

New measurements in fixed-target collisions at LHCb

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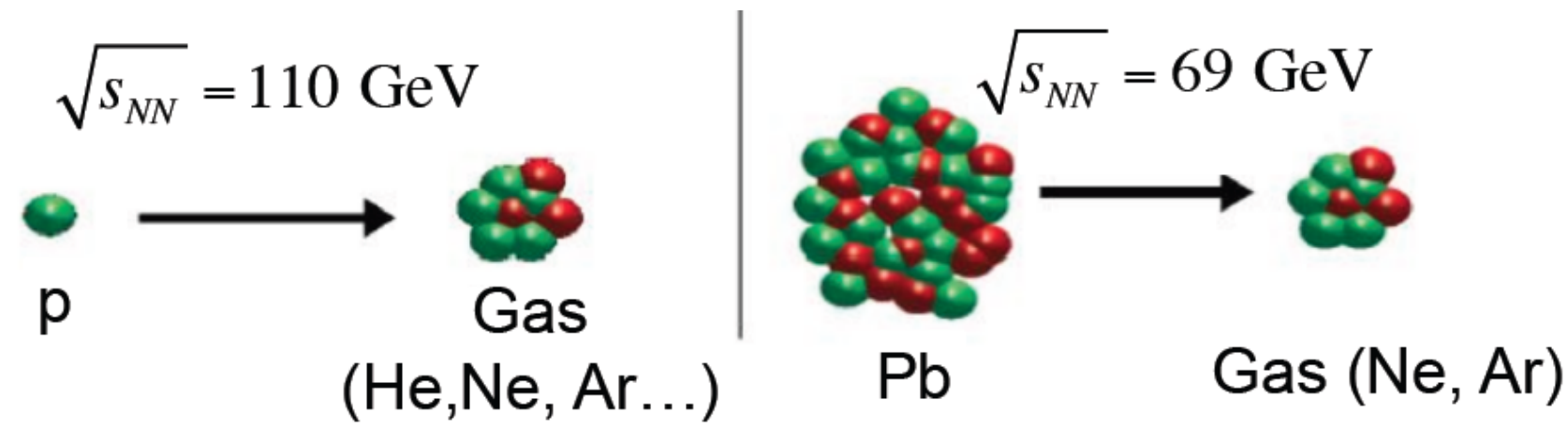
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SMOG: fixed-target program

SMOG: System for Measuring Overlap with Gas.

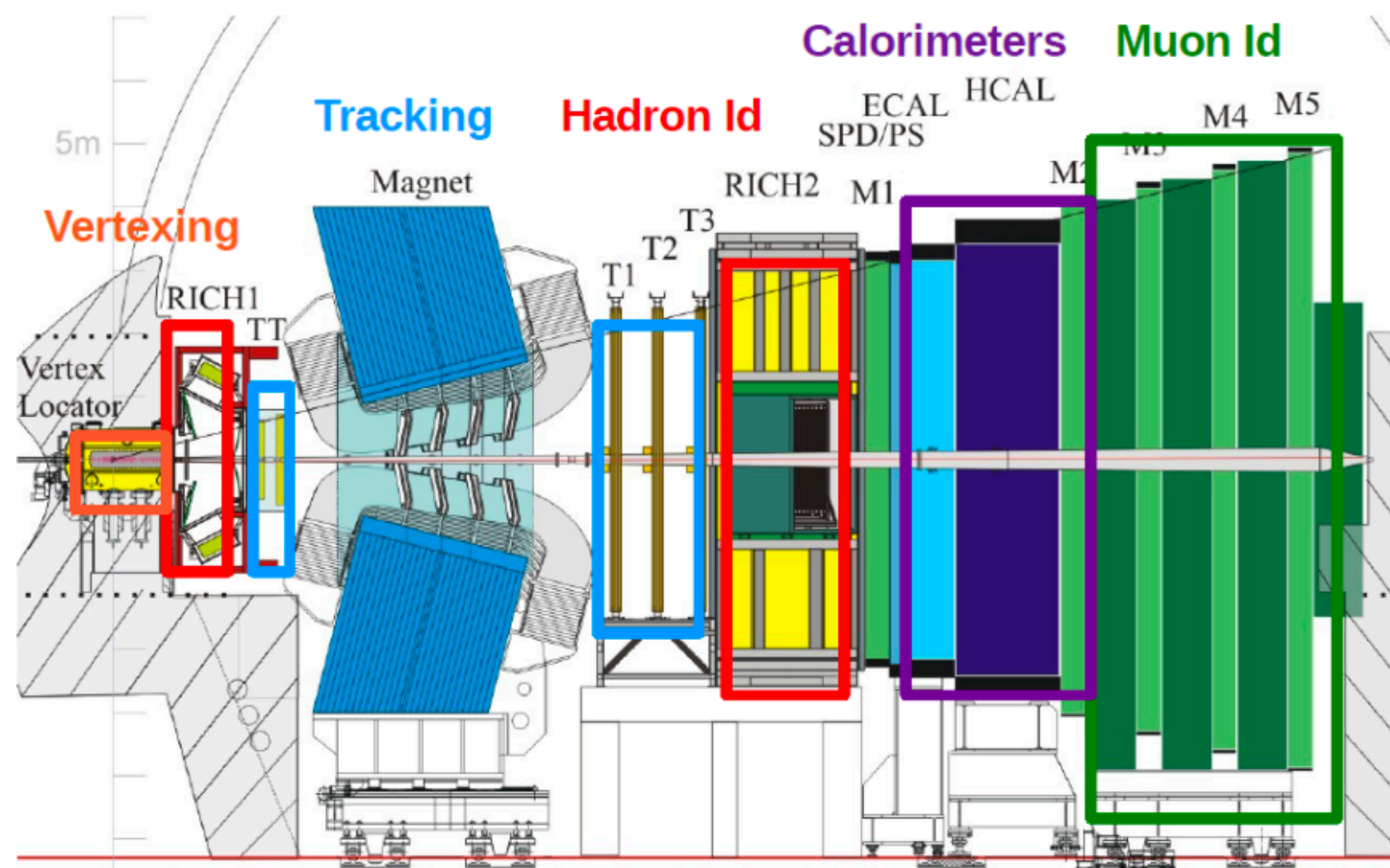
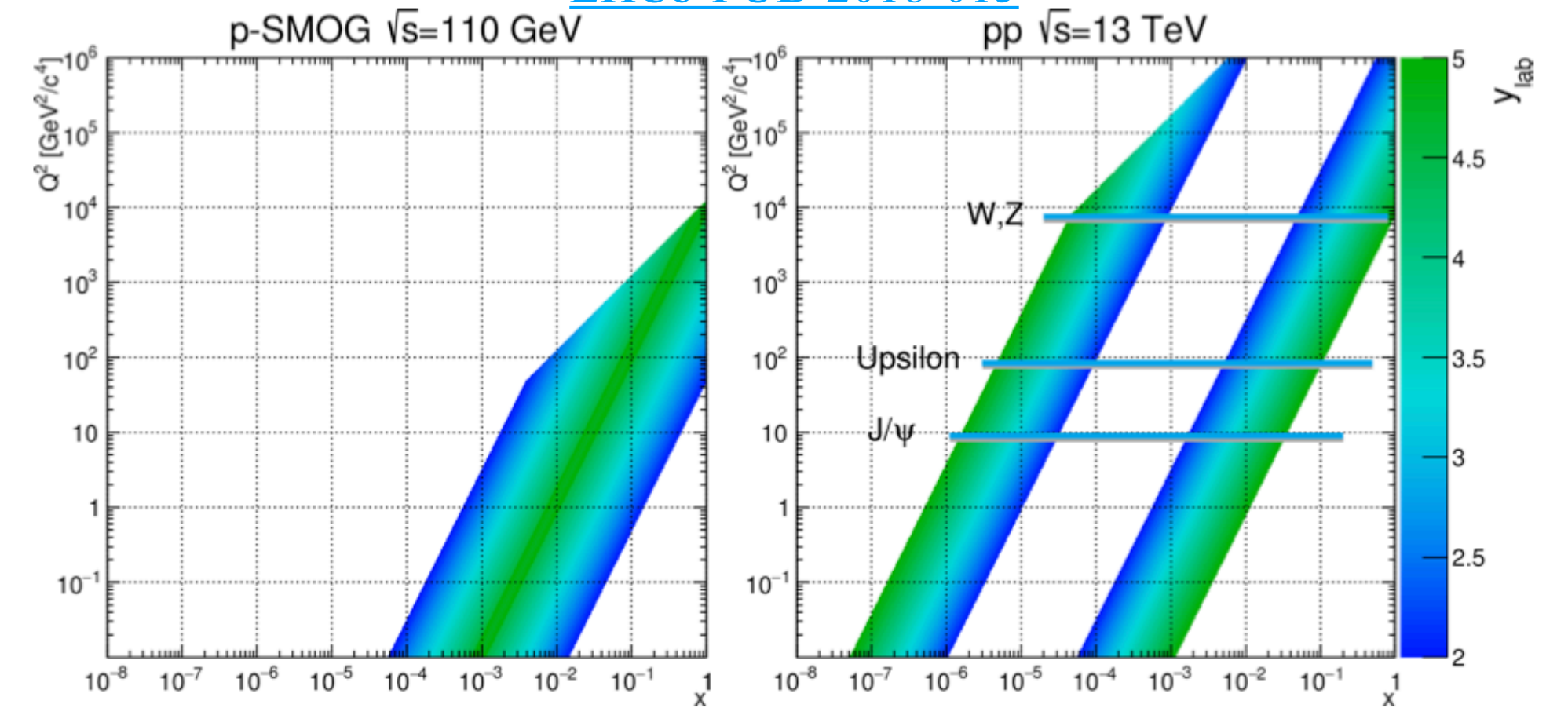
Noble gases at a pressure of $O(10^{-7})$ mbar are injected into the VELO.



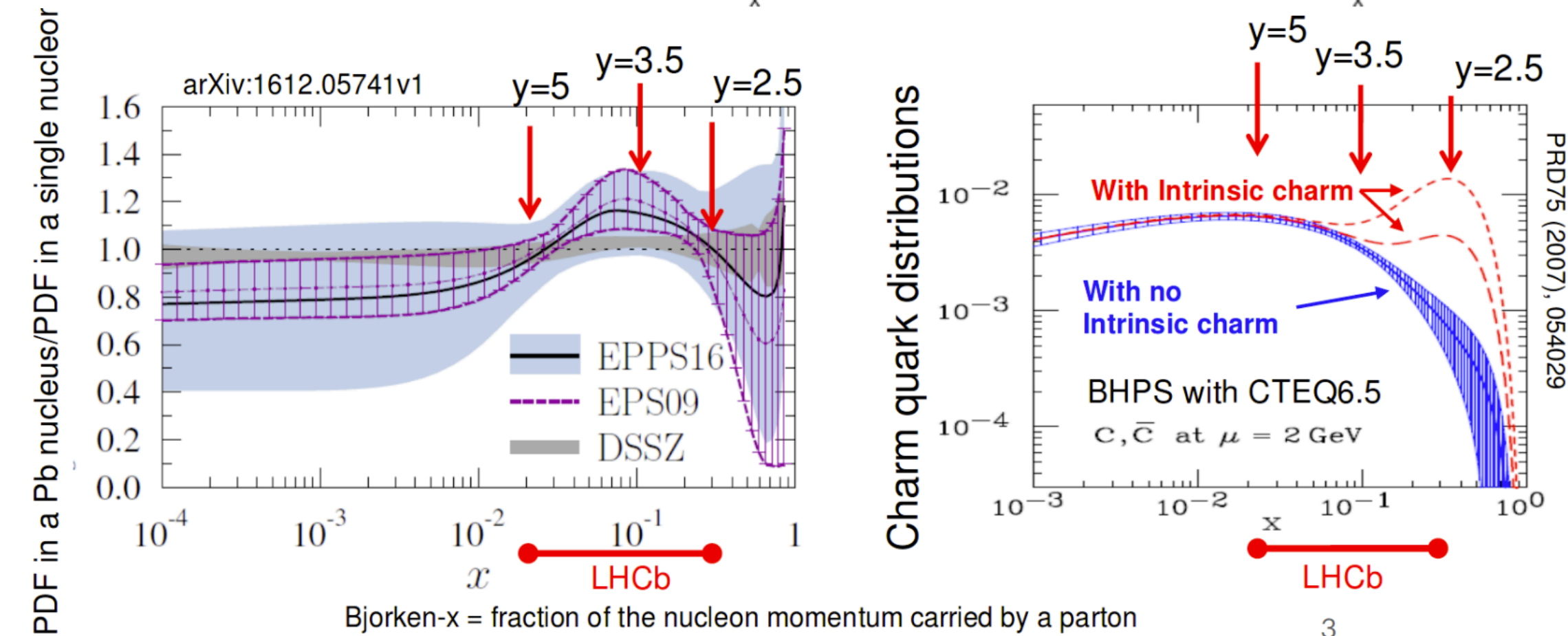
$$y = y^* + \ln\left(\frac{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}{m_p}\right)$$

$$x_F \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} \sqrt{M^2 + p_T^2} \sinh(y^*)$$

LHCb-PUB-2018-015

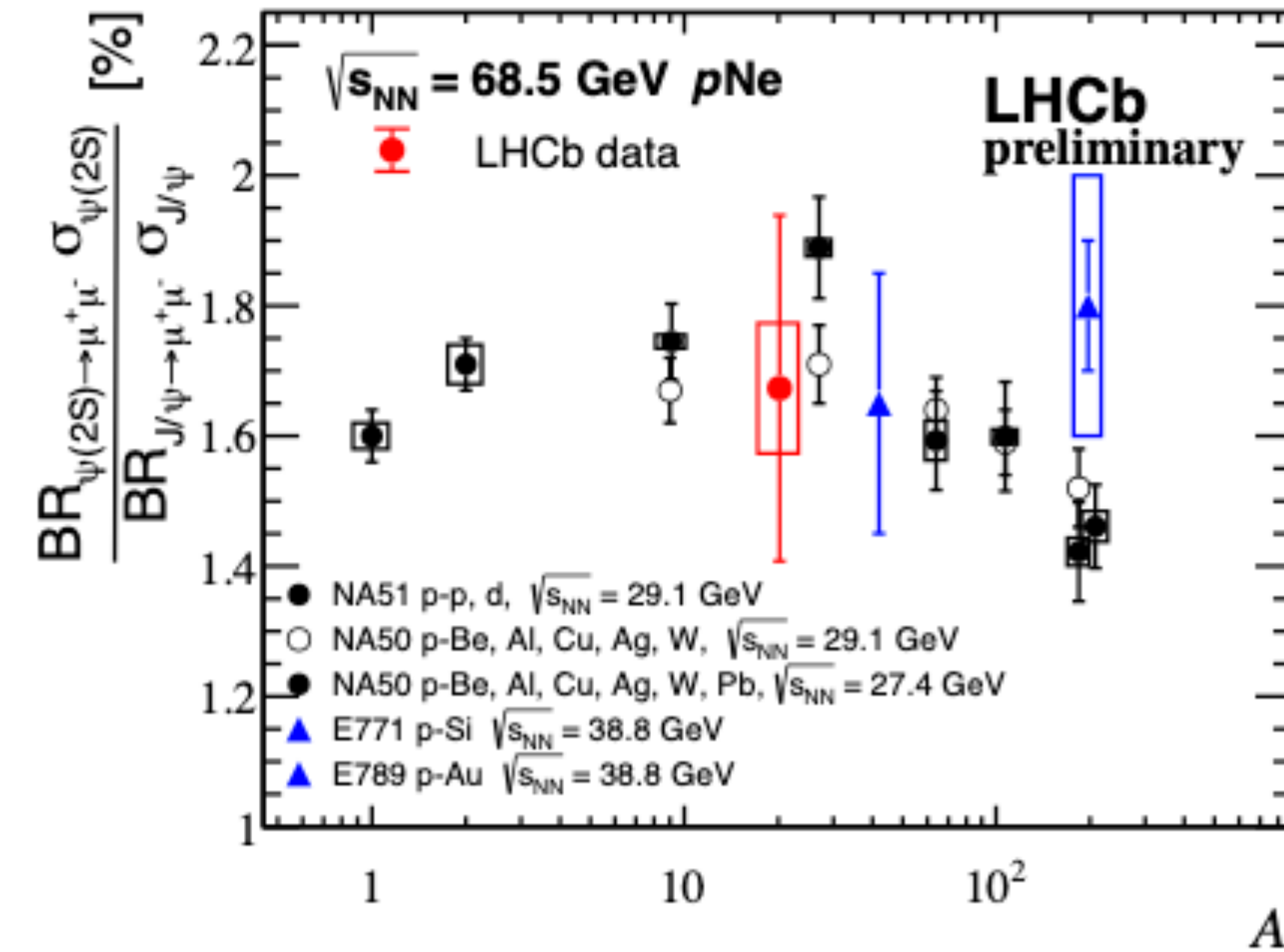
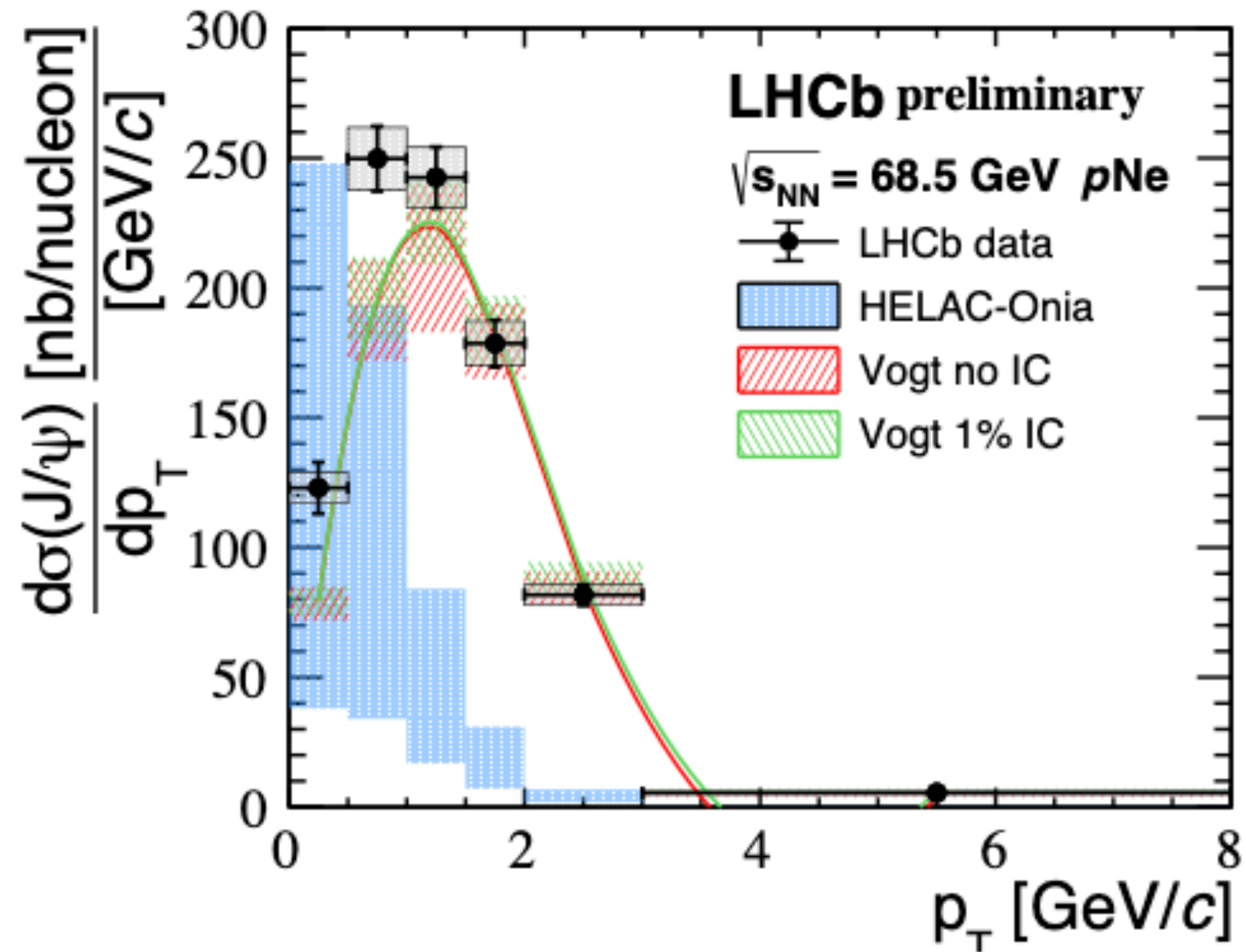


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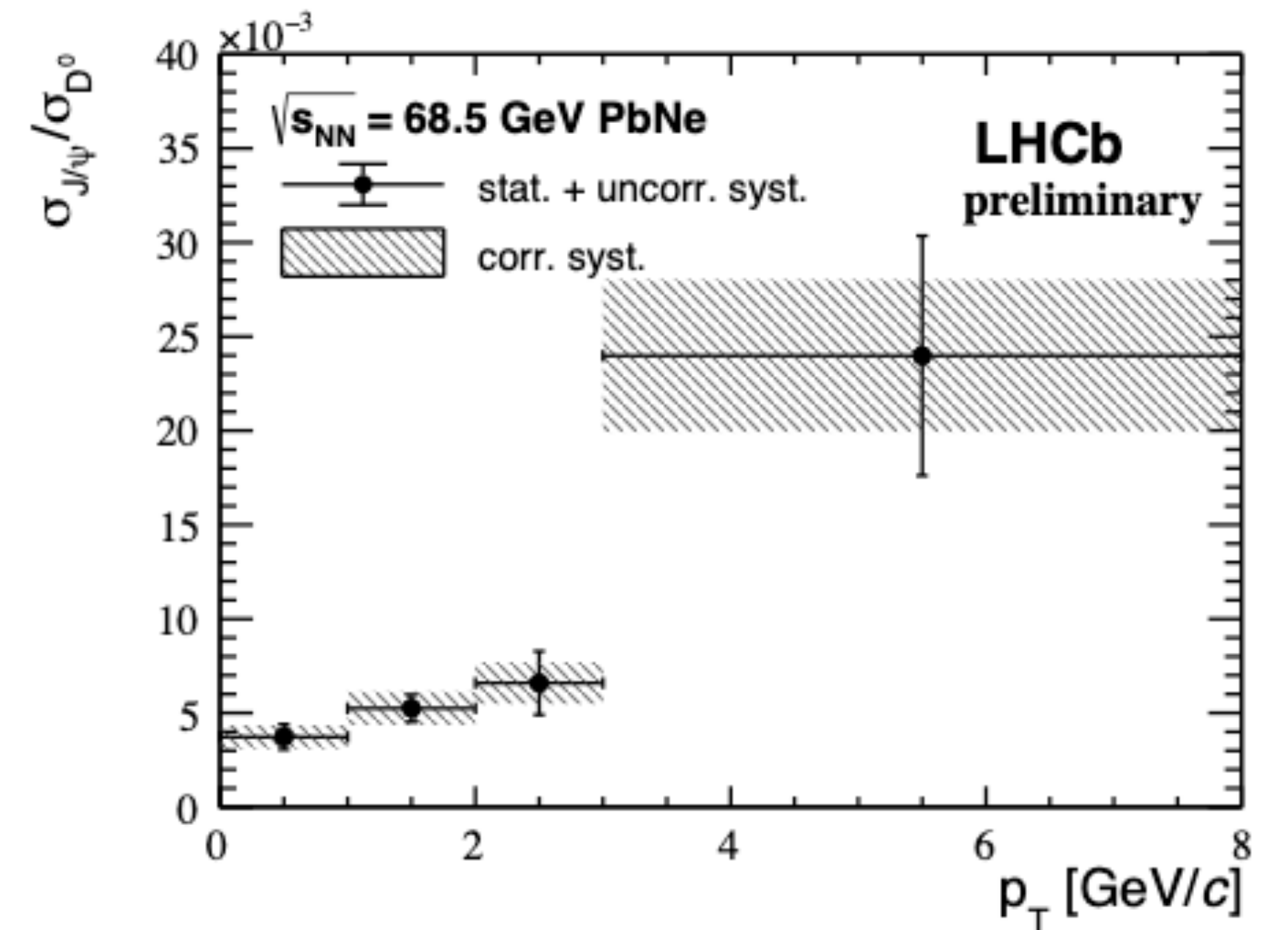
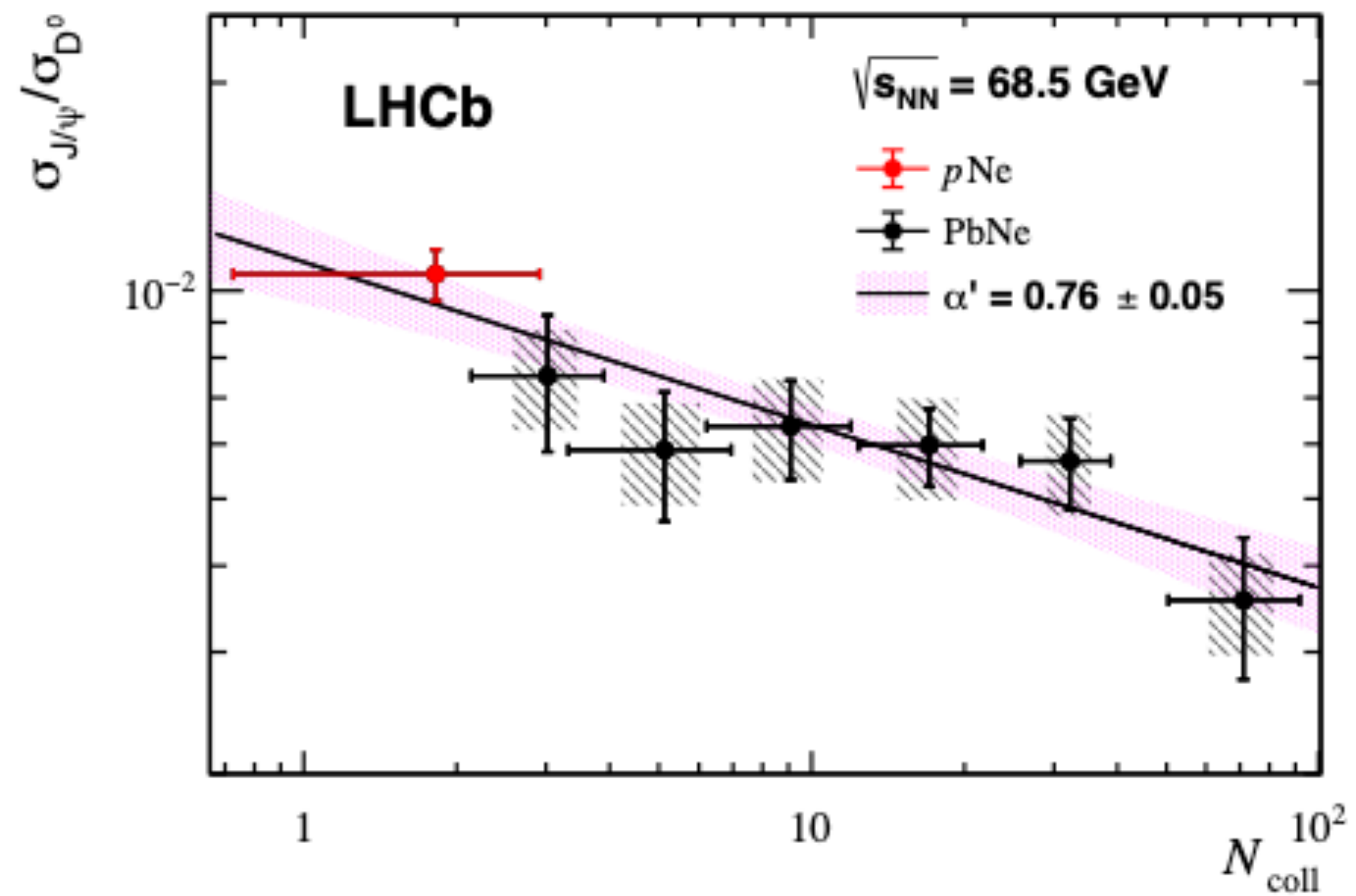
- $-3.0 < y^* < 0$
- Probe intrinsic charm content in the nucleon.
- Access nPDF anti-shadowing region.

- Charmonium production is suppressed by Cold Nuclear Matter effects in proton-nucleus collisions.
- Production cross-section of J/ψ is well produced by Vogt's predictions with both 1% and no Intrinsic Charm contribution.



- First measurement of the $\psi(2S)$ over J/ψ production in fixed target mode.
- $\psi(2S)$ to J/ψ production ratio is in agreement with other measurements at small values of target atomic mass number A .

- The measurement of J/ψ yield with the D^0 production can improve the interpretation of the charmonium $c\bar{c}$ suppression due to the presence of the hot and dense medium.



Assuming that $\sigma_{J/\psi} \propto \langle N_{coll} \rangle^{\alpha'}$ and $\sigma_{D^0} \propto \langle N_{coll} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow \sigma_{J/\psi} / \sigma_{D^0} \propto \langle N_{coll} \rangle^{\alpha'-1}$

- J/ψ and D^0 production ratio strongly depends on p_T

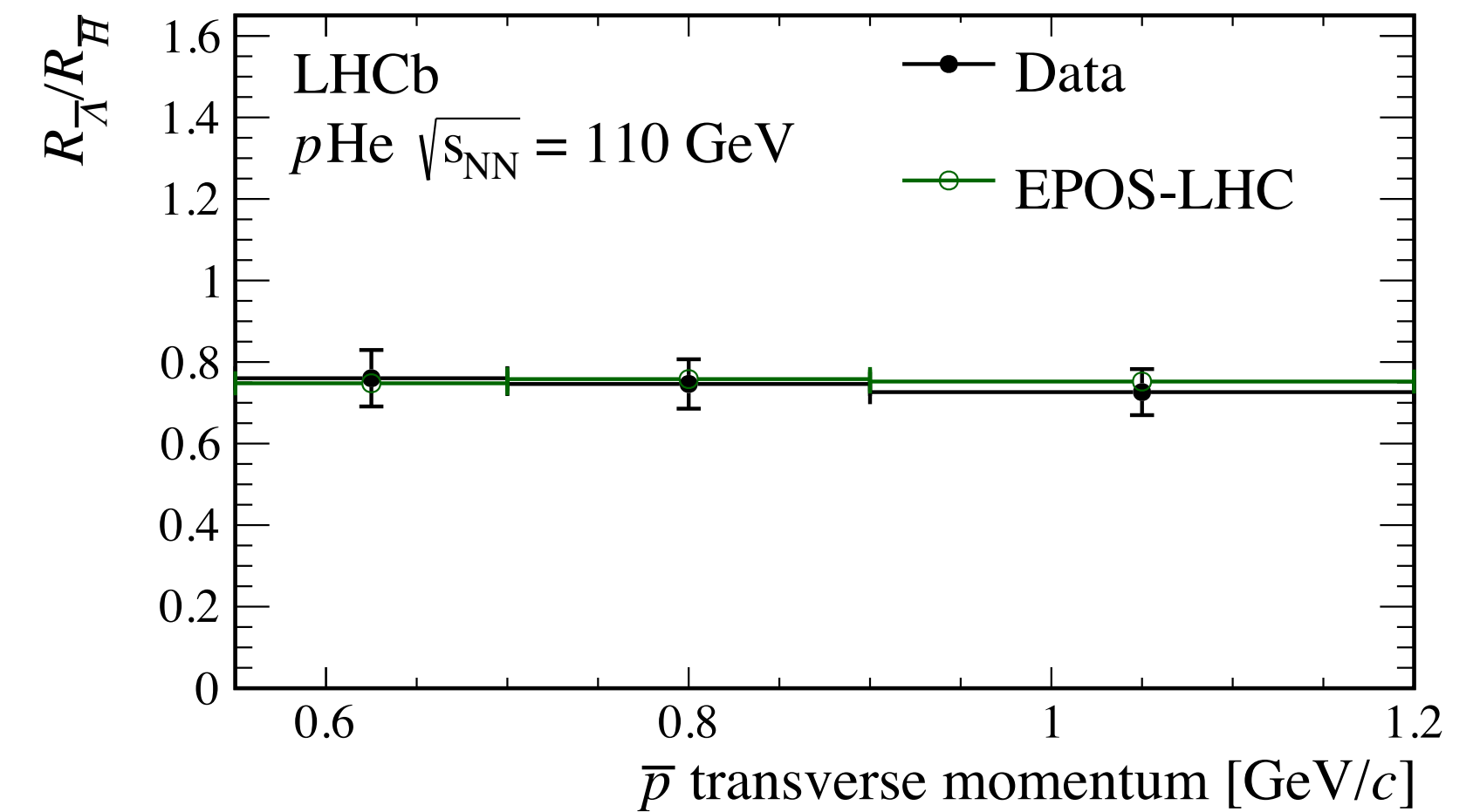
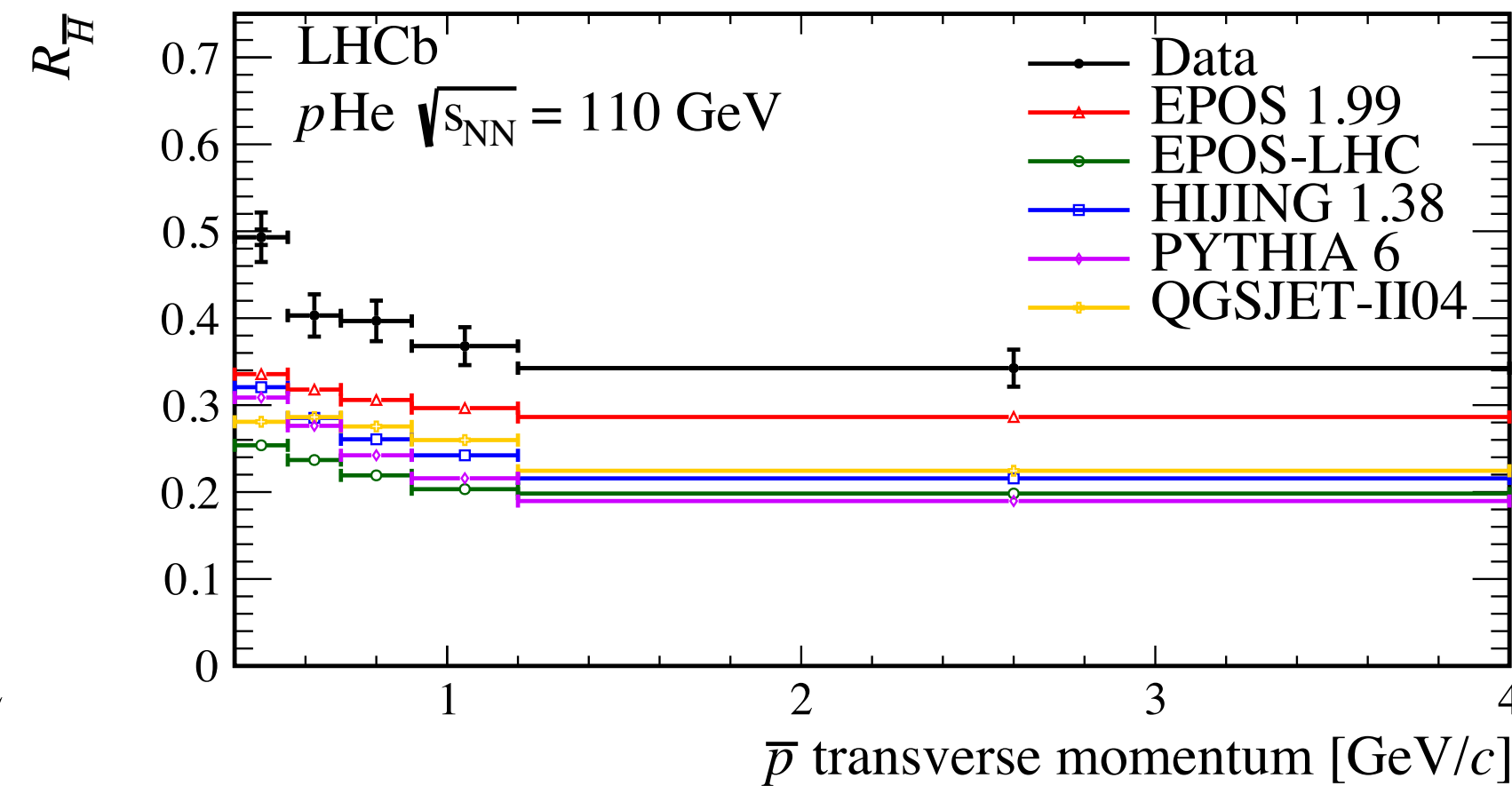
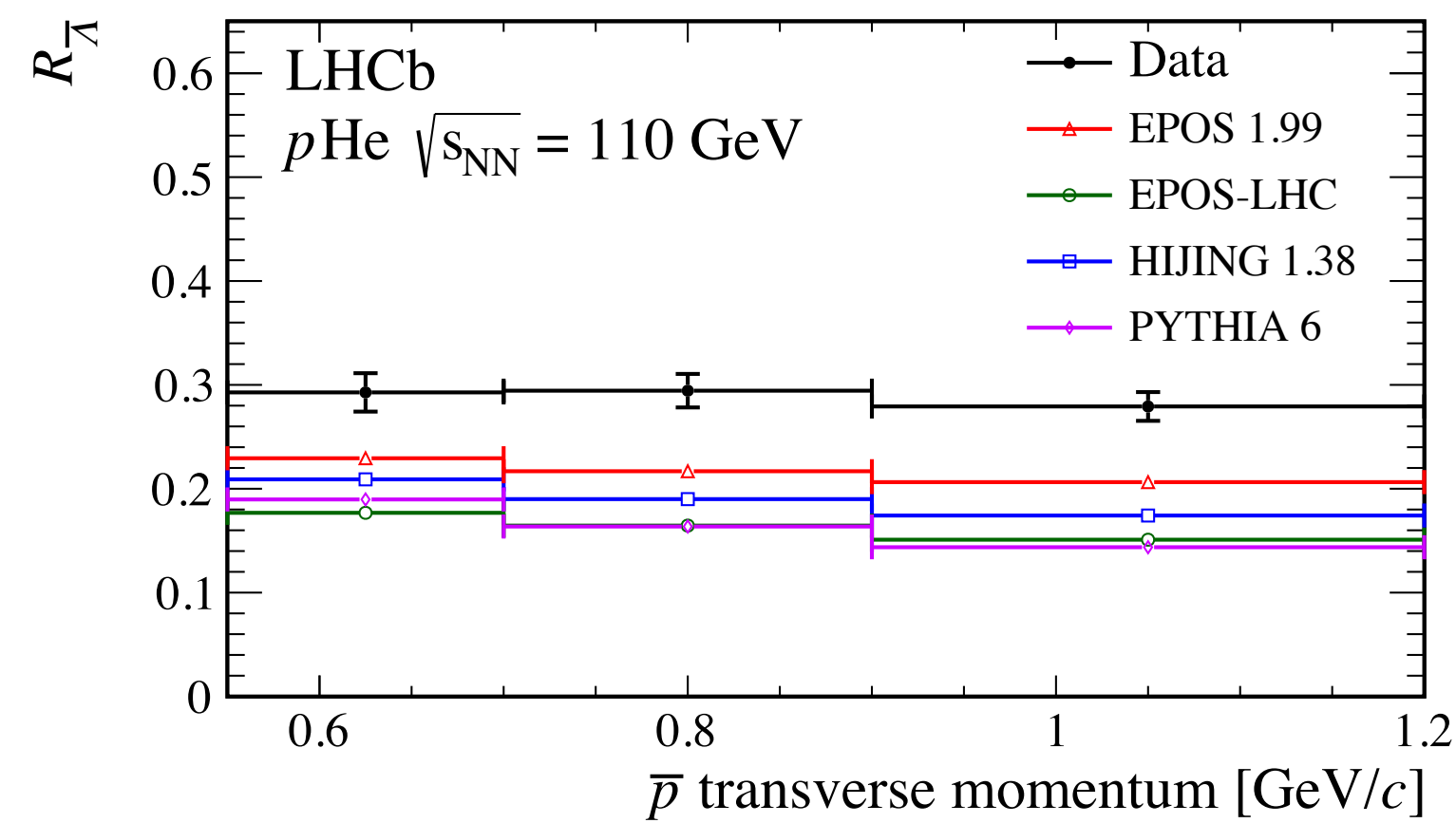
- J/ψ production is affected by additional nuclear effects with respect to D^0 .
- No anomalous J/ψ suppression is observed in the largest N_{coll} that could indicate the formation of QGP.

- Models of antiproton production in cosmic rays (CRs) collisions with the interstellar medium limit the interpretation of the \bar{p} flux in CRs measurements.
- The measurement of prompt \bar{p} in pHe collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 110$ is extended to include \bar{p} from anti-hyperon decays.

$$R_{\bar{\Lambda}} \equiv \frac{\sigma(pHe \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda}X \rightarrow \bar{p}X)}{\sigma(pHe \rightarrow \bar{p}_{prompt}X)}$$

$$R_{\bar{H}} \equiv \frac{\sigma(pHe \rightarrow \bar{H}X \rightarrow \bar{p}X)}{\sigma(pHe \rightarrow \bar{p}_{prompt}X)}$$

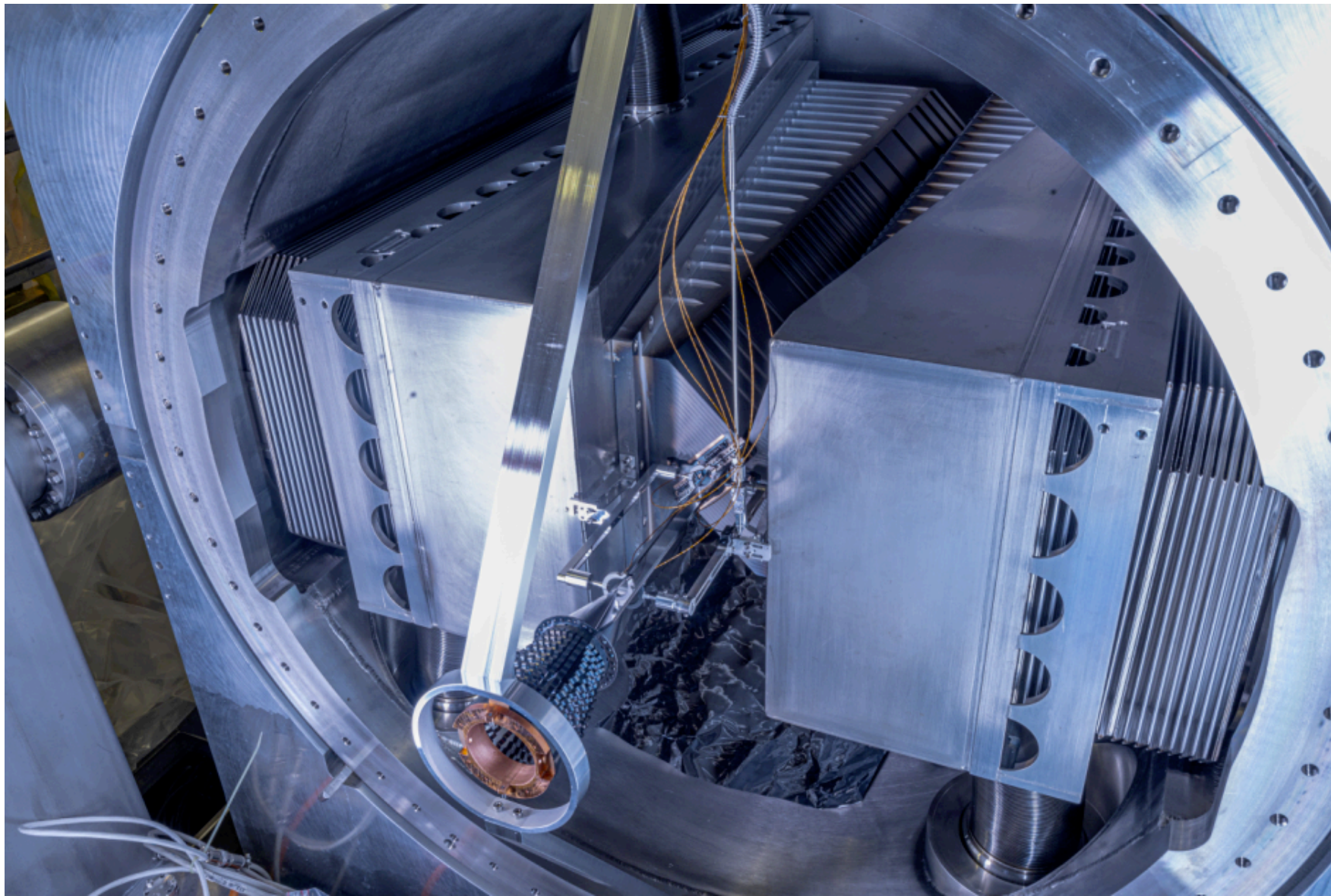
$$R_{\bar{\Lambda}}/R_{\bar{H}}$$



- Models largely underestimate the anti-hyperon contributions to the \bar{p} production.

- The ratio of $\bar{\Lambda}$ over \bar{H} is well reproduced by EPO-LHC

SMOG2: extension of the fixed-target programme



- **SMOG2**: confinement cell for the gas to be installed upstream of the nominal IP (z in $[-500, -300]$ mm).
- More gas target: $H_2, D_2, He, N_2, O_2, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe$.
- Gas density increased by up to two orders of magnitude for the same gas.

[LHCb-FIGURE-2022-002](#)

- pp and SMOG2 luminous regions separated
 - simultaneous data-taking is possible.
 - Large statistics.
- Unique opportunities to extend heavy-ion, QCD and astrophysics studies. [LHCb-PUB-2018-015](#)

