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und Forschung



**FSP LHCb**  
Erforschung von  
Universum und Materie

**RWTHAACHEN**  
UNIVERSITY



# Study of antihelium production at LHCb

Dan Moise,  
on behalf of the LHCb collaboration

ICHEP Prague  
18<sup>th</sup> July 2024



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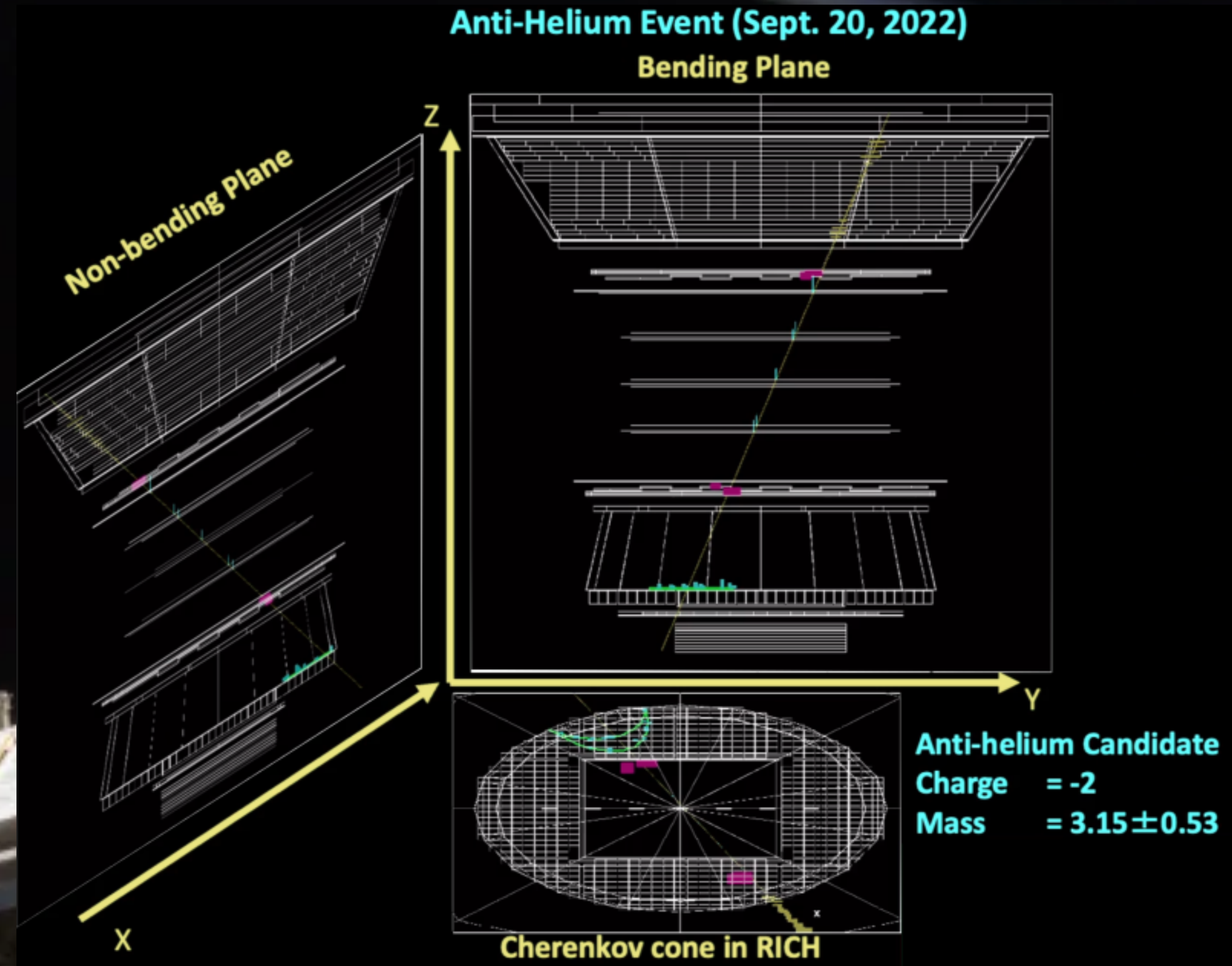
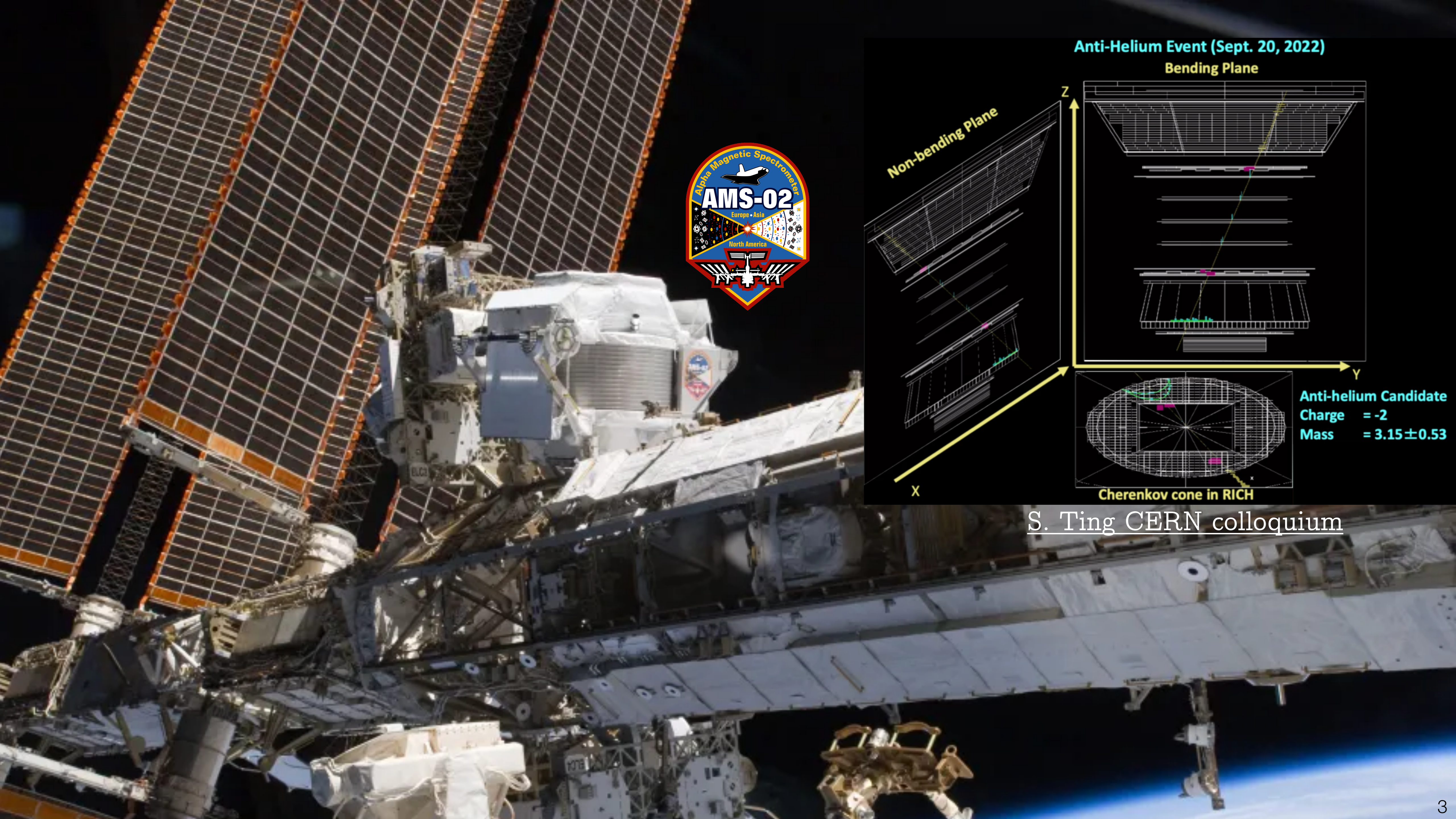
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# Antihelium production in $\bar{\Lambda}_b^0$ decays

Dan Moise,  
on behalf of the LHCb collaboration

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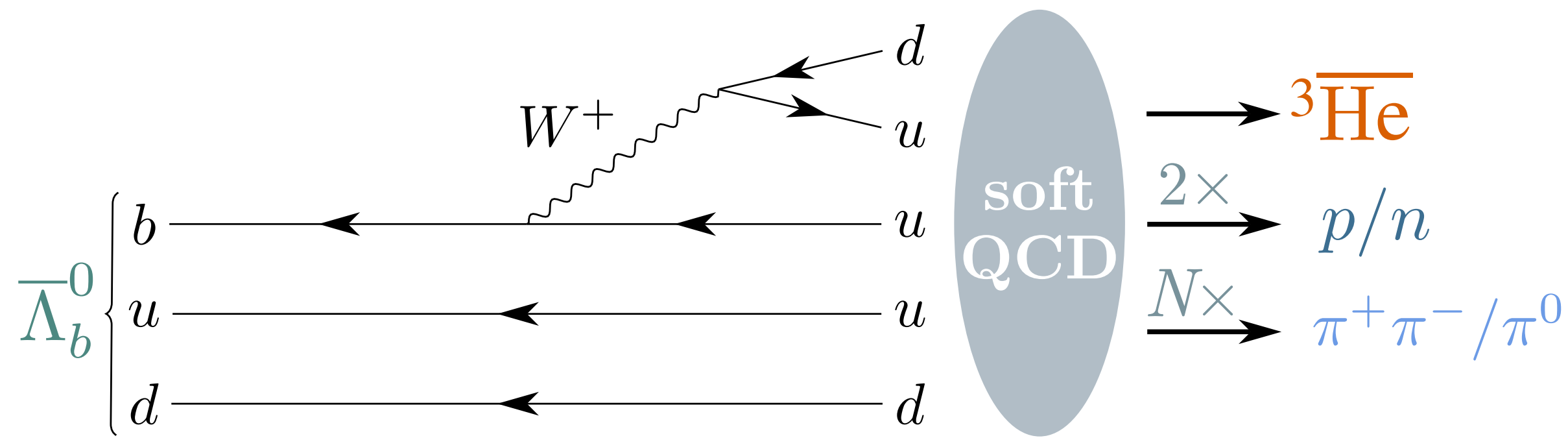
S. Ting CERN colloquium

# Dark Matter Annihilation Can Produce a Detectable Antihelium Flux through $\bar{\Lambda}_b$ Decays

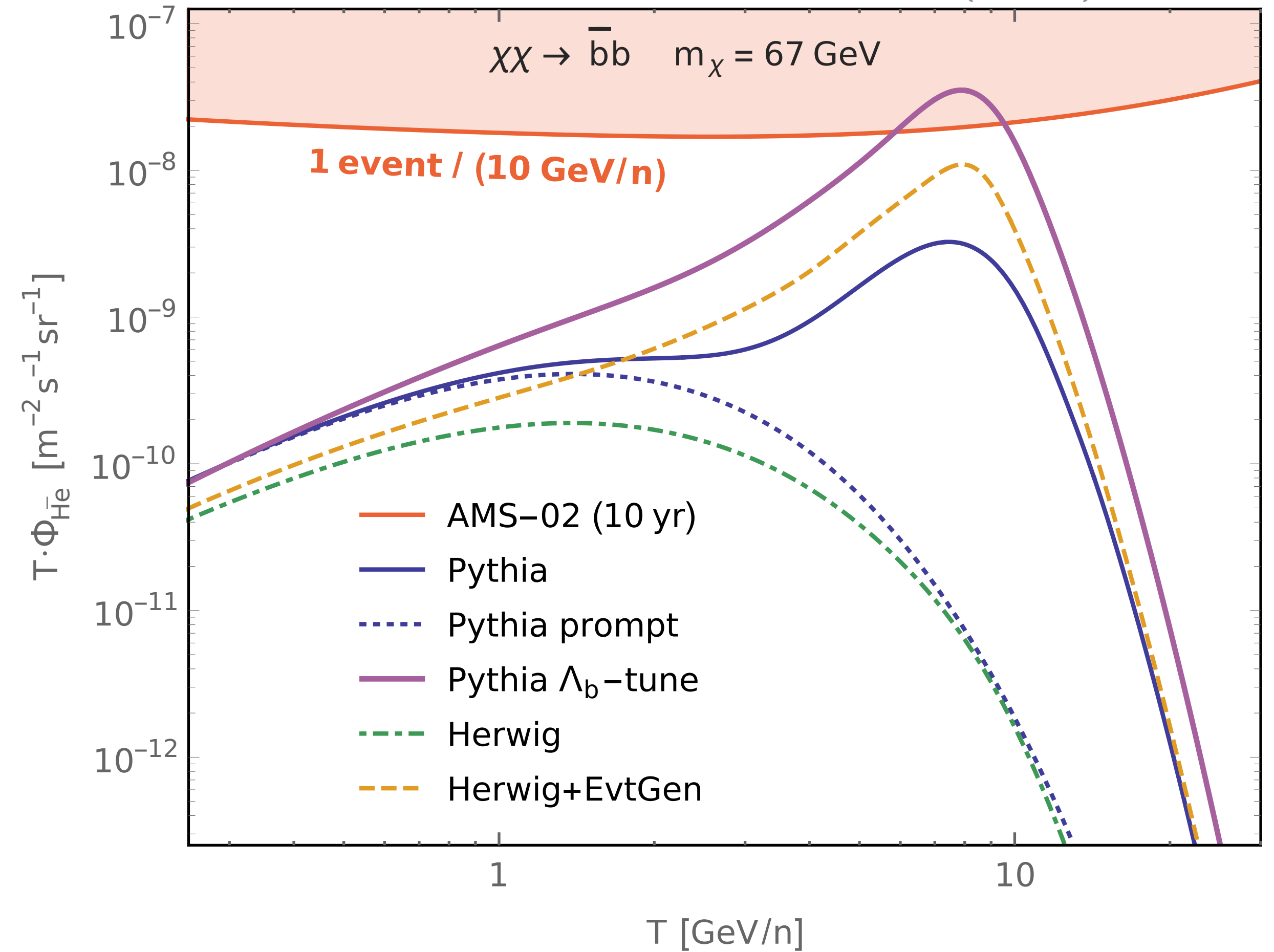
Martin Wolfgang Winkler<sup>1,\*</sup> and Tim Linden<sup>1,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Stockholm University and The Oskar Klein Centre for Cosmoparticle Physics, Alba Nova, 10691 Stockholm, Sweden

PRL 126(2021)101101



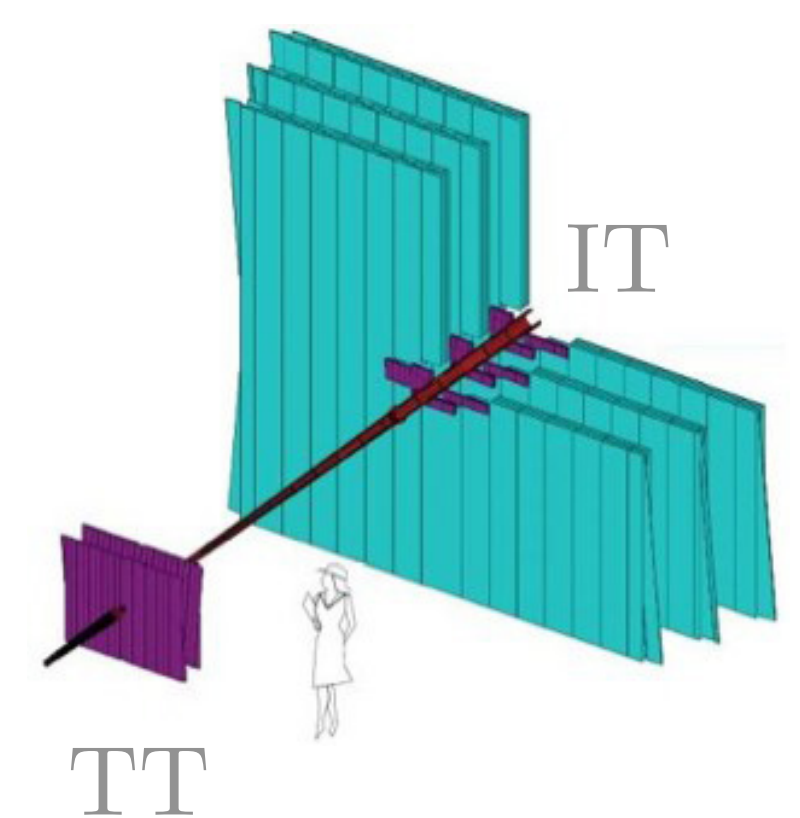
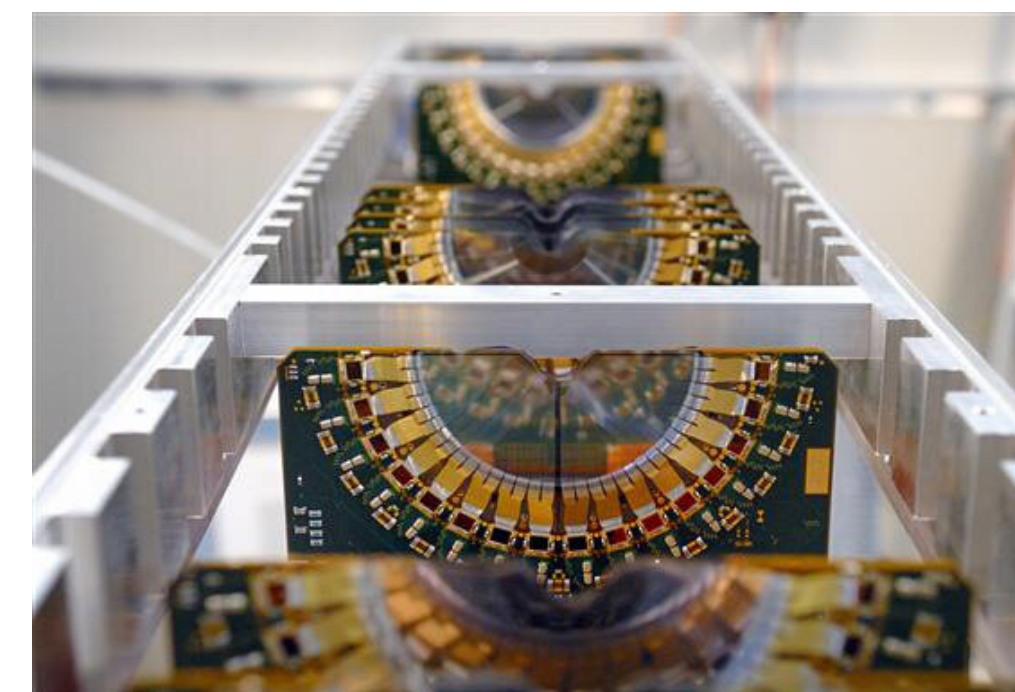
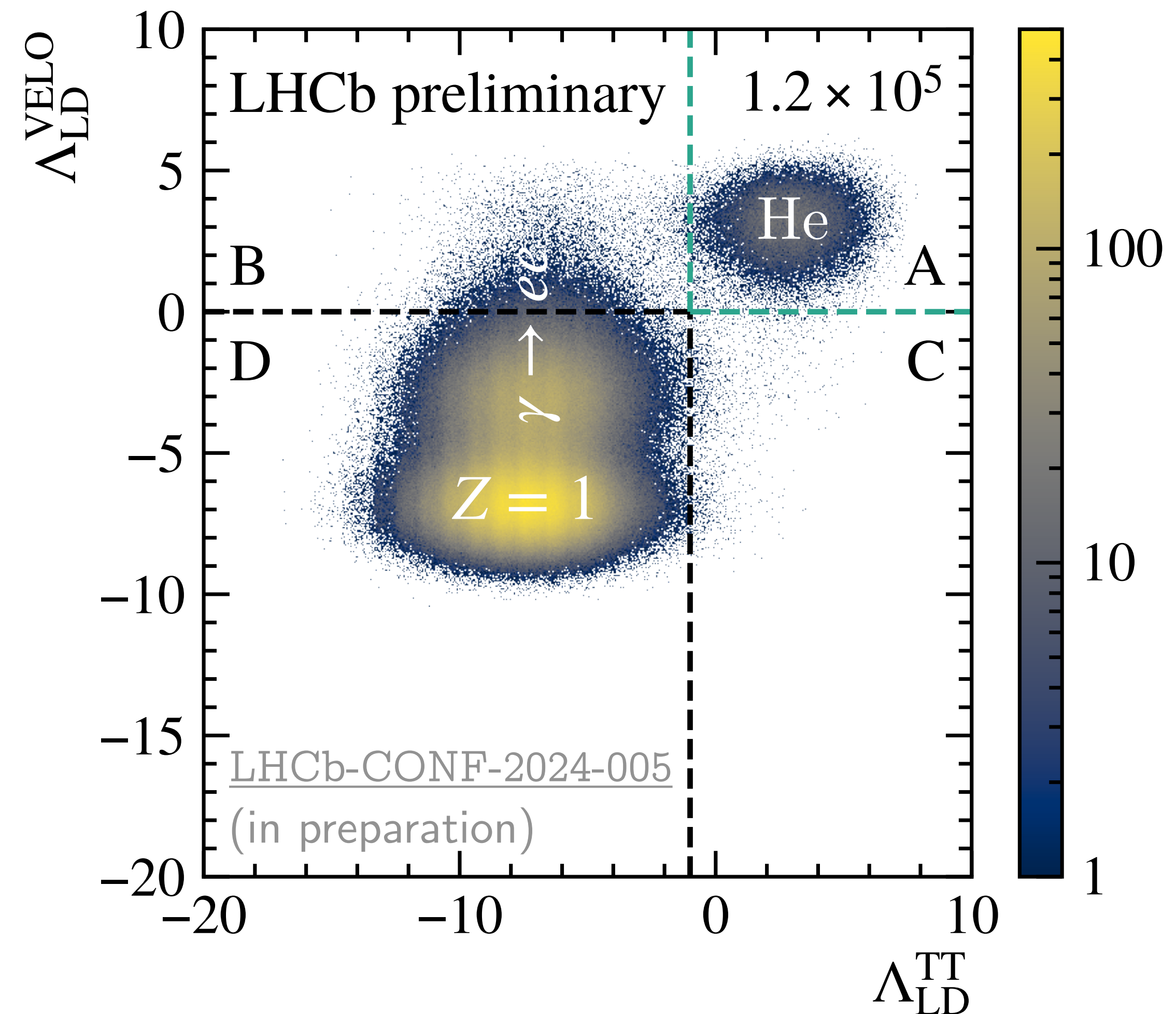
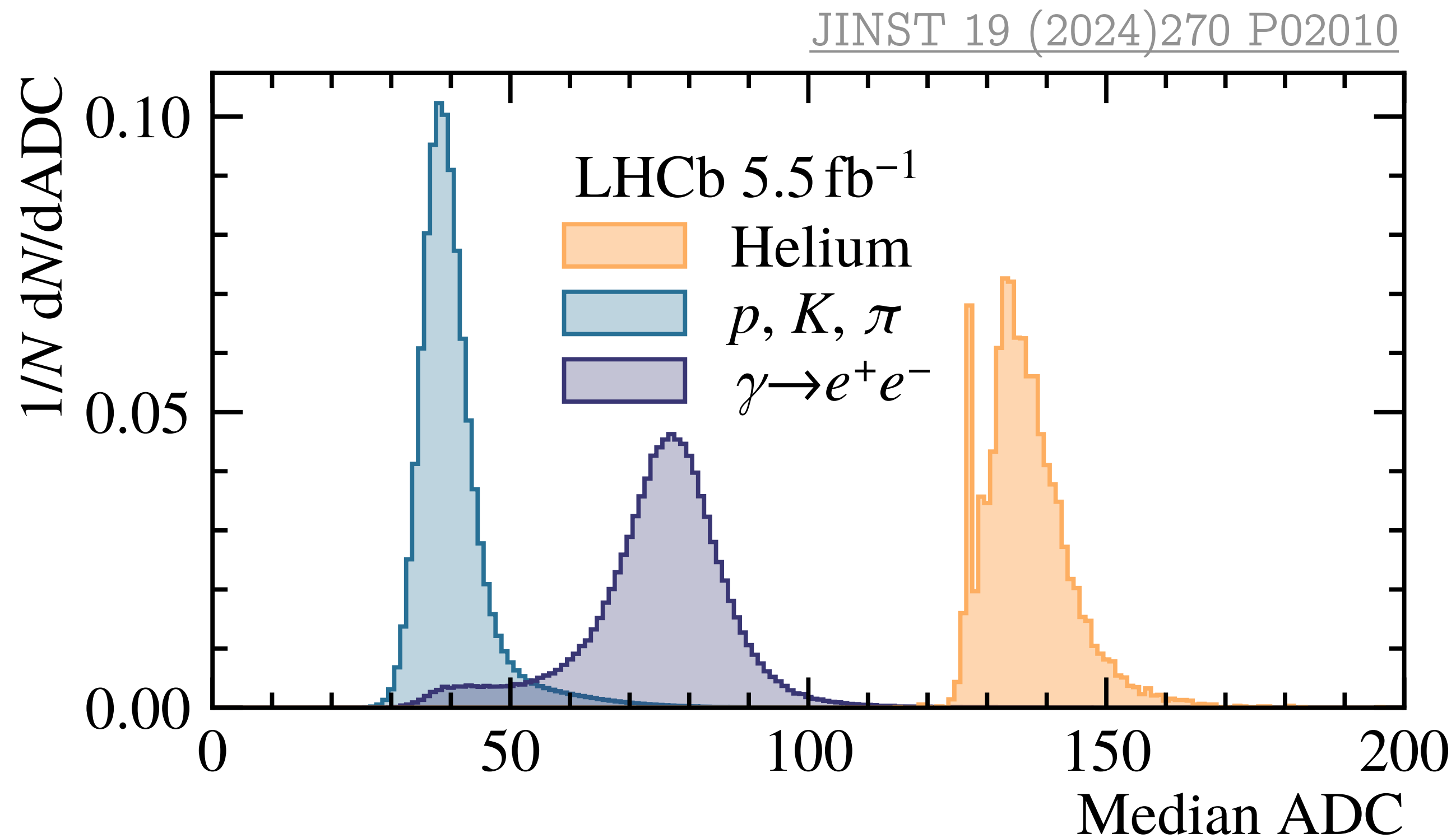
$\mathcal{B}(\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow 3\bar{\text{He}}X)$  predicted as high as  $3 \times 10^{-6}$  (modified Pythia 8.2) well within reach of LHCb



NB: discussion ongoing, e.g. PRC 1018(2023) 024903

# Helium selection: $dE/dx$

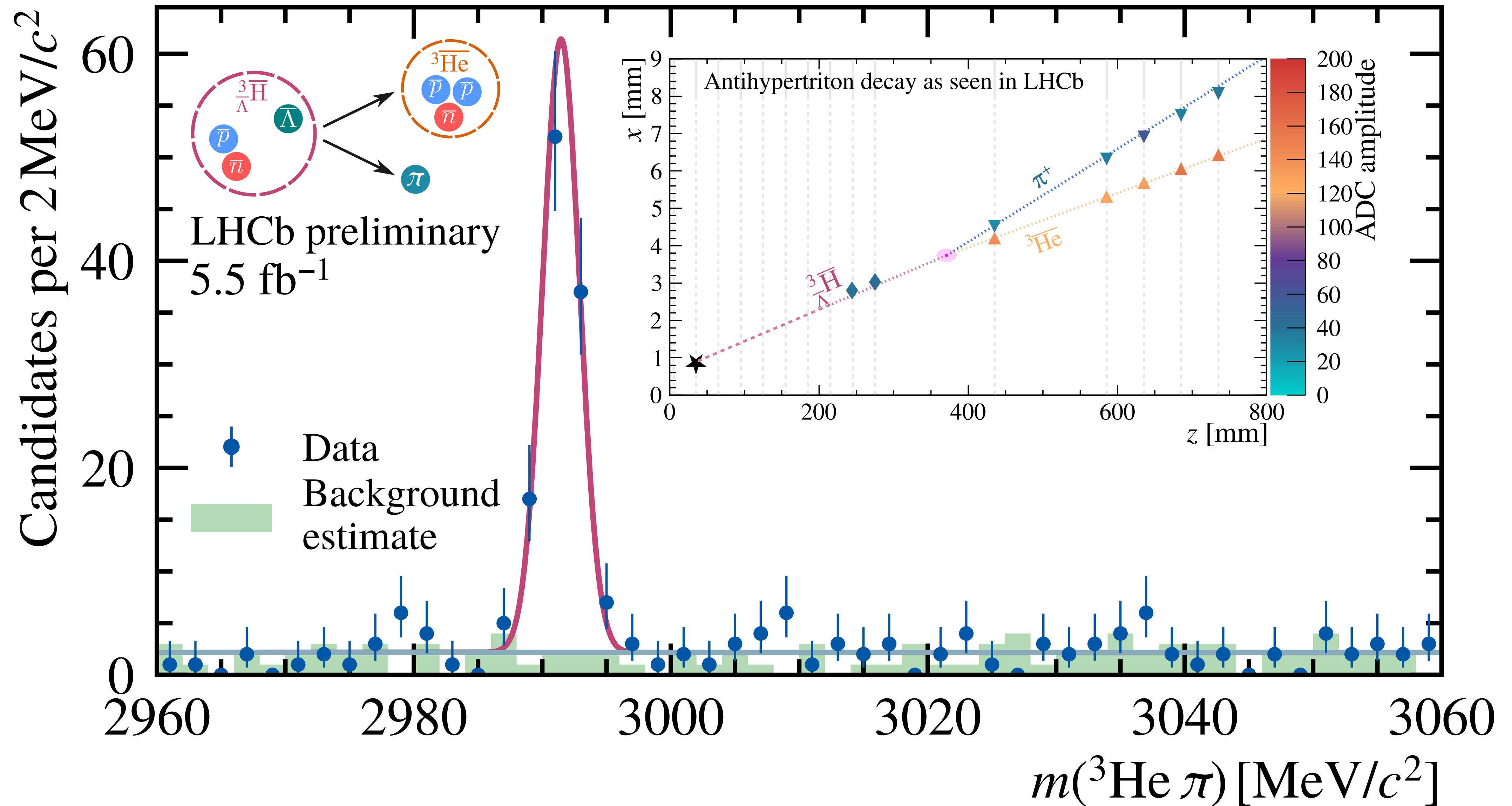
- energy-loss information in VELO, TT, and IT encoded into log-likelihood estimators ( $\Lambda_{LD}$ )
- ⇒ excellent separation between helium and  $Z = 1$  particles,  $\mathcal{O}(10^{12})$  background rejection rate



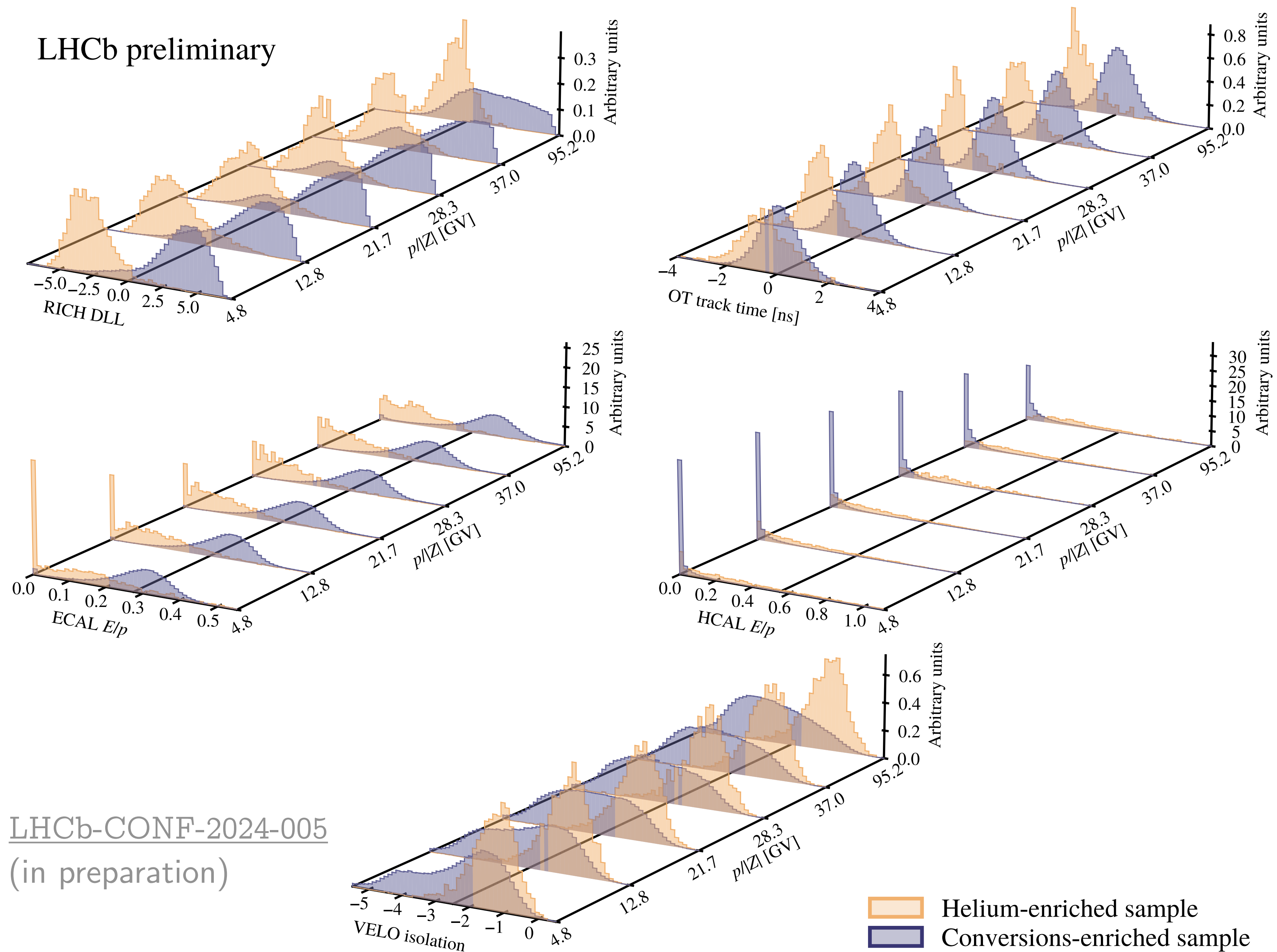
# Observation of hypertriton at LHCb

LHCb-CONF-2023-002

PoS EPS-HEP2023 (2024) 254

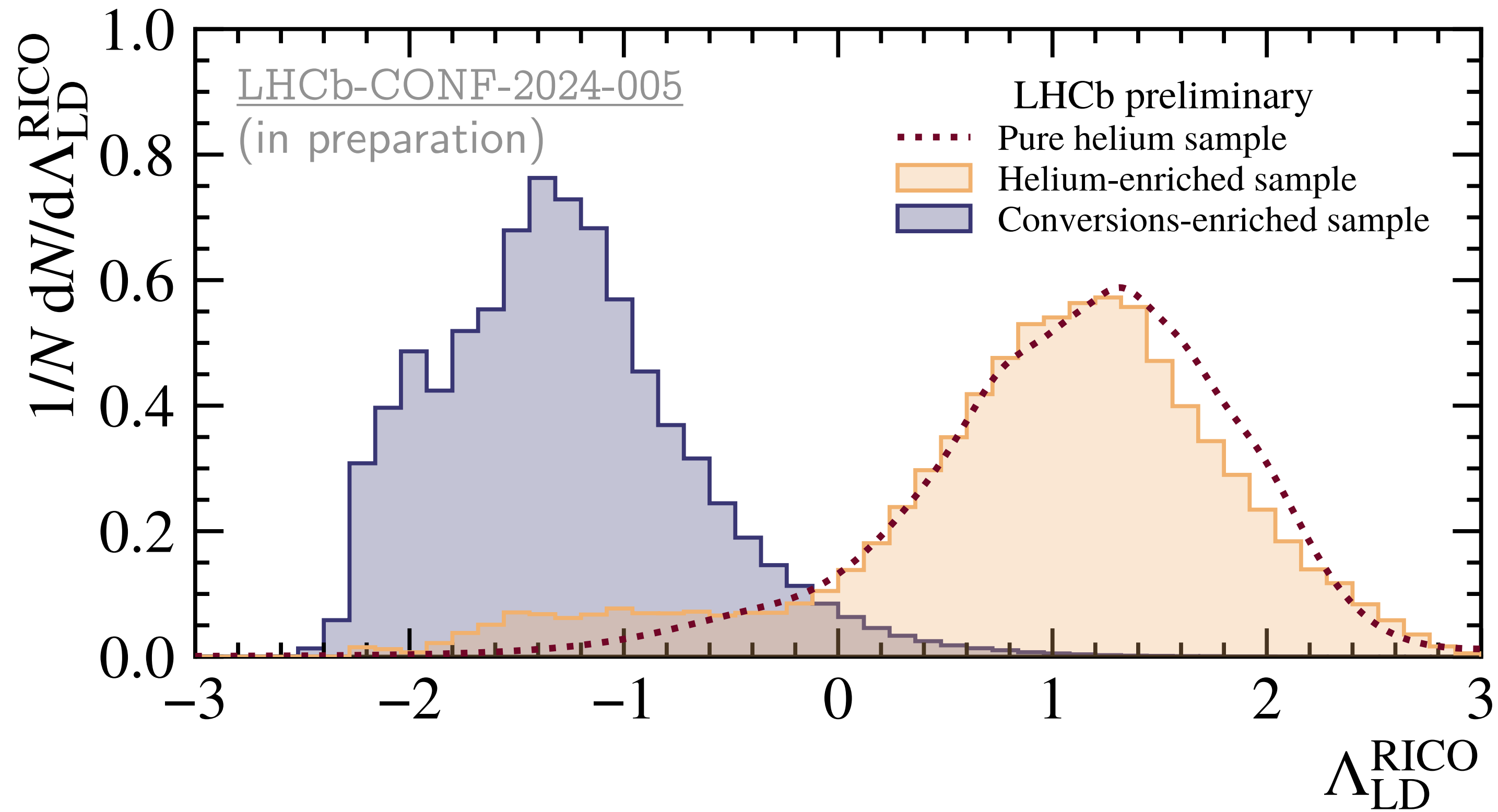


# Helium selection: conversion rejection



LHCb-CONF-2024-005  
(in preparation)

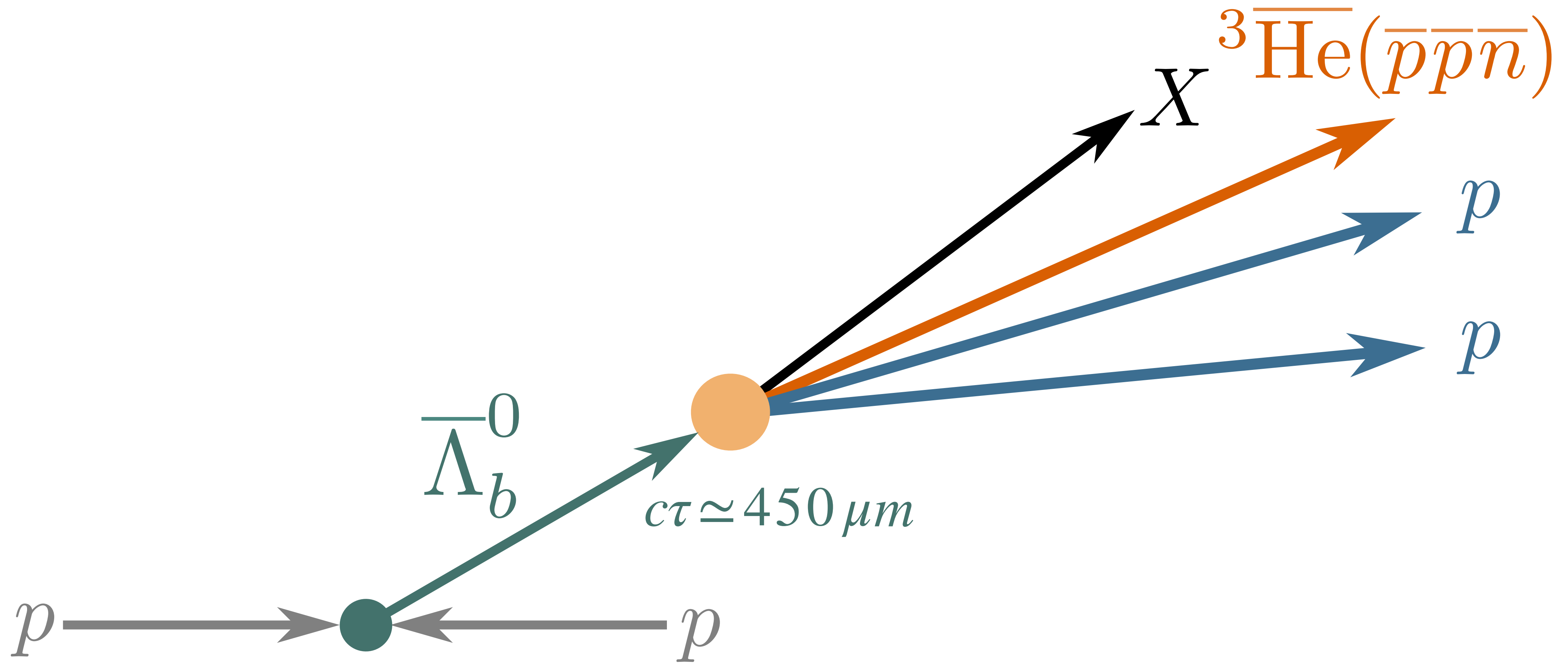
# Helium selection: conversion rejection



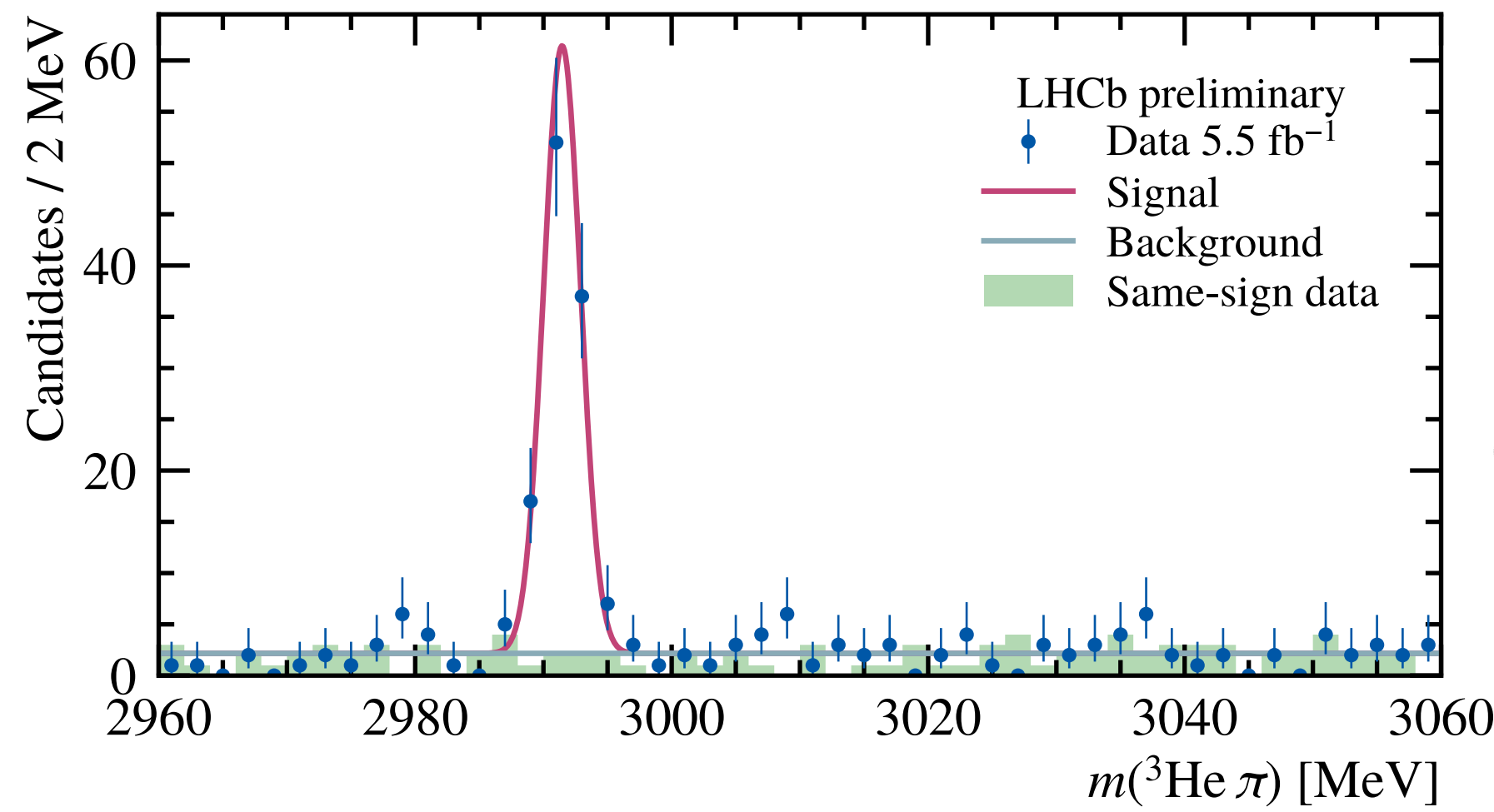
- **RICH, Isolation, Calorimetry, and OT** information combined into additional log-likelihood estimator:  $\Lambda_{LD}^{RICO}$ 
  - ⇒ removes residual background from conversions
  - ⇒ signal  $\nearrow$  10%, background  $\searrow$  3x *cf.* previous publications



# Topology & kinematics

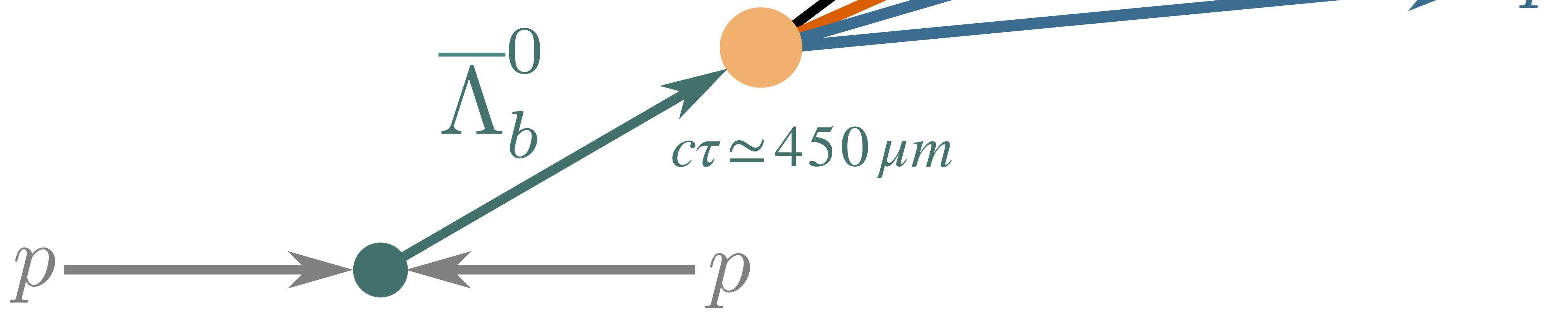


# Topology & kinematics



$X$   ${}^3\overline{\text{He}}(\overline{p}\overline{p}\overline{n})$

Only combinatorial expected  
after helium & proton PID



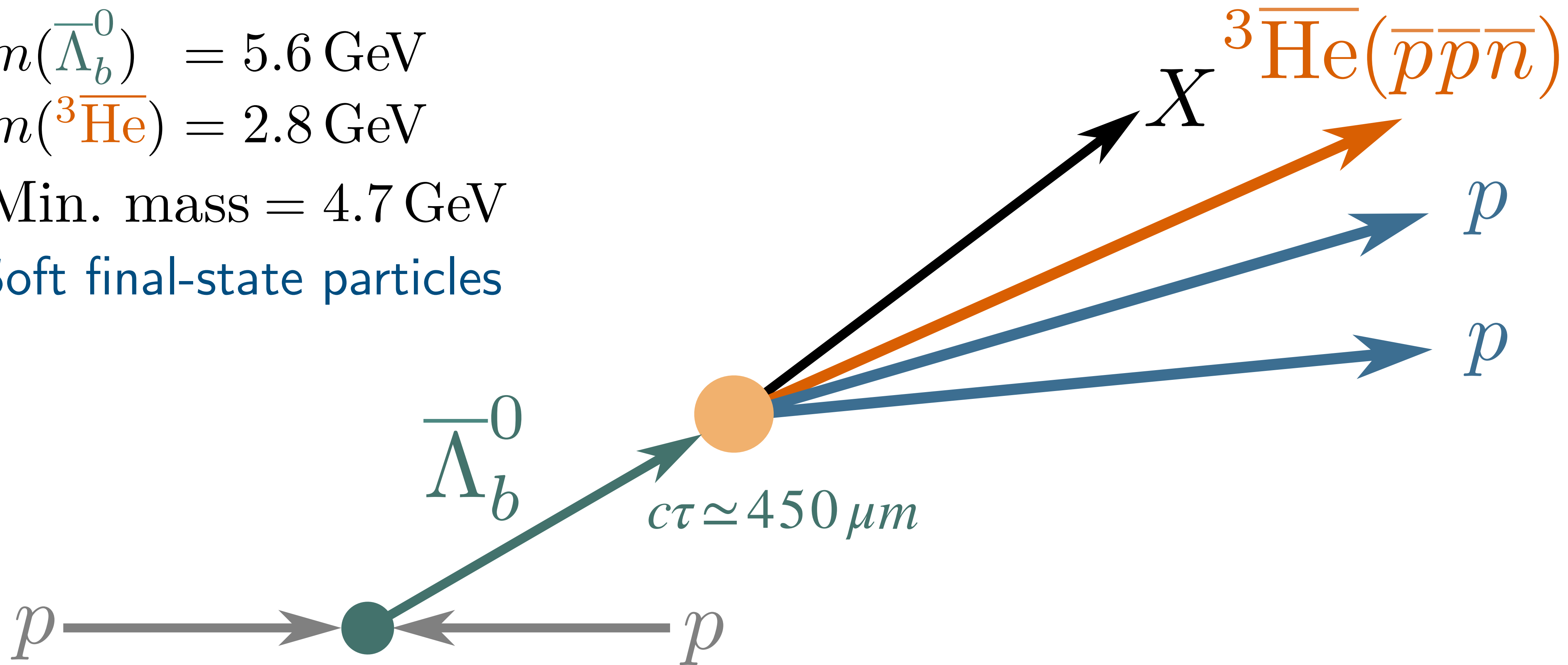
# Topology & kinematics

$$m(\overline{\Lambda}_b^0) = 5.6 \text{ GeV}$$

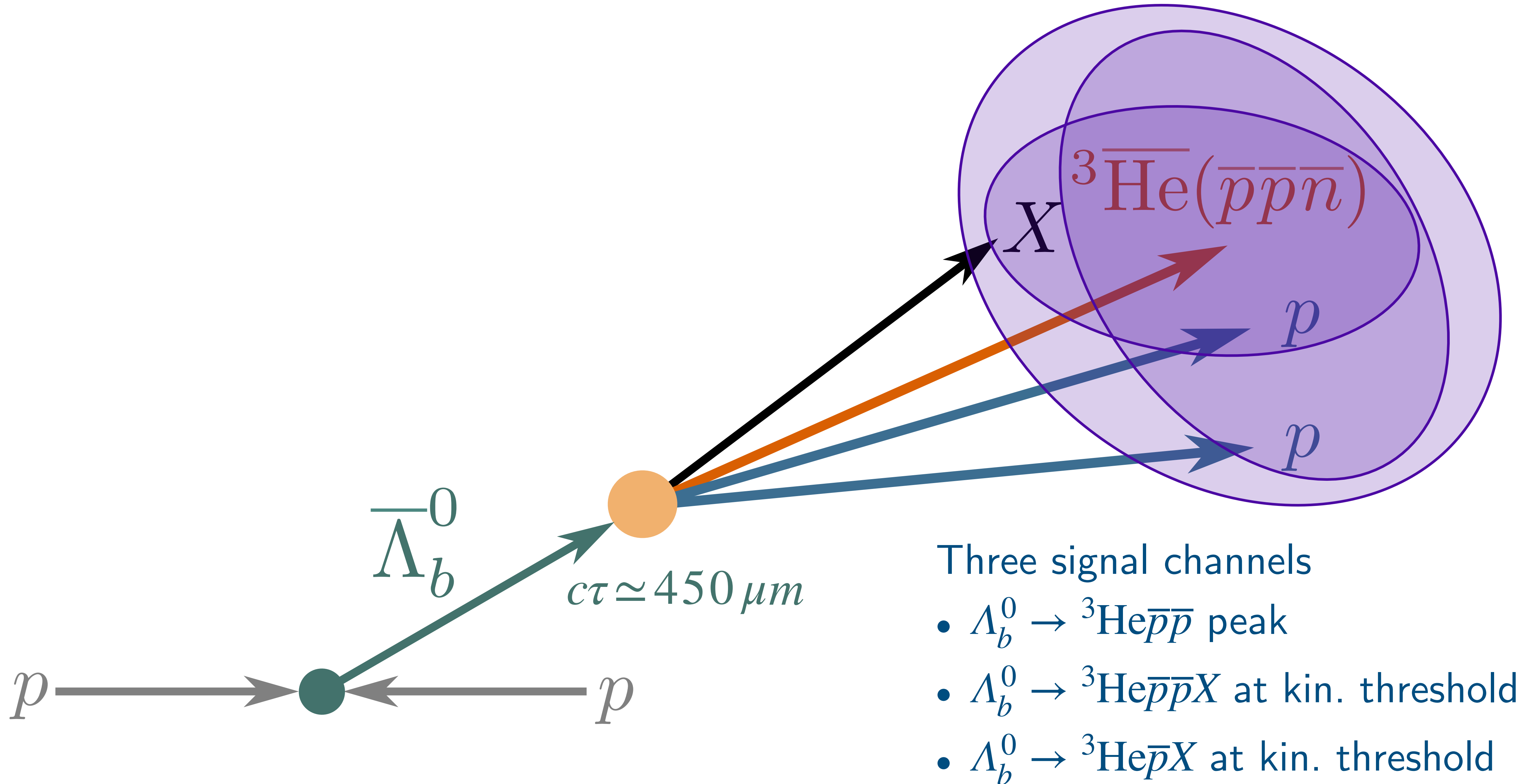
$$m(^3\overline{\text{He}}) = 2.8 \text{ GeV}$$

Min. mass = 4.7 GeV

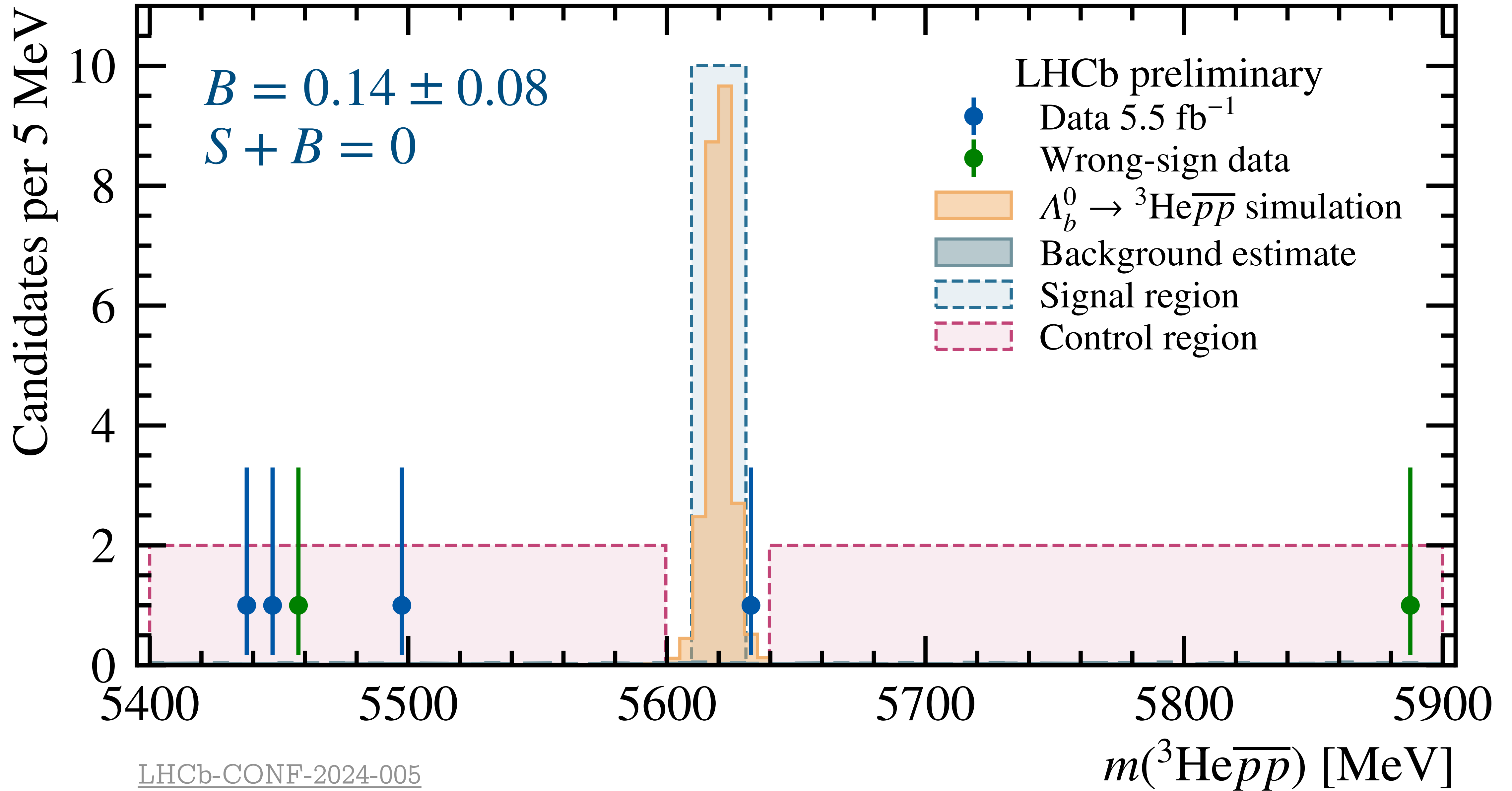
Soft final-state particles



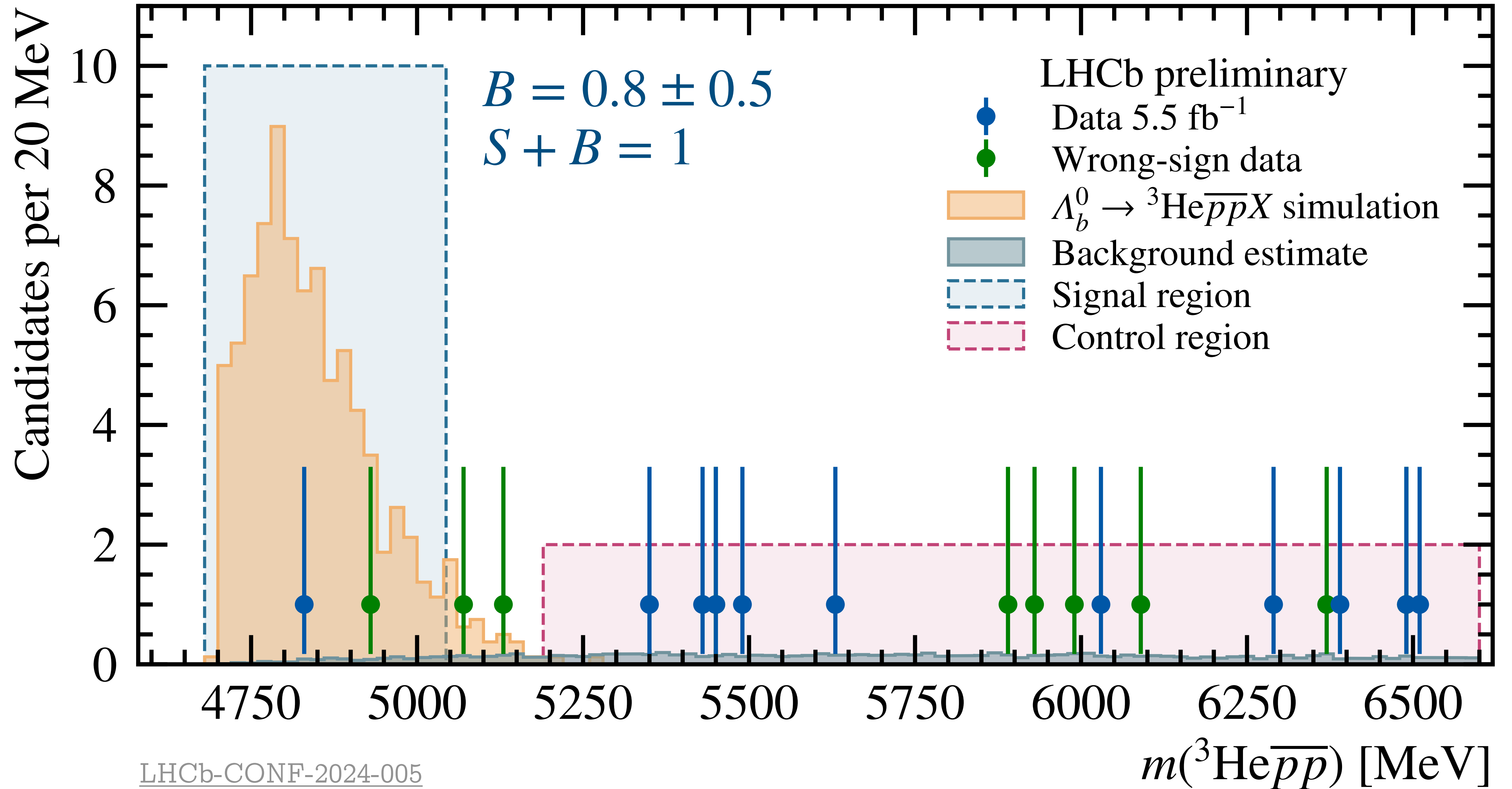
# Topology & kinematics



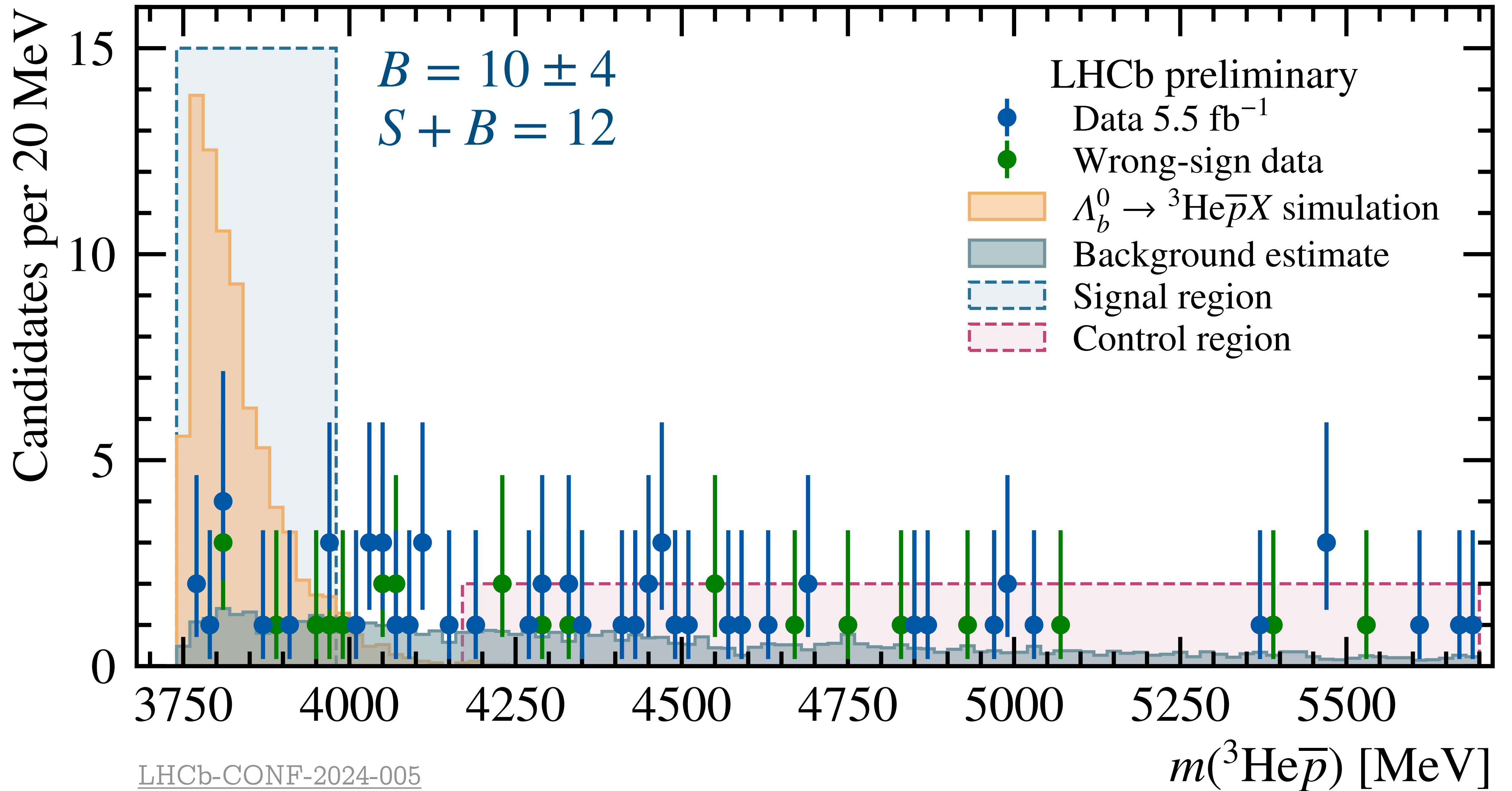
# $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}$ data



# $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}X$ data

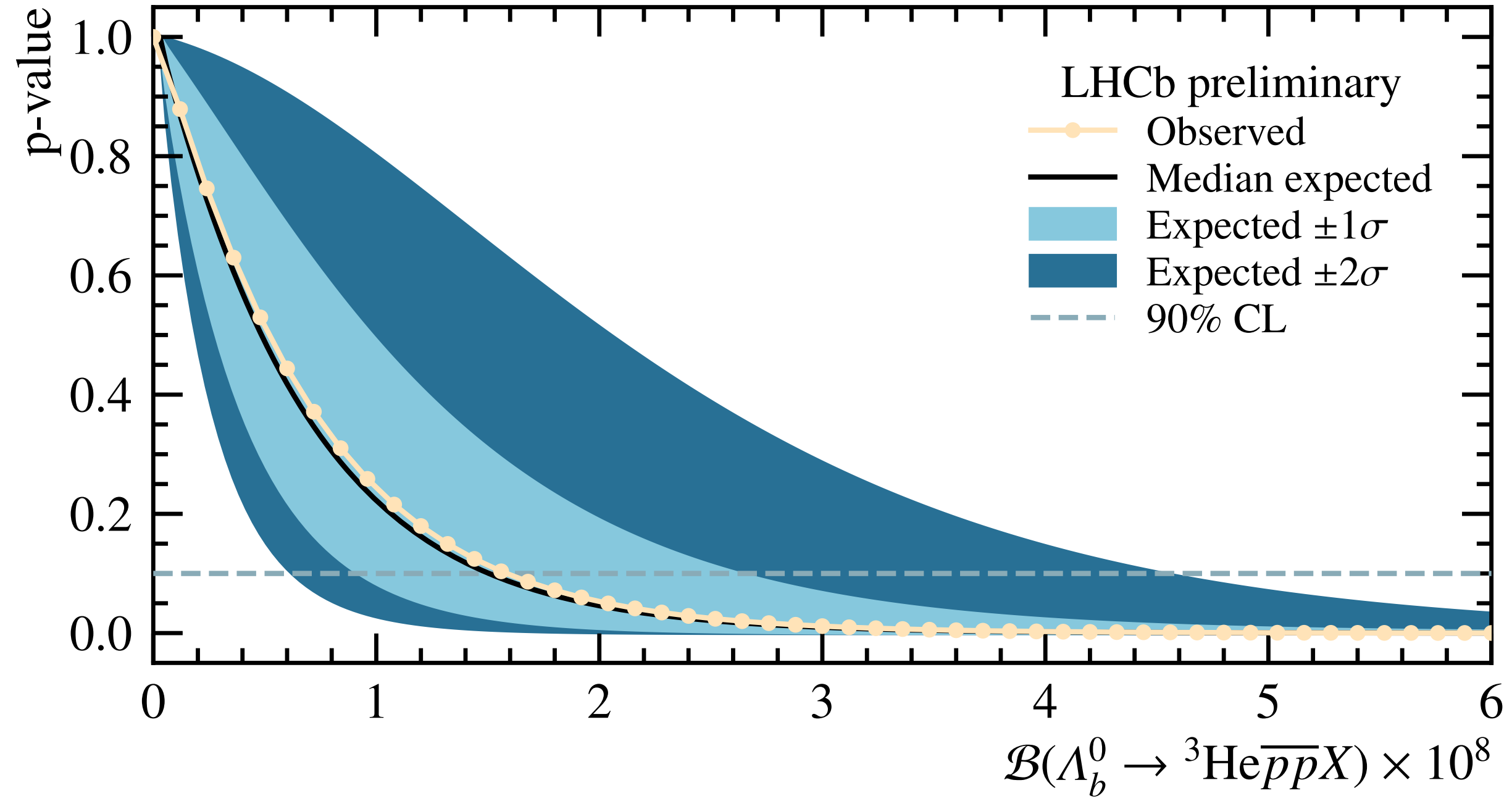


# $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}X$ data



# Upper limits

LHCb-CONF-2024-005

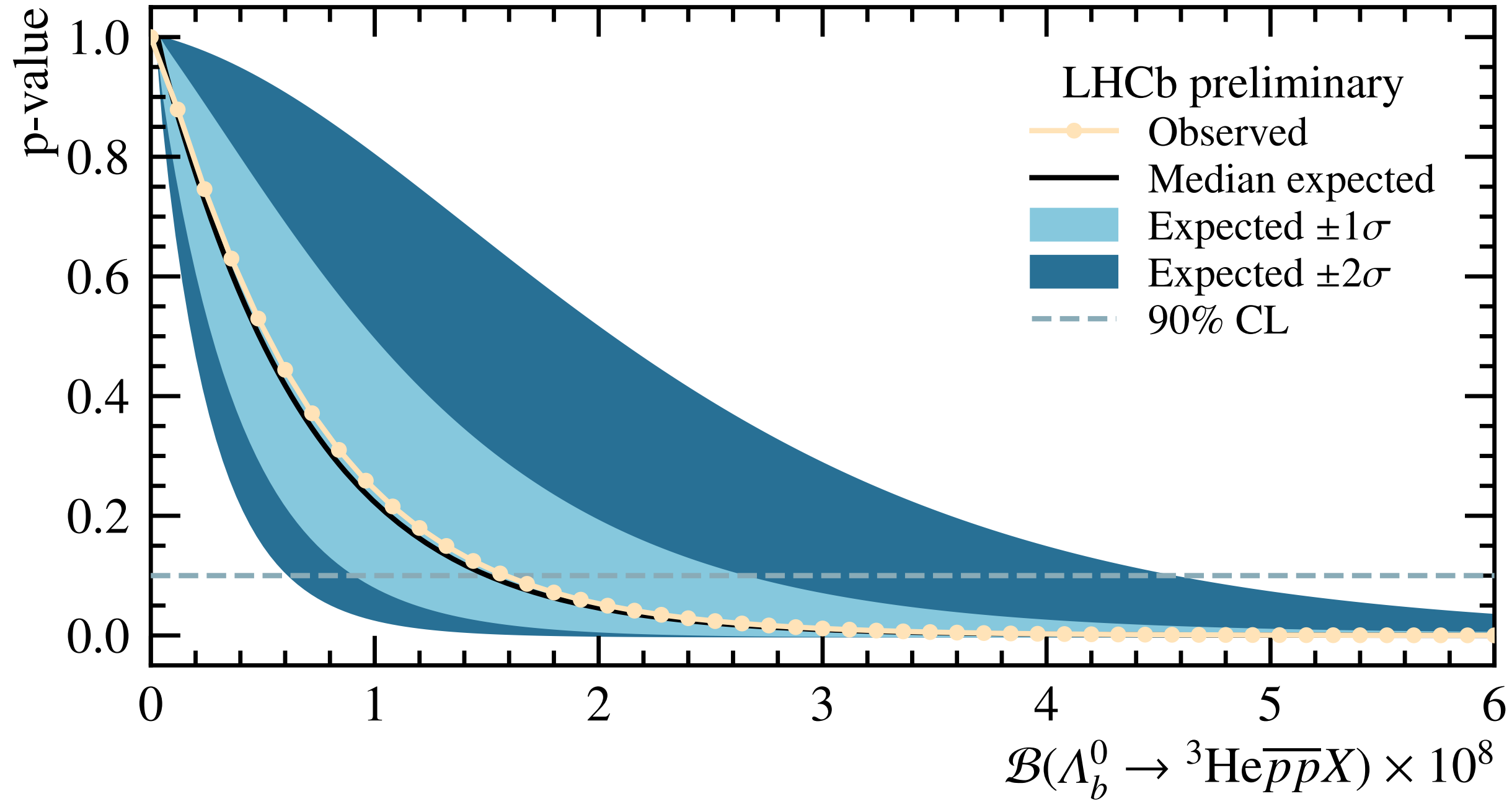


$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} p \bar{p} X) < 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$$



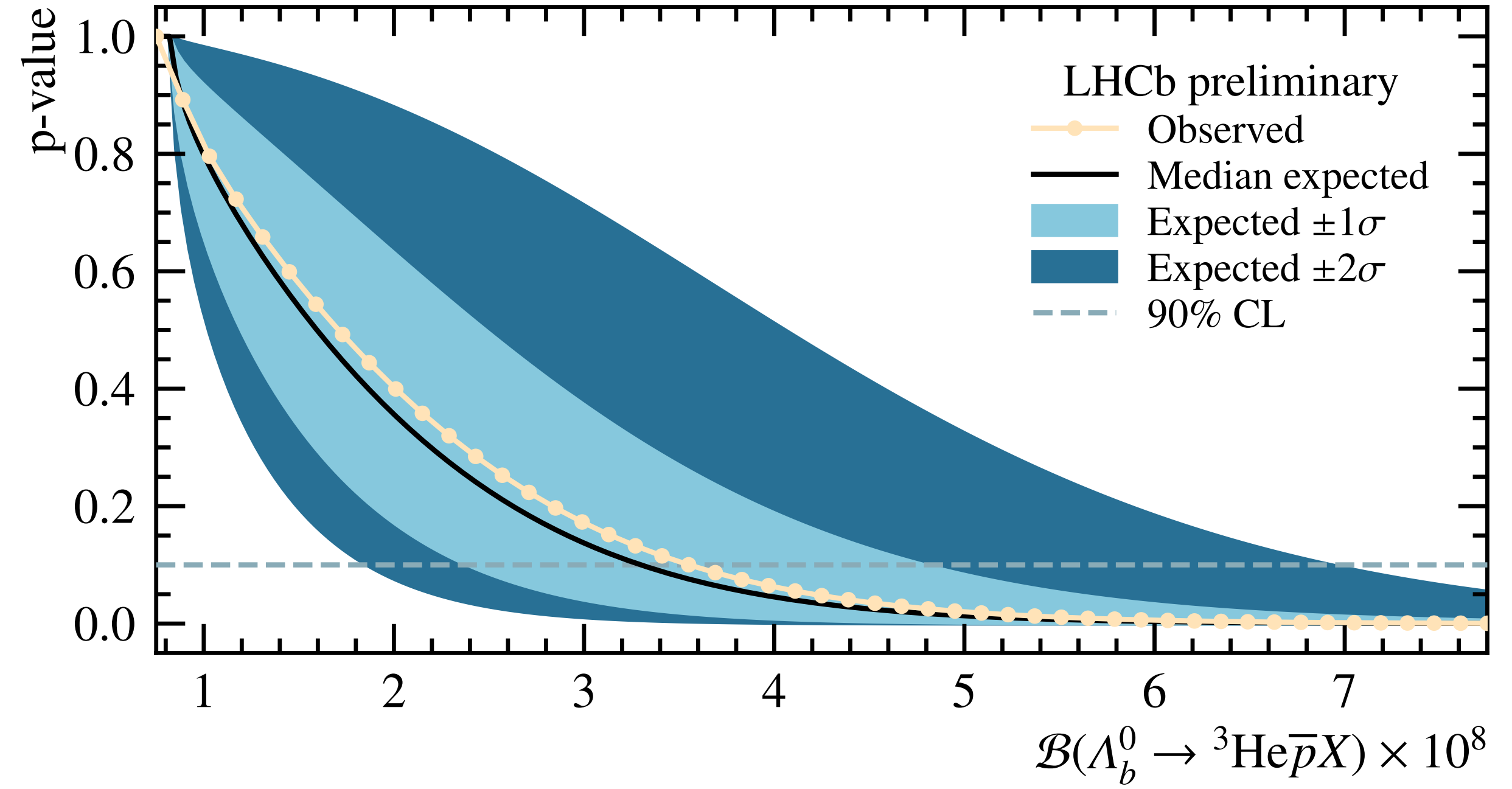
# Upper limits

LHCb-CONF-2024-005



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} \bar{p} X) < 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

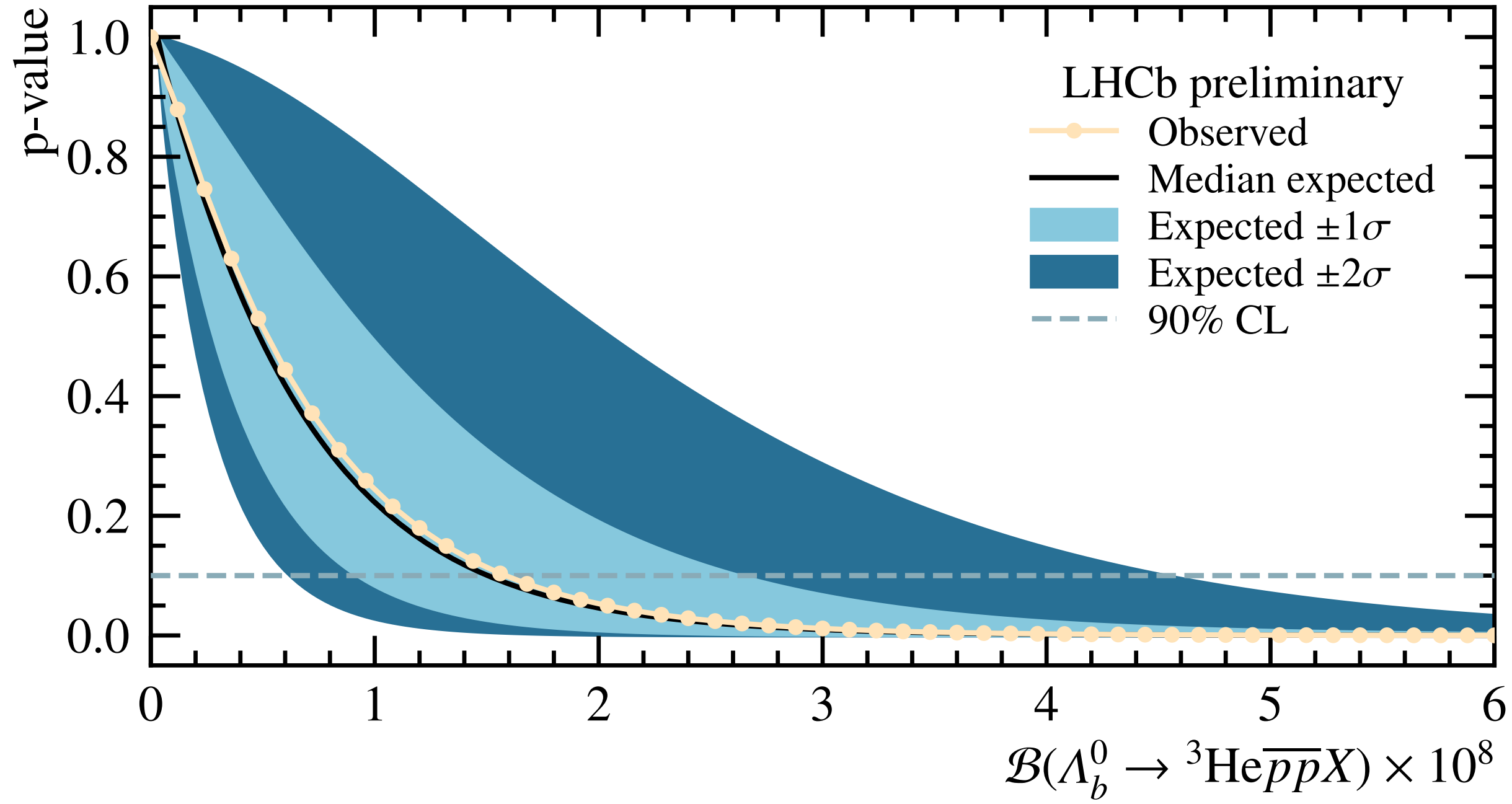
LHCb-CONF-2024-005



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

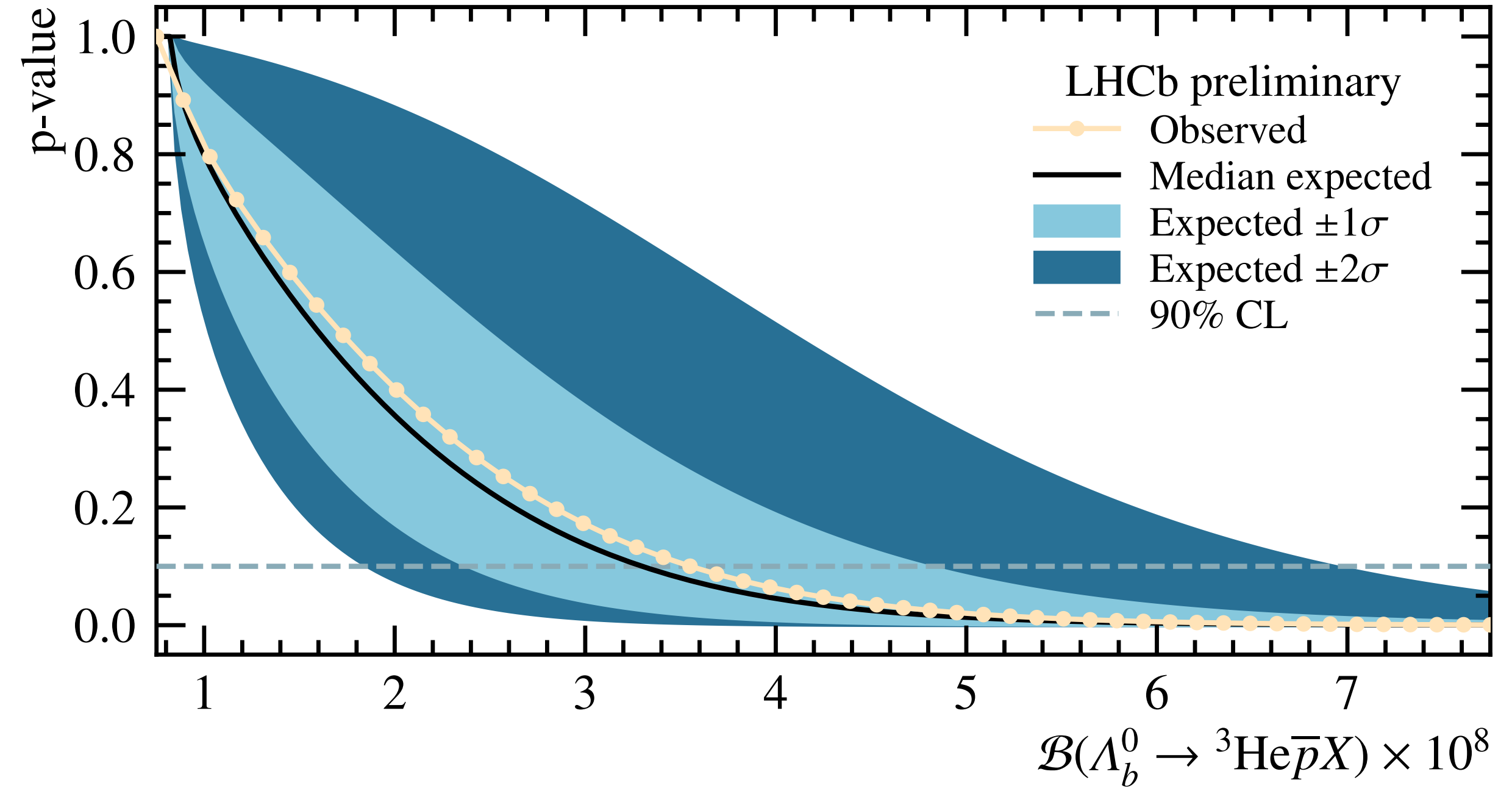
# Upper limits

LHCb-CONF-2024-005



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} \bar{p} X) < 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

LHCb-CONF-2024-005



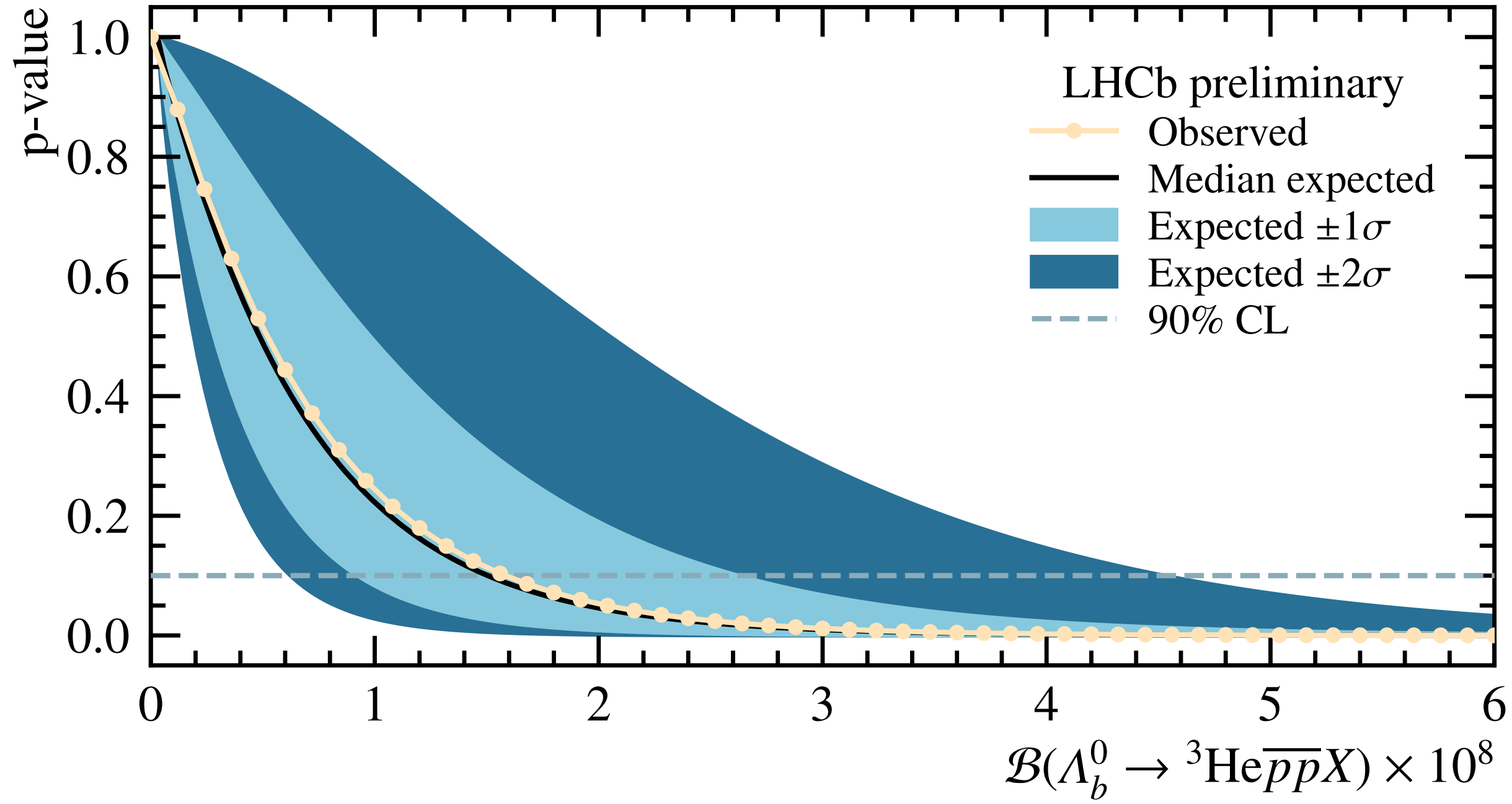
$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} \bar{p}) < 1.9 \times 10^{-9}$$

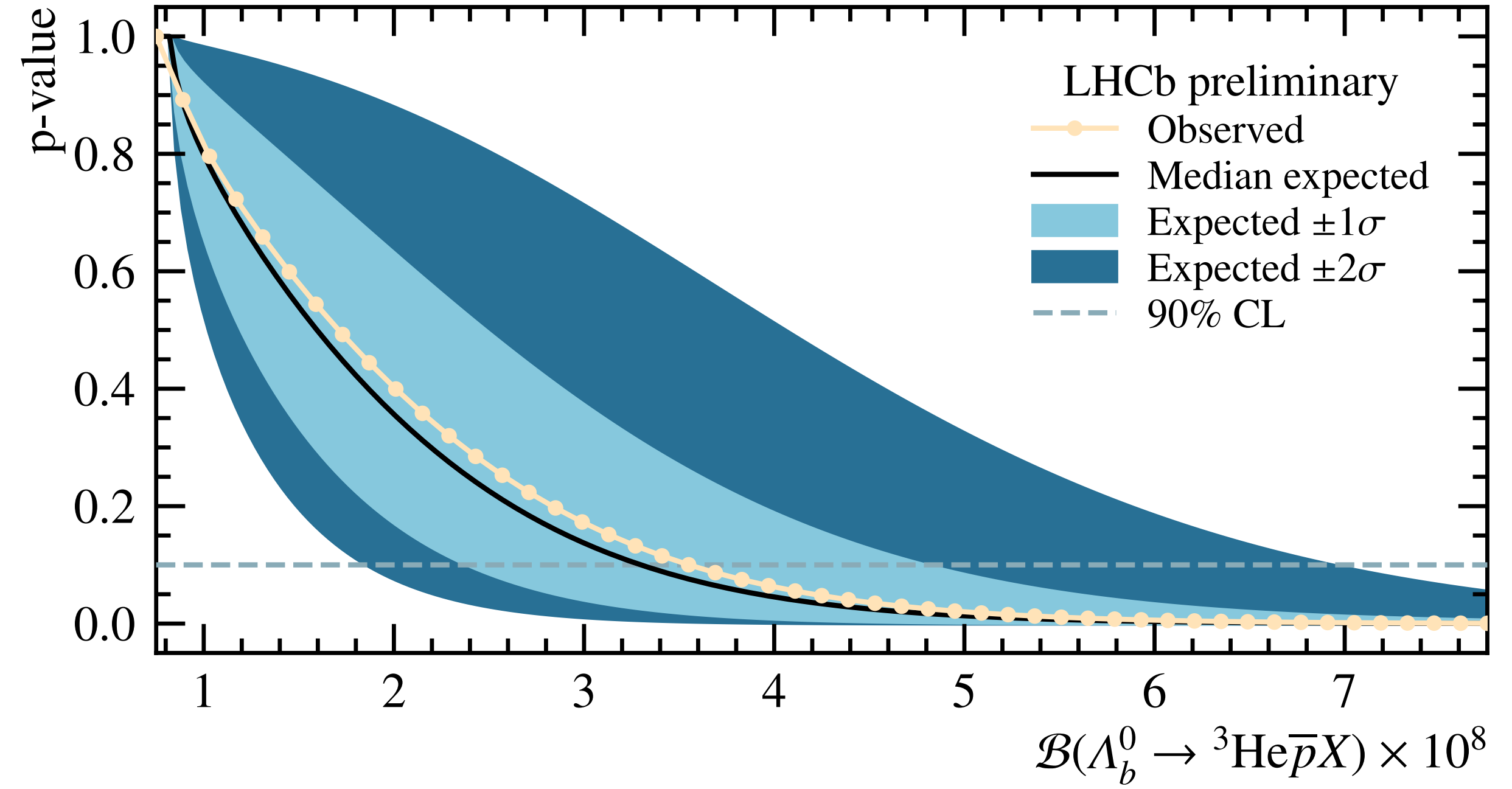
profile likelihood [NIMA458\(2001\)745-758](#)

# Upper limits

LHCb-CONF-2024-005



LHCb-CONF-2024-005



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} p \bar{p} X) < 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p} X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

isospin

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} X) < 6.3 \times 10^{-8}$$

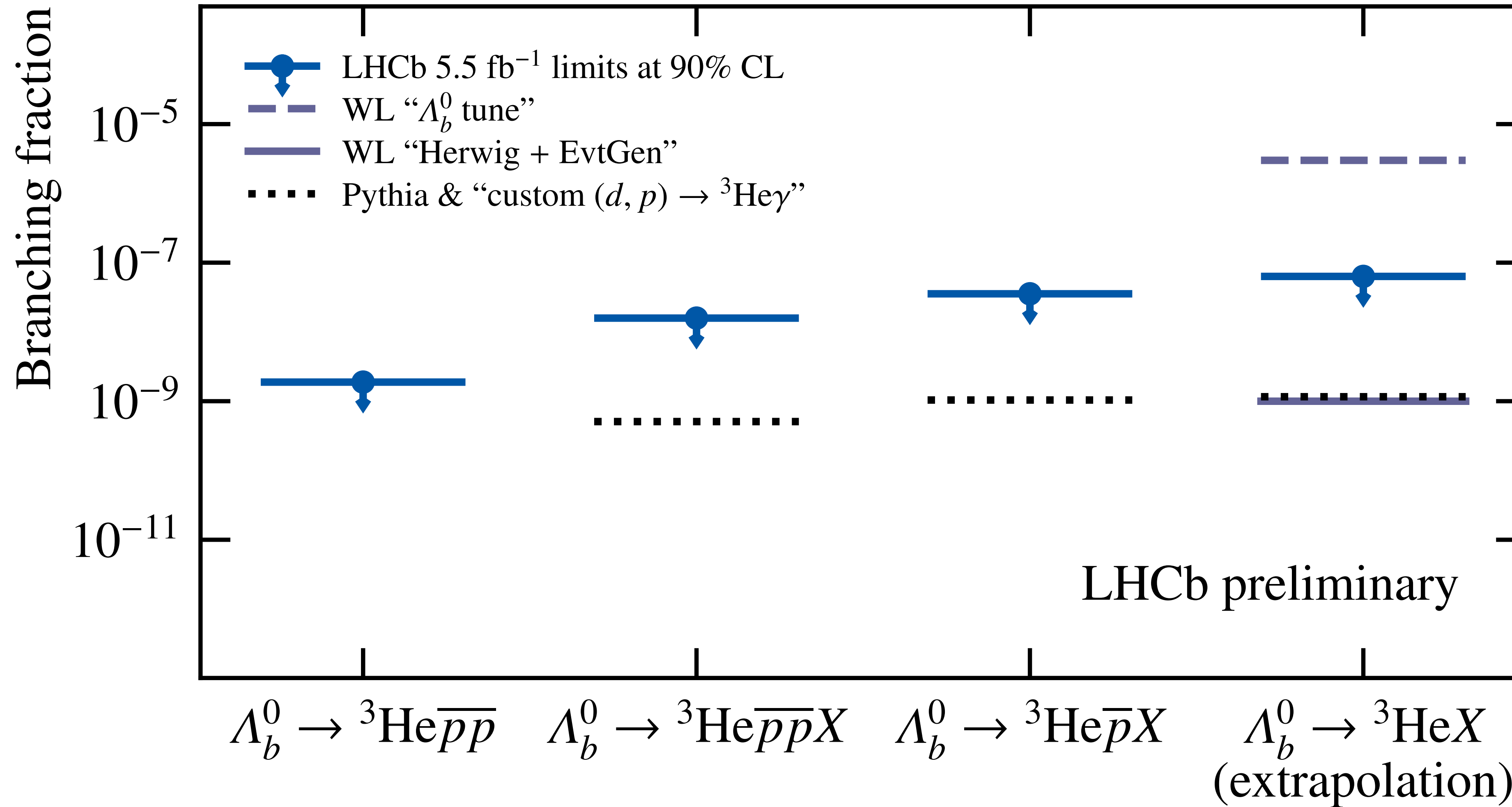
$\bar{p}\bar{p}$ : 25%  $\bar{p}\bar{n}$ : 25%  
 $\bar{n}\bar{p}$ : 25%  $\bar{n}\bar{n}$ : 25%  
 (Pythia:  $\bar{p}\bar{p} \sim 40\%$ )

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \bar{p}\bar{p}) < 1.9 \times 10^{-9}$$

profile likelihood [NIMA458\(2001\)745-758](#)

# Summary

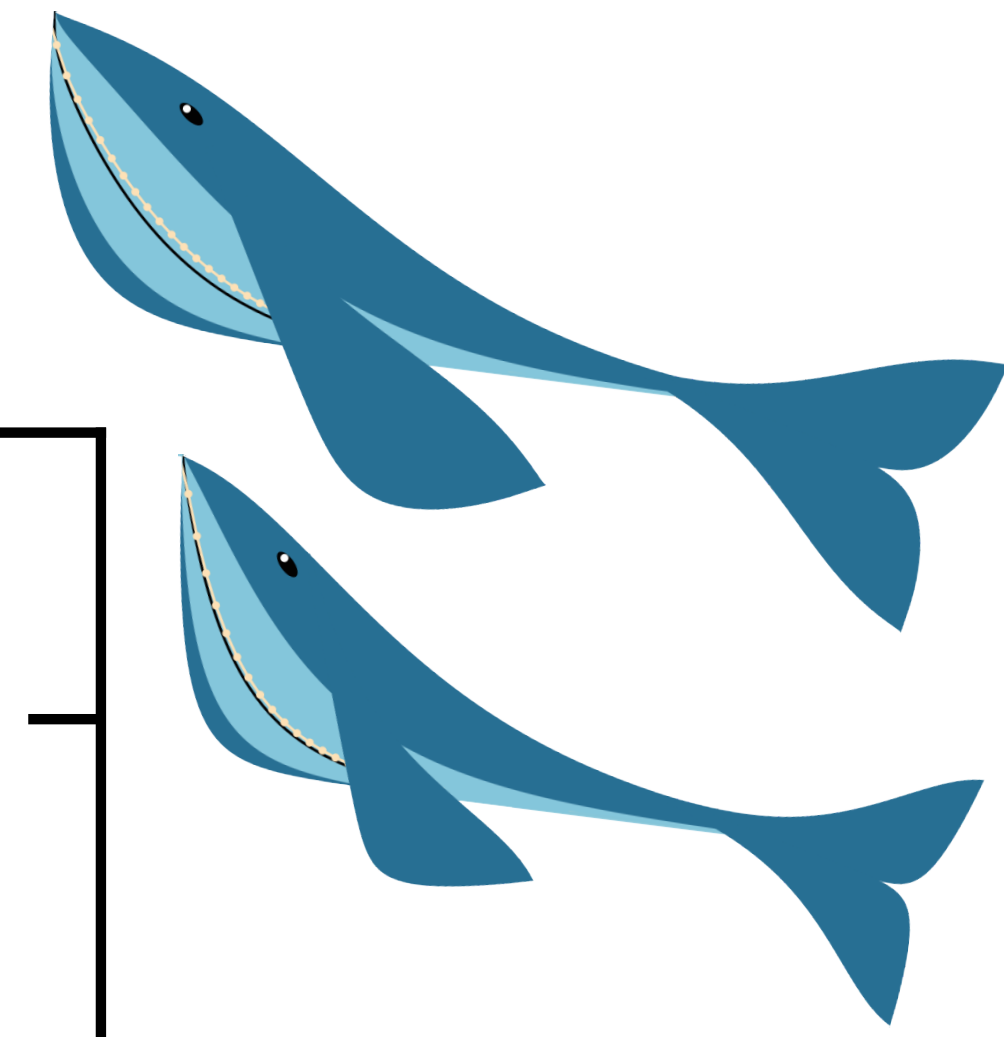
LHCb-CONF-2024-005 (in preparation)



These are the first results on (anti)helium production in (anti) $\Lambda_b$  decays.

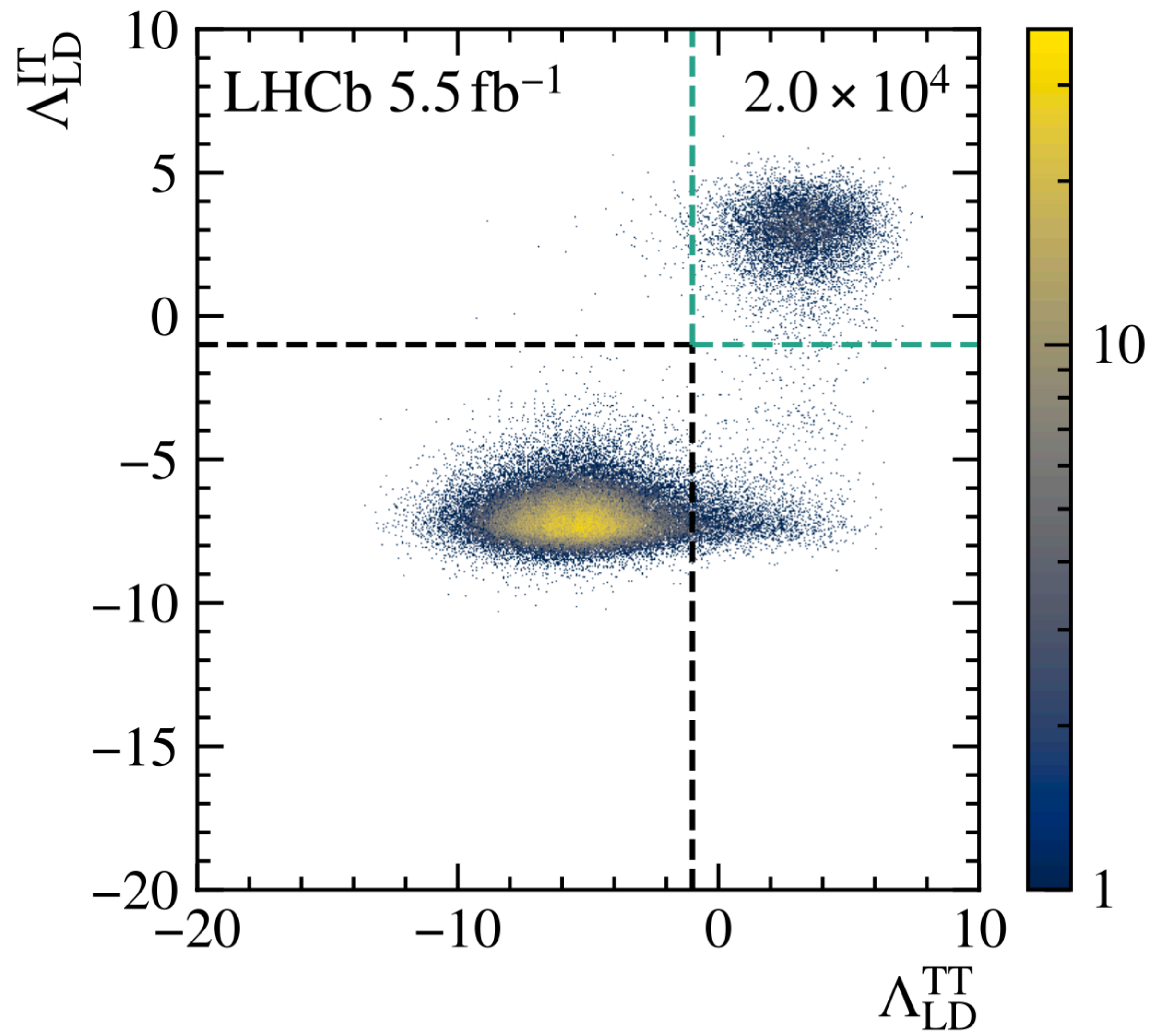
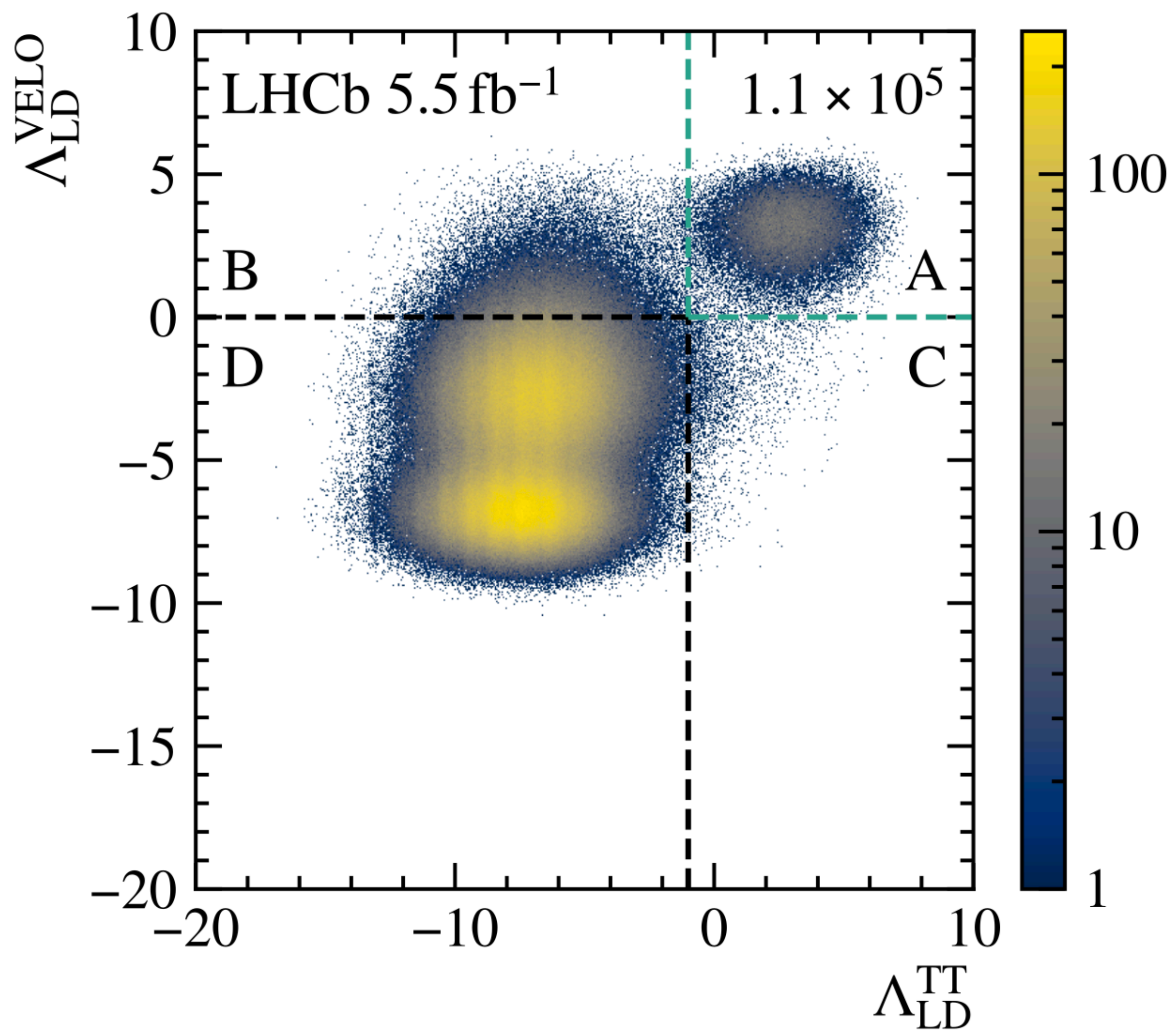
They significantly restrict abundance of  $^3\overline{\text{He}}$  in cosmic rays.

LHCb Upgrade II offers the potential to cover current estimates.

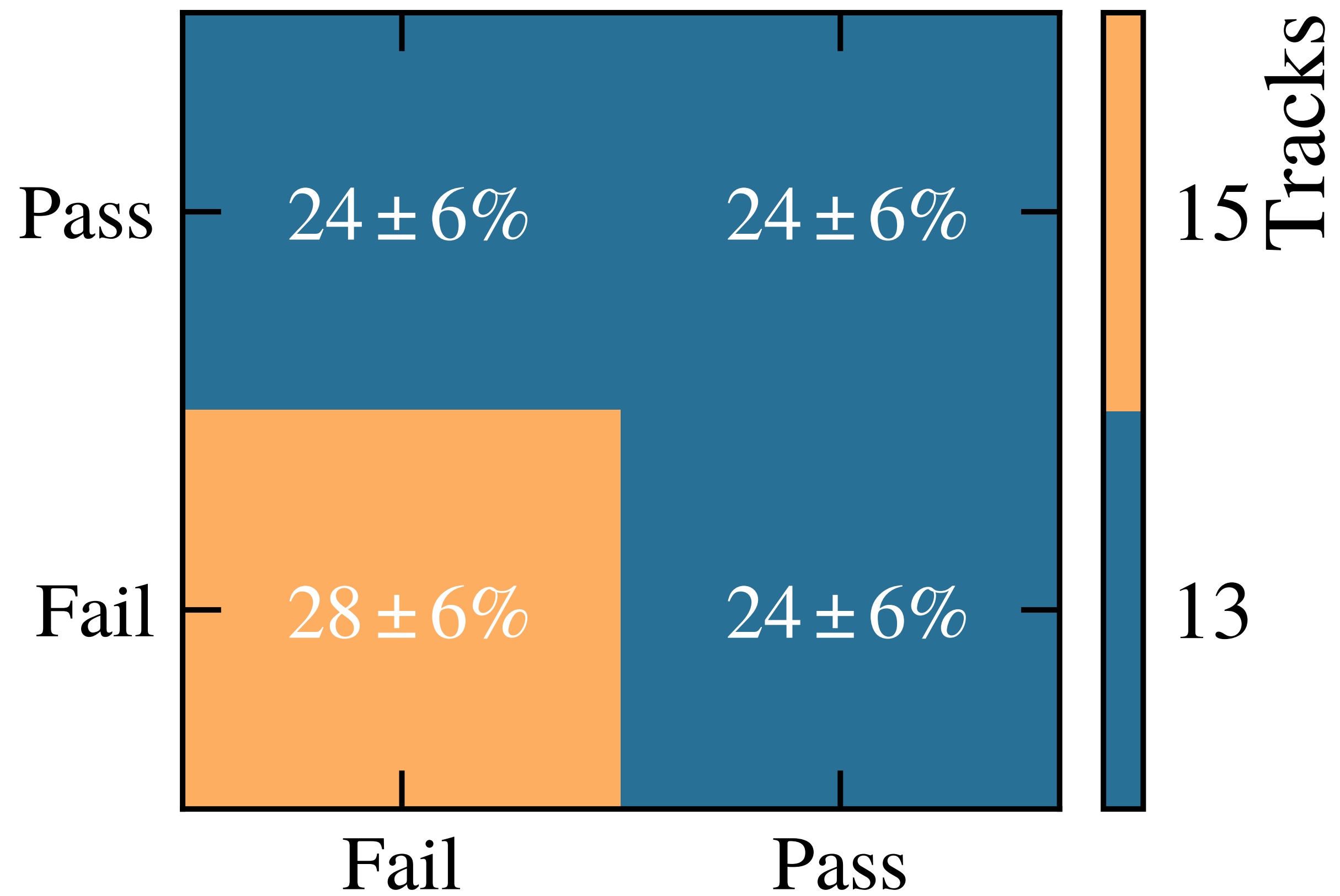
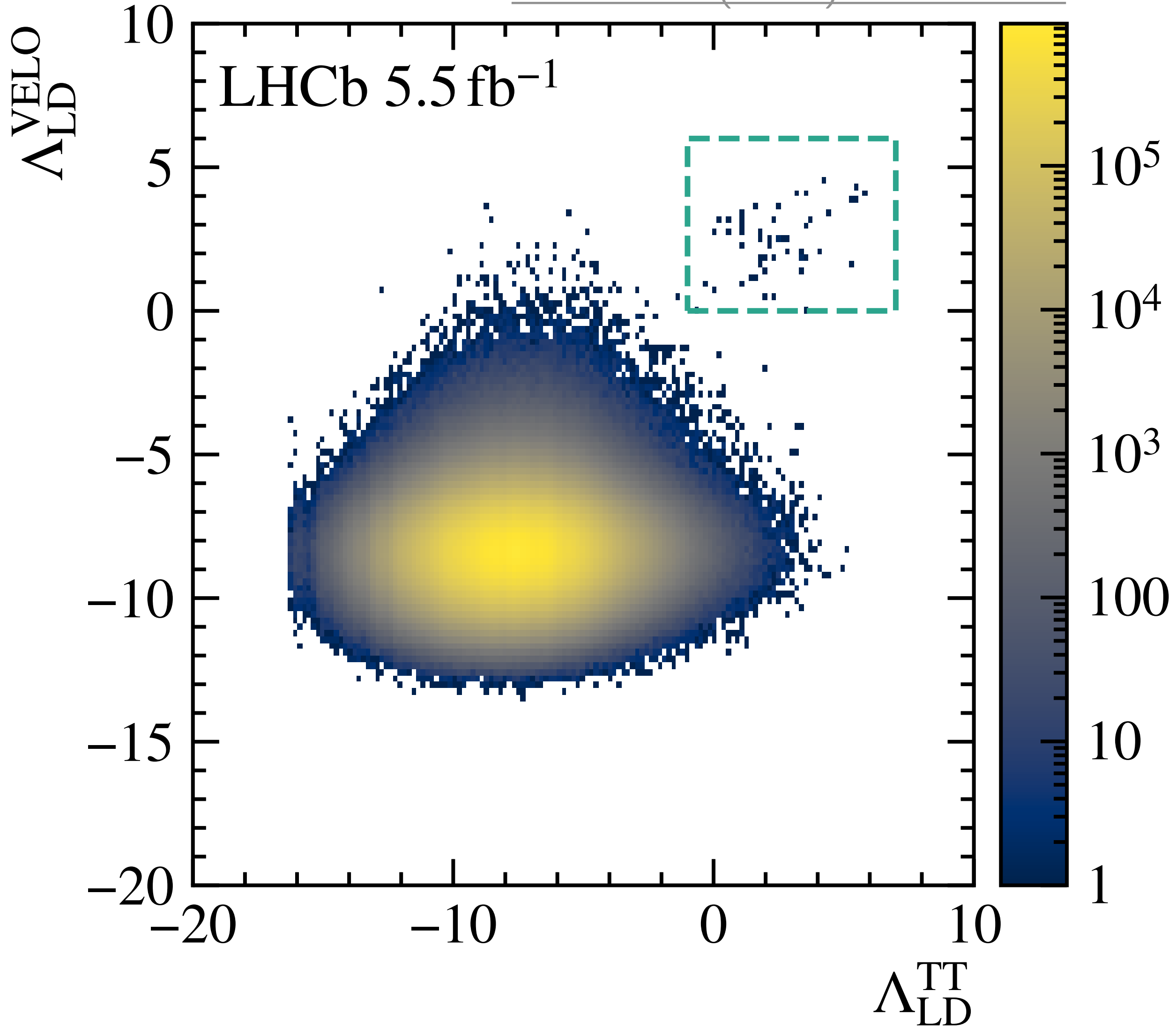


# BACKUP



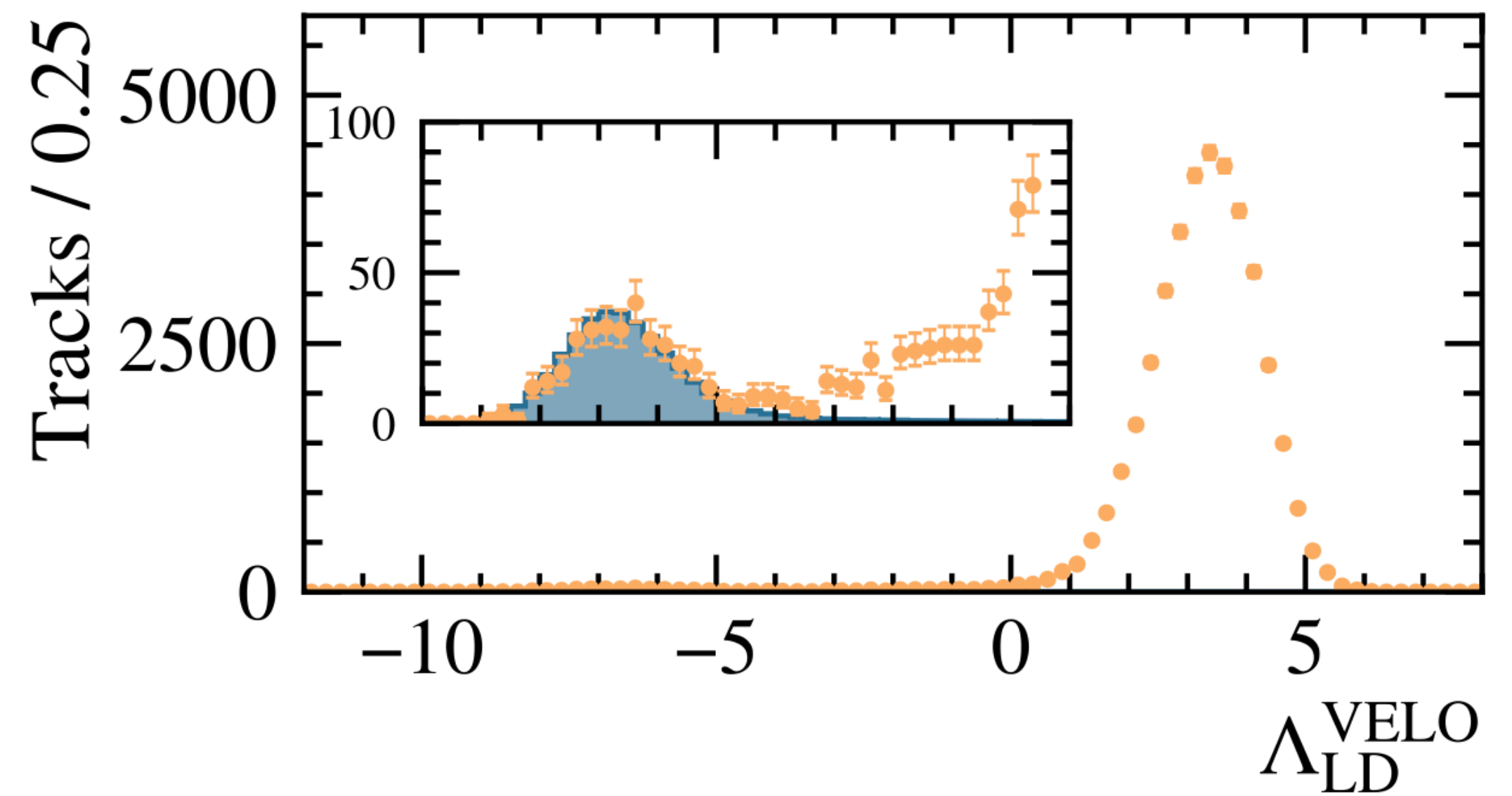
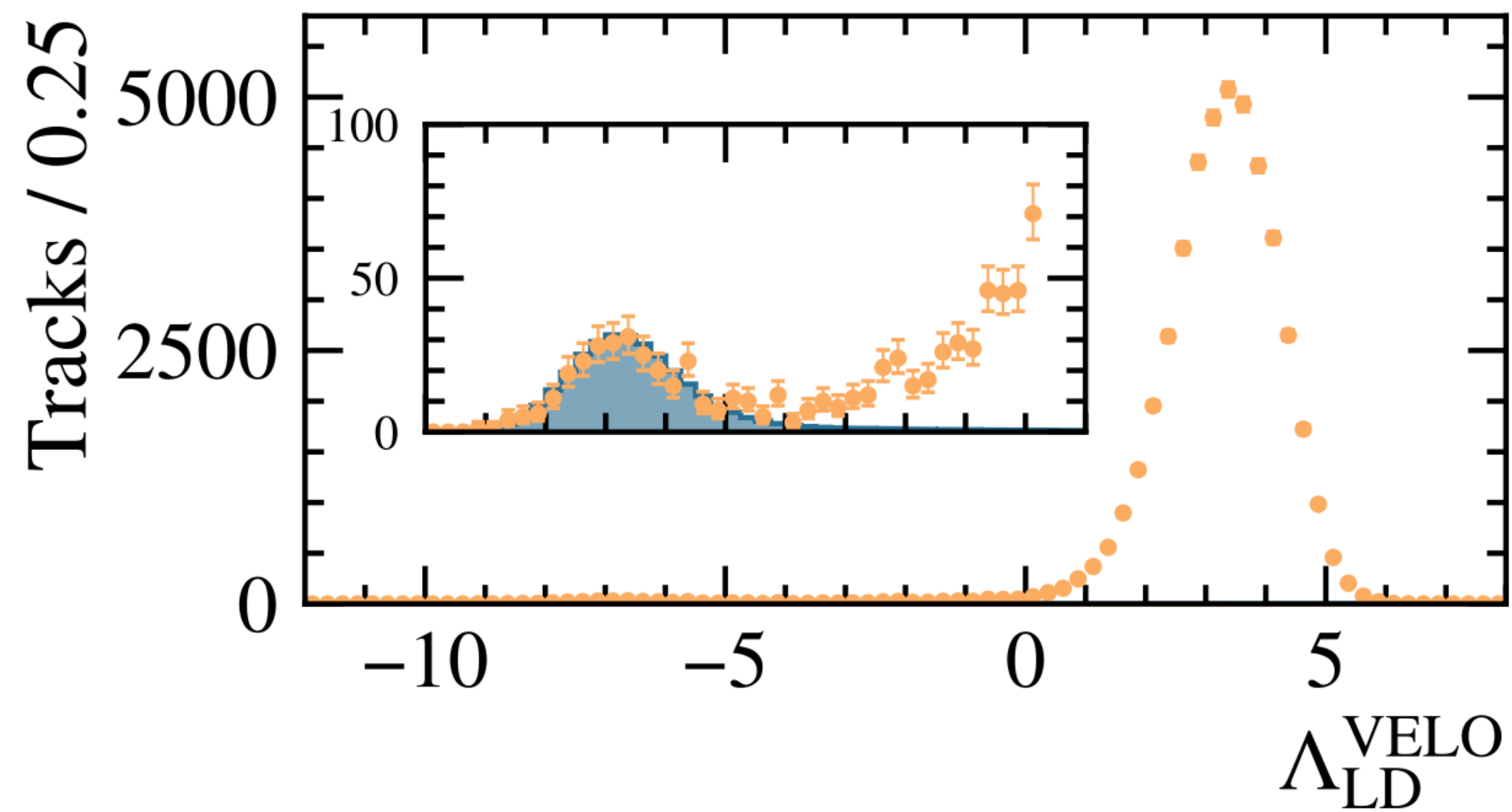
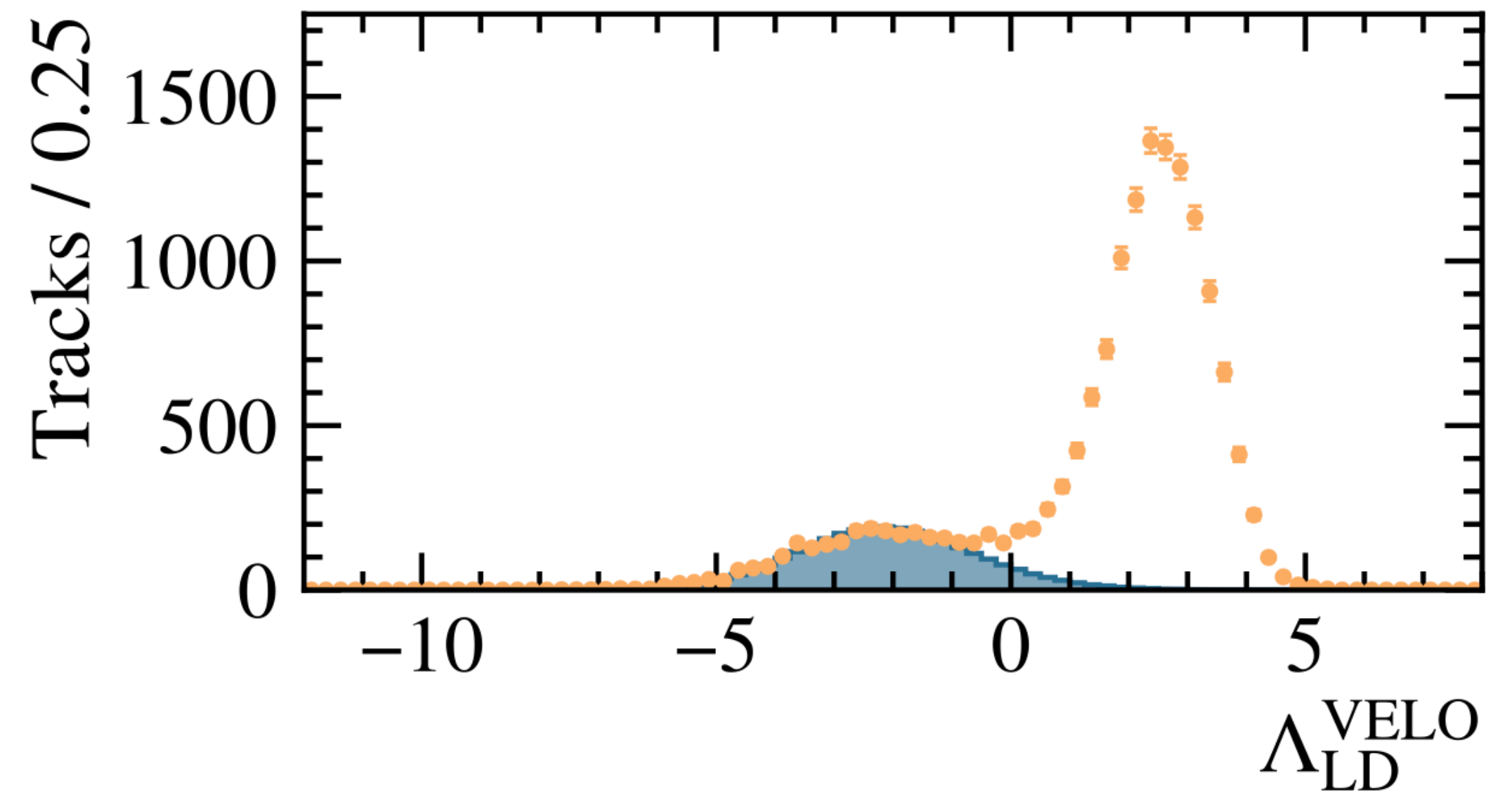
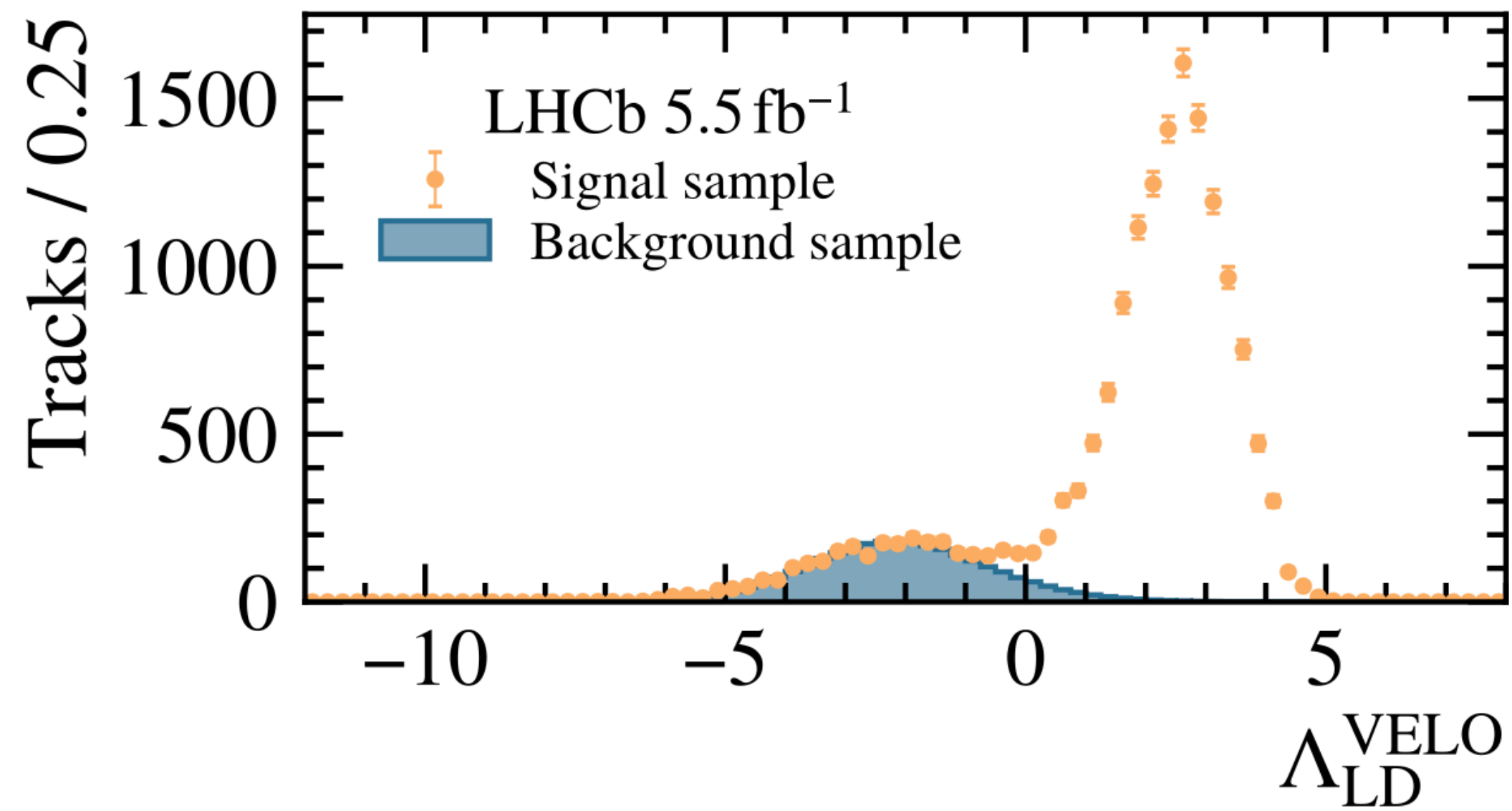


JINST 19 (2024)270 P02010

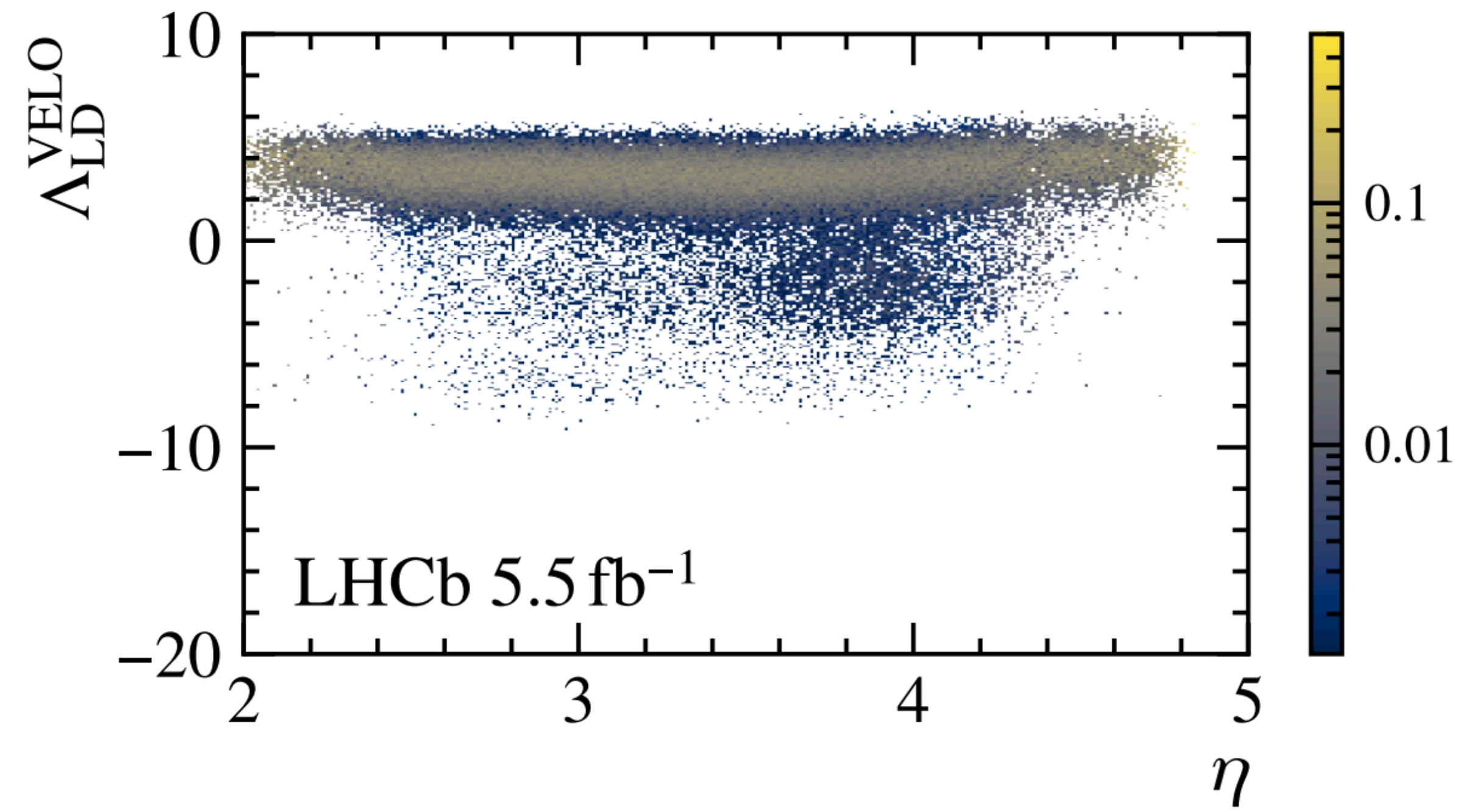
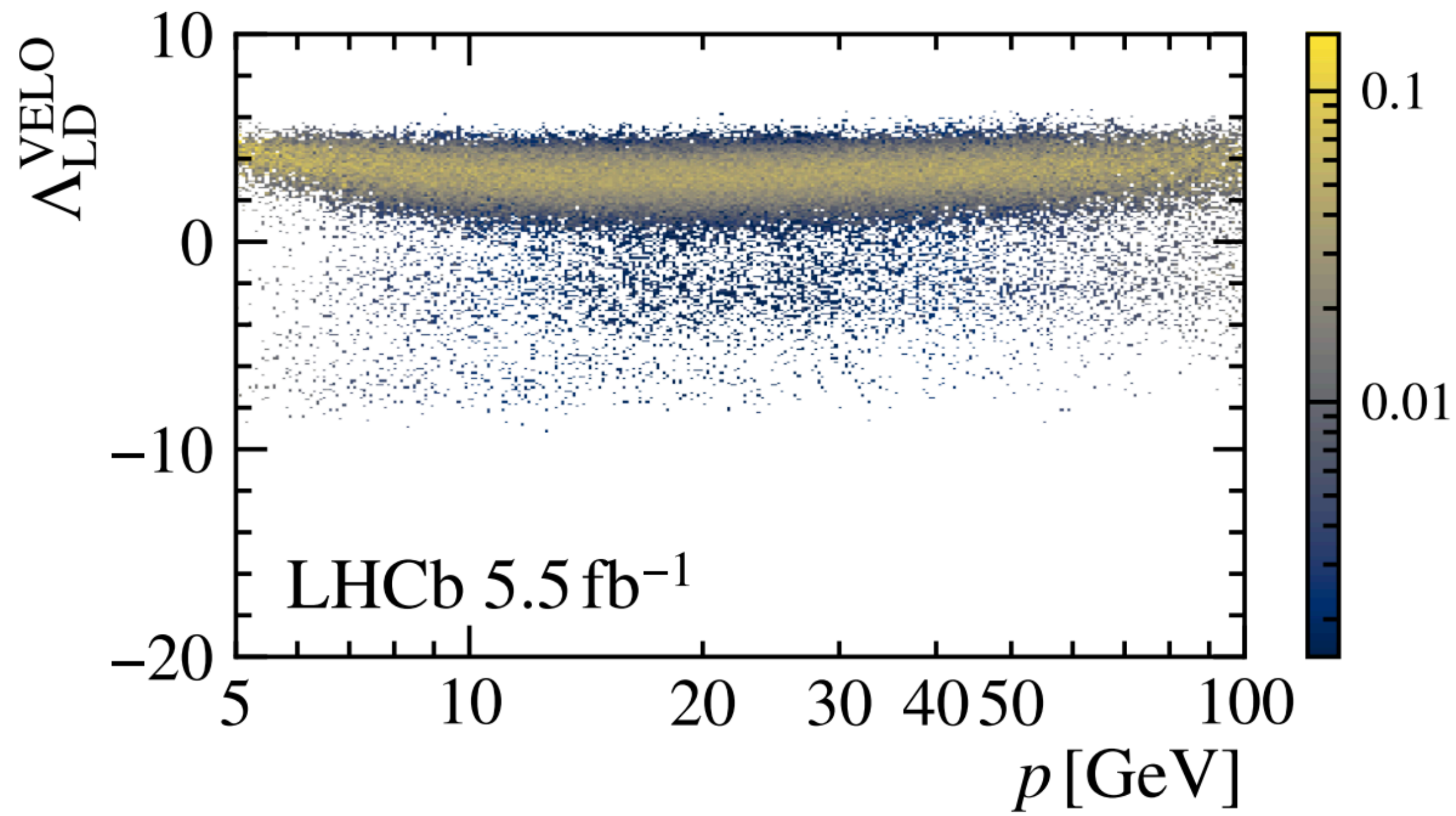




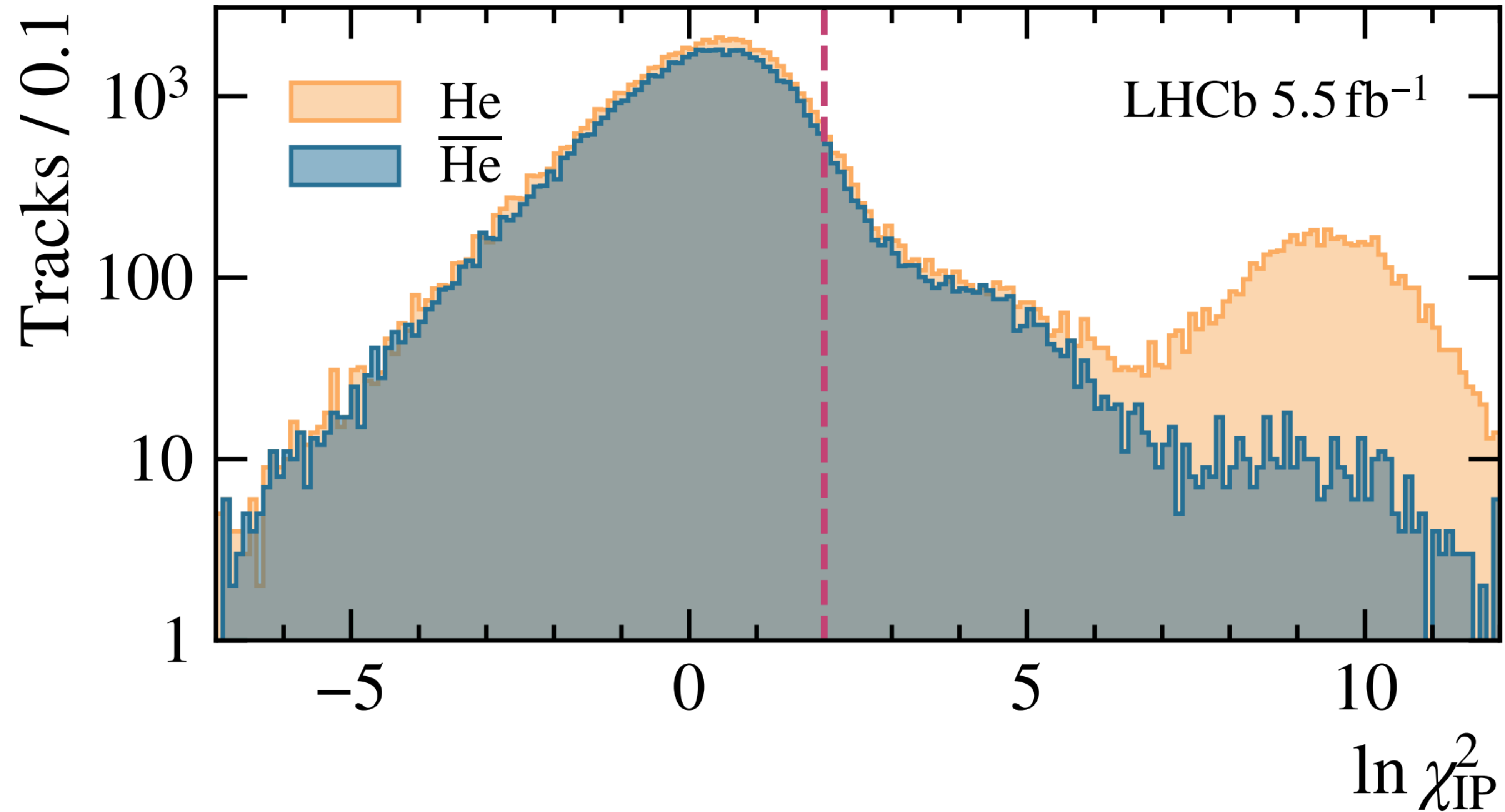
# Background estimation



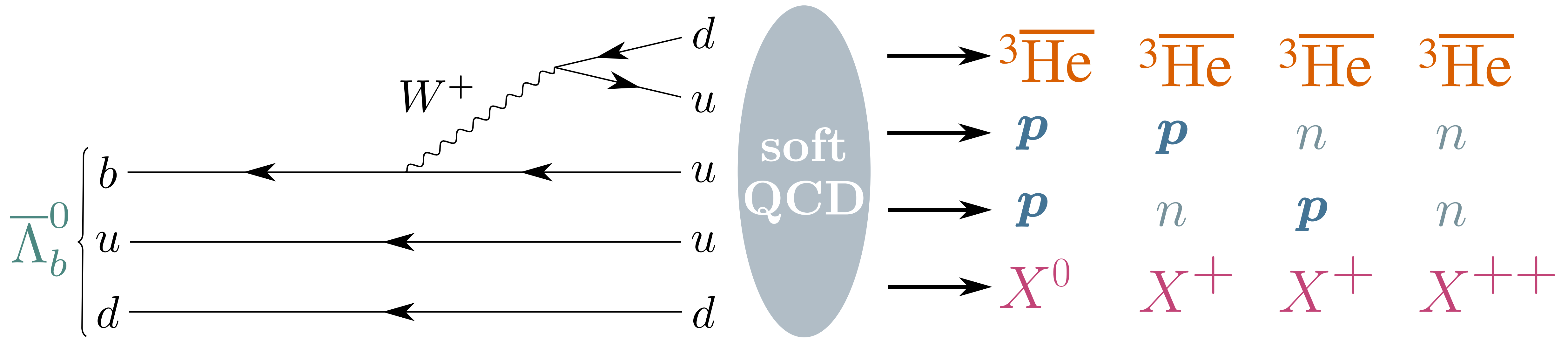
# Performance flat in kinematics



# Prompt and displaced helium

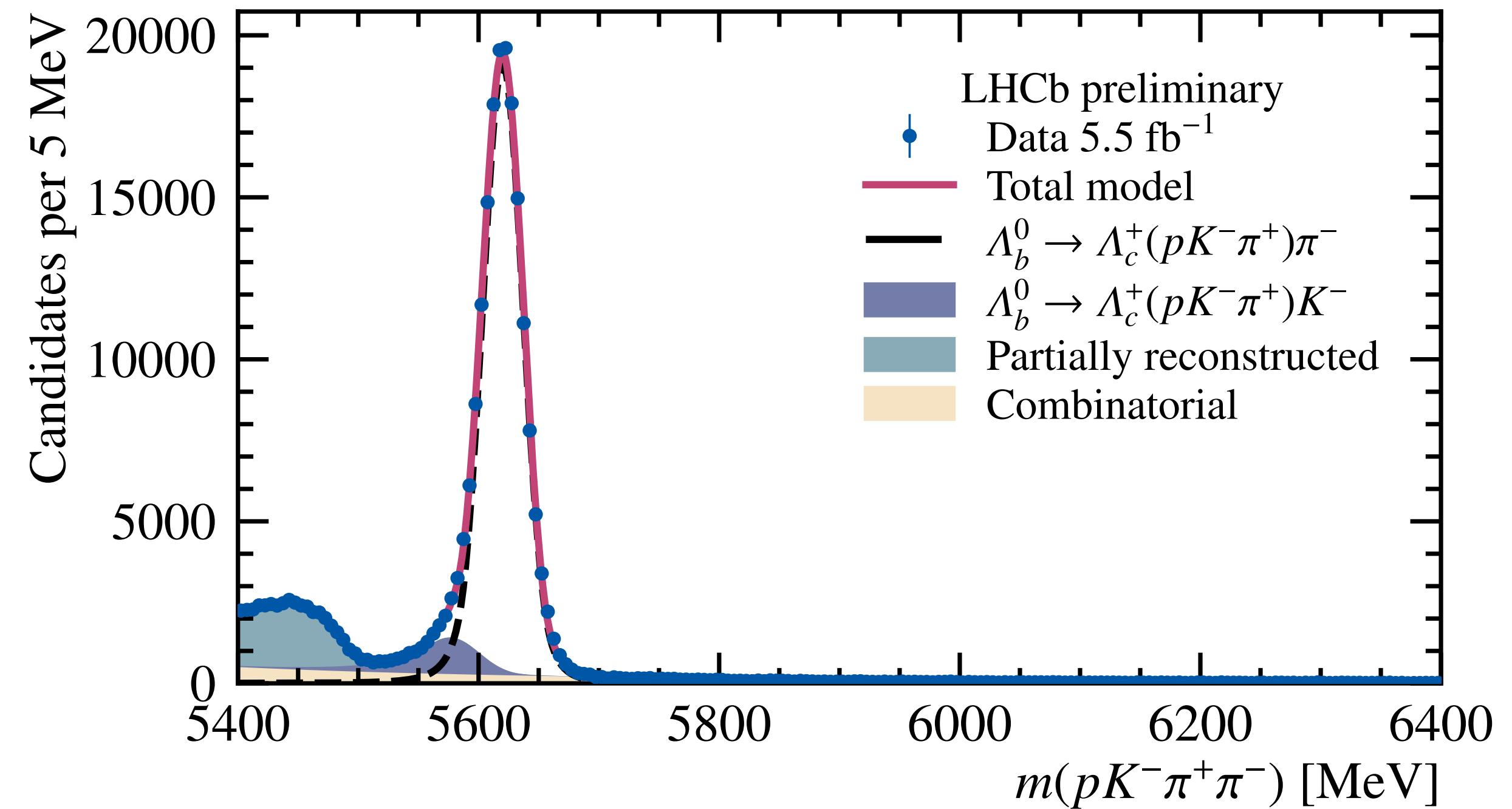


# Extrapolation to $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}X)$



# Normalisation data

- $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+(pK^-\pi^+)\pi^-$  used often in LHCb, BF  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-4})$  [JHEP 08 \(2014\) 143](#)
- aiming for purity: tight vertex and PID
- extended unbinned ML fit with shapes taken from MC
- 3 PID working points:
  - loose PID ( $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}(X)$  norm.)
  - tight PID ( $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}X$  norm.)
  - no PID (kinematic weights)



# Upper limits

values & uncertainties of normalisation & expected bkg.

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{sig}}, c_{\text{norm}}, B) = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{sig}}/c_{\text{norm}} + B) \cdot \mathcal{G}(c_{\text{norm}} | \mu_{\text{norm}}, \sigma_{\text{norm}}) \cdot \mathcal{G}(B | \mu_B, \sigma_B)$$

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values & uncertainties of normalisation & expected bkg.

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- CLs method based on Poisson likelihood

# Upper limits

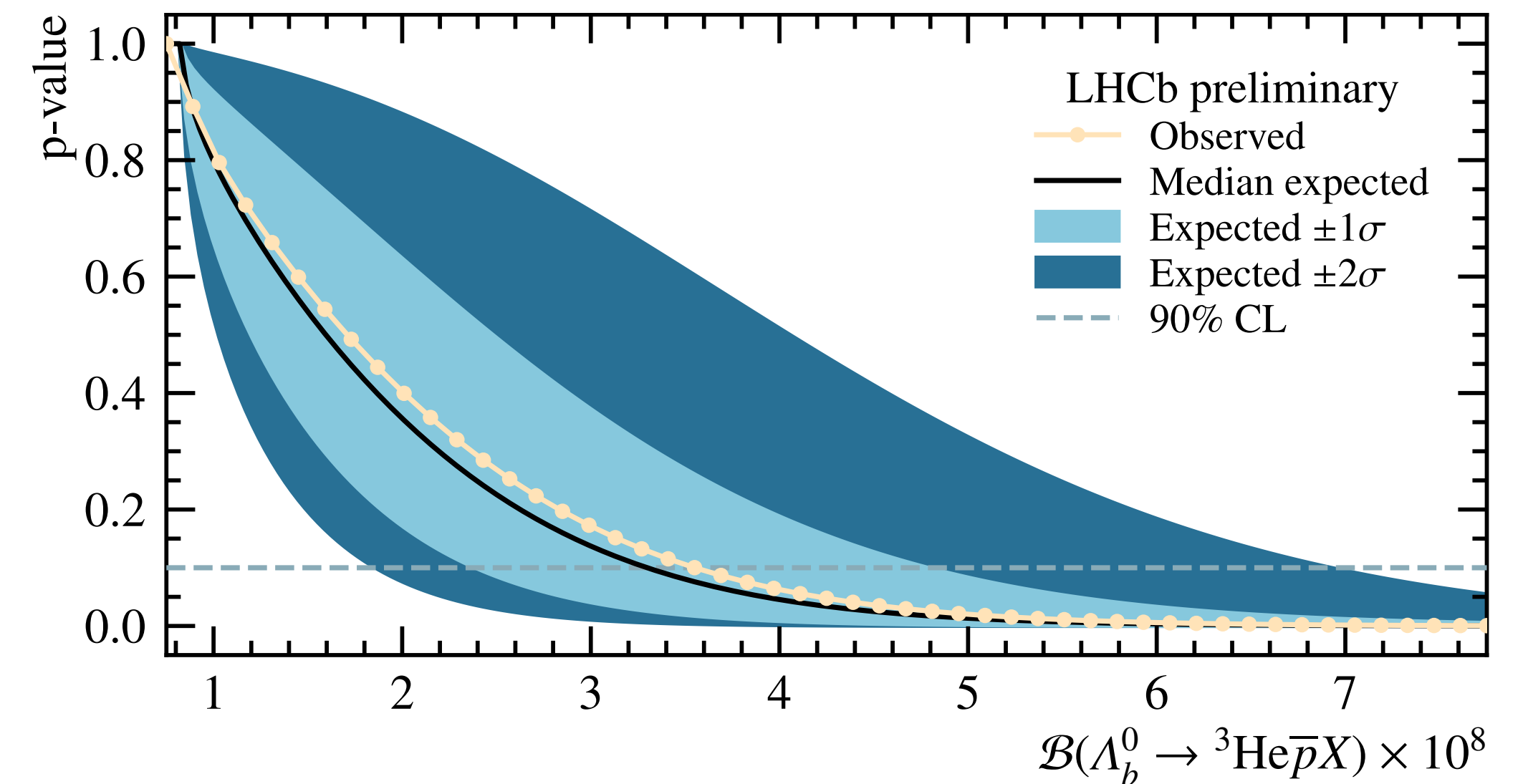
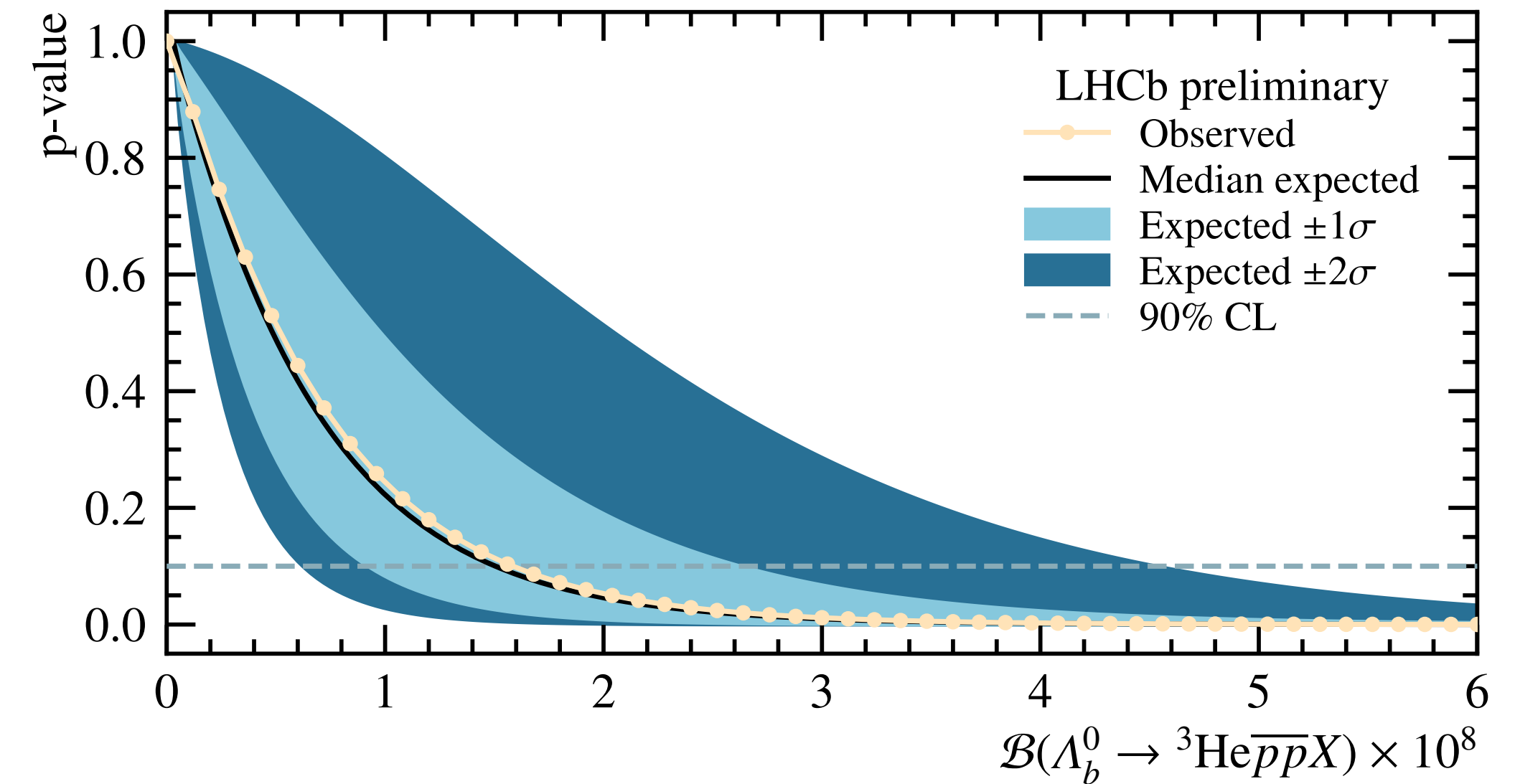
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{sig}}, c_{\text{norm}}, B) = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{sig}}/c_{\text{norm}} + B) \cdot \mathcal{G}(c_{\text{norm}} | \mu_{\text{norm}}, \sigma_{\text{norm}}) \cdot \mathcal{G}(B | \mu_B, \sigma_B)$$

values & uncertainties of normalisation & expected bkg.

- CLs method based on Poisson likelihood

- $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}X) < 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$

- $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$



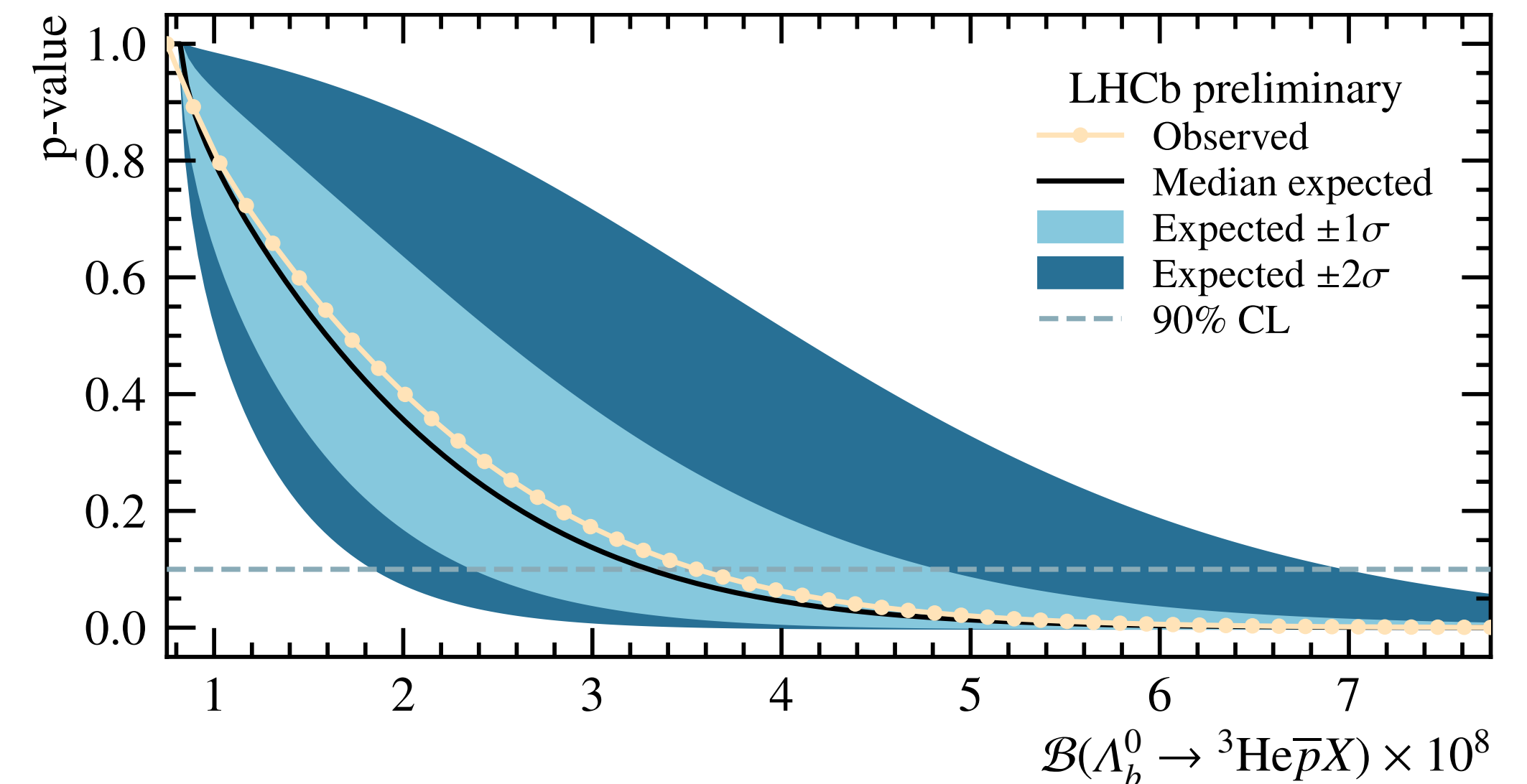
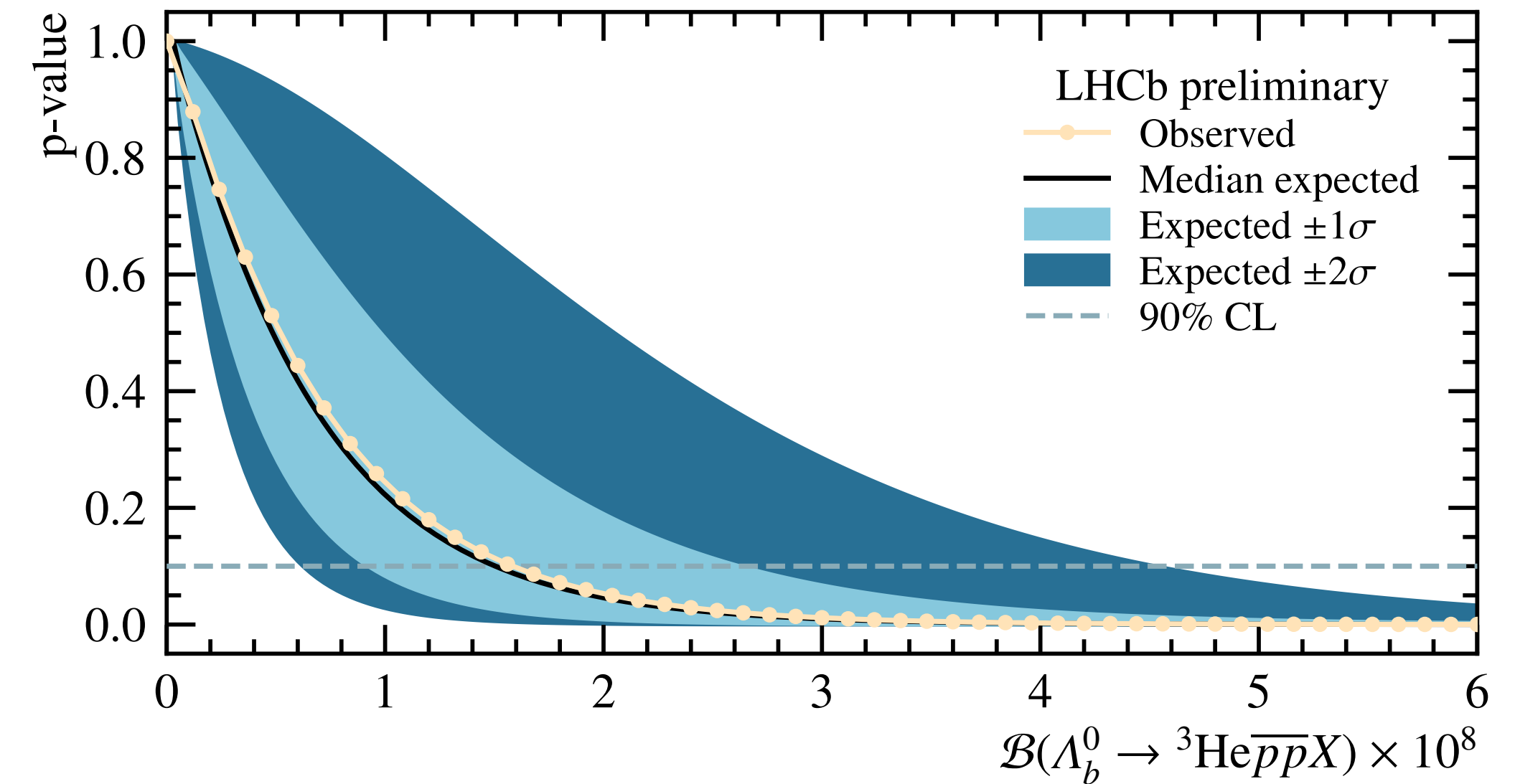


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  - $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$
- similar results from invariant-mass fit, and from the Rolke method [NIMA458\(2001\)745-758](#)

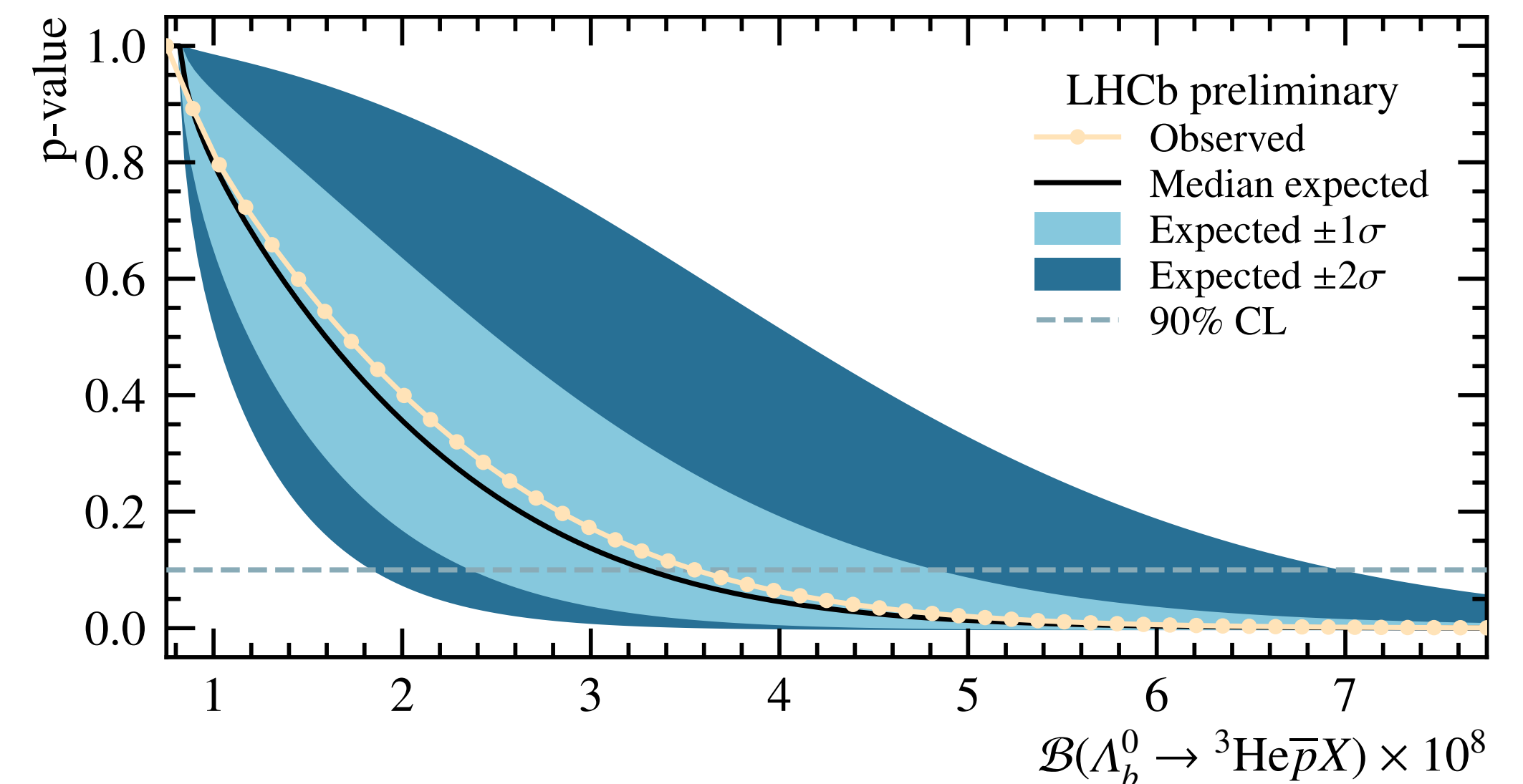
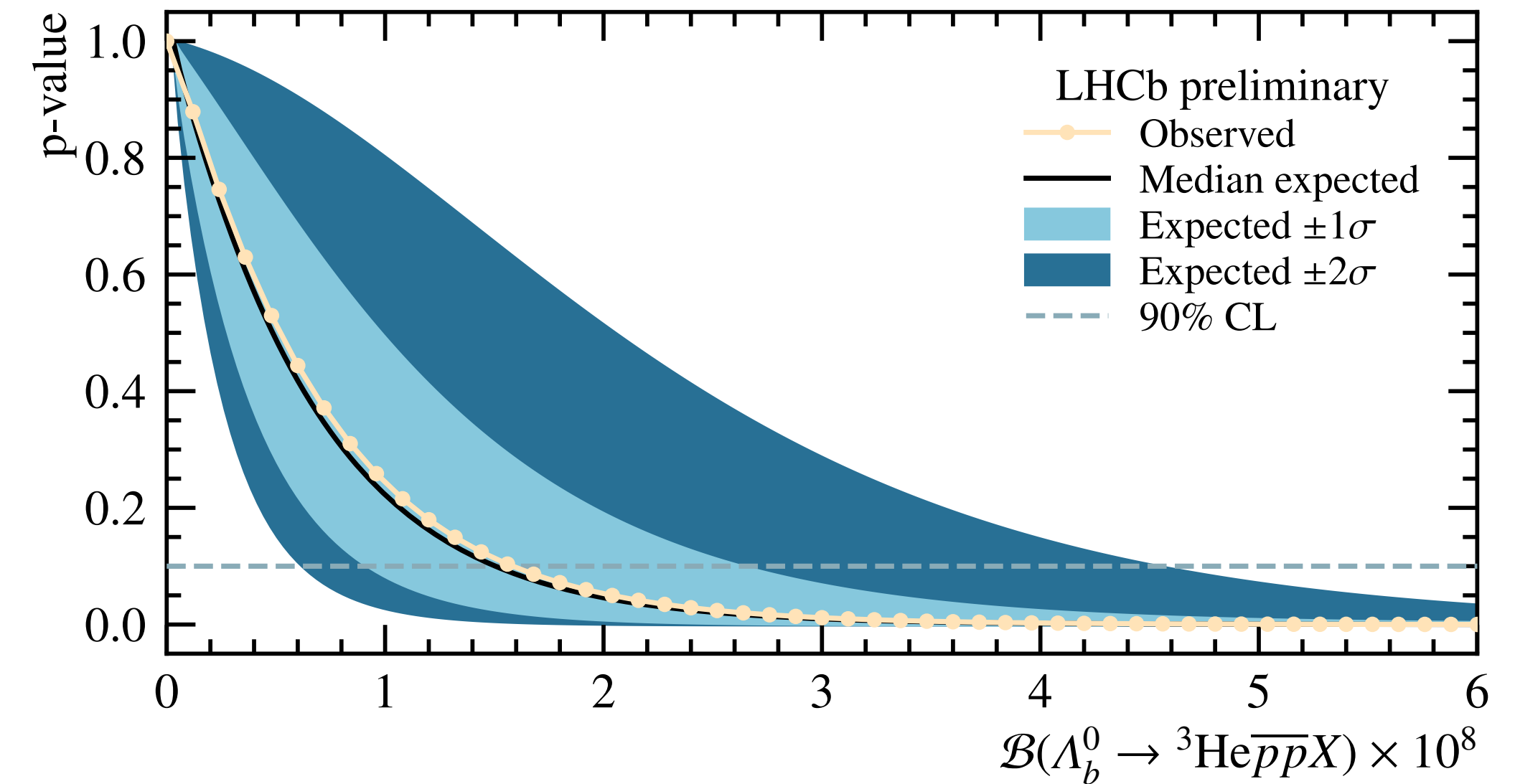


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- similar results from invariant-mass fit, and from the Rolke method [NIMA458\(2001\)745-758](#)
- fit impractical for exclusive mode, Rolke used
  - $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}) < 1.9 \times 10^{-9}$

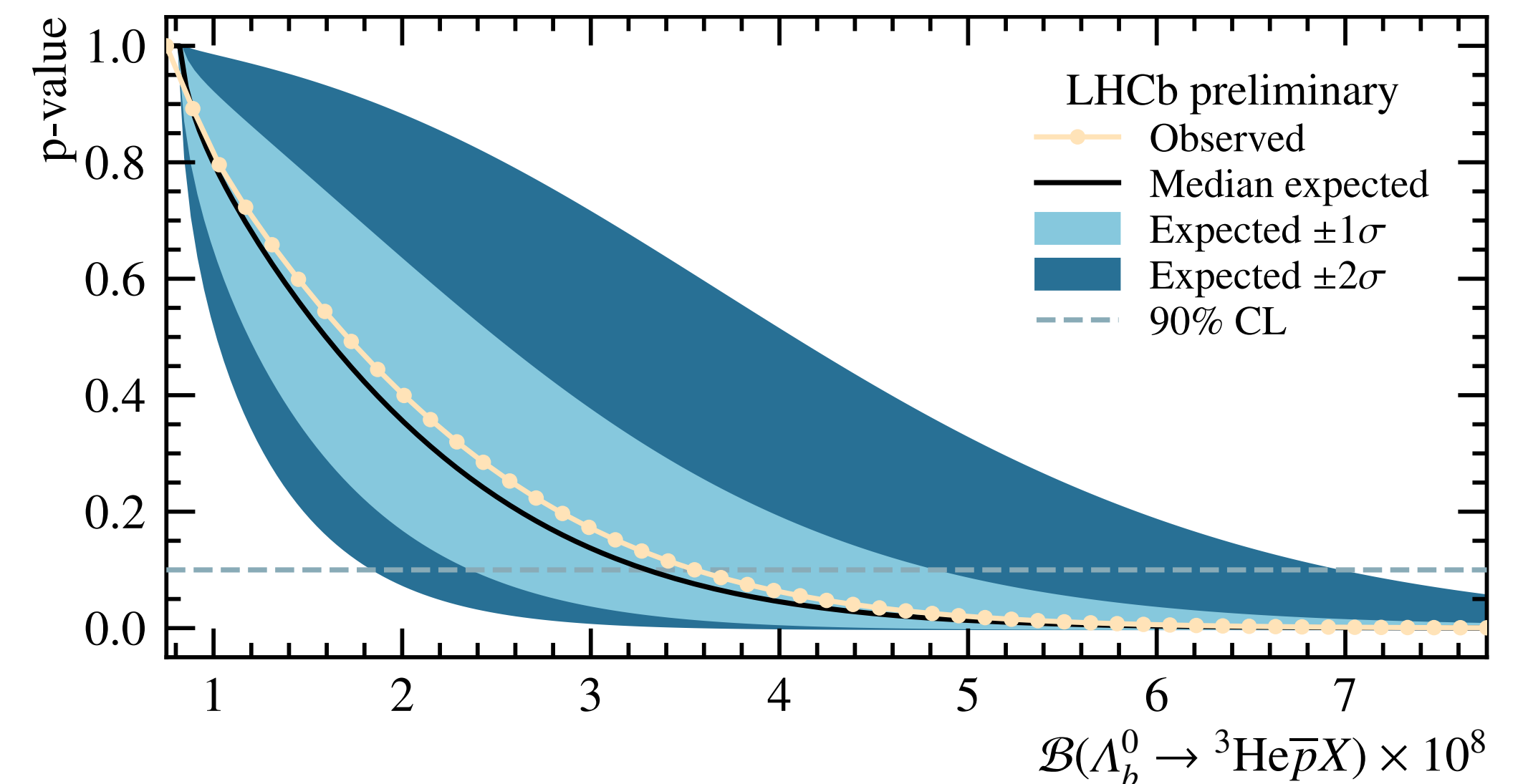
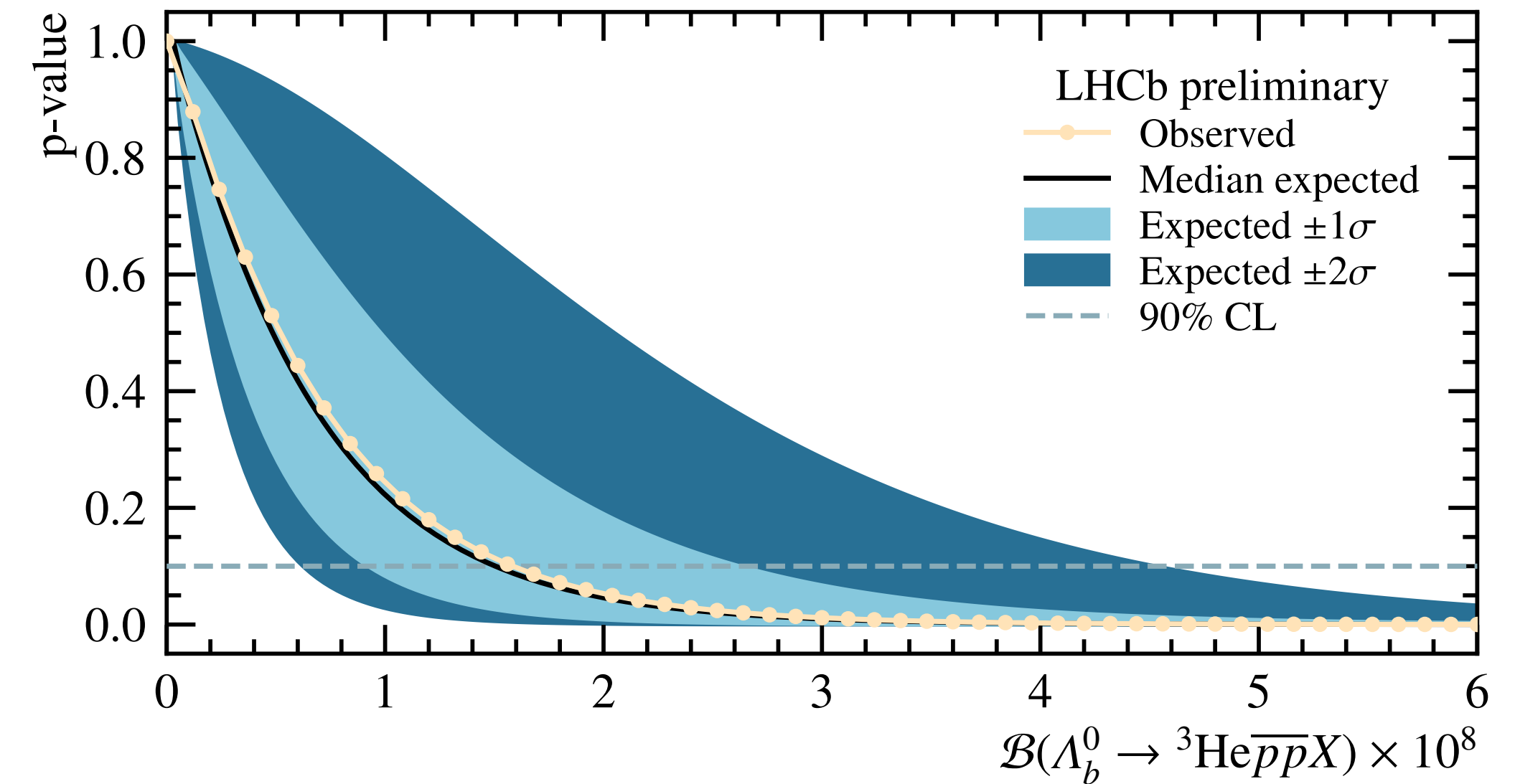


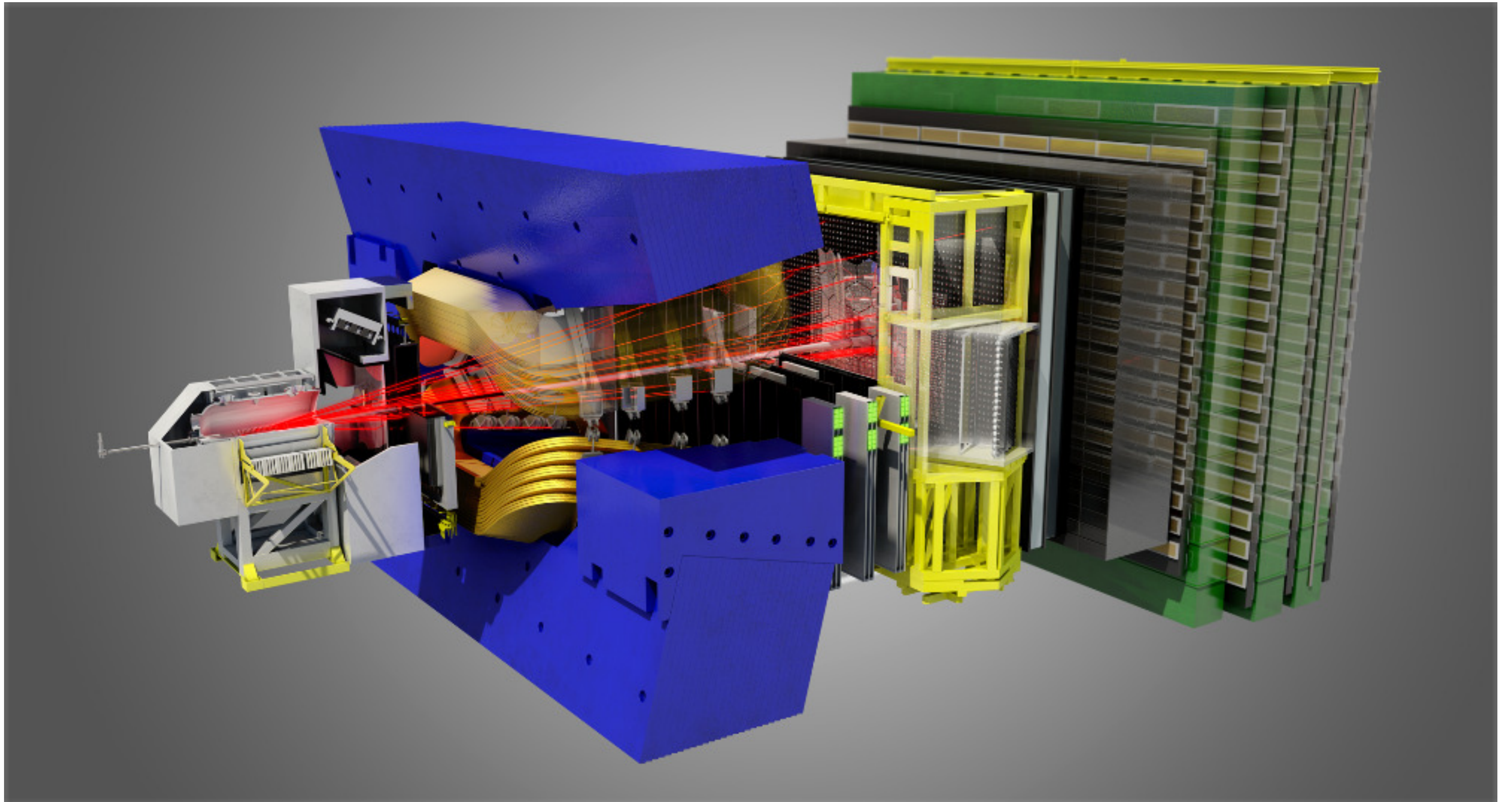
# Upper limits

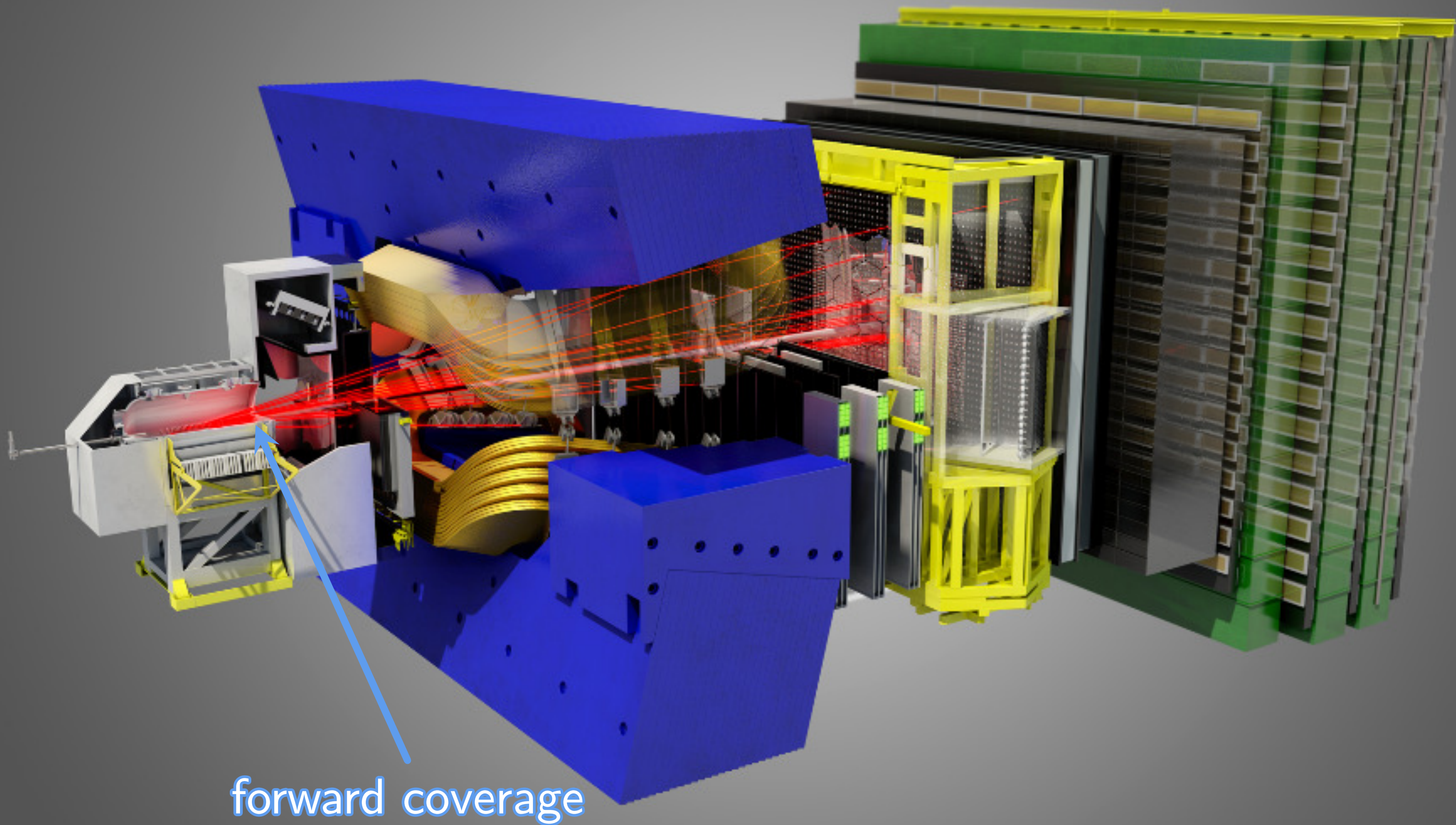
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- CLs method based on Poisson likelihood
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  - $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}X) < 3.6 \times 10^{-8}$
- similar results from invariant-mass fit, and from the Rolke method [NIMA458\(2001\)745-758](#)
- fit impractical for exclusive mode, Rolke used
  - $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}) < 1.9 \times 10^{-9}$
- conservative extrapolation assuming isospin:
  - $\Rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}X) < 6.3 \times 10^{-8}$

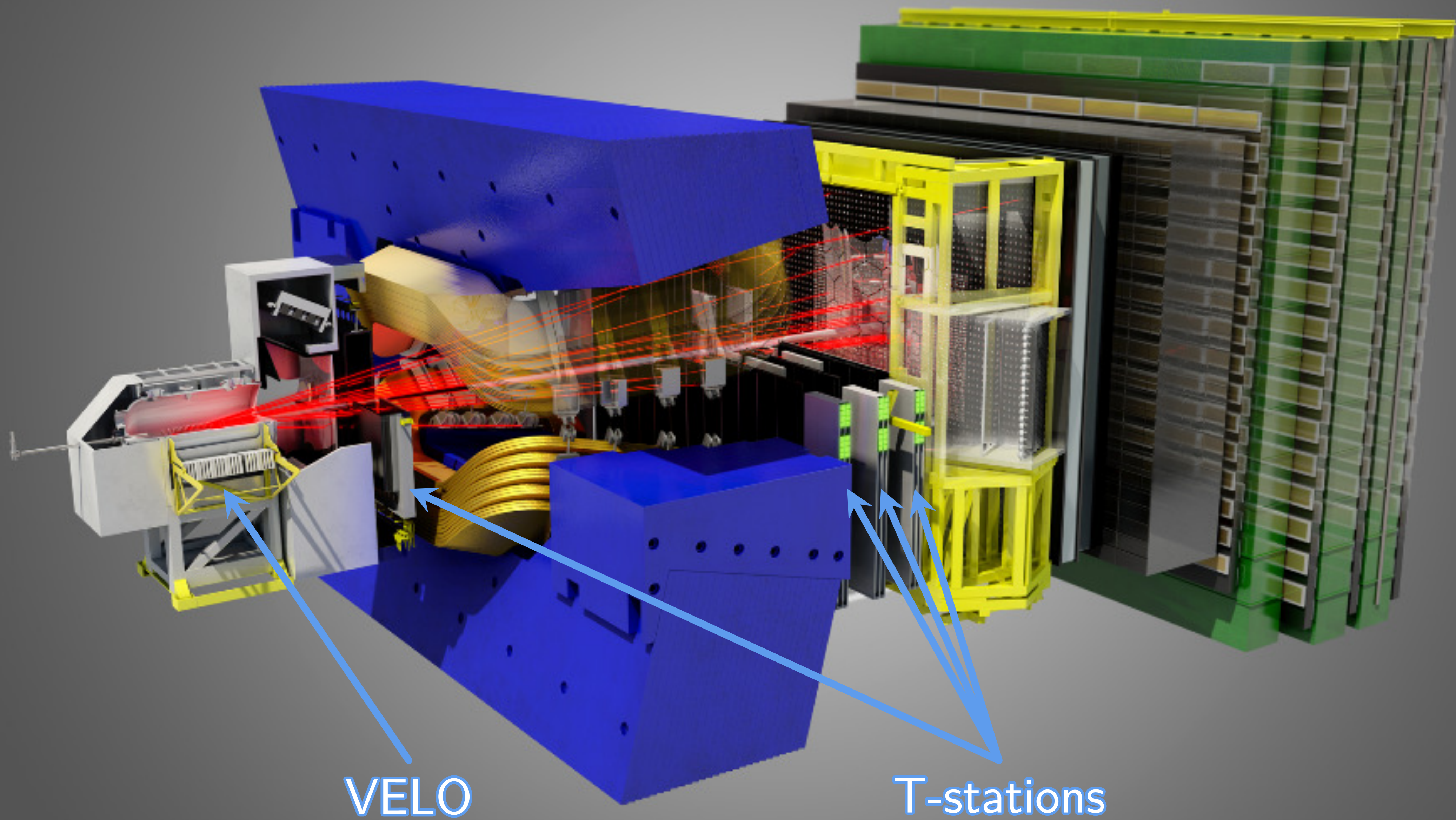




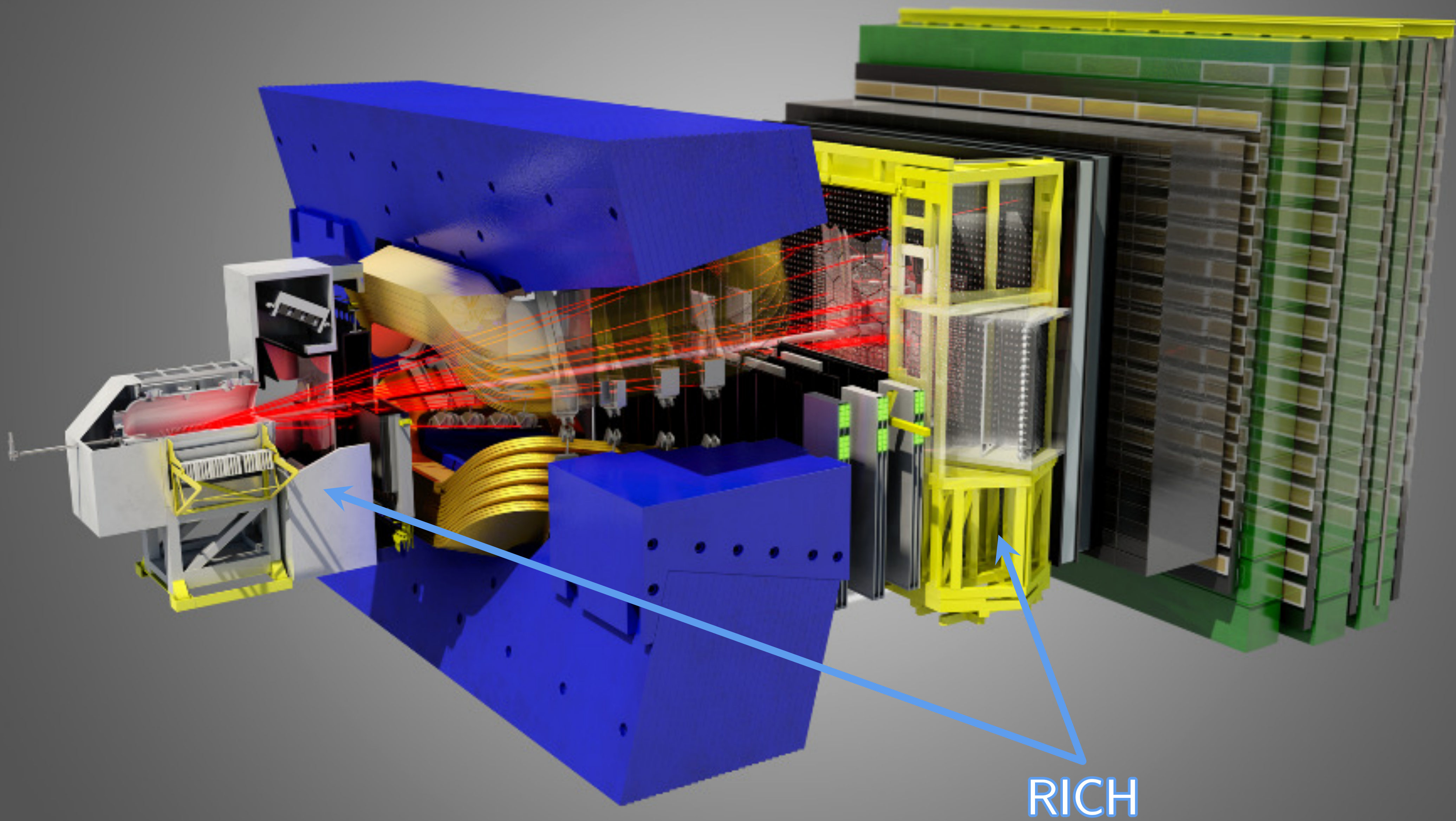


forward coverage

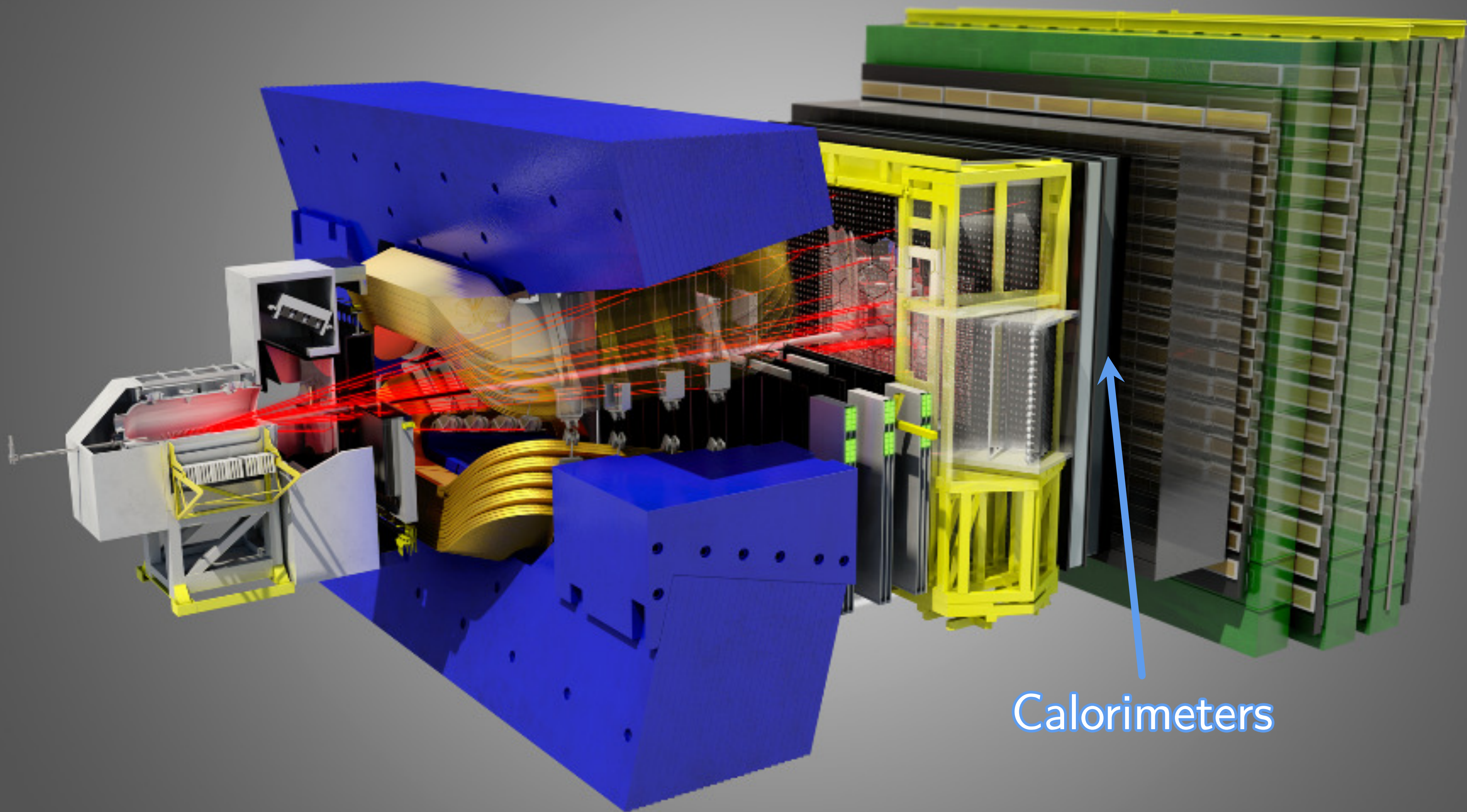
$\sigma_{b\bar{b}}$  up to  $\sim 500 \mu\text{b}$



$$\sigma_{\text{IP}} = (15 \pm 29/p_T) \mu\text{m} \quad \sigma_p/p \in [0.5\%, 1\%]$$

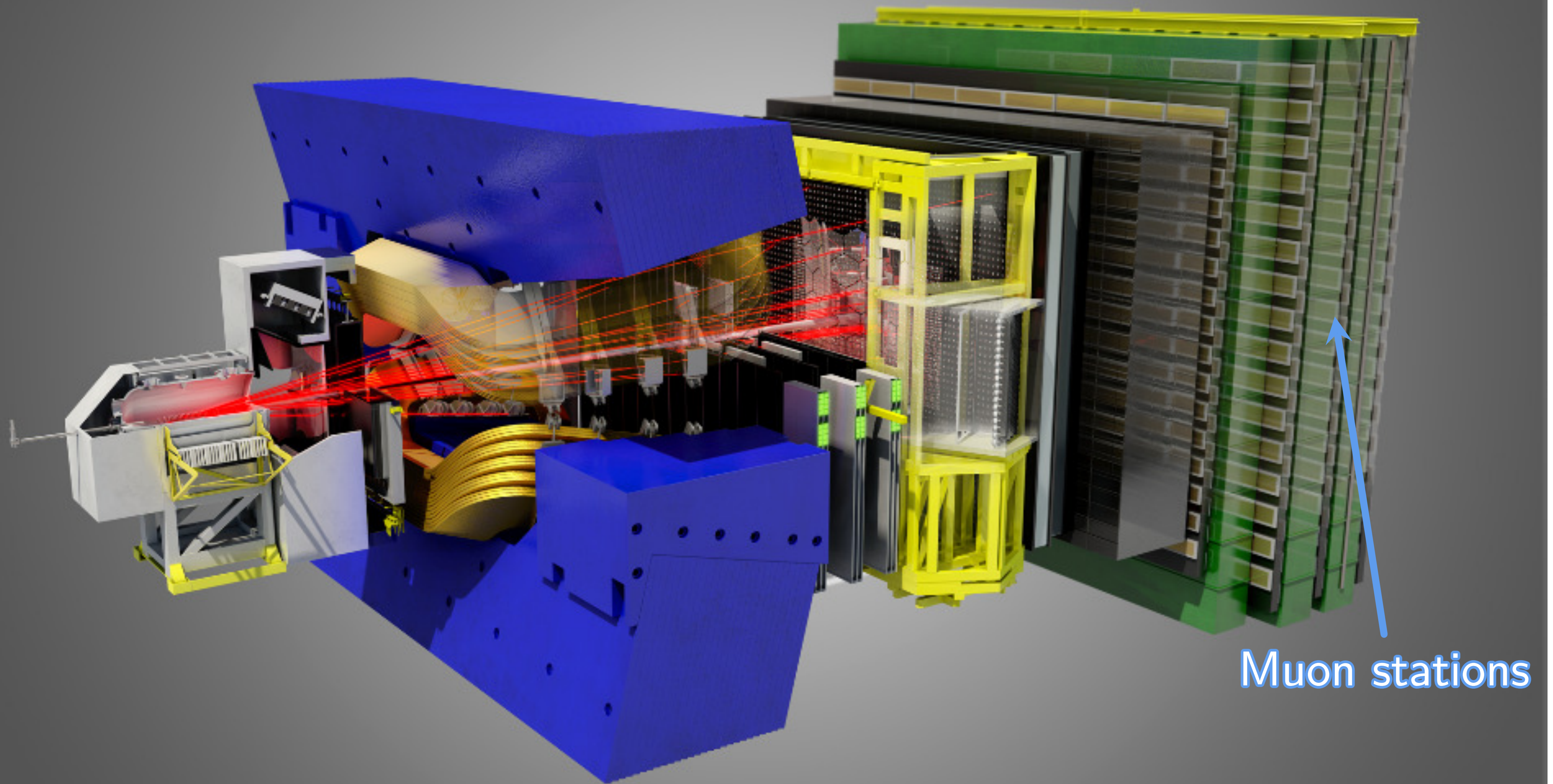


$$\epsilon_{K \rightarrow K} \sim 95\%, \quad \epsilon_{\pi \rightarrow K} \sim 5\%$$



$$\sigma_E/E = 1\% + 10\%/\sqrt{E}$$





Muon stations

$$\epsilon_{\mu \rightarrow \mu} \sim 97\%, \quad \epsilon_{\pi \rightarrow \mu} \sim 1 - 3\%$$