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# Deciphering yield modification of hadron-triggered semi-inclusive recoil jets in heavy-ion collisions

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Based on: *Phys. Lett. B* 854 (2024) 138739

# Outline

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Delve into hadron-triggered semi-inclusive recoil jets ( $h+jet$ ) with LBT model

**Part 1. Introduction on  $h+jet$  measurements**

**Part 2. Explore “surface bias” of trigger particles**

**Part 3. Decipher the suppression of recoil jets**

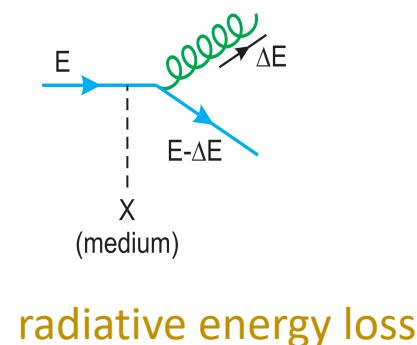
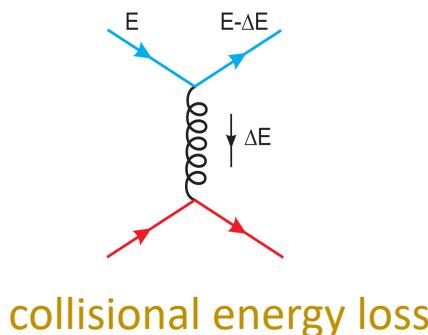
**Part 4. Summary**

# Evidence for QGP in HIC: Jet quenching

**Jet:** a collimated spray of hadrons produced by energetic quark or gluon

Jet production in vacuum calculable with pQCD

## Parton energy loss in medium

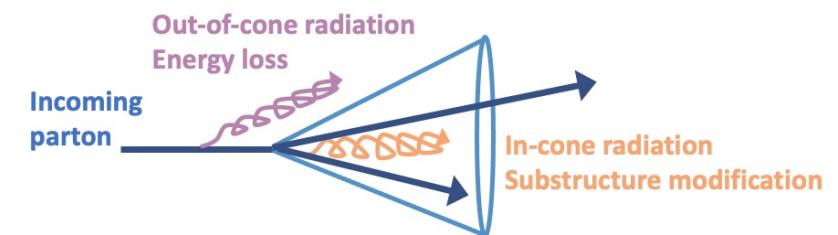


collisional energy loss

radiative energy loss

## Jet quenching phenomenon

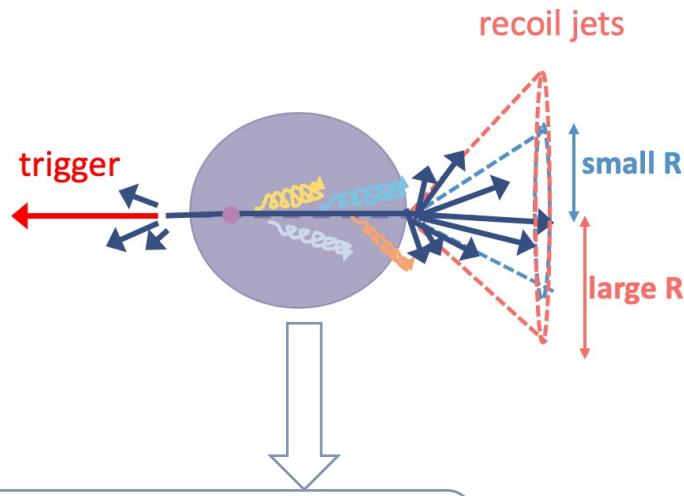
- Energy loss
- Acoplanarity
- Substructure modification



Jet quenching phenomenon can be used to probe QGP properties

# $h+jet$ to study jet quenching

Jets recoiling from a high- $p_T$  trigger hadron

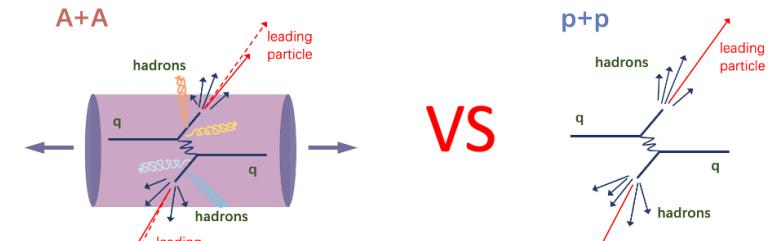


Suppress un-correlated background jets

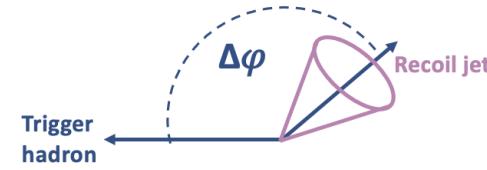
Trigger: surface bias

Recoil jet: larger path length than inclusive jets

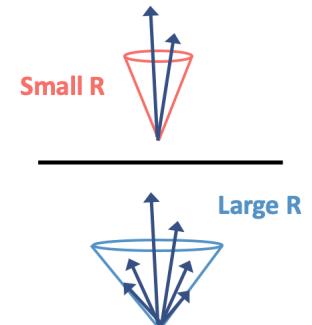
□ Energy loss  
Yield suppression



□ Acoplanarity  
Trigger-jet azimuthal correlation

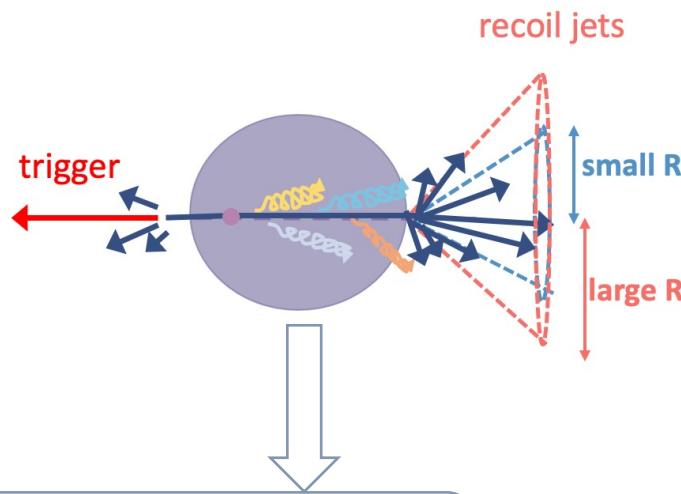


□ Substructure modification  
Yield dependence on jet R  
Other substructure observables...



# $h+jet$ yield ratio ( $I_{AA}$ )

Jets recoiling from a high- $p_T$  trigger hadron

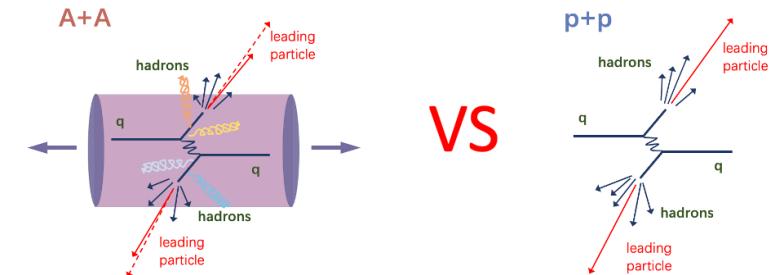


Suppress un-correlated background jets

Trigger: surface bias

Recoil jet: larger path length than inclusive jets

□ Energy loss  
Yield suppression



Trigger-normalized yield

$$\frac{1}{N_{trig}^{AA}} \cdot \frac{d^3 N_{jet}^{AA}}{dp_{T,jet}^{ch} d\Delta\phi d\eta_{jet}} \Bigg|_{p_{T,trig}} = \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^{AA \rightarrow h+X}} \cdot \frac{d^3 \sigma^{AA \rightarrow h+jet+X}}{dp_{T,jet}^{ch} d\Delta\phi d\eta_{jet}} \right) \Bigg|_{p_{T,trig}}$$

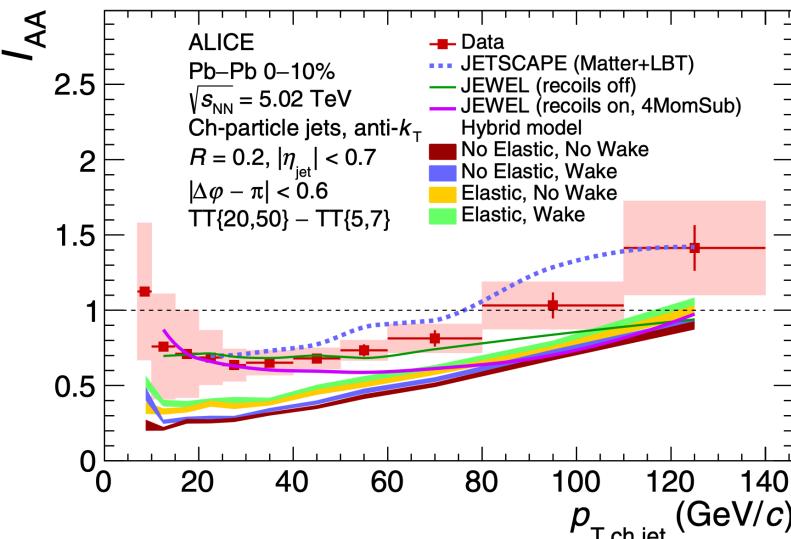
Jet quenching observable

$$I_{AA} = \frac{Y^{A+A}}{Y^{p+p}}$$

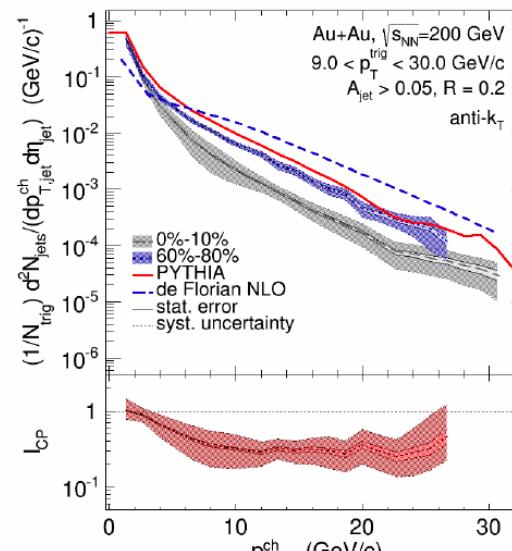
# h+jet yield ratio ( $I_{AA}$ )

## Experimental results

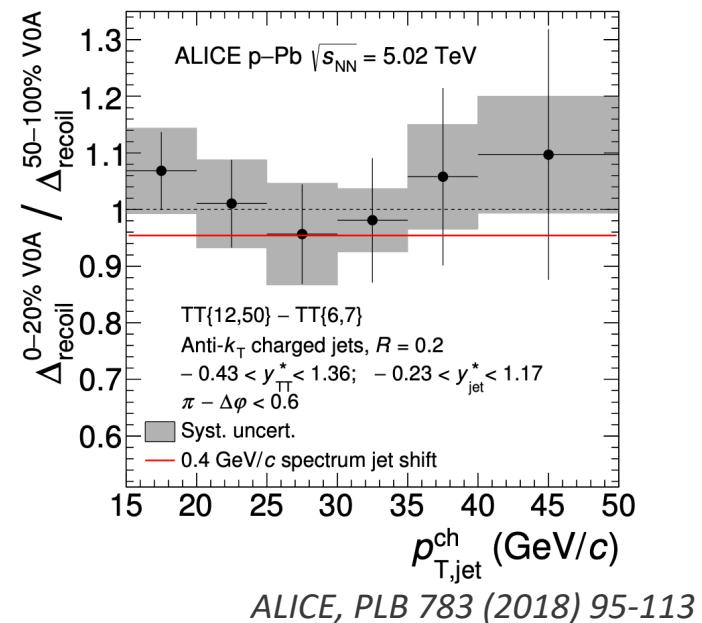
### Pb+Pb@5.02 TeV



### Au+Au@200 GeV



### p+Pb@5.02 TeV

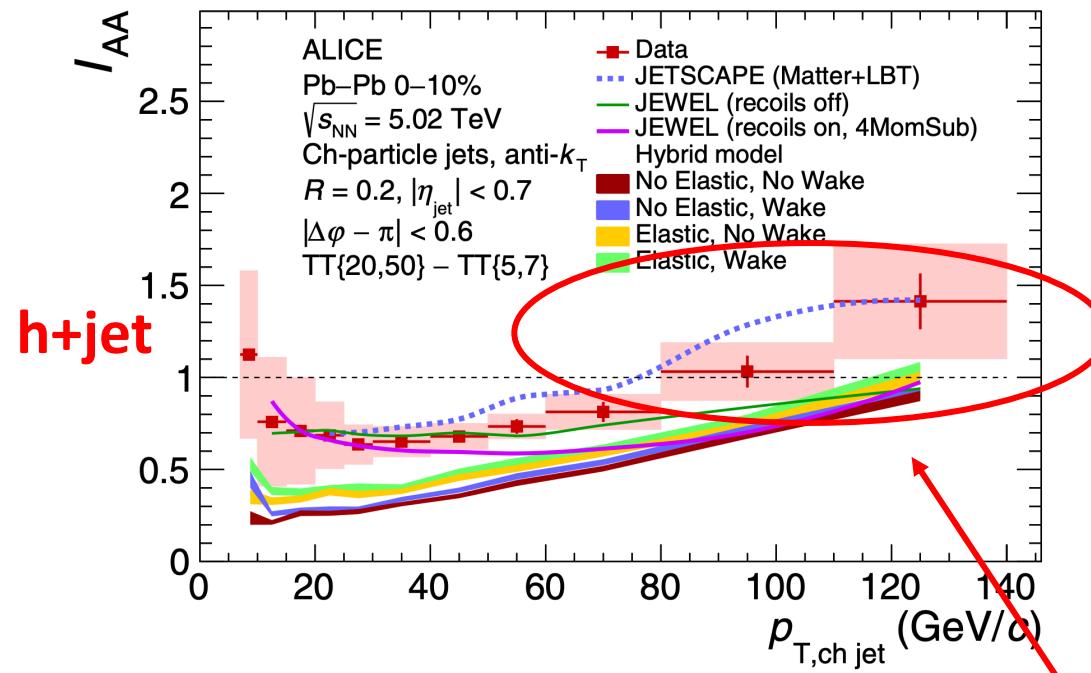


Plenty of  $I_{AA}$  measurements in different collision systems

# What does $I_{AA} > 1$ mean?

## Experimental results

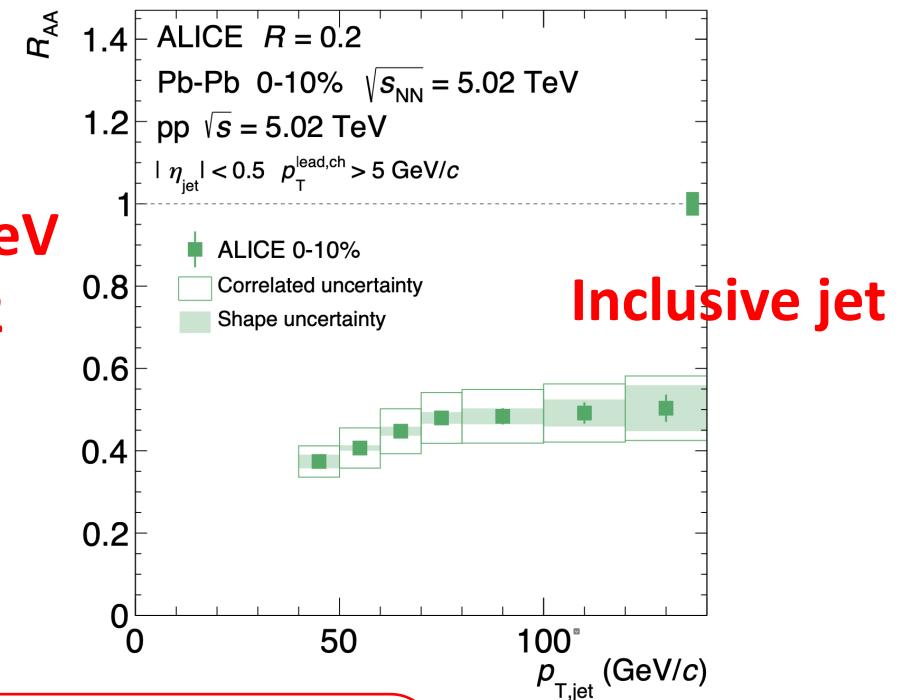
ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 110 (2024) 1, 014906



Pb+Pb@5.02 TeV  
0-10% R=0.2

$I_{AA} > 1$ ? Consistent with inclusive jets?  
Is there still any energy loss?

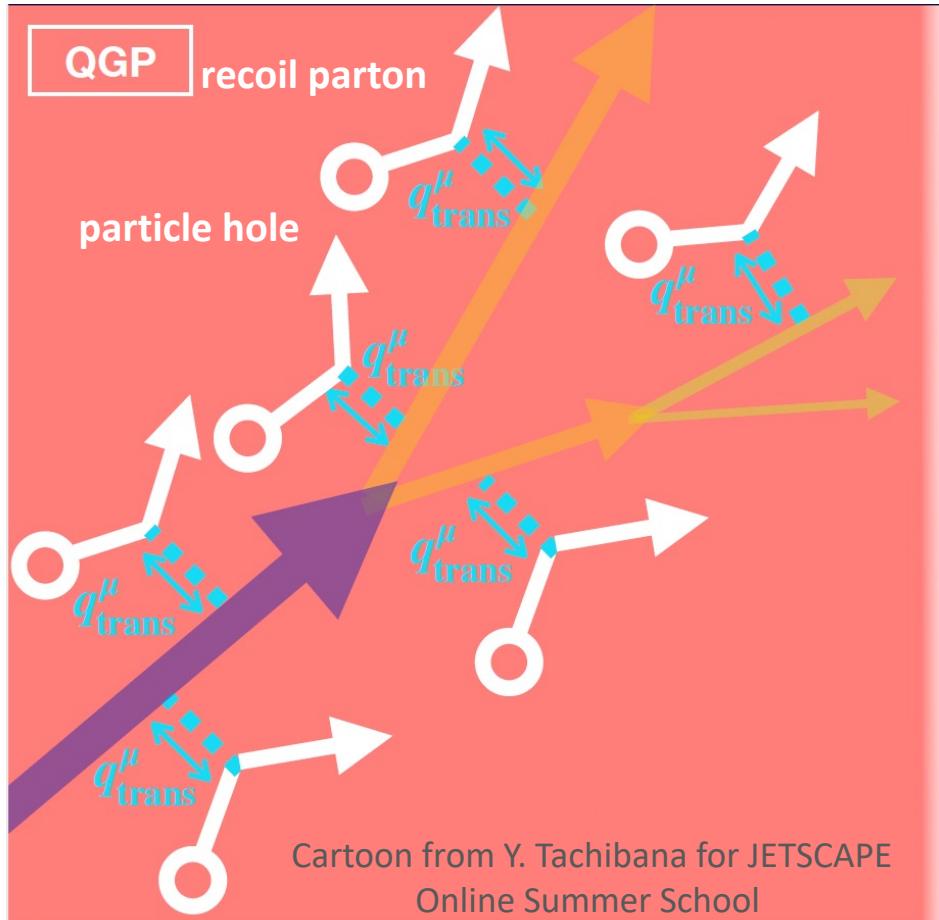
ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 101 (2020) 034911



Inclusive jet

# Linear Boltzmann Transport (LBT) model

Cao, Luo, Qin, Wang, Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 1, 014909



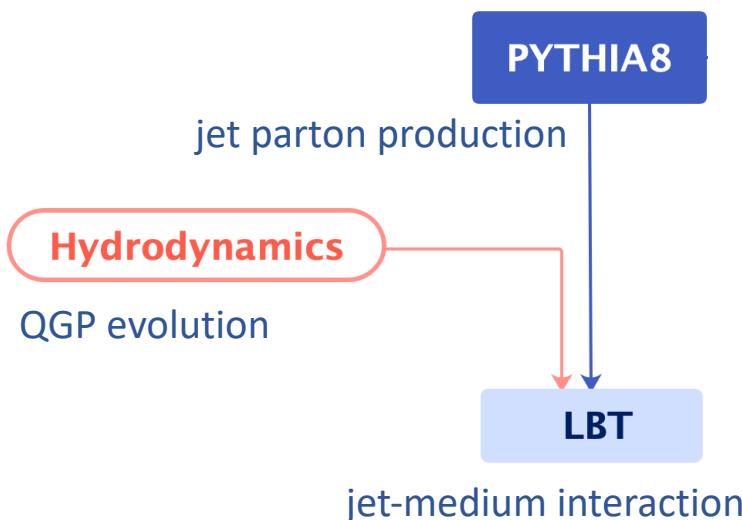
The LBT model is developed for studying jet evolution inside the QGP

**Medium modification of jet shower:**  
Medium-induced in-cone and out-of-cone splittings

**Medium response:**  
Energy deposition: recoil parton  
Energy depletion: particle hole

# Simulation procedure

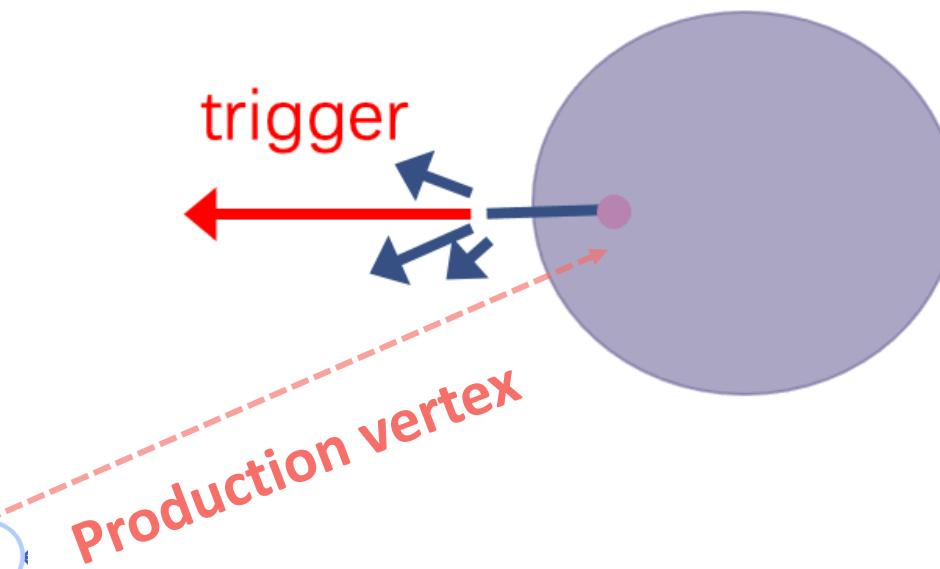
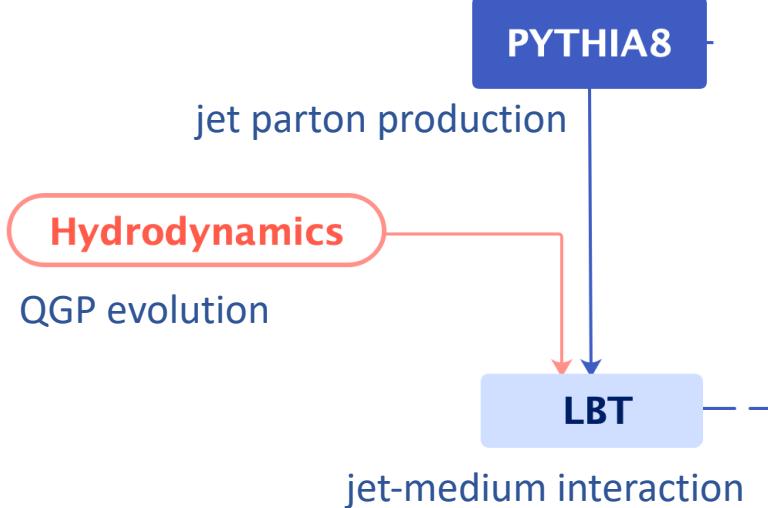
## LBT simulation



\*Note: parton level study

# Explore “surface bias” of high $p_T$ trigger

LBT simulation

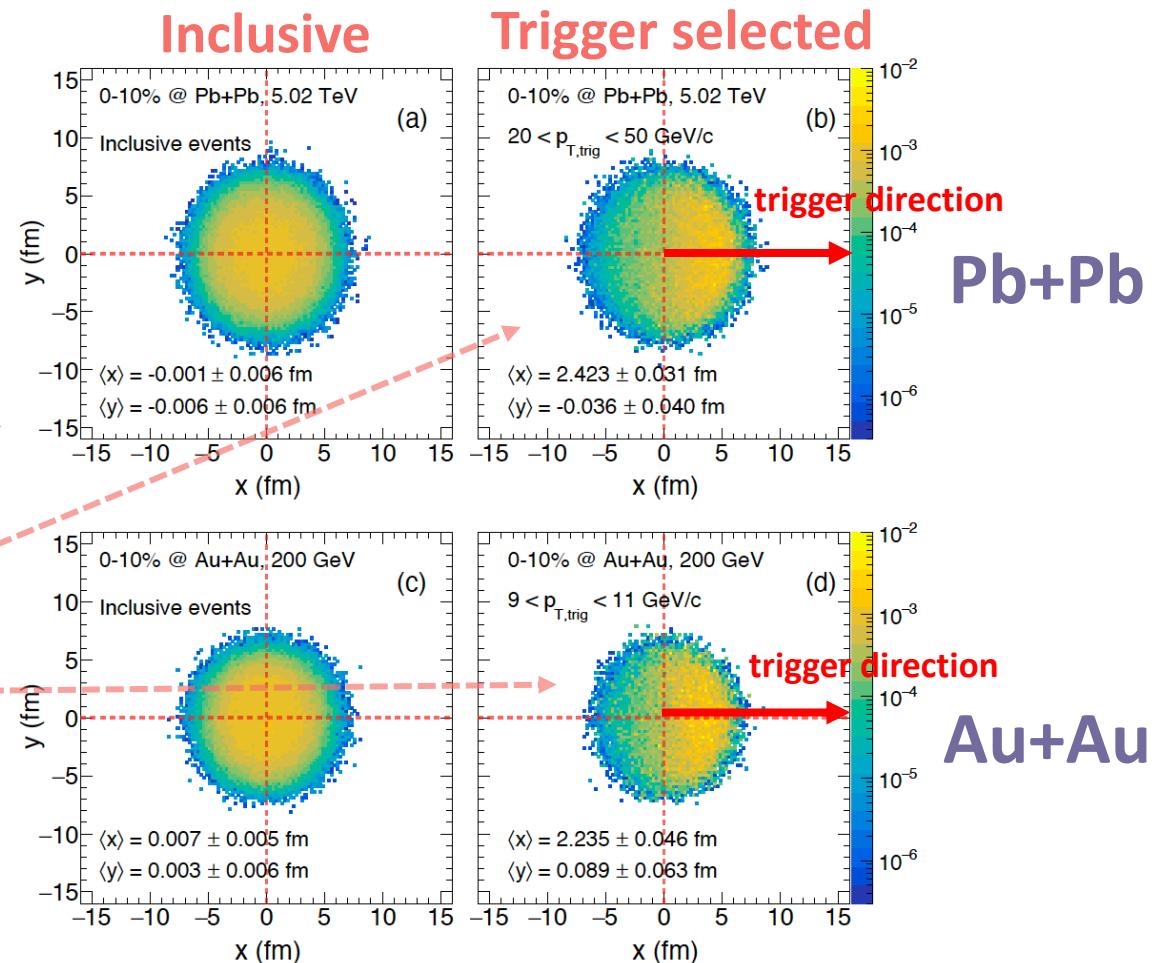
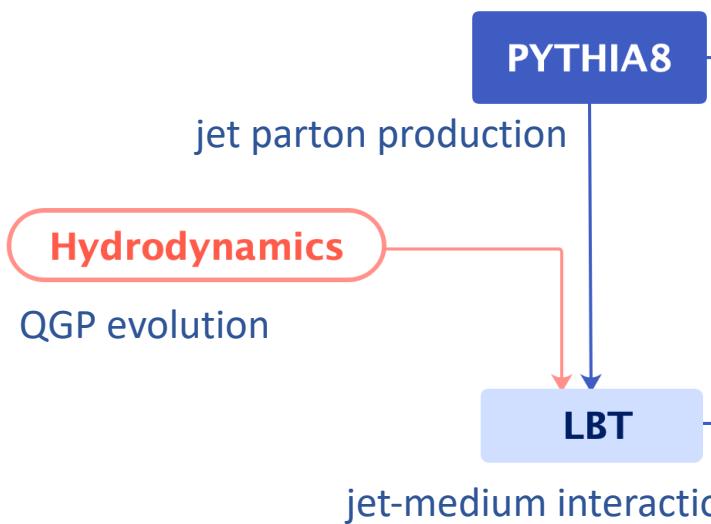


Are the triggers produced near the edge of the QGP?

\*Note: parton level study

# Explore “surface bias” of high $p_T$ trigger

LBT simulation

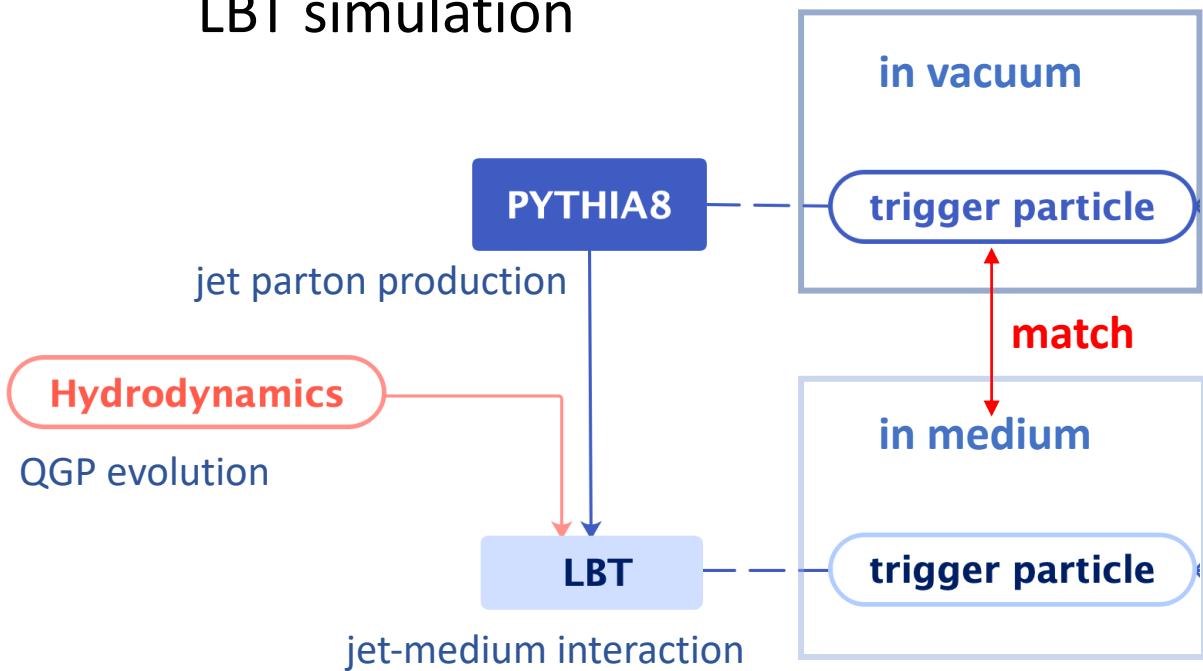


\*Note: parton level study

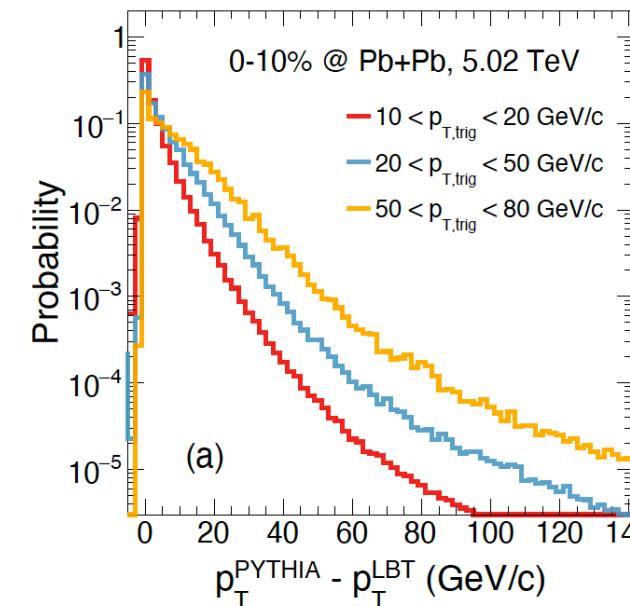
- Deviates from the center by about 2 fm
- Still a large fraction of triggers lose energy

# Quantify energy loss of trigger partons

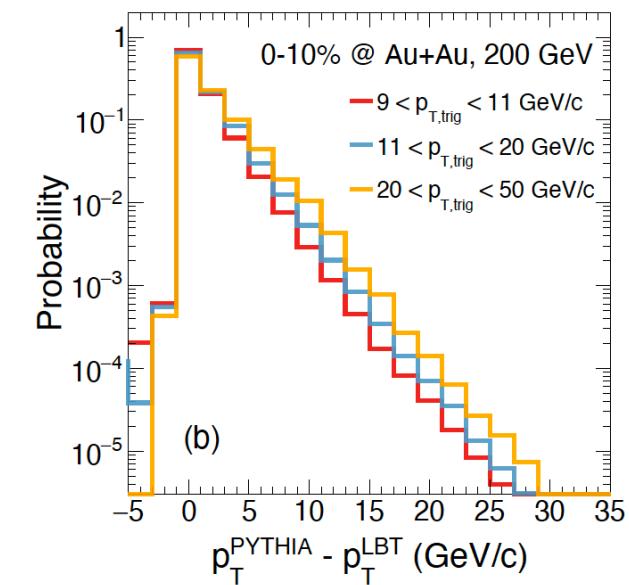
LBT simulation



Pb+Pb



Au+Au



The fraction of triggers losing energy  $> 1 \text{ GeV}/c$

Pb + Pb: 63% for the selection of  $20 < p_{T,\text{trig}} < 50 \text{ GeV}/c$

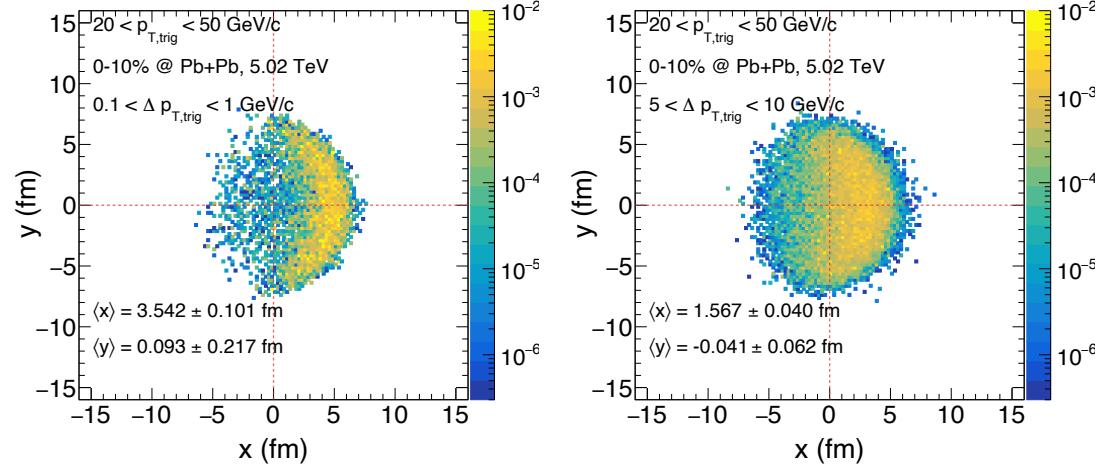
Au + Au: 30% for the selection of  $9 < p_{T,\text{trig}} < 11 \text{ GeV}/c$

\*Note: parton level study

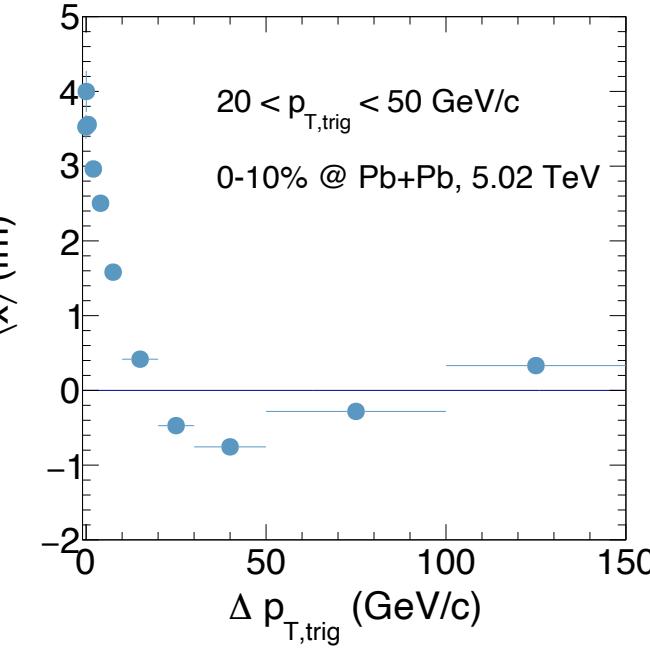
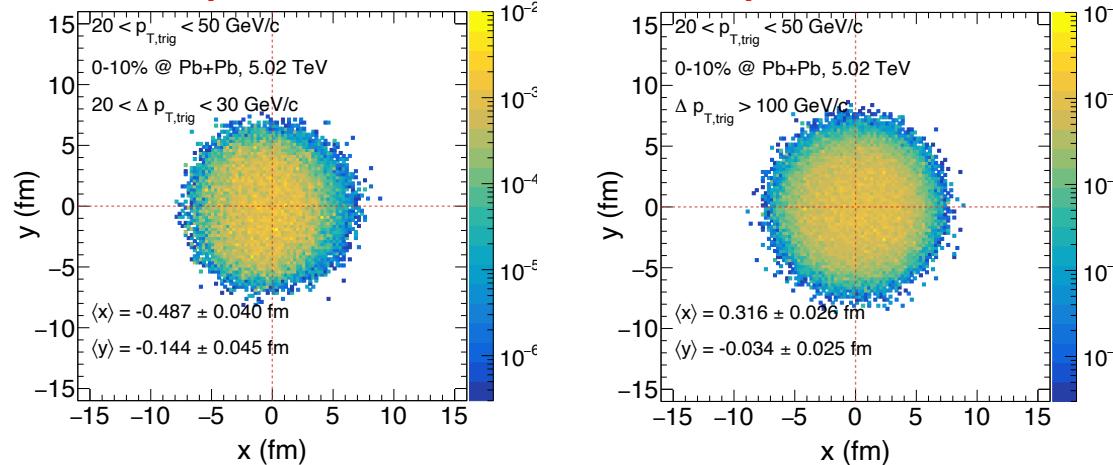
# Energy Loss and path length

Pb+Pb,  $20 < p_{T,\text{trig}} < 50 \text{ GeV}/c$

$0.1 < \Delta p_T < 1 \text{ GeV}/c$

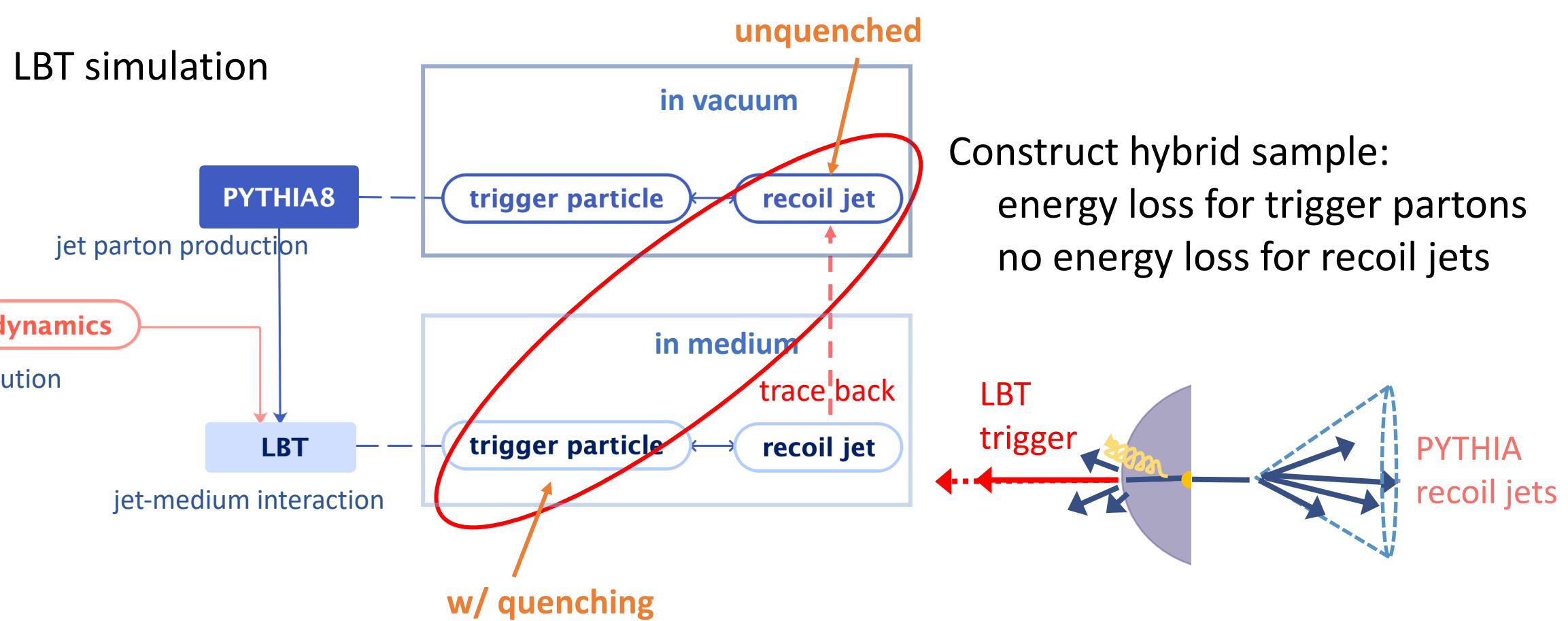


$20 < \Delta p_T < 30 \text{ GeV}/c$



- $\langle x \rangle$  decreases with increasing energy loss
- Extremely large energy loss arises predominantly from fluctuations

# How do quenched triggers impact $I_{AA}$ ?



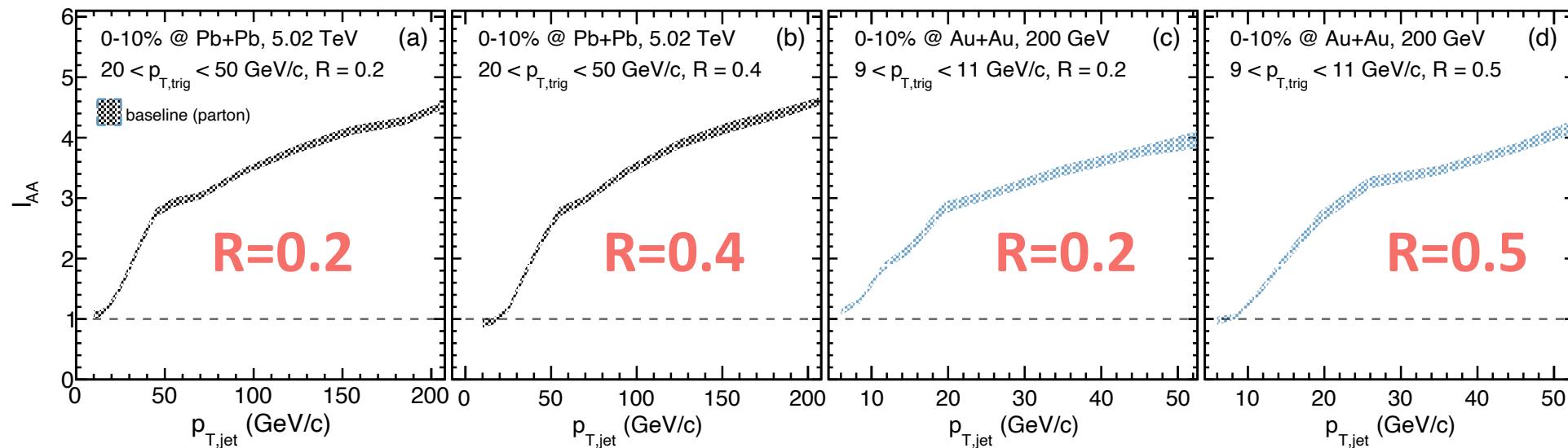
# How do quenched triggers impact $I_{AA}$ ?

“True” baseline

$$I_{AA}^{\text{baseline}} = \frac{1/N_{\text{trig}}^{\text{LBT}} dN_{\text{jet}}/dp_{T,\text{jet}}^{\text{PYTHIA}}}{1/N_{\text{trig}}^{\text{PYTHIA}} dN_{\text{jet}}/dp_{T,\text{jet}}^{\text{PYTHIA}}} \begin{array}{l} \text{hybrid sample} \\ \text{PYTHIA sample} \end{array}$$

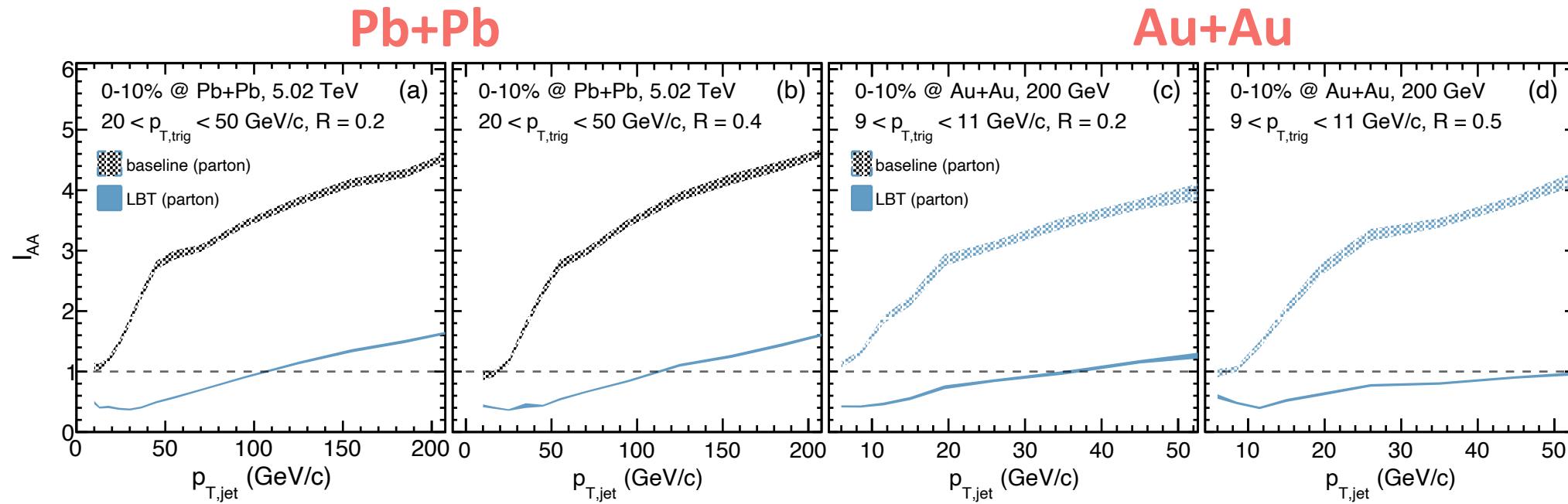
Trigger energy loss only!

Pb+Pb



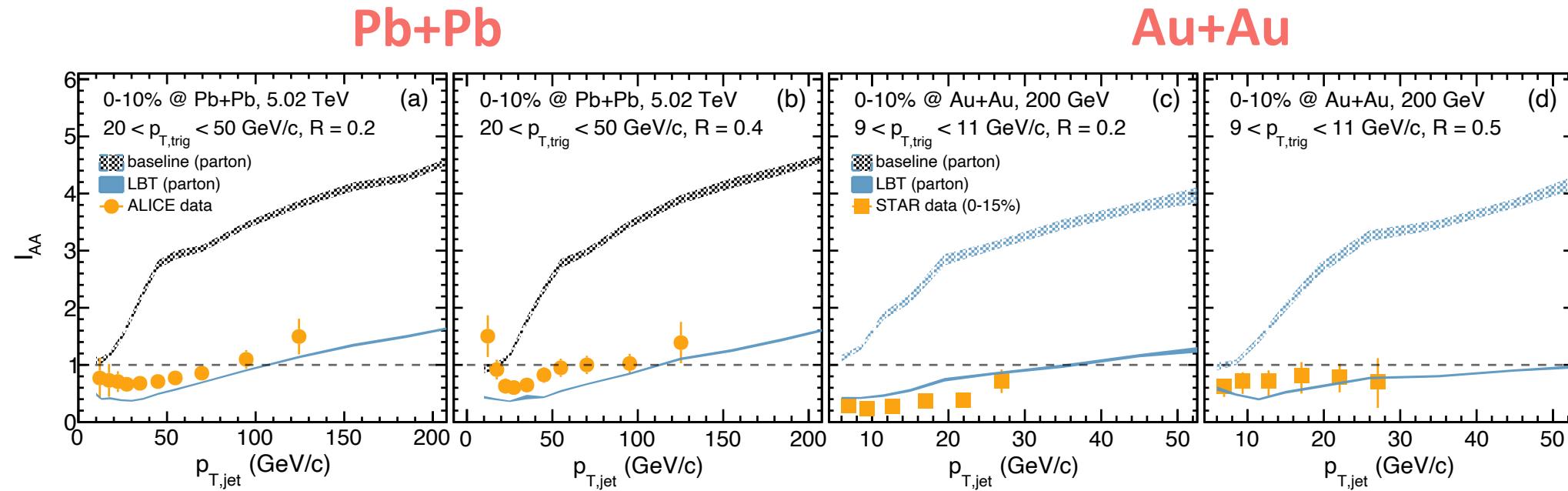
Energy loss of trigger particles in A+A collisions results in them having originated from higher- $Q^2$  processes, and thus “true” baseline exceeds unity

# Decipher $I_{AA} > 1$ observed in experiments



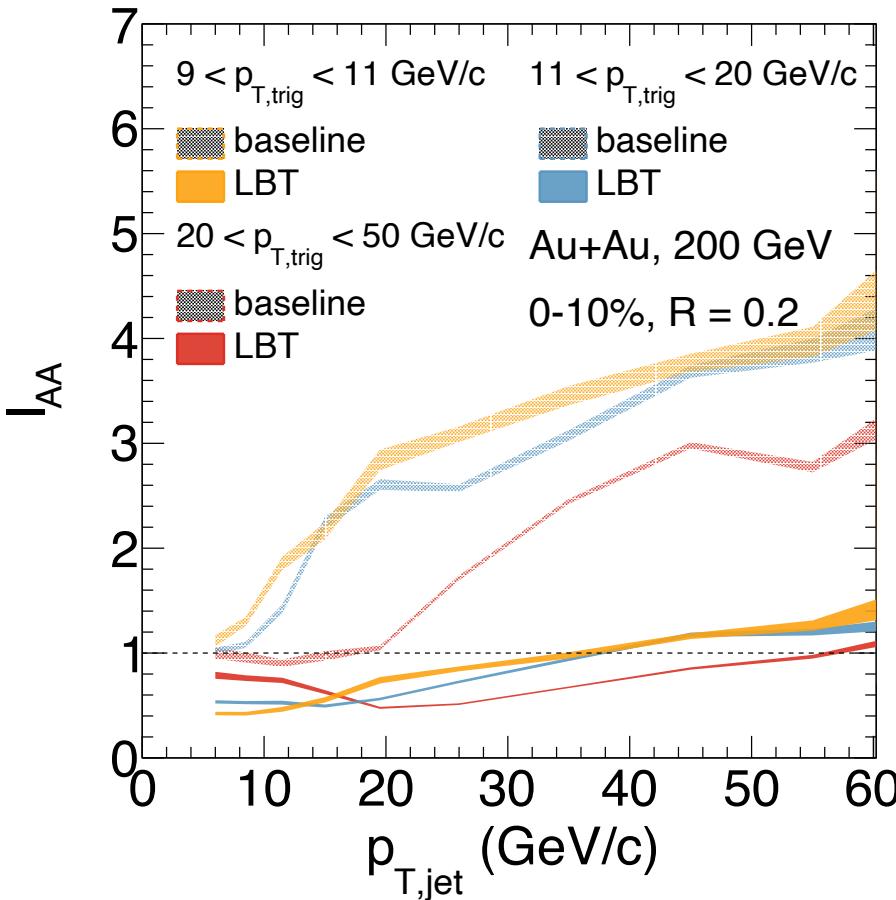
- The enhanced baseline indicates that  $I_{AA} > 1$  could still signal jet quenching

# Decipher $I_{AA} > 1$ observed in experiments

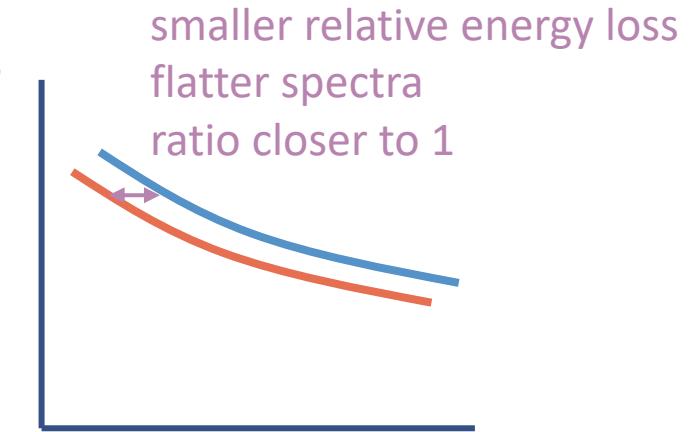
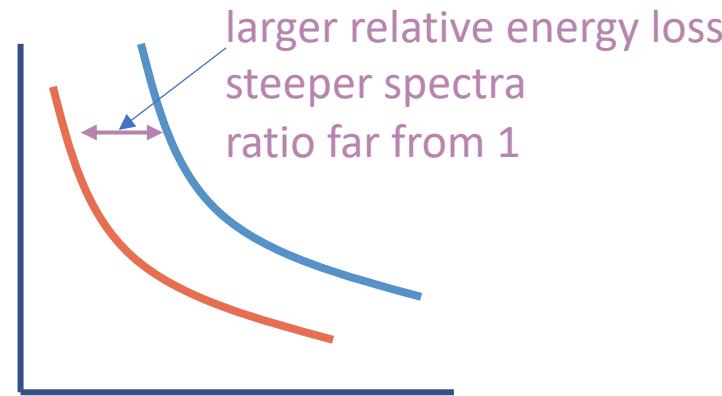


- The enhanced baseline indicates that  $I_{AA} > 1$  could still signal jet quenching
- Rising trend of  $I_{AA}$ , especially as observed in the ALICE data, can be qualitatively reproduced by the LBT model

# Exploration on trigger $p_T$ dependence

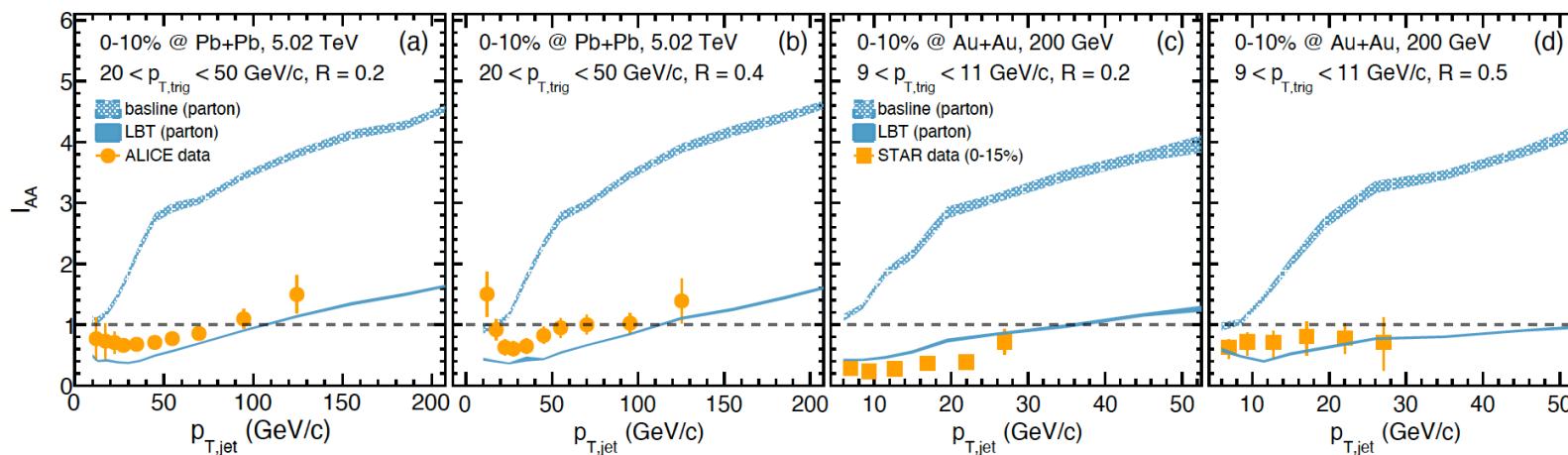


**The baseline gets closer to one with increasing trigger  $p_T$**   
Combined effects of flatter jet spectrum and smaller relative energy change of higher  $p_T$  trigger



# Summary

- We explore the origin of  $I_{AA}$  larger than 1 at high  $p_T$  region with model study, and identify the **trigger energy loss as the cause**
- We find that “true” baseline for  $I_{AA}$  can well exceed 1 at high  $p_T$  for quenched trigger particle
- Due to the enhancement of “true” baseline,  **$I_{AA} > 1$  can still signal jet quenching**
- $I_{AA}$  provides strong constraints on model to describe both trigger and recoil jet energy loss



Phys. Lett. B 854 (2024) 138739

# Back up

# Outlook

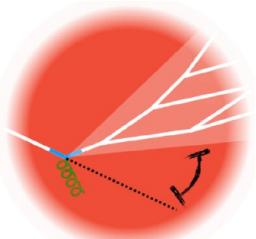
Case using colored partons as trigger is explored. How about other particle species?

Is the baseline for colorless gamma or Z boson  $I_{AA} = 1$ ?

Trigger effect is studied at parton level. Will the same observation hold at hadron level?

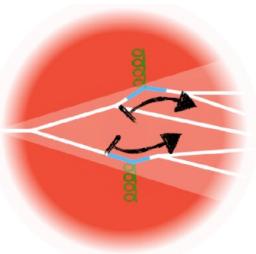
Trigger energy loss effect on  $I_{AA}$  is explored. What's its effect on other observables?

Jet acoplanarity :



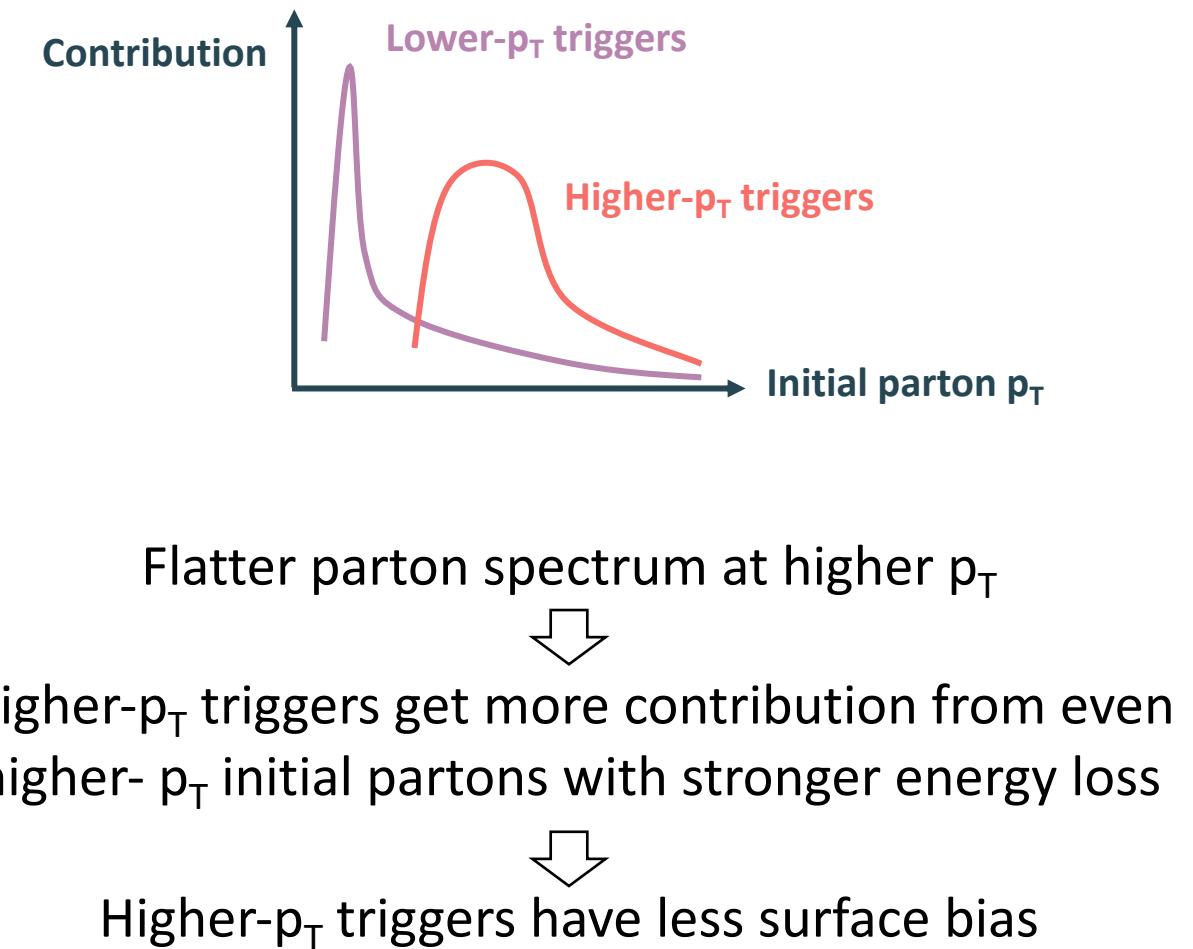
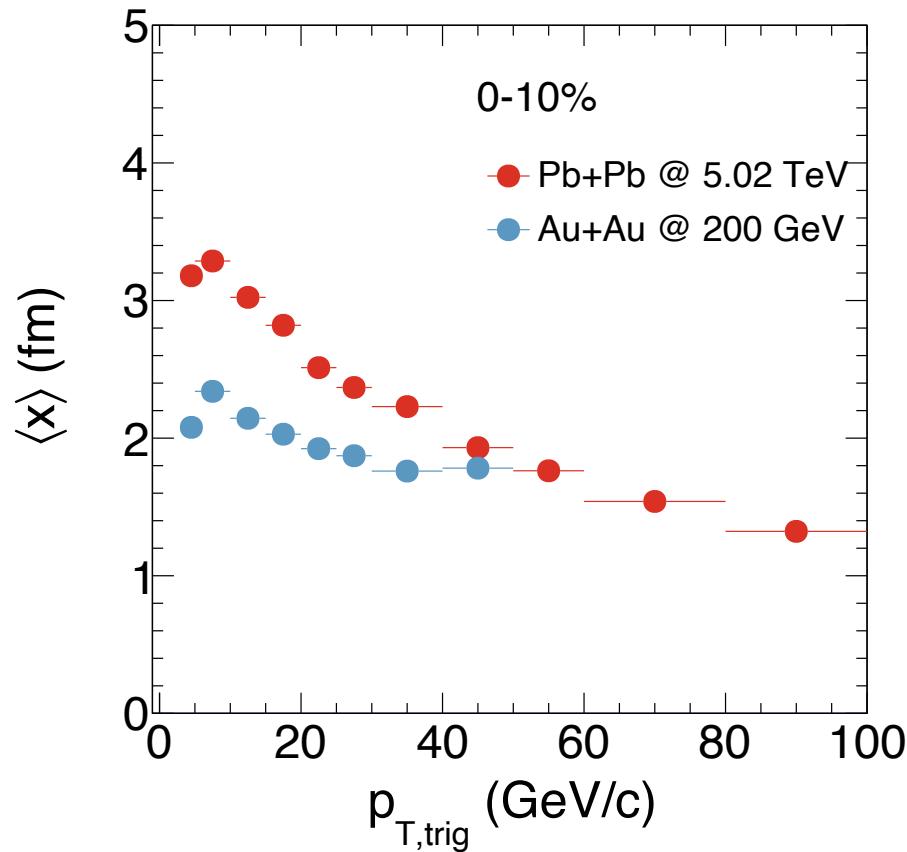
Medium deflects jet to large angle? (medium effect)  
Harder jets are more difficult to deflect? (trigger effect)

Jet substructure:

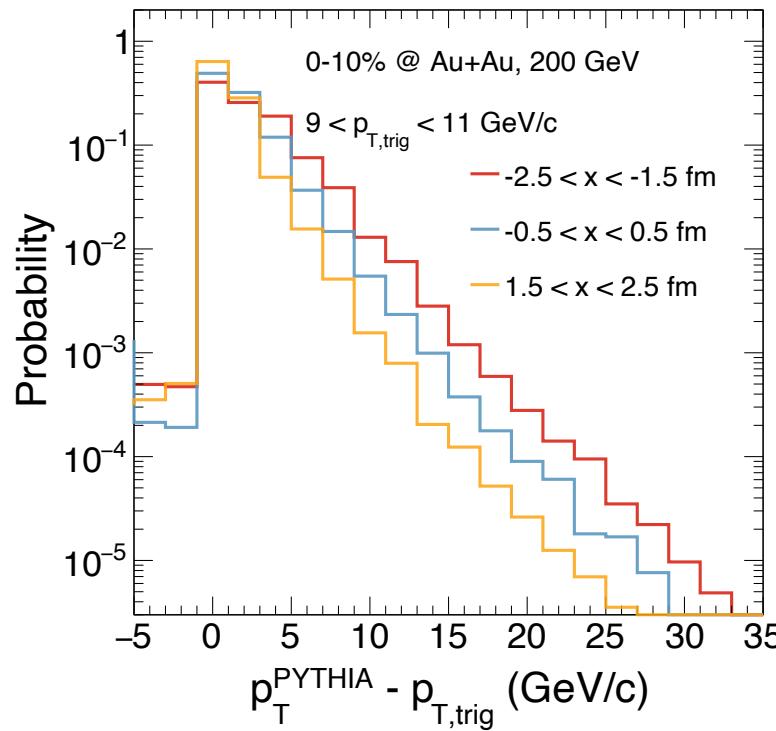
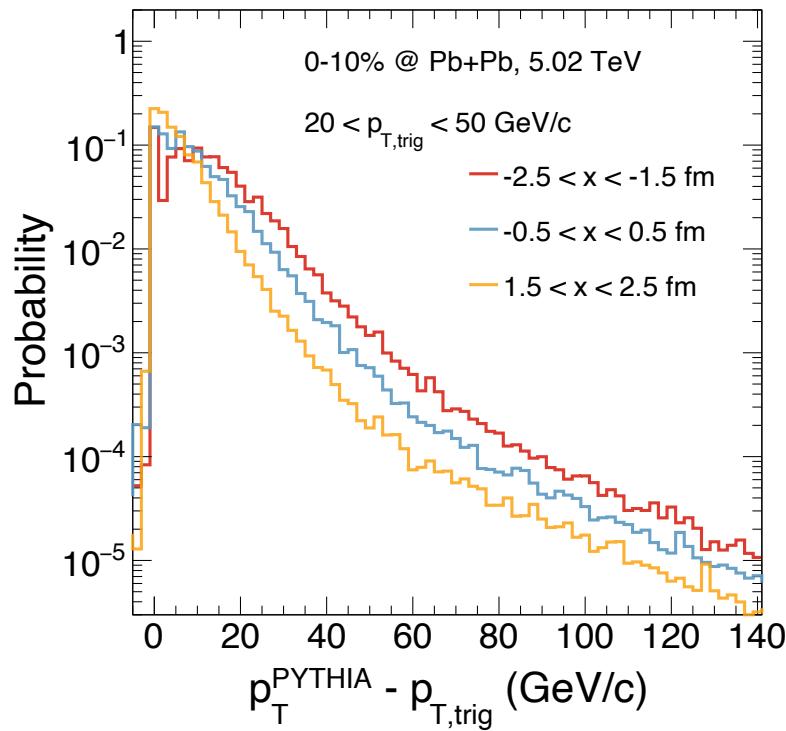


Interaction with medium broadens the jet? (medium effect)  
Harder jets are more collimated? (trigger effect)  
How do they interplay?

# Trigger $p_T$ and path length



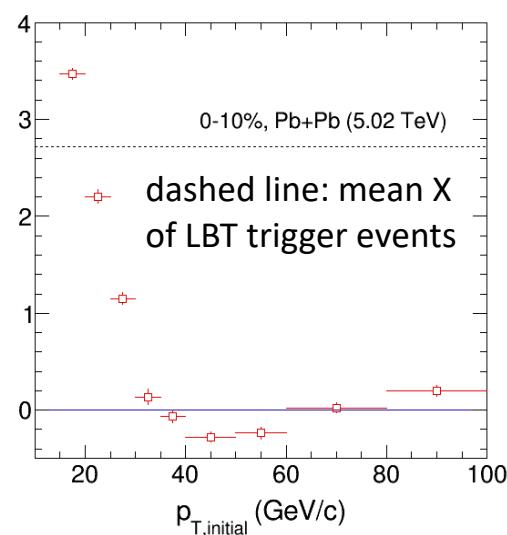
# Energy loss and production vertex



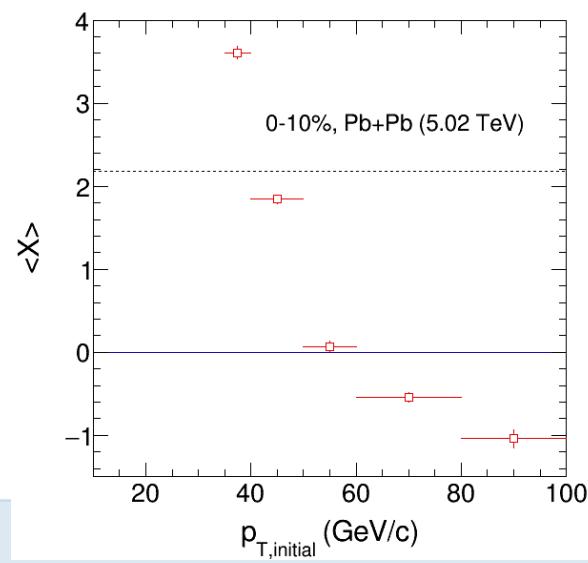
# $\langle X \rangle$ distributions

15<LBT trigger pT<20 GeV/c

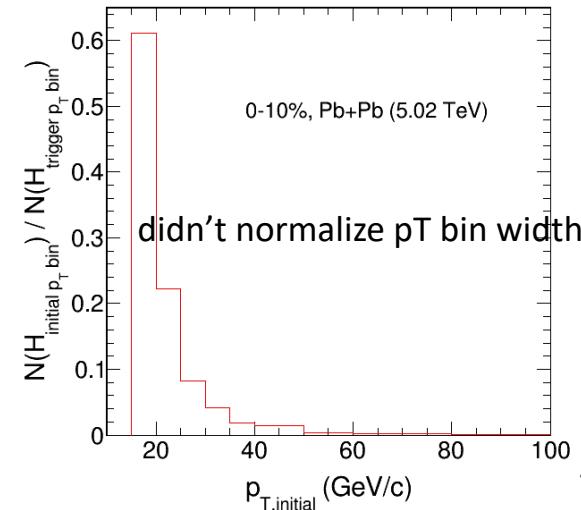
surface bias decrease with  
initial parton pT



35<LBT trigger pT<40 GeV/c

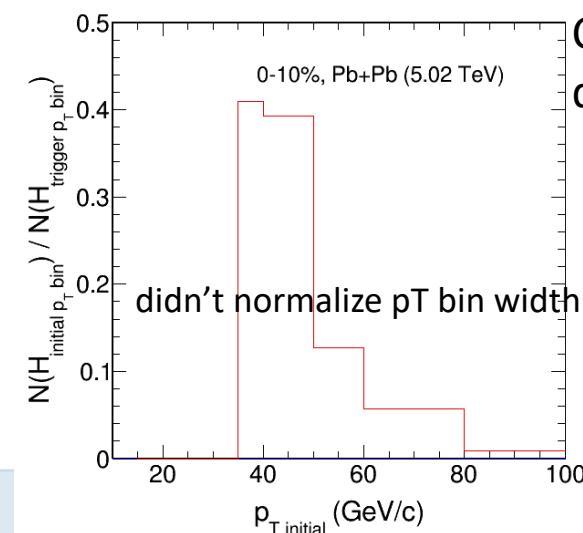


Y axis:(Integral of initial pT bin 2d plot) / (Integral of LBT trigger 2d plot)

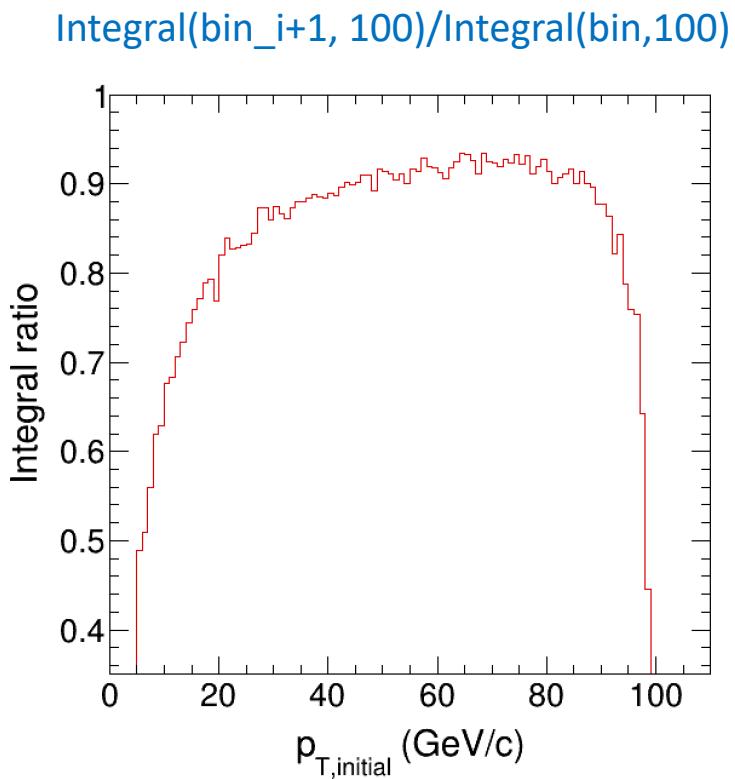
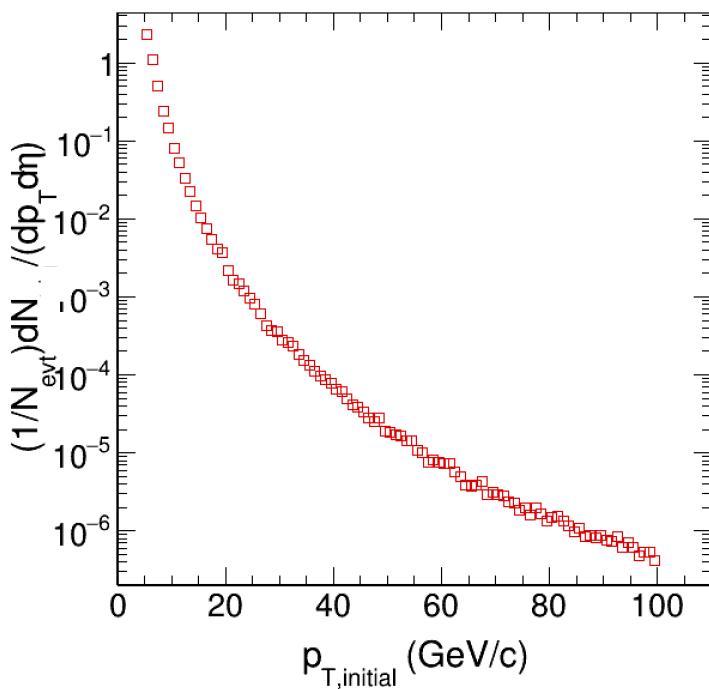


Relative contribution from large initial pT bins increased with LBT trigger pT

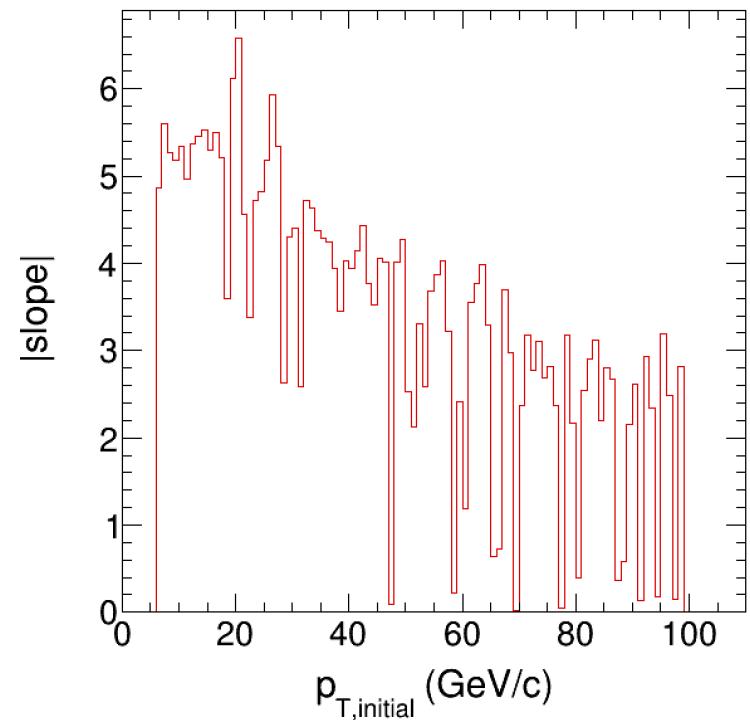
Could it be the reason for decreasing mean  $X$ ?



# PYTHIA $p_T$ distribution



fit the three pt bins: bin<sub>i-1</sub>, bin<sub>i</sub>, bin<sub>i+1</sub> with a power-law distribution to get the slope



- Initial  $p_T$  spectrum gets flatter
- Higher- $p_T$  triggers get more contribution from even higher initial  $p_T$  partons whose lose more energy