

A fixed target for the LHC

Pasquale Di Nezza



The LHCb detector

- LHCb is a general-purpose forward spectrometer, fully instrumented in $2 < \eta < 5$, and optimised for c and b hadron detection
- Excellent momentum resolution with VELO + tracking stations:

$$\sigma_p/p = 0.5 - 1.0 \% \quad (p \in [2, 200] \text{ GeV})$$

- Particle identification with RICH+CALO+MUON

$$\epsilon_\mu \sim 98 \% \text{ with } \epsilon_{\pi \rightarrow \mu} \lesssim 1 \%$$

- Low momentum muon trigger:

$$p_{T_\mu} > 1.75 \text{ GeV (2018)}$$

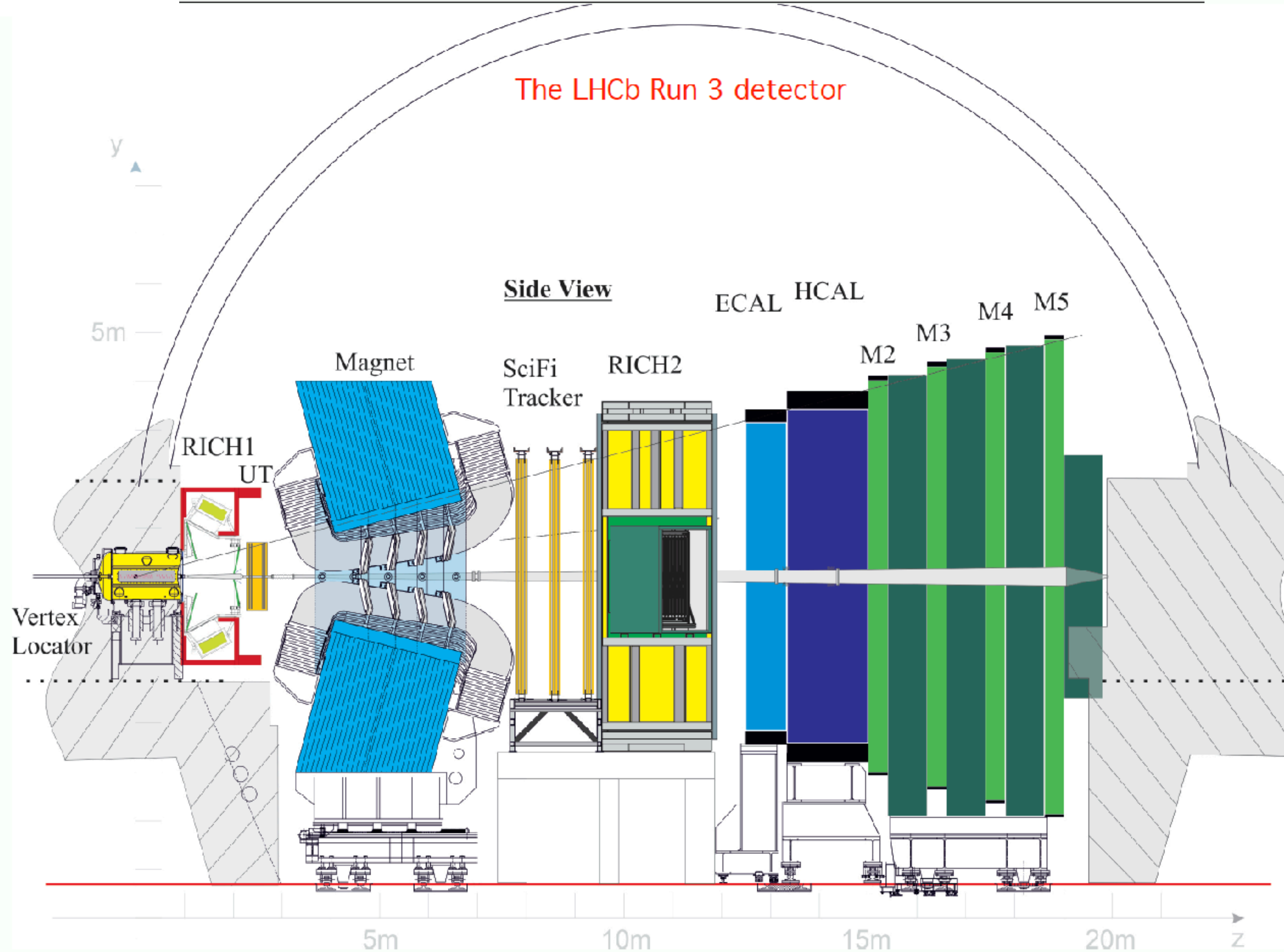
will be reduced thanks to the new fully-software trigger

- Major detector upgrades performed during LS2 for the Run 3 (5x luminosity)

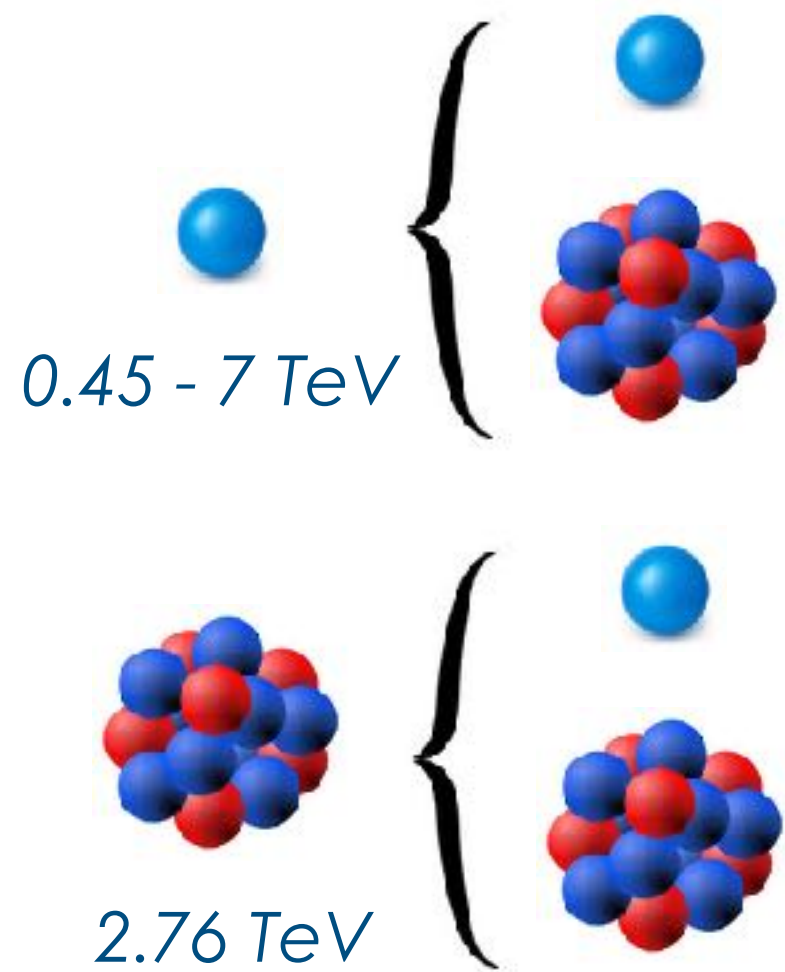
[JINST 3 (2008) S08005]

[IJMP A 30, 1530022 (2015)]

[Comput Softw Big Sci 6, 1 (2022)]



Collisions provided by a **TeV-scale beam** (LHC) on a fixed target explore a **unique kinematic region** that has been poorly probed before.
In addition, the advanced detector (LHCb) makes available **probes** never before accessed



pp or pA collisions: 0.45 - 7 TeV beam on fix target

$$\sqrt{s} = \sqrt{2m_N E_p} \simeq 41 - 115 \text{ GeV}$$

$$y_{CMS} = 0 \rightarrow y_{lab} = 4.8$$

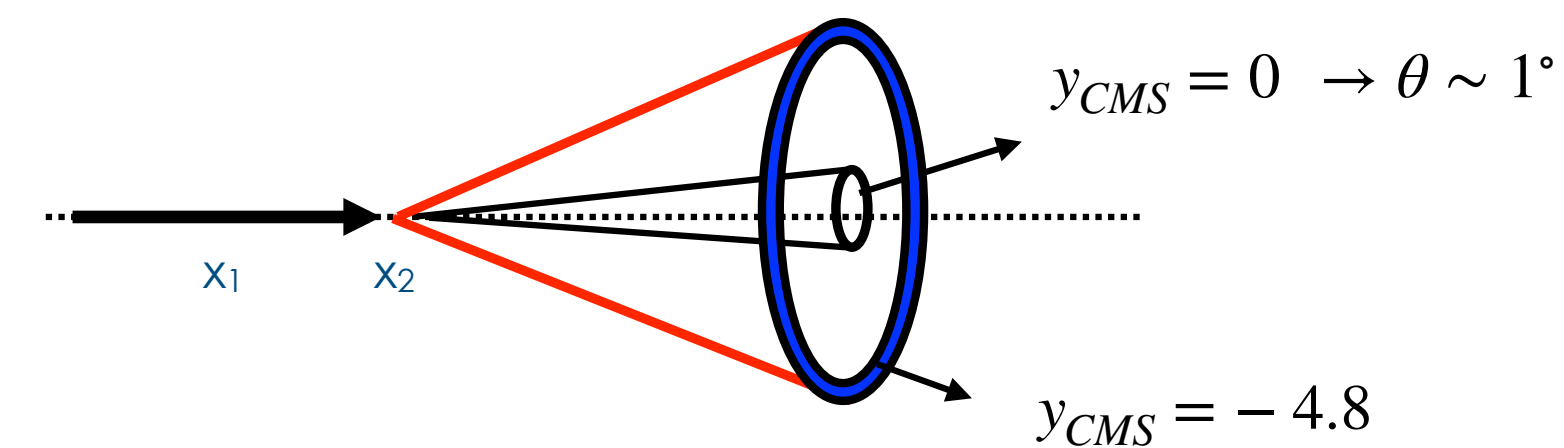
AA collisions: 2.76 TeV beam on fix target

$$\sqrt{s_{NN}} \simeq 72 \text{ GeV}$$

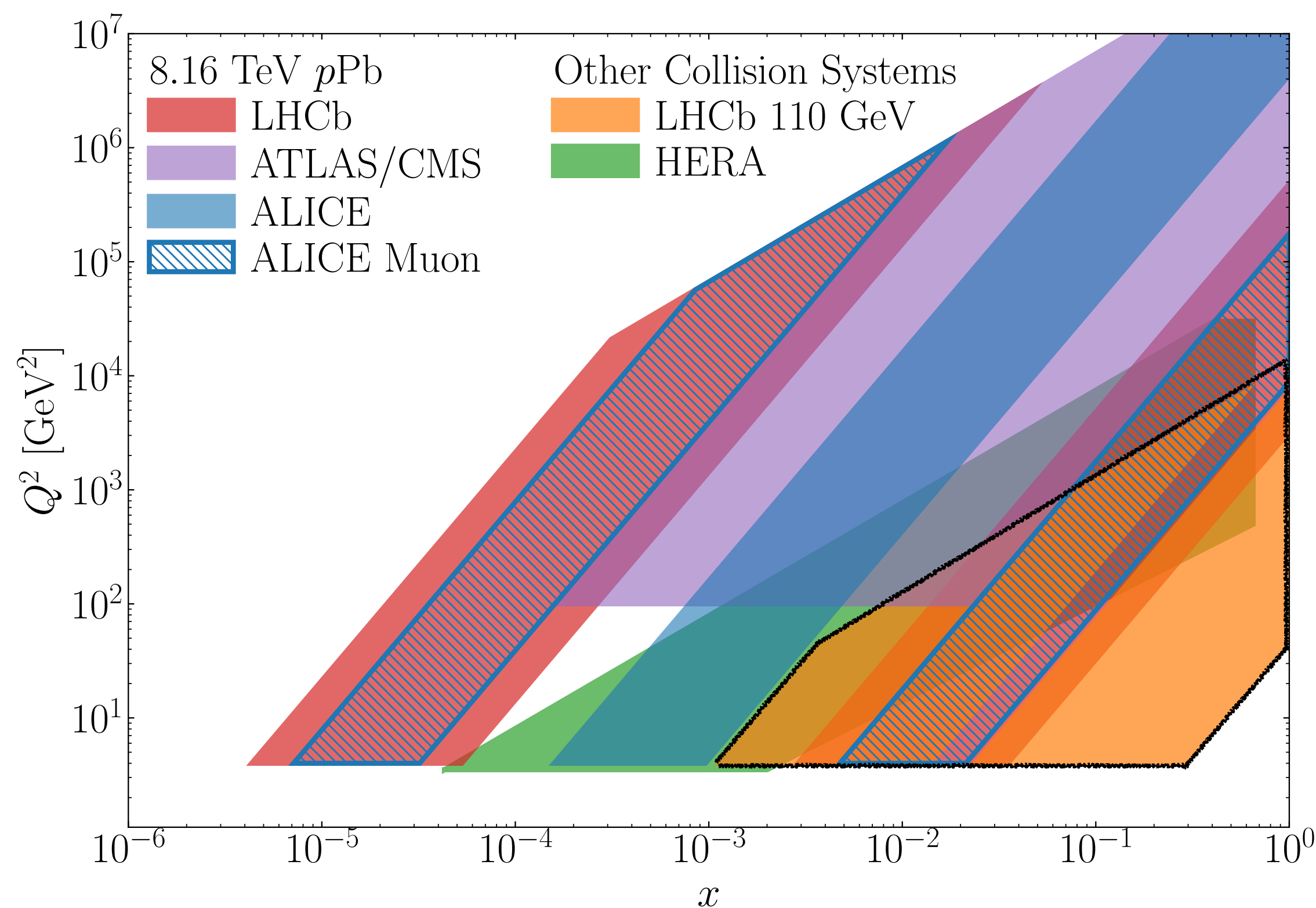
$$y_{CMS} = 0 \rightarrow y_{lab} = 4.3$$

1: beam; 2: target

Large CM boost, large x_2 values ($x_F < 0$) and small x_1



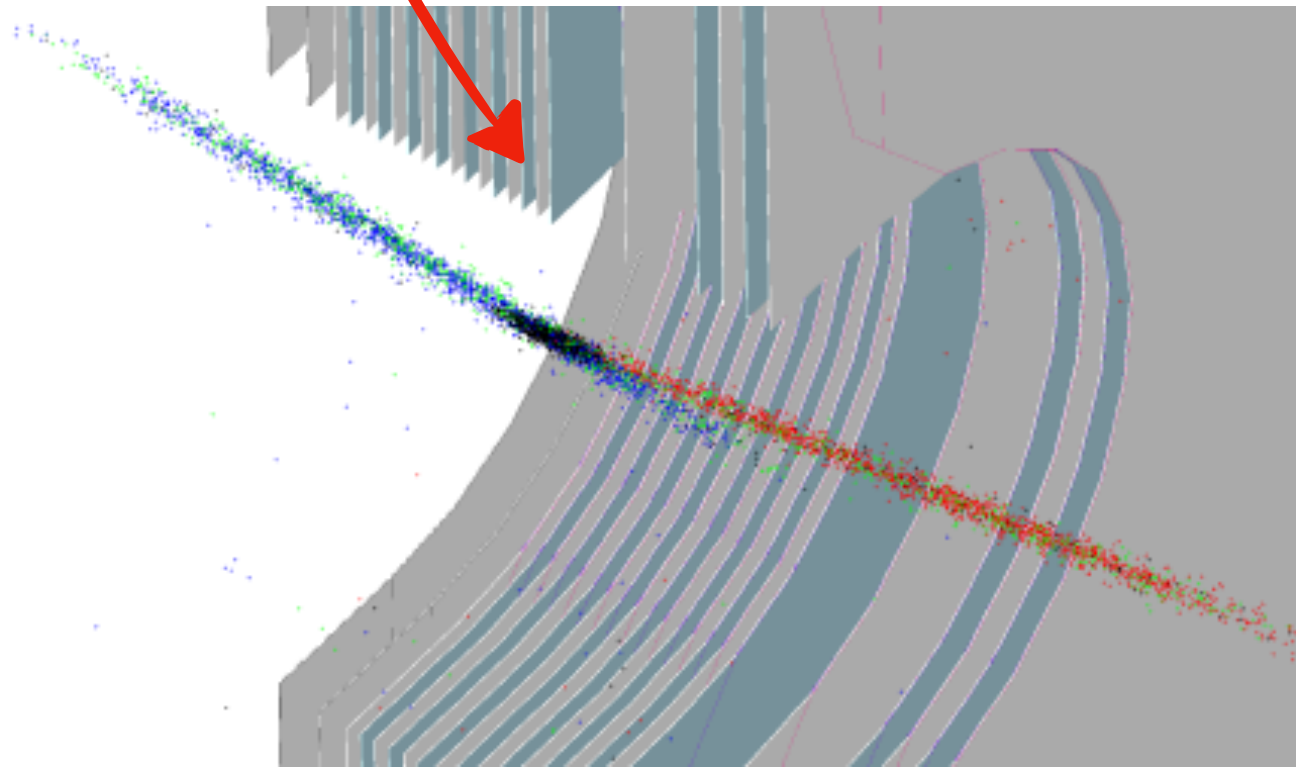
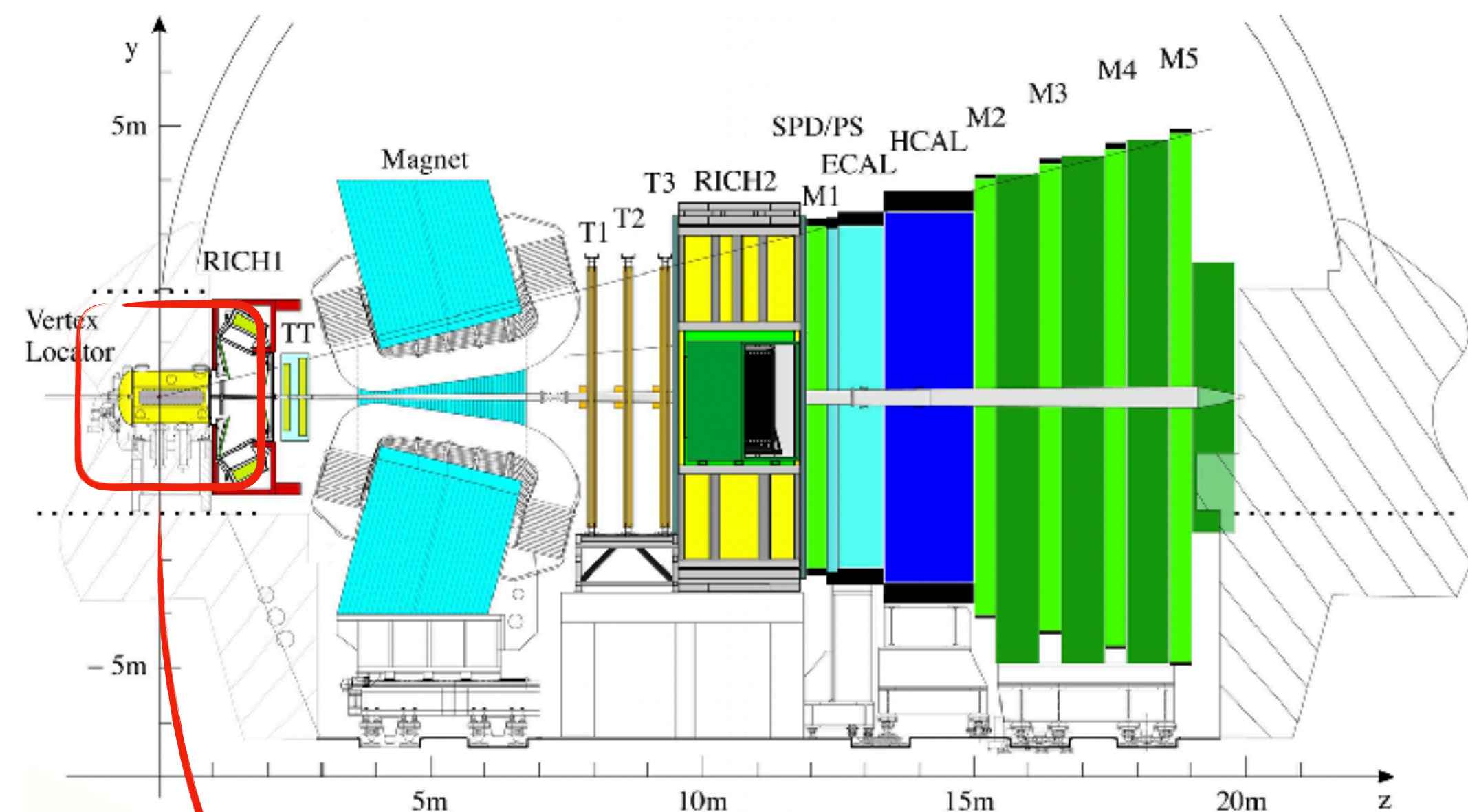
$$\gamma = \frac{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}{2m_p} \simeq 60$$



Broad and poorly explored
kinematic range

mid-to-large x_{Bj} at intermediate Q^2
and negative x_F

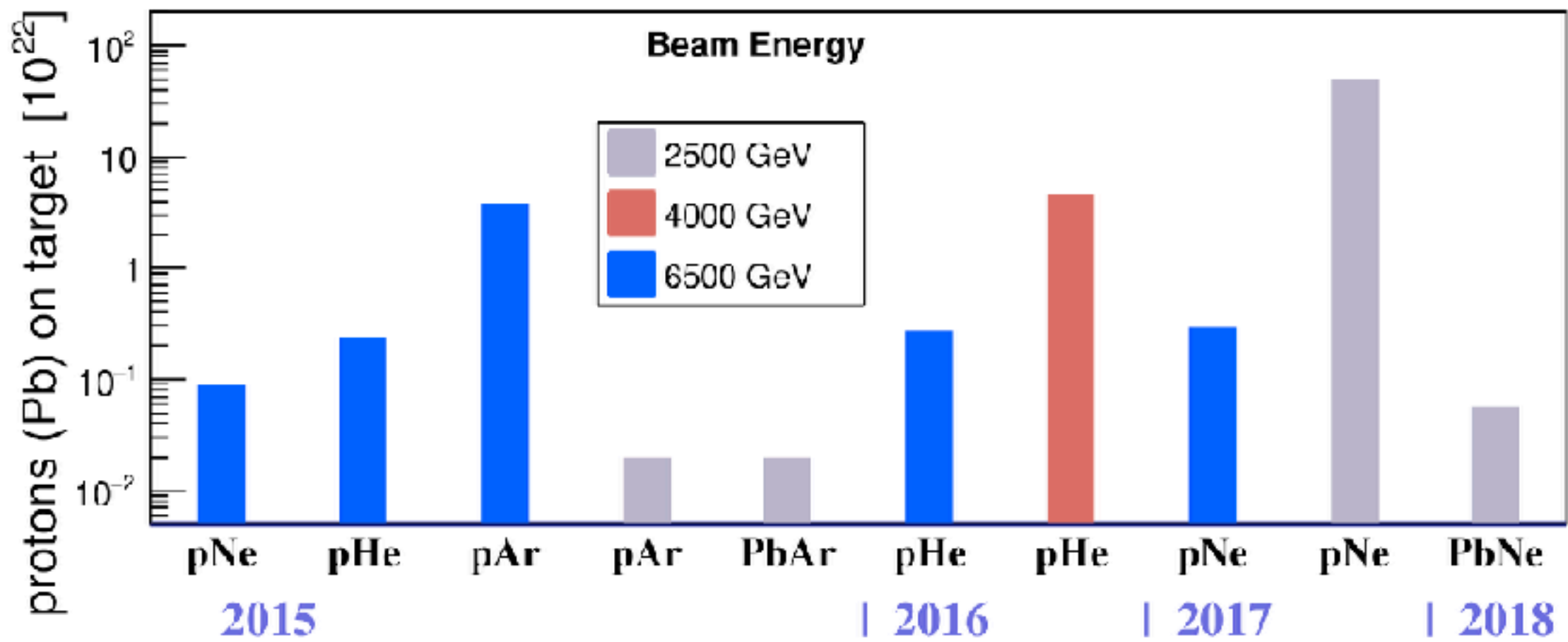
SMOG (System for Measuring Overlap with Gas)



SMOG was thought for a precise determination of the beam bunch profile, but then acted also as a prototype for a gas fixed target

Local increase of the LHC beam pipe pressure from $\sim 10^{-9}$ mbar to $\sim 10^{-7}$ mbar

The negative aspect is the overlap of the gas volume with the beam-beam interaction region



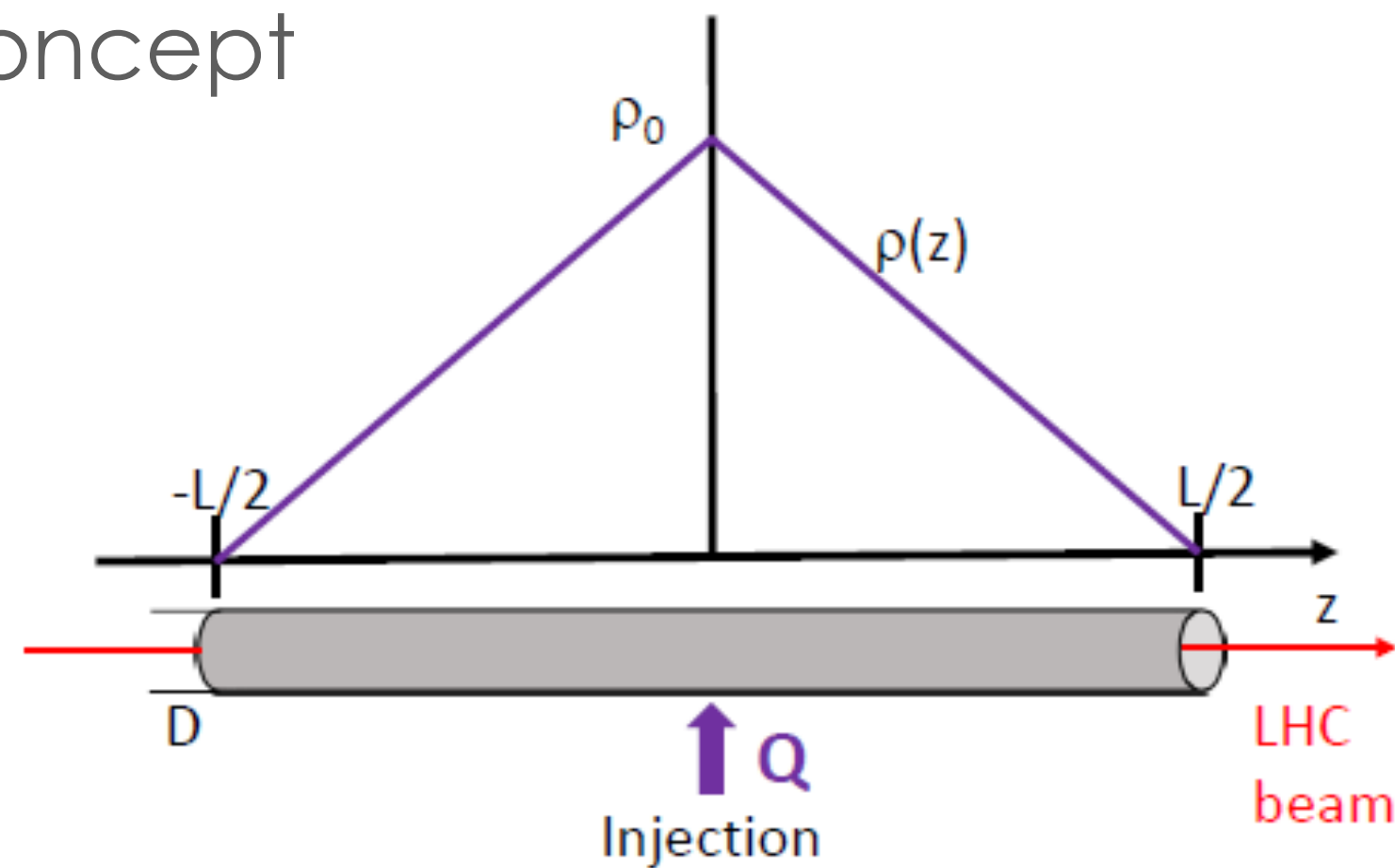
SMDQ2 an unpolarised target at



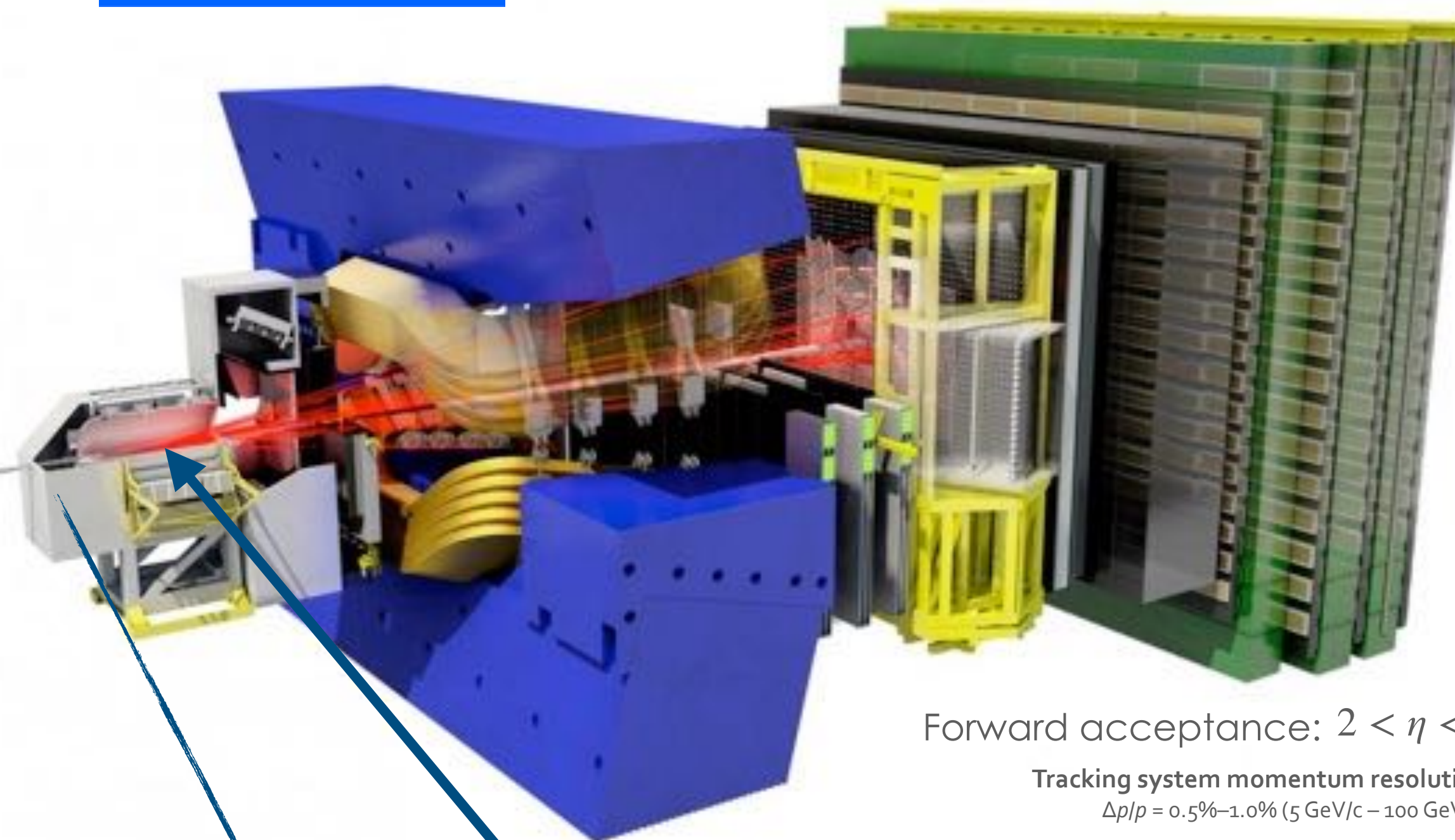
CERN-LHCC-2019-005 ; LHCb-TDR-020

JINST 3 (2008) S08005
IJMPA 30 (2015) 1530022

Storage cell
concept



LHC beam



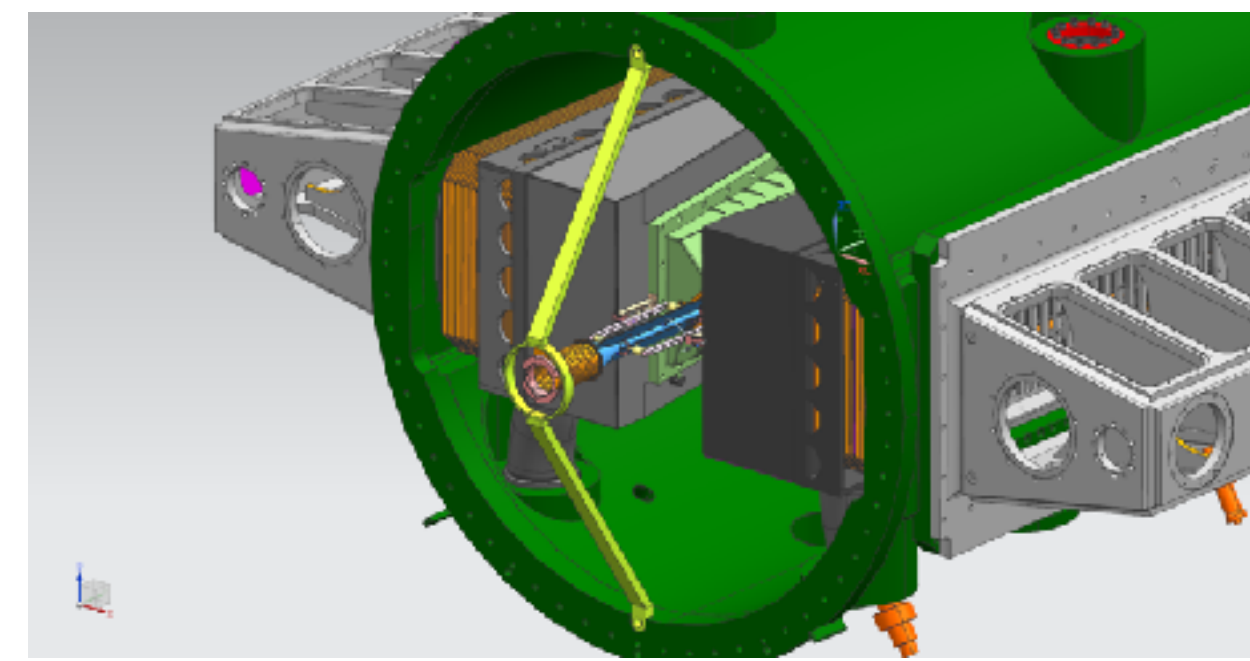
Forward acceptance: $2 < \eta < 5$

Tracking system momentum resolution
 $\Delta p/p = 0.5\% - 1.0\%$ (5 GeV/c – 100 GeV/c)

beam-beam
collisions

areal density [cm⁻²]

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Phi}{3.81 \sqrt{\frac{T}{M}} \frac{D^3}{L + 1.33D}} L$$



UNpolarised target
(beam-gas)



CERN-LHCC-2019-005 ; LHCb-TDR-020

SMOG2, the first LHC internal storage cell

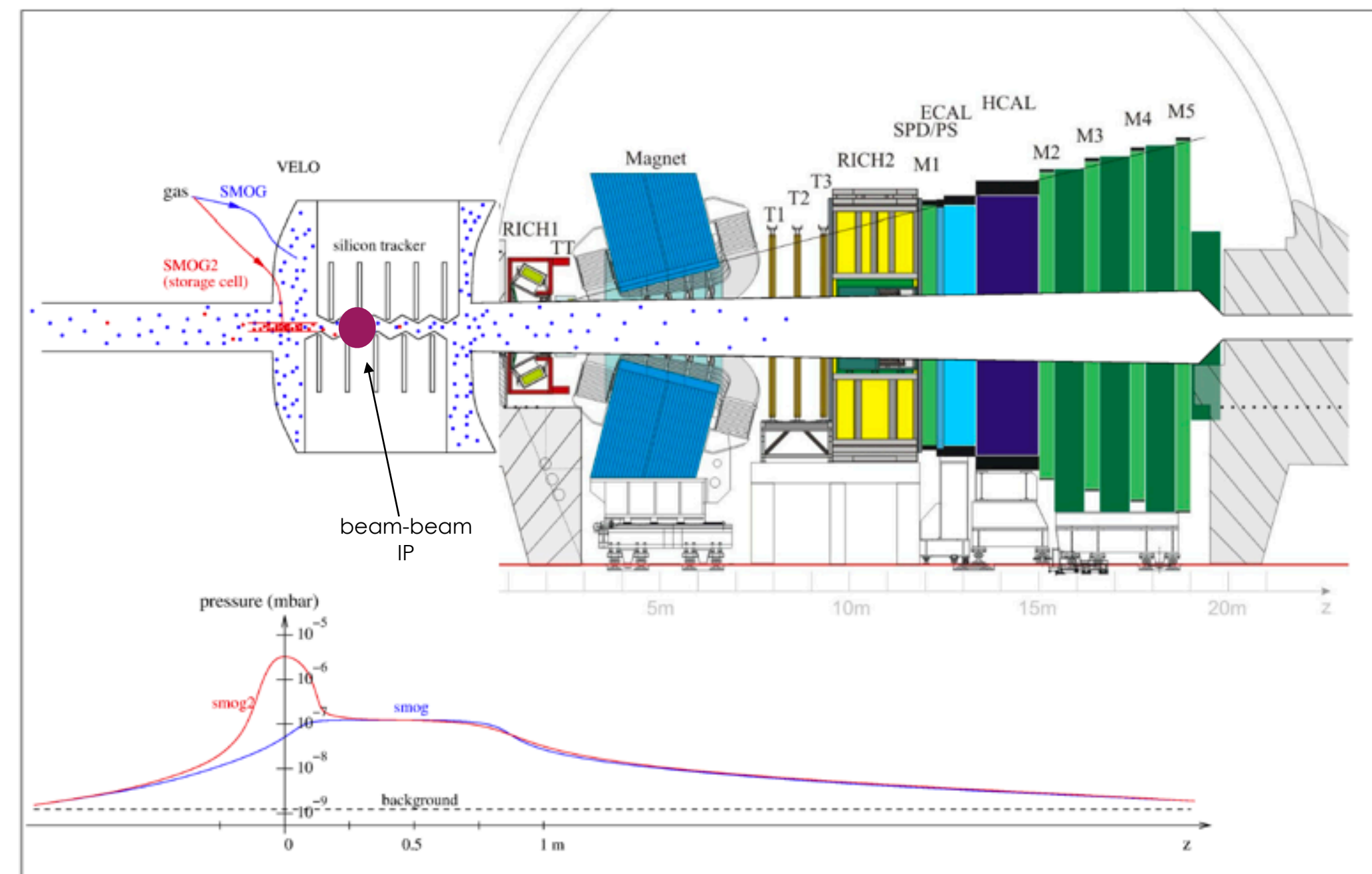
A gas storage cell can boost the gas density by ~ 40 for the same flow as in Run2 with SMOG.

At the end, increasing the gas flux, we have:

$$\text{SMOG2} > 130 \times \text{SMOG}$$

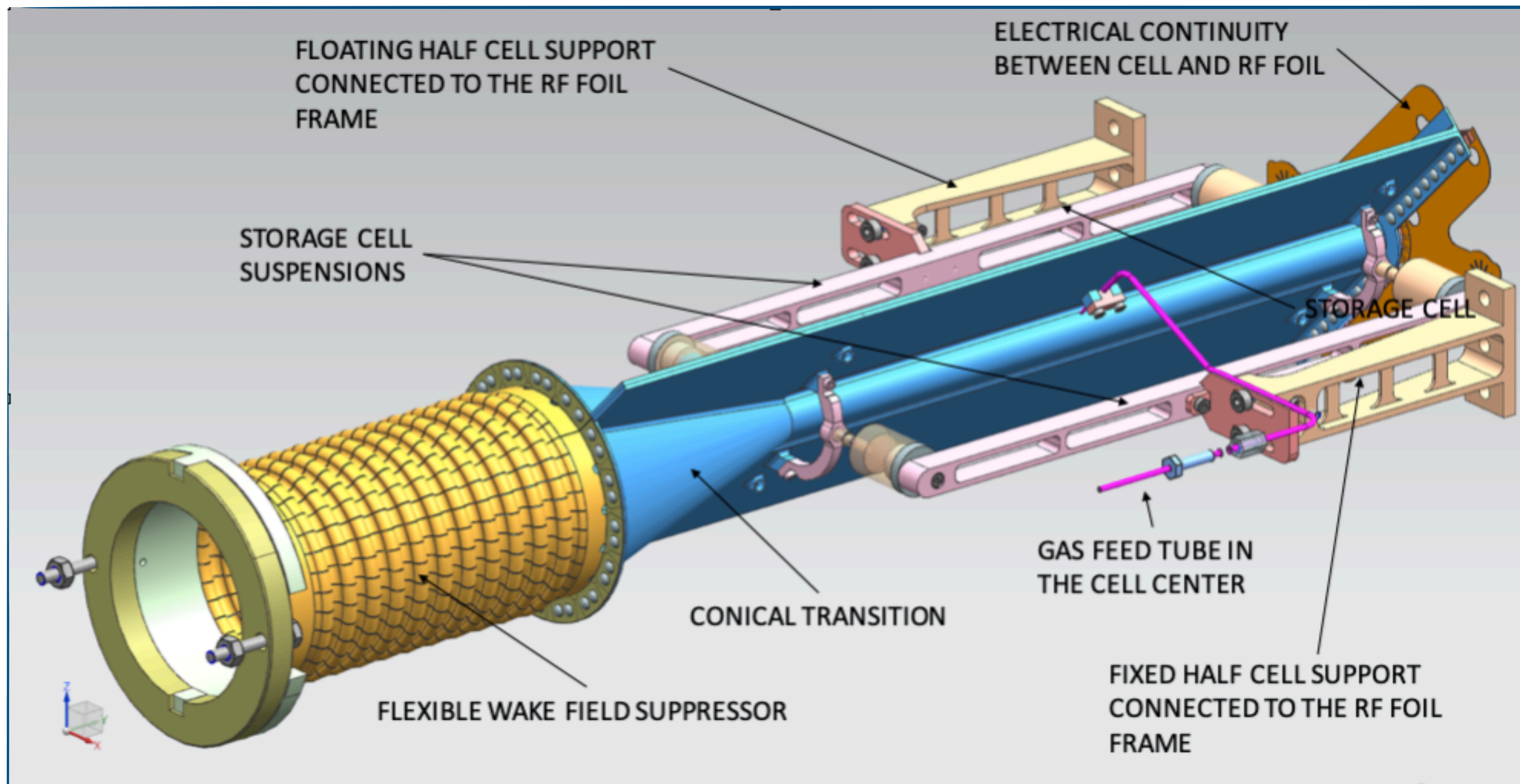
SMOG

- The interaction region is spread-out in PVz
 - only non-colliding bunches can be used
 - ghost charge pollution (debunched pp collider interactions from protons)
- luminosity determination: $p+e^-$ elastic scattering as a standard candle ($\sim 6\%$ of systematic uncertainty)



SMOG2

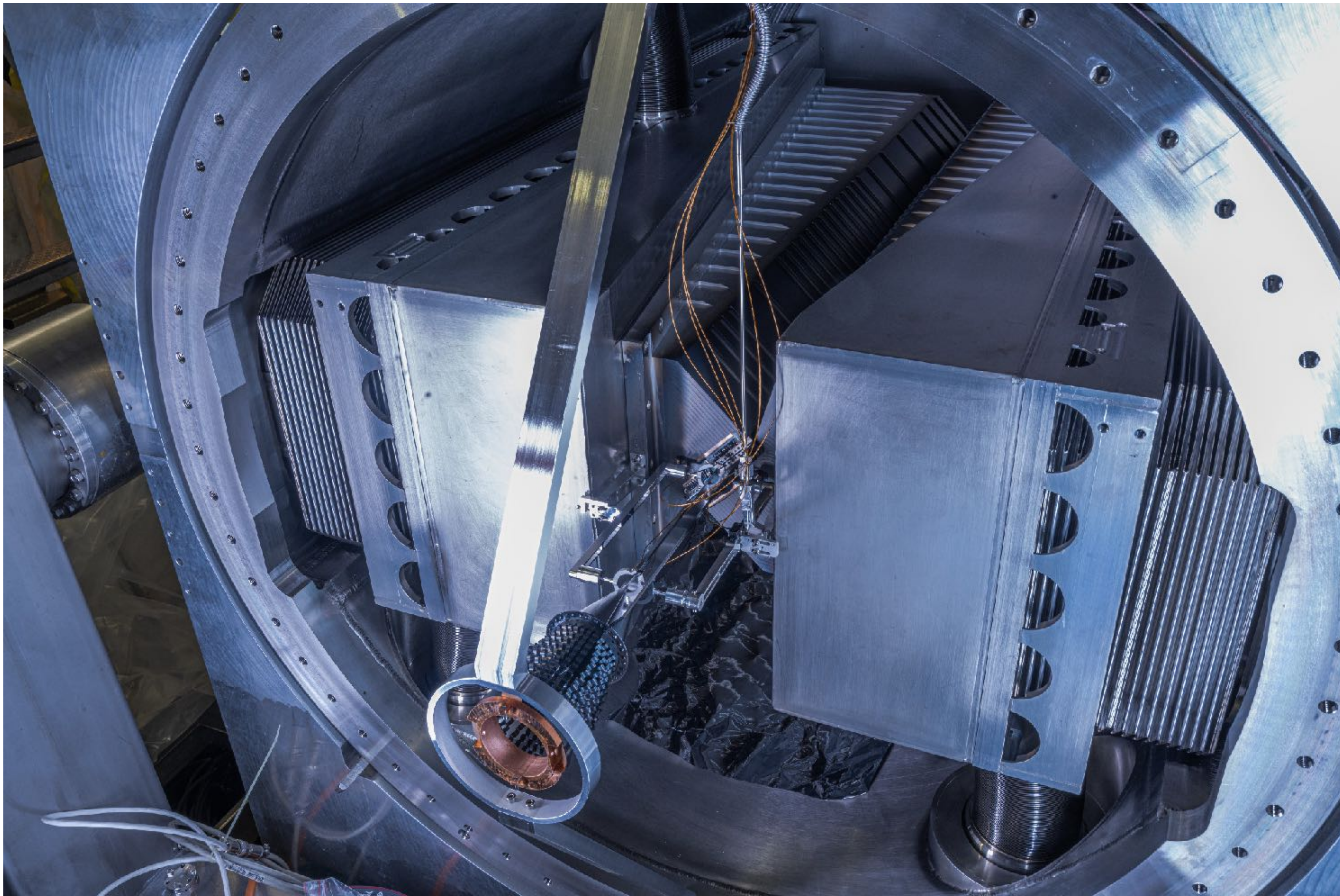
- Separate beam-beam and beam-gas interaction regions
 - both colliding and non-colliding bunches can be used
 - simultaneous data-taking with pp
- precise luminosity determination: direct measurement of the pressure in storage cell ($\sim 1.5\%$ of systematic uncertainty)



cell length = 20 cm (total length = 38 cm)
 cell diameter = 1 cm
 cell wall distance from the beam = 1.5 - 5 mm
 cell wall thickness = 0.2 mm

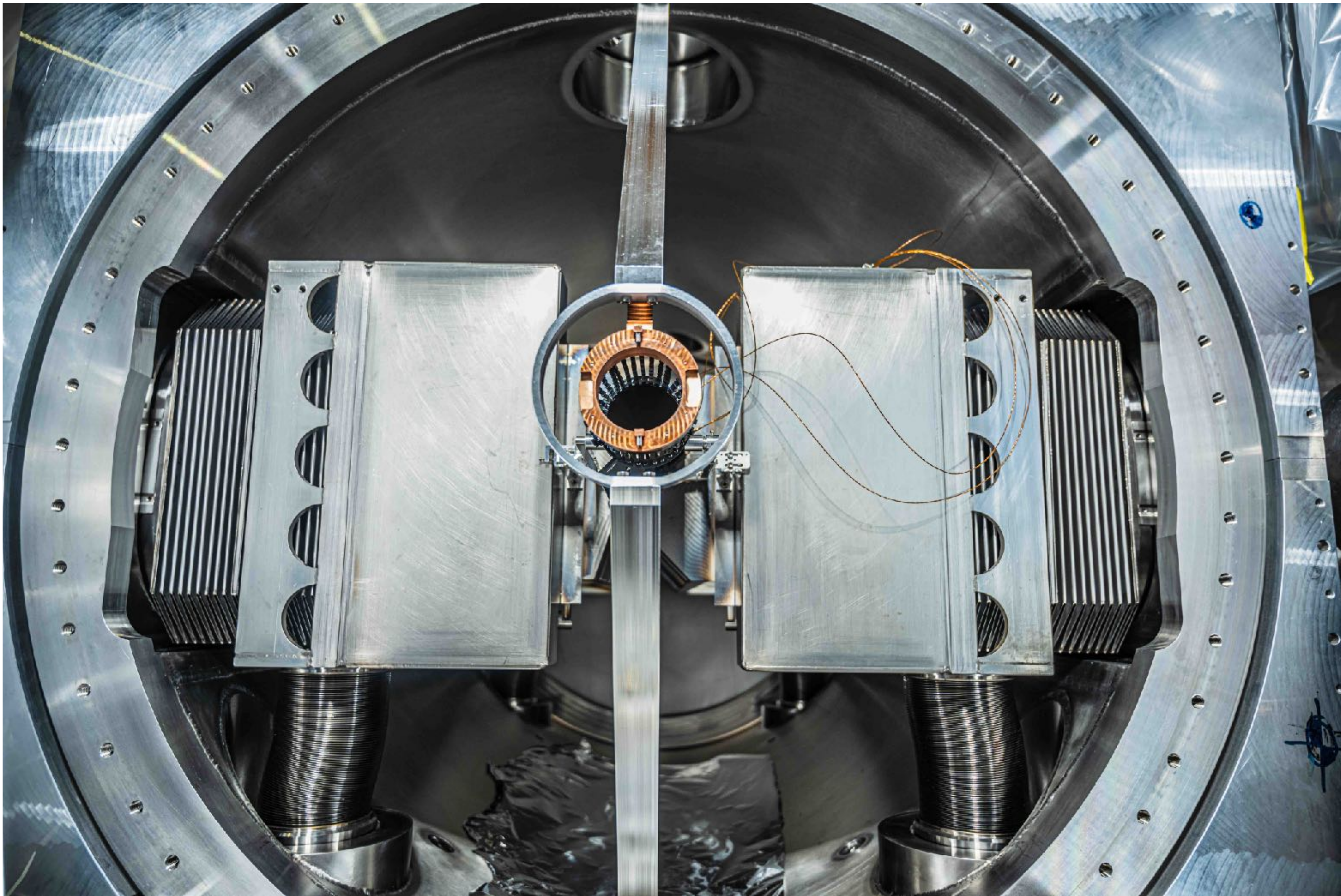
SMDQ2

It is the only system
present in the LHC
primary vacuum

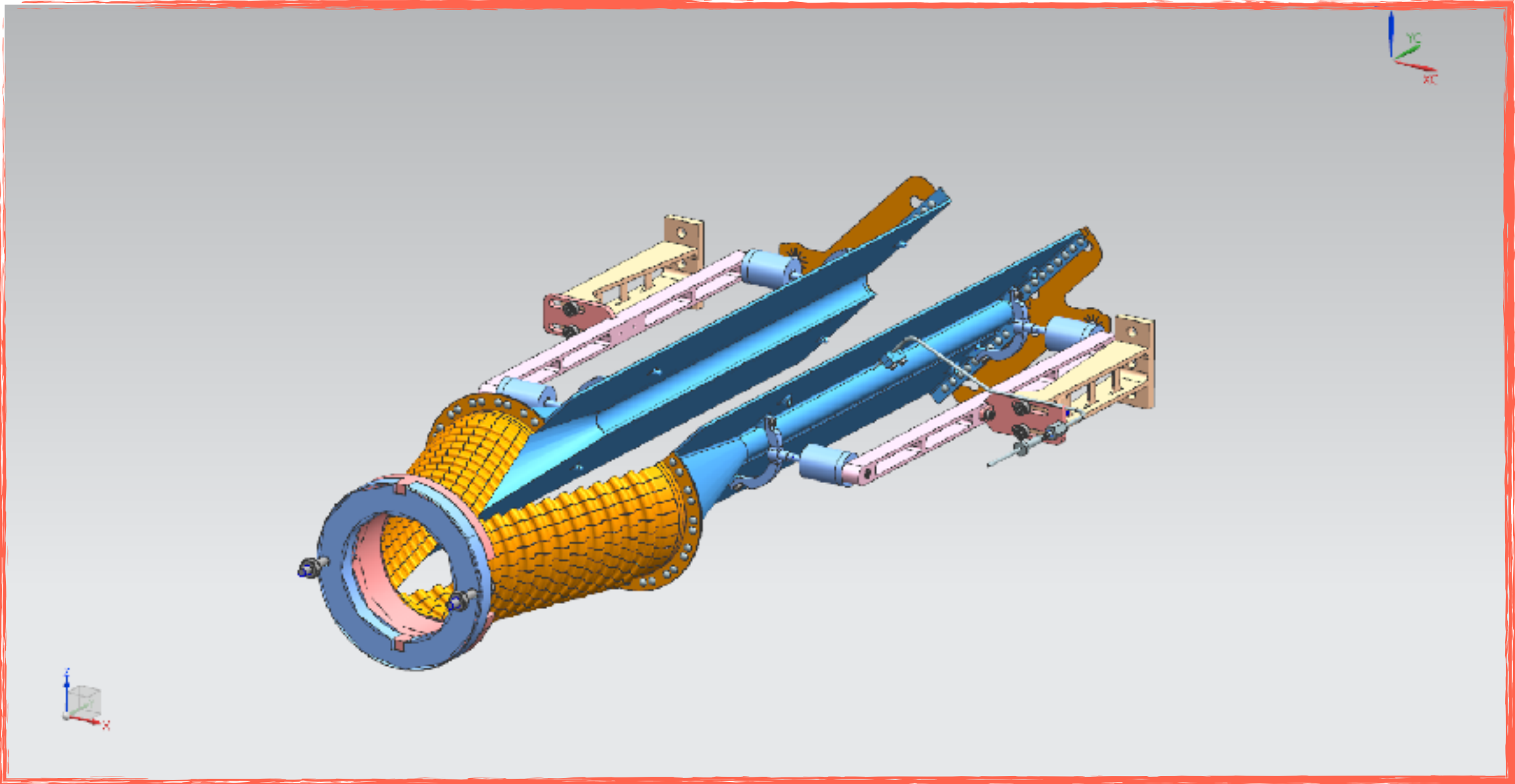
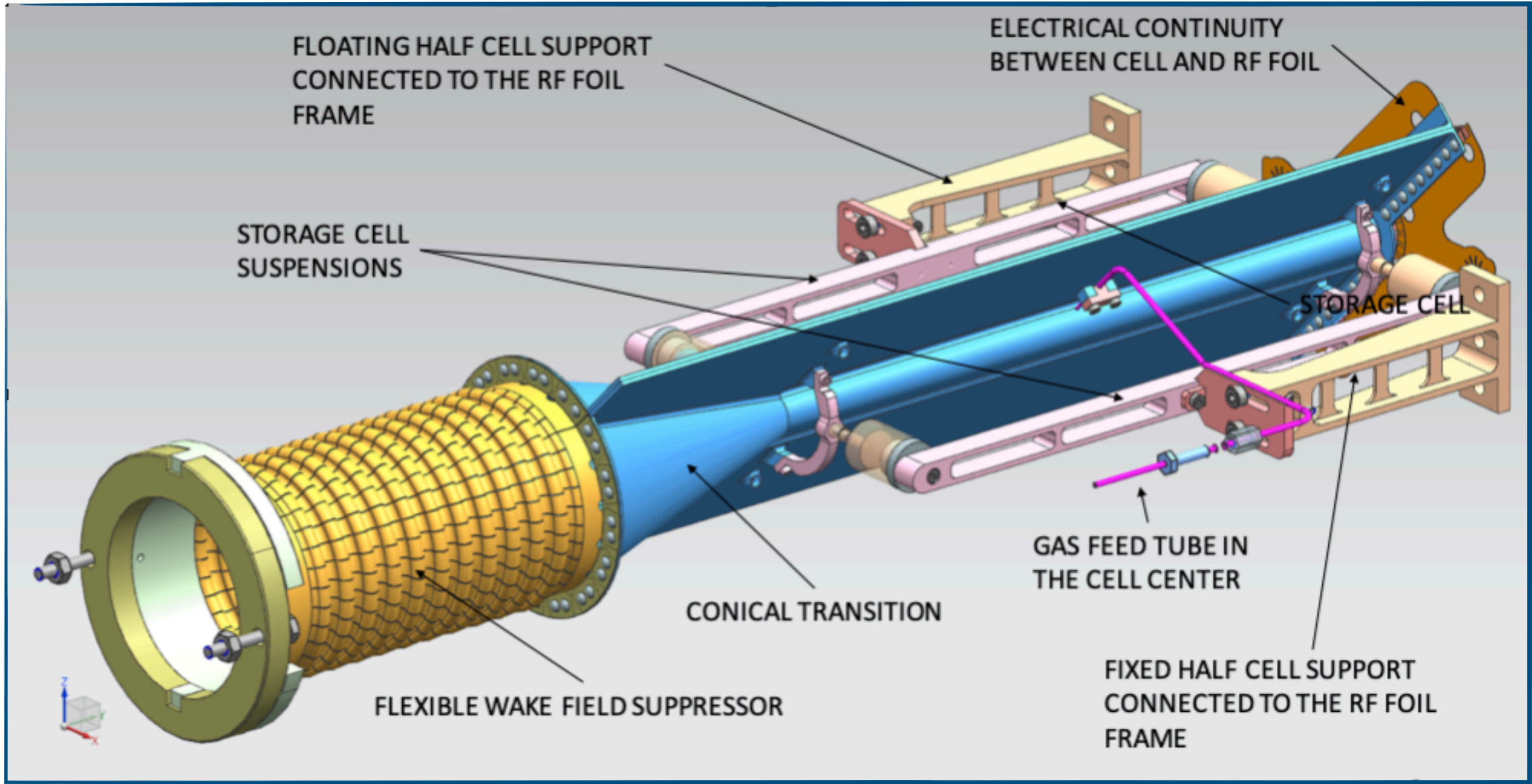


SMDQ2

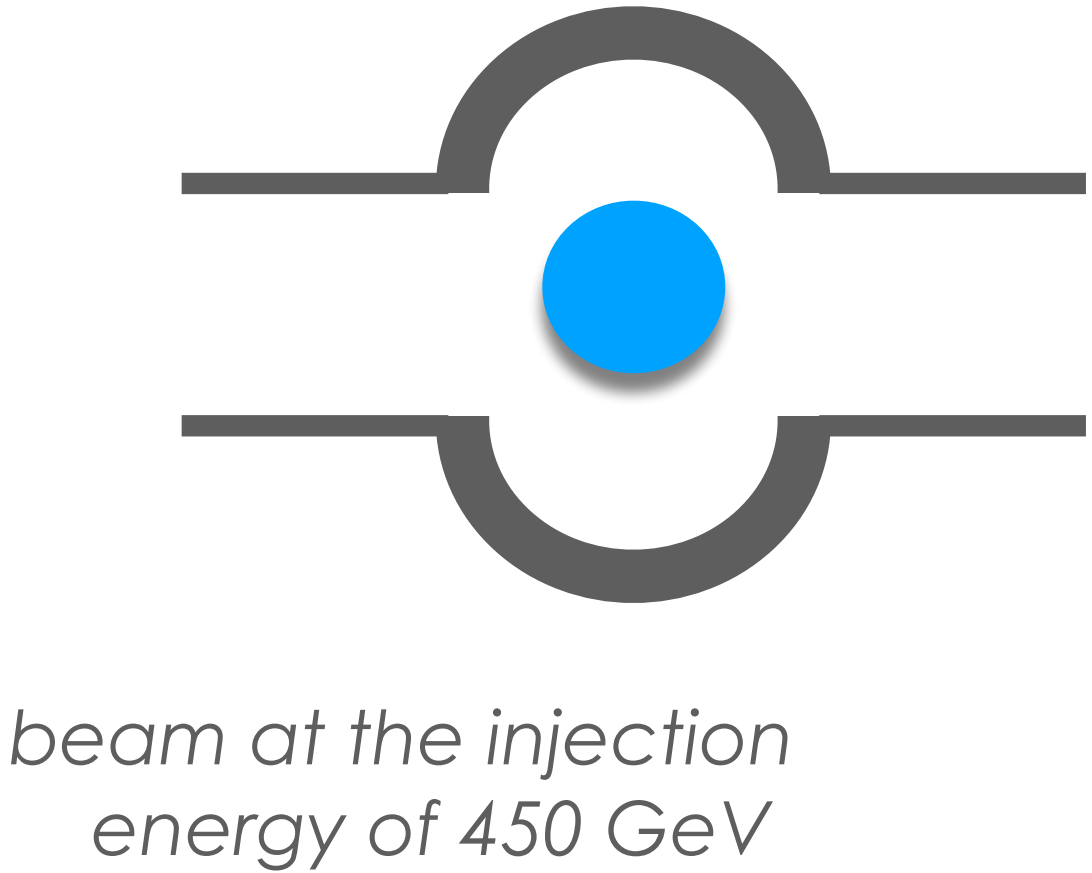
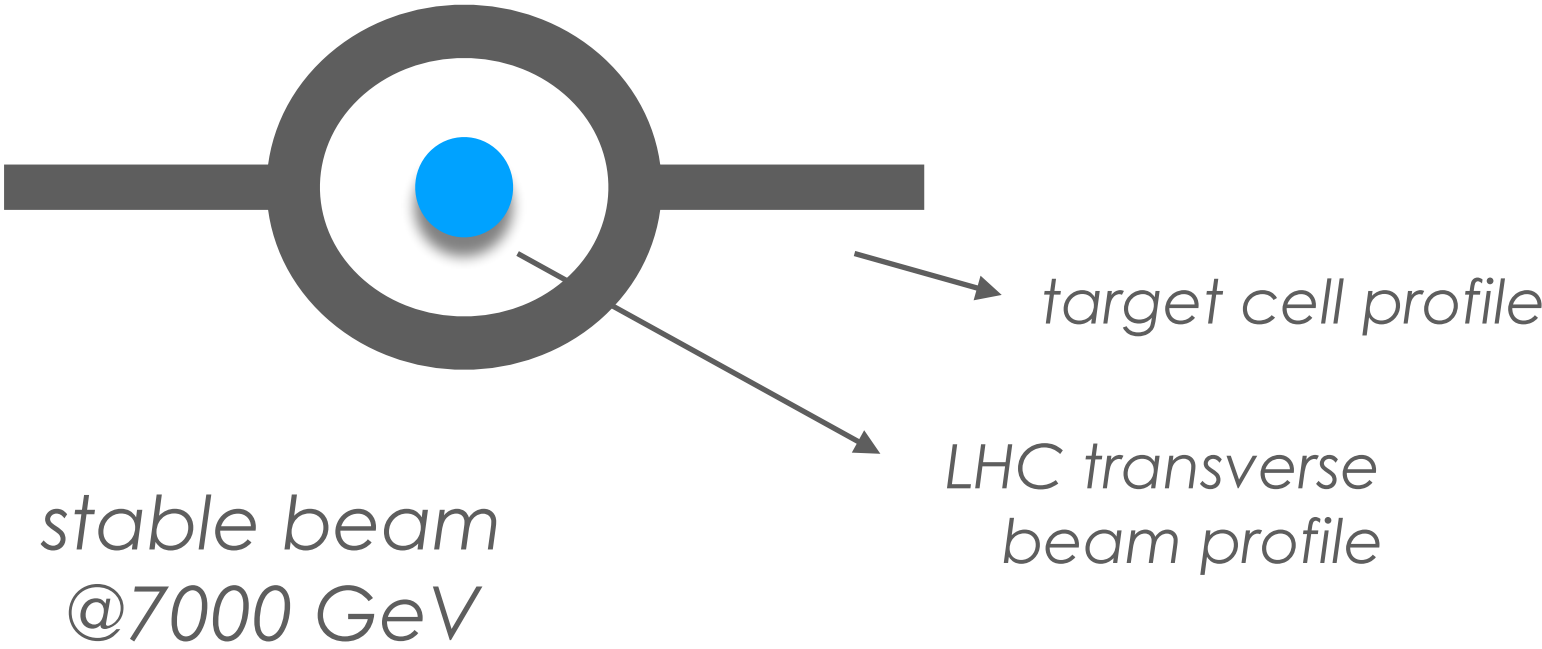
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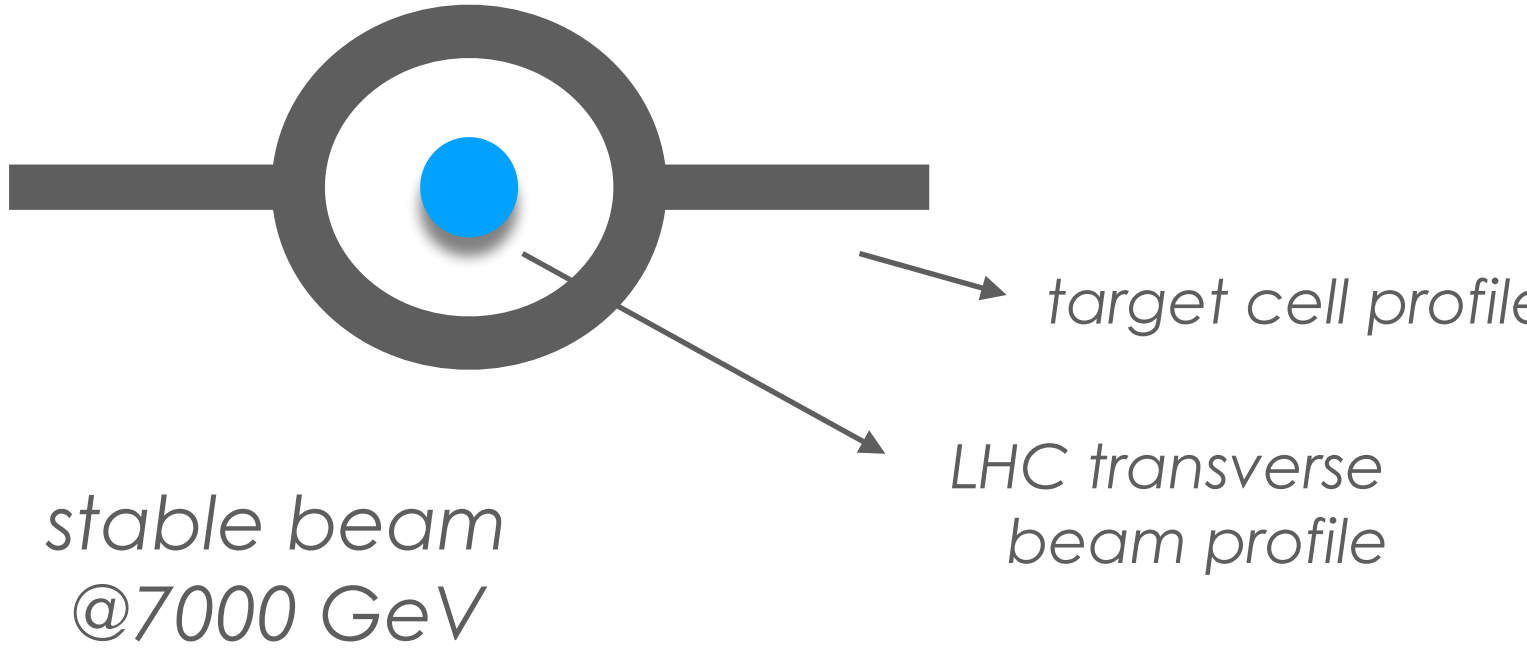
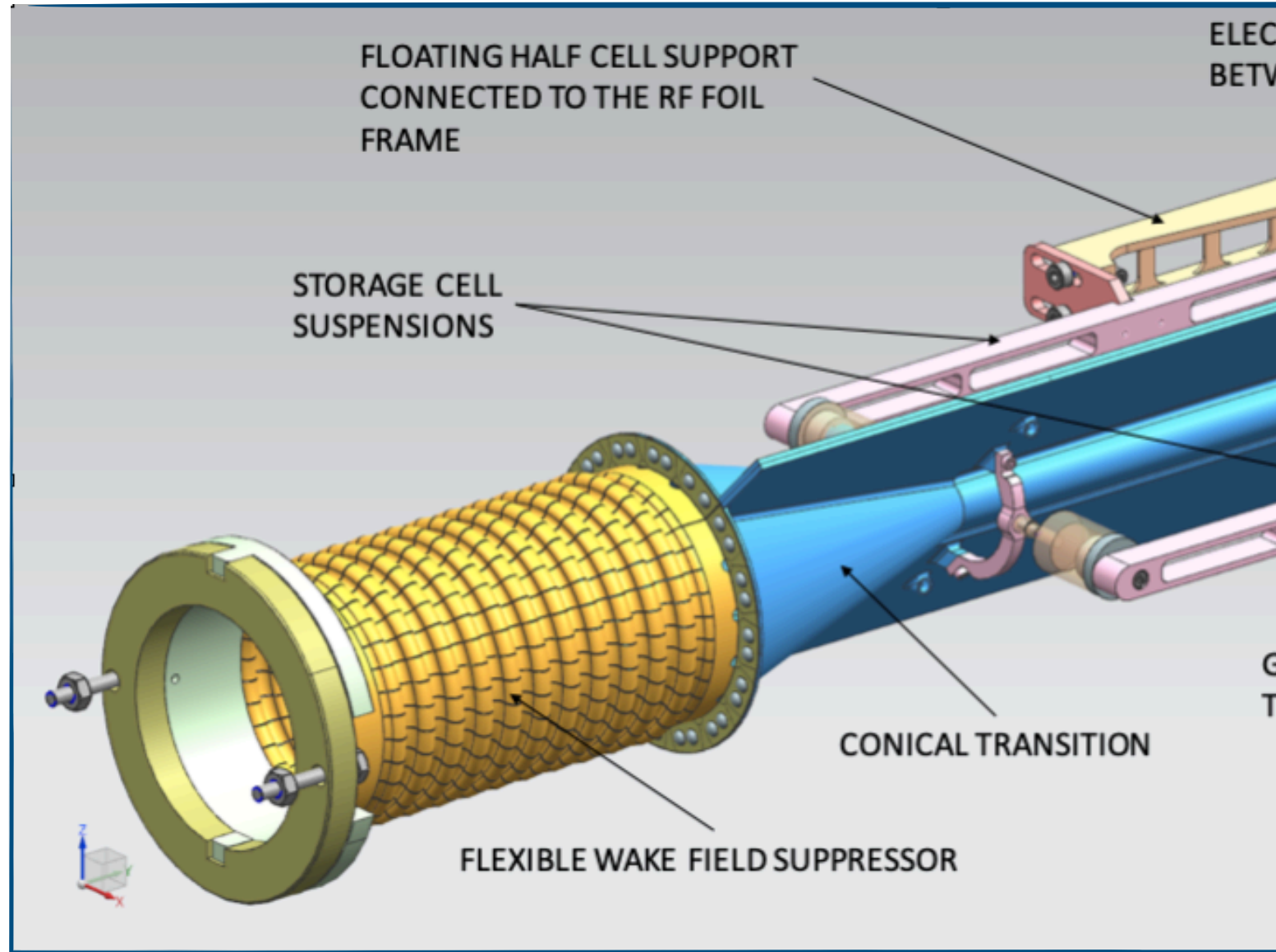
Openable cell



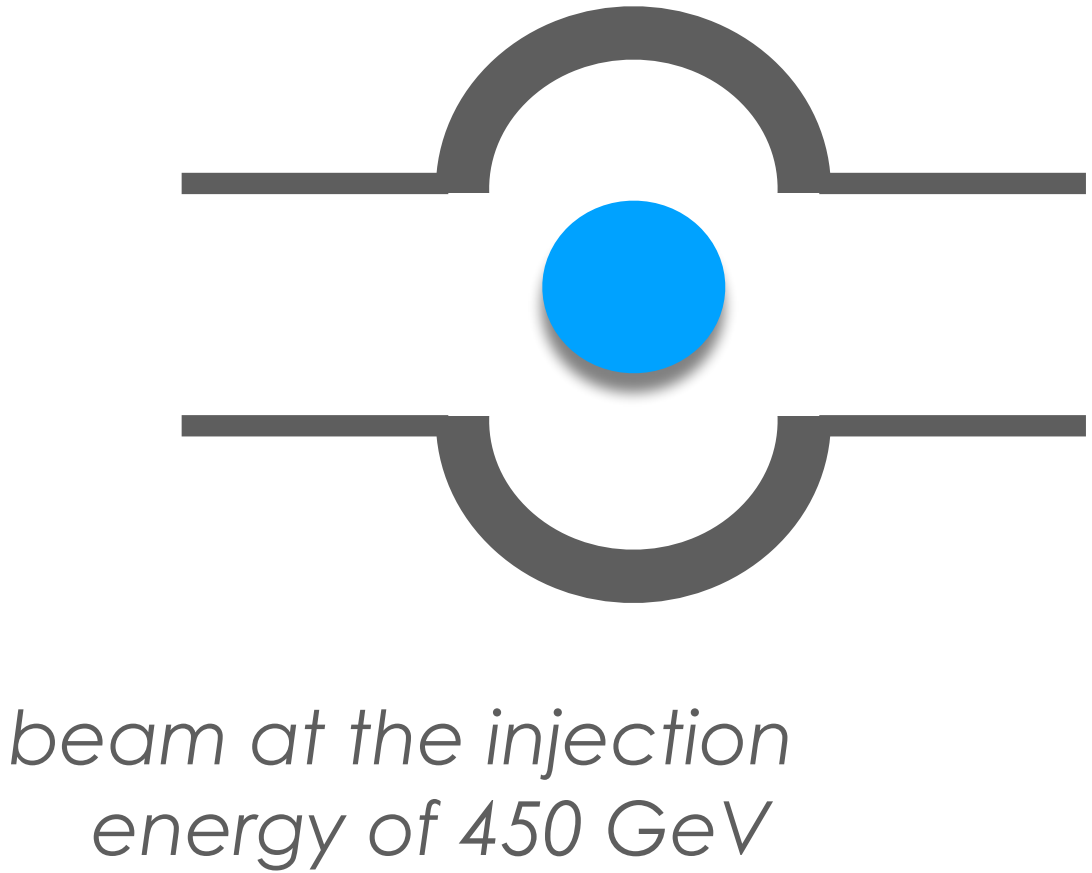
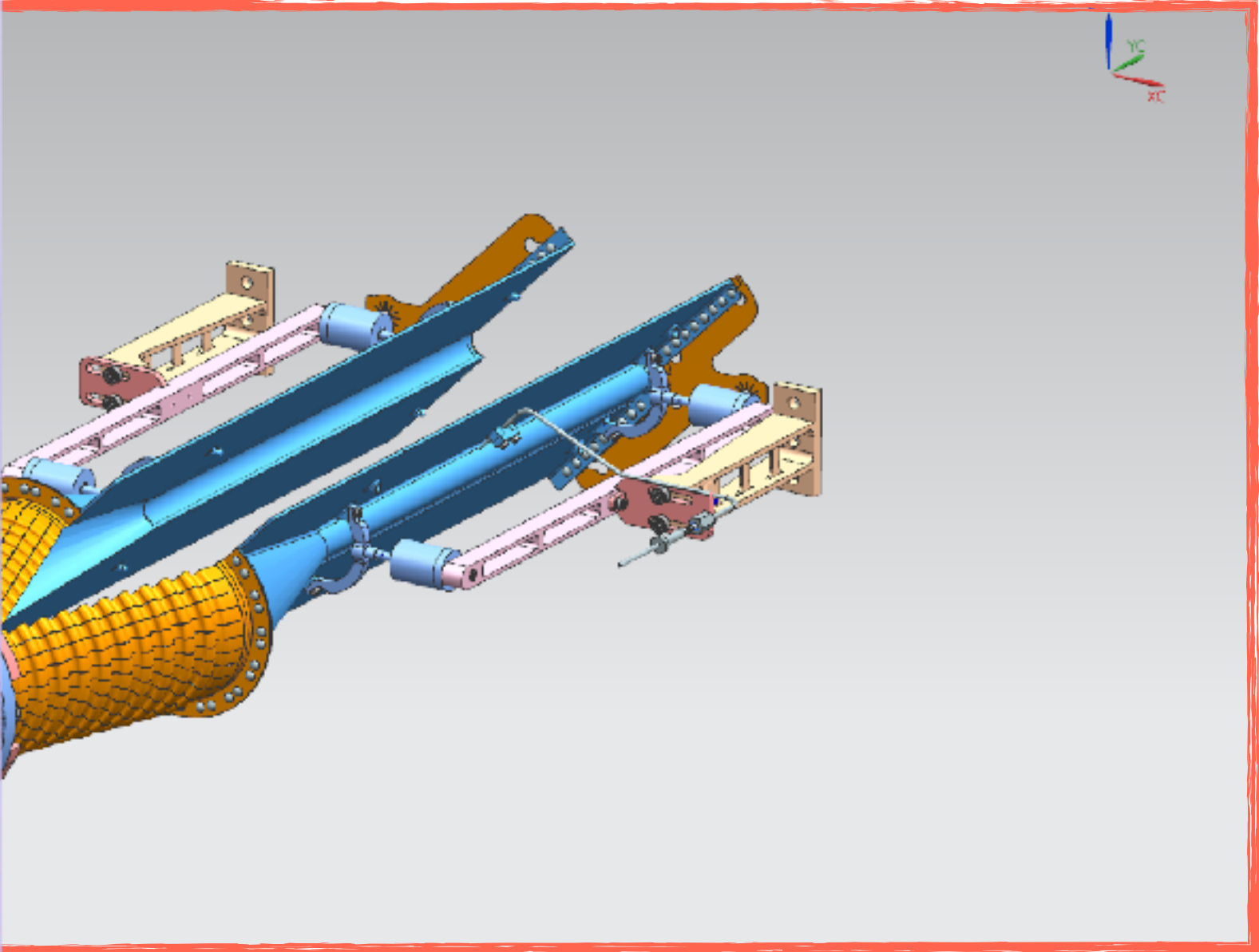
5 mm radius x 200 mm length



Openable cell



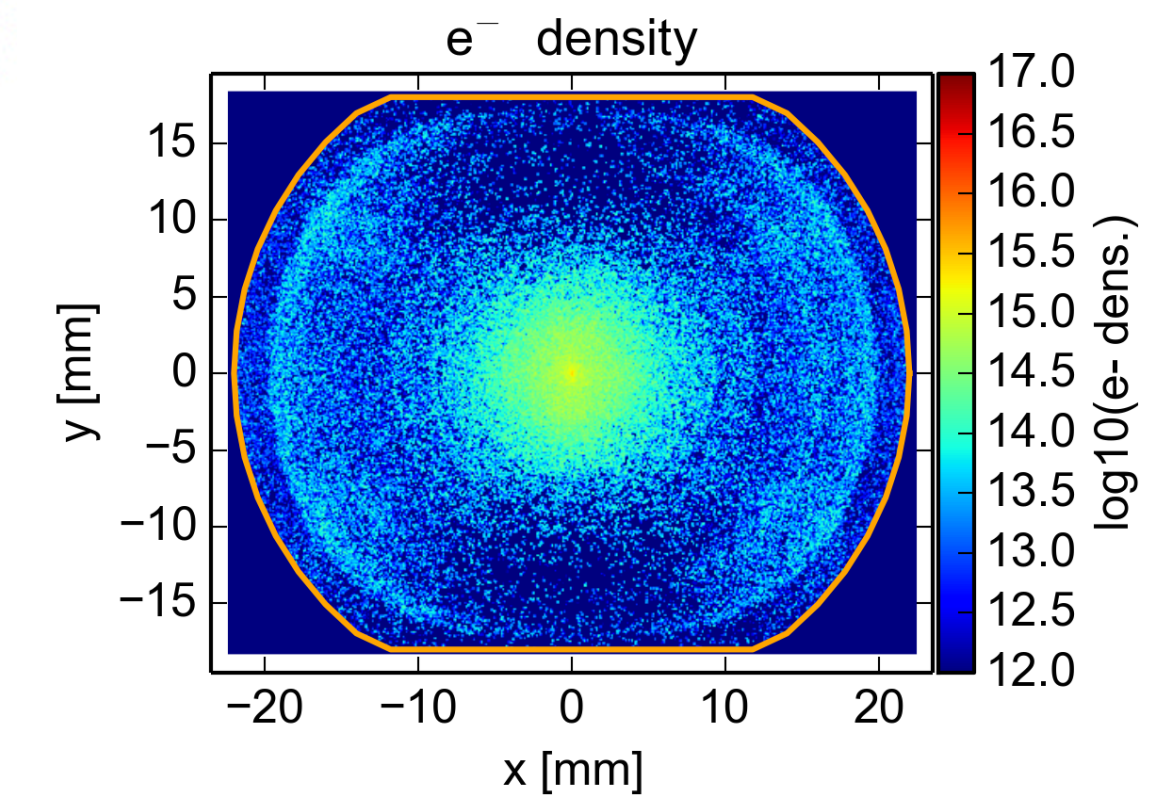
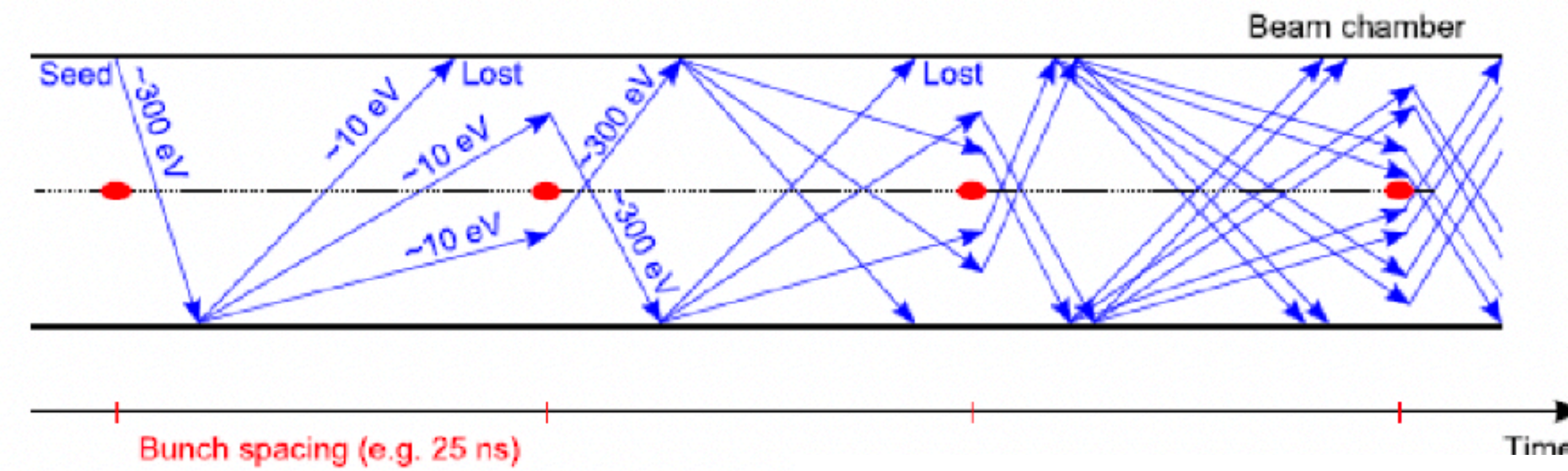
the movie is 10 times faster than reality



Coating

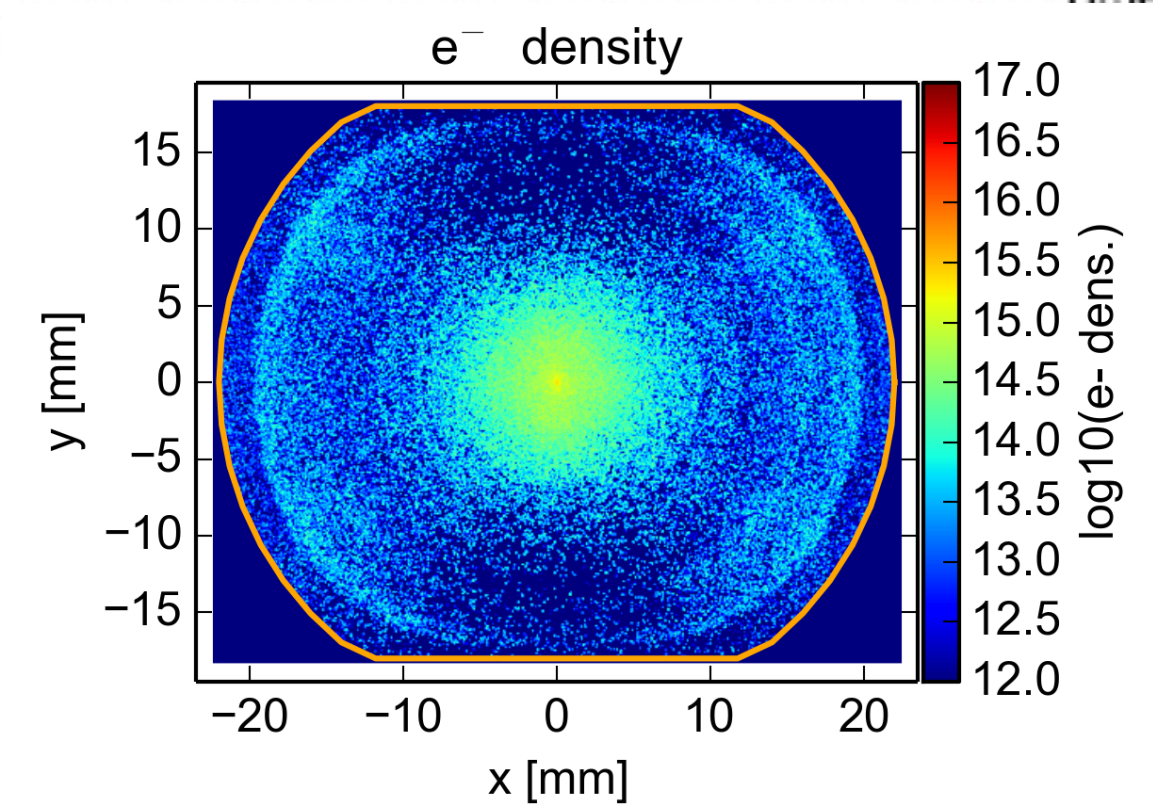
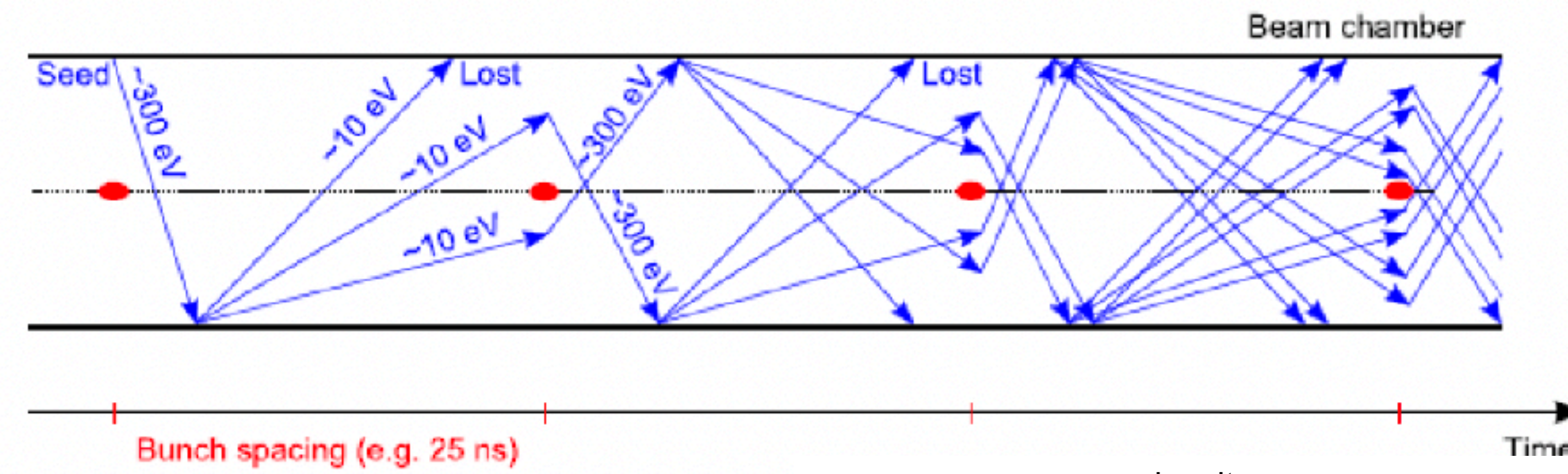
Electron Cloud effects are observed in accelerators with positive particles. Slow electrons produced by various ionization processes are trapped near the beam. They are accelerated by the bunches towards the walls of the beam chamber, producing secondary electrons, which may lead to an avalanche multiplication effect (SEY) forming dense EC's

beam transverse oscillations and instabilities



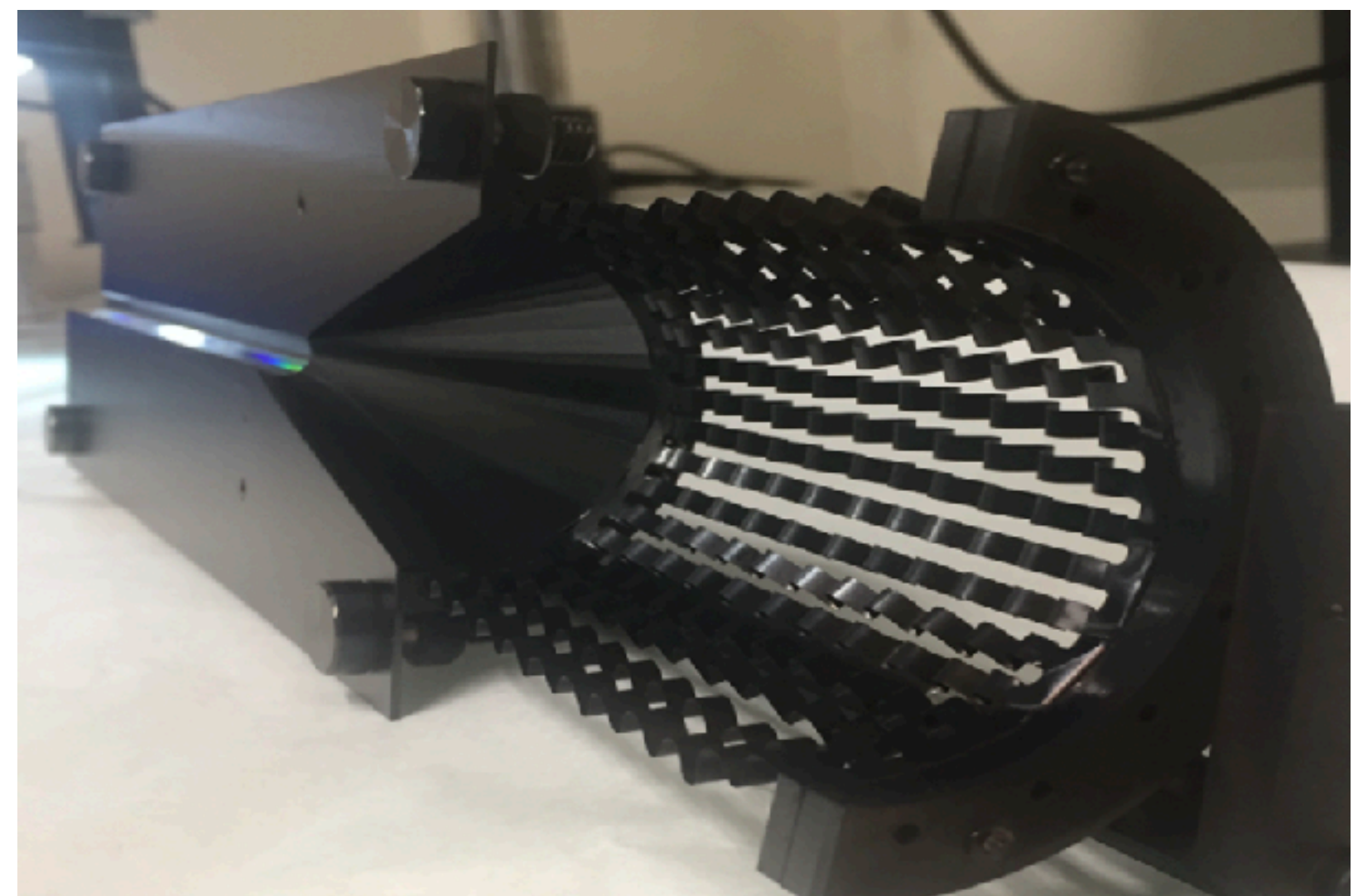
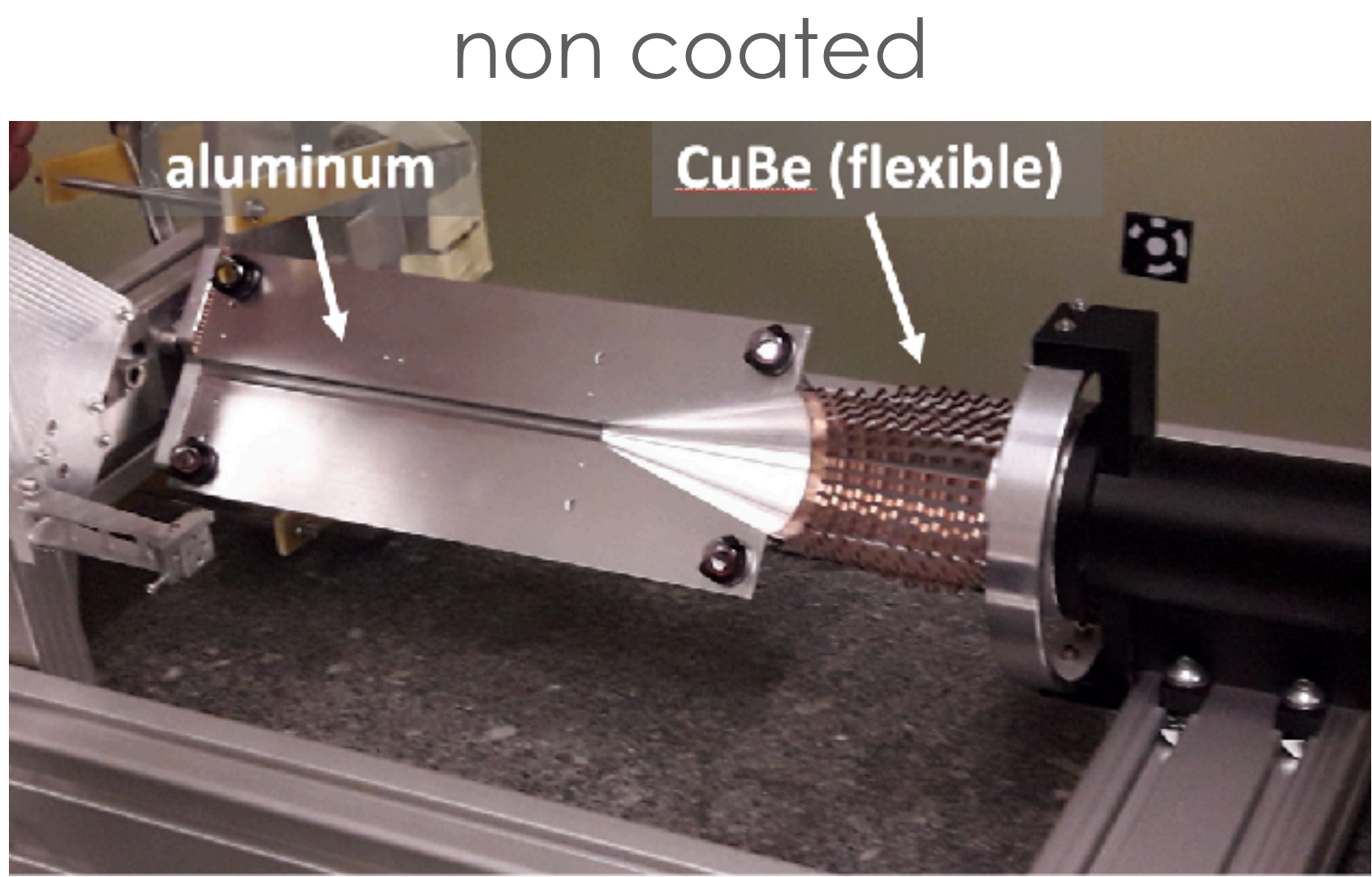
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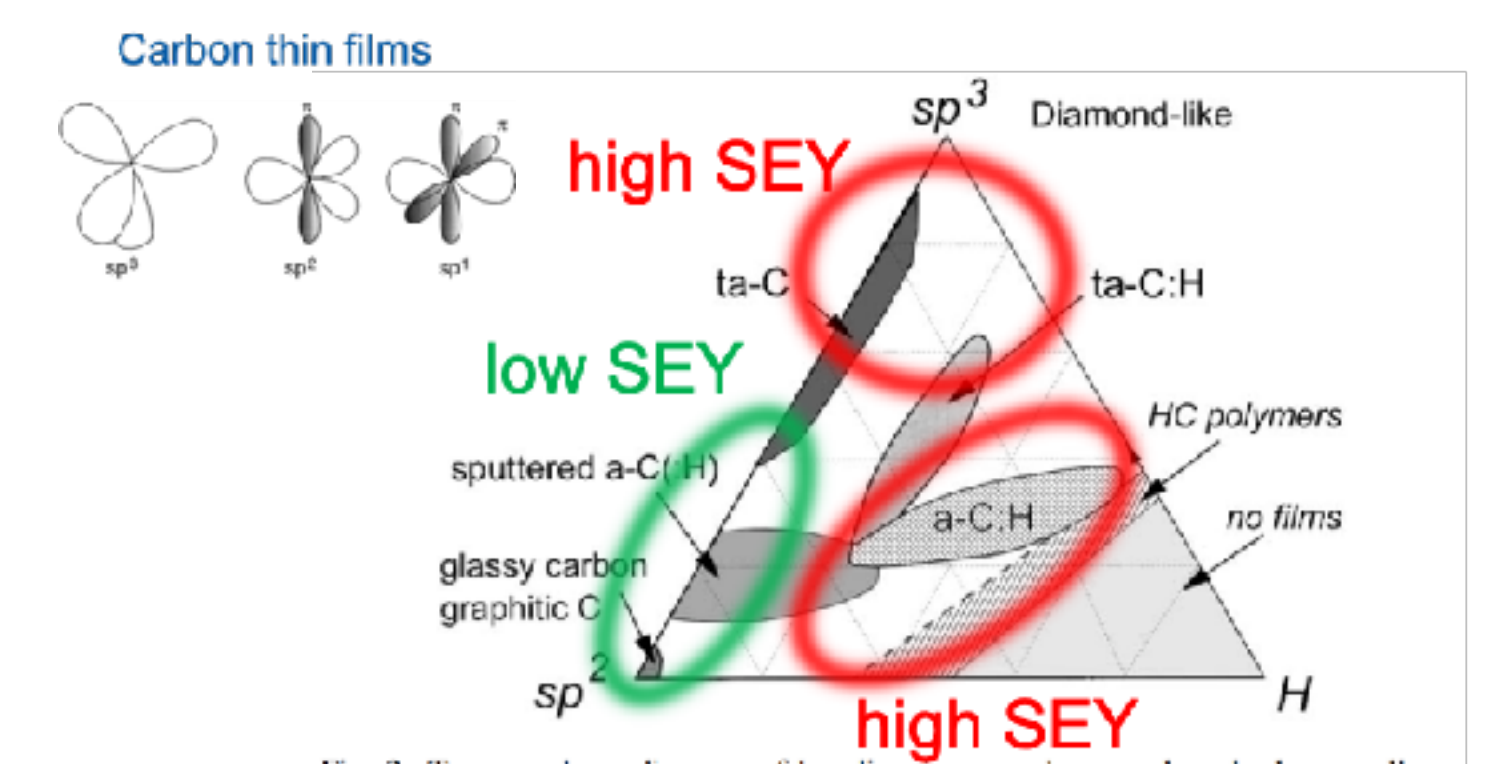


beam transverse oscillations and instabilities

amorphous Carbon coated



final coating: 100 nm Ti + 100 nm aC



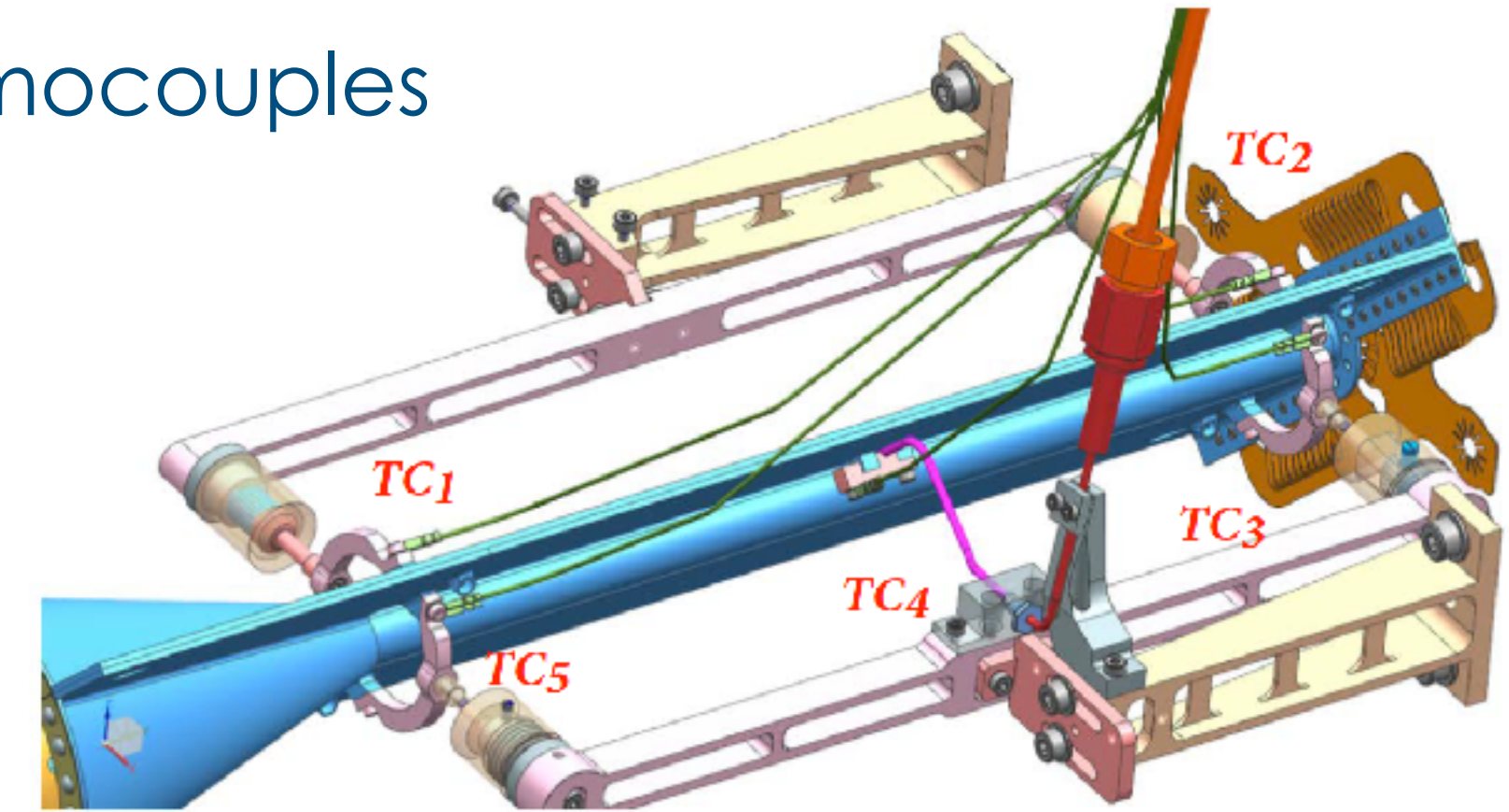
At the LHC the threshold of electron density is around 10^{18} m^{-3}
Our amorphous carbon coating is well below this limit with $SEY < 2.3$ (ratio of emitted secondary electrons to incident primary electrons)

Temperature monitoring

Excited modes of the beam can dissipate substantial heat into the storage cell.

It is mandatory to have a resistant system and to monitor the temperatures

5 thermocouples

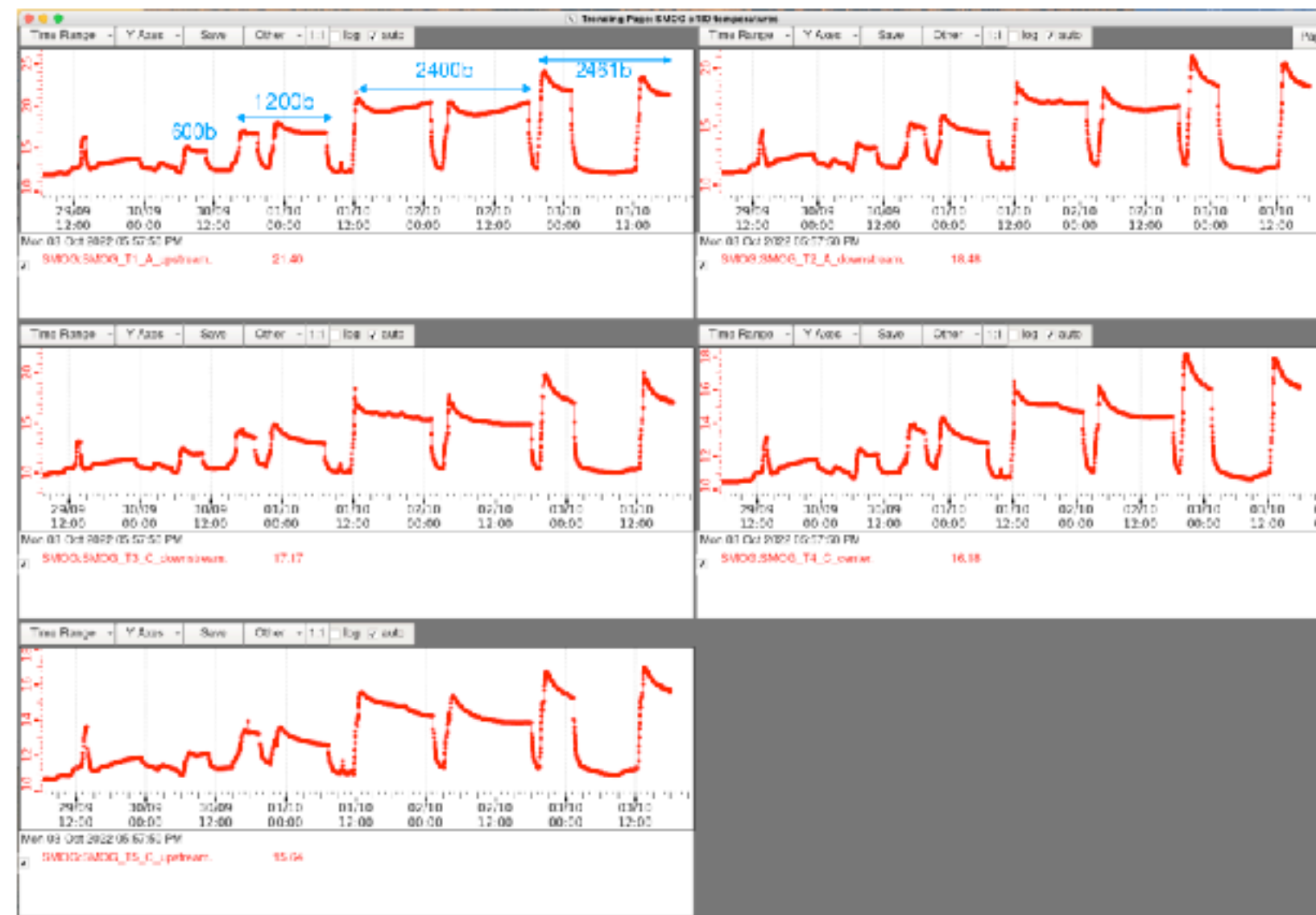
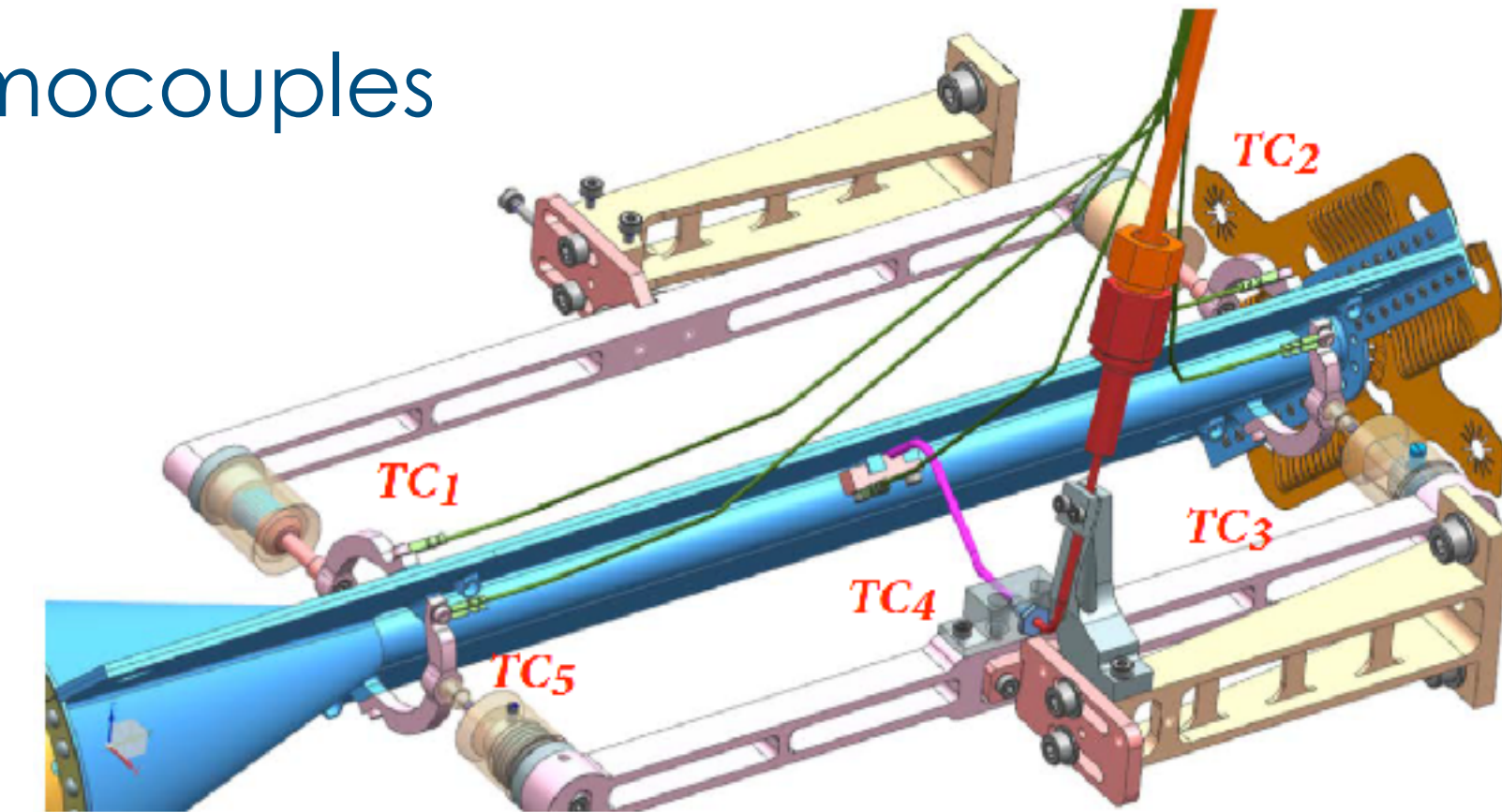


Temperature monitoring

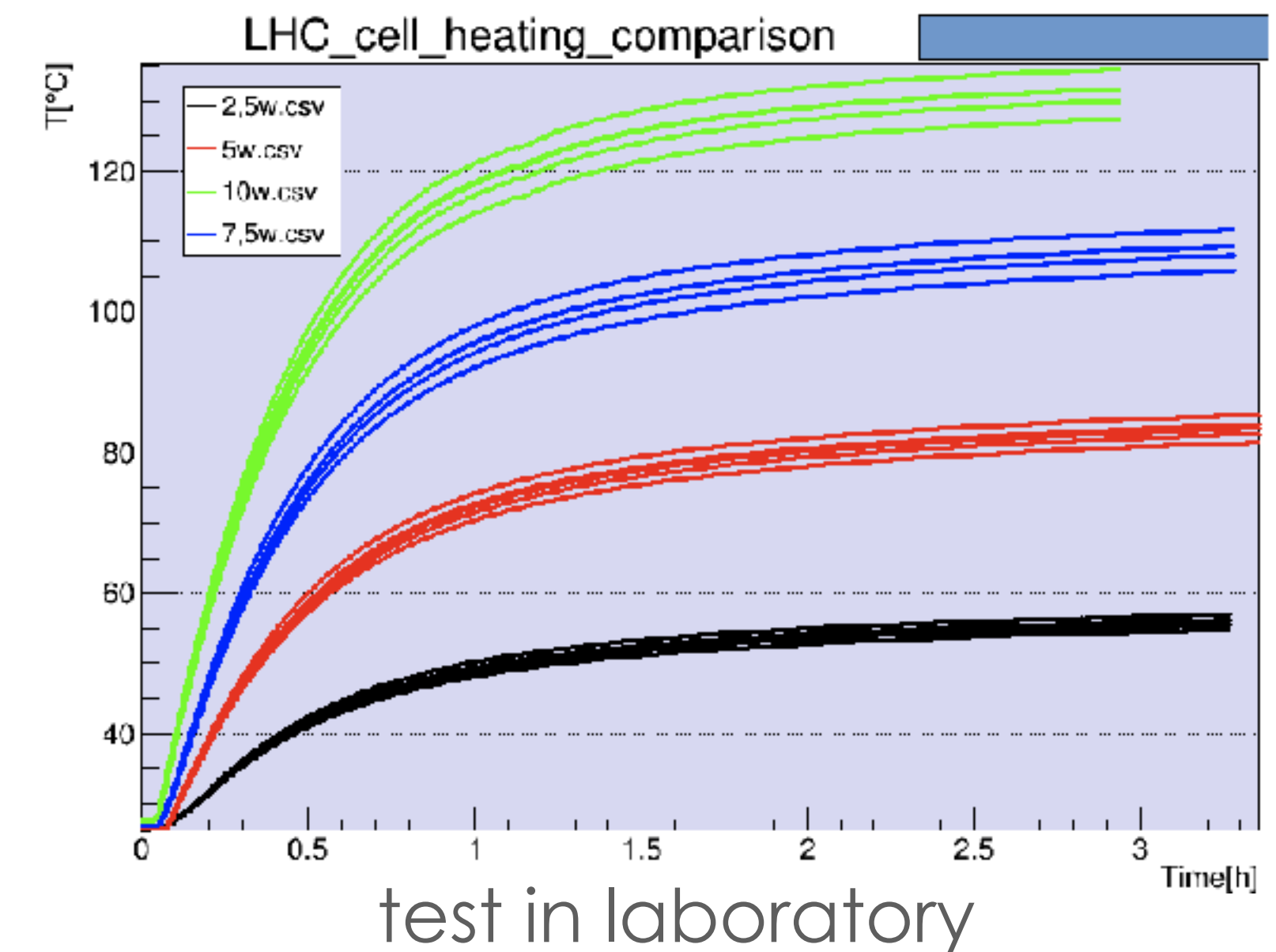
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- typical example of the temperature behaviour during fills with different number of bunches
- the temperature increases during the beam injection and tuning, and decreases during the stable beam run
- the effect is enhanced when the cell is open because it picks up RF modes of the beam



- prototype cell tested up to 130 C
- in reality, on beam, we never exceeded 42 C

Other important aspects for beam stability include Impedance calculation and the shape of the Wake Field Suppressors ... too detailed to be discussed here

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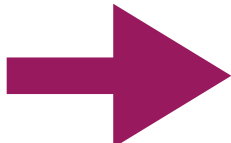
Beam lifetime reduction

When the gas is injected a beam-loss mechanism occurs due to the beam-gas collisions. The impact on the beam lifetime can be described in terms of the total beam-gas hadronic cross section and the expected luminosity:

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Beam lifetime reduction

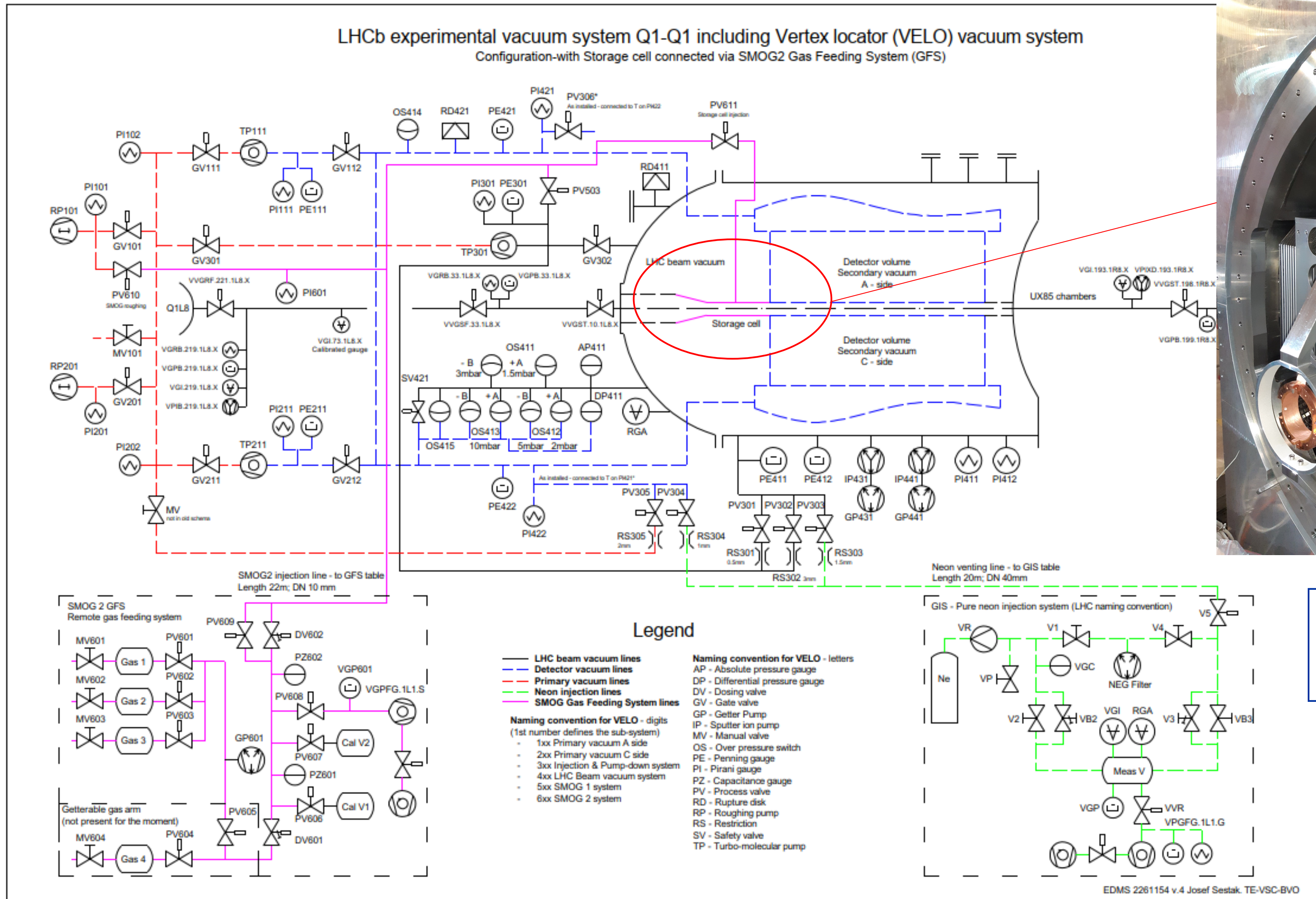
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The impact on the beam lifetime can be described in terms of the total beam-gas hadronic cross section and the expected luminosity:

$$\tau_{loss}^{-1} = \frac{dN_{beam}}{dt} \cdot \frac{1}{N_{beam}} = \frac{1}{N_{beam}} \cdot L \cdot \sigma_{loss}$$


Beam	Target Gas	σ_{loss} (barn)	τ_{loss} (days)	Relative loss in 10 h
p	H	0.05	2060	0.02 %
p	Ar	1.04	97	0.4 %
Pb	Ar	4.63	22	1.9 %

Considering that the typical LHC beam life time is of 10-15 h, the beam lifetime reduction is **completely negligible**

- 6 gas reservoirs
- Injectable gases: H₂, D₂, N₂, O₂, He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe

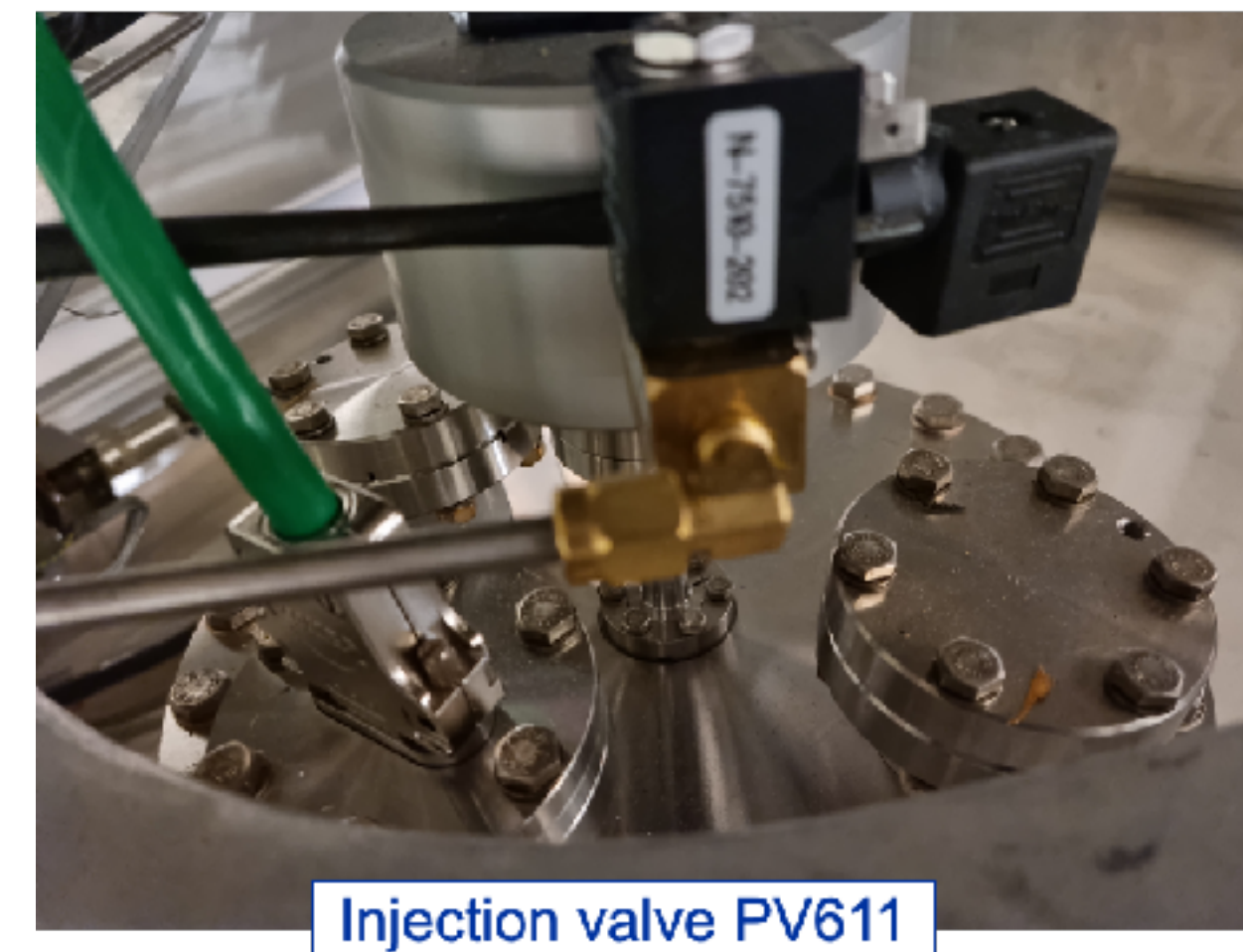
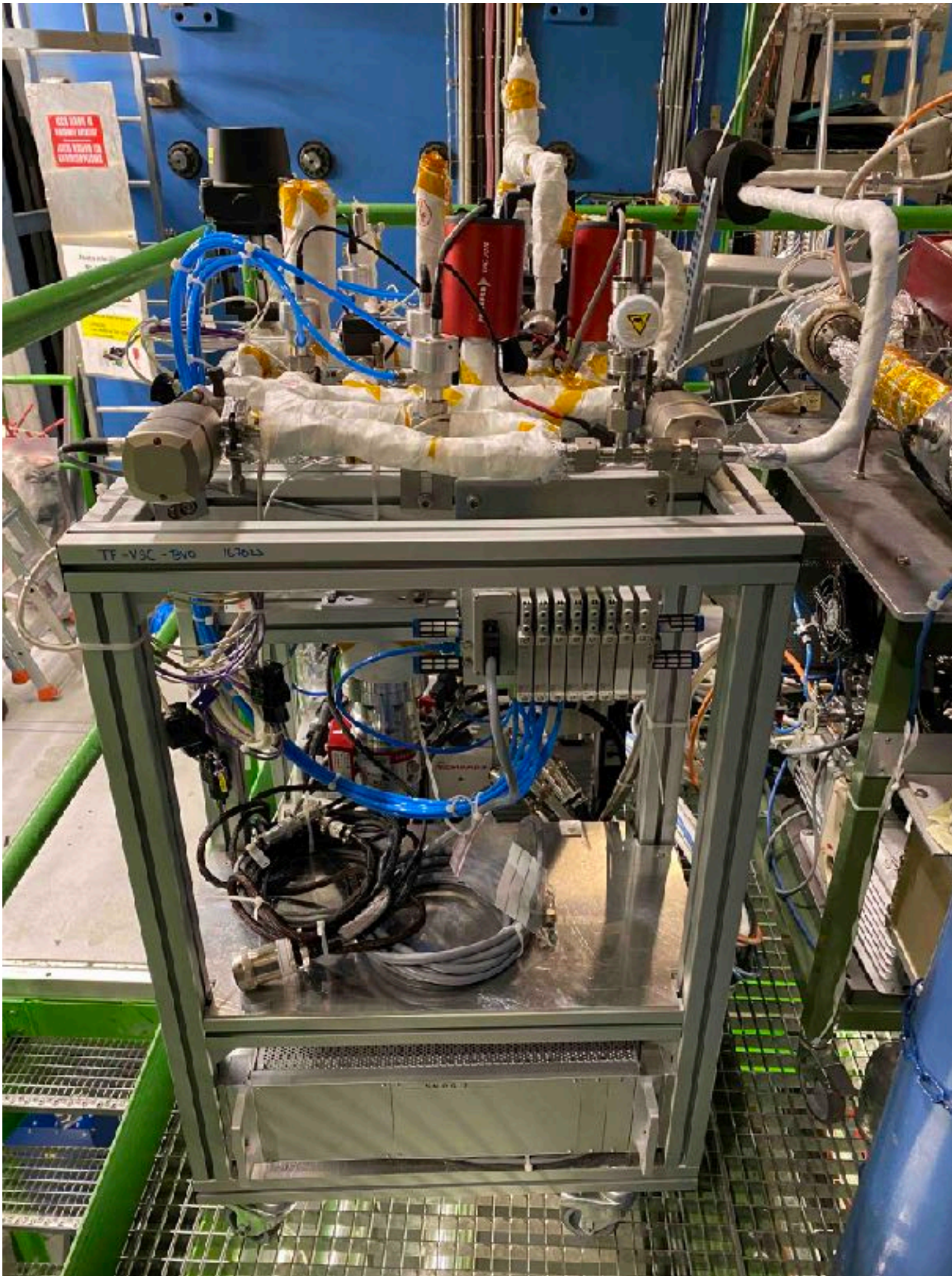


SMOG 2 Storage cell
integration in the
VELO vacuum tank

SMDQ2

Gas Feed System

- 6 gas reservoirs
- Injectable gases: H₂, D₂, N₂, O₂, He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe



- 6 gas reservoirs
- Injectable gases: H₂, D₂, N₂, O₂, He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe

Luminosity determination:

- geometry known at O(10 μ m)
- 5 temperature probes O(0.1 K)
- gas flux known O(1%)
- gas purity O(10⁻⁴)

ΔL 1.5% of accuracy

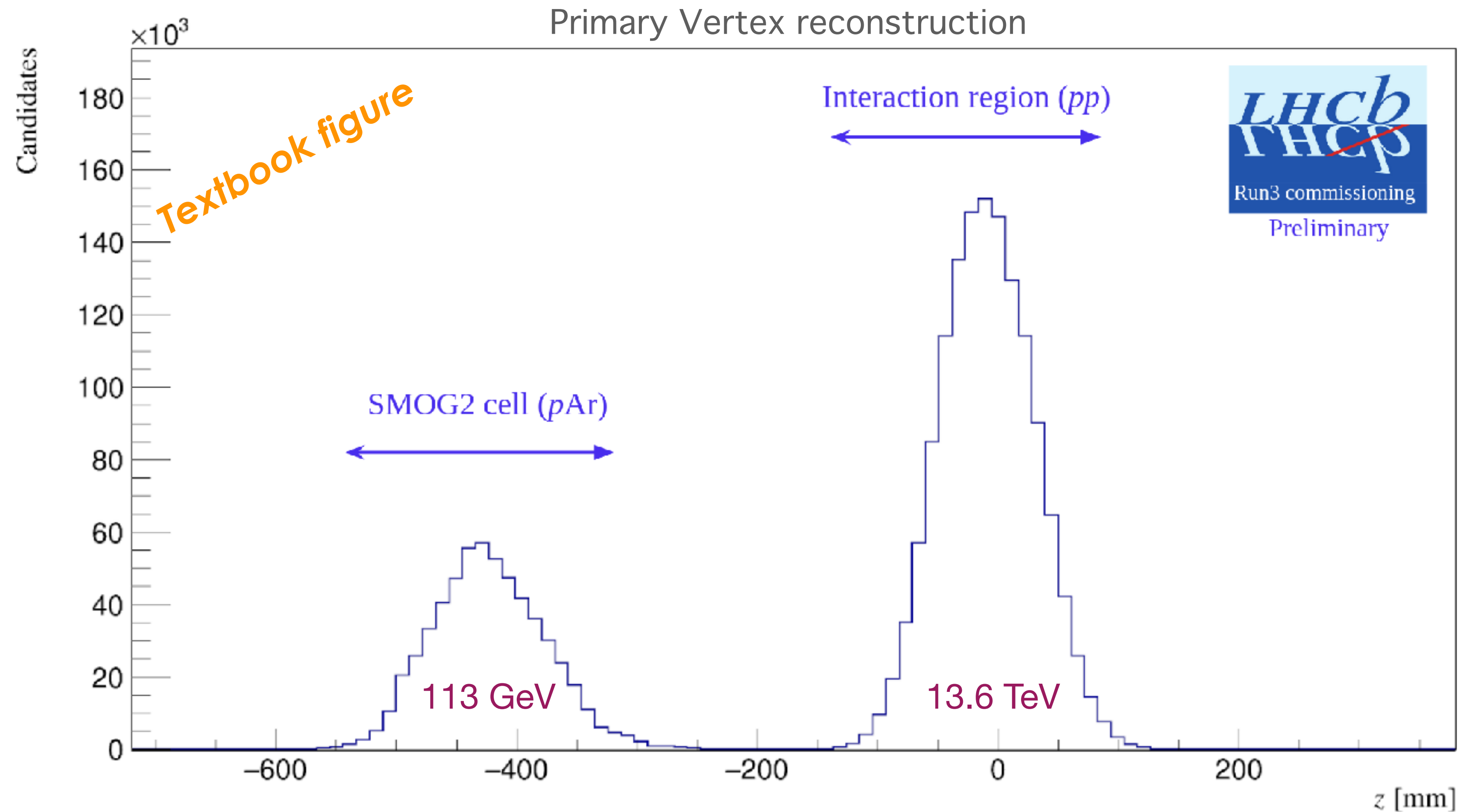


GFS table installation



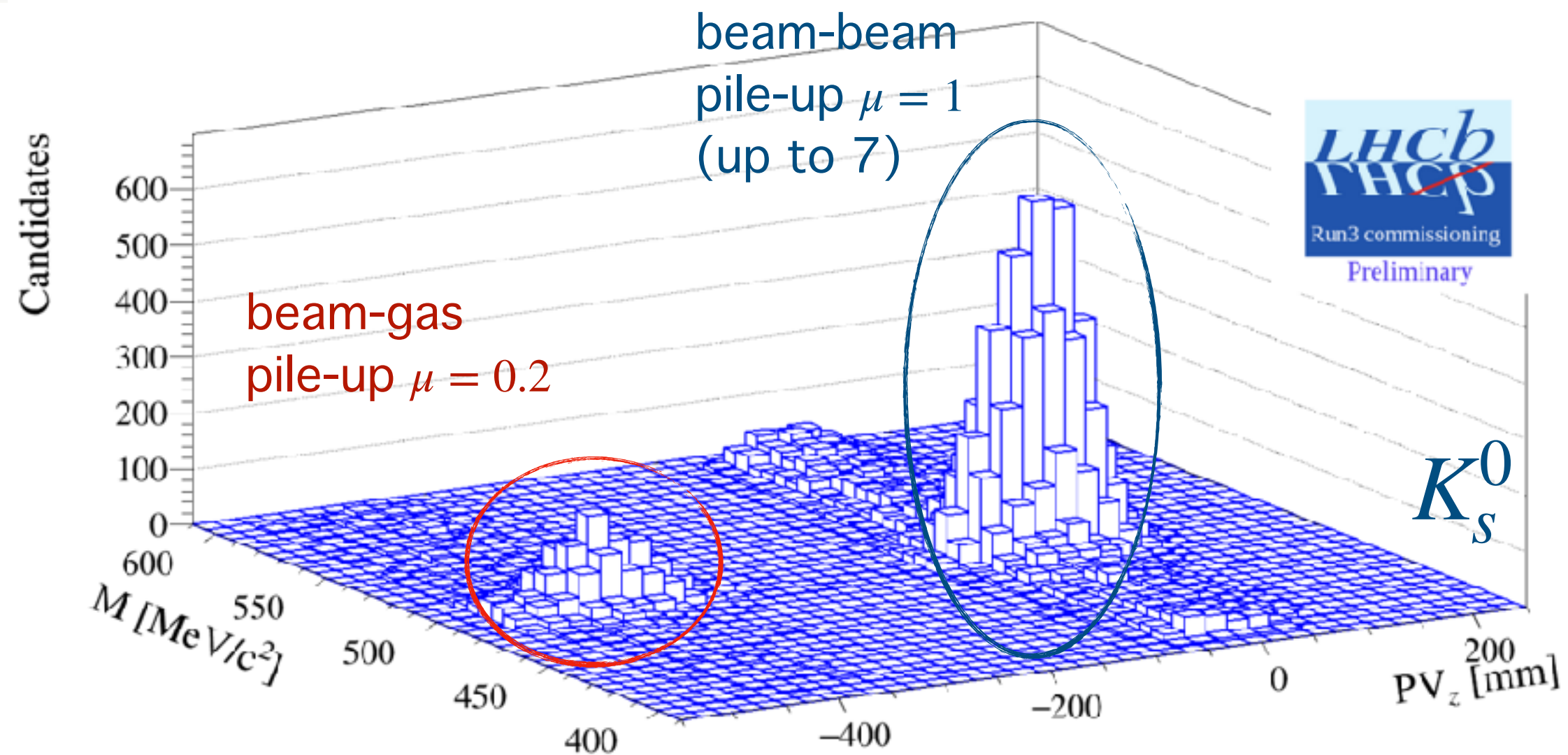
Injection valve PV611

SMOG2 ... wow-factor!

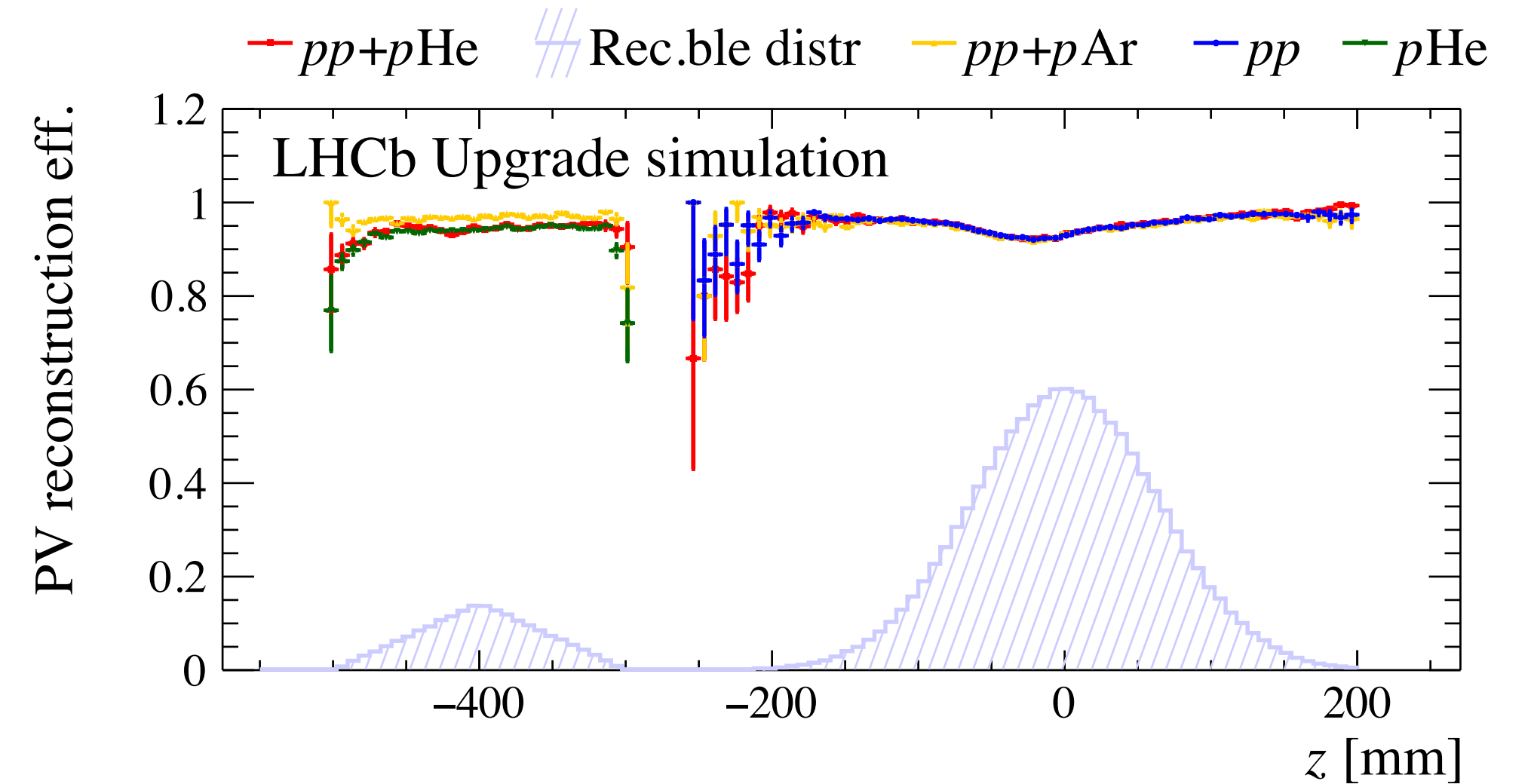
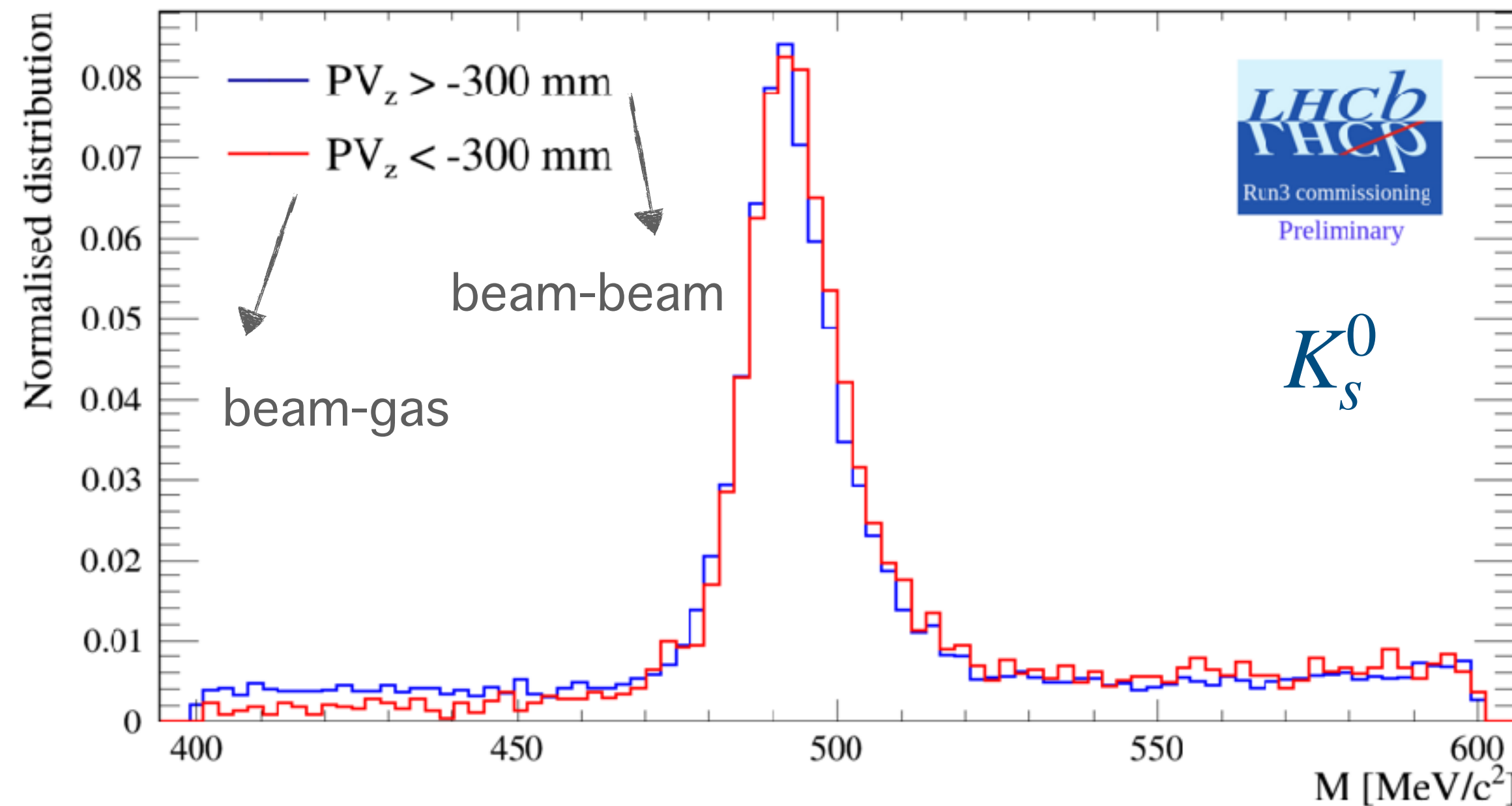


Two well separated and independent Interaction Points working simultaneously

SMDQ2 ... wow-factor!



LHCb-FIGURE-2023-001

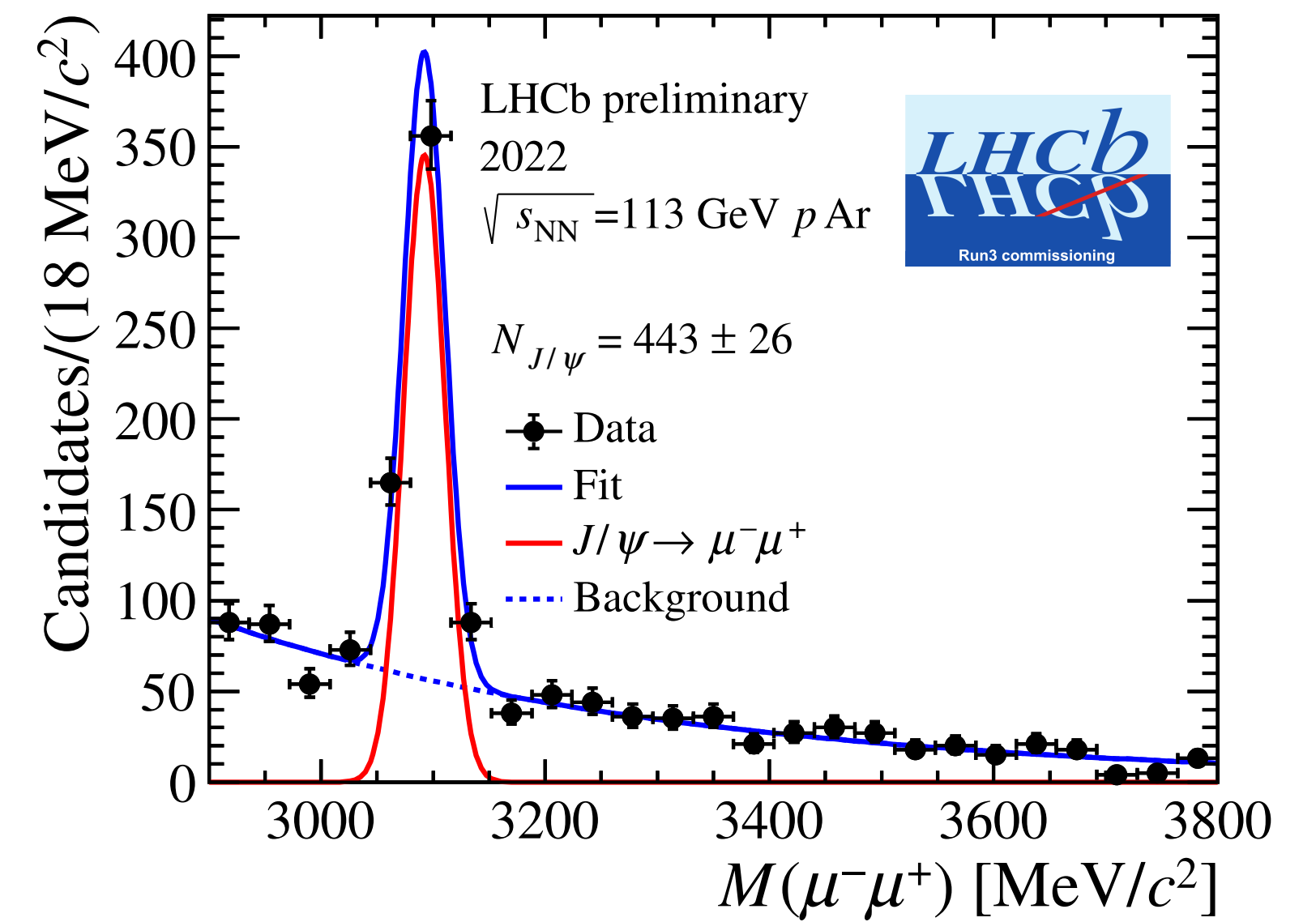
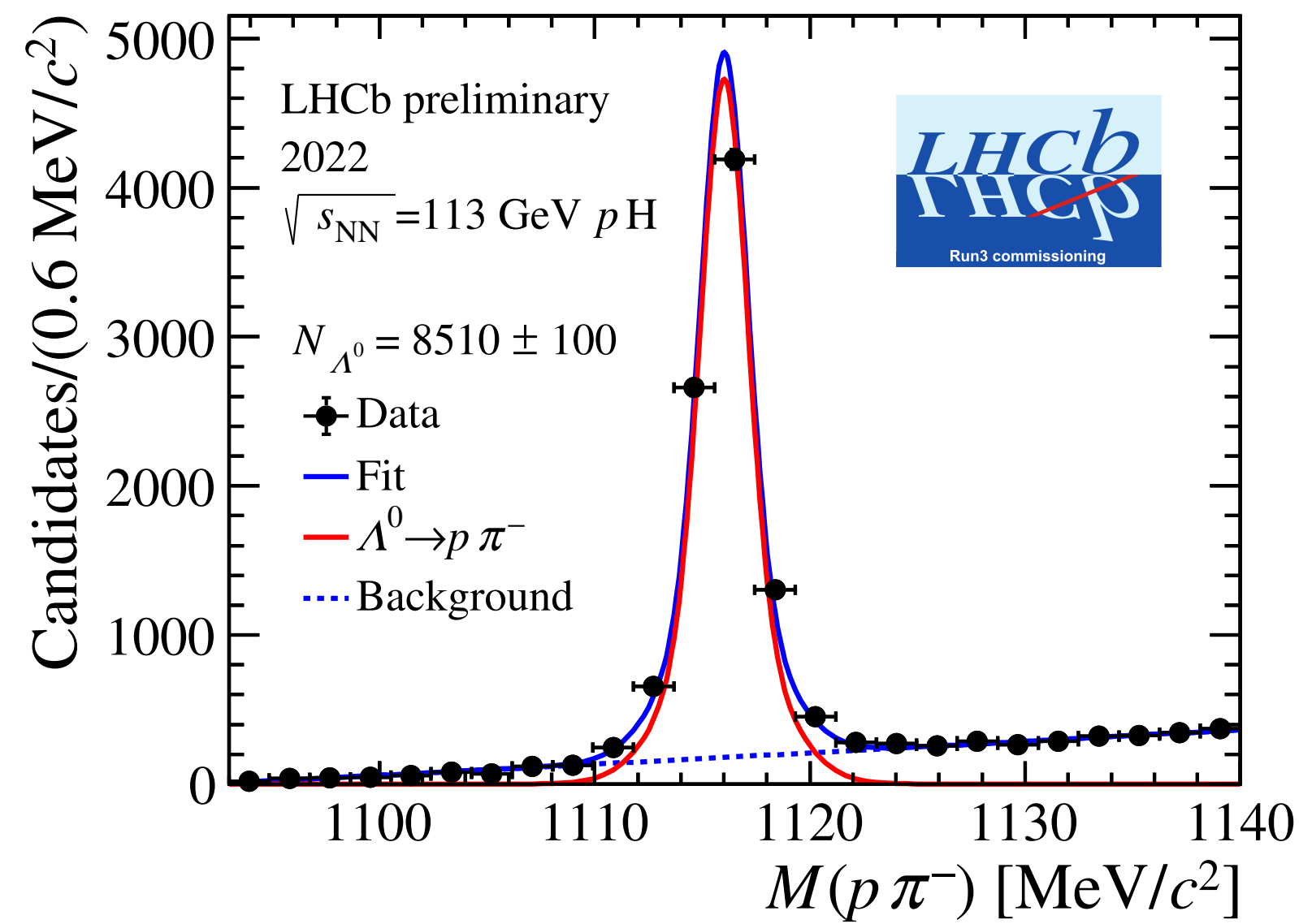
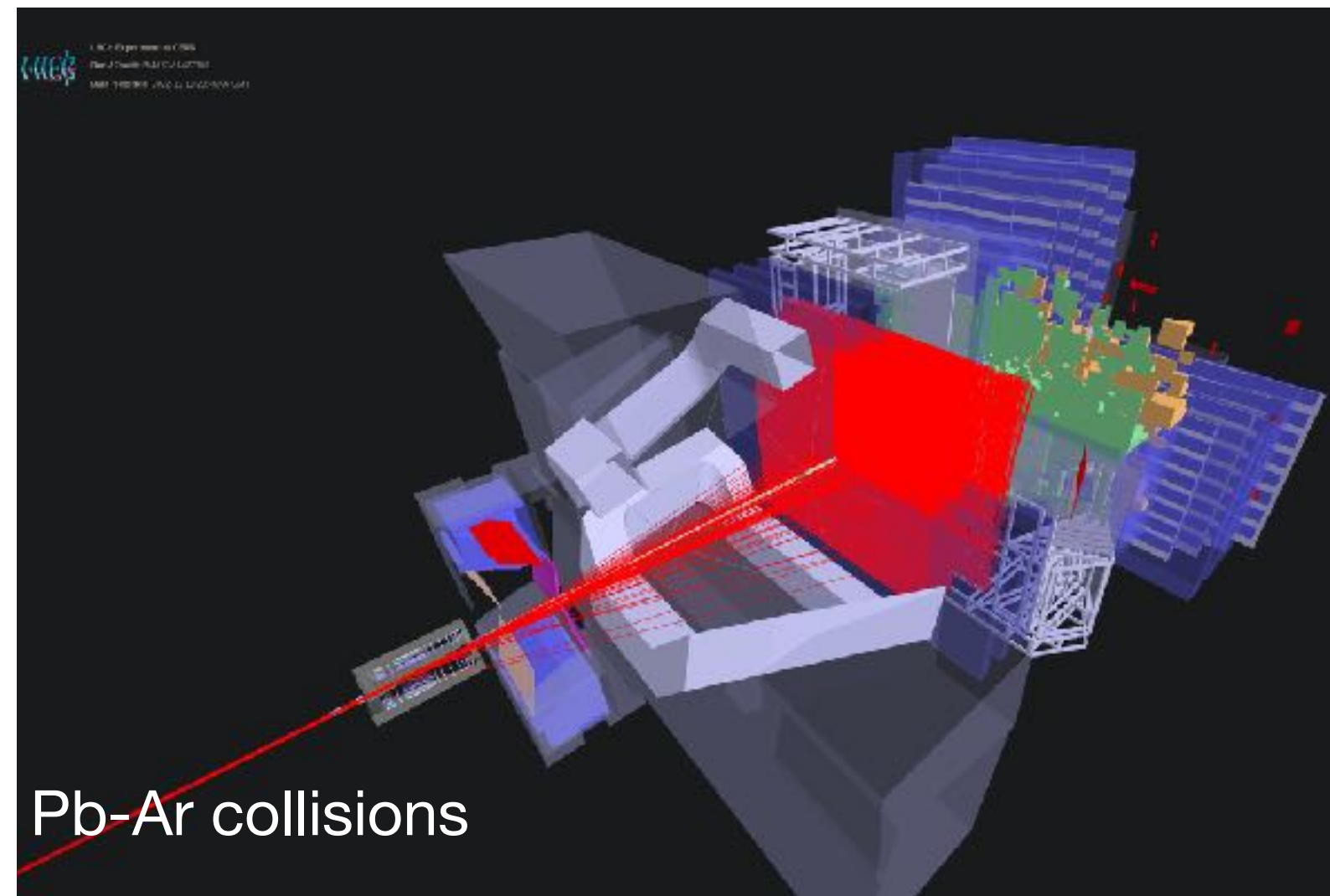
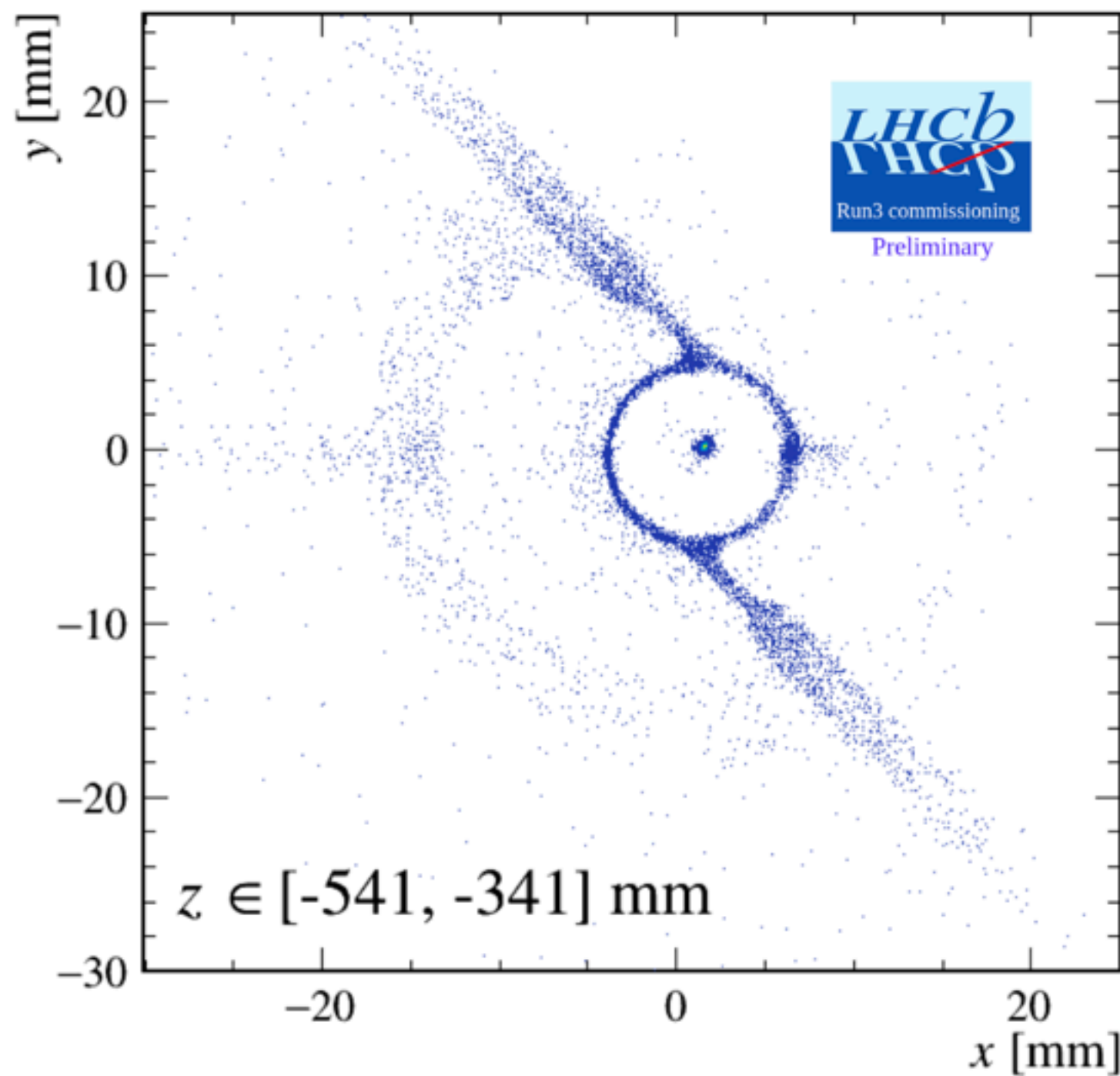


- beam-beam and beam-gas interactions are well detached
- same resolution for beam-gas and beam-beam collisions
- negligible increase of multiplicity small impact in the LHCb reconstruction sequence. Data flow increases of ~1%

LHCb is the only experiment able to run in collider and fixed-target mode simultaneously!

SMOG2 early data

tomography of the cell from residual gas & secondary interactions



excellent results in ~10 minutes of data taking, albeit low gas pressure & preliminary sub-detector performance as we were commissioning them

~~SMDC2~~ ... few of the several results

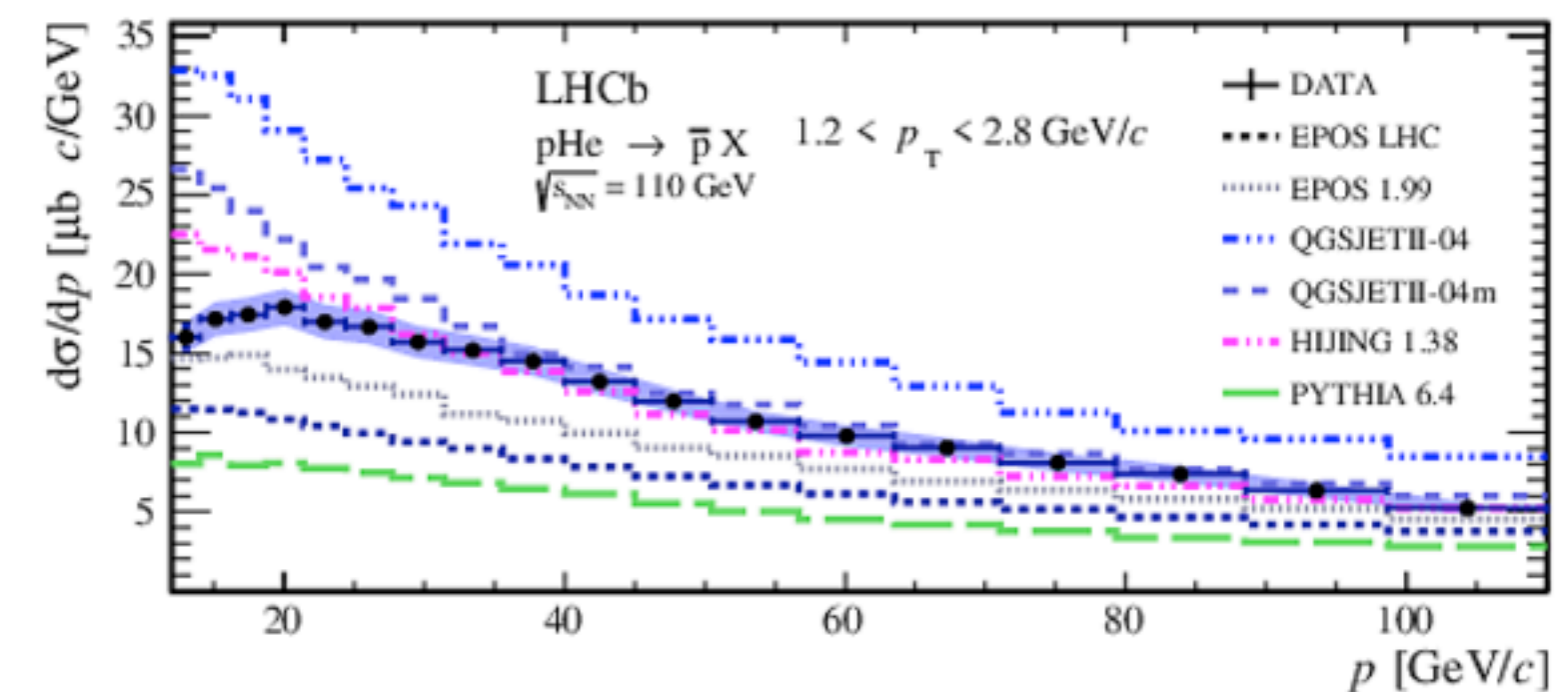
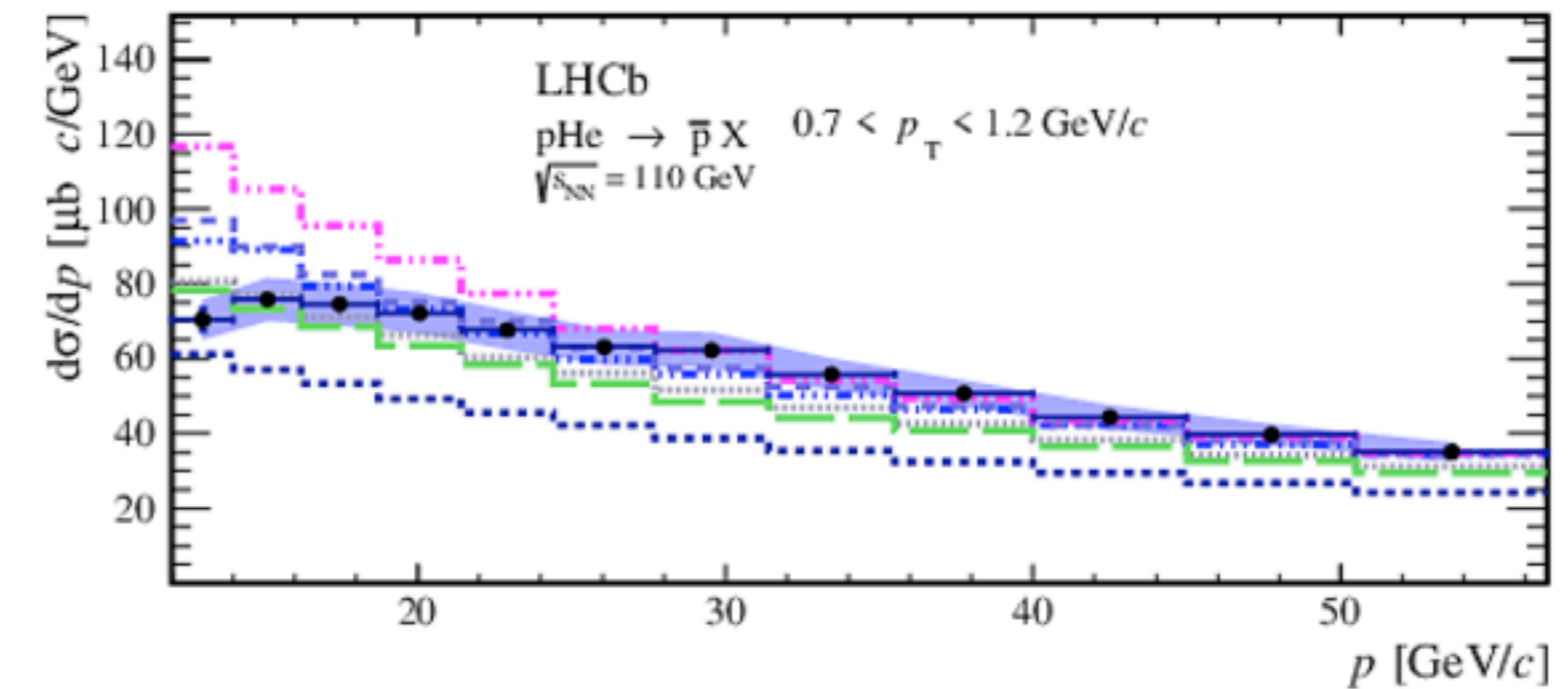
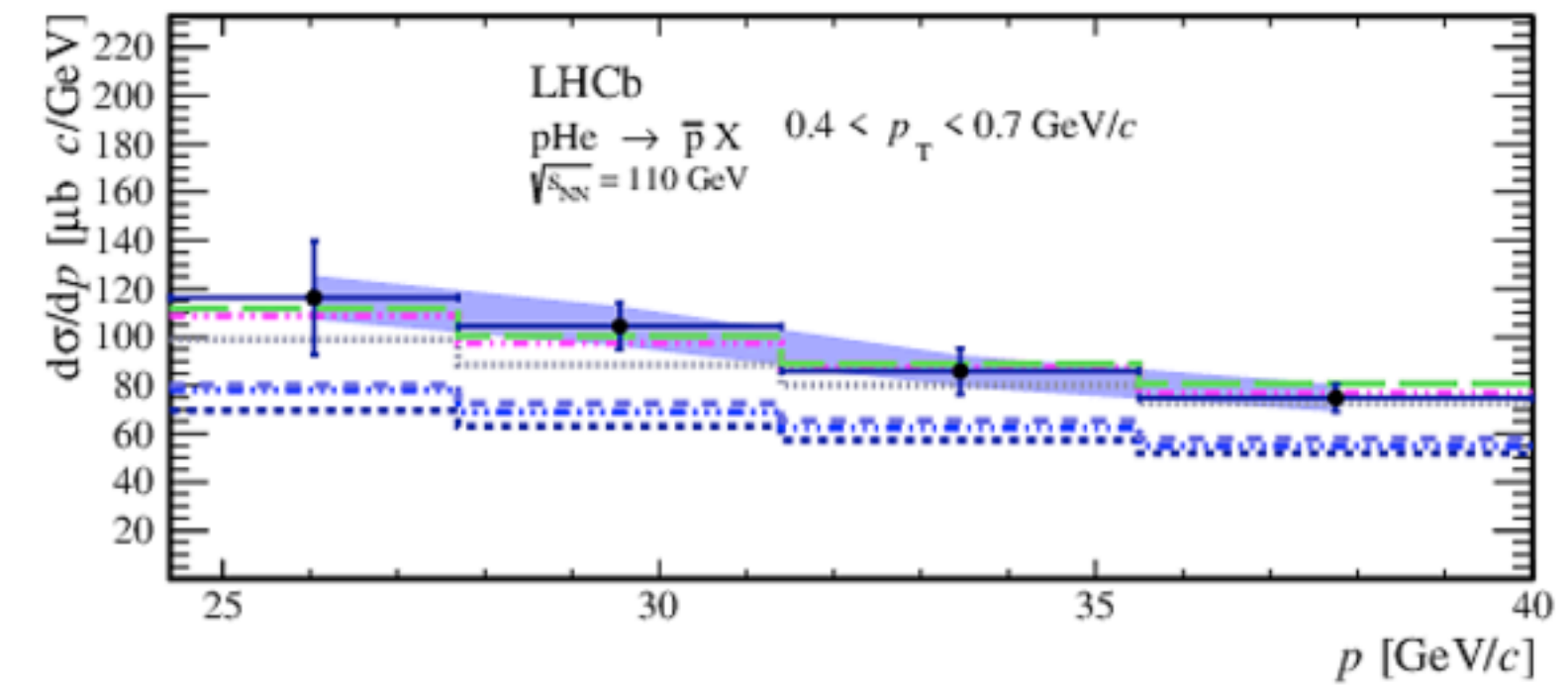
demonstrator, no storage cell

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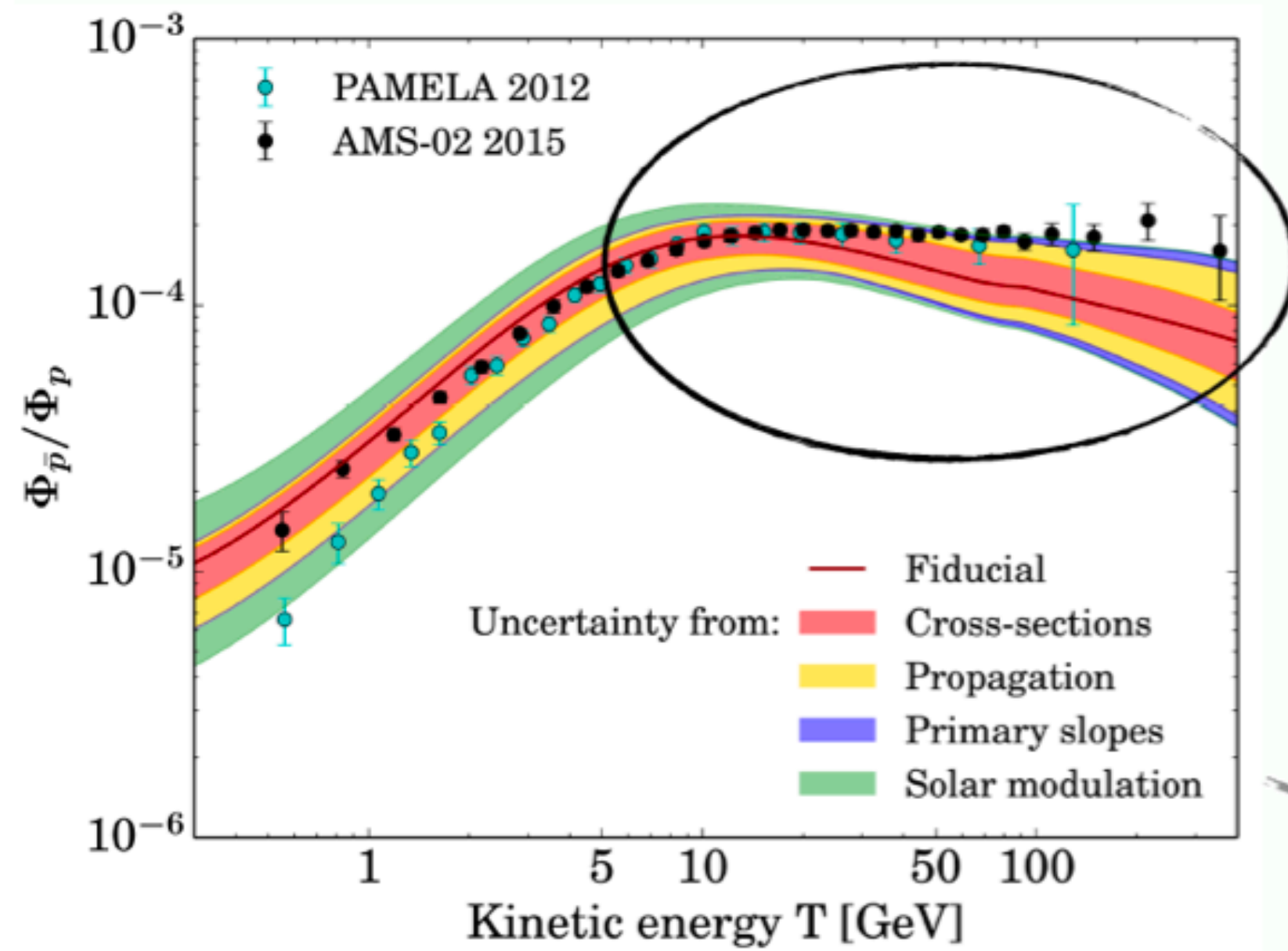
demonstrator, no storage cell

AMS2 results after having considered the LHCb results of
 $p\text{He} \rightarrow \bar{p}X$

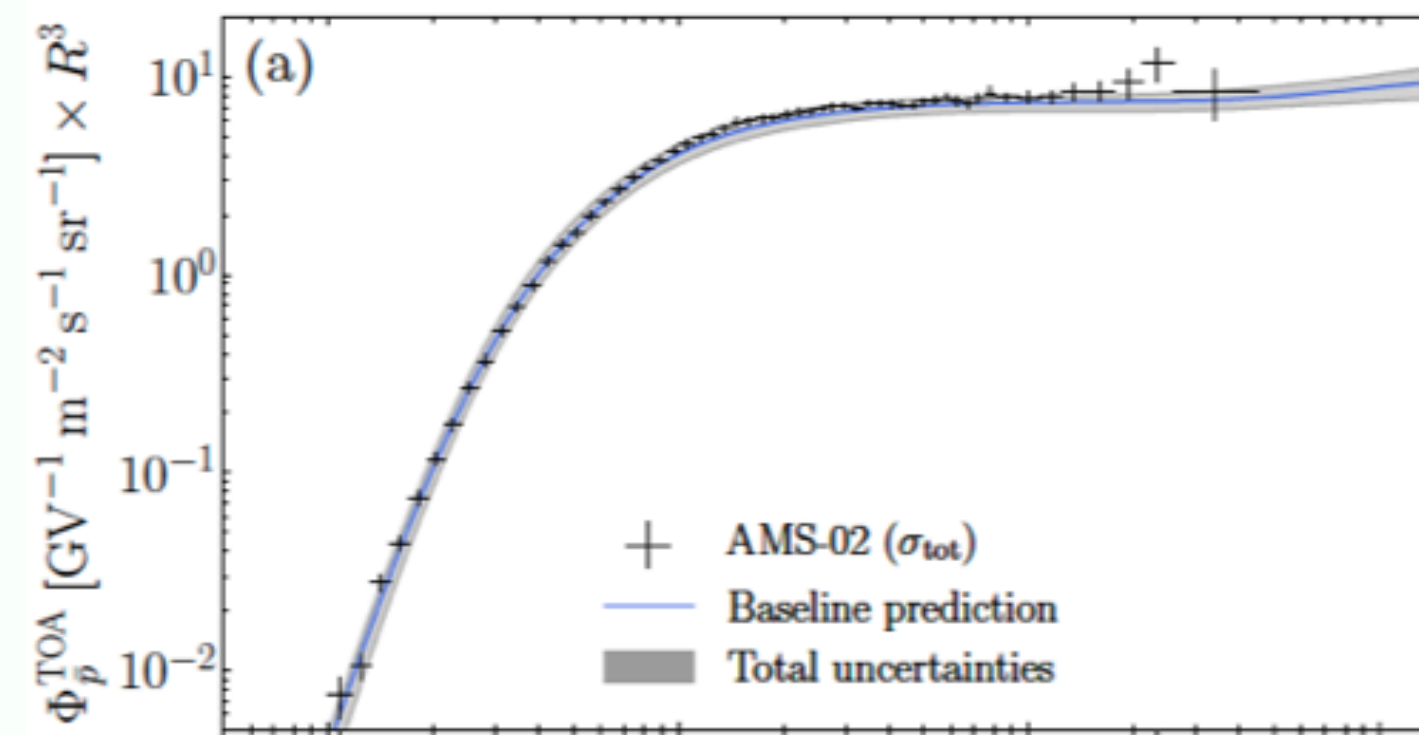
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 \(2018\) 222001](#)



[\[JCAP09 \(2015\) 023\]](#)



[Phys. Rev. Research 2, 023022 \(2020\)](#)



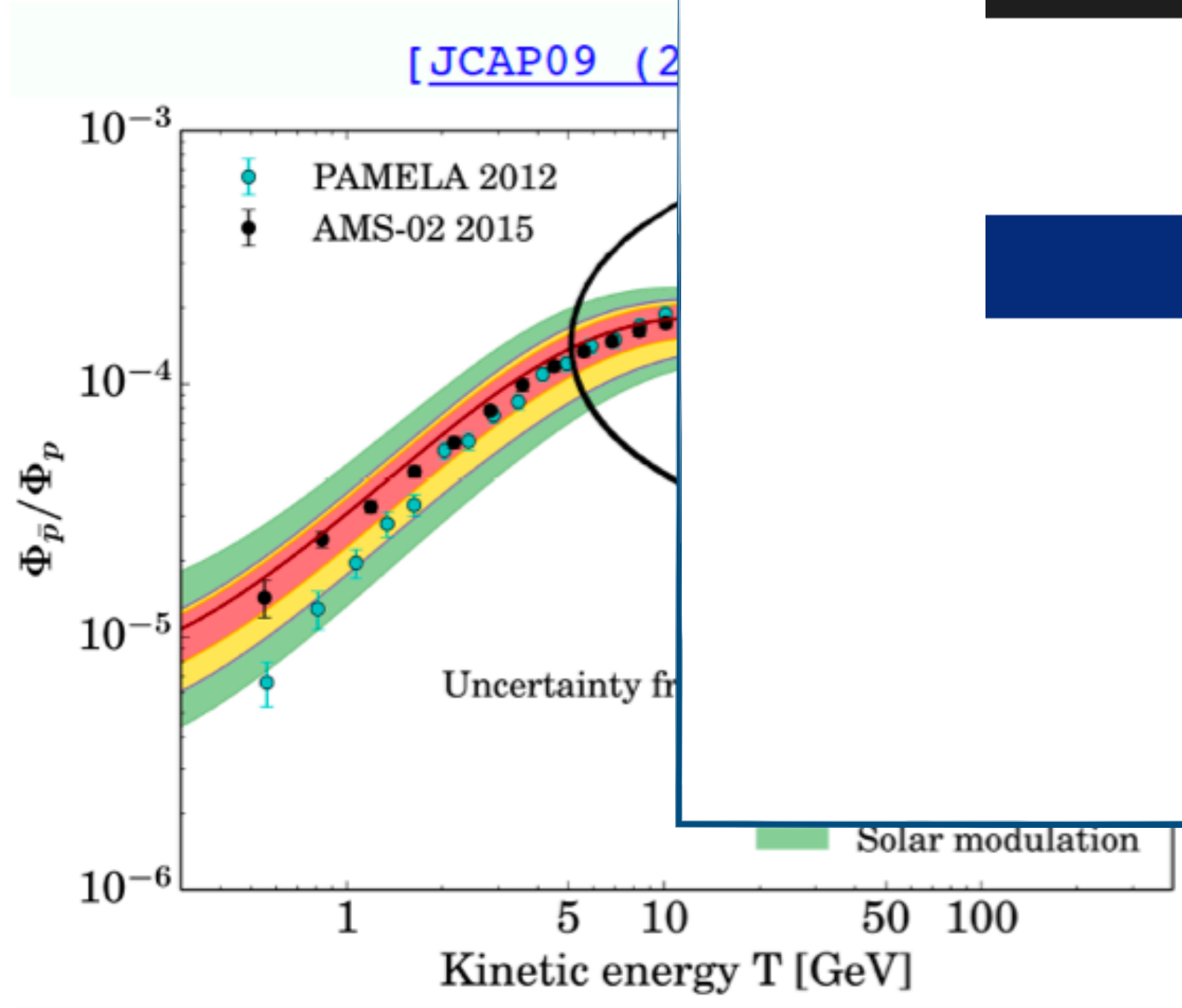
main uncertainties due to
unknown cross sections

~~SMDQ2~~ ... few of the several results

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[Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 \(2018\) 222001](#)

AMS2 results after having considered the LHCb results of



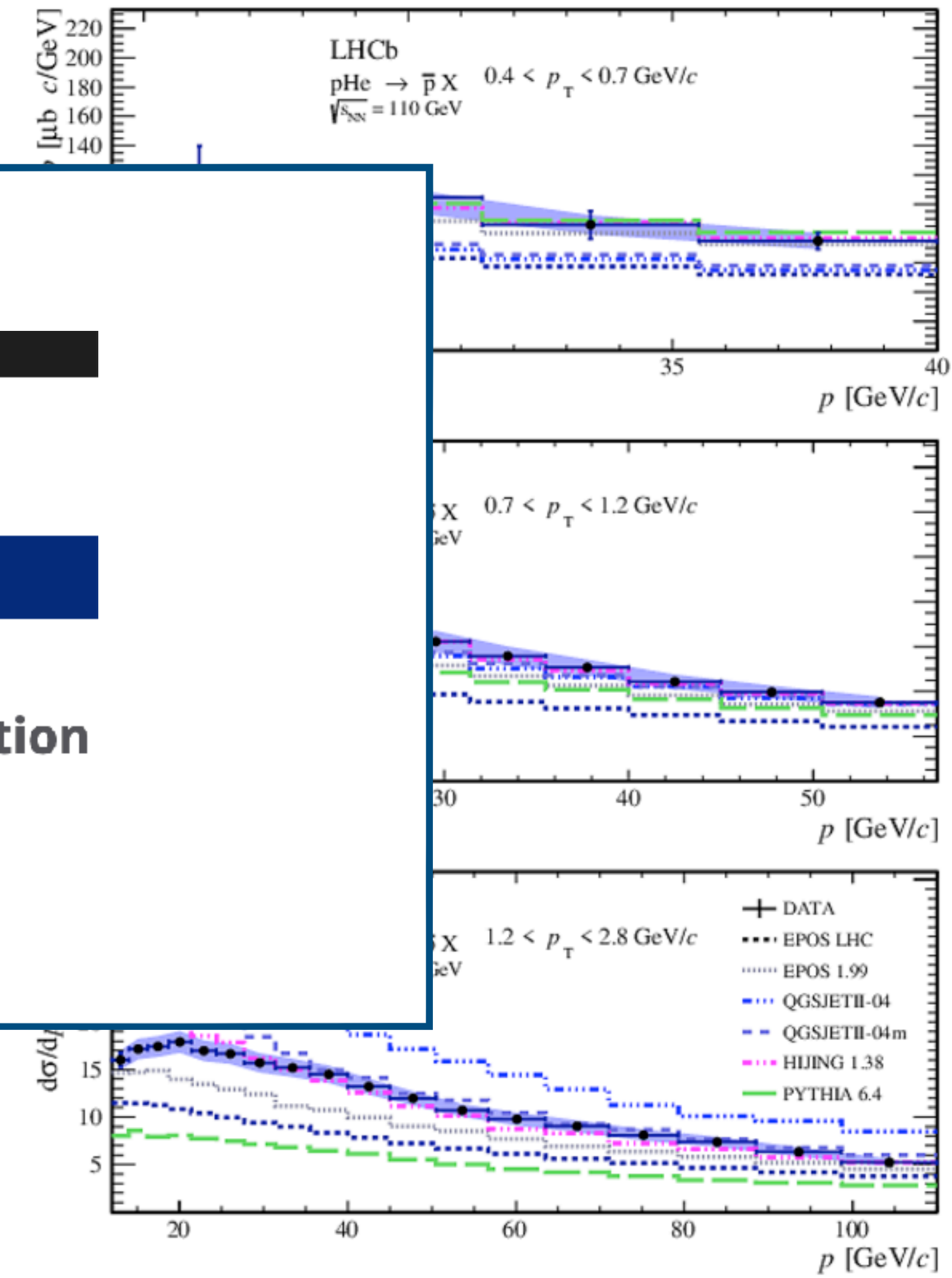
CERN Accelerating science

EP Newsletter of the EP department

NEWSLETTER NEWS ARCHIVE SEMINARS & COLLOQUIA NEW ARRIVALS

Scrutinising cosmic antimatter production with an innovative use of LHCb

main uncertainties due to unknown cross sections

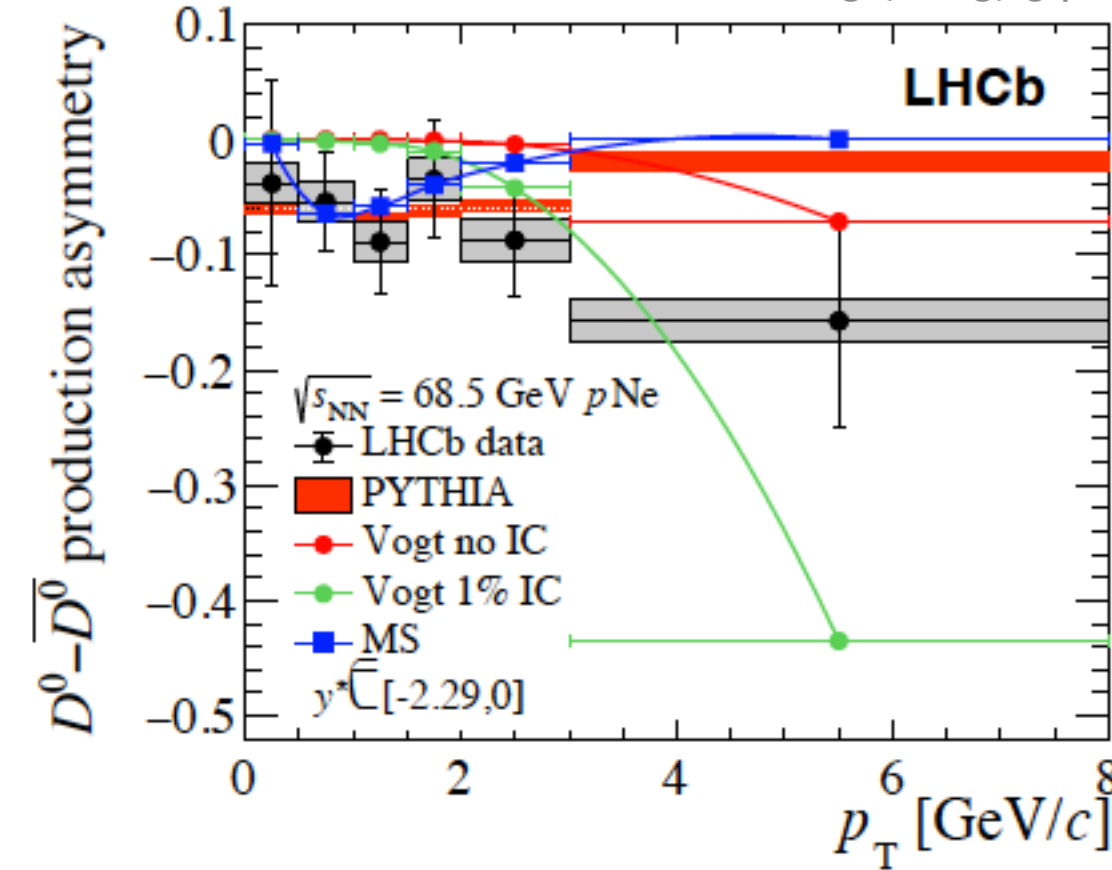
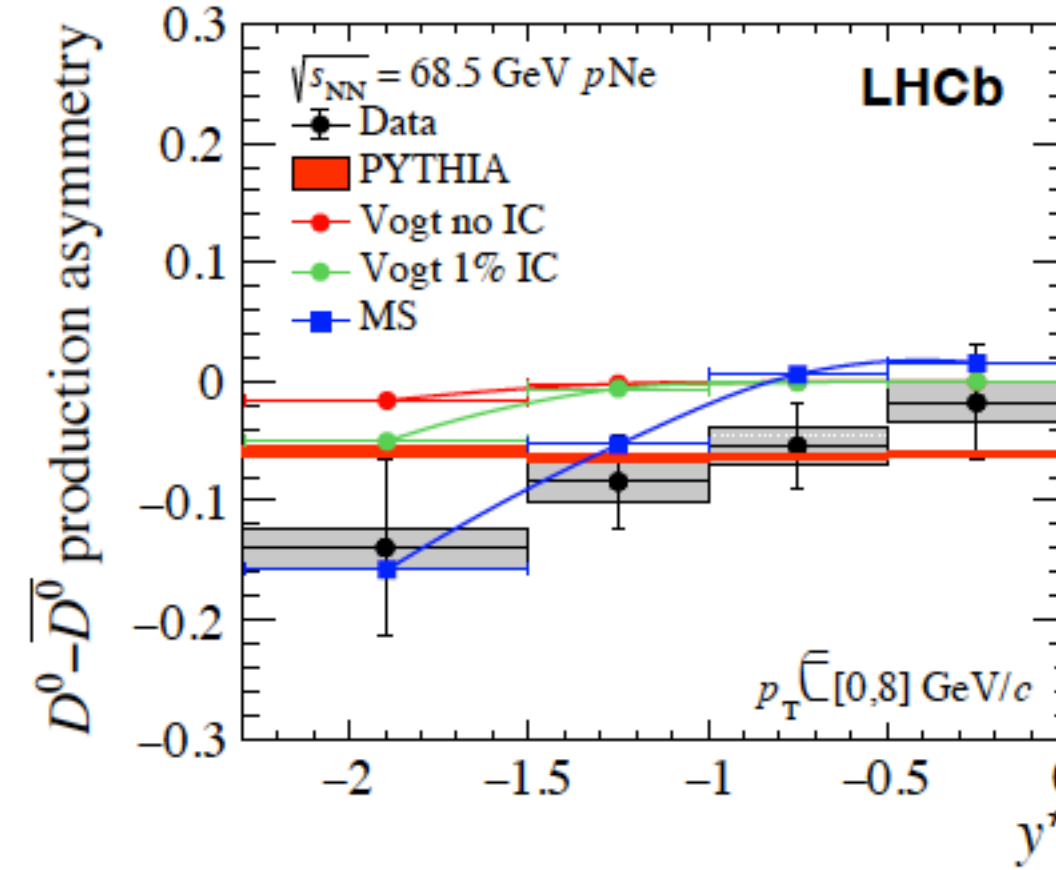
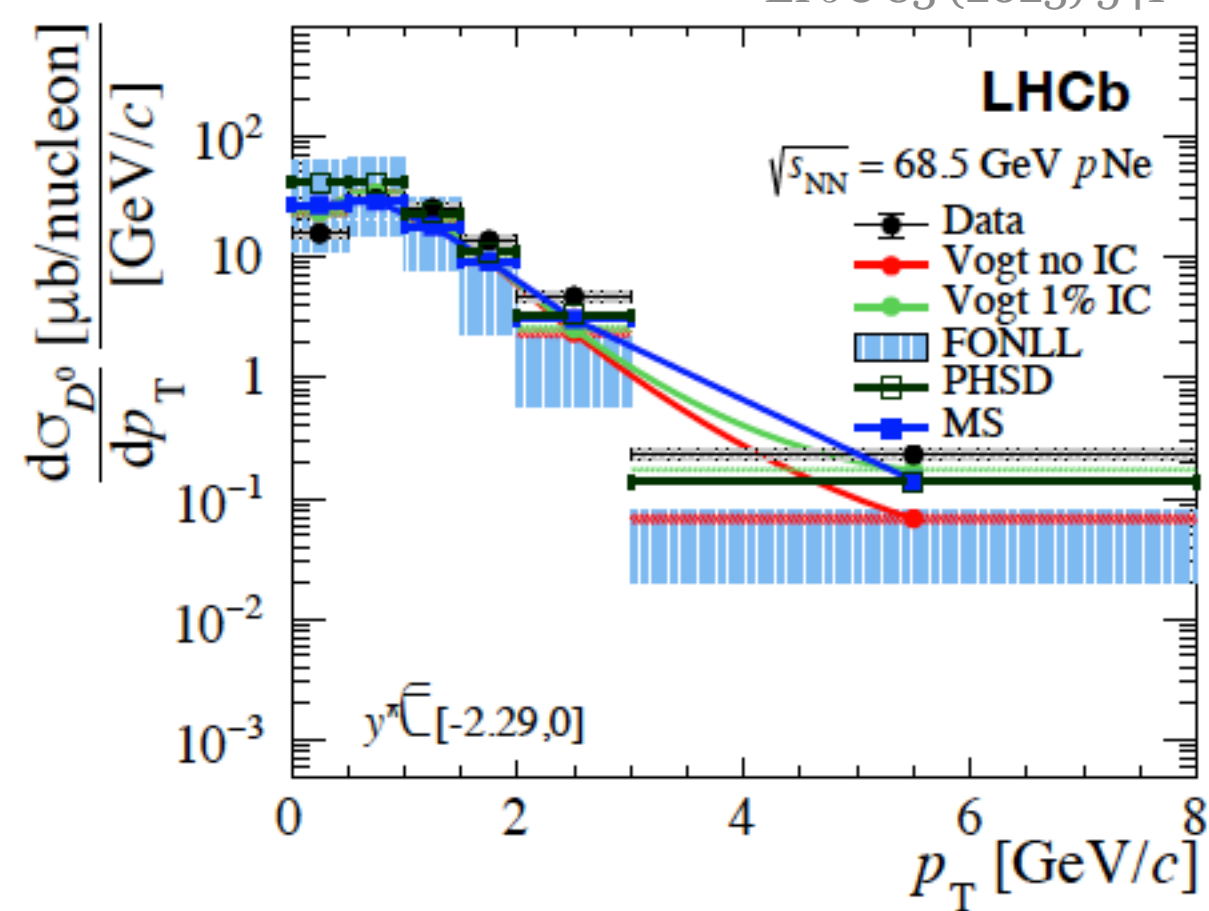
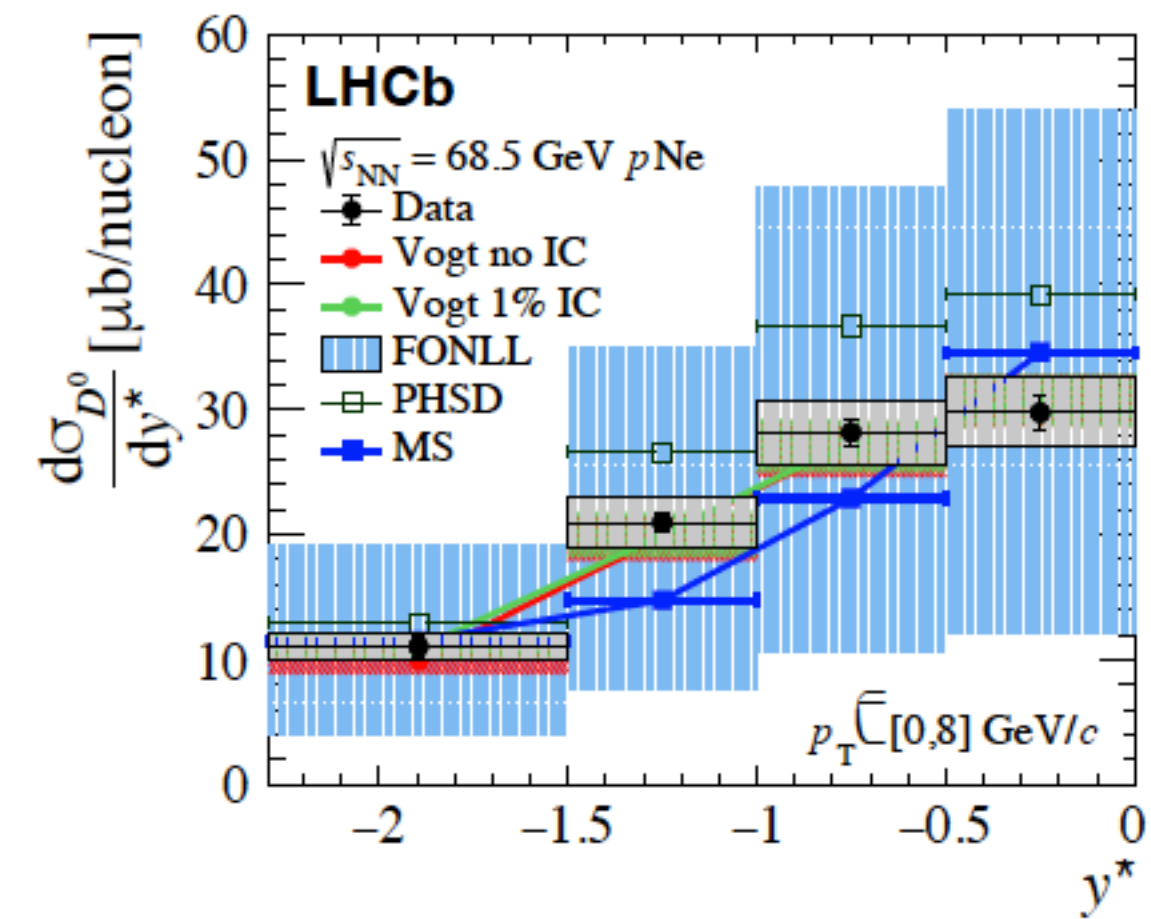


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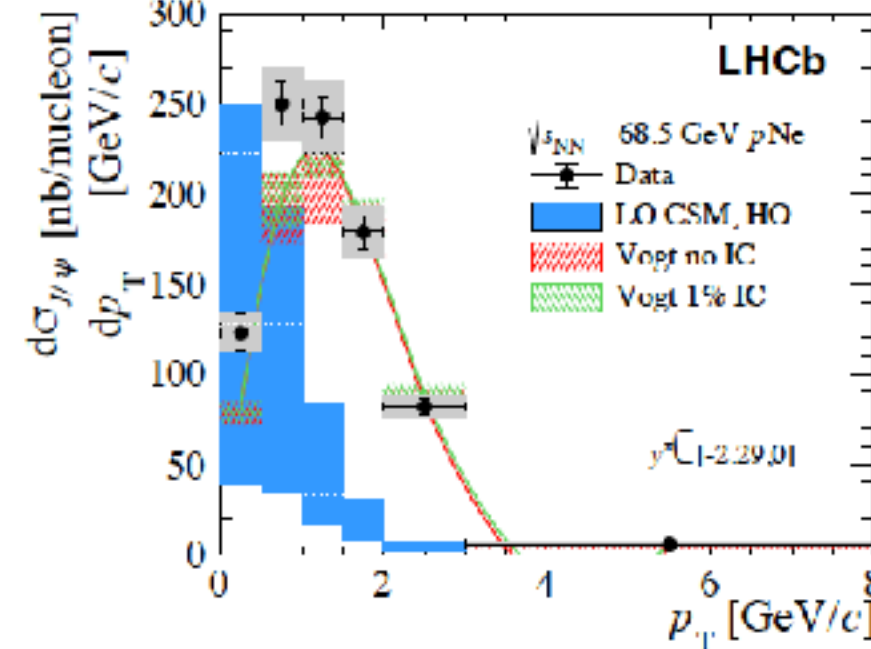
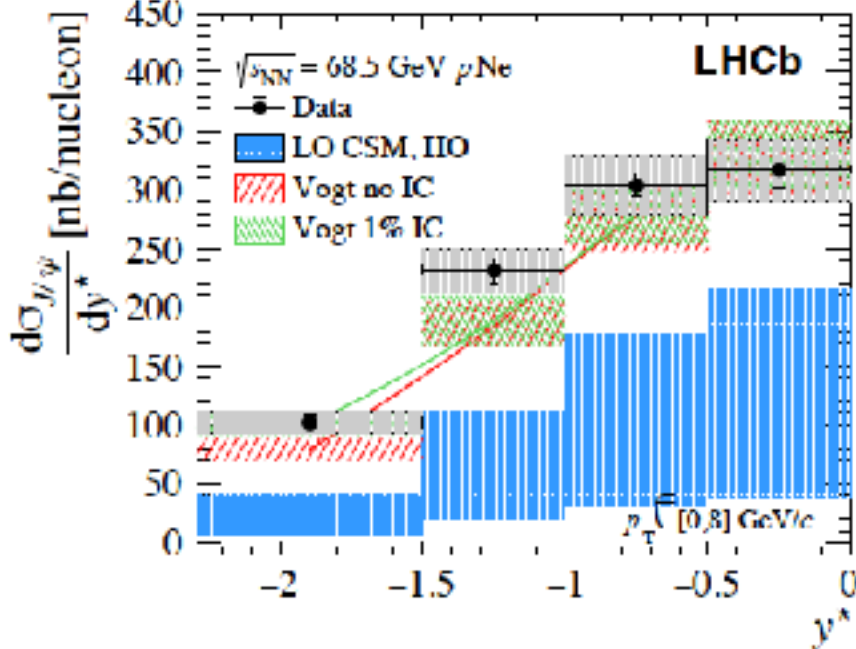
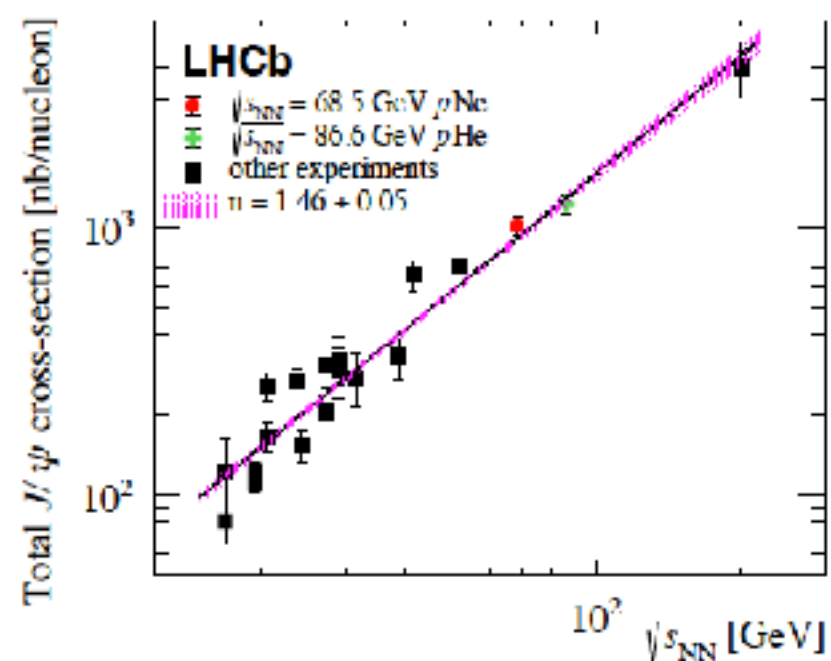
D^0 differential cross sections



Cross section ratios of J/ψ and D^0 production in PbNe and pNe collisions

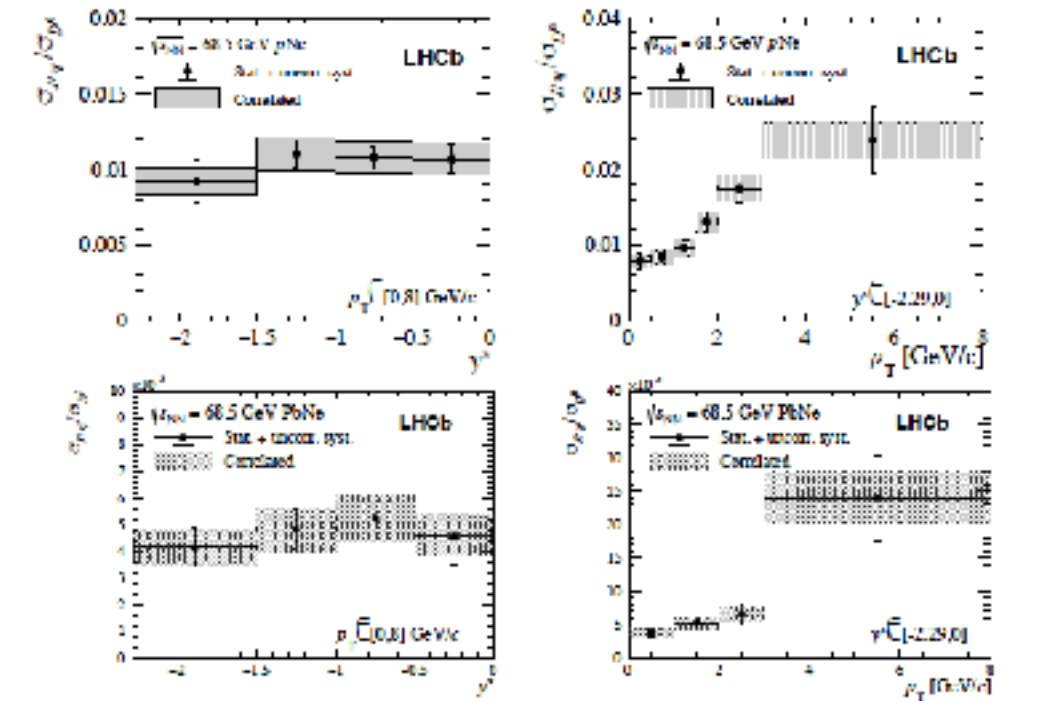


EPJC 83 (2023) 625

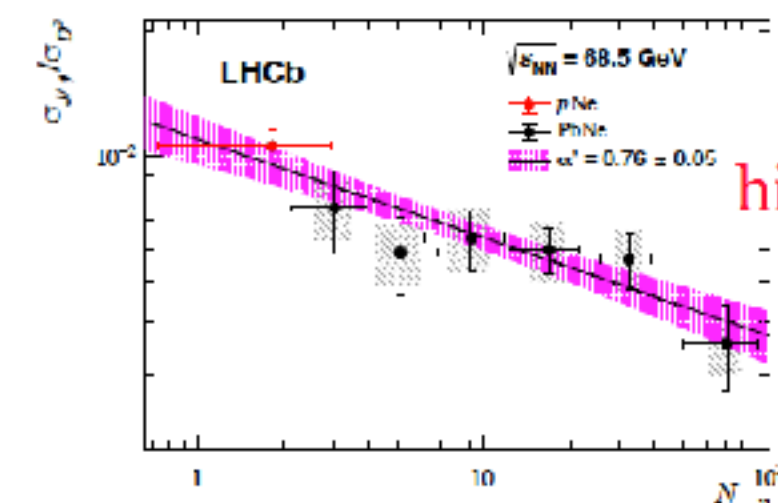
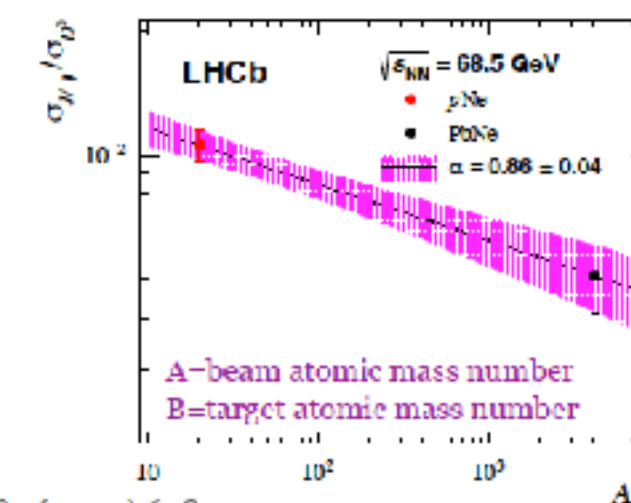


EPJC 83 (2023) 625

EPJC 83 (2023) 658



J/ψ cross section

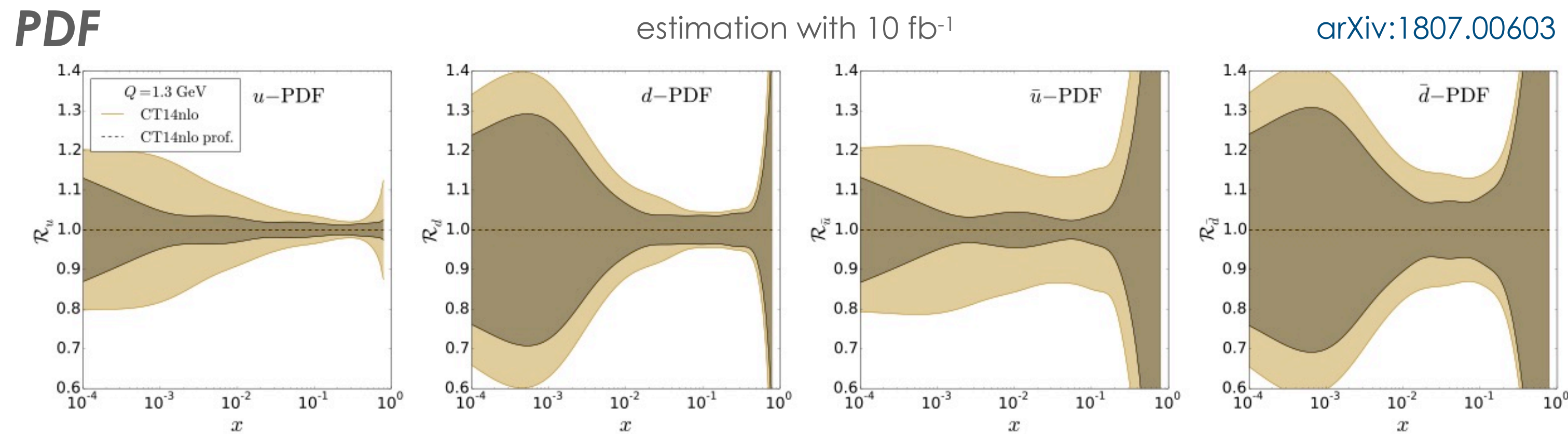
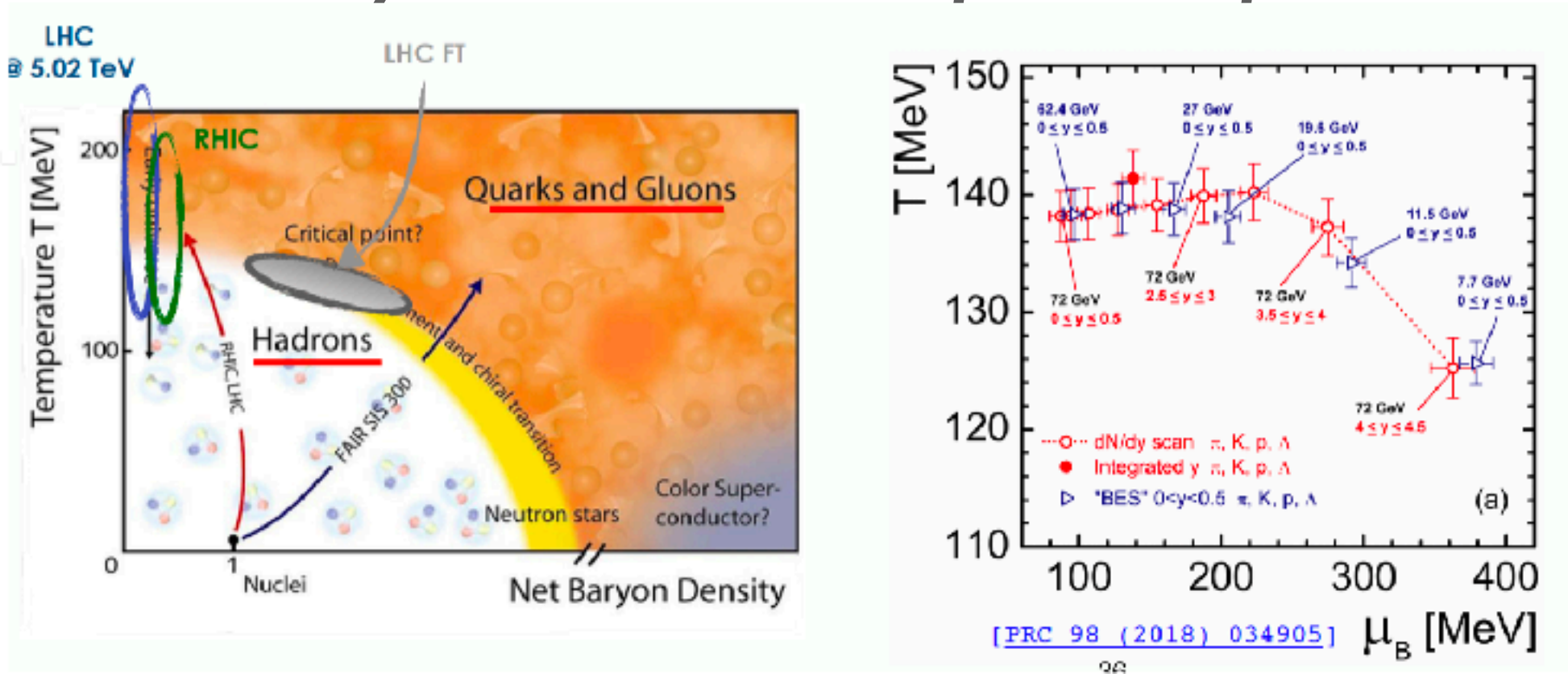


Nuclear effects on hidden vs open charm

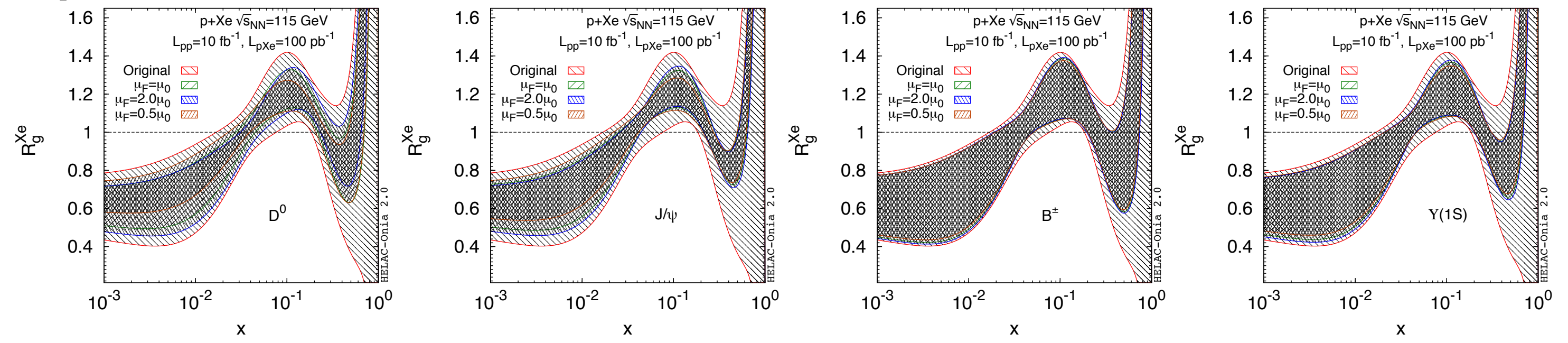
SMDQ2 some of the highlights

<http://cds.cern.ch/record/2649878/files/>

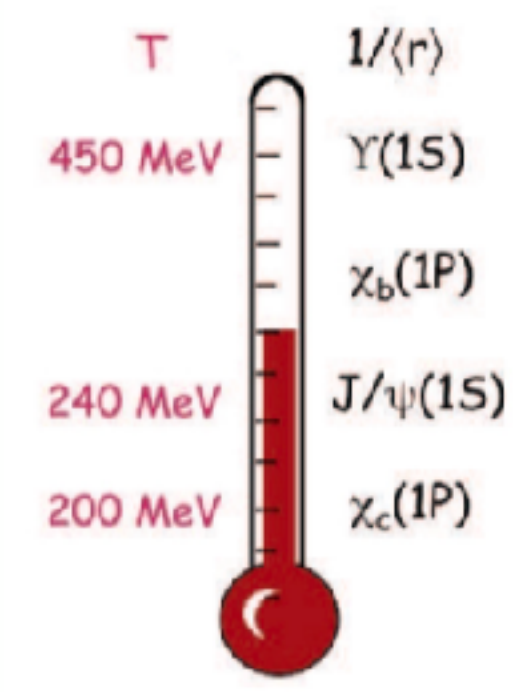
Heavy-Ion and QGP phase space



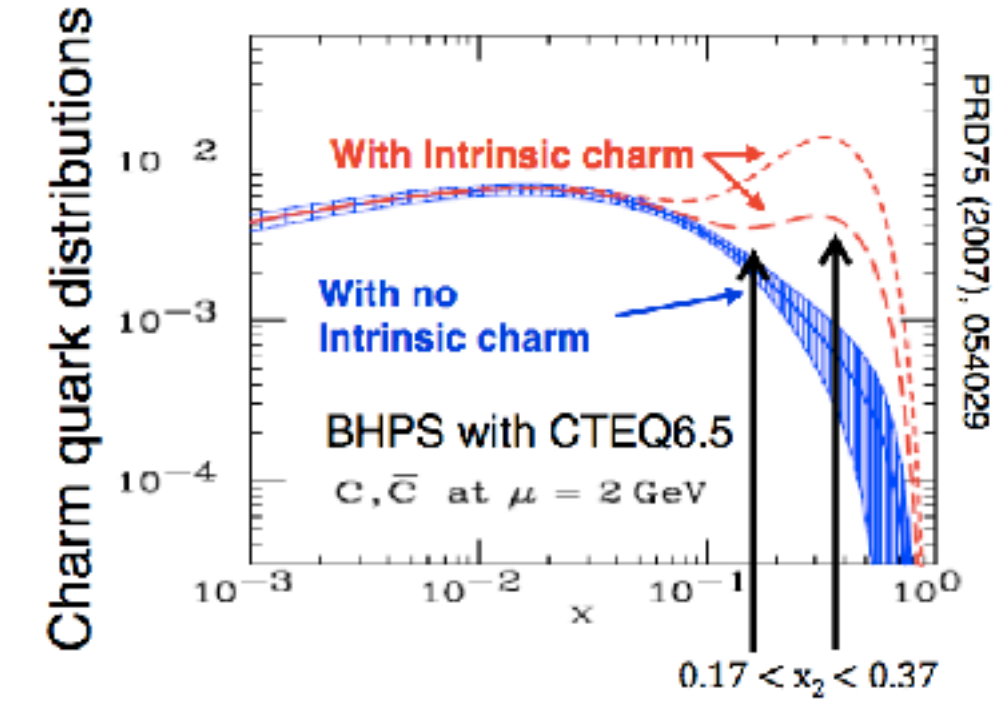
nPDF (gluon)



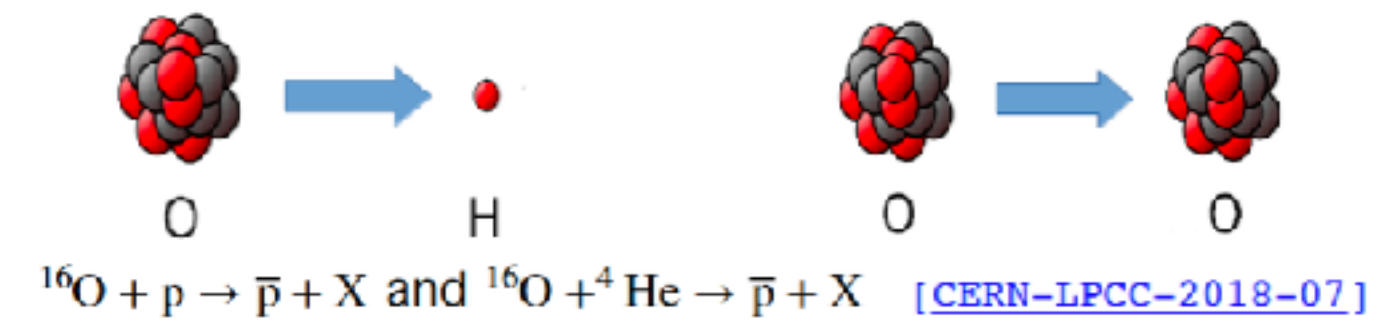
$c\bar{c}$ bound states



Intrinsic charm



LHC Special Runs



We can already enter in the field of the polarized physics

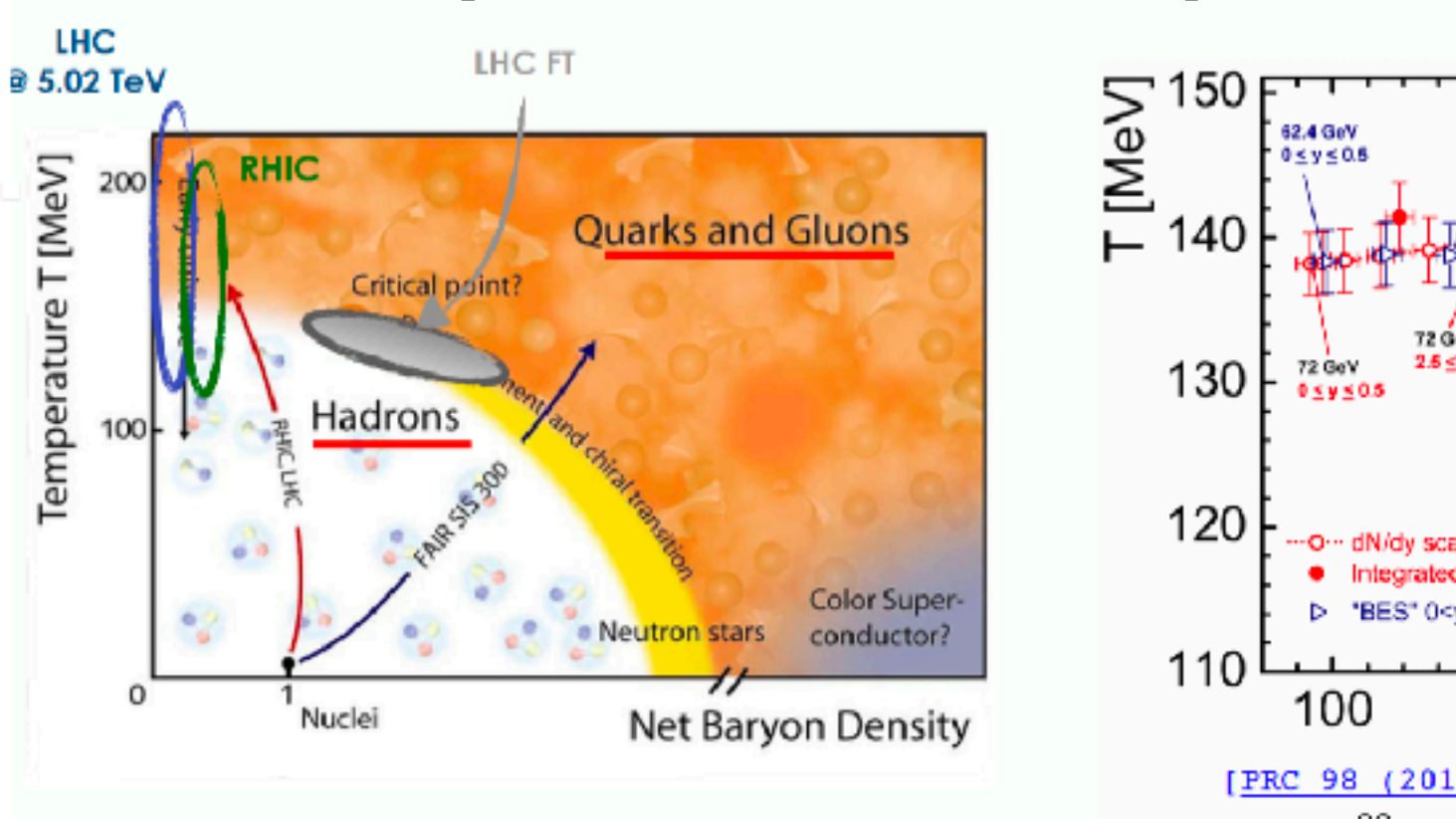
$$f_1^q, h_1^{\perp,q} \text{ Boer-Mulders}$$

$$f_1^g, h_1^{\perp,g} \text{ linearly-polarized gluon TMD}$$

SMOG2 some of the highlights

<http://cds.cern.ch/record/2649878/files/>

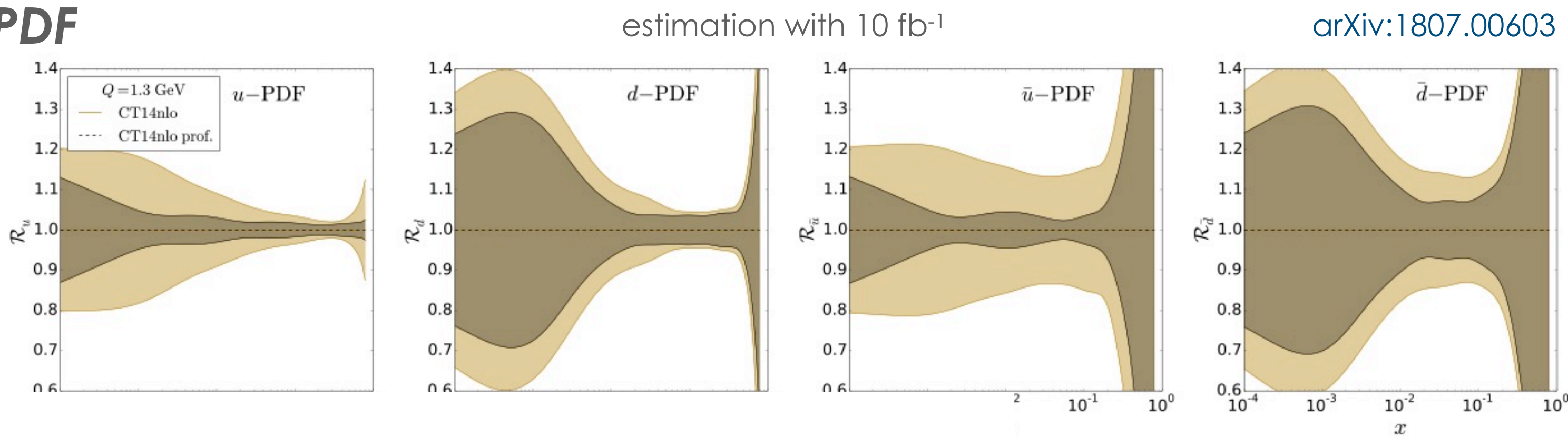
Heavy-Ion and QCD phase space



SMOG2 example pAr @115 GeV in 1yr of data taking

J/Ψ	yield	70 M
D^0	yield	700 M
Λ_c	yield	7 M
Ψ'	yield	700 k
$\Upsilon(1S)$	yield	60 k
$DY \mu^+ \mu^-$	yield	60 k

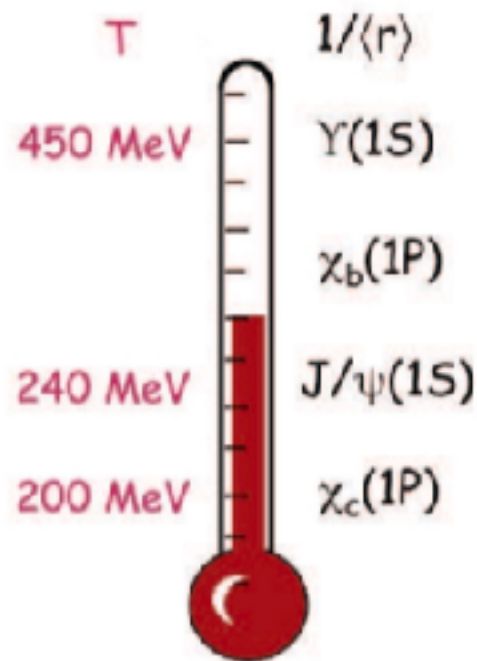
PDF



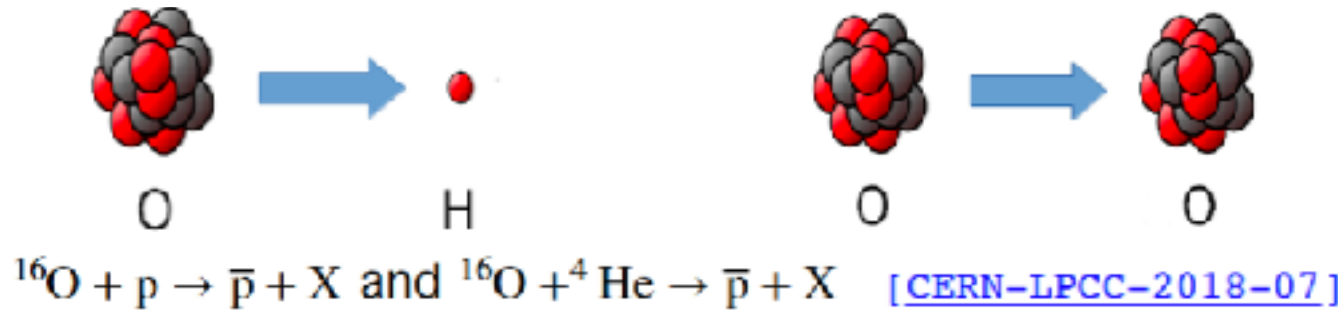
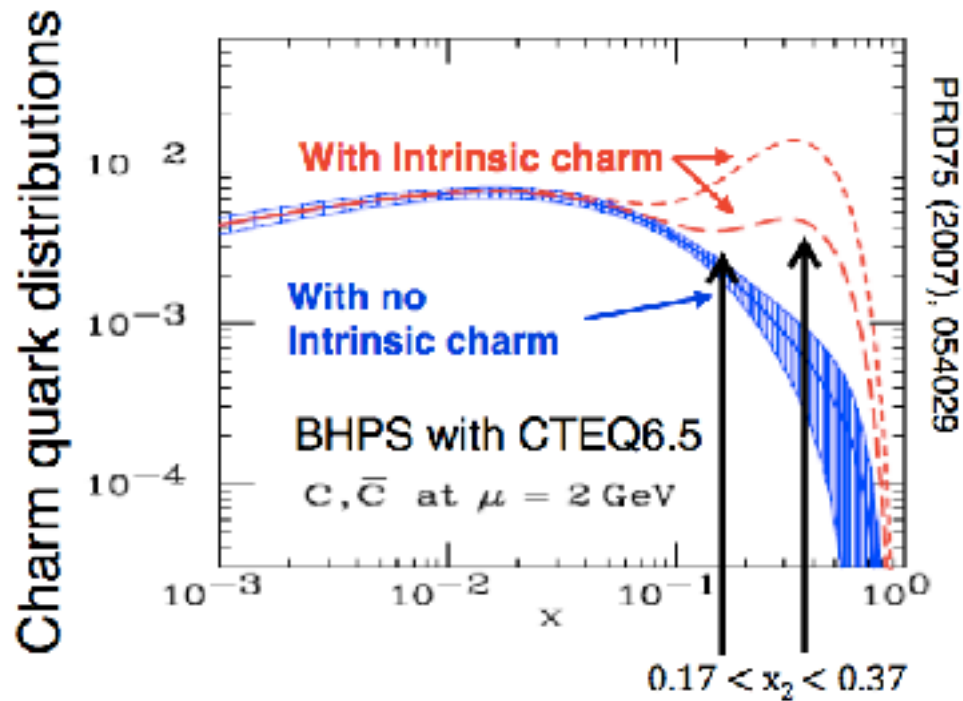
estimation with 10 fb⁻¹

arXiv:1807.00603

c \bar{c} bound states



Intrinsic



already enter in the field of the polarized physics

$$f_1^q \quad h_1^{\perp,q} \quad \text{Boer-Mulders}$$

$$f_1^g \quad h_1^{\perp,g} \quad \text{linearly-polarized gluon TMD}$$


The LHC beams cannot be polarised



The only possibility to have polarised collisions is through a polarised fixed-target

SMDQ2



L  C
spin


unpolarised gas target

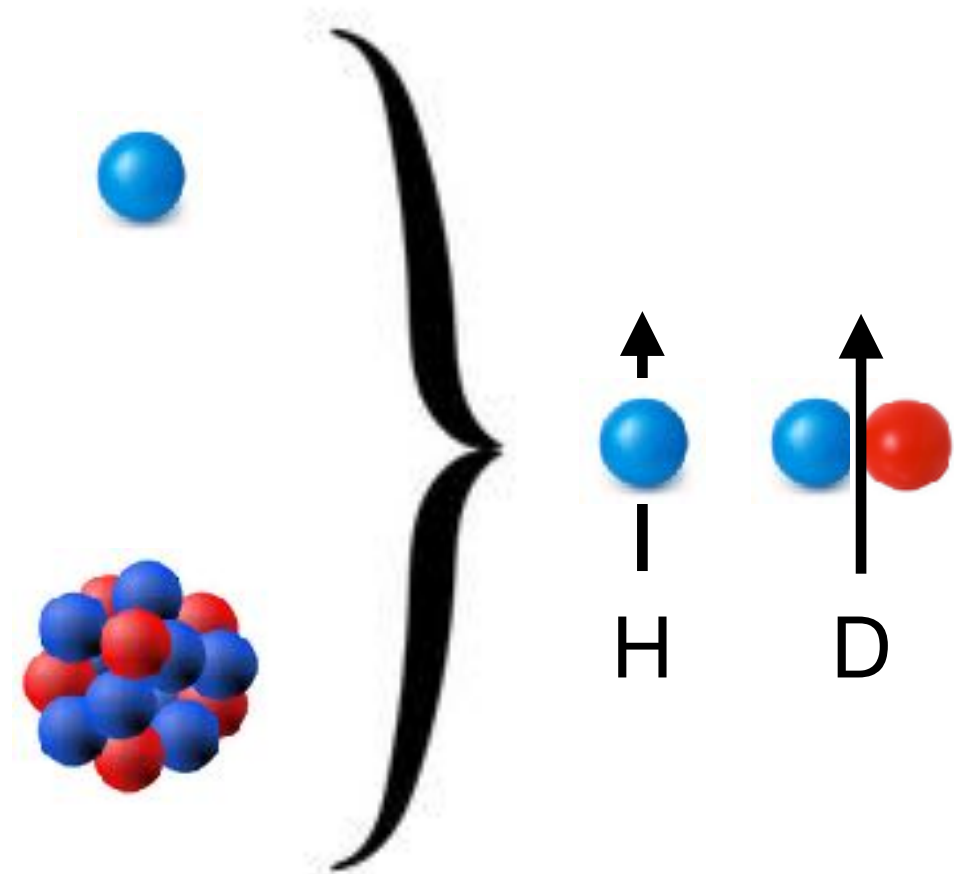
polarised (+unpolarised)
gas target

$L \begin{array}{c} \updownarrow \\ \text{spin} \end{array} C$ the polarised target project

SMDQ2 is not only a unique project itself,
but also a great playground for $L \begin{array}{c} \updownarrow \\ \text{spin} \end{array} C$

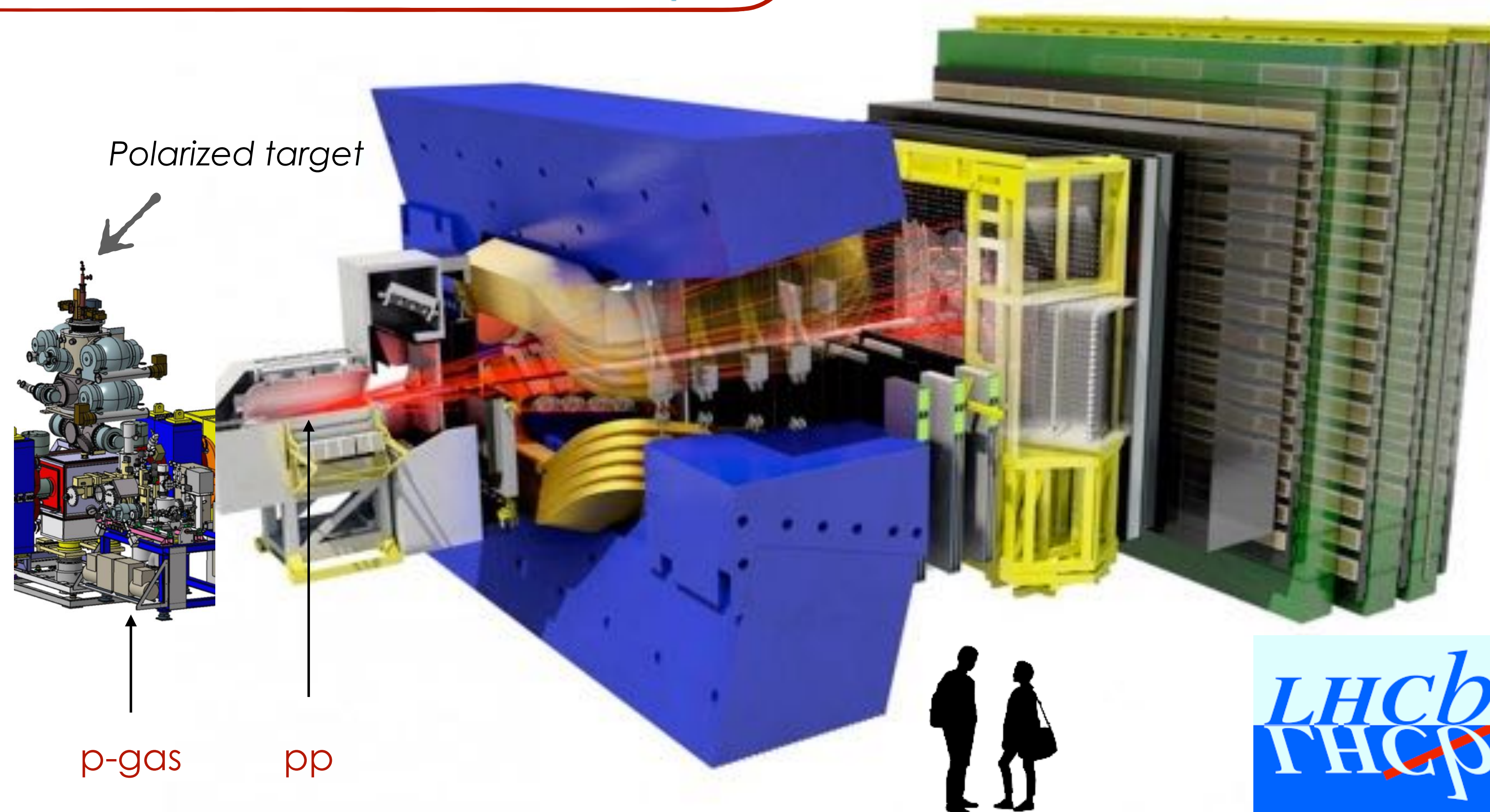
the polarised target project

SMDQ2 is not only a unique project itself,
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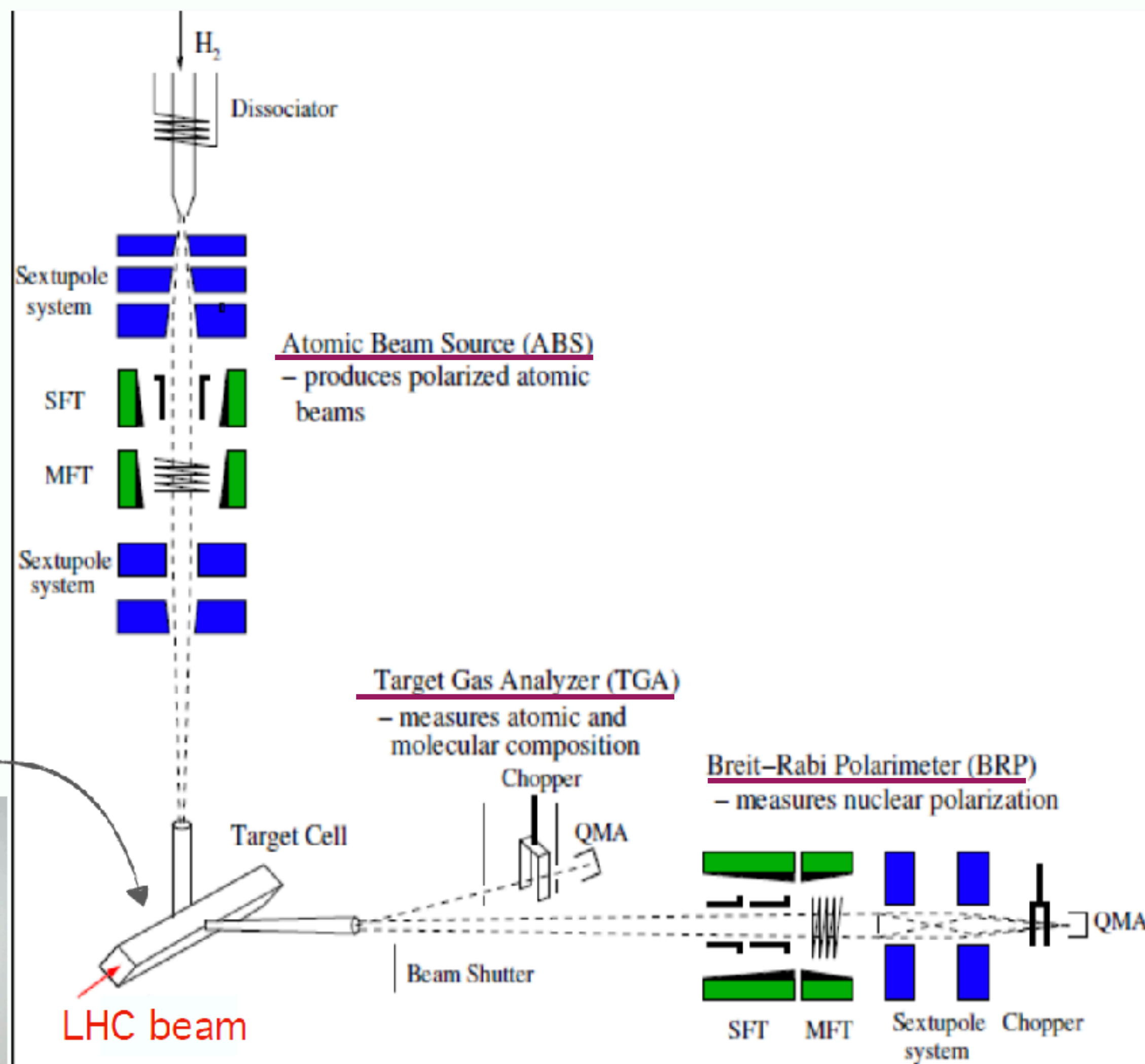


Successful technology based on
HERA and COSY experiments

Challenge: develop a new
generation of polarized targets



experimental setup



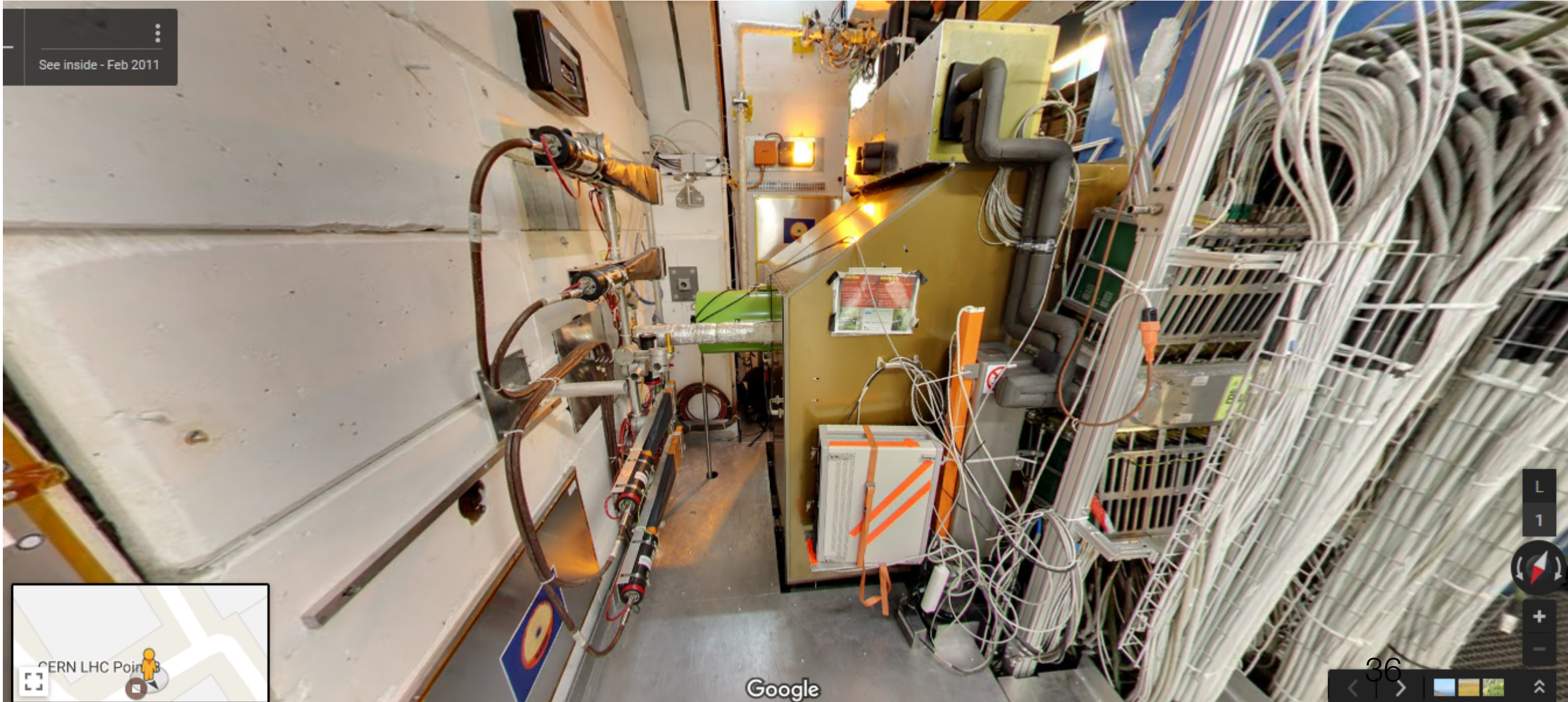
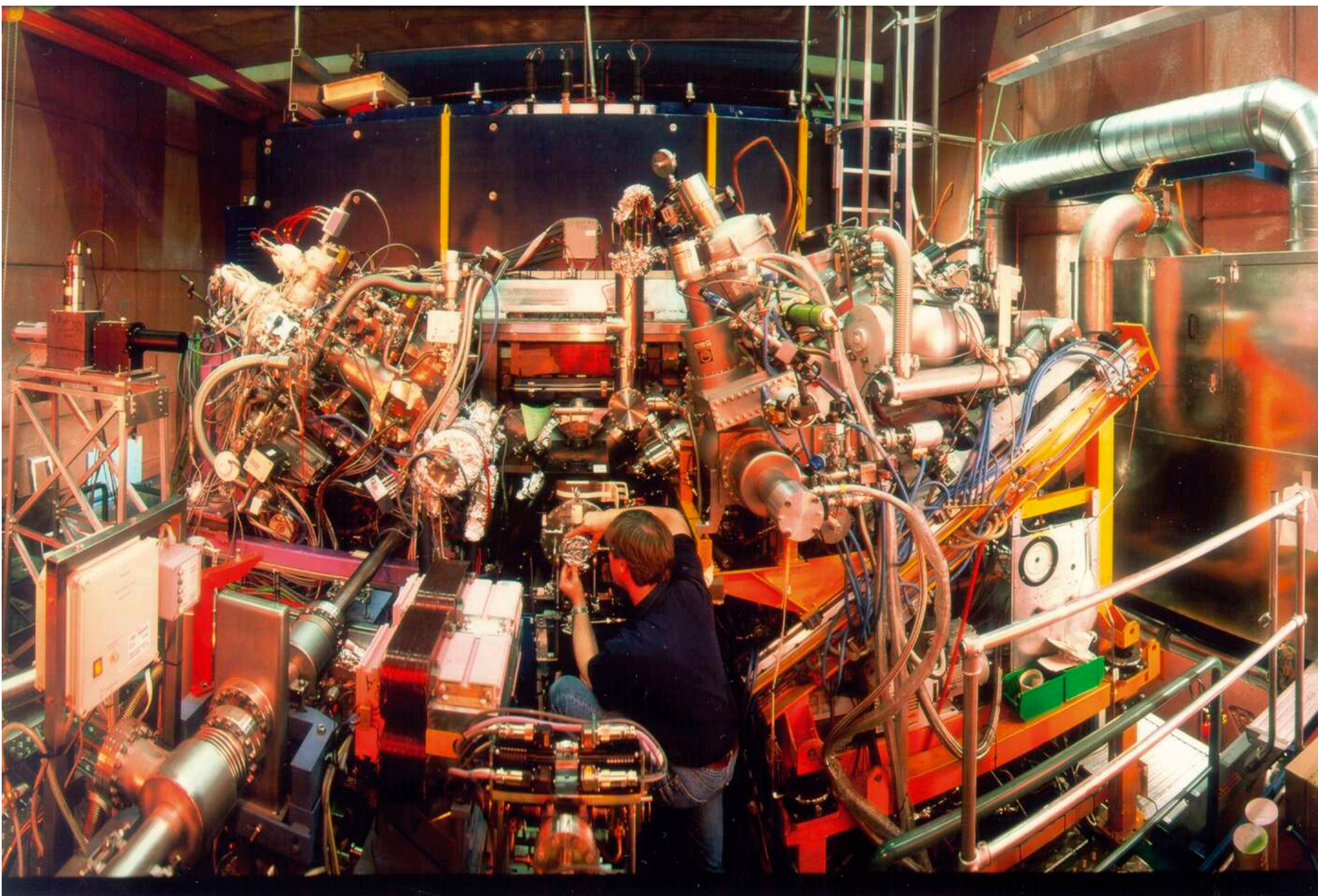
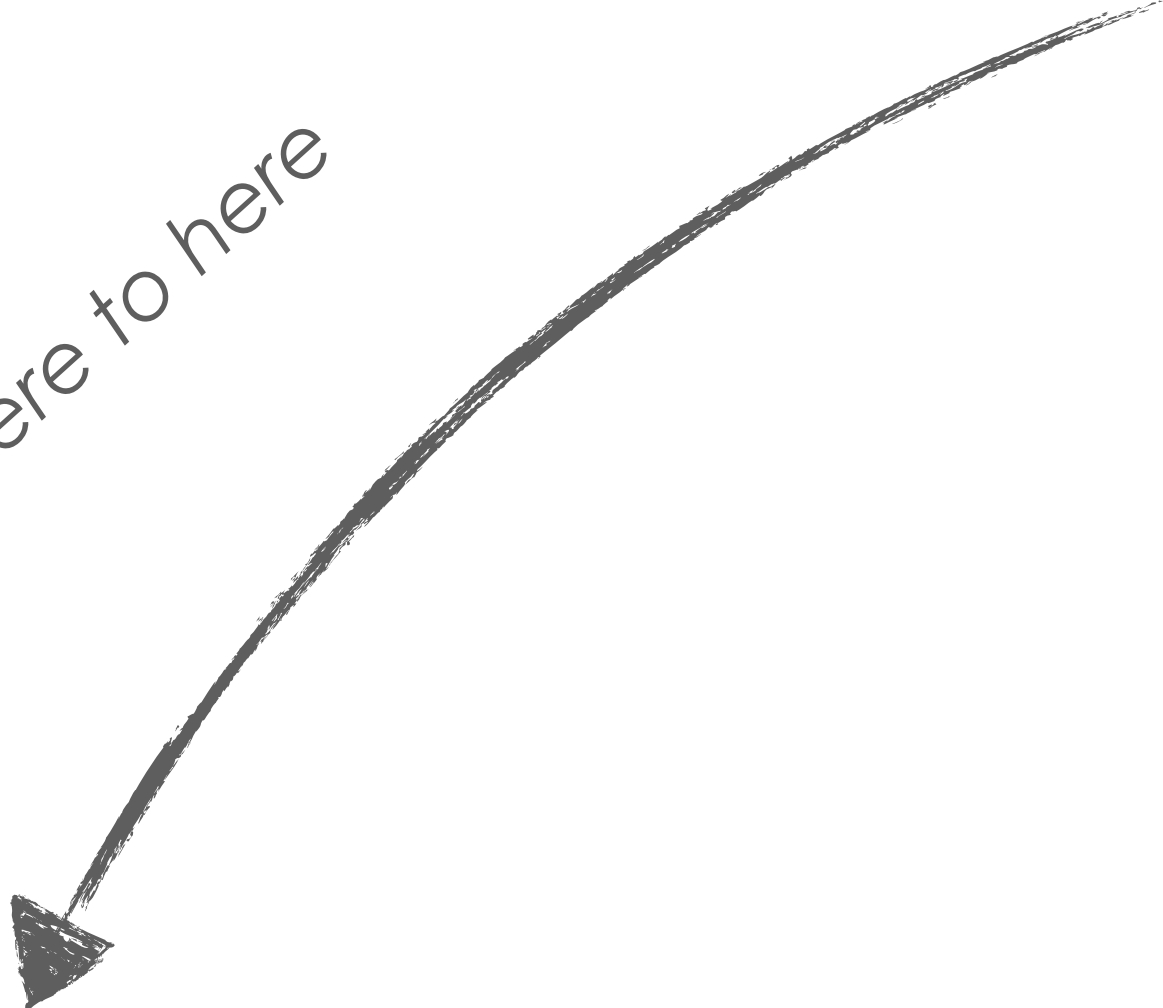
Target density (H) = $7 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
 LHC beam (Run4) = $6.8 \times 10^{18} \text{ p s}^{-1}$

$$L_{pH} = 8 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



HERMES PGT

From there to here



Space available in front of LHCb

Fixed target physics at the LHC is an exciting reality

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SMOG2 is the first fixed target at a multi-TeV beam

It gives access to a new kinematic domain, rare probes, collisions from proton to heavy nuclei, high statistics

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is conceived to bring polarized physics at the LHC. It is exceptionally ambitious in terms of both its potential for advancing physics and its technical complexity ... we are working on it!