

# LHCf experiment : Current status and future prospect

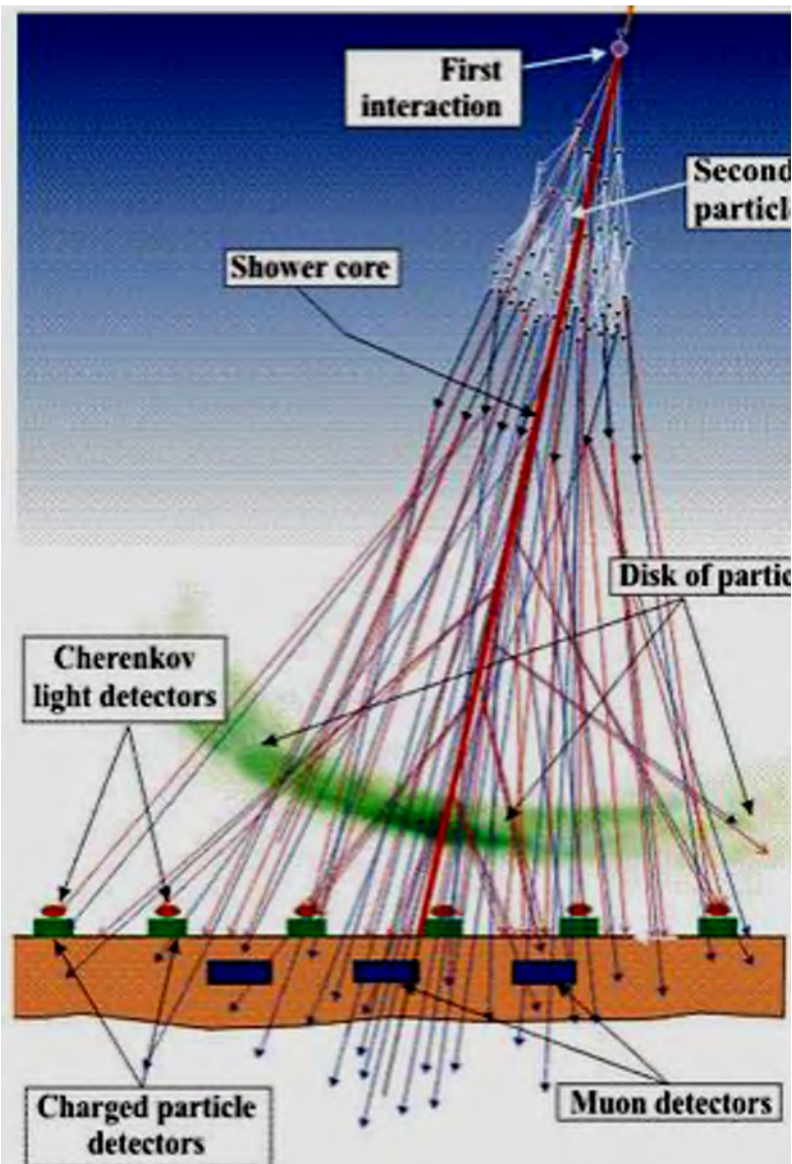
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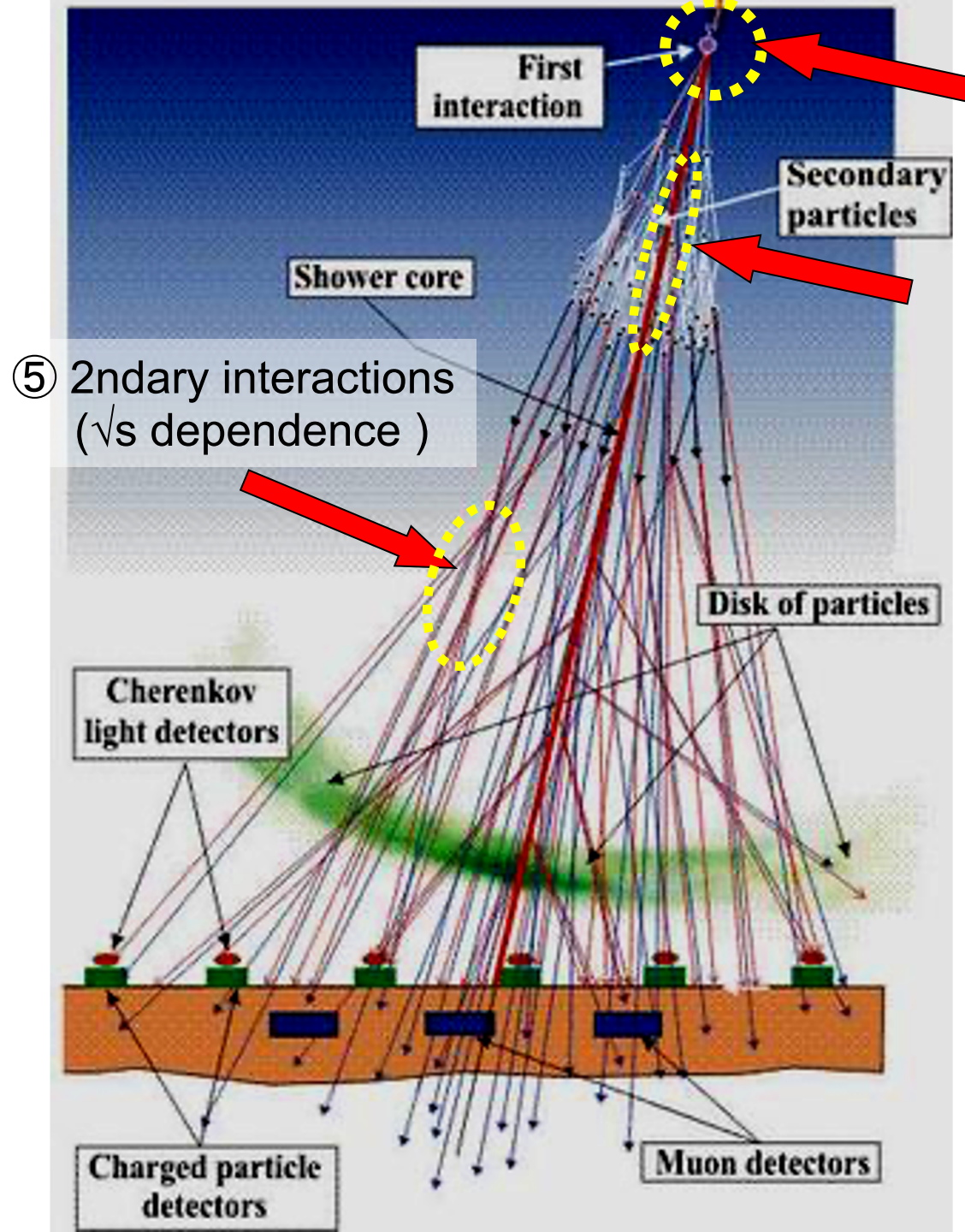
Low-x 2021, 28 Sep 2021



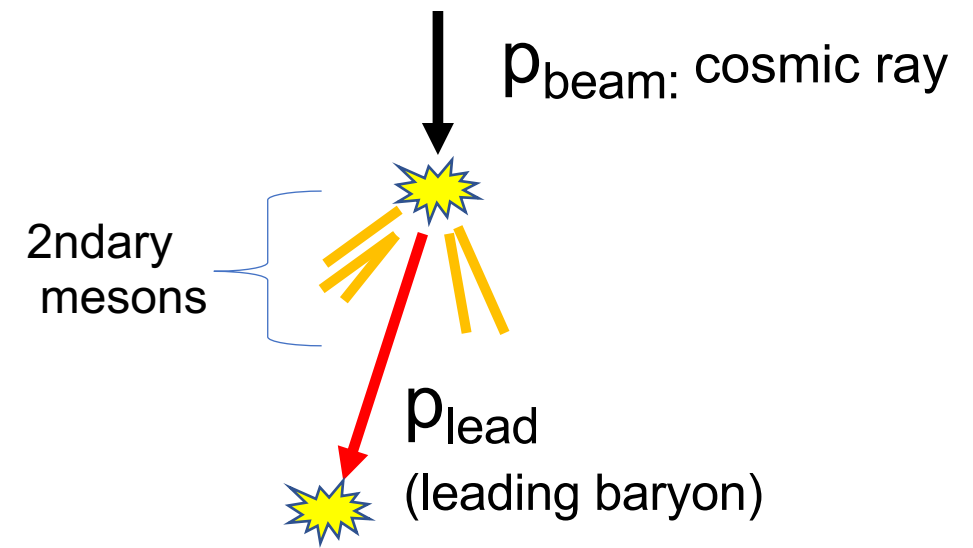
# Forward production and cosmic rays



- Air shower measurements of very high cosmic rays rely on hadronic interaction modeling.
- Need precise knowledge on minimum bias interactions, including forward productions
- They are high-energy and non-pQCD regime. Need collider data and a good phenomenological model.

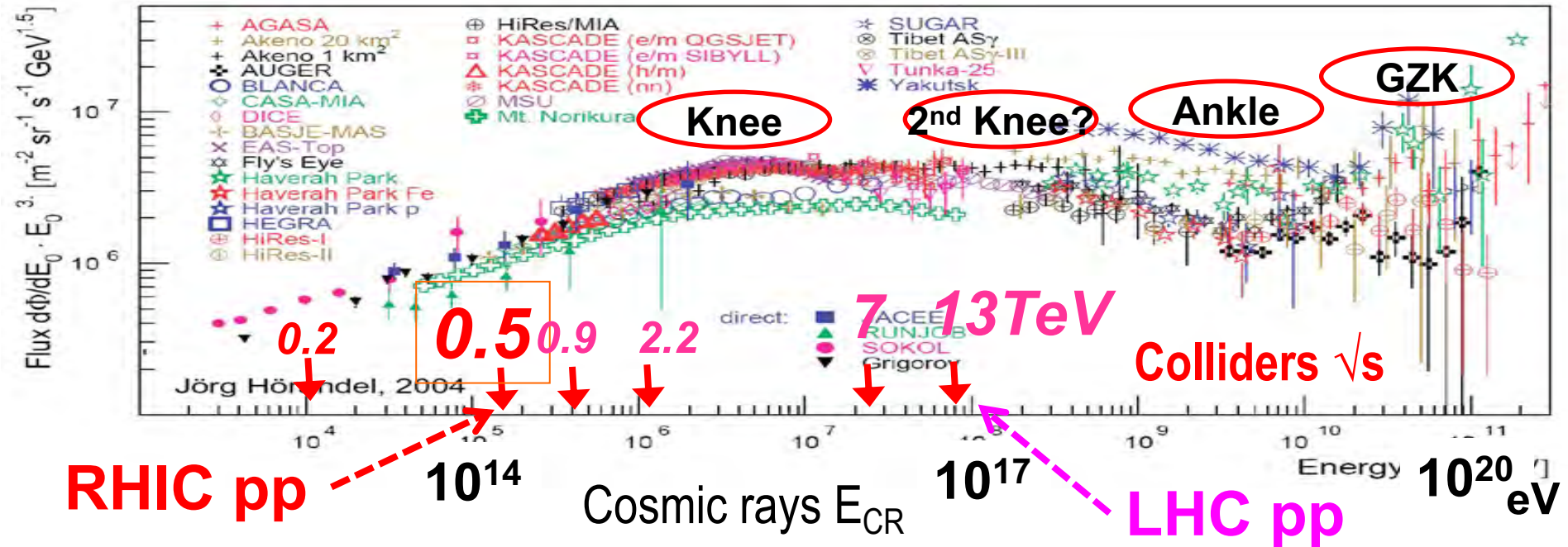


- ① Inelastic cross section (TOTEM and others)
- ② Forward energy spectrum ( LHCf  $\gamma / \pi^0$  spectrum )
- ③ Inelasticity  $k = 1 - p_{\text{lead}} / p_{\text{beam}}$  (LHCf forward neutron,  $n / \gamma$  ratio )

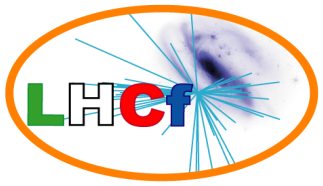


- ④ Nuclear effect (shadowing, Cronin effect)

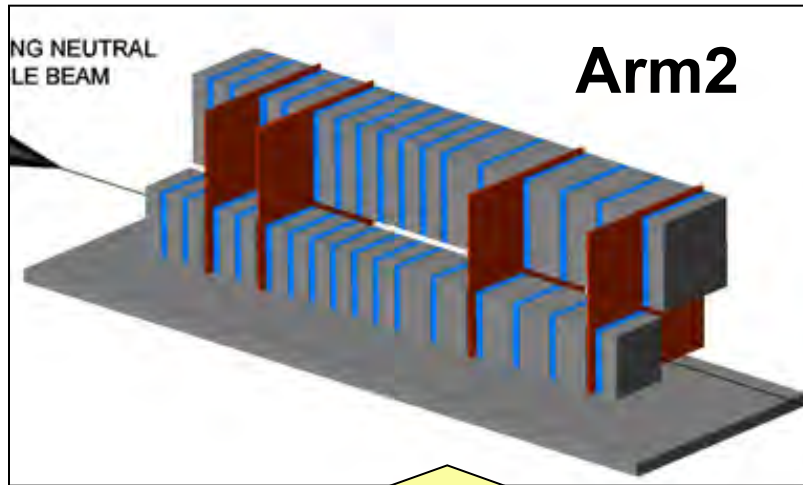
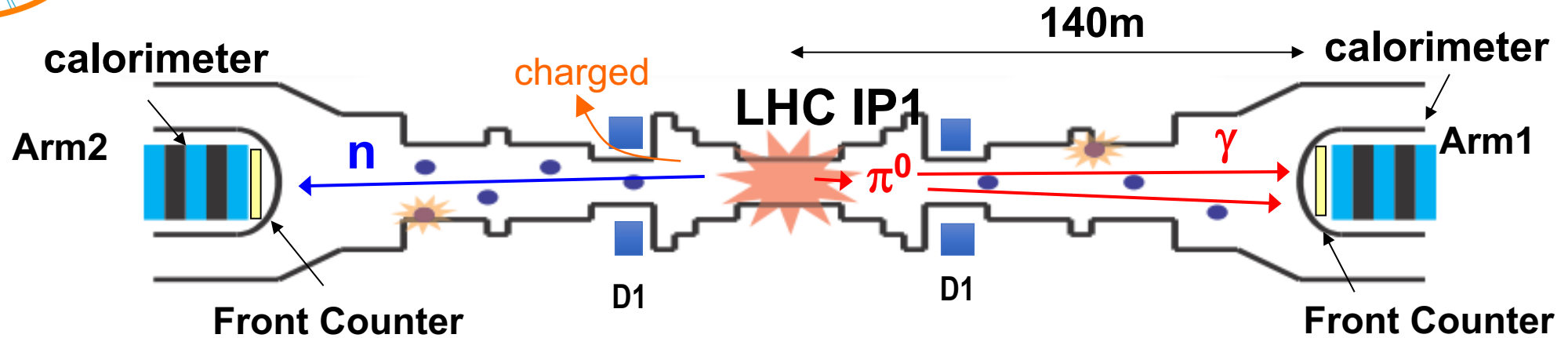
# UHECR Interactions = Collider Energies



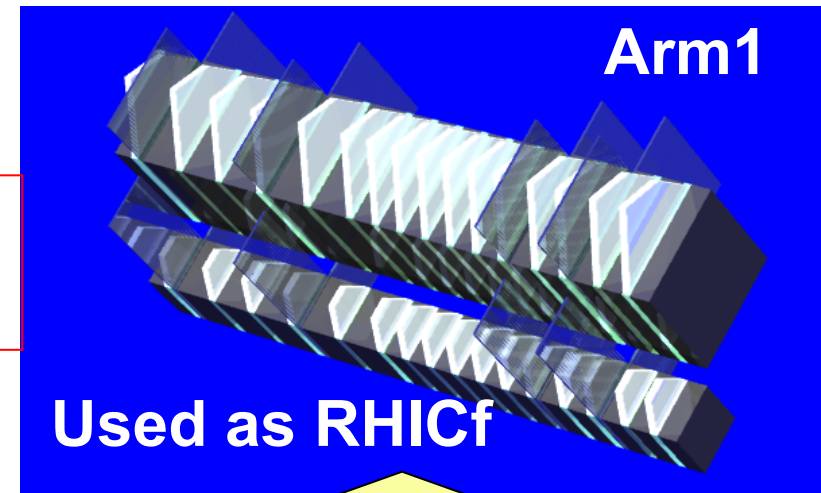
- Need dedicated very forward measurement at hadron colliders
- So far LHCf pp (13, 7, 2.76, 0.9 TeV) and p-Pb(5,8 TeV/n) available
- RHIC provides 0.5 TeV pol pp w/ same pT coverage as LHC
- RHIC also provides various p-A or A-A collisions



# The LHCf experiment at LHC



16 tungsten + GSO scinti. layers  
 25x25mm(TS)+32x32mm (TL)  
 4 Silicon strip tracking layers



16 tungsten + GSO scinti. layers  
 20x20mm(TS)+40x40mm (TL)  
 4 GSO-bar tracking layers

$44X_0$ ,  
 $1.6 \lambda_{int}$

# The LHCf Collaboration

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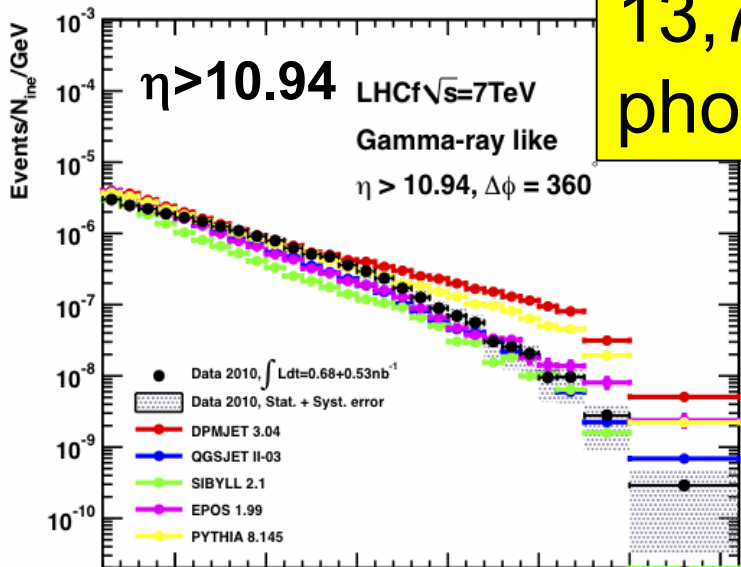
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# LHCf results and publication

Run	$E_{\text{lab}}$ (eV)	Photon	Neutron	$\pi^0$	ATLAS-LHCf combined
p-p $\sqrt{s}=0.9\text{TeV}$ (2009/2010)	$4.3 \times 10^{14}$	PLB 715, 298 (2012)		-	
p-p $\sqrt{s}=2.76\text{TeV}$ (2013)	$4.1 \times 10^{15}$			PRC 86, 065209 (2014)	PRD 94 032007 (2016)
p-p $\sqrt{s}=7\text{TeV}$ (2010)	$2.6 \times 10^{16}$	PLB 703, 128 (2011)	PLB 750, 360 (2015)	PRD 86, 092001 (2012)	
p-p $\sqrt{s}=13\text{TeV}$ (2015)	$9.0 \times 10^{16}$	PLB 780, 233 (2018)	JHEP 1811, 73 (2018) JHEP 07, 016 (2020)	preliminary	ATLAS-CONF-2017- 075, paper in preparation
p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}}=5\text{TeV}$ (2013,2016)	$1.4 \times 10^{16}$			PRC 86, 065209 (2014)	
p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}}=8\text{TeV}$ (2016)	$3.6 \times 10^{16}$	Preliminary			
RHICf p $\uparrow$ -p $\sqrt{s}=510\text{GeV}$ (2017)	$1.4 \times 10^{14}$	on-going		(Transverse asymmetry) PRL 124, 252501(2021)	

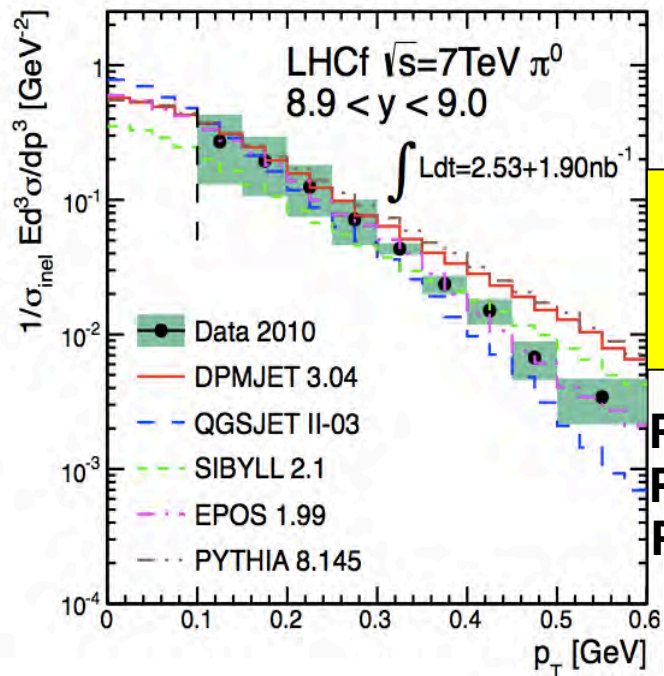
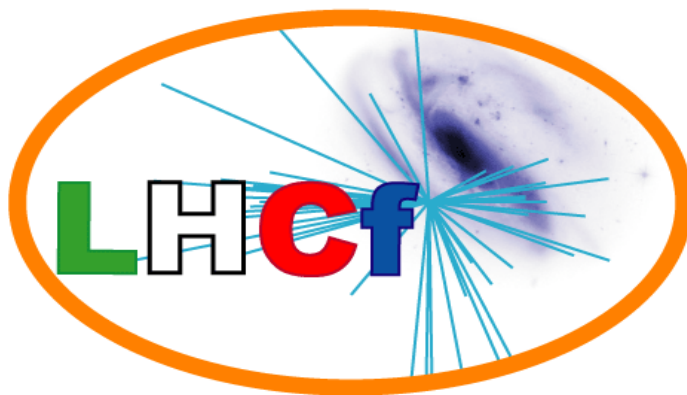
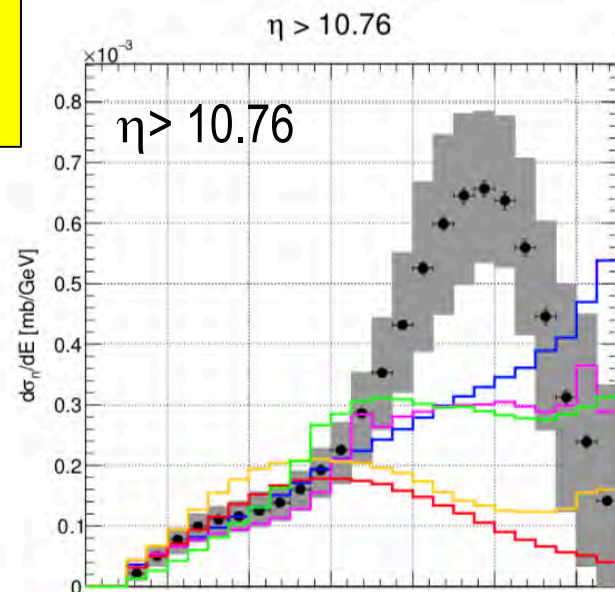


13,7 & 0.9 TeV pp  
photon

PLB 703 (2011) 128  
PLB 715 (2012) 298  
PLB 780 (2018) 233

13&7TeV pp  
neutron

PLB 750 (2015) 360  
JHEP 11 (2018) 073  
JHEP 07 (2020) 016

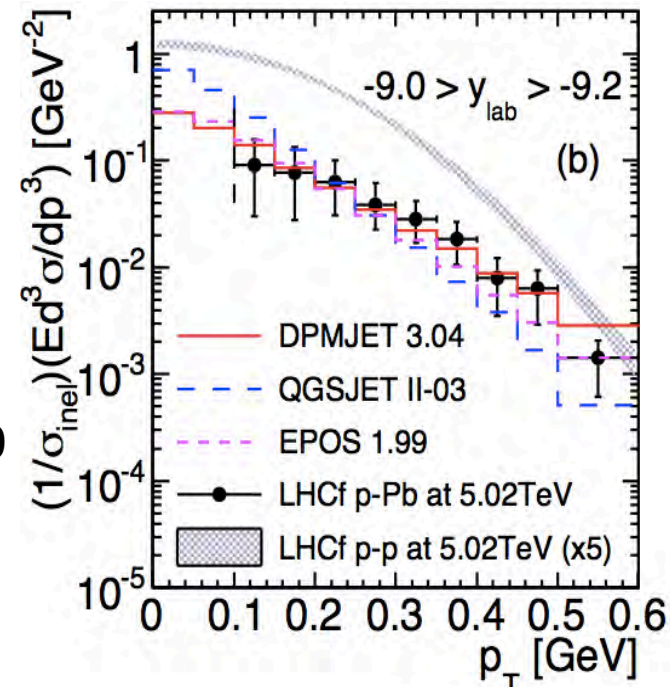


7 & 2.76 TeV pp  
 $\pi^0$

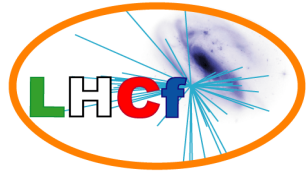
PRD 86 (2012) 092001  
PRC 86 (2014) 065209  
PRD 94 (2016) 032007

5 TeV pPb  
 $\pi^0$

PRC 89 (2014) 065209

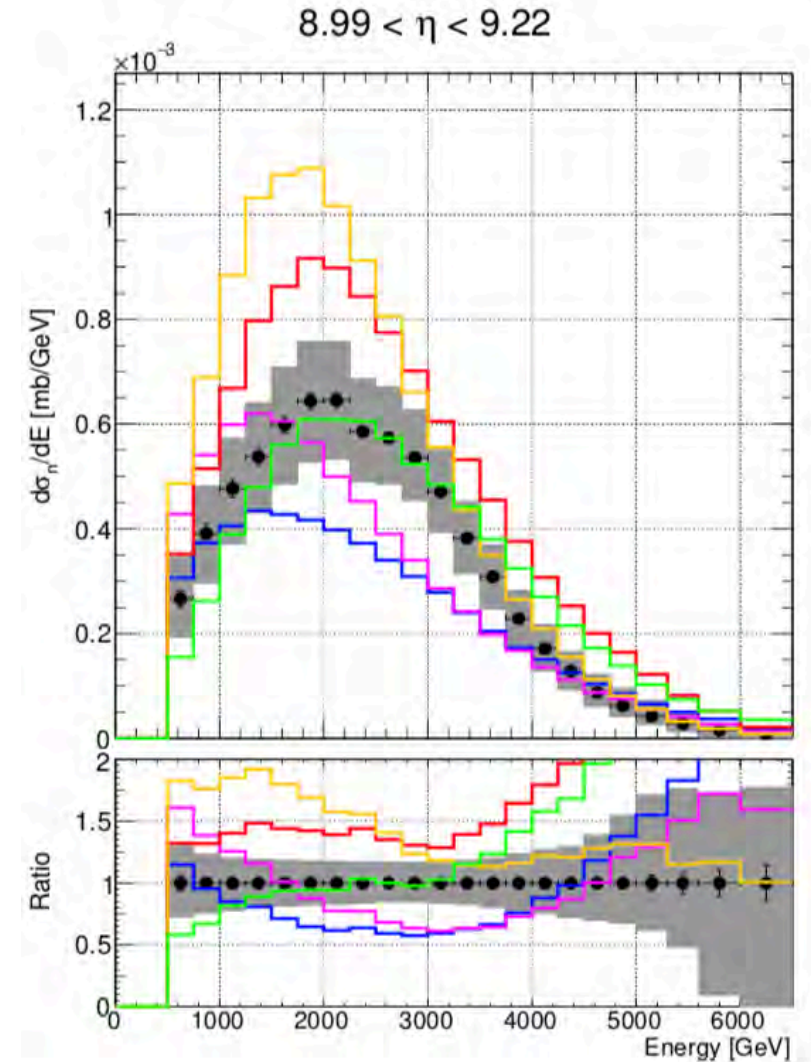
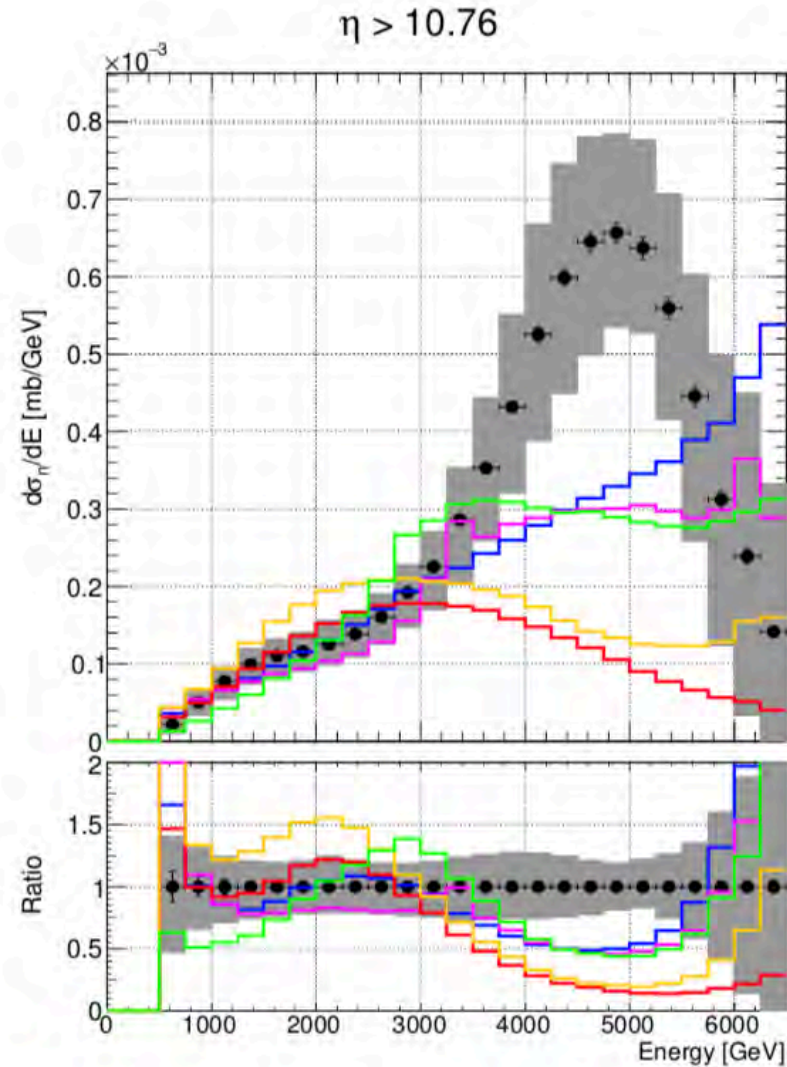
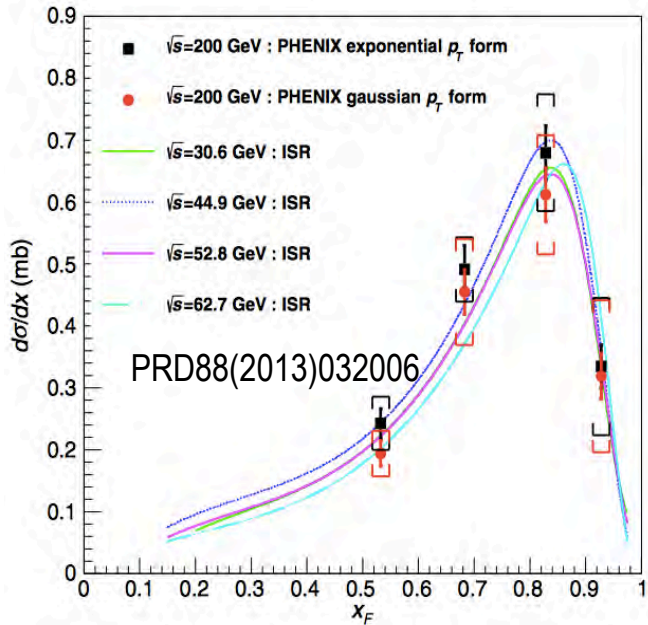






# Very forward neutron production at 13 TeV

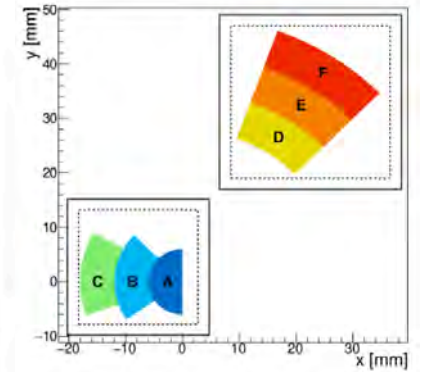
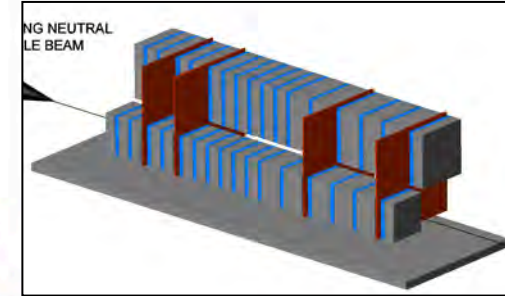
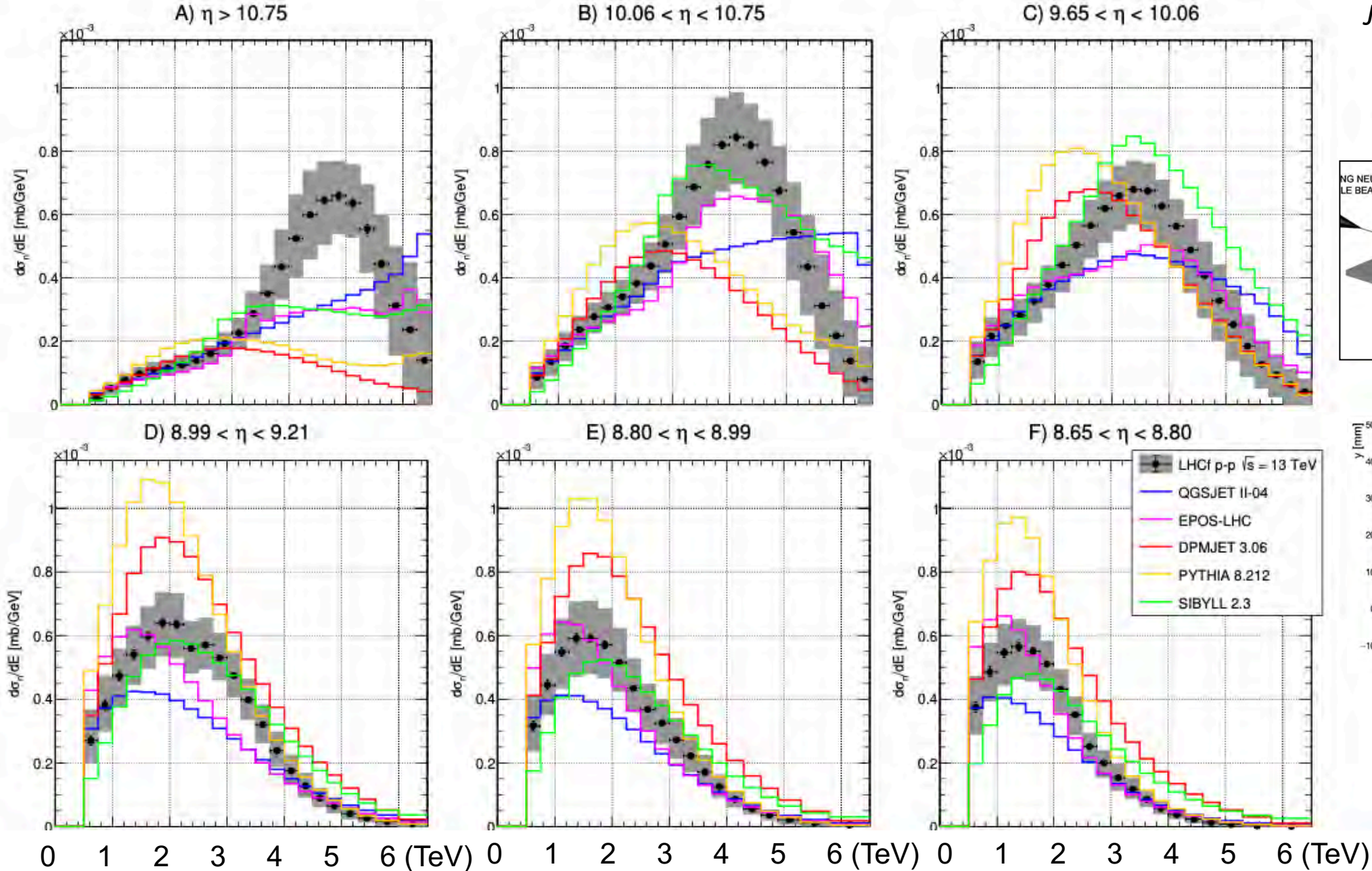
JHEP 11 (2018) 073



- Large excess in data than any other models at 0-degree ( $\eta > 10.76$ )
- XF scaling ? comparison with ISR, PHENIX

# More detail neutron spectra vs $\eta$ in 13 TeV pp

JHEP 07 (2020) 016

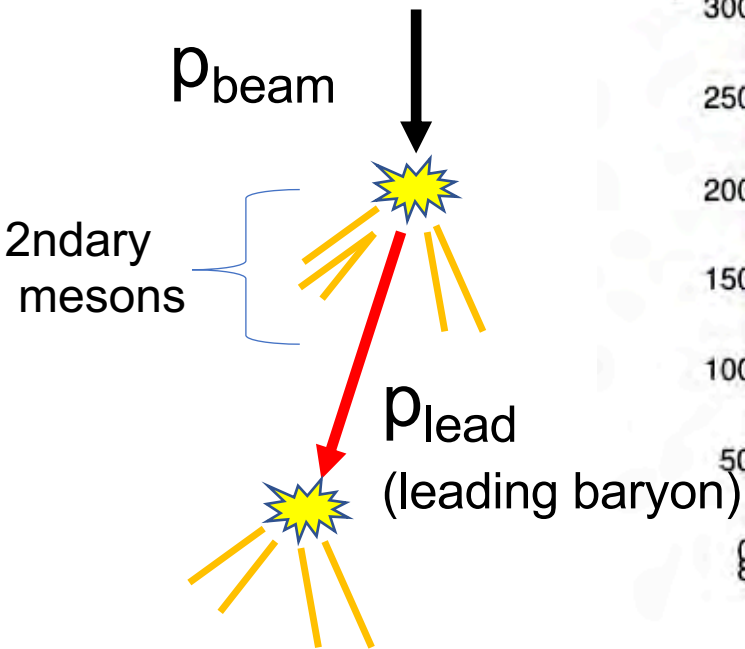


# Inelasticity measurement by leading-neutrons

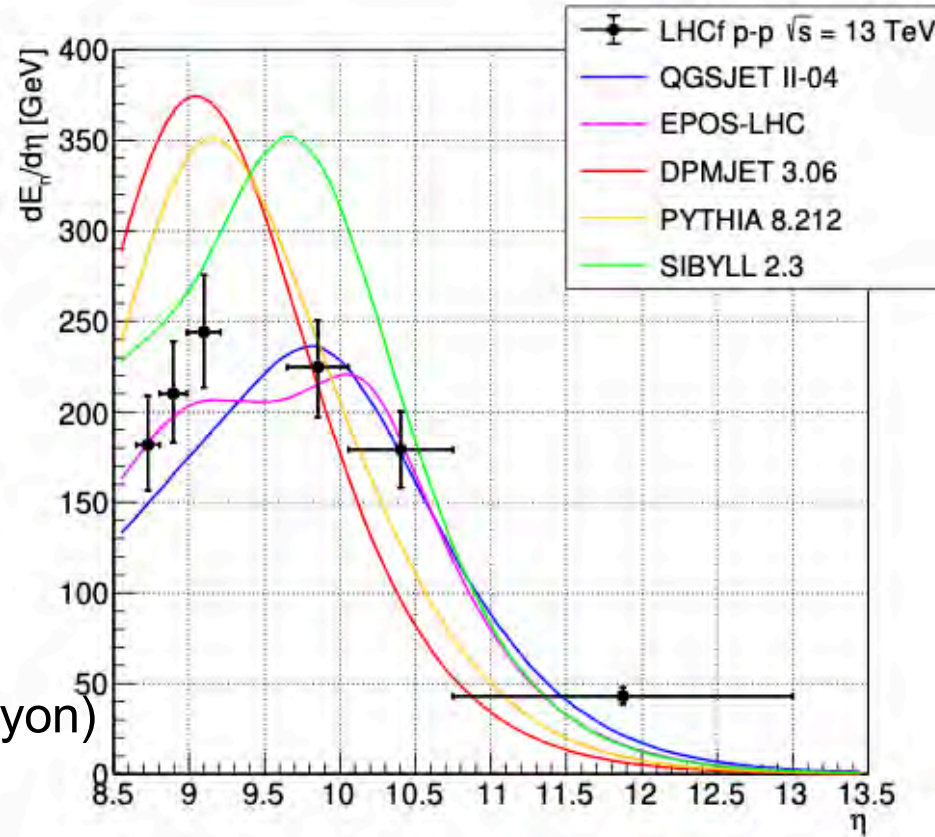
JHEP 07 (2020) 016

Inelasticity

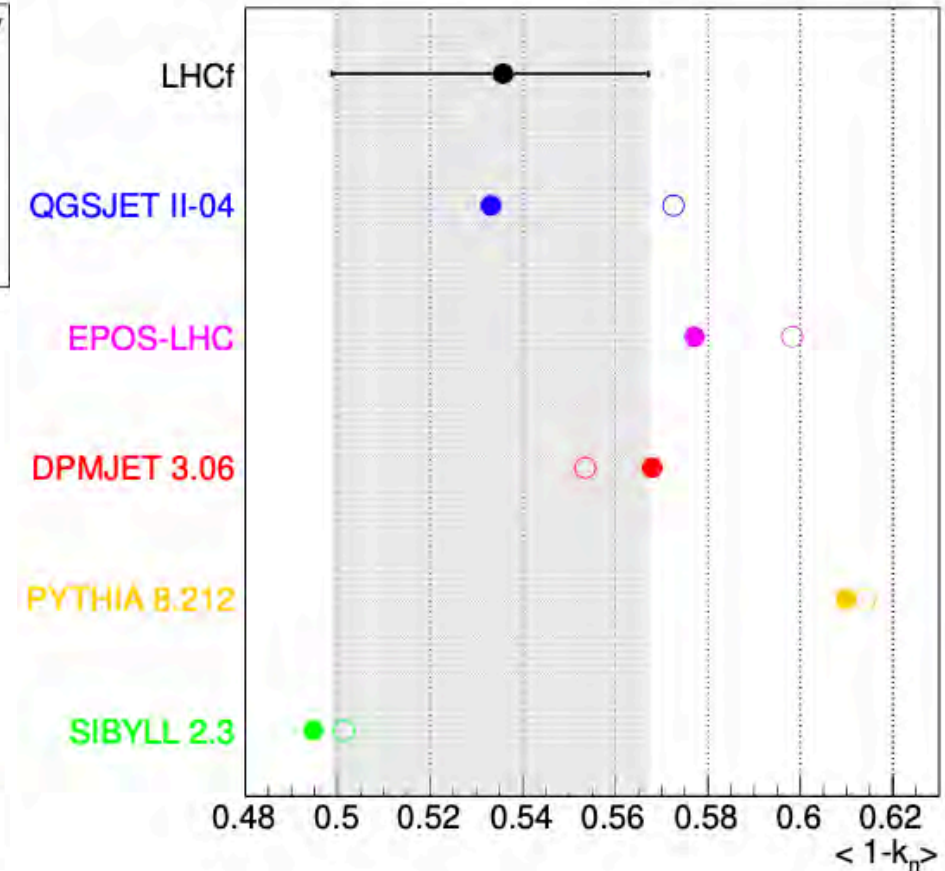
$$k = 1 - p_{\text{lead}} / p_{\text{beam}}$$



## Neutron energy flow vs $\eta$



## Inelasticity $k$

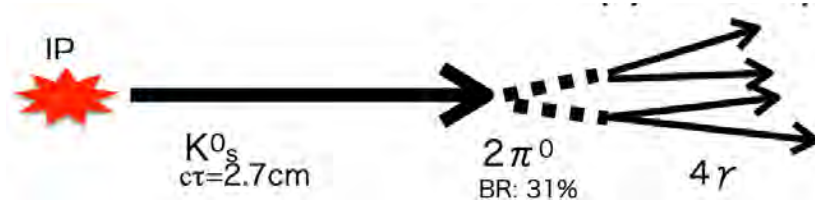


● closed circles show the events where a neutron is leading

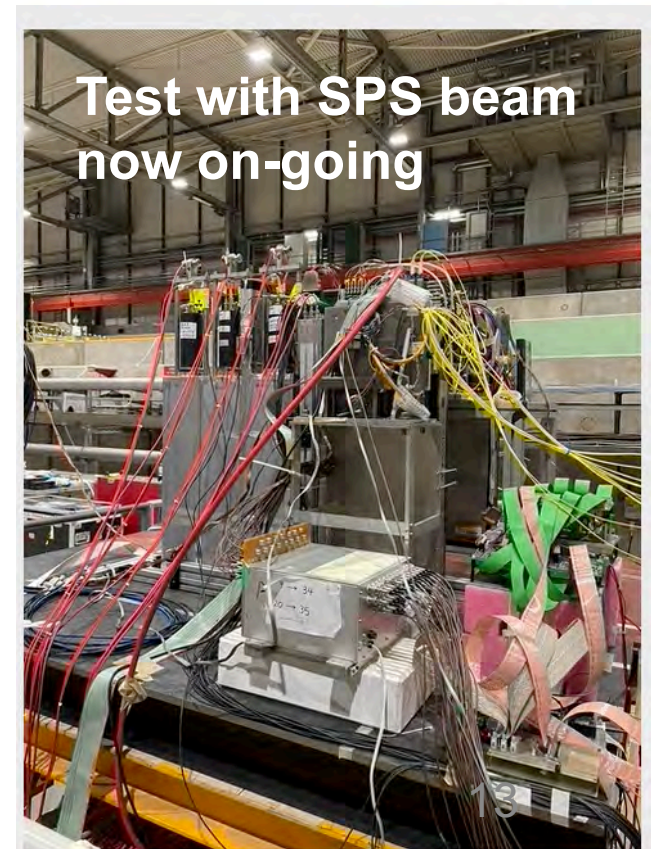
# Prospects at LHC Run3

# LHCf ~14 TeV pp run at Run3

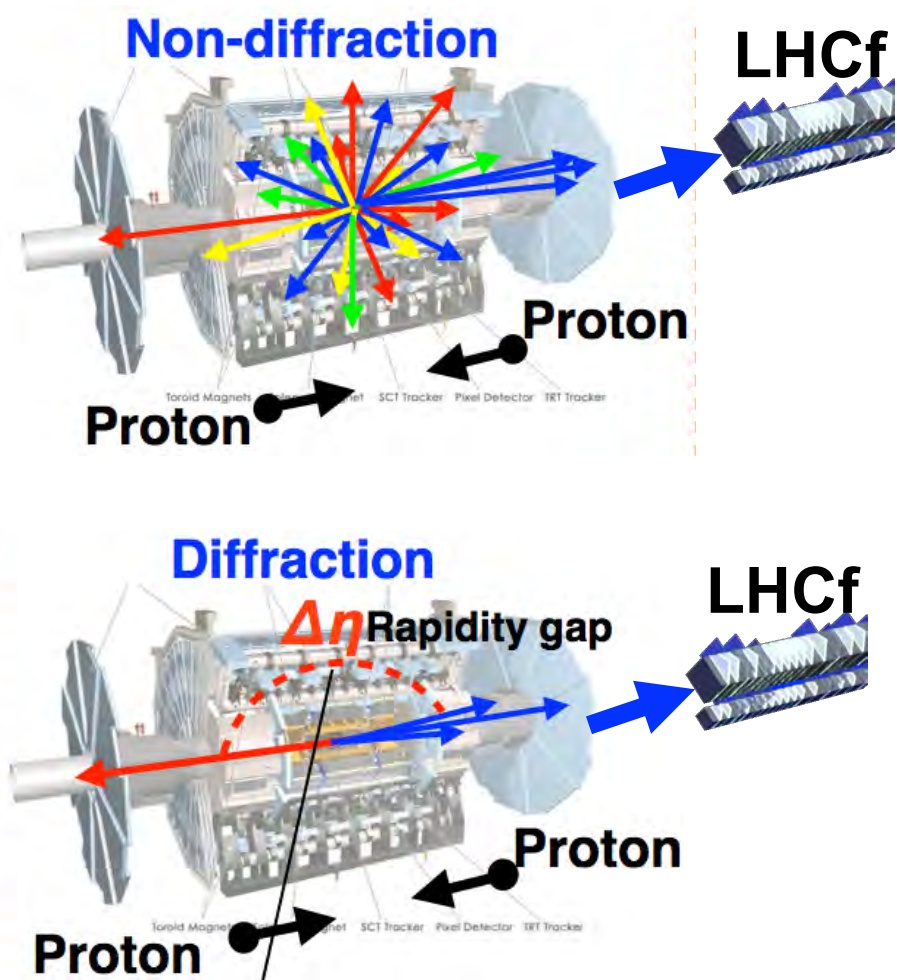
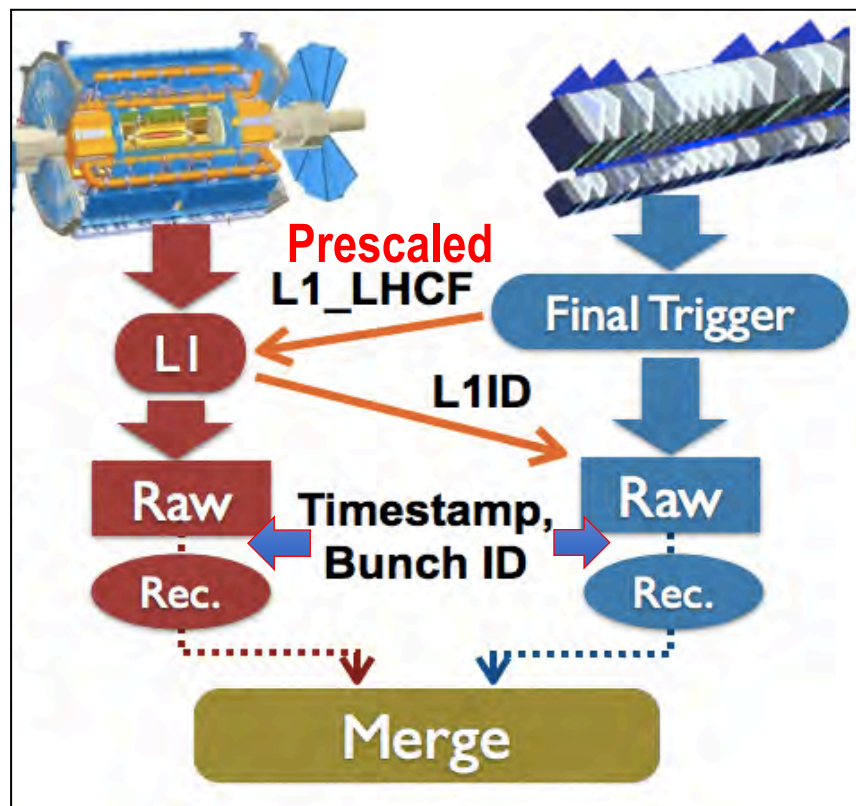
- High statistics with improved trigger and new Si electronics
  - 2 days dedicated run after TS1 w/  $\sim 10^{30} \text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  (x10), giving  $40 \text{nb}^{-1}$
  - Precise  $\pi^0 / \eta$  spectra, very forward strangeness ( $K_s^0$ ,  $\Lambda \dots$ )



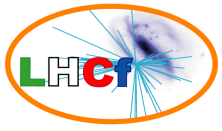
- Trigger exchange with ATLAS
  - Correlation analysis with central rapidity data
  - Possible joint data-taking w/ ATLAS-ZDC and Roman Pot
  - Measurement of  $p$ - $\pi$  coupling at very high energy



# ATLAS-LHCf trigger exchange



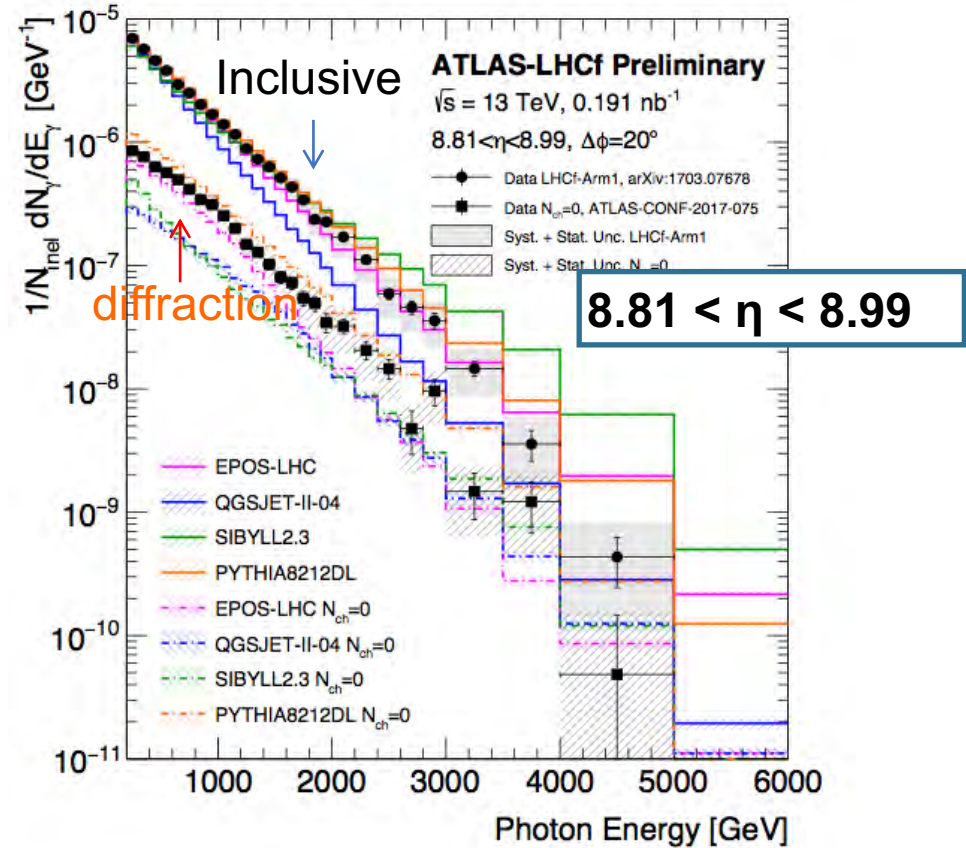
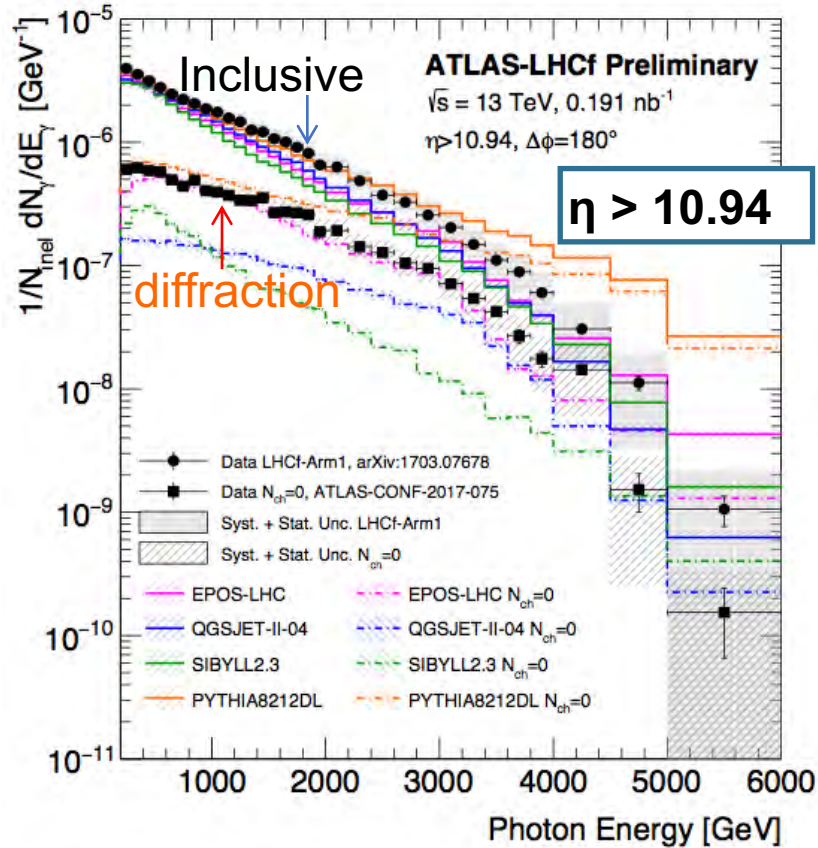
**Powerful tool to study diffraction/non-diffraction separately**



# Very forward photon from diffraction at 13TeV

ATLAS-CONF-2017-075

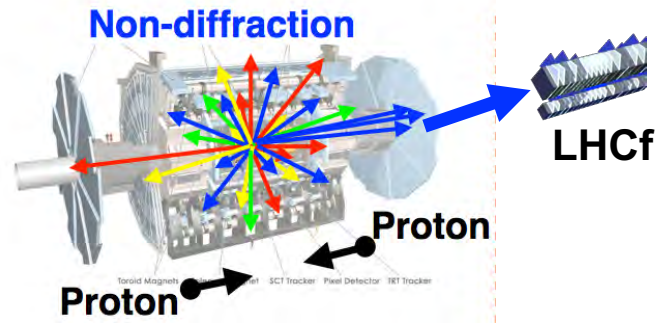
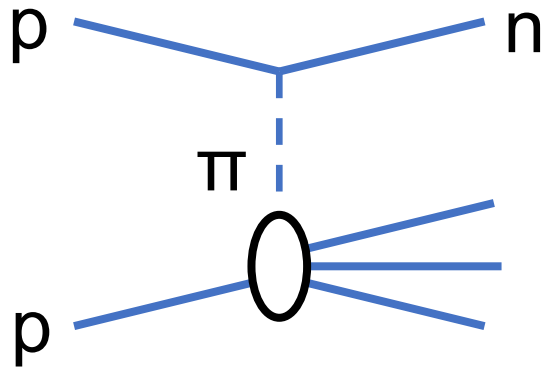
- ATLAS-LHCf common data at 13TeV pp
- Rapidity gap events selected as diffraction



Some of cosmic ray interaction models need large modification  
( Both diffraction and non-diffraction)

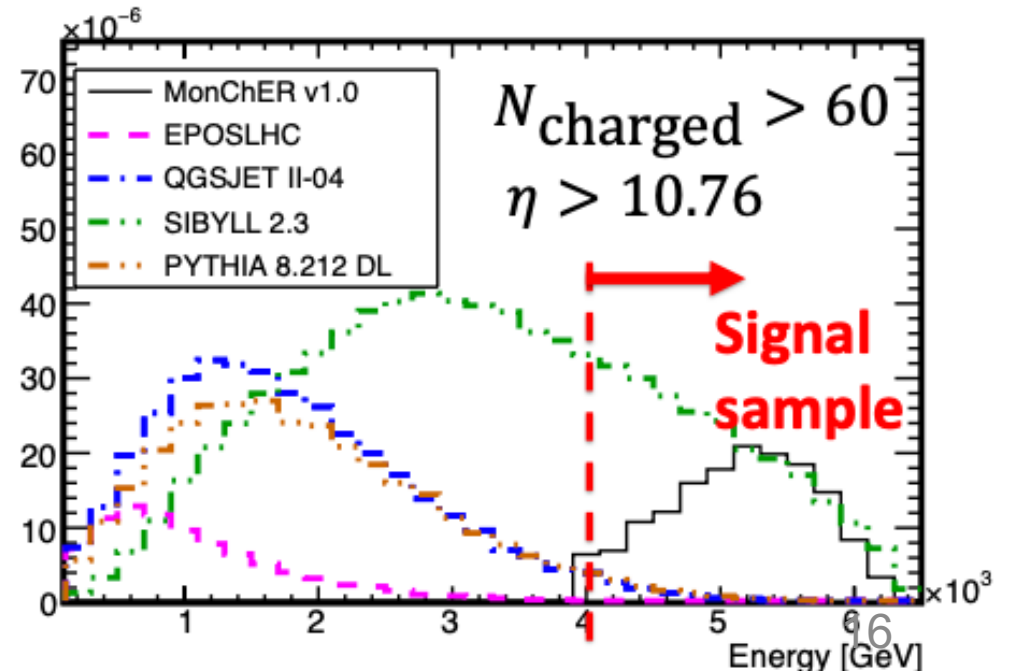
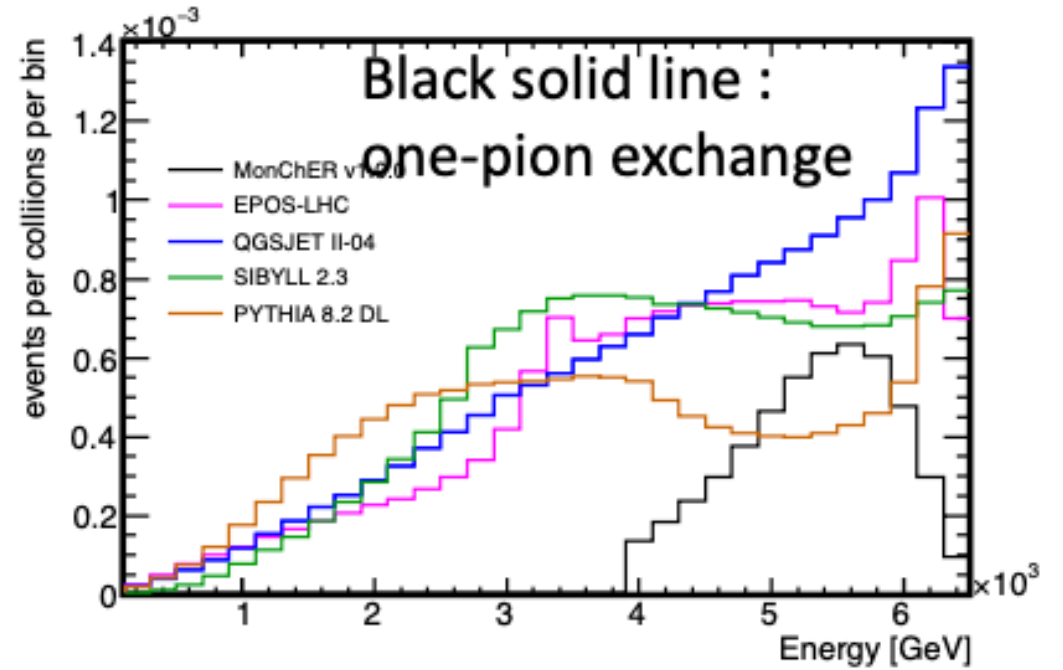
# Tagging one- $\pi$ -exchange in very forward neutrons

K.Ohashi et al.,  
POS(ICRC2021)190



- Using  $pp \rightarrow npX$ ,  $\pi p$  coupling can be measured at LHC
- Signals in high  $X_F$  neutrons in very forward
- To differentiate from diffraction, high  $N_{ch}$  in central rapidity is selected

“LHC as  $\pi p$  ( $\pi\pi$ ) collider” Petrov, Ryutin, Sobol,  
Eur.Phys.J. C (2010) 65:637

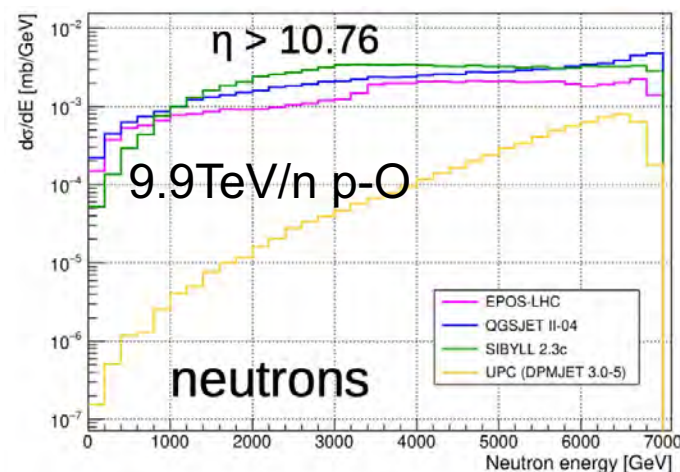
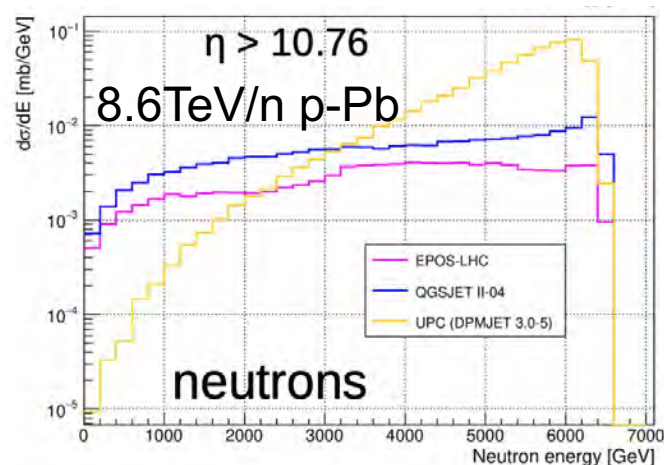




# Future p-O ( and O-O ) runs at LHC

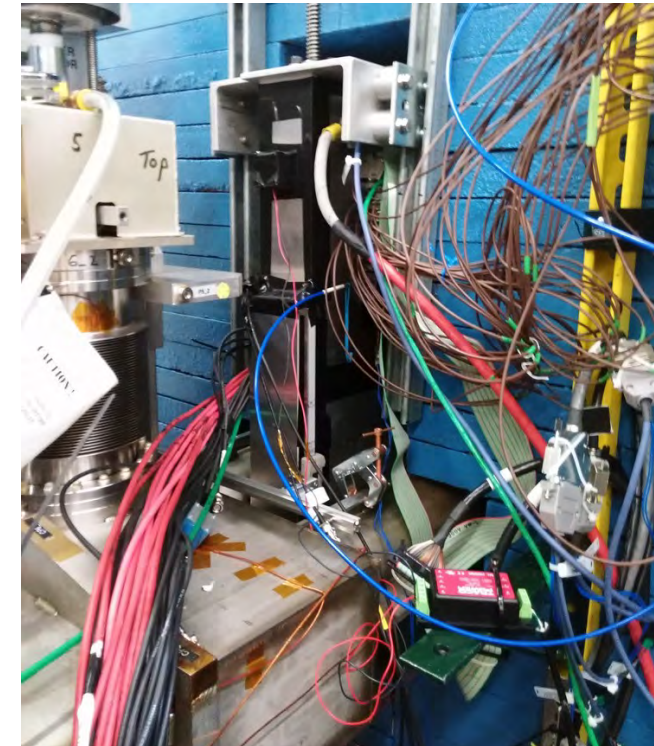
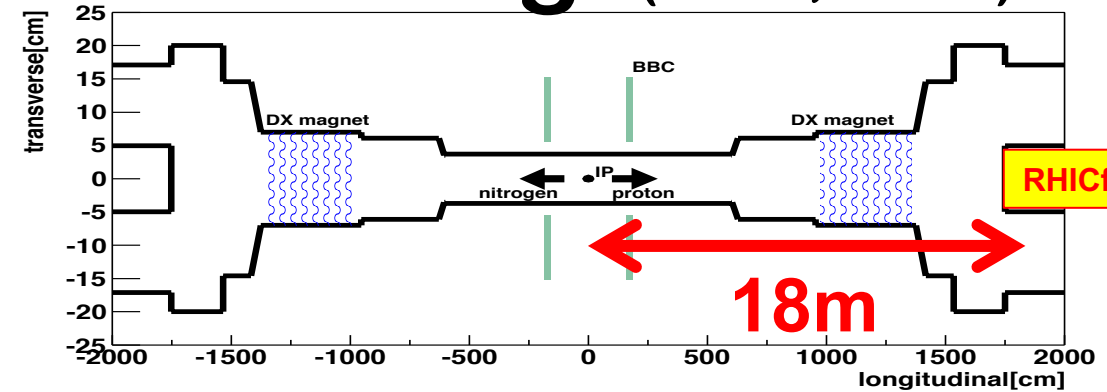
Now p-O (O-O) runs are officially considered for 2022 or 2023.

- p-O (N) run at LHC gives ideal check of air shower physics
  - LHCf p-Pb data available but w/ large UPC BG (air atoms are ionized !)
  - After Run-4, LHCf will be no longer available (due to new beam-pipes)
- Intensive discussions in “OppOrtunities” workshop (4-10Feb2021)
  - <https://indico.cern.ch/event/975877/overview>
- Detail run plan is under discussion
  - Desirable for LHCf,  $L=10^{28}\text{cm}^2\text{s}^{-1}$ , 43-bunches



# RHICf: LHCf-Arm1 @RHIC-STAR 0deg (June, 2017)

- $\sqrt{s}=510$  GeV p+p ( $= E_{\text{lab}} \sim 10^{14}$  eV)
- Similar  $p_T$  coverage of LHCf 7 TeV pp
- **Radial polarization** to maximize the single-spin asymmetry in vertical
- Luminosity  $\sim 10^{31}$  cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ , w/ 10GeV threshold



## The RHICf collaboration

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**B.Hong<sup>j)</sup>**, **O.Adriani<sup>i)</sup>**, **E.Berti<sup>i)</sup>**, **L.Bonechi<sup>i)</sup>**, **R.D'Alessandro<sup>j)</sup>**,  
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b) Kobayashi-Maskawa Institute, Nagoya University,

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f) Waseda University,

g) Tokushima University,

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i) Korea University,

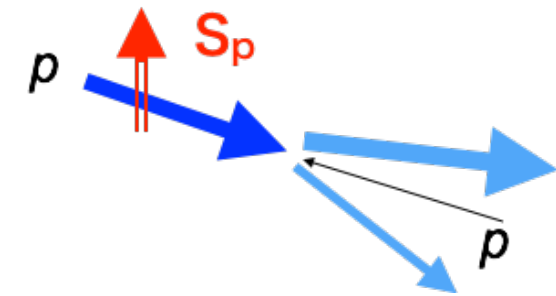
j) INFN, University of Florence,

k) INFN, University of Catania

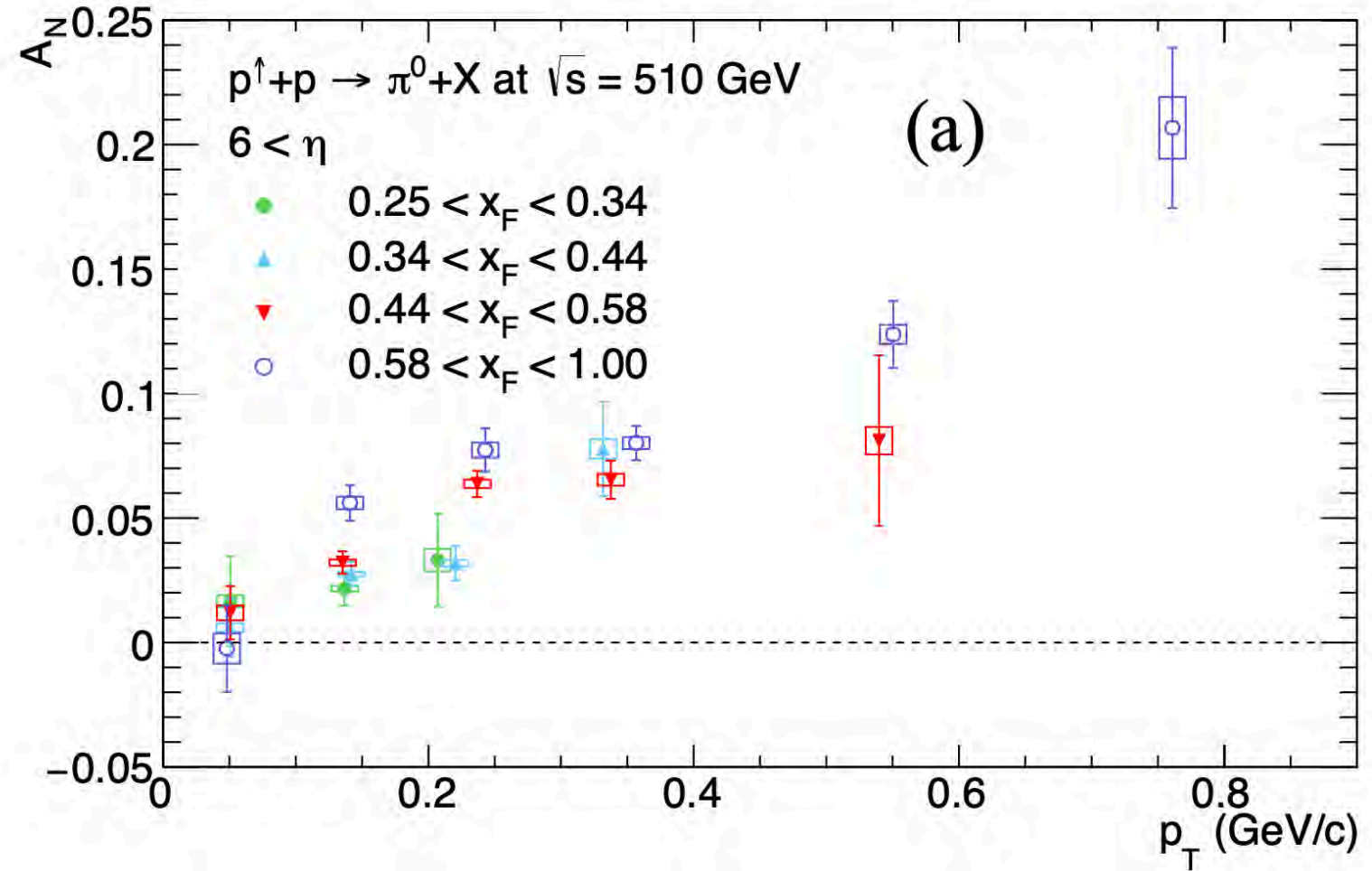
RHICf-II : A new W+Si pad&pixel calorimeter with ALICE FoCAL technology is being discussed

# RHICf observed large $A_N$ in very forward $\pi^0$

PRL 124, 252501(2021)

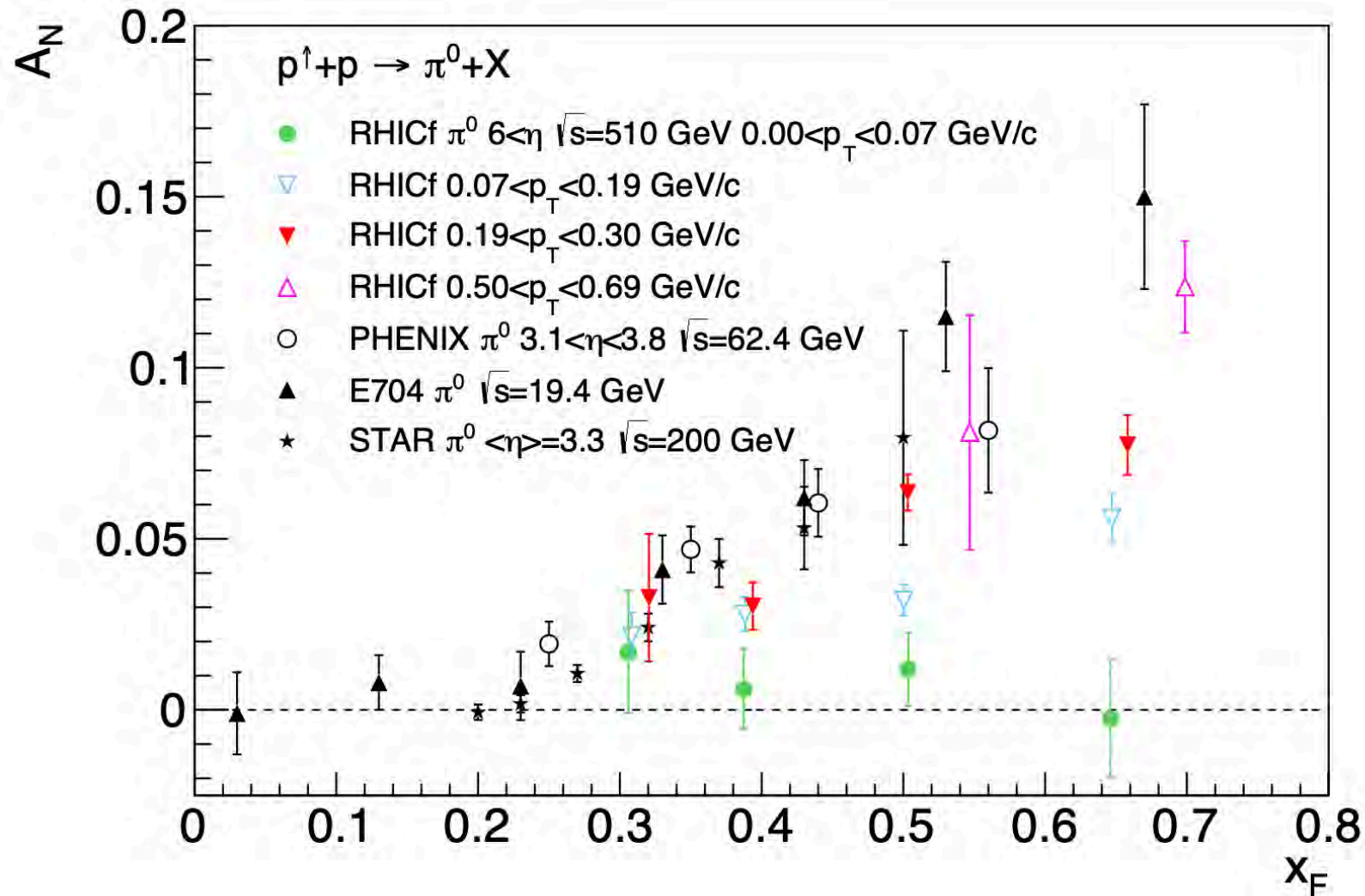


$$A_N = \frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{N_{\uparrow} + N_{\downarrow}}$$



$A_N$  observed at very forward ( $\eta > 6$ ) in low ( $< 1$  GeV/c) first time  
Perhaps Reggeon exchange origin ?

# Comparison of $A_N$ in different $\sqrt{s}$ and $\eta$



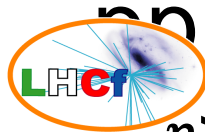
Maybe previously reported  $A_N$  vs  $X_F$  show similar tendency with RHICf data ?

# Summary

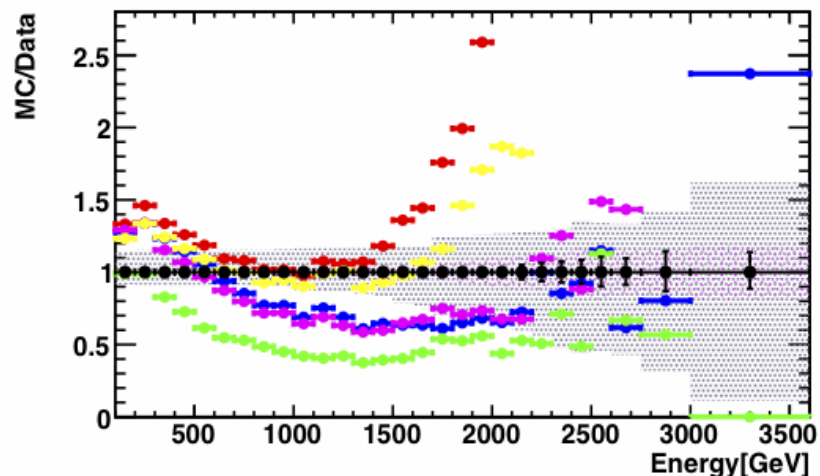
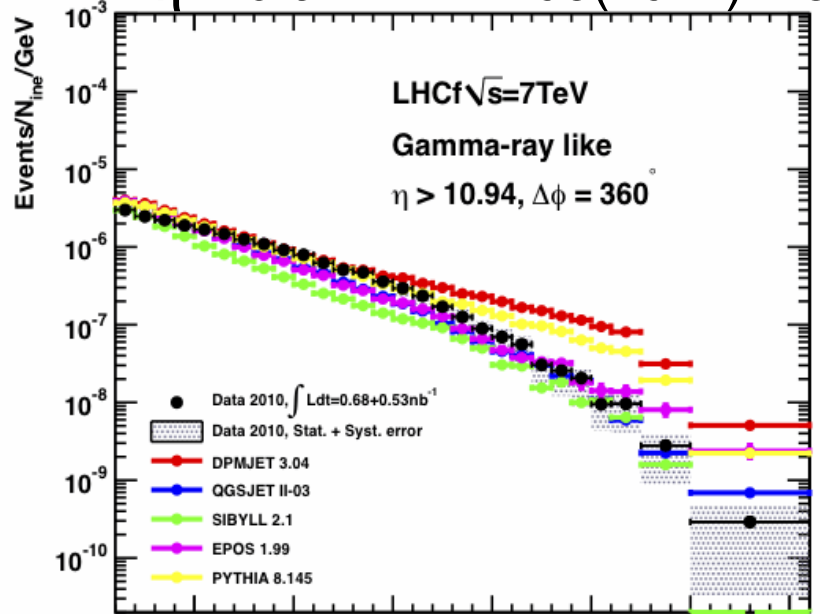
- LHCf measures neutral particles produced in 0-deg. of LHC, dedicated to study VHE cosmic ray interactions.
- Analysis on-going for 13 TeV pp data. Detail very forward neutron spectra and inelasticity measured.
- A new LHCf run scheduled in LHC Run-3 2022. High statistics pp run for  $\pi^0$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $K^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  measurements.
- ATLAS-LHCf joint operation useful to tag diffraction /  $1\pi$ -exchange. Combining ZDC will improve  $E_{\text{had}}$  resolution.
- LHC p-O (O-O) run under discussion, foreseen in 2022 or 2023.
- RHICf found unexpectedly large  $\pi^0$  AN in very forward.

# Backup

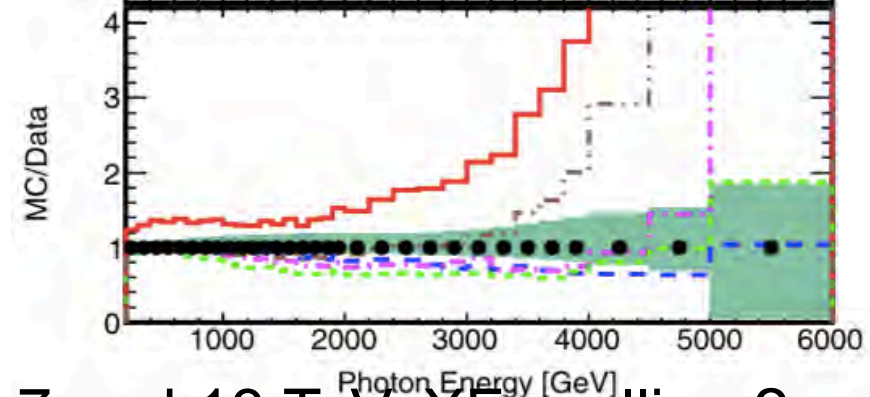
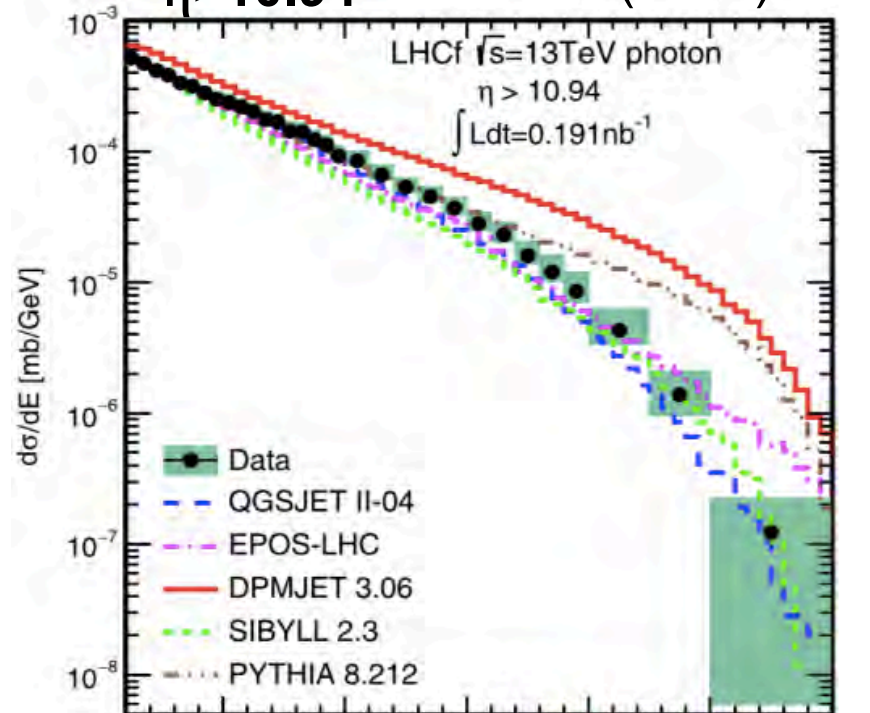
# Very forward photon spectra at 7/13 TeV



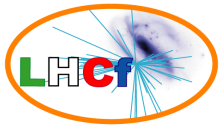
$\eta > 10.94$  PLB703(2011)128



$\eta > 10.94$  PLB780(2018)233



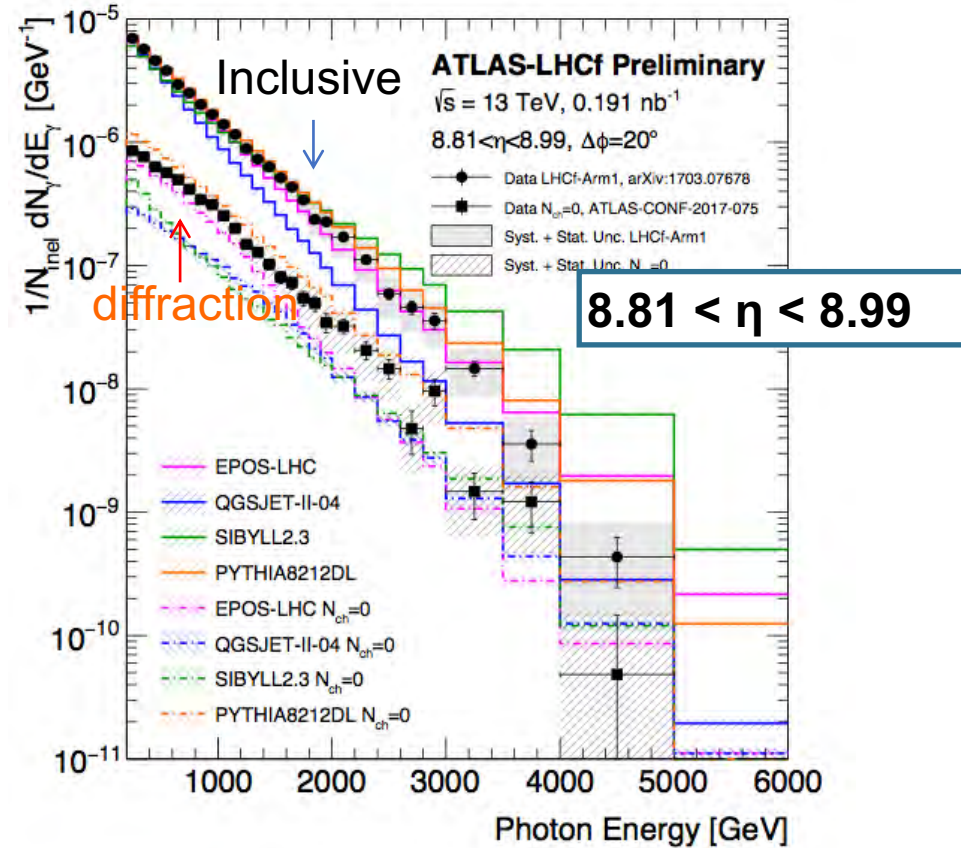
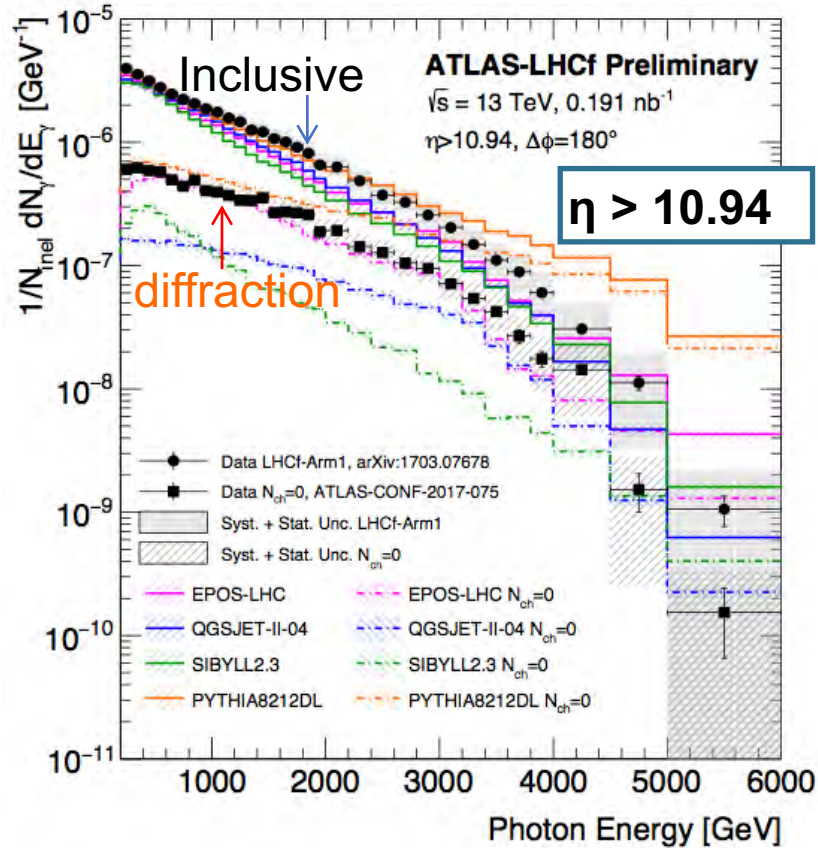
- Basically they look same btw 7 and 13 TeV. XF scaling ?



# Very forward photon from diffraction at 13TeV

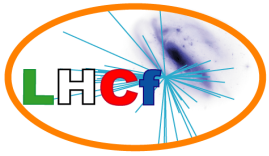
- ATLAS-LHCf common data at 13TeV pp
- Rapidity gap events selected as diffraction

ATLAS-CONF-2017-075



Some of cosmic ray interaction models need large modification ( Both diffraction and non-diffraction)



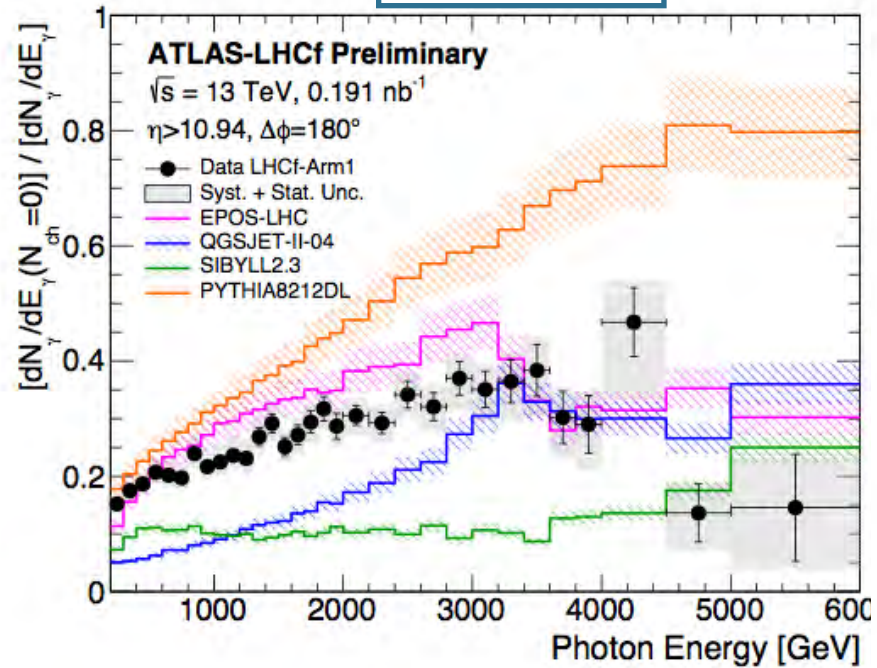


# Very forward photon: diffraction/total

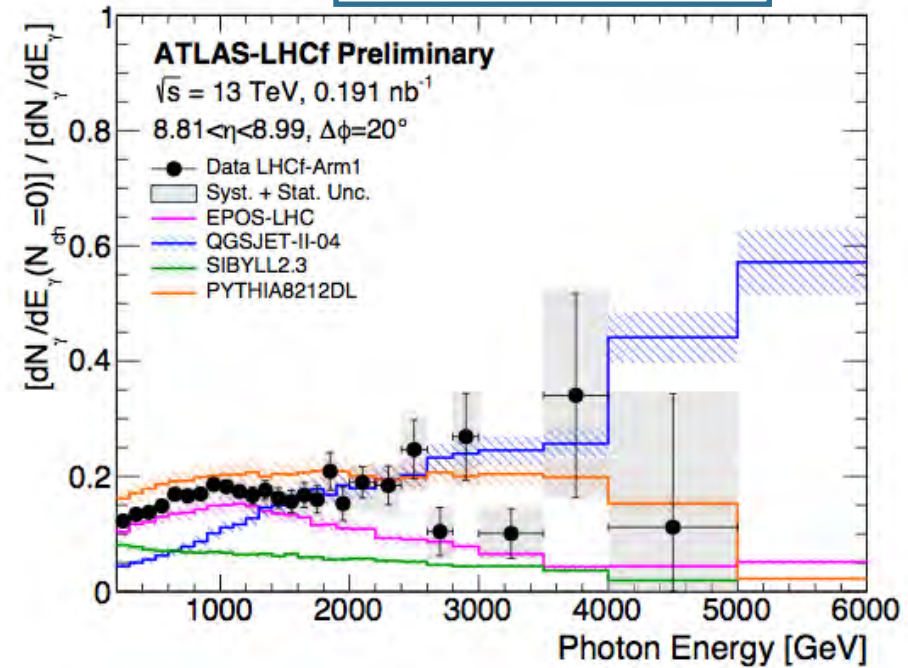
Ratio ( $N_{ch=0}$ /Inclusive)

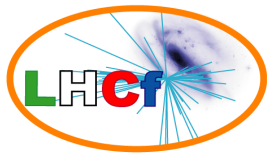
ATLAS-CONF-2017-075

$\eta > 10.94$



$8.81 < \eta < 8.99$





# $\pi^0 P_z (\sim E)$ at 7 TeV pp

