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Charged hadron production at LHCb

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EPS-HEP

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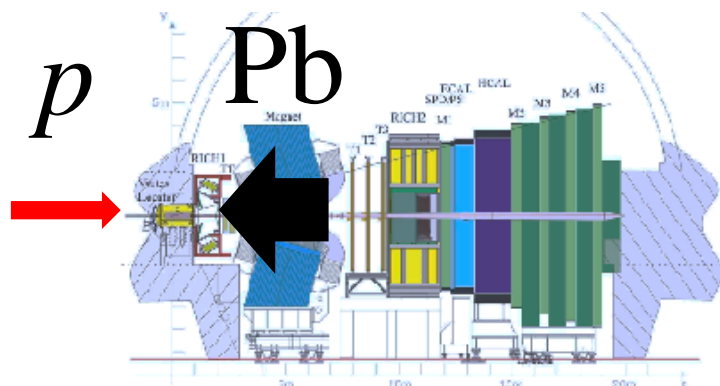
IGFAE
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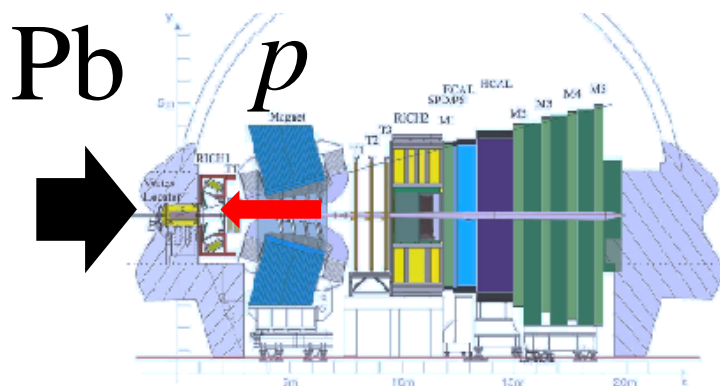
XUNTA
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The LHCb detector

- Only LHC detector fully instrumented in $2 < \eta < 5$
- Minimum-bias datasets of pp and pPb collisions at different centre-of-mass energies
- Reverse beam directions in pPb :



Forward $\eta > 0$



Backward $\eta < 0$

Boost of nucleon-nucleon cms
system: $\eta = \eta_{lab} - 0.465$

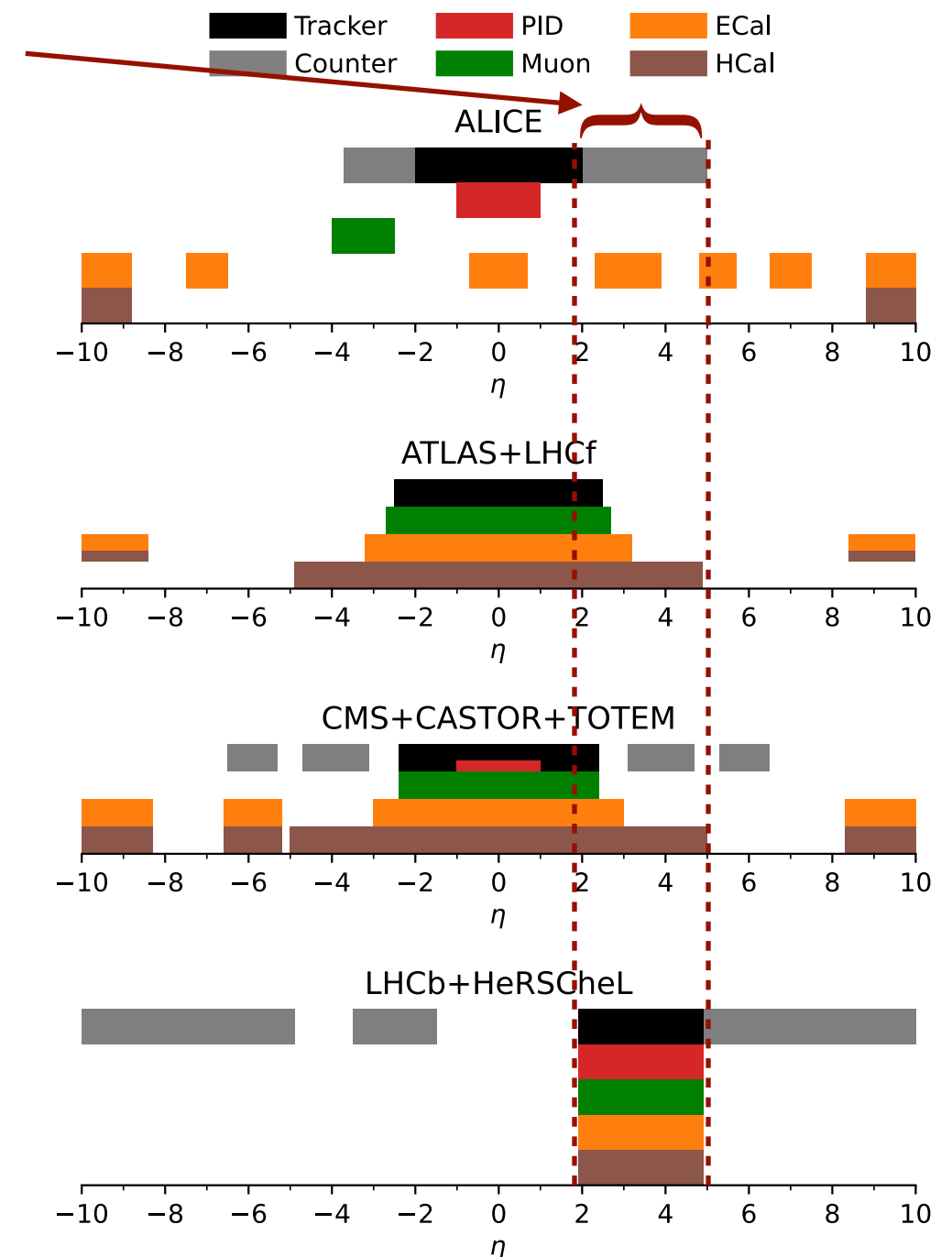
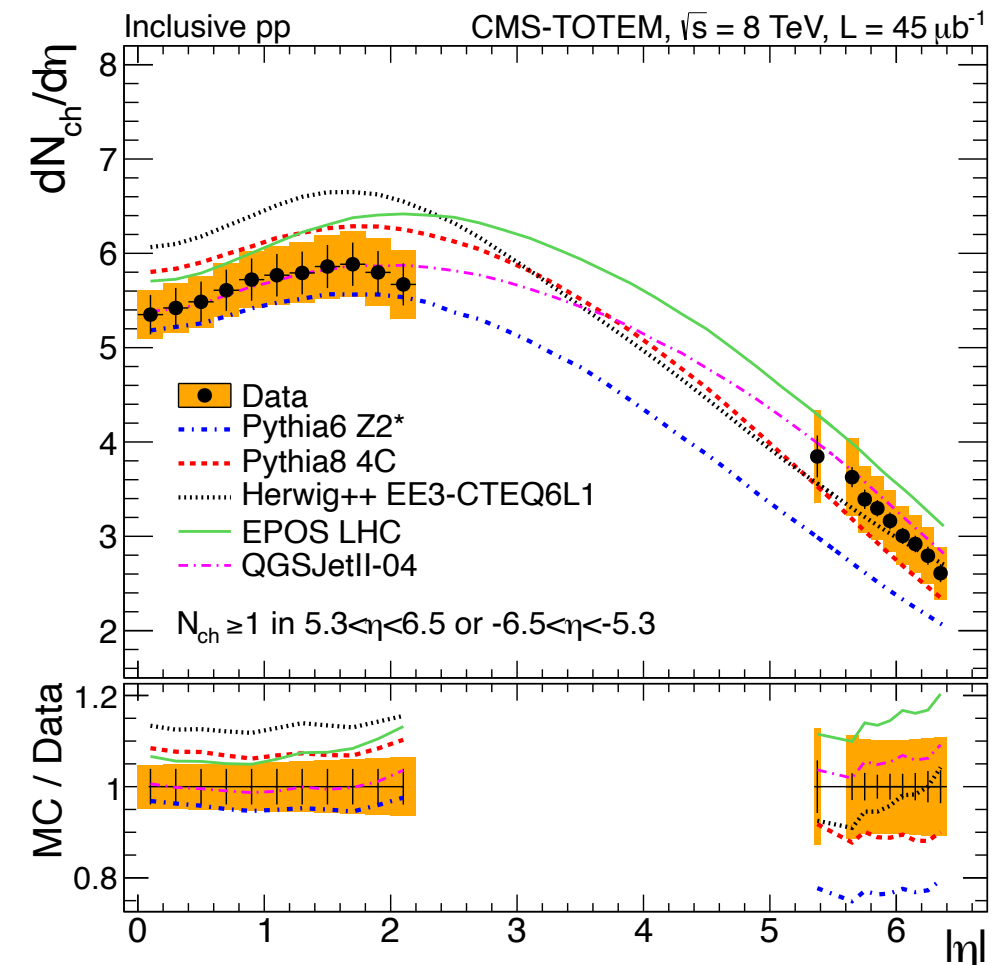


Figure from [arXiv:2105.06148v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.06148v1)

- Prompt charged particle production in pp collisions at 13 TeV
→ arXiv:2107.10090, LHCb-PAPER-2021-010
- Prompt charged particle production in pPb and pp collisions at 5 TeV
→ LHCb-PAPER-2021-015 (in preparation)

– Description of hadron production in pp and pA collisions

- * Most production driven by non-perturbative **soft-QCD interactions**: hadronisation, DPS, ...
- * Predictions of Monte-Carlo generators largely **disagree in LHCb acceptance**
- * Impact in **cosmic-ray physics**, could explain currently observed excess in muons in hadronic cascades of high-energy cosmic rays ([arXiv:2105.06148v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.06148v1))



– Phenomenology of heavy-ion collisions

- * Charged hadron production in pA collisions influenced by **cold nuclear matter** effects
- * **Baseline** to study AA collisions and quark gluon plasma effects
- * For high p_T charged particles, **pQCD predictions** are possible
 - Description of shadowing/antishadowing in nuclear PDFs (nPDFs)
 - Influence of gluon saturation in the low x regime

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \cdot \frac{n}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta}$$

n : prompt charged particle yield

$\Delta\eta, \Delta p_T$: bin size

\mathcal{L} : integrated luminosity of the dataset

- Dataset of pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV and $\mathcal{L} = 5.4 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
- **Unbiased trigger** selecting leading bunch crossings
- **Prompt charged particles**: long-lived particles produced in primary interaction or without long-lived ancestors
- Measured from **tracks** in $2 < \eta < 4.8$ and $0.08 < p_T < 10 \text{ GeV}$
- Loose track selection with high efficiency
- Charged particles **separated by charge**

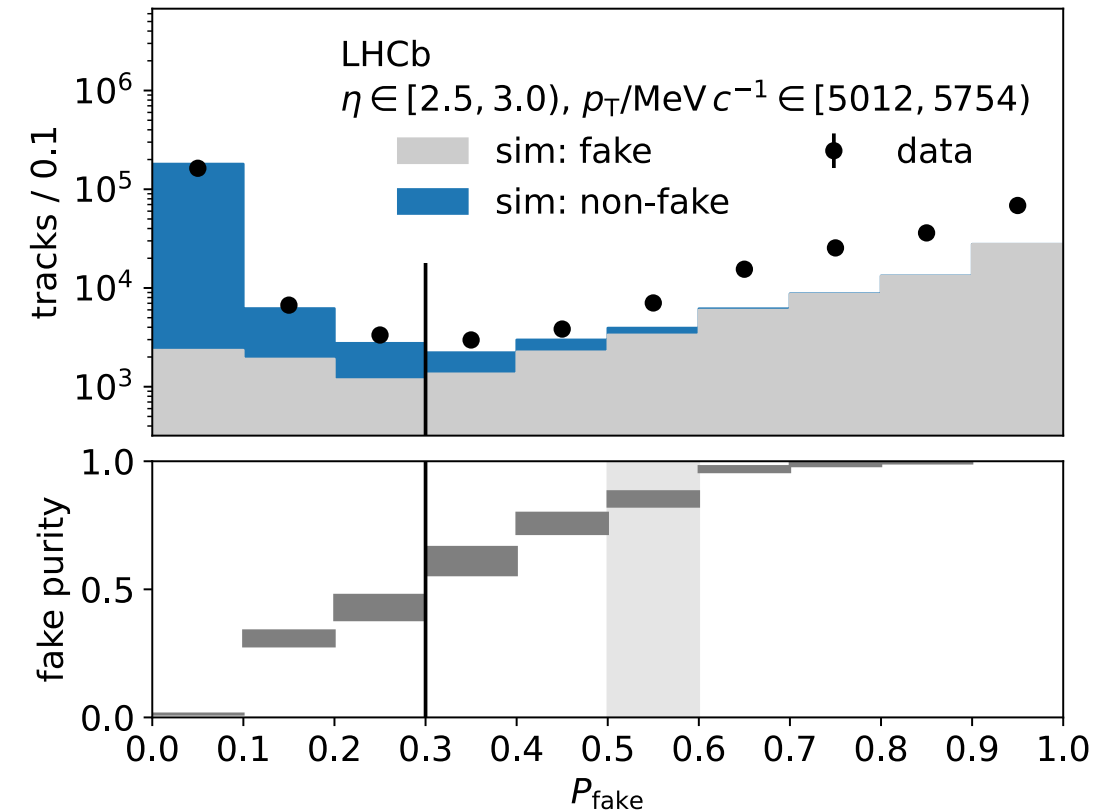
selected tracks (candidates)

background contributions

$$n_{\text{cand}} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{total efficiency}}}{\varepsilon} n + \sum_i n_{\text{backgr},i}$$

- Fake tracks
- Secondary particles

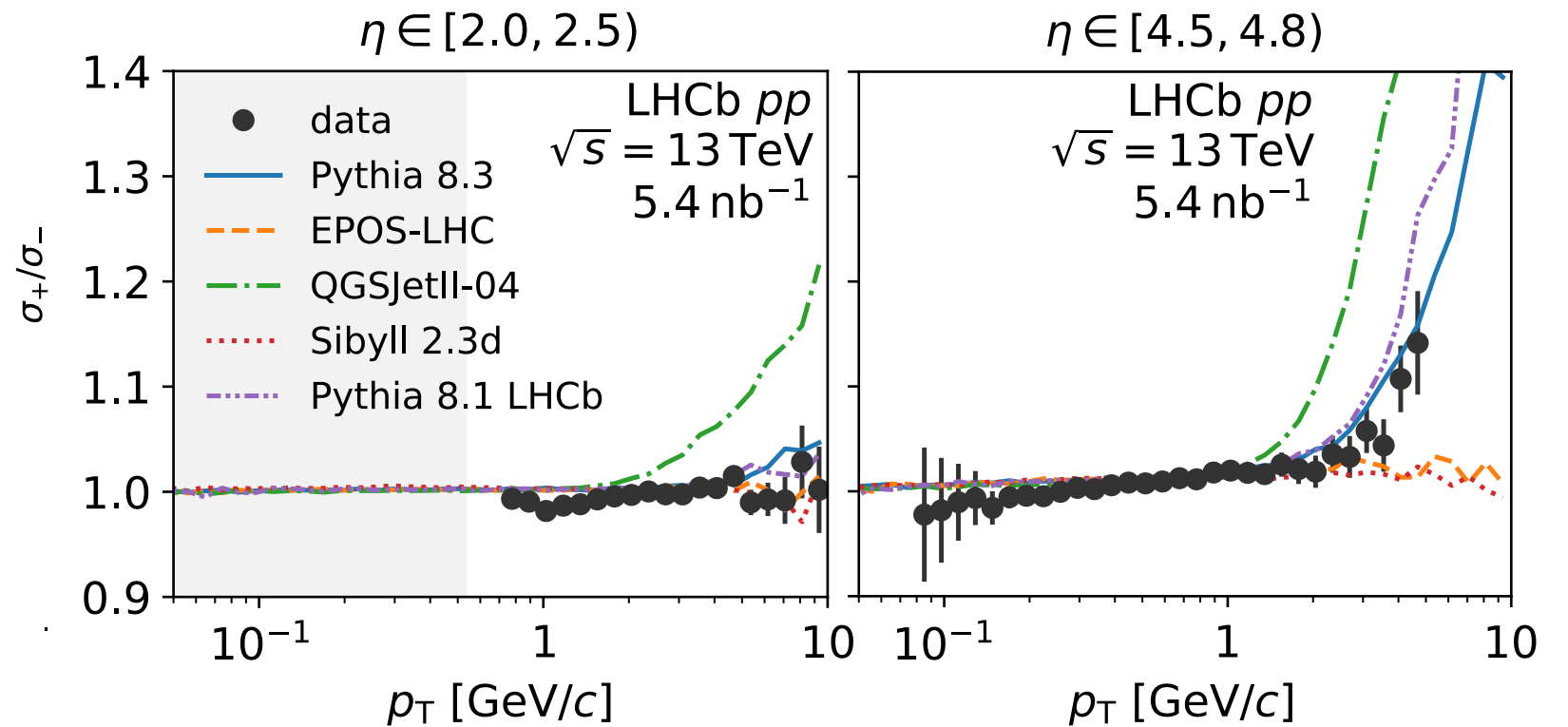
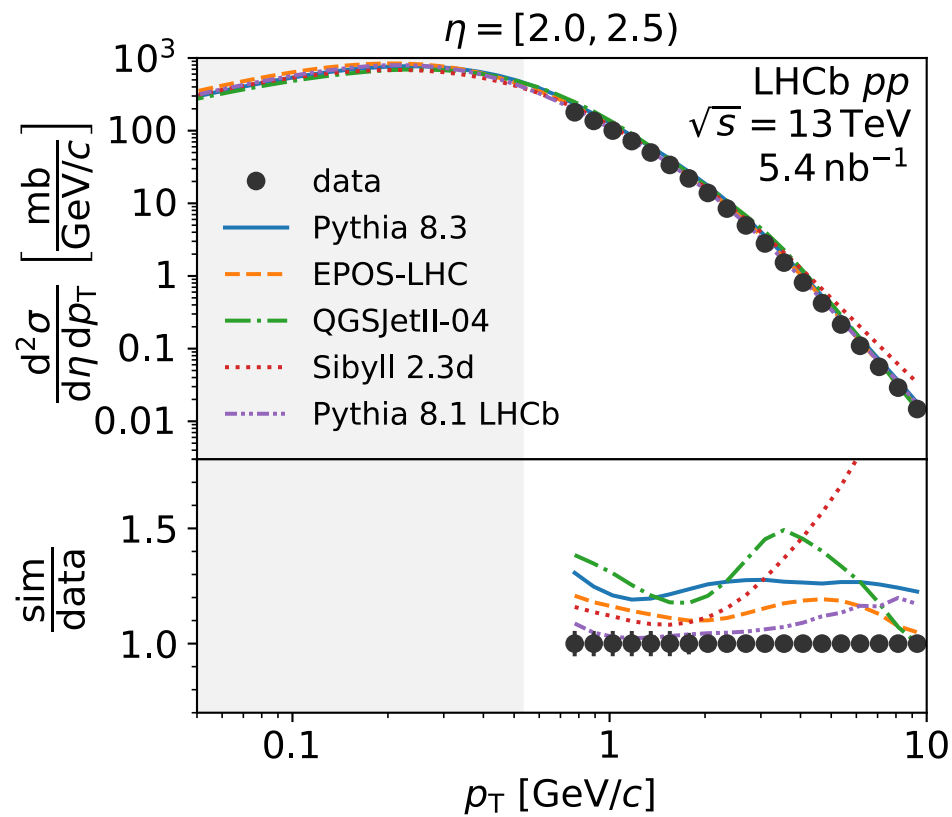
- **Total efficiency** from simulation and corrected with data
 - abundance of (π, K, p) extrapolated from LHCb measurement at 0.9 and 7 TeV
[EPJ C72 \(2012\) 2168](#)
- **Background** estimated with simulation and corrected by data
 - use proxy samples of tracks enriched with background
 - proxies for fake tracks, material interactions and daughters of Λ , $\bar{\Lambda}$ and K_S^0
- Measurement dominated by **systematic uncertainties**:
 - Total uncertainty between 2 – 15 % , most bins below 5 %
 - Generally dominated by background estimation procedure
 - Computation of **full covariance matrix** for uncertainties



P_{fake} : fake track probability, obtained with NN classifier ([LHCb-PUB-2017-011](#))

Double-differential cross-sections at 13 TeV

[arXiv:2107.10090](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.10090)



- Generators mostly **overestimate** forward particle production
- Particle density**: best agreement with EPOS-LHC and Pythia8-1 tuned for LHCb (occupancy weighted)
- Charged ratio**: best agreement with Pythia 8.3

Nuclear modification factor $\rightarrow R_{p\text{Pb}}(\eta, p_T) = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d^2\sigma_{p\text{Pb}}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta}{d^2\sigma_{pp}(\eta, p_T)/dp_T d\eta}, \quad A = 208$

$$\left. \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \right|_{p\text{Pb}, pp} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \cdot \frac{N^{ch}(\eta, p_T)}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta}$$

N^{ch} : **prompt charged particle yield**

$\Delta\eta, \Delta p_T$: **bin size**

\mathcal{L} : **integrated luminosity of the dataset**

- Datasets at $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5 \text{ TeV}$:
- Measure $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ in **common η range**

Beam	Acceptance	Luminosity
pp	$2 < \eta < 4.8$	$3.49 \pm 0.07 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
$p\text{Pb}$	$1.6 < \eta < 4.3$	$42.73 \pm 0.98 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
$\text{Pb}p$	$-5.2 < \eta < -2.5$	$38.71 \pm 0.97 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$

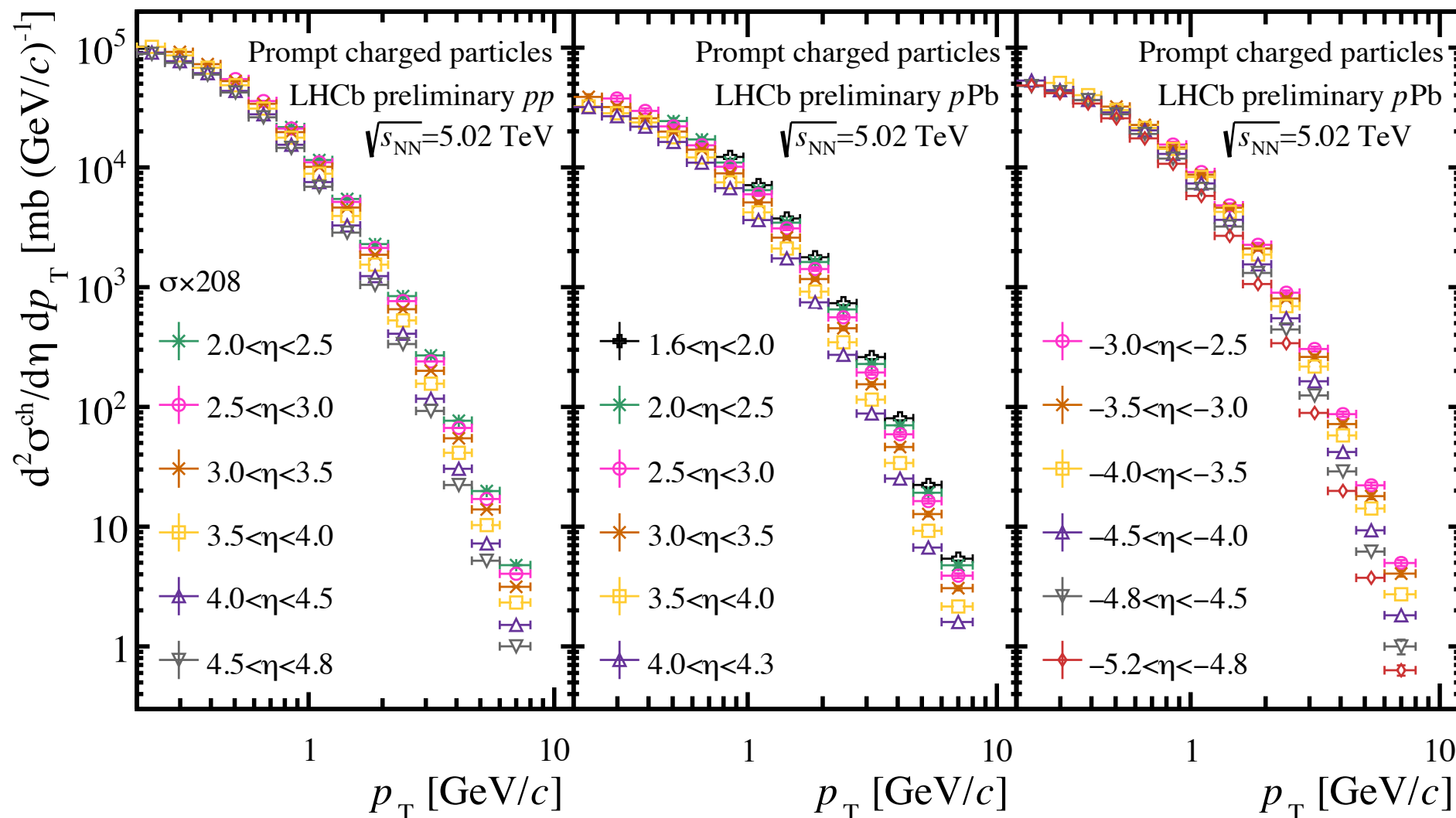
- N^{ch} measured with **reconstructed tracks**, covering $p > 2 \text{ GeV}/c$, $0.2 < p_T < 8 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Events selected with **minimum-bias trigger**
- Reconstructed tracks corrected from **background** and **reconstruction** and **selection efficiencies**, measured with simulation and corrected with data

- Background from fake tracks **specially important**
 - Increases with event occupancy, large contribution in $\text{Pb}p$
 - Contribution rises strongly with p_T
- **Tighter track selection** than in 13 TeV analysis
- **Selection efficiency** measured on data using a calibration sample of $\phi(1020) \rightarrow K^+K^-$ decays
- **Charged particle composition** not yet measured in LHCb acceptance for $p\text{Pb}$ \rightarrow use EPOS-LHC simulation validated with ALICE data ([Phys. Lett. B760 \(2016\) 720](#))
- Total uncertainty:
 - down to 2.8 % in $d^2\sigma/d\eta dp_T$
 - down to 4.2 % in $R_{p\text{Pb}}$
- Dominated by systematic uncertainties:
 - **particle composition** in $p\text{Pb}$ for most bins
 - tracking efficiency and signal purity in boundary (η, p_T) bins

Uncertainty source	$p\text{Pb}$ [%]	$\text{Pb}p$ [%]	pp [%]
Track finding efficiency	1.5-5.0	1.5-5.0	1.6-5.3
Detector occupancy	0.0-2.8	0.6-2.9	0.1-1.6
Particle composition	0.4-4.1	0.4-4.6	0.3-2.4
Selection efficiency	0.7-2.2	0.7-3.0	1.0-1.7
Purity	0.1-1.8	0.1-11.7	0.1-5.8
Truth-matching	0.0-0.1	0.0-0.1	0.1-0.2
Luminosity	2.3	2.5	2.0
Statistical uncertainty	0.0-0.6	0.0-1.0	0.0-1.1
Total (in $d^2\sigma/d\eta dp_T$)	3.0-6.7	3.3-14.5	2.8-8.7
Total (in $R_{p\text{Pb}}$)	4.2-9.2	4.4-16.9	

Double-differential cross-sections at 5 TeV

- $\left. \frac{d^2\sigma}{dp_T d\eta} \right|_{p\text{Pb}, pp} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}} \cdot \frac{N^{ch}(\eta, p_T)}{\Delta p_T \Delta \eta}$
- pp result consistent with measurement at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV (LHCb-PAPER-2021-010)
- cross-section at 13 TeV from 5 TeV increases a factor 1 – 3 depending on p_T



LHCb (x, Q^2) coverage

- R_{pPb} probes nuclear effects
- Depends on (x, Q^2) of the probed Pb parton

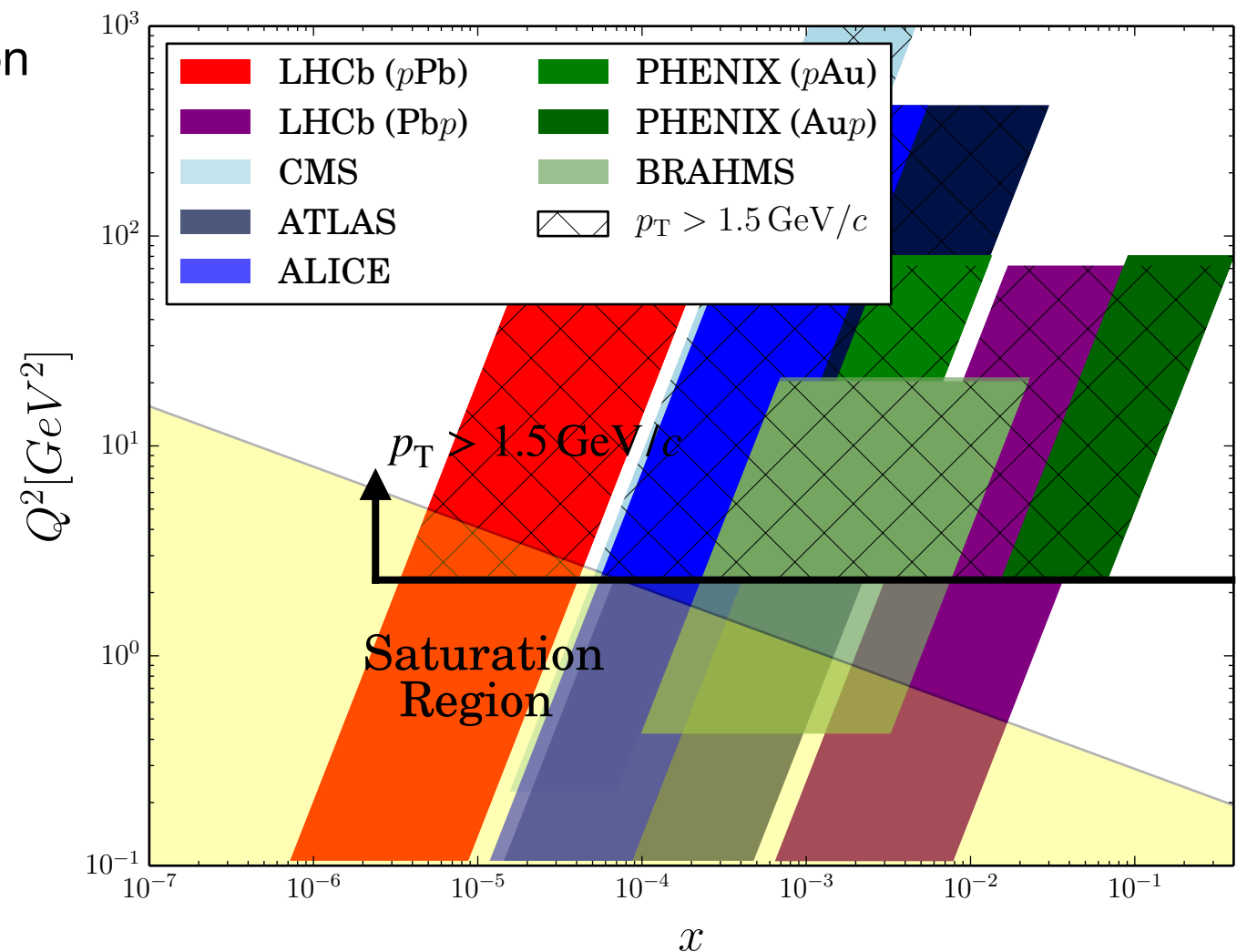
Q^2 : exchanged momentum between interacting partons

x : momentum fraction of Pb parton

$$Q^2 \sim m^2 + p_T^2, \quad x \sim \frac{Q}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}} e^{-\eta}$$

$$m = 256 \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

- **LHCb** can probe unprecedented Bjorken- x range:
 - **forward**, $10^{-6} \lesssim x \lesssim 10^{-4}$
 - **backward**, $10^{-3} \lesssim x \lesssim 10^{-1}$
- Possible access to **saturation region** in perturbative scale $p_T > 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Backward acceptance overlaps with (x, Q^2) at **central BRAHMS** (dAu) and **backward PHENIX** ($Au p$)



Saturation region:

PRD59, 014017 (1998), PRL100, 022303 (2008)

$$Q_{s,Pb}^2 \approx 0.26 A^{1/3} (x_0/x)^\lambda \text{ GeV}^2 \quad \begin{aligned} \lambda &= 0.288 \\ x_0 &= 3 \cdot 10^{-4} \\ A &= 208 \end{aligned}$$

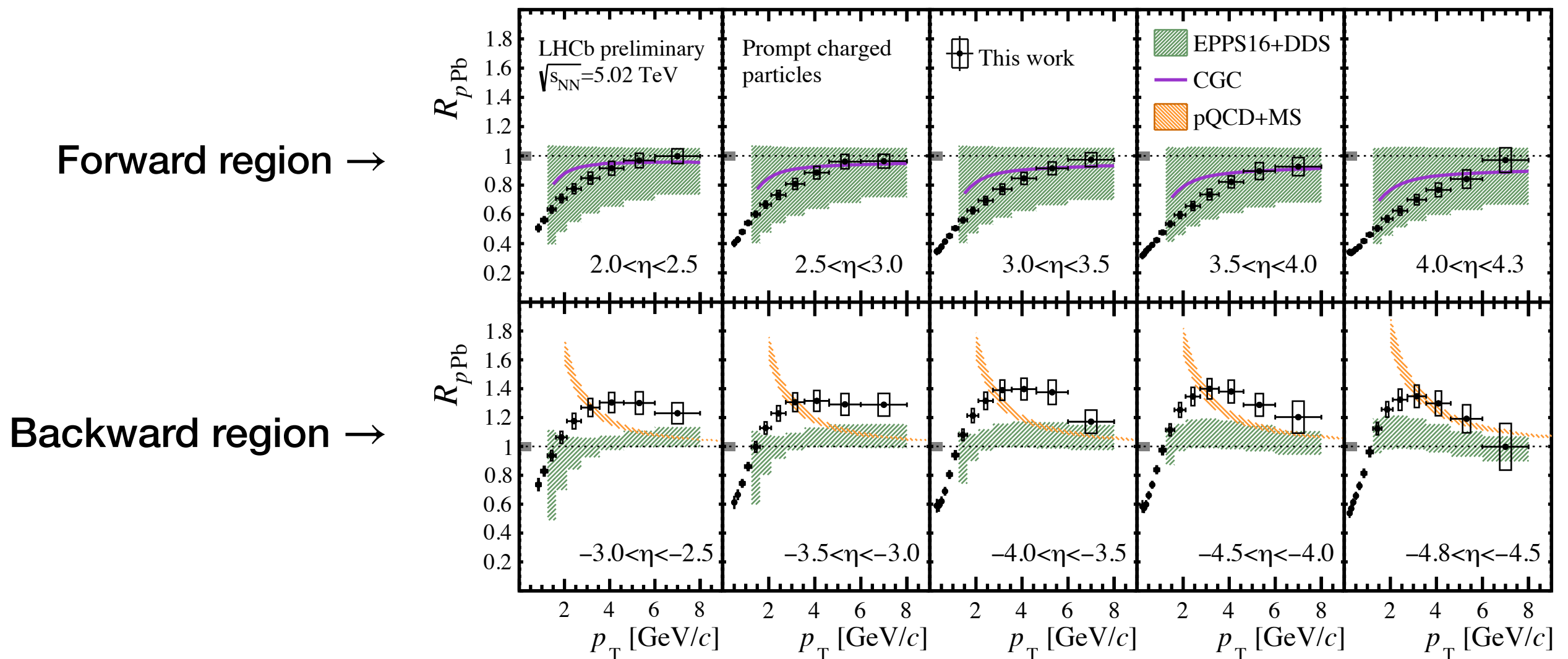
- **Strong suppression** at forward η , down to ~ 0.3 at low p_T and most forward rapidity (in preparation)

- **Enhancement** at backward for $p_T > 1.5$ GeV/c, as observed by PHENIX in AuP [Phys. Rev. C101 \(2020\) 034910](#)

Models:

- EPPS16+DDS: I. Helenius et. al. [JHEP09\(2014\) 138](#)
- Color Glass Condensate (CGC): T. Lappi et. al. [PR D88, 114020](#)
- pQCD calculation with MS: Z. B. Kang et. al. (reproduced PHENIX enhancement)

[PL B740\(2015\) 23](#)
[PR D88\(2013\) 054010](#)



Results of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ - dependence with $(x_{\text{exp}}, Q_{\text{exp}}^2)$

LHCb-PAPER-2021-015 (in preparation)

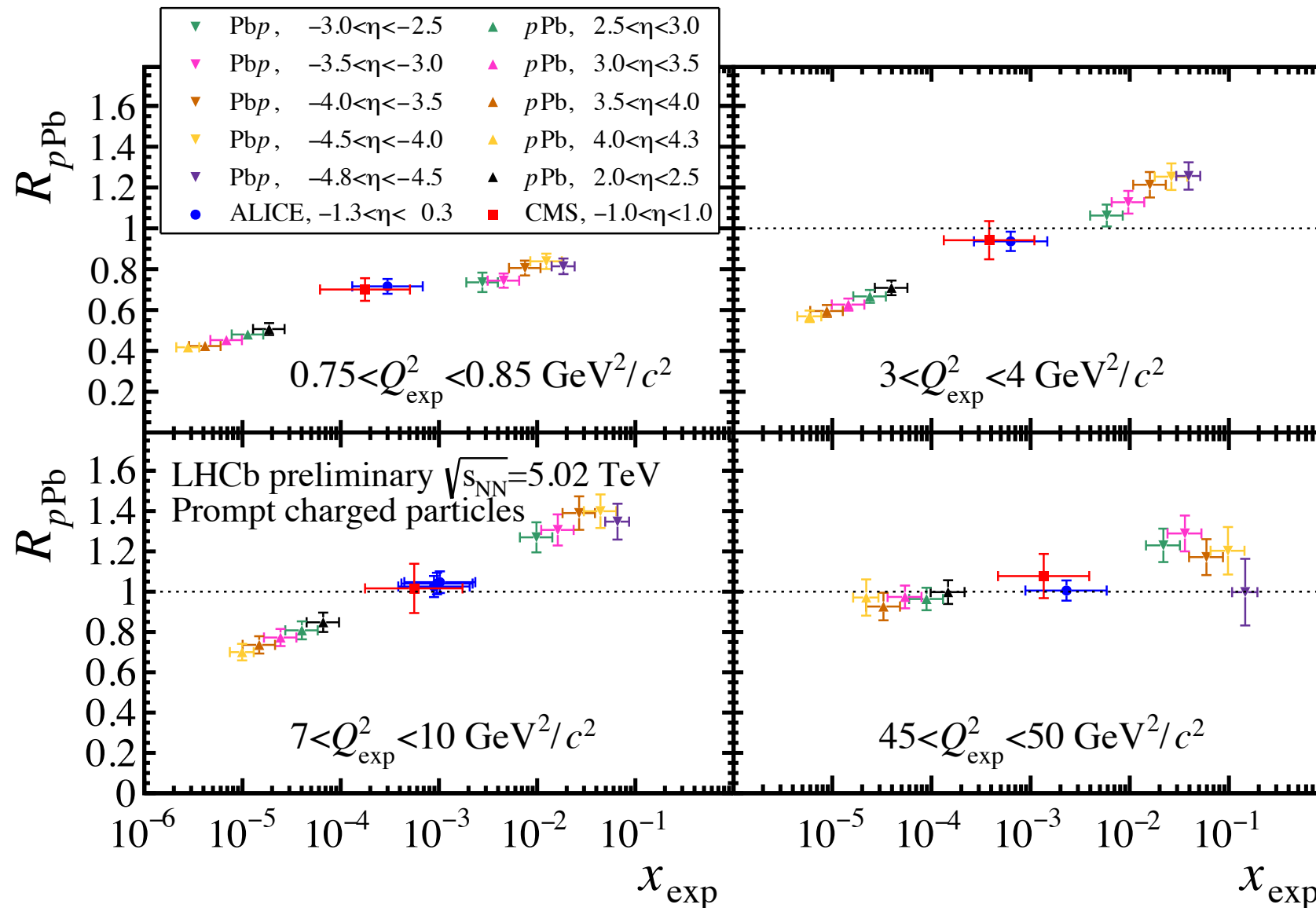
- experimental proxies for (x, Q^2)

$$Q_{\text{exp}}^2 \equiv m^2 + p_{\text{T}}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad x_{\text{exp}} \equiv \frac{Q_{\text{exp}}}{\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}}} e^{-\eta}$$

- with η and p_{T} the center of each bin and $m = 256 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

- indirect study of the evolution of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ with x and Q^2

- Continuous evolution of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ with x_{exp} at different Q_{exp}^2 , between forward, central and backward η regions



Recent results of charged particle production in $p\text{Pb}$ and pp collisions were presented

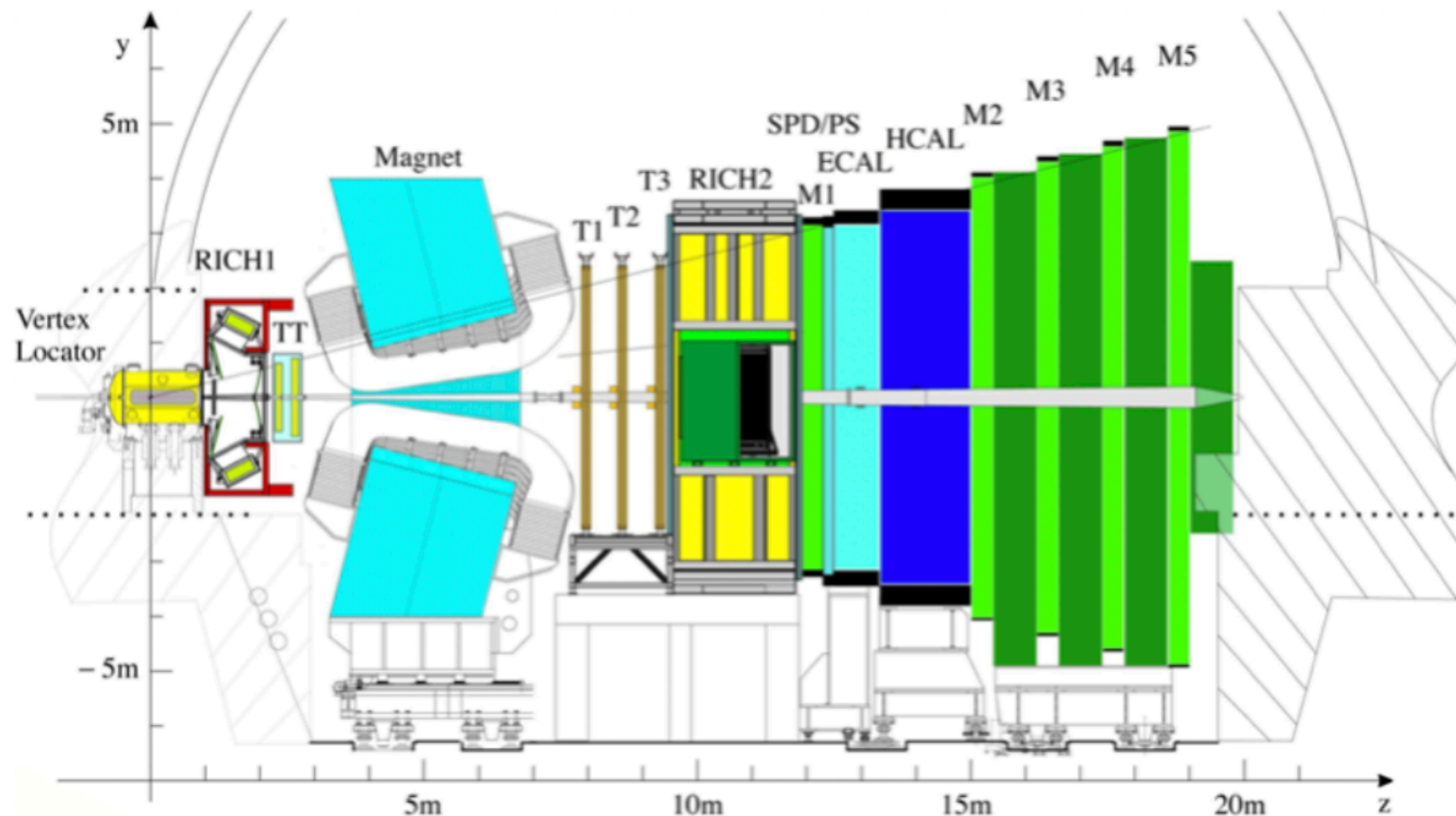
- First measurement of double-differential prompt charged particle cross-section in pp collisions in forward region at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$ ([arXiv:2107.1009](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.1009), LHCb-PAPER-2021-010)
 - Separation of **negatively** and **positively** charged particles
 - total uncertainty **$2 - 15 \%$** , full **error correlation matrix** will be published
 - Crucial input for hadron production modeling in **atmospheric showers in cosmic-ray physics**
- First determination of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ for prompt charged particles in **forward** and **backward** regions at LHC (LHCb-PAPER-2021-015, in preparation)
 - double-differential prompt charged particle cross-section in pp and $p\text{Pb}$ at $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5 \text{ TeV}$
 - total uncertainty down to **4.2%** in $R_{p\text{Pb}}$
 - Study of cold nuclear matter effects over a **wide range of x**
 - Strong constraints to nuclear PDFs and saturation models at **intermediate** and **very low x**
- **Prospects:** exploit excellent (π, K, p) PID at LHCb to measure cross-sections by species in pp and $p\text{Pb}$ collisions

Backup slides



The LHCb detector

- Forward spectrometer at LHC fully instrumented in $2 < \eta < 5$
 - Tracking system with excellent momentum resolution
 - Identification of charged hadrons (π, K, p), neutrals (γ, π^0), and leptons (μ, e)
- Resolution of B and D decay vertices from primary collision
- Highly flexible trigger, configured to measure very low p_T
- Accurate luminosity determination (uncertainty $\sim 2\%$, [JINST 9 \(2014\) 12, P12005](#))



LHCb [JINST 3 \(2008\) S08005](#)

LHCb performance [IJMPA 30 \(2015\) 1530022](#)

Key ideas of the analyses

- Study hadron production with **inclusive prompt charged particle spectra** in (η, p_T) bins
 - long-lived particles (lifetime < 30 ps)
 - produced in primary interaction or without long-lived ancestors
- Long-lived charged particles are: π^- , K^- , p , e^- , μ^- , Ξ^- , Σ^+ , Σ^- , Ω^- (+cc.)
- **LHCb tracking system** used to detect charged particles
- Long tracks with $p > 2 \text{ GeV}/c$

Main inputs:

- **reconstruction** and **selection efficiencies**
- **background contributions**
 - **Fake tracks**, not produced by charged particles
 - **Secondary particles**: particles from
 - * interactions with the detector material (e^- from γ conversions and hadrons from hadronic interactions)
 - * daughters of long-lived particles (Λ^0 , K_S^0 , Σ^+ ...)

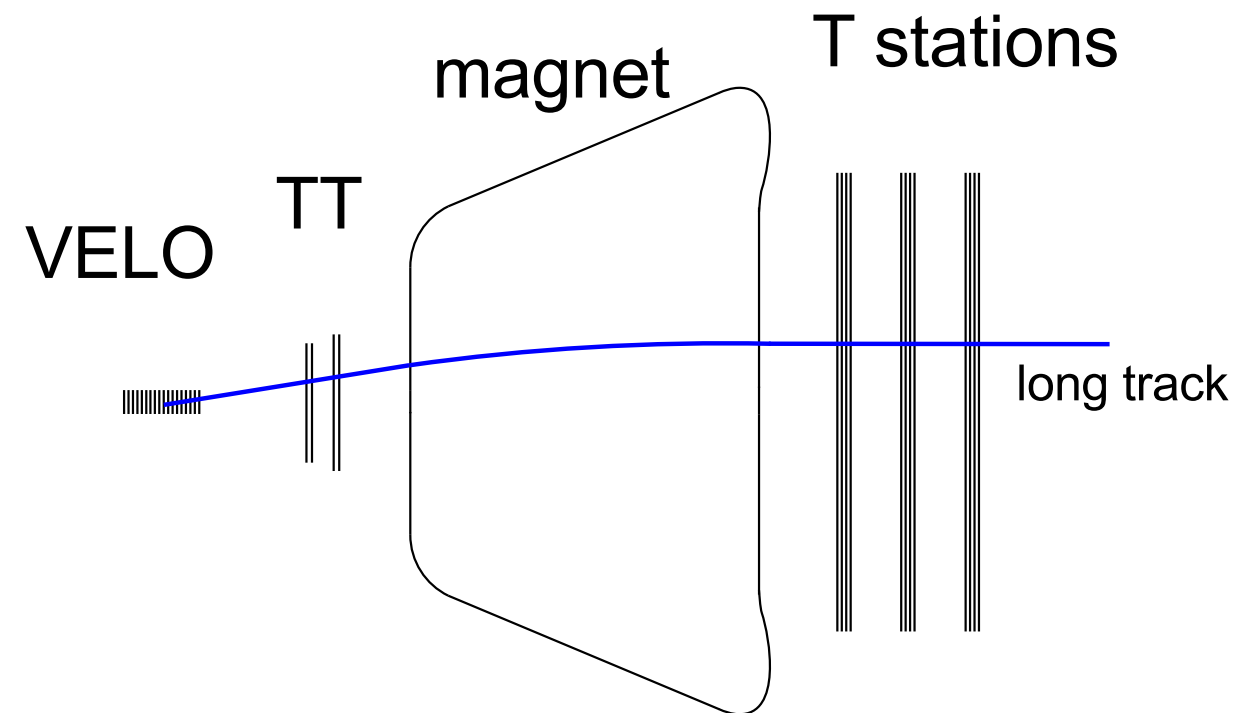
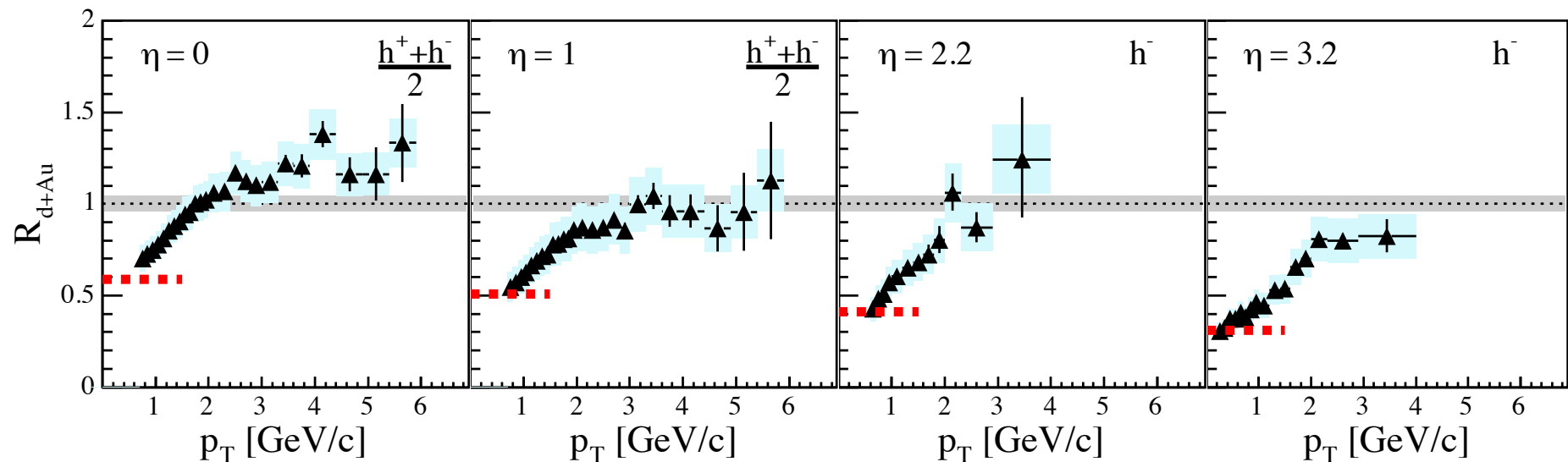


Figure from [JINST 10 \(2015\) 02, P02007](#)

Previous results of $R_{pA,dA}$

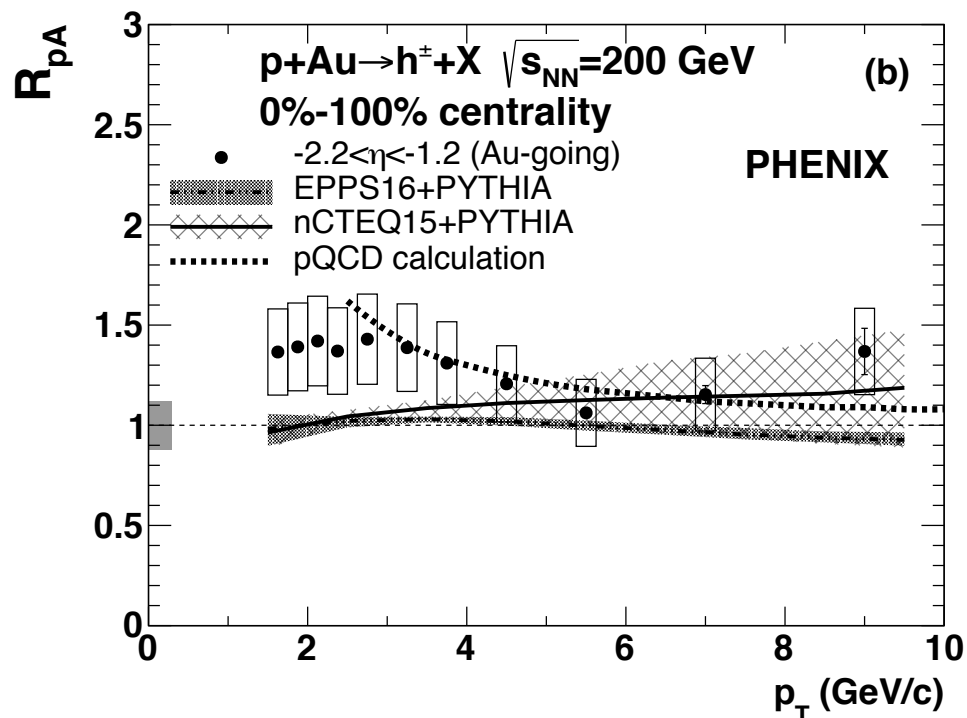
BRAHMS R_{dAu}

[Phys.Rev.Lett. 93
\(2004\) 242303](#)



PHENIX R_{pAu}

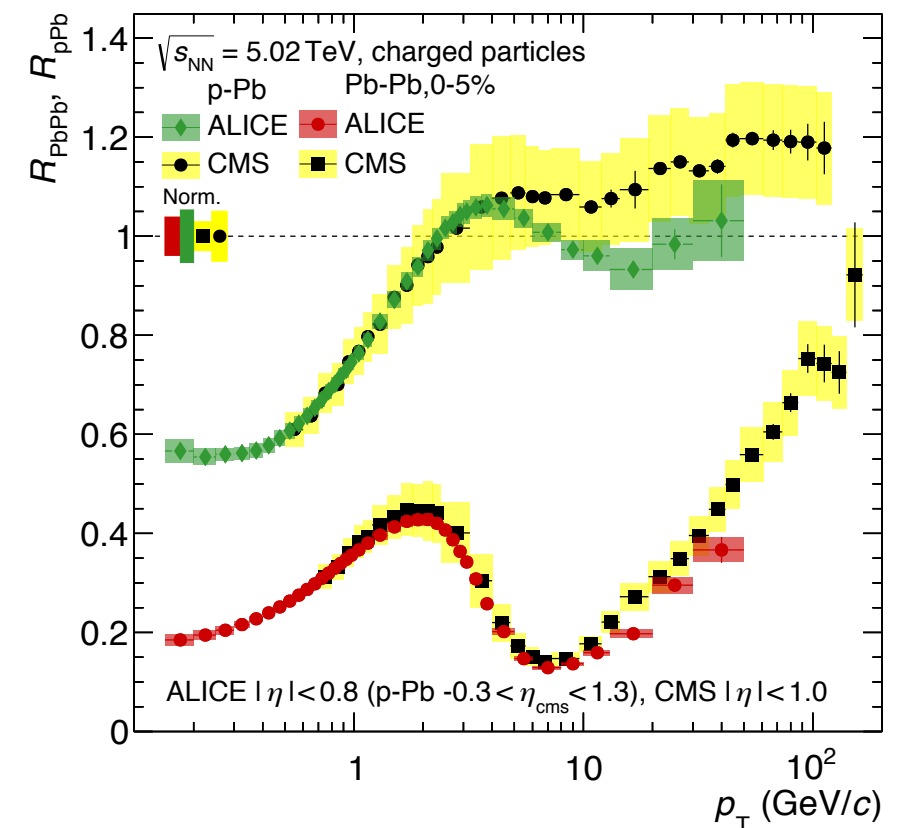
[Phys. Rev. C101 \(2020\) 034910](#)



CMS, ALICE R_{pPb}

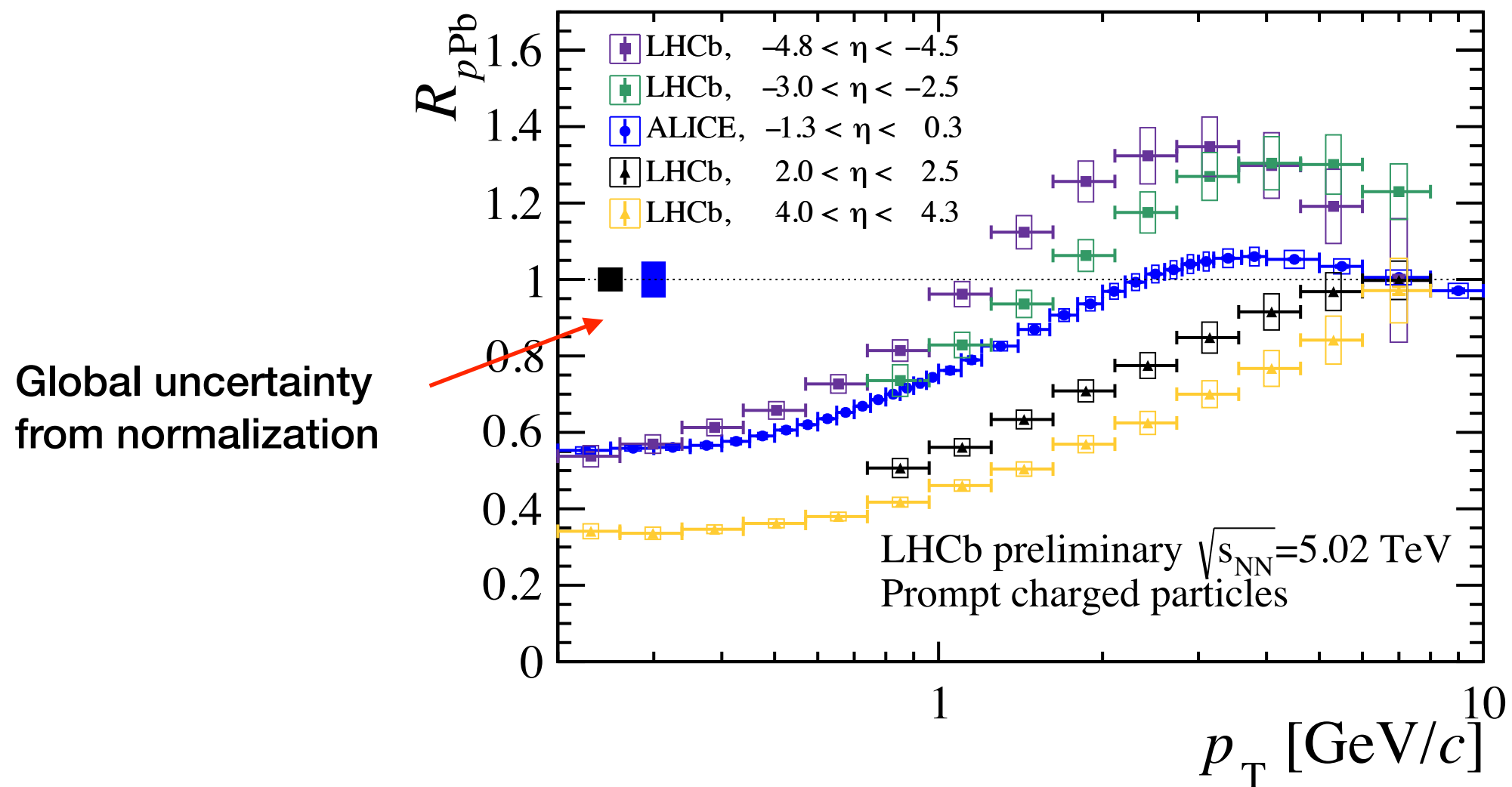
[JHEP 04 \(2017\) 039](#)

[JHEP 1811 \(2018\) 013](#)



Comparison of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ from ALICE and LHCb

- Continuous trend of $R_{p\text{Pb}}$ at different η



LHCb-PAPER-2021-010 (in preparation)

ALICE: [JHEP 1811 \(2018\) 013](#)