



# SQM 2022

The 20th International Conference on Strangeness in Quark Matter  
13-17 June 2022 Busan, Republic of Korea



## ALICE



LUNDS  
UNIVERSITET

# Light-flavor hadron production

Adrian Nassirpour, for the ALICE Collaboration





# Outline

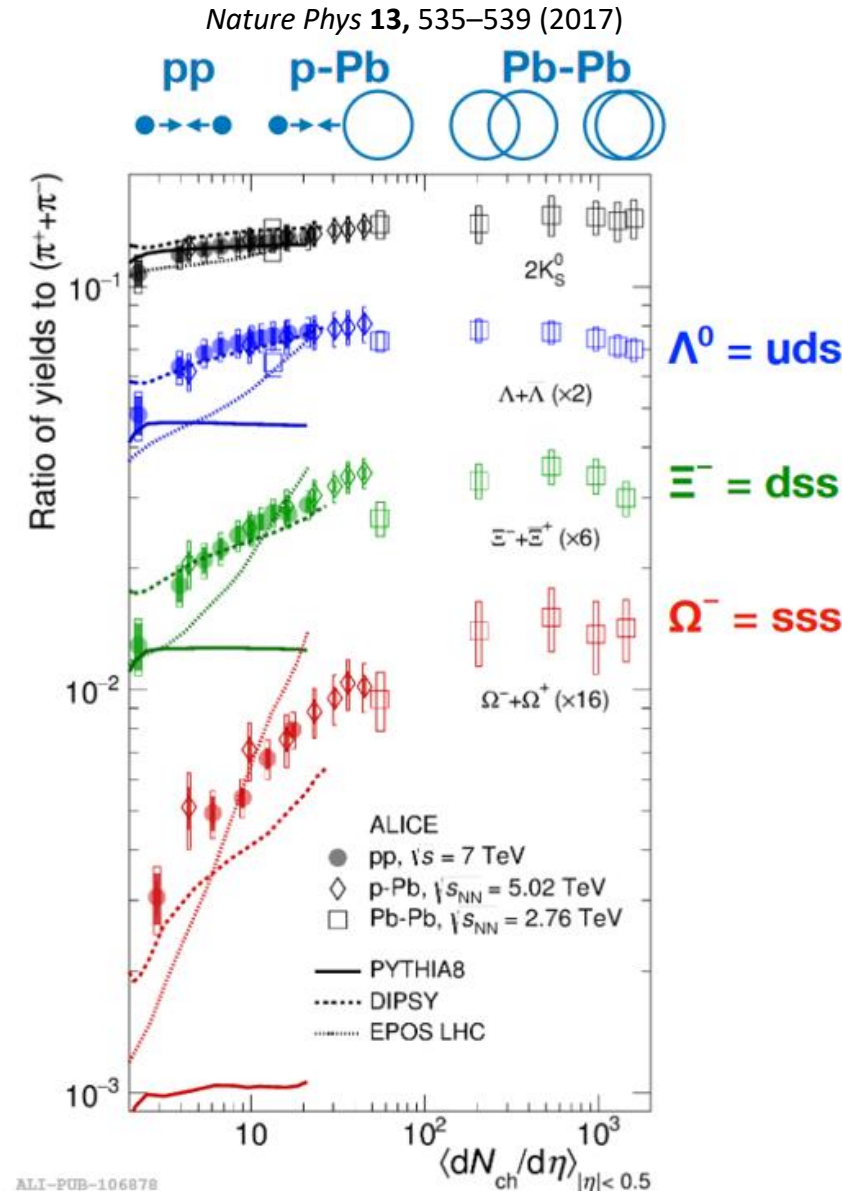
- This presentation will cover:
  - Neutral meson yields as a function of  $p_T$  and multiplicity
  - Light-flavor particle production as a function of Unweighted Transverse Spherocity



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# Light-flavor hadron production as a function of multiplicity

- Light-flavor hadrons: a key tool to study hadronization
- Main focus for this presentation:
  - Light-flavor yield vs. event multiplicity.

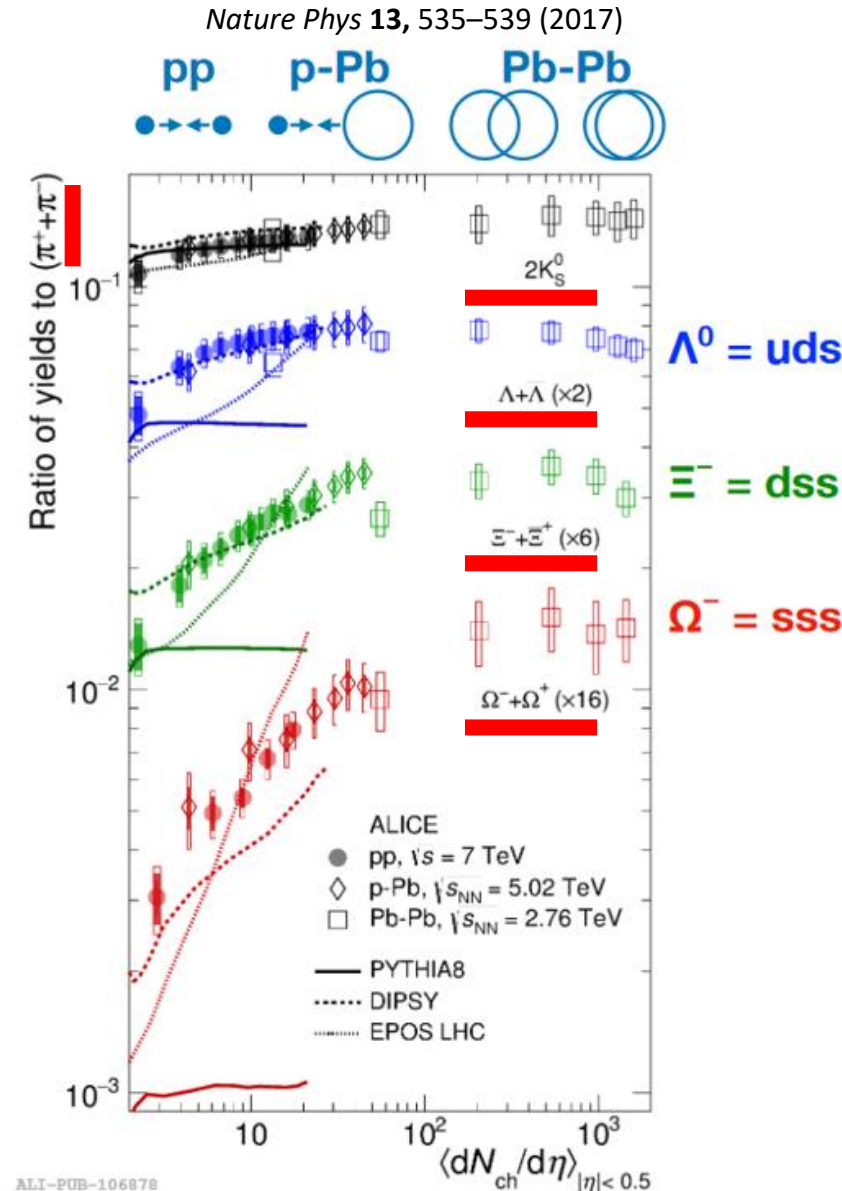




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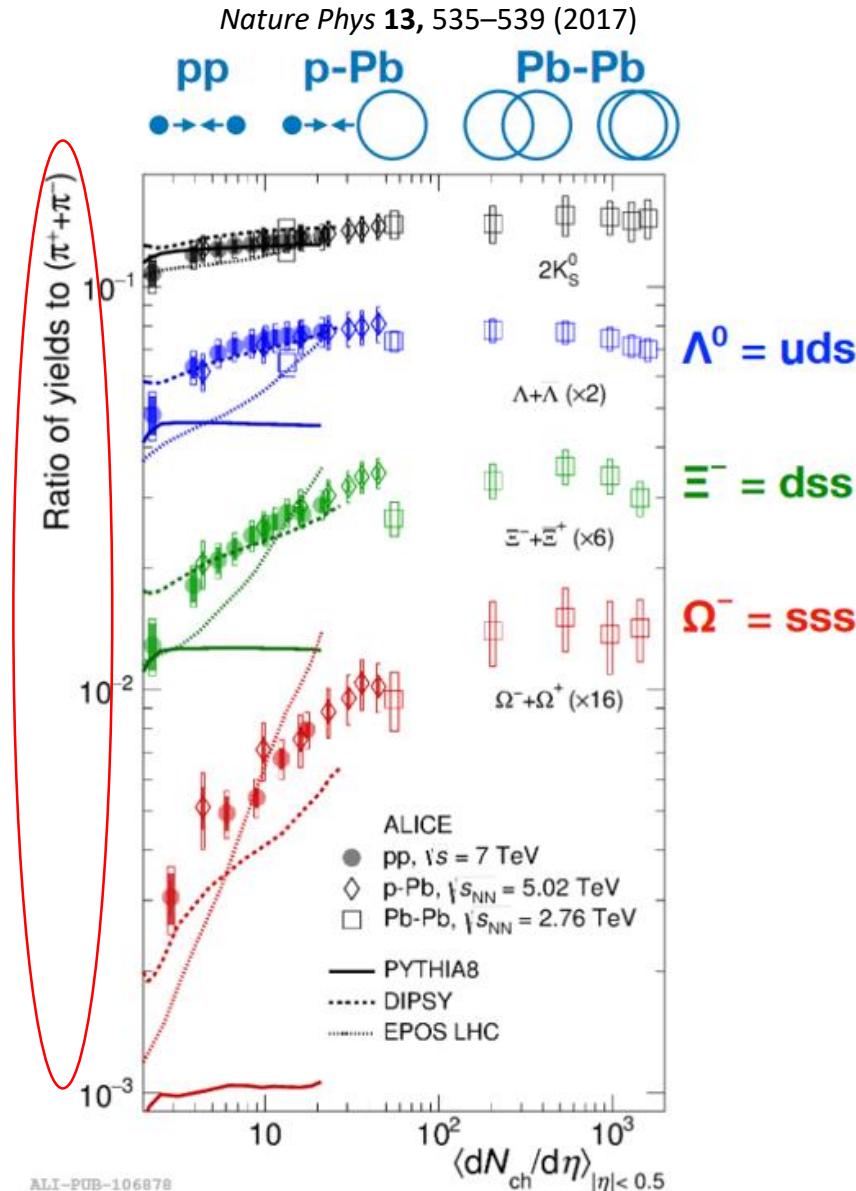




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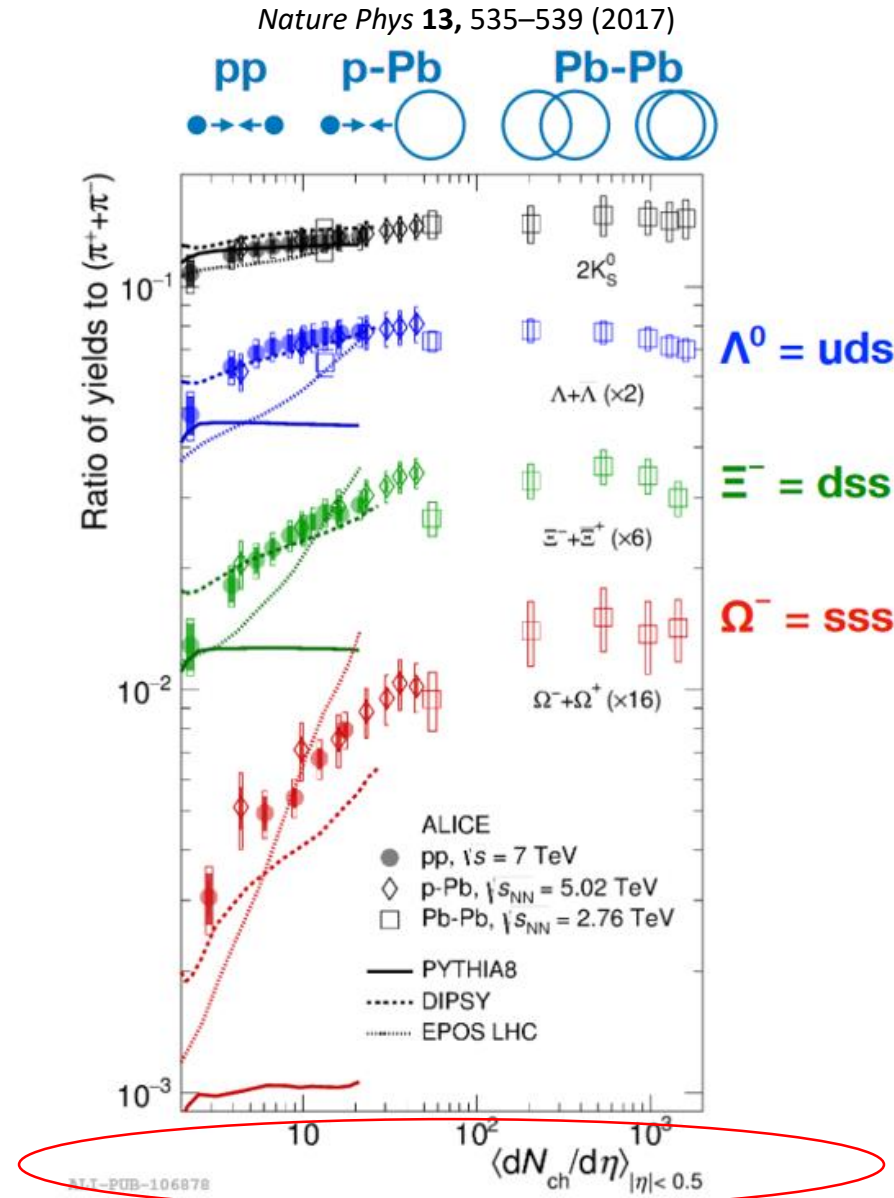




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  - The average charged particle-multiplicity measured at midrapidity.



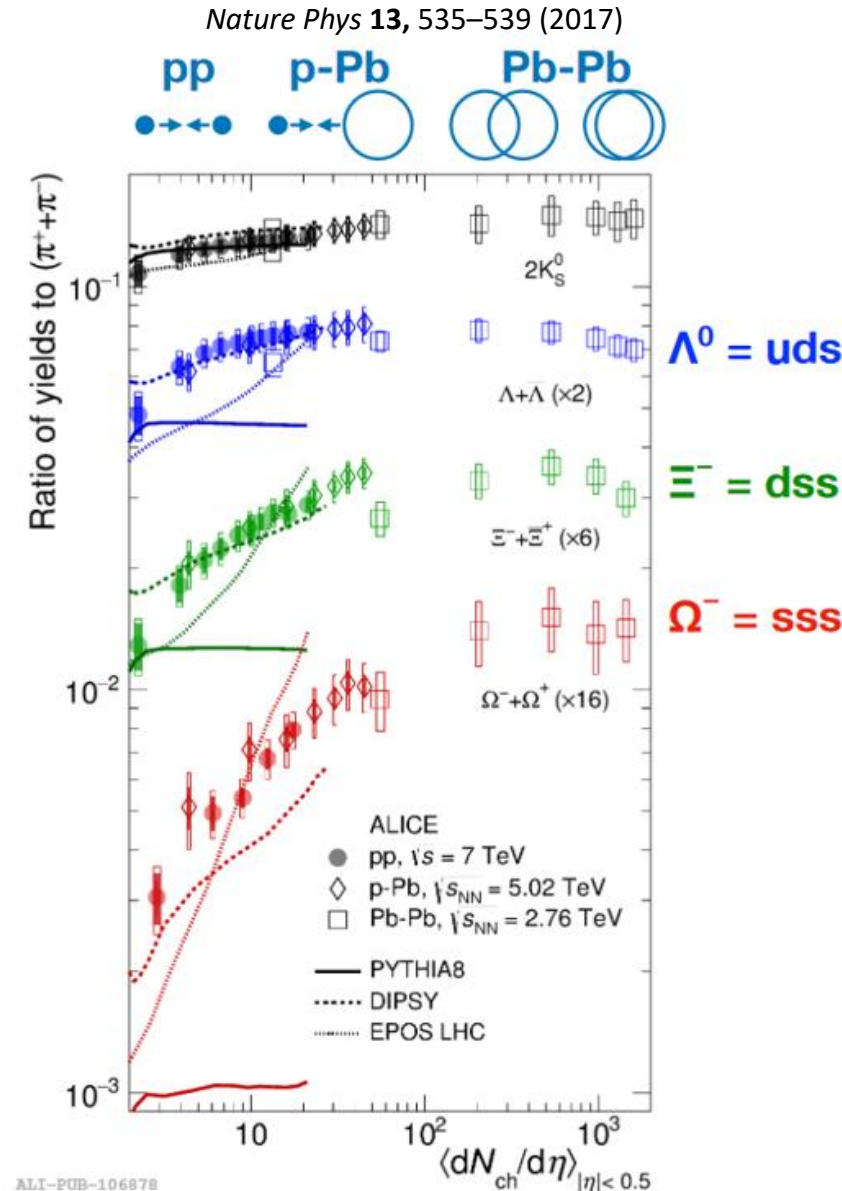




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# Light-flavor hadron production as a function of multiplicity

- Light-flavor hadrons: a key tool to study hadronization
- Main focus for this presentation:
  - Light-flavor yield vs. event multiplicity.
- In A-A systems, strangeness enhancement could be interpreted as a signature of the formation of a quark–gluon plasma (QGP).
  - Unresolved if this also applies to pp collisions.

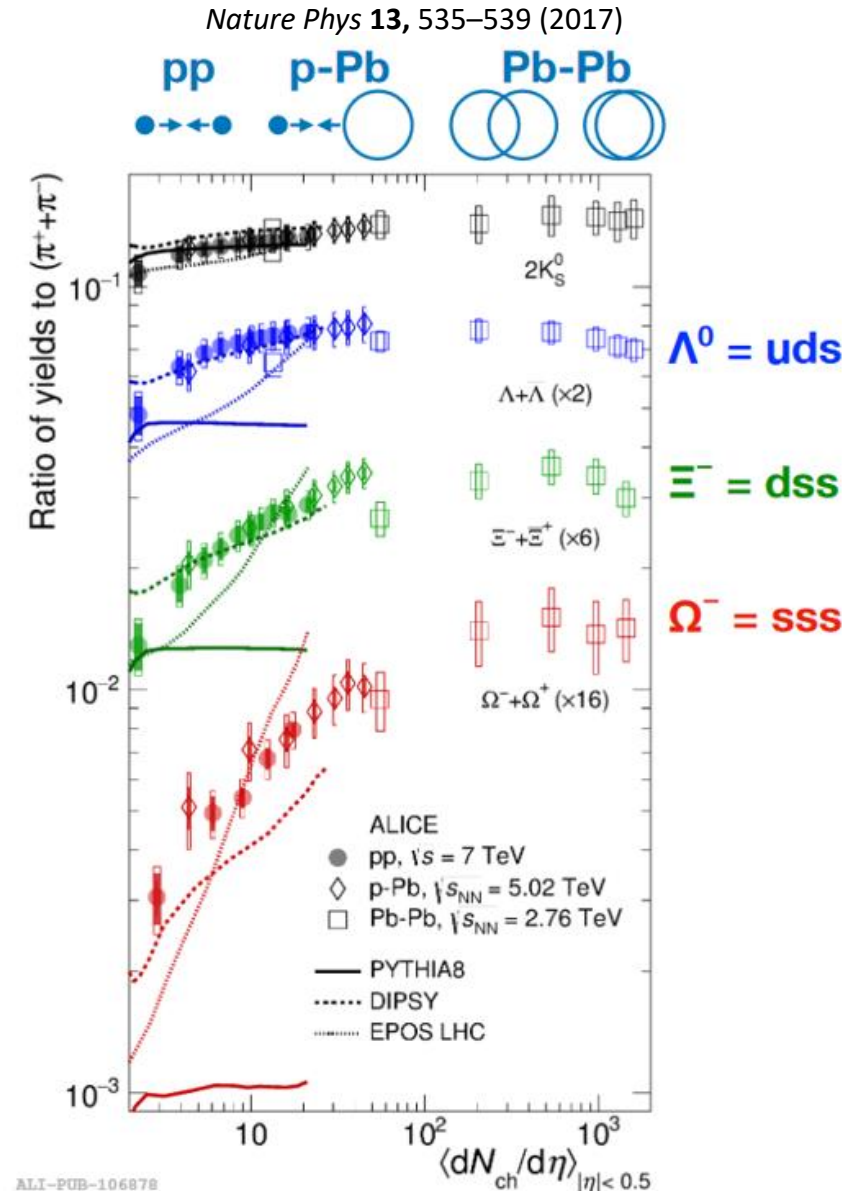




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# Light-flavor hadron production as a function of multiplicity

- In this context, how can we improve our understanding of light-flavor hadron production?



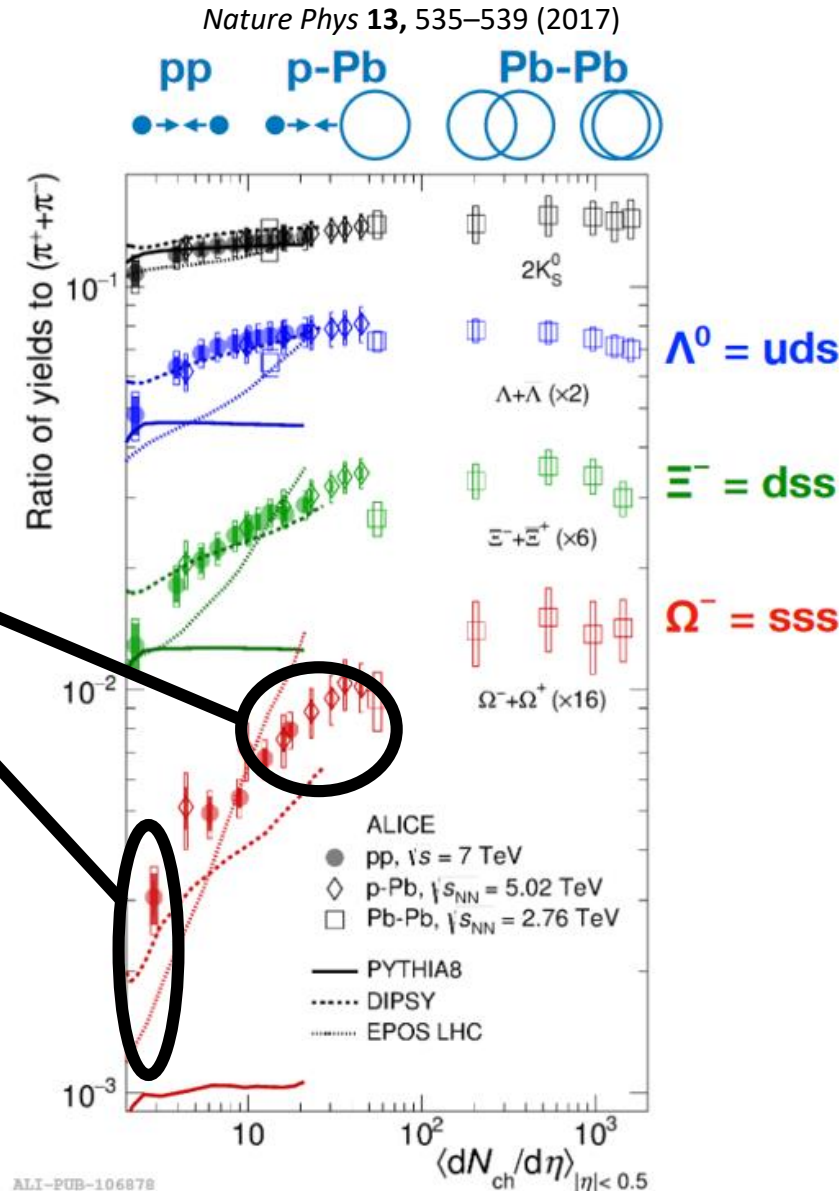




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- Can these events be characterized by other properties than  $\langle dN/d\eta \rangle$  production?

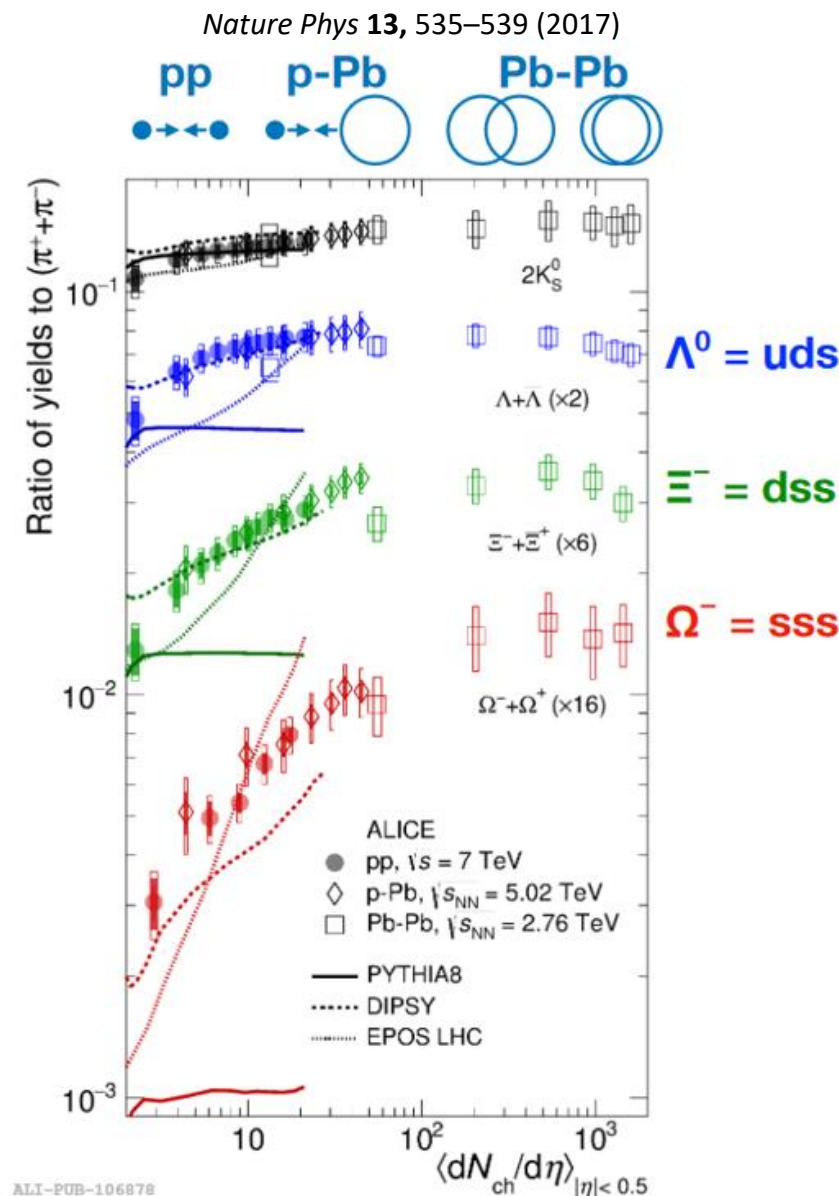




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# Light-flavor hadron production as a function of multiplicity

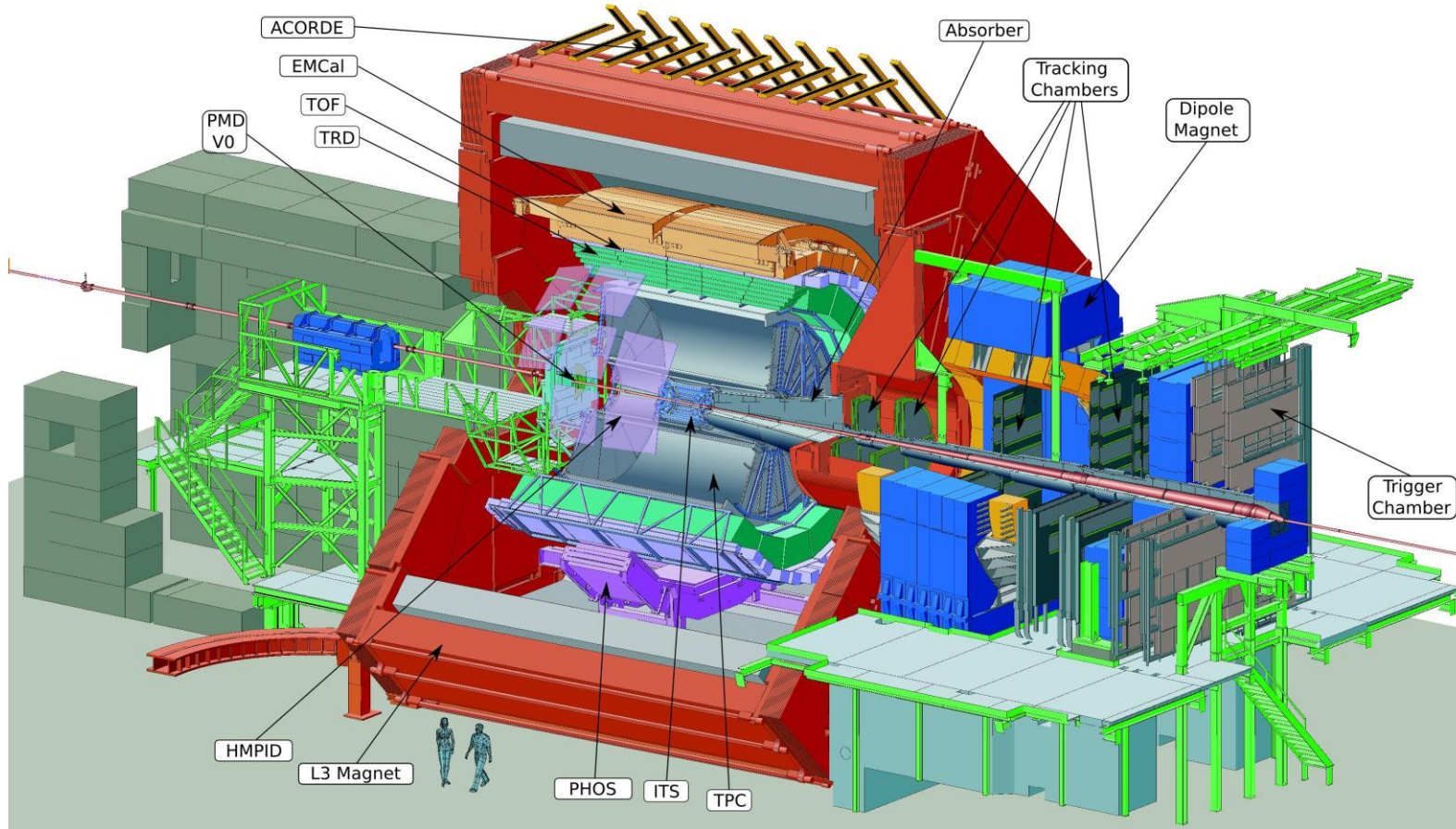
- In this context, how can we improve our understanding of light-flavor hadron production?
- Can these events be characterized by other properties than  $\langle dN/d\eta \rangle$  production?
- Do ALL light-flavor particles follow the same trend?





# ALICE apparatus

- A large range of subdetectors are utilized in the different measurements presented here:



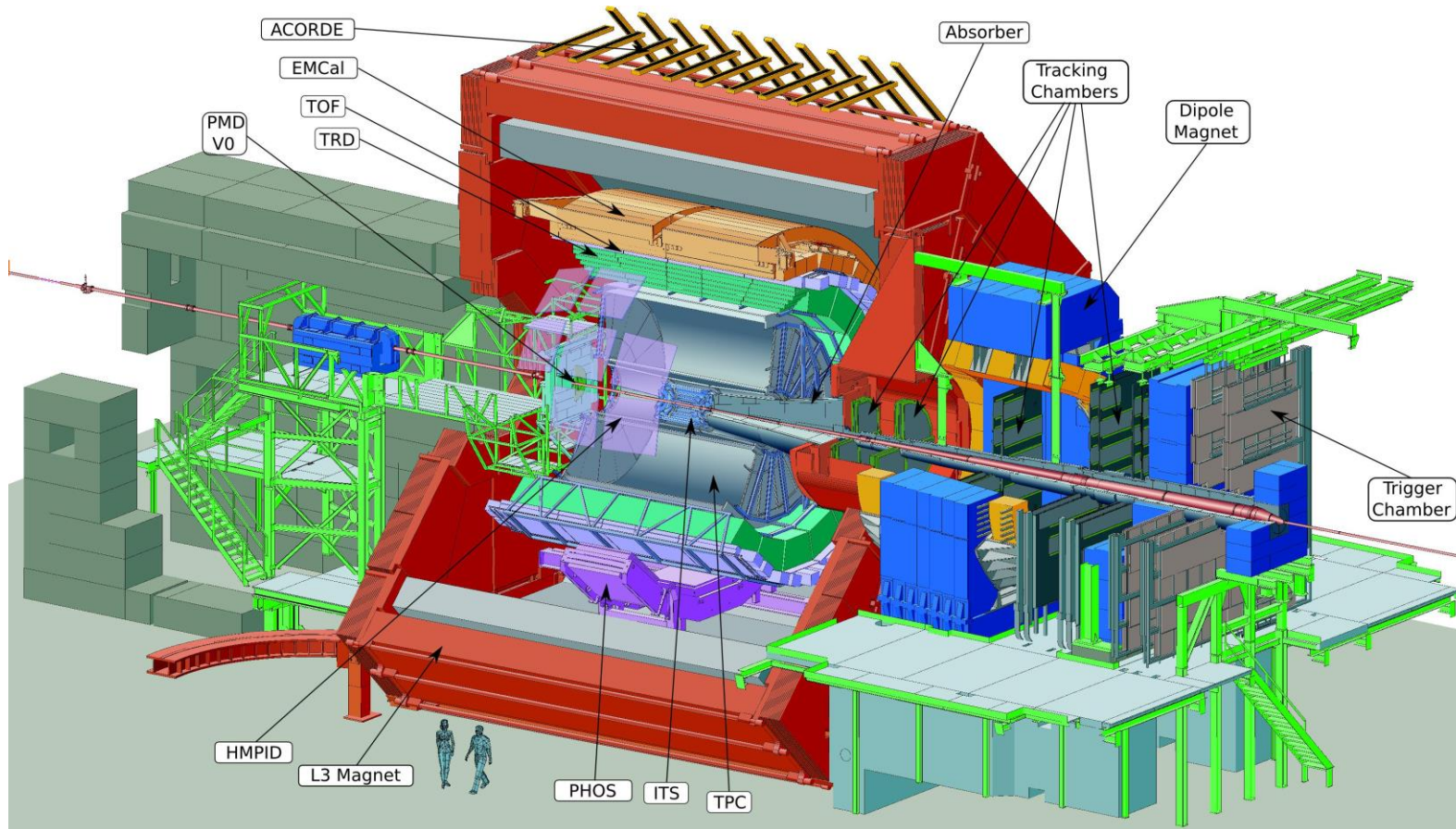
- TPC
  - Track reconstruction + PID
- ITS
  - Track reconstruction + midrapidity multiplicity
- TOF
  - PID





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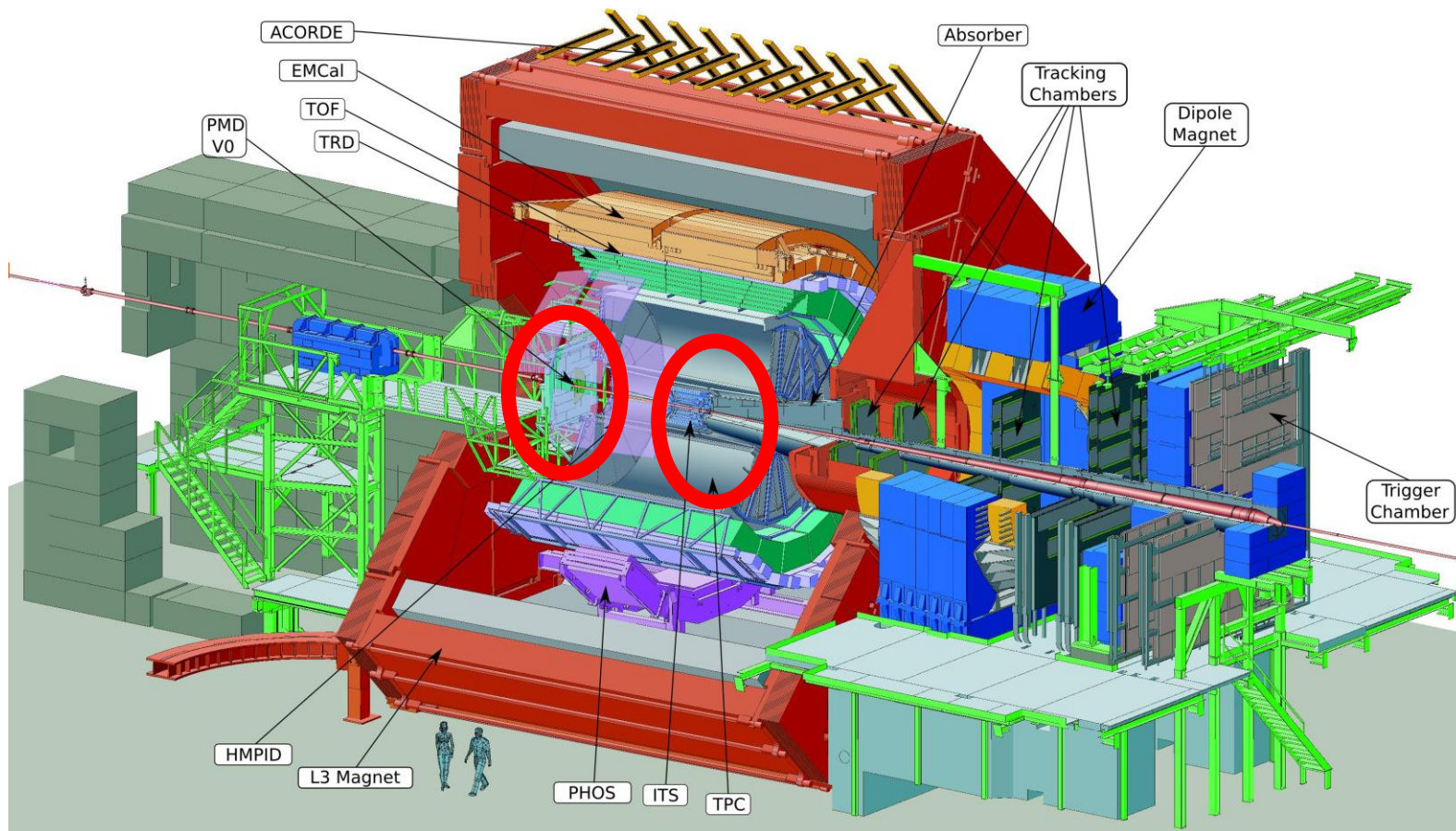


- TPC
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- PHOS
  - Neutral meson yield
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  - Neutral meson yield



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- TPC
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- EMCal
  - Neutral meson yield
- V0A/V0C
  - Triggering + forward-rapidity multiplicity.



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# Outline

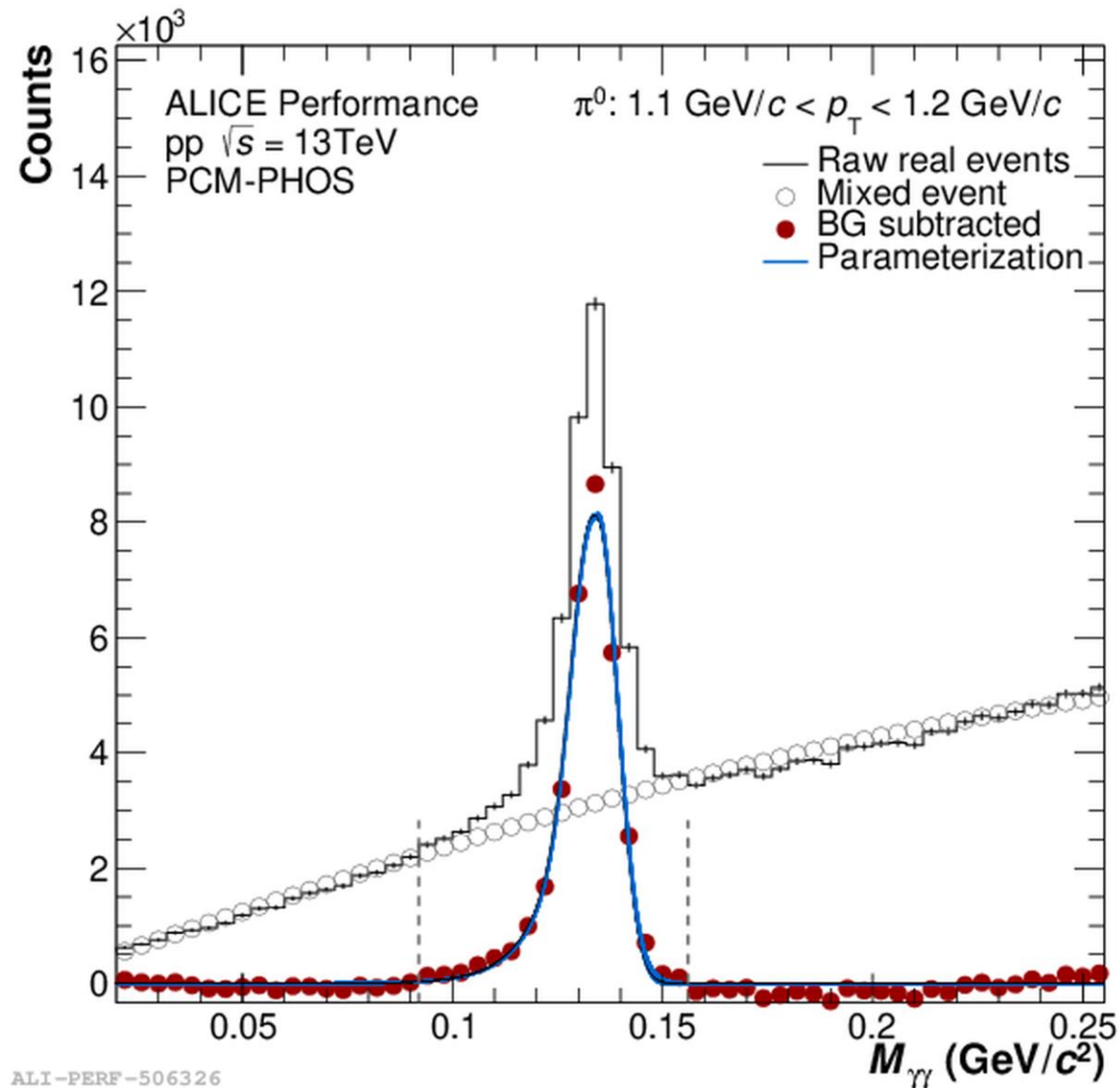
- This presentation will cover:
  - Neutral meson yields as a function of multiplicity
  - Light-flavor particle production as a function of Unweighted Transverse Spherocity





# Neutral meson production: analysis details

- The  $\eta$  and  $\pi^0$  mesons are reconstructed by calculating invariant masses of photon pairs.



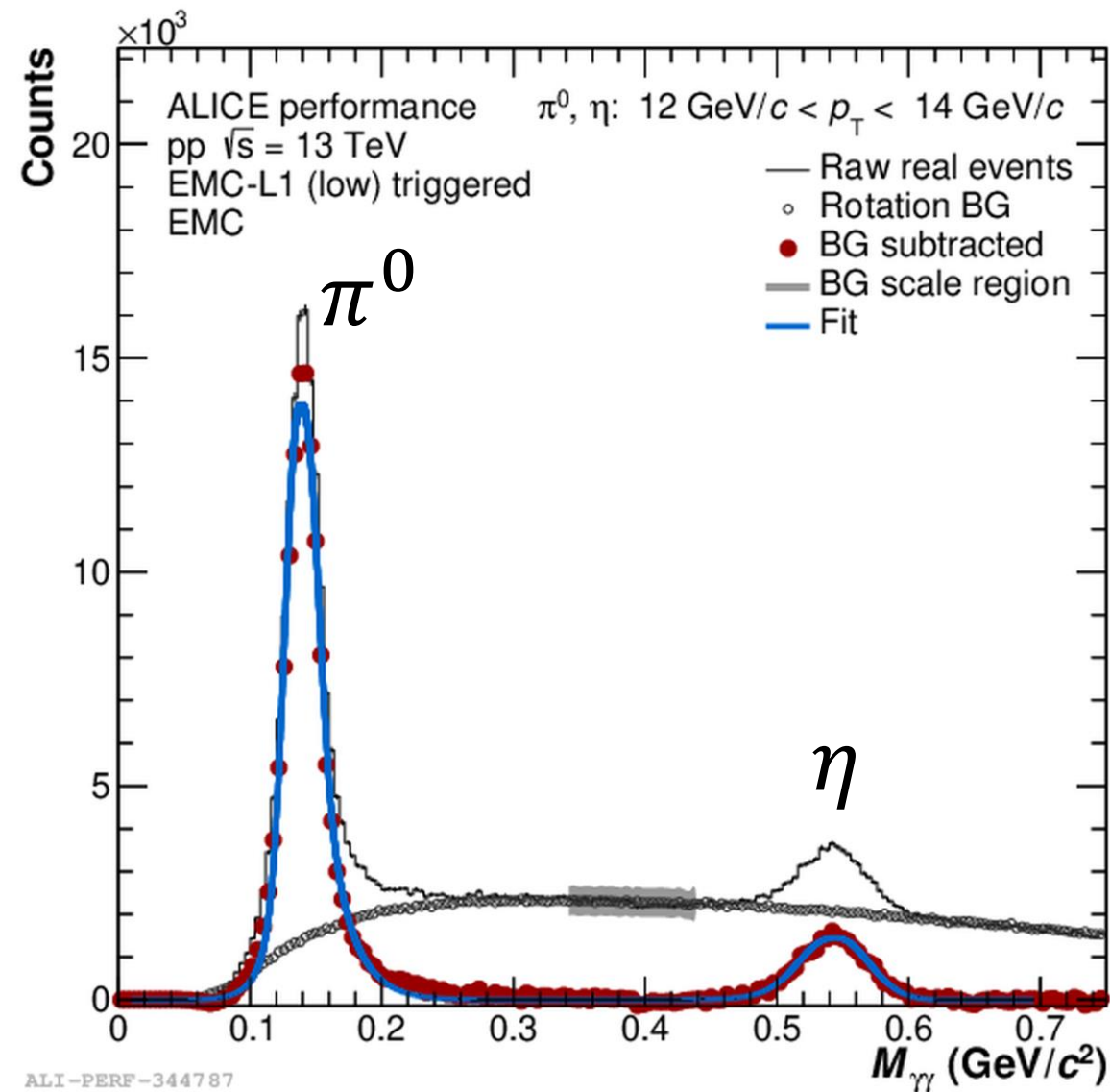
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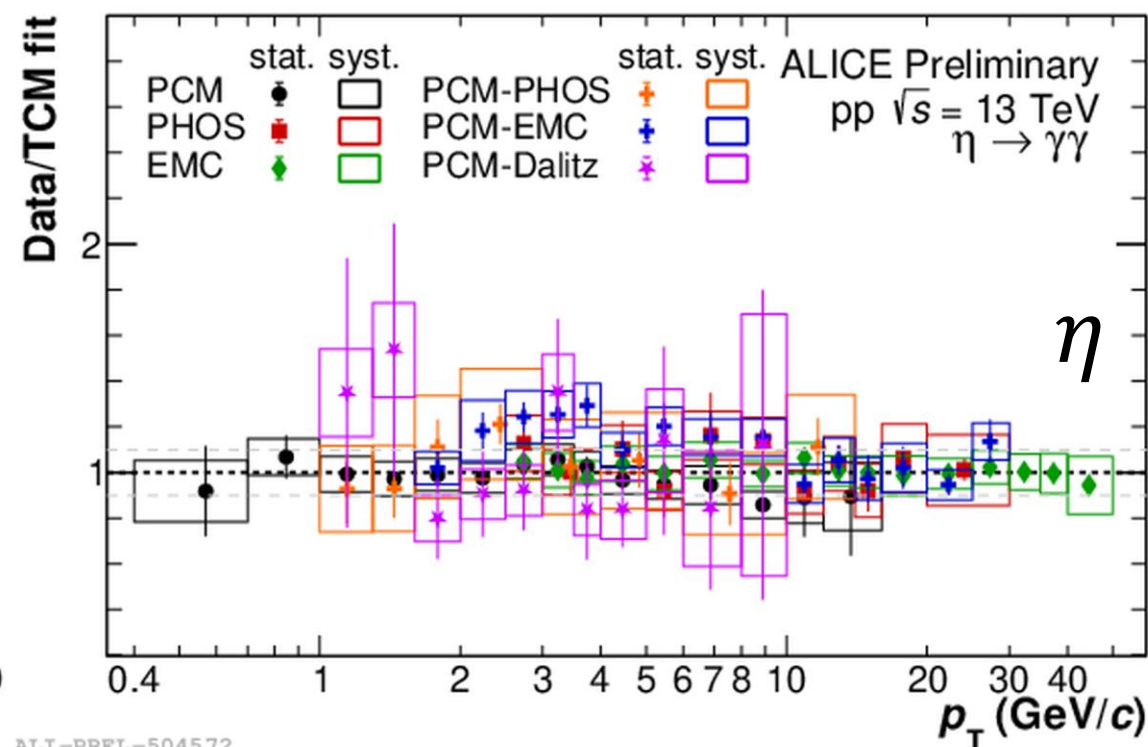
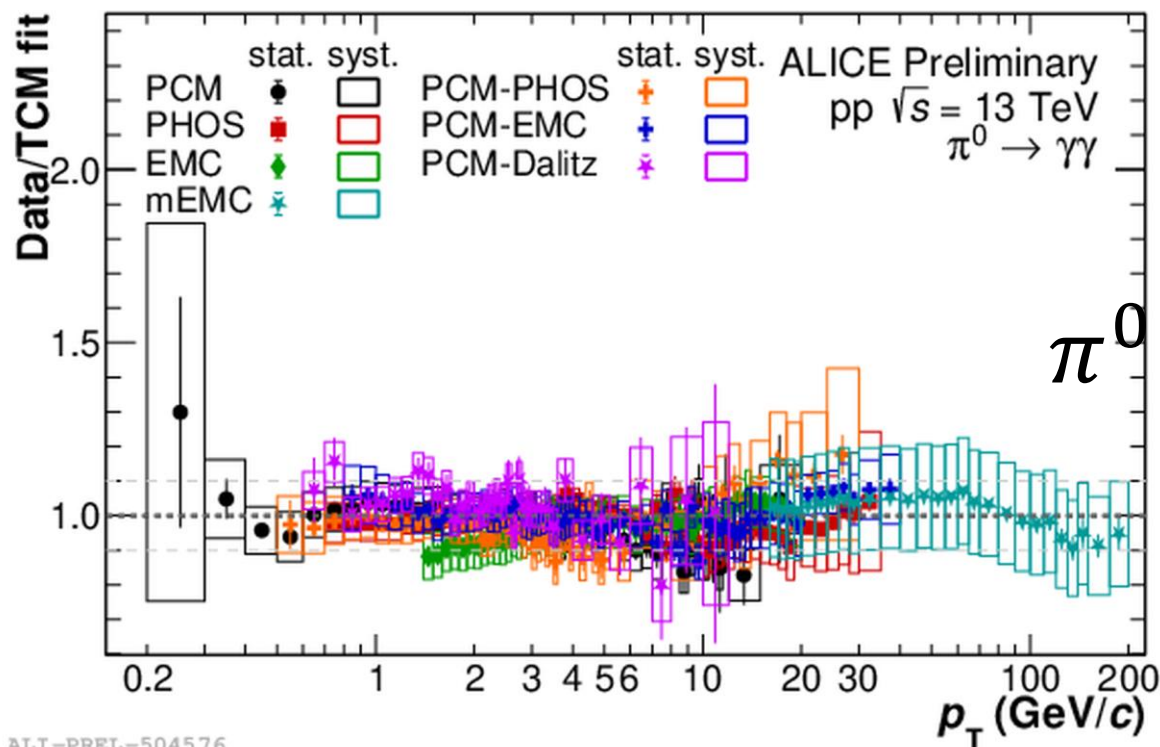




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# Neutral meson production: analysis details

- The  $\eta$  and  $\pi^0$  mesons are reconstructed by calculating invariant masses of photon pairs.
  - Final yield is extracted by combining subdetectors.



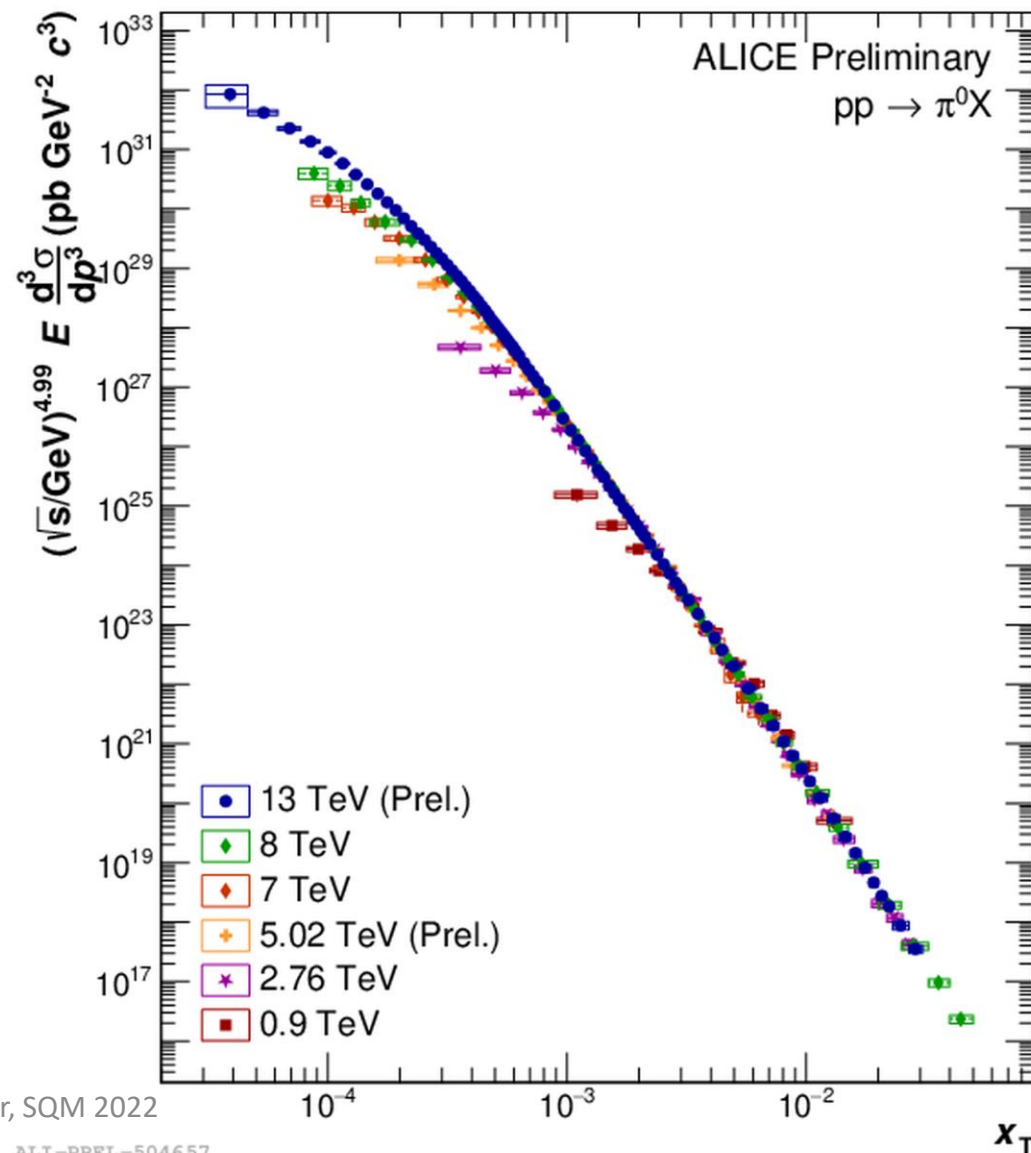


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# Neutral meson production: Results

- Indications of universal scaling as a function of collision energy.

- $$\chi_T = \frac{2p_T}{\sqrt{s}}$$







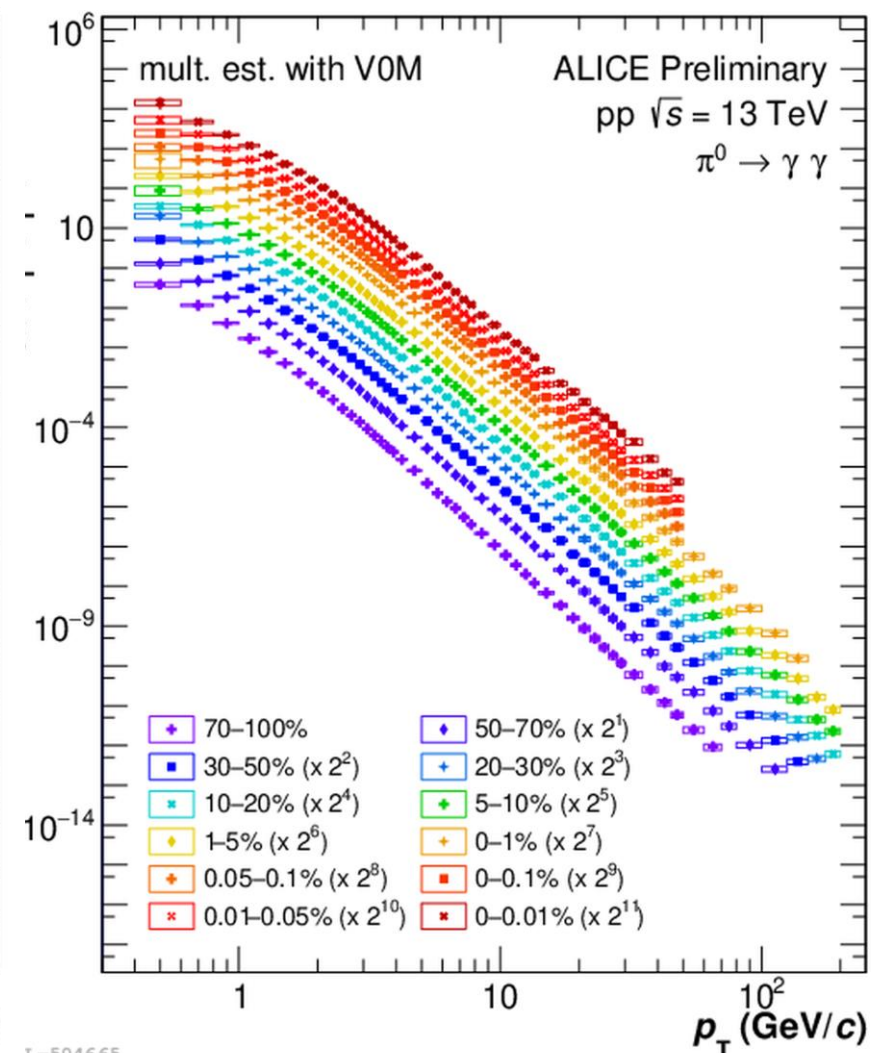
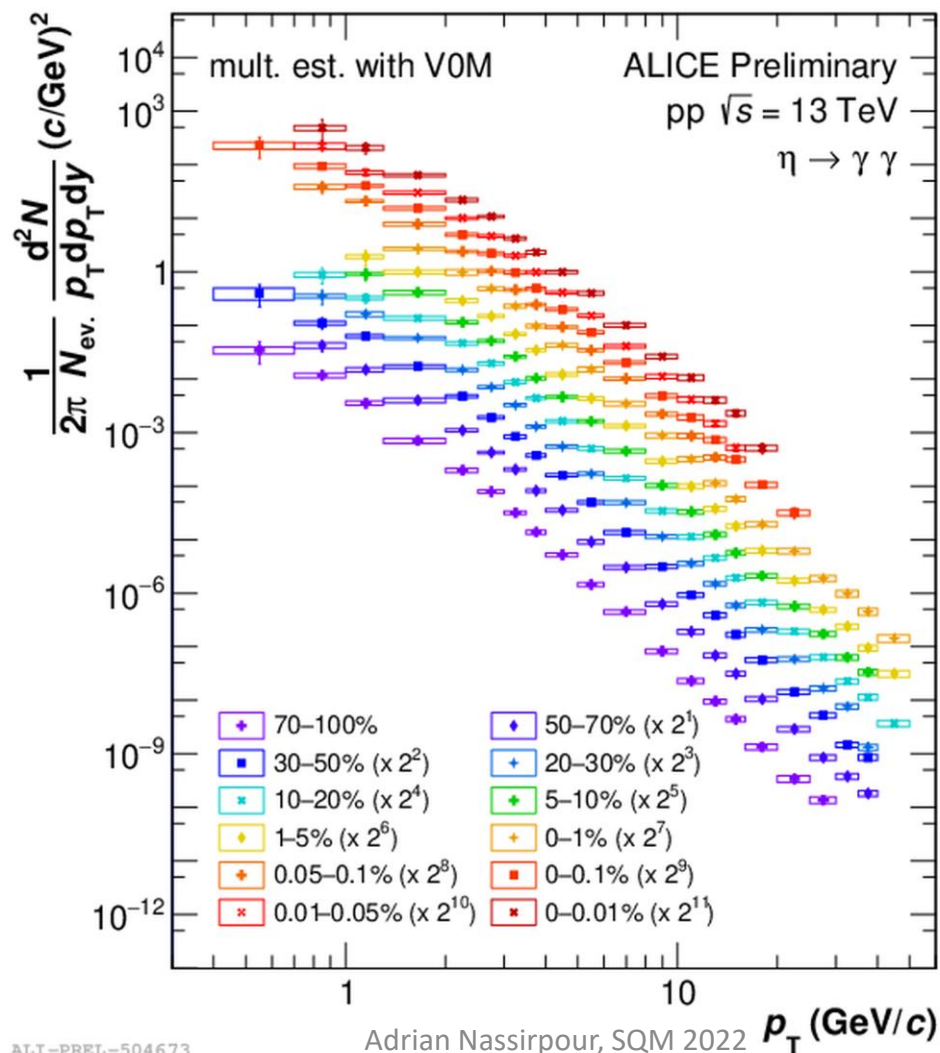
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# Neutral meson production: results

- Indications of universal scaling as a function of collision energy.

$$\bullet \chi_T = \frac{2p_T}{\sqrt{s}}$$

- Measurements of  $\eta$  and  $\pi^0$  as a function of forward multiplicity

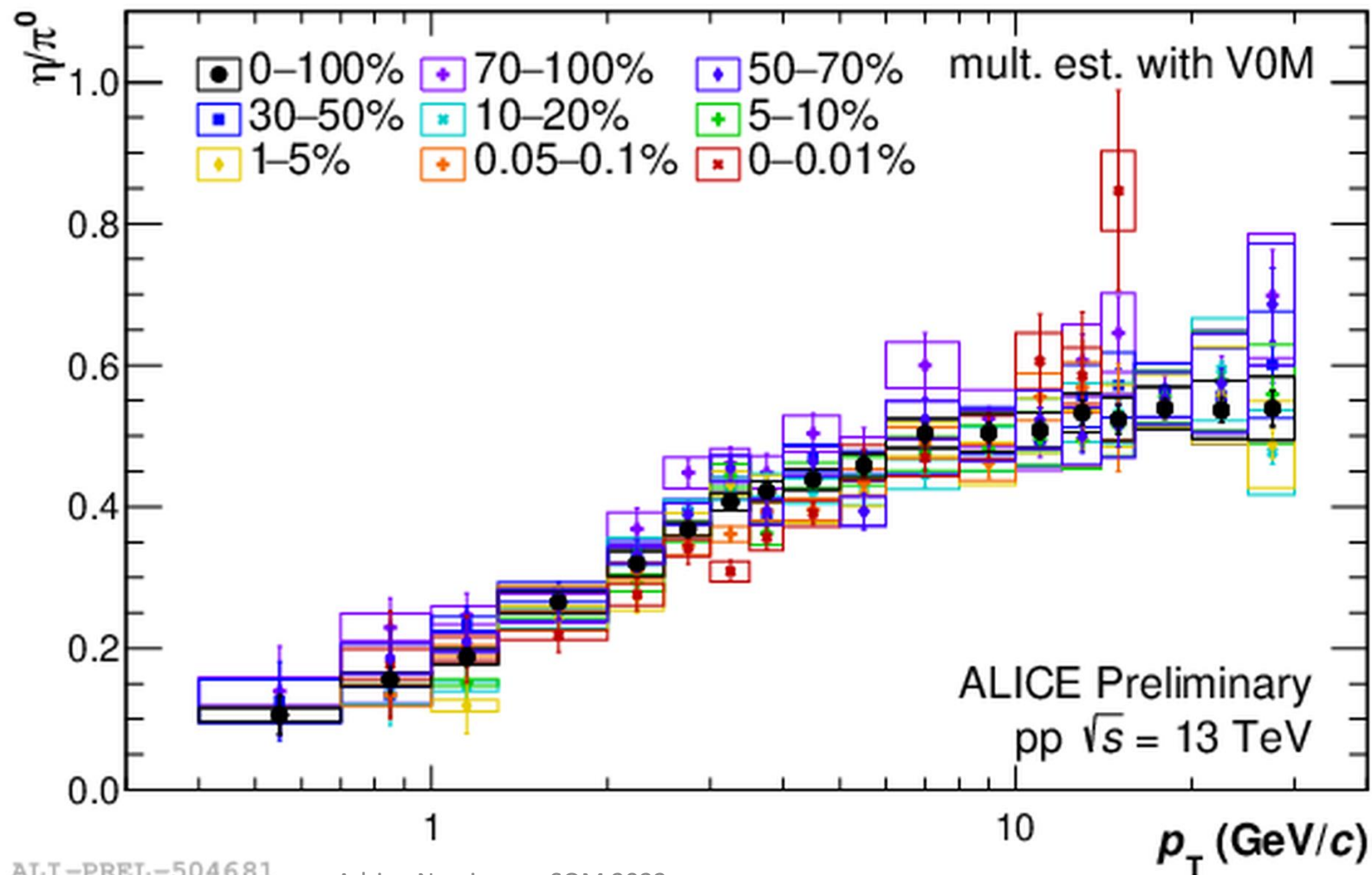




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# Neutral meson production: results

- New results suggests that  $\eta/\pi^0$  is independent of multiplicity as a function of  $p_T$ .



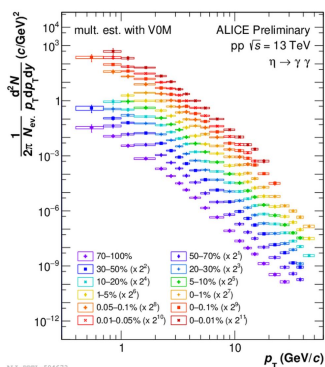
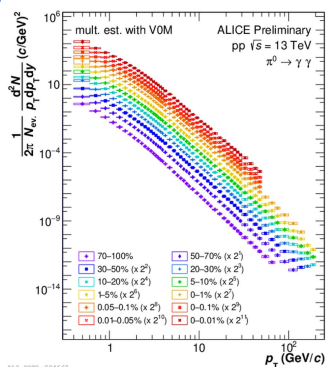
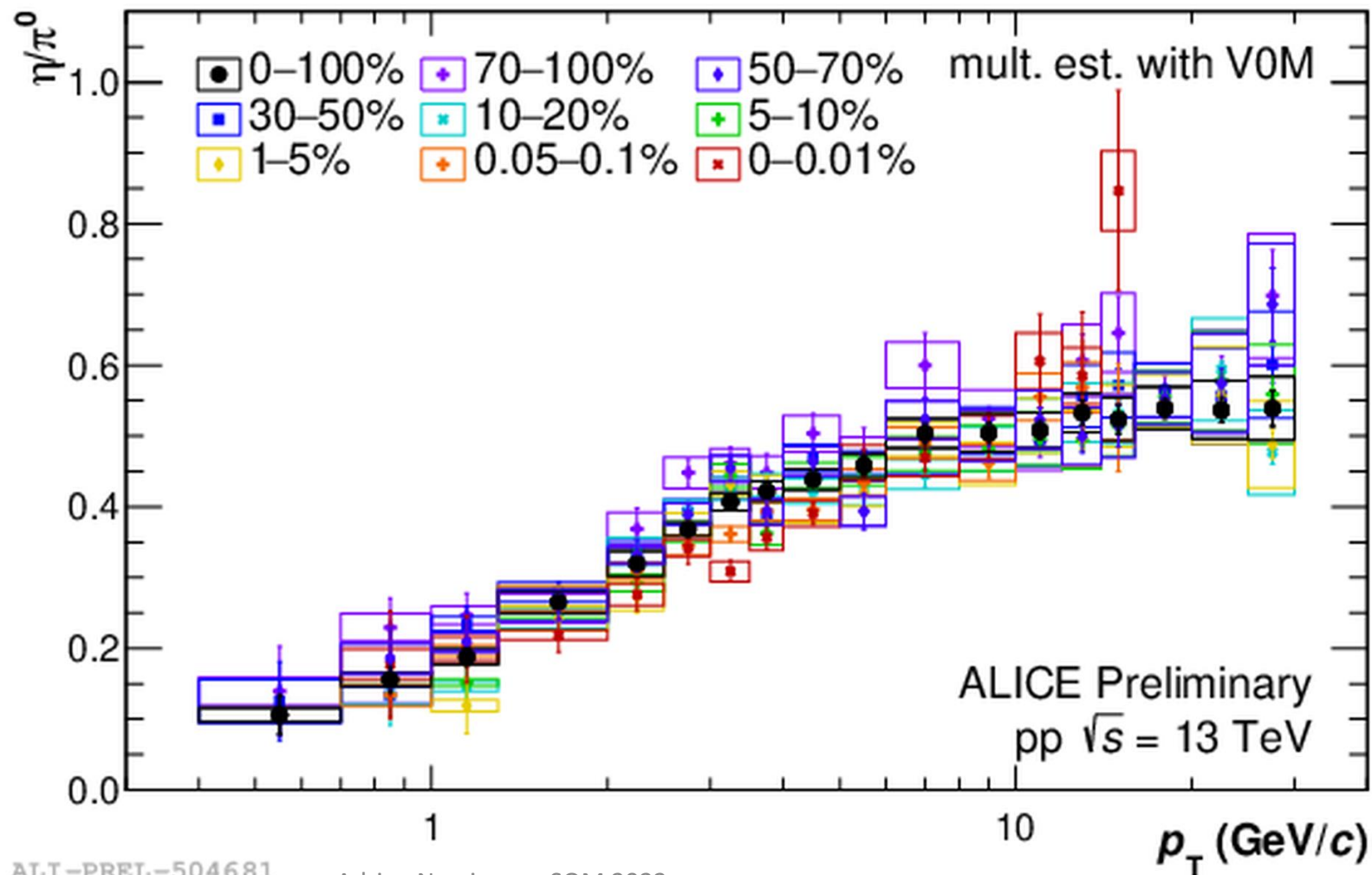




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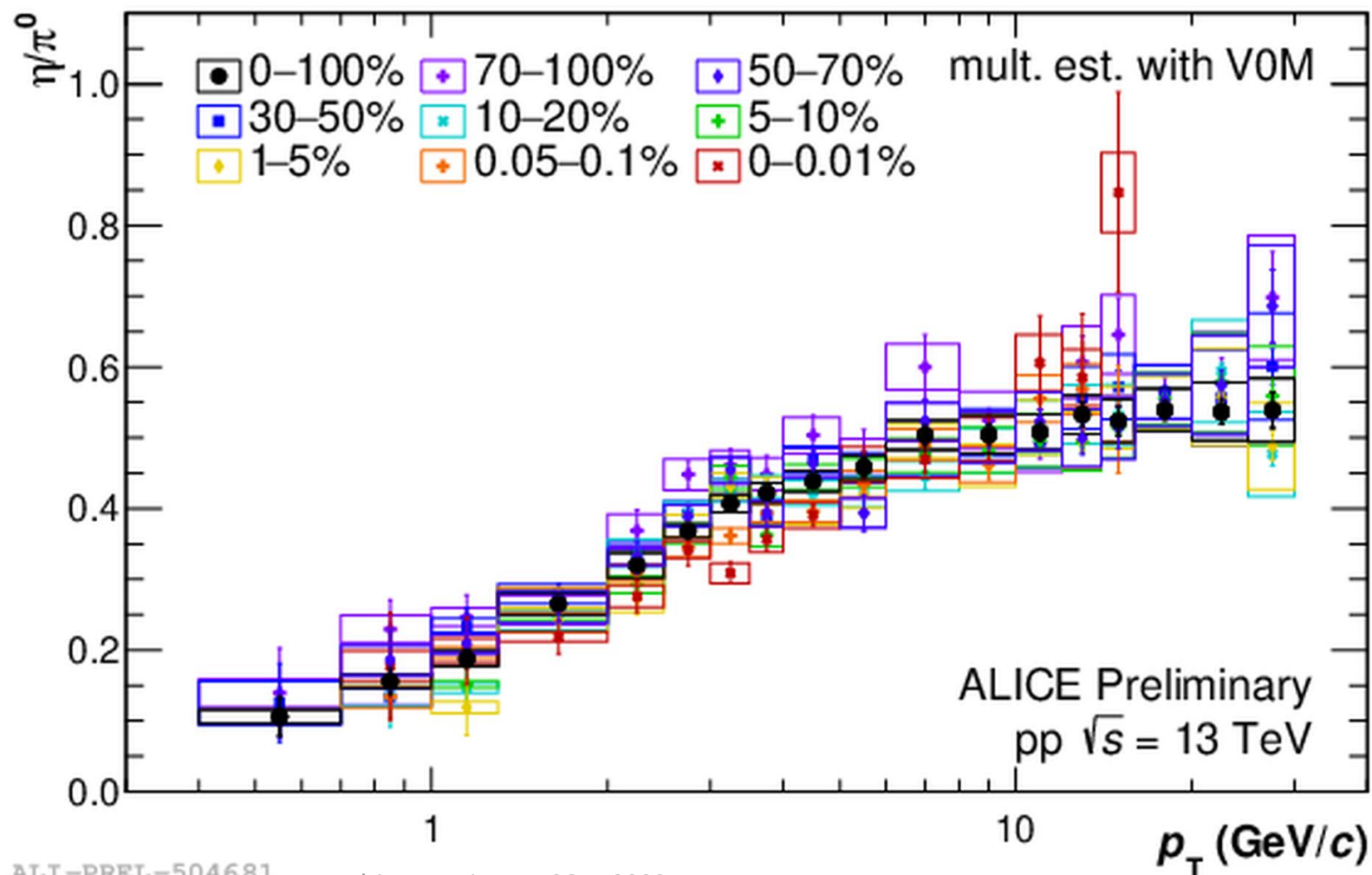
 $\eta$  $\pi^0$ 



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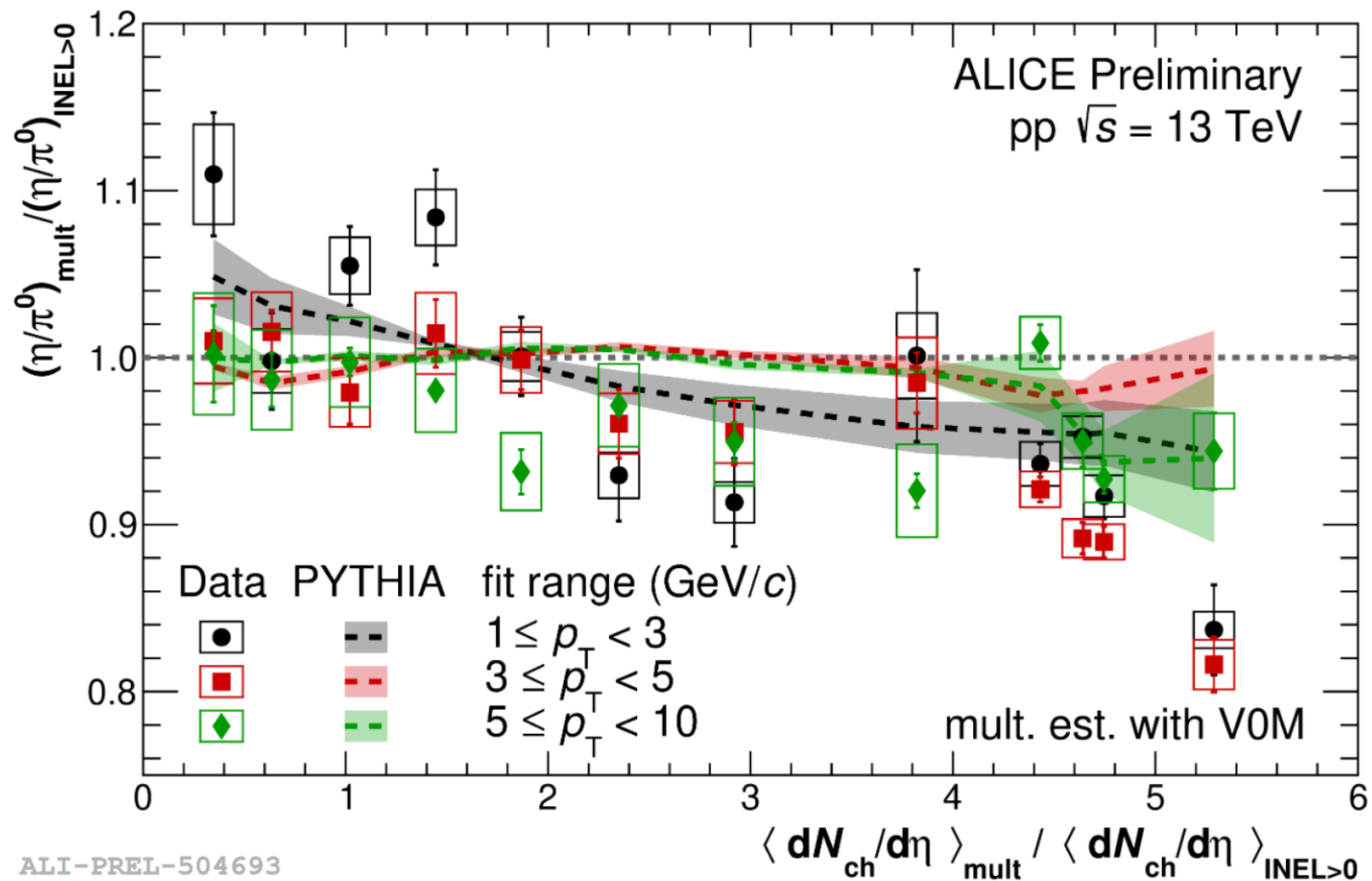
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# Neutral meson production: results

- New results suggests that  $\eta/\pi^0$  is independent of multiplicity as a function of  $p_T$ .
  - $p_T$ -differential  $\eta$  production is not modified even in extremely large pp multiplicities.
- $p_T$  integrated double-ratio presents a suppression of  $\eta$  with increasing multiplicity



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# Outline

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  - Neutral meson yields as a function of multiplicity
  - Light-flavor particle production as a function of Unweighted Transverse Spherocity



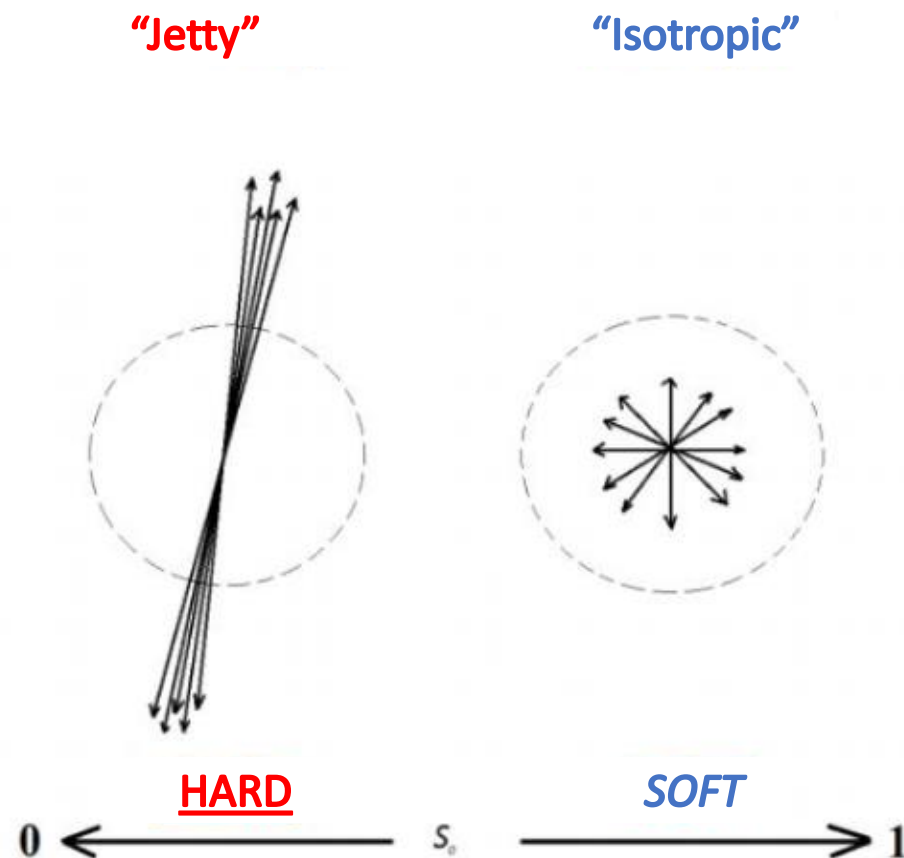
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# Strangeness enhancement in different topologies:

## Transverse Spherocity $S_0^{p_T=1}$

- Categorize event into two types:
  - **Jetty:** Back-to-Back "jet-like" events
    - Particle production mainly driven by hard processes
  - **Isotropic:** Azimuthally isotropic events.
    - Particle production driven by multiple softer collisions.

$$S_0^{p_T=1} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \min_{\hat{n}} \left( \sum_i \frac{|\widehat{p}_{T,i} \times \hat{n}|}{N_{\text{trk}}} \right)$$





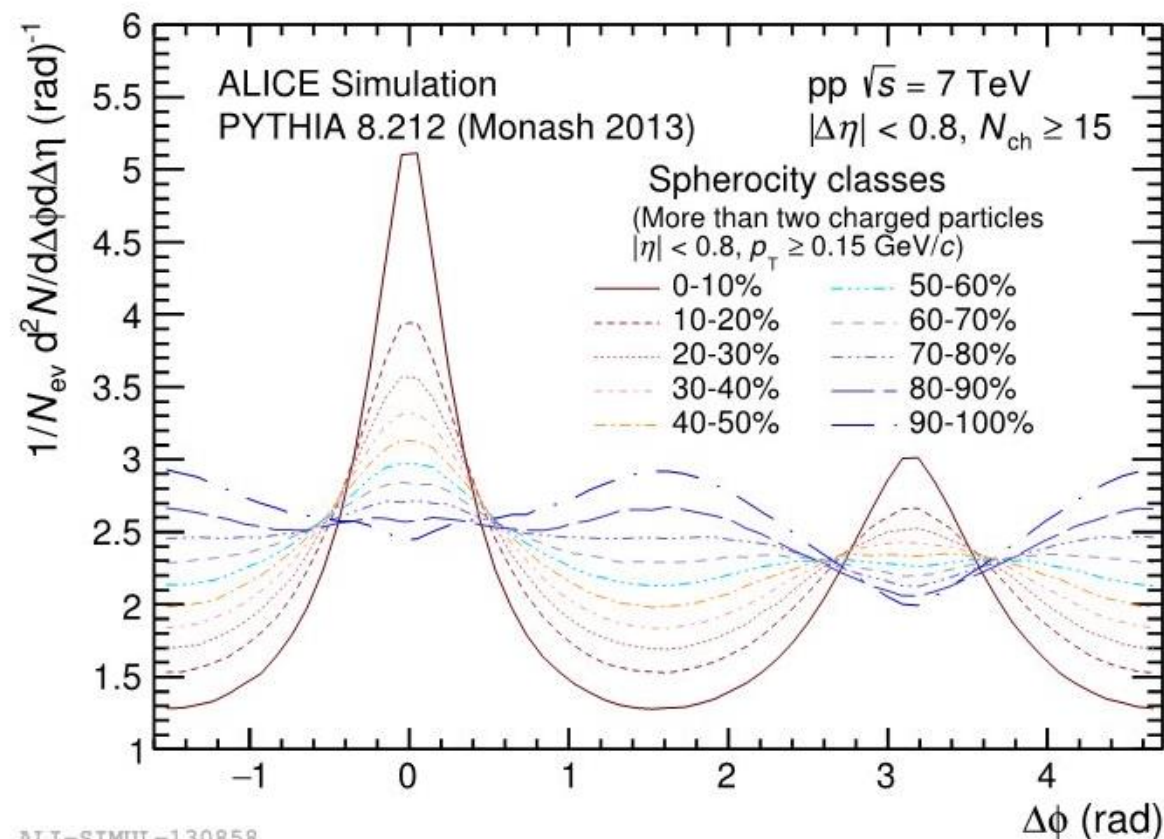
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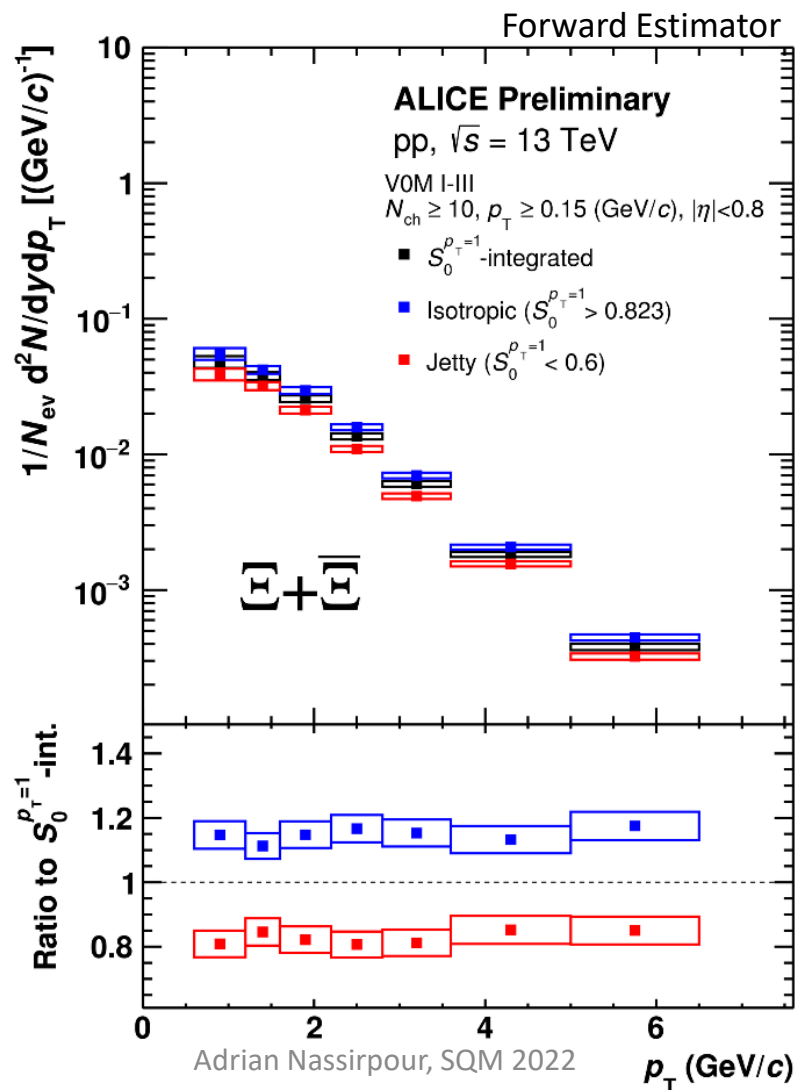


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# Multiplicity triggers for $S_0^{p_T=1}$ analysis

Multiplicity (0-10%) for spectra is measured in two rapidity regions

- Forward rapidity:  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$ ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$



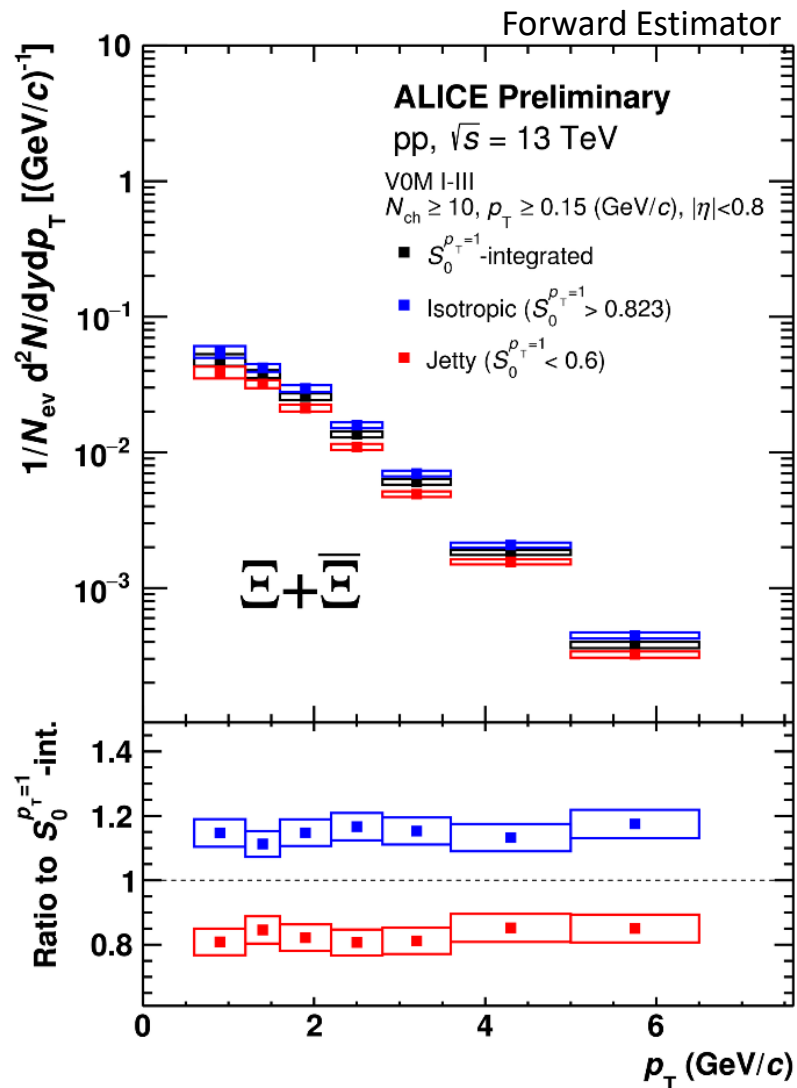
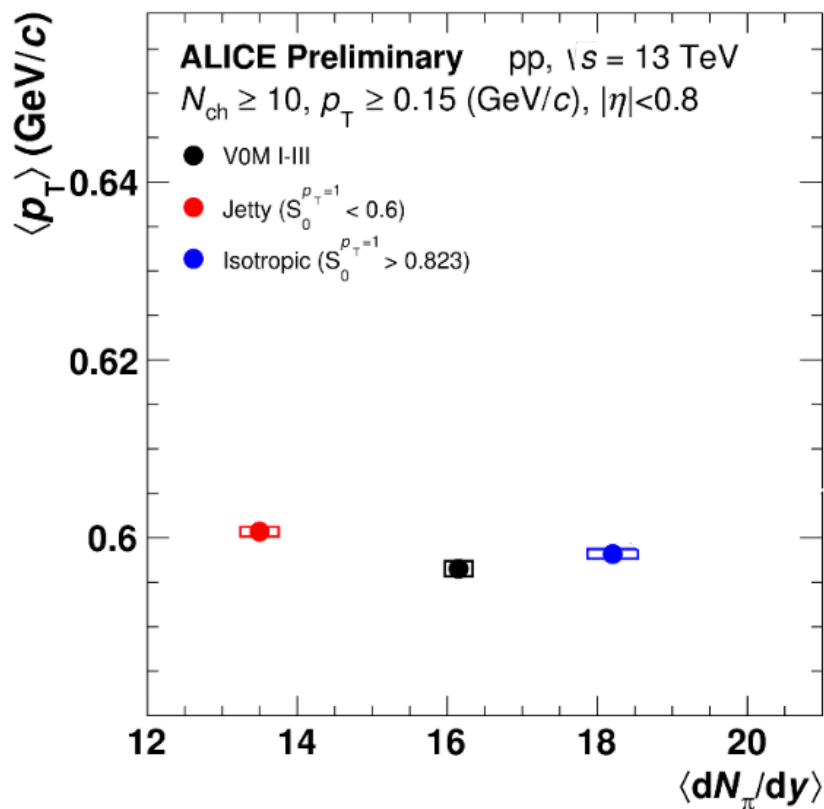


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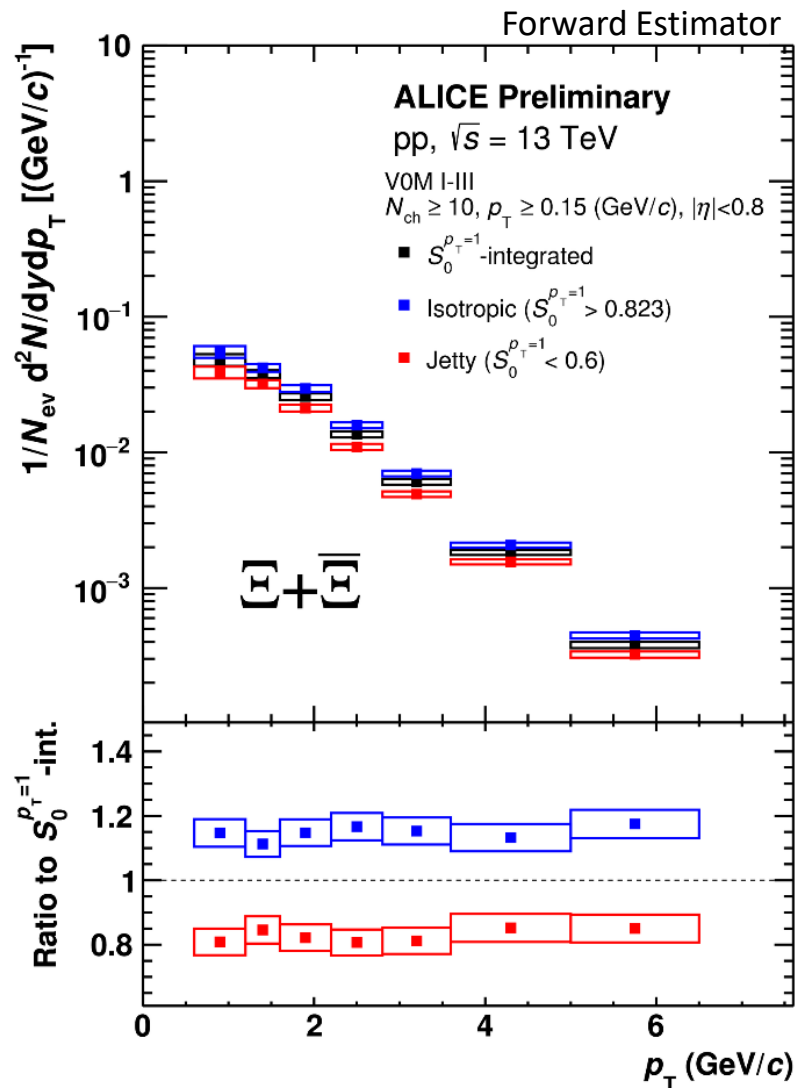
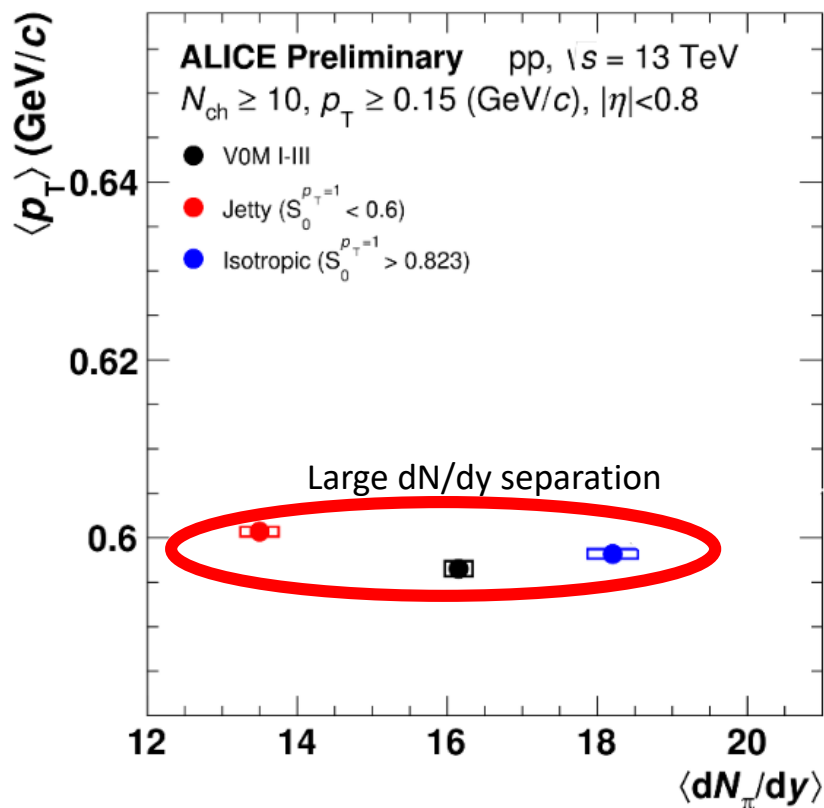


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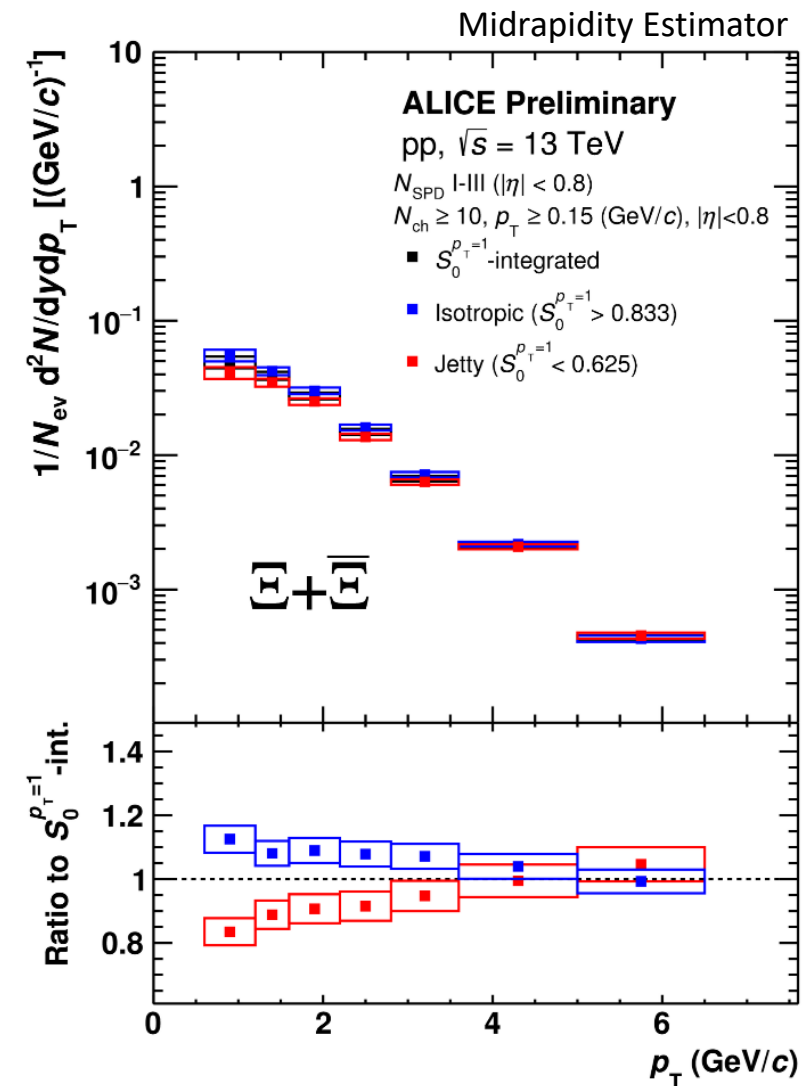
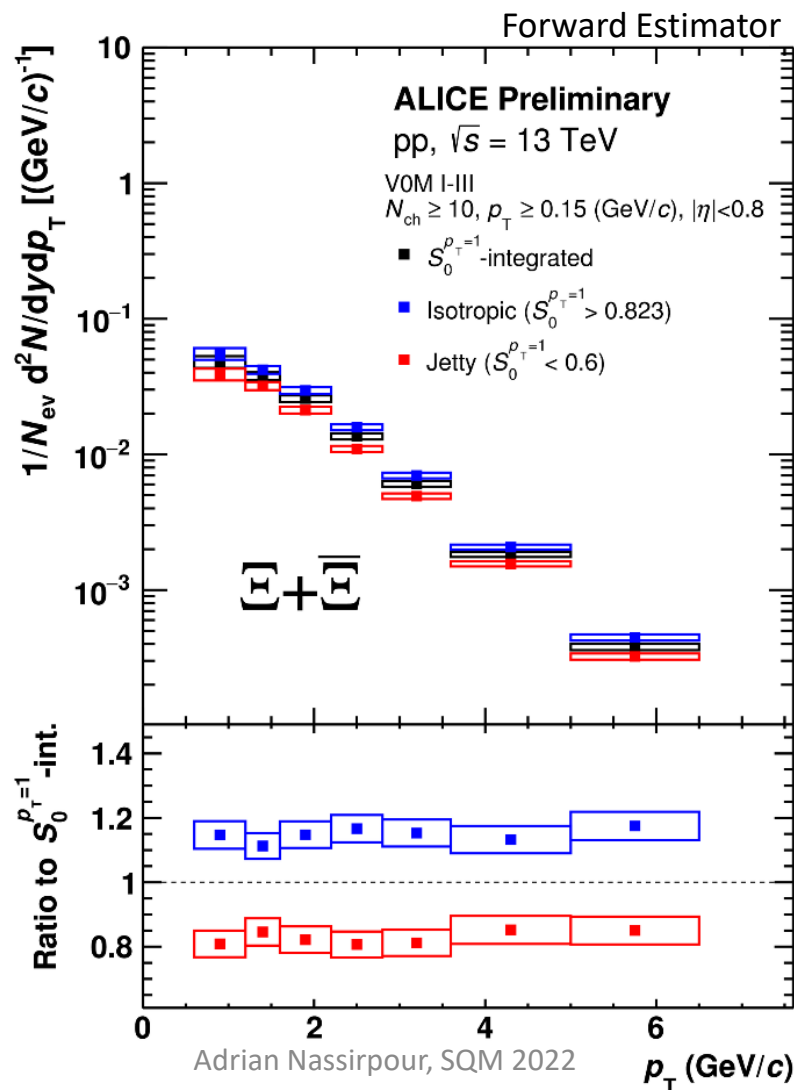
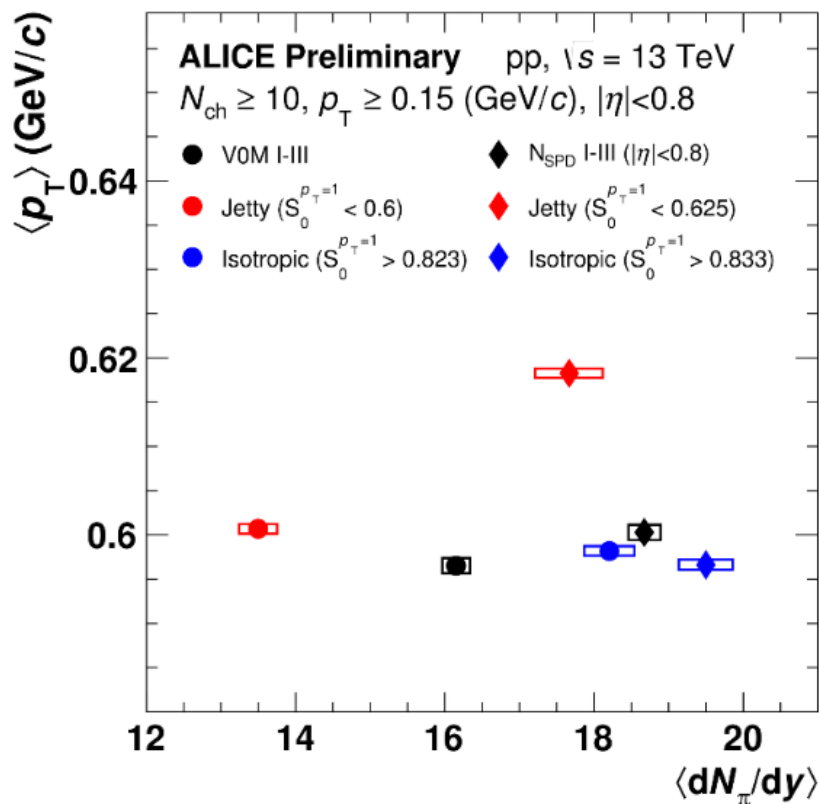


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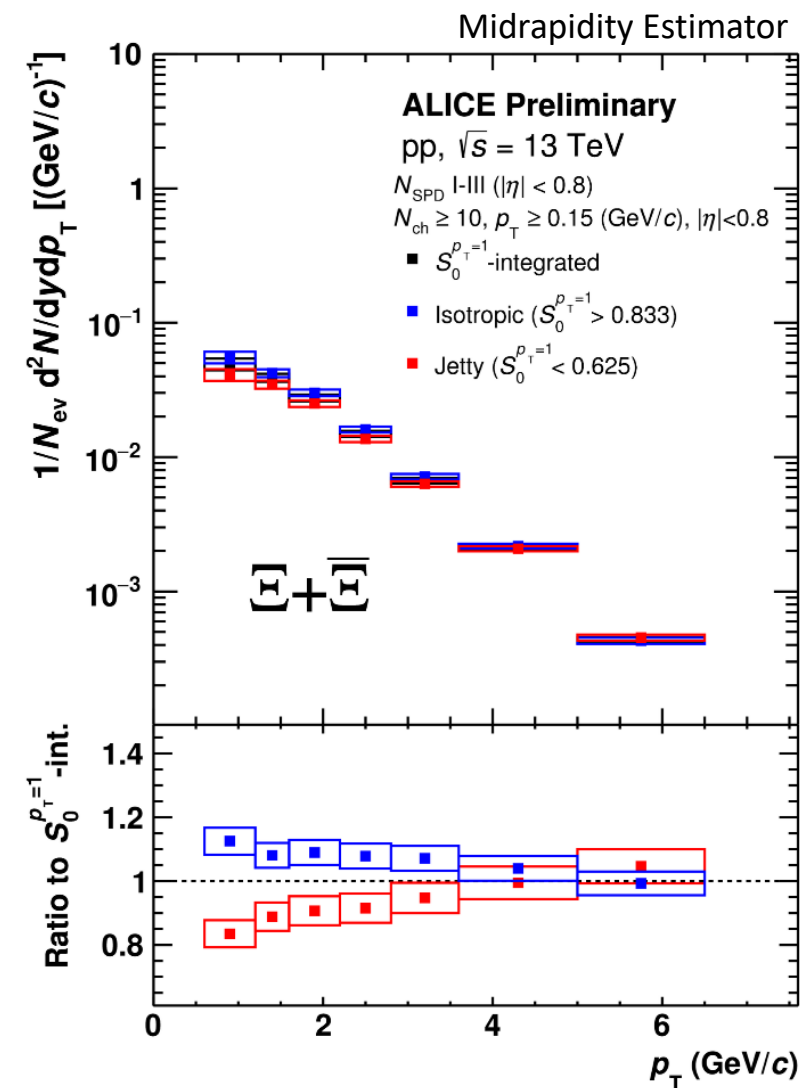
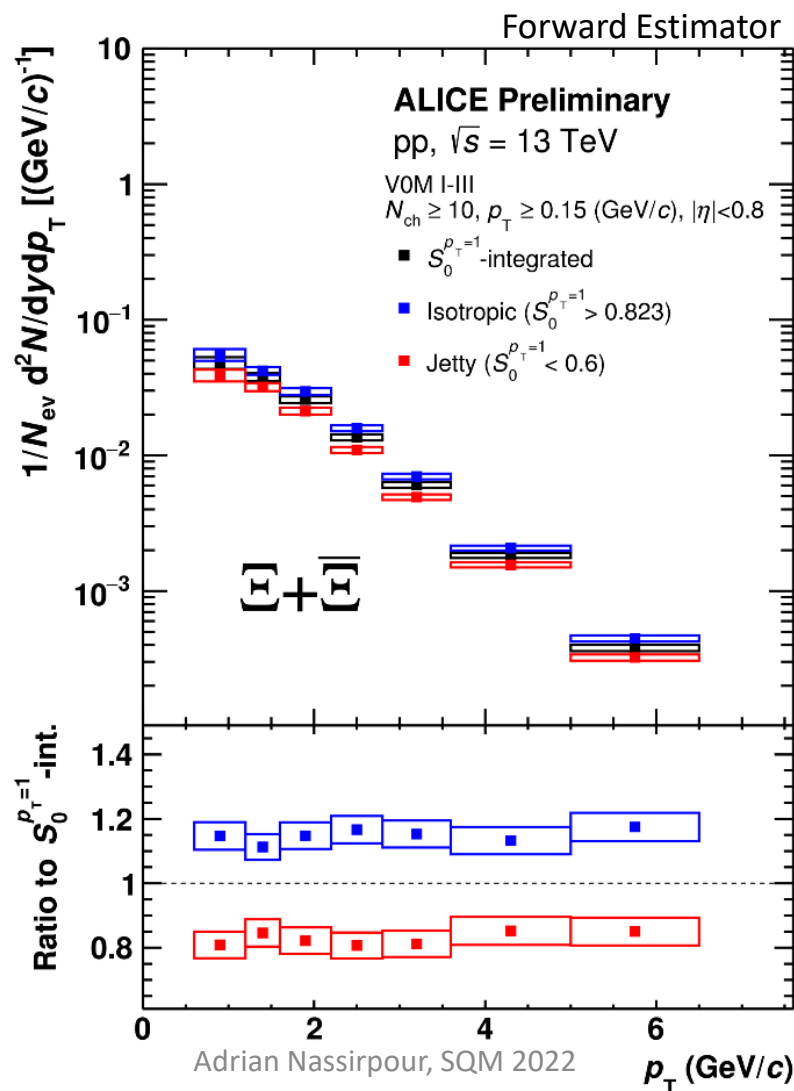
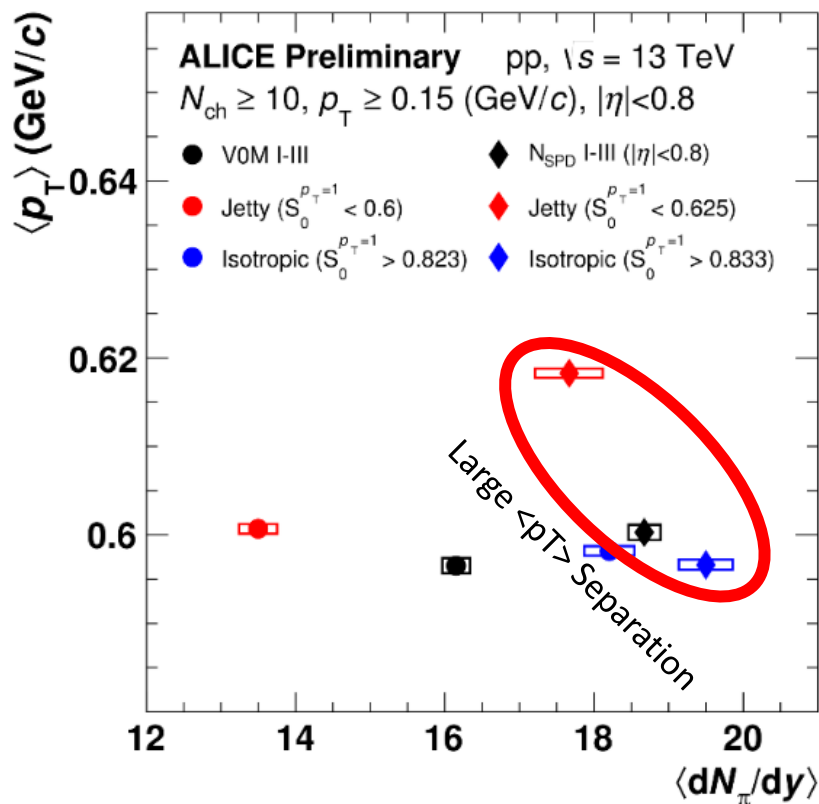


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# p-to- $\pi$ ratios as functions of $S_0^{p_T=1}$

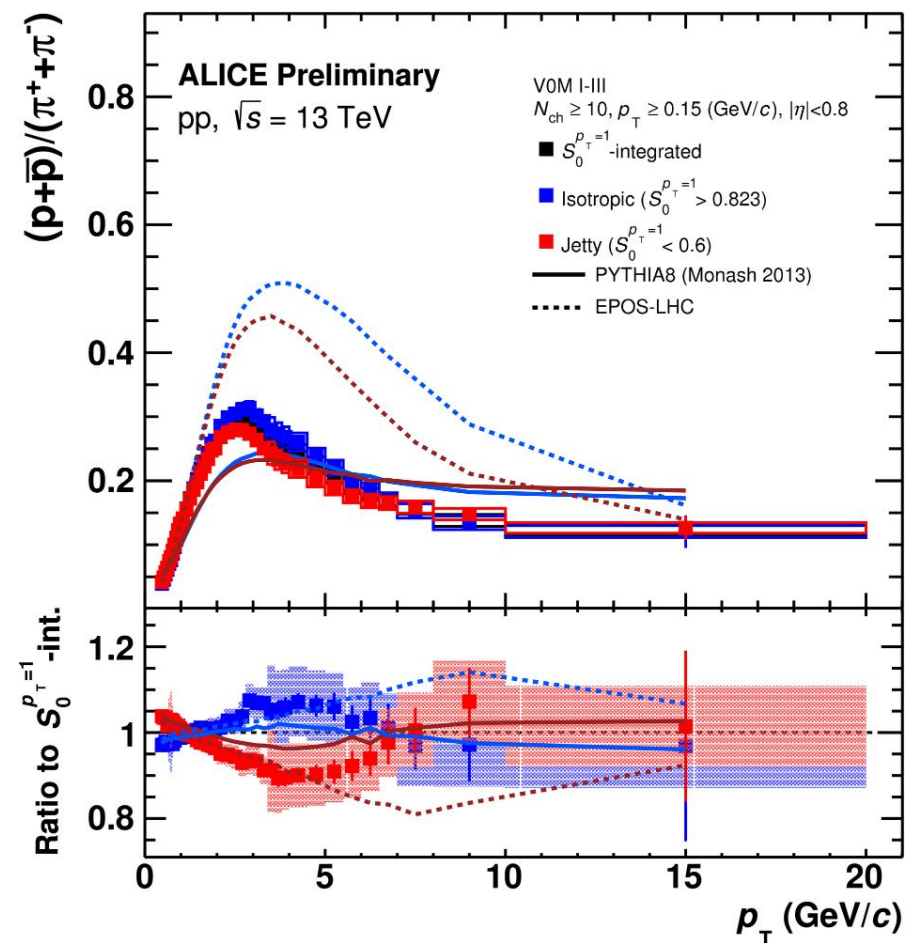
**JETTY : RED**

**ISOTROPIC : BLUE**

p-to- $\pi$  : shift of protons from low (high)  $p_T$  to high (low)  $p_T$  for isotropic (jetty) events.

Normally associated with increase (decrease) of radial flow in large systems.

Forward Estimator  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$  ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$







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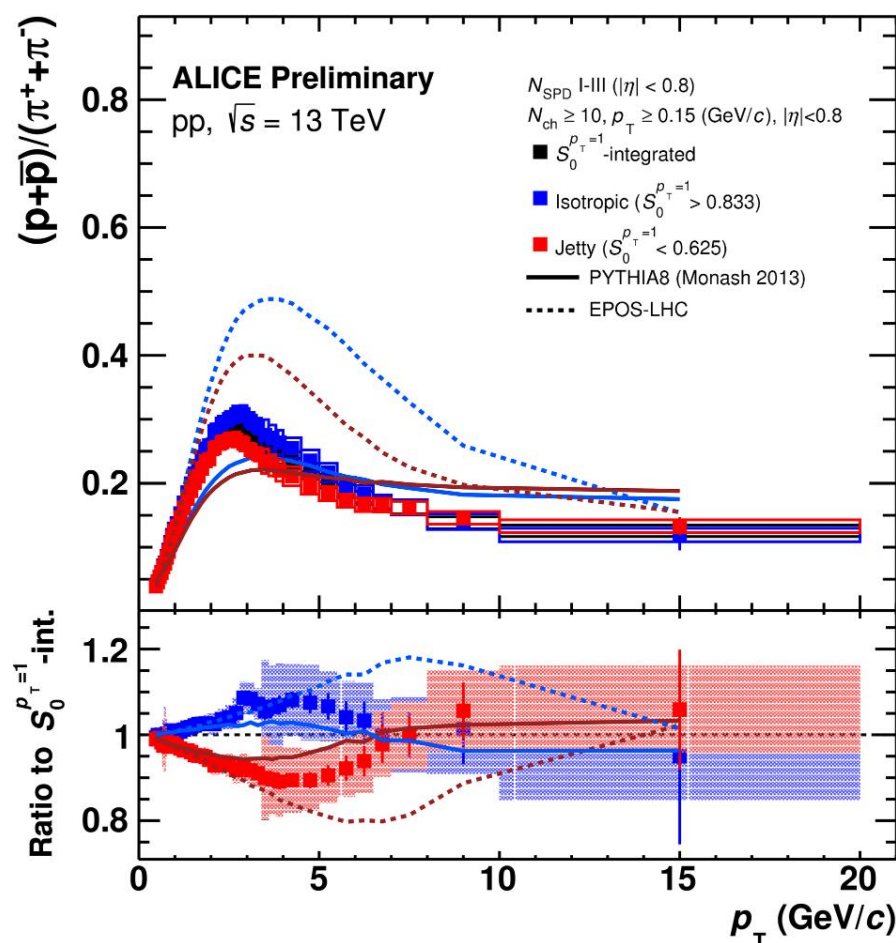
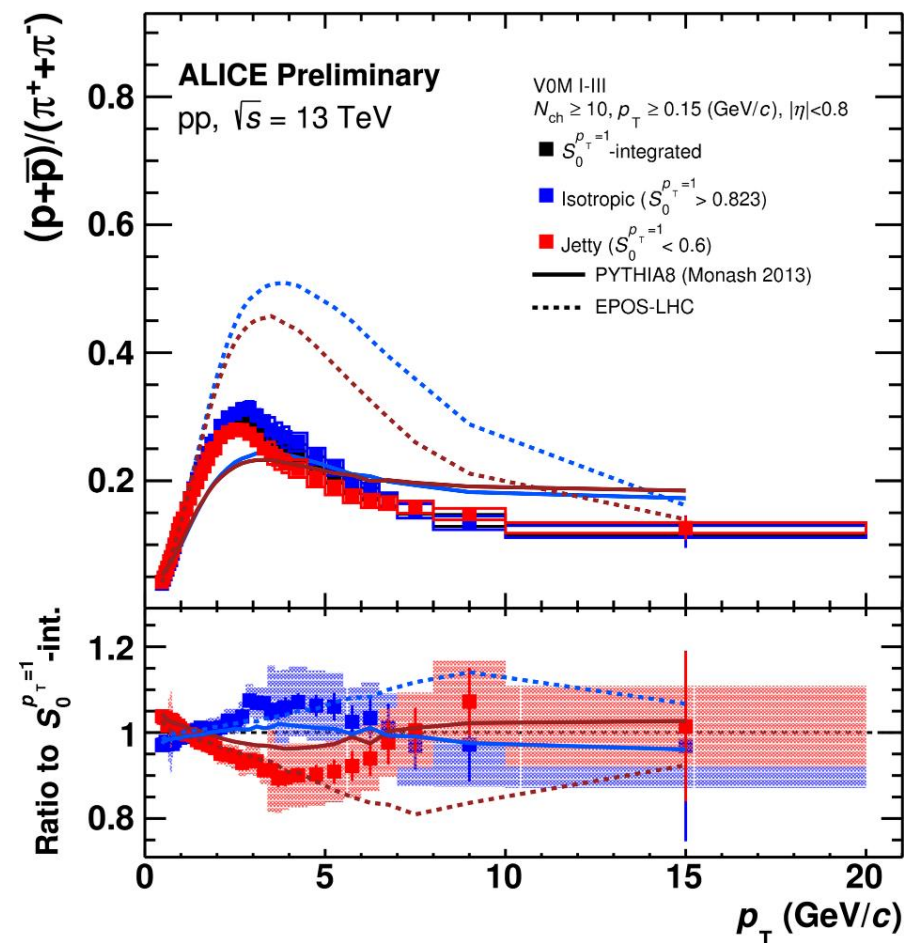
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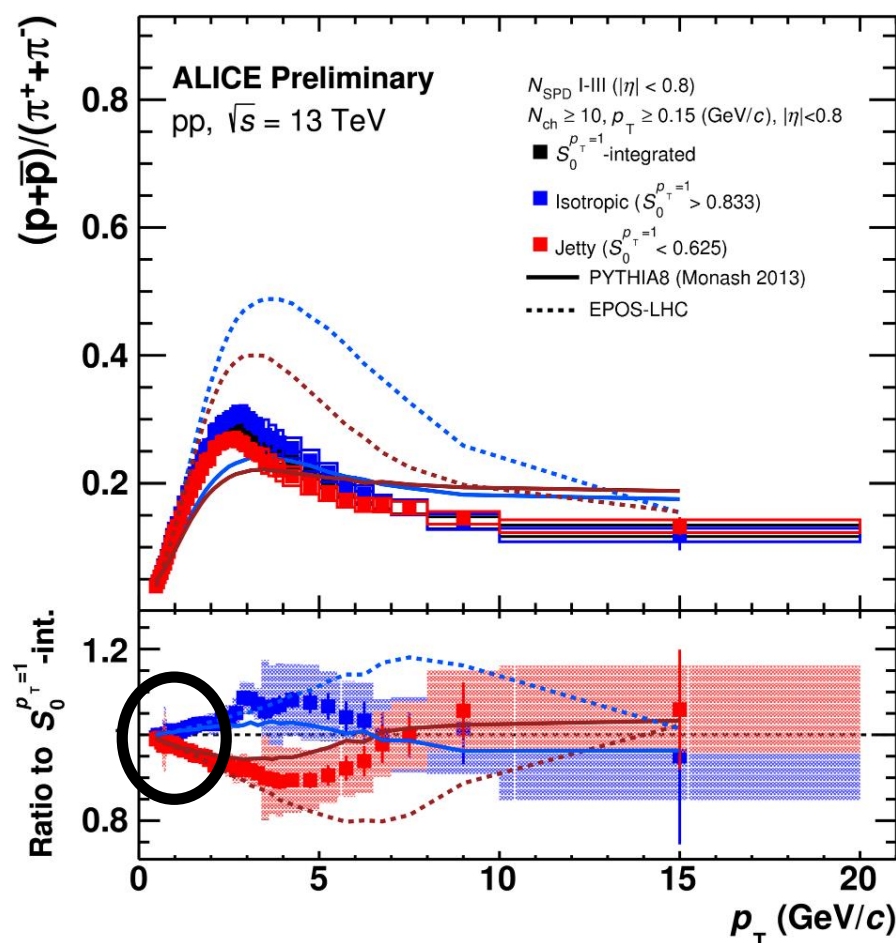
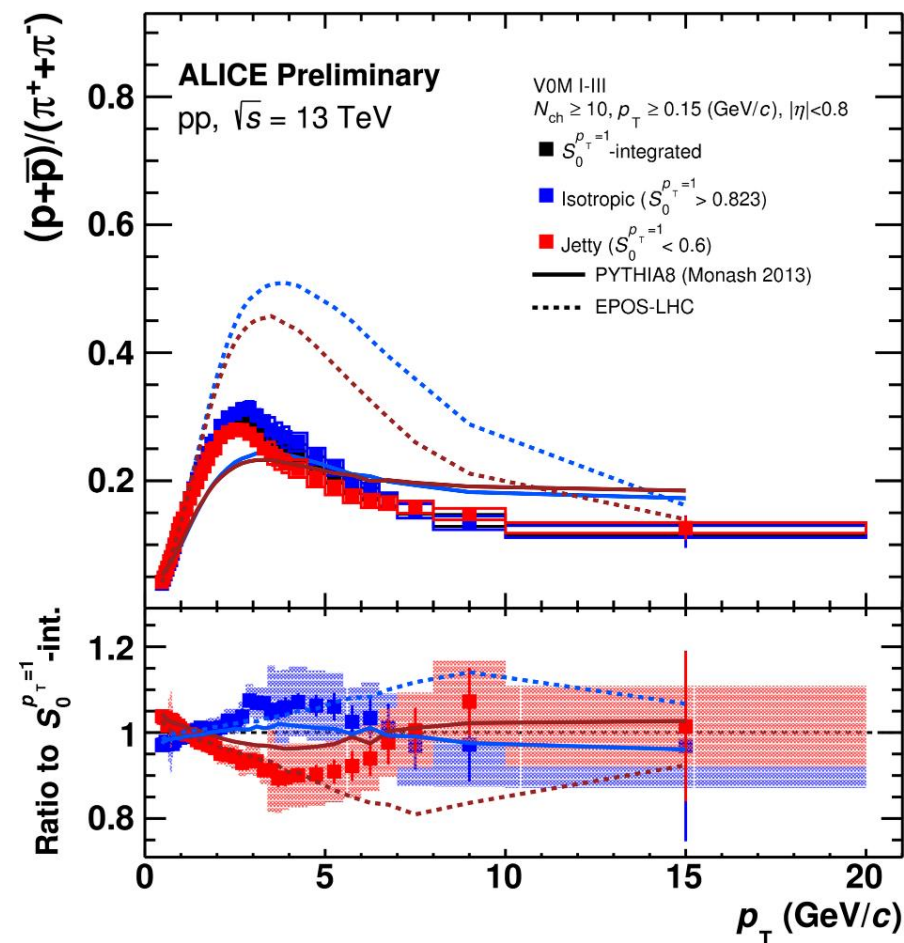
Normally associated with increase (decrease) of radial flow in large systems.

Likely competing effects between radial flow and hardening due to jet fragmentation.

Adrian Nassirpour, SQM 2022

Forward Estimator  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$  ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$

Midrapidity Estimator  
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# K-to- $\pi$ ratios as functions of $S_0^{p_T=1}$

**JETTY : RED**

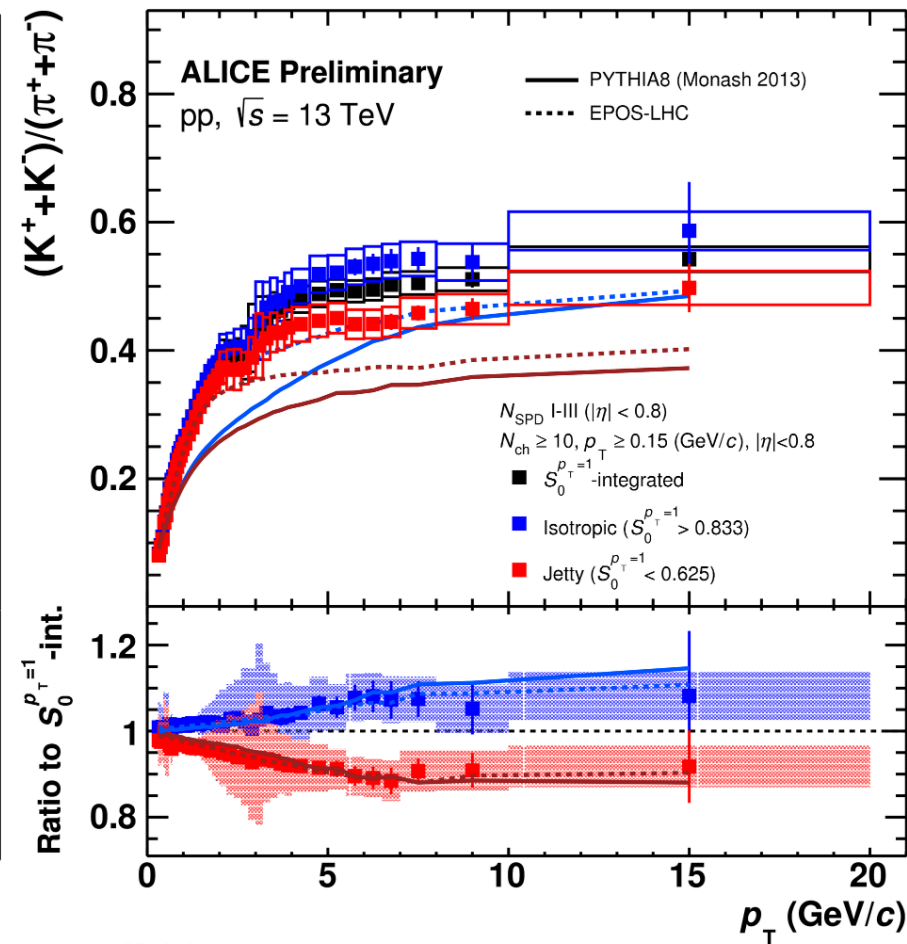
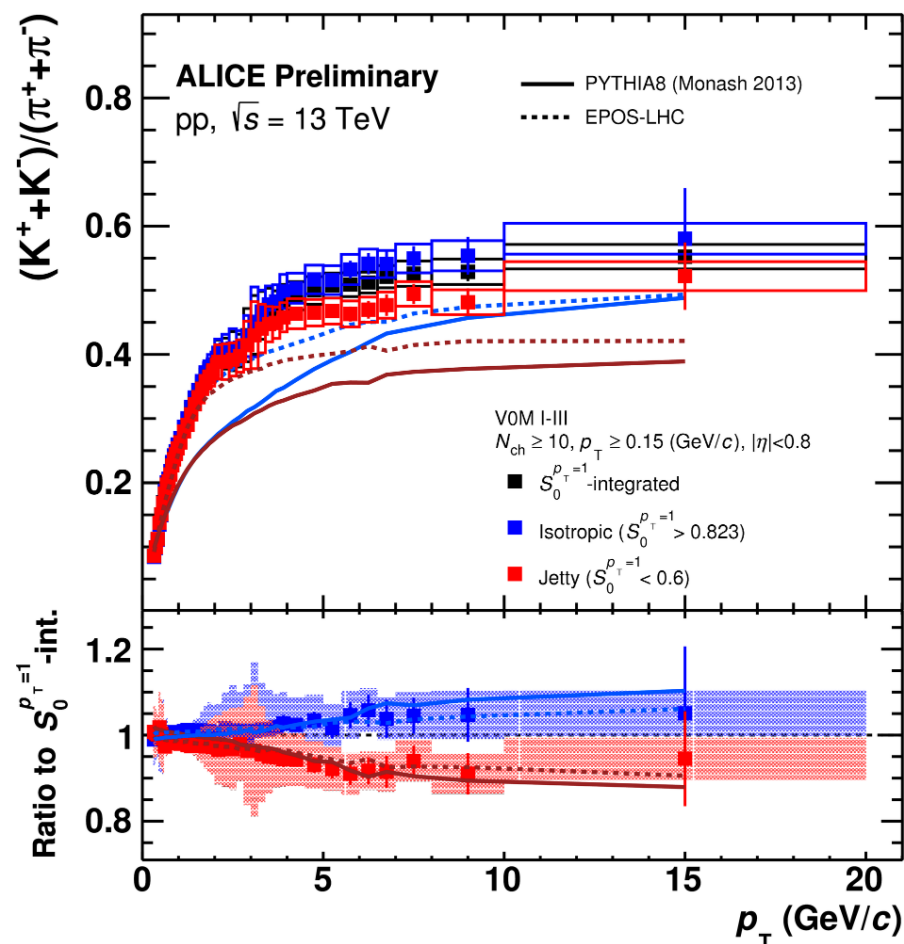
**ISOTROPIC : BLUE**

K-to- $\pi$  ratio showcases a clean separation between the kaon production in Isotropic and Jetty events

Generators describe the double-ratio quite well

Forward Estimator  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$  ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$

Midrapidity Estimator  
 $|\eta| < 0.8$





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# $\Xi$ -to- $\pi$ ratios as functions of $S_0^{p_T=1}$

**JETTY : RED**

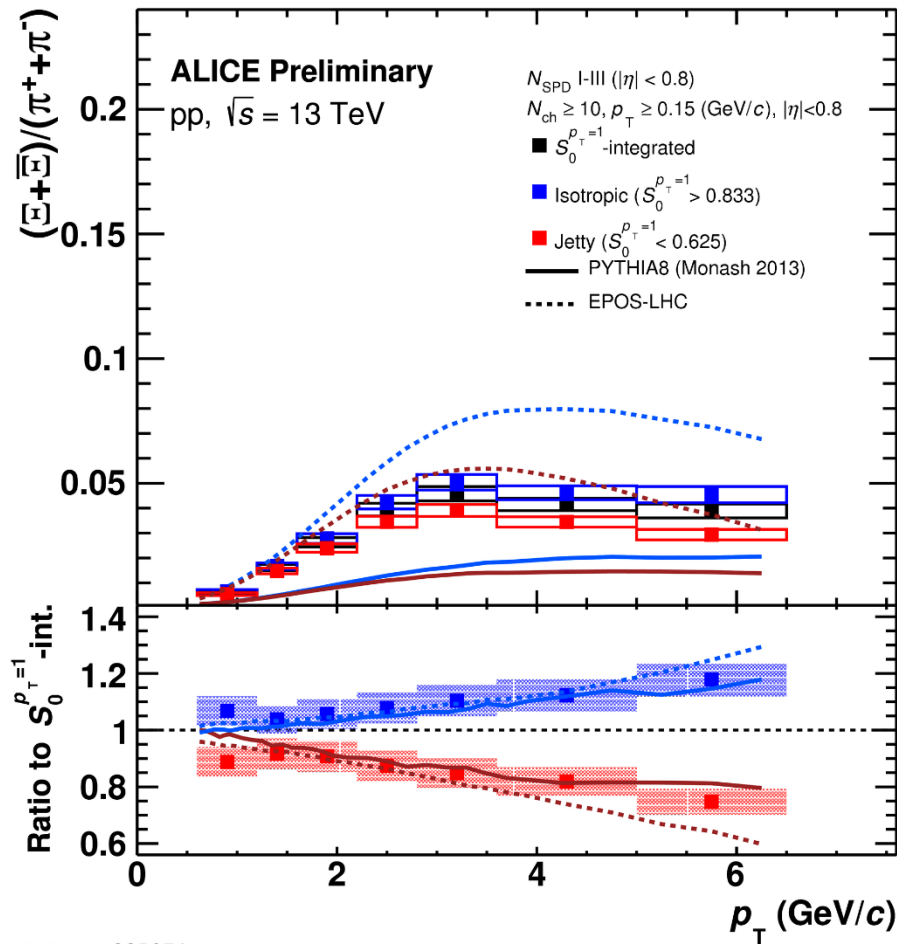
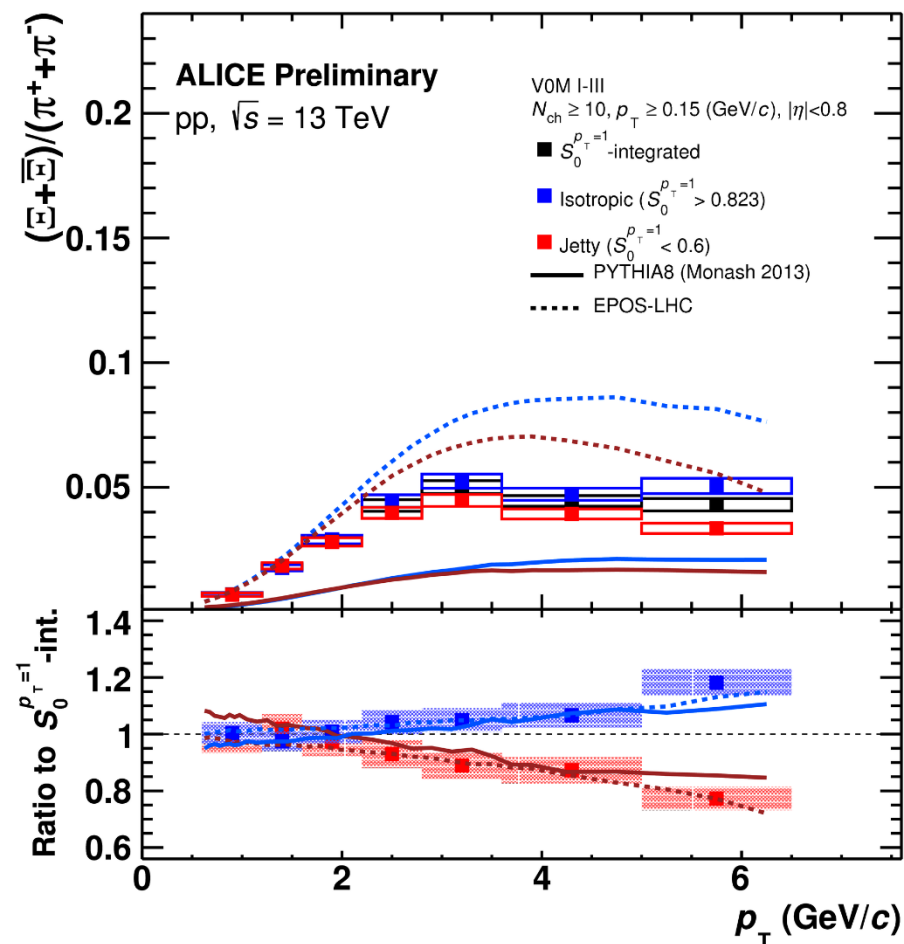
**ISOTROPIC : BLUE**

Midrapidity results suggest that one can enhance or suppress the strangeness enhancement by selecting on  $S_0^{p_T=1}$

Generators describe the double-ratio quite well, except for some tension at low  $p_T$ , but not the  $p_T$  evolution

Forward Estimator  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$  ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$

Midrapidity Estimator  
 $|\eta| < 0.8$







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# $\phi$ -to- $\pi$ ratios as functions of $S_0^{p_T=1}$

**JETTY : RED**

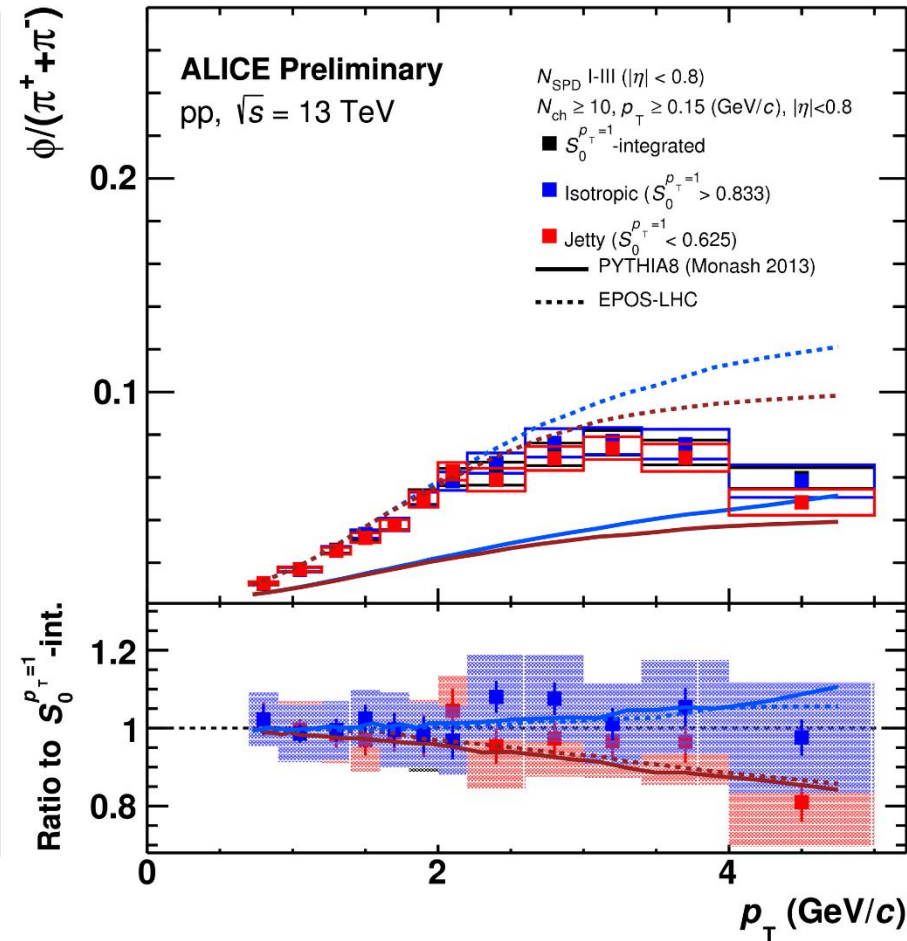
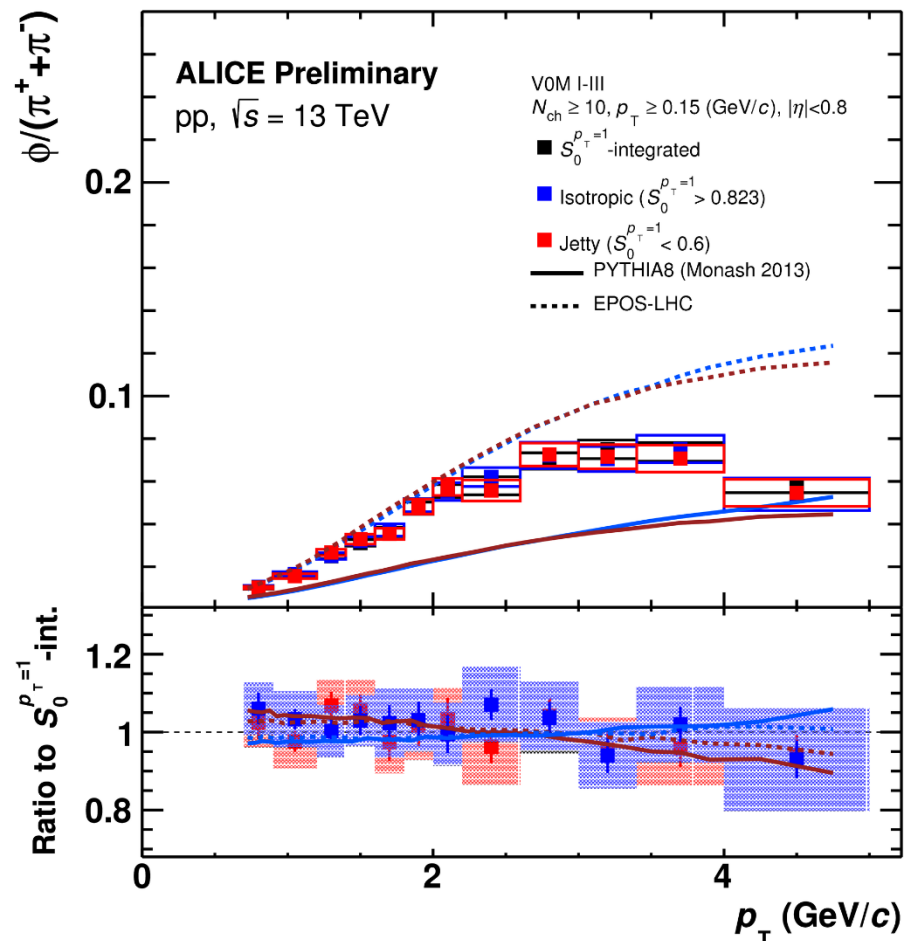
**ISOTROPIC : BLUE**

Unlike the K and  $\Xi$ , the  $\phi$  does not show a difference for jetty and isotropic events.

Results using different estimators are consistent within uncertainties

Forward Estimator  
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$  ,  $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$

Midrapidity Estimator  
 $|\eta| < 0.8$



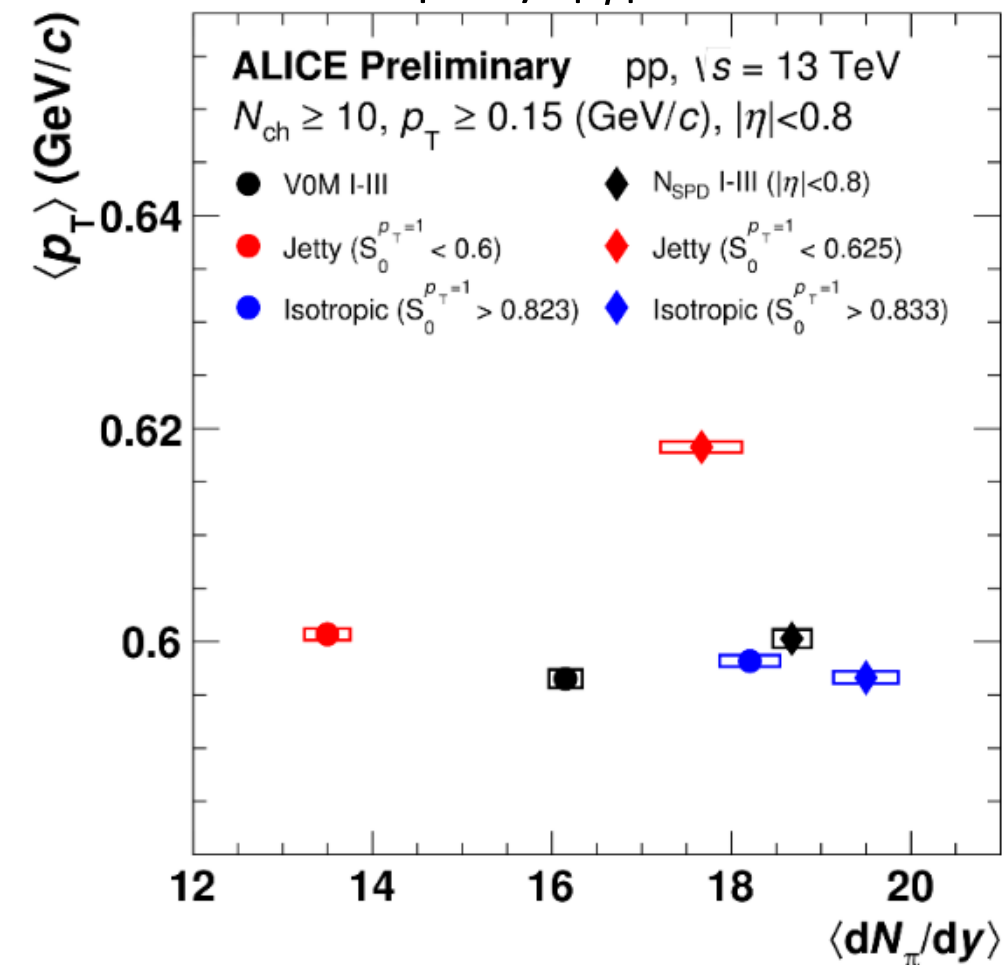


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# Multiplicity triggers for $S_0^{p_T=1}$ analysis

Multiplicity (0-10%) for spectra is measured in two rapidity regions

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- Midrapidity:  $|\eta| < 0.8$



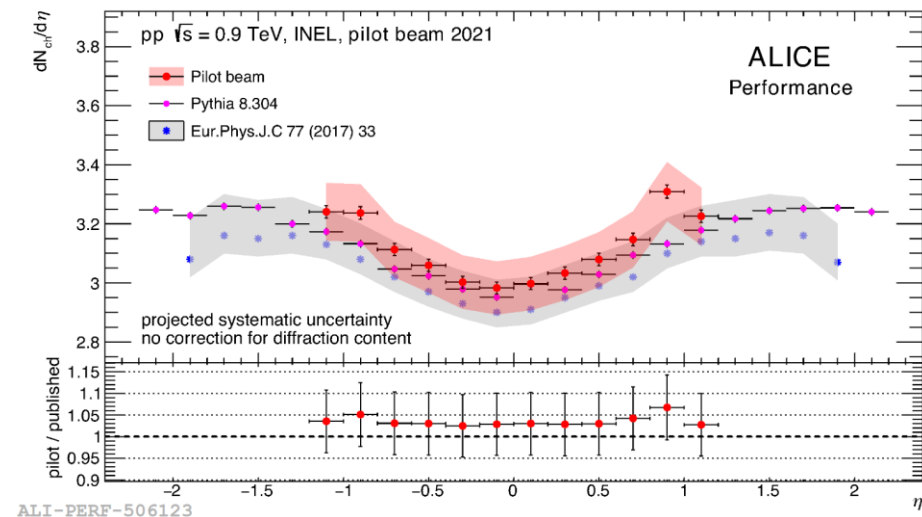
- Takeaway messages:
  - The HM events are not a direct average of the Isotropic and Jetty event classes.
  - Instead, HM events are more similar to Isotropic events
  - This indicates that HM events are dominated by soft processes.



# Outlook on low-multiplicity studies

- Run 3 analyses can be utilized to measure extremely low multiplicities:

- $\langle dN/d\eta \rangle$

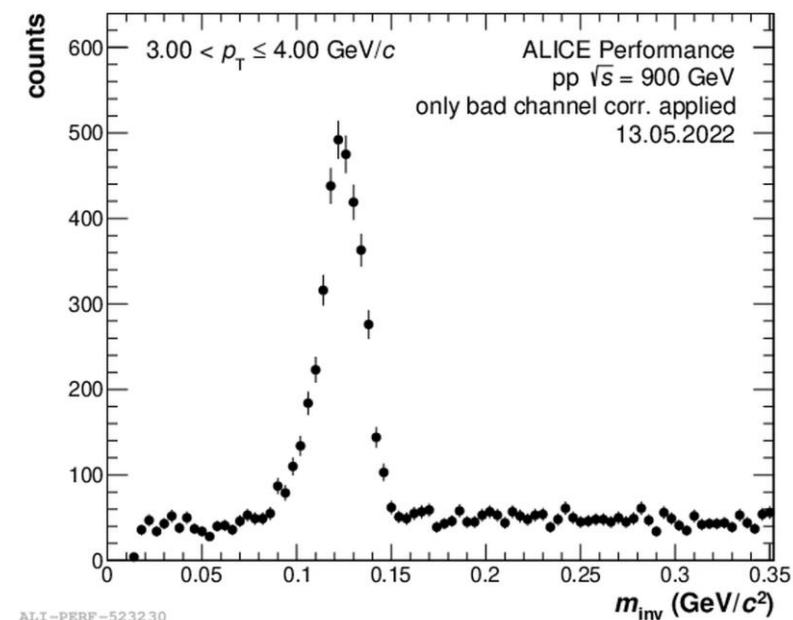
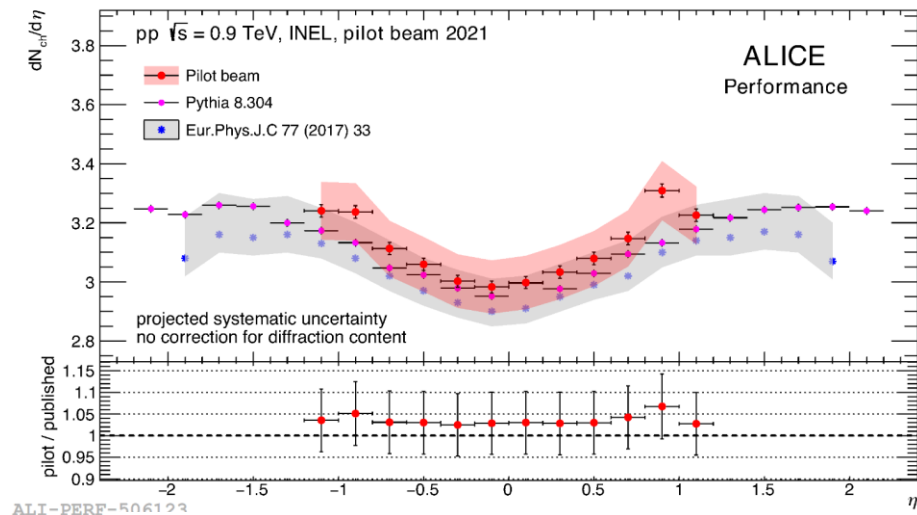




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- $\langle dN/d\eta \rangle$
- Neutral mesons



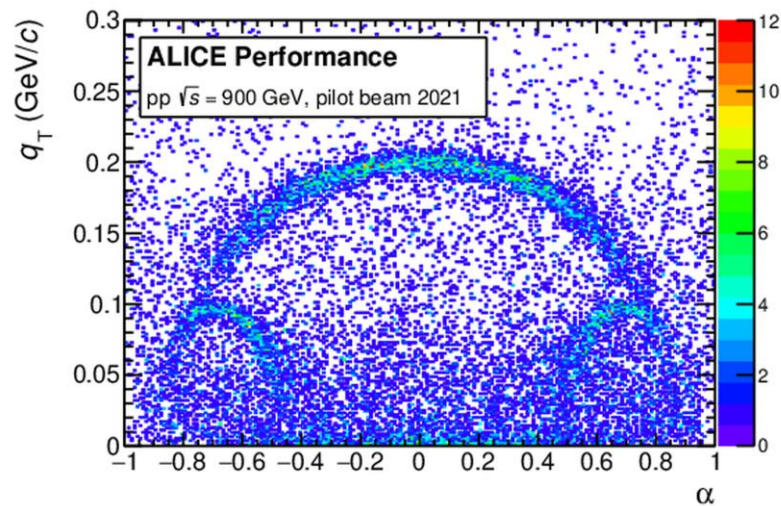




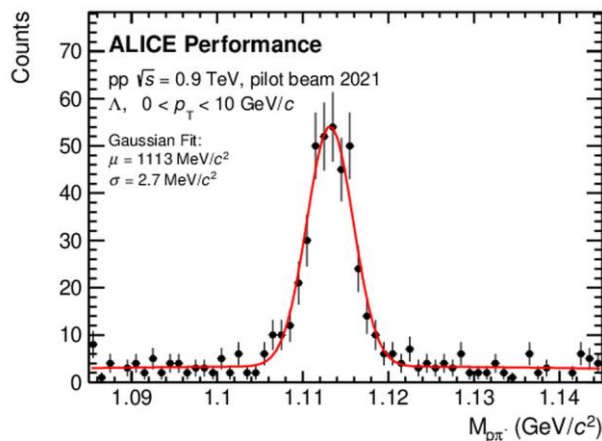
# Outlook on low-multiplicity studies

- Run 3 analyses can be utilized to measure extremely low multiplicities:

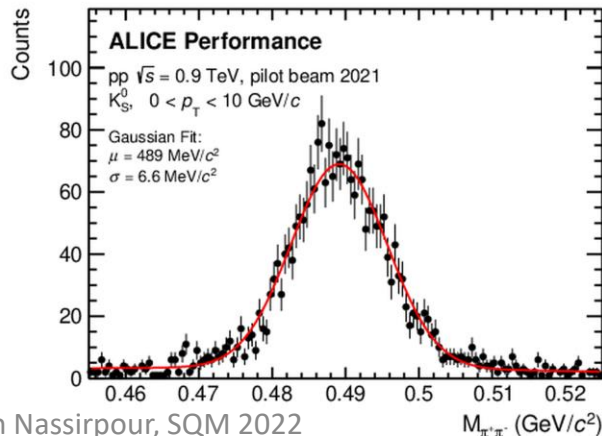
- $\langle dN/d\eta \rangle$
- Neutral mesons
- Strangeness
- Analyses currently ongoing!



ALI-PERF-502959

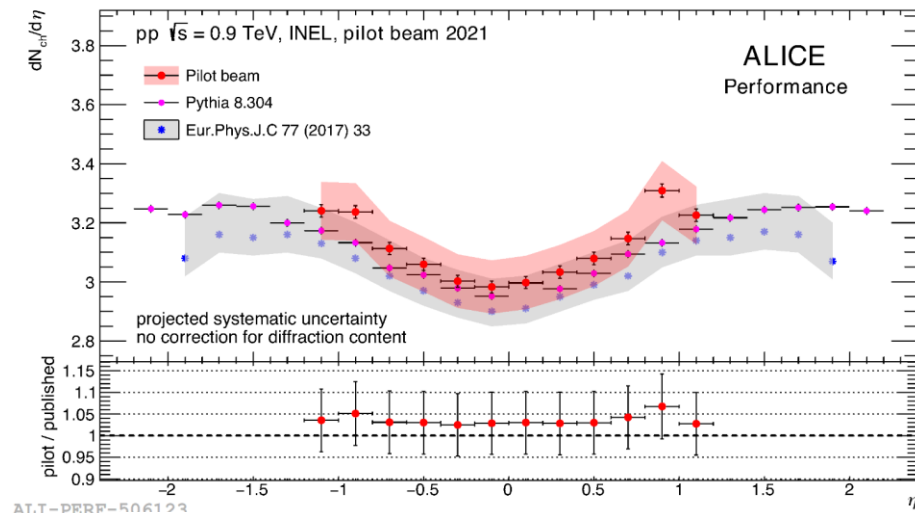


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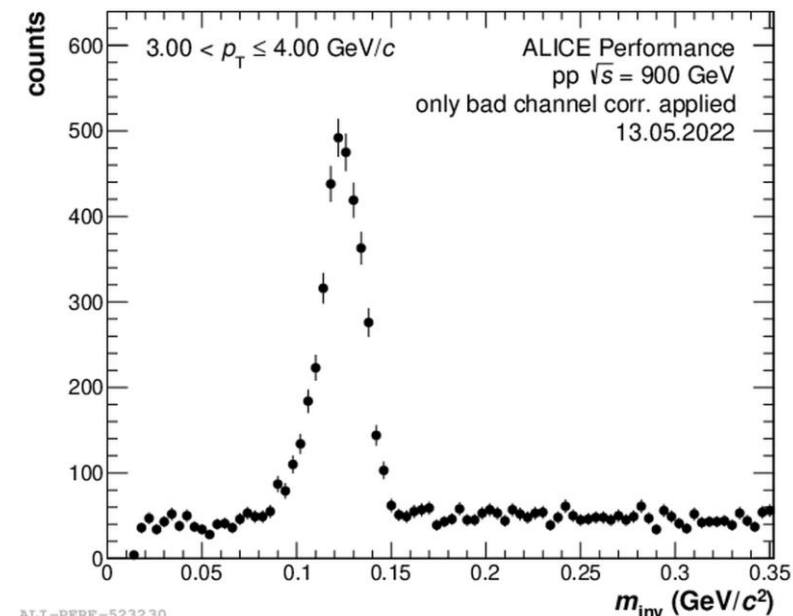


ALI-PERF-502953

Adrian Nassirpour, SQM 2022



ALI-PERF-506123



ALI-PERF-523230



# Summary

## Neutral meson production as a function of multiplicity:

- No significant multiplicity dependence of  $\eta/\pi^0$  as a function of  $p_T$
- Integrated  $\eta/\pi^0$  yields hint towards suppression of  $\eta$  at larger multiplicities

## Particle Production as a function of Unweighted Transverse Spherocity:

- $S_0^{p_T=1}$  can be used to select strangeness enhanced/suppressed events
- $S_0^{p_T=1}$  can select different physics depending on the  $\eta$  region
- The results suggest that high-multiplicity events are primarily dominated by soft processes.

## Outlook:

- Comprehensive paper on  $S_0^{p_T=1}$  under review, expected publication in the near future
- Run 3/4 will allow for differential low-multiplicity measurements



ALICE

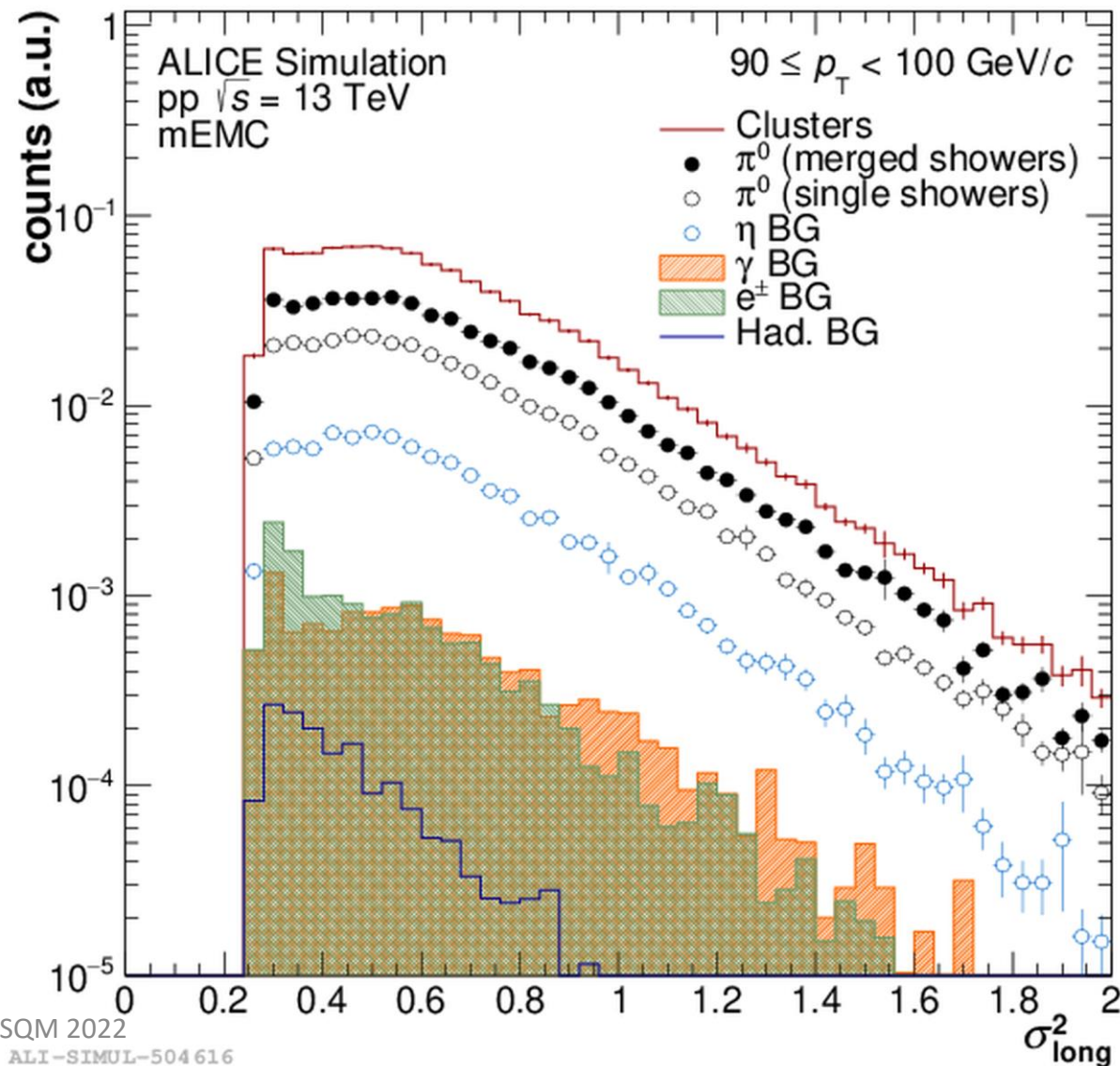
# BACKUP



ALICE

# Neutral Meson Production: Analysis details

- The  $\eta$  and  $\pi^0$  mesons are reconstructed by combining photon pairs.
  - Final yield is extracted by combining subdetectors.
- Measurements up to high- $p_T$  ( $>50$  GeV/c) using merged EMCal clusters.
  - Ensures a high  $\pi^0$  purity ( $>70\%$ )

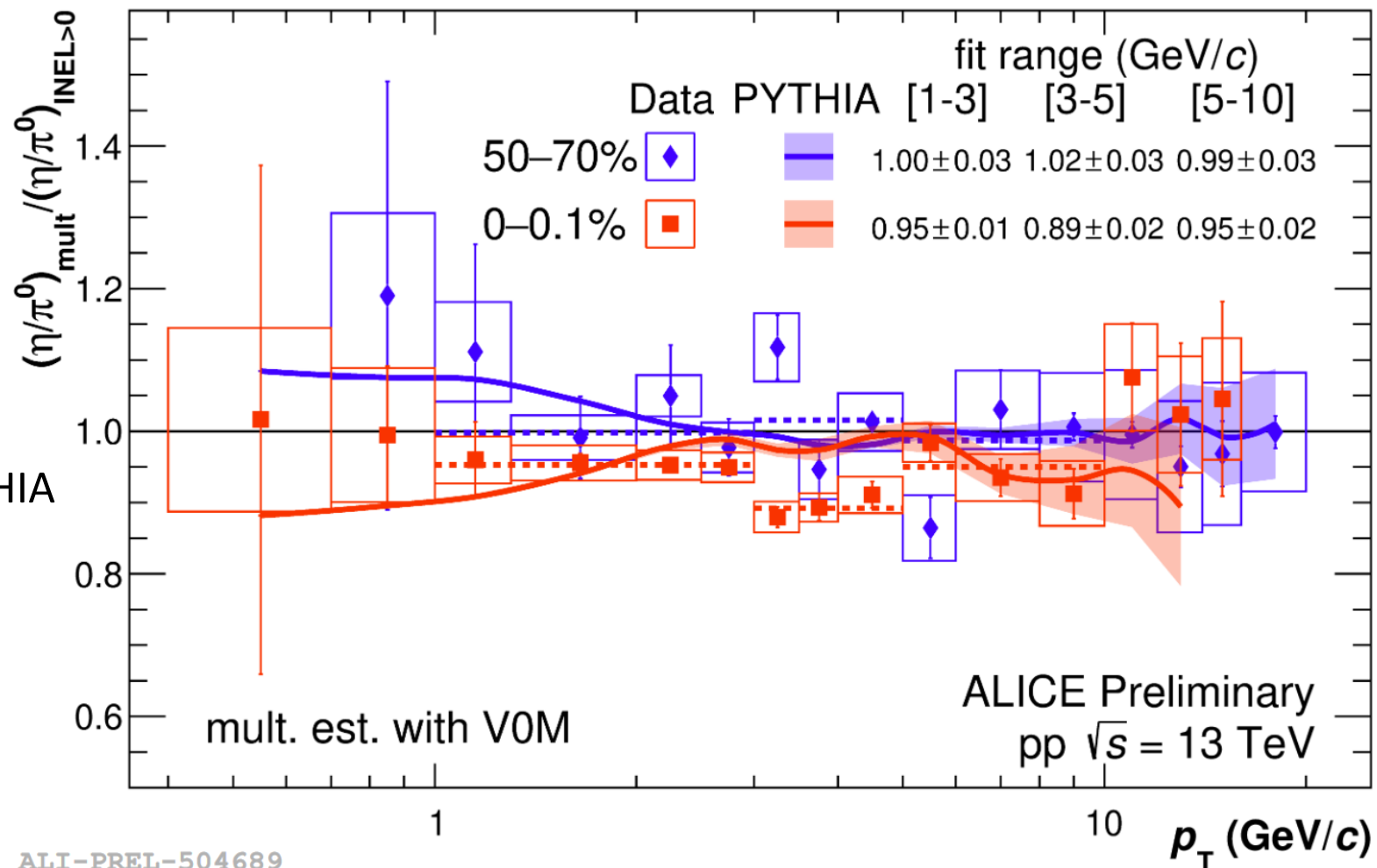




ALICE

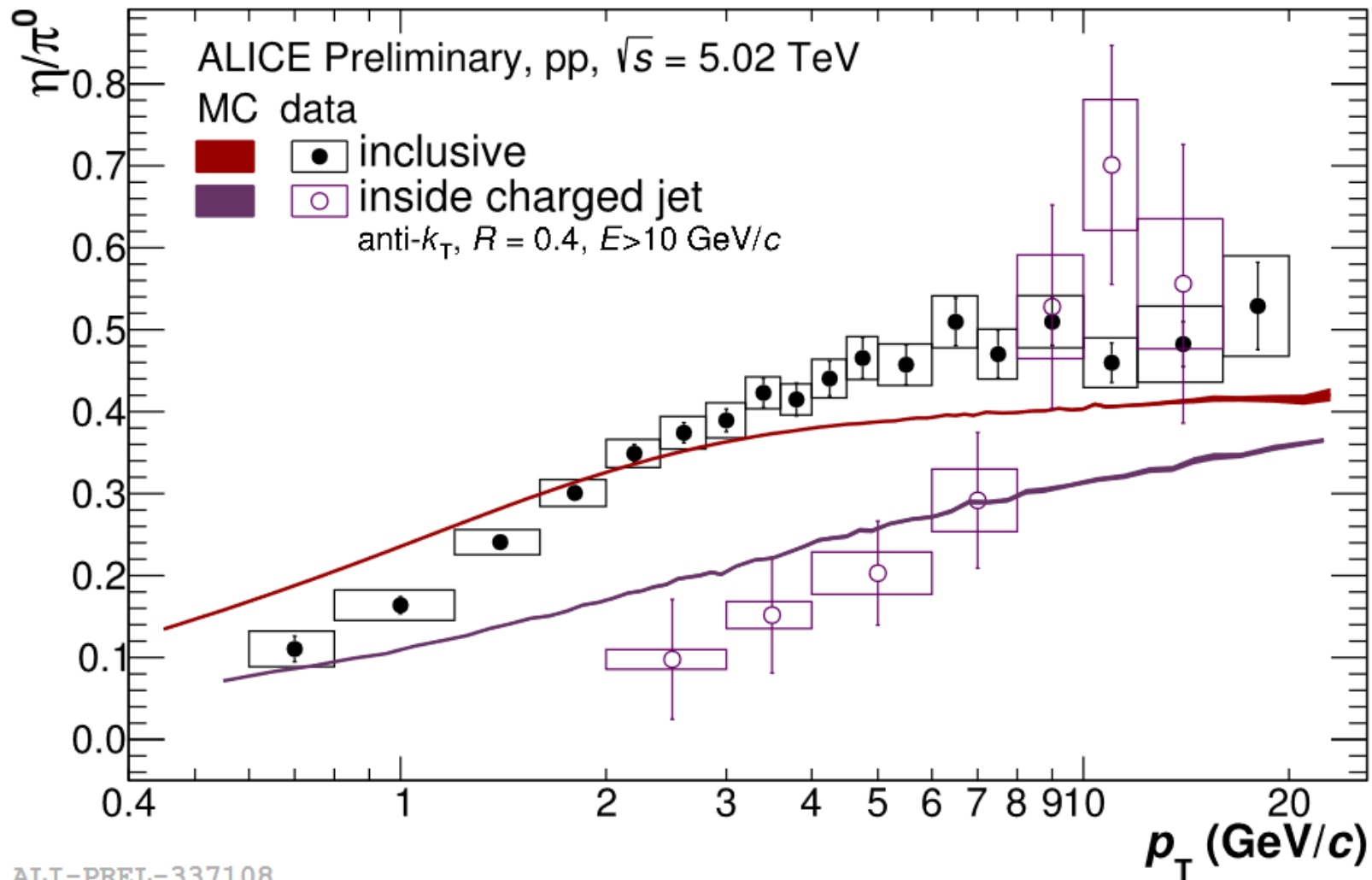
# Neutral Meson Production: Results

- New results suggests that  $\eta/\pi^0$  is independent of multiplicity as a function of  $p_T$ .
  - $p_T$ -differential  $\eta$  production is not modified even in extremely large pp multiplicities.
- Double-ratio hints towards a very small effect.
  - Qualitatively well described by PYTHIA
  - Small tension at 3-5 GeV/c, could contain interesting physics.

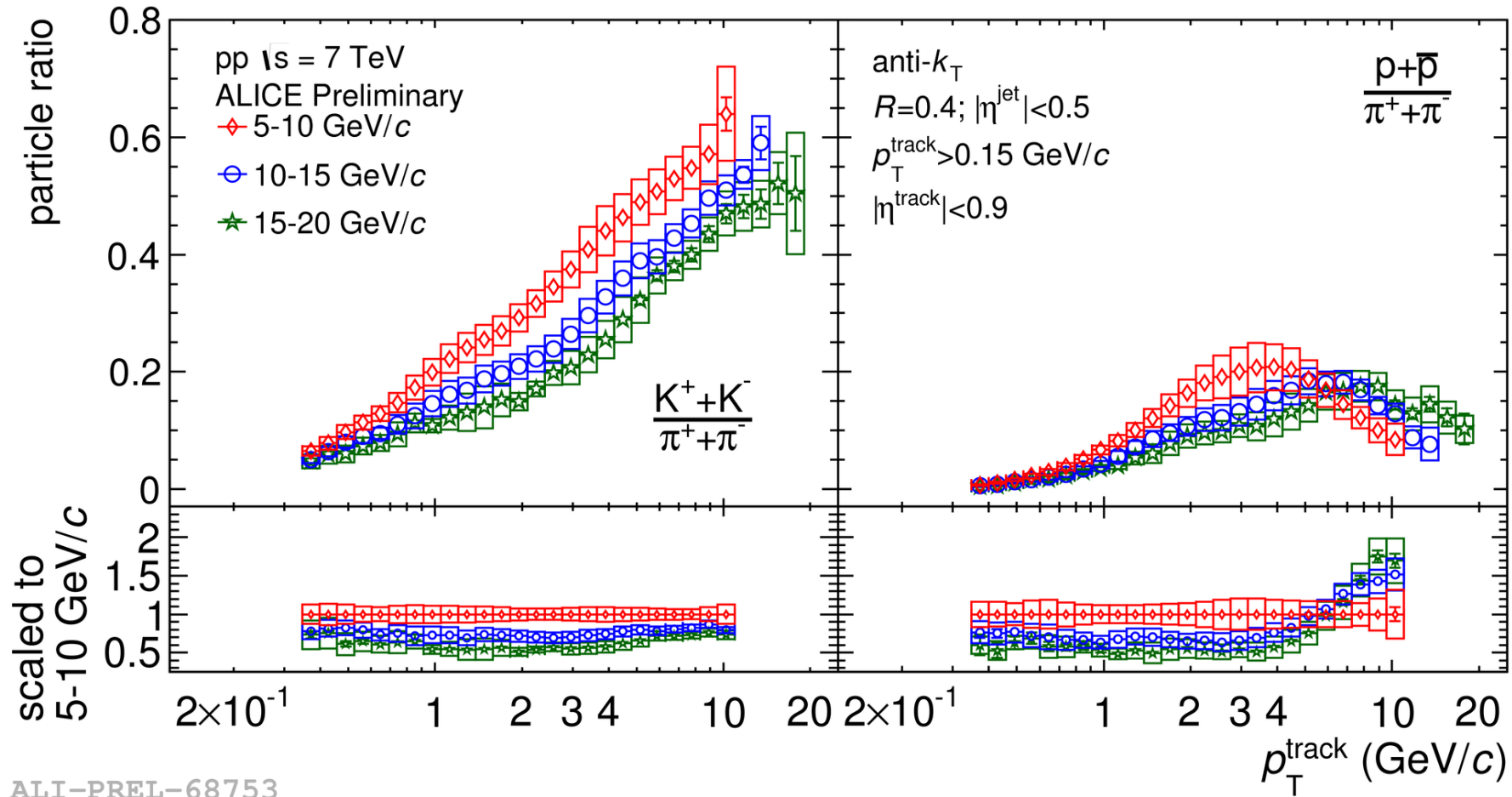




# Jet Pt Evolution



# Jet Pt Evolution

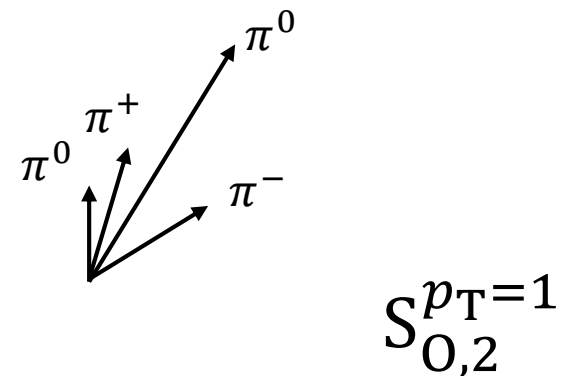
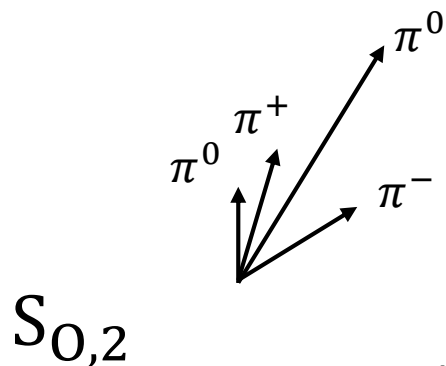
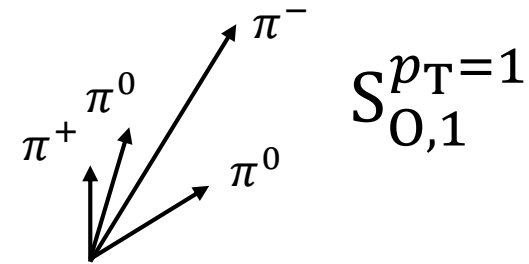
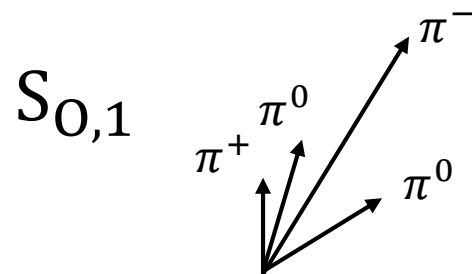


ALI-PREL-68753

# Unweighed Transverse Spherocity $S_0^{p_T=1}$

- $S_0^{p_T=1}$  is measured as  $S_0$ , but only considers the angular component.

$$S_0 = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \min_{\hat{n}} \left( \frac{\sum_i |p_T \times \hat{n}|}{\sum_i p_{T_i}} \right)^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad S_0^{p_T=1} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \min_{\hat{n}} \left( \frac{\sum_i |\hat{p}_T \times \hat{n}|}{N_{\text{trk}}} \right)^2$$



# Unweighed Transverse Spherocity $S_0^{p_T=1}$

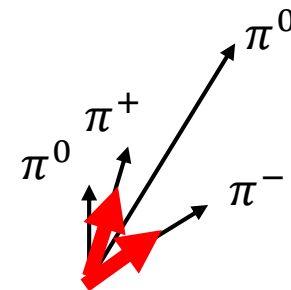
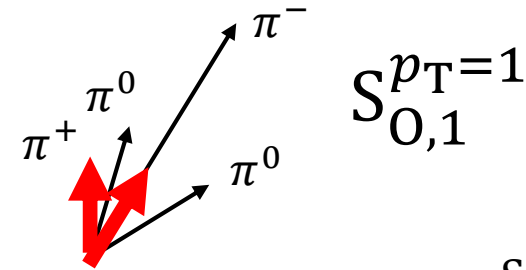
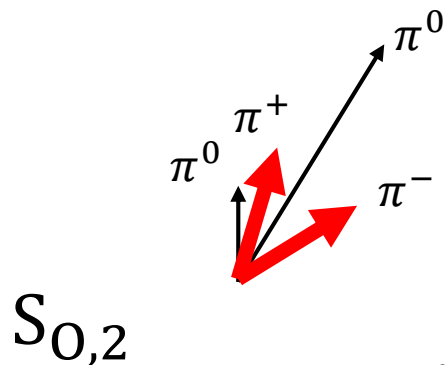
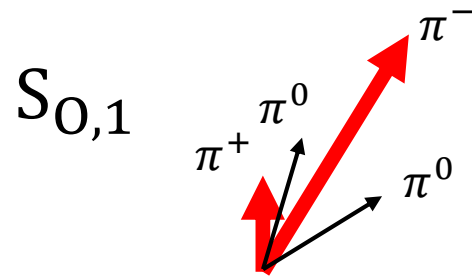
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→

$$S_0^{p_T=1} = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \min_{\hat{n}} \left( \frac{\sum_i |\hat{p}_T \times \hat{n}|}{N_{\text{trk}}} \right)^2$$

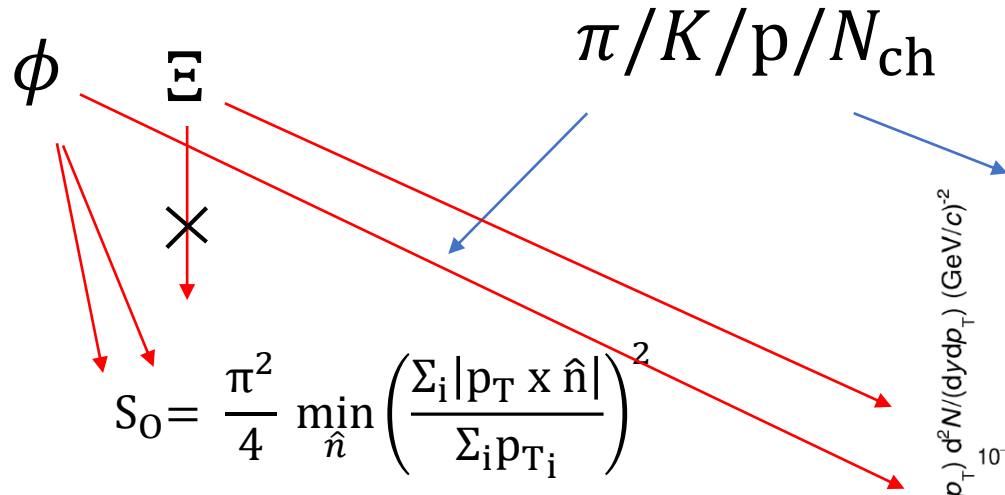
$S_{0,1}$  and  $S_{0,2}$  will describe two completely different topologies!



$S_{0,1}^{p_T=1}$  and  $S_{0,2}^{p_T=1}$  will describe two similar topologies.

# Identified Vs Unidentified Hadrons

- There is a non-trivial difference in the  $S_0$  measurement for Identified and Unidentified hadrons



- Primary Unidentified hadrons enter both the yield extraction and  $S_0$
- This also applies to  $\pi/K/P$
- **But this does NOT apply to  $\Xi$ !**
- $\phi$  enters twice! ( $K^+ K^-$ )

