

# Collectivity in the absence of QGP

---

Javira Altmann, Monash University

**LHICP** Boston  
2024



# Overview

**QGP “signatures” in small systems** e.g. strangeness and baryon enhancement, flow

- QGP formation via **core-corona** picture e.g. EPOS
- Model **without QGP**?

Aim to consider a **purely string model**

- Natural transition from  $e^+e^- \rightarrow pp \rightarrow AA$
- Challenge what is considered a QGP signature

Review of collectivity with strings arXiv:2401.07585

Review of strings can be found in recent heavy quark hadronisation review  
arXiv:2405.19137

**Pythia** -  $e^+e^-$  to  $pp$

**Angantyr** -  $pA$  to  $AA$

1. **Lund string hadronization**
2. **Colour reconnections (CR)**
3. **Shoving**
4. **Ropes**

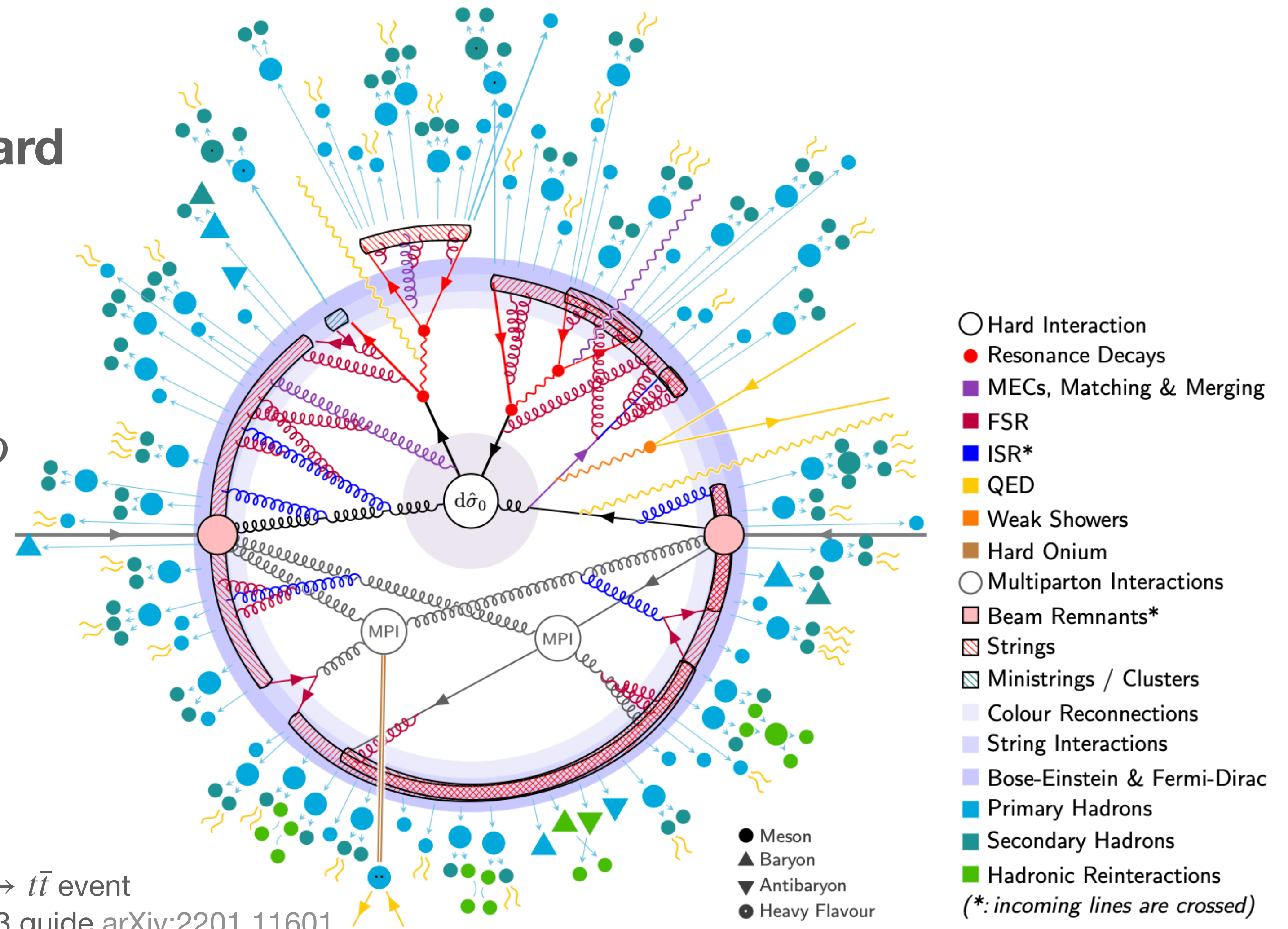
# String Hadronization

Starting point is partons formed in **hard collisions** and subsequent partons radiated off in **parton showers**

At wavelengths  $\sim r_{proton} \sim 1/\Lambda_{QCD}$

Need a dynamical process to ensure partons become **confined** within hadrons

i.e. **non-perturbative**  
**parton  $\rightarrow$  hadron map**



Example of  $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}$  event  
From PYTHIA 8.3 guide arXiv:2201.11601

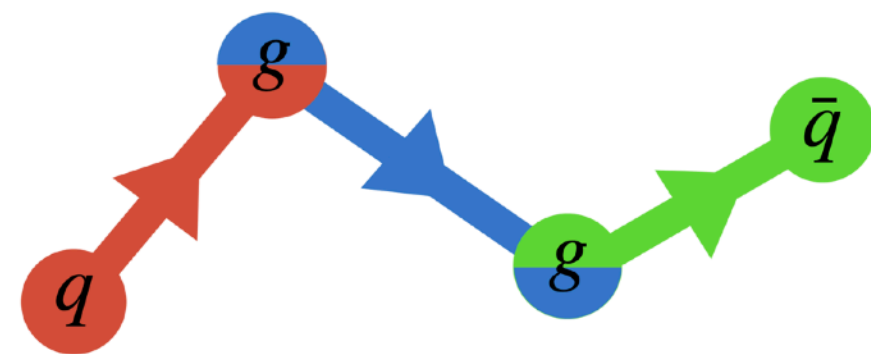


# Partons $\rightarrow$ Hadrons

## Strings

Colour confinement field with **constant tension**

Form between **colour-connected** partons i.e. partons that form an overall colour singlet



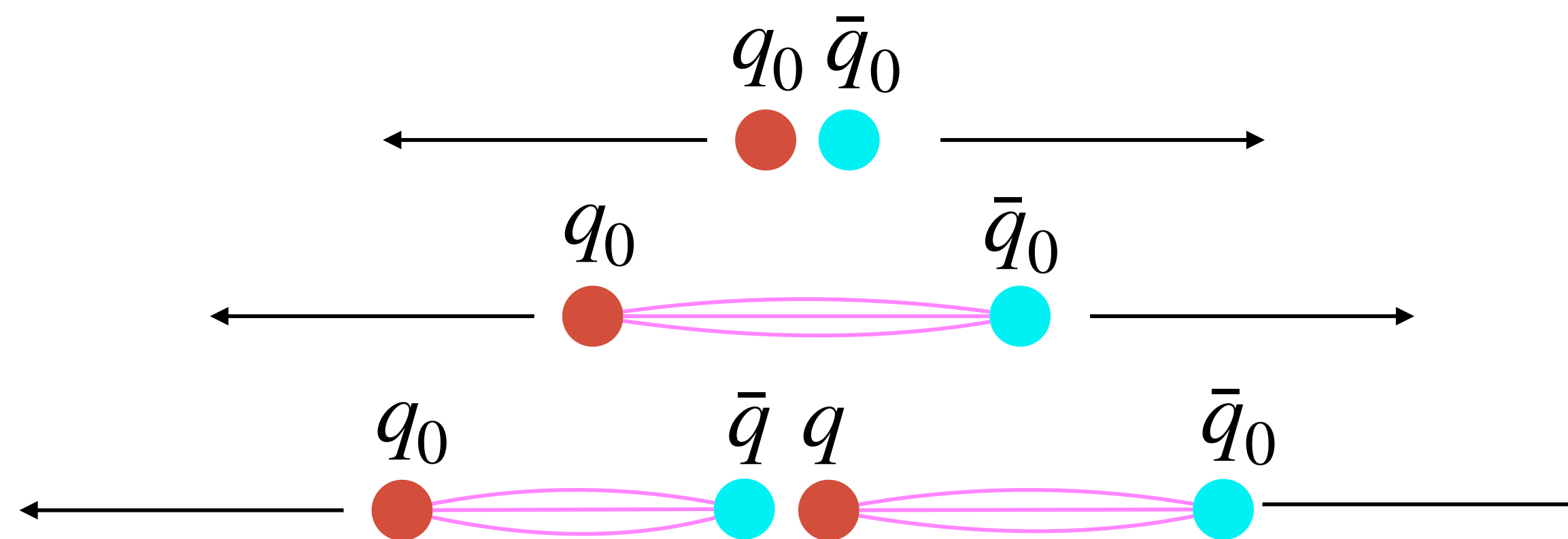
e.g. a dipole string configuration which make use of the **colour-anticolour** singlet state

## Hadronization

Partons move apart and stretch the string  $\rightarrow$  **string breaks**

$\rightarrow$  creates light **quark-antiquark pairs** (or diquark-antidiquark)

standard procedure is all in momentum space



### Details of the modelling

#### Lund symmetric fragmentation function

$\rightarrow$  longitudinal momentum

#### Schwinger mechanism

$\rightarrow$  transverse momentum

$\rightarrow$  flavour (u/d vs s vs diquarks)

# Colour Reconnections

Recent brief review on CR arXiv:2405.19137

Starting point for Monte Carlo is **leading colour**  $N_C \rightarrow \infty$  i.e. unique colour singlet configurations determined by colour tracing in hard processes

CR restores missing colour correlations from  $SU(3)$  assuming **string “length” minimisation**

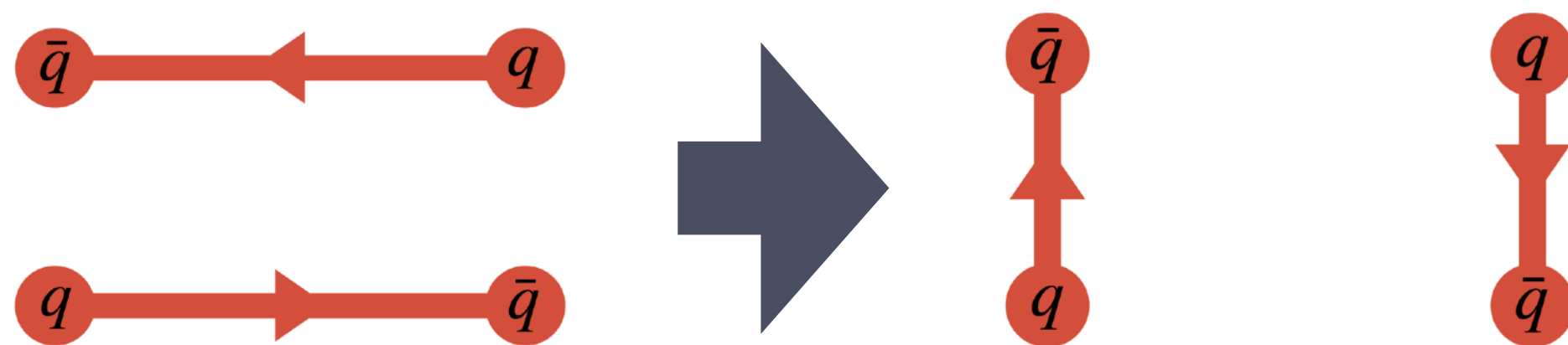
Aims to **stochastically restore** these colour correlations using  $SU(3)$  algebra

$$3 \otimes \bar{3} = 8 \oplus 1 \text{ (colour-anticolour)}$$

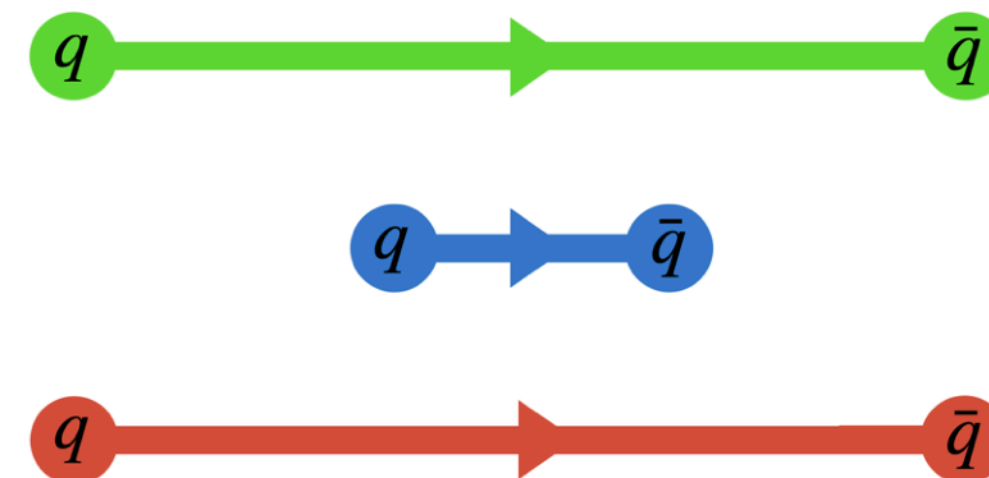
$$3 \otimes 3 = 6 \oplus \bar{3} \text{ (colour-colour)}$$

“string length” is **not** a spatial measure but measure of approx how many hadrons a string can make e.g. rapidity-type measure or invariant mass of the dipole

Dipole-type reconnection: colour-anticolour



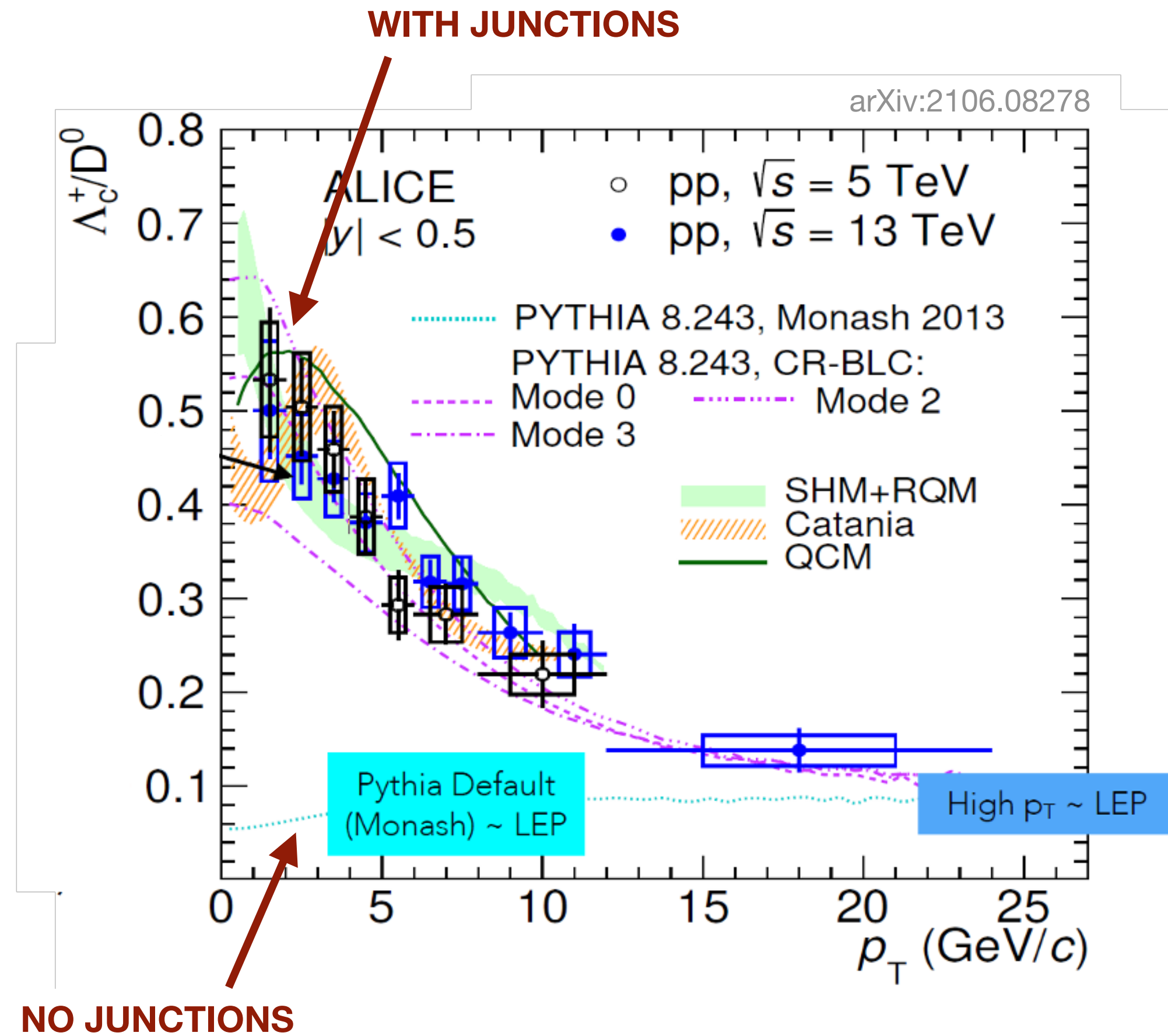
Junction-type reconnection: red-green-blue



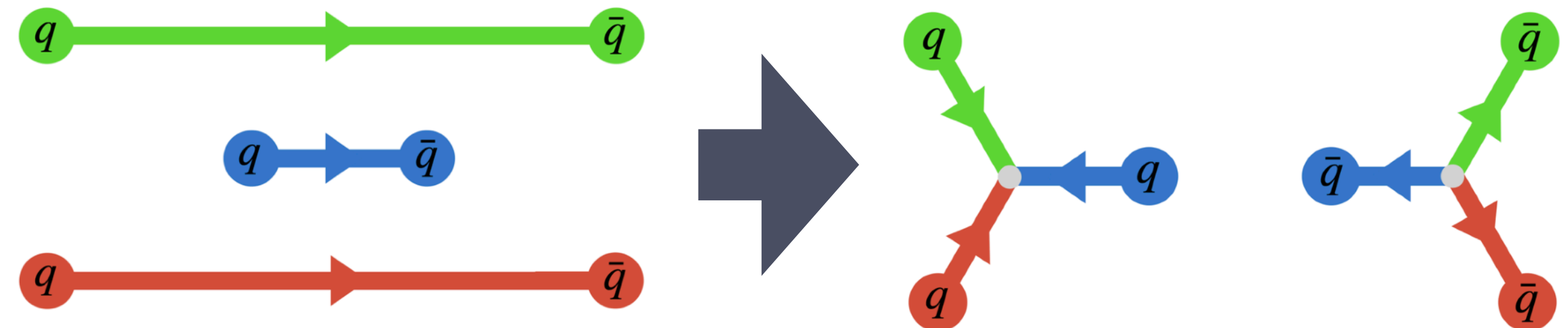
Independently hadronising MPI does not result in **increasing**  $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$  with multiplicity

# Colour Reconnections

Recent brief review on CR arXiv:2405.19137



Junction-type reconnection: red-green-blue

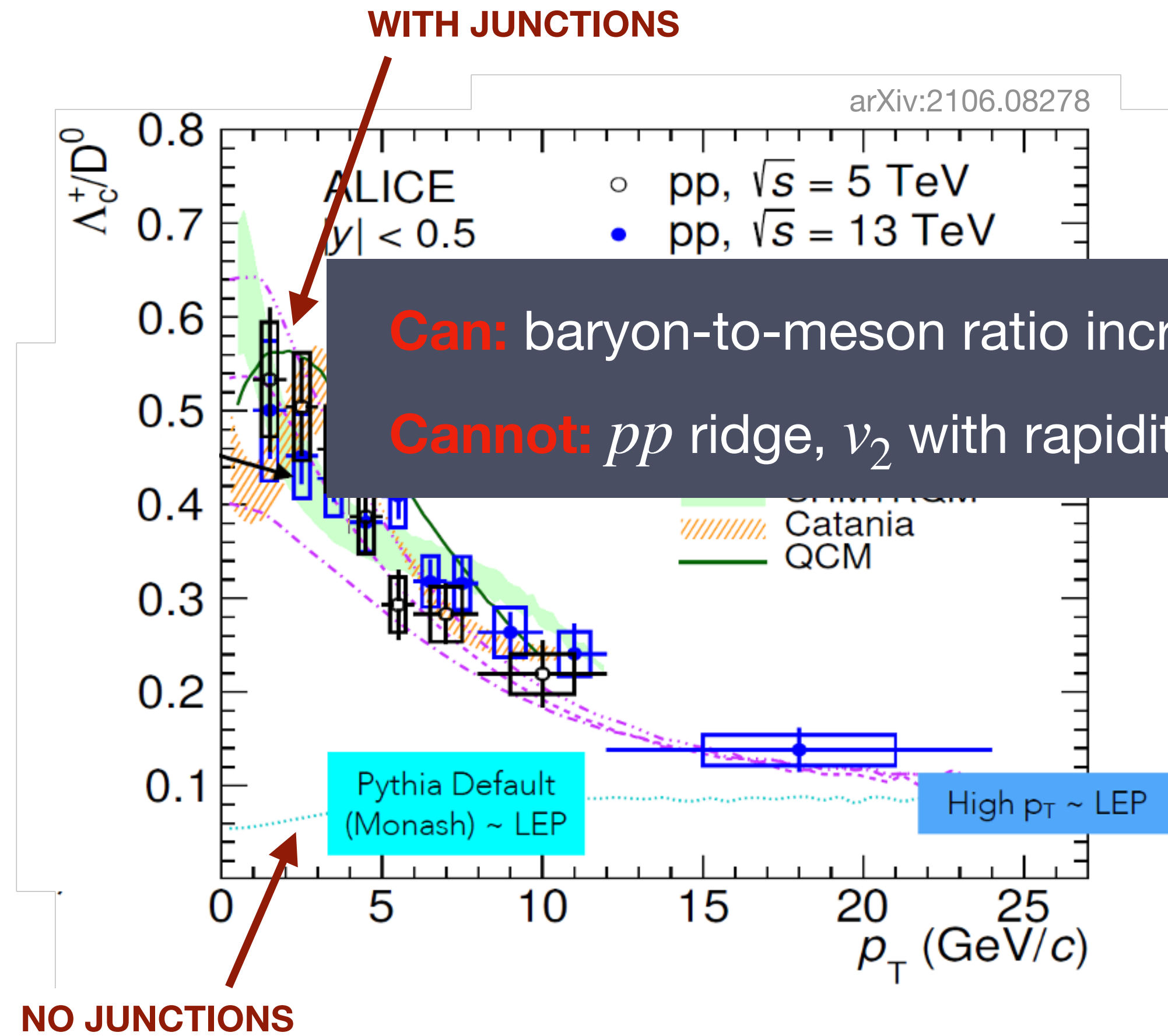


Independently hadronising MPI does not result in **increasing  $\langle p_\perp \rangle$  with multiplicity**

Junctions result in baryons  $\rightarrow$  increase in **baryon-to-meson ratio**

# Colour Reconnections

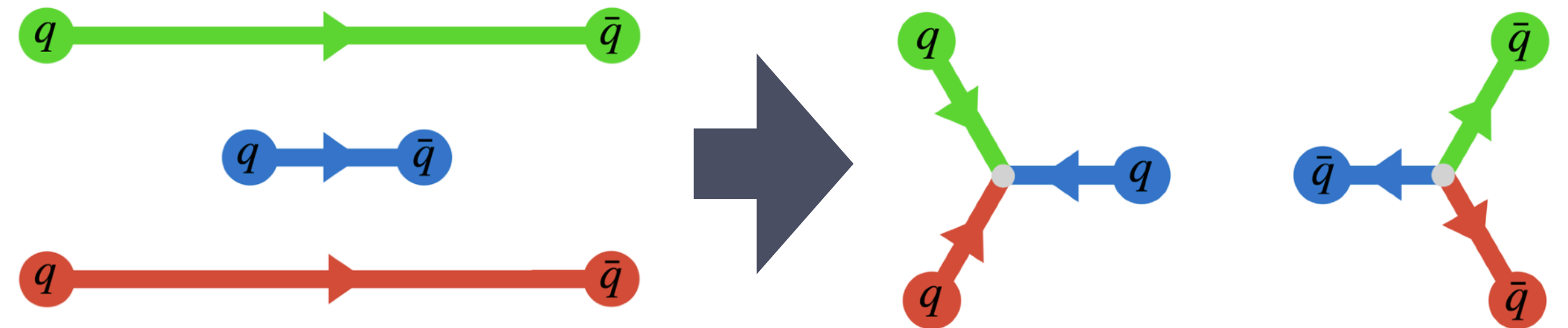
Recent brief review on CR arXiv:2405.19137



**Can:** baryon-to-meson ratio increase,  $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$  increase with multiplicity, some flow-like effects

**Cannot:**  $pp$  ridge,  $v_2$  with rapidity gap between particles of interest

Junction-type reconnection: red-green-blue



Independently hadronising MPI does not result in **increasing  $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$  with multiplicity**

Junctions result in baryons  $\rightarrow$  increase in **baryon-to-meson ratio**



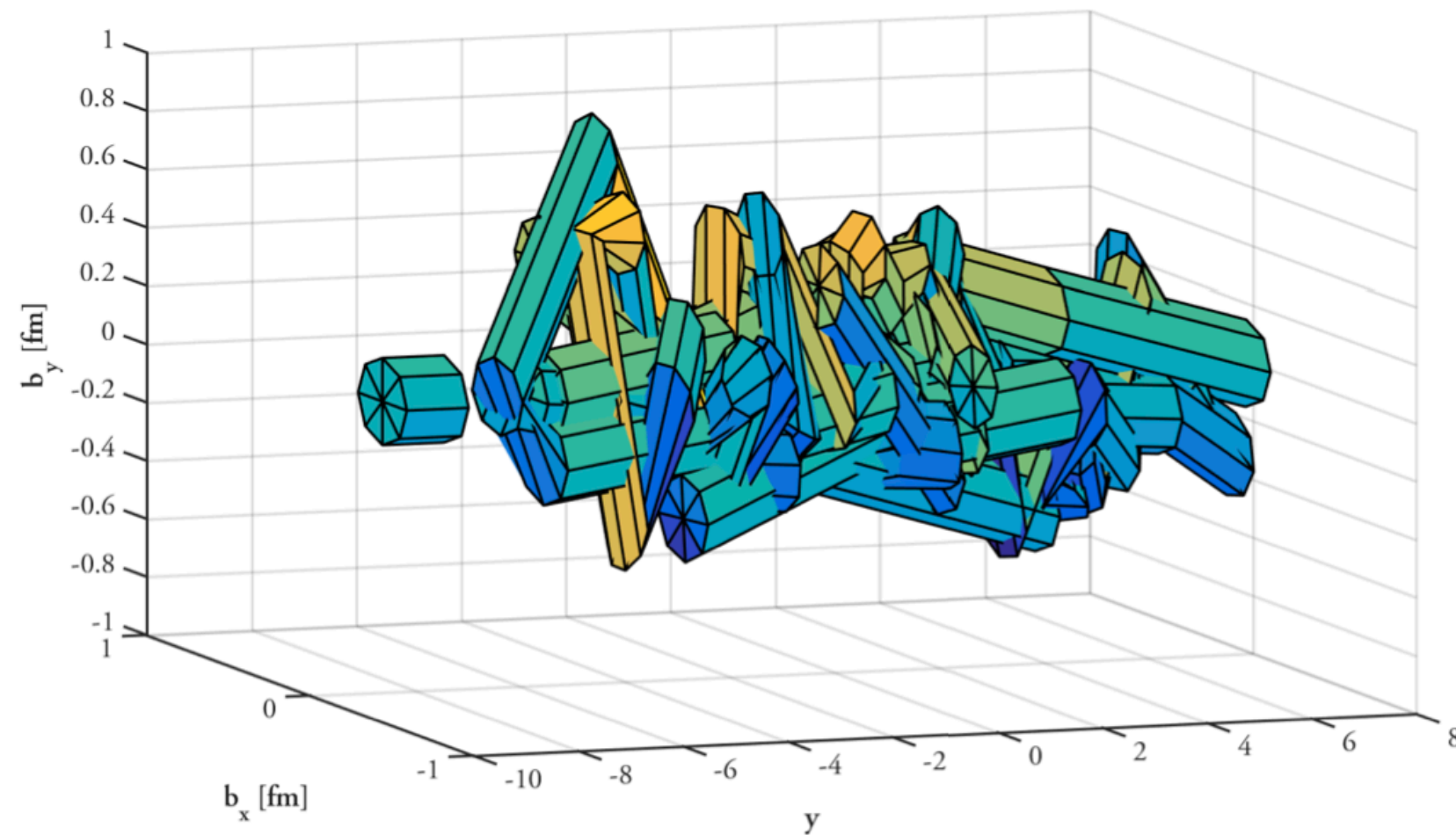
# Shoving

After the string has had time after its initial creation to expand to its full **transverse size**, strings will start **“shoving”**

**CR has already occurred** with string minimisation choosing singlet configurations

→ only octet states would likely be near one another

→ only **repulsion** left



e.g.  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV collision example

\*uses string radius of 0.2 fm for illustration purposes but in reality can be much larger

**Force calculable from the field**  $E = N \exp(-\rho^2/2R^2)$

Energy per unit length of two strings

overlapping 
$$\int d^2\rho \frac{(E_1 + E_2)^2}{2}$$

Force between two strings transversely separated

by  $d_{\perp}$  is then 
$$f(d_{\perp}) = \frac{g\kappa d_{\perp}}{R^2} \exp\left(-\frac{d_{\perp}^2}{4R^2}\right)$$

$\rho$  is the radius in cylindrical coordinates

$R$  is the equilibrium radius

$N$  is a normalization factor, determined by letting the energy in the field correspond to a **fraction  $g$  of the total string tension.**

## Monte Carlo implementation details

- Use parallel dogbone frame
- Ordered in  $p_{\perp}$  in similar spirit to parton shower ordering

Requires space-time picture of strings



# Shoving in pp

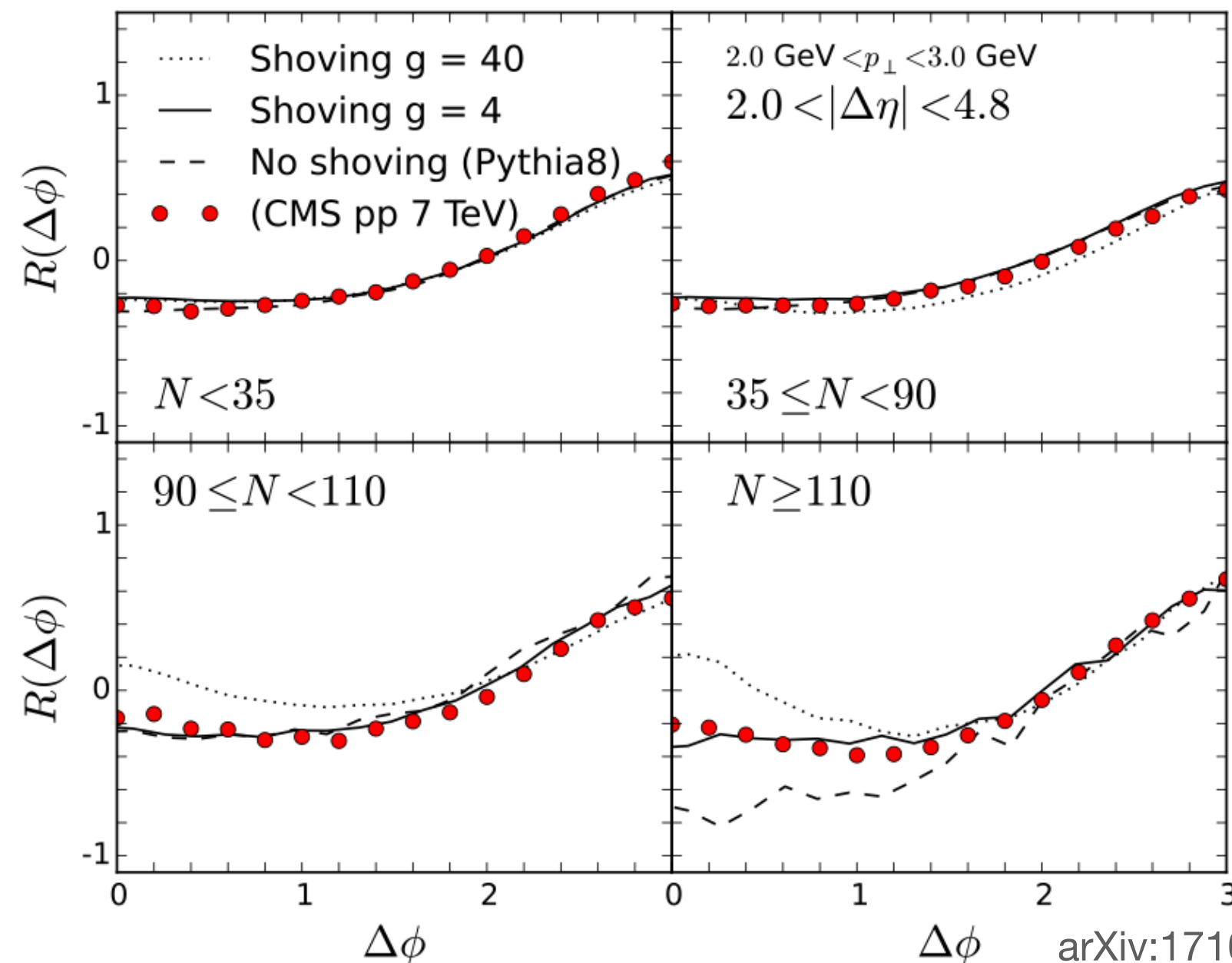
After the string has had time after its initial creation to expand to its full **transverse size**, strings will start **“shoving”**

**CR has already occurred** with string minimisation choosing singlet configurations

→ only octet states would likely be near one another

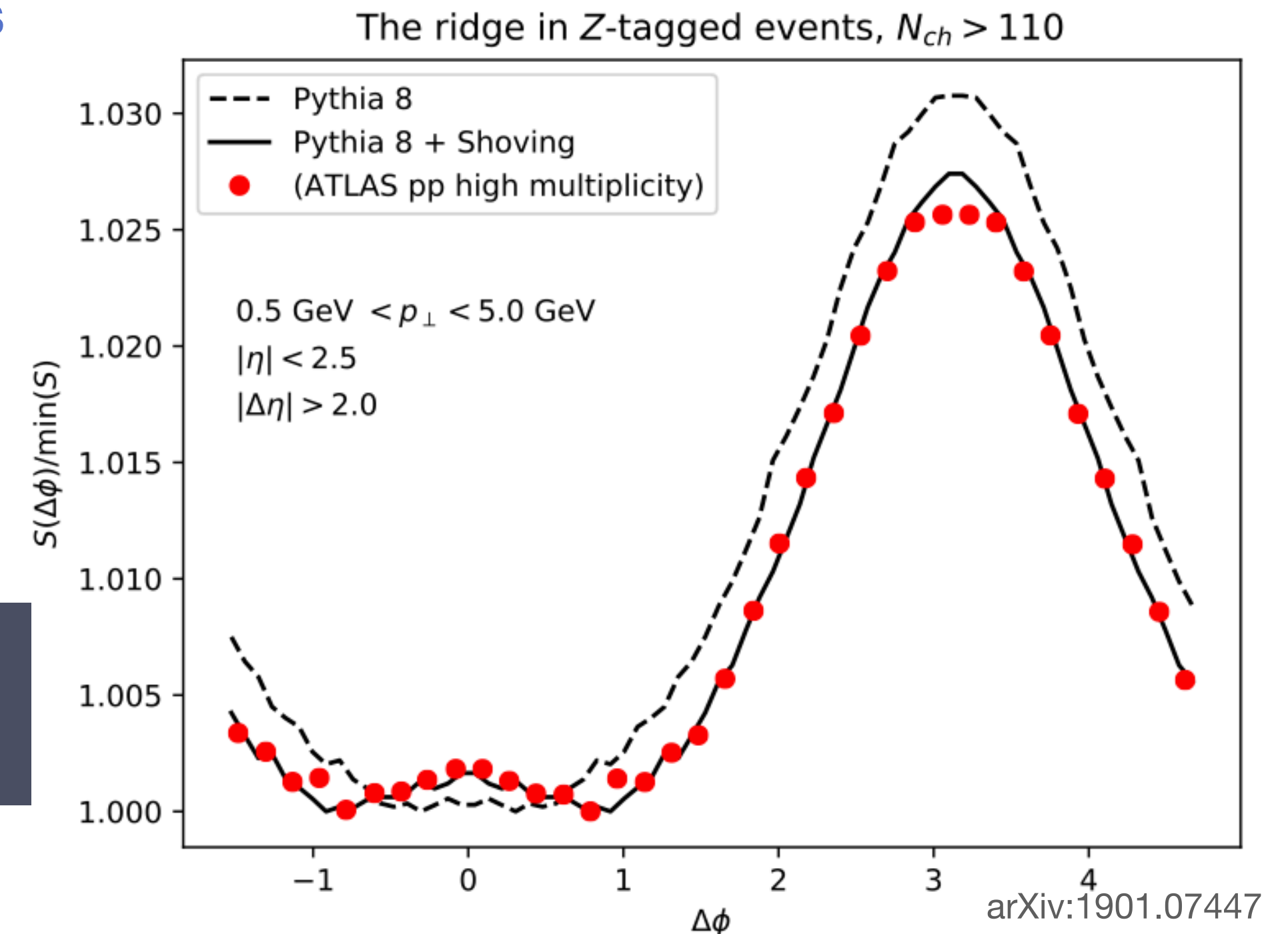
→ only **repulsion** left

Generate anisotropic flow as a response to the **spatial initial conditions**



**Z-tagged results -  $m_Z$  scale**  
as the largest hard scale of the collision, which could alter the distribution in  $p_{\perp}$  of MPIs w.r.t minimum bias

\*model of shoving used here is old implementation that manifests the “shove” as soft gluons



\*note g parameter differs by normalisation factor from g in equation

\*results from old implementation of shoving w.r.t to the beam axis rather than the dog-bone implementation

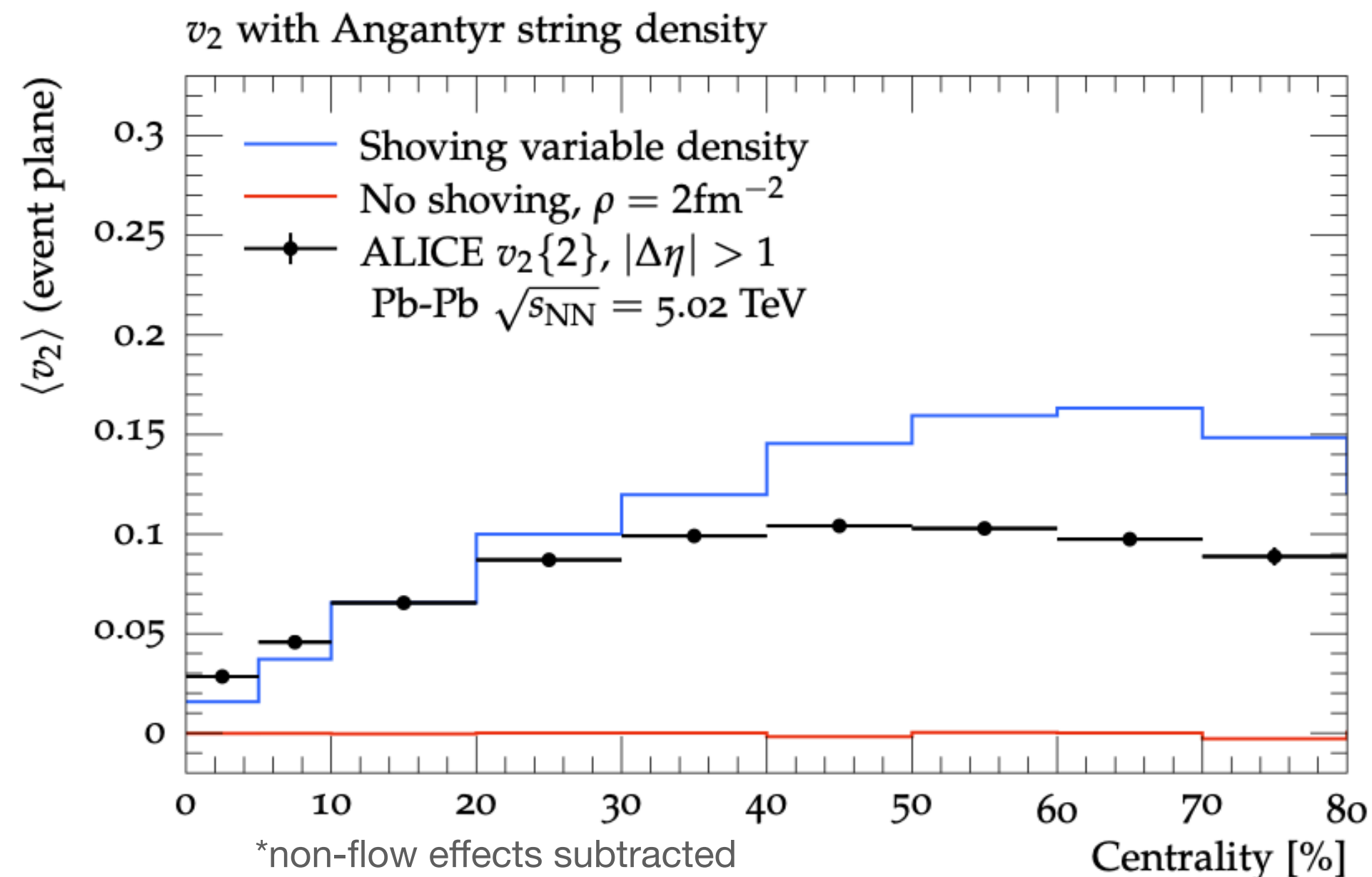
# Shoving in AA

First look at **toy case**

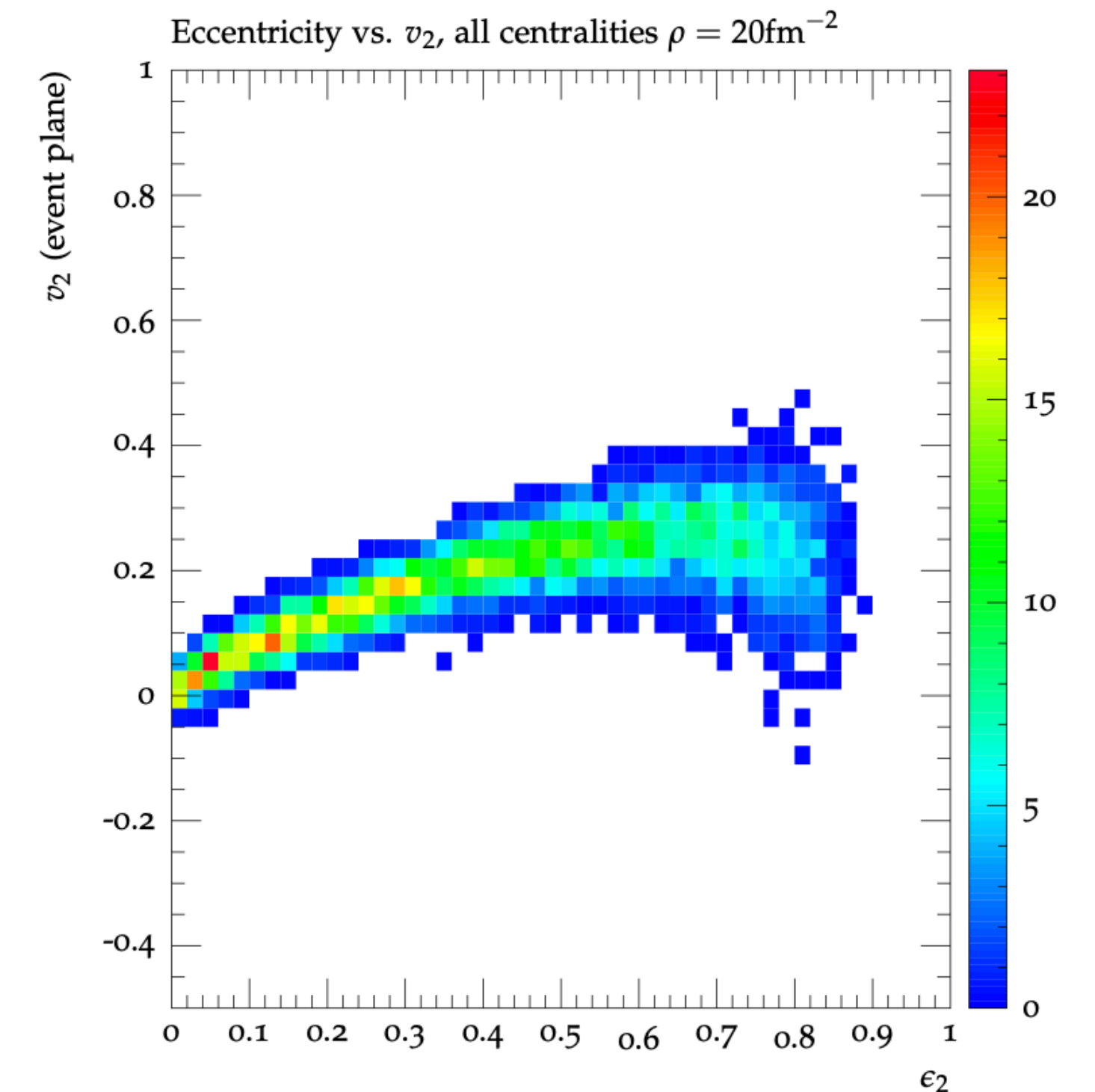
- Multiplicity generated by a single string well known (approx one hadron per unit of rapidity)
- System of **straight strings (no gluon kinks)** that corresponds to the multiplicity of AA collisions in a given centrality interval

Not perfect agreement however is only a toy model and uses **same parameters as pp collision systems**

**source of flow can be the same across collision systems!!!**



Correlation between initial state  $\epsilon_2$  and final state  $v_2$  is linear in hydrodynamic deconfined QGP phase - **similarly with shoving** → **hydrodynamic behaviour is not limited to deconfined systems**



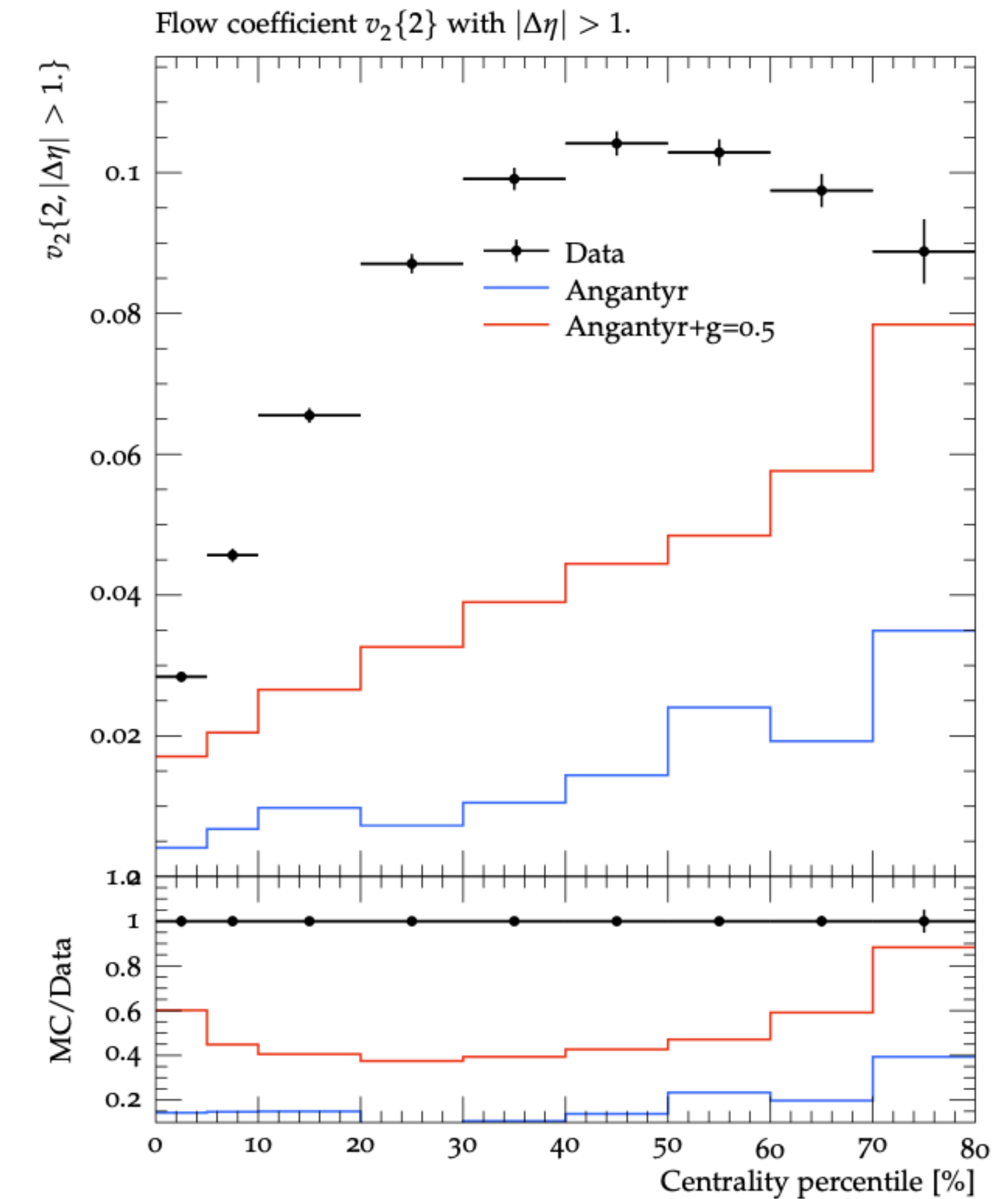
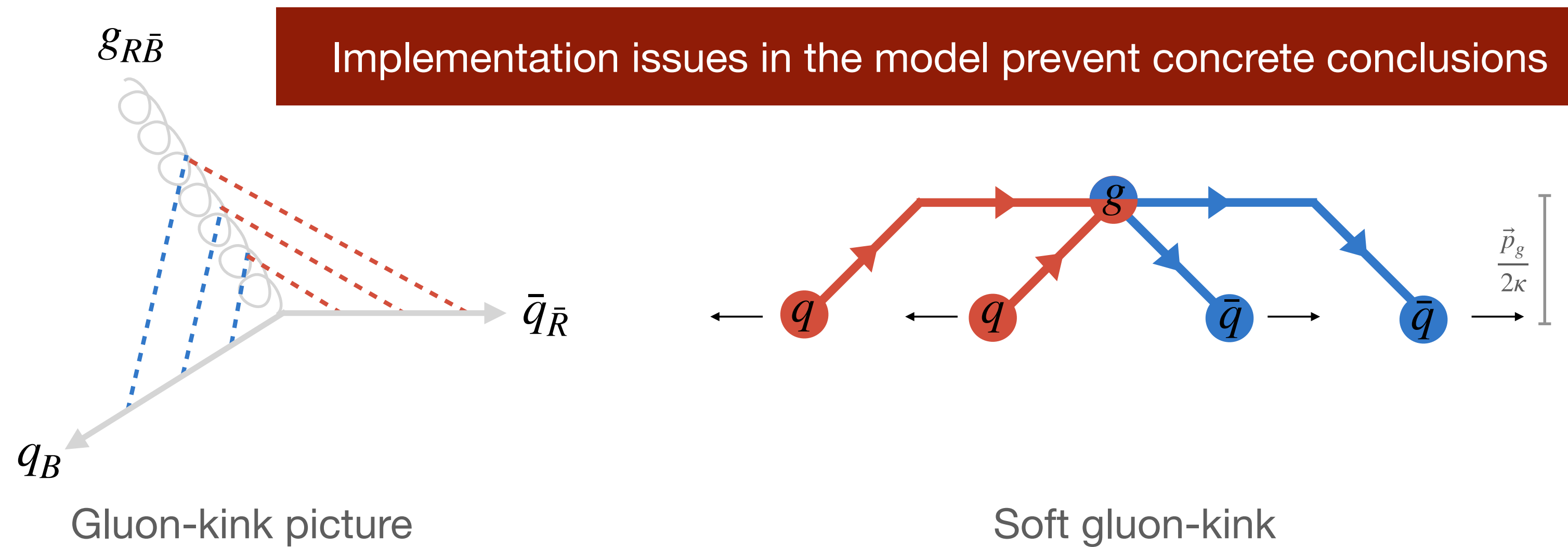
# Shoving in AA

## Full Pb-Pb collision in Angantyr

### ➤ Implementation issues

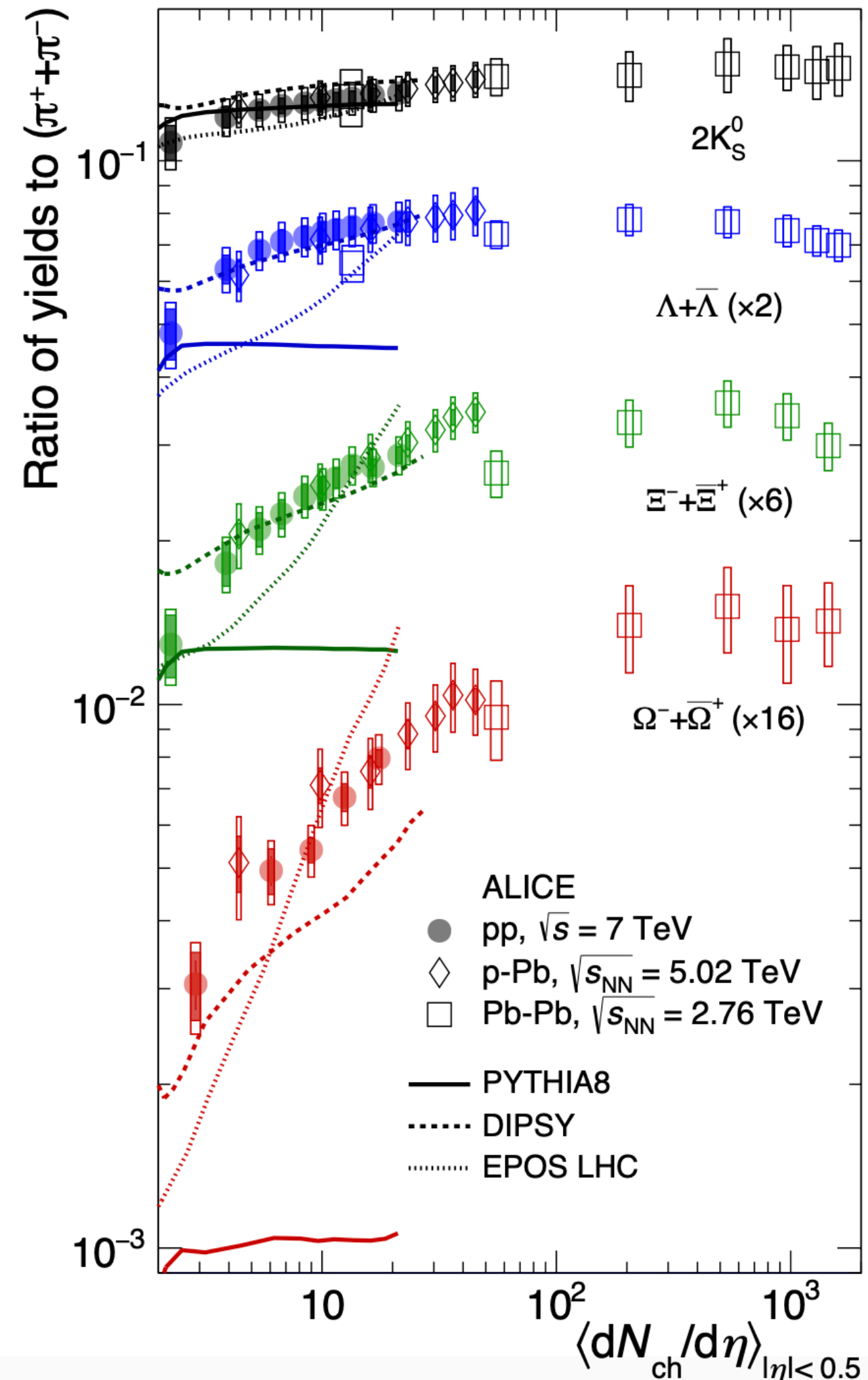
Many **soft gluons** → **short interaction time** for shoving mechanism as the mechanism does not consider the region formed from soft gluons → insufficient level of shoving

### ➤ Trend is in the correct direction but insufficient, also lacks curved shape



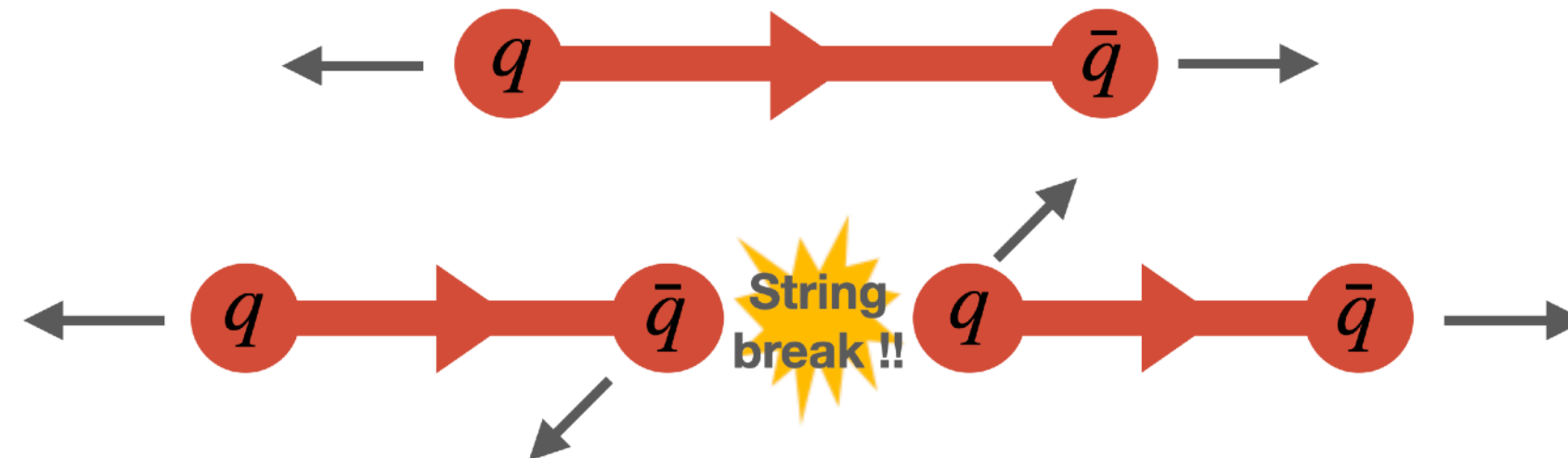


# Strangeness Enhancement



## Strange production in the string picture

Use **Schwinger mechanism** to model **tunnelling of quark-antiquark pairs** created by string breaks

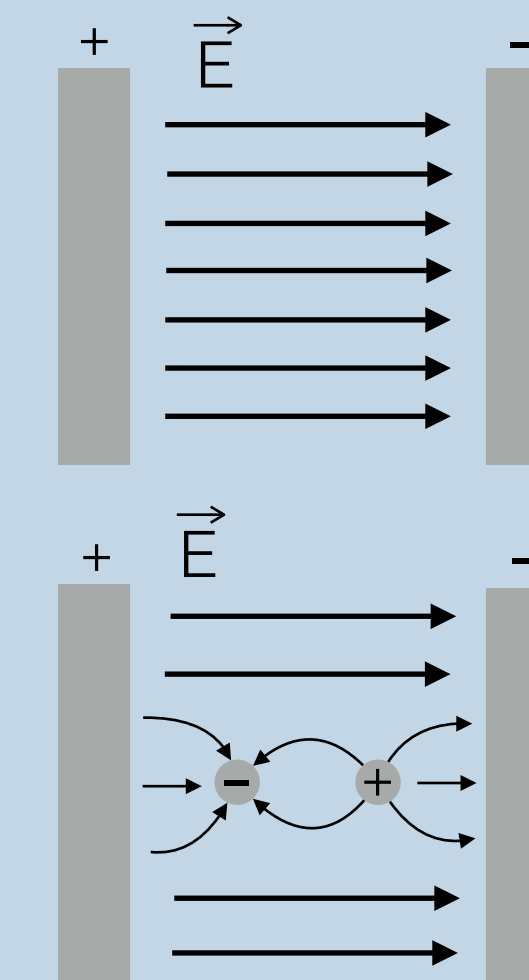


Schwinger → **Gaussian  $p_{\perp}$  spectrum** and heavy flavour suppression

**Prob(u:d:s)  $\approx$  1 : 1 : 0.2**

**Heavy quarks** (charm and bottom) are only produced from hard processes → must be **string endpoints**

## Schwinger mechanism QED



Non-perturbative creation of  $e^+e^-$  pairs in a string electric field

Probability from tunnelling factor

$$\mathcal{P} \propto \exp\left(\frac{-m^2 - p_{\perp}^2}{\kappa/\pi}\right)$$

$\kappa = \text{string tension}$

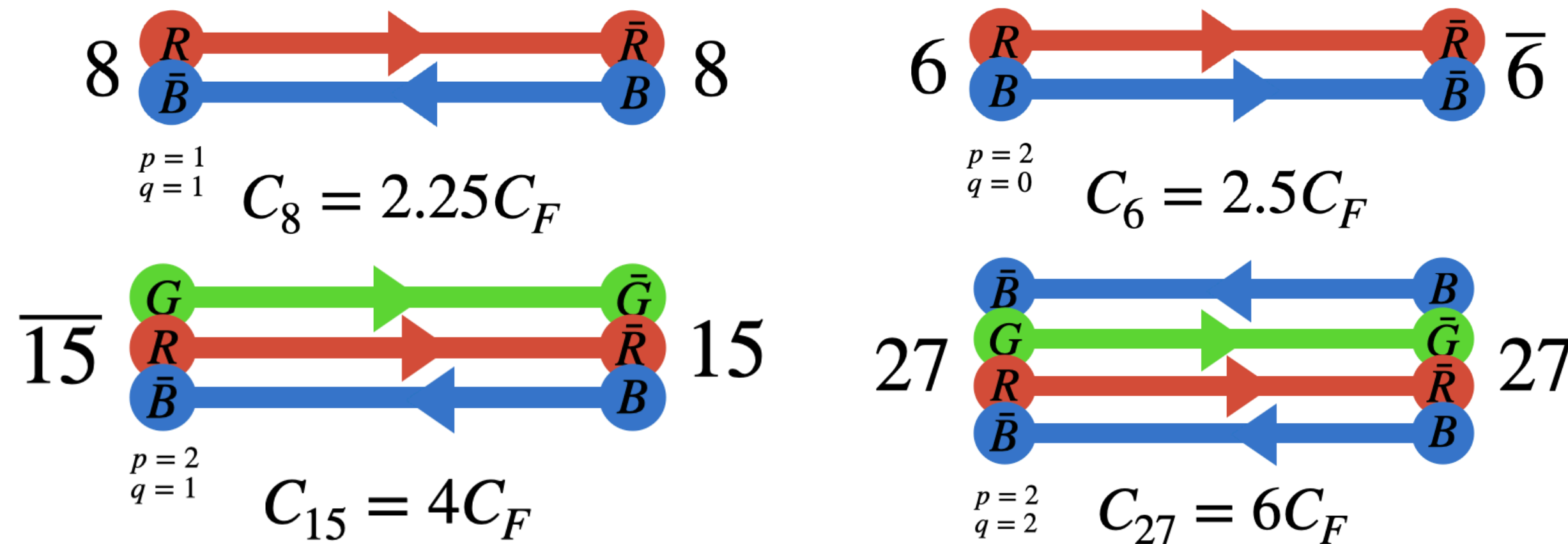
# Strangeness Enhancement

## Rope hadronisation

arXiv:1412.6259

After shoving, if strings are still overlapping  $\rightarrow$  form a rope

Enhance string tension for higher multiplets



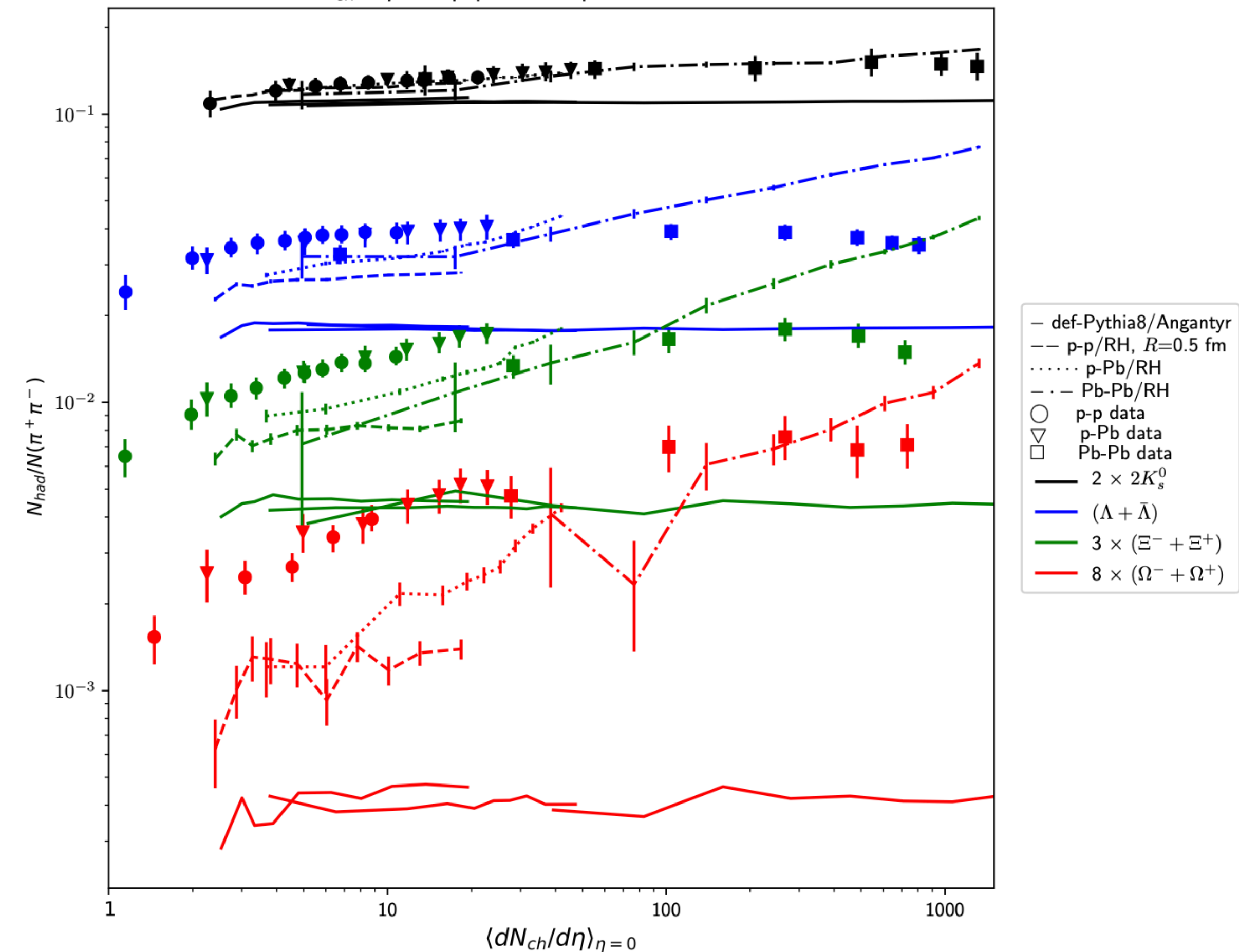
Dense string environments

$\rightarrow$  Casimir scaling of **effective string tension**

$\rightarrow$  Higher probability of strange quarks

Higher  $\kappa \rightarrow$  lower strangeness suppression

$N/N(\pi^+ \pi^-)$  vs.  $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$  for p-p 7 TeV, p-Pb 5.02 TeV and Pb-Pb 2.76 TeV



# Strangeness Enhancement

## Rope hadronisation

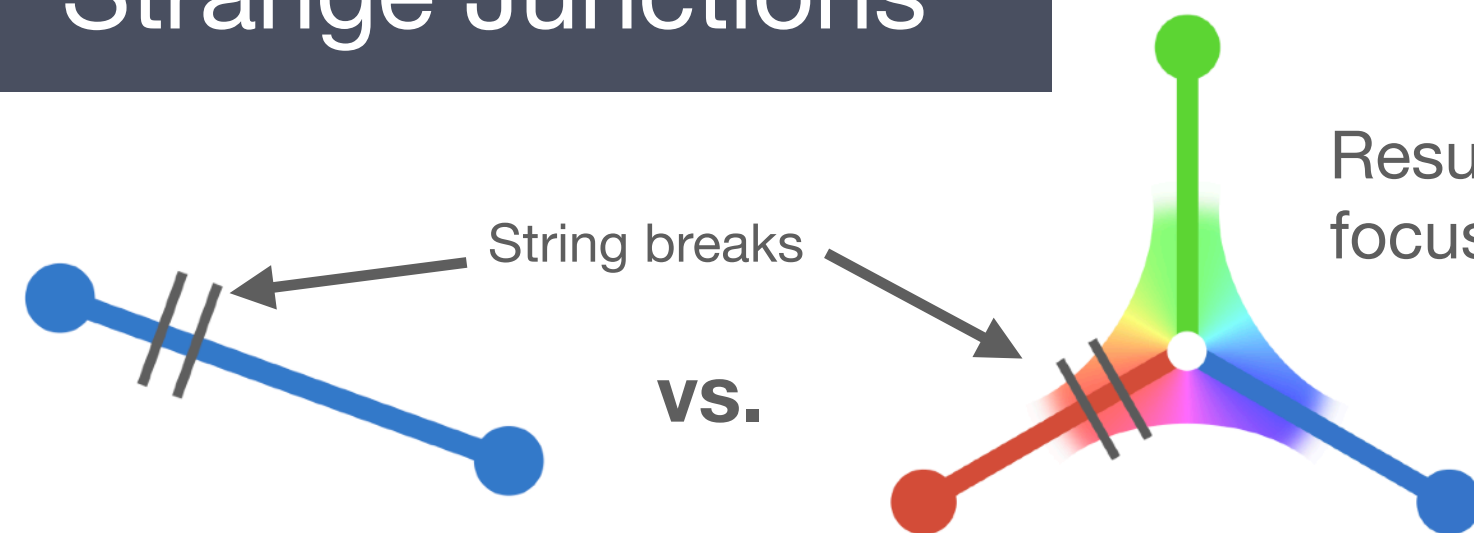
arXiv:1412.6259

After shoving, if strings are still overlapping  $\rightarrow$  form a rope  
 Enhance string tension for higher multiplets

## Close-packing

Simpler implementation of ropes fully in momentum space  
 $\rightarrow$  not in conjunction with shoving

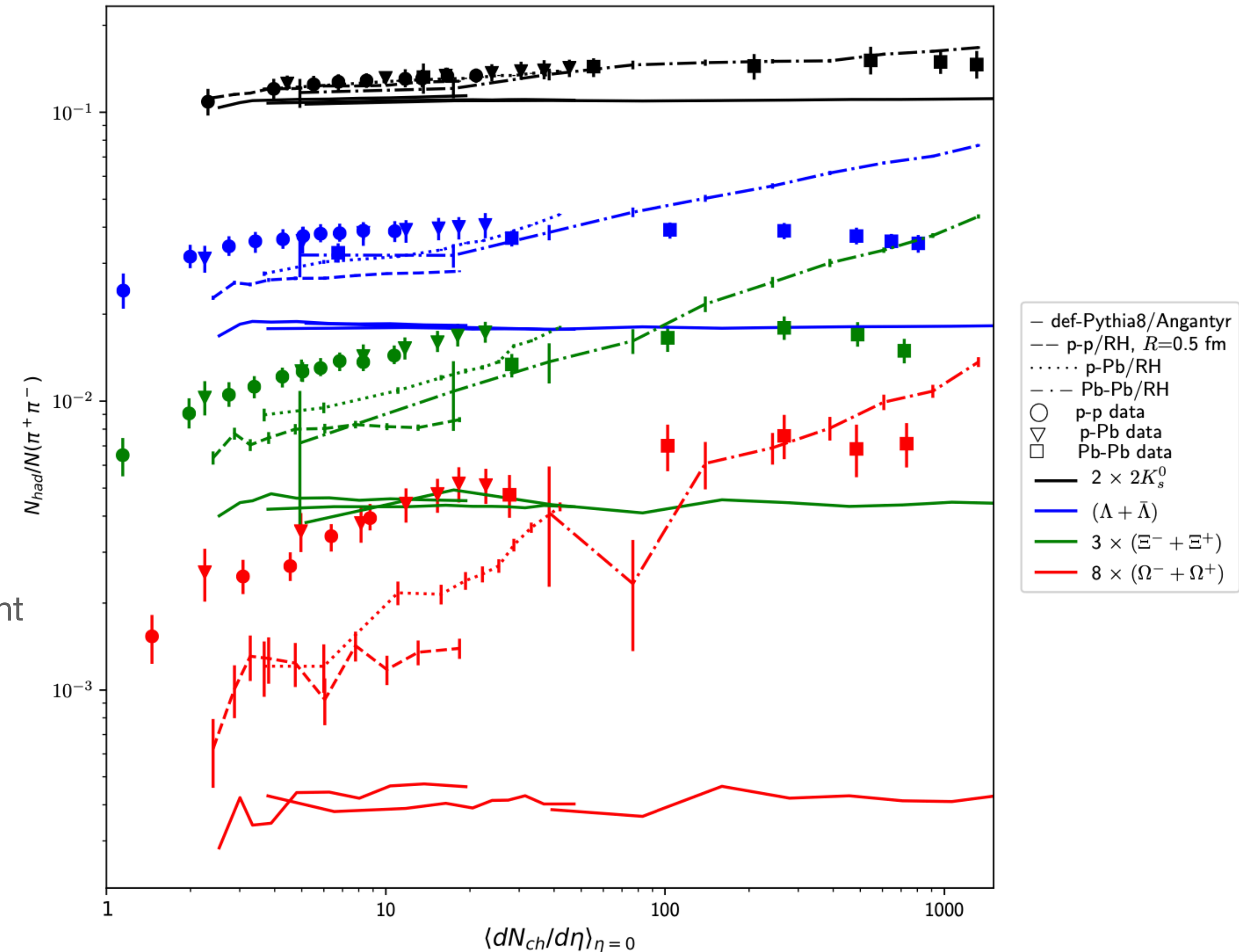
## Strange Junctions



Results in strangeness enhancement  
 focused in baryon sector

String tension could be different from the vacuum  
 case compared to near a junction

$N/N(\pi^+ \pi^-)$  vs.  $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$  for p-p 7 TeV, p-Pb 5.02 TeV and Pb-Pb 2.76 TeV





# Strangeness Enhancement

## Rope hadronisation

arXiv:1412.6259

After shoving, if strings are still overlapping  $\rightarrow$  form a rope

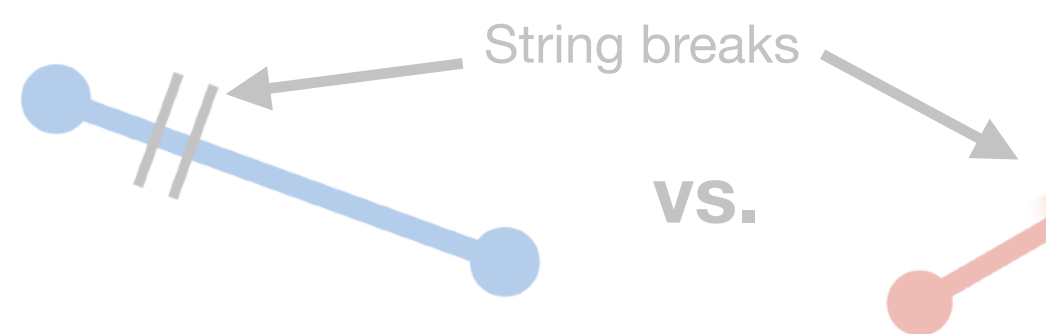
Enhance string tension for

**What about the non-strange baryon-to-meson ratio  $p/\pi$ ?**

## Close-packing

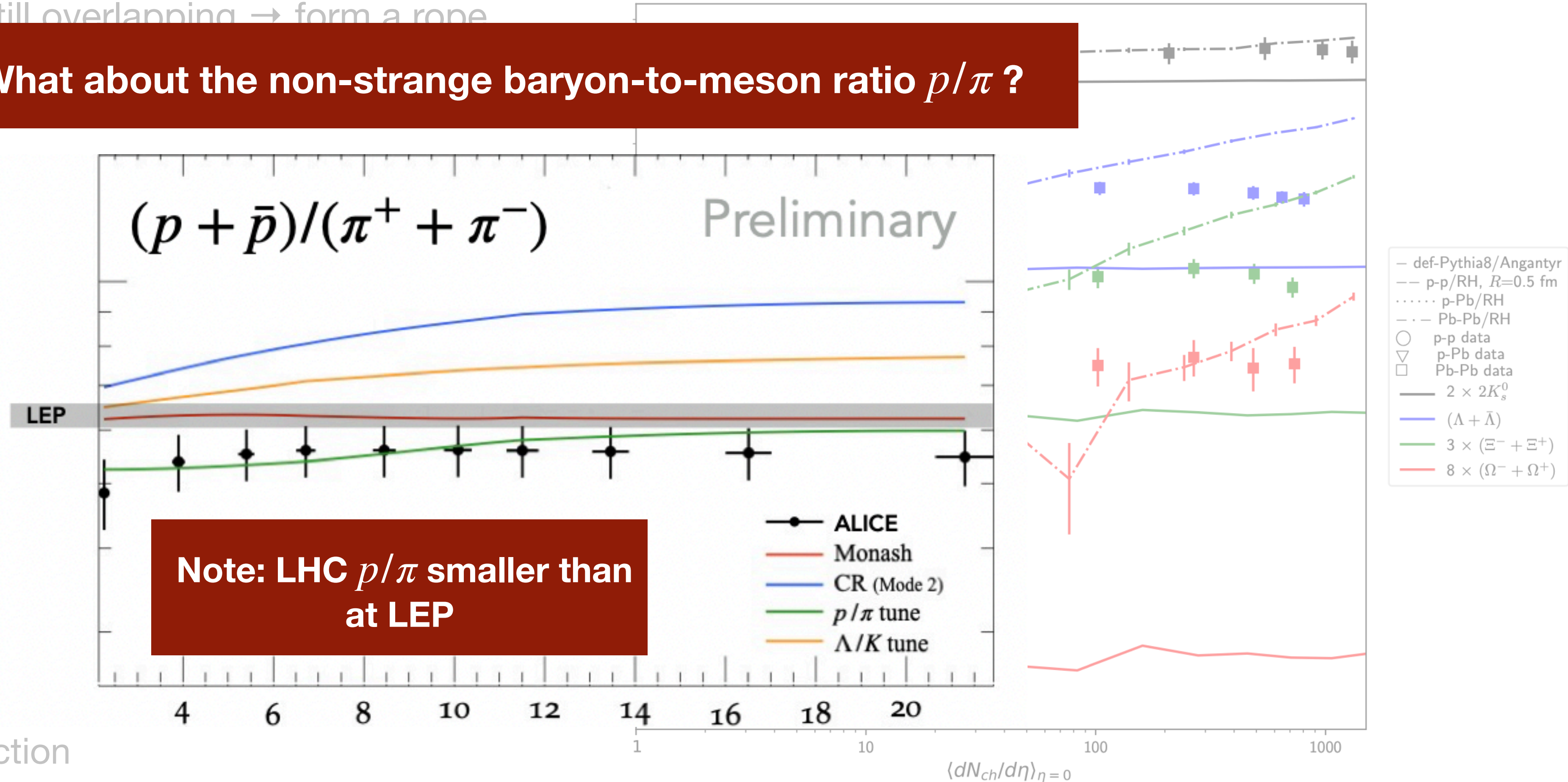
Simpler implementation of rope  
 $\rightarrow$  not in conjunction with shoving

## Strange Junctions



String tension could be different case compared to near a junction

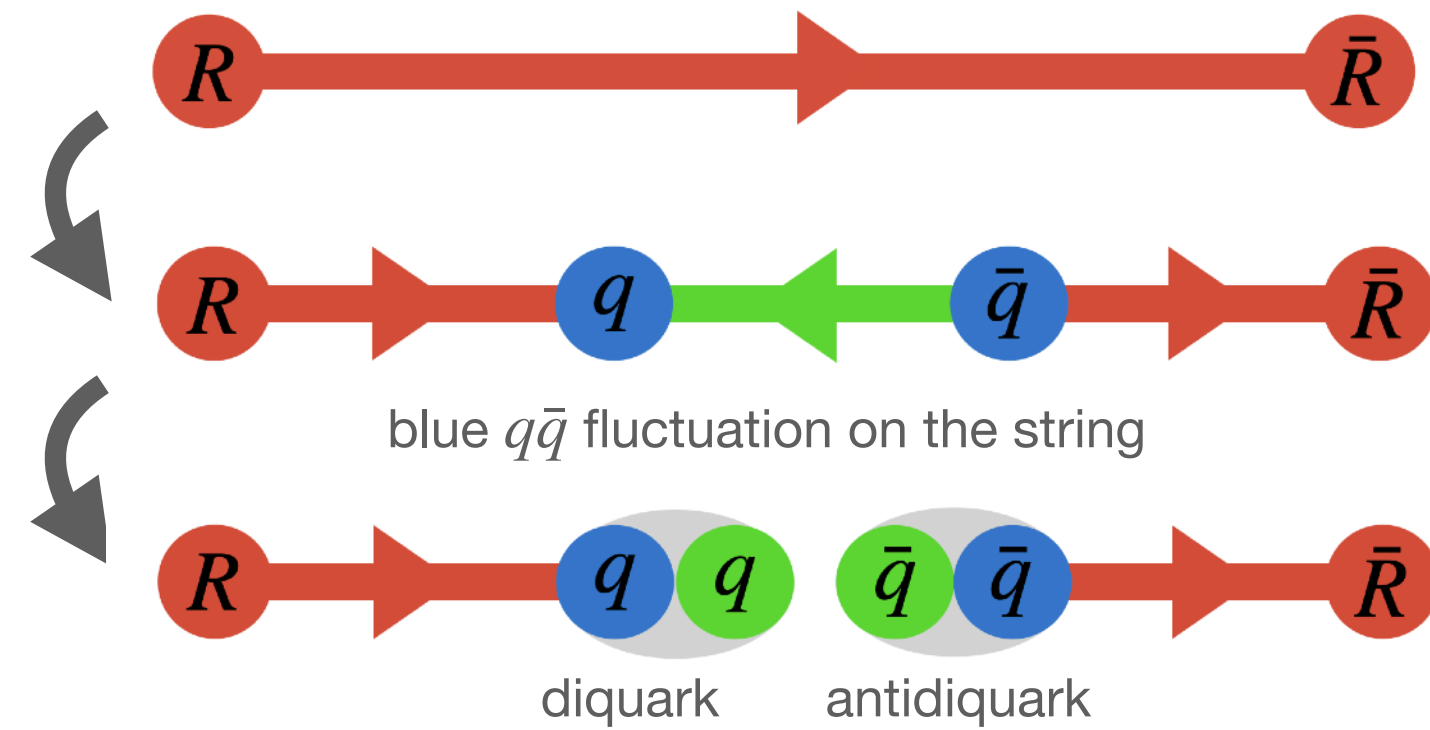
$N/N(\pi^+ \pi^-)$  vs.  $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$  for p-p 7 TeV, p-Pb 5.02 TeV and Pb-Pb 2.76 TeV



# Proton problem

## Popcorn mechanism for diquark production

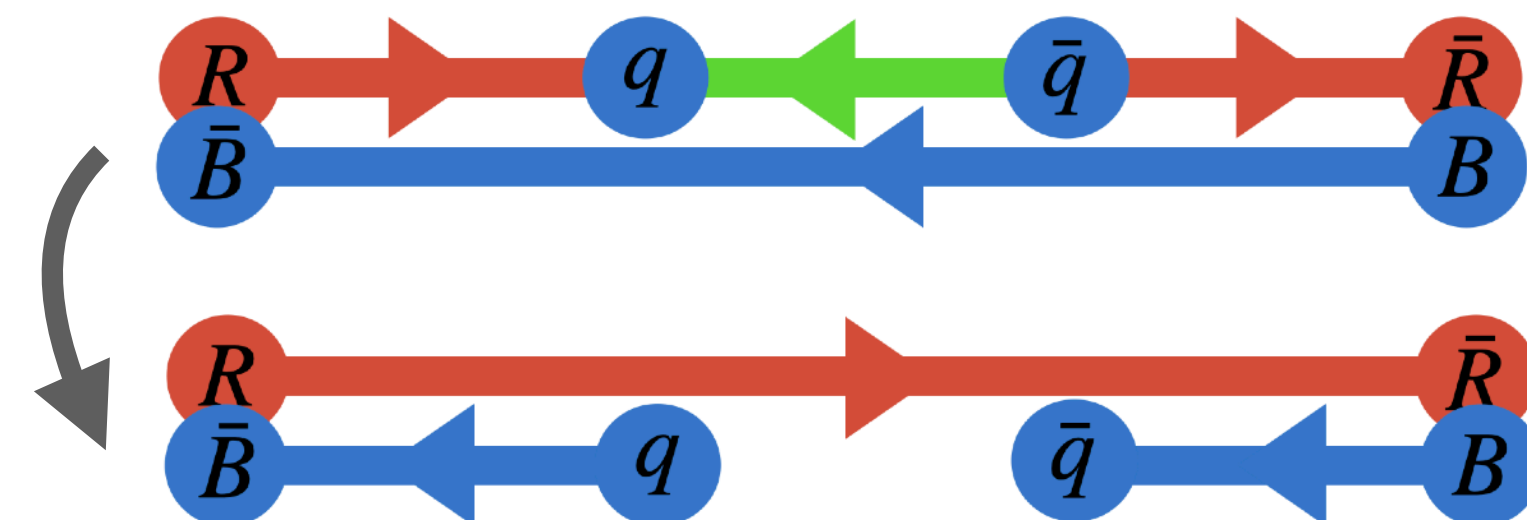
Diquark formation via **successive colour fluctuations** — popcorn mechanism



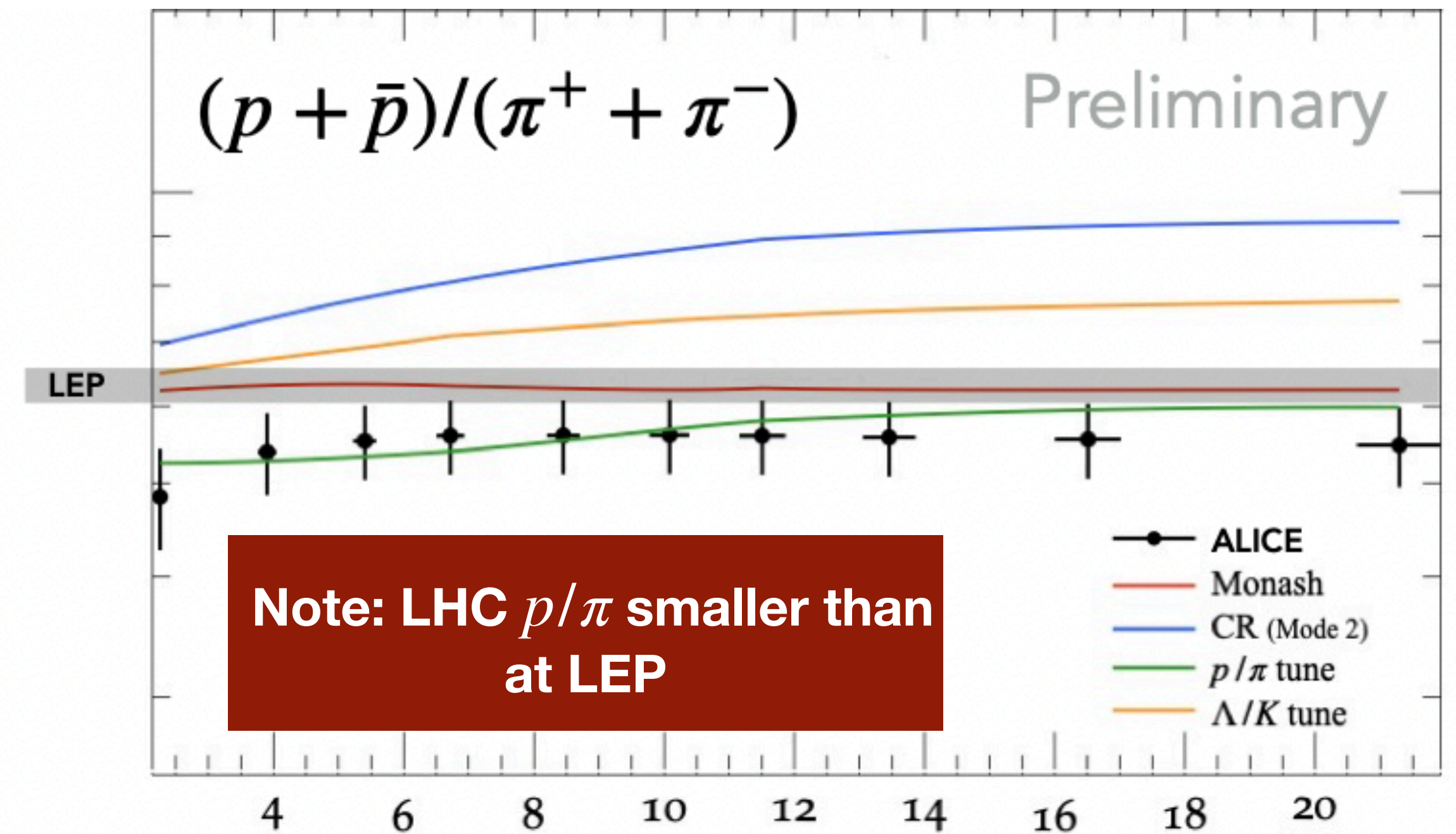
## Popcorn destructive interference

**NEW**

What if there's a blue string nearby?



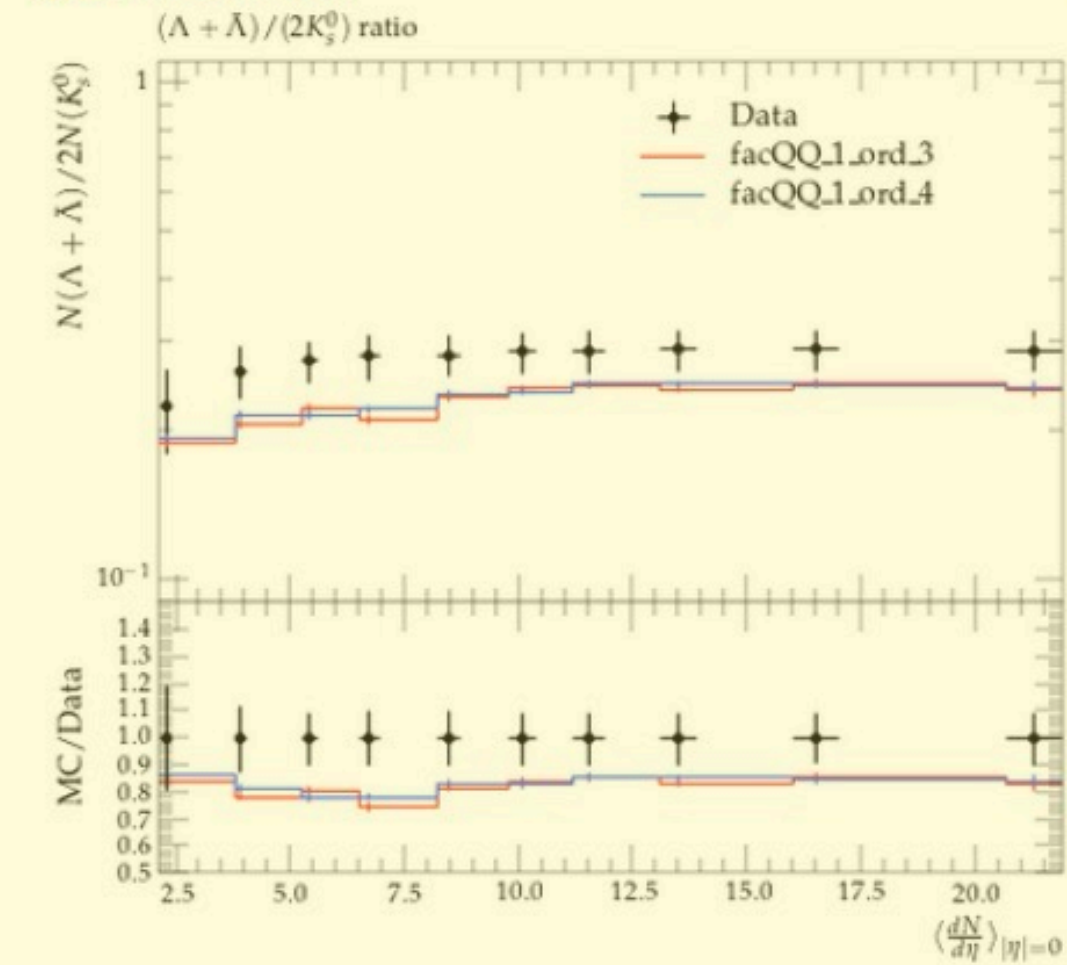
blue  $q\bar{q}$  fluctuation breaks nearby blue string, preventing diquark formation



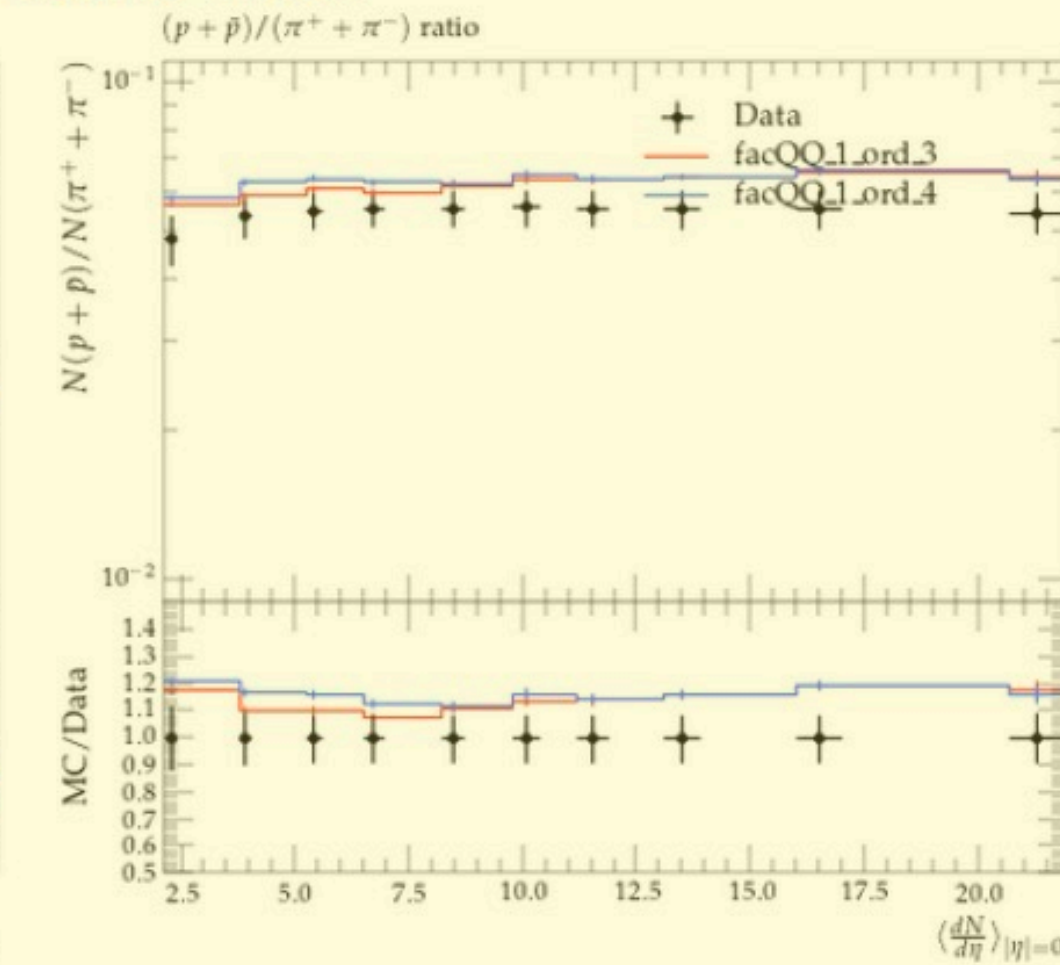


# Results — ongoing

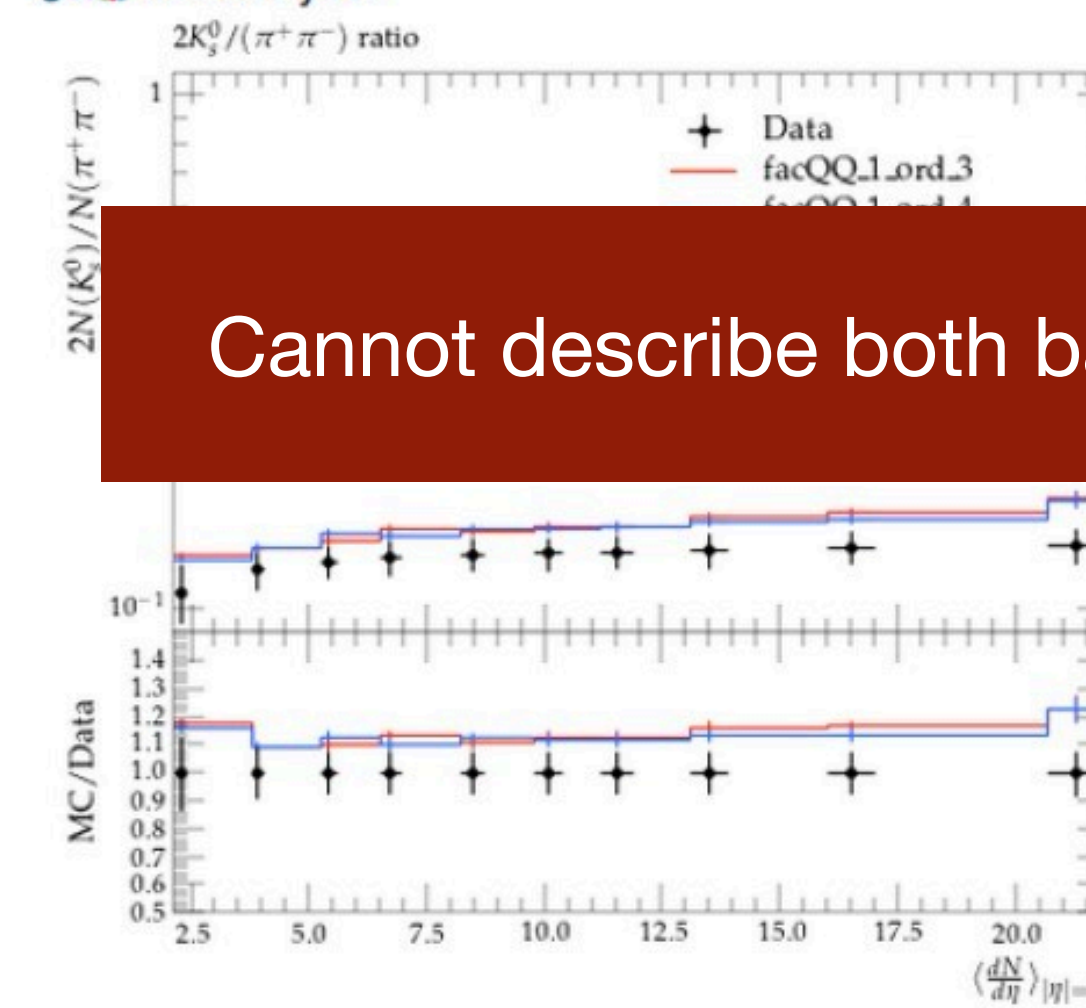
d46-x01-y01:



d47-x01-y01:



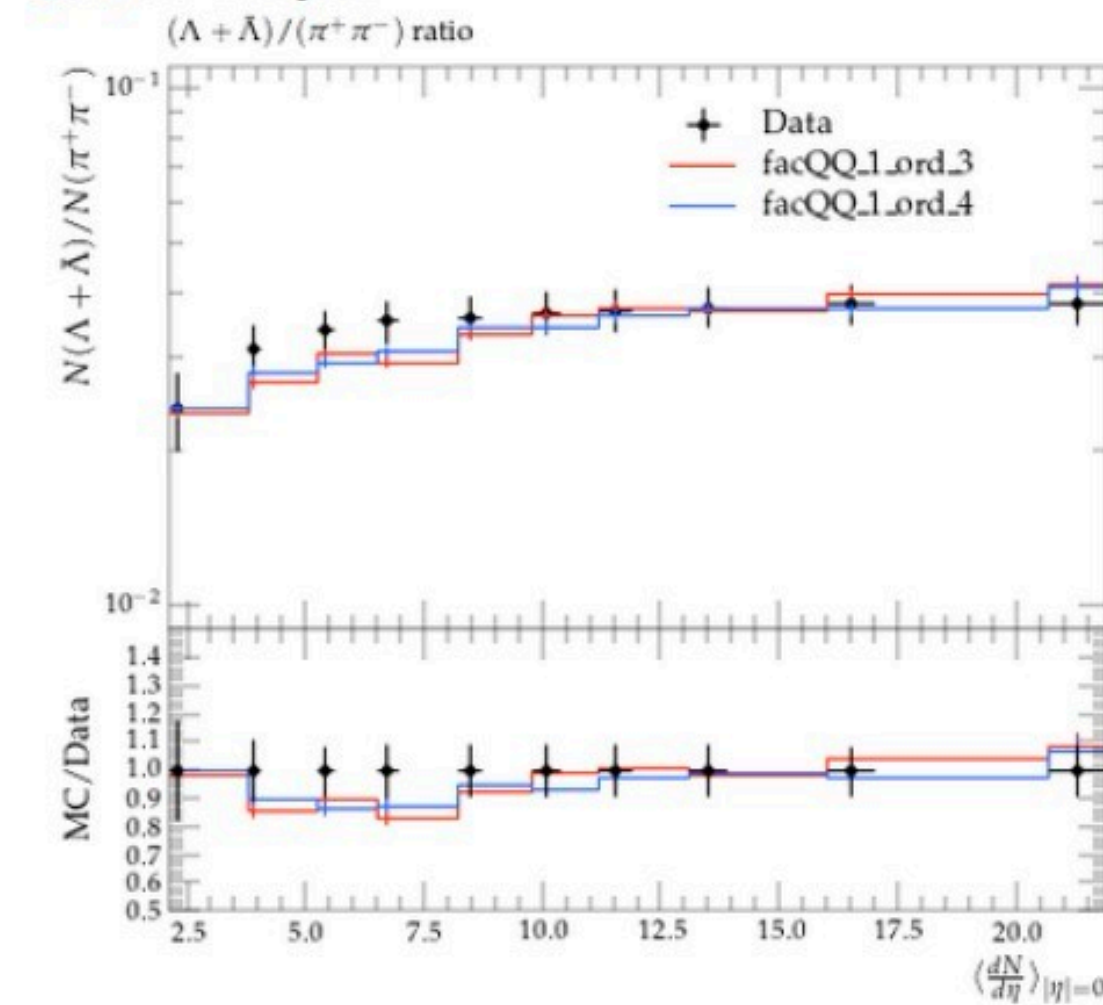
d36-x01-y01:



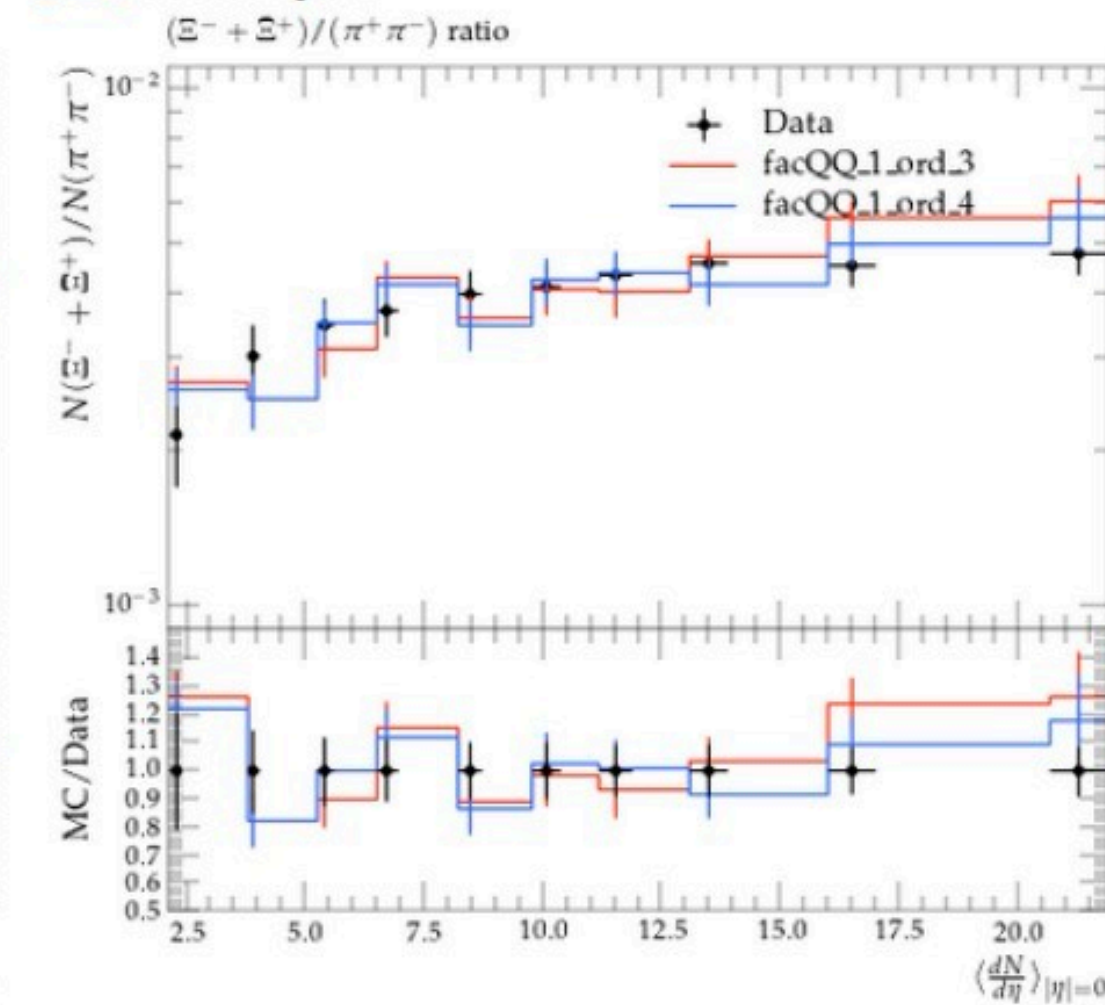
Cannot describe both baryon-to-meson ratios simultaneously

Taken from slide by Lorenzo Bernadinis: masters student currently undertaking tuning project with the model

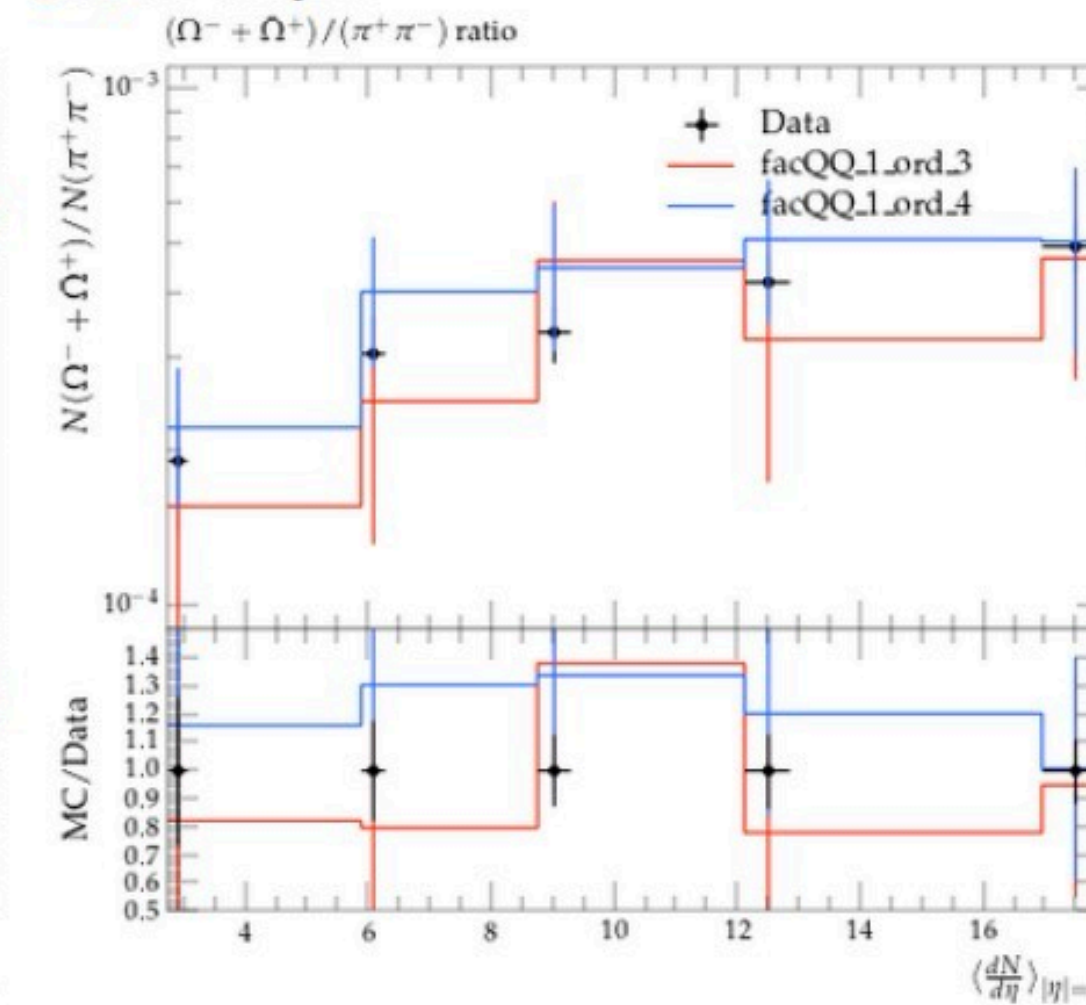
d37-x01-y01:



d38-x01-y01:



d39-x01-y01:





# Summary

Evidence that **collective effects can arise from non-QGP** sources

**CR** restores  $SU(3)$  colour correlations

→ baryons-to-meson ratio enhancement,  $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$  increase with multiplicity, some flow-like

**Angantyr** allows for  $pA$  and  $AA$  using strings instead of QGP

→ multiplicity distributions for  $AA$

**Shoving** string interactions before hadronisation

→ near-sided ridge in  $pp$ , some  $v_2$  with full description hindered by implementation technicality issues

**Ropes**

→ strangeness enhancement

**Unmentioned:** jet quenching, hadron rescattering

**Future studies:** shoving **considering regions formed by soft gluons**, reexamination of results given **updates to CR in Angantyr** (previous modelling only included CR within each nucleon-nucleon collision, now CR is allowed between nucleon-nucleon collisions)

Thank you for listening!

---