

# Hadron production studies with LHCb

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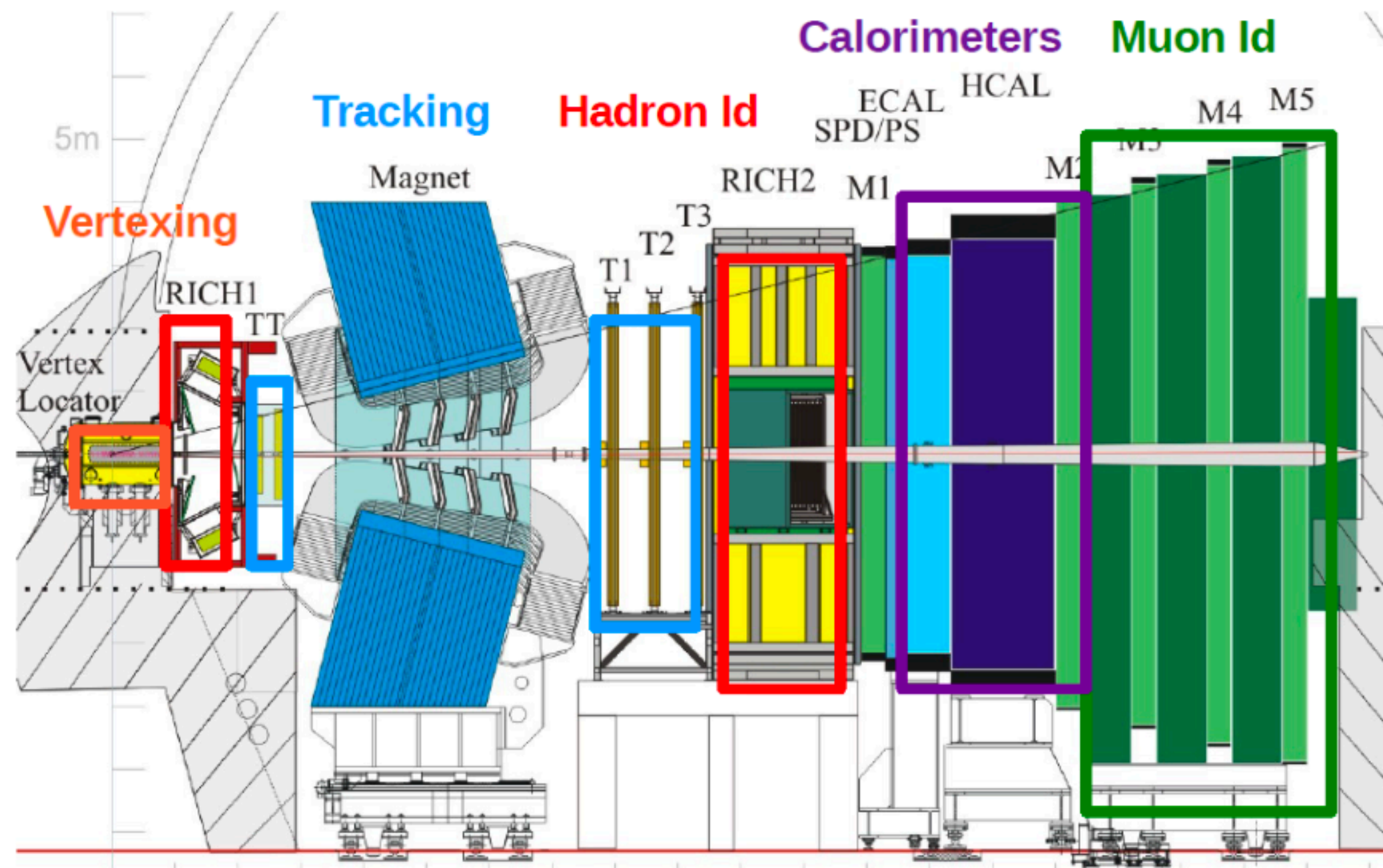
Fixed target experiments at LHC workshop



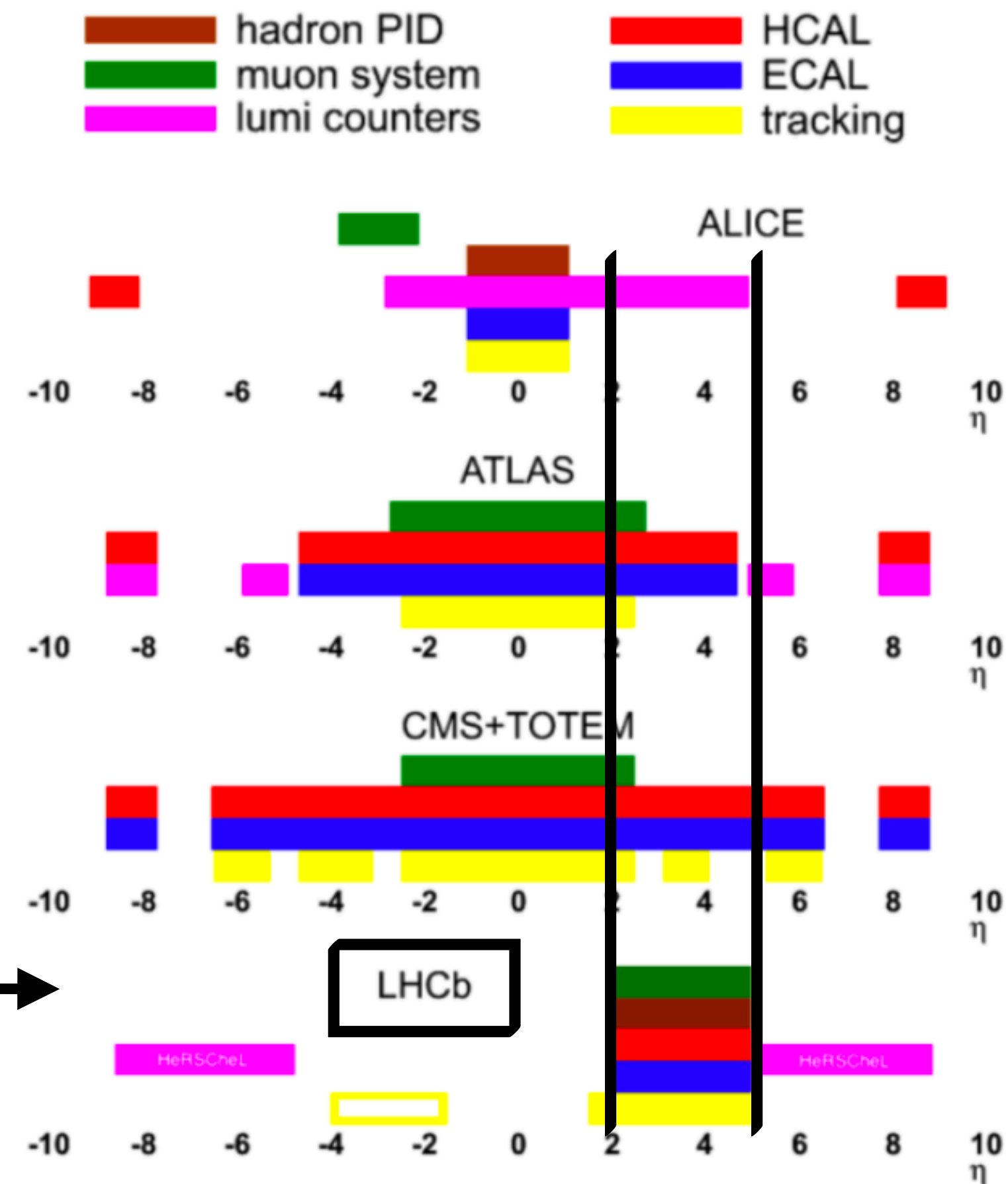
# LHCb Detector



- From heavy flavour physics to a general-purpose detector in the forward region.
- Forward detector fully instrumented in  $2 < \eta < 5$ .
- Excellent tracking, momentum resolution, and particle identification.

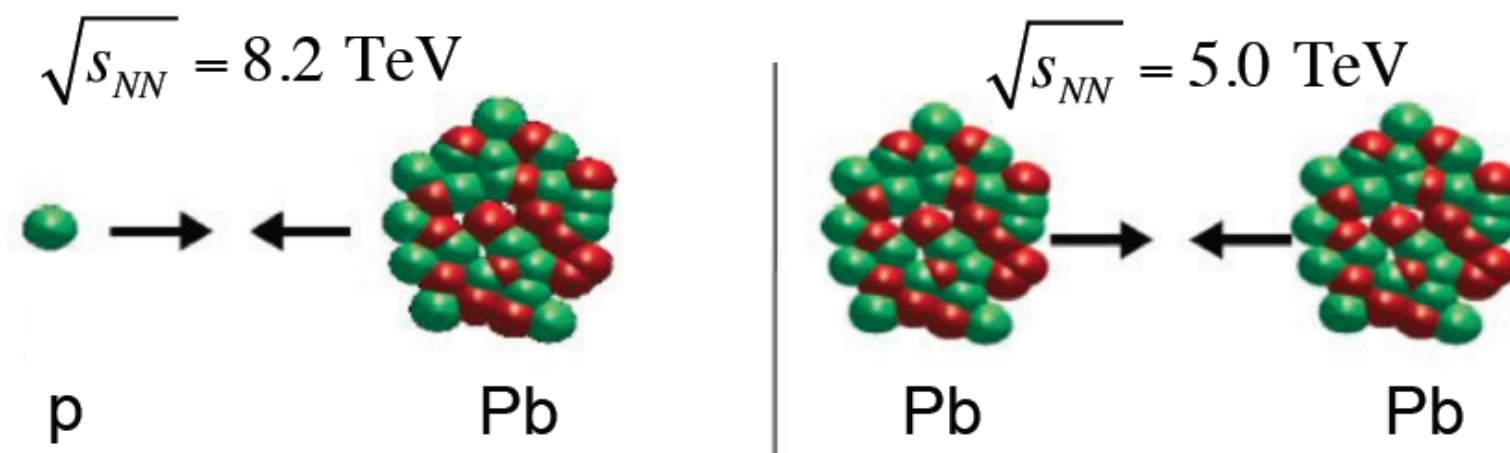


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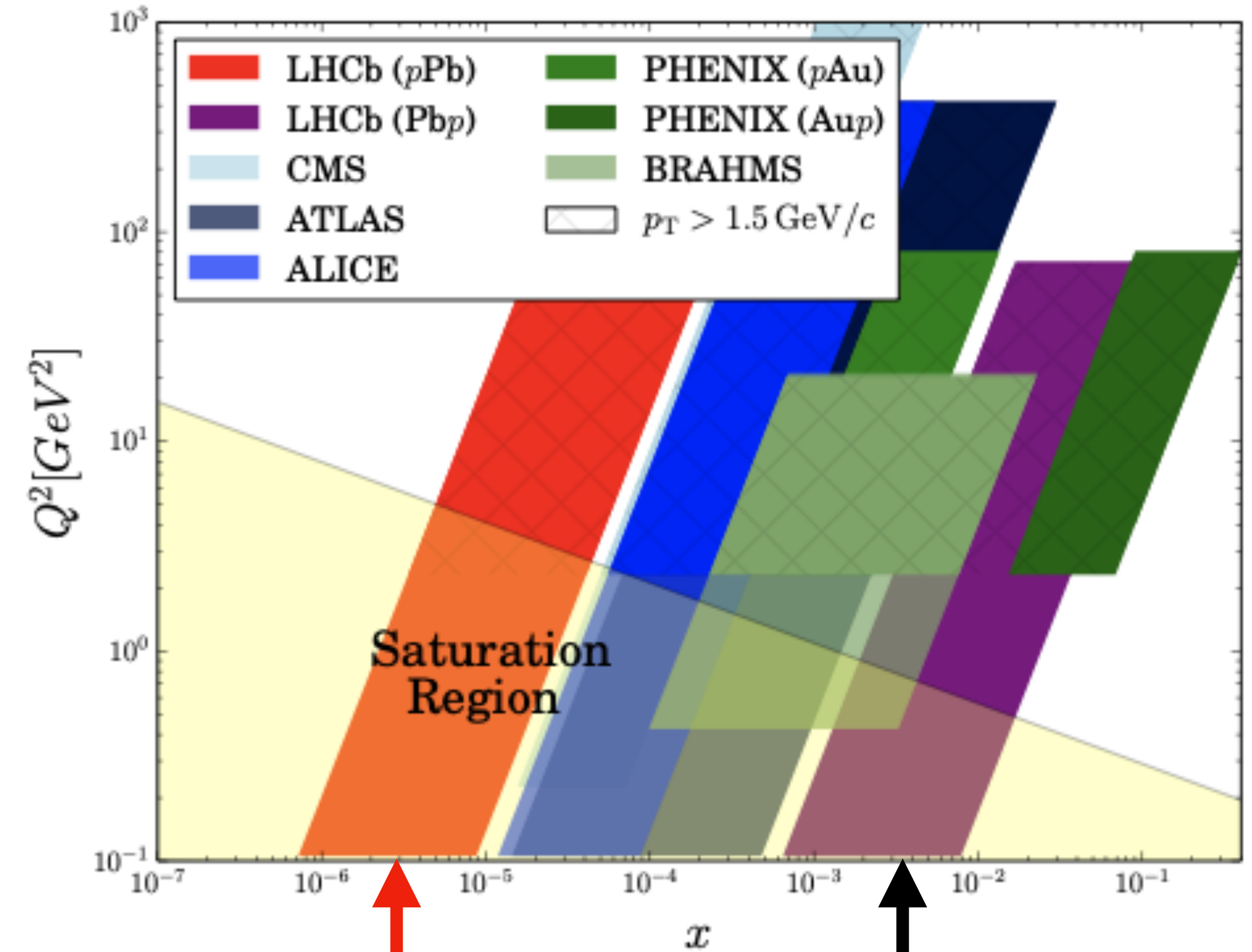
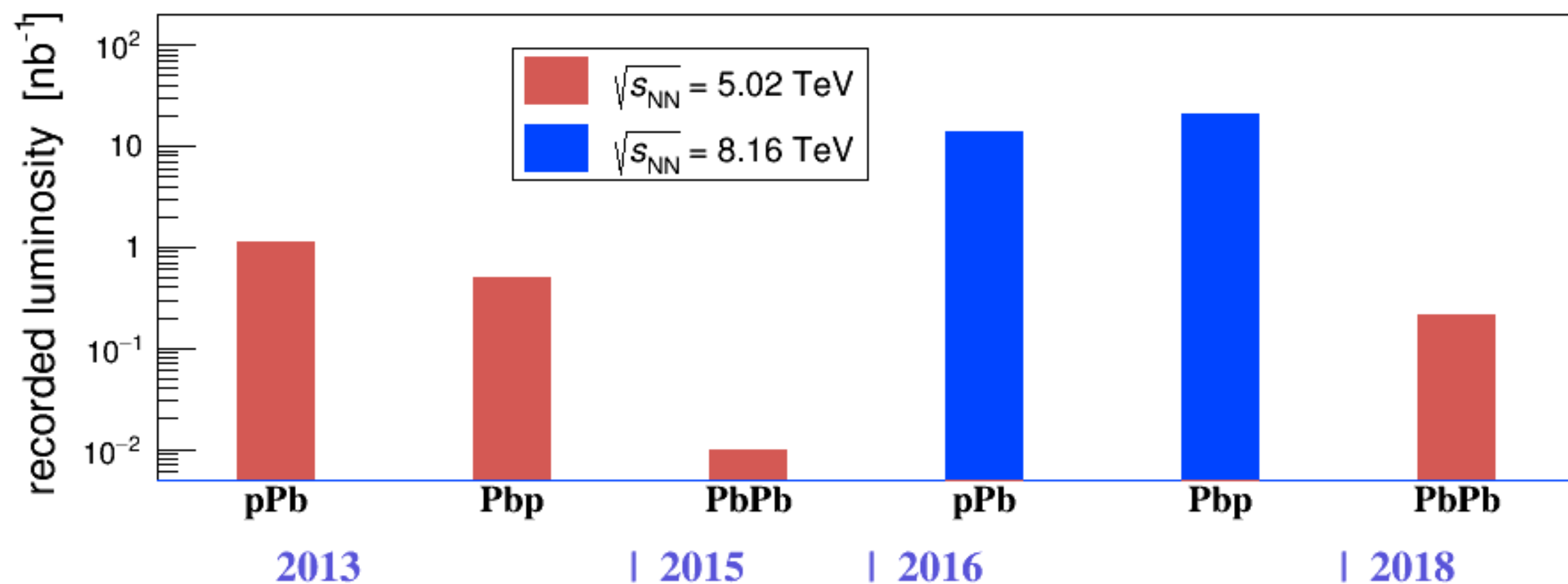
## Collider mode



$Q^2$ : exchanged momentum between interacting partons

$x$ : momentum fraction of Pb parton

$$Q^2 \sim m^2 + p_T^2, \quad x \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} e^{-\eta}$$



$pPb : 10^{-6} \leq x \leq 10^{-4}$       $Pbp : 10^{-3} \leq x \leq 10^{-1}$

**Prompt** : Any lepton or hadron with a mean lifetime  $\tau > 0.3 \times 10^{-10}s$  produced directly in the collision or from decays of shorter-lifetime particles.

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 142004](#)

Long lived particles :

$$\pi^-, K^-, p, \Xi^-, \Sigma^+, \Sigma^-, \Omega^-, e^-, \mu^- (+cc.)$$

Datasets at:  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5TeV$

$$R_{pPb}(\eta, p_T) = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d^2\sigma_{pPb}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta}{d^2\sigma_{pp}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta} \quad A=208$$

Beam	Acceptance	Luminosity
$pp$	$2 < \eta < 4.8$	$3.49 \pm 0.07 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
$pPb$	$1.6 < \eta < 4.3$	$42.73 \pm 0.98 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
$Pbp$	$-5.2 < \eta < -2.5$	$38.71 \pm 0.97 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$

$$\left. \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \right|_{pPb, pp} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \cdot \frac{N^{ch}(\eta, p_T)}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta}$$

$N^{ch}$  : prompt charged particle yield

$\Delta\eta\Delta p_T$ : bin size

$\mathcal{L}$ : integrated luminosity.

$$N^{ch} = N^{\text{candidates}} \frac{P}{\epsilon_{\text{reco}} \epsilon_{\text{sel}}}$$

$N^{\text{candidates}}$ : selected long tracks.

$P$  : purity of the signal.

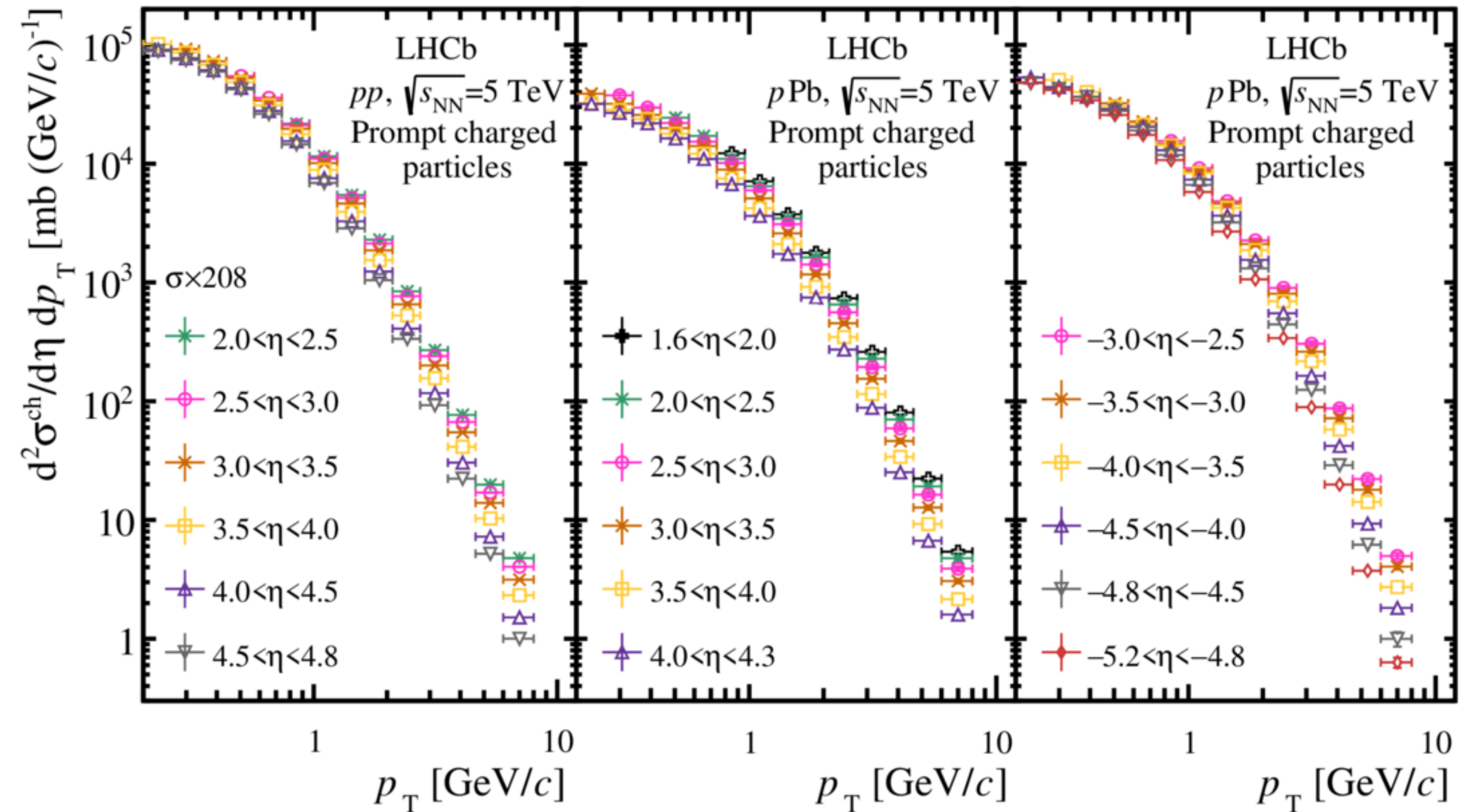
$\epsilon_{\text{reco}}$ : reconstruction efficiency

$\epsilon_{\text{sel}}$ : selection efficiency

$\mathcal{L}$ : integrated luminosity.

$$\left. \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \right|_{pPb, pp} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \cdot \frac{N^{ch}(\eta, p_T)}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta}$$

- Precise double differential cross-sections measured in multiple  $\eta$  range.

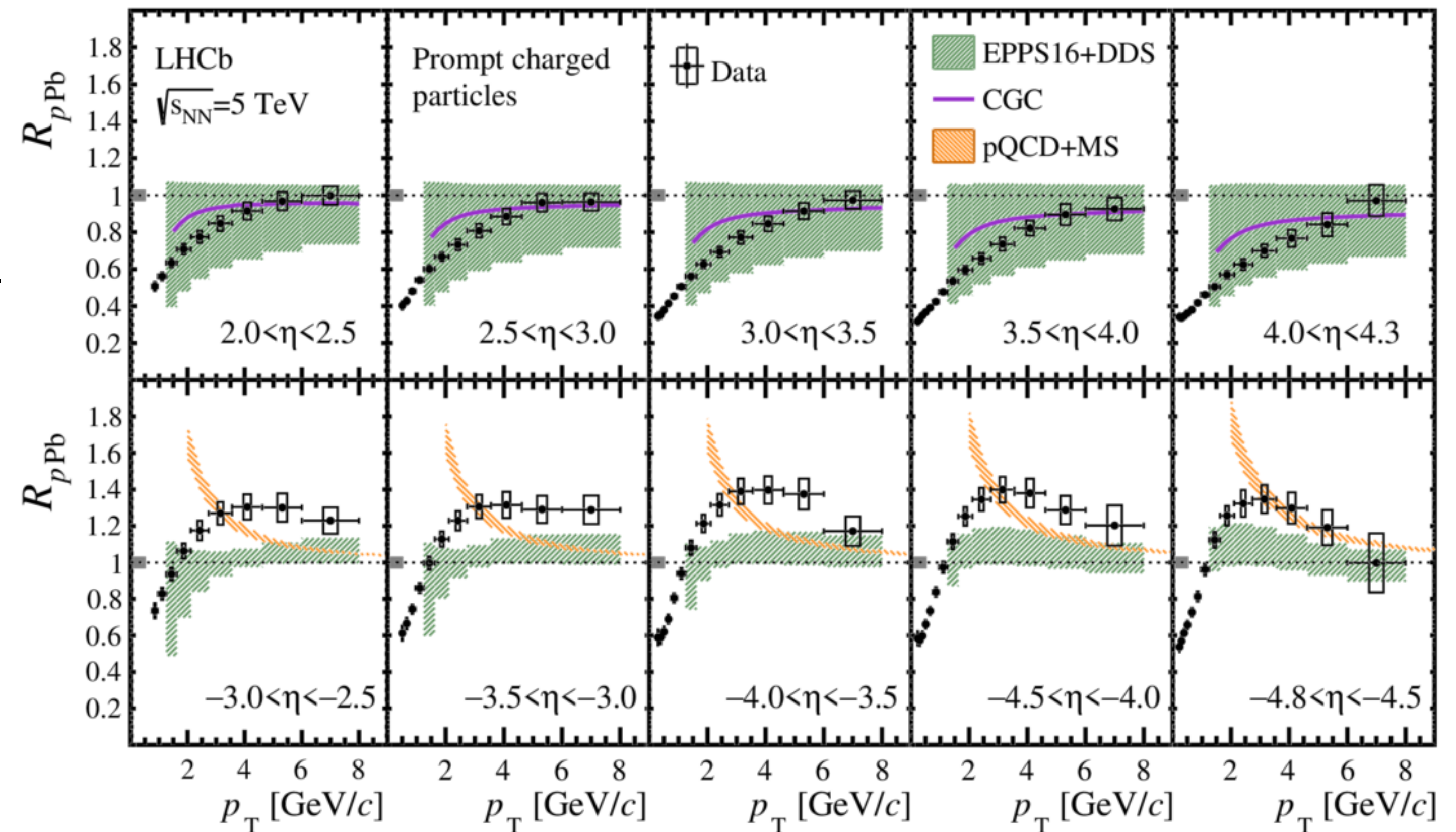


## Forward rapidity:

- Strong suppression at forward rapidity down to  $\sim 0.3$  at low  $p_T$ .
- Discrepancy with theoretical prediction is observed at low  $p_T$ .

## Backward rapidity:

- Enhancement at backward rapidity for  $p_T > 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ .
- Pseudo-rapidity-dependent shape.
- Theoretical predictions do not reproduce the data.



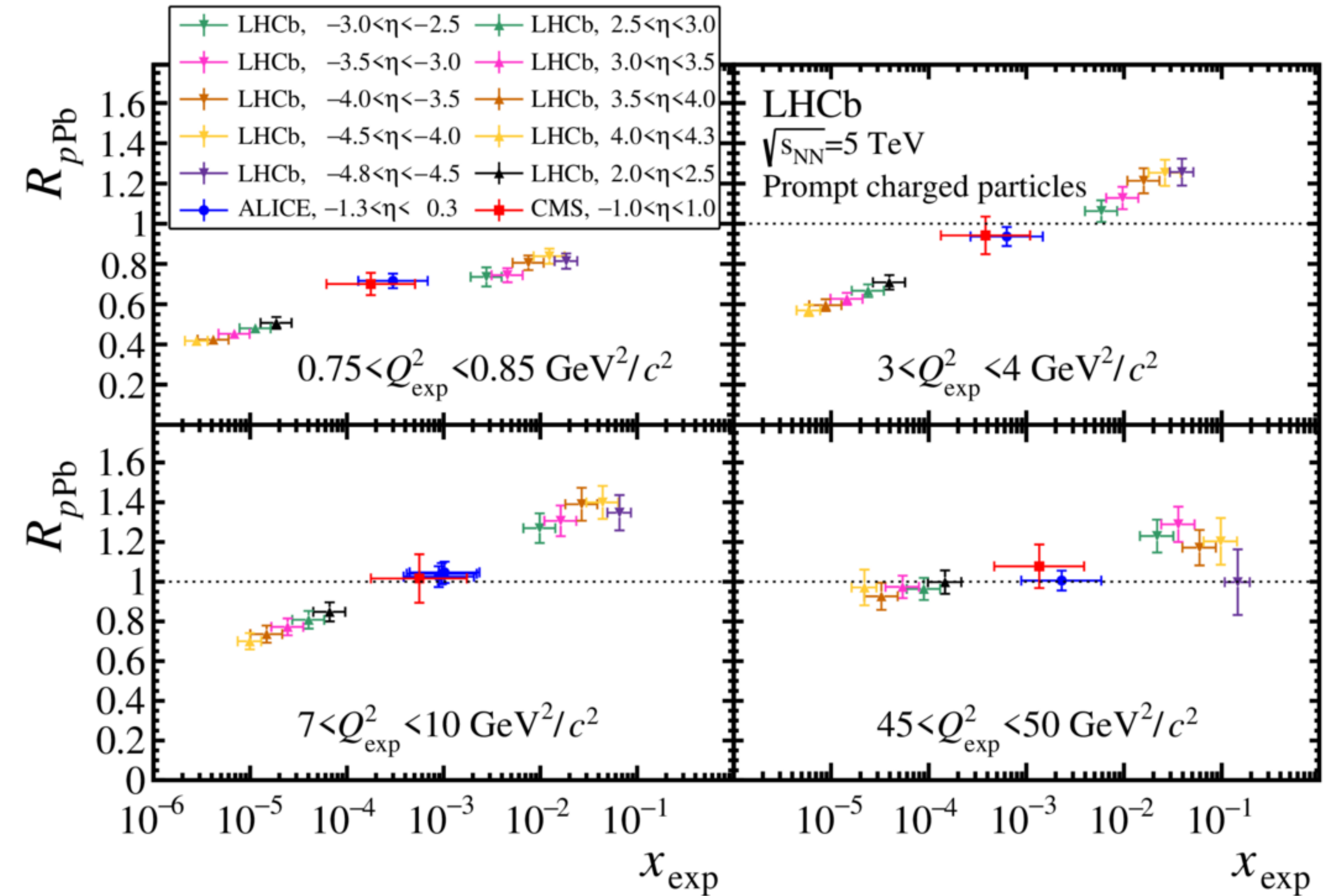
# Charged hadron $R_{pPb} : (x_{exp}, Q_{exp}^2)$ dependence

Approximations to  $(x, Q^2)$  :

$$Q_{exp}^2 \equiv m^2 + p_T^2, \quad m = 256 \text{ MeV}$$

$$x_{exp} \equiv \frac{Q_{exp}}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} e^{-\eta}$$

Continuous evolution of  $R_{pPb}$  with  $x_{exp}$  at different  $Q_{exp}^2$  between forward, central and backward  $\eta$  region.



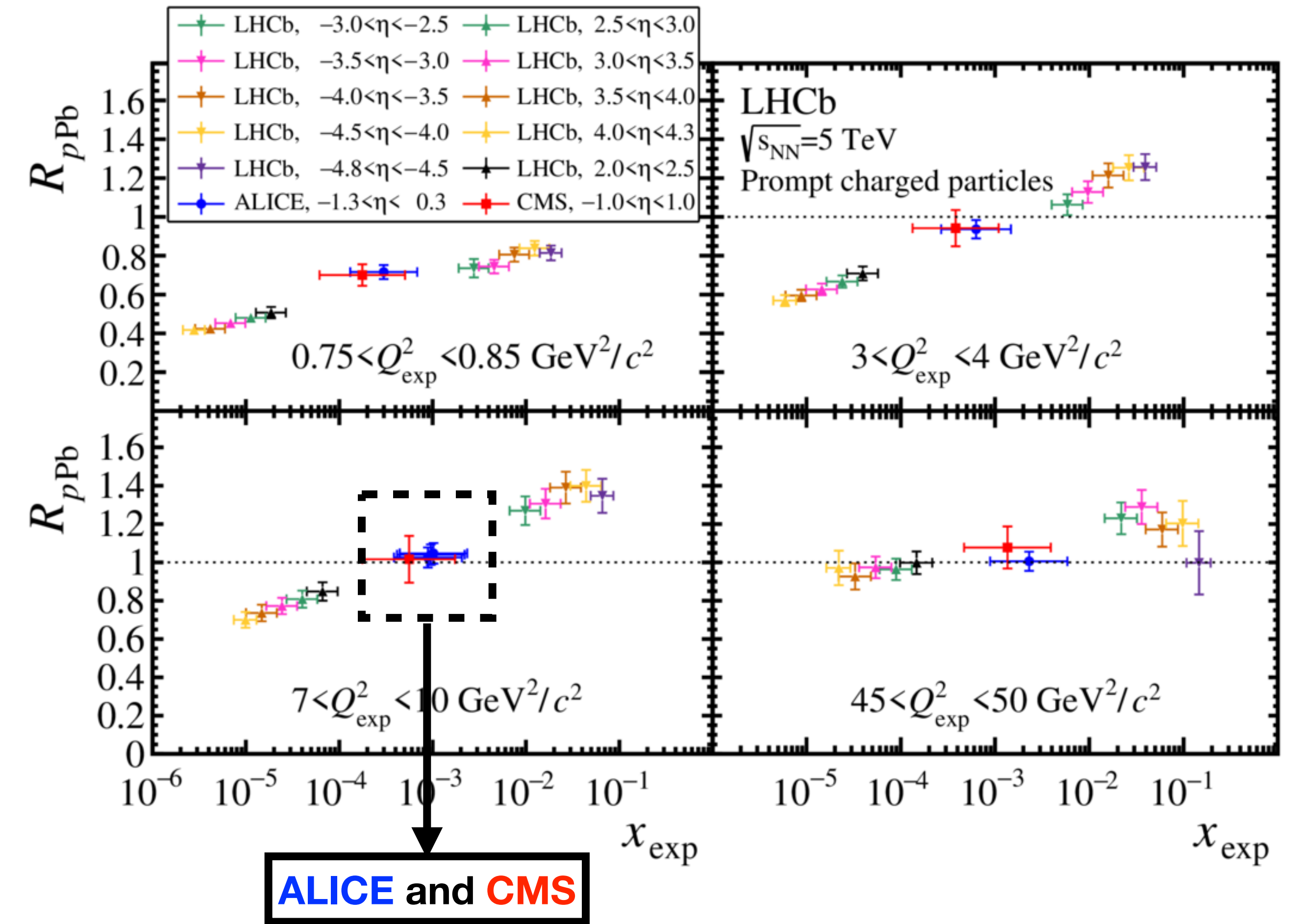
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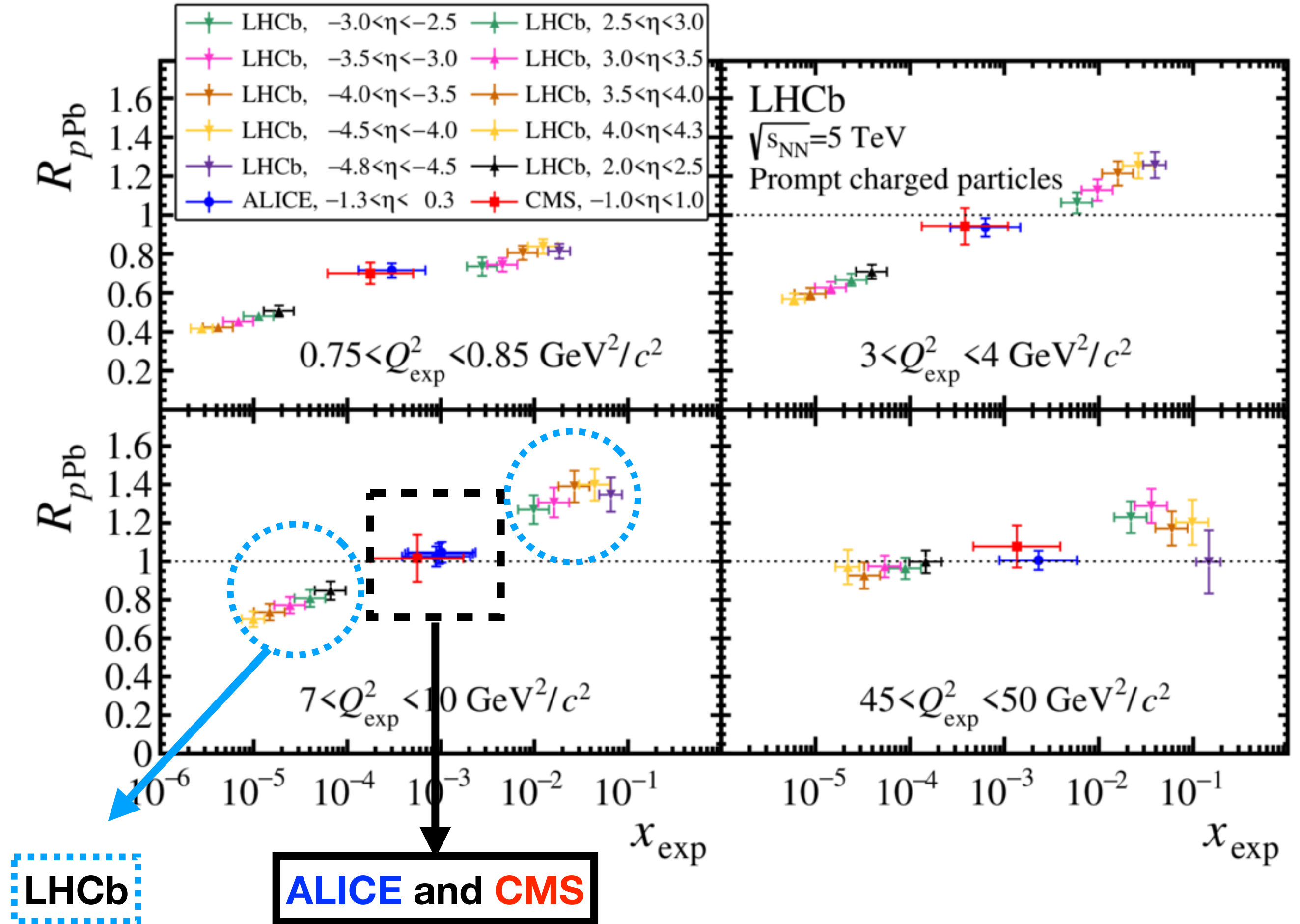
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Continuous evolution of  $R_{pPb}$  with  $x_{exp}$  at different  $Q_{exp}^2$  between forward, central and backward  $\eta$  region.



- Neutral pion production is sensitive to cold nuclear matter (CNM) effects.
- First  $\pi^0$  production measurements in the forward and backward.
- Input needed for direct photon production measurement.

## Data sets:

pPb and Pbp data at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$  TeV.

$pp$  interpolated between 5 and 13 TeV.

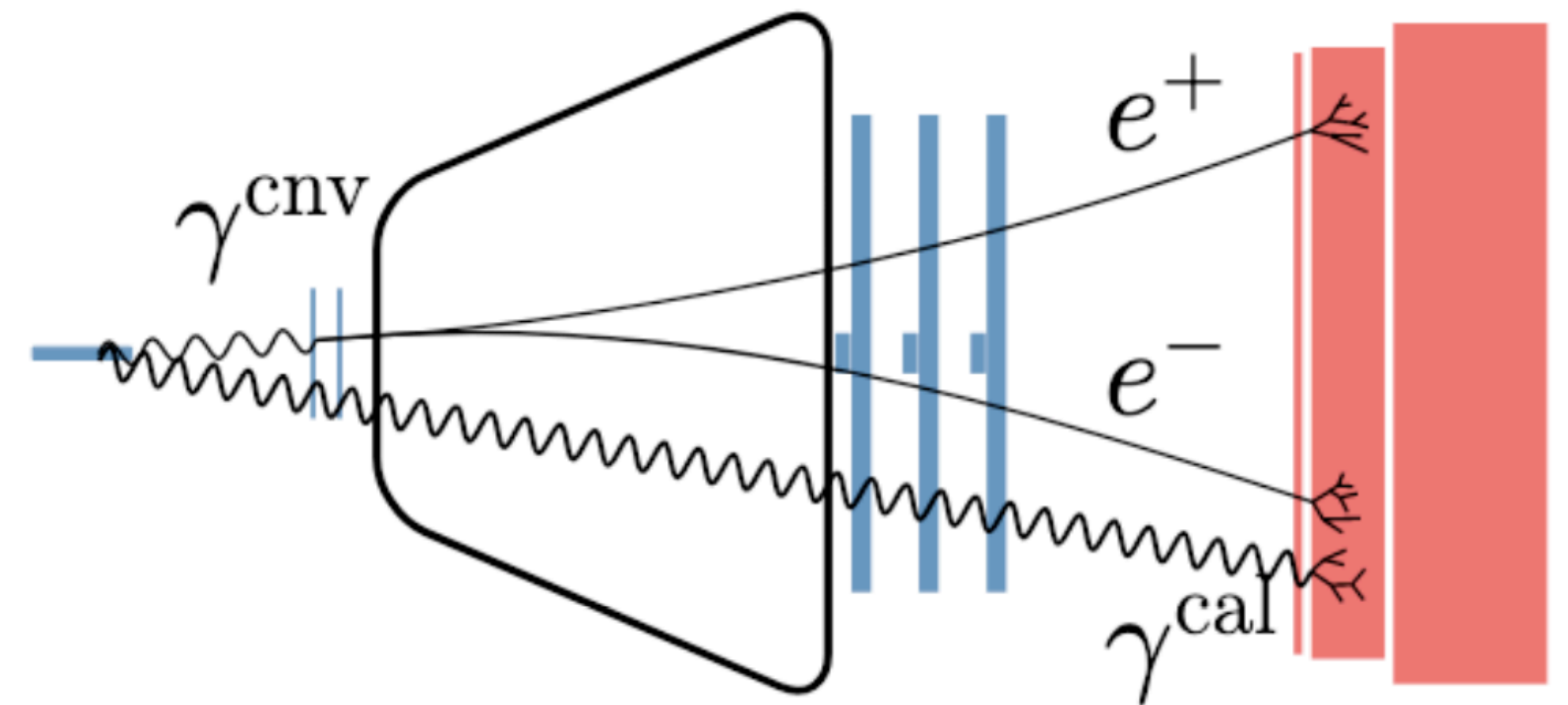
## Kinematic coverage:

$$1.5 < p_T < 10 \text{ GeV}/c$$

$$2.5 < \eta_{cms} < 3.5$$

$$-4 < \eta_{cms} < -3$$

- Neutral pions are reconstructed from to pairs of photons:  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma^{cnv} \gamma^{cal}$

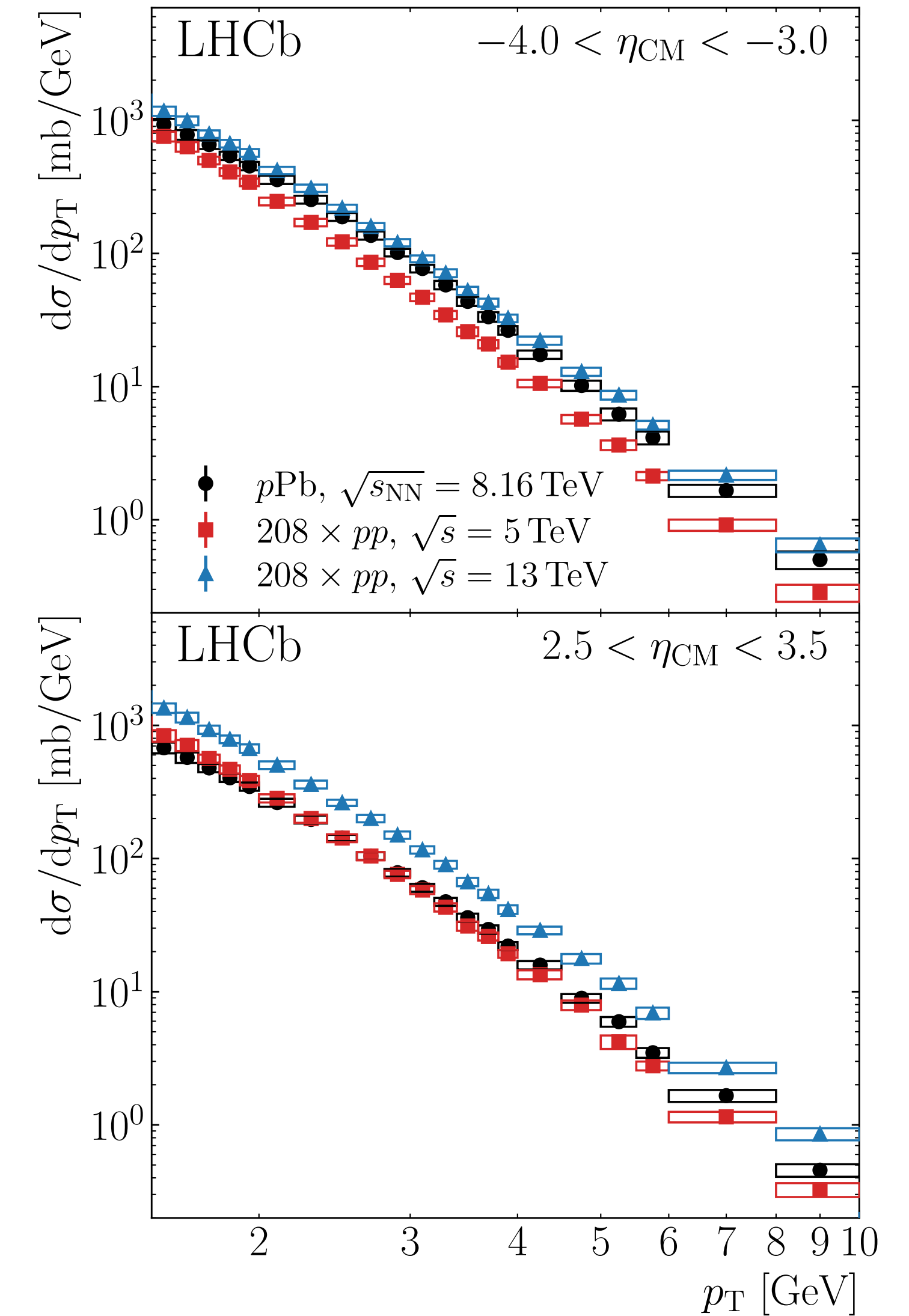
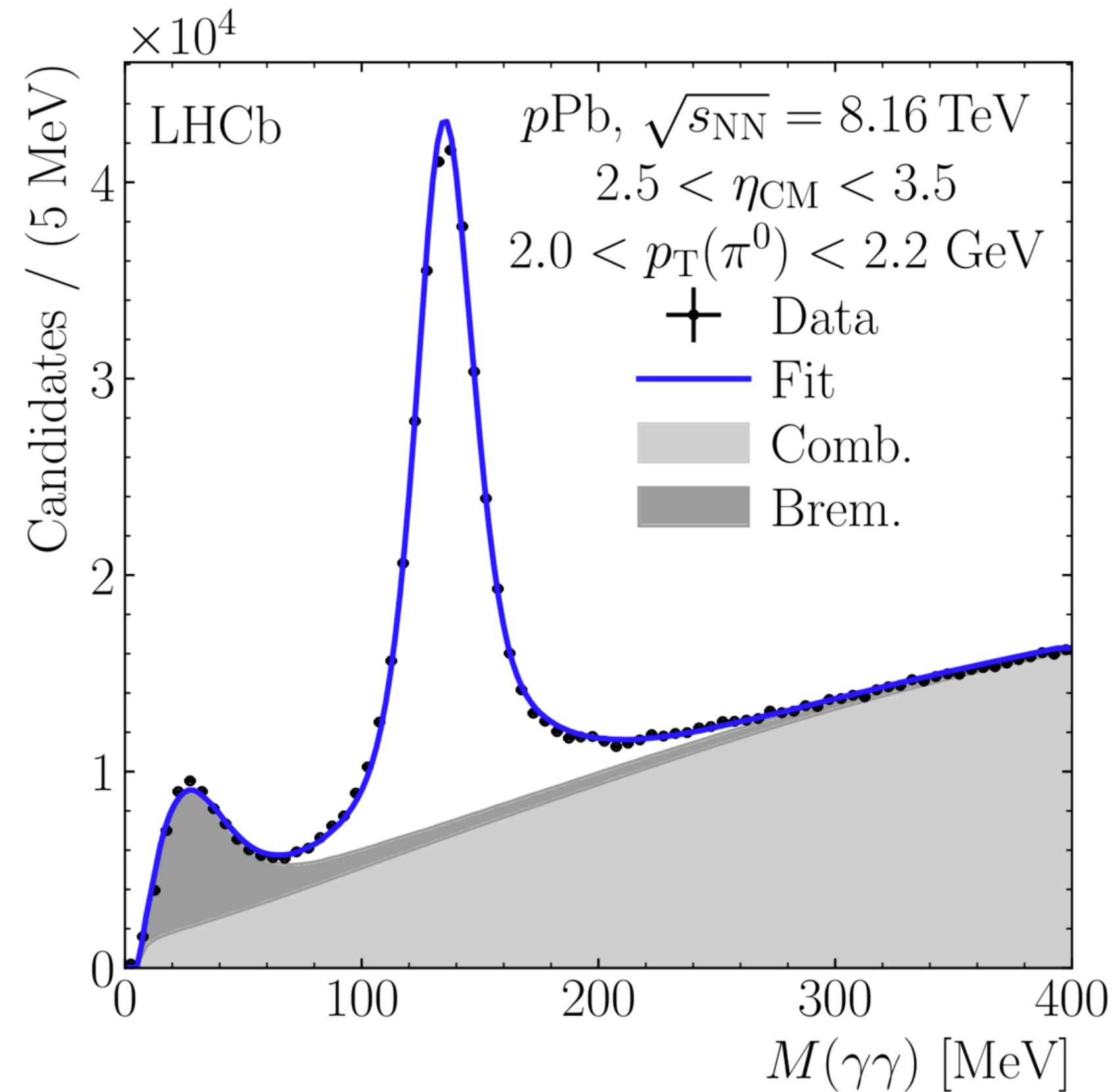


# Neutral pion production in pPb and pp

arXiv:2204.10608



- Signal yield is fitted with a two-sided Crystal Ball function.
- Bremsstrahlung : Combination of converted photons with bremsstrahlung radiation.
- Combinatorial background: constructed with a proxy sample of charged tracks.



- Yields are then corrected by detector effects using simulation.

$$R_{pPb}(\eta, p_T) = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d^2\sigma_{pPb}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta}{d^2\sigma_{pp}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta}$$

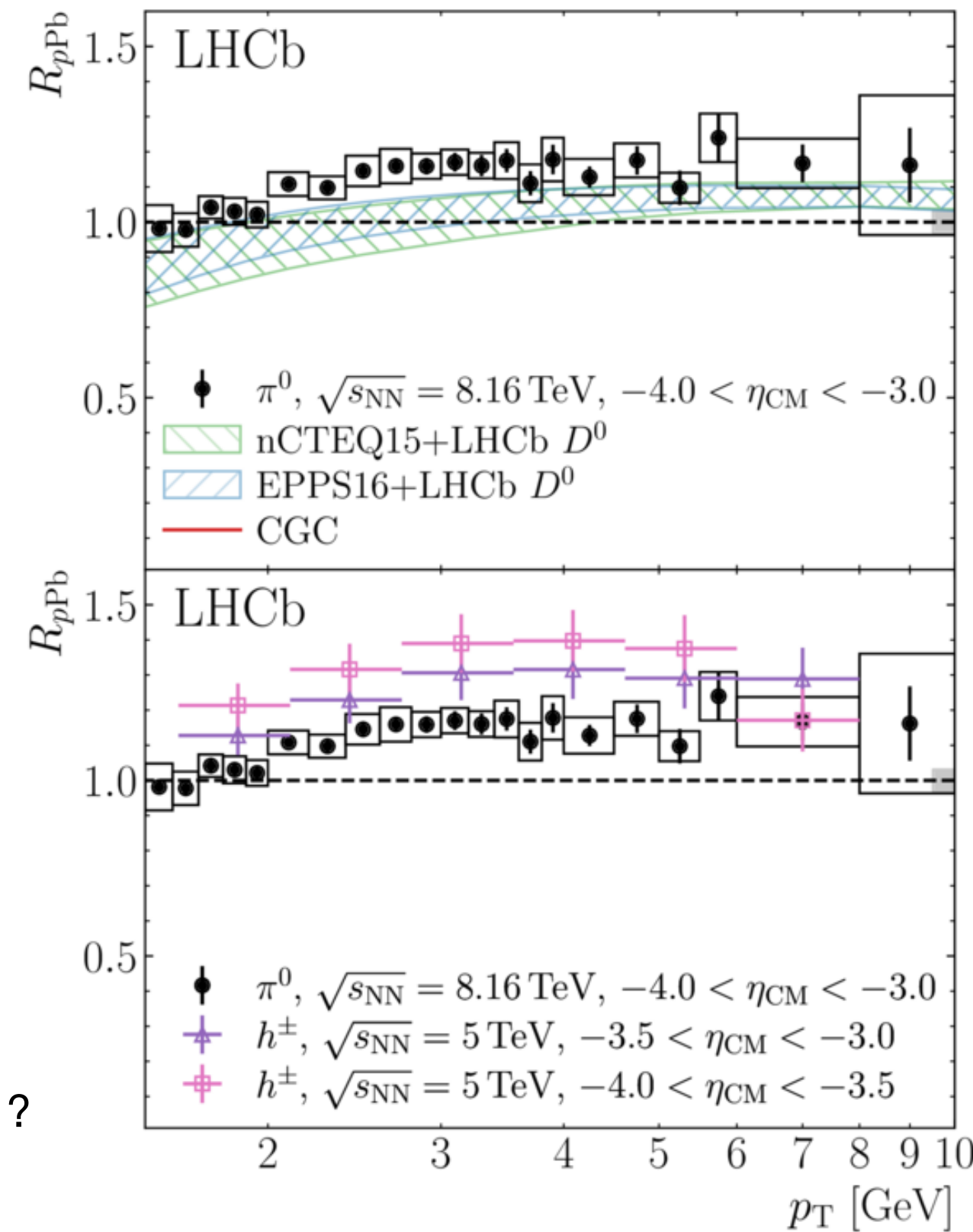
## Forward rapidity:

- Strong suppression of  $\pi^0$  production.
- Results are compatible with prompt charged particles measurements.
- $R_{pPb}$  is in agreement with nPDFs calculations.

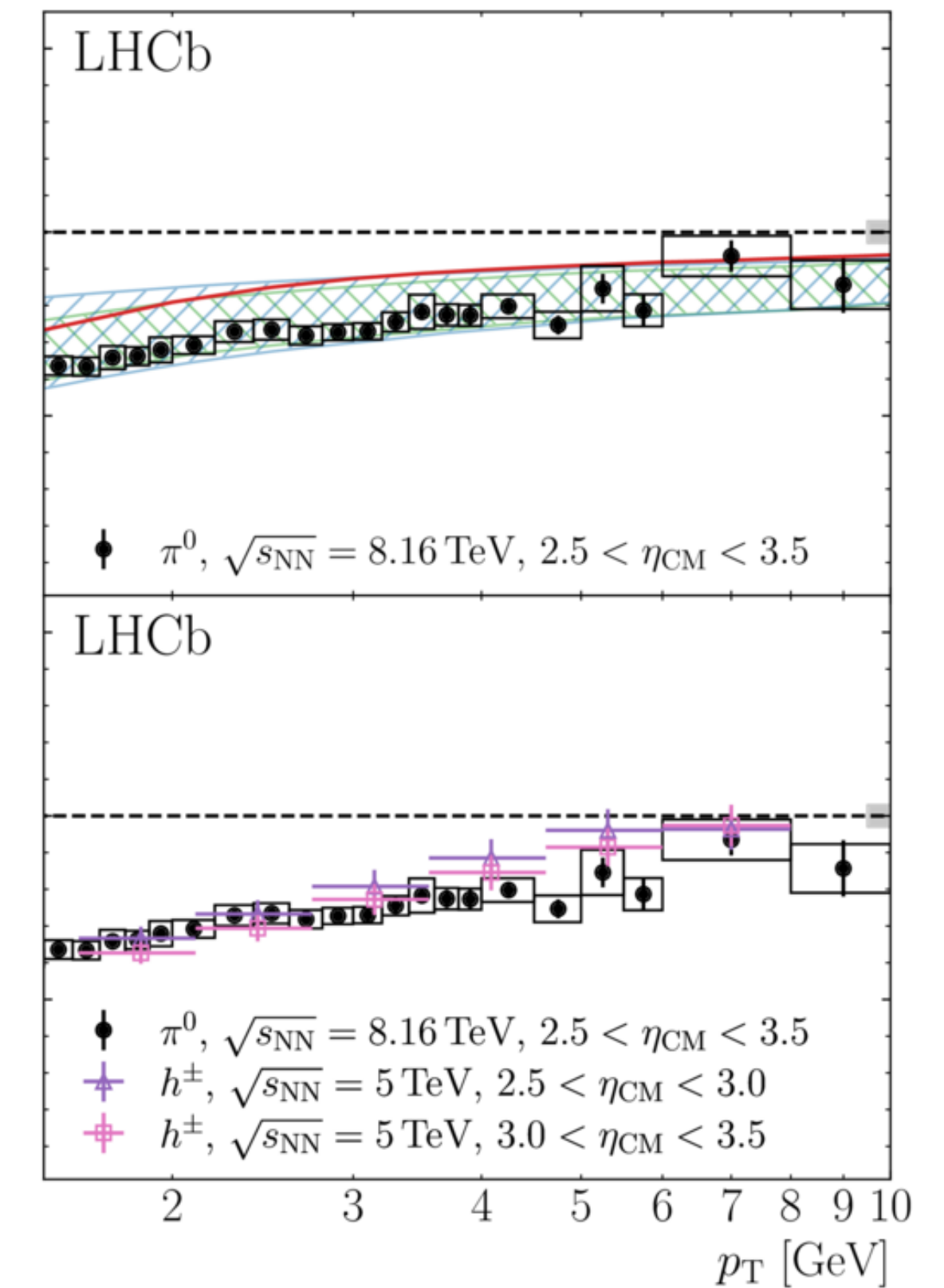
## Backward rapidity:

- Enhancement of  $\pi^0$  production in  $p_T$ .
- $R_{pPb}$  Less pronounced than in charged particles :  
=> Might indicate that there is a baryon enhancement, as observed in other experiments.
- Excess over reweighted nPDFs predictions => contribution from additional effects ?

## Backward rapidity



## Forward rapidity



- This analysis is based on the  $R_{pPb}$  of prompt charged particles at 5 TeV.

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 142004](#)

The goal is to measure :

Nuclear modification factor Effects of nuclear matter:

$$R_{pPb}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T) = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d^2\sigma_{pPb}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}{d^2\sigma_{pp}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}$$

Forward-to-backward ratio:

$$R_{FB}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T) = \frac{d^2\sigma_{pPb}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}{d^2\sigma_{Pbp}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}$$

Baryon-to-meson ratio:

$$R_{B/M}(\eta_{cms}, p_T) = \frac{d^2\sigma_{Baryons}(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}{d^2\sigma_{meson}(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}$$

$$h = \pi, K, p$$

$$R_{pPb}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T) = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d^2\sigma_{pPb}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}{d^2\sigma_{pp}^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)/dp_T d\eta_{cms}}$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2\sigma^h}{dp_T d\eta_{cms}} \right|_{pp, pPb, PbP} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N^h(\eta_{cms}, p_T)}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta_{cms}}$$

$$N^h = N_{cand}^h \frac{P^h}{\epsilon_{reco} \epsilon_{sel} \epsilon_{PID} (1/\epsilon_{TM})}$$

$$h = \pi, K, p$$

$$P^h = 1 - (f_{fake}^h + f_{sec}^h + f_{misID}^h)$$

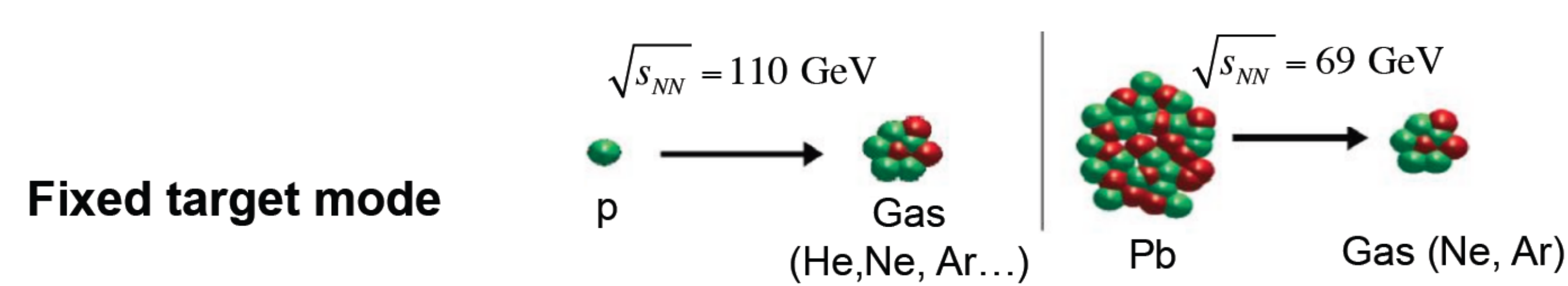
$N^h$	number of prompt charged hadrons.
$\mathcal{L}$	is the luminosity.
$\eta_{cms}$	is the pseudo rapidity in the cms frame
$\epsilon_{reco}$	is the reconstruction efficiency
$\epsilon_{sel}$	is the selection efficiency
$\epsilon_{PID}$	is the PID efficiency
$\epsilon_{TM}$	is the Truth Matching efficiency
P	is the Purity

# SMOG: fixed-target program

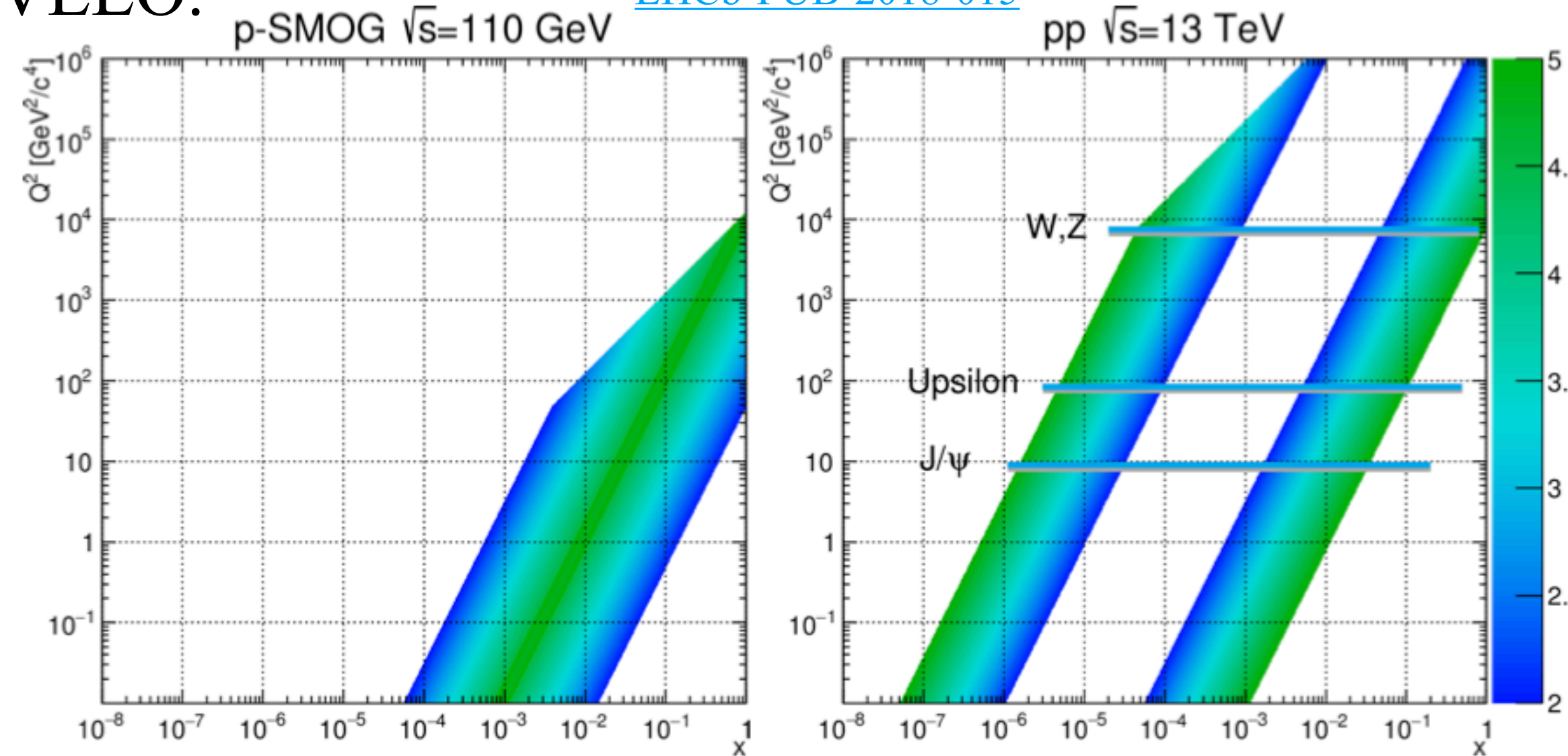
SMOG: System for Measuring Overlap with Gas.

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

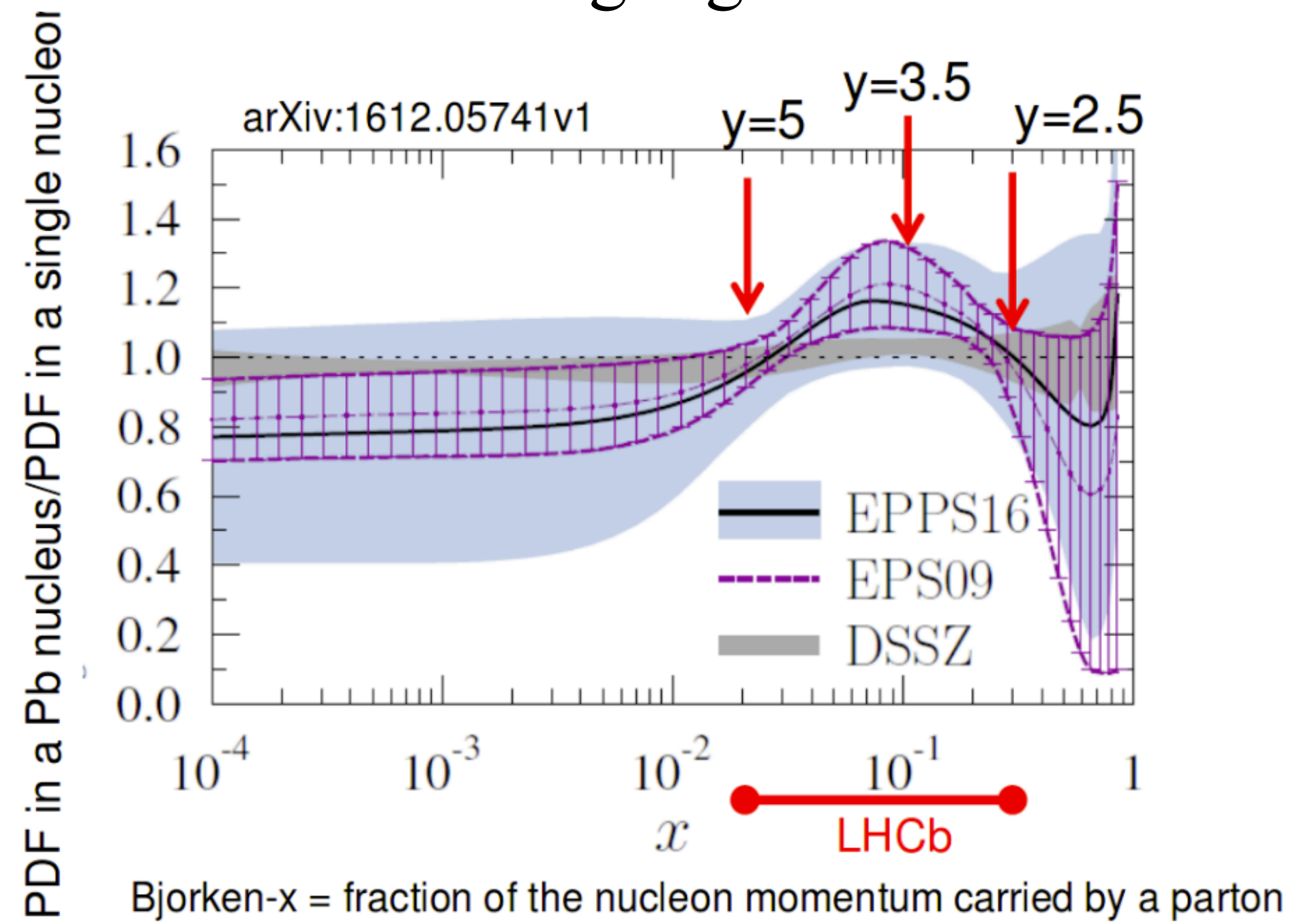
[LHCb-PUB-2018-015](#)



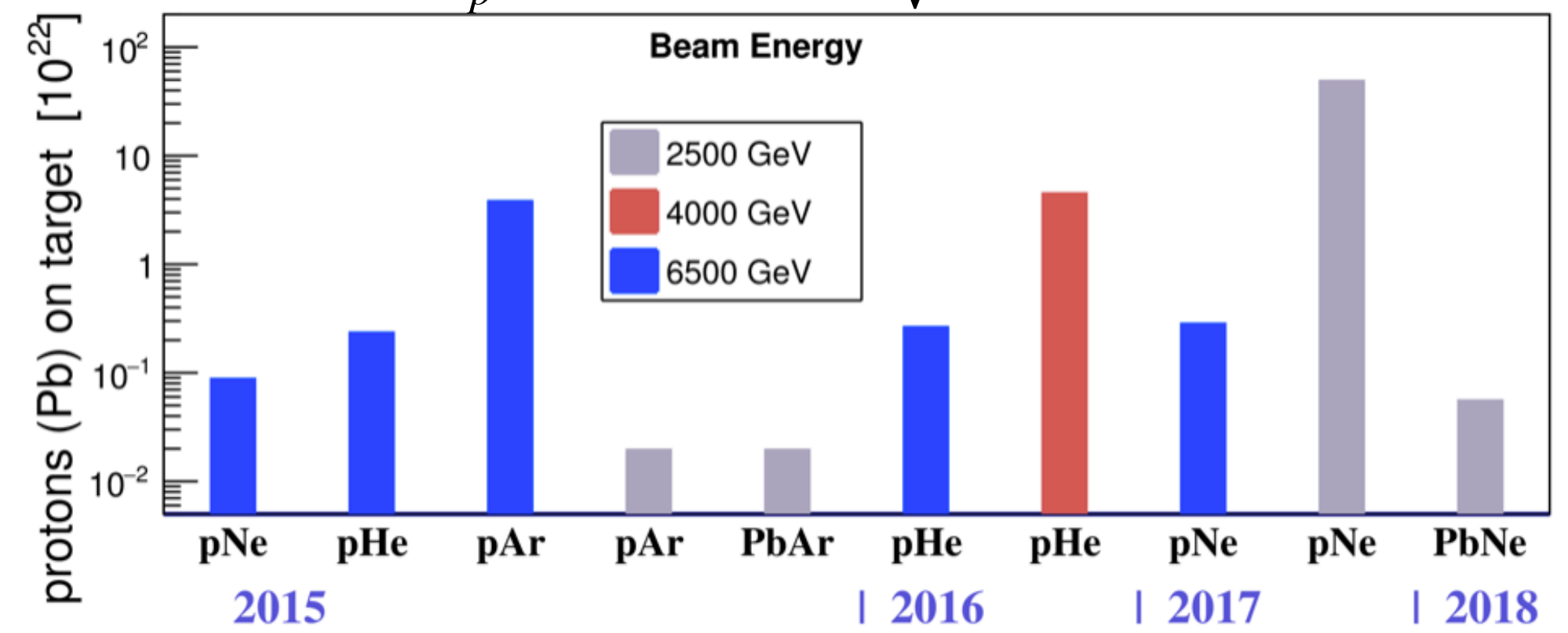
**Fixed target mode**



Access nPDF anti-shadowing region:



$$y = y^* + \ln\left(\frac{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}{m_p}\right) \quad x_F \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} \sqrt{M^2 + p_T^2} \sinh(y^*)$$



- Hadron production in pPb collisions at LHCb provide unique access to the saturation region.
- Future measurements in SMOG will provide a better understanding of the high x saturation region.
  - Nuclear modification factor of light hadrons with SMOG samples for example in  $pNe/pHe$ ?
- $R_{pA}$  in SMOG can offer a better understanding of the enhancement observed in the large-x region.