

Latest Results of the LHCf experiment at LHC

Alessia Tricomi University and INFN Catania, Italy

- Physics Motivations
- Results @ 13 TeV
- p-Pb Run
- RHICf

Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays

Studying the properties of primary High Energy Cosmic Rays based on observation of EAS

- X_{max} : depth of air shower maximum in the atmosphere
- RMS(X_{max}): fluctuations in the position of the shower maximum
- N_u: number of muons in the shower at the detector level

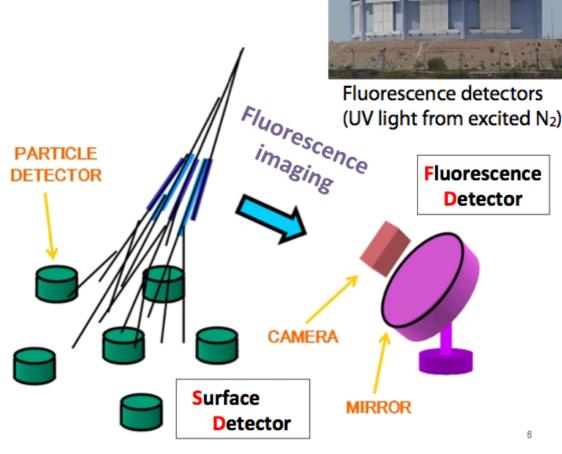


MC Simulation to describe hadronic interaction with atmosphere



Energy, mass composition, direction

- —> source of primary cosmic rays
- -> origin of the universe (final goal)





Surface detectors (charged+photon)

What are

Cosmic Rays?

HECR Physics at LHC: LHCf Physics

Model-originated uncertainties or even discrepancies

- Energy
 - $-E_{SD} > E_{FD}$:

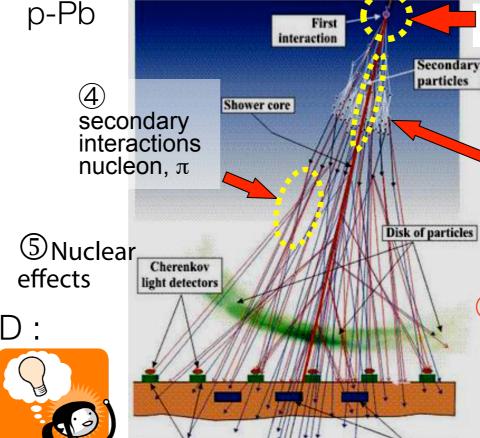
discrepancy

- missing energy (μ,ν) in FD : uncertainty
- Mass
 - Mass vs. X_{max} in FD:

uncertainty

- Mass vs. e/μ or μ excess in SD:

discrepancy



p-p + p-Pb

1 Inelastic cross section

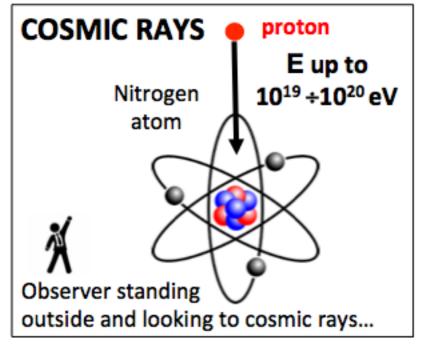
If large σ : rapid development If small σ : deep penetrating

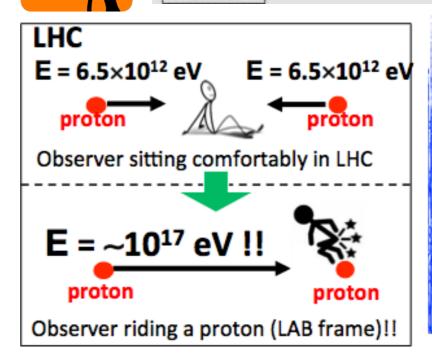
2 Forward energy spectrum

If softer shallow development If harder deep penetrating

3 Inelasticity k=1-E_{lead}/E_{avail}

If large k (π⁰s carry more energy) rapid development
If small k (baryons carry more energy) deep penetrating





Charged particle

LHCf ->use LHC

6.5 TeV+6.5 TeV⇒E_{lab}=9*10¹⁶ eV

3.5 TeV+3.5 TeV⇒E_{lab}=2.6*10¹⁶ eV

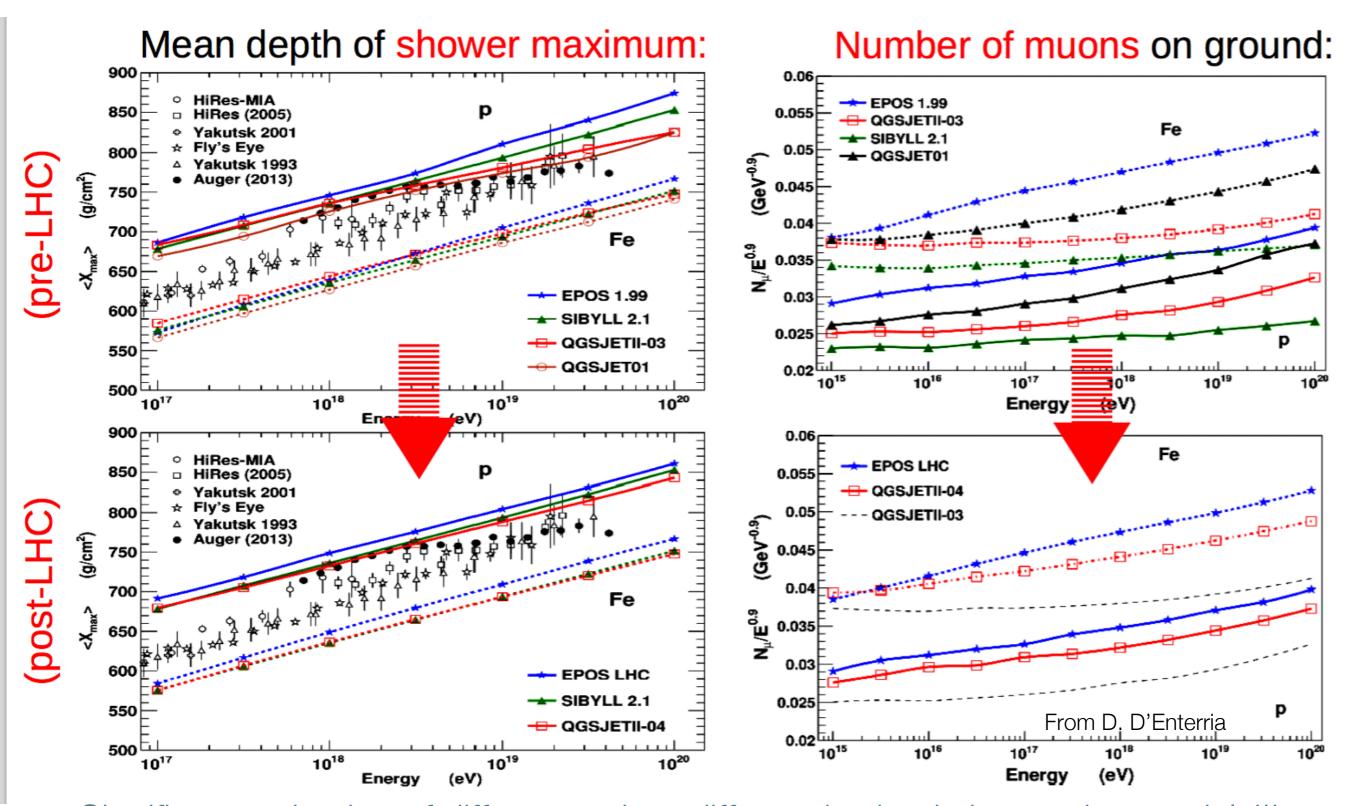
450 GeV+450 GeV⇒E_{lab}=2*10¹⁴ eV

to calibrate MCs

In addition: p-Pb collision at 5.02&8TeV to study nuclear effect

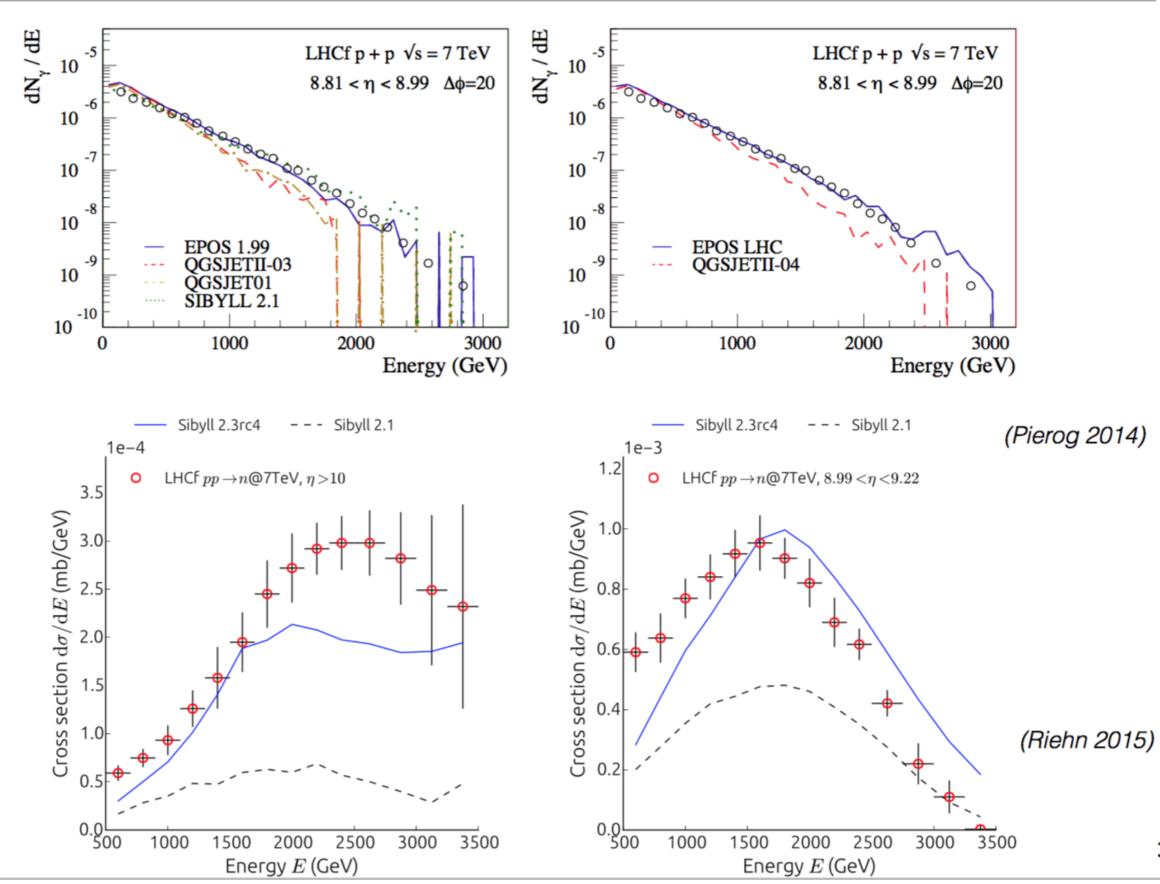
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First models tuning after the first LHC data (EPOS and QGSJET)

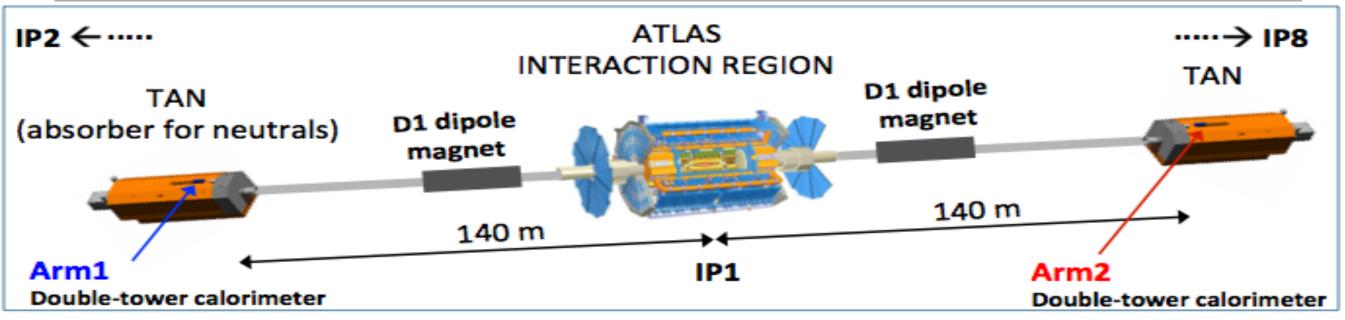


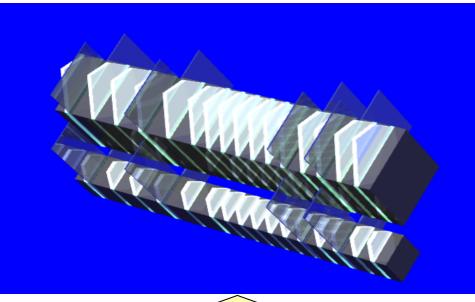
Significant reduction of differences btw different hadronic interaction models!!!

But not everything is perfect....



LHCf: location and detector layout





Arm#1 Detector 20mmx20mm+40mmx40mm 4 X-Y GSO Bars tracking layers $44X_0$, $1.6 \lambda_{int}$

Energy resolution:

< 5% for photons

30% for neutrons

Position resolution:

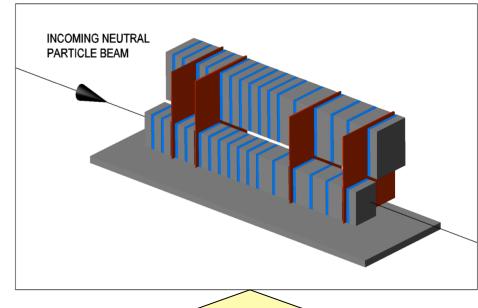
 $< 200 \mu m (Arm #1)$

40μm (Arm#2)

Pseudo-rapidity range:

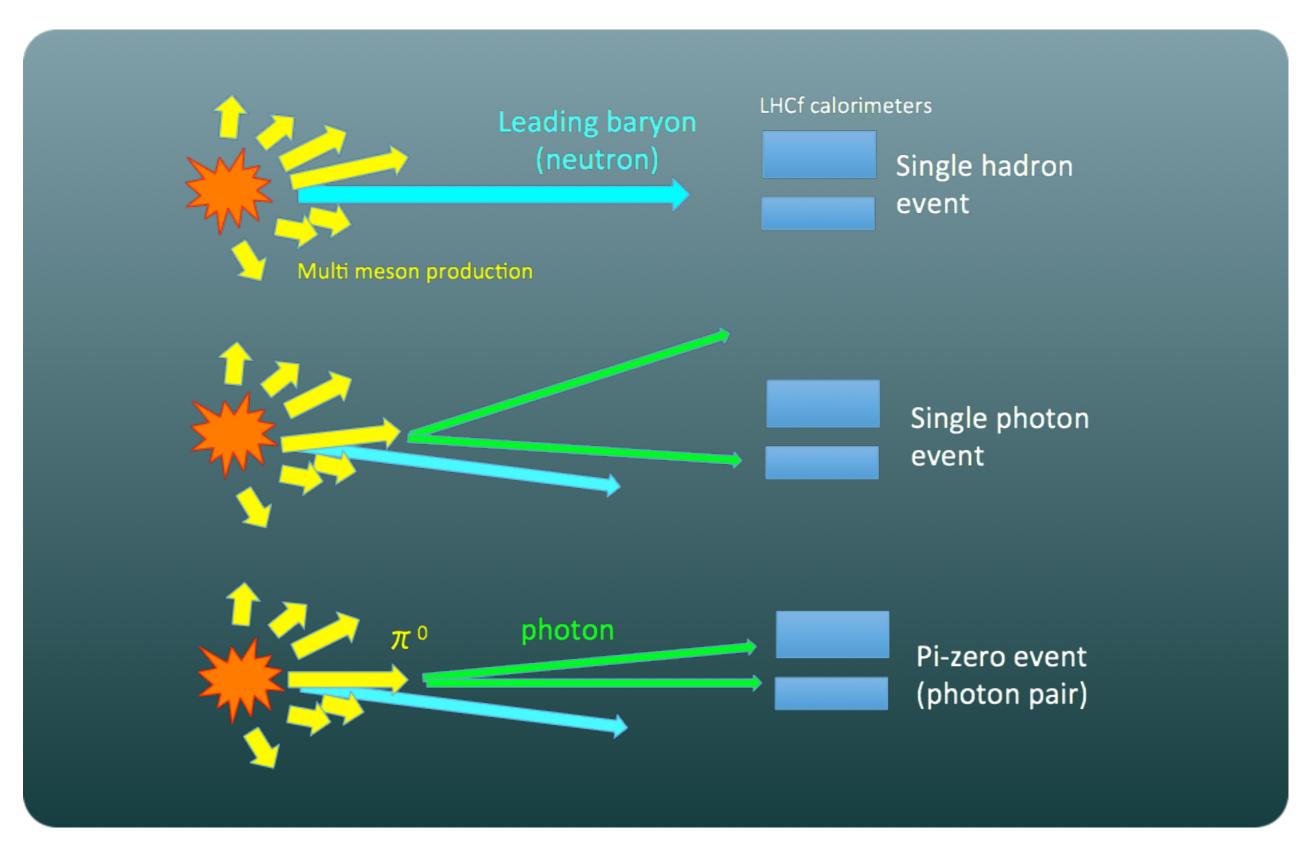
 $\eta > 8.7$ @ zero Xing angle

 $\eta > 8.4 @ 140urad$

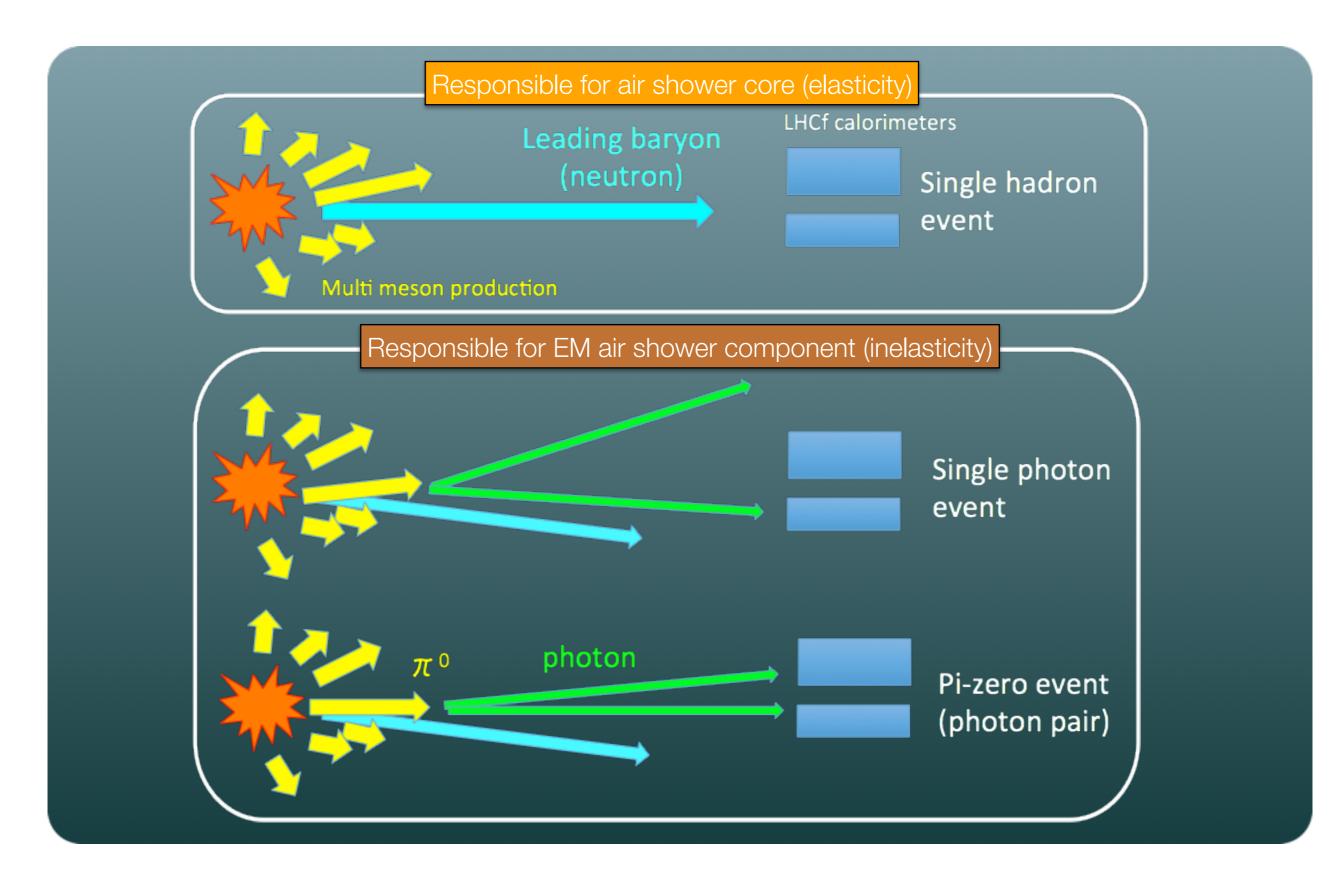


Arm#2 Detector 25mmx25mm+32mmx32mm 4 X-Y Silicon strip tracking layers

Event category in LHCf



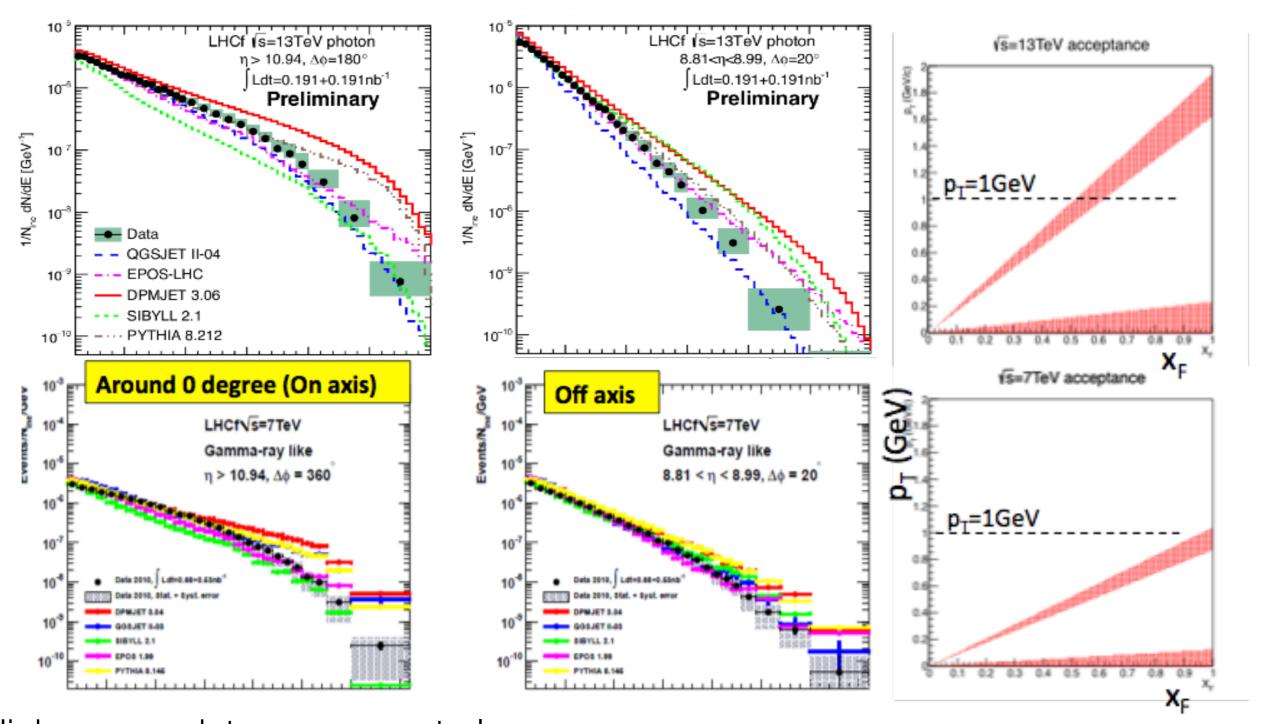
Event category in LHCf



LHCf Data Taking and Analysis matrix

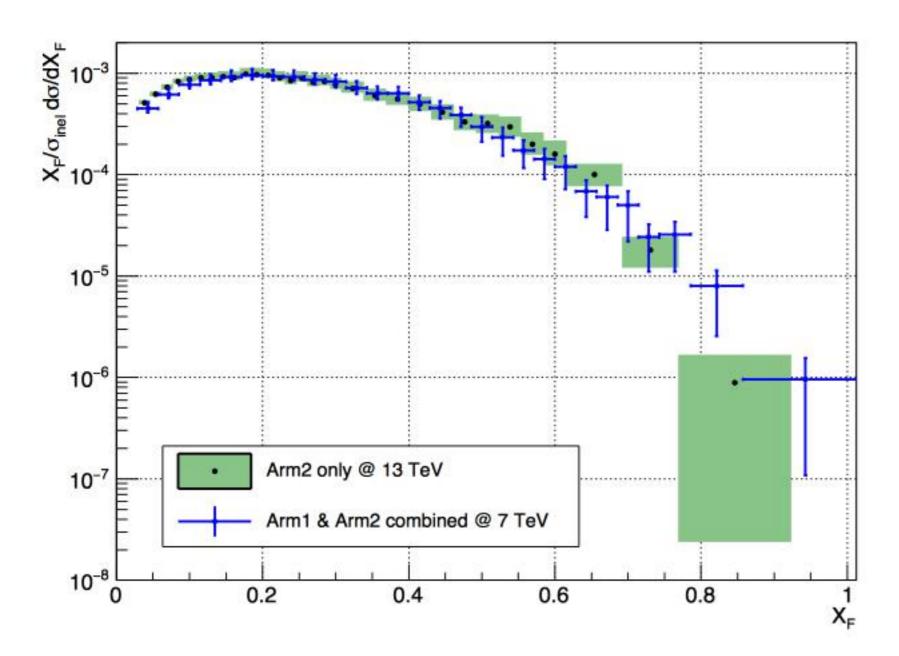
	Proton ELAB (Ev)	Photon (EM shower)	Neutron (hadron shower)	π ⁰ (EM shower)	
Test beam at SPS		NIM. A 671, 129–136 (2012) JINST 12P03023(2017)	JINST 9 P03016 (2014) (2014)P03016		
p-p at 900GeV	4.3x10 ¹⁴	Phys. Lett. B 715, 298-303 (2012)			
p-p at 7TeV	2.6x10 ¹⁶	Phys. Lett. B 703, 128–134 (2011)	Phys. Lett. B 750, 360-366 (2015)	Phys. Rev. D 86, 092001 (2012)+ Phys. Rev. D 94, 032007(2016) Type II	Run1
p-p at 2.76TeV	4.1x10 ¹⁵			Phys. Rev. C 89, 065209 (2014)+	
p-Pb at 5.02TeV	1.3x10 ¹⁶			Phys. Rev. D 94, 032007(2016) Type II	Run2
p-p at 13TeV	9.0x10 ¹⁶	Submitted to PLB	Preliiminary results		Run3
p-Pb at 8.1 TeV	3.6x10 ¹⁶	Run com	pleted in November	2016	Run4

γ energy spectra 7 vs 13 TeV



High energy data covers up to larger p_T Similar trend in 7TeV and 13TeV, but differences look enhanced in 13TeV results

Photon spectra – Feynman Scaling

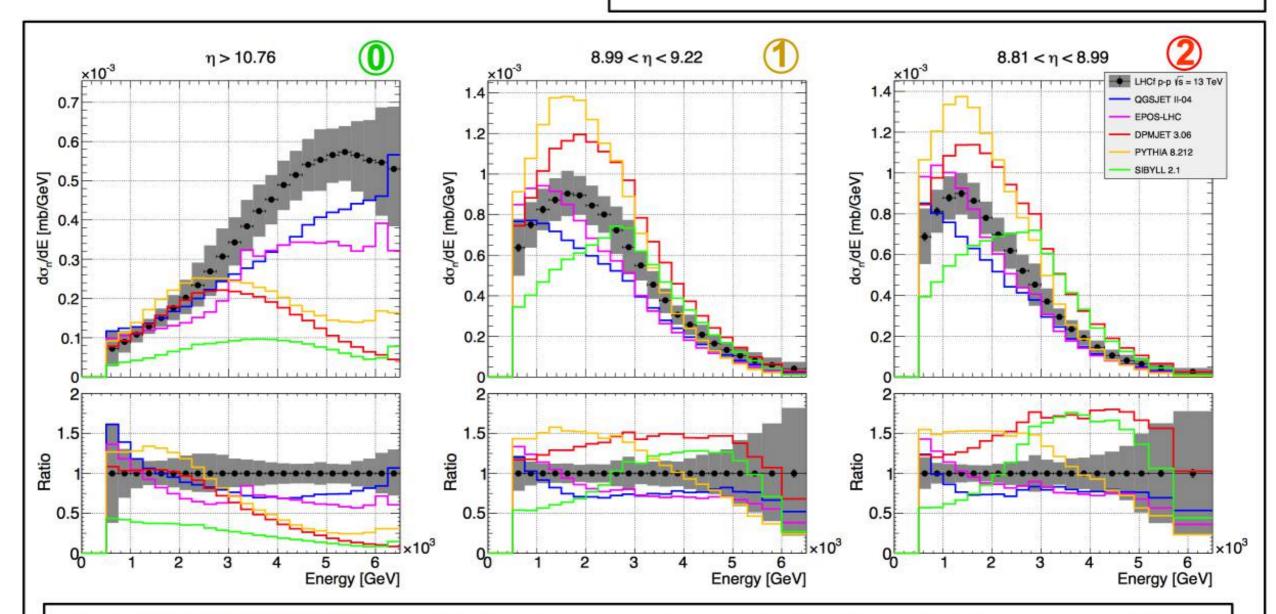


Feynman scaling: differential cross section as a function of X_F independent of \sqrt{s} for X_F

Feynman scaling holds within systematic uncertainties

Preliminary ARM2 unfolded neutron spectra @ 13 TeV

Differential production cross section $d\sigma_n/dE = \frac{dN(\Delta\eta, \Delta E)}{E} \frac{1}{L} \times \frac{2\pi}{d\varphi}$

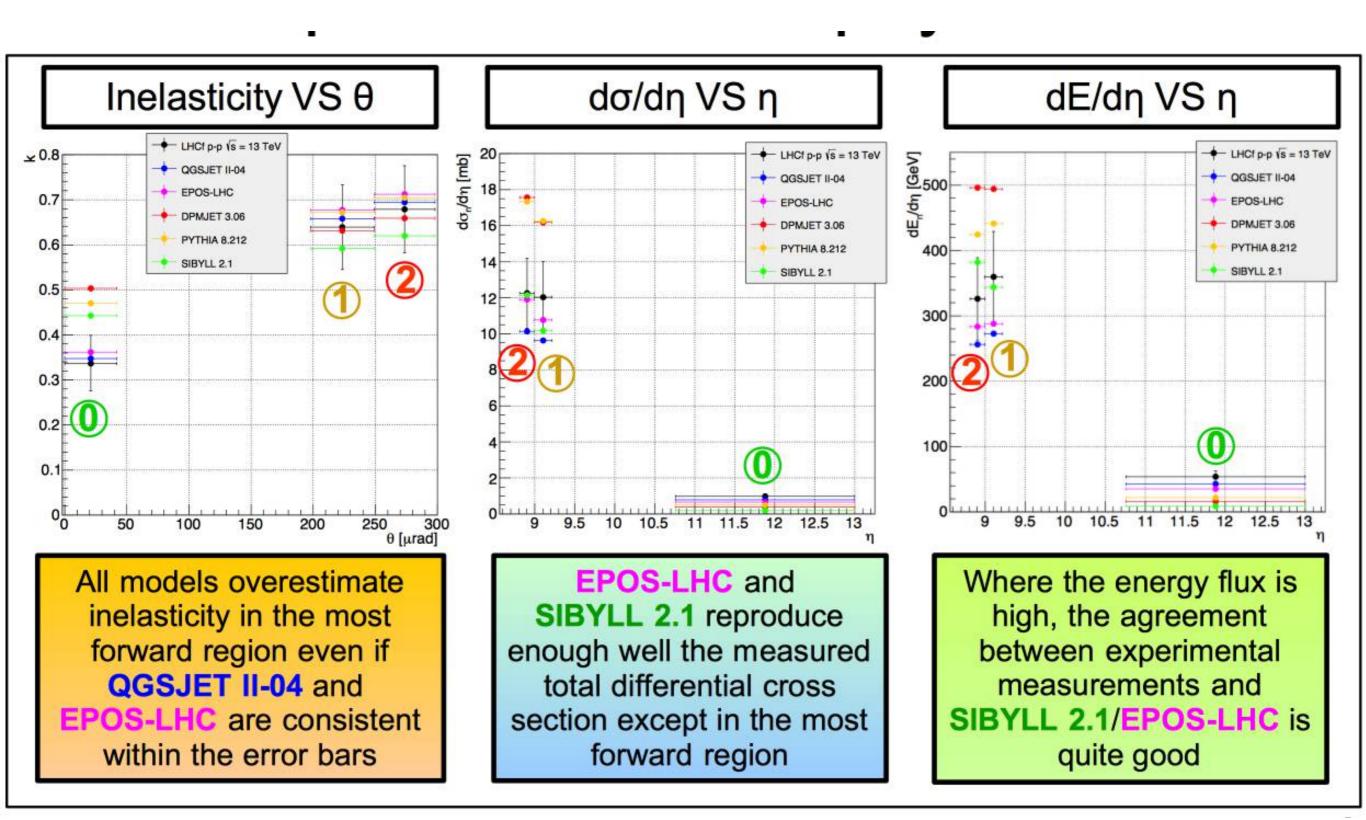


Only QGSJET II-04 qualitatively reproduces behavior of data in $\eta > 10.76$ EPOS-LHC has similar shape in $8.81 < \eta < 9.22$, but lower yield

The LHCf Experiment

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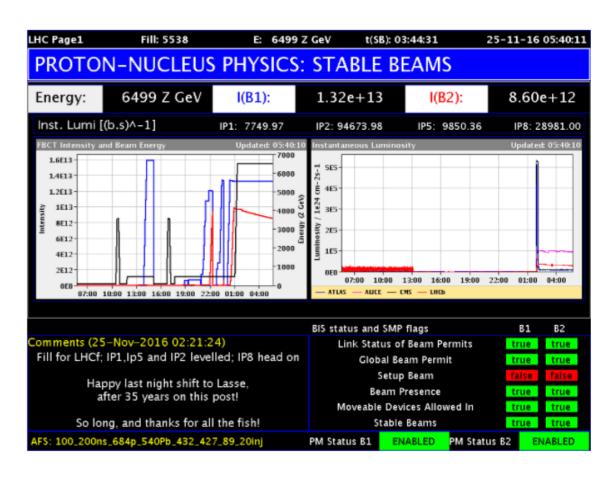
Measurement of interesting quantities for CR Physics

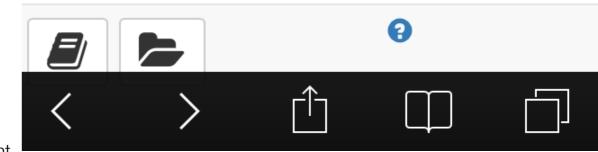


Summary of the 5 & 8 TeV p-Pb run

- Collected data sets at 5 TeV
 - Ideal running condition
 - Three different positions
 - Z=0, +8mm, +16mm
 - 26M common events (LHCf-ATLAS)
- Collected data sets at 8 TeV
 - Very good conditions
 - Two different positions
 - Z=0, +8mm
 - 20.5M common events (LHCf-ATLAS)



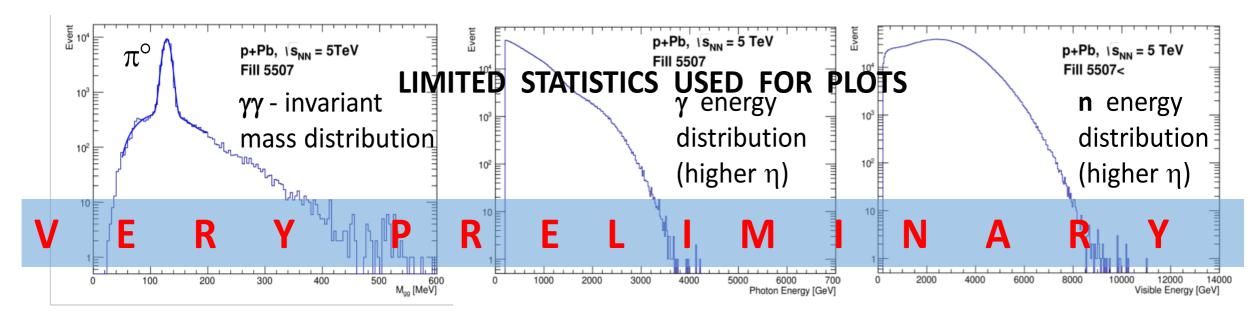




Very preliminary overview of the p-Pb run

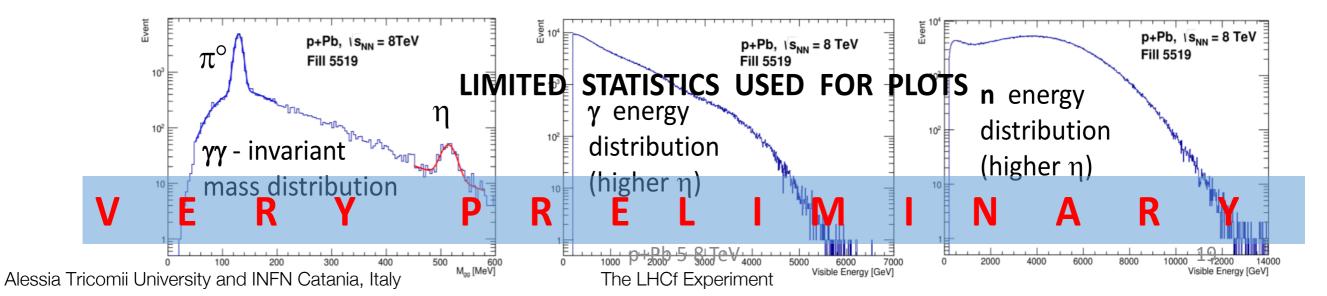
5 TeV

- Fills 5007 and 5010 (100_200ns_702p_548Pb_81_389_54_20inj)
 - 26M common events (LHCf-ATLAS)



8 TeV

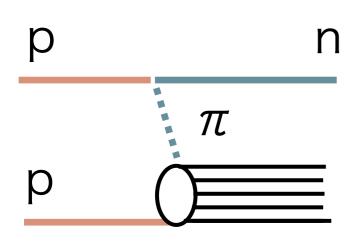
- Fill 5519 (Single_20p_20Pb_10_10_9_1non_coll) → 5.5M events (LHCf-ATLAS)
- Fill 5538 (100_200ns_684p_540Pb_432_427_89_20inj) → 15M events (LHCf-ATLAS)



Physics cases with ATLAS joint taken data

- In p+p collisions
 - Forward spectra of Diffractive/ Non-diffractive events
 - Measurement of proton-π collisions

Both are important for precise-understanding of CR air shower development

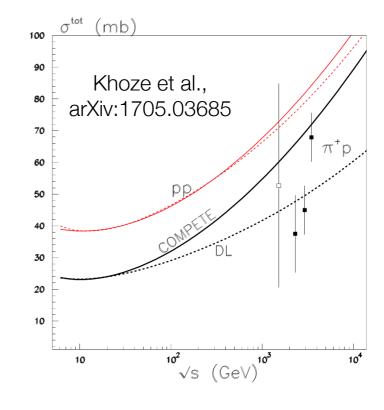


p-π measurement at LHC

Leading neutron can be tagged by LHCf detectors

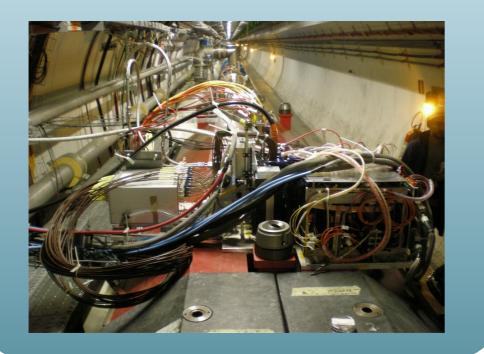
-> total cross section multiplicity measurement

- In p+Pb collisions
 - Measurement of UPC in the forward region.

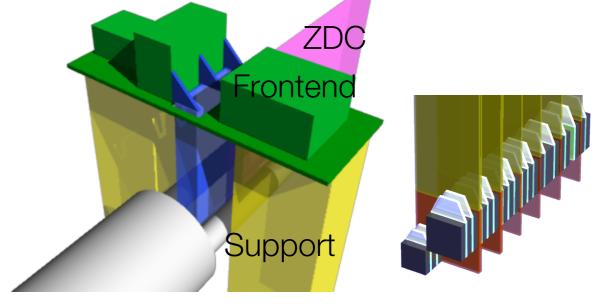


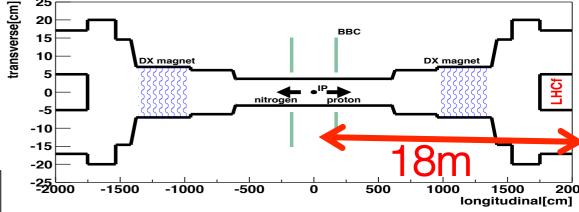
From the LHC to RHIC

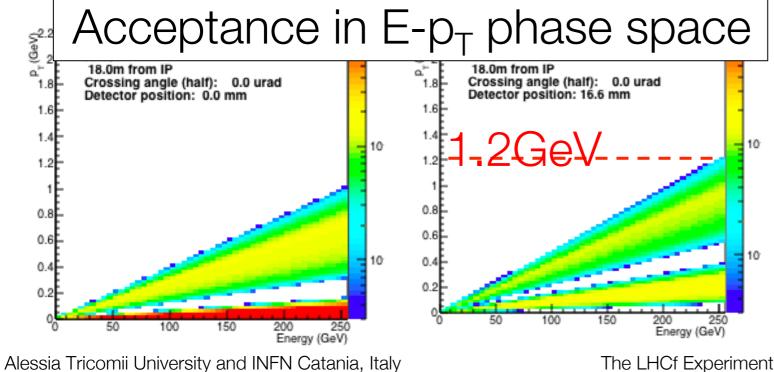
LHCf Arm2 detector in the LHC tunnel



Schematic view of the RHICf installation

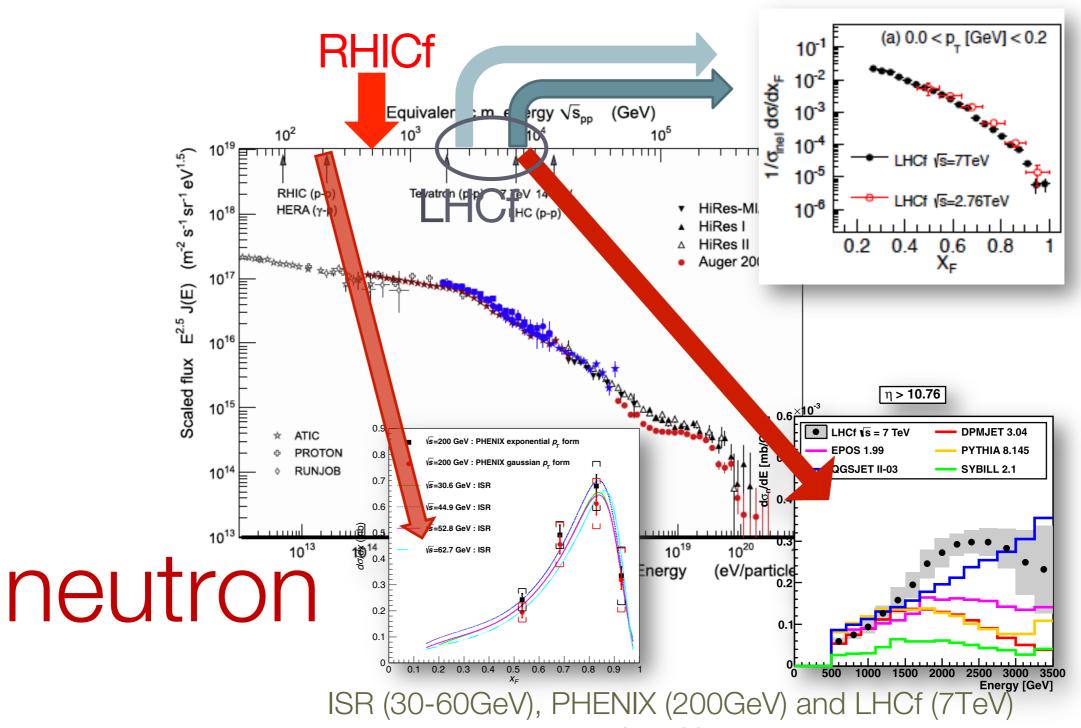






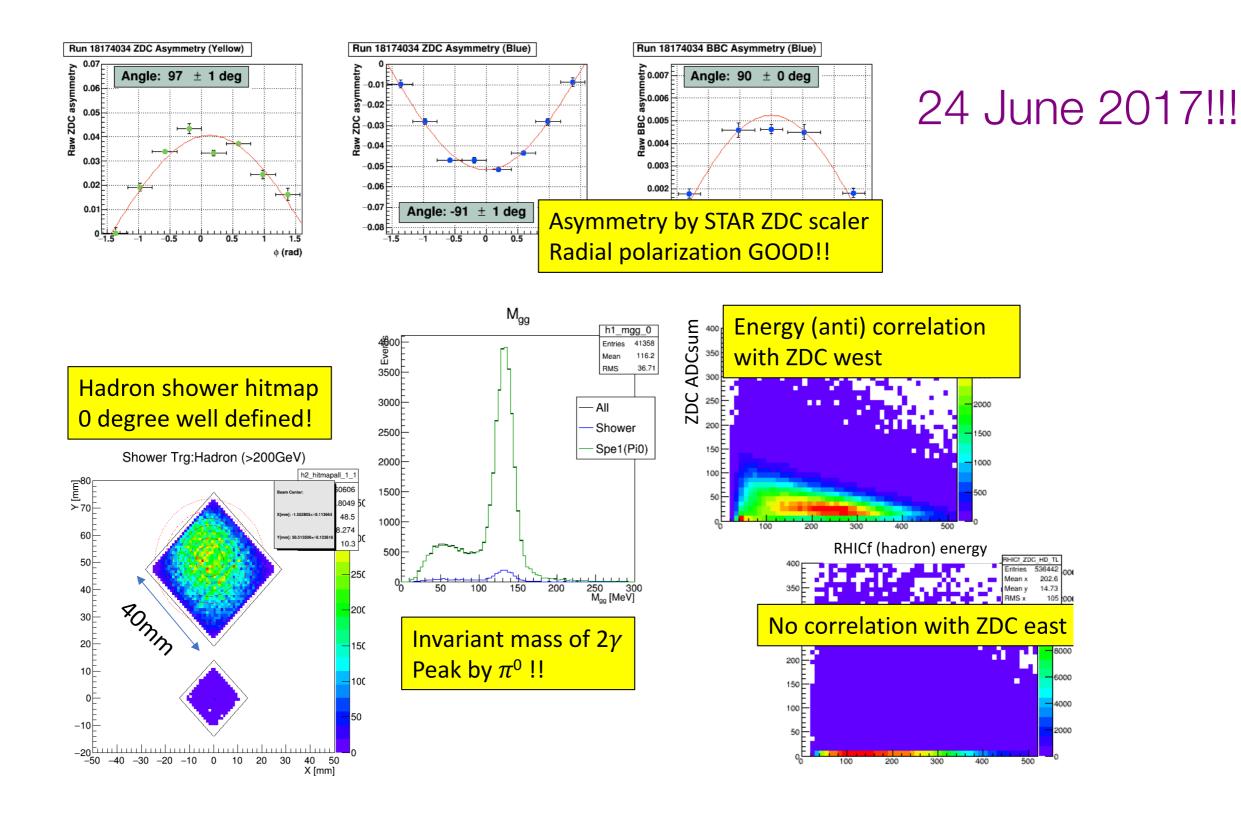
√s scaling, or breaking?

LHCf 2.76TeV and 7TeV data shows scaling of forward π^0



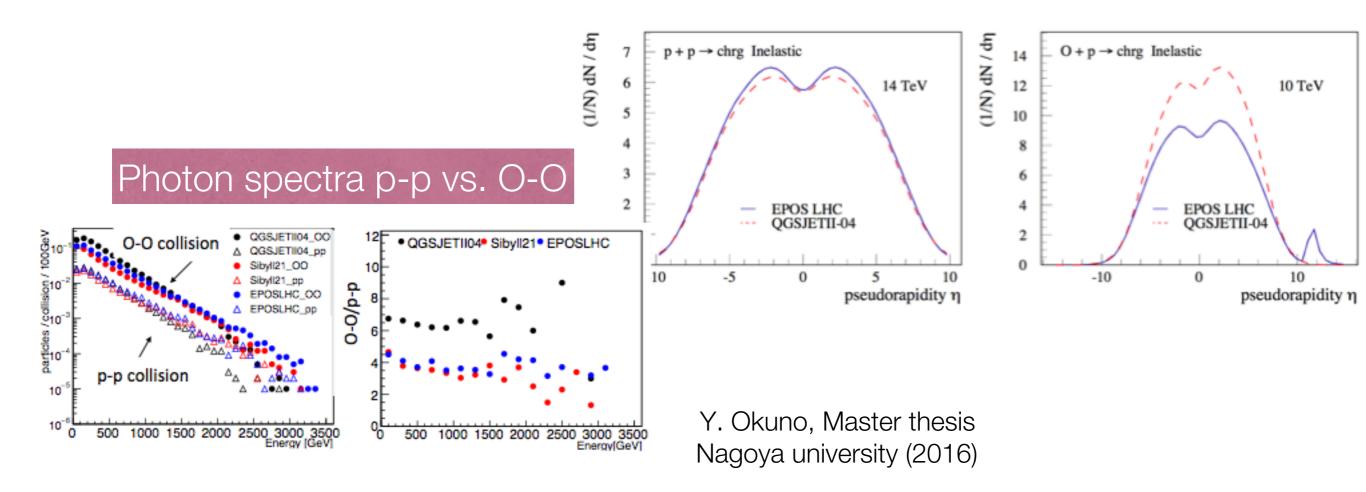
data indicate scaling *breaking* of forward neutrons

Very preliminary overwiew of the RHICf run



The Near-Far Future at LHC

- The most promising future at LHC for LHCf involve the proton-light ion collisions
- To go from p-p to p-Air is not so simple....
- Comparison of p-p, Pb-Pb and p-Pb is useful, but model dependent extrapolations are anyway necessary
- Direct measurements of p-O or p-N could significantly reduce some systematic effects
- Still make sense to take data if intermediate ion (like Ar) will be available



Summary

LHCf zero degree results are significantly contributing to improve our knowledge of hadronic interaction model for HECR Physics

- Analysis of 13 TeV p-p run in a good shape
 - New results with hadrons are particularly interesting to understand the muon excess
- 8.1 TeV and 5 TeV p-Pb collisions at LHC done in November 2016
 - Analysis of p-Pb to be started
- 510 GeV p-p with polarized beam at RHIC just done few days ago
- Still a lot of results will come in the next years... while waiting for p-Light Ion run at LHC
- So... stay tuned!

Slide back-up

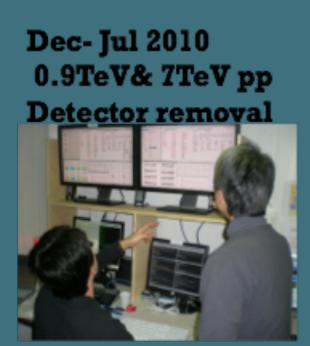
A brief LHCf photo-history

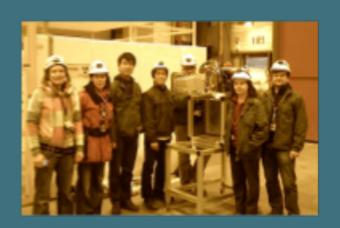
May 2004 LOI

Feb 2006 TDR

June 2006 LHCC approved







Dec 2012- Feb 2013 5TeV/n pPb, 2.76TeVpp (Arm2 only) Detector removal

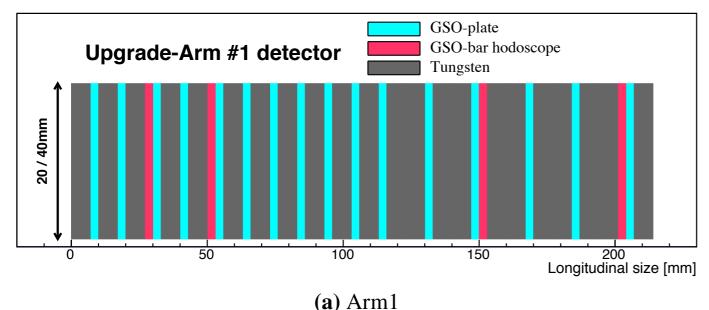


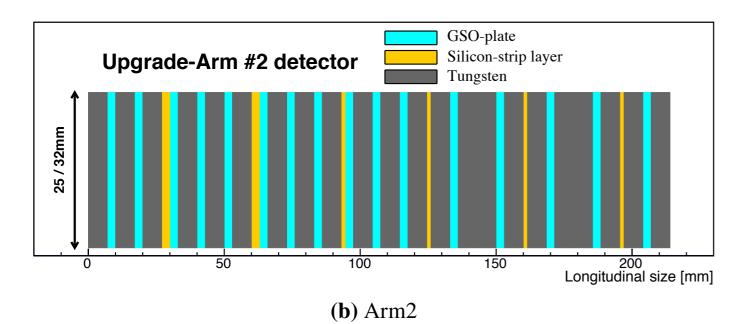
May-June 2015 13 TeV dedicated pp Detector removal



November 2016 8 Tev p-Pb

LHCf@13 TeV





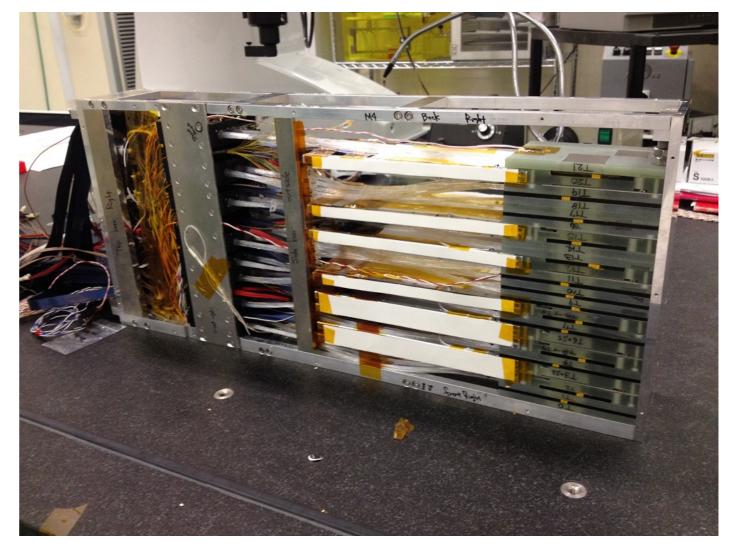
- Sampling layers
 - EJ-260 is replaced with GSO
 - 3mm (EJ-260) -> 1mm (GSO)
- Position sensitive layers
 - Arm1
 - SciFi is replaced with GSO-bar hodoscope
 - Arm2
 - Longitudinal configuration is changed
 - Grounding for not-used strips

LHCf at 13 TeV

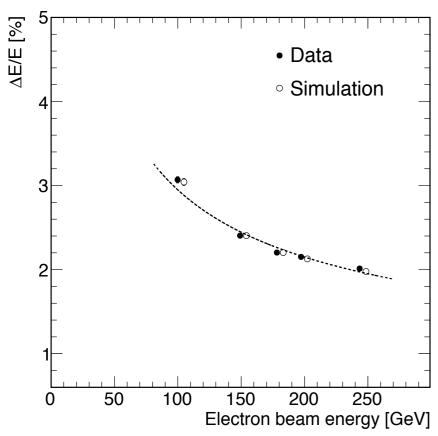
Arm1



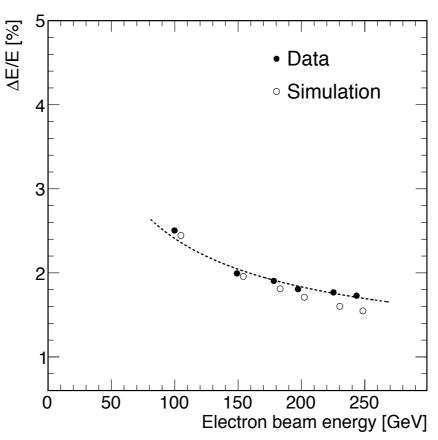
Arm2



Performance of the upgraded detector



Arm1 20 mm cal.



Arm2 25 mm cal.

JINST 12 P030023 (2017)

PUBLISHED BY IOP PUBLISHING FOR SISSA MEDIALAB

RECEIVED: November 17, 2016 REVISED: January 13, 2017 ACCEPTED: February 24, 2017 PUBLISHED: March 21, 2017

Performance study for the photon measurements of the upgraded LHCf calorimeters with Gd₂SiO₅ (GSO) scintillators

Y. Makino, a,1 A. Tiberio, b,c O. Adriani, b,c E. Berti, b,c L. Bonechi, b M. Bongi, b,c Z. Caccia, d

R. D'Alessandro, b,c M. Del Prete, b,c S. Detti, b M. Haguenauer, e Y. Itow, a,f T. Iwata, h

K. Kasahara, h K. Masuda, a E. Matsubayashi, a H. Menjo, i G. Mitsuka, c , 2 Y. Muraki, a

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OTELO OND EL

LHCf @ pp 13 TeV: γ energy spectra analysis workflow

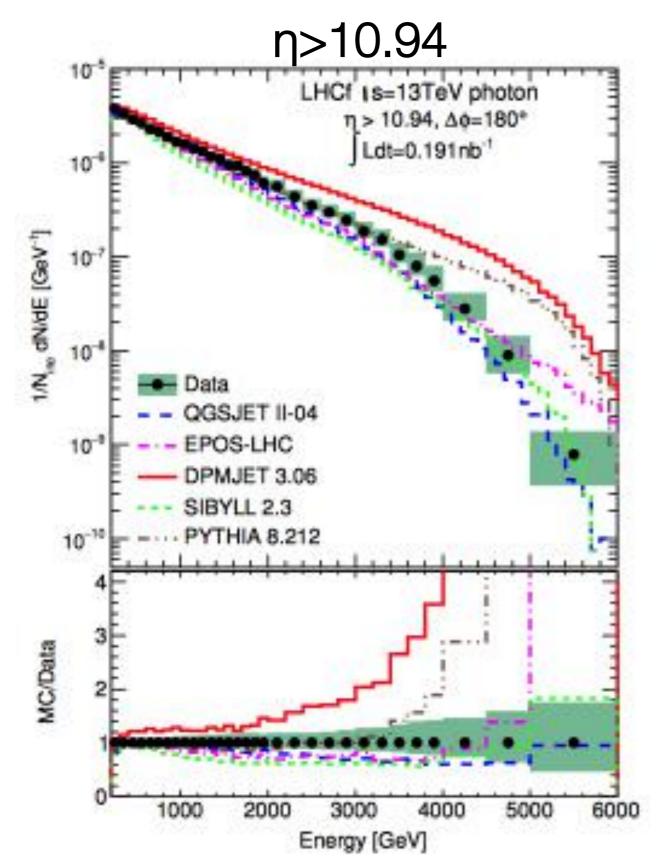
Almost same analysis workflow wrt 7 TeV data but

- New calibration since both ARM1 & ARM2 have been upgraded
- New multi-hit treatment (more severe contamination than at 7 TeV)

Acceptance cut

- Identify
- 5 Cut 15 20, 25
- Take into account in unfolding
- Spectra unfolding
- Luminosity precisely measured (thks ATLAS!) 1.9% so added to the uncertainty of the spectrum

γ energy spectra in p-p collisions @ 13 TeV



QGSJET II-04: overall good agreement

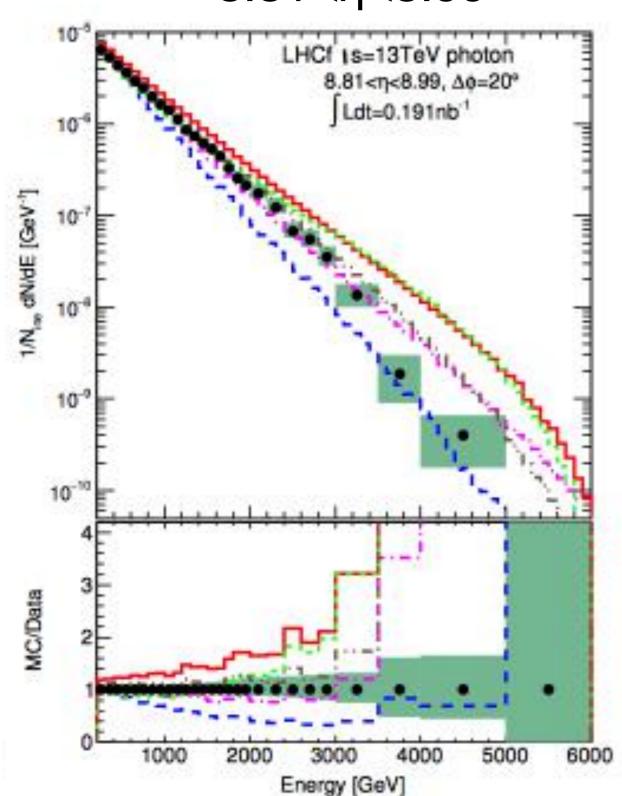
EPOS-LHC: overall good agreement

DPMJET 3.06: overall higher flux

SIBYLL 2.3: overall lower flux PYTHIA 8.212: higher flux above 3 TeV

γ energy spectra in p-p collisions @ 13 TeV





QGSJET II-04: overall lower flux

EPOS-LHC: higher flux above

3-4 TeV

DPMJET 3.06: overall higher

flux

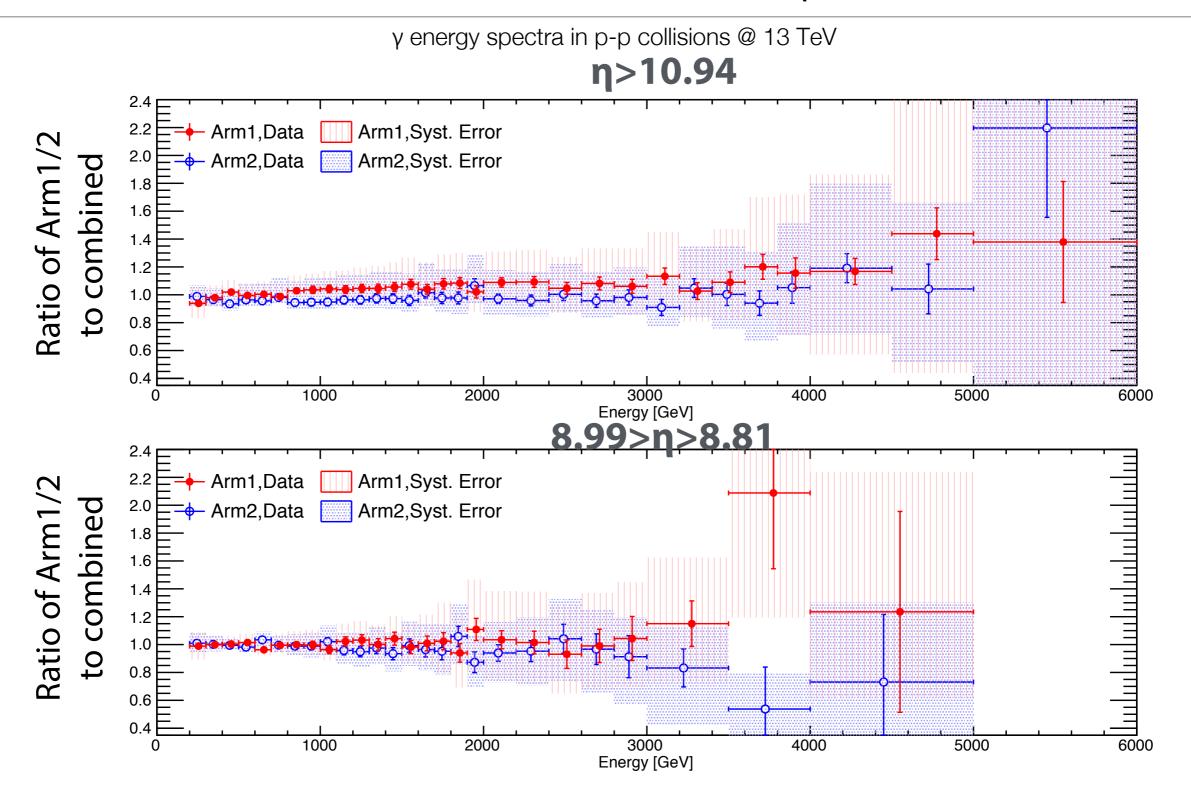
SIBYLL 2.3: higher flux above 2

TeV

PYTHIA 8.212: higher flux

above 3 TeV

Ratio of ARM1-ARM2 wrt combined spectrum

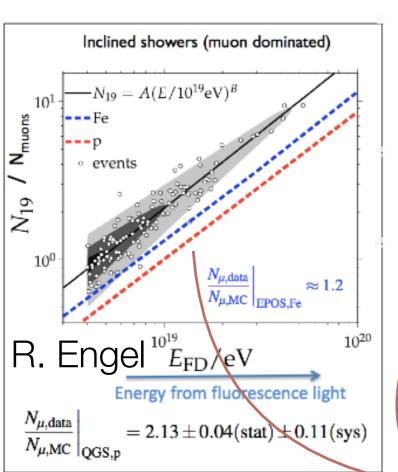


Arm1 and Arm2 are consistent within the uncertainties

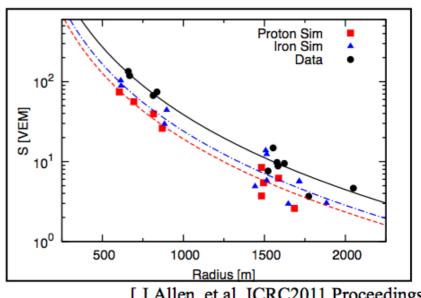
LHCf neutron analysis: motivations

Inelasticity measurement k=1-p_{leading}/p_{beam} Muon excess at Pierre Auger Observatory

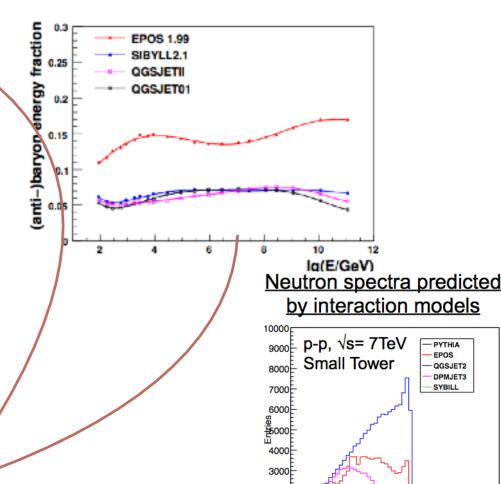
- cosmic rays experiment measure PCR energy from muon number at ground and florescence light
- 20-100% more muons than expected have been observed



Number of muons depends on the energy fraction of produced hadron Muon excess in data even for Fe primary MC EPOS predicts more muon due to larger baryon production



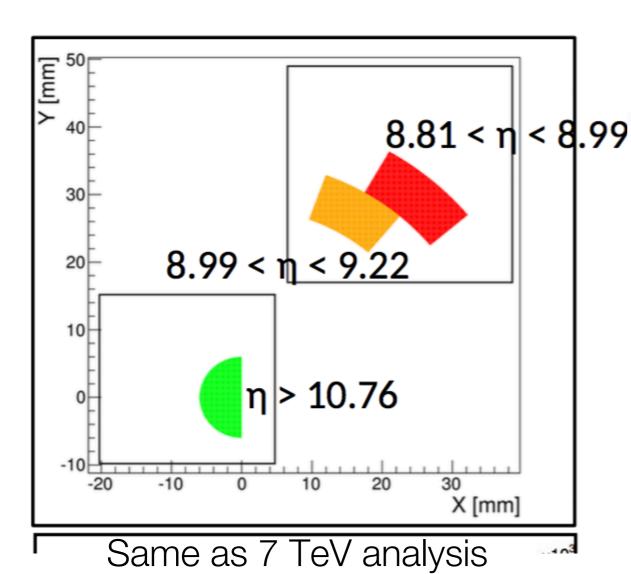
[J.Allen, et al. ICRC2011 Proceedings]



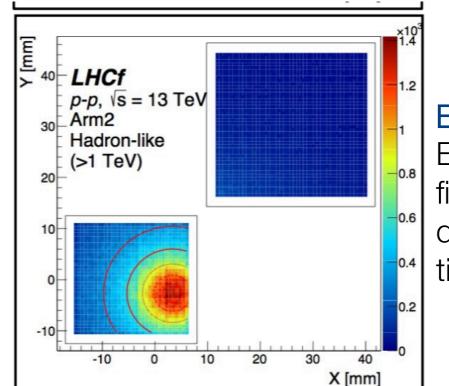
importance of baryon measurement

Analysis of hadron production in p-p collisions at 13 TeV

Data set 12 July 2015, 22:32-1:30 (3 hours) Fill # 3855 $\mu = 0.01$ $\int \mathcal{L}dt = 0.19 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ $\sigma_{ine} = 78.53 \text{ mb}$



PLB 750 (2015) 360-366



Beam Center Estimated using 2D fit on high energy ha dron hitmap distribu tion

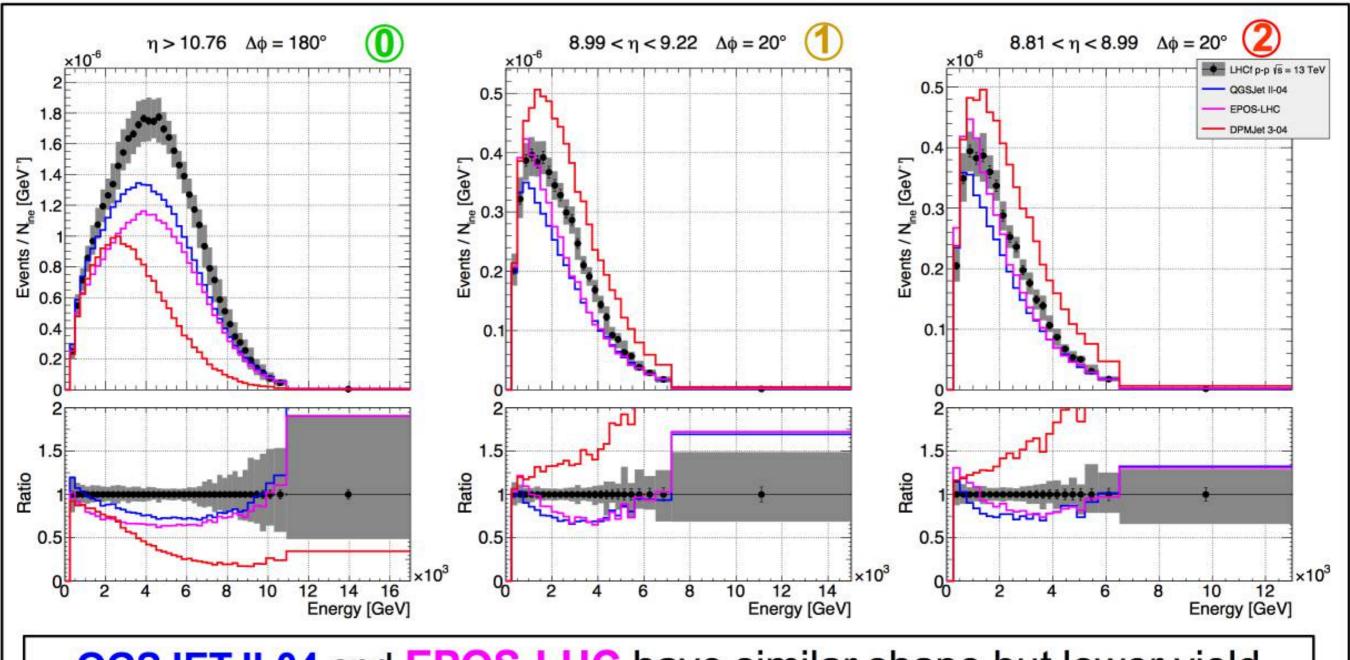
Event selection criteria: software trigger

at least 3 consecutive layers with deposit above threshold dE>dE^{thr} PID selection

L_{2D}>L_{2D}^{thr} where L_{2D} is a variable related to shower longitudinal profile **pseudorapidity acceptance**3 different pseudorapidity regions

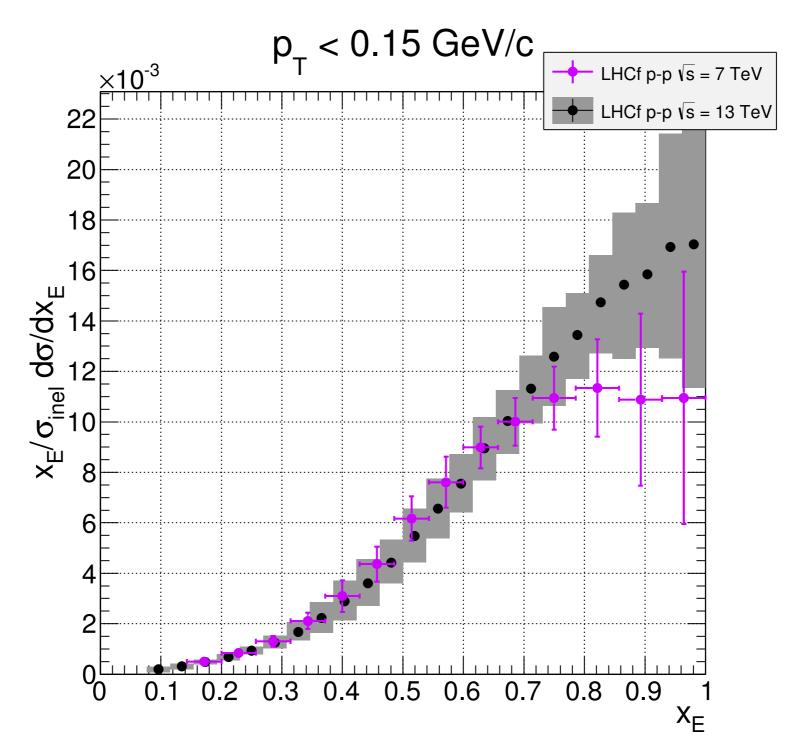
Reconstructed ARM2 hadron energy spectra

Events / N_{ine} / dE



QGSJET II-04 and EPOS-LHC have similar shape but lower yield DPMJET 3.04 have very different shape and yield

Feynman scaling in neutron production cross-section

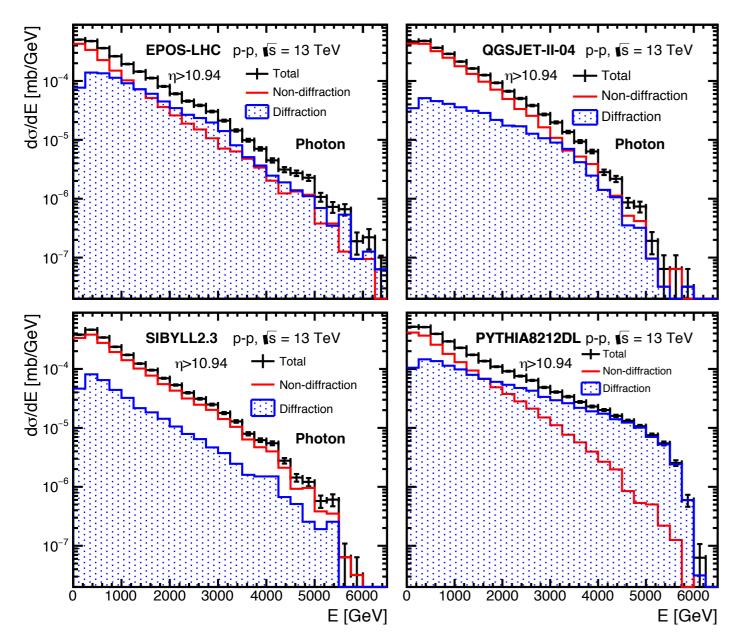


Feynman scaling hypothesis holds within the error bars Consistency is good especially in the region $0.2 < x_F < 0.75$

Diffractive studies

MC studies

- Contributions on forward photon/ neutron spectra from diffractive/nondiffractive collisions.
- Event-selection by the central particle production to separate these events



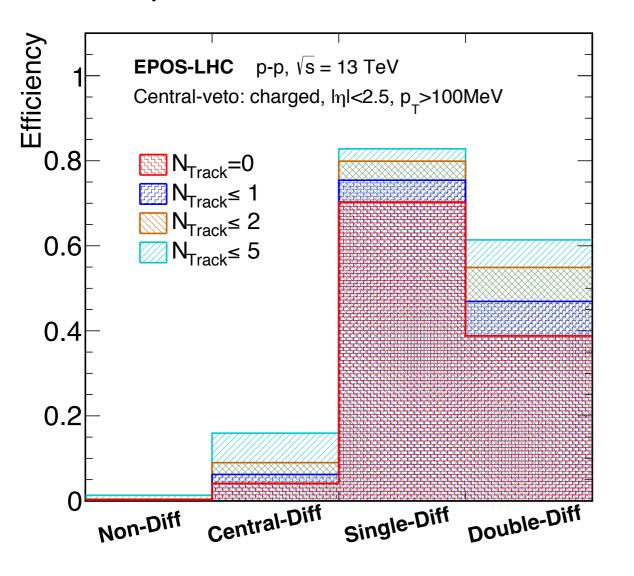
Very forward photon energy spectra predicted by four models with **total/** diffractive/non-diffractive

- Total: Very similar spectra in EPOS,QGSJET and SIBYLL (LHCf alone)
- Diffractive/Non-diffractive: Very big difference between models (ATLAS-LHCf)

Diffractive studies

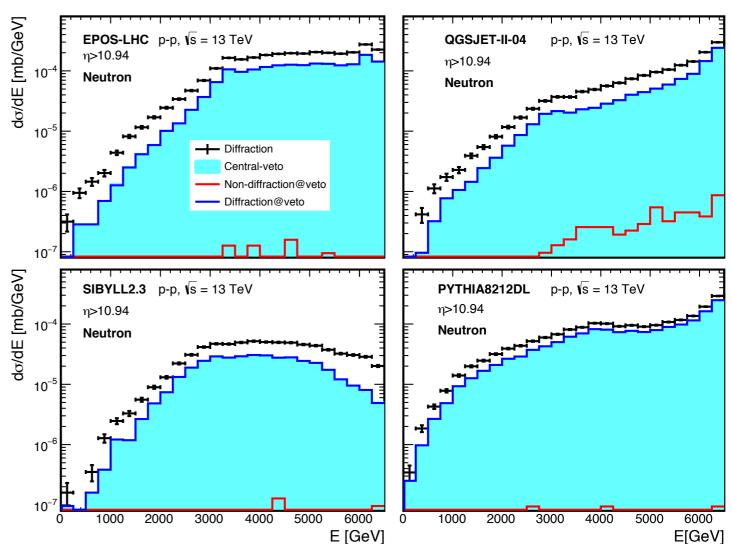
 Event selection for Diffractive/ Non-diffractive
 by using N_{charged} with
 p_T>100MeV in |η|<2.5

Expected efficiencies

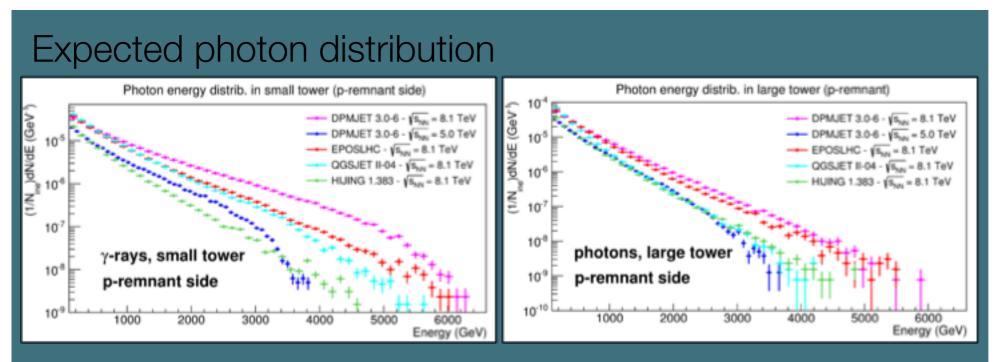


By using ATLAS-tracker information, We can separate diffractive/nondiffractive events with high efficiency and purity

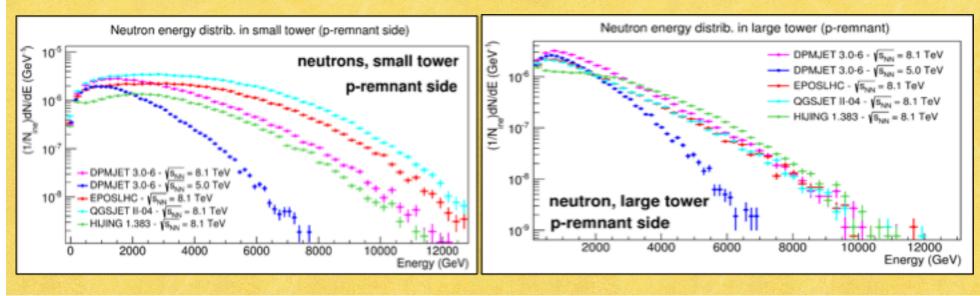
Forward neutron spectra



p-Pb at 8.1 TeV: γ & n spectra



Expected neutron distribution (35% energy resolution)

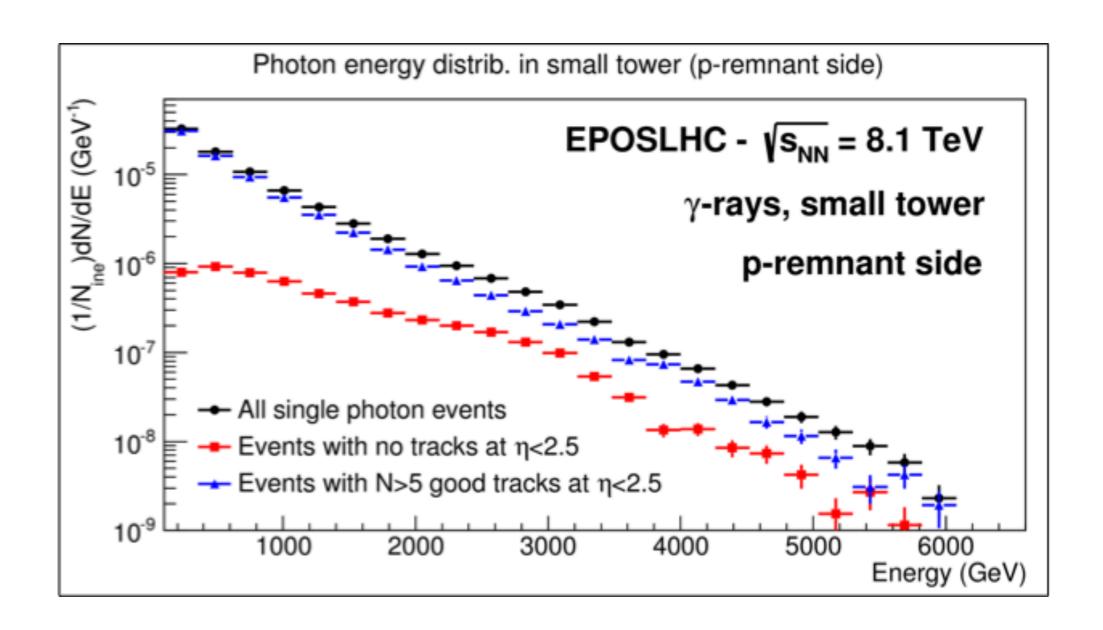


(CRMC)* framework has been used to simulate 10⁷ collisions with 4 different hadronic interaction models:

- DPMJET 3.0-6 p+Pb
- EPOS-LHC p+Pb
- QGSJET II-04
- HIJING 1.383

Small calorimeter tower centered on the beam spot
Only p-remnant side considered

* We acknowledge T. Pierog, C. Baus and R. Ulrich for support

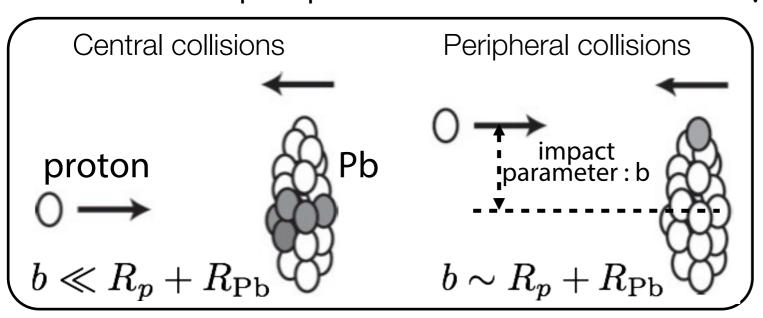


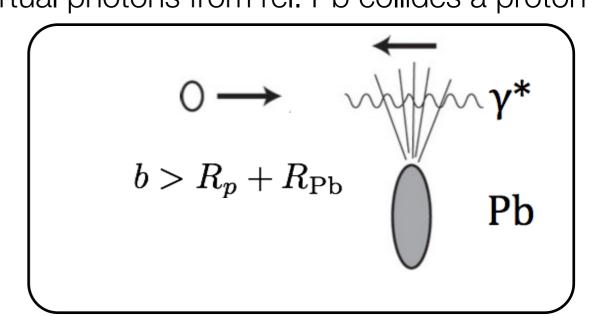
Information from the ATLAS central region is essential to separate the contributions due to diffractive and non-diffractive collisions.

LHCf @ pPb 5.02 TeV: π⁰ analysis

(Soft) QCD: central and peripheral collisions

Ultra peripheral collisions: virtual photons from rel. Pb collides a proton





Momentum distribution of the UPC induced secondary particles is estimated as

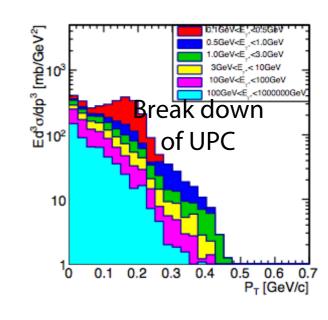
proton rest frame

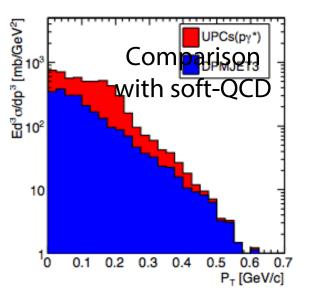
- 1. energy distribution of virtual photons is estimated by the Weizsacker Williams approximation.
- 2. photon-proton collisions are simulated by the SOHIA model (E_{γ} > pion threshold).
- 3. produced mesons and baryons by γ -p collisions are boosted along the proton beam.

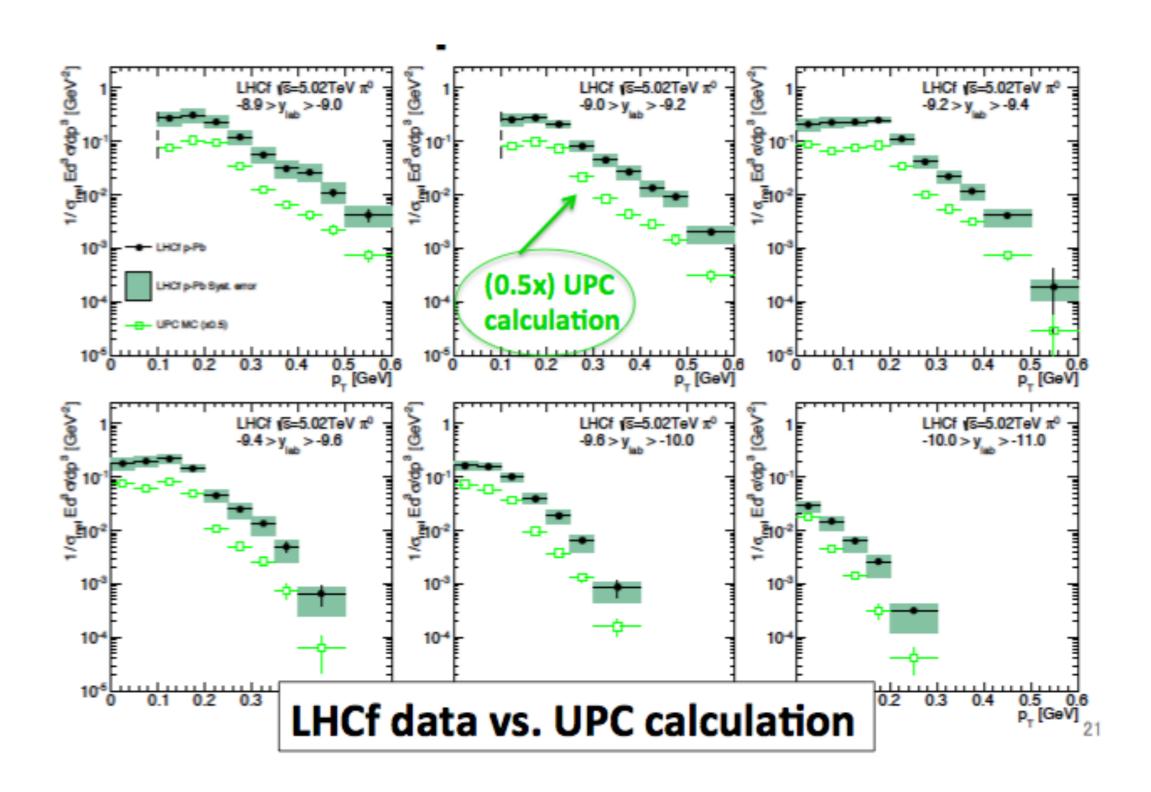
Dominant channel to forward π^0 is

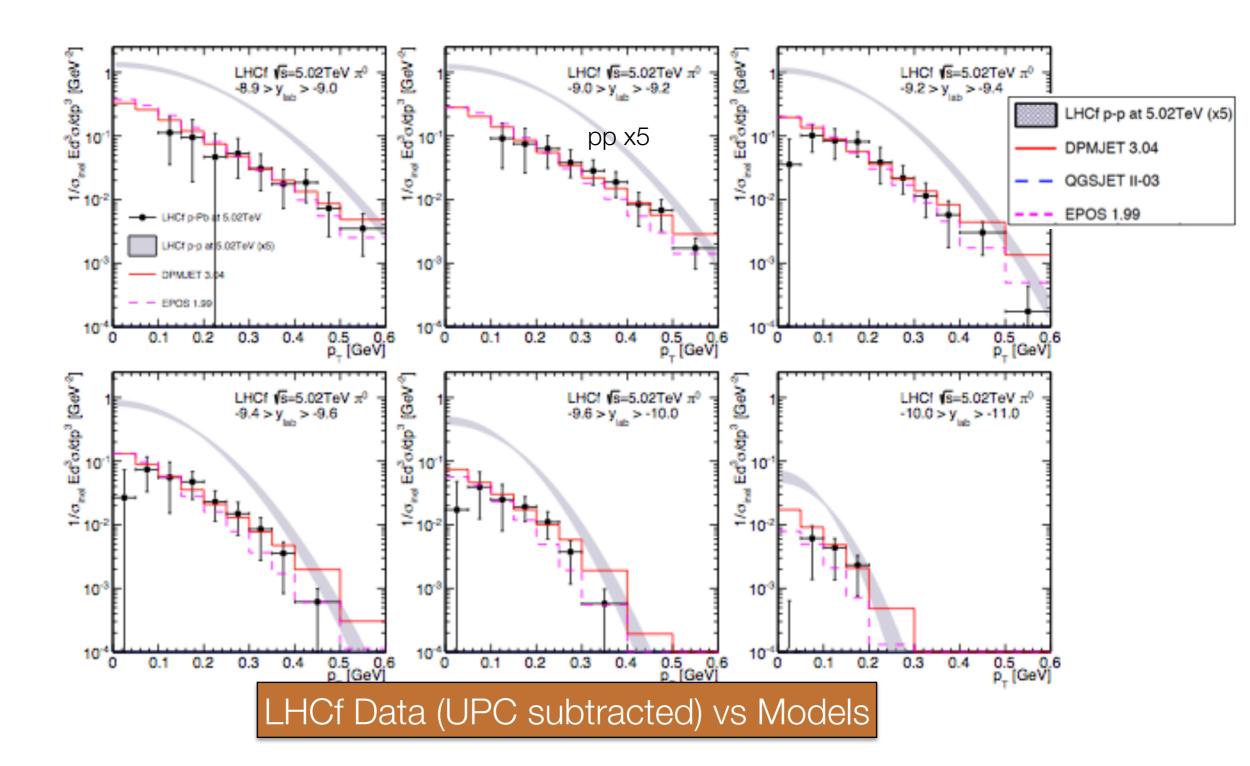
$$\gamma + p \to \Delta(1232) \to p + \pi^0$$

About half of the observed π⁰ may originate in UPC, another half is from soft-QCD.



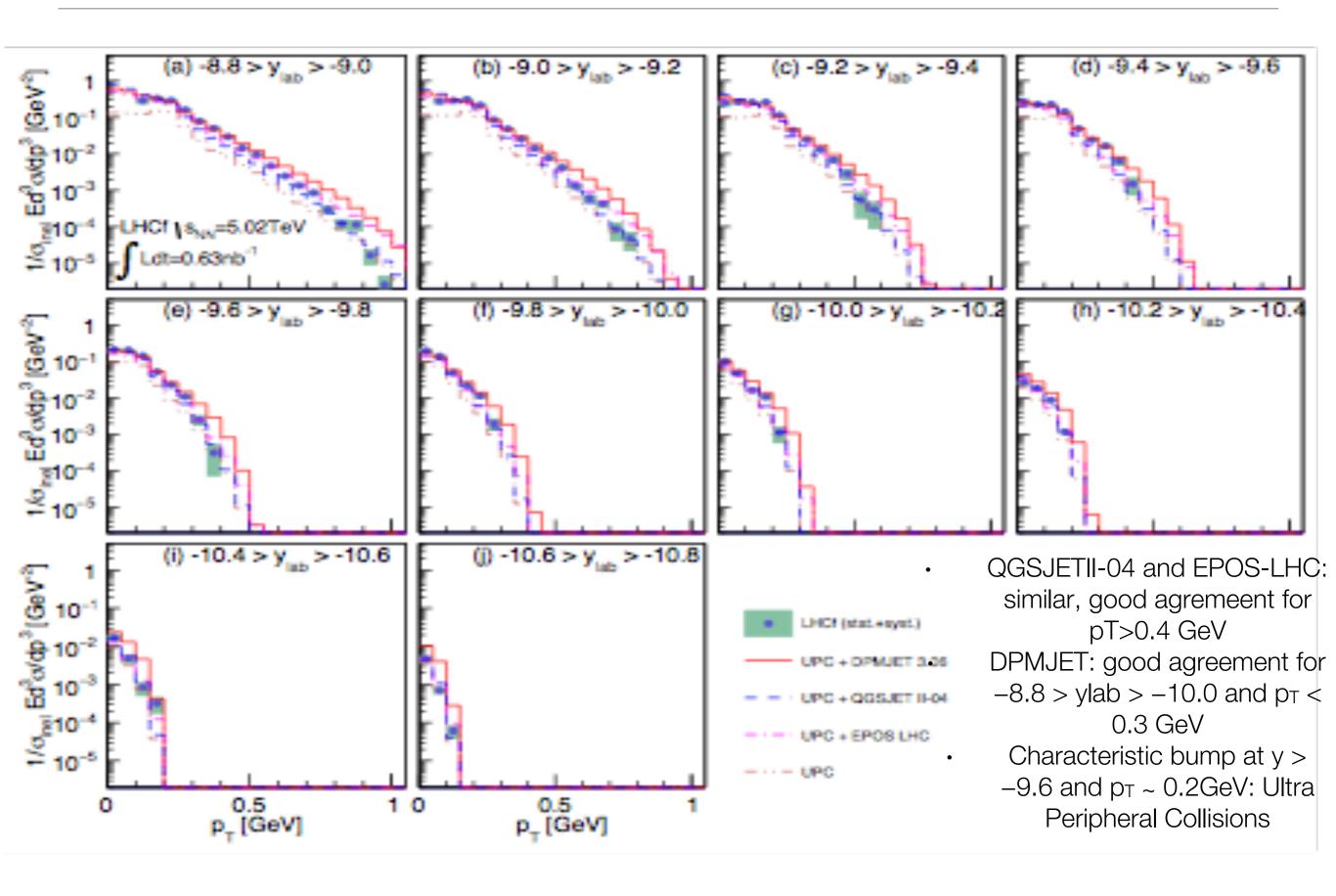




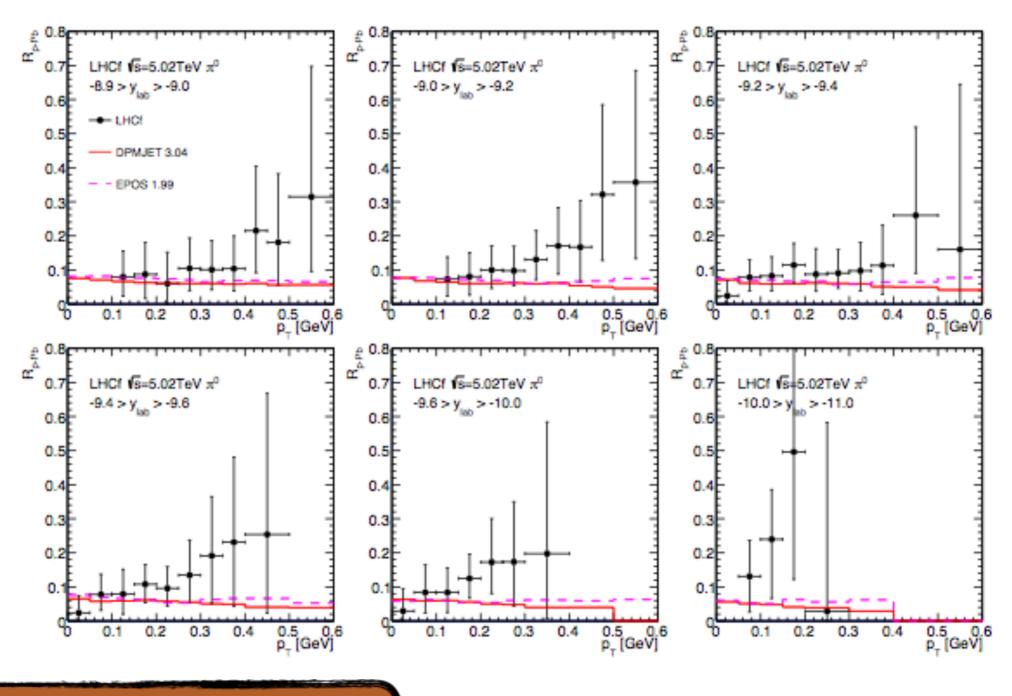


- The LHCf results in p-Pb (filled circles) show good agreement with DPMJET and EPOS.
- The LHCf results in p-Pb are clearly harder than the LHCf results in p-p at 5.02TeV (shaded area) which are interpolated from the results at 2.76TeV and 7TeV.

LHCf @ pPb 5.02 TeV: π⁰ p_T spectra

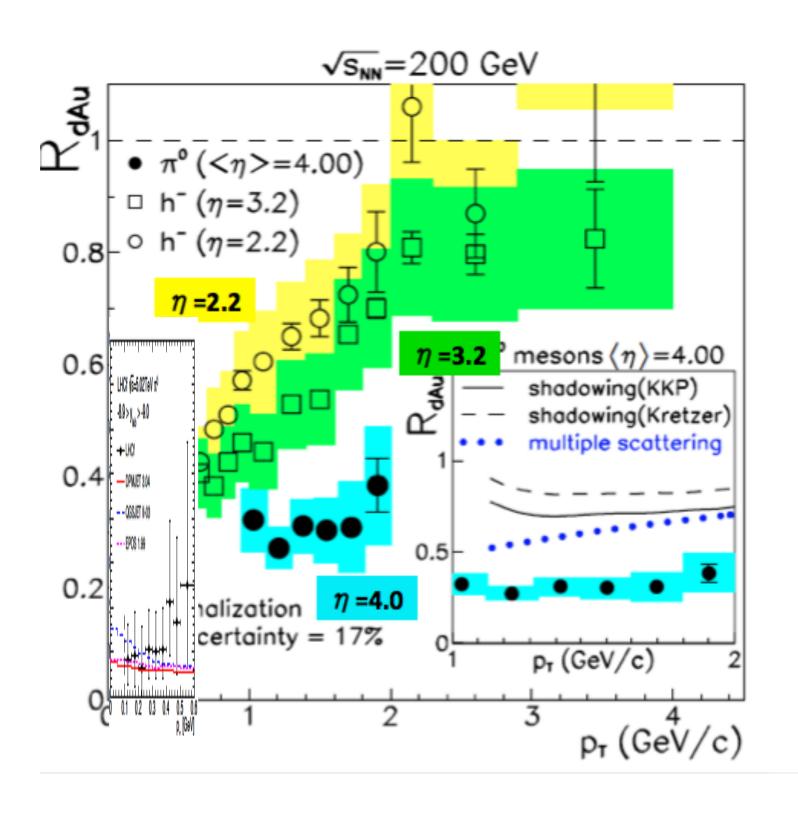


LHCf @ pPb 5.02 TeV: Nuclear modification factor



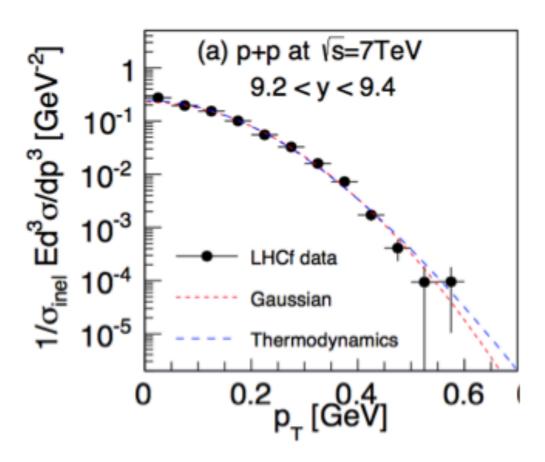
$$R_{
m pPb}(p_{
m T}) \equiv rac{d^2N_{\pi^0}^{
m pPb}/dydp_{
m T}}{\langle N_{
m coll}
angle d^2N_{\pi^0}^{
m pp}/dydp_{
m T}} \ < N_{
m coll} > = 6.9$$

Both LHCf and MCs show strong suppression
But LHCf grows as increasing p_T, understood by the softer
p_T spectra in p-p at 5TeV than those in p-Pb.



π^0 average p_T for different cm energies

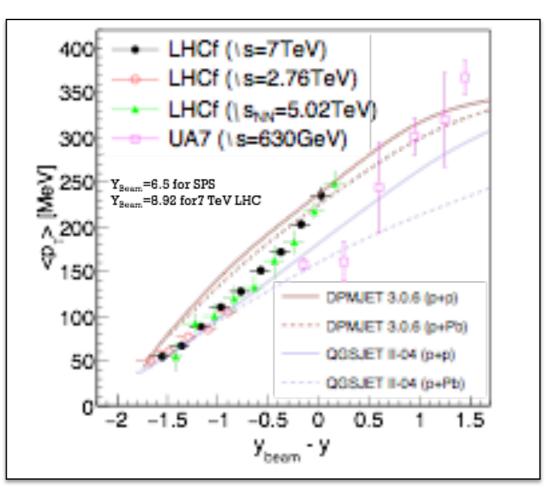
p⊤ spectra vs best-fit function



 $< p_T >$ is inferred in 3 ways:

- 1. Thermodynamical approach
- 2. Gaussian distribution fit
- 3. Numerical integration up to the histogram upper bound

Average pt vs ylab



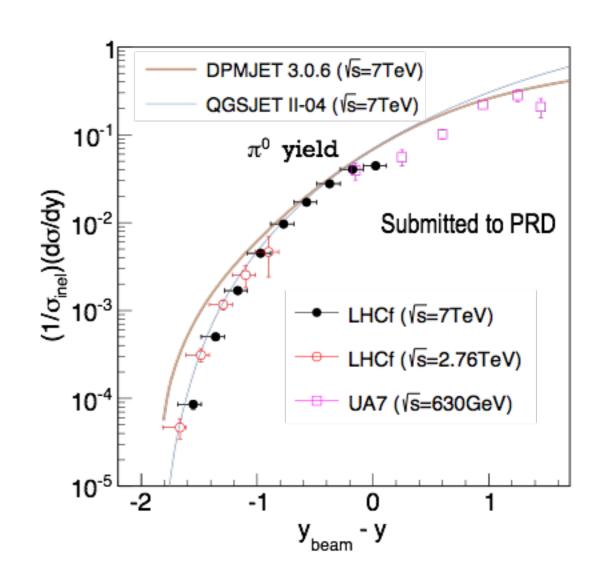
From scaling considerations (projectile fragmentation region) we can expect that $<p_T>$ vs rapidity loss should be independent from the c.m. energy

Reasonable scaling can be inferred from the data

Limiting fragmentation in forward π^0 production

Limiting fragmentation hypothesis: rapidity distribution of the secondary particles in the forward rapidity region (target's fragment) should be independent of the center-of-mass energy.

This hypothesis for π^0 is true at the level of $\pm 15\%$

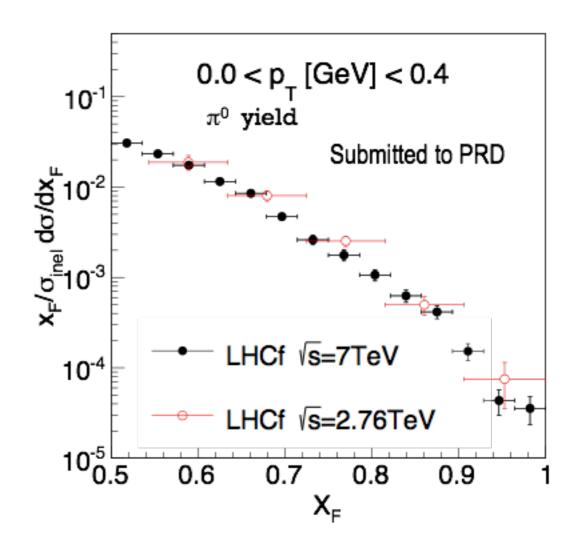


Feynman scaling in forward π^0 production

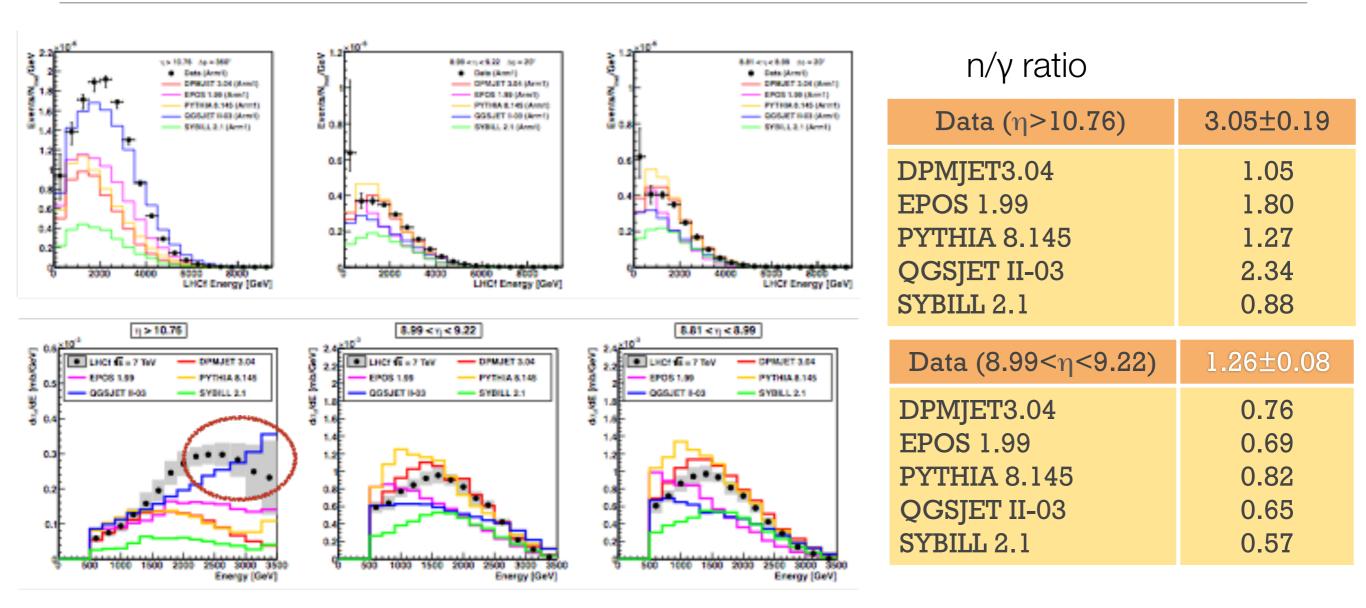
Feynman scaling hypothesis:

cross sections of secondary particles as a function of $x_F = 2p_z/\sqrt{s}$ are independent from the incident energy in the forward region ($x_F > 0.2$).

This hypothesis for π^0 is true at the level of $\pm 20\%$



LHCf @ pp 7 TeV: neutron spectra



- LHCf Arm1 and Arm2 agree with each other within systematic error, in which the energy scale uncertainty dominates.
- In η>10.76 huge amount of neutron exists. Only QGSJET2 reproduces the LHCf result.
- In other rapidity regions, the LHCf results are enclosed by the variation of models.

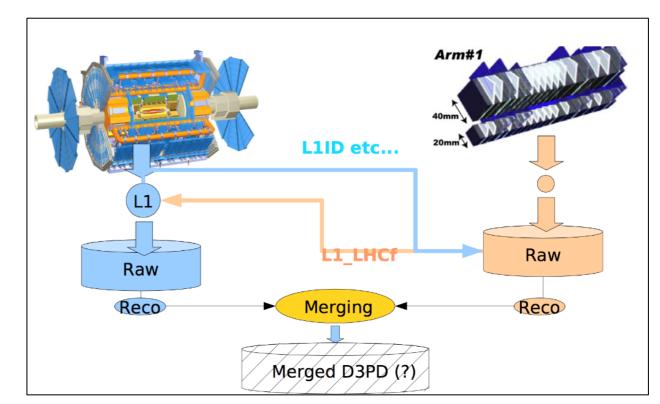
ATLAS-LHCf combined data analysis

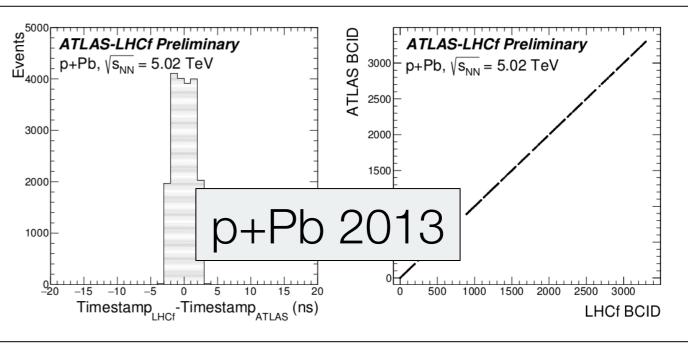
Operation in 2013

- p+Pb, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5TeV$
 - → about 10 M common events.
- Operation in 2015
 - $p+p, \sqrt{s} = 13TeV$
 - → about 6 M common events.
- Operation in 2016
 - p+Pb, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5TeV$
 - → about 26 M common events
 - p+Pb, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8TeV$
 - → about 16 M common events

Off-line event matching

Important to separate the contributions due to diffractive and non-diffractive collisions





WG active meeting every 2 weeks

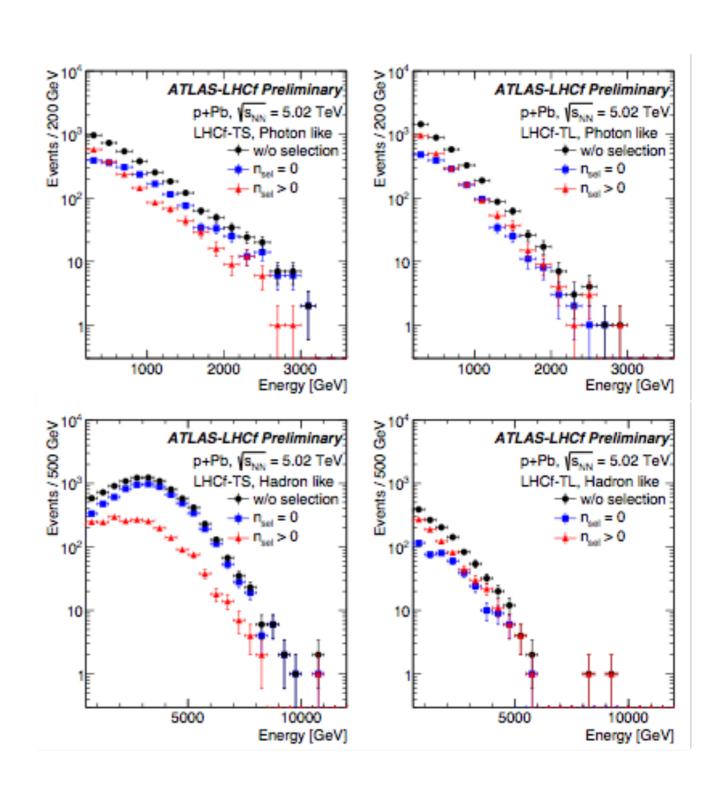
LHCf spectra in p-Pb collisions with Atlas tagging on tracks

Nsel:

number of good charged ATLAS tracks

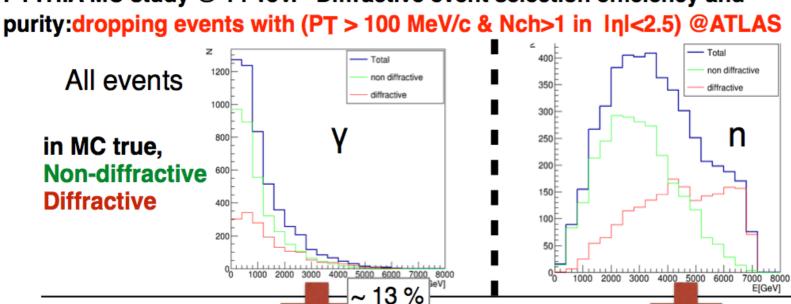
- $p_T > 100 \text{ MeV}$
- vertex matching
- $|\eta| < 2.5$.

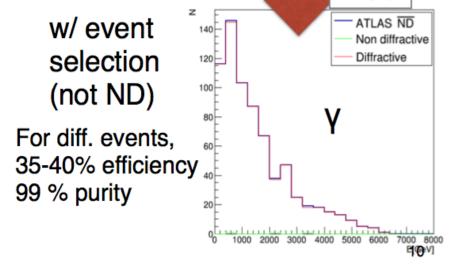
Significant UPC contribution in the very forward region with $N_{sel}=0$



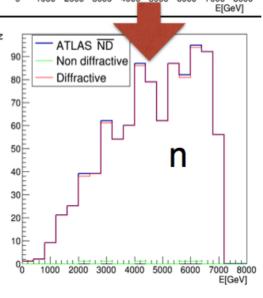
Impact of common ATLAS-LHCf trigger

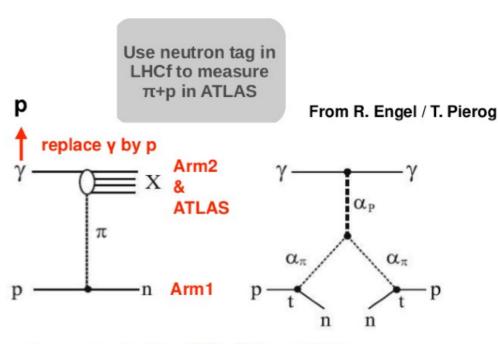
PYTHIA MC study @ 14 TeV. Diffractive event selection efficiency and









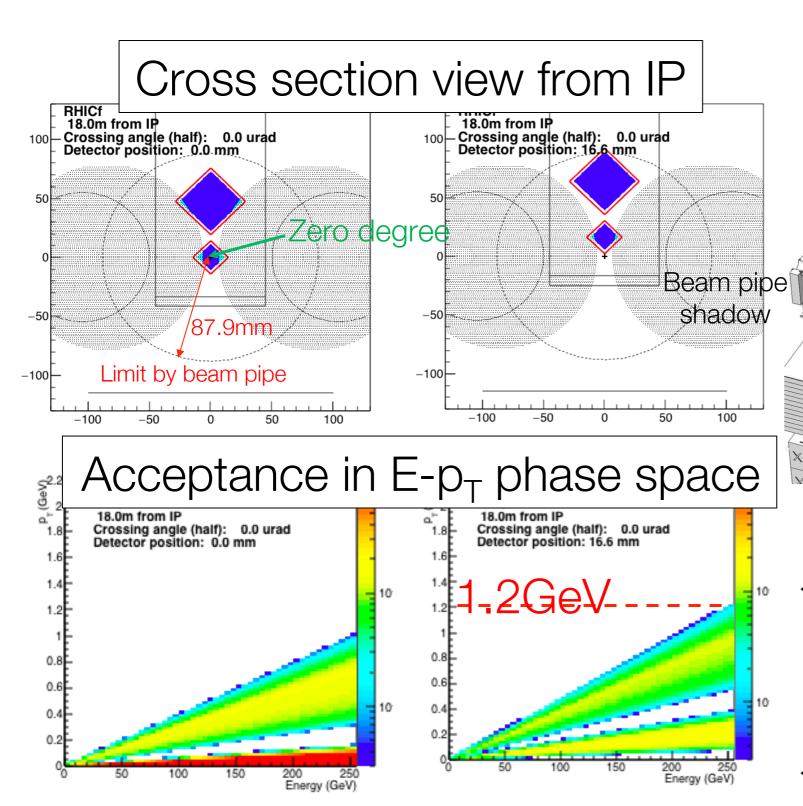


Physics discussed in detail for HERA (HI and ZEUS) measurements (see, for example, Khoze et al. Eur. Phys. J. C48 (2006), 797 and Refs. therein)

Compact double calorimeters (20mmx20mm and 40mmx40mm)

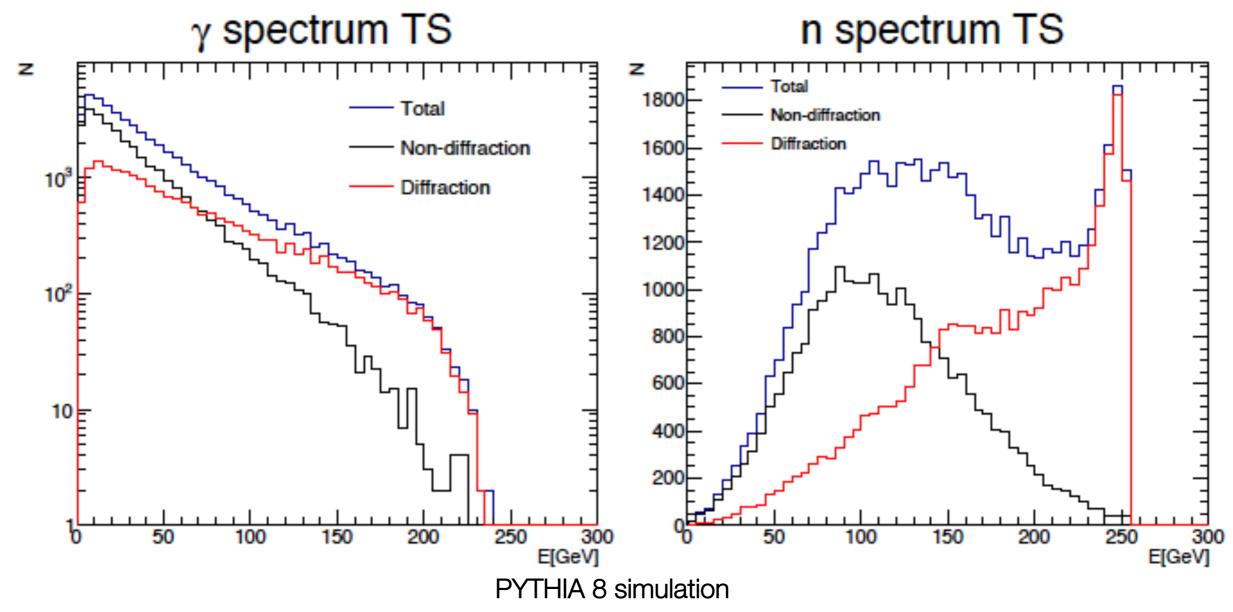
82060010 USED IN SECTORS 5 AND 6

ROMAN POTS



- ✓ Widest and gapless p_T coverage is realized by moving the vertical detector position.
- ✓ Beam pipes obscure photons but not neutrons.

Diffractive vs. non diffractive at η>8.2 with √s=510GeV p+p collisions



BLUE: inclusive spectra expected by RHICf only

RED: diffractive only ("RHICf + no central track in STAR" will be similar => TBC)

BLACK: non diffractive ("RHICf + >=1 central track in STAR" => TBC)