



**Triggering Discoveries
in High Energy Physics**

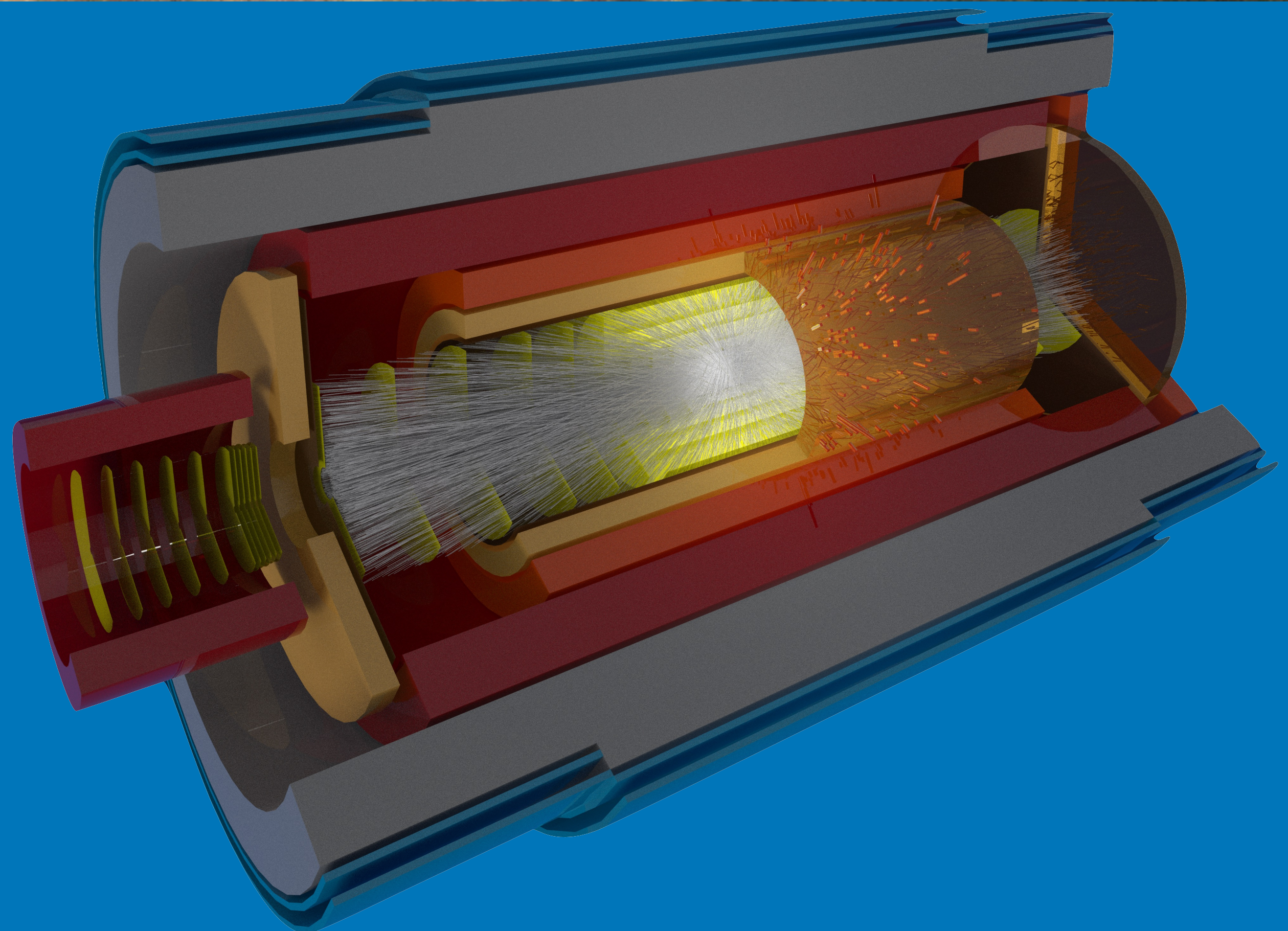
ALICE 3

**Nicolò Jacazio (Bologna University)
on behalf of the ALICE Collaboration**



ALICE

Vysoke Tatry 09-13 December 2024





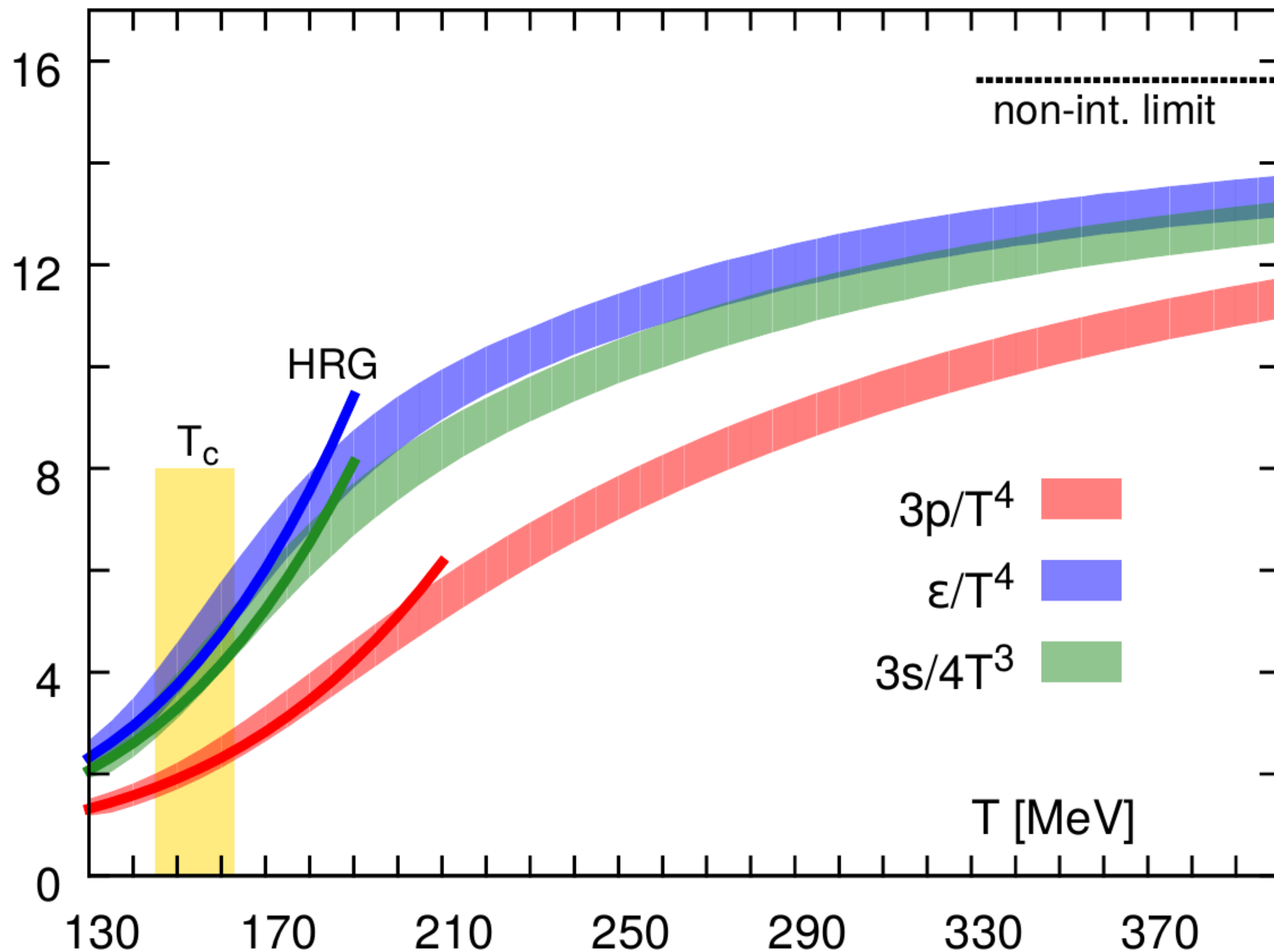
Lattice QCD predicts rapid change in hadronic thermodynamic properties

Formation of Quark-Gluon Plasma QGP

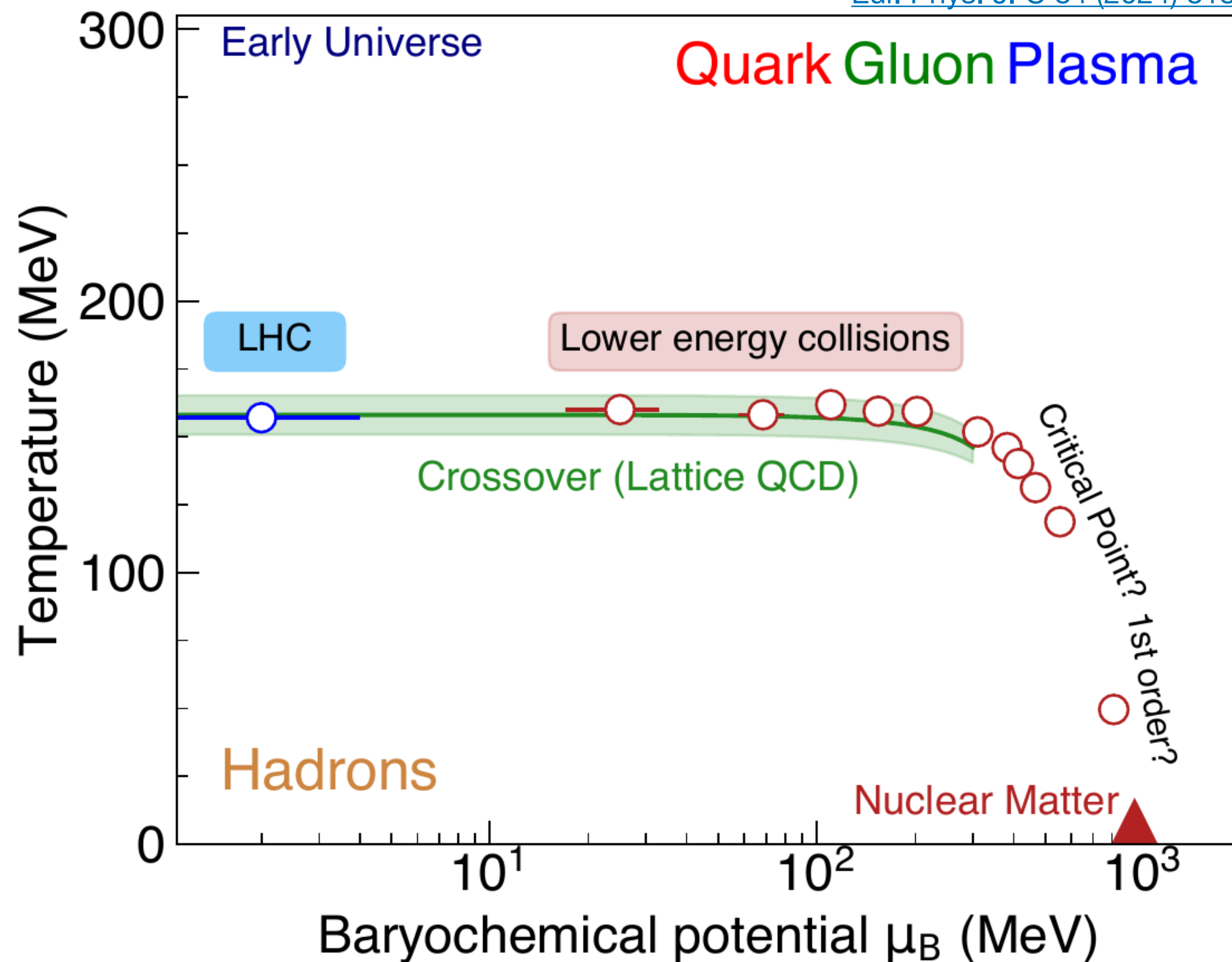
- For $T > T_c$ quarks and gluons no longer confined into hadrons but form the DOFs of the system

For matter-antimatter symmetric system: crossover phase transition from hadronic matter to QGP

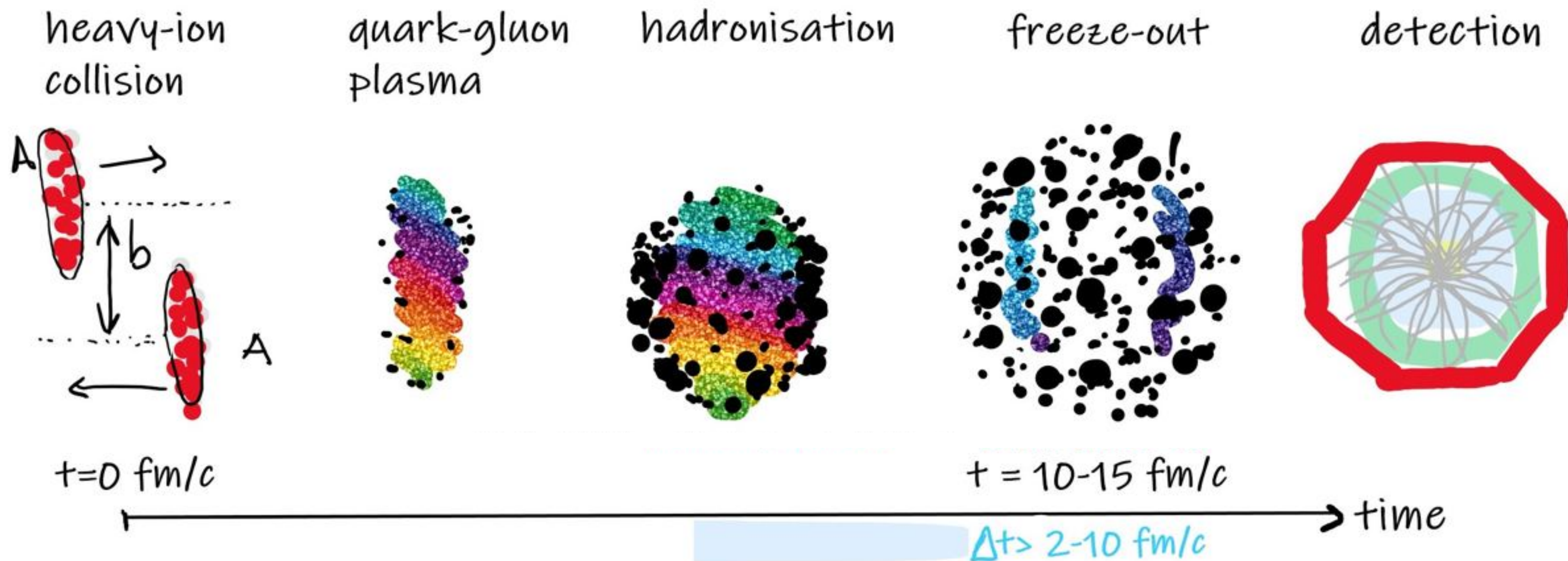
- Chiral Symmetry Restoration predicted at the same temperature T_c



- QGP produced at LHC has highest temperature and expected largest matter-antimatter symmetry
- Lower energies at SPS (CERN), RHIC, FAIR, NICA search for QCD critical point and thresholds of QGP formation

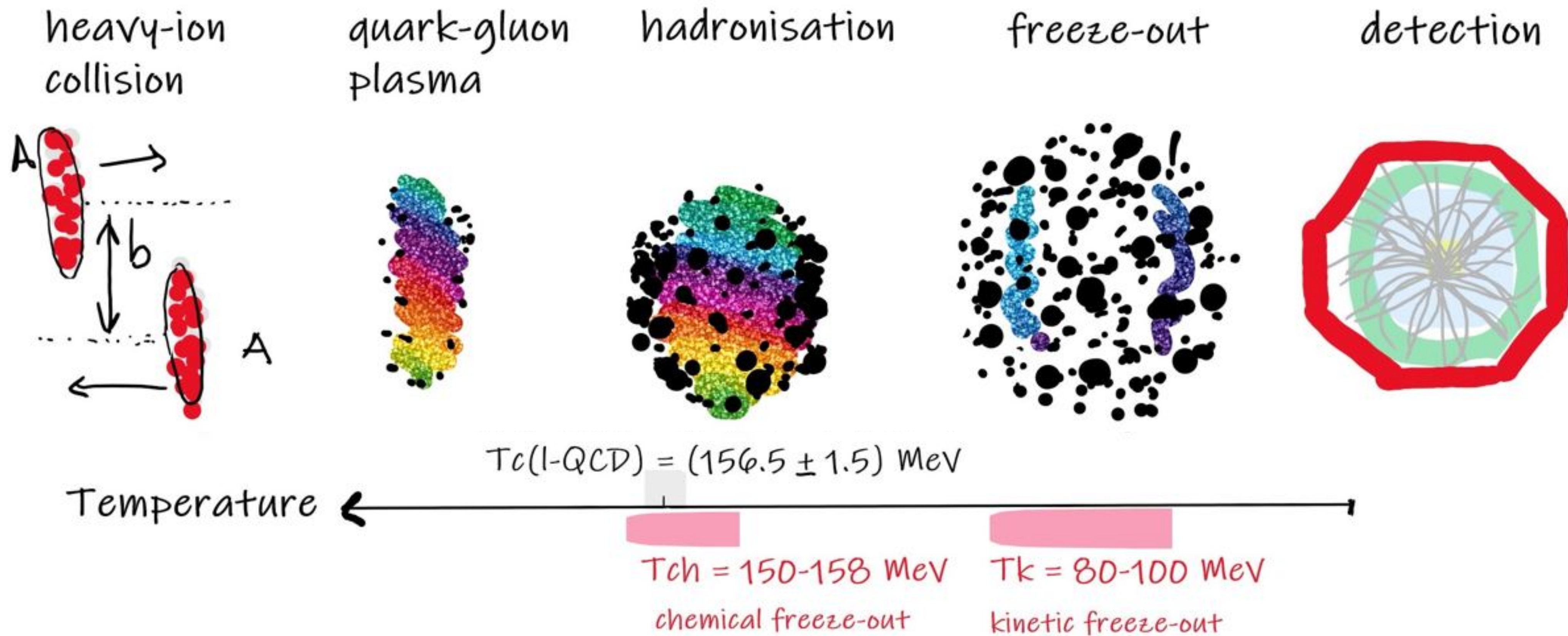


Investigating QCD at its extreme



- Energy density reached in relativistic heavy ion collisions enough to form a medium with deconfined QCD degrees of freedom
- The system formed expands while cooling down \rightarrow QCD degrees of freedom reconfined into hadrons
- Final state carries the memory of its initial stage (hadrochemistry, hadron spectral shapes, hard probes suppression)
- ALICE investigates the QGP and QCD not only with Pb-Pb data, but with the entire pp running of the LHC

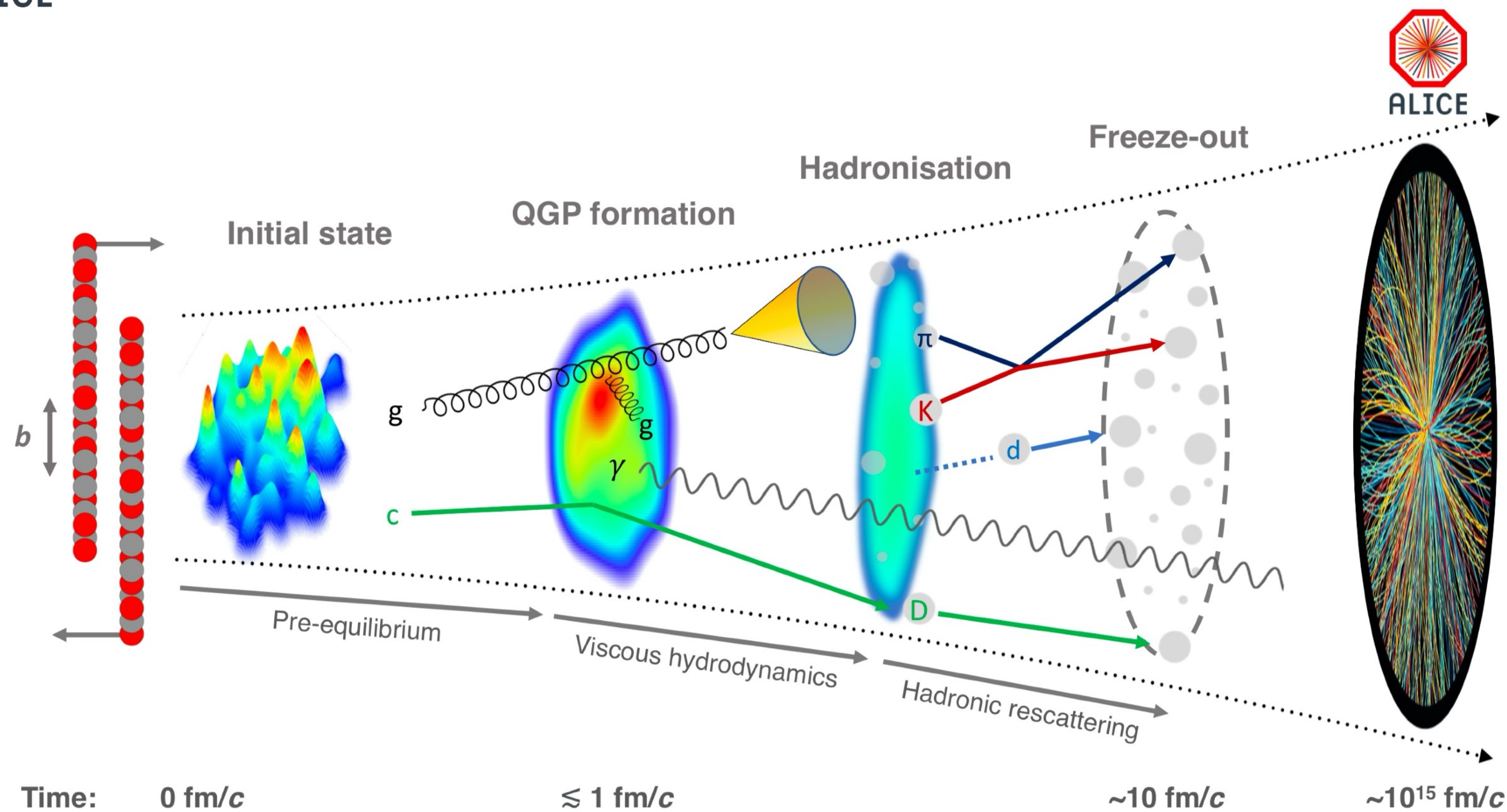
Investigating QCD at its extreme



ALICE Collaboration Phys. Rev. C 101, 044907

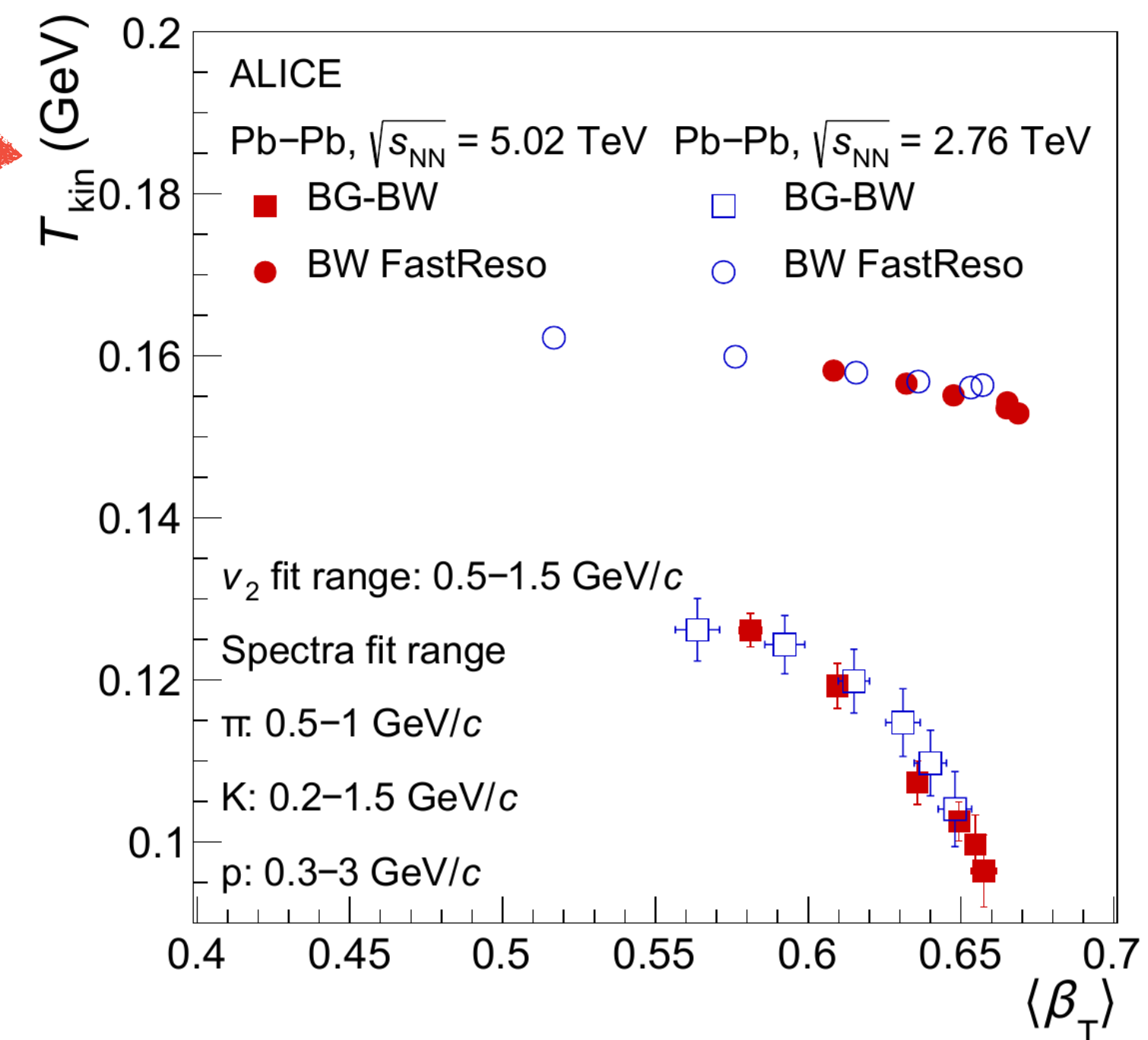
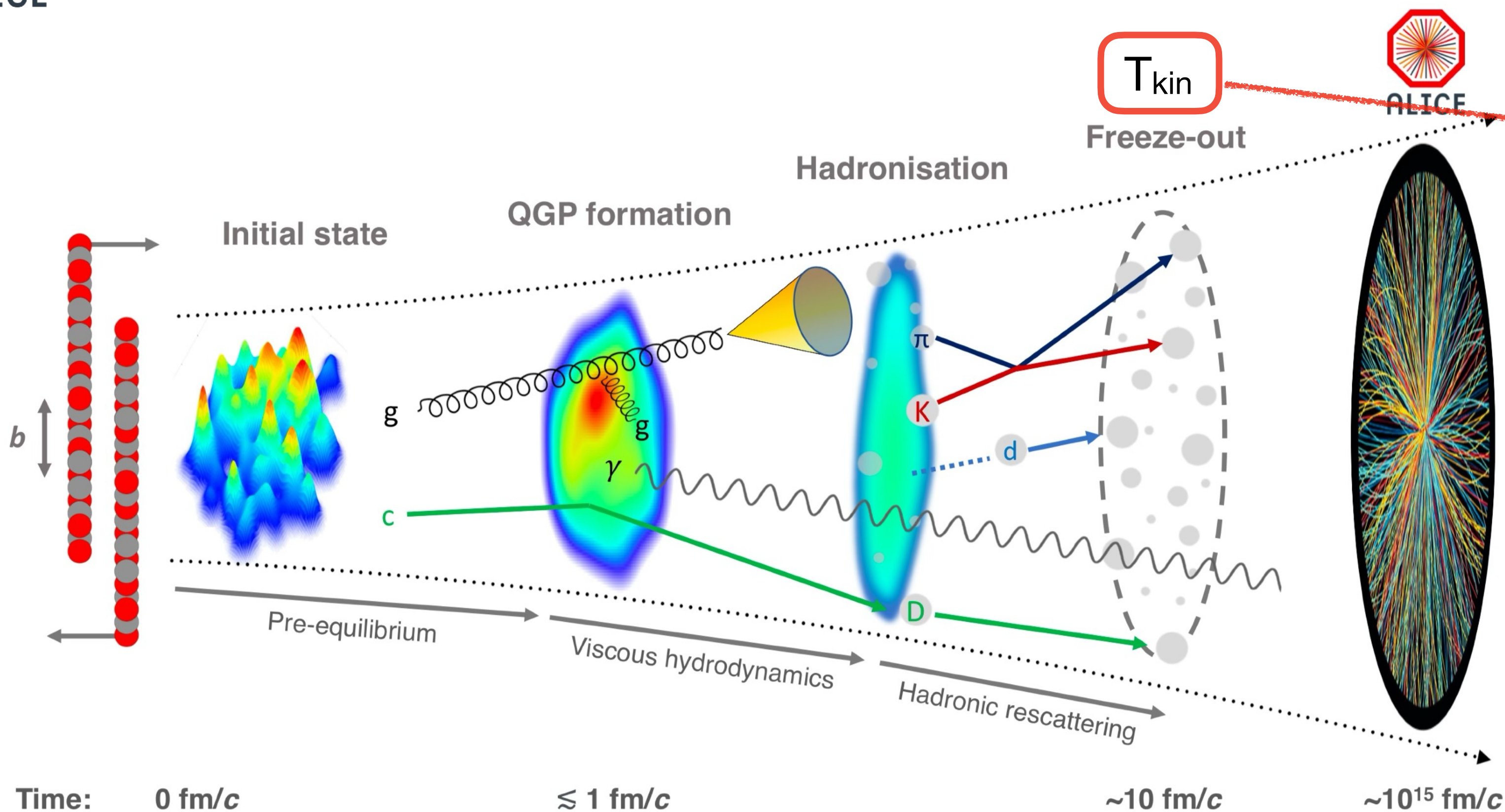
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Reconstructing the fireball evolution



- Final state carries the memory of its initial stage (hadrochemistry, hadron spectral shapes, hard probes suppression)
 → final state can be used to reconstruct the fireball evolution

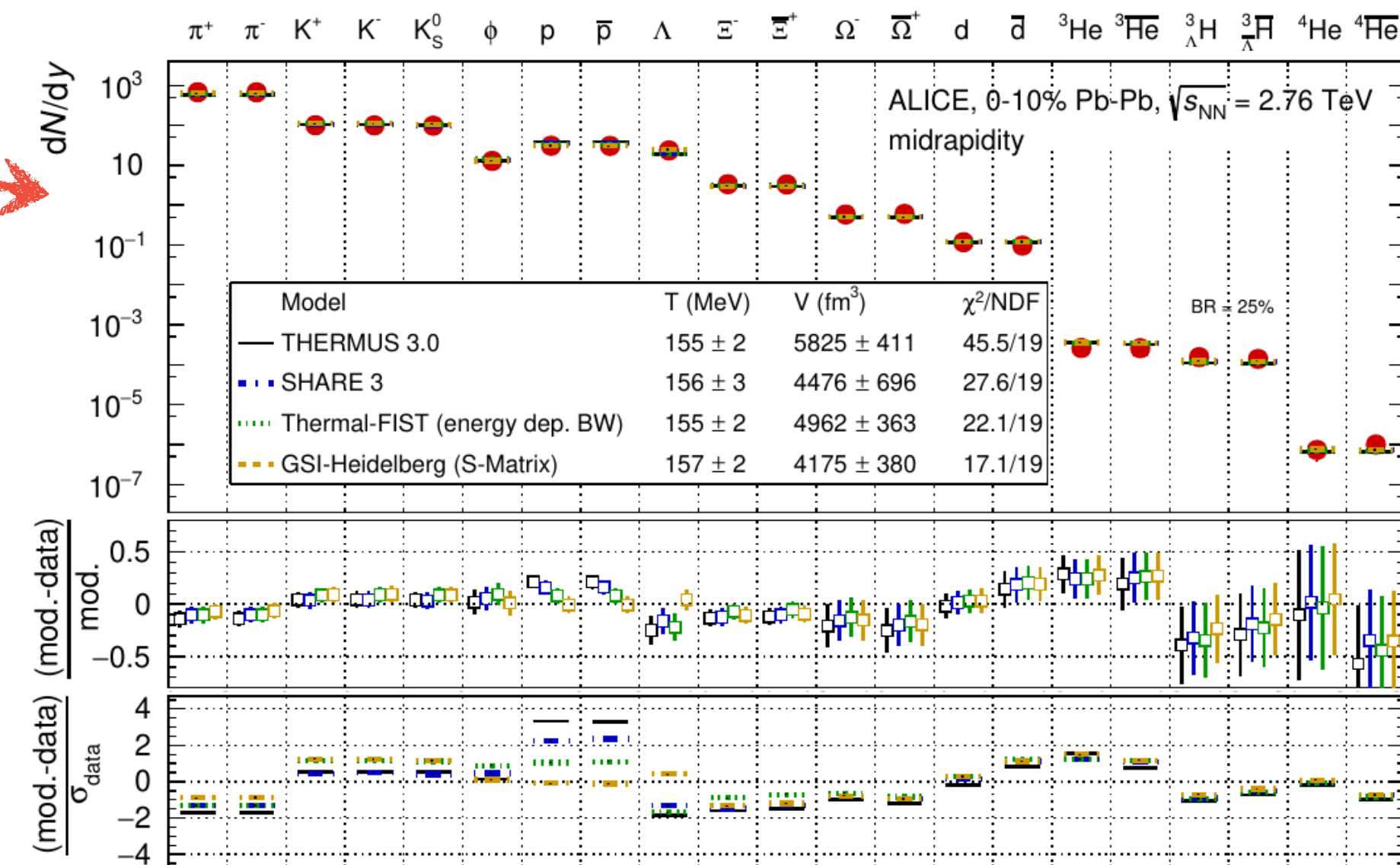
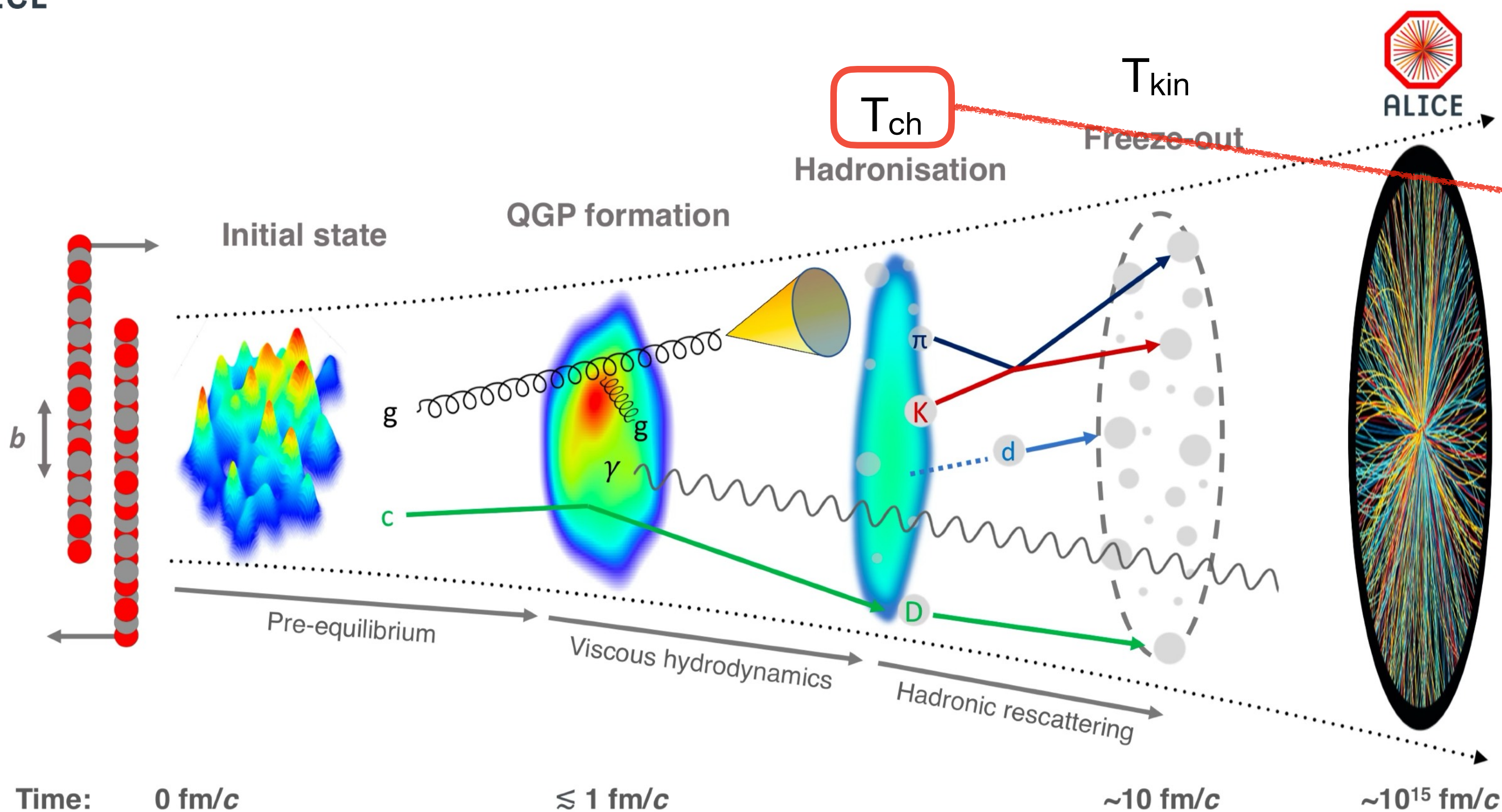
Reconstructing the fireball evolution



- Final state carries the memory of its initial stage (hadrochemistry, hadron spectral shapes, hard probes suppression)
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- Spectral shapes defined at the kinetic freeze-out

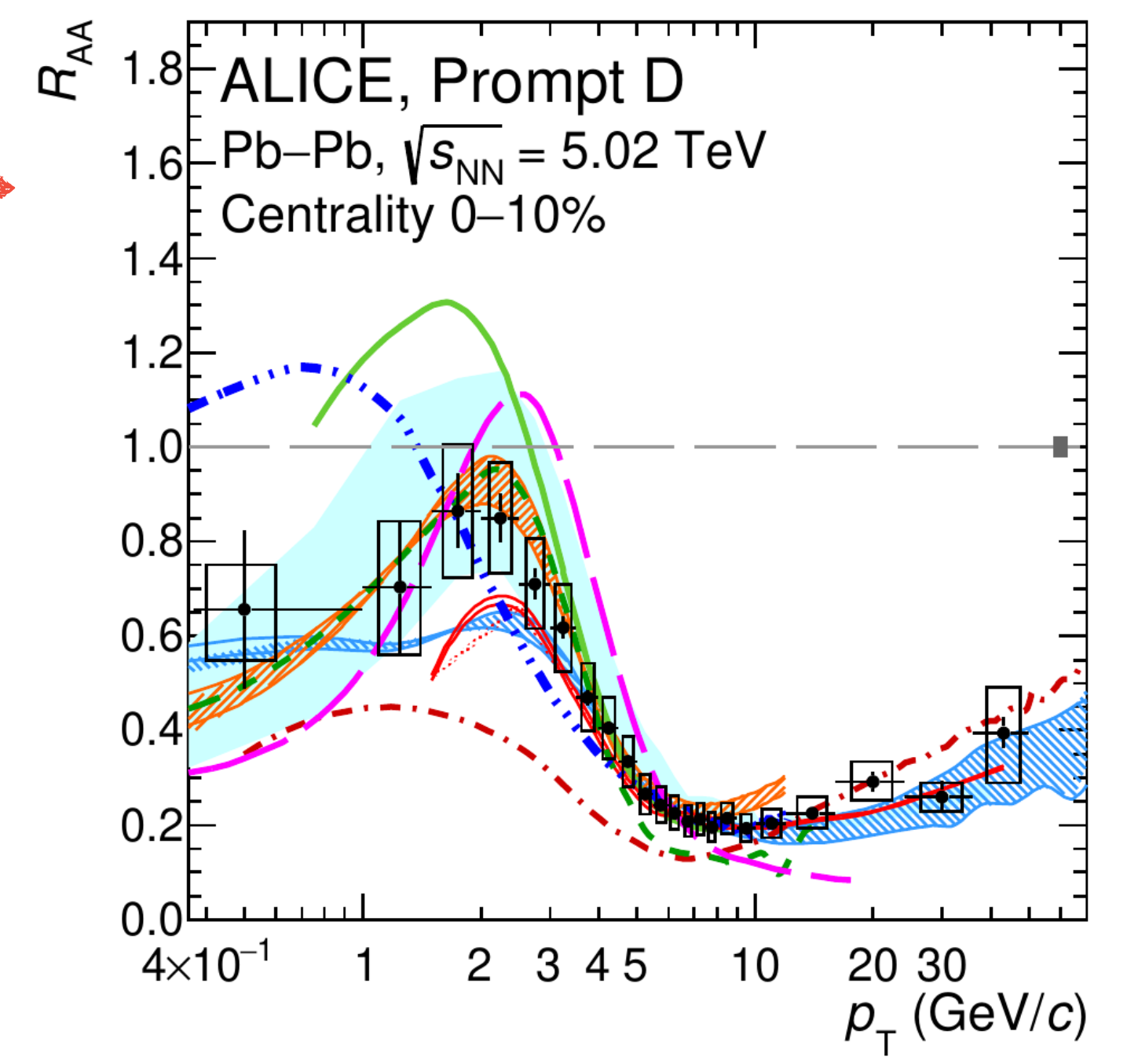
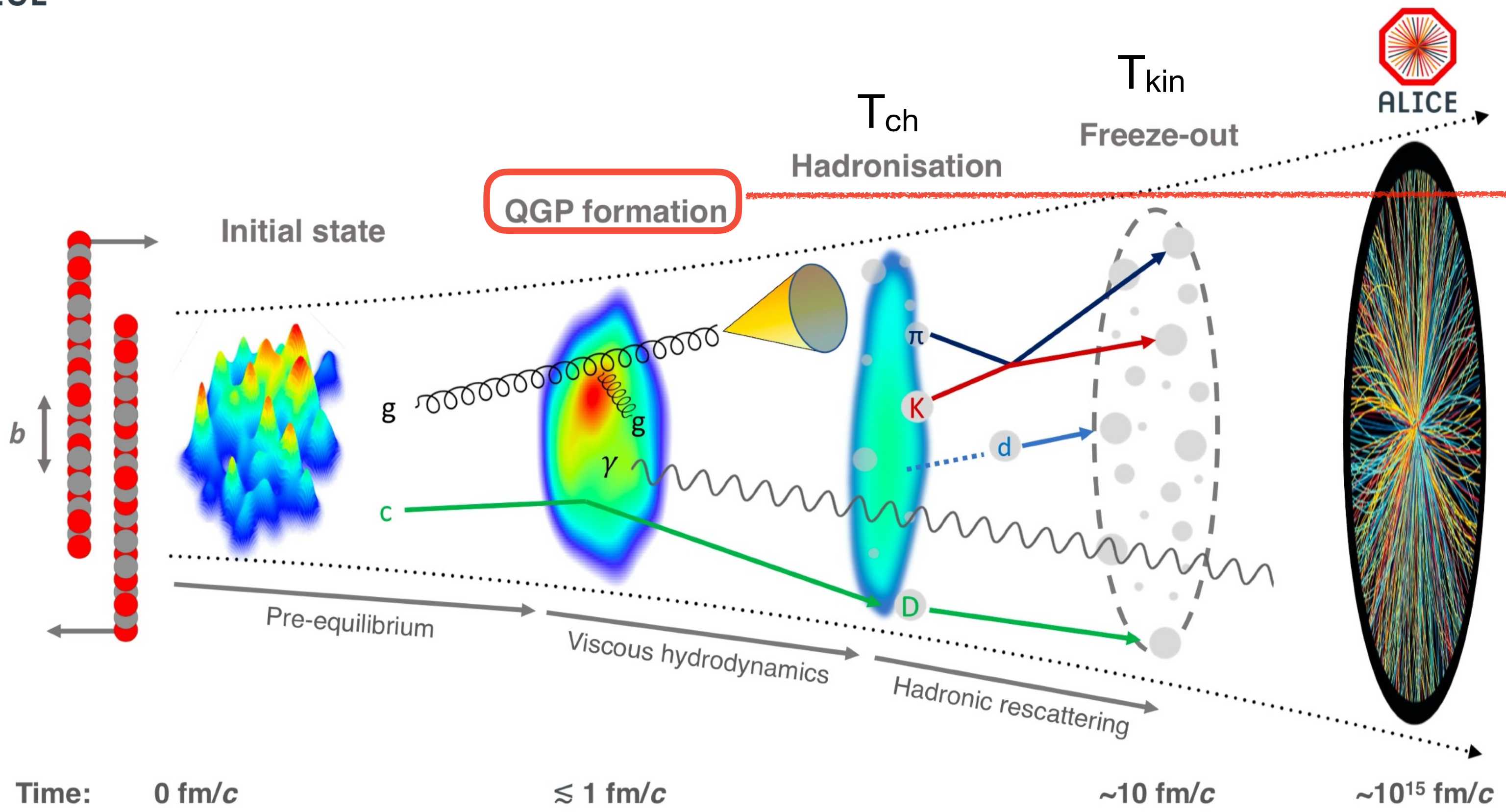
Reconstructing the fireball evolution



- Hadron abundances defined at the chemical freeze-out

- Final state carries the memory of its initial stage (hadrochemistry, hadron spectral shapes, hard probes suppression)
→ final state can be used to reconstruct the fireball evolution

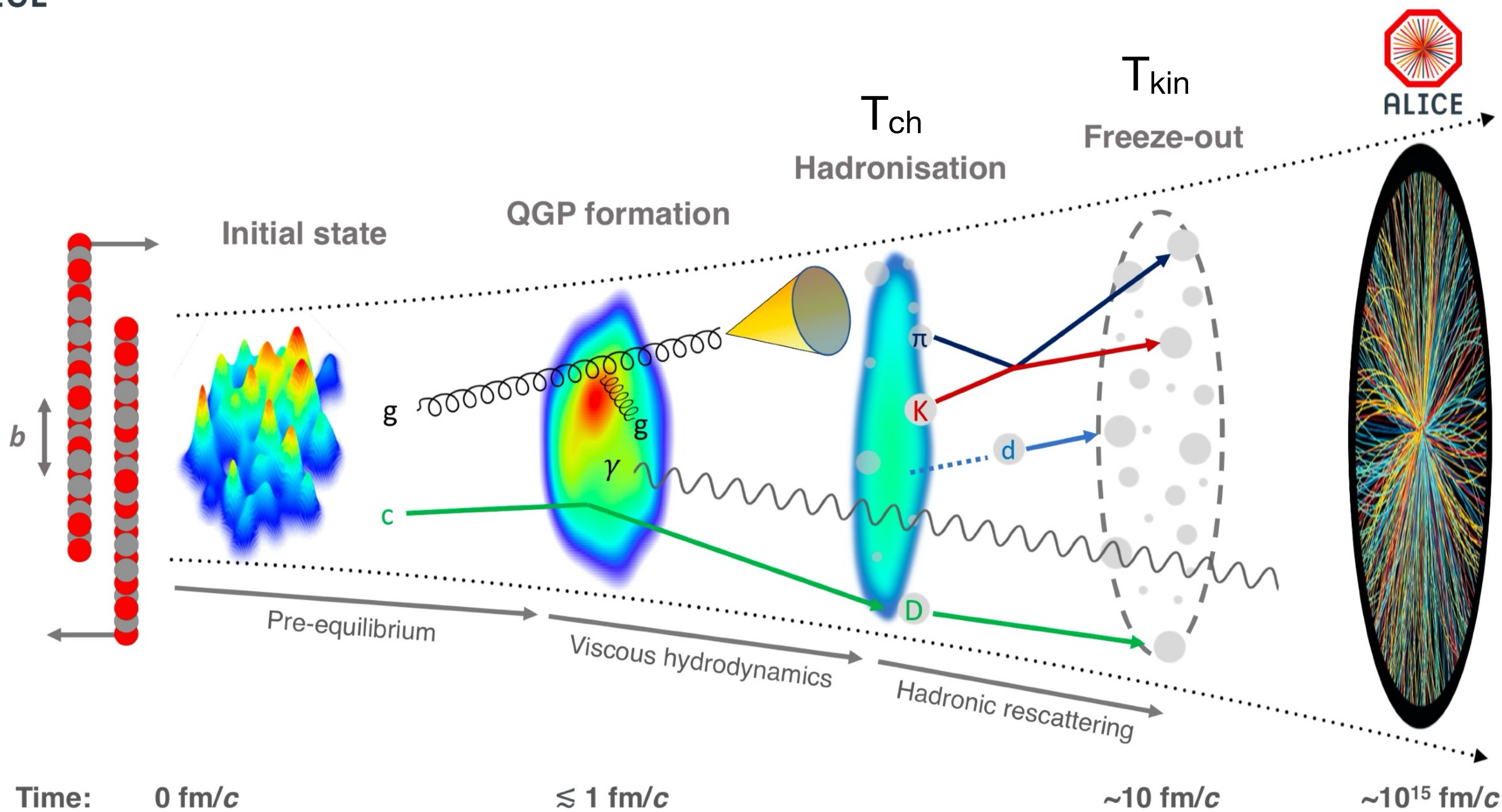
Reconstructing the fireball evolution



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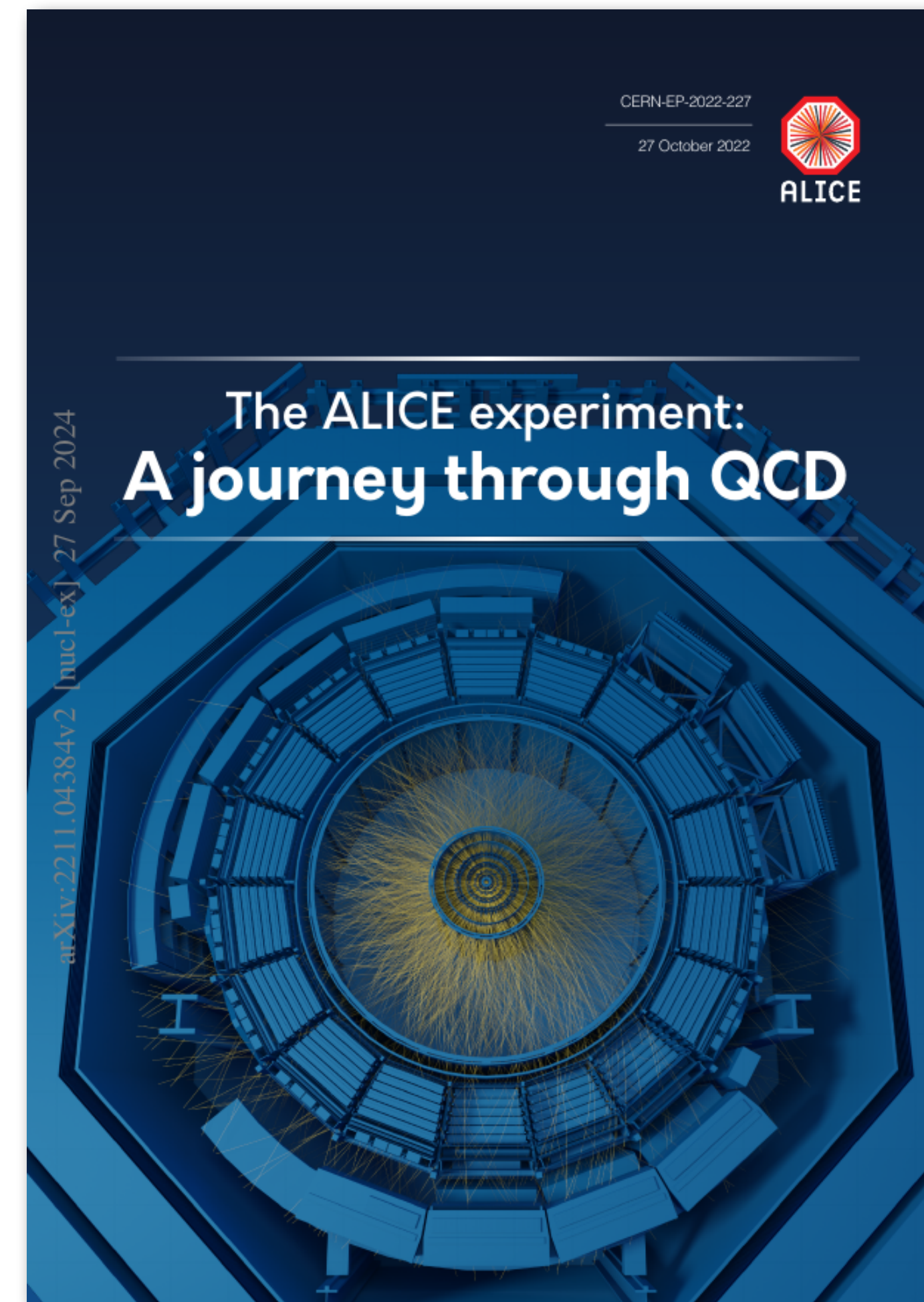
- Heavy quarks are produced in the initial stages of the collision

Reconstructing the fireball evolution



- Final state carries the memory of its initial stage (hadrochemistry, hadron spectral shapes, hard probes suppression)
 → final state can be used to reconstruct the fireball evolution

And many more!

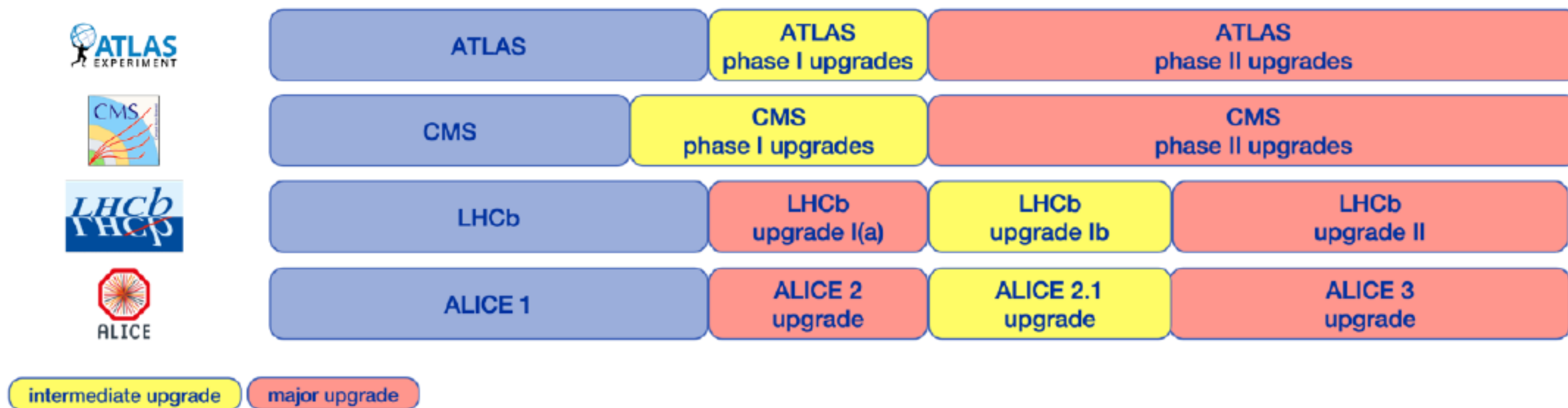


Full report Eur. Phys. J. C 84 (2024) 813

Timeline of the LHC



Long term planning with (lighter) ions

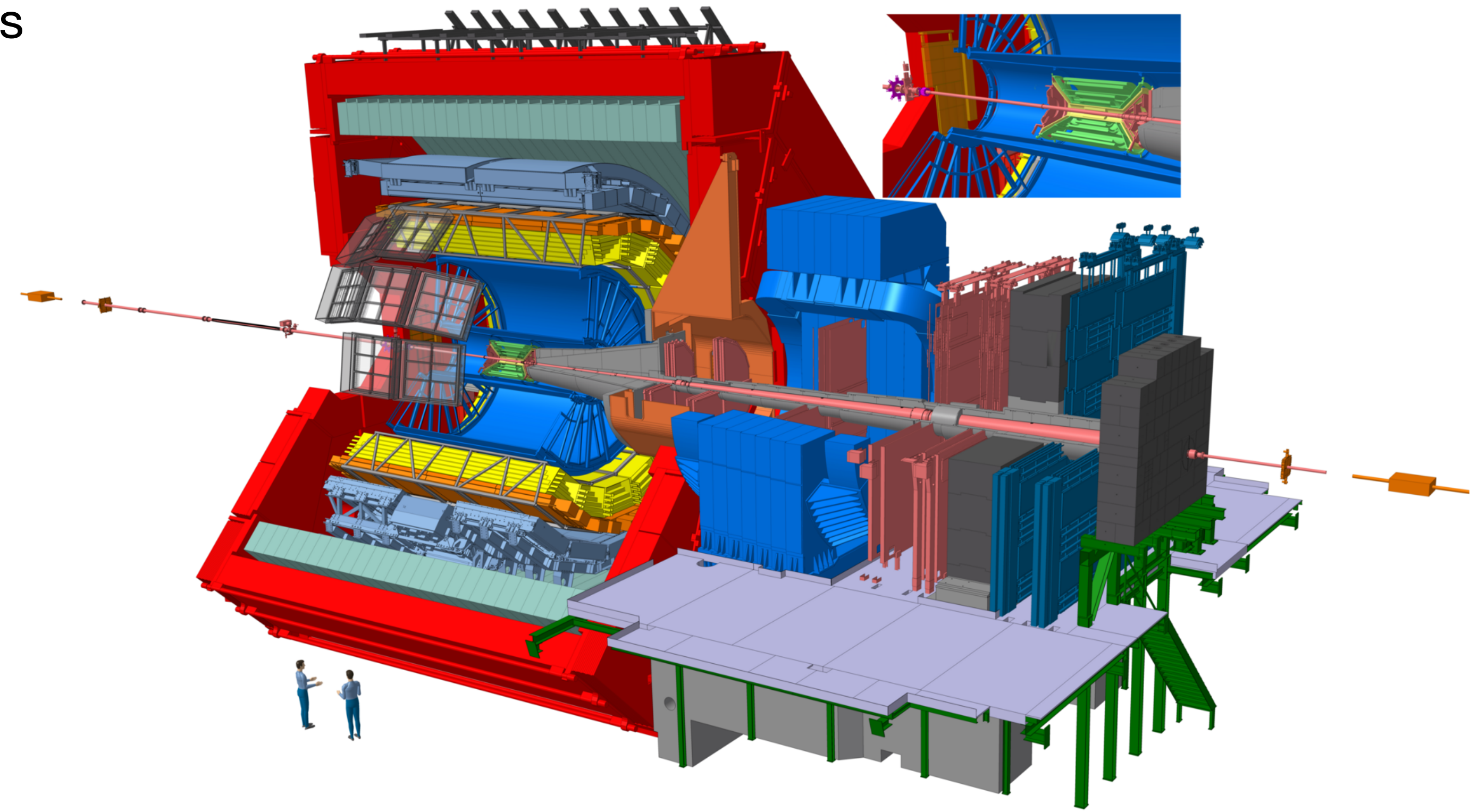
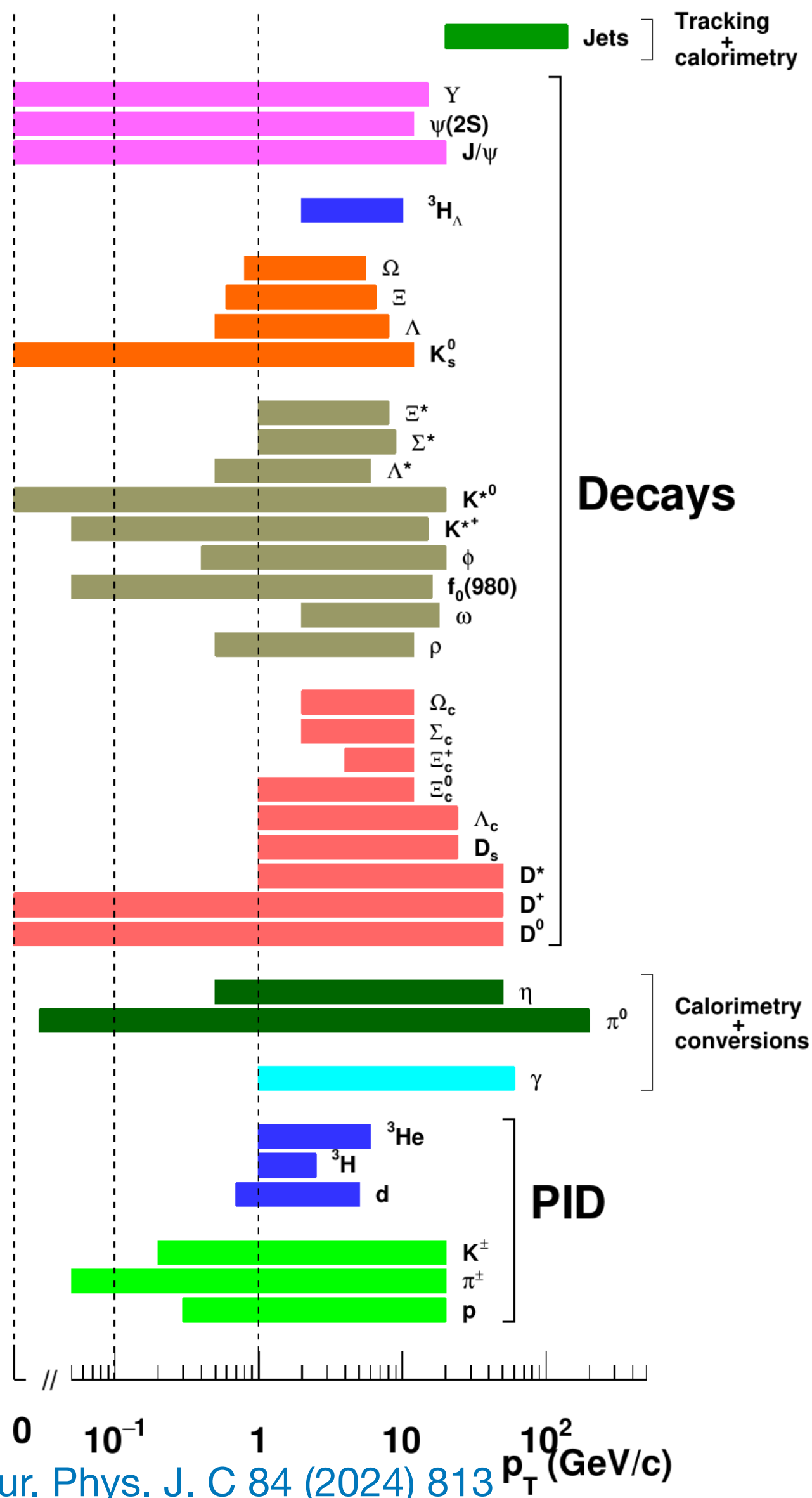


Upgrades are needed to take advantage of the physics reach



ALICE 1.0 (Run 1 and Run 2)

ALICE
Leading particle identification with all known techniques



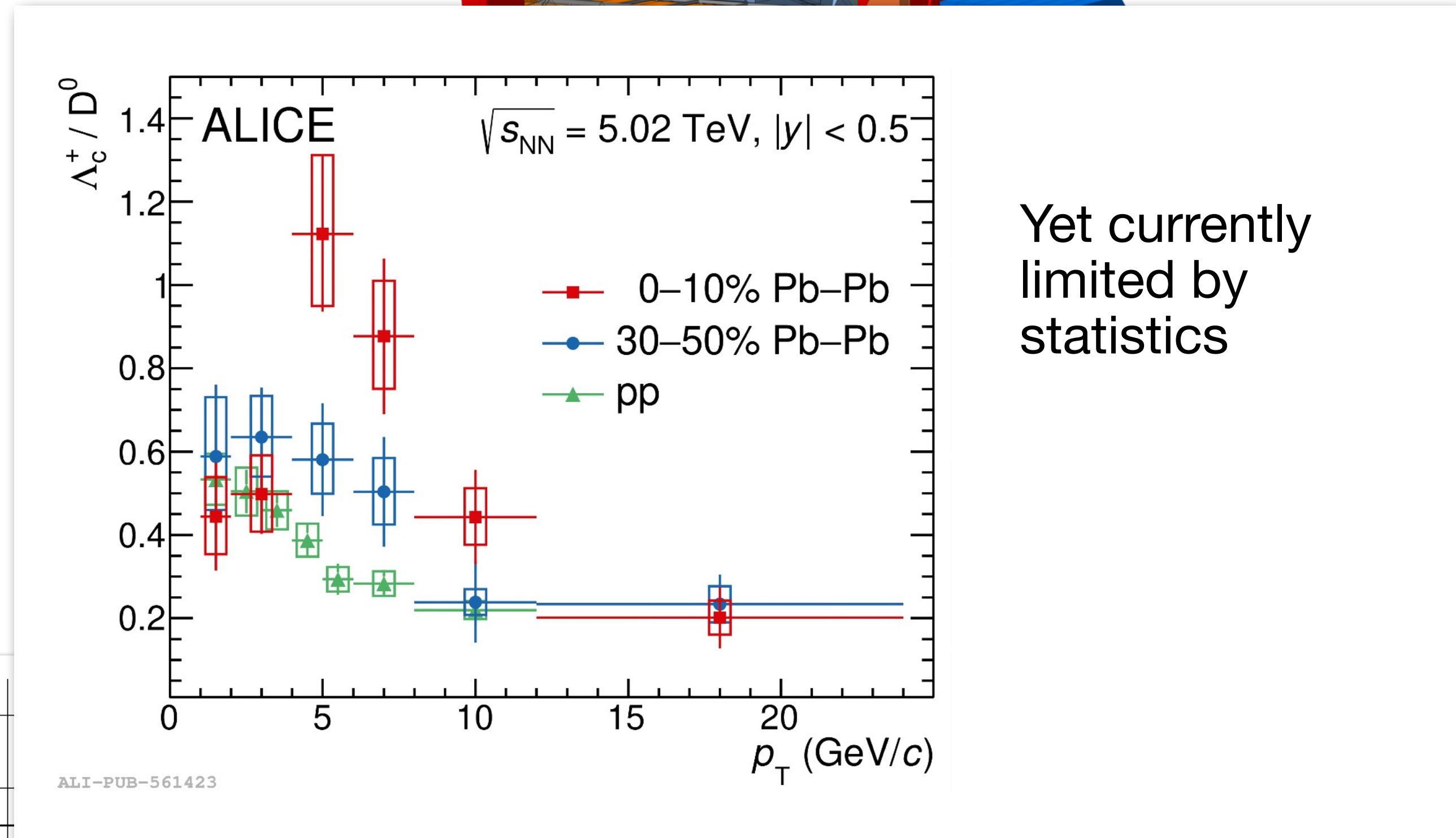
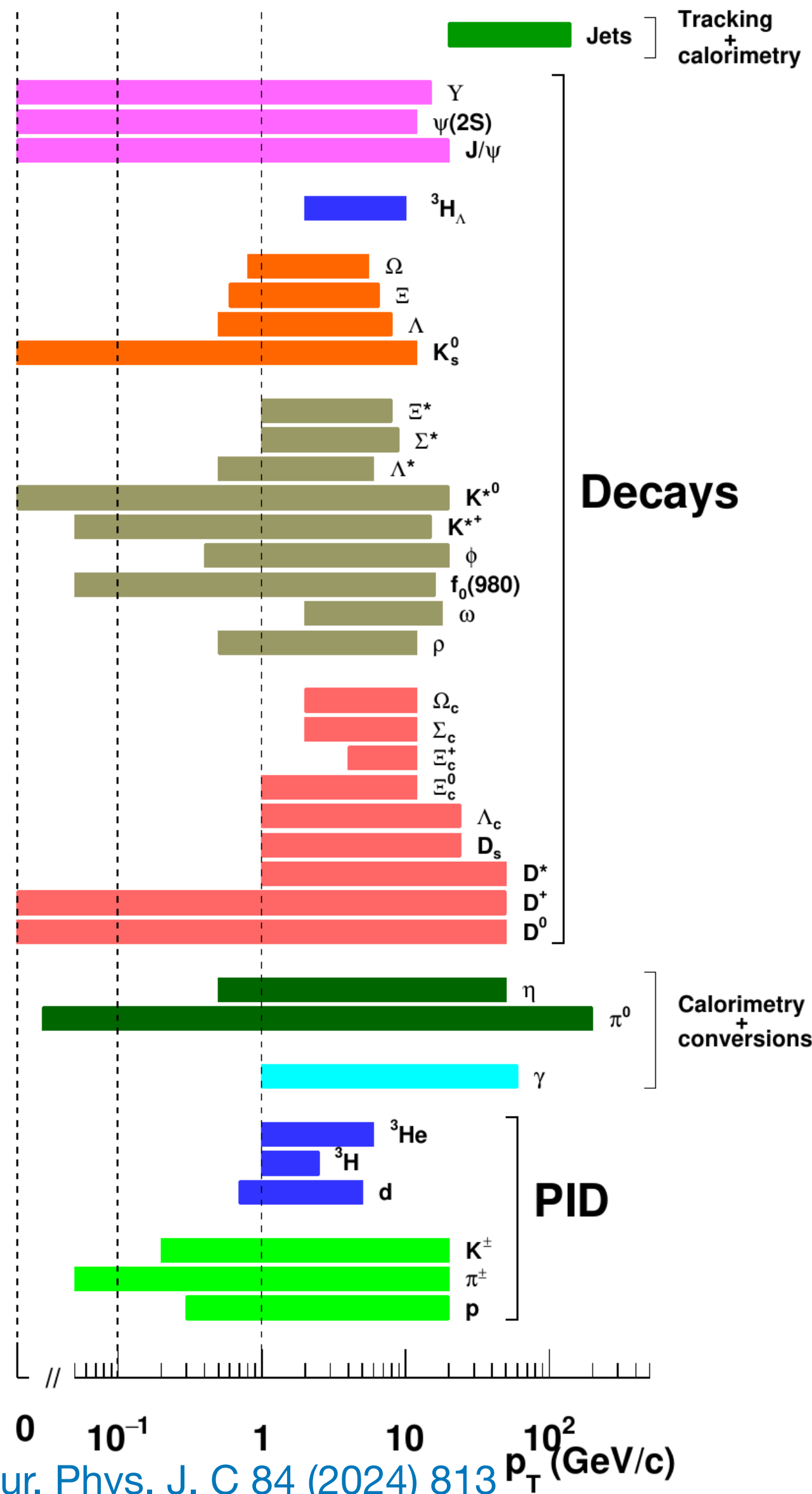
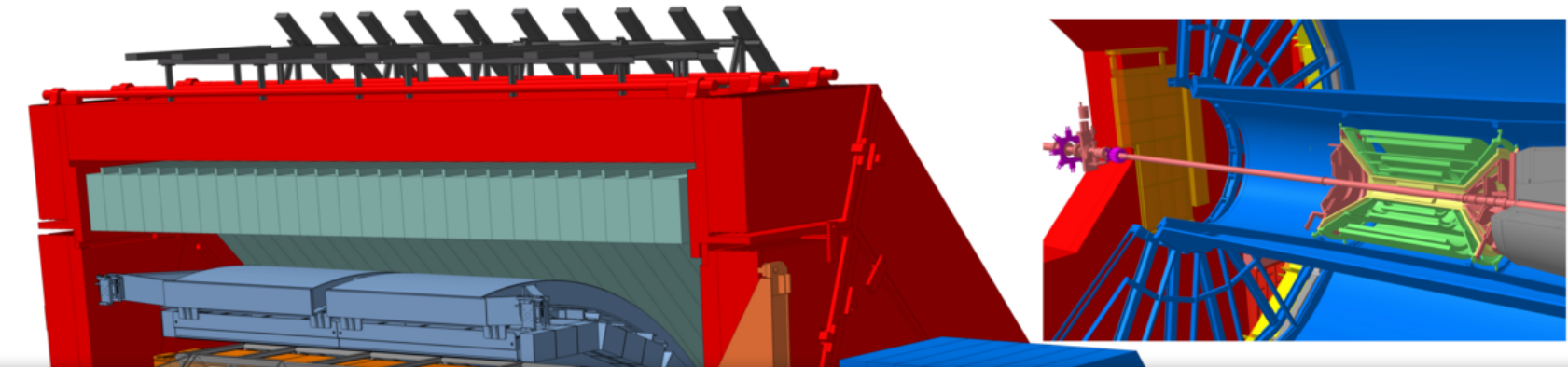
| System | Year(s) | $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV) | L_{int} | N_{MB} |
|--------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Pb-Pb | 2010, 2011 | 2.76 | $75 \mu b^{-1}$ | 1.3×10^8 |
| Pb-Pb | 2015, 2018 | 5.02 | $800 \mu b^{-1}$ | 6×10^8 |
| Xe-Xe | 2017 | 5.44 | $0.3 \mu b^{-1}$ | 1.1×10^6 |
| p-Pb | 2013, 2016 | 5.02 | $18 nb^{-1}$ | 8×10^8 |
| p-Pb | 2016 | 8.16 | $25 nb^{-1}$ | 1.3×10^8 |
| pp | 2009 | 0.9 | $200 \mu b^{-1}$ | 0.5×10^6 |
| pp | 2011 | 2.76 | $100 nb^{-1}$ | 1.3×10^8 |
| pp | 2010, 2011 | 7 | $1.5 pb^{-1}$ | 1.6×10^9 |
| pp | 2012 | 8 | $2.5 pb^{-1}$ | 3.1×10^8 |
| pp | 2015, 2017 | 5.02 | $1.3 pb^{-1}$ | 10^9 |
| pp | 2015 - 2018 | 13 | $36 pb^{-1}$ | 6×10^9 |

Broad momentum acceptance (0.1 - 100 GeV/c) + hadron PID (0.1 - 20 GeV/c)
Probes for all aspects of QGP behavior



ALICE 1.0 (Run 1 and Run 2)

ALICE
Leading particle identification with all known techniques



| System | Year(s) | $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV) | \mathcal{L}_{int} (μb^{-1}) | \mathcal{L}_{int} (nb^{-1}) |
|--------|-------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Pb–Pb | 2010, 2011 | 2.76 | 200 | 1.3×10^8 |
| Pb–Pb | 2015, 2018 | 5.02 | 1.3 | 10^9 |
| Xe–Xe | 2017 | 5.02 | 1.3 | 10^9 |
| p–Pb | 2013, 2016 | 2.76 | 100 | 1.3×10^8 |
| p–Pb | 2016 | 5.02 | 1.3 | 10^9 |
| pp | 2009 | 0.9 | 200 | 0.5×10^6 |
| pp | 2011 | 2.76 | 100 | 1.3×10^8 |
| pp | 2010, 2011 | 7 | 1.5 | 1.6×10^9 |
| pp | 2012 | 8 | 2.5 | 3.1×10^8 |
| pp | 2015, 2017 | 5.02 | 1.3 | 10^9 |
| pp | 2015 - 2018 | 13 | 36 | 6×10^9 |

Probes for all aspects of QGP behavior



ALICE upgrades in the LS2

• Major upgrade in LS2

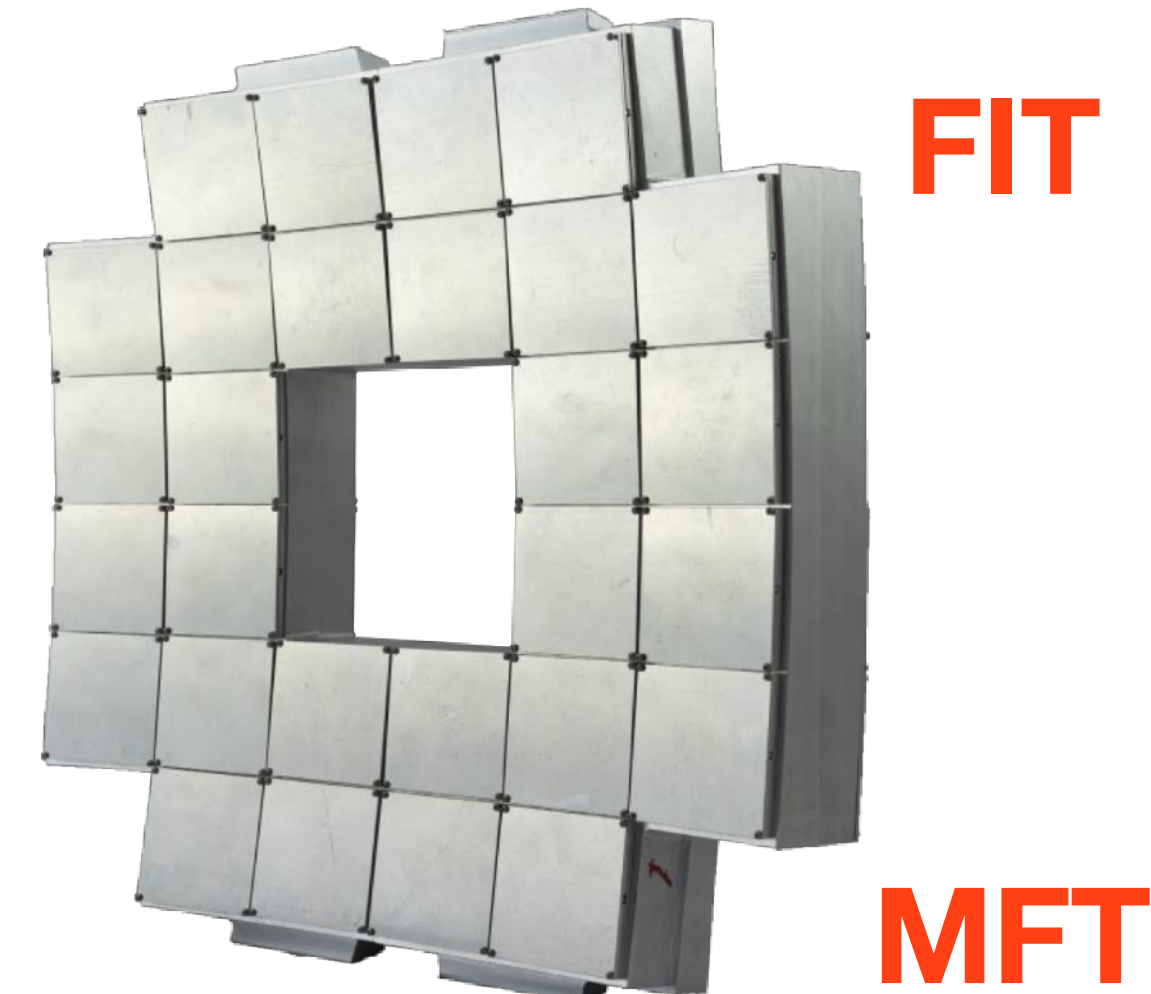
Inner Tracking System → 7 layers of pixel detectors

- Time Projection Chamber → GEM readout
- New Muon Forward Tracker → secondary vertex
- New Forward Interaction Trigger → triggering, event time
- New Even Processing Farm → event reconstruction
- Readout upgraded for most detectors to allow continuous readout
- **Continuous readout at high rate**
 - pp data taking at 500 kHz (x 1000 Run 2)
 - Intermediate data storage on disk buffer
 - Asynchronous (offline) trigger, selectivity $\sim 10^{-4}$
 - Pb-Pb data taking at 50 kHz (x 50 Run 2)
 - All Compressed Time Frame data stored on tape

Detailed in the new report

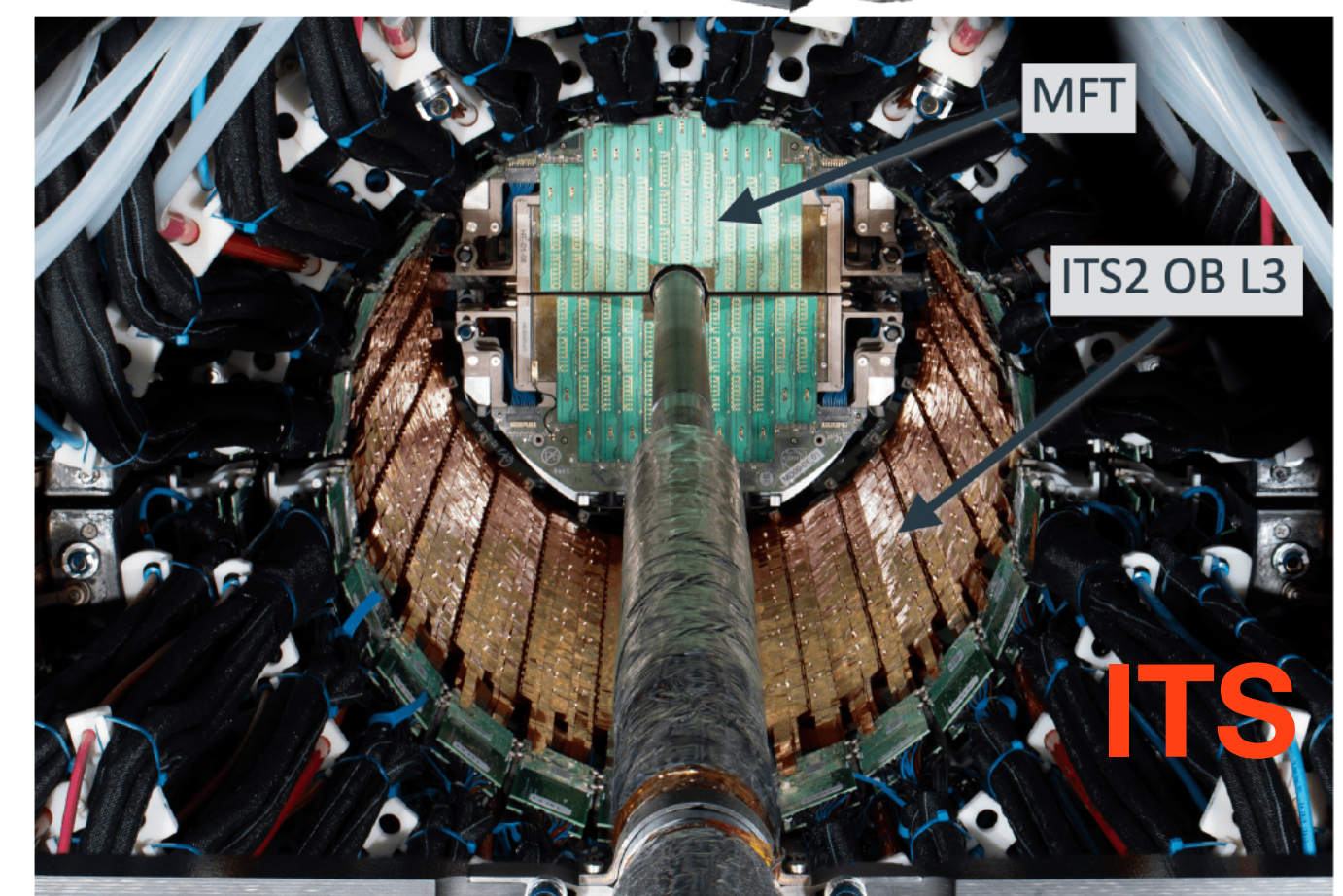
ALICE upgrades during the LHC Long Shutdown 2

ALICE 2024 JINST 19 P05062



FIT

MFT



ITS

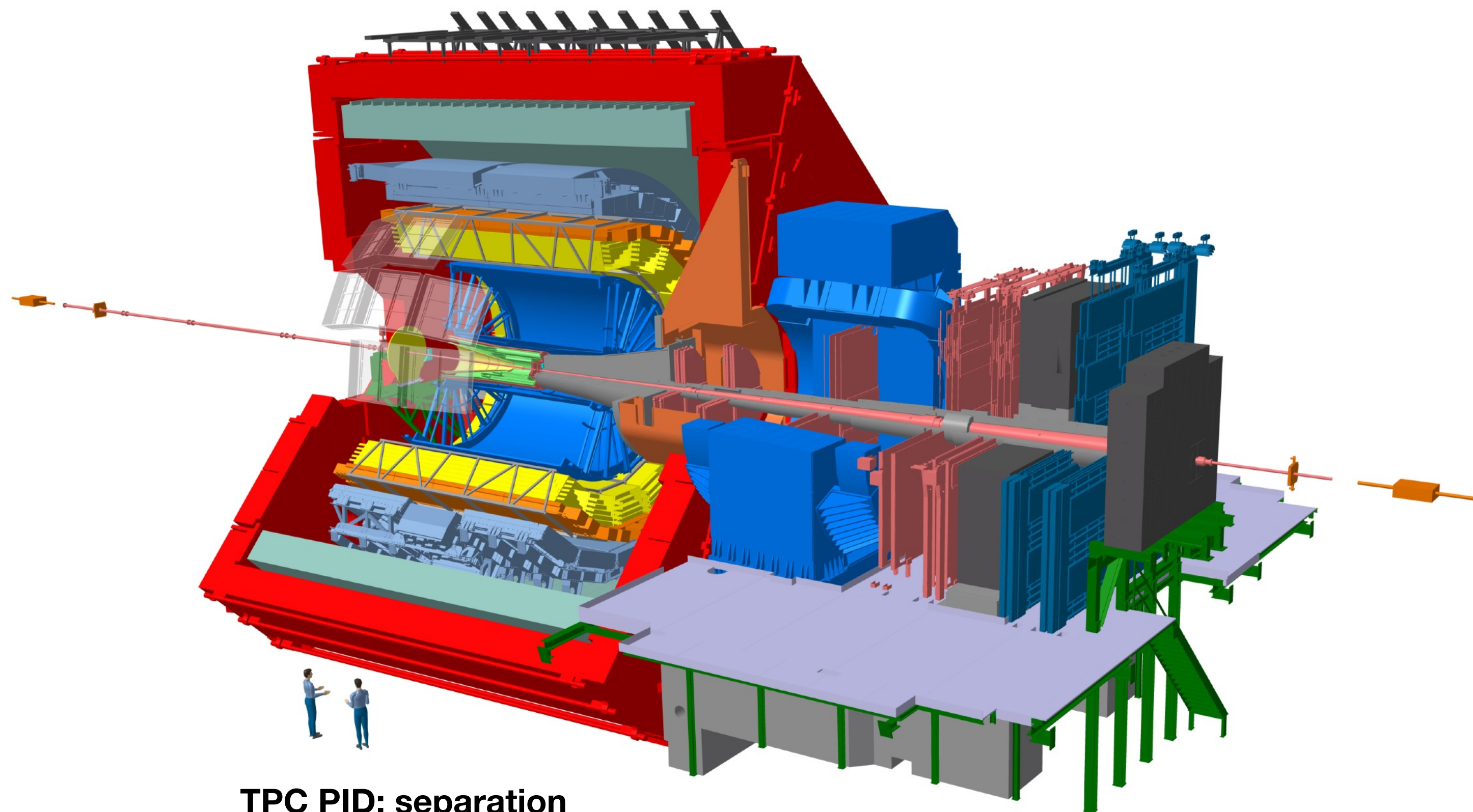


EPNs

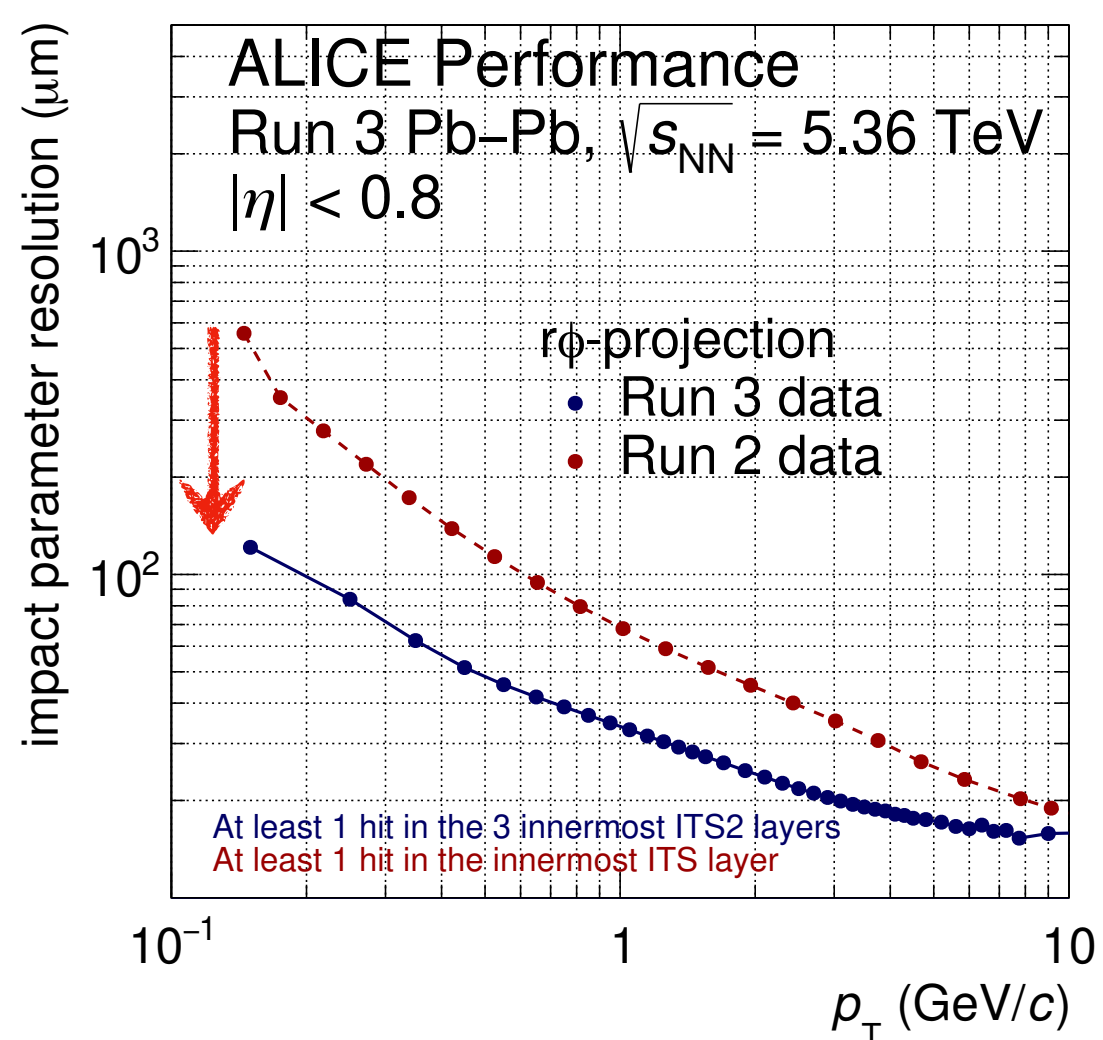
Recent upgrades for Run 3

Improved tracking, IR tolerance, kept PID capabilities

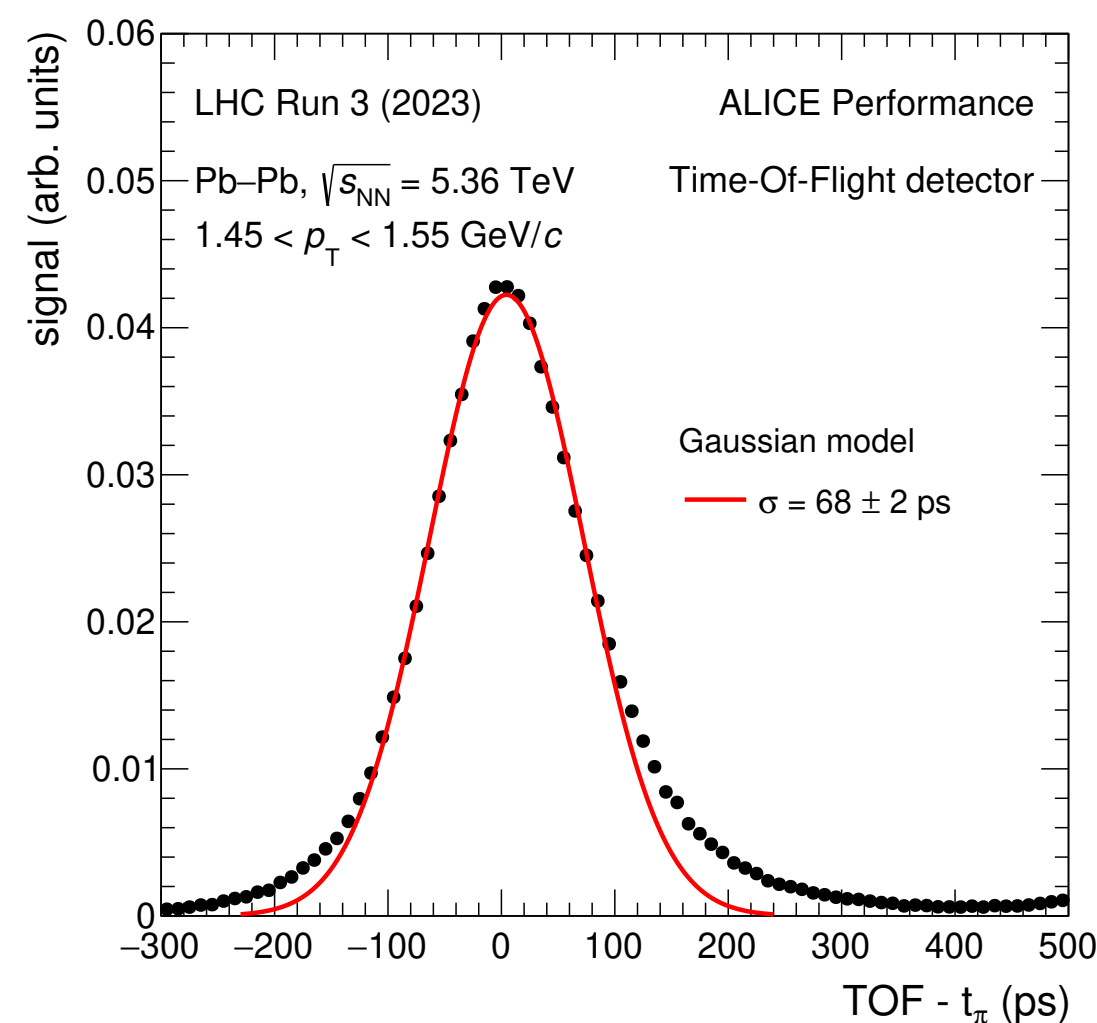
- Precision era for jet, heavy-flavor and electromagnetic probes in large & small systems
- Deeper explorations of proton/nuclear structure and rare hadron interactions



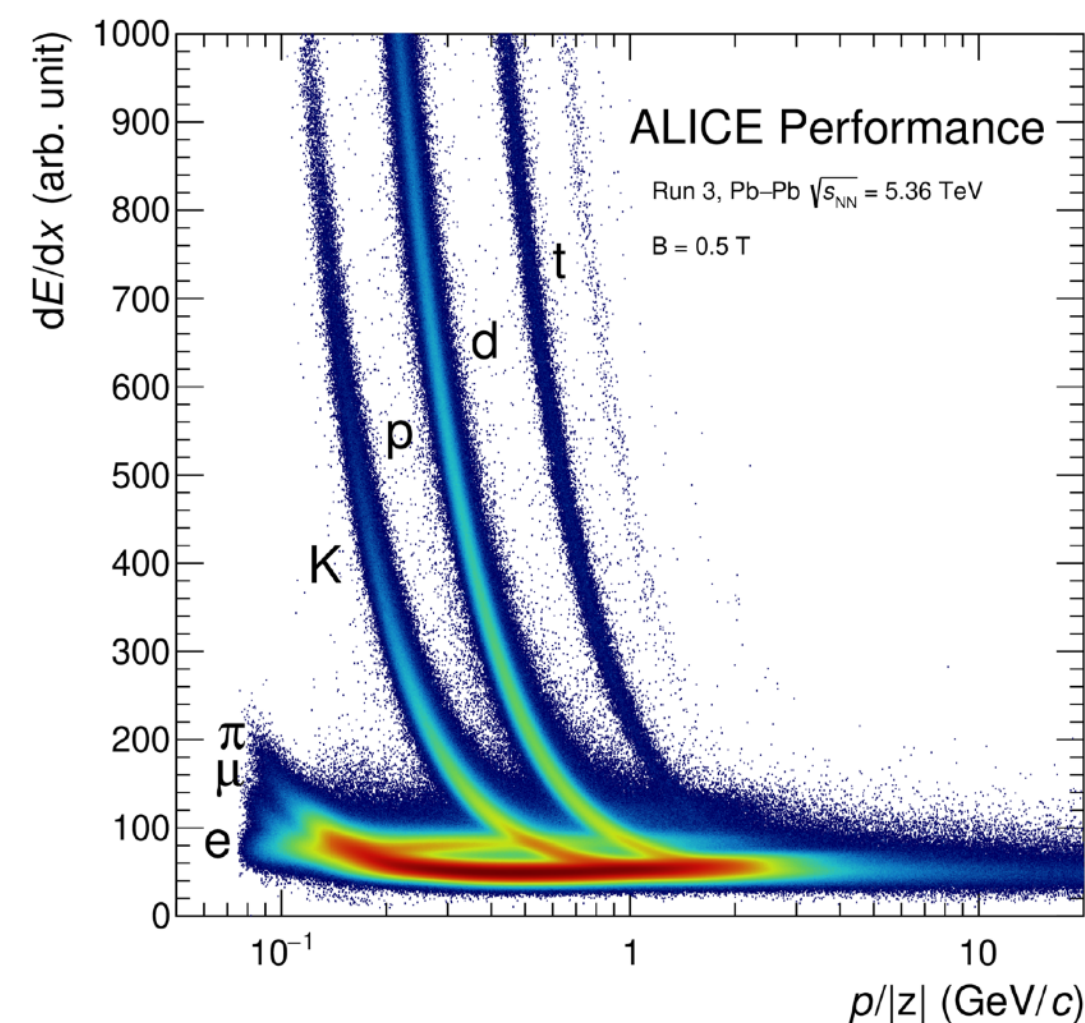
Tracking: impact parameter



TOF PID: resolution



TPC PID: separation

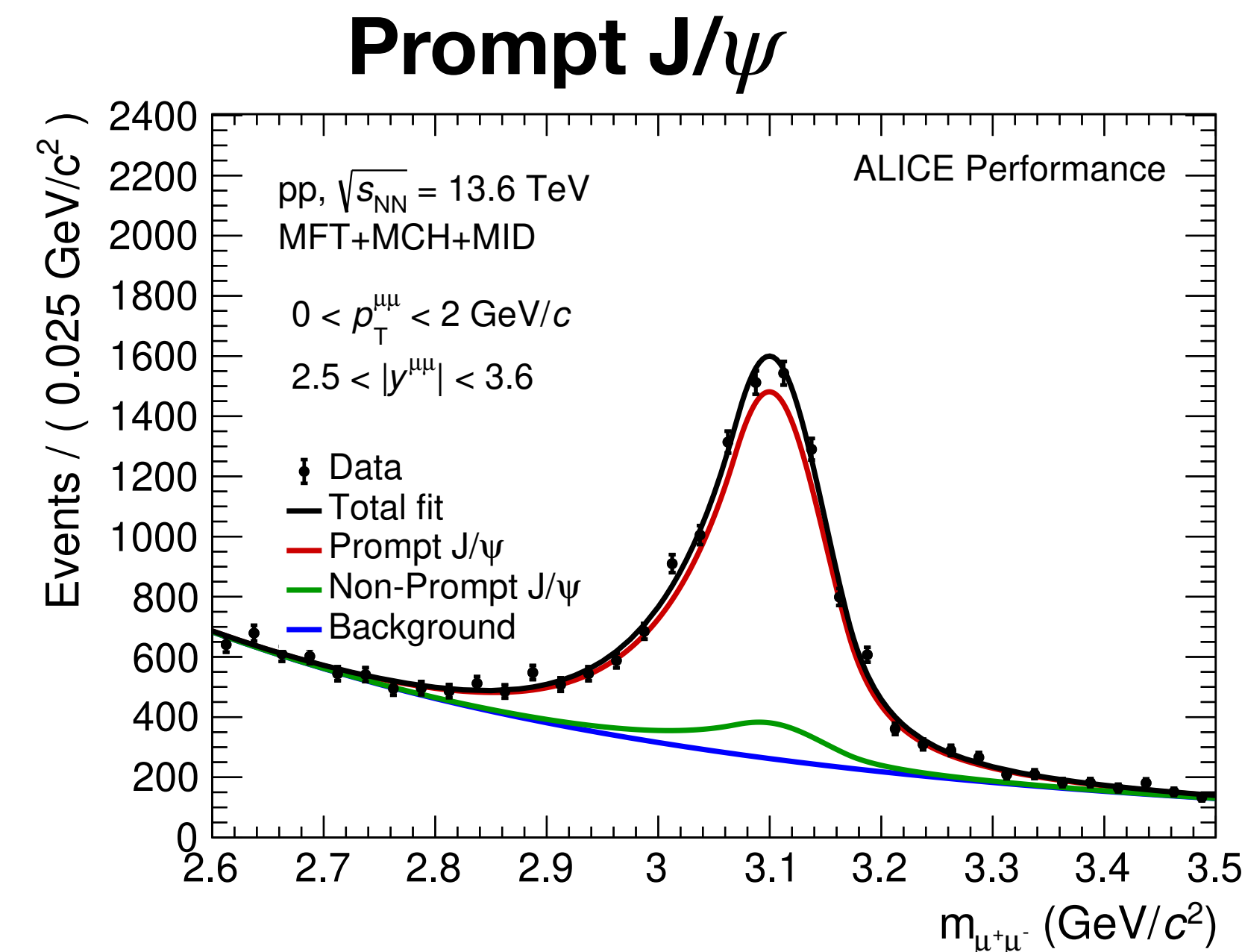
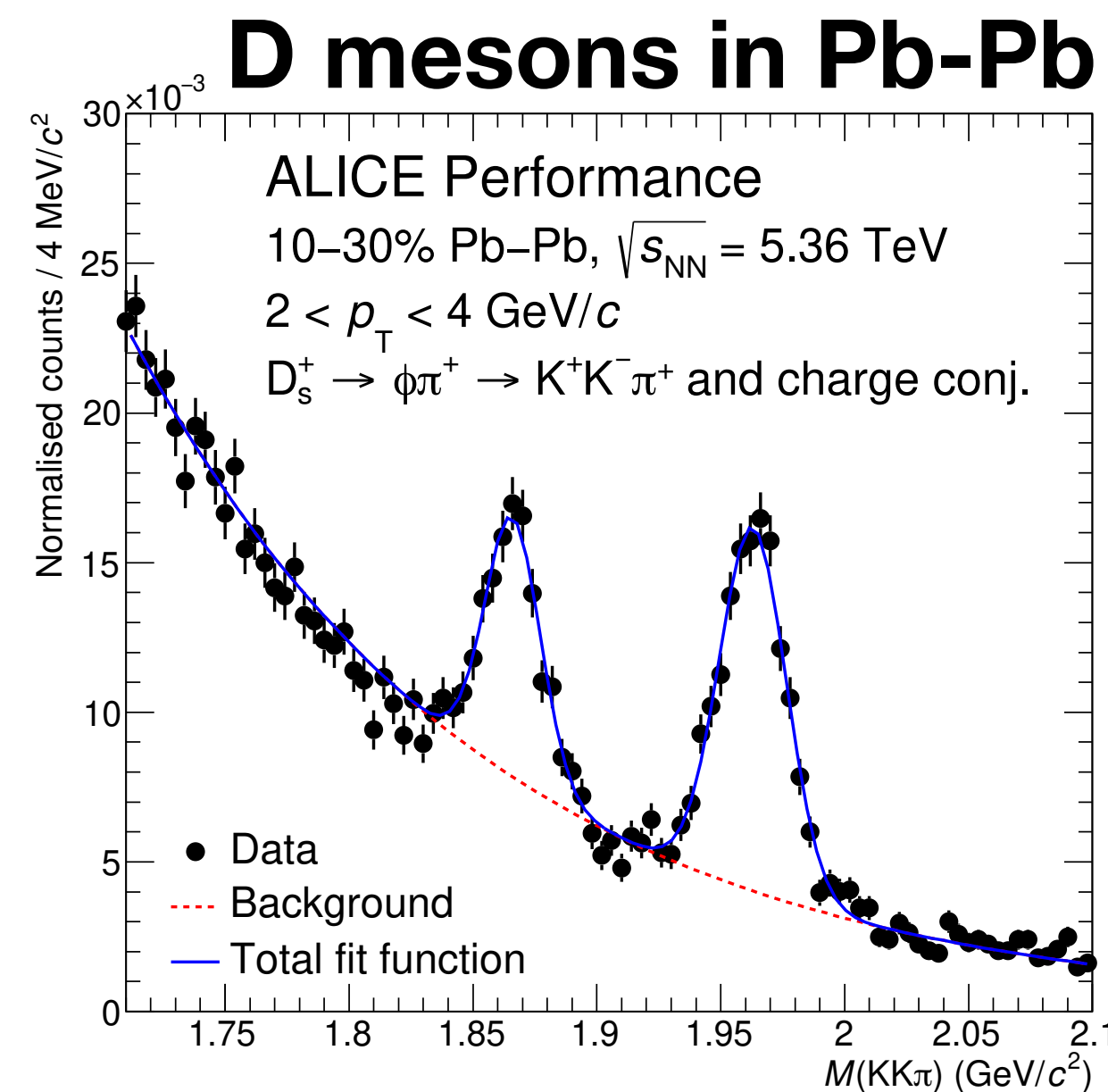
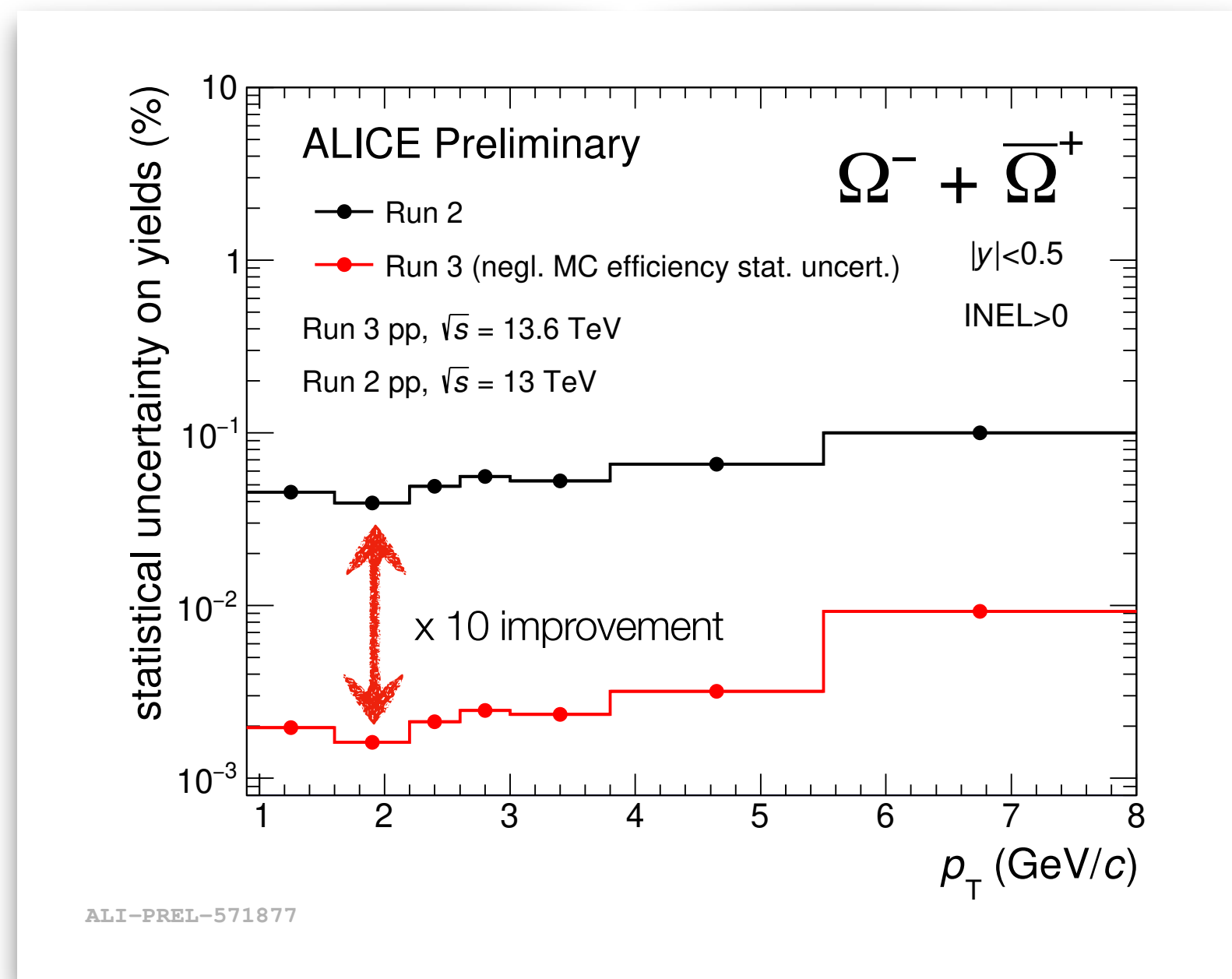
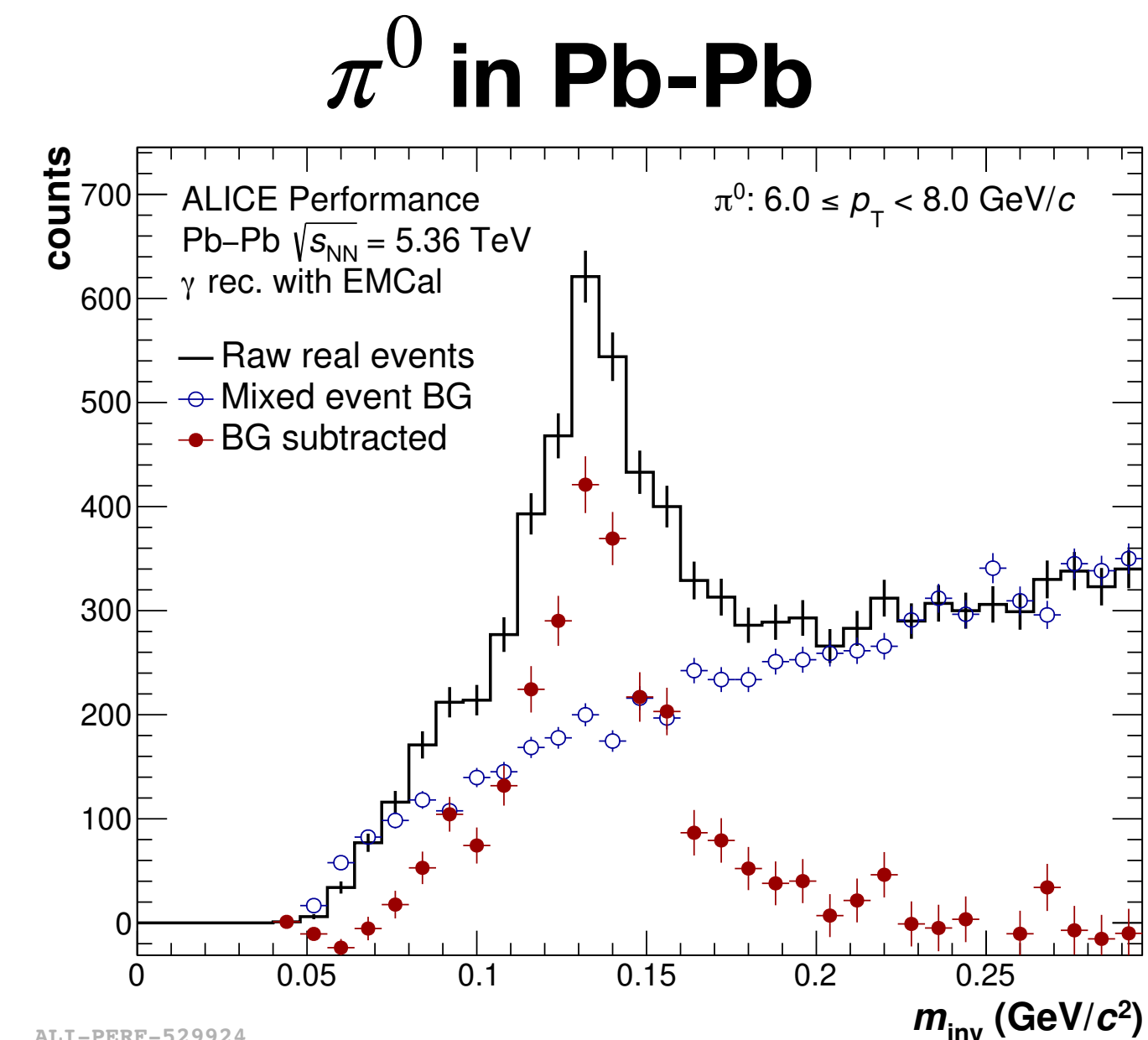
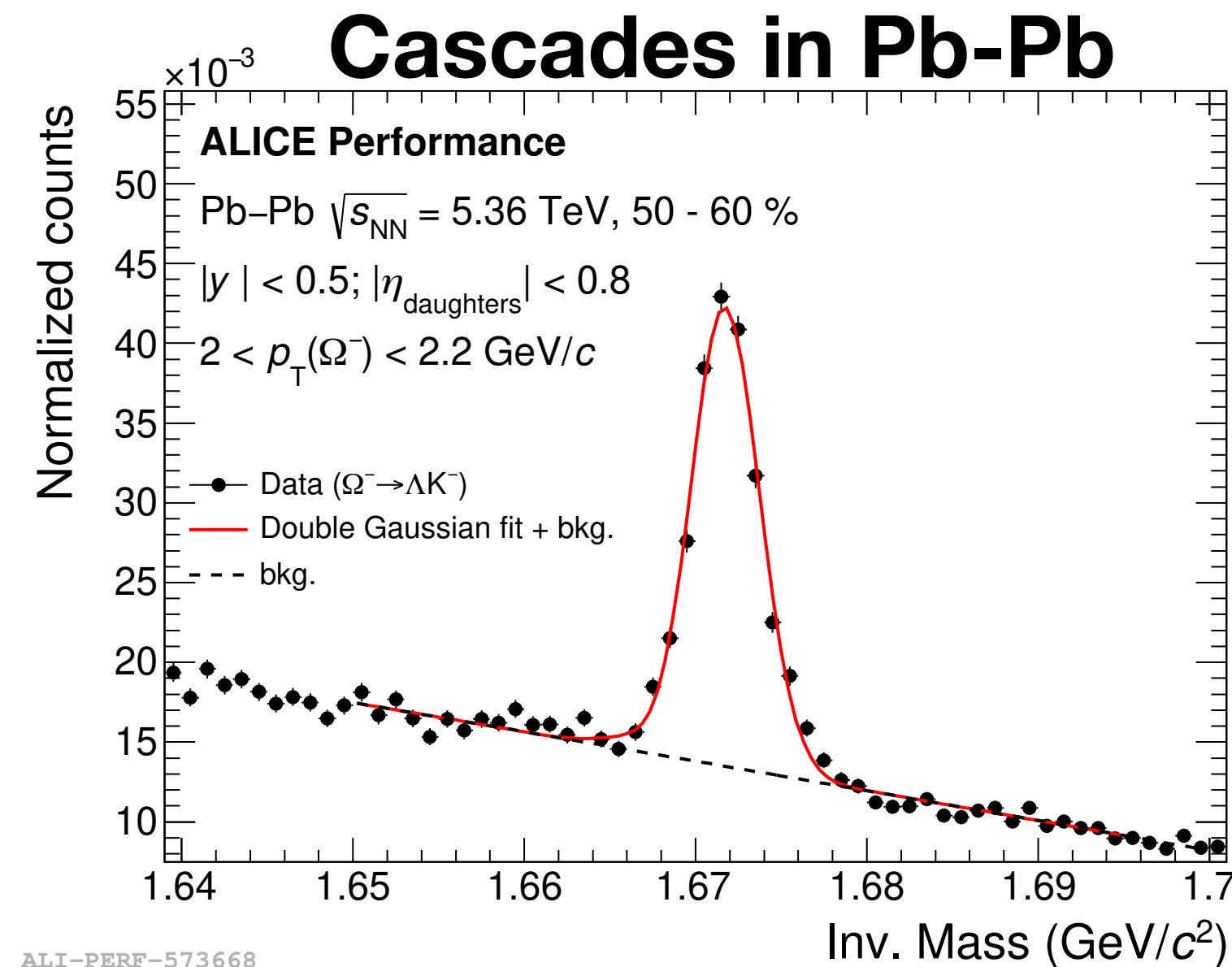


- Improved pointing resolution in both $r\phi$ and z directions
- Particle identification capabilities are conserved



Physics performance in Run 3

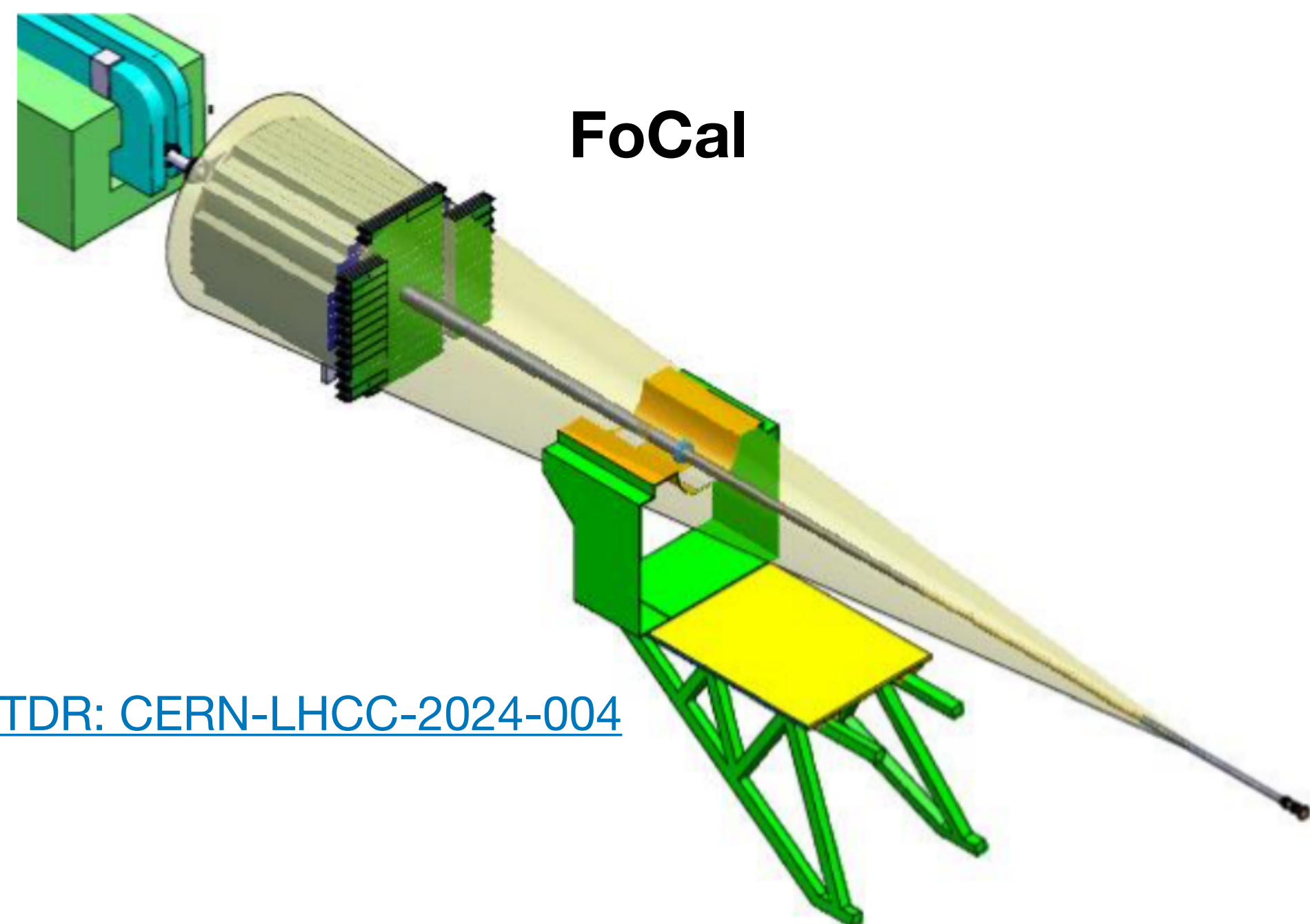
- Data ready for analysis covering all sectors
- Already improving on the observable statistical uncertainties





ALICE

ALICE 2.1: FOCAL and ITS3



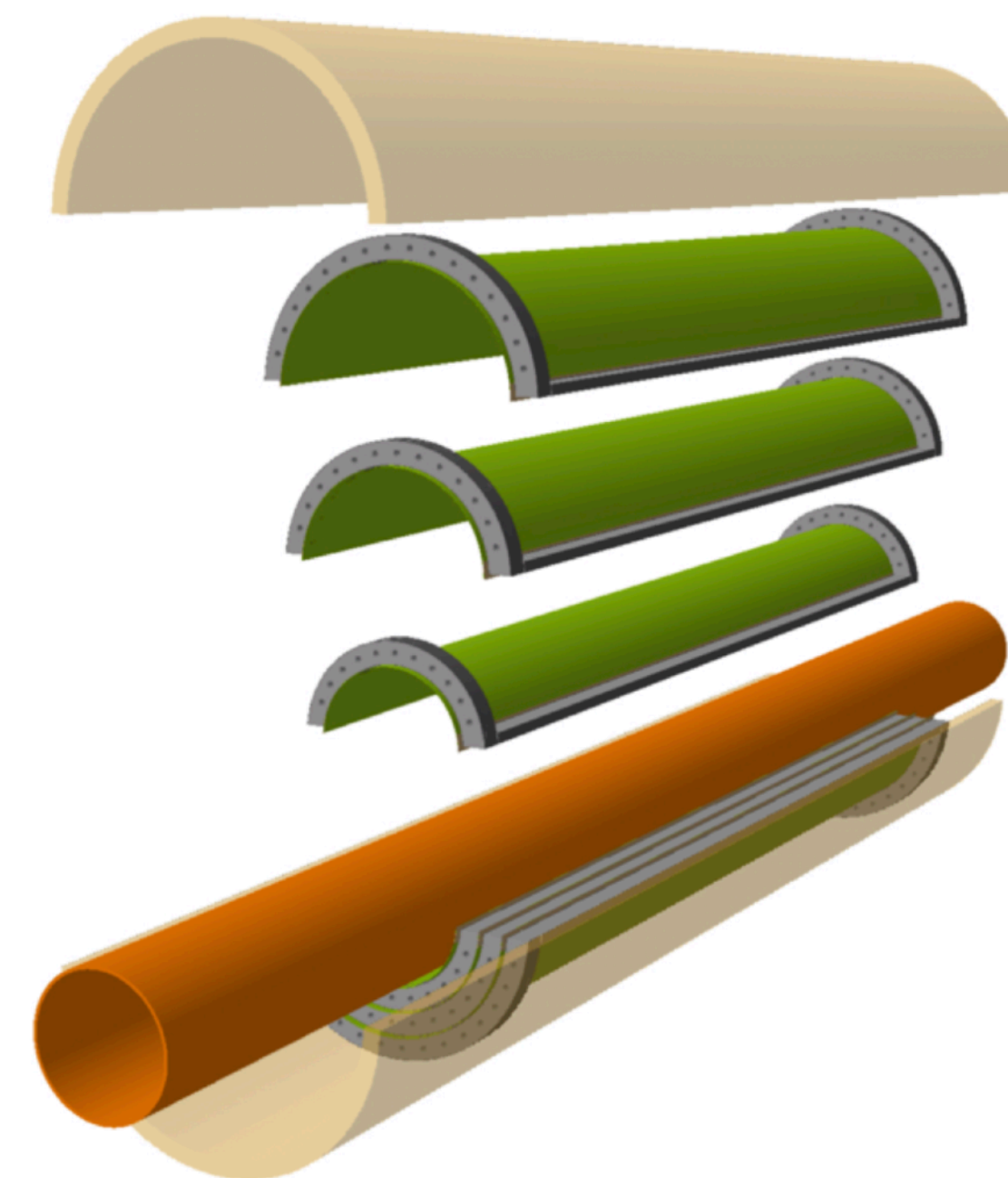
FoCal

[TDR: CERN-LHCC-2024-004](#)

FoCAL (Forward Calorimeter)

- Parton distributions in protons and nuclei
- Long range correlations in pp and p-A
- Forward jets and ultra-peripheral collisions

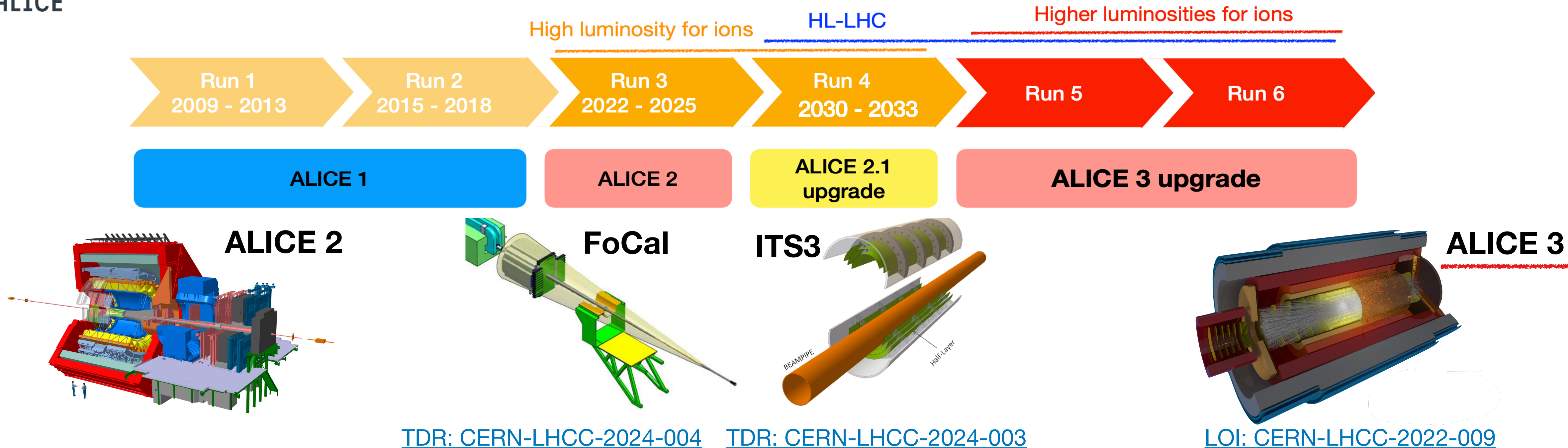
[TDR: CERN-LHCC-2024-003](#)



ITS 3 (inner tracking system)

- Replacement of 3 innermost layers of ITS2
- Curved wafer-scale ultra-thin silicon sensors:
 - perfectly cylindrical layers
 - low power consumption → air cooling → low material
 - material budget: 0.05% X₀ per layer
- High-precision, efficient low- p_T tracking

Milestones of the ALICE upgrade



Proposal for heavy-ion program in Run 5 and 6 with a next-generation experiment

- Concept developed in **2018** and submitted to Strategy Update meeting in **2019**
- Three ALICE 3 **workshops** in 2020 and 2021
- **Letter of Intent submitted to LHCC** and reviewed late 2021/early 2022
 - **Very positive review** and recommendation to **proceed with R&D**



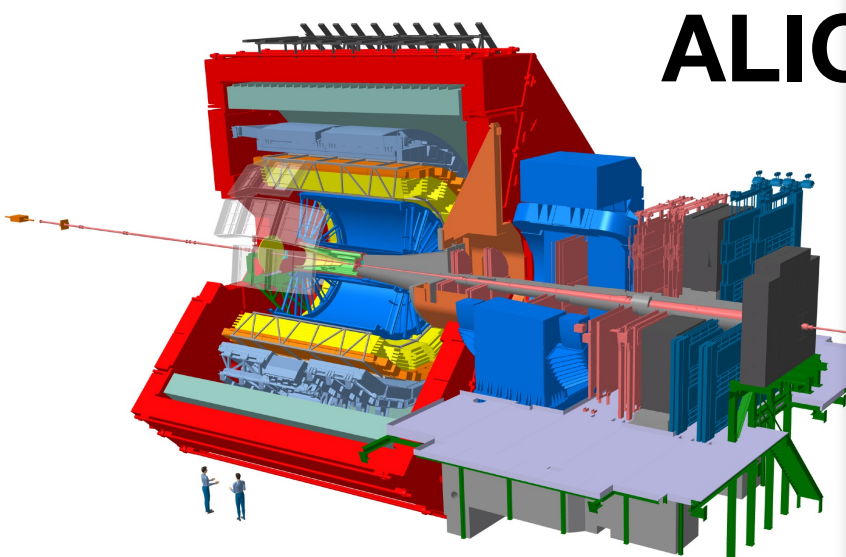
Milestones of the ALICE upgrade

High luminosity for ions

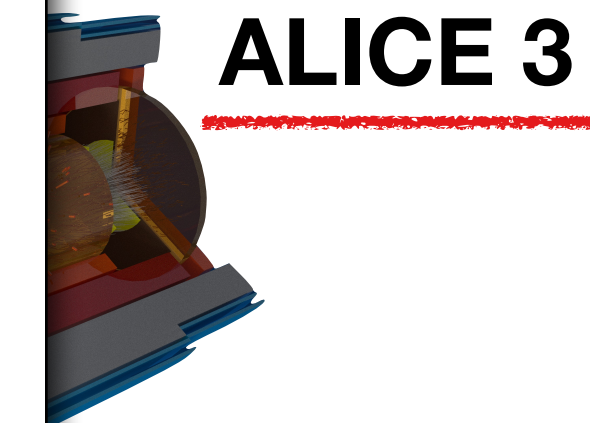
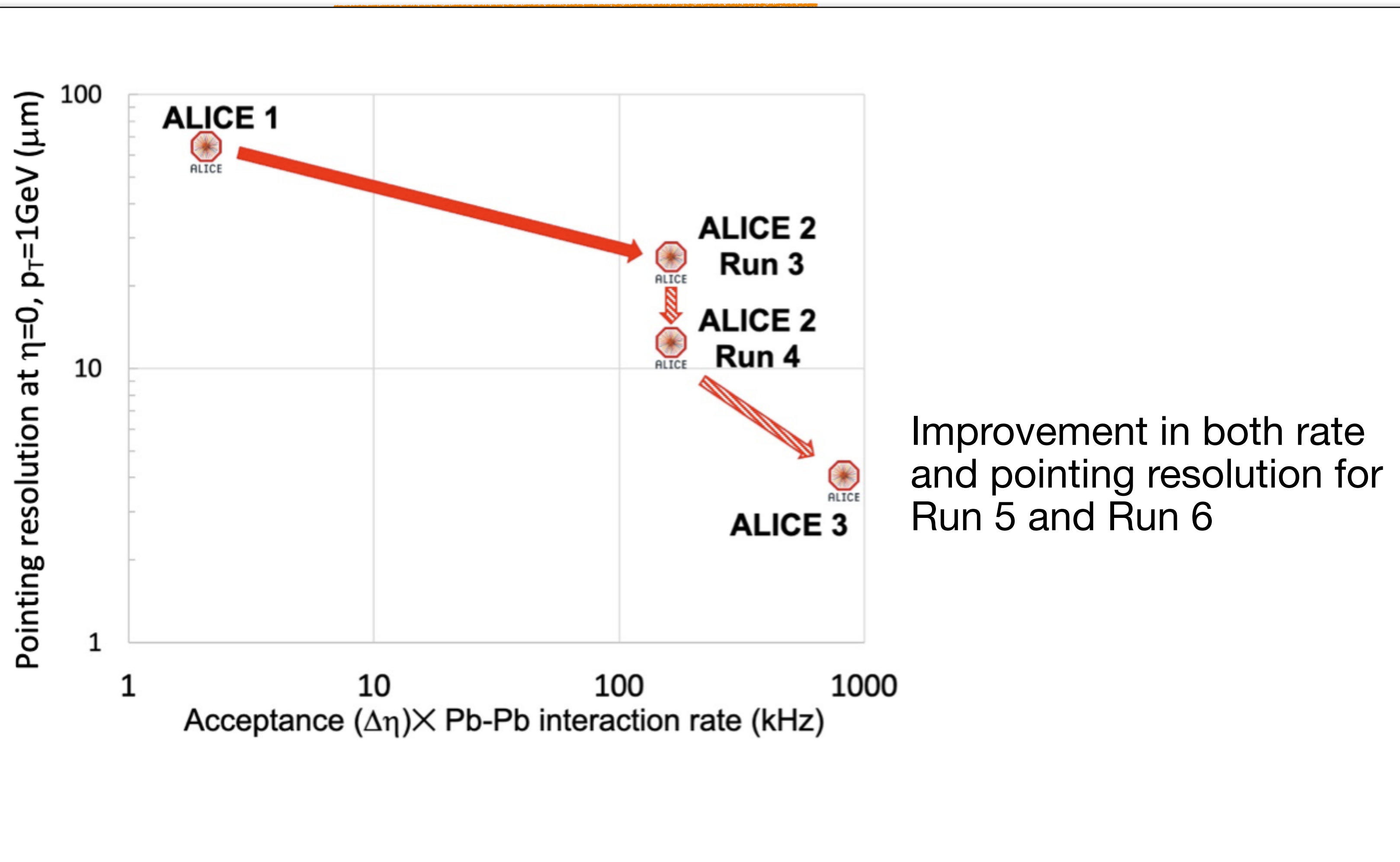
HL-LHC

Higher luminosities for ions

Run 1
2009 - 2013



ALICE



ALICE 3

2-009

Experiment

Proposal for h

- Concept develop
- Three ALICE 3 w
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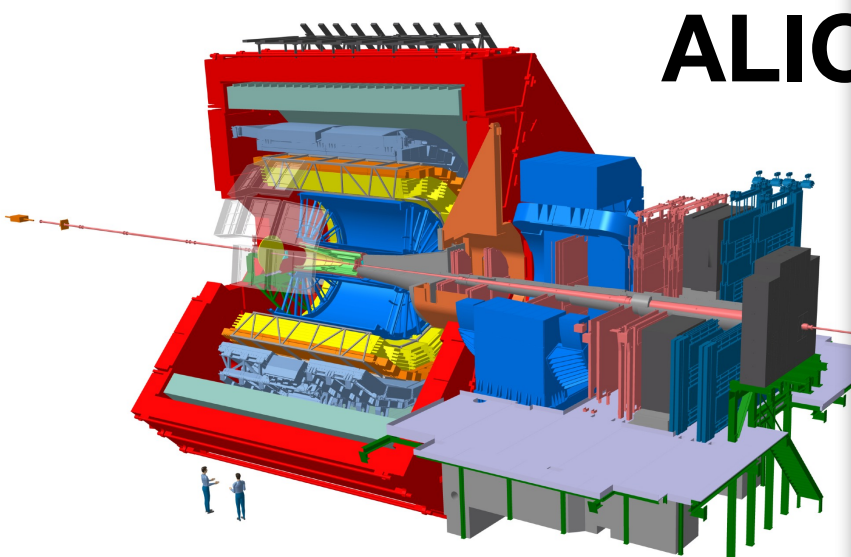
Milestones of the ALICE upgrade

High luminosity for ions

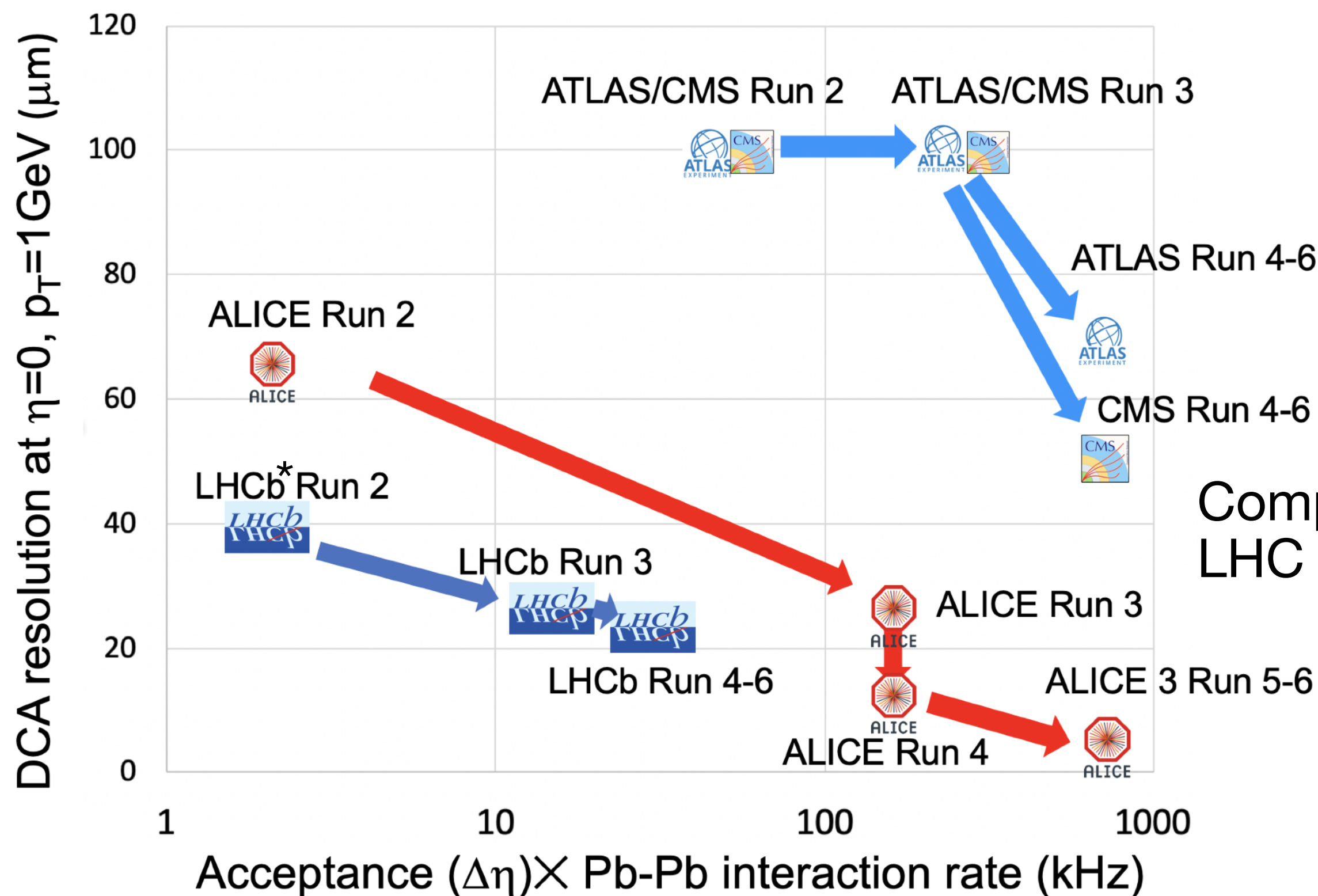
HL-LHC

Higher luminosities for ions

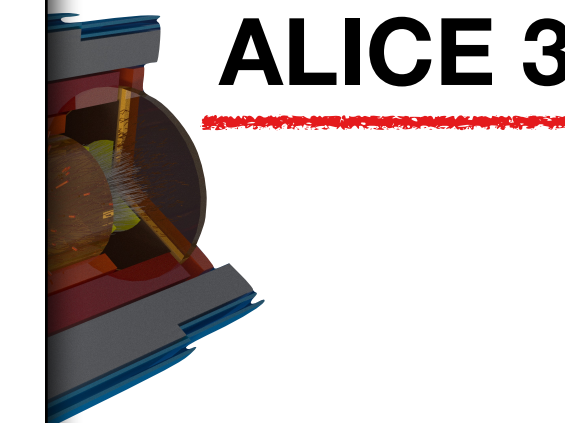
Run 1
2009 - 2013



ALICE



Complementary to other LHC experiments



ALICE 3

Proposal for h

- Concept develop
- Three ALICE 3 w *LHCb at $\eta = 3.5$
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2-009

periment



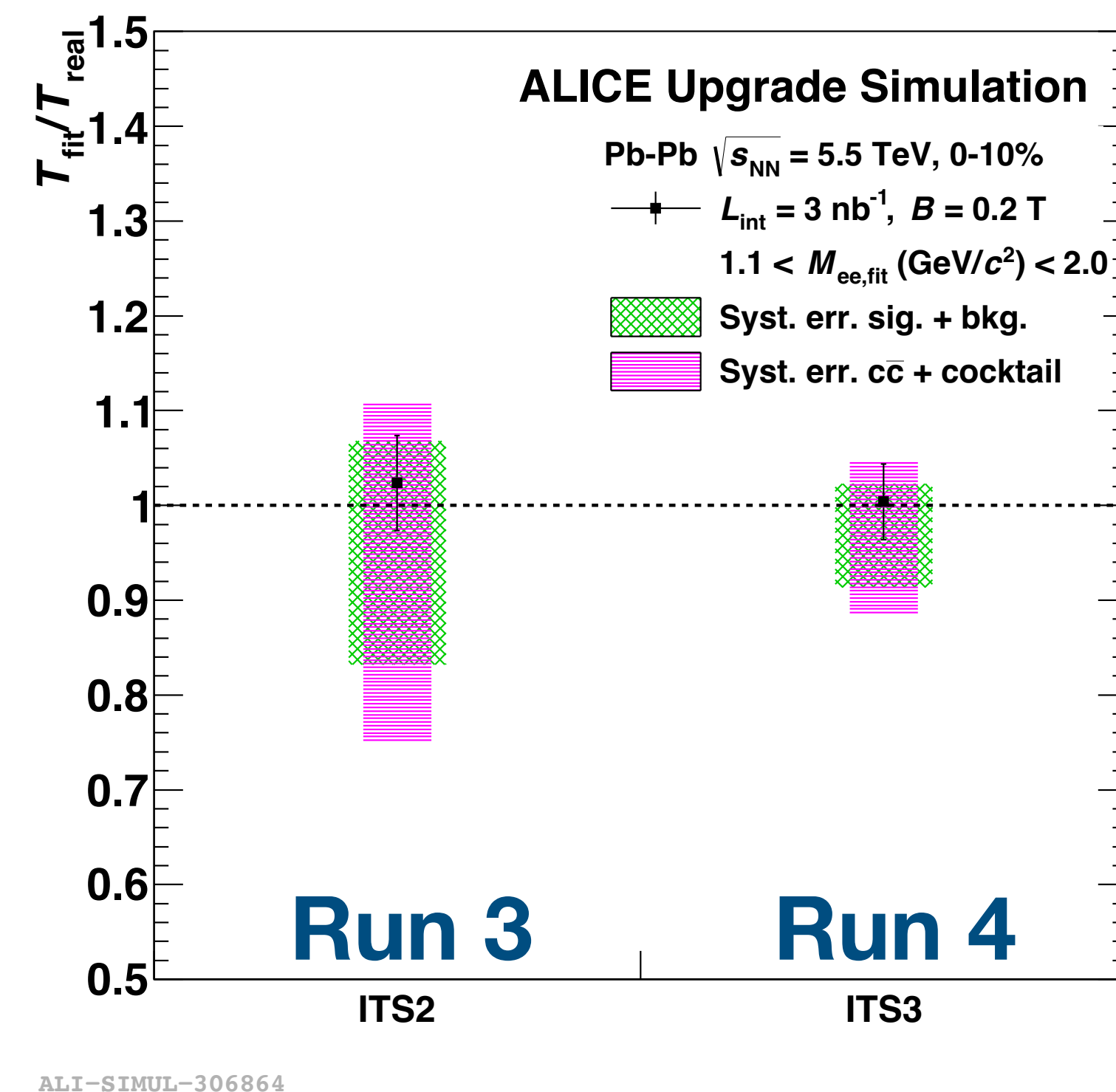
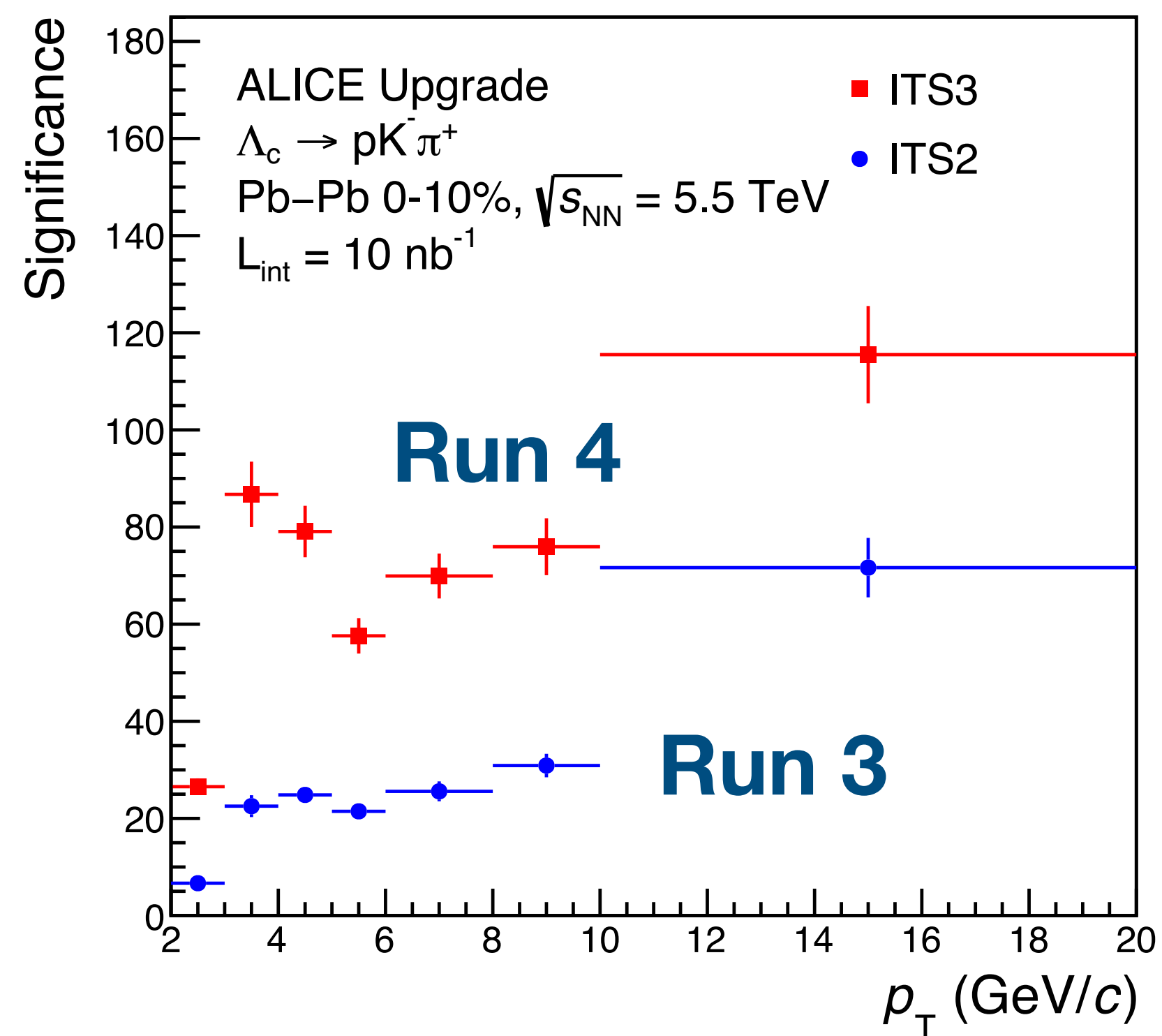
ALICE at the end of Run 4

significant improvement achieved after Run 4

New insights with Runs 3+4

- medium effects and **hadrochemistry** of single charm
- time-averaged **thermal radiation** from the quark-gluon plasma
- patterns indicative of **chiral symmetry** restoration
- **collectivity** from small to large systems

Precision measurements with Run 3 and 4 will help us understanding the QGP



More fundamental questions ahead!

- QGP properties driving its constituents to equilibration
- microscopic mechanisms leading to strong partonic collectivity
- mechanisms for hadronisation from the quark-gluon plasma
- partonic equation of state and its temperature dependence
- underlying dynamics of chiral symmetry restoration

Precision measurements of dileptons

- accessing the evolution of the quark-gluon plasma
- mechanisms of chiral symmetry restoration in the quark-gluon plasma

Systematic measurements of (multi-)heavy-flavoured hadrons

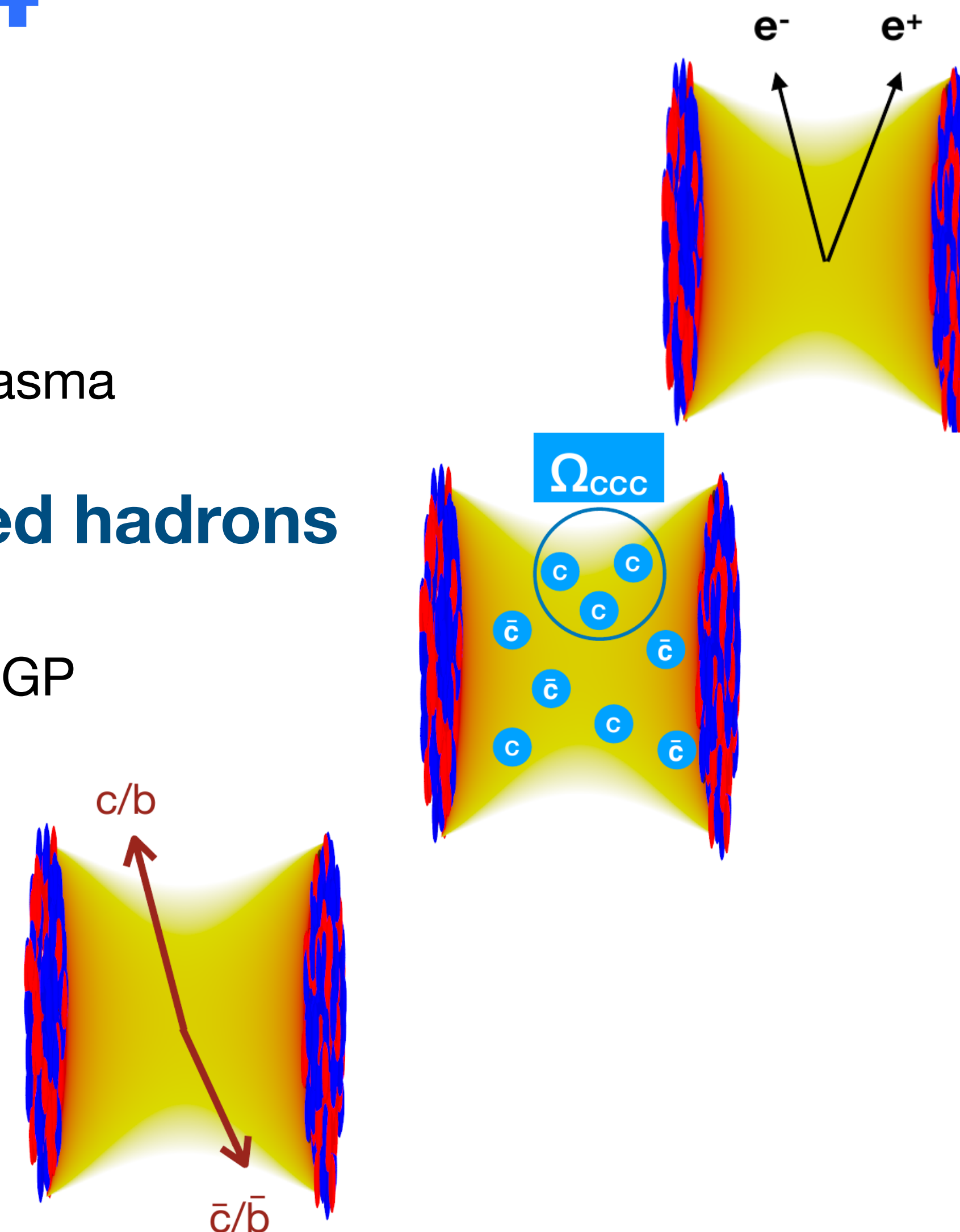
- accessing parton propagation mechanisms in QGP
- study equilibration of heavy quark equilibration and diffusion in QGP
- mechanisms of hadronisation from the quark-gluon plasma

Hadron correlations and fluctuations

- interaction potentials and charmed-nuclei
- susceptibility to conserved charges

To achieve all this, the next leap is needed in detector performance and statistics

→ **next-generation heavy-ion experiment!** ←



Accessing the QGP temperature

In Run 3 and 4:

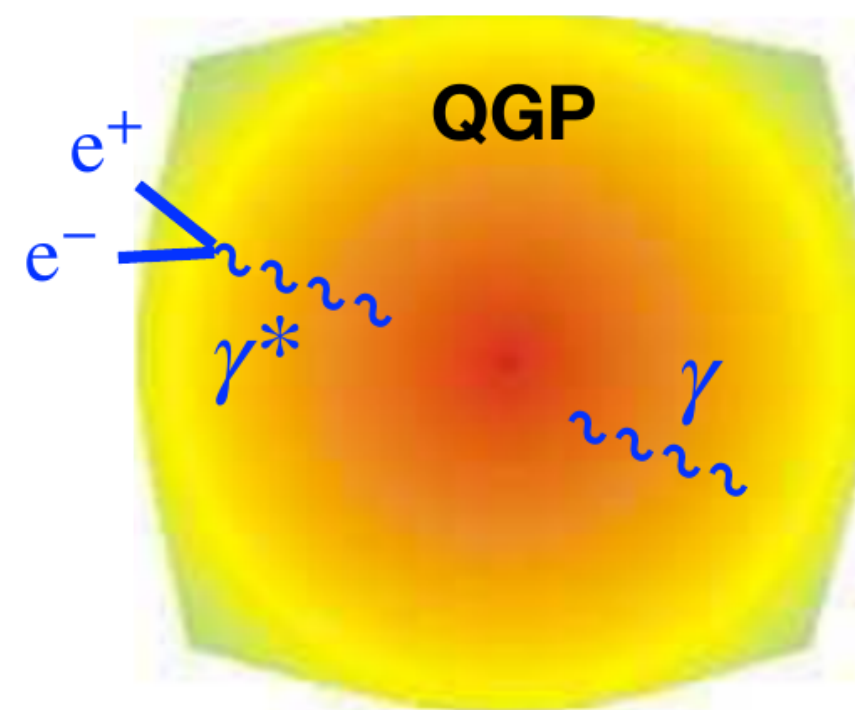
- First measurement of average QGP temperature using thermal dielectron spectrum at $M_{ee} > 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

In Run 5 with ALICE 3:

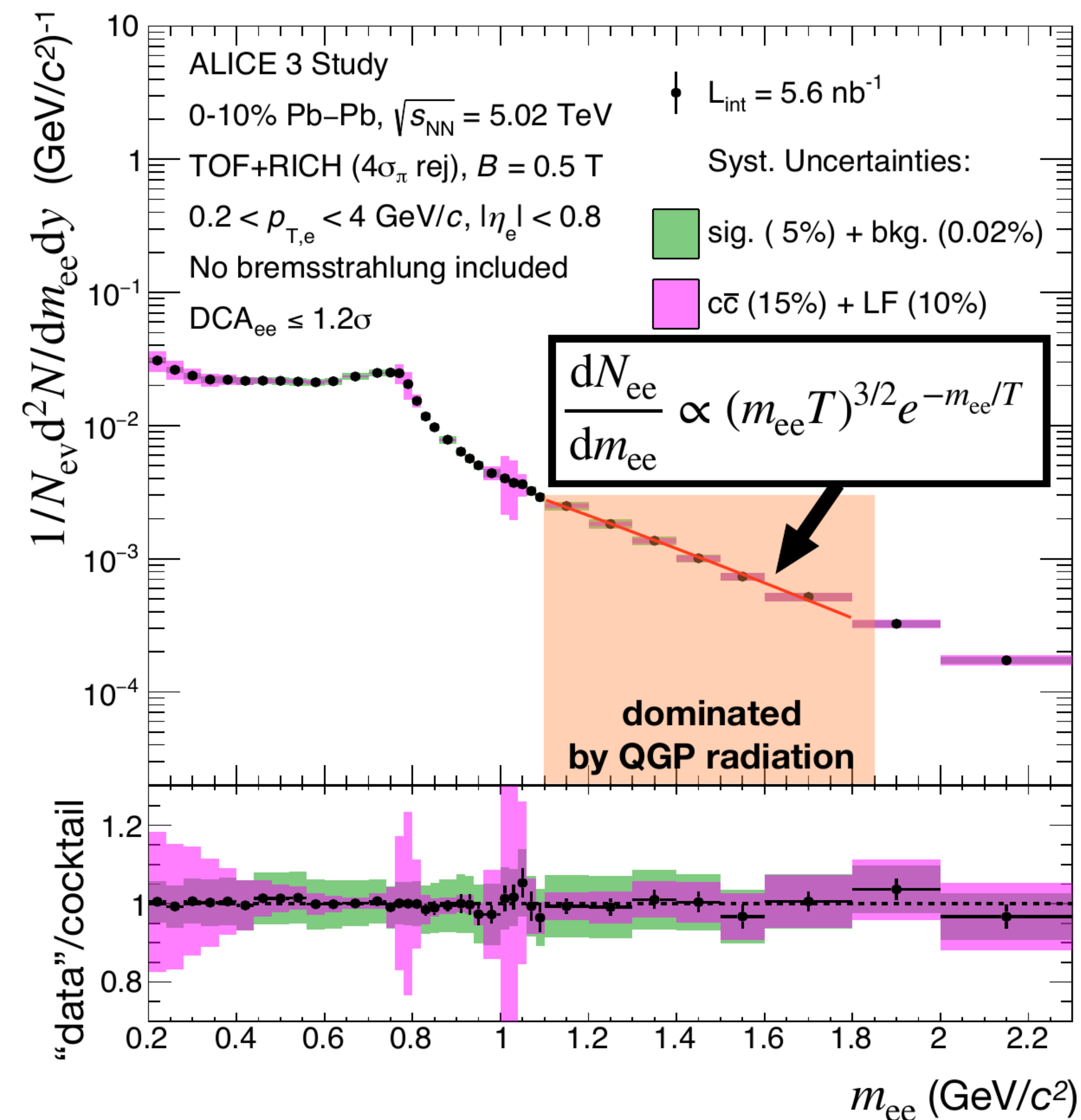
- probe **time dependence** of the QGP temperature
- double-differential spectra: T vs mass, p_T
- Excellent pointing resolution
 - Large background for $M_{ee} \gtrsim 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ due to heavy-flavour decays can be effectively suppressed with ALICE 3
- Complementary to measurements with real photons

Experimental challenge

- γ conversion background
- open heavy-flavor production



Projection for one month Pb–Pb with ALICE 3



[R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 \(2013\) 148253](#)
[P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 \(2014\) 103](#)

Accessing the QGP

In Run 3 and 4:

- First measurement of thermal dielectron spectra

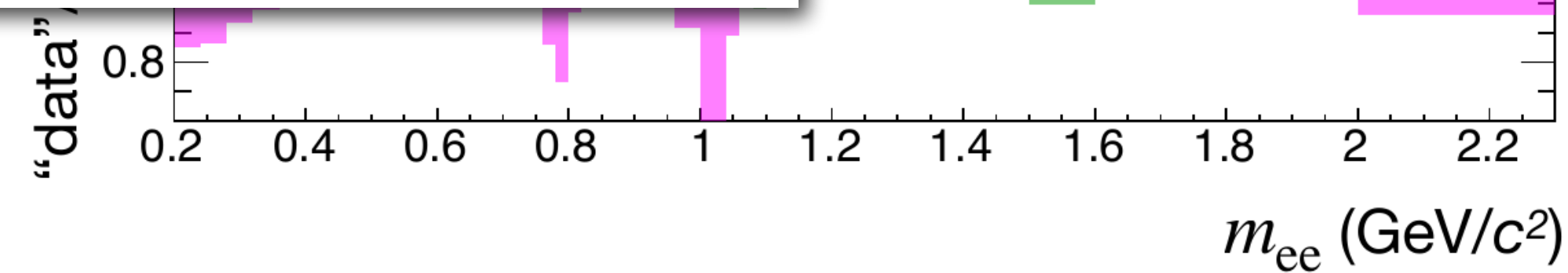
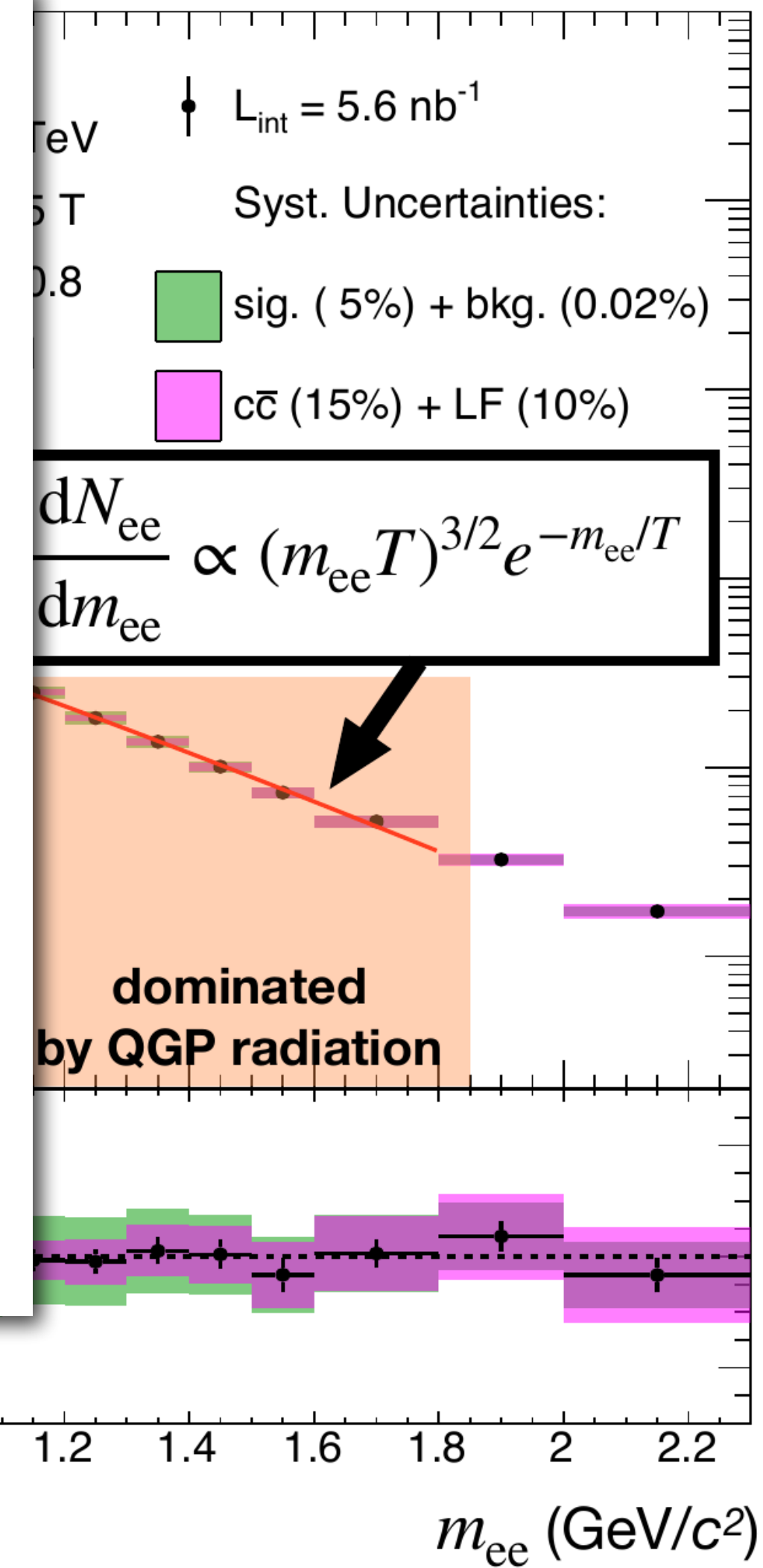
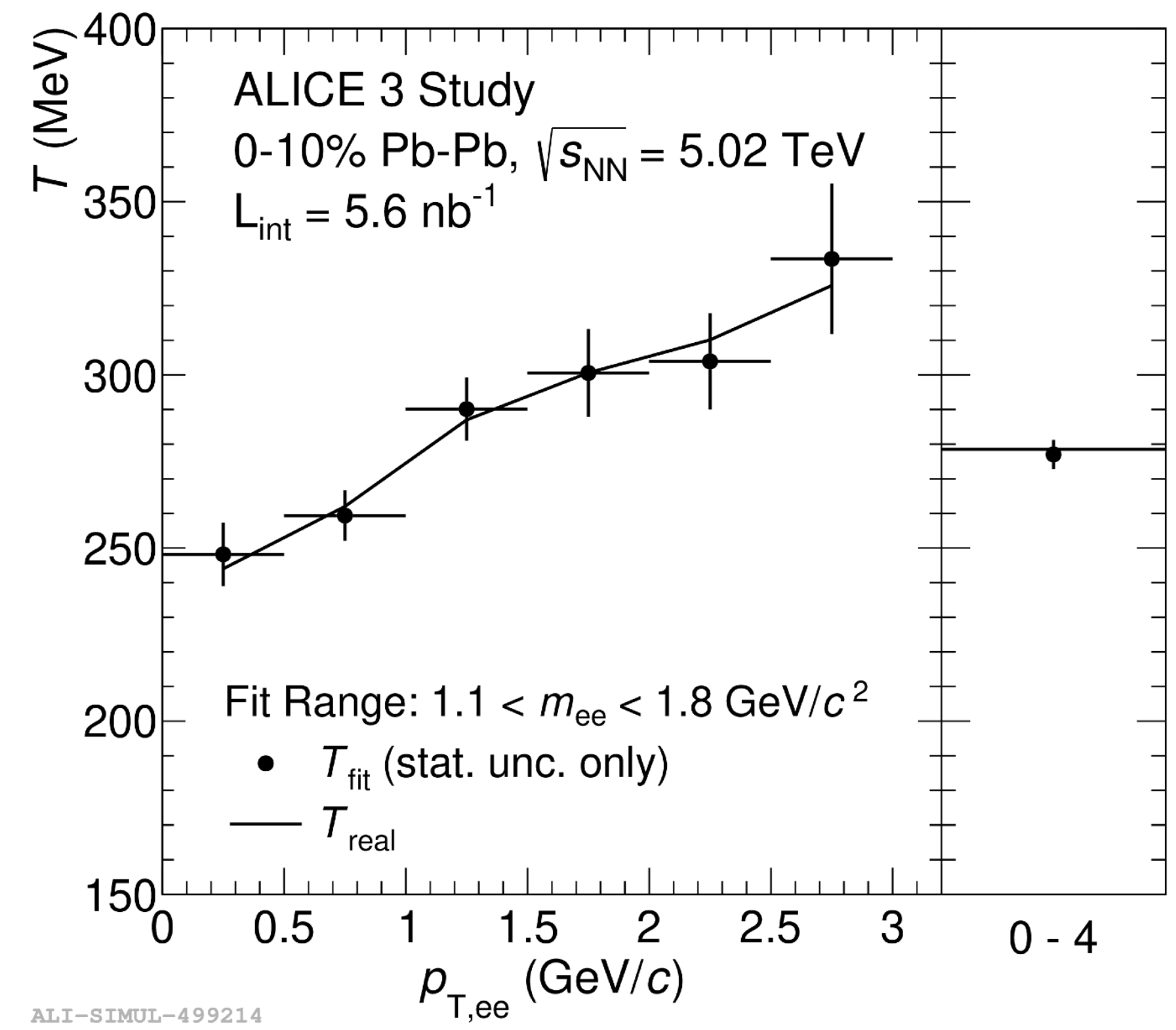
In Run 5 with ALICE 3:

- probe **time dependence**
- double-differential spectra
- Excellent pointing resolution
- Large background from decays can be effectively subtracted
- Complementary to measurements with real photons

Experimental challenge

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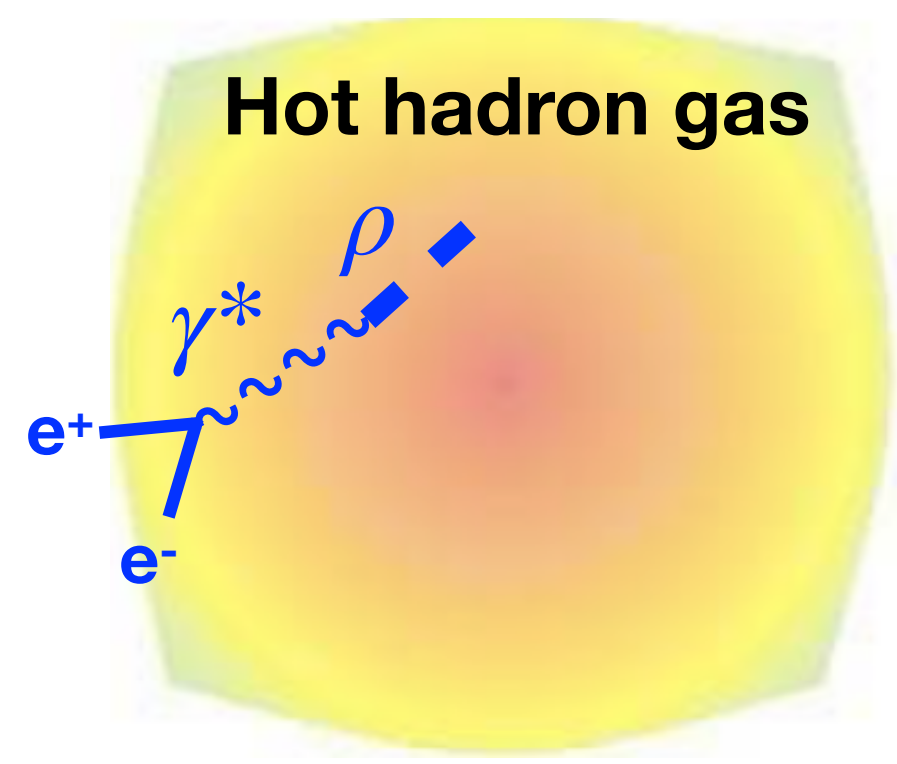
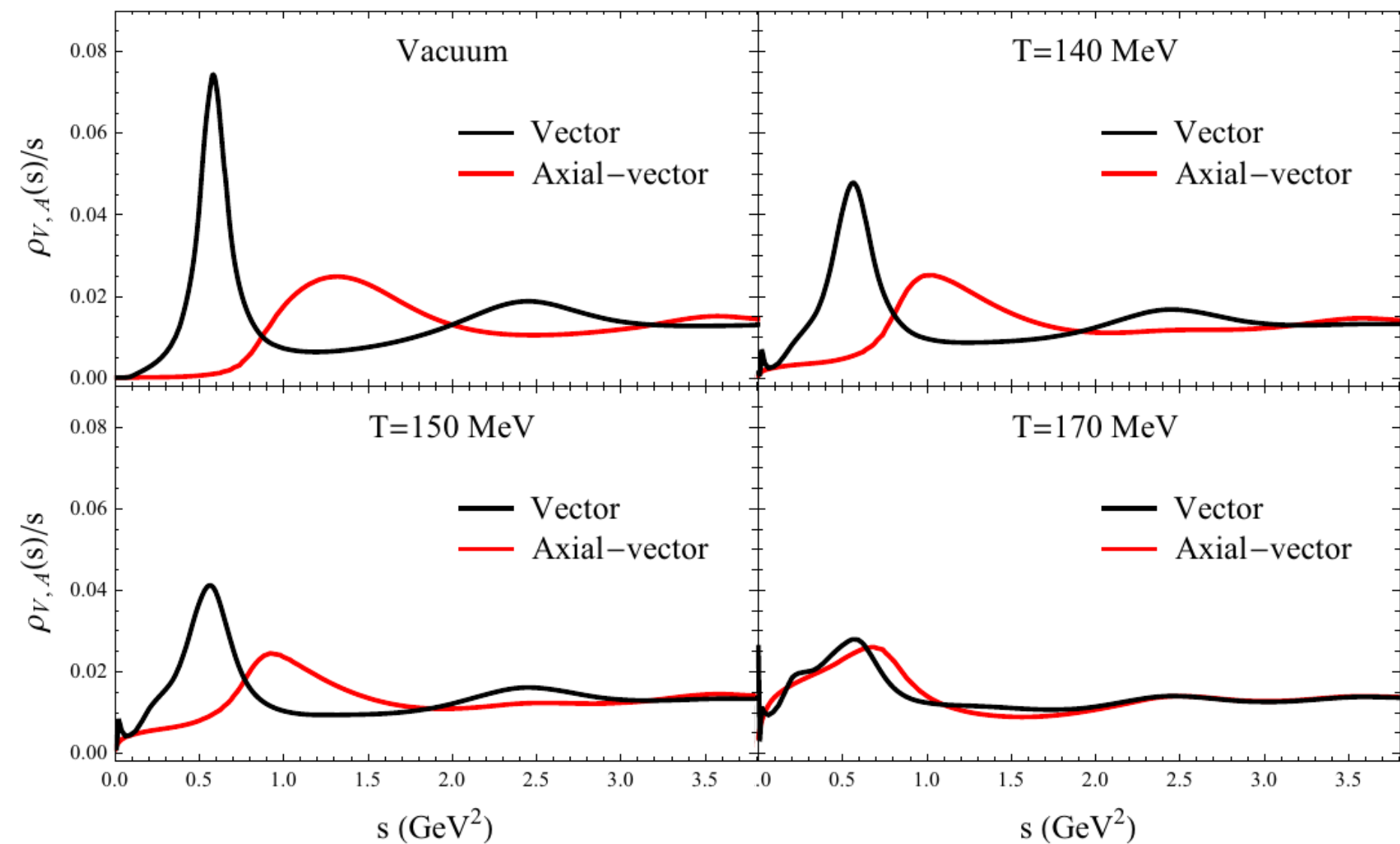
Probing the time evolution of the QGP temperature



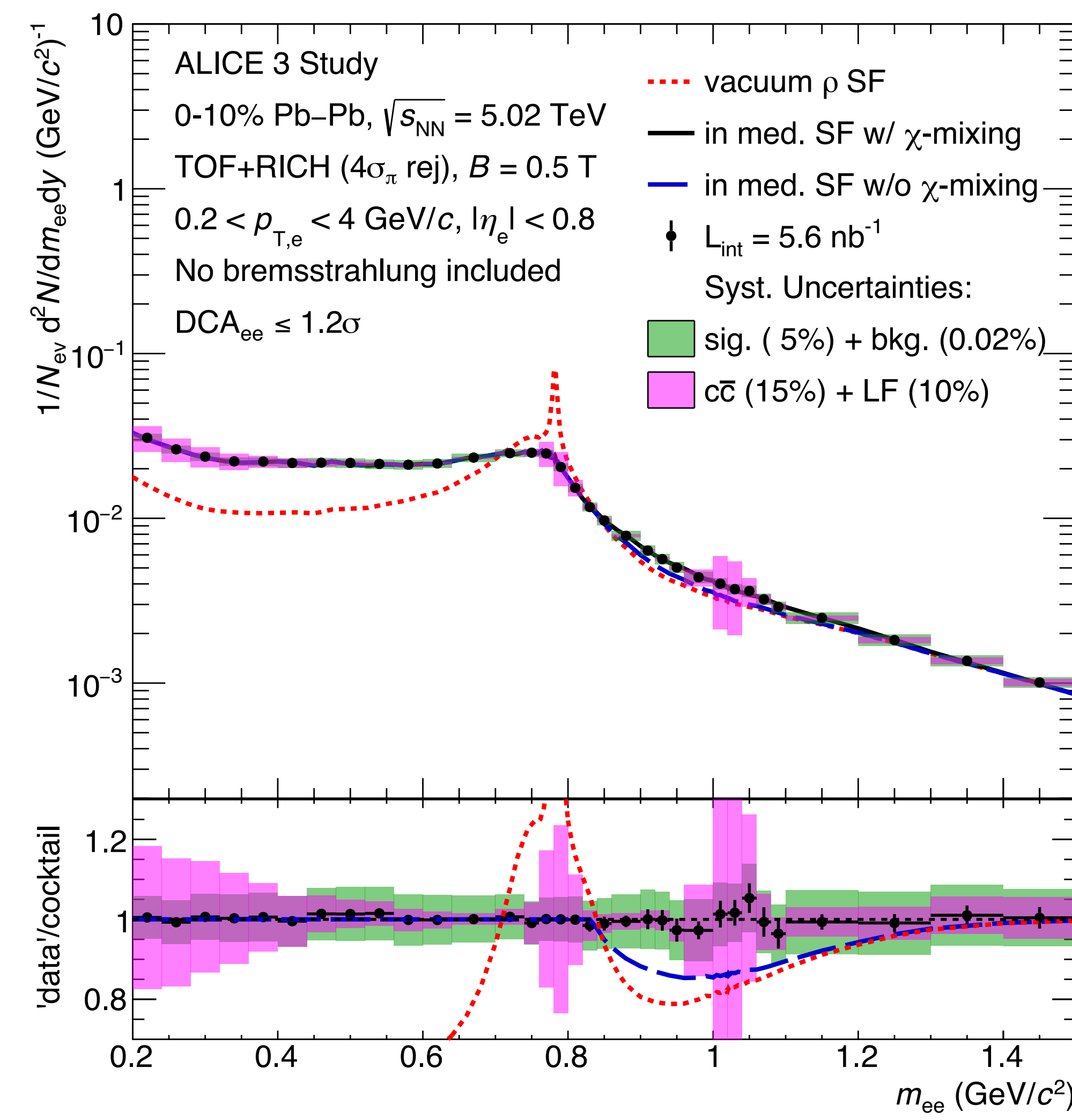
[R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 \(2013\) 148253](#)
[P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 \(2014\) 103](#)



Chiral symmetry restoration



Projection for one month Pb–Pb with ALICE 3



Chiral symmetry restoration

- using thermal dielectron spectrum at $M_{ee} < 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

Thermal production of ρ

- ρ sensitive to surrounding medium ($\tau_\rho = 1.3 \text{ fm} < \tau_{\text{fireball}}$)

→ ρ spectral function modification related to chiral symmetry

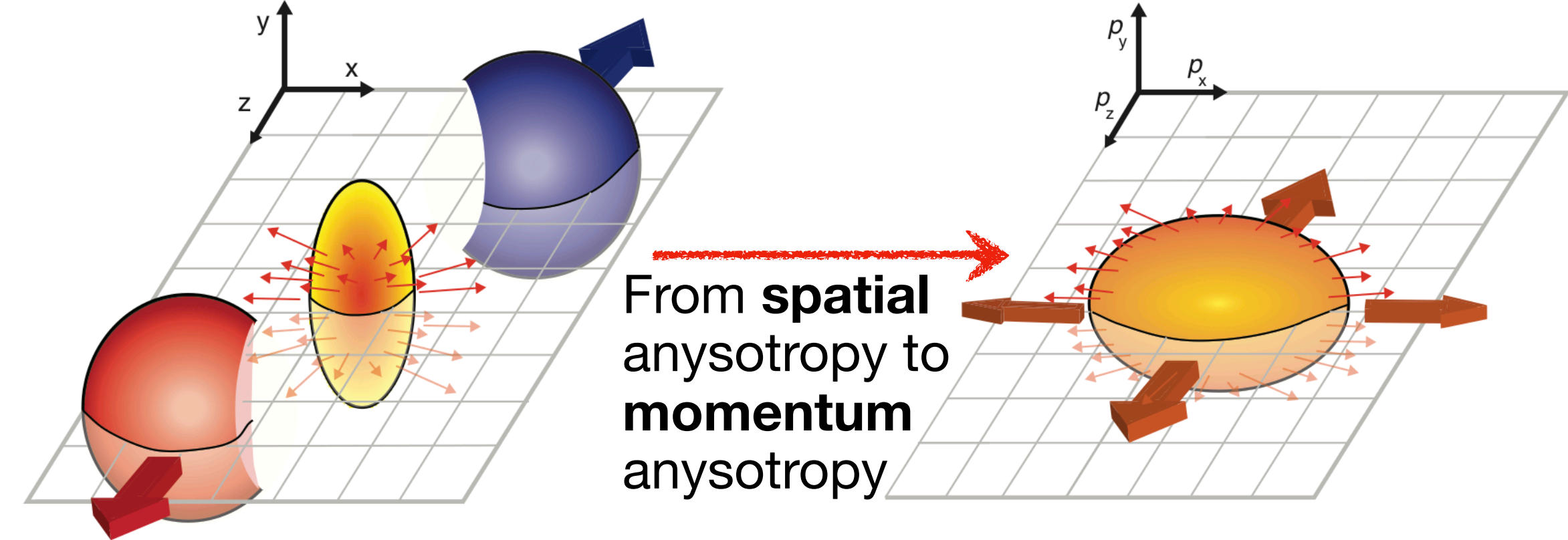
restoration

- High precision measurement with ALICE 3

→ Access to chiral symmetry restoration mechanisms like $\rho - a_1$

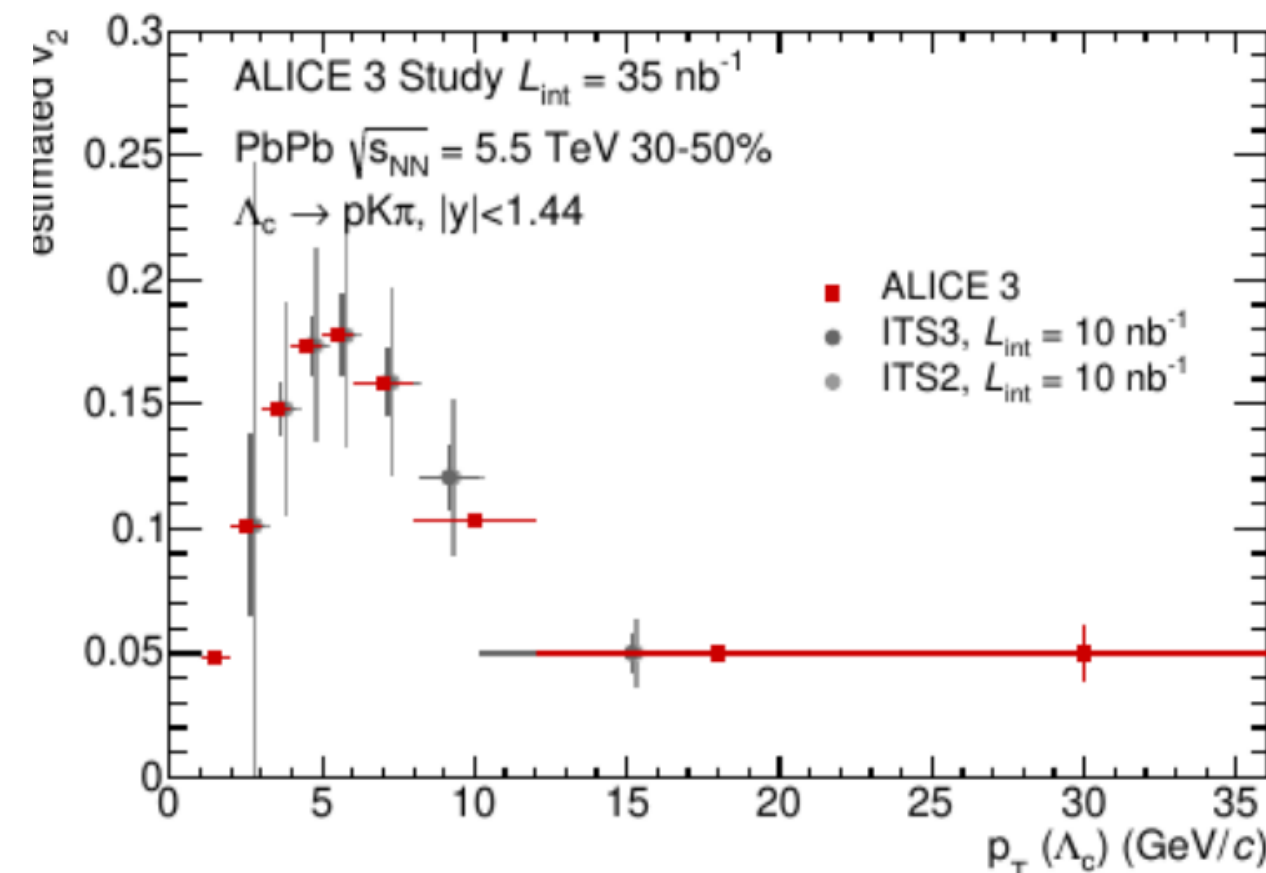
[R. Rapp, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013 \(2013\) 148253](#)
[P.M Hohler and R. Rapp, Phys. Lett. B 731 \(2014\) 103](#)

ALICE Flow of heavy quarks

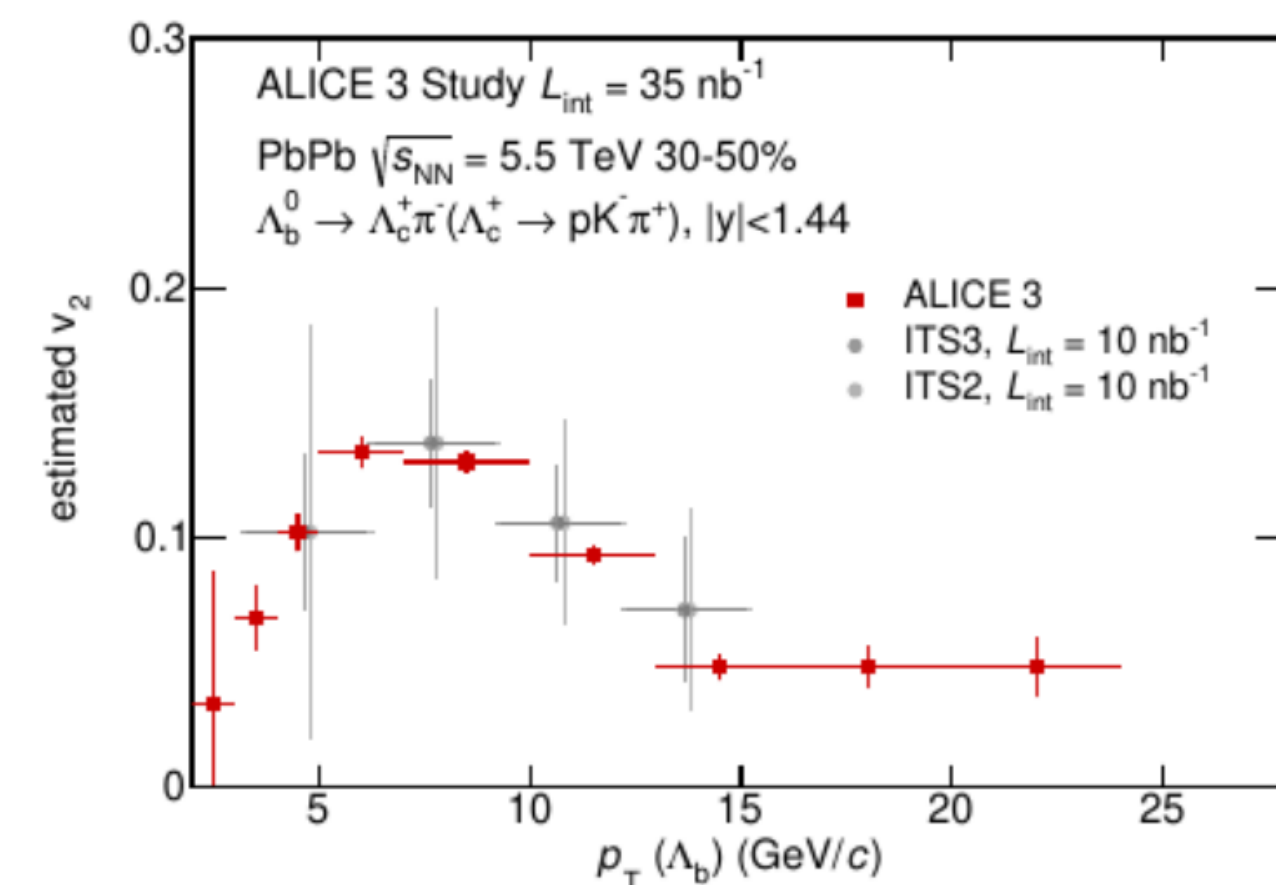


$$E \frac{d^3N}{dp^3} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2N}{p_T dp_T dy} \left(1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos[n(\varphi - \Psi_n)] \right)$$

$\Lambda_c^+(udc)$ ($m = 2.286 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ / $c\tau = 60 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$)



$\Lambda_b^0(udb)$ ($m = 5.619 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ / $c\tau = 441 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$)



Semi-central collisions: pressure anisotropy in the QGP \rightarrow final-state azimuthal anisotropy (“flow”)

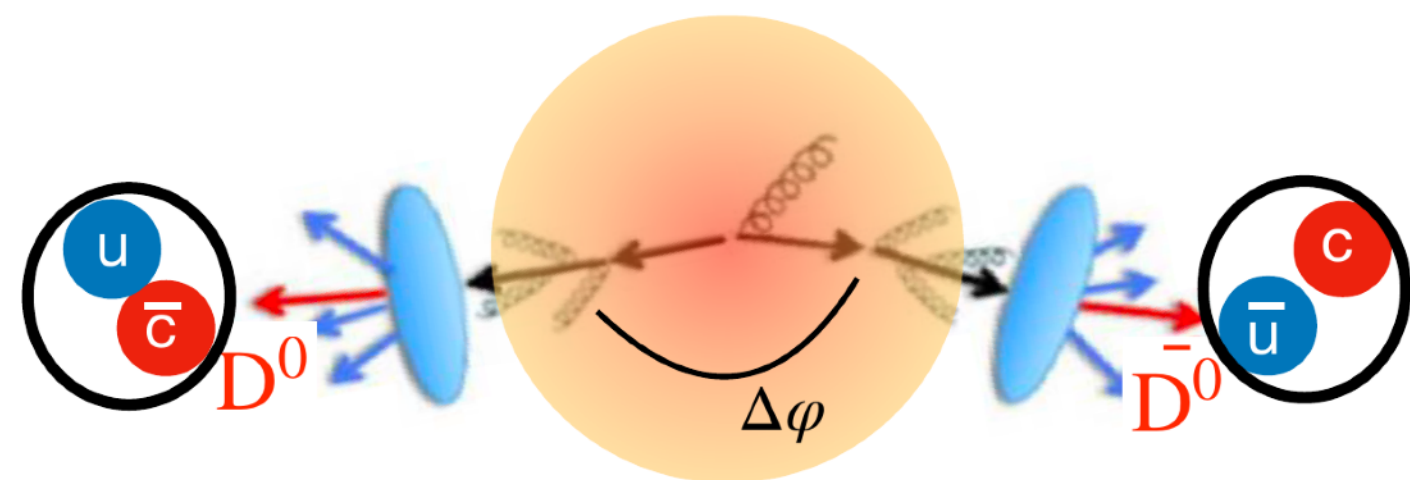
Azimuthal anisotropy: access to heavy quark transport properties in the QGP at hadron level

- Assess the charm quark degree of thermalization, diffusion coefficients
- Weaker beauty thermalization \rightarrow Smaller v_2 expected
- How much smaller than $v_2(\text{charm})$ is $v_2(\text{beauty})$? Is $v_2(\text{beauty}) \neq 0$?
 \rightarrow Examples of accuracy for single-HF baryons

Driving factor:

pointing resolution, efficiency and acceptance are needed for flow measurements down to low $p_T \rightarrow$ i.e. ALICE 3

Heavy quark correlations



Charm quark energy loss in QGP

Angular decorrelation of $D^0\bar{D}^0$ mesons

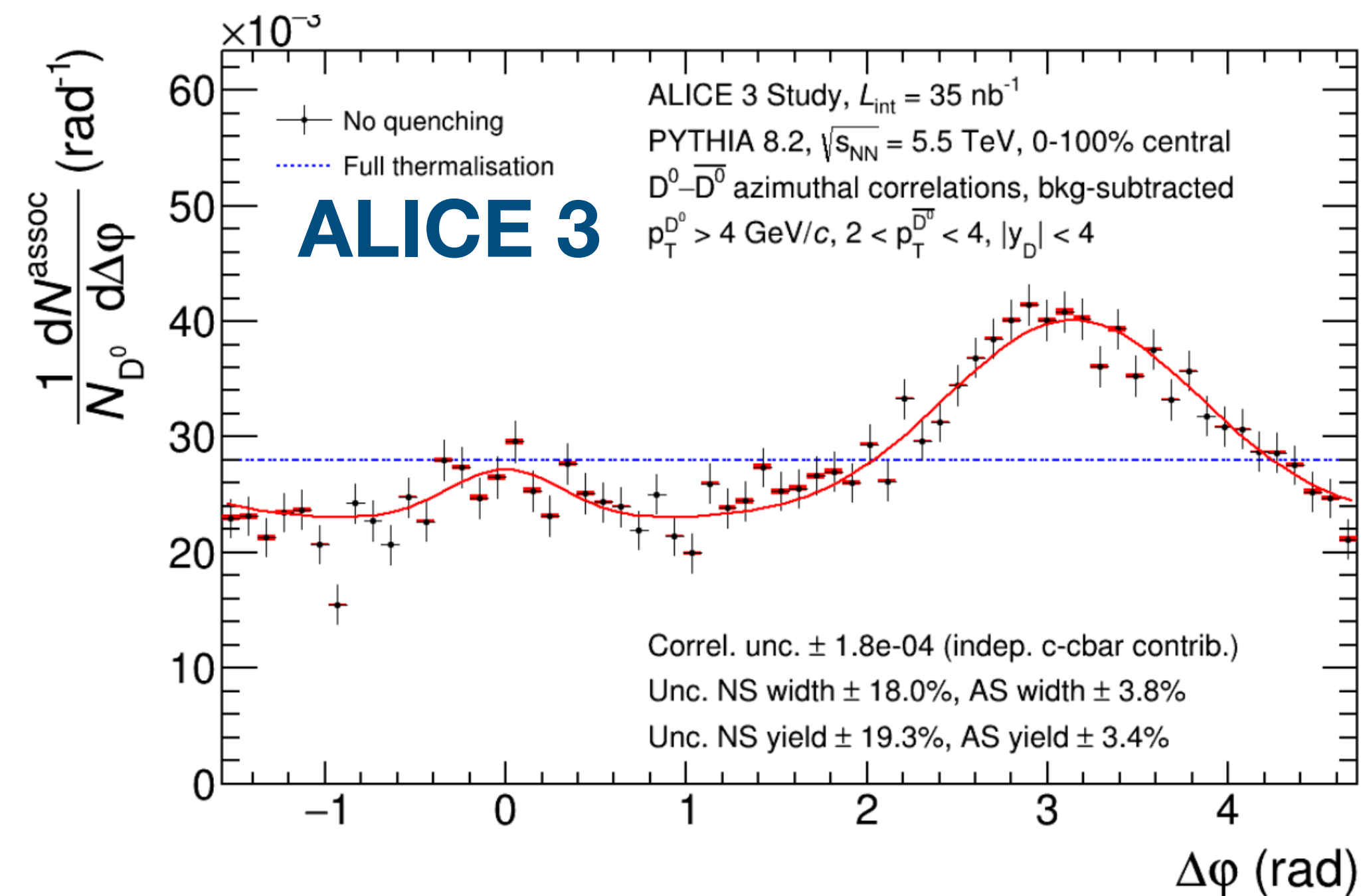
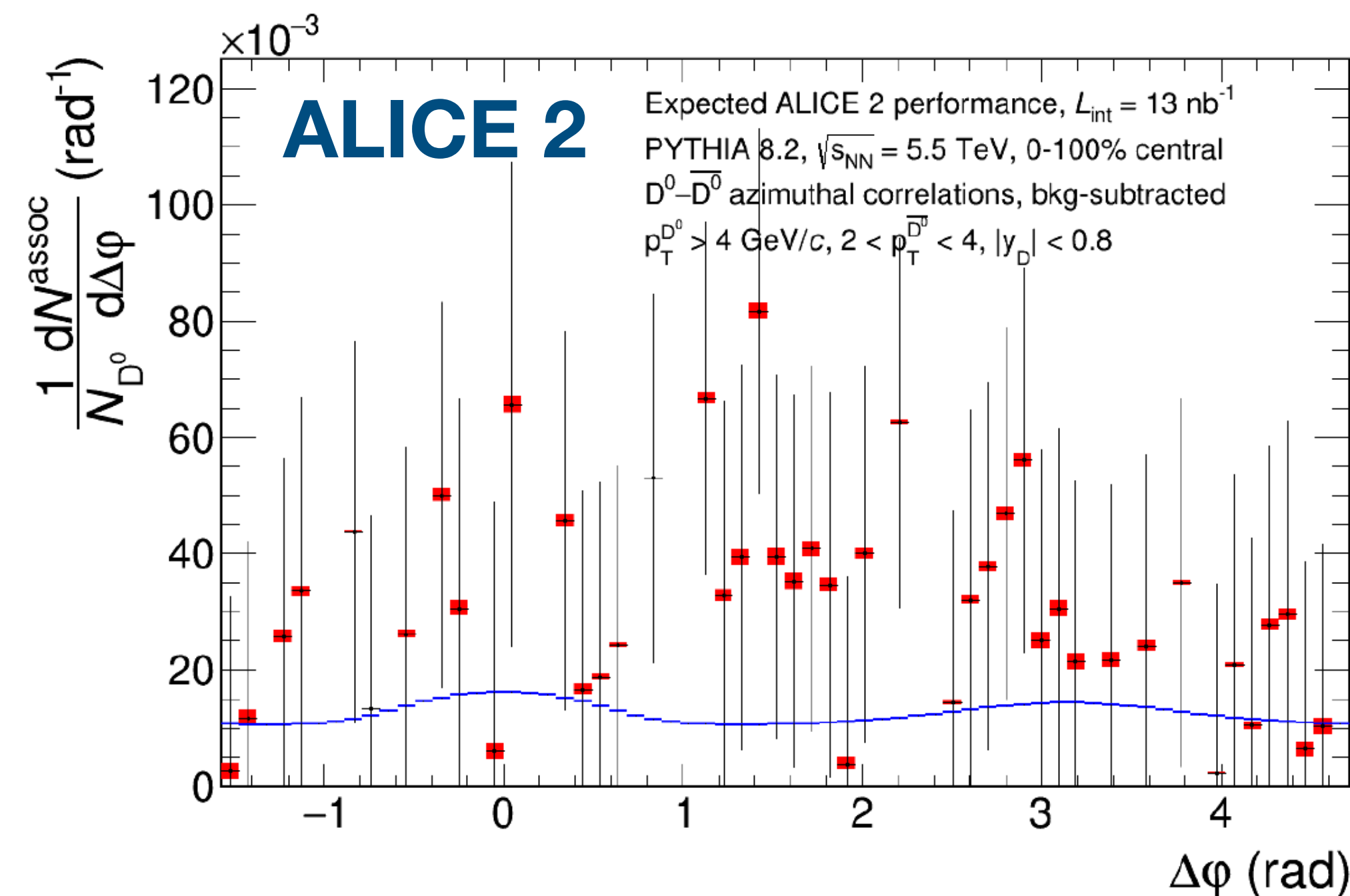
→ probe heavy quark rescattering in QGP

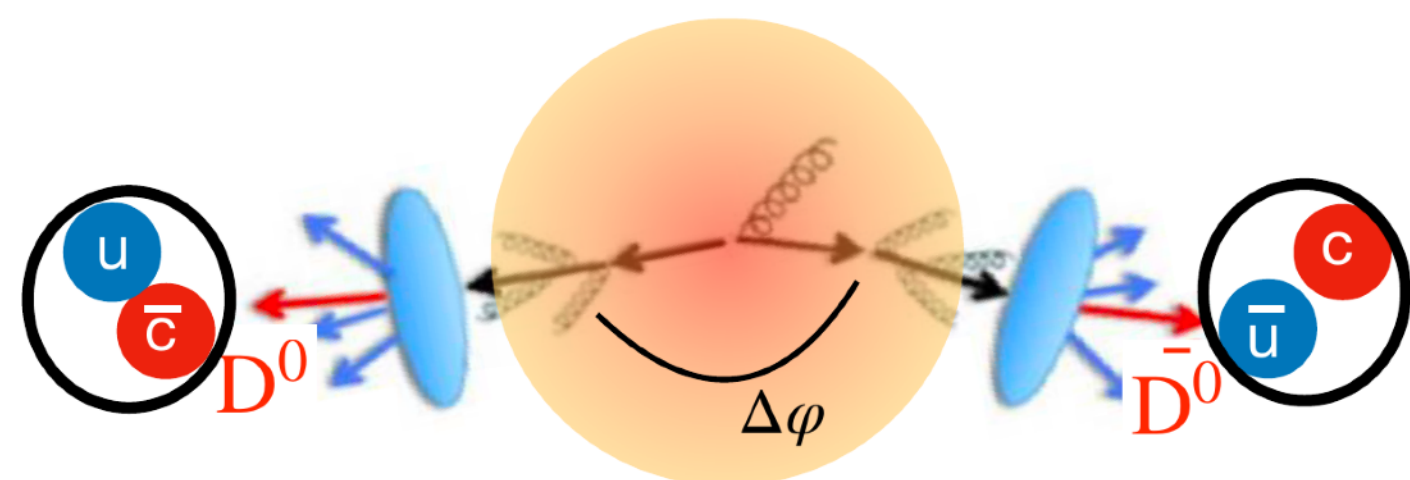
Sensitive to:

- Energy loss mechanisms
- Heavy quark thermalisation

Strongest signal at low p_T → very challenging measurement

- Requires: high purity, efficiency and large η coverage
- **Heavy-ion measurement possible only with ALICE 3**





Charm quark energy loss in QGP

Angular decorrelation of $D^0\bar{D}^0$ mesons

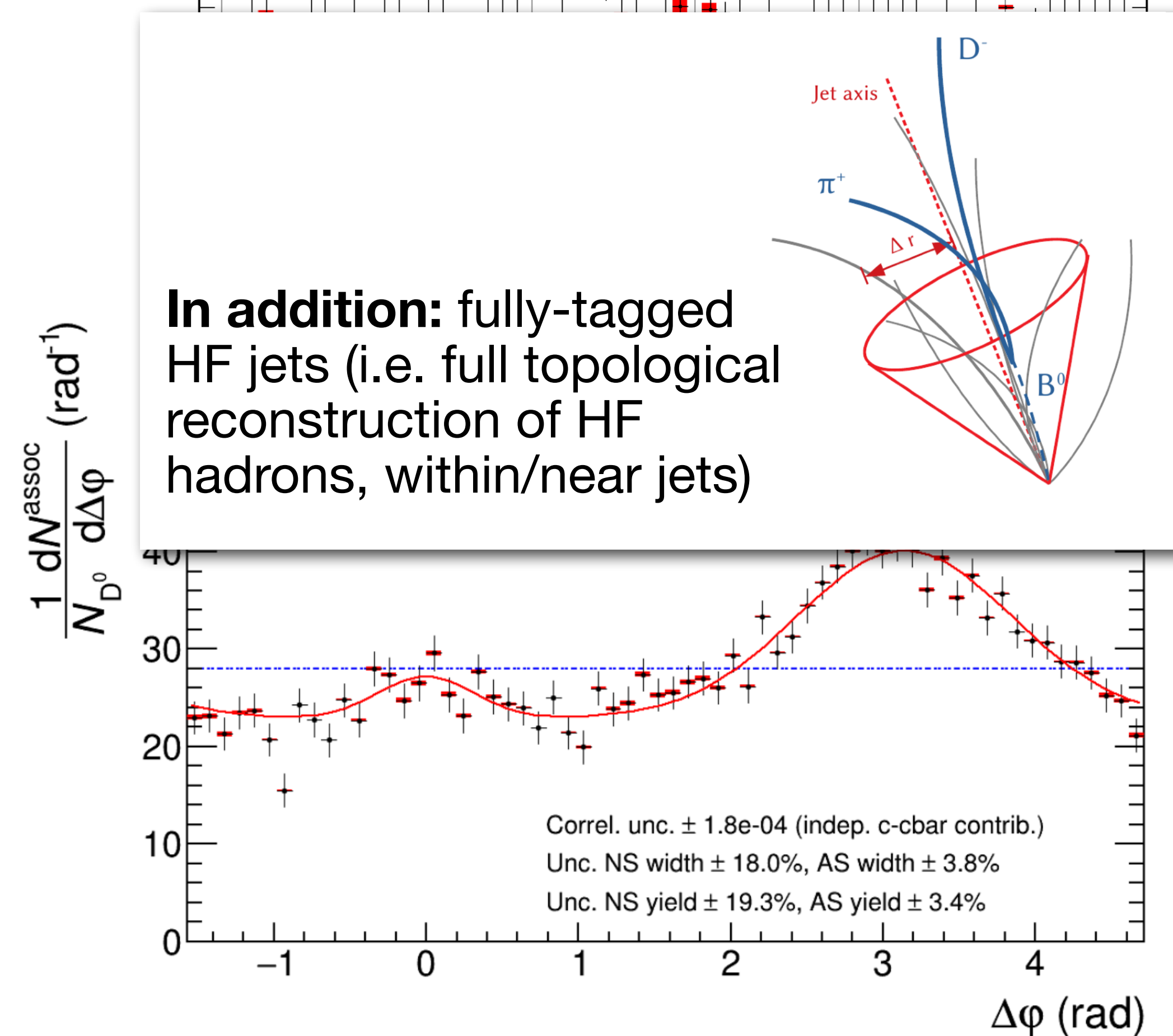
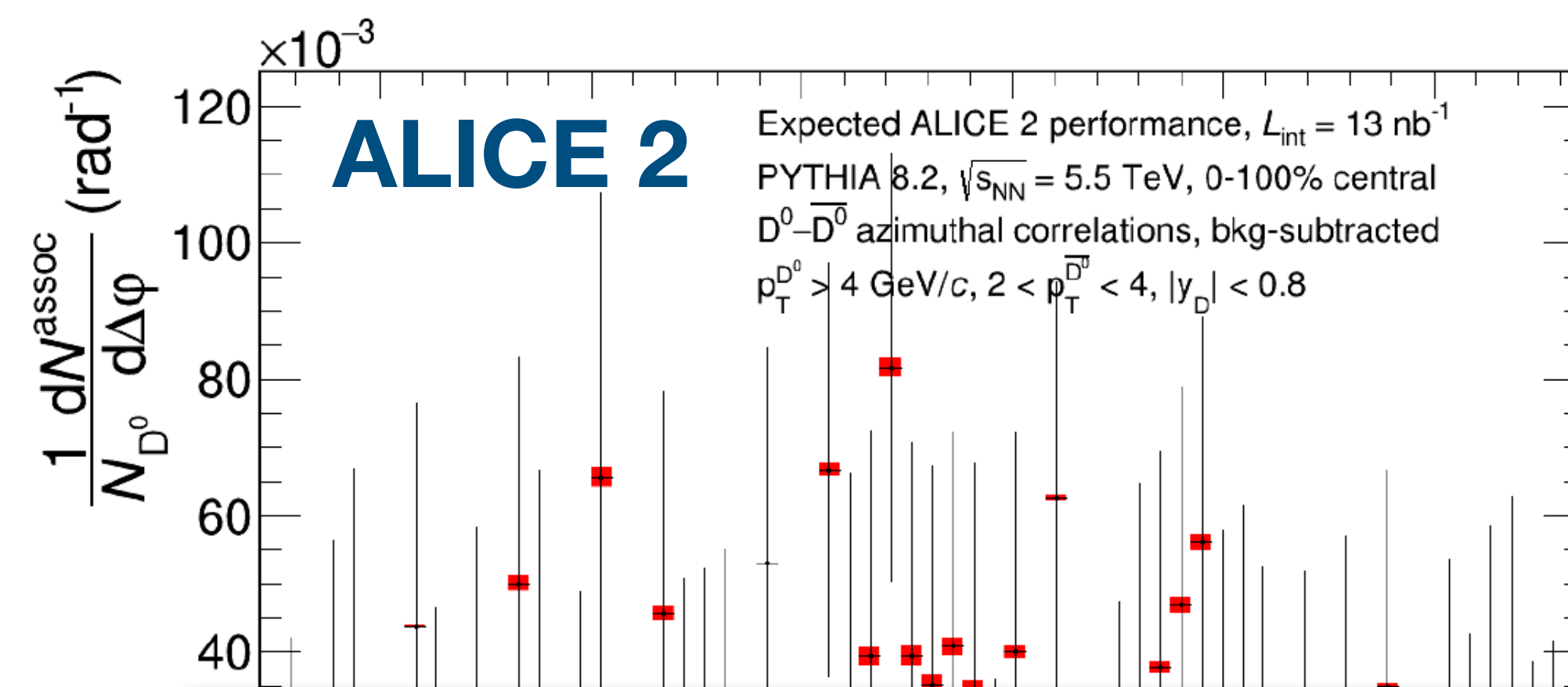
→ probe heavy quark rescattering in QGP

Sensitive to:

- Energy loss mechanisms
- Heavy quark thermalisation

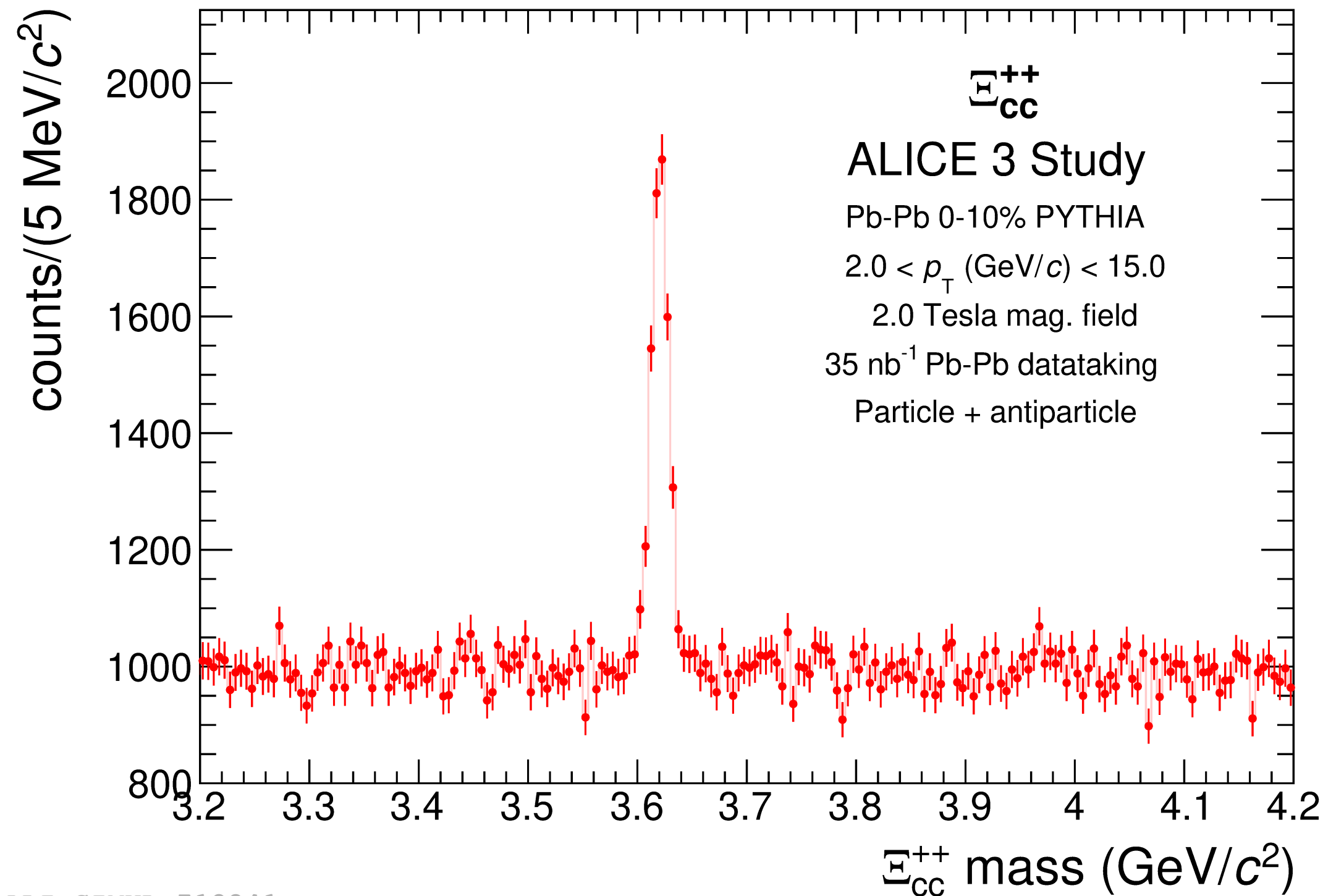
Strongest signal at low p_T → very challenging measurement

- Requires: high purity, efficiency and large η coverage
- **Heavy-ion measurement possible only with ALICE 3**



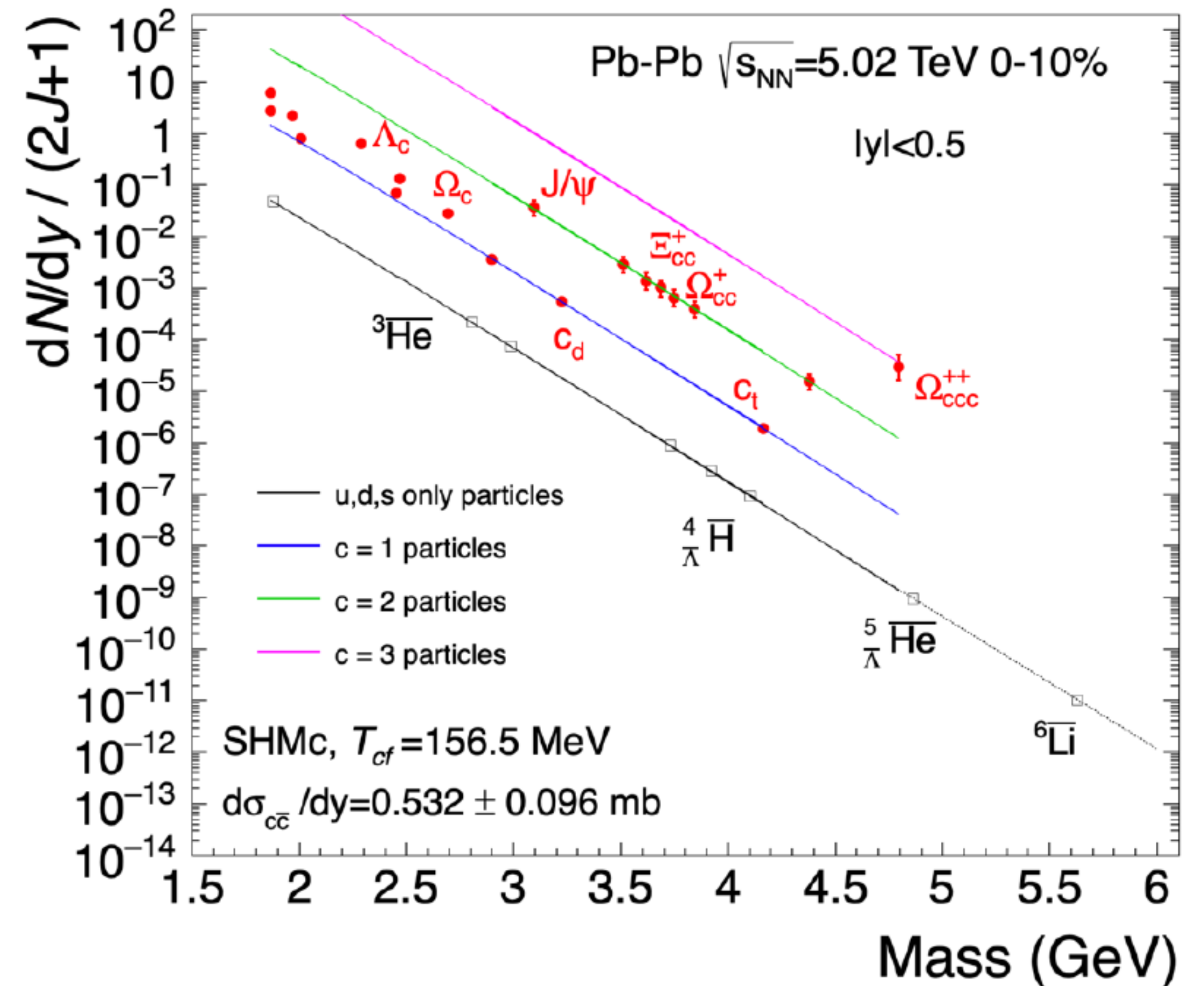
Multi-charm baryons

ALICE



ALI-SIMUL-510941

Unique experimental access to multicharm hadrons with ALICE 3 in Pb-Pb collisions



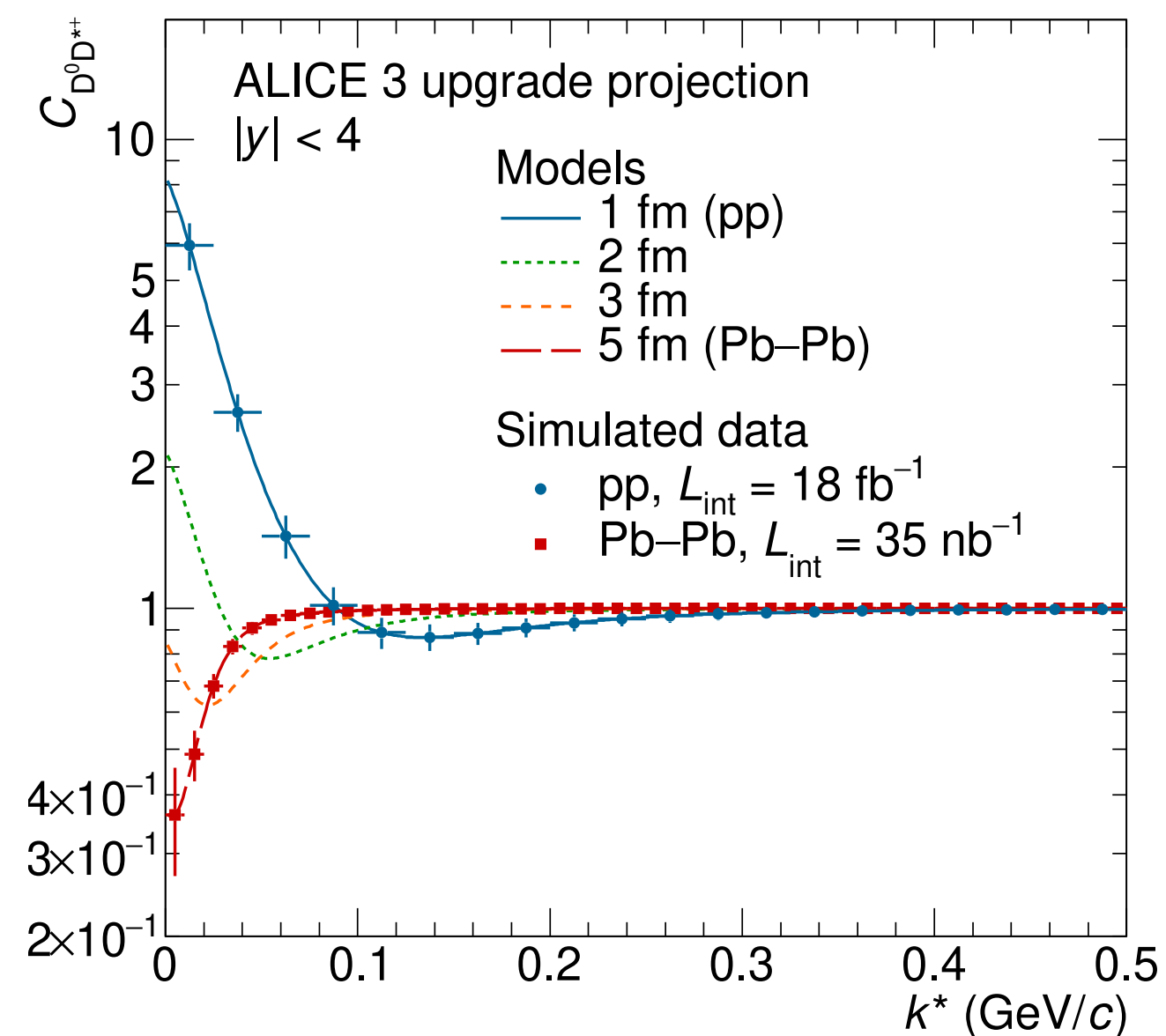
Hadronization of the heavy-flavor baryonic sector is still an open question.

- ALICE 3 is well-suited for the measurement of multi-charm baryons that can efficiently address this question

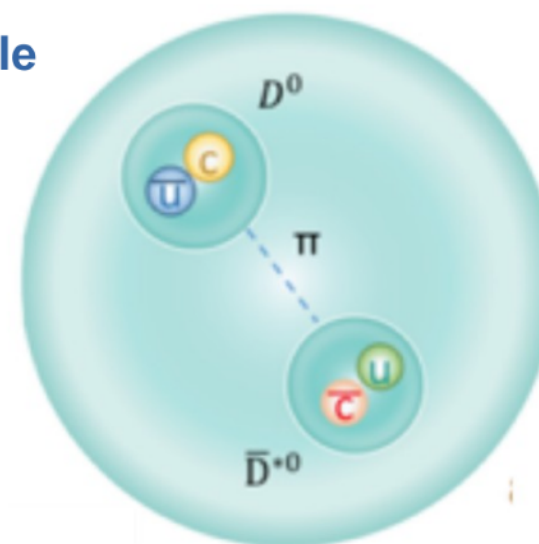
ALICE Exotic bound states

ALICE

Charm hadron molecules

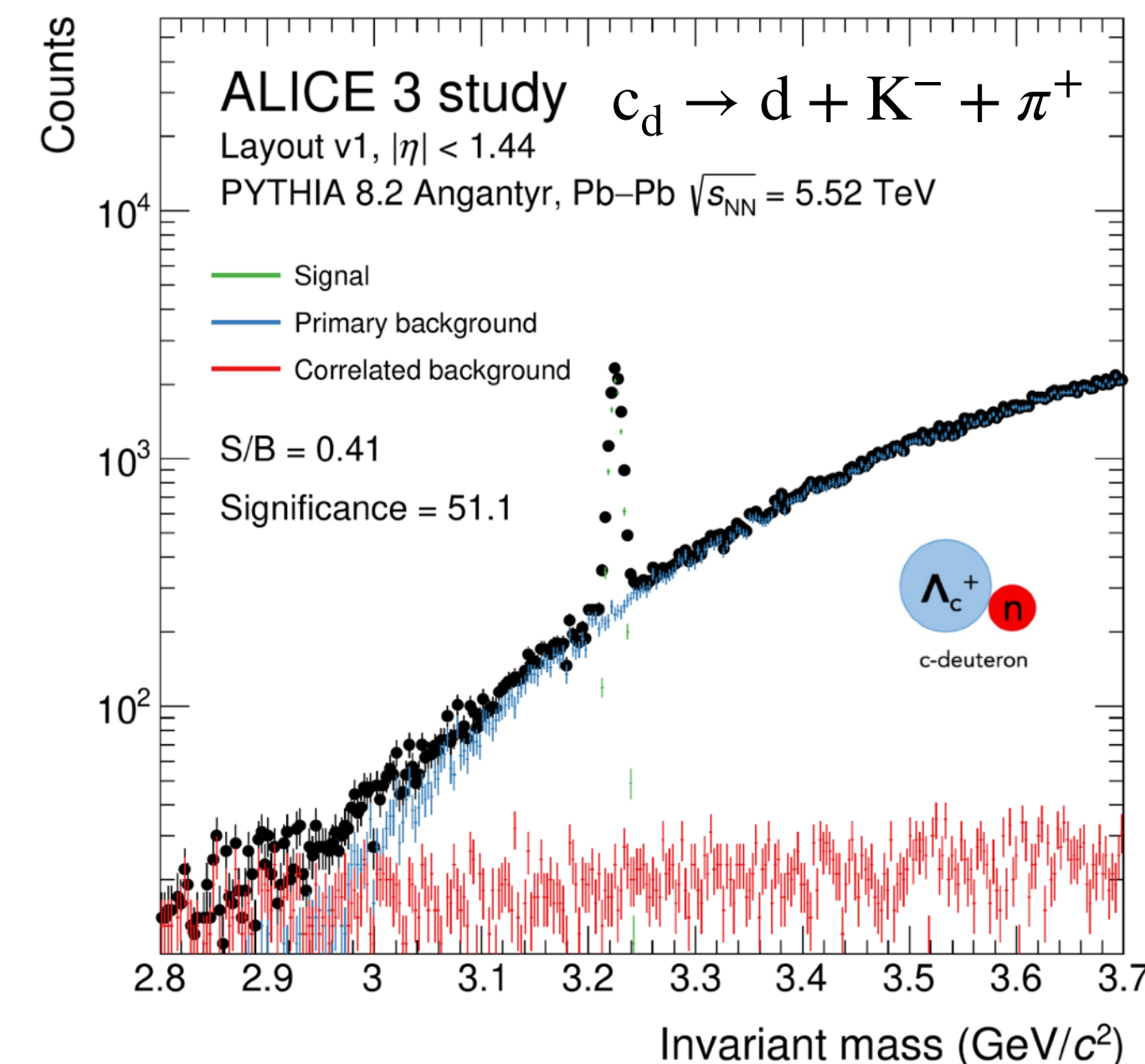


$D^0 - D^{*0}$ molecule
 $r \sim 5 \text{ fm}$



$D^0 - D^{*0}$ correlation femtoscopy

High mass (charm-)nuclei



Search for possible DD bound states using momentum correlations

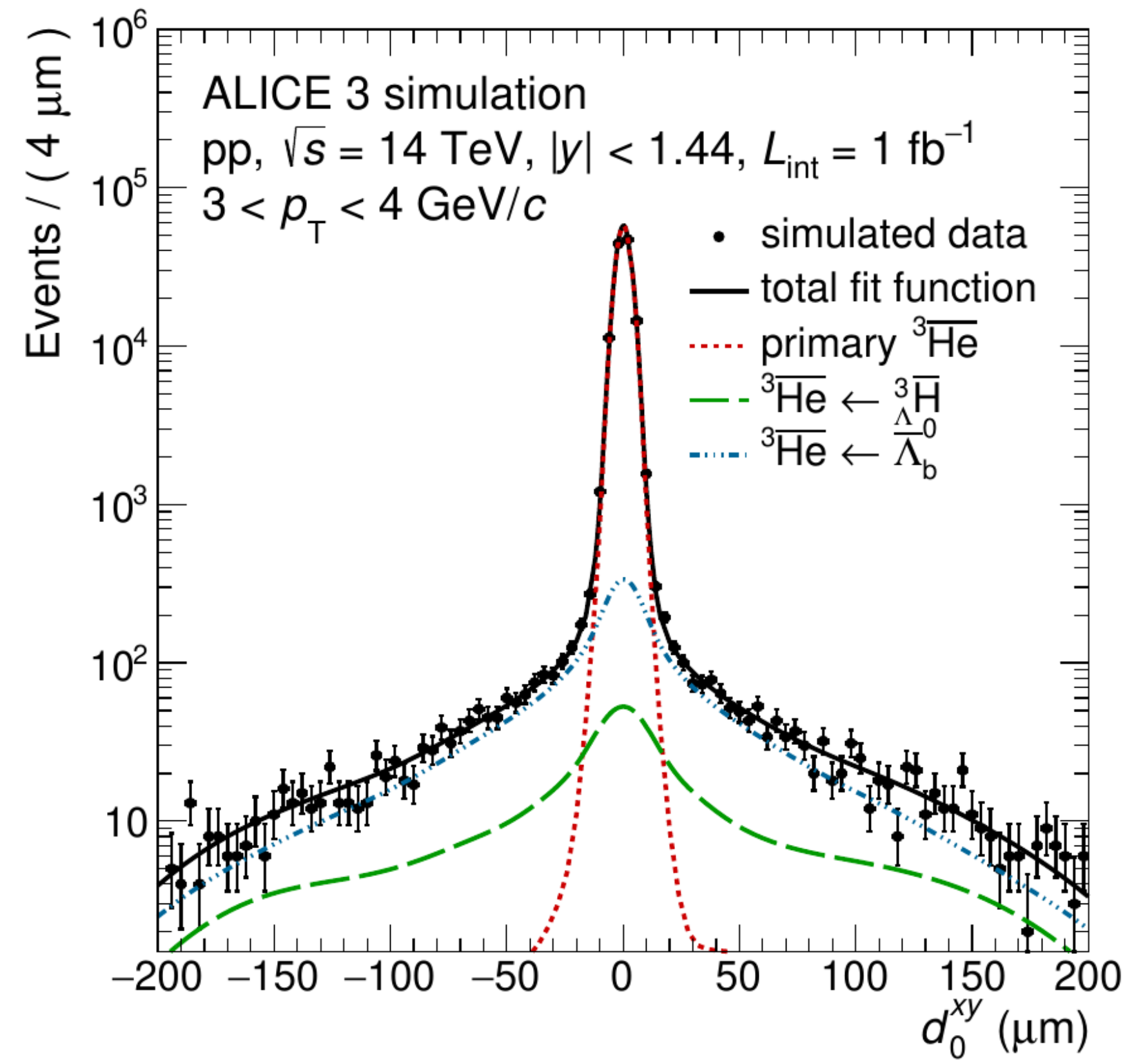
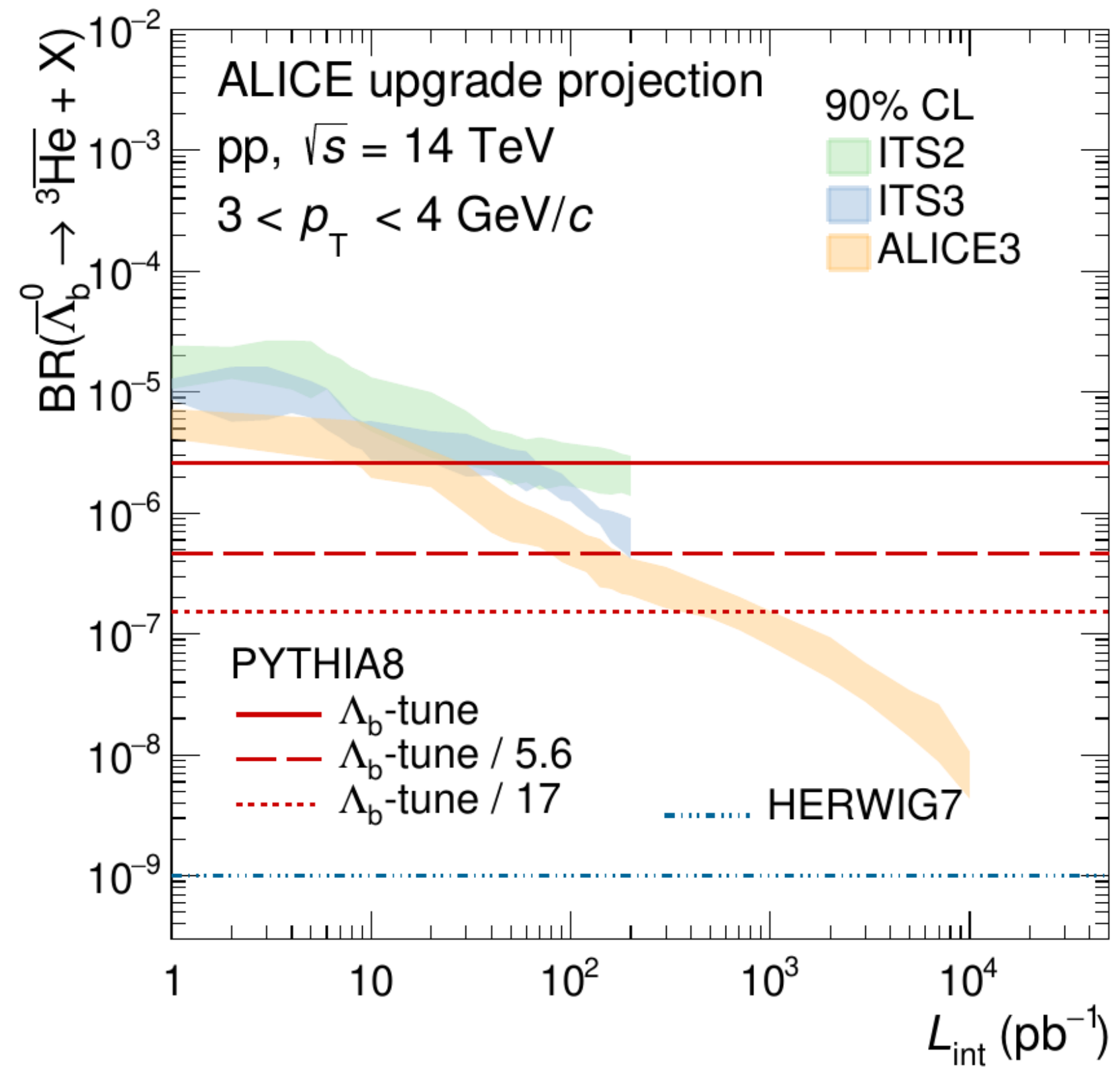
- D – D momentum correlations accessible via two-particle femtoscopy measurements
- Unique tests of long range strong interaction with rare hadrons
- Investigation of the molecular nature of exotic states

Unique sensitivity to undiscovered charm-nuclei: c-deuteron, c-triton

Super-nuclei: c-deuteron (c_d) and c-triton (c_t)

- first observation feasible

Search for anti-(hyper)nuclei with $A > 5$ (e.g. $^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ or ^6Li) and super-nuclei



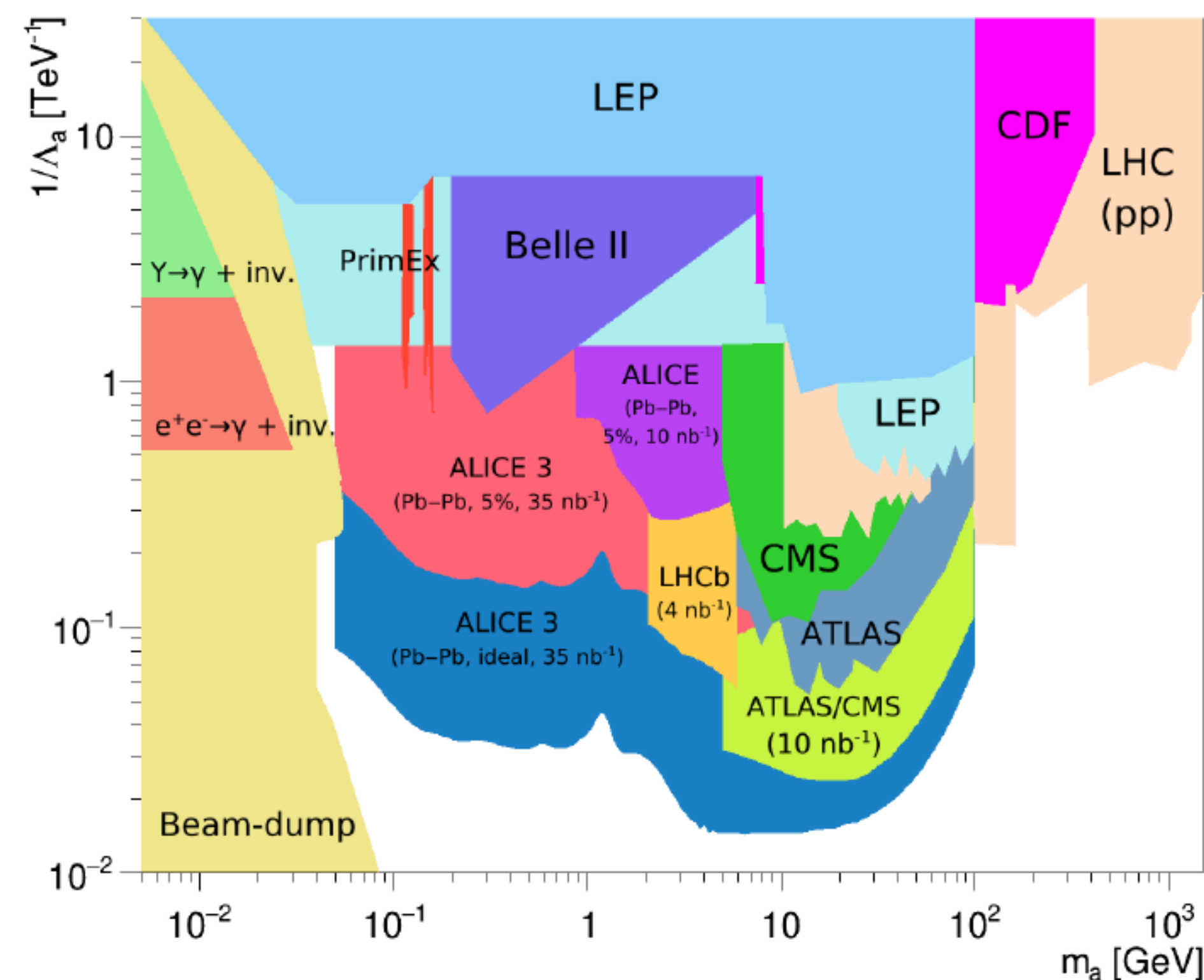
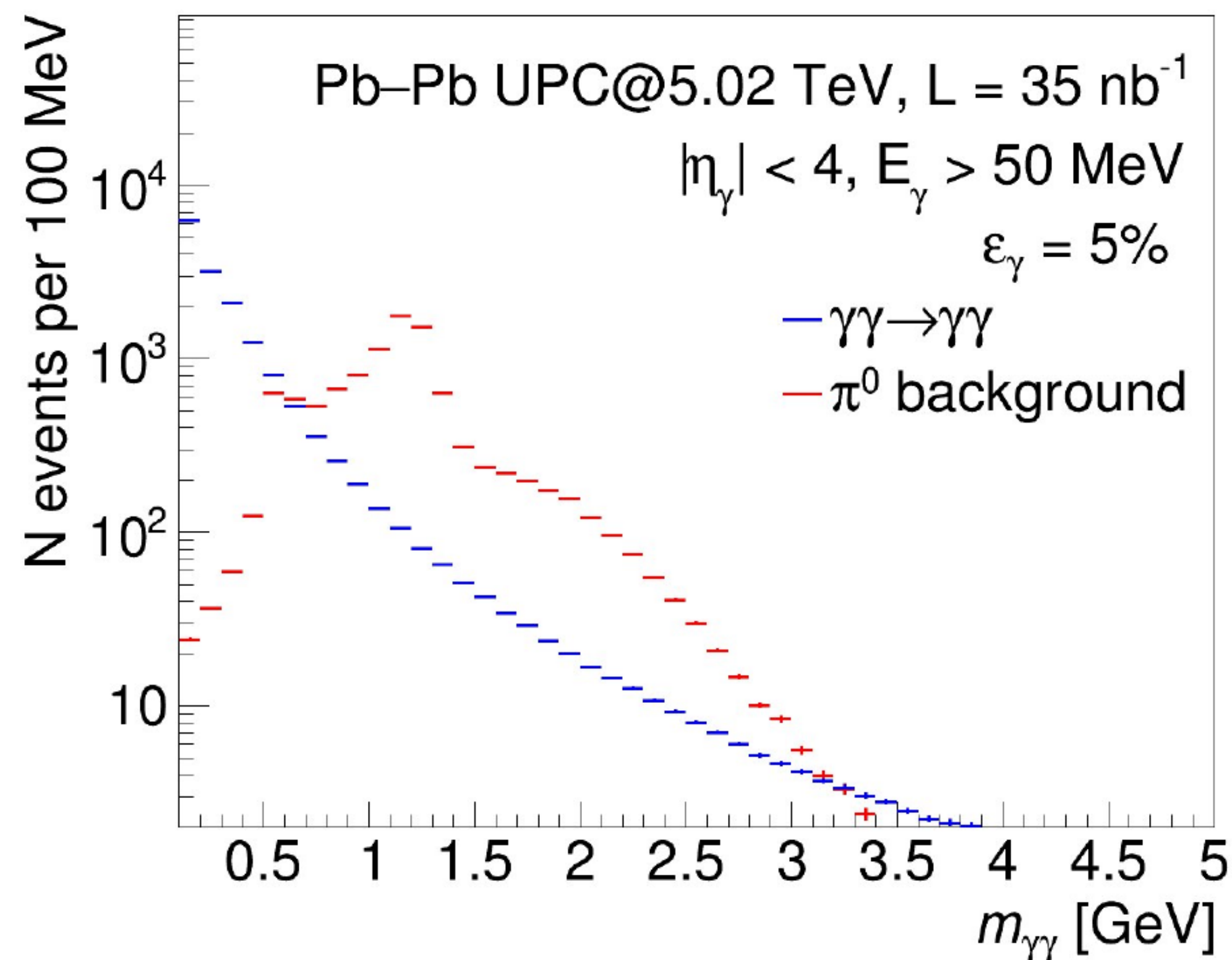
Anti-nuclei from b quarks

- Recent AMS preliminary observation of cosmic-ray anti-nuclei ($\bar{^3He}$) can be a signature of the dark matter annihilation in space

Decay of dark matter predicted to favor b quark pairs hadronizing into Λ_b

Question: how likely anti-nuclei can be formed from Λ_b decay?

- Constraints on branching ratio at the LHC (preliminary measurement by LHCb)

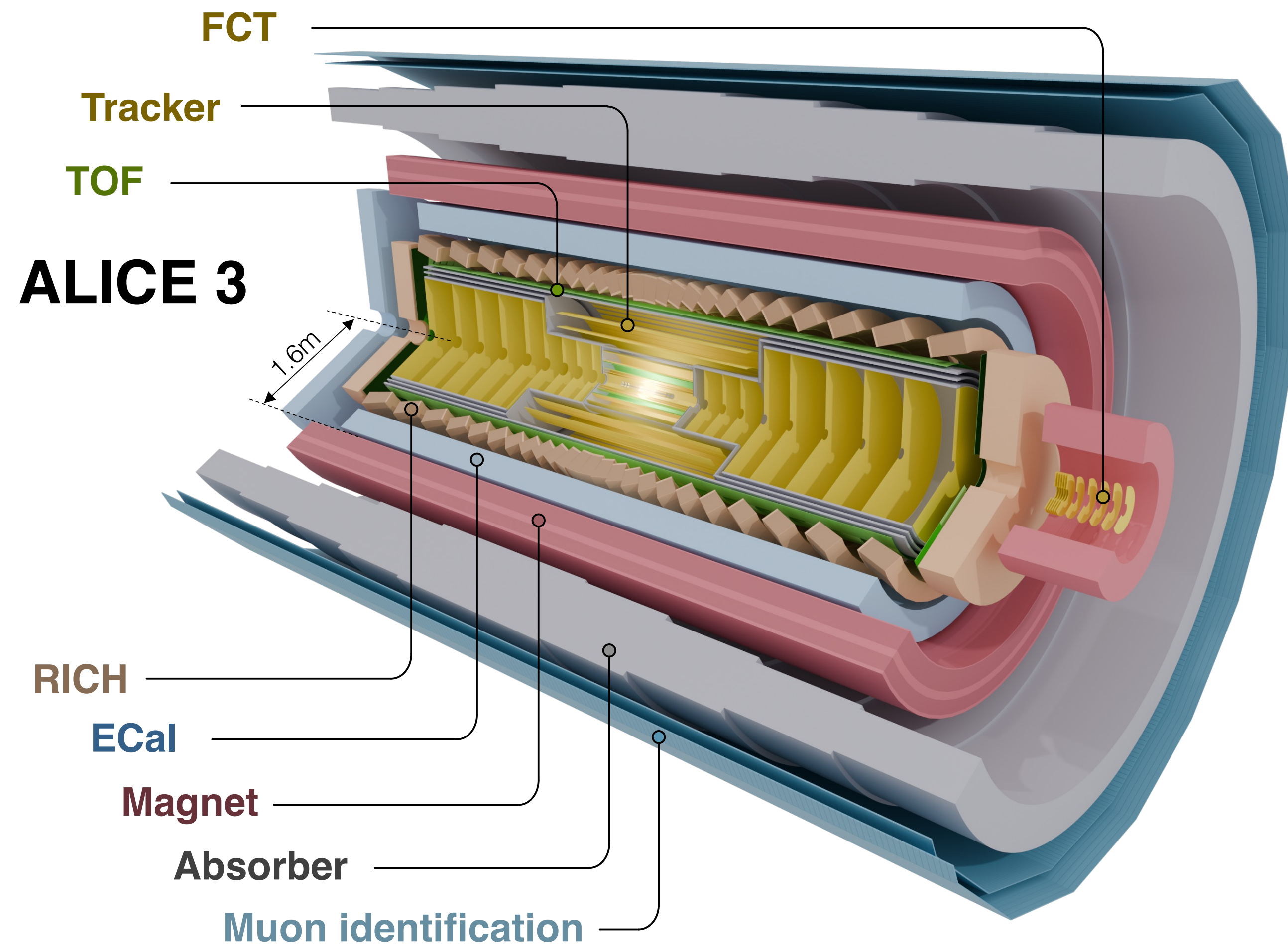


Light-by-light scattering for axion searches

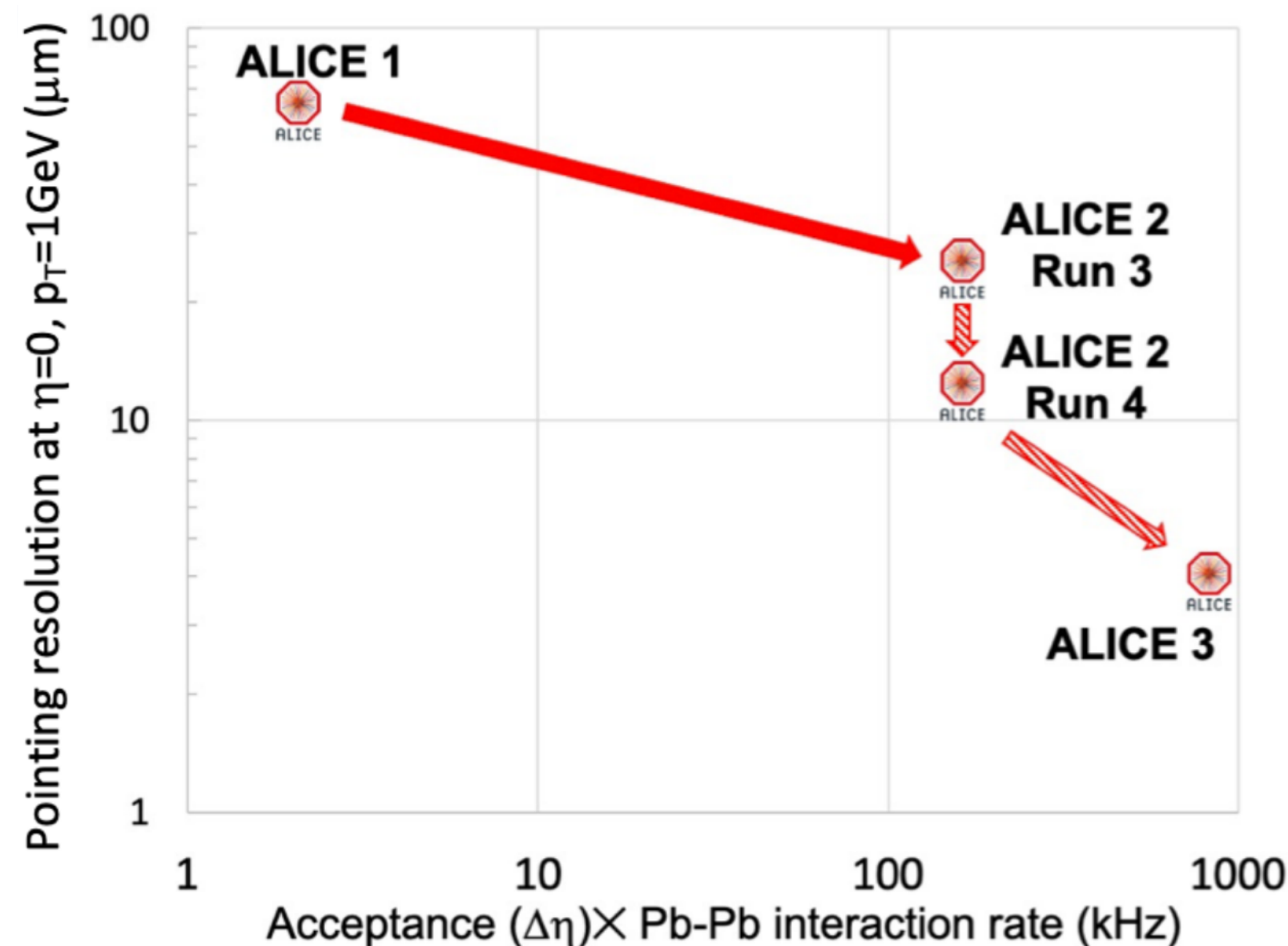
- Competitive limits on axion searches
- UPCs provide a clean environment for di-photon final states
- final state photons reconstructed either via photon conversions or via ECal measurements

In few words:

- Compact **all-silicon tracker**
- with **high-resolution** vertex detector
- Superconducting magnet system
- Particle Identification** over large acceptance: muons, electrons, hadrons, photons
- Fast read-out** and online processing



For LHC Run 5 & 6
Improvement of
pointing resolution
and effective
statistics



Requirements for vertexing

Pointing resolution crucial for:

- dileptons
- heavy flavour

Target pointing resolution

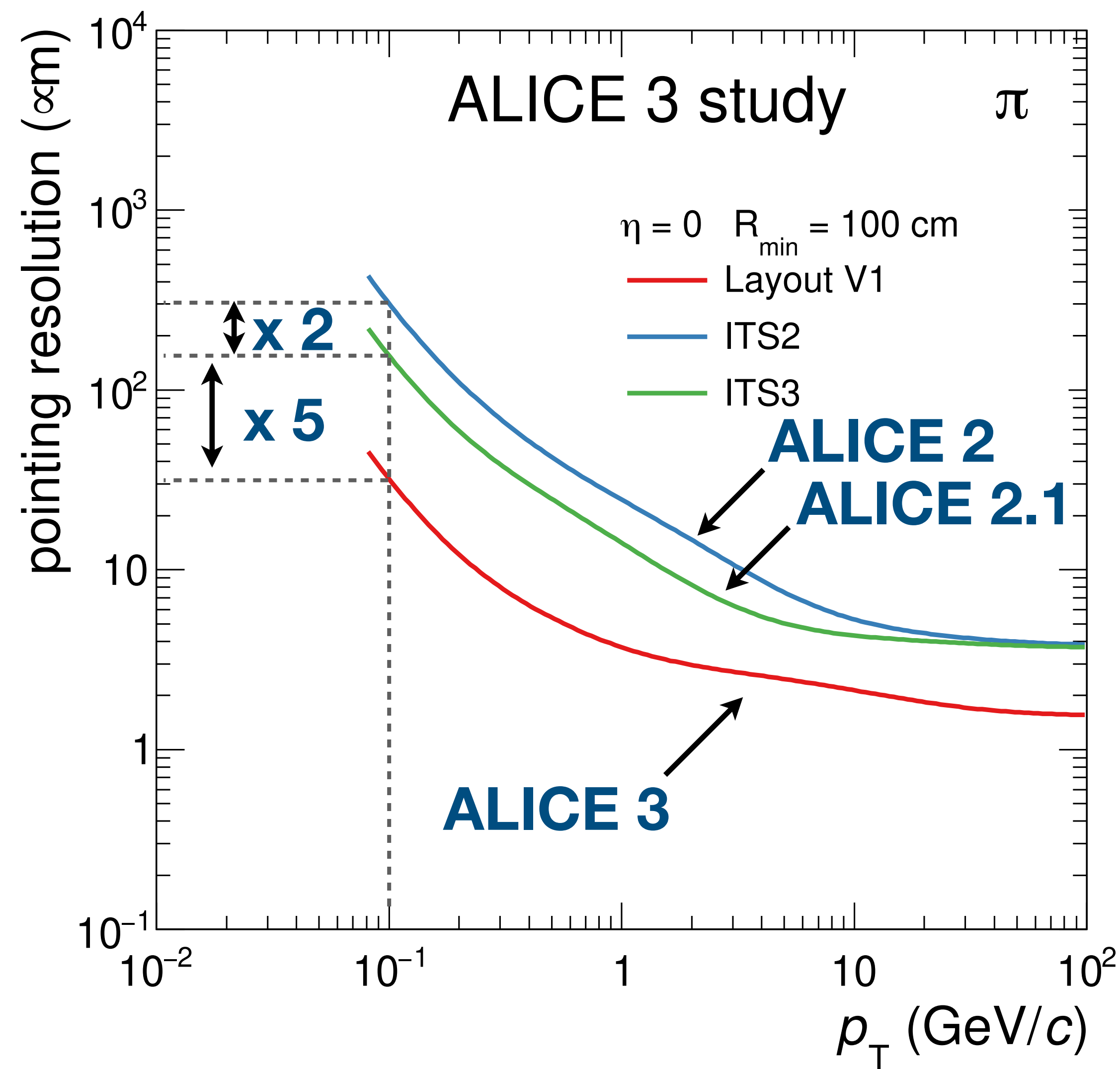
Pointing resolution $\propto r_0 \cdot \sqrt{x/X_0}$ (multiple scattering regime)

$\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ @ $p_T = 200 \text{ MeV}/c \rightarrow 5\text{x}$ better than ALICE 2.1

Unique pointing resolution at mid-rapidity at the LHC!

Critical for this step:

- radius and material thickness of first layers
- minimum radius limited by LHC



ALI-SIMUL-491785

Retractable vertex detector

3 layers within the beam pipe in secondary vacuum

- wafer-sized, bent Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors
- $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \sim 2.5 \mu\text{m} \rightarrow 10 \mu\text{m}$ pixel pitch
- 1 ‰ X_0 per layer

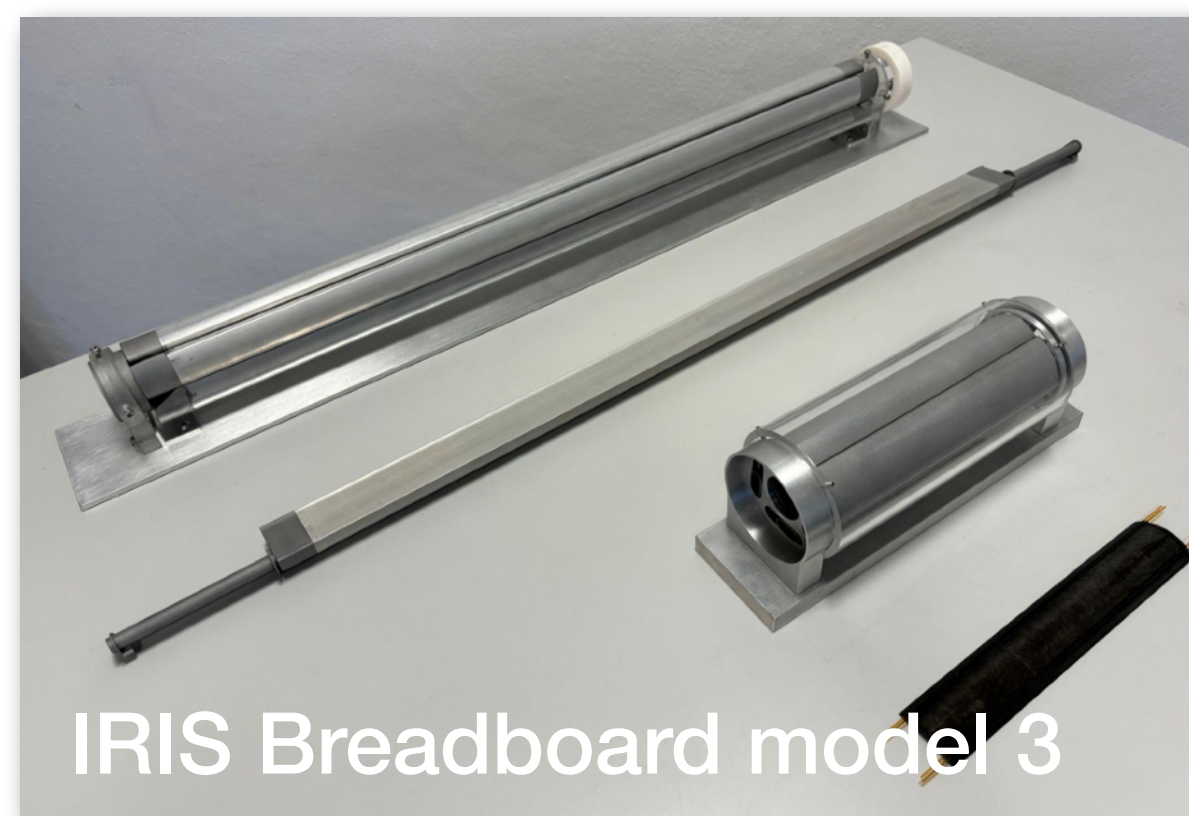
rotary petals matching to beampipe parameters

- $R_{\text{min}} \approx 5 \text{ mm}$ at top energy
- $R_{\text{min}} \approx 15 \text{ mm}$ at injection energy
- feed-throughs for power, cooling, data

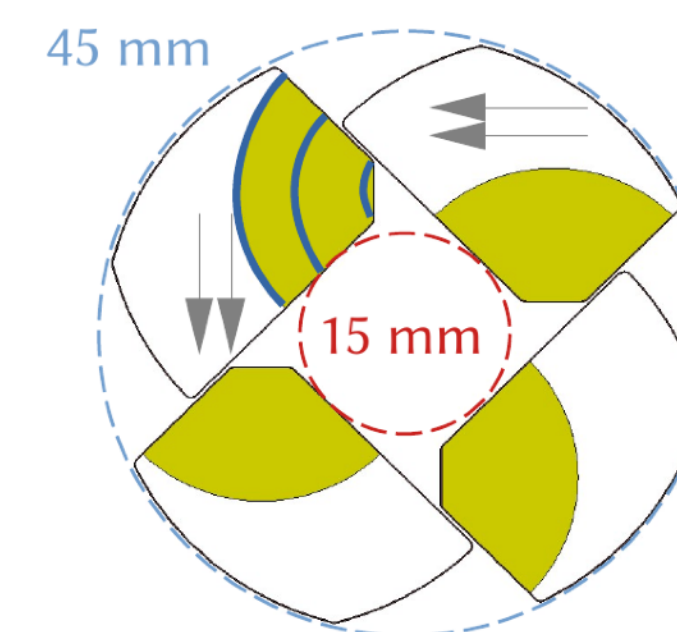
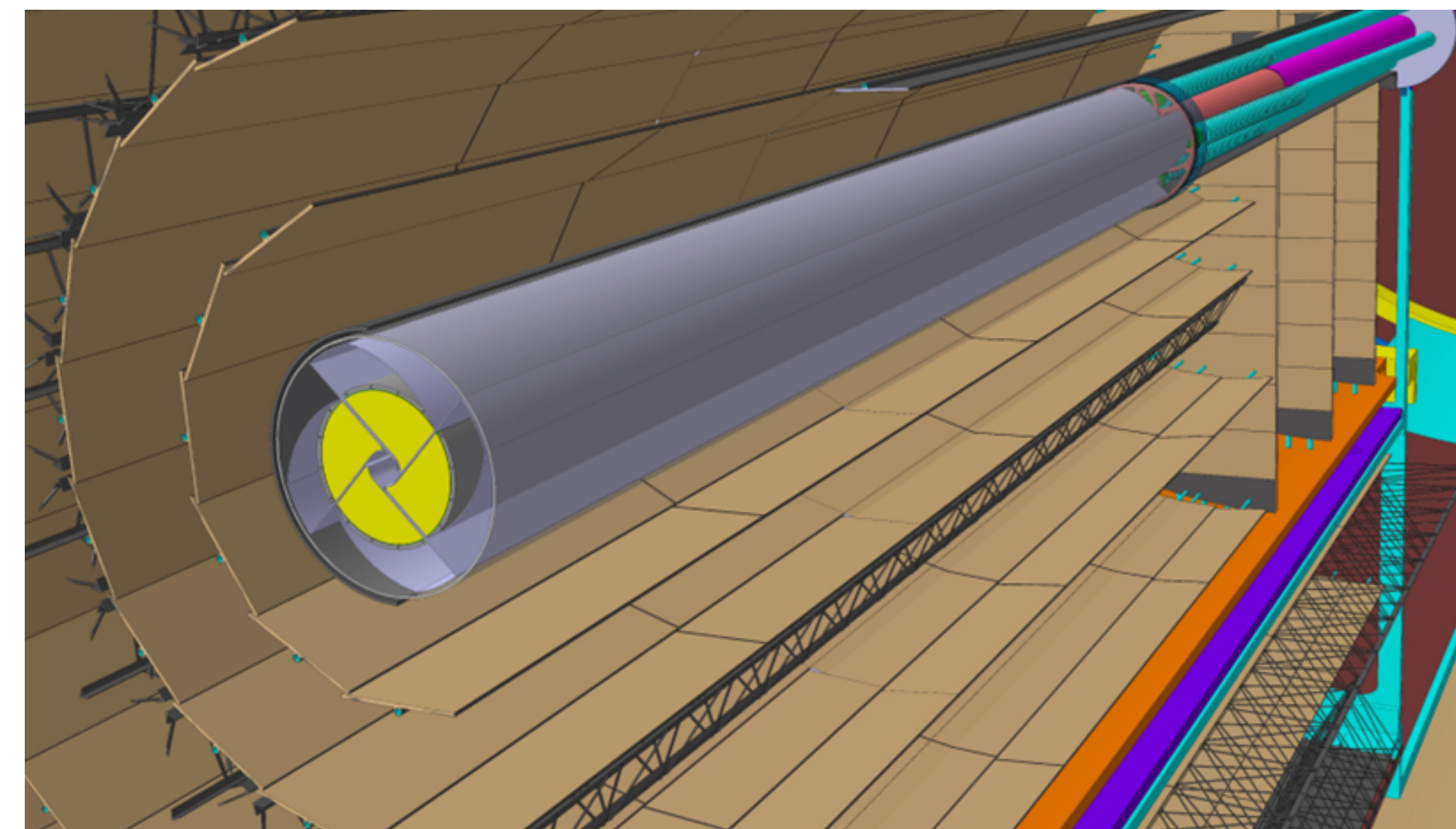
R&D ongoing: challenges on mechanics, cooling, radiation tolerance

Middle Layers:

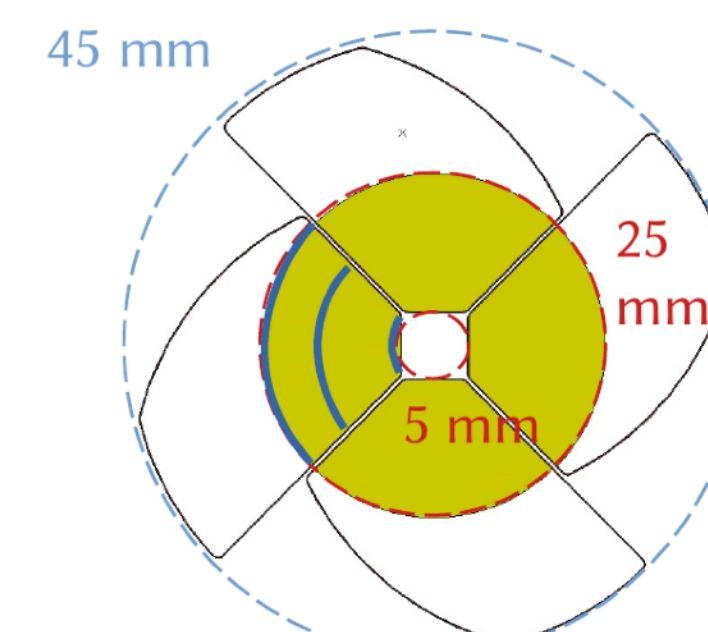
various options for ultra-light layers, leveraging on ITS3 technology
benefits on tracking of soft electrons and of charged hyperons (Ξ^- , Ω^-)



Nicolò Jacazio (Bologna University and INFN)



Open IRIS (radii)



Closed IRIS (radii)

IRIS system:

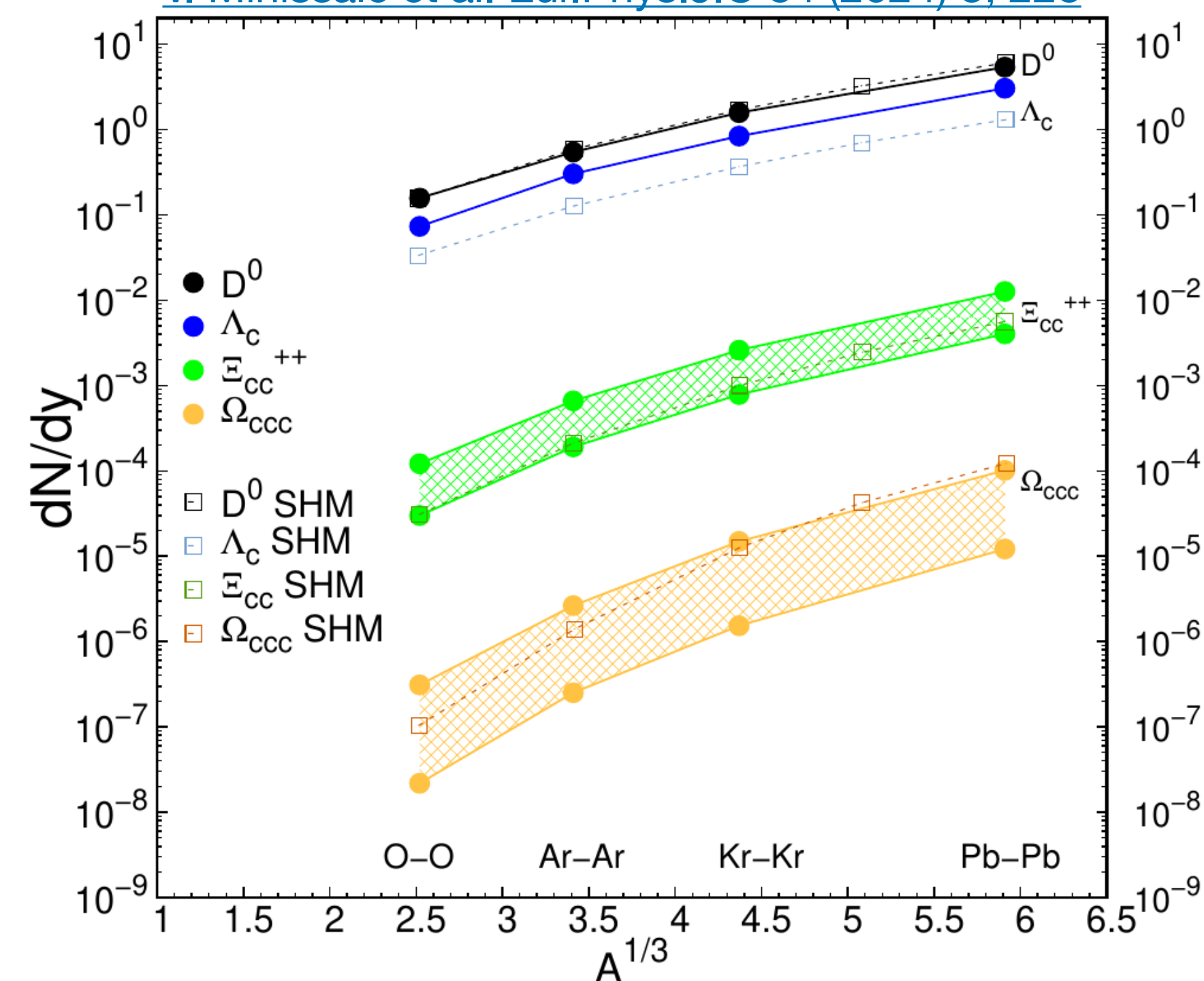
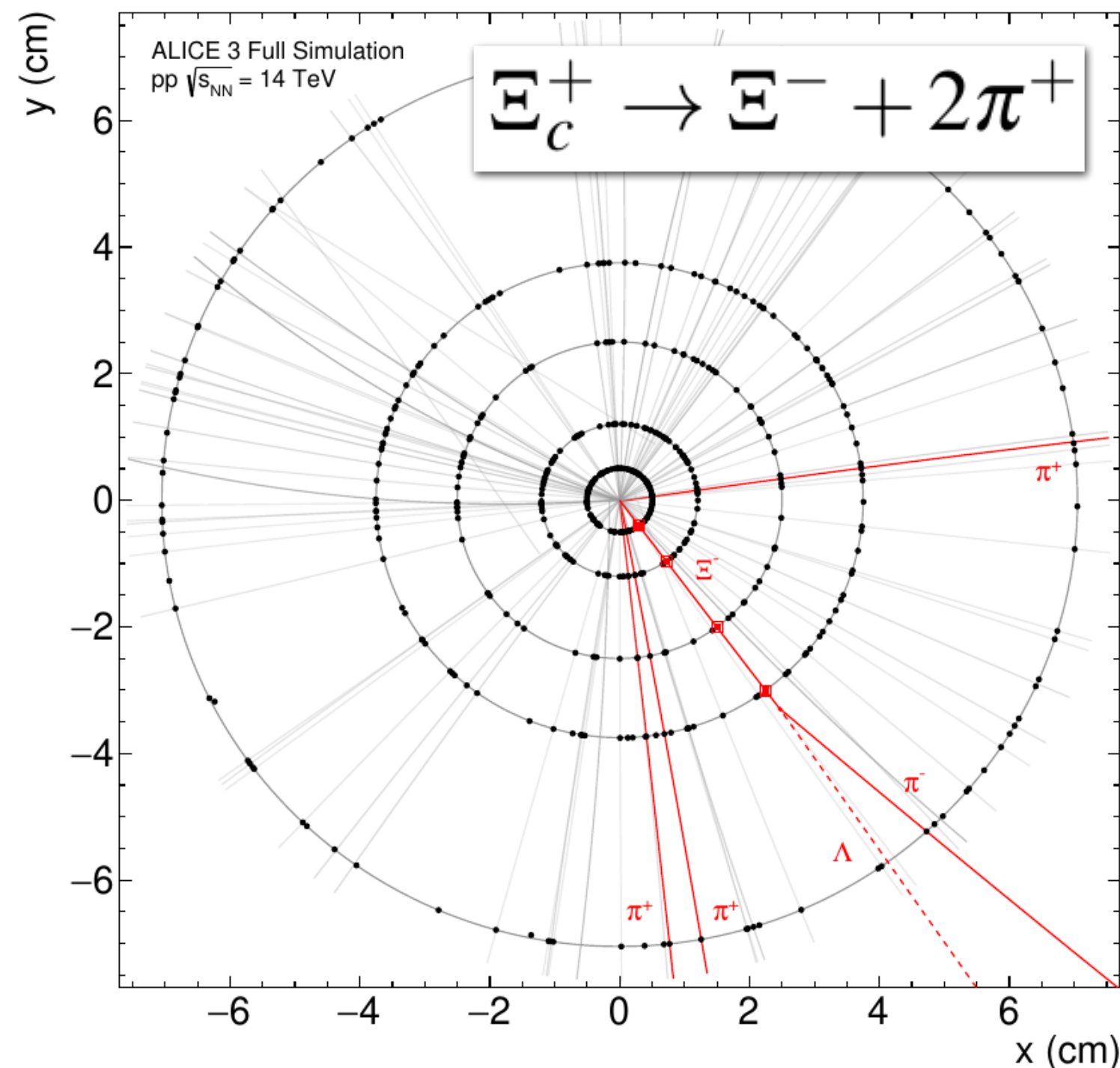
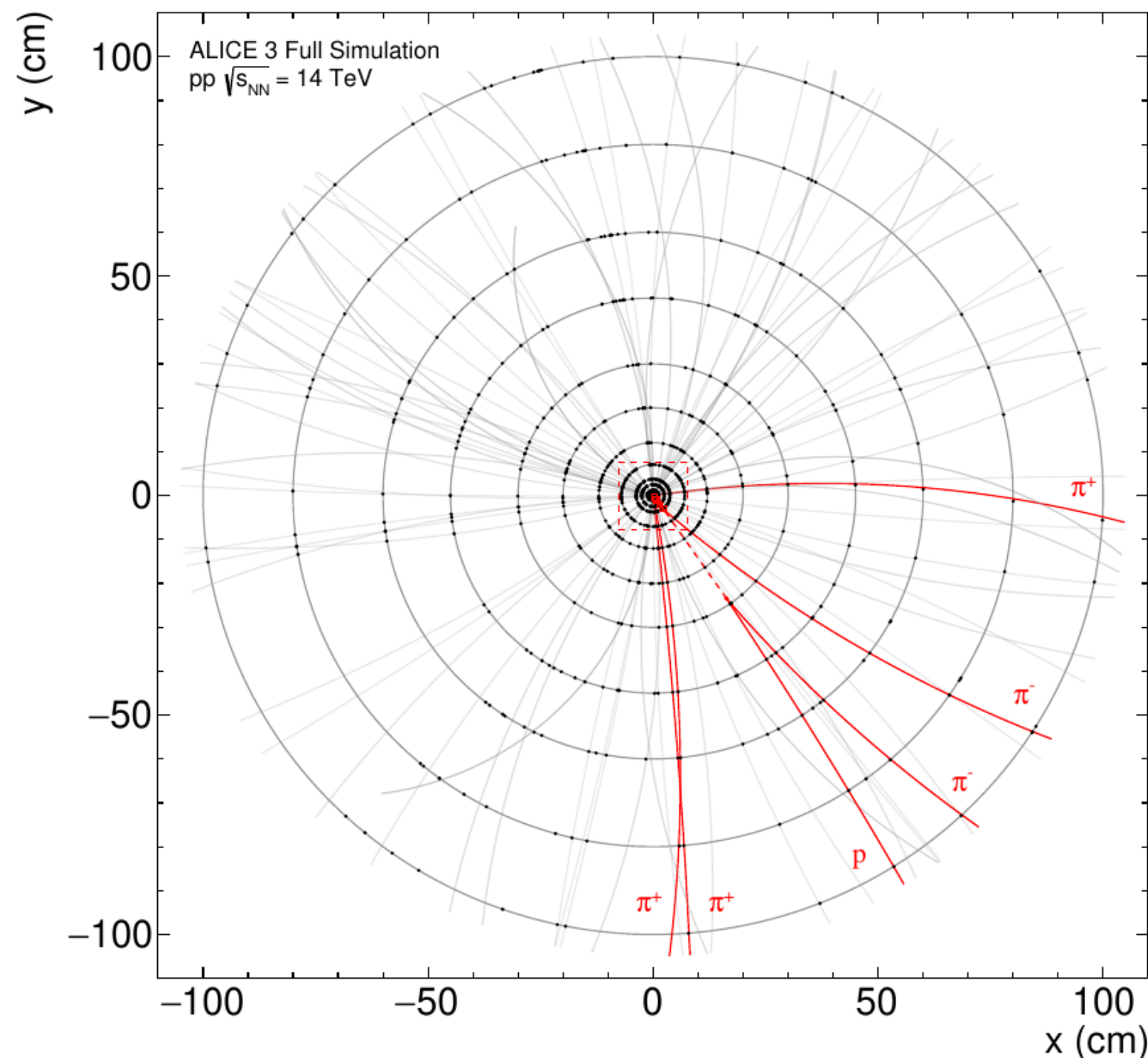
services integration being detailed
study of protection between primary and secondary vacuum
impact of vacuum on components, wire bonding, glued parts



Strangeness tracking to the maximum

ALICE

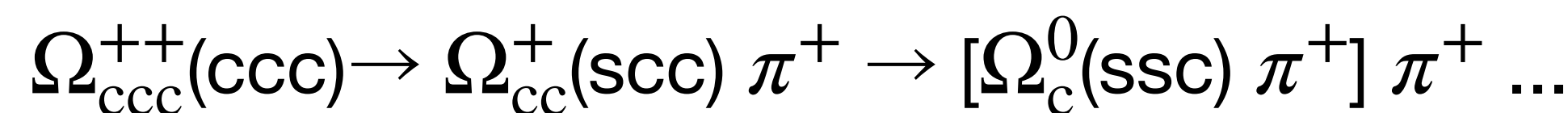
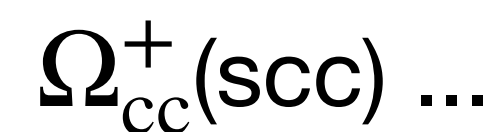
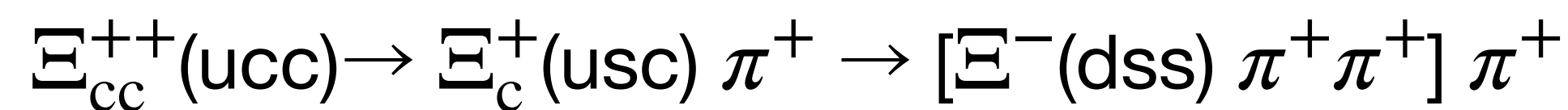
V. Minissale et al. Eur.Phys.J.C 84 (2024) 3, 228



Full reconstruction of decay topology tracking charged strange decaying hadrons

Unique experimental access to multicharm hadrons with ALICE 3 in Pb-Pb collisions

Combined with possibility to run with lighter ions, test the system size dependence



Requirements for tracking

Momentum resolution crucial for:

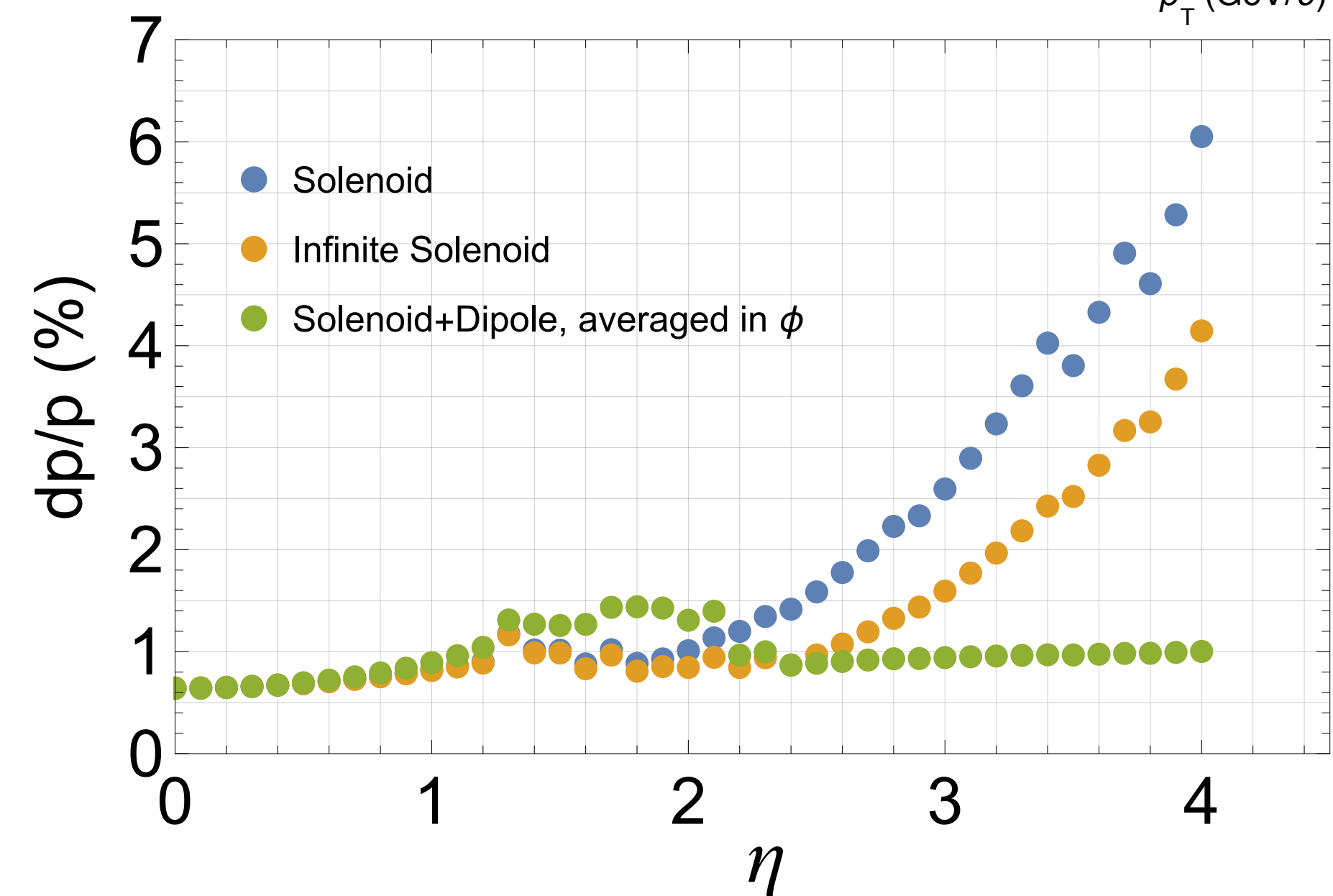
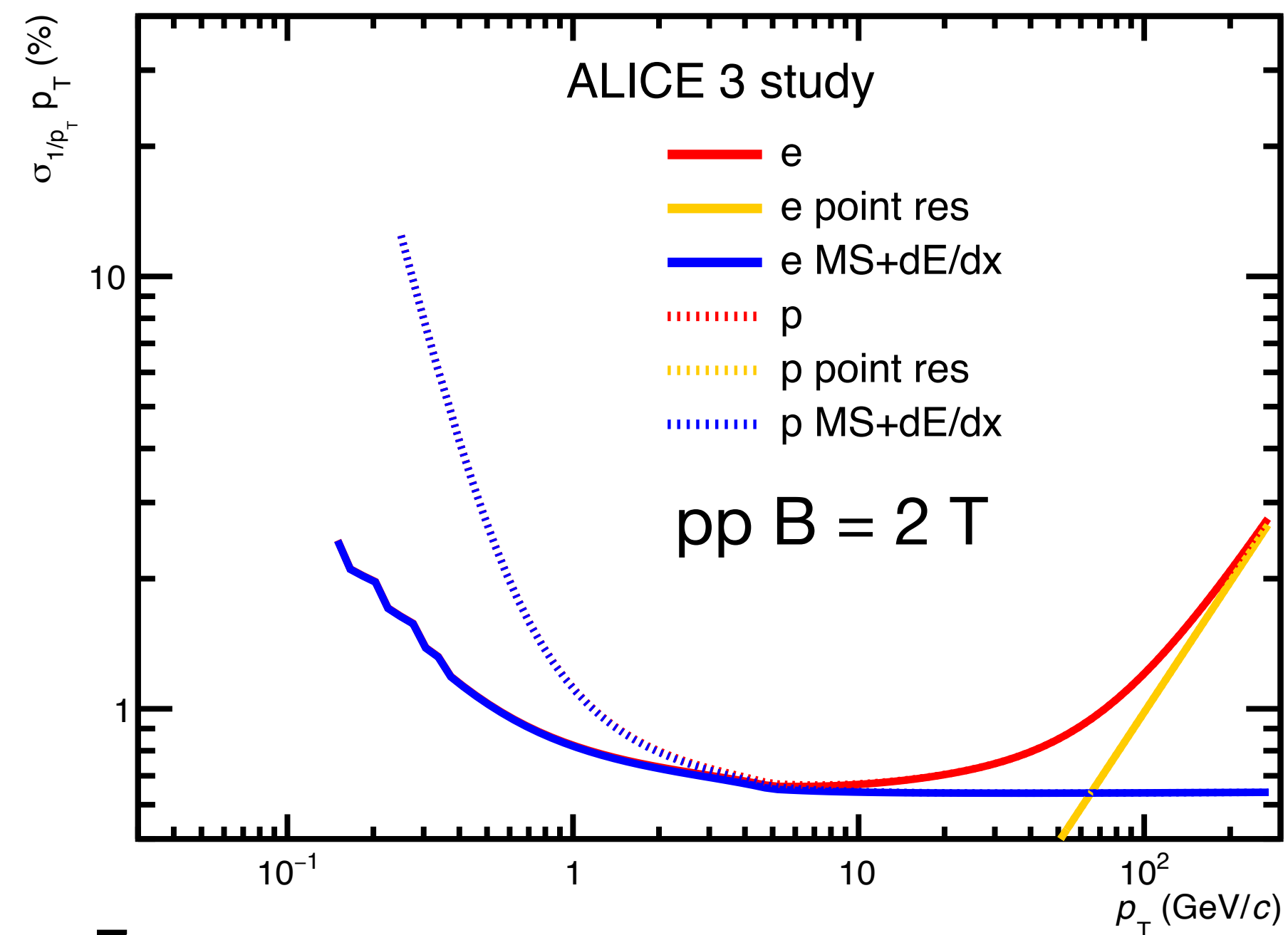
- dileptons
- heavy flavour
- jets

Target momentum resolution

Relative p_T resolution $\propto \frac{\sqrt{x/X_0}}{B \cdot L}$ (limited by multiple scattering)
~1 % up to $\eta = 4$ \rightarrow large coverage

Critical for this step:

- integrated magnetic field
- overall material budget

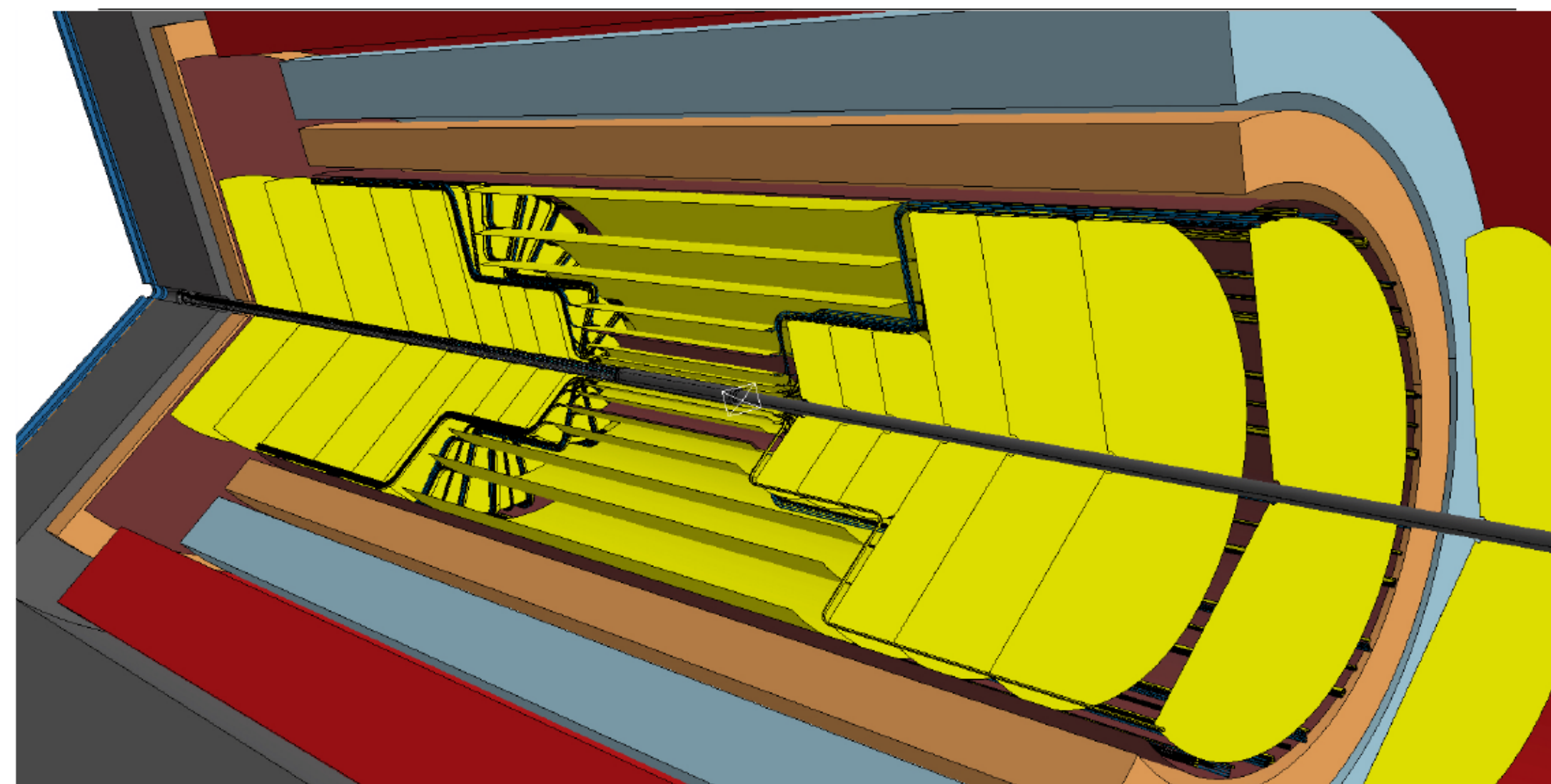


The outer tracker

ALICE

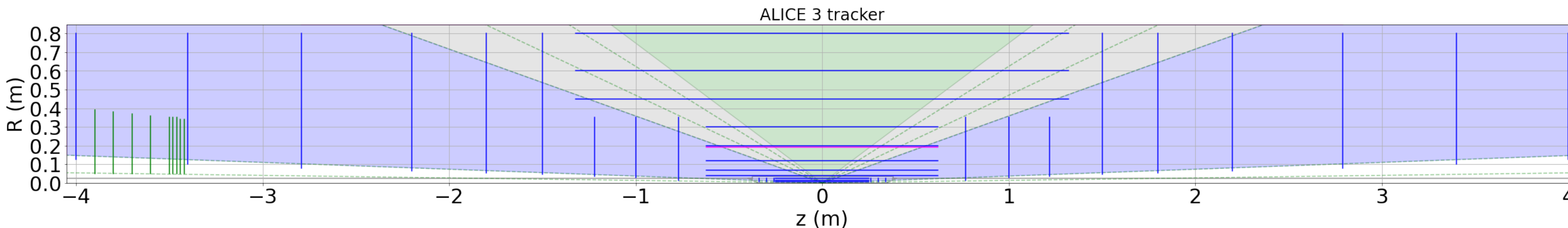
Concept:

- ~8 layers and 9 disks tracking layers
- $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \sim 10 \mu\text{m} \rightarrow 40 \mu\text{m}$ pixel pitch
- $R_{\text{out}} \approx 80 \text{ cm}$ and $L \approx 4 \text{ m}$
- timing resolution $\sim 100 \text{ ns}$ (\rightarrow reduce mismatch probability)
- carbon-fibre space frame for mechanical support
- material $\sim 1 \% X_0$ / layer \rightarrow overall $x/X_0 = \sim 10 \%$
- Low power consumption $\sim 20 \text{ mW/cm}^2$



R&D: build on the expertise of ITS2

Total silicon area $\sim 67 \text{ m}^2$





Why PID matters

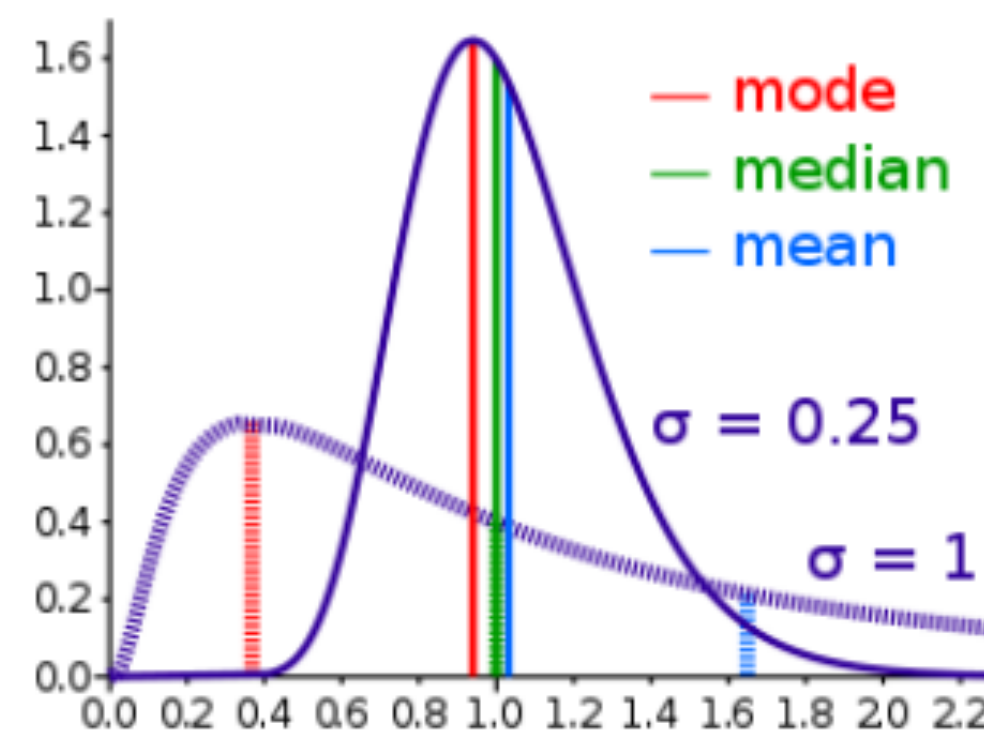
Concept:

- Getting $dN/dp_T dy + v_T$ down to non-relativistic p_T (e.g. $p_T < 0.05$ GeV/c $\rightarrow \beta(\pi) \approx 0.34$)
 \rightarrow change from non-relativistic (linear) to relativistic hydrodynamic evolution (quadratic behaviour)
- Disoriented Chiral Condensate or π condensate
- if present at all, will be at $p_T < 1/2 m_\pi$
- Driving factor: p_T reach and increased acceptance

Bonus:

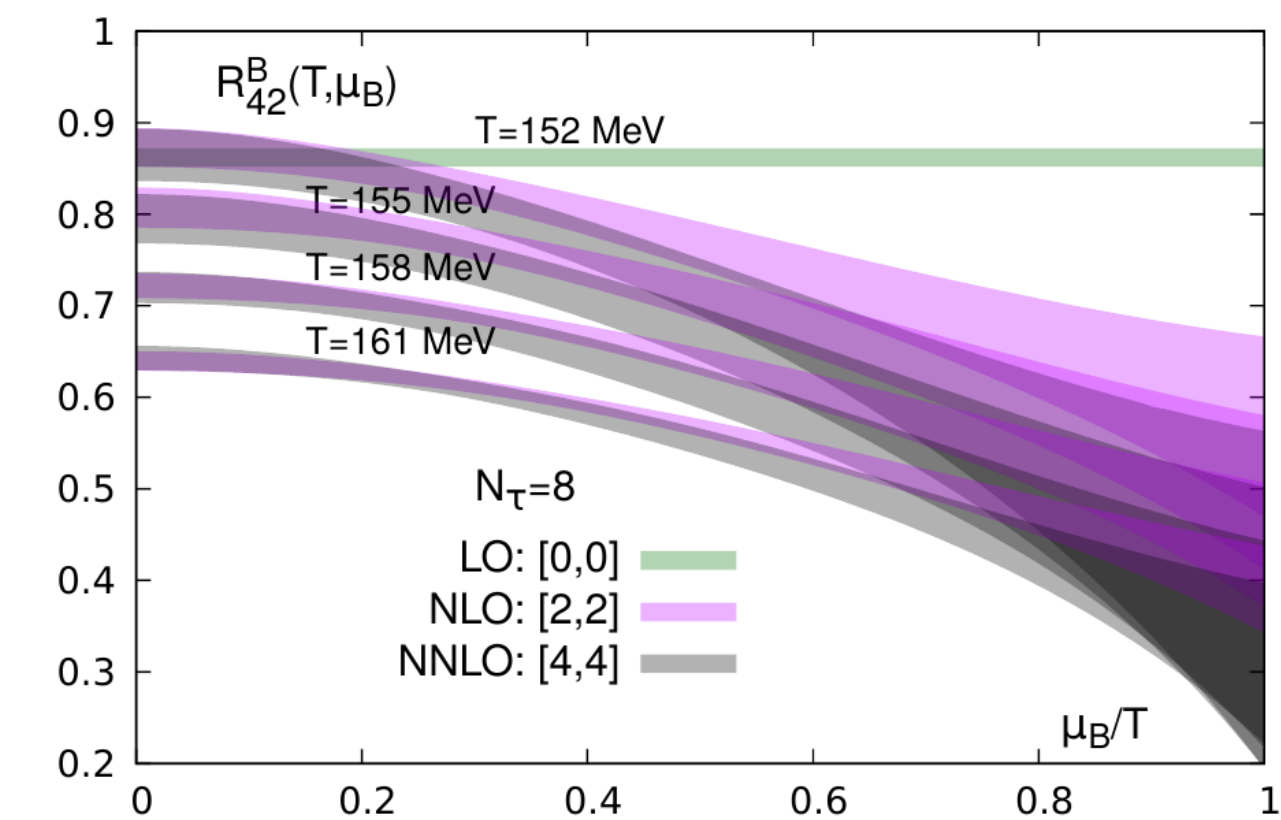
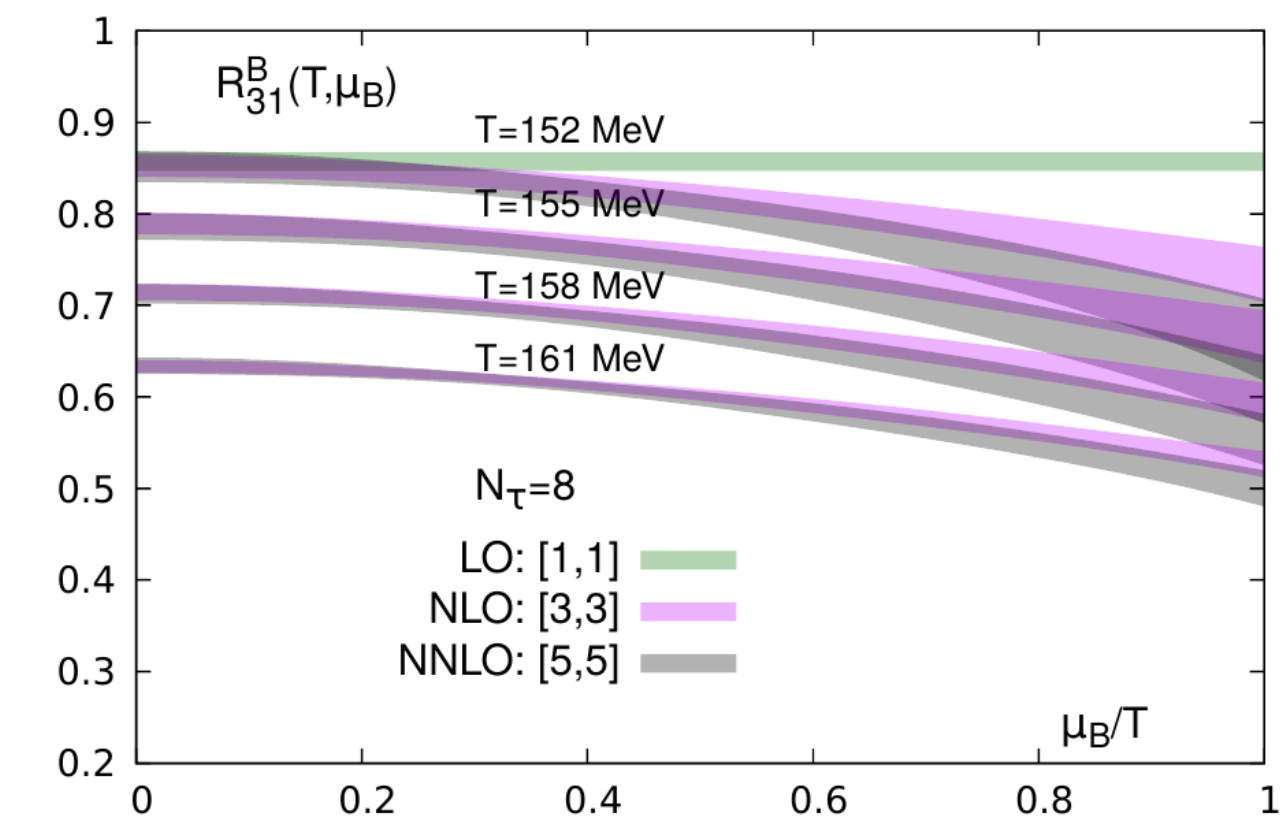
Measure event-by-event fluctuations into distributions with $p_T > 0$ GeV/c + over large y (i.e. p_T -integrated quantities)

- 1st moment, m_1 : mean M
- 2nd moment, m_2 : variance σ^2
- 3rd moment, m_3 : \propto skewness S
- 4th moment, m_4 : \propto kurtosis κ
- 5th moment, m_5 : ...



$$R_{31}^B(T, \mu_B) = \frac{S_B \sigma_B^3}{M_B} = \frac{\chi_3^B(T, \mu_B)}{\chi_1^B(T, \mu_B)}$$

$$R_{42}^B(T, \mu_B) = \kappa_B \sigma_B^2 = \frac{\chi_4^B(T, \mu_B)}{\chi_2^B(T, \mu_B)}$$



[HotQCD, arXiv:2001.08530](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.08530)

Net quantum number fluctuations at ($\mu_B = 0$)

Q : net charge ($h^+ - h^-$)

B : net baryon ($p - \bar{p}, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)

S : net strangeness ($K^+ - K^-, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)

\rightarrow key : ratios m_j/m_i (e.g. m_4^B / m_2^B) to access direct comparison to LQCD for (deconfinement d.o.f. + chiral restoration + nature of transitions)

Particle identification with Time Of Flight

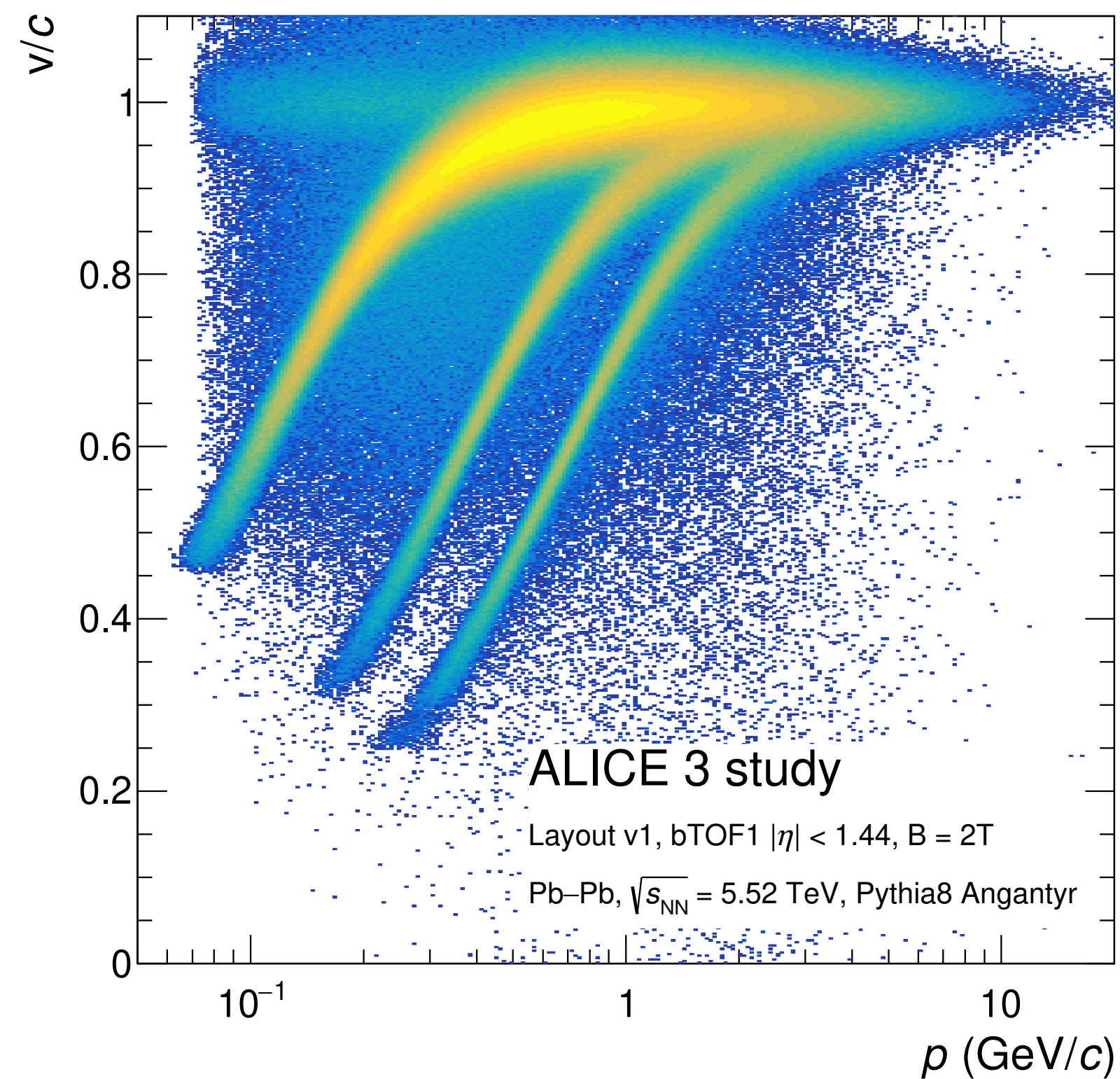
Separation power $\propto L/\sigma_{\text{TOF}}$

Critical for this step:

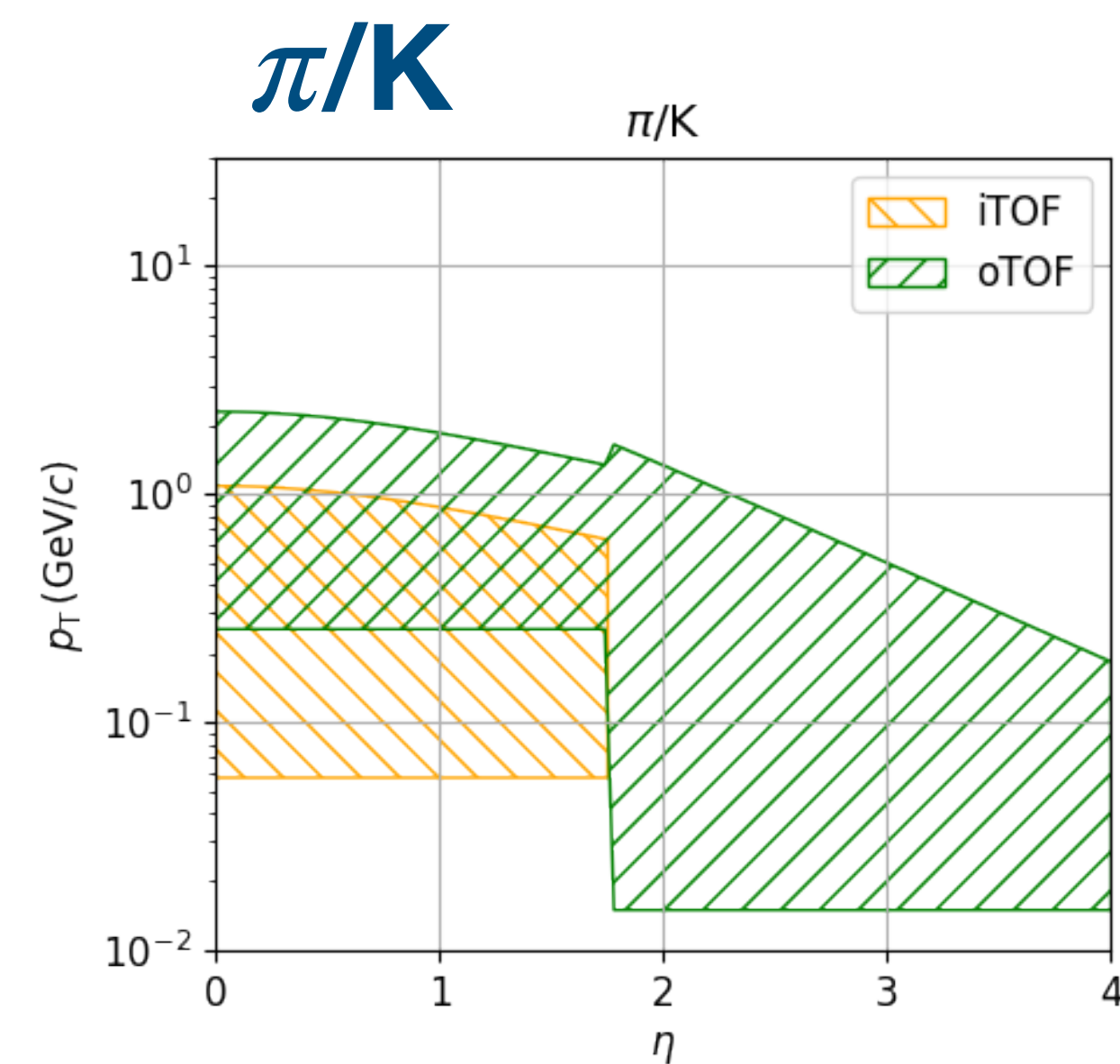
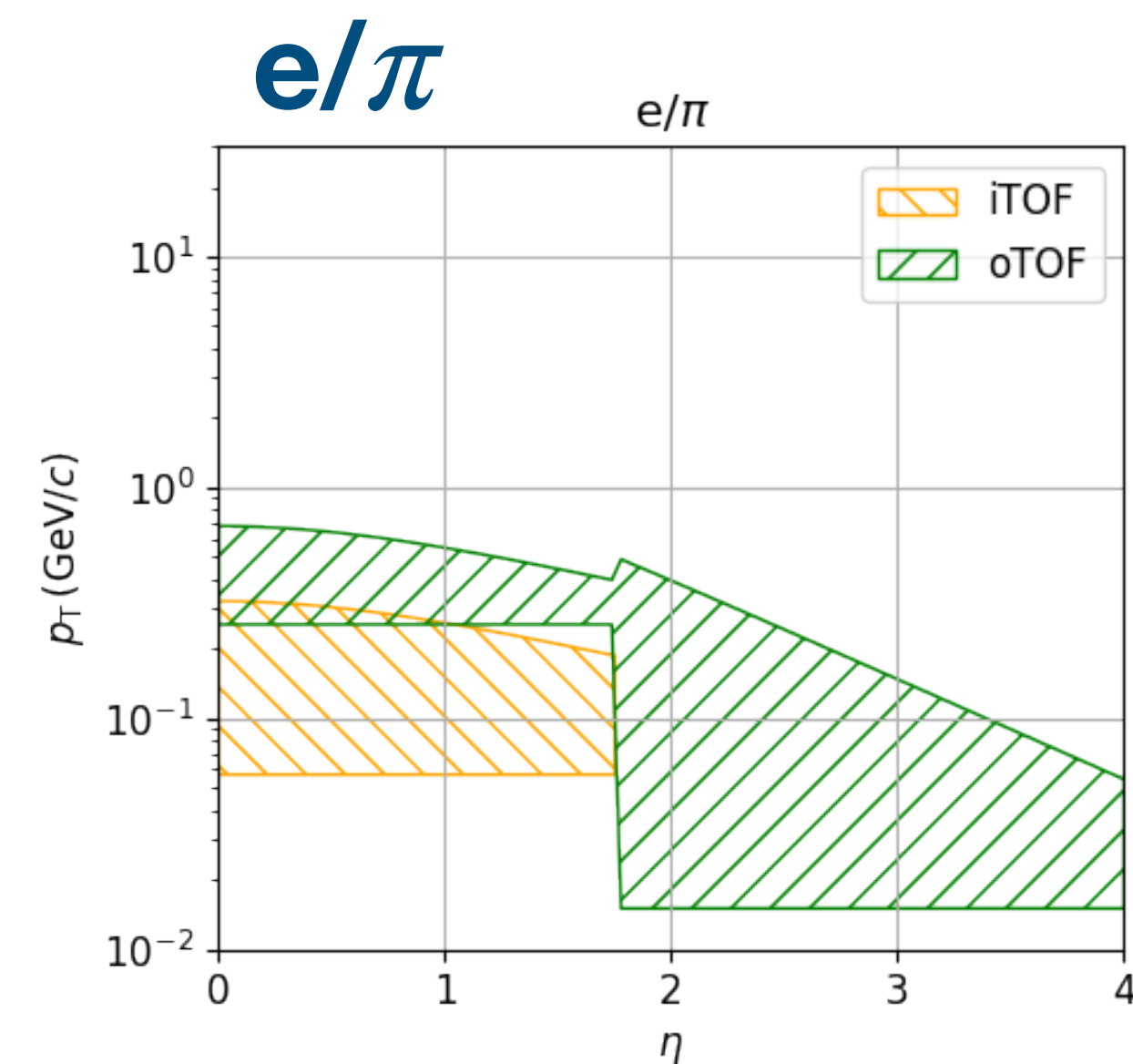
- distance and time resolution crucial
- larger radius results in lower p_T bound

Concept:

- 2 barrel + 1 forward TOF layers
 - outer TOF at $R \approx 85$ cm
 - inner TOF at $R \approx 19$ cm
 - forward TOF at $z \approx 405$ cm
- Silicon timing sensors ($\sigma_{\text{TOF}} \approx 20$ ps)
 - R&D on monolithic CMOS sensors with integrated gain layer



Total silicon area ~ 45 m²



Particle identification with Cherenkov light

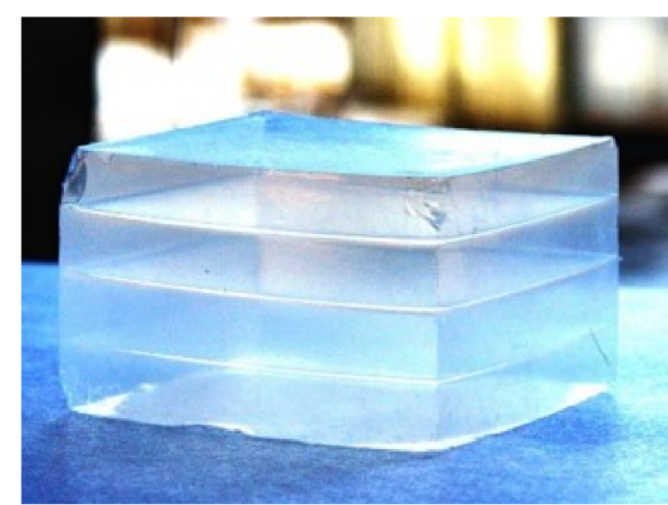
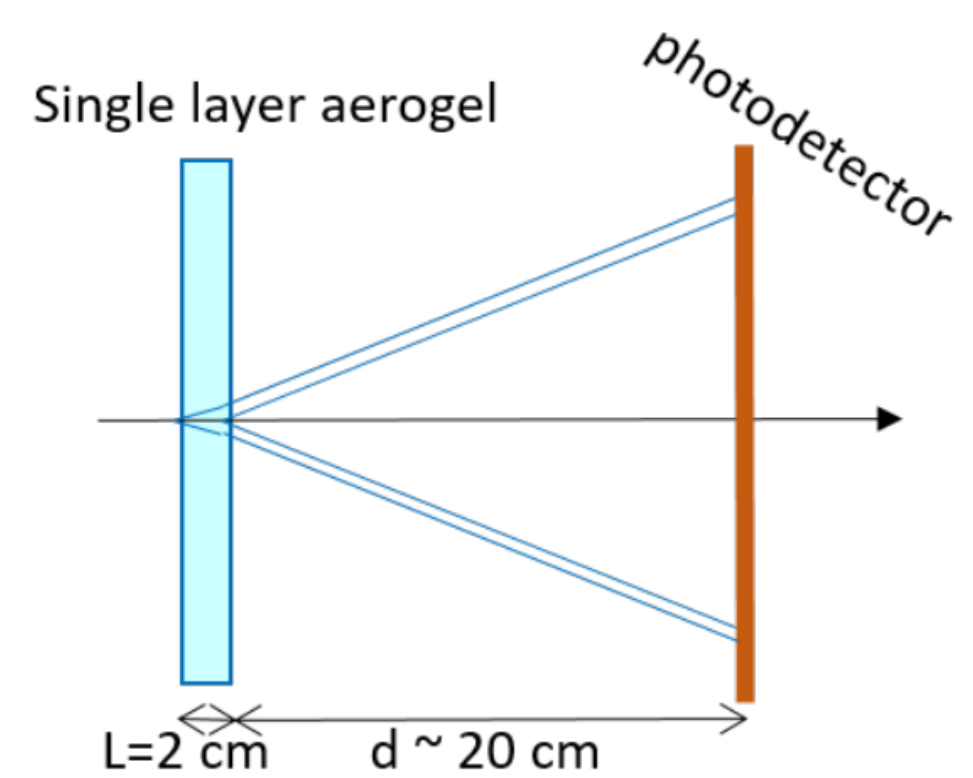
Complement PID reach of outer TOF to higher p_T with Cherenkov detector

Critical for this step:

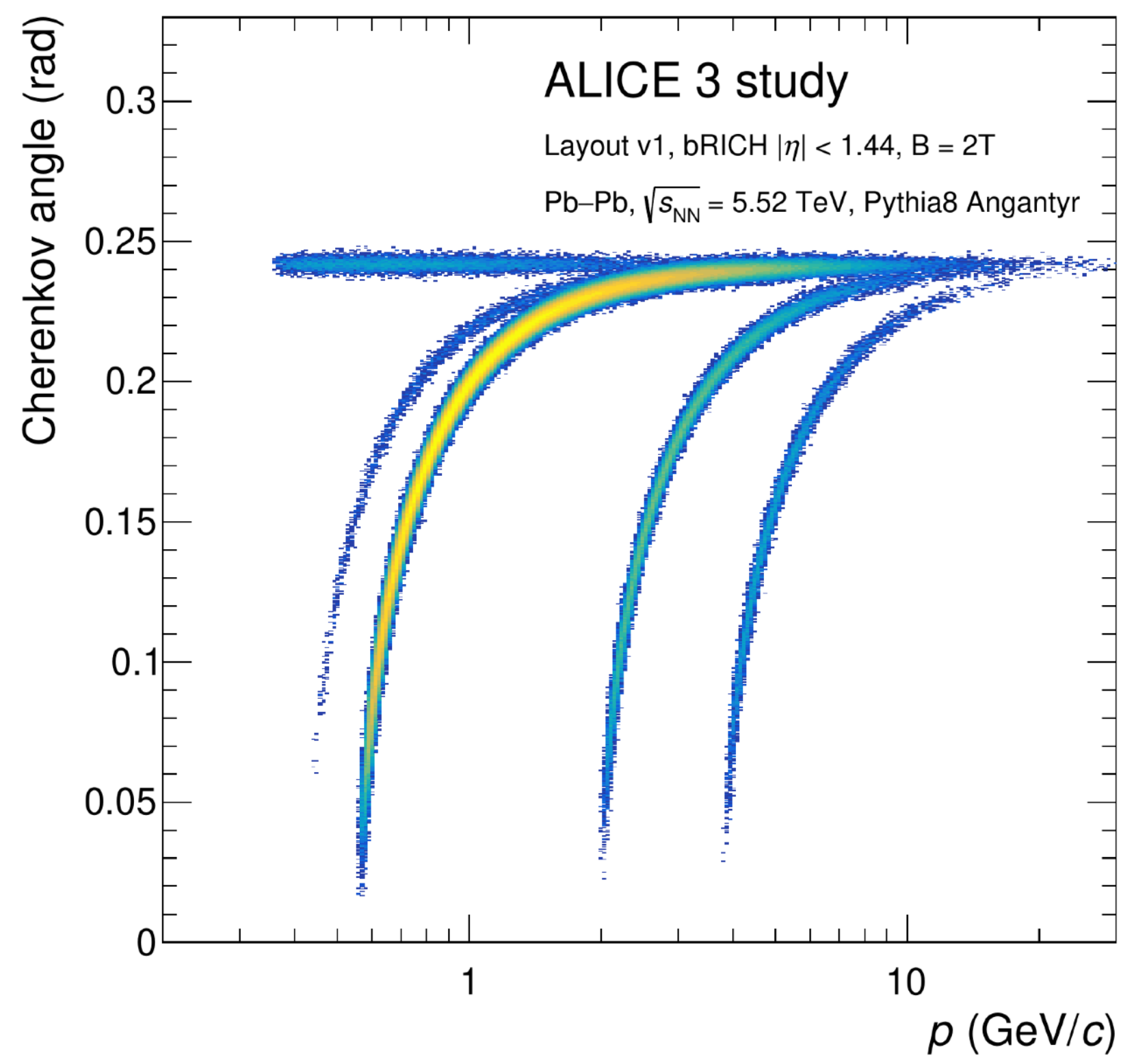
- ensure continuous coverage with the TOF system

Concept:

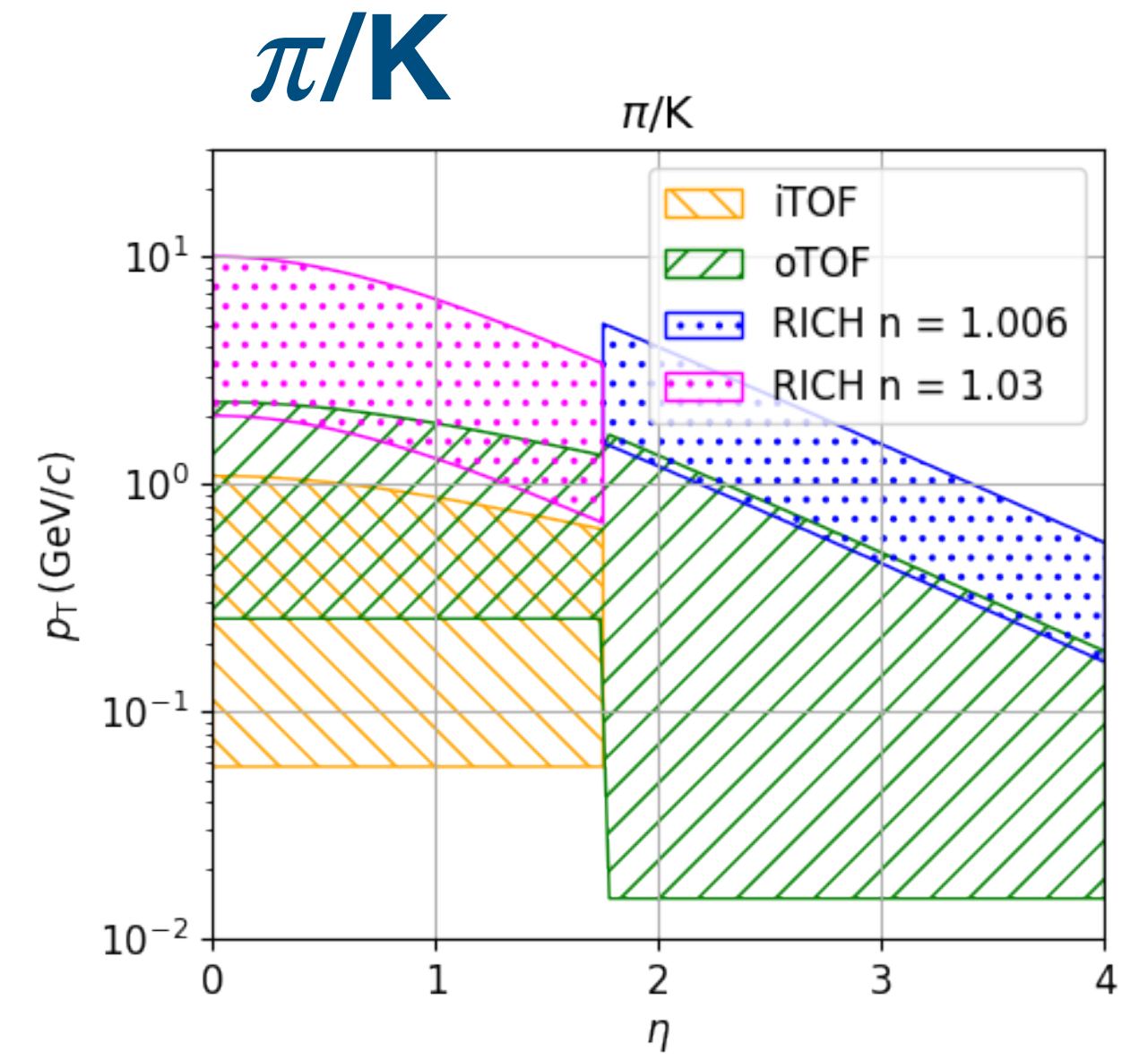
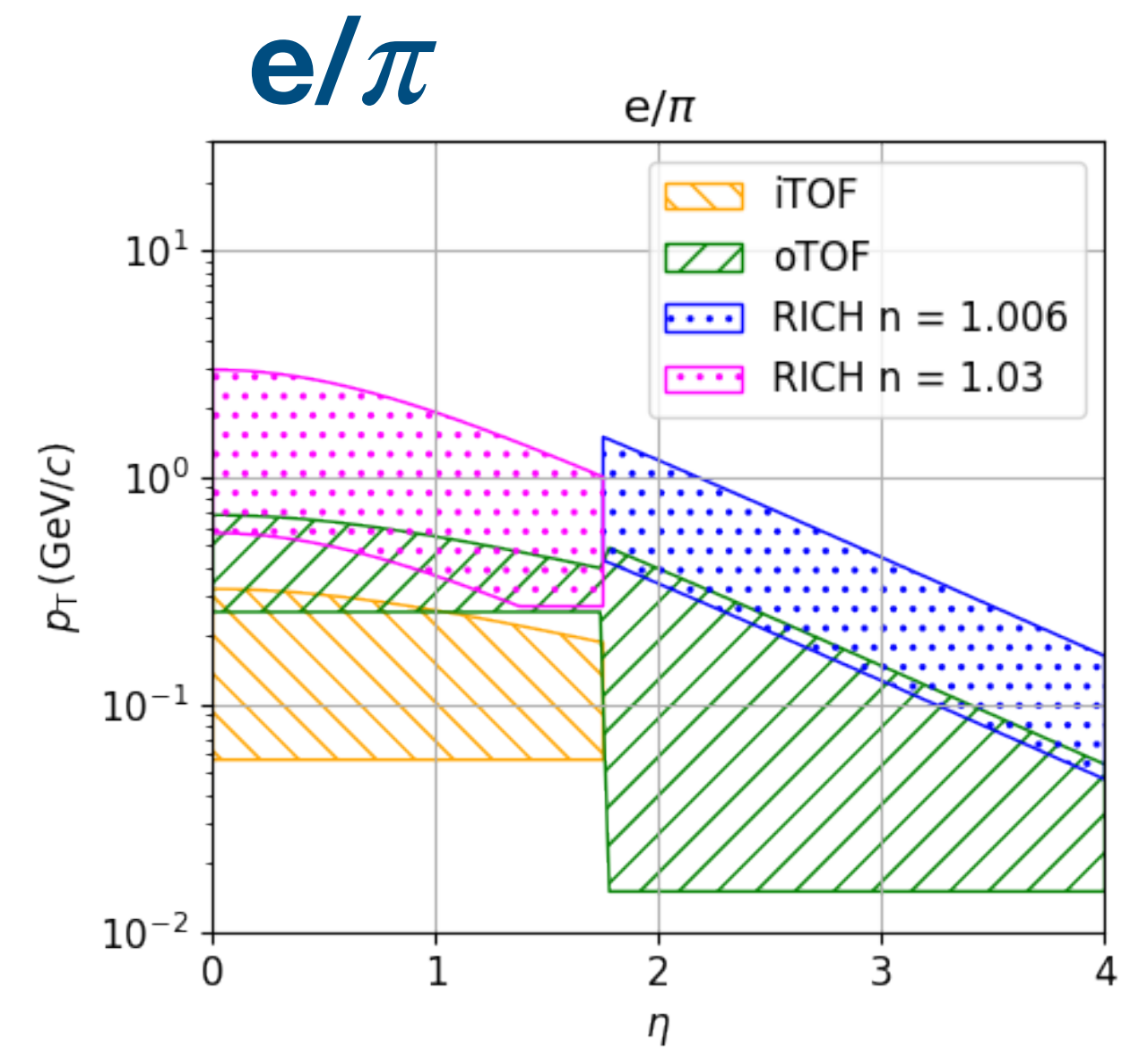
- aerogel radiator
 - refractive index $n = 1.03$ (barrel)
 - refractive index $n = 1.006$ (forward)
- R&D on monolithic silicon photon sensors



aerogel radiator



Total SiPM area ~ 40 m²
Continuous separation from 100 MeV/c to 10 GeV/c

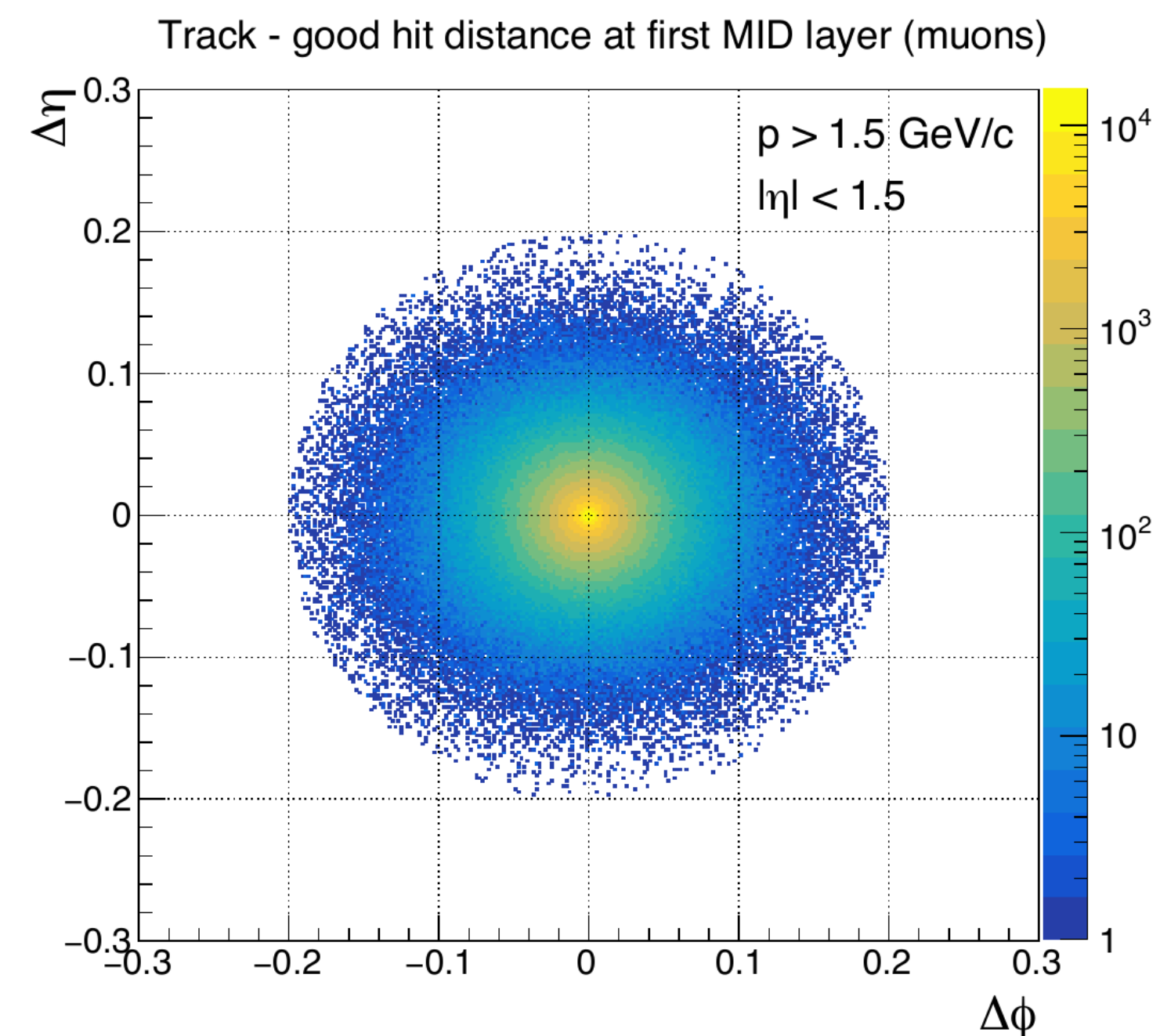
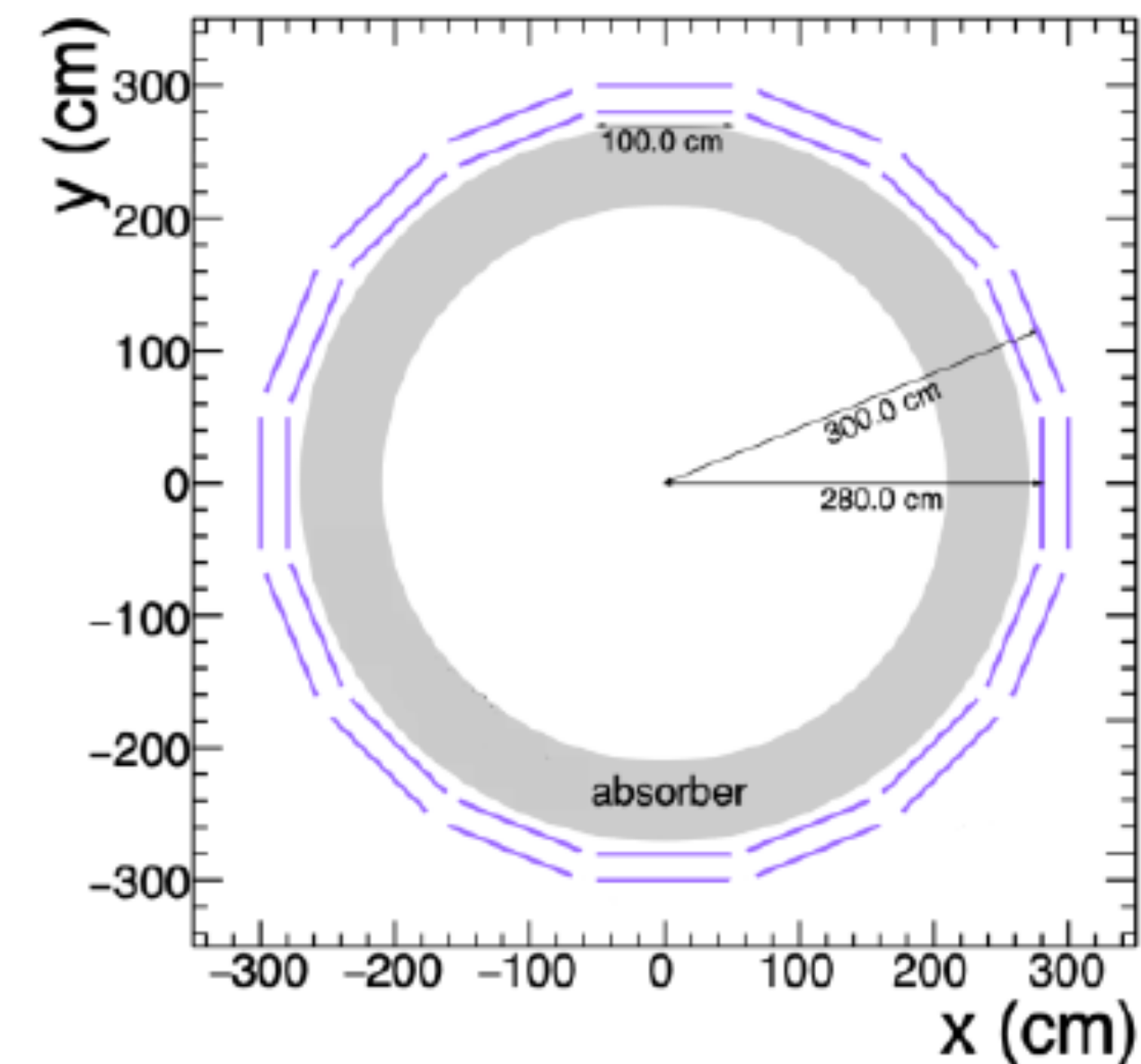


Muon chambers at central rapidity

- ~70 cm non-magnetic steel hadron absorber
- search spot for muons $\sim 0.1 \times 0.1$ ($\eta \times \varphi$)
- $\sim 5 \times 5$ cm² cell size
- matching demonstrated with 2 layers of muon chambers
 - scintillator bars
 - wave-length shifting fibers
 - SiPM read-out
 - possibility to use using RPCs as muon chambers

Muon identification down to $p_T \approx 1.5$ GeV/c

optimized for J/ψ reconstruction down to p_T 0 GeV/c





ALICE O2 facility for Run 3 and 4:

Major upgrades during Long Shutdown 2 (continuous readout)

- Store all Pb-Pb collisions up to 50 kHz interaction rate → 3.5 TB/s raw detector data
- Fast online compression during data taking on heterogeneous architecture:
FPGAs in FLP: 3.5 TB/s → 900 GB/s - **GPUs** in EPN: 900 GB/s → 170 GB/s

ALICE 3: novel and innovative detector concept

→ without TPC, much lower data volume / event but continuous read-out and online processing

Target interaction rates x2 in Pb-Pb and x50 in pp (24 MHz)

→ data throughput will be dominated by pp

→ Online compression scheme of Run 3 and 4 in Run 5 → leveraging technological speedup to handle higher pp rates



ALICE

R&D activities

Silicon pixel sensors

- thinning and bending of silicon sensors
 - expand on experience with ITS3
- exploration of new CMOS processes
 - first in-beam tests with 65 nm process
- modularisation and industrialisation

Silicon timing sensors

- characterisation of SPADs/SiPMs
 - first tests in beam
- monolithic timing sensors
 - implement gain layer

Unique and relevant technologies
→ Synergies with LHC, FAIR, EIC, ...

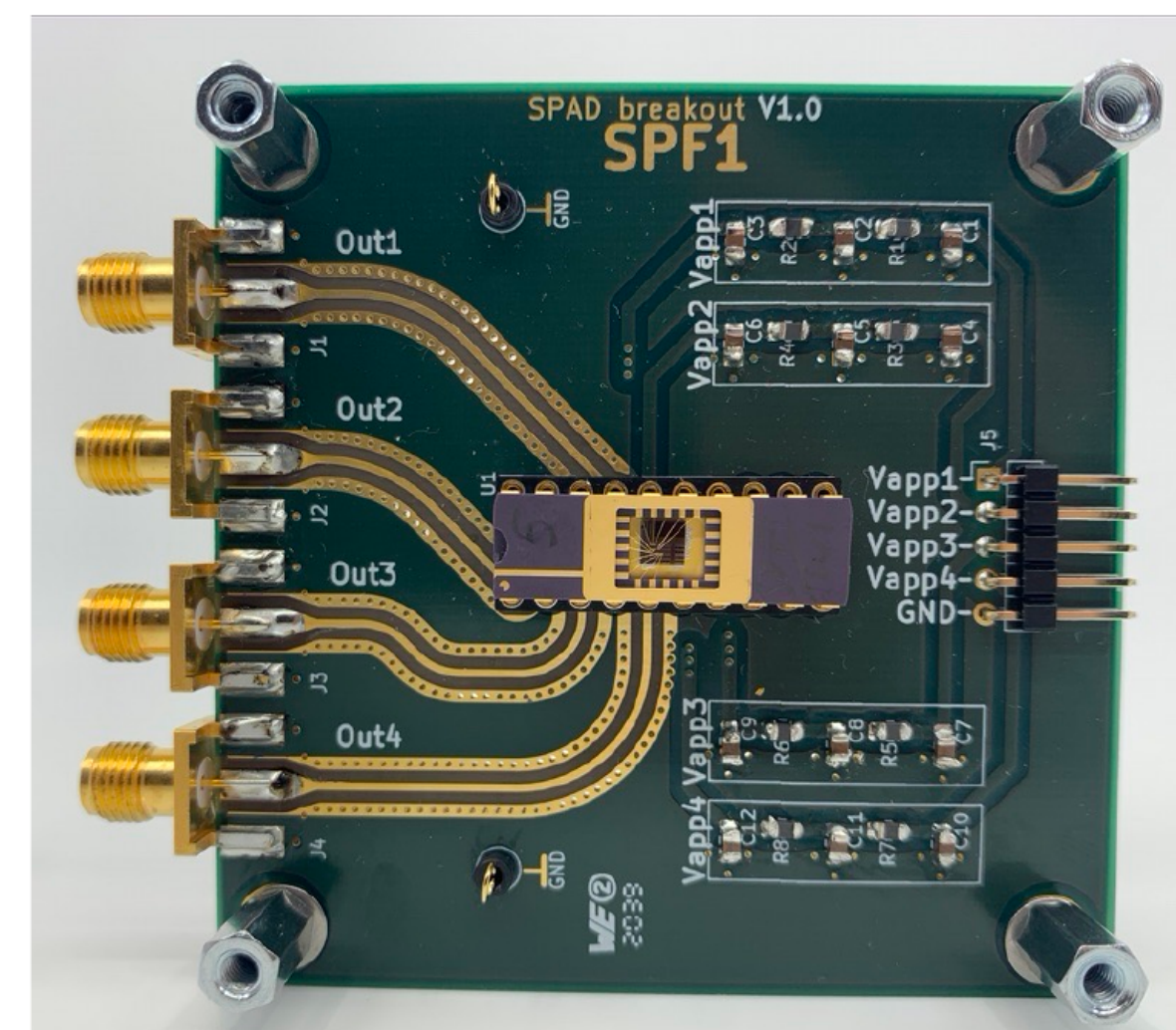
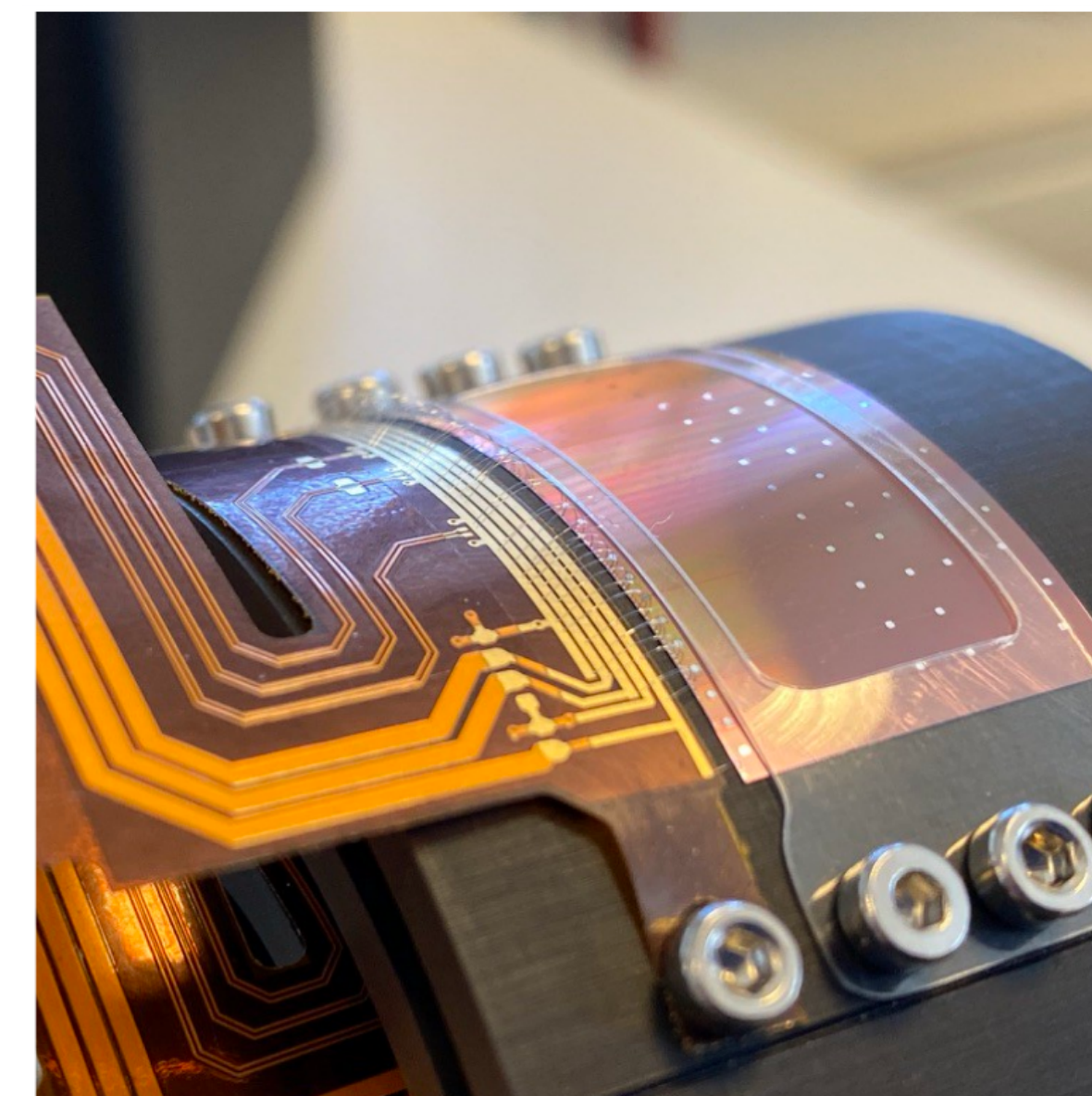
Photon sensors

- monolithic SiPMs
 - integrate read-out

R&D has already started!

Detector mechanics and cooling

- mechanics for operation in beam pipe
 - compatibility with vacuum and beam impedance
- minimisation of material in the active volume
 - micro-channel cooling

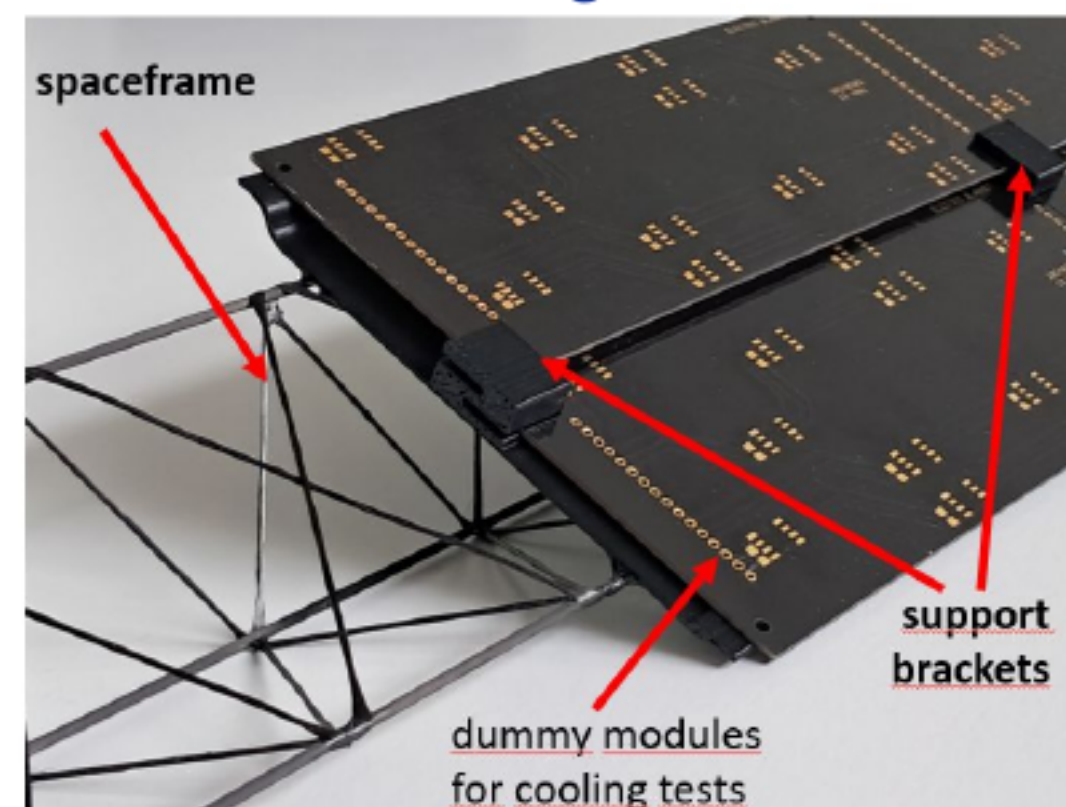


Endcap disks:

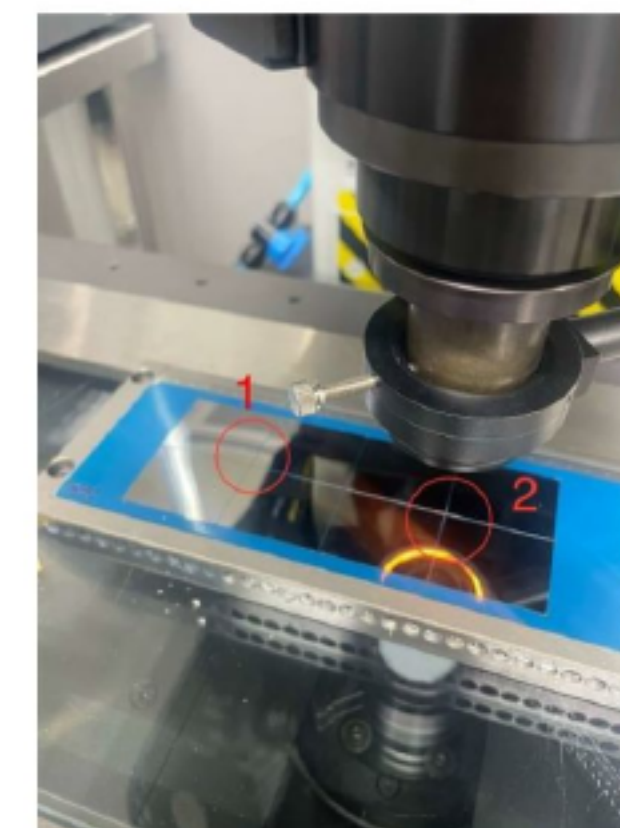
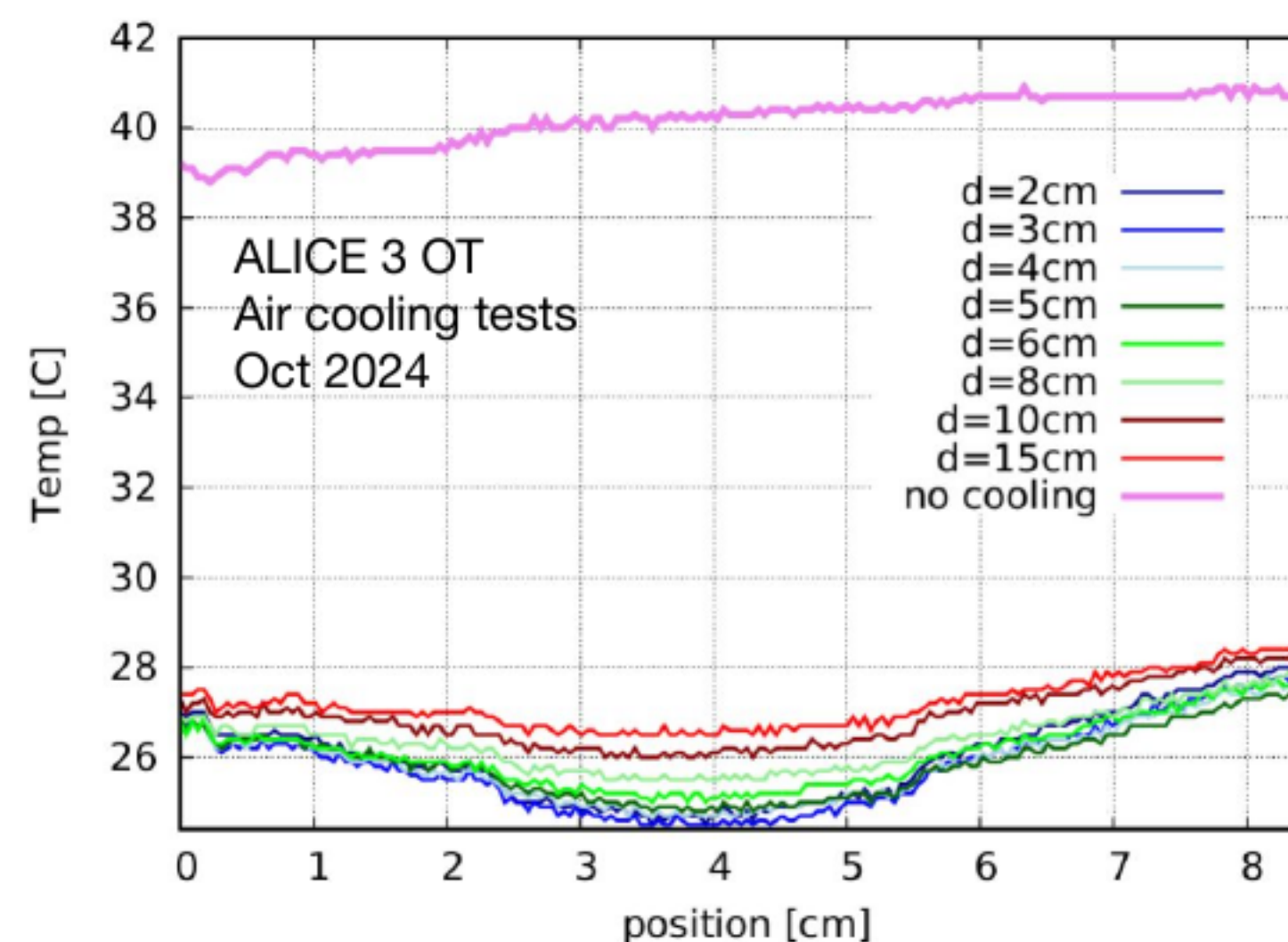
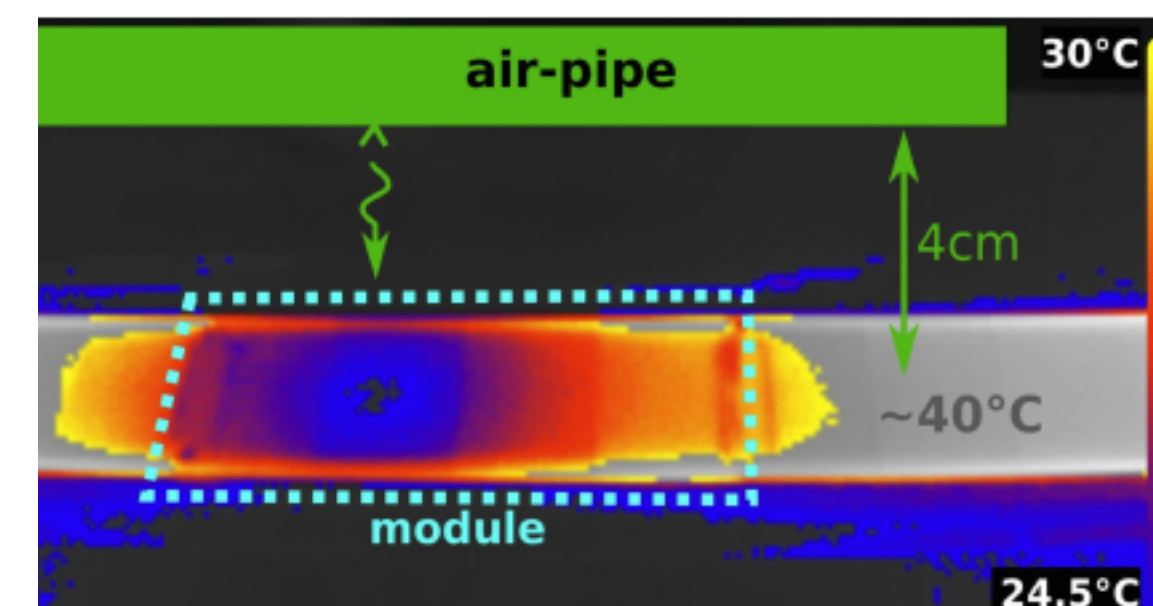
- double-sided layout of sensor modules
- material budget estimates

Barrel design:

- full-scale stave model
- mechanical support studies
- air cooling studies

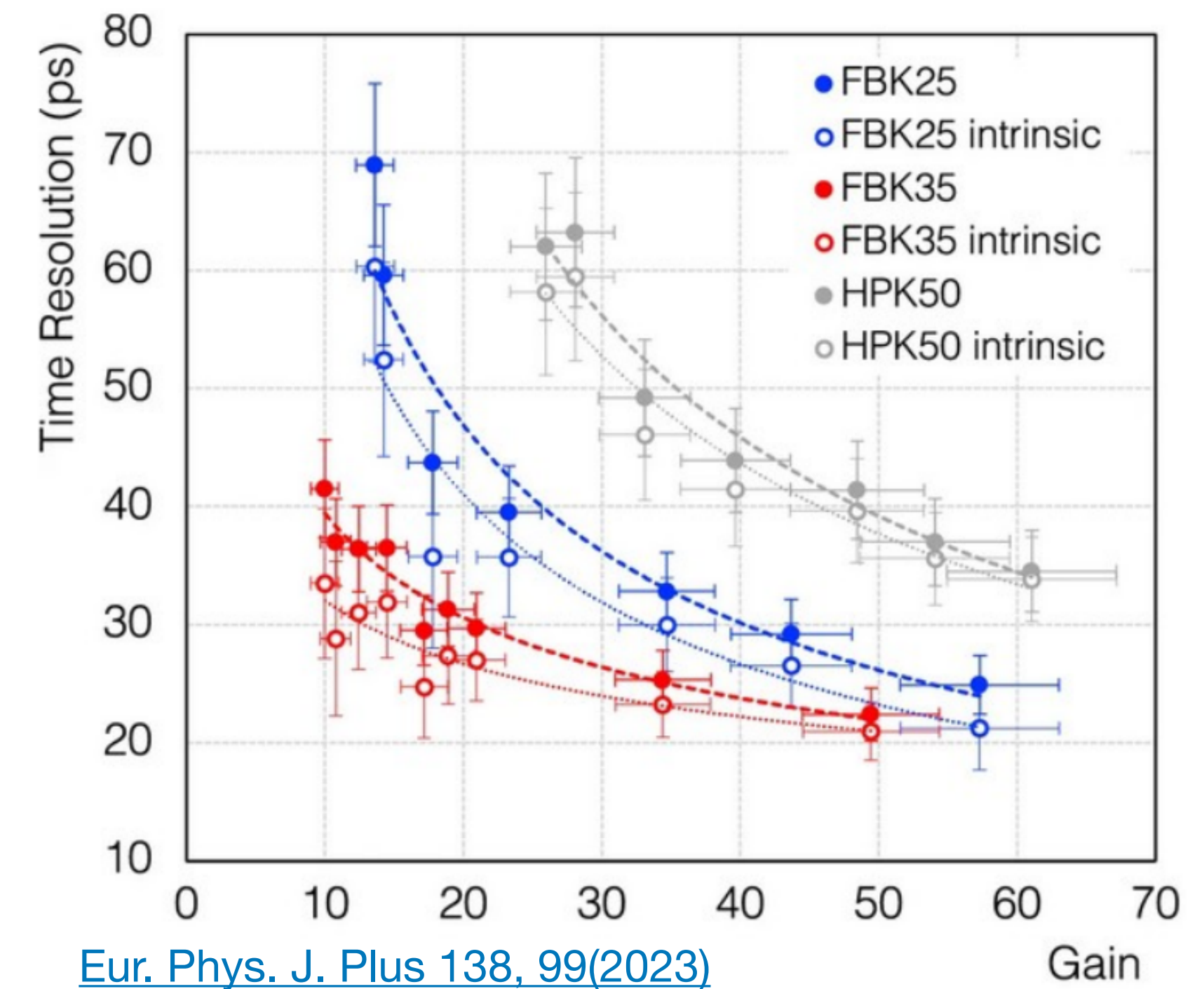
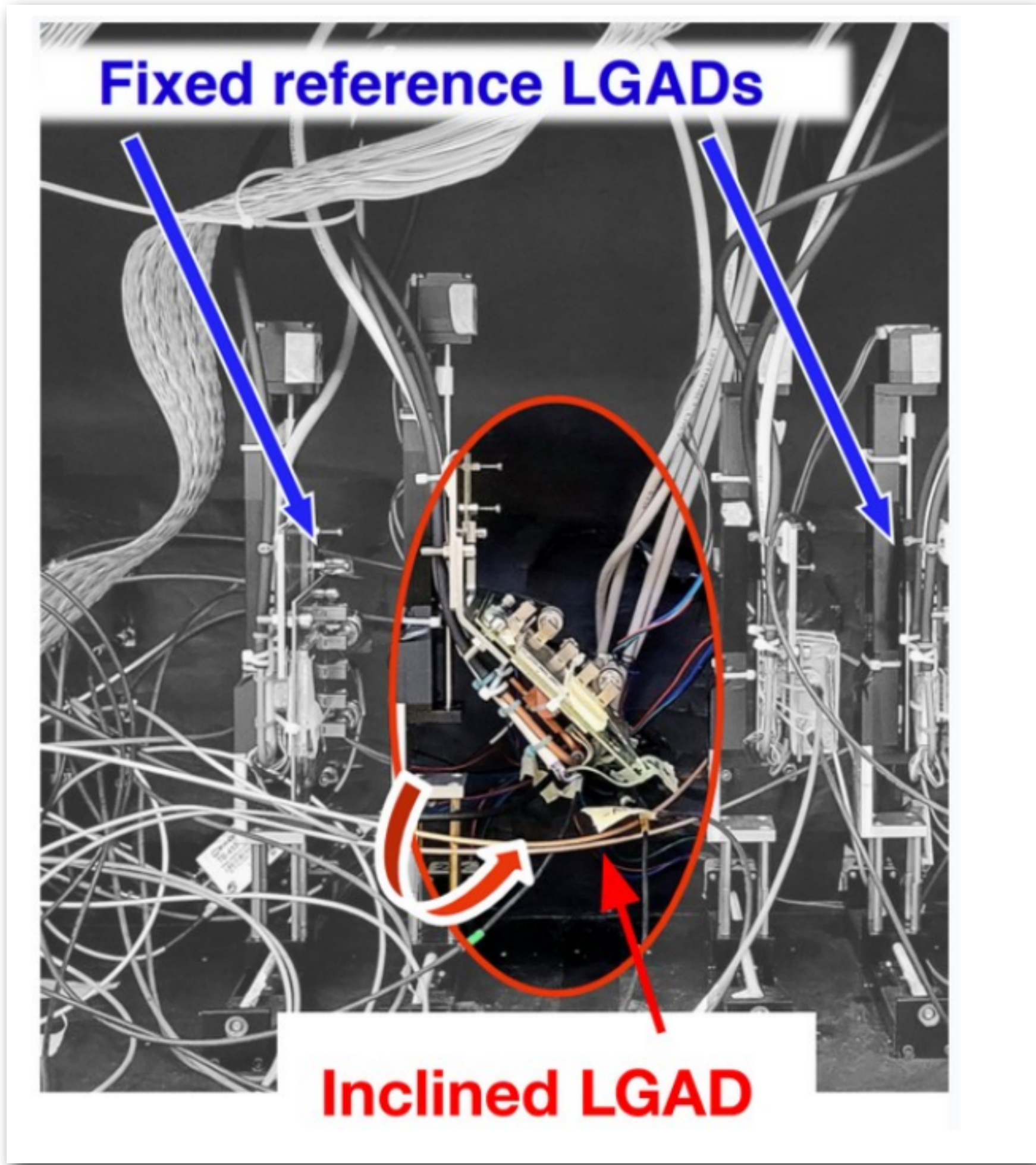


E



Module assembly in external companies:

- customization of die-bonder machine
- studies for sensor gluing and interconnections



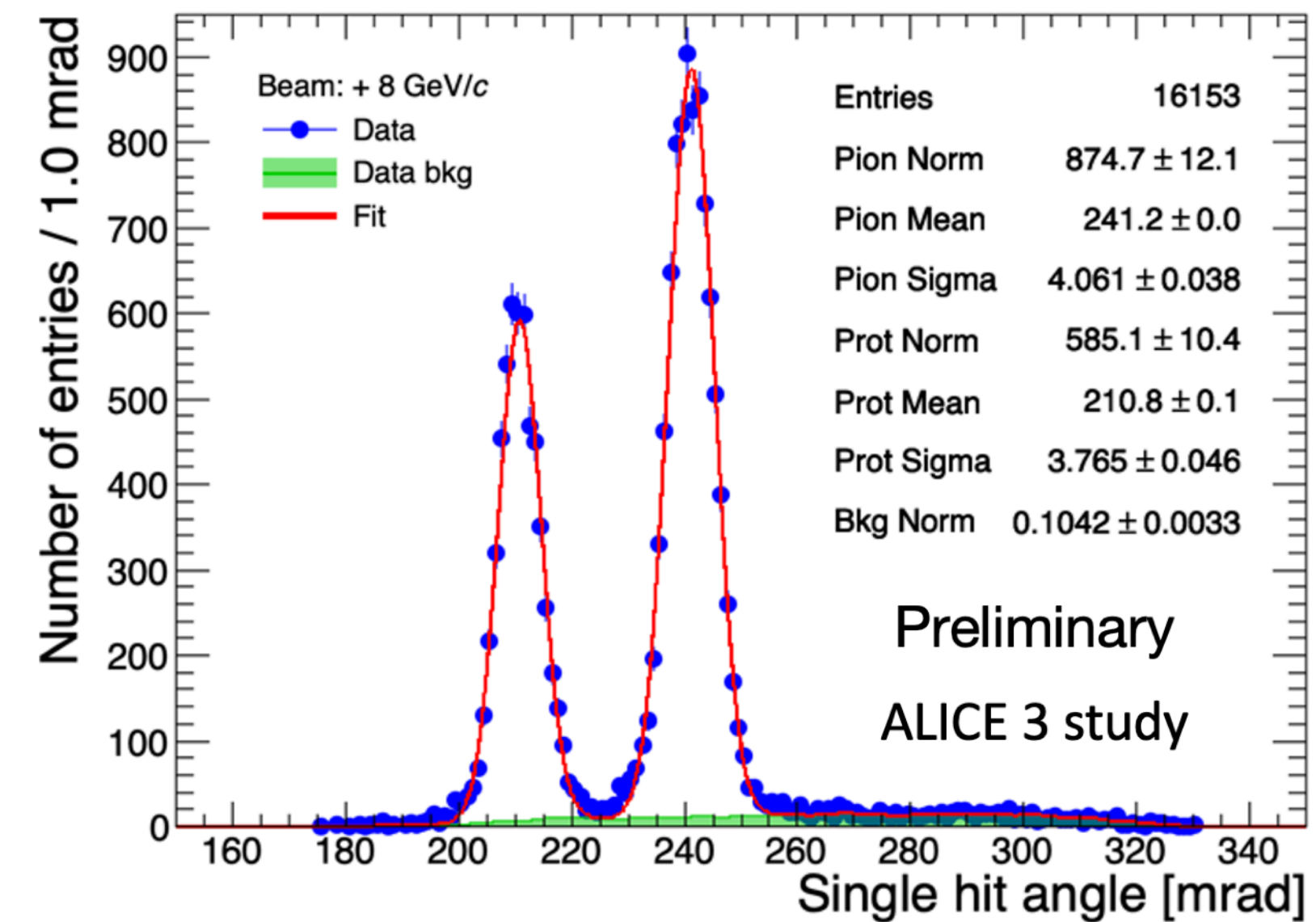
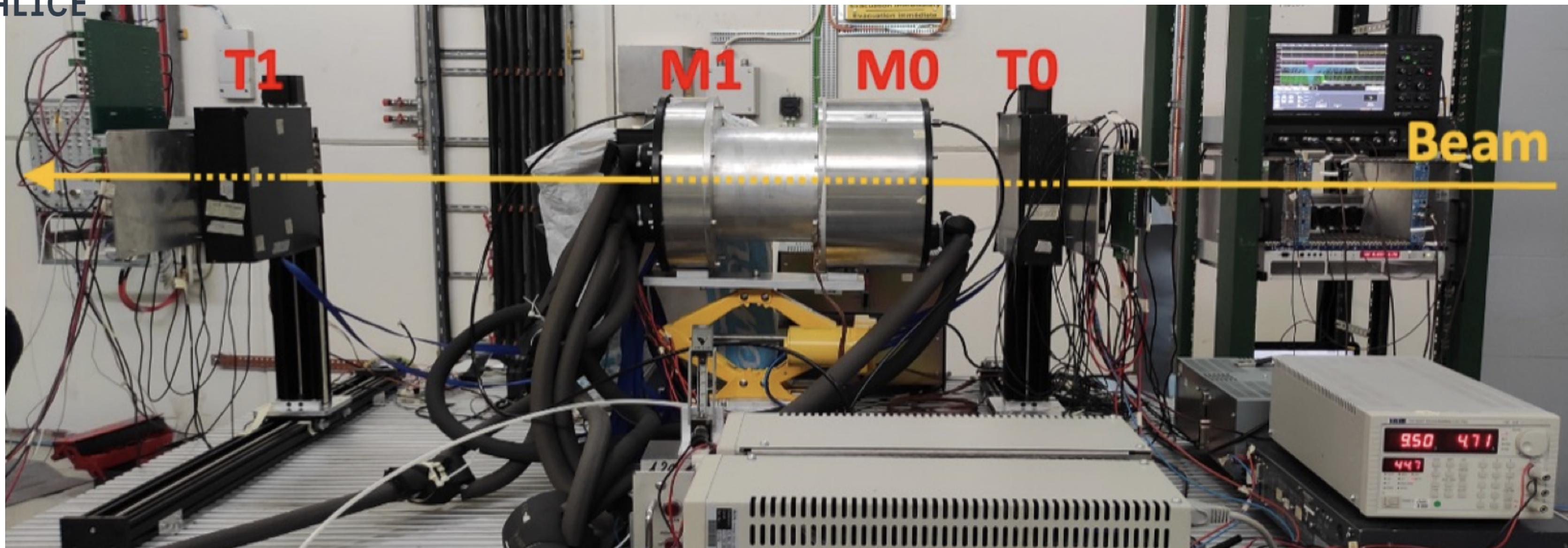
Target time resolution: 20 ps

Several testbeams since 2022 (last October 2024)

Various sensor options:

- SiPM coated with different resins (type, thickness)
- Single and double LGADs 20 μm , 25 μm , 35 μm thick
- 50 μm thick CMOS-LGAD (ARCADIA MAPS with gain layer) and with integrated FEE (MADPIX)

Target resolution achieved on individual sensor with SiPM and CMOS



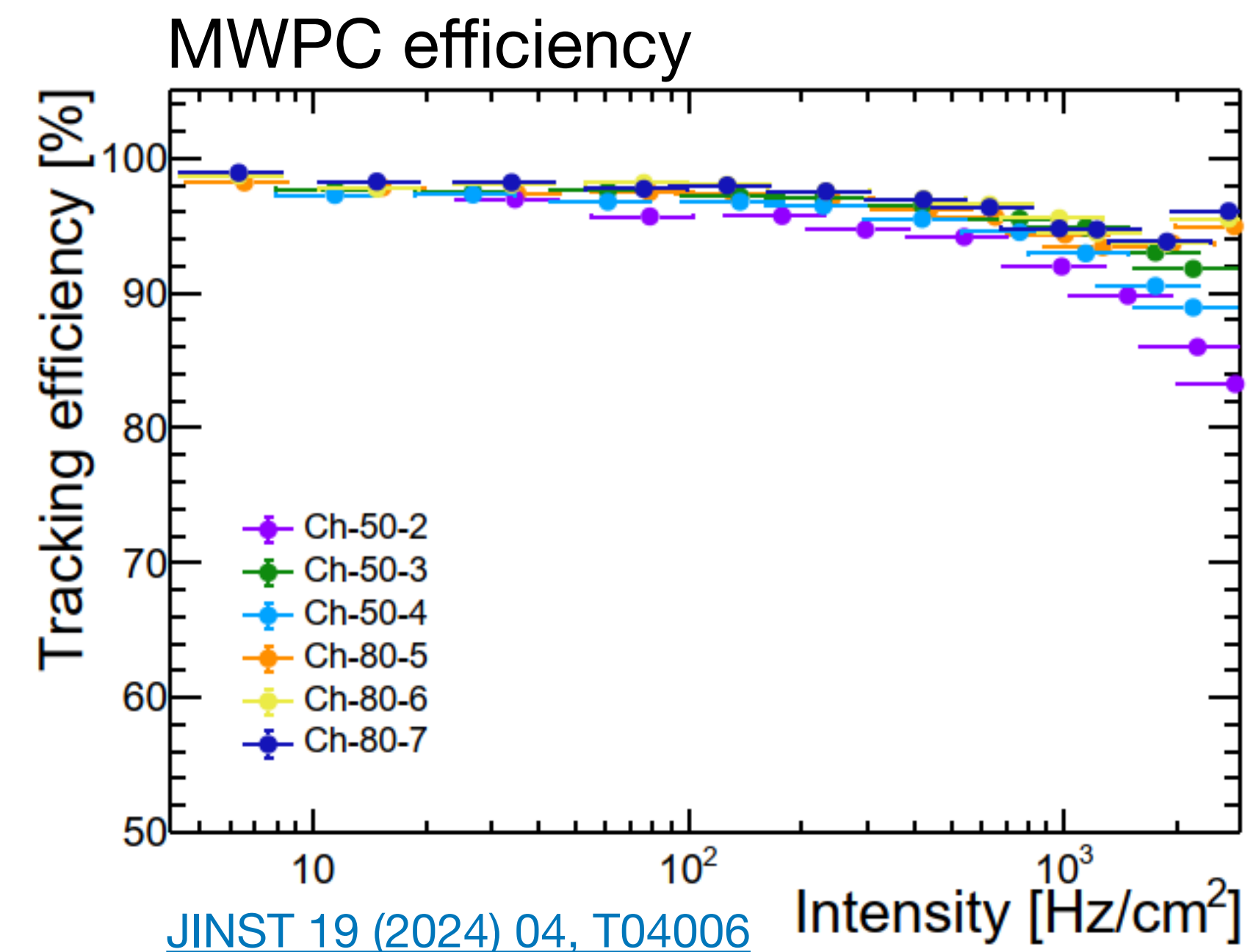
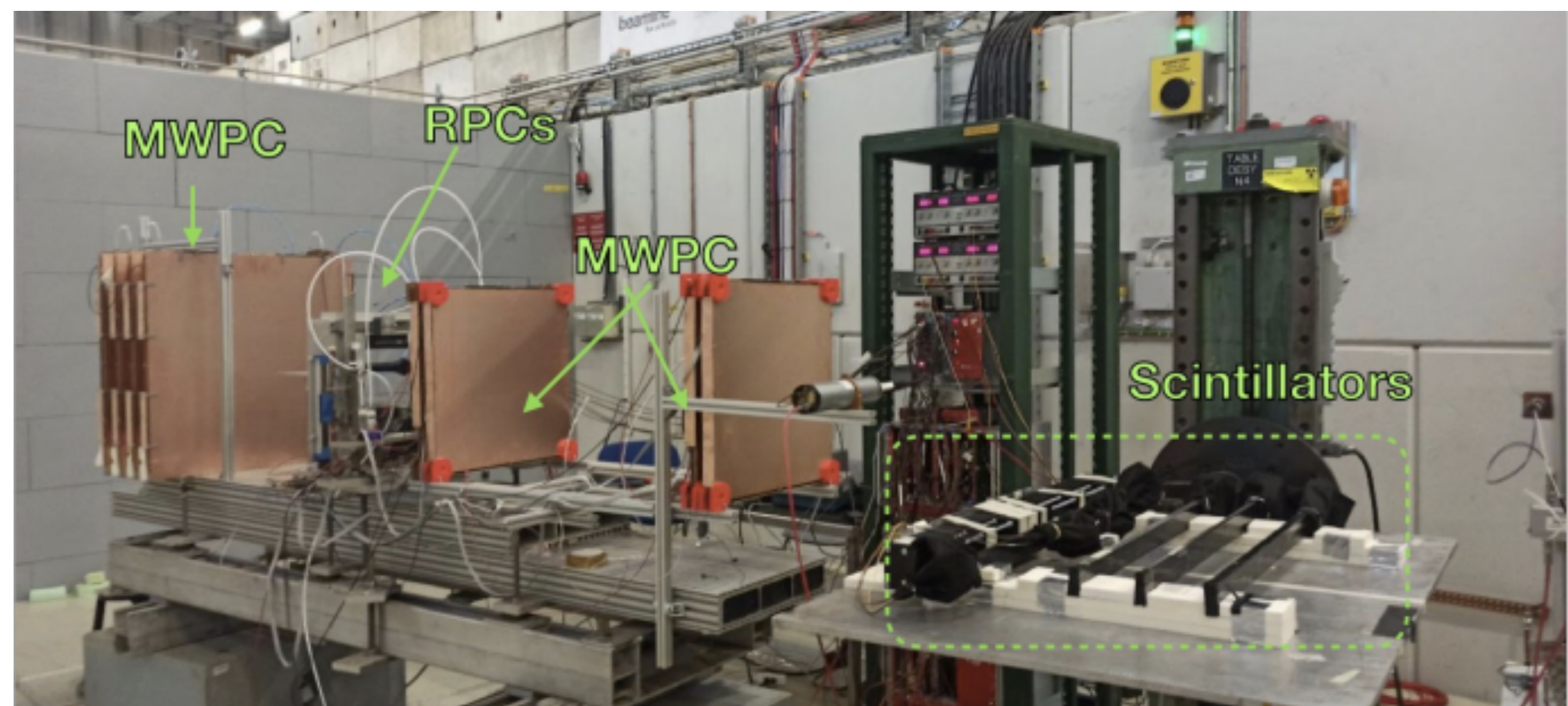
Target single-photon angle resolution: 6 mrad

Testbeam in October 2023 at CERN PS

Aerogel radiator by Aerogel Factory LTD (Japan)

8x8 SiPM matrices from HPK and FBK, various pixel sizes

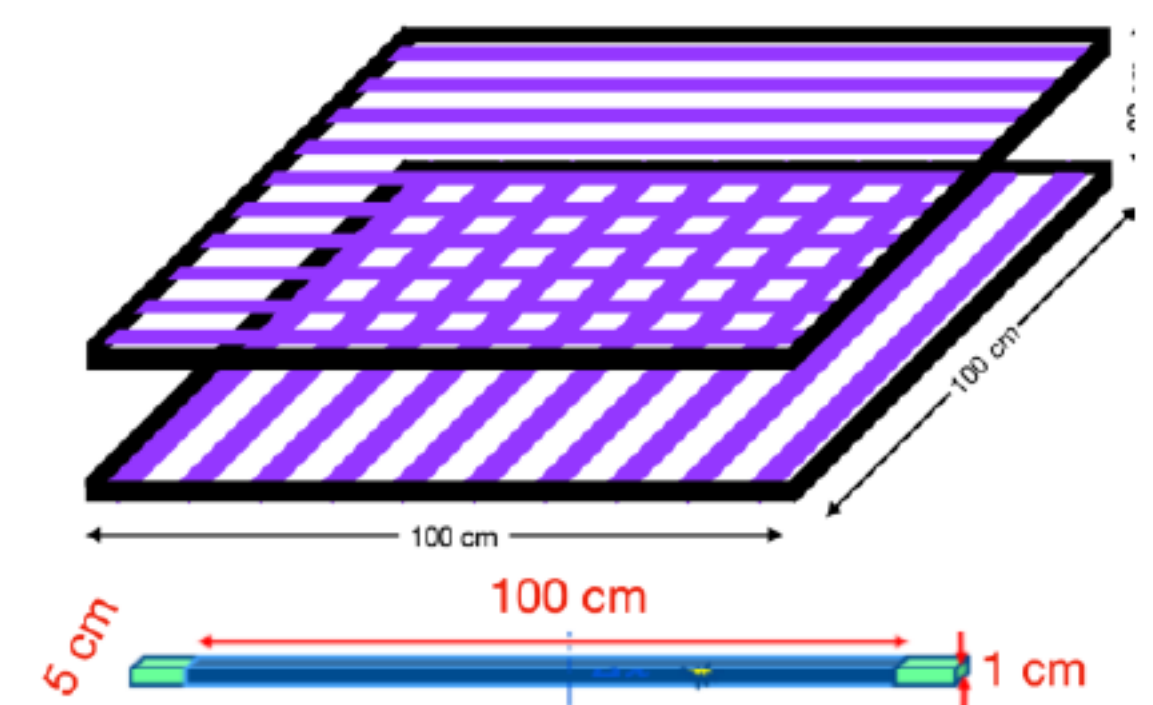
Different radiator windows coupled to SiPM to test TOF+RICH integrated concept



Test beam in July 2023 at CERN PS

Considered technologies:

- Plastic scintillators (FNAL-NICADD, ELJEN EJ208, Protvino) + SiPM
- Multiwire proportional chambers (8 mm, 12 mm pitch)
- Resistive plate chambers

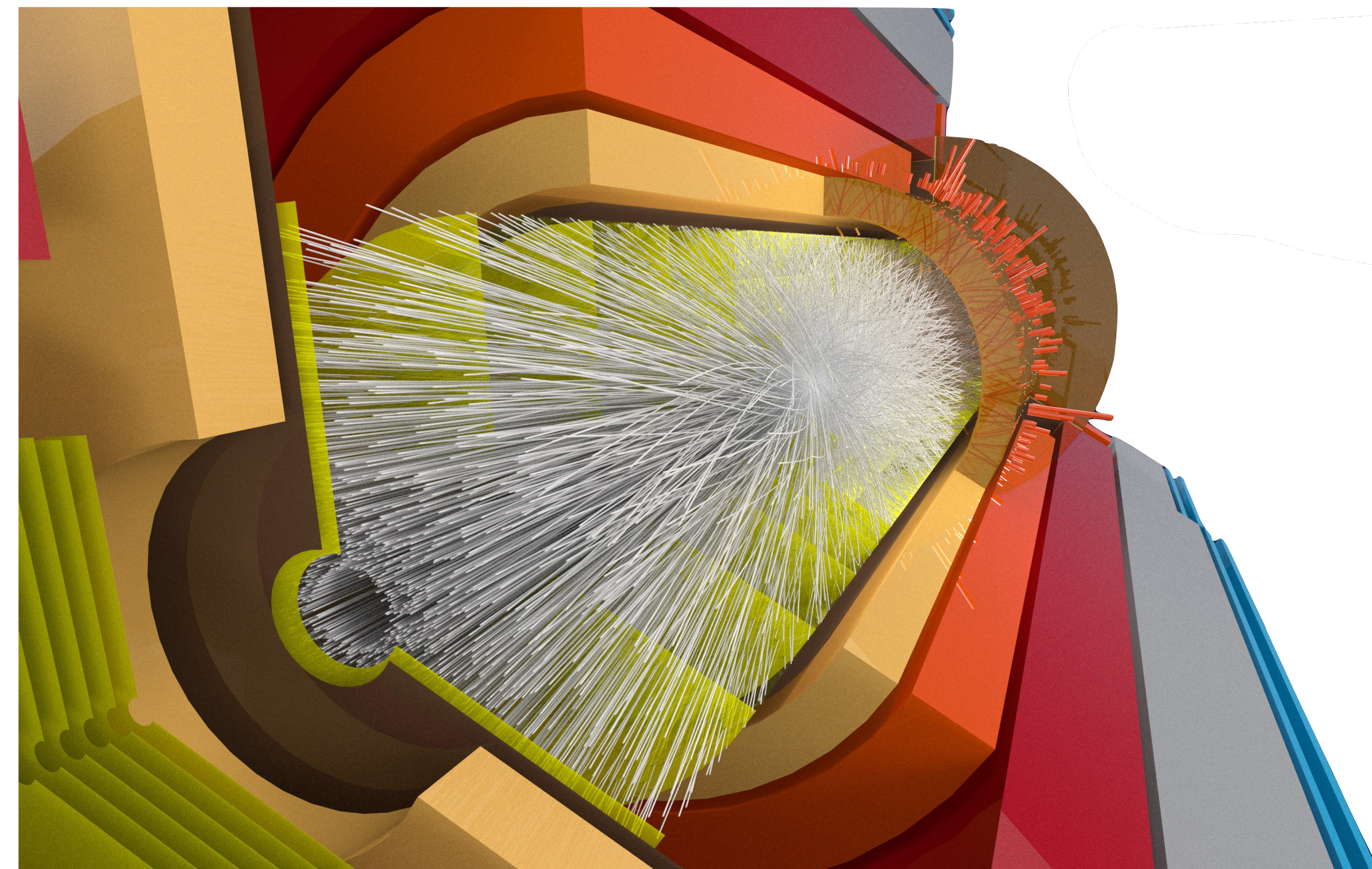


ALICE 3 will unravel the QGP dynamics

- Evolution of thermal properties of the QGP
- Chiral symmetry restoration
- Hadronisation and nature of hadronic states
- Exotic states and charmed nuclei

Innovative detector concept

- focusing on **silicon technology**
- building on experience pioneered in ALICE upgrades
- requiring R&D activities in several strategic areas
- **R&D already started!**



6 years of running with ALICE 3

Heavy ions: 1 month/year

35 nb⁻¹ for Pb-Pb

Under study:

→ lighter species for higher luminosity

pp at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV:

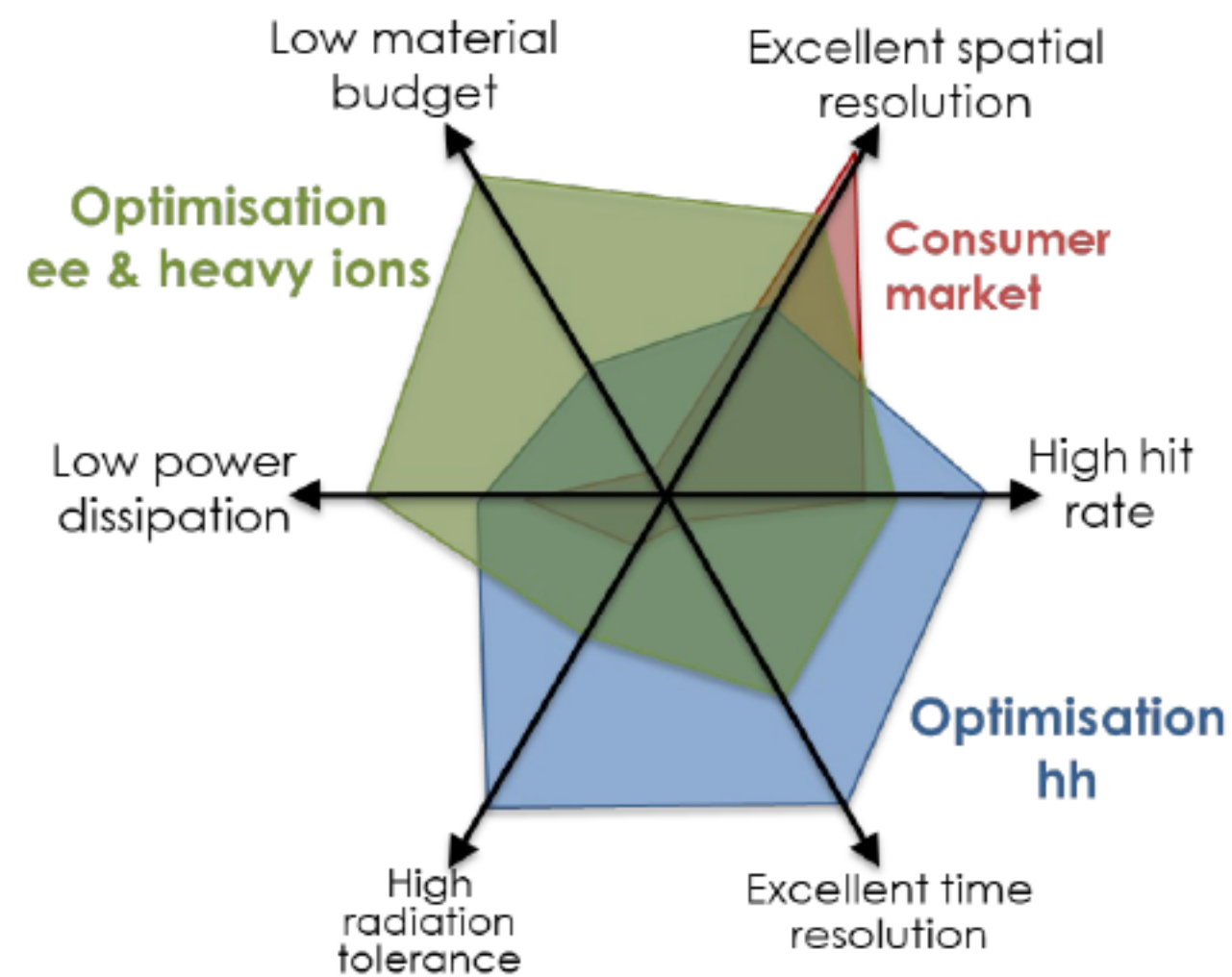
3 fb⁻¹ / year → × 100 compared to Run 3+4

More reasons

A. Conclusion 1 out of 4 (2021 ECFA roadmap) :

”Develop cost-effective detectors matching the precision physics potential of a next-decade Higgs factory with beyond state-of-the-art performance, optimised granularity, resolution and timing, and with ultimate compactness and minimised material budgets”

B. Overlap of specifications : eA, pA, AA // e⁺e⁻ !



Courtesy J. Baudot

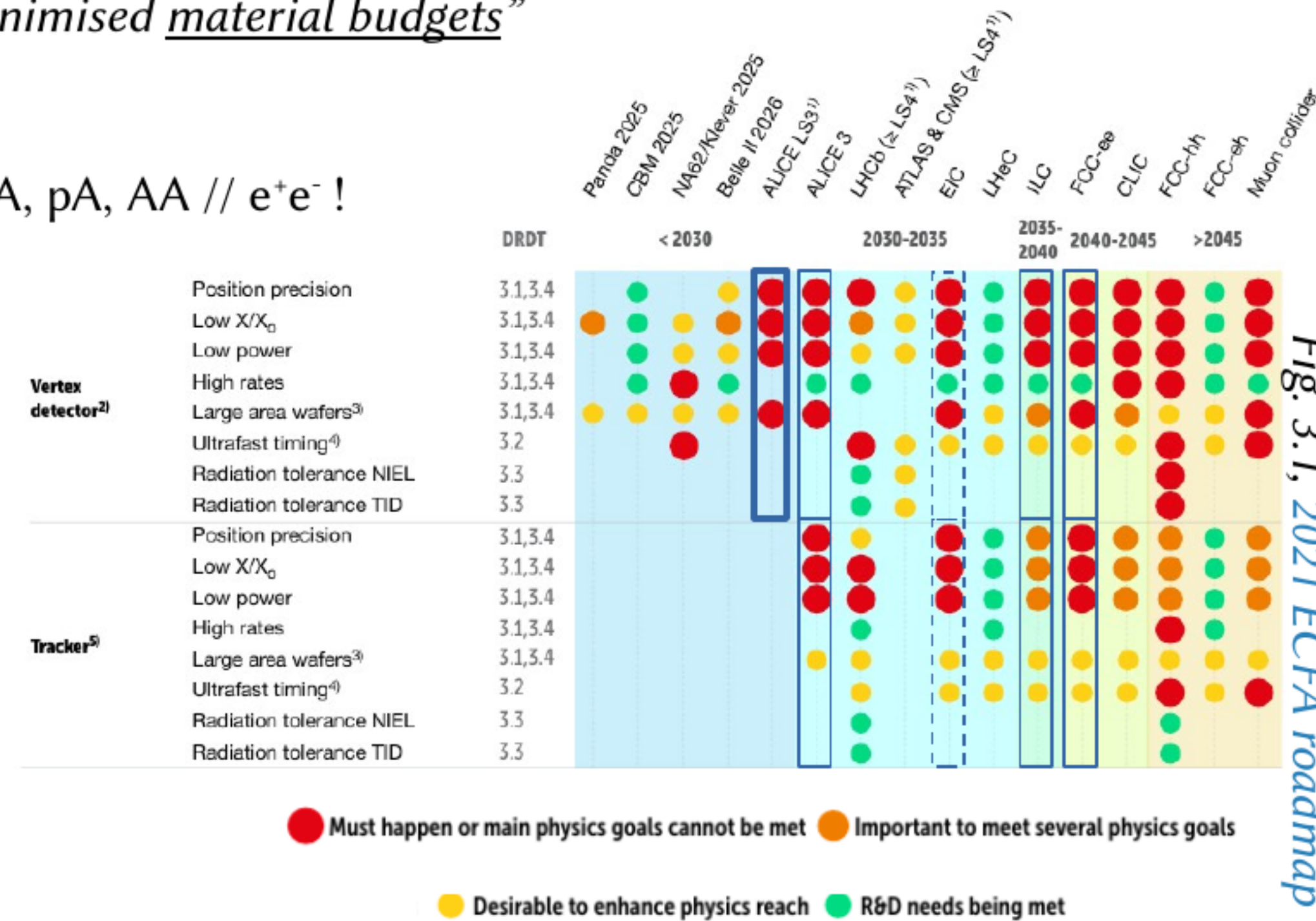


Fig. 3.1, 2021 ECFA roadmap

Thank you

Observables and requirements

Goal observables

Dileptons ($p_T \sim 0.1 - 3 \text{ GeV}/c$, $M_{ee} \sim 0.1 - 4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)

- vertexing, tracking, lepton ID

Photons ($100 \text{ MeV}/c - 50 \text{ GeV}/c$, wide η range)

- electromagnetic calorimetry

Heavy-flavour hadrons ($p_T \rightarrow 0$, wide η range)

- vertexing, tracking, hadron ID

Quarkonia and Exotica ($p_T \rightarrow 0$)

- muon ID

Jets

- tracking and calorimetry, hadron ID

Ultrasoft photons ($p_T = 1 - 50 \text{ MeV}/c$)

- dedicated forward detector

Nuclei and exotica

- identification of $z > 1$ particles

Key requirements

- Good tracking down to $p_T = 0$
- Low-mass detector
- Excellent pointing resolution
- Excellent particle identification
- Large acceptance
- High rates, large data samples

Performance summary

| Component | Observables | $ \eta < 1.75$ (barrel) | $1.75 < \eta < 4$ (forward) | Detectors |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Vertexing | Multi-charm baryons, dielectrons | Best possible DCA resolution, $\sigma_{DCA} \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$ at $200 \text{ MeV}/c$ | Best possible DCA resolution, $\sigma_{DCA} \approx 30 \mu\text{m}$ at $200 \text{ MeV}/c$ | Retractable silicon pixel tracker: $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \approx 2.5 \mu\text{m}$, $R_{\text{in}} \approx 5 \text{ mm}$, $X/X_0 \approx 0.1 \%$ for first layer |
| Tracking | Multi-charm baryons, dielectrons | | $\sigma_{p_T} / p_T \sim 1-2 \%$ | Silicon pixel tracker: $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$, $R_{\text{out}} \approx 80 \text{ cm}$, $X/X_0 \approx 1 \%$ / layer |
| Hadron ID | Multi-charm baryons | | $\pi/K/p$ separation up to a few GeV/c | Time of flight: $\sigma_{\text{tof}} \approx 20 \text{ ps}$ RICH: aerogel, $\sigma_{\theta} \approx 1.5 \text{ mrad}$ |
| Electron ID | Dielectrons, quarkonia, $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ | pion rejection by 1000x up to $\sim 2 - 3 \text{ GeV}/c$ | | Time of flight: $\sigma_{\text{tof}} \approx 20 \text{ ps}$ RICH: aerogel, $\sigma_{\theta} \approx 1.5 \text{ mrad}$ possibly preshower detector |
| Muon ID | Quarkonia, $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ | | reconstruction of J/ψ at rest, i.e. muons from $1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ | steel absorber: $L \approx 70 \text{ cm}$ muon detectors |
| Electromagnetic calorimetry | Photons, jets | | large acceptance | Pb-Sci calorimeter |
| | χ_c | high-resolution segment | | PbWO ₄ calorimeter |
| Ultrasoft photon detection | Ultra-soft photons | | measurement of photons in p_T range $1 - 50 \text{ MeV}/c$ | Forward Conversion Tracker based on silicon pixel sensors |

Installation at LHC

Installation of ALICE 3 around nominal IP2

L3 magnet can remain, ALICE 3 to be installed inside Cryostat of ~8 m length, free bore radius 1.5 m, magnetic field configuration to be optimized

Running scenario:

- 6 running years with 1 month / year with heavy-ions
 - 35 nb^{-1} for Pb—Pb x 2.5 compared to Run 3 + 4
 - Lighter species for higher luminosity under study
- pp at $s = 14 \text{ TeV}$:
- $3 \text{ fb}^{-1} / \text{year} \times 100$ compared to Run 3 + 4

