

The role of the underlying event in the heavy-flavor baryon enhancement

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Hot QGP or cold QCD?

- **Does QGP come into being in small systems?**

- Is energy density high enough?
- Can hot matter thermalize?

- **Current understanding:**

- **Collective behavior does not require QGP**
- Can be produced by vacuum-QCD effects at the soft-hard boundary

- **Multi-parton interactions (MPI)**

e.g. [Schlichting, arXiv:1601.01177](#)

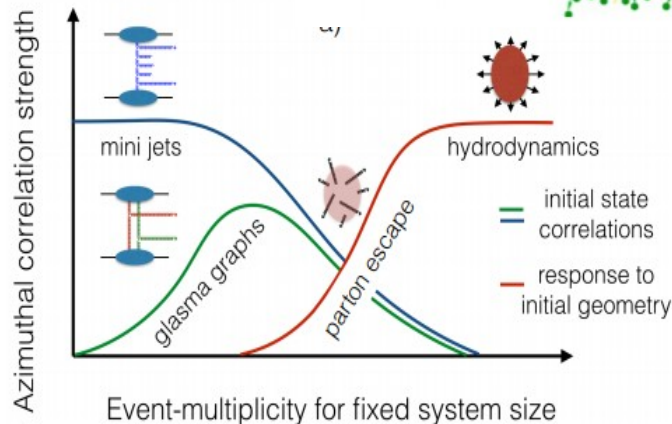
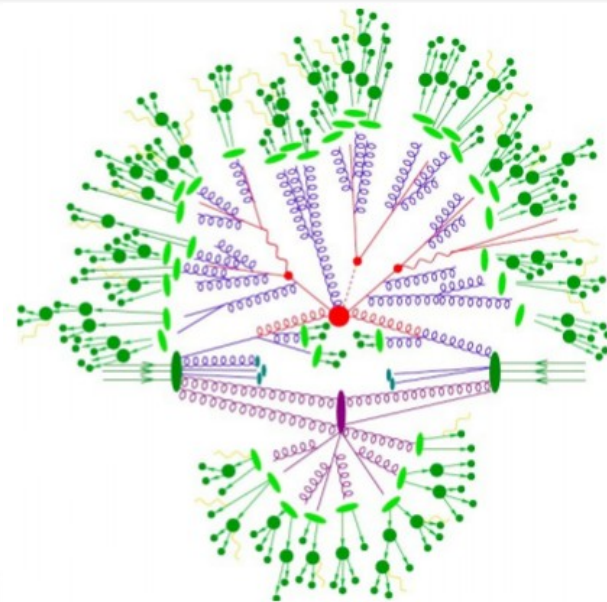
- **Color-reconnection**

(part of some MPI models)

e.g. [Ortiz-Becédi-Bello, J.Phys.G 44 \(2017\)](#)

- **Minijets** (semi-hard partons produced by incoming partons or bremsstrahlung)

e.g. [Eskola, Nucl.Part.Phys. 22, 4, 185 \(1998\)](#)



Heavy flavor: production and fragmentation

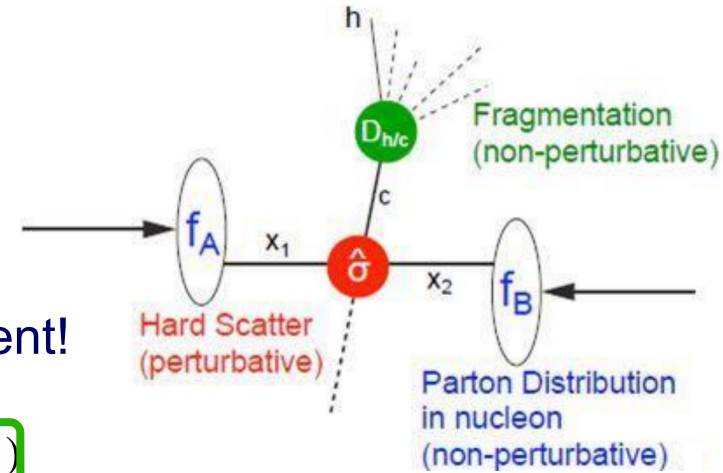
- **Production of heavy-flavor hadrons:**
 - Parton distribution functions (PDF)
 - **Hard scattering process**
 - **Fragmentation**
- Factorization hypothesis: these 3 are independent!

$$\sigma_{hh \rightarrow H} = f_a(x_1, Q^2) \otimes f_b(x_2, Q^2) \otimes \sigma_{ab \rightarrow q\bar{q}} \otimes D_{q \rightarrow H}(z_q, Q^2)$$

Feynman-x:

$$x_i = p_{\parallel}^A / p_{\parallel, \max}^A$$

Q : momentum transfer



Heavy flavor: production and fragmentation

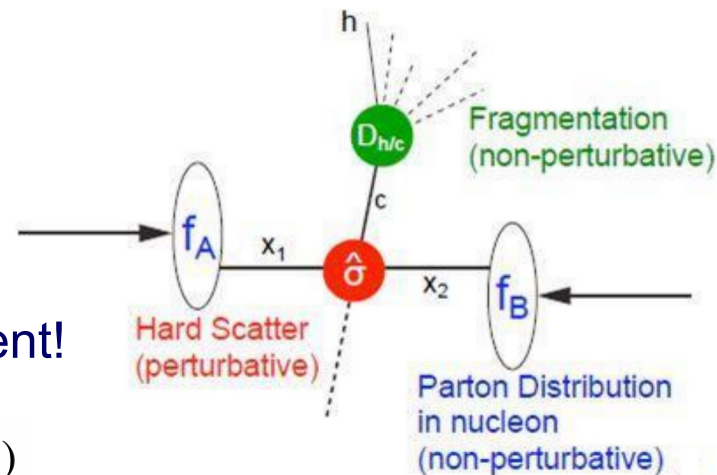
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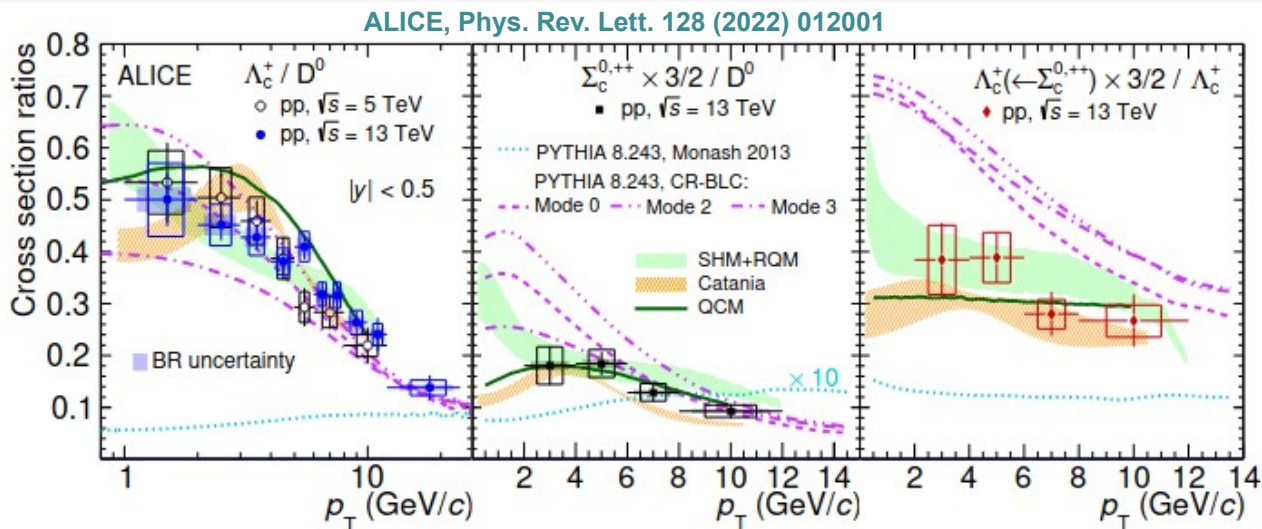
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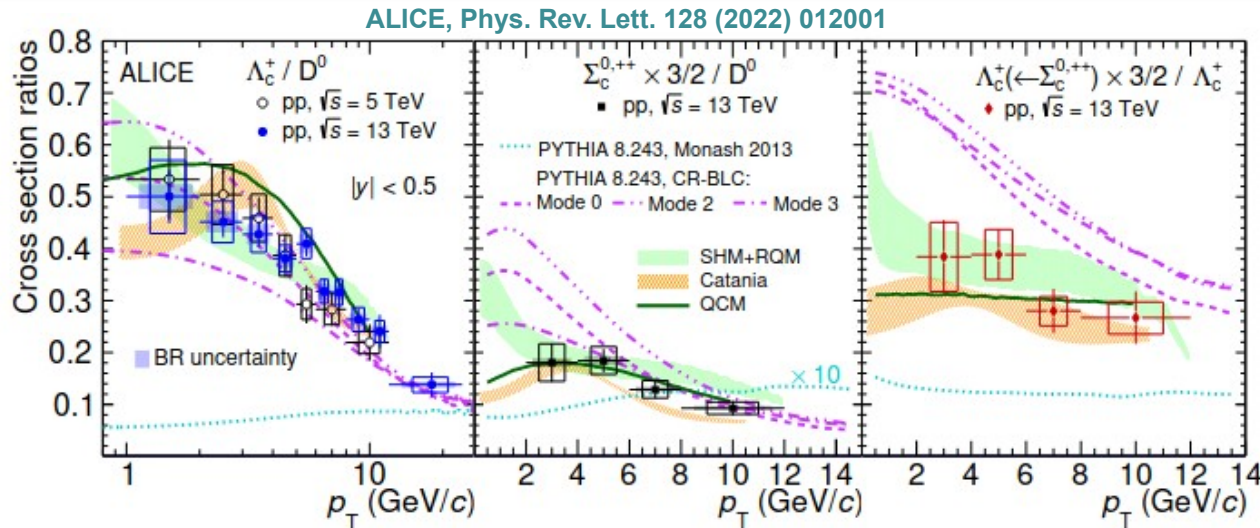
- **Fragmentation functions are traditionally treated as universal (same across all colliding systems)**

Charm baryon enhancement



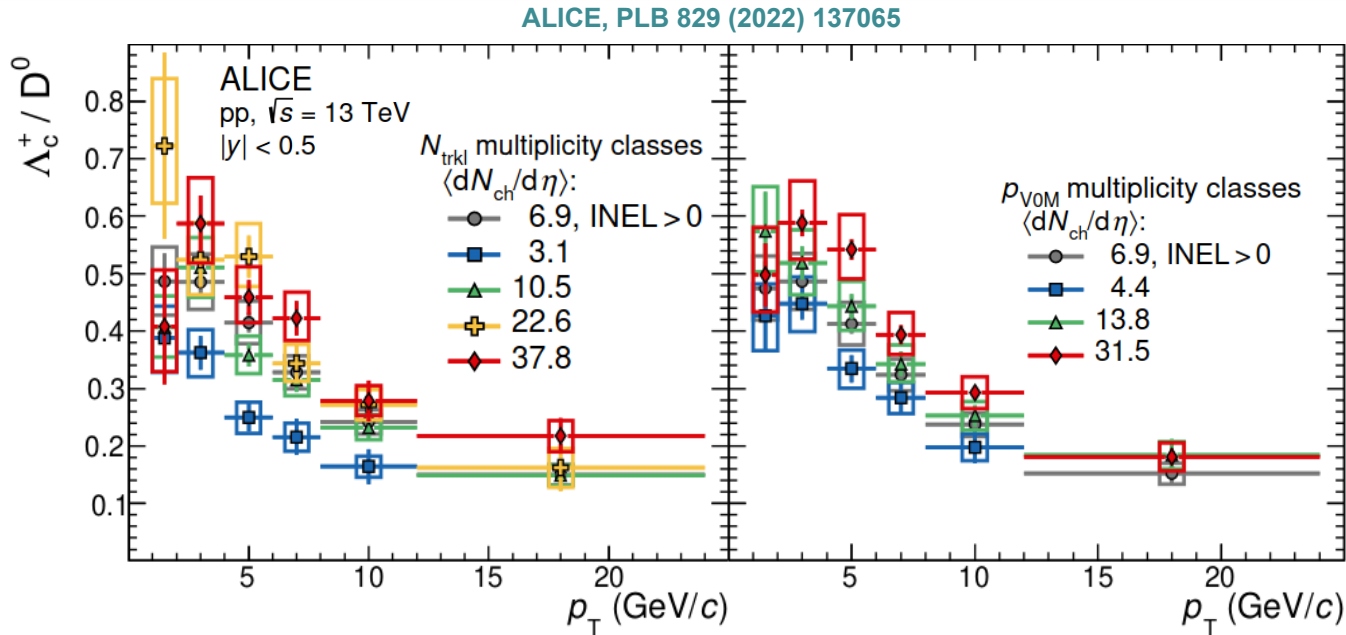
- **Charm baryon to meson ratios: sensitive probes of fragmentation**
- Λ_c/D^0 and Σ_c/D^0 underestimated by models based on factorization approach with fragmentation functions from ee collisions: **HF fragmentation universality broken!**

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- **PYTHIA 8 CR-BLC**: string formation beyond leading color approximation
 Christiansen-Skands, HEP 08 (2015) 003
- **SH model + RQM**: feed-down from augmented set of charm-baryon states
 He-Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 795 (2019) 117
- **Catania**: fragmentation + coalescence of charm and light quarks
 Plumari et al., Eur. Phys. J. C 78 no. 4, (2018) 348
- **QCM**: coalescence model based on statistical weights + equal quark-velocity
 Song-Shao, Eur. Phys. J. C 78 no. 4, (2018) 344

Charm baryon enhancement vs. multiplicity

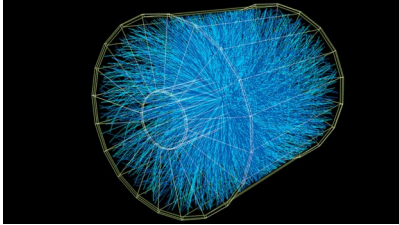


- The enhancement in Λ_c^+ / D^0 depends on the final state multiplicity at mid- and forward rapidity
- **Goal: Understand the origin of the enhancement with detailed event activity studies**
- **Is the enhancement related to the underlying event or jet fragmentation?**
→ Test sensitivity using predictions with **PYTHIA 8** with the **CR-BLC** model

Categorizing events by activity

Charged-hadron multiplicity $N_{\text{ch}} : |\eta| < 1$ $N_{\text{fw}} : 2 < |\eta| < 5$

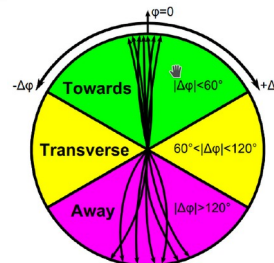
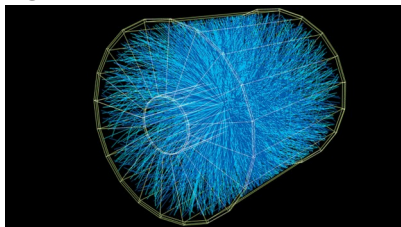
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- Global parameter, does not take leading process into account



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$$R_T = \frac{N_{\text{trans}}}{\langle N_{\text{trans}} \rangle}$$

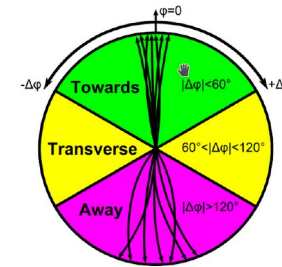
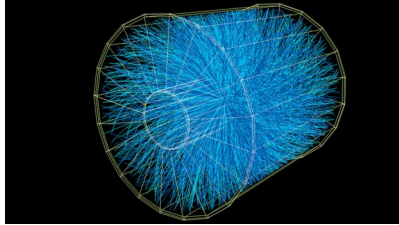
Relative transverse multiplicity

- Represents the underlying-event
- High- p_T trigger hadron \Rightarrow Statistics can be a problem
- Dependence on fragmentation

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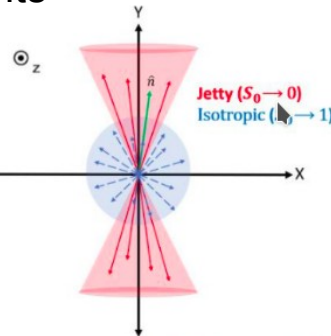
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Transverse spherocity

- Isotropic vs. jetty events
- No need for trigger
- Only mid-rapidity

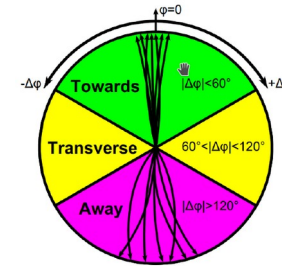
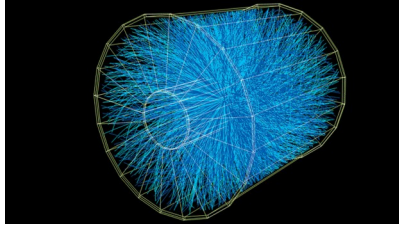
$$S_0 = \frac{\pi^2}{4} \left(\frac{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{T_i} \times \vec{n}|}{\sum_i p_{T_i}} \right)^2$$



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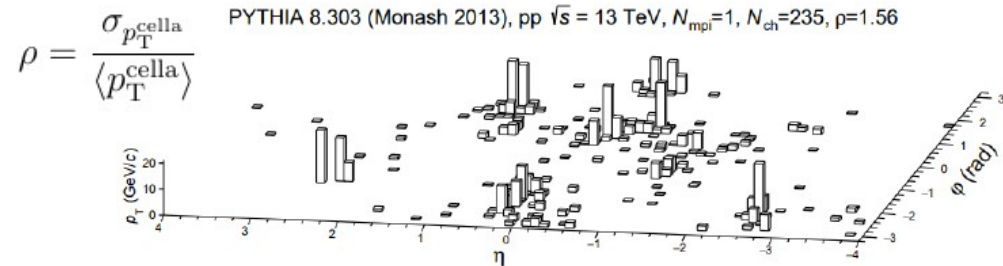
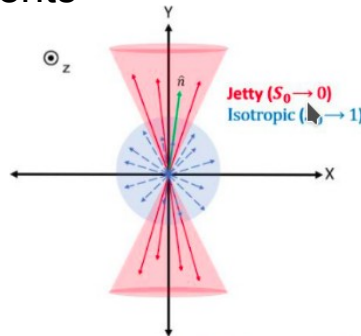
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Flattenicity

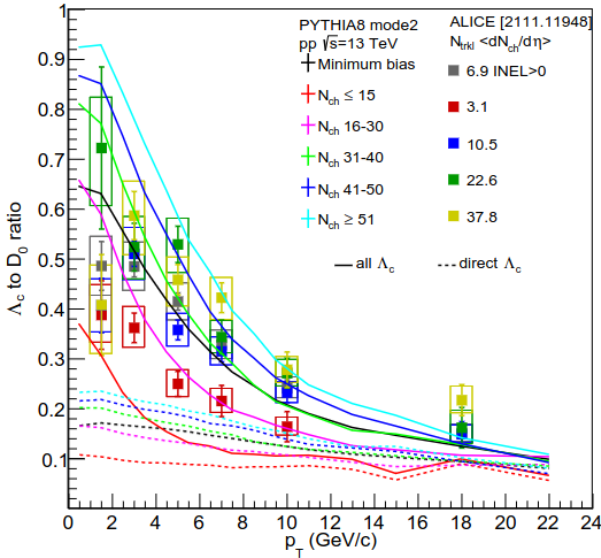
A. Ortiz, G. Paic, arXiv:2204.13733

- Isotropic/hedgehog-like vs. jetty
- No need for trigger
- Full rapidity window (eg. $|\eta| < 4$)

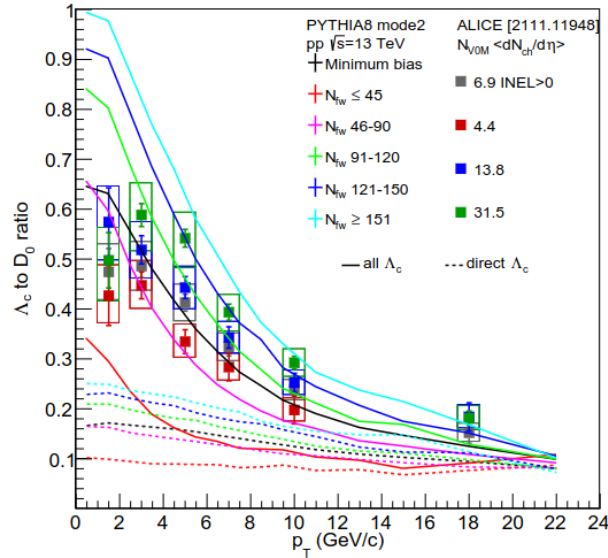
Λ_c/D^0 ratios vs. central and forward multiplicity

J. Phys. G 49 (2022) 7, 075005
 J. Phys. G 50 (2023) 7, 075002

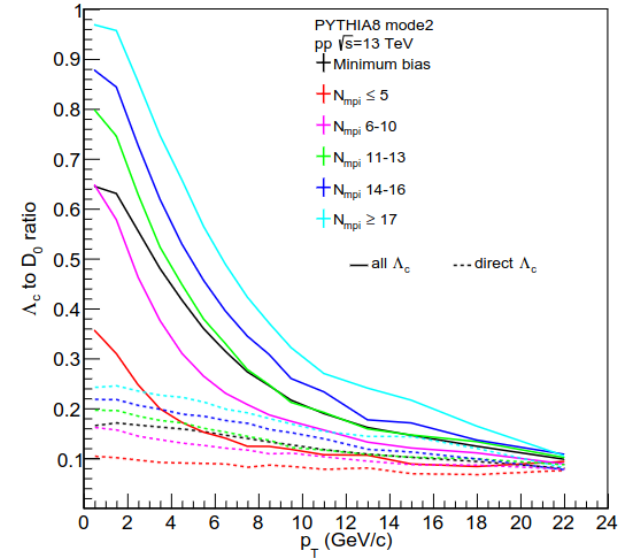
central rapidity N_{ch}



forward rapidity N_{fw}



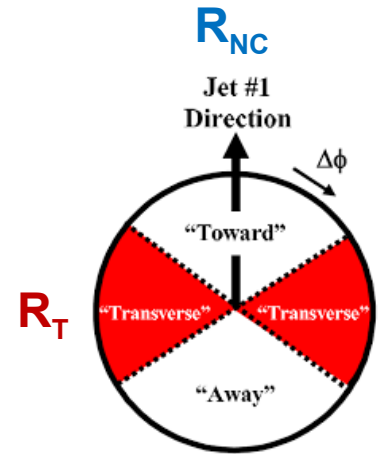
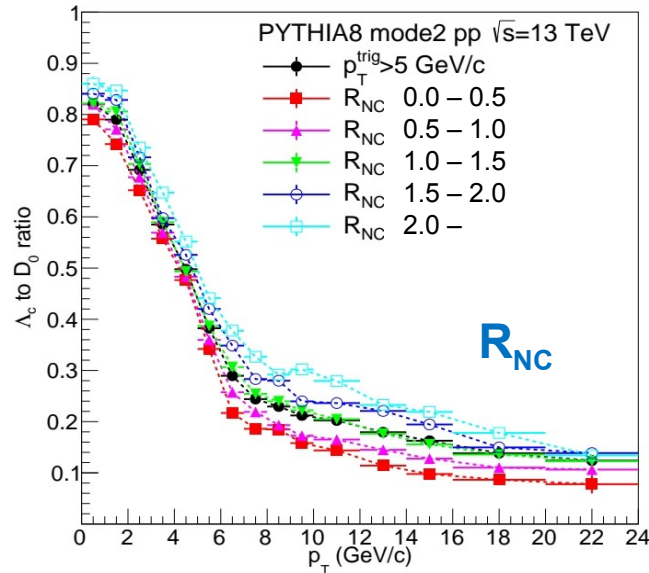
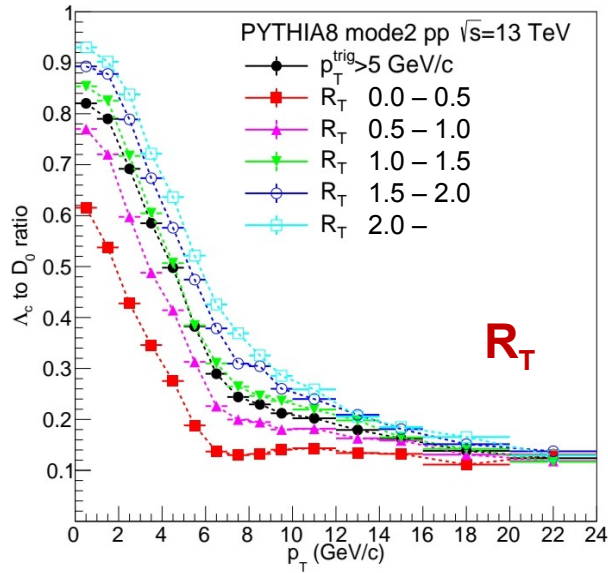
N_{MPI}



- **Simulation results predicted trends observed in ALICE experimental data**
- For N_{fw} : a rapidity gap reduces correlation between leading hard processes and multiplicity
 => Hint that multiplicity dependence is not driven by charm production in jets

Λ_c/D^0 ratios vs. UE and jet activity (triggered)

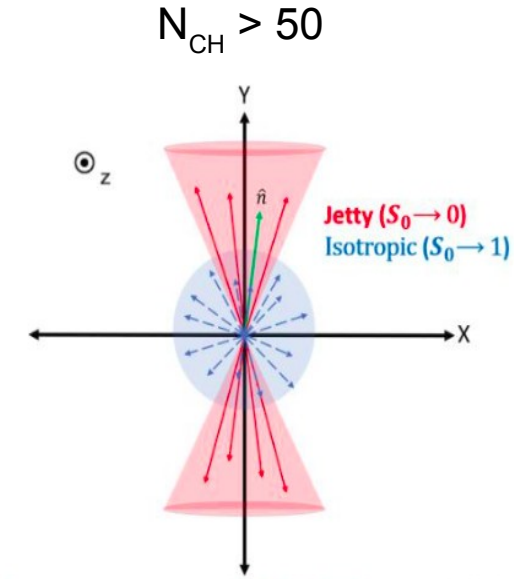
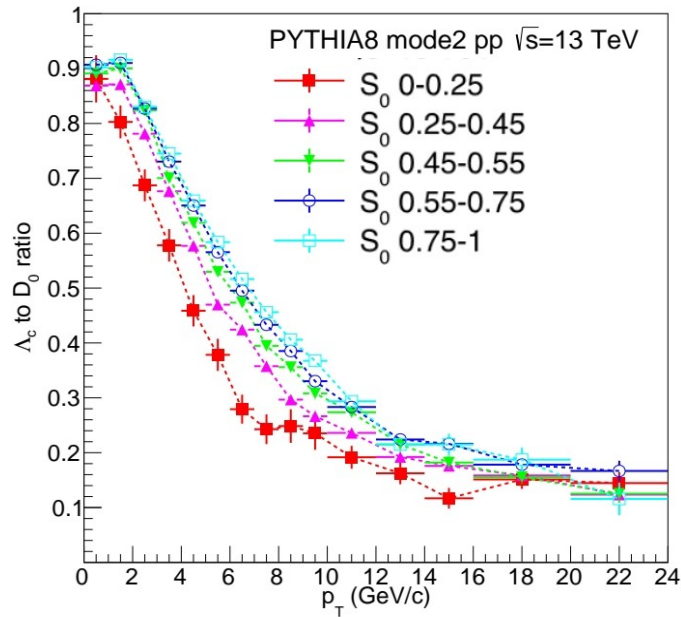
J. Phys. G 49 (2022) 075005



- Events require $p_T > 5$ GeV/c **hadron trigger**
- Significant difference is observable in case of R_T (**UE activity**)
- No significant difference when classified by R_{NC} classes (**jet activity**)

Λ_c/D^0 ratios vs. spherocity (minimum bias)

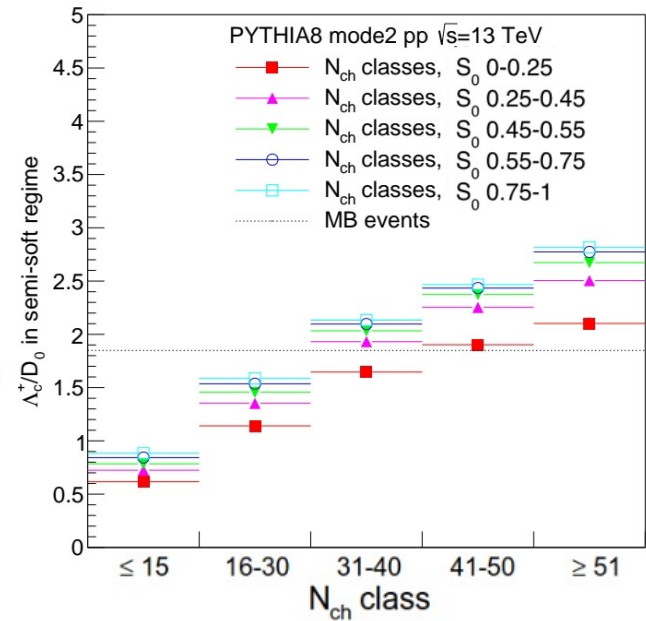
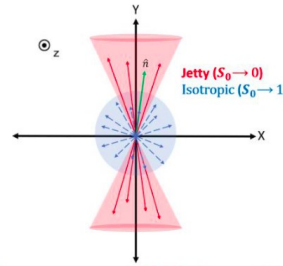
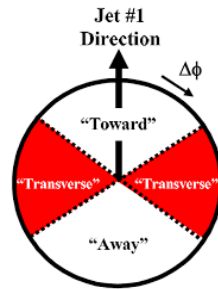
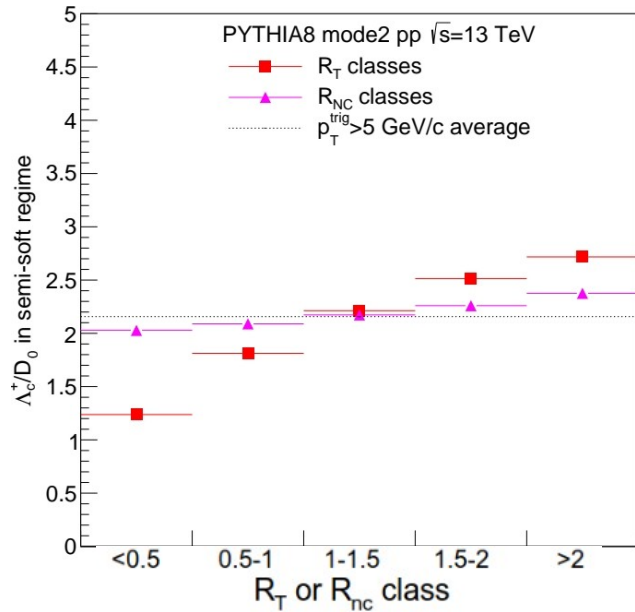
J. Phys. G 49 (2022) 075005



- Spherocity provides a measure for the **jettiness/isotropy** of events
- **Significant difference** is observed **for different spherocity classes** at fixed event-multiplicity.

Λ_c^*/D^0 ratios - summary

J. Phys. G 49 (2022) 075005



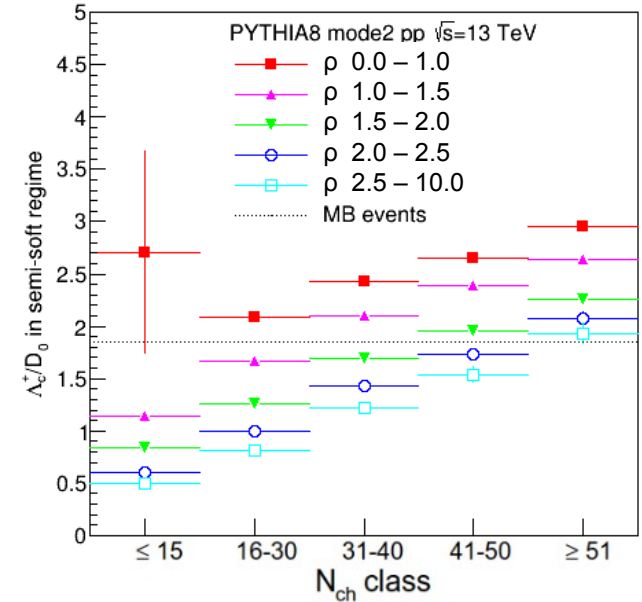
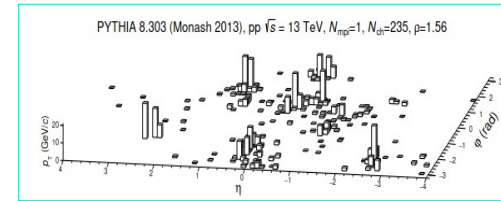
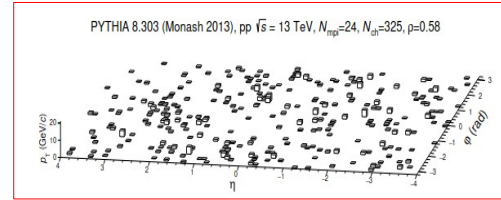
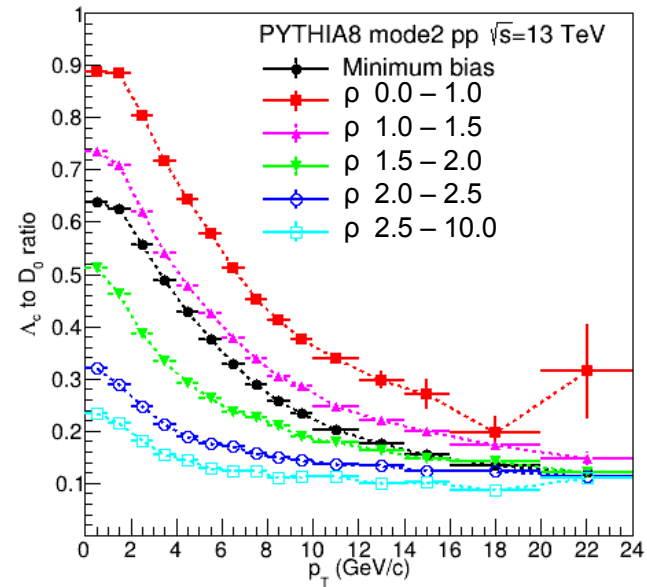
$R_T, R_{NC}; p_T^{\text{trigger}} > 5$ GeV/c

- Hard process required
- **Strong dependence** of ratios on the **UE activity**
- **No pronounced dependence** on the **jet multiplicity**.
- Trigger biases sample and decreases statistics

S_0 : Jettiness in minimum-bias events

- No need to use a trigger
- At high final-state multiplicity: **ratio depends on jettiness**
- Low final-state multiplicity: dependence is minute

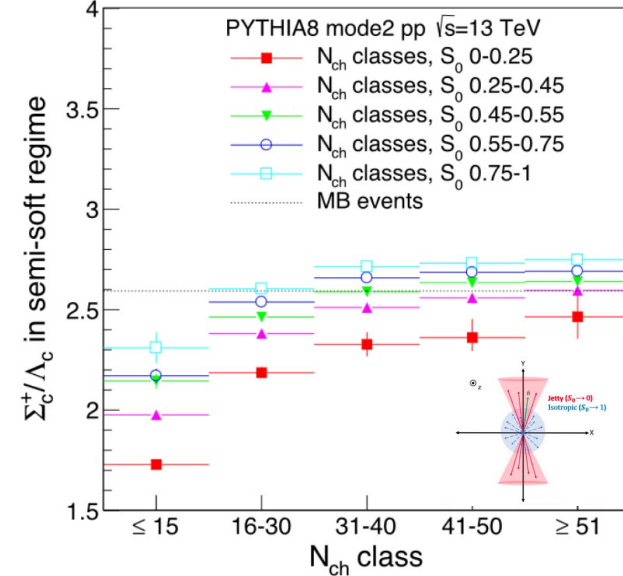
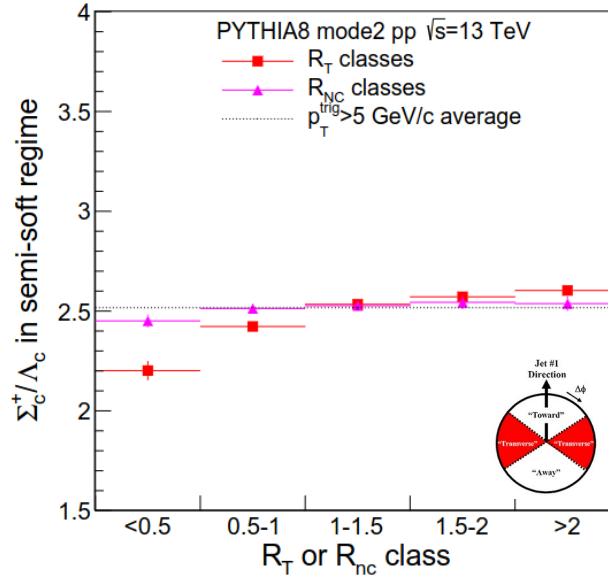
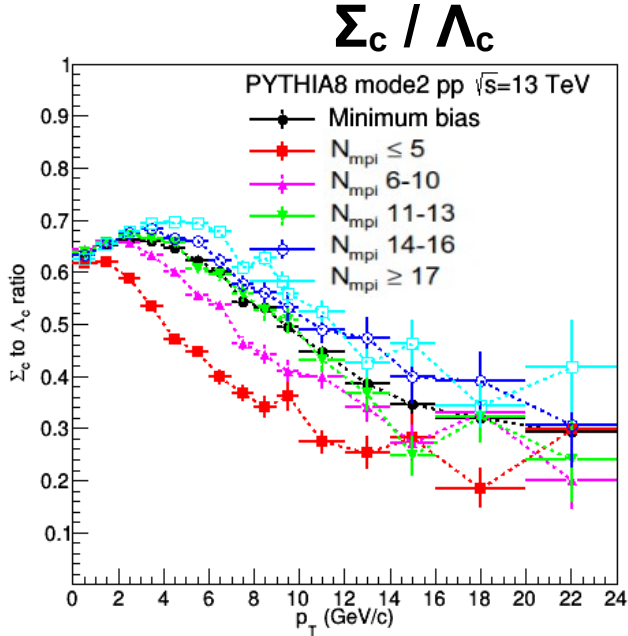
Λ_c/D^0 yield for different flattenicity classes



- **Flattenicity strongly bound to the underlying event (correlates with N_{MPI})**
- The Λ_c/D^0 ratio decreases with increasing flattenicity
- **Might be a better quantity to address charmed-baryon enhancement**

Σ_c vs. Λ_c : Isospin of charmed baryons

J. Phys. G 50 (2023) 7, 075002



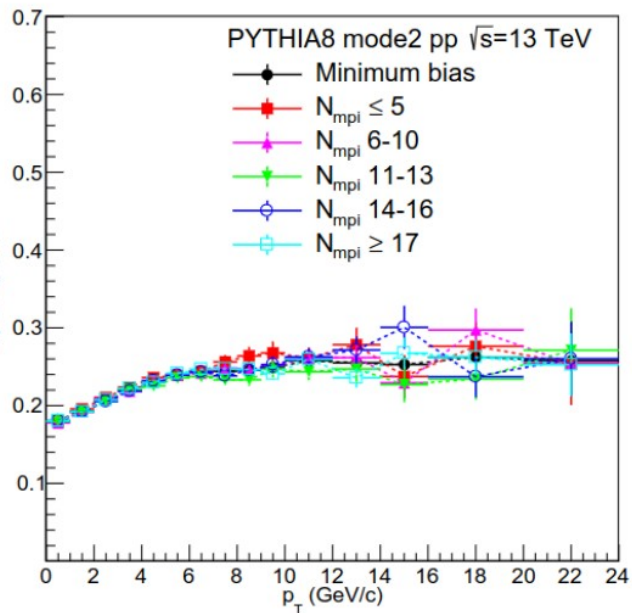
Σ_c (qqc, $I=0$) vs. Λ_c (qqc, $I=1$)

- Different trends in Λ_c and Σ_c
- Trends depend on MPI in the model class
- **Charmed baryon ratios: sensitive event-shape dependent observables**

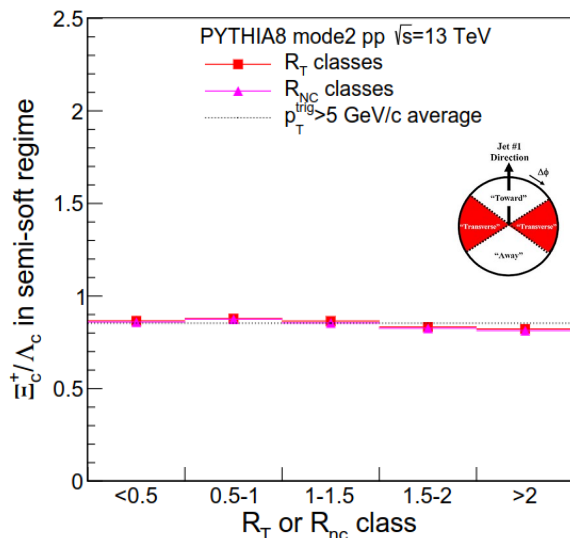
Ξ_c and Ω_c : Strangeness in charmed baryons

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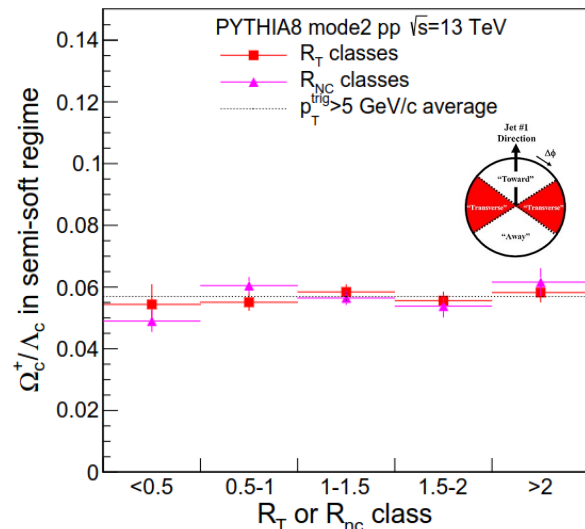
$\Xi_c(qsc) / \Lambda_c(qqc)$



$\Xi_c^+(qsc) / \Lambda_c(qqc)$



$\Omega_c^0(ssc) / \Lambda_c(qqc)$



- low p_T enhancement by charm \Leftrightarrow high p_T enhancement more by strangeness
- Strangeness content: no further sensitivity to the event-property descriptors
- Charm baryon enhancement driven by a different mechanism than strange baryon enhancement

Summary

- Enhancement of Λ_c/D^0 in pp collisions compared to e^+e^- collisions questions the universality of charm fragmentation
- We propose event-activity classifiers which provide great sensitivity to the production mechanisms
→ directly accessible experimental observables in LHC Run 3
- In a model class with color reconnection beyond leading approximation, **the Λ_c enhancement comes from the underlying event, not from the jets.**
 - This is seen with R_T vs. R_{NC} (triggered events) as well as S_0 (minimum bias)
 - Flattenicity, a new quantity to represent MPI, may be even more distinctive
- The observables are sensitive to differences between mechanisms of strangeness and charm enhancement as well as baryon isospin



Thank you!

Flattenicity

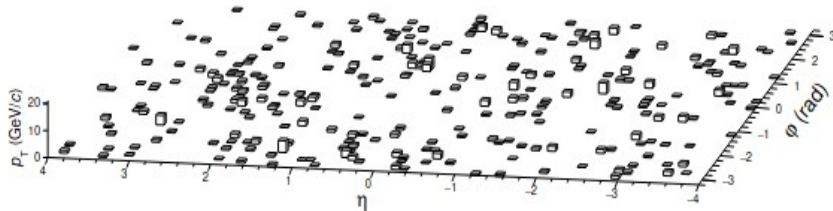
A. Ortiz, G. Paic, arXiv:2204.13733

- Motivated by looking into very rare “hedgehog” events in pp collisions (reported first by UA1 and CDF collaborations).
- **Flatenicity** (ρ): the relative standard deviation of the p_T^{cell} distribution (event-by-event):

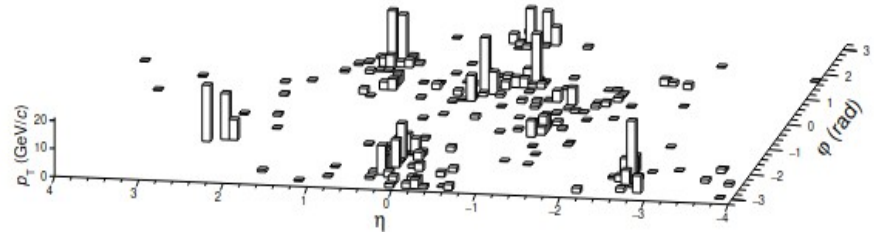
$$\rho = \sigma_{p_T^{\text{cell}}} / \langle p_T^{\text{cell}} \rangle .$$

- The whole phase space is divided into 80 elementary cells (10 η bins, 8 ϕ bins).
- Charged particles within $|\eta| < 4$ and $p_T > 0.15$ GeV/c (ALICE 3 acceptance).

PYTHIA 8.303 (Monash 2013), pp $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, $N_{\text{mpi}}=24$, $N_{\text{ch}}=325$, $\rho=0.58$



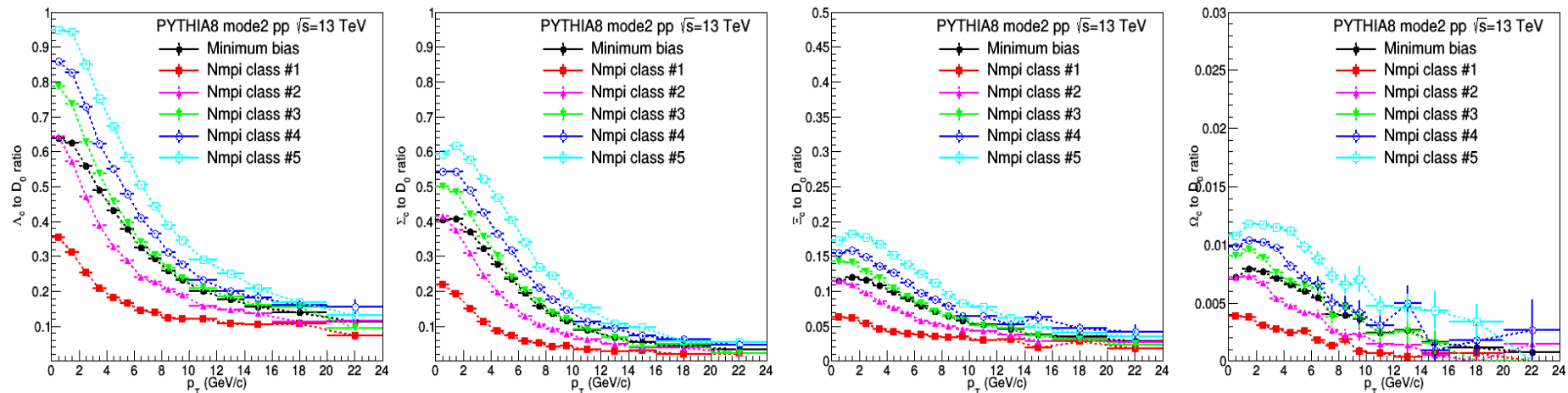
PYTHIA 8.303 (Monash 2013), pp $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, $N_{\text{mpi}}=1$, $N_{\text{ch}}=235$, $\rho=1.56$



Event descriptor classes

class	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
N_{ch}	≤ 15	16–30	31–40	41–50	≥ 51
N_{fw}	≤ 45	46–90	91–120	121–150	≥ 151
R_{T}	< 0.5	0.5–1	1–1.5	1.5–2	> 2
R_{NC}	< 0.5	0.5–1	1–1.5	1.5–2	> 2
S_0	0–0.25	0.25–0.45	0.45–0.55	0.55–0.75	0.75–1
$ \rho$	0–1	1–1.5	1.5–2	2–2.5	> 2.5

Charmed baryon-to-meson ratios vs. N_{MPI}



$\Lambda_c(qqc)$, $I = 0$

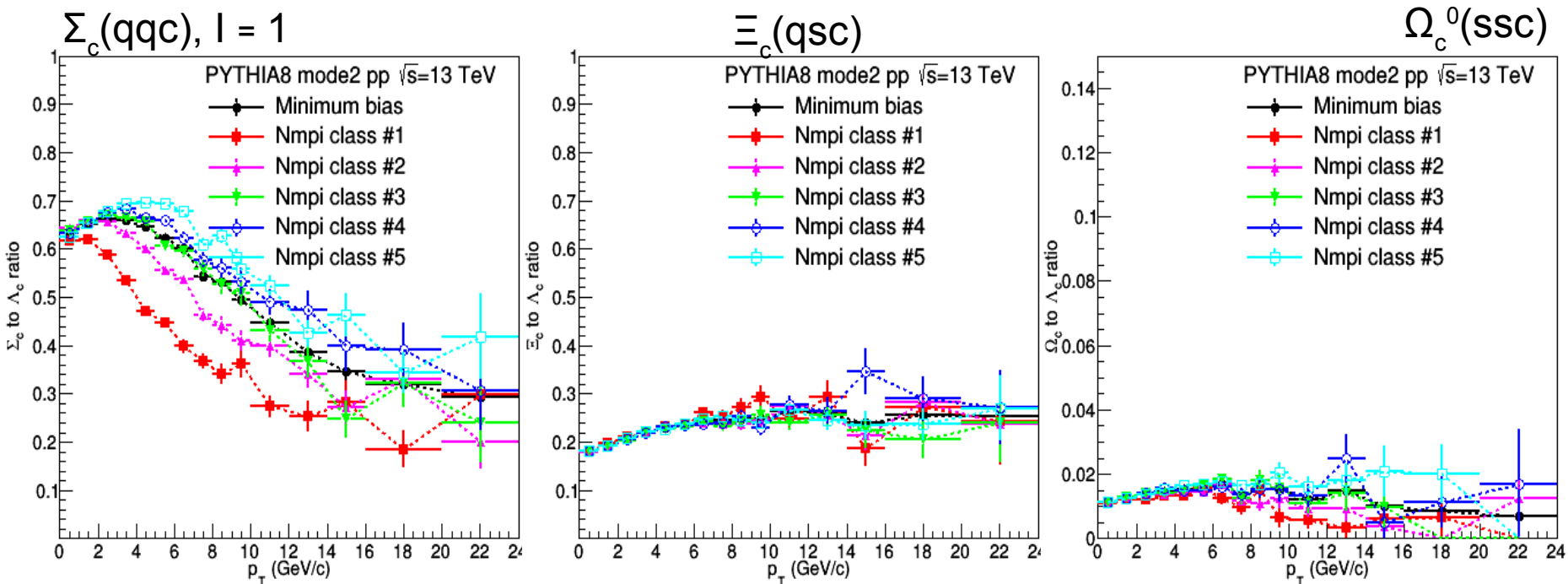
$\Sigma_c(qqc)$, $I = 1$

$\Xi_c(qsc)$

$\Omega_c^0(ssc)$

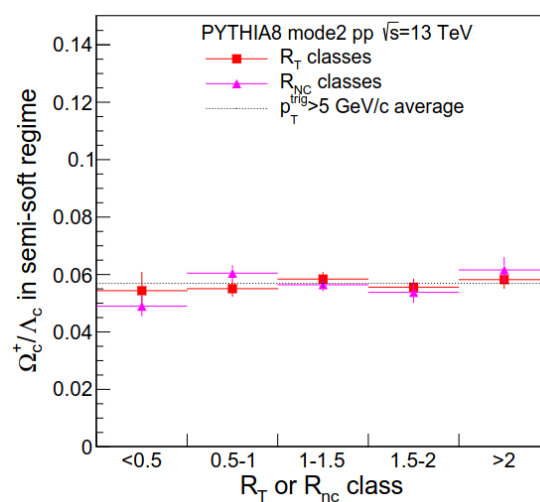
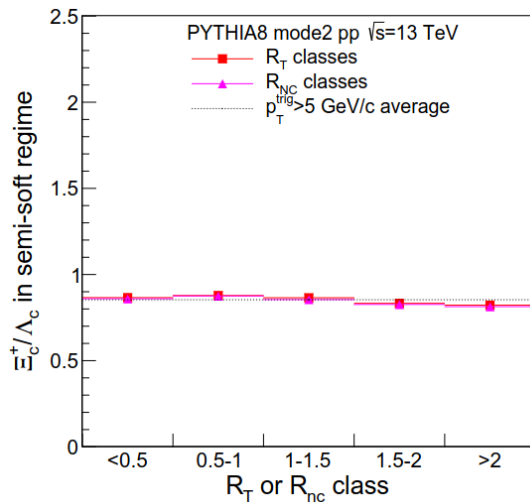
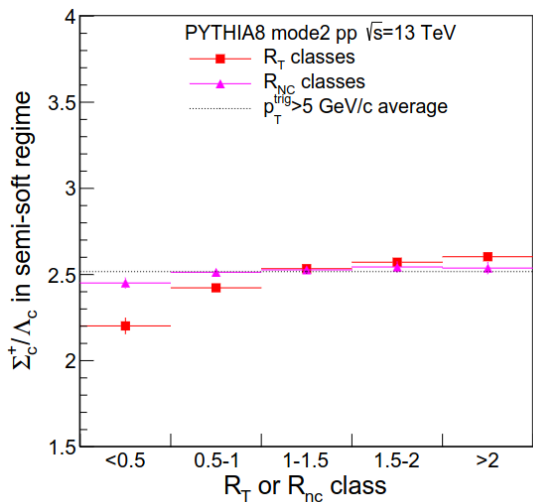
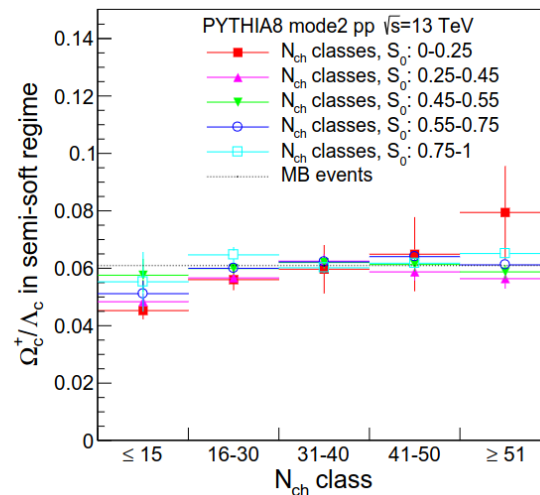
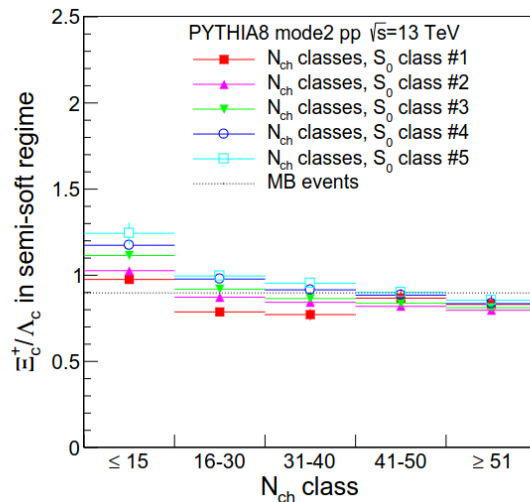
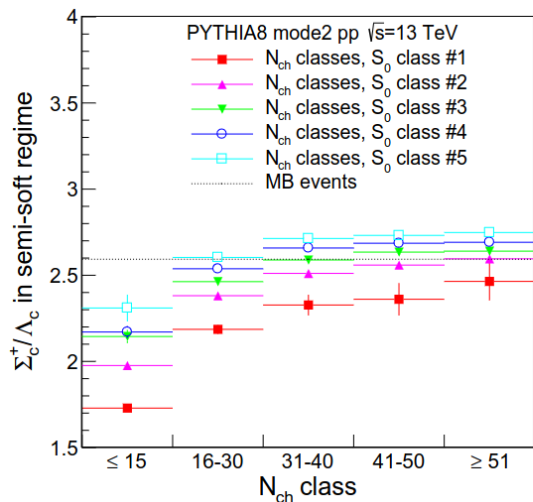
- Similar trend for all baryon/meson ratios.
- For the Λ_c there is a significant feed-down from Ξ_c .

Charmed baryon-to-baryon ratios vs. N_{MPI}



- There is a **low p_T enhancement** connected to the **charm content**
- There is a **high p_T enhancement** connected to the **strange content**
- **Strange enhancement is different from charm enhancement**

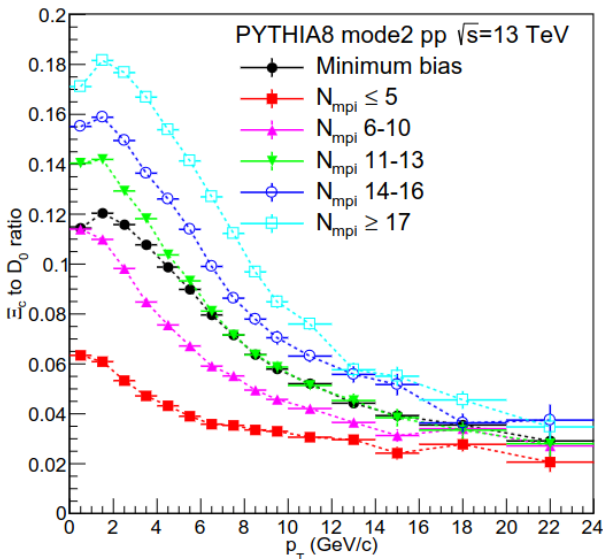
Charmed baryon-to-baryon (summary plots)



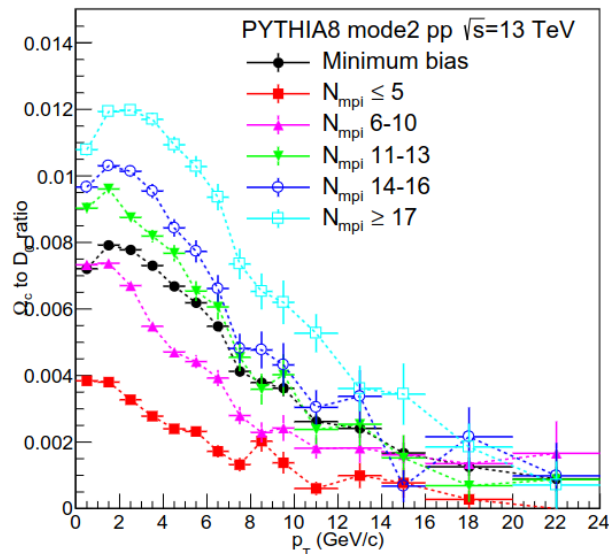
Ξ_c and Ω_c : Strangeness in charmed baryons

J. Phys. G 50 (2023) 7, 075002

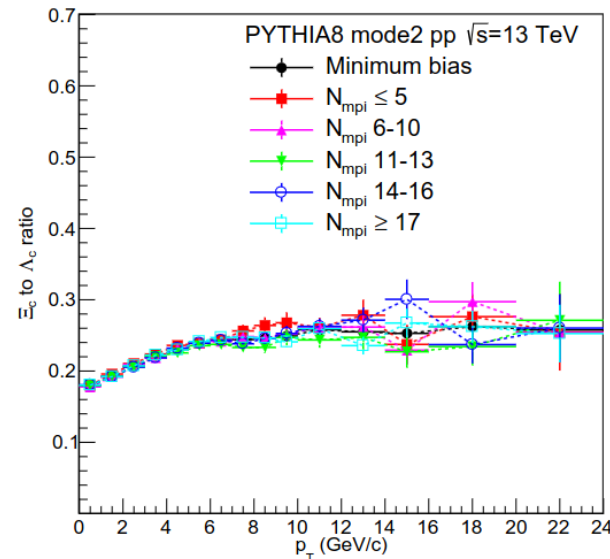
$\Xi_c(qsc) / D^0$



$\Omega_c^0(ssc) / D^0$



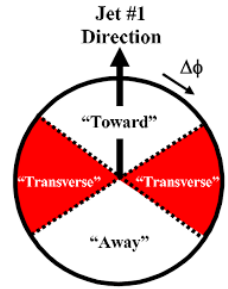
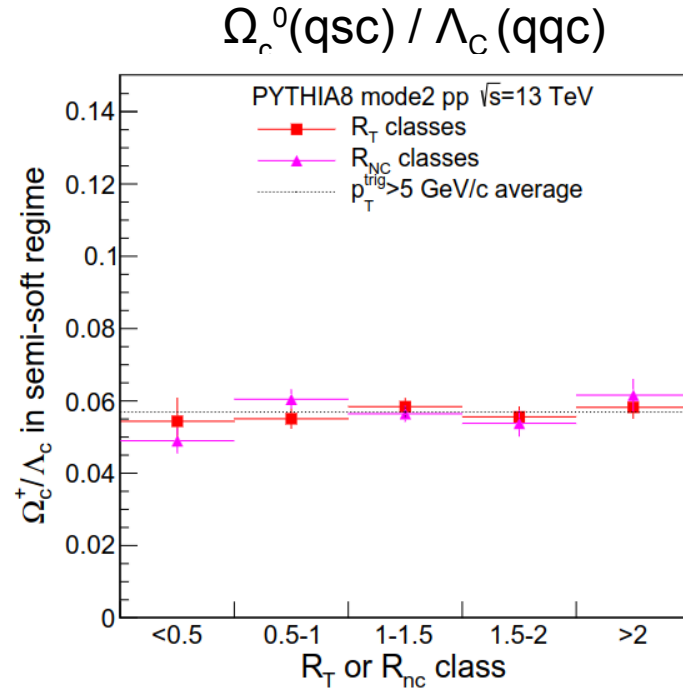
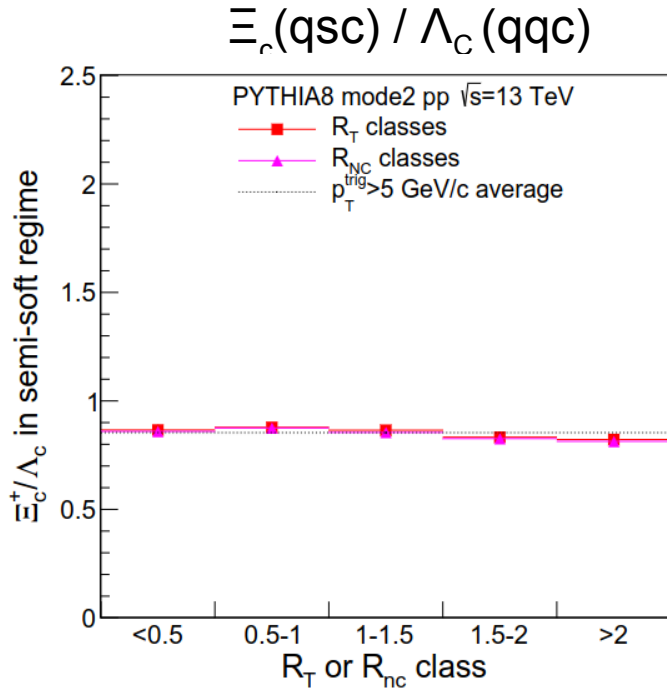
$\Xi_c(qsc) / \Lambda_c(qqc)$



- There is a **low p_T enhancement** connected to the **charm content**
- There is a **high p_T enhancement** connected to the **strange content** (above that of the charm enhancement)

Ξ_c and Ω_c : Strangeness in charmed baryons

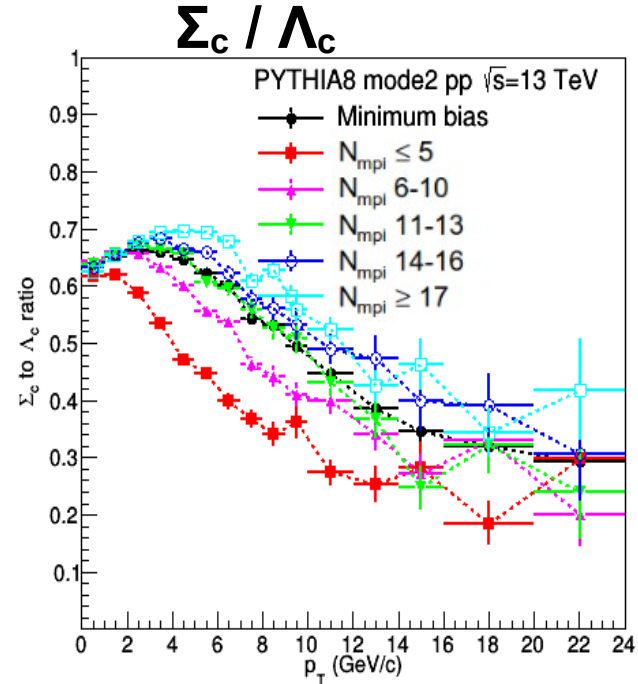
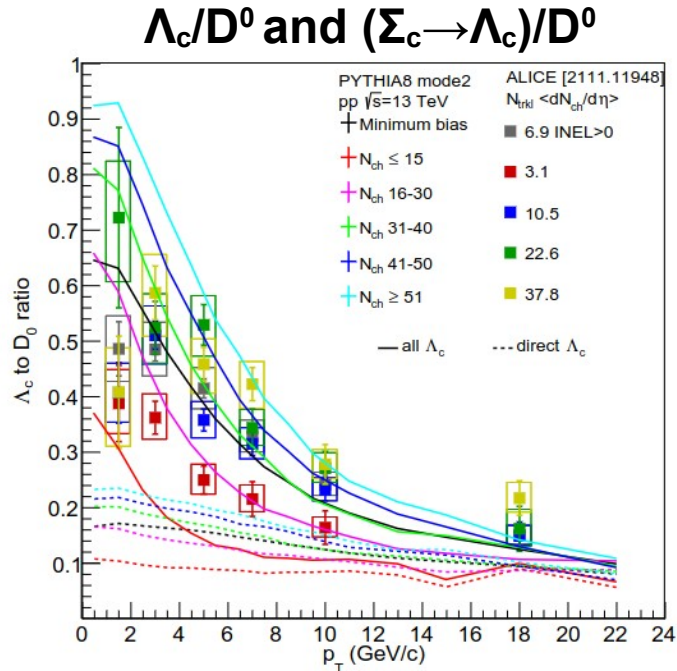
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- Strangeness content does not induce further sensitivity to the event-property descriptors
- **Charm baryon enhancement is driven by a different mechanism than strange baryon enhancement**

Σ_c vs. Λ_c : Isospin of charmed baryons

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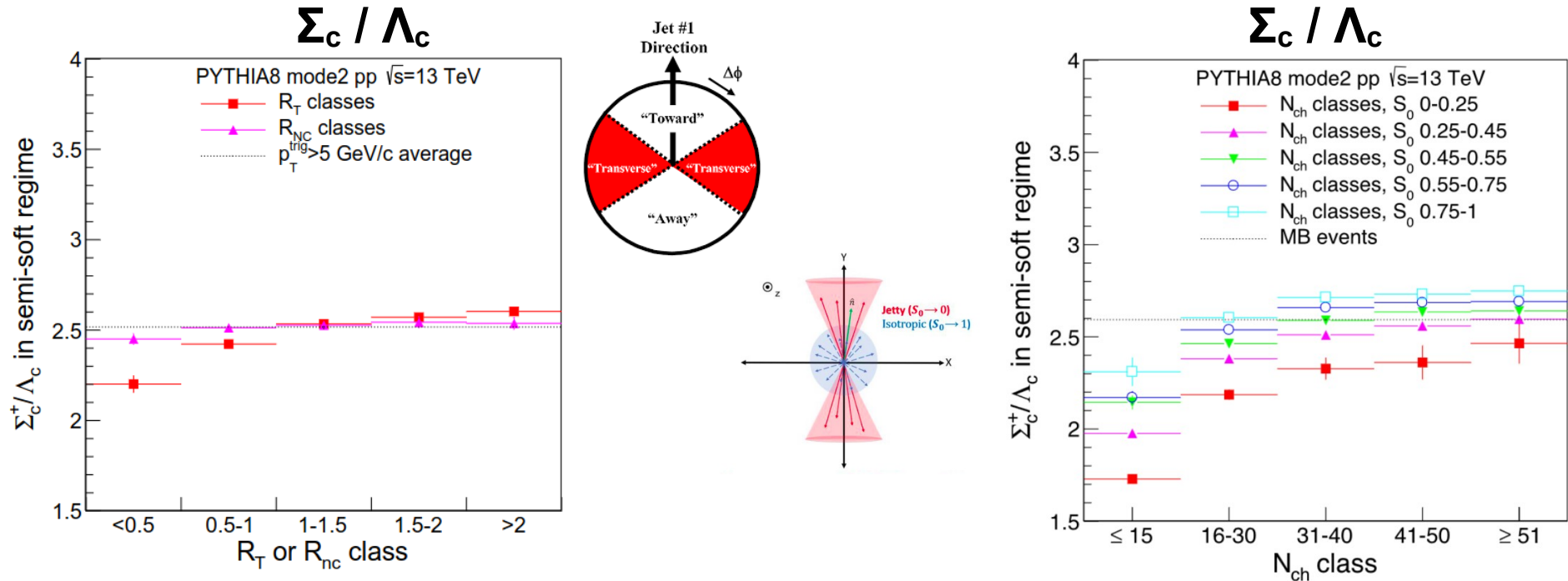


Σ_c (qqc, I=0) vs. Λ_c (qqc, I=1)

- Different trends in direct Λ_c and $\Sigma_c \rightarrow \Lambda_c$
- Trends depend on MPI in the model class

Σ_c vs. Λ_c : Isospin of charmed baryons

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- Σ_c (qqc, $I=0$) vs. Λ_c (qqc, $I=1$)
- **Charmed baryon ratios are sensitive event-shape dependent observables**