

# Update on identification of $\pi$ , $K$ , $p$ with ALICE-TPC detector for LHC Run 3 pp data

**Dhrubajyoti Choudhury & Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee**  
**Nuclear and Radiation Physics Research Laboratory,**  
**Department of Physics**  
**Gauhati University, Guwahati - 781014**



**ALICE-STAR-India collaboration meeting,**  
**November 21 - 24, 2023**  
**Jammu University**



# Outline

- Introduction
- Analysis Details
- Results
- Summary
- Outlook

# Introduction

- The general motivation is to study the physics of strongly interacting matter, and in particular the properties of Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP), using proton-proton, nucleus-nucleus and proton-nucleus collisions at high energies.
- Proton-proton (pp) collisions are used as a reference to study heavy-ion collisions (HIC).
- In this report I shall give an brief account of identification of  $\pi, K, p$  for Run 3 pp data using ALICE TPC detector.
- To study particle to antiparticle ratio as well as kaon to pion ratio and proton to pion ratio.

# Analysis Details

- ALICE data : pp at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV
- Periods : LHC22f\_pass4
- Run Number : 520473, 520472, 520471, 520294, 520259
- MC data : pp at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV
- Periods : LHC23d1k (anchored to pass4)
- Run Number : 520473, 520472, 520471, 520294, 520259

# Analysis Details

## Event Selection

- `bool sel8() = selection[klsBBT0A] & selection[klsBBT0C]`
- $|Z_{vertex}| < 10 \text{ cm}$

## Track Selection

- Minimum TPC crossed row : 70
- Minimum ratio of crossed rows over findable clusters TPC : 0.8
- Maximum  $\chi^2$ /TPC cluster : 4
- Maximum  $\chi^2$ /ITS cluster : 36
- TPC Refit & ITS Refit
- DCA to  $Z_{vertex}$  : 2 cm
- $|\eta| < 0.8$
- $|y| < 0.5$

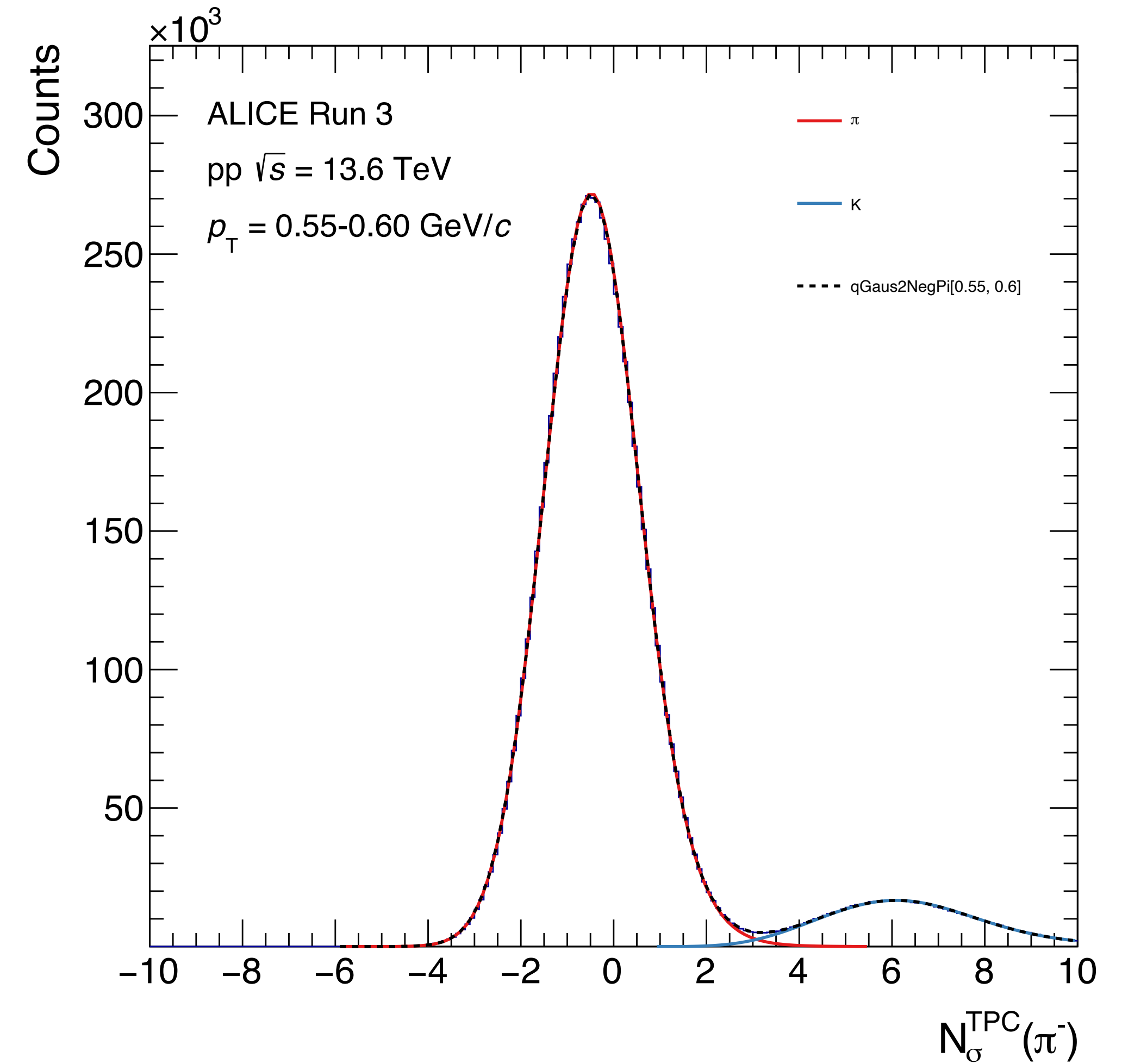
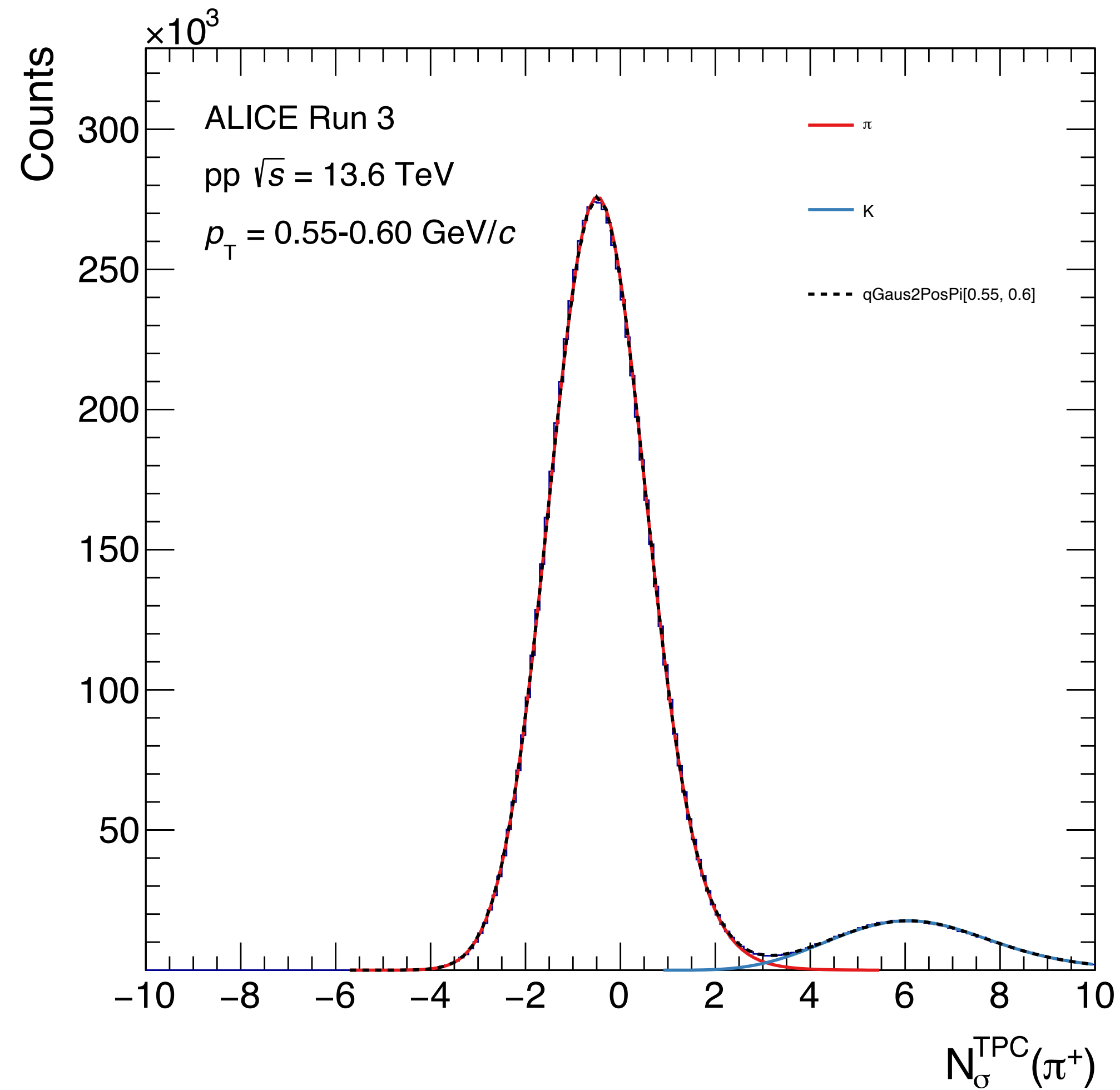
~ 80 M events

# Analysis Details

- Detector used : Time Projection Chamber (TPC)
- Method : Statistical unfolding of TPC signal
- Variable  $p_T$  bin :
- { 0.0, 0.1, 0.12, 0.14, 0.16, 0.18, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35, 0.4, 0.45, 0.5, 0.55, 0.6, 0.65, 0.7, 0.75, 0.8, 0.85, 0.9, 0.95, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 2.0, 2.2, 2.4, 2.6, 2.8, 3.0, 3.2, 3.4, 3.6, 3.8, 4.0, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.8, 5.0 }

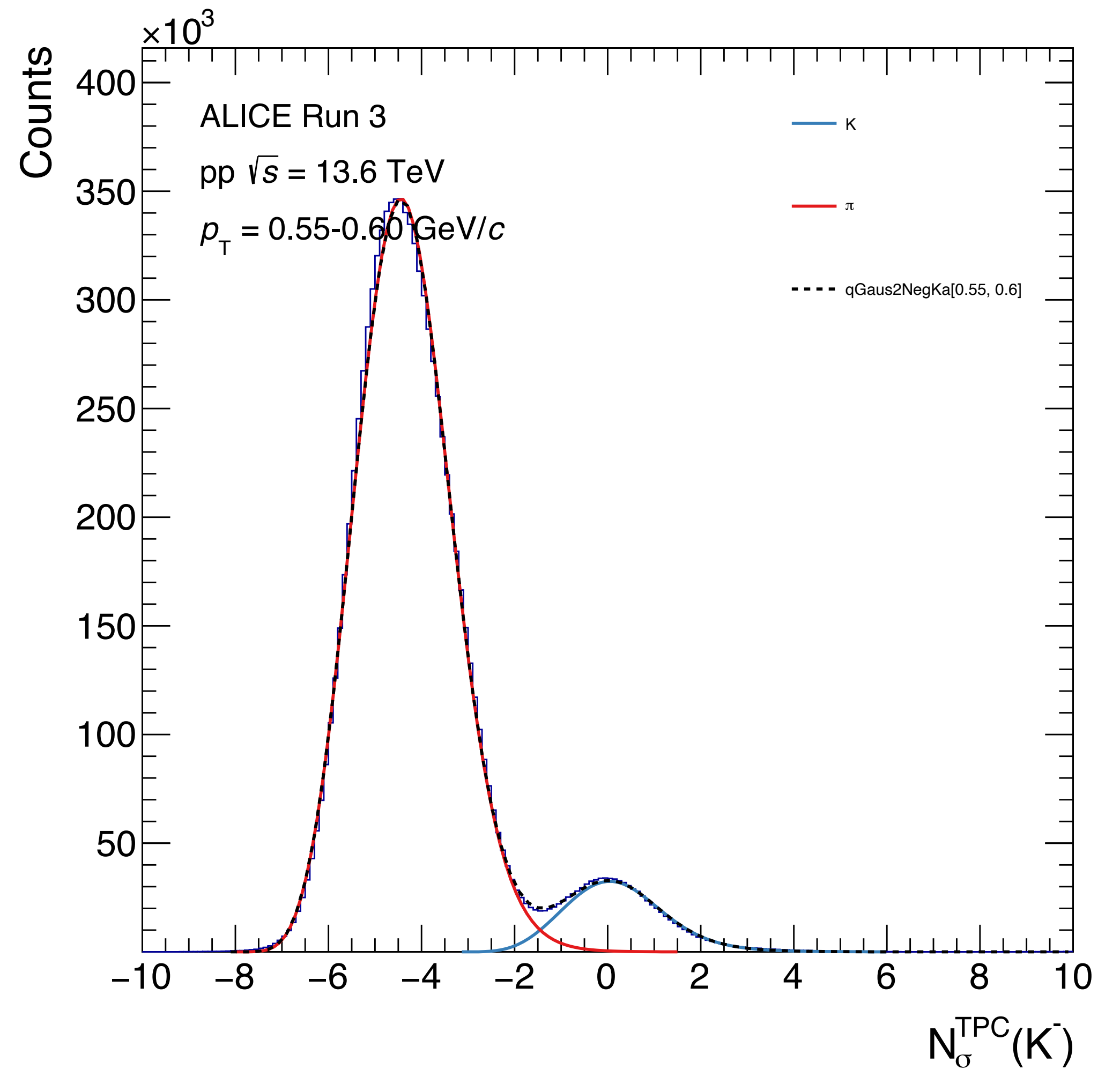
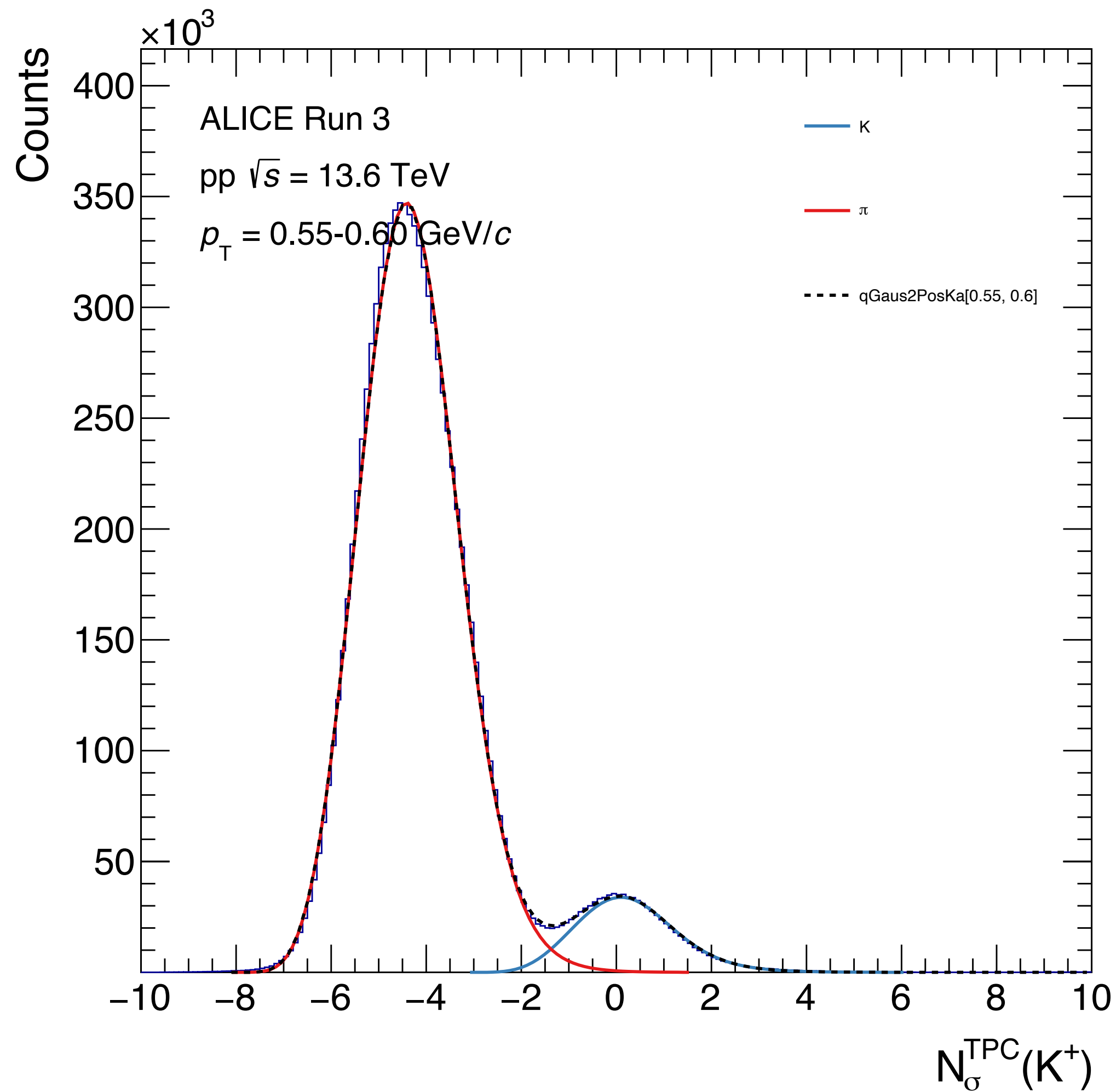
# Results

## Fitting of TPC signal for $\pi^+$ , $\pi^-$



# Results

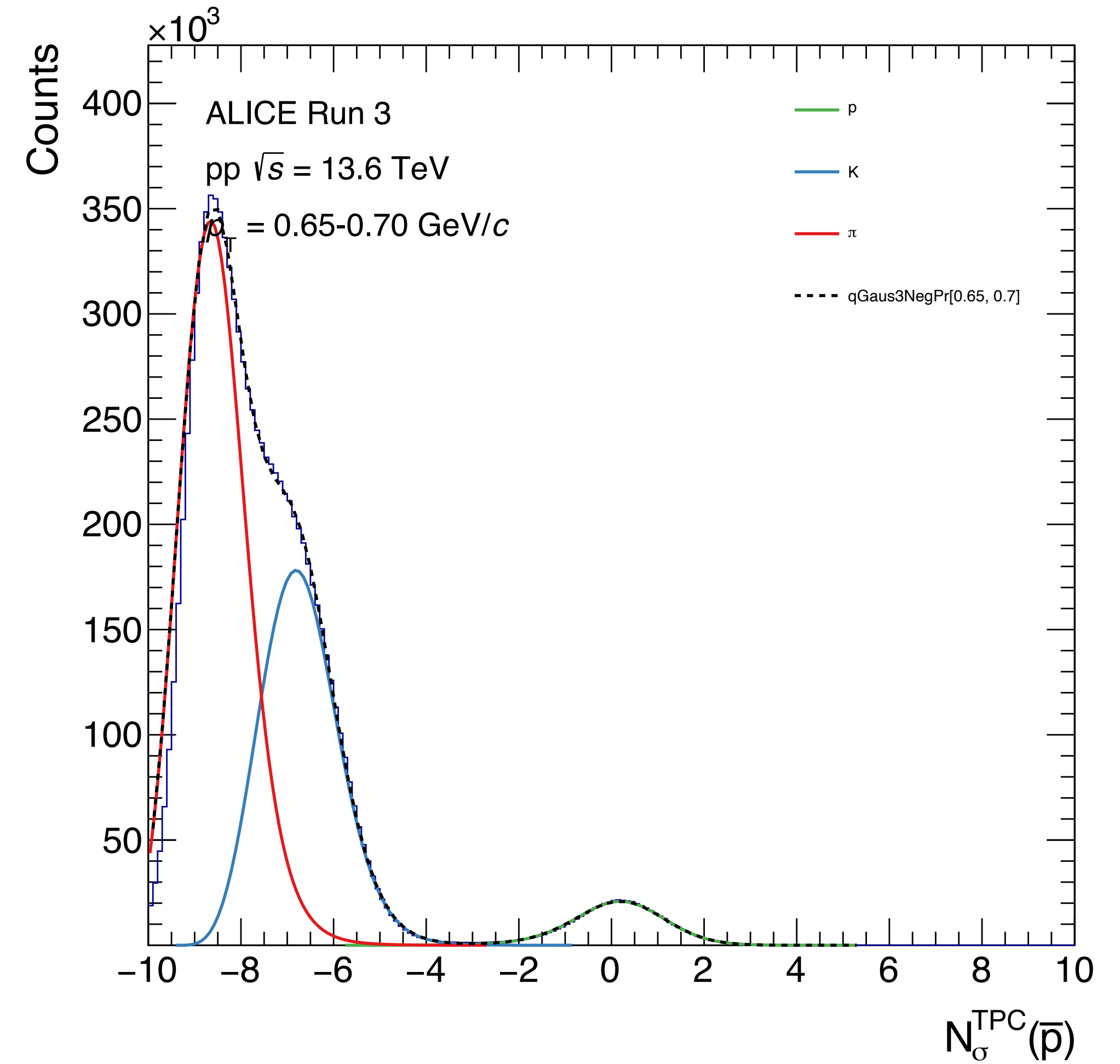
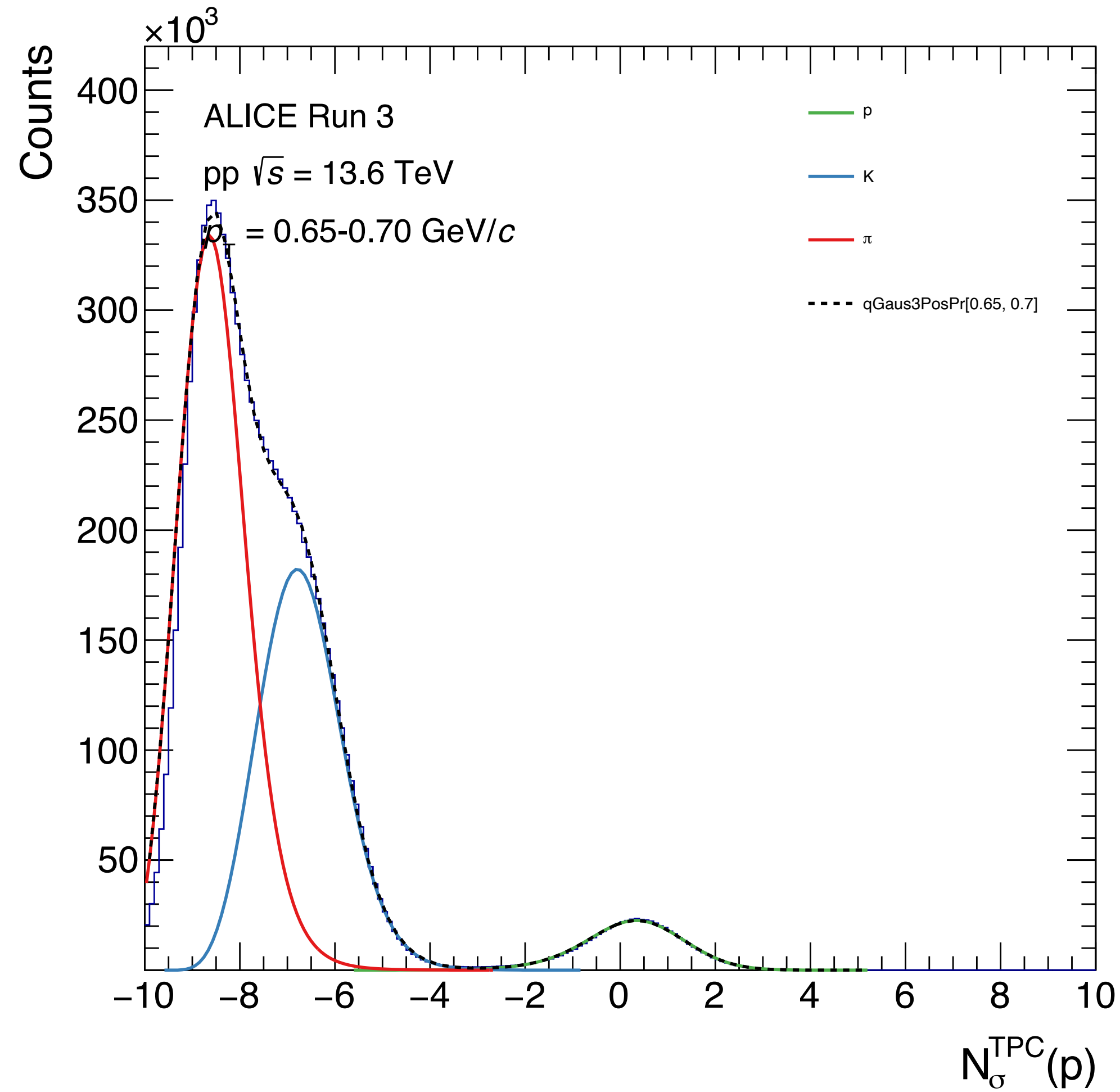
## Fitting of TPC signal for $K^+$ , $K^-$





# Results

## Fitting of TPC signal for $p, \bar{p}$

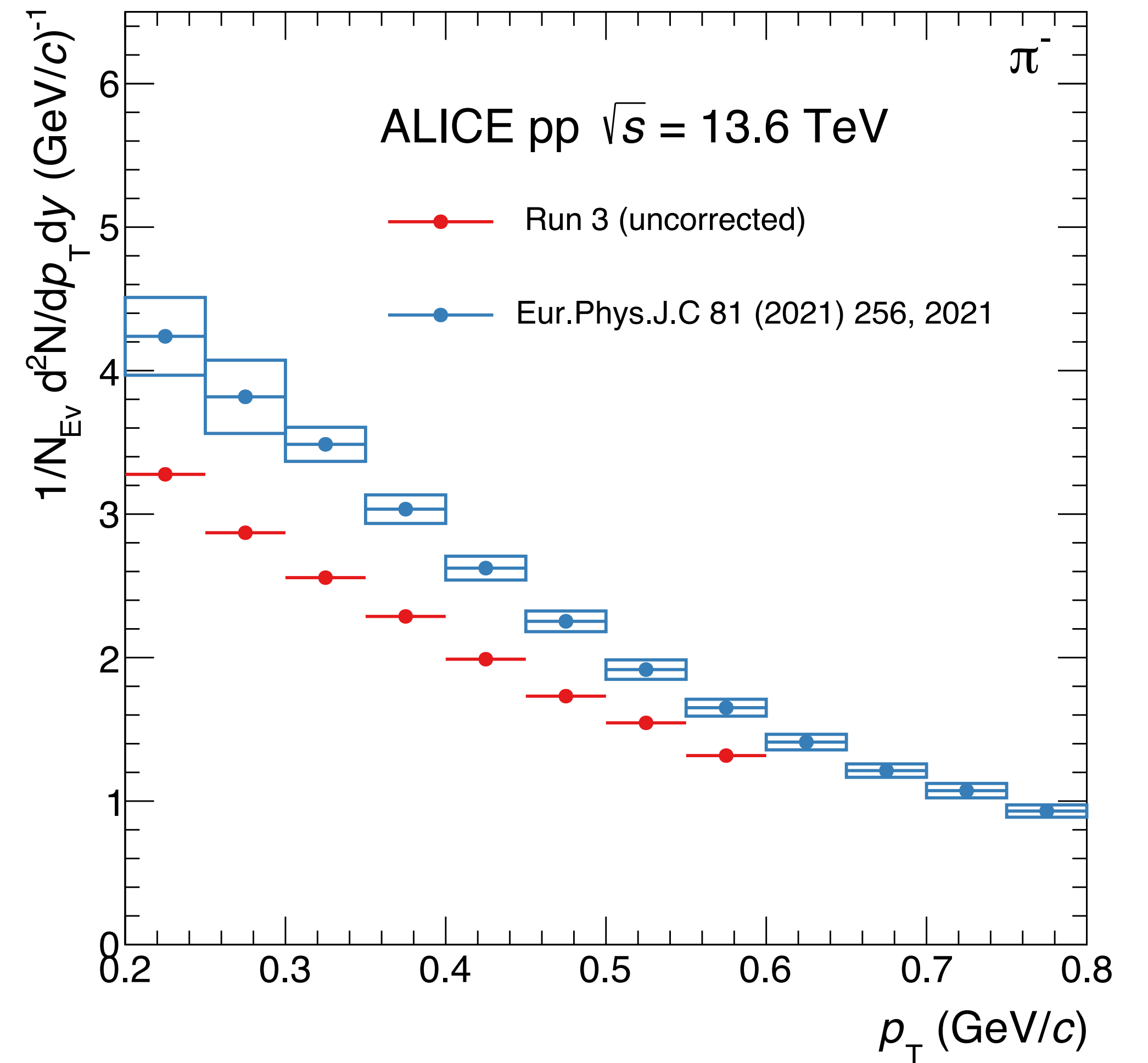
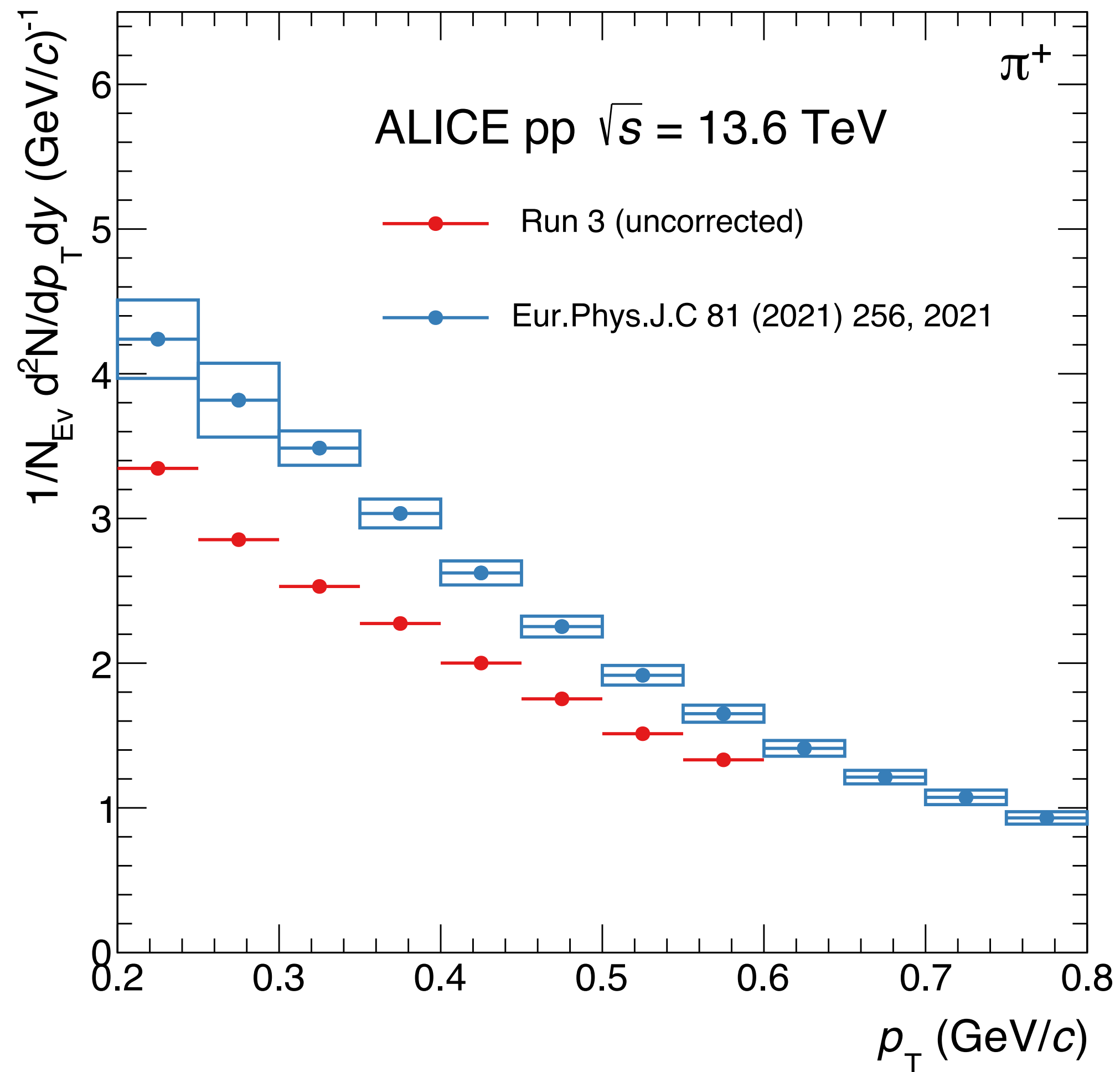


# TPC PID $p_T$ range

- Pion : (0.2 - 0.6) GeV/c
- Kaon : (0.2 - 0.6) GeV/c
- Proton : (0.4 - 0.8) GeV/c

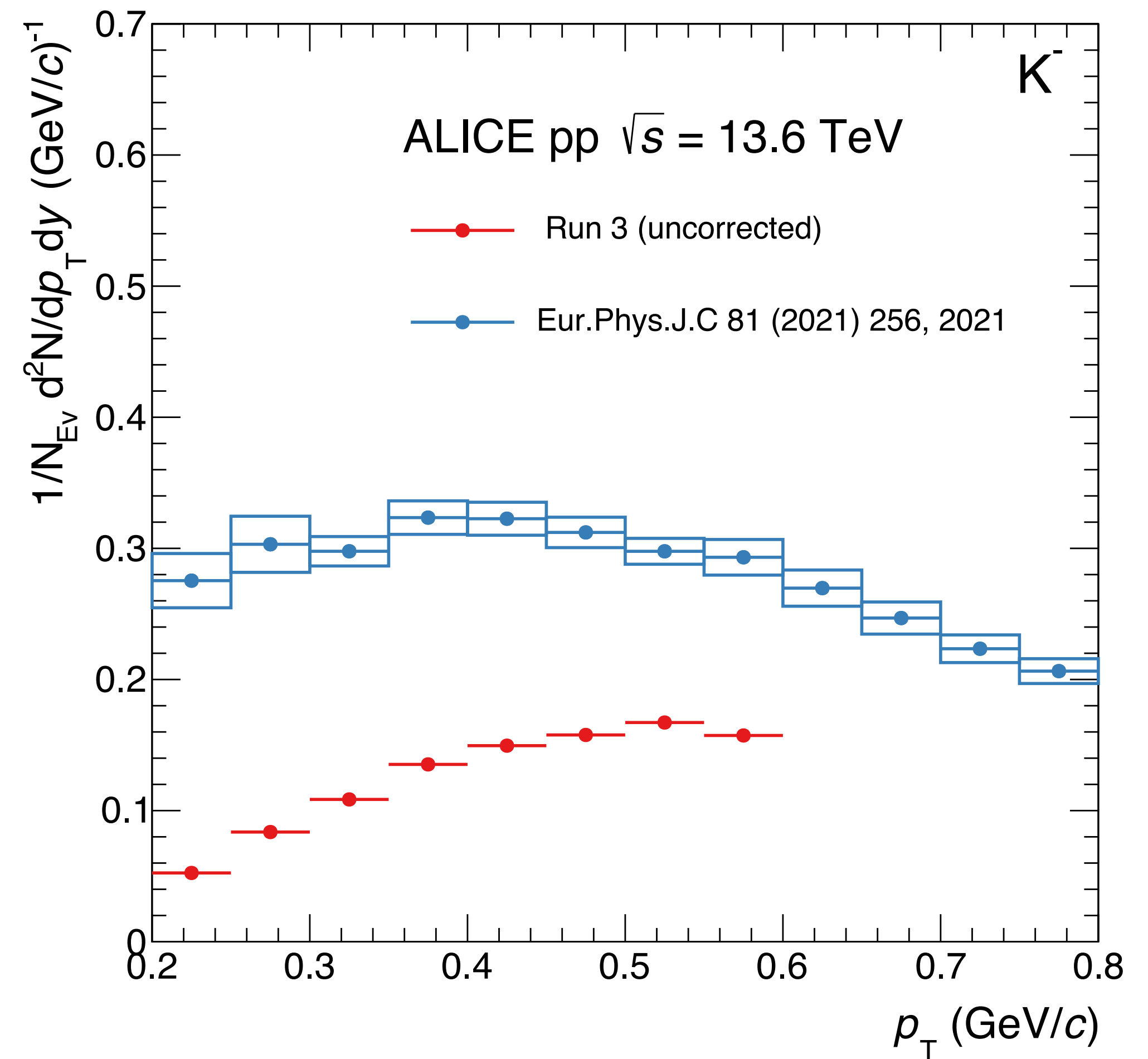
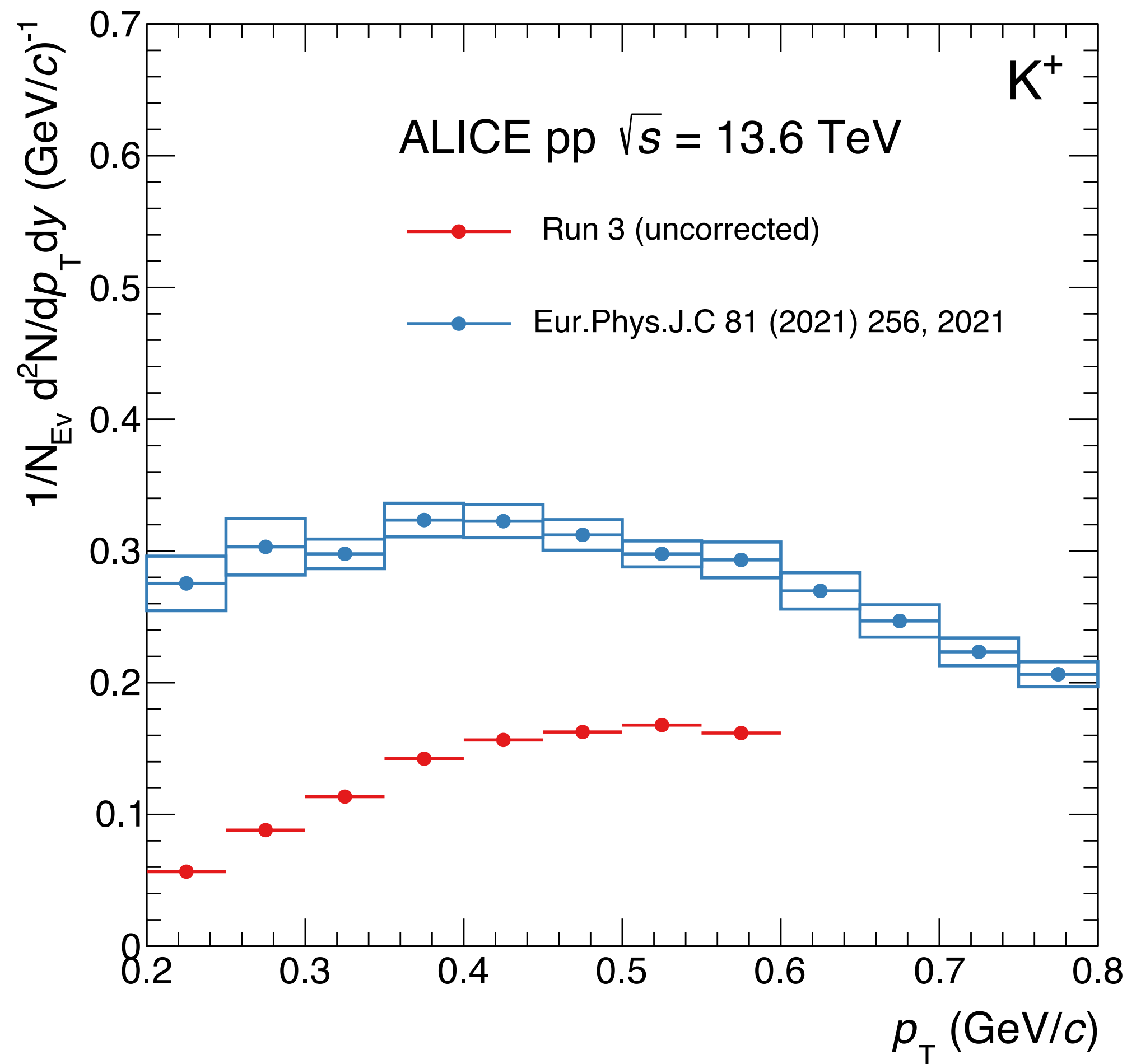
# Results

## Raw transverse momentum spectra for $\pi^+$ , $\pi^-$



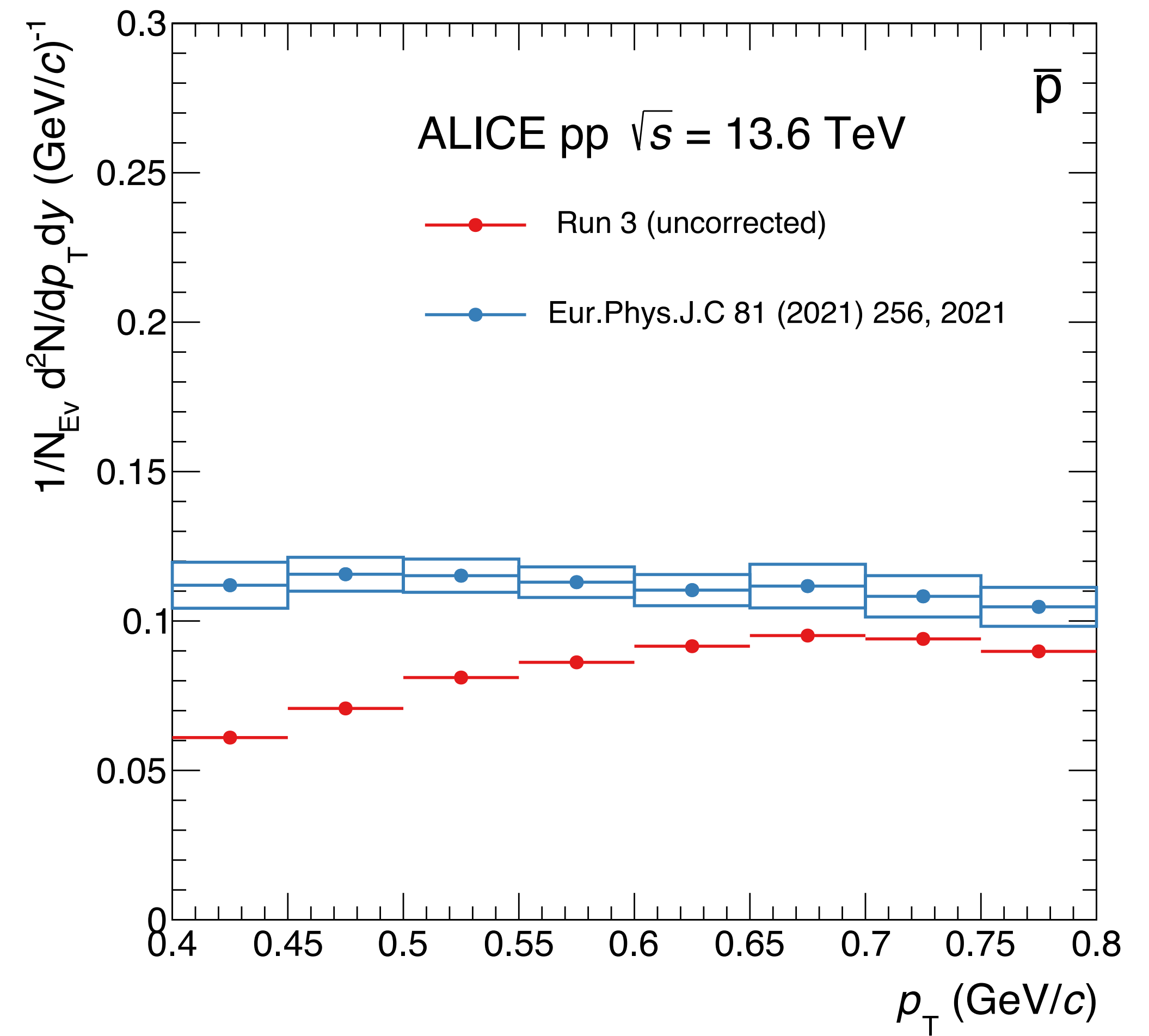
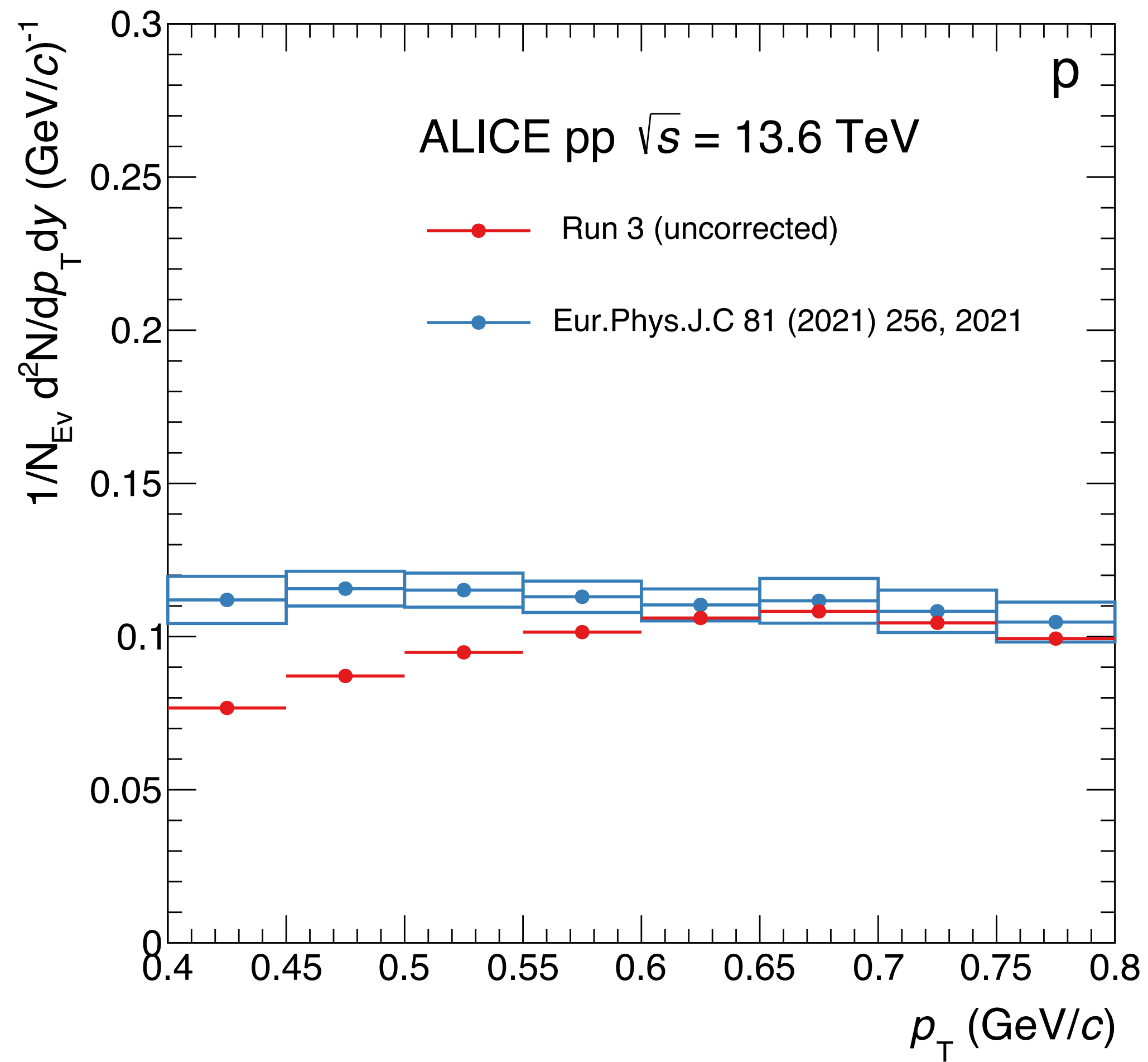
# Results

## Raw transverse momentum spectra for $K^+$ , $K^-$



# Results

## Raw transverse momentum spectra for $p, \bar{p}$



# Tracking efficiency

- It is obtained by dividing all reconstructed tracks within the detector acceptance by all generated tracks using Monte-Carlo information.

## Generated tracks

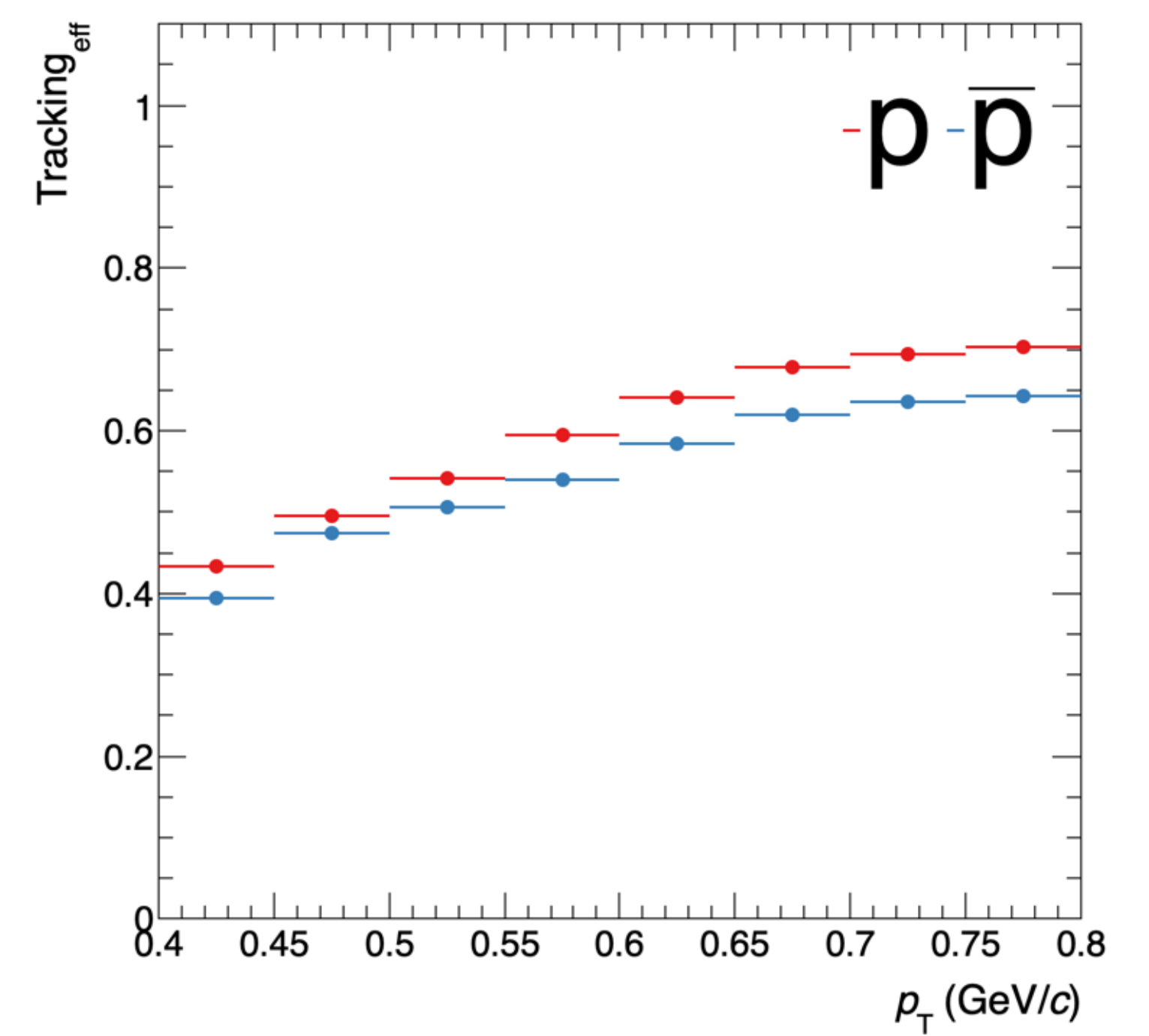
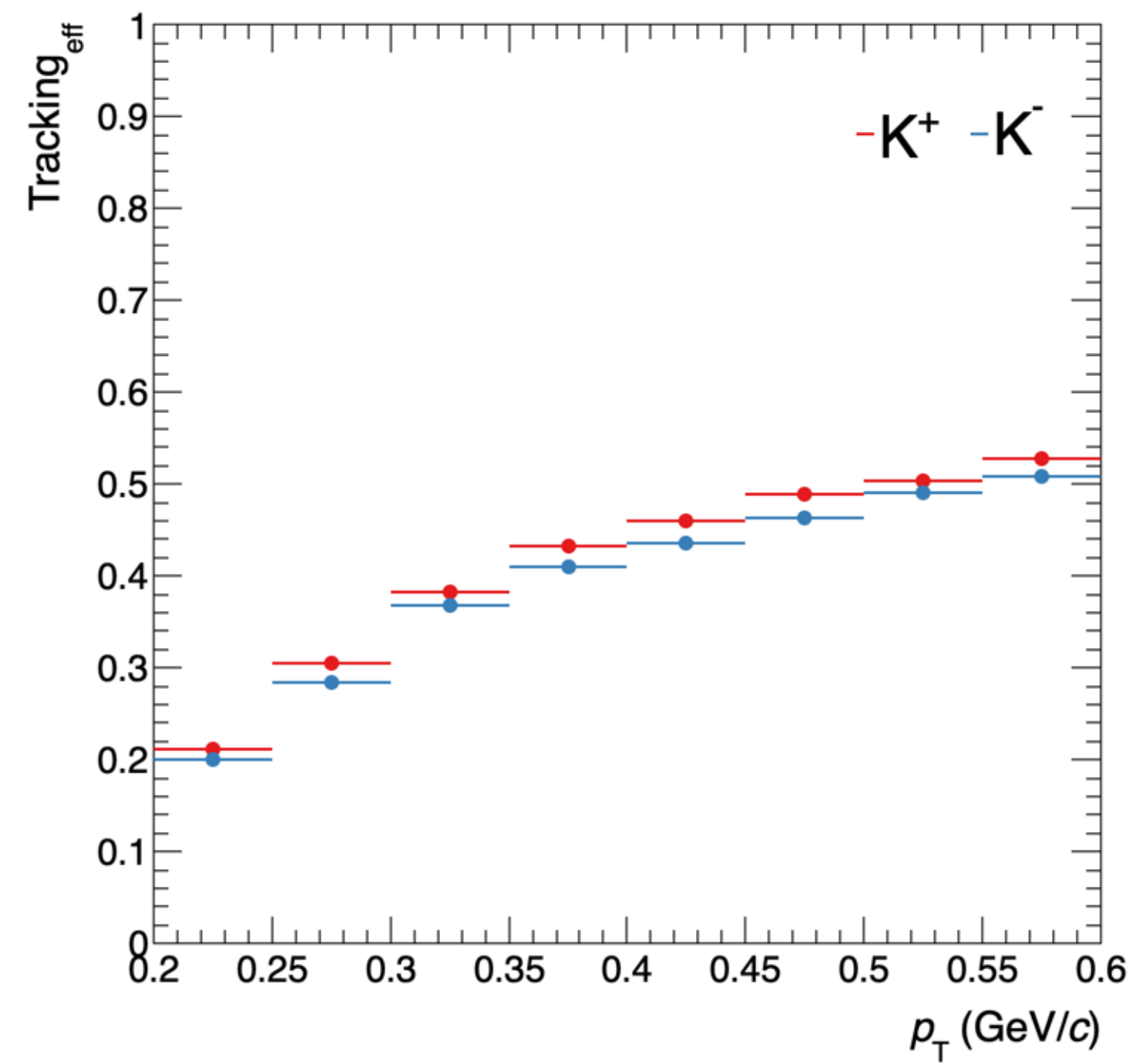
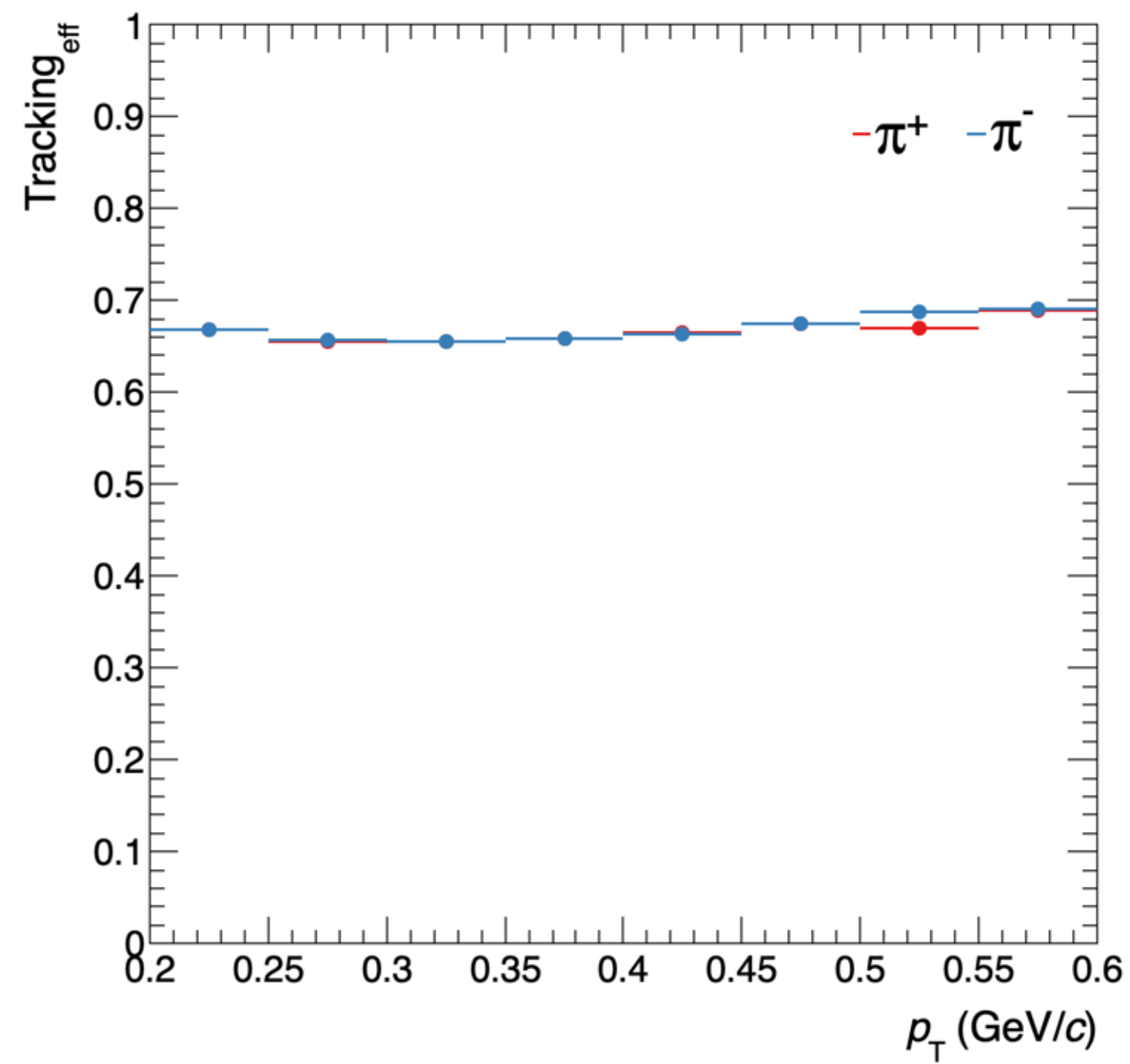
- Only primary particles are selected
- Pseudo rapidity cut :  $|\eta| < 0.8$
- Rapidity cut :  $|y| < 0.5$
- PID selection : MC truth with PDG code

## Reconstructed Tracks

- Track reconstructed in TPC
- Only primary particles are selected
- PID selection : MC truth with PDG code

# Results

## Tracking efficiency



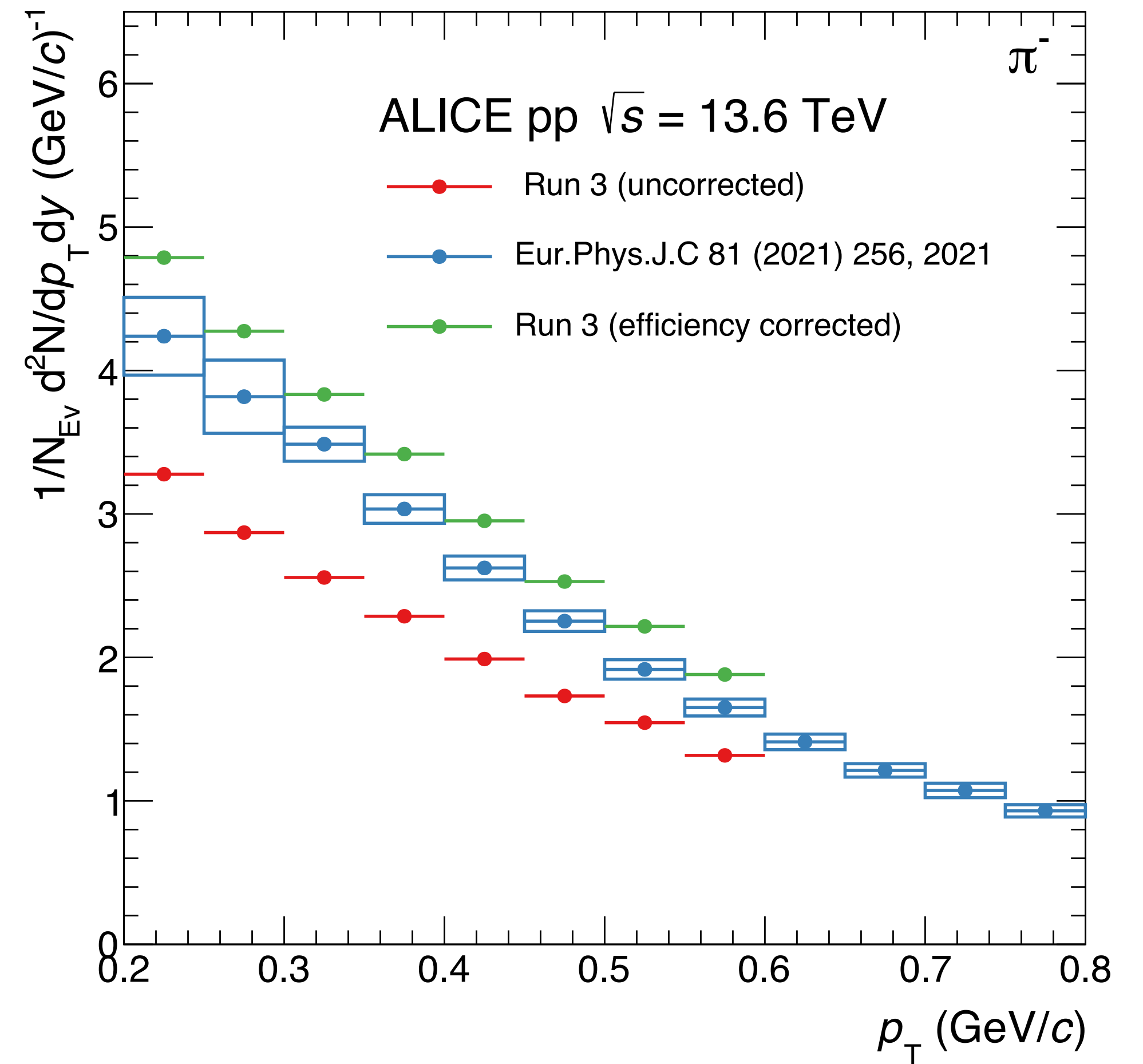
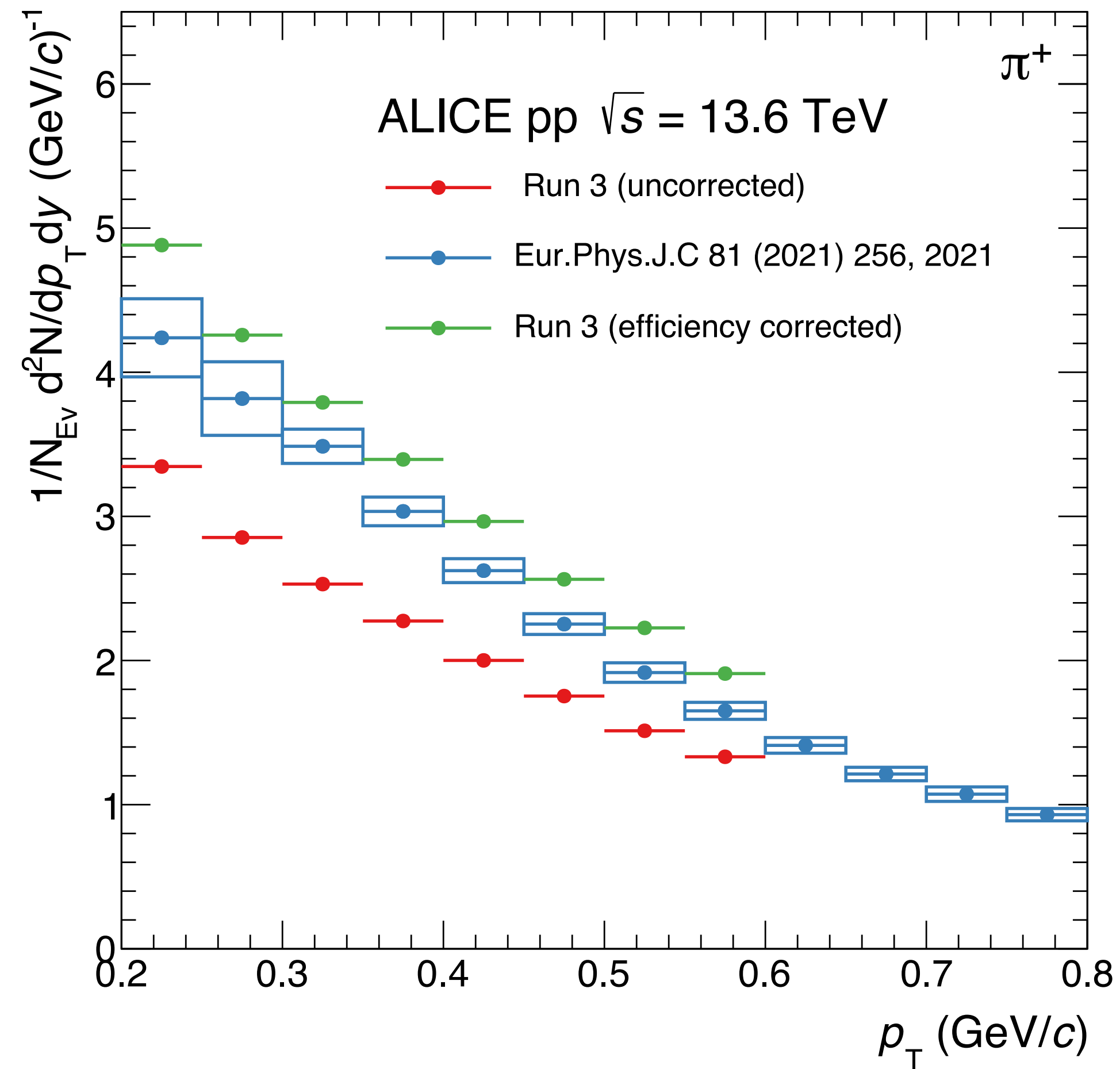
# Feed down correction

- In order to get the spectra of primary particles i.e the particles which are produced directly in the collisions or in strong decays, one needs to estimate the feed-down correction.
- To select primary tracks, the distance of closest approach of the tracks to the primary vertex in the  $xy$ -plane ( $DCA_{xy}$ ) as a function of  $p_T$  has been applied in the raw spectra of the particles.
- The contamination of secondary ( i.e. from weak decay and the material knock out particles which are not removed by the  $p_T$  dependent  $DCA_{xy}$  cut) has been taken into account by estimated primary fraction of particles using models.



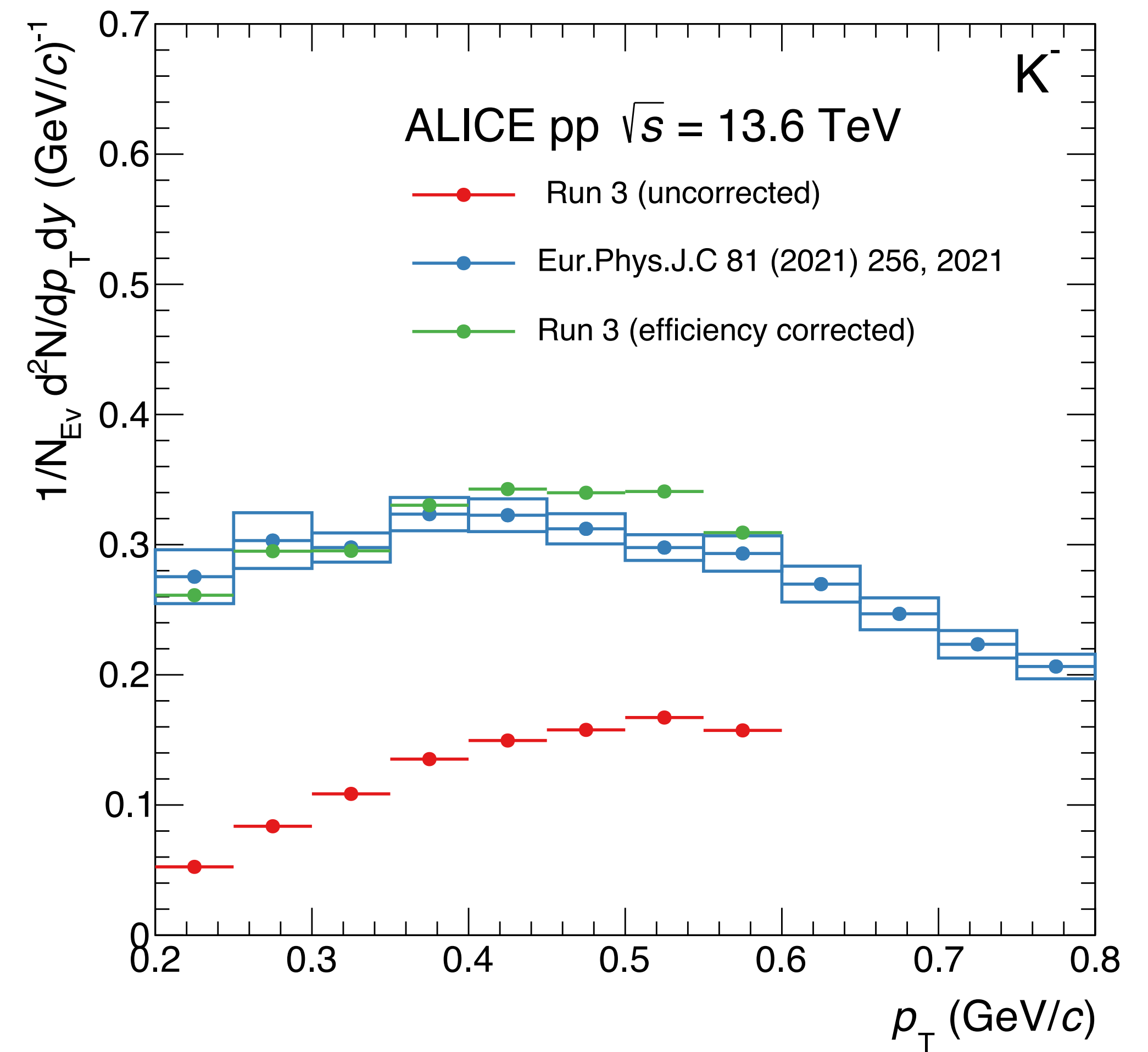
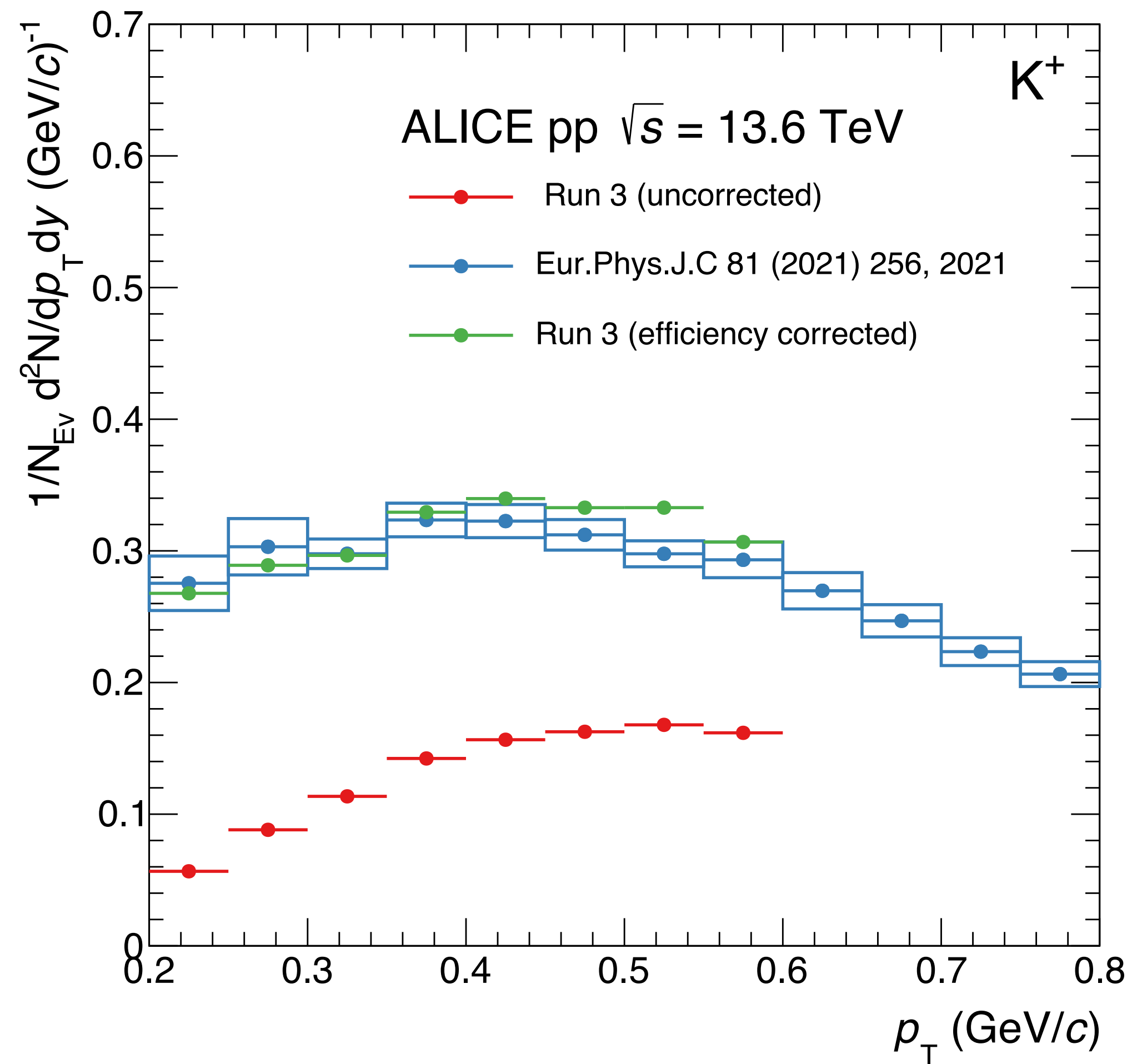
# Results

## Corrected transverse momentum spectra for $\pi^+$ , $\pi^-$



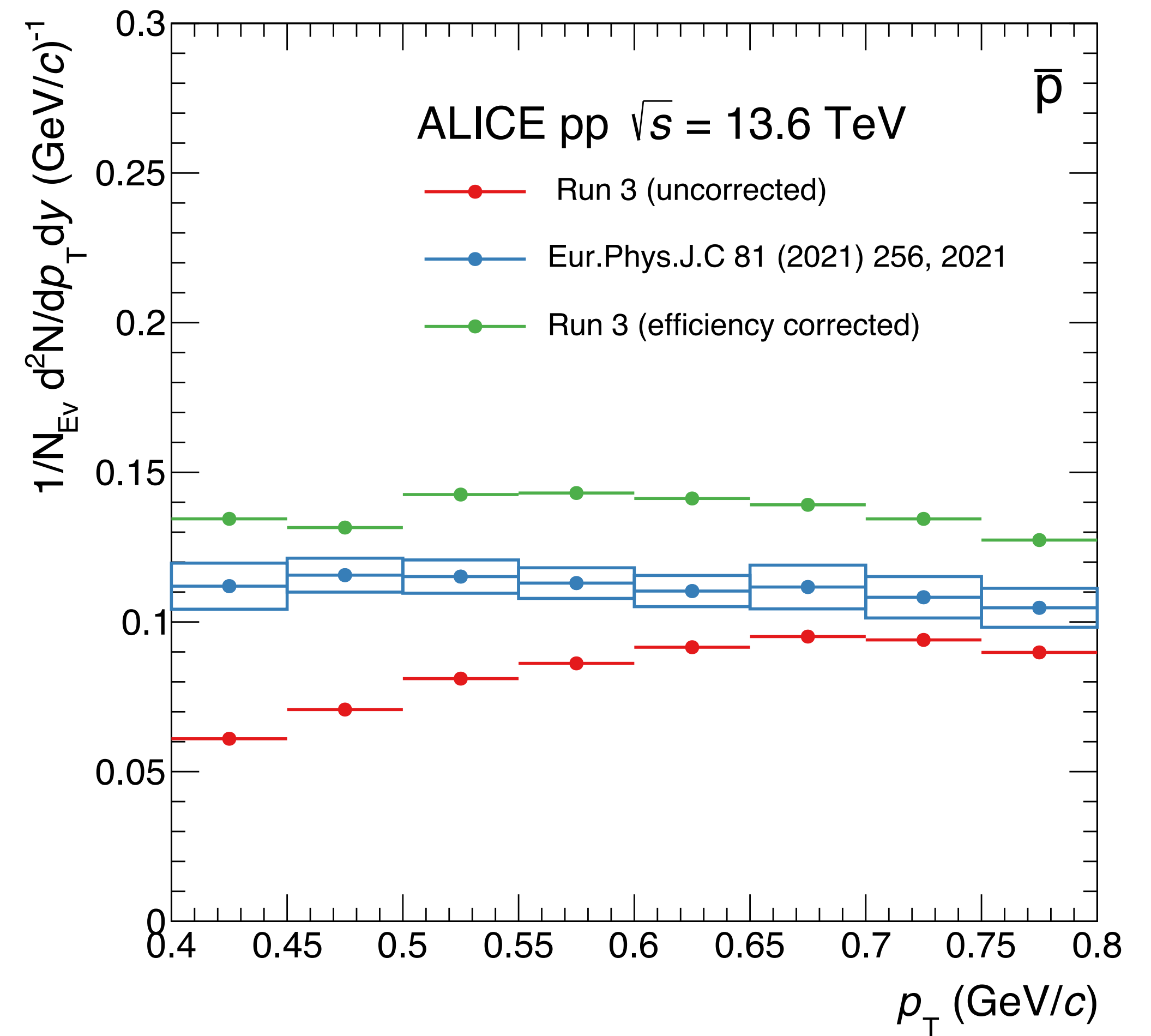
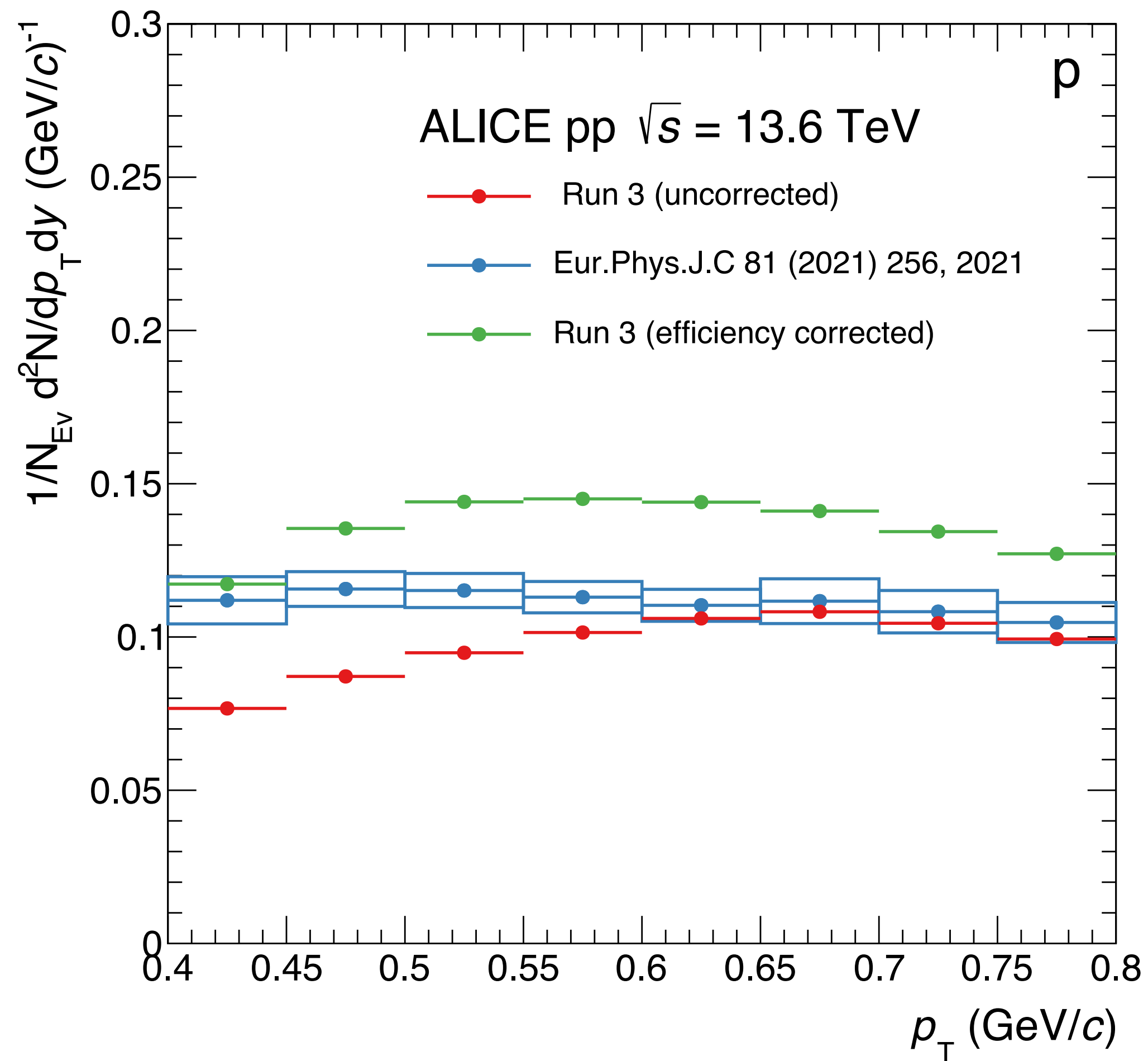
# Results

## Corrected transverse momentum spectra for $K^+$ , $K^-$



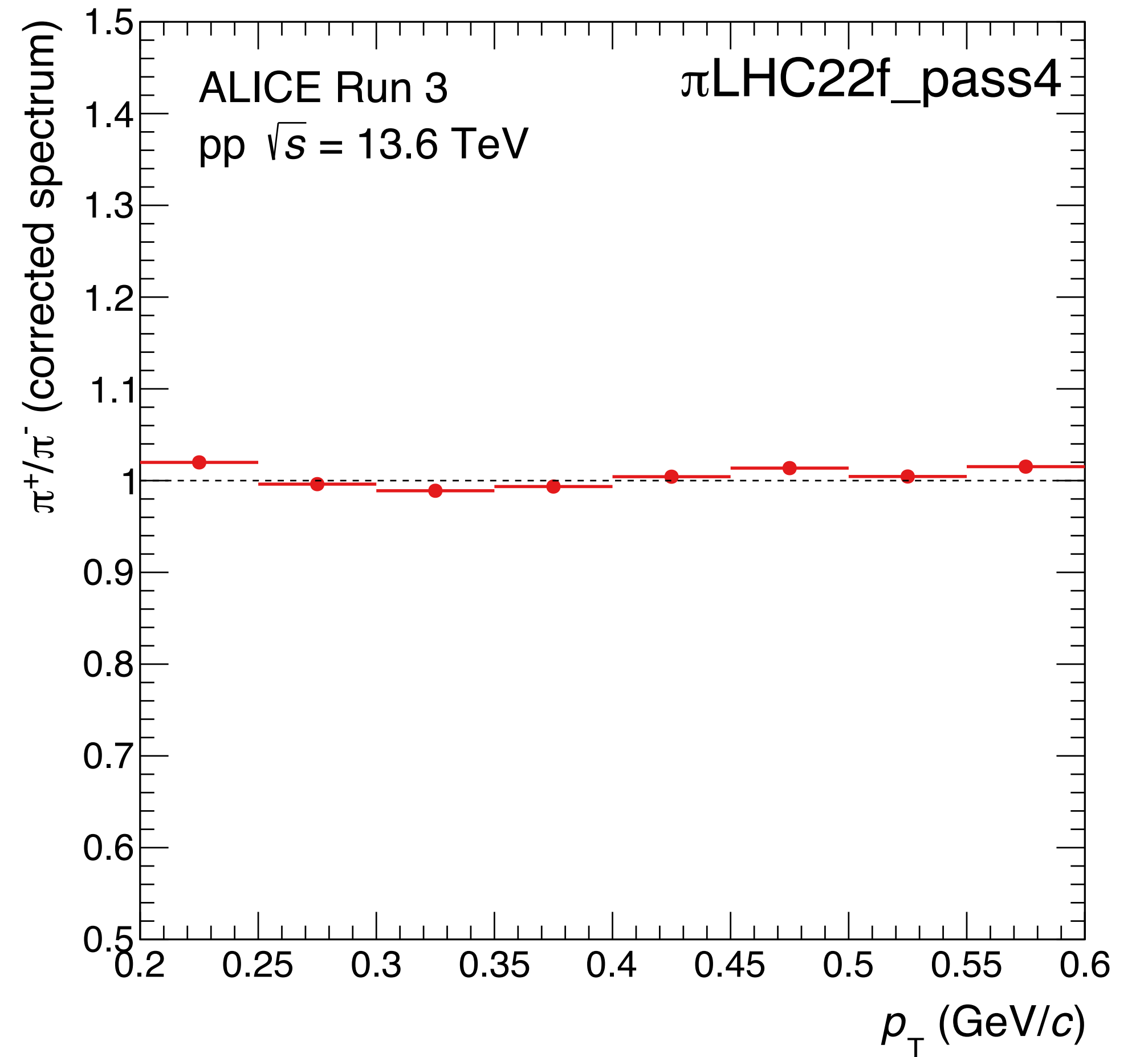
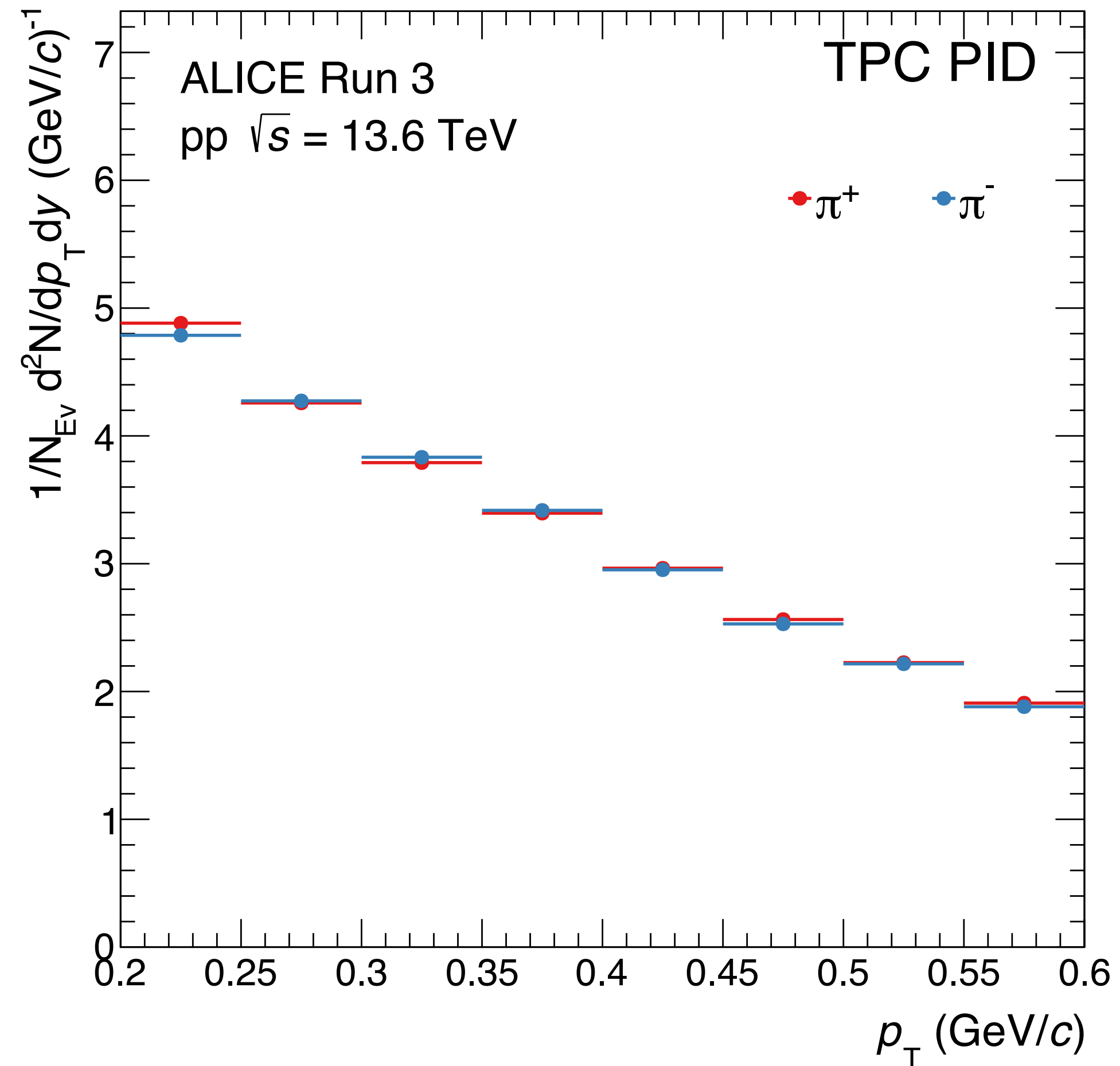
# Results

## Corrected transverse momentum spectra for $p, \bar{p}$



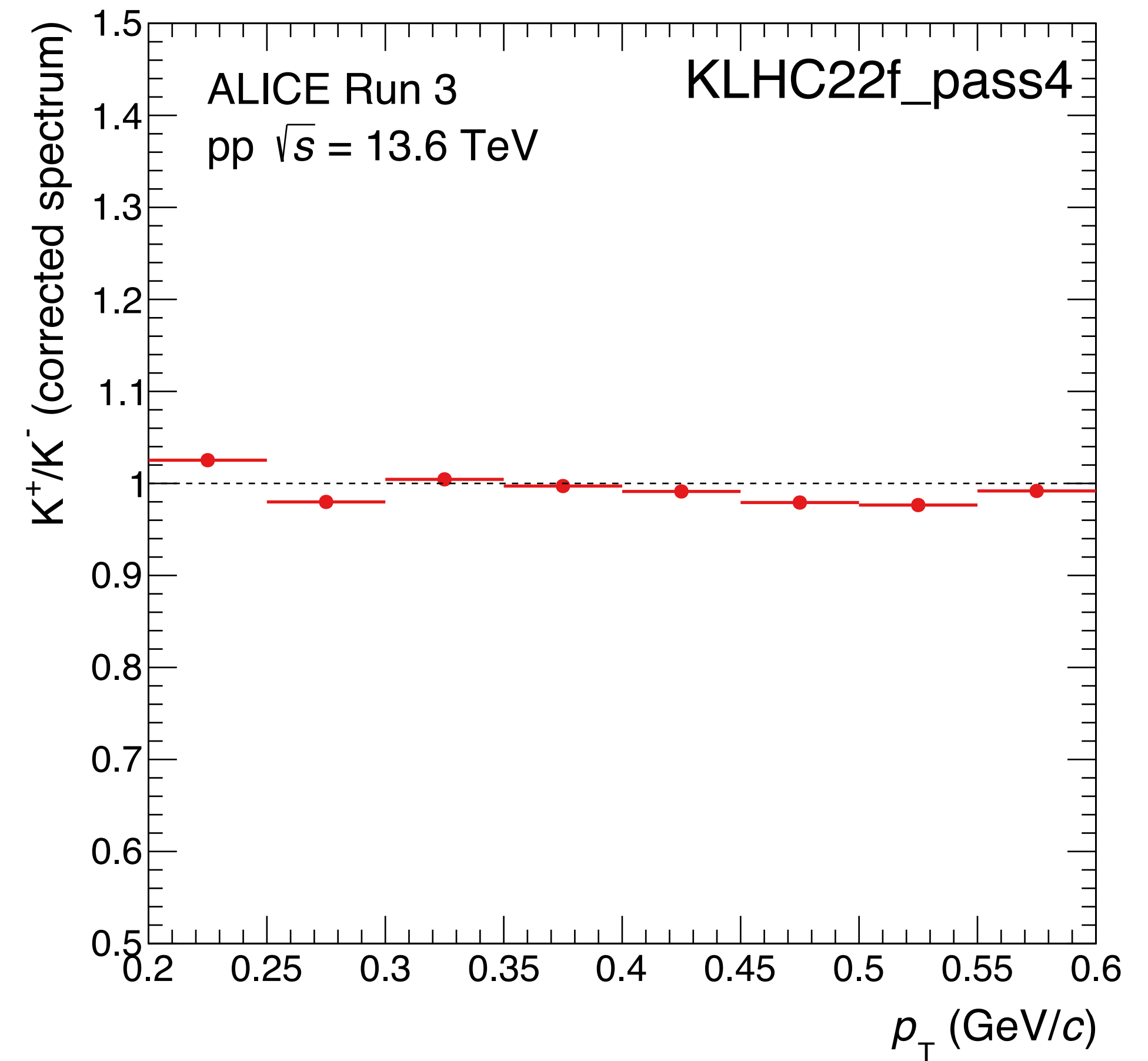
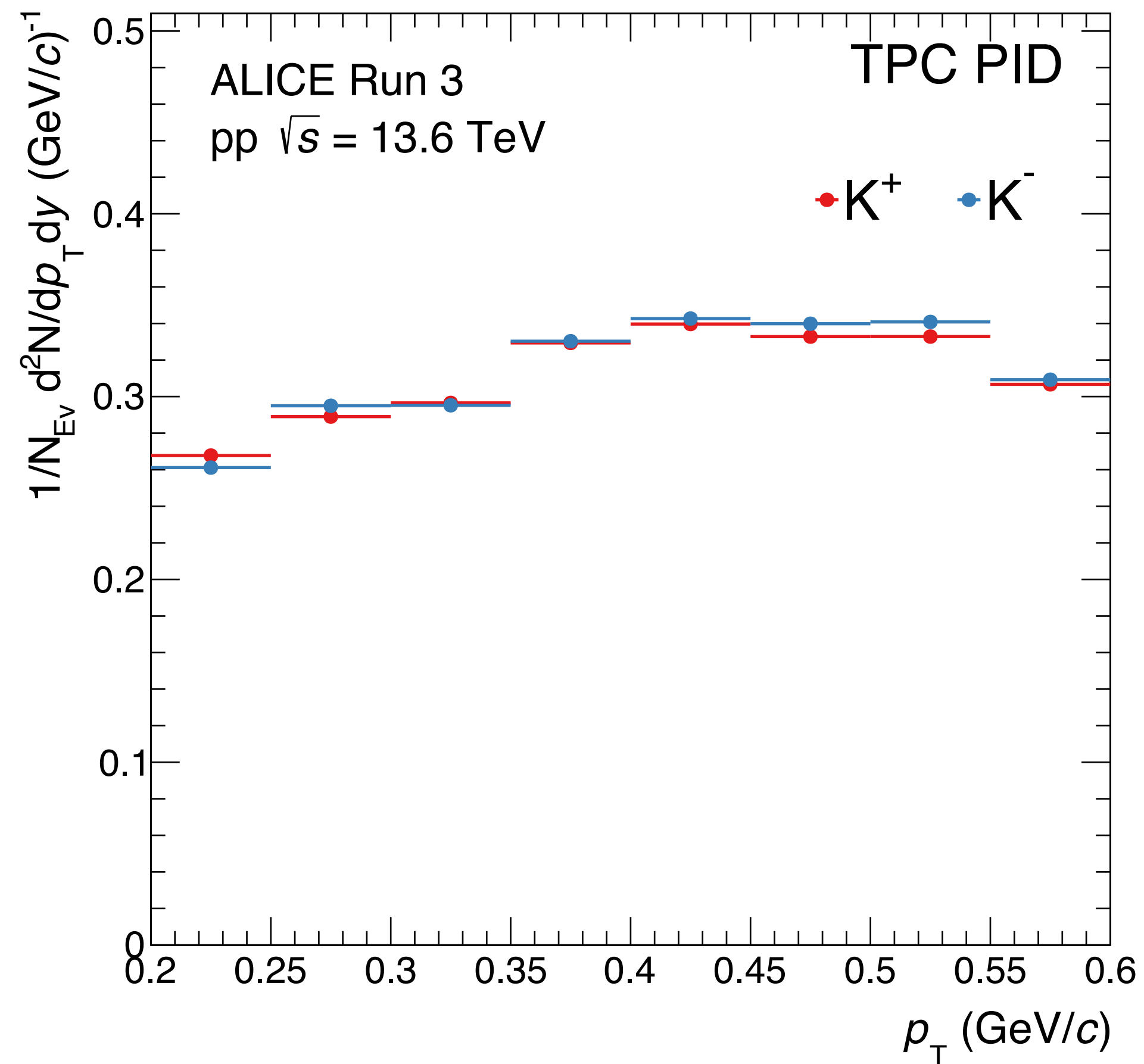
# Results

## $\pi^+/\pi^-$ plot



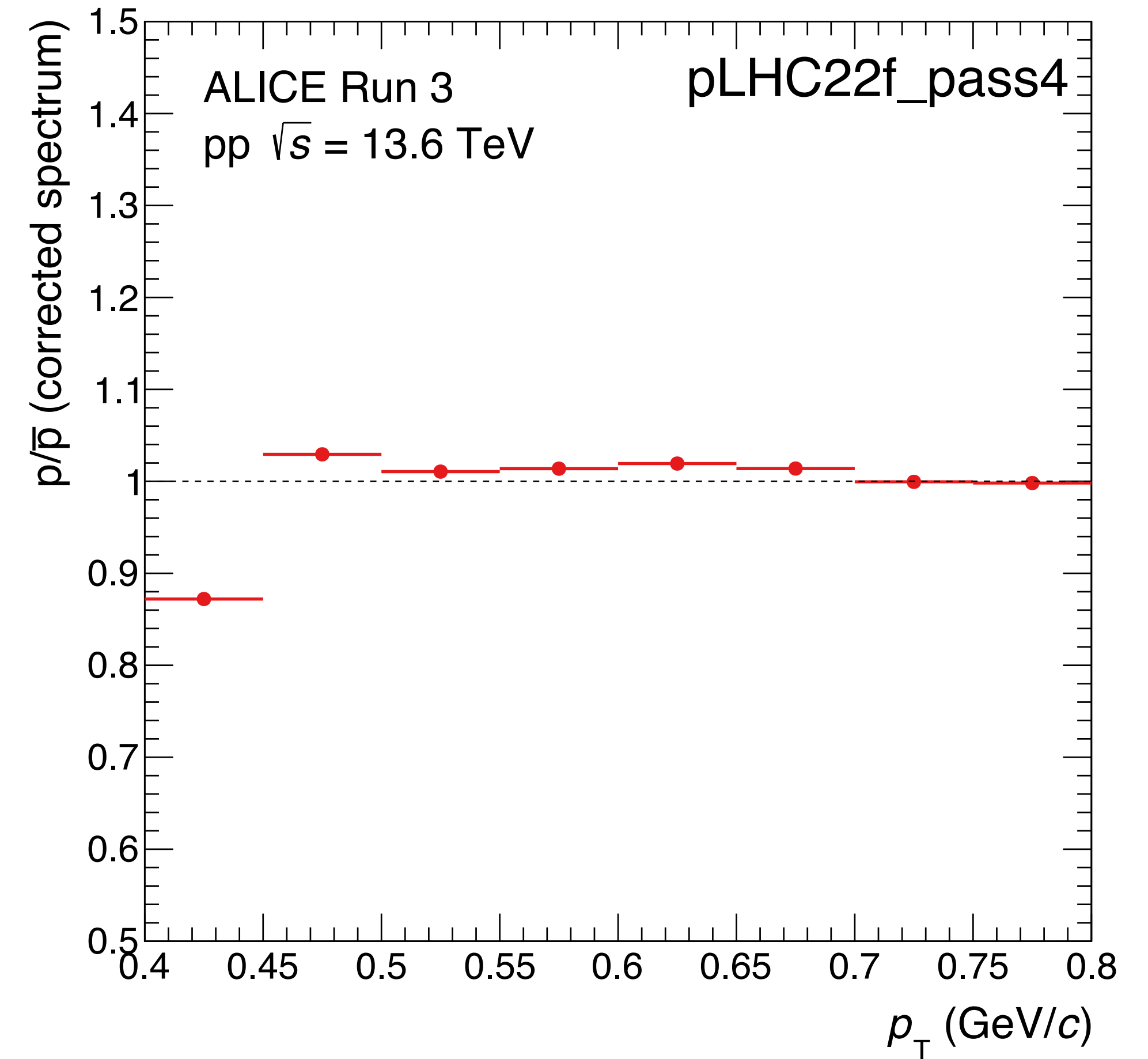
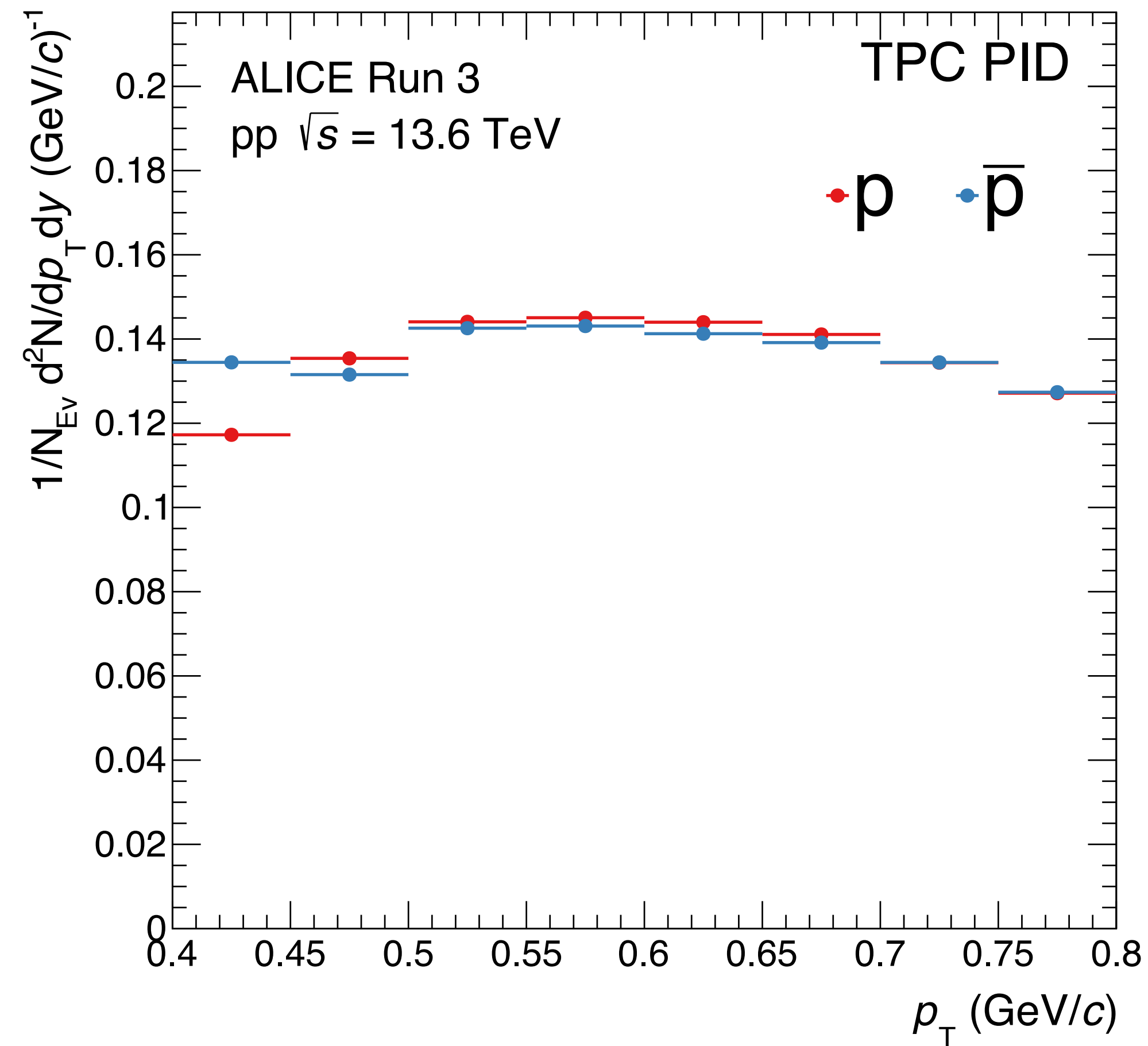
# Results

## $K^+/K^-$ plot



# Results

## $p/\bar{p}$ plot



# Summary

- The respective fitting of TPC signals for  $\pi, K, p$  are well matched with Gaussian distribution, giving an indication of proper identification of light flavour particles.
- The corrected  $p_T$  spectra for  $\pi$  and  $K$  are showing a good qualitative agreement with that of Run 2 pp results.
- However the corrected  $p_T$  spectra for proton and antiproton are not found satisfactory which need further investigation.

# Outlook

- Improve the corrected transverse momentum spectra for both proton and antiproton.
- To study the spectra of all species for each centrality classes.
- The multiplicity dependent yield ratio of different light flavour particles to pion will be discussed.



# Acknowledgement

- I would like to acknowledge, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India for financial assistance through the project entitled “Indian Participation in the ALICE Experiment at CERN” by No. SR/MF/PS-02/2021-GU (E-37122)
- I also want to acknowledge PWGLF-Spectra coordinators, PWGLF-convener Dr. Nicolo Jacazio and my lab mate Mr. Banajit Barman for their constant support in the analysis.
- I want to acknowledge Jammu University for organising ALICE-STAR-India collaboration meeting.

**Thank you**

**Backup slides**

# Particle identification (PID) through TPC detector

- Charged particles passing through the TPC gas lose kinetic energy by ionisation processes.
- The mean energy loss of a particle passing through a medium can be calculated from **Bethe-Bloch formula**.
- For a given momentum, the mean energy loss of a particle depends only on the charge and mass of the particle.
- Using Bethe-Bloch formula, one can identify the different particles passing through the same medium.

# Bethe-Bloch formula

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \frac{4\pi N e^4 Z^2}{m c^2 \beta^2} \left( \ln \frac{2 m c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}{I} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta)}{2} \right)$$

$N$  - number density of electron in the traversed medium

$e$  - elementary charge

$Z$  - charge of the projectile

$m c^2$  - rest energy of electron

$\beta$  - velocity of the projectile

$I$  - mean excitation energy of the atom

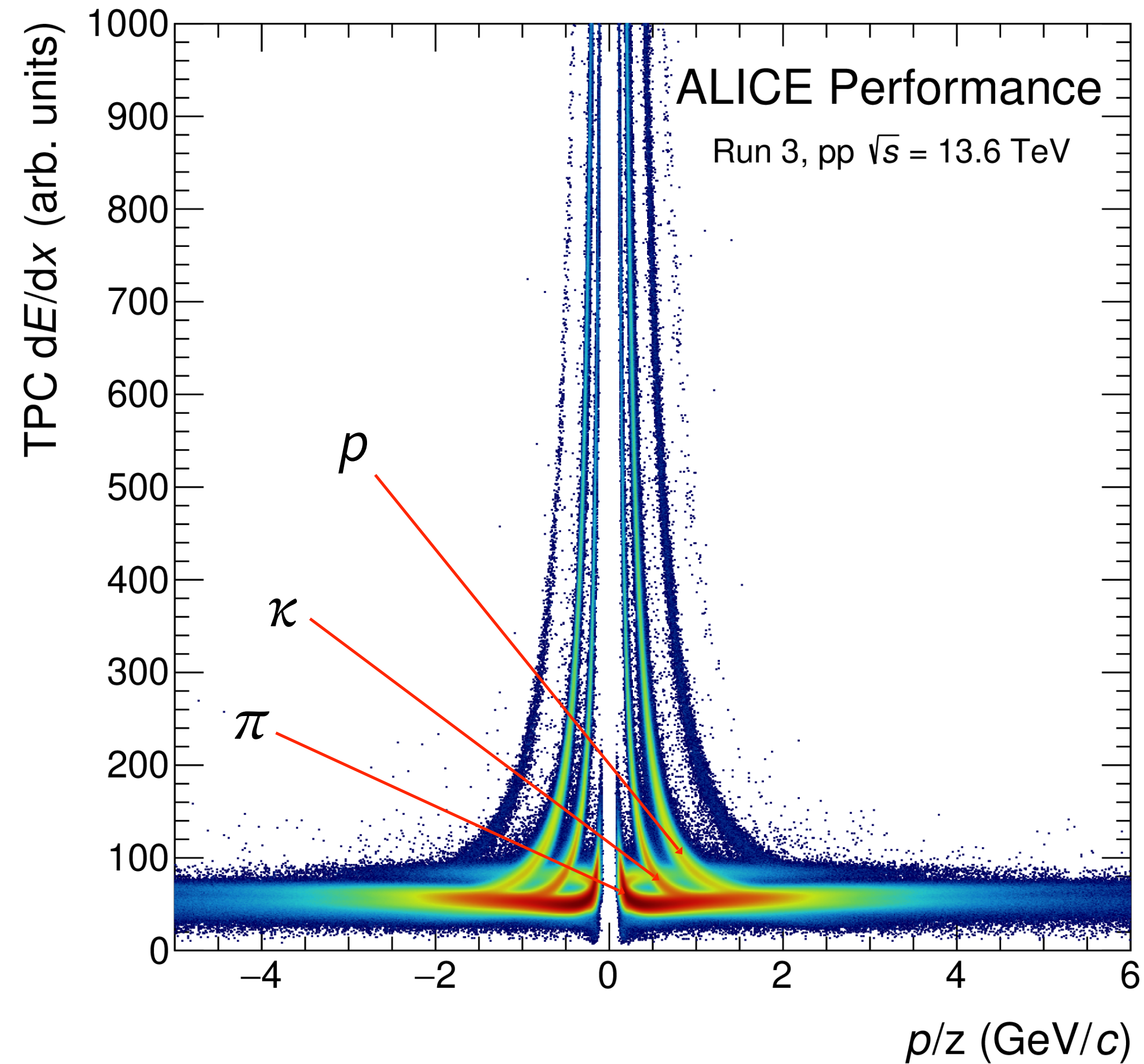
$\delta(\beta)$  - correction term

$$\beta = \frac{v}{c} = \frac{m v}{m c} = \frac{p}{m c}$$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \propto m^2$$

For a given momentum, the mean energy loss of a particle depends of the mass of the particle

# Performance of TPC detector



# TPC detector performance plot

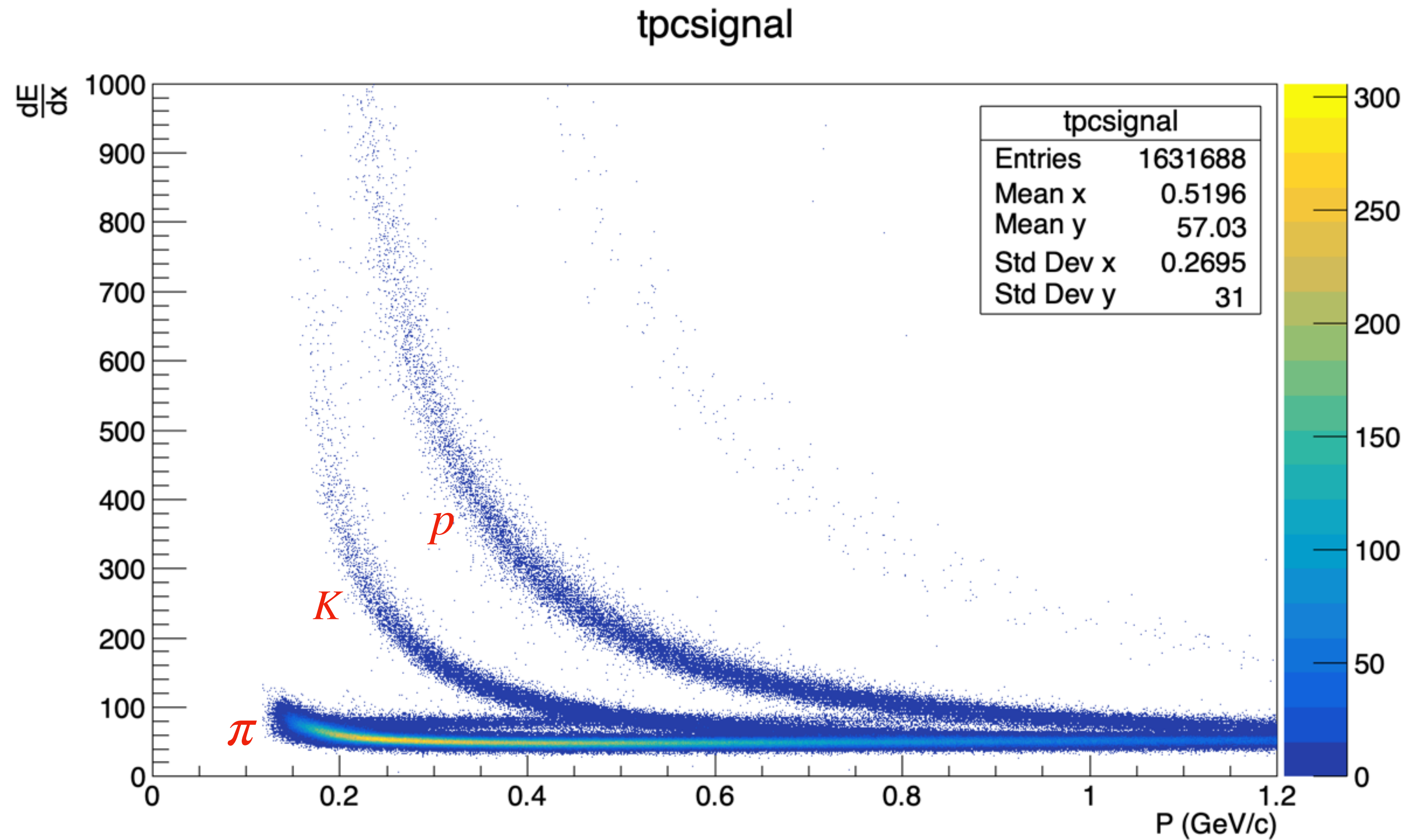


Fig.  $dE/dx$  distribution as a function of momentum in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV

# TPC-Nsigma, $N_{\sigma}^{TPC}$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{\text{expected}}$$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{\text{measured}}$$

$$N_{\sigma}^{TPC} = \frac{\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{\text{expected}} - \left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{\text{measured}}}{\sigma_{\frac{dE}{dx} \text{ measured}}}$$

