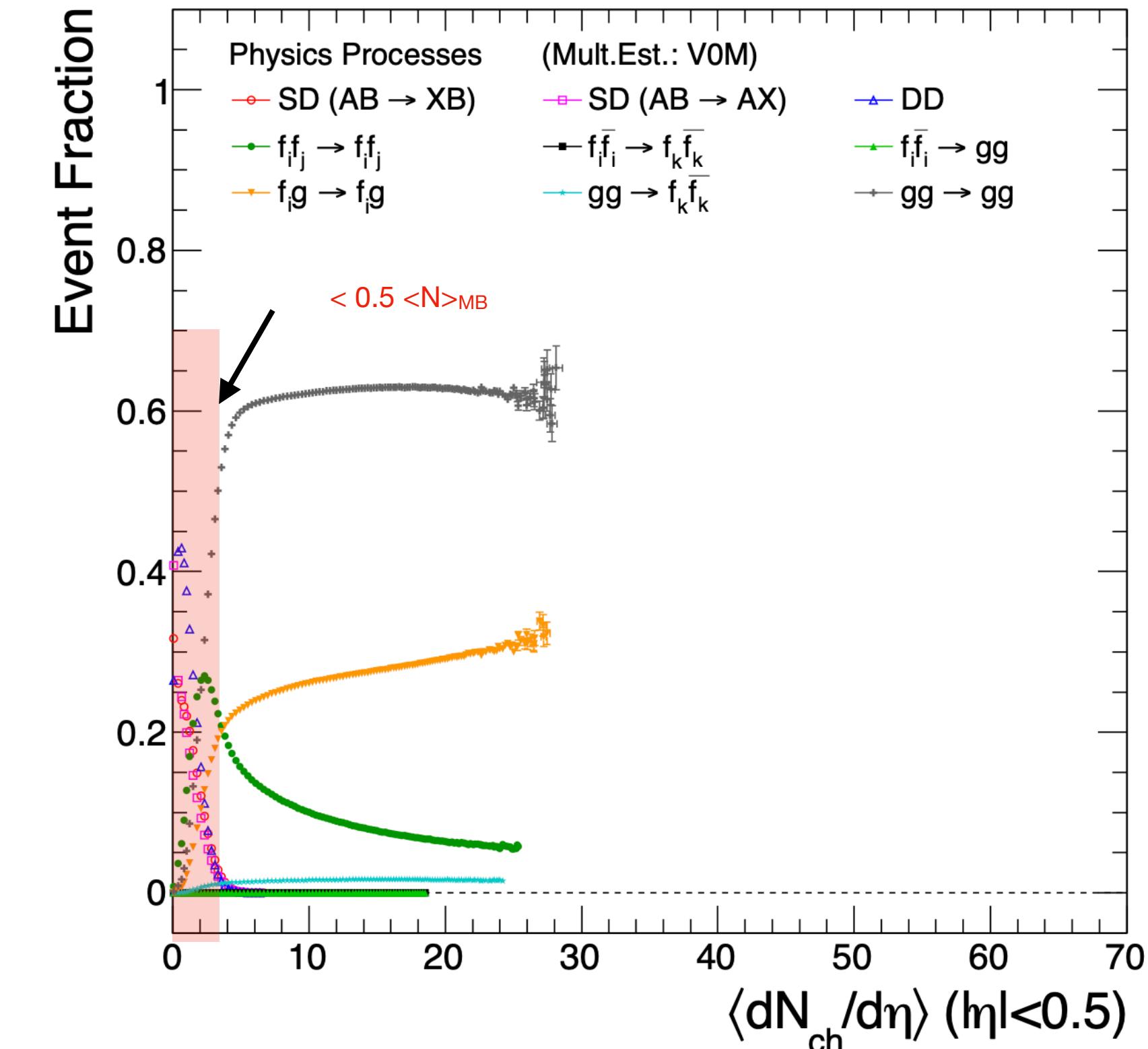
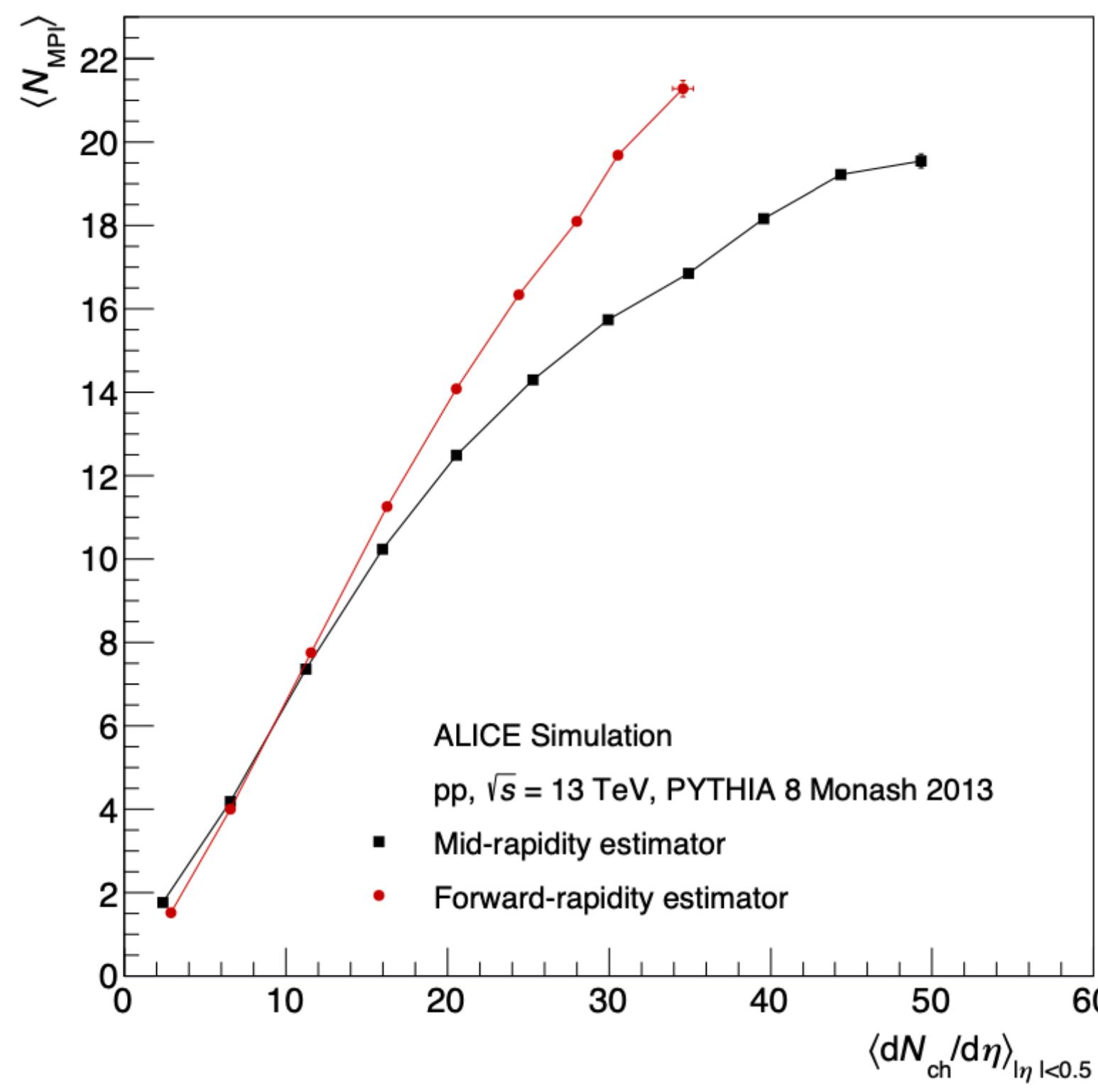
# The low- $p_T$ limit



- Factorisation breaks for  $n_{2 \rightarrow 2}$  large in area  $\propto 1/p_T^2$ 
  - Damping of hard cross-section at low  $p_T$  (Pythia)
  - "Natural" transition in models like EPOS
  - Decrease of cross-section does not necessarily imply change of kinematics
    - 2-2 topologies seen down to low  $p_T$

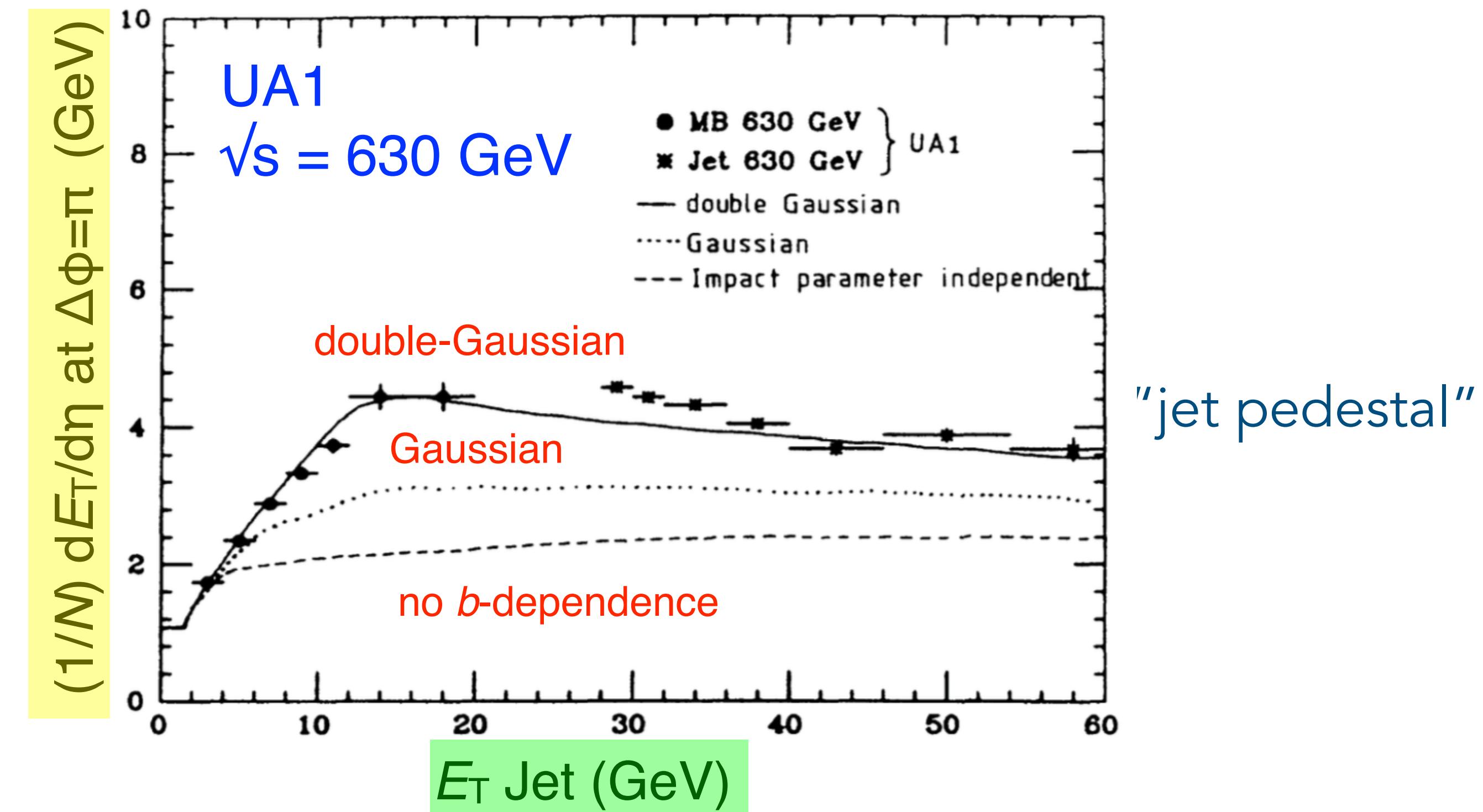
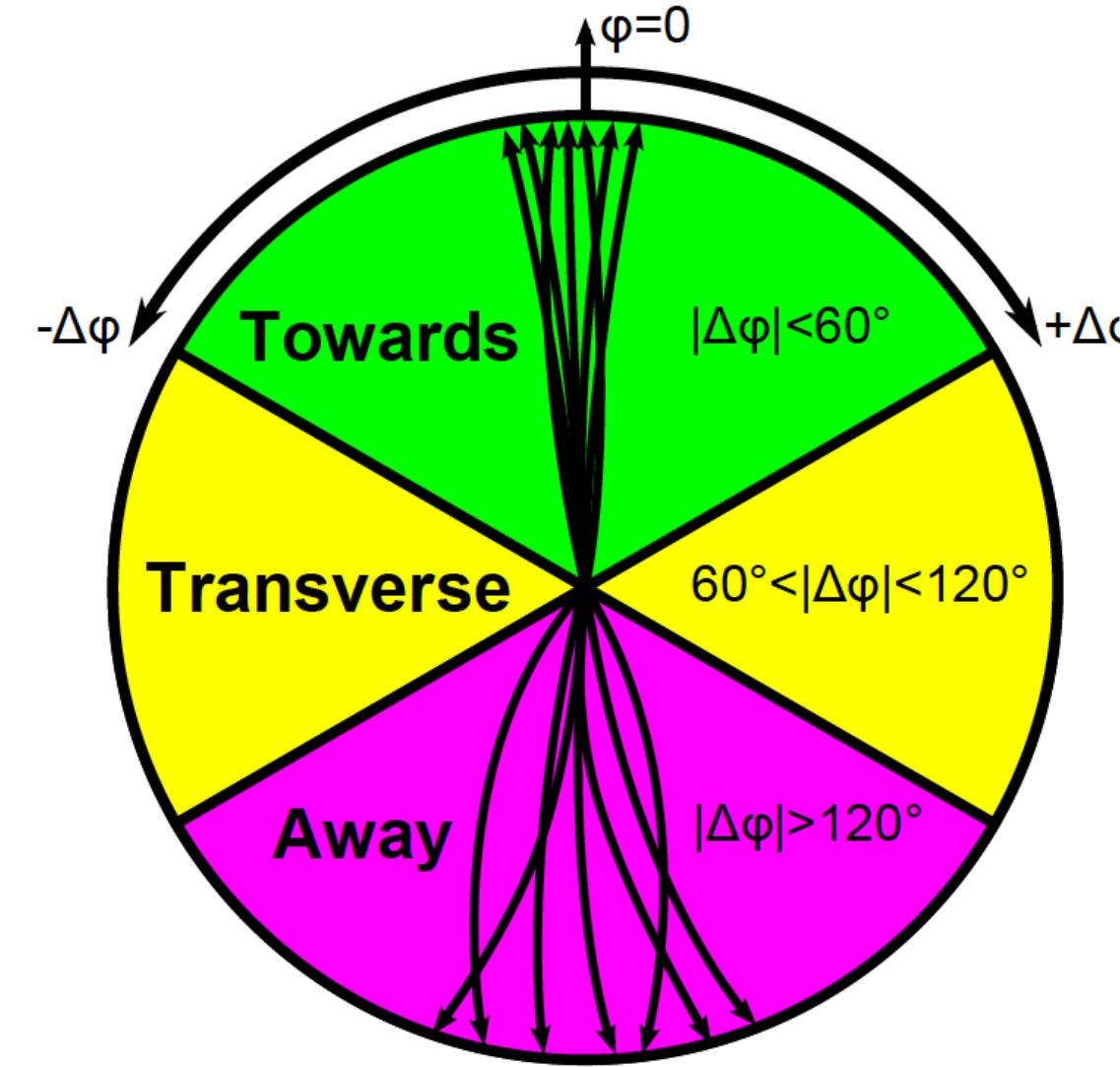
$$\sigma(\hat{p}_T) \rightarrow \sigma(\hat{p}_T) \frac{\hat{p}_T^4}{(\hat{p}_{T0}^2 + \hat{p}_T^2)^2}; \hat{p}_{T0} \approx 1.5 - 2 \text{ GeV}$$

# Multiplicity as a proxy for number of MPI (?)



- Caveat at low multiplicity
  - Smaller number of MPI, but also veto on single parton-parton scattering
  - Increased importance of non-perturbative processes (diffraction, ...), very model dependent
  - Some strong effects (decrease of  $\Omega/\pi$ ) observed in this region.

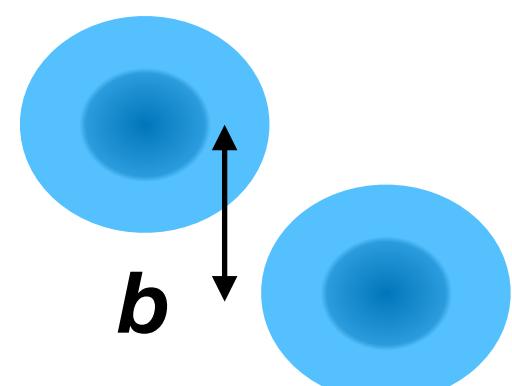
# Underlying Event of hard process = Minimum Bias?



- High  $p_T$  objects bias towards smaller  $b$  where probability for additional interactions is larger increased UE activity.
- Constrain in MPI models radial parton distribution in proton

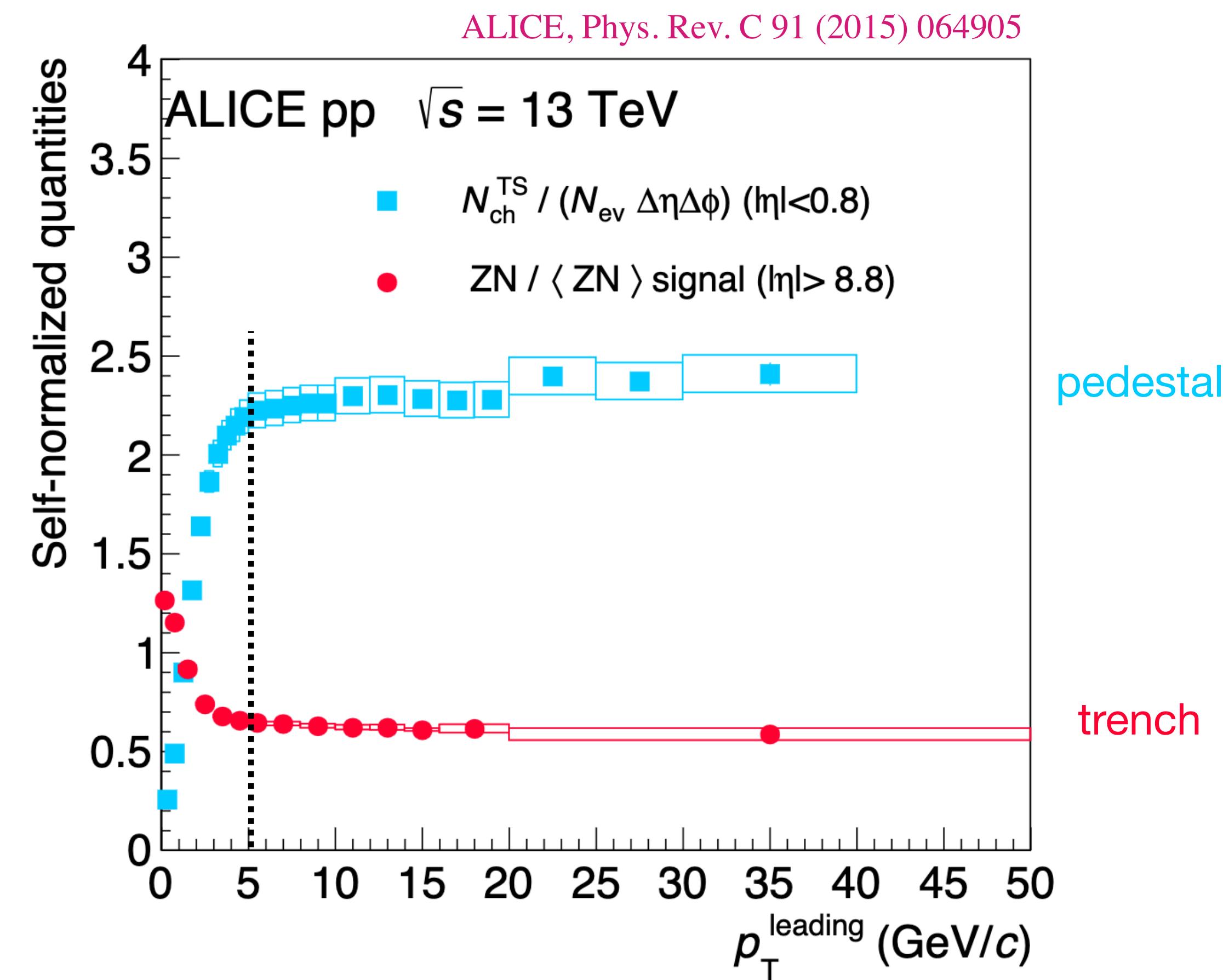
Number of hard scatterings depends on matter overlap:

$$\langle n^{\text{hard}} \rangle = T_{\text{pp}}(b) \sigma_{\text{hard}}$$



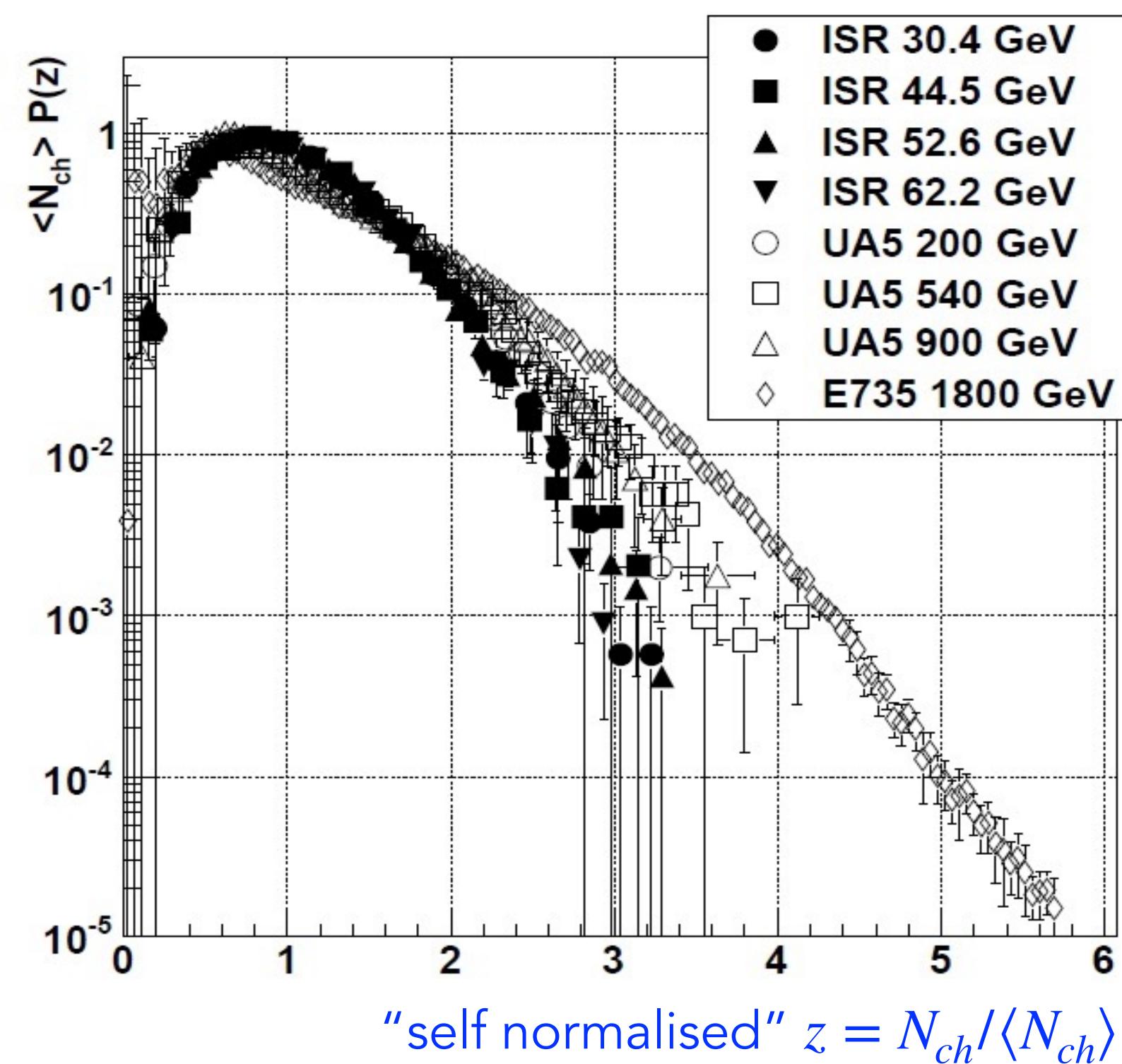
# Pedestal unambiguously related to initial state

Correlation between 0-deg energy and leading particle tag



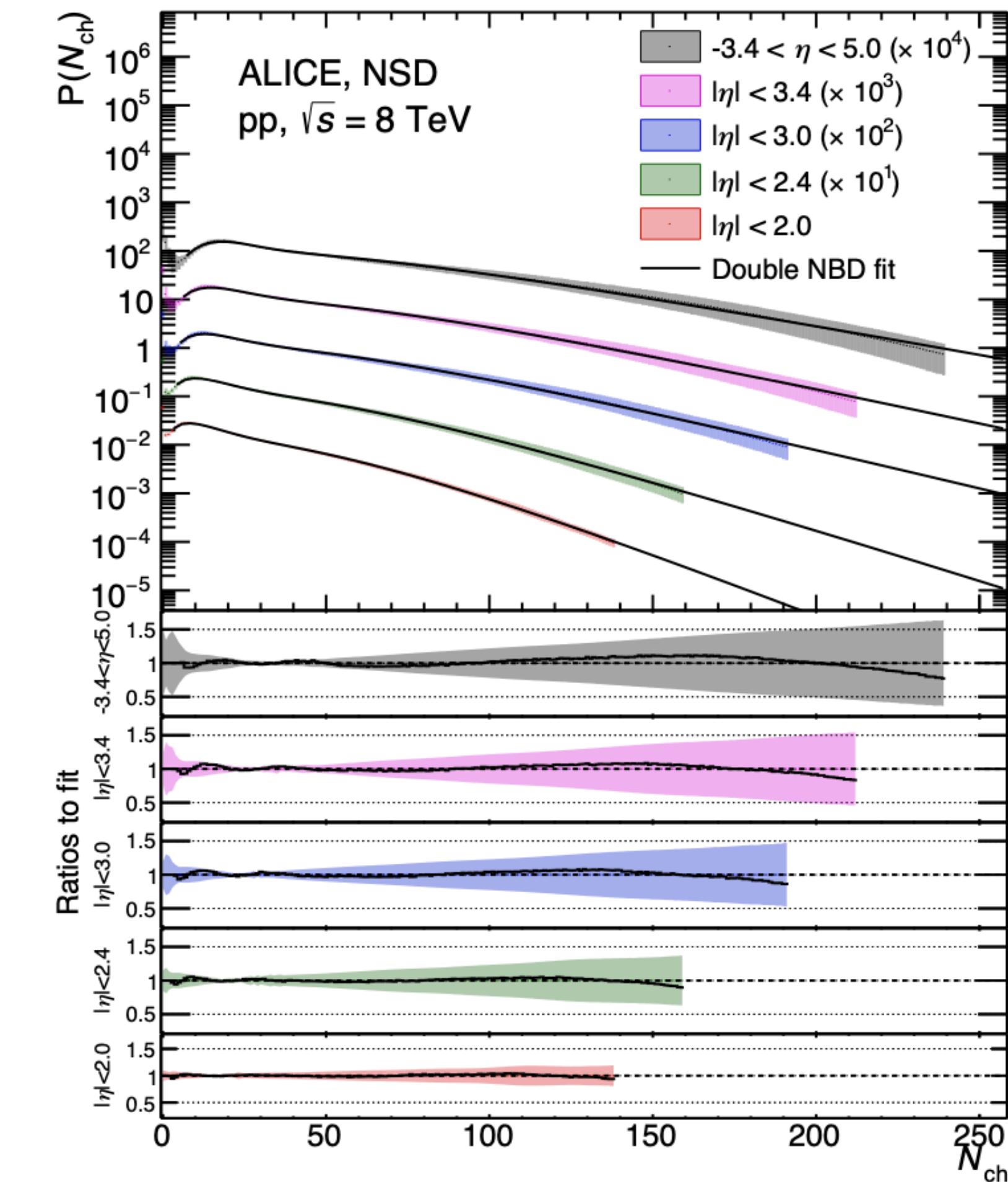
Correlations of signals separated by 8 units of rapidity proof that an initial state effect is observed

# Centrality explains also deviation from KNO scaling



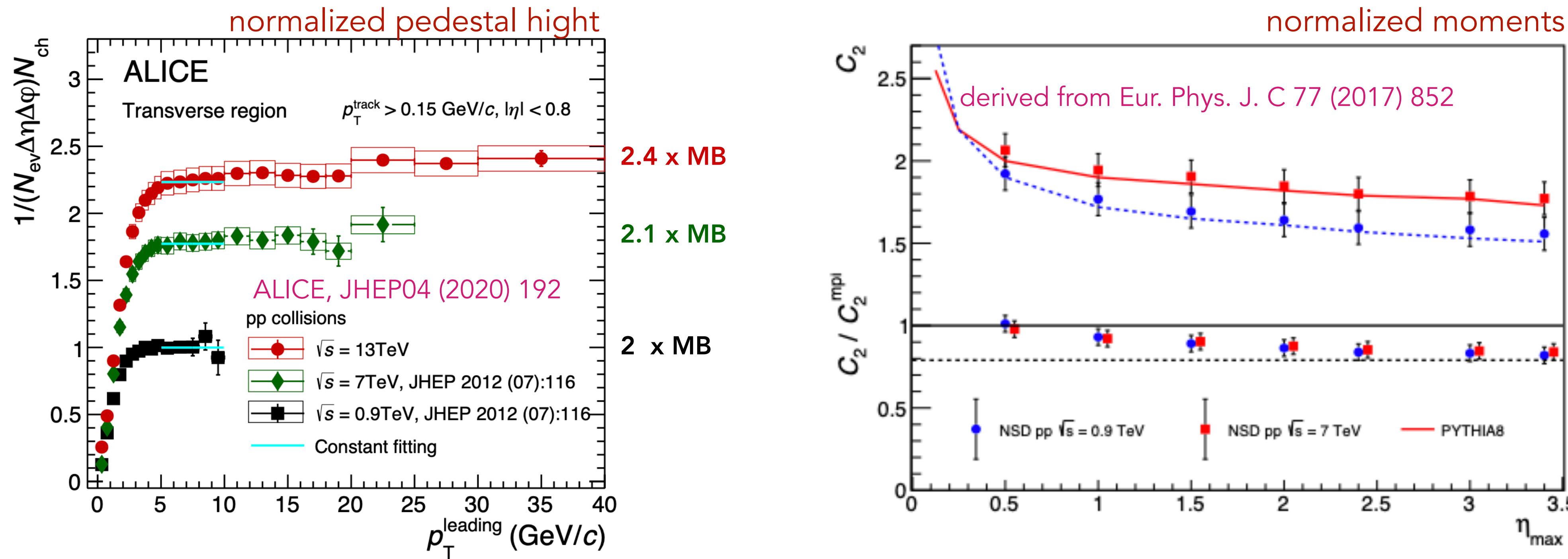
Deviation from KNO scaling for  $\sqrt{s} > 200$  GeV  
Fluctuations beyond Poissonian production  
of ancestors and their fragmentation.

Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 852



Double Negative Binomial Distribution (NBD)  
provide could description of data

# Fluctuations and pedestal are related



$$C_2 = \frac{\langle N^2 \rangle}{\langle N \rangle^2}$$

- Jet Pedestal and multiplicity fluctuations increase with  $\sqrt{s}$
- They are similar in size, when properly normalised
- Relation via impact parameter fluctuations

# Fluctuations and pedestal are related

- Multiplicity fluctuations and jet pedestal effect are linked via impact parameter fluctuations.

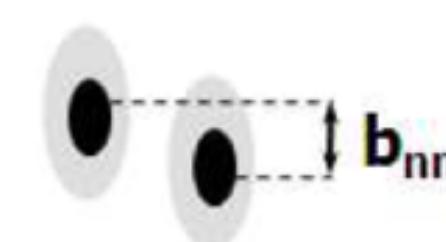
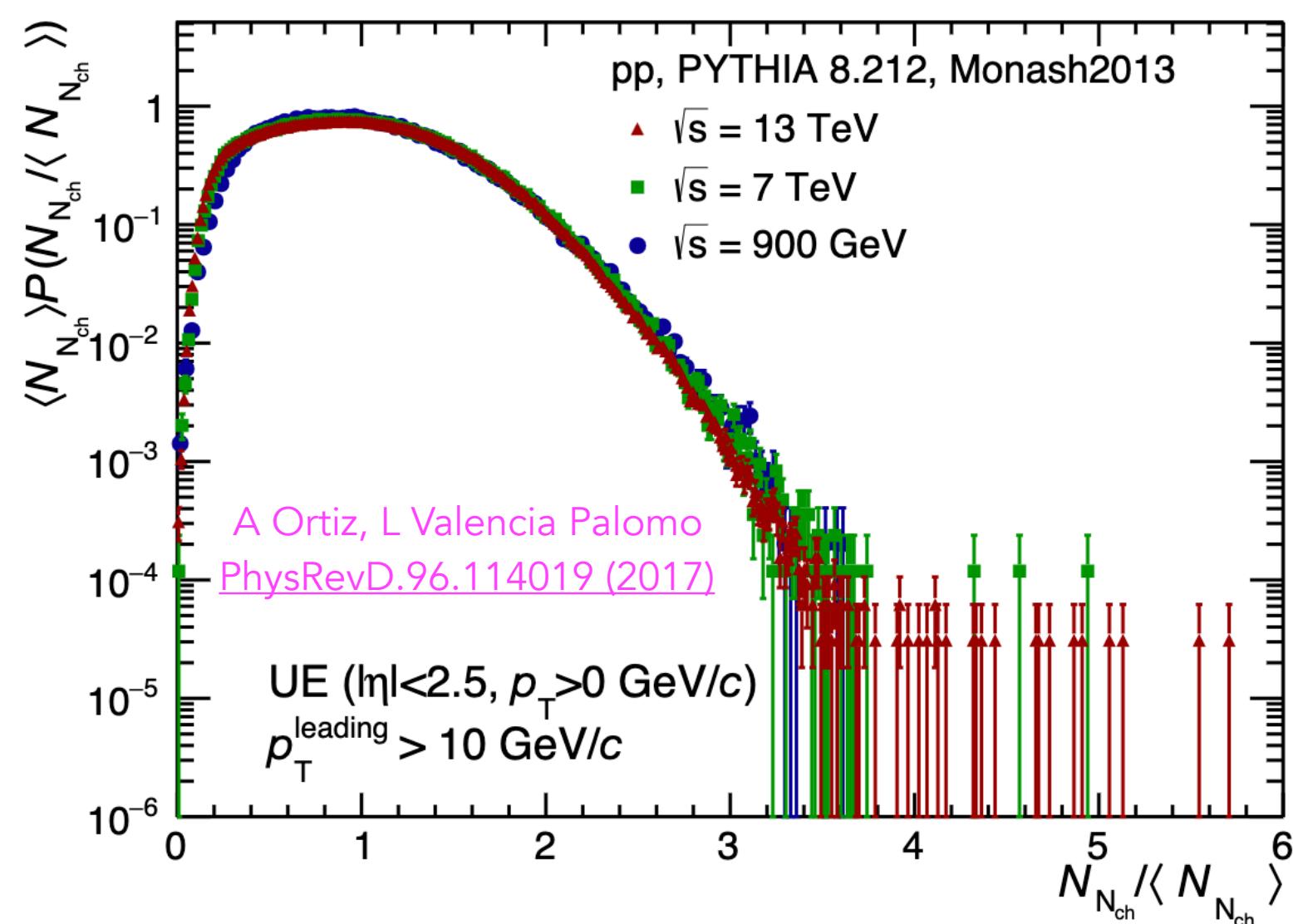
- In case hard yield proportional to (unbiased) multiplicity estimator

$$\langle Y \rangle / \langle Y \rangle_{MB} \propto \langle N \rangle / \langle N \rangle_{MB}$$

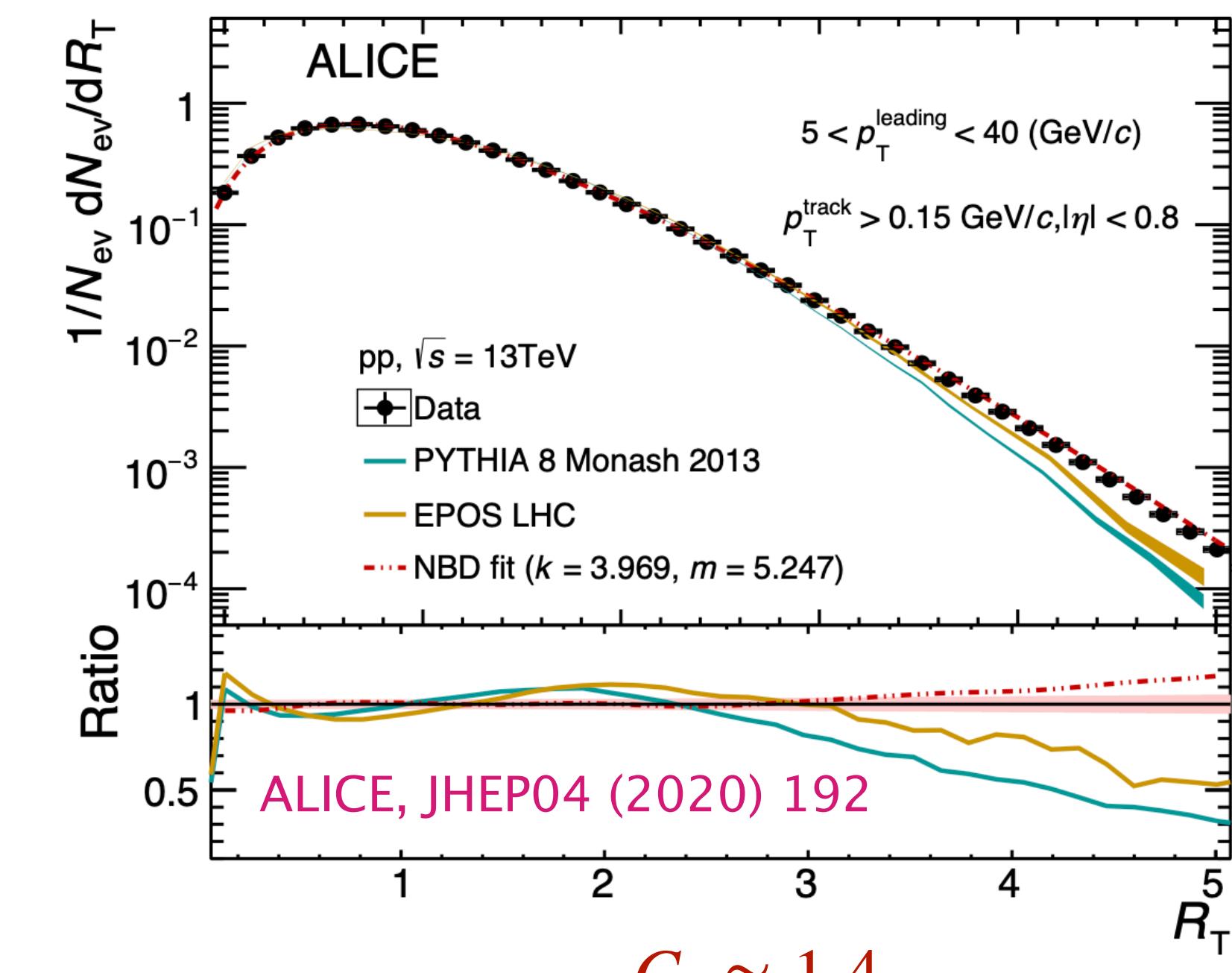
- $\langle N_{pedestal} \rangle / \langle N_{MB} \rangle = C_2 = \langle N_{MB}^2 \rangle / \langle N_{MB} \rangle^2 \approx 2$

- Since impact parameter more constrained also expect

- $C_2^{pedestal} \approx C_3^{MPI} / (C_2^{MPI})^2 \approx 1.4 < C_2^{MB}$



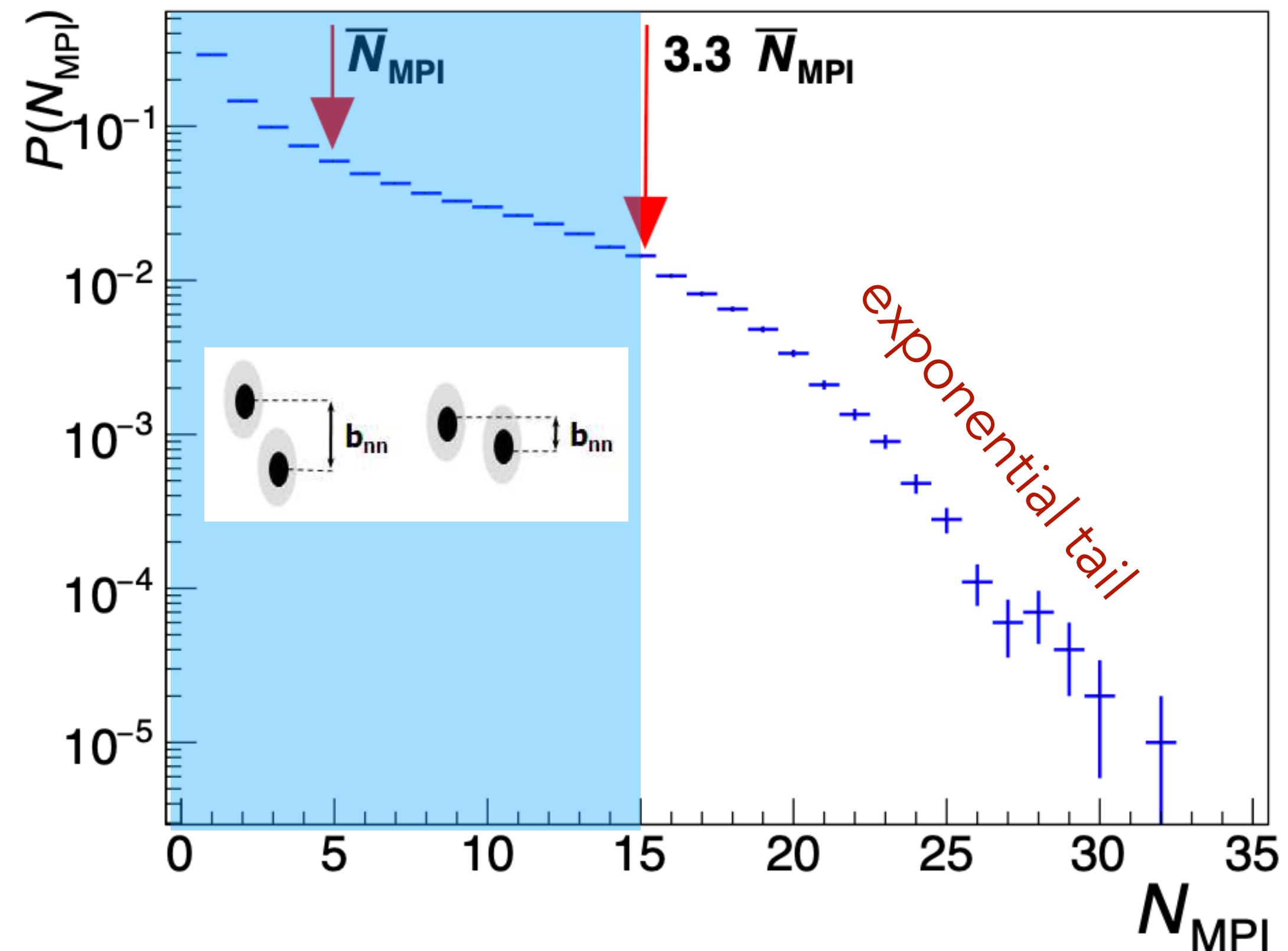
Multiplicity fluctuations inside pedestal region



and well described by NBD

# Origin of high multiplicity events

PYTHIA8.230, pp  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV, nondiffractive events



- Very high multiplicity events are not anymore explained by impact parameter fluctuations
- Mainly statistical fluctuations ?

# e-p: The lumpiness of the proton

H. Mantysaari and B. Schenke, Phys. Lett. B772 (2017) 832

## diffractive $J/\psi$ production

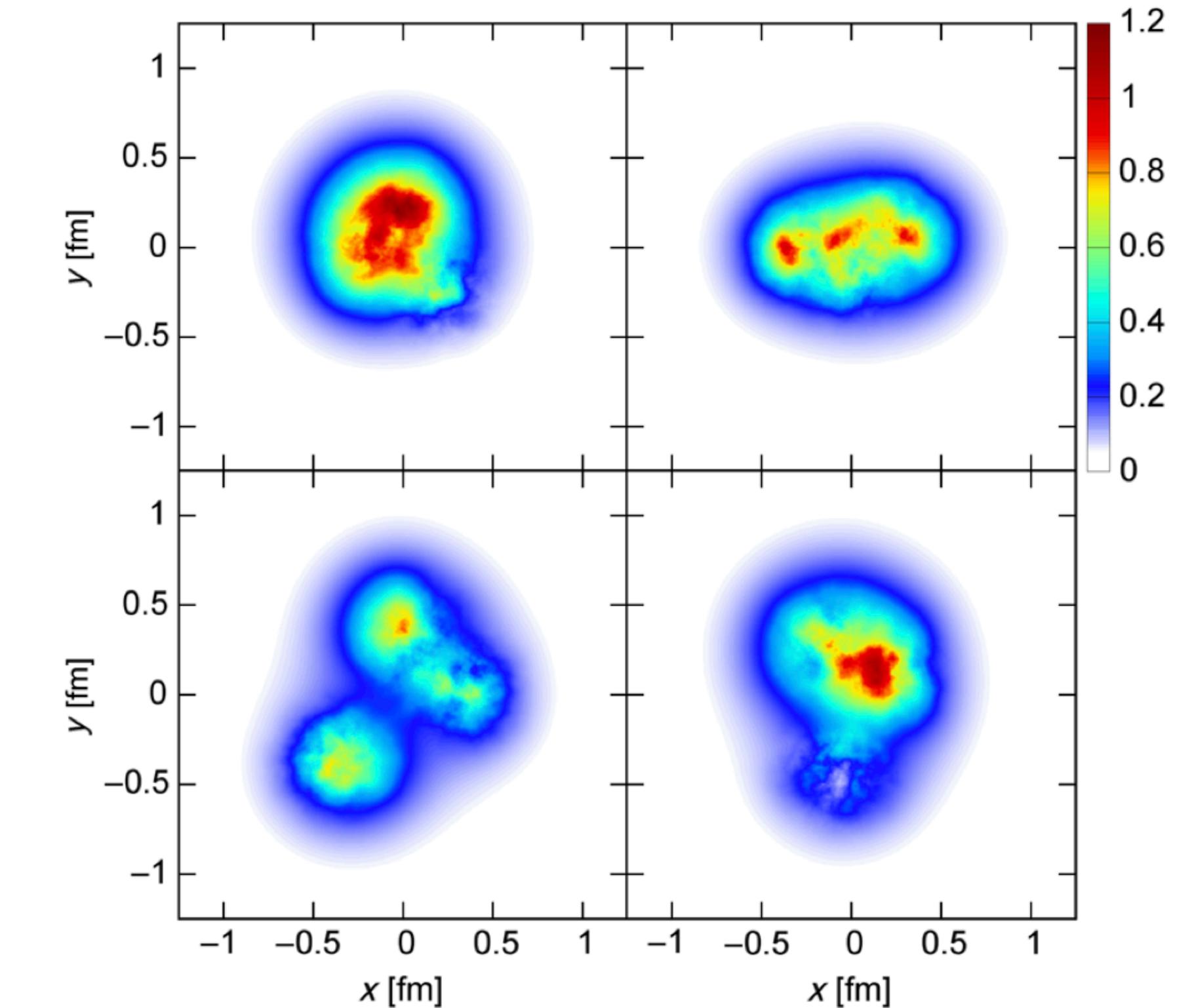
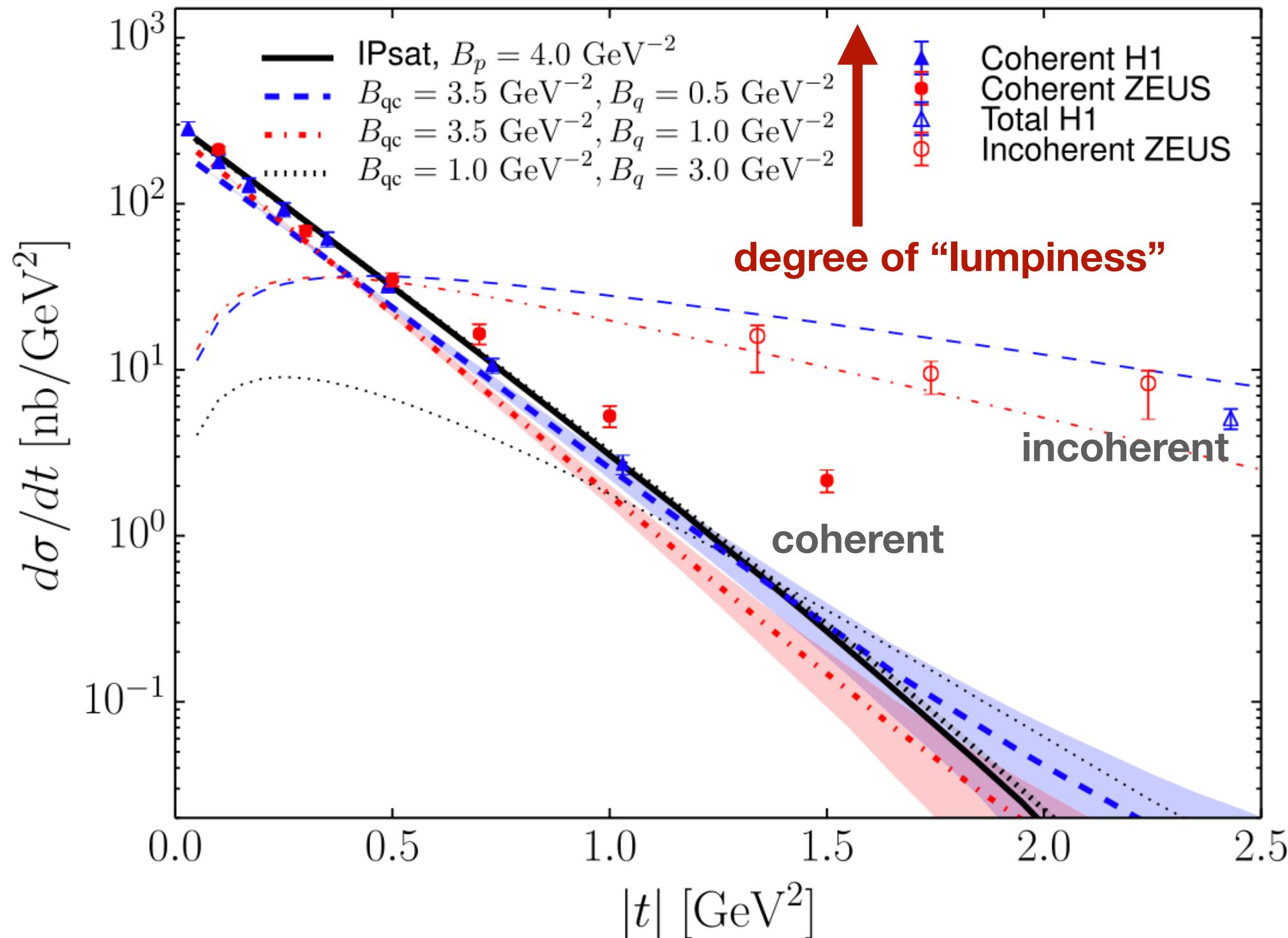


FIG. 3. Four configurations of the proton in the IP-Glasma model at  $x \approx 10^{-3}$ , represented by  $1 - \text{Re}(\text{Tr}V)/N_c$ .

Incoherent cross section is extremely sensitive to the degree of geometric fluctuations of the proton.

# Additional fluctuations?

Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 852

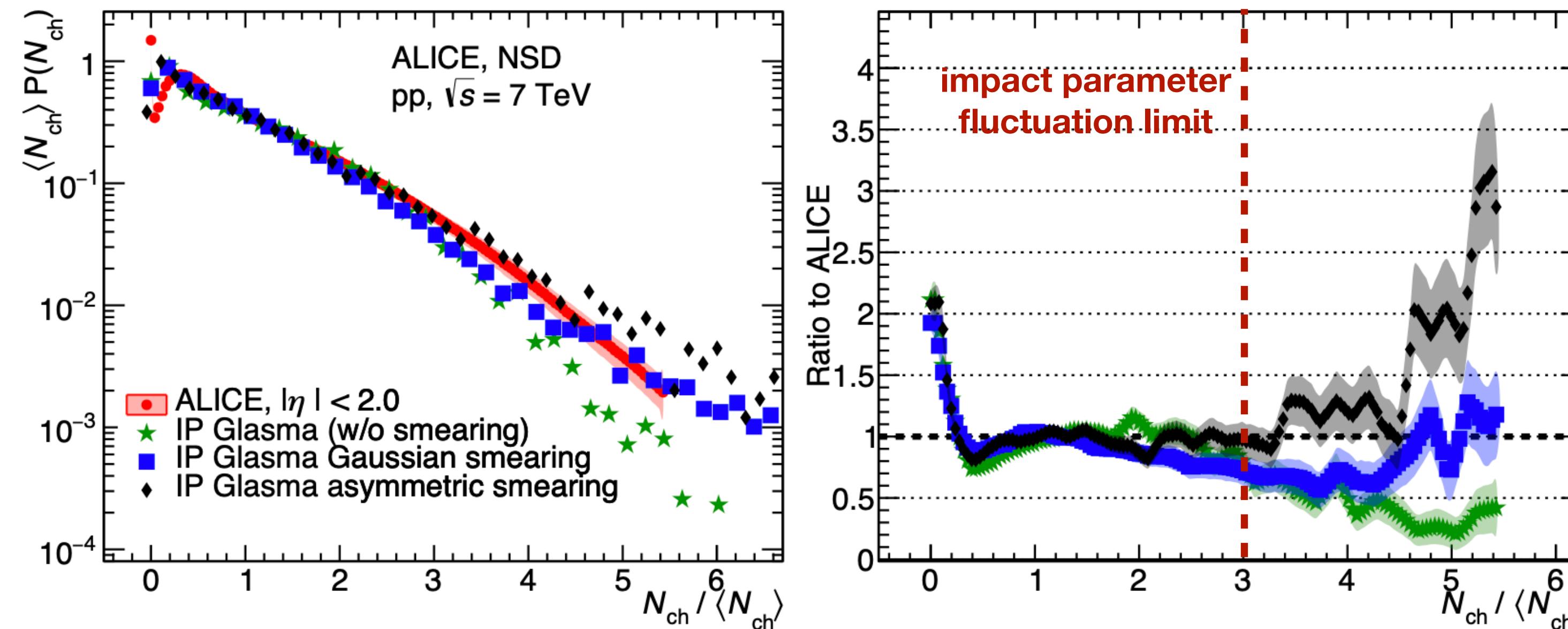


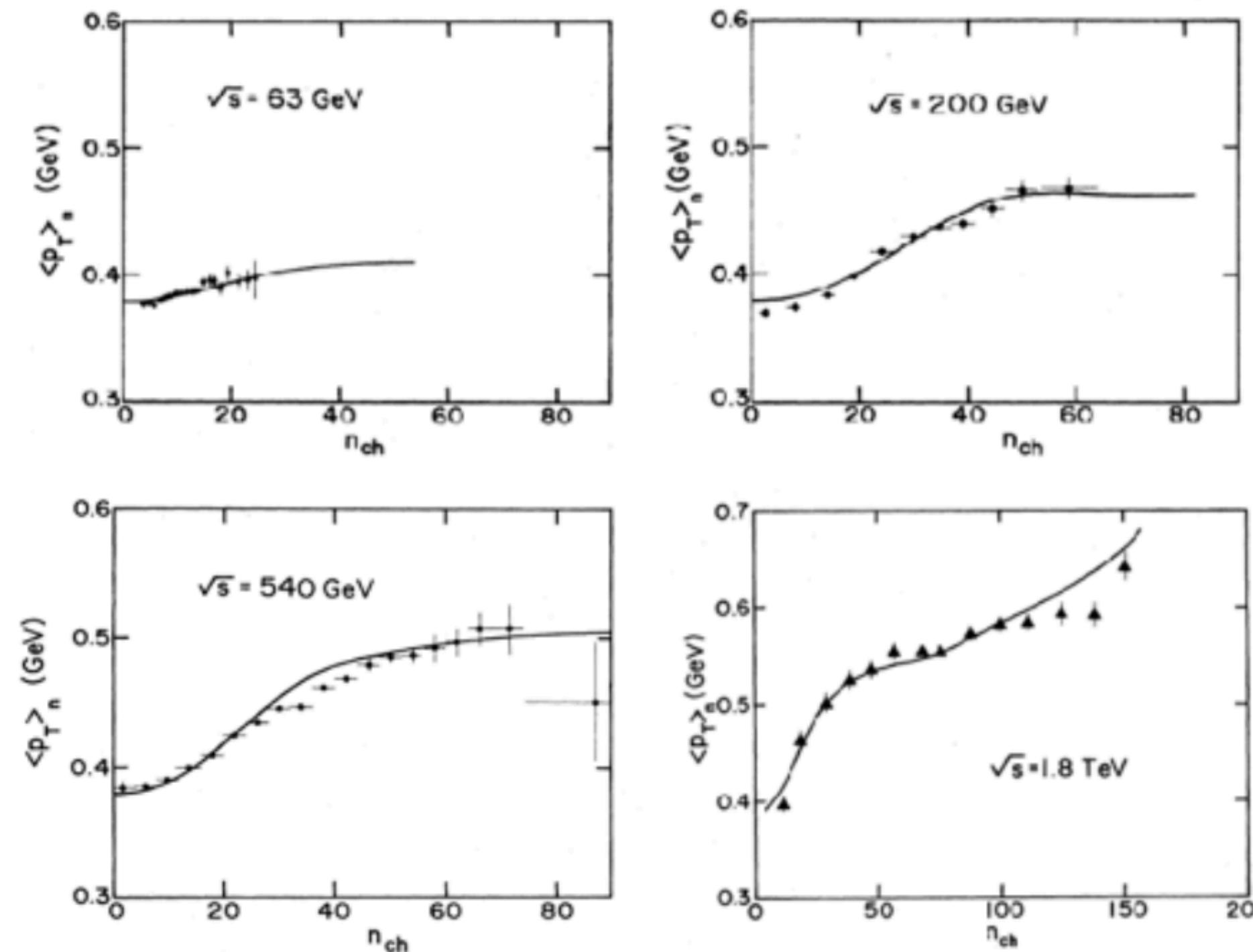
Figure 8: Charged-particle multiplicity distributions for pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV compared to distributions from the IP-Glasma model with the ratio between  $Q_s$  and the color charge density either fixed (green stars), allowed to fluctuate with a Gaussian (blue squares) [12] or with additional fluctuations of proton saturation scale (black diamonds) [13].

Are the tails of the multiplicity distribution sensitive to fluctuations beyond the impact parameter limit?

# Two components model: Hard-Soft Transition

XN Wang and R Hwa (Phys.Rev. D39 (1989) 187)

$\langle p_T \rangle$

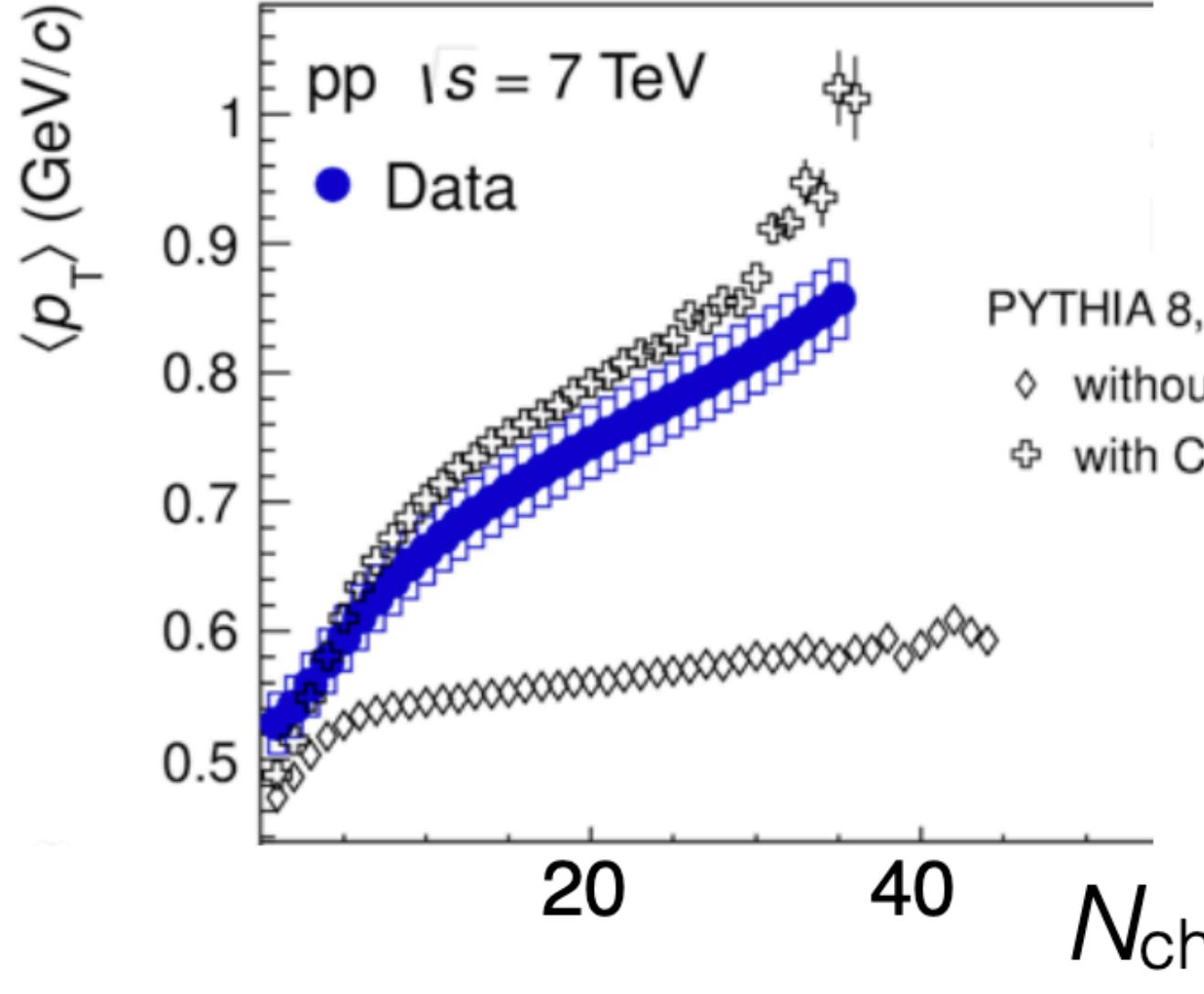


$\langle n_{ch} \rangle$

- two component model hard + soft
- expect "ledge effect"
  - 1st ledge: increasing dominance of hard processes
  - 2nd ledge: jet fragments contribute to multiplicity  $\Rightarrow$  fragmentation and parton- $p_T$  bias

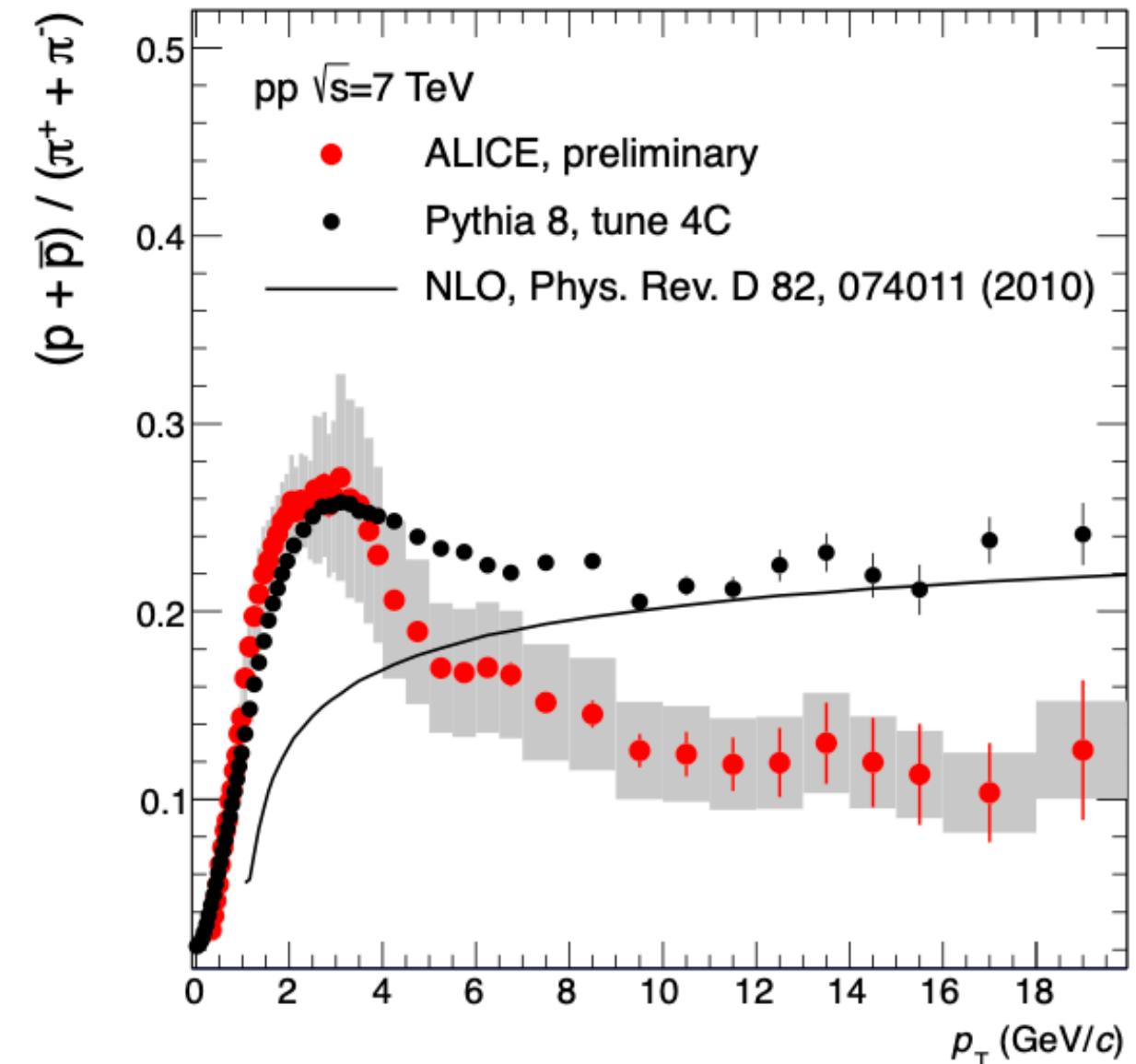
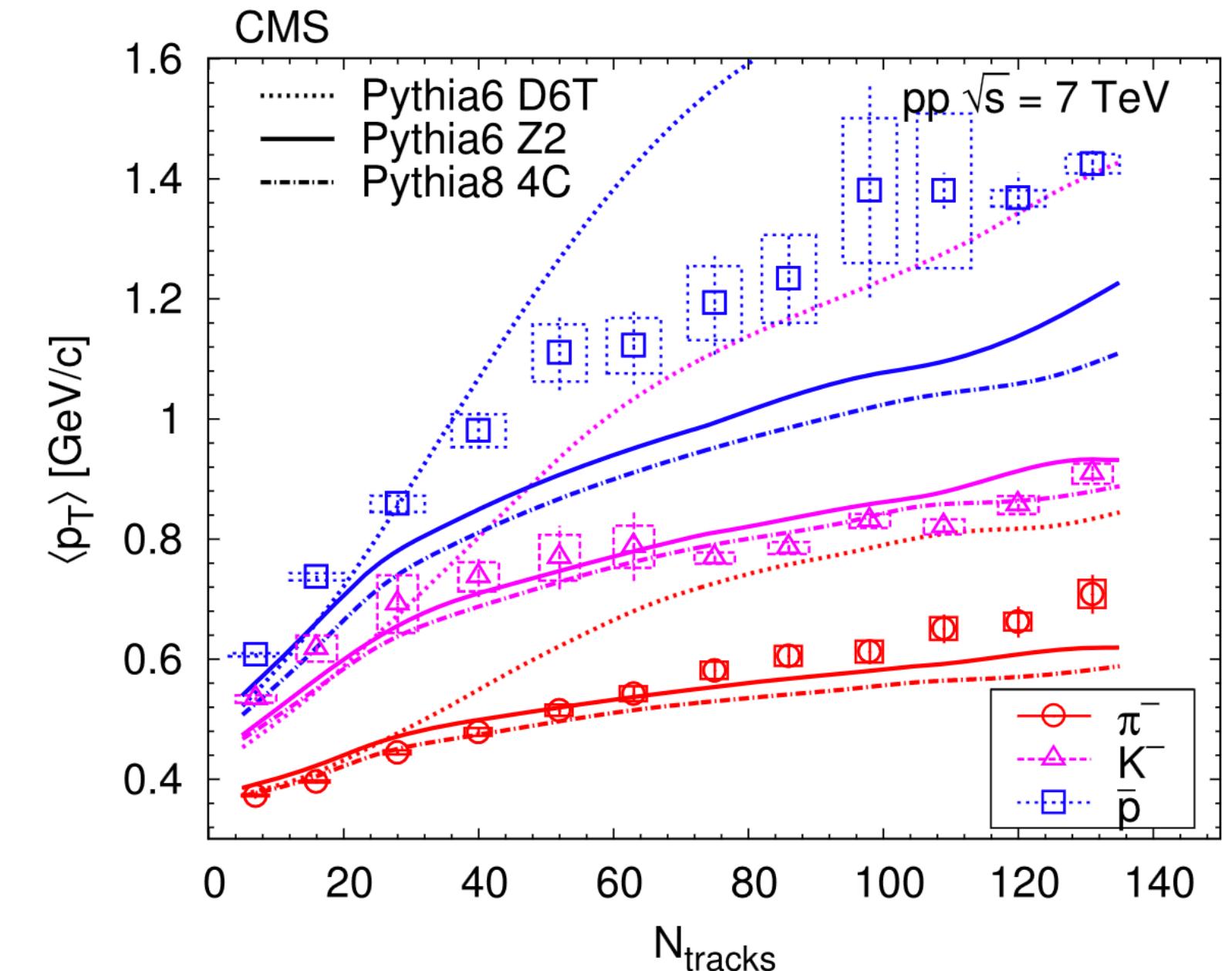
# More than hard/soft transition

ALICE Phys.Lett. B727 (2013) 371-380



ALICE, charged particles  
 $|\eta| < 0.3, 0.15 < p_T < 10.0$  GeV/c

Effects stronger than the soft/hard transition

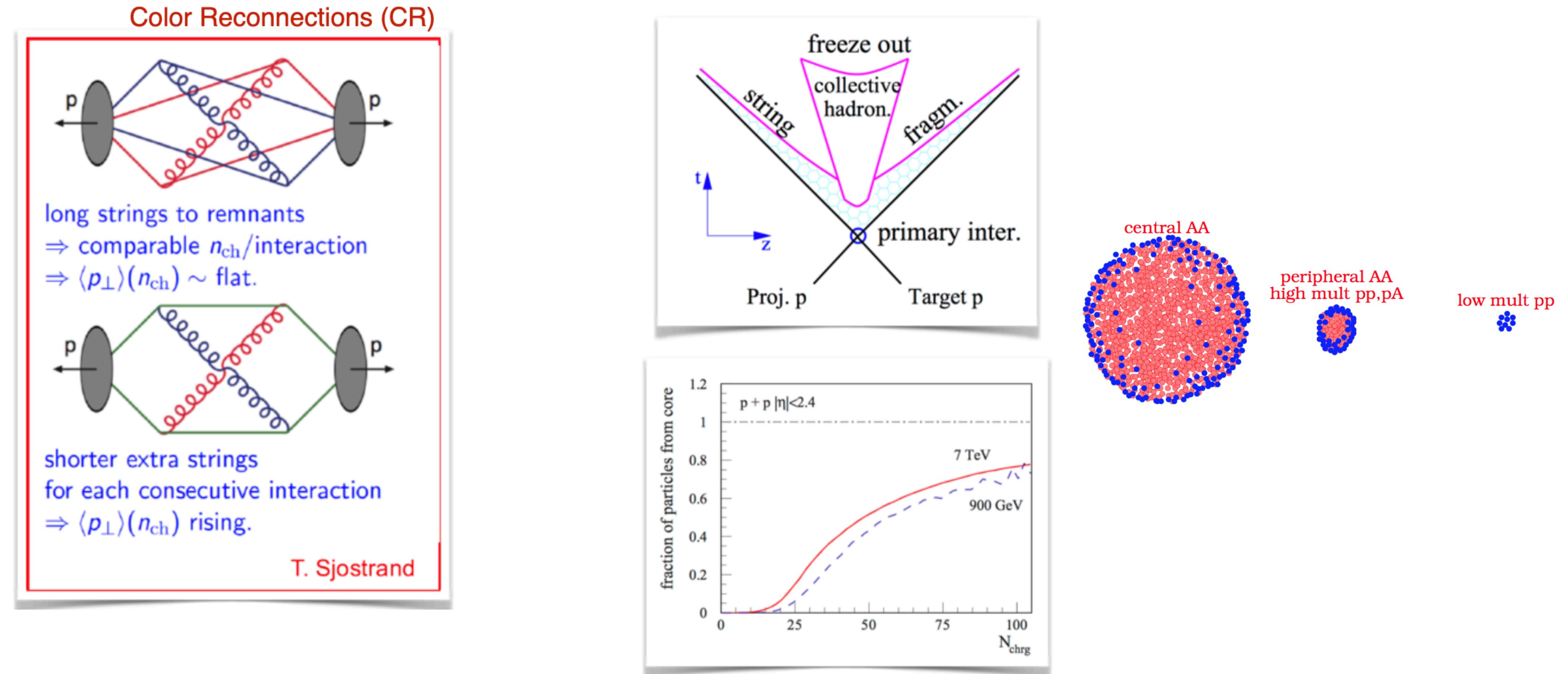


Clear mass dependence

A Ortiz, P Christiansen, E Cuautle, I Maldonado, G Paic, PRL 111 042001 (2013)

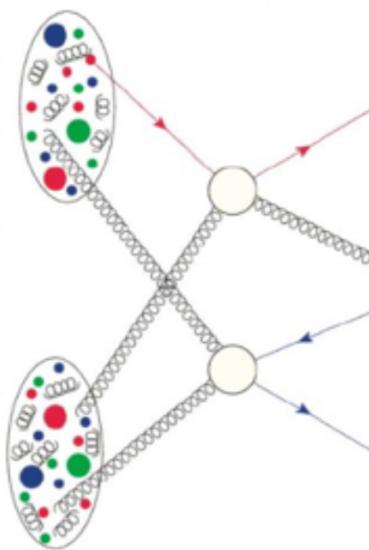
PYTHIA with coherence between strings (color reconnection) produces effects that resemble collective effects in PbPb

# Collective effects in Pythia and EPOS

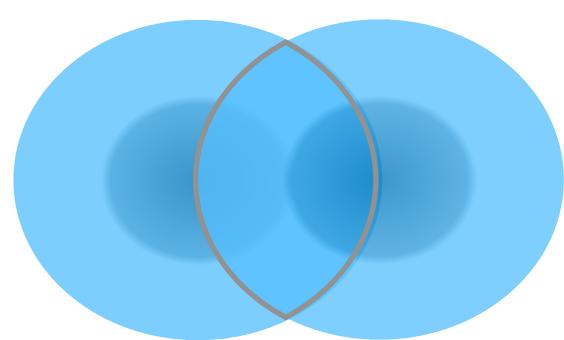


- Corona: string decays
- Core: hydrodynamic evolution and statistical decays

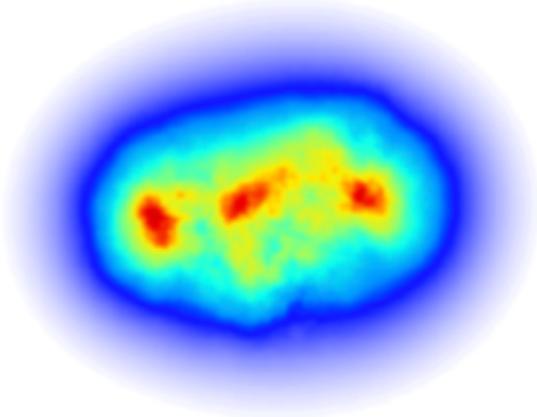
# Basic pp physics so far ...



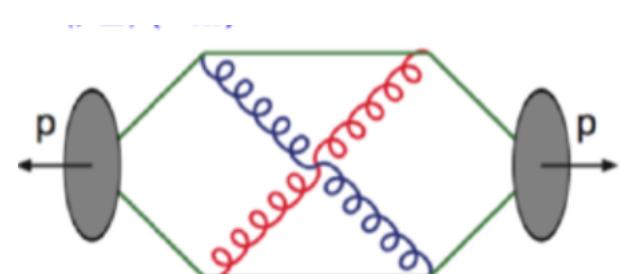
At LHC, multiple partonic interactions at pQCD scale



Centrality dependent effects until about 3xMin Bias multiplicity



Sub-fm density fluctuations inside proton and in collision region



Evidence for interactions between partons produced in initial collision

## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

insights for centrality selection

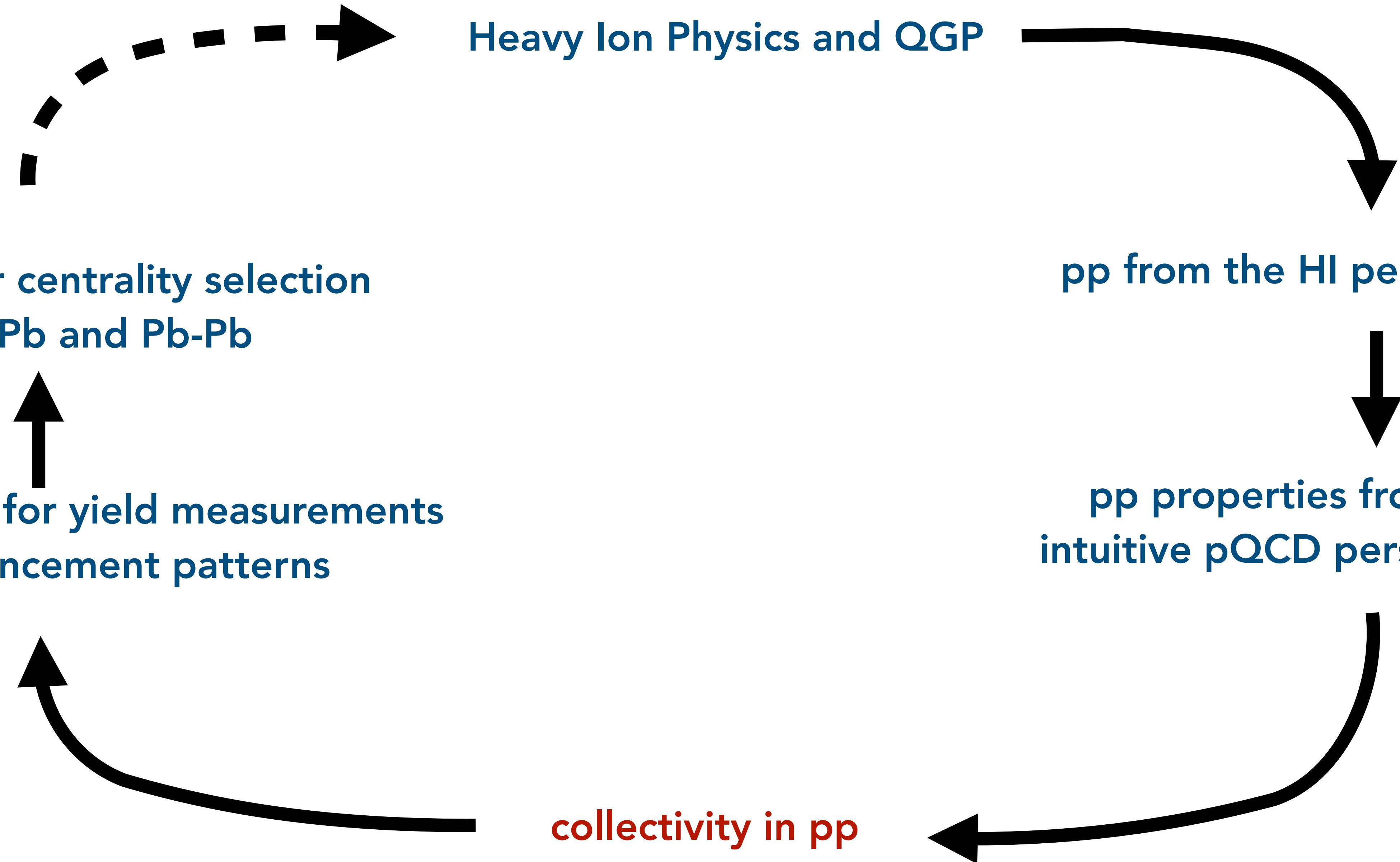
in p-Pb and Pb-Pb

challenges for yield measurements  
enhancement patterns

collectivity in pp

pp from the HI perspective

pp properties from an  
intuitive pQCD perspective

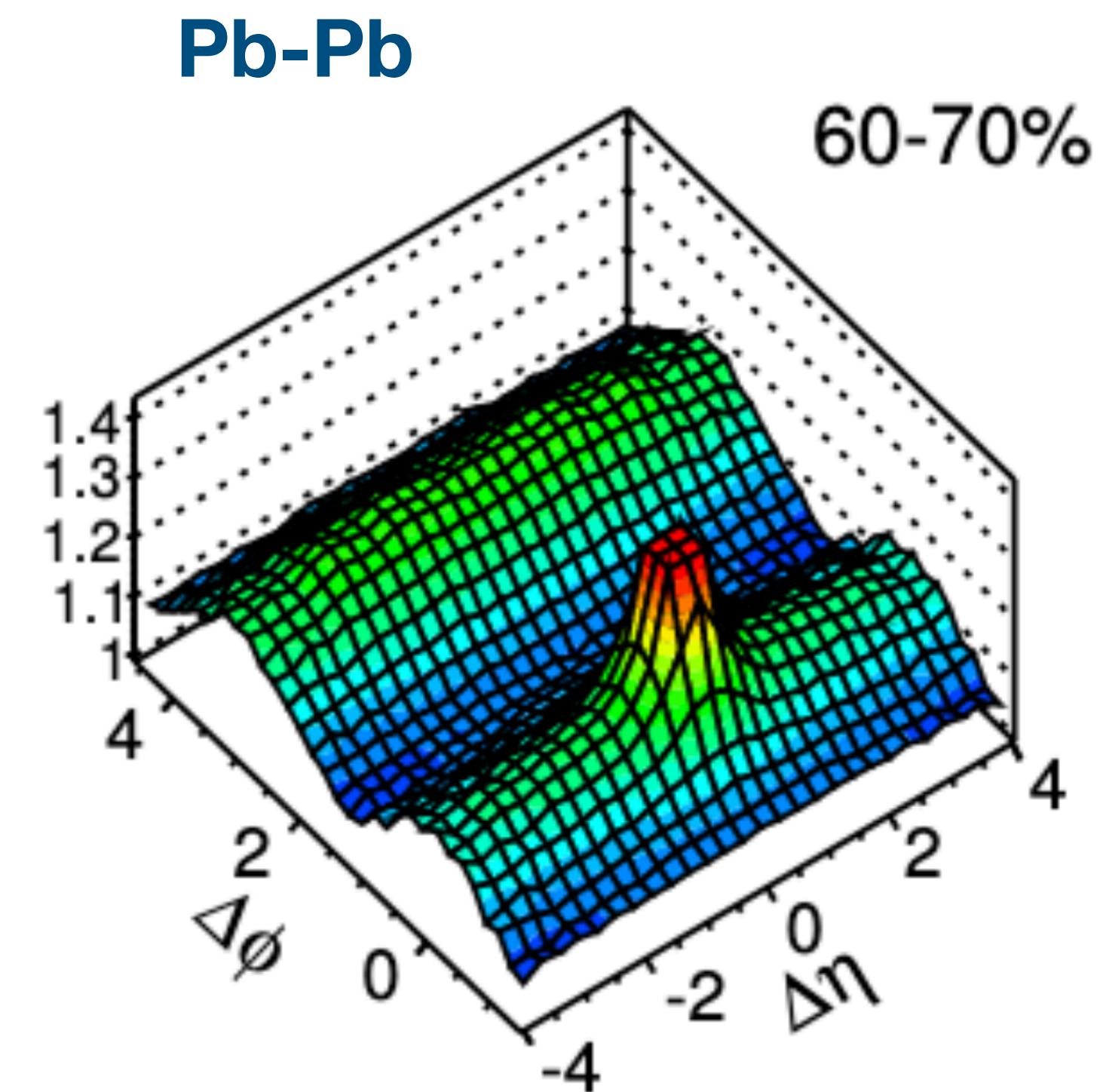
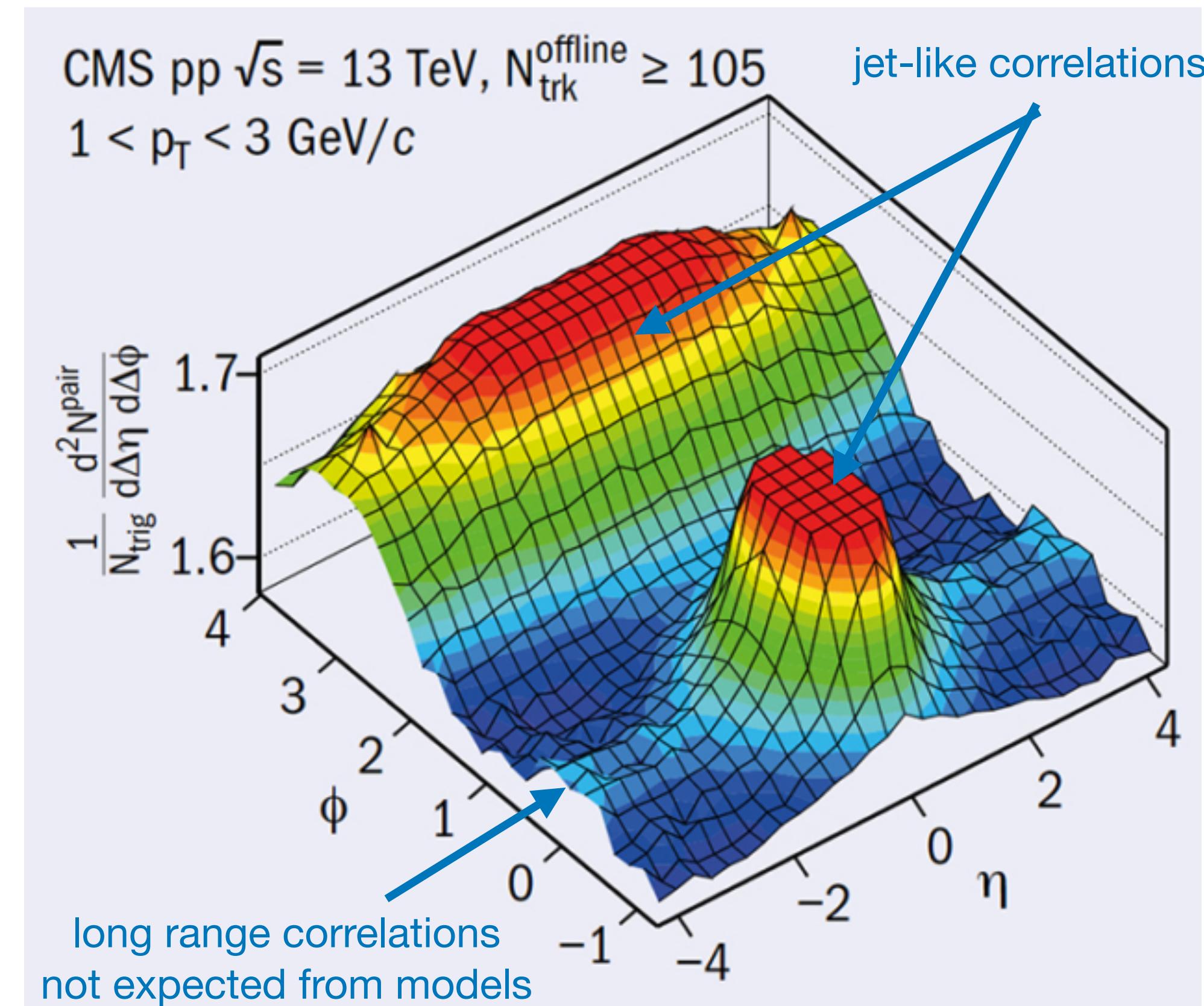


# Long range $\Delta\eta$ correlations in pp: "Ridge"

STRONG INTERACTIONS | NEWS

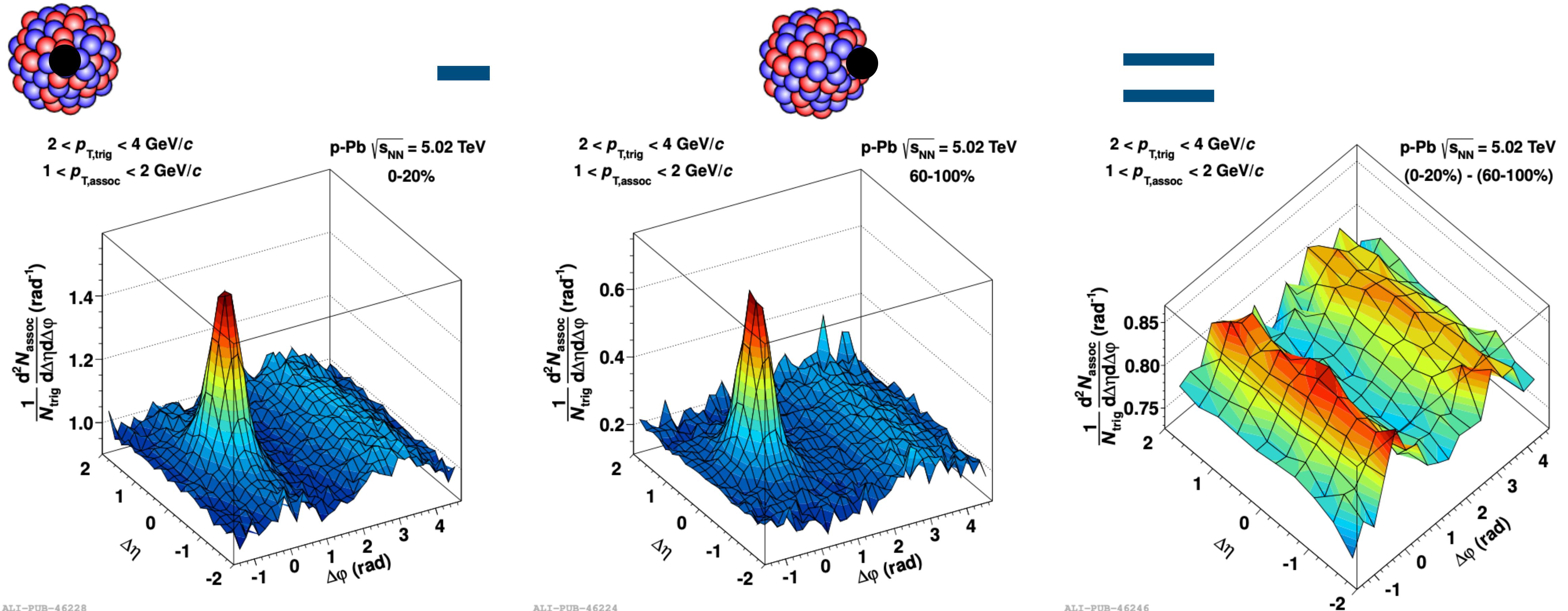
CMS observes long-range correlations in pp  
collisions at 13 TeV

28 October 2015



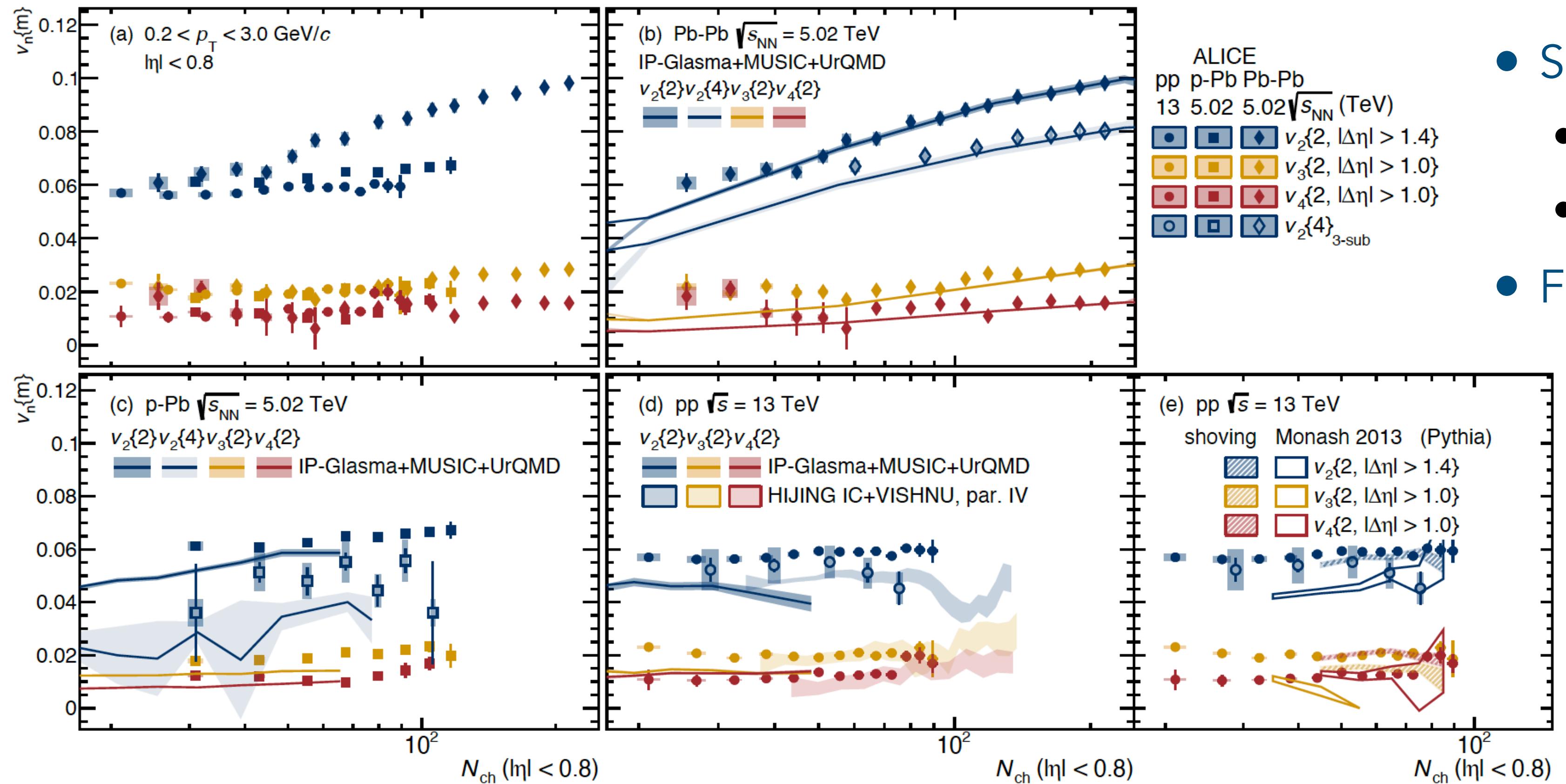
- Striking similarity with Pb-Pb where effect is associated to QGP formation
- However, at that point not excluded that jet-like correlations play a rôle.

# p-Pb: removal of jet-like correlations



- Jet-like correlation removed by subtracting correlations in peripheral collisions
- Results in  $\cos(2\Delta\varphi)$ -modulation constant in  $\Delta\eta$

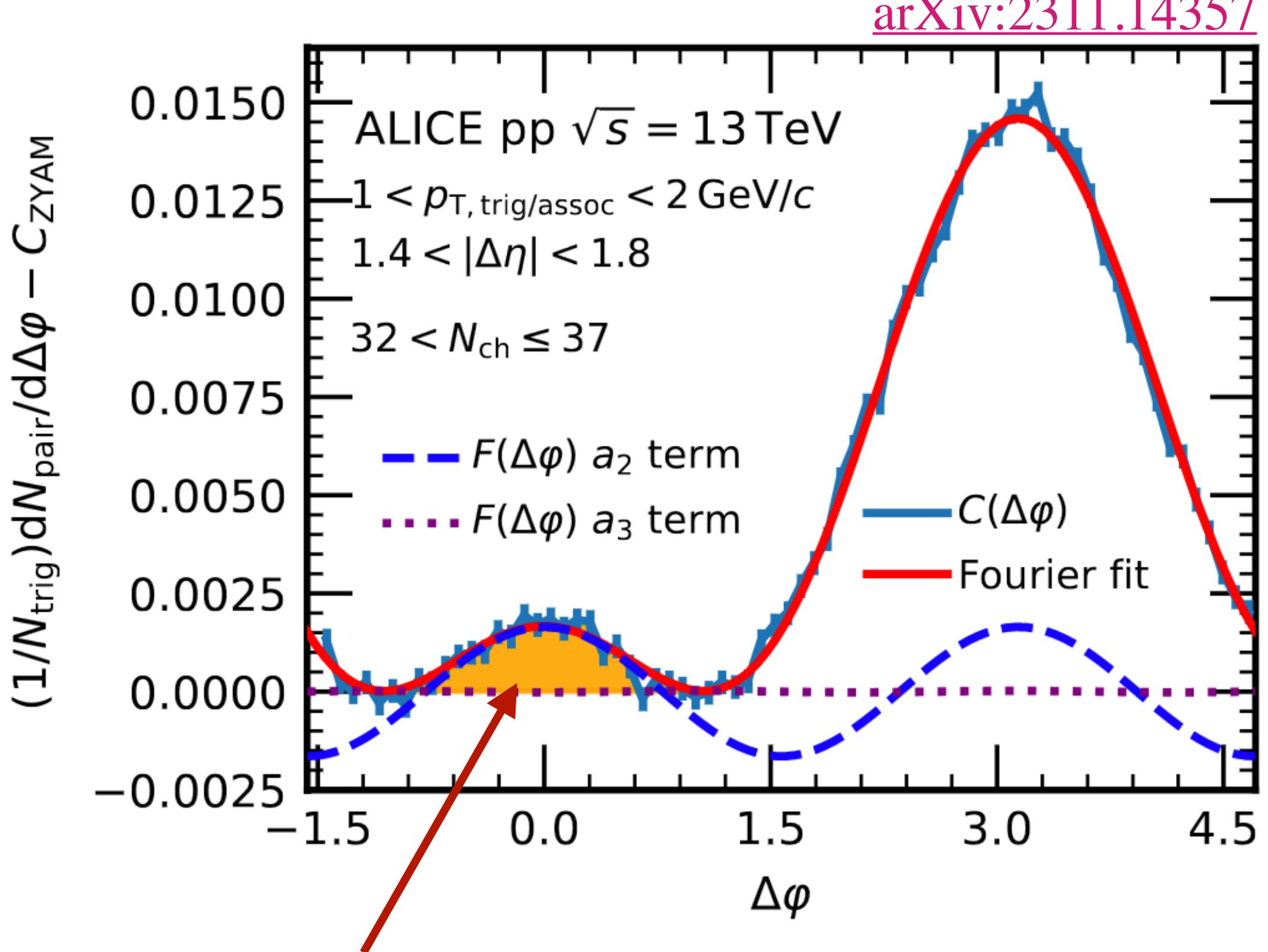
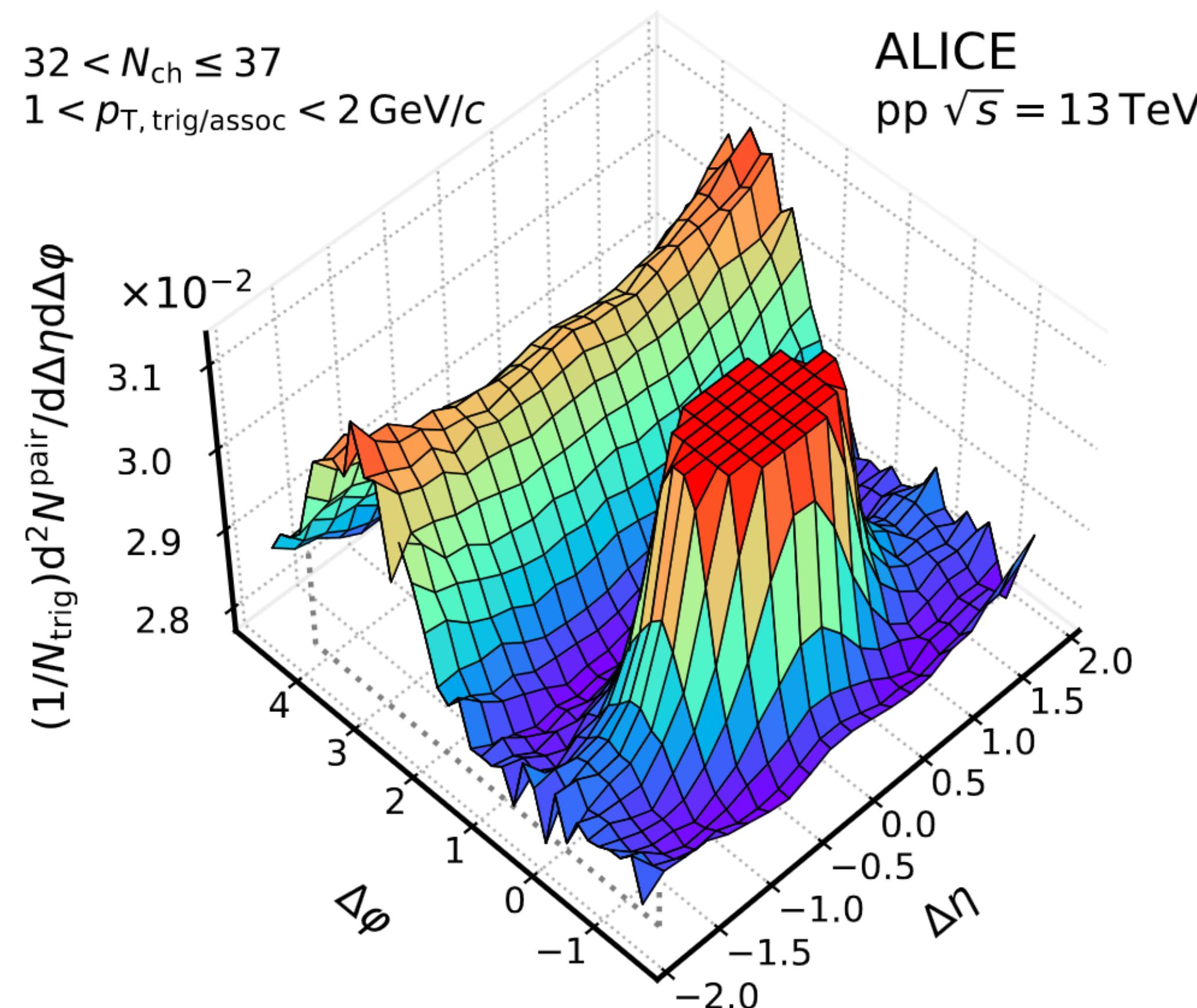
# Collectivity in pp?



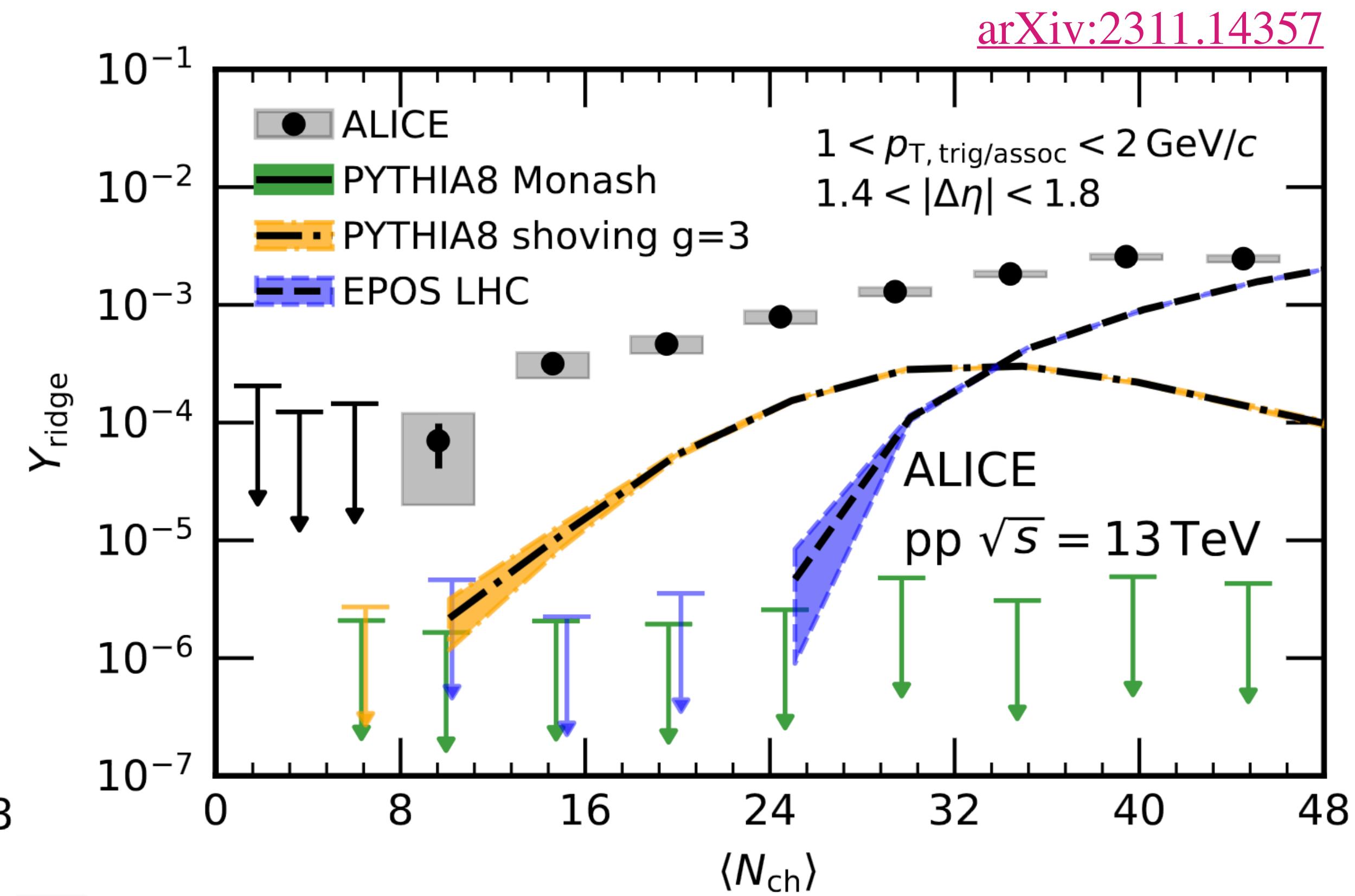
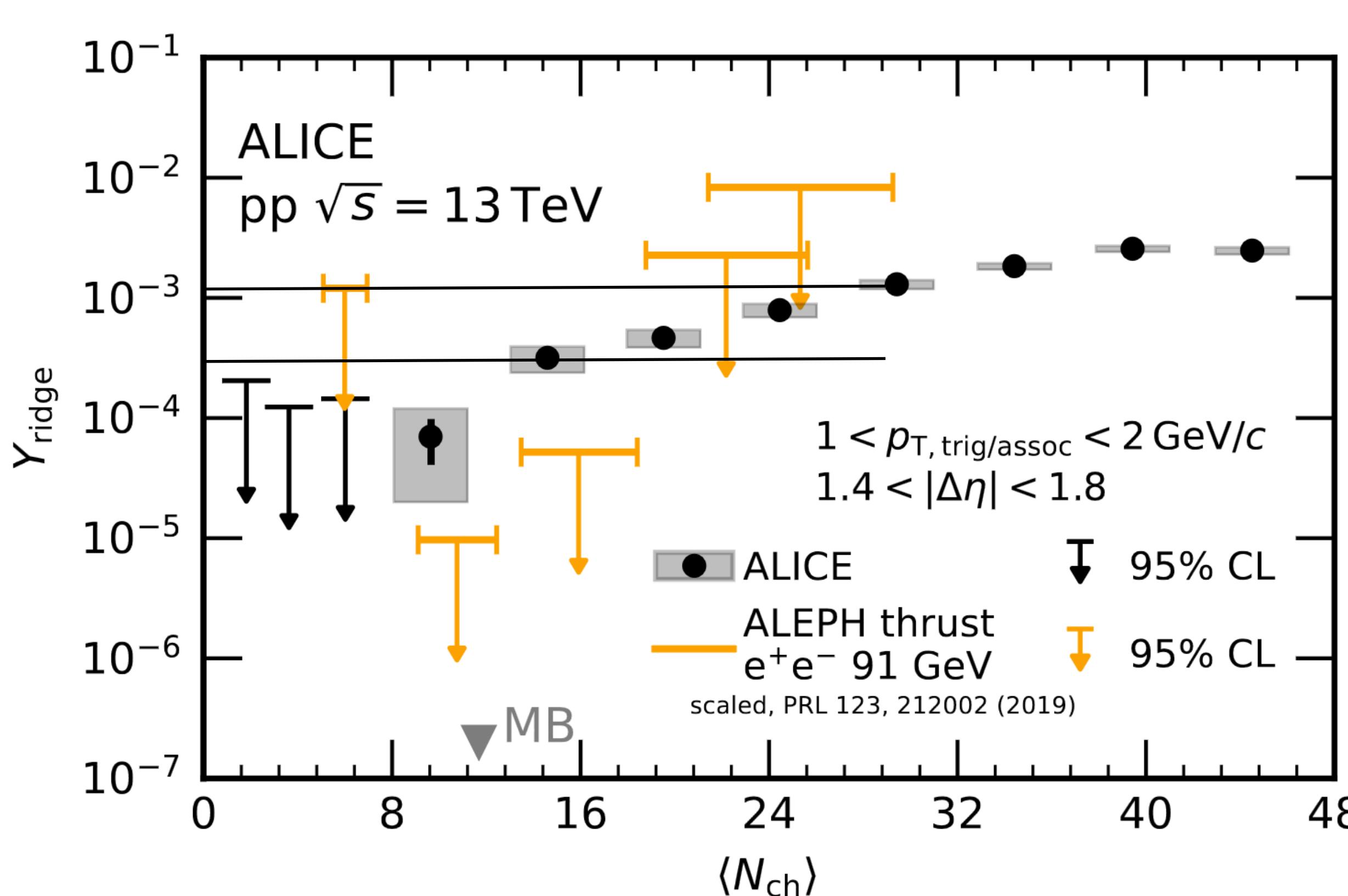
- Suppression of jet-like effects
  - via  $> 2$ -particle correlations:  $v_2\{4\}$
  - rapidity gaps:  $\Delta\eta > 1, 1.4$
- Finite higher order harmonics:  $v_3, v_4$

- Hydrodynamic-like description seems to be favoured, particularly at high  $N_{ch}$
- Initial state effects from initial gluon momentum correlations may play a rôle at low  $N_{ch}$

# Ridge in low-multiplicity pp

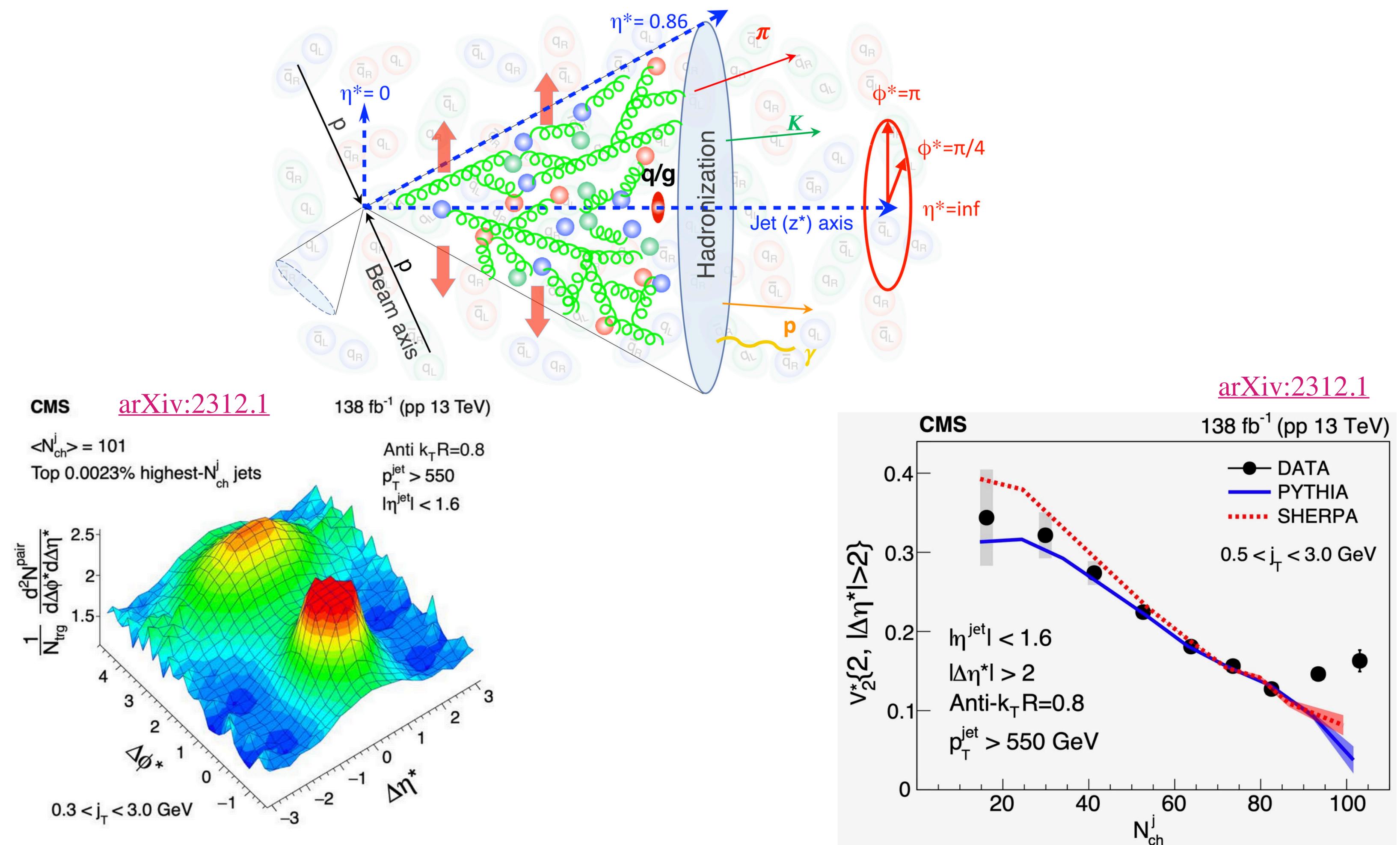


# Comparison with $e^+e^-$ data and models

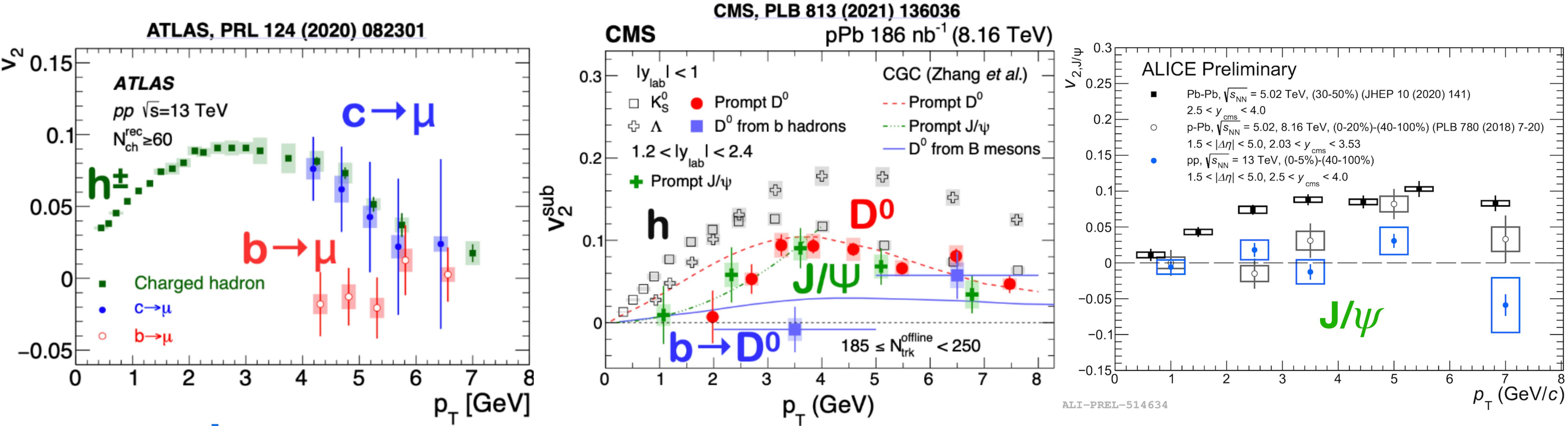


- Non-zero yield at multiplicity at low multiplicities equivalent to  $e^+e^-$
- Substantially larger than limits established in
- Yield not reproduced by Pythia and EPOS, but consistent with const.  $v_2$ ??

# Flow inside jets?



# $v_2$ - $R_{\text{pPb}}$ Puzzle



- Challenge for models ( $v_2$ - $R_{\text{pPb}}$  puzzle):  $v_2 > 0$  at high  $p_T$  and  $R_{\text{pPb}} \sim 1$  including charm and jets ...
- Described by CGC but would also expect  $v(\Upsilon) > 0$  (not observed)
  - However, open b-hadrons and  $\Upsilon$  have  $v_2$  compatible with 0
- Charm  $v_2 > 0$  even in pp

## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

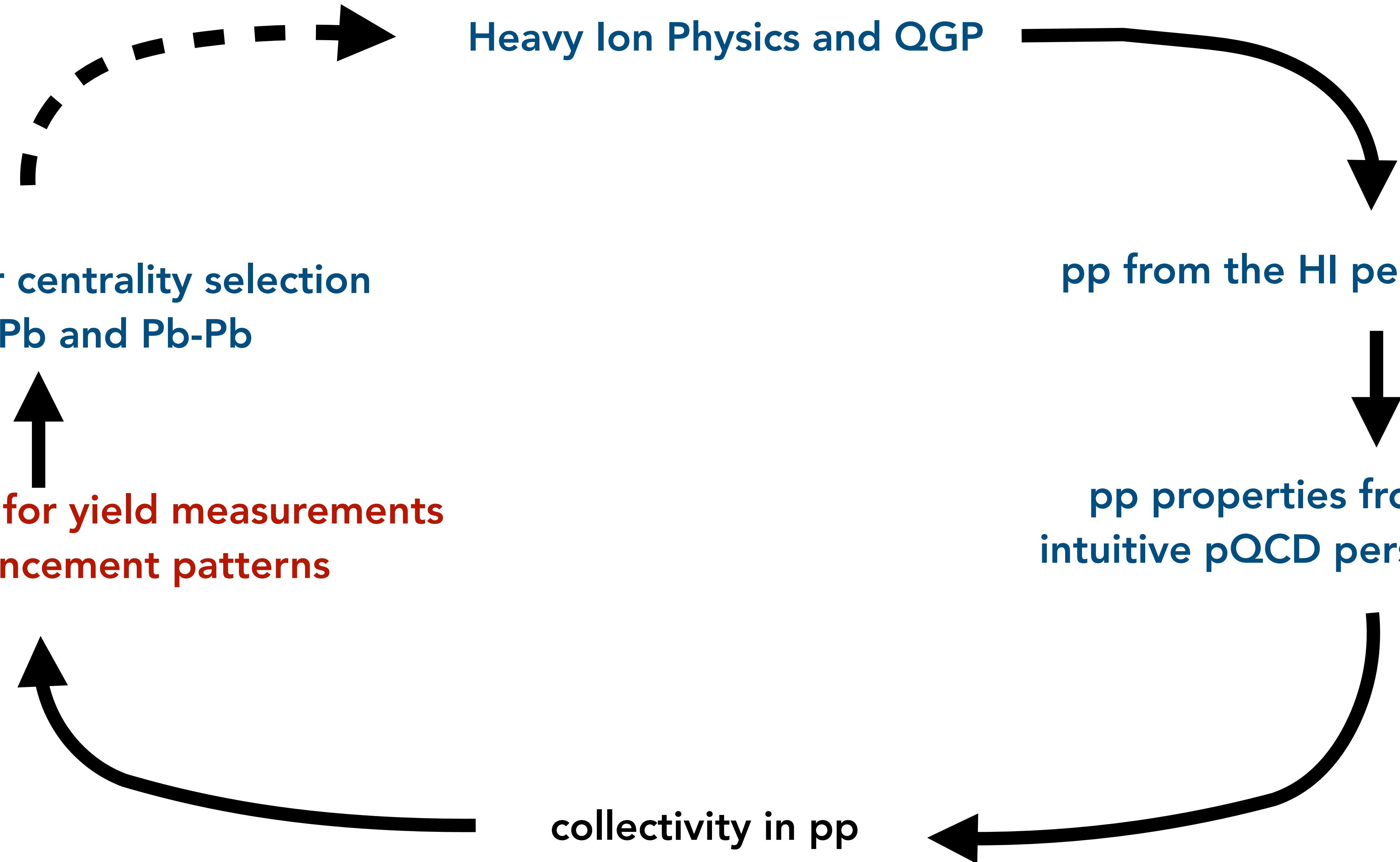
insights for centrality selection  
in p-Pb and Pb-Pb

challenges for yield measurements  
enhancement patterns

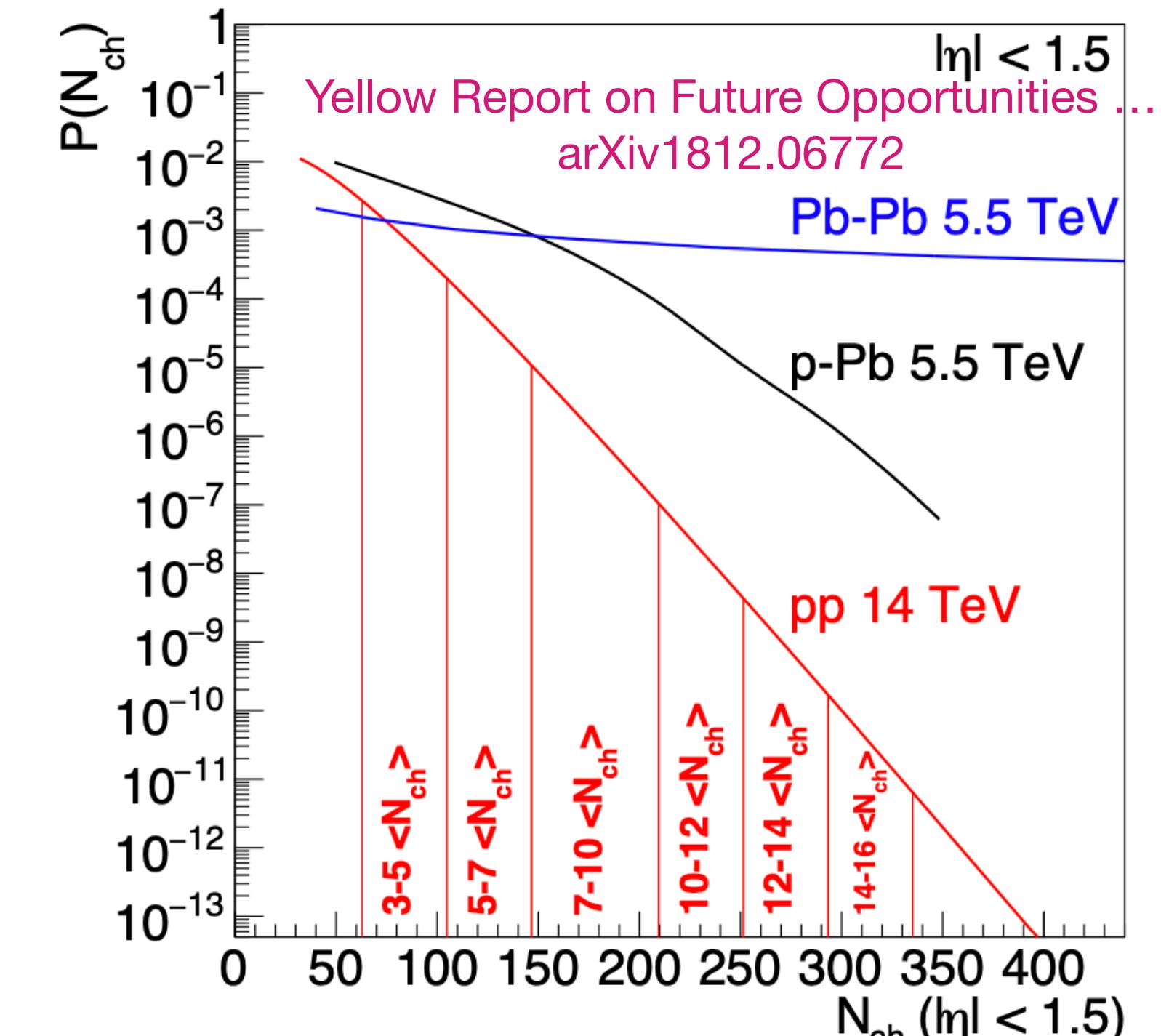
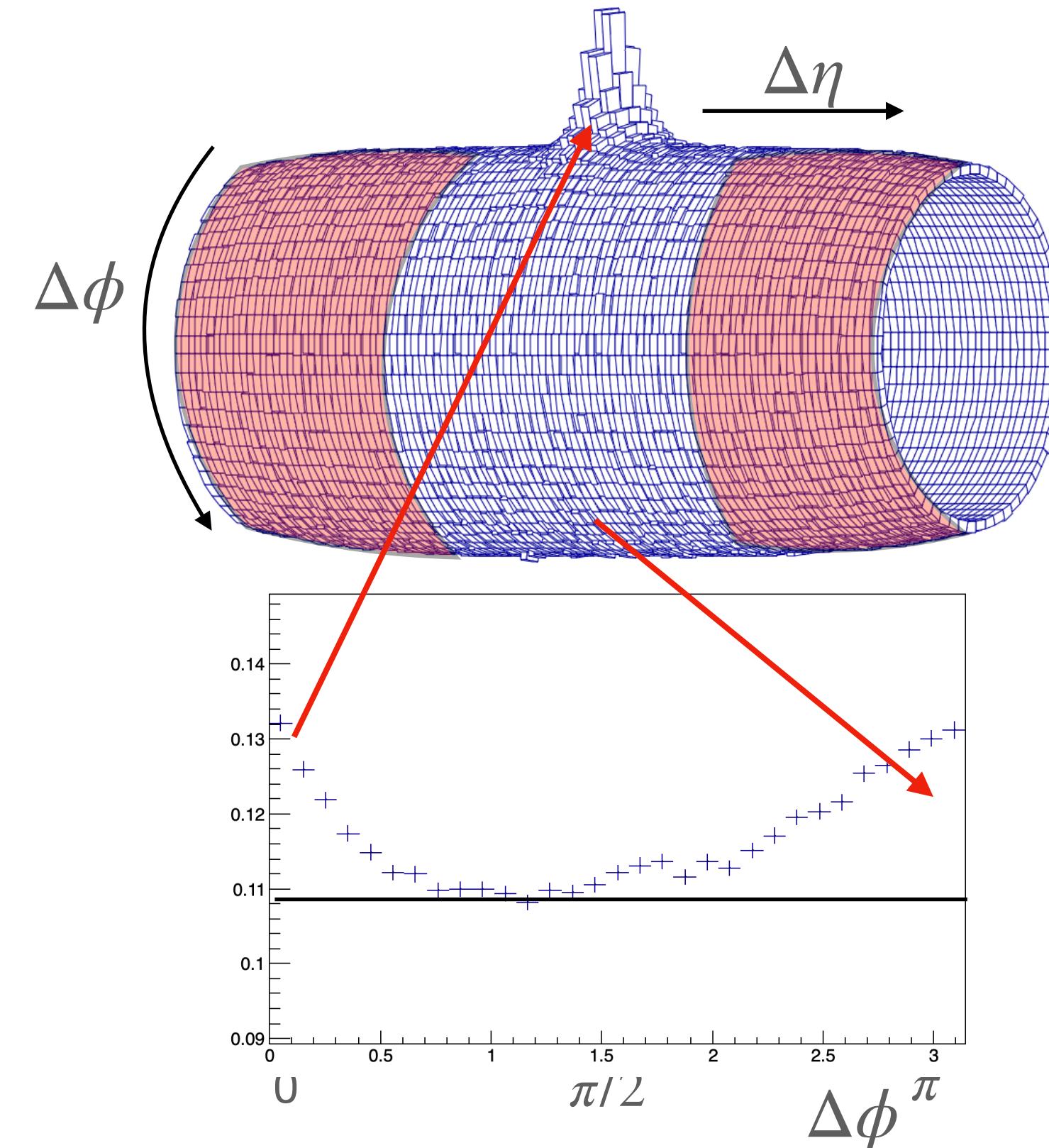
collectivity in pp

pp from the HI perspective

pp properties from an  
intuitive pQCD perspective



# Challenge: Auto-correlation Bias



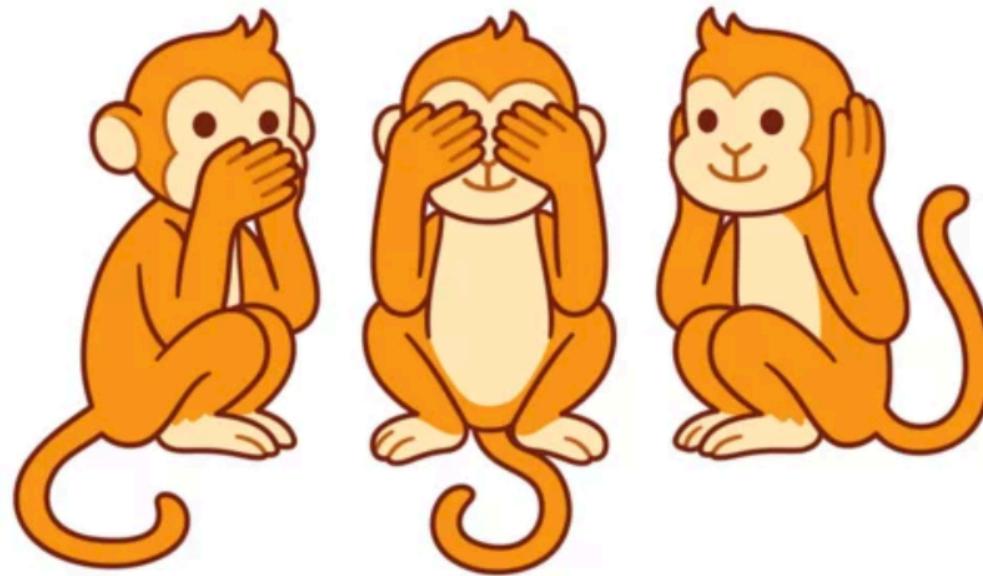
- Autocorrelation bias from  $N_{cor}$  particles correlated with the signal production ( $Y$ ) contributing to the total multiplicity.

$$pp \rightarrow Y + N = (Y + N_{cor}) + N_{uncor}$$

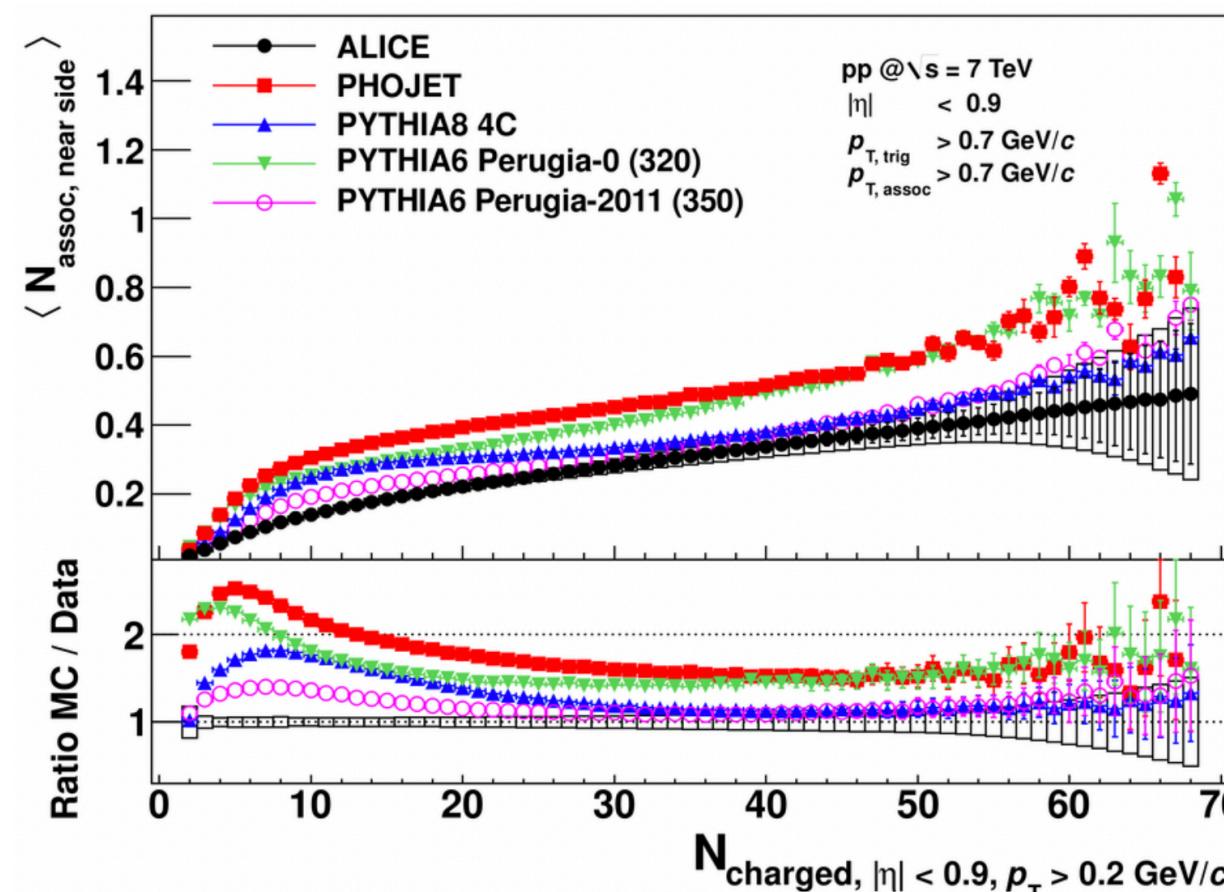
- Main contribution from  $\Delta\phi \approx 0$  (near-side) and  $\Delta\phi \approx \pi$  (away-side, spread over  $\Delta\eta$ ).

# How to meet the challenge

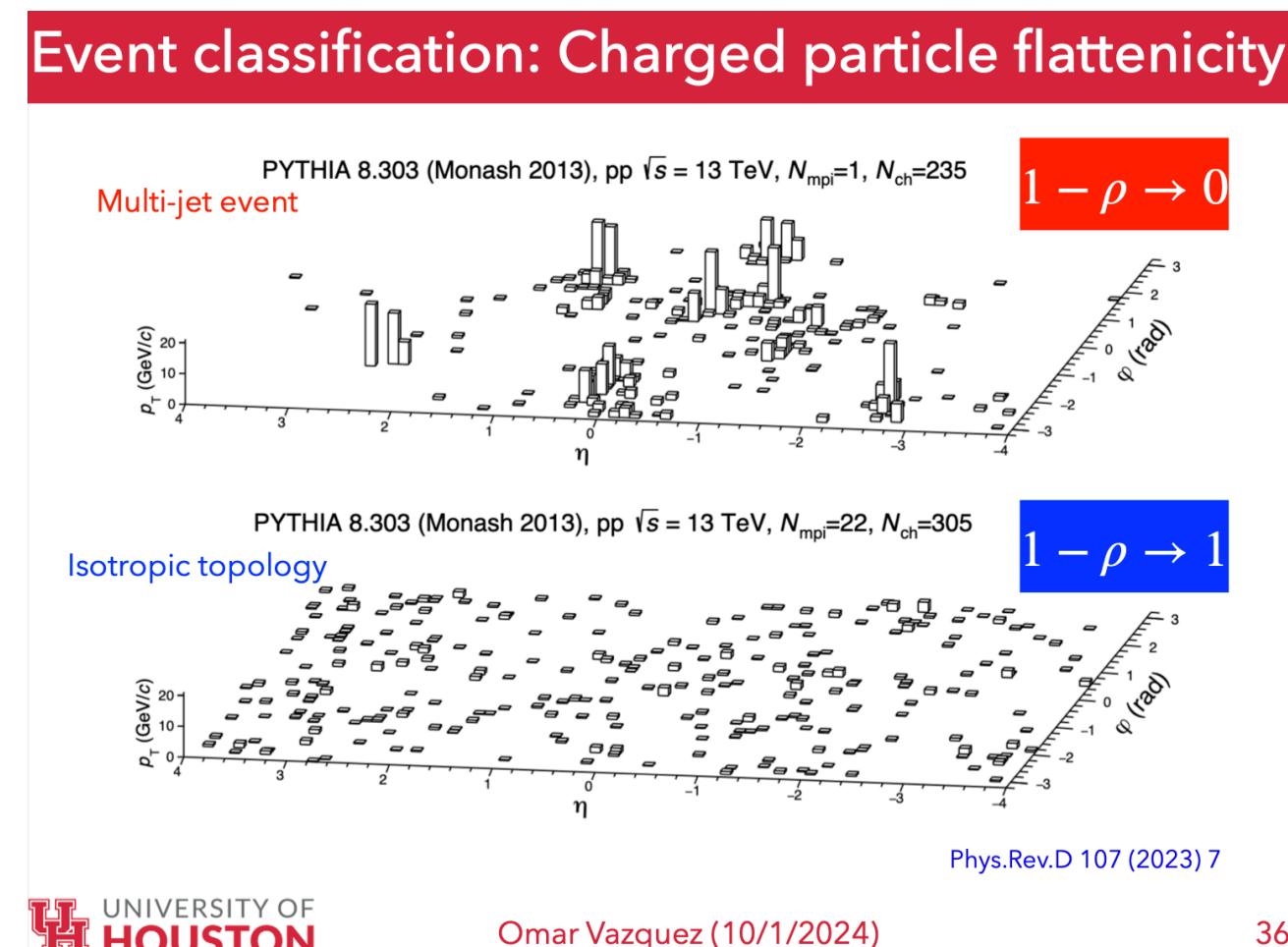
Deny



Embrace

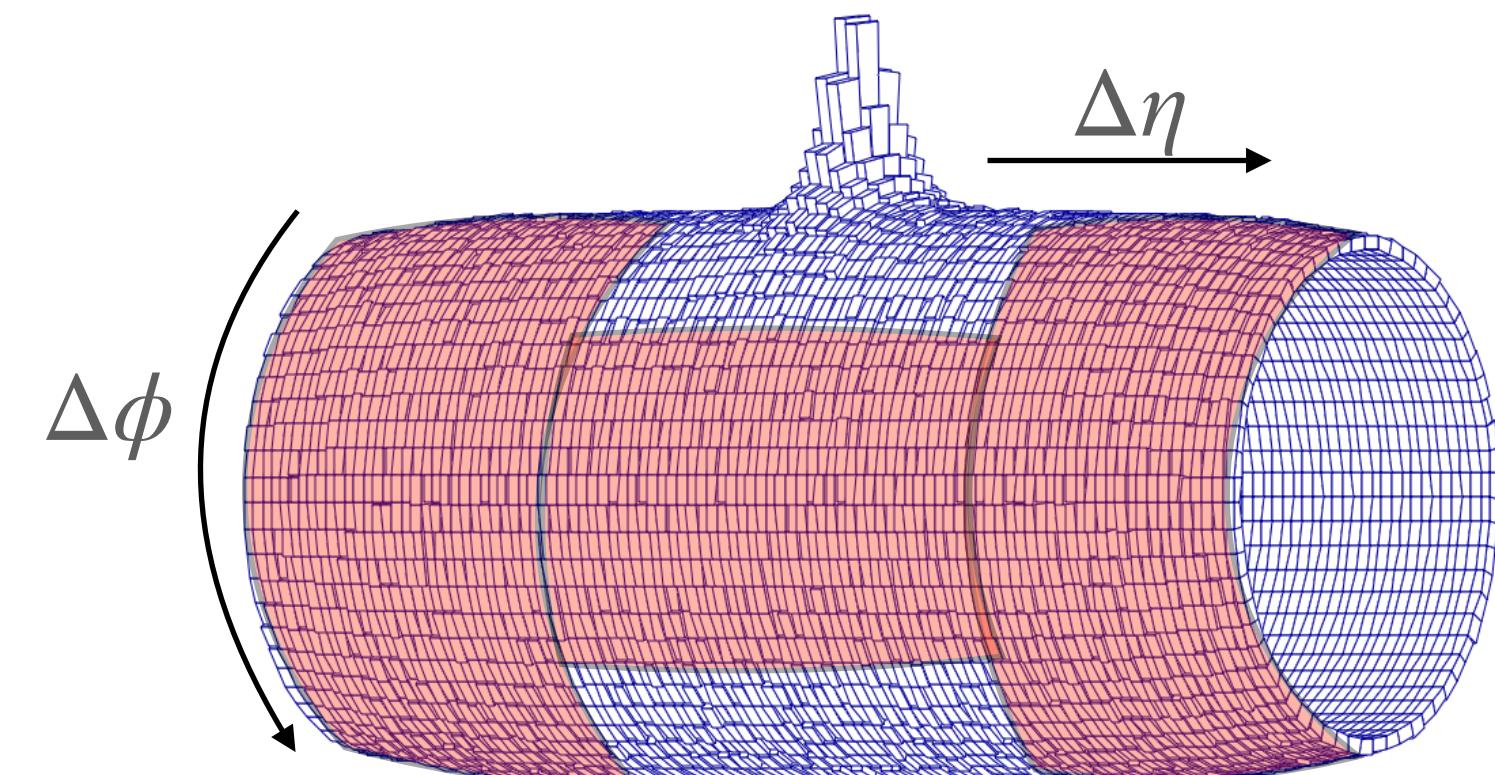


Event Classification



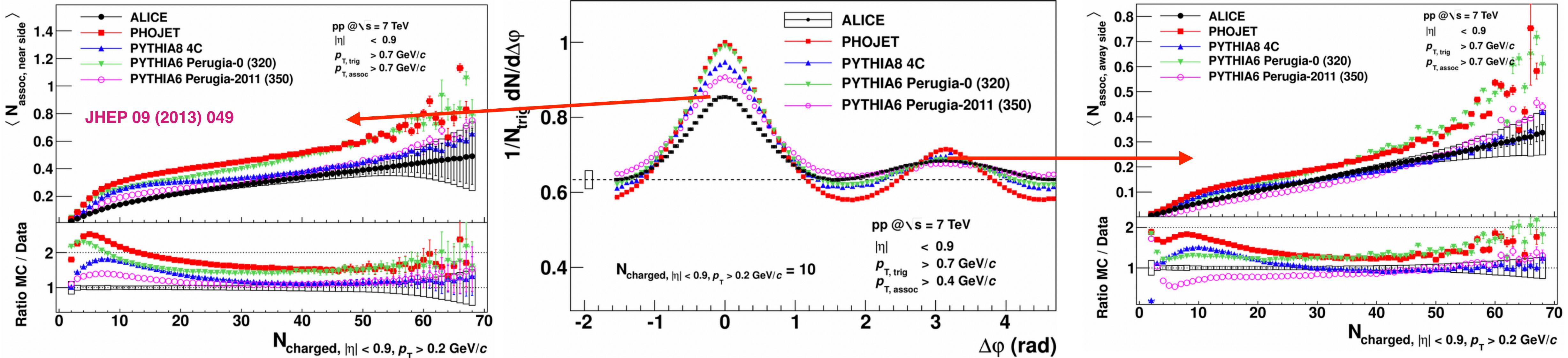
Accept

Rapidity gap, Transverse Region



Measure multiplicity dependence  
and correlations for the same observable

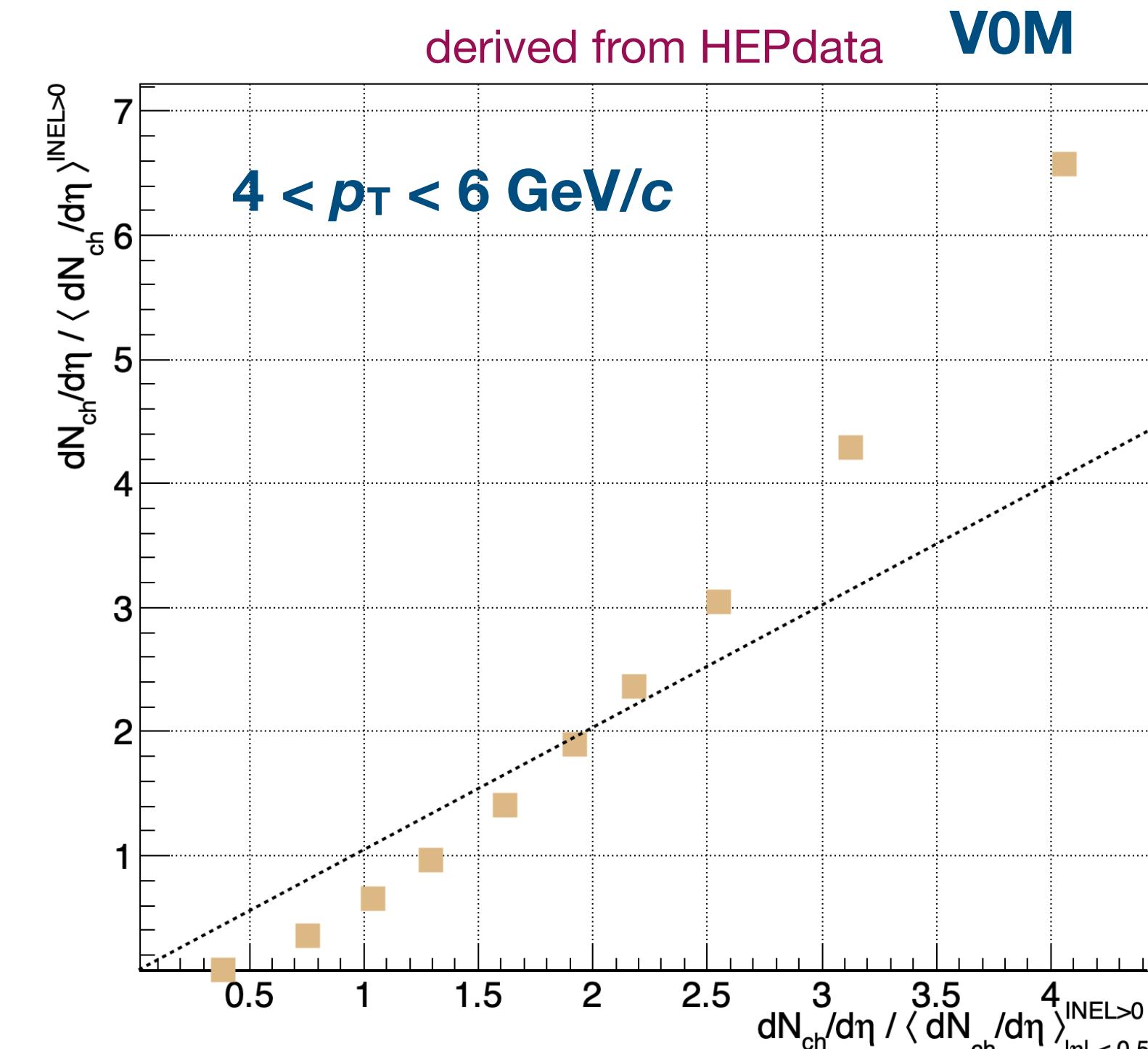
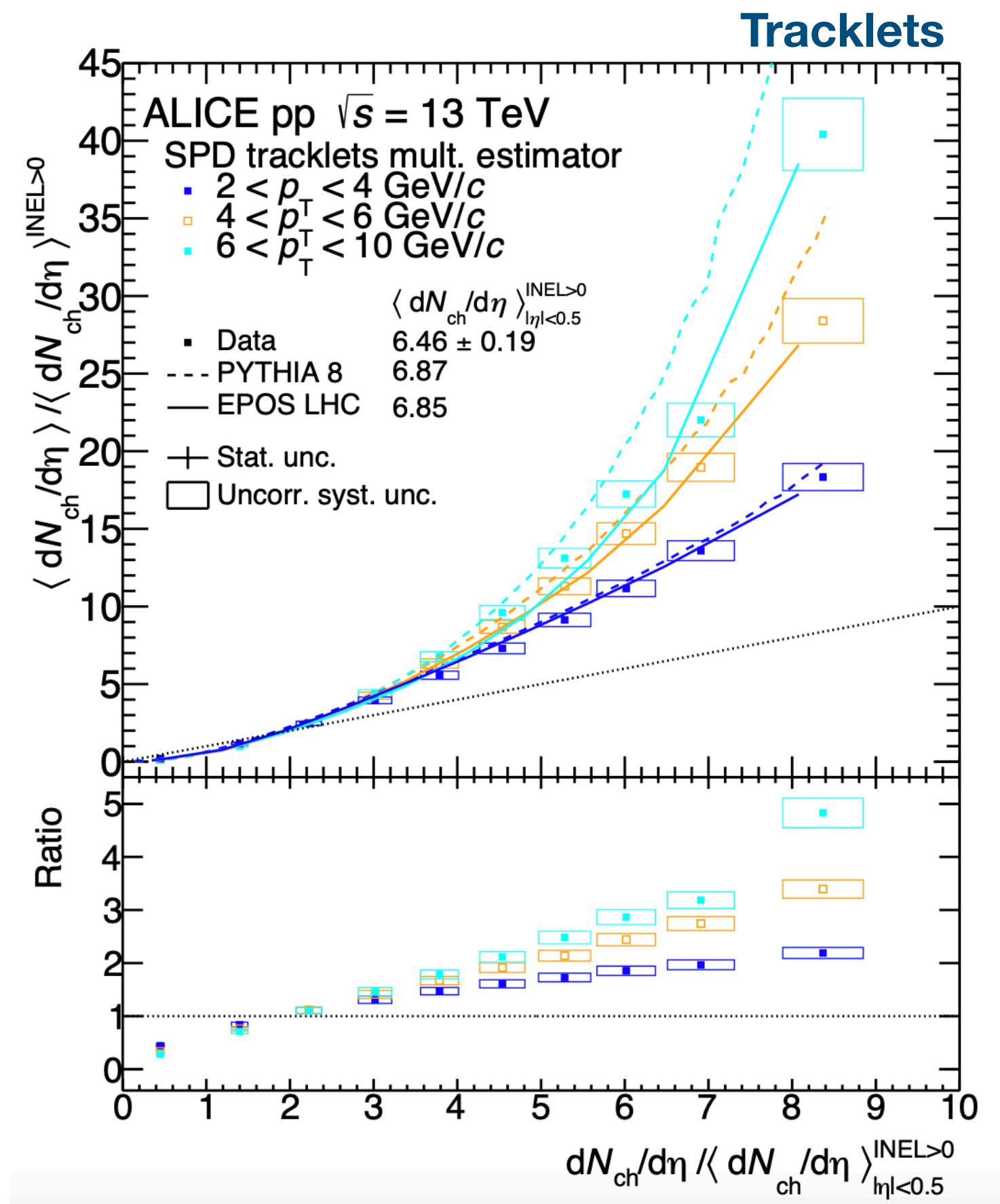
# Direct investigation of multiplicity bias



- $2 \rightarrow 2$  semi-hard back-to-back topologies persist down to low  $p_T$ 
  - Strong increase of correlated particle production with multiplicity
  - At HM: correlated with  $p_T > 0.7 \text{ GeV}/c$  particle on average  $> 1$  additional particle produced
- It would be interesting to repeat the analysis
  - For different multiplicity/event shape estimators ("flattening")
  - For the Underlying event of a hard process (which is often assumed to be "soft")

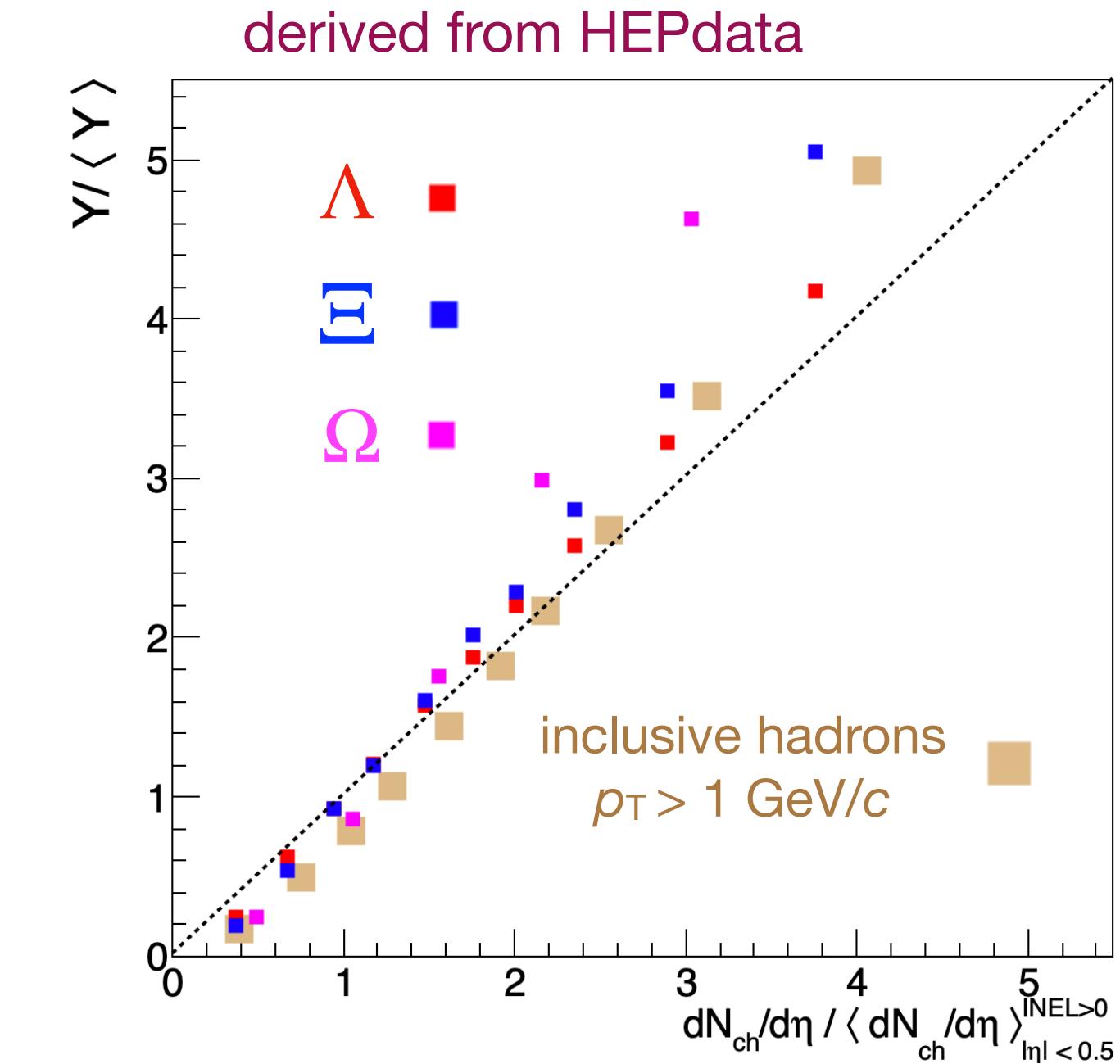
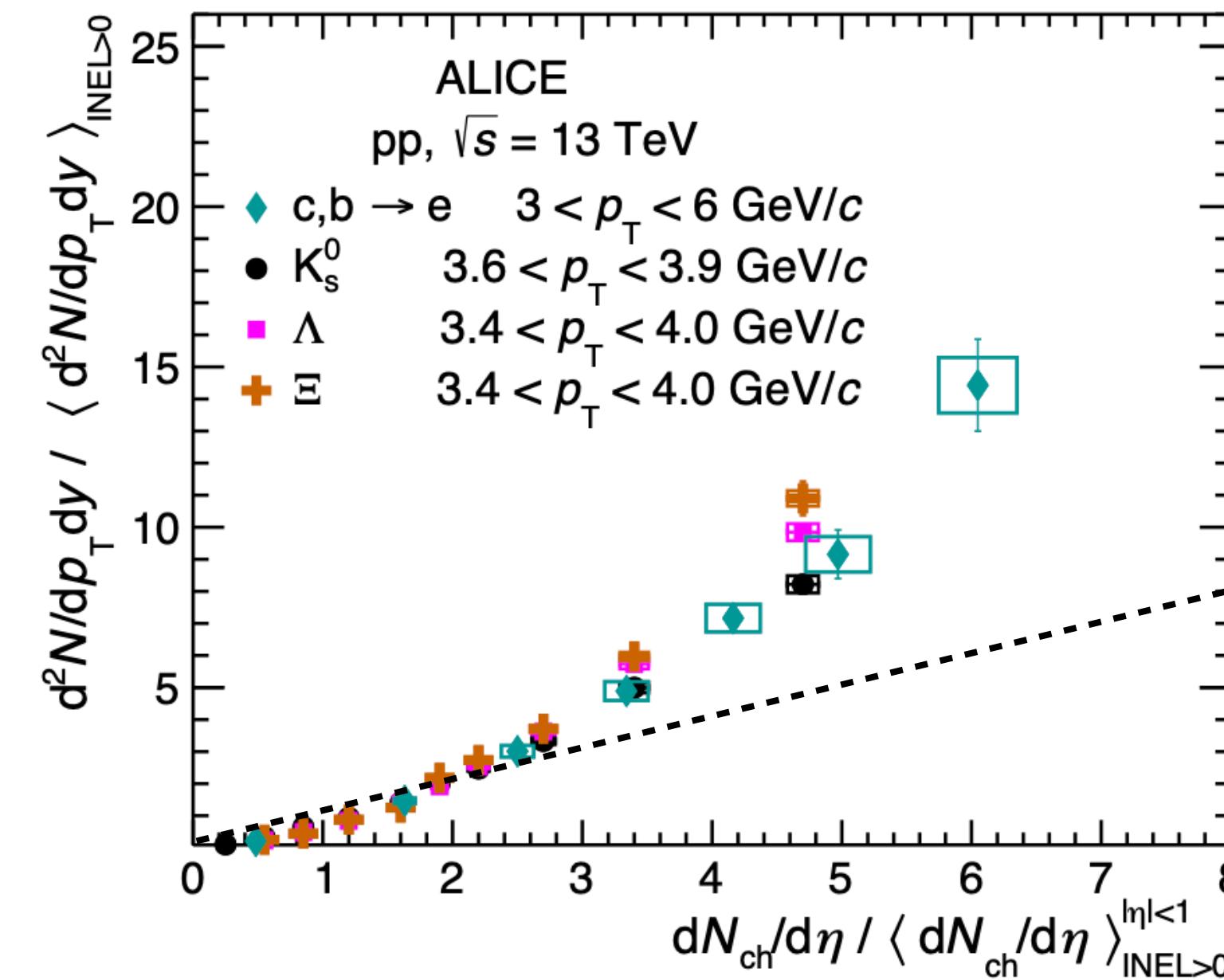
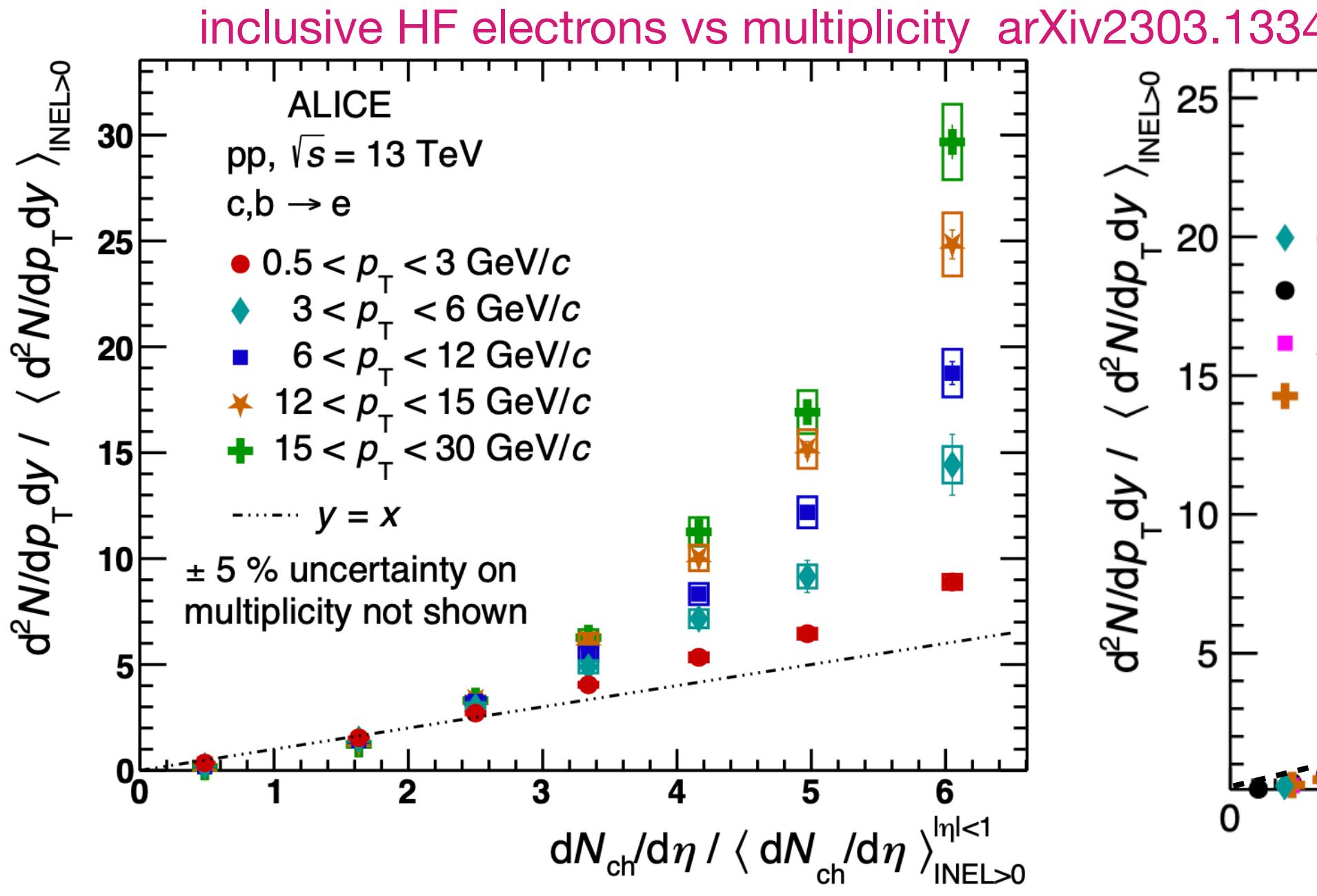
# Charged particle yields as a function of multiplicity

self-normalized ratios  
 $N/\langle N \rangle, Y/\langle Y \rangle$



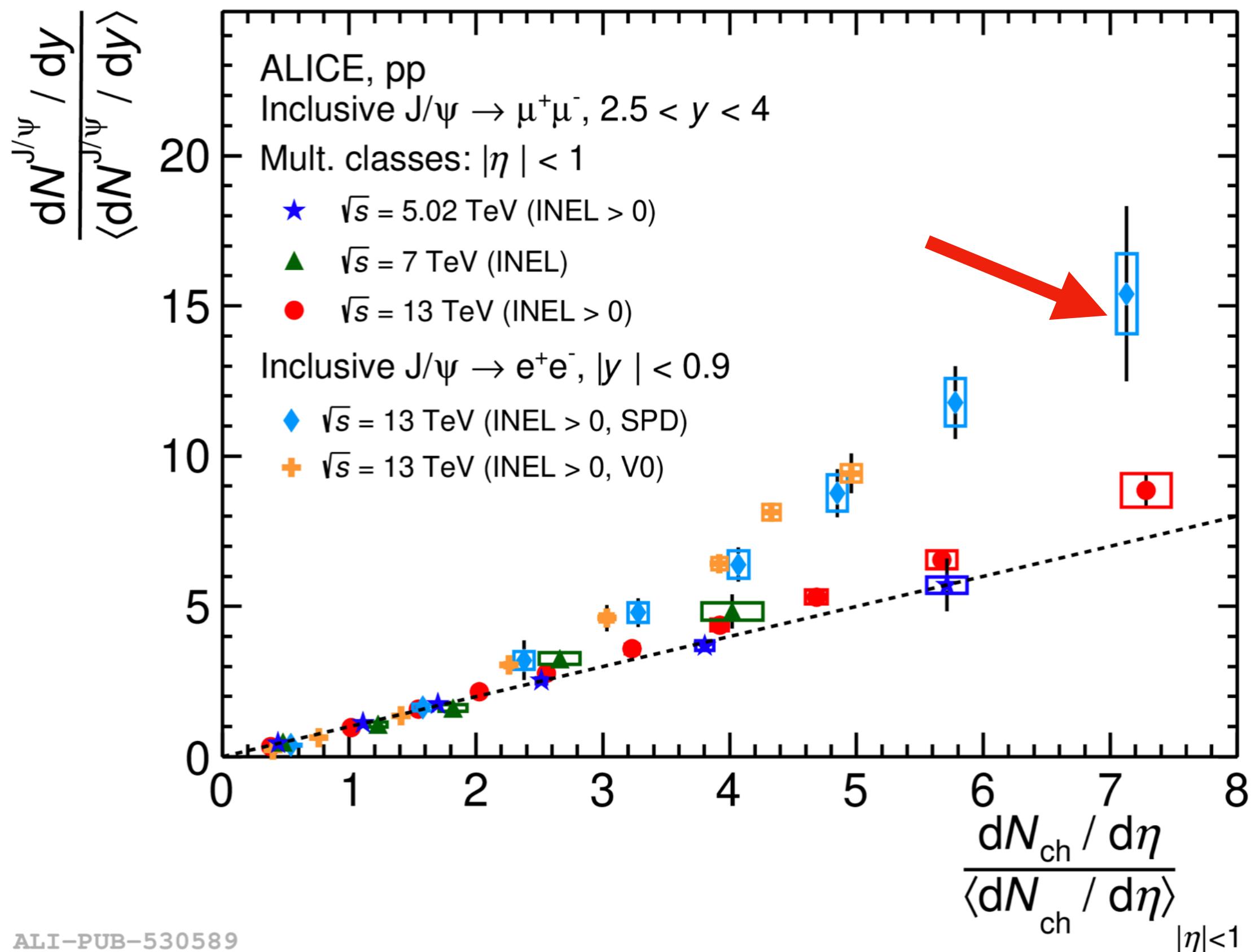
- Strong non-linear increase of yields with multiplicity
- Measuring particles and multiplicity (VOM) in separated  $\eta$  regions does not change the picture

# Particle species and $p_T$ -dependence

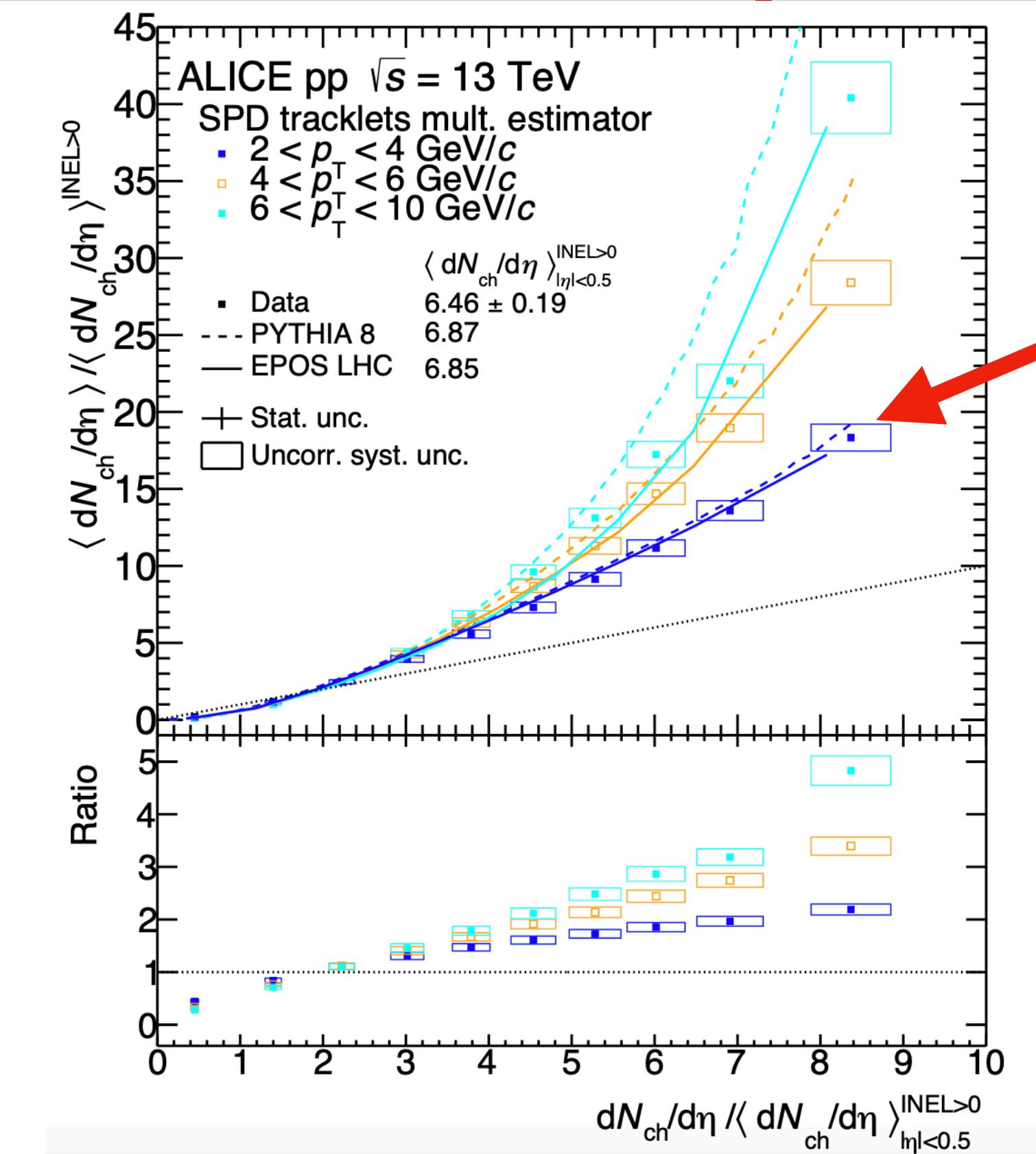


- Clear dependence on hardness and no dependence on particle species at high  $p_T$ 
  - In general attributes to auto-correlation bias
- While for multi-strange baryons (low  $p_T$ , integrated yields) the effect is interpreted as "strangeness enhancement"
  - Strangeness content dependence
  - Has similarities with low  $p_T$  inclusive particle production

# Inclusive J/ $\psi$ production vs multiplicity

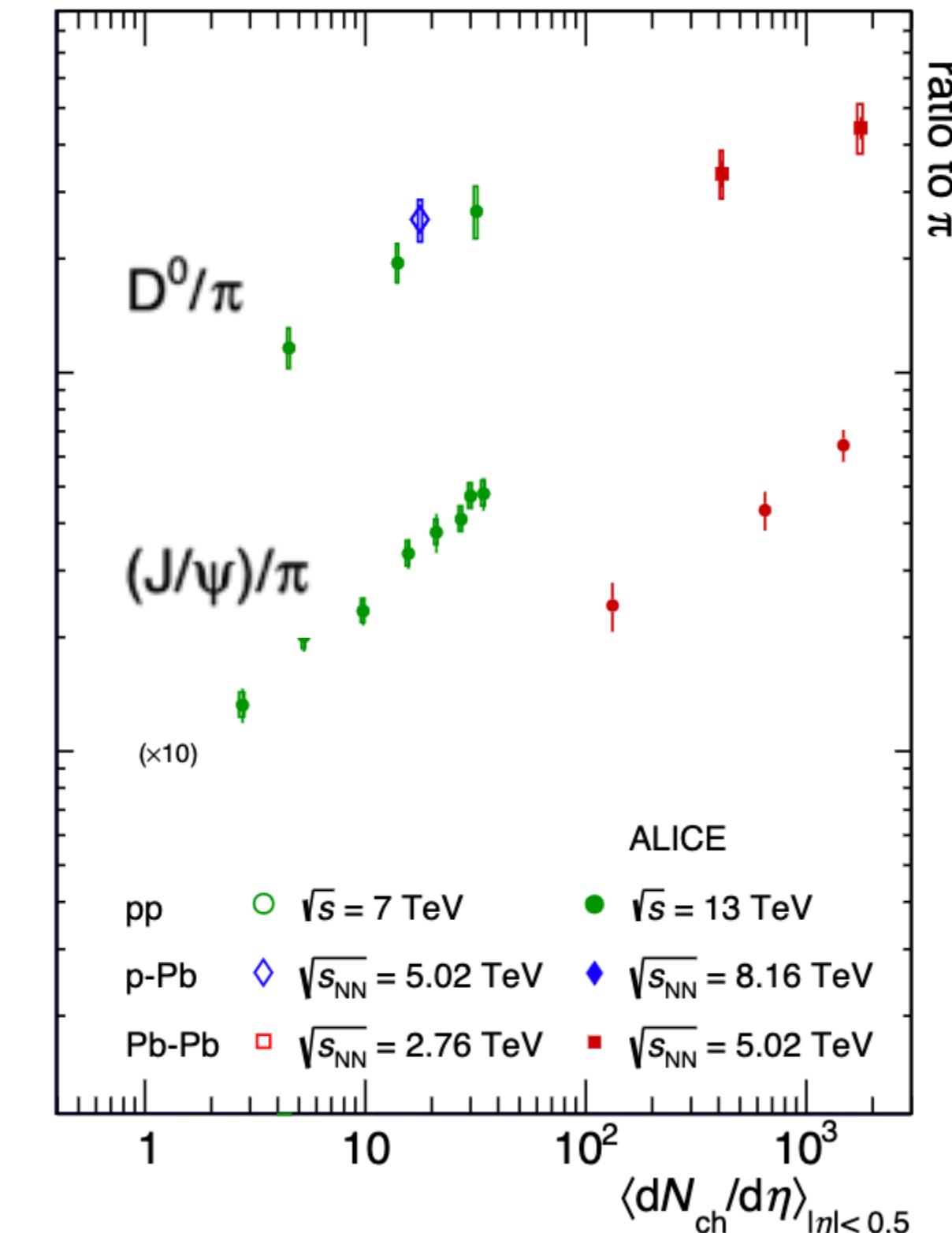
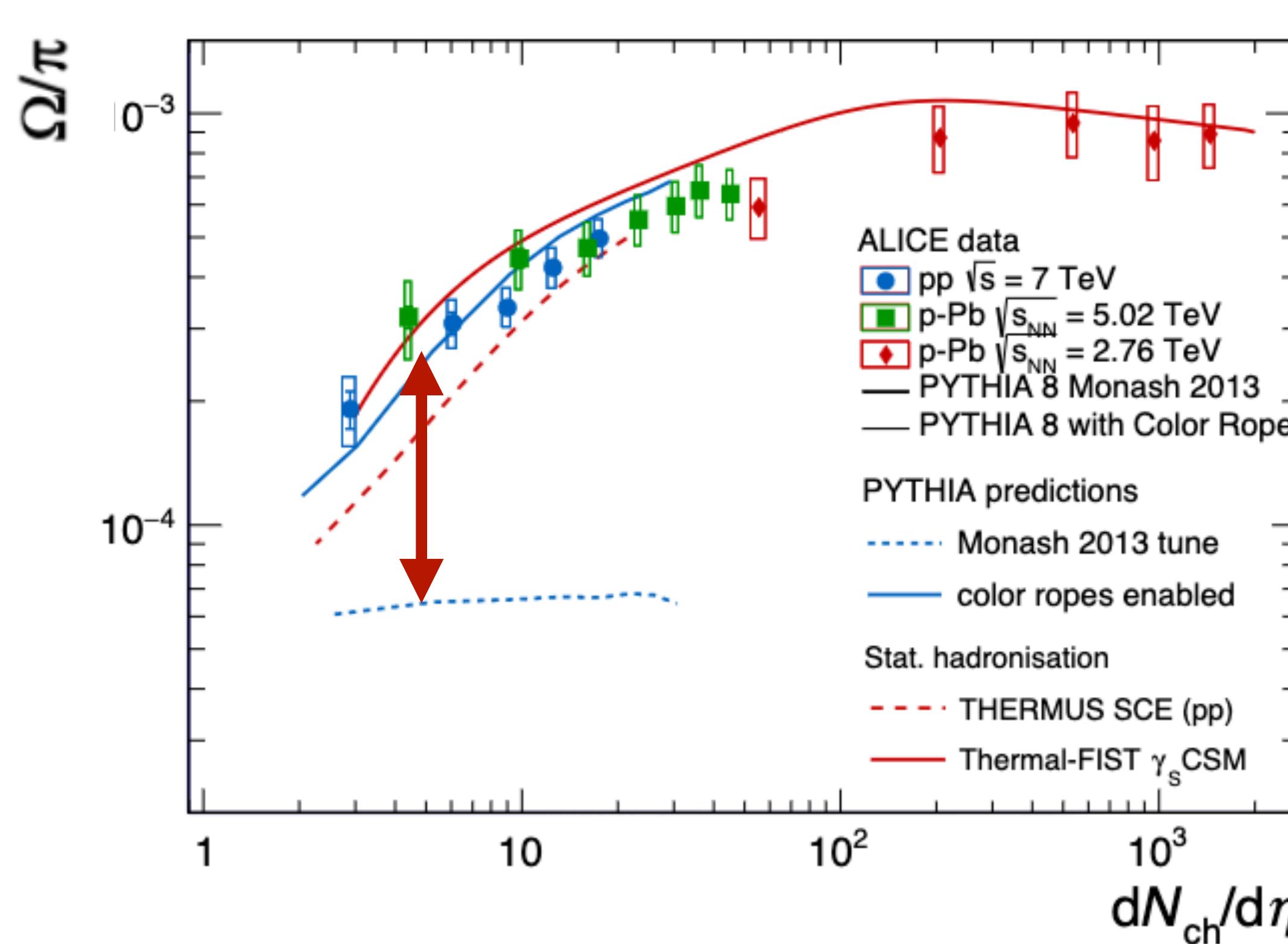


ALI-PUB-530589



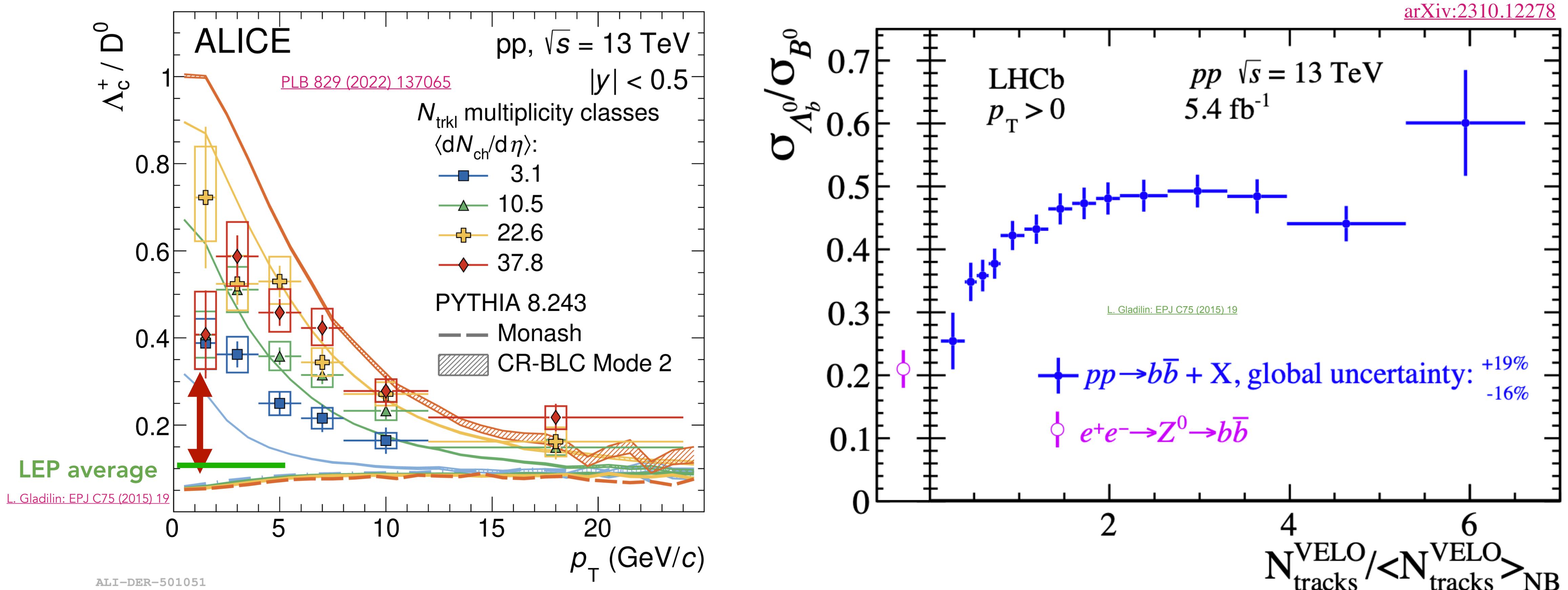
- At central rapidity  $J/\psi$  similar to inclusive particle production at same  $Q^2$
- Puzzling: almost linear dependence for forward  $J/\psi$  production
  - Multiplicity determined in central region
  - Similar rapidity gap between  $J/\psi$  and multiplicity measurement

# Particle ratios



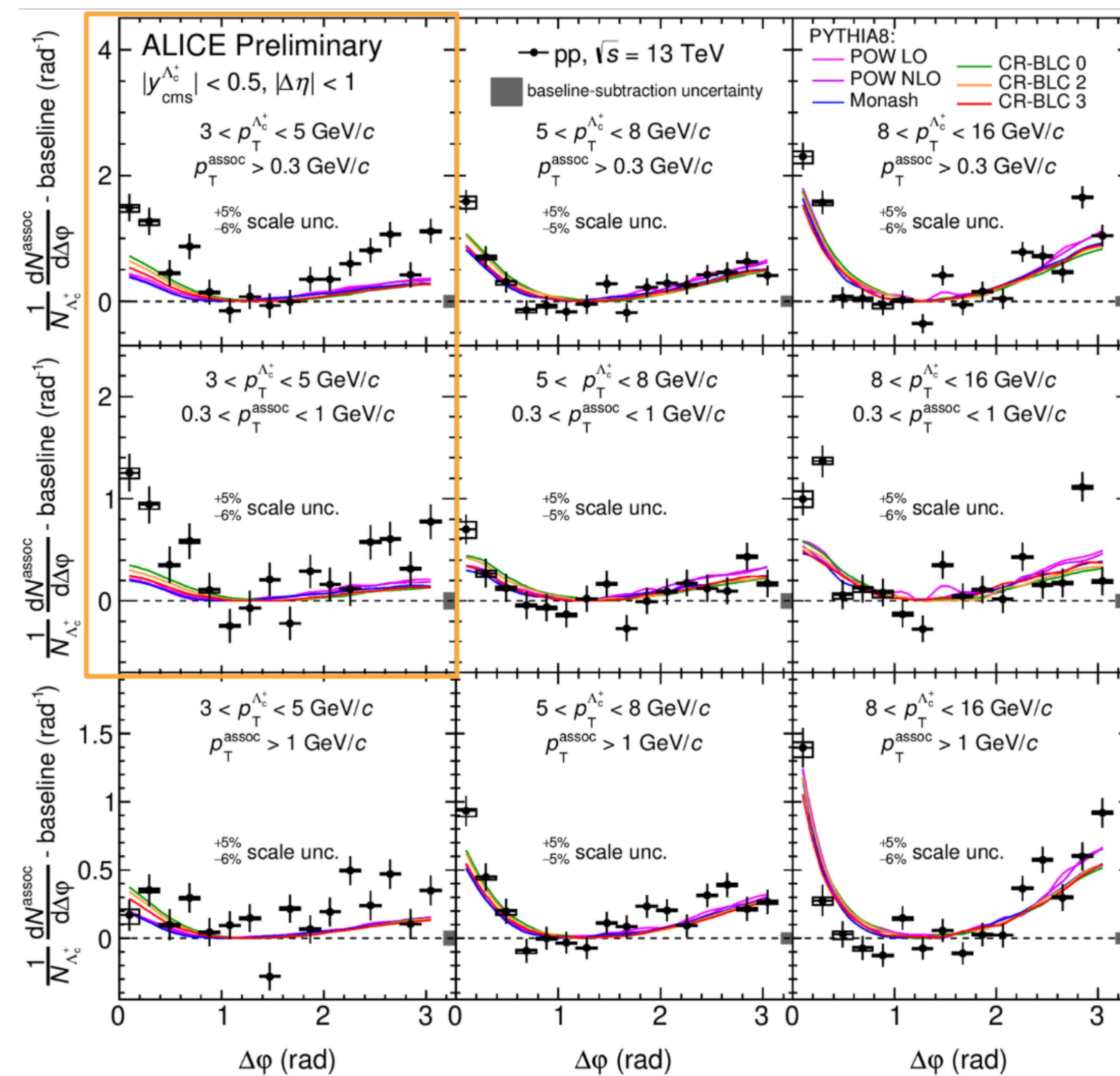
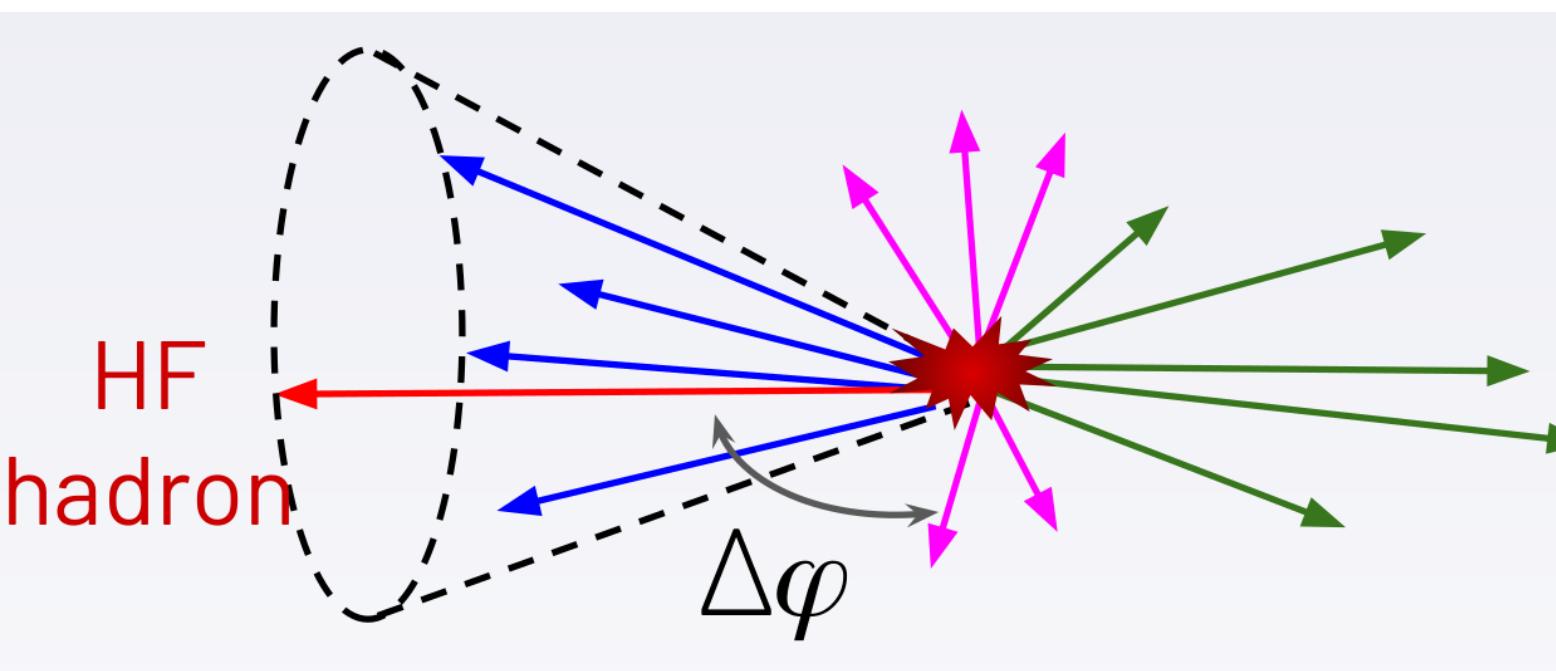
- Similar enhancement vs multiplicity pattern for  $\Lambda/\pi$ ,  $\Xi/\pi$ ,  $\Omega/\pi$ ,  $D/\pi$ ,  $J/\Psi/\pi$
- $\Lambda/\pi$ ,  $\Xi/\pi$ ,  $\Omega/\pi$  strong enhancement wrt  $e^+e^-$  expectation (universal fragmentation)
- strangeness enhancement?

# Charm and Beauty Baryon Enhancement



- Are we approaching  $e^+e^-$ -like collisions at low multiplicity?
  - not obvious for  $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$
  - interpretation of LHCb  $\Lambda_b^0/B^0$  results depend very much on measurement at lowest multiplicity

# $\Lambda_c$ -charged particle correlation



Enhance near and away-side correlations: challenge for models that describe yield

## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

insights for centrality selection

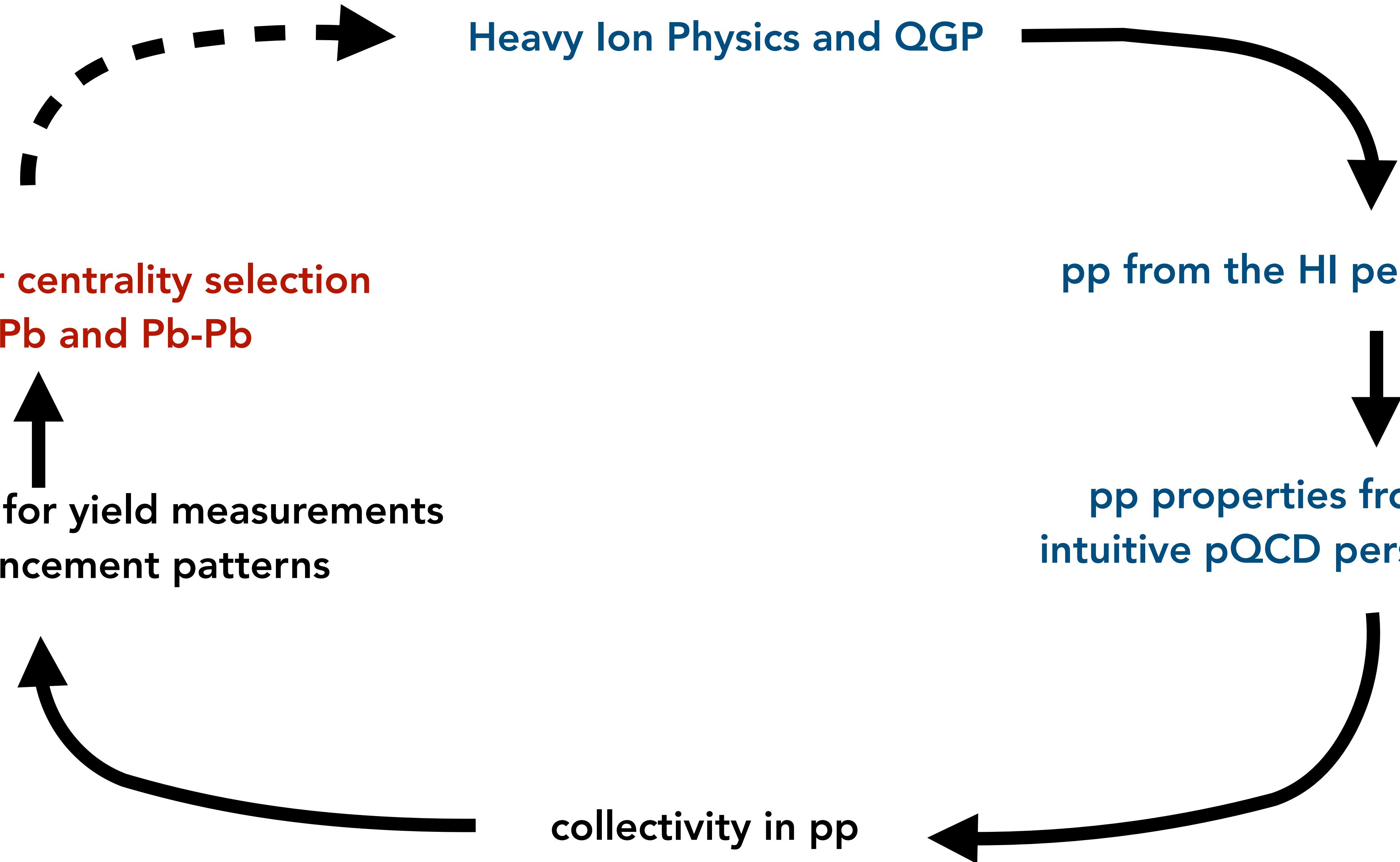
in p-Pb and Pb-Pb

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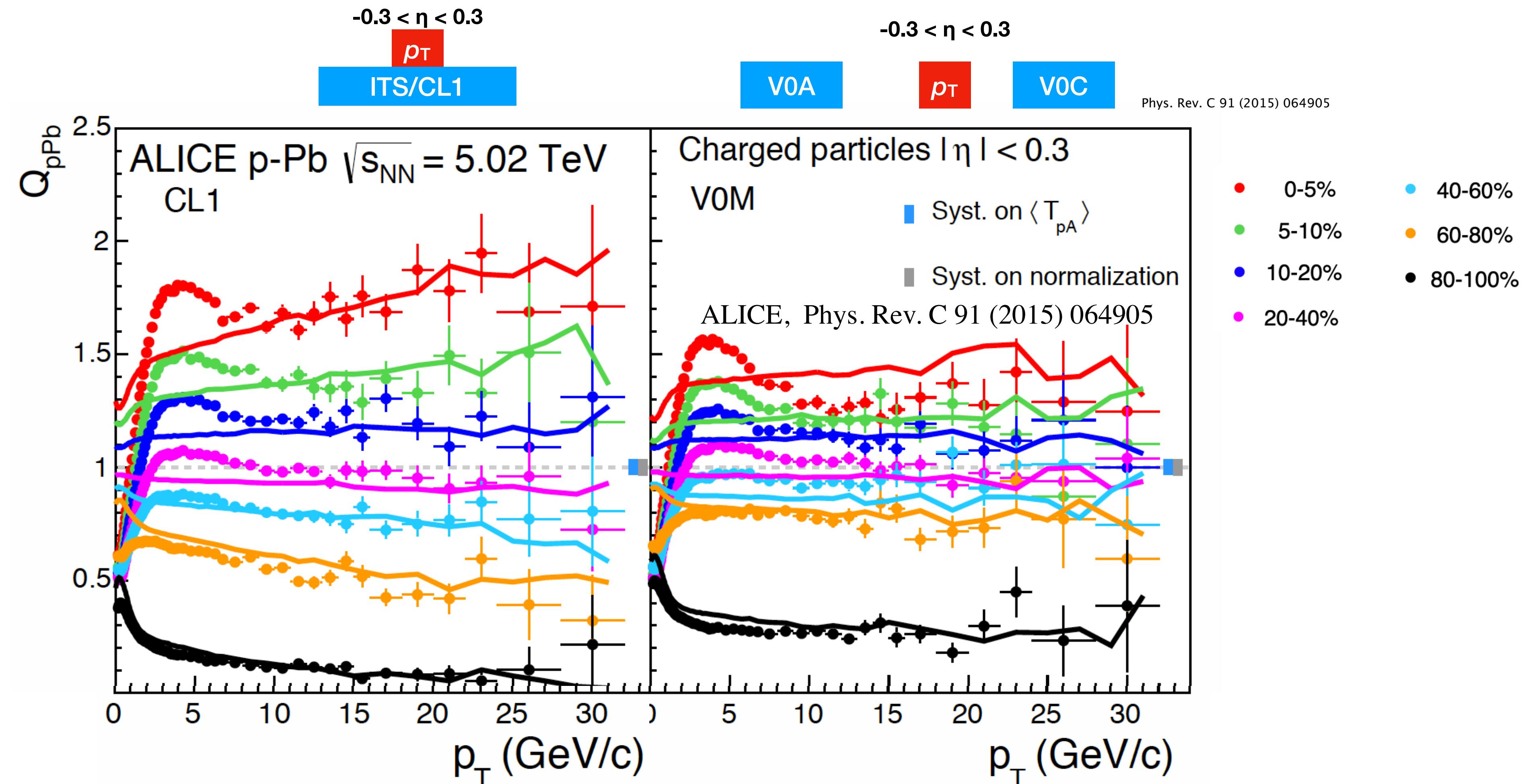
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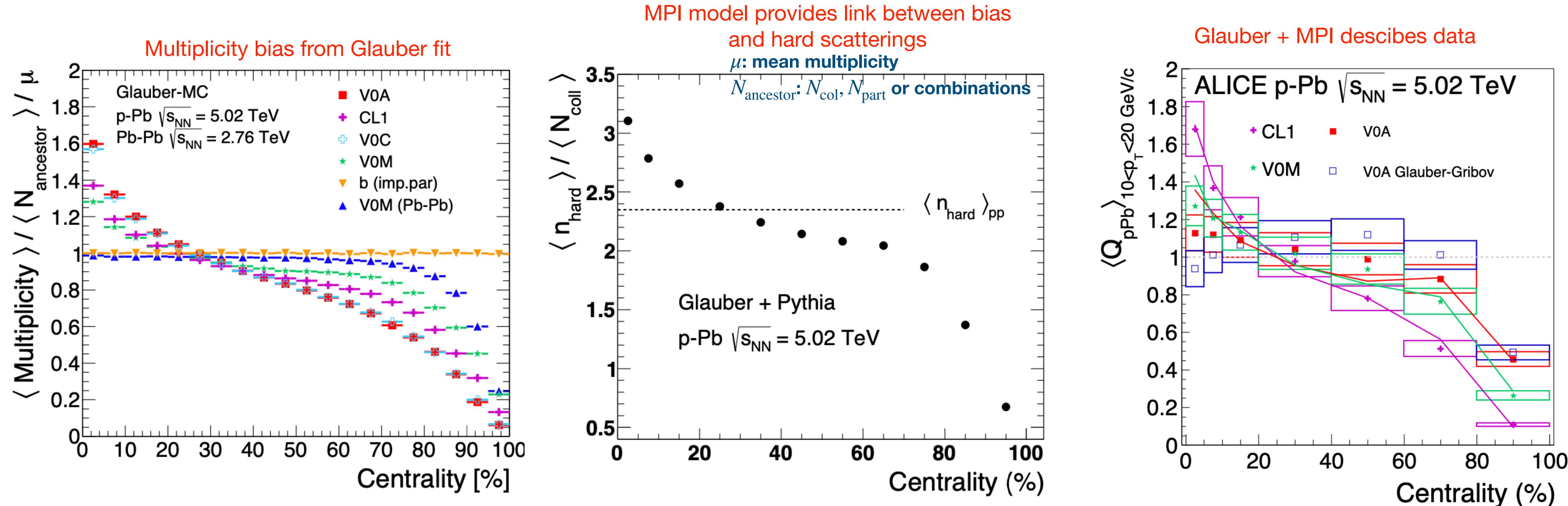


# From pp to p-Pb



- Centrality from multiplicity in different  $\eta$  regions
  - $N_{\text{coll}}$  with standard Glauber leads to large “spread” of  $Q_{pPb}$  (cent)

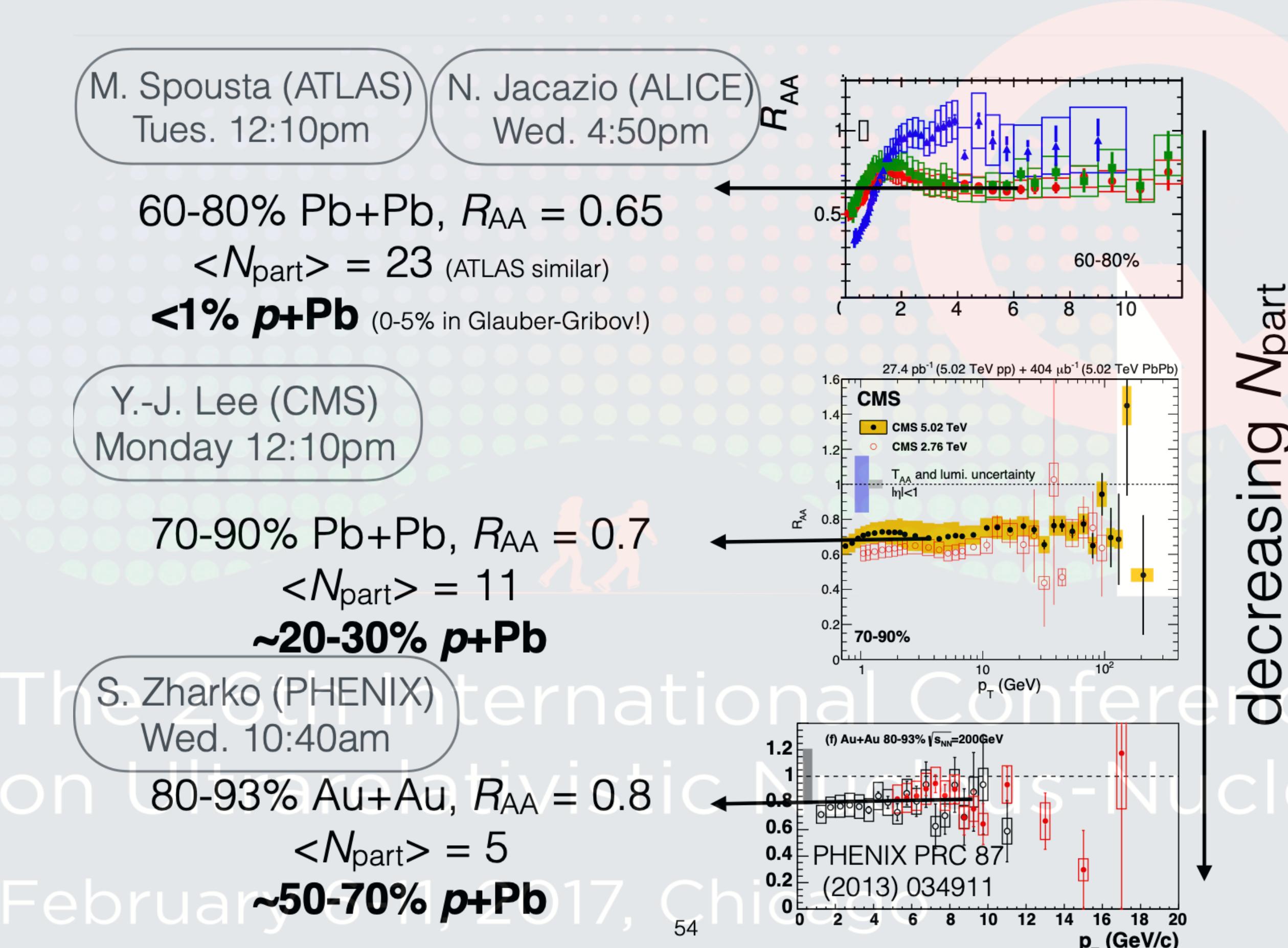
# From pp to p-Pb



- Reason: Matter overlap not described by  $N_{\text{coll}}$  alone
  - need also overlap (impact parameter dependence) of individual N-N collisions
- Bias on N-N impact parameter
  - from pure phase space
  - multiplicity bias ("inverse" jet pedestal)
- Solution: ZN Pb-going centrality classes

ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015) 064905

# QM2017 (D. Perepelitsa)



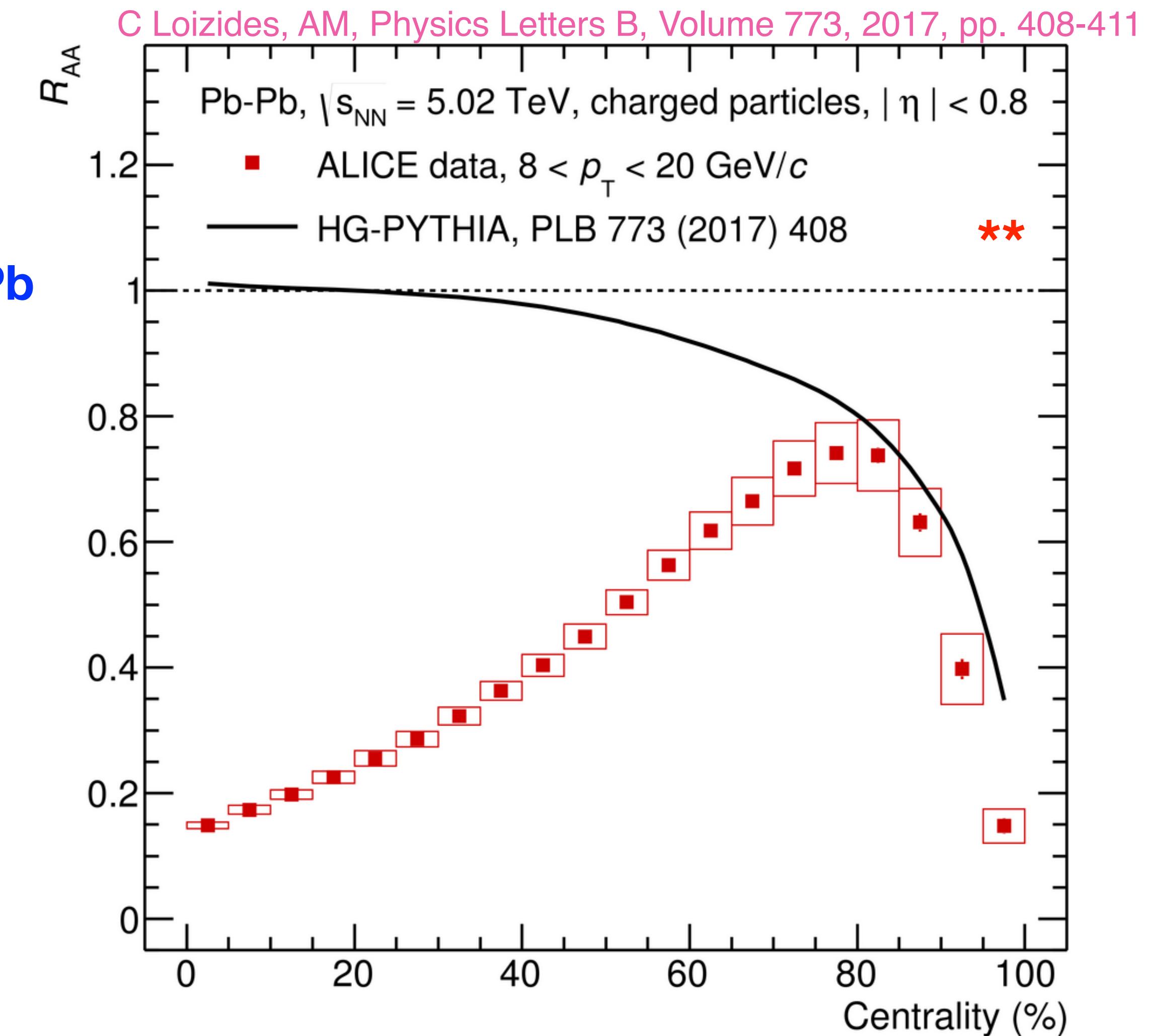
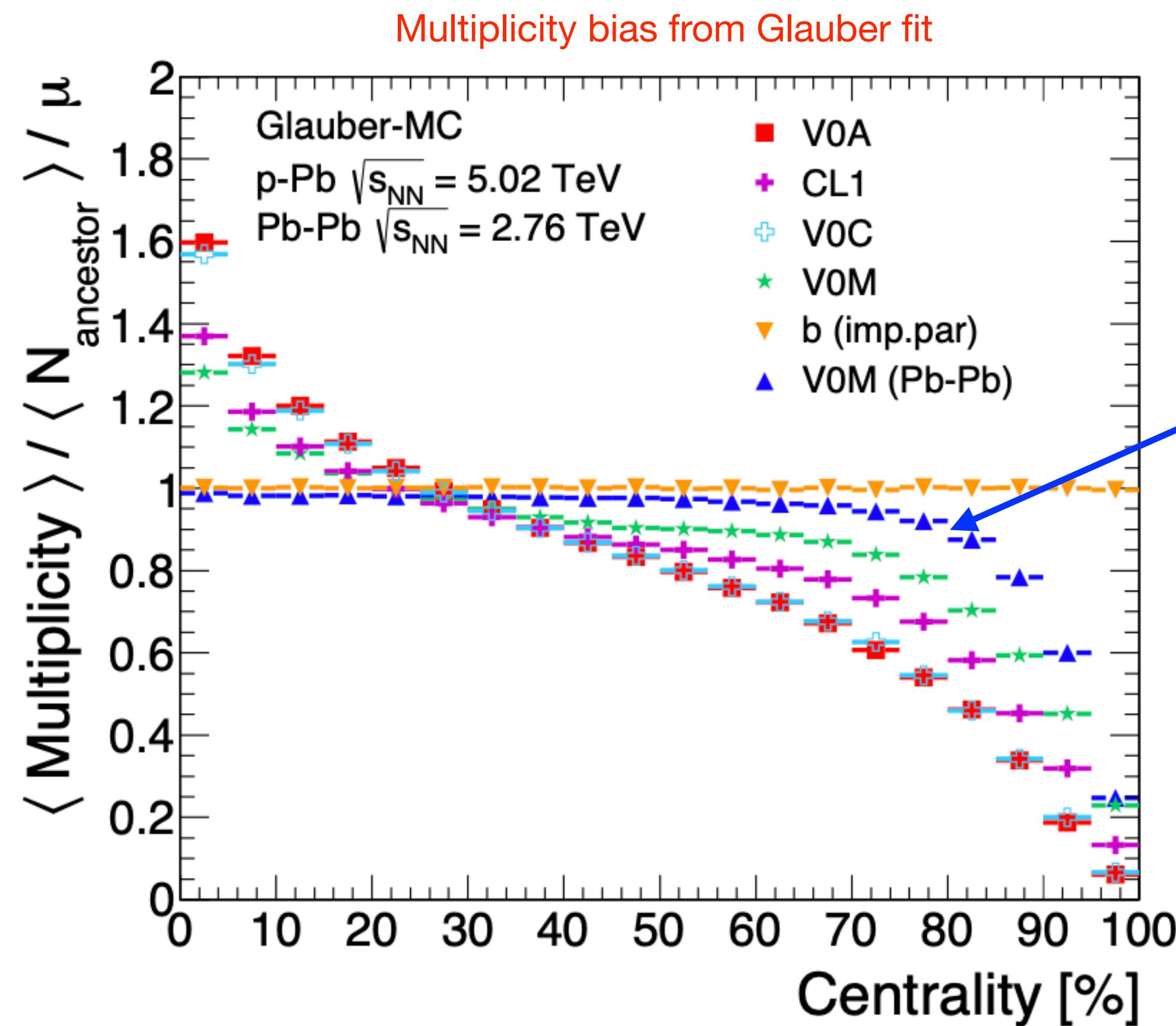
*jet quenching appears to be continuous in system size*

- should either turn **off** in Pb+Pb collisions
- or turn **on** in p+Pb (or both)
- unnatural to have a hard partitions of p+A from A+A

The 20th International Conference  
on Ultrarelativistic Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions  
February 6-11, 2017, Chicago

Indications of jet quenching in peripheral Pb-Pb ?

# ... to Pb-Pb

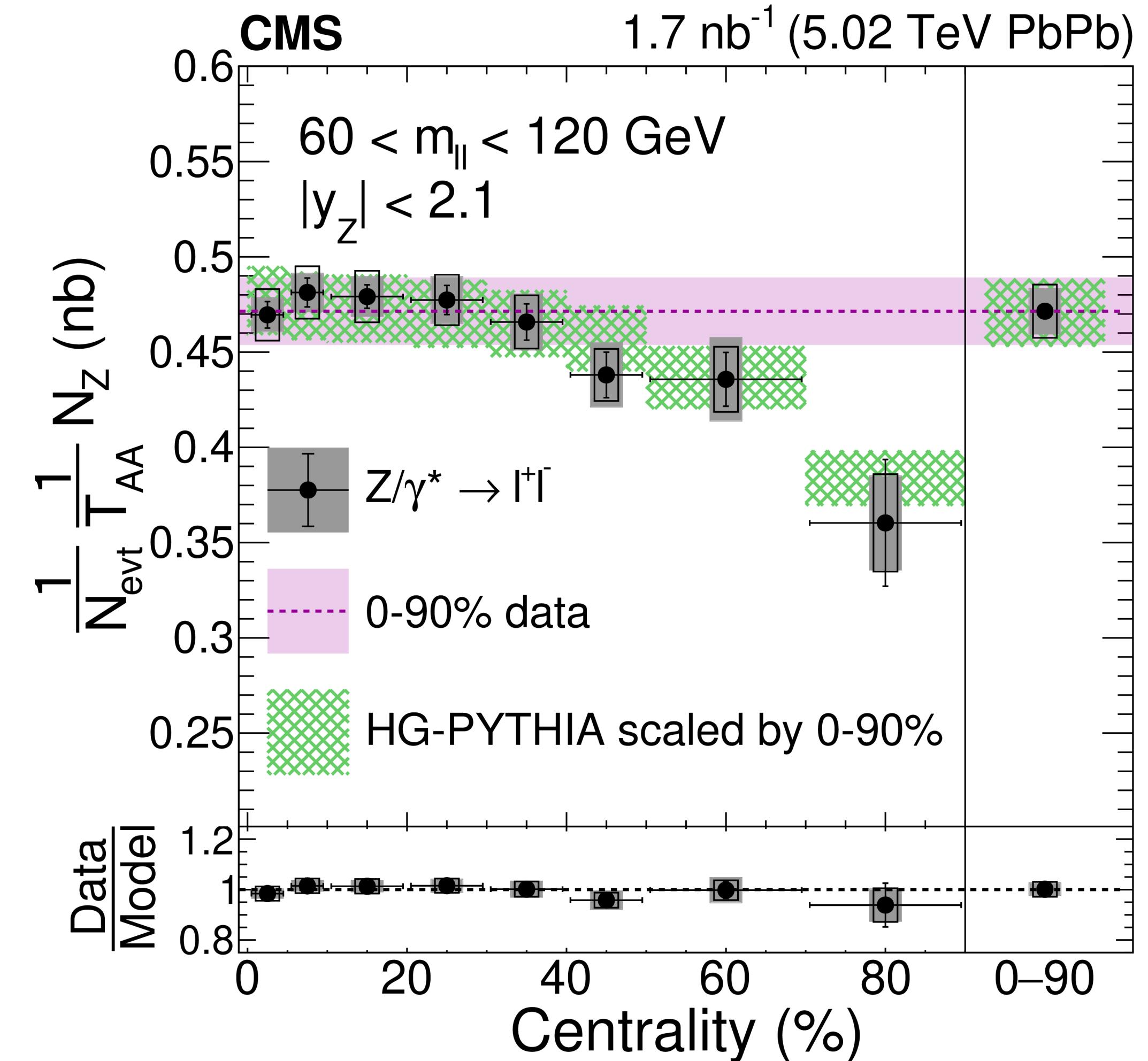


\*\* HG-PYTHIA used to give credit to the original MPI-Glauber implementation in HIJING. In HIJING itself the MPI effects are masked by other nuclear effects.

# Centrality dependent Z production in PbPb

Phys. Rev. Lett. 127 (2021) 102002

- No quenching expected for Z
- “calibrates” the Glauber reference



## Heavy Ion Physics and QGP

insights for centrality selection  
in p-Pb and Pb-Pb

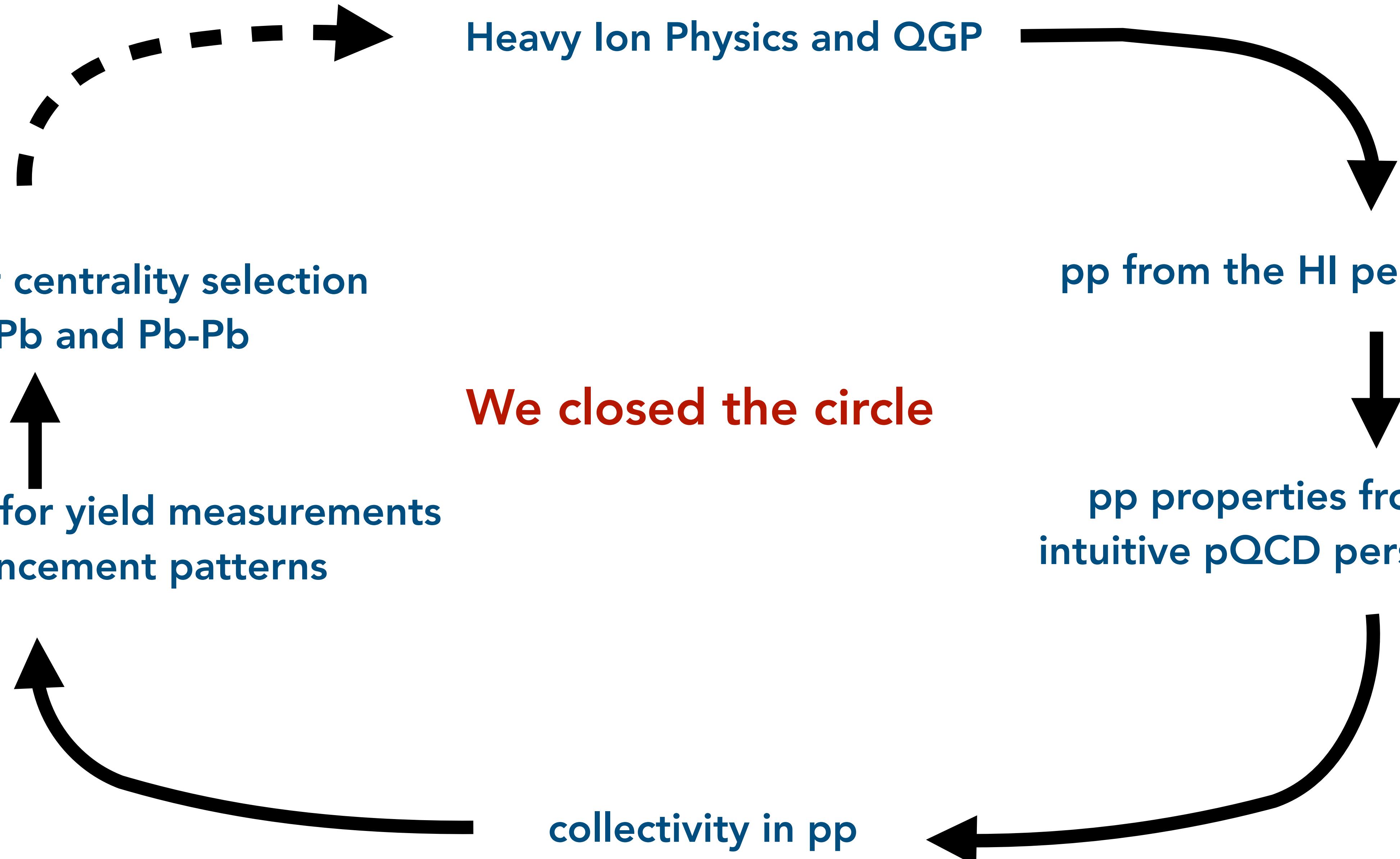
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We closed the circle



# Time to conclude ...

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- Starting off from the search of QGP-like effects in high density pp collisions one finds that flow-like signals and baryon enhancement are present even at lowest multiplicity
  - ... but apparently not in even smaller systems ( $e^+e^-$ )
  - what is the reason for the difference: presence of the remnant protons?
- Huge chance: study of production processes in almost background free environment
- At high multiplicity (in the exponential tail)
  - mind possible biases
  - combine yield measurements with angular correlation studies and/or event shape observables
  - challenge models with more differential studies!
- Small systems including pp remain a dynamic and captivating field of study  
... many crucial contributions by ICN members