

Coherent J/ψ photoproduction in ultraperipheral PbPb collisions at CMS

Luis F. Alcerro

(On behalf of the CMS Collaboration)

l.alcerro@cern.ch

*Department of Physics & Astronomy
University of Kansas*

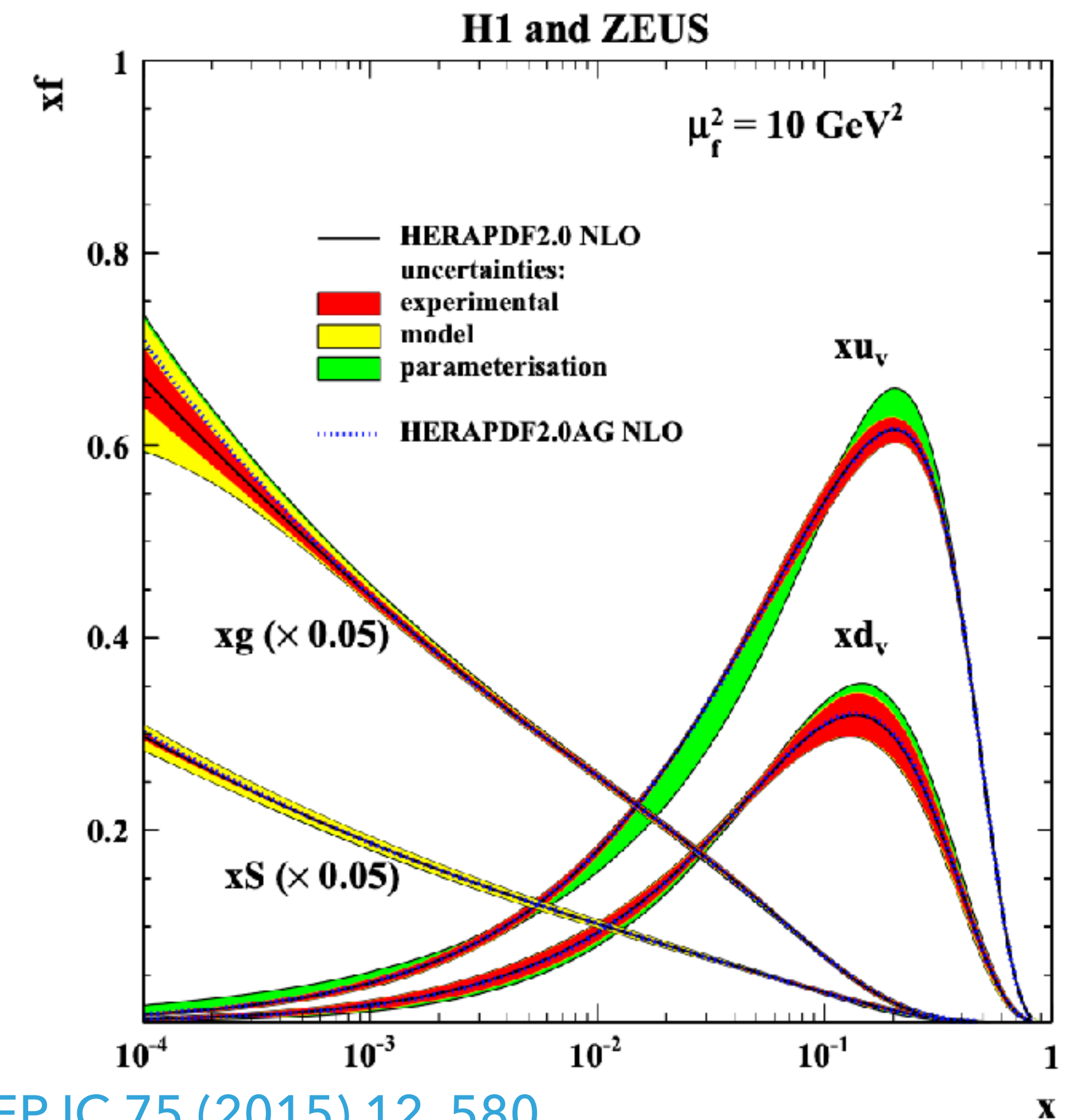
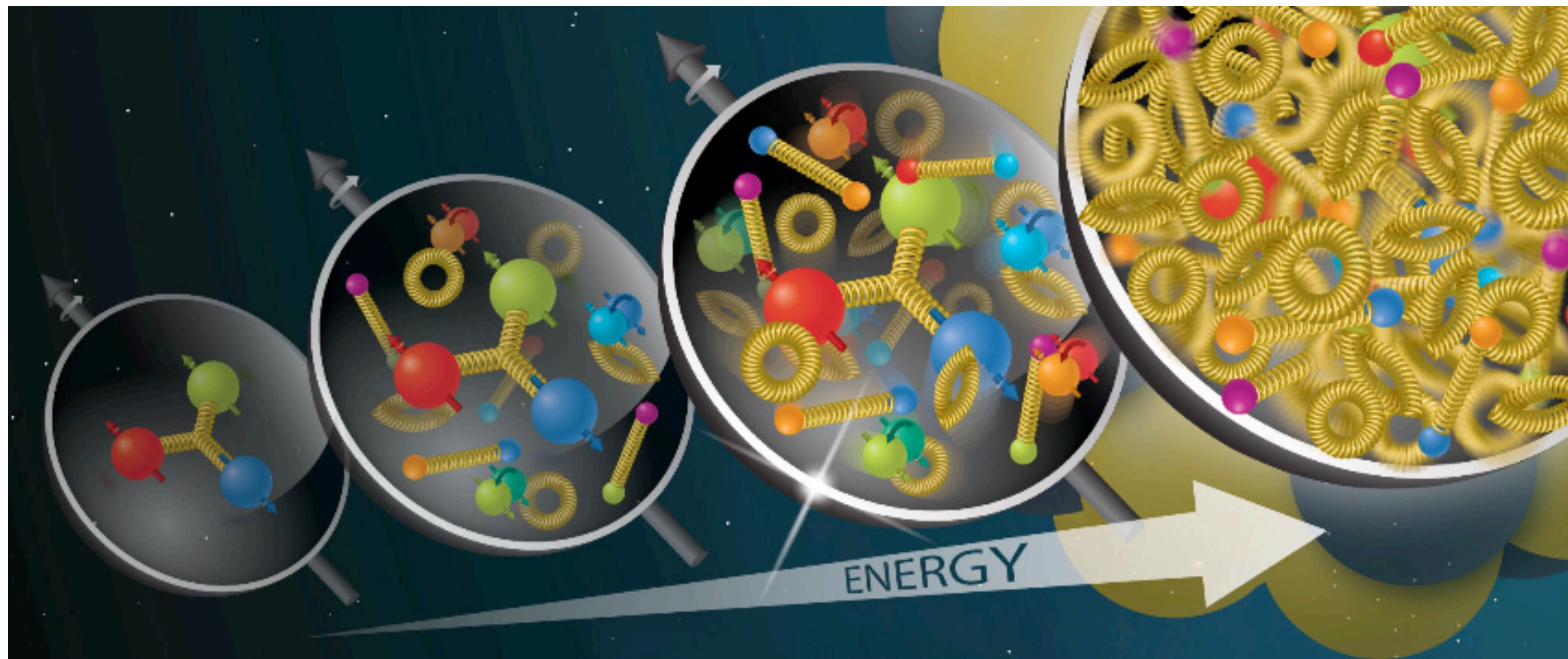


**WE-Heraeus-Seminar: Forward Physics
and QCD at the LHC and EIC**

**Bad Honnef, Germany
Sept. 25, 2023**

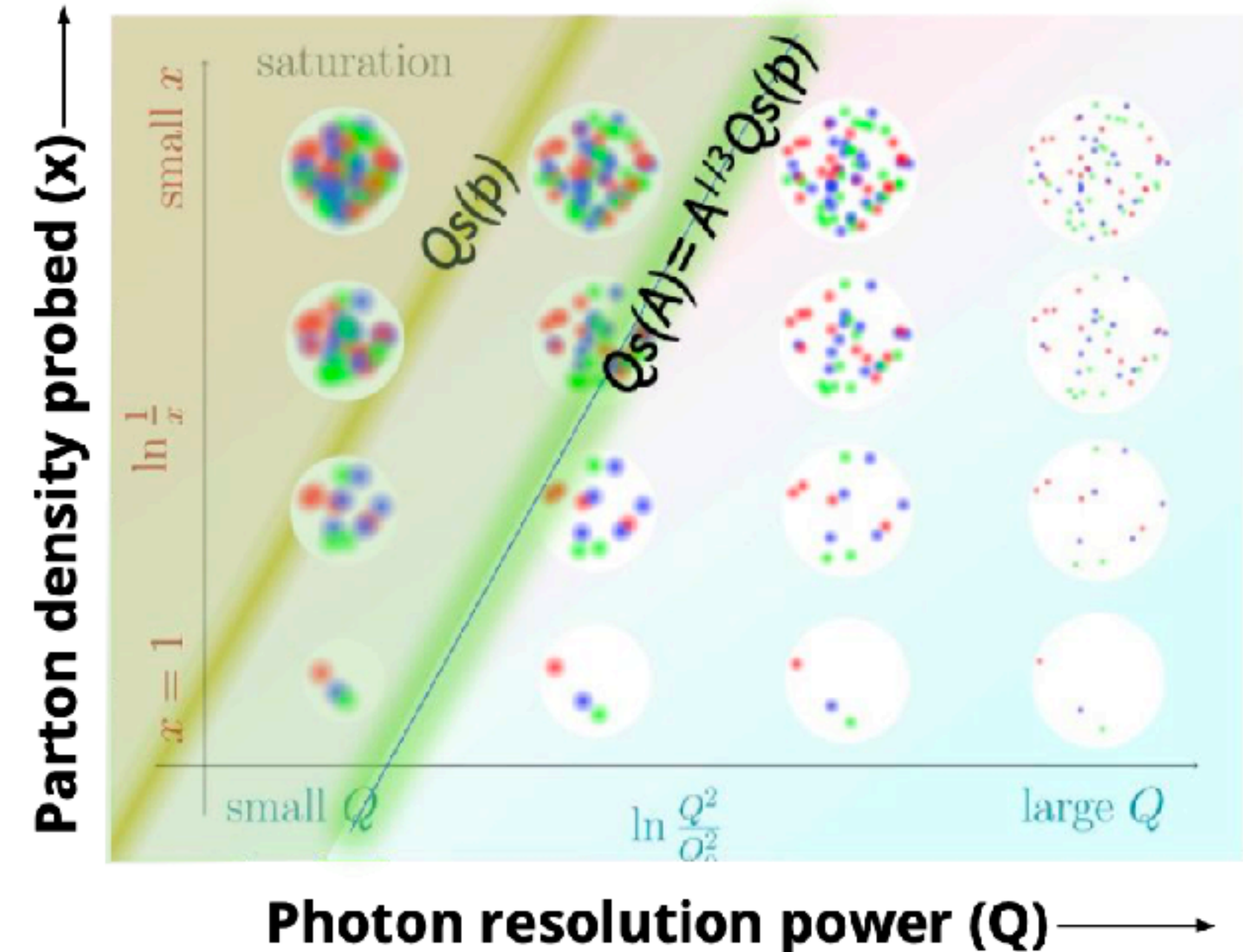
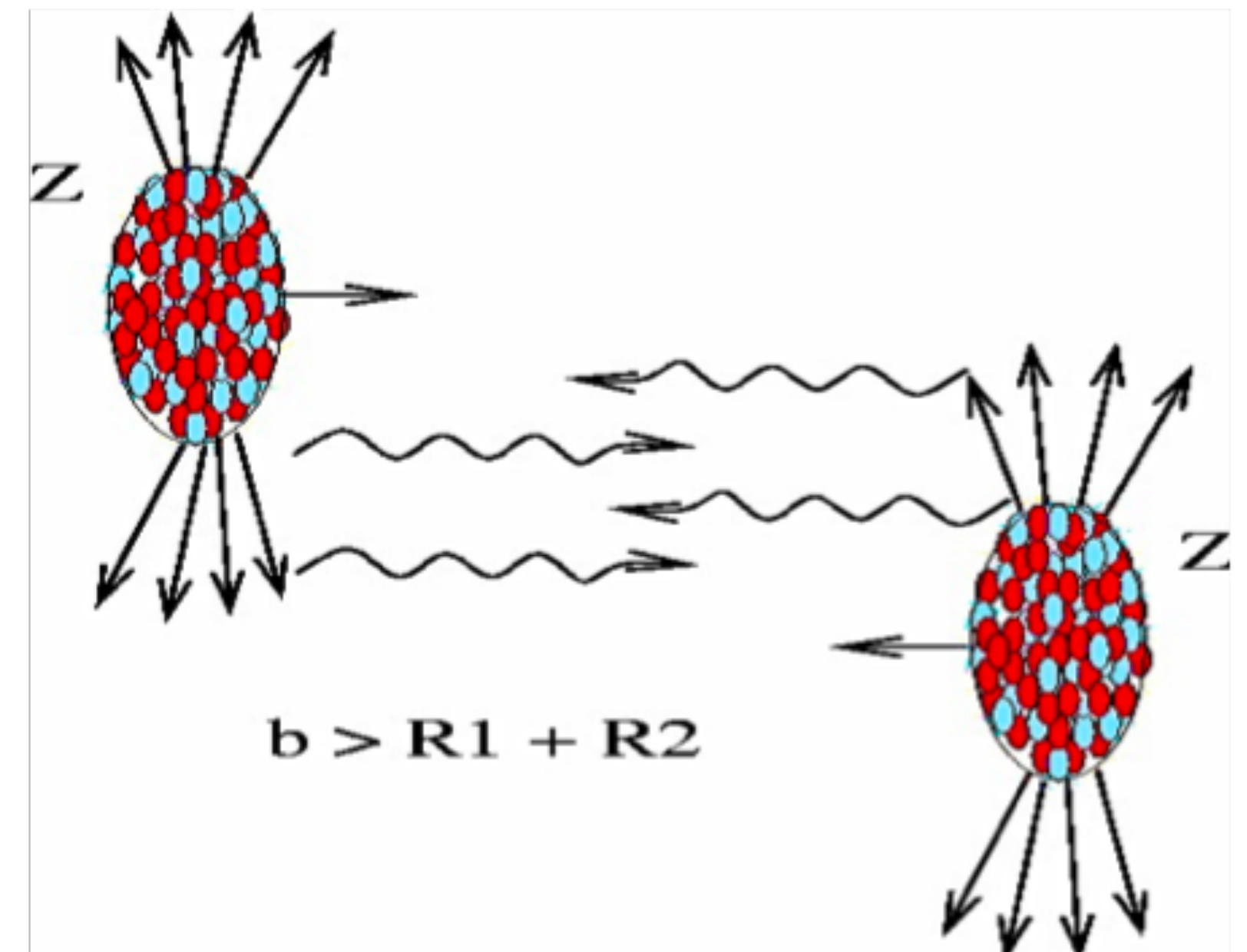
Motivation

- DIS experiments show gluons become rapidly dominant at high energies.
- Unitarity: This behavior cannot go forever!
- New QCD regime: compensation between gluon splittings and recombinations.
- No conclusive evidence of saturation to date!



Ultrapерipheral collisions (UPCs)

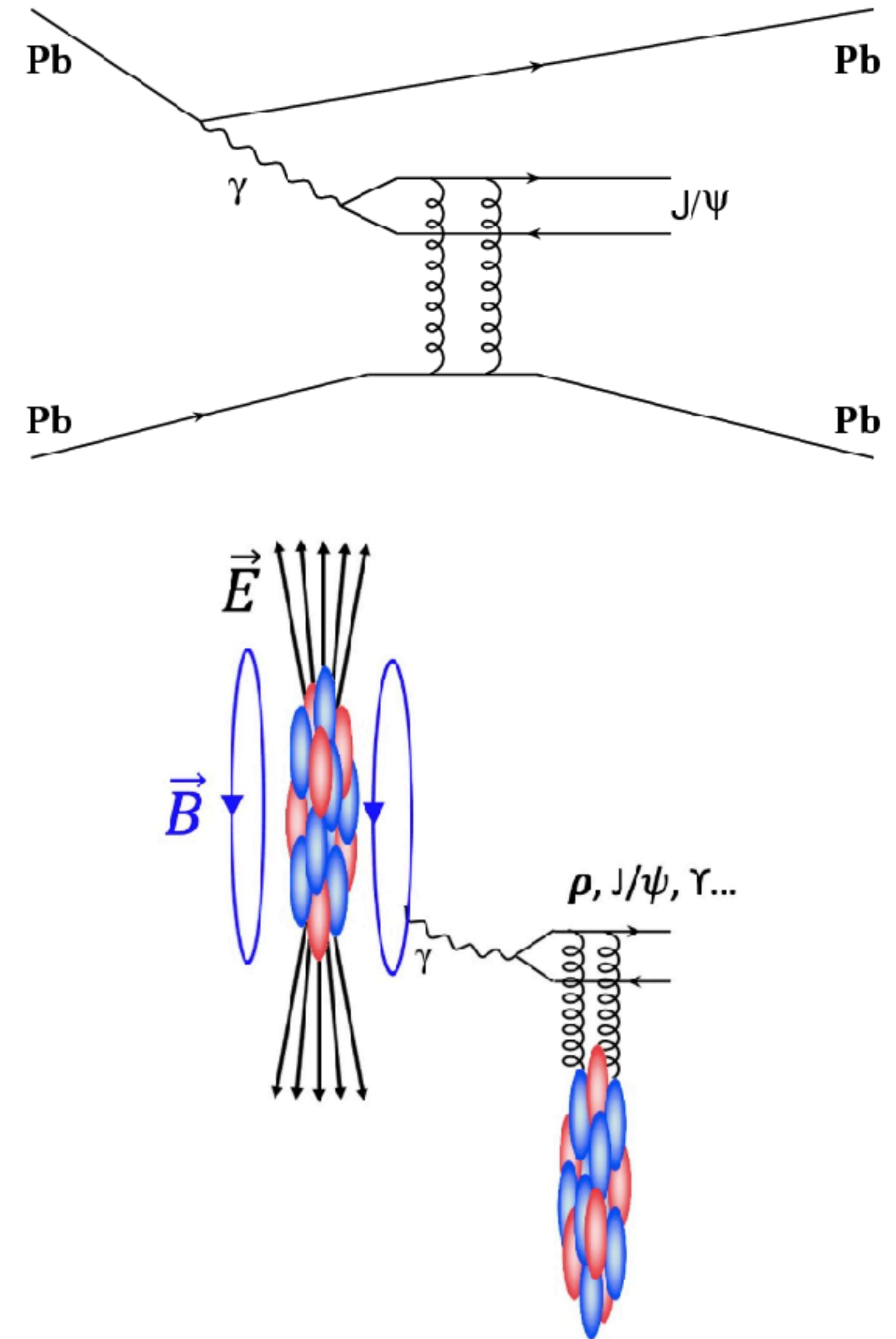
- Collisions when ions don't "touch" each other, impact parameter $b > R_1 + R_2$
- These processes dominate nucleus-nucleus cross section.
- Electromagnetic (photon) interactions dominate.
- Large photon flux $\sim Z^2$ (Fermi/Weizsacker-Williams). In the case of Pb, probability (cross section) 82^4 larger than proton!
- Relevance:
 - Interplay between QED, QCD and Beyond SM physics
 - Probe for **nuclear** PDFs
 - Sensitive to saturation in nuclei
 - Saturation region is expected to be easier to be accessed $Q_S \propto A^{1/3}$

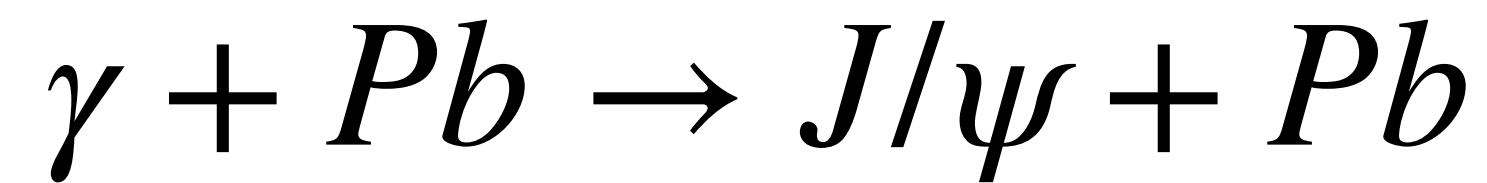


Photoproduction of vector mesons (VM)

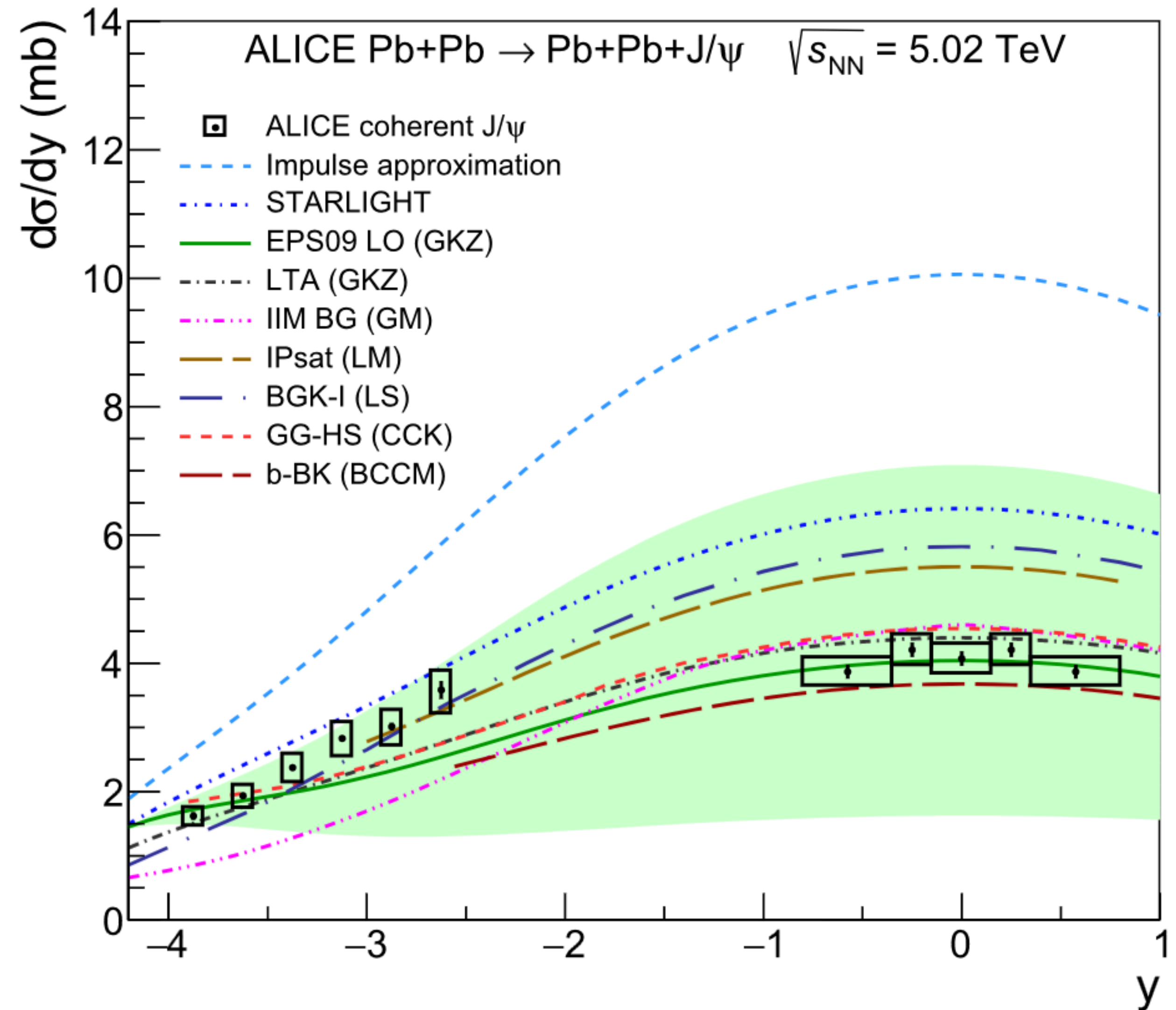
- Photon quantum numbers ($J^{PC} = 1^{--}$) same for VM \rightarrow photon fluctuates into a VM !
- VM photoproduction cross section $\propto (xg(x, Q^2))^2$ at LO.
- Photoproduced VM cross section at small x can test gluon density.

$$x = \left(\frac{M_{J/\psi}}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} \right) e^{\mp y}$$





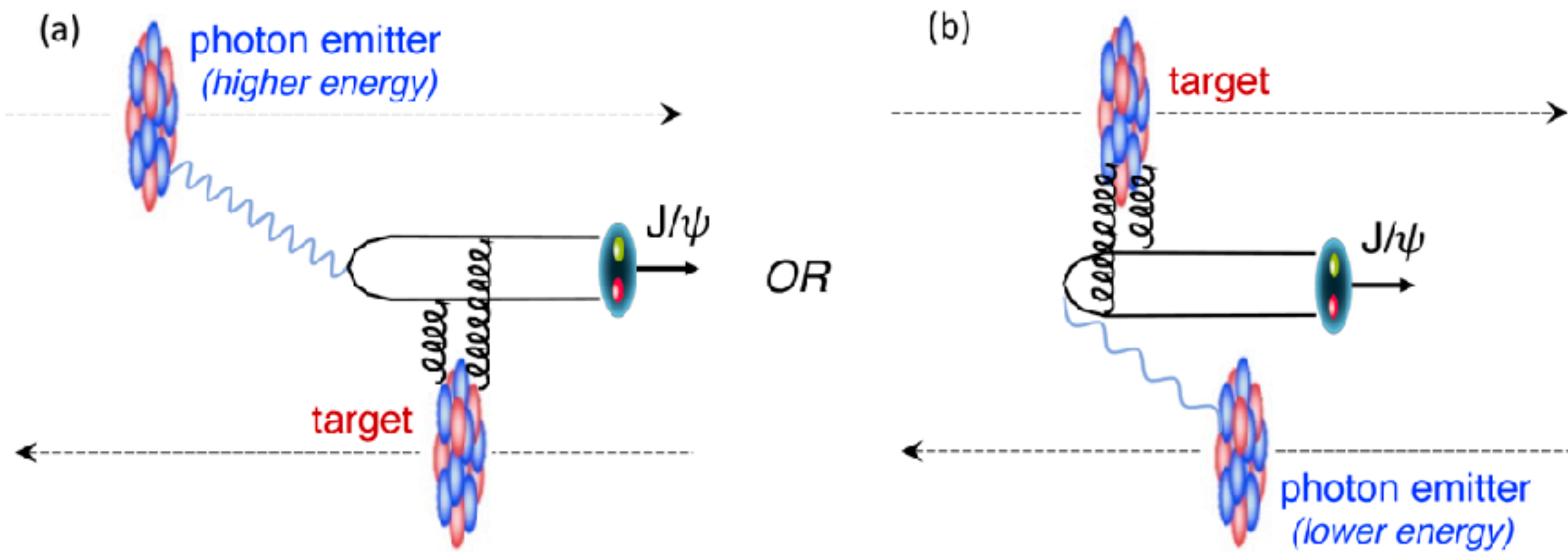
- Gluons inside Pb:
 - $\sigma(J/\psi) < 1.A \rightarrow$ strong nuclear modification in nuclei.
 - Data challenge all existing models.



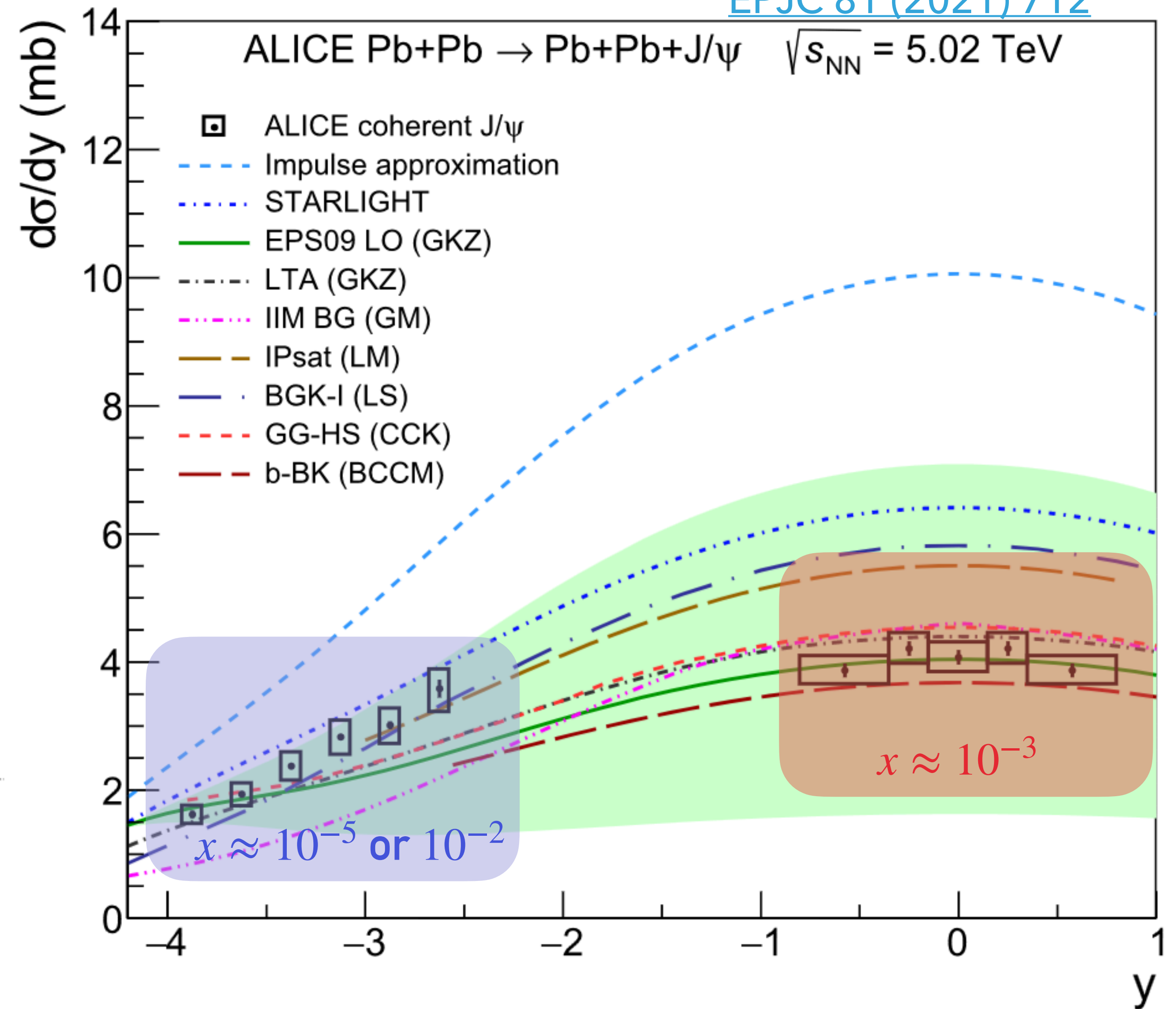
Photoproduction of J/ψ with heavy nuclei

EPJC 81 (2021) 712

- **Ambiguity in symmetric collisions:**
either ion can serve as the emitter or target.
- Each data point has contributions from low and high energy photons.



$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow AA' J/\psi}}{dy} = N_{\gamma/A}(y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y) + N_{\gamma/A}(-y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$$

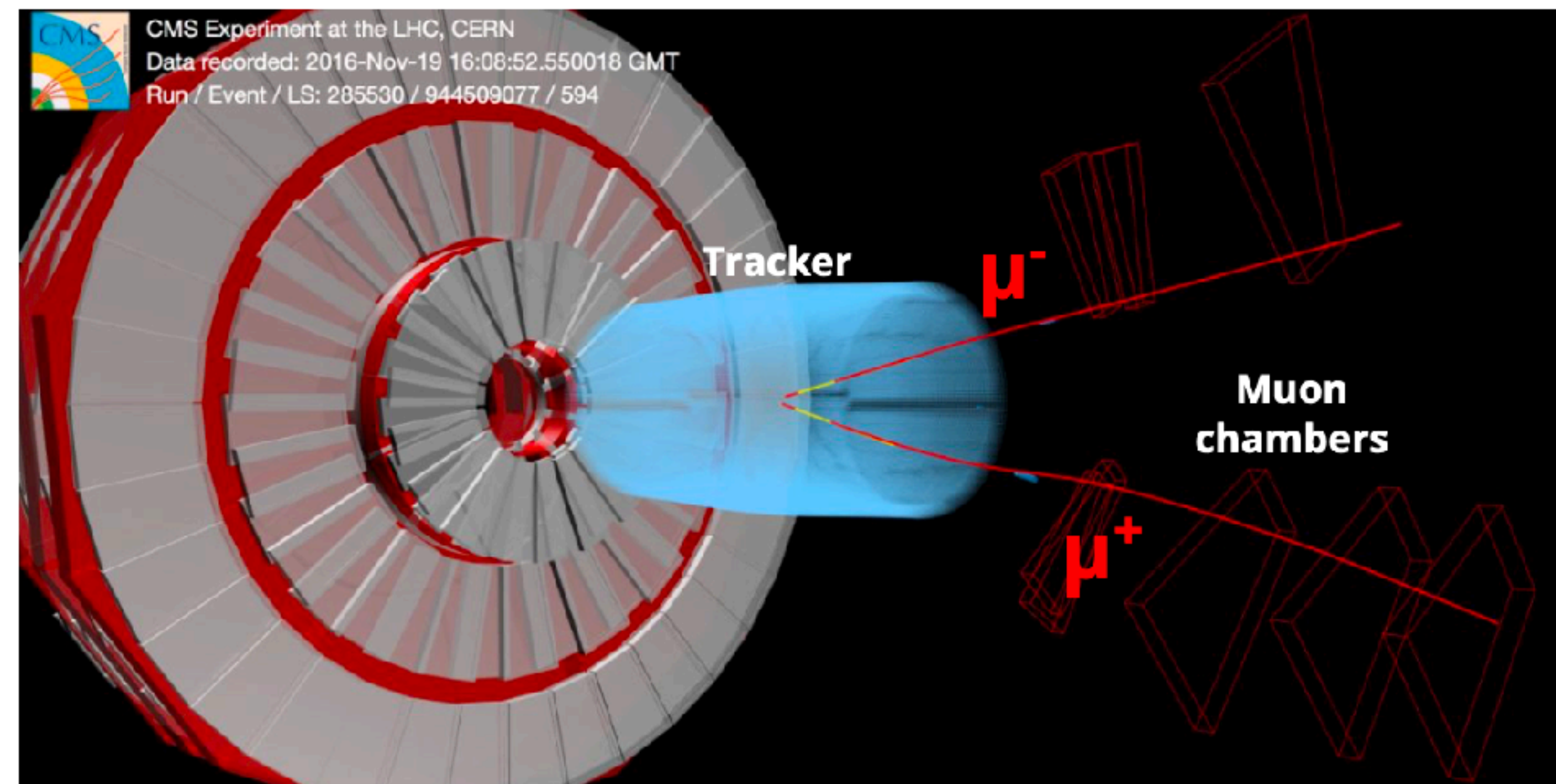


Coherent J/ψ photoproduction in UPC PbPb at 5.02 TeV ⁷

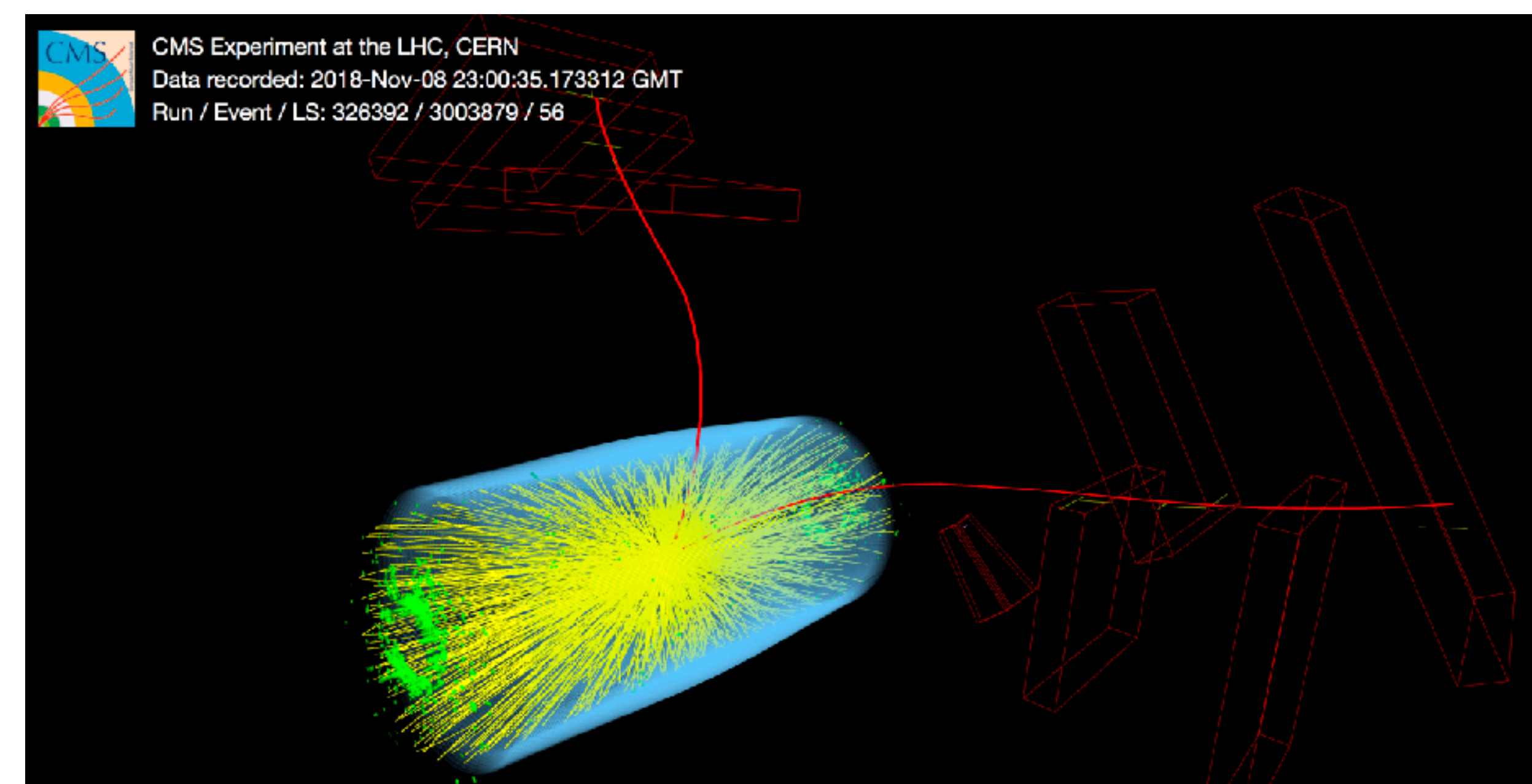
[arXiv:2303.16984](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.16984)

- Data from 2018 PbPb UPC, $L_{int} \sim 1.52 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
- Event selection:
 - Exactly two muons and nothing more!
 - Low energy depositions in hadronic calorimeter to suppress strong interactions.
 - Very clean events !

UPC

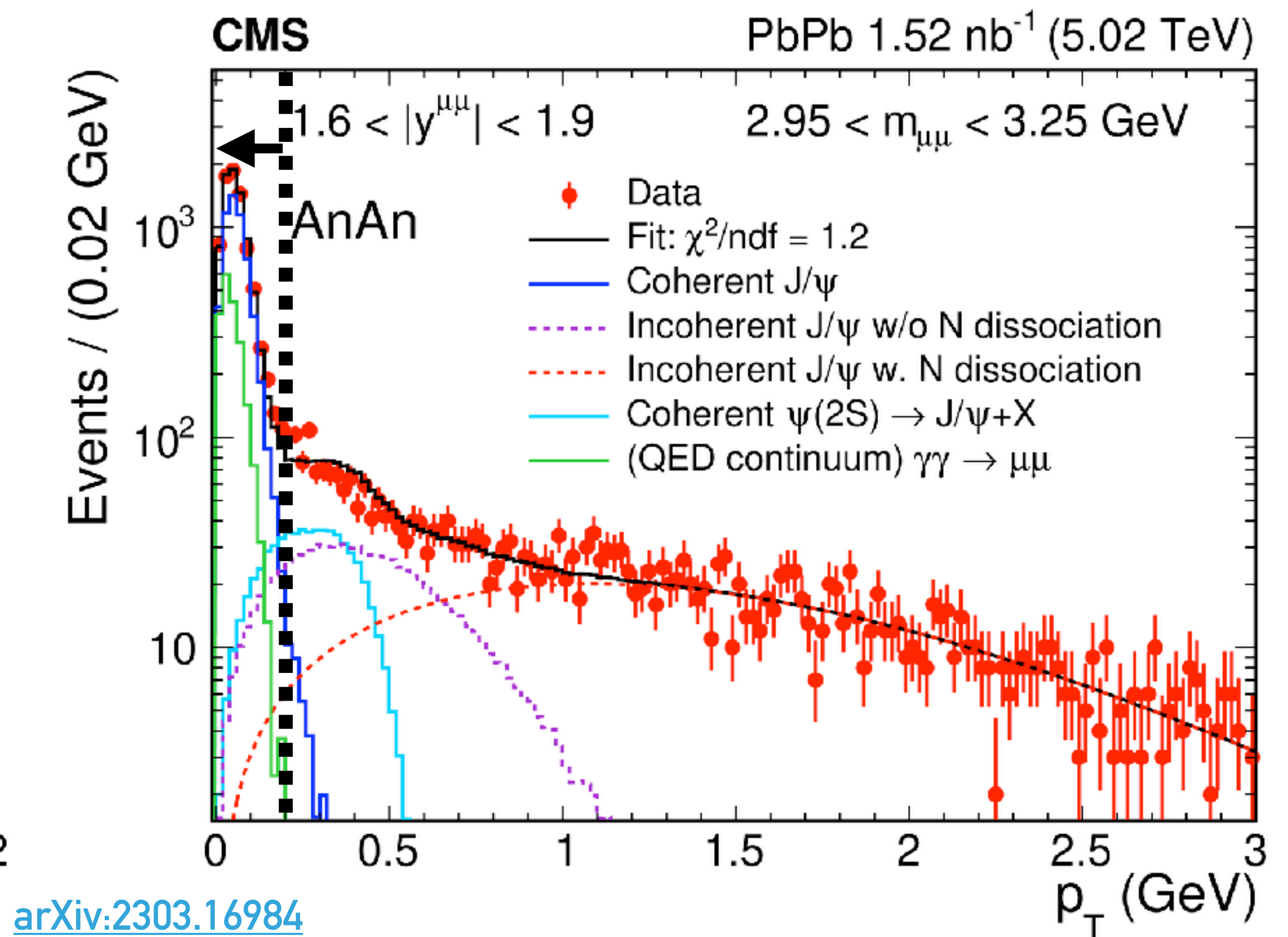
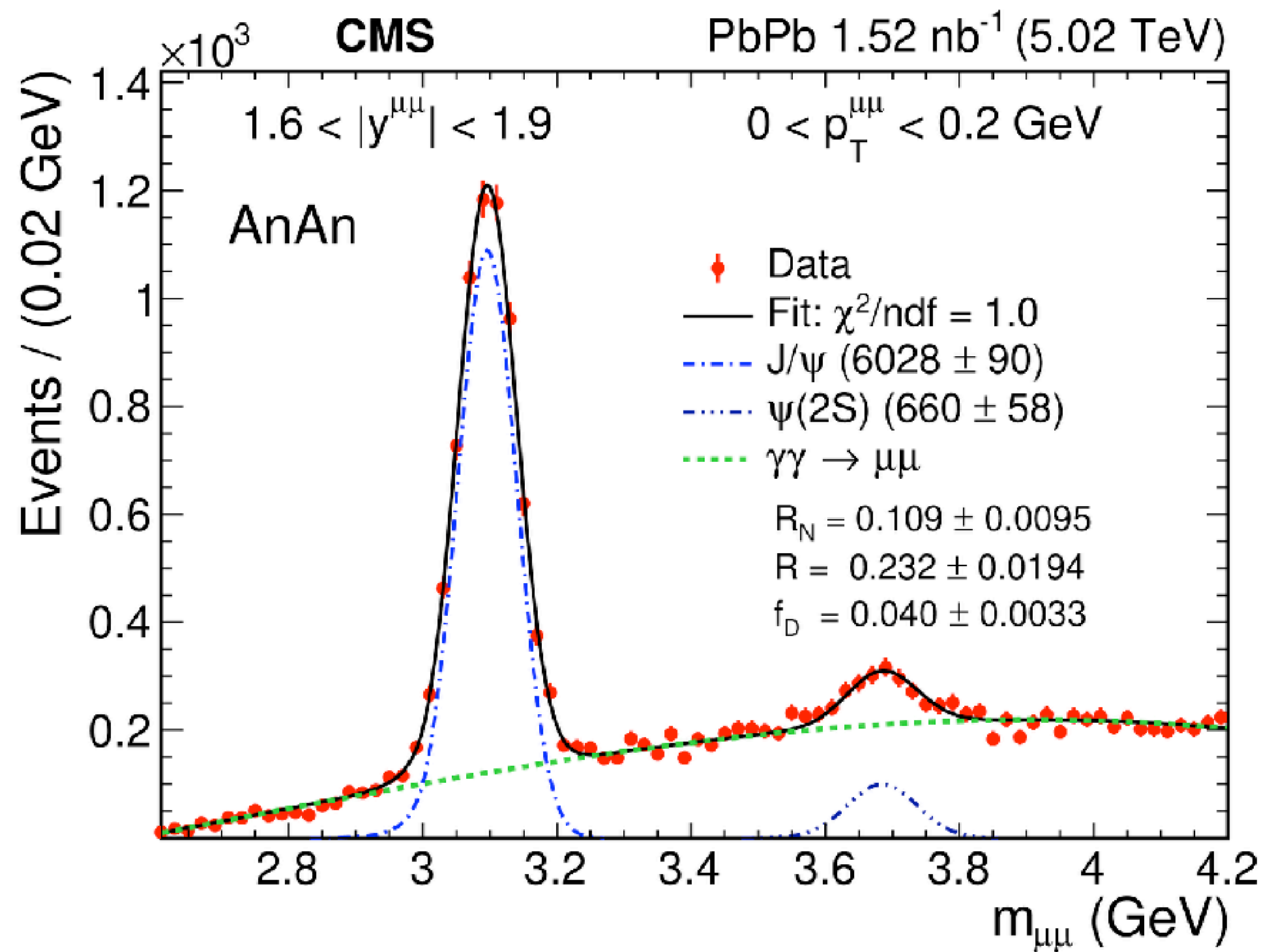


Central



Signal extraction

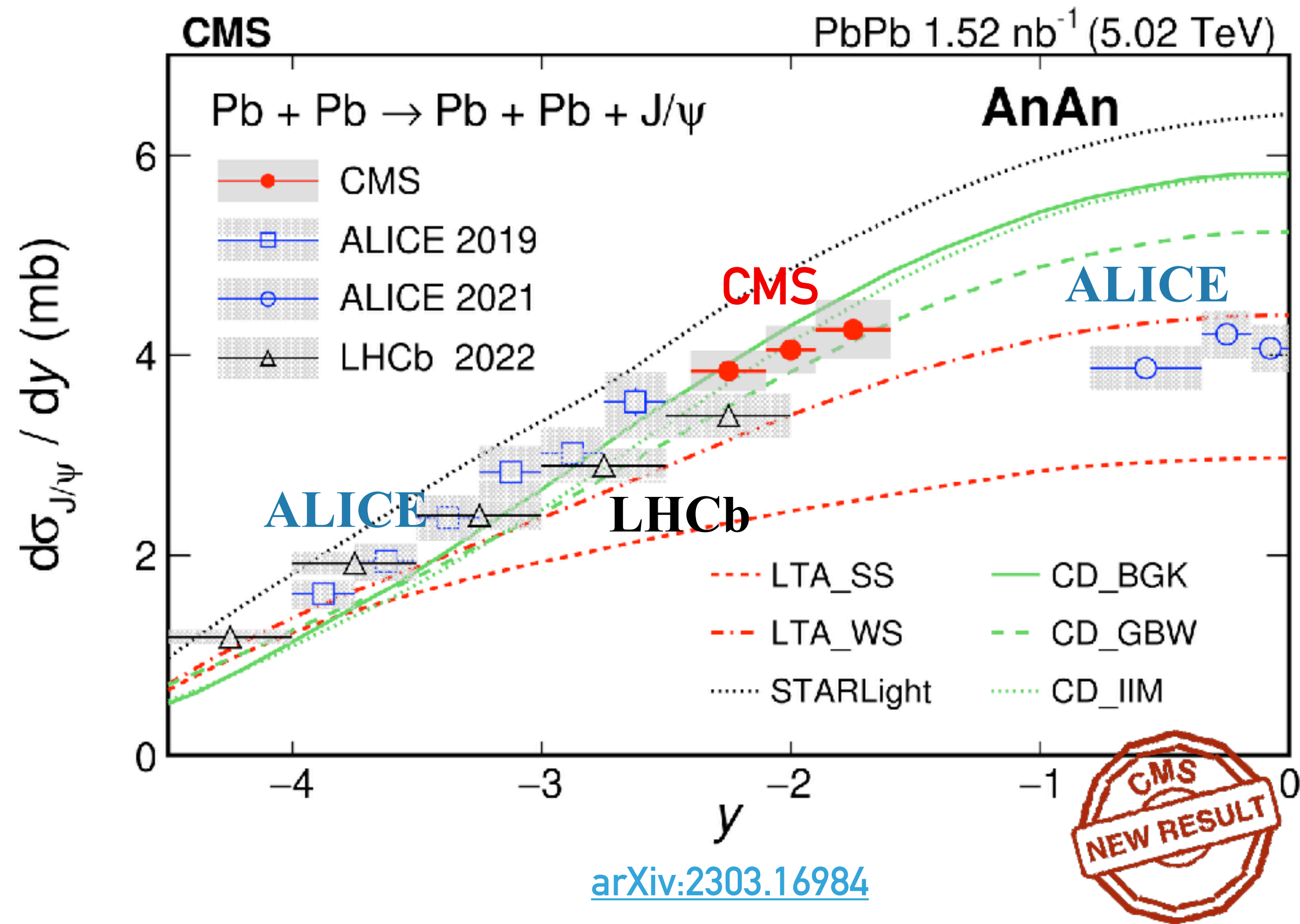
- Invariant mass fits filter J/ψ yields (coherent+incoherent) from QED background.
- Multi-template fits on J/ψ transverse momentum allows to separate coherent and incoherent contributions.



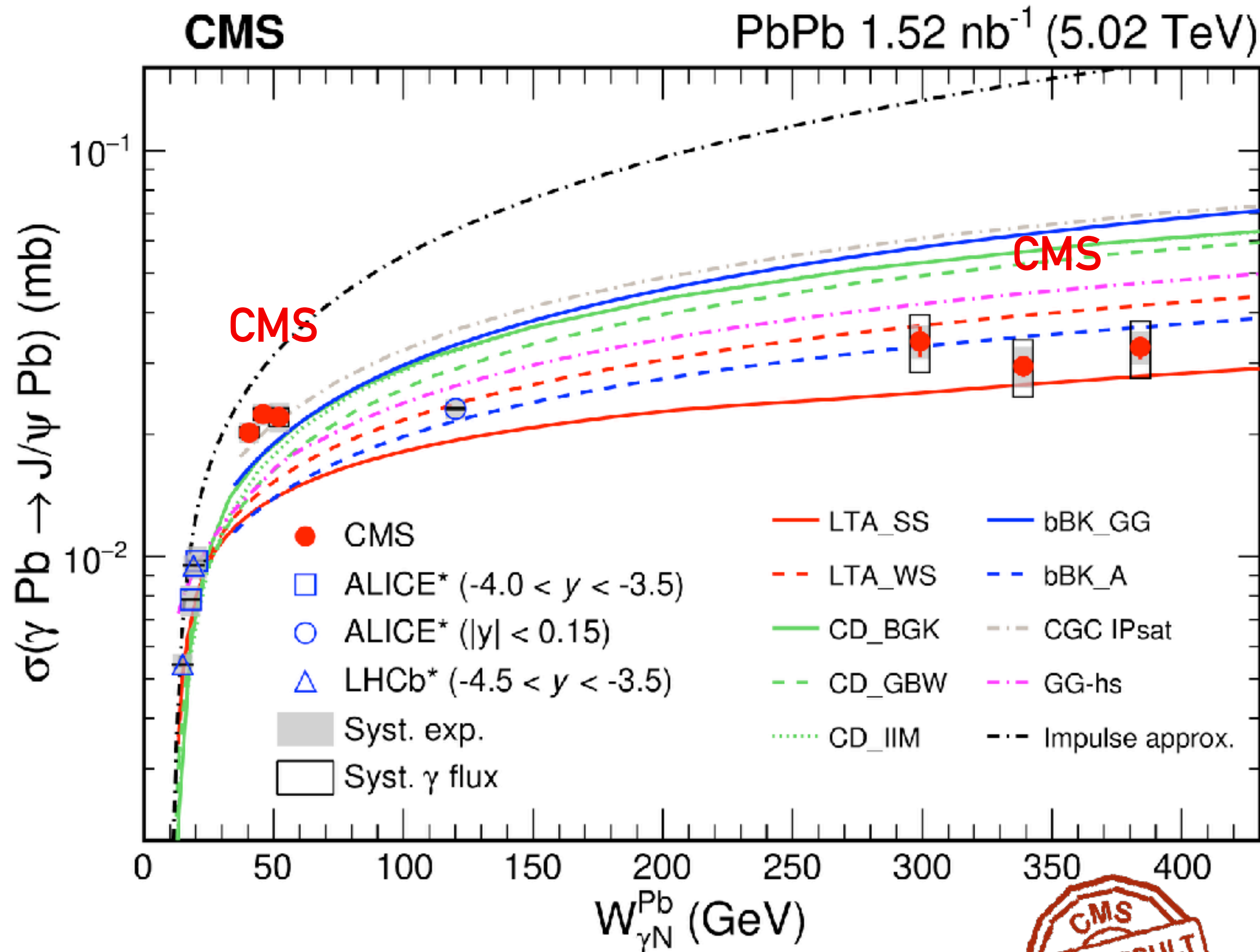
Total Coh. J/ψ cross section

ALICE, [EPJC 81 \(2021\) 712](#)

LHCb, [arXiv:2206.08221](#)



- LHC experiments complement each others over a wide range of rapidity.
- **CMS data covers a unique rapidity region, not previously accessed.**
- CMS data follow ALICE forward rapidity trend.



[arXiv:2303.16984](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.16984)



- In order to obtain the photo nuclear cross section, we need to solve the two-way ambiguity.

$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow AA' J/\psi}}{dy} = N_{\gamma/A}(y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y) + N_{\gamma/A}(-y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$$

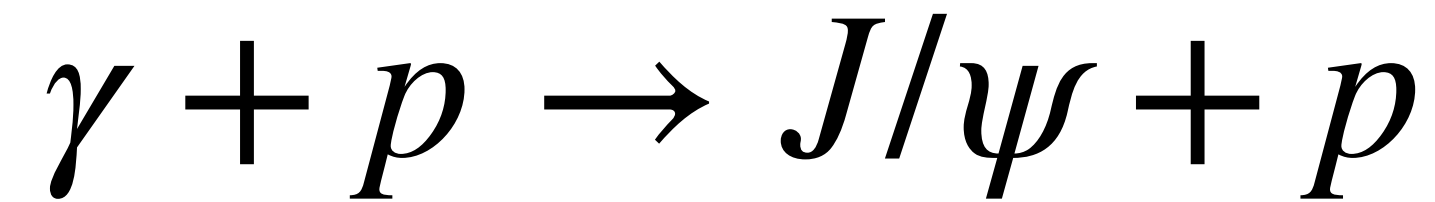
- More details in poster ;D
- **First measurement by CMS:**
 - Low W (high x): rapidly increasing
 - High W (low x): slowly raising -- underlying physics changed!
 - No models can describe the entire data distribution!
 - Evidence of gluon saturation in nucleus?

Many thanks !

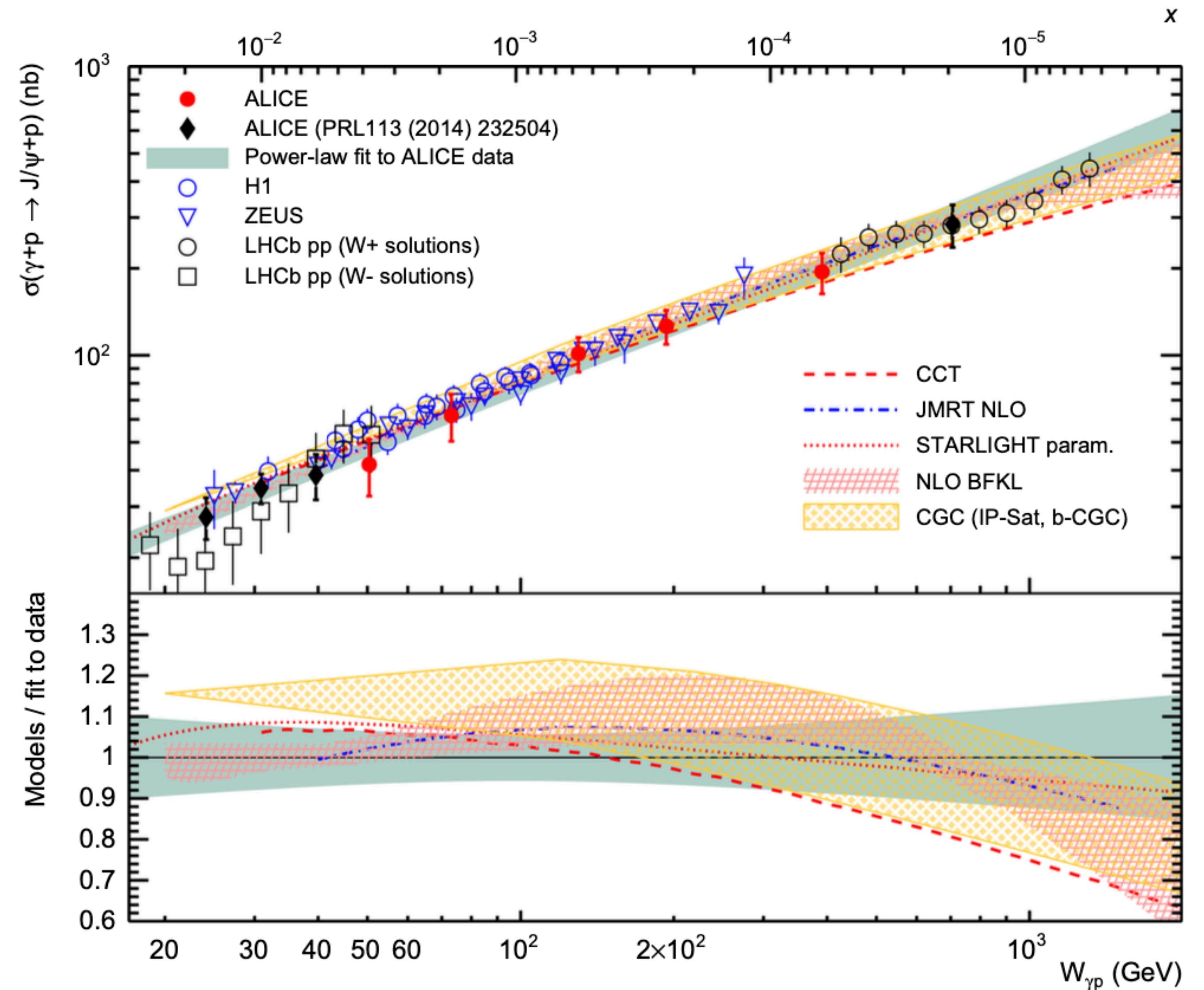
(More details in poster presentation 😊)

Backup slides

Photoproduction of J/ψ with protons

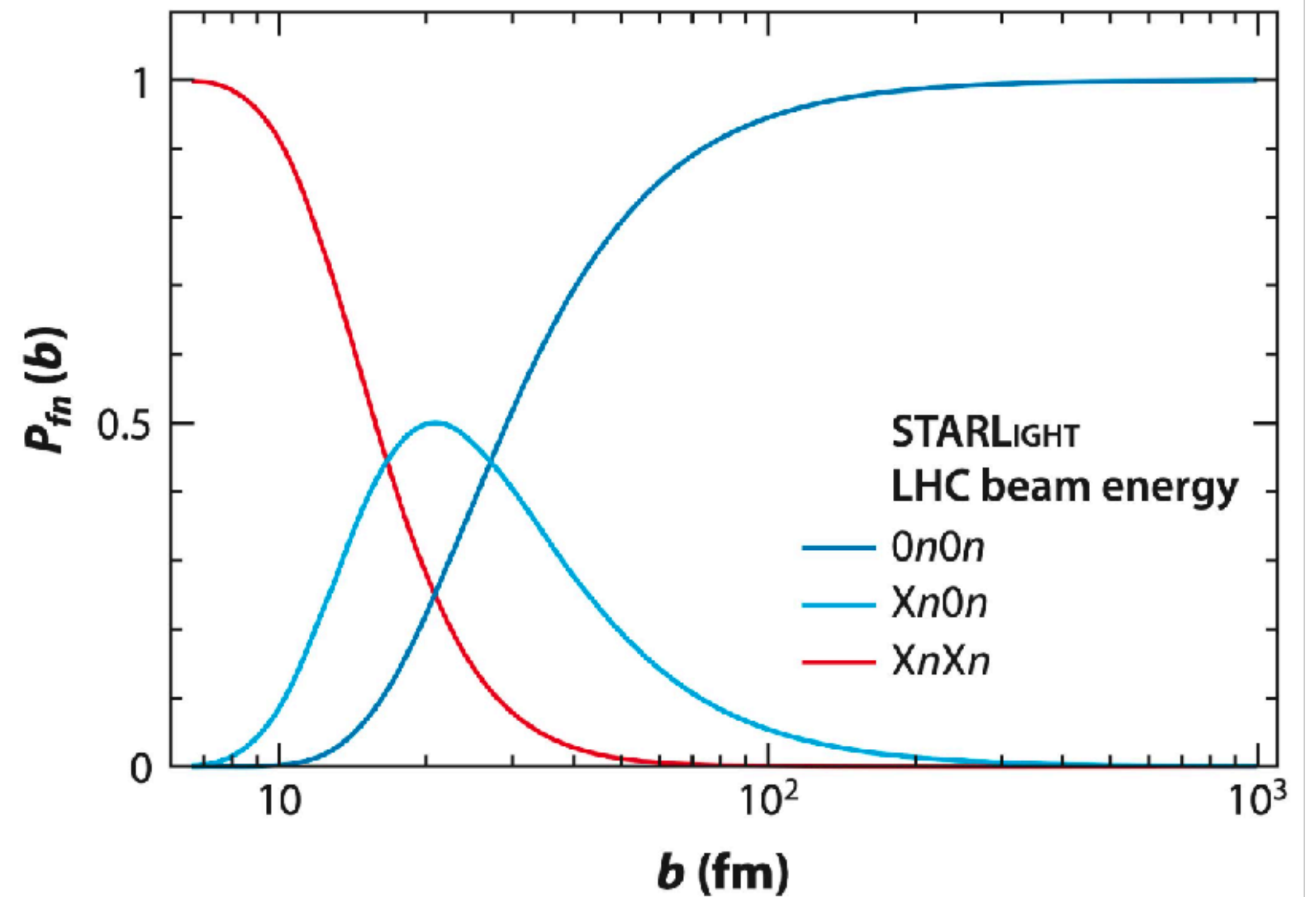
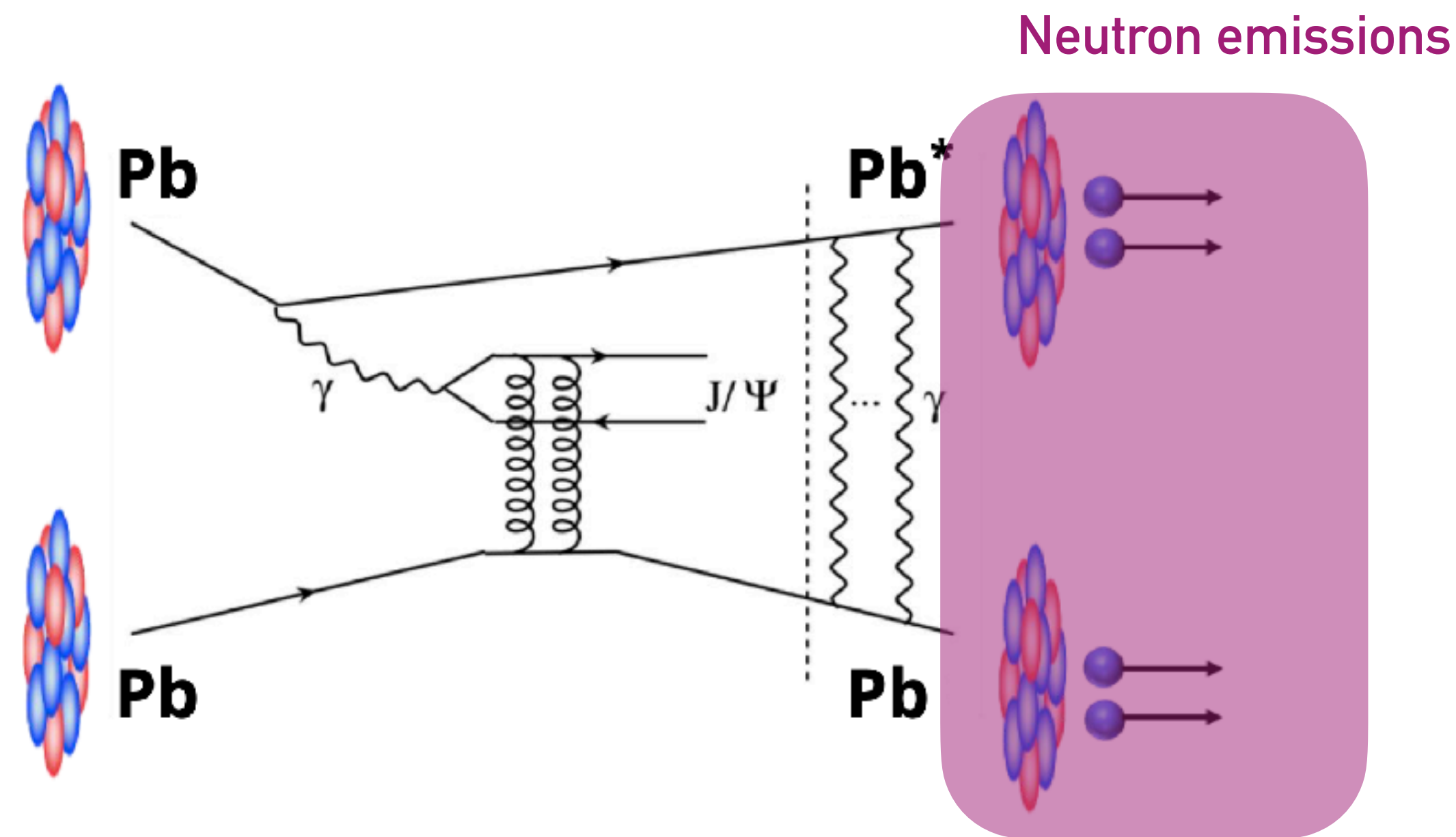


- Gluons inside a proton:
 - Investigated with ep, pPb and pp collisions by HERA and LHC
 - Consistent results between HERA and LHC data.
 - Data follow a power-law trend, consistent with the rapidly increasing gluon density.
 - No evidence for saturation !



A solution to the two-way ambiguity puzzle

Control impact parameter of UPCs via forward neutron emissions [Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 70 \(2020\) 323](#)



- Additional photon exchanges lead to neutron emissions via EMD.

- Analogous to centrality:

- $b_{XnXn} < b_{0nXn} < b_{0n0n}$

What is measured

Photon flux from theory

What we want

Dominant b ranges of different neutron classes:

- 0n0n: $b > 40$ fm
- 0nXn: $b \sim 20$ fm
- XnXn: $b < 15$ fm

$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow AAJ/\psi}^{0n0n}}{dy} = N_{\gamma/A}^{0n0n}(y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y) + N_{\gamma/A}^{0n0n}(-y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow AA'J/\psi}^{0nXn}}{dy} = N_{\gamma/A}^{0nXn}(y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y) + N_{\gamma/A}^{0nXn}(-y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$$

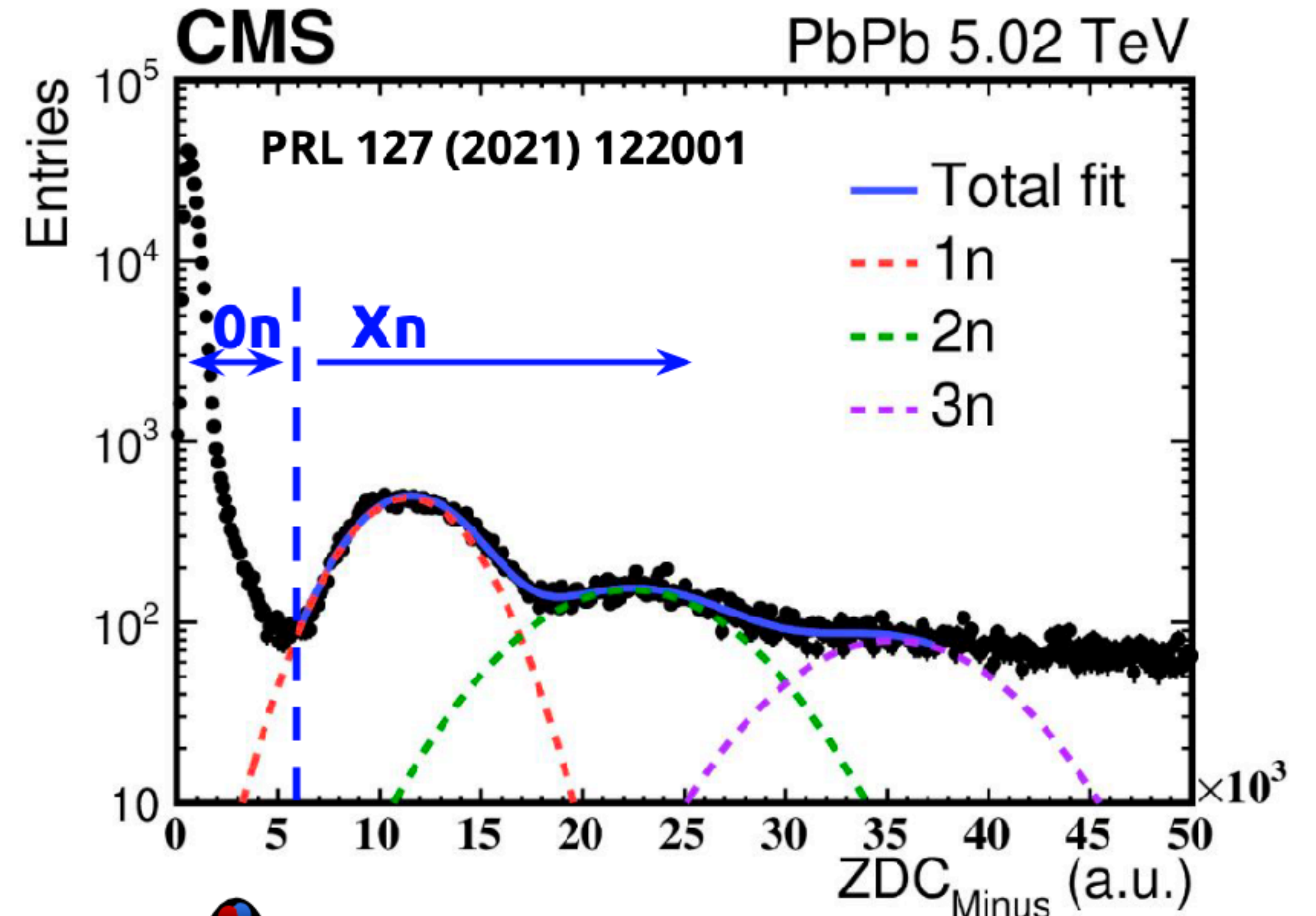
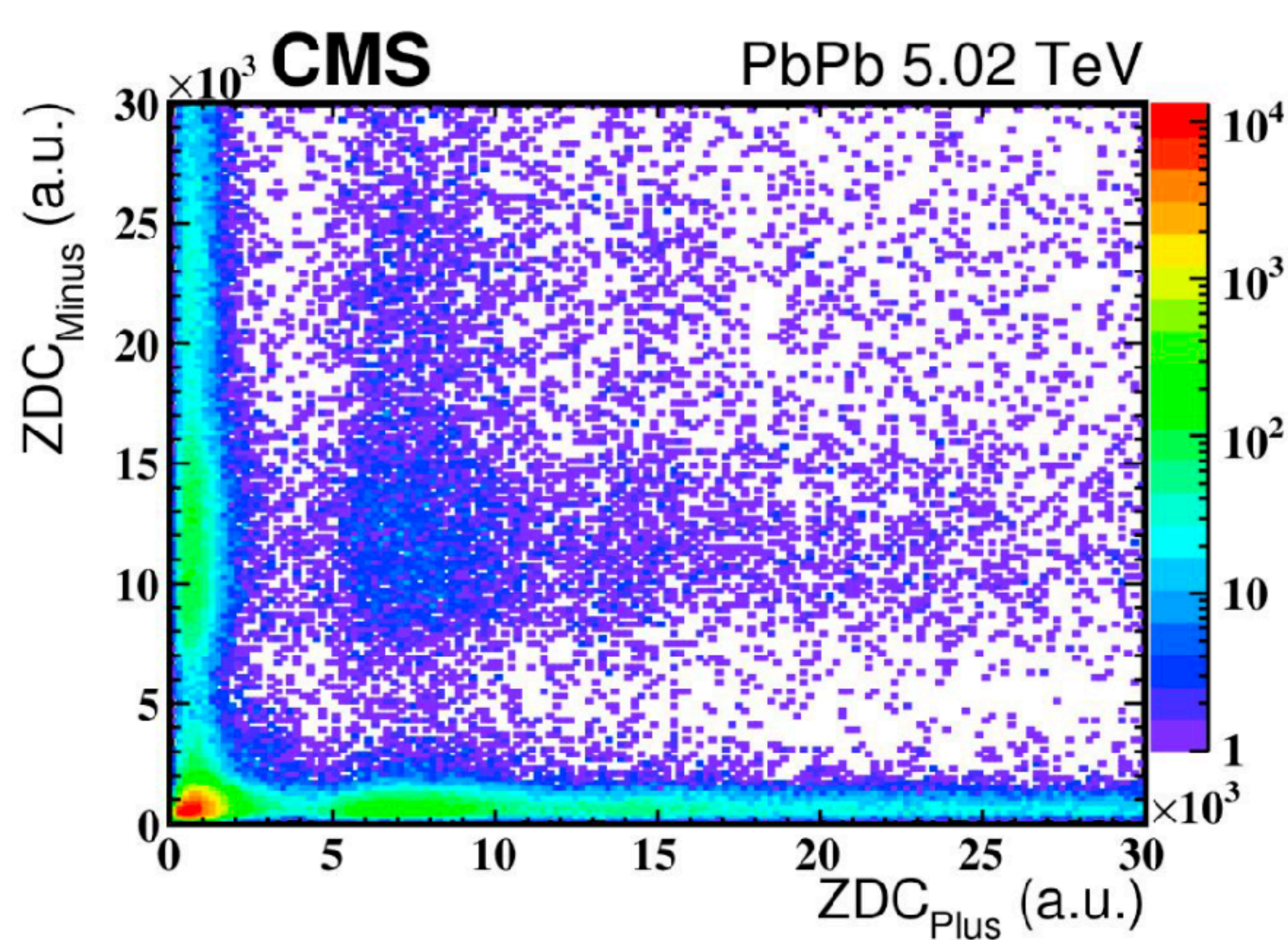
$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow A'A'J/\psi}^{XnXn}}{dy} = N_{\gamma/A}^{XnXn}(y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y) + N_{\gamma/A}^{XnXn}(-y) \cdot \sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$$

→ Solve for $\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(y)$ and $\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A'}(-y)$, and $x = \left(\frac{M_{VM}}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}\right) e^{\mp y}$

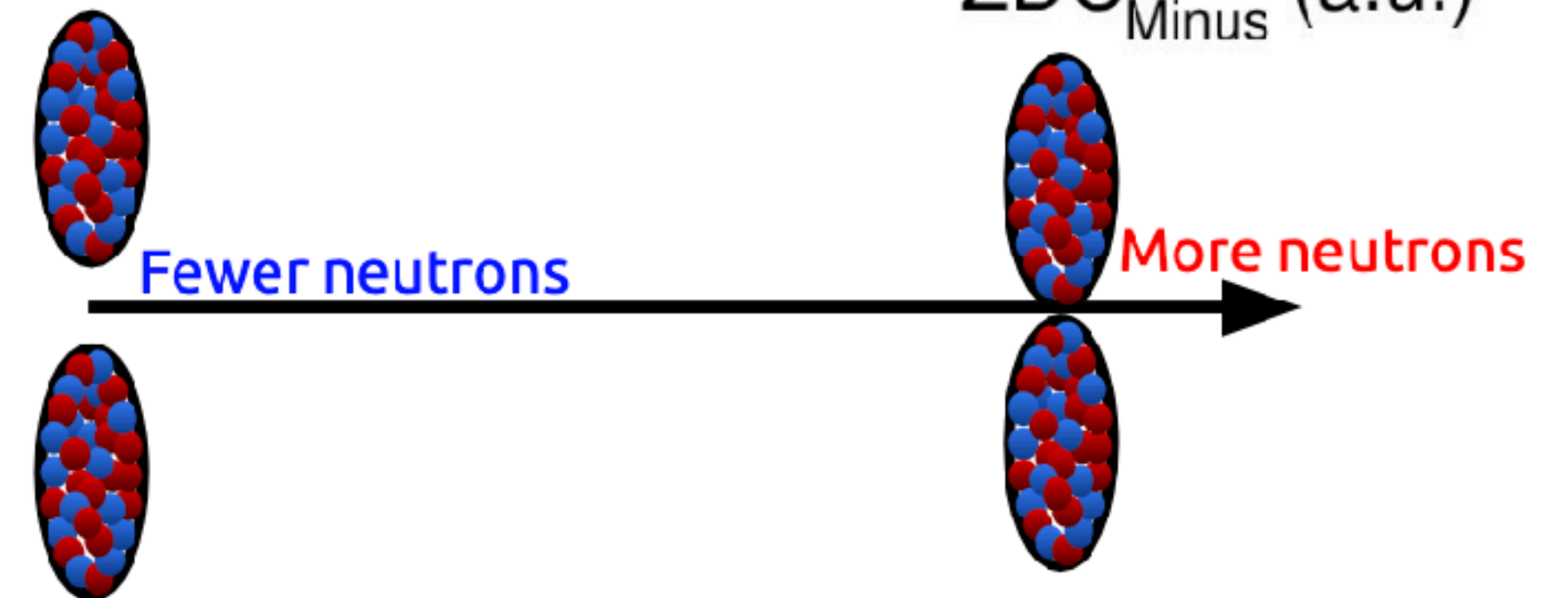
Entering a new regime of small $x \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$ in nuclei!

Event classification via neutron multiplicity

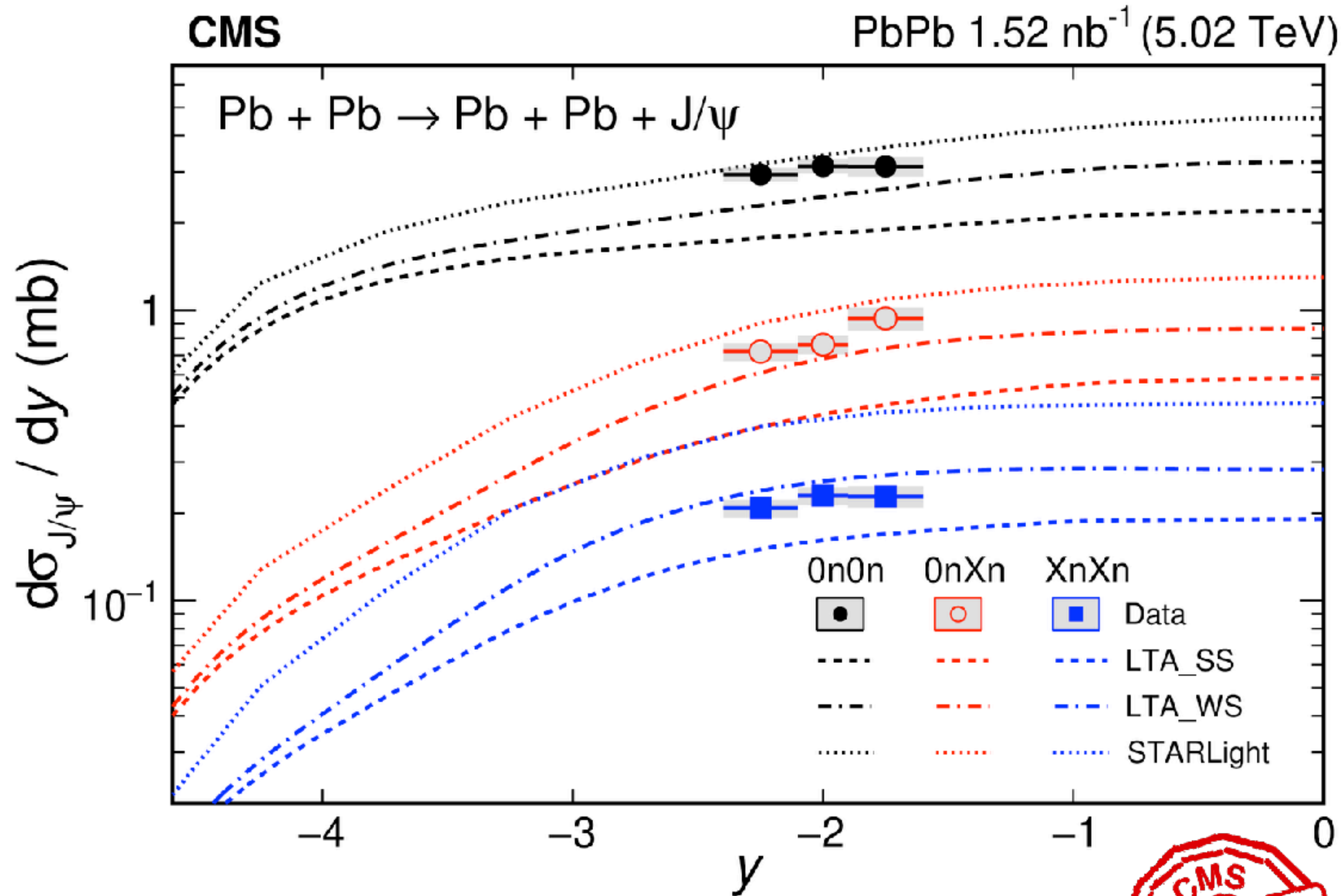
- Energy depositions in ZDCs allow to classify events in neutron categories.



- $XnXn \rightarrow$ smaller b
- $0n0n \rightarrow$ larger b

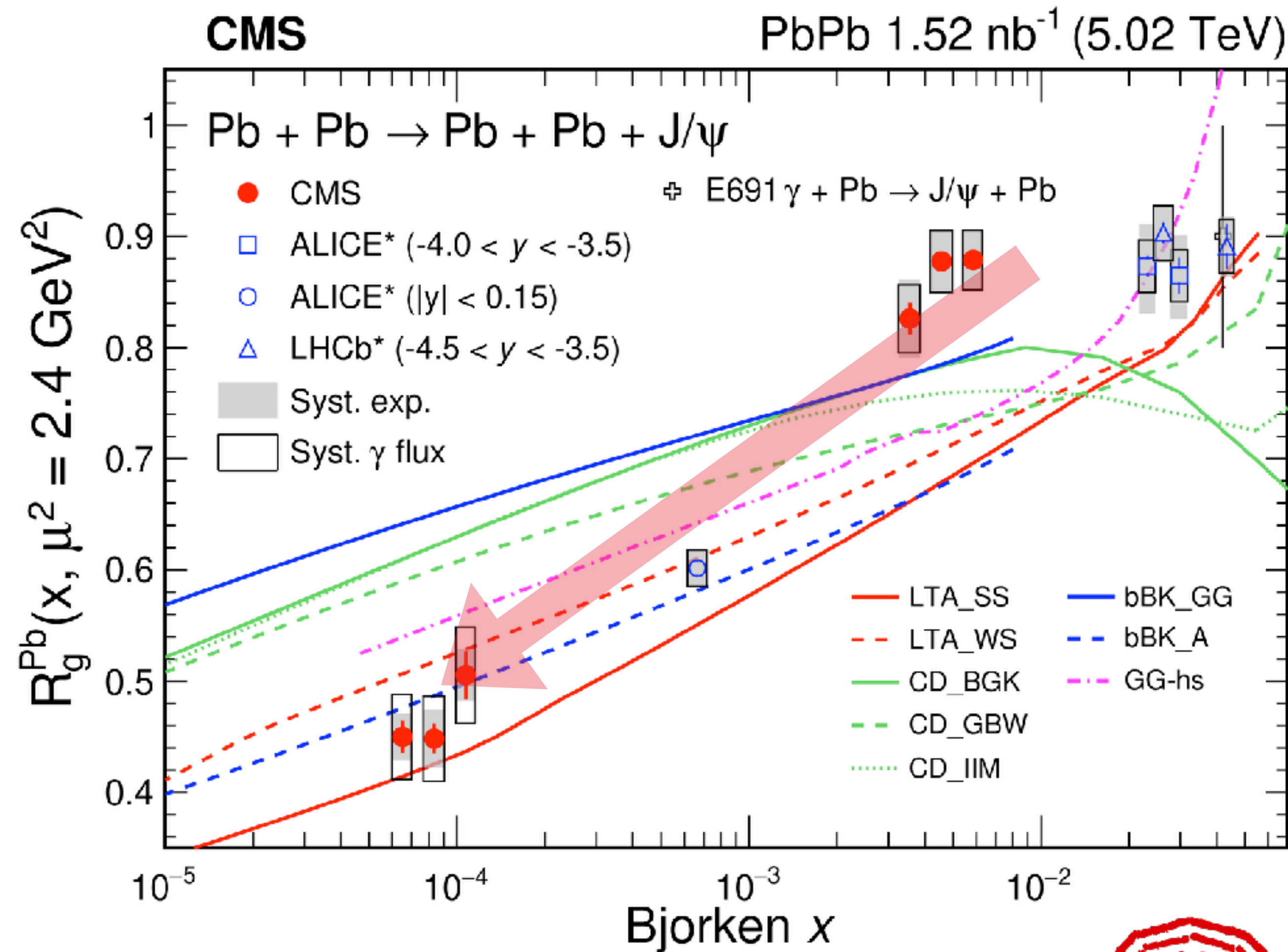


Total Coh. J/ψ cross section in neutron categories



- ZDC allows to classify events in neutron categories.
- **First separation in different neutron categories.**



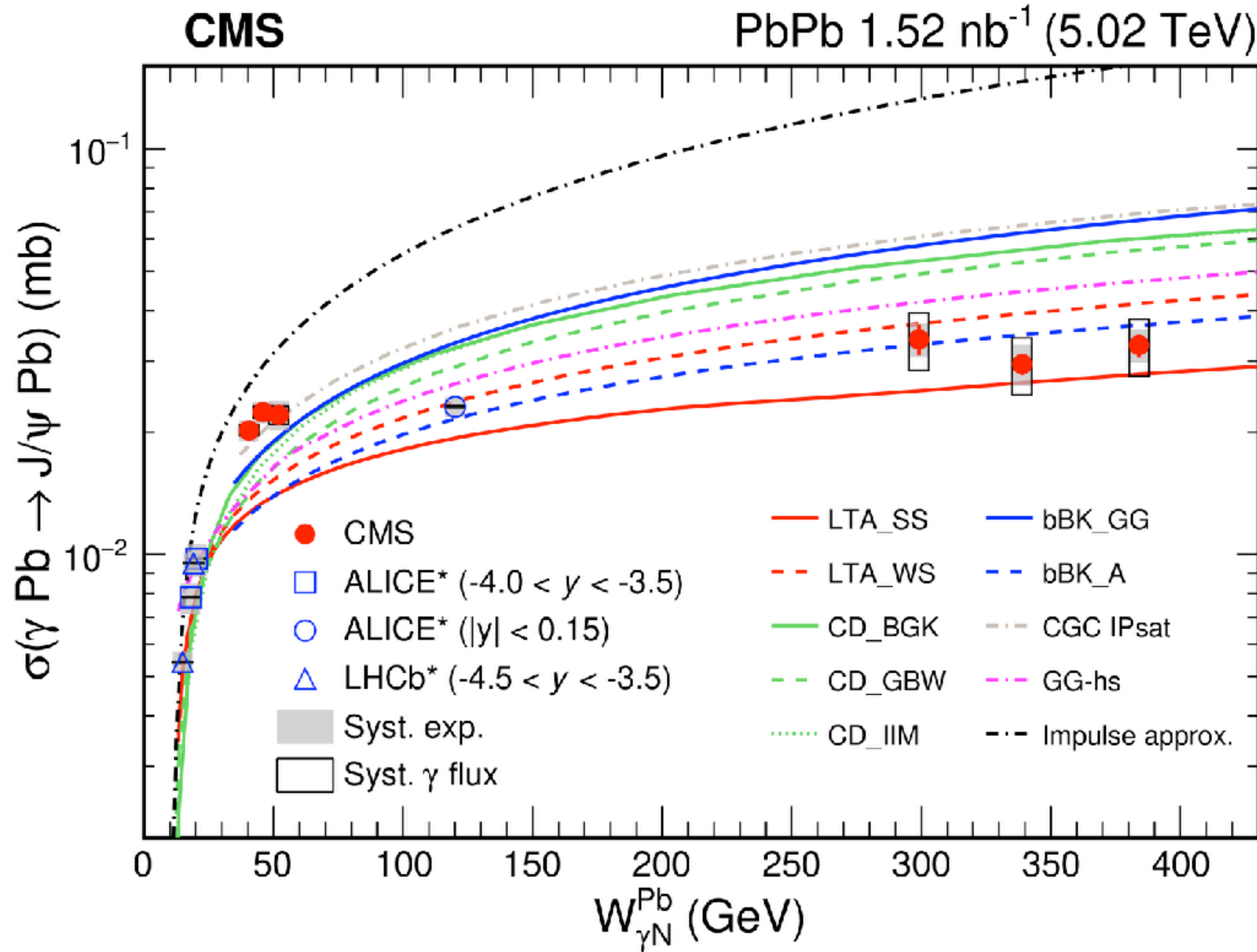


[arXiv:2303.16984](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.16984)



$$R_g^A = \frac{g_A(x, Q^2)}{A \cdot g_p(x, Q^2)} = \left(\frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A}^{exp}}{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A}^{IA}} \right)^{1/2}$$

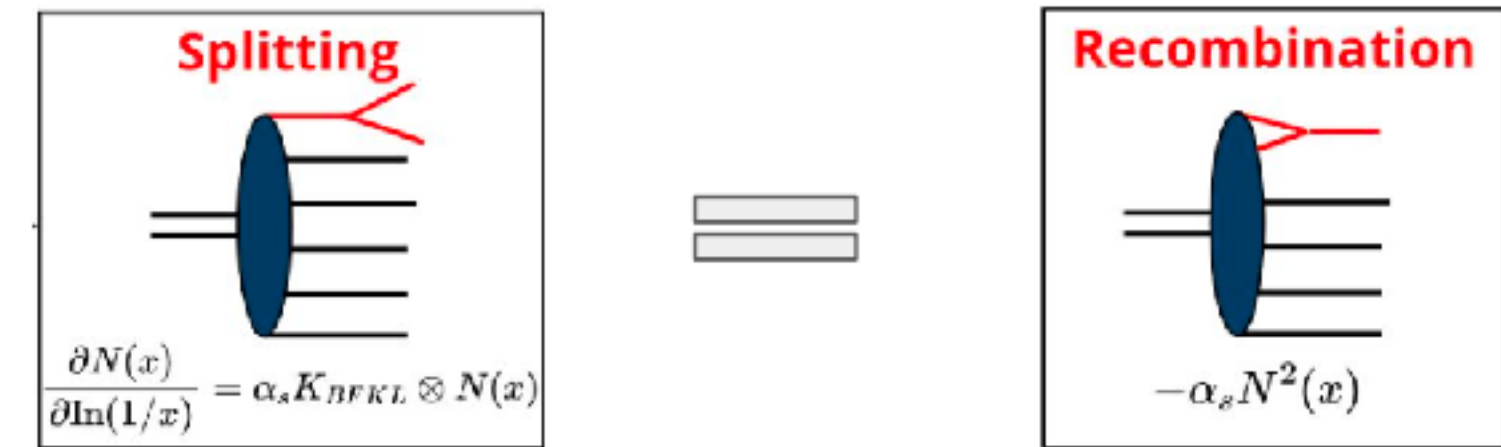
- Represents nuclear gluon suppression factor at LO.
- $x \sim 10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$: flat trend
- Quickly decrease towards lower x region.



[arXiv:2303.16984](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.16984)

- $\sigma(\gamma \text{Pb} \rightarrow J/\psi \text{Pb})$ rapidly increases → splitting and recombination of gluons become equal.

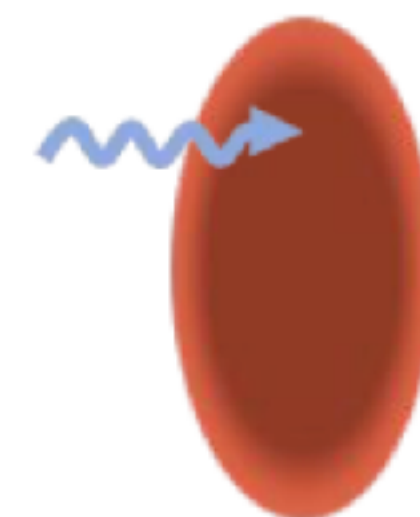
- Evidence for gluon saturation ?



Other scenario (not mutually exclusive)

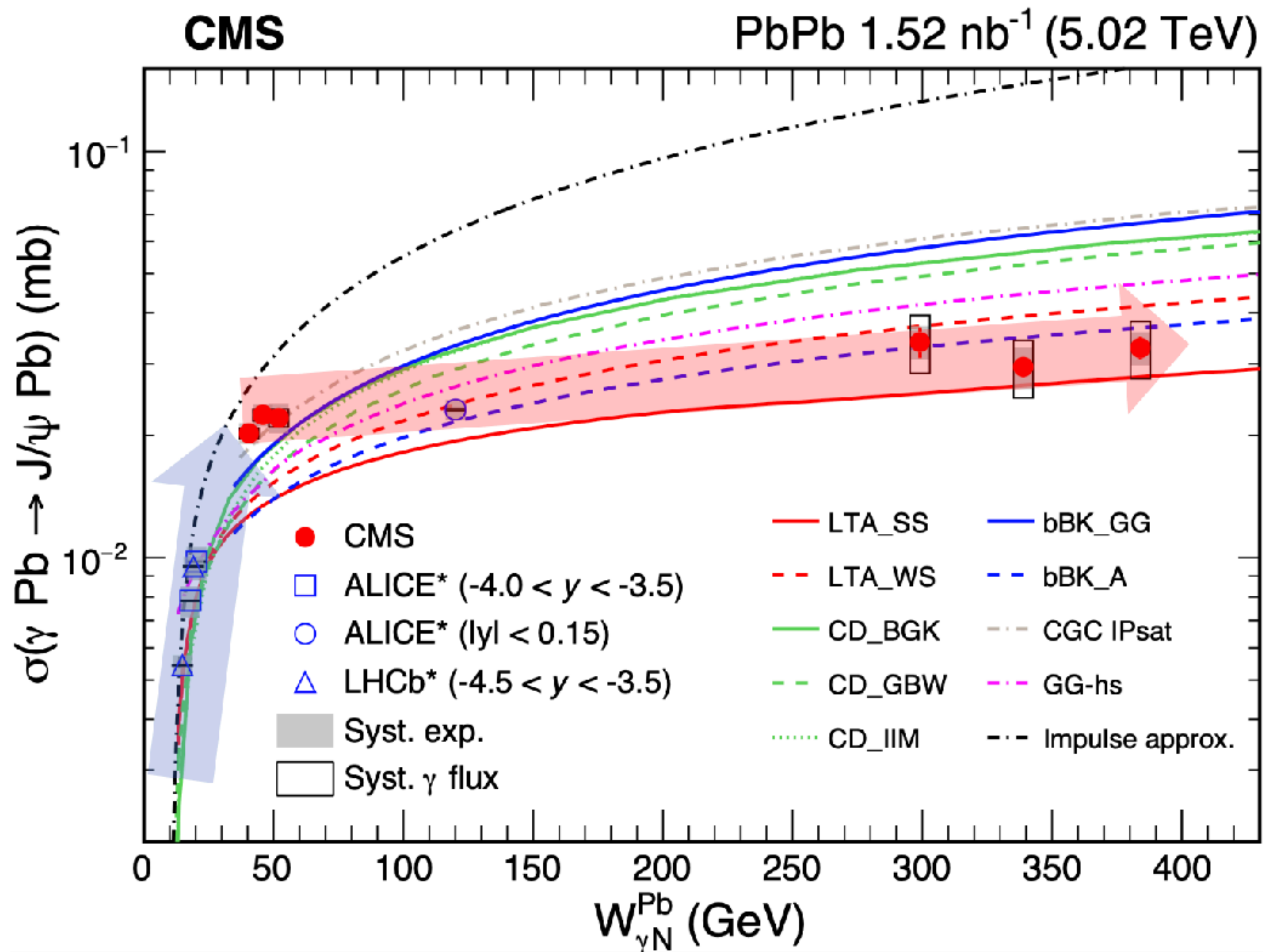
- Nuclear target becomes totally absorptive to incoming photons:

- Black Disk Limit interpretation?



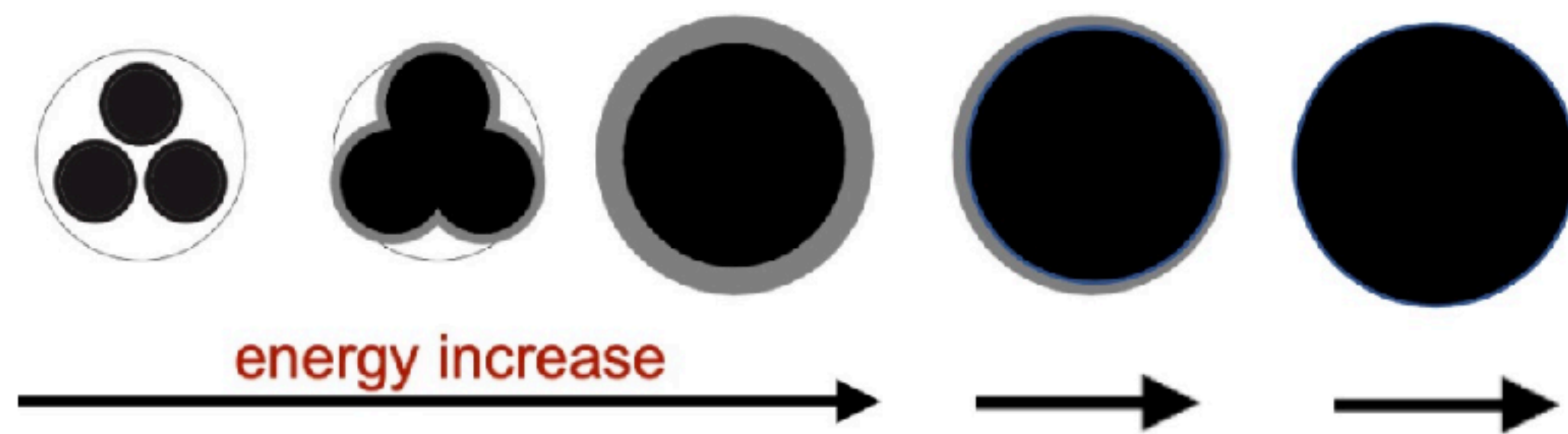
$$\hat{\sigma}_{\text{PQCD}}^{\text{inel}} \leq \hat{\sigma}_{\text{black}} = \pi R_{\text{target}}^2$$

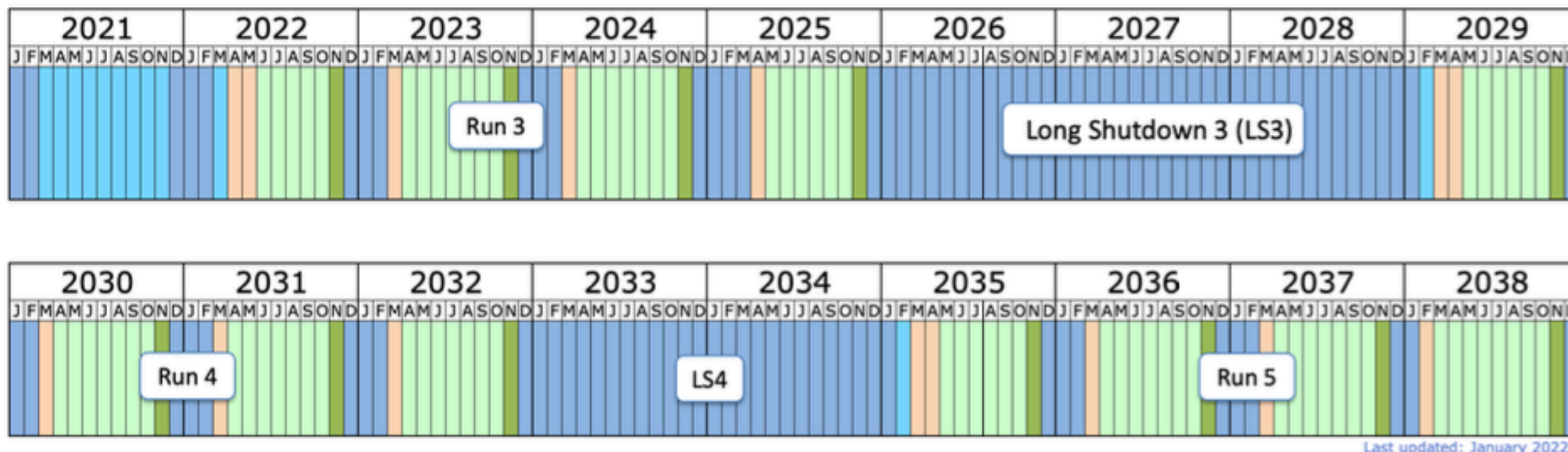
What physics could be behind?



- Rapid growths reflect increased in gluon density
 - Amplitude of interaction is proportional to gluon density

- Slow growth may suggest the periphery of the nucleus has not become fully “black”





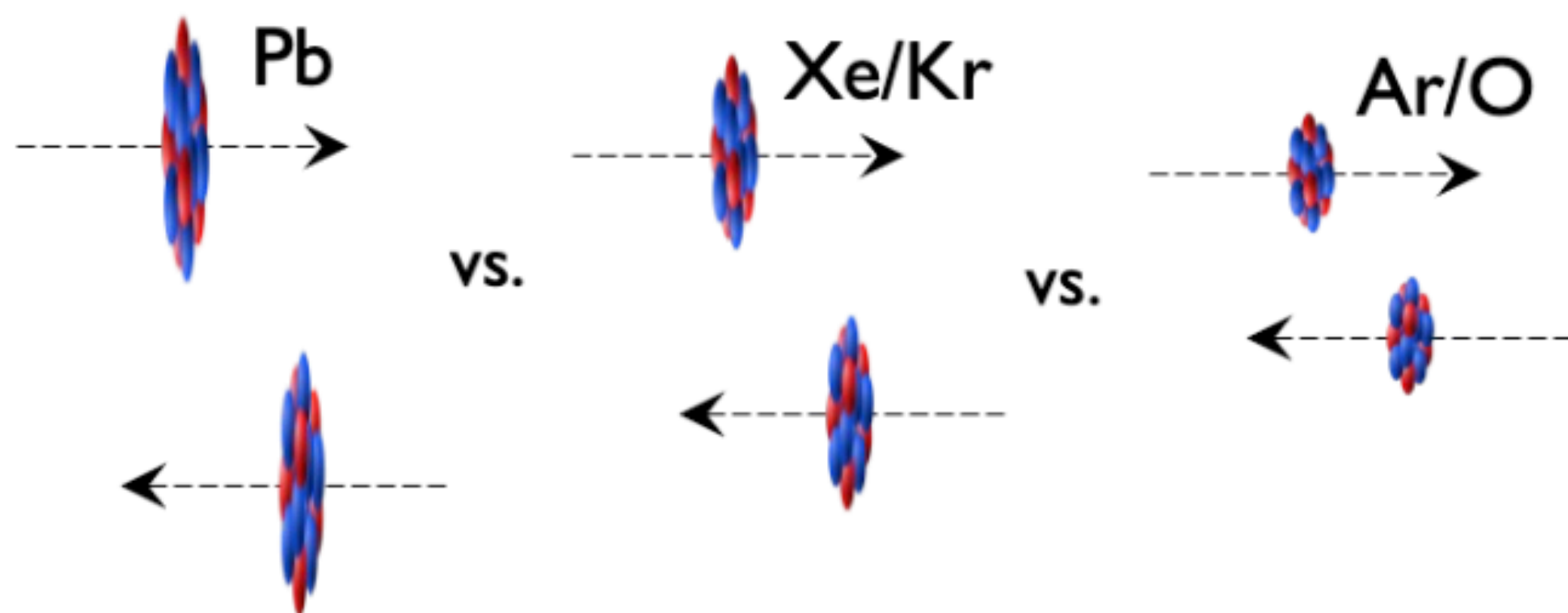
Exciting opportunities ahead

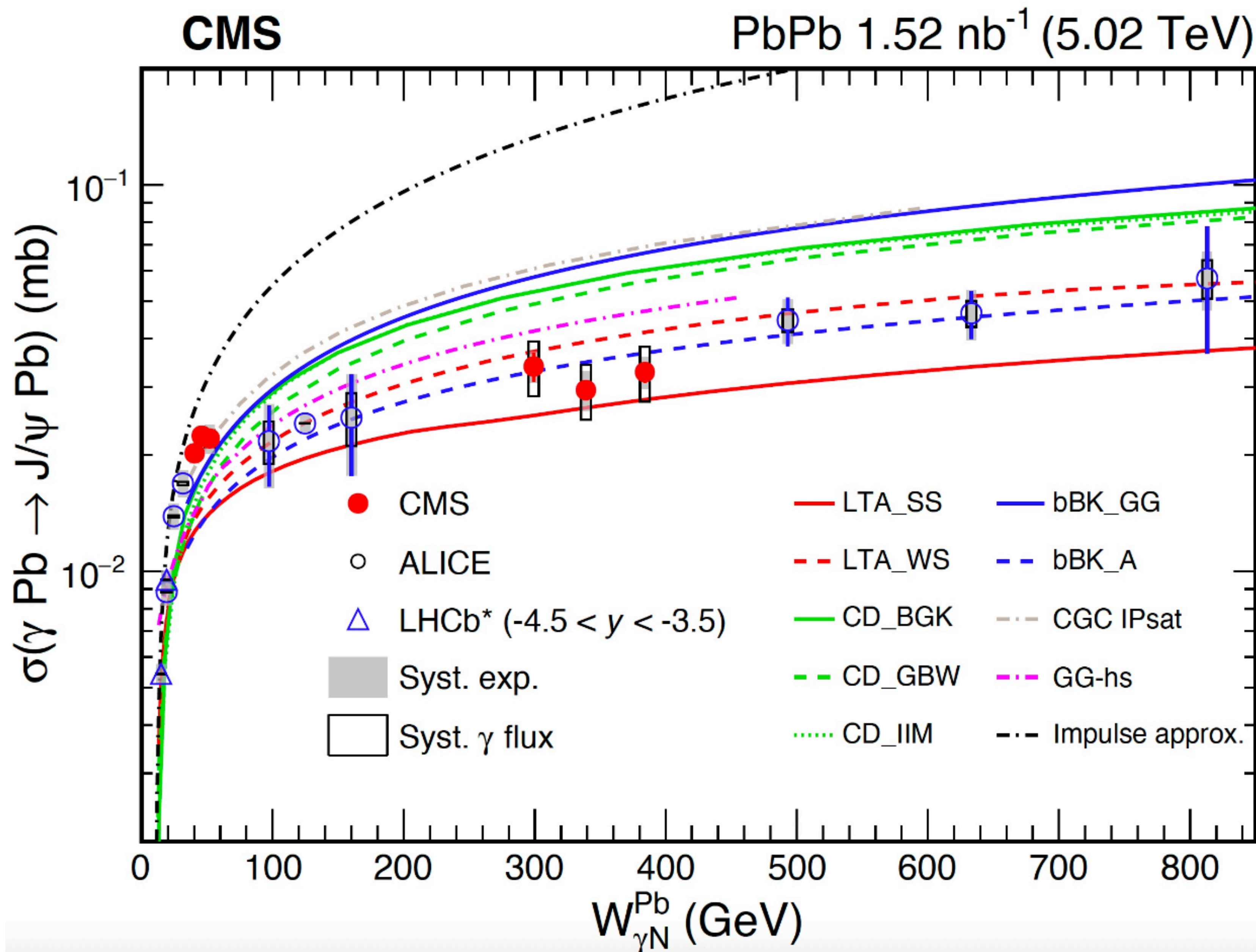
- Higher luminosities.
- A variety of ion species.
- Upgrades enabled by new technologies!

- **Various VM species in γ Pb with neutron tagging**
- **System size scan with different ion species**

When approaching the BDL

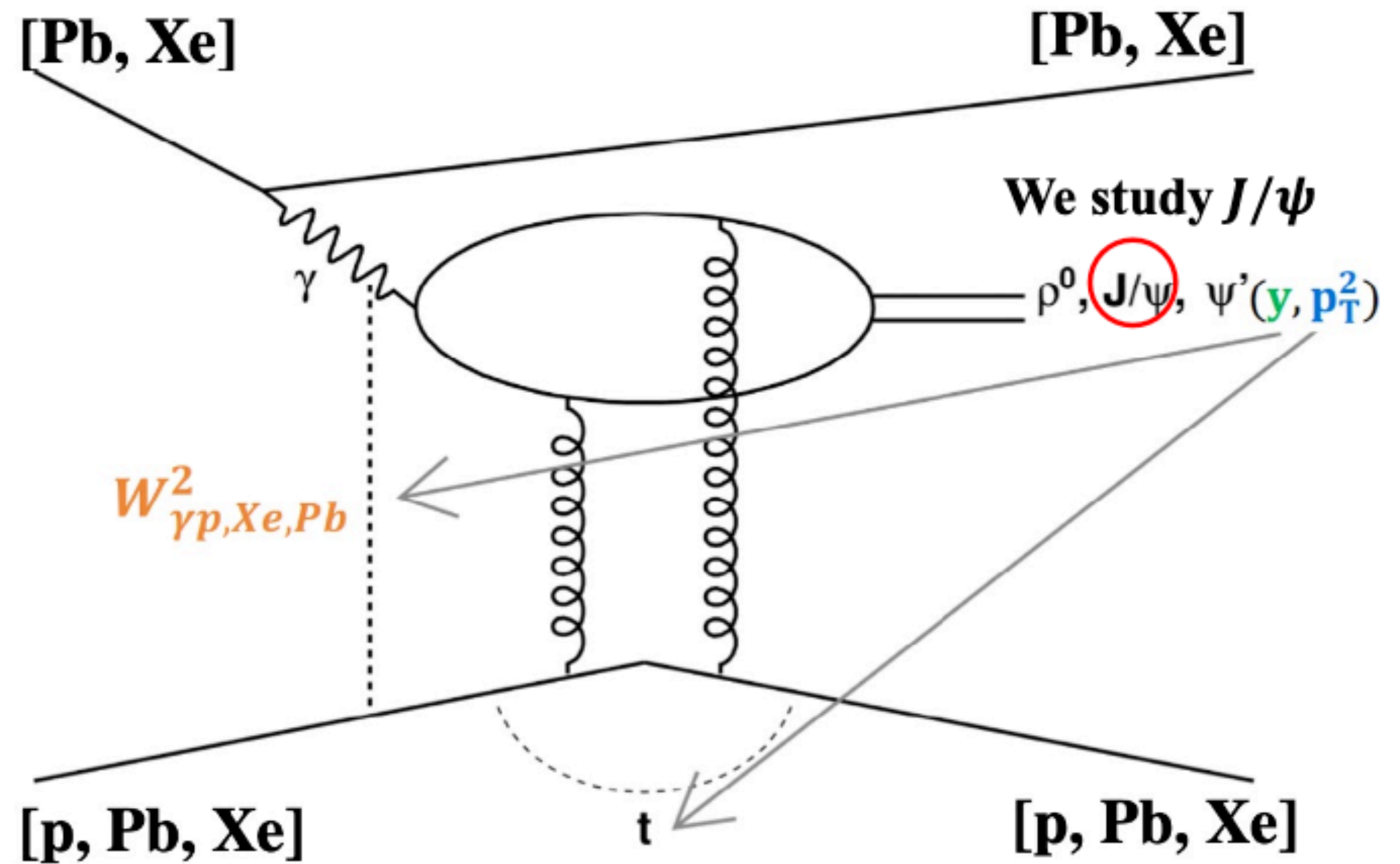
- Coh. cross section scales with $A^{2/3}$
- Incoh. cross section strongly suppressed; internal substructure becomes invisible





• A given $y \rightarrow$ Fixes ω, x, W

- $\omega = \frac{M_{VM}}{2} e^{\pm y}$
 - y : Rapidity of the VM
 - ω : Photon energy
 - M_{VM} : Mass of the VM
- $x = \left(\frac{M_{VM}}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} \right) e^{\mp y}$
- $W^2 = M_{VM} \sqrt{s_{NN}} \cdot e^{\pm y}$
 - W : Centre-of-mass energy of the photon-target system



EMD pileup correction

