

# Probing Jet Energy Loss and Medium Modifications in Photon-Jet Events in Heavy Ion Collisions with ATLAS

**Yeonju Go**

Brookhaven National Laboratory

*Nuclear Physics Seminars*

*Brookhaven National Laboratory, NY, USA (Hybrid)*

*2023 Oct. 10*



**Brookhaven**  
National Laboratory

1. Study of **Color-charge-dependent Jet Quenching** using Photon-tagged Jet  
- [PLB 846 \(2023\) 138154](#)
2. Searching for **Diffusion Wake** using Jet-Hadron Correlations in Photon-Jet events  
- [ATLAS-CONF-2023-054](#)

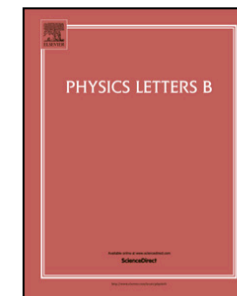
Physics Letters B 846 (2023) 138154



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Physics Letters B

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb)



Comparison of inclusive and photon-tagged jet suppression in 5.02 TeV Pb+Pb collisions with ATLAS

The ATLAS Collaboration\*



#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Article history:

Received 29 March 2023  
Received in revised form 21 July 2023  
Accepted 23 August 2023  
Available online 29 August 2023  
Editor: M. Doser

Dataset link: <https://hepdata.cedar.ac.uk>

#### ABSTRACT

Parton energy loss in the quark-gluon plasma (QGP) is studied with a measurement of photon-tagged jet production in  $1.7 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  of Pb+Pb data and  $260 \text{ pb}^{-1}$  of  $pp$  data, both at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ , with the ATLAS detector. The process  $pp \rightarrow \gamma + \text{jet} + X$  and its analogue in Pb+Pb collisions is measured in events containing an isolated photon with transverse momentum ( $p_{\text{T}}$ ) above 50 GeV and reported as a function of jet  $p_{\text{T}}$ . This selection results in a sample of jets with a steeply falling  $p_{\text{T}}$  distribution that are mostly initiated by the showering of quarks. The  $pp$  and Pb+Pb measurements are used to report the nuclear modification factor,  $R_{\text{AA}}$ , and the fractional energy loss,  $S_{\text{loss}}$ , for photon-tagged jets. In addition, the results are compared with the analogous ones for inclusive jets, which have a significantly smaller quark-initiated fraction. The  $R_{\text{AA}}$  and  $S_{\text{loss}}$  values are found to be significantly different between those for photon-tagged jets and inclusive jets, demonstrating that energy loss in the QGP is sensitive to the colour-charge of the initiating parton. The results are also compared with a variety of theoretical models of colour-charge-dependent energy loss.

© 2023 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier B.V. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). Funded by SCOAP<sup>3</sup>.



**ATLAS CONF Note**

ATLAS-CONF-2023-054

30th August 2023

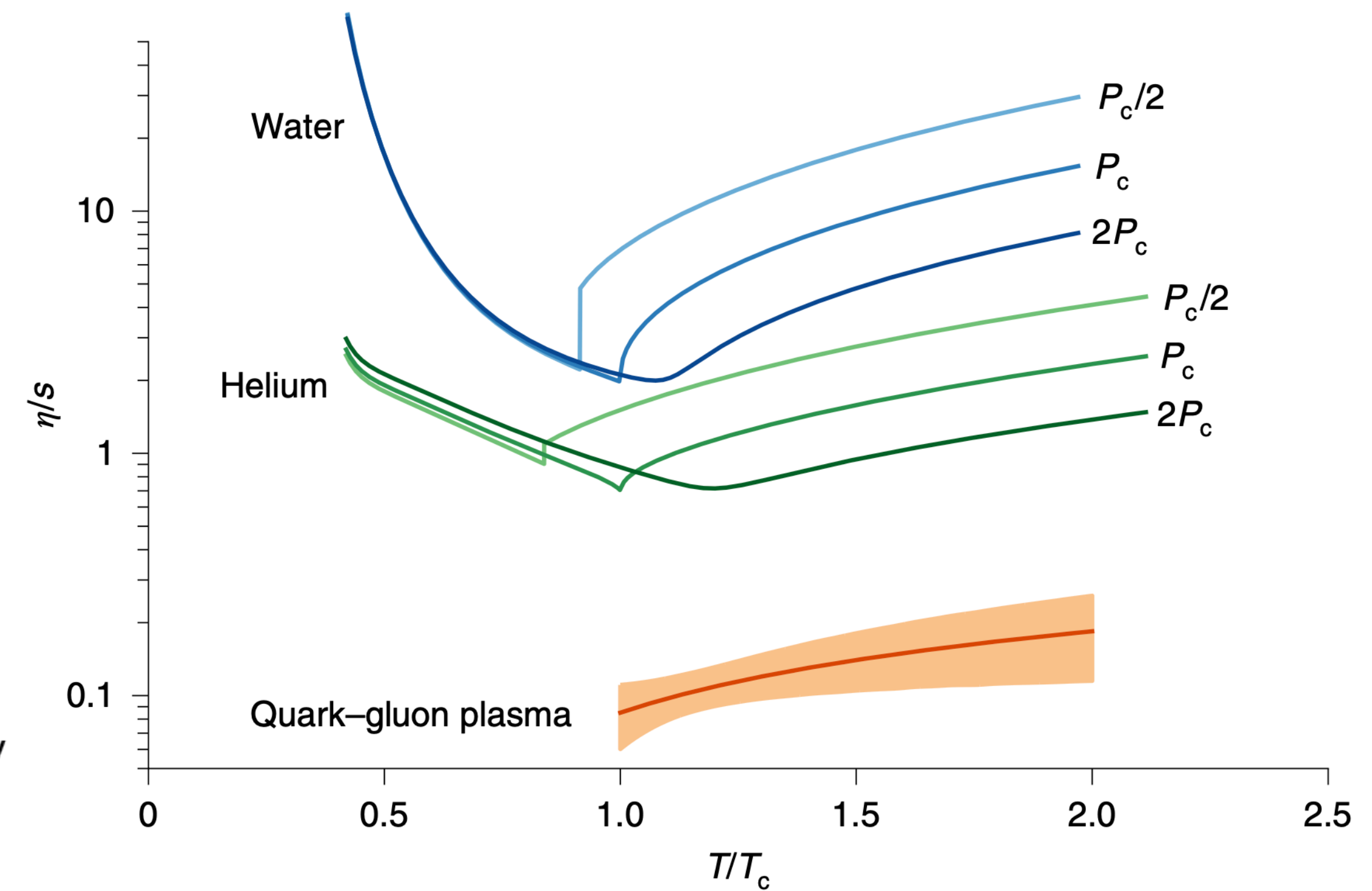
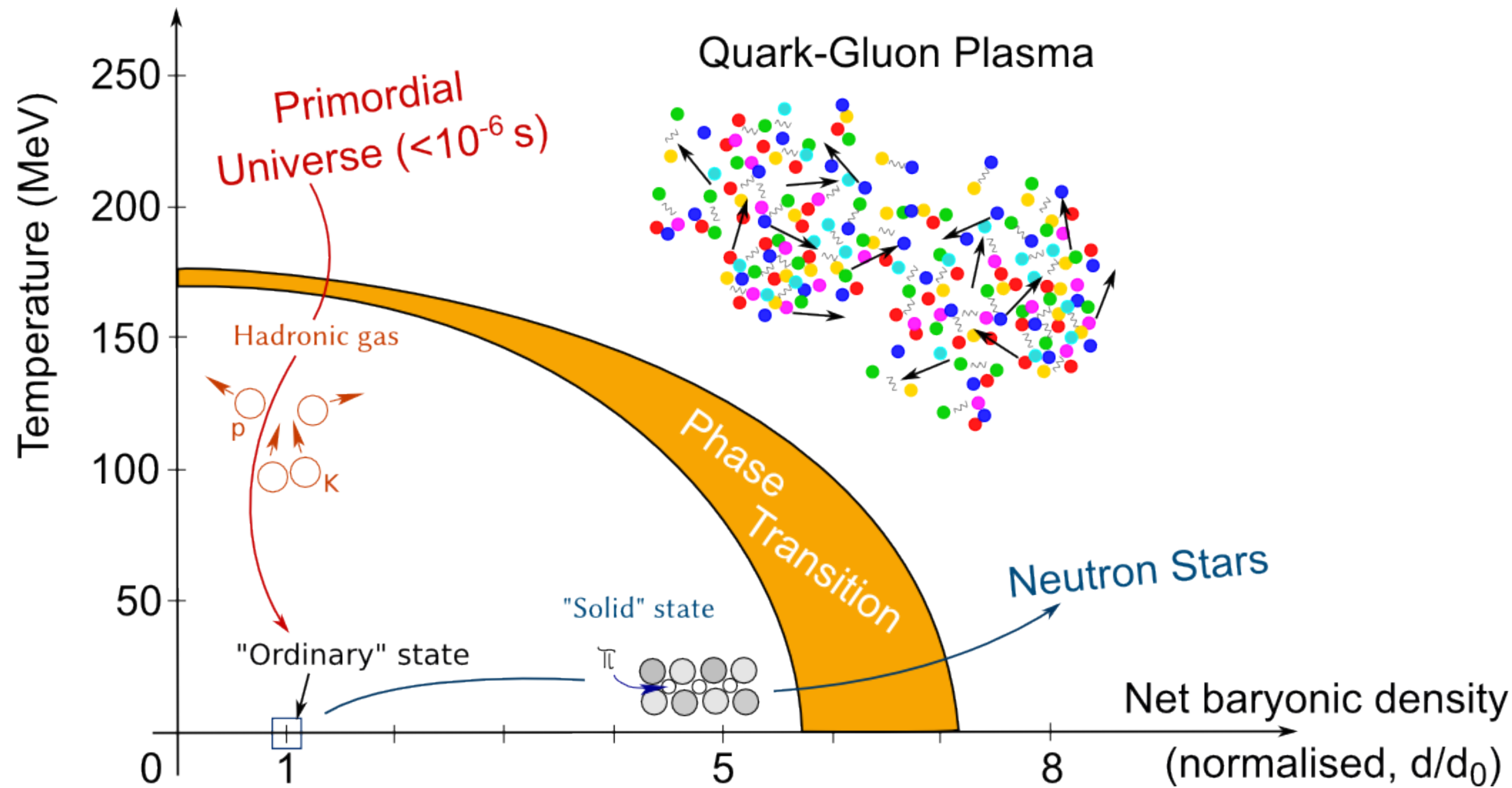


**Search for the quark-gluon plasma diffusion wake via measurements of jet-hadron correlations in photon-jet events in Pb+Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$  with the ATLAS detector**

The ATLAS Collaboration

This note describes the measurement of jet-hadron correlations in photon-jet events, using  $1.7 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  of Pb+Pb data taken at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$  with the ATLAS detector in 2018. Events are selected with high- $p_{\text{T}}$  photons (90 – 180 GeV) and jets ( $p_{\text{T}} > 40 \text{ GeV}$ ), where the photon and jet are back-to-back in azimuth,  $|\Delta\phi(\gamma, \text{jet})| > 3\pi/4$ . Then the angular correlation is reported as a function of relative pseudorapidity  $|\Delta\eta(\text{jet}, \text{track})|$  between these jets and charged hadrons with  $p_{\text{T}} = 0.5\text{--}2.0 \text{ GeV}$  in opposite azimuthal hemispheres  $|\Delta\phi(\text{jet}, \text{track})| > \pi/2$ . These correlations in central Pb+Pb collisions are predicted to be sensitive to the diffusion wake in the quark-gluon plasma resulting from the lost energy of high- $p_{\text{T}}$  partons traversing the plasma. No diffusion wake signal is observed within the current sensitivity and limits on the diffusion wake amplitude are quantified.

# Quark Gluon Plasma and Heavy-ion Collisions

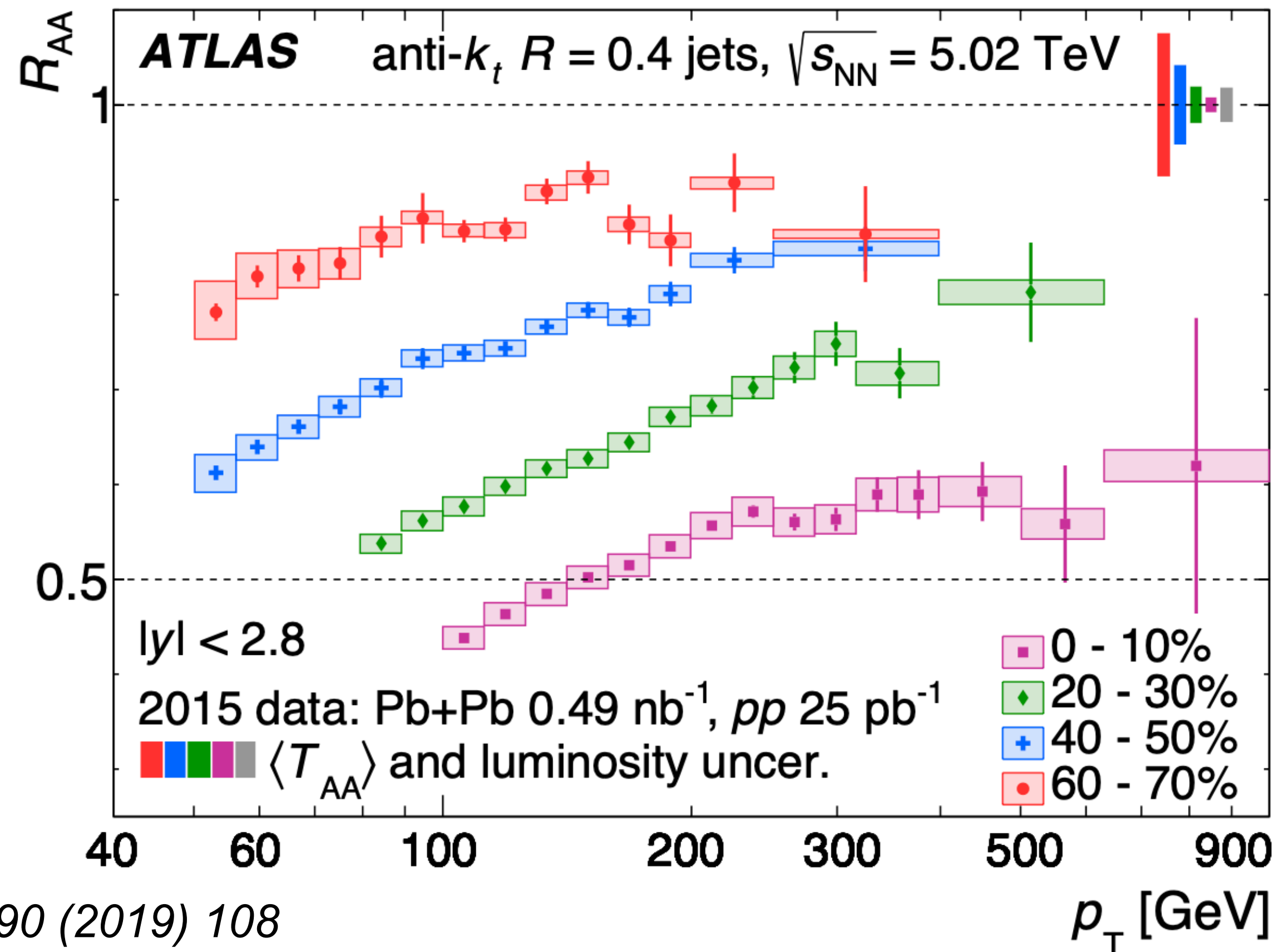


*Nature Physics 15 (2019) 1113*

- **Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP)**: extremely hot and dense phase of matter in which quarks and gluons are no more confined into hadrons
  - ➔ properties known as an almost perfect fluid
  - ➔ lowest specific sheer viscosity ( $\eta/s$ ) of any known substance

# Jet Quenching

- Understand parton-to-medium interaction in QGP using the jet quenching phenomenon
- Various LHC & RHIC results of **nuclear modification factor ( $R_{AA}$ )** show *significant suppression* of jets in heavy ion collisions compared to that in pp collisions



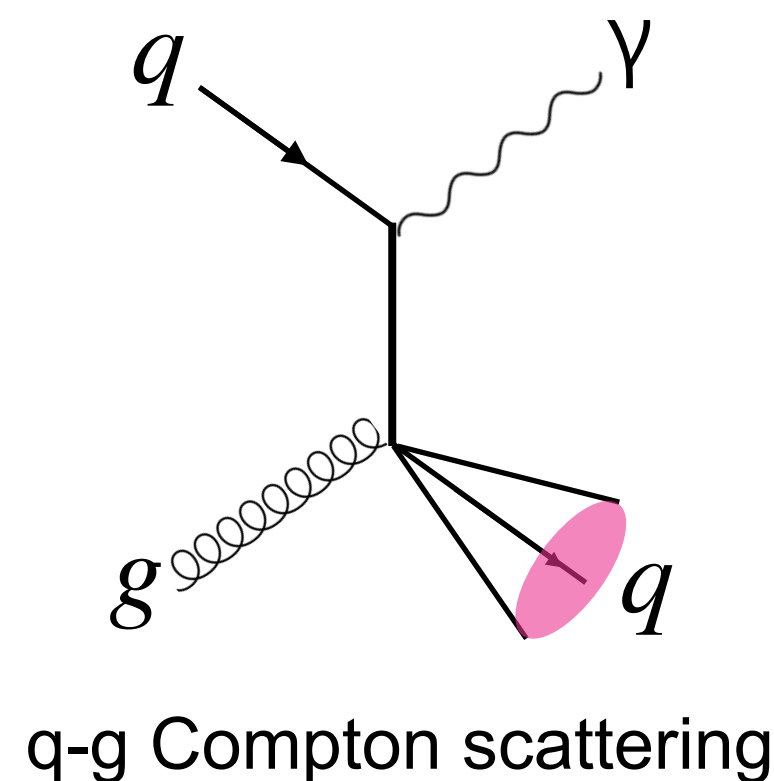
$$R_{AA} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{evt}}} \frac{d^2 N^{\text{Pb+Pb}}}{dp_T d\eta} \bigg/ \langle T_{AA} \rangle \frac{d^2 \sigma^{pp}}{dp_T d\eta}$$

# Color-charge-dependent Jet Quenching

PLB 846 (2023) 138154

- **Photon-tagged jet vs Inclusive jet**

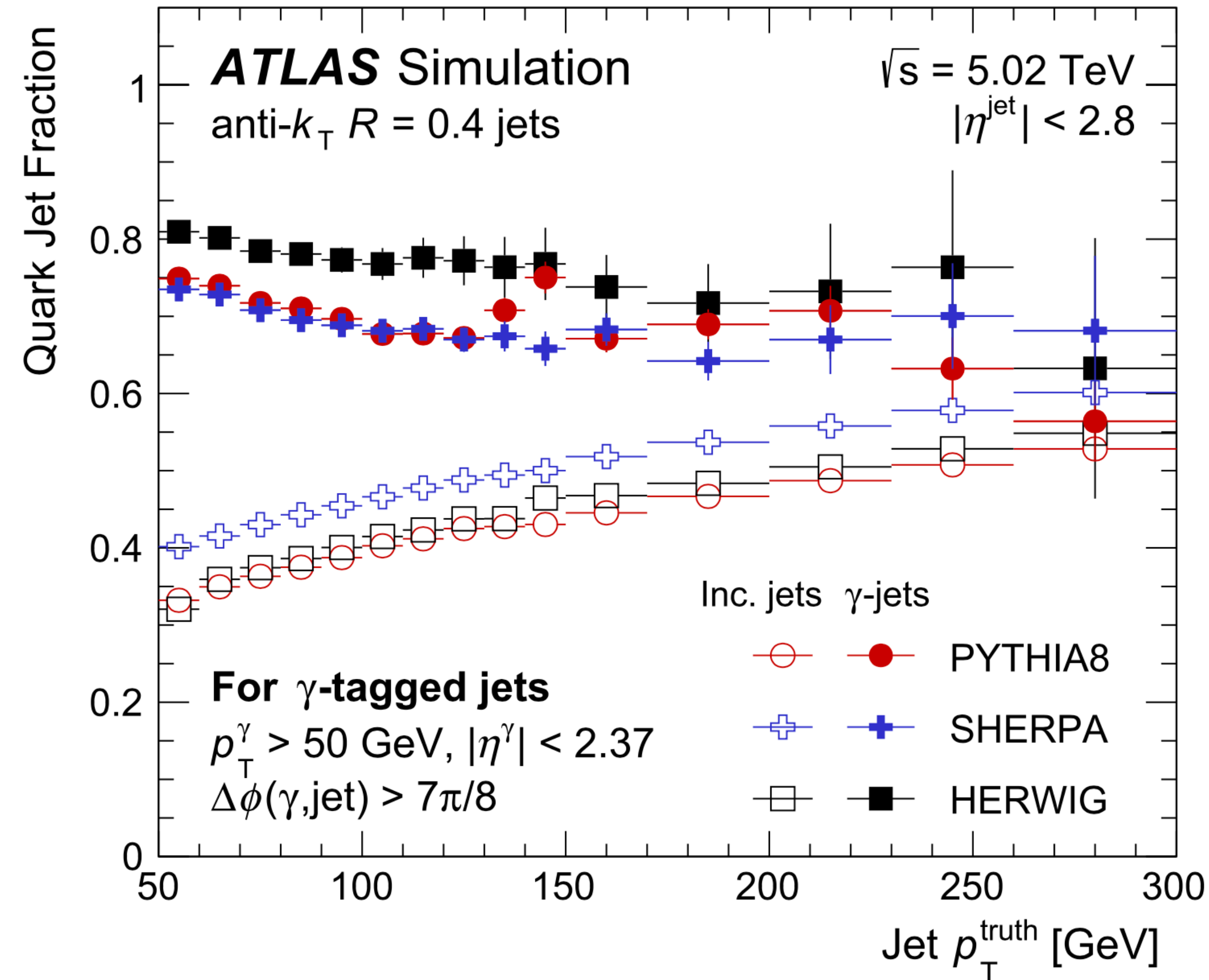
- **Inclusive jet** production in  $p_T < \sim 200$  GeV is dominated by **gluon-initiated jets**
- **Jets in association with photon** ( $pp \rightarrow \gamma + \text{jet} + X$ ) are largely produced by Compton scattering  $\rightarrow$  **quark-initiated jets**
- Comparing **photon-tagged jet** and **inclusive jet**, one can examine the **sensitivity to color charge in jet energy loss in QGP**



$$\langle \Delta E_g \rangle \propto \alpha_s C_R \hat{q} L^2$$

Casimir color factor  
4/3 for quarks  
3 for gluons

$$\Delta E_{\text{gluon}} > \Delta E_{\text{quark}}$$



# Prompt Isolated Photons

- **Direct photon**

- produced from **primary vertex**
- Processes : Compton scattering, Annihilation

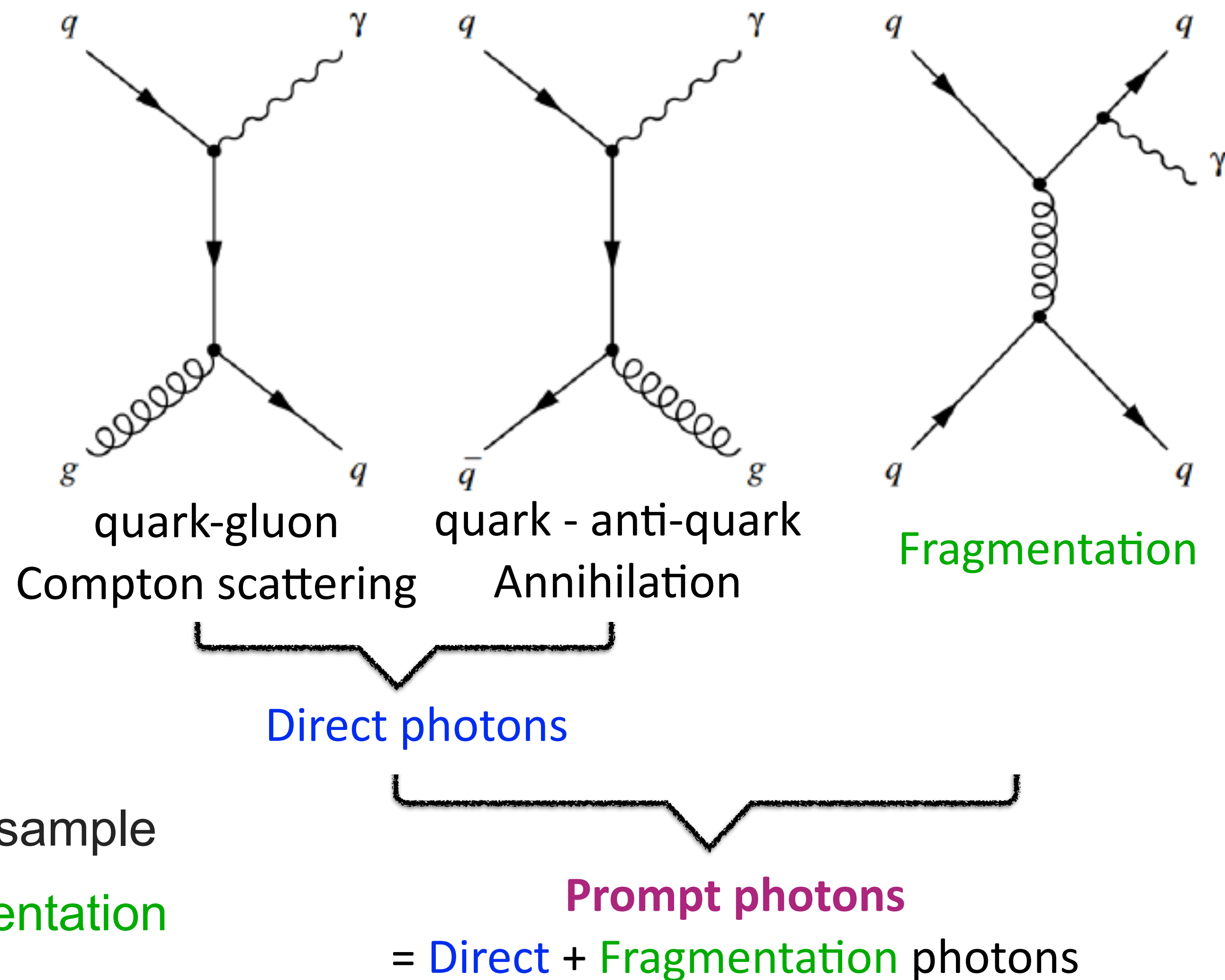
- **Fragmentation photon**

- radiated from partons after the primary hard scattering

- **Decay photon**

- decayed from hadrons, such as  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- **major background**

- Photon **Isolation** condition significantly reduces decay photons and fragmentation photons in the sample
- Discrimination between isolated **direct** and **fragmentation** photons is arbitrary in experiment



# Event Selection & Analysis Procedure

- **Photons**

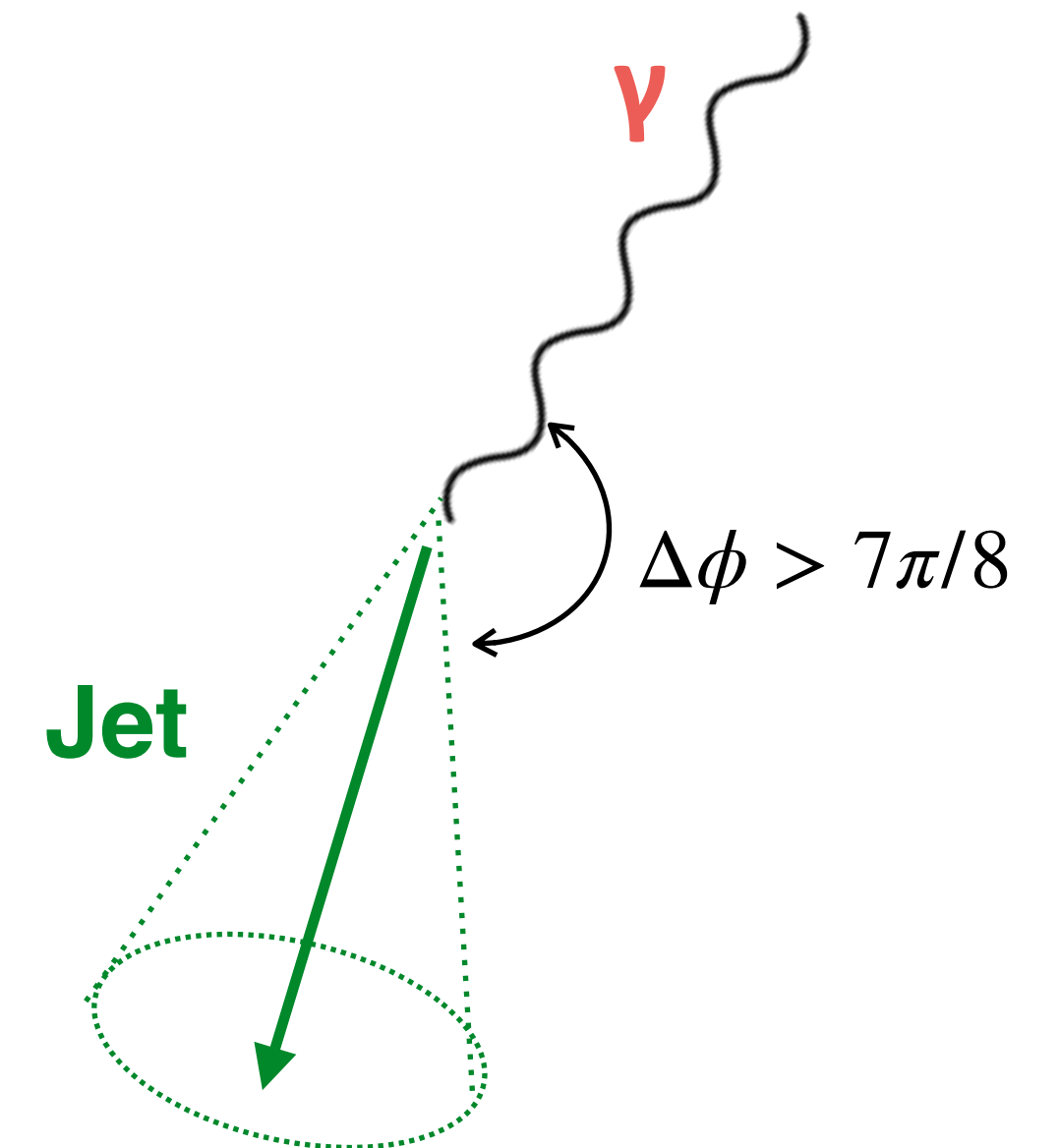
- ➔  $p_T > 50 \text{ GeV}$
- ➔  $|\eta| < 2.37$
- ➔ Prompt Isolated photons (direct+fragmentation photons)

- **Jets**

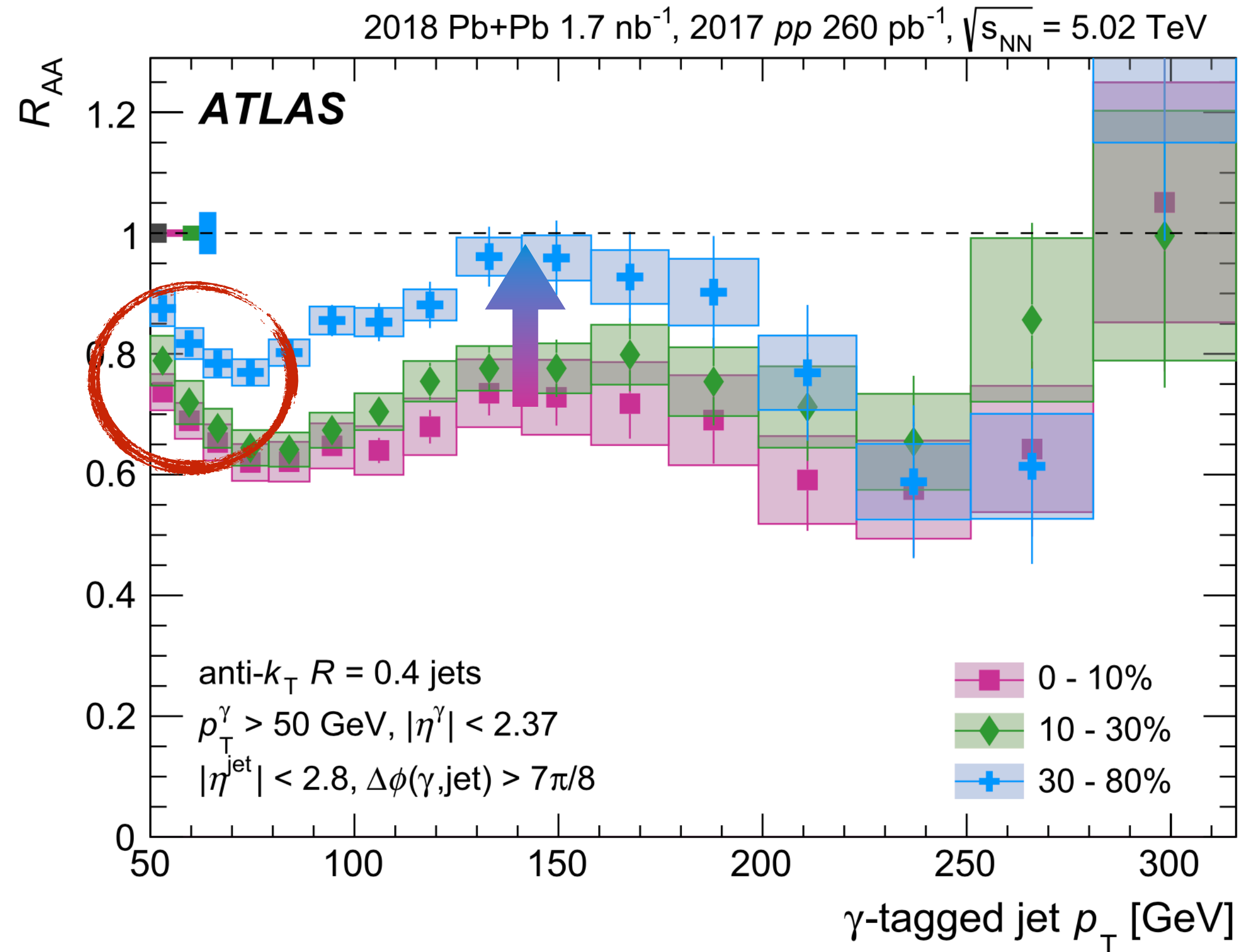
- ➔ anti- $k_T$   $R=0.4$
- ➔  $50 < p_T < 316 \text{ GeV}/c$
- ➔  $|\eta| < 2.8$
- ➔  $\Delta\phi(\gamma, \text{jet}) > 7\pi/8$
- ➔ all (photon, jet) pairs are considered rather than just leading objects

- **Main analysis procedure**

- ➔ combinatoric background jet subtraction using event-mixing technique
- ➔ subtraction of jets associated with background-photons using photon purity
- ➔ 2D simultaneous unfolding for photon  $p_T$  and jet  $p_T$
- ➔ final observables (e.g. cross section,  $R_{AA}$ ,  $S_{\text{loss}}$ , etc) as a function of jet  $p_T$



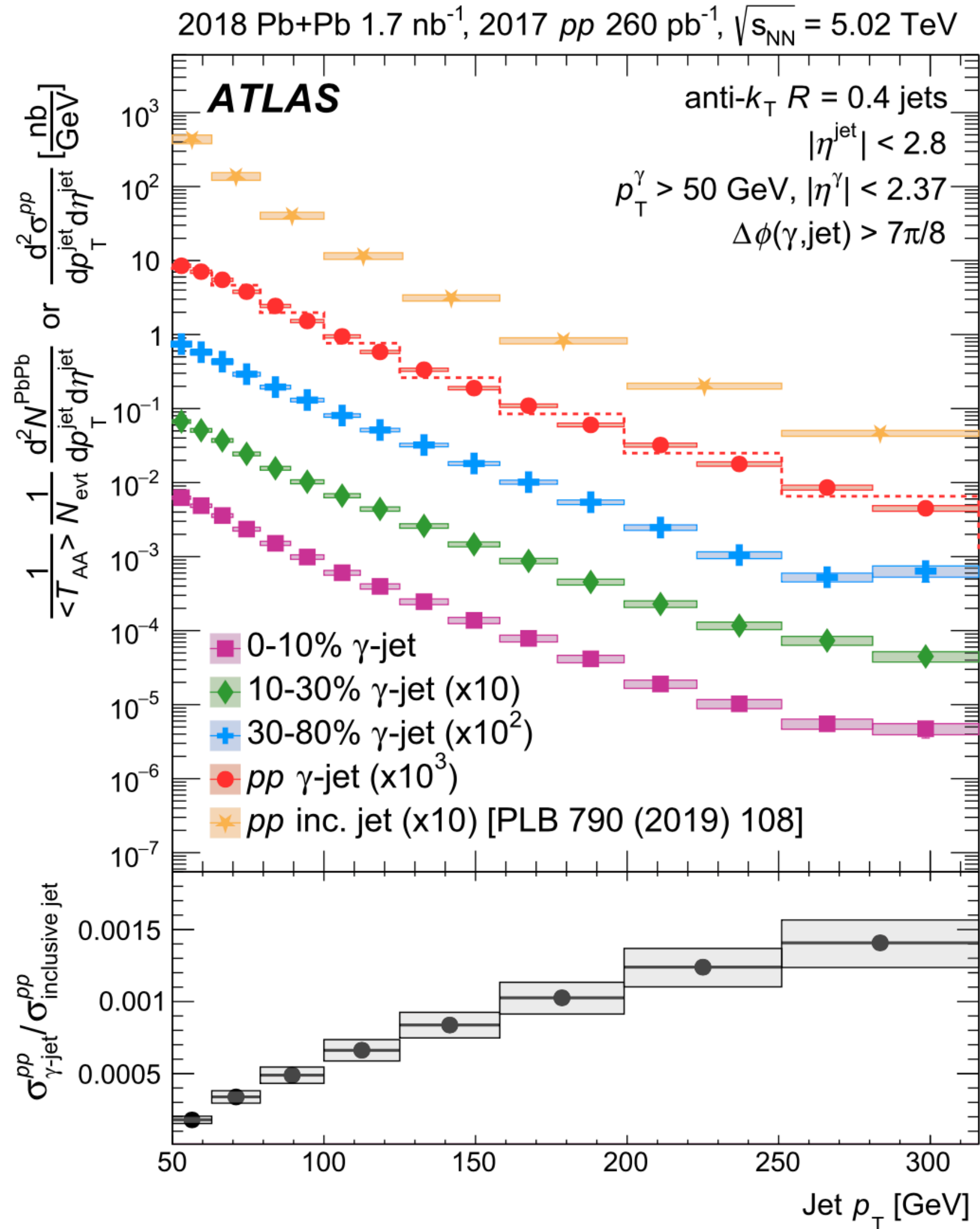
# Nuclear Modification Factor ( $R_{AA}$ )



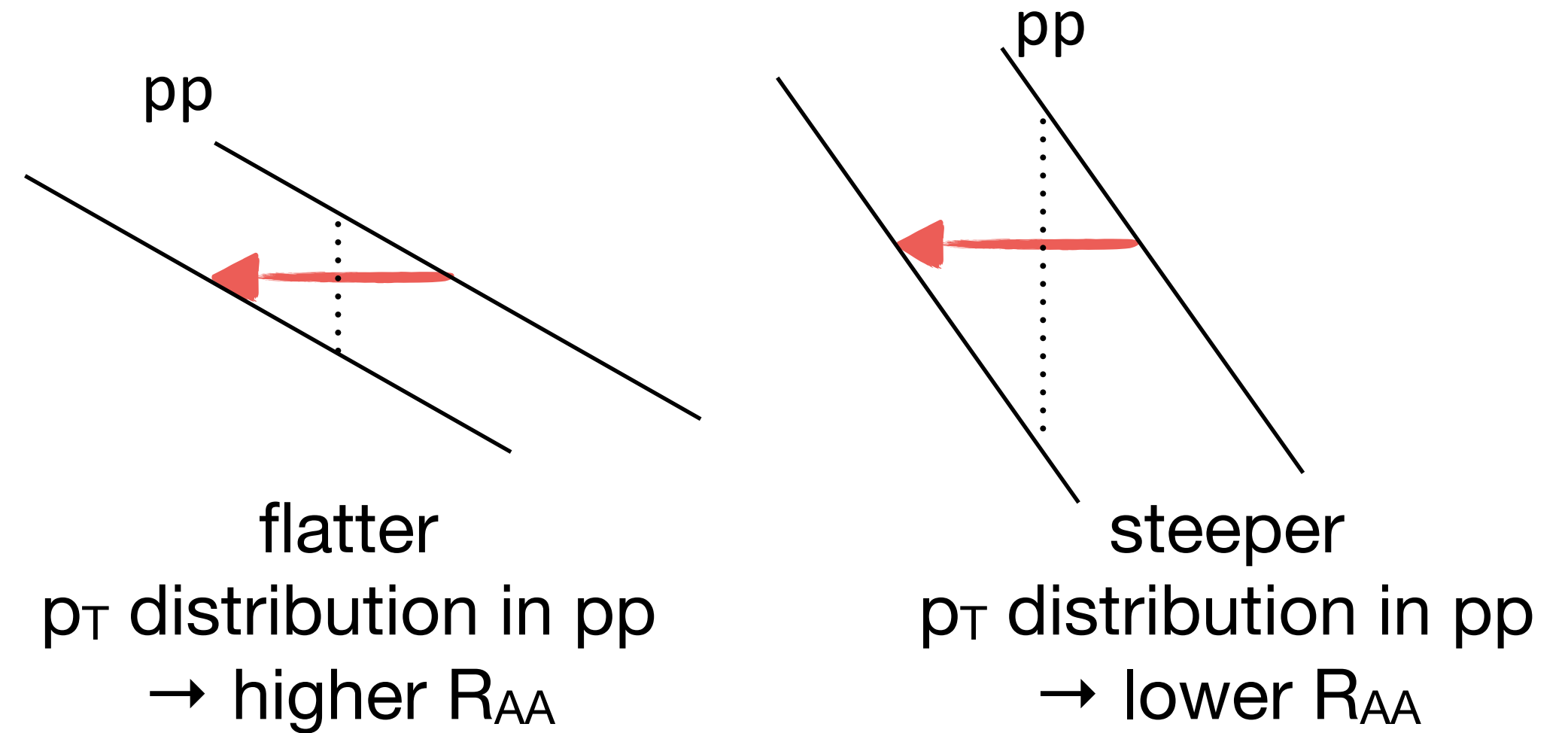
- Centrality ordering in  $R_{AA}$
- For jet  $p_T < \sim 80$  GeV, **photon  $p_T > 50$  GeV threshold effect**



# $\gamma$ -jets vs. inclusive jets: $p_T$ spectra in pp

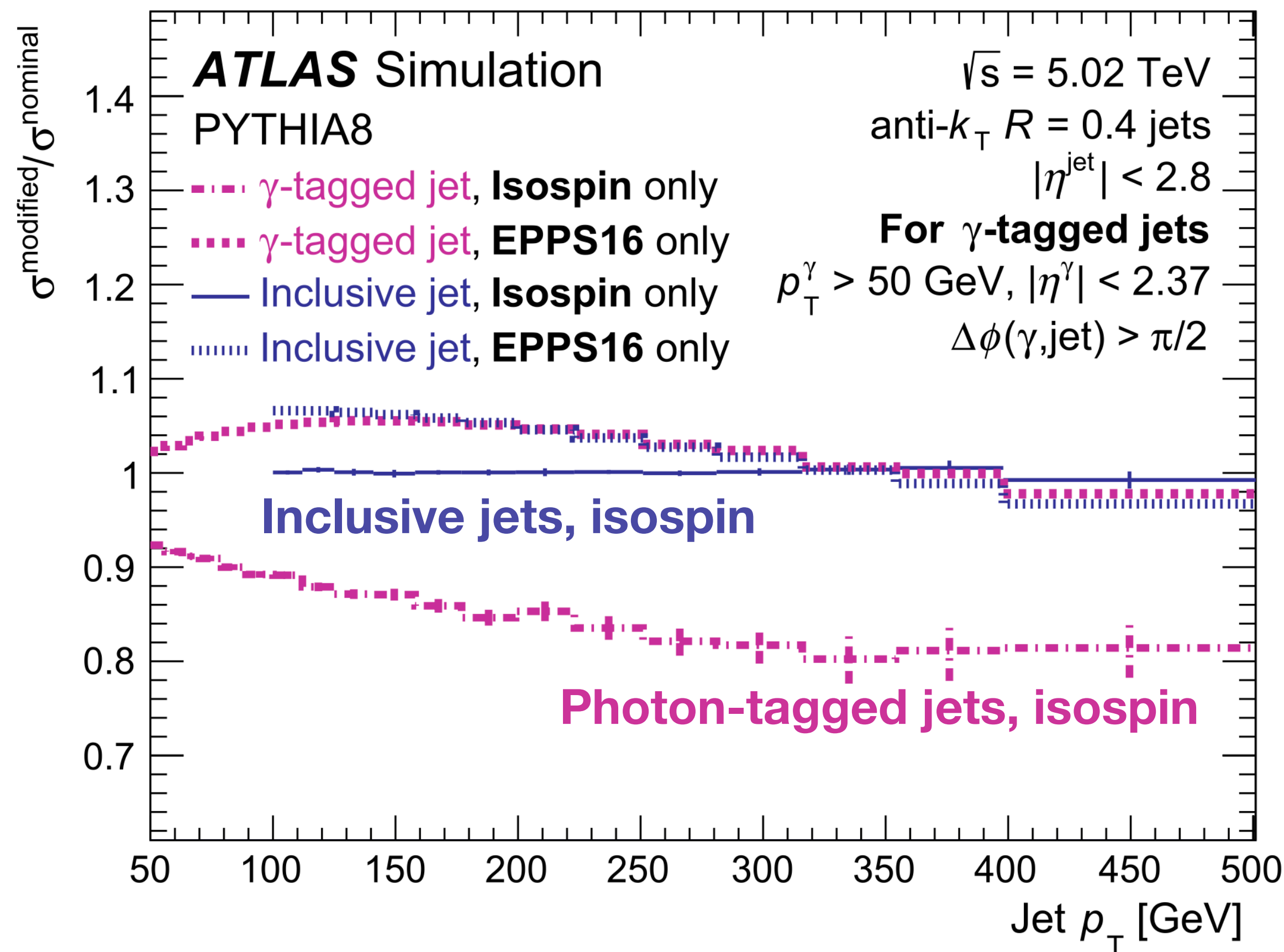


For the same energy loss,



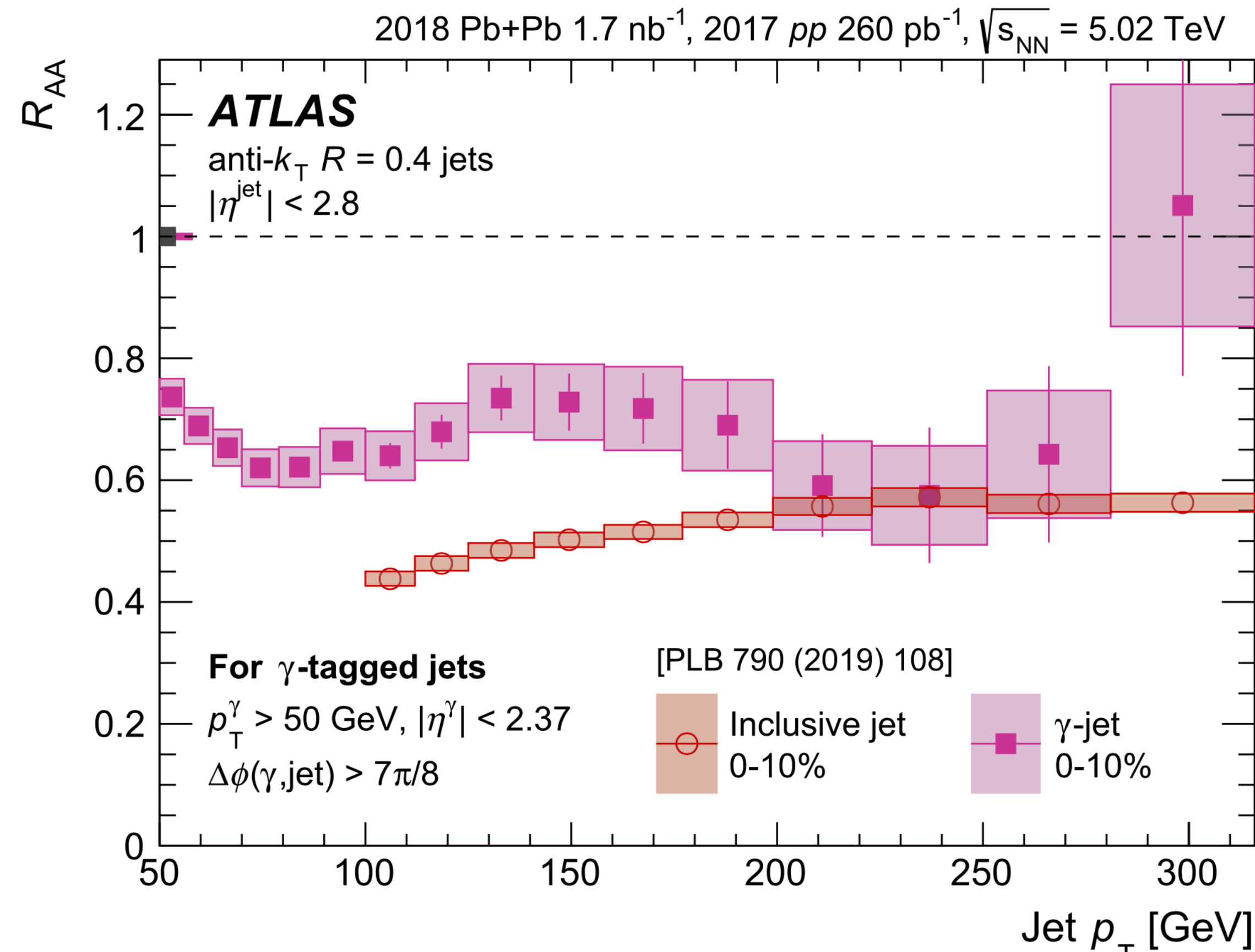
- $\sigma(\gamma\text{-jet})$  in pp collisions (without energy loss in QGP) has a less steep spectrum than  $\sigma(\text{inclusive jet})$
- This impact must be considered when comparing  $R_{AA}$  between two different samples

# $\gamma$ -jets vs. inclusive jets: Isospin effect



- nPDF effects (dashed lines) are similar for both photon-tagged jets and inclusive jets
- The **photon-tagged jet** production rate **decreases** in Pb+Pb collisions because of the **isospin effect** (solid lines), while the **inclusive jet** production rate in Pb+Pb collisions is not affected by the isospin effect
- In summary for *other effects* besides the different q/g fraction,
  - ➔ the  $p_T$  spectrum effect **increases** photon-tagged jets  $R_{AA}$  by  $\sim 5-10\%$
  - ➔ the **isospin** effect **decreases** photon-tagged jets  $R_{AA}$  by  $\sim 10-20\%$
  - ➔ combined effect makes **photon-tagged jet**  $R_{AA}$  lower

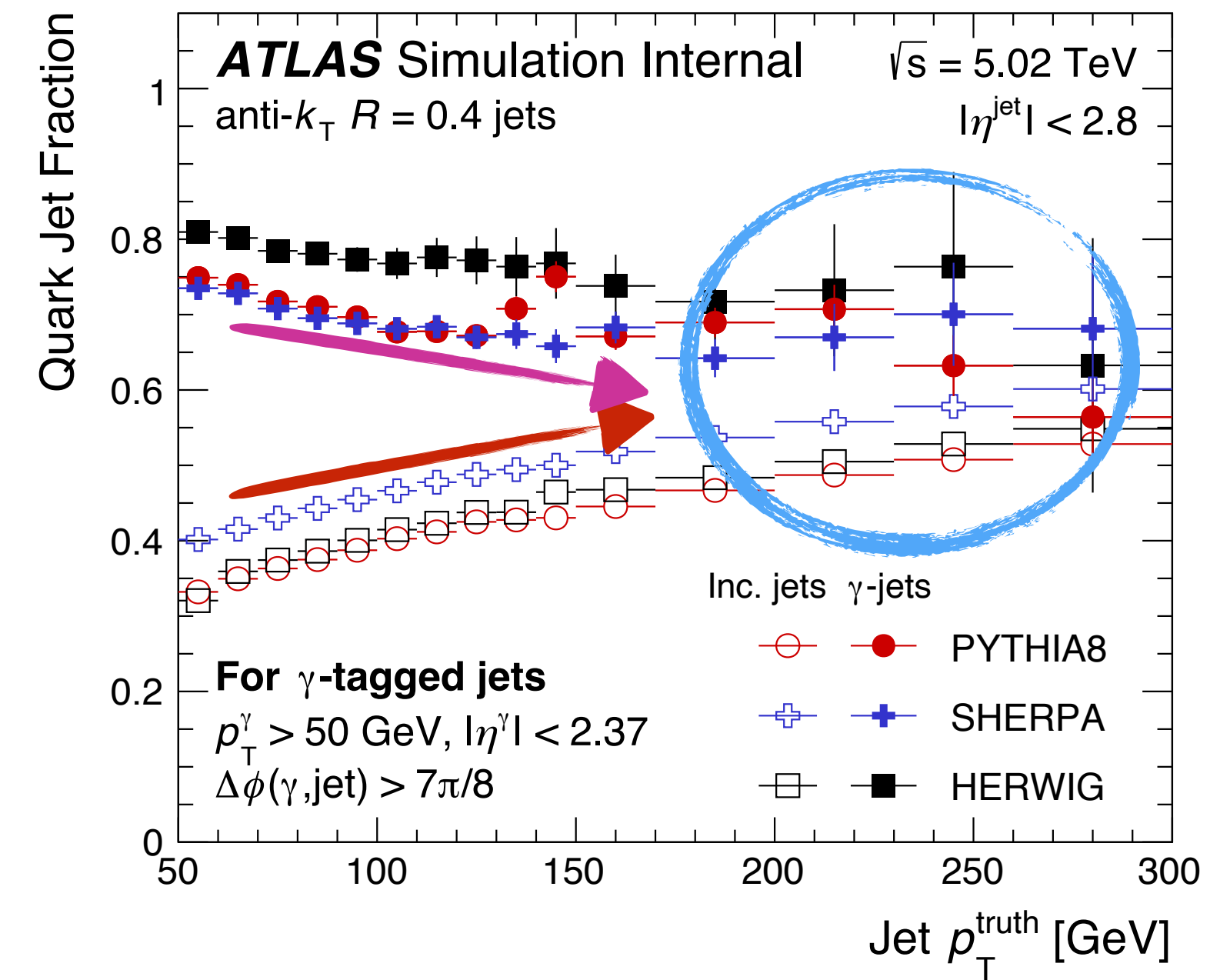
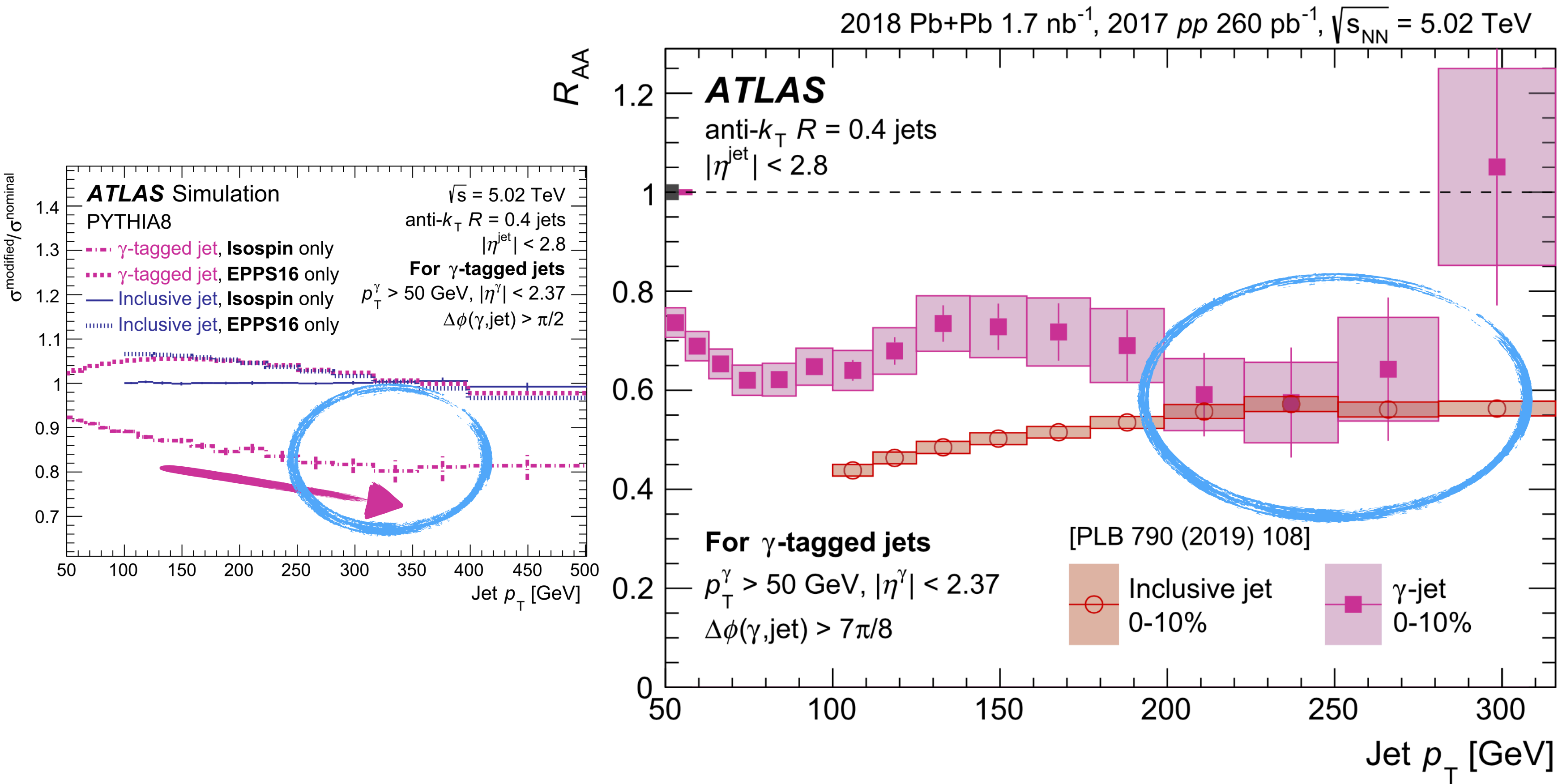
# Nuclear Modification Factor ( $R_{AA}$ )



quark-initiated jet dominant  
 ↑  
**Photon-tagged jet  $R_{AA}$**   
 ↓  
**Inclusive jet  $R_{AA}$**   
 ↓  
 gluon-initiated jet dominant

- Comparison in  $R_{AA}$  between  $\gamma$ -jets and inclusive jets for the 0-10% centrality bin
- For  $p_T < \sim 200$  GeV,  $R_{AA}(\gamma\text{-jets}) > R_{AA}(\text{inclusive jets})$
- This indicates that **quark-initiated jets lose less energy** than gluon-initiated jets

# Nuclear Modification Factor ( $R_{AA}$ )



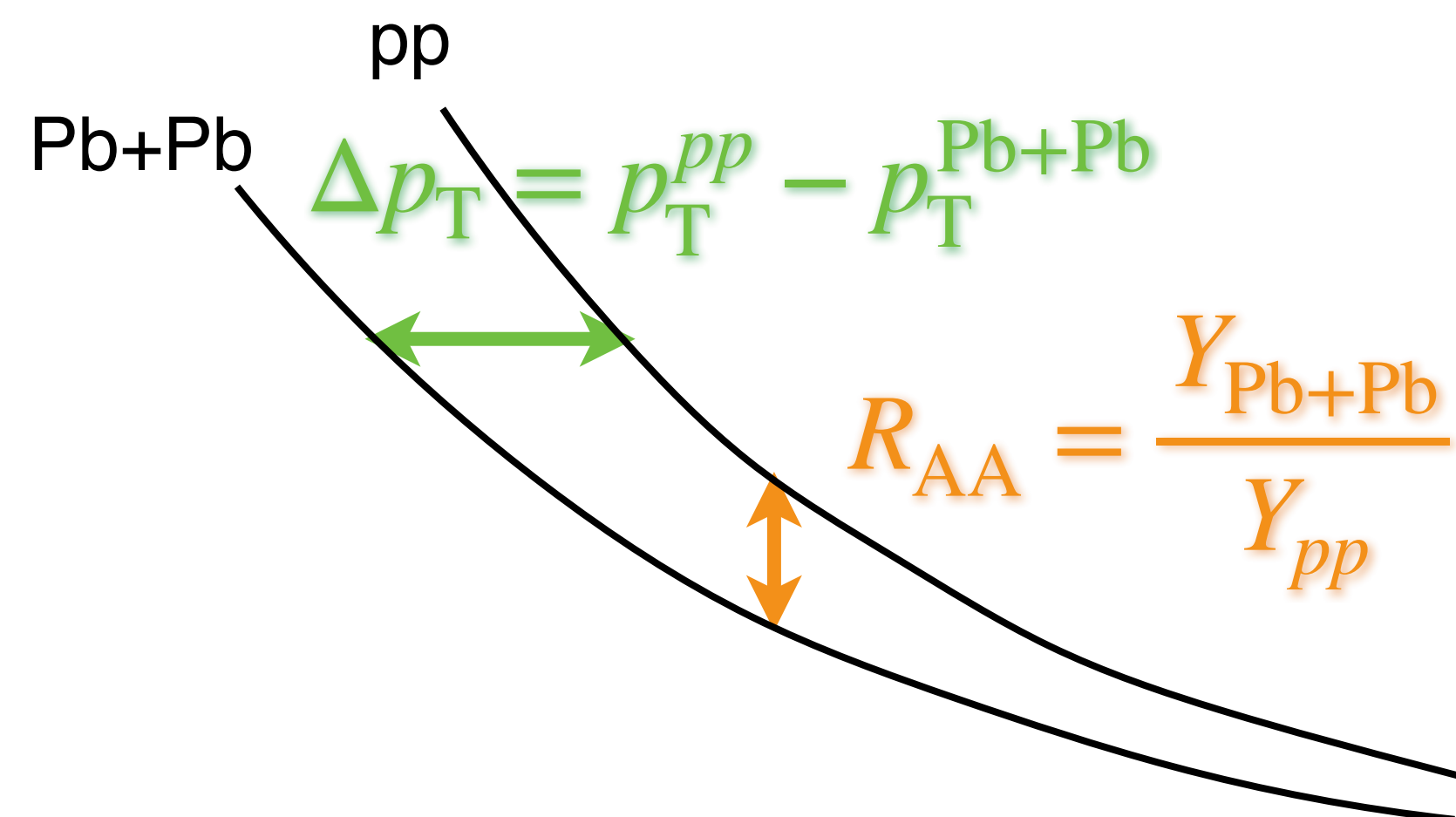
- For  $p_T > \sim 200$  GeV,  $R_{AA}(\gamma\text{-jets}) \sim R_{AA}(\text{inclusive jets})$ , why?
  - ➔ Isospin effect becomes larger
  - ➔ Quark-initiated jet fraction becomes similar btw  $\gamma$ -jets and inclusive jets

# Fractional Energy Loss, $S_{loss}$

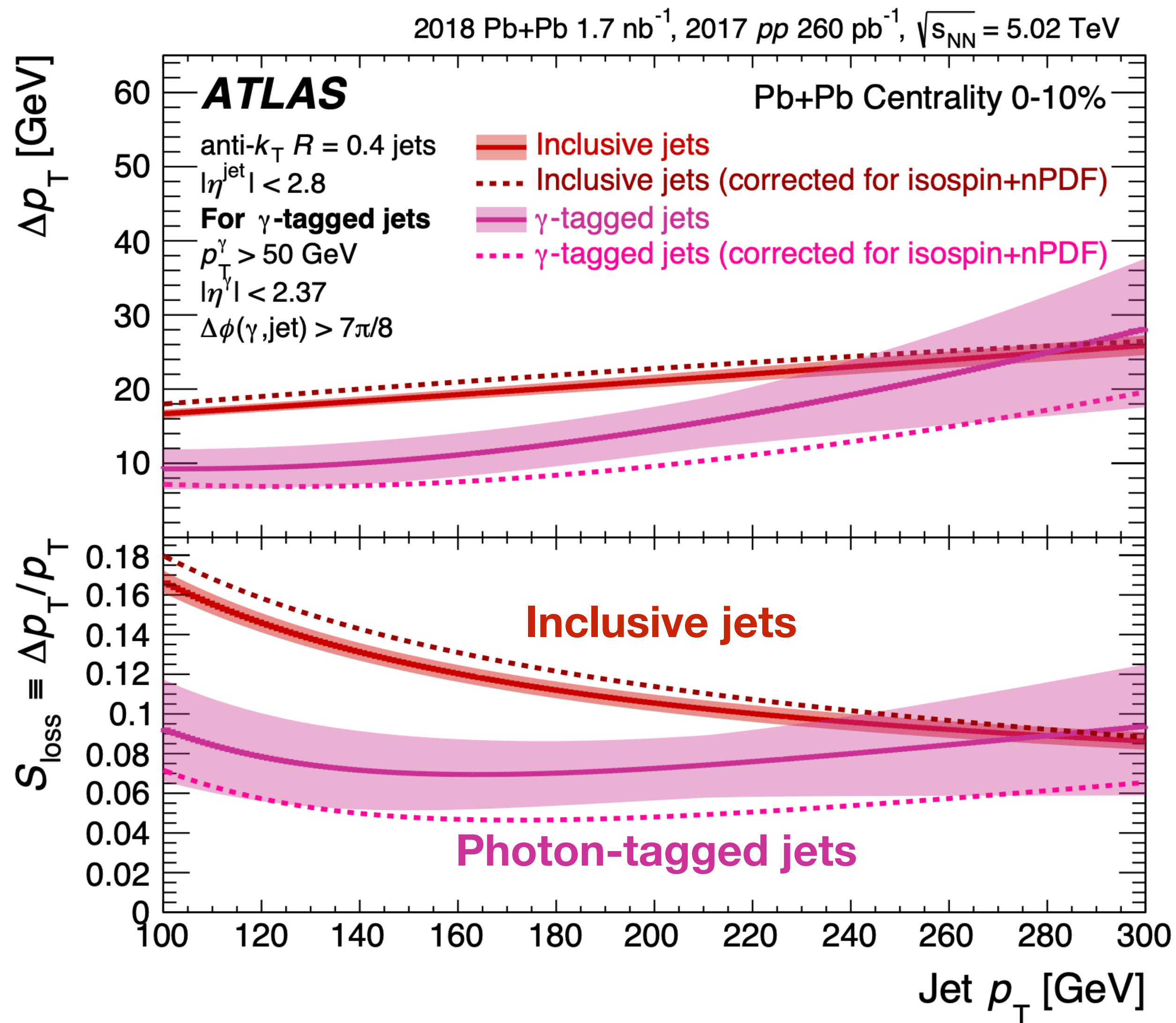
- limitation of  $R_{AA}$ : a steeper  $p_T$  distribution in  $pp$  (before jet quenching) will result in lower  $R_{AA}$
- but,  $S_{loss}$  and  $\Delta p_T$  are less affected by the  $p_T$  spectrum in  $pp$  collisions
- The  $S_{loss}$  was originally defined and further detailed by the PHENIX Collaboration:  
*Nucl. Phys. A 757 (2005) 184, Phys. Rev. C 76 (2007) 034904, JHEP 09 (2001) 033*

$$\Delta p_T = p_T^{pp} - p_T^{Pb+Pb} \quad \text{when} \quad \frac{1}{\langle T_{AA} \rangle} \frac{1}{N_{evt}} \frac{d^2 N^{Pb+Pb} (p_T^{Pb+Pb} = p_T^{pp} - \Delta p_T)}{dp_T^{Pb+Pb} d\eta} = \frac{d^2 \sigma^{pp} (p_T^{pp})}{dp_T^{pp} d\eta} \times \left[ 1 + \frac{d\Delta p_T}{dp_T^{pp}} \right]$$

$$S_{loss}(p_T^{pp}) \equiv \frac{\Delta p_T}{p_T^{pp}}$$

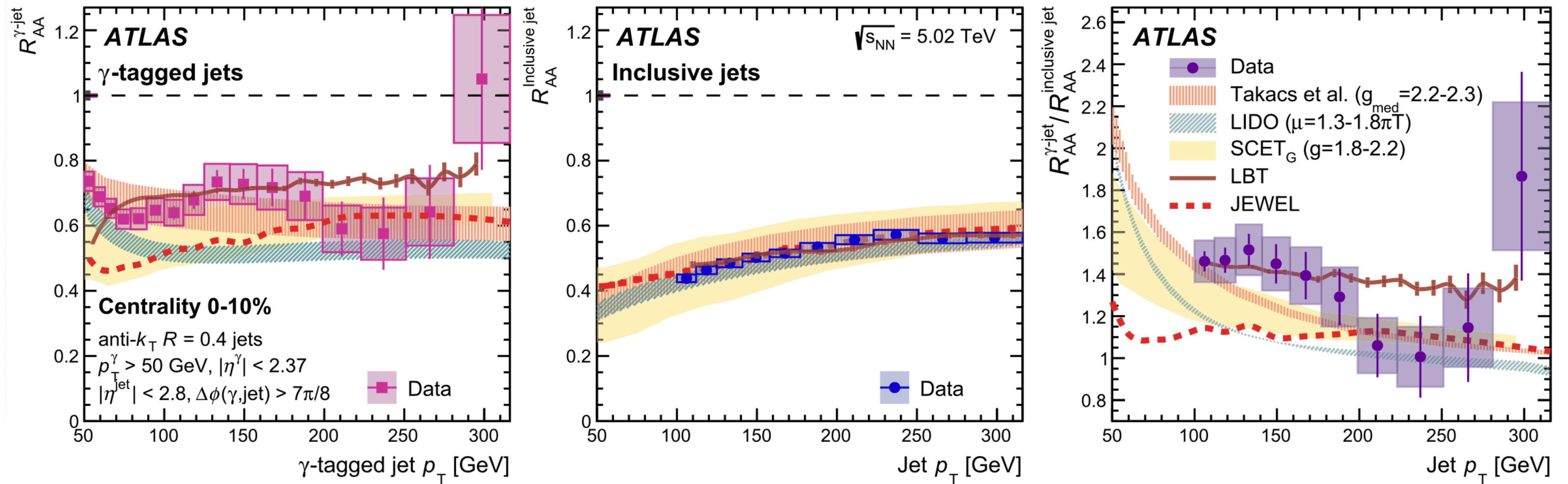


# Fractional Energy Loss, $S_{\text{loss}}$



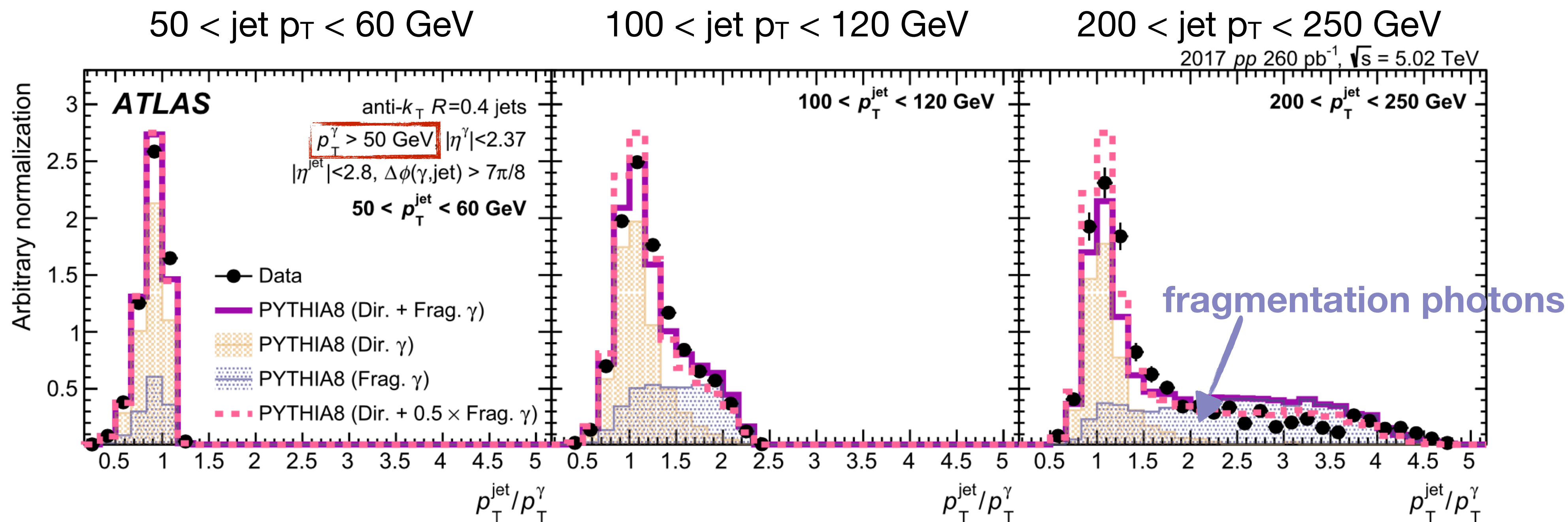
- For  $< \sim 200$  GeV,  $S_{\text{loss}}$  and  $\Delta p_T$  values for  $\gamma$ -jets are significantly smaller than those for inclusive jets
  - ➔ significant color-charge dependence to jet energy loss
- The isospin-corrected  $S_{\text{loss}}$  and  $\Delta p_T$  (dashed lines) even strengthen the evidence that quark-initiated jets lose less energy than gluon-initiated ones

# Theory Comparison: $R_{AA}$



- **Inclusive jet:** data is well described by all calculations
- **Photon-tagged jet:** data is generally higher than many of the calculations
- Theory predictions include *color-charge dependence of the parton-QGP interaction*
- For both data and calculations, generally,  $R_{AA}^{\gamma\text{-jet}} / R_{AA}^{\text{inclusive jet}} > 1$  at  $R_{AA} < \sim 200$  GeV

# Discussion) Jet $p_T$ dependent $X_{J\gamma}$ : Data vs. MC



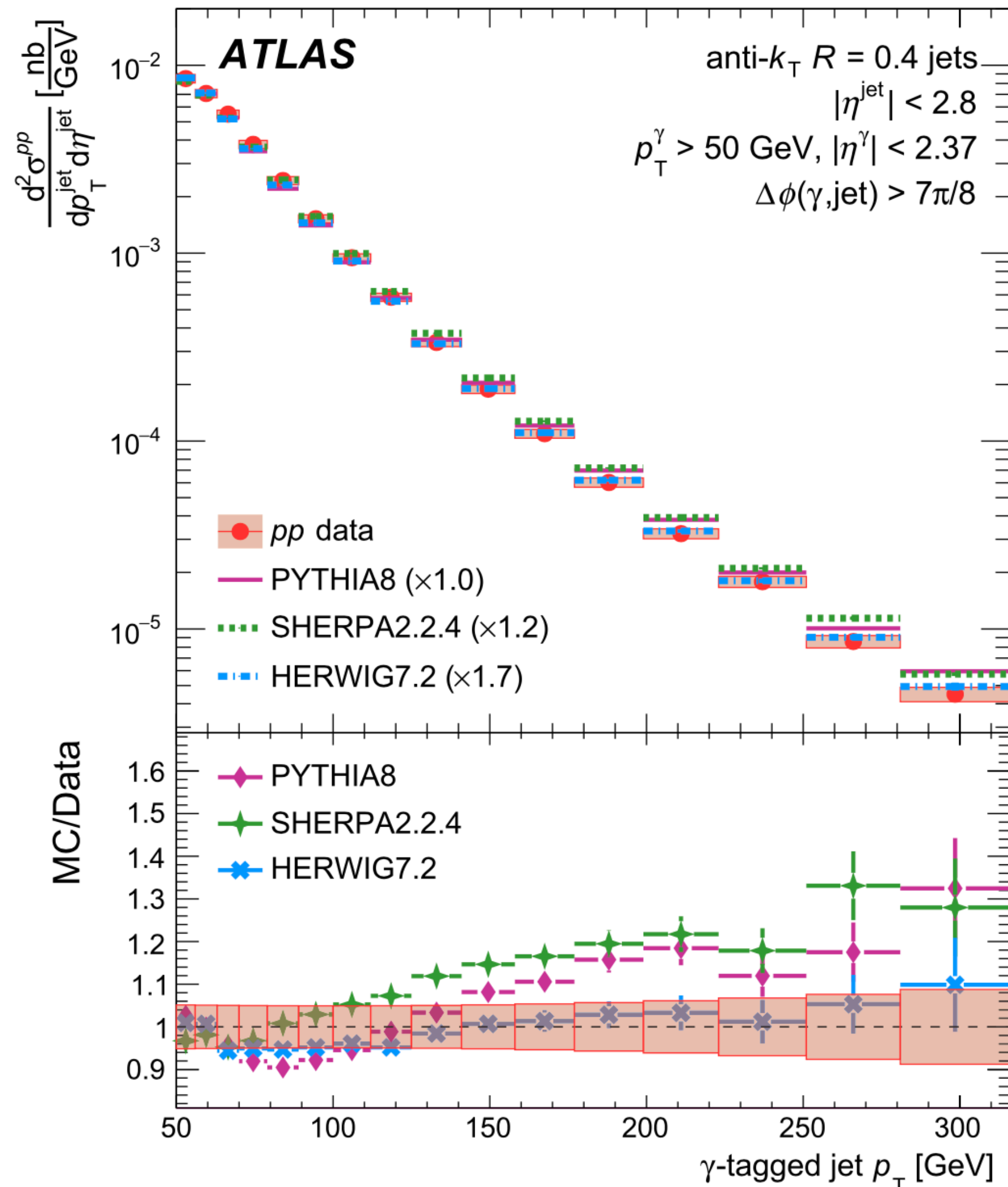
- $X_{J\gamma}$  is measured in each jet  $p_T$  bin  
 → the higher jet  $p_T$ , the larger fragmentation photon contribution
- This demonstrates the direct-fragmentation photon fraction in each jet  $p_T$  bin in our sample
- **Potential mis-modeling** of the fraction of direct-fragmentation photons in MC

Note that these are reconstructed-level jets and photons for both data and MC, without any corrections (i.e. photon purity, efficiency, unfolding)



# Discussion) Cross section in pp: Data vs. MC

2017  $pp$  260  $\text{pb}^{-1}$ ,  $\sqrt{s} = 5.02$  TeV



- MC generators (Pythia, Sherpa, Herwig) do not describe the data well for either  $p_T$  spectrum or the total cross section
- ➔ If theory predictions use one of these MC generators, one needs to consider the differences between the data and predictions

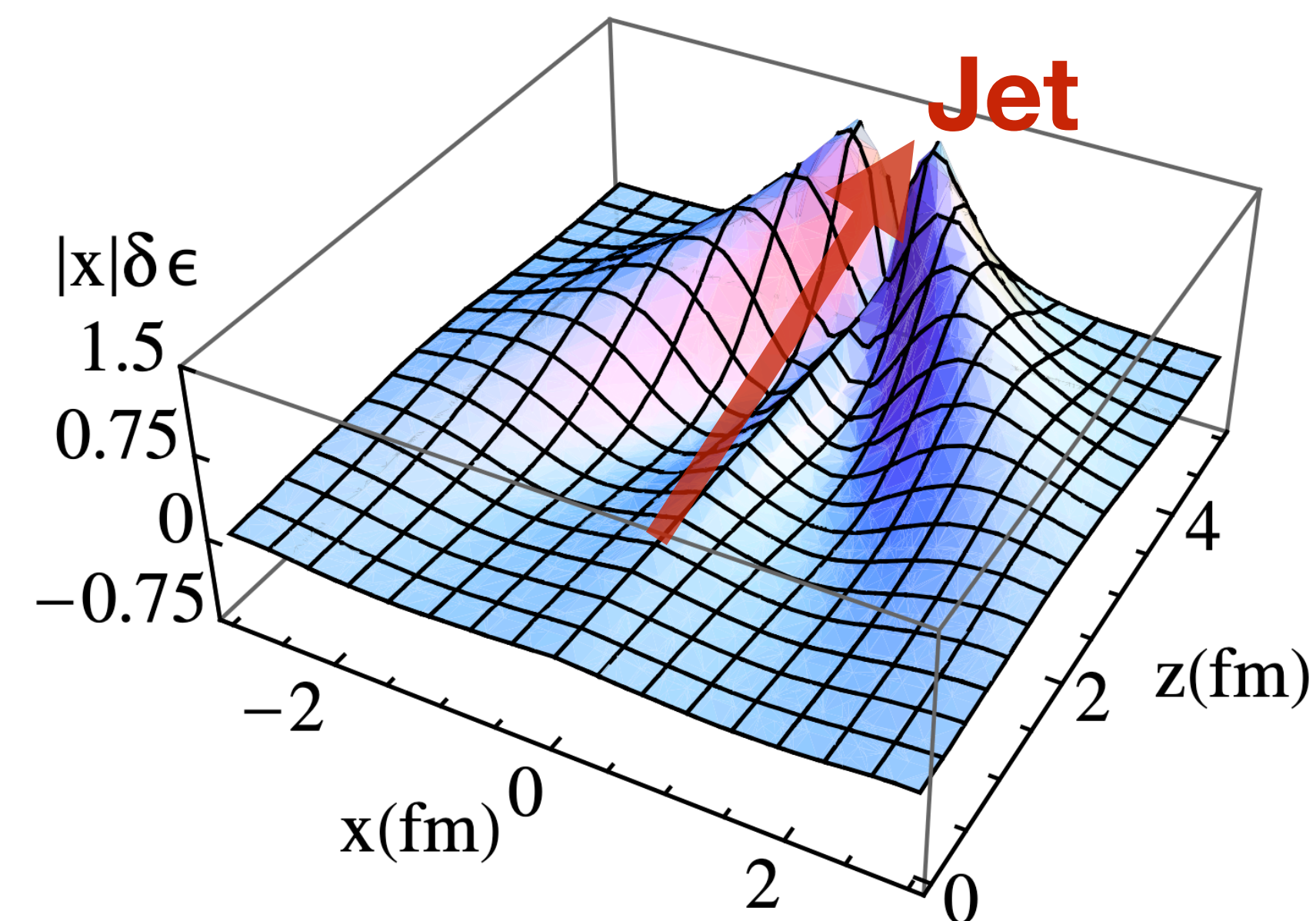
# *Medium Modification Incurred by Jets*

# Mutual Interaction : Medium $\rightleftharpoons$ Jets

- As jets are modified by medium, the medium is also affected by jets!



*G.-Y. Qin et al, PRL 103, 152303 (2009)*



- Structures formed; **Mach cone, sonic boom, shock wave, wake, diffusion wake, ...**
- By energy and momentum conservation, lost jet energy  $\rightarrow$  into medium

# Why is medium response important to understand?

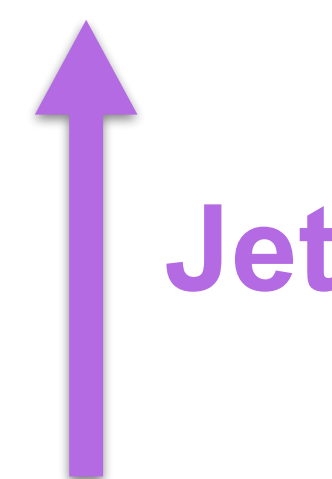
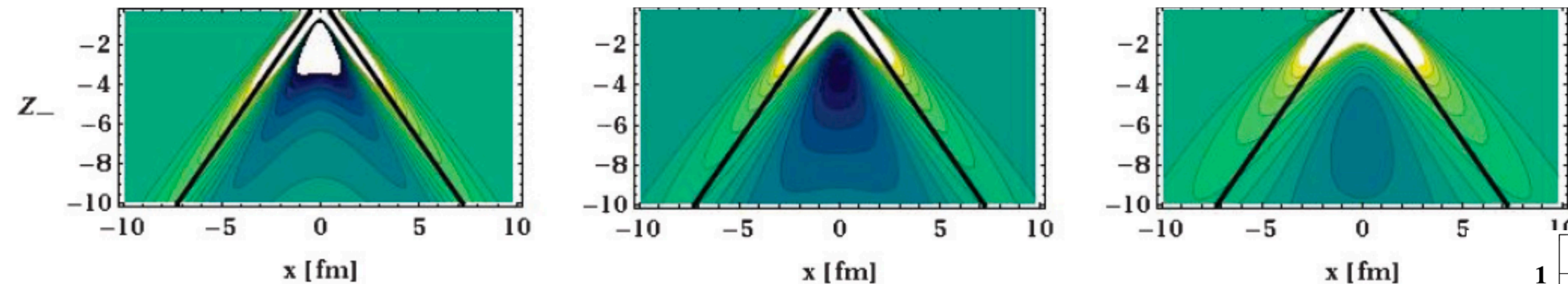
- Essential to describe the jet (sub)structure precisely
- Understanding in QGP bulk properties e.g.  $\eta/s$ , sound velocity

$\eta/s = 1/4\pi$

$\eta/s = 3/4\pi$

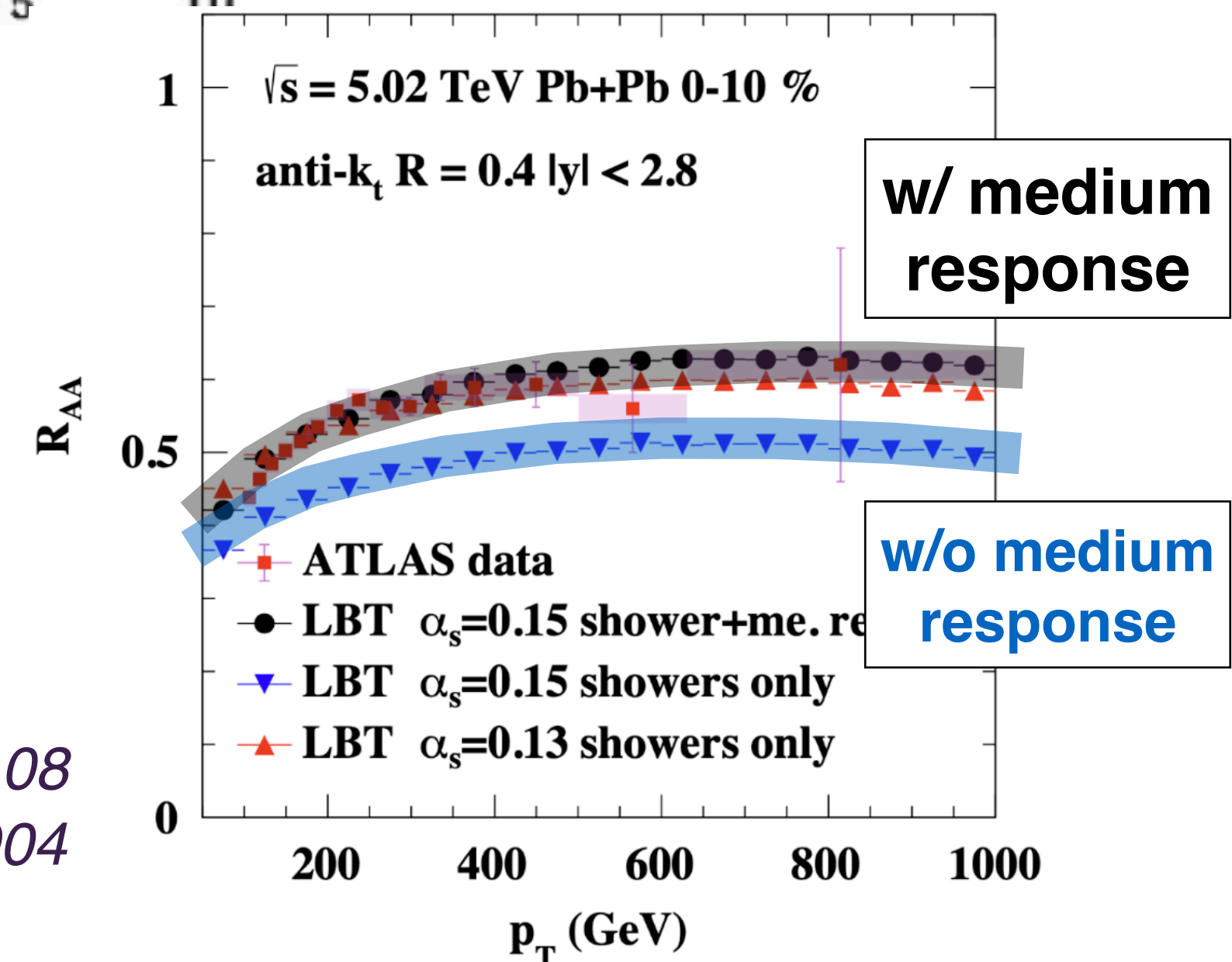
$\eta/s = 6/4\pi$

R. B. Neufeld, PRC 79 (2009) 054909



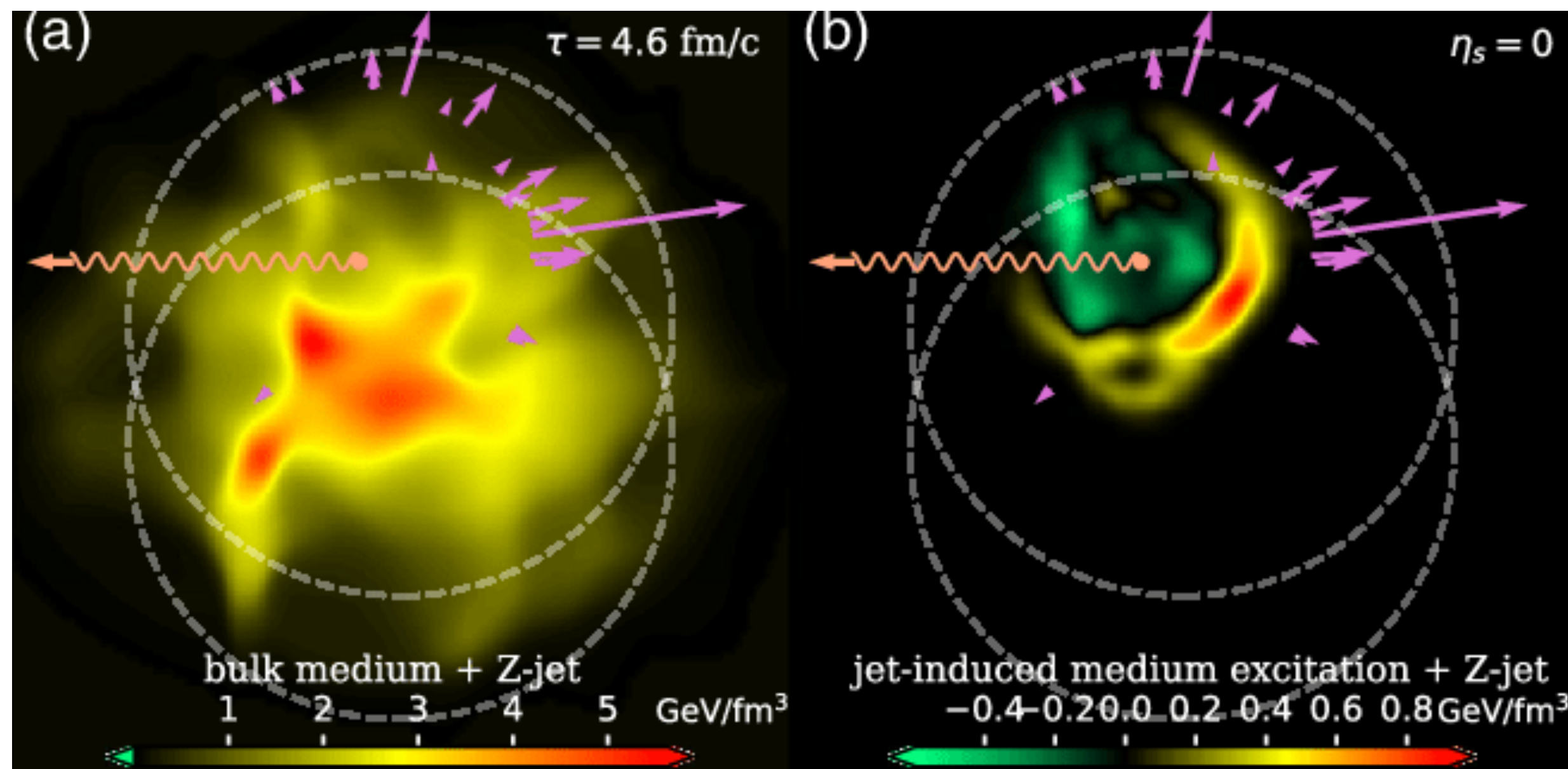
- In-medium thermalization information e.g.  $E_{med}$ ,  $D_{diff}$ ,  $\tau_{th}$
- Medium response affects the extraction of jet transport coefficient  
 → can be related to local gluon density distribution of the medium

ATLAS, PLB 790 (2019) 108  
 Yayun He et al, PRC 106 (2022) 044904

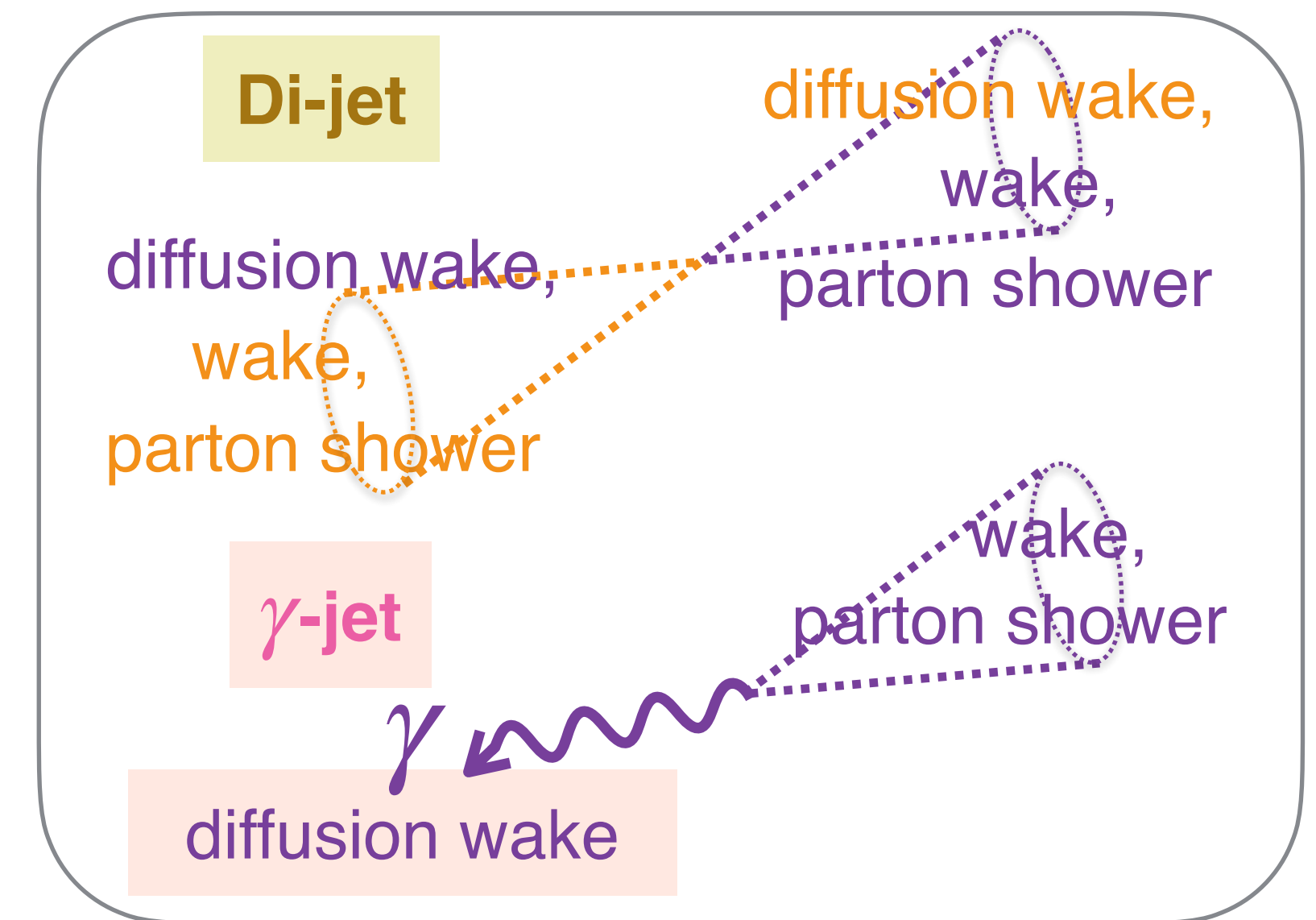


# Looking for Diffusion Wake in Photon-Jet events (1)

- **Jet-hadron correlation** to study medium modification incurred by jets
  - ➔ Modification in **jet** direction, so-called **wake effect**, **Mach cone**, are convoluted with **in-medium parton shower modification** and **medium response** → hard to disentangle ...
  - ➔ Diffusion wake in **photon-jet** events; unlike **di-jet** events, a **jet associated a photon** is **NOT** contaminated by **wake** or **in-medium parton shower modification** by another jets

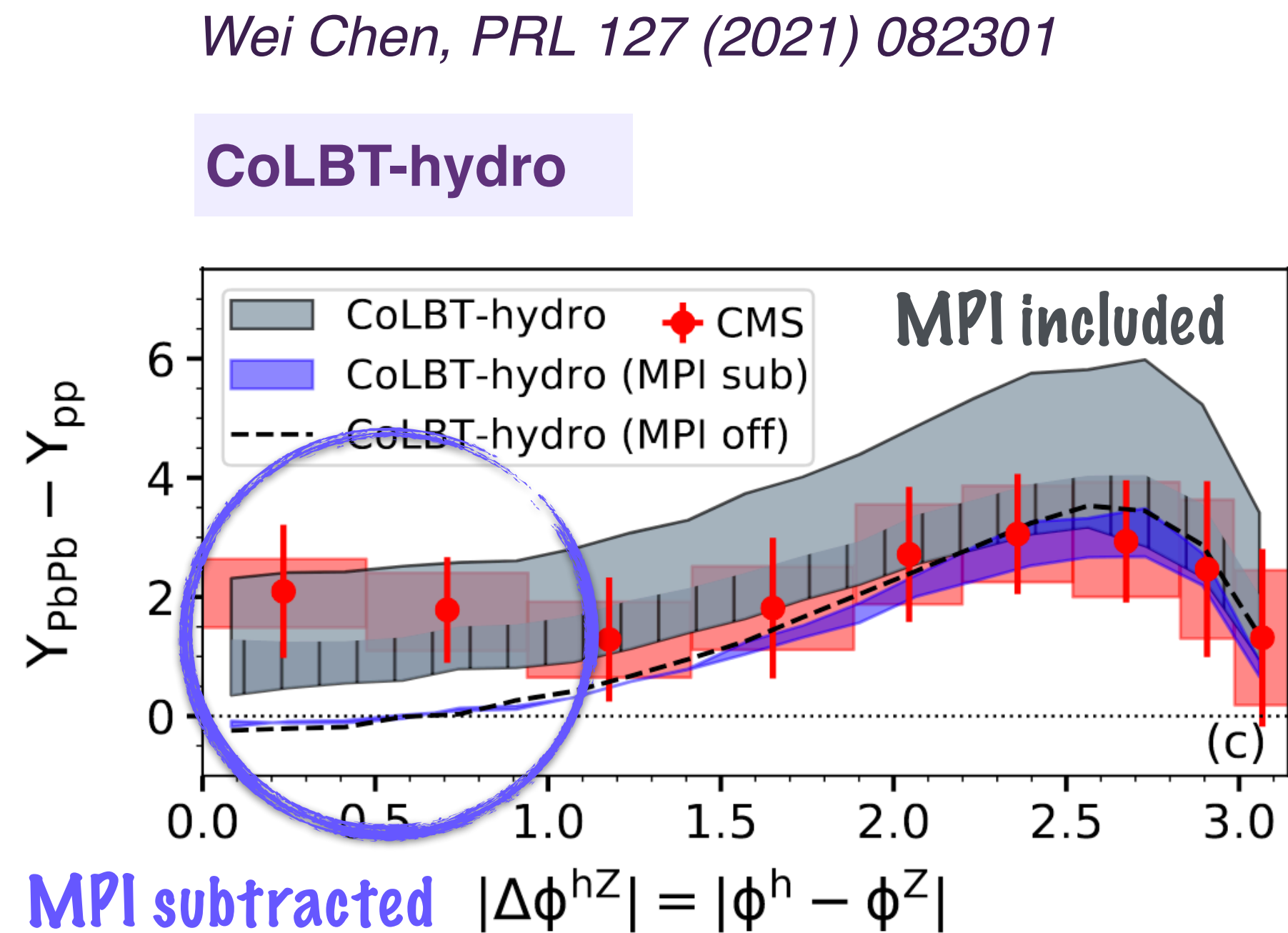
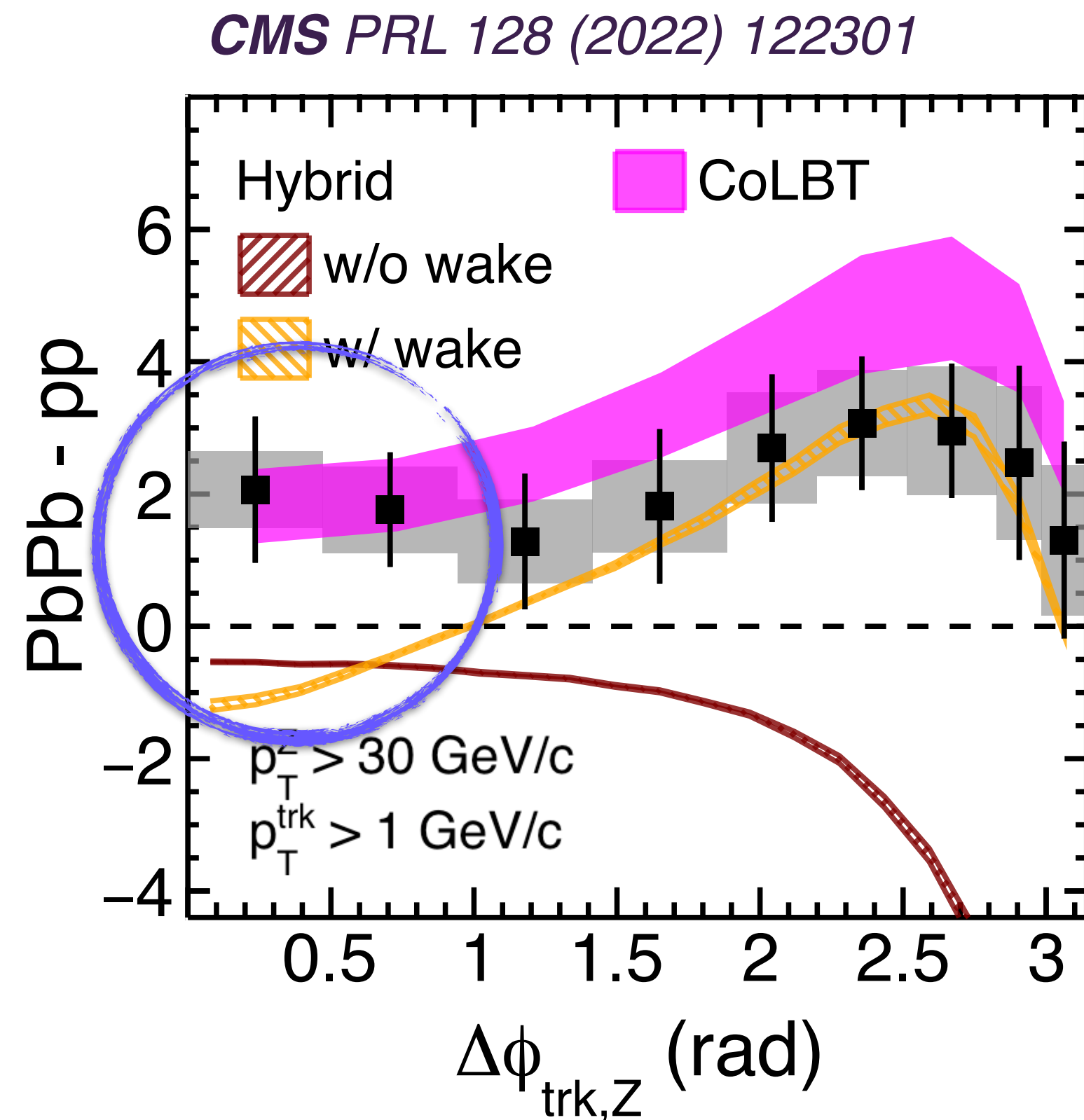


CoLBT, Xin-Nian et al, PRL127, 082301 (2021)



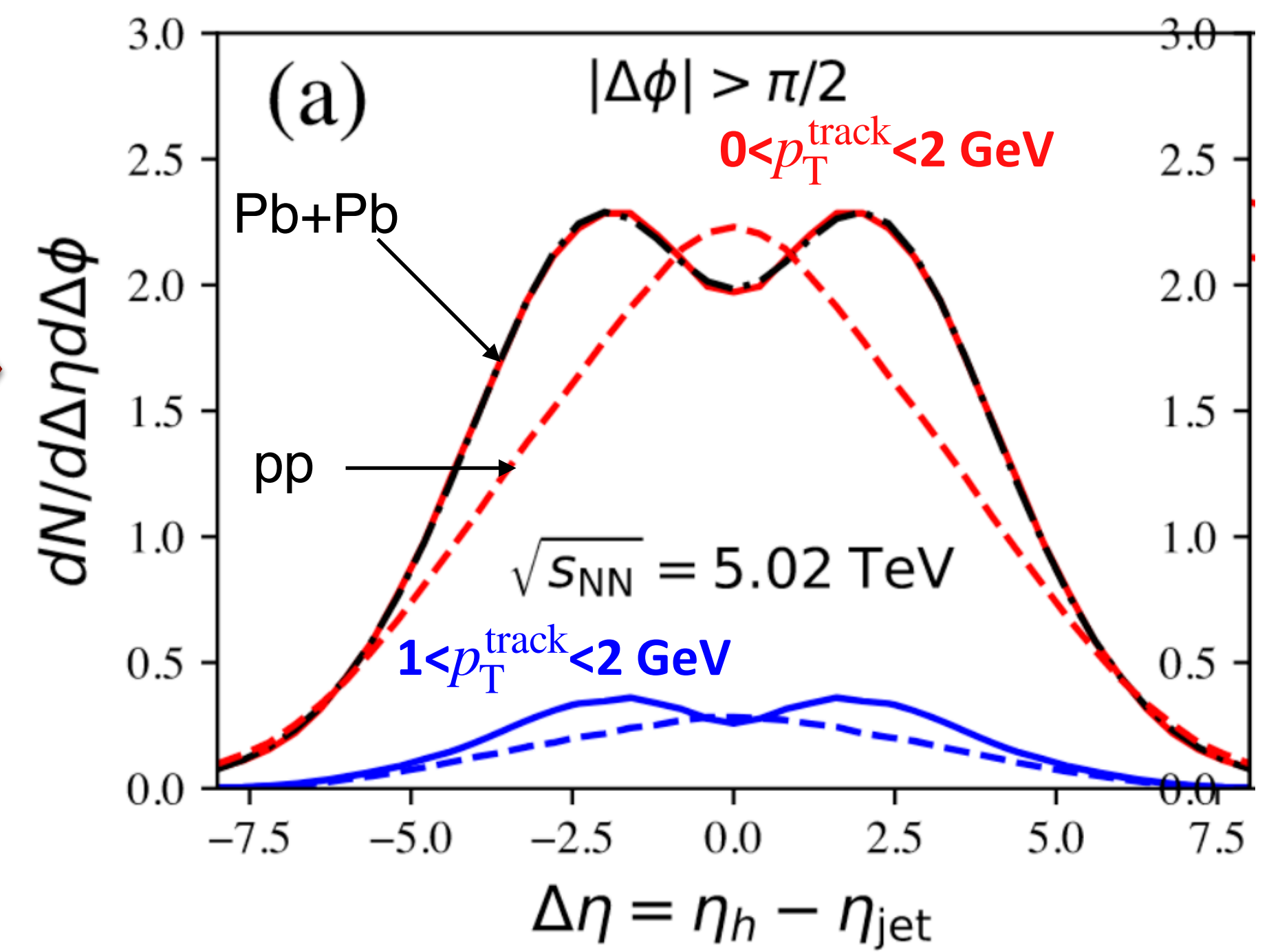
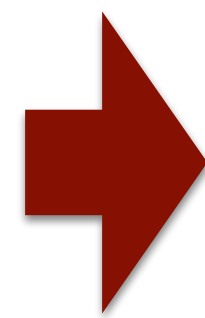
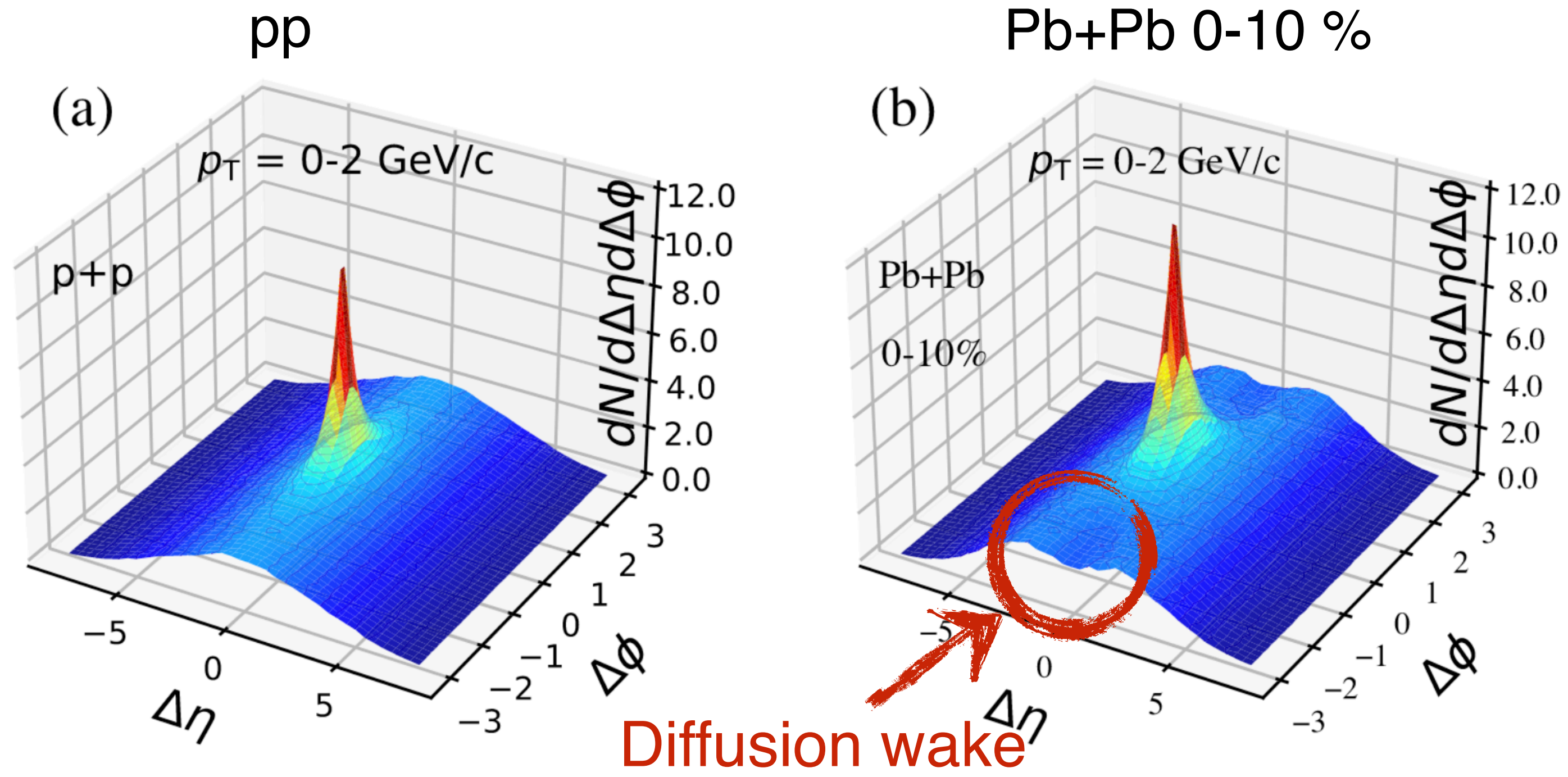
# Looking for Diffusion Wake in Photon-Jet events (2)

- CoLBT model predicts
  - ➔ Yield as a function of  $\Delta\phi$ : overall enhancement from multi-parton interaction (MPI) at  $\Delta\phi \sim \pi$



# Looking for Diffusion Wake in Photon-Jet events (2)

- CoLBT model predicts
  - ➔ Yield as a function of  $\Delta\phi$ : overall enhancement from multi-carton interaction (MPI) at  $\Delta\phi \sim \pi$
  - ➔ Jet-hadron  $(\Delta\phi, \Delta\eta) \sim (\pi, 0)$  in  $\gamma$ -jet events
  - ➔ Unambiguous diffusion wake signal

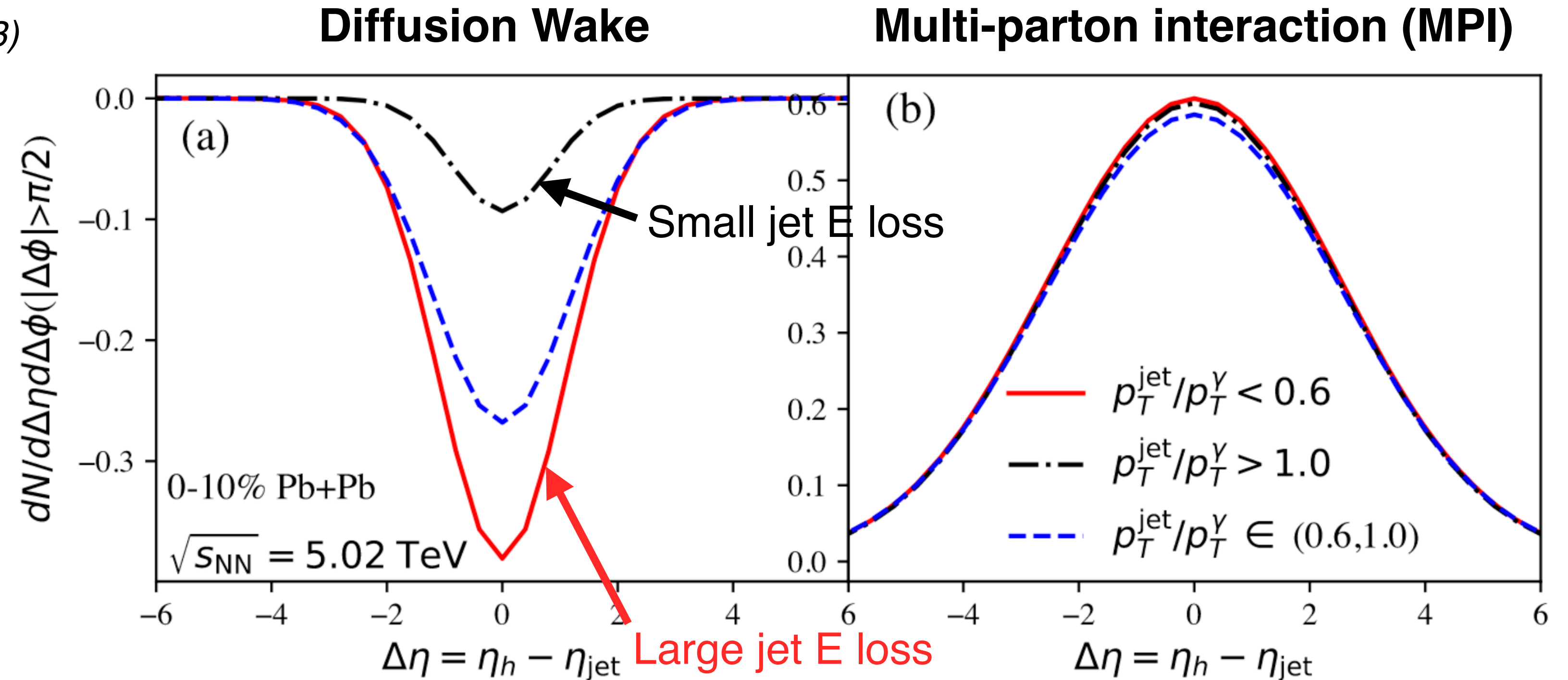
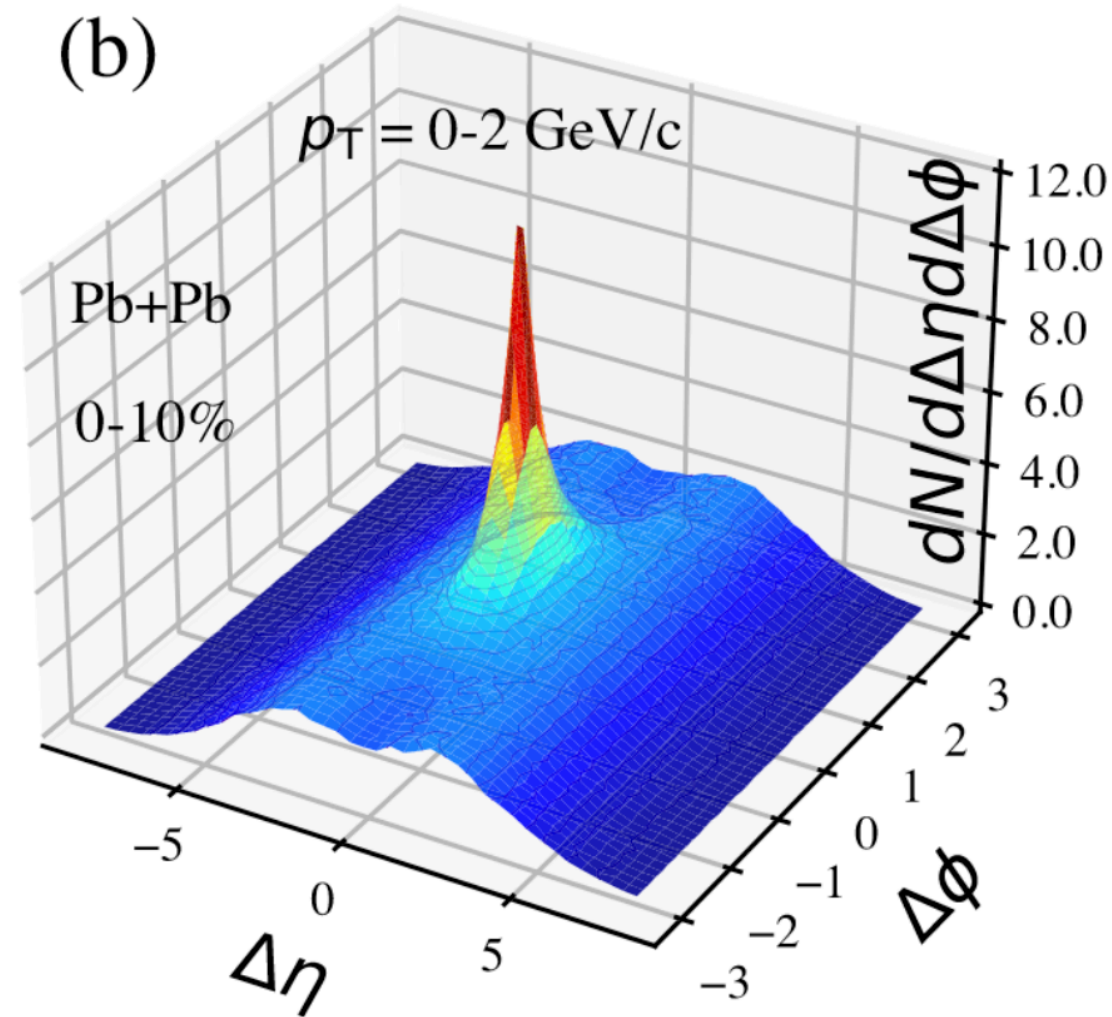


Note) the “bulk only” yield is subtracted from the “bulk + photon+jet” yield

CoLBT, Xin-Nian et al, PRL 130, 052301 (2023)

# Diffusion Wake: Dependence on Jet Energy Loss

CoLBT, Xin-Nian et al, PRL 130, 052301 (2023)

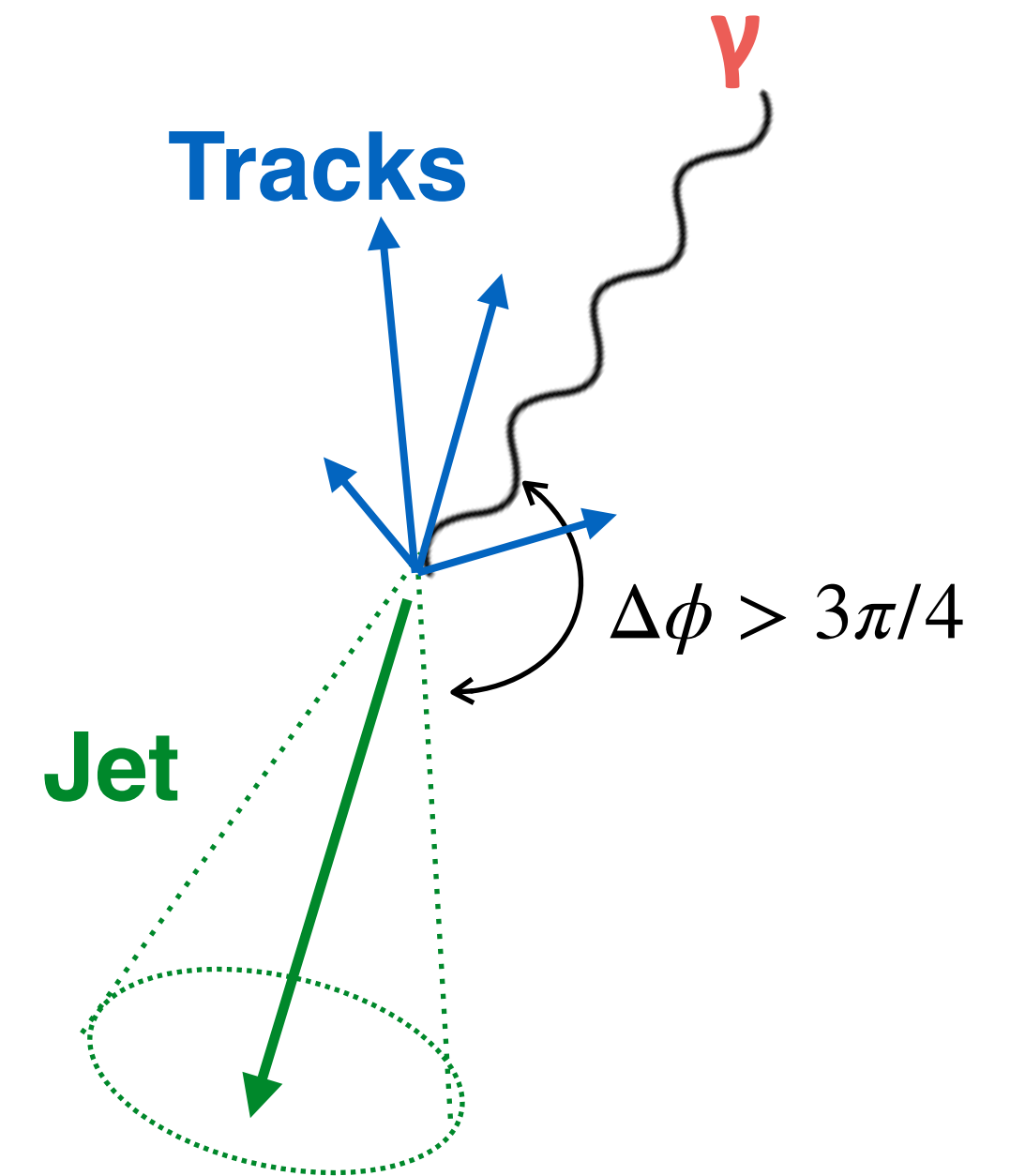


- Smaller  $x_{J\gamma} = p_T^{jet}/p_T^\gamma$  means **larger jet energy loss** and **longer path** through the medium and hence **larger medium response** i.e., diffusion wake
- However, the MPI signal has no significant dependence on the  $x_{J\gamma}$ , while the diffusion wake does



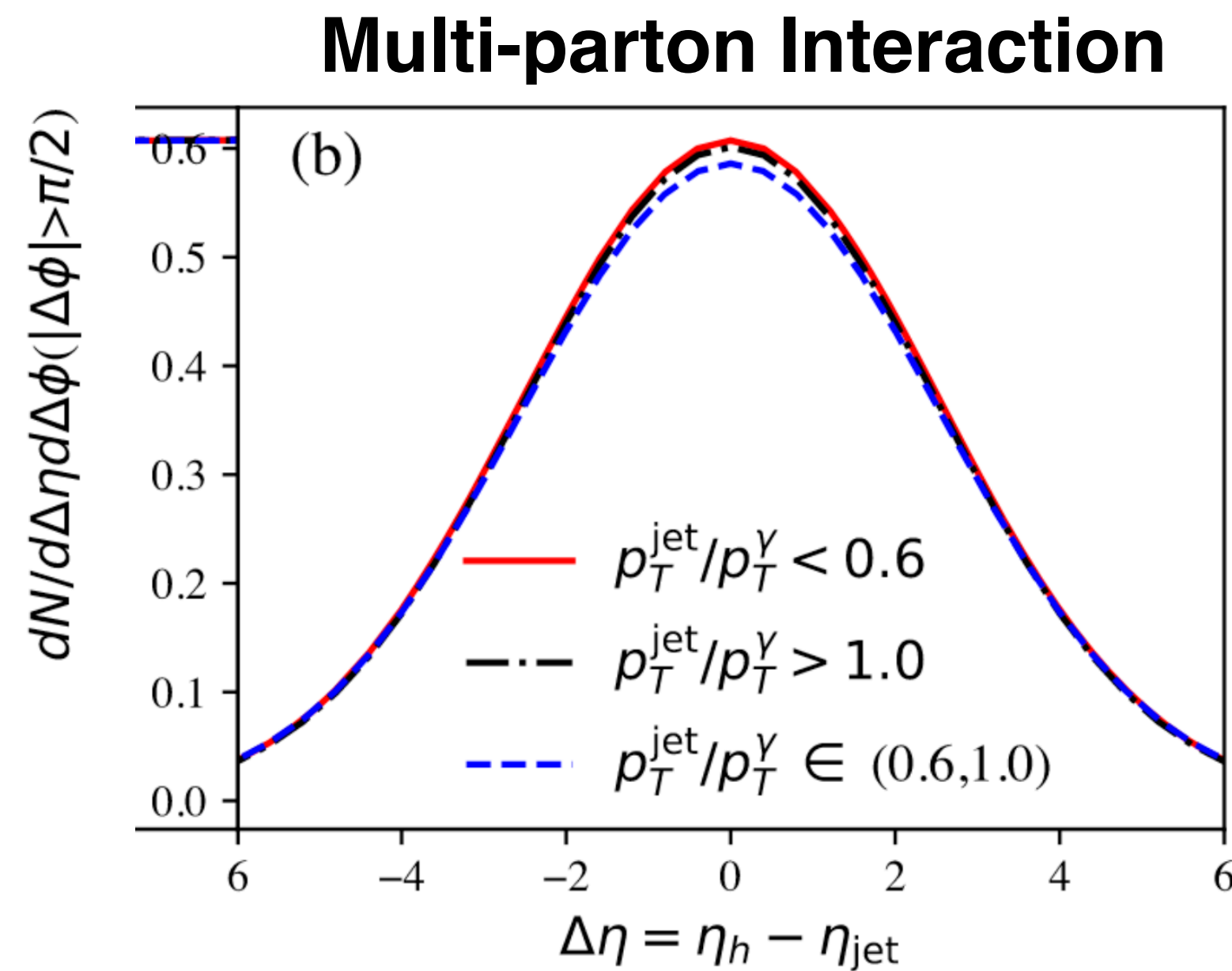
# Event Selection

- **Photons**
  - ➔  $p_T > 50 \text{ GeV}$
  - ➔  $|\eta| < 2.37$
  - ➔ Prompt Isolated photons (direct+fragmentation photons)
- **Jets**
  - ➔ anti- $k_T$   $R=0.4$
  - ➔  $50 < p_T < 316 \text{ GeV}/c$
  - ➔  $|\eta| < 2.5$
  - ➔  $\Delta\phi(\gamma, \text{jet}) > 3\pi/4$
  - ➔ only leading photons and leading jets are considered
- **Tracks**
  - ➔  $0.5 < p_T < 2 \text{ GeV}$
  - ➔  $|\eta| < 2.5$
  - ➔  $\Delta\phi(\text{jet}, \text{track}) > \pi/2$

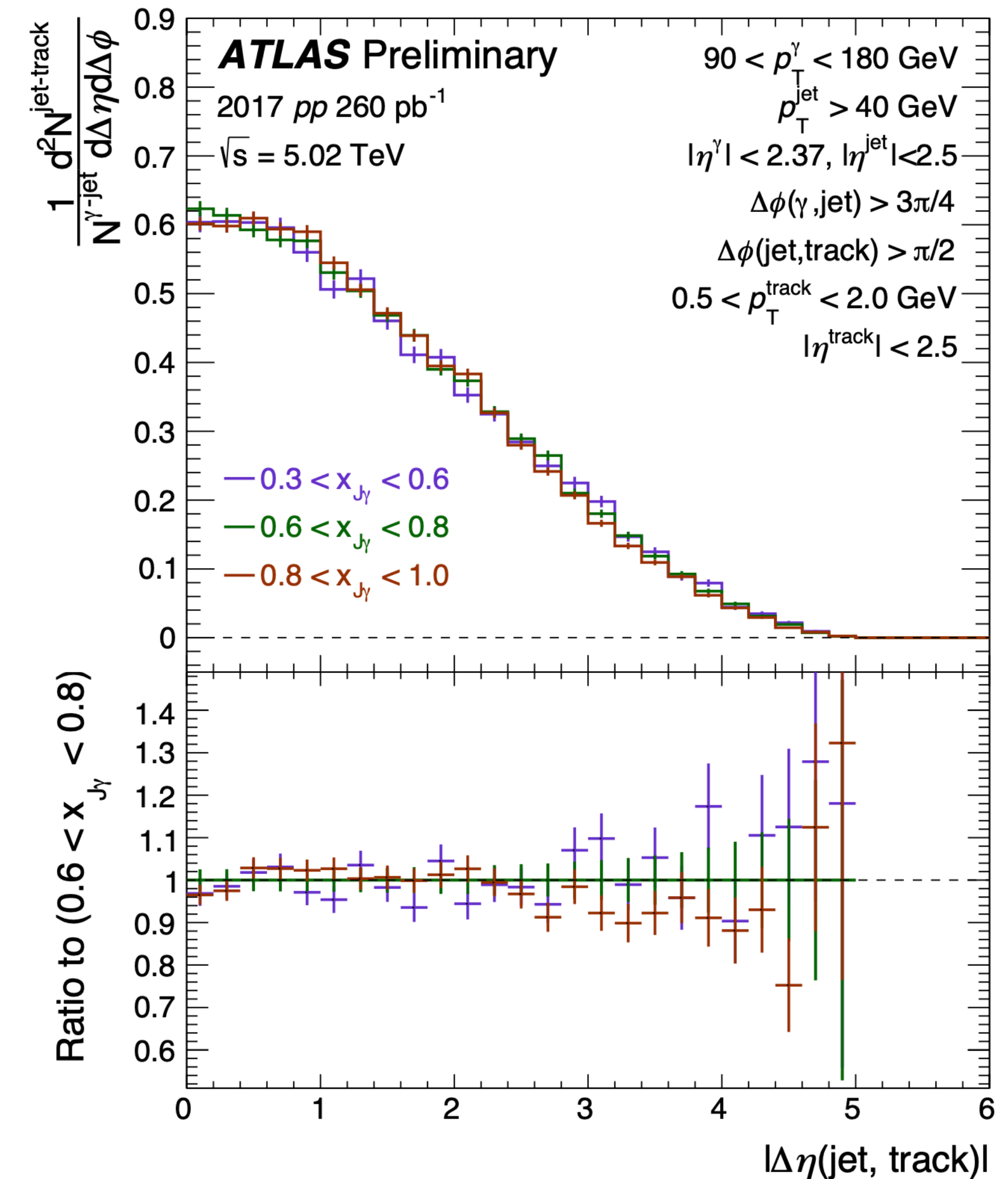


# $|\Delta\eta(\text{jet}, \text{track})|$ distributions in pp collisions

- No  $x_{J\gamma}$  dependence found within uncertainties
- The data is in agreement with the theory expectation
- This validates that any  $x_{J\gamma}$ -dependent change in Pb+Pb should be from different amounts of energy loss

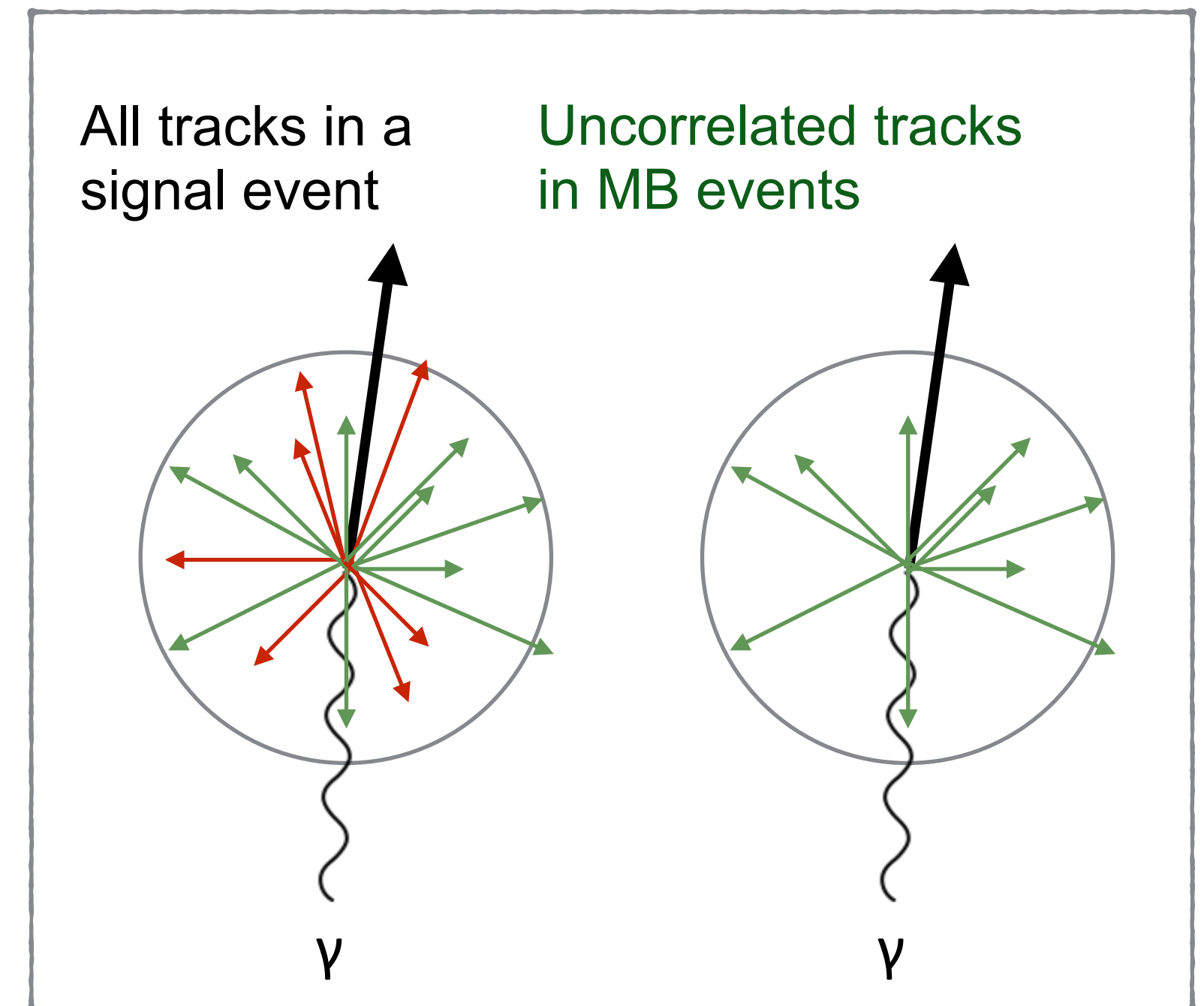


CoLBT, Xin-Nian et al, PRL 130, 052301 (2023)

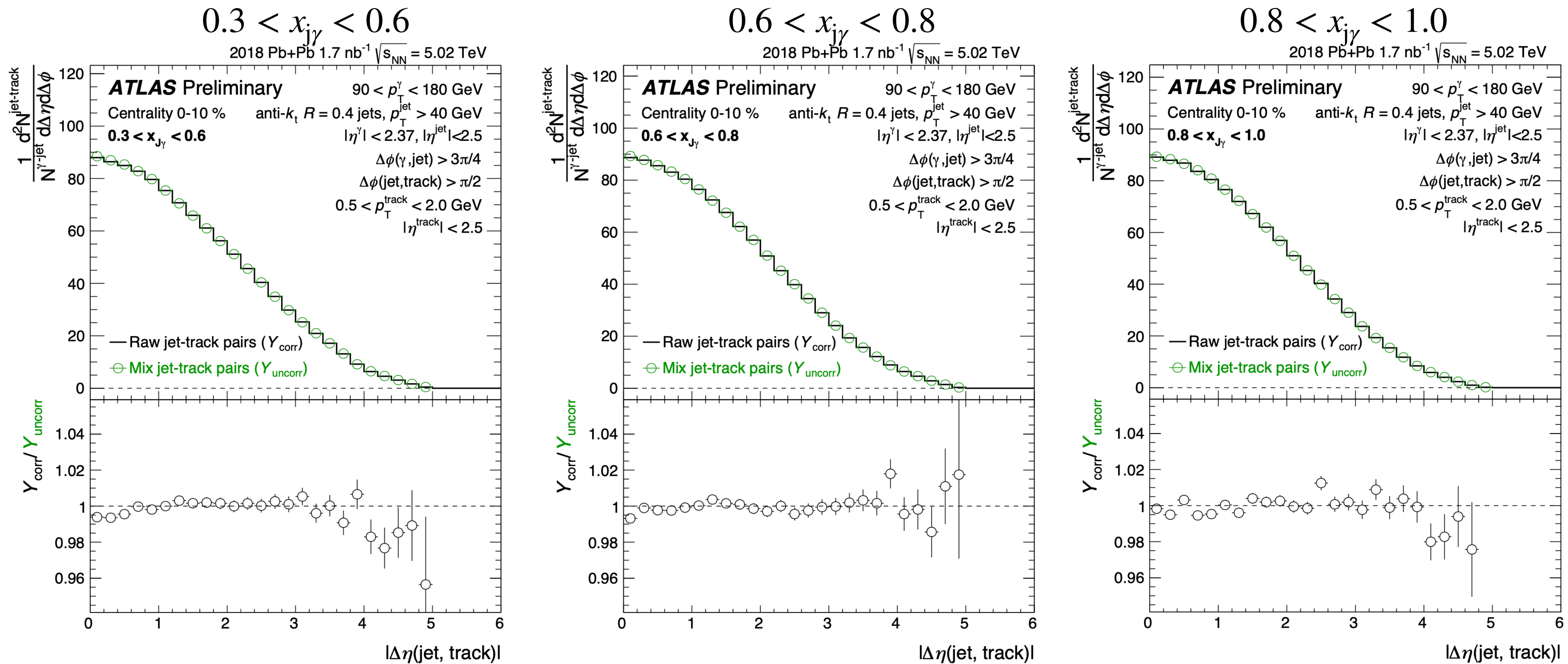


# Event Mixing in Pb+Pb collisions

- Bulk medium property w/o jet can be obtained from event mixing
  - ➔ by correlating the photon-jet pair in a signal event with tracks in different minimum-bias (MB) events
    - photon and jet kinematics are exactly the same between signal events and mixed events
  - ➔ matching signal and MB events in bins of
    - $\Sigma E_T^{\text{FCal}}$ : 200 bins in [0,5000] GeV; much finer than a 1%-width centrality bin in central collisions
    - $\Psi_2$ : 16 bins in  $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$
    - z vertex: 20 bins in [-10,10] cm; bin width of 1cm

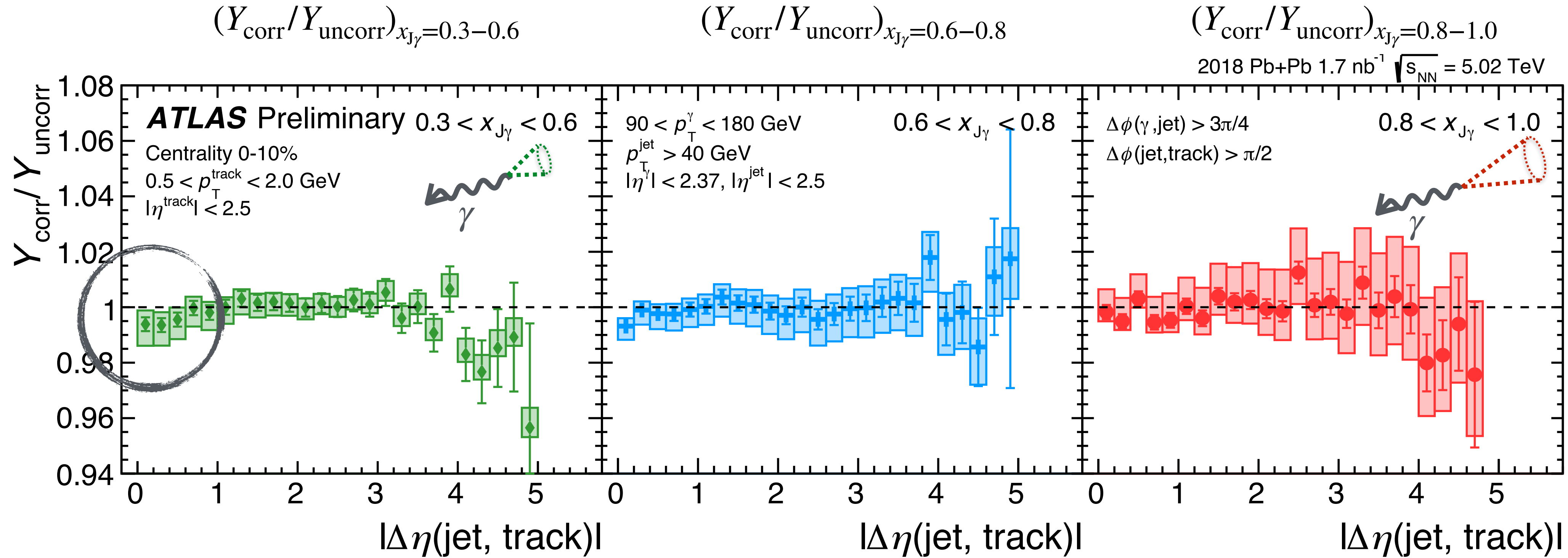


# $|\Delta\eta(\text{jet}, \text{track})|$ distributions in Pb+Pb collisions



- per-(photon, jet) yield ( $\frac{1}{N^{\gamma\text{-jet}}} \frac{d^2 N^{\text{jet-track}}}{d\Delta\eta d\Delta\phi} = Y_{\text{corr}}$ ) as a function of  $|\Delta\eta(\text{jet}, \text{track})|$  in three different  $x_{j\gamma}$  regions
  - $Y_{\text{corr}}$ : jet-track pairs from the signal (photon-jet) events
  - $Y_{\text{uncorr}}$ : pairs from mixed events; jets from signal events and tracks from MB events

# Relative Yield Ratio $Y_{\text{corr}}/Y_{\text{uncorr}}$

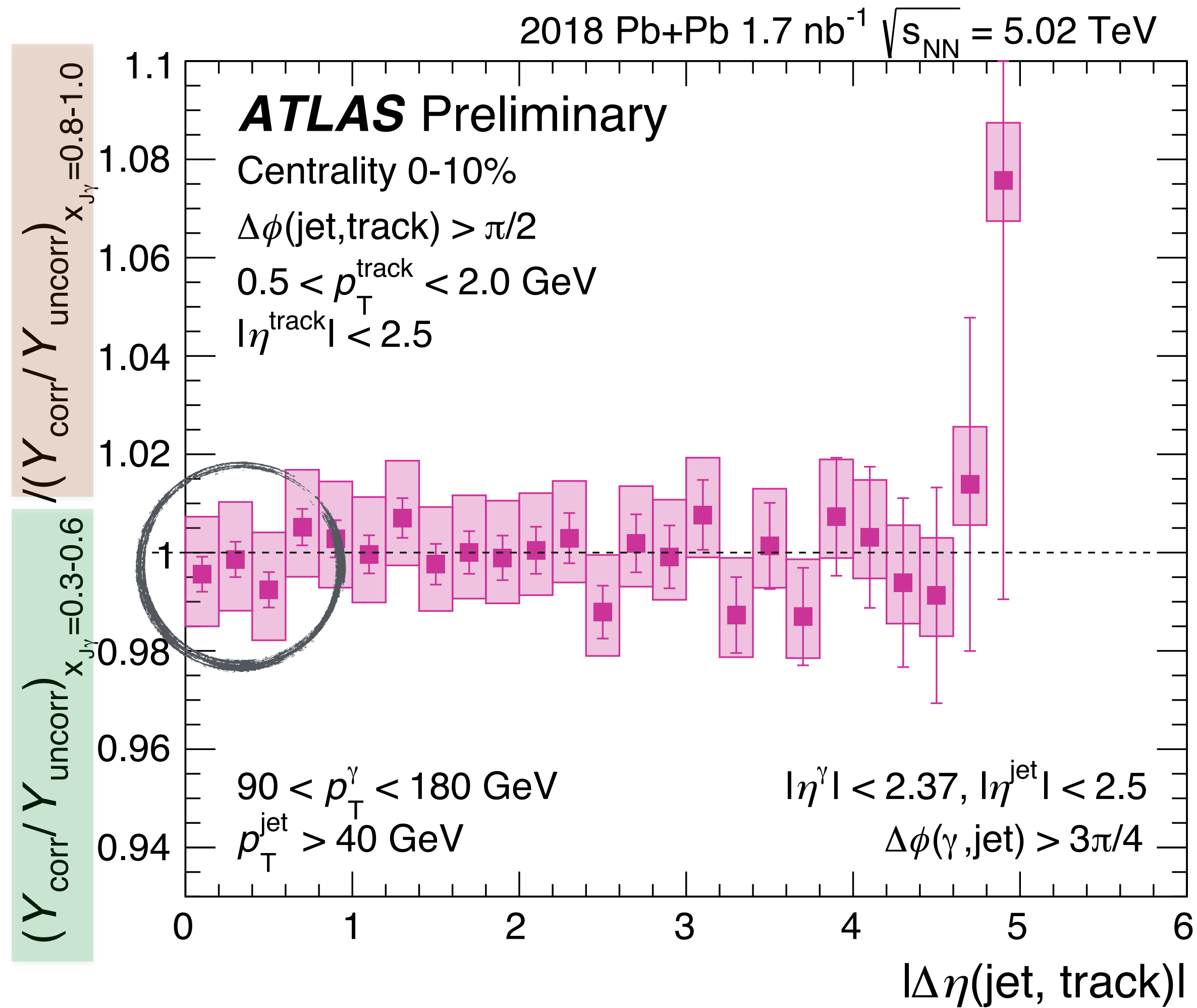
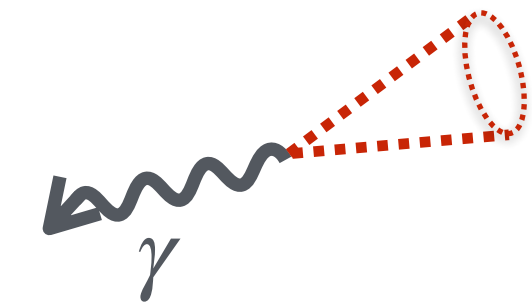


- No clear diffusion wake signal is found within uncertainties for all three  $x_{J\gamma}$  regions

$$Y_{\text{corr}} = \frac{1}{N_{\gamma\text{-jet}}} \frac{d^2 N^{\text{jet-track}}}{d\Delta\eta d\Delta\phi}$$

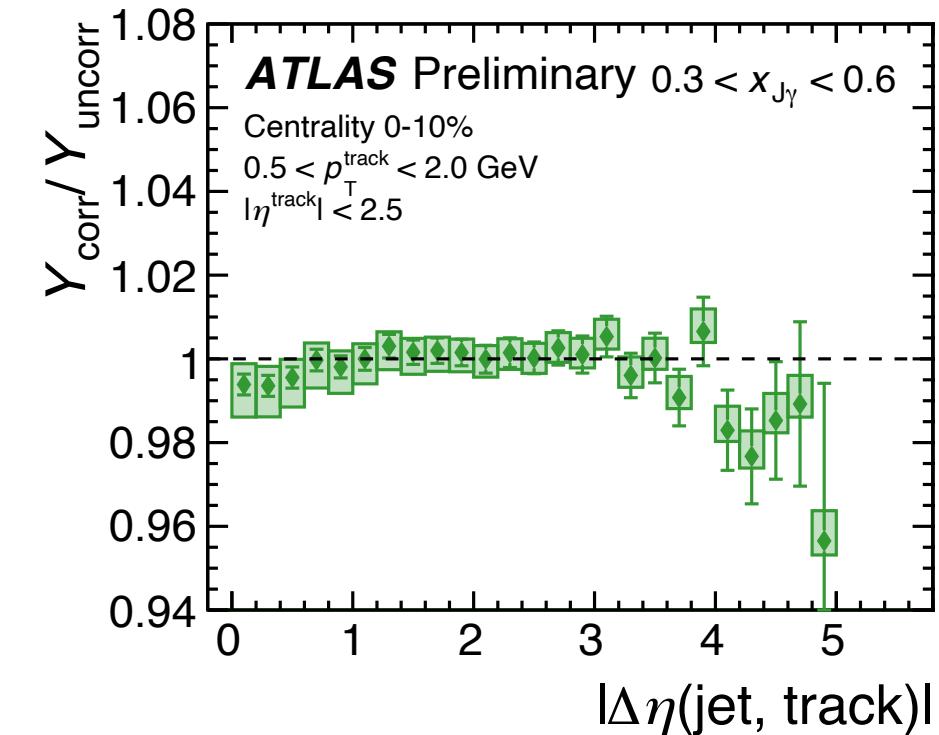
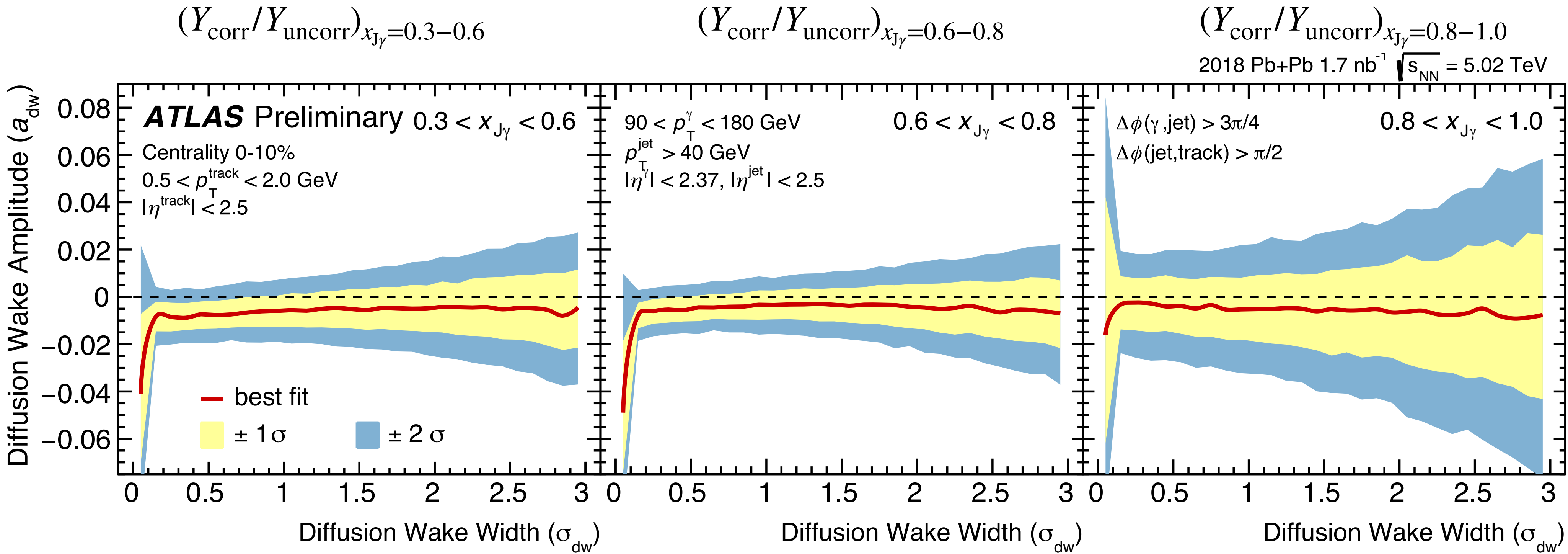
- $Y_{\text{corr}}/Y_{\text{uncorr}}$
- ➔ Relative yield ratio btw **signal** and **mixed** events

# Double Ratio $(Y_{\text{corr}}/Y_{\text{uncorr}})_{x_{J\gamma}=0.3-0.6} / (Y_{\text{corr}}/Y_{\text{uncorr}})_{x_{J\gamma}=0.8-1.0}$



- No clear  $x_{J\gamma}$  dependence found in the diffusion wake signal within uncertainties

# Diffusion Wake Amplitude



- **Monte Carlo sampling method** is used to obtain probability distribution of diffusion wake amplitude, considering all statistical and systematic uncertainties and their correlations.
- Statistical uncertainty dominates as systematic uncertainties are highly correlated bin-by-bin
- All results are consistent with no signal, i.e., a<sub>dw</sub>=0, within approximately 1σ

$$a_0 + a_{\text{dw}} \cdot e^{-|\Delta\eta(\text{jet, track})|^2 / (2\sigma_{\text{dw}}^2)}$$

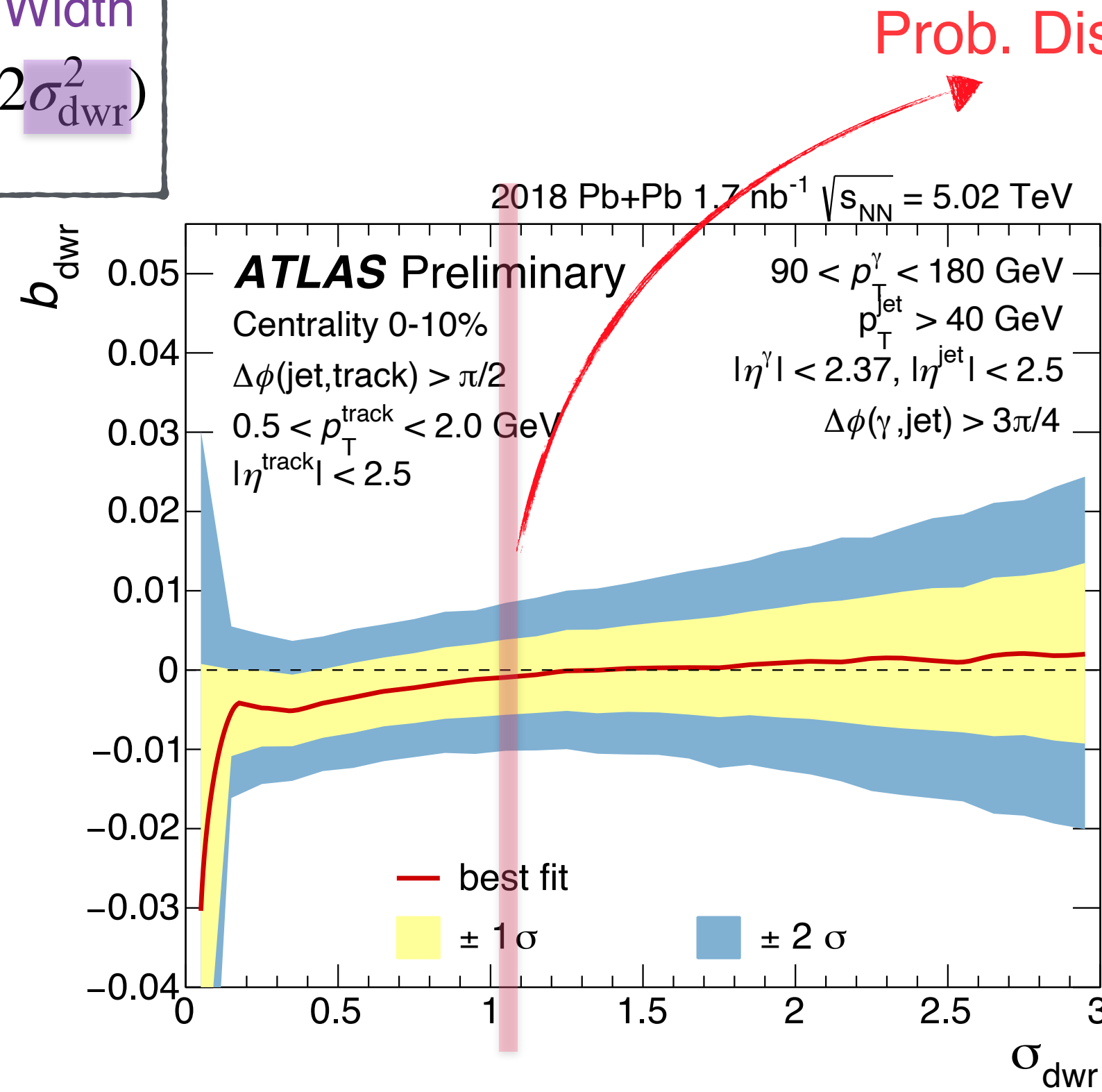
Diffusion Wake Amplitude      Diffusion Wake Width

# Diffusion Wake Double Ratio Amplitude

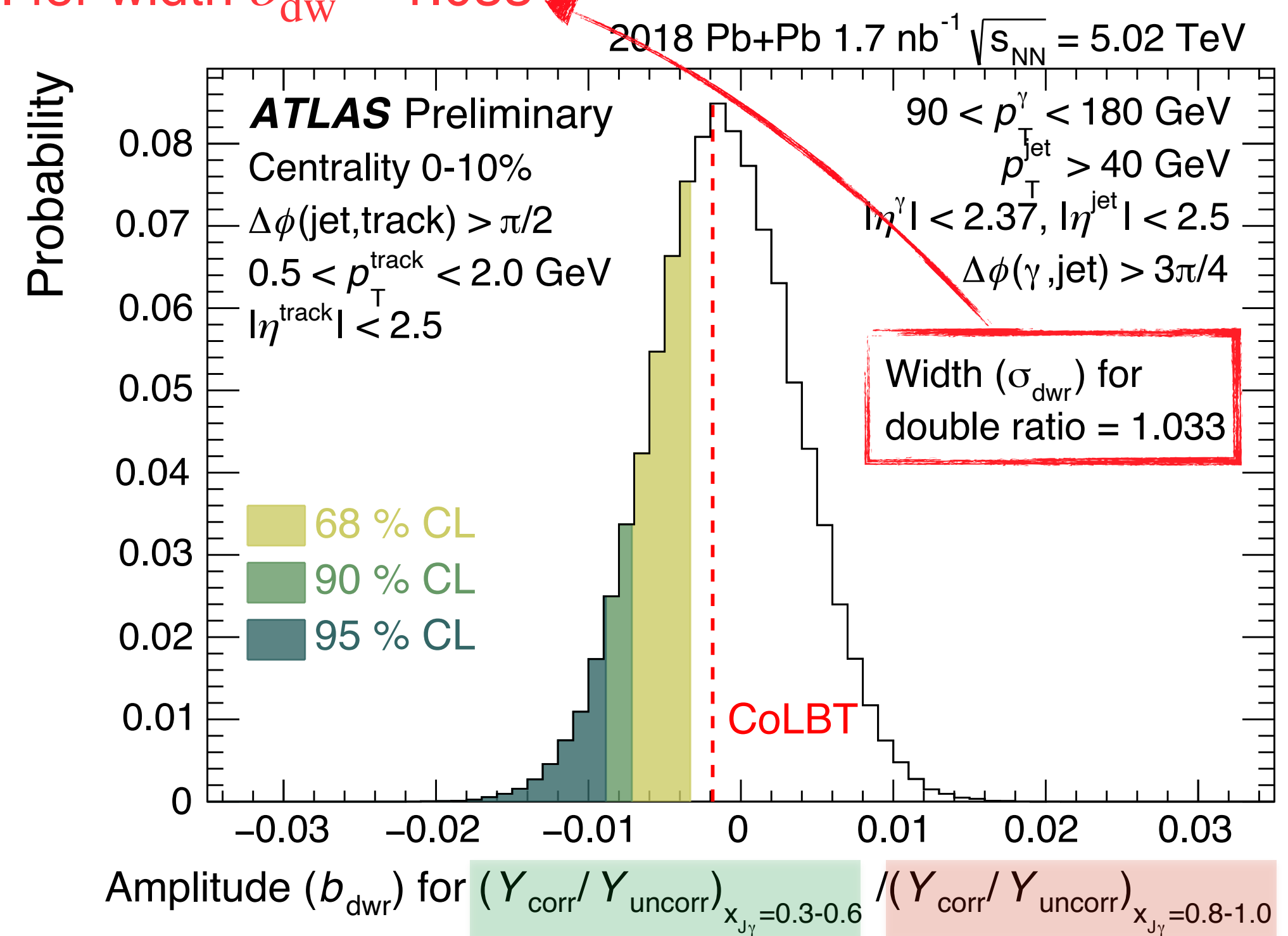
Double Ratio Amplitude    Double Ratio Width

$$b_0 + b_{\text{dwr}} \cdot e^{-|\Delta\eta(\text{jet,track})|^2/(2\sigma_{\text{dwr}}^2)}$$

- Data indicates no significant diffusion wake signal that increases with larger parton energy loss



Prob. Dist. for width  $\sigma_{\text{dwr}} = 1.033$



- Data provides limits on double ratio amplitude ( $|b_{\text{dwr}}|$ )

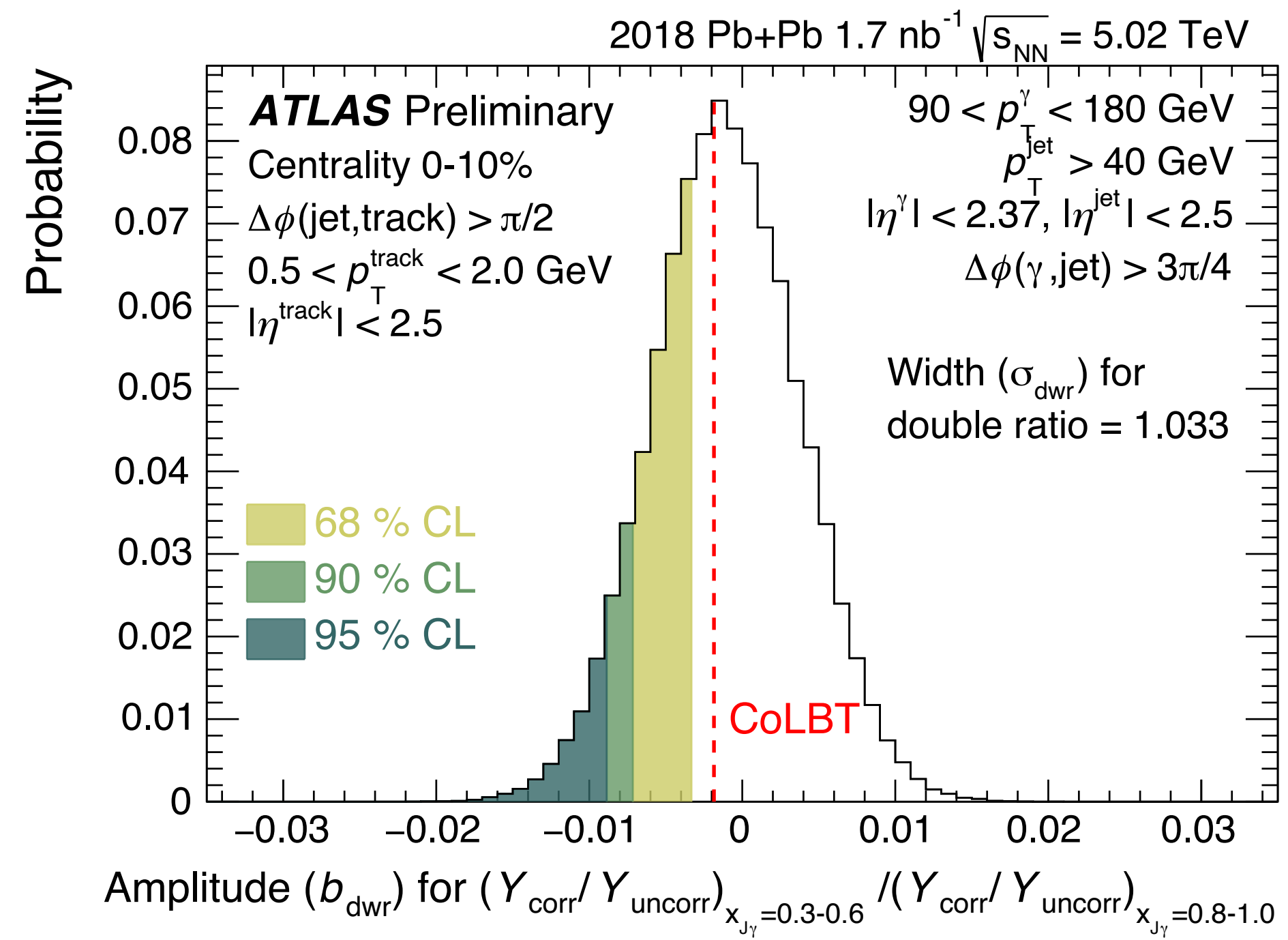
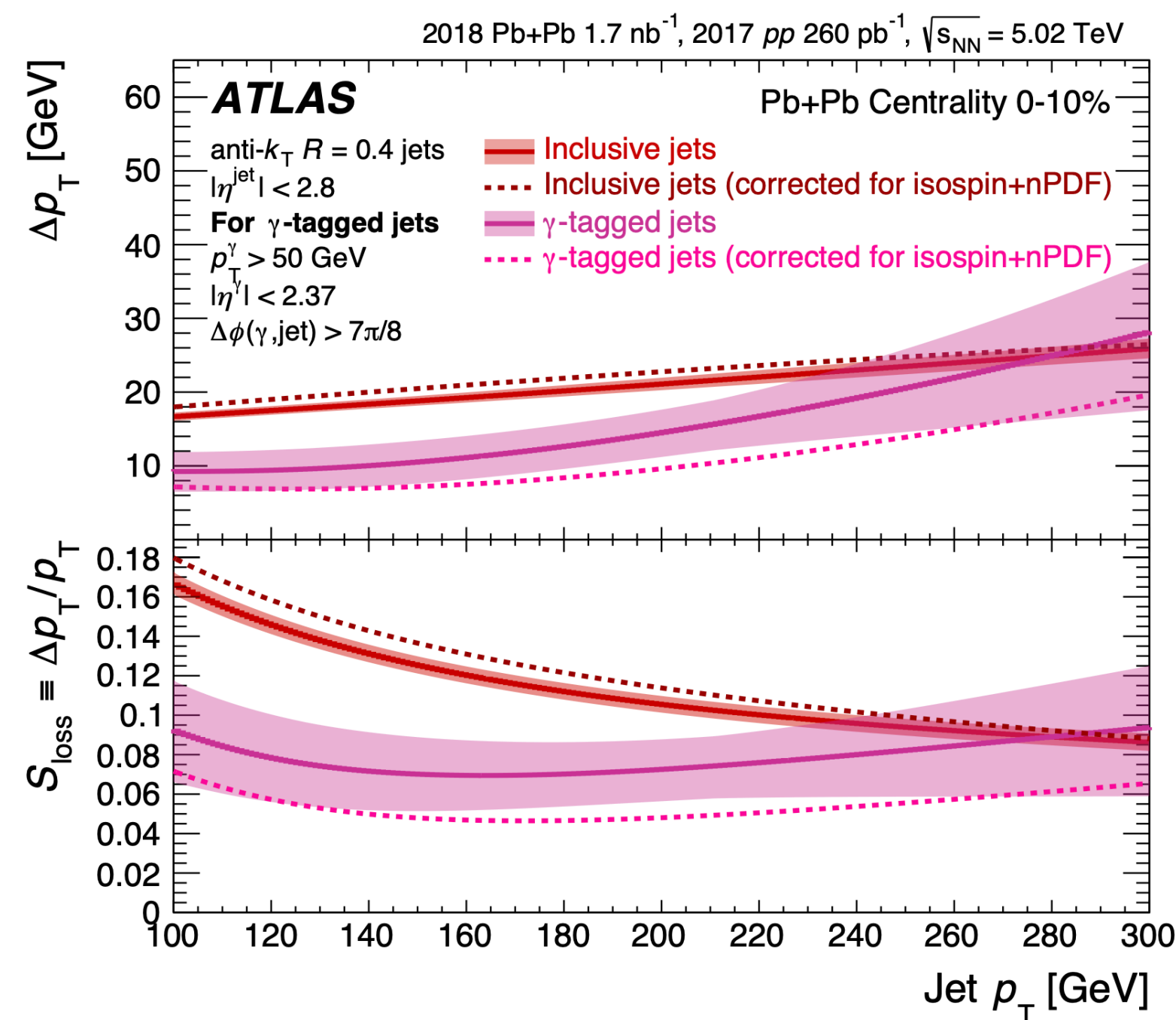
➔ 95% CL upper limit of 0.0095 does not rule out CoLBT prediction of 0.0018

➔ Stat. uncert. dominates in probability distribution; more statistics in Run-3 would be valuable



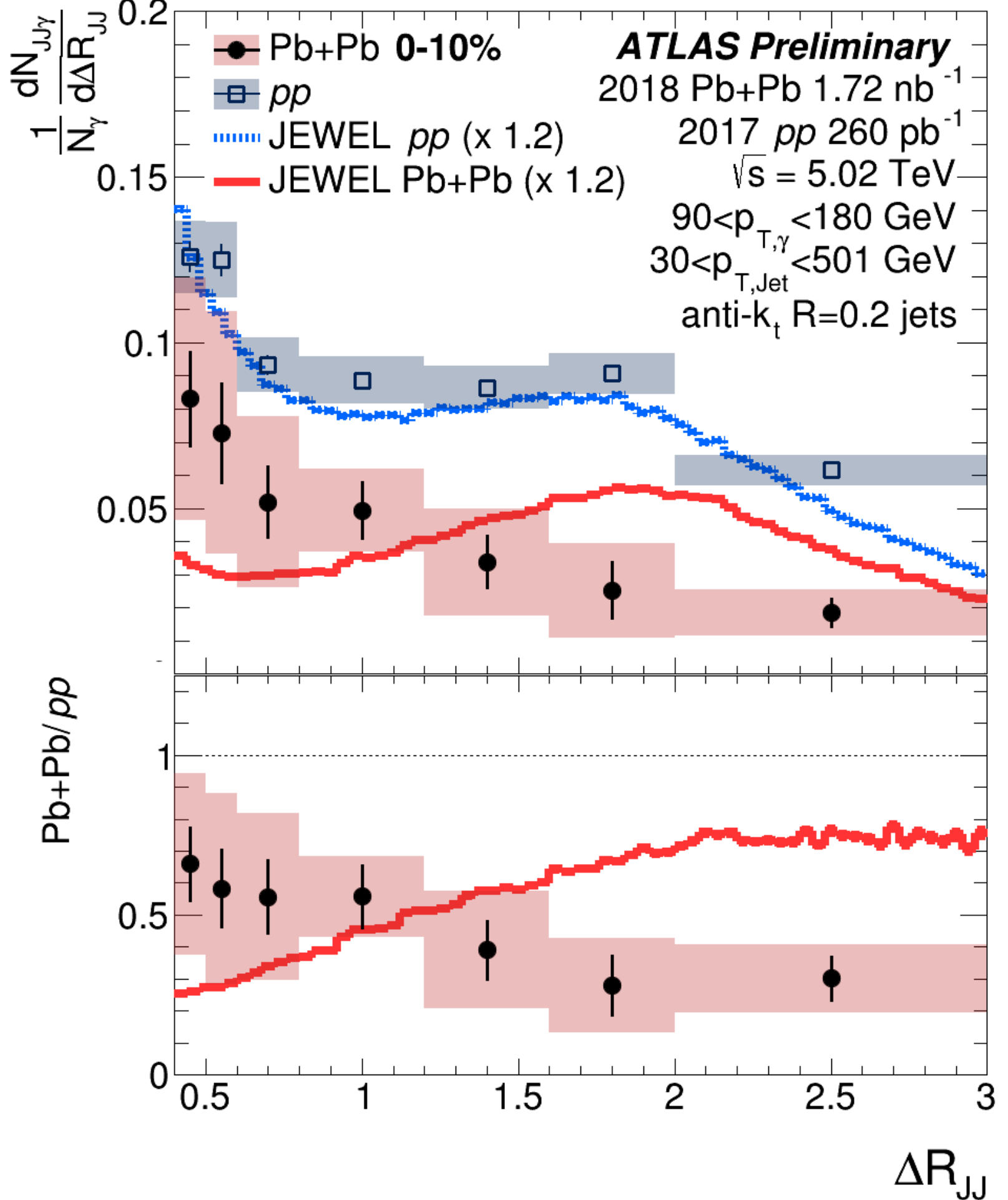
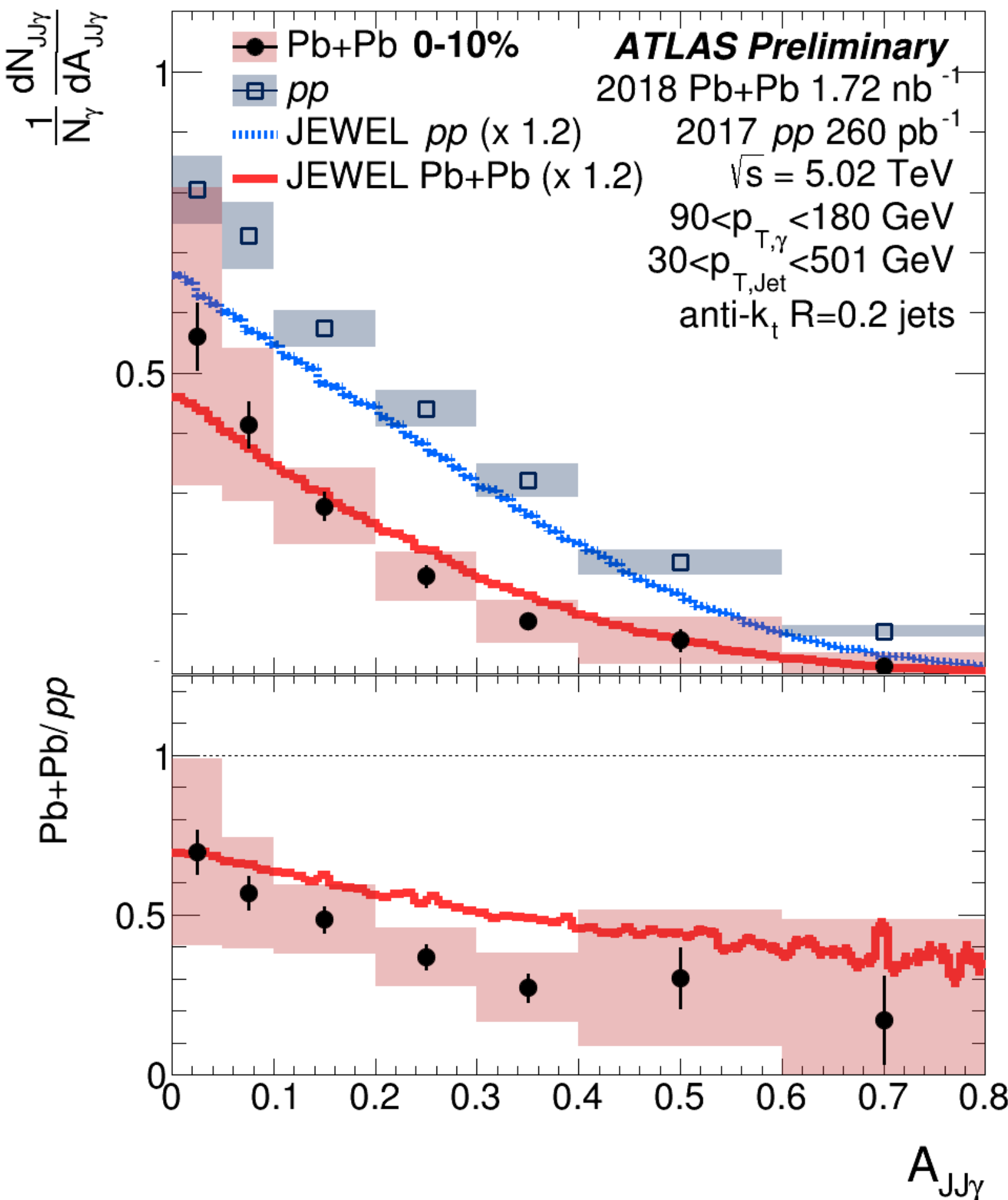
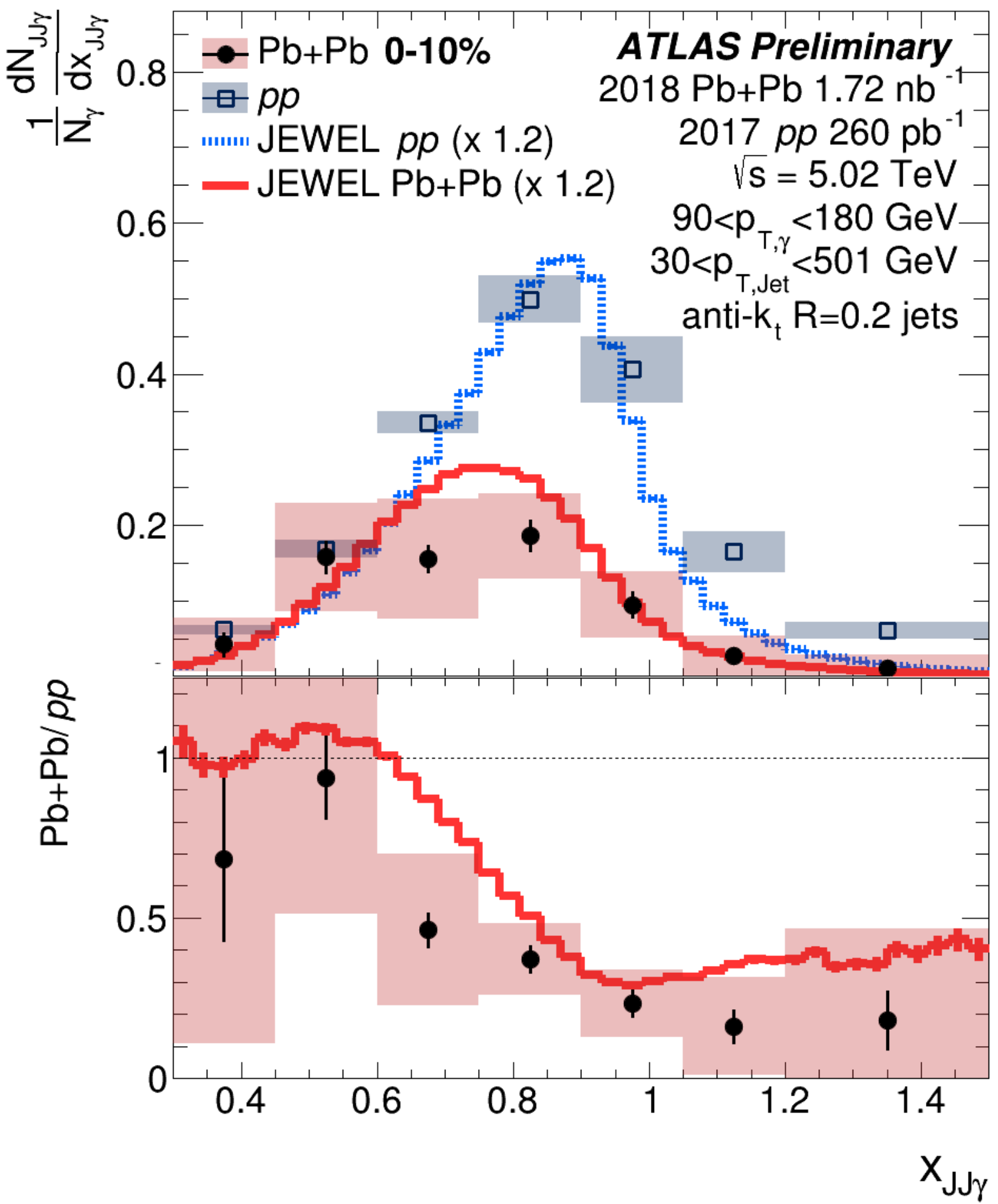
# Summary

- The **photon-tagged jet  $R_{AA}$**  results provide the strongest confirmation to date of larger jet quenching for **gluon-initiated jets** compared with **quark-initiated jets**
- Jet-hadron correlations in photon-jet events provides unambiguous signal of medium response
  - ➔ no significant diffusion wake signal found within current data sensitivity; need for future larger datasets
  - ➔ data provides limits on diffusion wake amplitude



**BACK UP**

# Photon+Multijets



ATLAS-CONF-2023-008

# Isospin and nPDF effects

- To calculate this, one should use an updated formula:

$$R_{AA} = \left( Z^2 \sigma_{pp}^{\text{nPDF}} + 2Z(A - Z) \sigma_{pn}^{\text{nPDF}} + (A - Z)^2 \sigma_{nn}^{\text{nPDF}} \right) / A^2 \sigma_{pp}$$

- Where the  $\text{nPDF}$  denotes an event-by-event weighting  $R_A(x_1, f_1, Q^2) \times R_A(x_2, f_2, Q^2)$
- Since the uncertainties are strongly correlated between  $\sigma_{pp}^{\text{nPDF}}$  and  $\sigma_{pp}$ , I instead evaluate this as:

$$R_{AA} = \left( \frac{Z}{A} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_{pp}^{\text{nPDF}}}{\sigma_{pp}} + \left( 2Z(A - Z) \sigma_{pn}^{\text{nPDF}} + (A - Z)^2 \sigma_{nn}^{\text{nPDF}} \right) / A^2 \sigma_{pp}$$

- Where I assign zero statistical uncertainty to the first term, but treat the uncertainties in the terms in the second block as fully uncorrelated.

