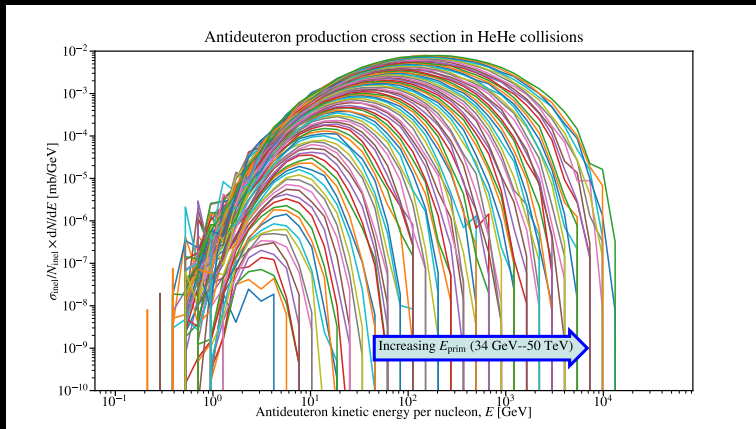


# Coalescence models

Michael Kachelrieß (NTNU, Trondheim)



with Jonas Tjemsland and Sergey Ostapchenko

Eur.Phys.J.A 56 (2020) 1, JCAP 08 (2020) 048, Eur.Phys.J.A 57 (2021) 5, 167, Phys.Rev.C 108 (2023) 2,...

# Outline of the talk

## 1 Introduction

- ▶ Motivation: **why antinuclei?**
  - ★ Probe of quark-gluon plasma
  - ★ **Signature of dark matter**
- ▶ Physical basis of **coalescence approach**

[Salati,...]

## 2 Coalescence models and antinuclei production

- ▶ Coalescence in momentum space
- ▶ Coalescence in phase space

## 3 Antinuclei fluxes and detection prospects

- ▶ Boosting **anti-helium** fluxes?

[Pöschel, Salati,...]

## 4 Conclusions

# Formation of light nuclei

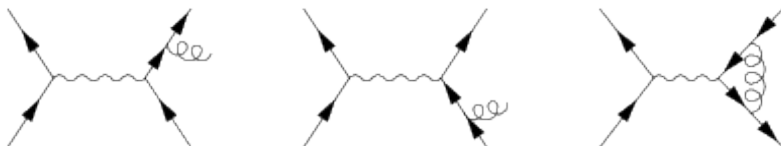
interested in **various types of reactions:**

- $DM+DM \rightarrow X\bar{d}$  DM
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\bar{d}$  LEP
- $pp \rightarrow X\bar{d}$  LHC: pQCD, CRs
- $Ap \rightarrow X\bar{d}$  ...
- $AA \rightarrow X\bar{d}$  LHC: heavy ion, CRs

**different physics, different communities  $\Rightarrow$  different approaches**

# Simplest case: $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$

- **hard interaction:** LO or NLO matrix element



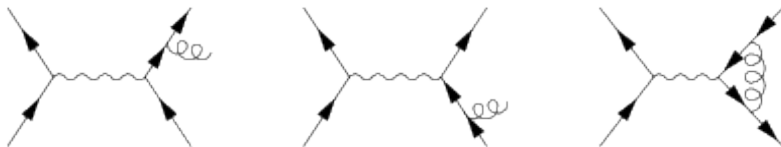
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▶ ordered in virtualities and angles  $s \simeq Q_1^2 > Q_2^2 > \dots > Q_{\min}^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$

- hadronisation volume in cms:  $\sigma_{\parallel} \sim 1/(\gamma m_p)$ ,  $\sigma_{\perp} \sim 1/\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

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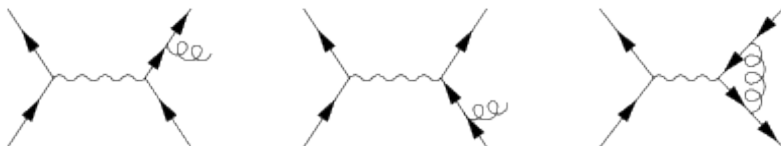
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## General picture:

- separation of scales:

- ▶  $B_d \simeq 2 \text{ MeV} \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, T_{\text{QCD}} \sim 200 \text{ MeV}$

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- semiclassical picture:  $\bar{p}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p})$  and  $\bar{n}(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{p}')$  form an antideuteron, if “close” in phase-space

- approximations:

- ▶ DM: coalescence in momentum space:  $V \ll 4\pi R_d^3/3$

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$$\frac{dN_{\bar{d}}}{dT} = \frac{p_0^3}{6} \frac{m_d}{m_N^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T_{\bar{d}}^2 + 2m_d T_{\bar{d}}}} \left( \left. \frac{dN_{\bar{N}}}{dT} \right|_{T_{\bar{d}}=T_{\bar{N}}/2} \right)^2$$

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- more general: antinuclei  $A \sim B_A$  antiprotons<sup>A</sup> with

$$B_A = A \left( \frac{4\pi}{3} \frac{p_0^3}{m_N} \right)^{A-1}$$

$\Rightarrow$  strong hierarchy  $\bar{p} \gg \bar{d} \gg \overline{{}^3\text{He}} \gg \overline{{}^4\text{He}}$



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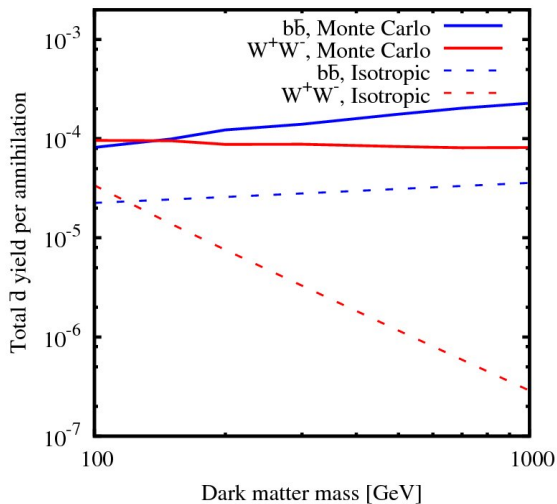
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- $1/M_X^2$  suppression in **contradiction to Lorentz invariance**:
- **decay products** of  $W$  are **boosted** in cone with  $\vartheta \sim m_W/m_X$

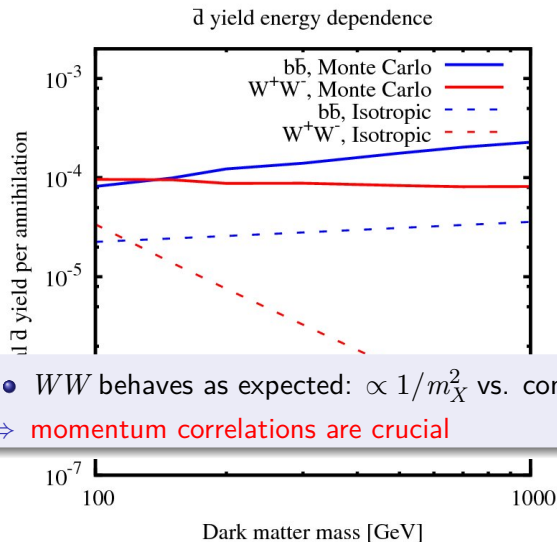
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[Dal, MK '12]

 $\bar{d}$  yield energy dependence

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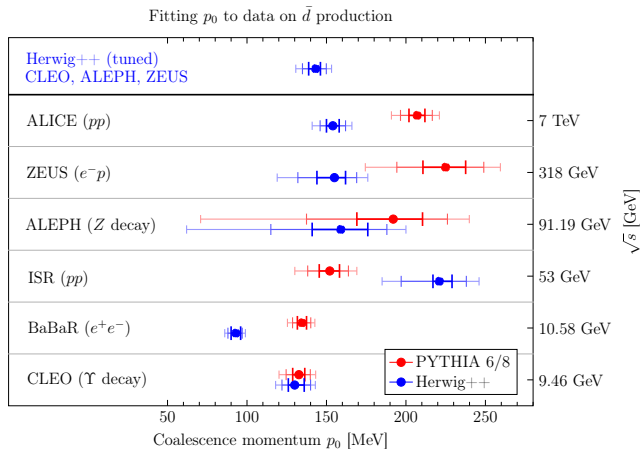


- $WW$  behaves as expected:  $\propto 1/m_X^2$  vs. const.

$\Rightarrow$  momentum correlations are crucial

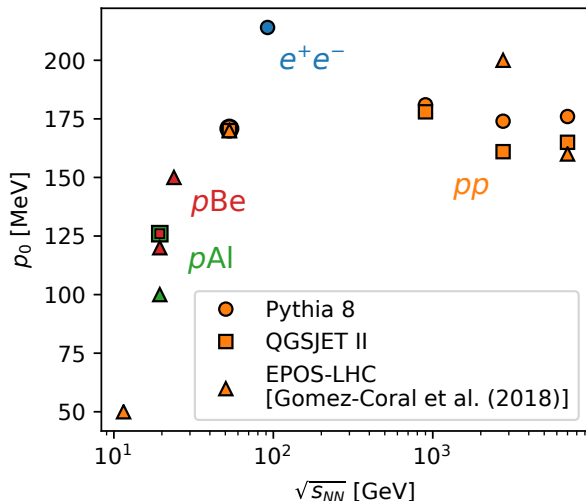
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- energy dependence of  $p_0$ ?



## Solution: use Wigner functions with momentum correlation

- two-body **Wigner function**  $W(x, p)$  contains **full quantum mechanical information** of a system
- probability distributions follow as

$$\int dx W(x, p) = \phi^*(p) \phi(p), \quad \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} W(x, p) = \psi^*(x) \psi(x)$$

- use momentum distribution  $G_{np}(\mathbf{p}_n, \mathbf{p}_p)$  from Monte Carlo
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- use **connection to density matrix**

$$\langle \psi(\mathbf{x})^\dagger \psi(\mathbf{x}') \rangle = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} W\left(\mathbf{p}, \frac{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}'}{2}\right) \exp[i\mathbf{p} \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')]$$

# Evaluation using Monte Carlo correlations

- standard QM using **density matrices**

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- ▶ two-nucleon density matrix  $\rho_{\text{nucl}} = |\psi_p \psi_n\rangle \langle \psi_n \psi_p|$

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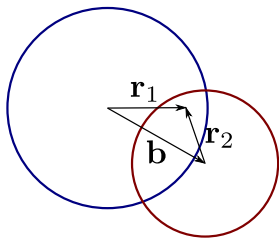
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- **fraction  $\bar{d}/(\bar{p} + \bar{n})$  is bounded**

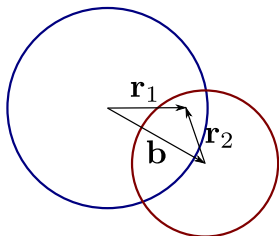
# Generalising to Ap and AA collisions



- ▶ **parton cloud** distributed within  $R_p$  or  $R_A$
- ▶ **multiple parton interactions**
- ▶ **cluster** can form from **different parton interactions**

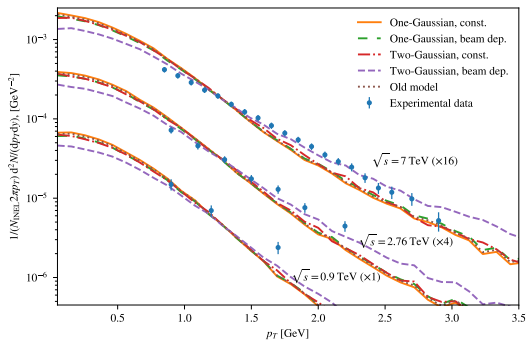


# Generalising to Ap and AA collisions



- ▶ parton cloud distributed within  $R_p$  or  $R_A$
  - ▶ multiple parton interactions
  - ▶ cluster can form from different parton interactions
- using Gaussian profiles:
    - ▶ pp:  $\sigma^{pp} = \sqrt{2}\sigma^{e^+e^-}$

# Comparison with ALICE and LEP data



## Best fit values for spatial extension $\sigma$ : (using PYTHIA)

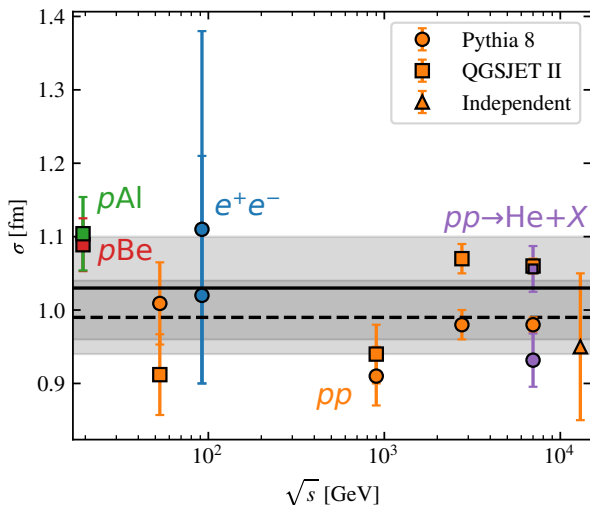
- ▶  $\sigma^{pp} = (7.6 \pm 0.1) / \text{GeV}$
- ▶  $\sigma^{e^+e^-} = (5.3^{+1.0}_{-0.6}) / \text{GeV}$

## Comparison with experimental data on pp and Ap:

- assume  $R_A \simeq a_0 A^{1/3}$  with  $\sigma^{pp} \simeq a_0$  as fit parameter

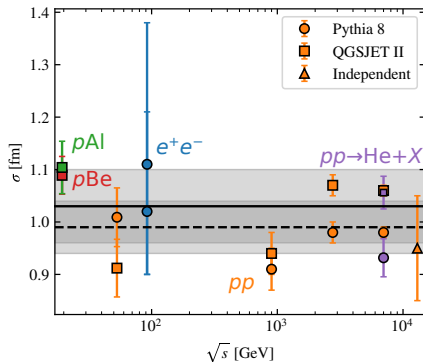
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# Comparison with experimental data on pp and Ap:

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- good agreement with expectation  $\sigma^{pp} \sim 1$  fm
- independent of energy and reaction type

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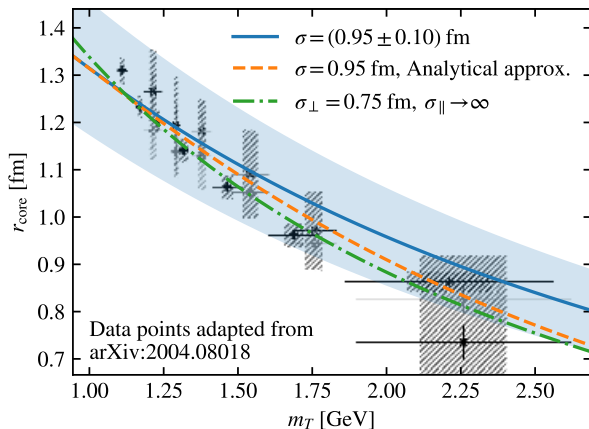
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- evidence for **collective flow?**



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## Including spatial correlations from event generators:

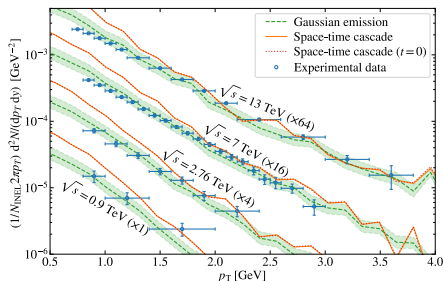
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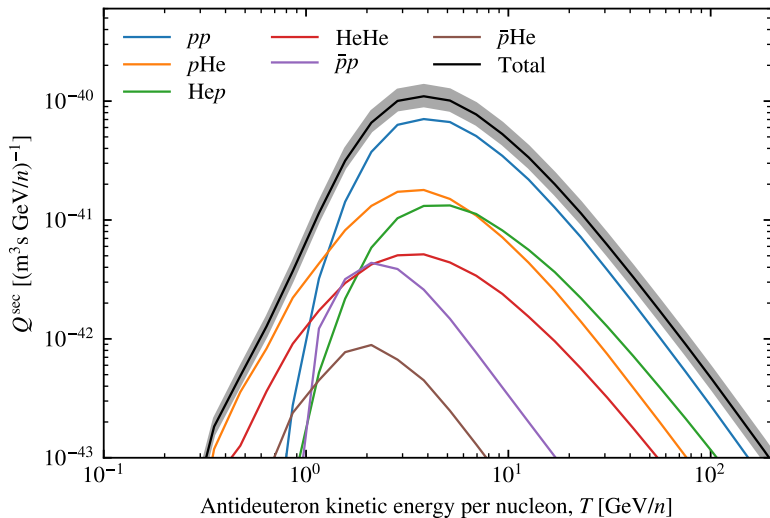
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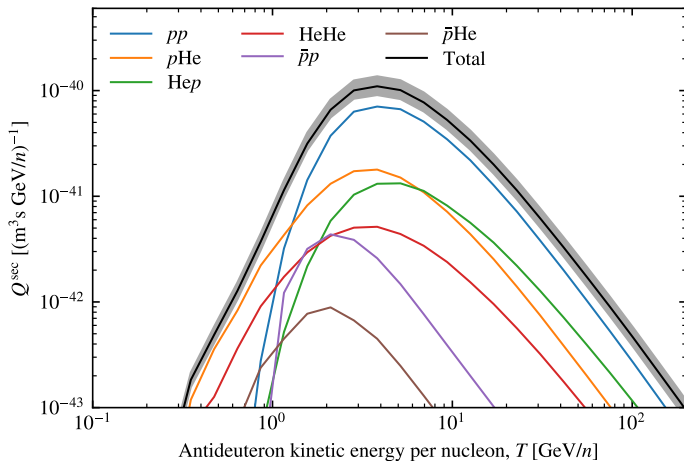


- no longitudinal spread included in Pythia
- allows to check **spacetime picture**

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- lower threshold in  $pA$  reactions  $\Rightarrow$  dominate at low  $T$   
 $\Rightarrow$  cannot be captured by constant enhancement factor

## Misuse of $B_2$ :

- **model-independent** determination of  $\bar{d}$  yield, based on exp. data ?

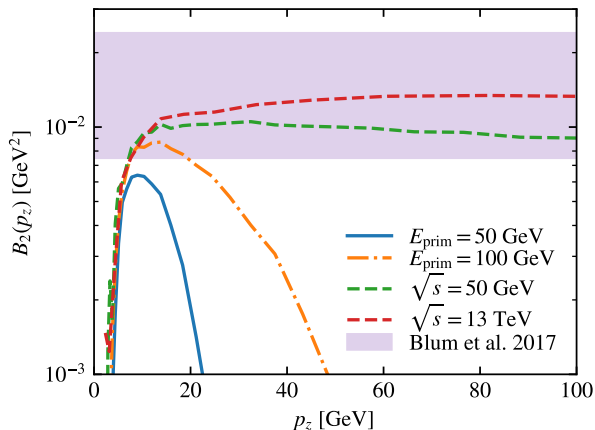
[Blum '18, '19, ... ]

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- not possible:  $B_2$  is not a constant at CR energies





## Boosting (and shifting) the He flux?

- change cosmology: **inhomogenous barygenesis**

⇒ **anti-stars** in Milky Way

- ▶ **acceleration mechanism: anti-SNe, anti-SNR?**

[Dolgov, Silk '93, Poulin et al. '19]

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[Dolgov, Silk '93, Poulin et al. '19]

$$n_d(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^2(\mathbf{p})$$

$$n_{3\text{He}}(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^3(\mathbf{p})$$

$$n_{4\text{He}}(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^4(\mathbf{p})$$

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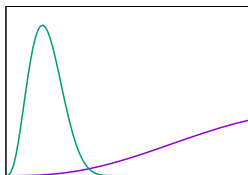
[Dolgov, Silk '93, Poulin et al. '19]

$$n_d(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^2(\mathbf{p})$$

$$n_{3\text{He}}(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^3(\mathbf{p})$$

$$n_{4\text{He}}(\mathbf{p}) \propto n_n^4(\mathbf{p})$$

⇒ need to **compress**  $n_n(\mathbf{p})$ :



## Boosting the He flux – particle physics

- $m_{\text{DM}} = (1 + \varepsilon)m_{3\text{He}}$
- involve  $\bar{\Lambda}_b$  decays
- strongly coupled DM sector

# Can $\bar{\Lambda}_b$ decays boost $\overline{{}^3\text{He}}$ from DM?

[Winkler, Linden '21]

- **Majorana** DM:  $\sigma_{\text{ann}} \propto m_f^2 \Rightarrow$  couples mainly to  **$b$  quarks** for  $m_X < m_Z$

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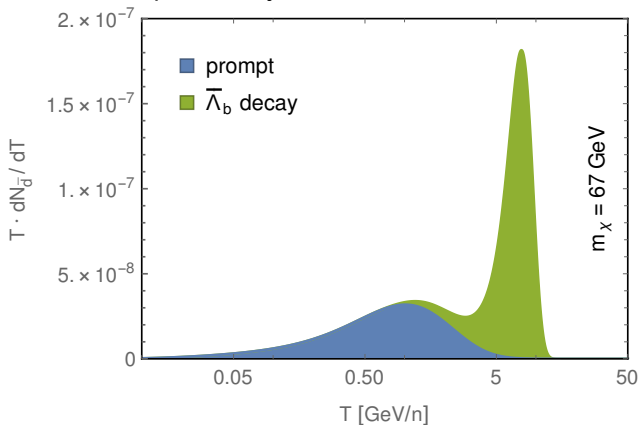
[Winkler, Linden '21]

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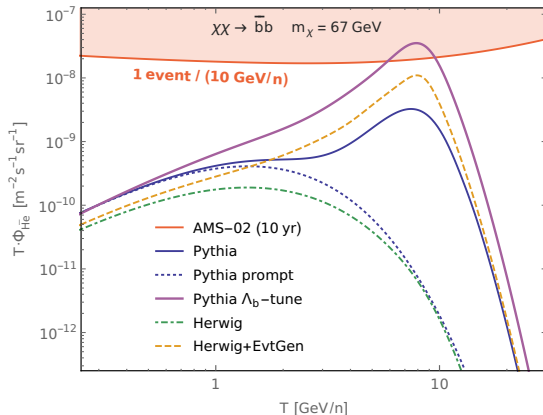
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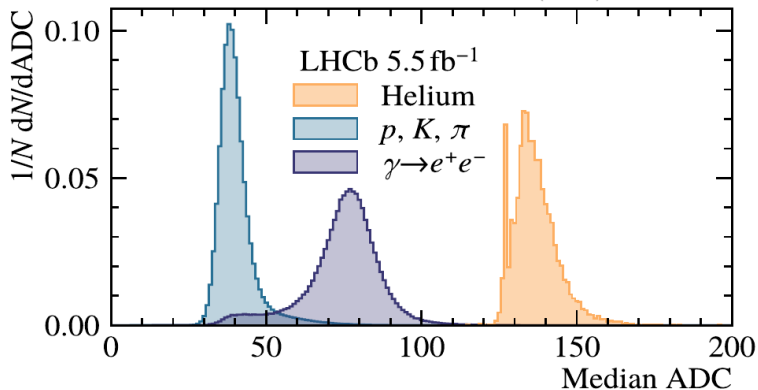
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- **no:**
  - ▶  $\Lambda_b$  tune of Pythia is excluded
  - ▶ Pythia overestimates  $\text{BR}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \bar{u}du(ud_0))$
  - + can be tested by LHCb

Limits on  $\bar{\Lambda}_b$  from LHCb

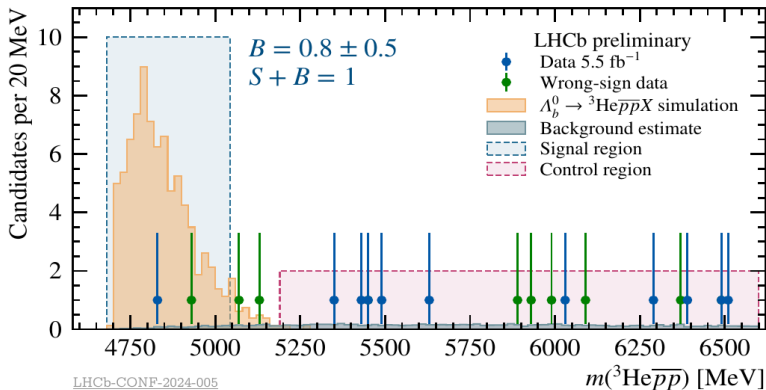
[ICHEP '24]

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Limits on  $\bar{\Lambda}_b$  from LHCb

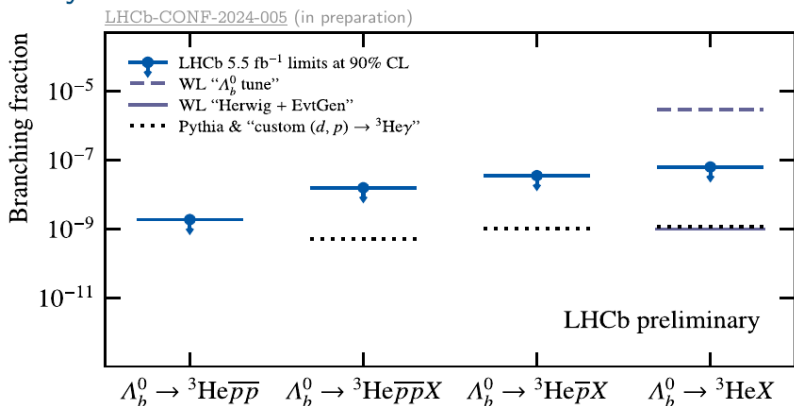
[ICHEP '24]

 $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\bar{p}\bar{p}X$  data

[LHCb-CONF-2024-005](#)  
 (in preparation)

Limits on  $\bar{\Lambda}_b$  from LHCb

[ICHEP '24]



# Conclusions

- 1 Formation of light antinuclei is interesting in itself:
  - ▶ inclusion of two-particle momentum correlations necessary
  - ▶ reaction-dependent size of source is important
  - ▶ how to deal with spatial correlations?
  - ▶ when are collective effects important?
- 2 Coalescence in phasespace – WiFunC model:
  - ▶ consistent description of various reactions
- 3 Antinuclei are a useful tool searching for new physics
  - ▶ antideuterons as signal for WIMPs
  - ▶ strong hierarchy of fluxes as function of  $A$
  - ▶ antihelium-3 and especially antihelium-4 requires “super-exotic” physics
- 4 Upgrade of AMS-02, extension of ISS