



Physics program of the ALICE 3 experiment for the LHC Runs 5 and 6

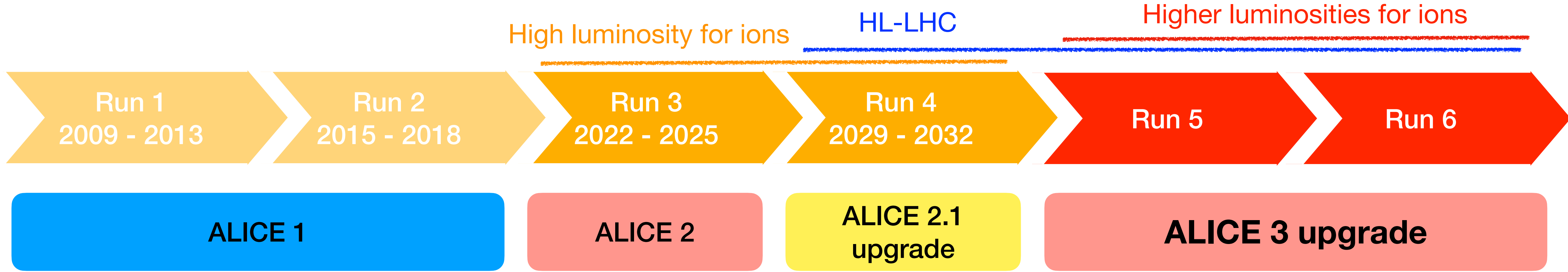
Raphaëlle Bailhache

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany



ALICE

ALICE timeline

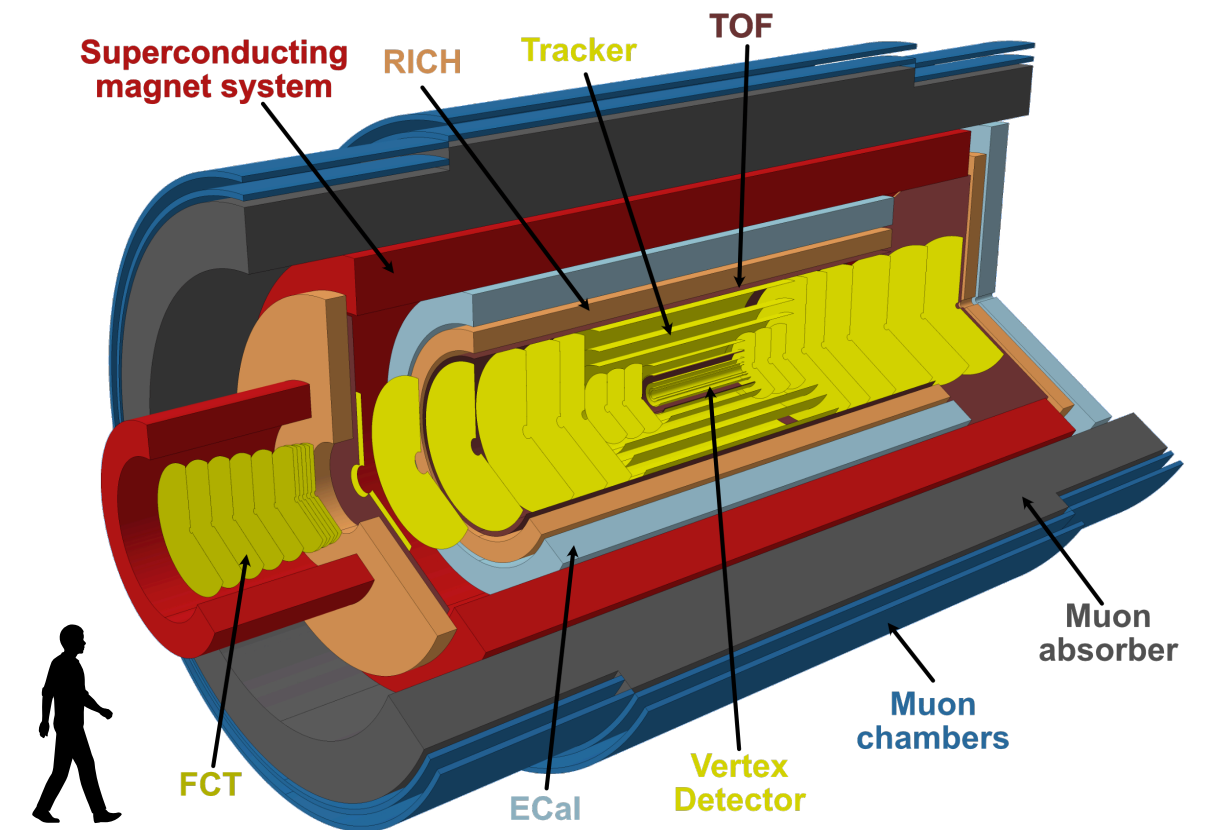


Run 3 & 4 (covered by previous talk Sarah Porteboeuf)

Beyond Run 4 (this talk):

- Address fundamental questions still open:
 - First ideas at Heavy-Ion town meeting 2018 [D.Adamova et al. ArXiv:1902.01211](#)
 - Letter of Intent for **ALICE 3**:
Review concluded with very positive feedback by the LHCC in March 2022
[ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009](#)

European Particle Physics Strategy Update recommends **full exploitation of the LHC, incl. heavy-ion programme**

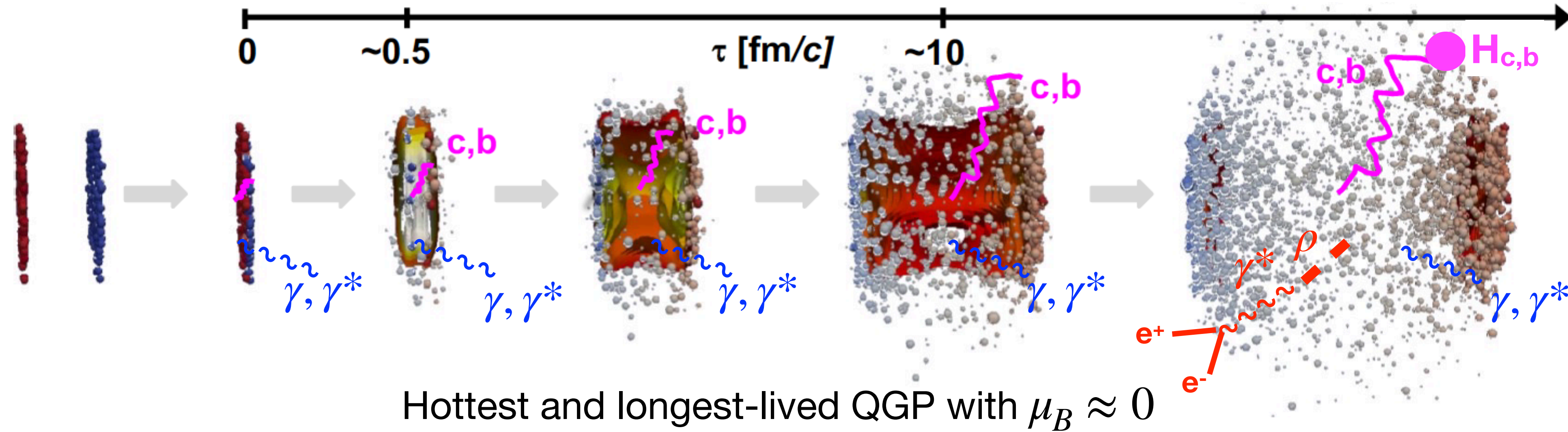


Intermediate upgrade

Major upgrade

Heavy-ion physics at the LHC

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-71427-7_8



Run 3 + 4 will allow comprehensive measurements of:

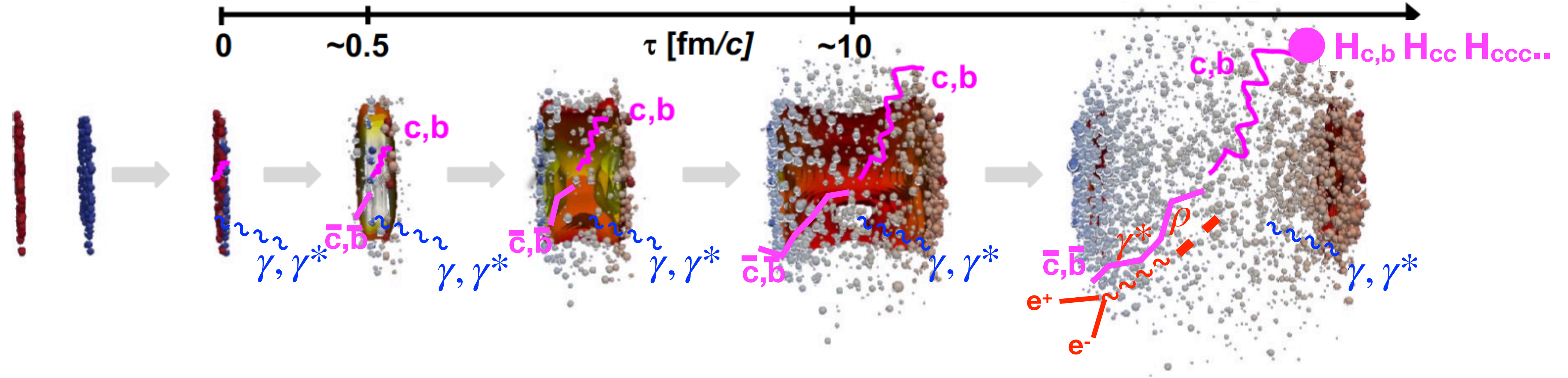
- Medium effects and hydrochemistry of **single heavy-flavour (mostly charm)**
- Time-averaged **thermal QGP radiation**
- Patterns indicative of **chiral symmetry restoration**
- Collectivity from small to large systems

→ **Understanding of QGP still incomplete**

Heavy-ion physics at the LHC



https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-71427-7_8



Fundamental questions will remain open:

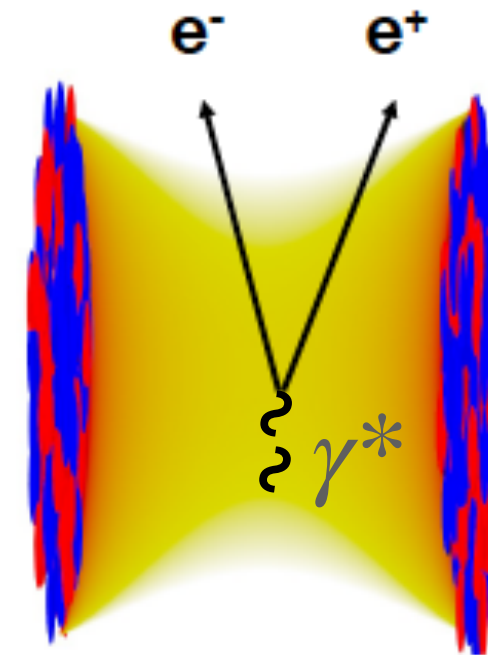
- Fundamental QGP properties driving its constituents to equilibration
- Hadronisation mechanisms of the QGP
- Partonic equation of state and its temperature dependence
- Underlying dynamics of chiral symmetry restoration

Physics beyond Run 4

Relies on:

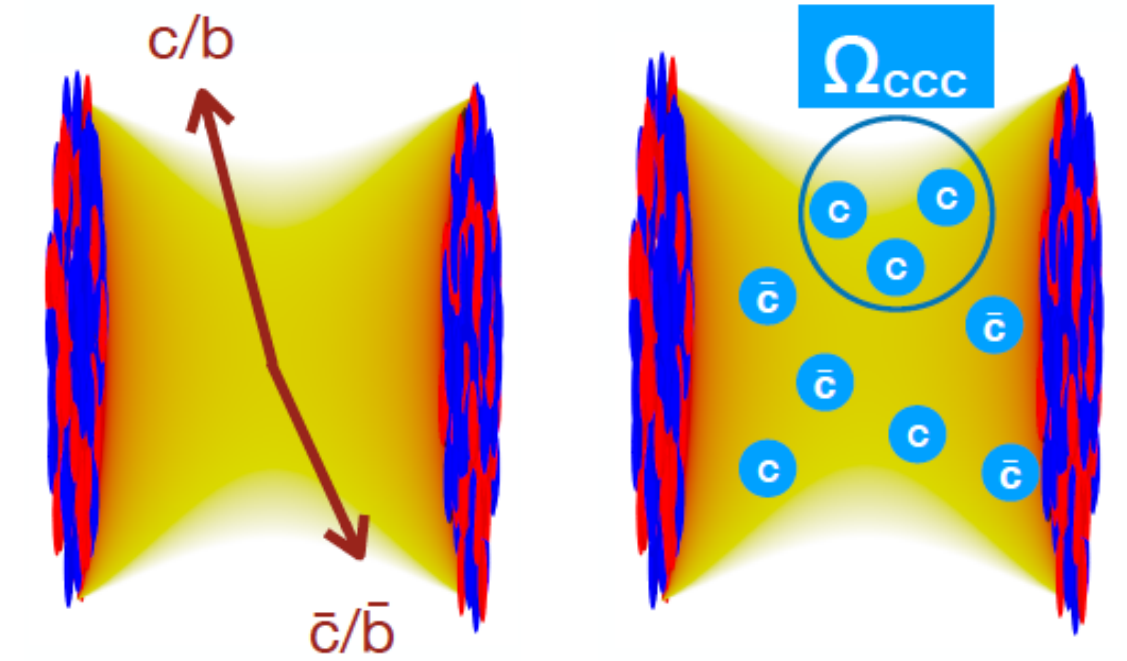
- **Precision differential measurements of dileptons**

- Evolution of the quark-gluon plasma
- Mechanisms of chiral symmetry restoration



- **Systematic measurements of (multi-)heavy-flavoured hadrons down to low p_T**

- Transport properties in the QGP down to thermal scale
- Mechanisms of hadronisation from the QGP

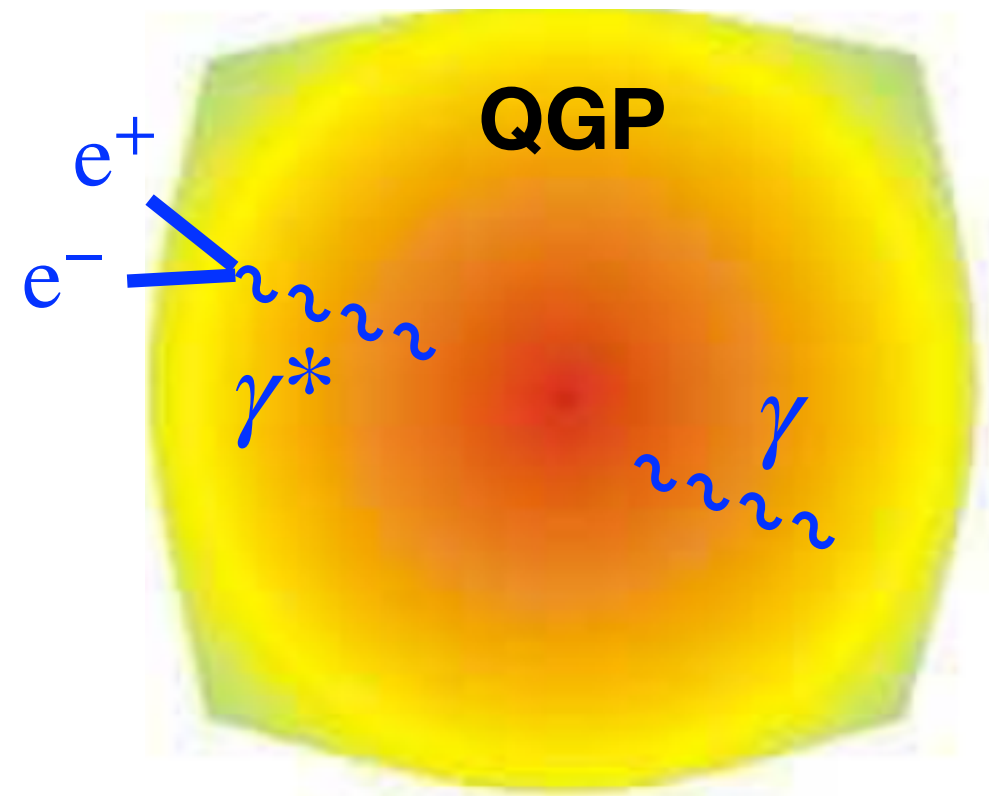


- **Hadron interaction and fluctuation measurements**

- Existence and nature of heavy-quark exotic bound states
- Search for super-nuclei (light nuclei with c)
- Search for critical behaviour in event-by-event fluctuations of conserved charges

Qualitative steps needed in detector performance and statistics
 → next-generation heavy-ion experiment

Electromagnetic radiation

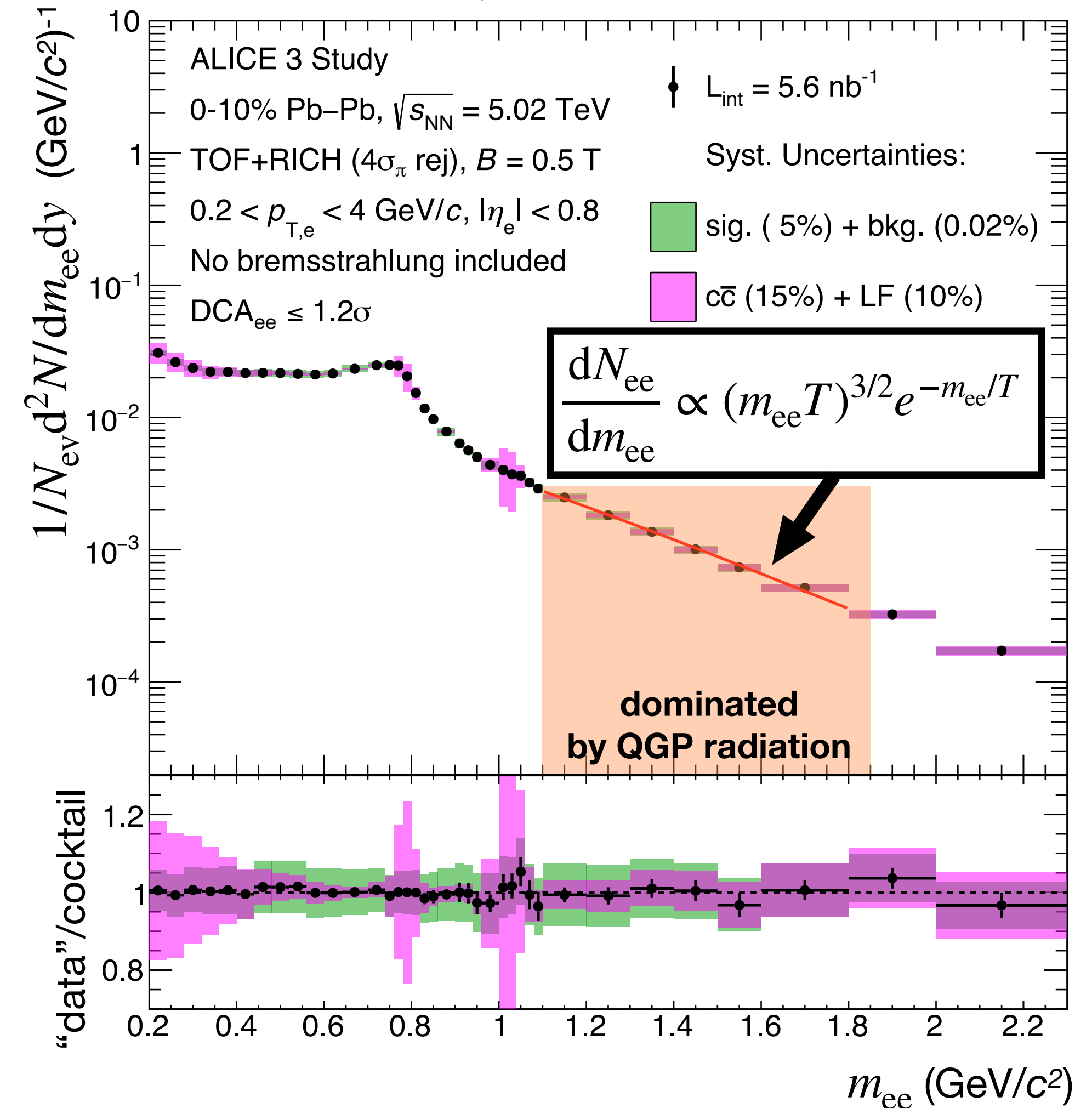


Averaged temperature T of the QGP
using thermal dielectron m_{ee} spectrum at $m_{ee} > 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

Need:

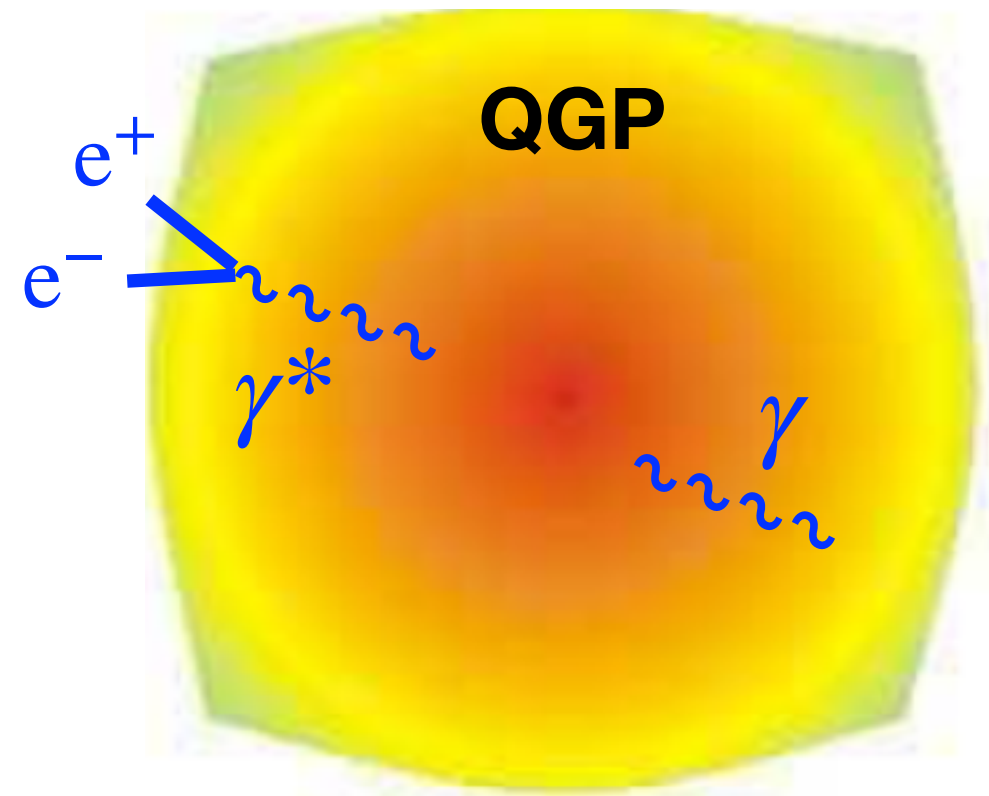
- Very good electron identification down to low p_T
- Small detector material budget (γ conversion background)
- Excellent pointing resolution (heavy-flavour decay background)

Projection for thermal dielectron m_{ee}
ALICE 3, one month Pb–Pb



R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 (2013) 148253
P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 (2014) 103
ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

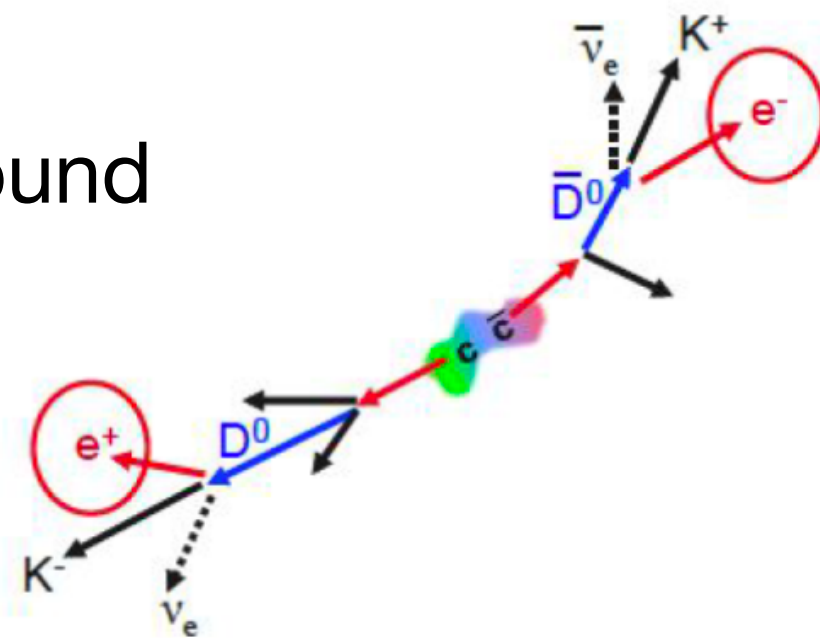
Electromagnetic radiation



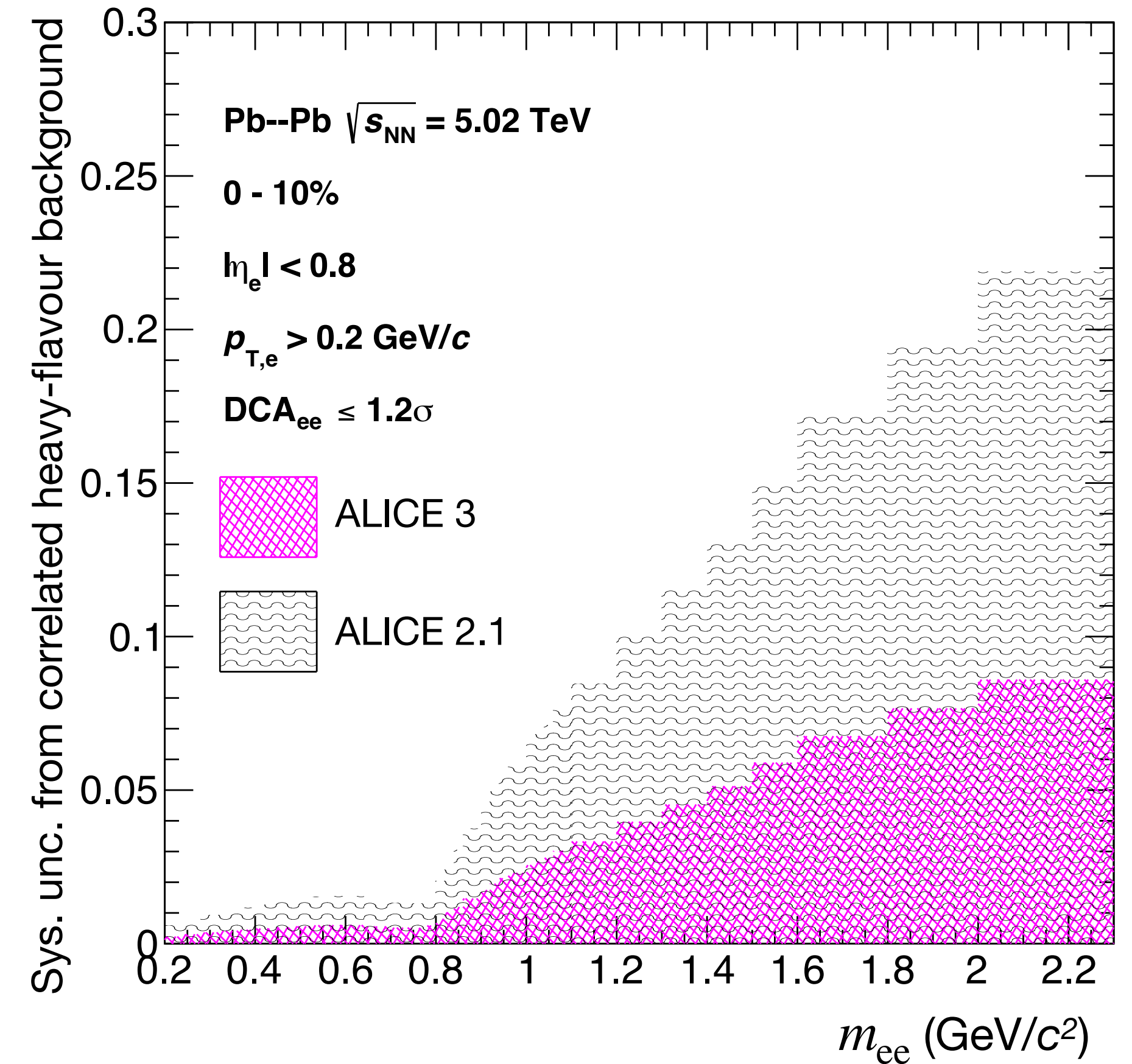
Averaged temperature T of the QGP

using thermal dielectron m_{ee} spectrum at $m_{ee} > 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

- Heavy-flavour decays produce correlated background
- Large for $m_{ee} \gtrsim 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- **Can be effectively suppressed with ALICE 3**
Thanks to excellent pointing resolution

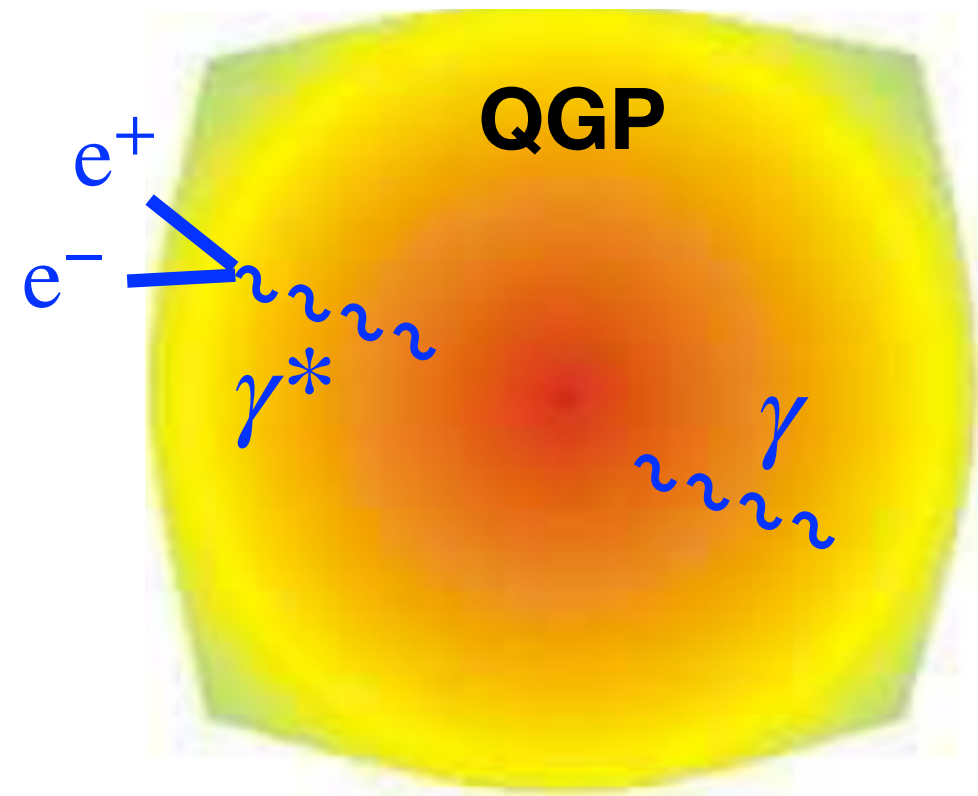


Relative systematic uncertainties from correlated heavy-flavour background



R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 (2013) 148253
 P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 (2014) 103
 ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

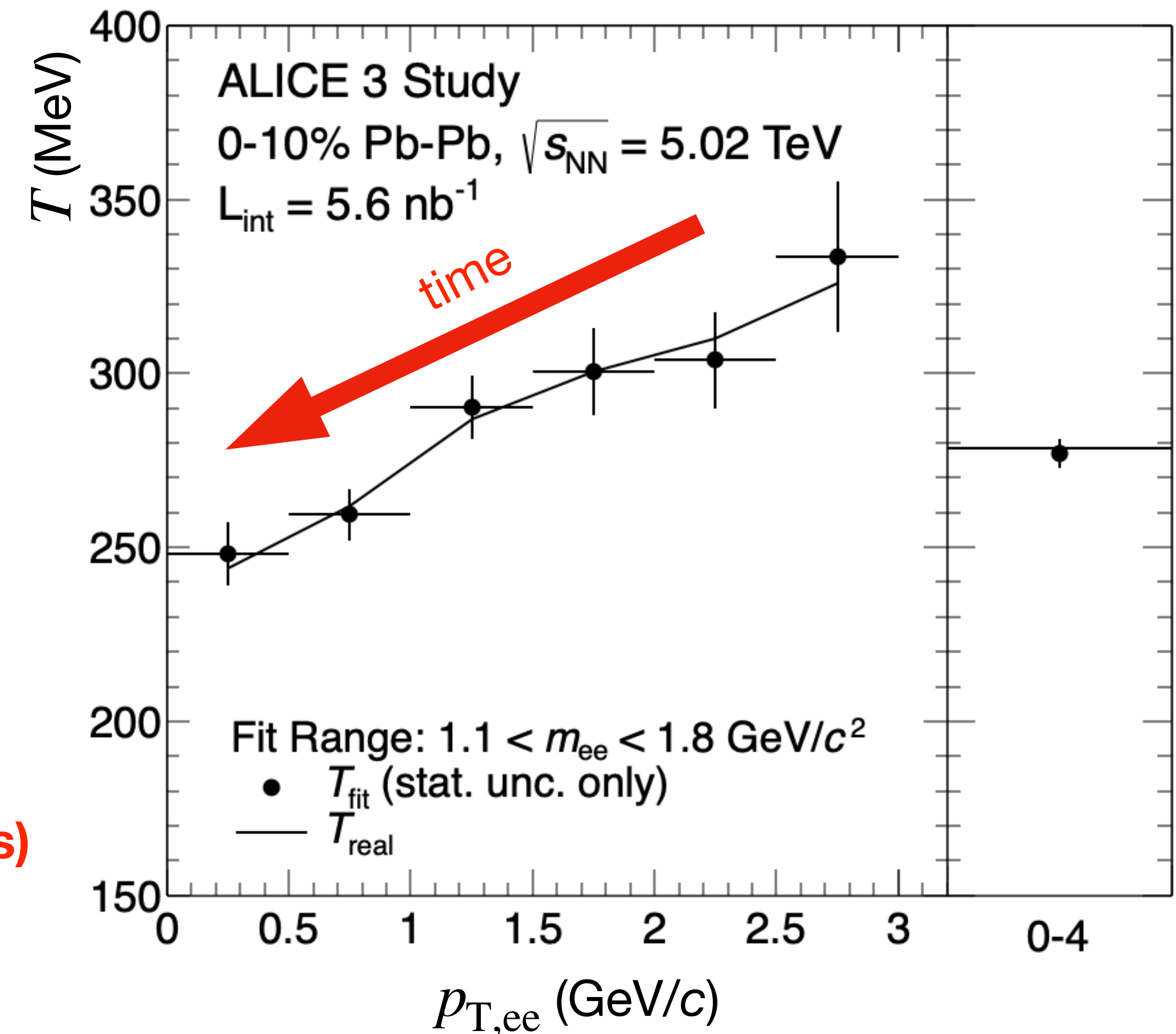
Electromagnetic radiation



- First T measurements in Run 3 and 4
- **ALICE 3: Probe time dependence of T**
Double-differential spectra in reach: T vs mass, $p_{T,ee}$

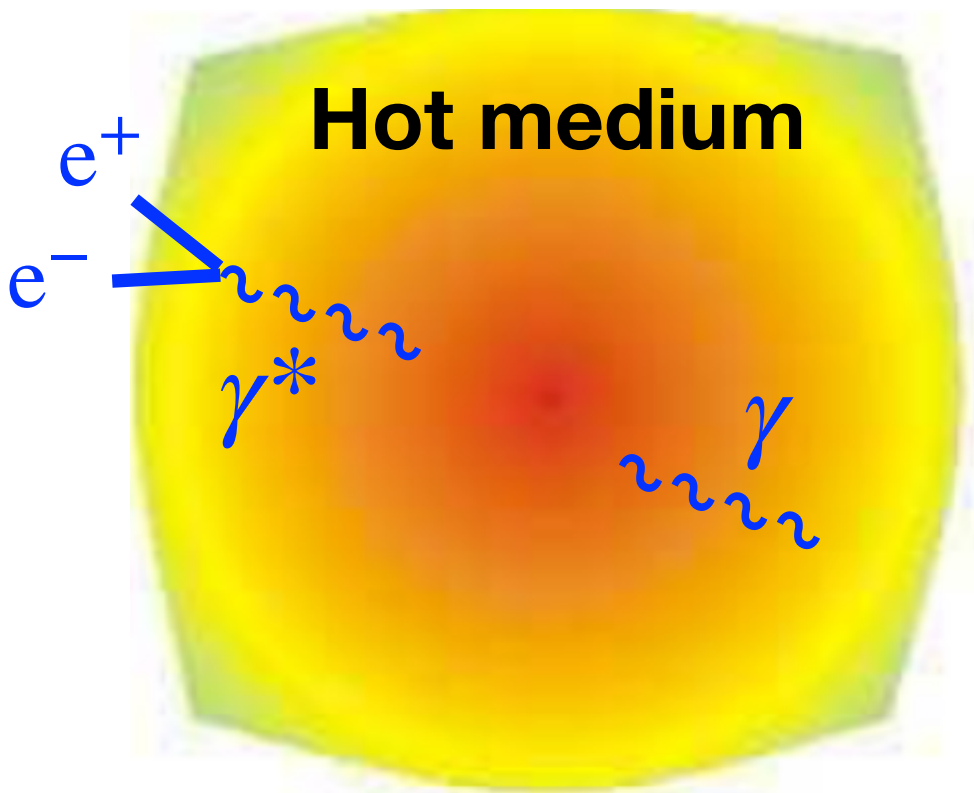
Complementary measurements with real photons
(With different systematic uncertainties \rightarrow Reduce overall uncertainties)

Expected statistical errors of T as a function of $p_{T,ee}$
 ALICE 3, one month Pb–Pb



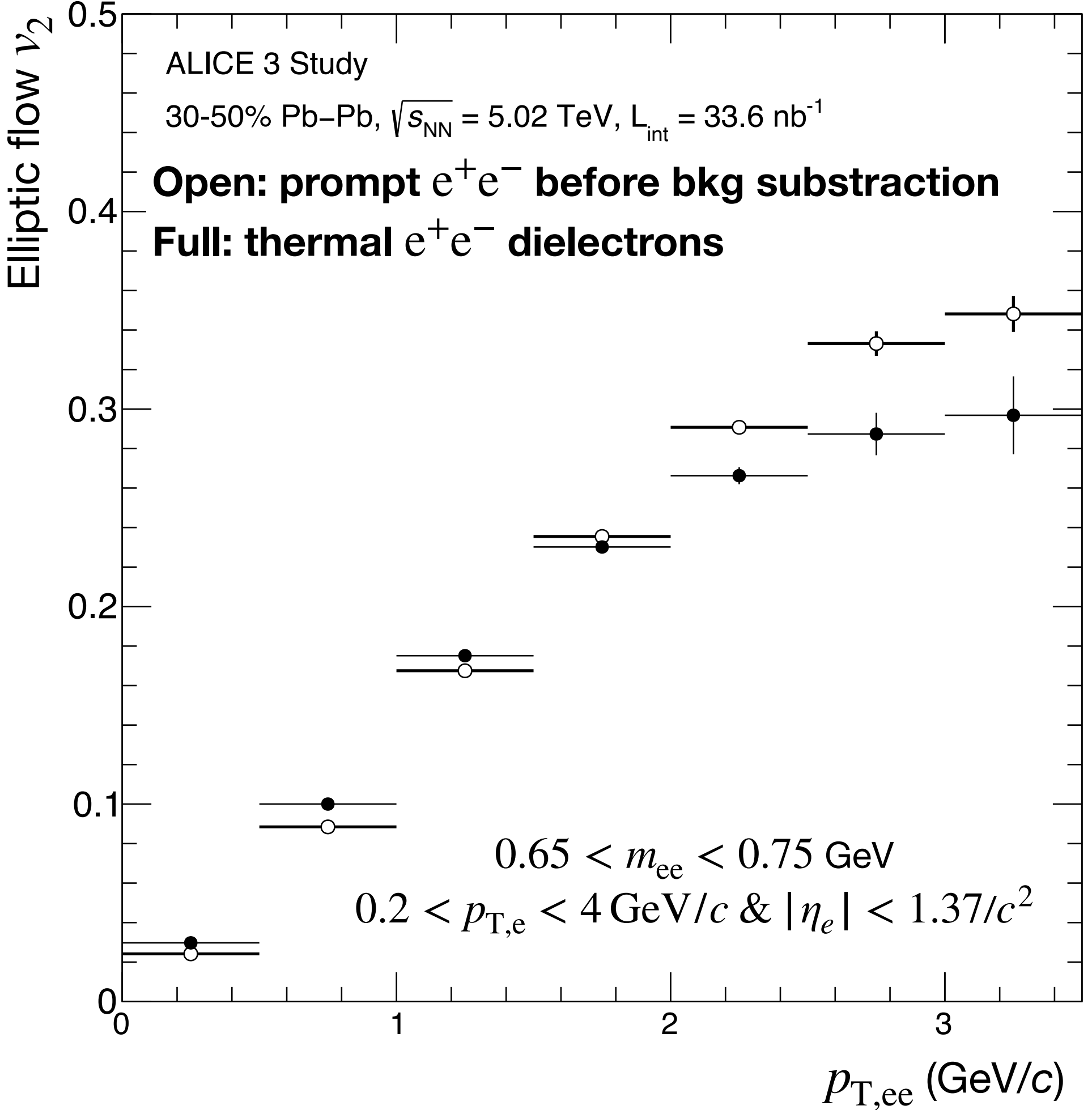
R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 (2013) 148253
 P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 (2014) 103
 ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

Electromagnetic radiation



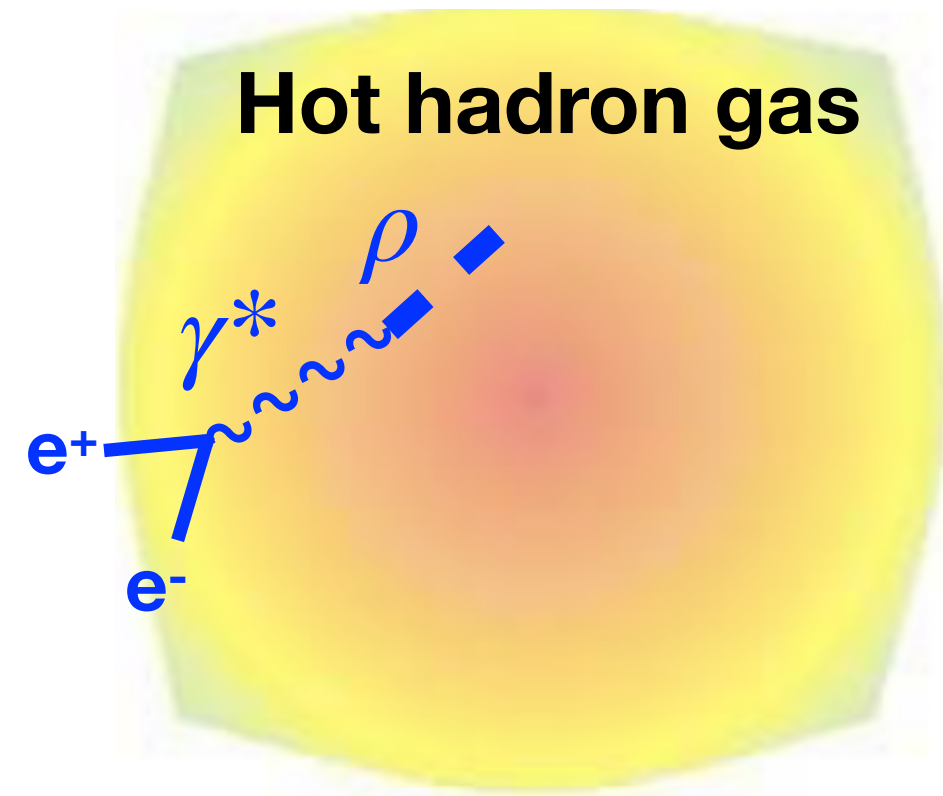
- First T measurements in Run 3 and 4
- **ALICE 3: Access time evolution and flow field (“photon puzzle”)**
 Double-differential spectra: T vs mass, $p_{T,ee}$
Dilepton v_2 vs mass and $p_{T,ee}$ possible
Complementary measurements with real photons
(With different systematic uncertainties → Reduce overall uncertainties)

Expected statistical errors for $v_2^{e^+e^-}$
 ALICE 3, 6 years Pb–Pb running

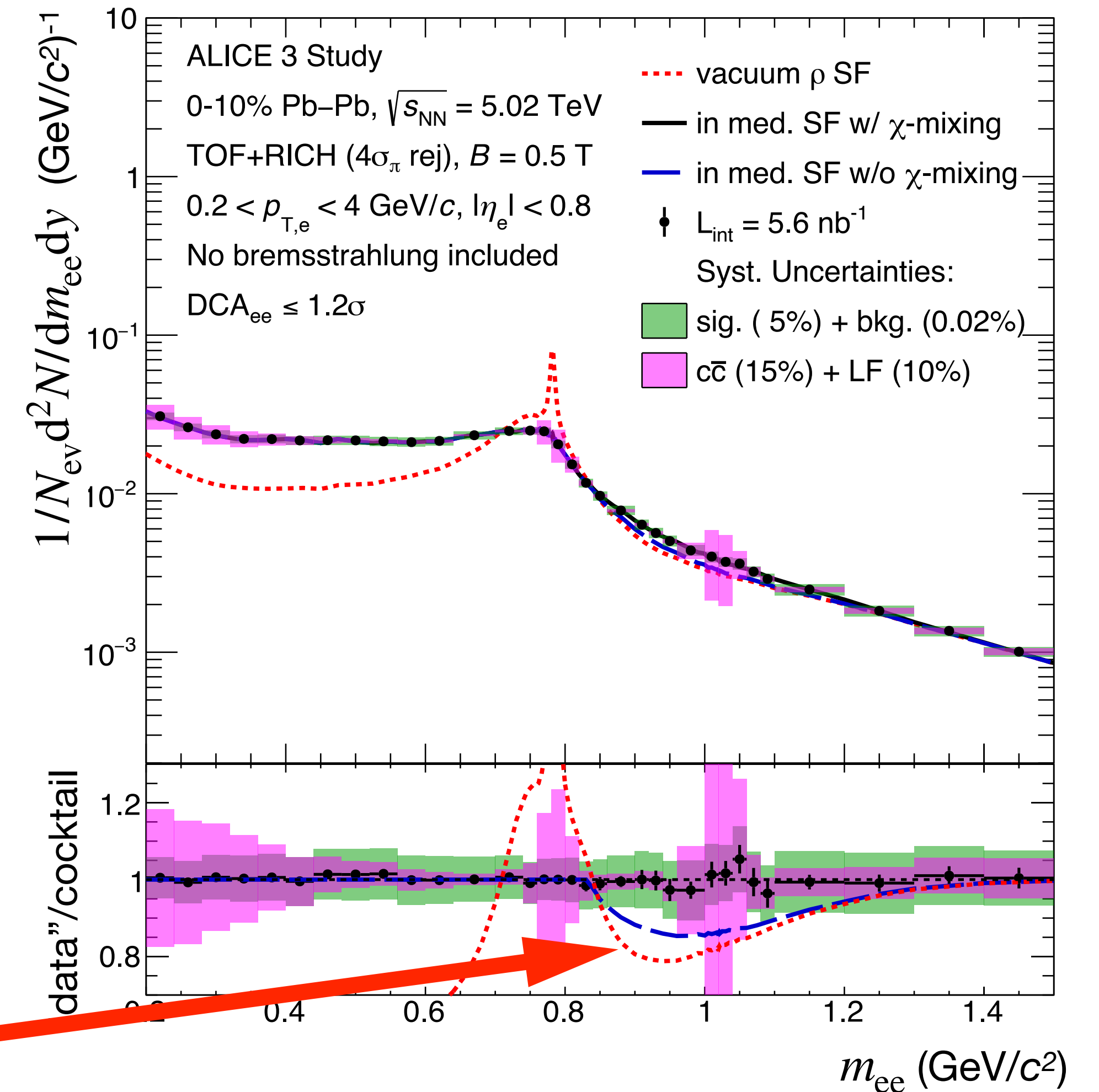


v_2 from G. Vujanovic et al., PRC 101 (2020) 044904
 ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

Chiral symmetry and thermal emission



Projection for thermal dielectron m_{ee}
ALICE 3, one month Pb–Pb



Study chiral symmetry restoration (CSR) mechanisms
using thermal dielectron m_{ee} spectrum at $m_{ee} < 1.2$ GeV/c 2

- Thermal production of ρ
- ρ sensitive to surrounding medium ($\tau_\rho = 1.3$ fm $<$ $\tau_{fireball}$)
- Modification of ρ spectral function related to CSR

High precision measurement with ALICE 3

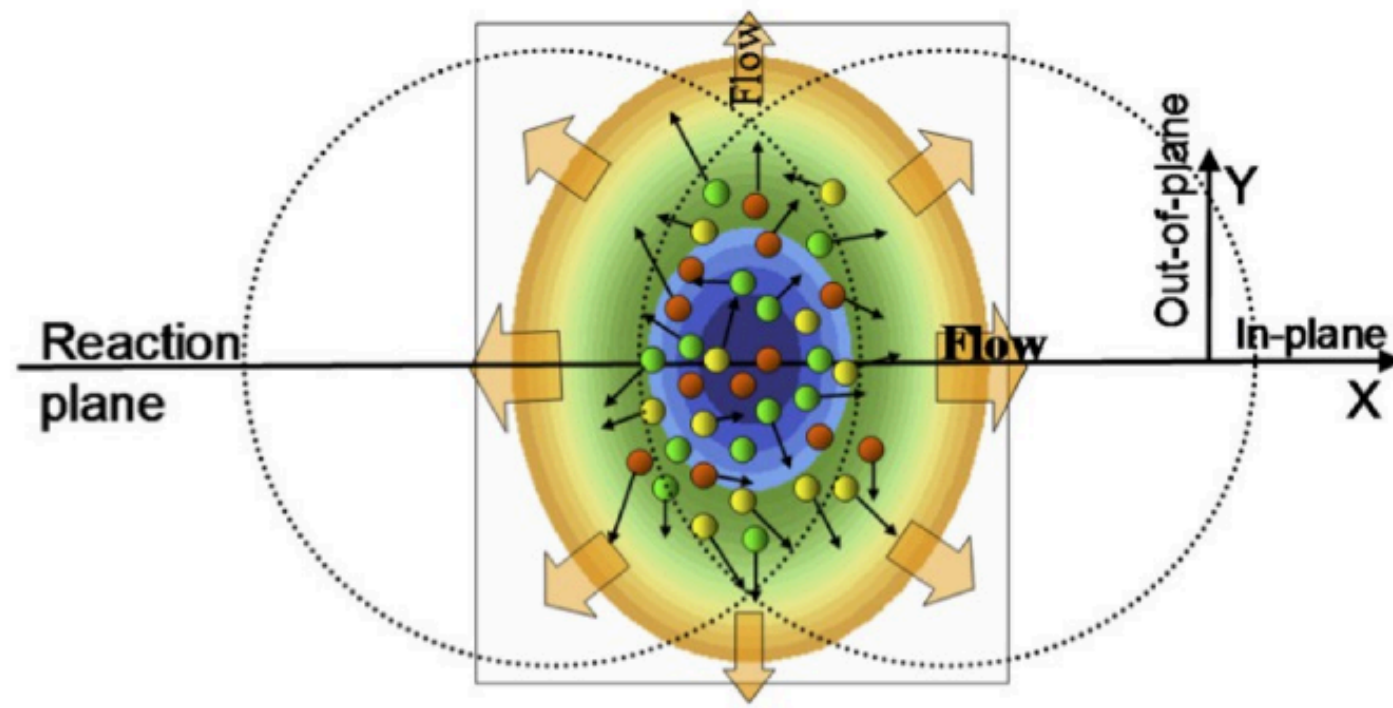
→ Access to CSR mechanisms like $\rho - a_1$ mixing

R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 (2013) 148253
P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 (2014) 103
ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

Heavy-quark transport

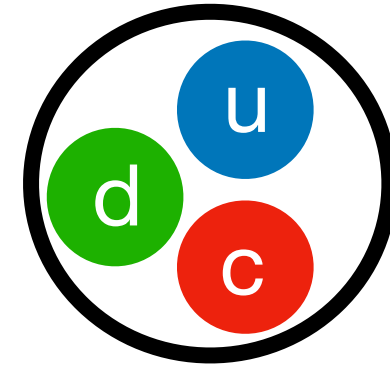


Non-central collision

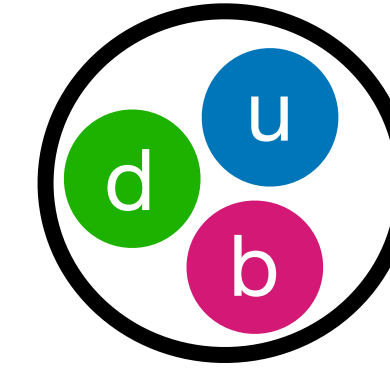
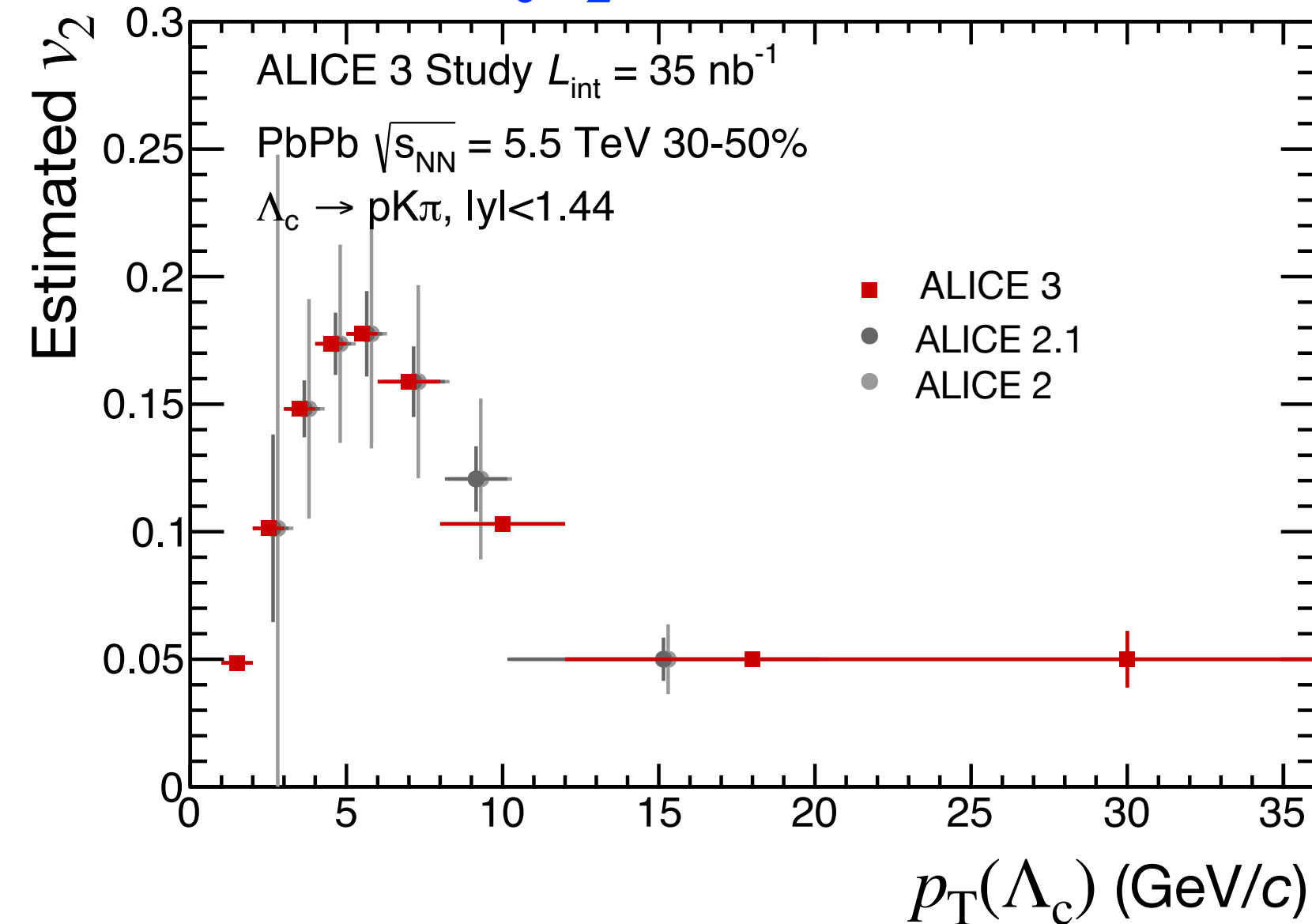


Interactions with the plasma generate azimuthal anisotropy v_2 :

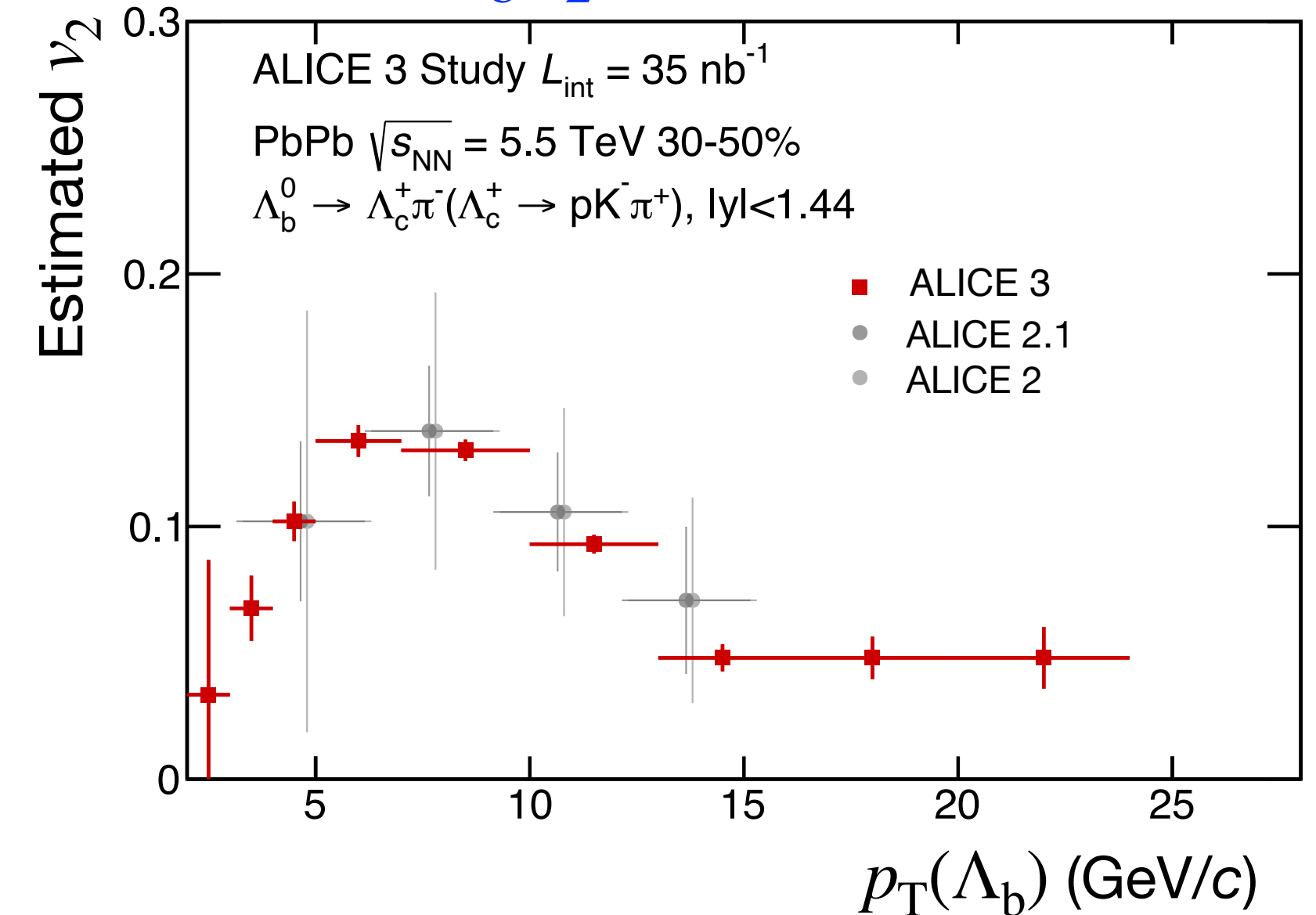
$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2 v_2 \cos 2(\phi - \psi)$$



$\Lambda_c v_2$ performance

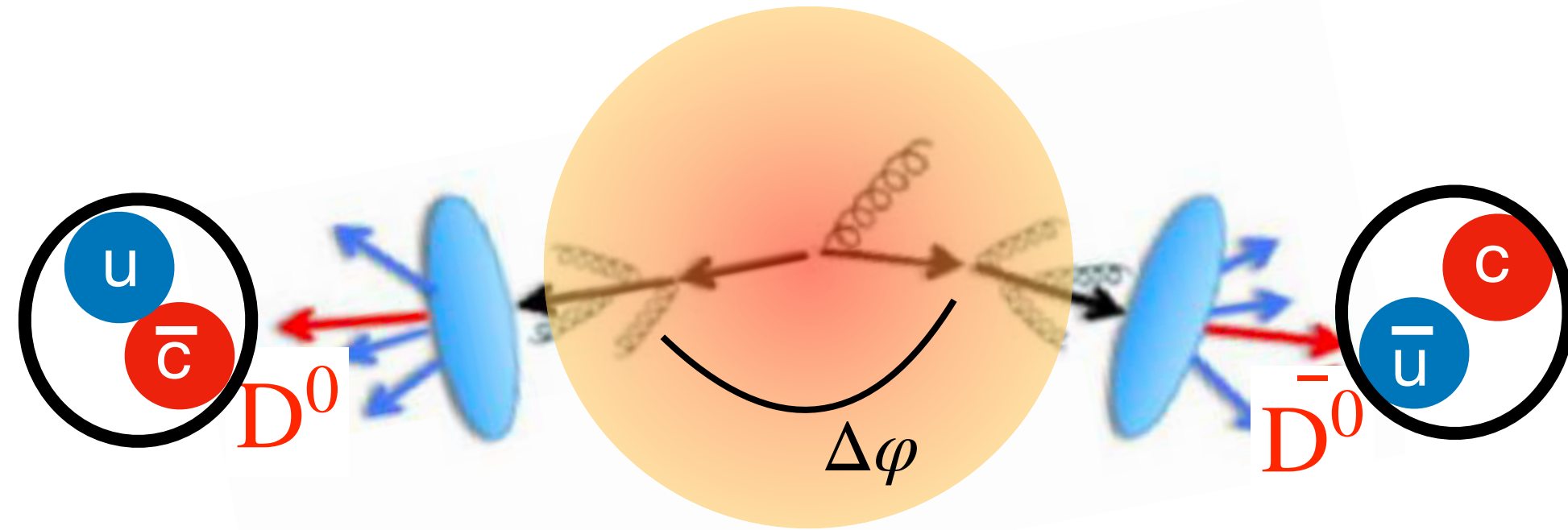


$\Lambda_b v_2$ performance



- Access to **(heavy-)quark transport properties in the QGP** at hadron level
 - Precise R_{AA} and v_2 measurements of charm and beauty hadrons down to low p_T → **diffusion coefficients D_s**
 - Expect beauty thermalisation slower than charm → smaller v_2
- **Need ALICE 3 performance (pointing resolution, acceptance) for precise measurements down to low p_T**

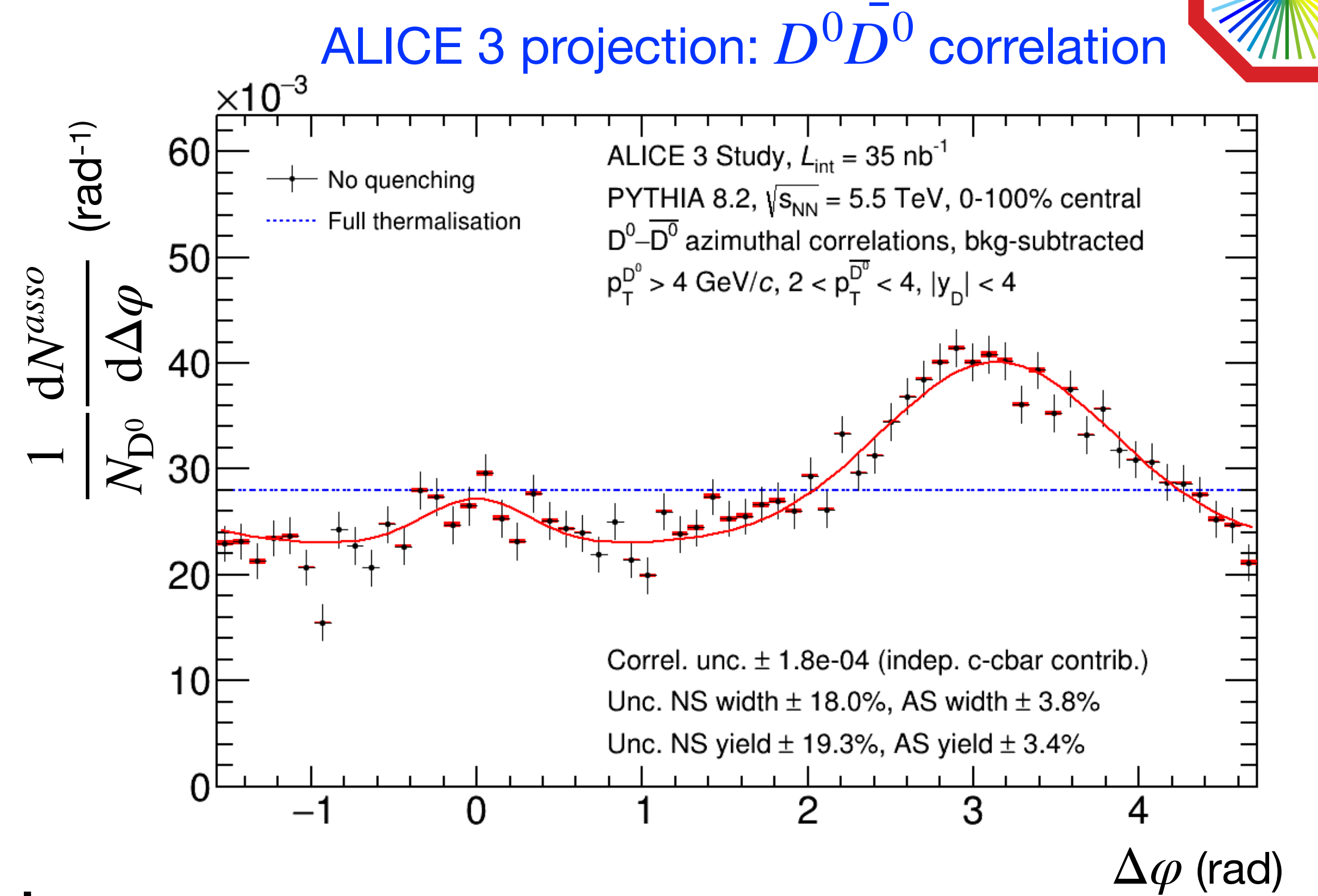
Heavy-quark correlations



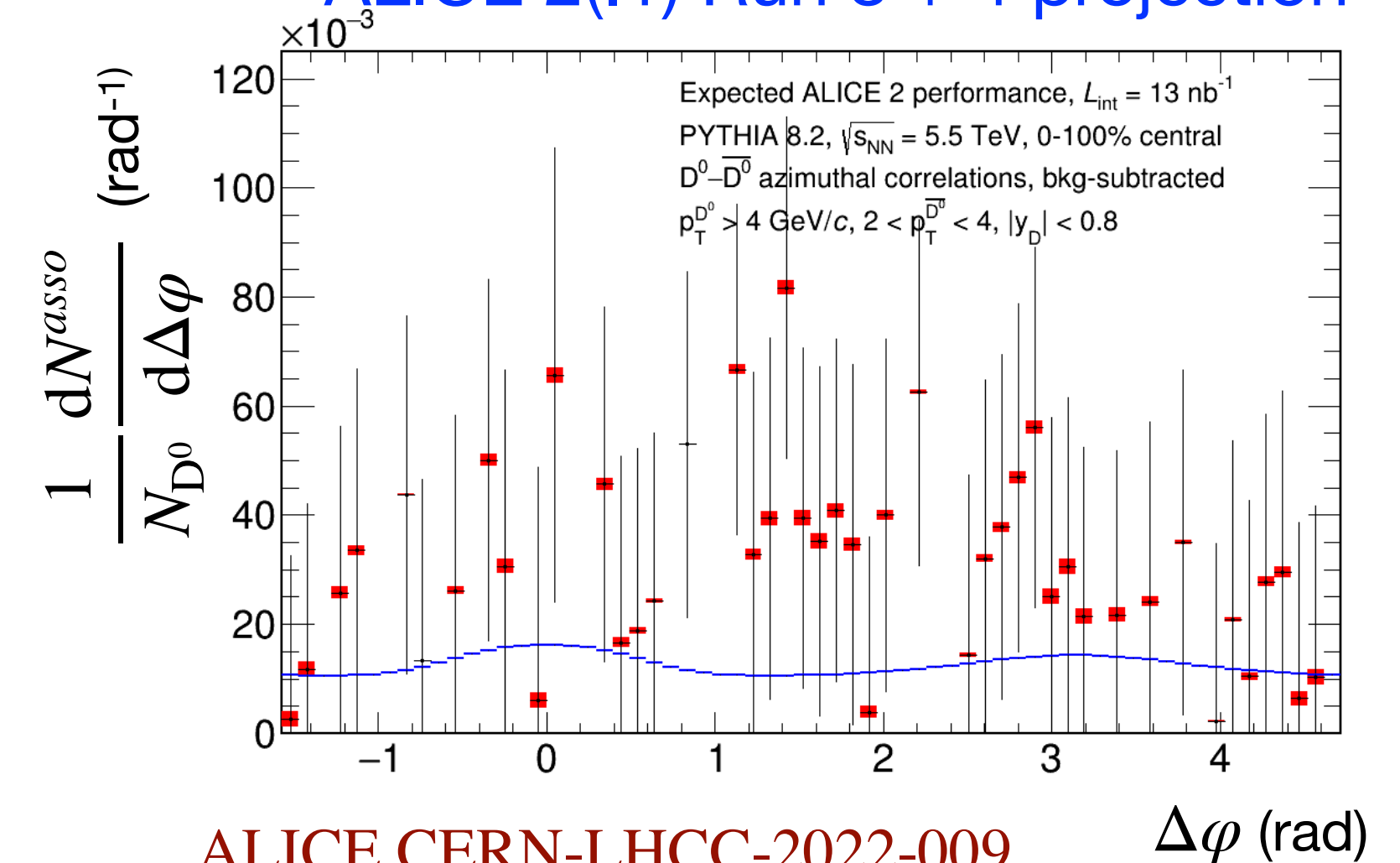
Angular decorrelation of heavy-flavour hadrons → **probe QGP scattering**

- Sensitive to energy loss mechanisms, degree of thermalisation
- Strongest signal at low p_T
- Require high purity, efficiency and large η coverage

→ **Heavy-ion measurement only possible with ALICE 3**



ALICE 2(.1) Run 3 + 4 projection



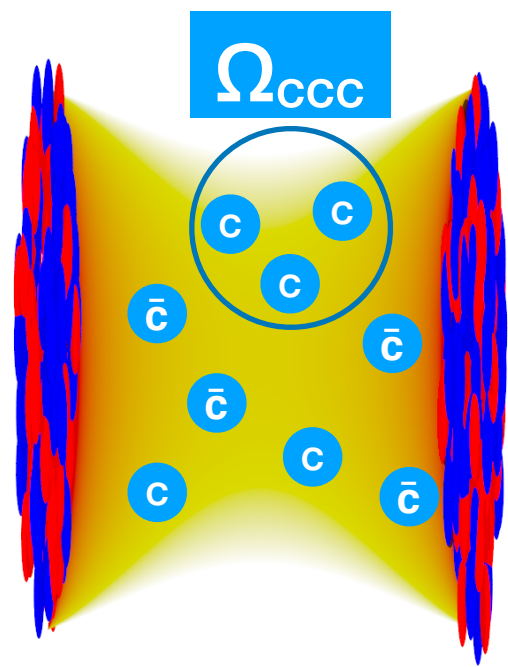
Hadron formation



Multi-charm baryons: unique probe of hadron formation

- Require production of multiple charm quarks
- Contribution from single parton scattering very small

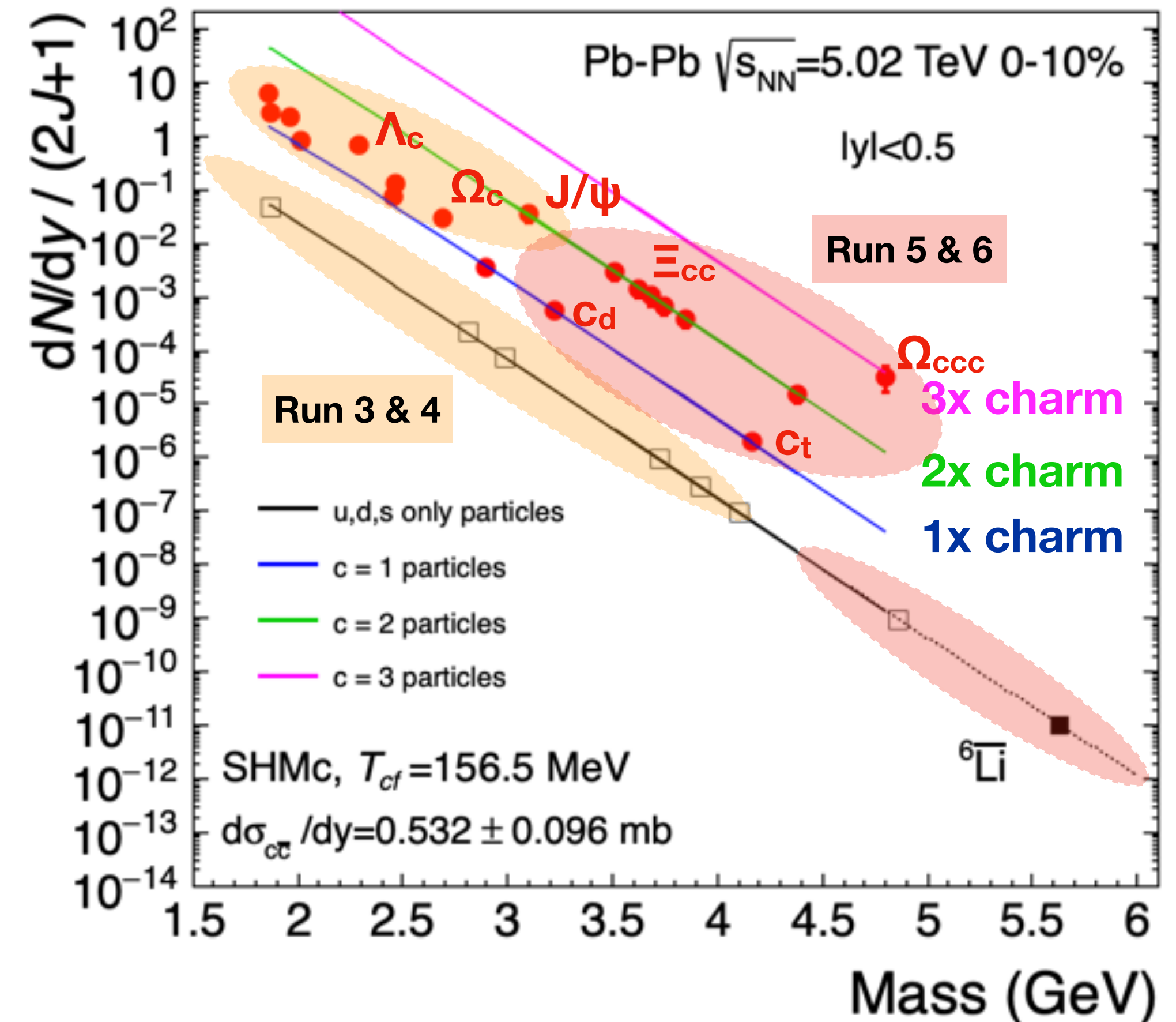
Very large enhancement predicted by Statistical hadronisation model in Pb–Pb collisions → **Test degree of thermalisation**



ALICE 2(.1):
 (Anti-)hypernuclei up to $A = 4$
 Single-charm states ($c = 1$)
 ALICE 3:
 (Hyper-)nuclei with $A > 4$
 Multi-charm states ($c > 1$)

With ALICE 3 measure additional states to test physical picture
Large η acceptance → Probe charm density dependence

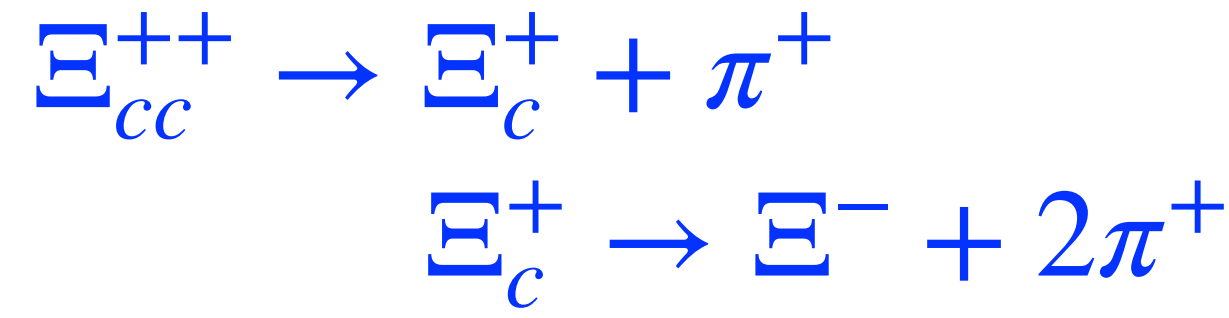
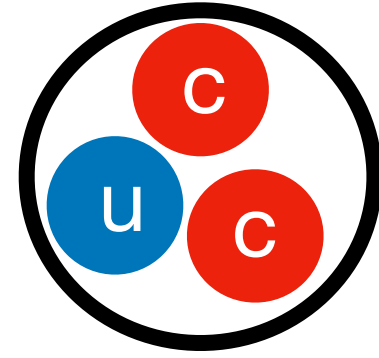
Hadron yields in statistical hadronisation model



Scaling with g_c^n for n -charm states

A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger, M. K. Koehler, A. Mazeliauskas, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, V. Vislavicius, JHEP 07 (2021) 035

Multi-charm baryon reconstruction

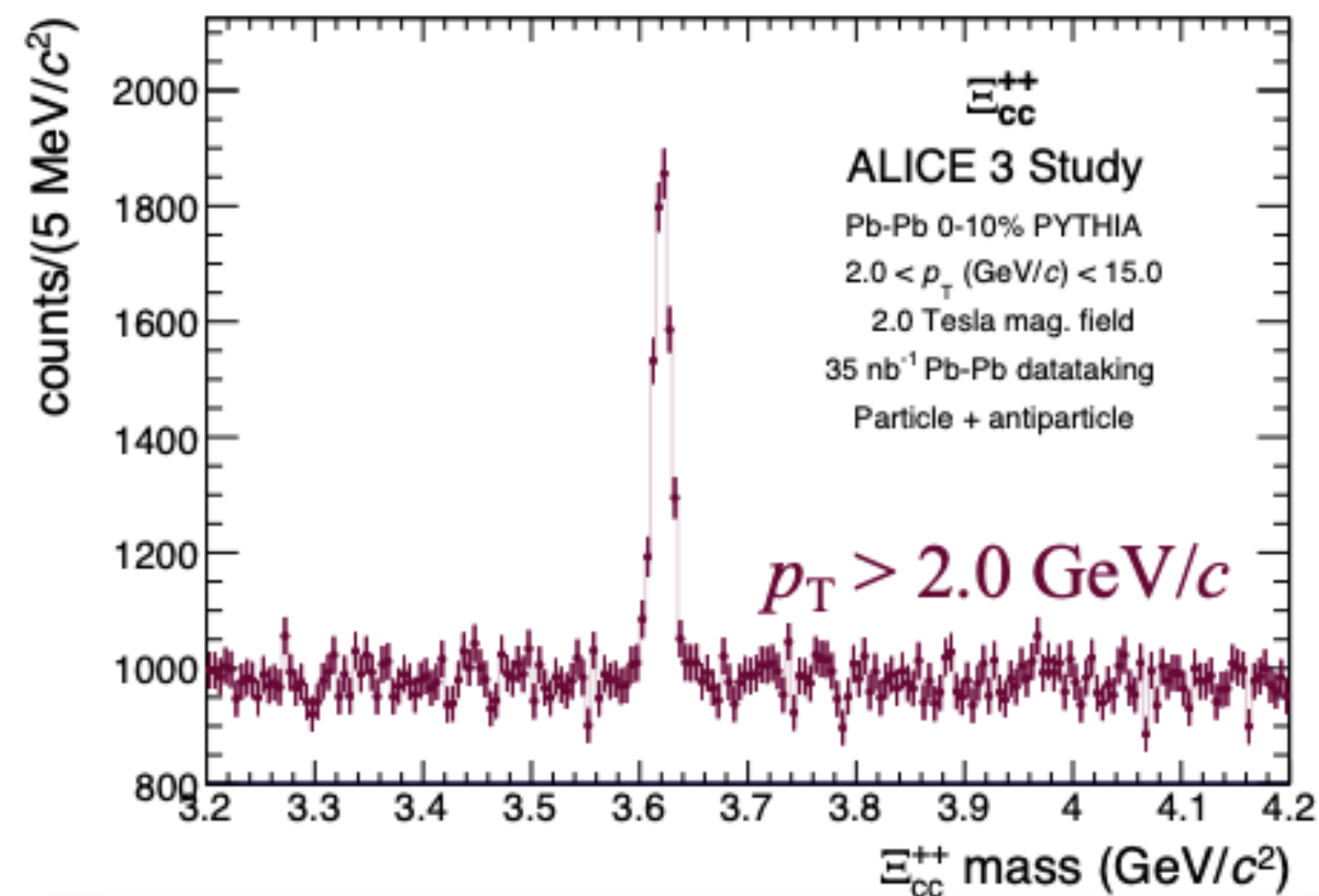


First ALICE 3 tracking layer at 5 mm:

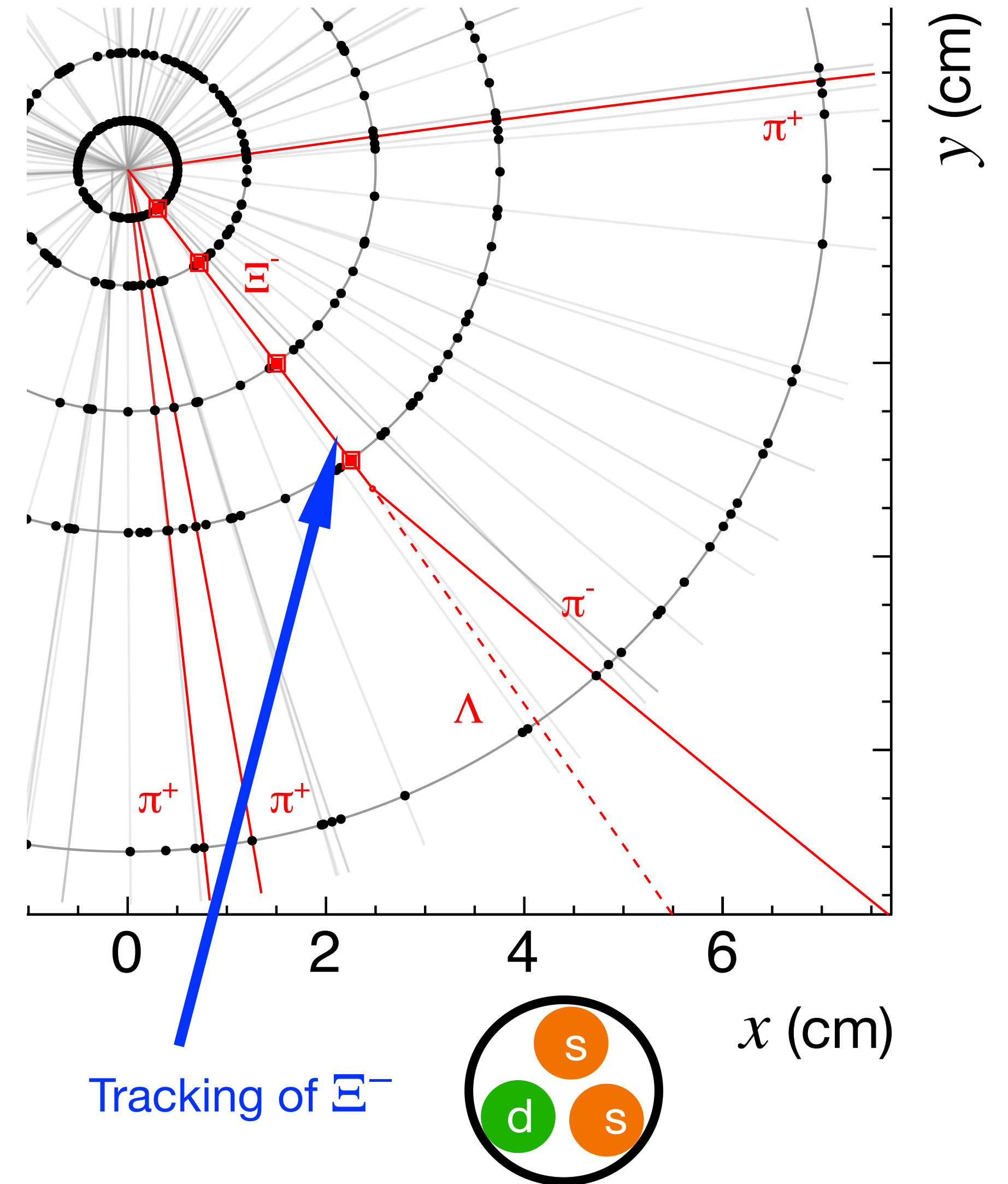
- Track strange baryon (Ξ^-) before it decays
- High selectivity thanks to pointing resolution of Ξ baryon

→ **Unique experimental access with ALICE 3 in Pb–Pb collisions**

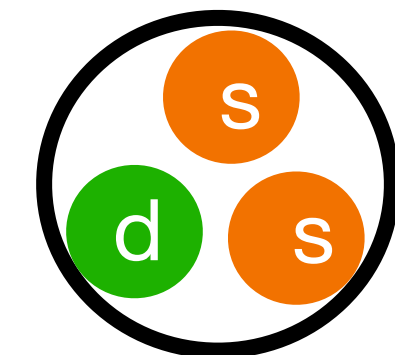
Expected mass peak for Ξ_{cc}^{++} in Pb–Pb



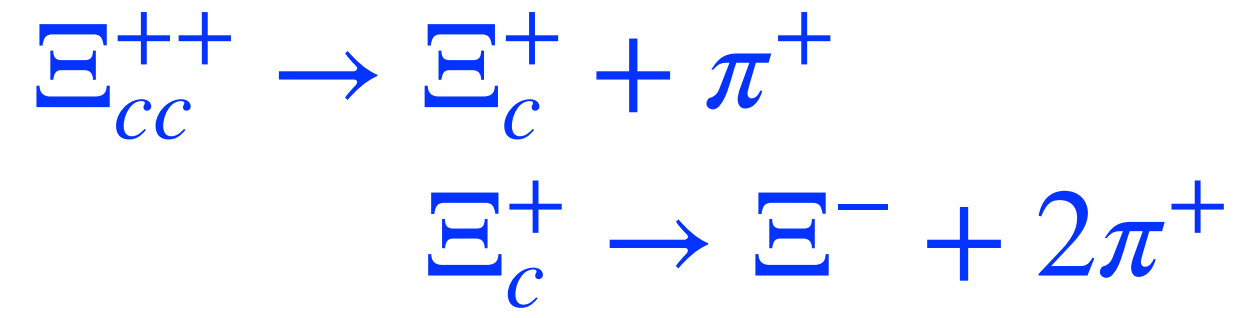
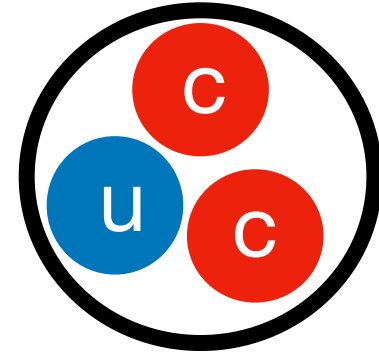
One reconstructed Ξ_{cc}^{++} decay in the ALICE 3 tracker



Tracking of Ξ^-



Multi-charm baryon reconstruction

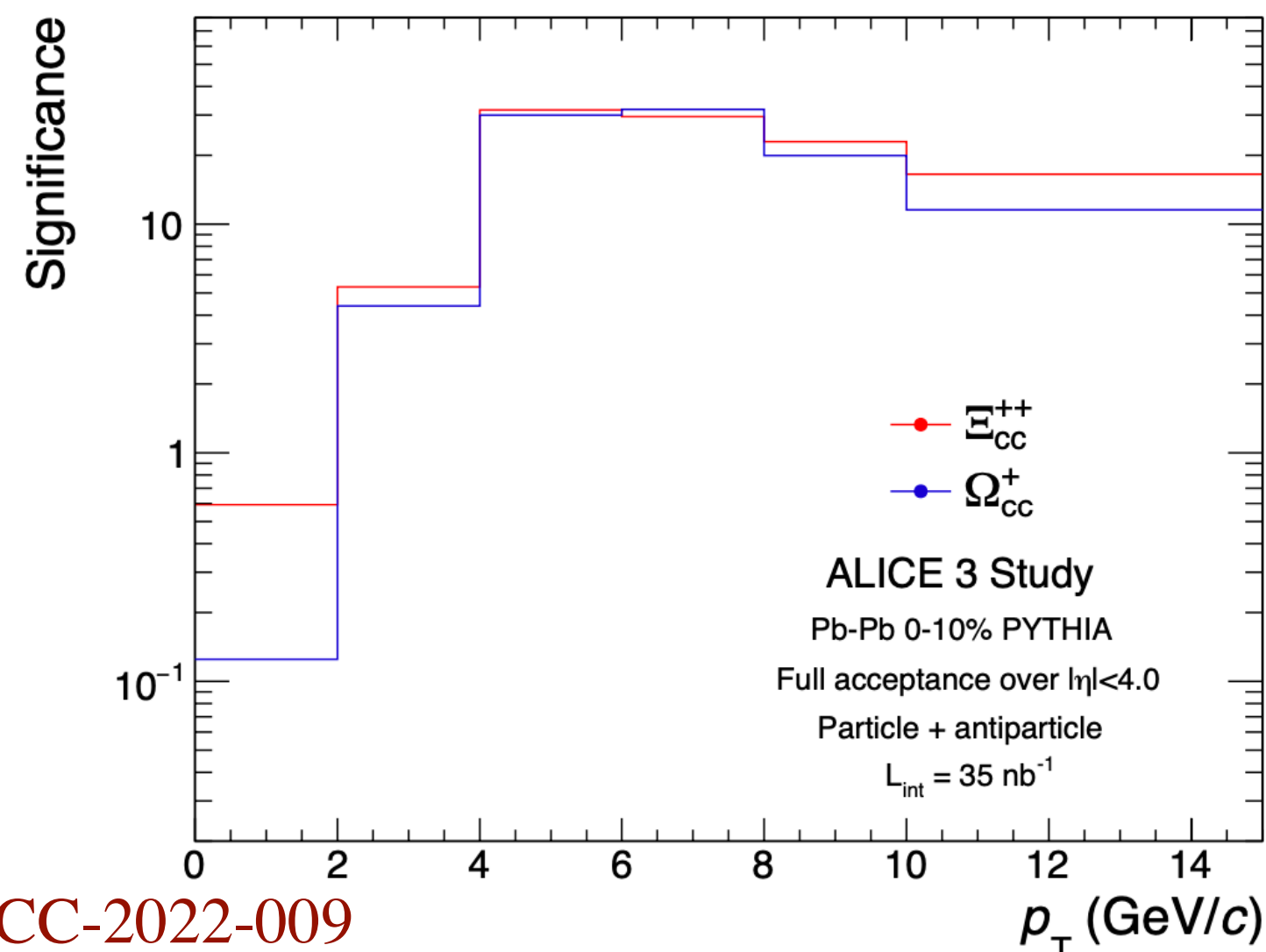


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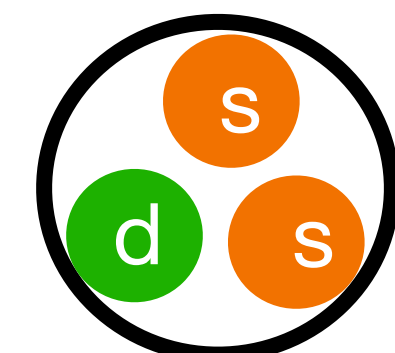
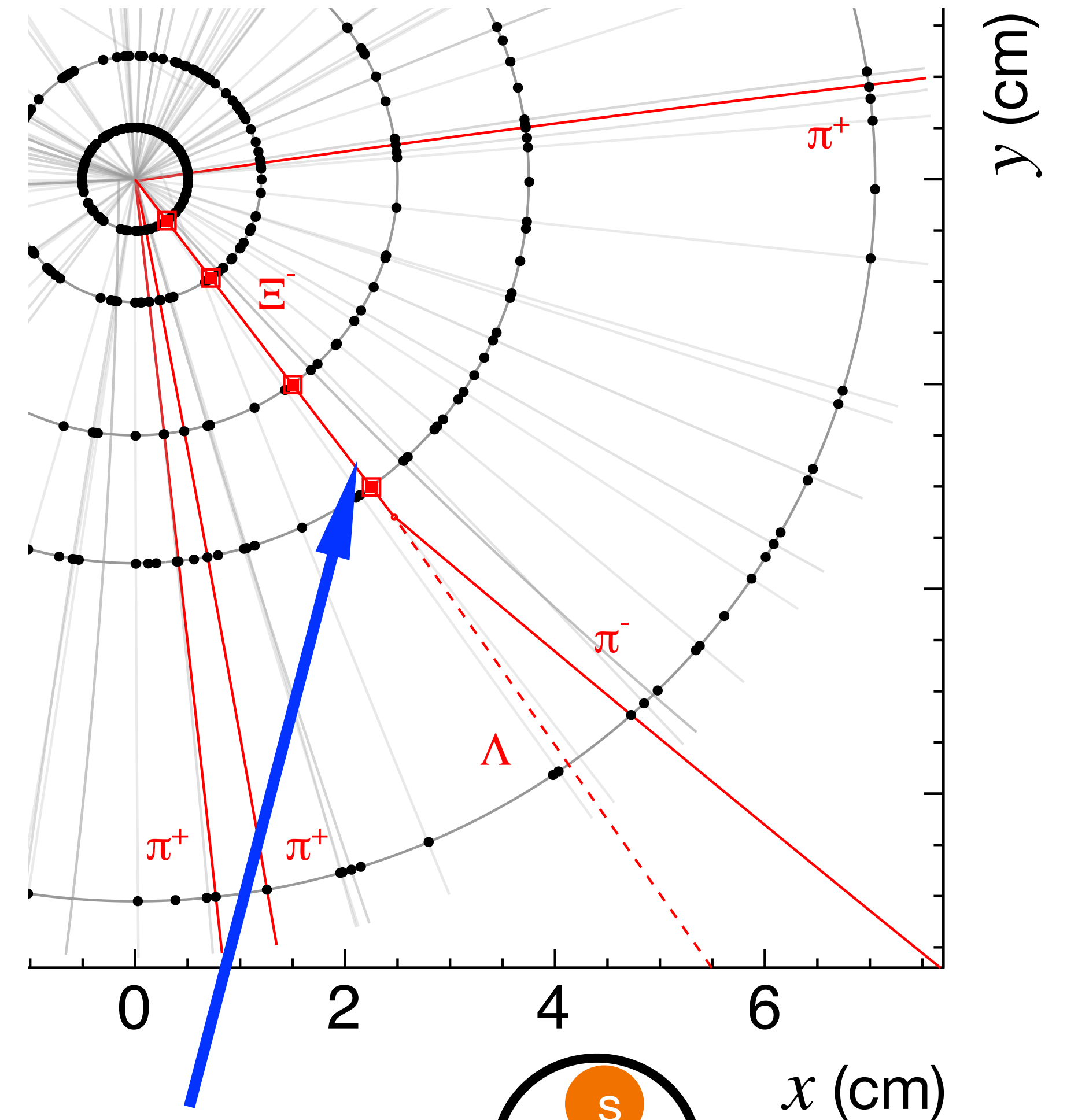
- Track strange baryon (Ξ^-) before it decays
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→ **Unique experimental access with ALICE 3 in Pb–Pb collisions**

Expected significance for Ξ_{cc}^{++} , Ω_{cc}^+ in Pb–Pb



One reconstructed Ξ_{cc}^{++} decay in the ALICE 3 tracker



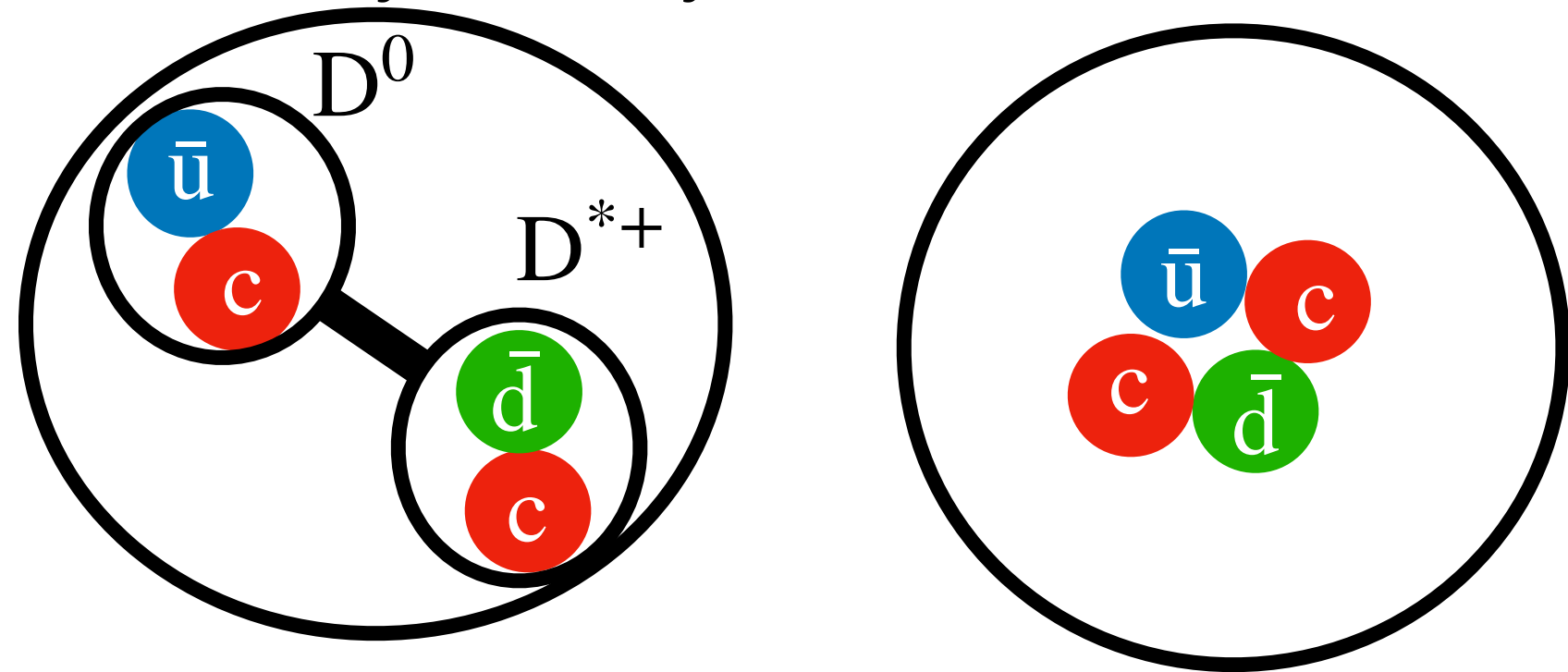
Tracking of Ξ^-



Nature of exotic bound states

T_{cc}^+ discovered

in July 2021 by LHCb CERN-EP-2021-165



Search for possible DD bound states using two particle momentum correlation

$$C(k^*) = \int d^3 r^* S(r^*) |\Psi(k^*, r^*)|^2$$

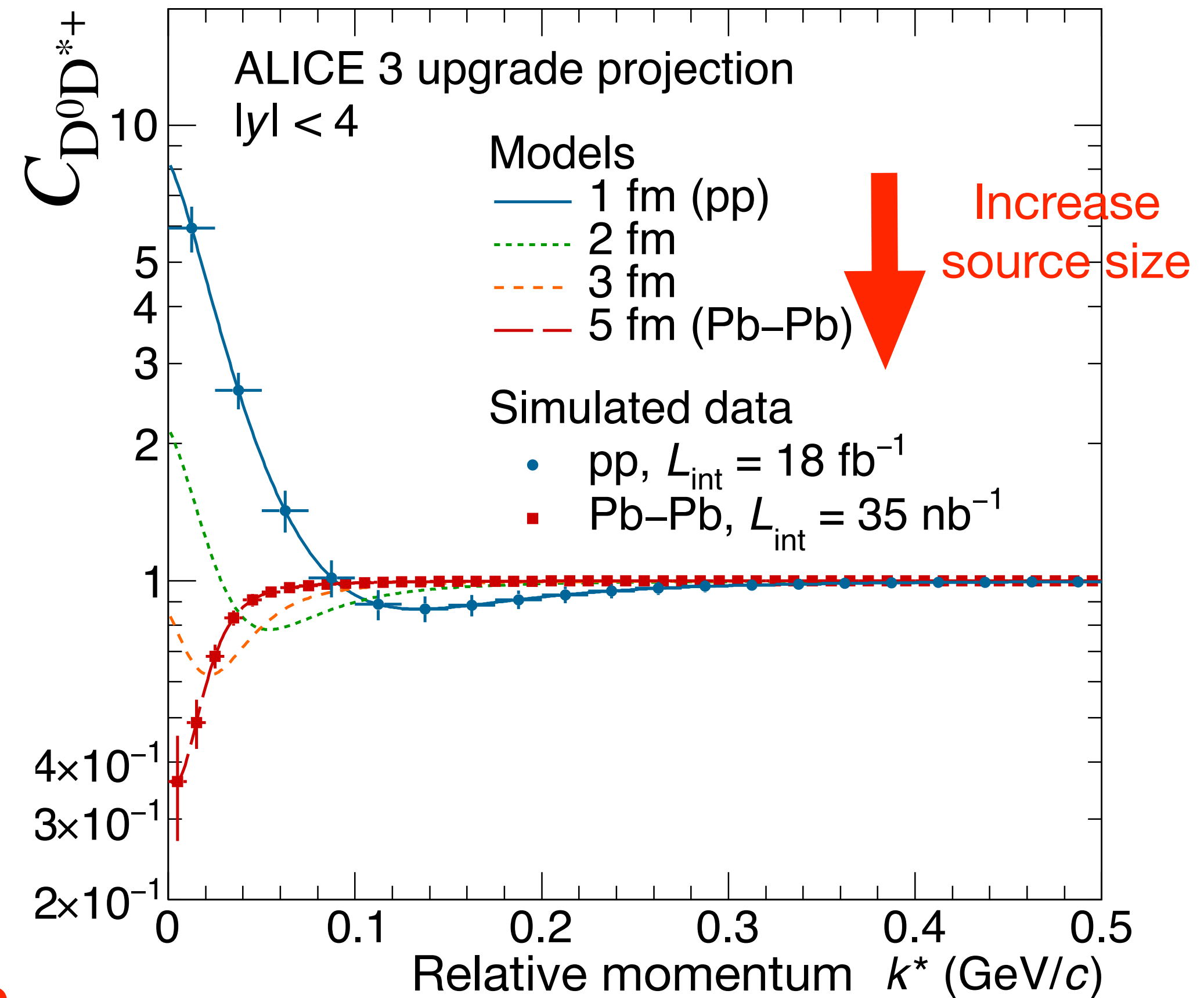
connected to **source function/size** and **two-particle wave function**

Behaviour of $C(k^*) \rightarrow$ Get information on interaction potential

Possible with ALICE 3 thanks to pointing resolution + large acceptance

$$k^* = 1/2 |\mathbf{p}_{D^0}^* - \mathbf{p}_{D^{*+}}^*|$$

Projection for $D^0 D^{*+}$ momentum correlation

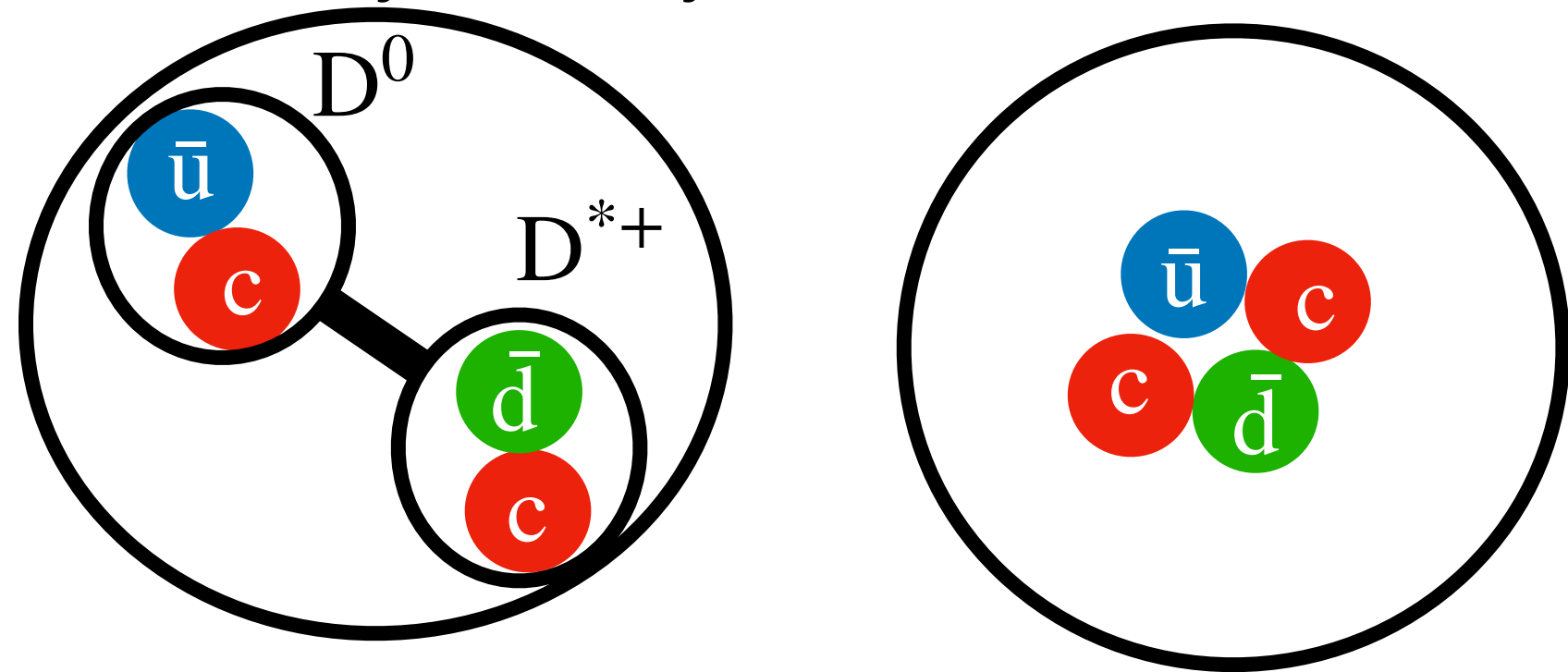




Nature of exotic bound states

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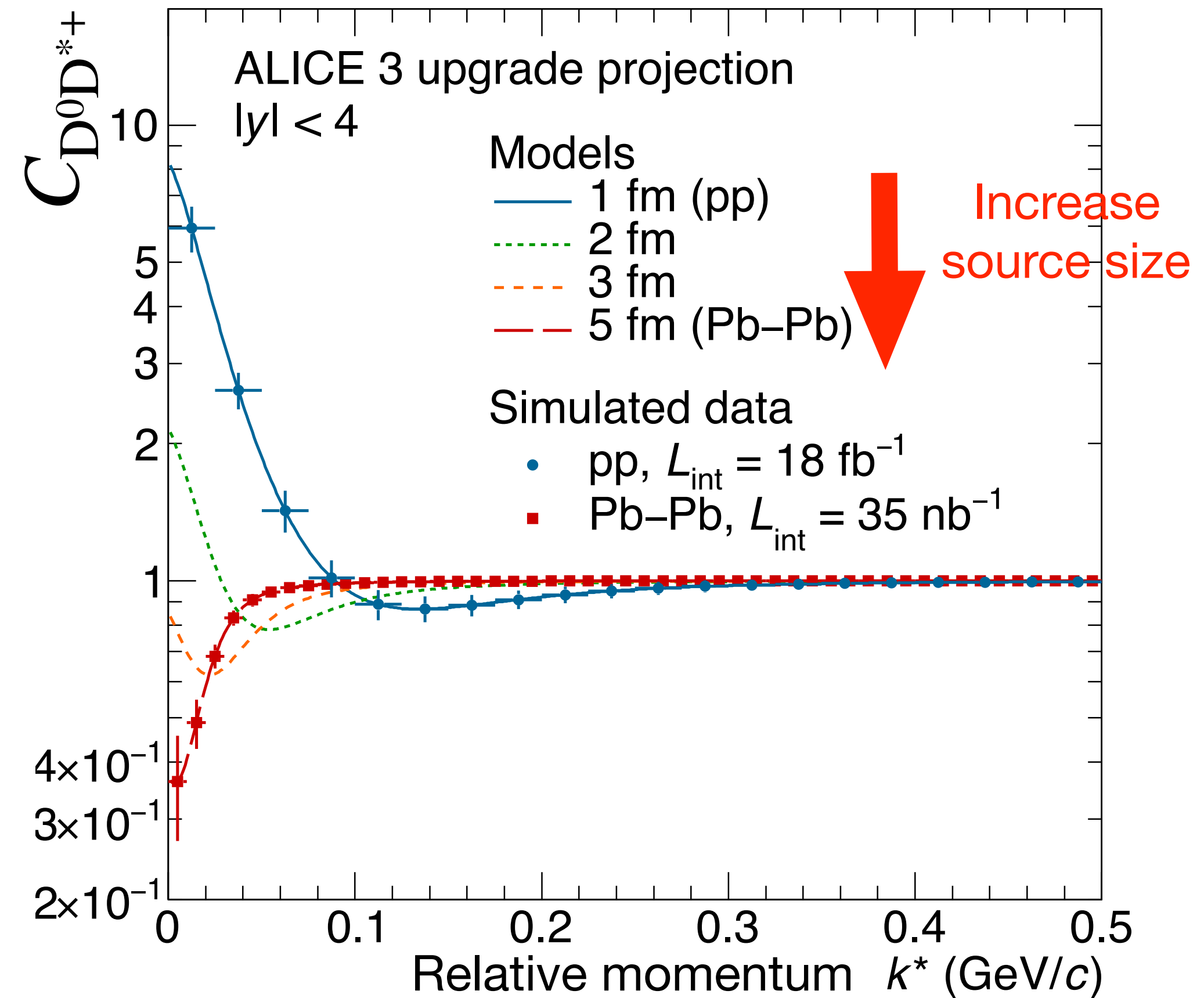
Search for possible DD bound states using two particle momentum correlation

Possible with ALICE 3

Understand dissociation and regeneration of exotic states in QGP

Unique access to low $p_T \chi(3872) (\rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-)$ with ALICE 3

Projection for $D^0 D^{*+}$ momentum correlation



$$k^* = 1/2 |\mathbf{p}_{D^0}^* - \mathbf{p}_{D^{*+}}^*|$$

ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

Beyond QGP physics



• Beyond Standard Model studies

- Search for axion-like particles (ALP) in ultra-peripheral (UPC) Pb–Pb collisions
- **ALICE 3: Potential to fill the gap from 0.05 to 5 GeV in m_a**

• Understanding of ultra-soft photon production

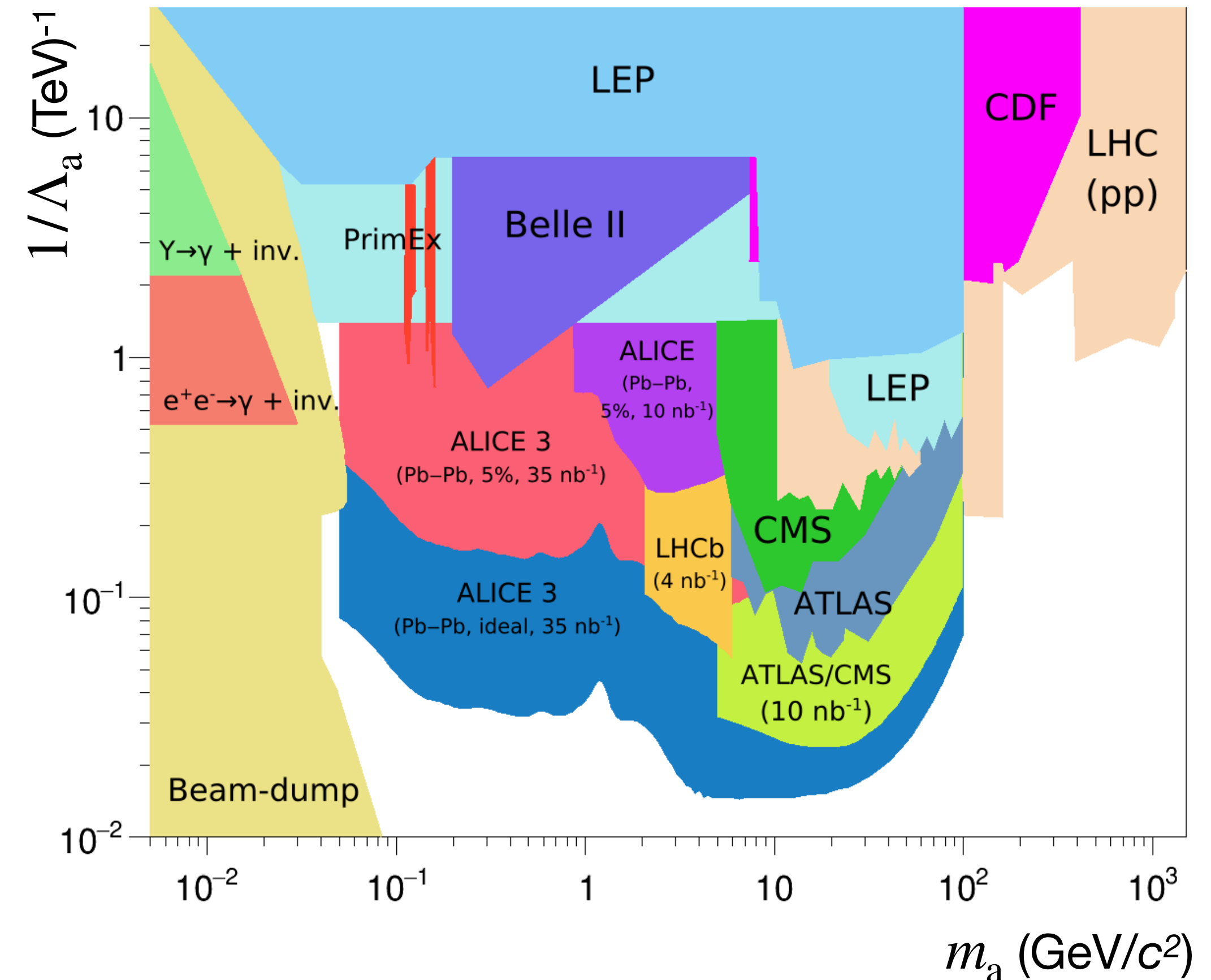
- Cross sections computable using Low-theorem
- Large excess observed at lower \sqrt{s} in association with hadrons
- **ALICE 3: systematic study of very soft γ production ($p_T \leq 10$ MeV/c) with dedicated Forward Conversion Tracker**

• Resonance production in UPC

• Nuclear states

- Search for super-nuclei (c-deuteron , c-triton)
- Anti nuclei from b quarks ($\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\bar{\text{H}}\text{e}$ decays)

ALP search: expected sensitivity as a function of m_a and ALP- γ coupling $1/\Lambda_a$



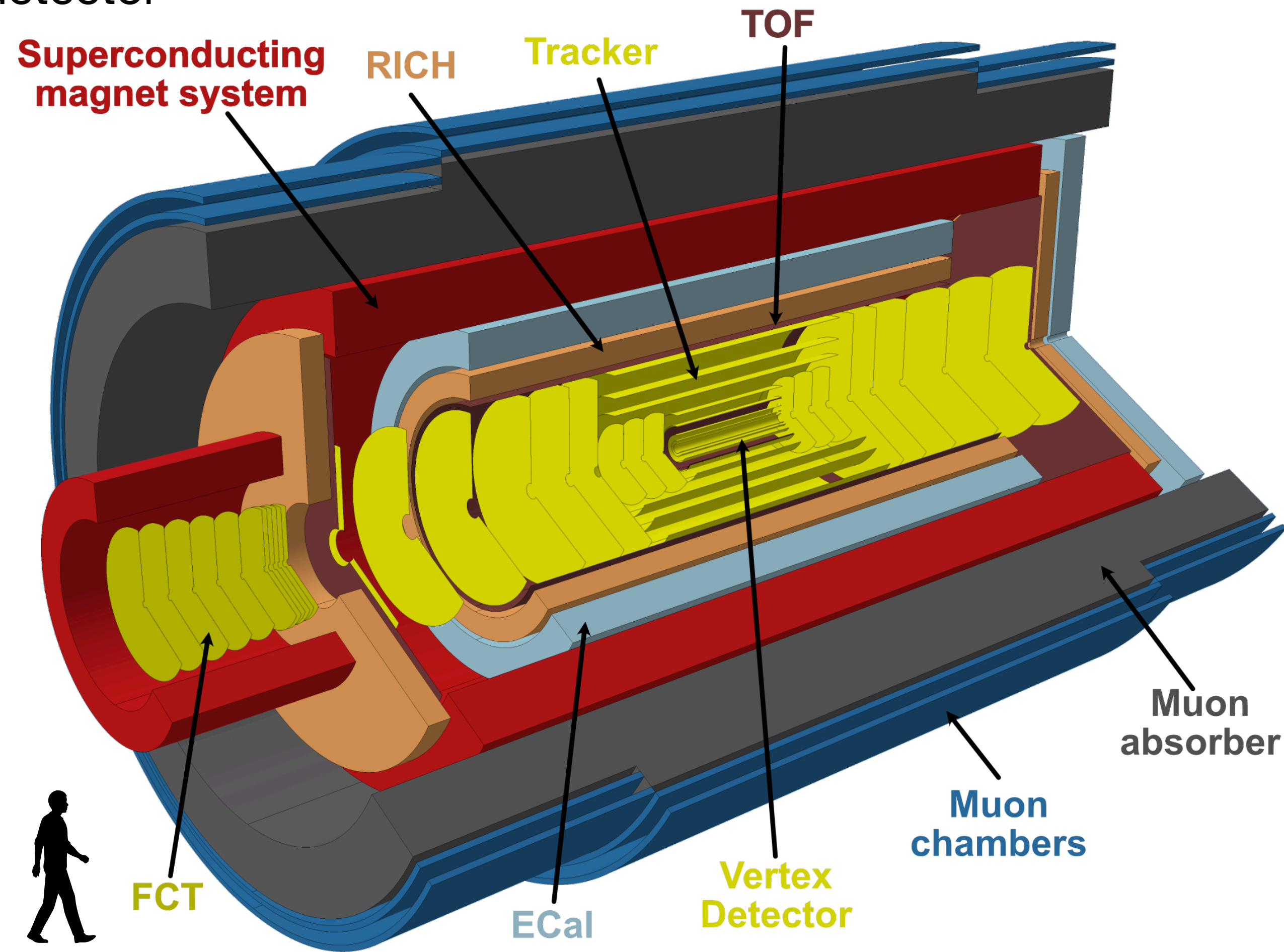
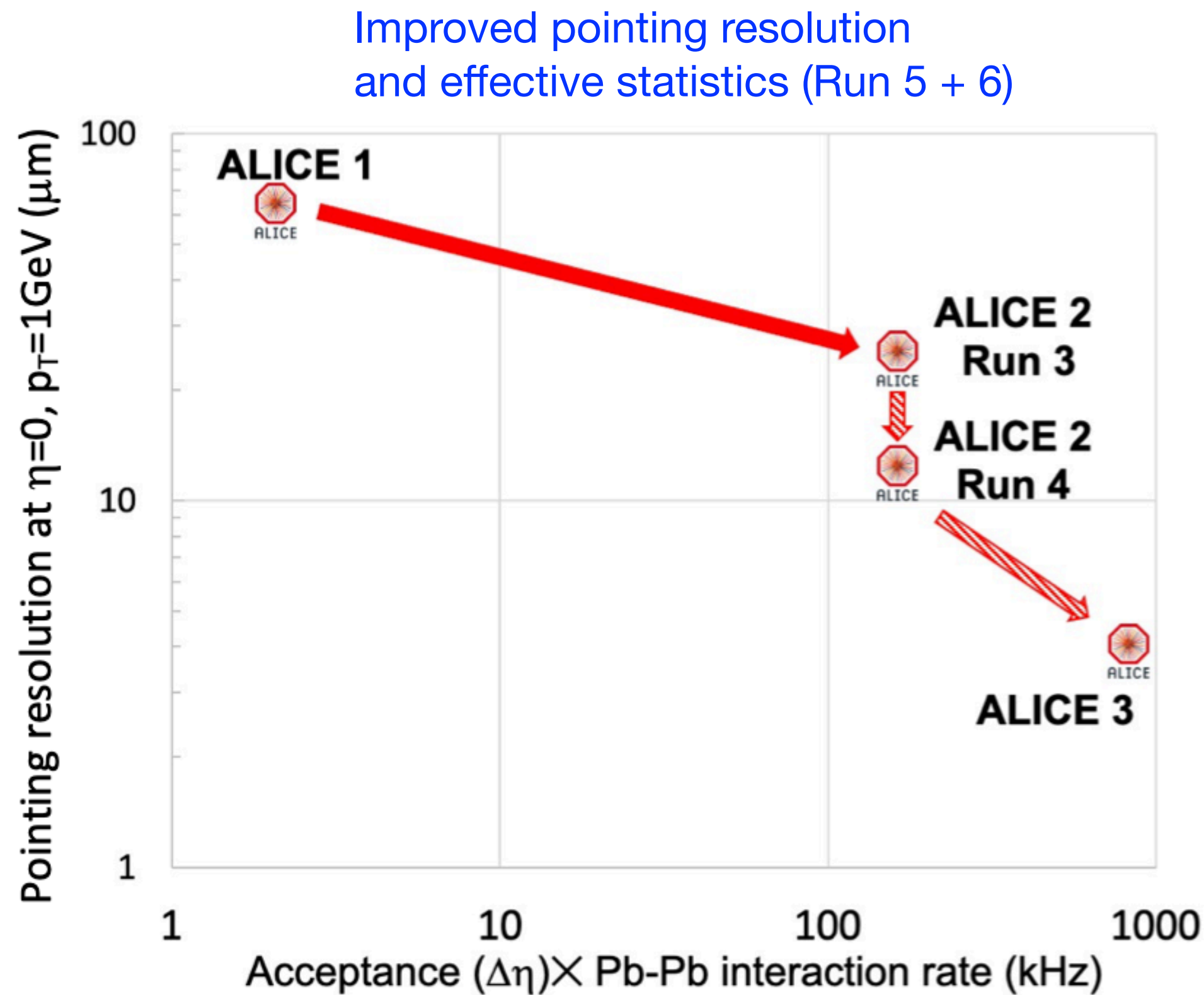
Existing limits from ATLAS, JHEP 03, 243 (2021)

Projections for ATLAS/CMS from PRL 118 (2017), 171801

Projections for LHCb from Goncalves et al. EPJC 81 (2021), 522

ALICE 3 detector concept

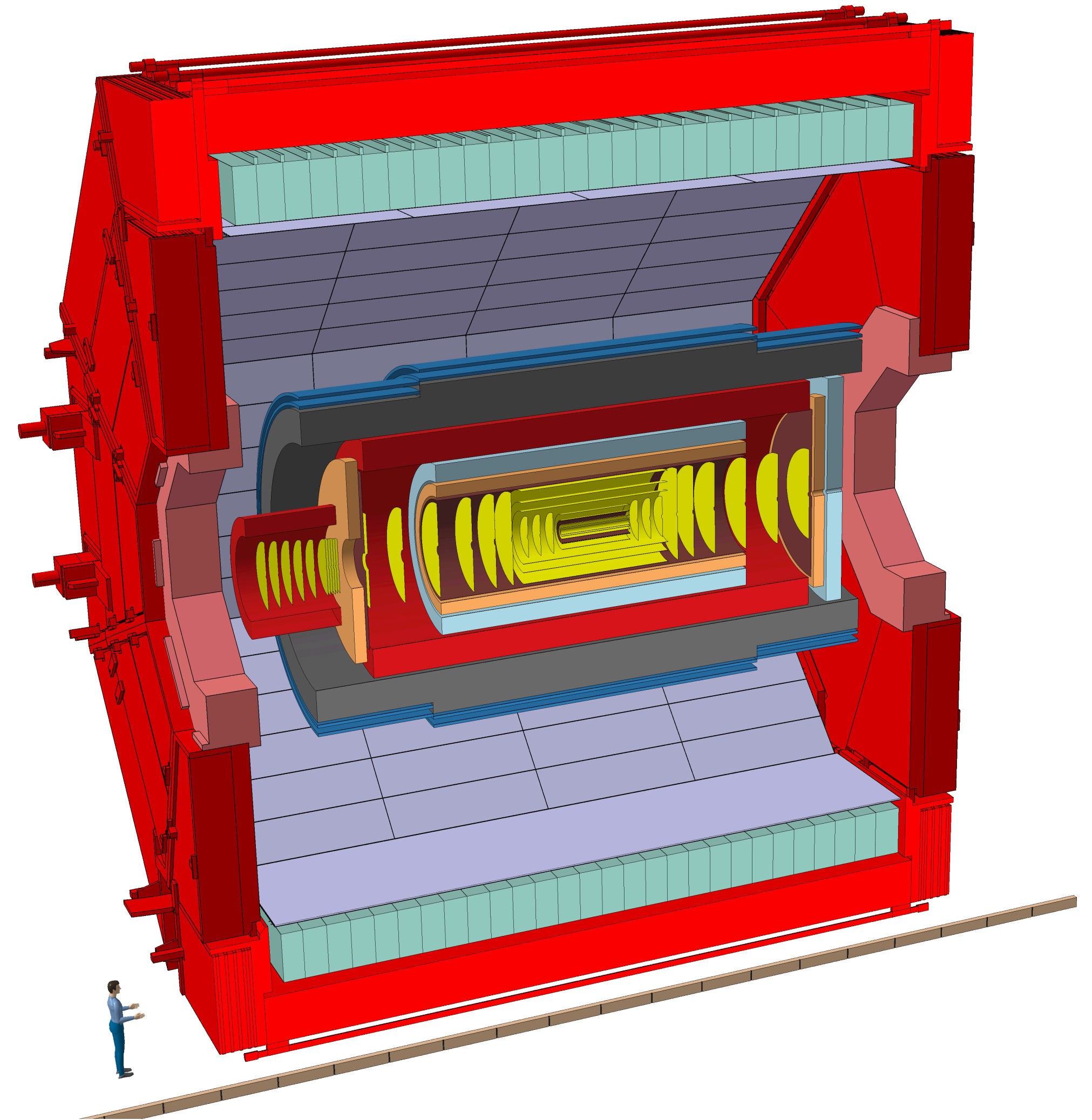
- Compact all-silicon tracker with high-resolution vertex detector
- Particle identification $\gamma, e^\pm, \mu^\pm, K^\pm, \pi^\pm$
 - Over large acceptance ($-4 < \eta < 4$)
 - Down to very low p_T



D.Adamova et al. ArXiv:1902.01211
ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

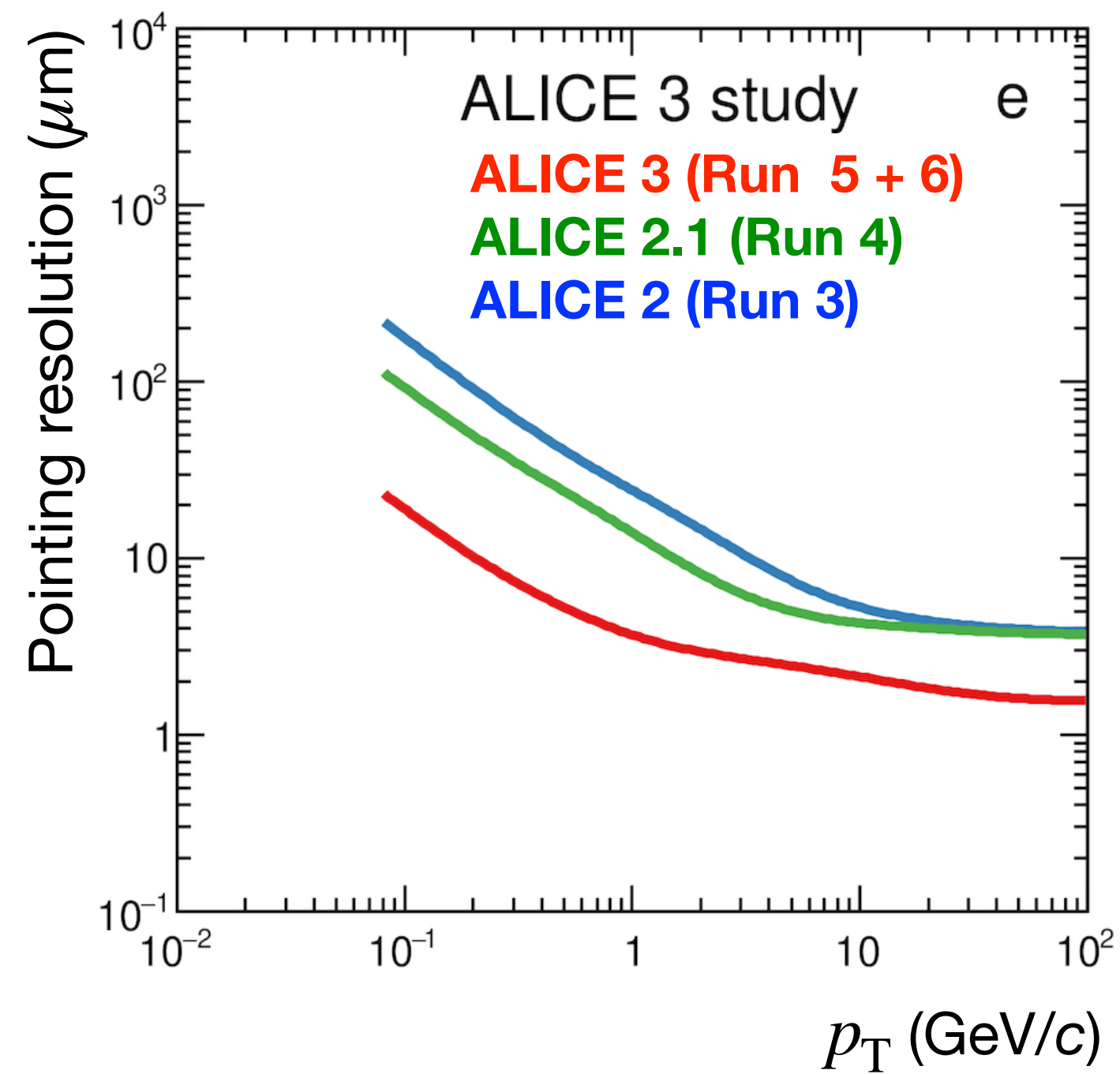
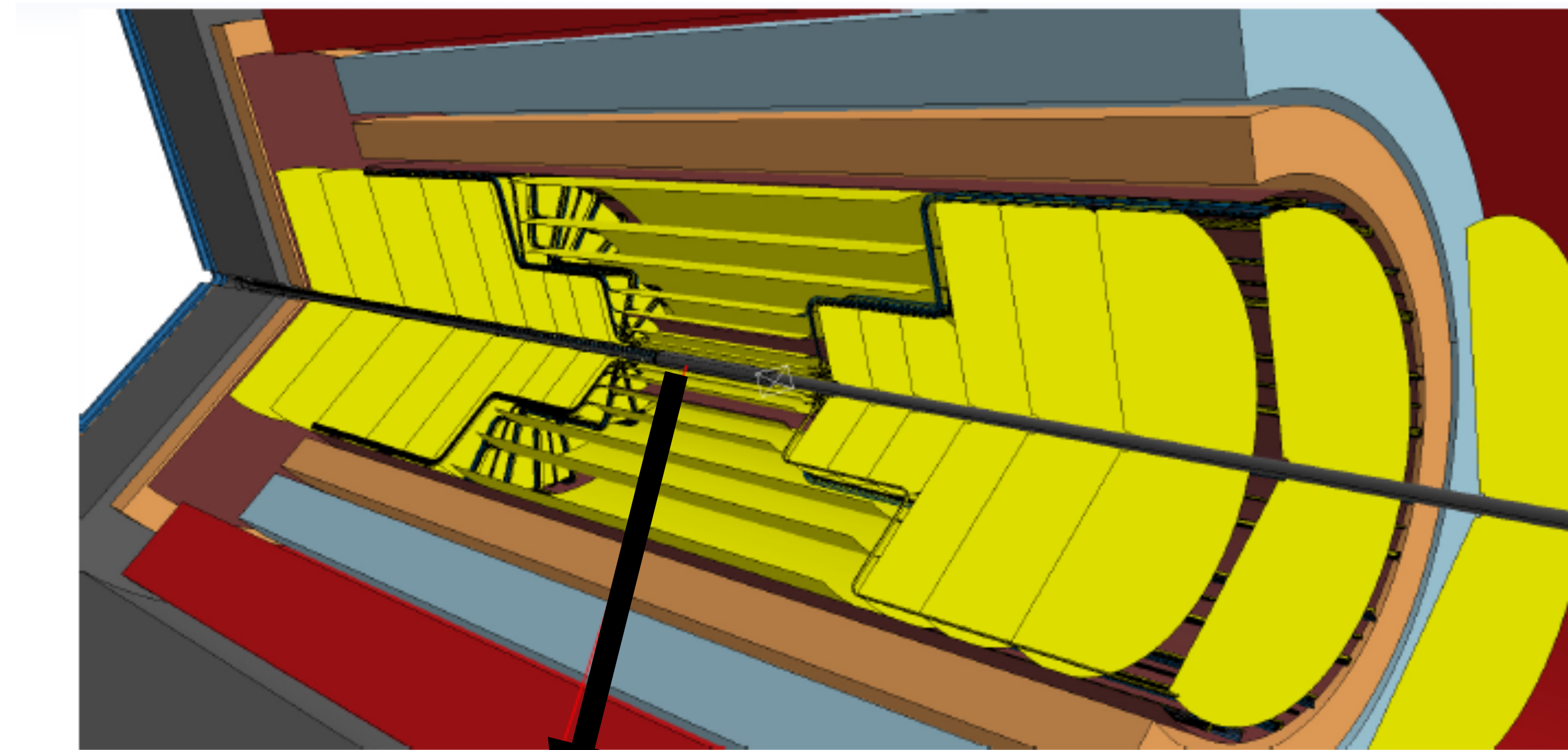
Integration and running scenario

- **Installation** of ALICE 3 inside of ALICE L3 magnet (not used)
- **Running scenario:**
 - **6 running years with 1 month / year with heavy-ions**
35 nb⁻¹ for Pb—Pb x 2.5 compared to Run 3 + 4
Lighter species for higher luminosity under study
 - pp at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV: 3 fb⁻¹ / year x 100 compared to Run 3 + 4

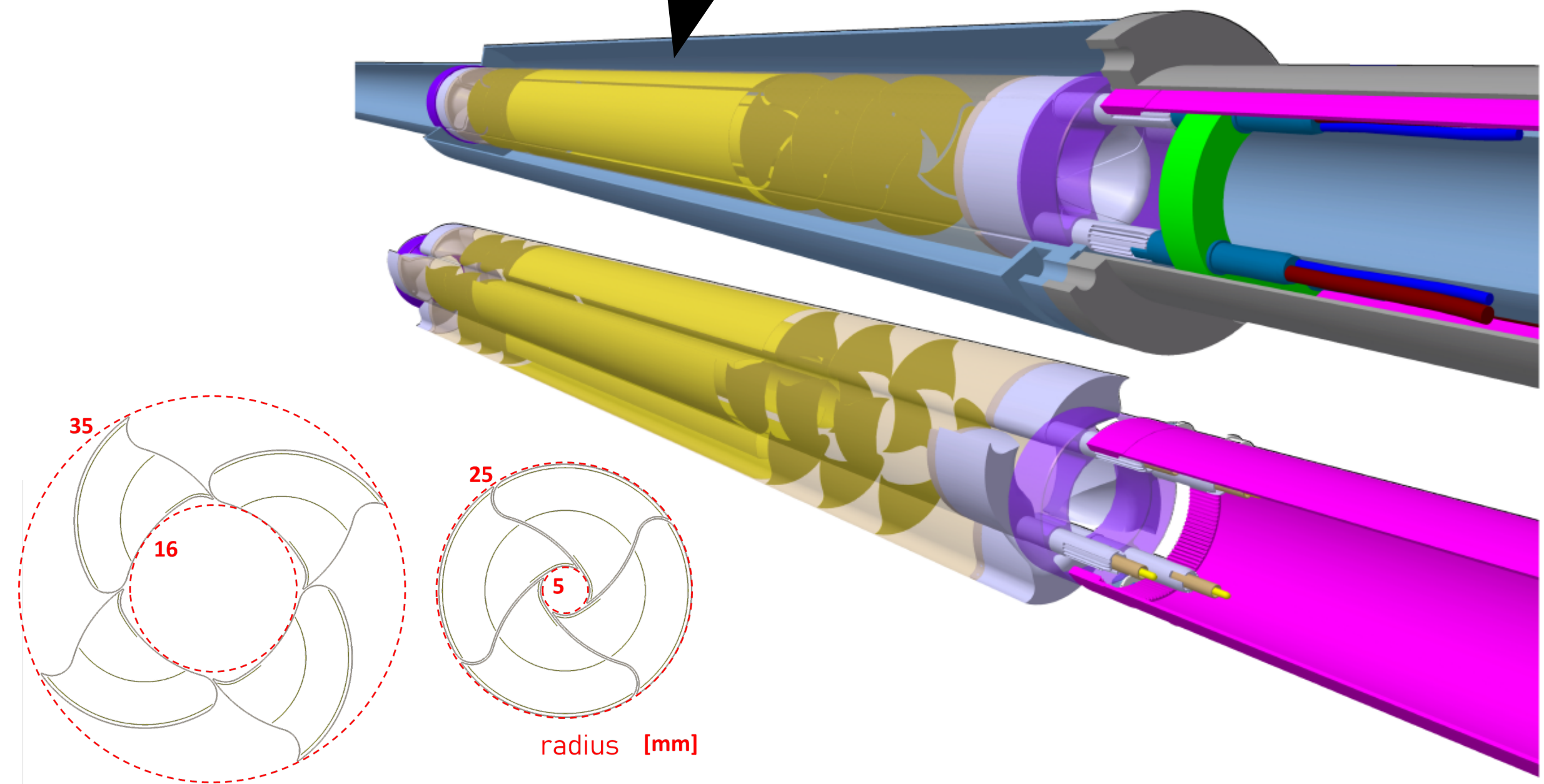


Tracker

- Larger/longer MAPS-based tracker than for ALICE 2
- Position of first layer at mid-rapidity:
 $r = 5 \text{ mm}$ (ALICE 2.1: 18 mm; ALICE 2: 22mm)
Talk by Alperen Yuncu yesterday
- Achieved with a retractable vertex detector inside of the beam pipe in secondary vacuum



ALI-SIMUL-491681

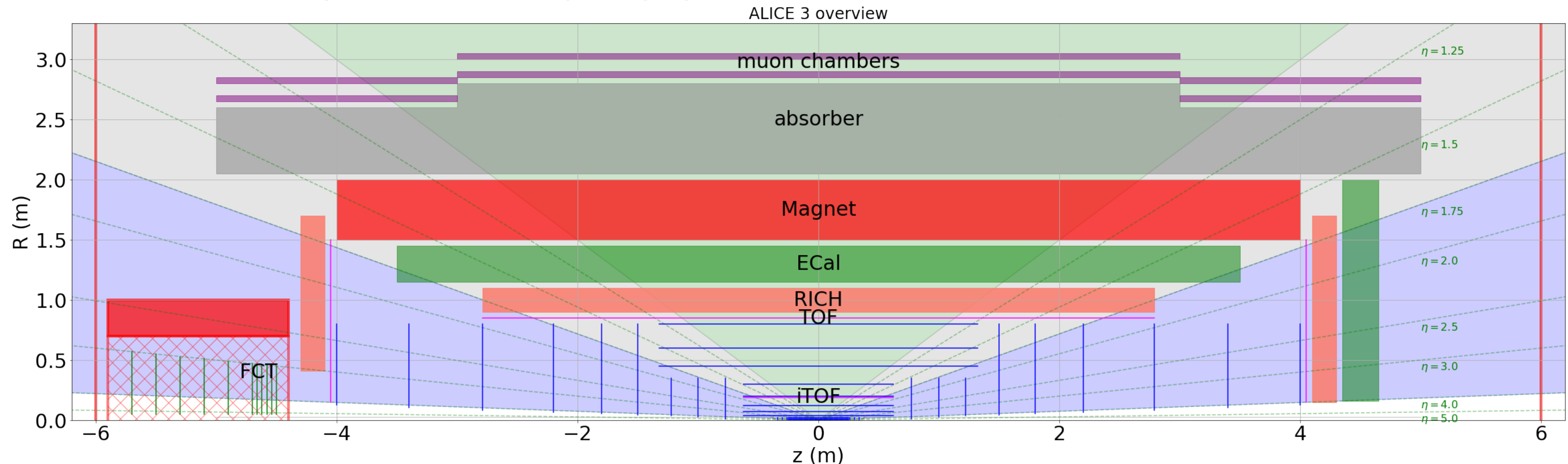




Observables and detector requirements

- **Heavy-flavour hadrons** ($p_T \rightarrow 0$, wide η range)
→ Vertexing, tracking, hadron identification
- **Quarkonia and Exotica** ($p_T \rightarrow 0$)
→ Muon and γ identification
- **Nuclei**
→ Identification of $z > 1$ particles
- **Dielectrons** ($p_T \sim 0.05 - 3 \text{ GeV}/c$, $m_{ee} \sim 0.1 - 4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
→ Vertexing, tracking, electron identification
- **Photons** ($E_\gamma \sim 0.1 - 50 \text{ GeV}/c$, wide η range)
→ Photon conversion, electromagnetic calorimeter
- **Ultra-soft photons** ($1 \leq p_T \leq 10 \text{ MeV}/c$)
→ Dedicated Forward Conversion Tracker detector (FCT)

Use Time-of-flight detectors, Ring-imaging Cherenkov detectors, Calorimeters, muon chambers, FCT

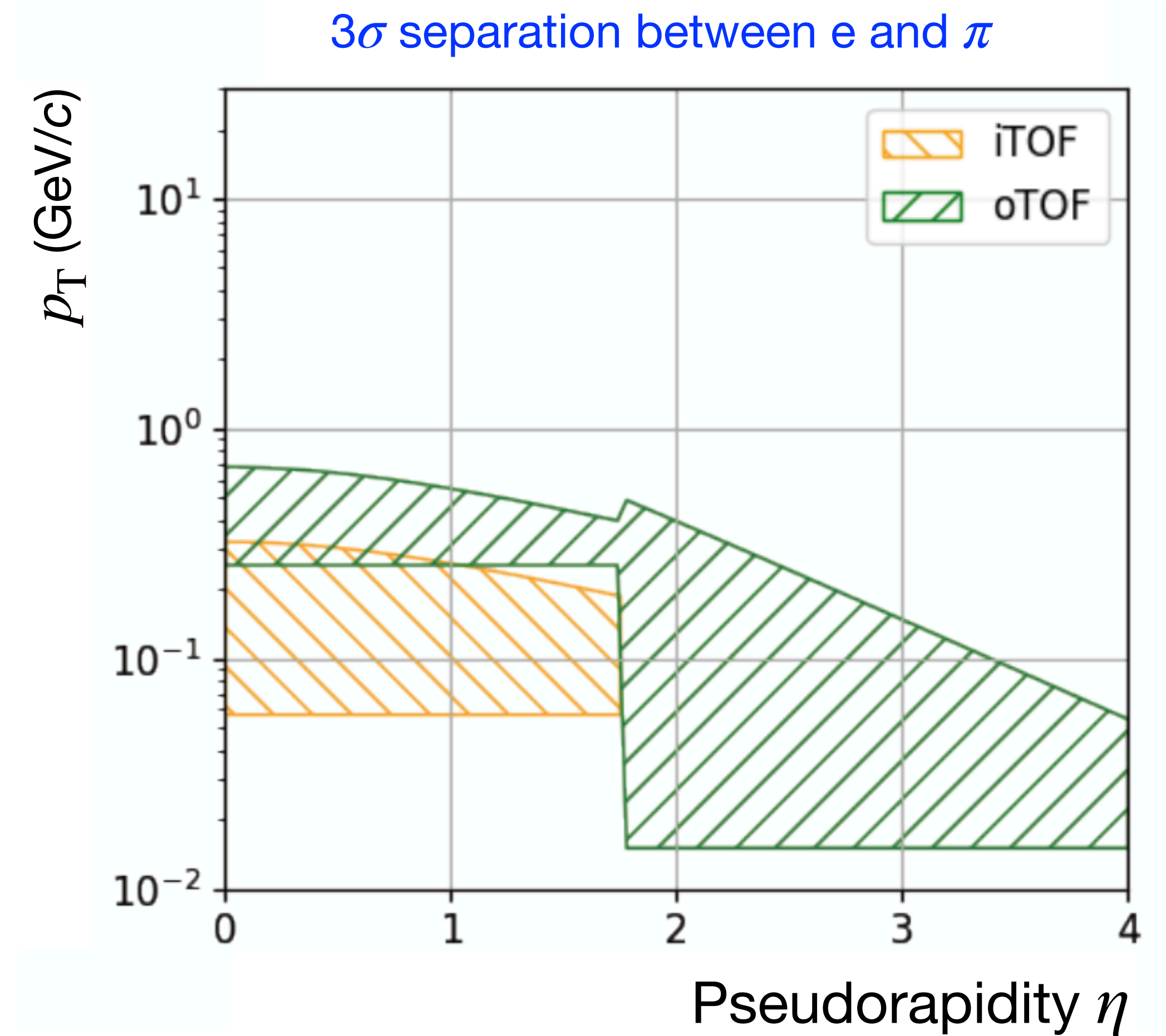




Particle identification

- **Time-of-light detectors**

- 2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers ($R = 19$ & 85 cm, $z = 405$ cm)
- With silicon timing sensors ($\sigma_{\text{TOF}} \approx 20$ ps)





Particle identification

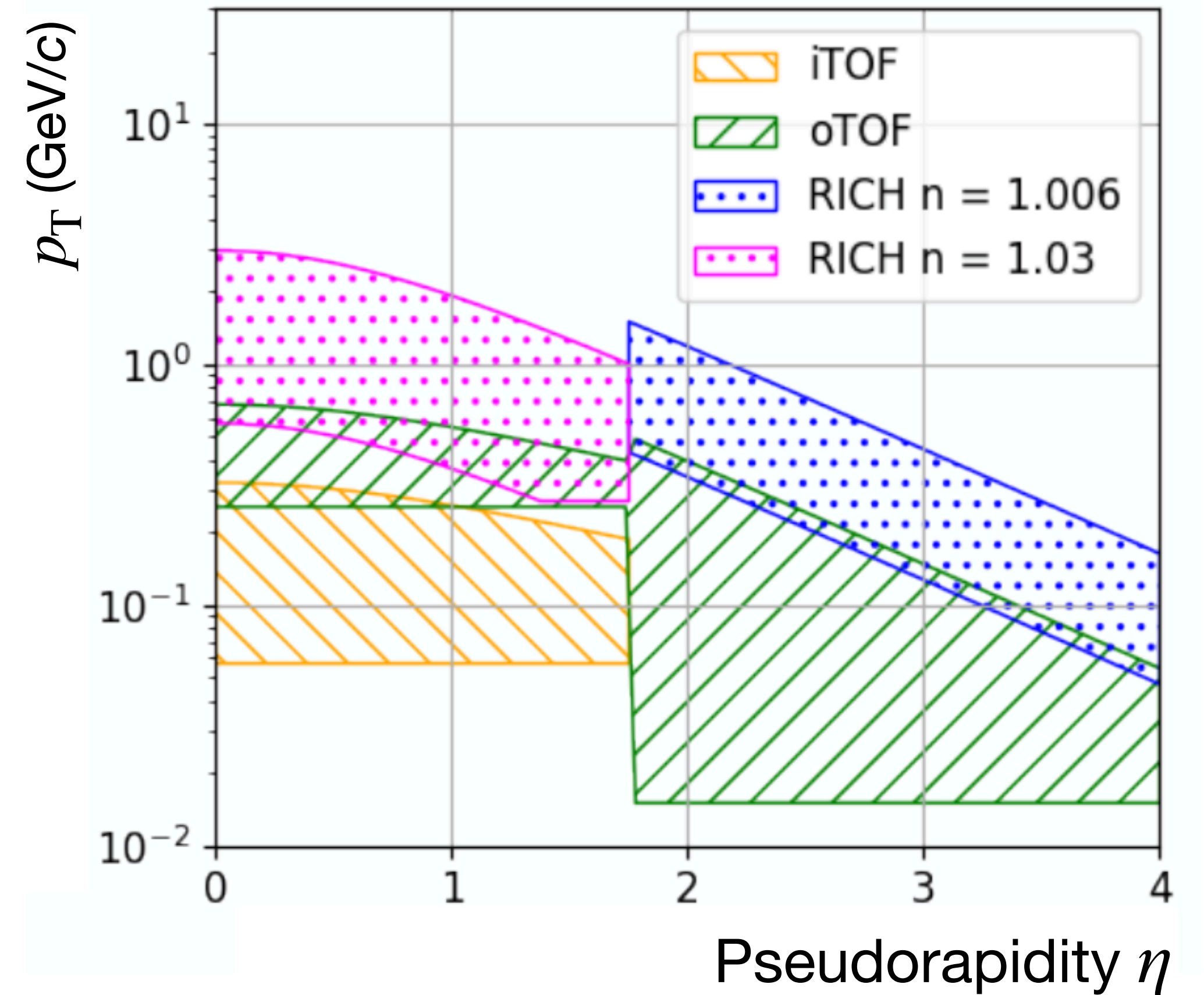
- **Time-of-light detectors**

- 2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers ($R = 19$ & 85 cm, $z = 405$ cm)
- With silicon timing sensors ($\sigma_{\text{TOF}} \approx 20$ ps)

- **Ring-Imaging Cherenkov detectors**

- 1 barrel + 1 forward layer
- Aerogel radiators with continuous coverage from TOF

3σ separation between e and π





Particle identification

• Time-of-light detectors

- 2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers ($R = 19$ & 85 cm, $z = 405$ cm)
- With silicon timing sensors ($\sigma_{\text{TOF}} \approx 20$ ps)

• Ring-Imaging Cherenkov detectors

- 1 barrel + 1 forward layer
- Aerogel radiators with continuous coverage from TOF

• Large acceptance Electromagnetic calorimeter

- Pb-scintillator sampling calorimeter + at $\eta \approx 0$ crystal calorimeter
- Photons + high p electrons identification

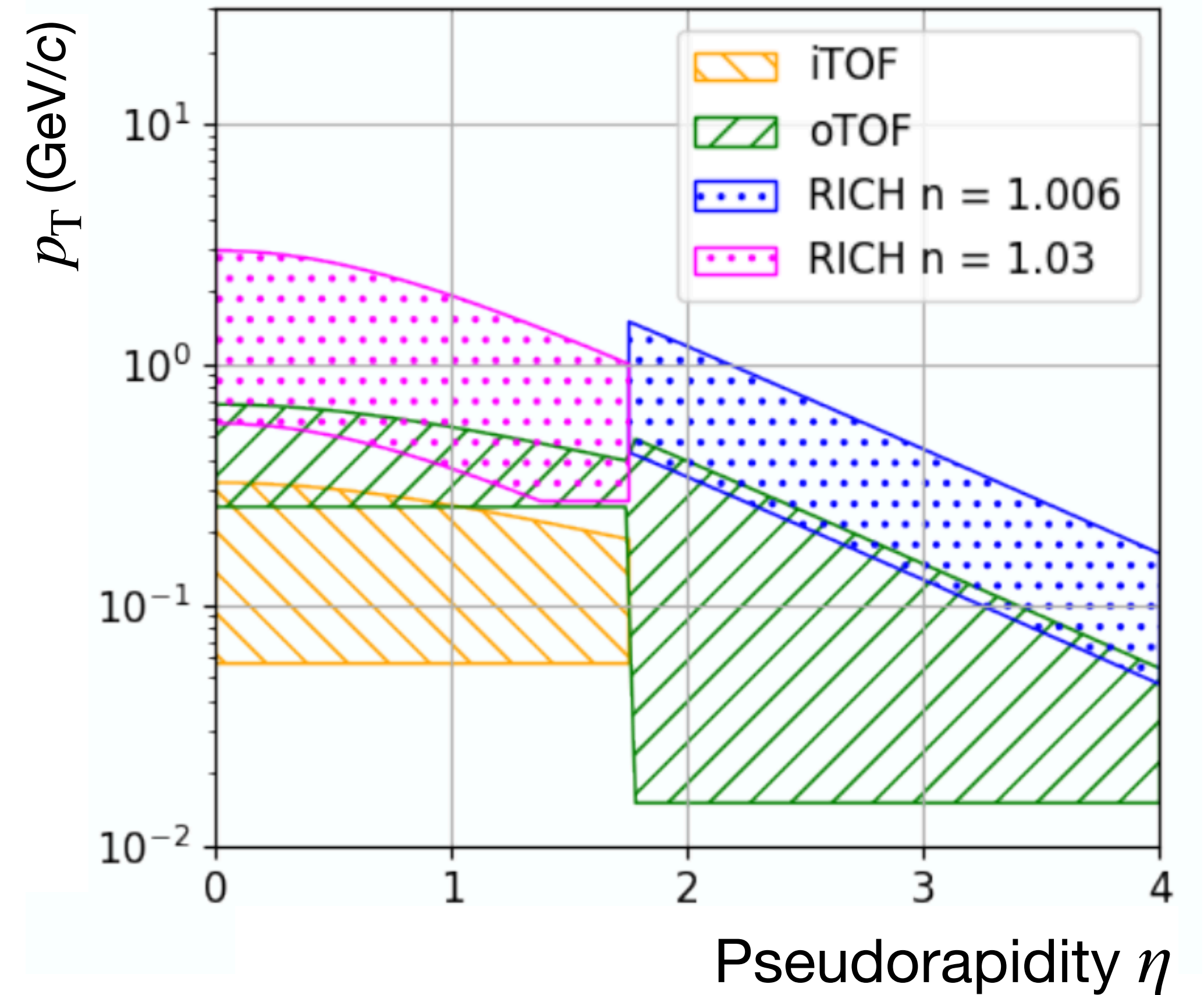
• Muon Identifier

- Absorber + 2 layers of muon detectors
- Muons down to $p_T \geq 1.5$ GeV/ c

• Forward conversion tracker

- Thin tracking disks in $3 < \eta < 5$ in its own dipole field
- Very low p_T photons (≤ 10 MeV/ c)

3σ separation between e and π



Summary and outlook



ALICE 3 needed to unravel the microscopic dynamics of the QGP

Innovative detector concept to meet the requirements of the ALICE 3 physics program

Outlook:

- 2023-25: Selection of technologies, small-scale proof of concept prototypes ($\approx 25\%$ of R&D funds)
- 2026-27: Large-scale engineered prototypes ($\approx 75\%$ of R&D funds)
 - Technical Design Reports
- 2028-32: Construction and testing
- 2033-34: Preparation of cavern and installation of ALICE 3

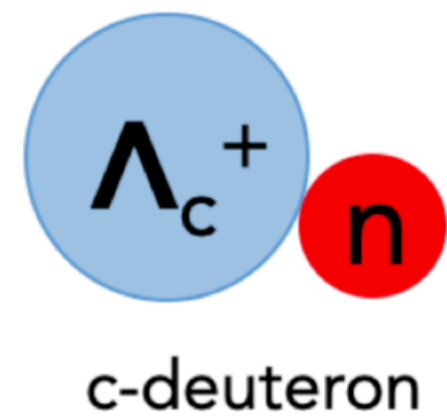
*Thanks to the full ALICE 3 team for the huge work
in particular Jochen Klein and Marco van Leeuwen*

Back-up

Nuclear states: charm-deuteron



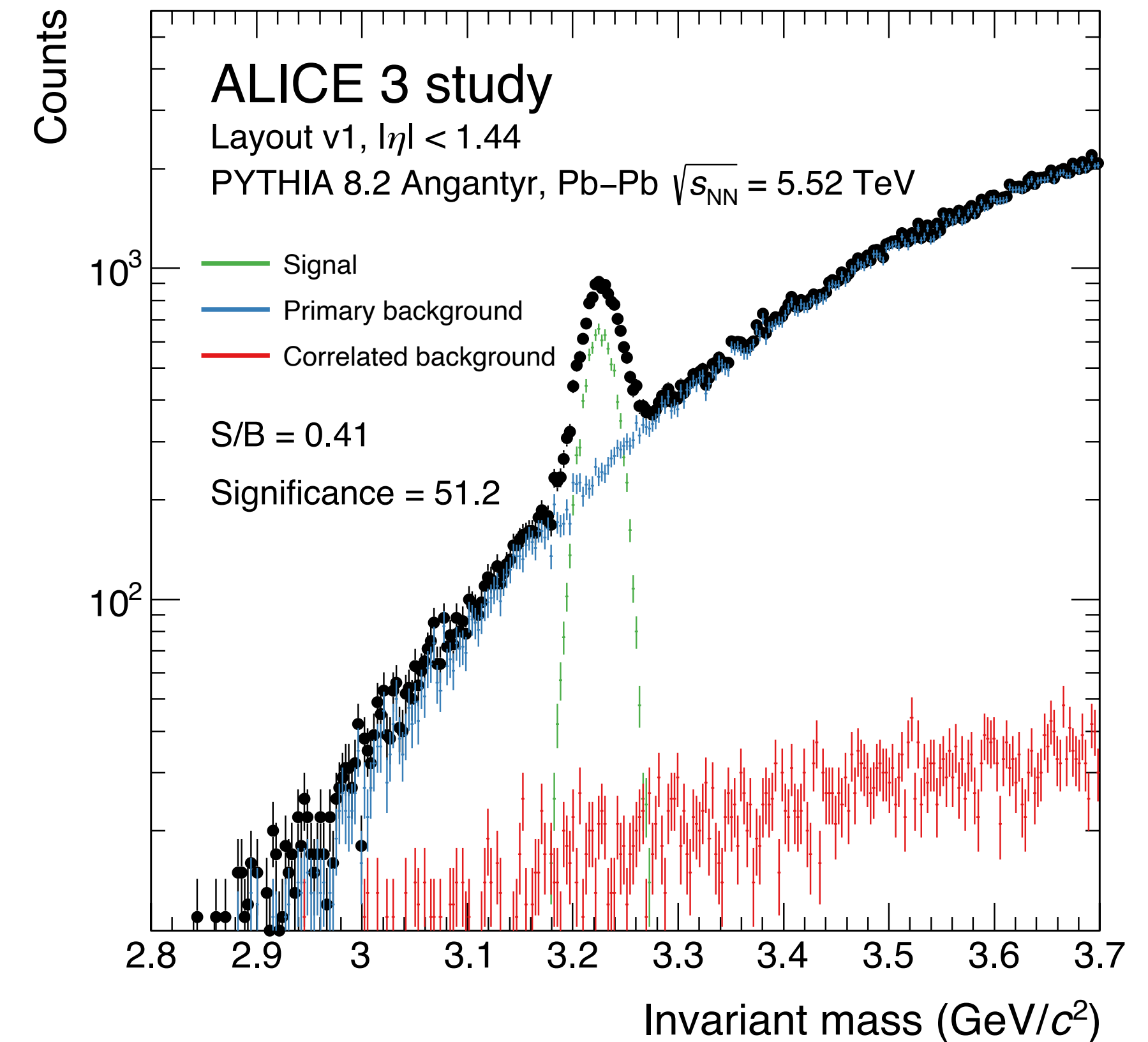
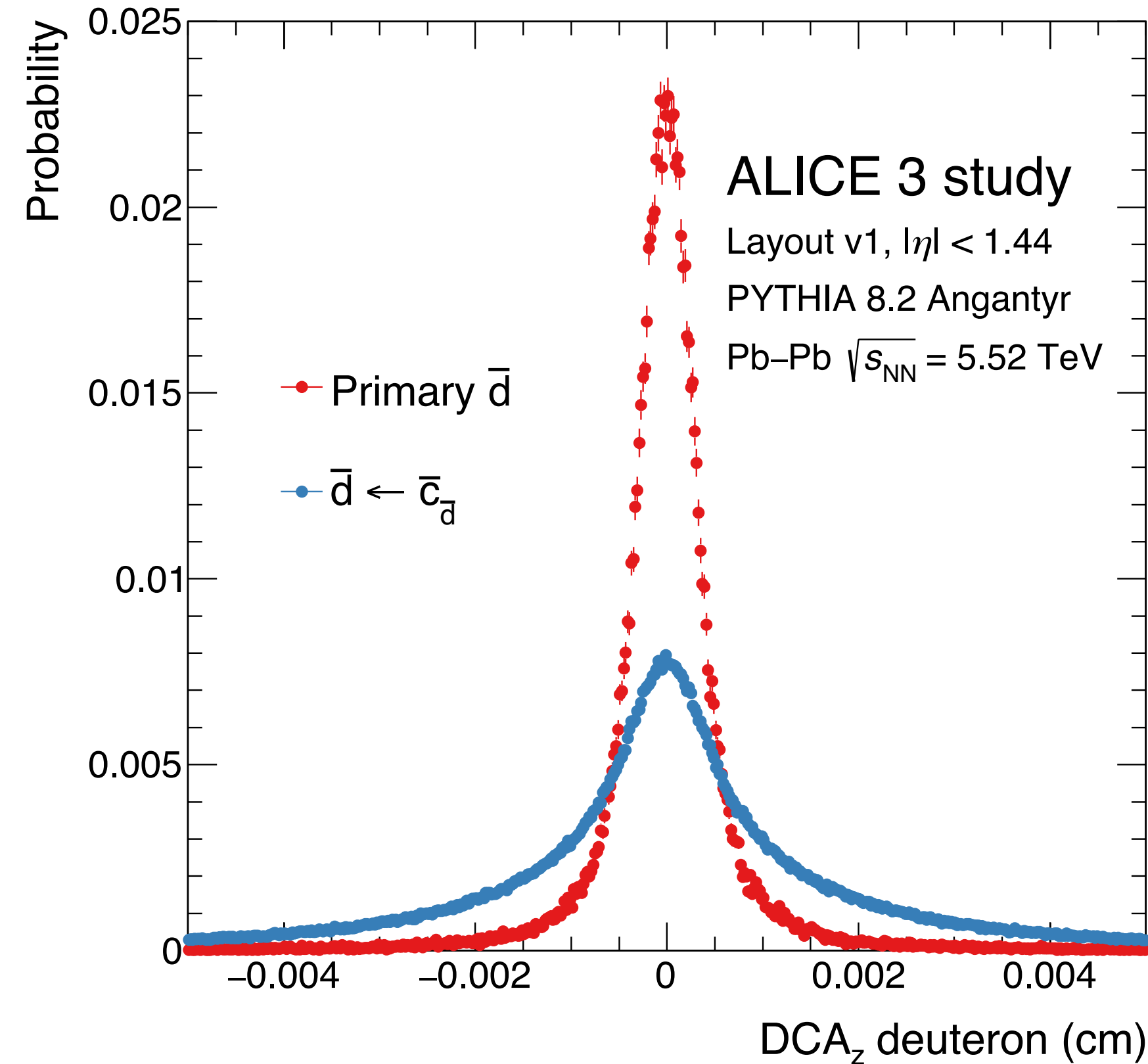
Invariant mass distribution
in minimum-bias Pb–Pb collisions
On month data taking



Study with the decay channel:
 $c_d \rightarrow d + K^- + \pi^+$

Assumed yield predicted by
Statistic Hadronisation Model

Impact parameter distribution



Unique sensitivity to undiscovered charm-nuclei:

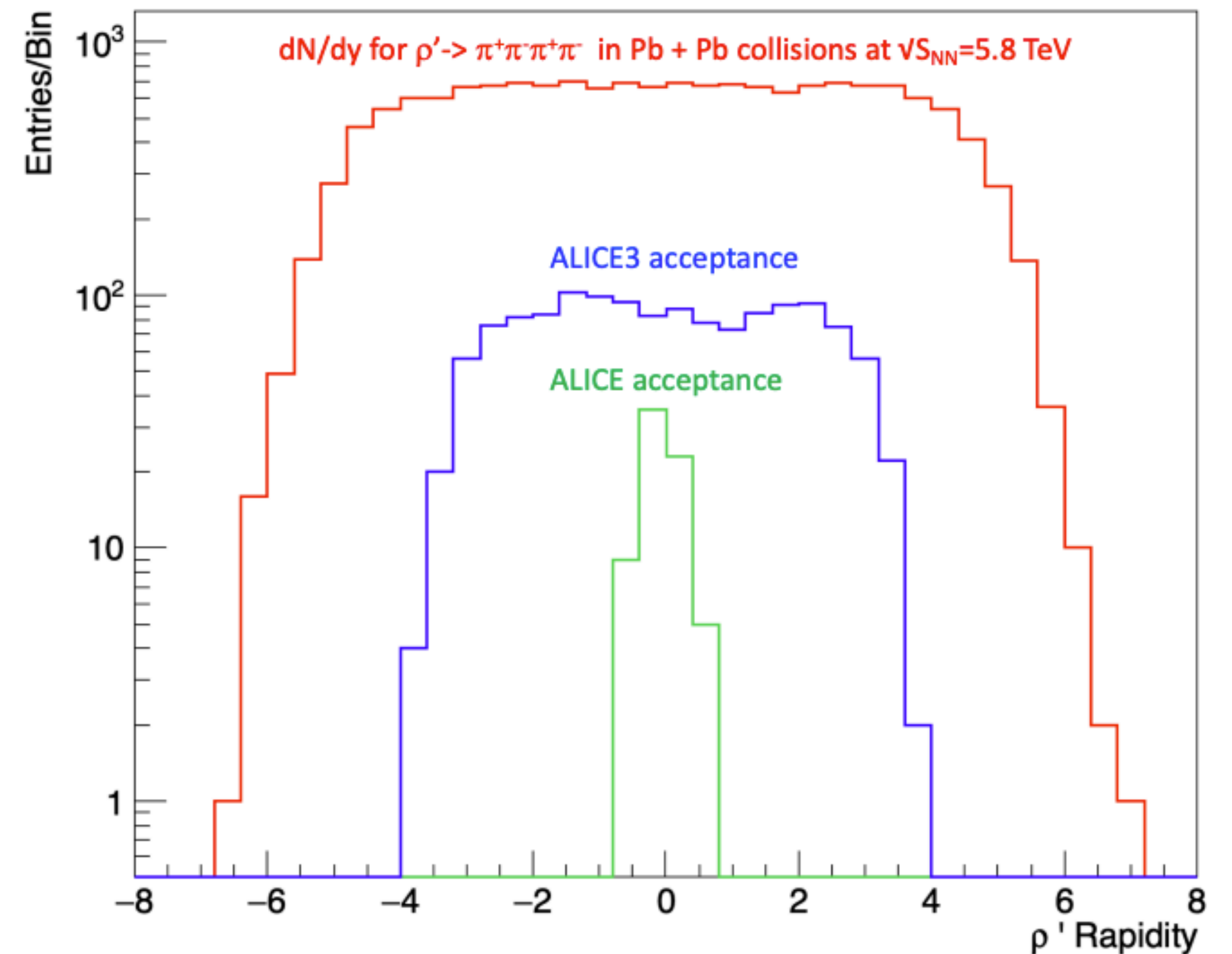
- For c-deuteron: reach significance of 50 for one month Pb–Pb fully integrated (centrality, p_T , η)
- For c-triton ($\Lambda_c nn$): 2.5 significance for one month Pb–Pb fully integrated

Photo-produced vector mesons



$$\rho' \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- \text{ acceptance}$$

- Explore spectroscopy of higher excitations of ρ , ω , ϕ
- $\rho' \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^-$ measured by STAR:
(STAR, PRC 81 (2010) 044901)
 - Shape consistent with one single resonance
 - But situation not yet 100% clear
(Particle Data Group Collaboration, Phys. Rev. D 98 no. 3 (2018) 030001)
- Acceptance:
 - 0.4% with ALICE 2 ($|\eta| < 0.8$ & $p_T > 0.1$ GeV/c)
 - 8.4% with ALICE 3 ($|\eta| < 4$ & $p_T > 0.1$ GeV/c)



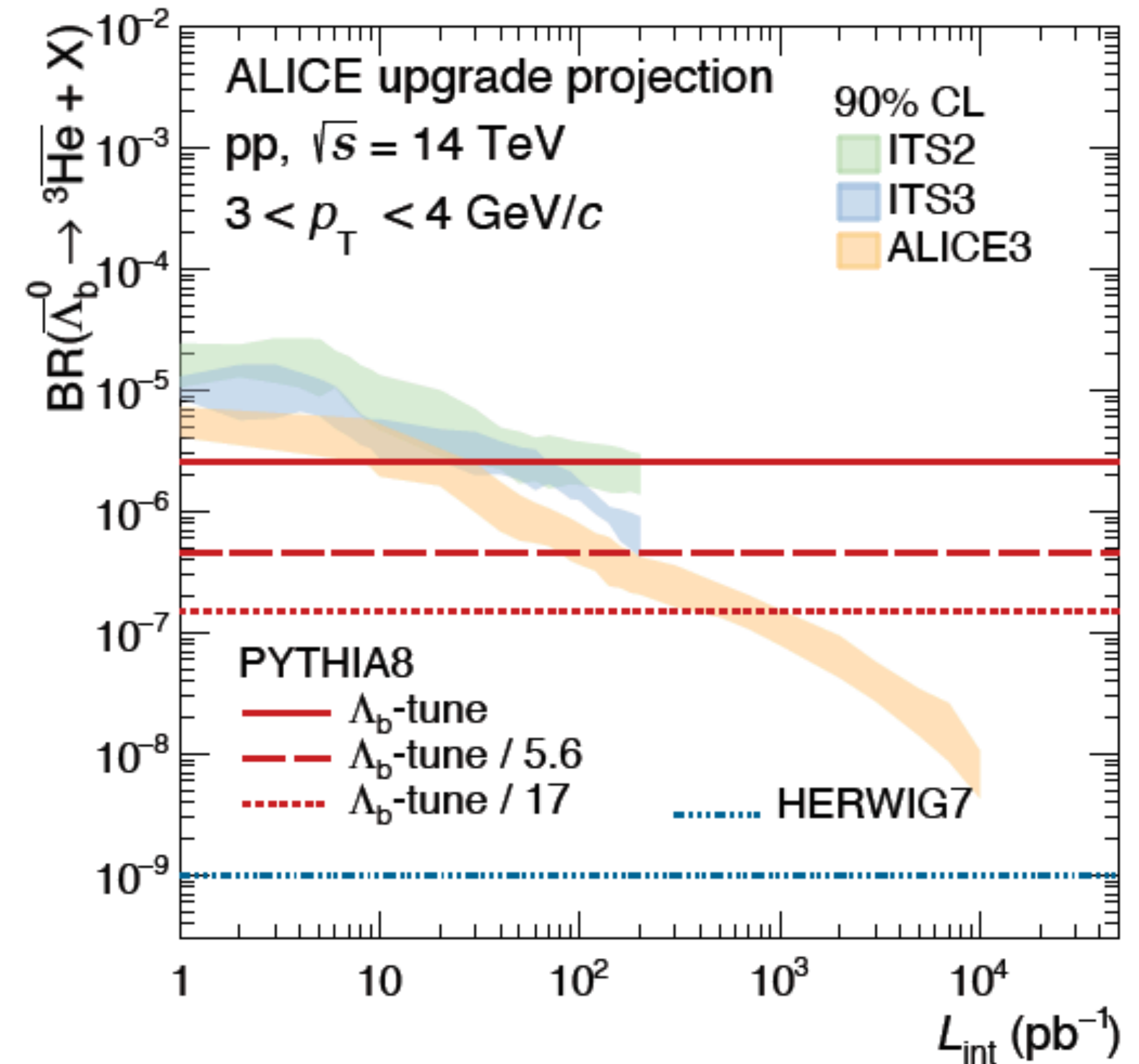
Study of b-quark decays into ${}^3\text{He}$



- Detection of cosmic-ray antinuclei ${}^3\bar{H}e$
= promising signature of existence of weakly-interacting massive particles (WIMP)
- Preliminary evidence for cosmic-ray ${}^3\bar{H}e$ by AMS experiment
Possible production of $\bar{\Lambda}_b \rightarrow {}^3\bar{H}e + X$ in dark-matter annihilation

**With ALICE 3: precise measurement
of decay branching ratio of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + X$**

Upper limit at 90% CL on branching ratio



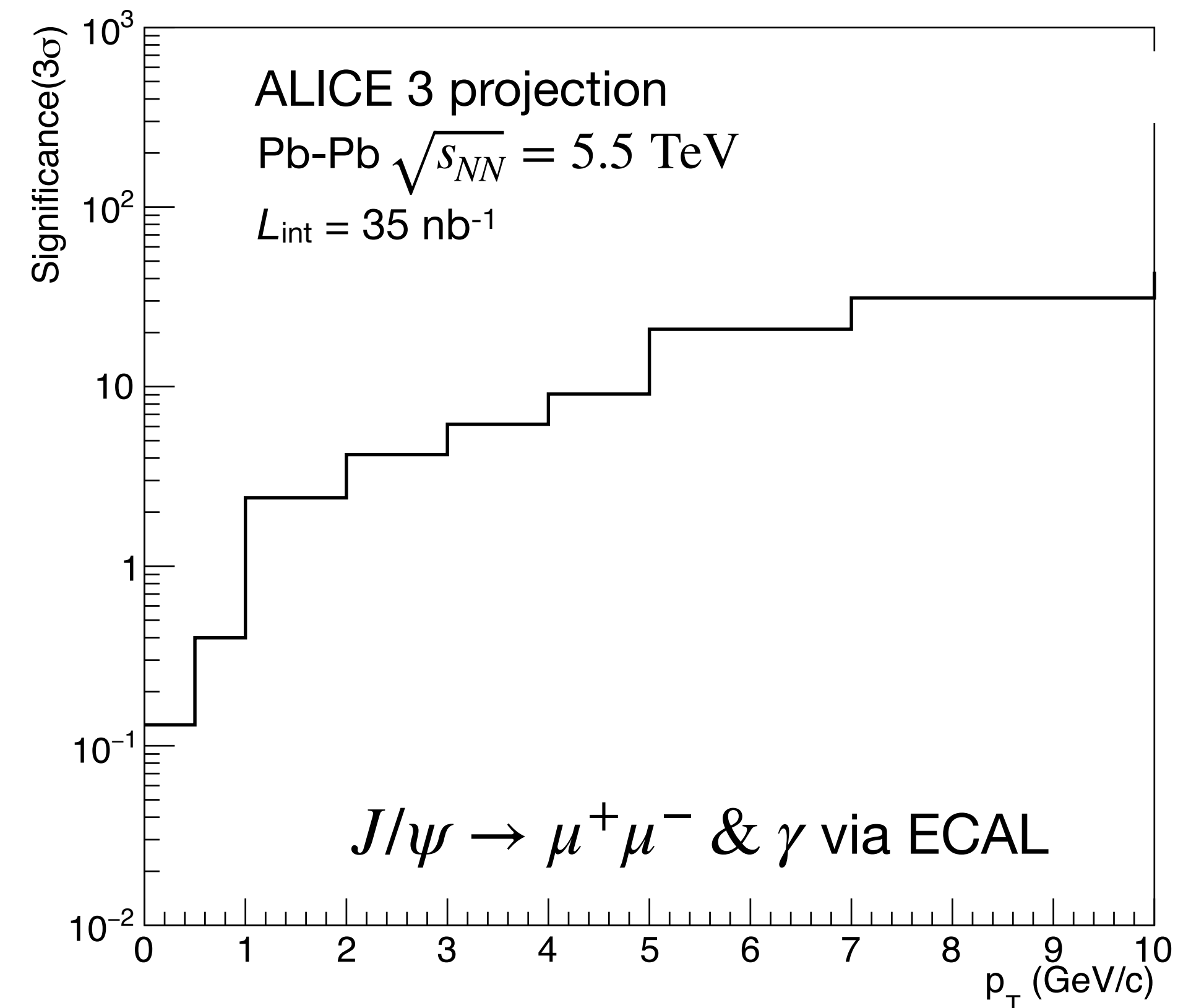
Other bound states: quarkonia



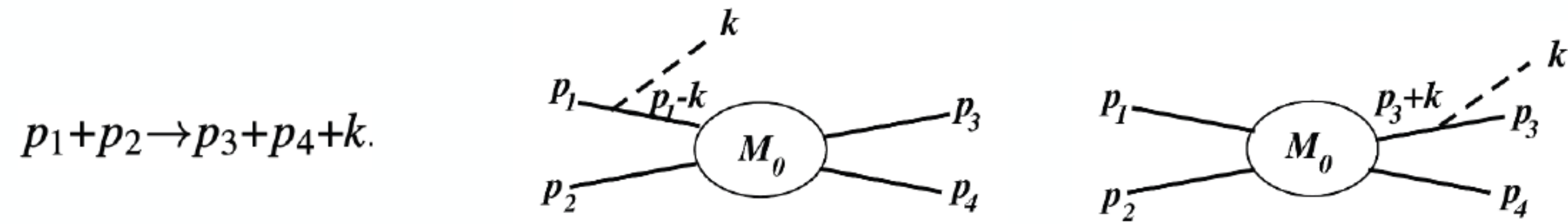
- Explore new states:
 - P-wave (L=1) states χ_c, χ_b
 - Pseudoscalar (L=1) states η_c, η_b
- Melting temperature depends on angular momentum...
- Measurement of $\chi_c, \chi_b \rightarrow$ Test theory

**Require muon identification down to 1.5 GeV/c
+ photon detection**

$\chi_c \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ significance in Pb–Pb
six years of running



Ultra-soft γ production



γ produced via inner bremsstrahlung

- **Observed yield not understood**

- Cross section computable with Low-theorem
→ Related to infrared structure of quantum field theory
- **Large excess observed at lower \sqrt{s}** in association with hadrons

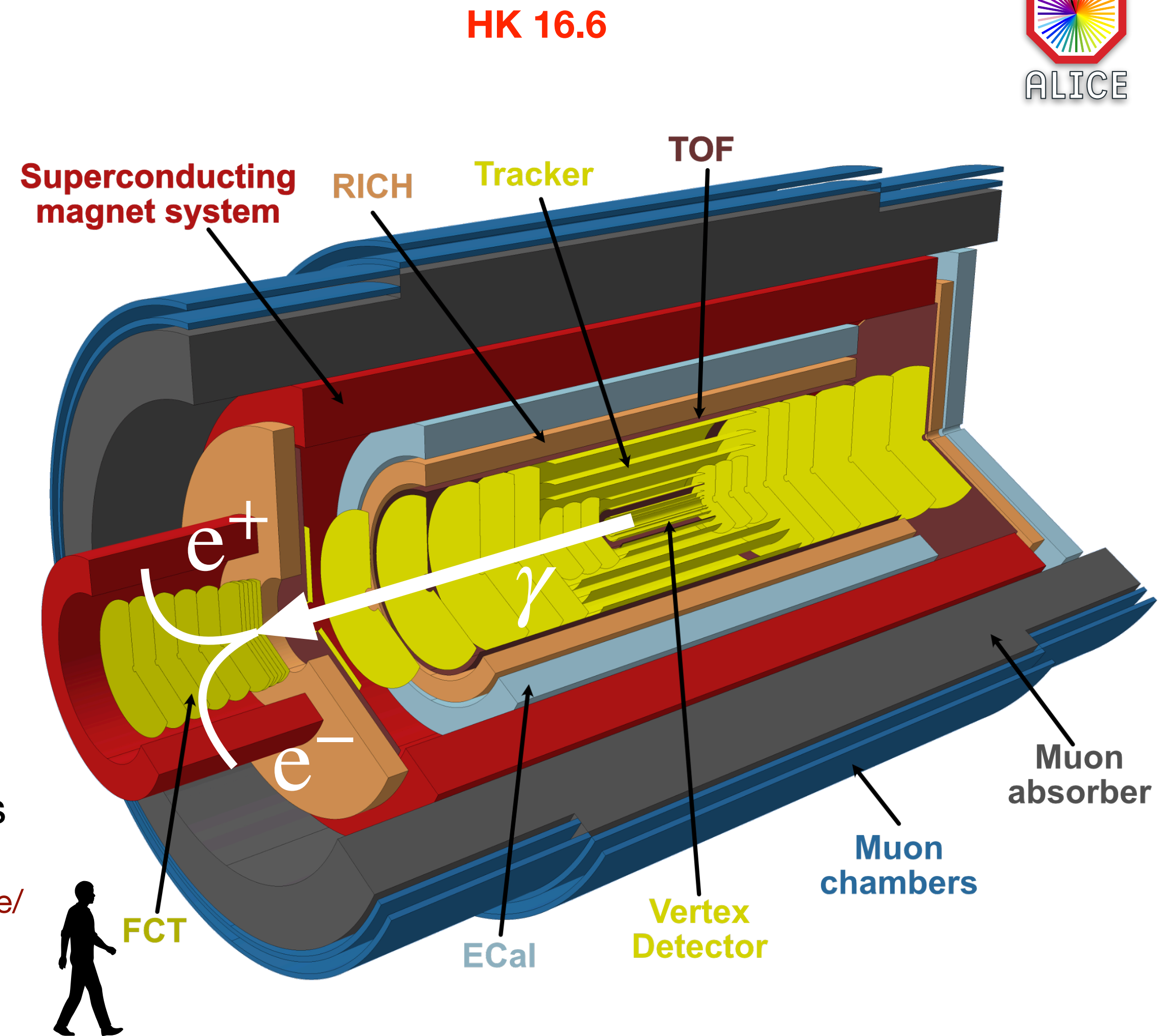
Francis E. Low., Phys.Rev.Lett. 110 (1958) 468

Overview: K. Reygers ALICE 3 Workshop <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1063724/timetable/>

- **Systematic study with ALICE 3:**

- $pp \rightarrow pp\pi^+\pi^-\gamma$
- $pp \rightarrow ppJ/\psi\gamma \rightarrow ppe^+e^-\gamma$ (\approx purely leptonic final state)
- Inclusive pp collisions as a function of charged particle multiplicity

Large η acceptance → clean selection of exclusive process



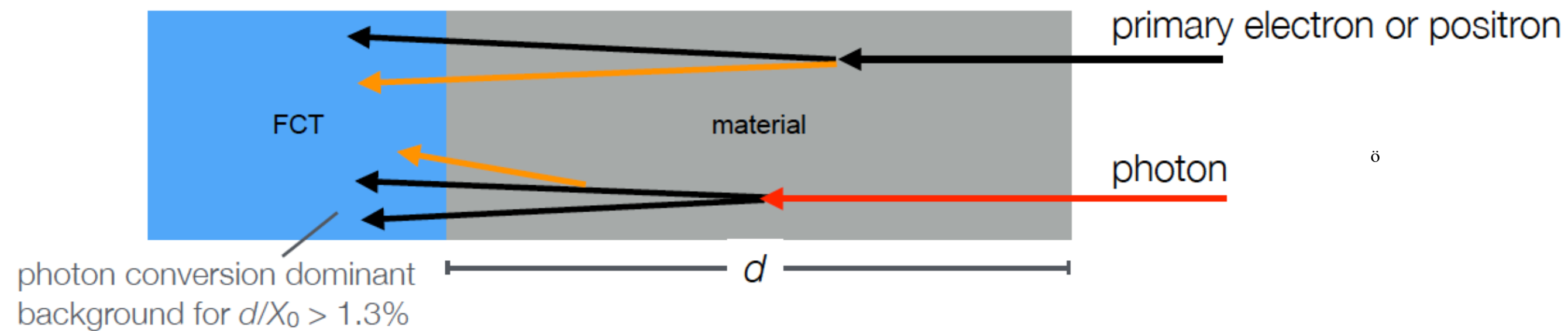
Forward Conversion Tracker (FCT, $3 \leq \eta \leq 5$)

$E_\gamma \geq 50$ MeV with photon conversion

Measure γ s with $1 \leq p_T \leq 10$ MeV/c

Ultra-soft γ in inclusive pp collisions

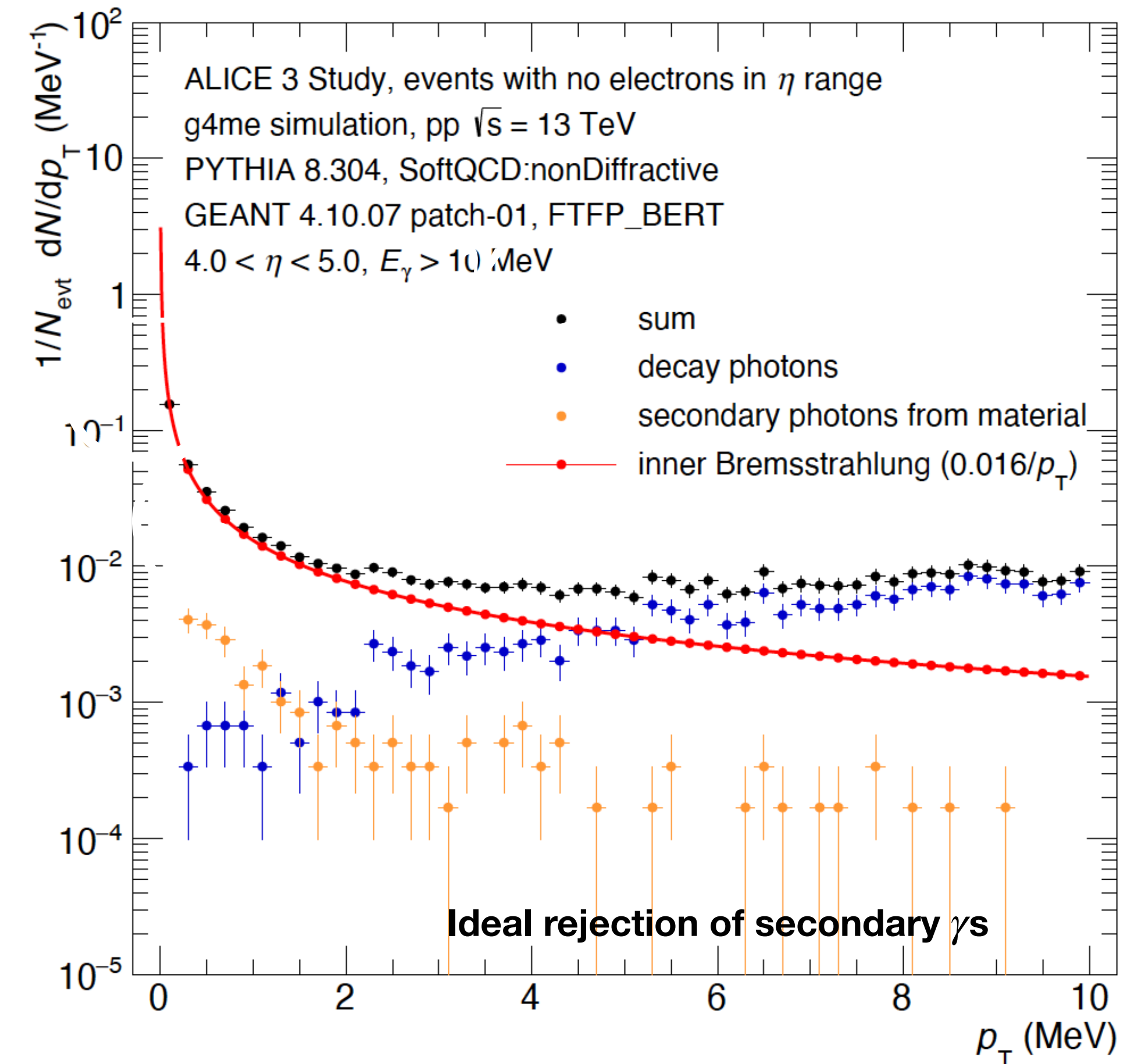
- **Signal:** inner Bremsstrahlung
- Background:
 - Decay photons ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
 - Secondary photons from material



- Minimize material in front of FCT
- Develop strategy to reject events with e^\pm in the FCT η acceptance (here ideal case)

→ **Expect 20% uncertainties in all planned reactions**
Complementary ultra-soft e^+e^- measurements (lower p_T than ALICE 2)

Inclusive pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV
 Expected yields for signal and backgrounds



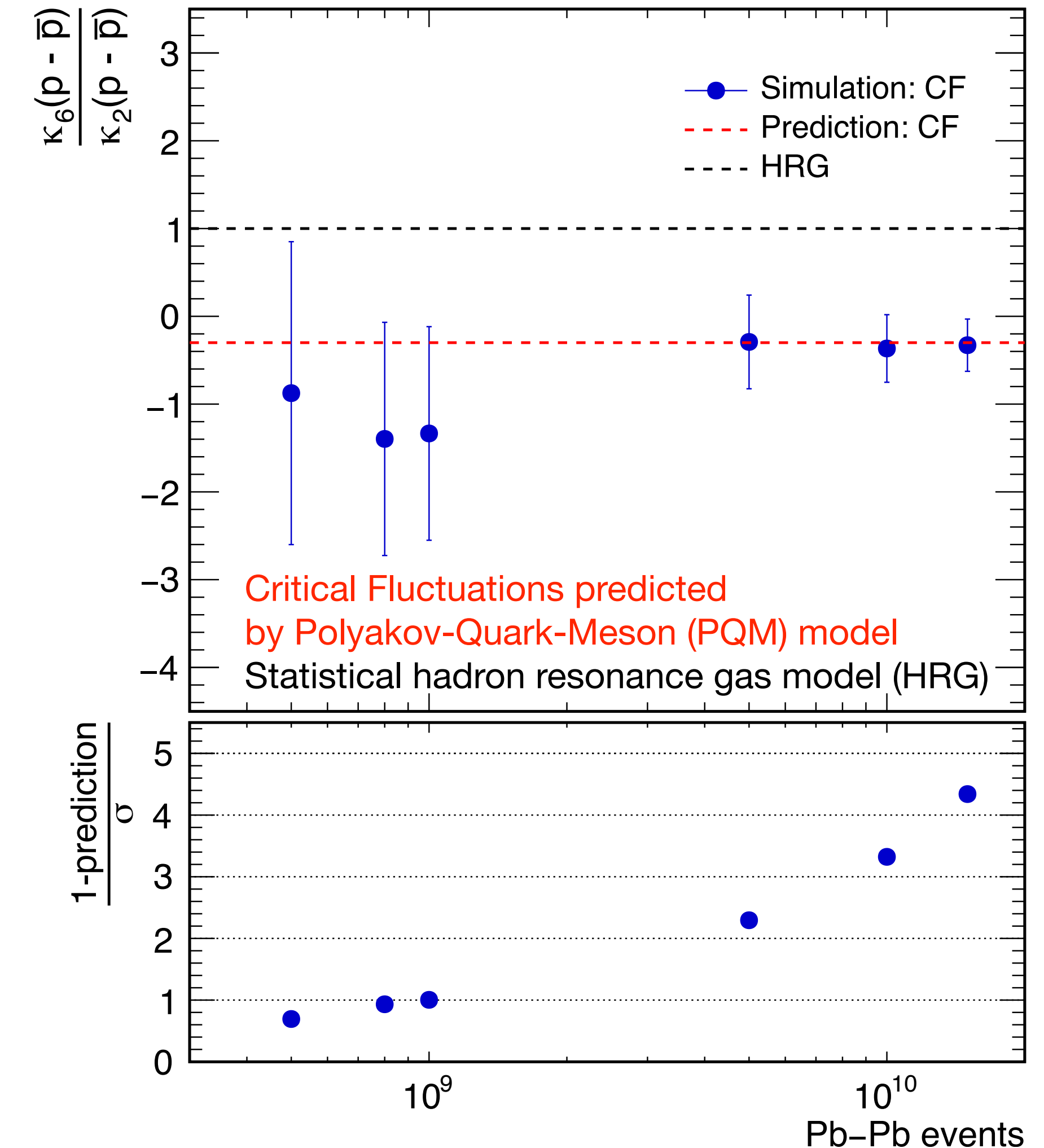


Fluctuations of conserved charge

- Baryon number susceptibility of QGP: calculable with lattice QGP
- Accessible via cumulants of net-proton number fluctuations
- Higher order cumulants: phase transition between QGP and HG
→ **4 σ observation in reach with ALICE 3 ($\kappa_6(p - \bar{p})/\kappa_2(p - \bar{p})$)**
- Lower-order cumulants: long-range rapidity correlations
→ Large acceptance crucial

**Net-baryon fluctuation measurements
profit from large ALICE 3 acceptance and very good PID
→ Can be extended to net-charm fluctuations (D mesons)**

ALICE 3 Projection for 6th cumulant



G.A. Almasi, B. Friman, K. Redlich, PRD 96 no. 1 (2017) 014027
ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009



Fluctuations of conserved charge

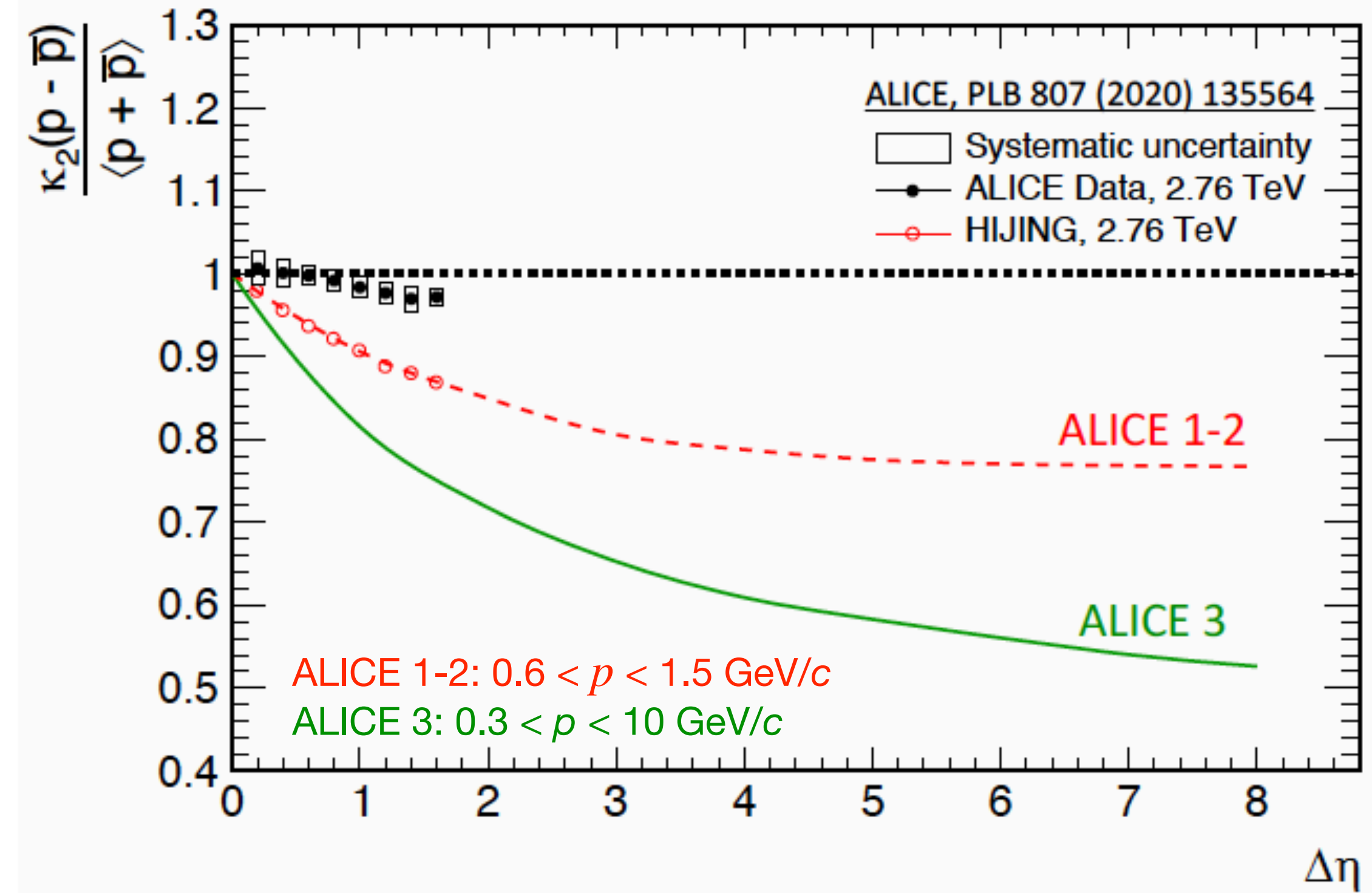
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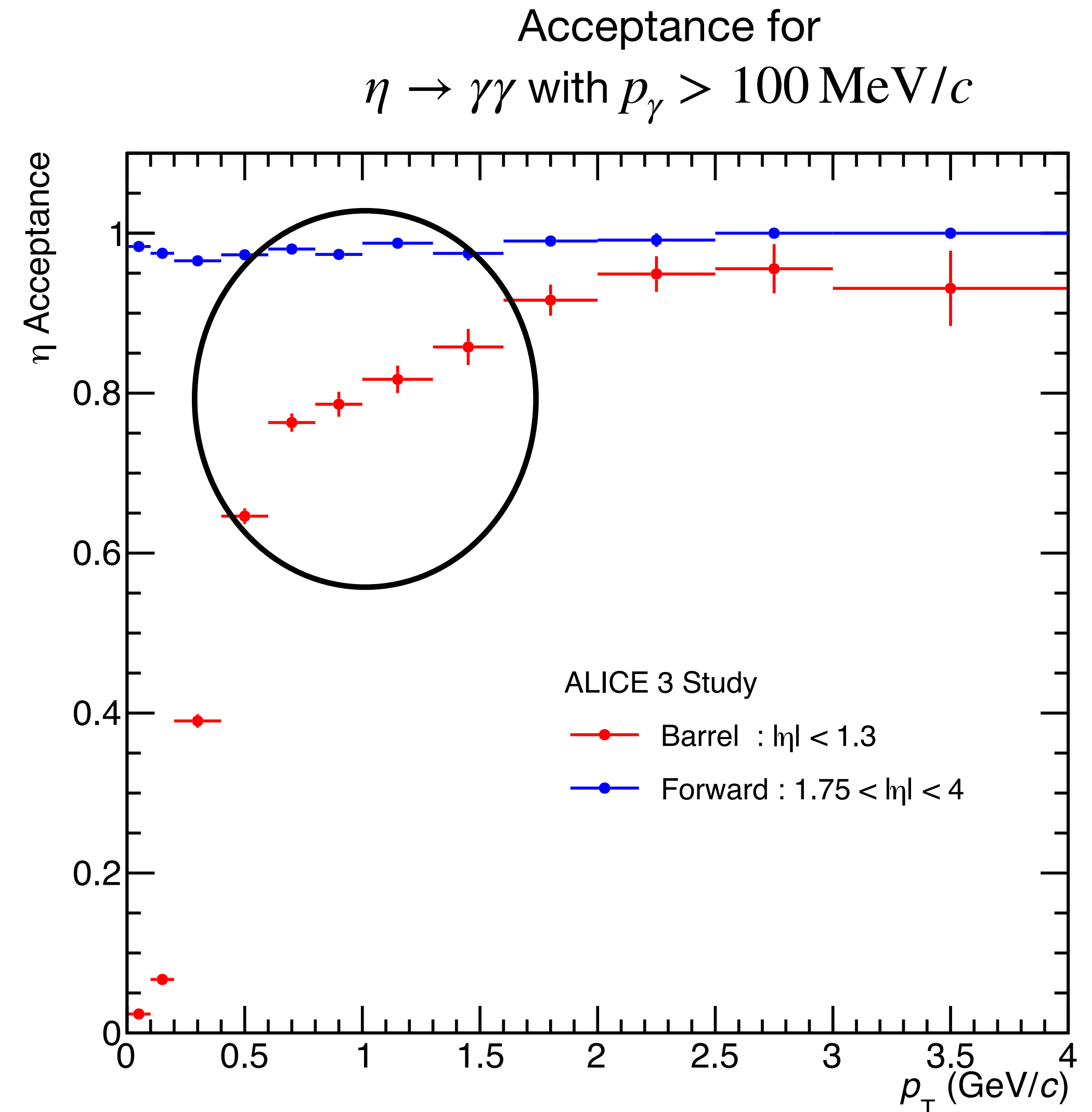
Pseudorapidity dependence of normalised second cumulants of net-protons



Measurement of η (and π^0) down to $p_T = 0$

- p_T spectrum of direct photons
→ **Alternative method of T determination**
with different systematic uncertainties
- Main background: π^0, η decays:
Can be measured down to very low p_T for $1.75 < \eta < 4$
Not possible with ALICE 2

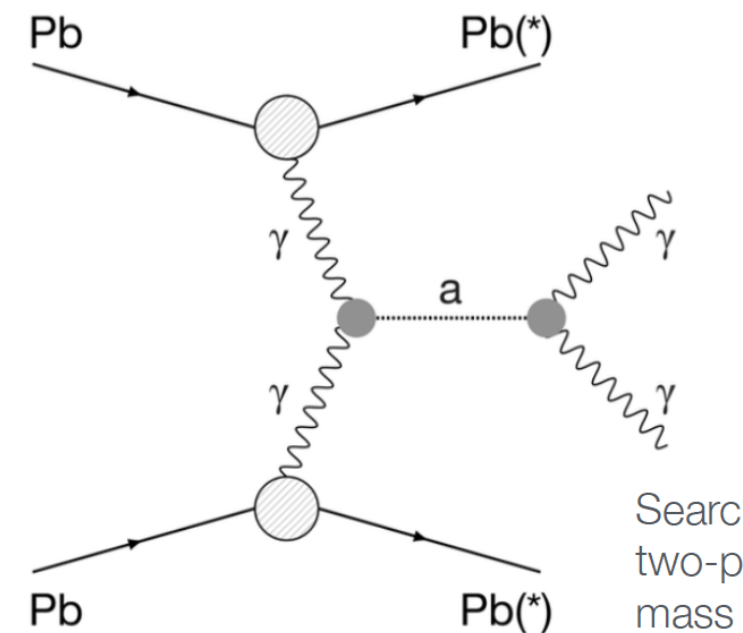
Significant reduction of uncertainties expected



Beyond QGP physics



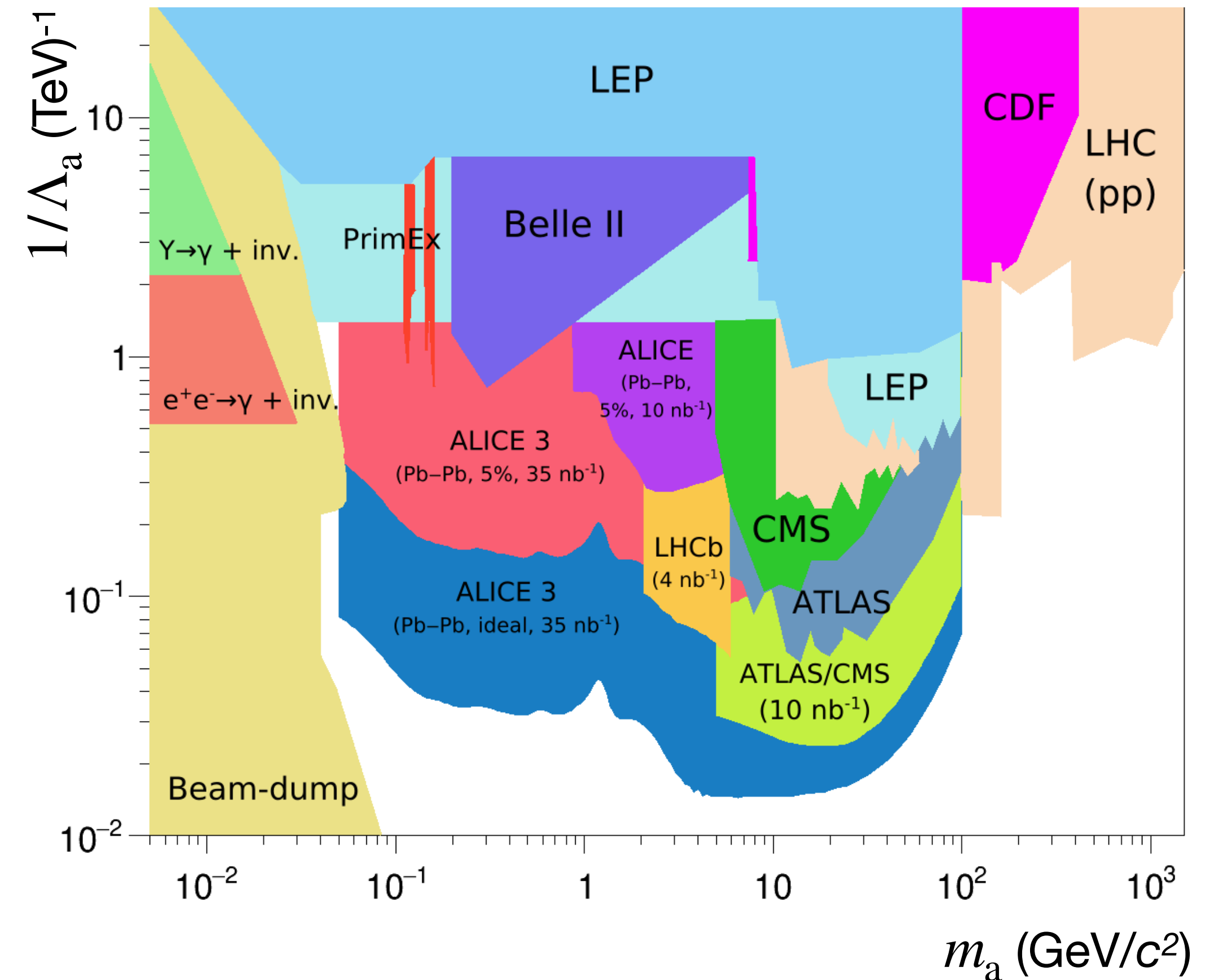
- **Axion-like particles (ALPs)** = elementary pseudoscalar particles appearing in many BSM extensions as Goldstone bosons (Dark matter candidates/mediators)
- **Search for ALPs in ultra-peripheral collisions**



Look for peak in the two-photon invariant mass spectrum
 Background considered: $\pi^0\pi^0$ photo-production, light-by-light scattering

- **With ALICE 3 take advantage of:**
 - Large rapidity coverage $|\eta| \leq 4$
 - Capability to measure γ down to small E ($E \geq 50-100$ MeV)

ALP search: expected sensitivity as a function of m_a and ALP- γ coupling $1/\Lambda_a$



Existing limits from ATLAS, JHEP 03, 243 (2021)
 Projections for ATLAS/CMS from PRL 118 (2017), 171801
 Projections for LHCb from Goncalves et al. EPJC 81 (2021), 522

Heavy-ion species

- Maximise statistics for rare probes → Identify species best suited for physics programm
- Limitation in the injection complex:
 - Injection of bunches with higher intensities possible for lighter ions (lower charges)
 - For lighter ions:
 - Expect larger nucleon-nucleon luminosities(determine rate of hard probes)
 - But smaller collision system and QGP effects for lighter ions
- Performance studies done with Pb—Pb (most challenging in term of signal-to-background)

Nucleon-nucleon
luminosity:
 $\mathcal{L}_{NN} = A^2 \cdot \mathcal{L}_{AA}$

optimistic scenario	O-O	Ar-Ar	Ca-Ca	Kr-Kr	In-In	Xe-Xe	Pb-Pb
$\langle \mathcal{L}_{AA} \rangle$ (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	$9.5 \cdot 10^{29}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^{29}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{29}$	$5.0 \cdot 10^{28}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{28}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{28}$	$3.3 \cdot 10^{27}$
$\langle \mathcal{L}_{NN} \rangle$ (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	$2.4 \cdot 10^{32}$	$3.3 \cdot 10^{32}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{32}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{32}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{32}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^{32}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{32}$
\mathcal{L}_{AA} (nb ⁻¹ / month)	$1.6 \cdot 10^3$	$3.4 \cdot 10^2$	$3.1 \cdot 10^2$	$8.4 \cdot 10^1$	$3.9 \cdot 10^1$	$2.6 \cdot 10^1$	$5.6 \cdot 10^0$
\mathcal{L}_{NN} (pb ⁻¹ / month)	409	550	500	510	512	434	242

Strength of QGP effects
(e.g. charm abundance, quenching, also background)

Luminosity

System	$\mathcal{L}^{\text{month}}$	$\mathcal{L}^{\text{Run5+6}}$
pp	0.5 fb^{-1}	18 fb^{-1}
pp reference	100 pb^{-1}	200 pb^{-1}
A–A		
Xe–Xe	26 nb^{-1}	156 nb^{-1}
Pb–Pb	5.6 nb^{-1}	33.6 nb^{-1}

Integrated luminosity for
Run 3+4

200 pb^{-1} at 13.6 TeV with high-multiplicity and rare probe selection

13 nb^{-1} with Pb–Pb

Table 2: Integrated luminosities for different collision systems

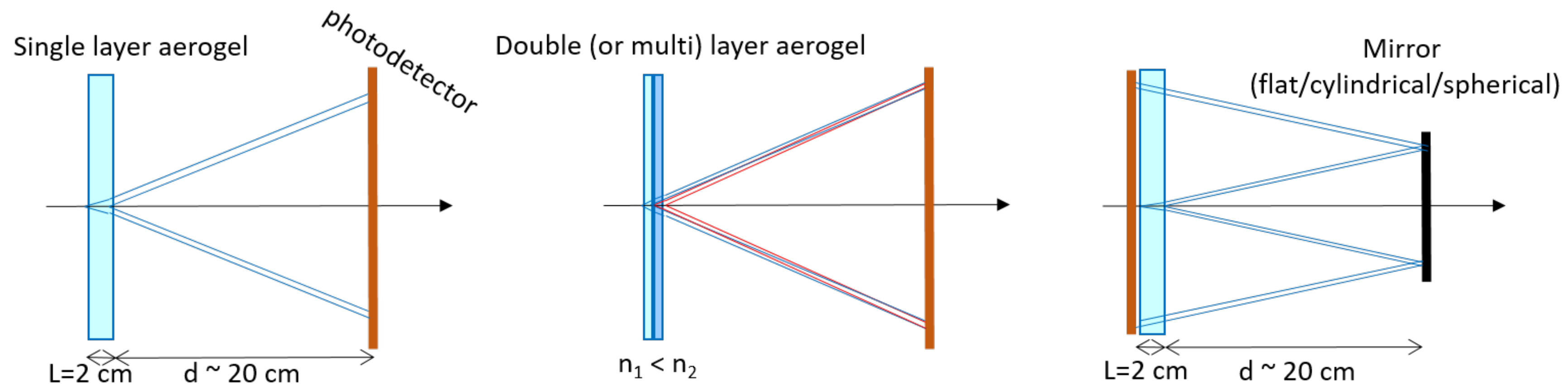
Ring-Imaging Cherenkov

- **Separation power** $\propto \frac{L}{\sigma_{\text{tof}}}$
 - distance and time resolution crucial
- **2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers**
 - outer TOF at $R \approx 85$ cm
 - inner TOF at $R \approx 19$ cm
 - forward TOF at $z \approx 405$ cm
- **Silicon timing sensors** ($\sigma_{\text{TOF}} \approx 20$ ps)
 - Total silicon surface ~ 45 m²
 - **R&D programme** on monolithic CMOS sensors with integrated gain layer

Ring-Imaging Cherenkov

Extend PID reach of outer TOF to higher p_T
→ Cherenkov

- 2 cm thick **aerogel radiator**
to ensure continuous coverage from TOF
→ refractive index $n = 1.03$ (barrel)
→ refractive index $n = 1.006$ (forward)
- **Silicon photon detection layer at 20 cm from the radiator:**
 - Total SiPM surface $\sim 60 \text{ m}^2$
 - **R&D programme** on monolithic photon sensors
- Cherenkov angular resolution $\approx 1.5 \text{ mrad}$
- Cherenkov emission threshold determines low p_T reach



Raphaëlle Bailhache

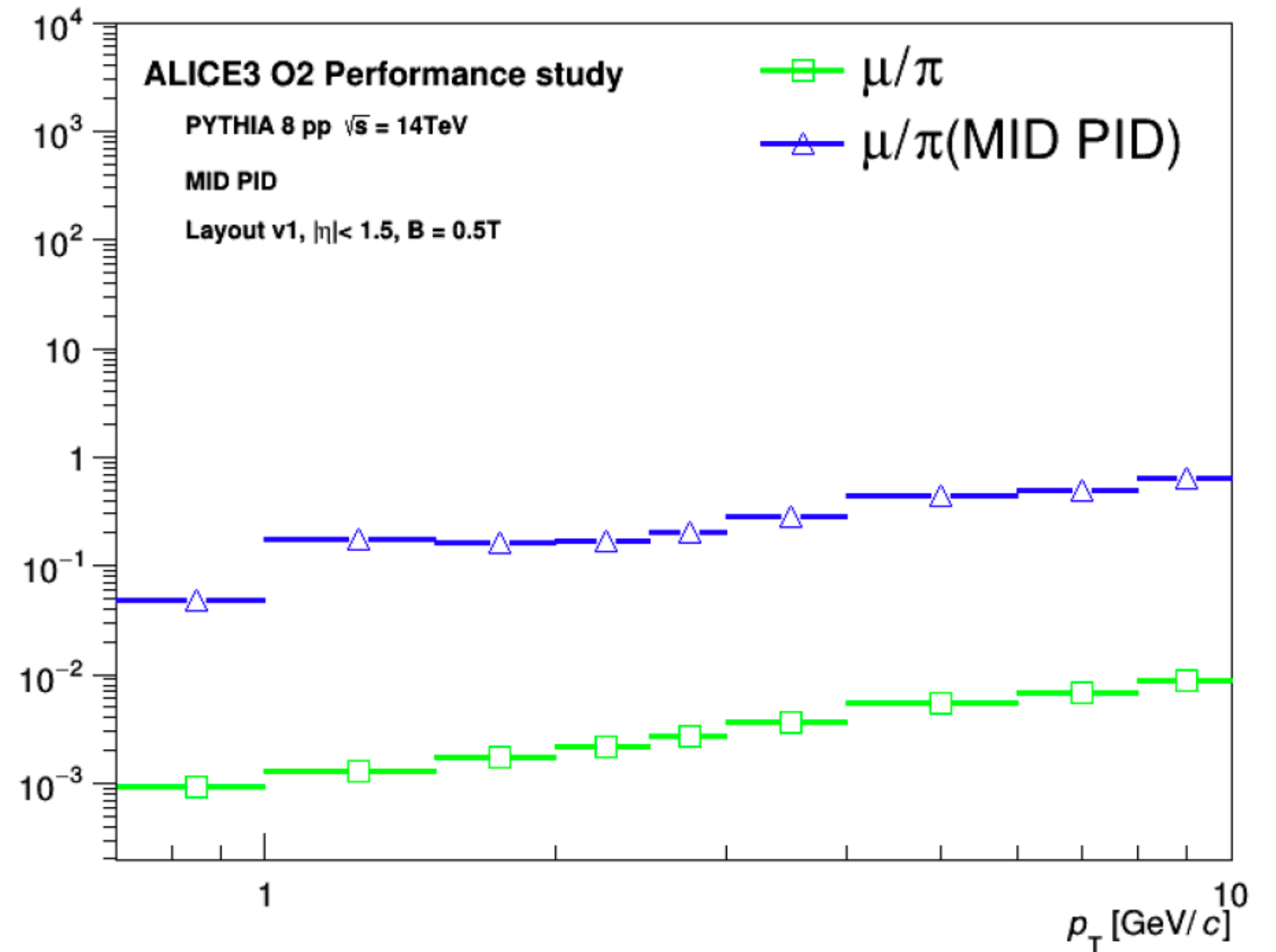
Electromagnetic calorimeter

- **Large acceptance ECal**
→ sampling calorimeter (à la ALICE EMCAL/DCAL):
O(100) layers (1 mm Pb + 1.5 mm plastic scintillator)
- **Additional high energy resolution segment** at mid-rapidity
→ PbWO₄-based (à la ALICE PHOS)

ECal module	Barrel sampling	Endcap sampling	Barrel high-precision
acceptance	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $ \eta < 1.5$	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $1.5 < \eta < 4$	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $ \eta < 0.33$
geometry	$R_{\text{in}} = 1.15 \text{ m},$ $ z < 2.7 \text{ m}$	$0.16 < R < 1.8 \text{ m},$ $z = 4.35 \text{ m}$	$R_{\text{in}} = 1.15 \text{ m},$ $ z < 0.64 \text{ m}$
technology	sampling Pb + scint.	sampling Pb + scint.	PbWO ₄ crystals
cell size	$30 \times 30 \text{ mm}^2$	$40 \times 40 \text{ mm}^2$	$22 \times 22 \text{ mm}^2$
no. of channels	30 000	6 000	20 000
energy range	$0.1 < E < 100 \text{ GeV}$	$0.1 < E < 250 \text{ GeV}$	$0.01 < E < 100 \text{ GeV}$

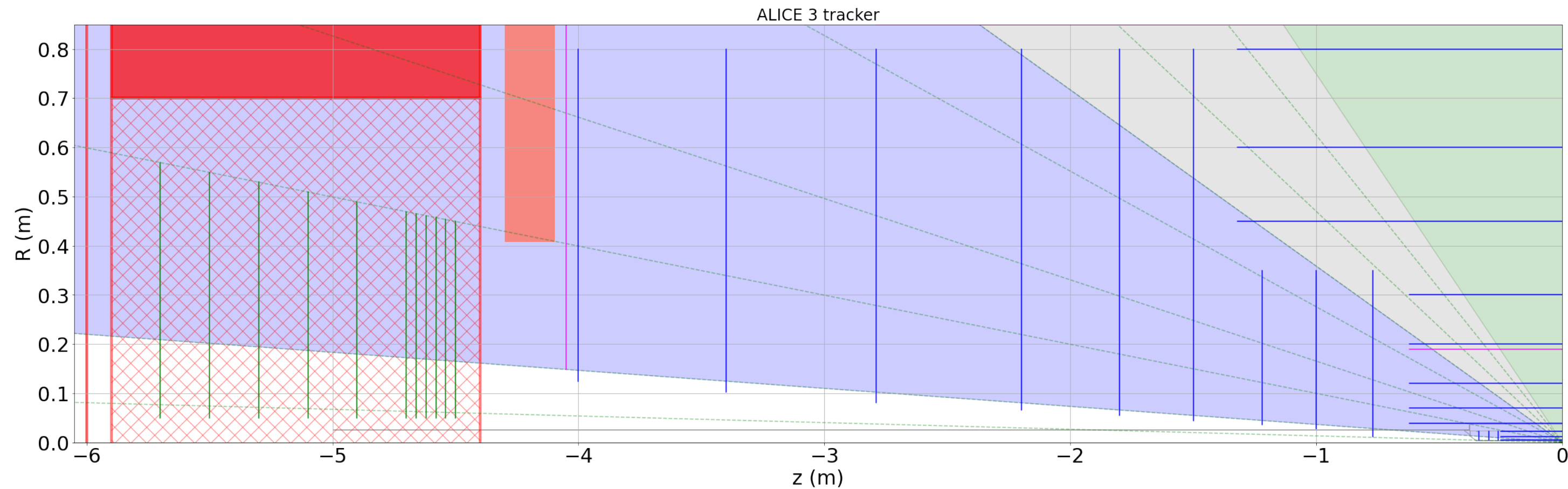
Muon Identifier

- **Hadron absorber**
 - ~70 cm non-magnetic steel
- **Muon chambers**
 - search spot for muons ~0.1 x 0.1 (eta x phi)
→ ~5 x 5 cm² cell size
 - matching demonstrated with 2 layers of muon chambers
 - scintillator bars
 - Equipped with wave-length shifting fibres
 - Read-out with SiPM

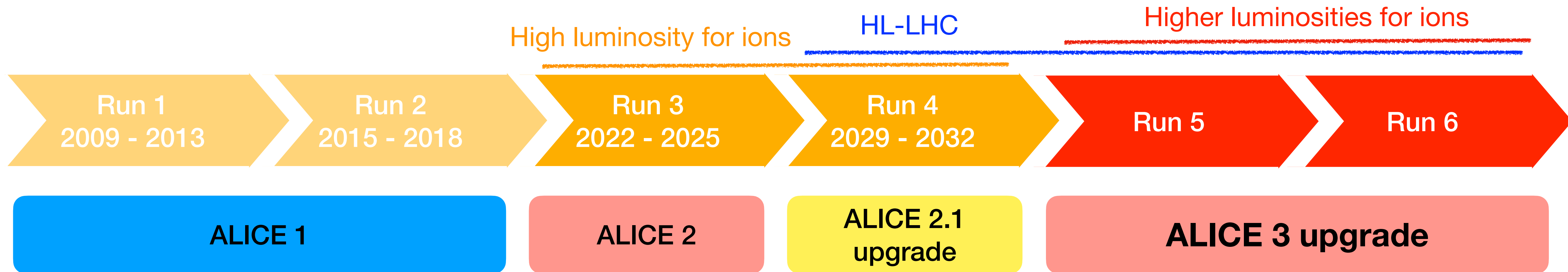


Forward conversion tracker

- **Thin silicon pixel disks** to cover $3 < \eta < 5$
 - A few 0.1% of radiation length per layer
 - Position resolution $< 10 \mu\text{m}$
- **Own dipole magnet**
 - Dipole field component $B_y \approx 0.3 \text{ T}$
- R&D programme on
 - Minimisation of material in front of FCT
 - Operational conditions



ALICE timeline



Run 3 & 4 (covered by previous talk Sarah Porteboeuf)

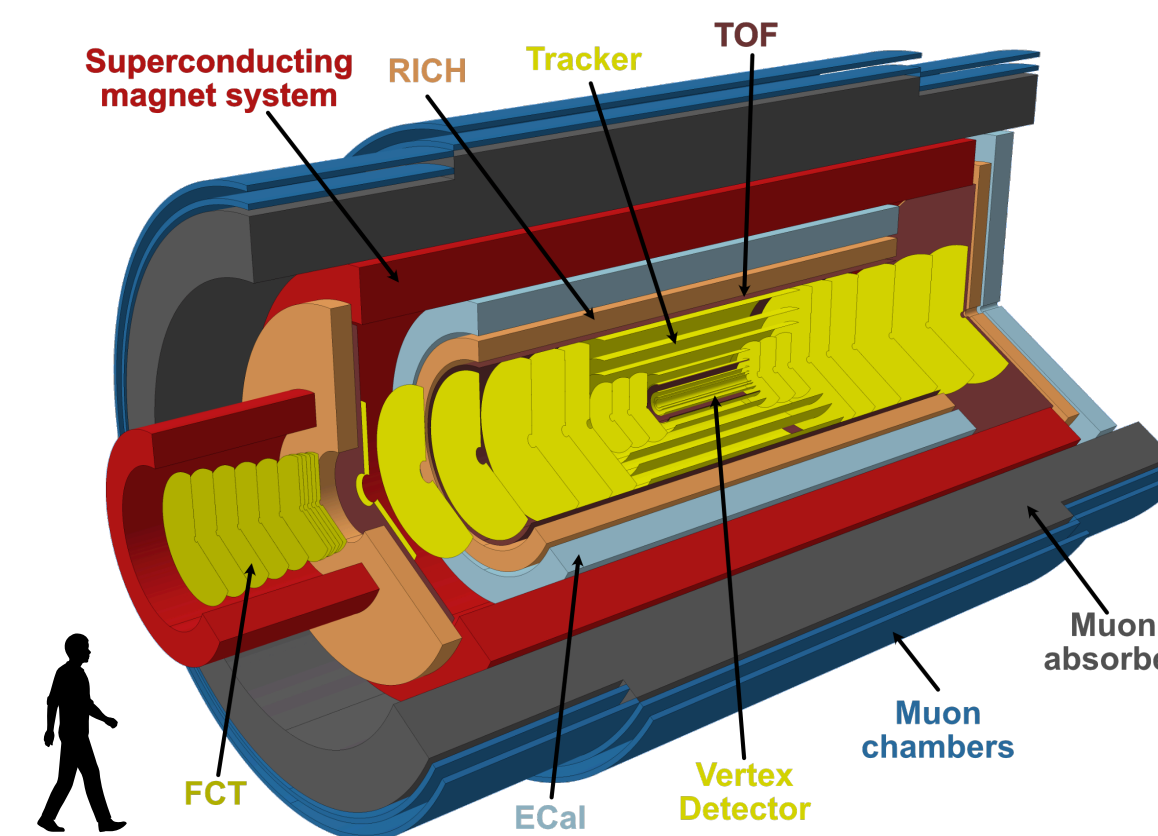
- ALICE 2 upgrades ready for high-luminosity heavy-ion collisions
- Preparation for Technical Design Reports for intermediate upgrades with ALICE 2.1

Beyond Run 4 (this talk):

- Address fundamental questions still open:
 - First ideas at Heavy-Ion town meeting 2018 [D.Adamova et al. ArXiv:1902.01211](#)
 - Letter of Intent for **ALICE 3**:
Review concluded with very positive feedback by the LHCC in March 2022

ALICE CERN-LHCC-2022-009

European Particle Physics Strategy Update recommends **full exploitation of the LHC, incl. heavy-ion programme**



Intermediate upgrade

Major upgrade