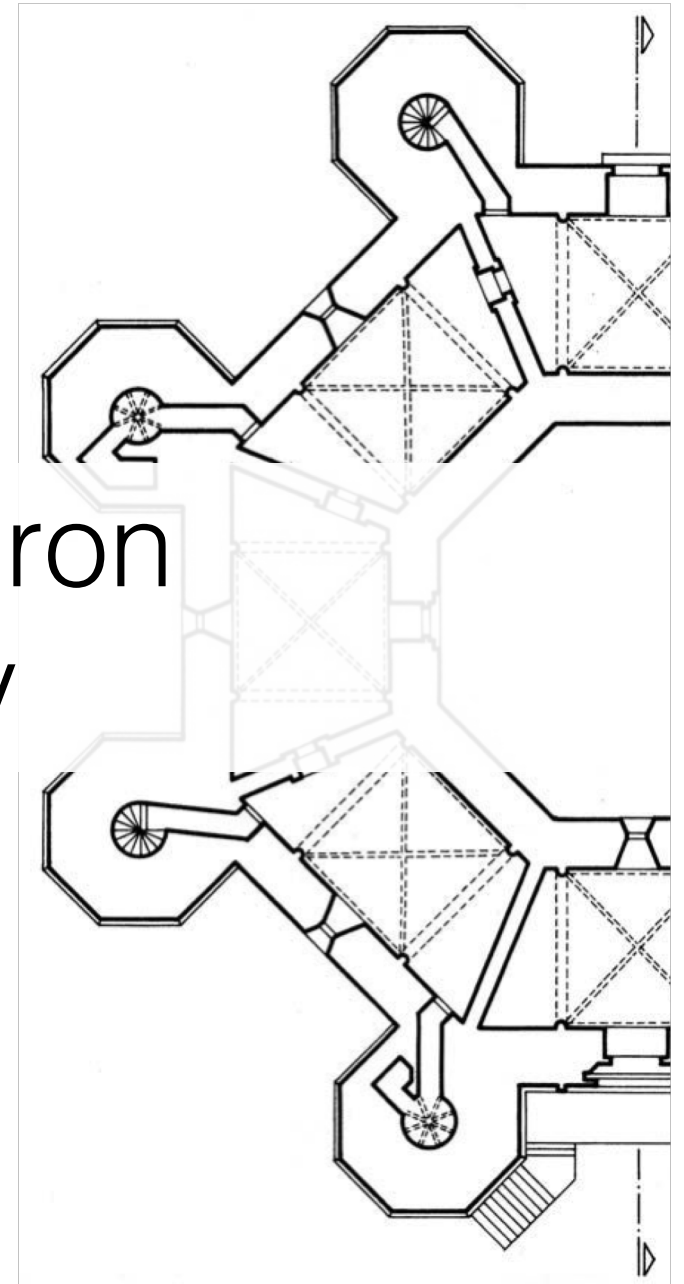


# Strangeness and light flavor hadron production at low baryon density

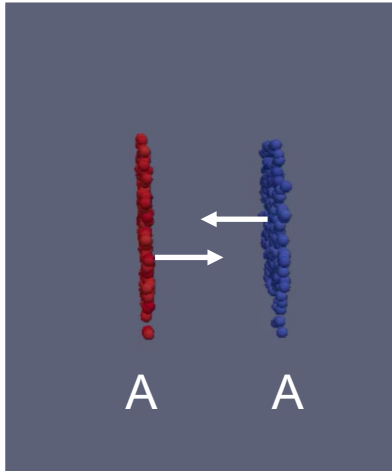
F. Bellini (CERN)

Strangeness in Quark Matter – Bari, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019

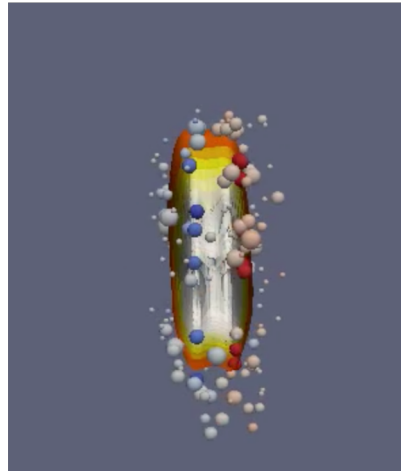


# A song of **hallmarks** and **anomalies**

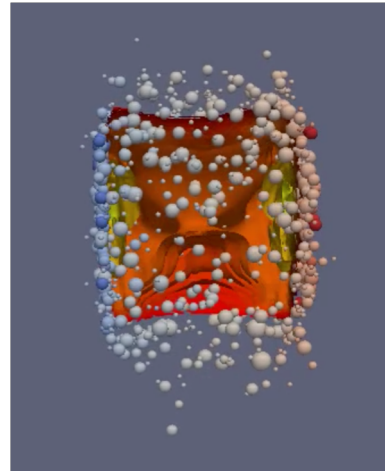
**Heavy-nuclei**  
 $\tau \sim 0$



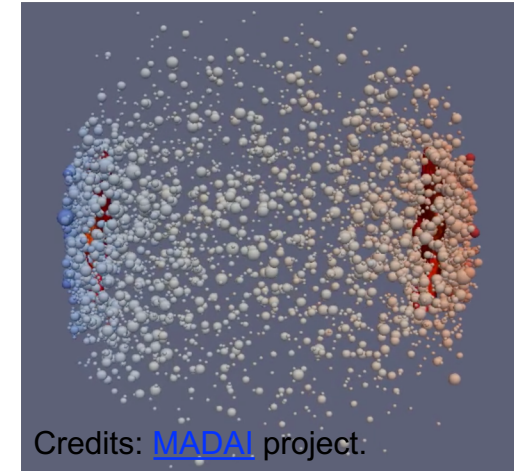
**QGP**  
 $\tau \sim 1 \text{ fm}/c$



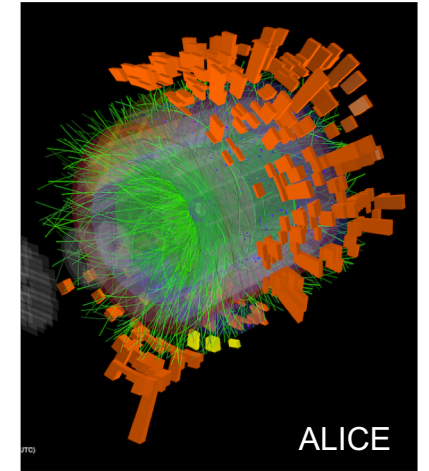
**QGP**  
 $\tau \sim 5 \text{ fm}/c$



**Hadronic phase**  
 $\tau > 10 \text{ fm}/c$



**Detection**  
 $\tau > 10 \text{ pm}/c$



Initial conditions

Collision energy dependence  
System geometry dependence

Thermalization

Evolution of a thermalized system  
Transport in dense colored medium  
Energy loss and medium properties  
Hydrodynamics

Hadronisation and freeze-out(s)  
Interactions in the hadronic phase

Chemical composition and equilibrium  
Hadron transport

The proton anomaly  
The anti-(hyper-)nuclei puzzle  
The unicity of the  $\phi$  meson  
The baryon anomaly

# Focus on high-energy AA collisions

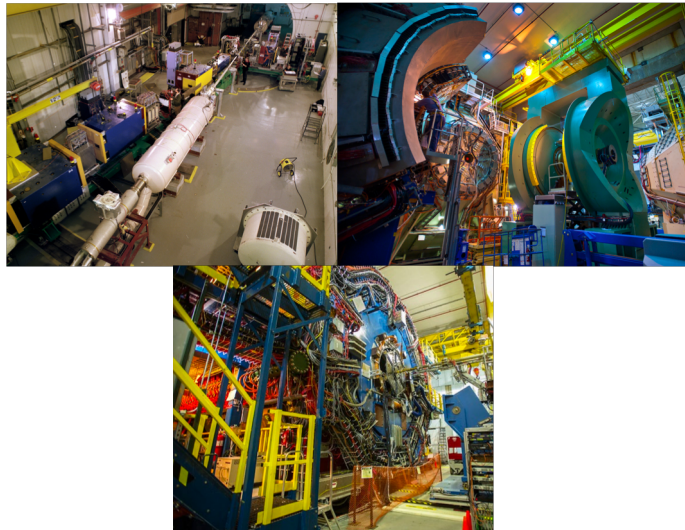
Properties of the bulk are being investigated with a comprehensive (and impressive) set of measurements of light flavor hadron production and flow.

Include:  $\pi$ Kp, strangeness, resonances, light nuclei, antimatter, hypernuclei.

## RHIC, Au-Au and Cu-Cu

Top energy  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV

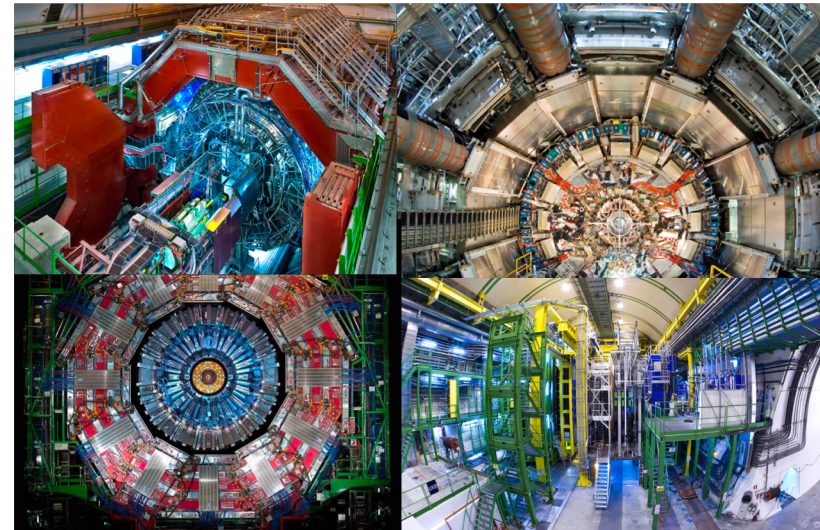
BRAHMS, PHENIX, STAR



## LHC, Pb-Pb and Xe-Xe\*

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  TeV, 5.02 TeV, \*5.44 TeV

ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb

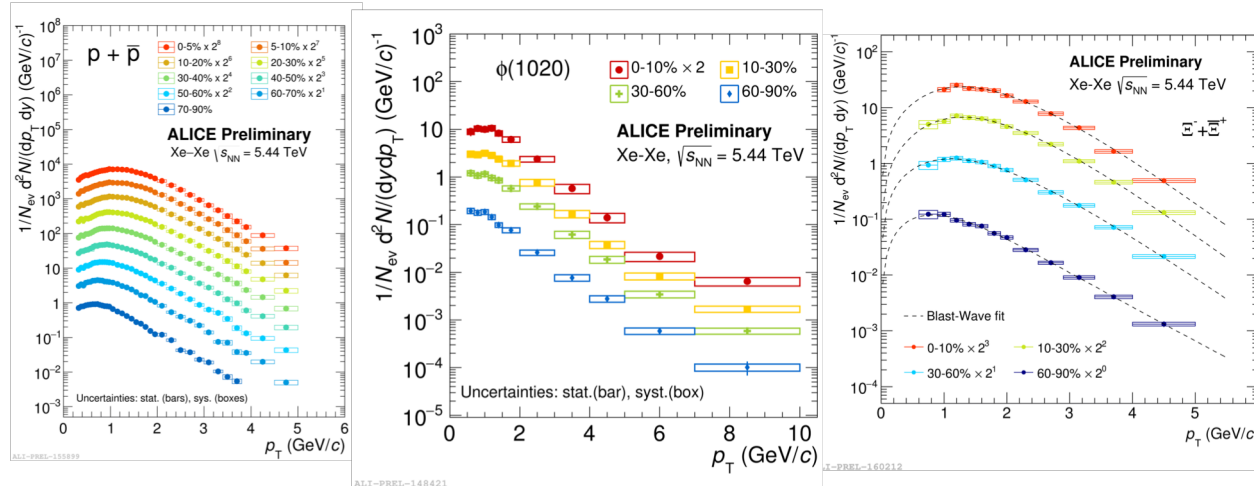


# Plenty of data from RHIC and LHC!

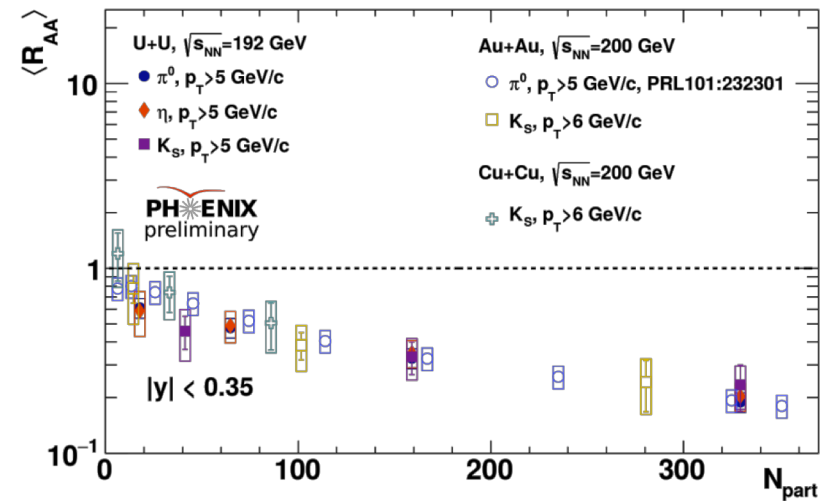
Particle species	RHIC			LHC	
	Au-Au 200 GeV	Cu-Cu 200 GeV	Pb-Pb 2.76 TeV	Pb-Pb 5.02 TeV	Xe-Xe 5.44 TeV
$\pi, K, p$	Published	Published	Published	Published	Published
$\Lambda$	Published	Published	Published	Published	Published
$\Xi$	Published	Published	Published	Published	Published
$\Omega$	Published	Published	Published	Published	Published
$\phi$	Published	Published	Published	Published	Published
$d$	Published	-	Published	Published	-
${}^3_{\Lambda}H$	Published	-	Published	Published	-

**Published** or **Preliminary** results available for most light-flavor and strange hadron species.  
*Nota bene:* not an exhaustive list!

I will necessarily focus on a selection of results – my apologies for omitting your favourite one!



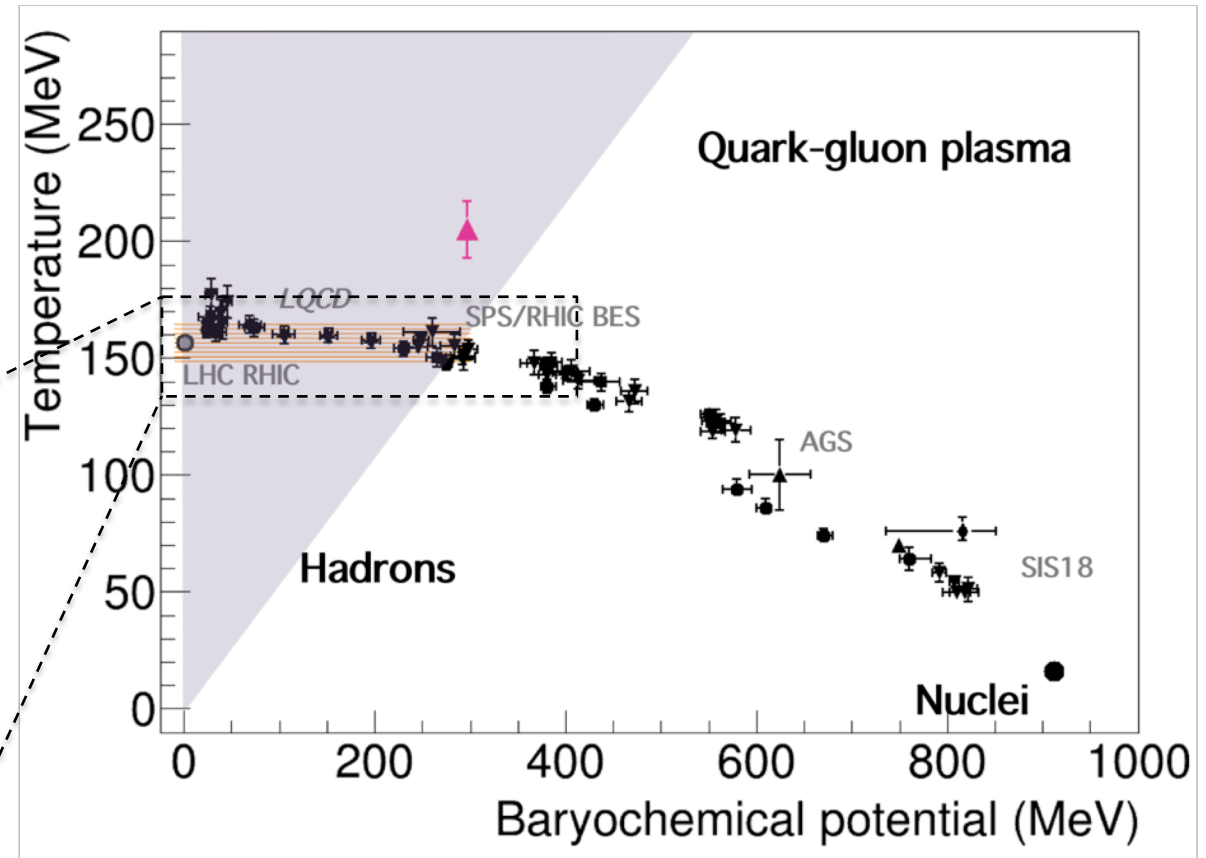
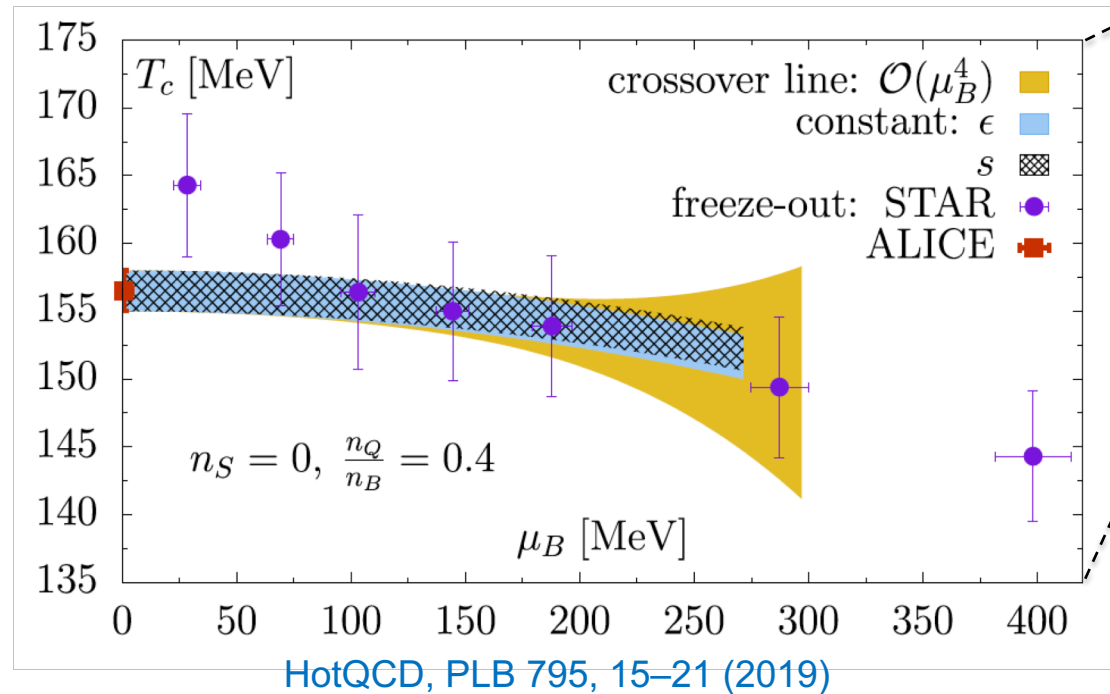
ALICE, QM2018



PHENIX, this conference

# Experimental access to the QCD phase diagram

RHIC and LHC give experimental access to the region of the QCD phase diagram at zero and low  $\mu_B$ , allowing direct comparison with state-of-the-art *ab initio* lattice QCD calculations.



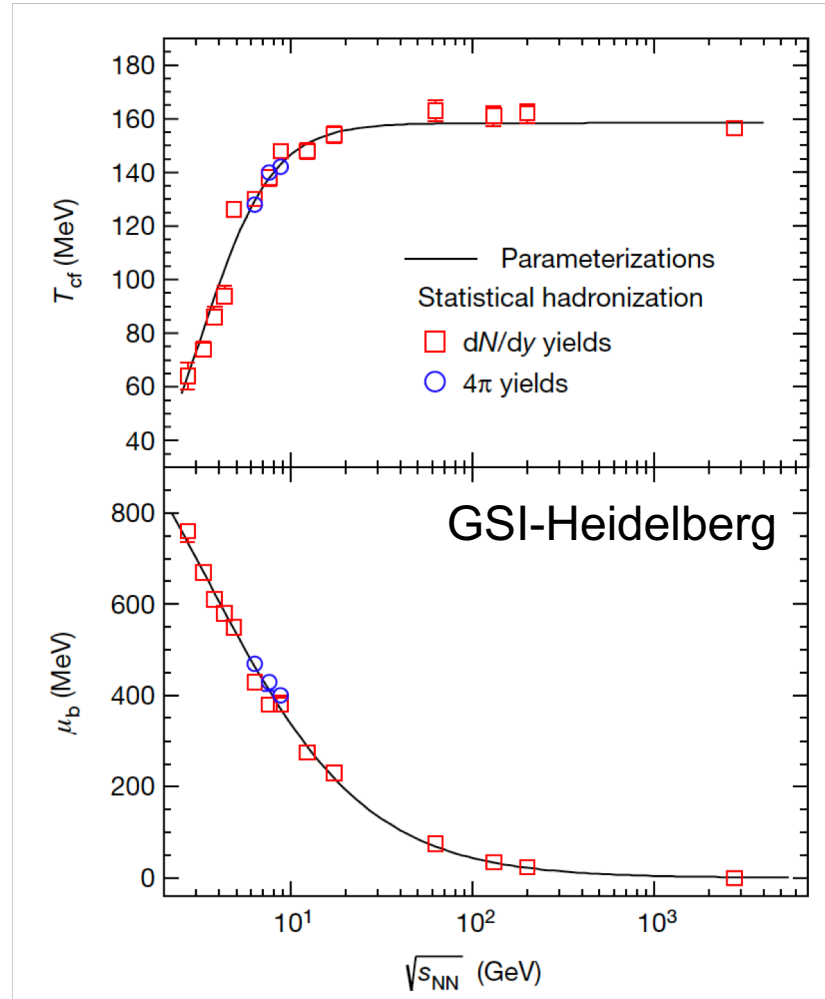
T. Galatyuk, QM 2018

**Latest IQCD prediction for**  
 **$T_c(\mu_B = 0) = (156.5 \pm 1.5) \text{ MeV}$**

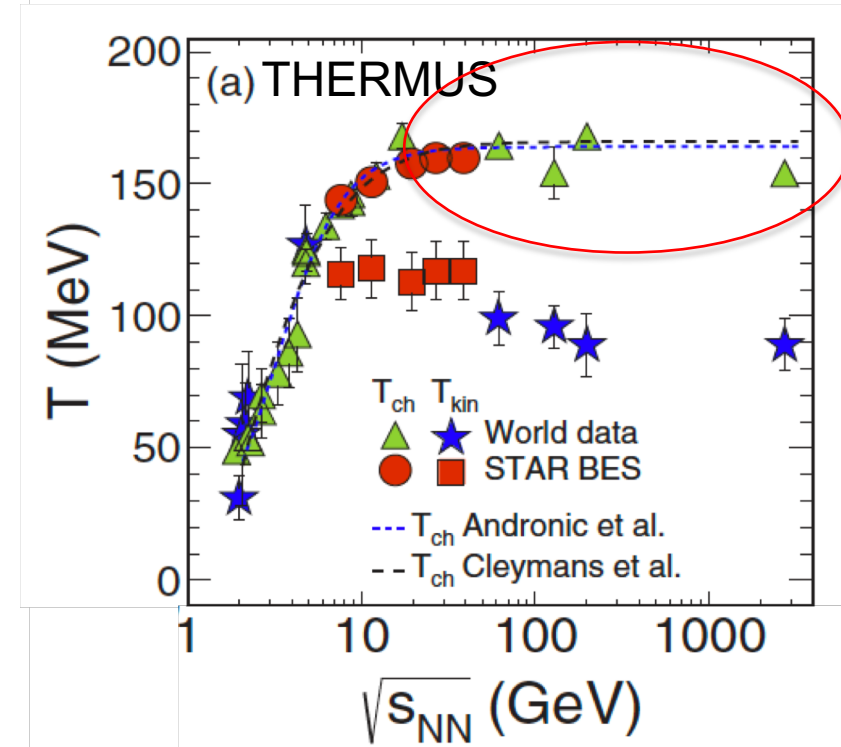
# Energy dependence of $T_{ch}$ , $\mu_B$

The chemical freeze-out parameters can be extracted from statistical hadronisation analyses of hadron yields (or particle ratios).

At top RHIC energy and at the LHC, the chemical freeze-out occurs in the vicinity of the critical temperature, i.e. of hadronisation.



A. Andronic et al., Nature 561 (2018) 521



STAR, PRC 96 (2017) 044904

→ more on BES in X. Zhu's talk

# Thermal model fits to RHIC data (200 GeV)

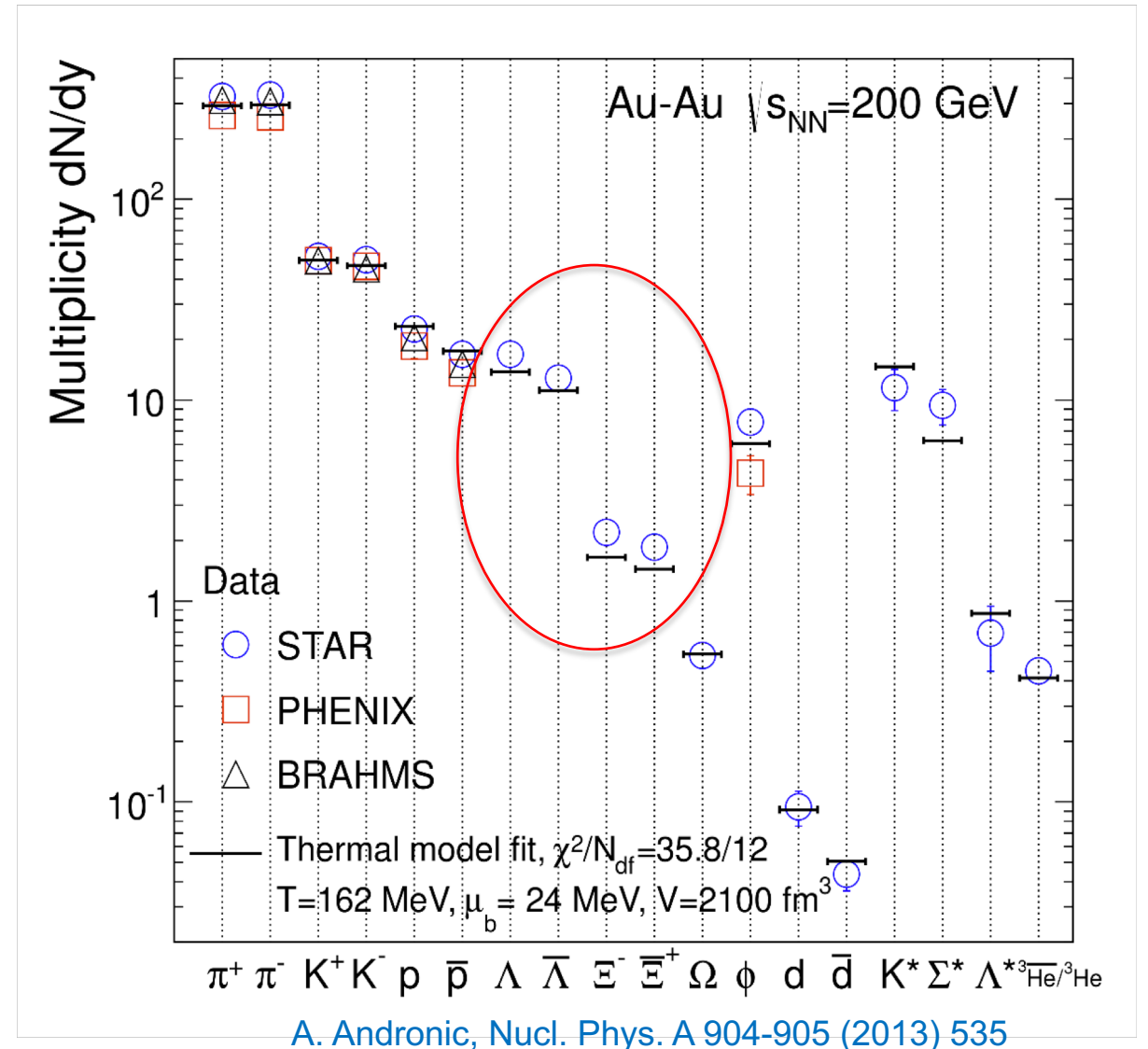
Grand-Canonical thermal model fit performed on STAR, PHENIX and BRAHMS data.

Most hadron abundances are in agreement with a thermally equilibrated system freezing out at

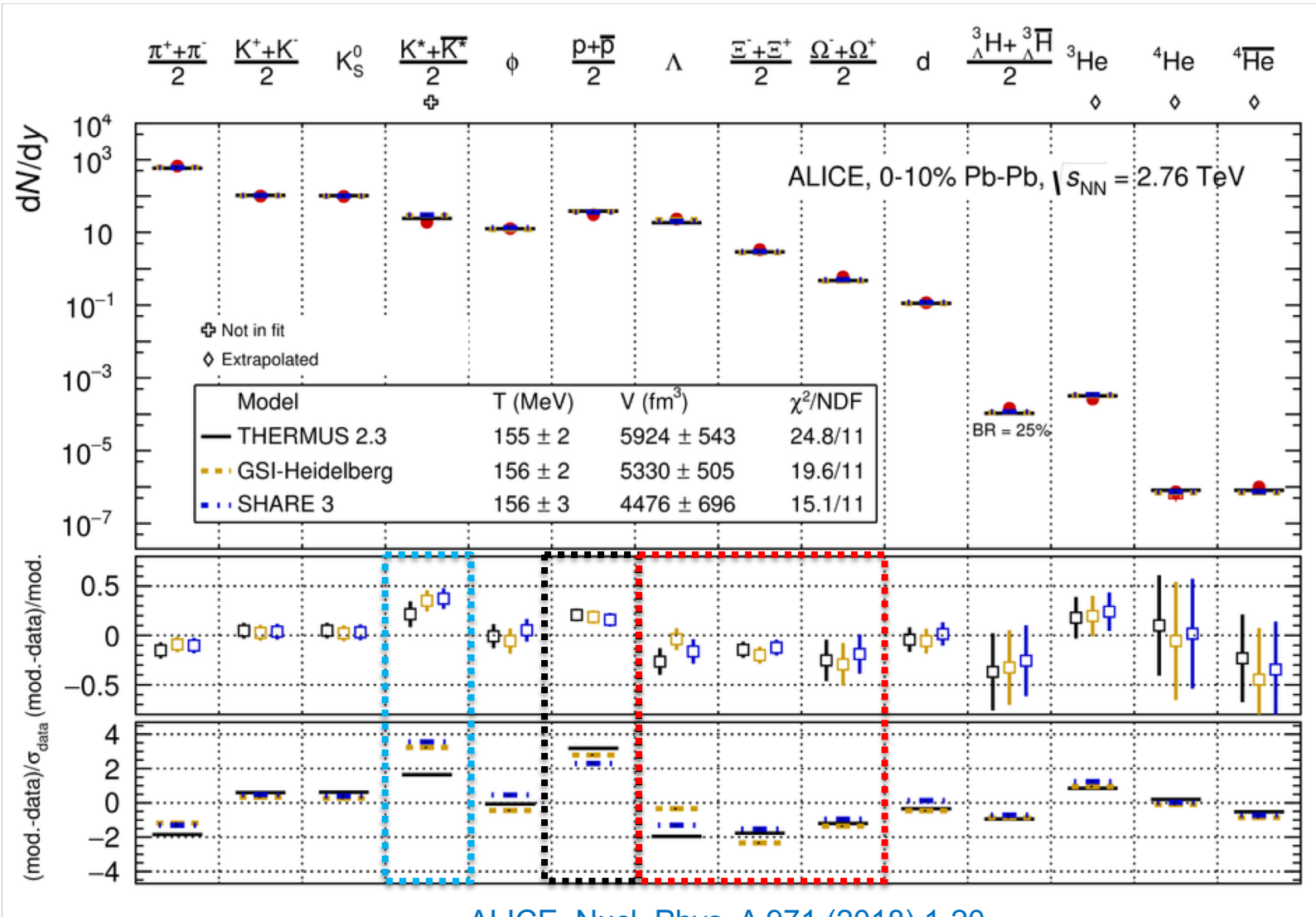
$$T_{\text{ch}} = 162 \text{ MeV at } 200 \text{ GeV}$$

with indication for deviations in the strange baryon sector.

Fits performed also on STAR BES data.



# Thermal model fits to LHC data (2.76 TeV)



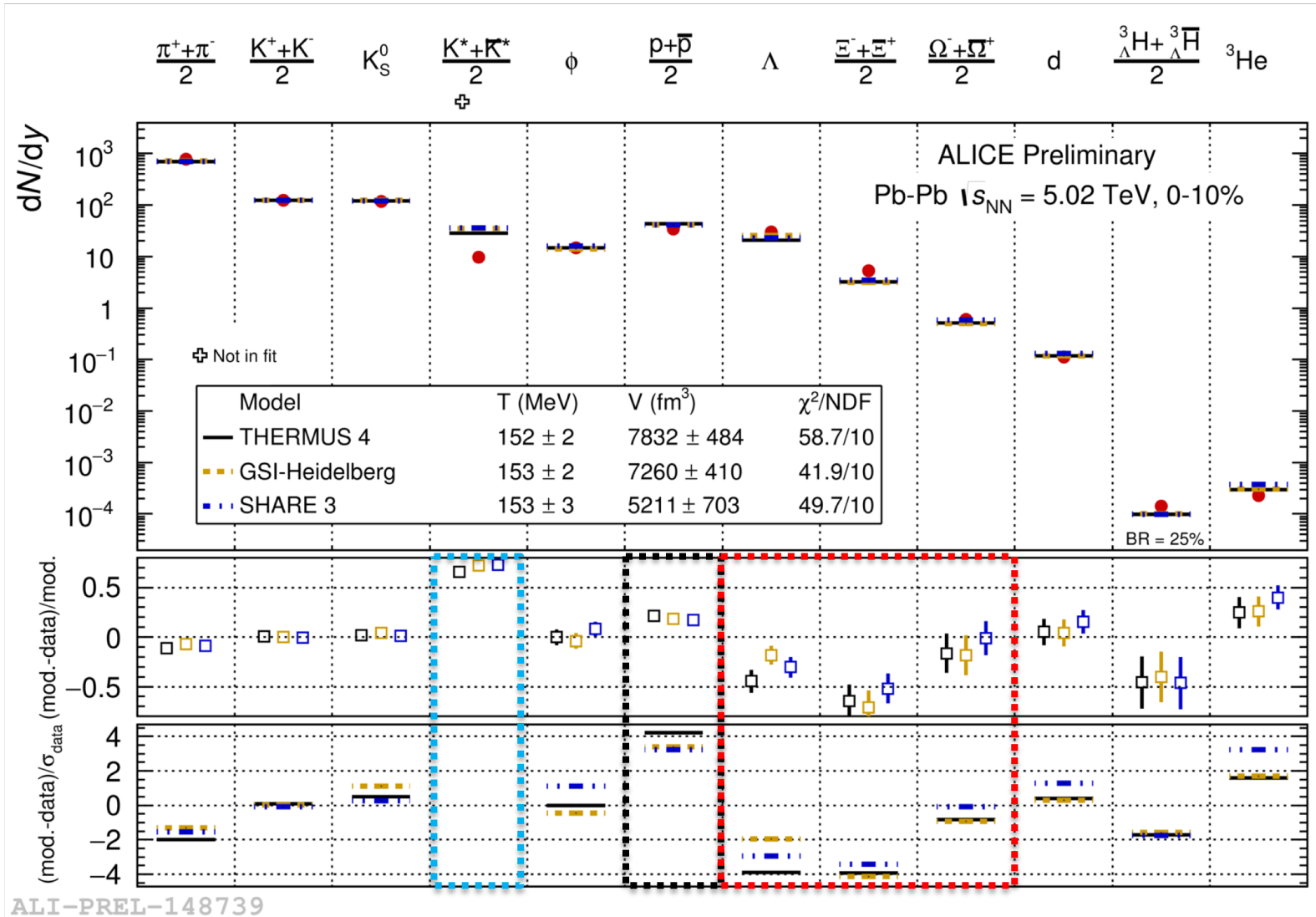
Production of (most) light-flavour hadrons in Pb-Pb at 2.76 TeV is described ( $\chi^2/\text{ndf} \sim 2$ ) by thermal models with a single chemical freeze-out temperature

$$T_{\text{ch}} \approx 156 \text{ MeV at } 2.76 \text{ TeV}$$

Deviation for short-lived  $K^{*0}$   
 Tensions between **protons** and **multi-strange baryons**



# Thermal model fits to LHC data (5.02 TeV)



Preliminary data in 0-10% Pb-Pb at 5.02 TeV can be fitted with a slightly lower temperature and higher  $\chi^2/\text{ndf} \sim 4-6$

$T_{\text{ch}} \approx 153$  MeV at 5.02 TeV

Tensions seen at 2.76 TeV are confirmed.

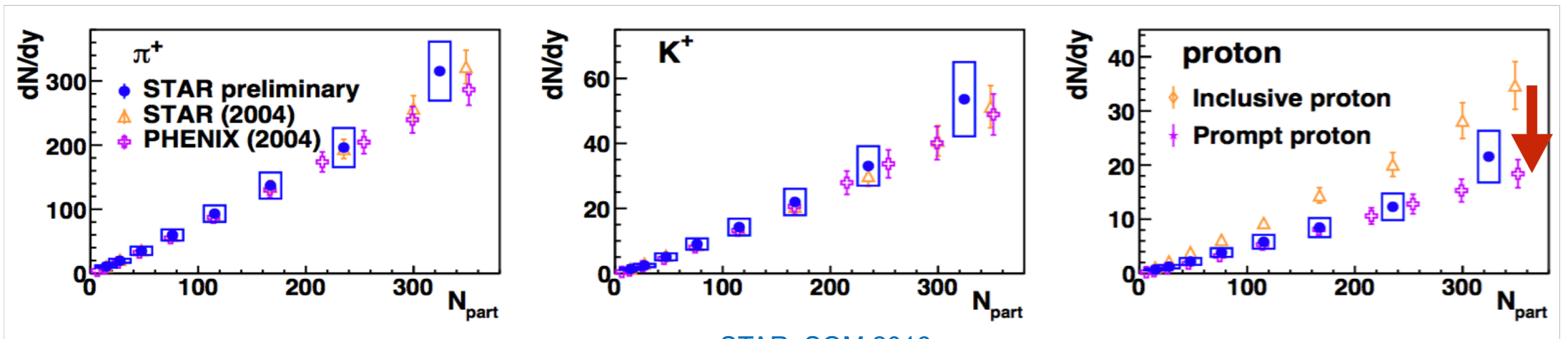
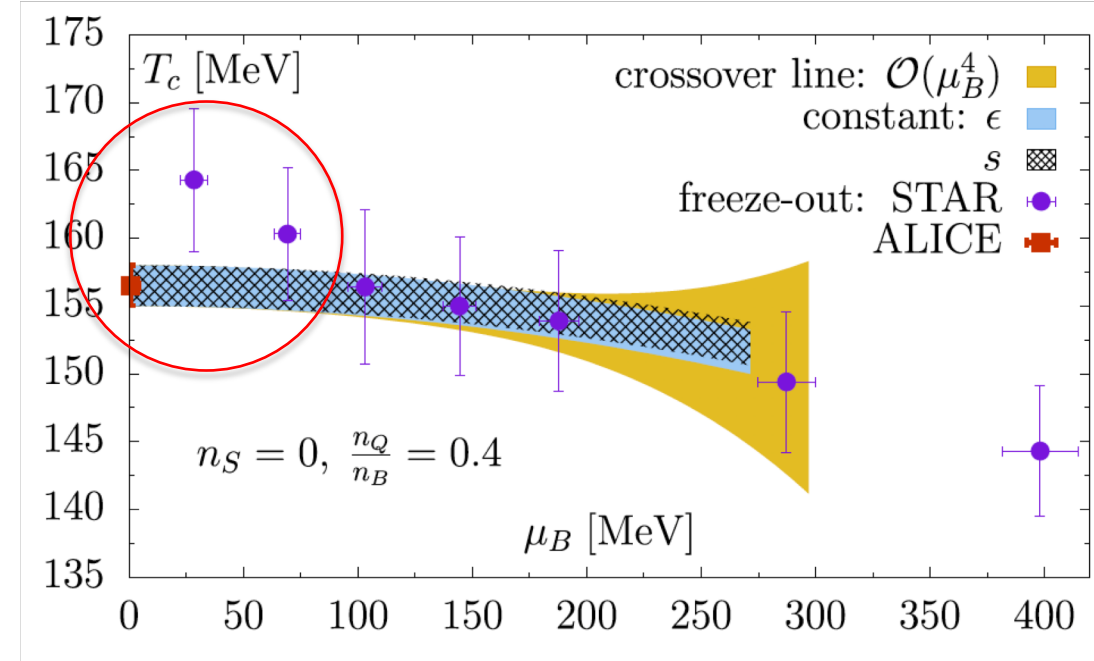
ALI-PREL-148739

# Proton-to-pion ratio

$p/\pi$  drives the temperature in the thermal fit.

STAR measures inclusive proton production (no feeddown from weak decays).

→ Can this be at the origin of the larger  $T_{ch}$  obtained fitting the 200 GeV data?



STAR, SQM 2016

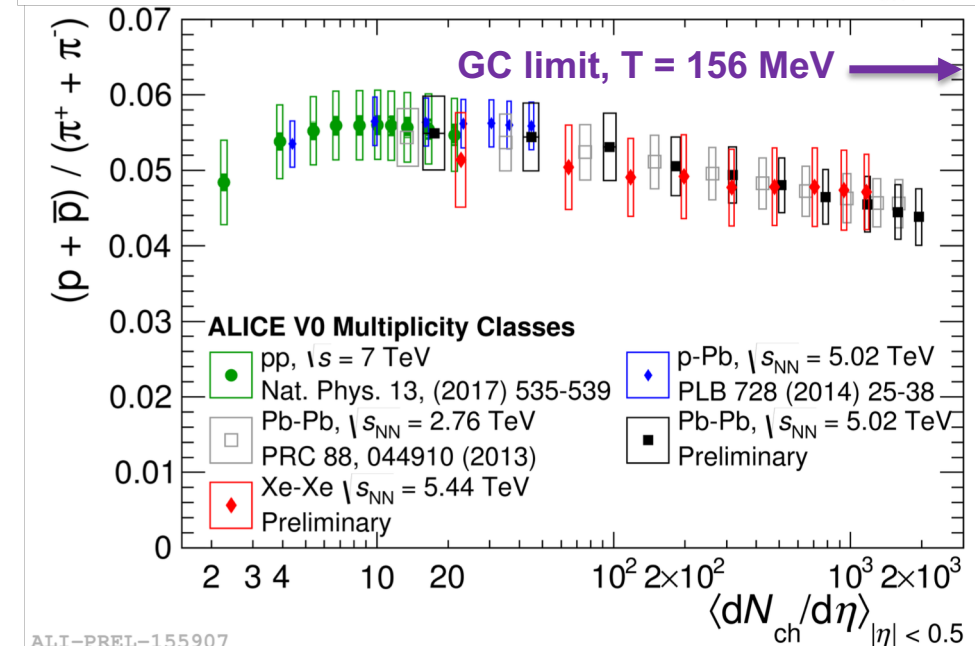
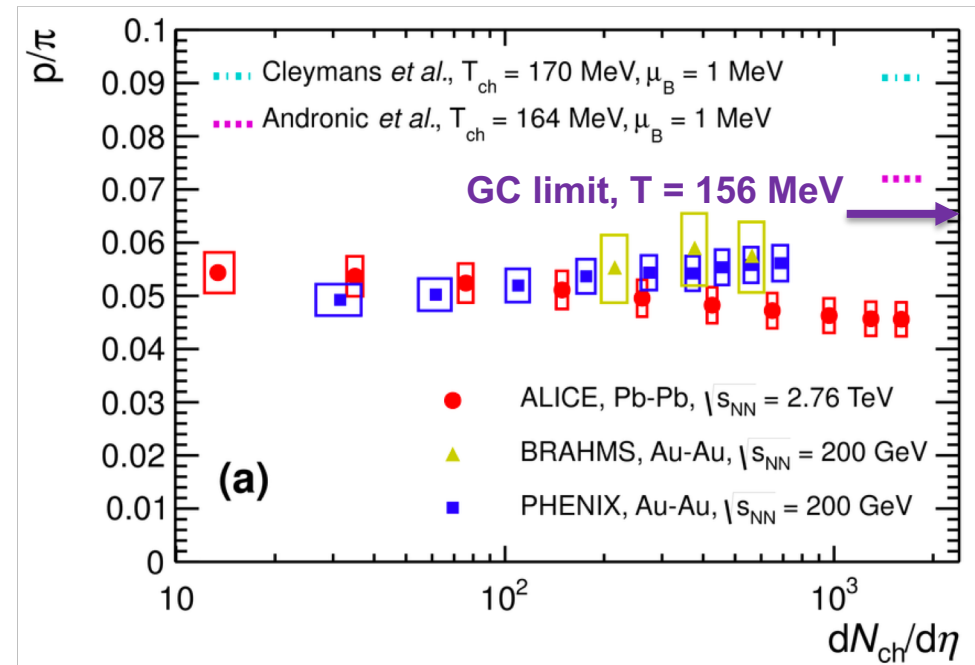
# Proton-to-pion ratio

$p/\pi$  drives the temperature in the thermal fit.

Indication for a decrease from peripheral to central Pb-Pb collisions in ALICE confirmed by Run II data.

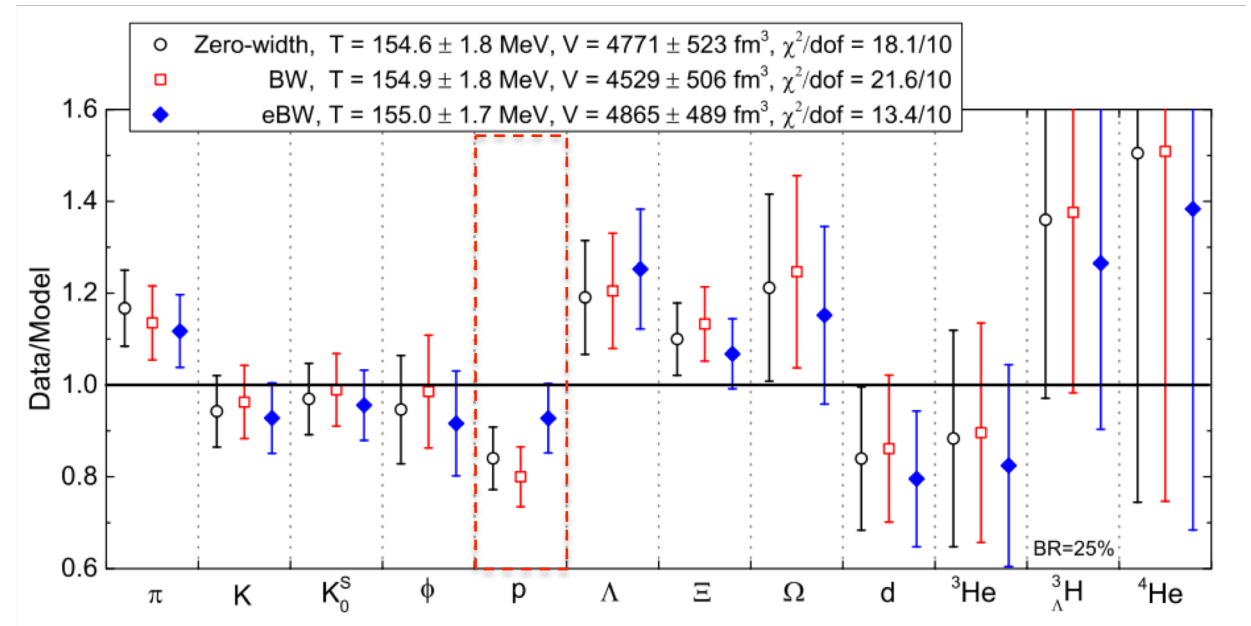
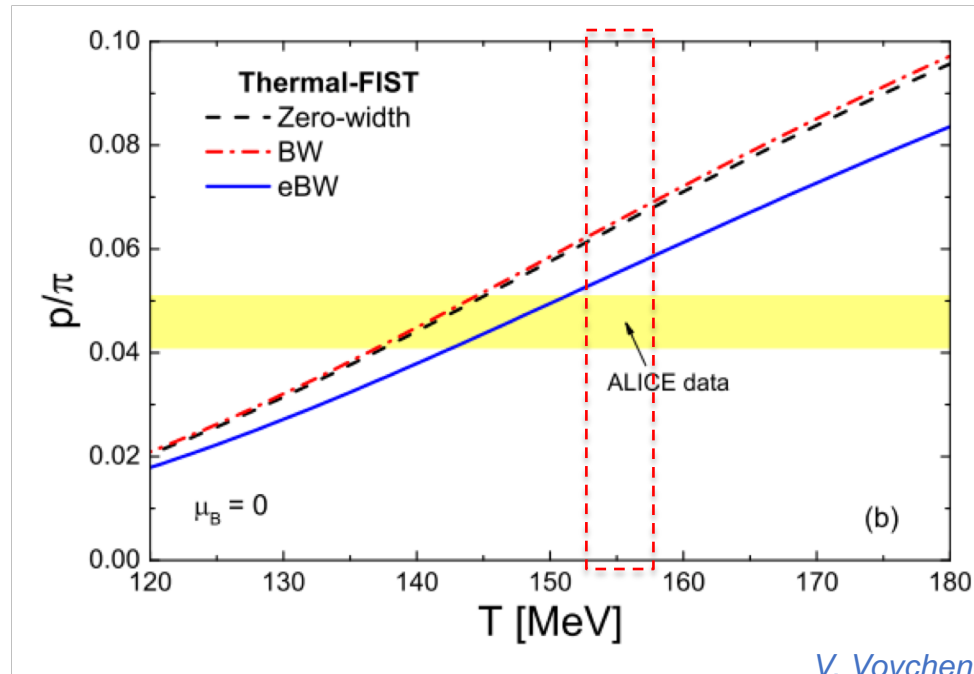
→ How much of the experimental uncertainties is correlated across centrality?

**The proton anomaly:** in central Pb-Pb collisions,  $p/\pi$  lies below the **Grand Canonical limit for  $T_{ch} = 156$  MeV** ( $\sim 2.7\sigma$  considering 2.76 TeV data uncert.)



# Towards understanding the thermal proton anomaly

*The role of the finite resonance width*



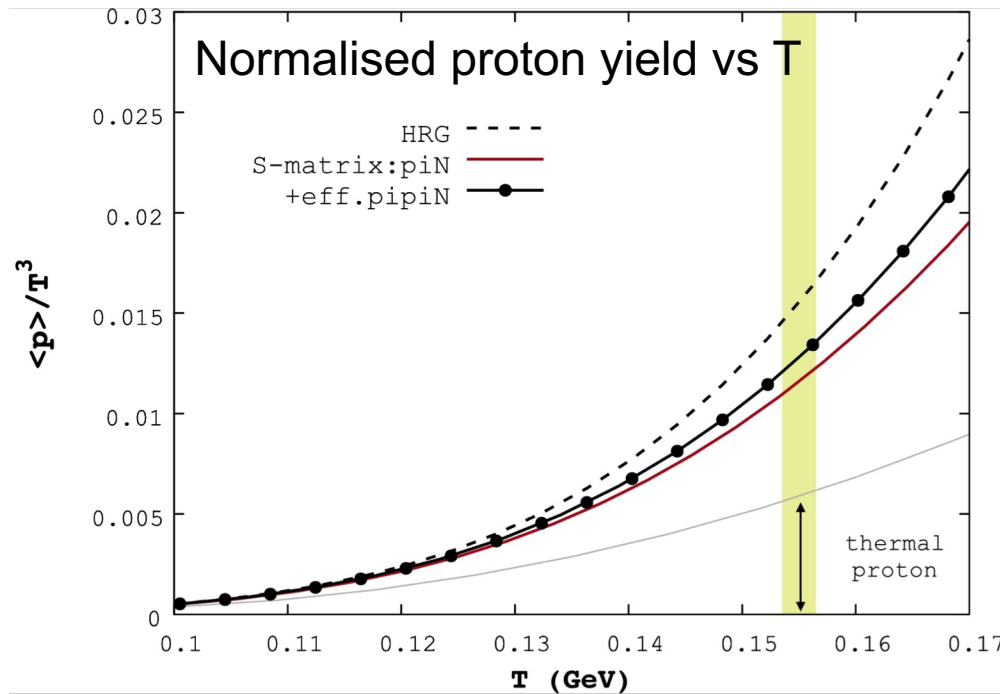
*V. Vovchenko et al. PRC 98 (2018) 034906*

The thermodynamical observables are sensitive to the low-mass tail of resonances, due to the Boltzmann factor.

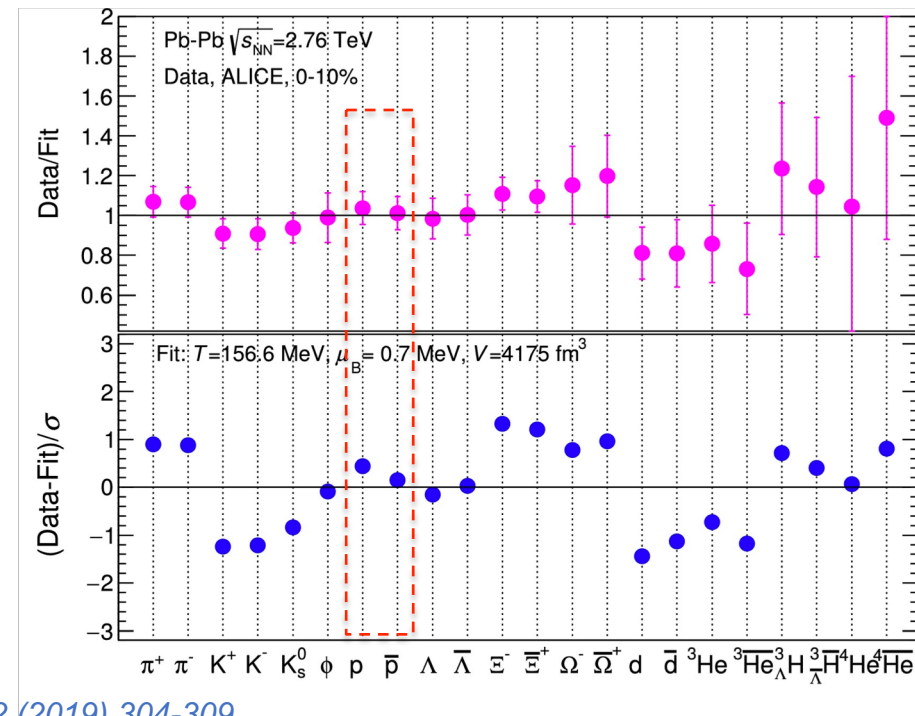
The application of the **energy-dependent Breit-Wigner** scheme helps the thermal model description of the  $p/\pi$  ratio by reducing the  $p$  feeddown from near-threshold  $\Delta$ 's.

# Towards understanding the thermal proton anomaly

*The role of resonant and non-resonant  $\pi N$  and  $\pi\pi N$  interactions*



A. Andronic et al., PLB 792 (2019) 304-309



The inclusion of the resonant and non-resonant  $\pi N$  and  $\pi\pi N$  interactions via the S-matrix formalism has the net effect of reducing by 17% (1%) the proton (pion) yield with respect the HRG case. More specifically,  $\pi N$  reduces the proton,  $\pi\pi N$  tends to increase it.

→ Improved agreement between p ALICE data and thermal model after this correction.

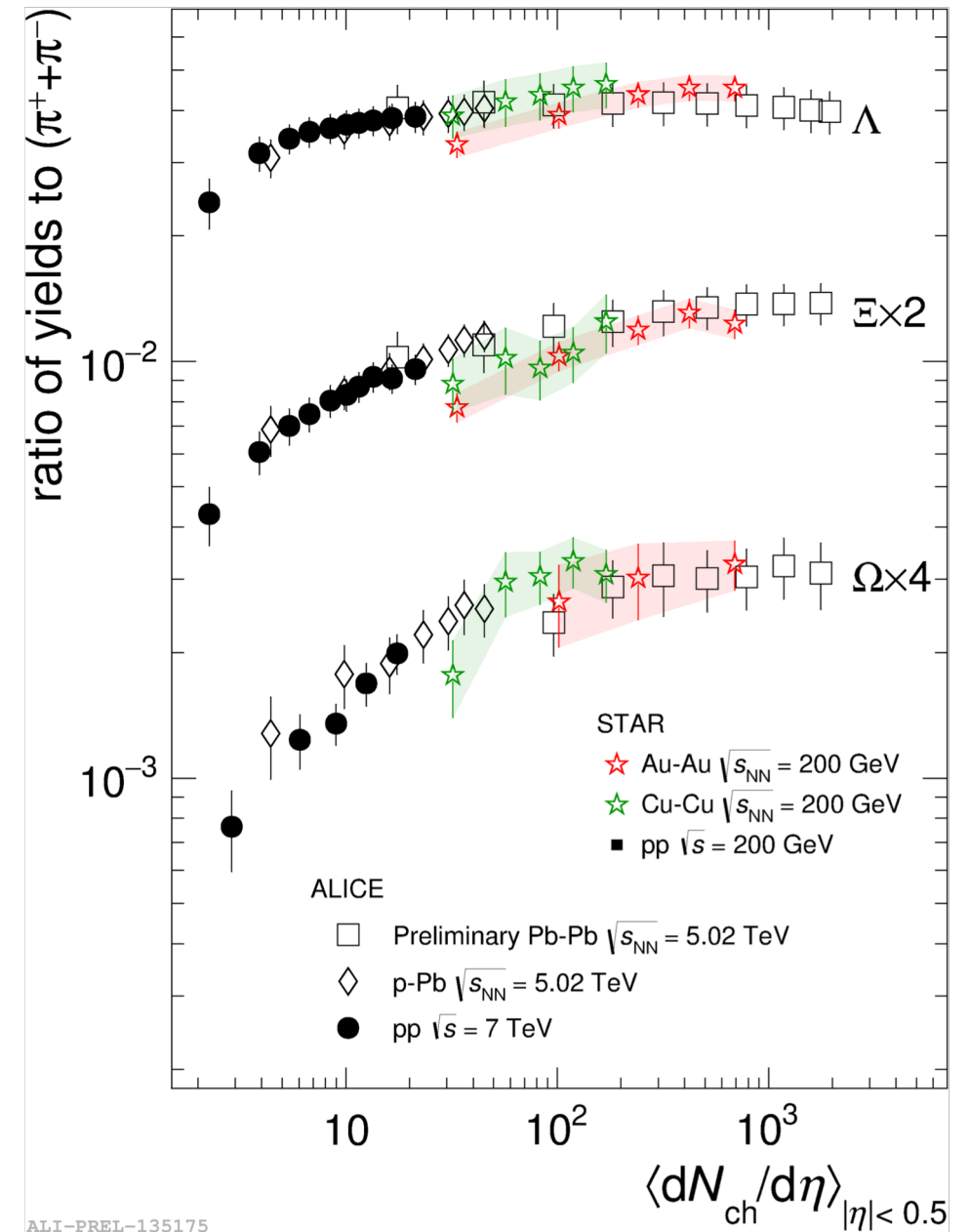
# Strangeness enhancement

*The modern way:  
multiplicity dependence of yield relative to  $\pi$*

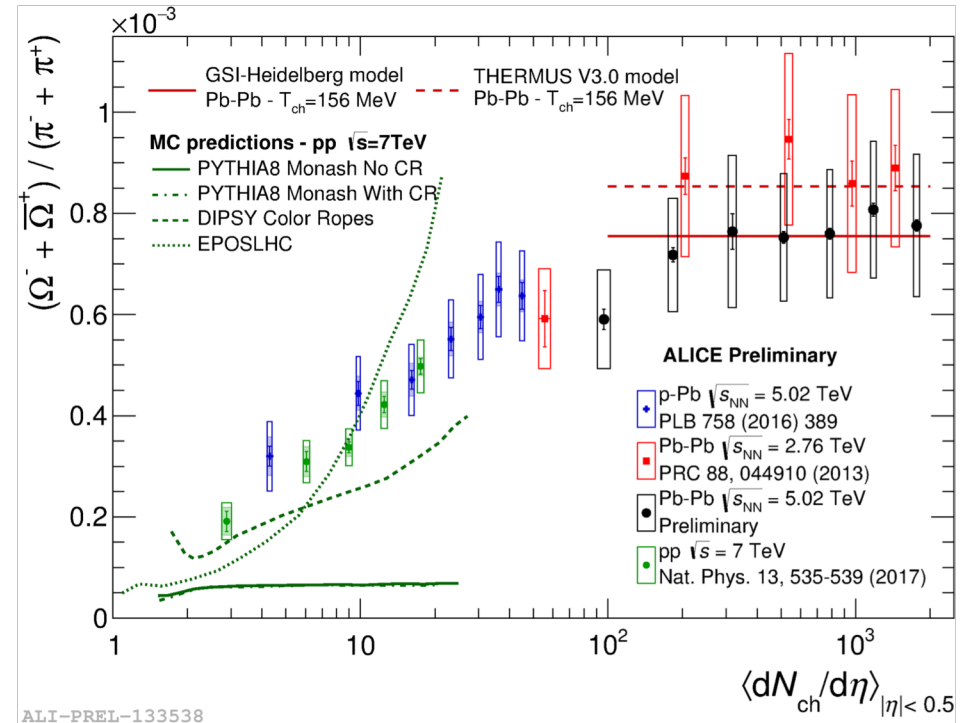
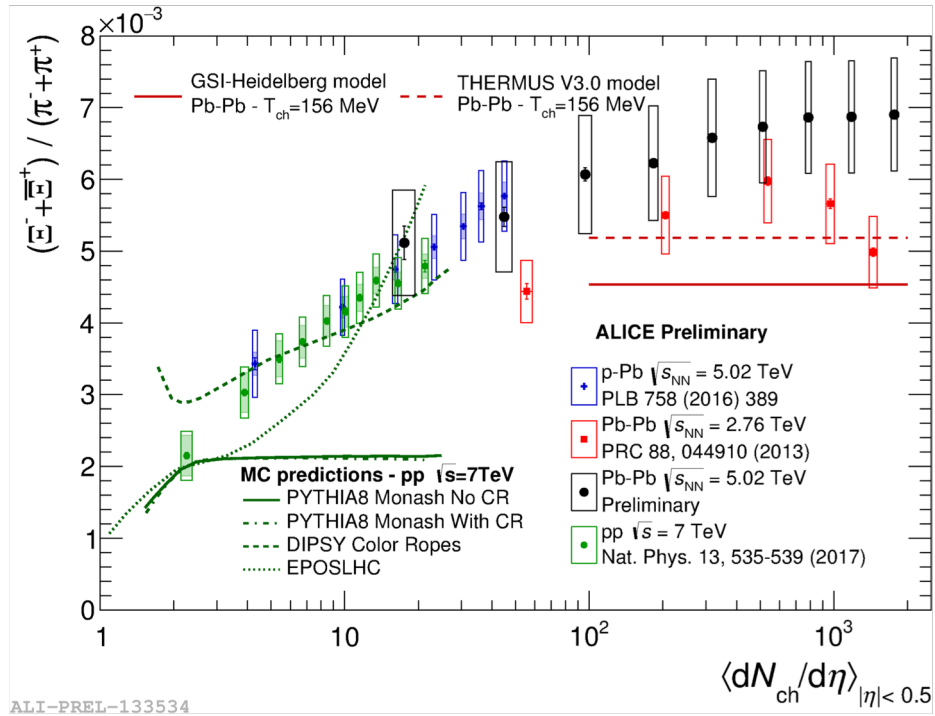
Strangeness enhancement from pp to p-Pb, to A-A depends on multiplicity.

Do the RHIC BES measurements fit in this picture if plotted vs  $dN/d\eta$ ?

*pp 7 TeV: Nat. Phys. 13 (2017) 535-539  
p-Pb 5 TeV: PLB 728 (2014) 25-38, PLB 758 (2016) 389-401  
Au-Au 200 GeV: PRL 98 (2007) 62301  
Cu-Cu 200 GeV: PRL 108, 072301*



# A closer look to strangeness in central AA

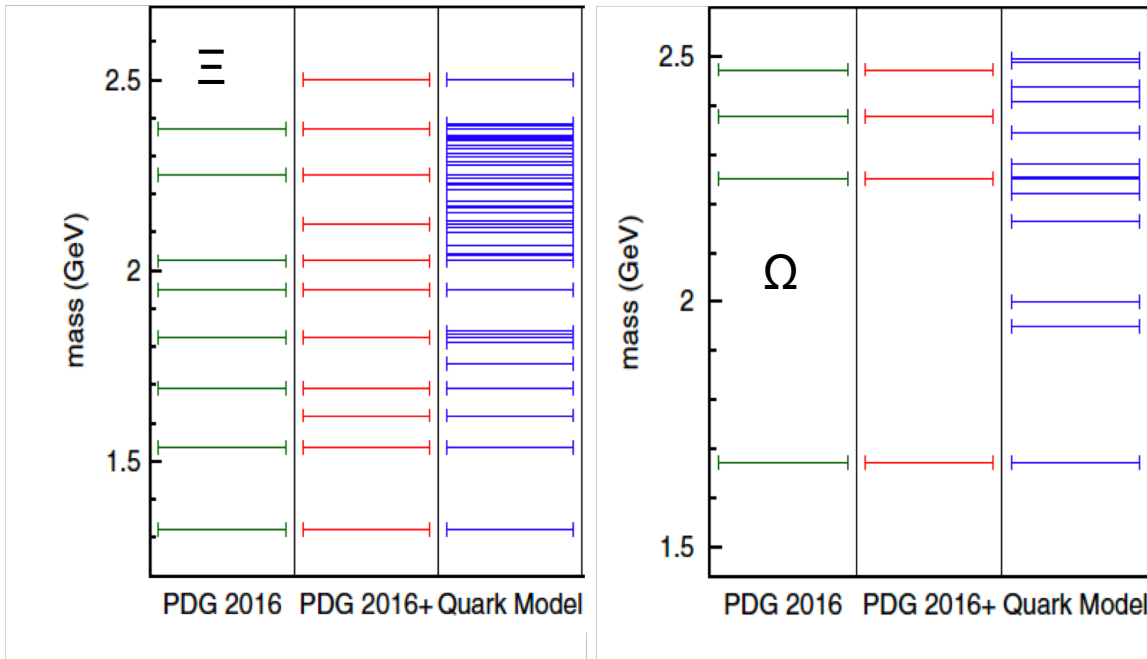


In central Pb-Pb collisions, most recent  $\Xi/\pi$  data lie above the GC plateau, while  $\Omega/\pi$  is consistent with the thermal model expectations.

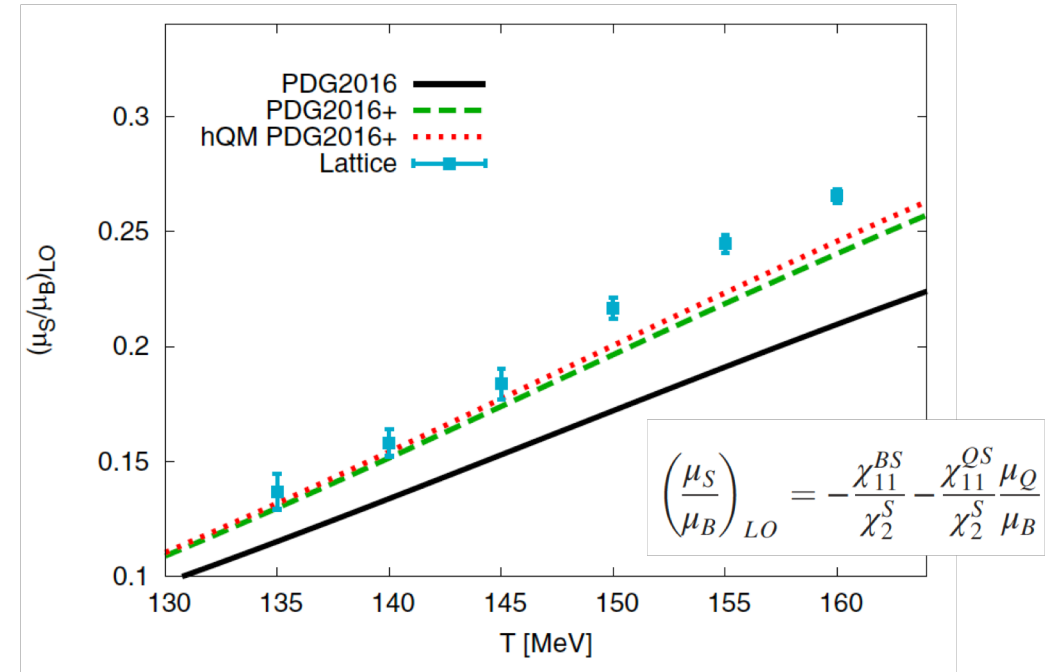
→ Difference between 2.76 TeV and 5.02 TeV for  $\Xi/\pi$  is being addressed by ALICE by means of a re-analysis of the data: stay tuned!

# Towards understanding of multi-strange

*The role of possible higher mass strange resonances in HRG*



P. Alba et al. PRD 96, 034517 (2017)



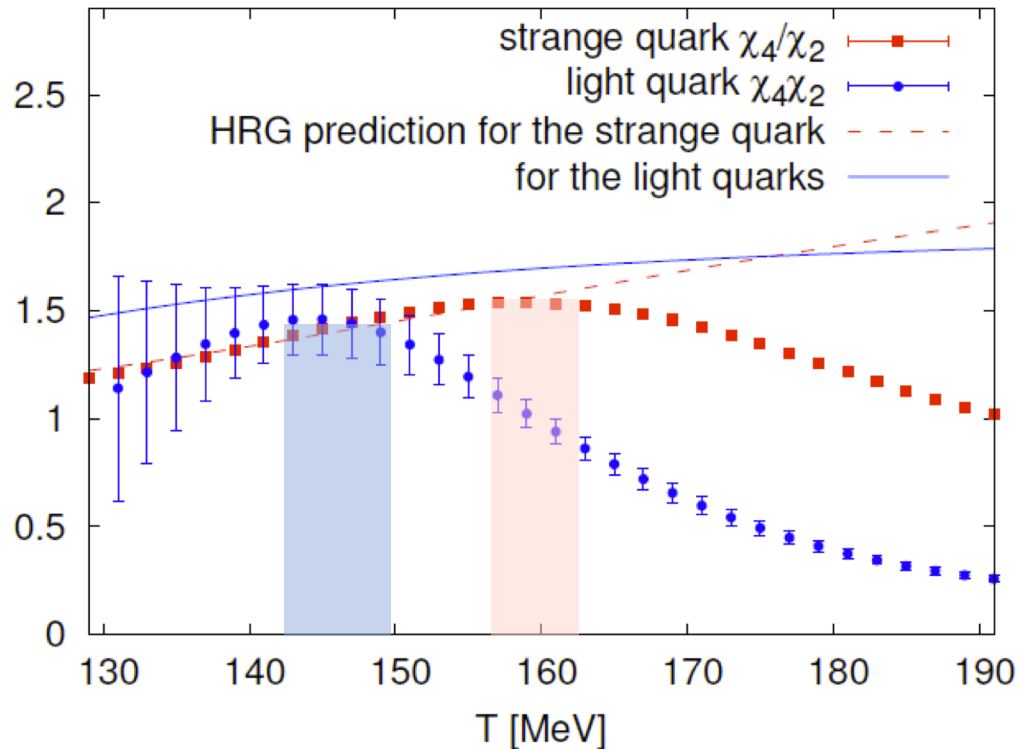
A comparison between IQCD and the hadron resonance gas (HRG) model suggests the existence of missing strange resonances, i.e. not yet detected, or not yet fully established.

→ Higher mass baryonic states would need experimental verification with searches at RHIC and/or at LHC.



# Towards understanding of multi-strange

*Indication of sequential hadronisation from IQCD*



R. Bellwied, PRL 111, 202302 (2013)

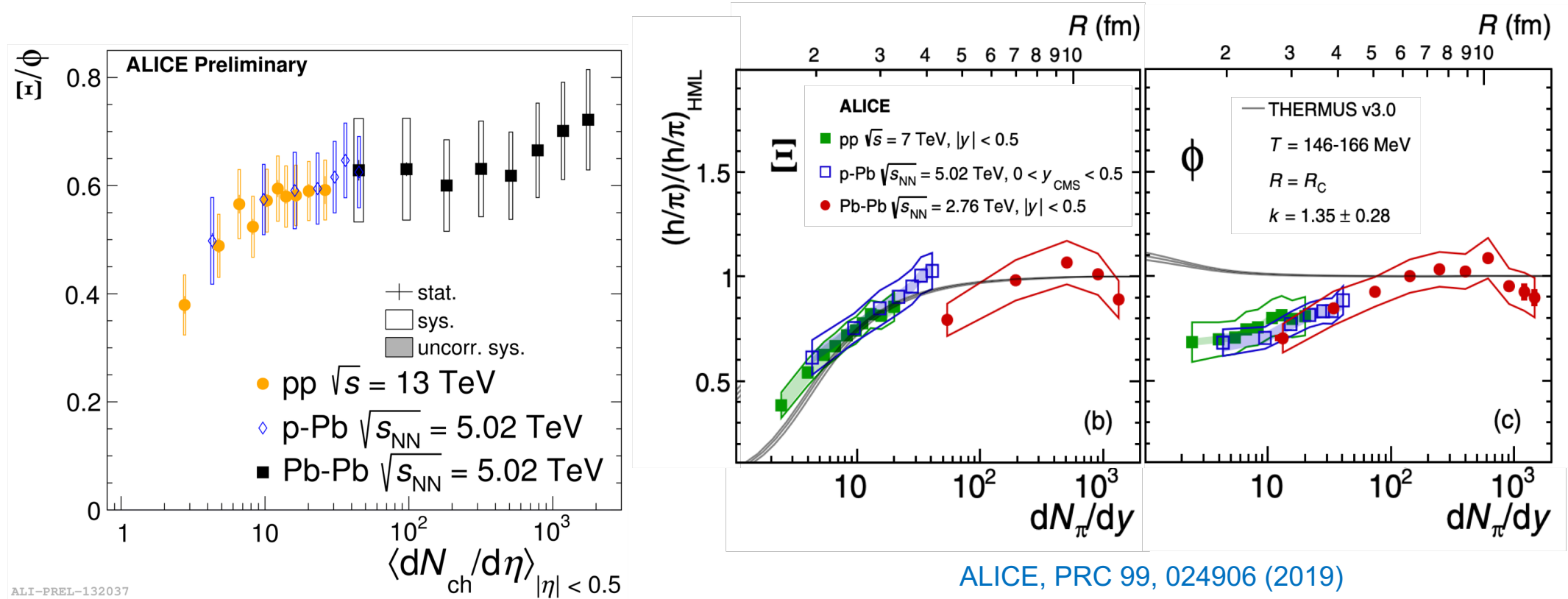
Indication of sequential hadronisation of light (u,d) and strange quarks comes from the ratio of even-even cumulants (which, at first order, is determined by the freeze-out temperature near  $\mu_B = 0$ ).

Light quarks would prefer a lower temperature, strange would prefer a higher temperature.

→ More measurements (net-kaon, net-lambda, ...) needed to address this

→ More in the parallel sessions!

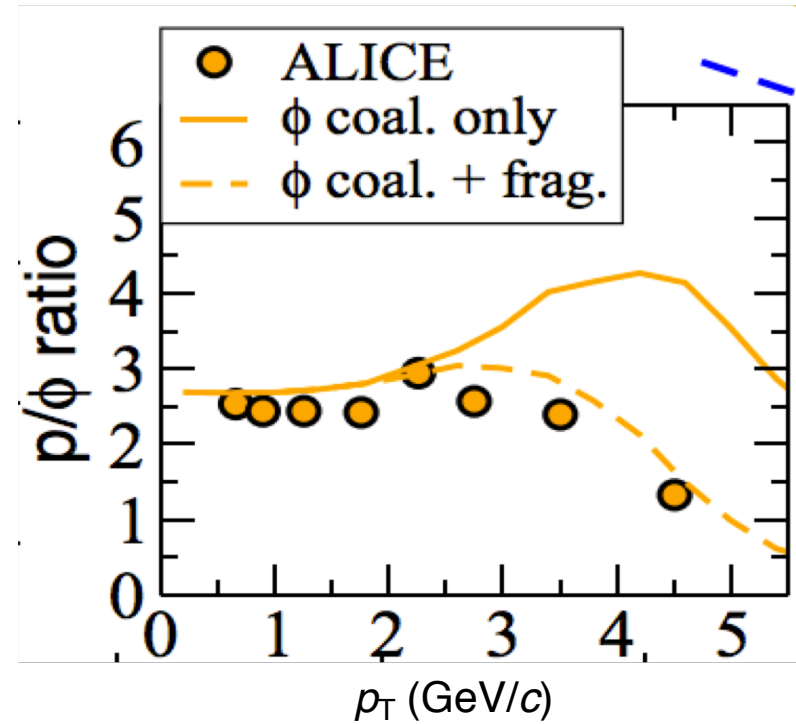
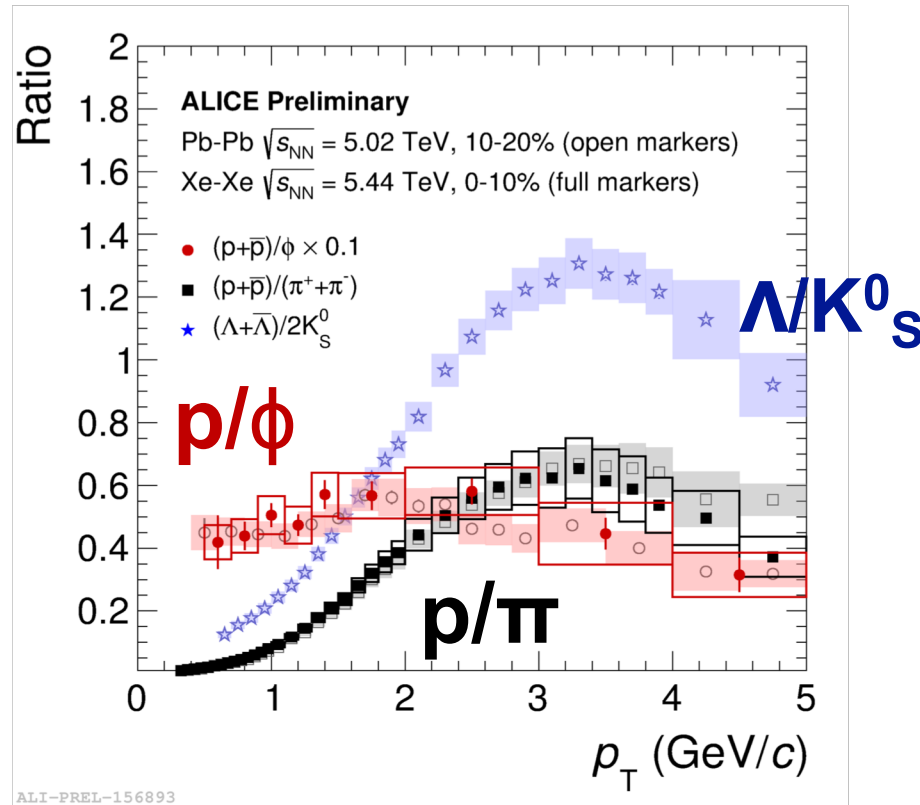
# The pivotal role of $\phi$ meson



From the measured multiplicity-dependence of  $\phi/\pi$ , the behavior of  $\phi$  meson is between that of a  $S=1$  and a  $S=2$  particle.

$\phi$  is the exception that does not fit in the canonical suppression picture that describe all other measured LF and strange hadrons from small to large systems.

# The pivotal role of $\phi$ meson

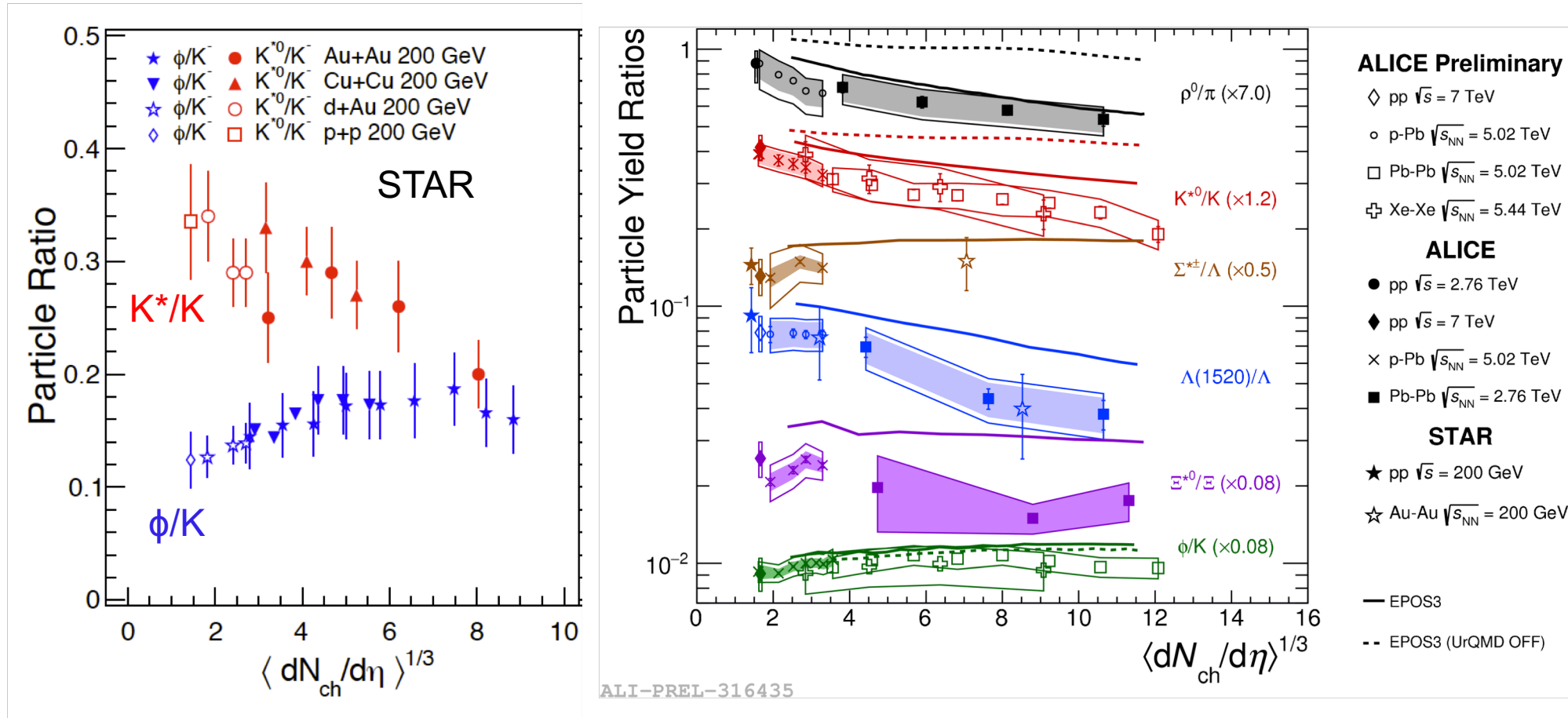


V. Greco et al, PRC 92 (2015) 054904

Having similar mass as the proton, the  $\phi$  meson can be used to investigate the interplay of flow and recombination / fragmentation.

→ Still an open point on whether recombination or flow determine the spectral shape at intermediate  $p_T$

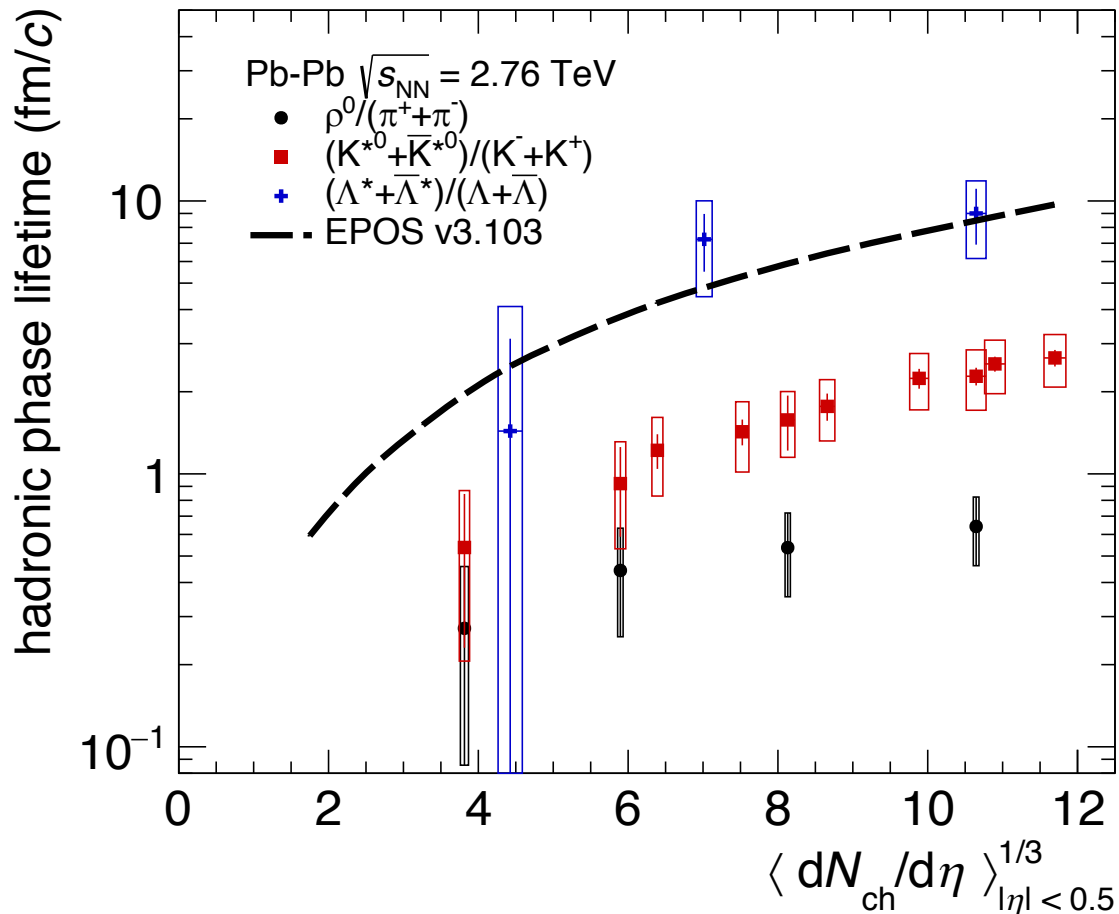
# Resonance suppression in central AA collisions



Consistent results on short-lived resonance suppression at RHIC and LHC provides evidence for long-lasting hadronic phase in central AA collisions. → More in A. Knospe's talk

Effect qualitatively reproduced by EPOS with UrQMD to model rescattering and regeneration.

# Lifetime of the hadronic phase



ALICE: PRC 69, 064901 (2019), PRC 99, 024905 (2019),  
 PRC 95, 064606 (2017), PRC 91, 024609 (2015)  
 EPOS: A. Knospe et al., PRC 93, 014911 (2016)

Rough estimate of the hadronic phase lifetime from ALICE data, ignoring regeneration:

$$ratio_{cent} = ratio_{pp} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_x}} \quad ratio_{cent} = \frac{dN_x/dy}{dN_U/dy}$$

$$\tau(\rho) = 1.3 \text{ fm/c} < \tau(K^*) = 4.5 \text{ fm/c} < \tau(\Lambda^*) = 12.5 \text{ fm/c}$$

Consistent with the hadronic phase lifetime from UrQMD, which includes rescattering and regeneration.

→ Measure  $\Sigma(1385)$ , which is expected to undergo significant regeneration.

# “Fragile” objects: production and survival

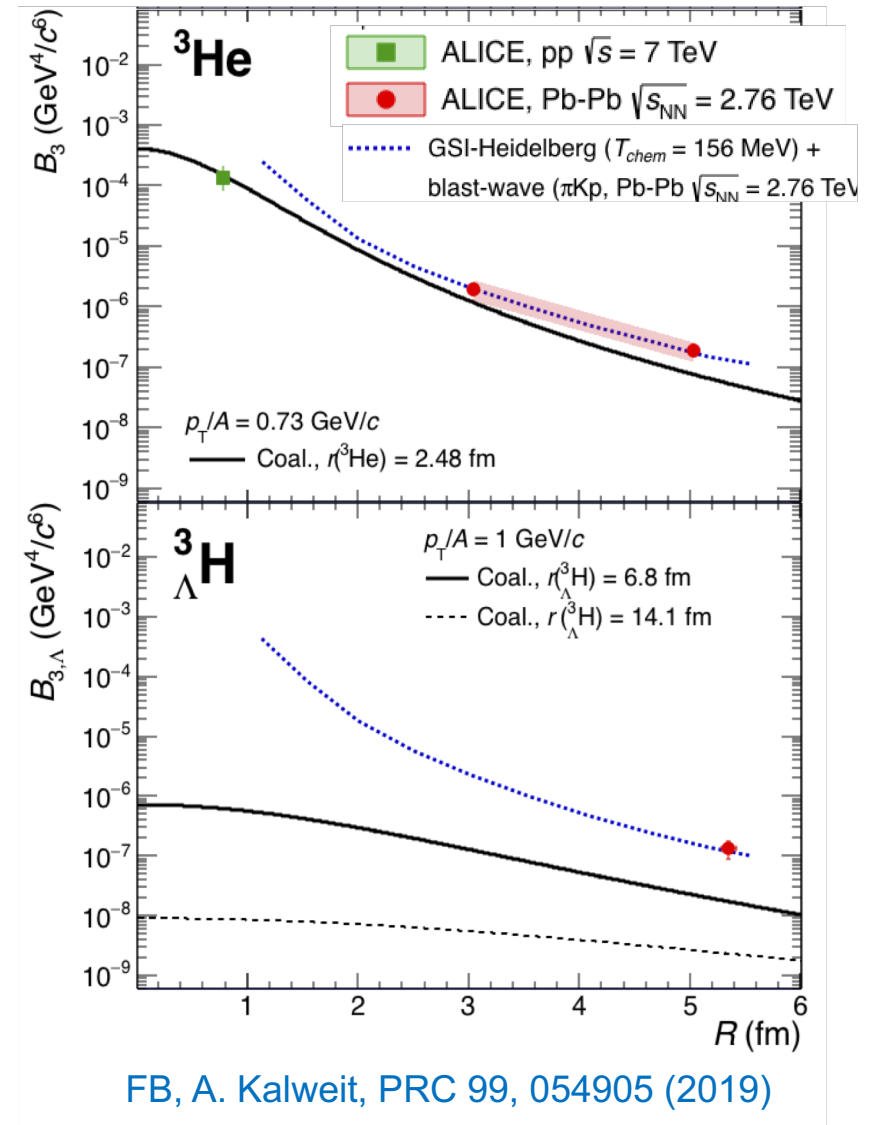
## (Anti-)nuclei puzzle:

how can loosely-bound states ( $B_E \sim 1$  MeV) produced at chemical freeze-out survive the hadronic phase ( $156 \text{ MeV} < T < 100 \text{ MeV}$ )?

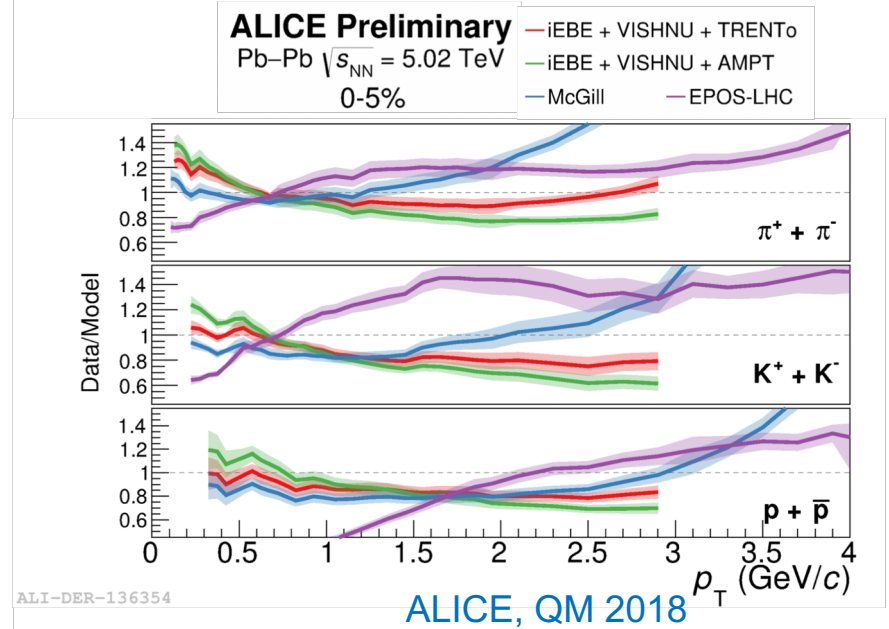
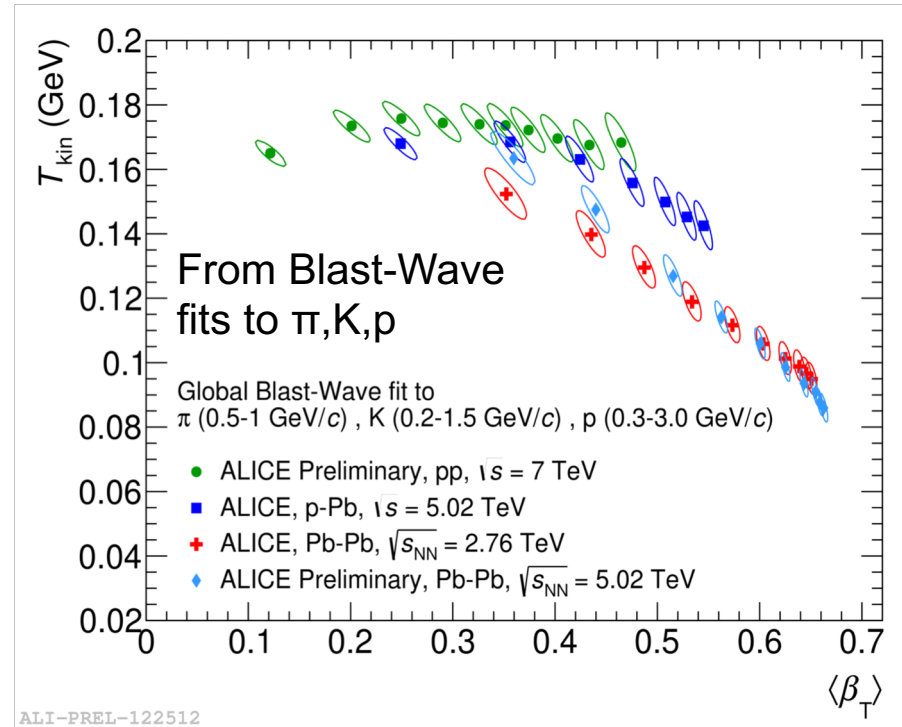
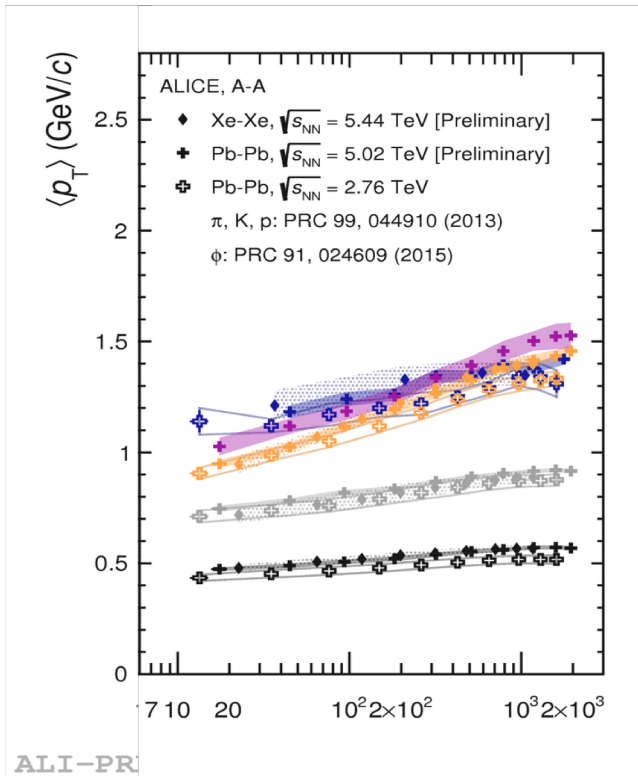
Production via coalescence of nucleons at kinetic freeze-out? Other explanations?

→ More in D. Ollinchenko’s talk

→ Experimentally to be addressed with multiplicity-dependent measurements of different nucleus species



# Collectivity manifested by radial and elliptic flow



Larger radial flow velocity for central Pb-Pb collisions, centrality dependence and mass scaling of mean  $p_T$  are consistent with the hydrodynamic picture.

Direct comparison with “full-hydro” models and EPOS reveals a typical agreement within 20-30% with hydrodynamical predictions, which worsens towards more peripheral collisions.

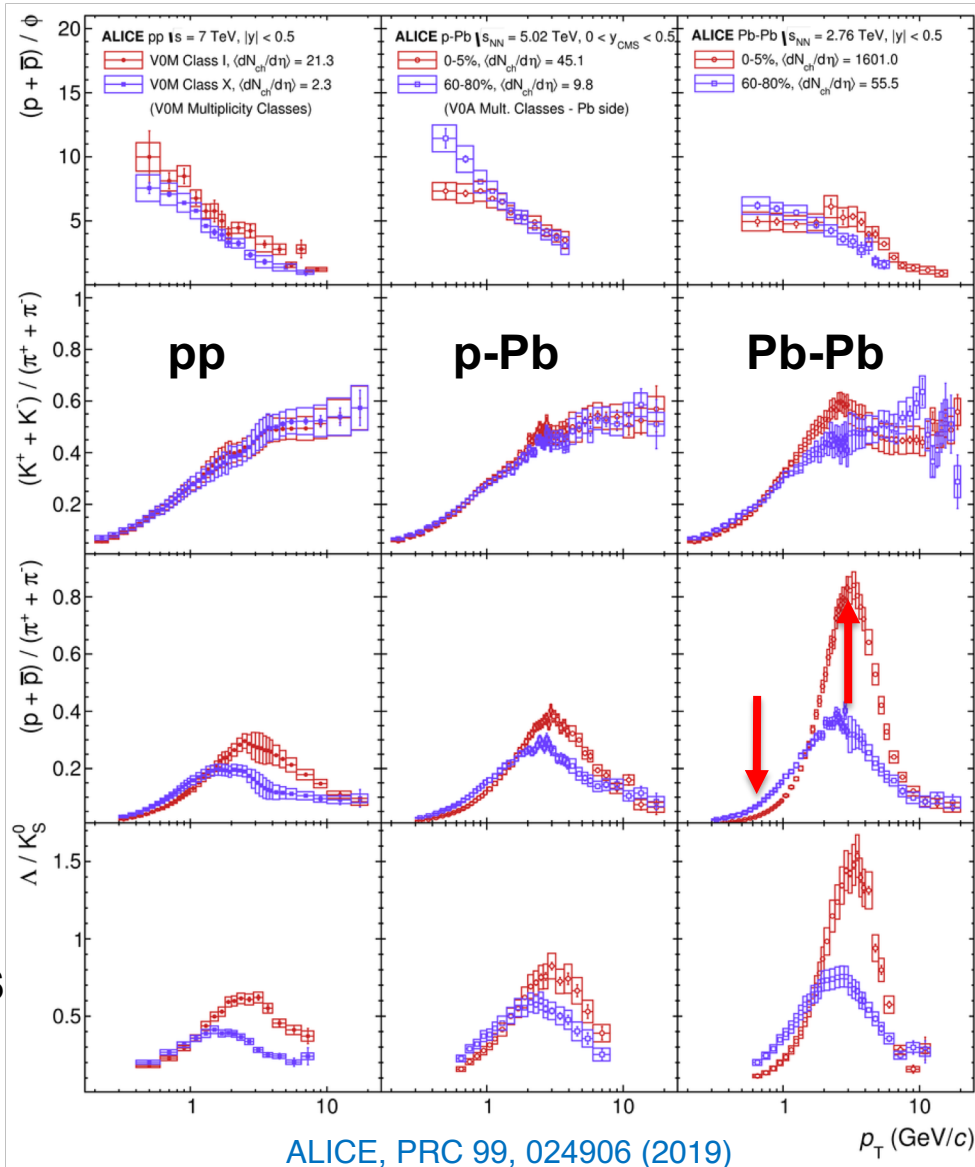
# Radial flow affects baryon/meson production

$\rho/\phi$

$K/\pi$

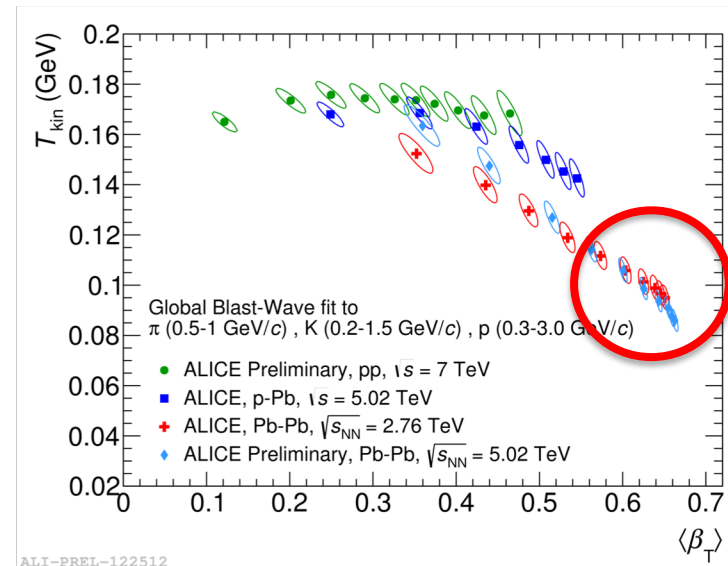
$p/\pi$

$\Lambda/K^0_S$



Baryon-to-meson (B/M) ratios evolve from **low multiplicity** to **high multiplicity** events similarly across collision systems.

**Baryon anomaly:** enhancement of B/M at intermediate  $p_T$  and depletion at low  $p_T$



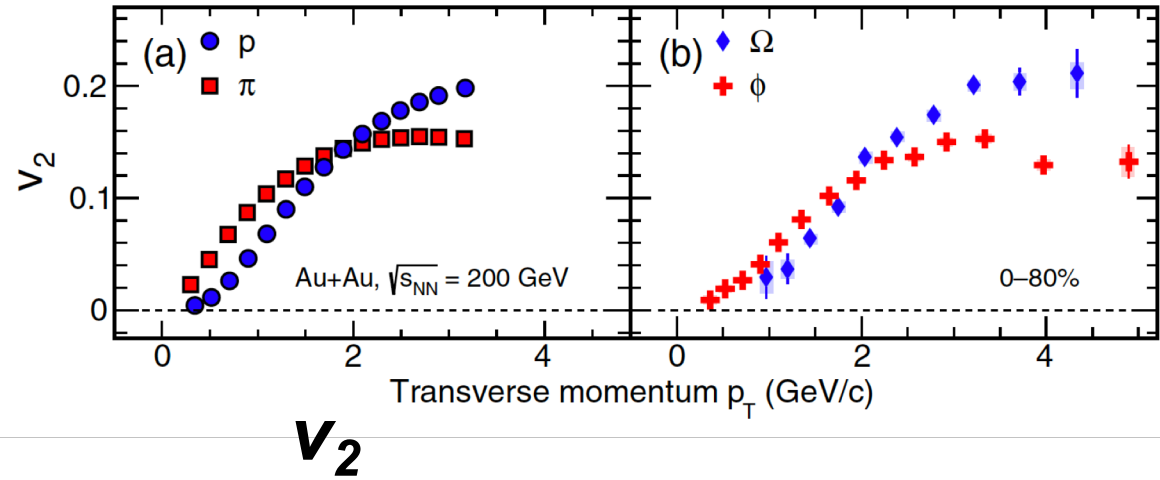
Strongest radial flow ( $\beta_T$ ) in central Pb-Pb collisions

→ More in F. Prino's talk

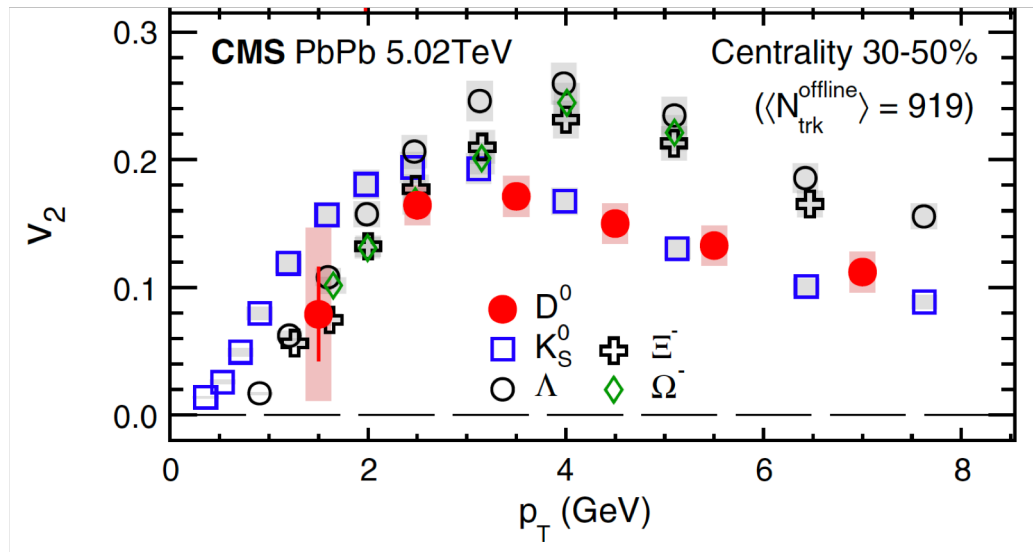
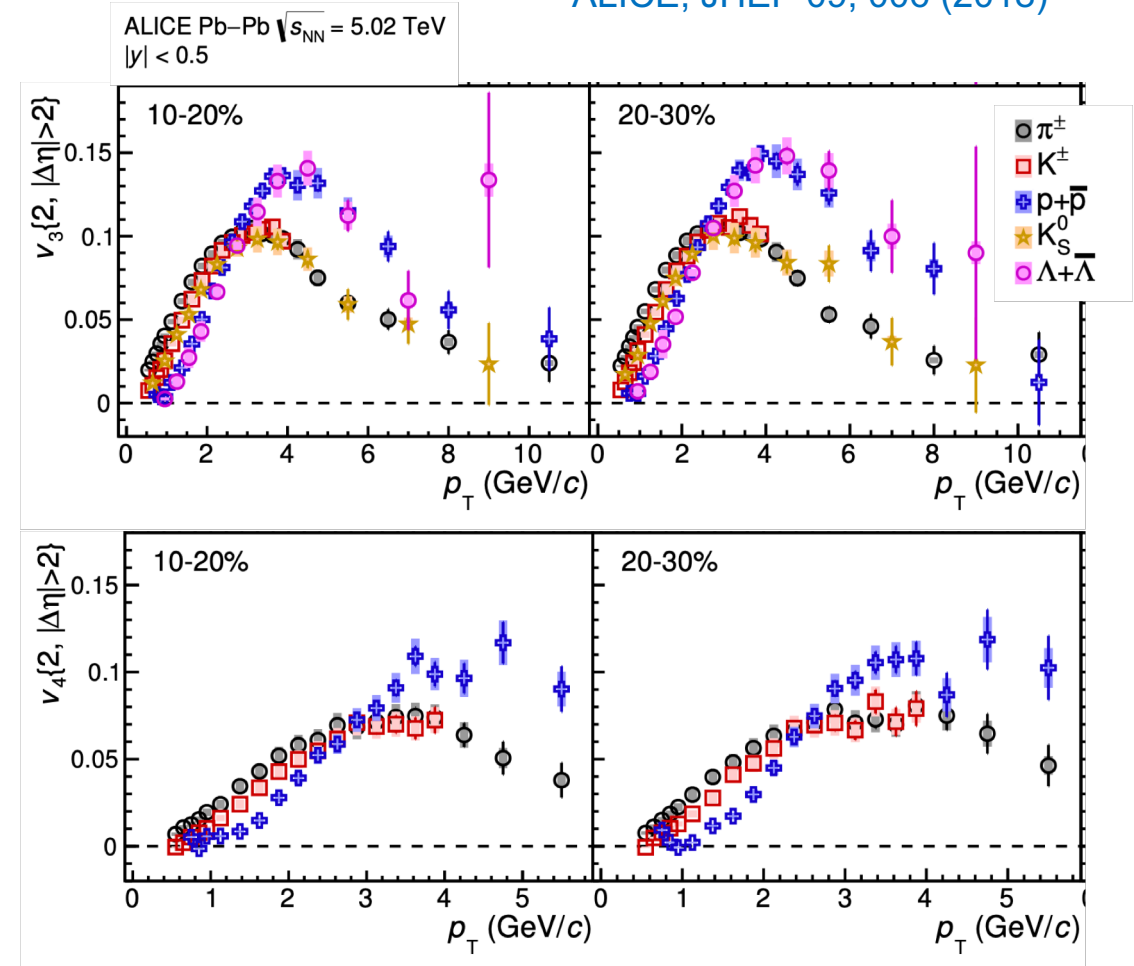


# Collectivity manifested by radial and elliptic flow

STAR, PRL 116, 062301 (2016)



ALICE, JHEP 09, 006 (2018)



CMS, PRL 121, 082301 (2018)

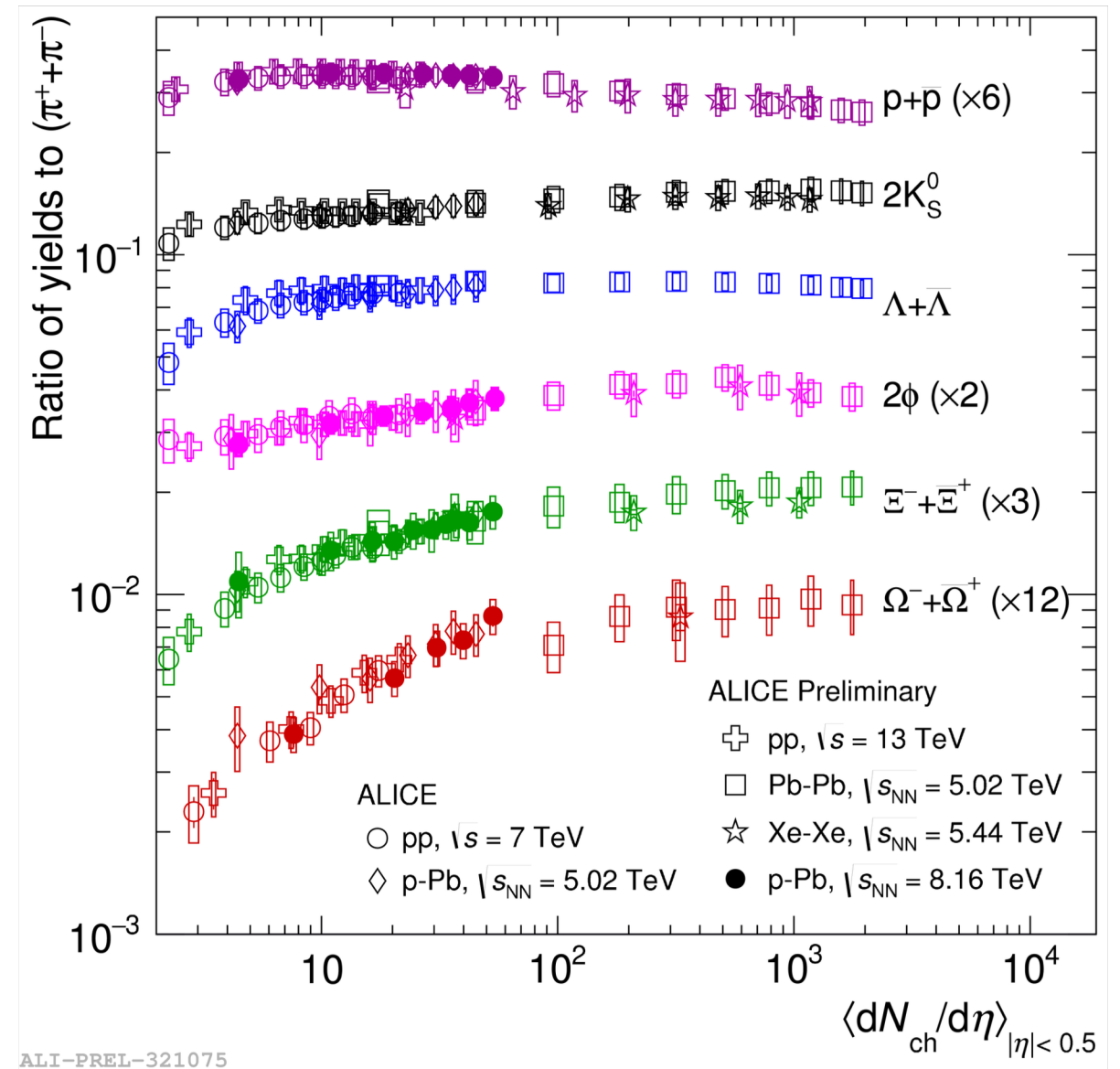
# Outlook to small systems

The smooth multiplicity-dependent evolution of particle chemistry (and signatures for collective behaviour) across systems might be pointing at a common hadron production mechanism.

Advocates for a unification of the theoretical description under a “small-to-large” or “large-to-small” paradigm.

*A point of no return (?)*

→ more in talk by R. Preghenella on Fri.



Instead of a summary of a selection,  
some open questions....

Chemical composition and equilibrium of particle species

→ Do we understand the deviations from the SHM?  
Have we reached the limit of precision of the SHM?

“Strangeness enhancement” implies understanding the pp reference

→ Do we understand the multiplicity dependence?  
MC generators, canonical suppression, two-component models...

Collectivity and flow

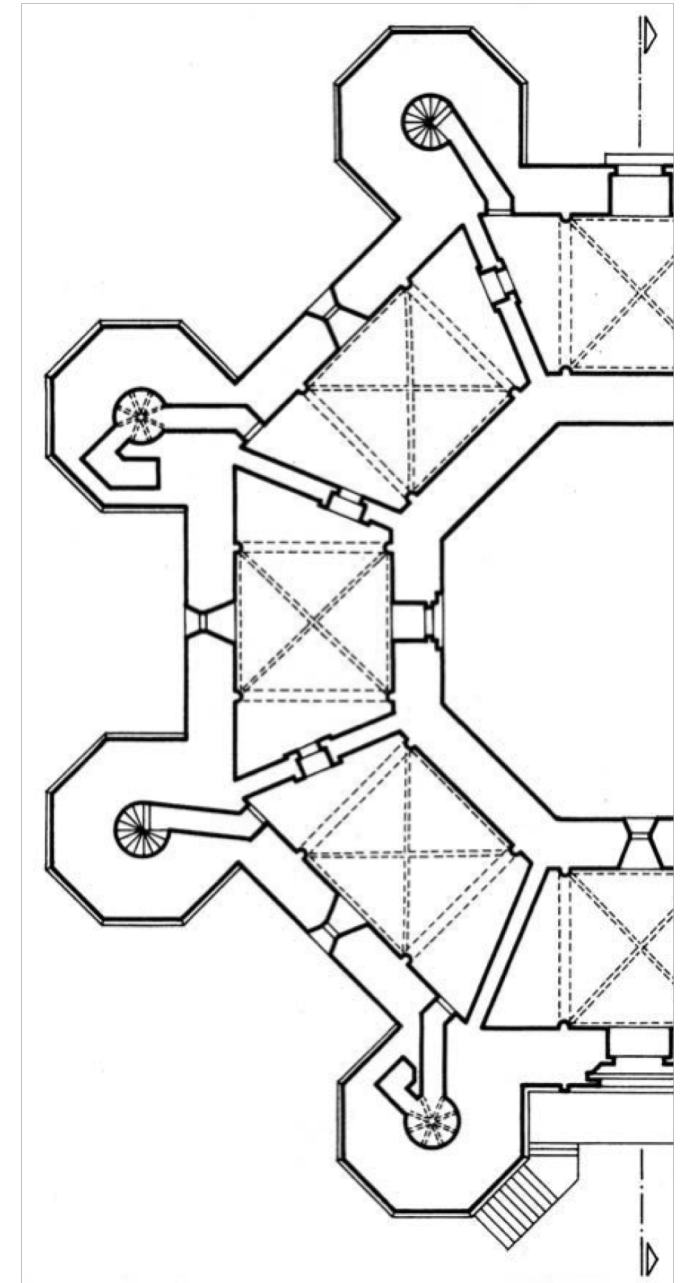
→ Do these have the same origin in small and large systems?  
How does the system reach equilibration?

Composite, fragile objects

→ How can they survive the hadronic phase?

Production mechanisms: baryon/meson

→ Have we settled the issue with recombination?

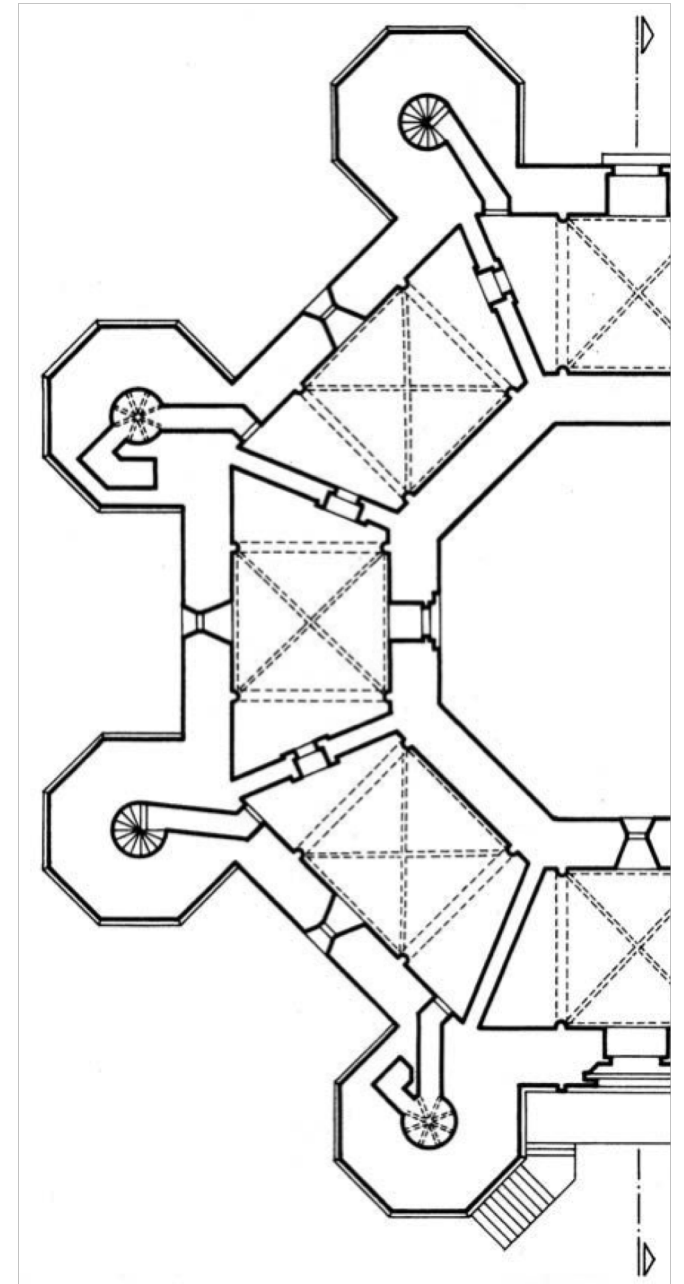


Thank you!



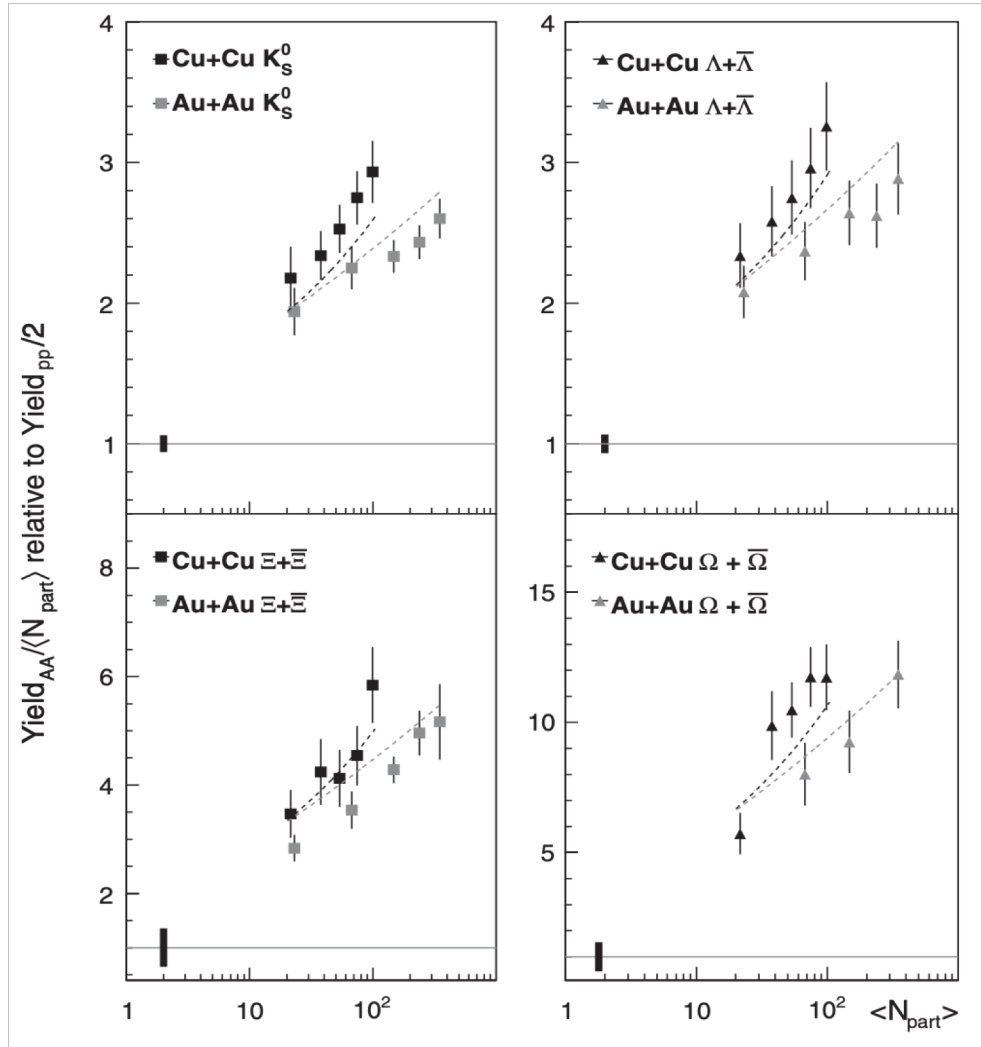
The 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
**Strangeness in Quark Matter (SQM 2019)**  
10-15 June 2019, Bari (Italy)

Contact: [Francesca.Bellini@cern.ch](mailto:Francesca.Bellini@cern.ch)

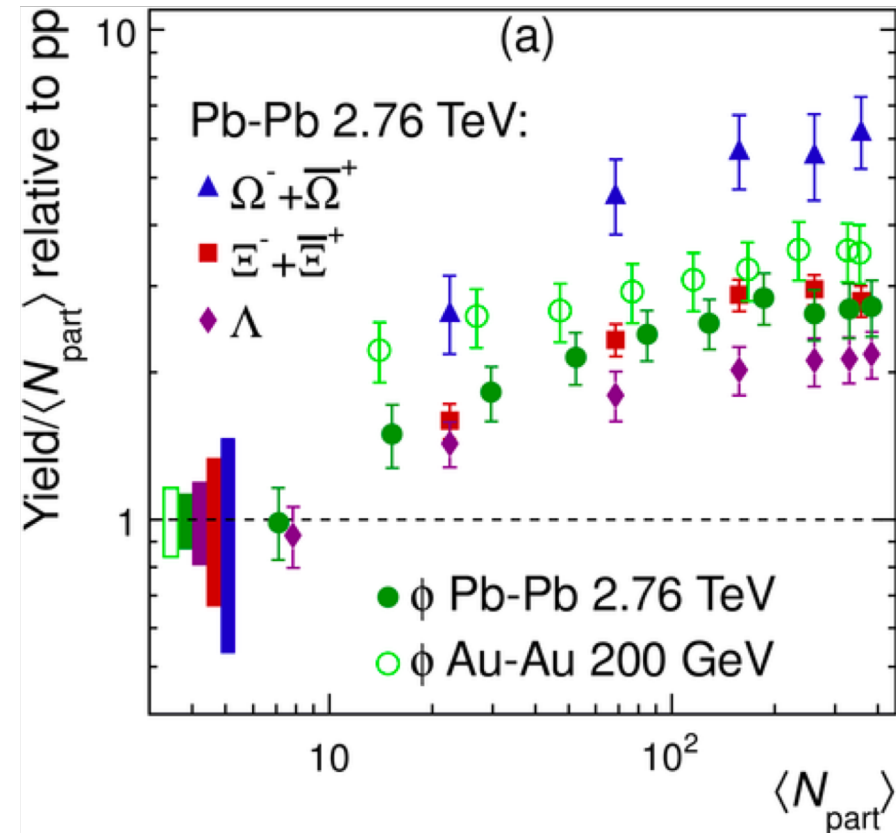


# Strangeness enhancement

*The historical way: yield in AA relative to pp*

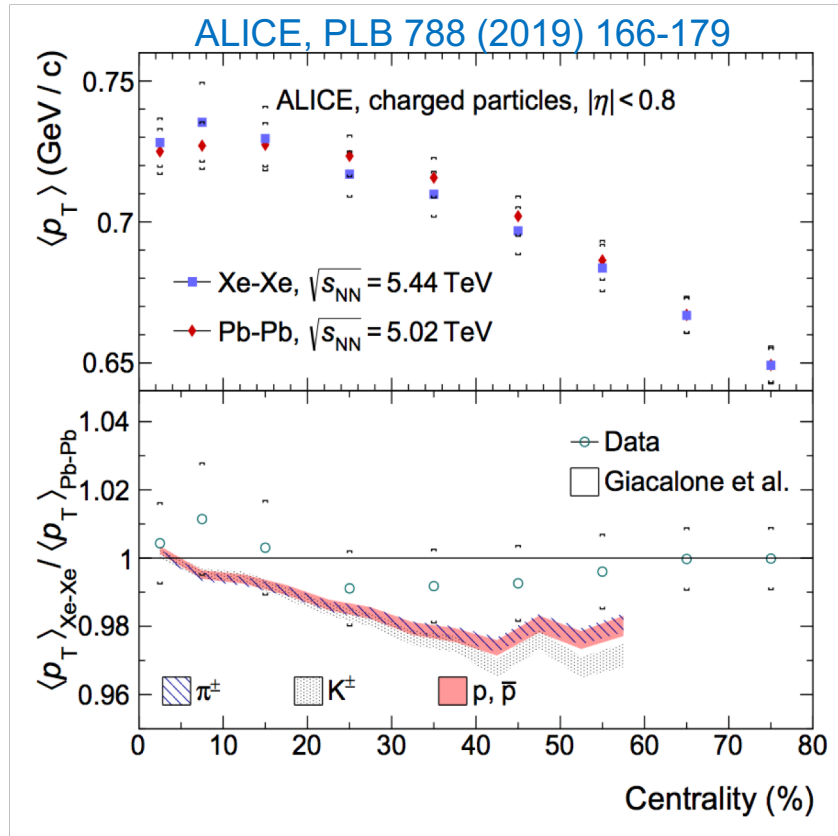


STAR, PRL 108, 072301 (2012)



ALICE, PRC 91, 024609 (2015)

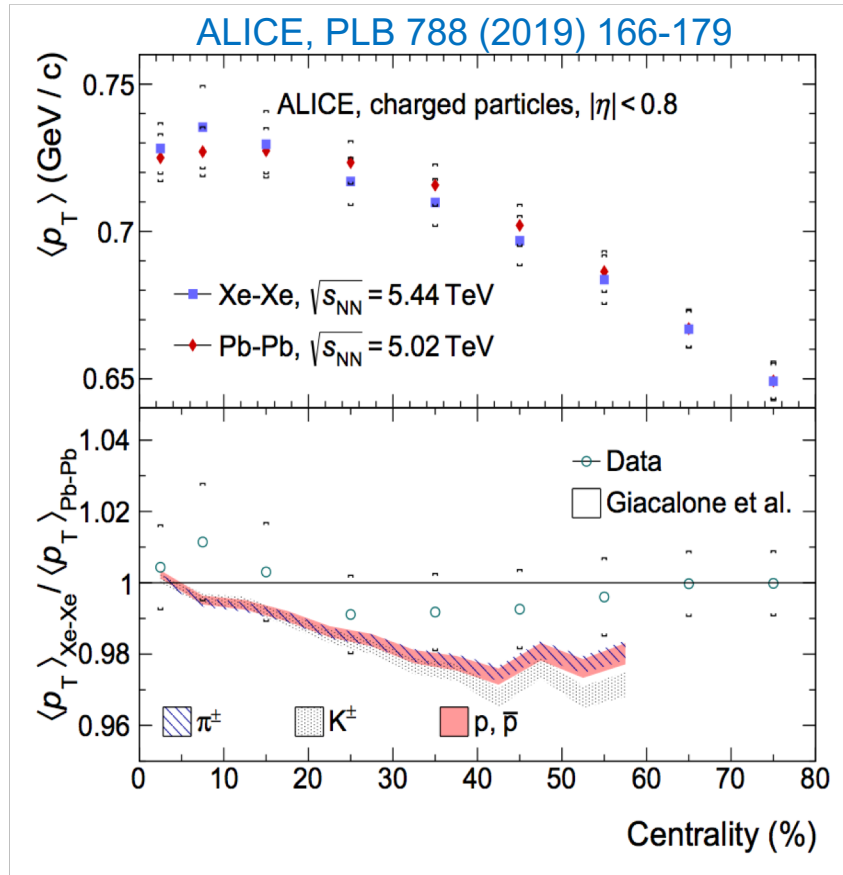
# System geometry dependence



Weak dependence of  $\langle p_T \rangle$  on centrality in AA collisions and mass scaling, but small ( $O(3\%)$ ) difference between Xe-Xe and Pb-Pb, as predicted by hydrodynamics.

*Hydro prediction from G. Giacalone et al., PRC 97, 034904 (2018)*

# System geometry dependence



The multiplicity and system-geometry dependence of  $v_2\{k\}$  is captured by hydro (IP-Glasma+MUSIC+UrQMD) in AA collisions, but not in small systems.

