


Heavy ions at LHCb and connections to EIC

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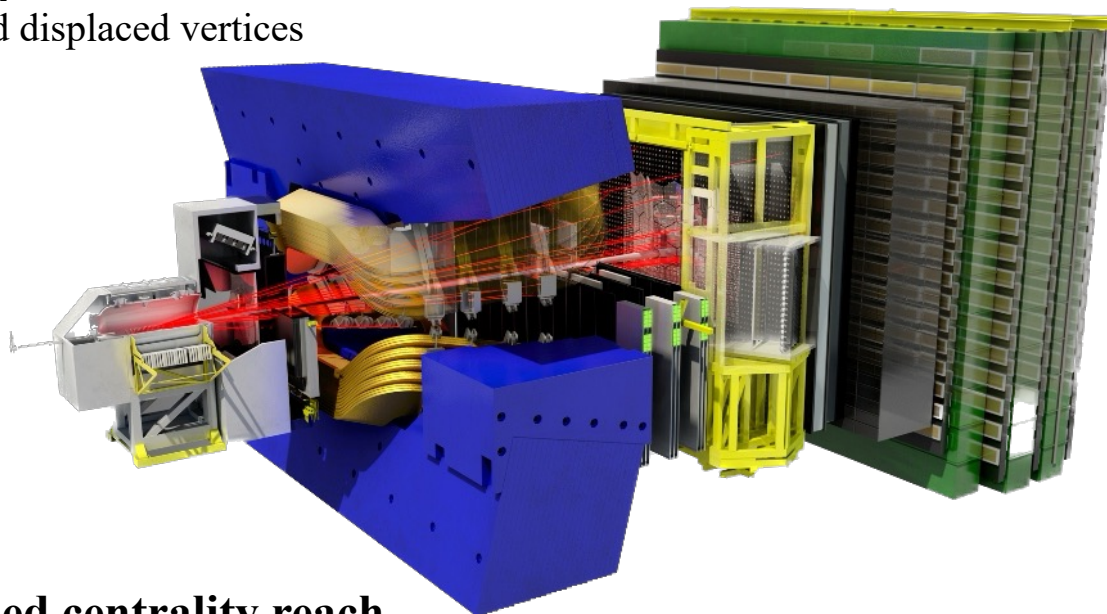
INSTITUTE for NUCLEAR THEORY

Heavy Ion Physics in the EIC Era
July 29, 2024 - August 23, 2024

LHCb – unique capabilities for QCD



- **Unique forward rapidity coverage**
 - Unparalleled access to low- and high- x regions inside the nucleus
- **Large forward momentum boost**
 - Full PID, reconstruct resonances to $p_T = 0$
 - Clear separation between primary and displaced vertices
- **Fast DAQ and detectors**
 - Access to rare probes: b quarks, higher quarkonia, exotic states
- **Unique fixed-target system**
 - Explore p+gas and Pb+gas collisions at \sim RHIC energies
 - Incredibly versatile physics program
- **Major upgrades in place – increased centrality reach**



LHCb and EIC: many overlapping physics topics

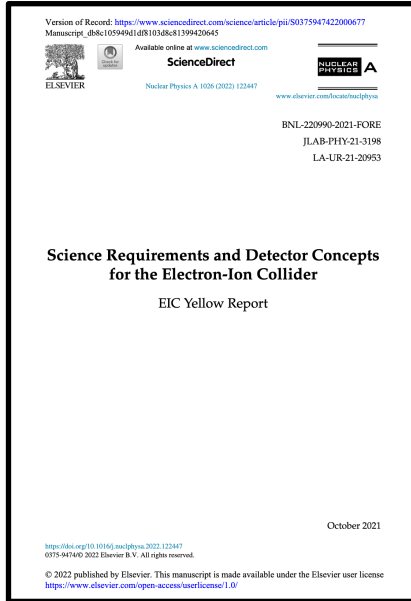


Partonic structure of nucleons

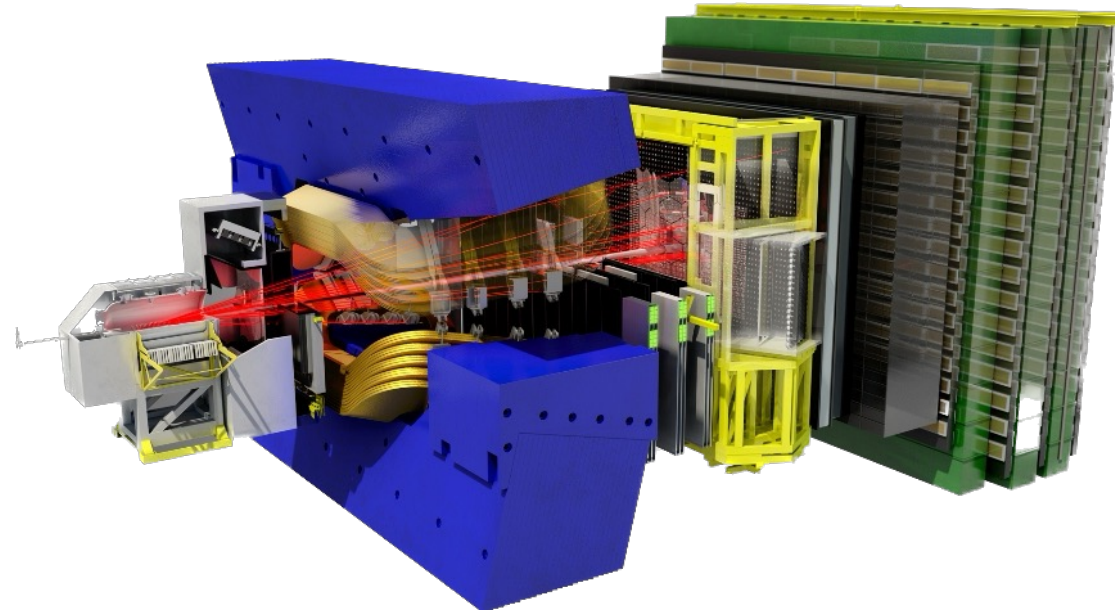
Photoproduction

Hadronization

Hadron spectroscopy



NPA 1026 122447(2022)



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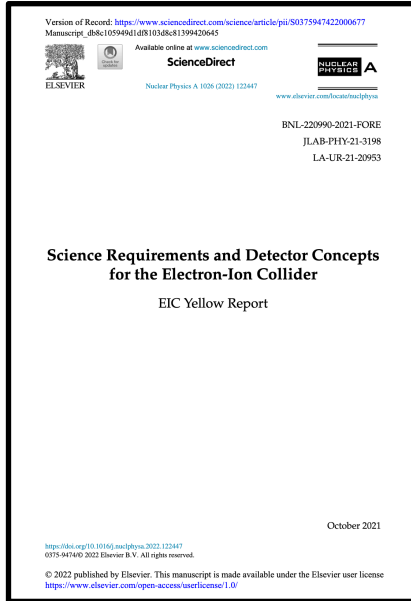


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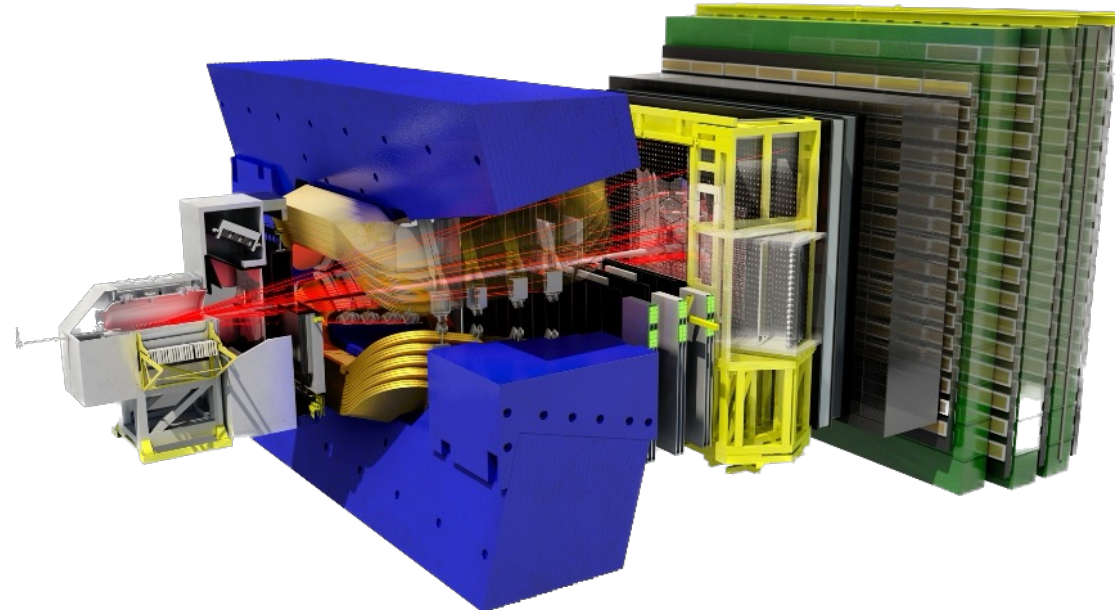
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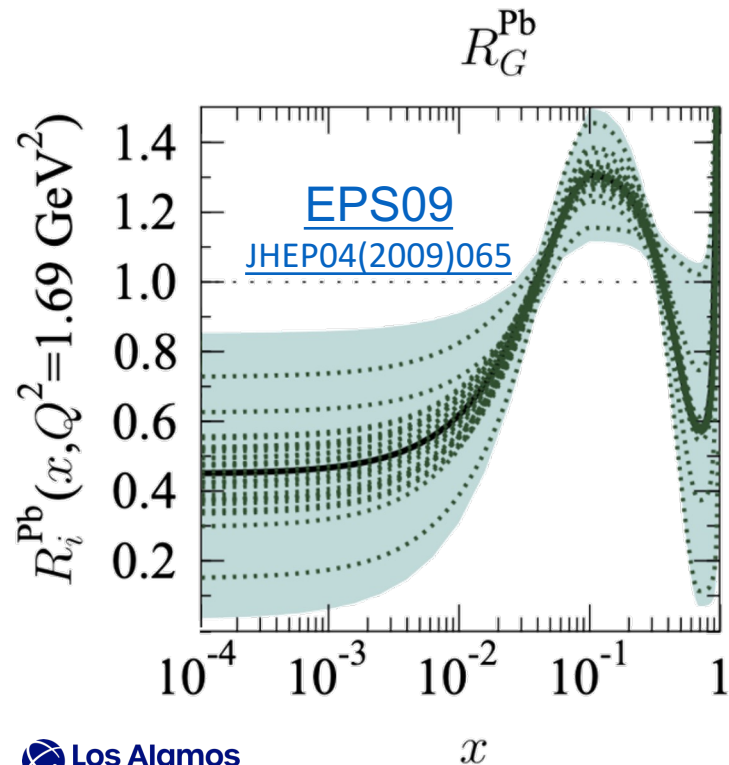


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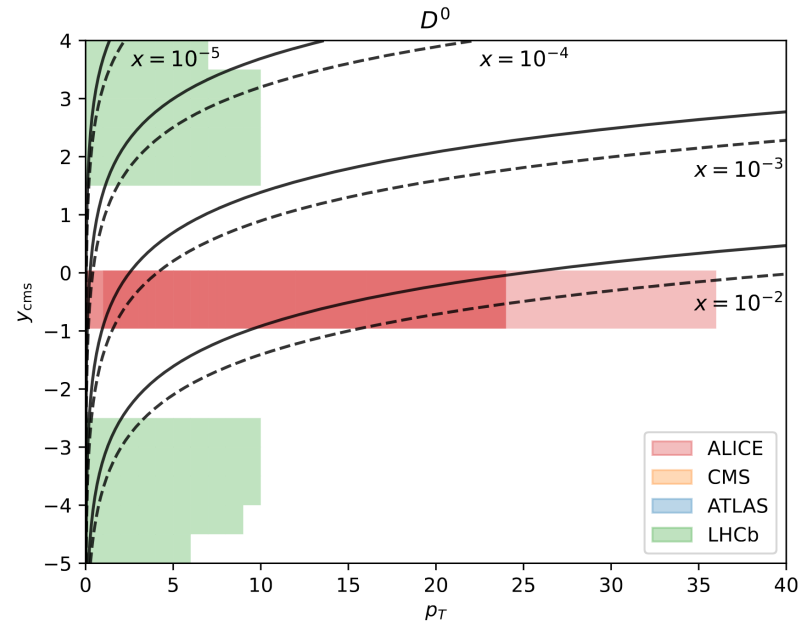
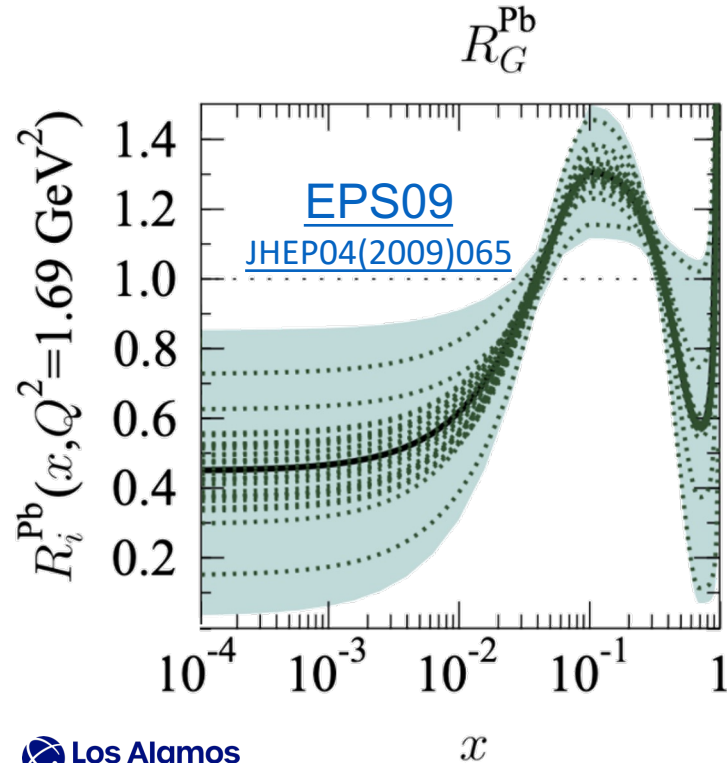
Low x

- Forward rapidity allows us to look deep into the nucleus:
 - Constrain structure of nucleons at low x values
 - Understand the physics of QCD at high gluon density \rightarrow search for saturation



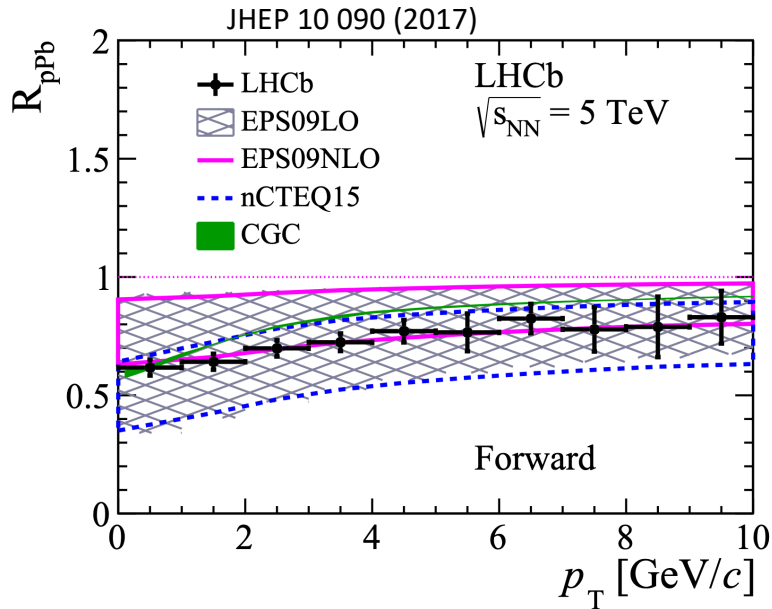
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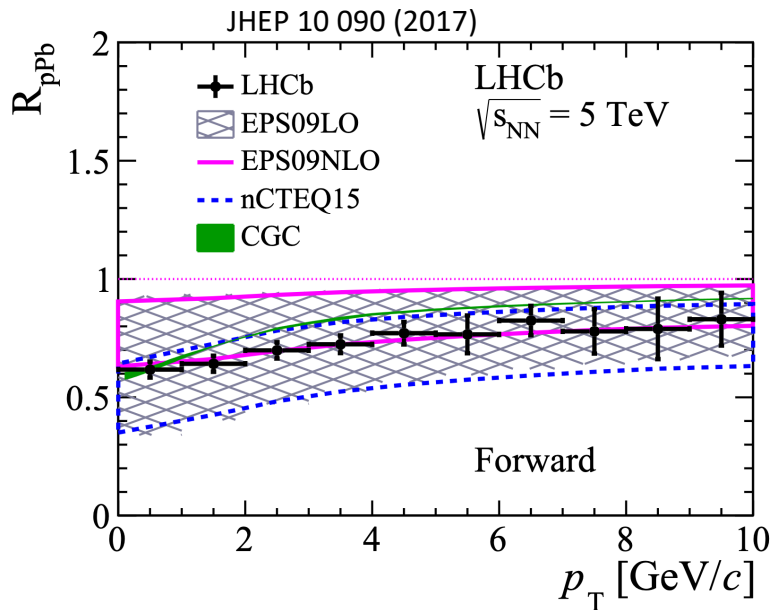


Plot from Pit Duwentaster's talk, Week 3

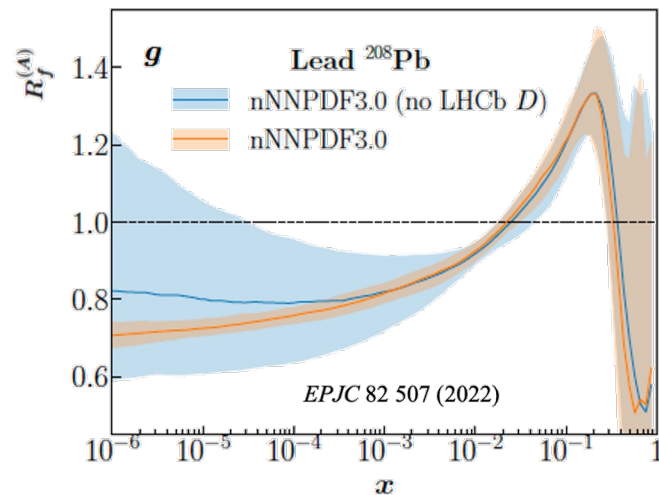
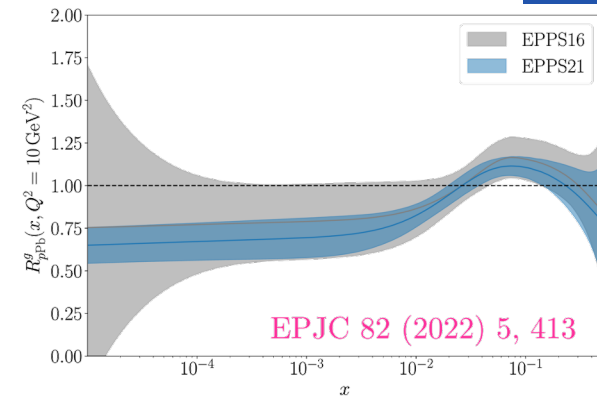
Forward charm – constraining nPDF



Forward charm – constraining nPDF

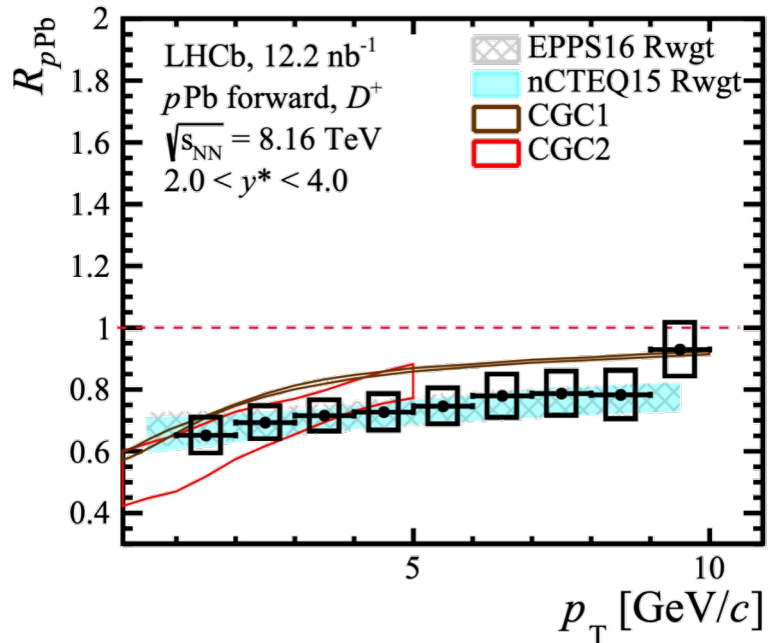
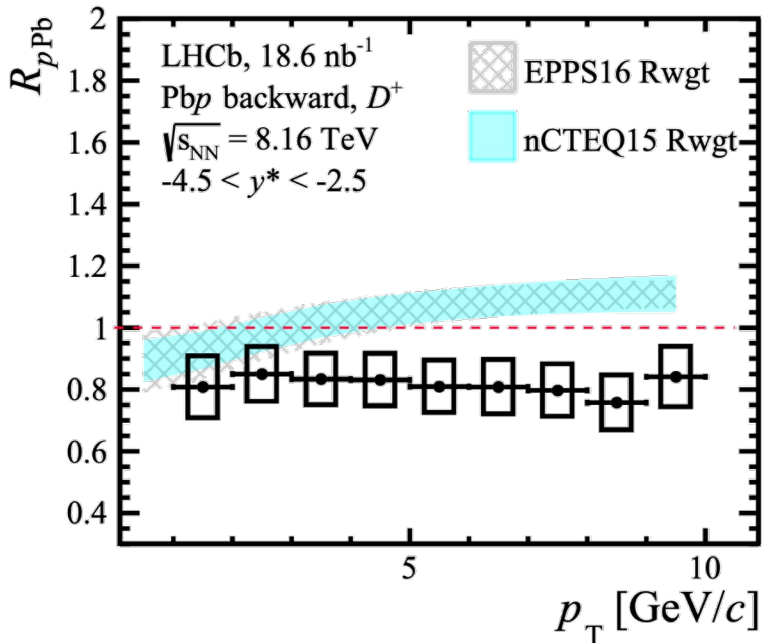
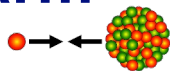


- Precise LHCb data on D mesons now the primary nPDF constraint at $x < 10^{-3}$
- **Dramatic impact on gluon uncertainties down to $x \sim 10^{-6}$ (nNNPDF3.0)**



Backward charm – challenging nPDF

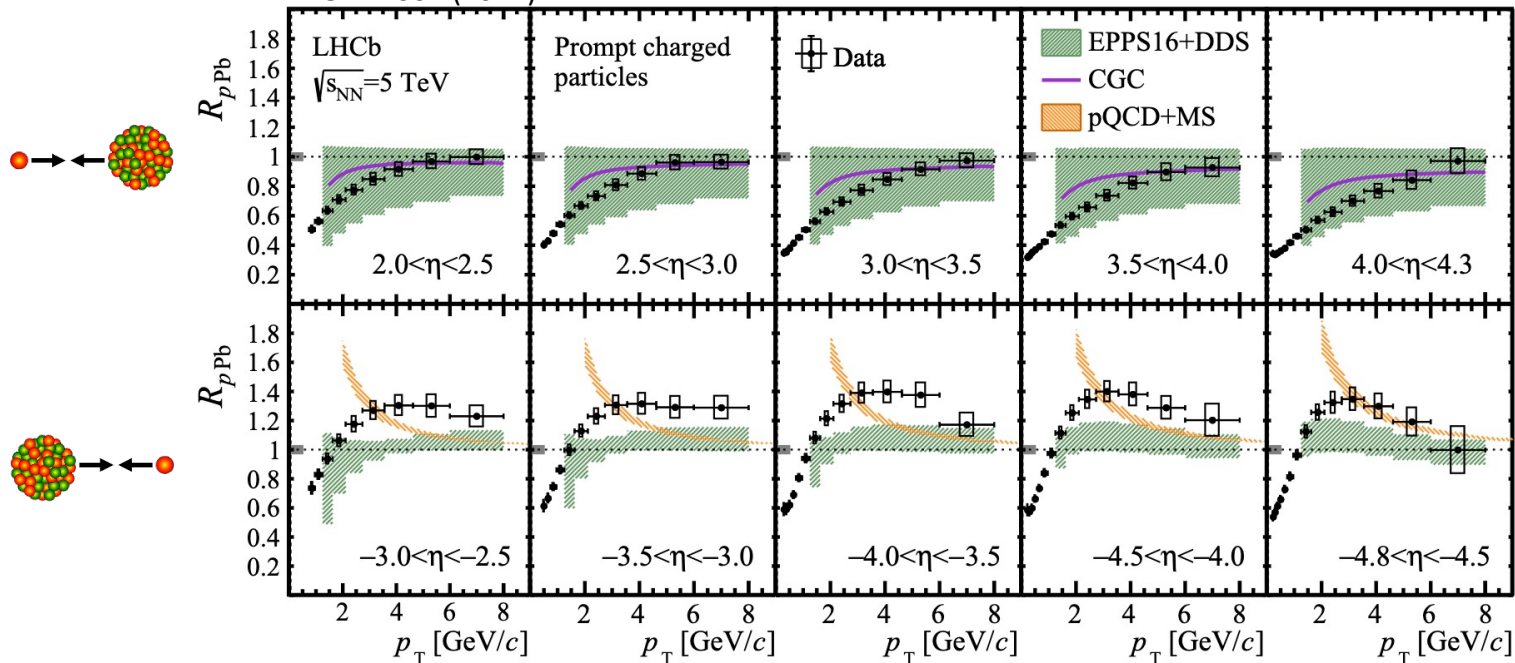
arXiv: 2311.08490



- Forward data well within uncertainties from updated nPDF calculation
- Backwards rapidity shows clear deviation from nPDF

Unidentified charged particles

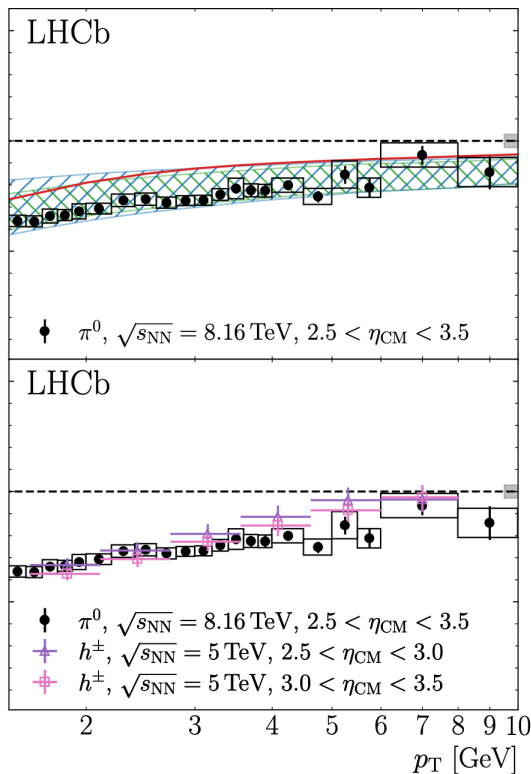
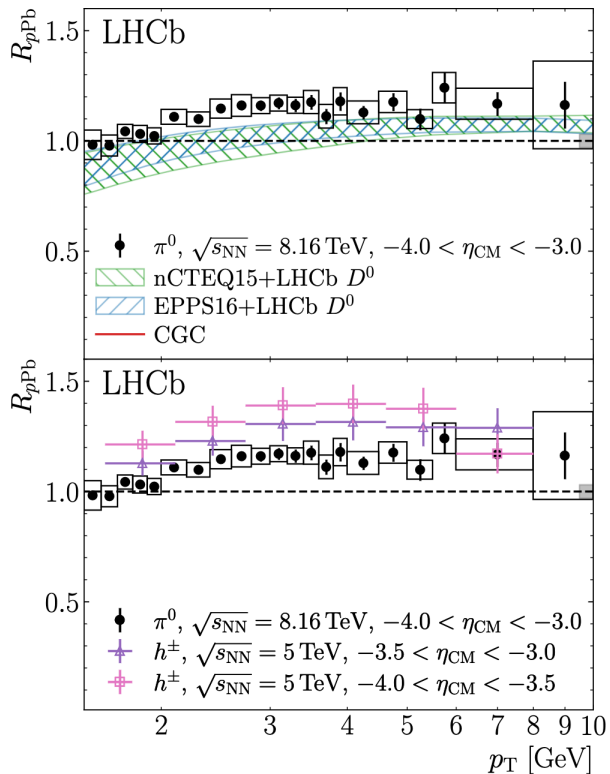
PRL 128 142004 (2022)



- Forward data well within uncertainties from EPPS16 nPDF calculation
- Backwards rapidity not described by nPDF or multiple scattering calculation
 - Additional effects from medium?

Identified light mesons - π^0

PRL 131 042302 (2023)

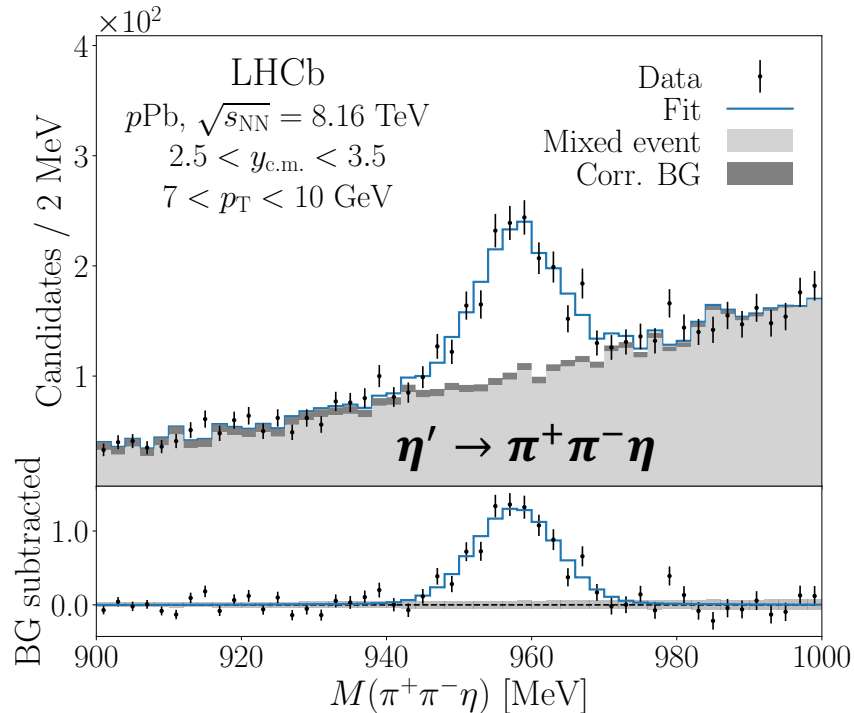
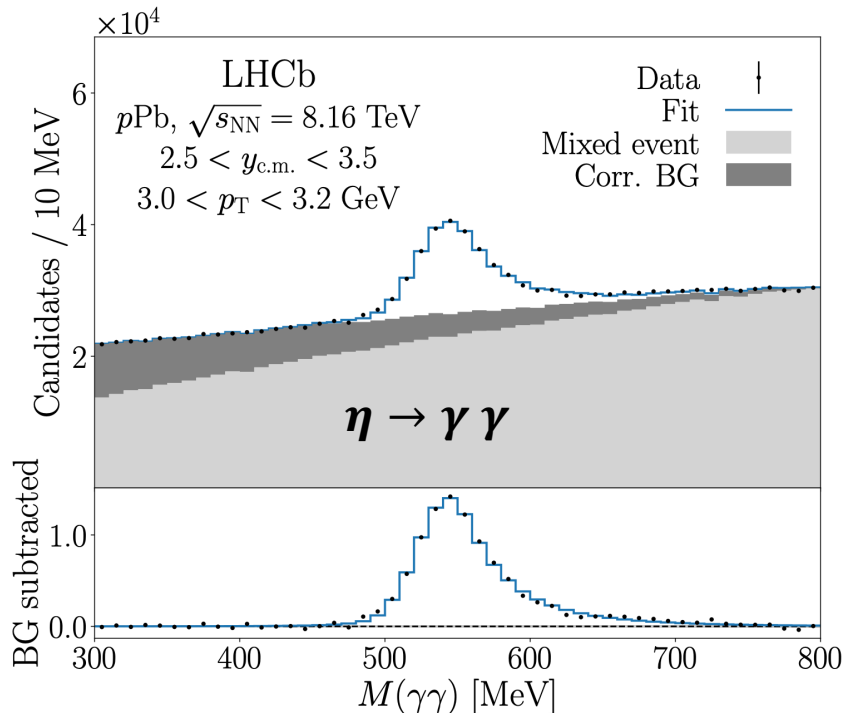


- Forward rapidity:
 - Excellent agreement with nPDF and charged particles
- Backward rapidity:
 - Slight excess over nPDF calculation
 - Deficit compared to charged particles
- Potential mechanisms:
 - Mass dependent radial flow affecting charged particles
 - Baryon enhancement at backwards rapidity

Identified light mesons - η and η'

PRC 109 024907 (2024)

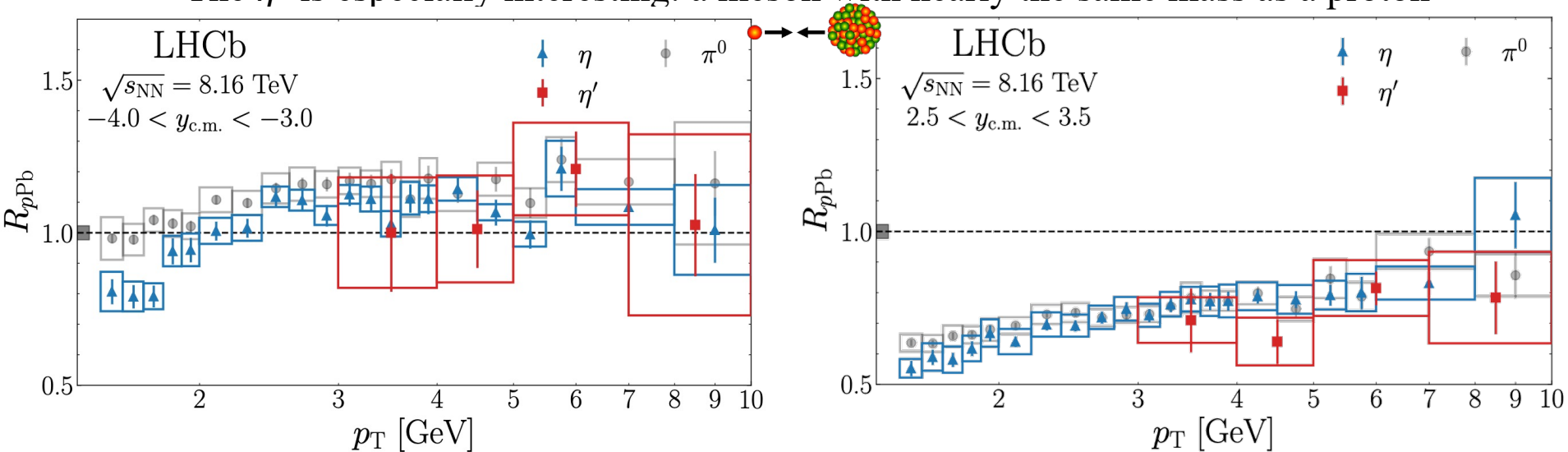
- Nuclear modification of identified particles allows us to probe mass-dependent effects
- The η' is especially interesting: a meson with nearly the same mass as a proton



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- Nuclear modification of identified particles allows us to probe mass-dependent effects
- The η' is especially interesting: a meson with nearly the same mass as a proton



- Agreement between all light mesons - no evidence for mass dependence
- Potential baryon/meson effects under investigation with identified hadrons

LHCb and EIC: many overlapping physics topics

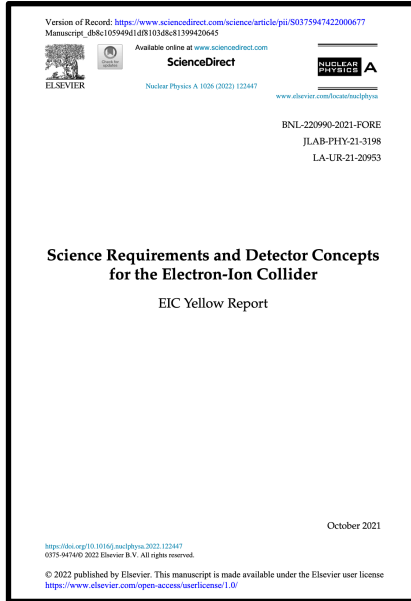


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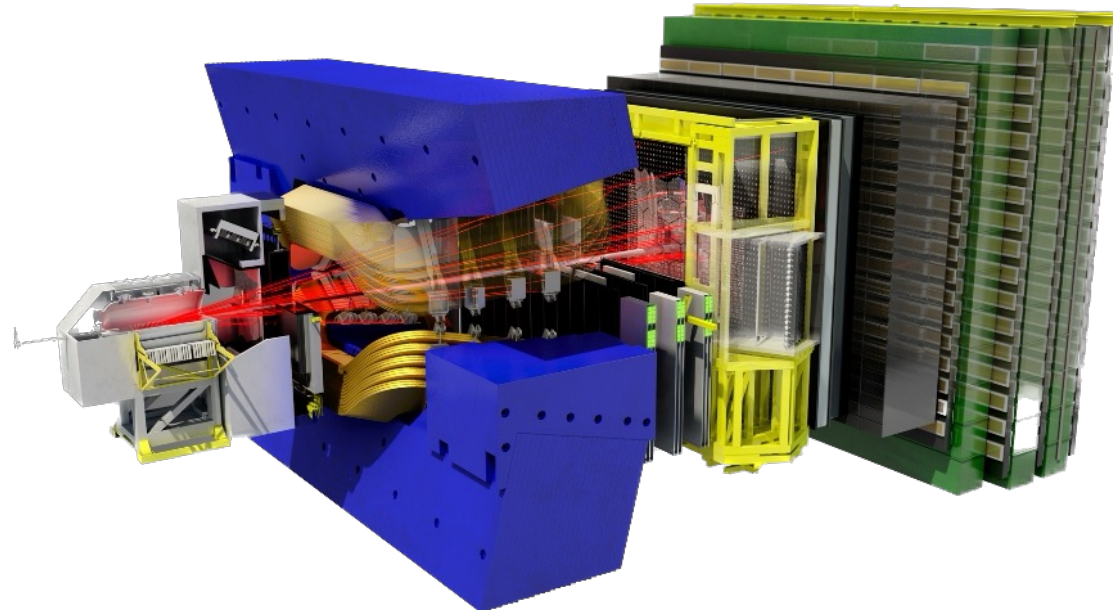
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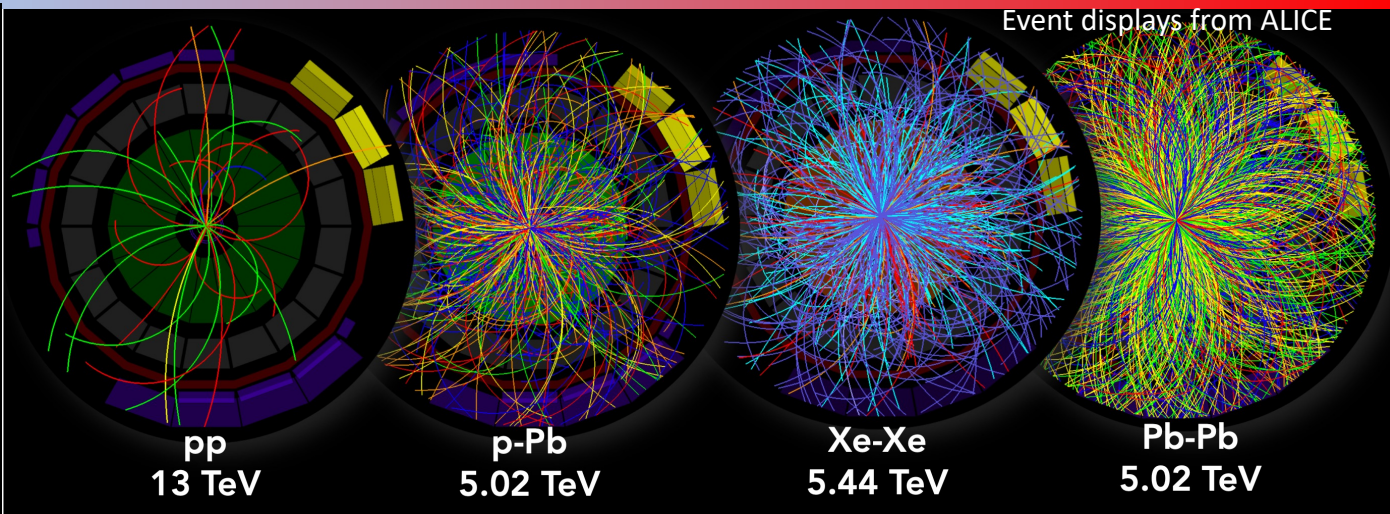
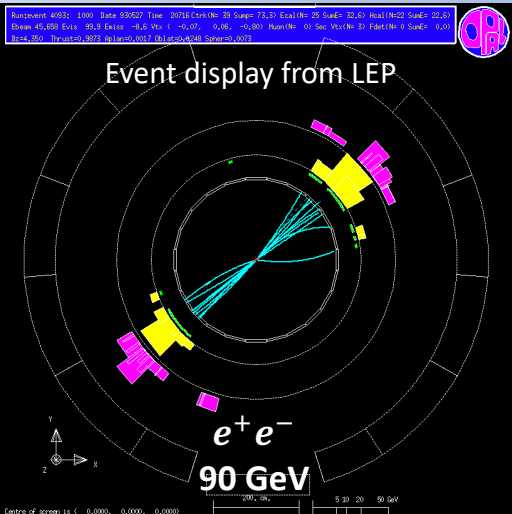
NPA 1026 122447(2022)



From vacuum to the QCD medium – quark coalescence

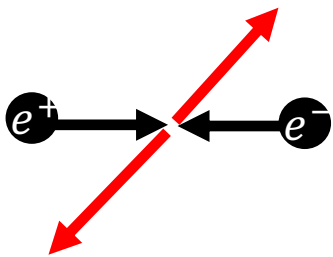
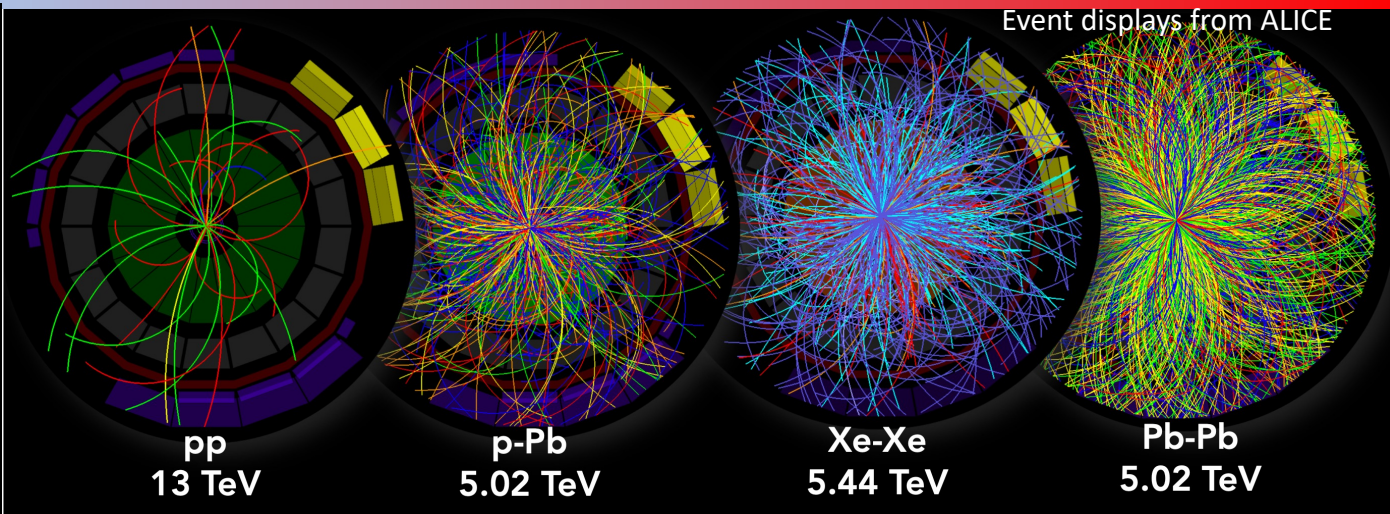
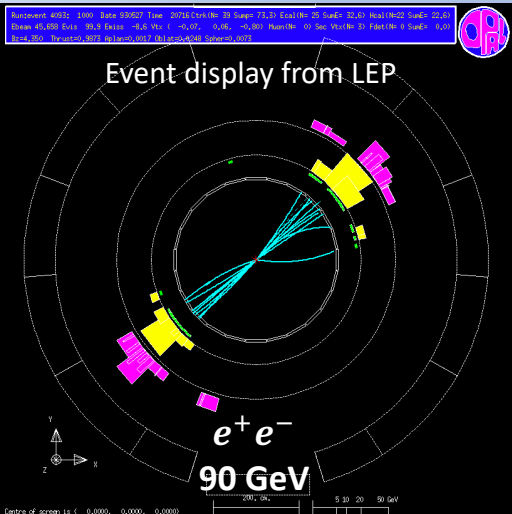
Vacuum (e^+e^-) Diffuse medium (pp, pA)

Increasing T, N_{charged} → Dense medium (pA, AA)



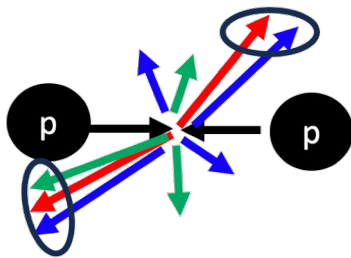
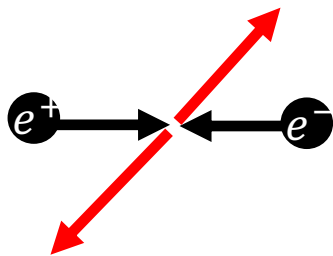
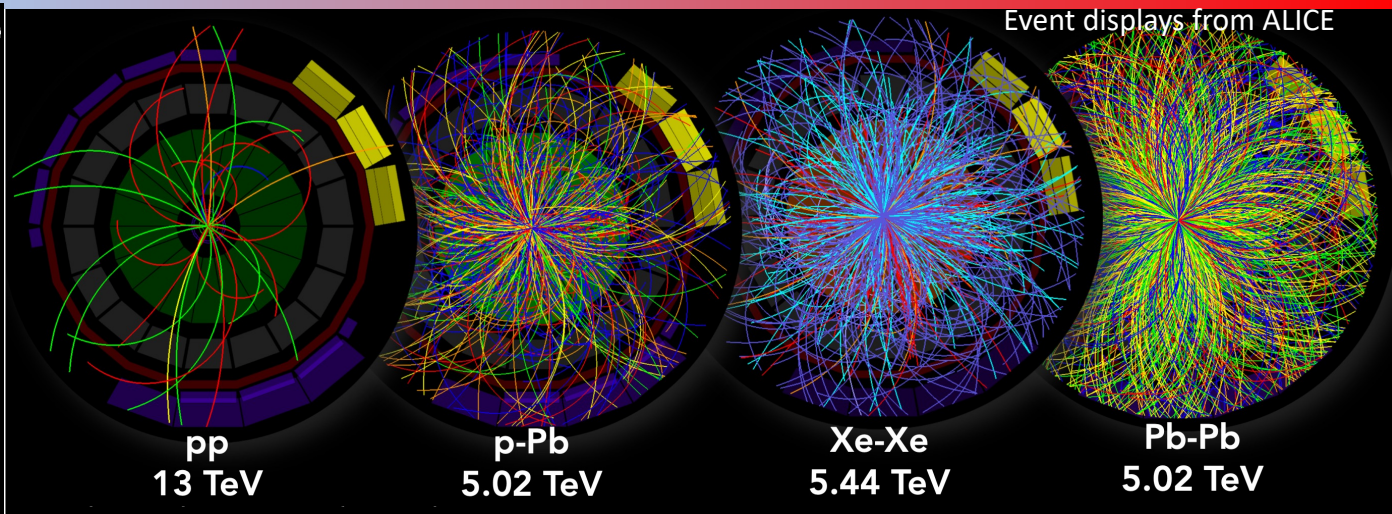
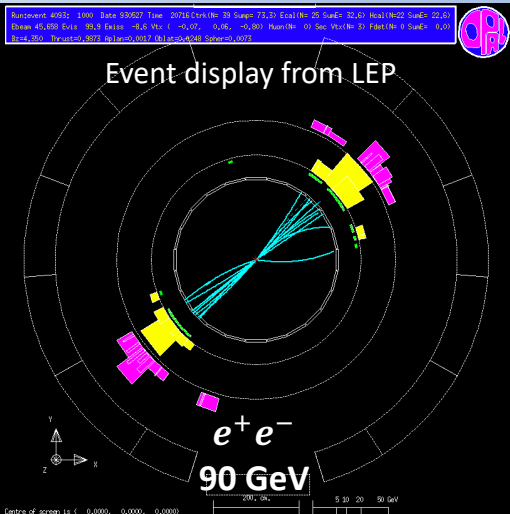
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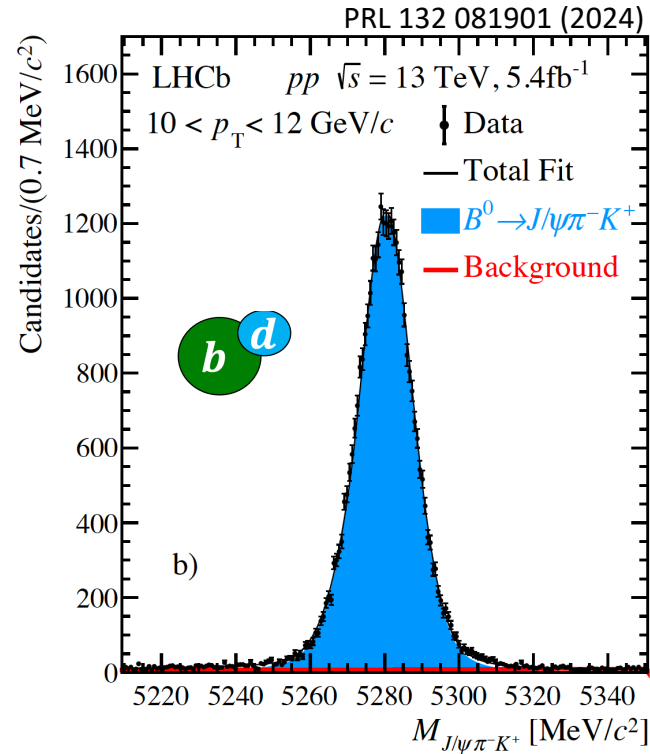
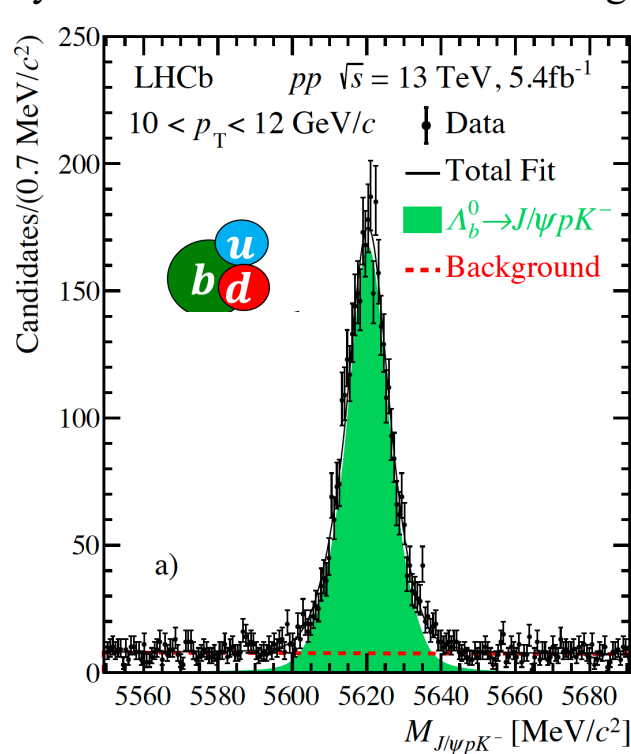
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- Quarks that overlap in position/velocity space can coalesce to make color neutral hadrons
- At high density, expect increased production of **hadrons with strange quarks** and enhanced production of **3-quark baryons**
- Expect pure fragmentation at low density

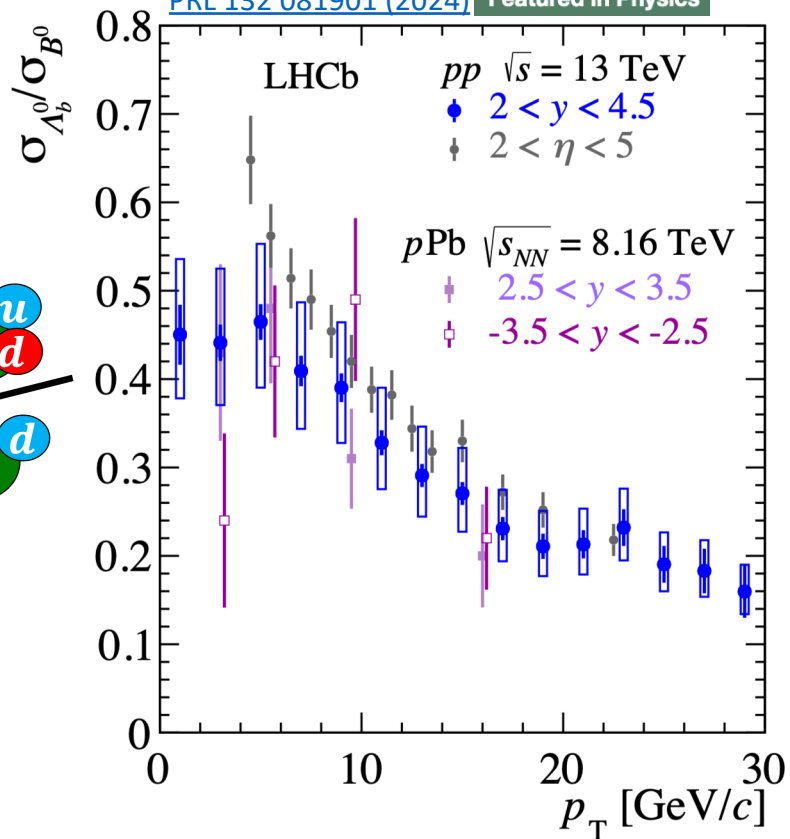
Modification of b hadronization – B baryons

- Coalescence provides a new mechanism for baryon formation - 3 quarks wavefunctions overlap
- Baryon enhancement is therefore a signature of coalescence

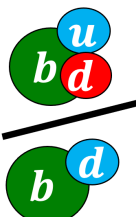


Modification of b hadronization – B baryons

PRL 132 081901 (2024) **Featured in Physics**

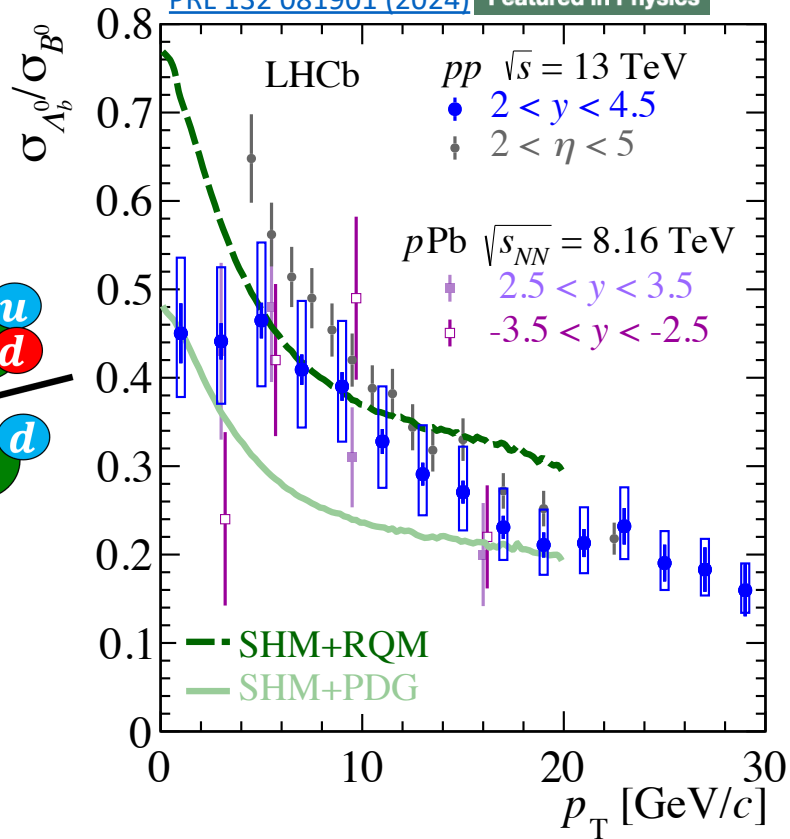


Baryon/meson ratio shows significant p_T dependence
Consistent with previous results (semileptonic decays)
Consistent with pPb results, within large uncertainties



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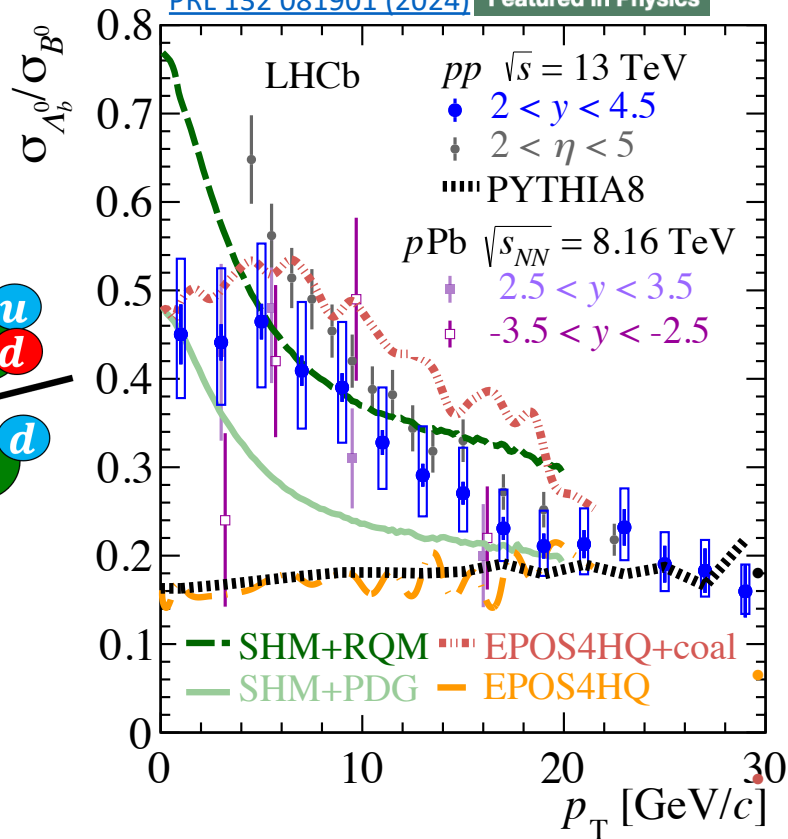
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Compare to Statistical Hadronization Model that uses two sets of baryons as input:

- Known baryon states from PDG
- Expanded set of baryons predicted by the Relativistic Quark Model

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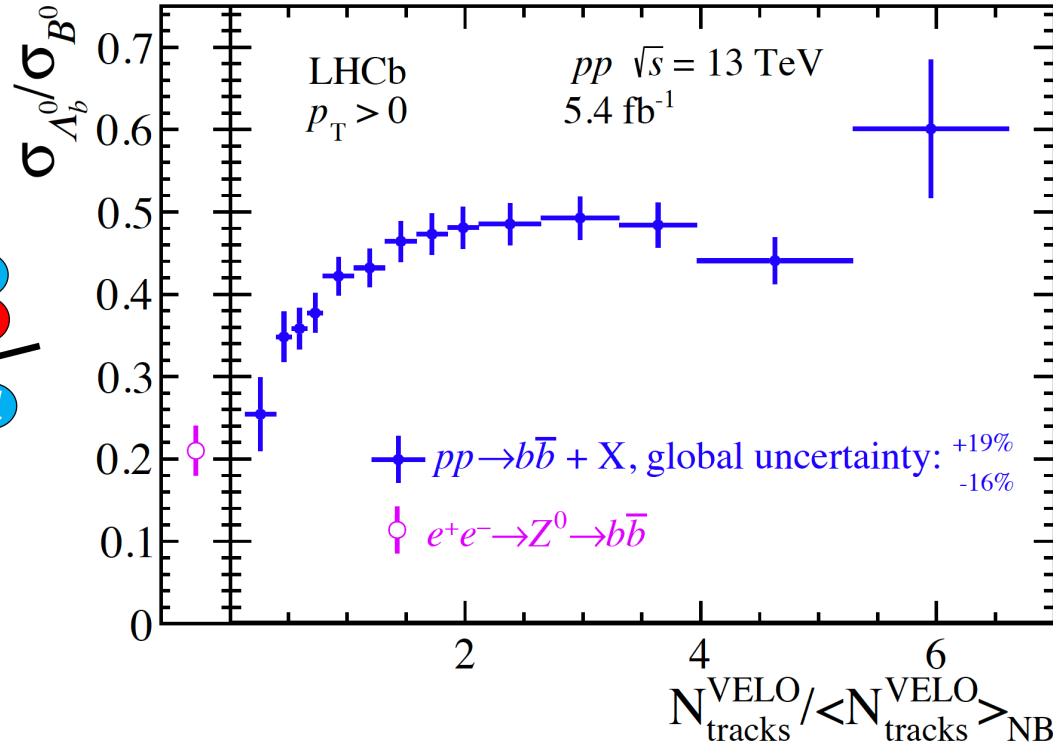
PYTHIA8 fails to reproduce p_T dependence

EPOS4HQ with only fragmentation also fails

EPOS4HQ with fragmentation+quark coalescence does much better, slightly overpredicts ratio

Modification of b hadronization – B baryons

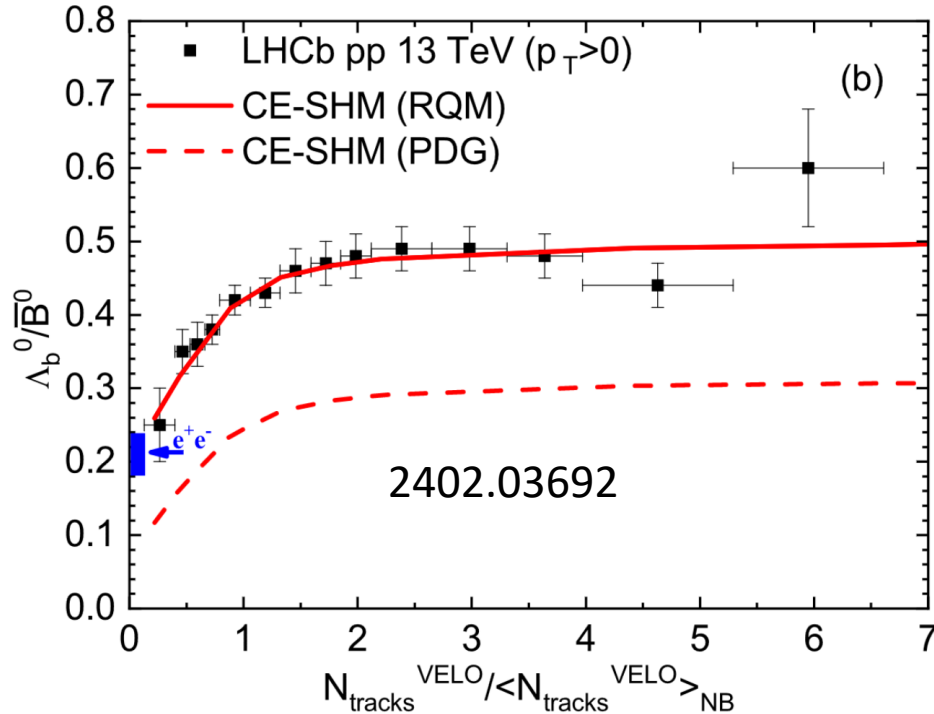
PRL 132 081901 (2024) Featured in Physics



- Baryon/meson ratio shows significant multiplicity dependence
- Increases by a factor of ~ 2 and plateaus for collisions with $>2x$ average multiplicity
- Reproduce e^+e^- result as multiplicity approaches zero

b quarks in low multiplicity collisions have nothing to coalesce with \rightarrow fragment in vacuum

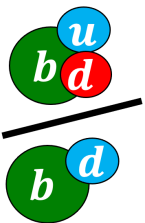
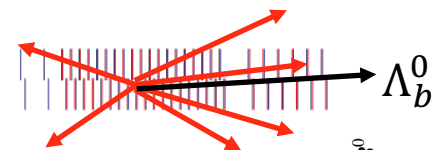
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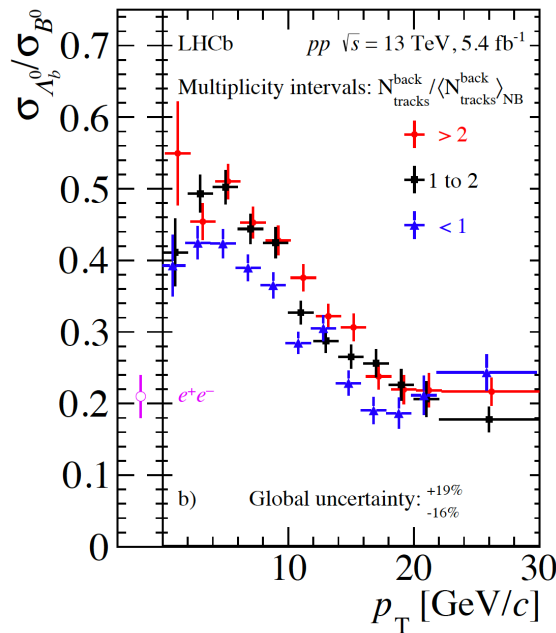
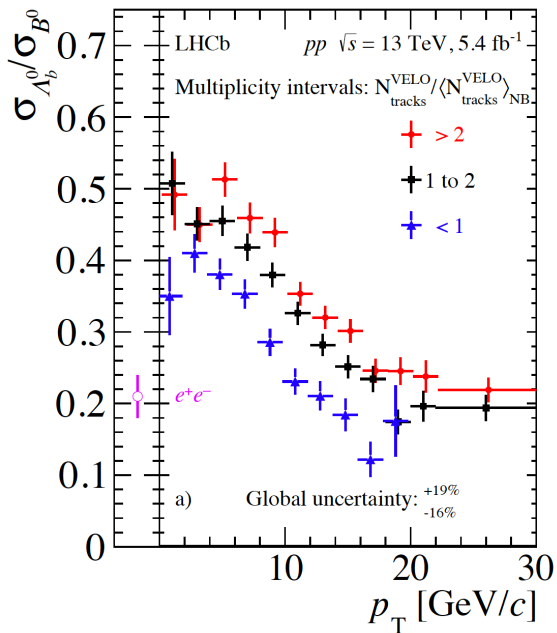
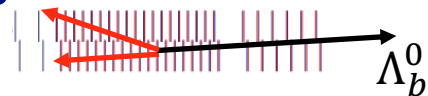
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SHM reproduces trend with plateau – all possible baryon states populated at high multiplicity

Modification of b hadronization – B baryons

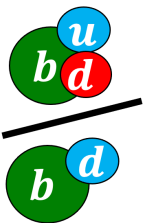
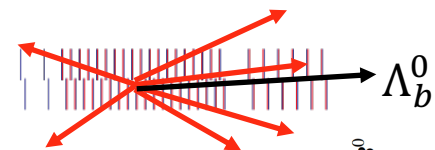


[PRL 132 081901 \(2024\)](#) **Featured in Physics**

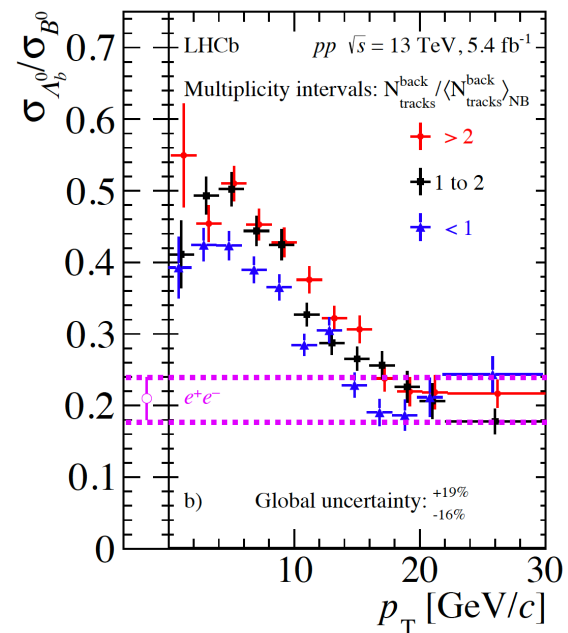
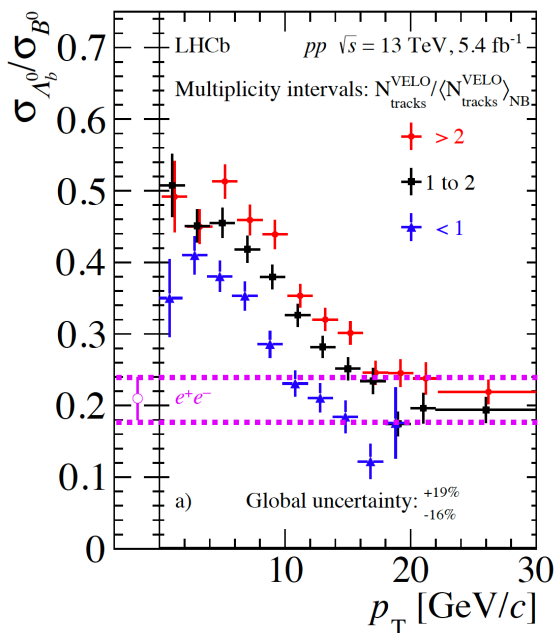
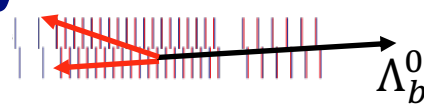


- Clear multiplicity dependence at relatively low p_T

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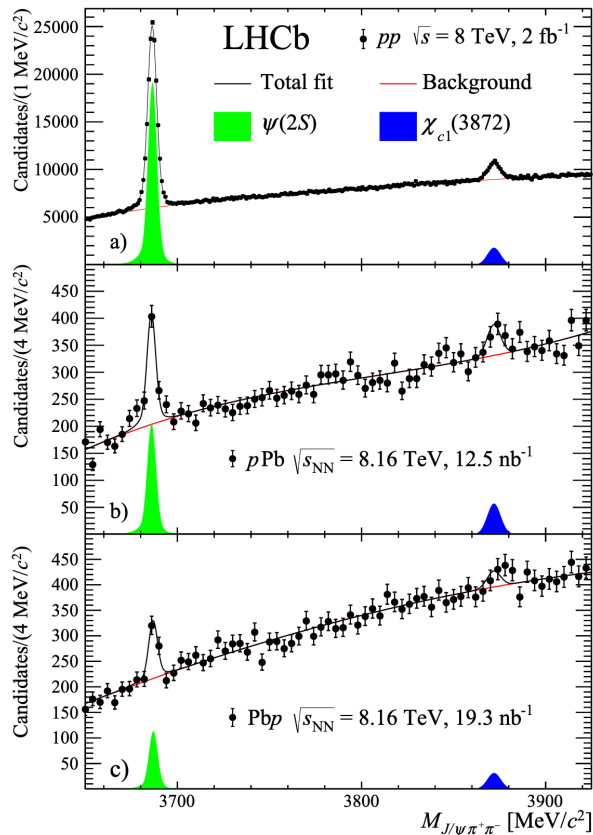
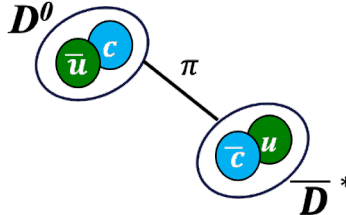


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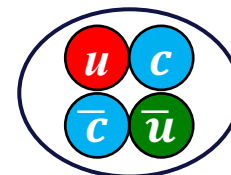


- Clear multiplicity dependence at relatively low p_T
- Reproduce e^+e^- result at high p_T where b quarks don't interact with bulk and just fragment
- Identical conclusions for strangeness enhancement in B mesons: [Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 061901](https://arxiv.org/abs/1306.1901)

X(3872) in pPb

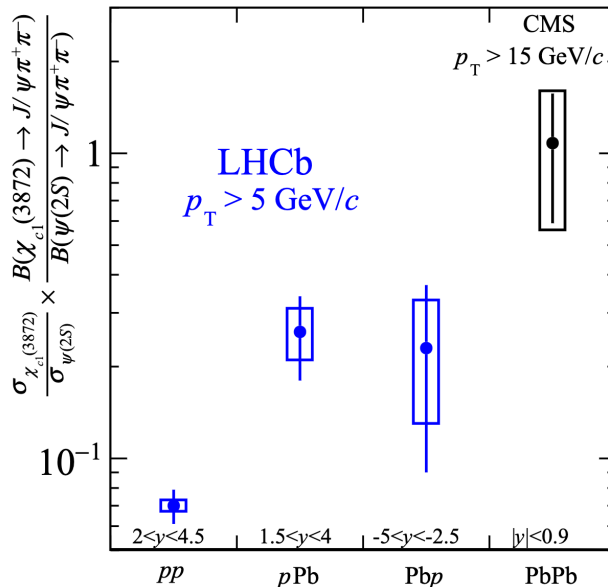
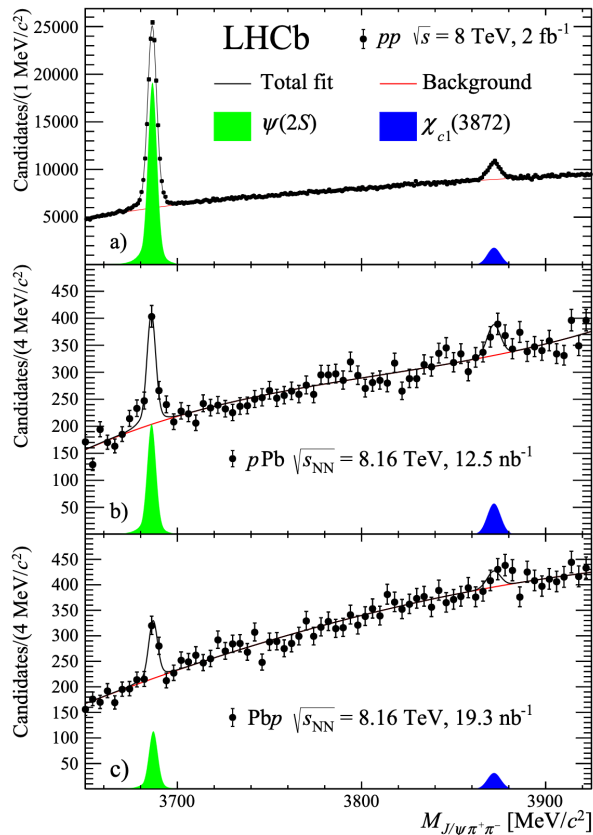
 $D^0 \bar{D}^*$ Molecule

VERY small binding energy
VERY large radius, ~ 10 fm

Compact tetraquark

Tightly bound via color
exchange between diquarks
Small radius, ~ 1 fm

X(3872) in pPb



Comparison between X(3872) and $\psi(2S)$ suggests **something different** may be happening to exotic vs conventional hadrons in medium

Initial state effects (eg shadowing) should largely cancel in ratio

Enhancing effects start to out compete breakup?

- arXiv:2302.03828

Prompt X(3872)/ $\psi(2S)$ = $0.26 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.05$ in forward pPb

Prompt X(3872)/ $\psi(2S)$ = $0.23 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.10$ in backward pPb

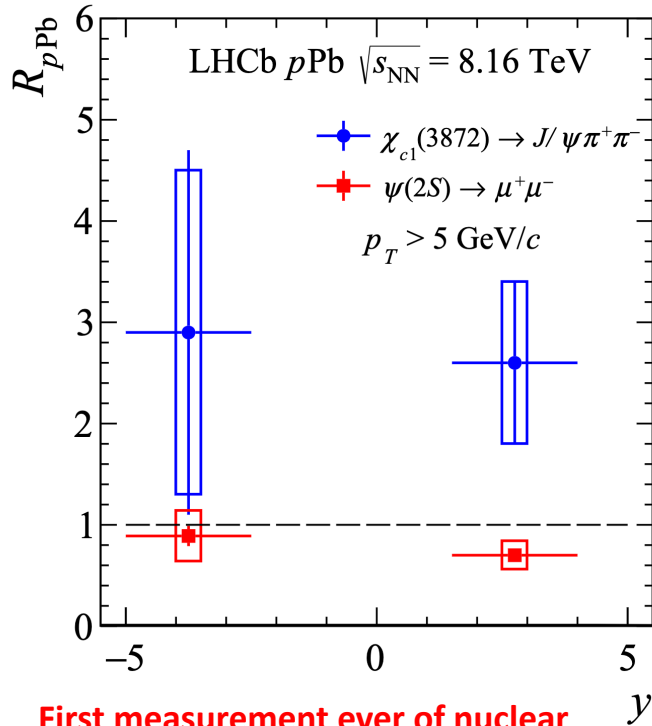
Falls between pp (~ 0.1) and PbPb (~ 1.0)

AMBIGUITY between X(3872) enhancement and $\psi(2S)$ suppression

X(3872) in pPb

[PRL 132 242301 \(2024\)](#)

Editors' Suggestion



First measurement ever of nuclear modification factor of a tetraquark!

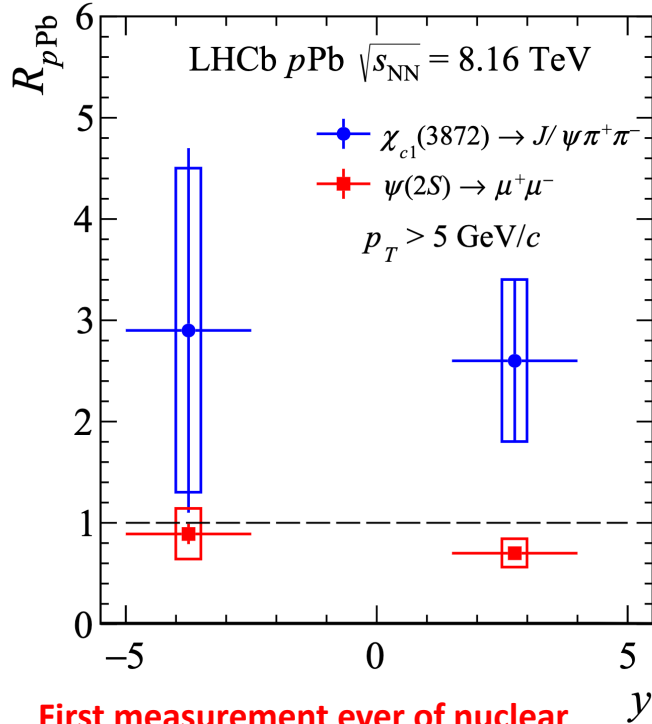
Ambiguity lifted by measuring nuclear modification factors:

$$R_{pA}^{\chi_{c1}(3872)} = \frac{\sigma_{pA}^{\chi_{c1}(3872)}}{208 \times \sigma_{pp}^{\chi_{c1}(3872)}}$$

X(3872) in pPb

PRL 132 242301 (2024)

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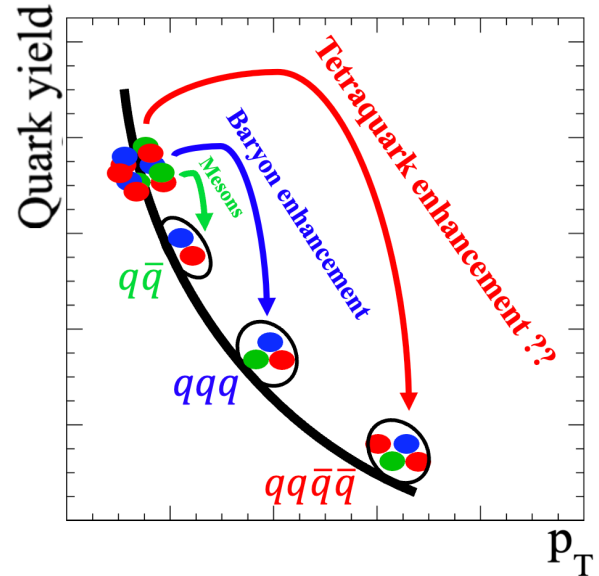
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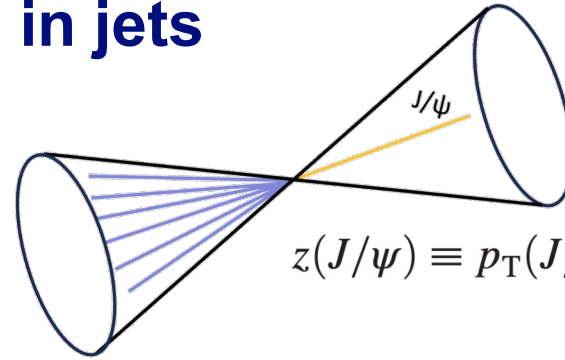
Evidence for enhancement of X(3872) in pPb:
Coalescence dominating over breakup?

Similar mechanism for baryon enhancement could also increase tetraquark production



J/ψ in jets

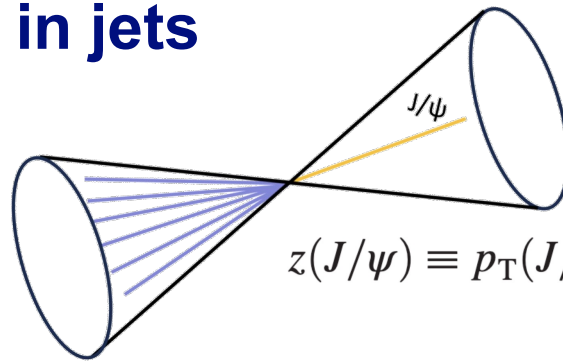
- Charmonia provides a platform for testing perturbative and non-perturbative QCD
- Long-standing with description of charmonia production and polarization
- Charmonia in jets provides new way to examine production mechanisms



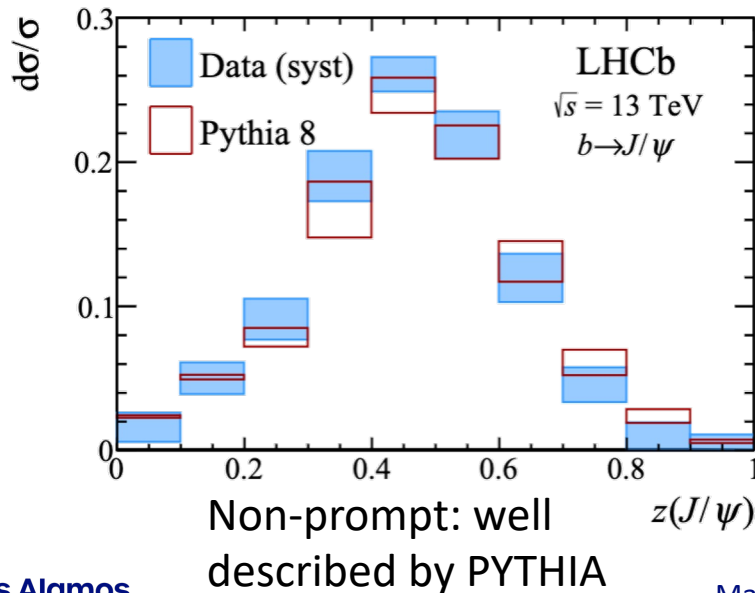
$$z(J/\psi) \equiv p_T(J/\psi) / p_T(\text{jet})$$

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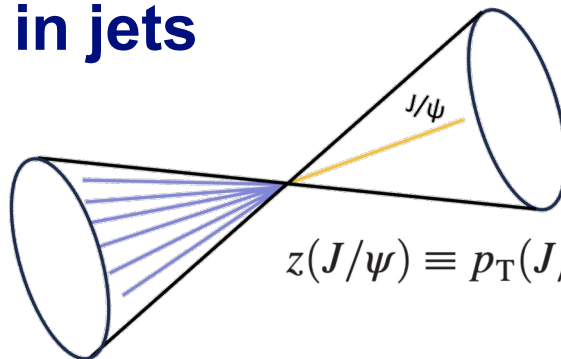


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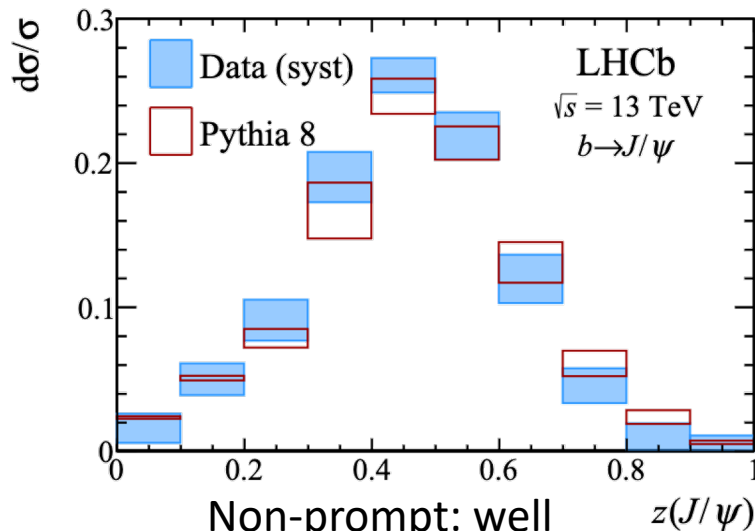
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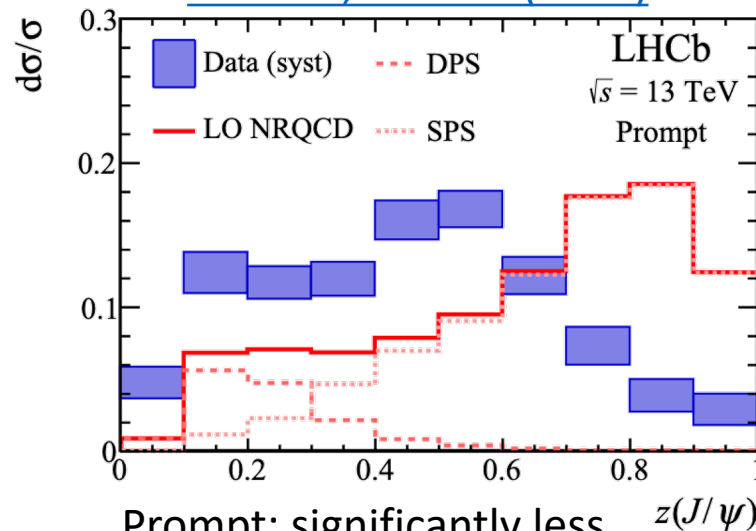


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[PRL 118, 192001 \(2017\)](#)



Non-prompt: well described by PYTHIA

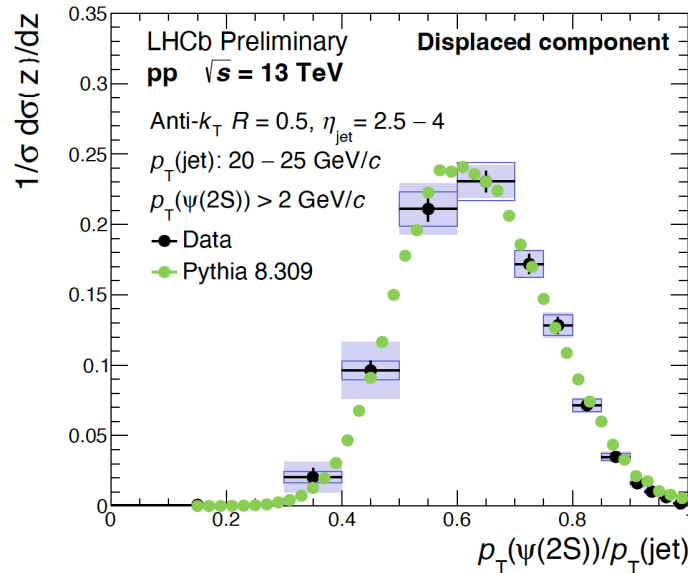


Prompt: significantly less isolated than NRQCD prediction

$\psi(2S)$ in jets

LHCb-PAPER-2024-021

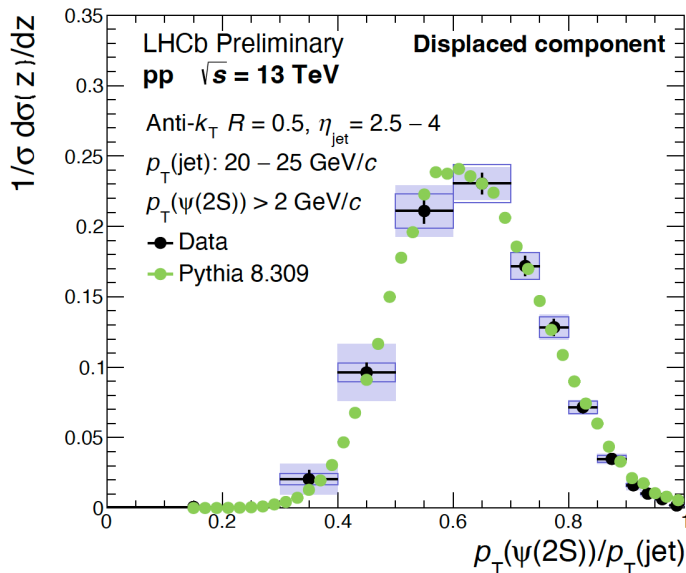
- The same measurement can also be done with $\psi(2S)$
 - Very little feeddown, unlike J/ψ



$b \rightarrow \psi(2S)$: well described by PYTHIA
 Very similar to $b \rightarrow J/\psi$

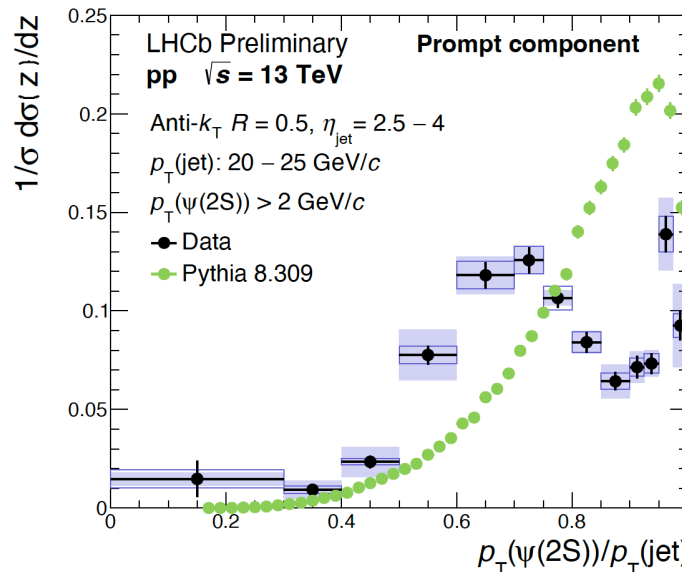
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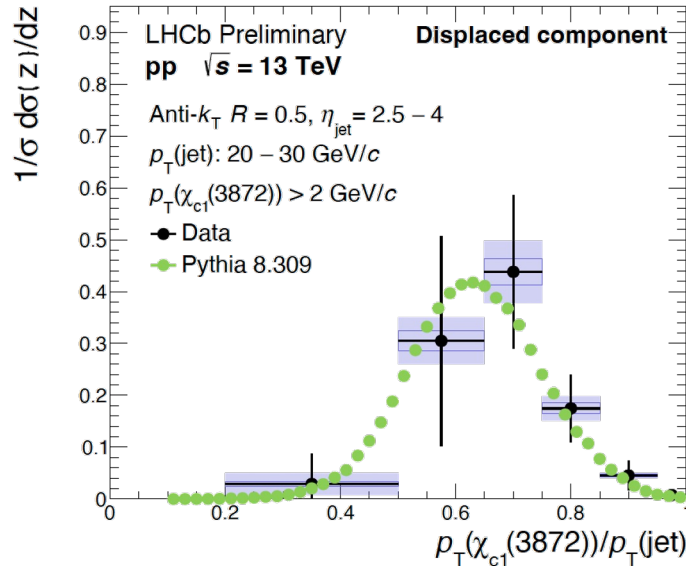
LHCb-PAPER-2024-021



Prompt: less isolated than NRQCD prediction
 Two component structure: different production mechanisms?

$X(3872)$ in jets

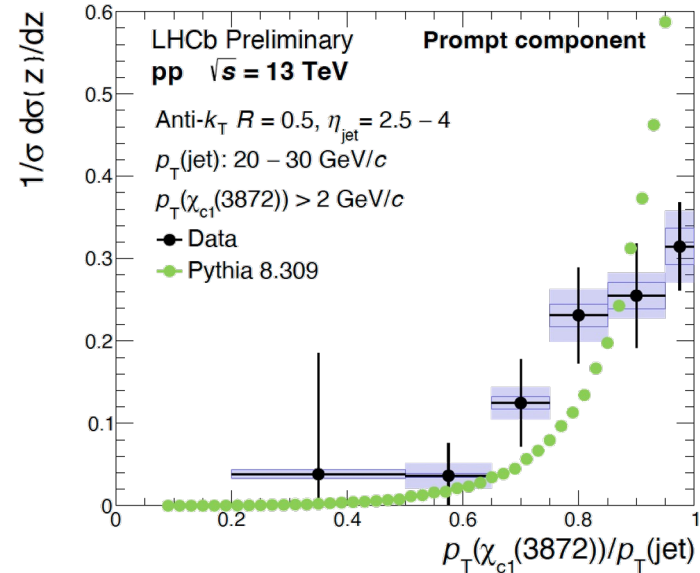
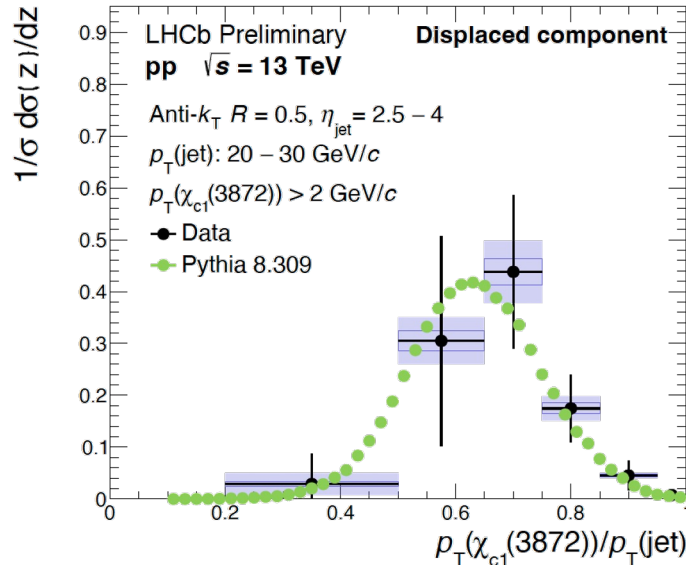
LHCb-PAPER-2024-021



$b \rightarrow X(3872)$: well described by PYTHIA
Very similar to $b \rightarrow J/\psi$

X(3872) in jets

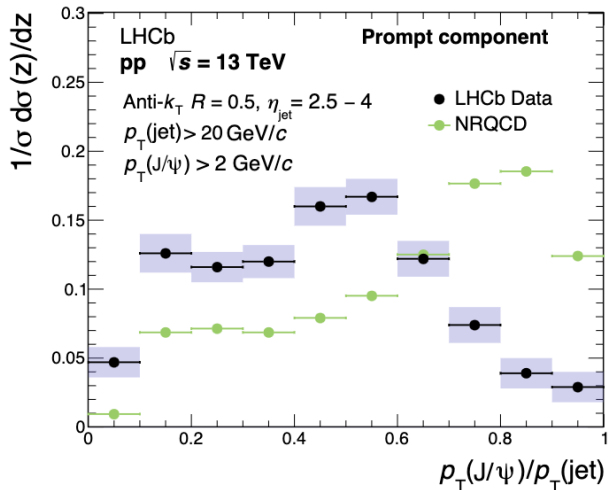
LHCb-PAPER-2024-021



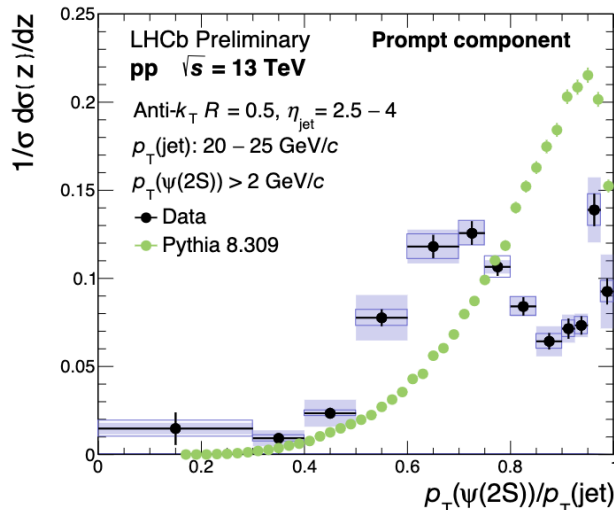
$b \rightarrow X(3872)$: well described by PYTHIA
Very similar to $b \rightarrow J/\psi$

Prompt: Rises towards isolation, very different from conventional $c\bar{c}$ state $\psi(2S)$

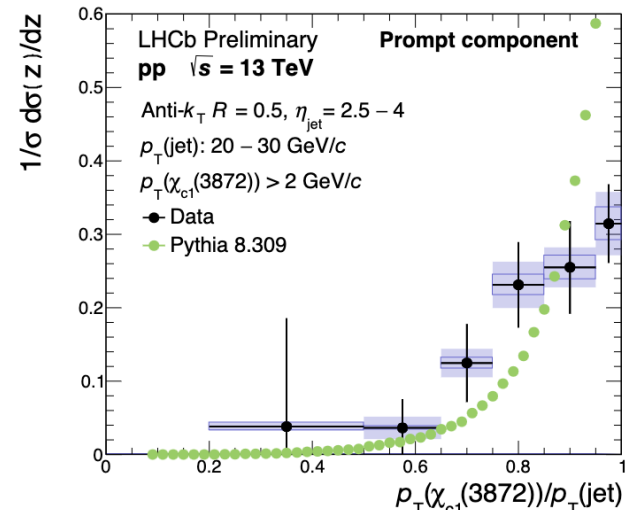
Compare: prompt J/ψ , $\psi(2S)$, $X(3872)$



Prompt J/ψ : less isolated than expected



Prompt $\psi(2S)$:
Two component structure:
Different production mechanisms?



Prompt $X(3872)$:
More isolated than conventional charmonia

LHCb and EIC: many overlapping physics topics

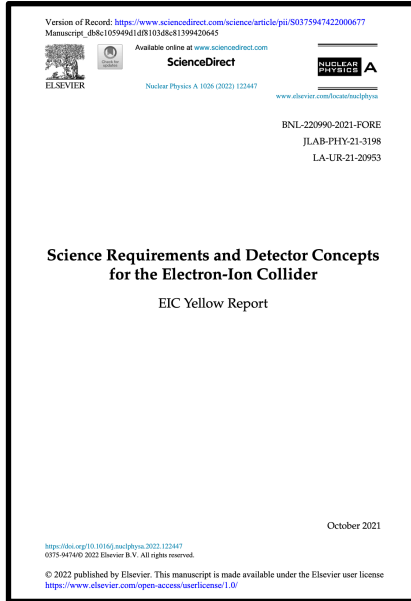


Partonic structure of nucleons

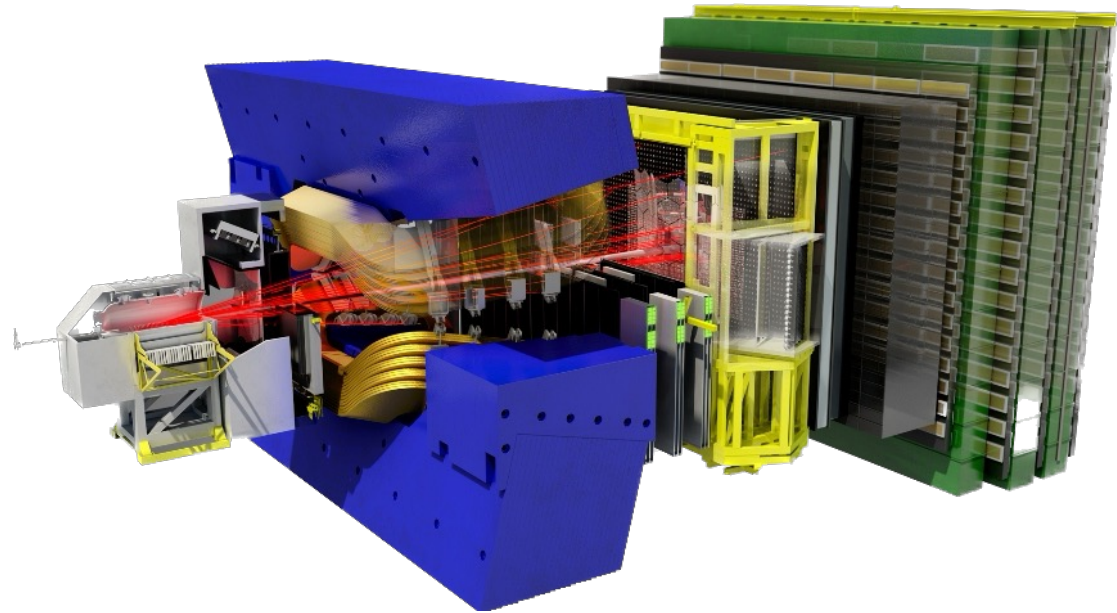
Hadronization

Photoproduction

Hadron spectroscopy

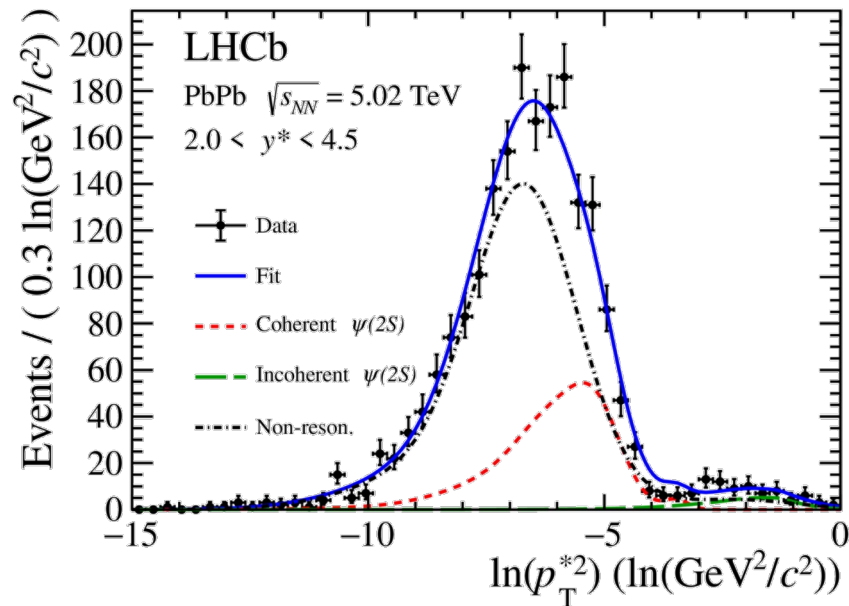
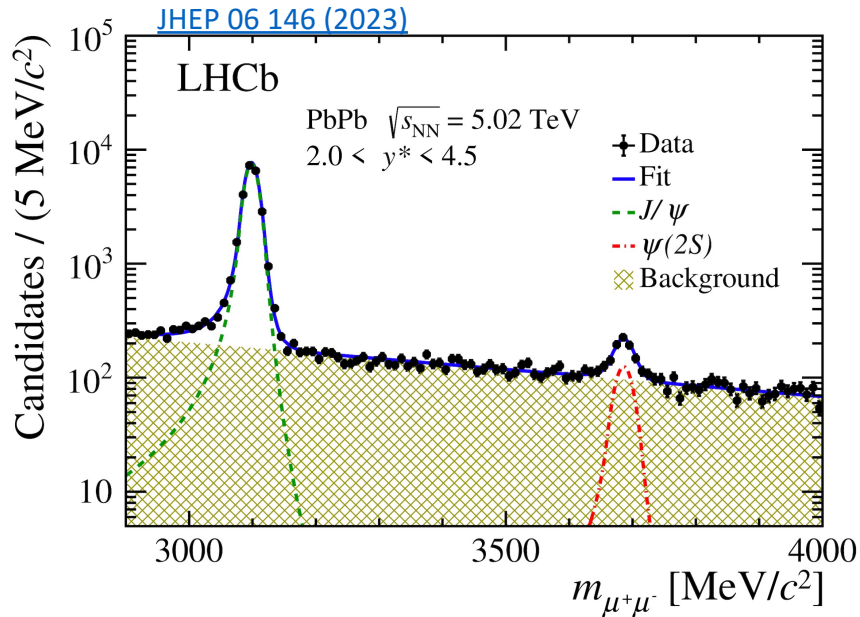


NPA 1026 122447(2022)



Different probes of the nucleus - UPC

- LHCb has full particle ID and collects large samples of UPC events
- Forward reach and high statistics provides new constraints on saturation models

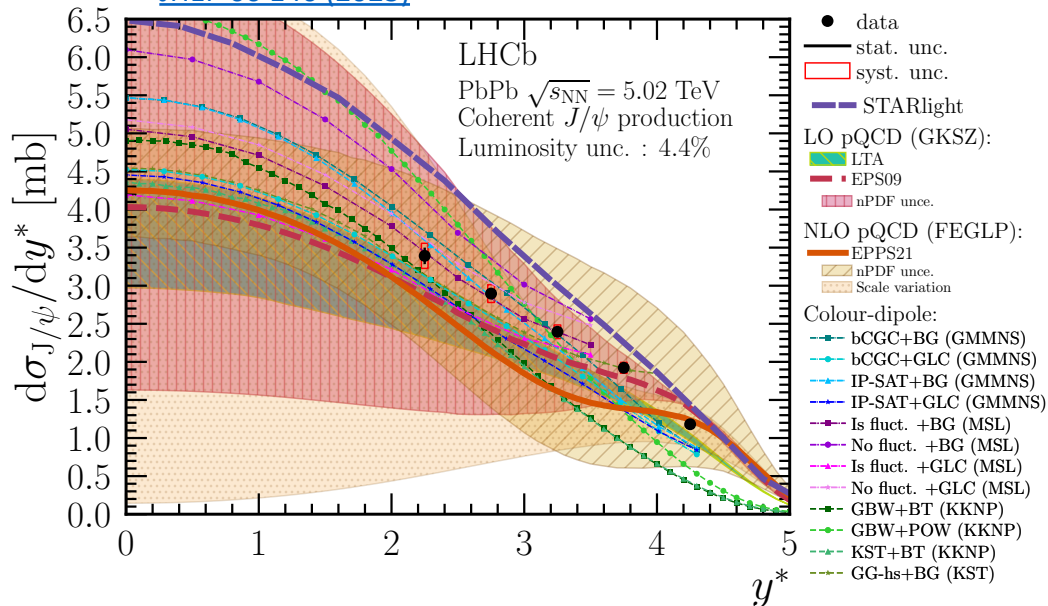


- LHCb is a nearly ideal detector for UPCs: fast DAQ, forward boost, full PID

Different probes of the nucleus - UPC

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[JHEP 06 146 \(2023\)](#)

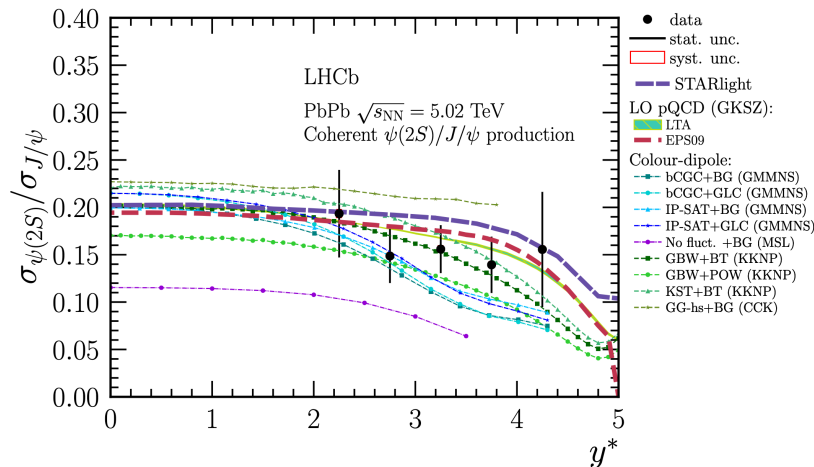
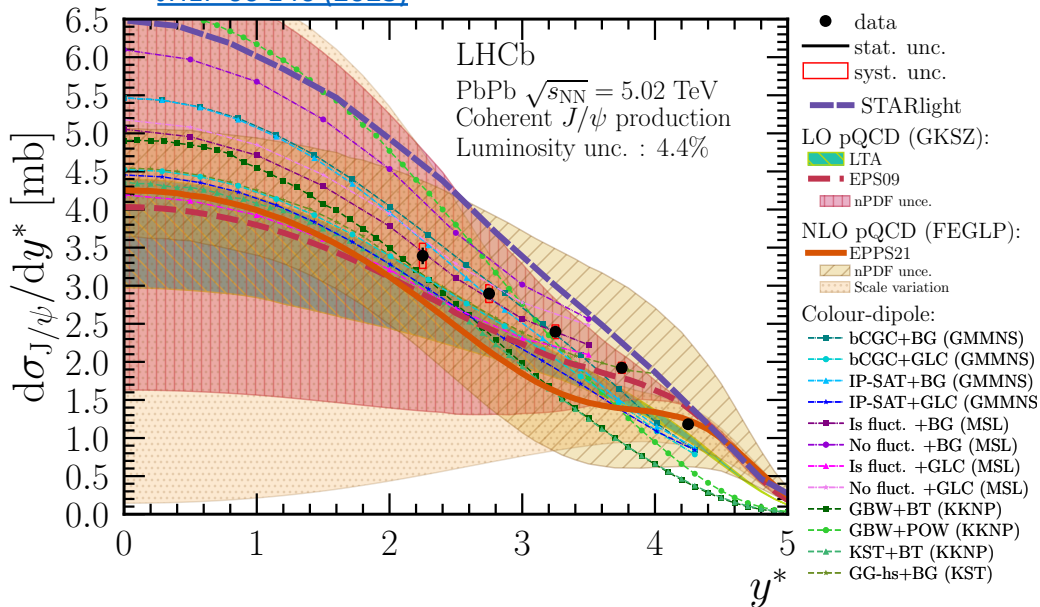


- High precision access to very low p_T identified hadrons uniquely accessible at LHCb
- Multiple new UPC measurements underway

Different probes of the nucleus - UPC

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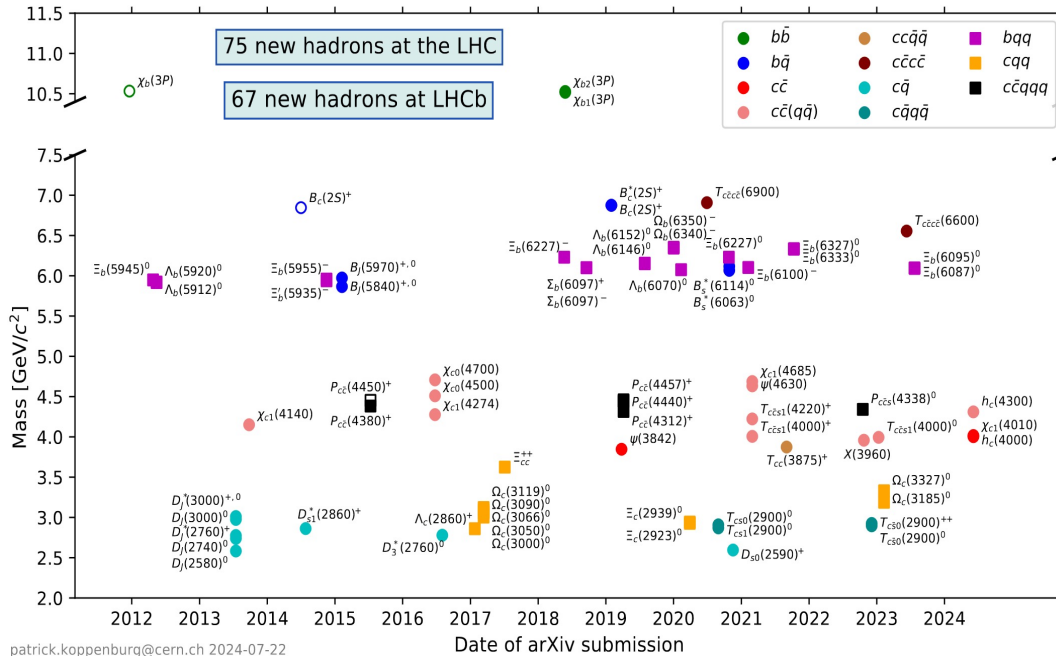
[JHEP 06 146 \(2023\)](#)



Some exp and theoretical uncertainties cancel in ratio

- High precision access to very low p_T identified hadrons uniquely accessible at LHCb
- Multiple new UPC measurements underway

New hadrons discovered at the LHC



patrick.koppenburg@cern.ch 2024-07-22

LHCb is responsible for ~90% of the new particles discovered at the LHC

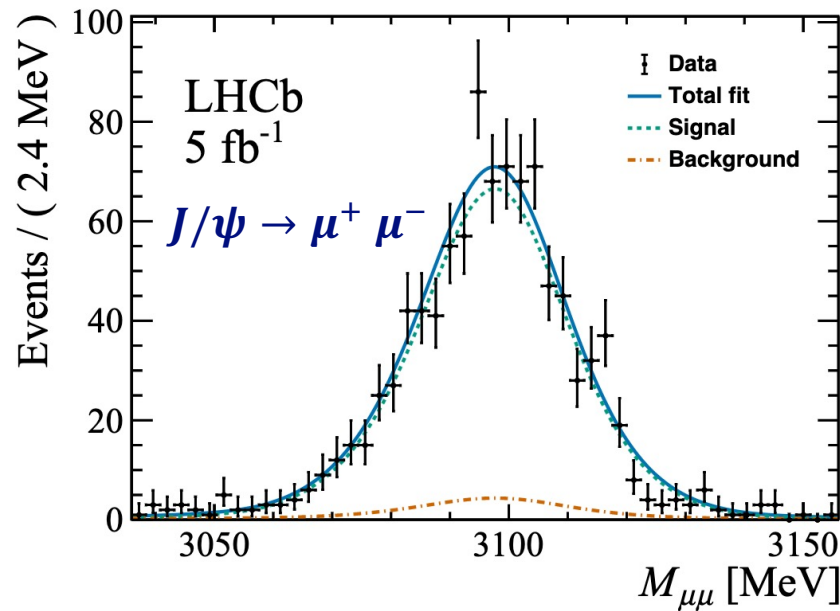
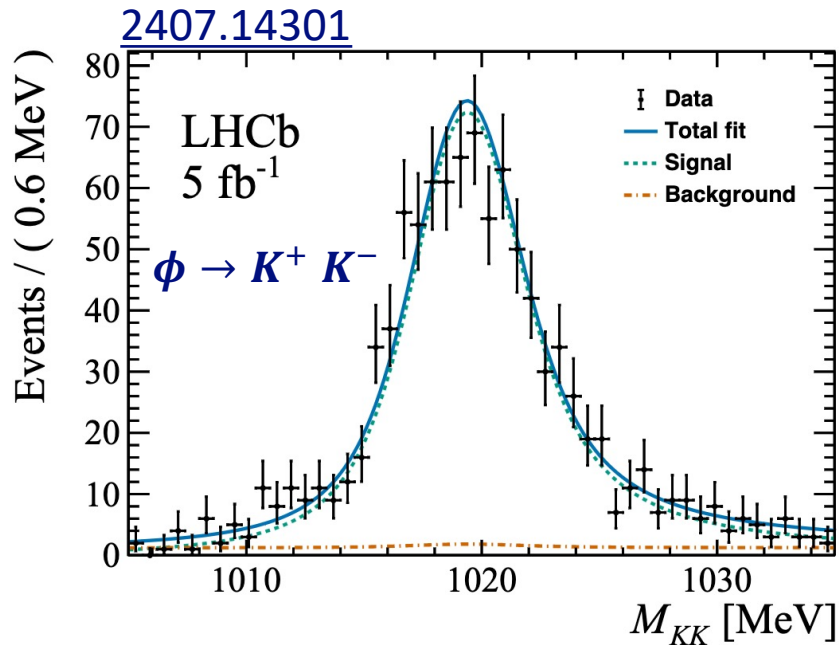
UPC and CEP are thought to be fertile grounds for producing exotic particles:

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **104**, 114029 (2021)

Hunting for tetraquarks in ultraperipheral heavy ion collisions

Angelo Esposito^{1,2,*} Claudio Andrea Manzarini^{3,4,†} Alessandro Pilloni^{5,6,7} and Antonio Davide Polosa^{5,8}

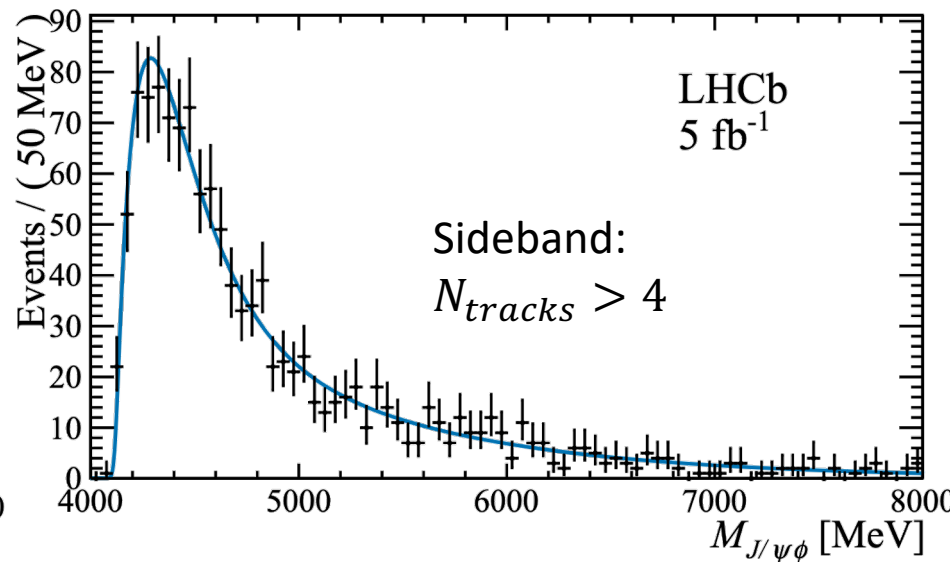
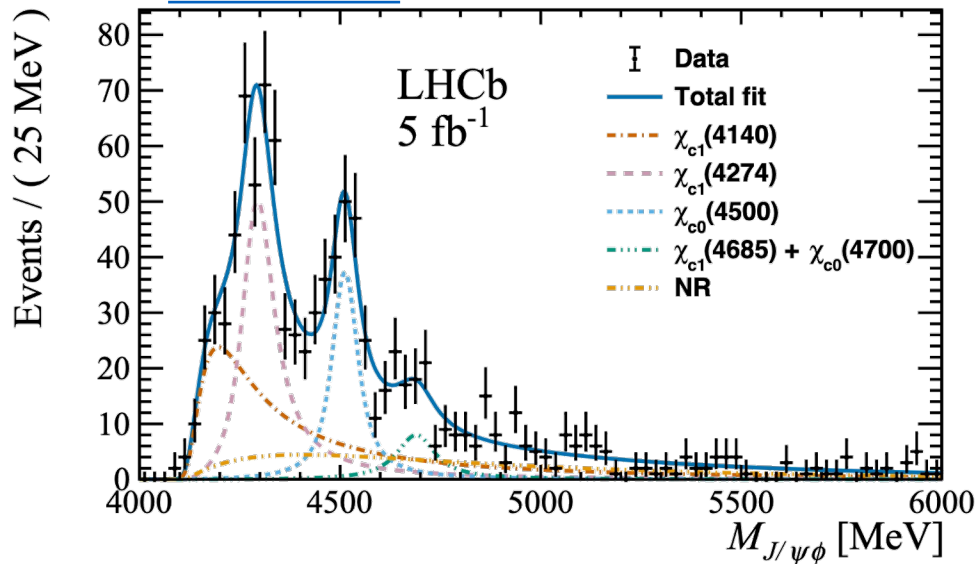
Central exclusive production of $J/\psi\phi$



- Select events with exactly four tracks: two muons, two kaons
- Veto additional activity with HERSCHEL
- Clear signals for $\phi(1020)$ and J/ψ

Central exclusive production of $J/\psi\phi$

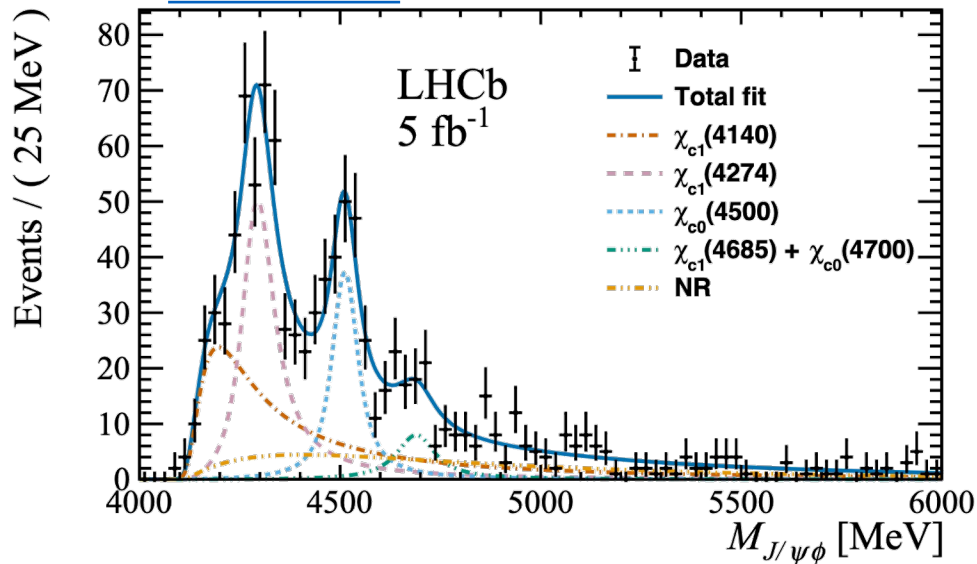
2407.14301



- Structures apparent when selecting only 4 tracks
- Gone when looking at “sideband” of events with more activity

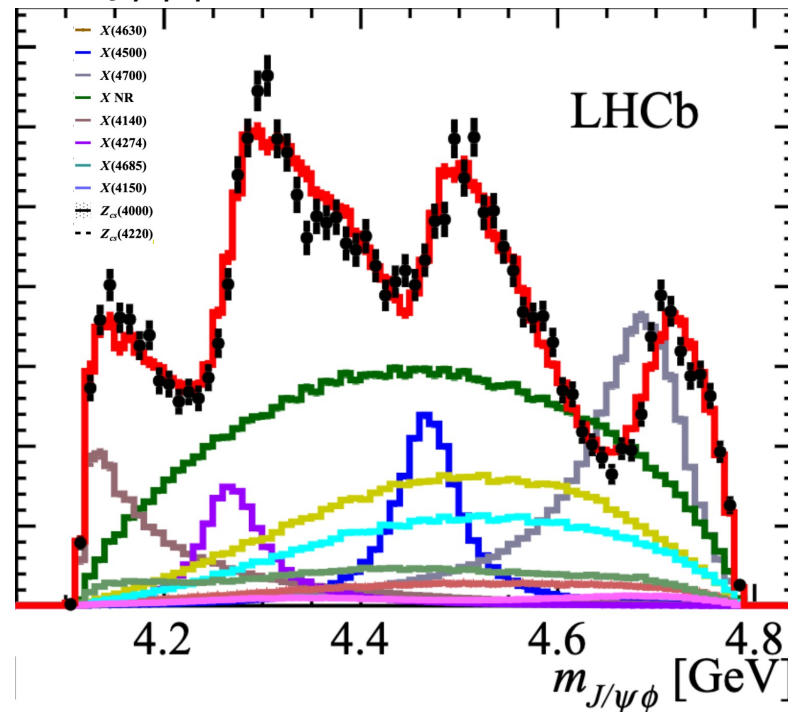
Central exclusive production of $J/\psi\phi$

2407.14301



- Structure consistent with tetraquark candidates previously observed in $B^\pm \rightarrow J/\psi\phi K^\pm$ decays

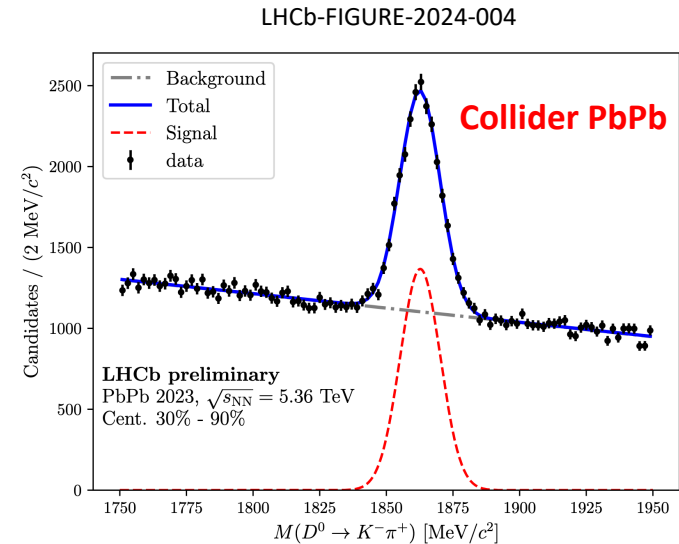
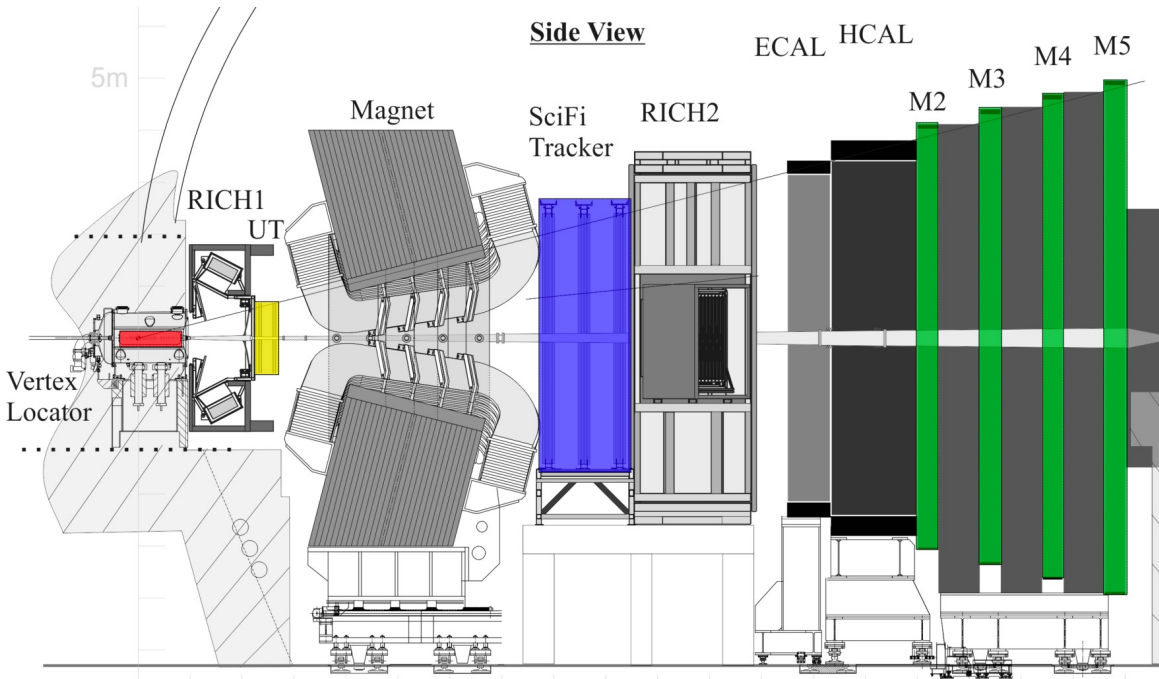
$B^\pm \rightarrow J/\psi\phi K^\pm$ [PRL 127 082001 \(2021\)](#)



The beginning of a totally new hadron spectroscopy program

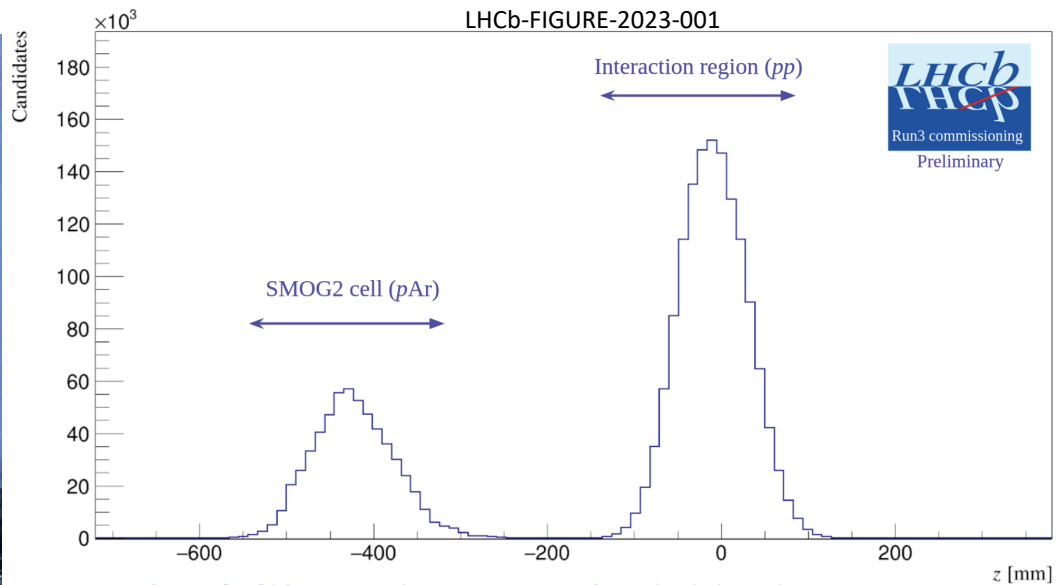
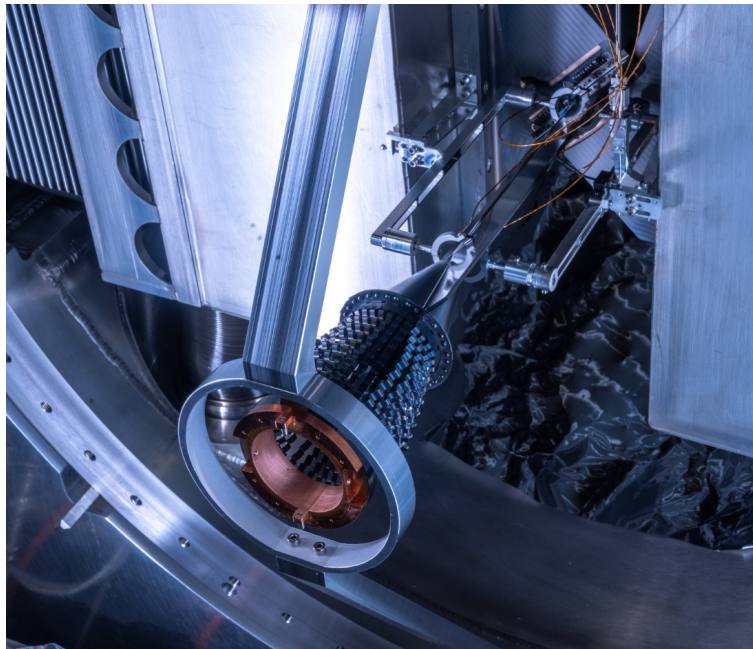
LHCb Upgrade 1(a) – Installed

- LHCb has **advanced the state of the art** with full streaming readout in pp at 40MHz
- All new tracking system allows reconstruction up to $\sim 30\%$ most central PbPb collisions



Fixed target upgrade – SMOG2

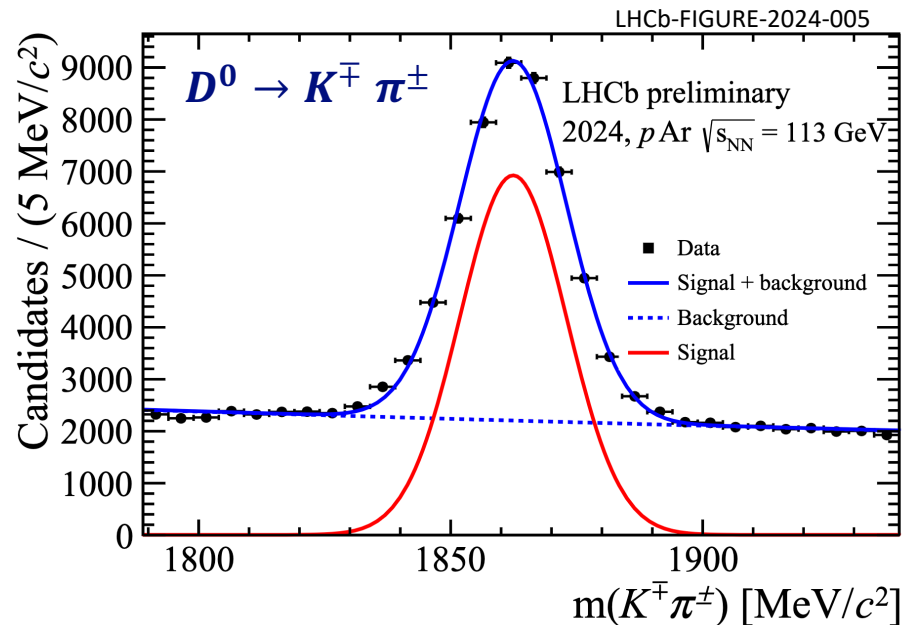
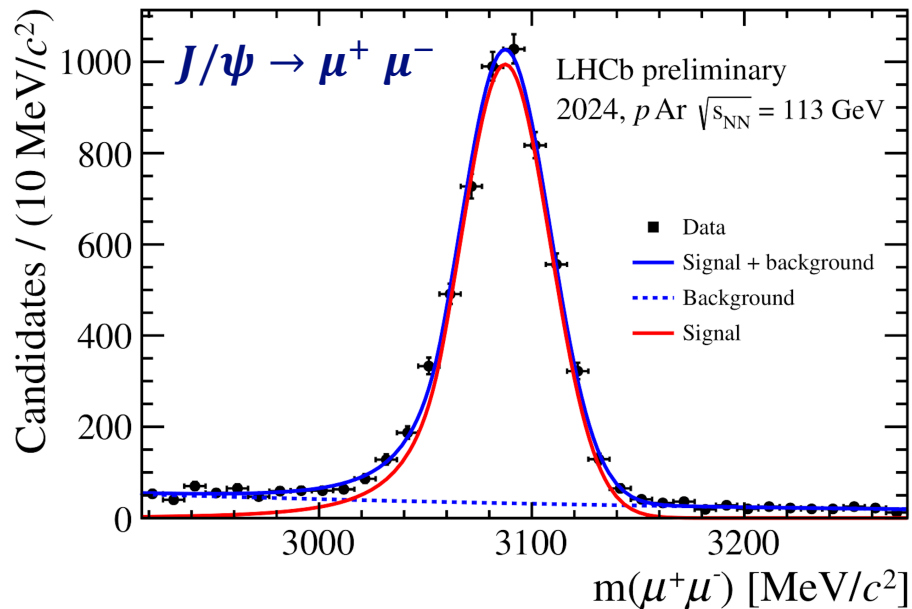
- Dedicated gas storage cell has been installed in front of LHCb VELO
- Allows greatly increased rates of beam+gas collisions



**SMOG2 provides huge flexibility in targets:
e. g. run O+O at two collision energies simultaneously**

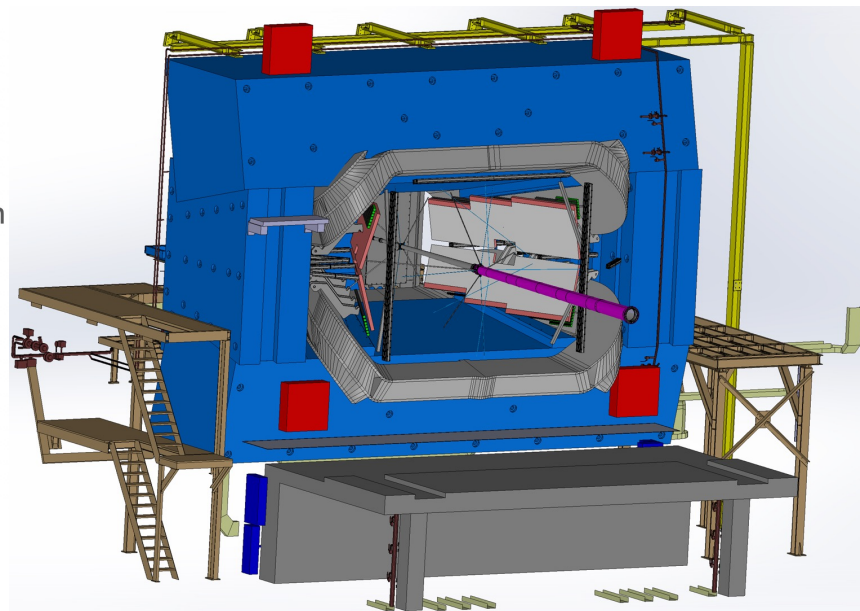
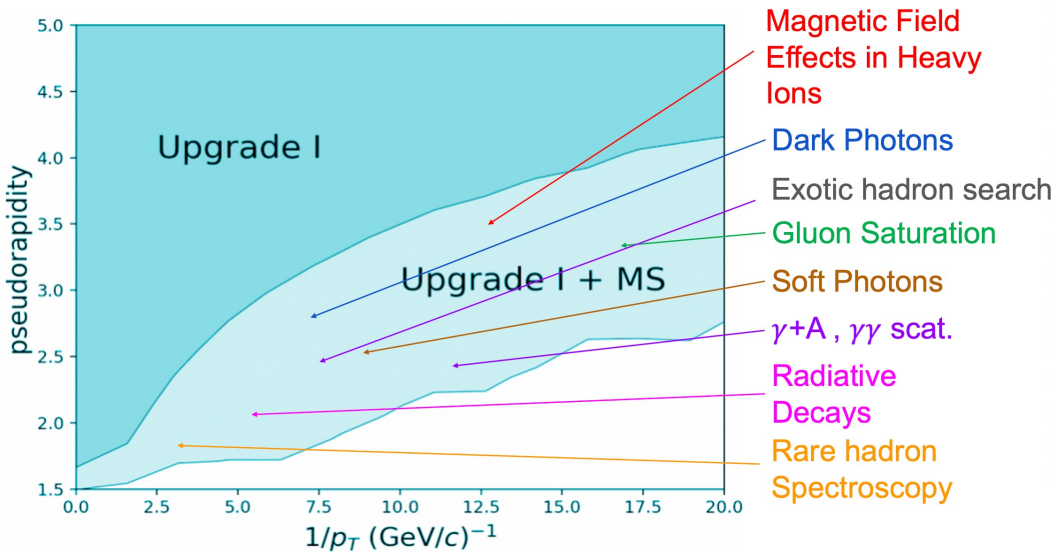
Fixed target upgrade – SMOG2

- Concurrent running with pp data will provide HUGE data samples
- Reconstructions from 100 minutes of 2024 data
- Target species and luminosity priorities determined within LHCb
 - So far: $p\text{Ne}$, $p\text{Ar}$, $p\text{He}$, lots of $p\text{H}_2$, Pb+gas data coming



Tracking upgrade – Magnet Station (LS3)

- Scintillating bar tracker for very soft particles at LHCb, start installation LS3
- Expands soft physics channels previously unreachable at the LHC.
- Enhanced access to very low x , Q^2 region where gluon saturation may exist in nuclei.
- Access to very soft particles from UPCs



LHCb Upgrade II (Run 5+)



Further upgraded tracking to deal with high pp pileup and heavy ion collisions

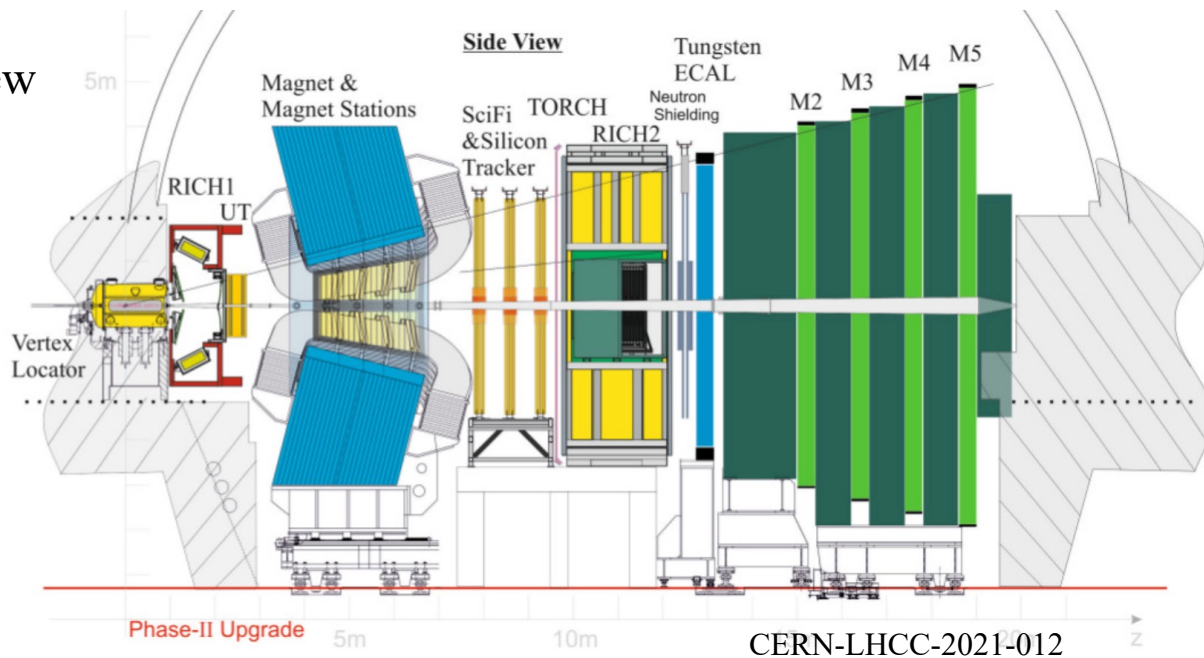
- Access the full PbPb centrality range
- Precise measurements of b hadrons, exotic states, and more at low p_T in central collisions

Discussions beginning for a new era of fixed target physics: spin polarized target



[arXiv:1901.08002](https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.08002)

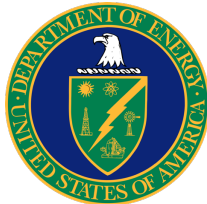
Huge complementarity with EIC



Summary



- LHCb plays a unique role in international heavy ion physics experiments
 - Widest range of x , Q^2 accessible in the laboratory
 - Unparalleled access to b quarks, higher charmonia, exotic hadrons, etc
 - Resonances reconstructed down to $p_T=0$
- The LHCb heavy ion group currently has a very high data/people ratio
 - With multiple SMOG2 species coming, soon we will have more data sets than groups involved in the heavy ion program
 - Severely under-utilized for UPC, flow, femtoscopy, jets, many other areas
- Ambitious upgrade plan with a direct impact on the heavy ion physics program is well underway.



**Los Alamos National Laboratory is supported by
DOE/Office of Science/Nuclear Physics**

backup

