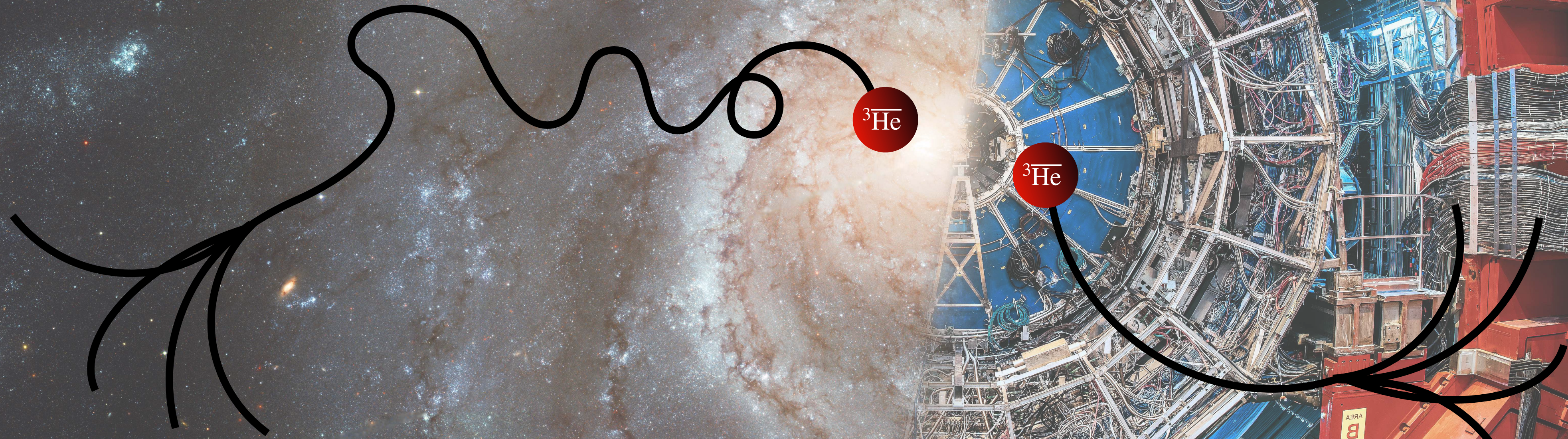




# ALICE measurements for cosmic rays

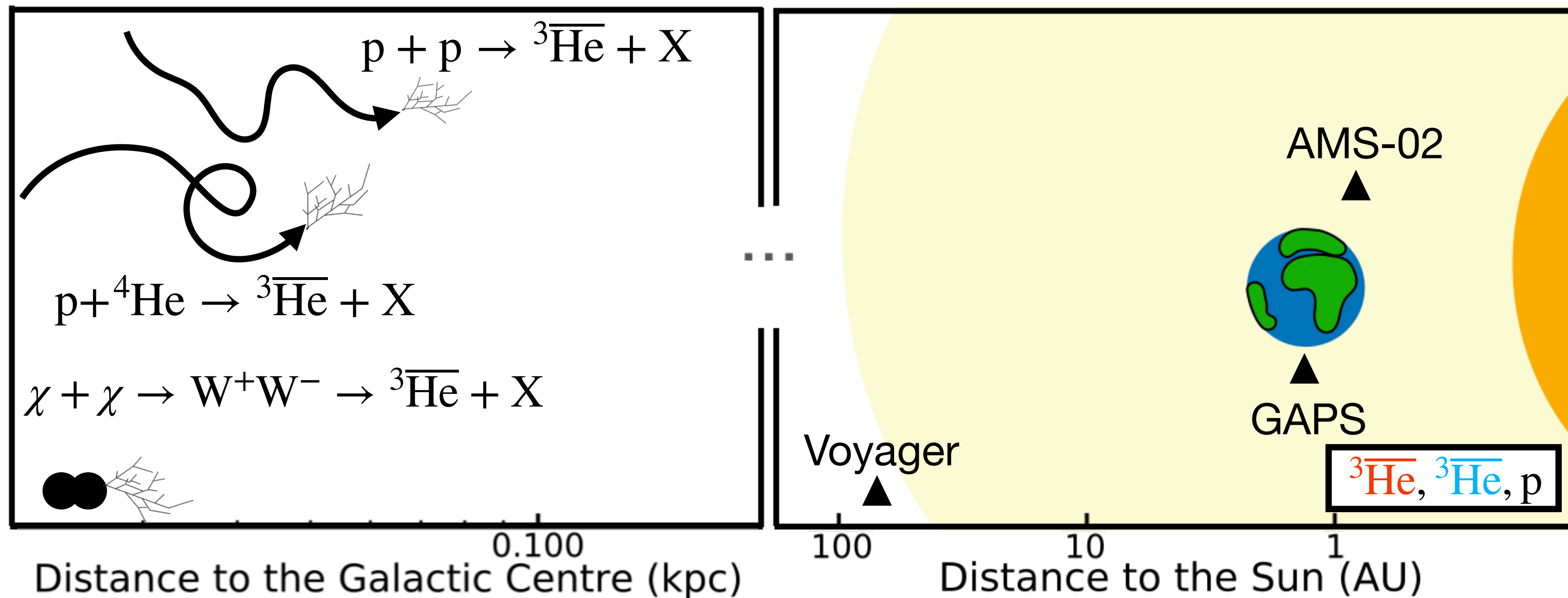


Laura Šerkšnytė  
Technical University of Munich  
XSCRC24 Workshop  
17.10.2024



# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

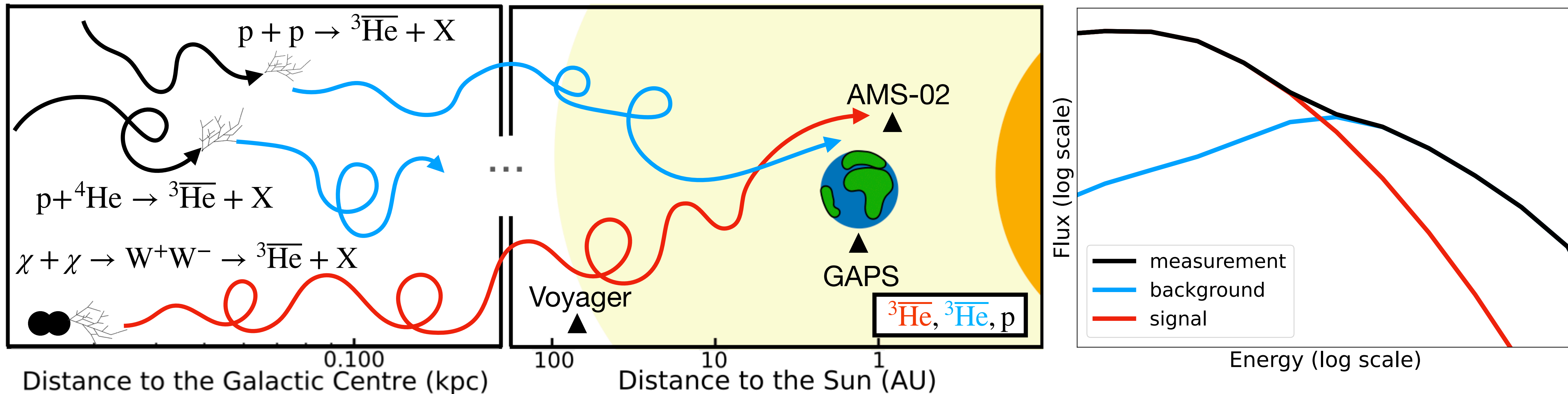
- Production





# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

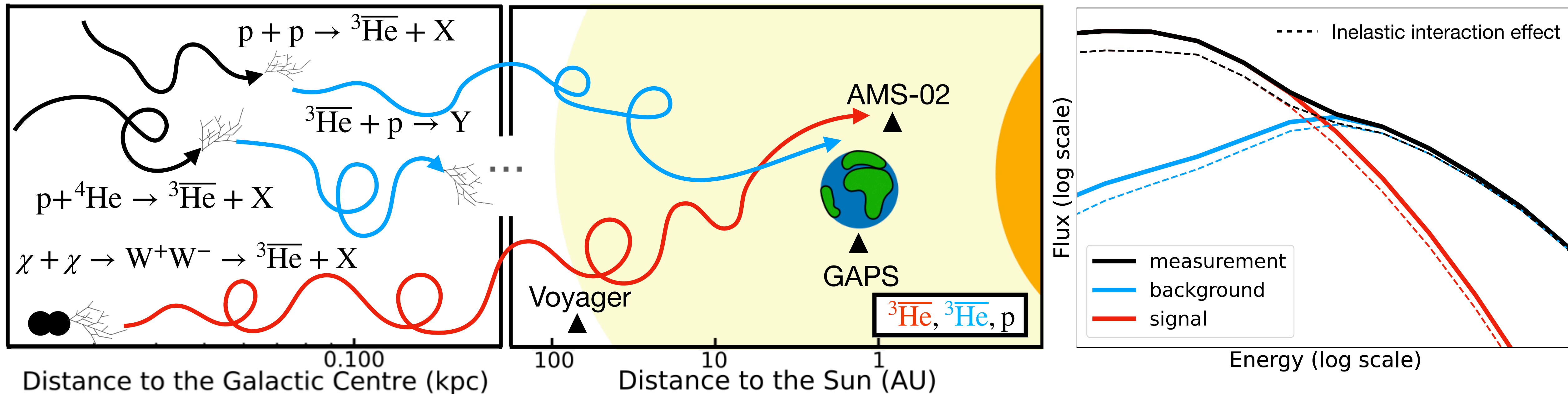
- Production
- Propagation





# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

- Production
- Propagation
- Inelastic interactions

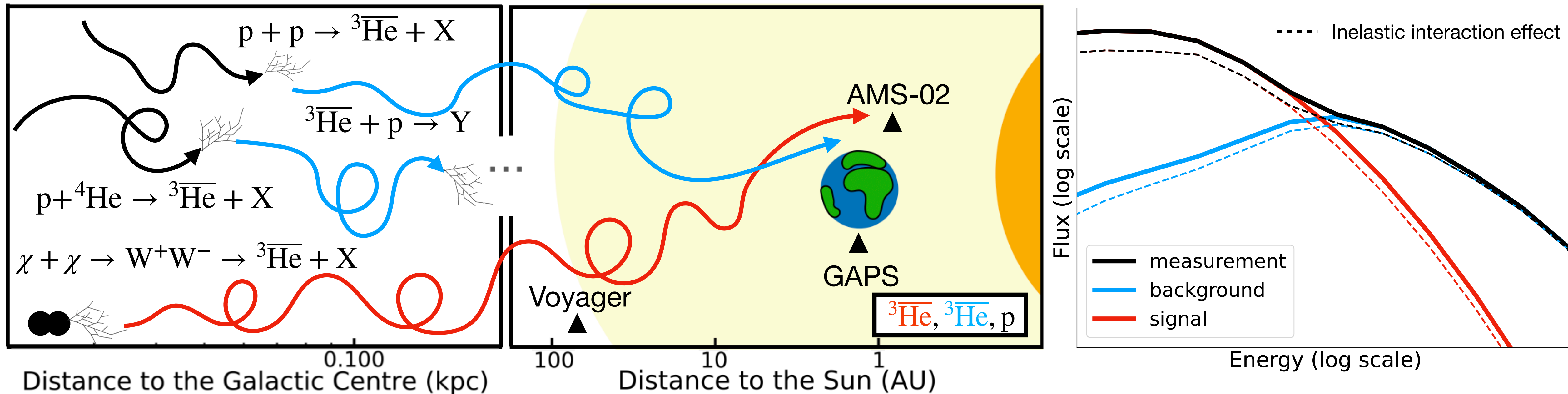




# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

- Production
- Propagation
- Inelastic interactions

Production cross section  
measurements and production  
mechanism studies





# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

- Production



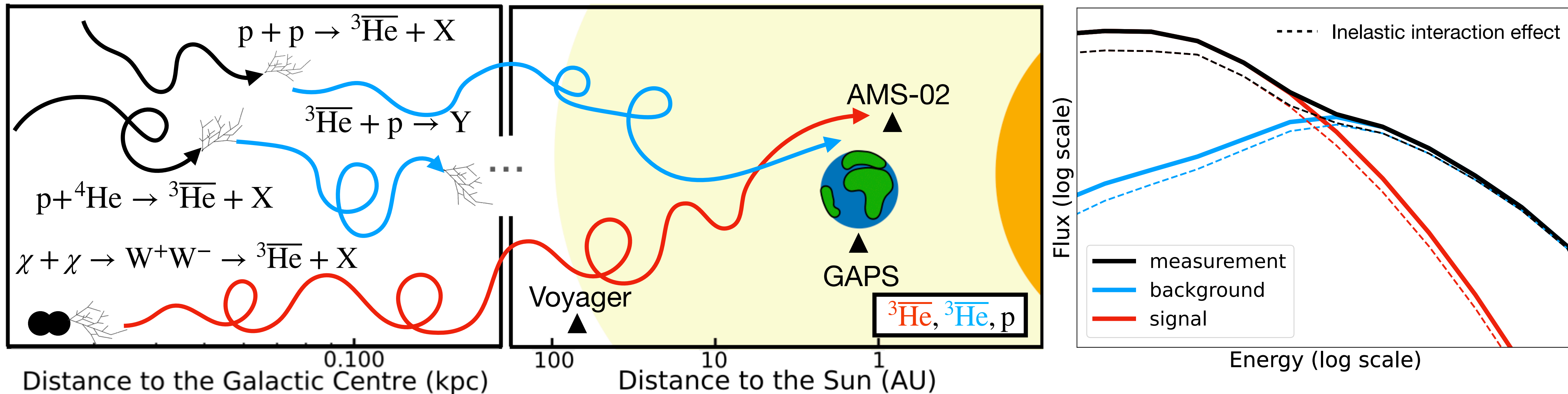
Production cross section  
measurements and production  
mechanism studies

- Propagation

- Inelastic interactions



Inelastic cross section measurements





# A Large Ion Collider Experiment

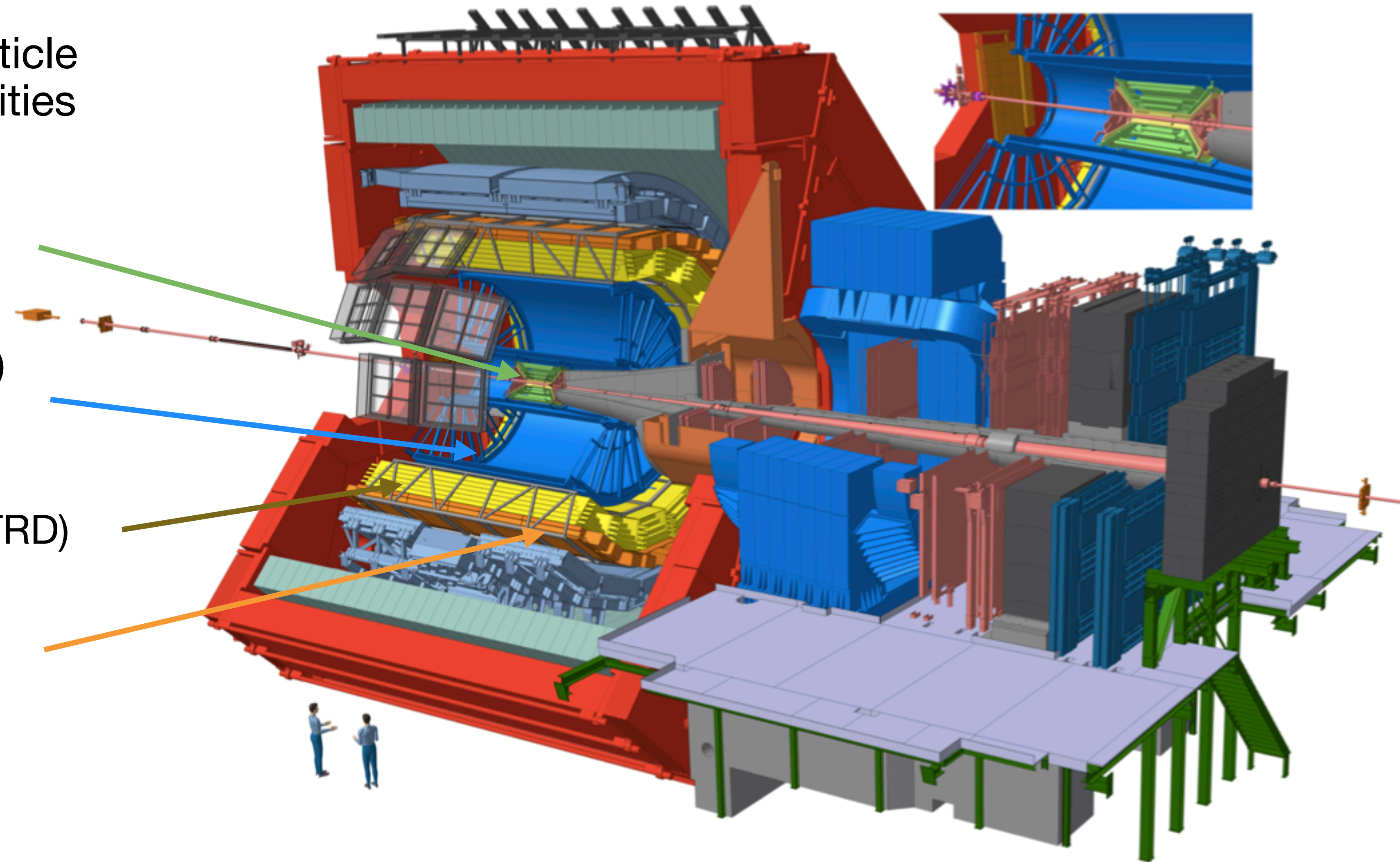
- Excellent tracking and particle identification (PID) capabilities

Inner Tracking System (ITS)  
Tracking, vertex

Time Projection Chamber (TPC)  
Tracking, PID ( $dE/dx$ )

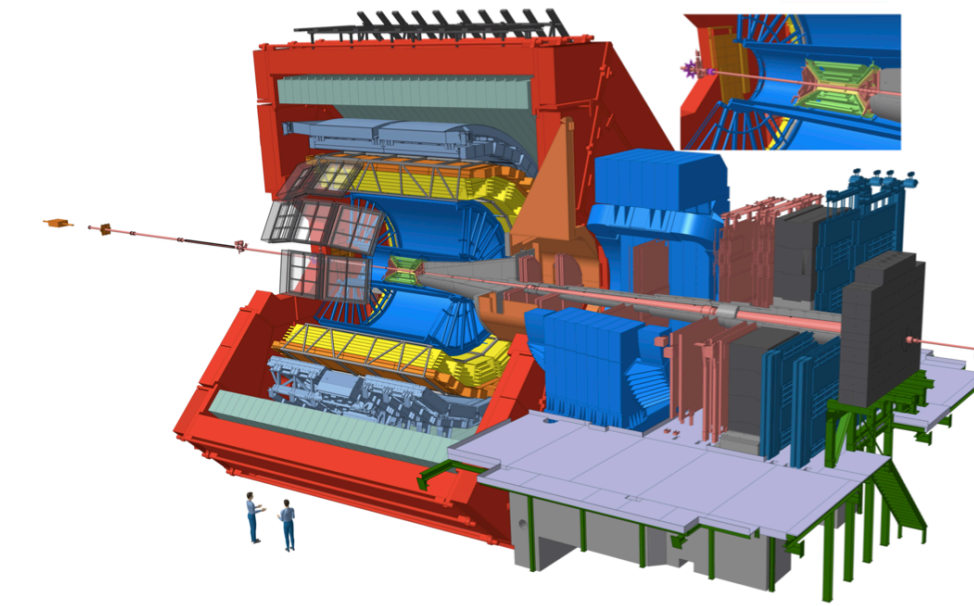
Transition Radiation Detector (TRD)

Time Of Flight detector (TOF)  
PID (TOF measurement)

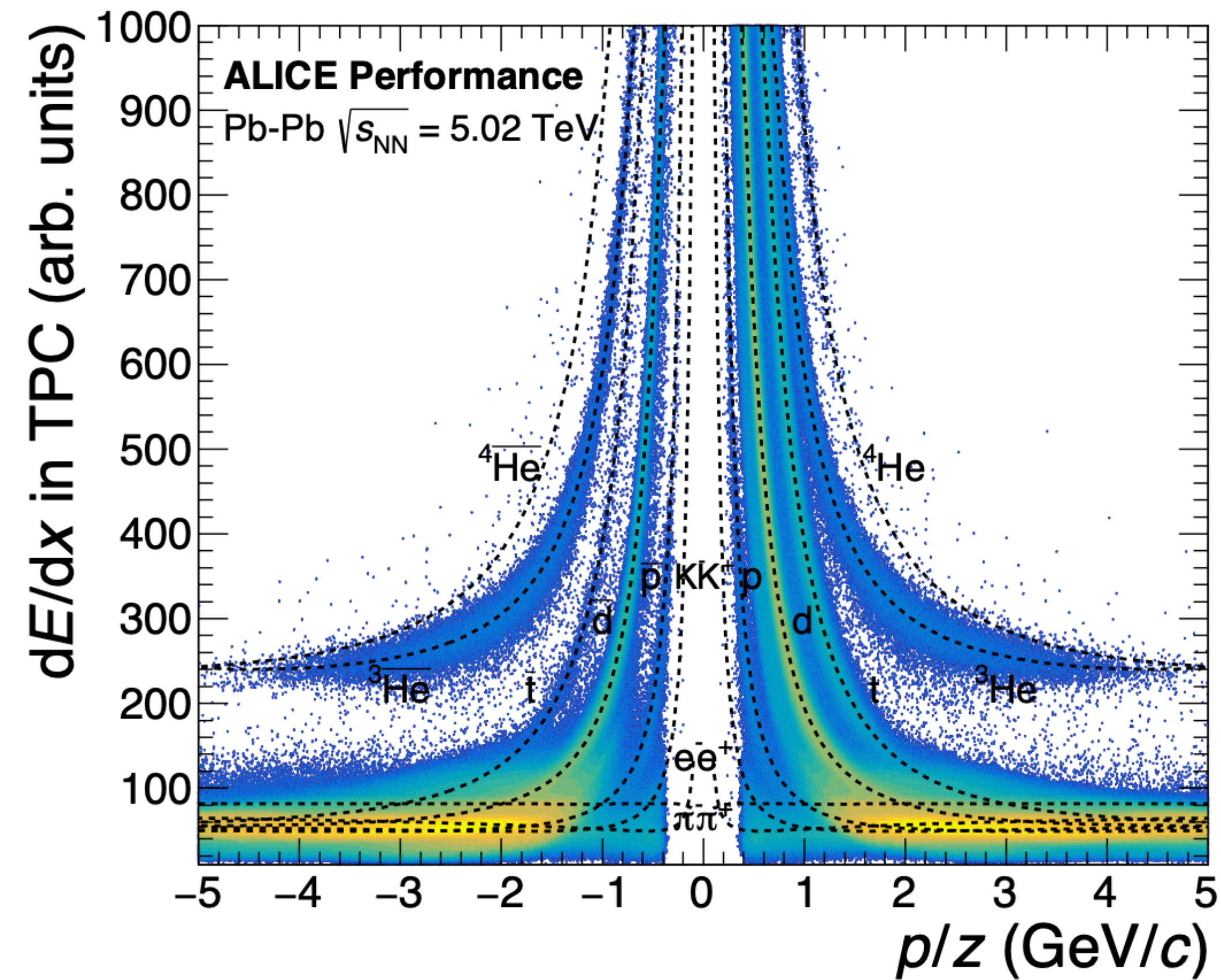




# A Large Ion Collider Experiment



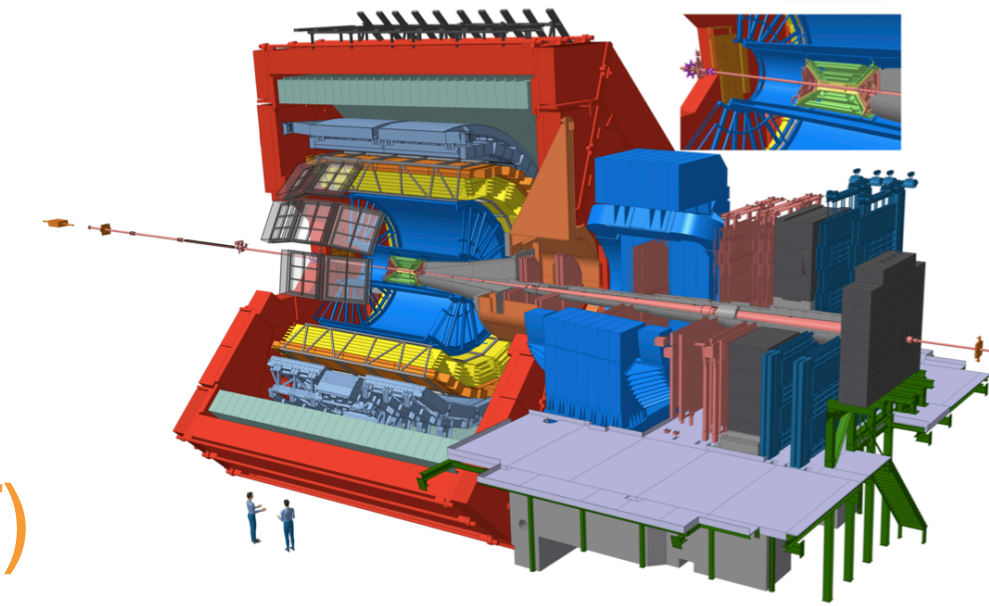
Time Projection Chamber (TPC)  
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ALI-PERF-341664

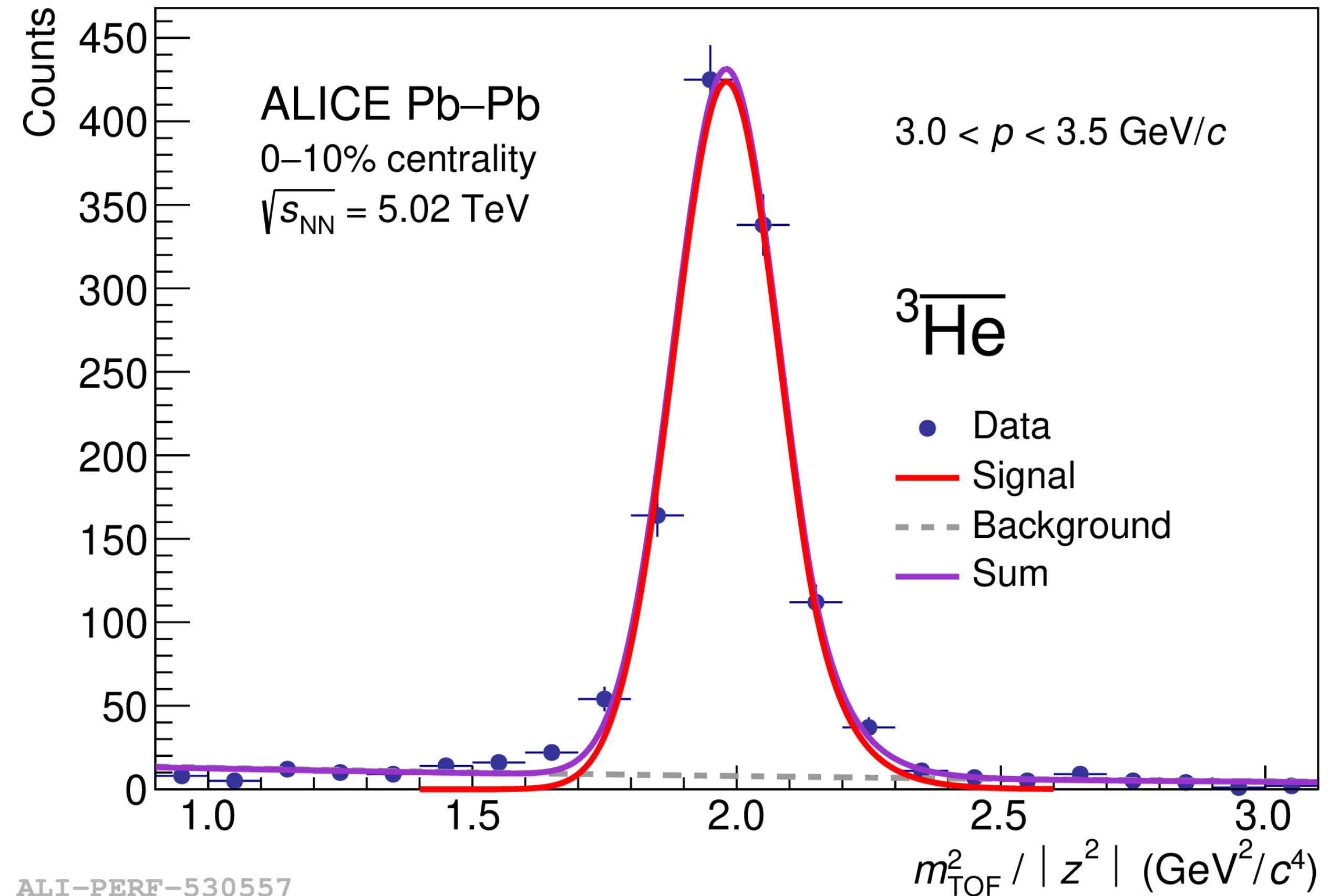
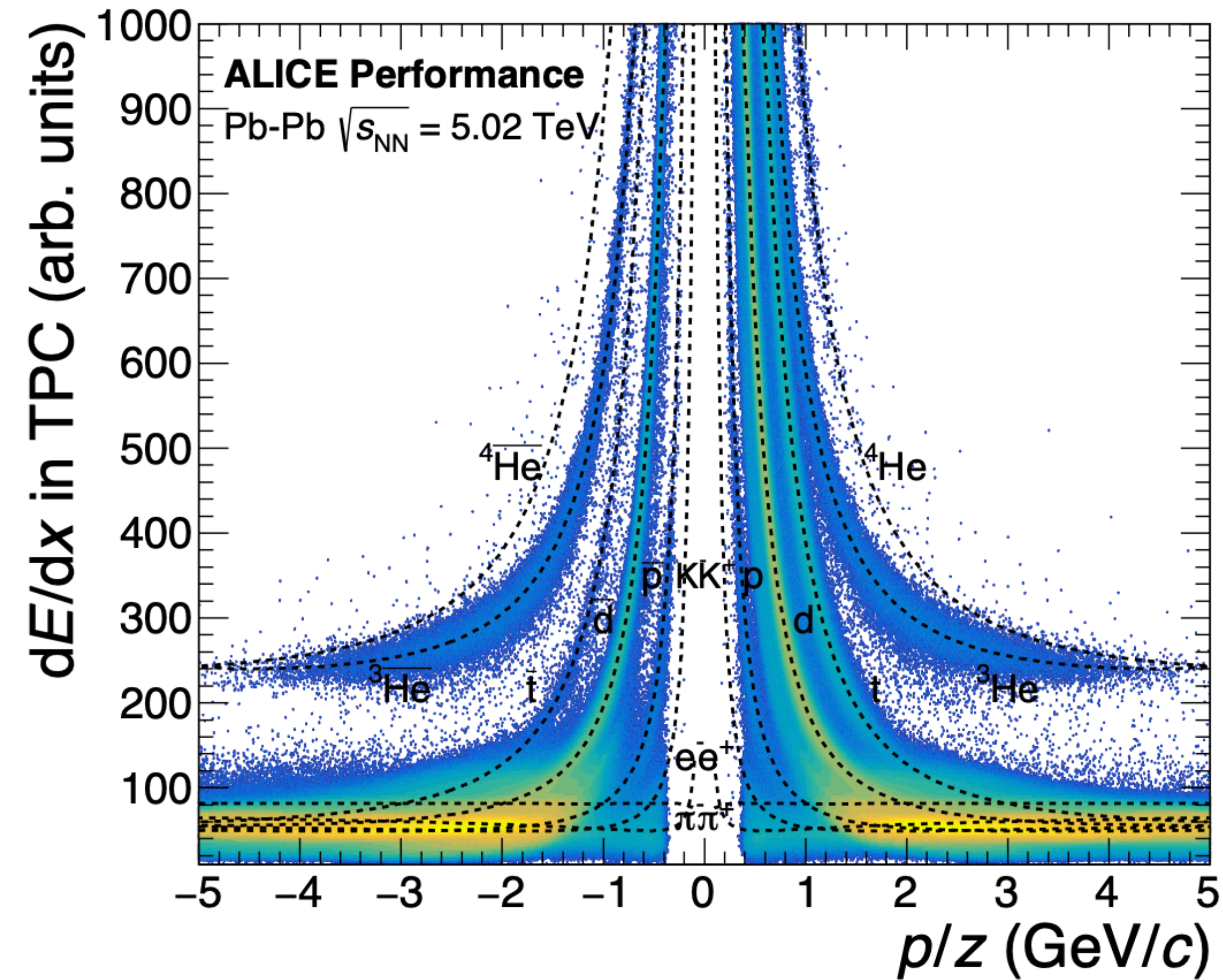


# A Large Ion Collider Experiment



Time Projection Chamber (TPC)  
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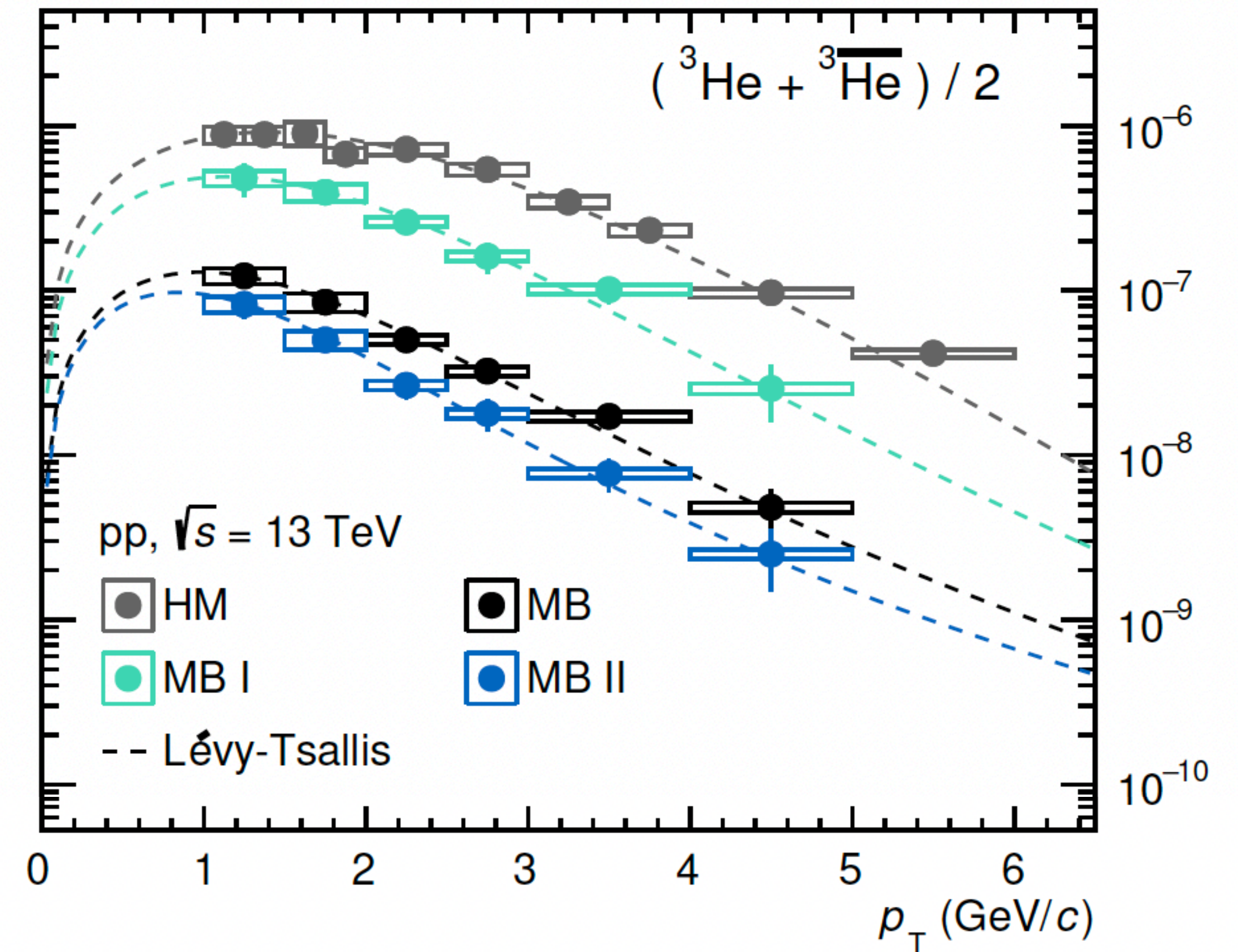
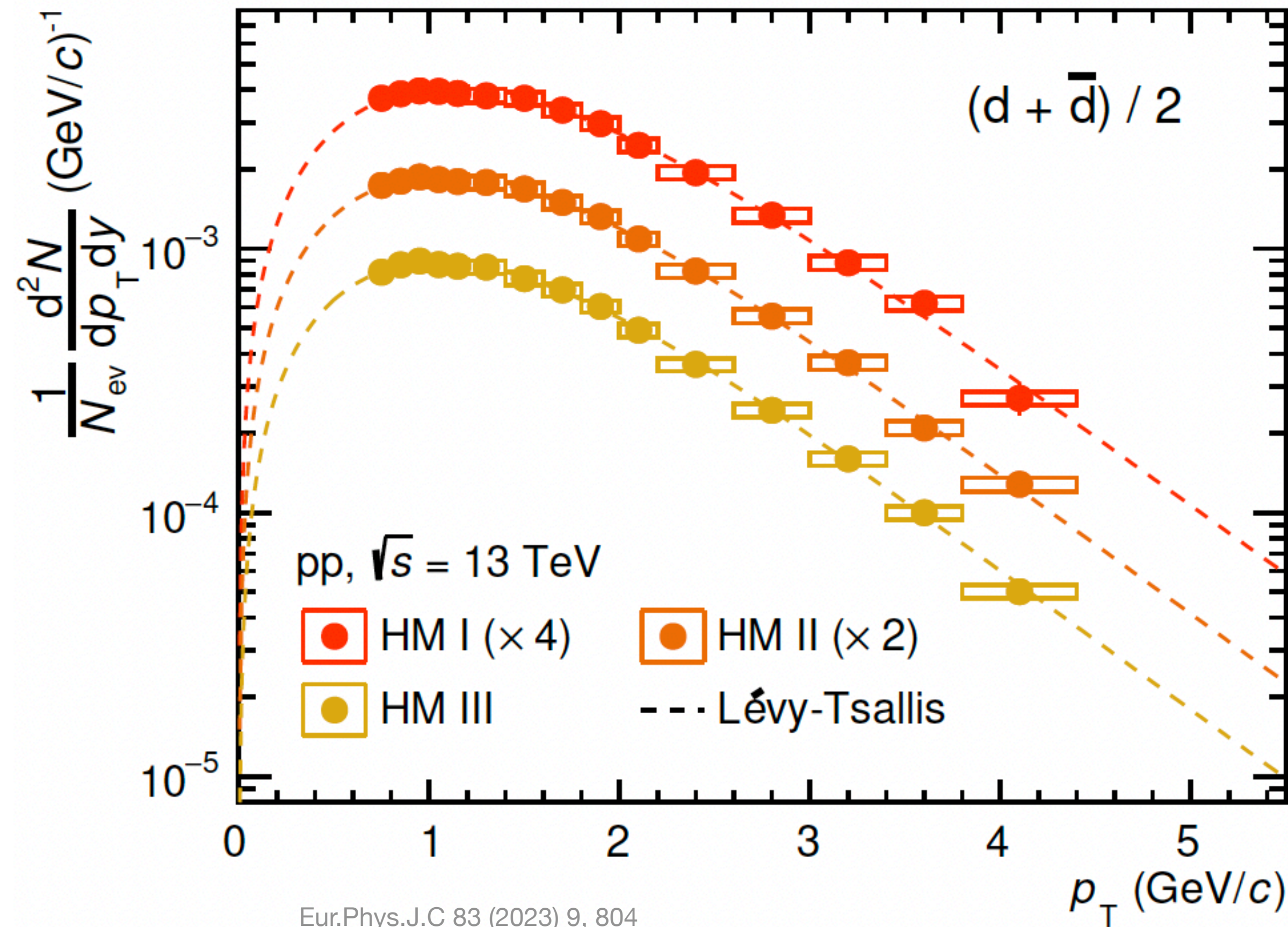
ALI-PERF-530557

ALI-PERF-341664



# LHC - antimatter factory

- High precision measurement of different (anti)nuclei spectra

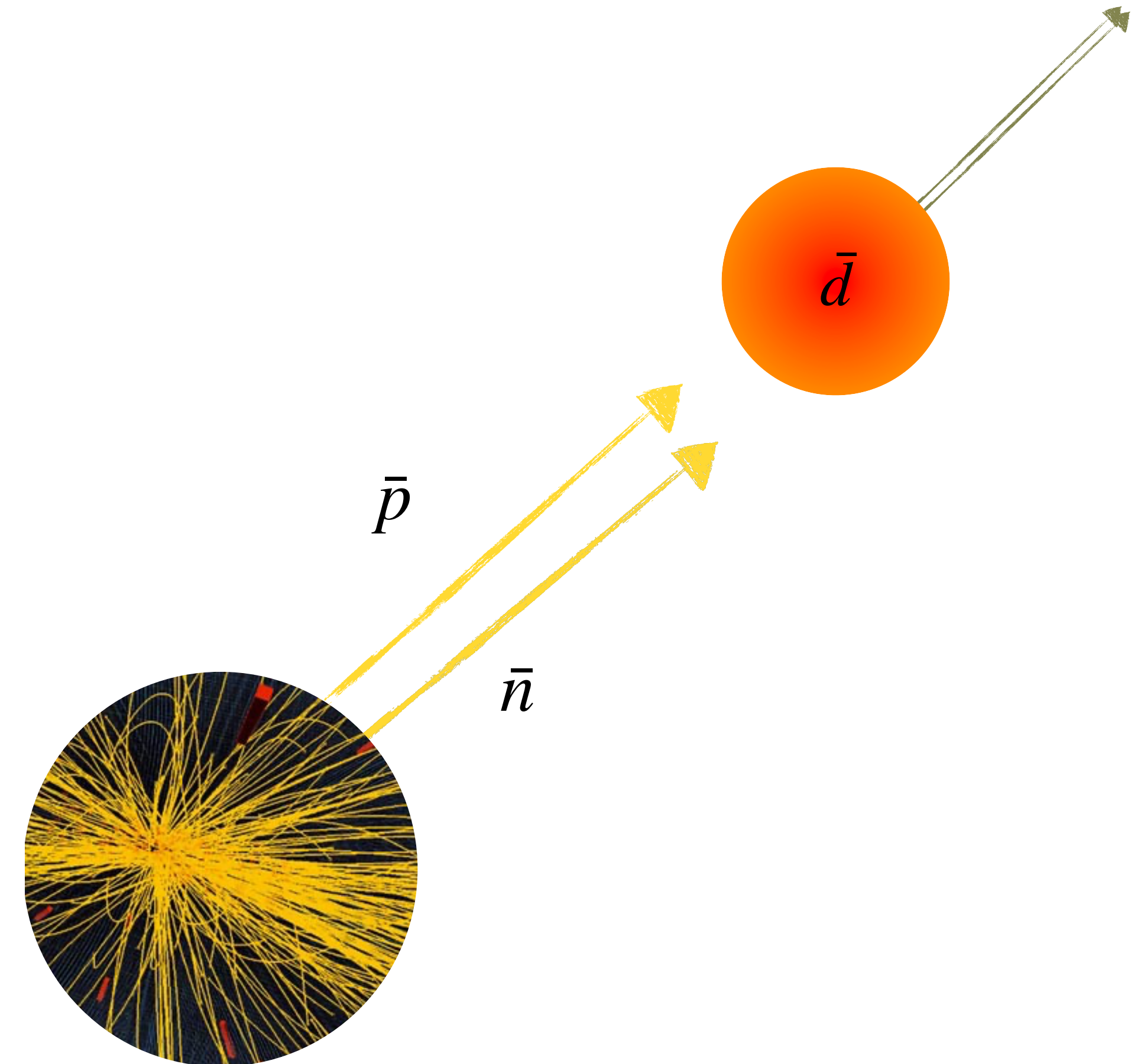




# (Anti)nuclei production mechanism

- Coalescence Model
  - Nuclei are formed by nucleons coalescing after freeze-out
  - Depends on phase-space of produced nucleons (momentum, distance) and nucleus Wigner function

$$B_A = \frac{E_A \frac{d^3 N_A}{d^3 p_A}}{\left( E_p \frac{d^3 N_p}{d^3 p_p} \right)^A}$$

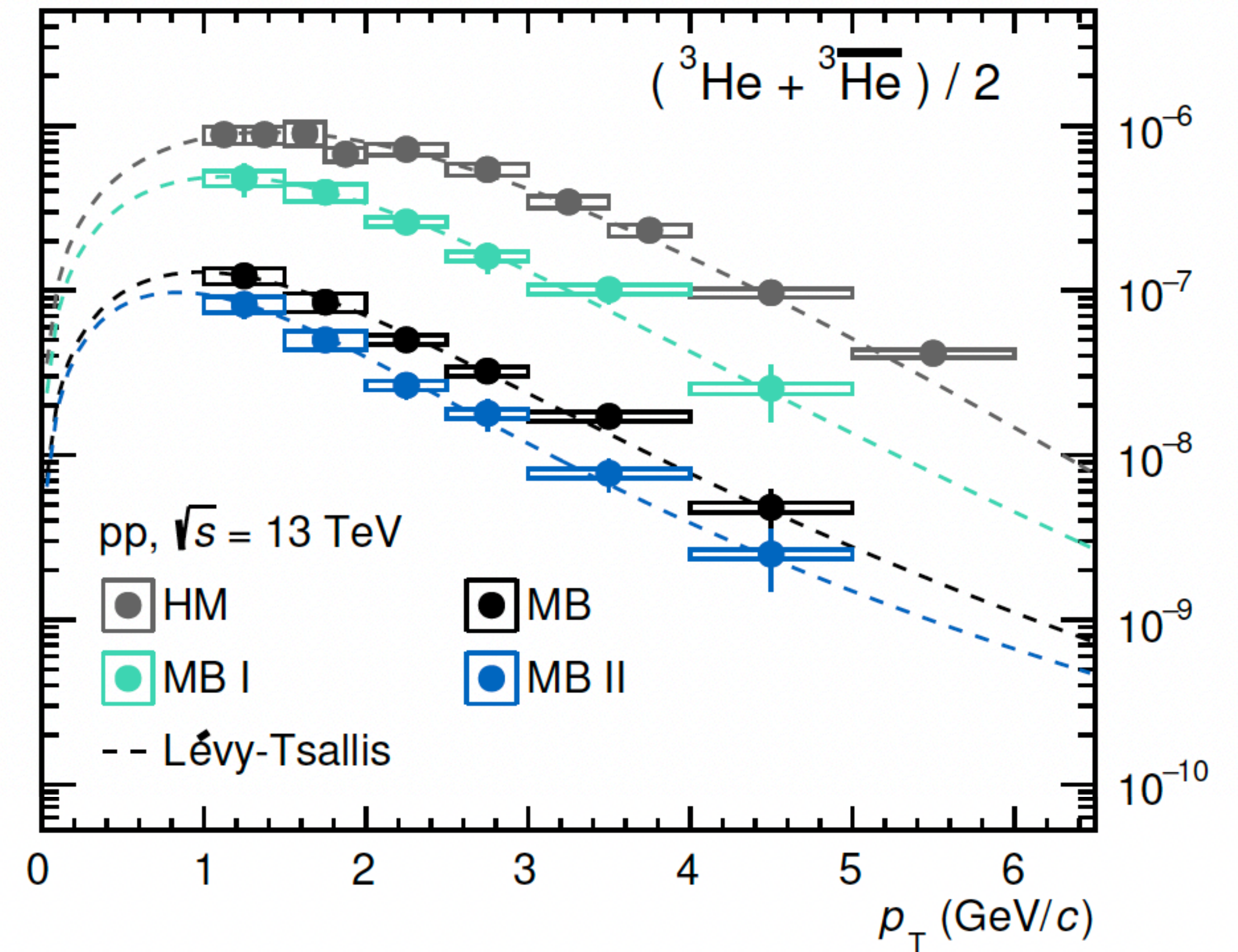
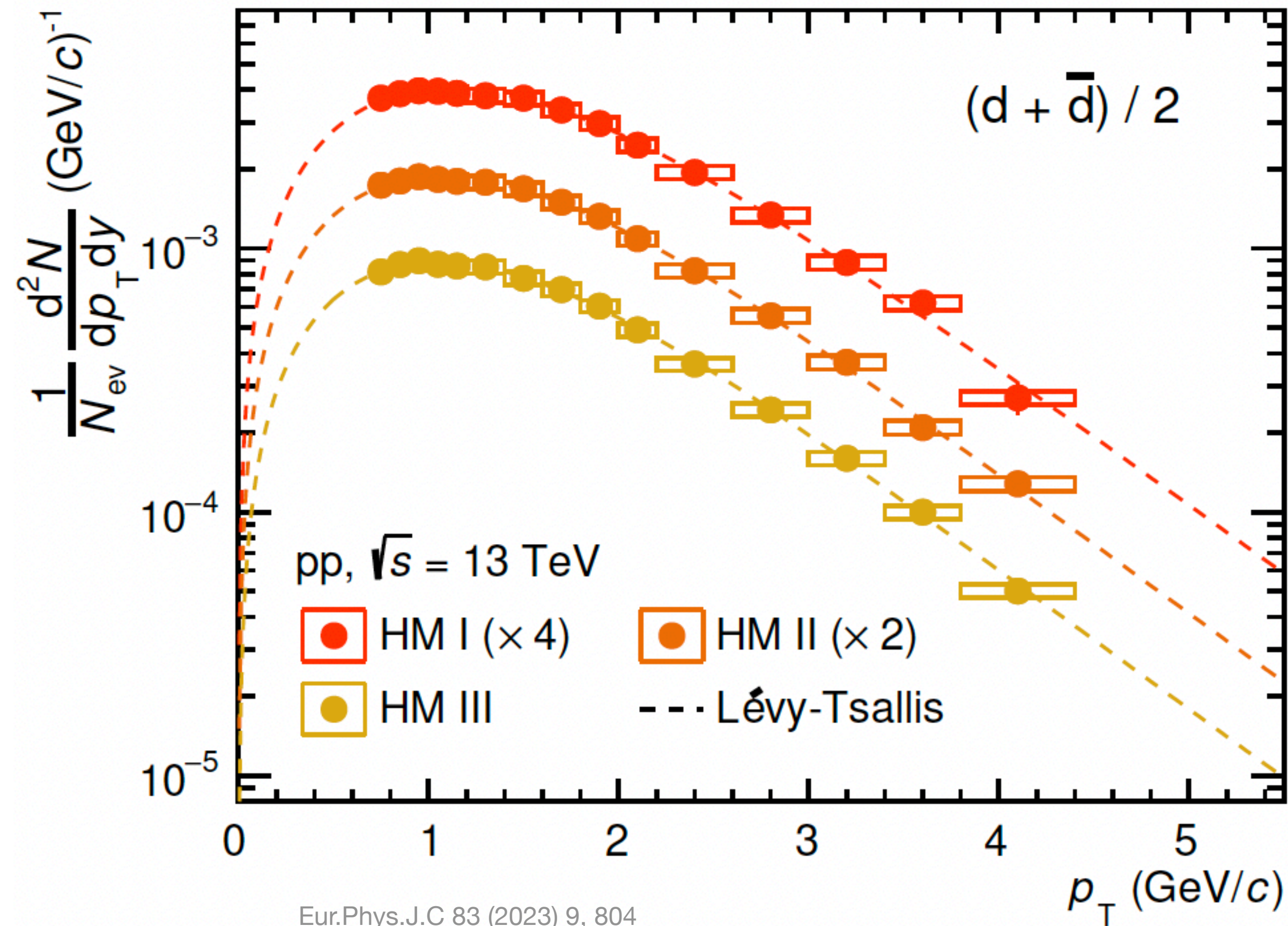




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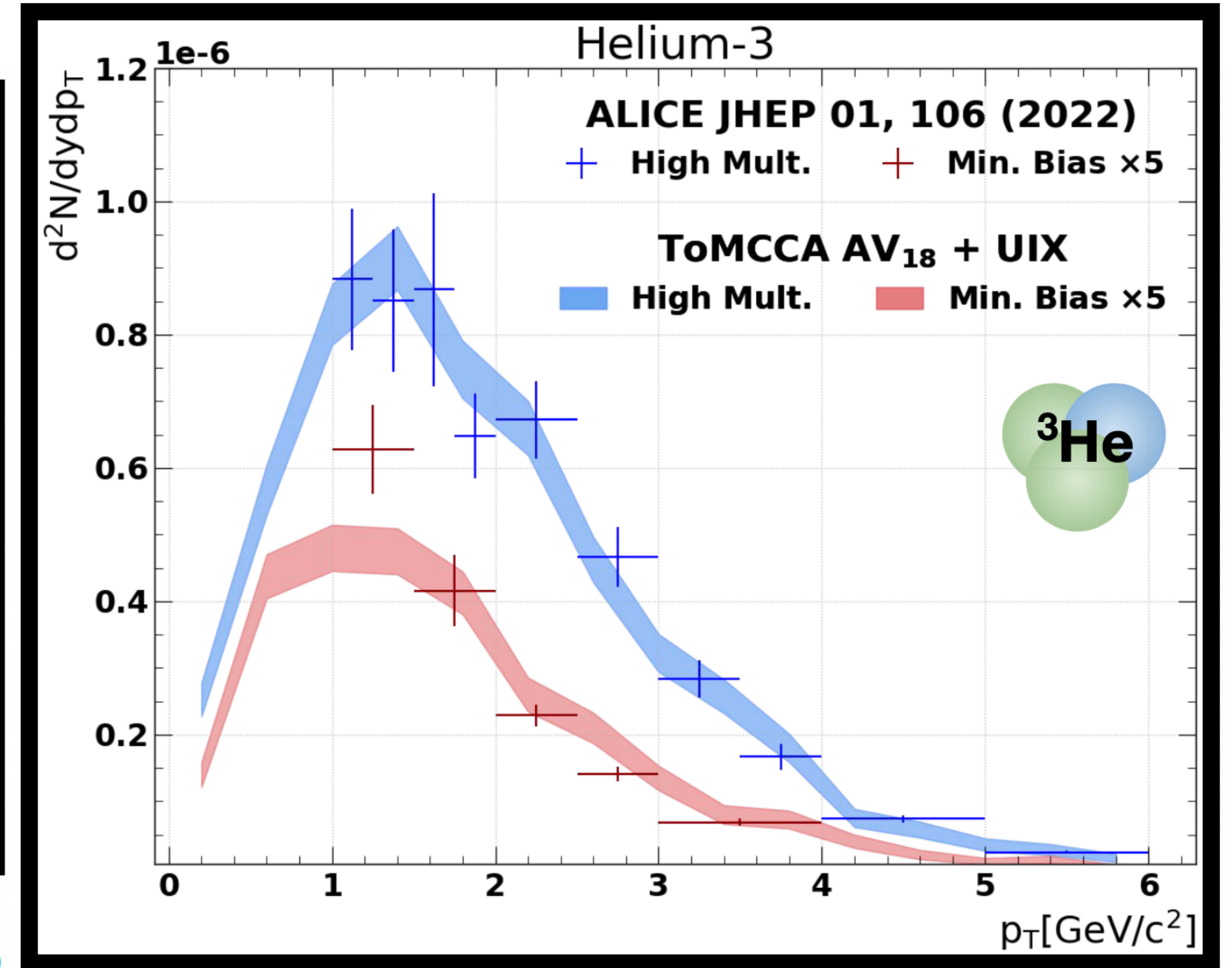
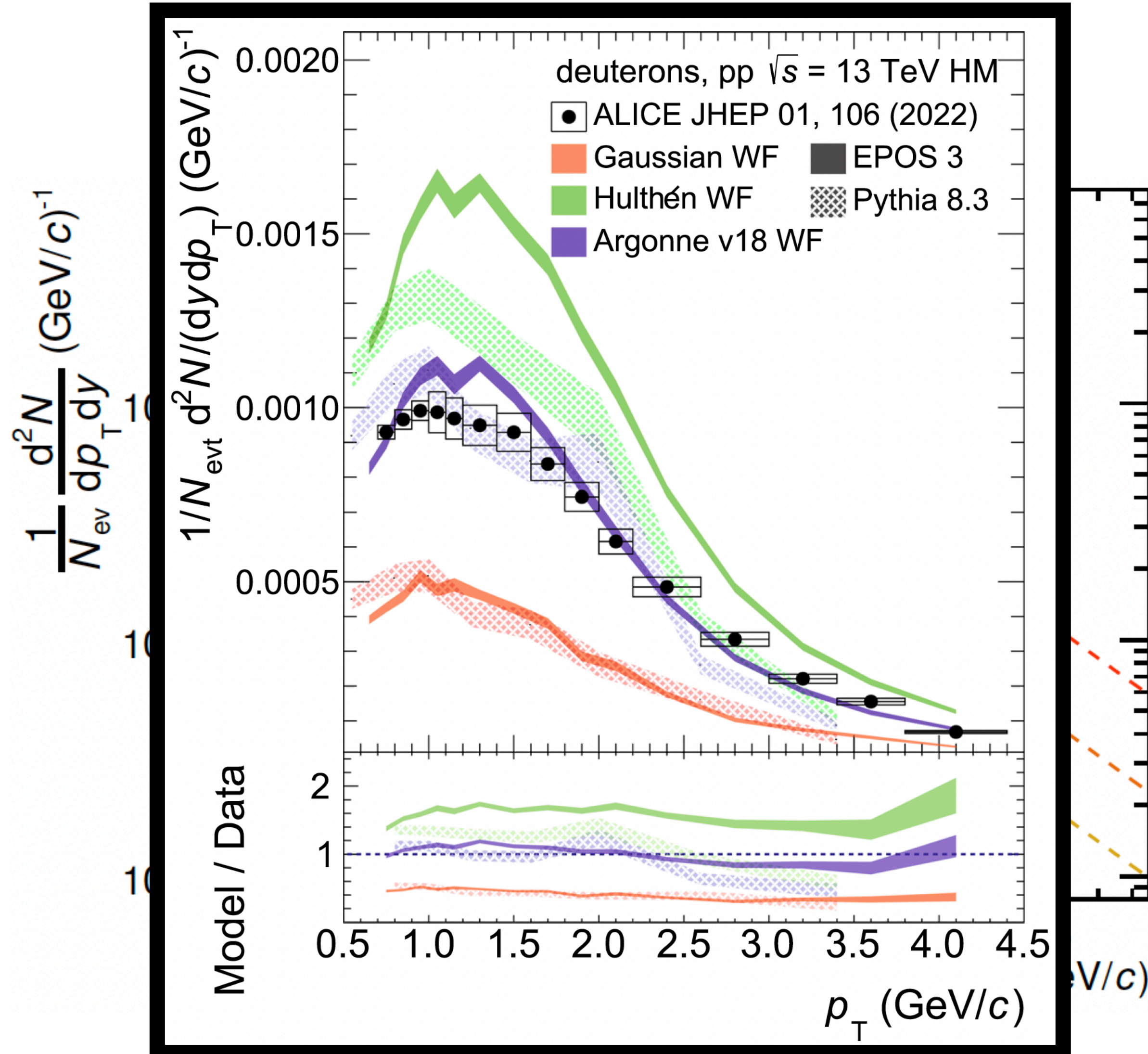
ALICE, JHEP 01 (2022) 106





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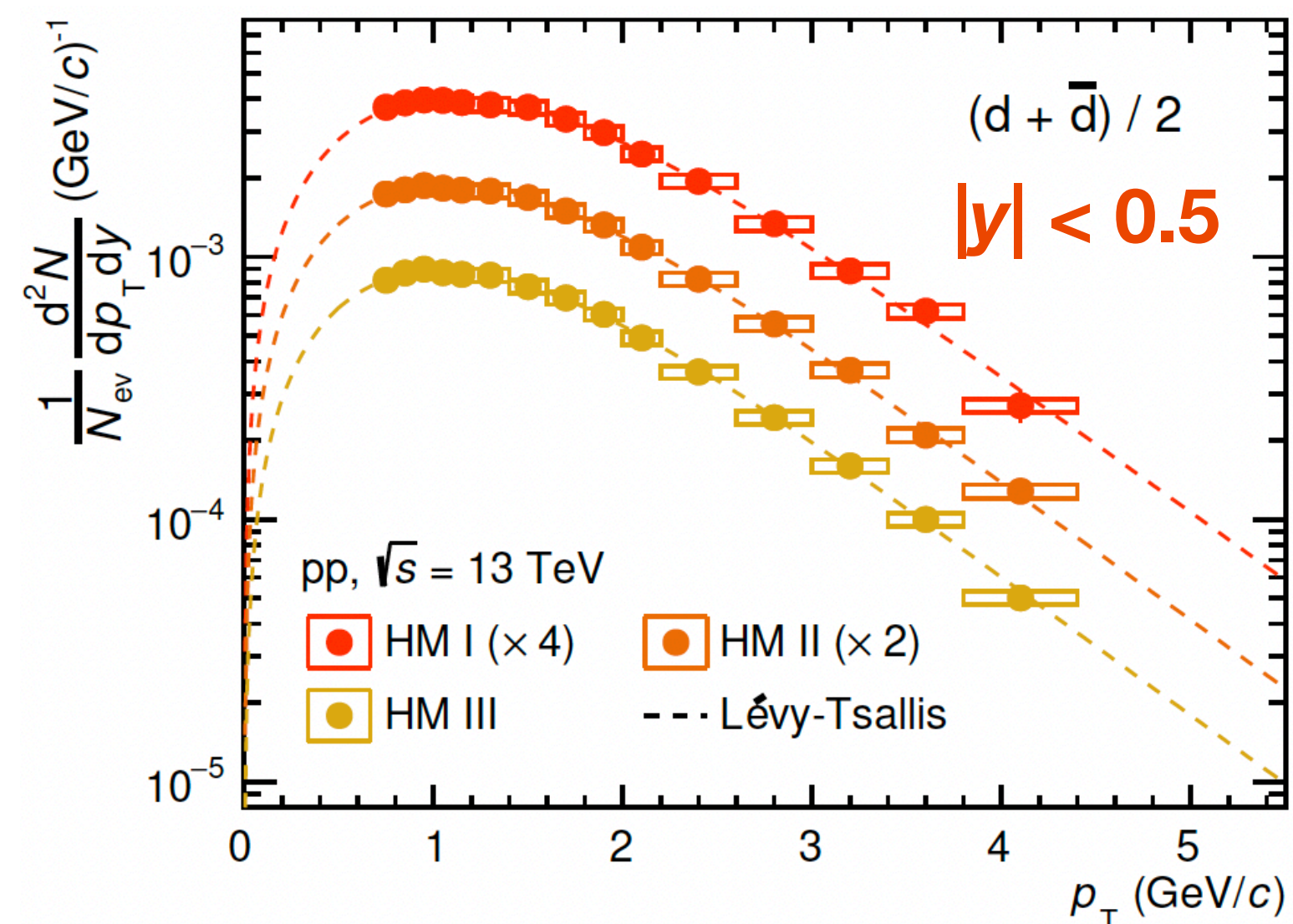
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# Rapidity dependence

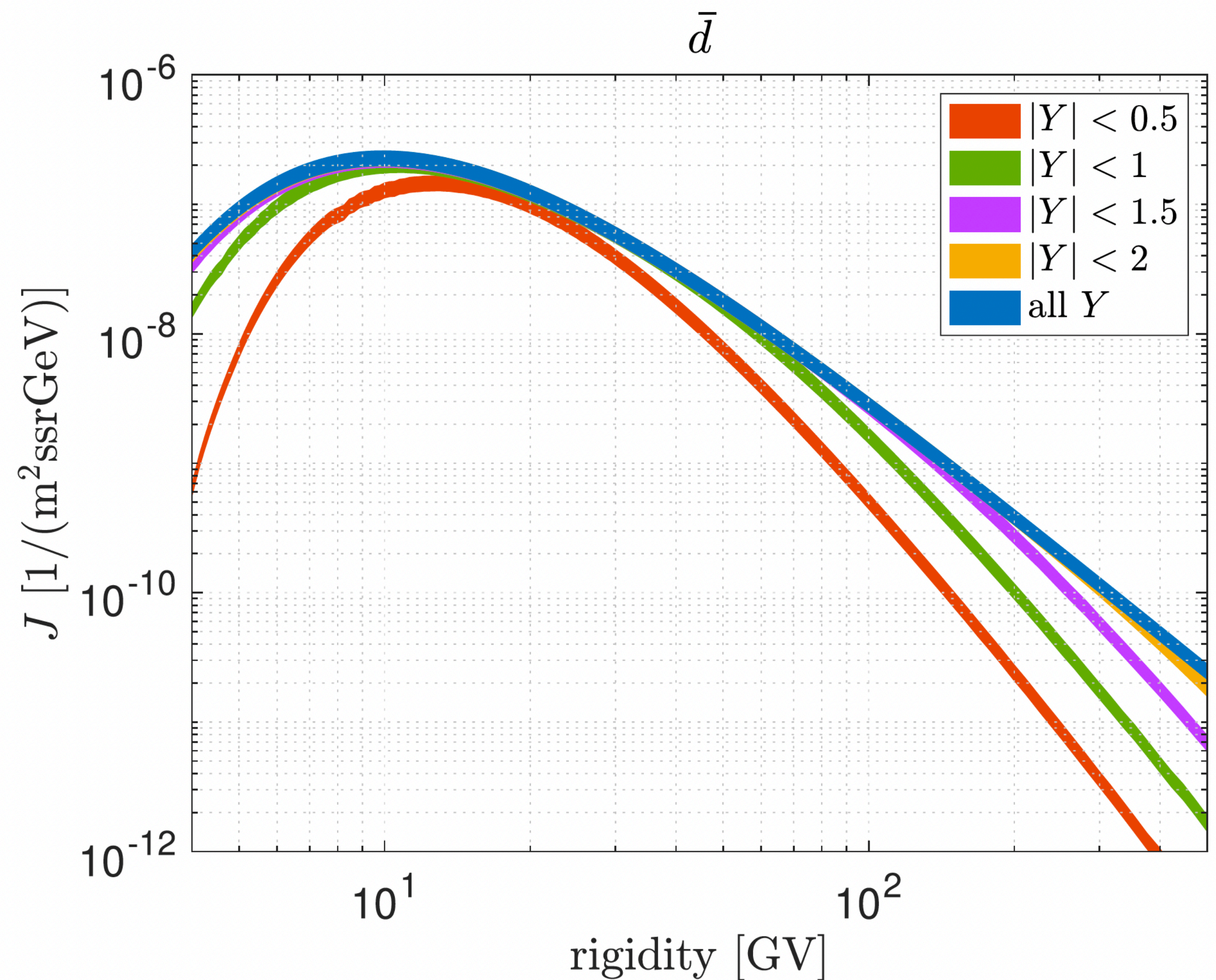
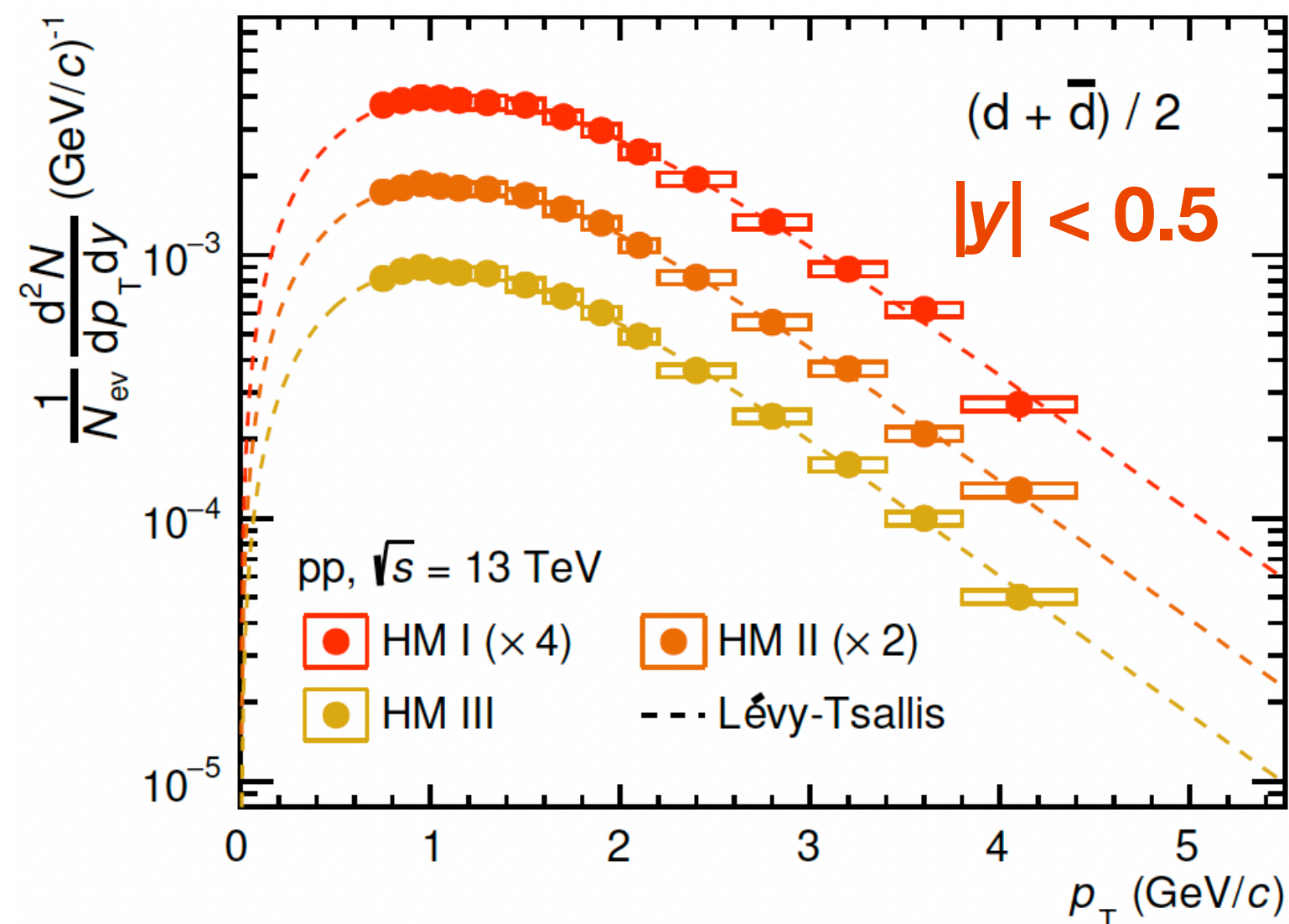
- Antideuteron yields usually measured at  $|y| < 0.5$ 
  - At rapidities lower than  $\sim 5$  GV and larger than  $\sim 100$  GV, most of the antideuteron flux is produced at rigidities larger than 0.5
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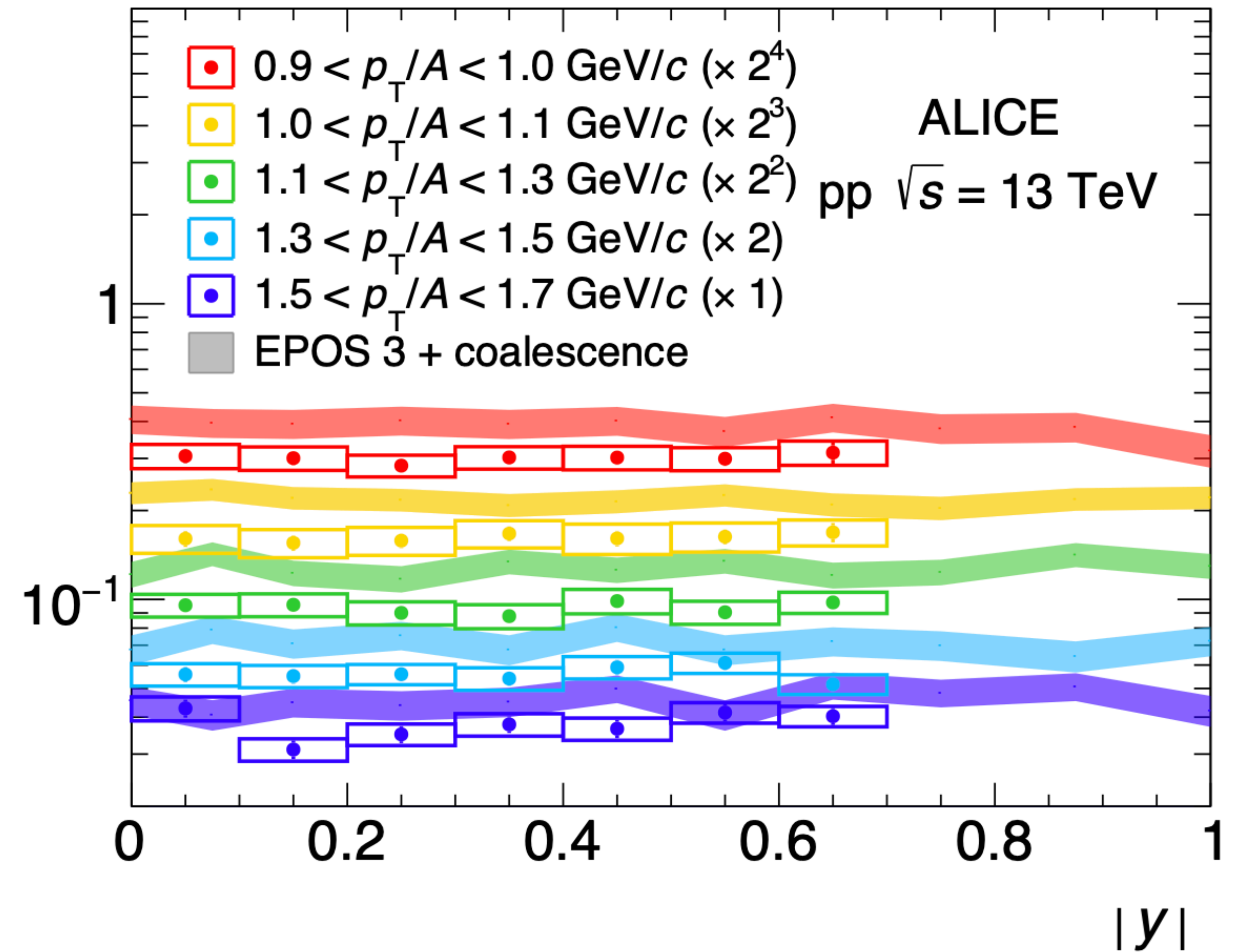




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  - Confirmed flat shape of  $B_2$

$B_2$  ( $\text{GeV}^2/c^3$ )



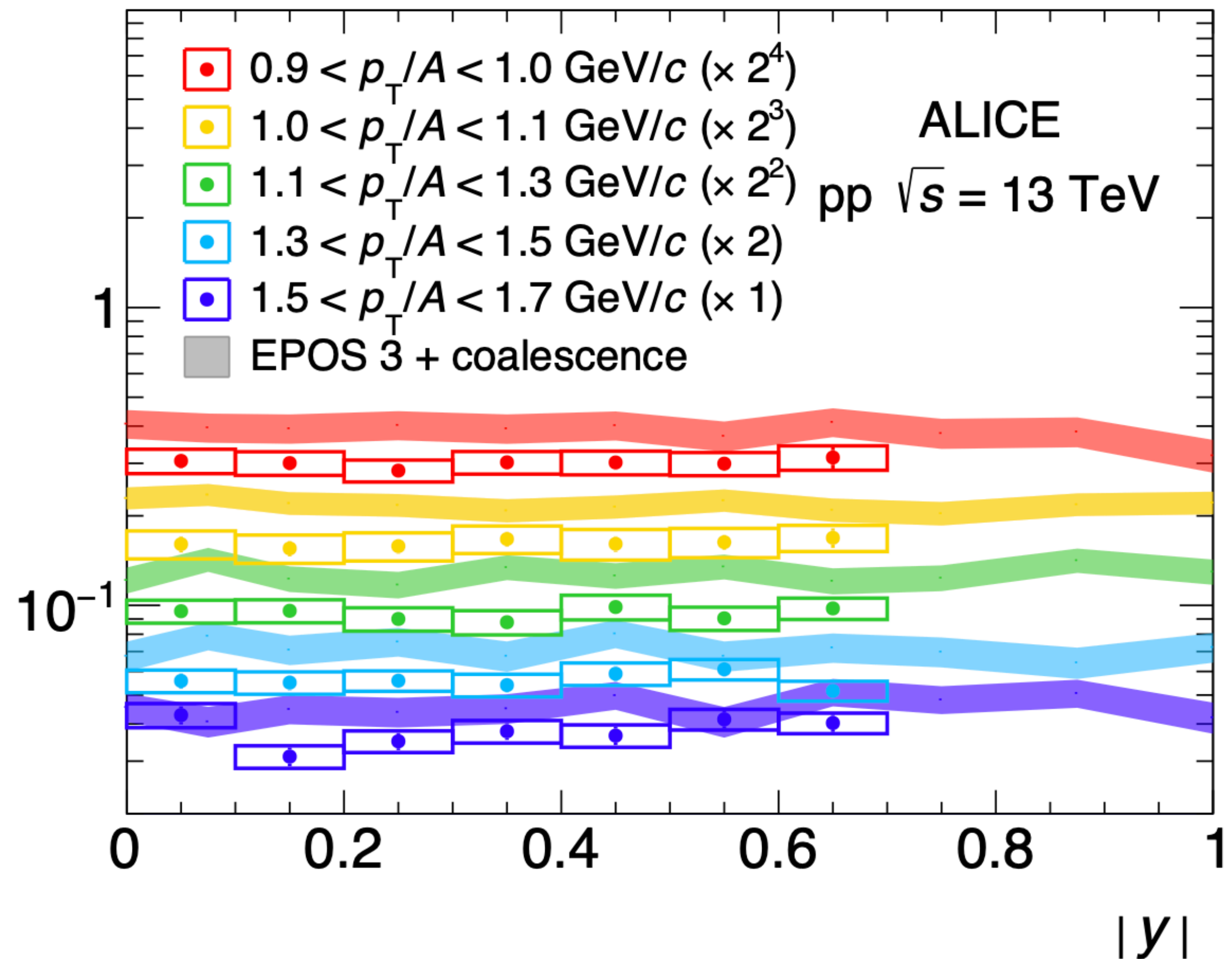
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Safe to use mid-rapidity data to extrapolate to forward rapidities



# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

- Production



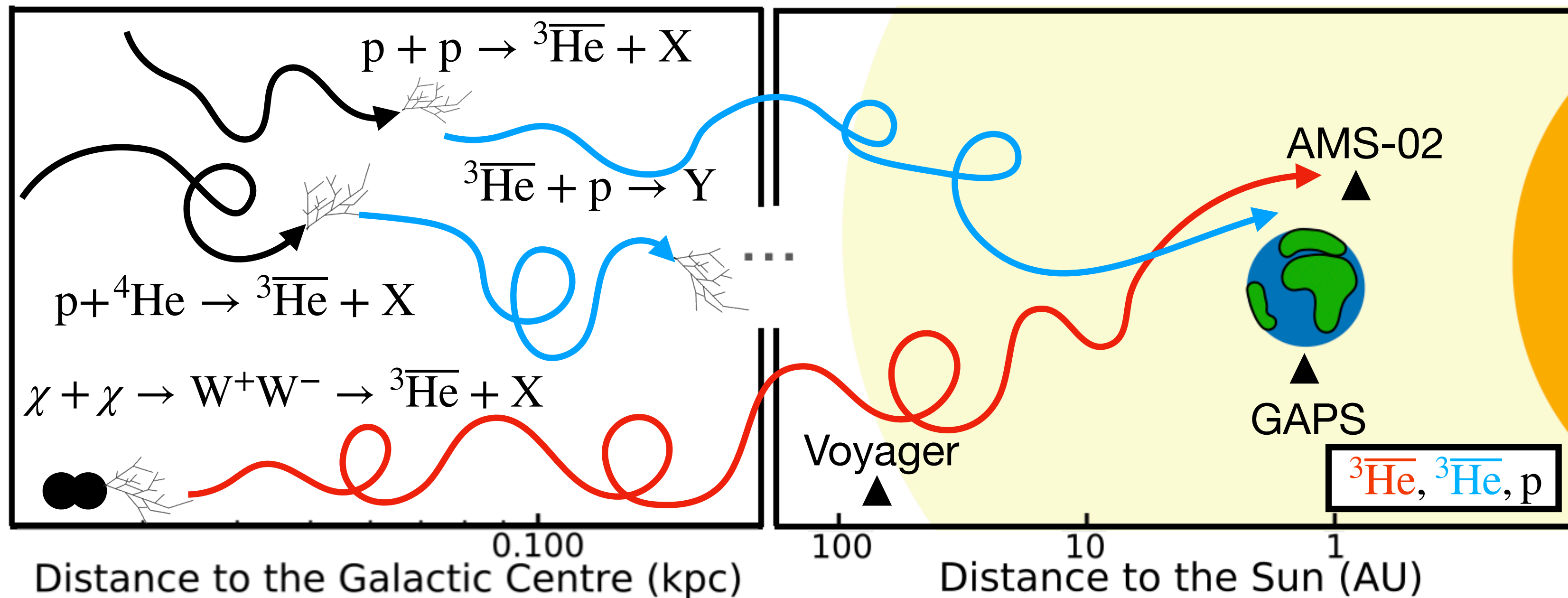
ALICE: measurements to understand the production and constrain models

- Propagation

- Inelastic interactions



ALICE: Inelastic cross section measurements





# Understanding cosmic ray fluxes

- Production



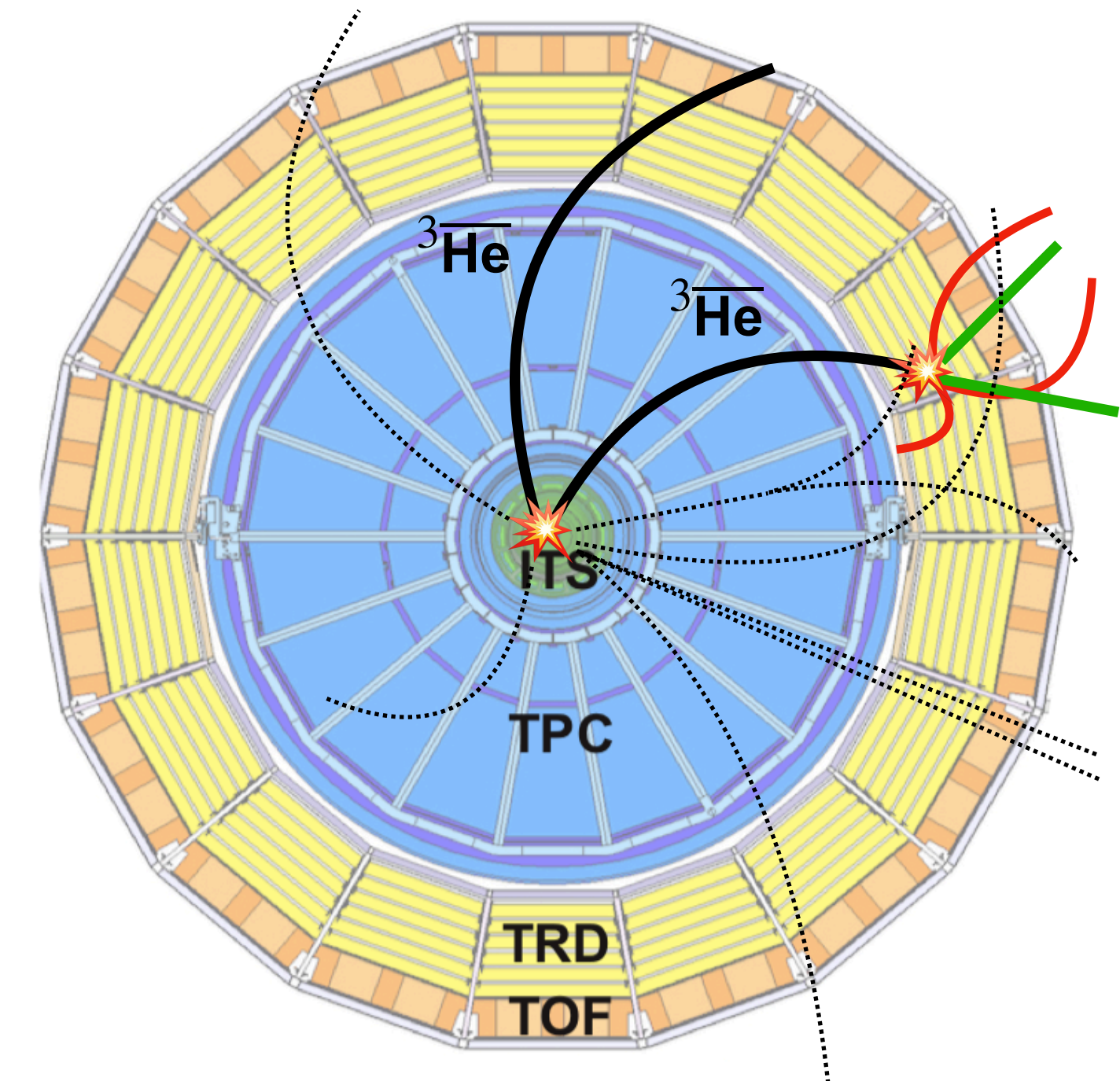
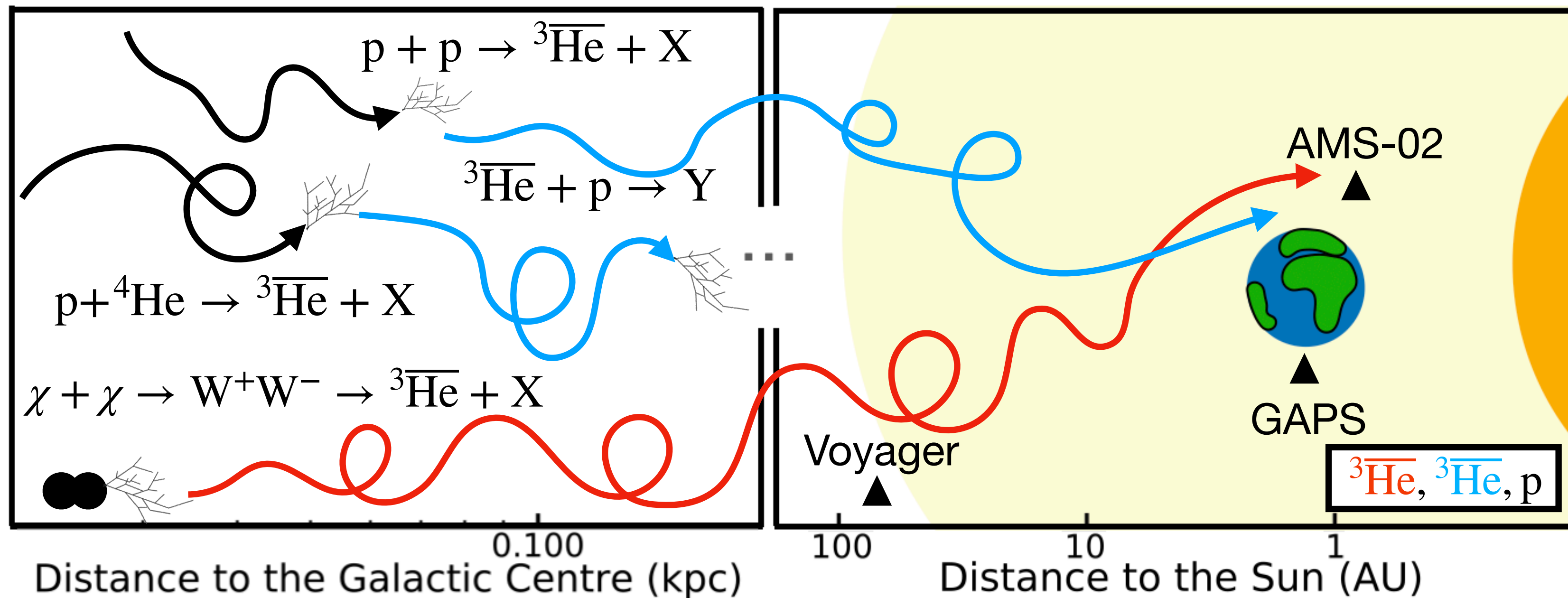
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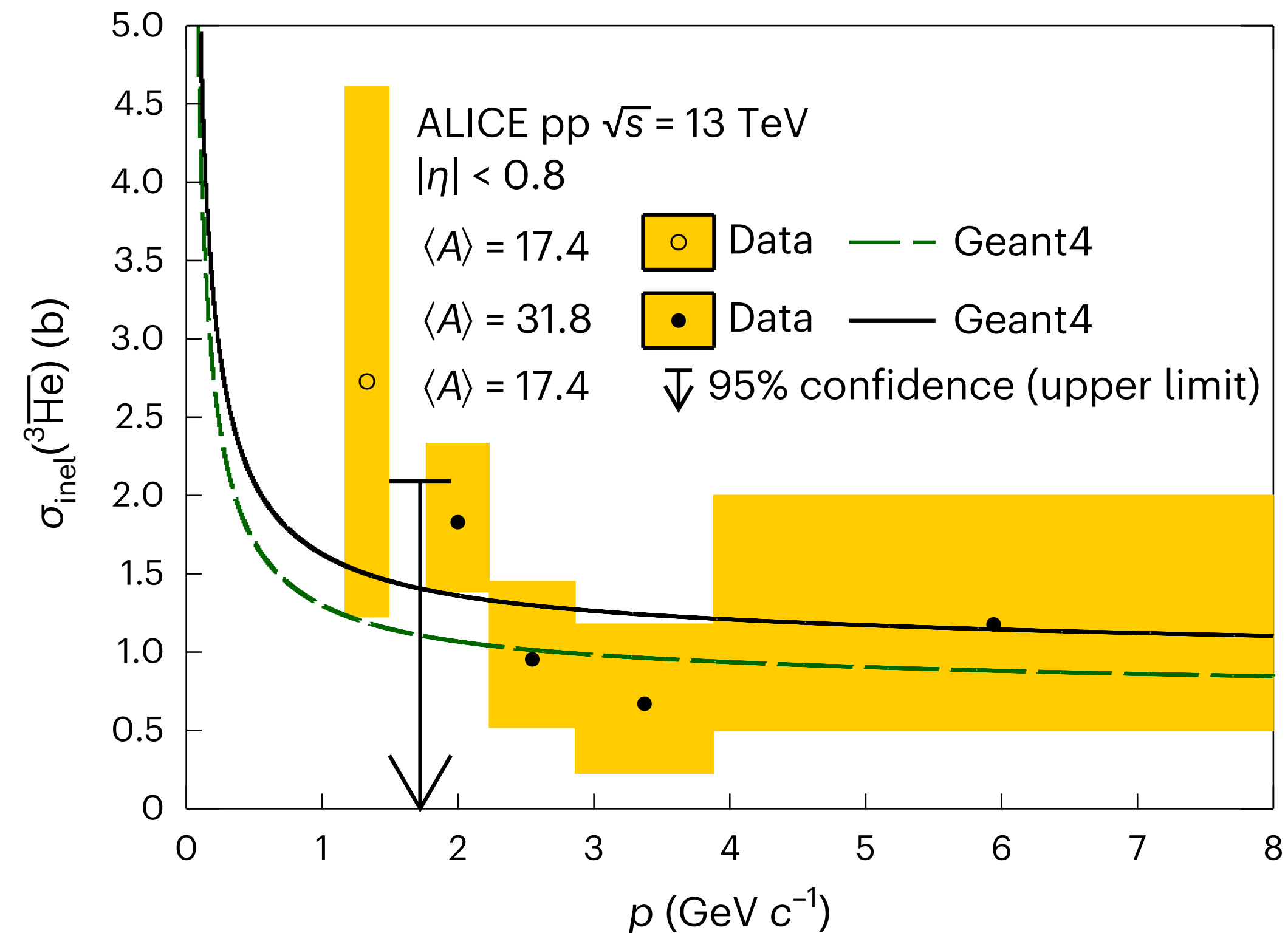
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# Results

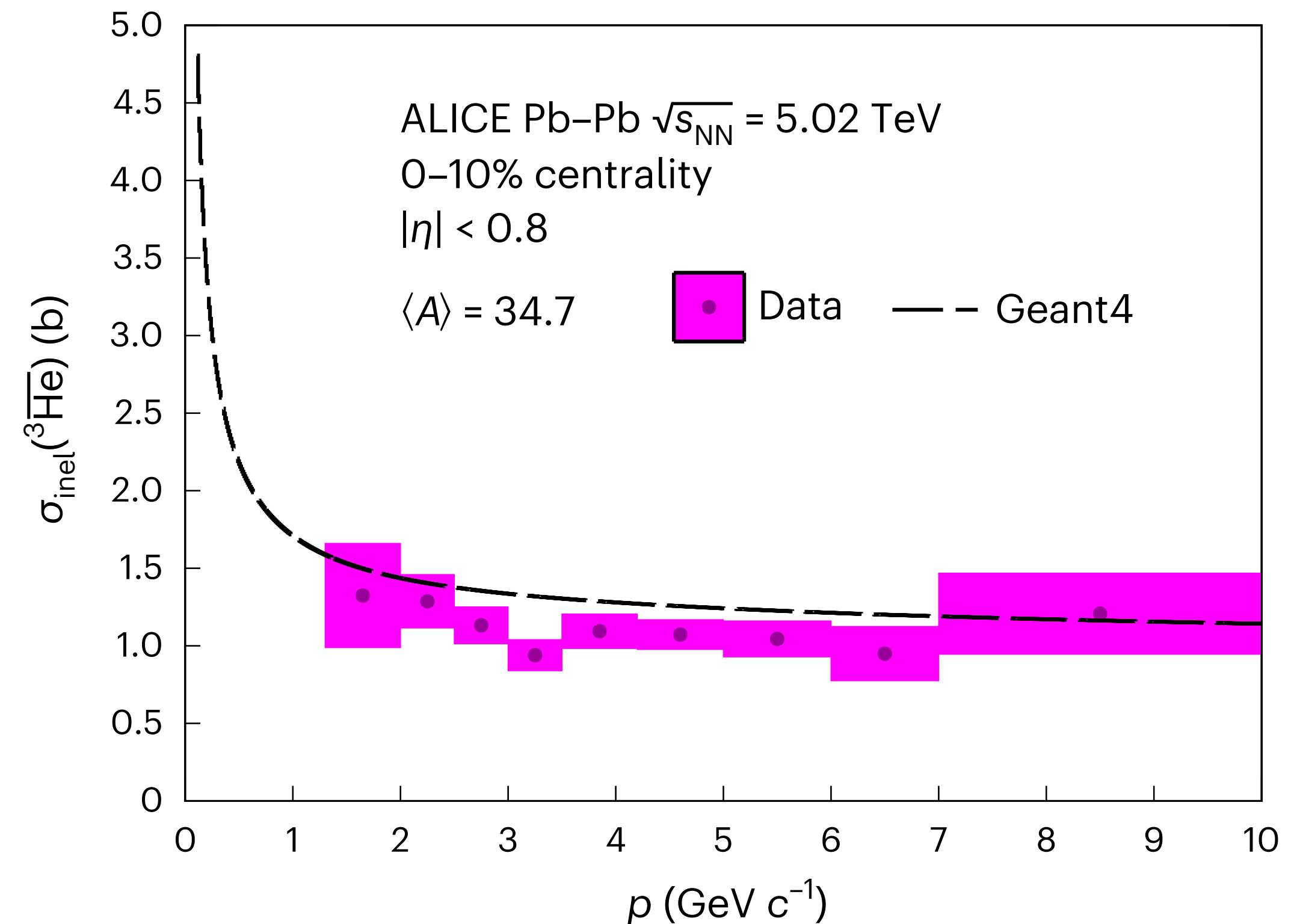
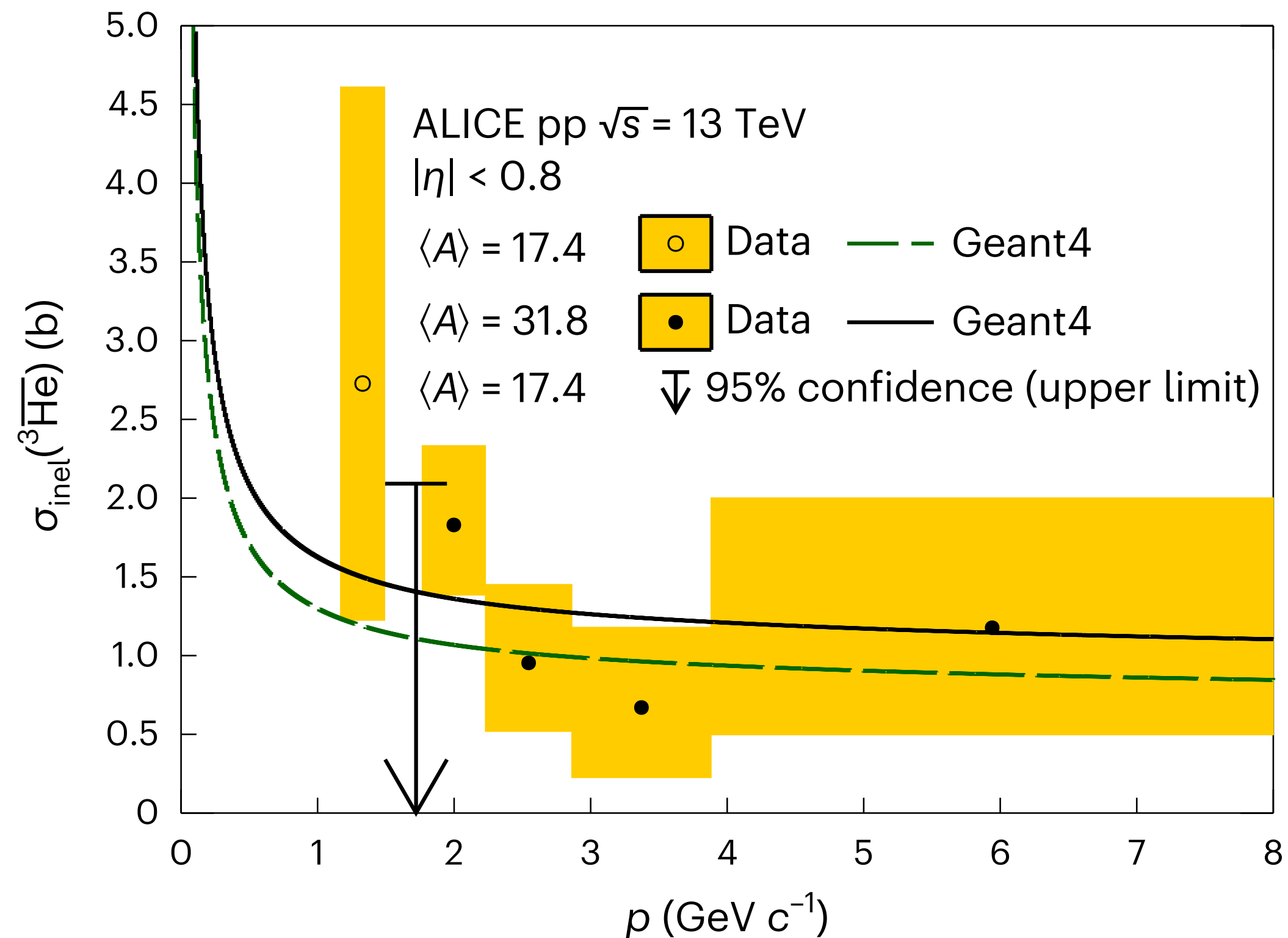
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- At low momentum, rather good agreement between data and Geant4 prediction observed





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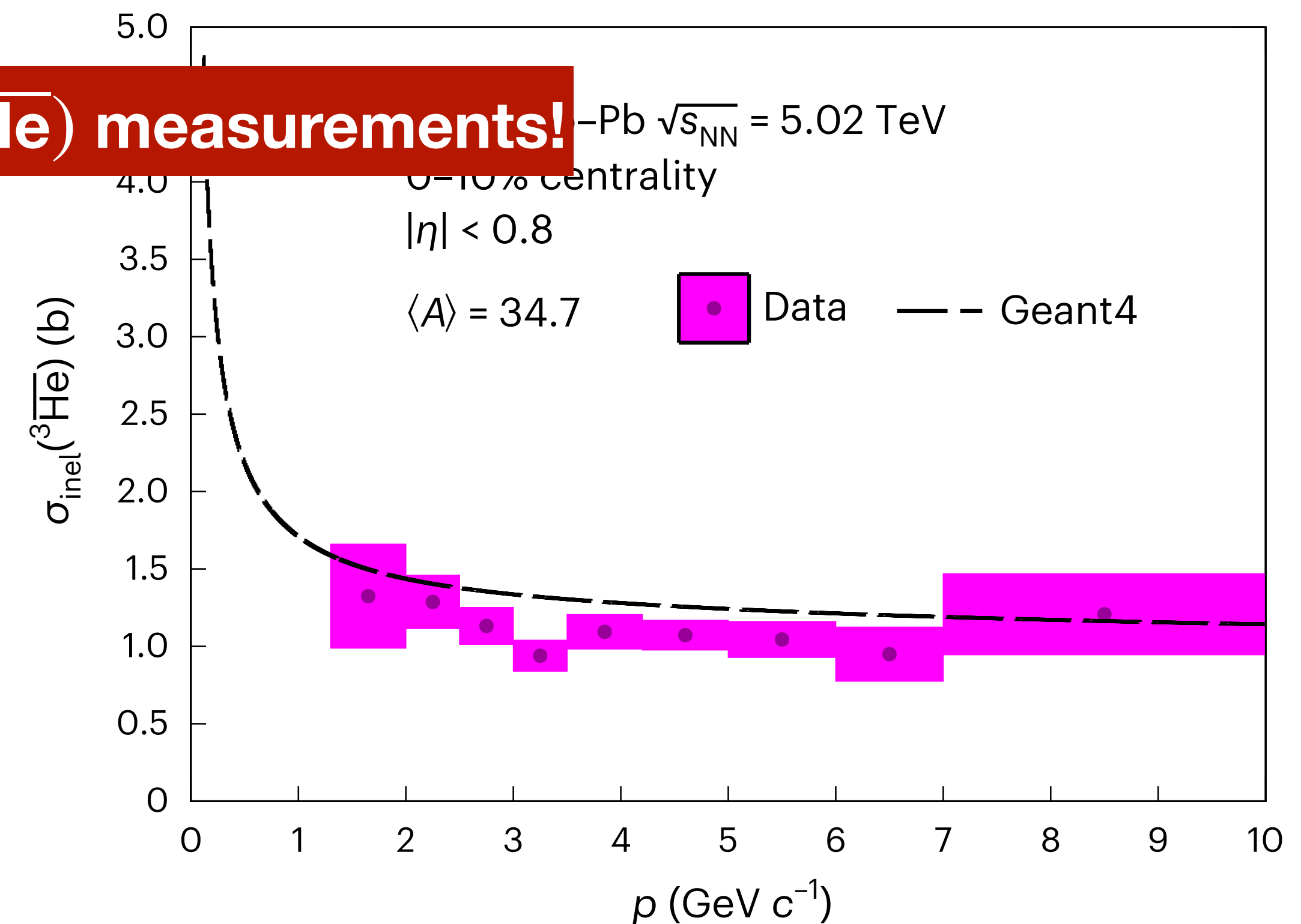
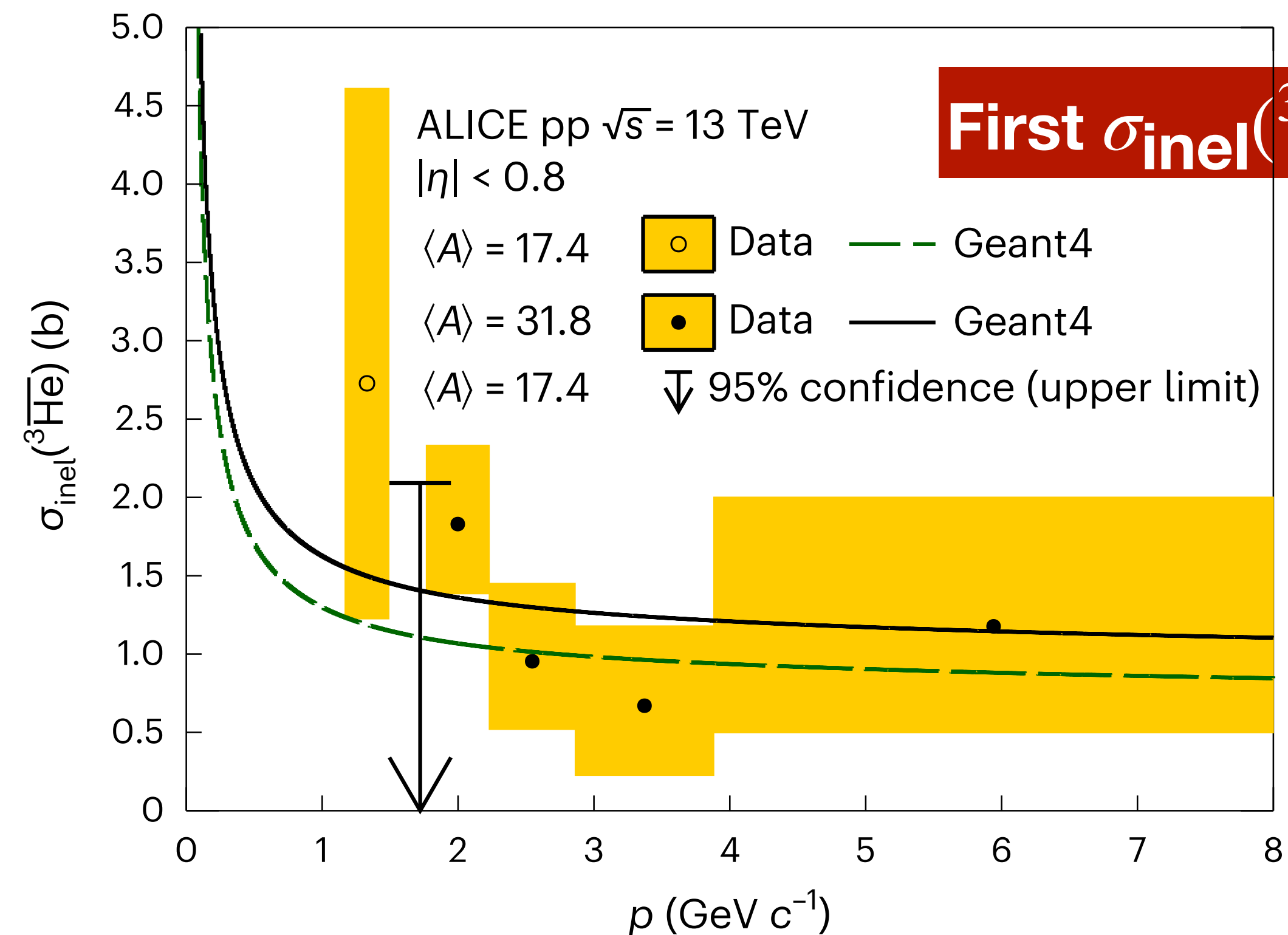
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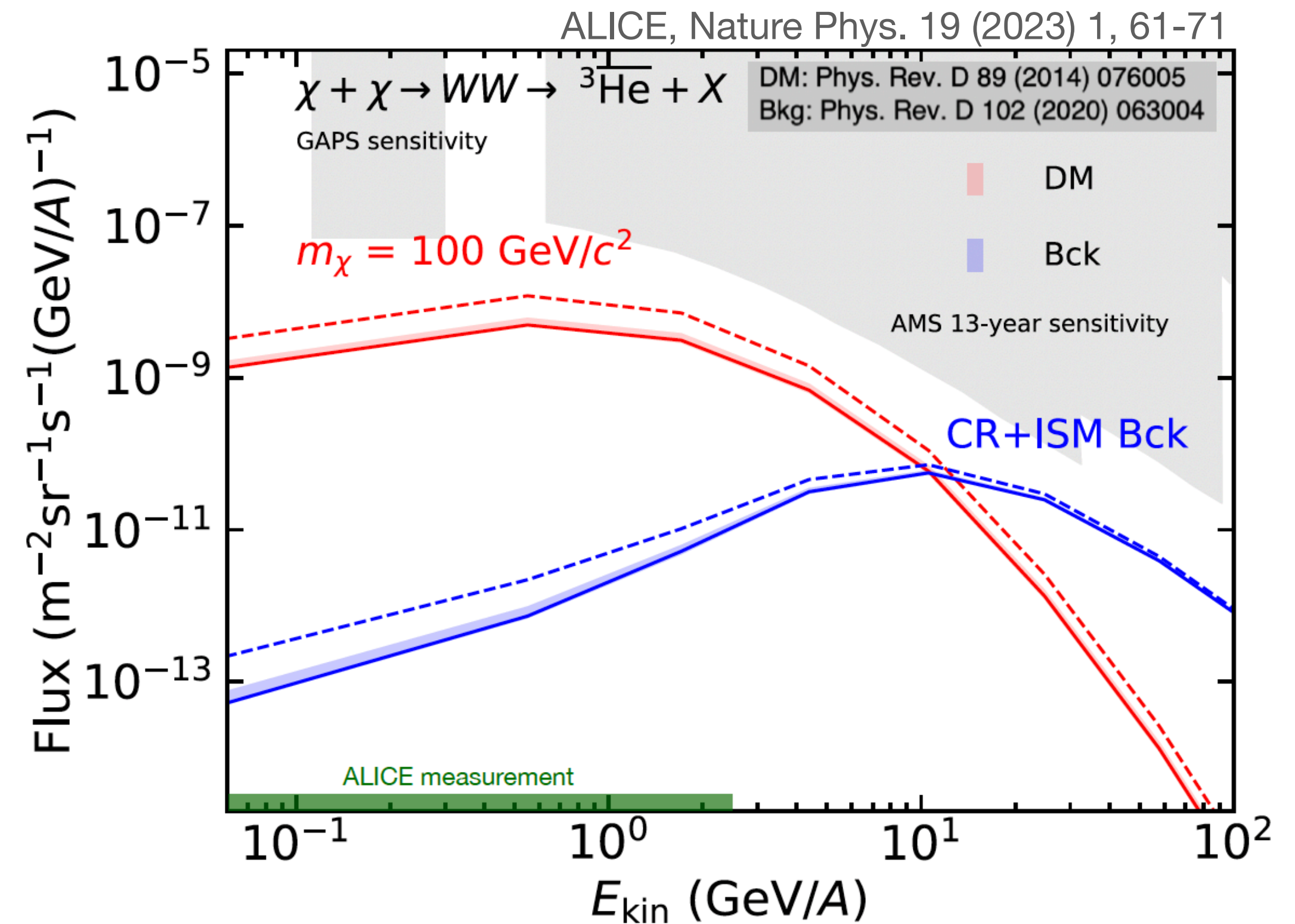
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# Solar modulated antihelium flux

- Coalescence model validated with ALICE antideuteron and antihelium-3 data
- Uncertainties shown only from ALICE measurement, small compared to other uncertainties in the field
- Disappearance effect strongly depends on the cosmic ray flux shape
- Large transparency to both signal and background components

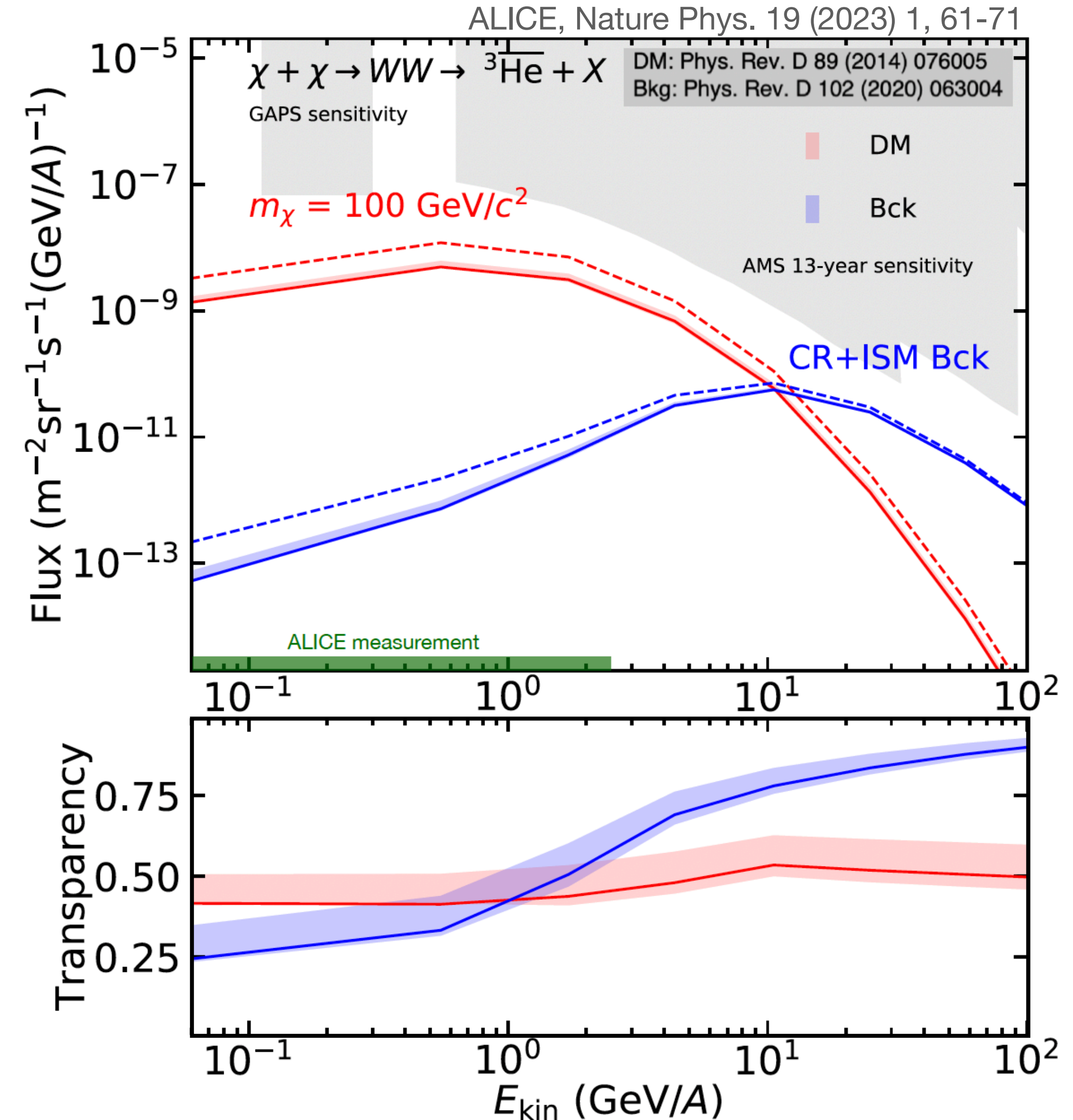




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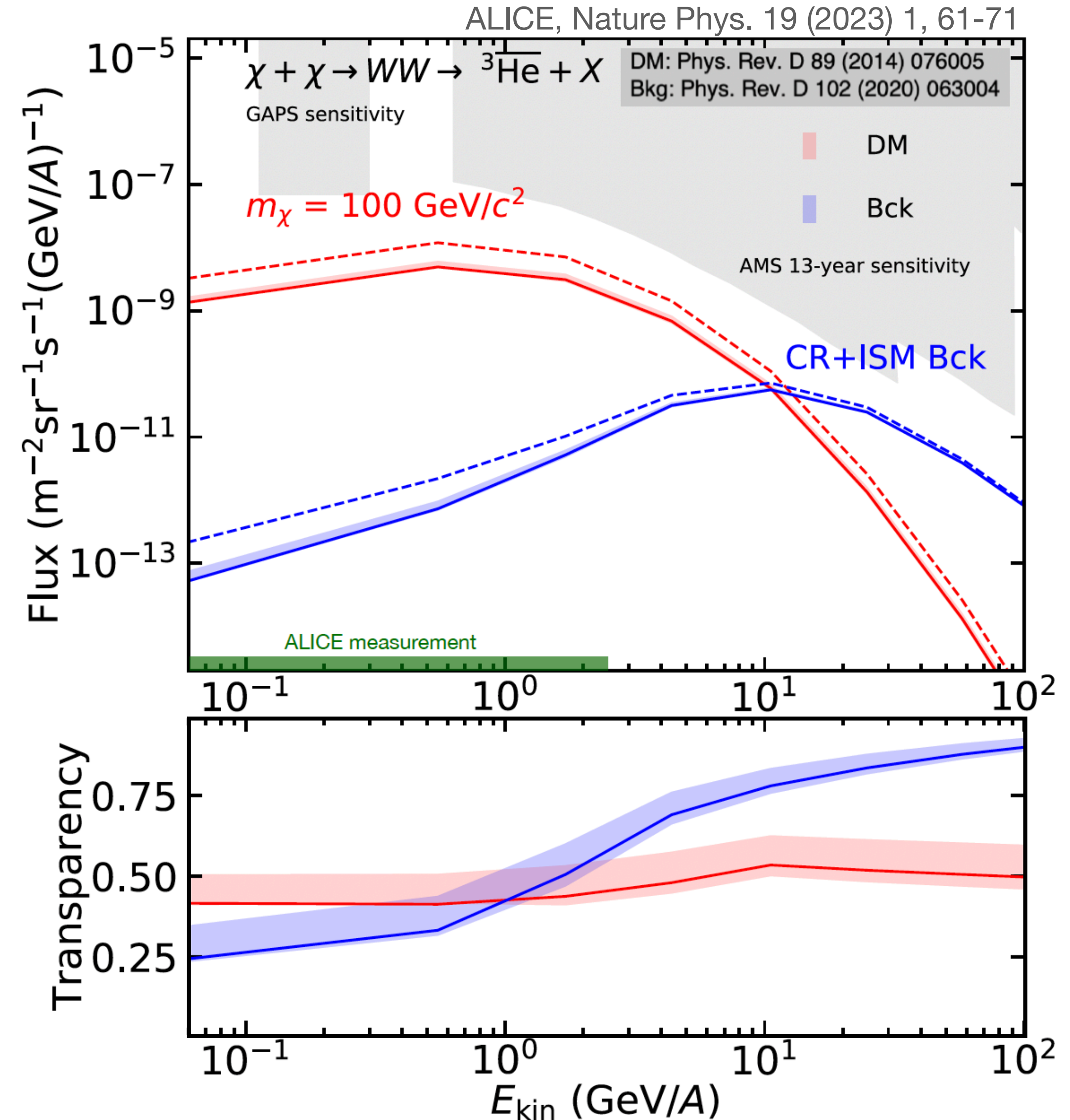


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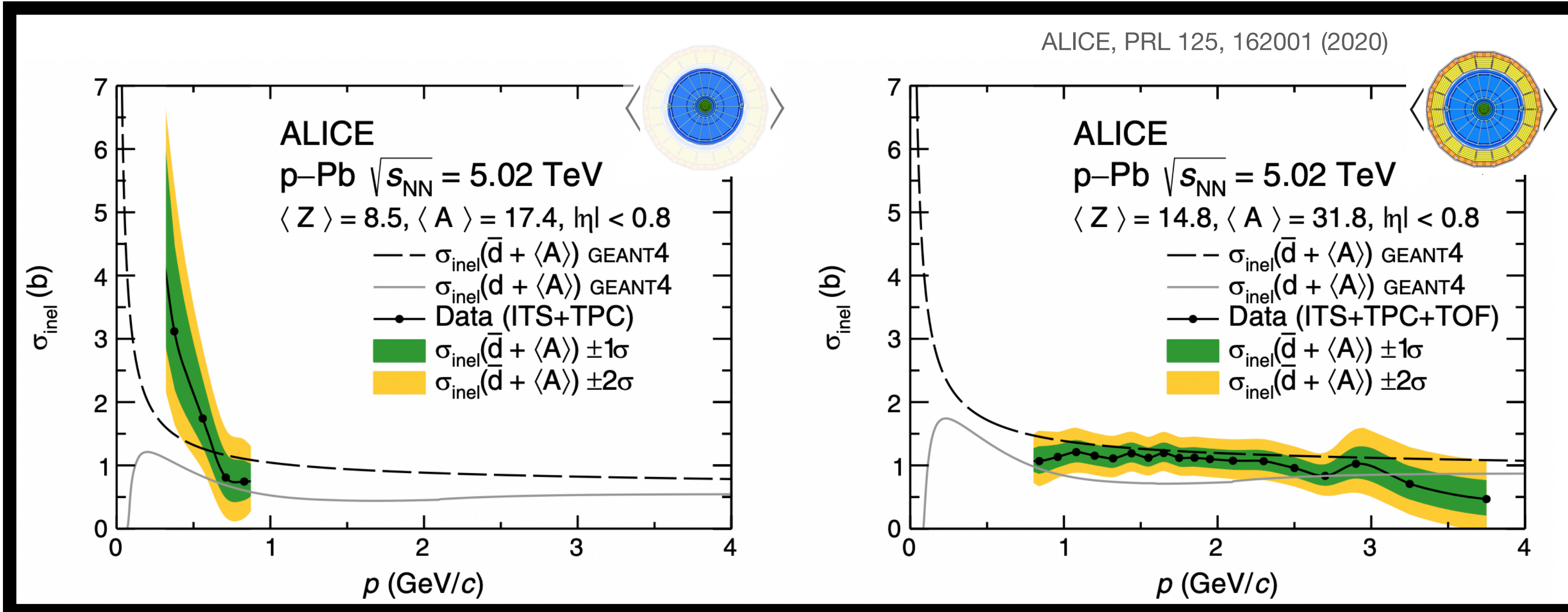
$$\text{Transparency} = \frac{\text{Flux}(\sigma_{\text{inel}})}{\text{Flux}(\sigma_{\text{inel}} = 0)}$$

ALICE measurement of antihelium-3 inelastic cross sections can be used in all future studies of antihelium-3 cosmic rays!





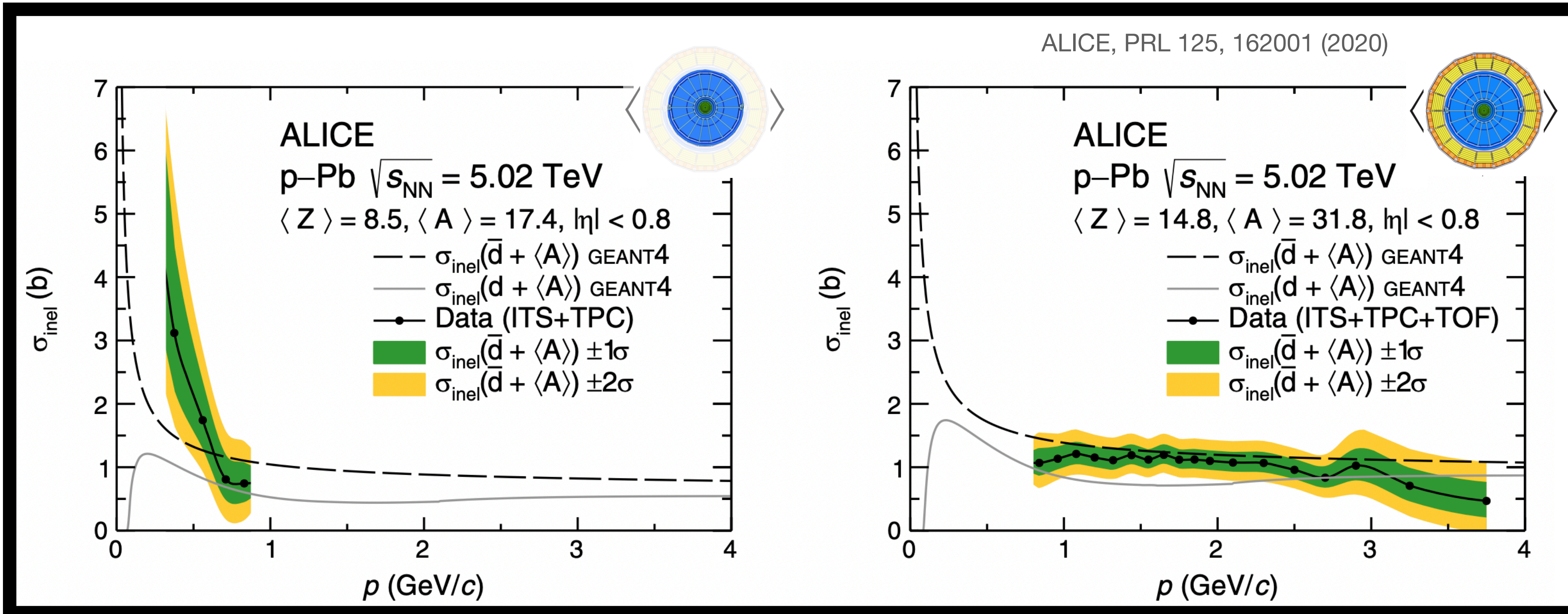
# Same studies for antideuteron



First low energy  
antideuteron inelastic cross  
section measurement



# Same studies for antideuteron

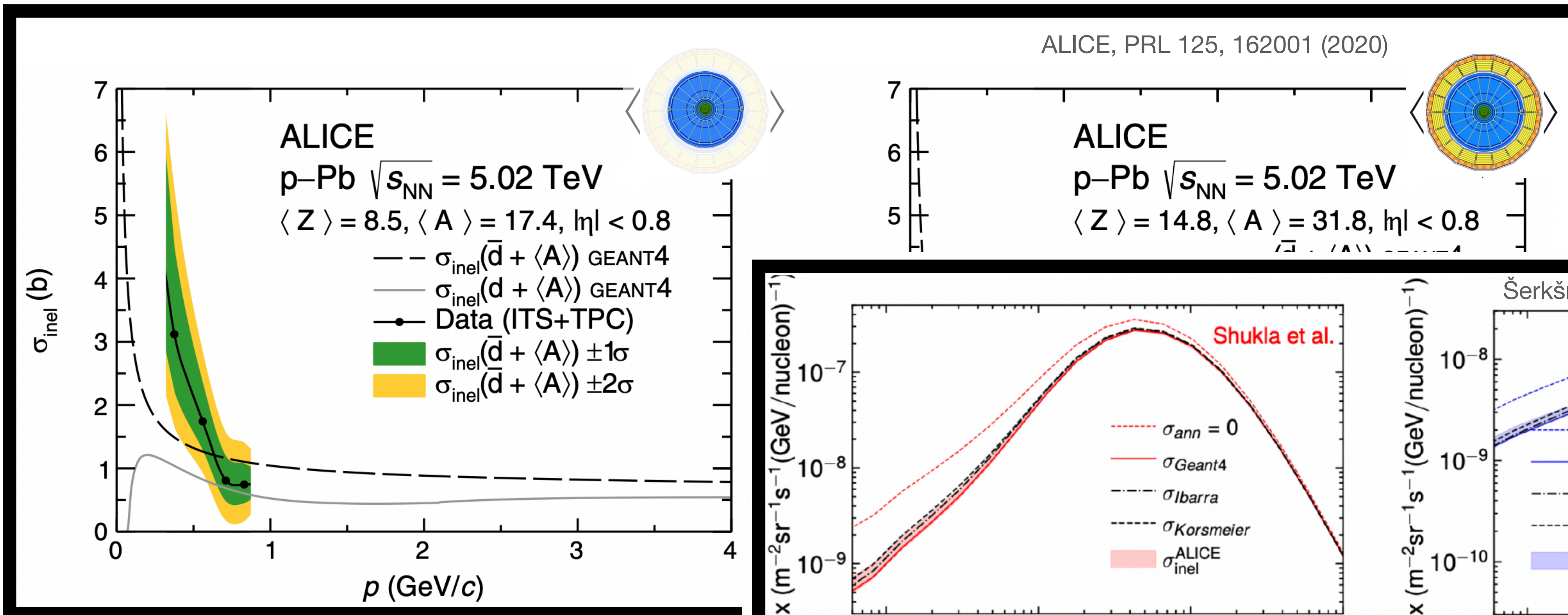


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Talk by David at 13:10

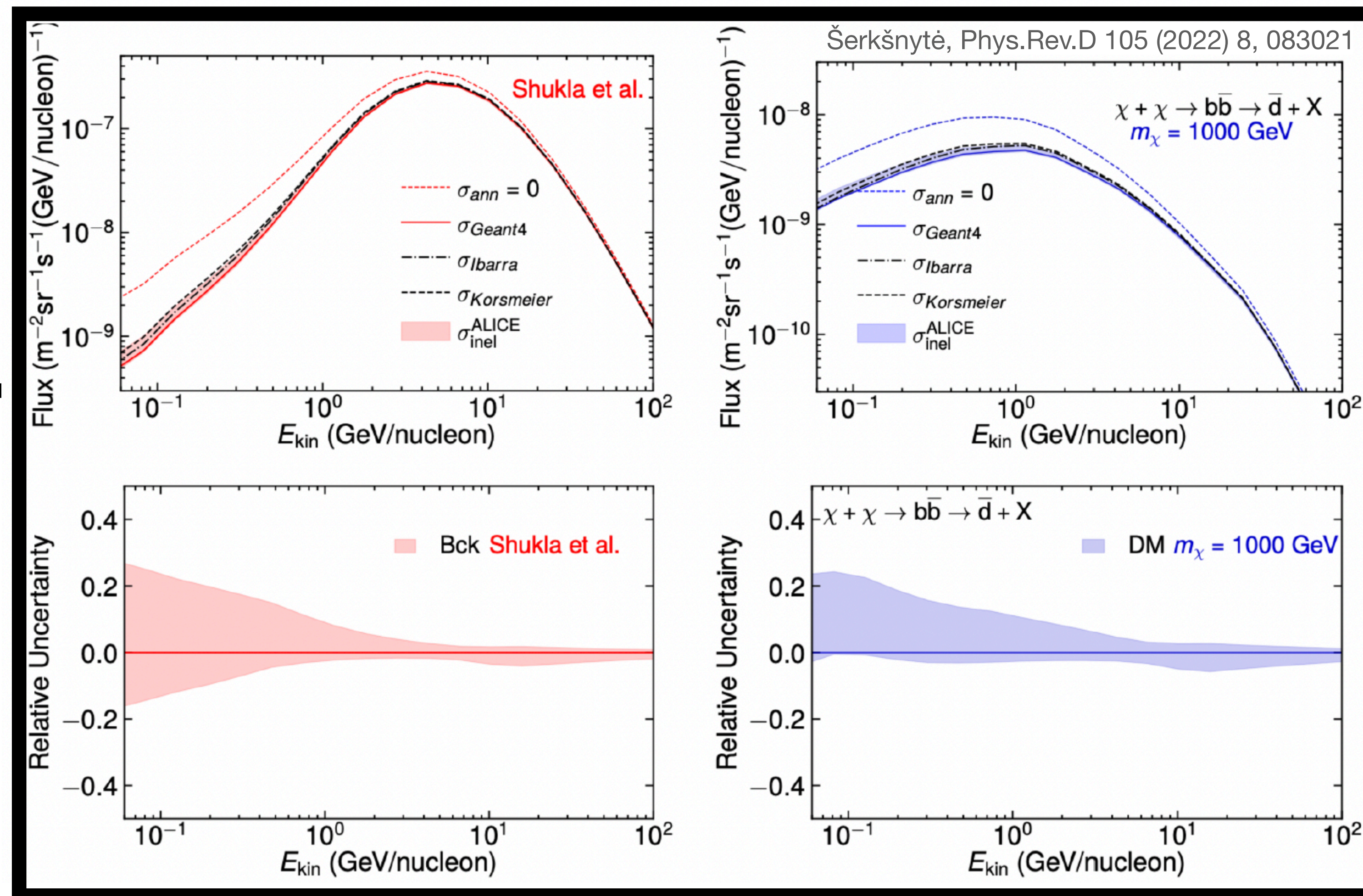


# Same studies for antideuterons



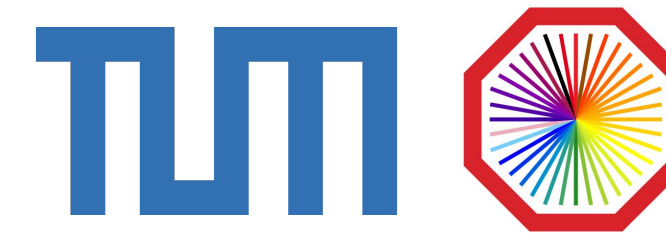
First low energy antideuterons inelastic cross section measurement

Resulting uncertainties on cosmic rays ~25%

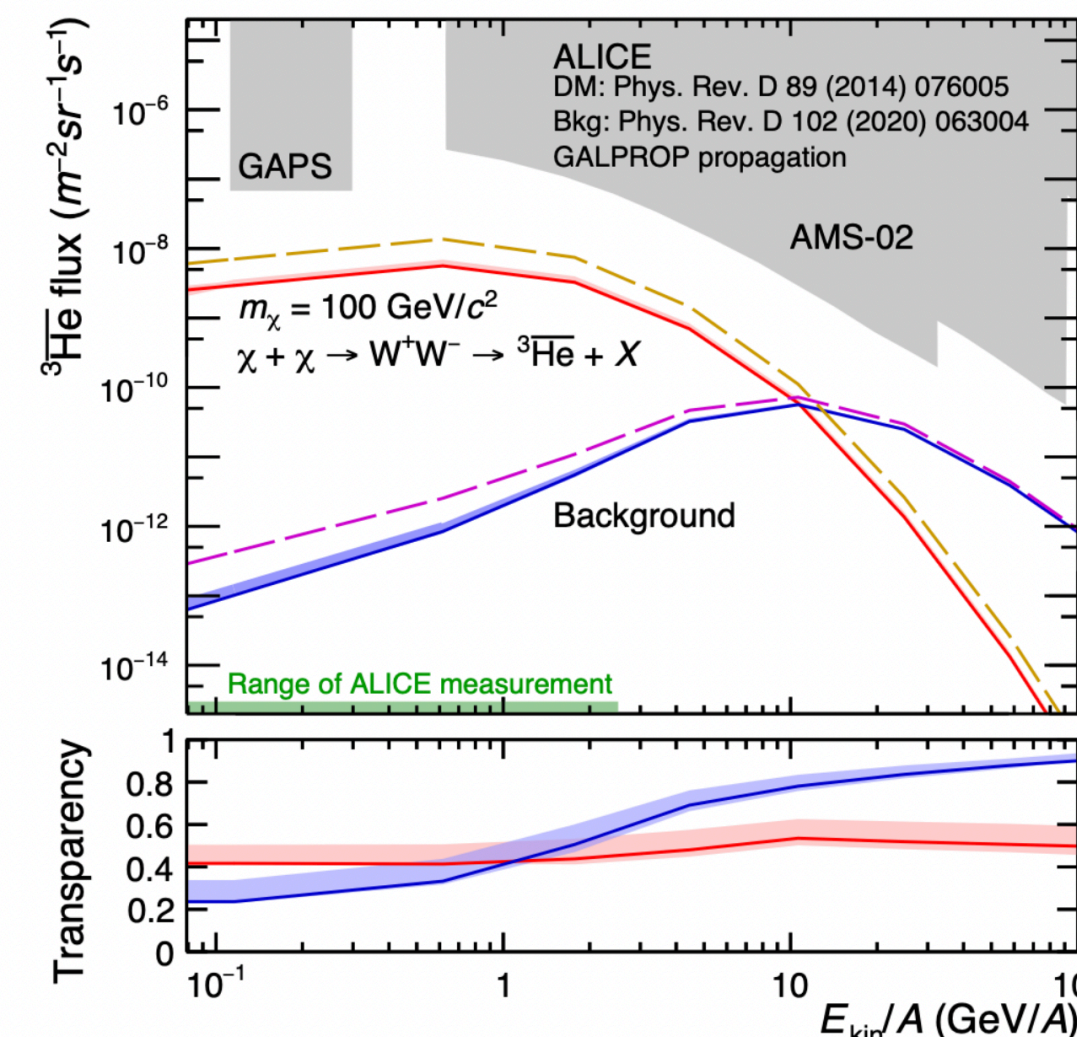
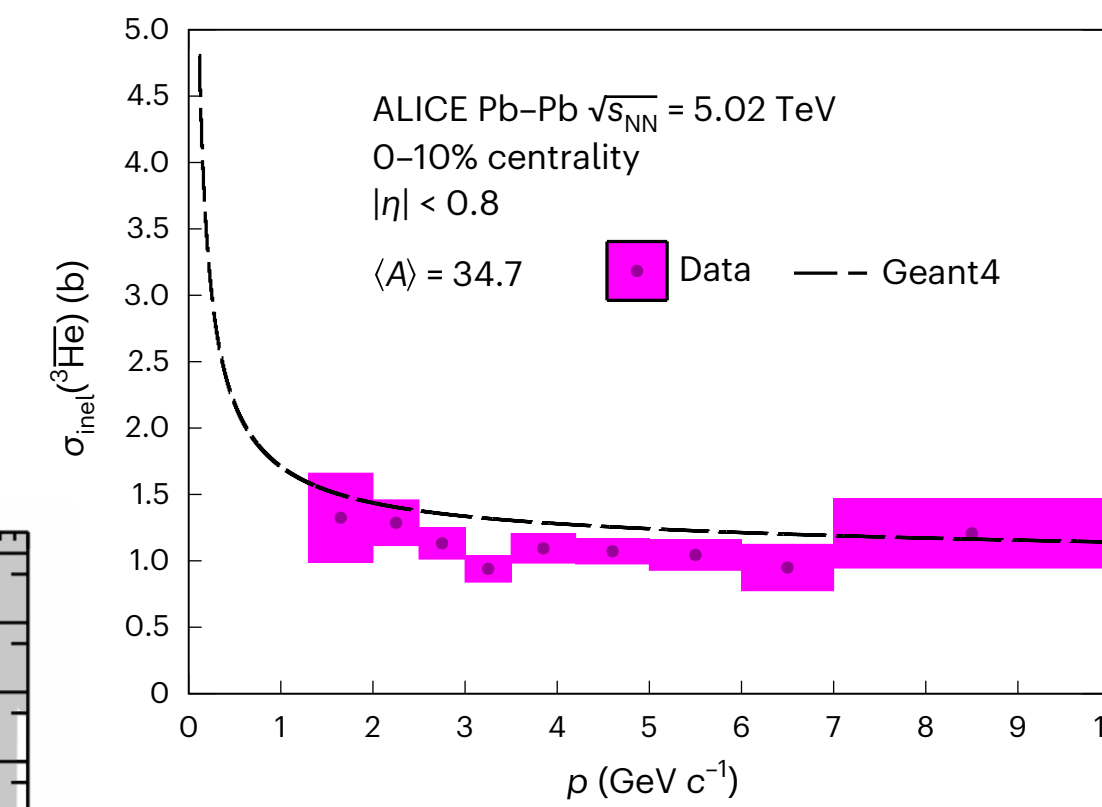
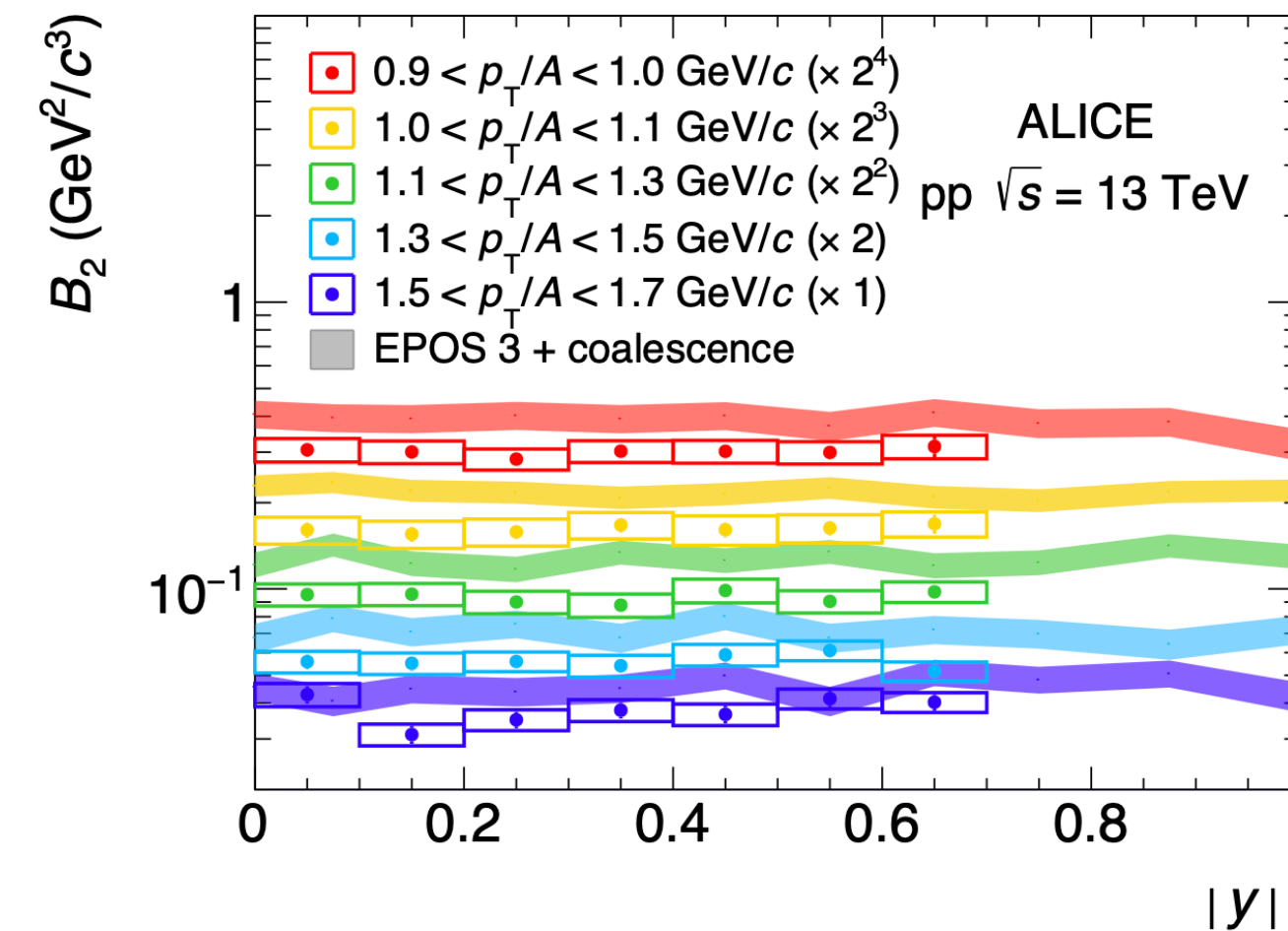




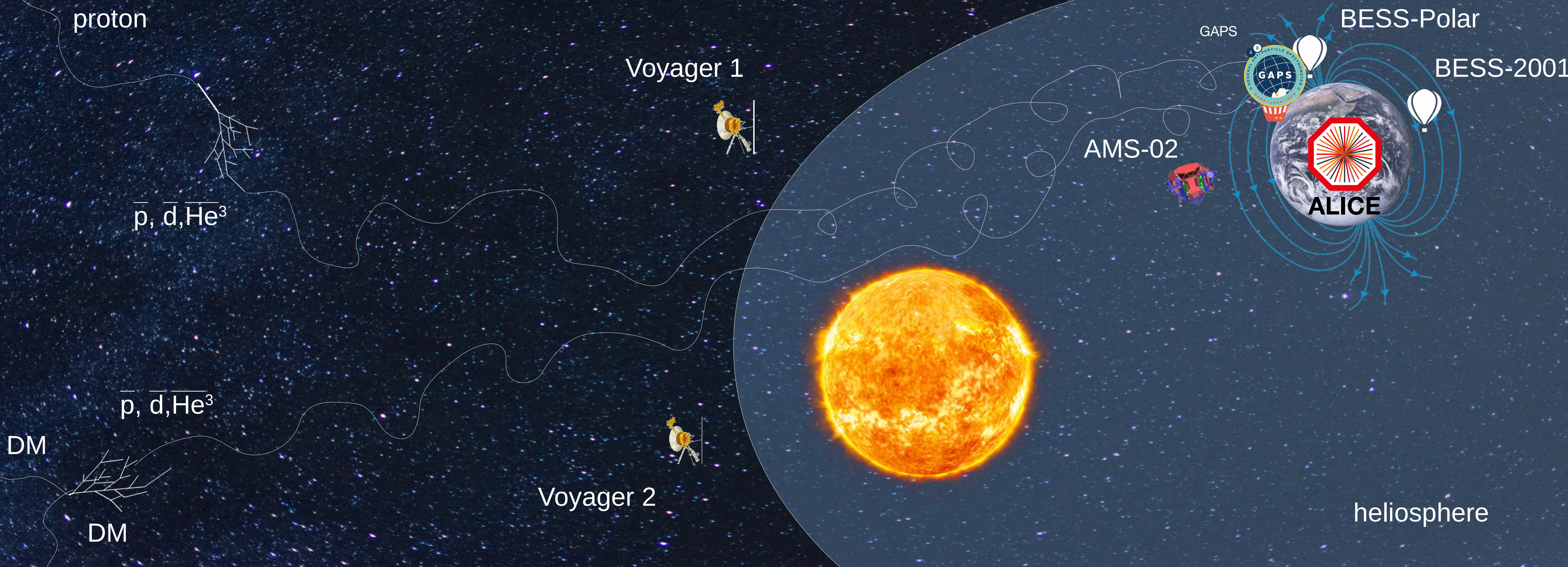
# Summary



- Production
  - High precision differential (anti)deuteron and (anti)helium yields in pp collisions
  - Coalescence parameter  $B_2$  is flat as a function of rapidity: extrapolation from mid-rapidity to forward rapidity should be safe
- Annihilation:
  - First ever low momentum antideuteron measurement
  - First ever antihelium-3 measurement
- Future/ongoing:
  - high-pT deuterons with HMPID
  - inelastic cross-section of antihelium-4
  - First observation of antihelium-4 in pp collisions
  - ...







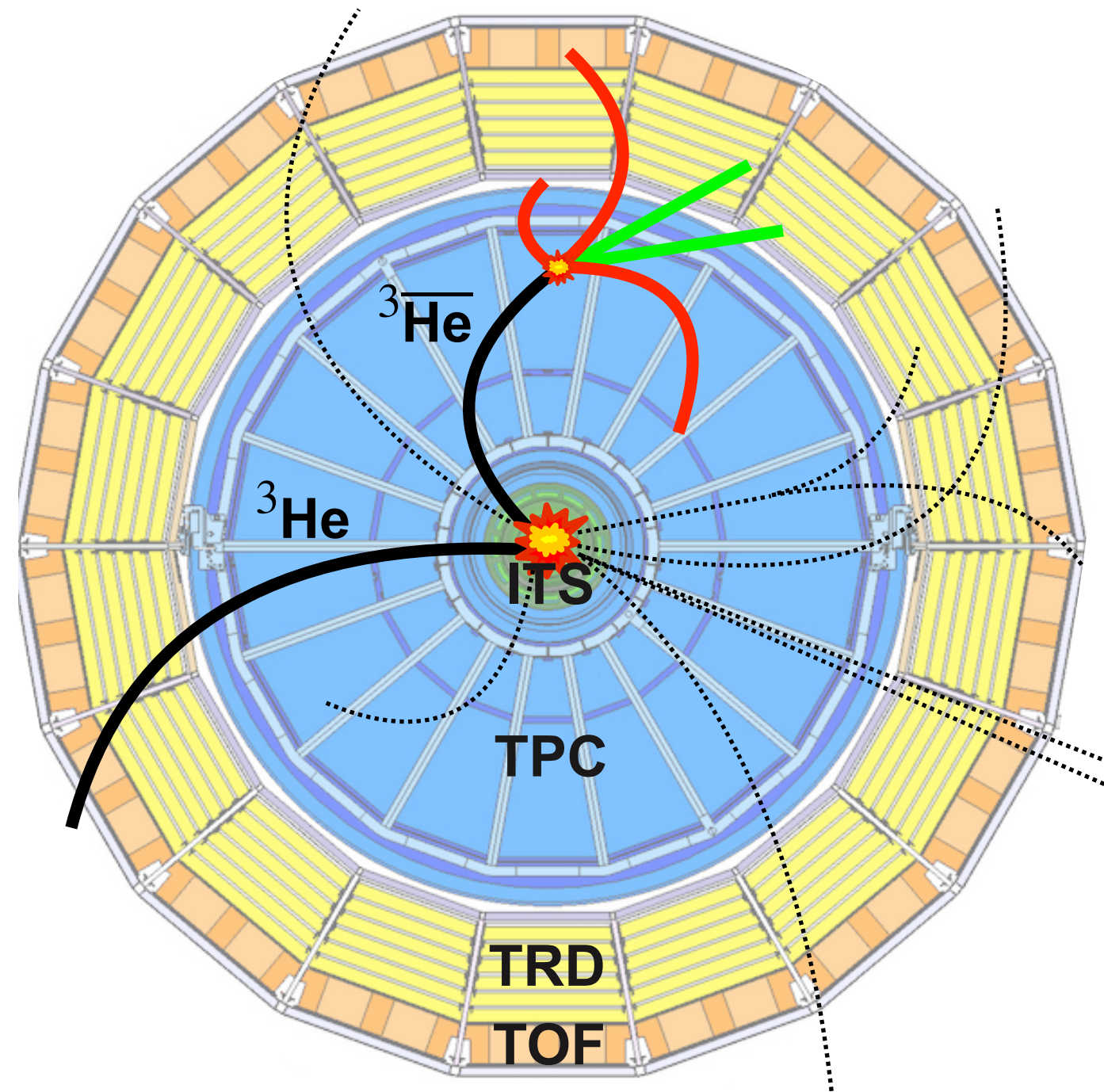
**Thank you for your attention!**



# Method: ALICE as a target

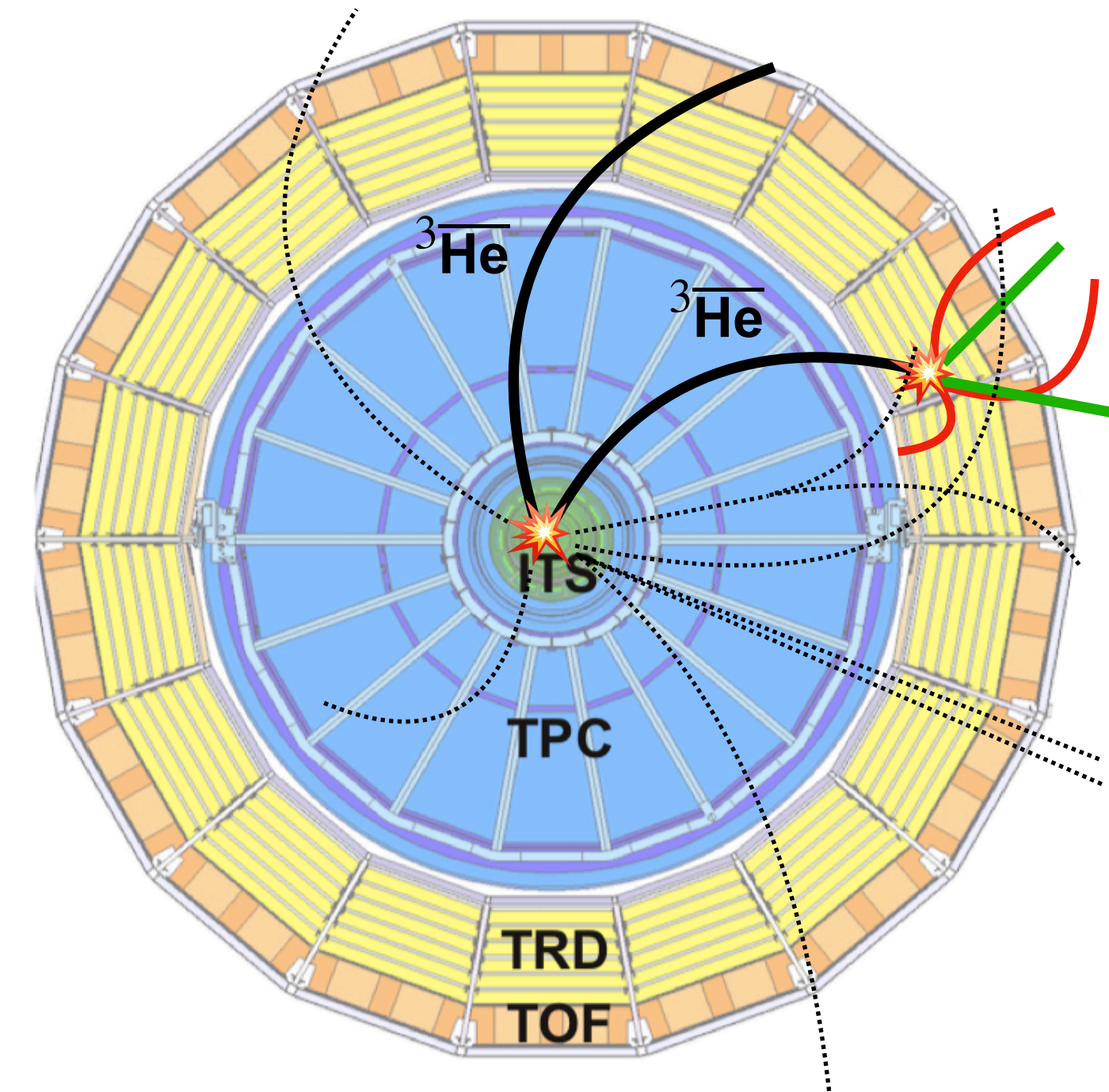
## Antimatter-to-matter ratio

- Measure reconstructed  ${}^3\overline{\text{He}}/{}^3\text{He}$  and compare with MC simulations



## TOF-to-TPC-matching

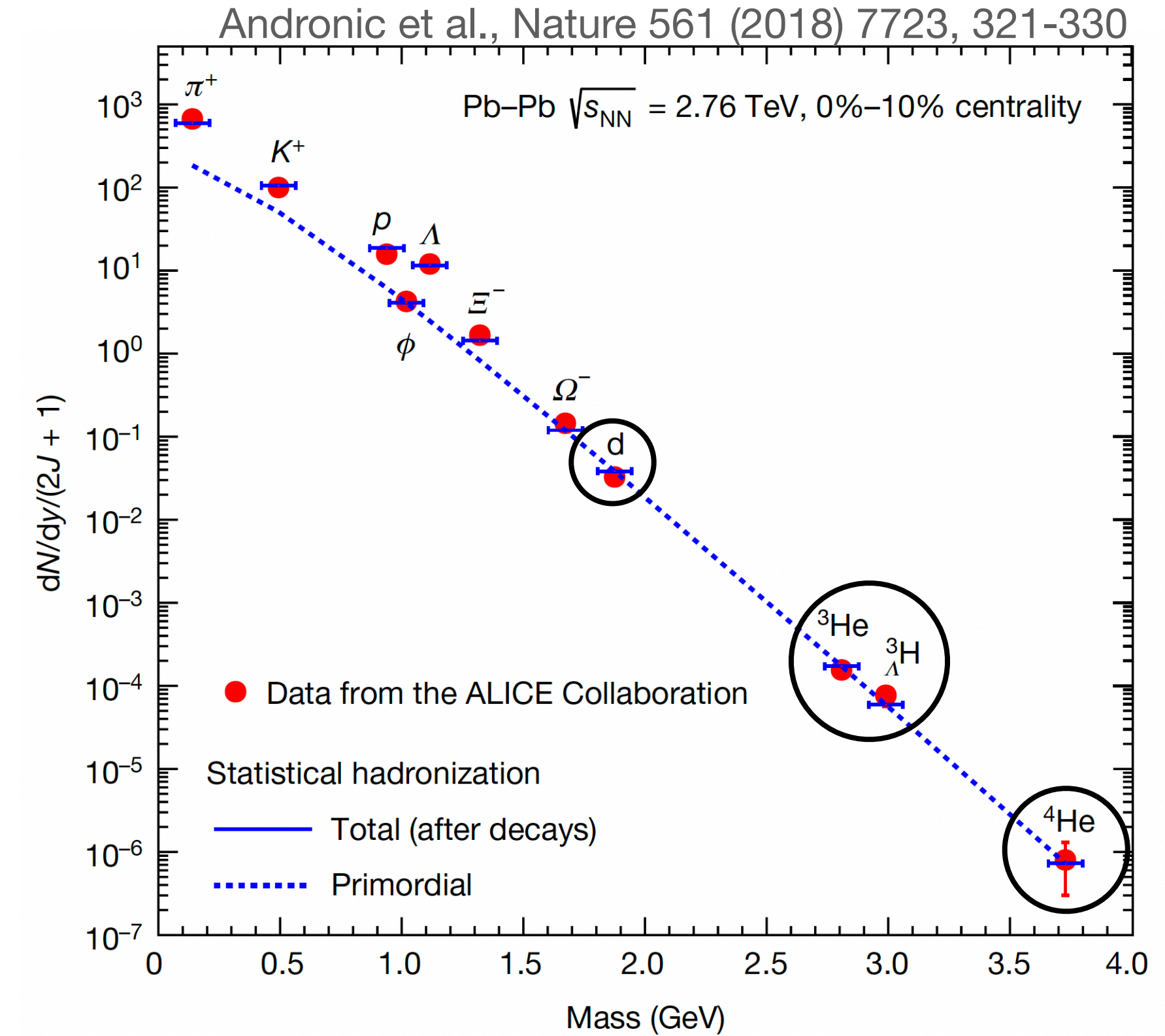
- Measure reconstructed  ${}^3\overline{\text{He}}_{\text{TOF}}/{}^3\overline{\text{He}}_{\text{TPC}}$  and compare with MC simulations





# (Anti)nuclei production mechanisms

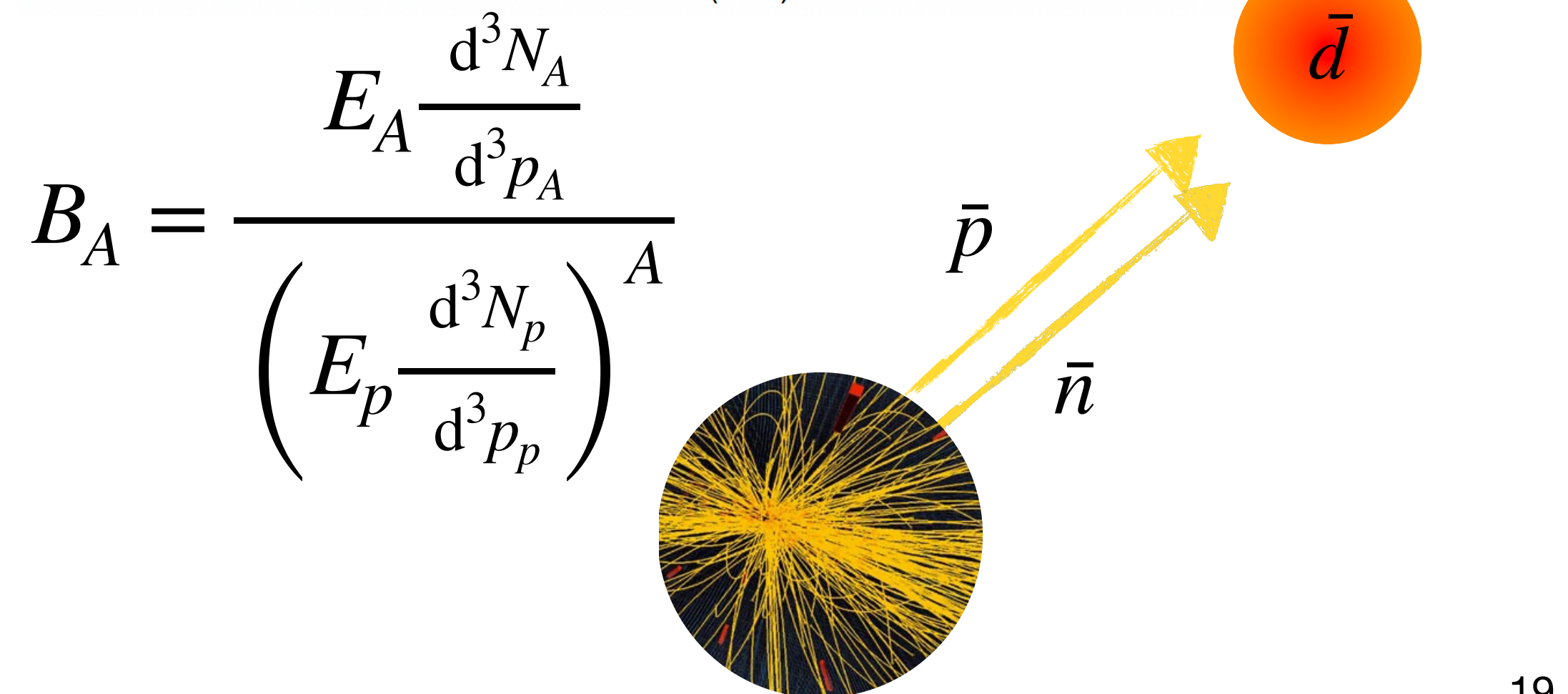
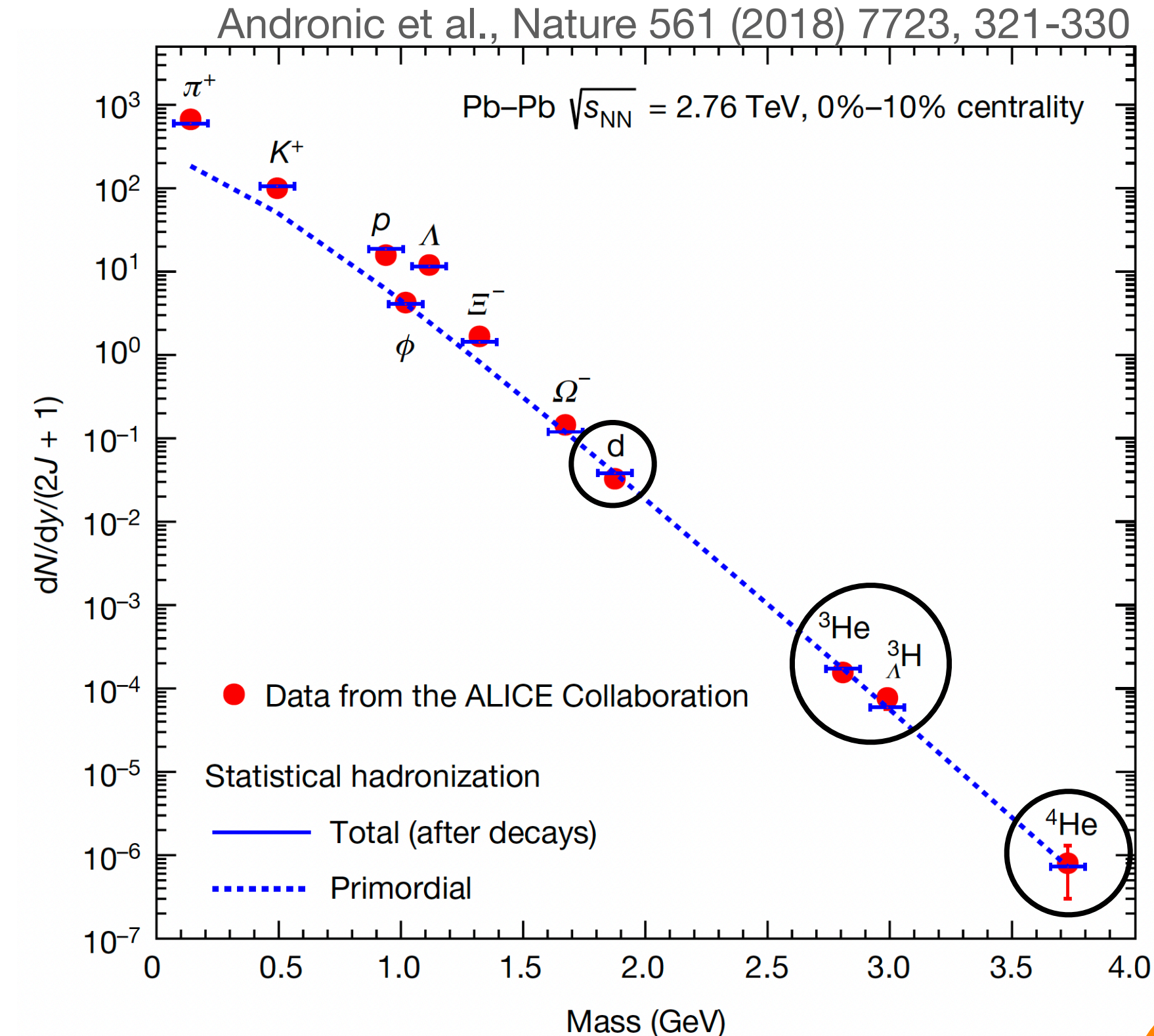
- Statistical Hadronisation Model (SHM)
  - describes the yields of light-flavoured hadrons by requiring thermal and hadron-chemical equilibrium





# (Anti)nuclei production mechanisms

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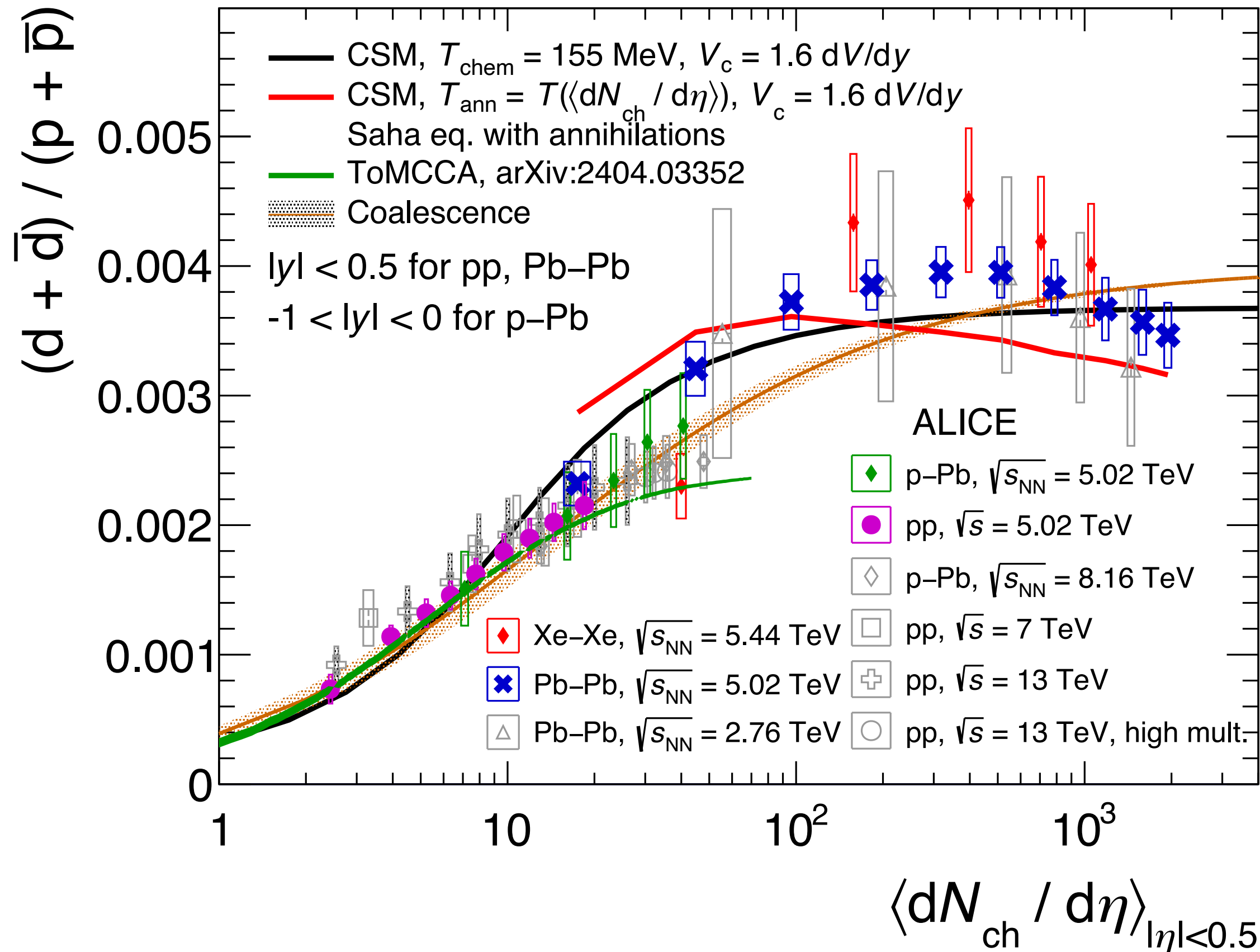




# Comparison

- Nucleus to nucleon yield ratio evolves smoothly with multiplicity
  - Dependence on the system size
- Deuterons: no conclusion on the different models
- Helium-3: model predictions different but insufficient data precision

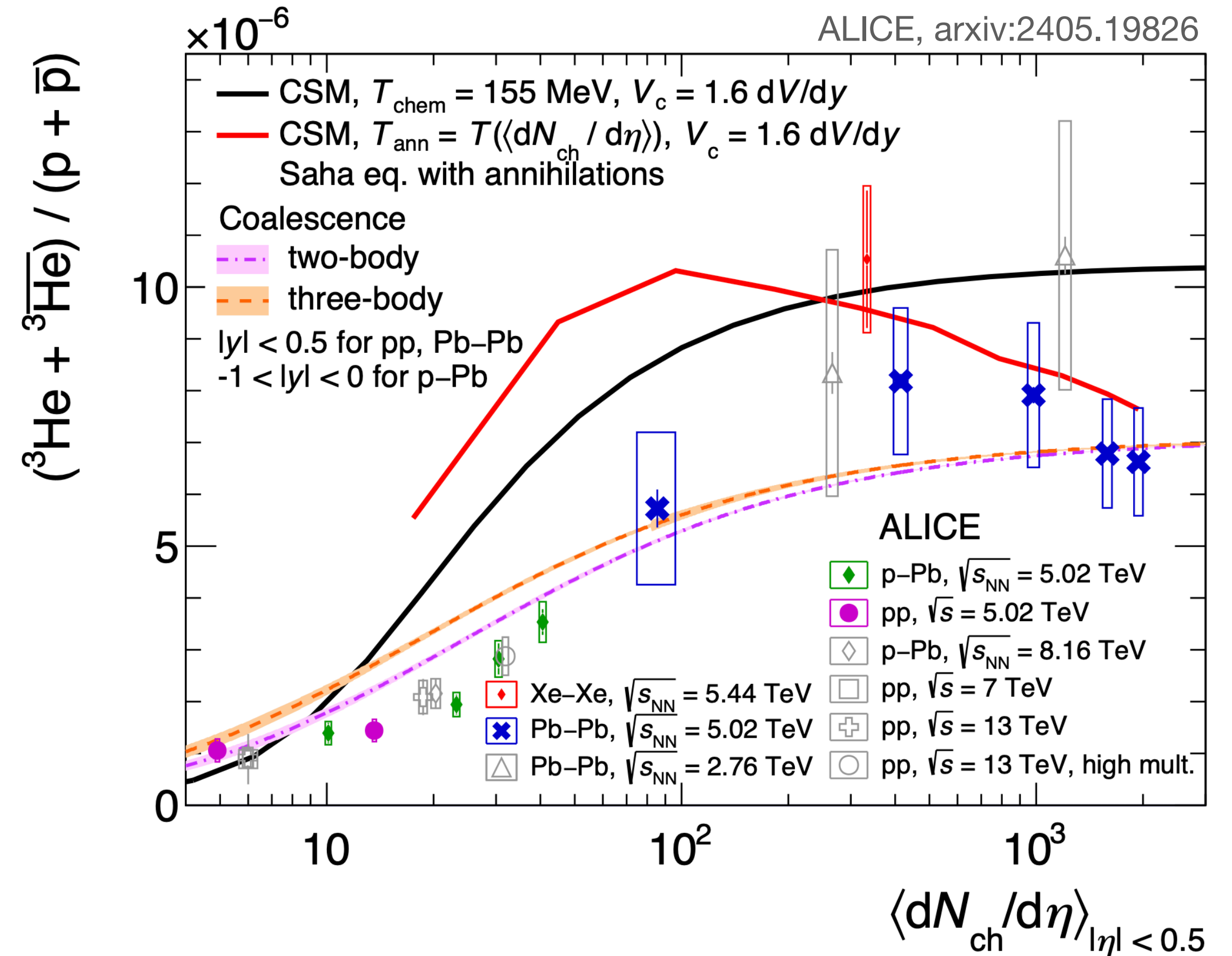
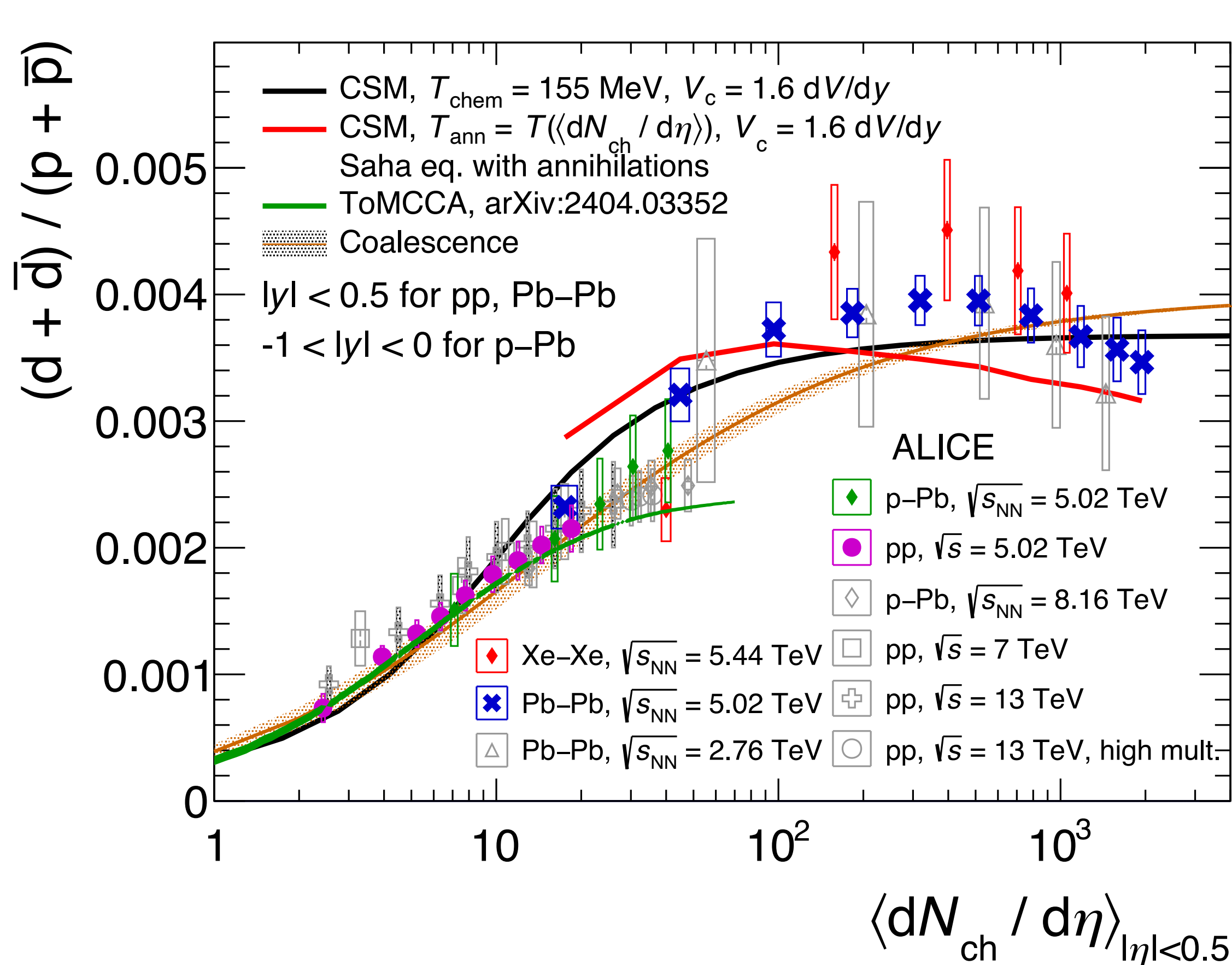
ALICE, arxiv:2405.19826





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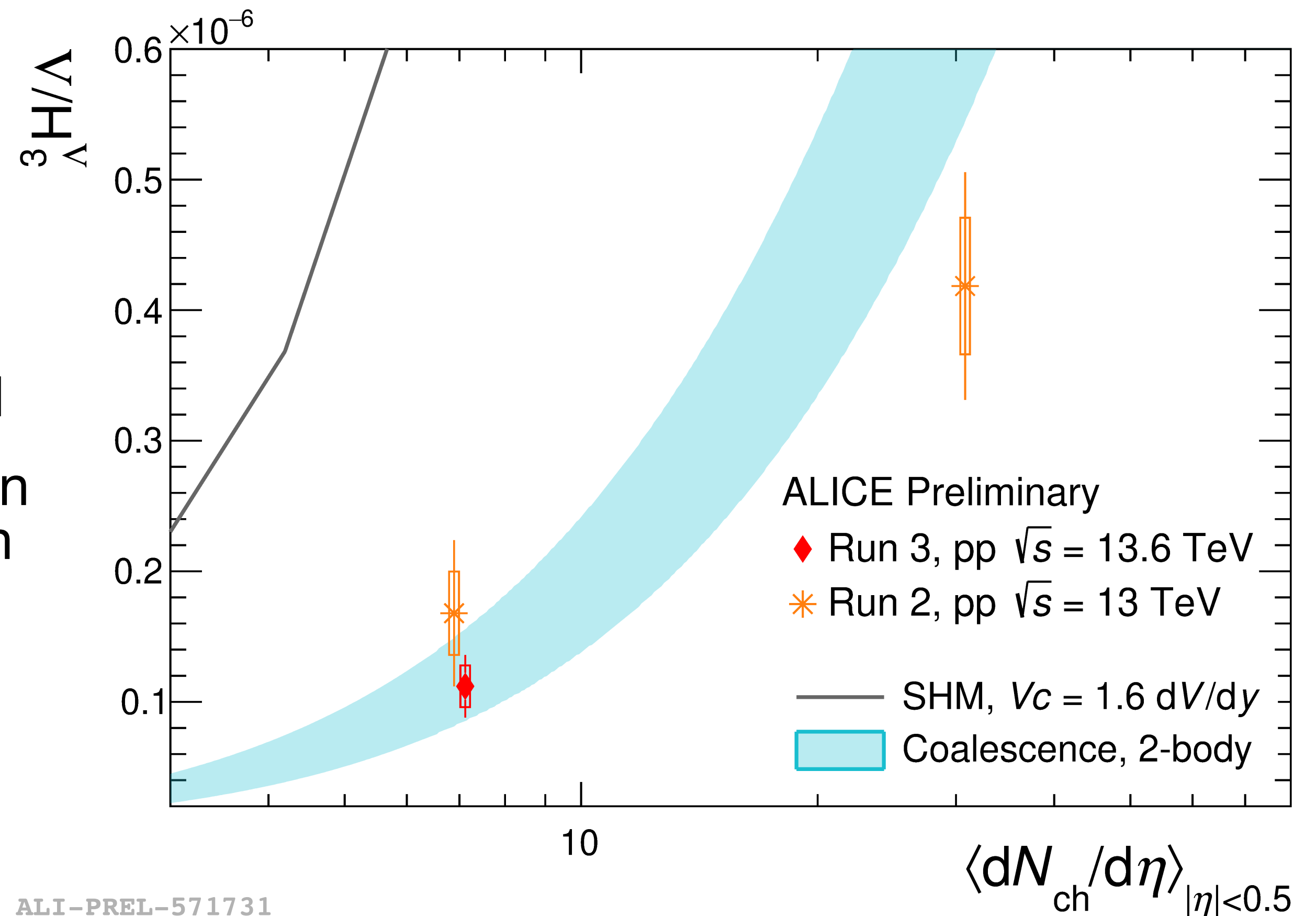




# CSM vs Coalescence

- Nucleus to nucleon yield ratio evolves smoothly with multiplicity
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- Hypertriton has a size of  $\sim 10$  fm
  - Relevant for coalescence but not SHM
- Coalescence provides the best description of hypertriton measurement in pp collision system

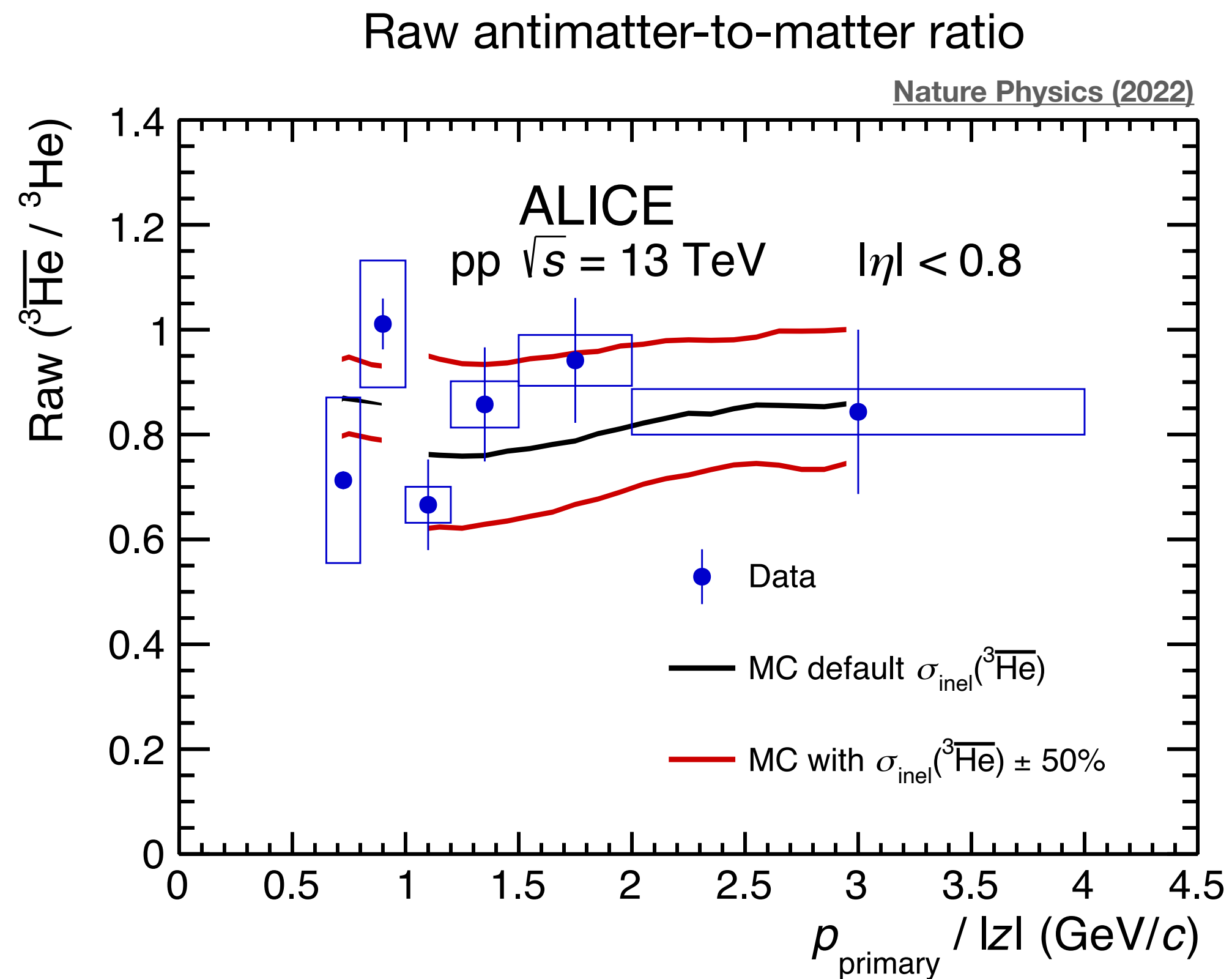




# Antimatter-to-matter method

$\sigma_{\text{inel}}(^3\overline{\text{He}})$  in MC varied for each momentum bin to match:

- experimental data  $\rightarrow$  central value
- upper/lower edge of the total error bar  $\rightarrow$   $1\sigma$  confidence interval

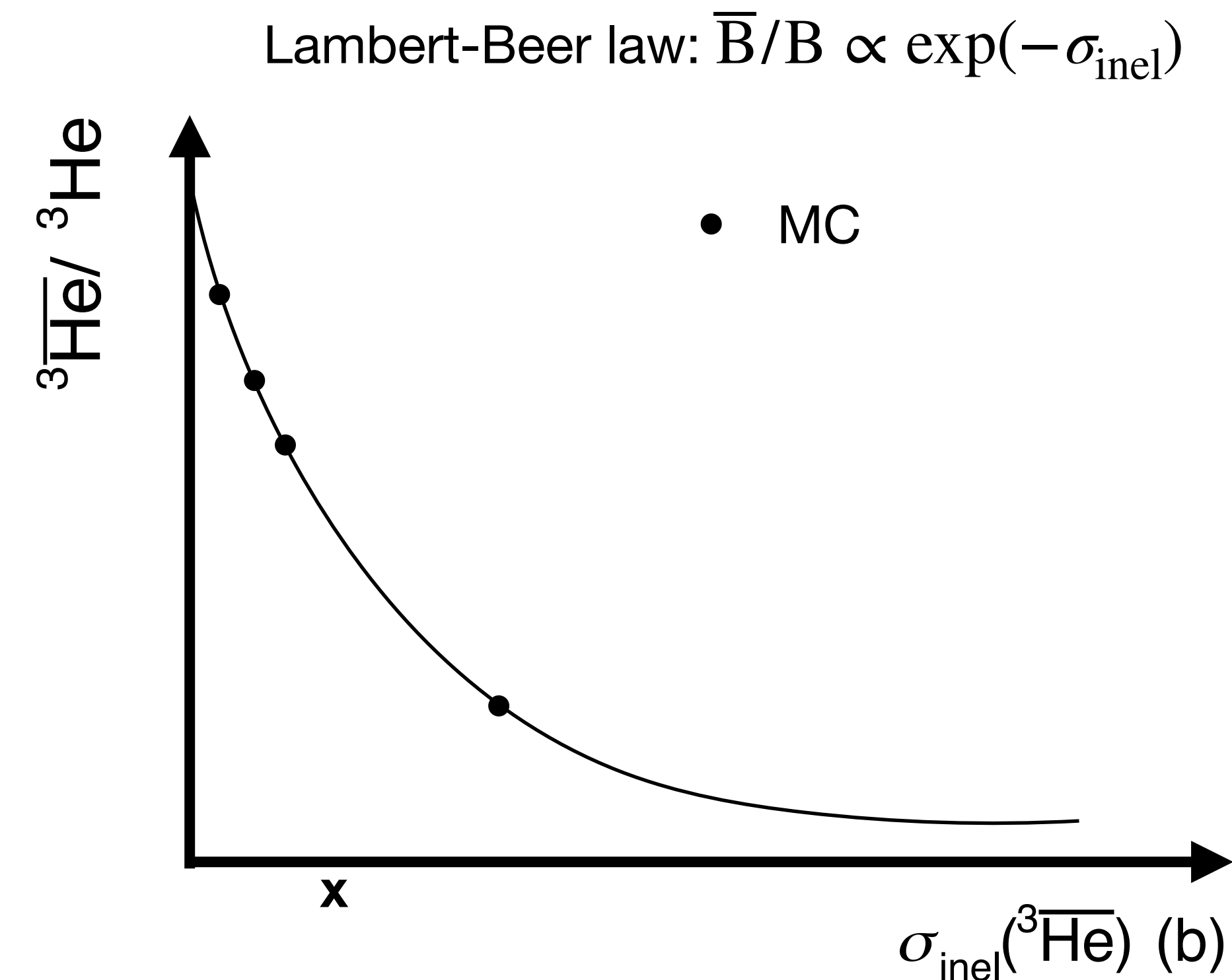
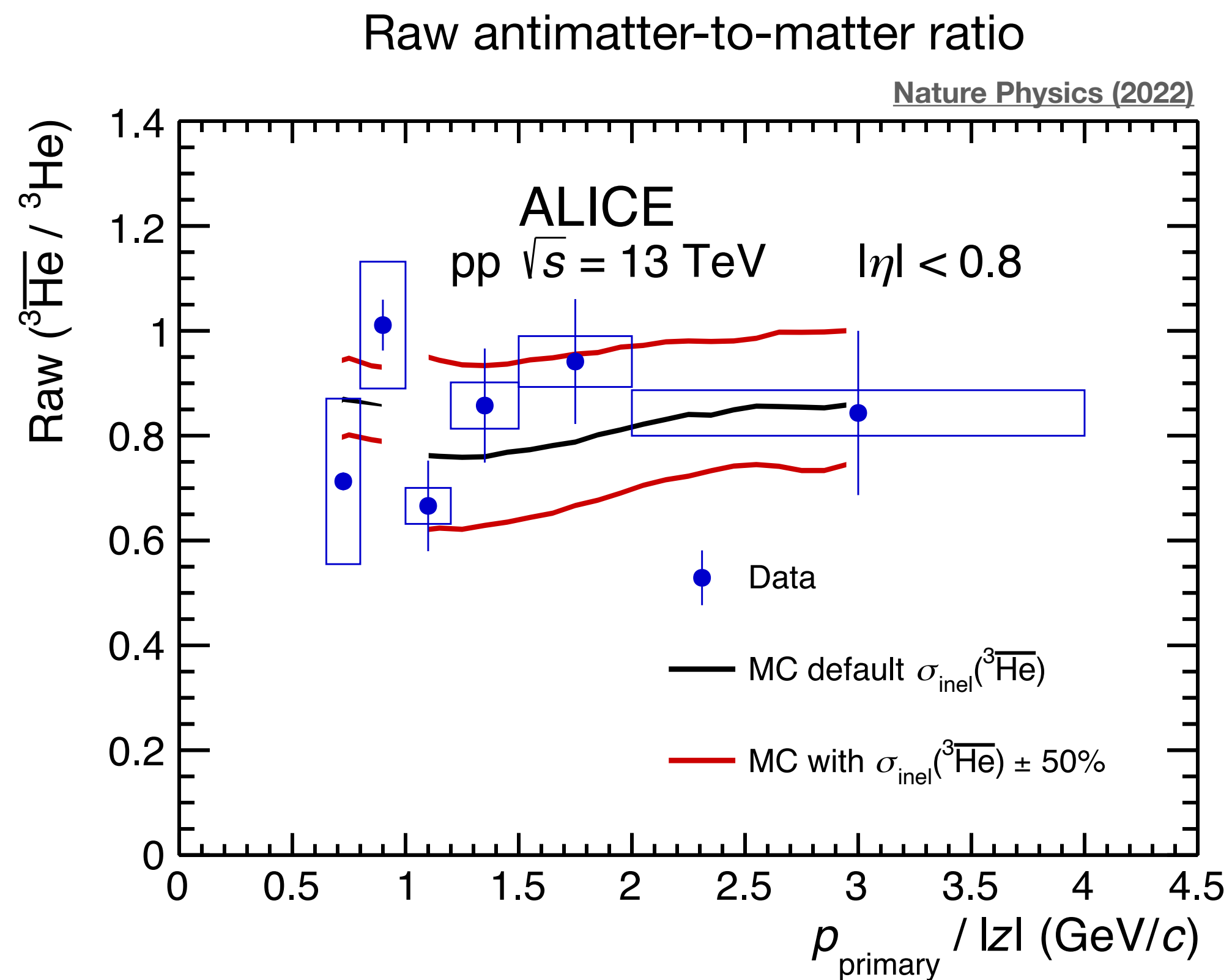




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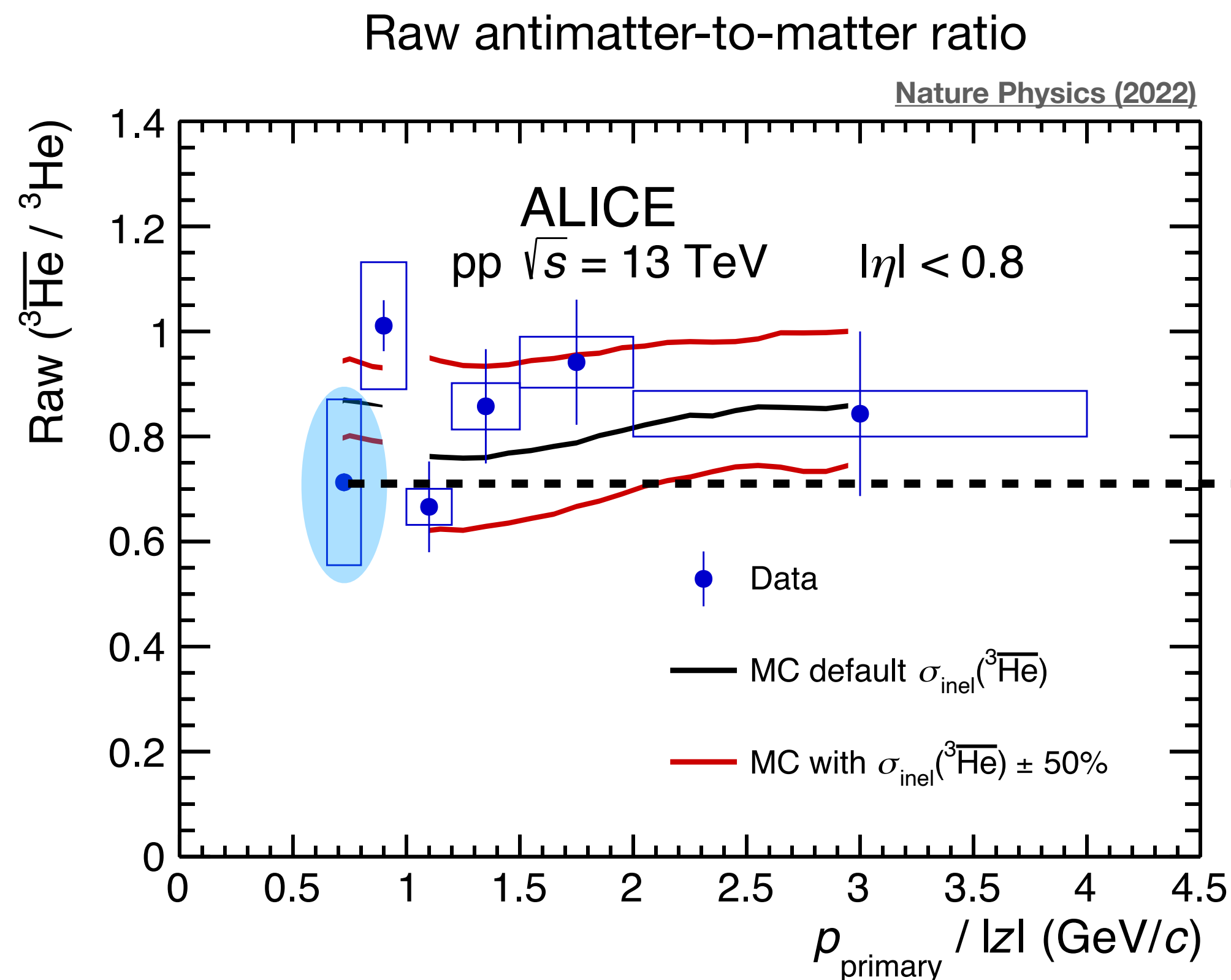




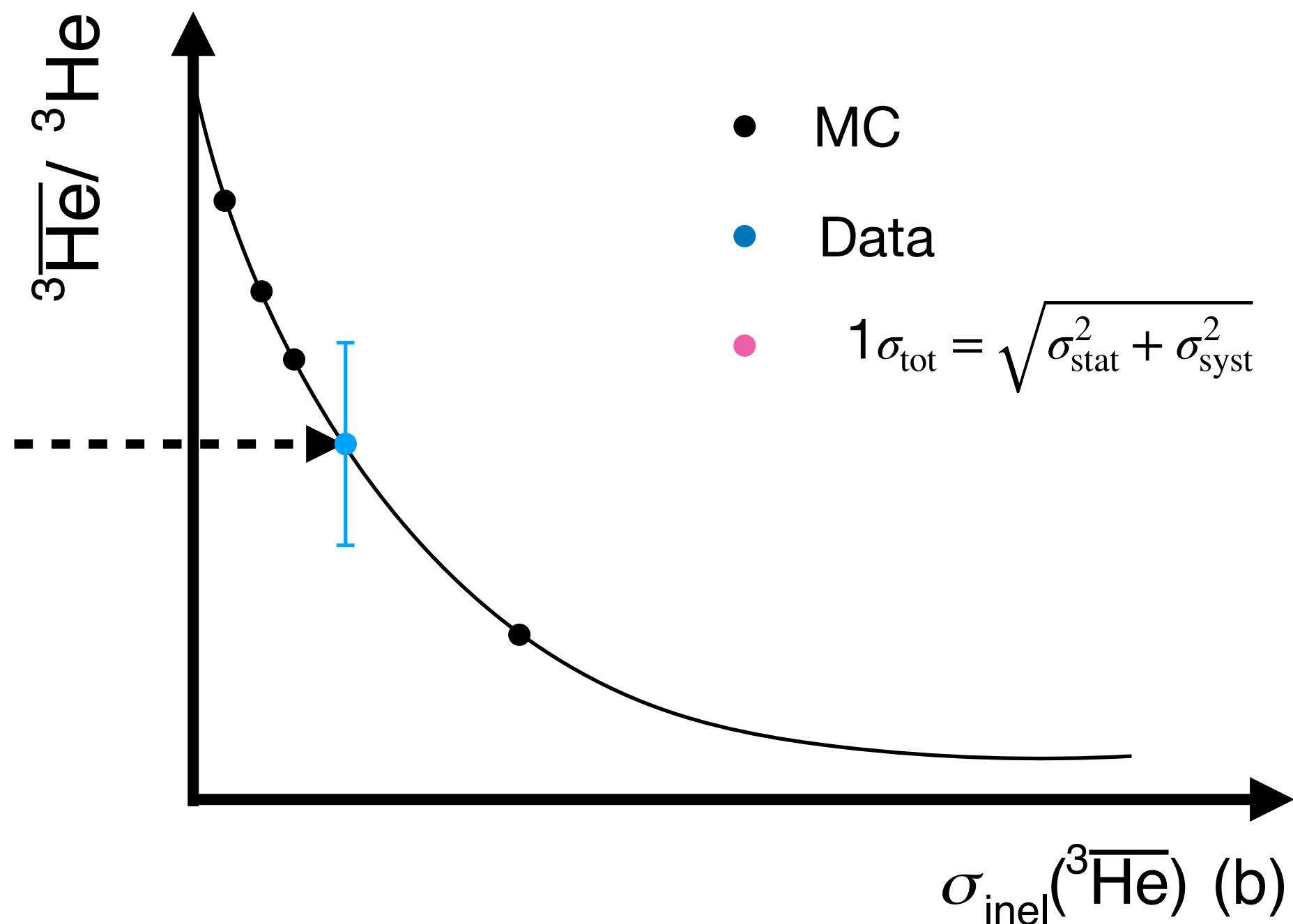
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Lambert-Beer law:  $\overline{B}/B \propto \exp(-\sigma_{\text{inel}})$

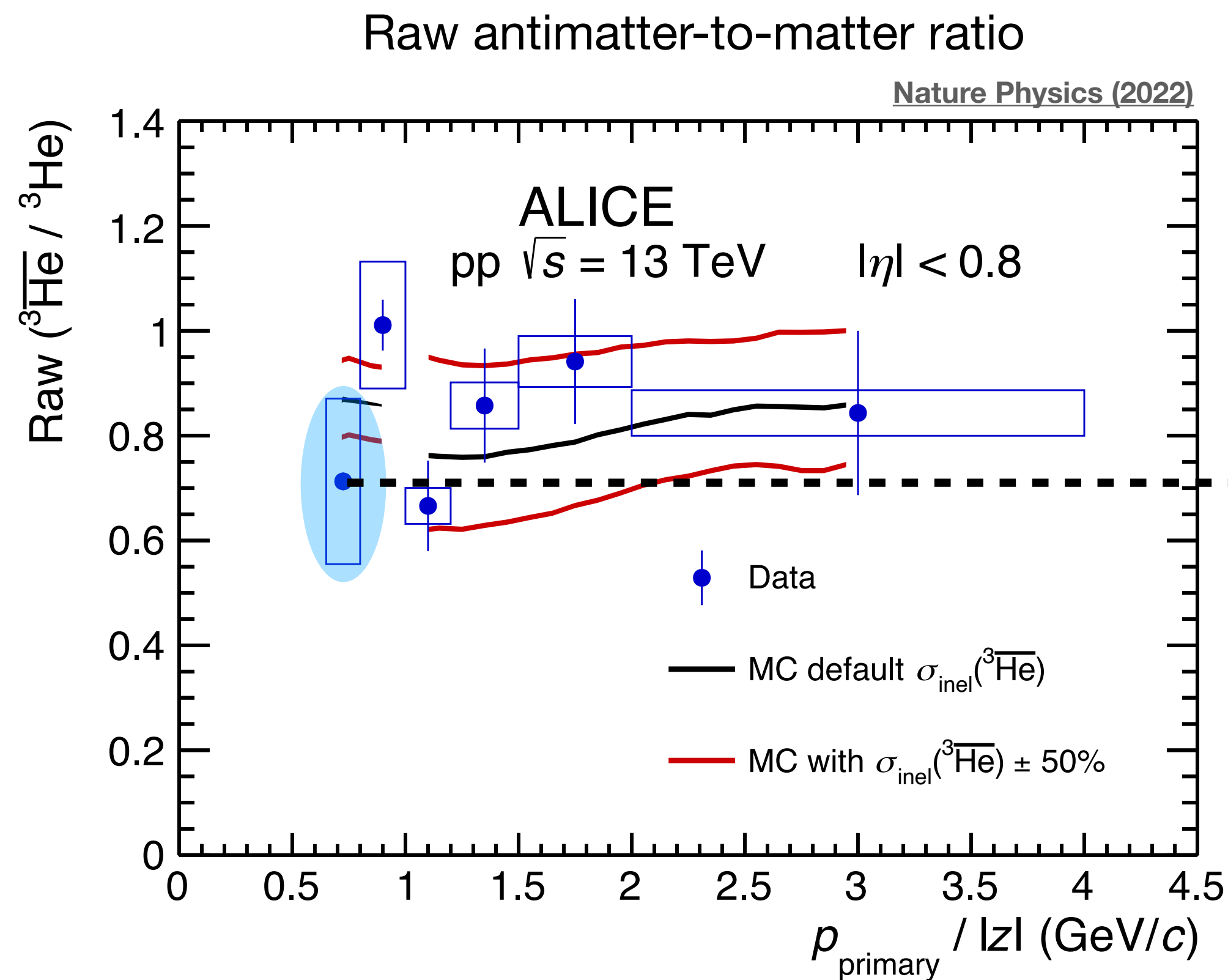




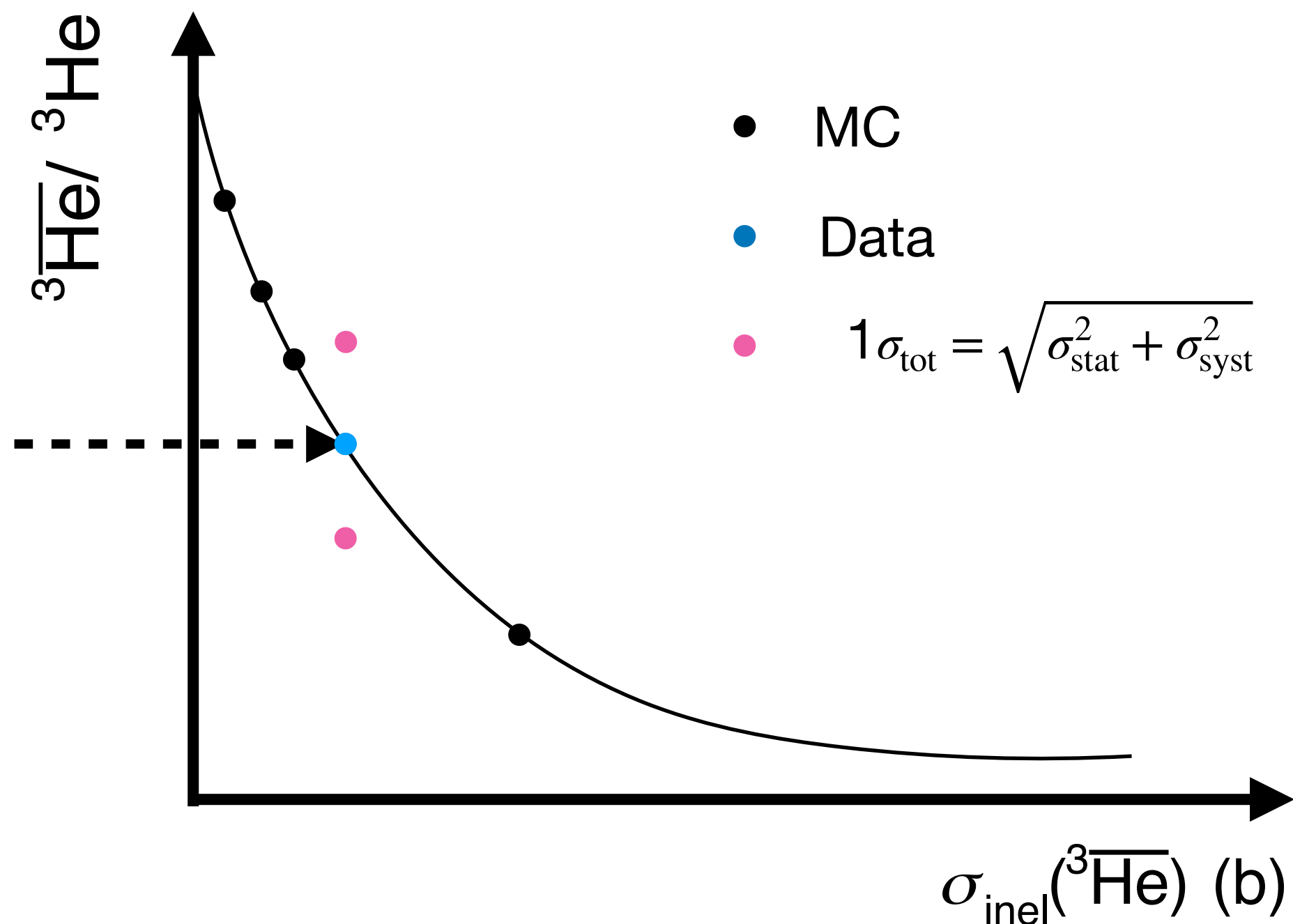
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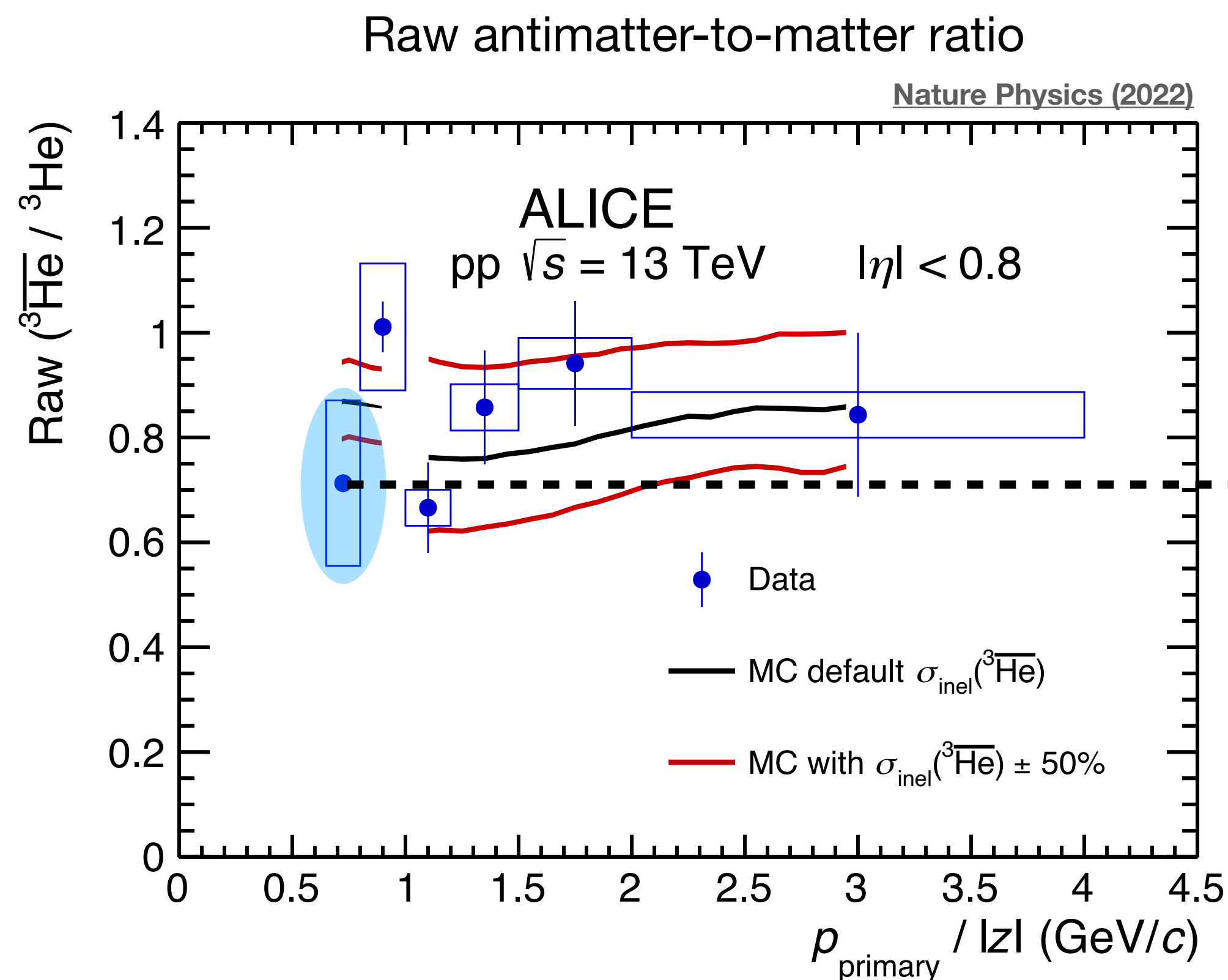




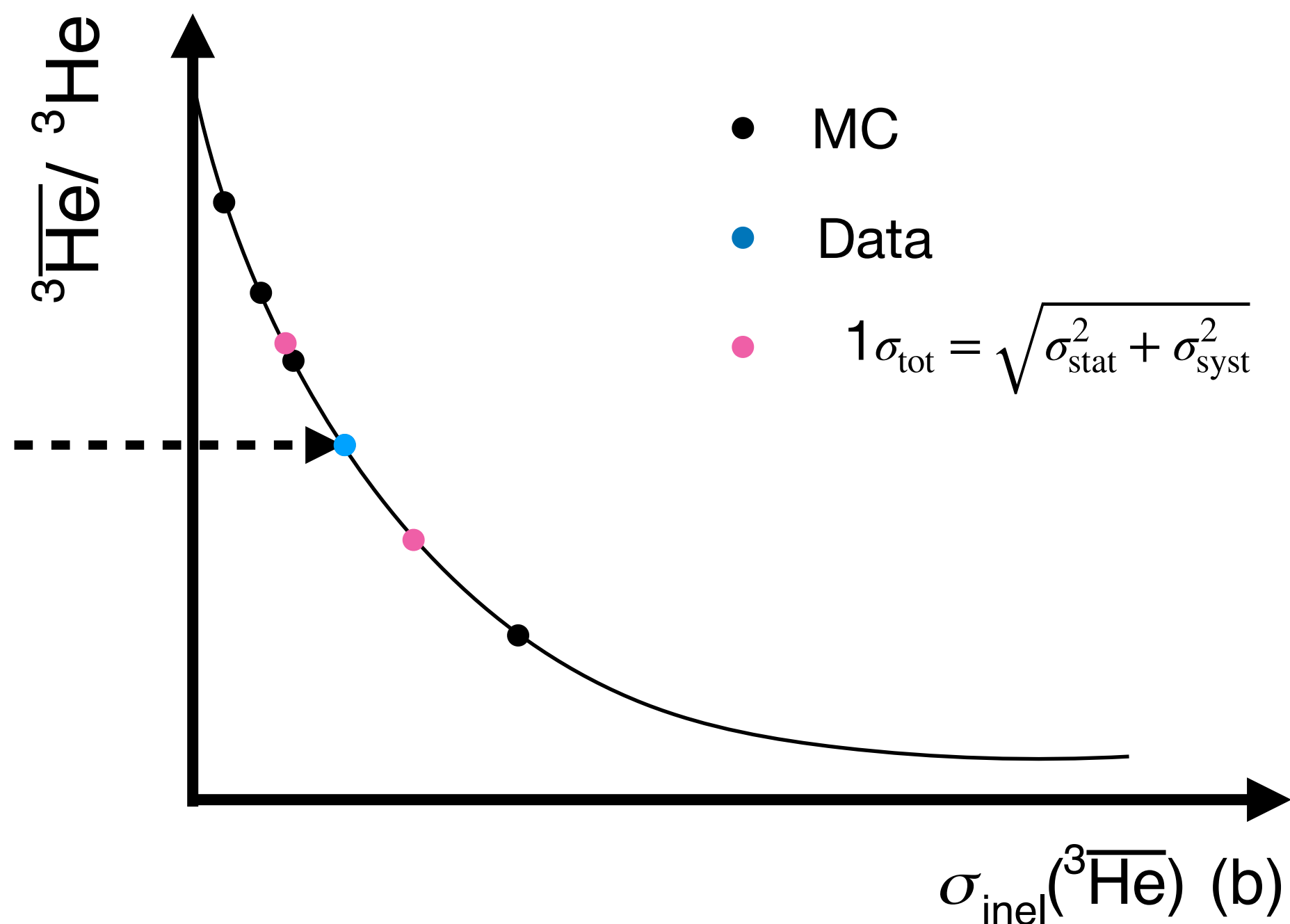
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Lambert-Beer law:  $\overline{B}/B \propto \exp(-\sigma_{\text{inel}})$

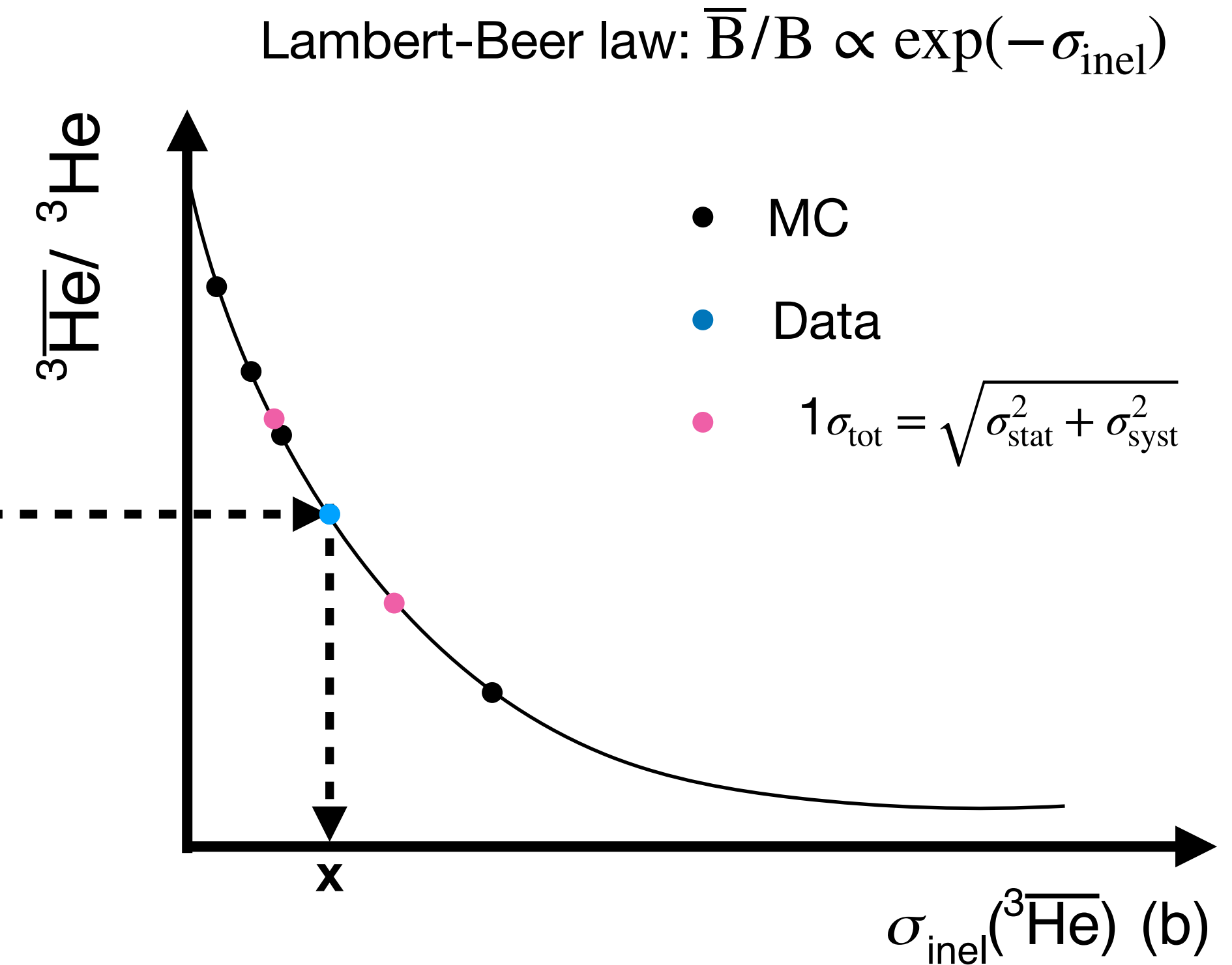
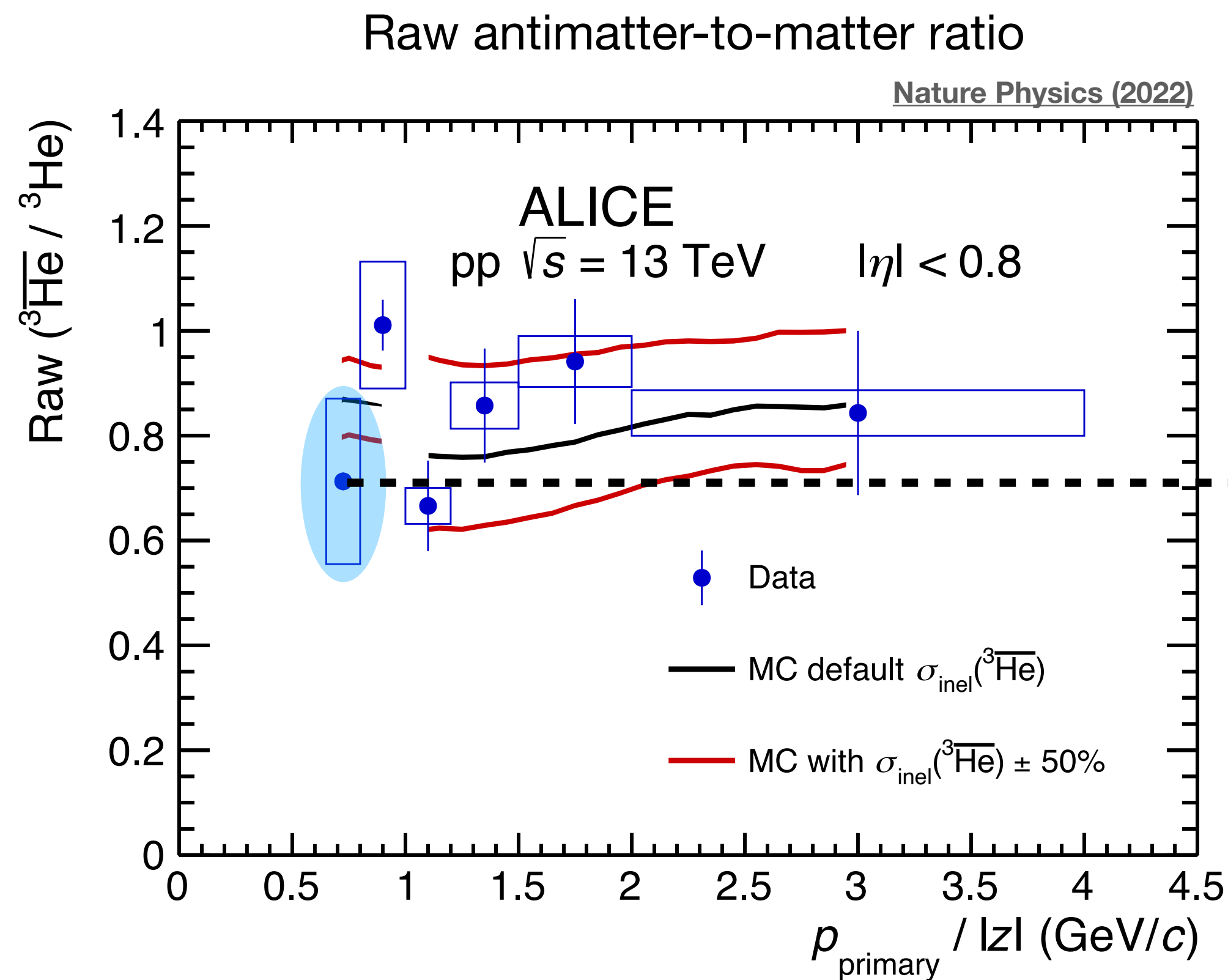




# Antimatter-to-matter method

$\sigma_{\text{inel}}(^3\overline{\text{He}})$  in MC varied for each momentum bin to match:

- experimental data  $\rightarrow$  central value
- upper/lower edge of the total error bar  $\rightarrow$   $1\sigma$  confidence interval

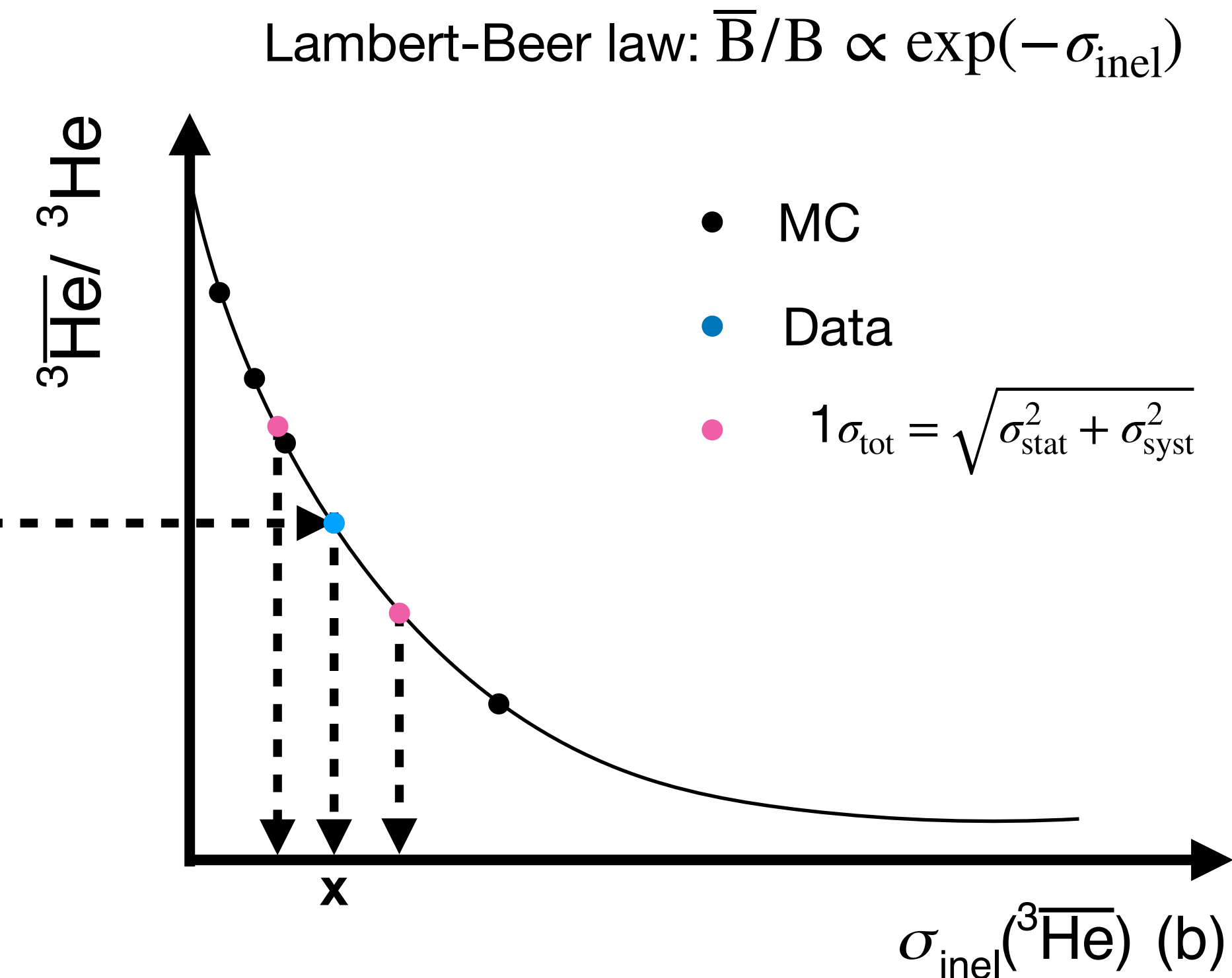
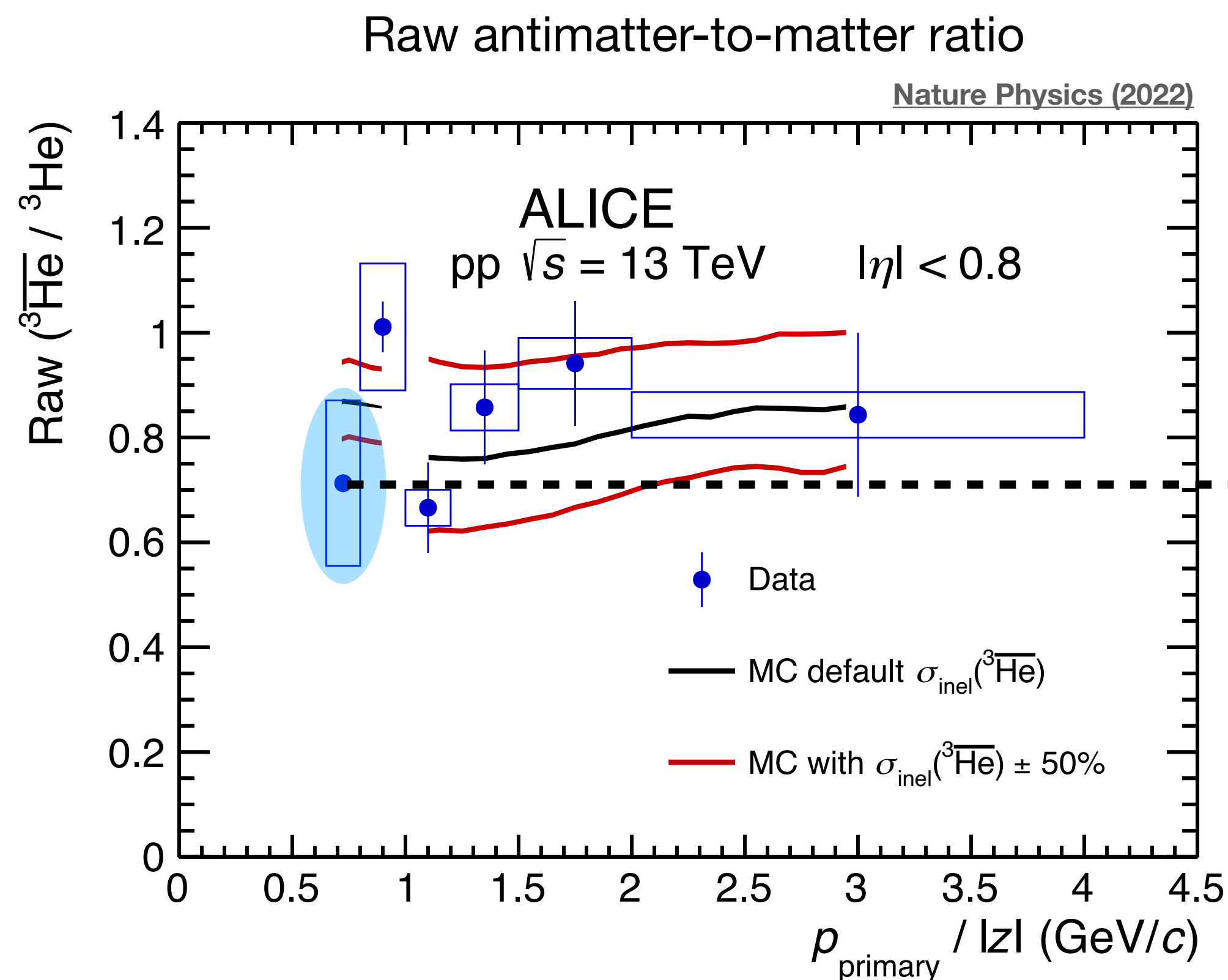




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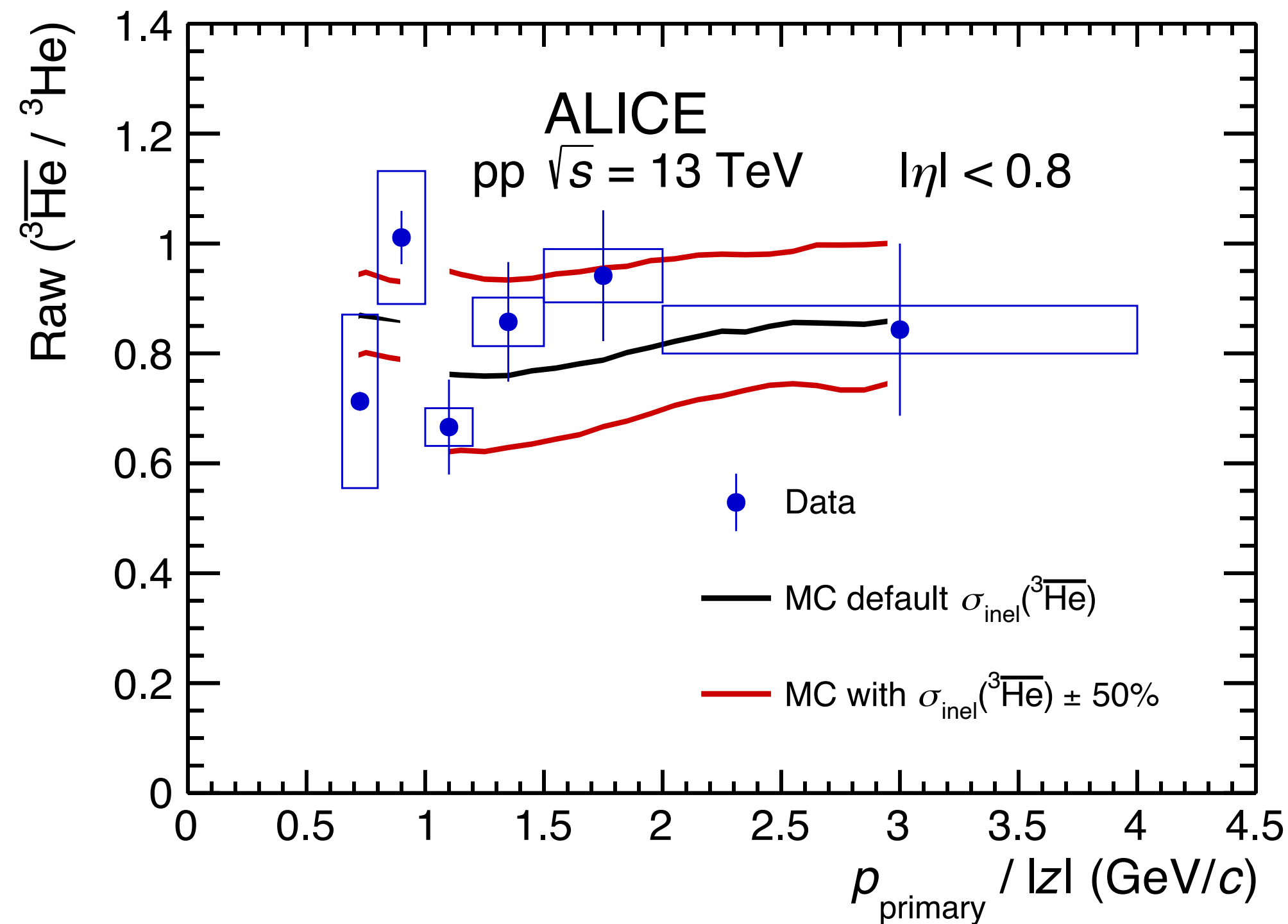


# Antimatter-to-matter method

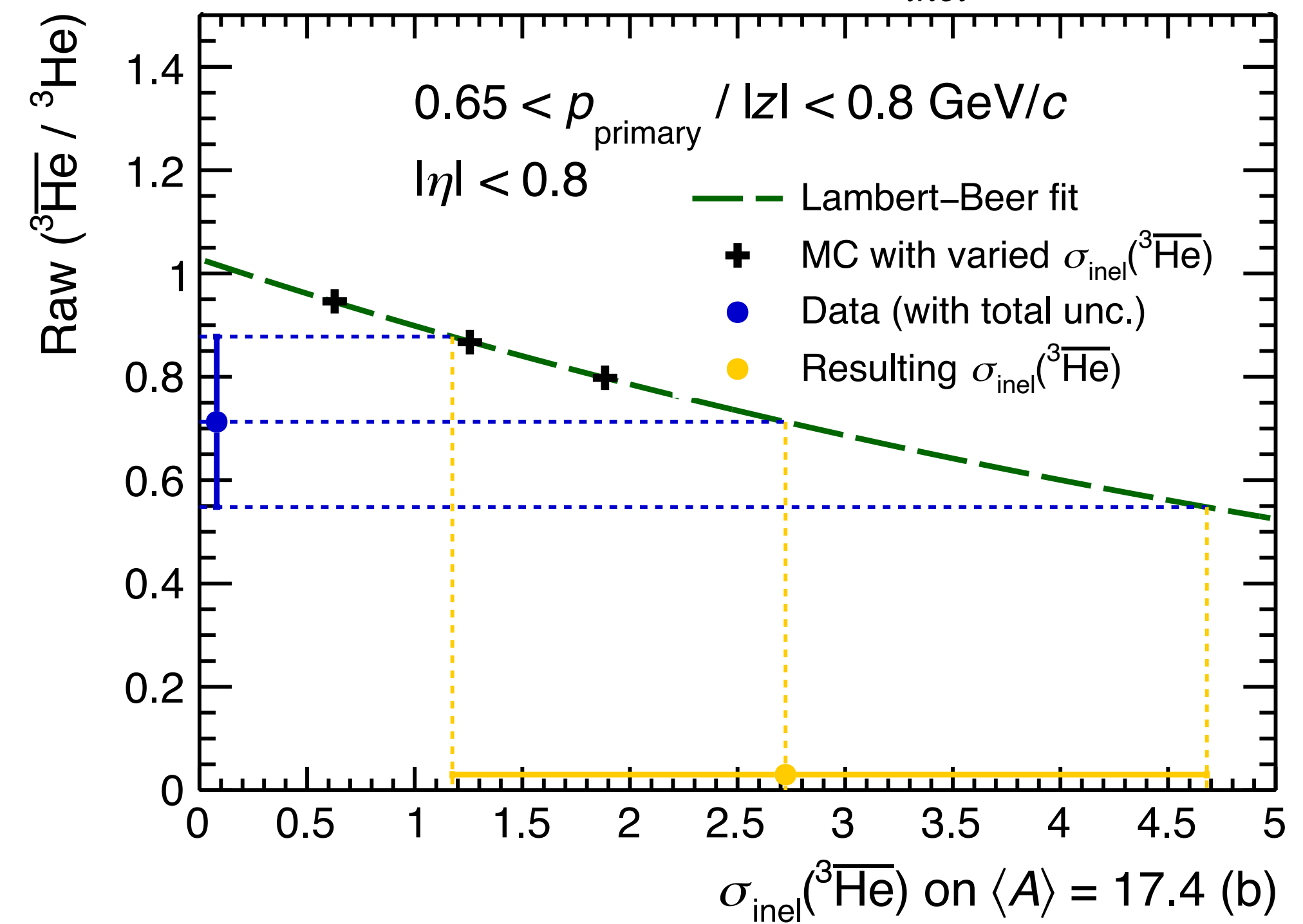
$\sigma_{inel}({}^3\overline{\text{He}})$  in MC varied for each momentum bin to match:

- experimental data  $\rightarrow$  central value
- upper/lower edge of the total error bar  $\rightarrow$   $1\sigma$  confidence interval

Raw antimatter-to-matter ratio



$\overline{B}/B \propto \exp(-\sigma_{inel})$





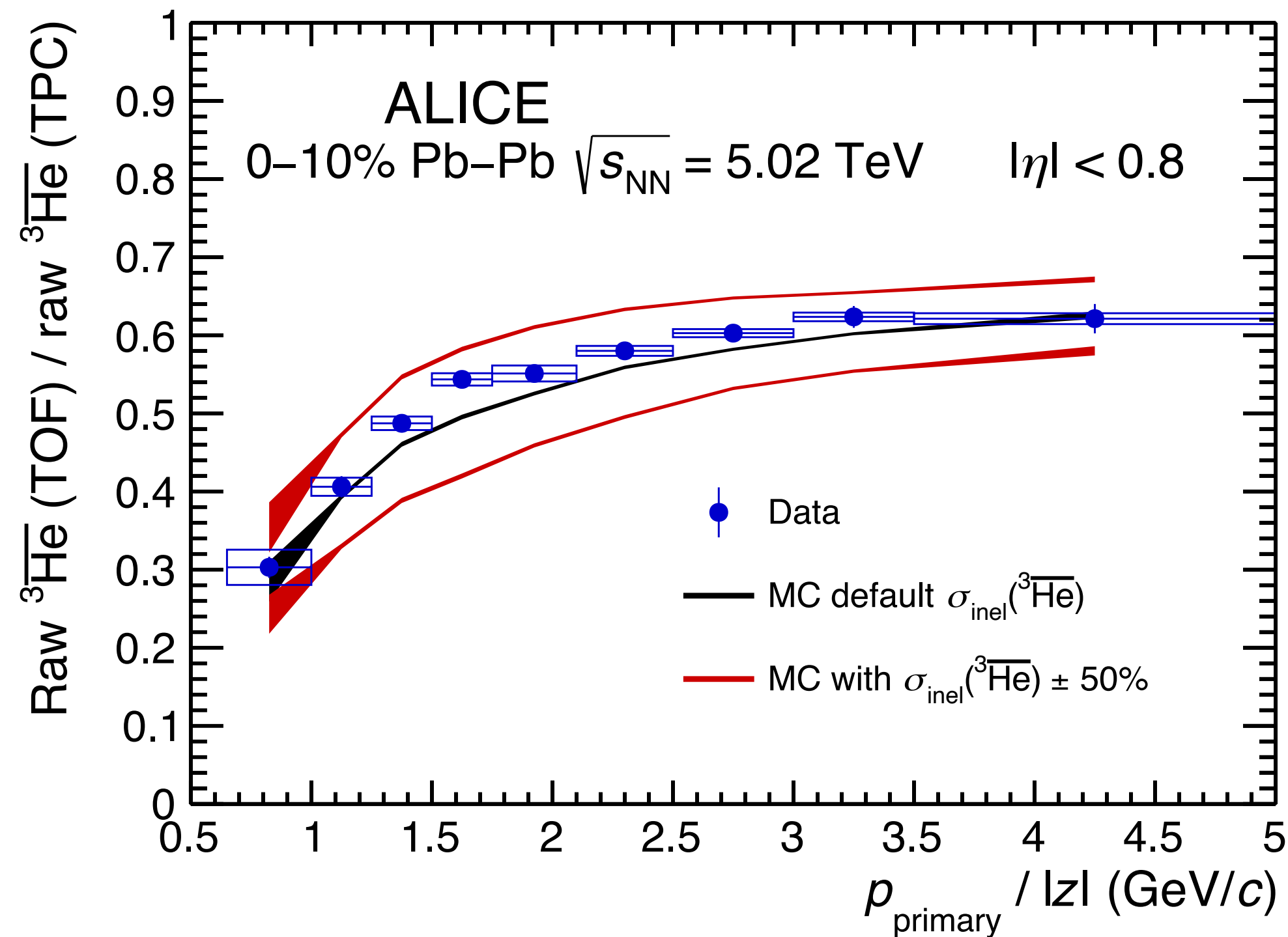
# TOF-to-TPC method

$\sigma_{inel}(\overline{^3\text{He}})$  in MC varied for each momentum bin to match:

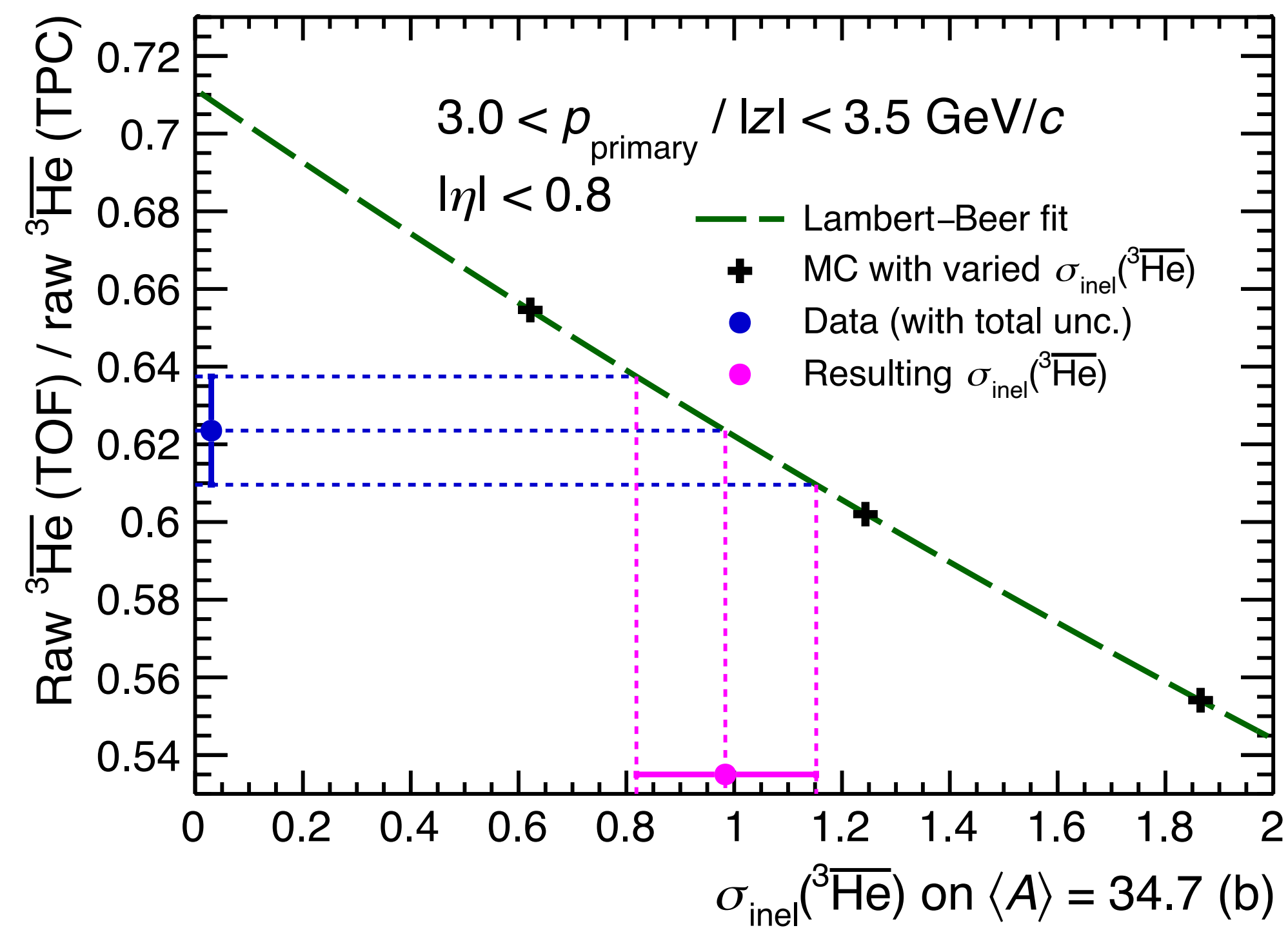
- experimental data  $\rightarrow$  central value
- upper/lower edge of the total error bar  $\rightarrow$   $1\sigma$  confidence interval

Same procedure applied for TOF-to-TPC matching method

TOF-to-TPC matching



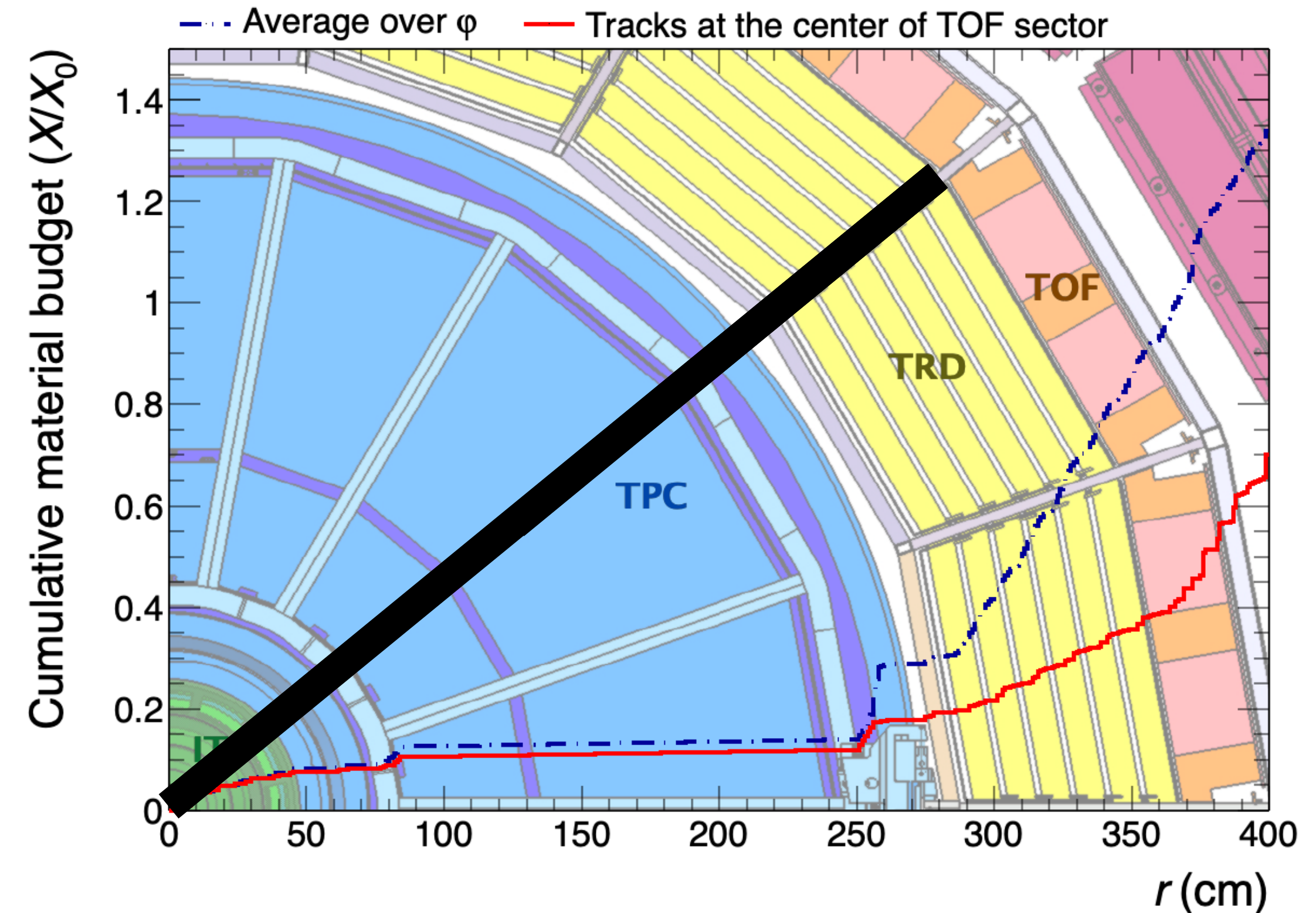
TOF/TPC  $\propto \exp(-\sigma_{inel})$





# ALICE material budget

- Material budgeted distribution can be modelled and studied in Geant4
- Was validated with:
  - Photon conversion analyses (up to outer TPC vessel) [1]
  - Tagged pion and proton absorption studies (for the material between TPC and TOF detectors) [2]
- Result: total material budget known to a precision of ~4.5%!



PRL 125, 162001 (2020)

- Average material

$$\langle A \rangle = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^R \sum_{j=1}^N \rho_{ij} A_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^R \sum_{j=1}^N \rho_{ij}}$$

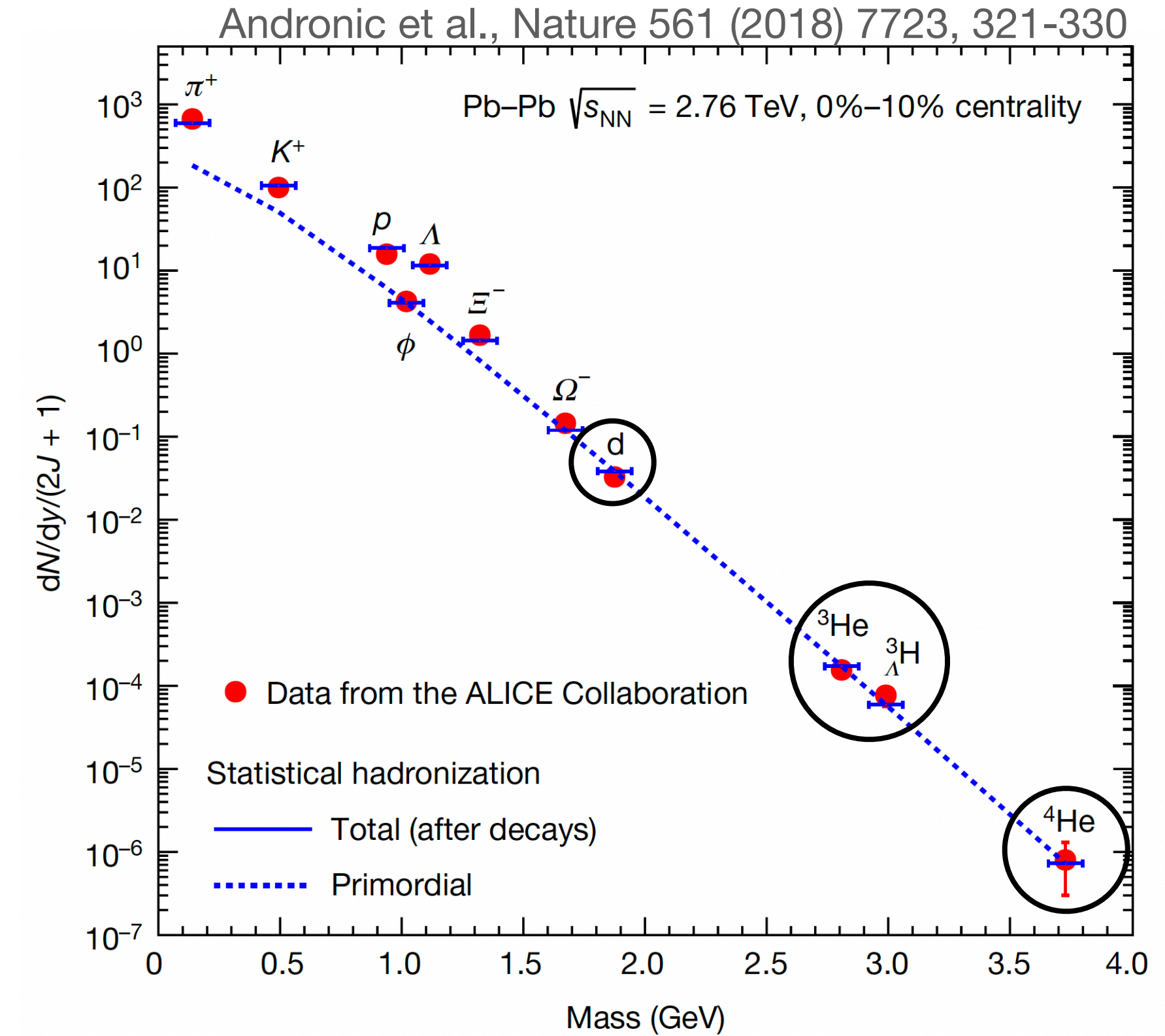
- Antimatter-to-matter method: 31.8
- TOF-to-TPC method: 34.7

[1] Int.J.Mod.Phys.A 29 (2014) 1430044  
 [2] Public Note <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2800896>



# (Anti)nuclei production mechanisms

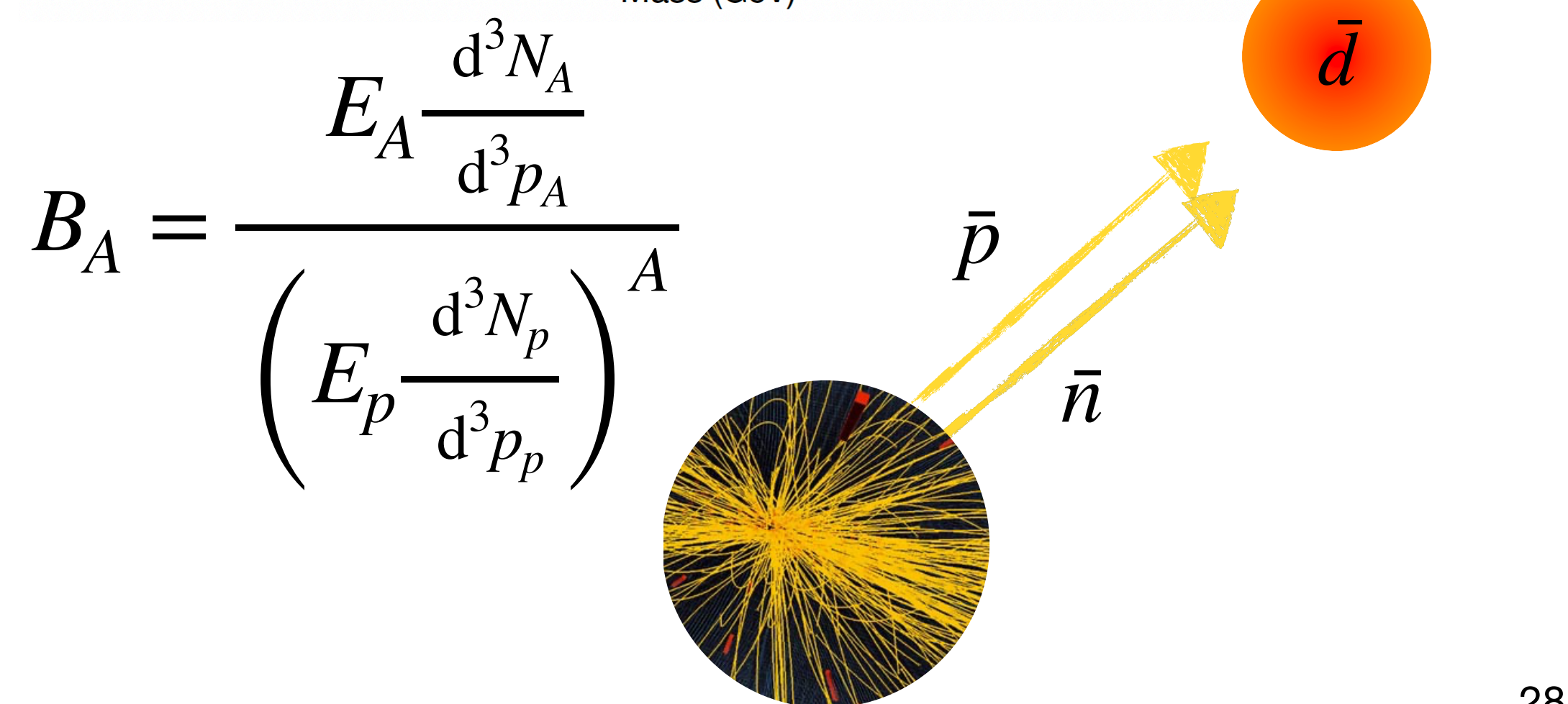
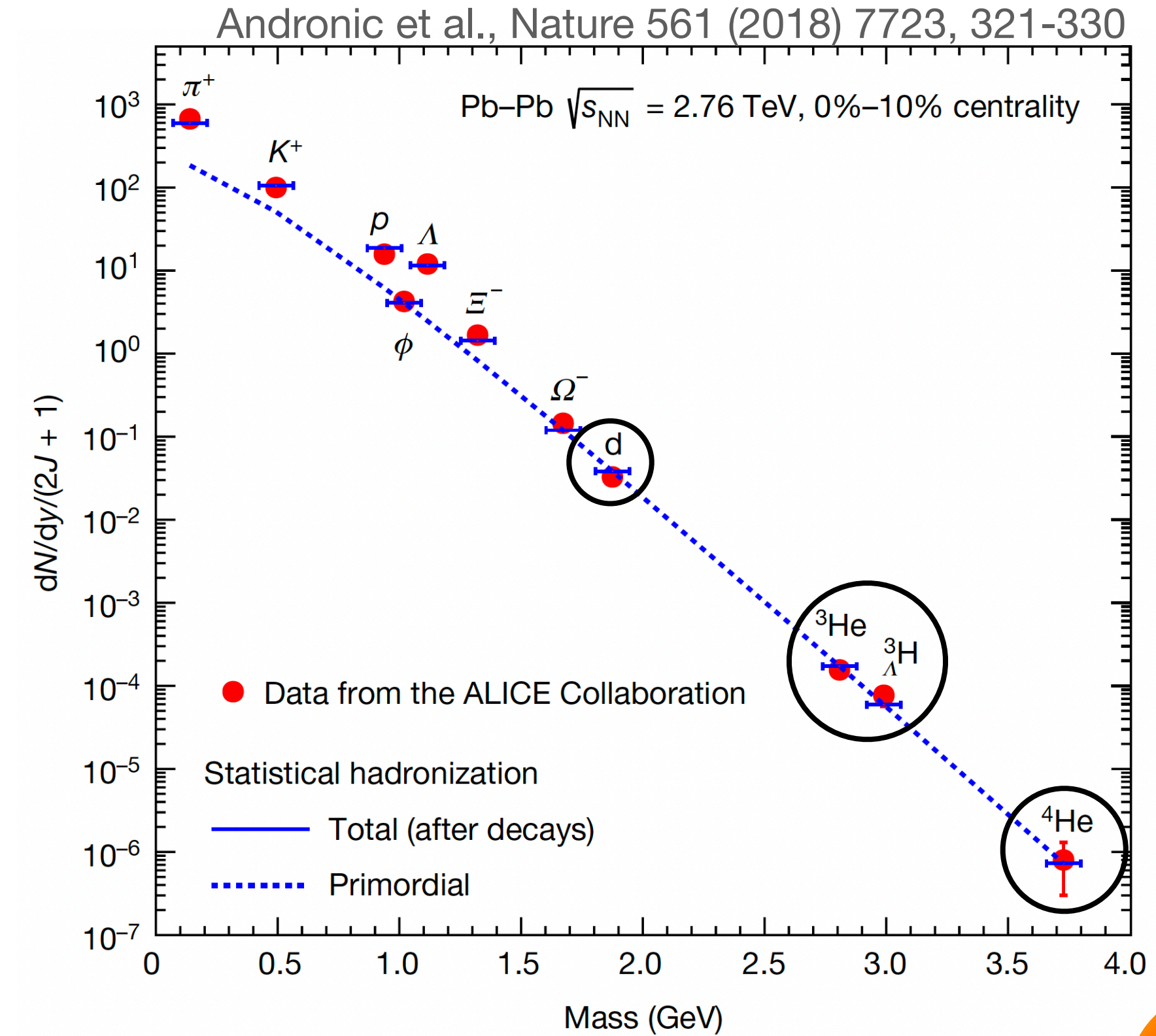
- Statistical Hadronisation Model (SHM)
  - describes the yields of light-flavoured hadrons by requiring thermal and hadron-chemical equilibrium
  - canonical ensemble (CEM): local conservation of quantum numbers (S, Q and B)





# (Anti)nuclei production mechanisms

- Statistical Hadronisation Model (SHM)
  - describes the yields of light-flavoured hadrons by requiring thermal and hadron-chemical equilibrium
  - canonical ensemble (CSM): local conservation of quantum numbers (S, Q and B)
- Coalescence Model
  - Nuclei are formed by nucleons coalescing after freeze-out
  - Depends on phase-space of produced nucleons (momentum, distance) and deuteron Wigner function

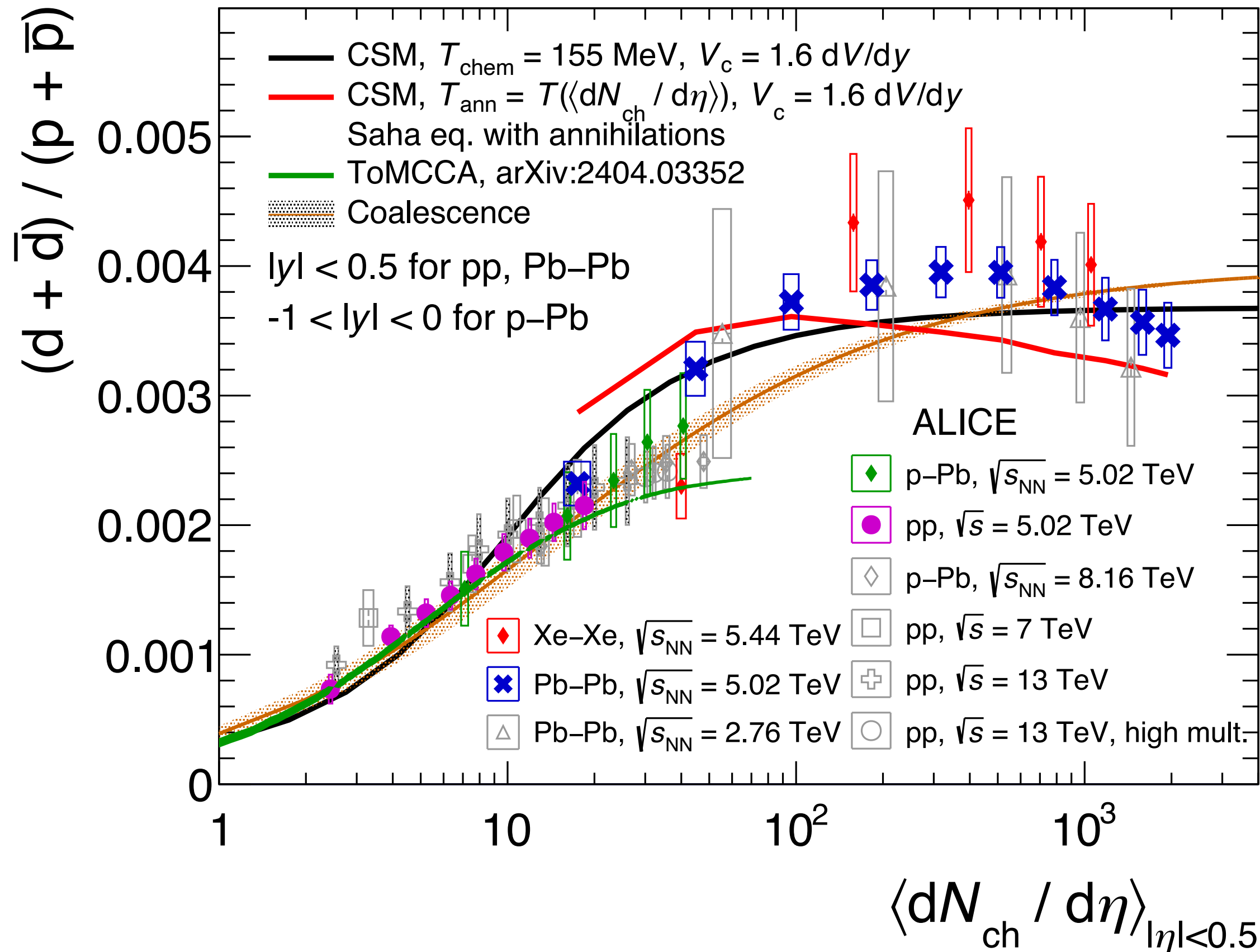




# CSM vs Coalescence

- Nucleus to nucleon yield ratio evolves smoothly with multiplicity
  - Dependence on the system size
- Deuterons: no conclusion on the different models
- Helium-3: model predictions different but insufficient data precision

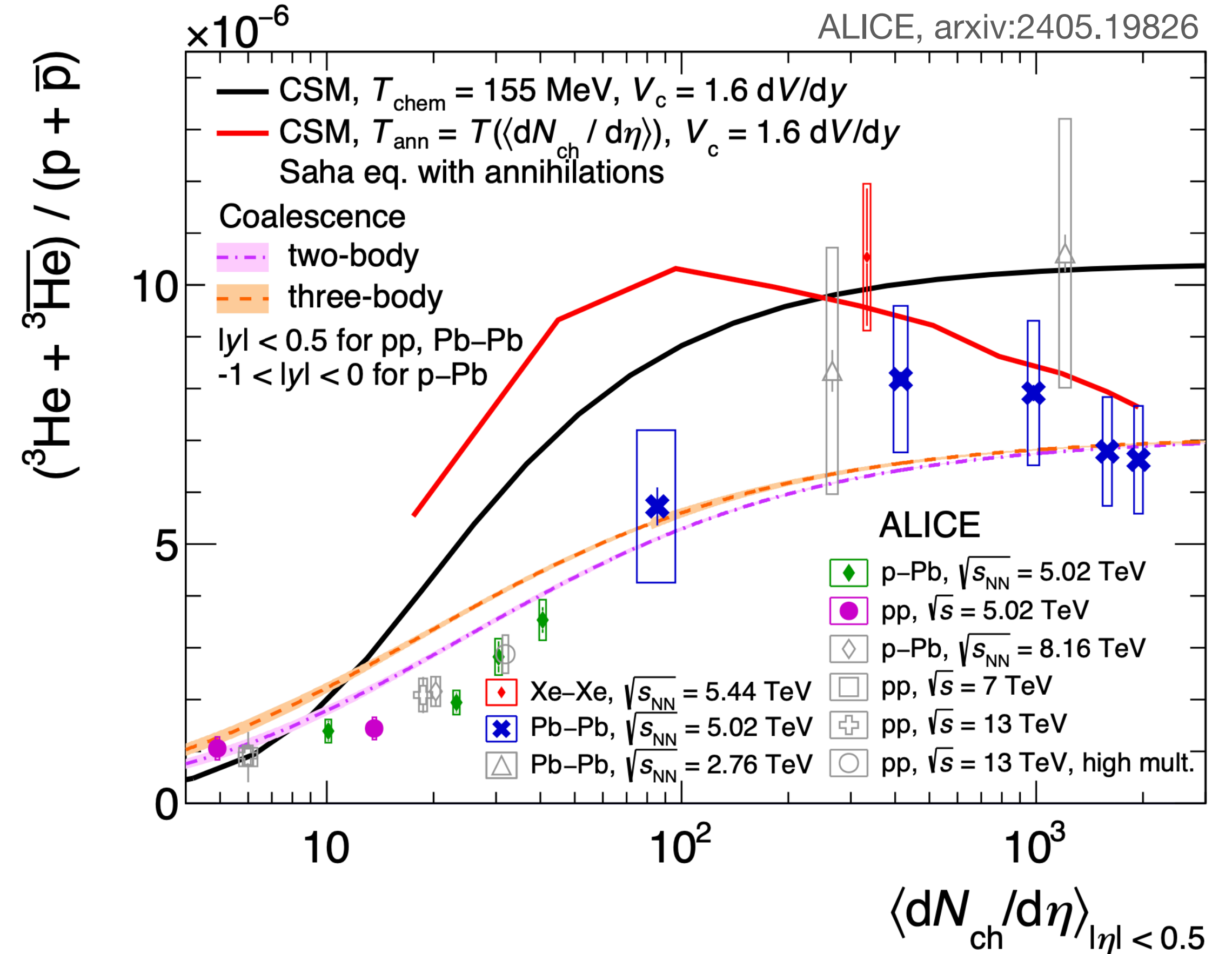
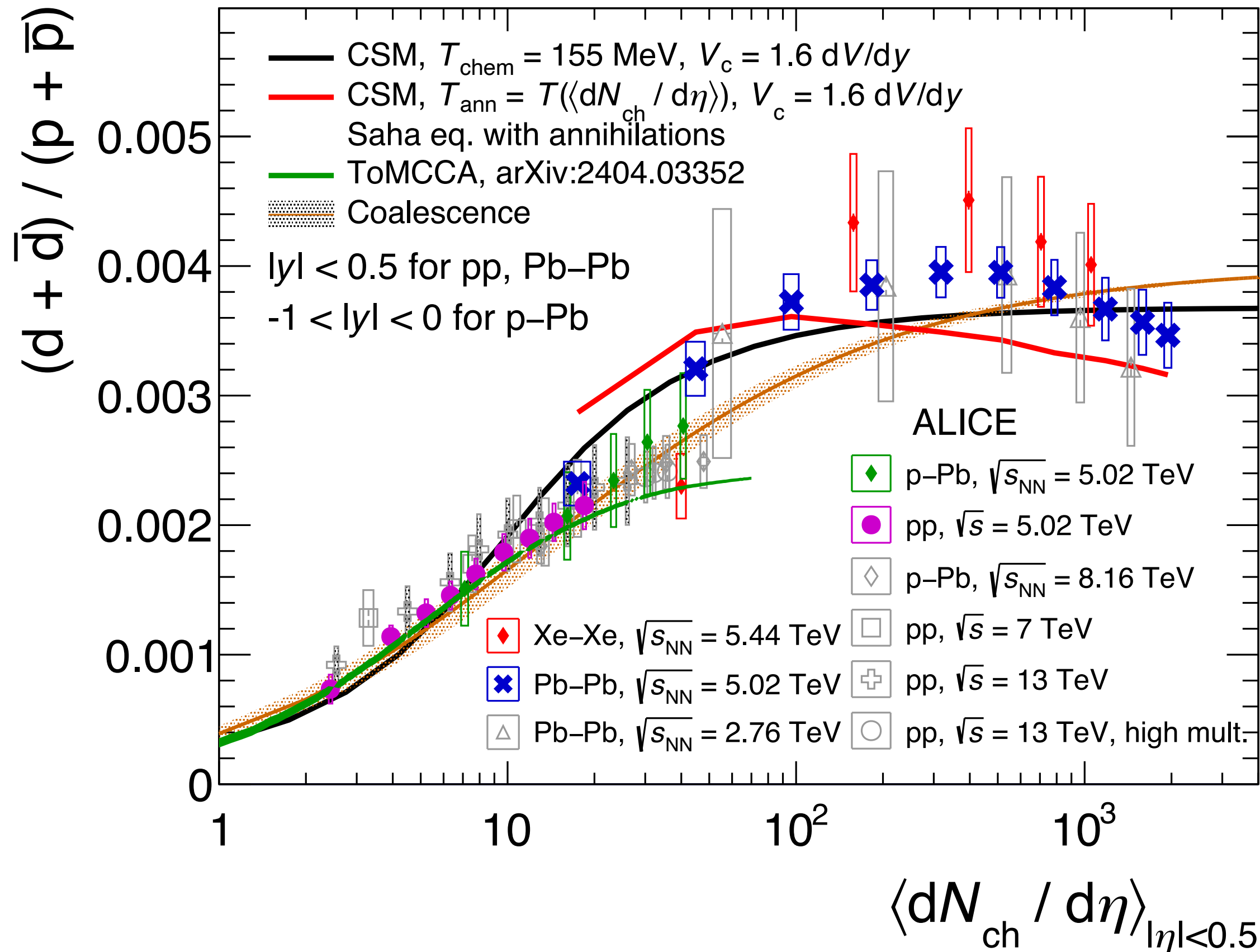
ALICE, arxiv:2405.19826





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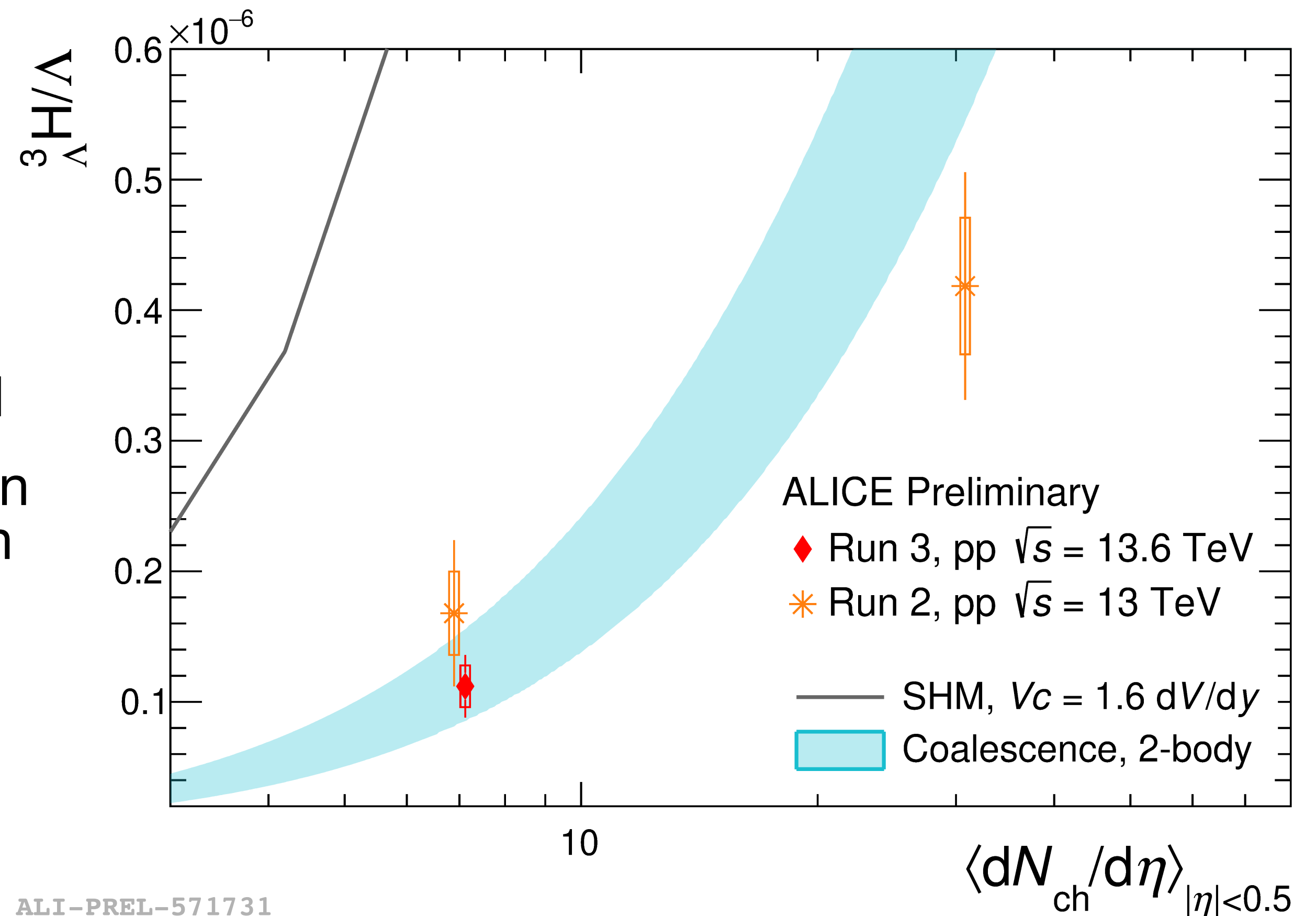




# CSM vs Coalescence

- Nucleus to nucleon yield ratio evolves smoothly with multiplicity
  - Dependence on the system size
- Deuterons: no conclusion on the different models
- Helium-3: model predictions different but insufficient data precision

- Hypertriton has a size of  $\sim 10$  fm
  - Relevant for coalescence but not SHM
- Coalescence provides the best description of hypertriton measurement in pp collision system





# Inelastic cross section

- Relation between annihilation term and the inelastic cross section

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = \beta c \left( n_H(\mathbf{r}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{3\overline{\text{He}}} (p) + n_{\text{He}}(\mathbf{r}) \sigma_{\text{inel}}^{\overline{\text{He}}^4\text{He}} (p) \right)$$

- Parametrisation in Geant4, where  $R_A$  is a function of target nuclei nucleon number

$$\sigma_{hA}^{\text{inel}} = \pi R_A^2 \ln \left( 1 + \frac{A \sigma_{hN}^{\text{tot}}}{\pi R_A^2} \right)$$



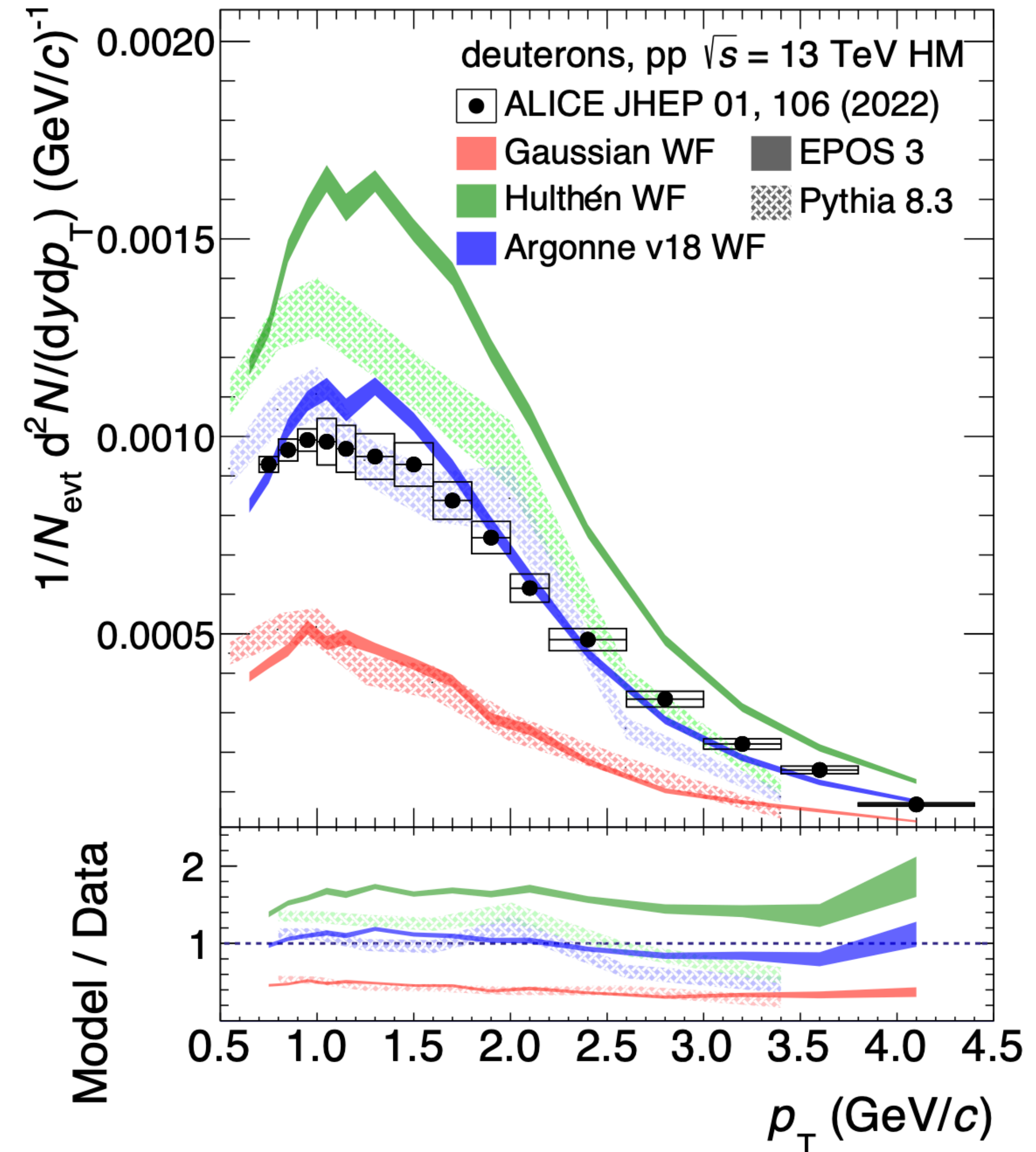
# Sophisticated Coalescence

- Largest uncertainty: production models
- Wigner formalism - the new era of coalescence studies

$$\mathcal{D}(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) = \int d^3\xi e^{-i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{\xi}} \varphi_d(\vec{r} + \vec{\xi}/2) \varphi_d^*(\vec{r} - \vec{\xi}/2)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(r_0, q) = \int d^3r_d \int d^3r H_{pn}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}_d; r_0) \mathcal{D}(\vec{q}, \vec{r})$$

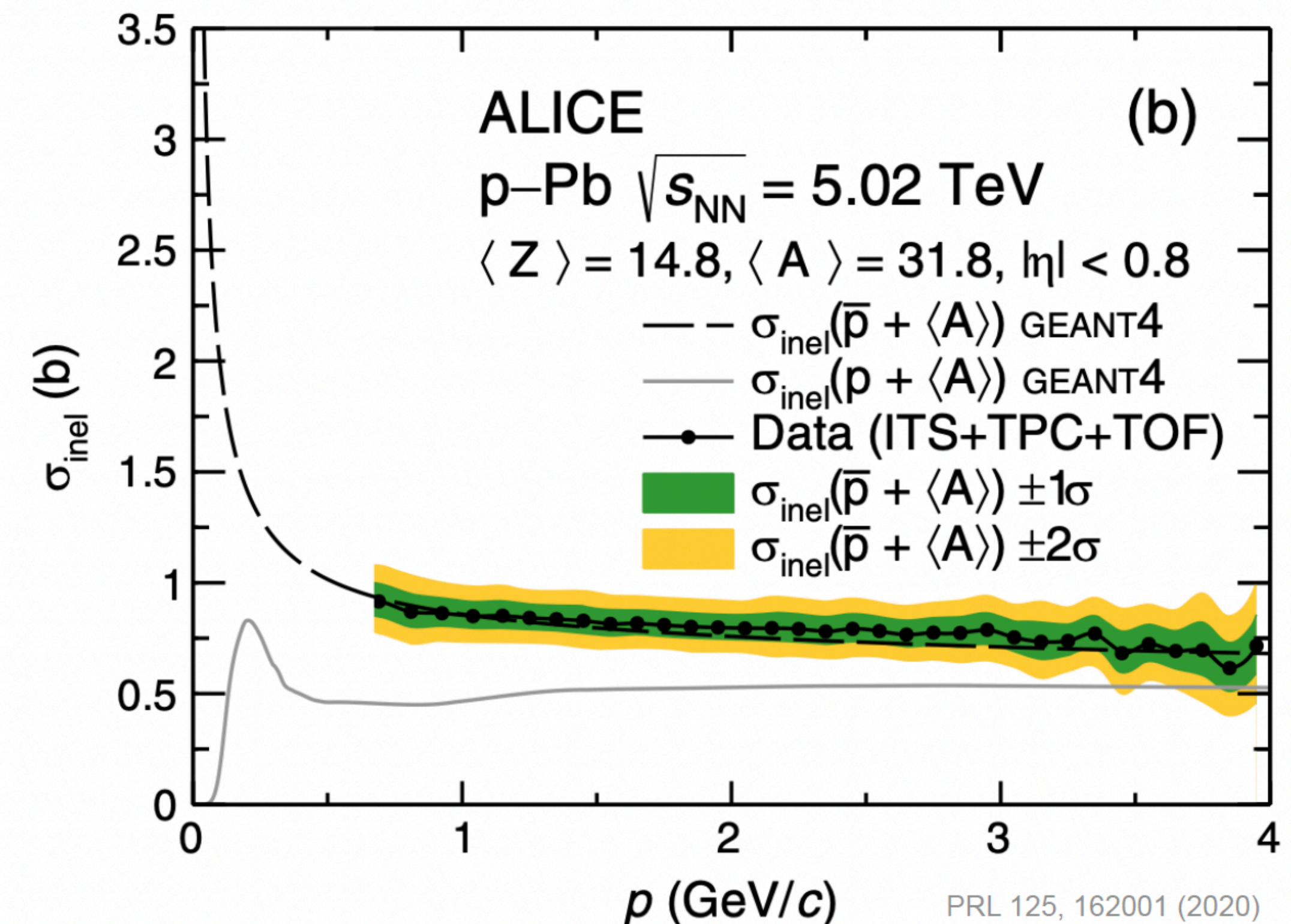
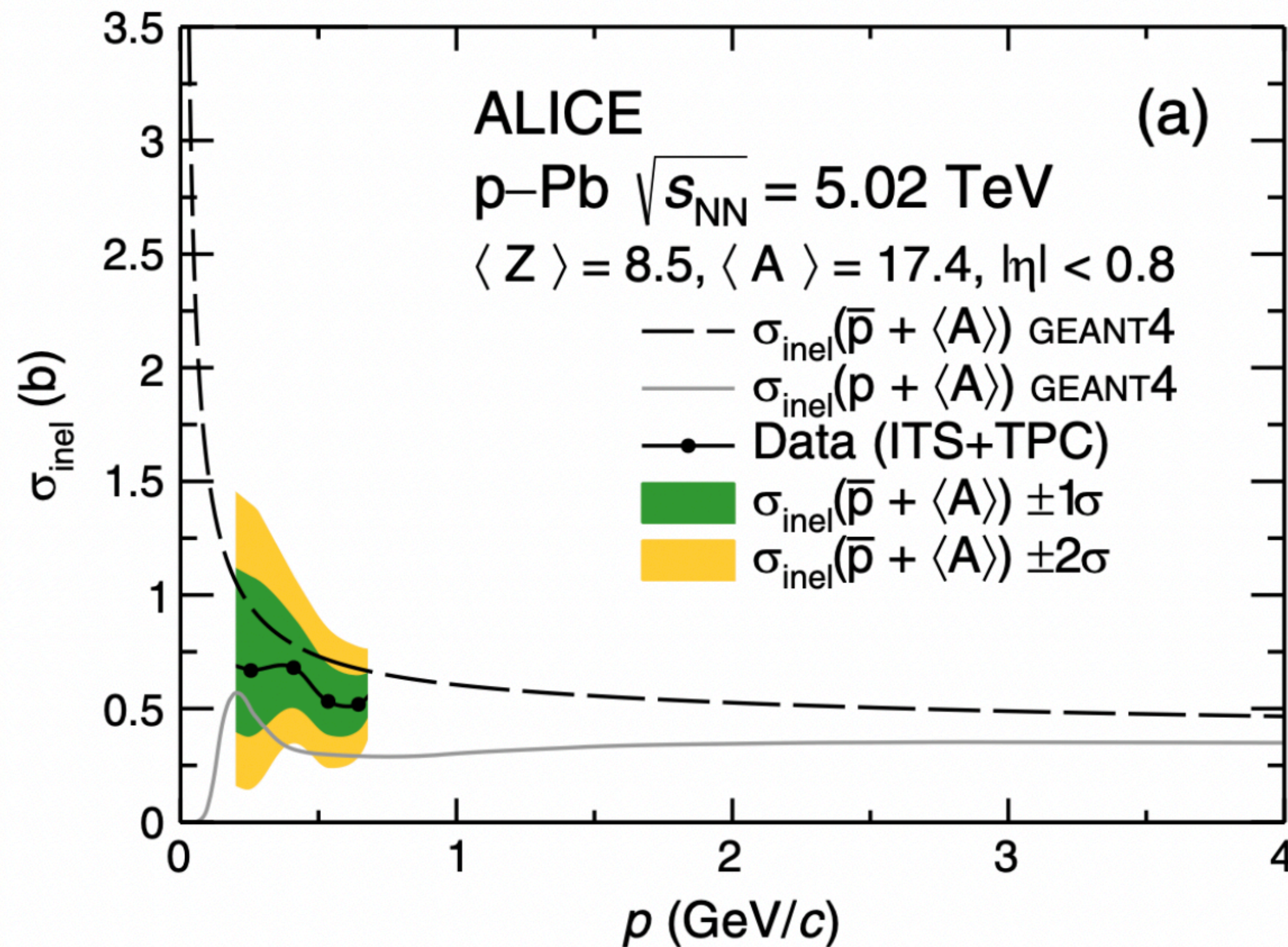
$$\frac{d^3N_d}{dP_d^3} = S_d \int d^3q \mathcal{P}(r_0, q) \frac{G_{np}(\vec{P}_d/2 + \vec{q}, \vec{P}_d/2 - \vec{q})}{(2\pi)^6}$$





# Method benchmark: antiprotons

- Benchmark with well known inelastic cross-section measurement: antiprotons
- Good agreement between the data and Geant4 parametrisation constrained to available measurements

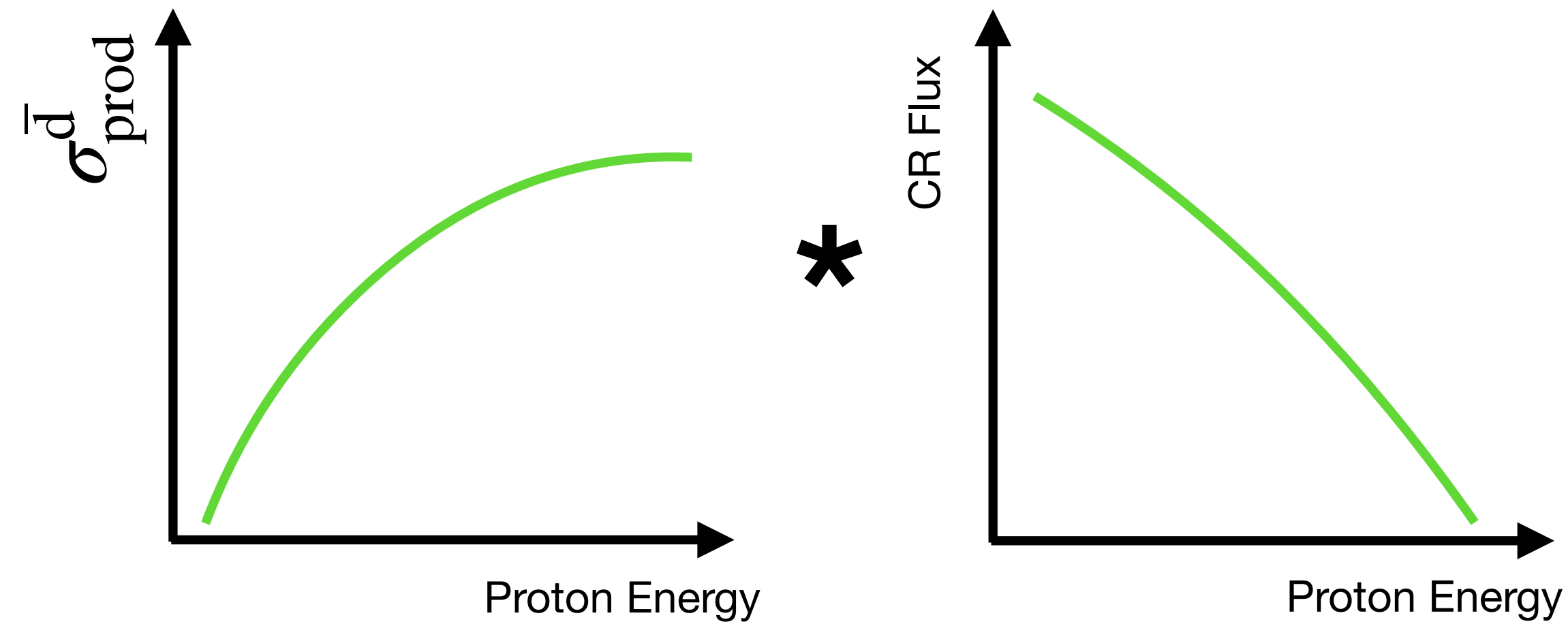


PRL 125, 162001 (2020)



# Collisions in interstellar medium

## Source Function



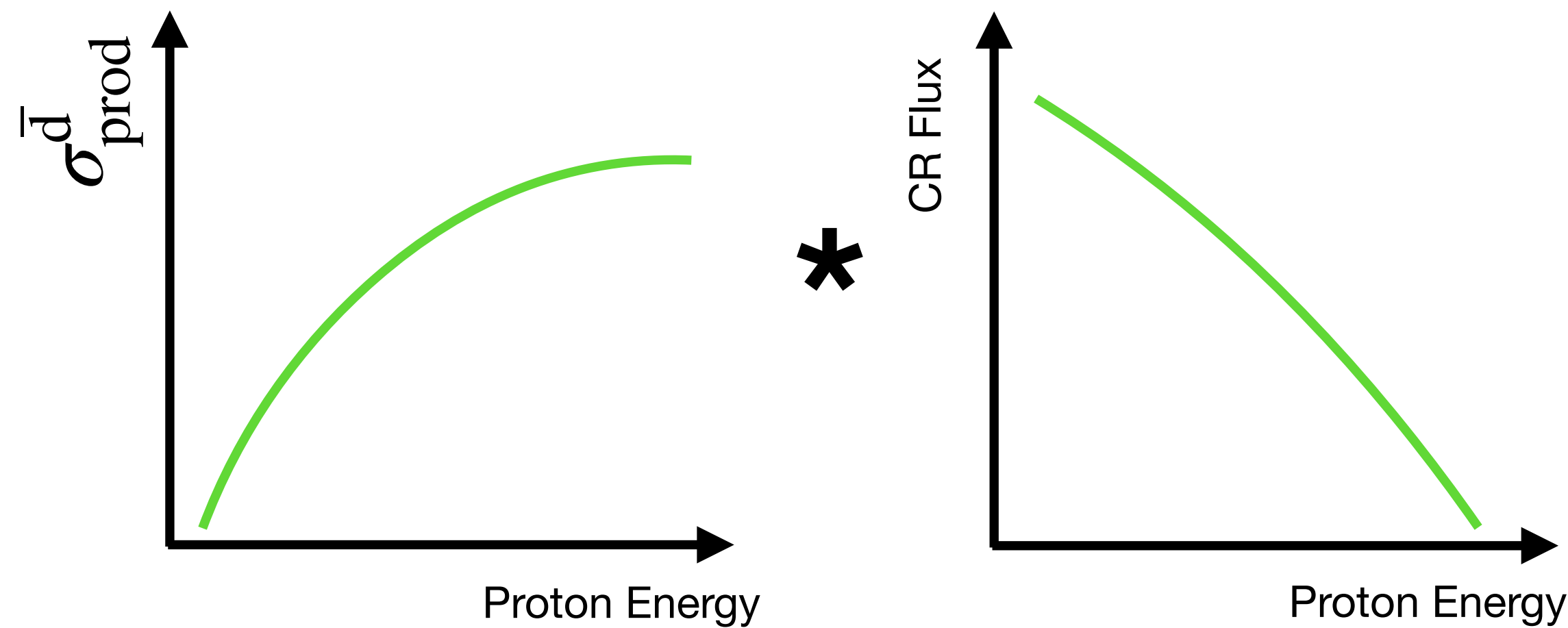
$$q(\mathbf{r}, p) = \sum_{\text{CR}=\text{H,He}} \sum_{\text{ISM}=\text{H,He}} n_{\text{ISM}}(\mathbf{r}) \int dp'_{\text{CR}} \beta_{\text{CR}} c \frac{d\sigma(p, p'_{\text{CR}})}{dp} n_{\text{CR}}(\mathbf{r}, p'_{\text{CR}})$$



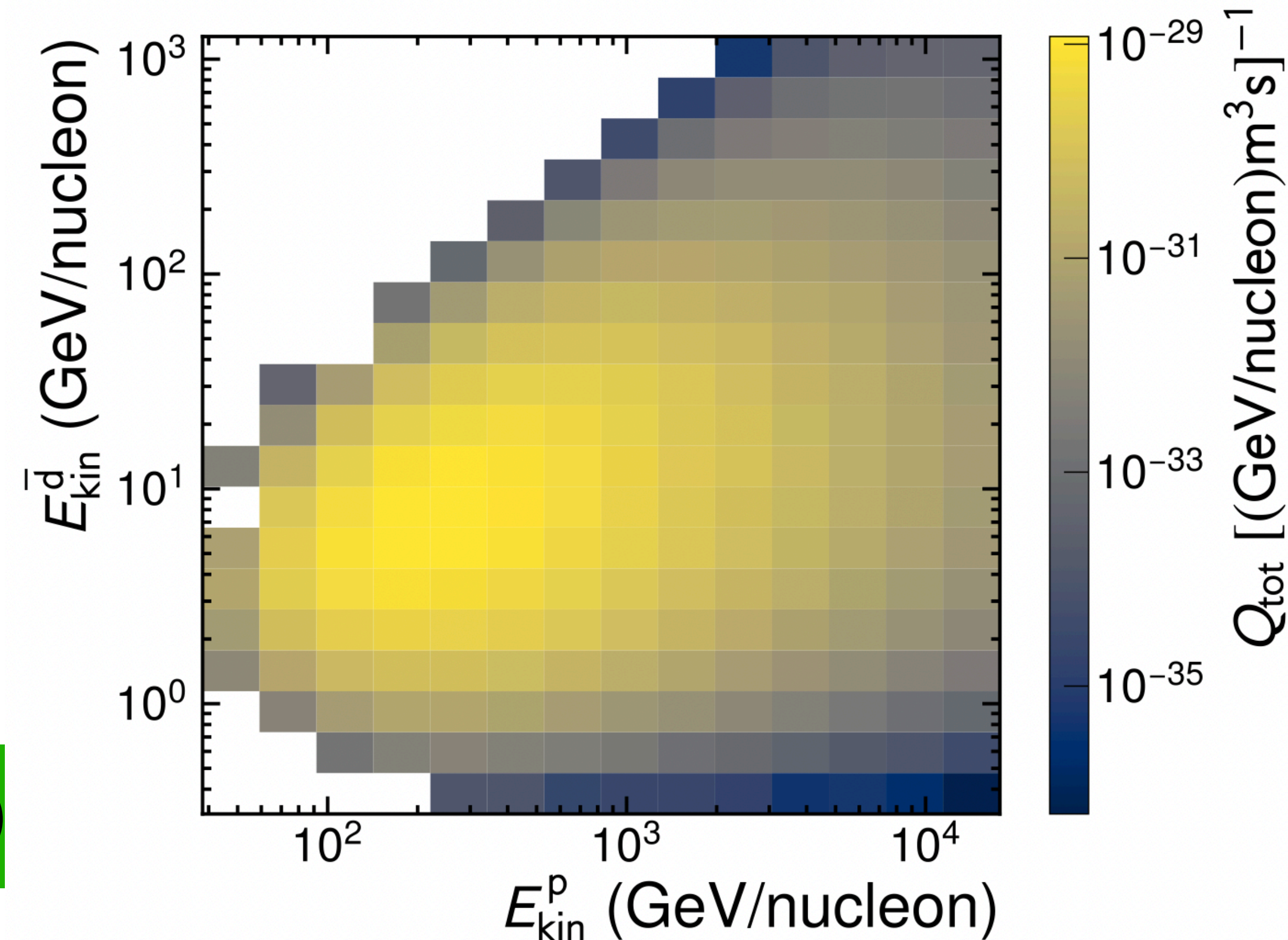
# Collisions in interstellar medium

- Largest antideuteron yield from collisions of protons of kinetic energy ~200-500 GeV
- Corresponds to SPS centre-of-mass energies!
- The antinuclei inelastic cross sections must be evaluated at many different collision energies

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# Collisions in interstellar medium

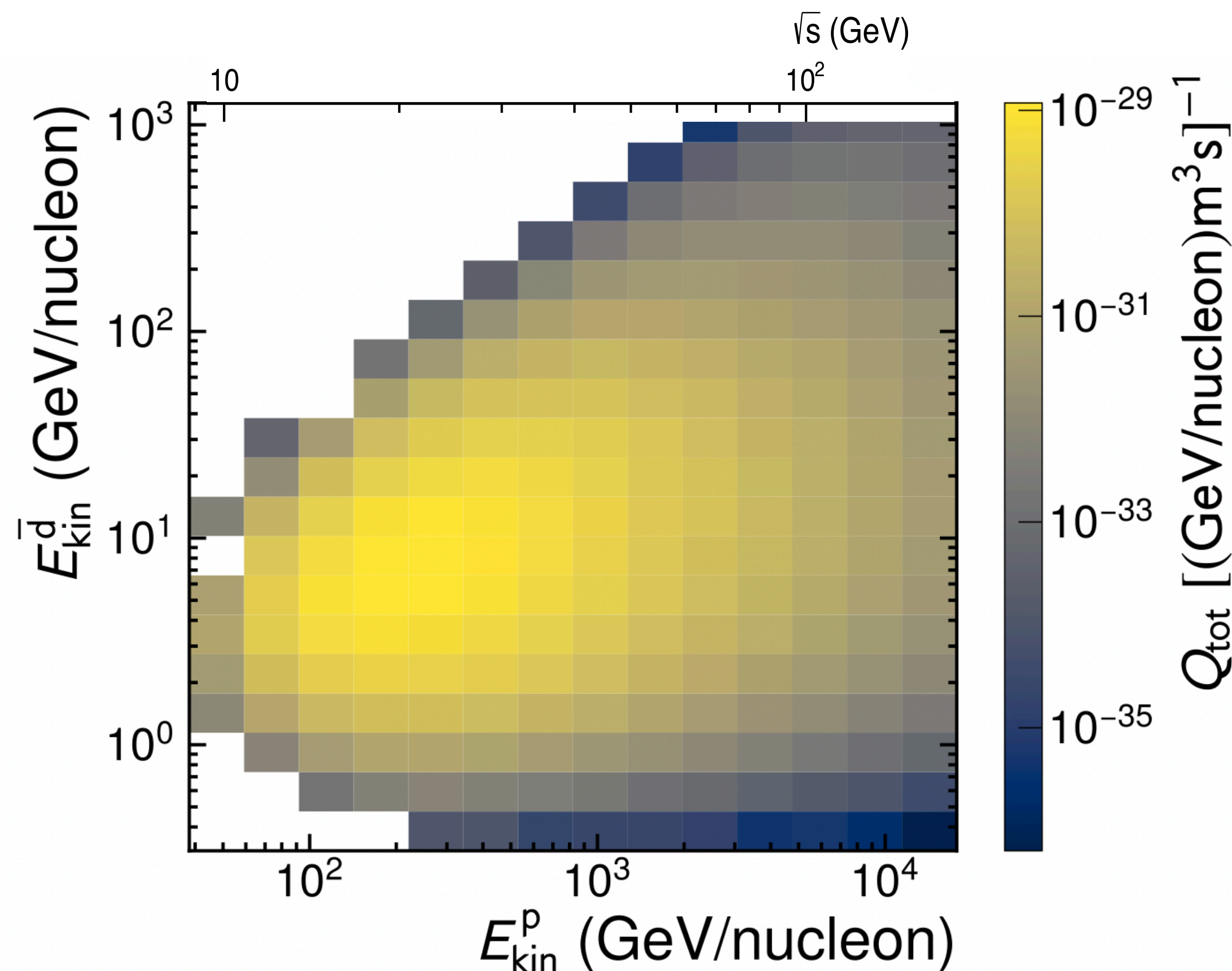
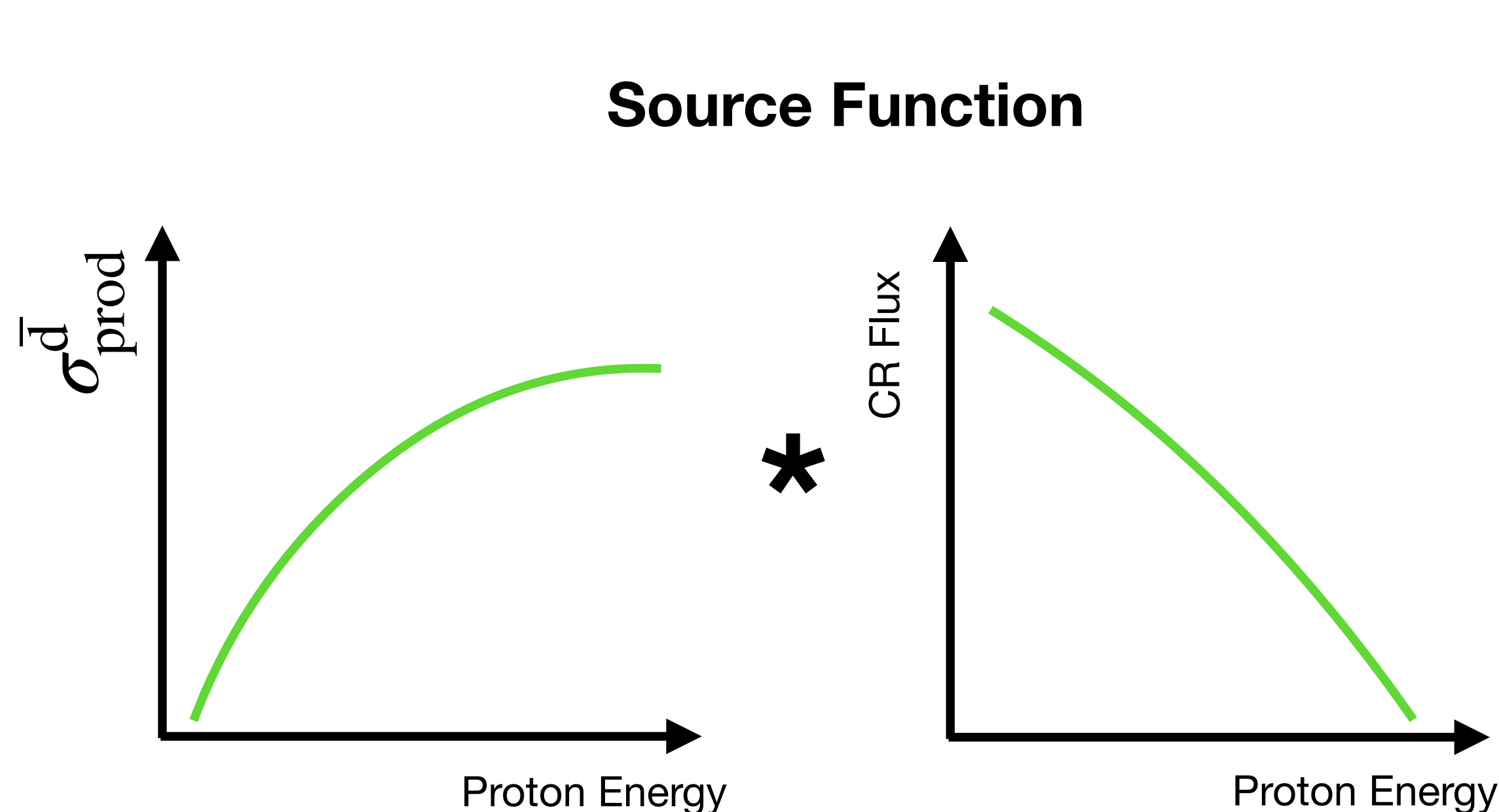
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Propagation

Sources

Annihilation

Source Function



$$q(\mathbf{r}, p) = \sum_{\text{CR}=\text{H,He}} \sum_{\text{ISM}=\text{H,He}} n_{\text{ISM}}(\mathbf{r}) \int dp'_{\text{CR}} \beta_{\text{CR}} c \frac{d\sigma(p, p'_{\text{CR}})}{dp} n_{\text{CR}}(\mathbf{r}, p'_{\text{CR}})$$



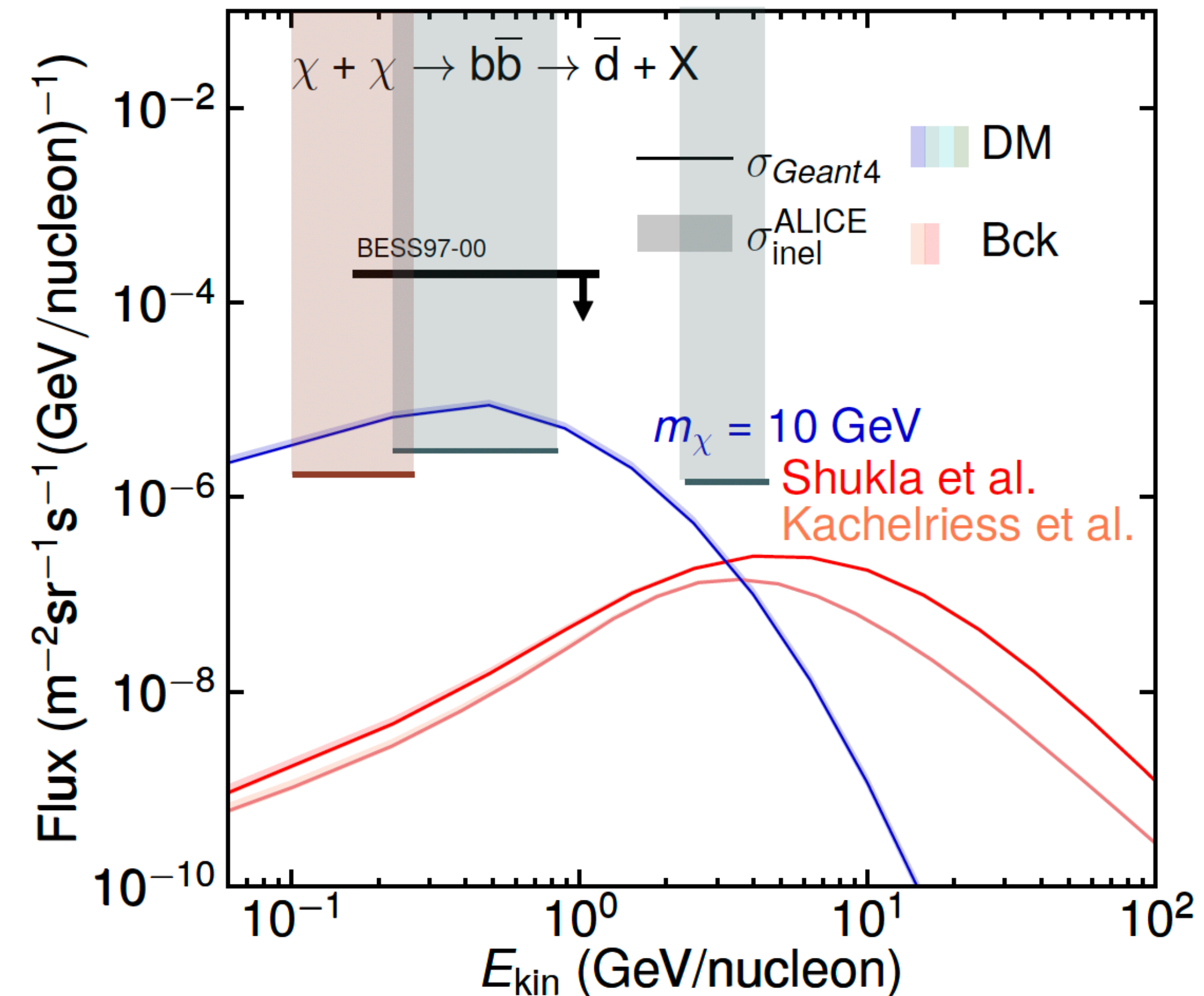
# Antideuteron cosmic ray fluxes

- Uncertainty only from inelastic cross section measurement
- Different coalescence models provide order of magnitude difference
- Signal to background ratio 2-3 orders of magnitude!
- Signal fluxes decreasing with increasing DM mass

AMS-02 (5 years)

GAPS (3x 35 days)

Phys. Rev. D 105, 083021 (2022)





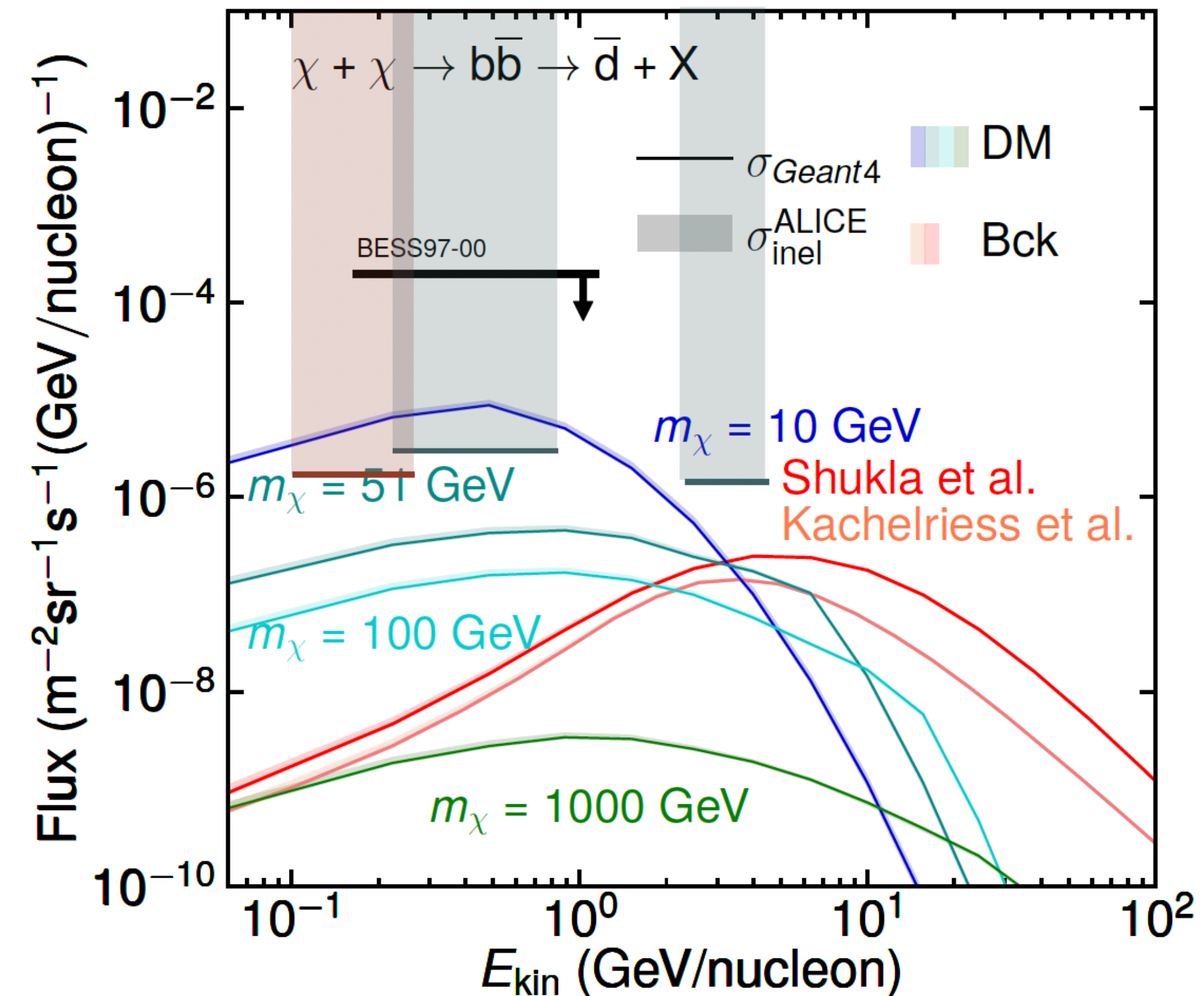
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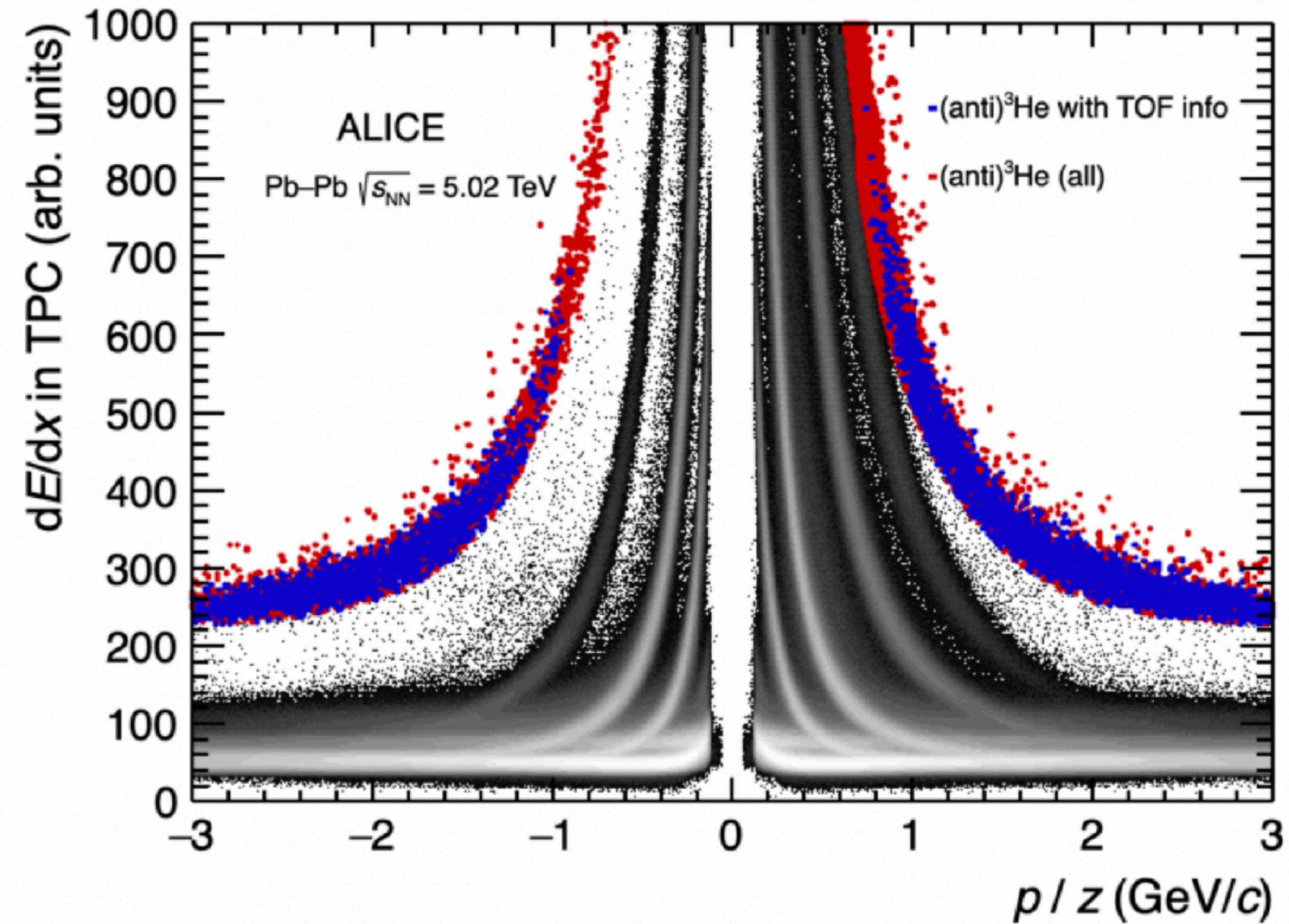
GAPS (3x 35 days)

Phys. Rev. D 105, 083021 (2022)





# All antihelium vs which reaches TOF





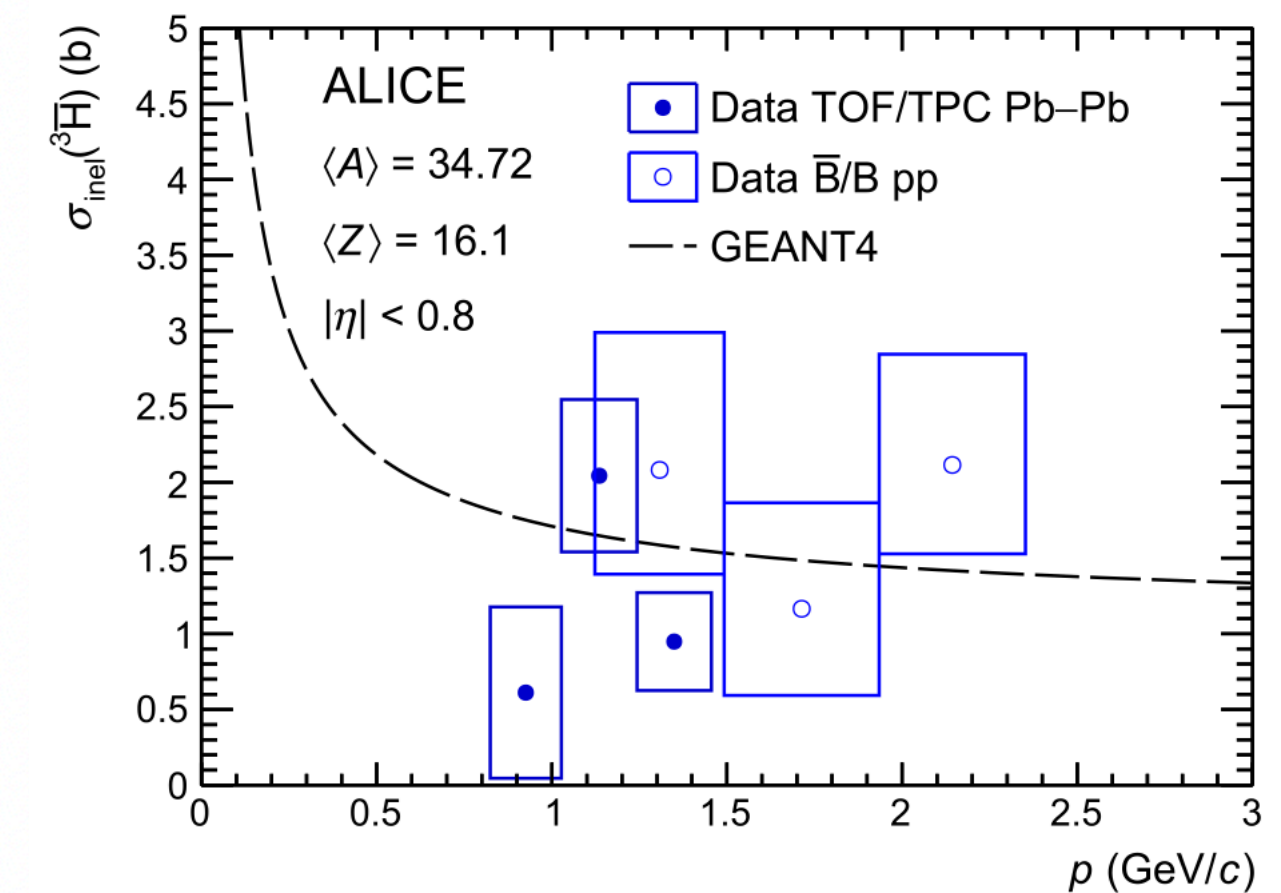
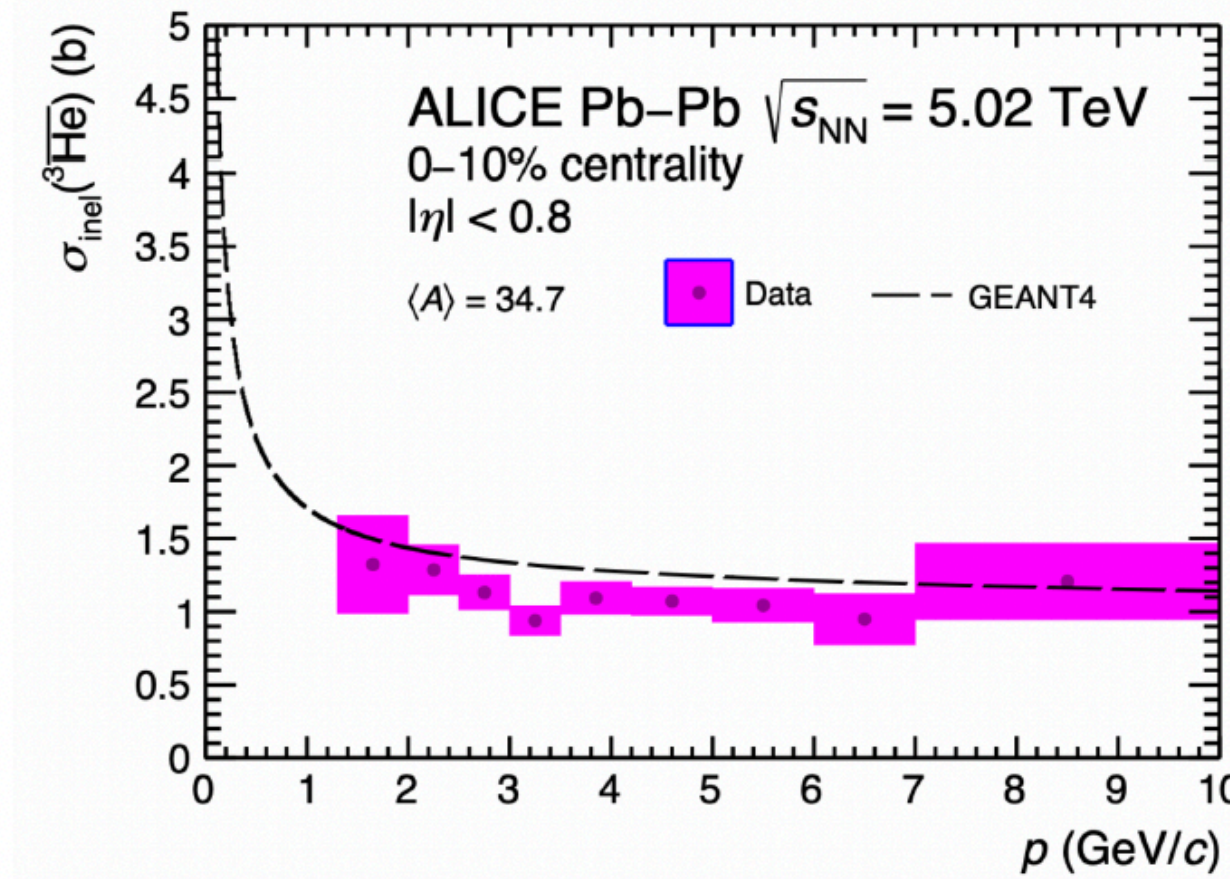
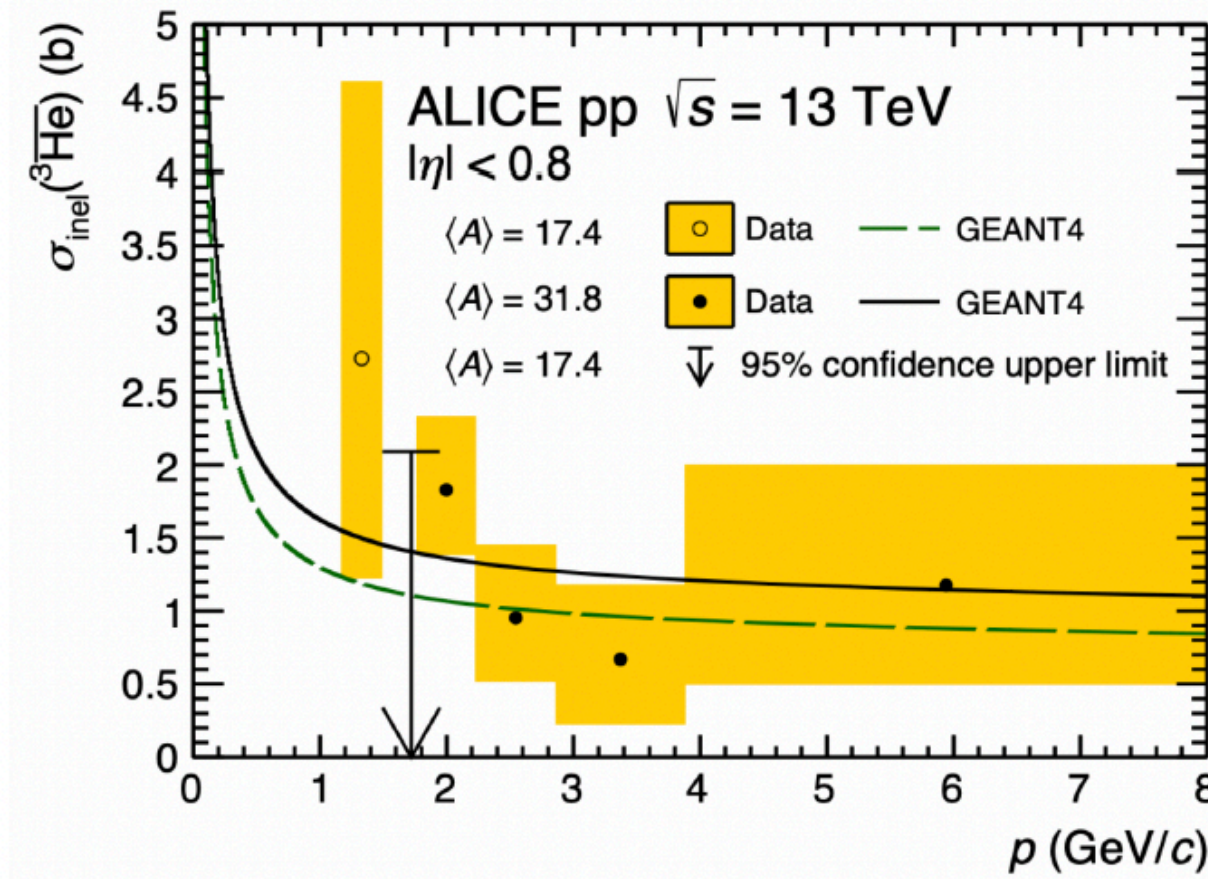
# Inelastic cross sections

All antinuclei up to A=3 measured!

Antihelium-3

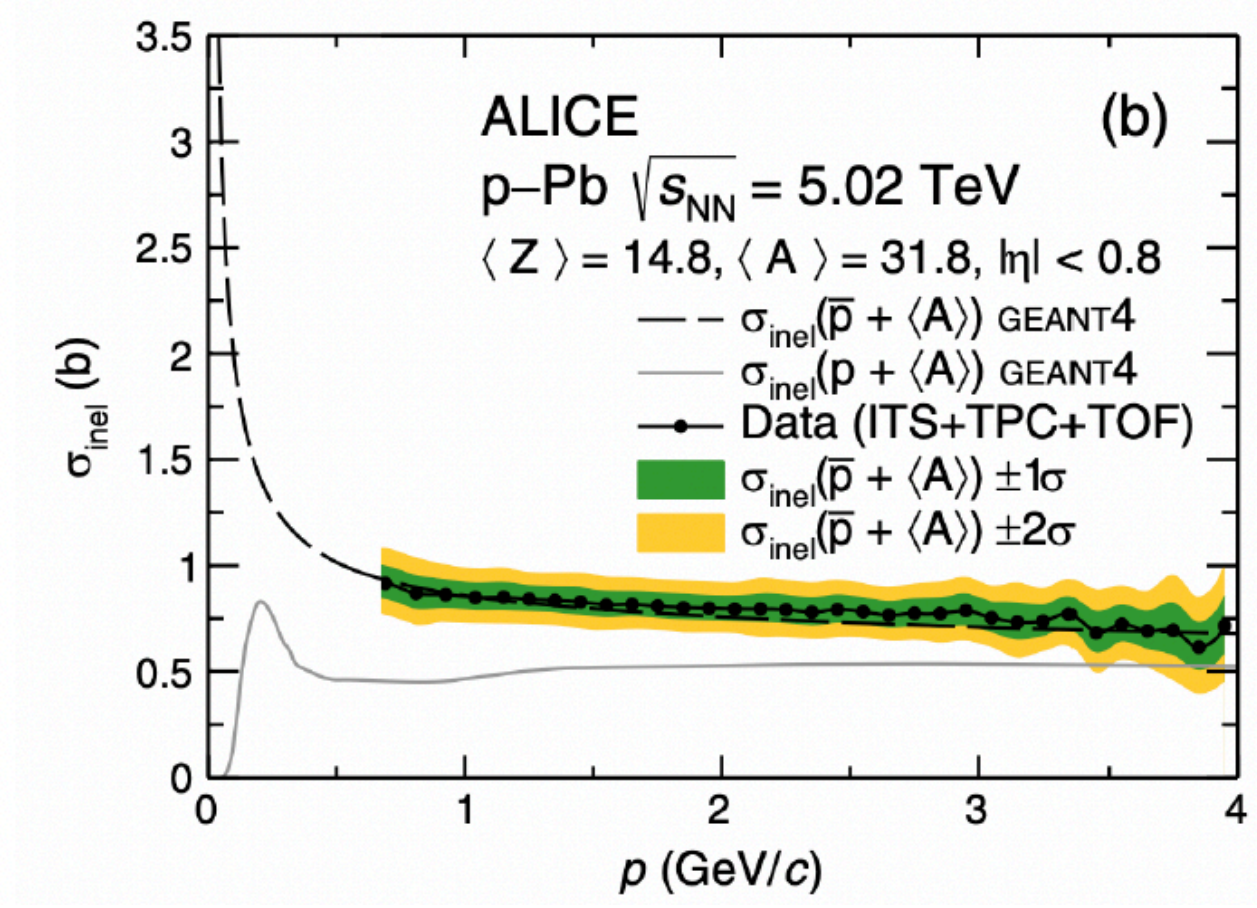
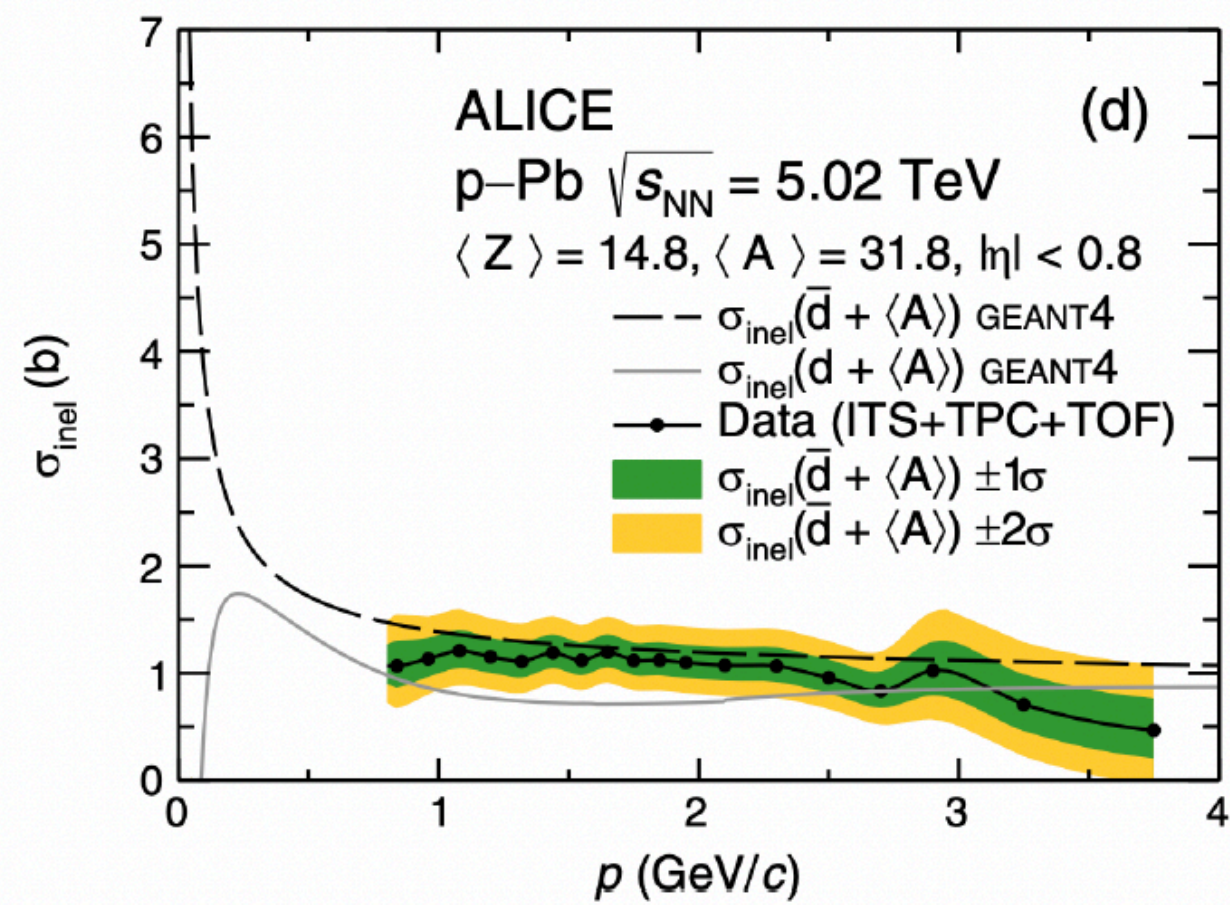
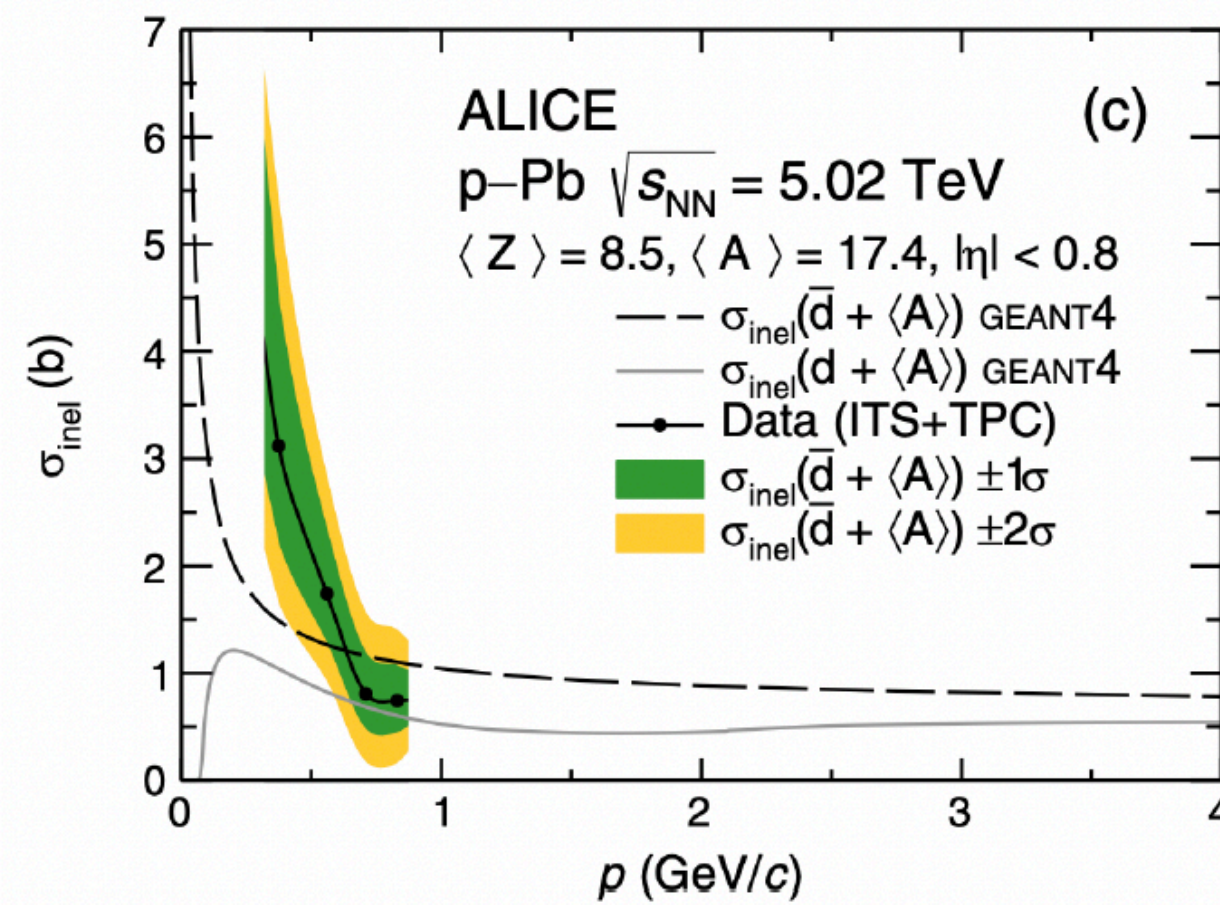
Antitriton

*Phys.Lett.B 848 (2024) 138337*



Antideuteron

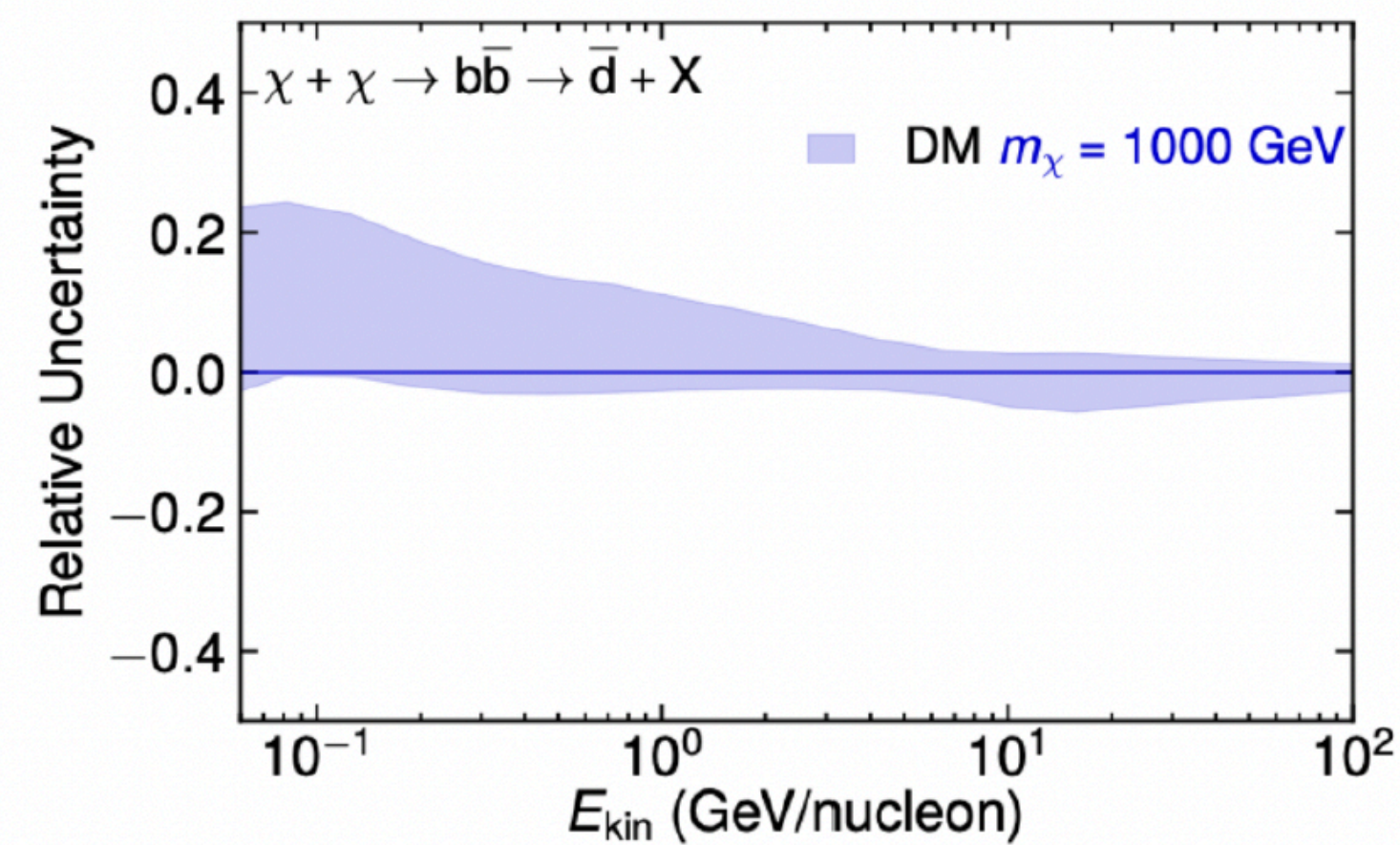
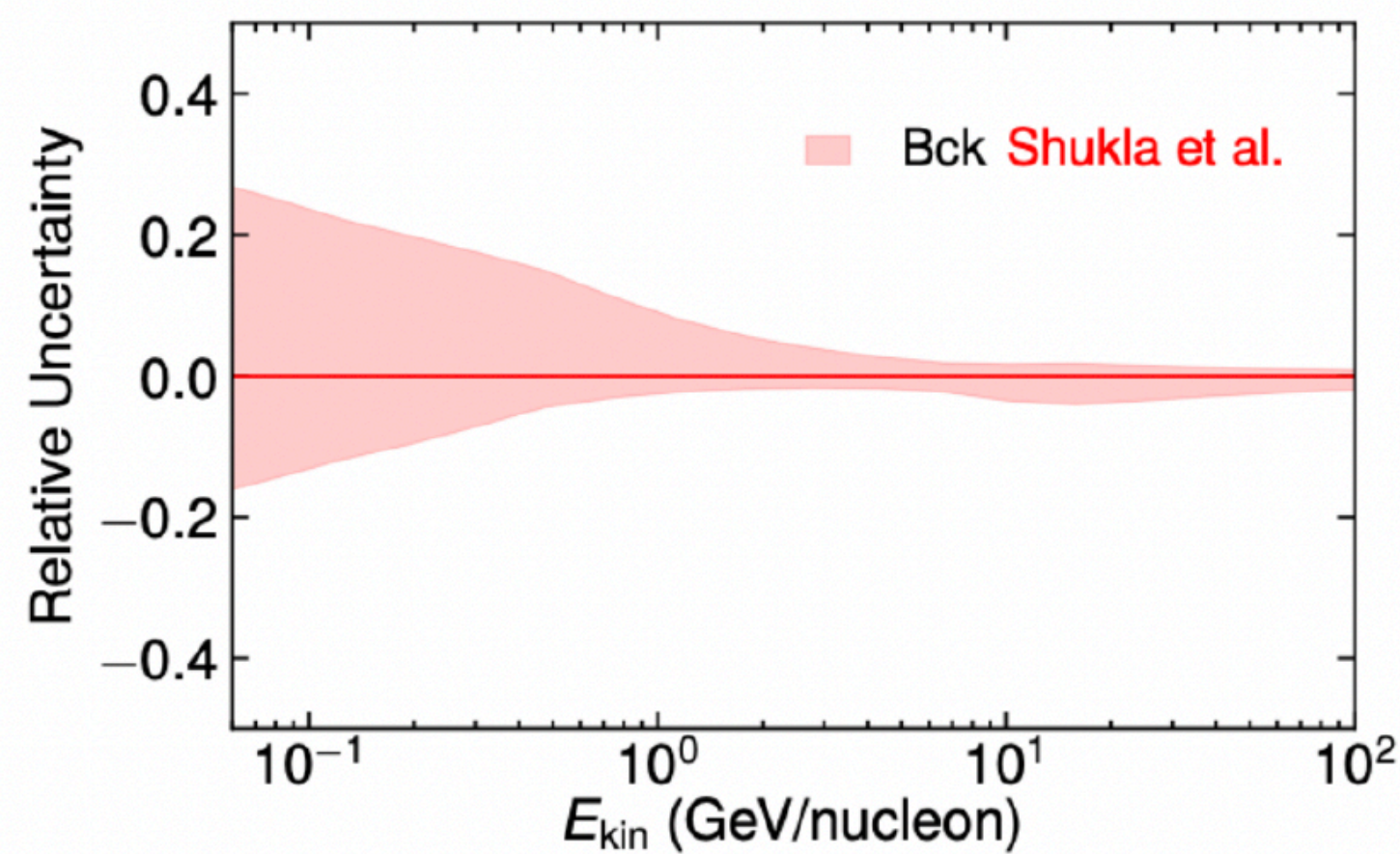
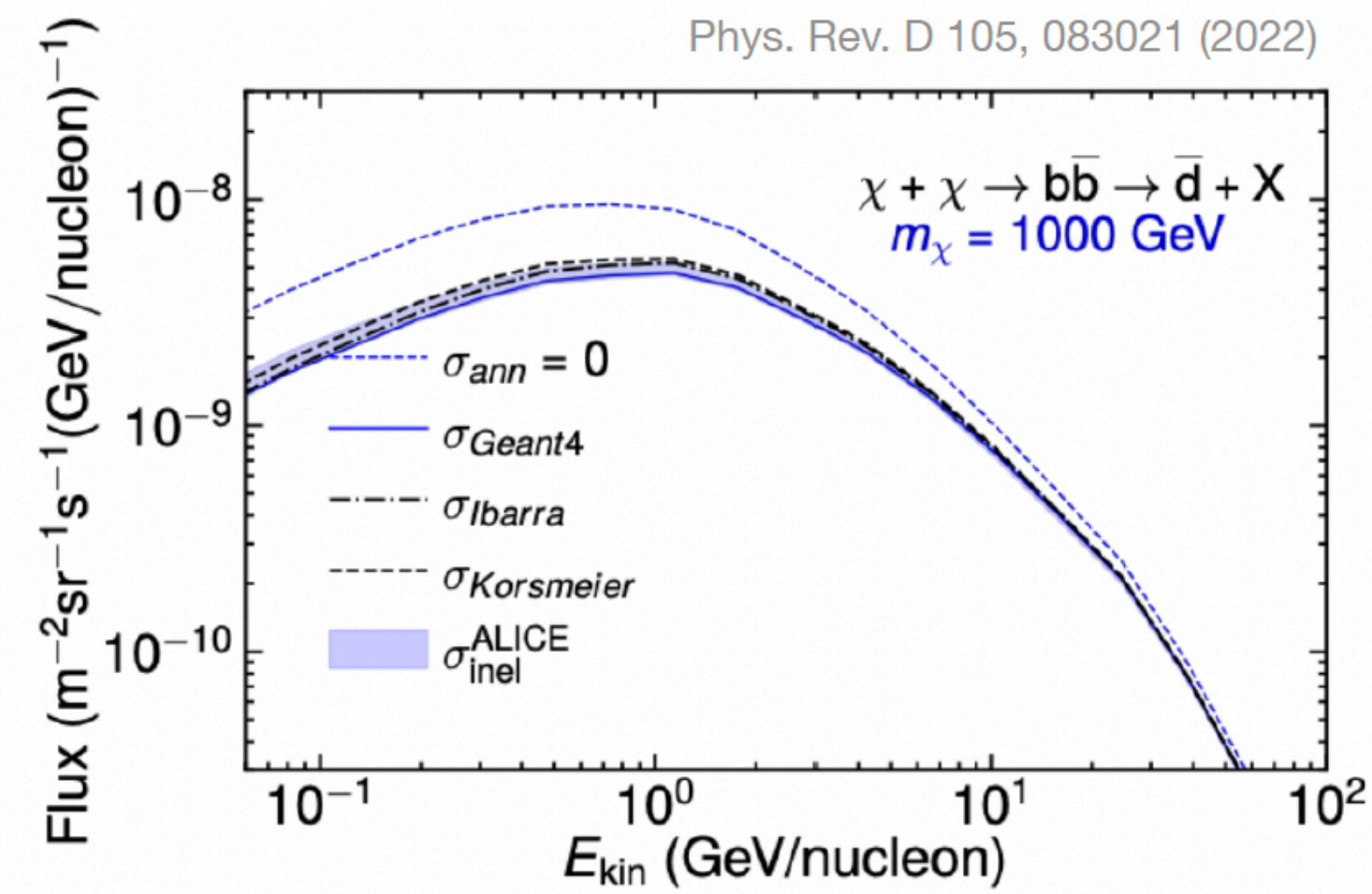
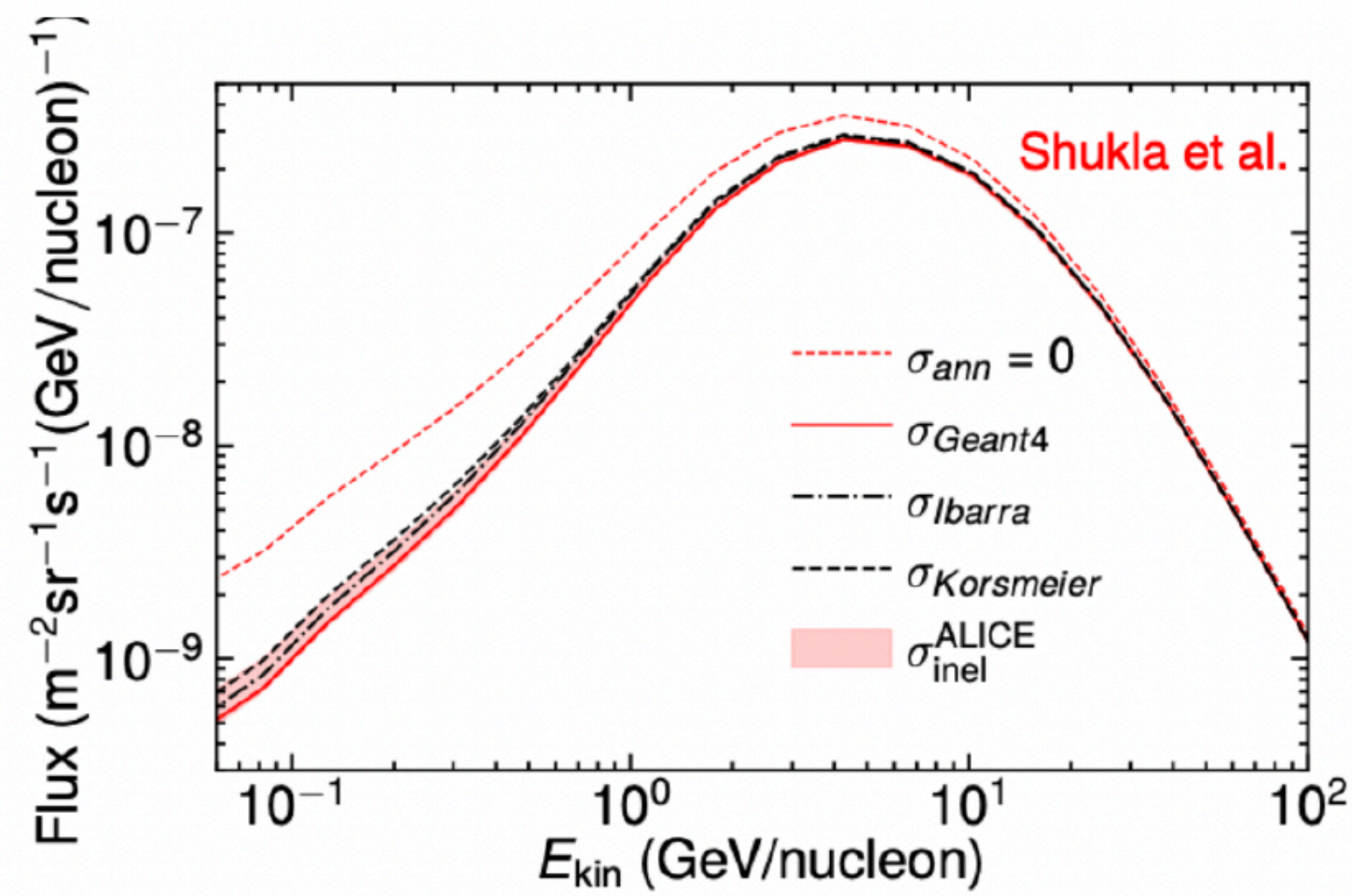
Benchmark: Antiproton





# Inelastic cross section uncertainties

- First time data-driven estimate; propagated uncertainties
- Inelastic cross section from now on well constrained with data!



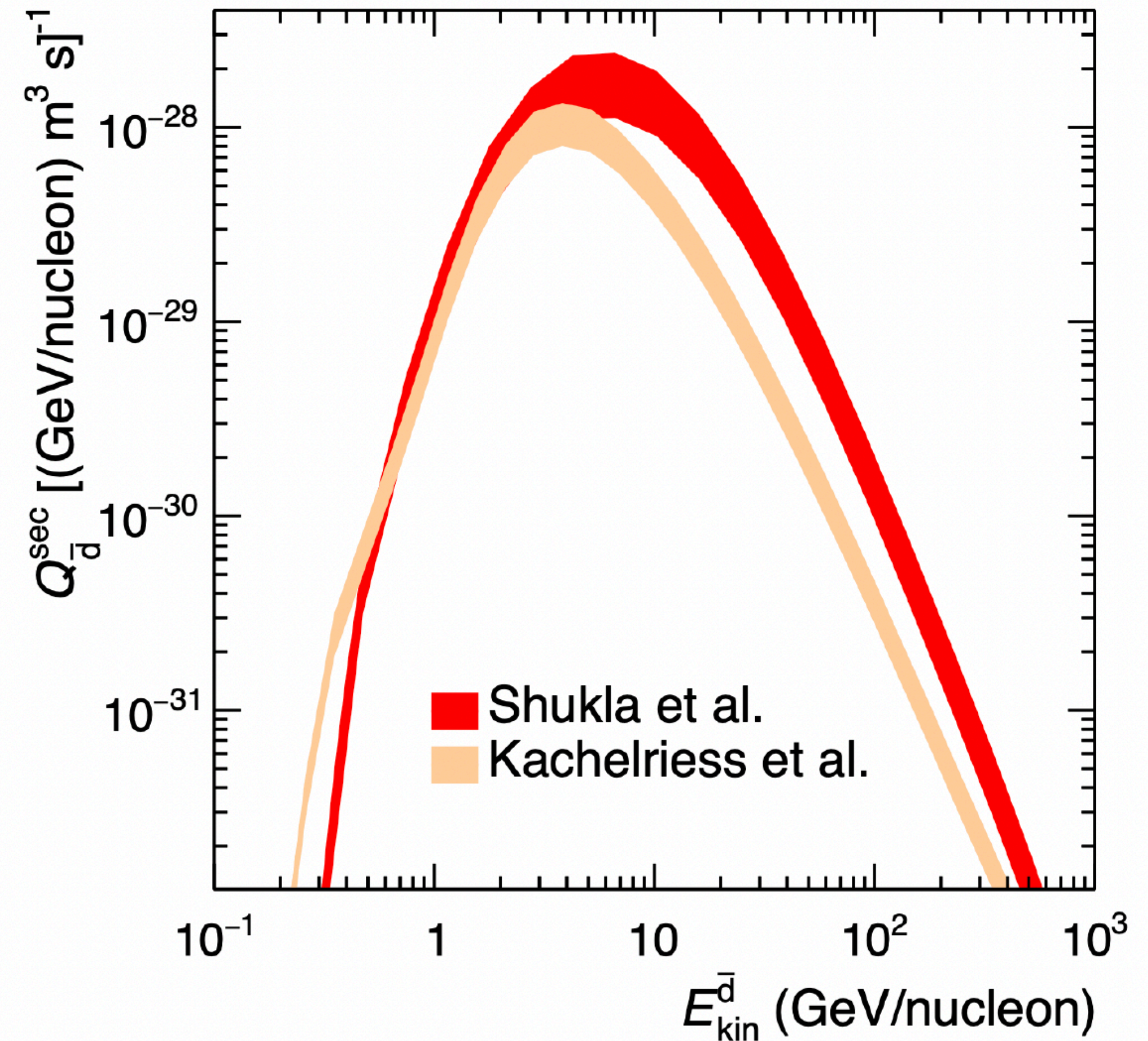


# Studying light nuclei formation

Light nuclei production must be understood better!

- ALICE studies of light nuclei production
- AMBER experiment at SPS [1]:
  - Proton beam scan from 50 GeV to 250 GeV
  - Proton and helium targets
- LHCb experiment at LHC [2]:
  - p-He collisions
- NA61 experiment at SPS [3]:
  - Proton beam scan from 9 GeV to 400 GeV
  - Antideuteron production

Phys. Rev. D 105, 083021 (2022)



[1] Few Body Syst. 63 (2022) 4, 72

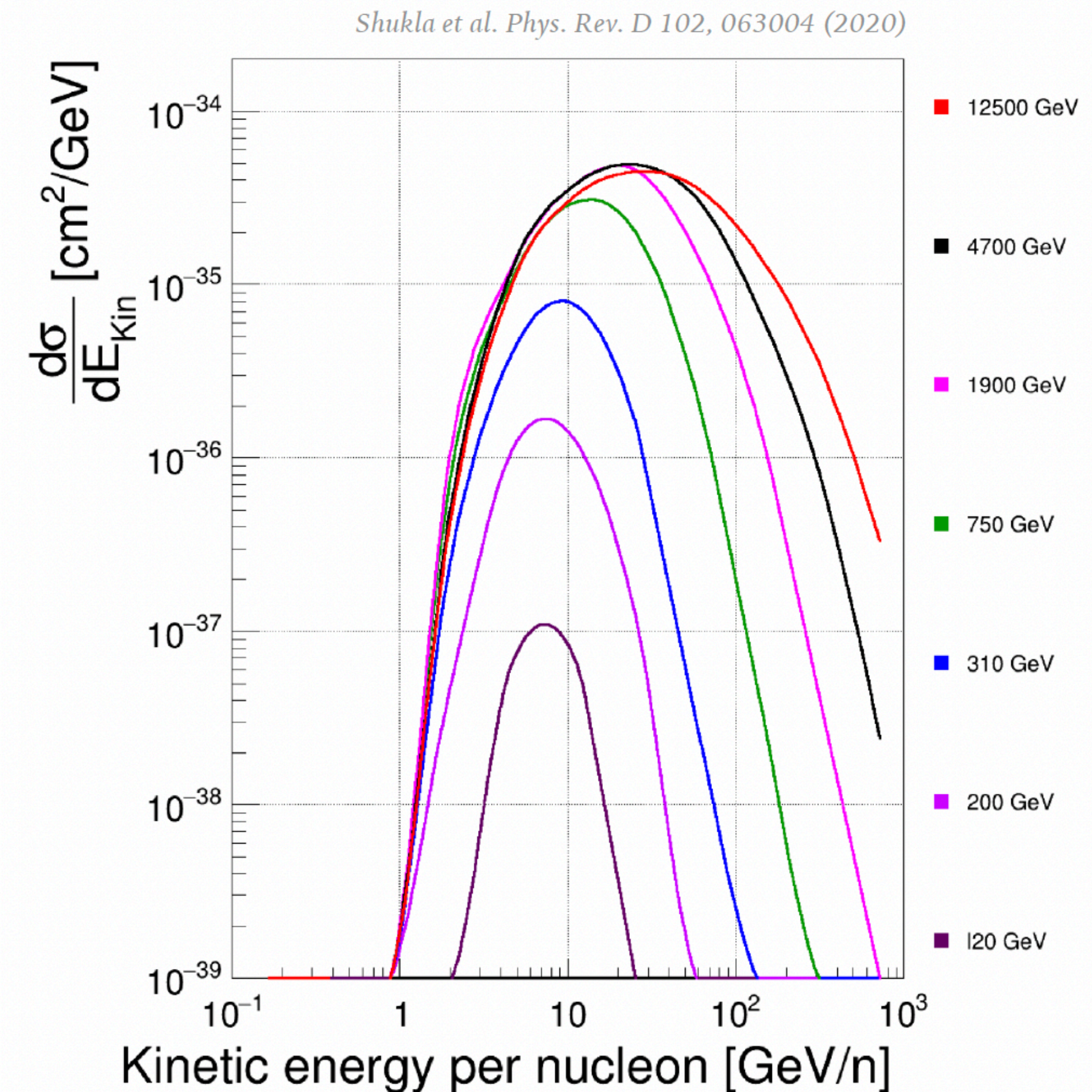
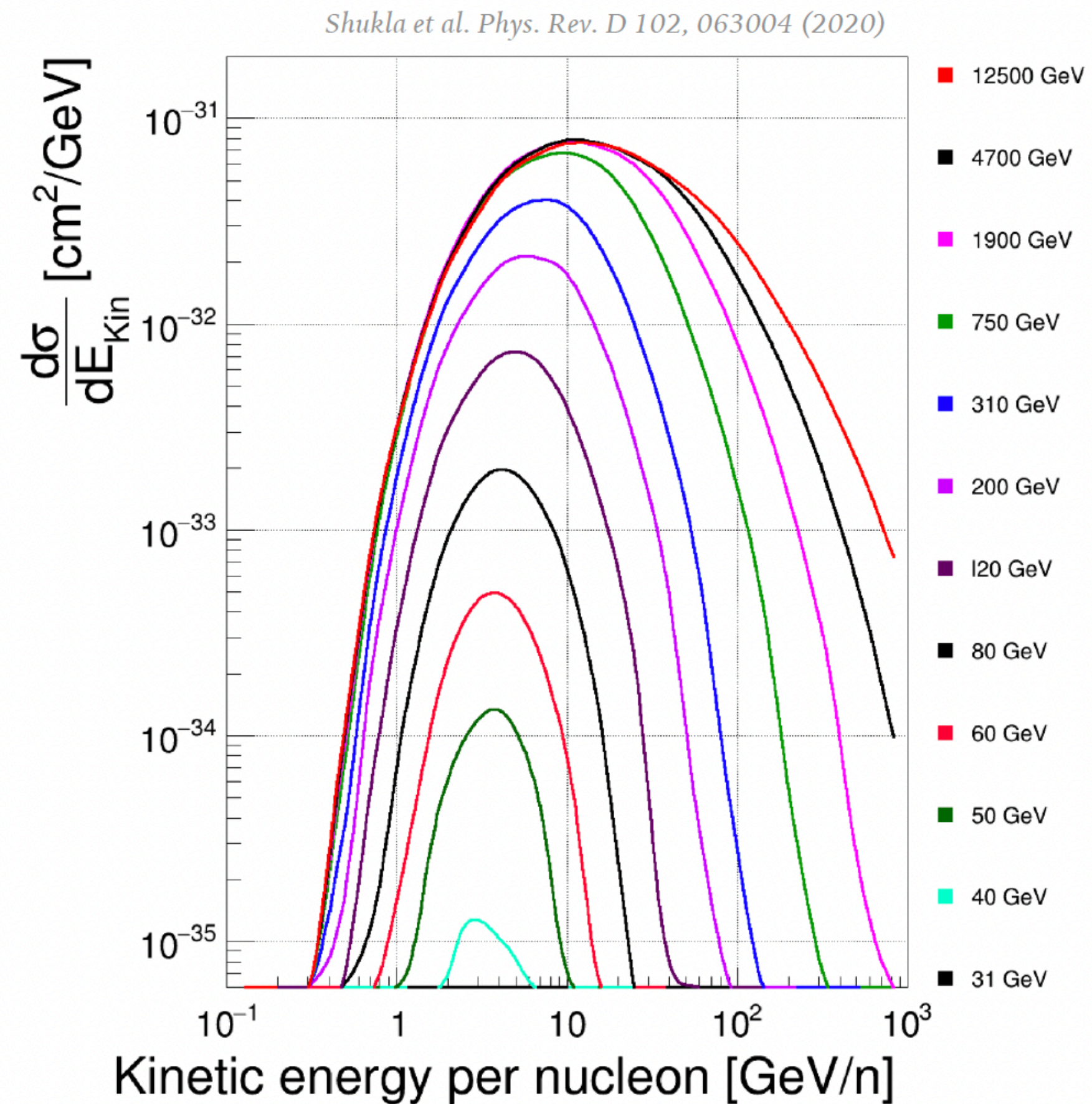
[2] PRL 121, 222001 (2018)

[3] CERN-SPSC-2006-001



# Production cross sections

- Model is used to estimate production cross-section at different collision energies
- These can be used directly as input to account for antinuclei production in cosmic ray collisions with interstellar medium





# CR fluxes for different DM assumptions

PhD Thesis of Stephan Königstorfer

