



3rd June 2024

Experimental state-of-the art

Maximiliano Puccio (CERN)



The 21st International Conference on Strangeness in Quark Matter

This conference will focus on new experimental and theoretical developments on the role of strange and heavy-flavour quarks in high energy heavy-ion collisions and in astrophysical phenomena.

SQM 2024 will be the 21st edition of the conference series and, for the first time, takes place in France. It follows the recent events in Busan (2022), New York (2021), Bari (2019) and Utrecht (2017). The full history of the SQM conferences is listed [here](#).

Scientific topics

Strangeness and heavy quark production in nuclear collisions and hadronic interactions

Hadron resonances in the sQGP (strongly-interacting Quark-Gluon Plasma)

Bulk matter phenomena associated with strange and other heavy quarks

Chirality, vorticity and spin polarisation phenomena

Strangeness in astrophysics

QCD phase structure

Collectivity in small systems

Open questions and new developments

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Scientific topics

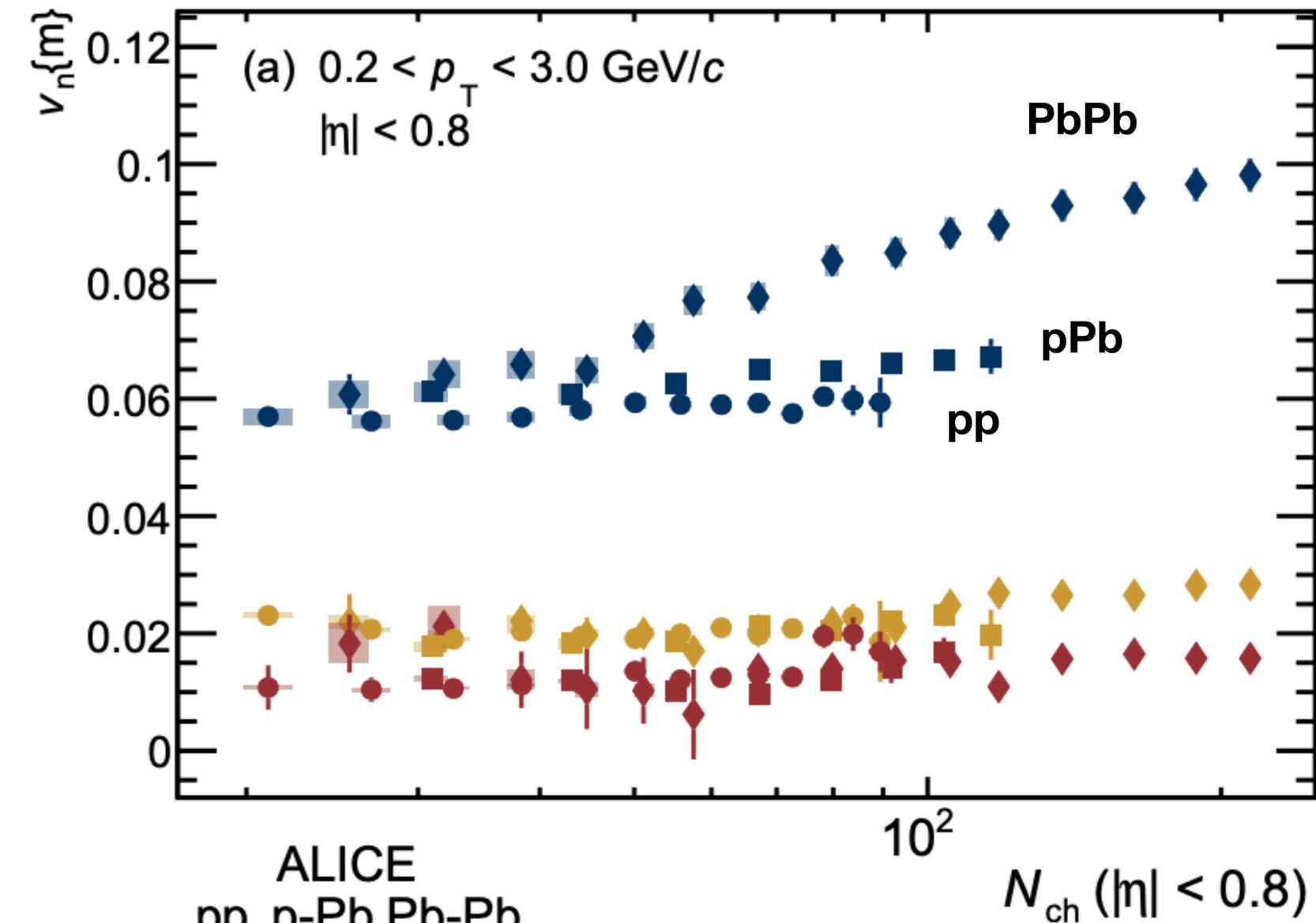
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- Bulk matter phenomena associated with strange and other heavy quarks
- Chirality, vorticity and spin polarisation phenomena
- Strangeness in astrophysics
- QCD phase structure
- Collectivity in small systems
- Open questions and new developments

Focus on the issues I would like
to discuss this week



Chasing the onset of collective effects

ALICE, arXiv:2211.04384



ALICE
 pp p-Pb Pb-Pb
 13 5.02 5.02 $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)

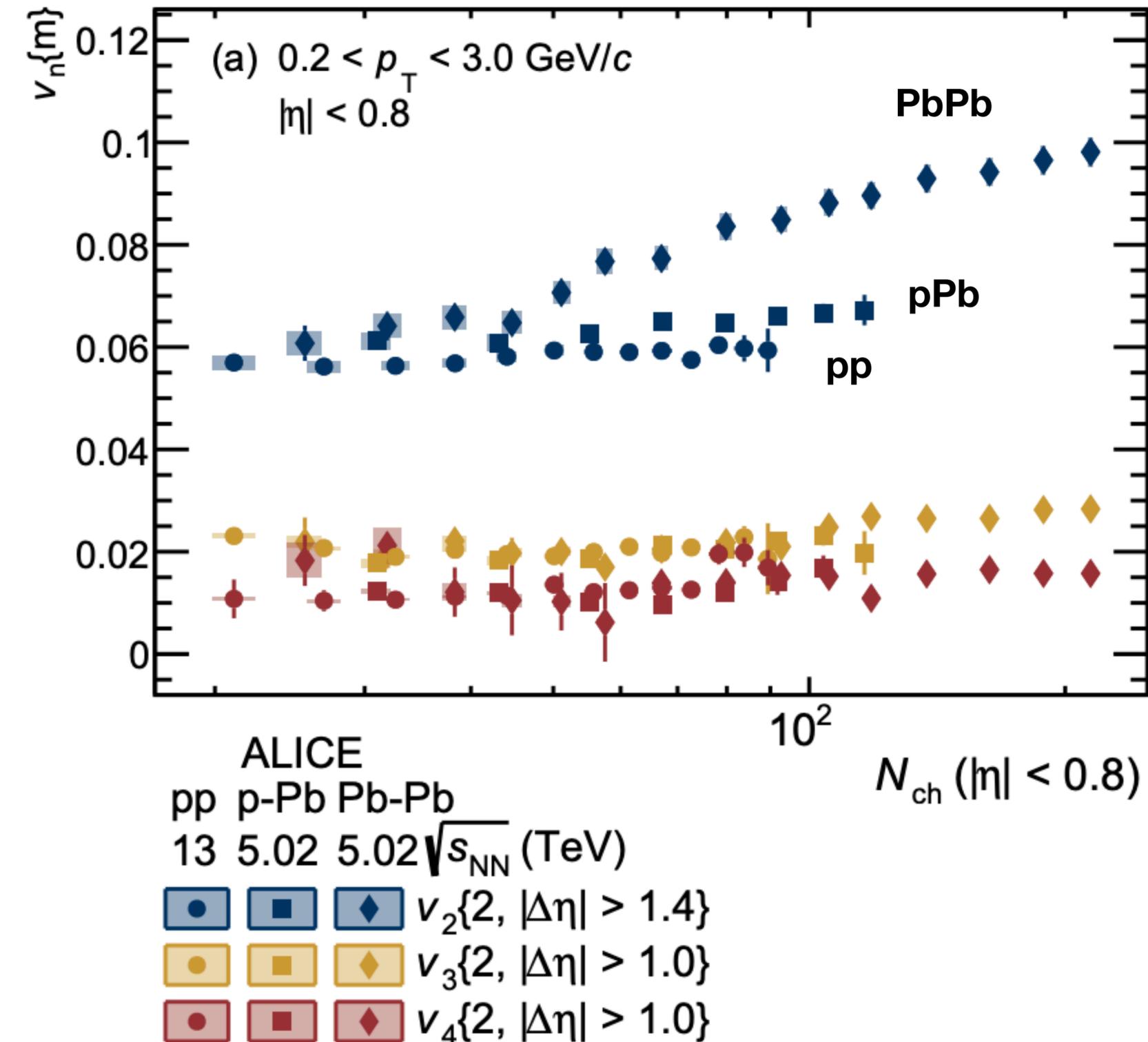
\bullet \blacksquare \blacklozenge $v_2\{2, |\Delta\eta| > 1.4\}$
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What we observe:

- Ordering of the v_2 with system size
- v_3 and v_4 show no evolution with multiplicity nor system size

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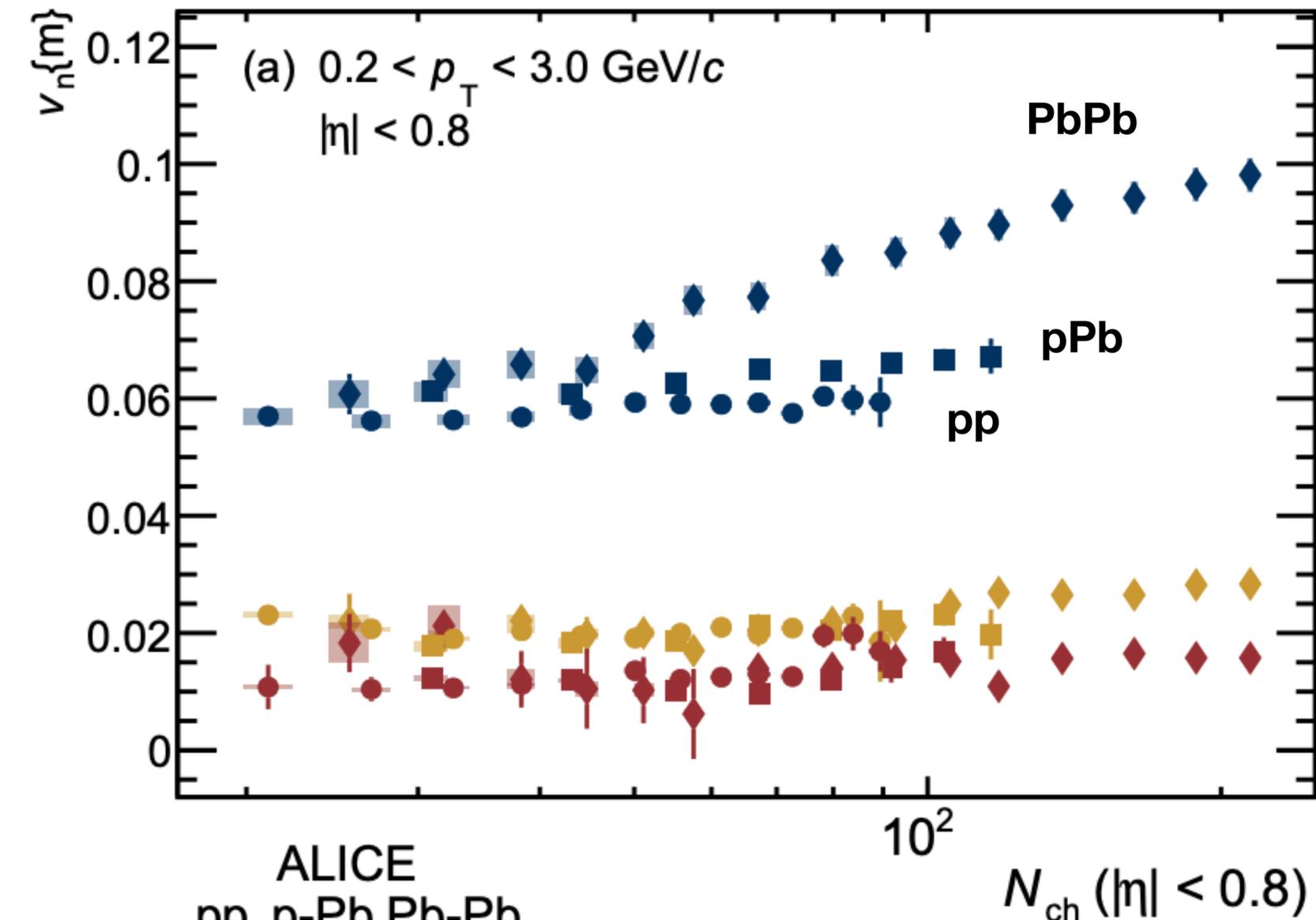
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How can we interpret it:

- v_3 and v_4 are sensitive to fluctuations of the initial geometry
- v_2 is the response of the system to the initial geometry of the collision
 - In pp and p-Pb geometry fluctuation only
 - In peripheral Pb-Pb initial anisotropy create the v_2

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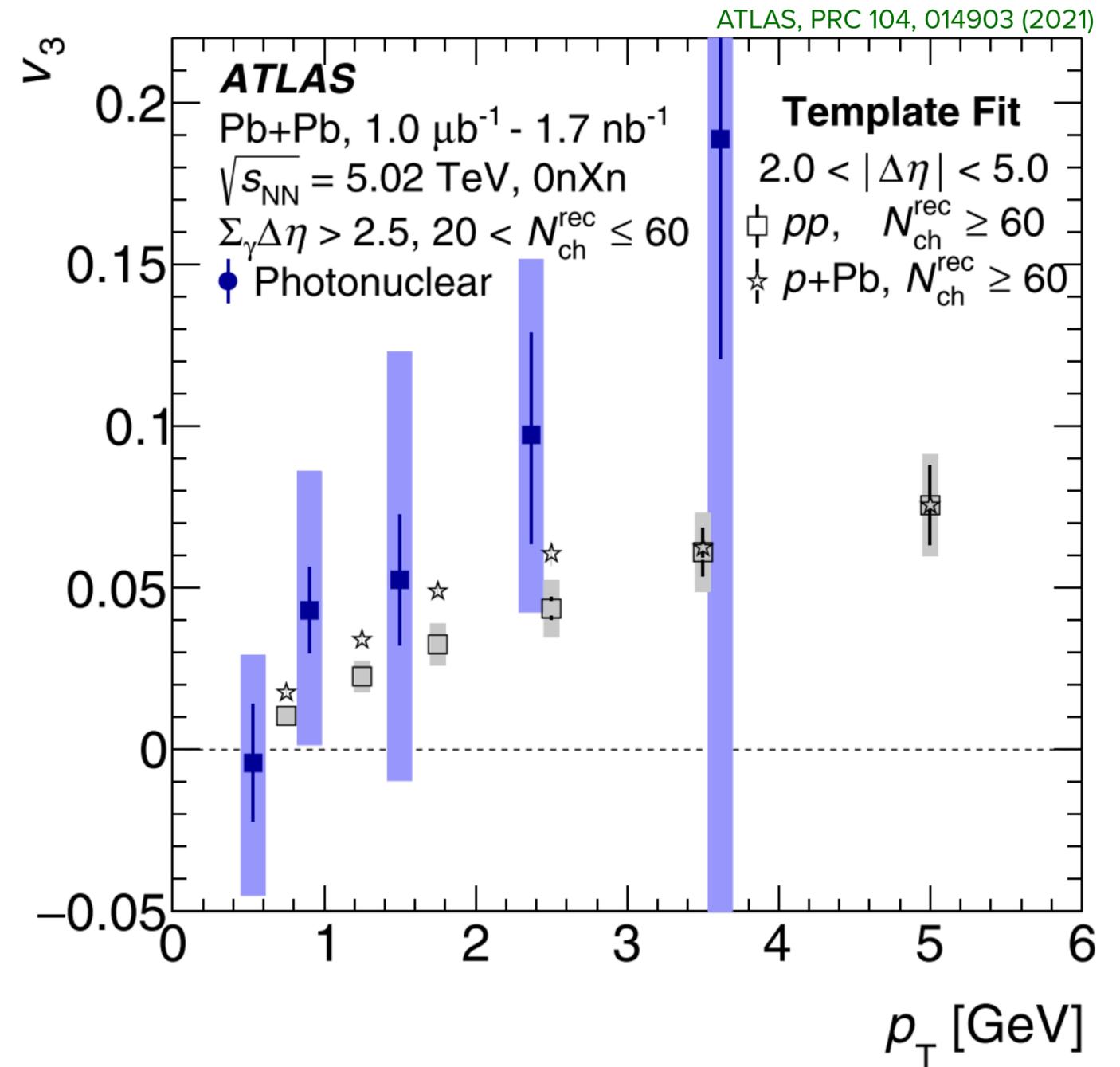
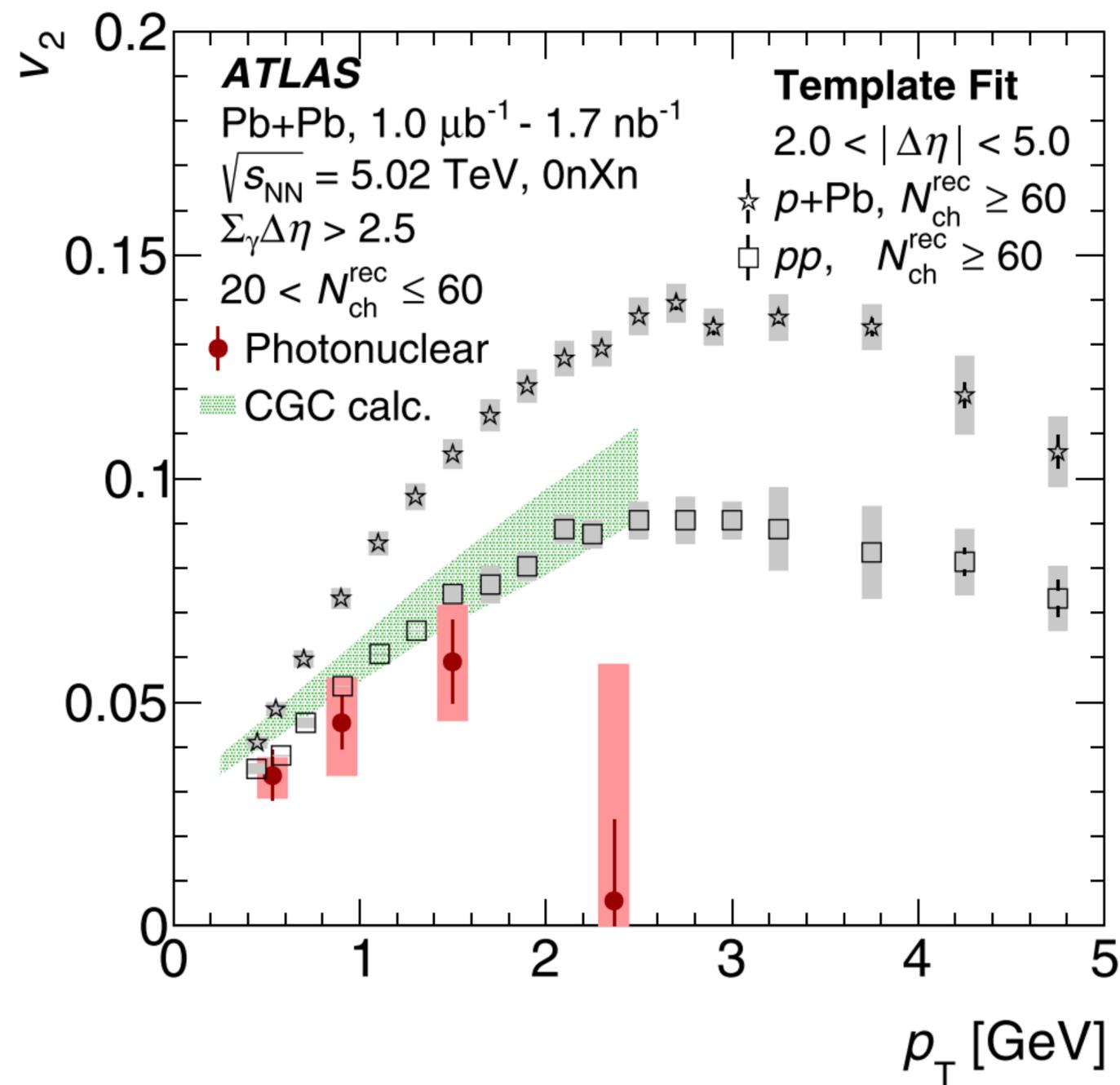
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 - In pp and p-Pb geometry fluctuation only
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- Can we turn them off?

Experimental challenge: removing non-flow effect (e.g. jets, resonances) in small systems

Chasing the onset of collective effects: γ Pb collisions



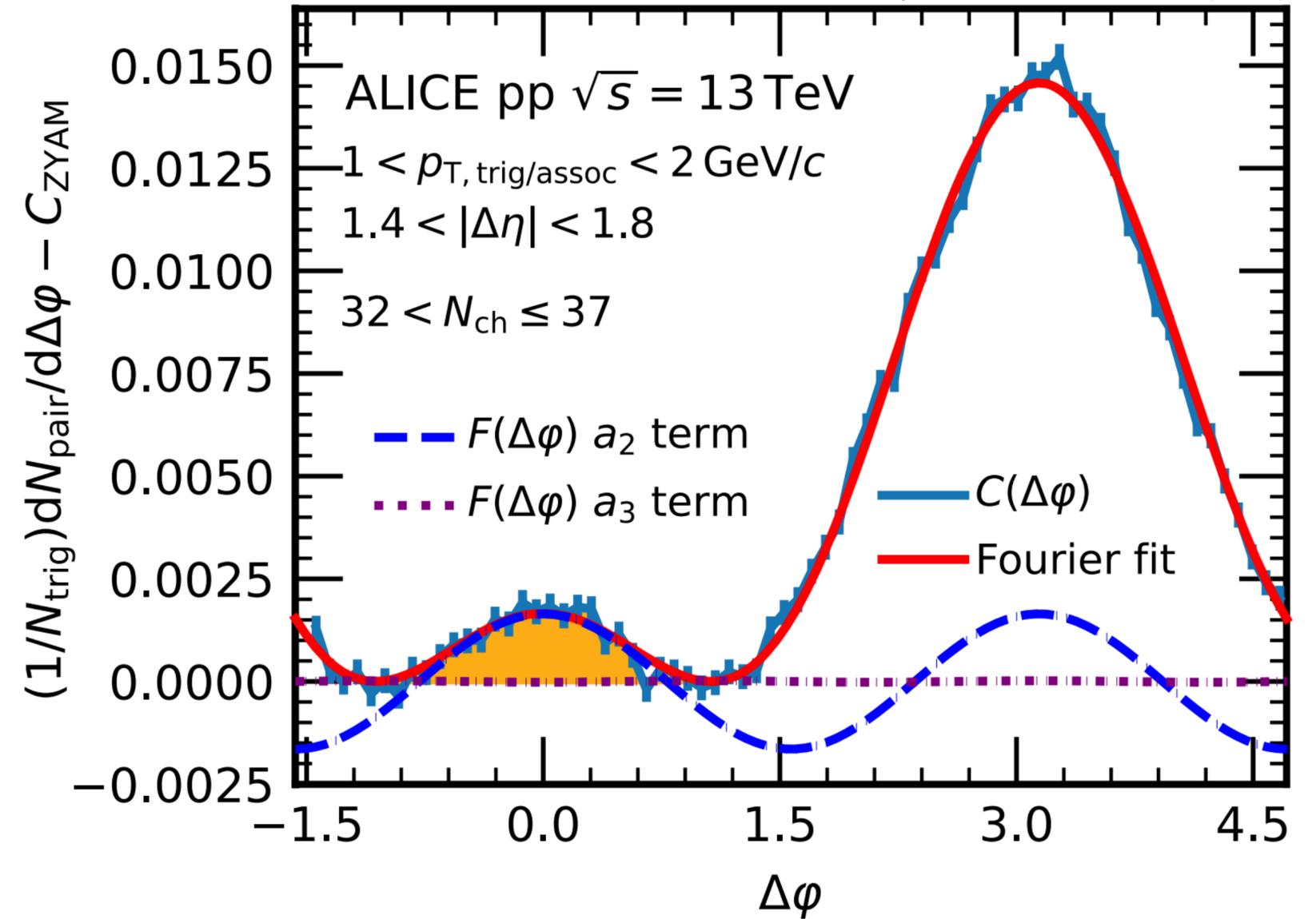
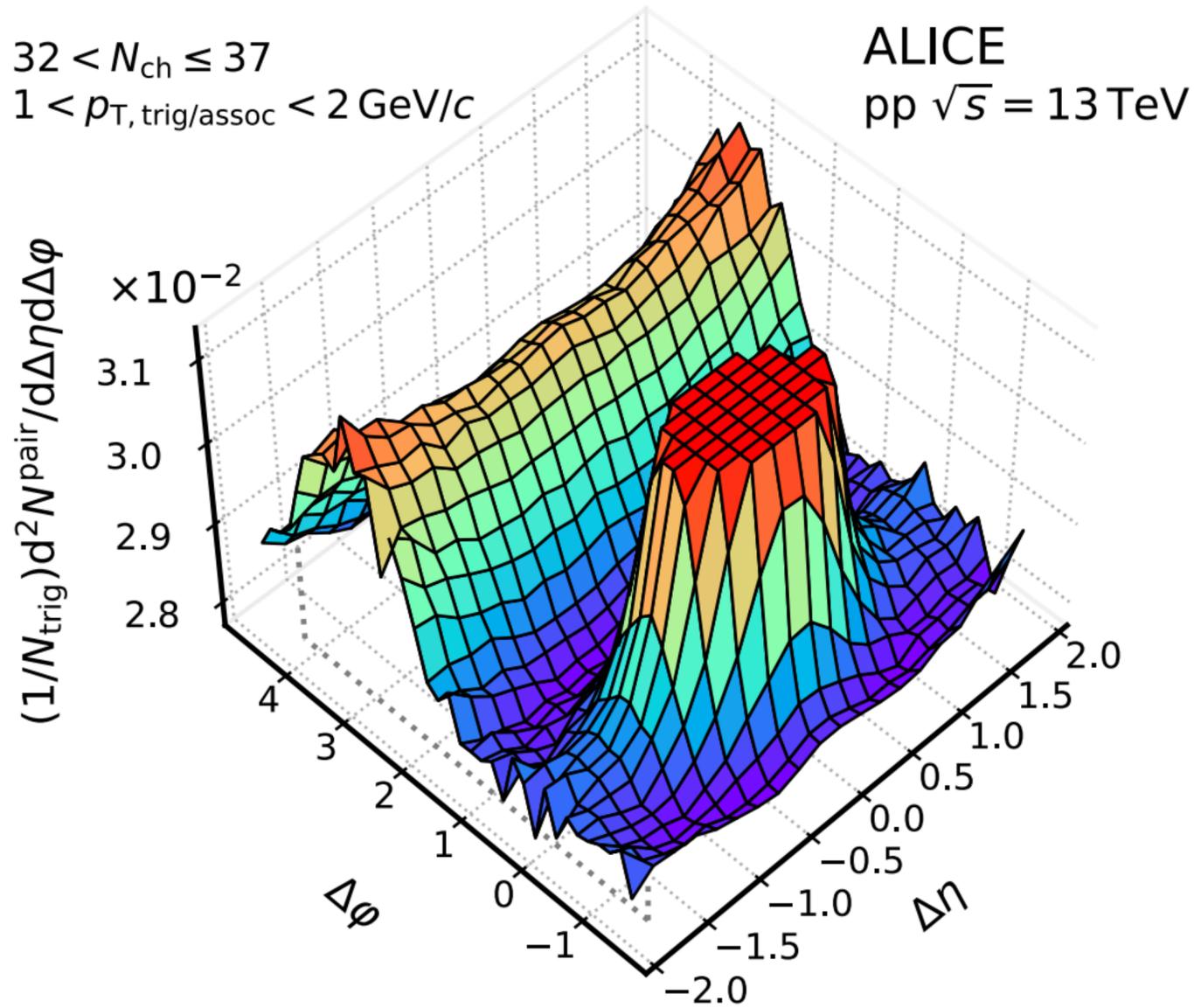
ATLAS, PRC 104, 014903 (2021)

Measurement of v_2 and v_3 in photonuclear reactions (γ Pb) at the LHC

- Hint of v_2 smaller than in pp, v_3 compatible with other systems

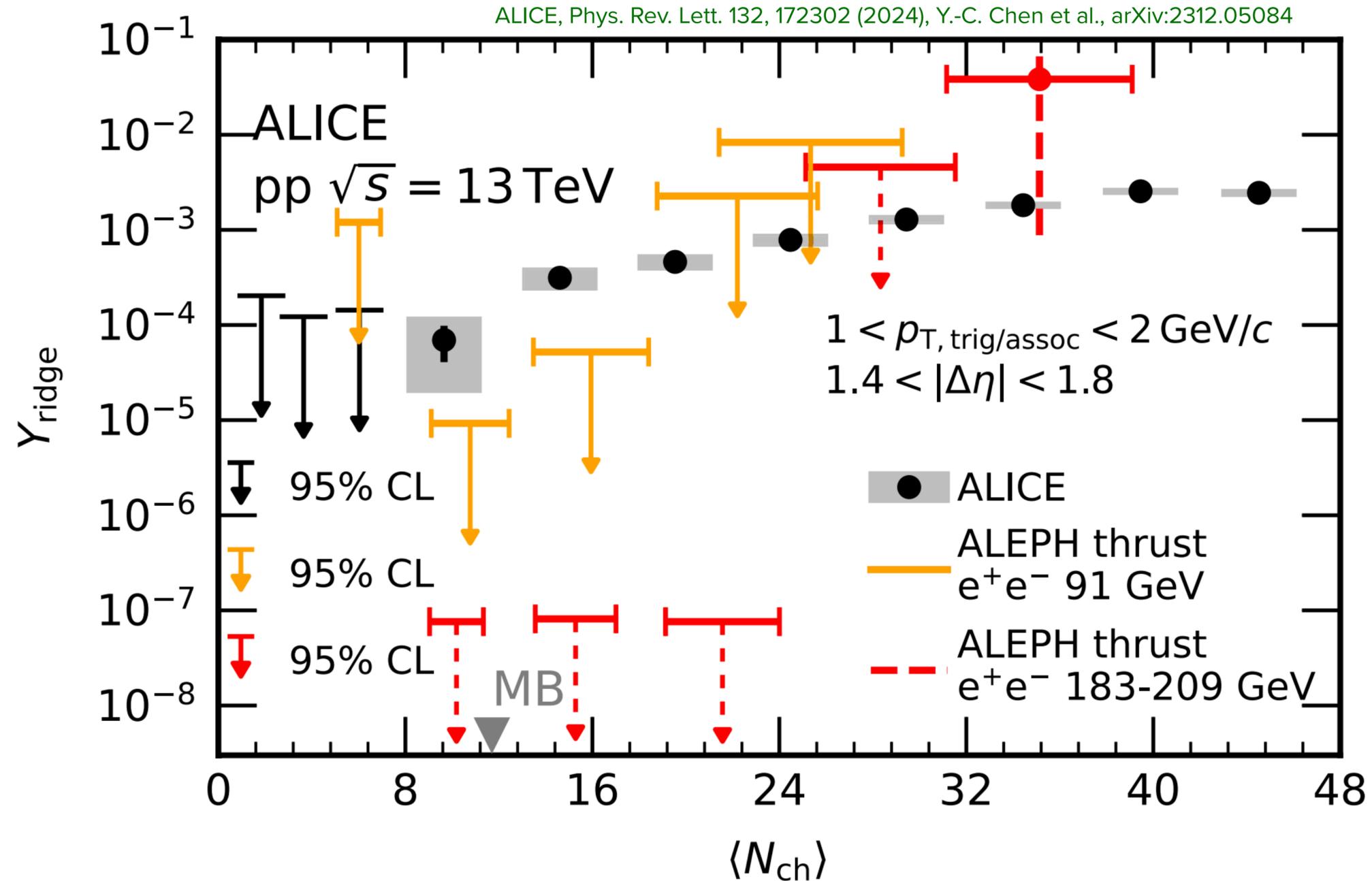
Chasing the onset of collective effects: pp and e⁺e⁻

ALICE, Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 172302 (2024)



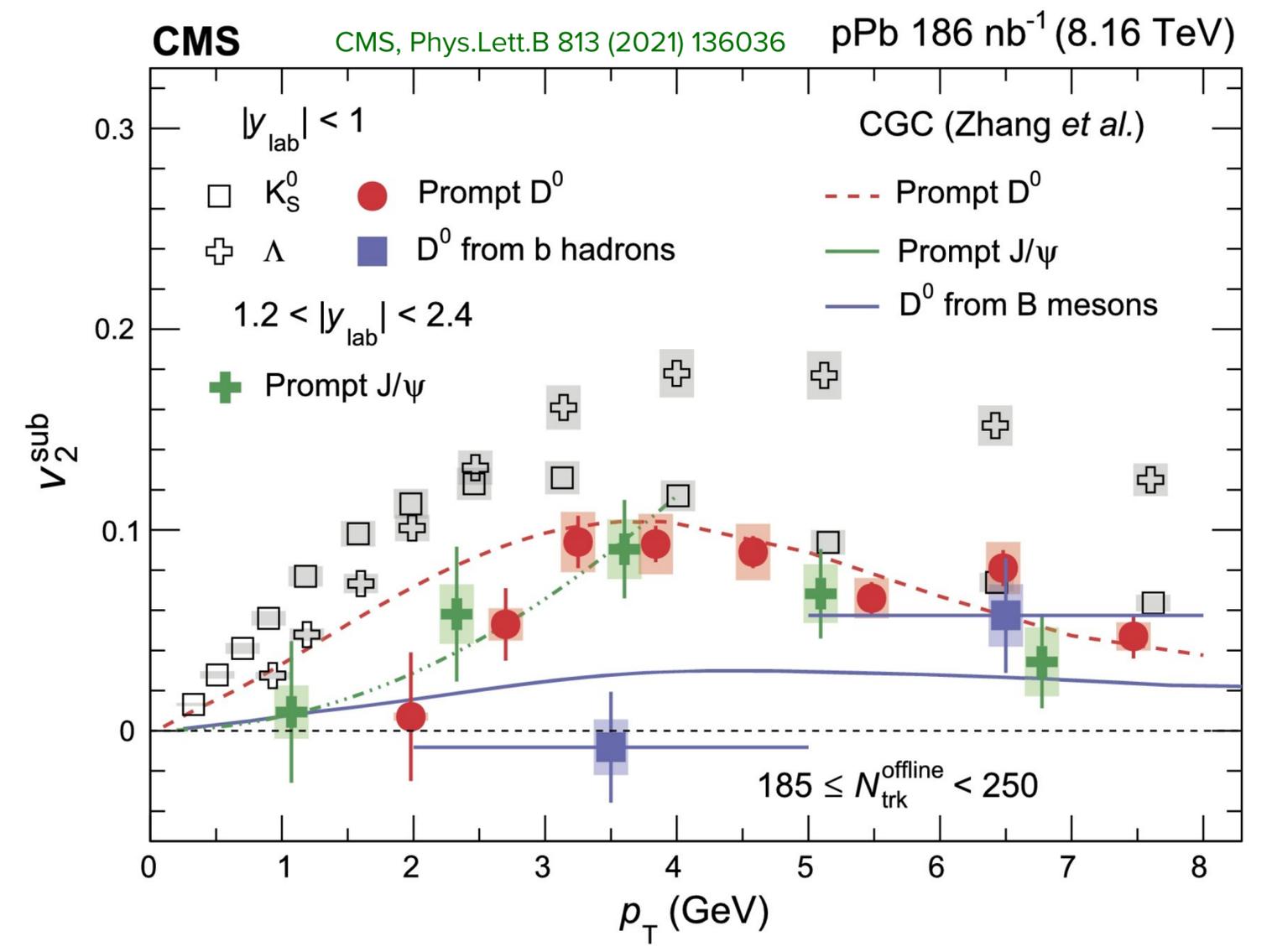
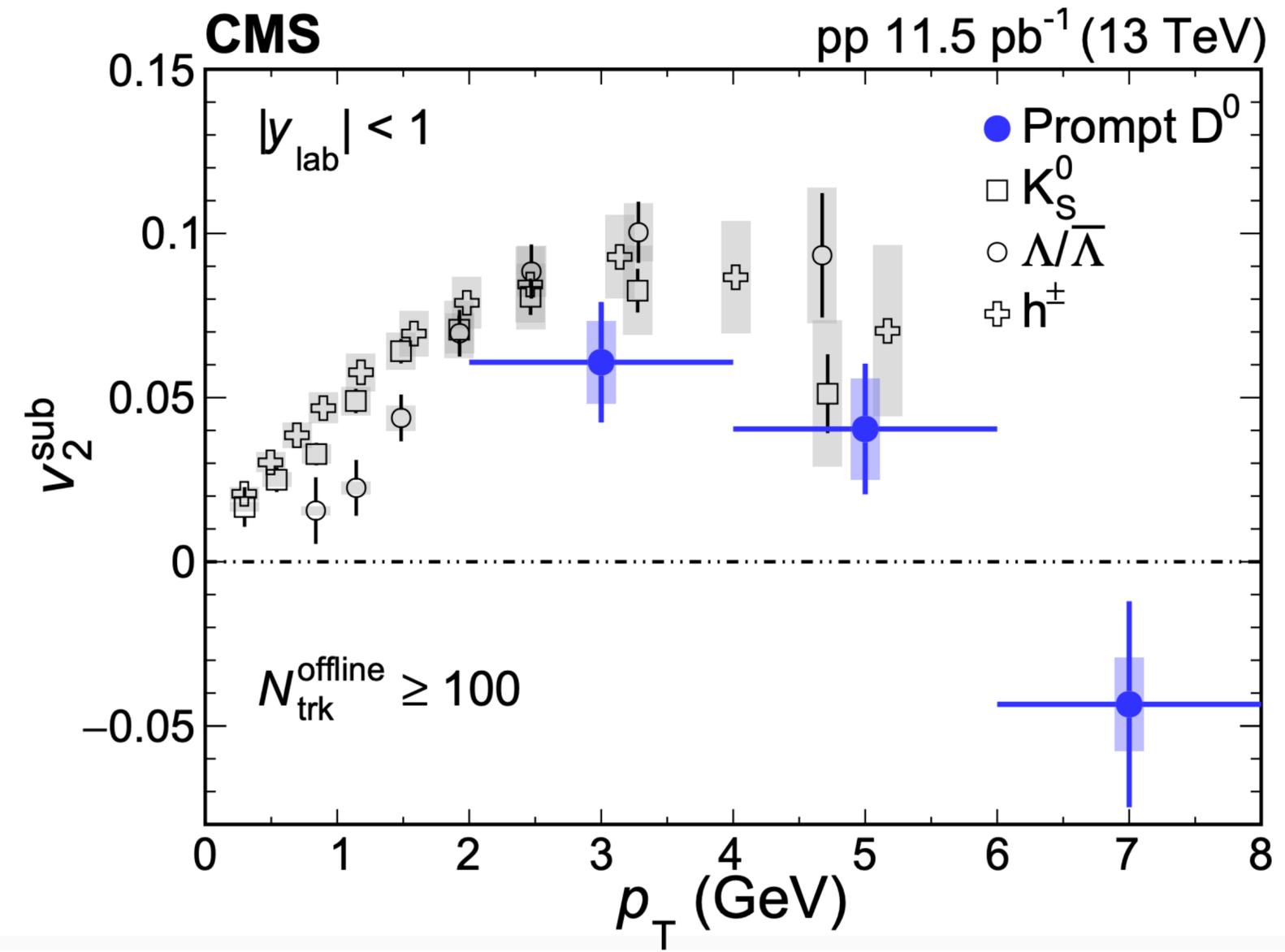
- Significant near-side ridge yield observed in pp collisions down to very low multiplicity

Chasing the onset of collective effects: pp and e⁺e⁻



- Significant near-side ridge yield observed in pp collisions down to very low multiplicity
- Below 30 charged particles, no significant signal in e⁺e⁻, $> 3\sigma$ away from pp
- ➡ At higher multiplicity hint of a signal... significance not at the level to firmly conclude

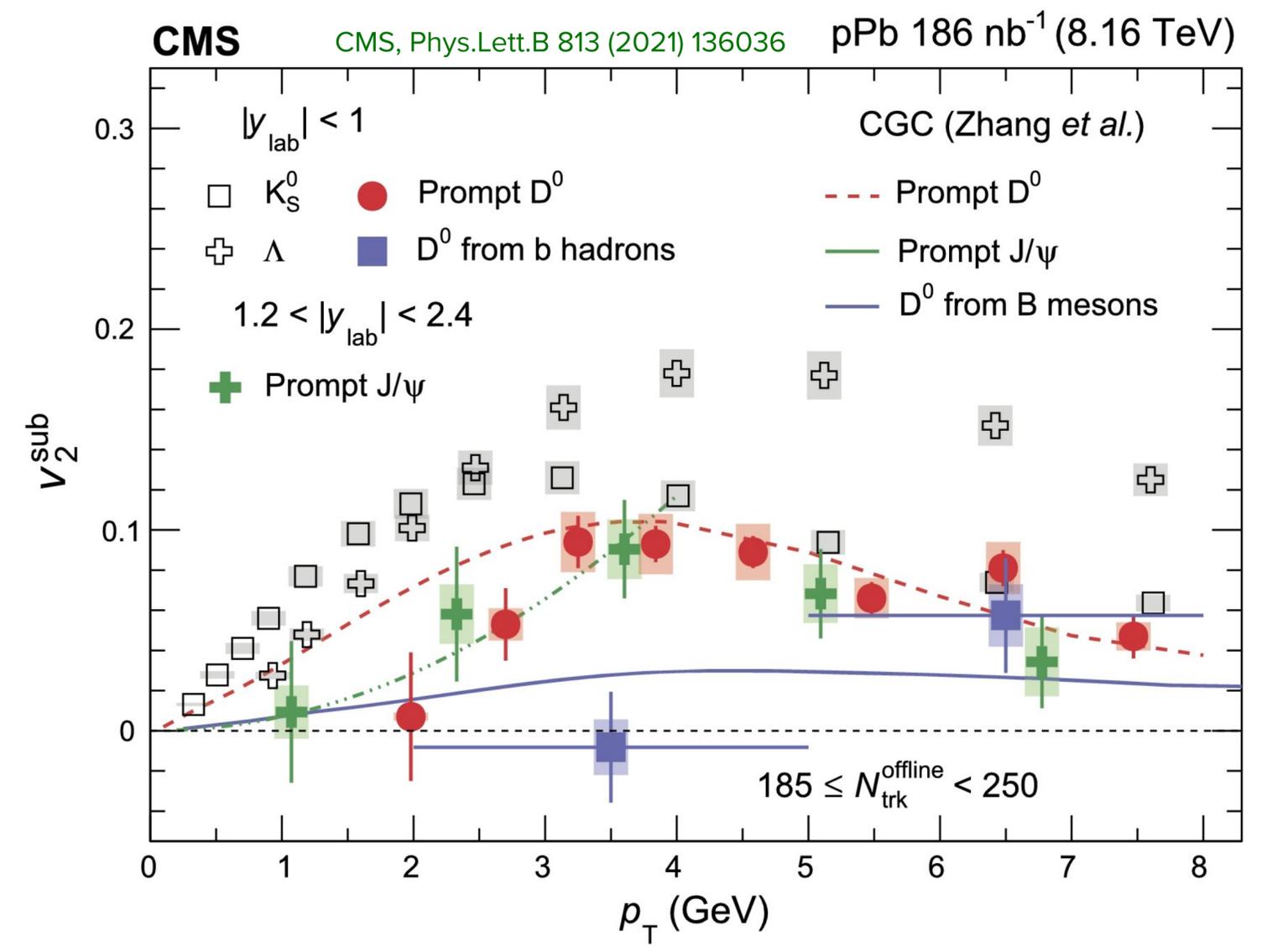
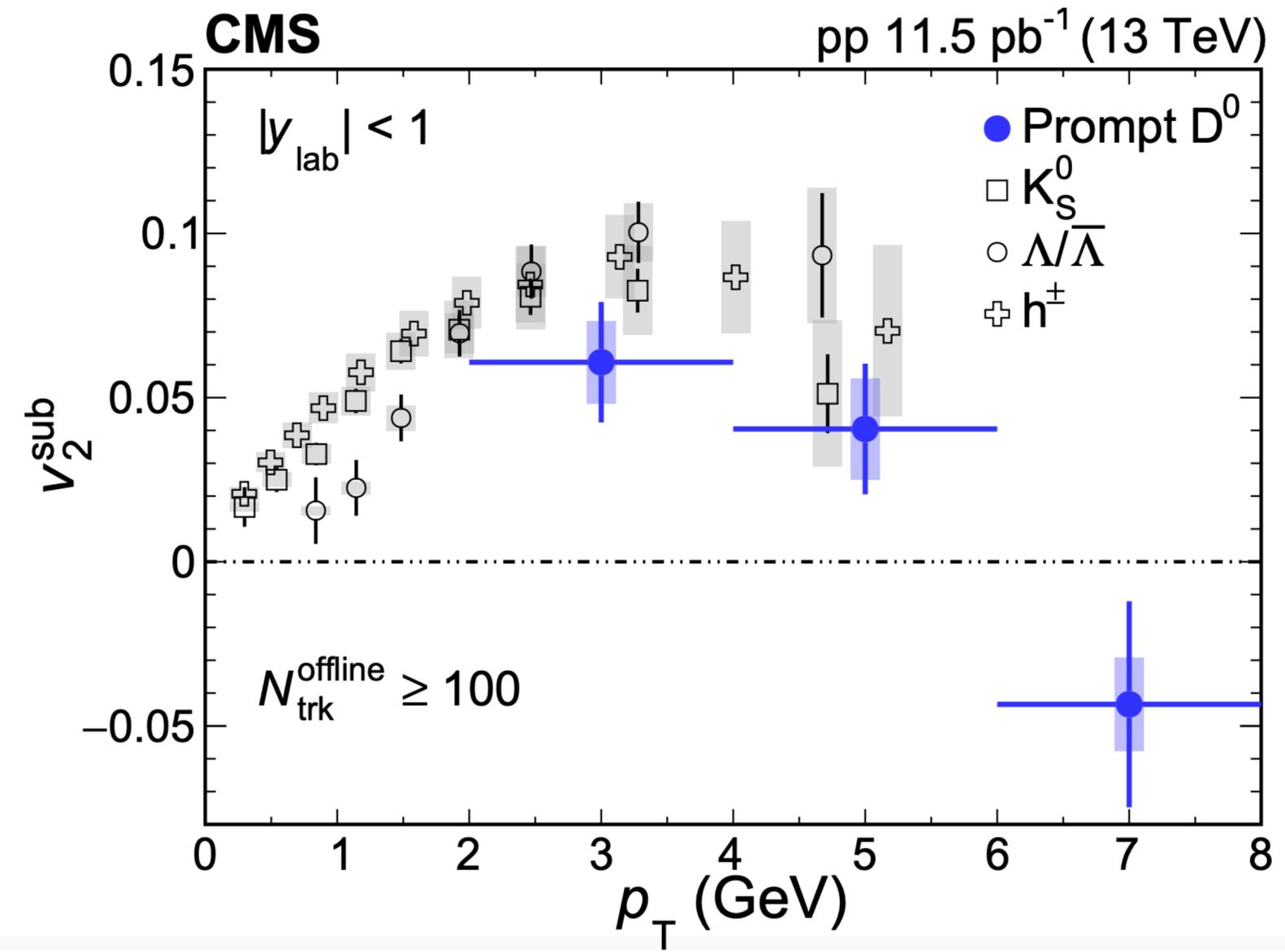
Even charm flows in small systems, but beauty doesn't



Charm hadrons have non-zero v2 in pp and p-Pb collisions too!!

- Not (only?) due to coalescence with lighter quarks as J/ψ v₂ ≠ 0
- Meson grouping visible
- Beauty v₂ still consistent with 0

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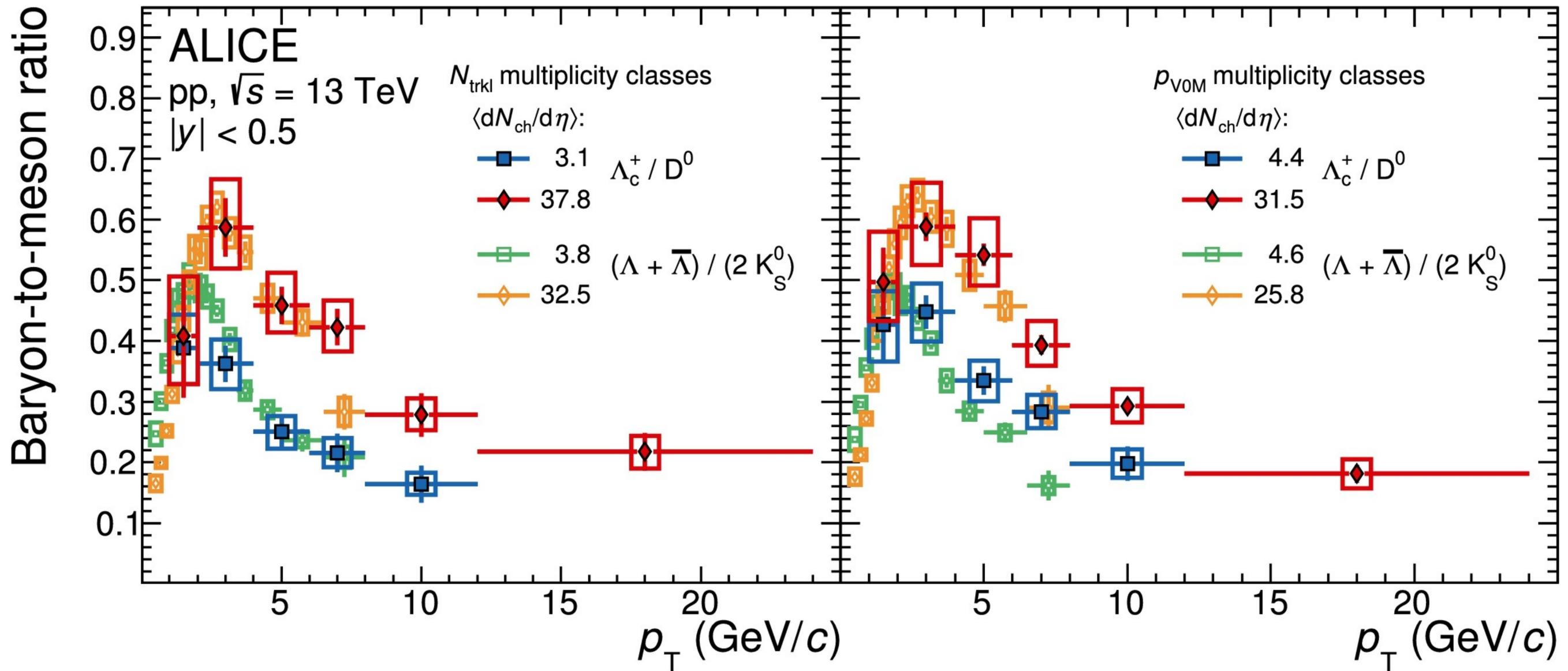
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Also CGC explains this behaviour

More precision and species needed

Baryon-to-meson ratio: radial flow?

ALICE, Phys. Lett. B 829 (2022) 137065

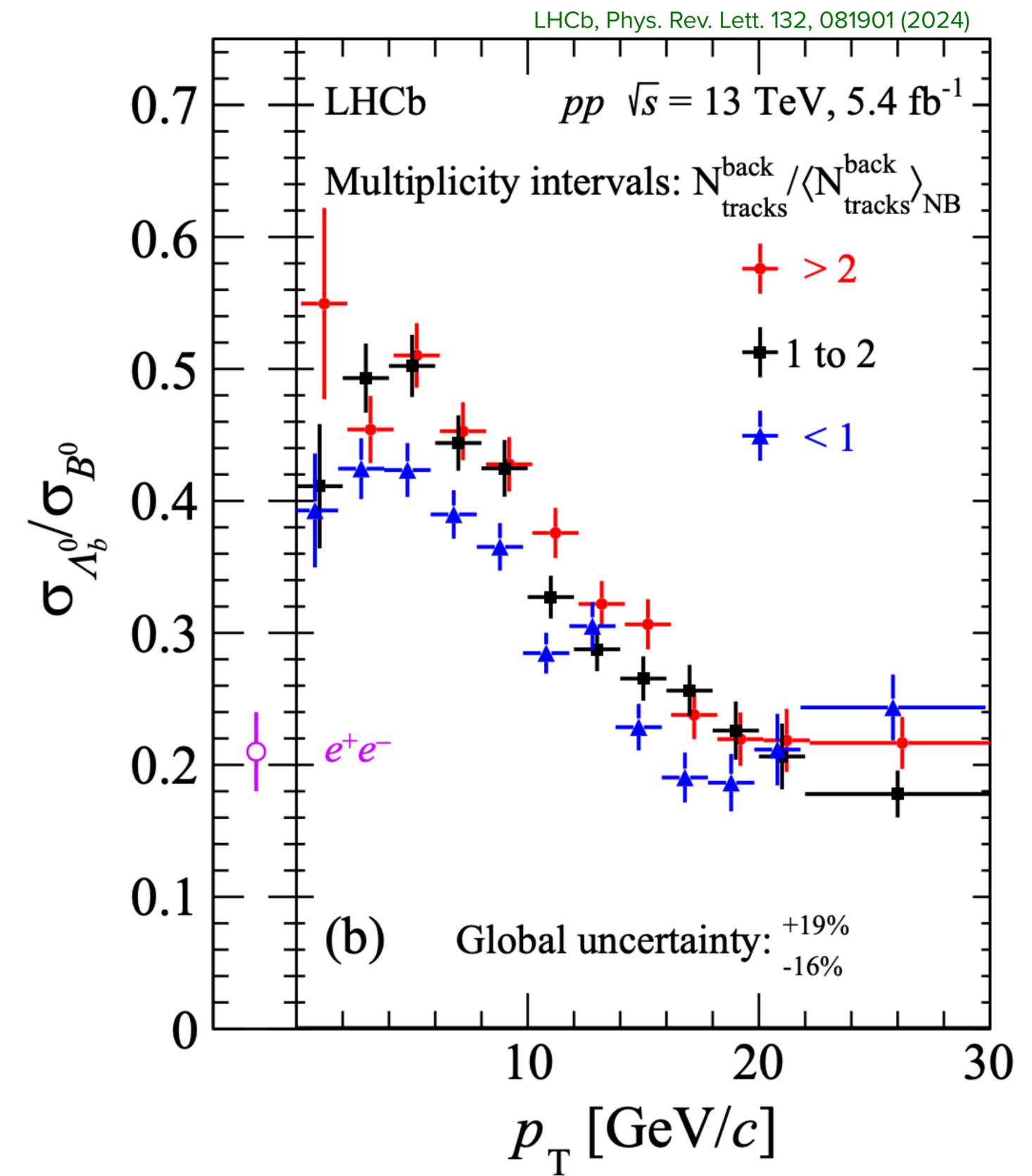


- Charm baryons/meson like for strangeness
 - Experimentally important to check the effect of different multiplicity estimators
- in ee these ratios are flat in p_T , in pp at low p_T peak of the ratio \rightarrow quark coalescence
 • peak pushed to higher momenta at high mult.

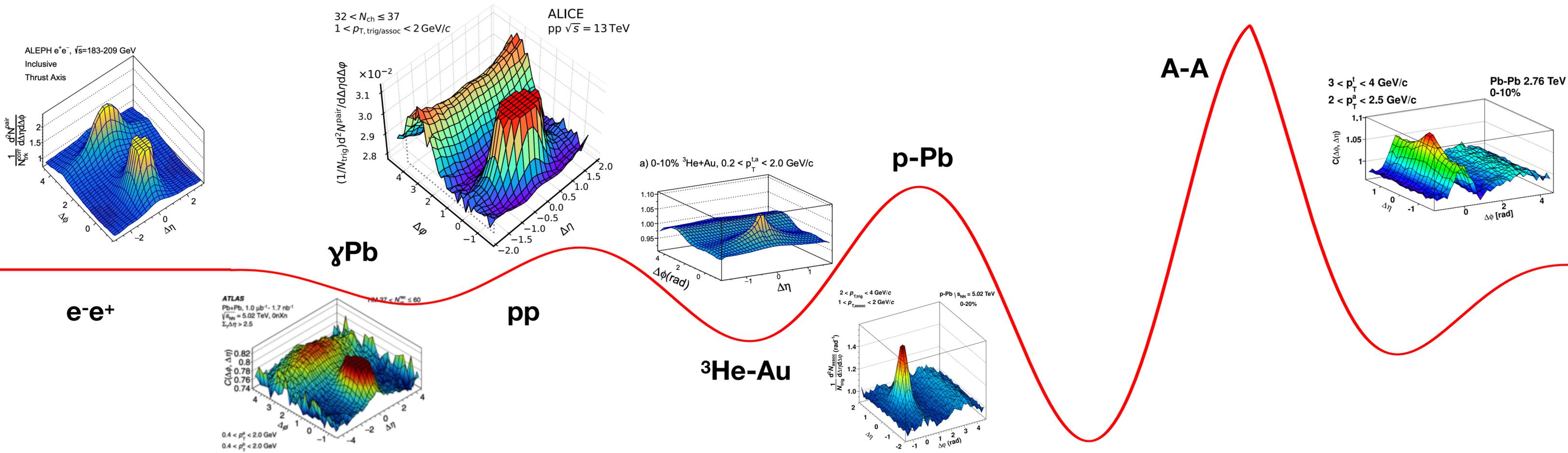
Baryon-to-meson ratio: beauty edition

Similar pattern for beauty hadrons at forward rapidity

- In this case different multiplicity estimators give a slightly different picture
- With rapidity gap between the multiplicity estimator and the measurement milder multiplicity dependence



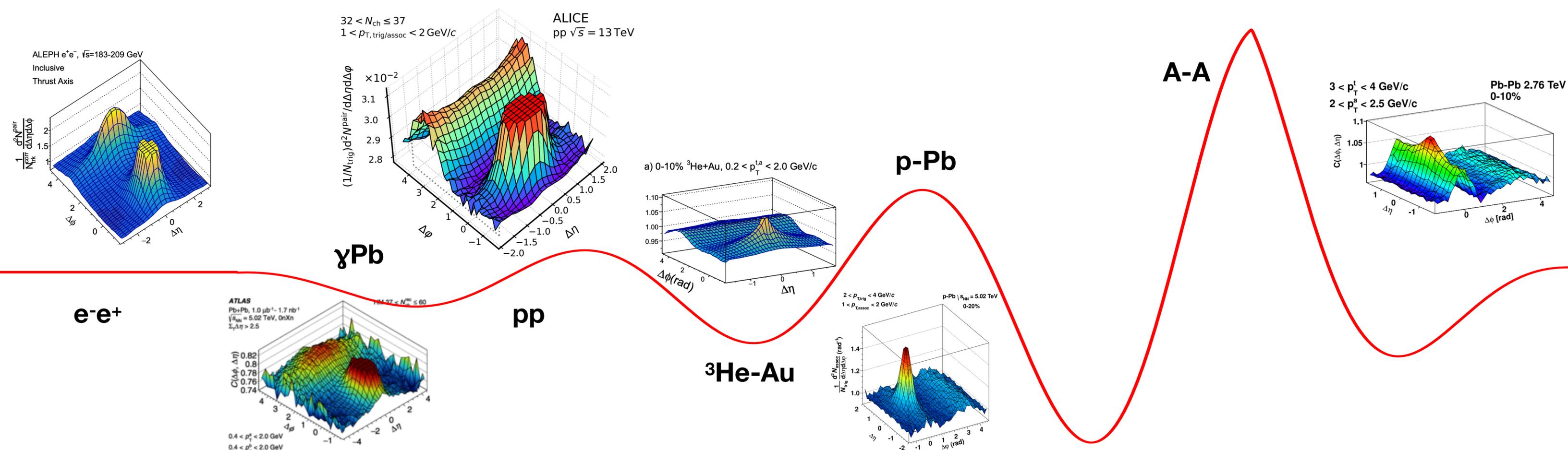
Collectivity in small system summary



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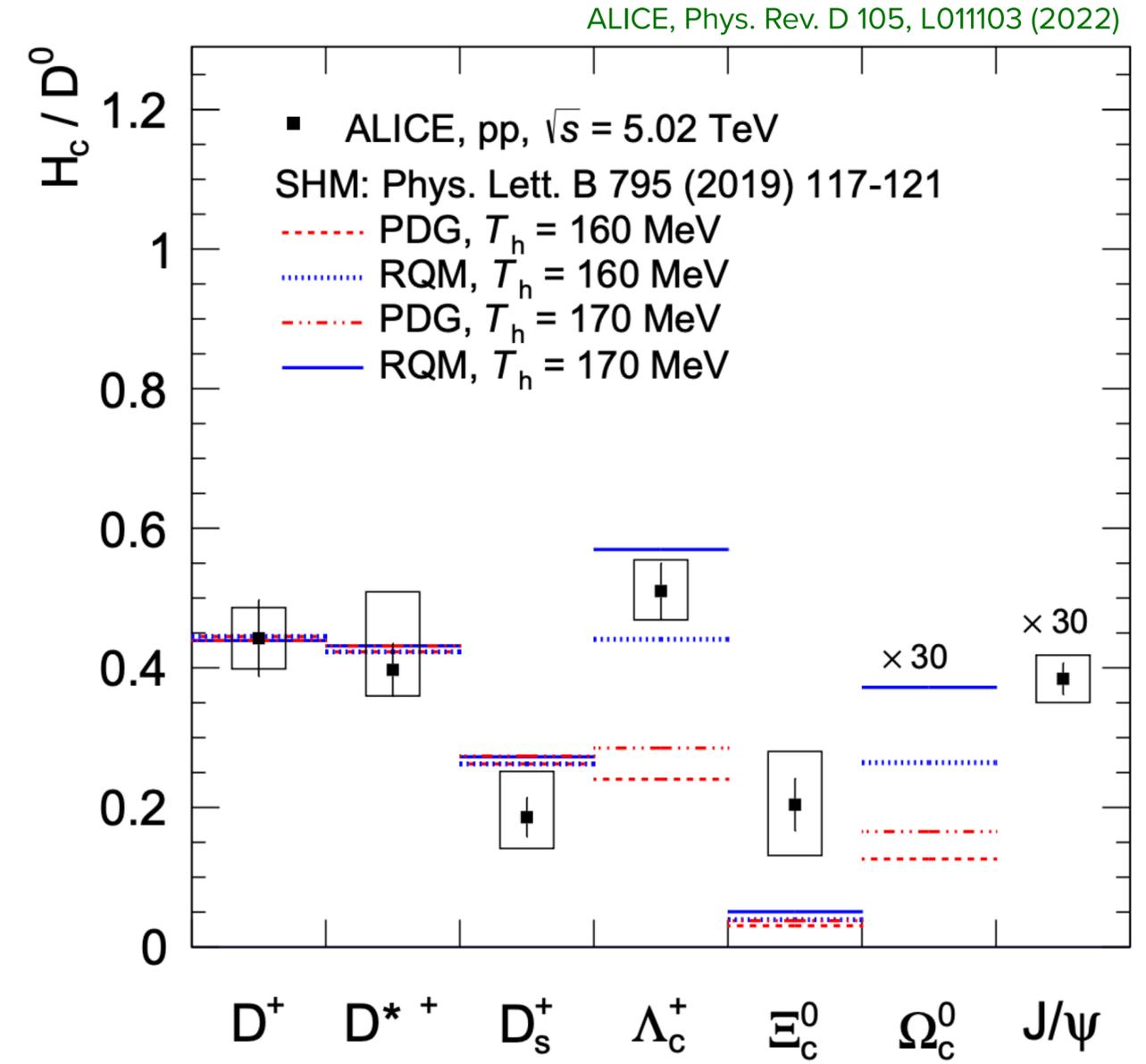
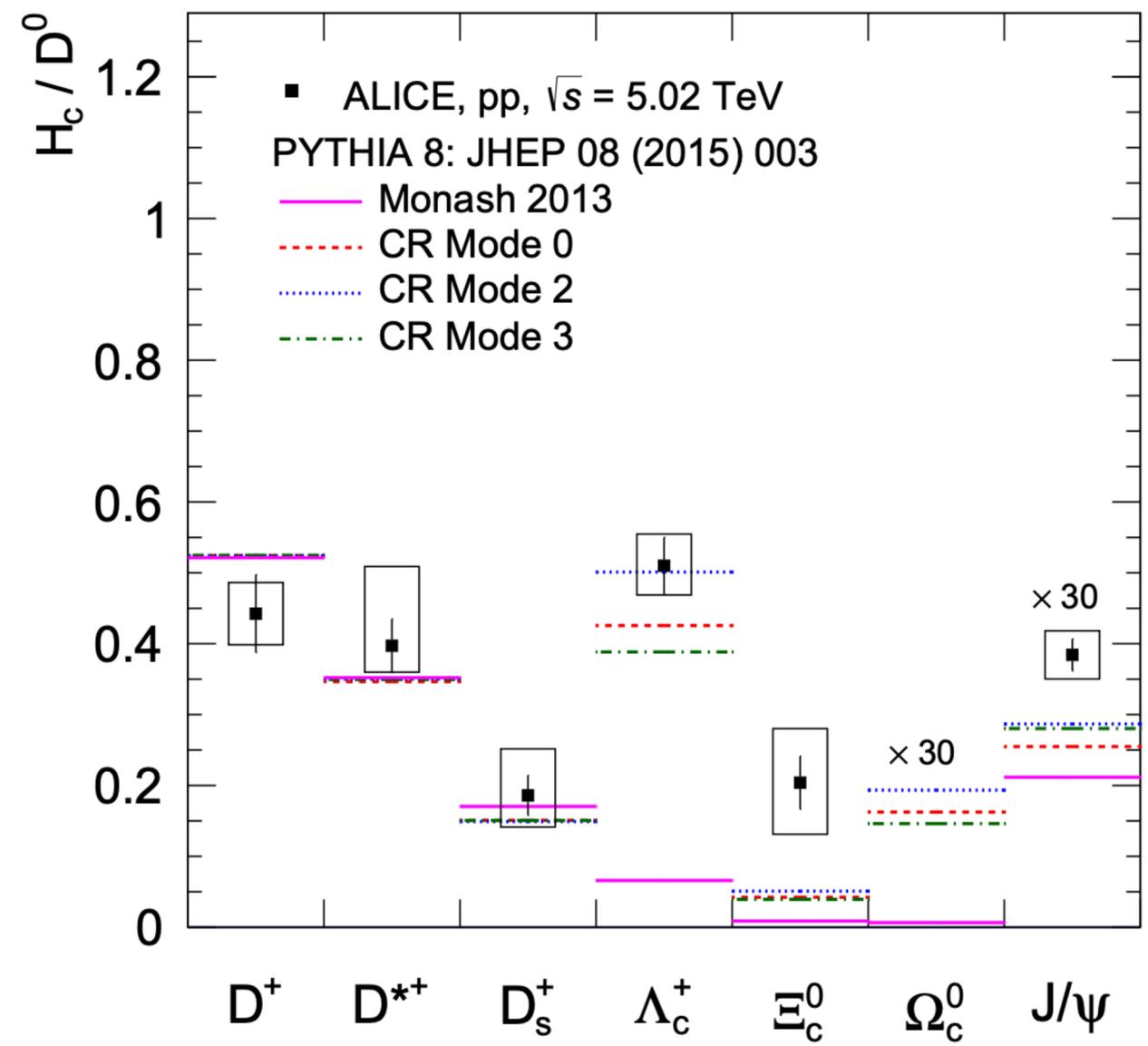
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Are we seeing a thermalised expanding medium in small systems?

- Non-thermal models actively evolving and able to explain some of the observations
- Collectivity is only one piece of the puzzle

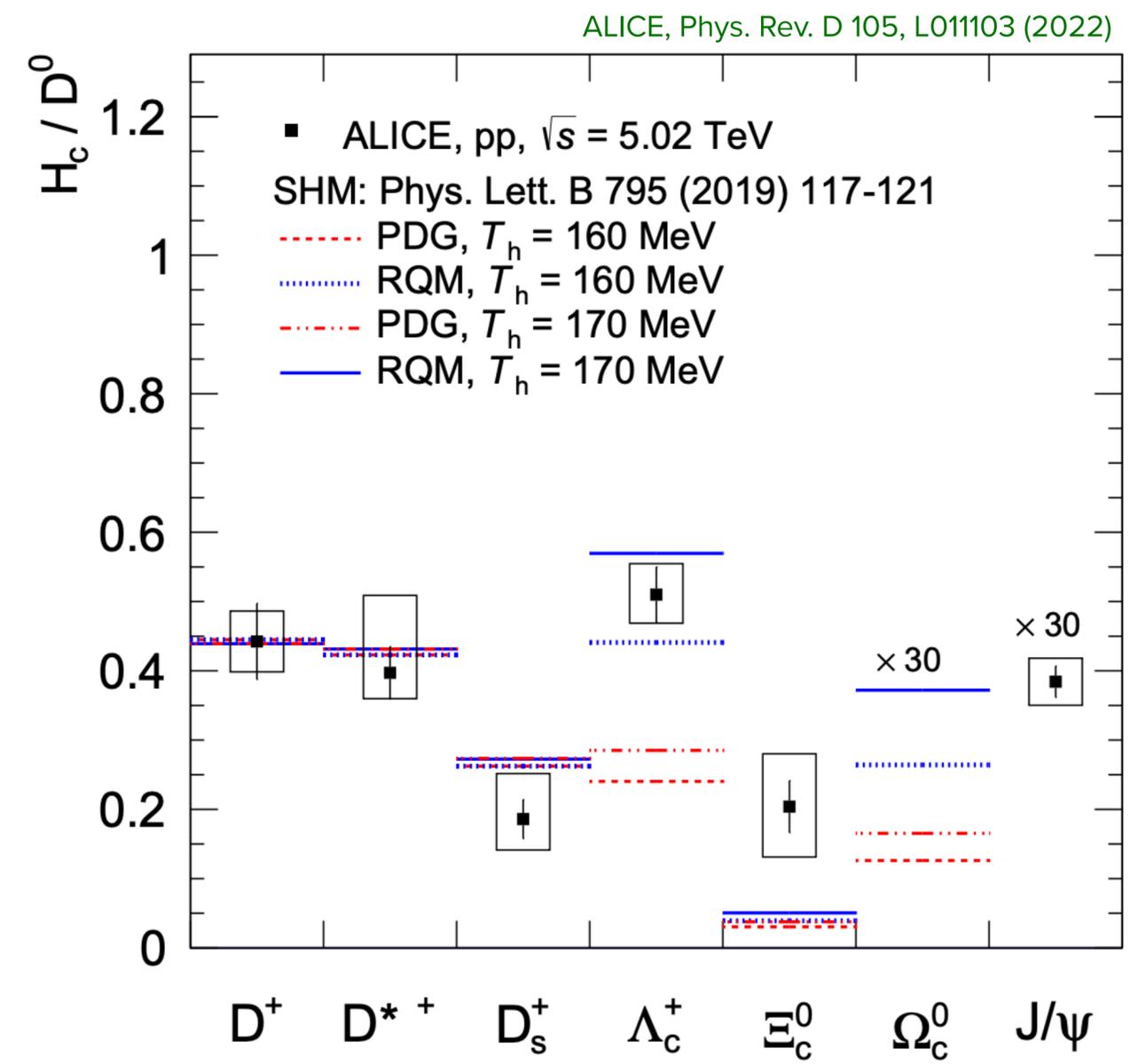
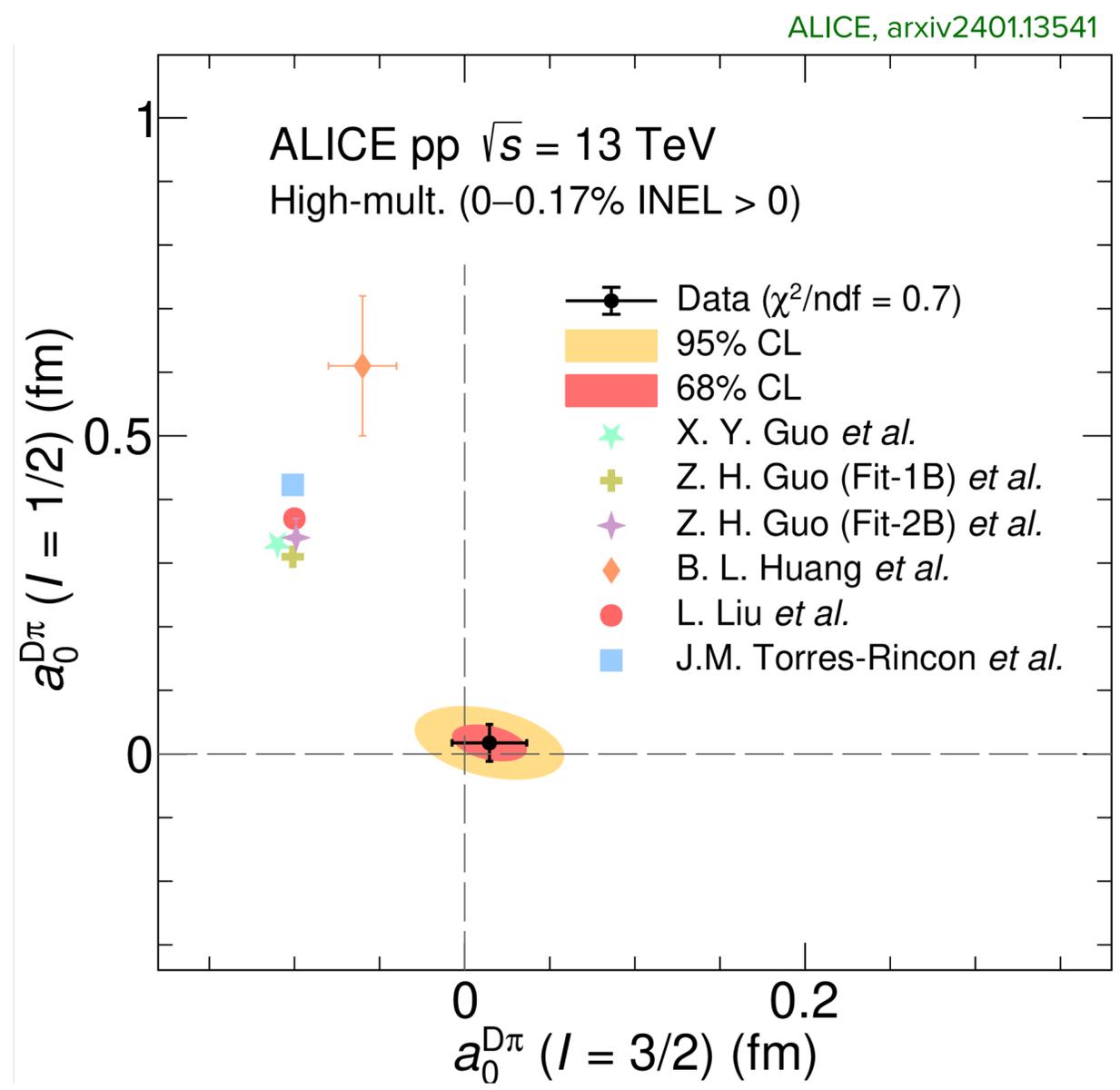
Charm chemistry in details



Charm hadron production, like light quark hadrons, is surprisingly close to the thermal model expectation, and it is not far from PYTHIA8 advanced color reconnections mode as well

- Resonances play a major role: we need precise measurements of yields (and to discover them all)

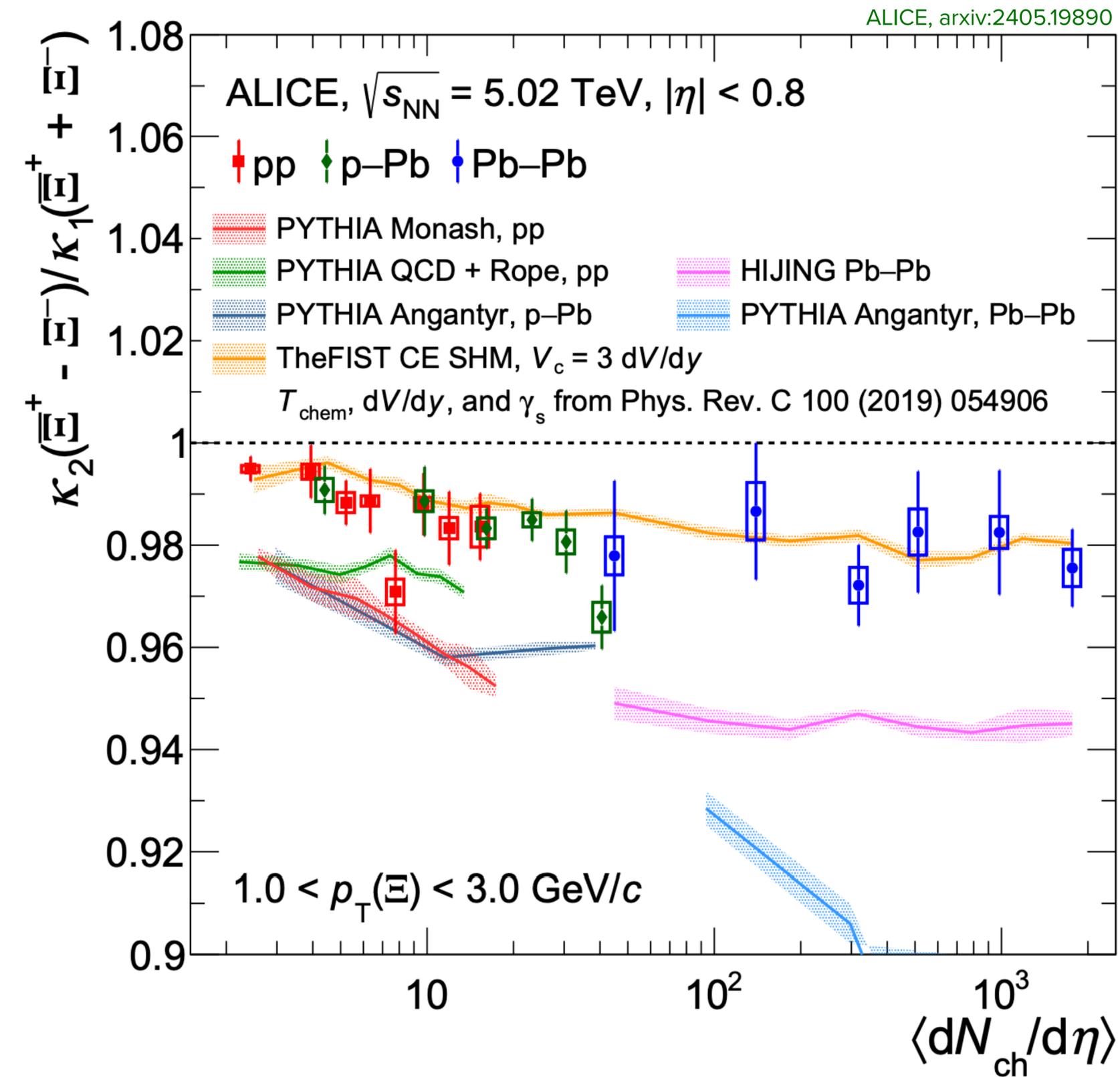
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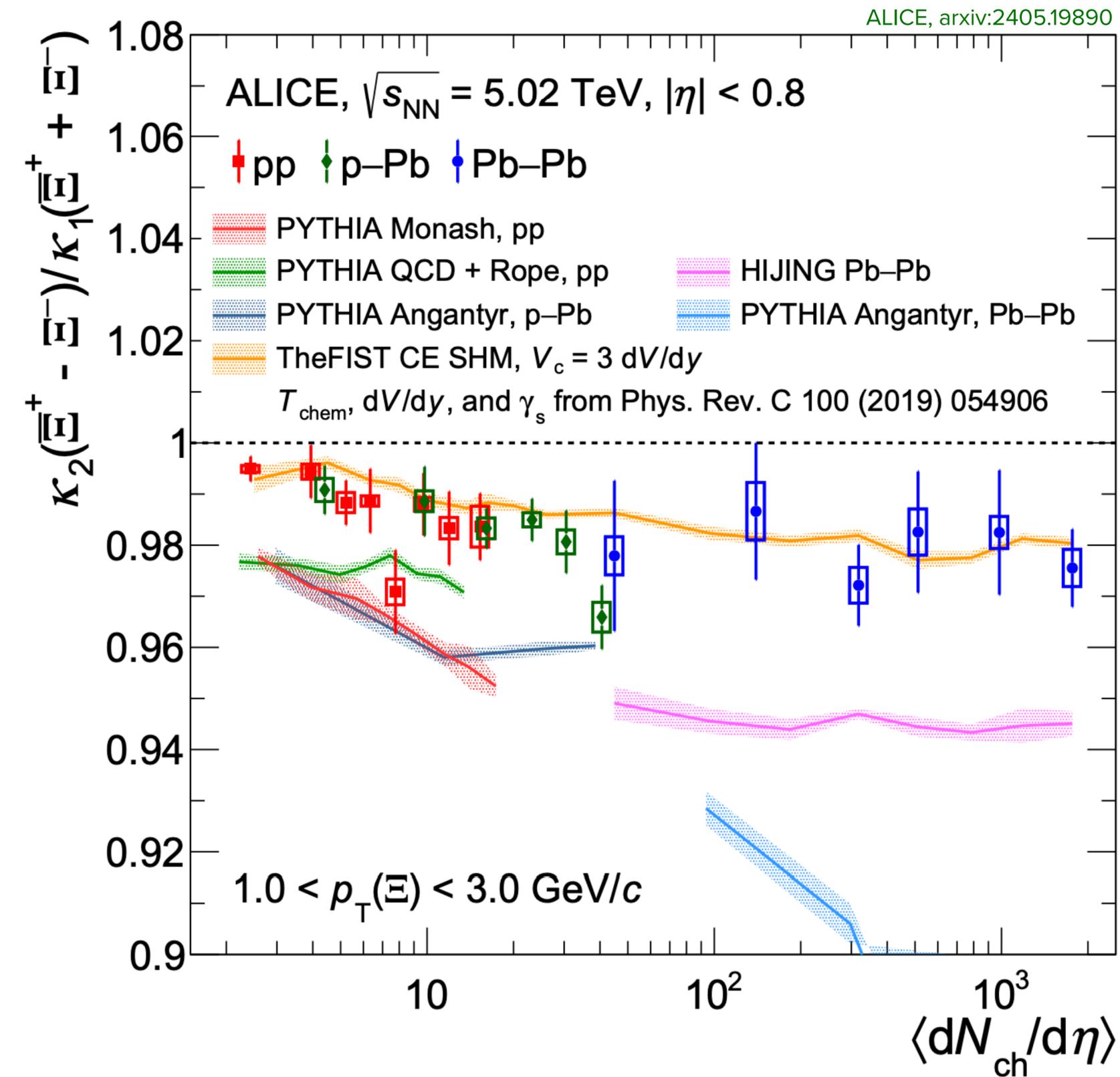
- Resonances play a major role: we need precise measurements of yields (and to discover them all)
- How can charm hadrons reach equilibrium in a Hadron resonance gas, given their small interaction with other particles?

Fluctuation measurements across systems



- Yields of strange particles are reproduced
- In pp within 20% by both SHM and PYTHIA
 - In p-Pb, Pb-Pb good agreement with SHM

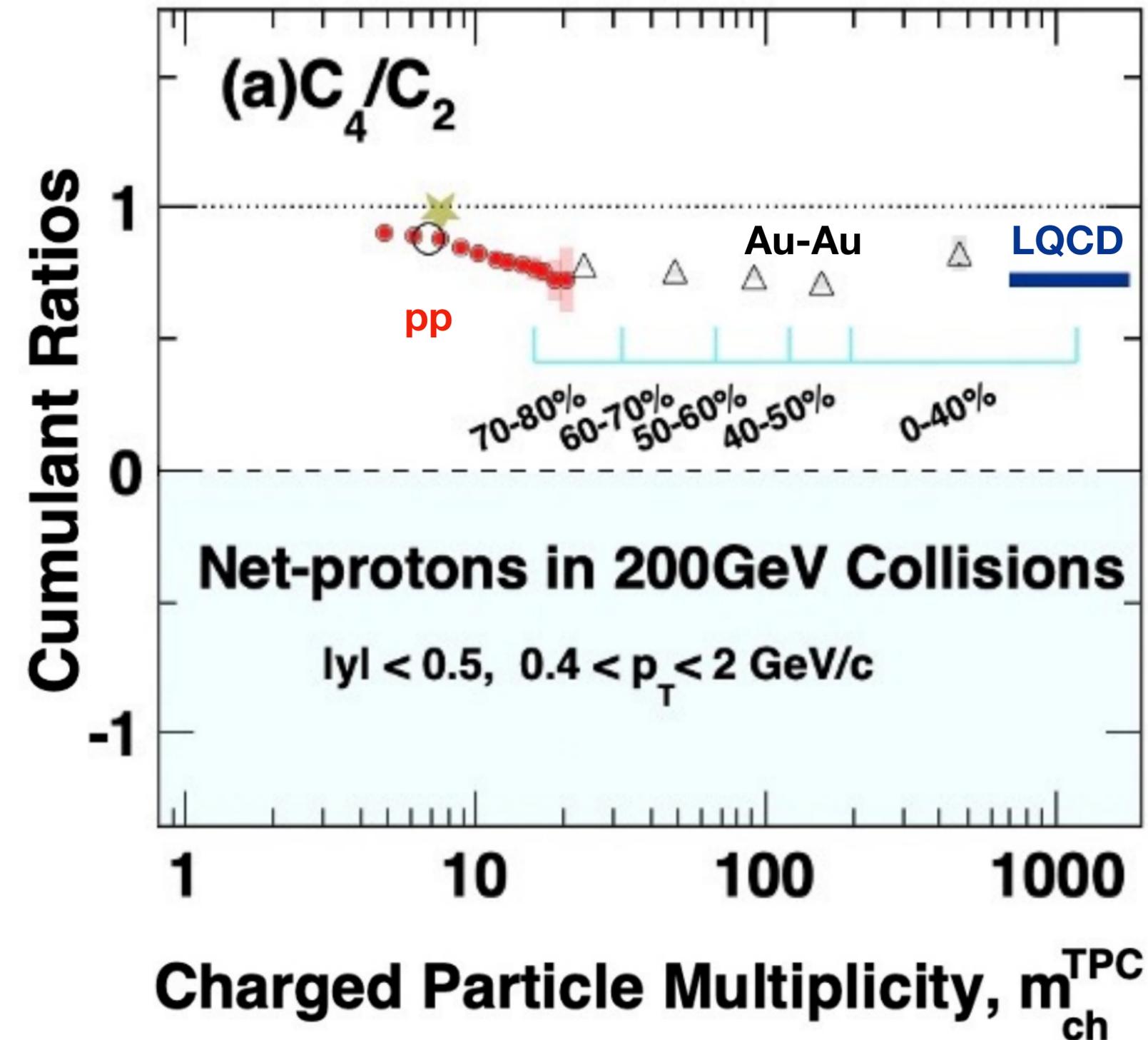
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- We test models looking at higher moments:
- Smooth evolution across systems
 - Net- Ξ agrees with the SHM and more than 5σ away from PYTHIA in pp collisions

Fluctuation measurements across systems

STAR, arxiv:2311.00934



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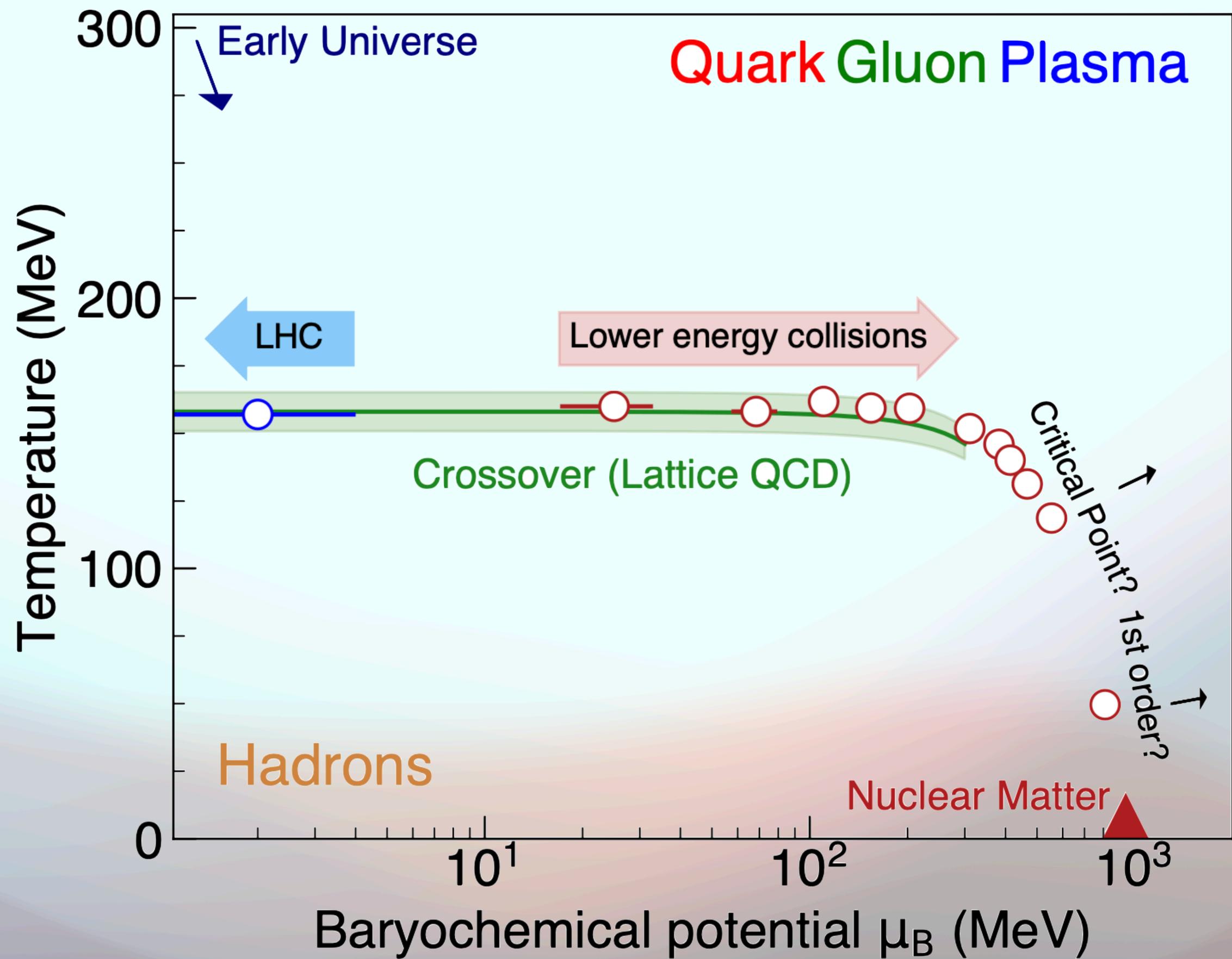
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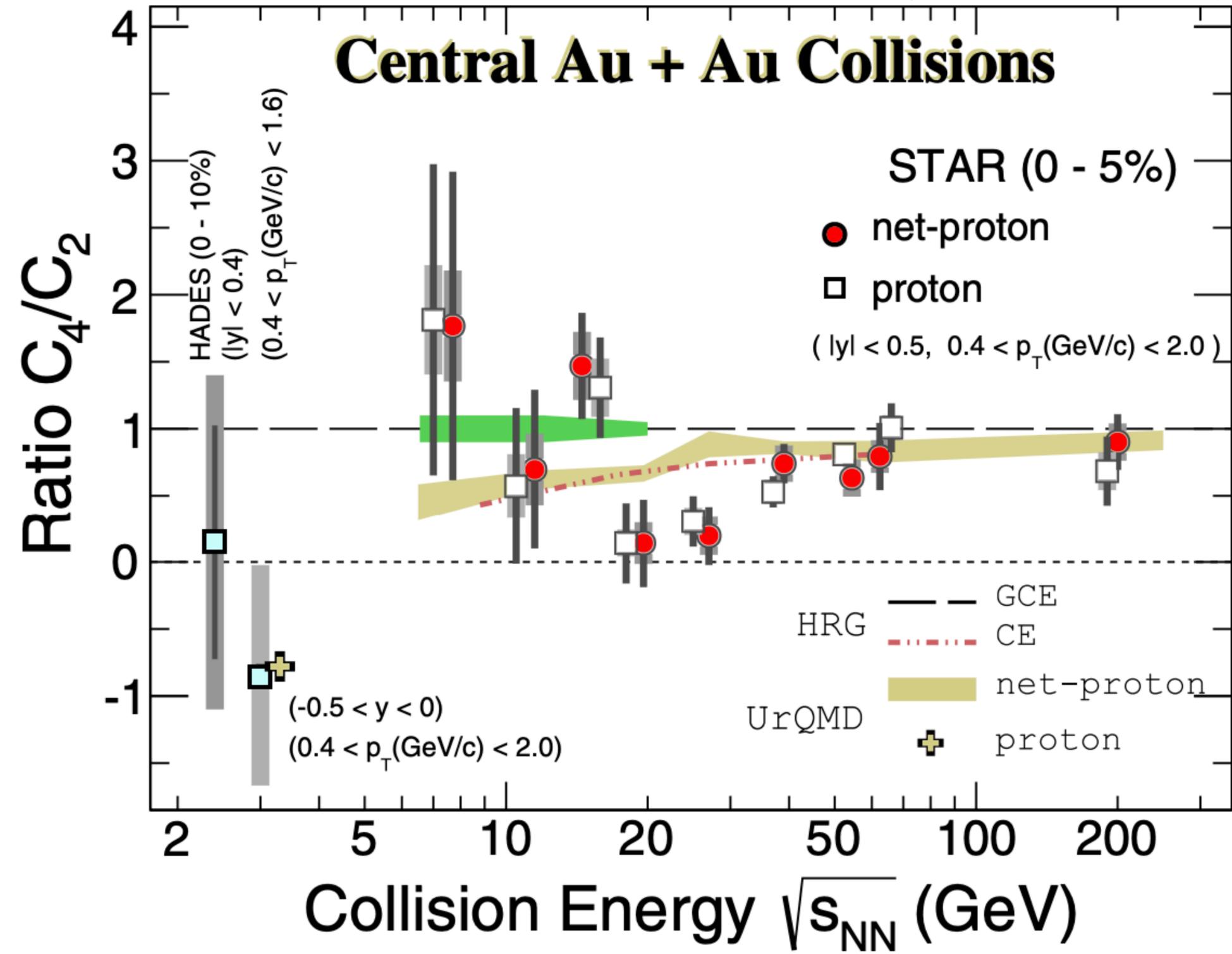
At RHIC, **net-proton** higher order cumulants show a smooth evolution as well

- HM pp collisions reach the Au-Au measurement that is in line with the LQCD **net-baryon** expectation



Search for the critical point

STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 202303 (2022)

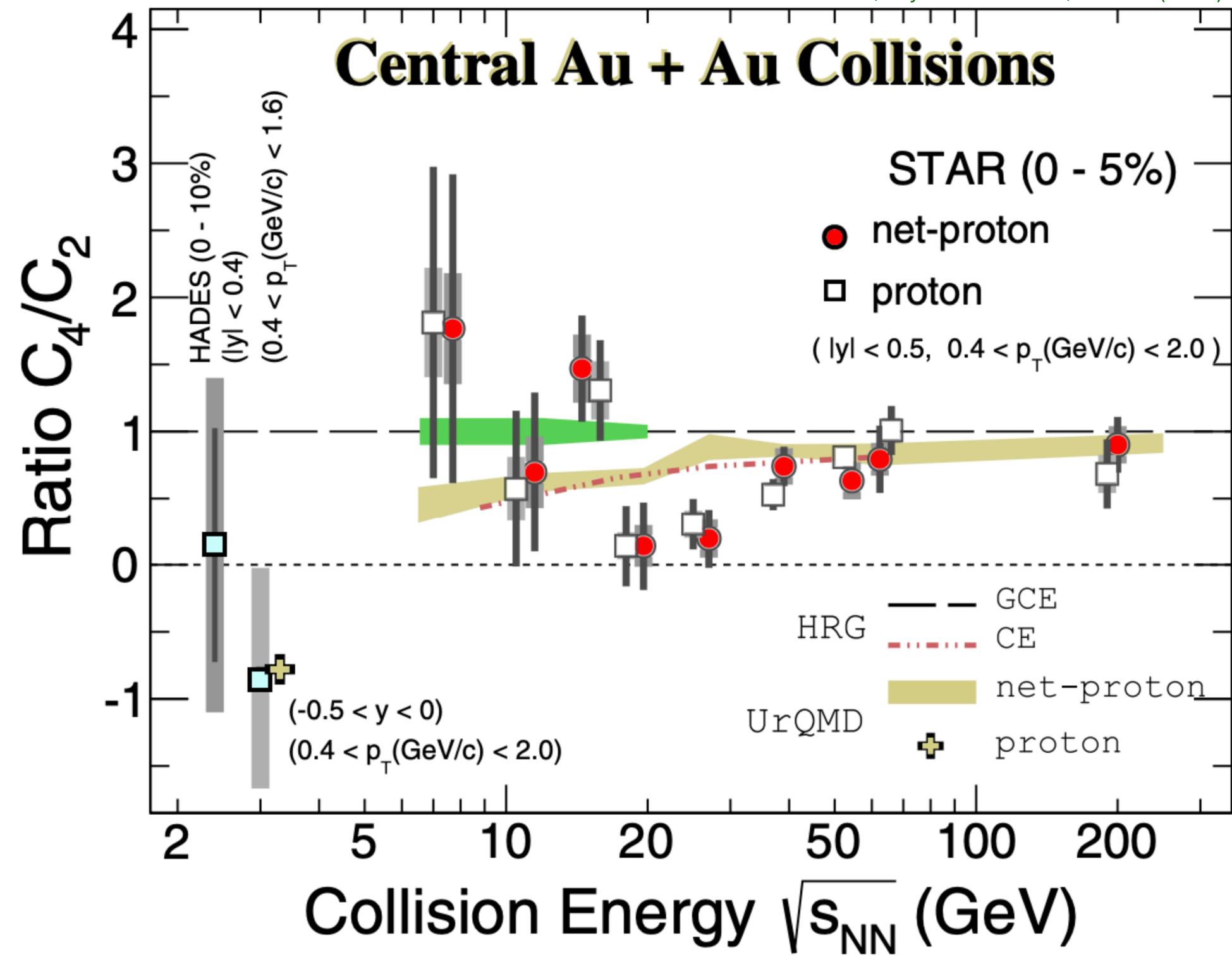


Hint of non-monotonic behaviour around 20 GeV

- New measurement out last week...

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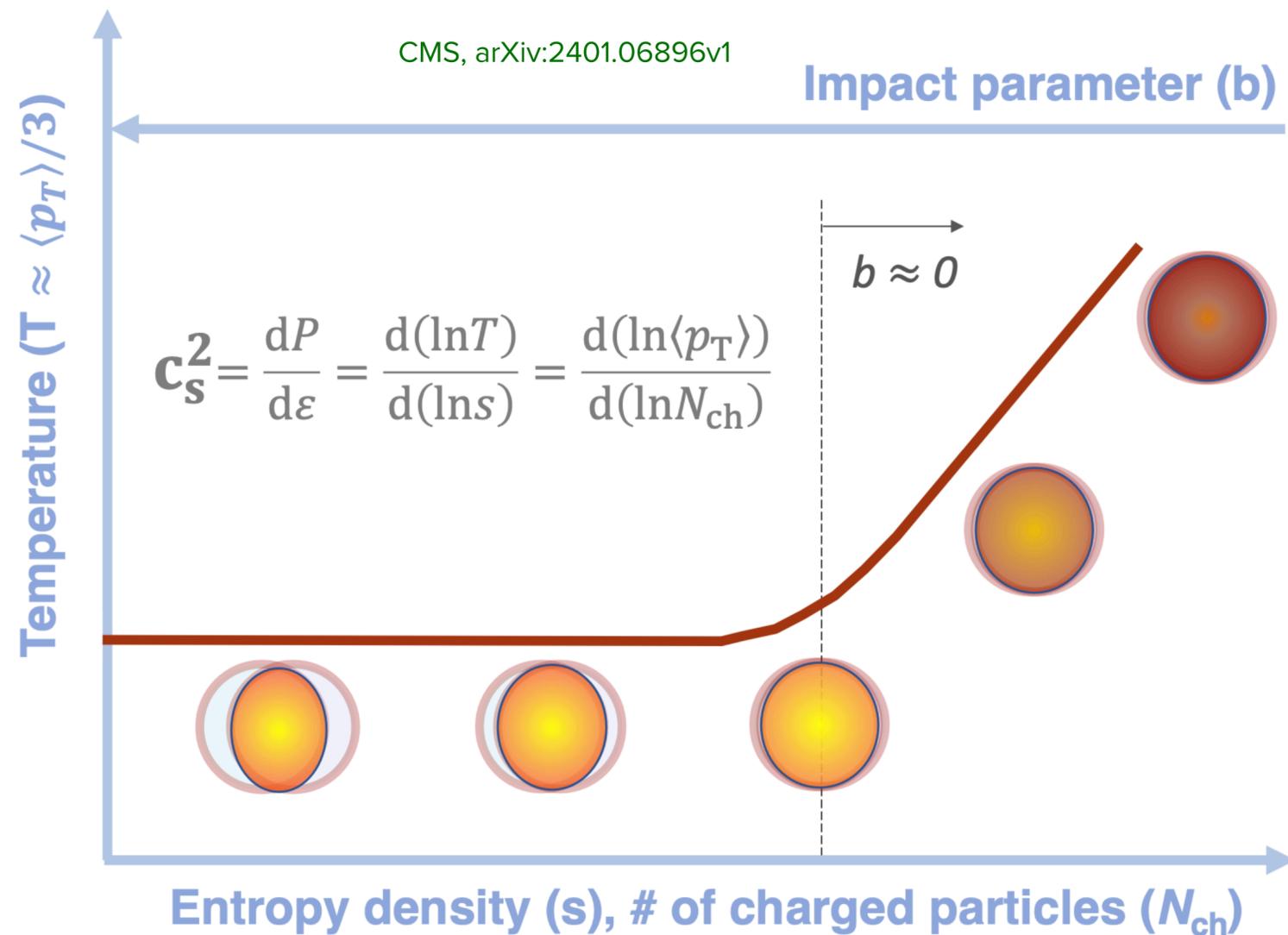
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No spoilers here, but I guess we will have a lot of discussion on:

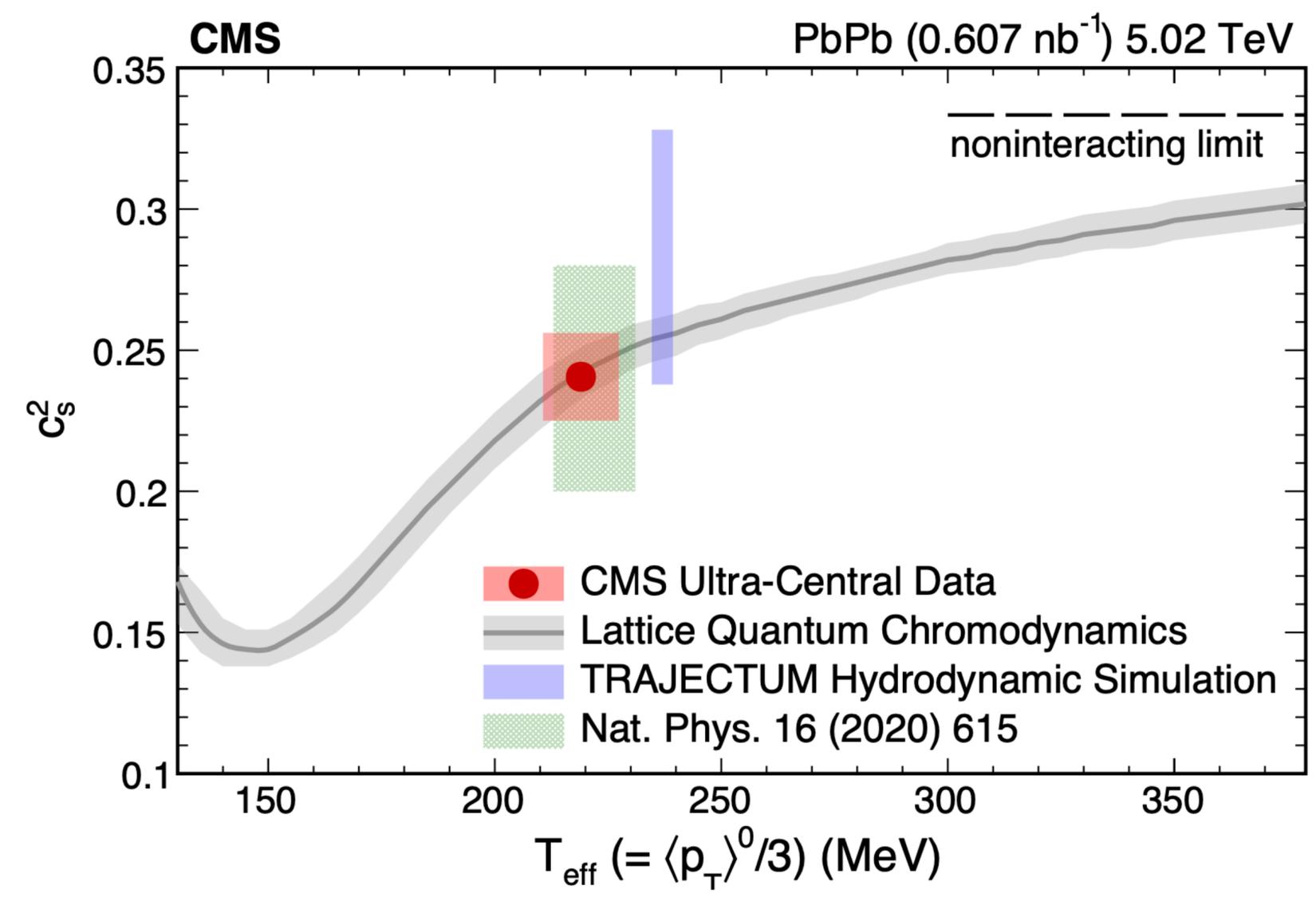
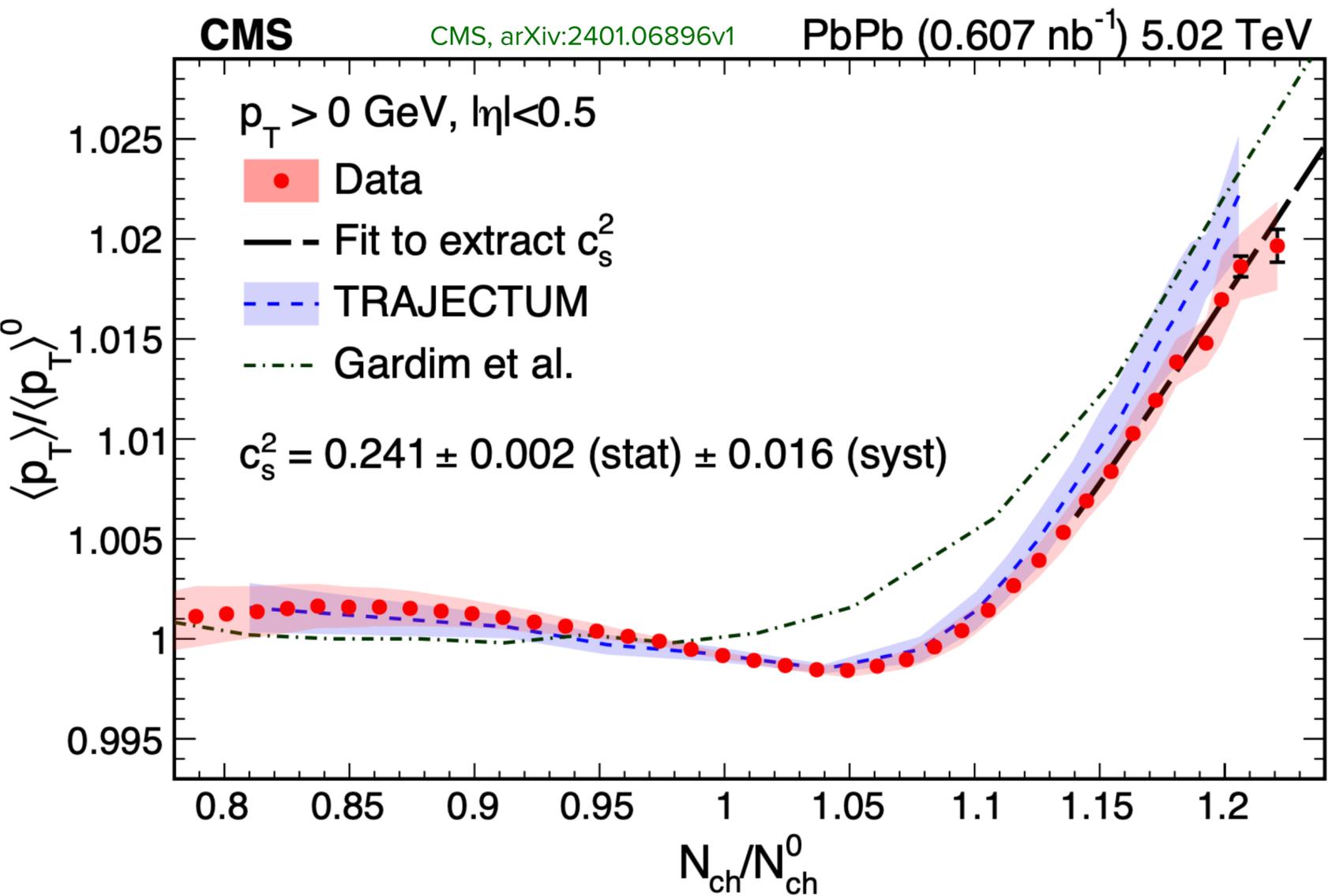
- The effect of multiplicity fluctuations on these observables
- Establishing a solid non-critical baseline

Speed of sound



- Amount of energy deposited in the collision depends on the overlap among the nuclei
- With complete overlap, fluctuations in the number of partonic interactions can still change the amount of energy in the system
- At $b \sim 0$, $\langle p_T \rangle$ and N_{ch} are proxies for temperature and entropy density

Speed of sound



Impressive precision in determining the speed of sound with a single measurement

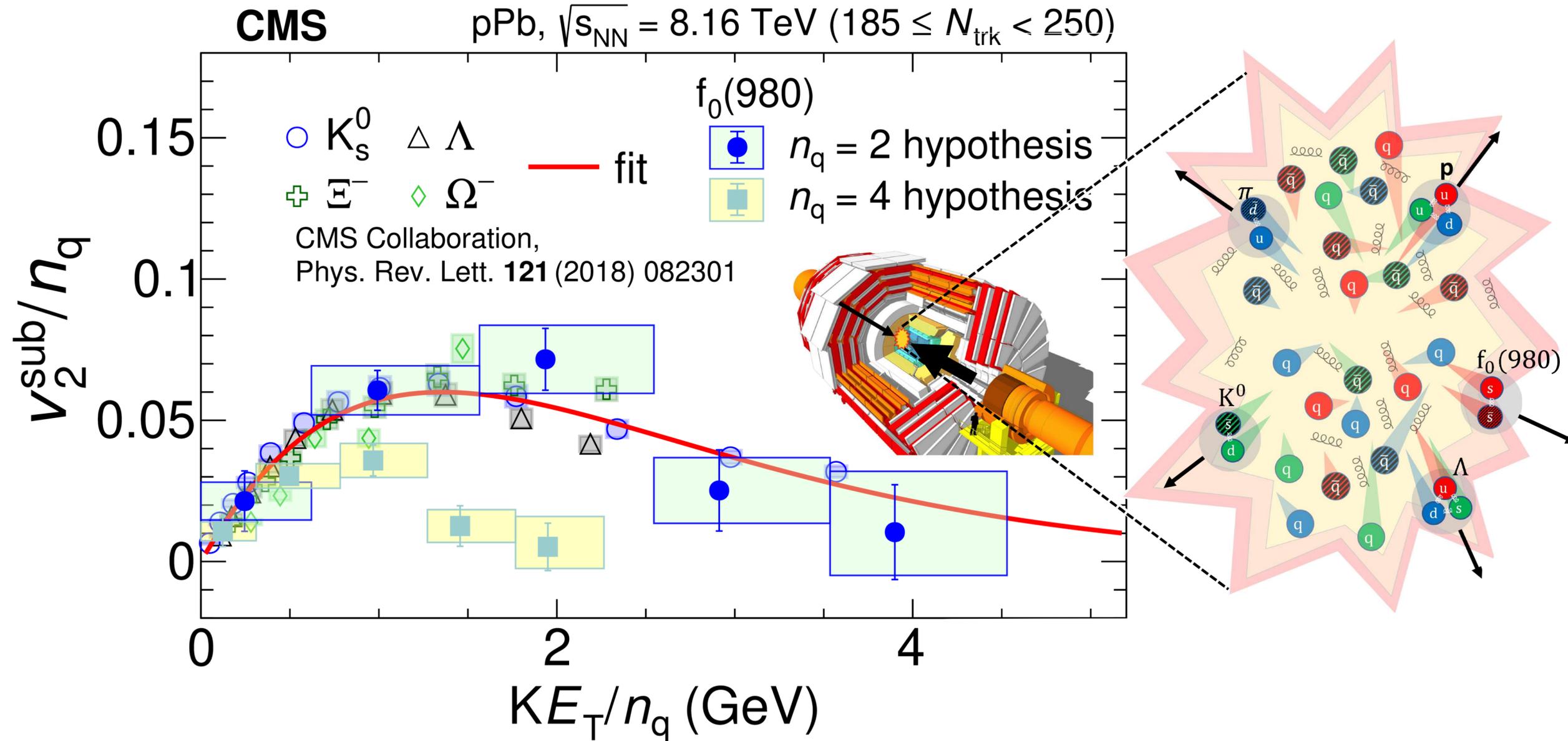
- Compatible with LQCD and state-of-the-art hydro simulations
- ... but going ultracentral might come with selection biases!

➡ Discussion this week will unpack many of these issues and maybe some new observables for c_s

Hadronic structure and interactions

Not only QGP properties: understanding hadrons composition

CMS, arXiv:2312.17092



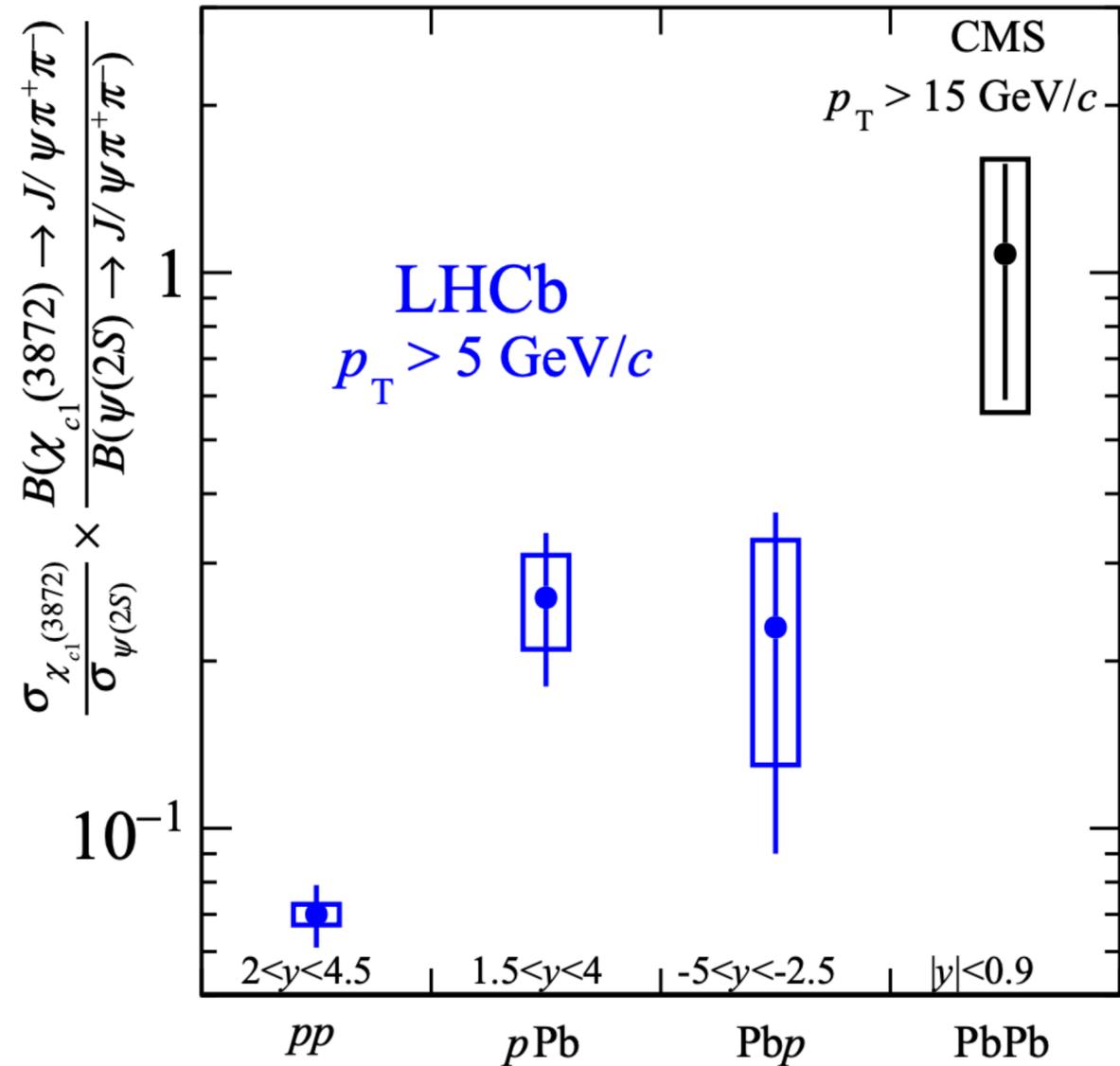
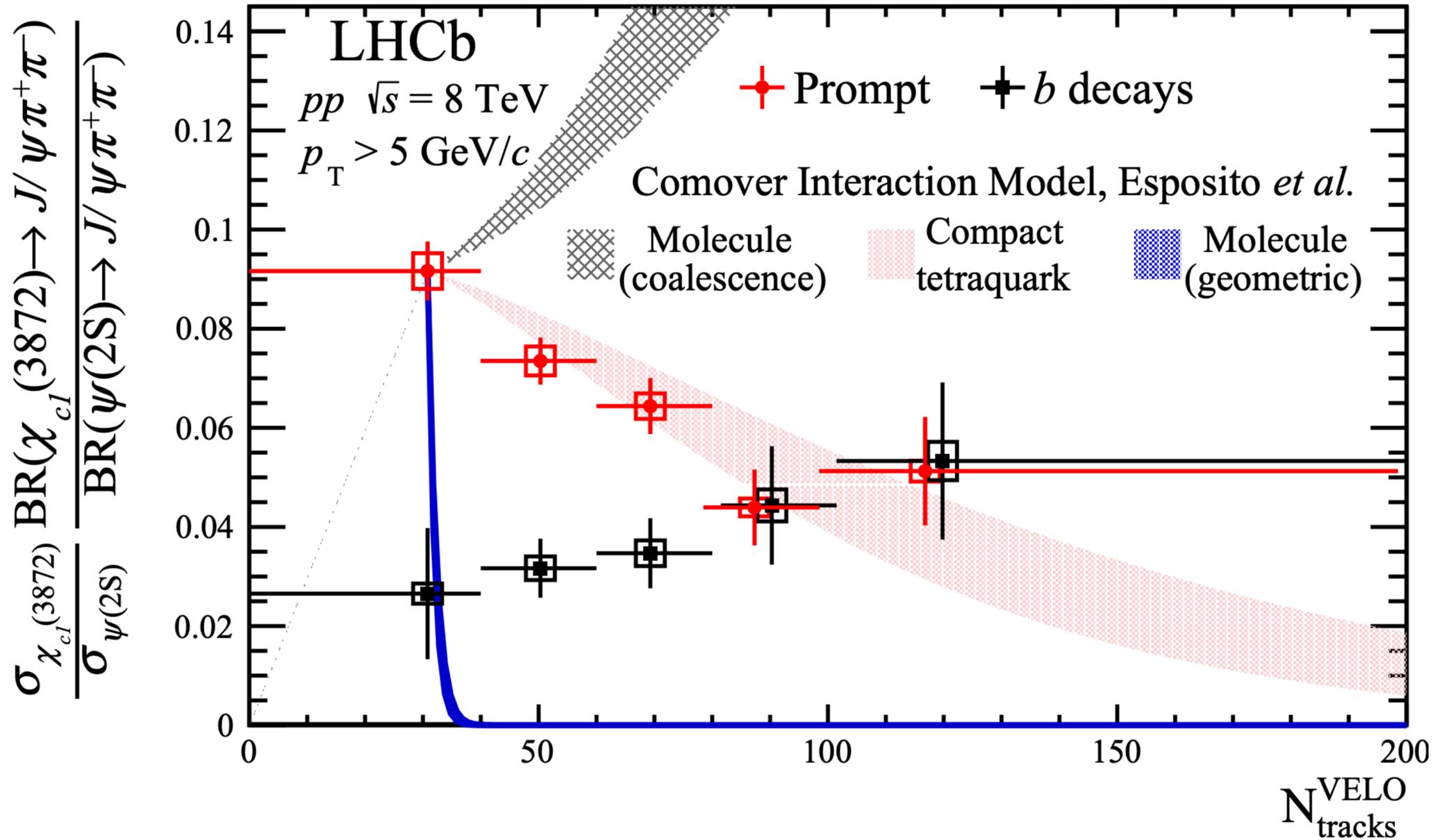
Coalescence works for explaining flow of light flavour particles in p-Pb

- Under this hypothesis, f_0 flows like a meson
 - Is the production cross section agreeing with this hypothesis?
- } We should use the same method for other particles!

The case of $\chi_{c1}(3872)$

LHCb, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 092001

LHCb, arxiv:2402.14975



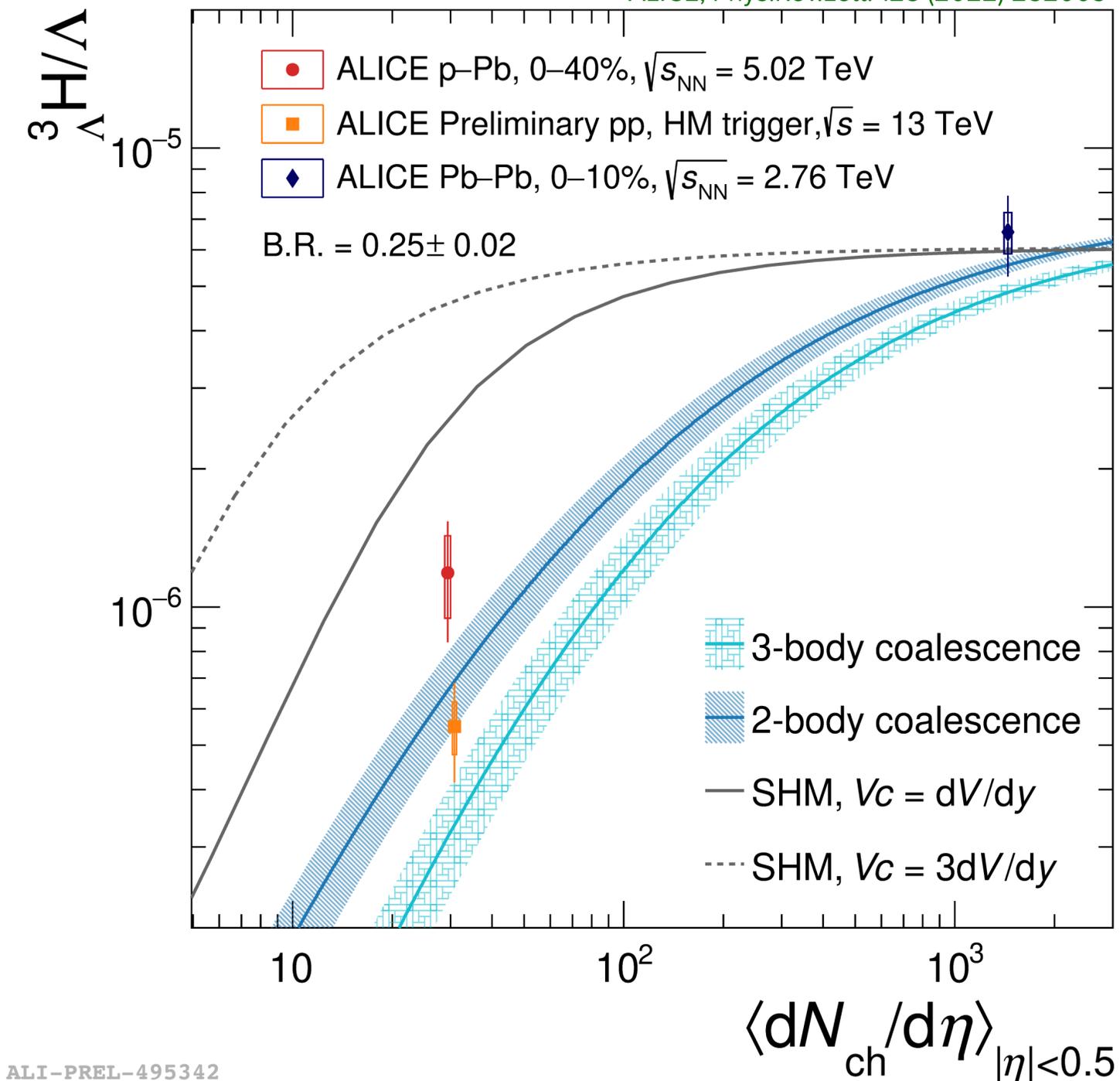
If $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ is a molecule, it is 5-10 fm wide: the production rate should reflect this

- Models predicts rising trend with multiplicity for the molecule, not seen in data
- Case closed?

A real 10 fm wide bound state: the hypertriton

Vovchenko, et al., Phys. Lett., B785, 171-174, (2018)
 Sun, et al., Phys. Lett. B, 792, 132-137, (2019)

ALICE, Phys.Rev.Lett. 128 (2022) 252003



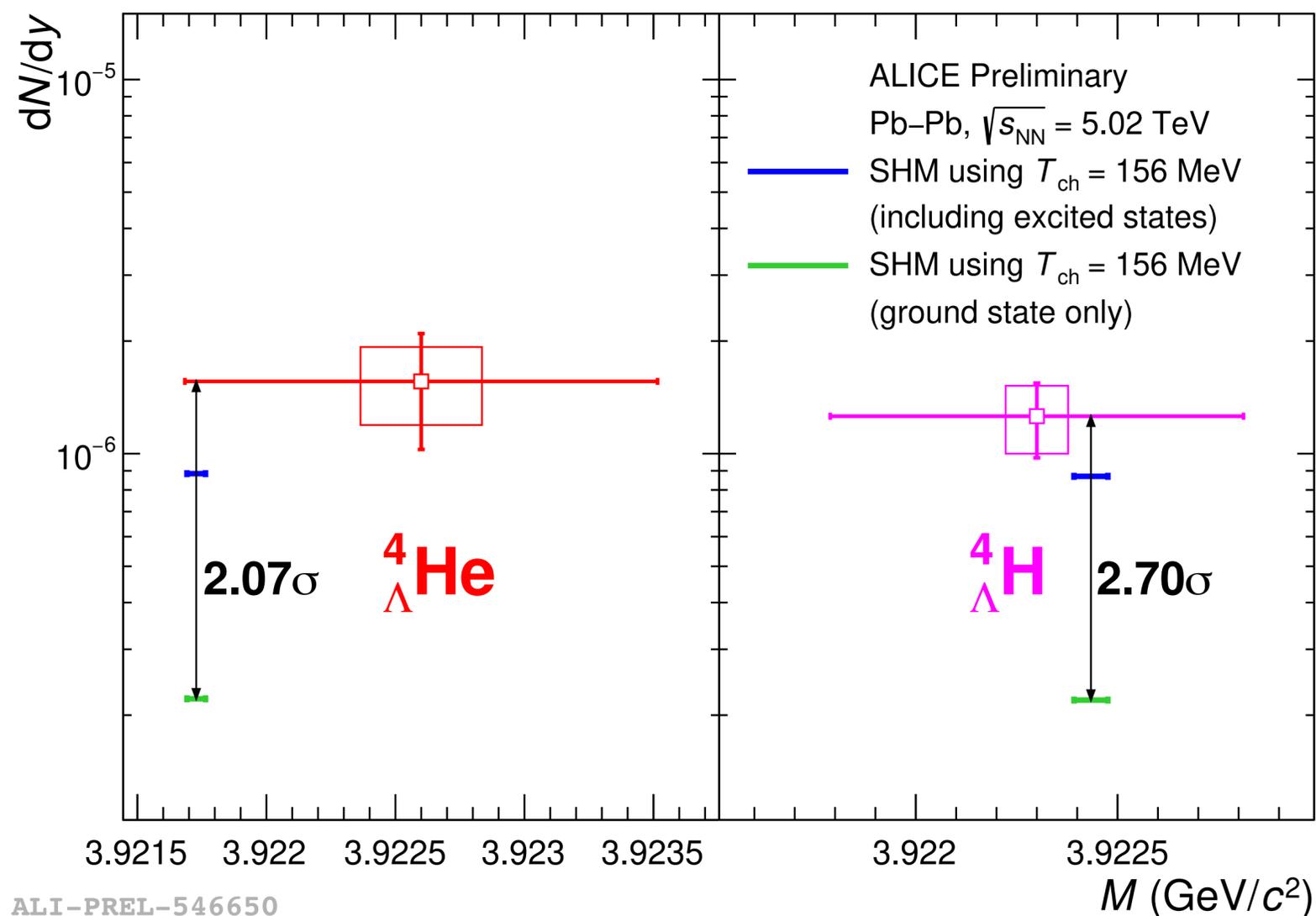
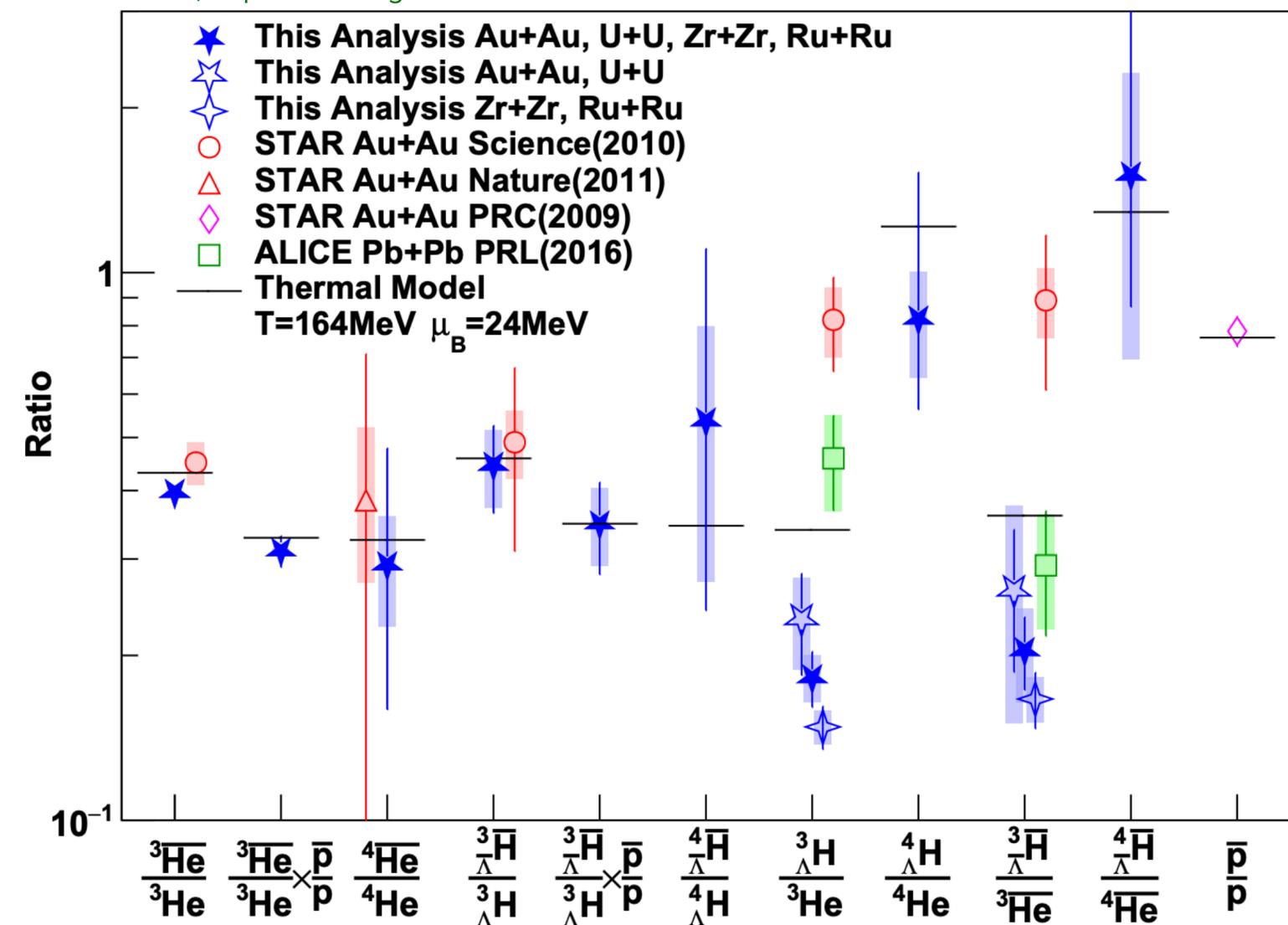
${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H} / \Lambda$ in small systems: large separation between production models

- SHM: insensitive to size of the hypertriton
- Coalescence: yield suppressed with assumed hypertriton radius ~ 10 fm
- Measurements favour coalescence
 - Sensitivity to the wave function shape: 2-body coalescence favoured

Production of hypertriton in pp and p-Pb collisions as a doorway to the study of its structure: coalemetry

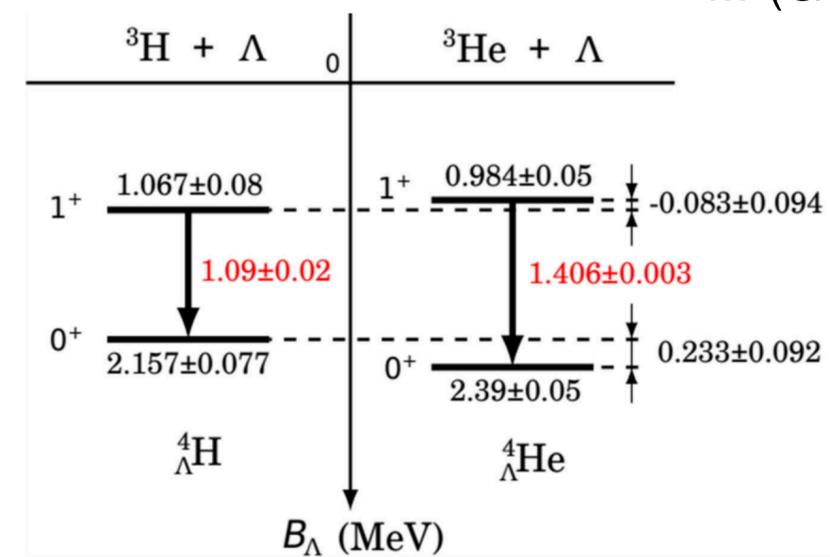
Heavier antihypernuclei

STAR, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.12674>

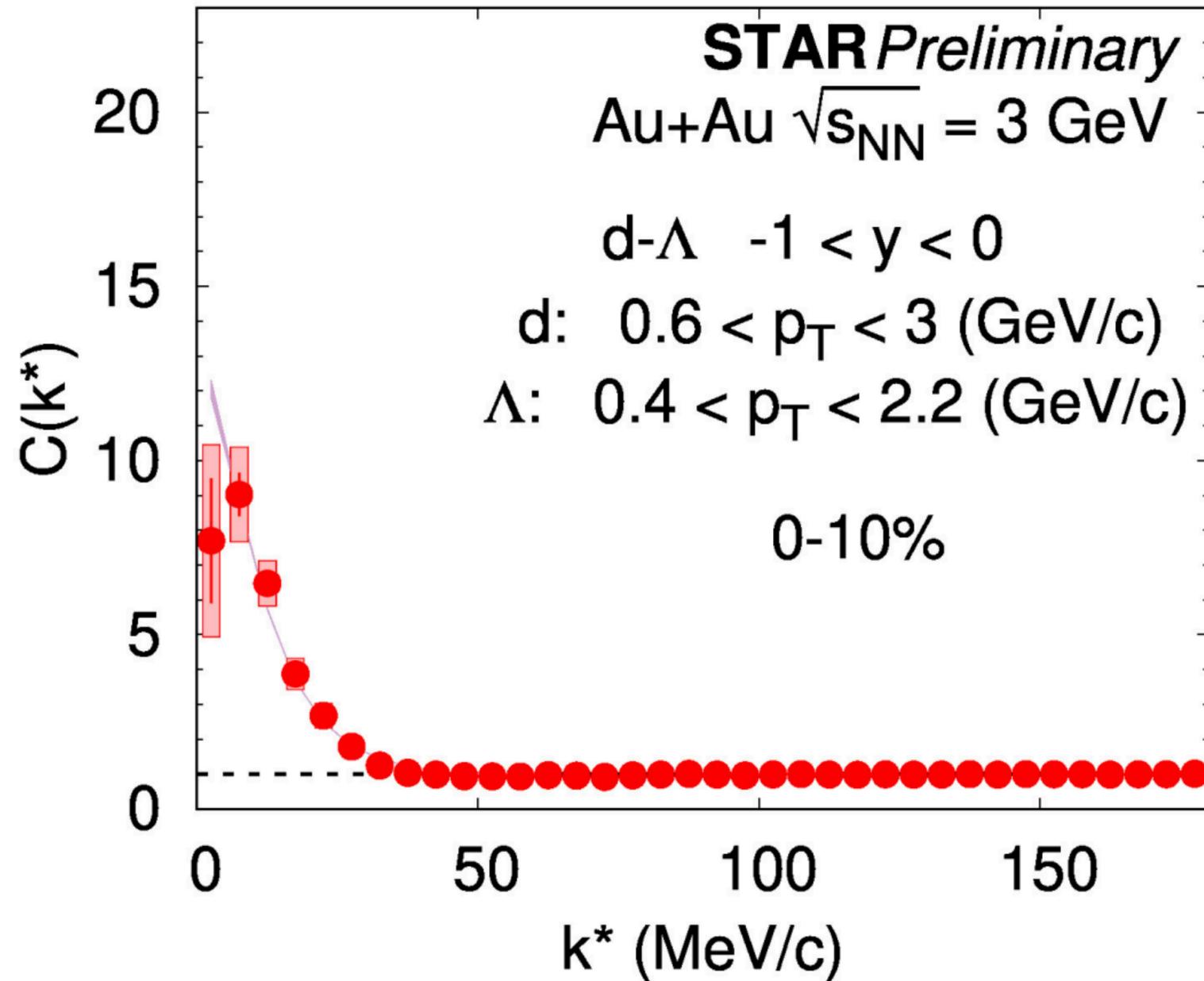


First observations of antihypernuclei with $A=4$ at RHIC and LHC!

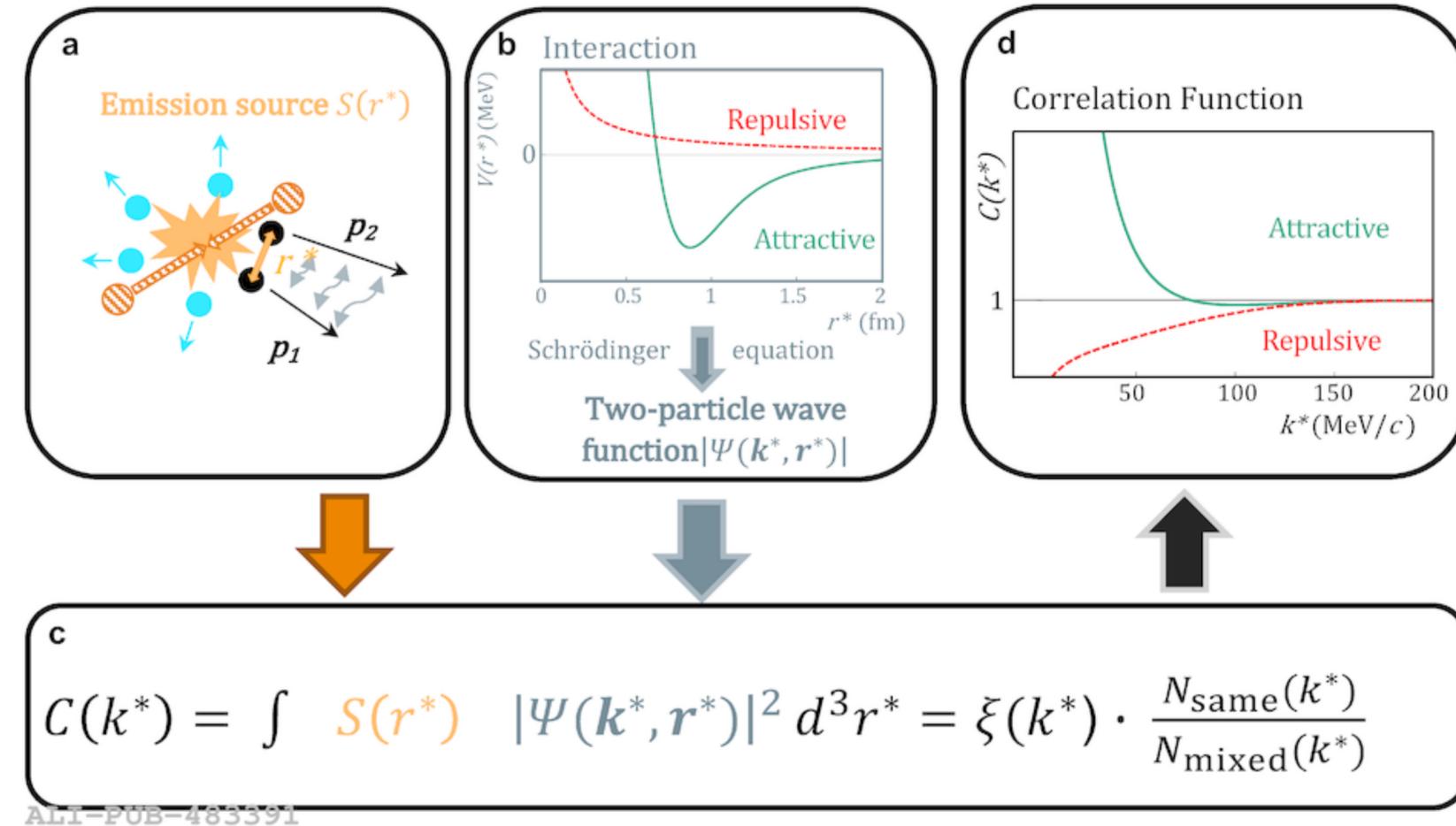
- More compact than ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$: in Pb-Pb they agree with the SHM
- Sensitivity to the presence of excited states



Another way to investigate hyperon-nucleon interactions

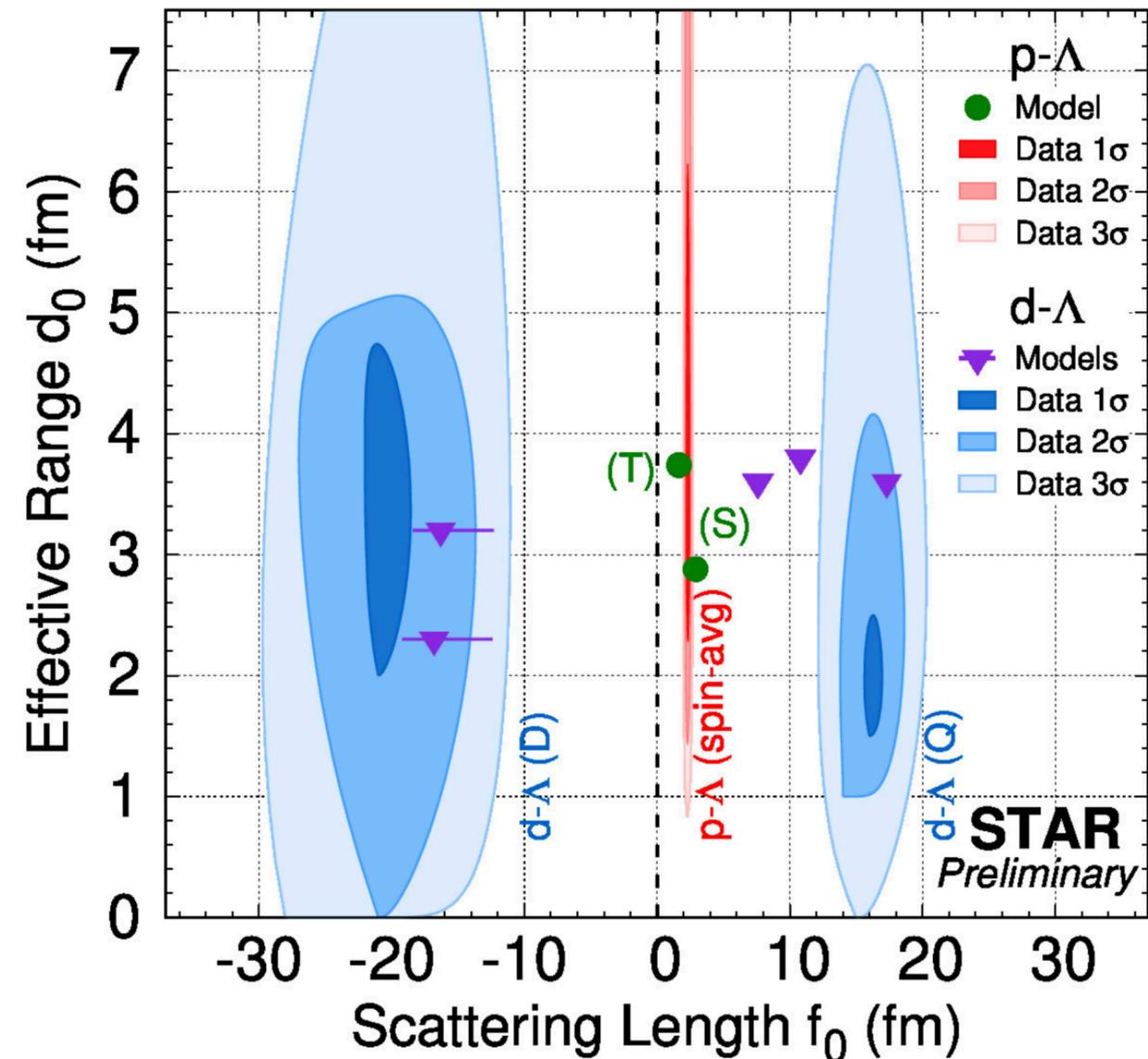
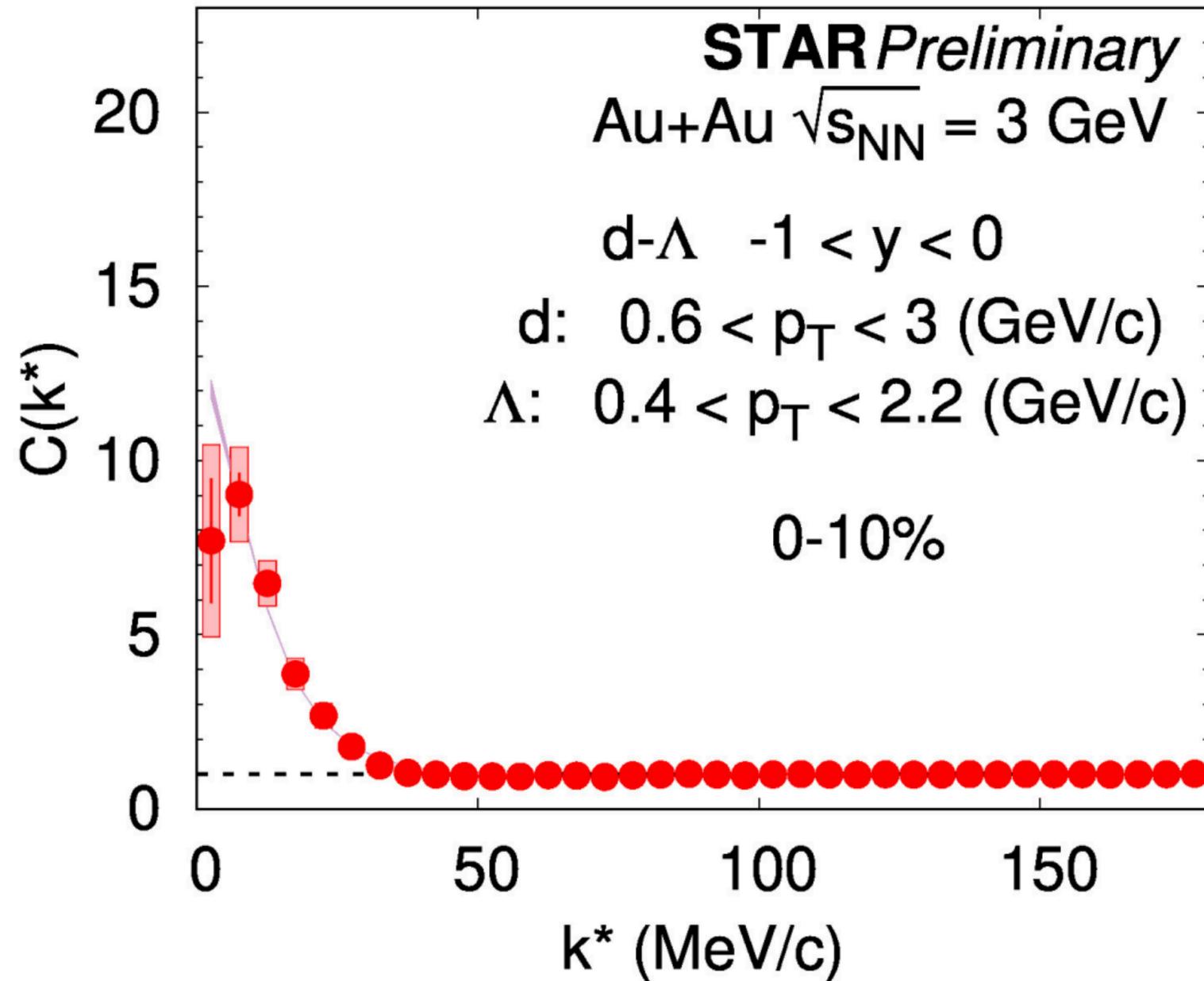


Sketch from ALICE, Nature 588 (2020) 232–238



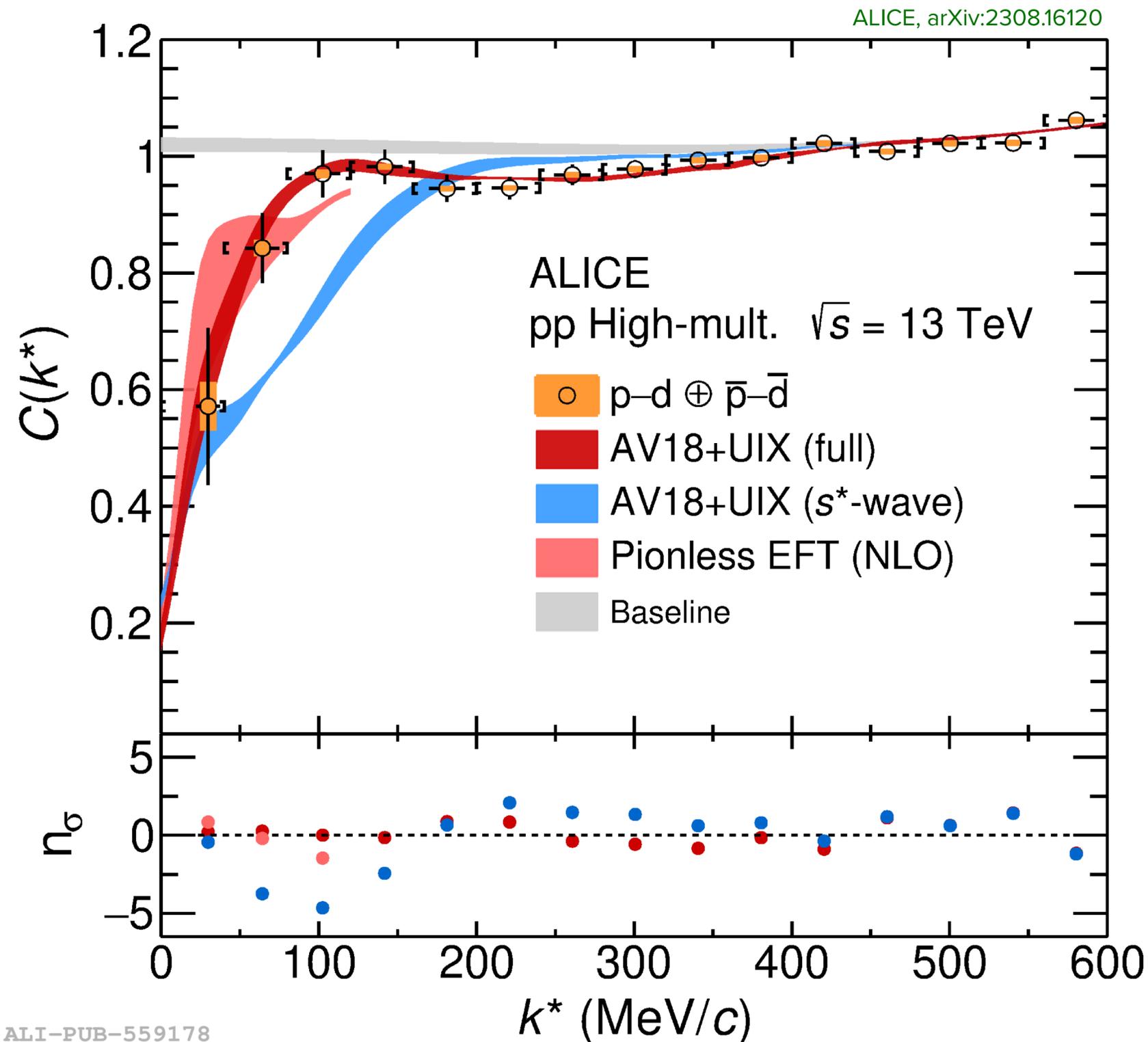
- 2-particles correlation function: a proven method to access hadron interaction that would be otherwise impossible to measure with scattering experiments

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- 2-particles correlation function: a proven method to access hadron interaction that would be otherwise impossible to measure with scattering experiments
- Fit to d- Λ correlations can give us the isospin-1 component of the Λ -N interaction

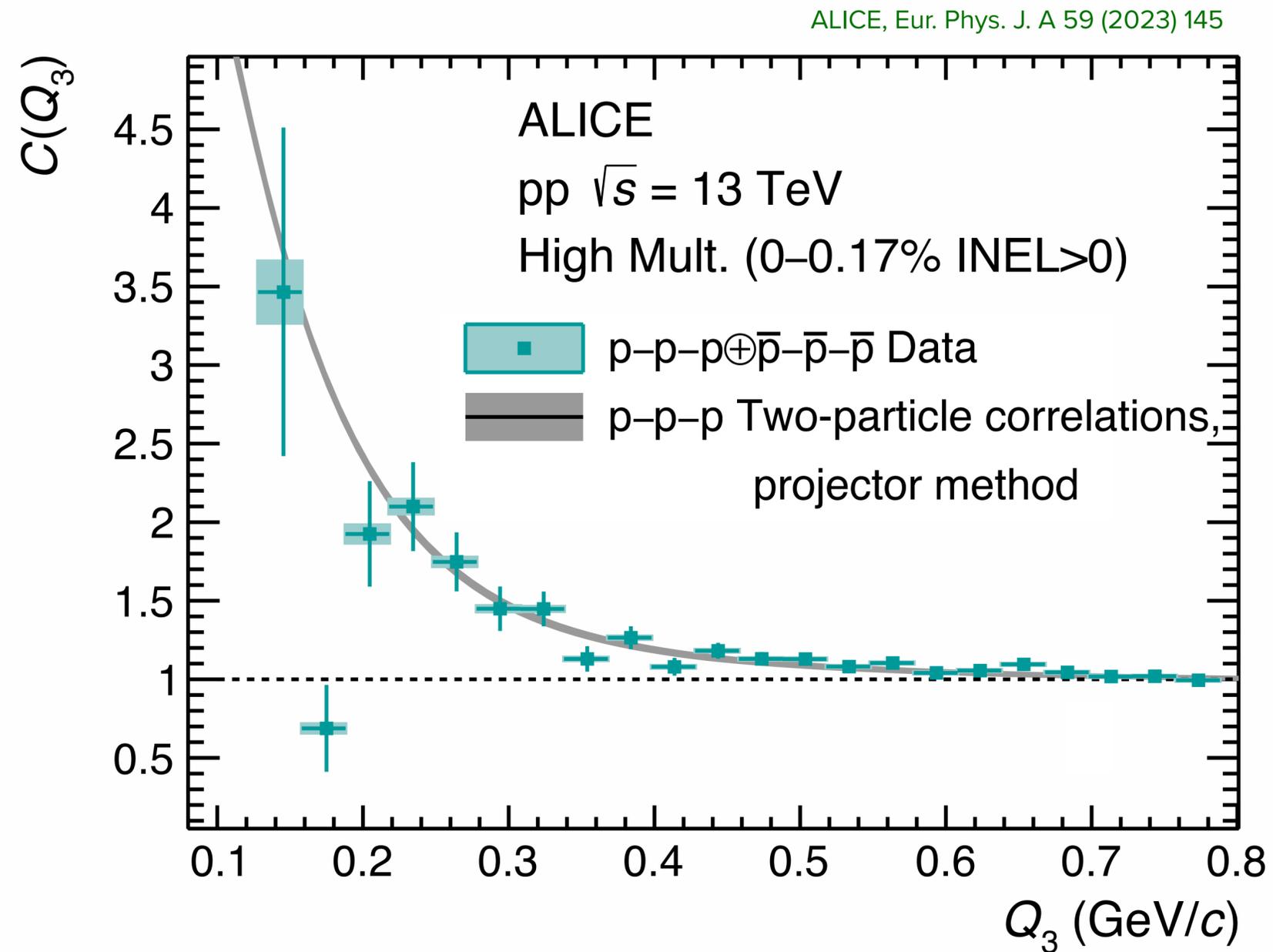
The three-body problem in nuclear physics



In pp collisions particles are emitted closer to each other

- In the d-p femtoscopy the proton resolves the deuteron structure
- Correlation function cannot be fitted with point-like particle assumption (Lednisky formalism)
- Full 3-body calculation using 2-body forces only describes the data

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New technique: direct access to 3-body system dynamics with 3 body femtoscopy

- Statistical precision limited
- ... but LHC Run 3 data is becoming available

Conclusions

Any collision system involving hadrons at high multiplicity show circumstantial evidence for collectivity and thermalisation

- Non-zero v_n , yields and fluctuations close to SHM and heavy-ion measurements
- Charm in Quark Matter suspiciously similar to Strangeness in Quark Matter at the LHC...
 - Non-flow, improvements in “non-heavy-ion” models... jury is still out

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- Ultra central, ultra peripheral, ultra high mult pp, ultra low mult pp...
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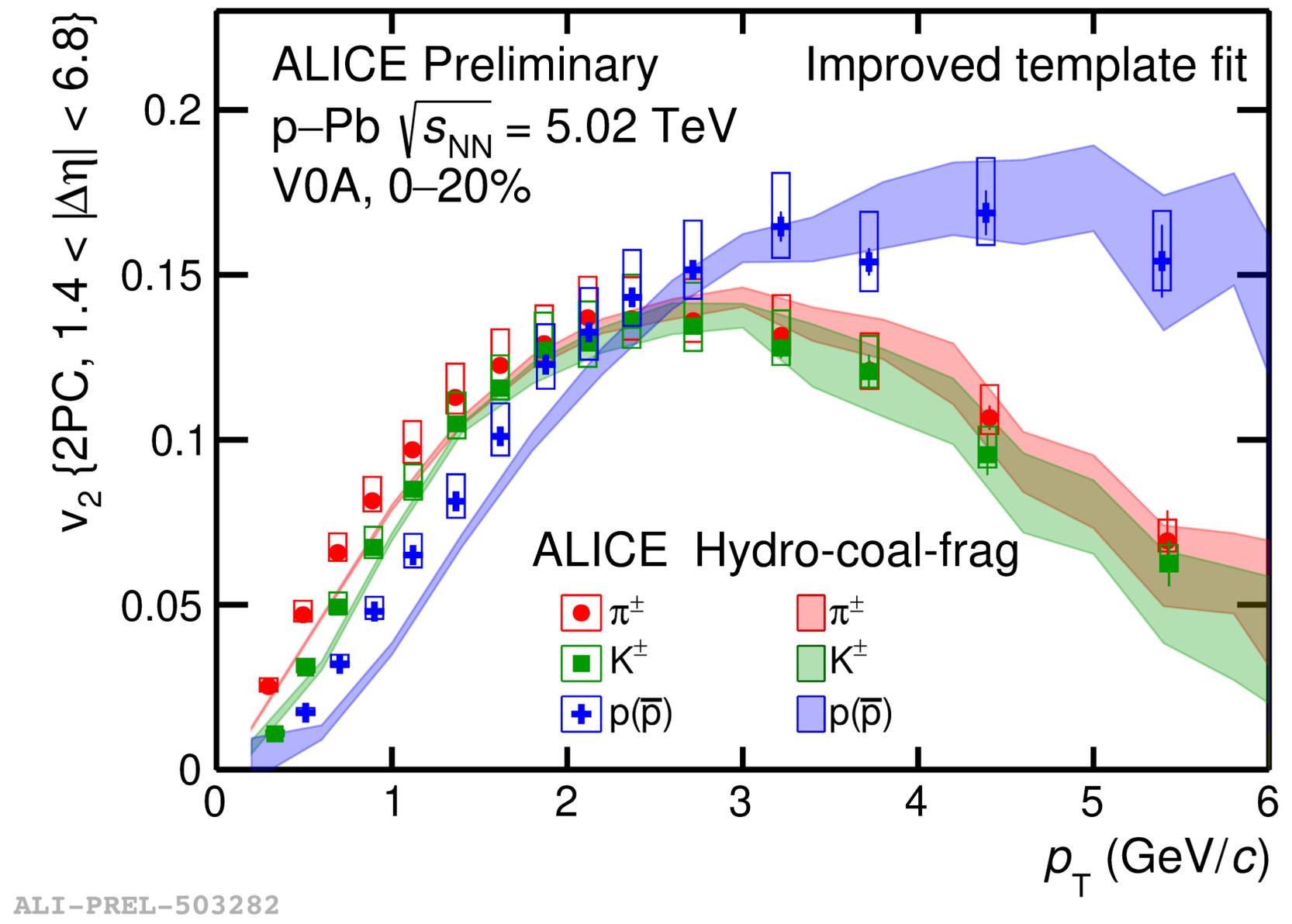
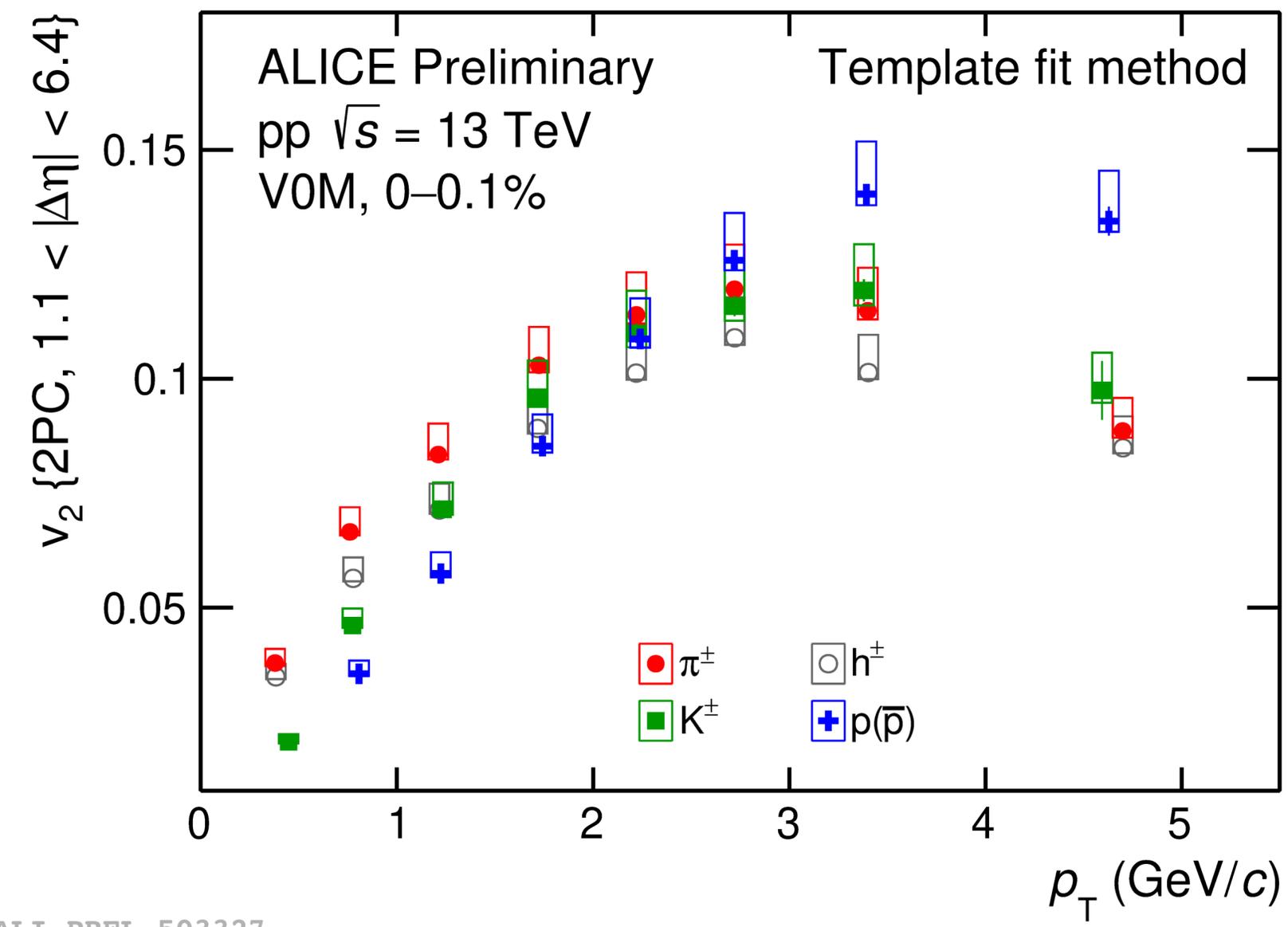
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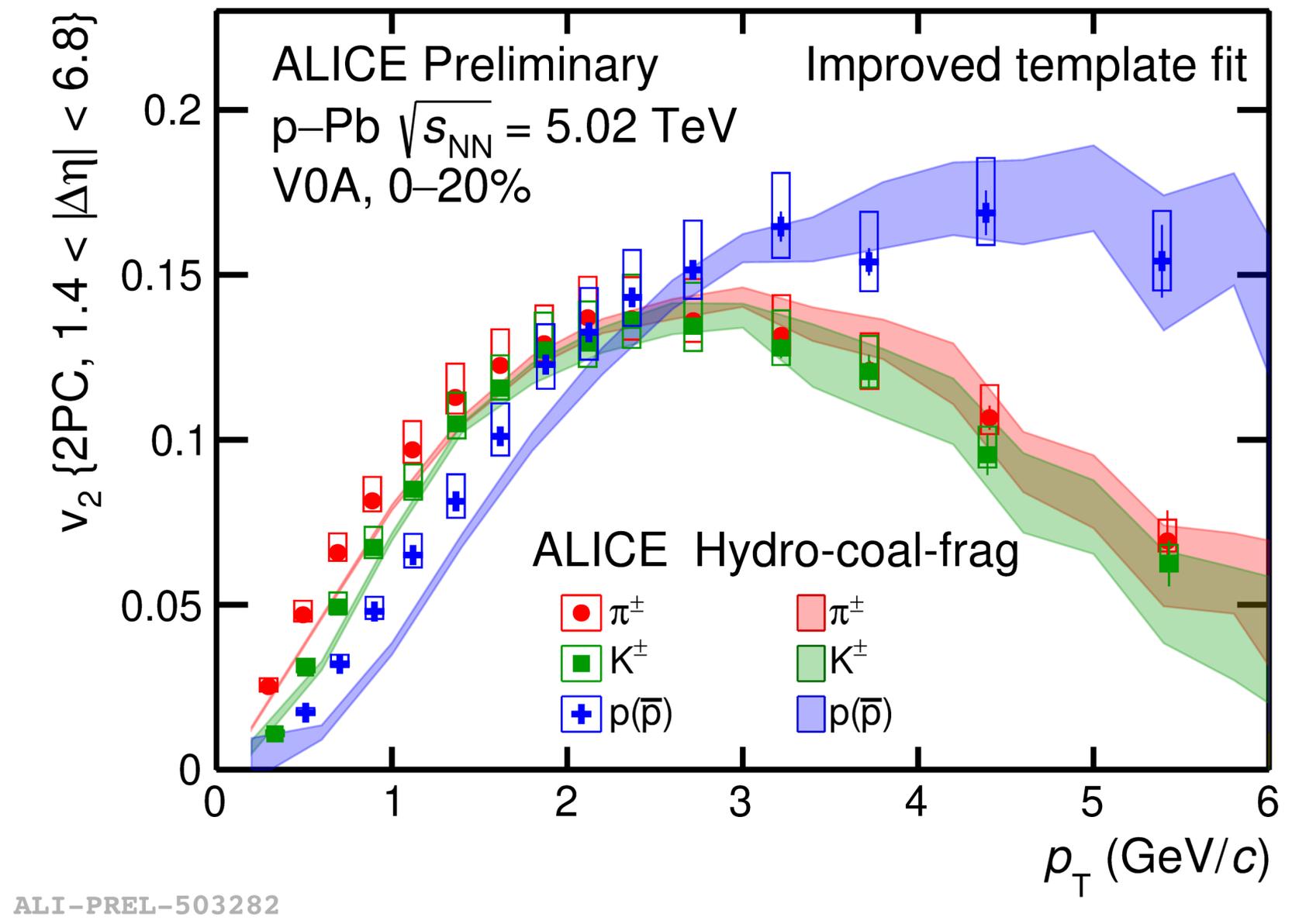
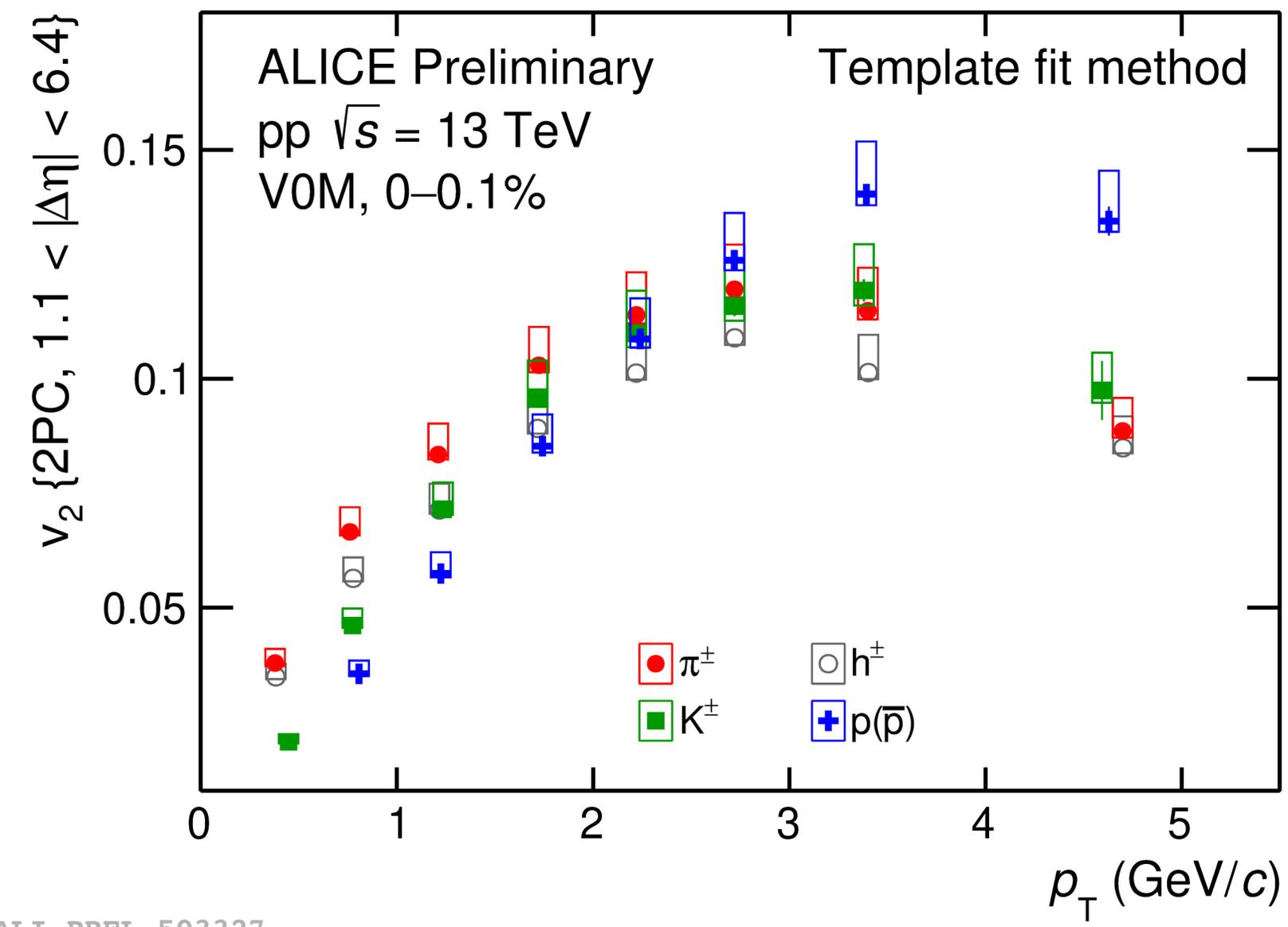
And special thanks to: Laura Fabbietti, Sourav Kundu, Andrea Dainese, Fabrizio Grosa, Alexander Kalweit, Federico Antinori, Jan Fiete Grosse-Oetringhaus

The identified particle case



- Mass ordering at low transverse momentum
- Baryon - meson splitting in both pp and p-Pb
- p-Pb model comparison indicates partonic flow + coalescence

The identified particle case

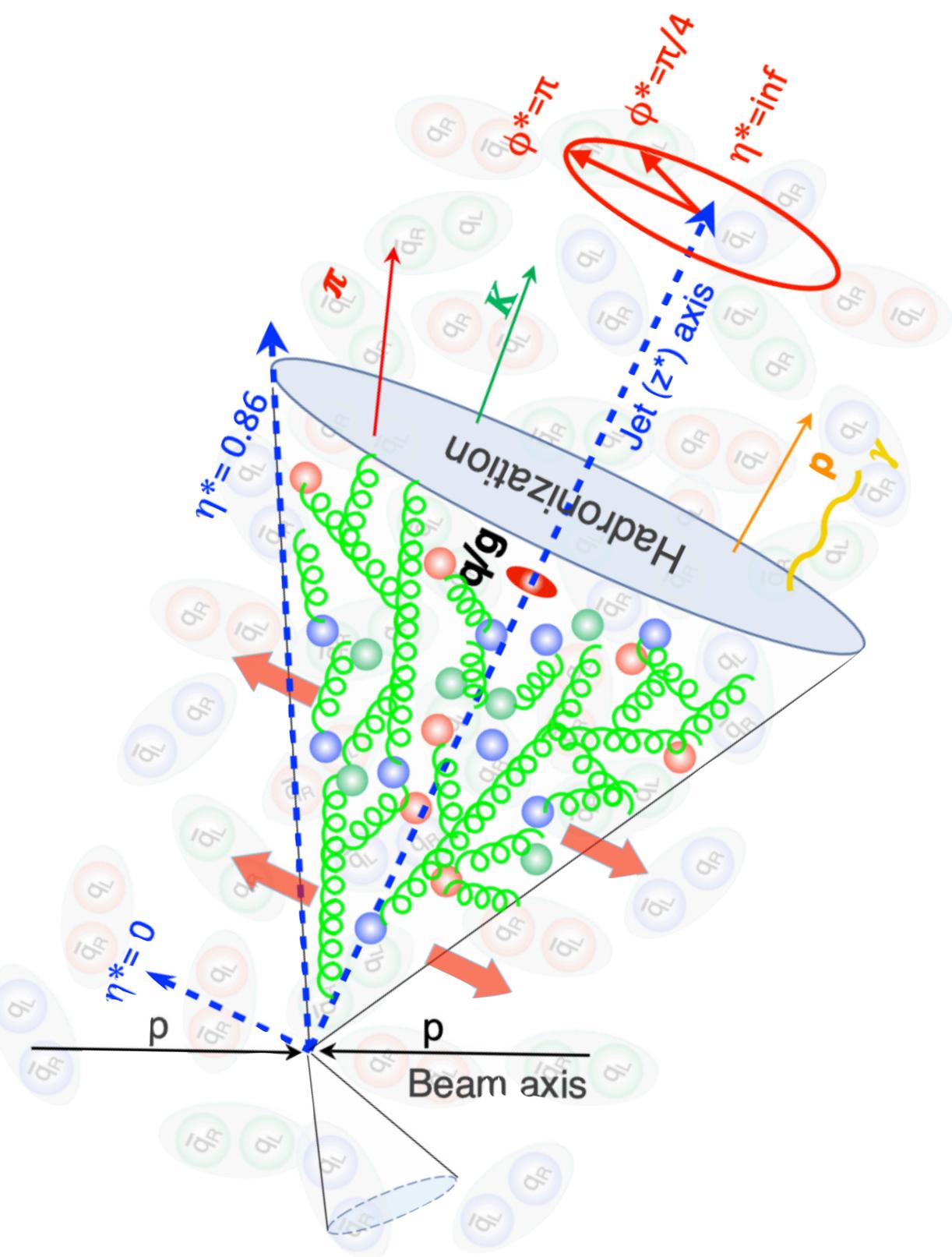


ALI-PREL-503327

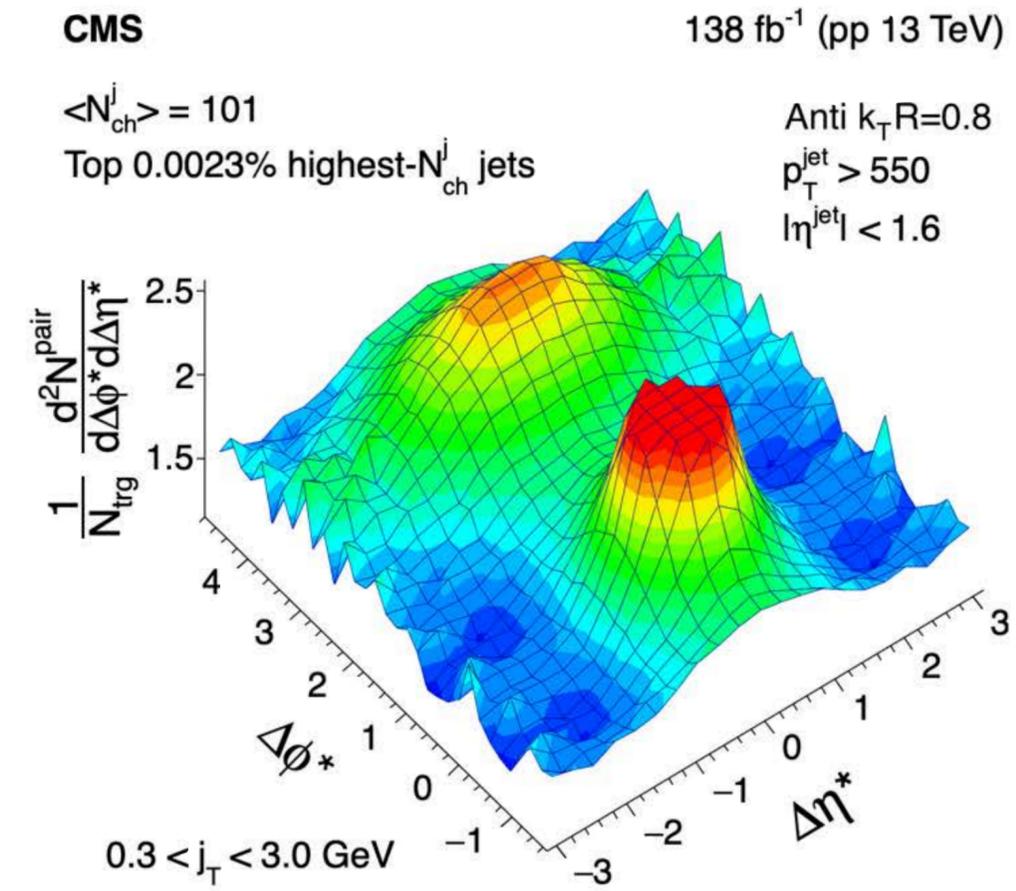
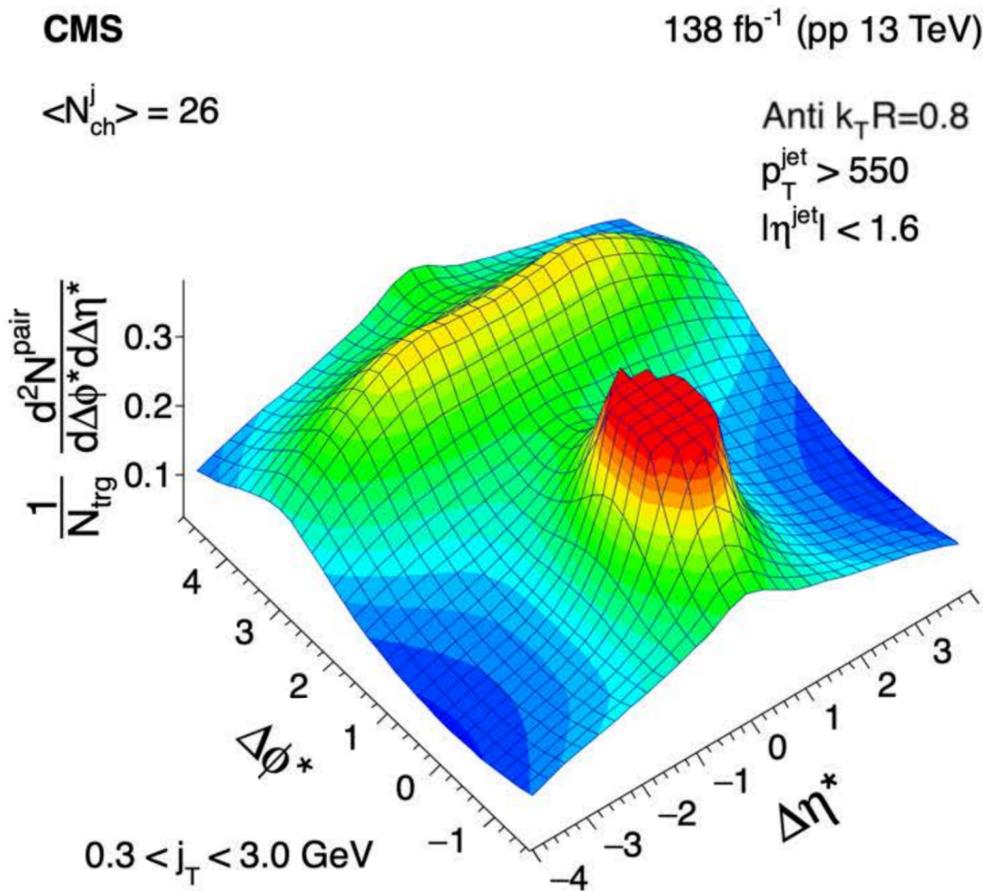
ALI-PREL-503282

- Mass ordering at low transverse momentum
 - Baryon - meson splitting in both pp and p-Pb
 - p-Pb model comparison indicates partonic flow + coalescence
- } Typical features we observe in AA collisions

Bonus track: 2 particle correlations in jet



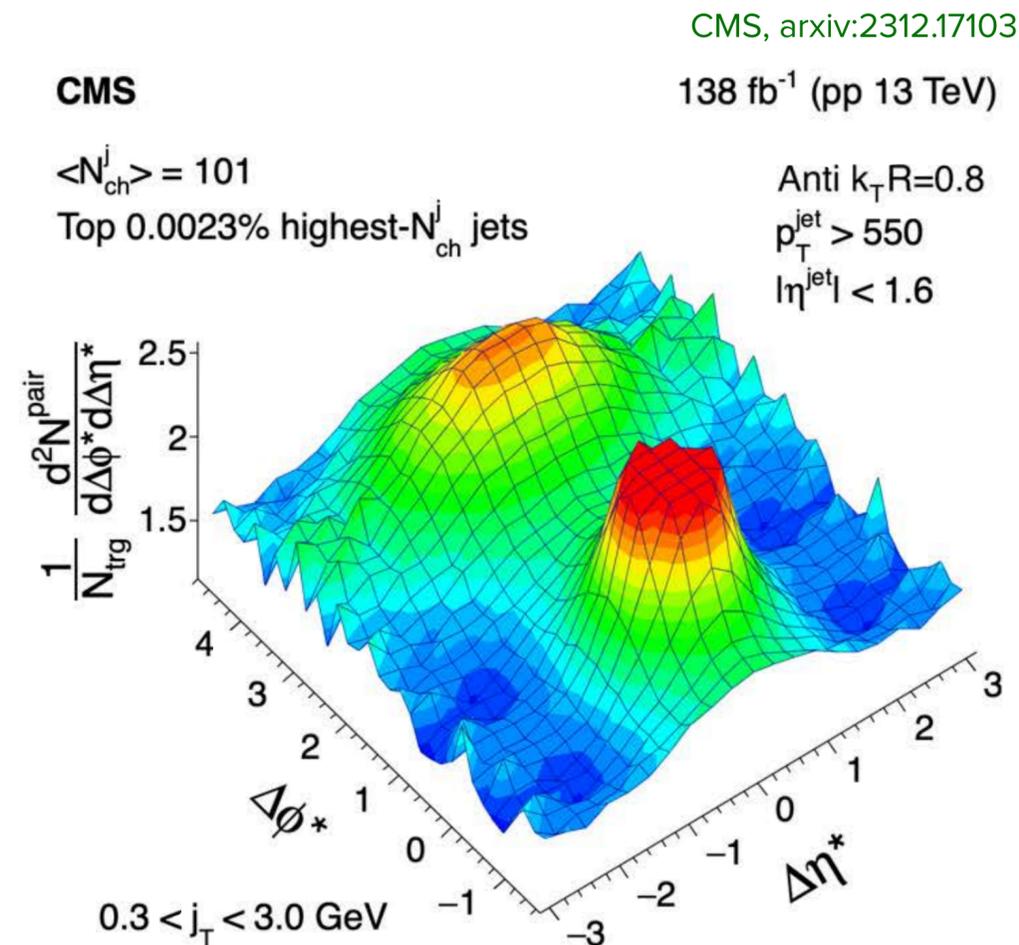
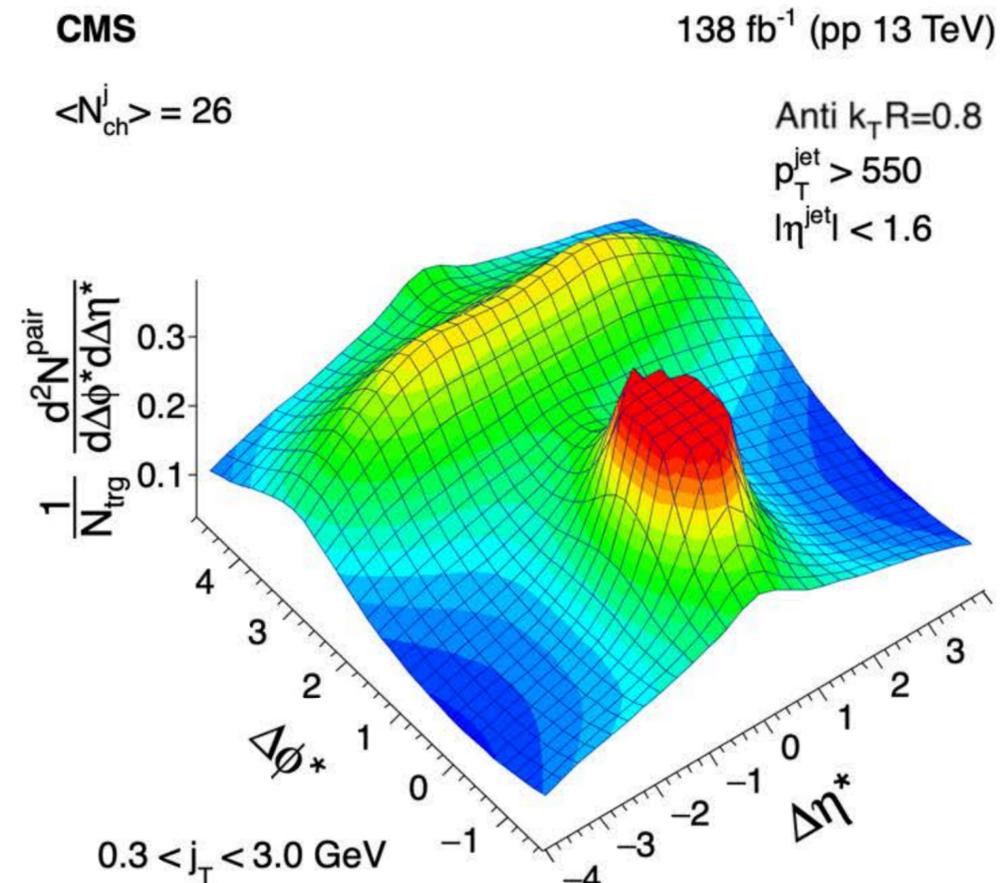
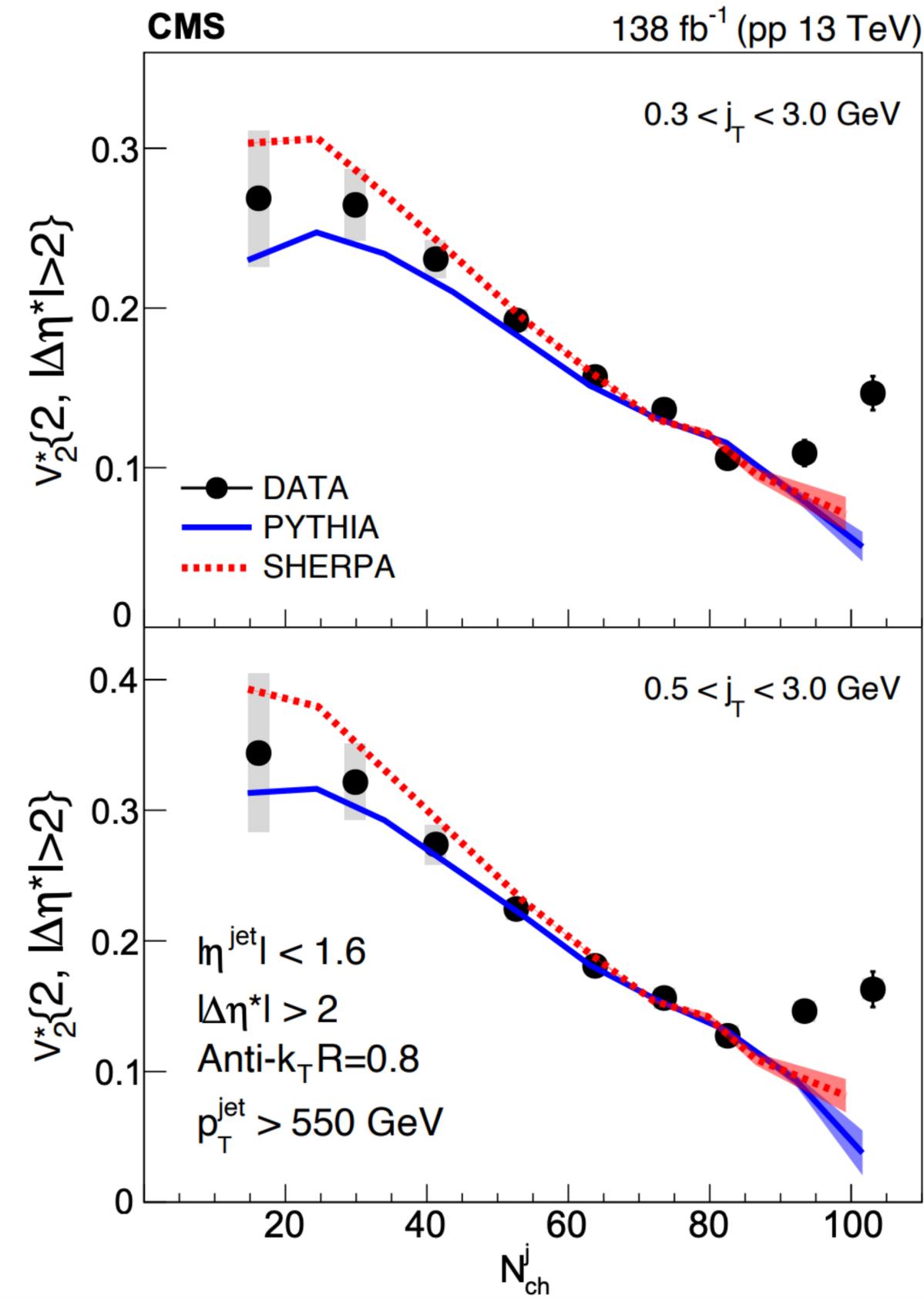
CMS, arxiv:2312.17103



Angular correlation among particles inside a jet after an appropriate change of coordinates

- Double ridge structure in high multiplicity jets

Bonus track: 2 particle correlations in jet



Angular correlation among particles inside a jet after an appropriate change of coordinates

- Double ridge structure in high multiplicity jets

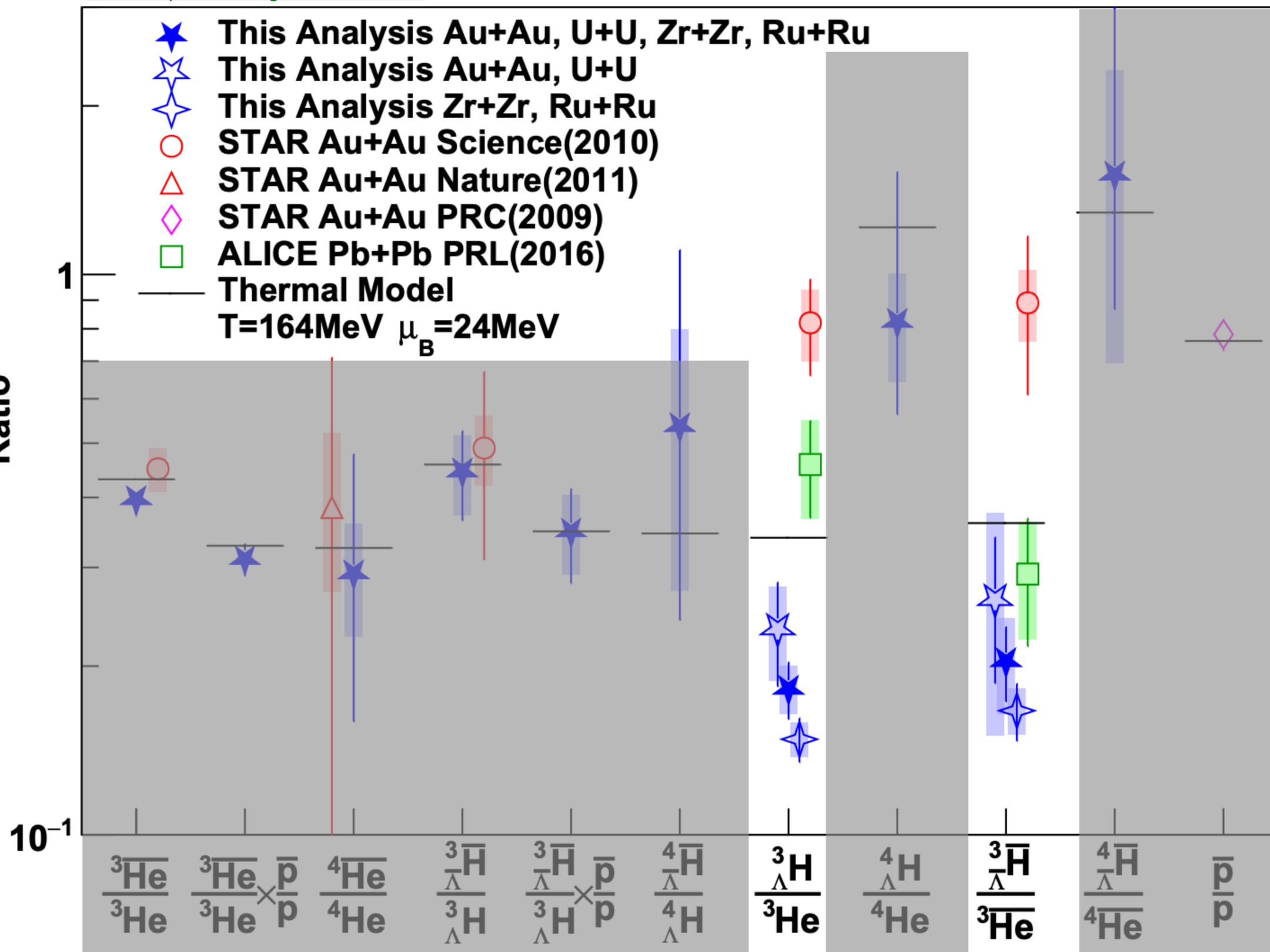
Extracted v_2 deviates from MC generators at high mult.

- Collectivity or missing correlation among sub-jets?

CMS, arxiv:2312.17103

Same phenomenology at RHIC?

STAR, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.12674>



Indication of larger deviation from the SHM prediction in the collision among “small” ions (careful with the log scale...)

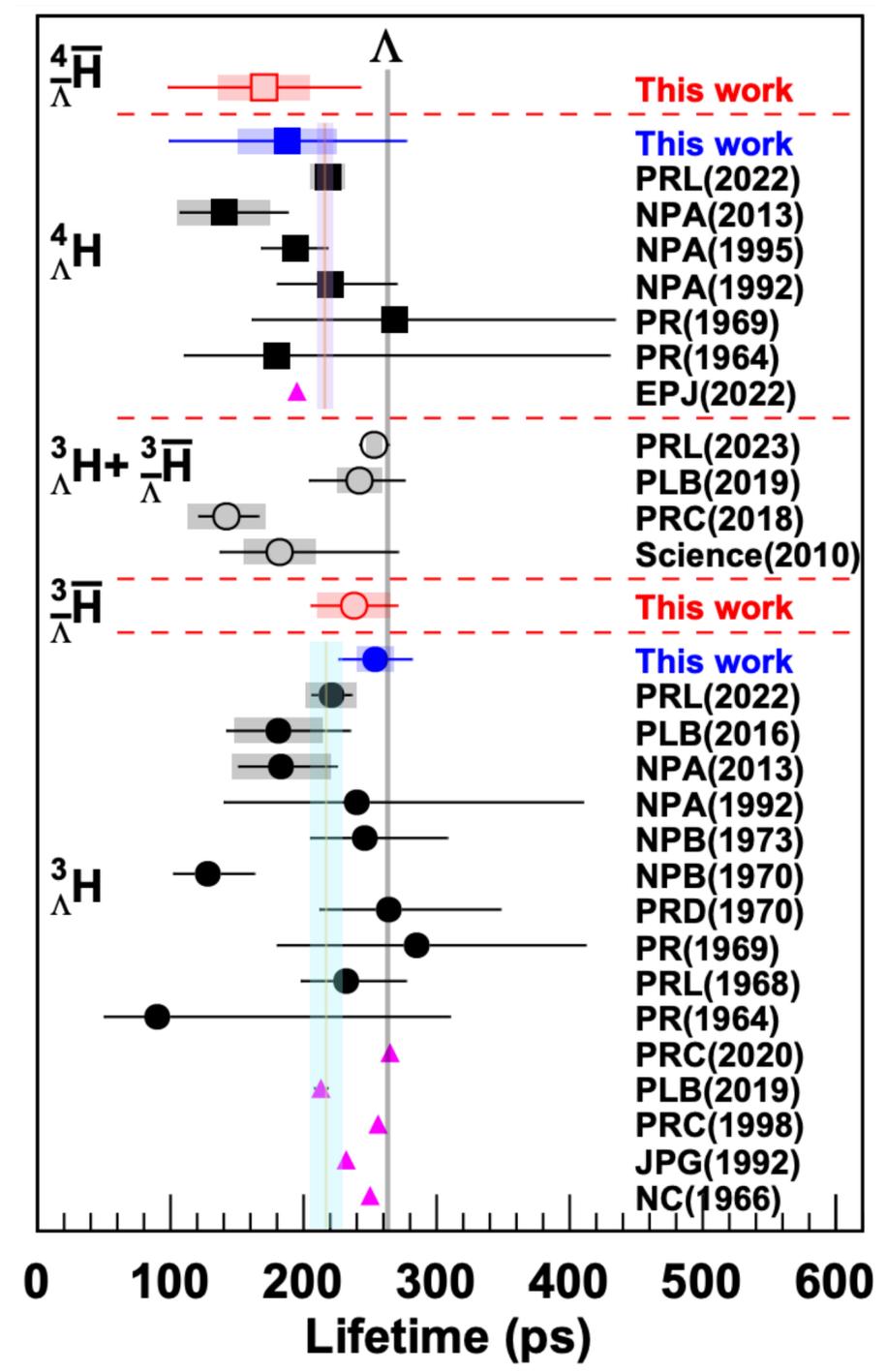
- Same effect as going to p-Pb or pp collisions at the LHC!

Precision hyper nuclear physics

Heavy-ion experiments deliver the best or close to the best performance in determining the properties of light hypernuclei

- Input to Λ -N and Λ -N-N interaction models

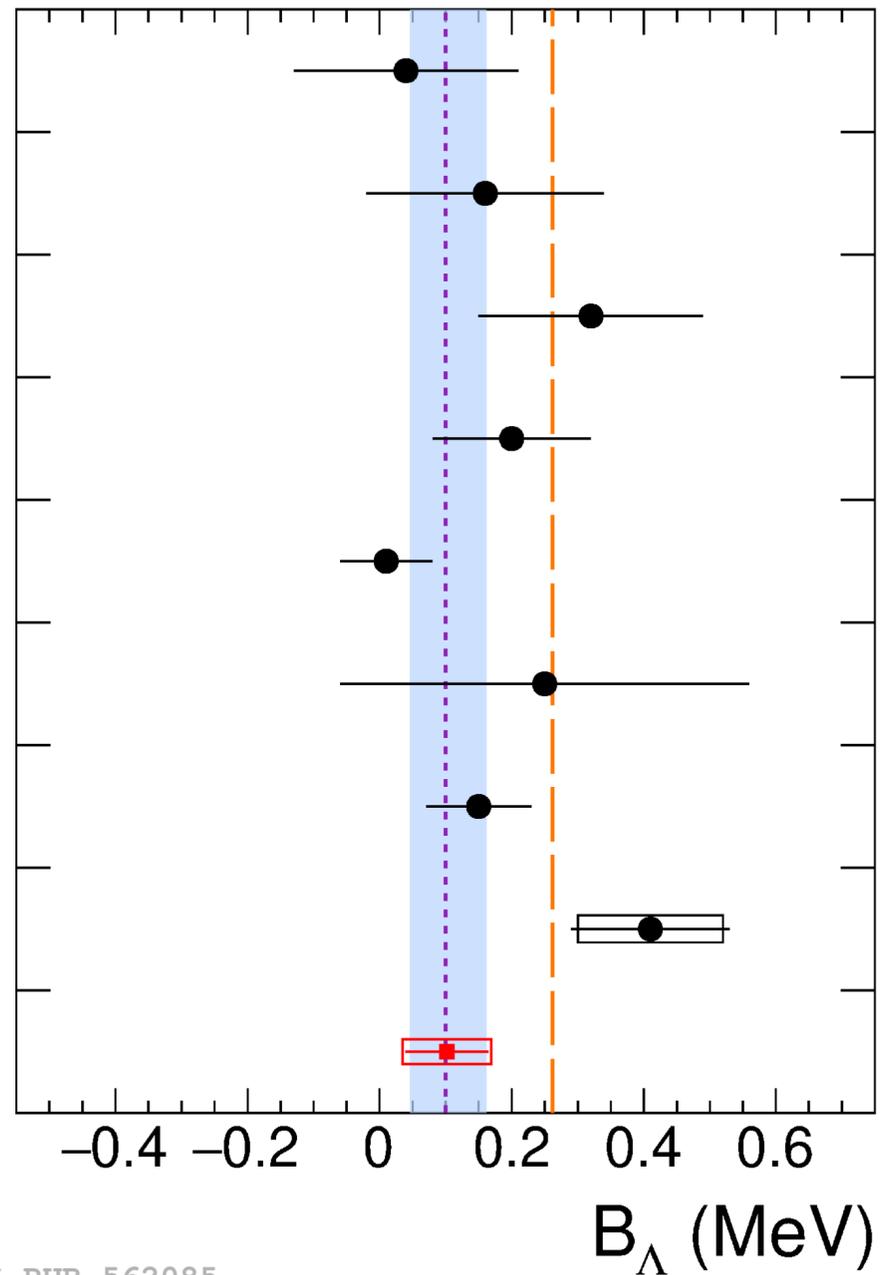
STAR, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.12674>



STAR, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.12674>

Theoretical predictions

- NPB 47 (1972) 109-137
- PRC 77 (2008) 027001
- EPJA 56 (2020) 91



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