

Tagging protons in p-O interactions

24 October 2022

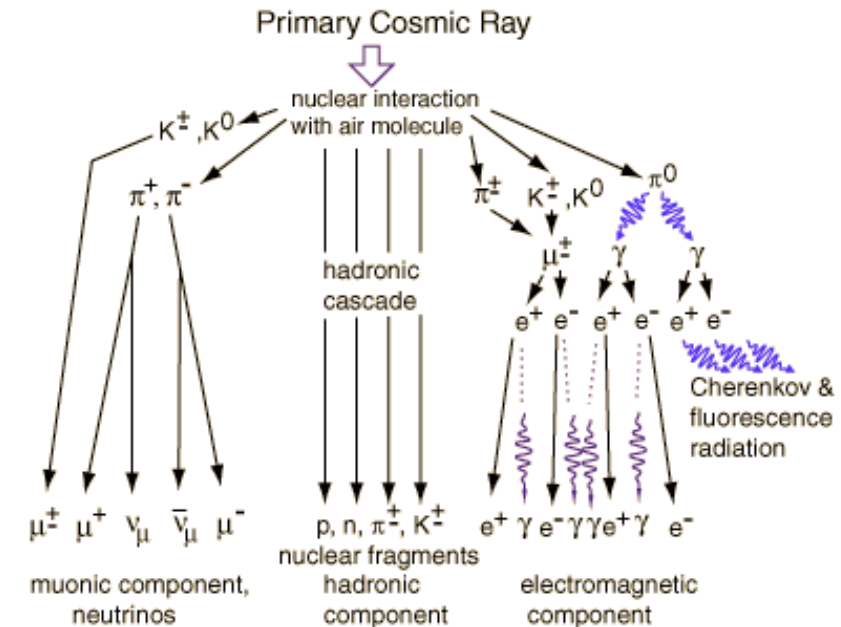
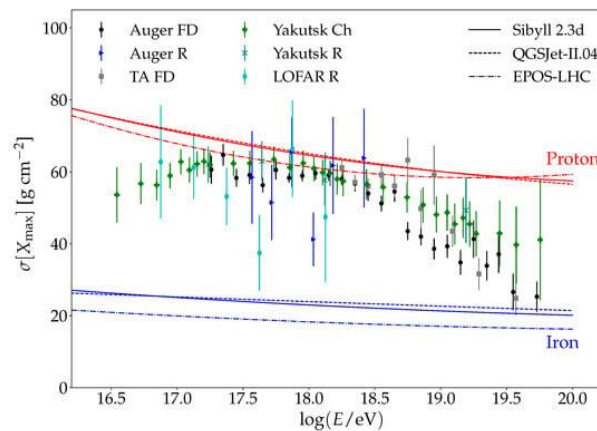
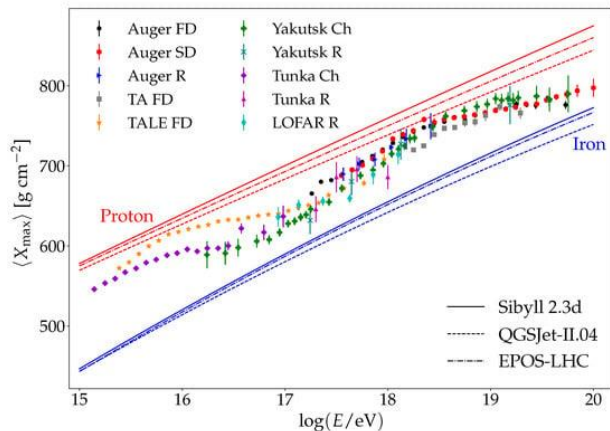
Michael Pitt (BGU)

with a lot of help from Mario Deile

Introduction

Oxygen ions at the LHC

- Oxygen ions ($^{16}_8\text{O}$) will be injected at the LHC for the first time.
- OO and pO runs are scheduled to take place in 2024 (ref¹), duration of ~one week
- Target: luminosity of $\mathcal{L} \sim nb^{-1}$, and pileup rates of $\mu \leq 0.02$ (ref²)
- Main goal of the run is to provide an input for cosmic ray modeling



<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/Astro/cosmic.html>

¹ F. Moortgat, "Physics expectations – LPC", LHC Performance Workshop 2022, <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1097716/>

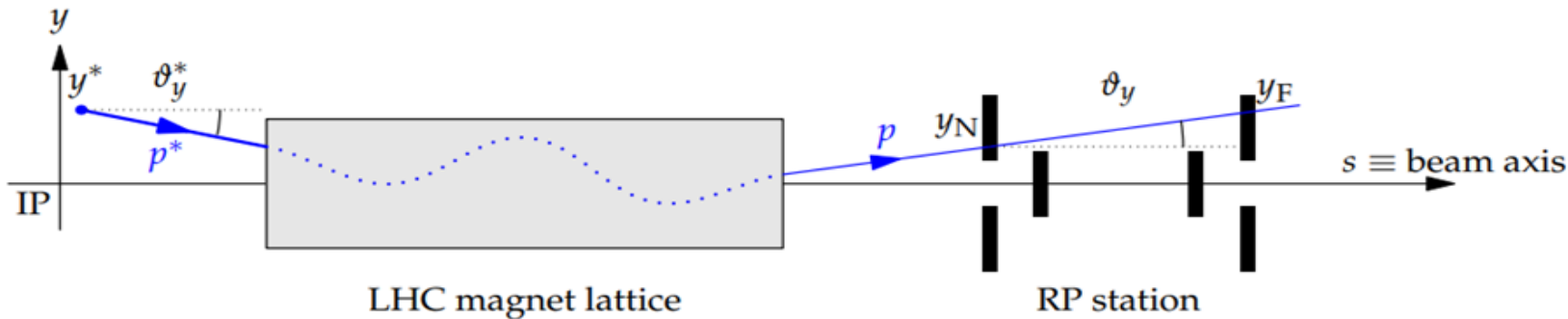
² R. Bruce "Studies for an LHC pilot run with oxygen beams", IPAC2021, <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2783801>

Proton tagging in p-O runs

Proton kinematics :

- Intact protons **lose a fraction of momentum** ($\xi = \Delta p/p$) and scattered at small angles (θ_x^* , θ_y^*) \rightarrow they deflected away from the beam and measured by PPS

$$\begin{aligned}\delta x(z) &= x_D(\xi) + v_x(\xi)x^* + L_x(\xi)\theta_x^* \\ \delta y(z) &= y_D(\xi) + v_y(\xi)y^* + L_y(\xi)\theta_y^*\end{aligned}$$



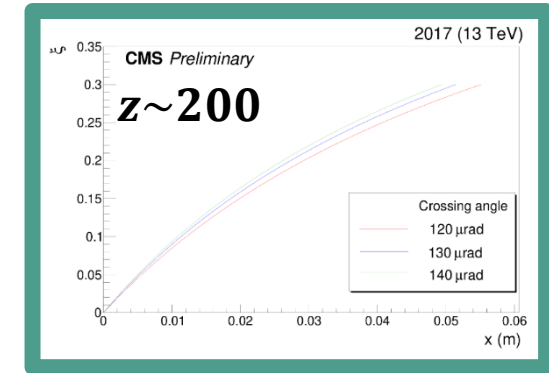
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Proton kinematics :

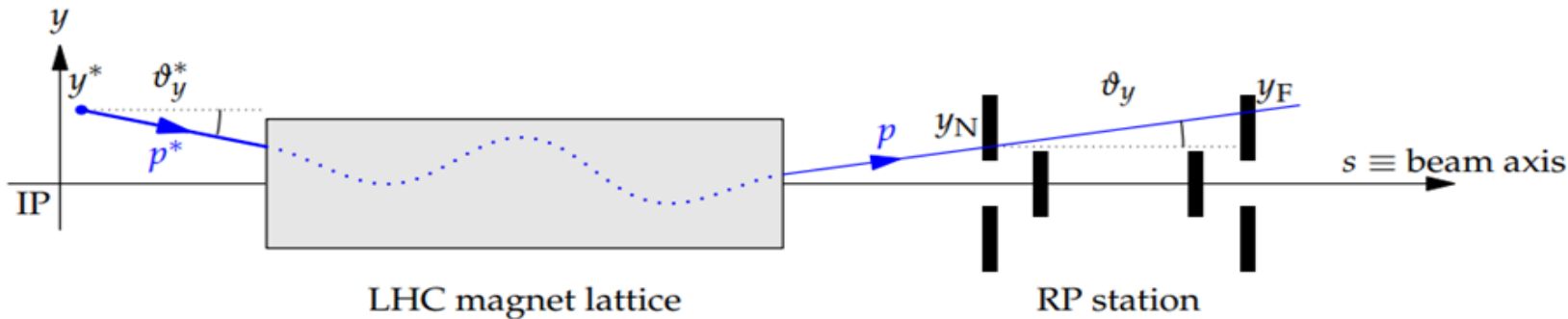
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IP5 as an example



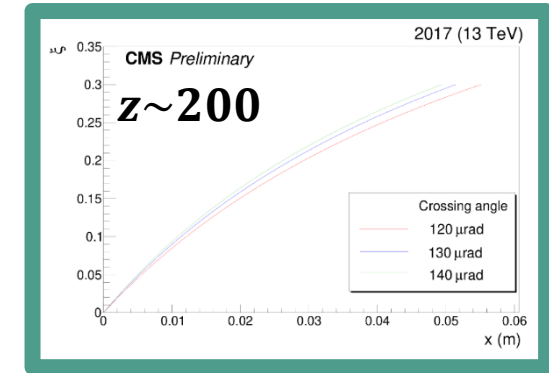
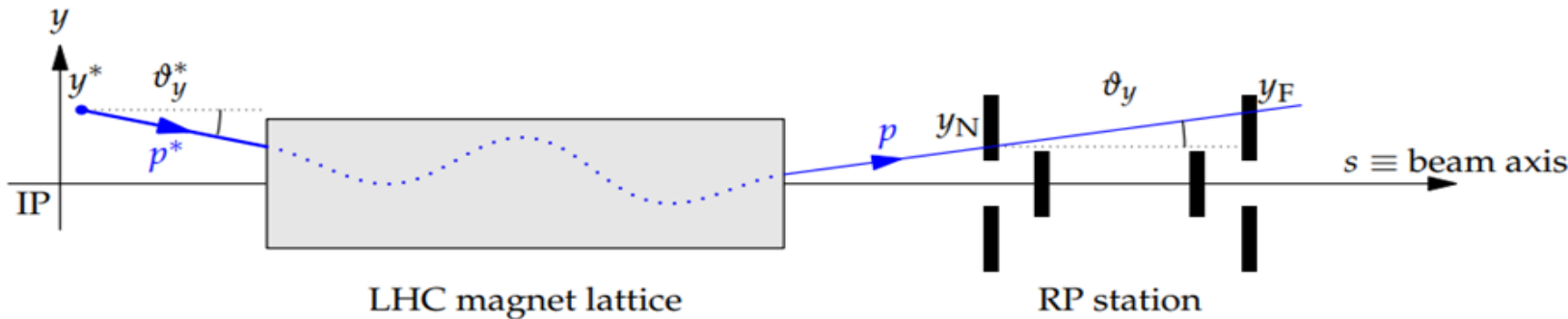
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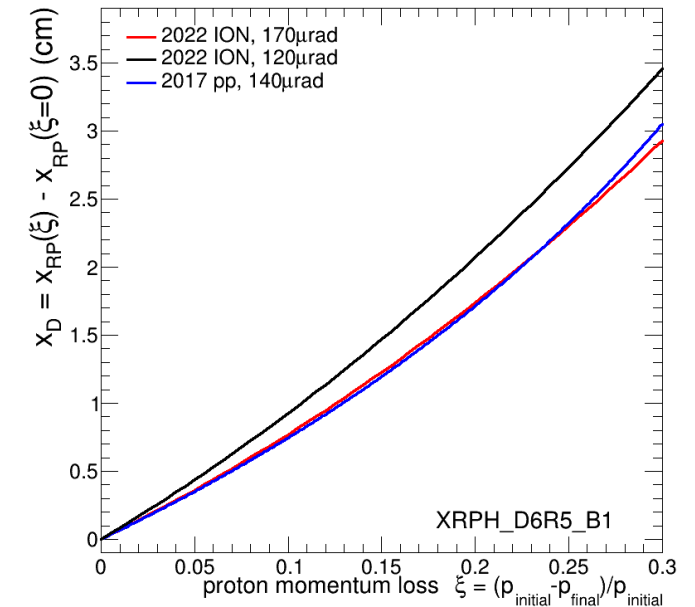
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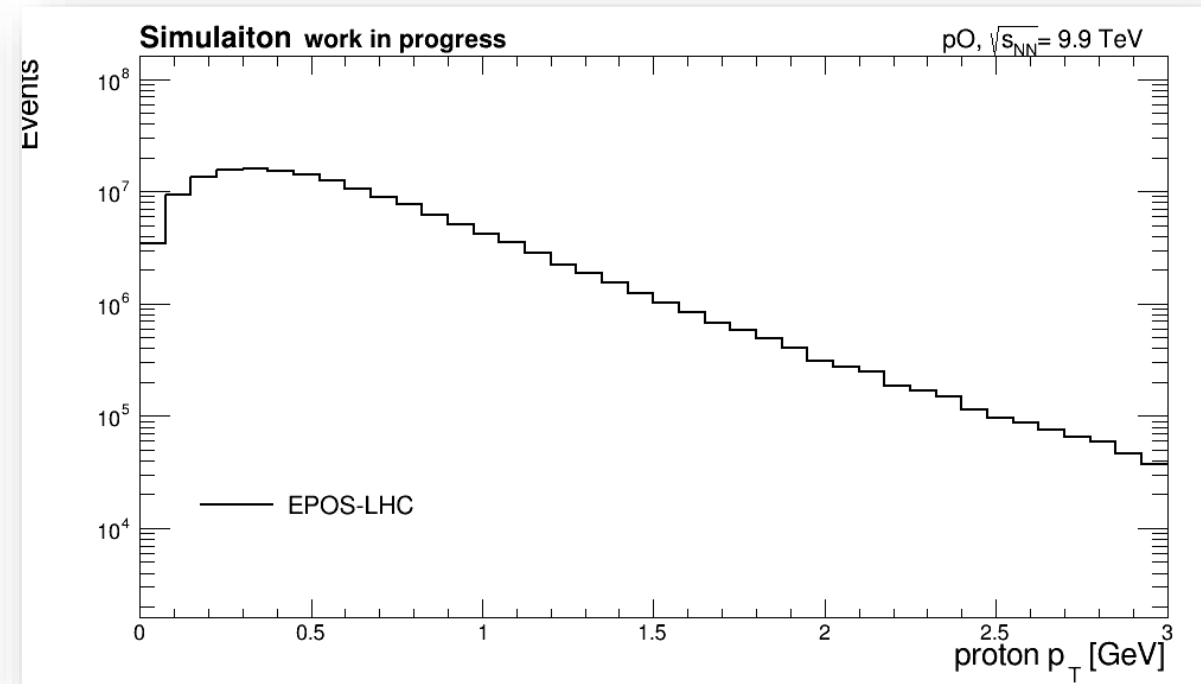
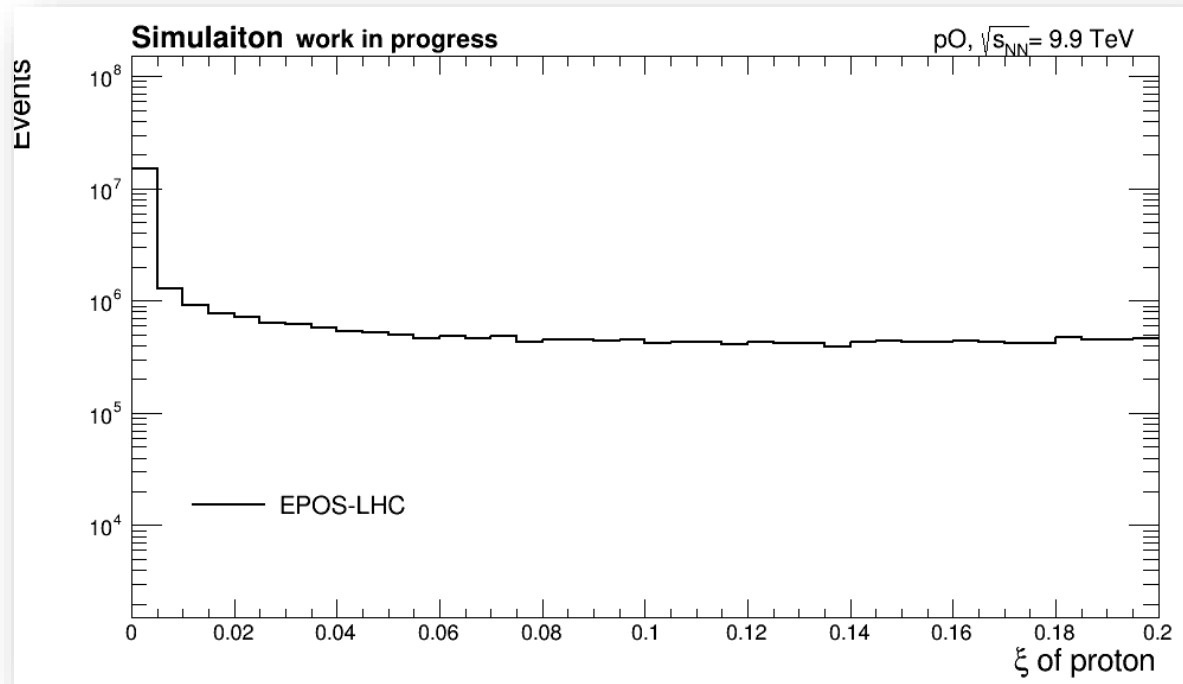
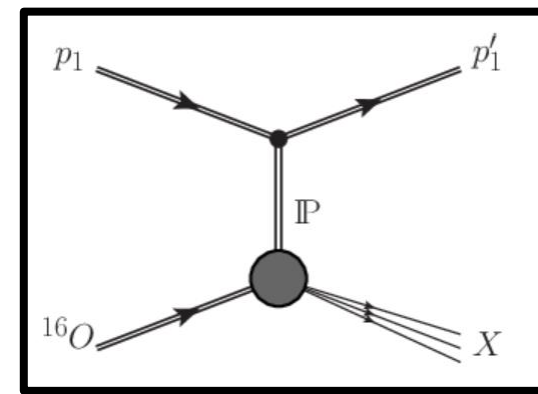


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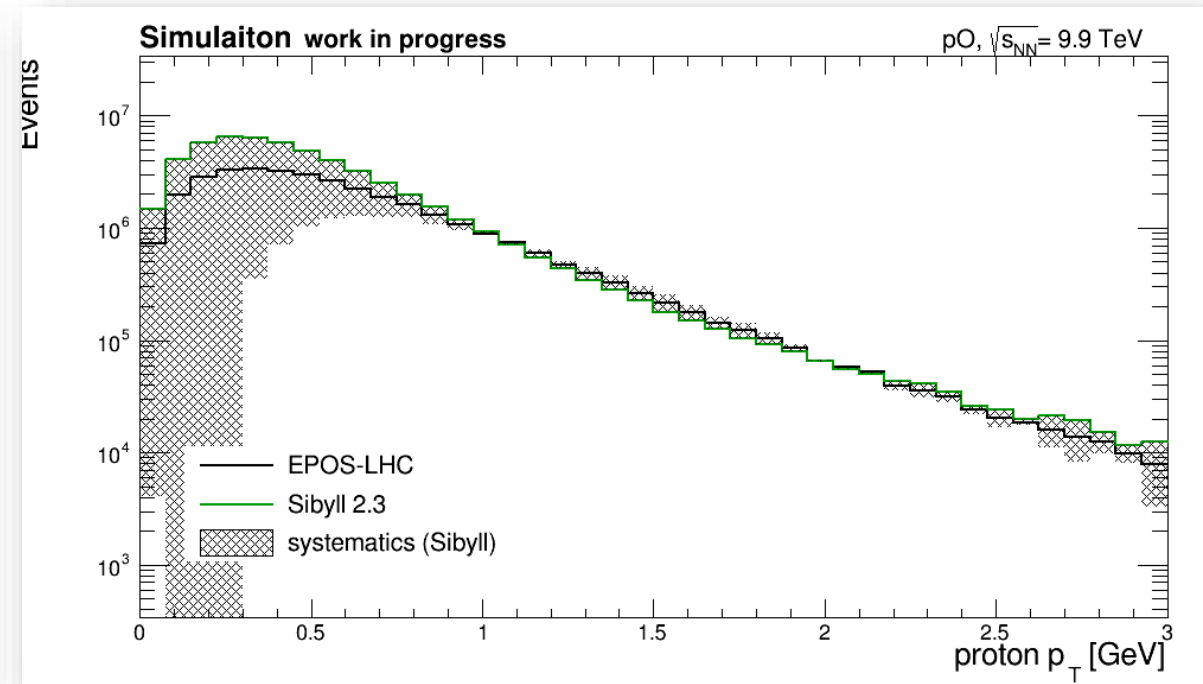
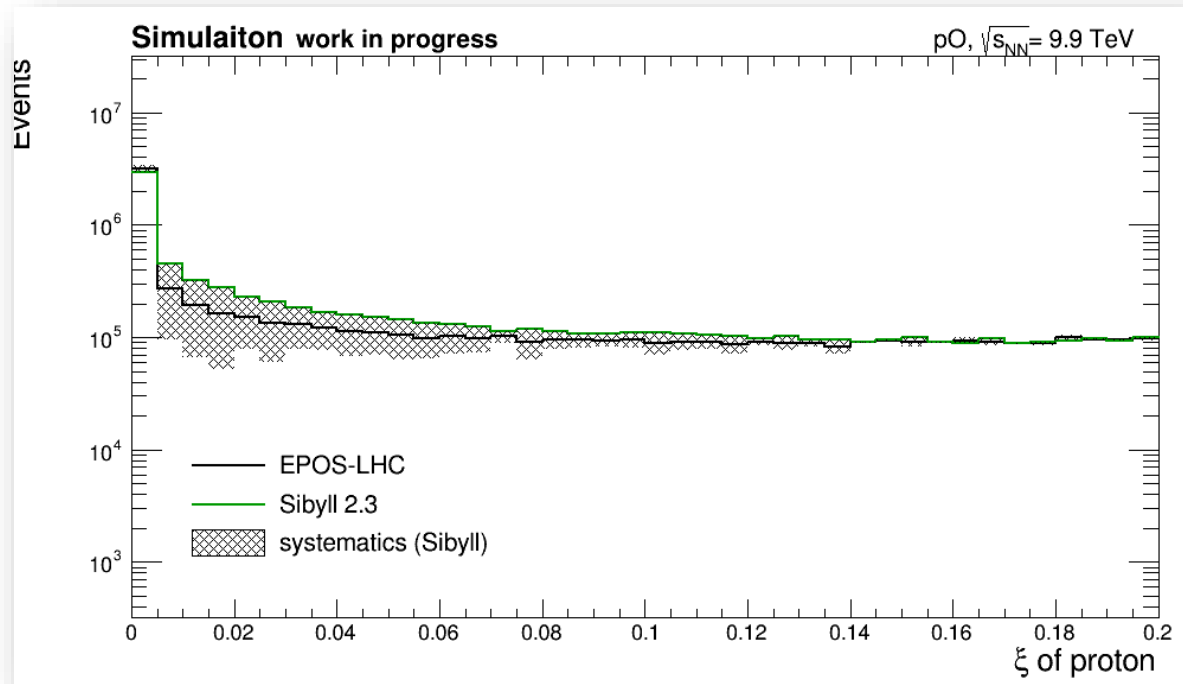
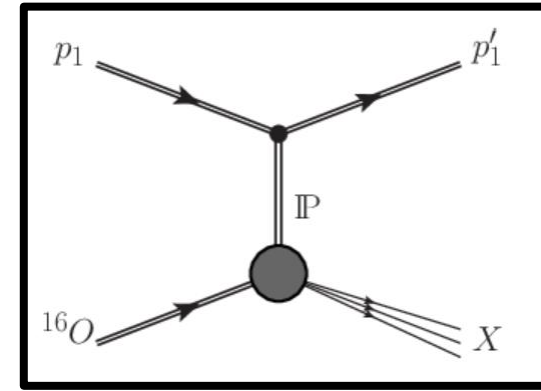
Proton Kinematics

- About ~20% of p-O interaction are diffractive scattering of protons
- In 2-4% of all events proton momentum is within $2.5\% < \xi < 15\%$



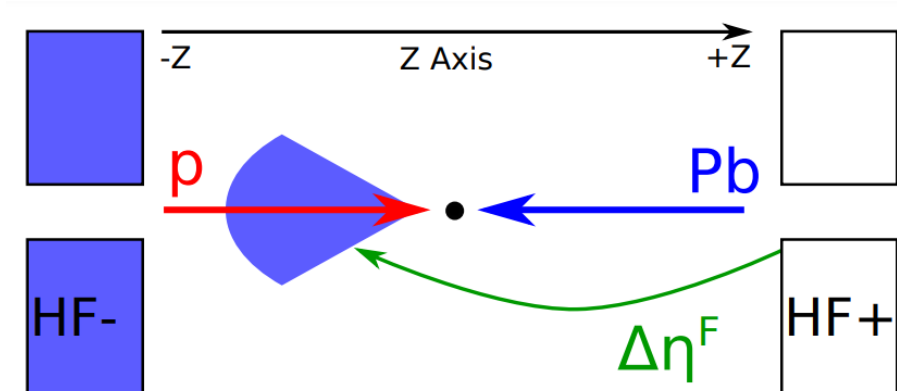
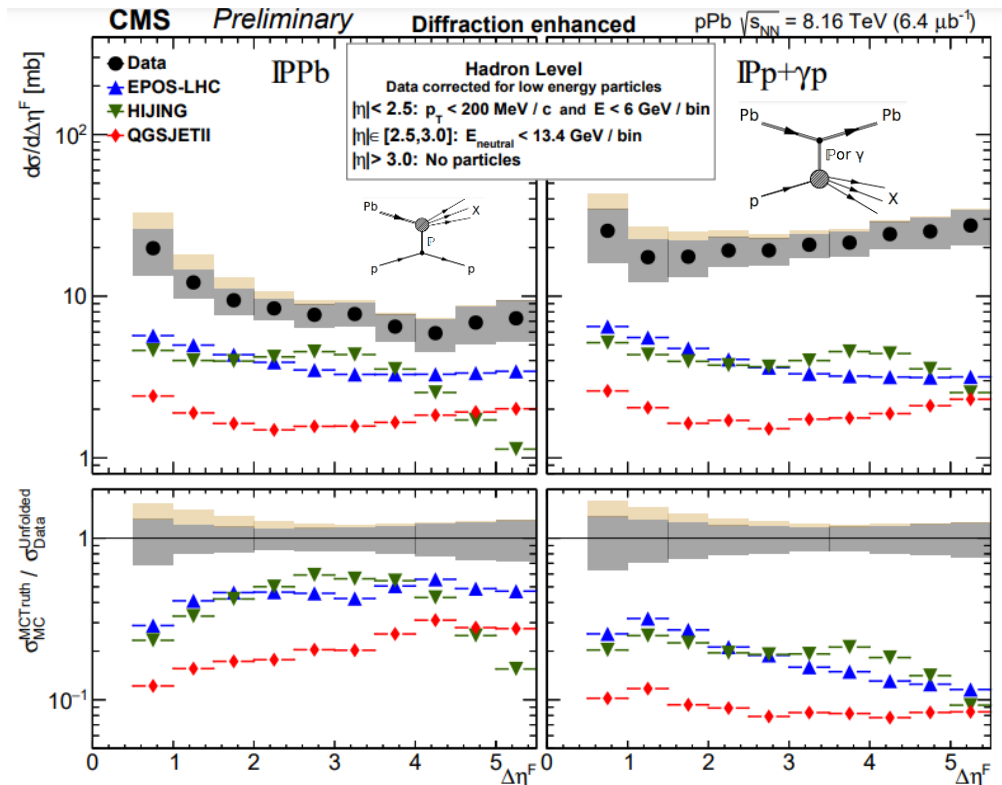
Proton Kinematics

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- Comparison between EPOS-LHC and Sibyll2.3 – some difference between the generators



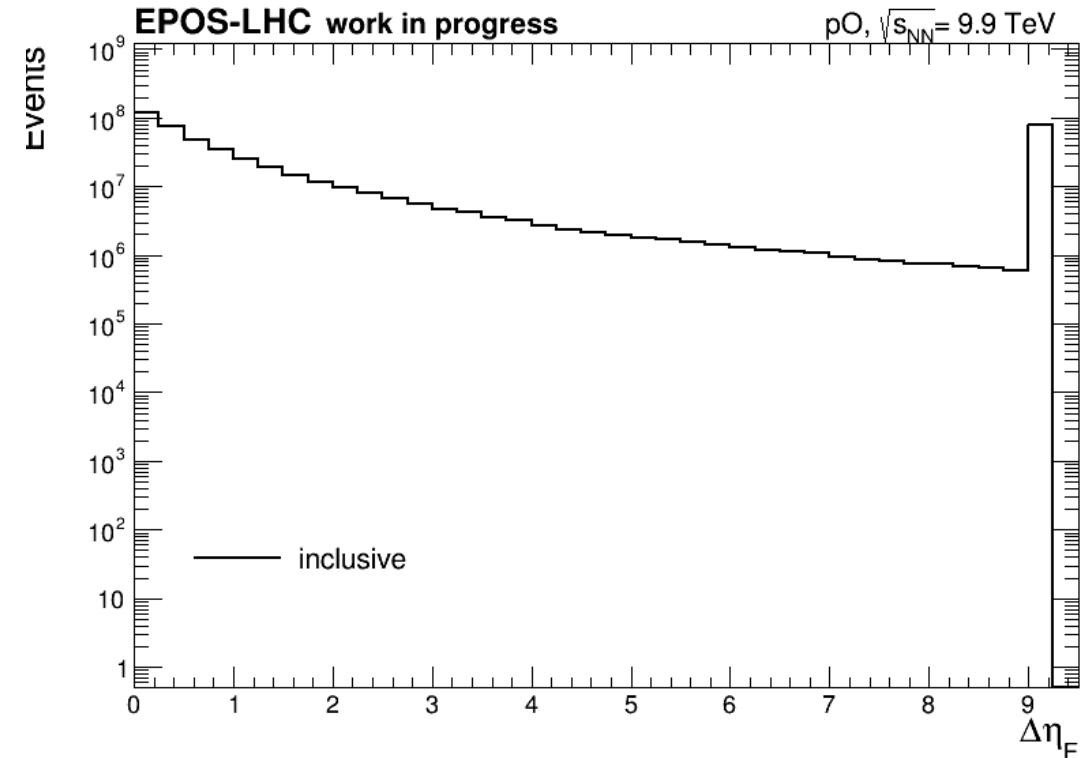
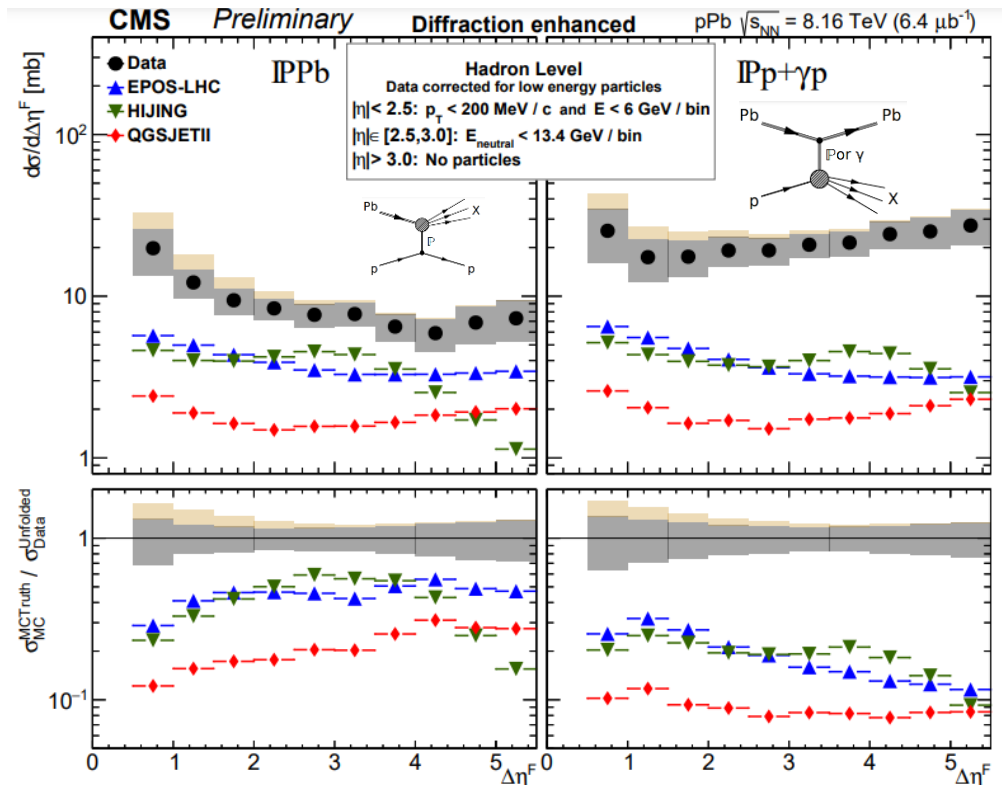
Diffraction in p-O runs

- Events with diffractive proton are characterized with presence of large rapidity gaps (LRGs)
- This component are weakly constrained in the current models



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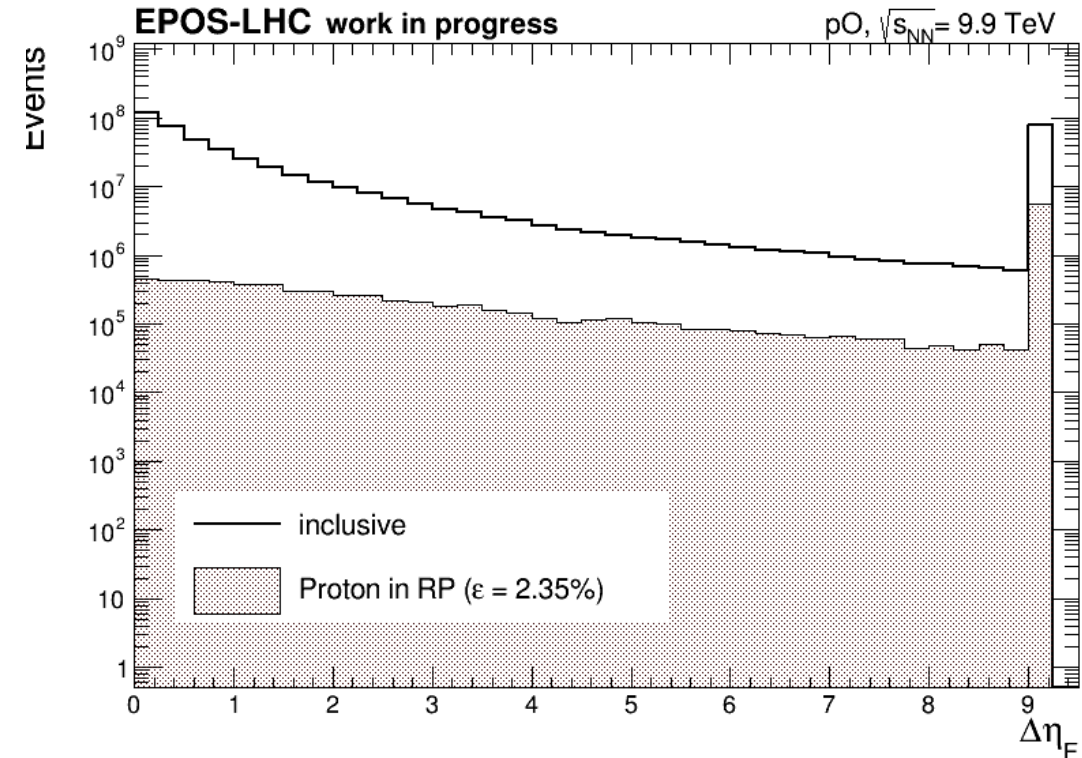
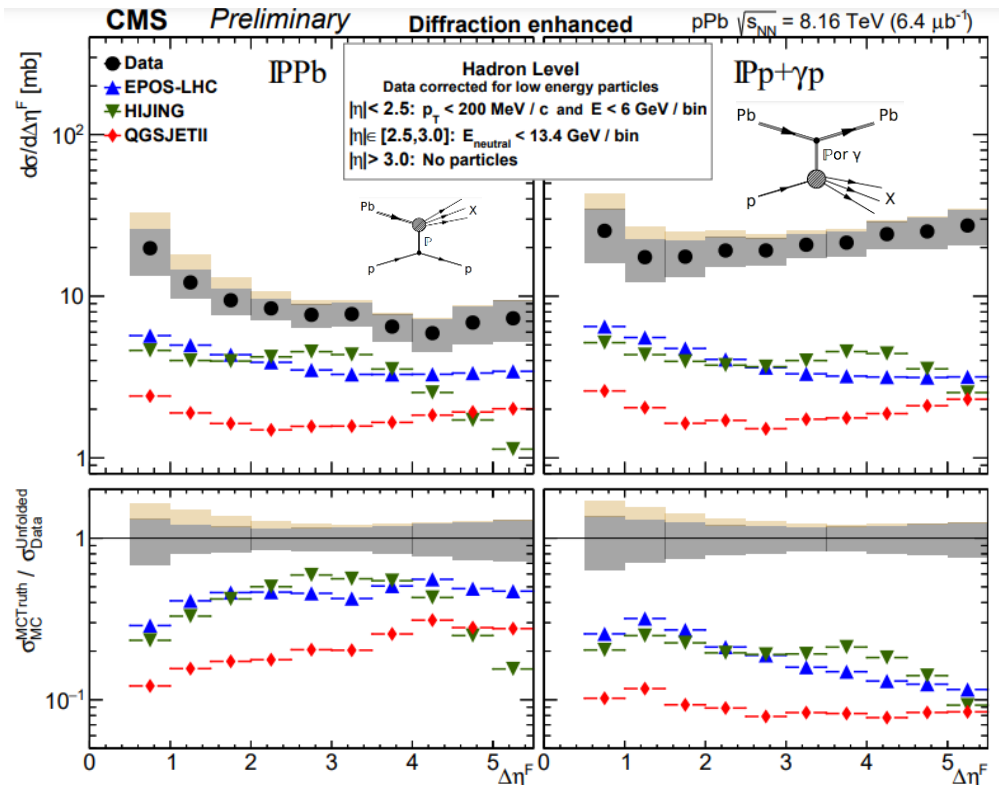
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Diffraction in p-O runs

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- Using the RG, some diffractive events escape detection, but can be recovered using proton tag

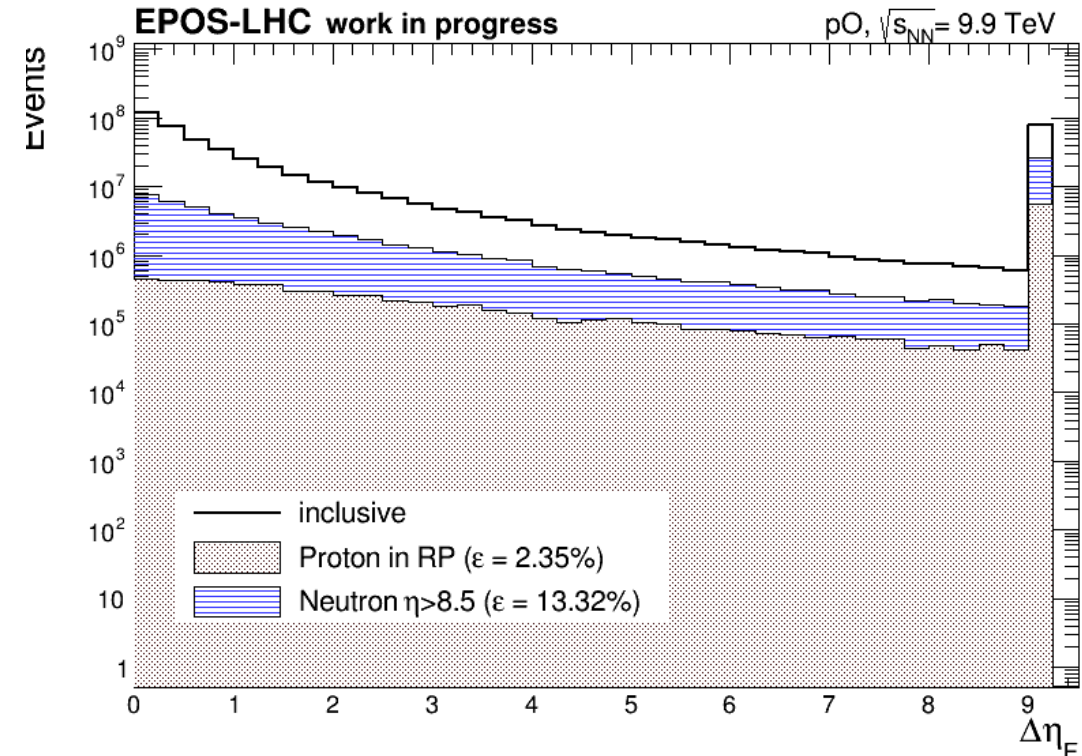
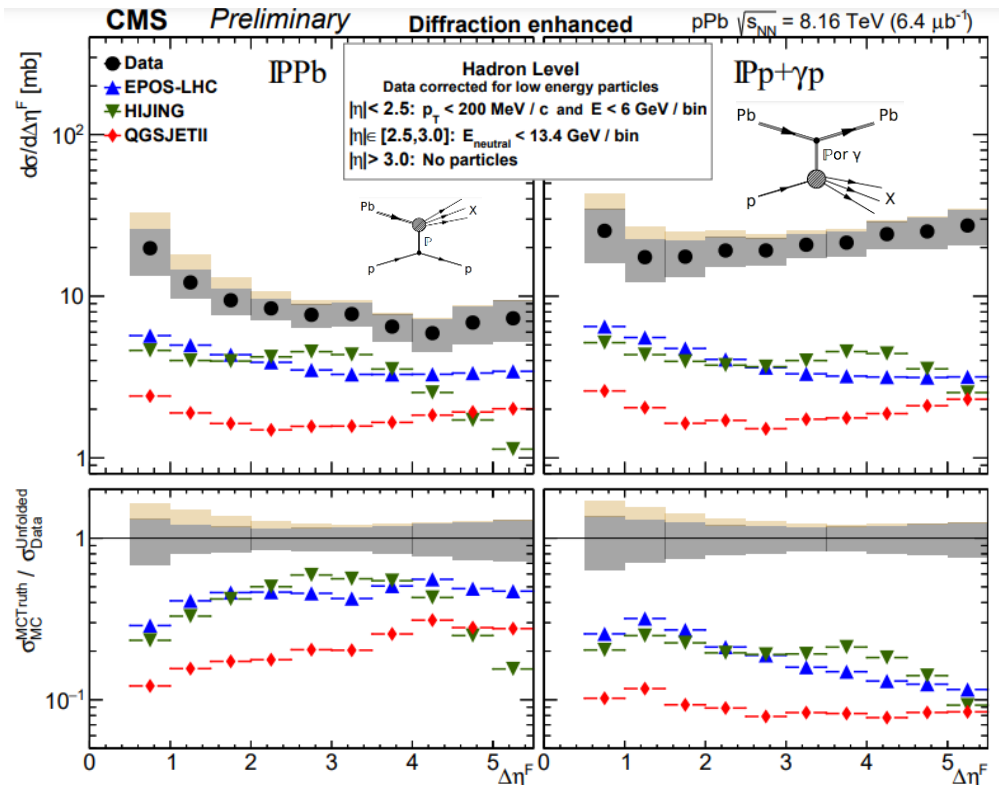
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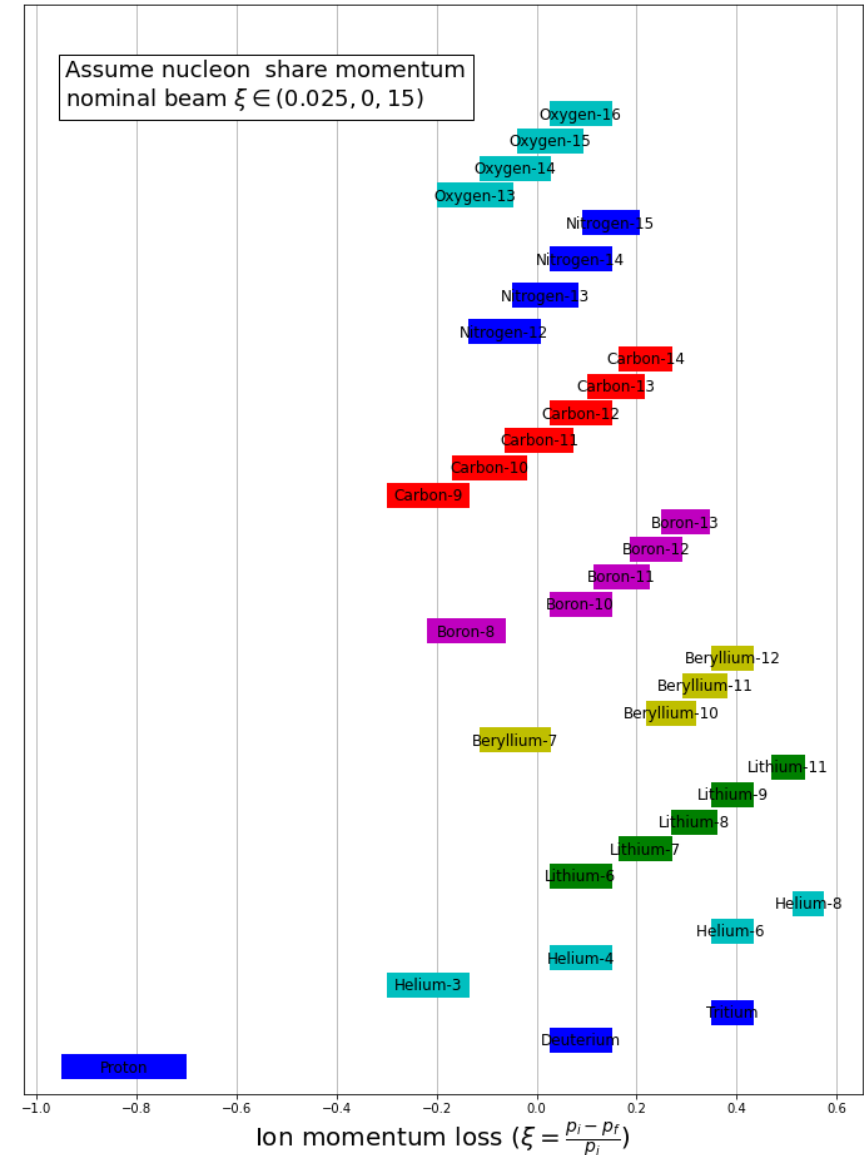
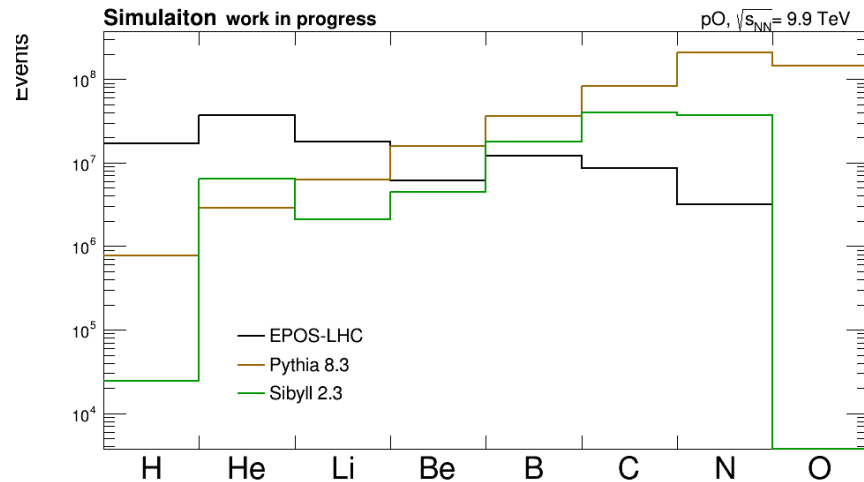
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Can we tag ions?

- On the ion side, oxygen ions will disintegrate, protons and neutrons will carry half of the beam momentum and ion remnants can form various isotopes.
- While neutrons can be measured with ZDC, protons have very low momentum to reach the RP.
- Yet, some lighter ions with different kinematics can reach the RP
- Will we see some of them as bumps in the ξ spectra?



Summary

Proton tagging

- There are no plans to use proton tagging at the LHC in p-O runs (AFAIK)
- Proton tagging allows measuring diffractive contribution to the total cross-section
- It covers a complementary phasespace to the standard pO program, which can motivate PPS / APF to consider participating in these runs

Ion tagging (?)

- Forward spectrometers can be sensitive to ions within the kinematic region
- Can a combined measurement of forward spectrometer + ZCD shed light on ion disintegration?
- More realistic modeling of Oxygen remnants using the DPMJET is still ongoing

Backup

