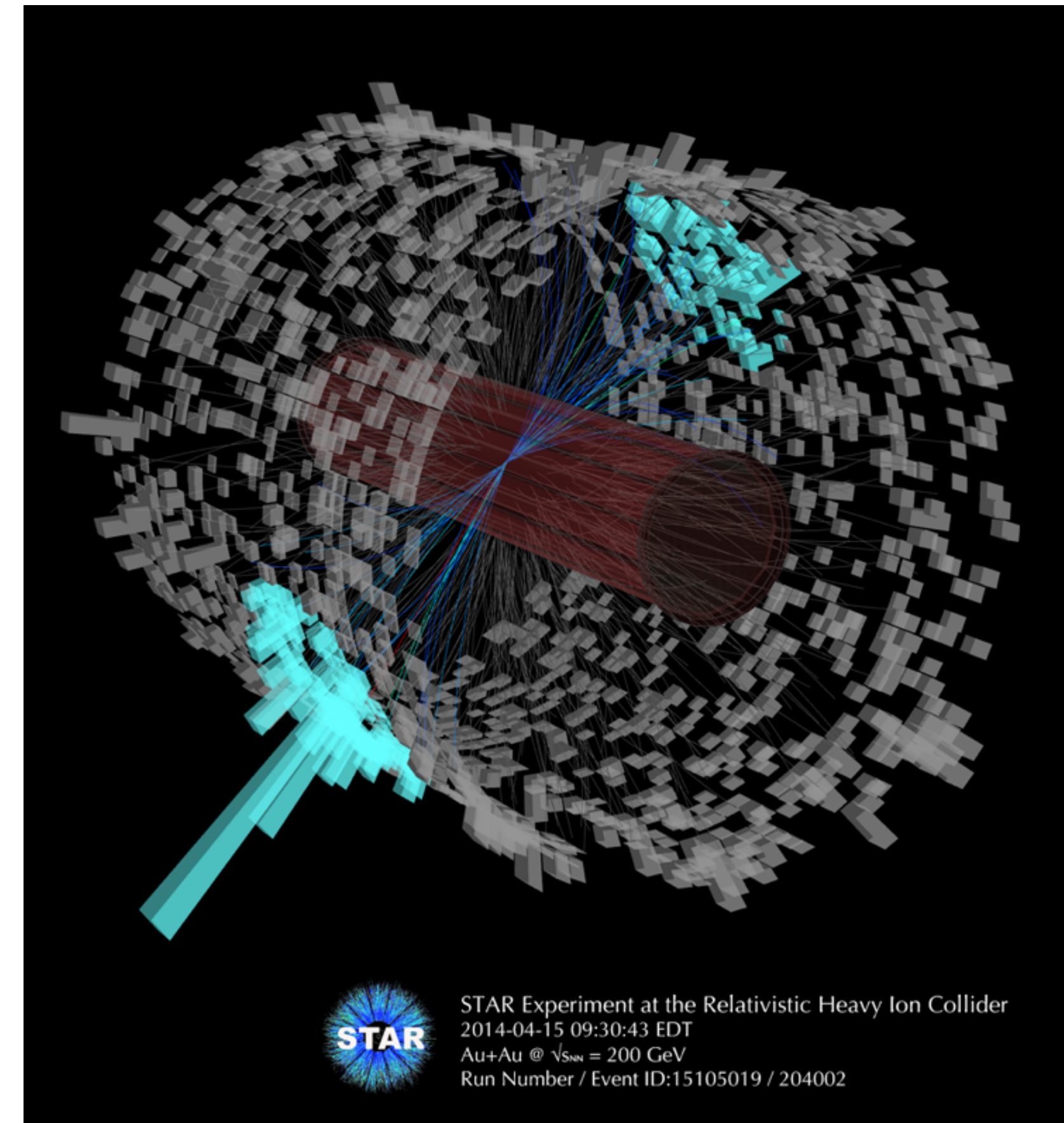


Jet theory highlights

Carlota Andres (she/her)

MIT

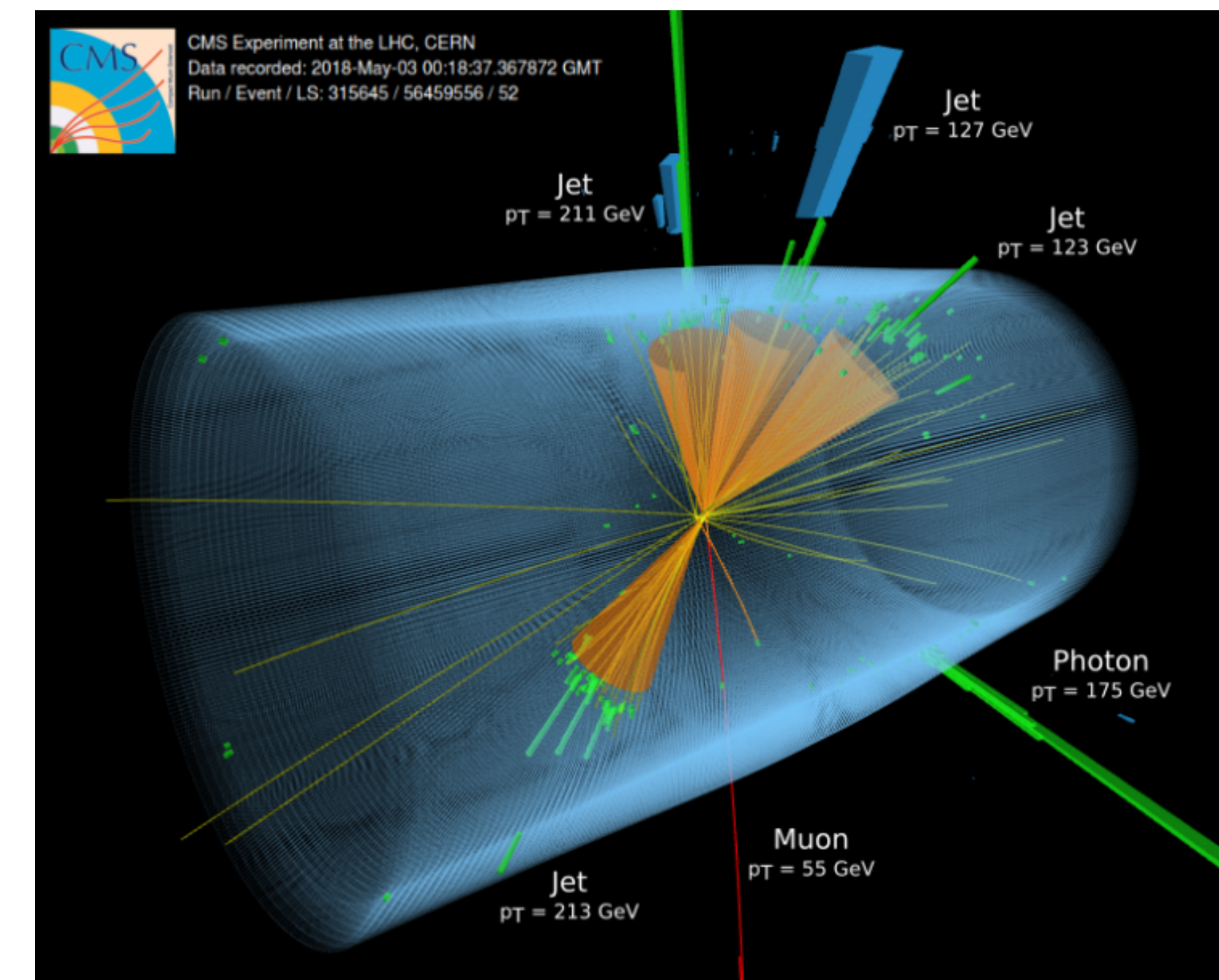
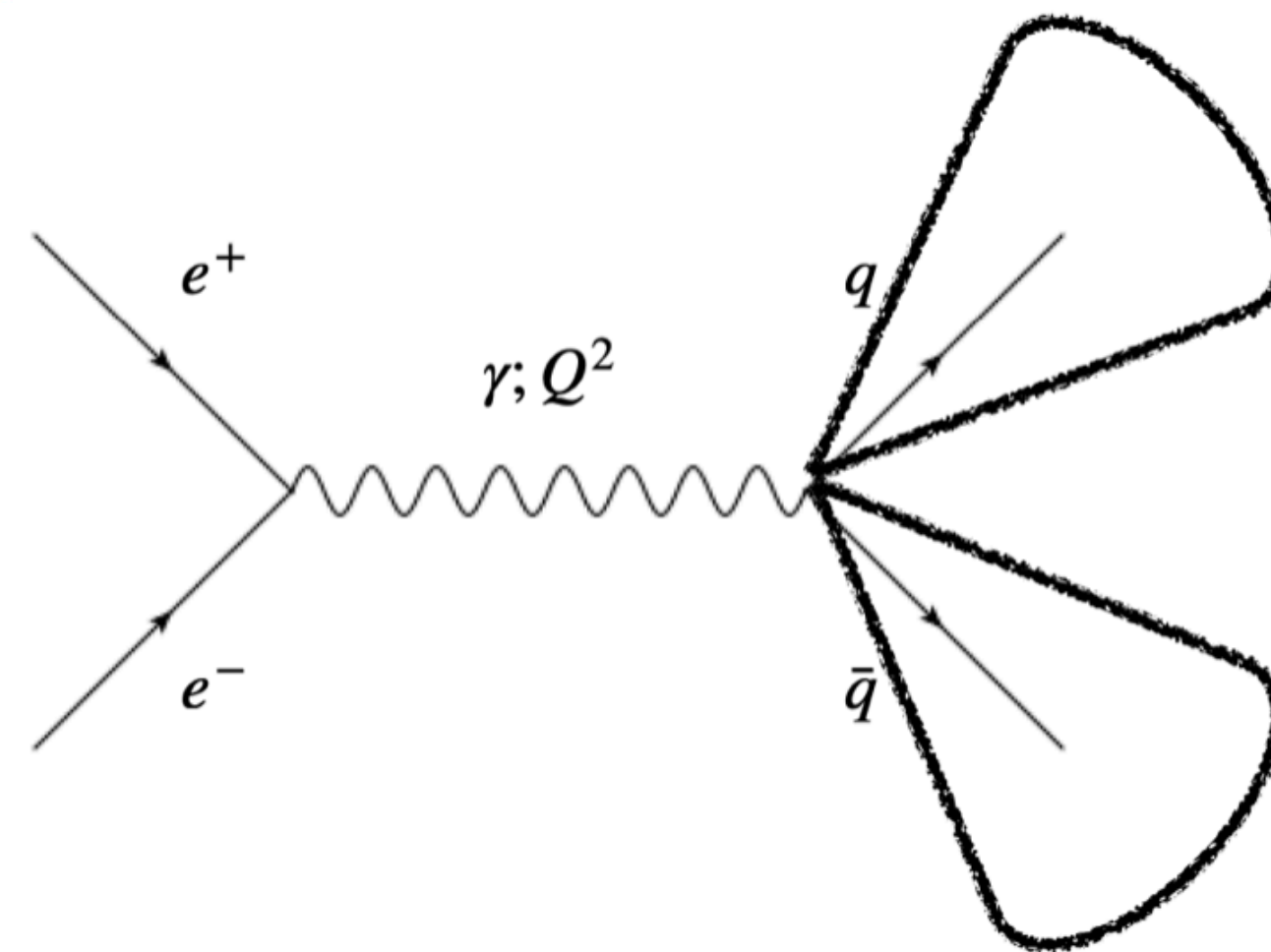
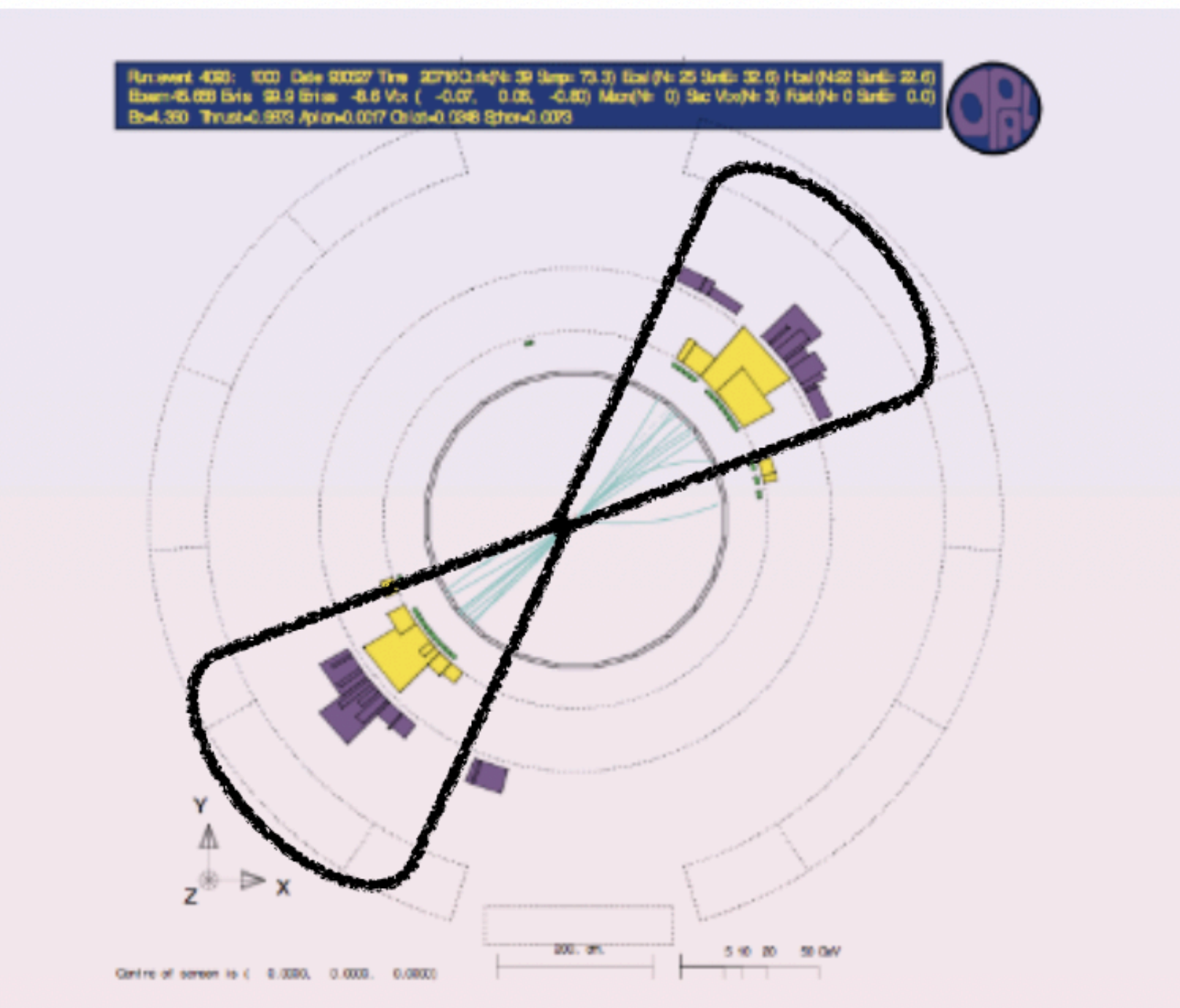
2025 RHIC&AGS Annual Users' Meeting



Jets at colliders

Jets are **proxies** of the **partons** produced in the **hard scattering**

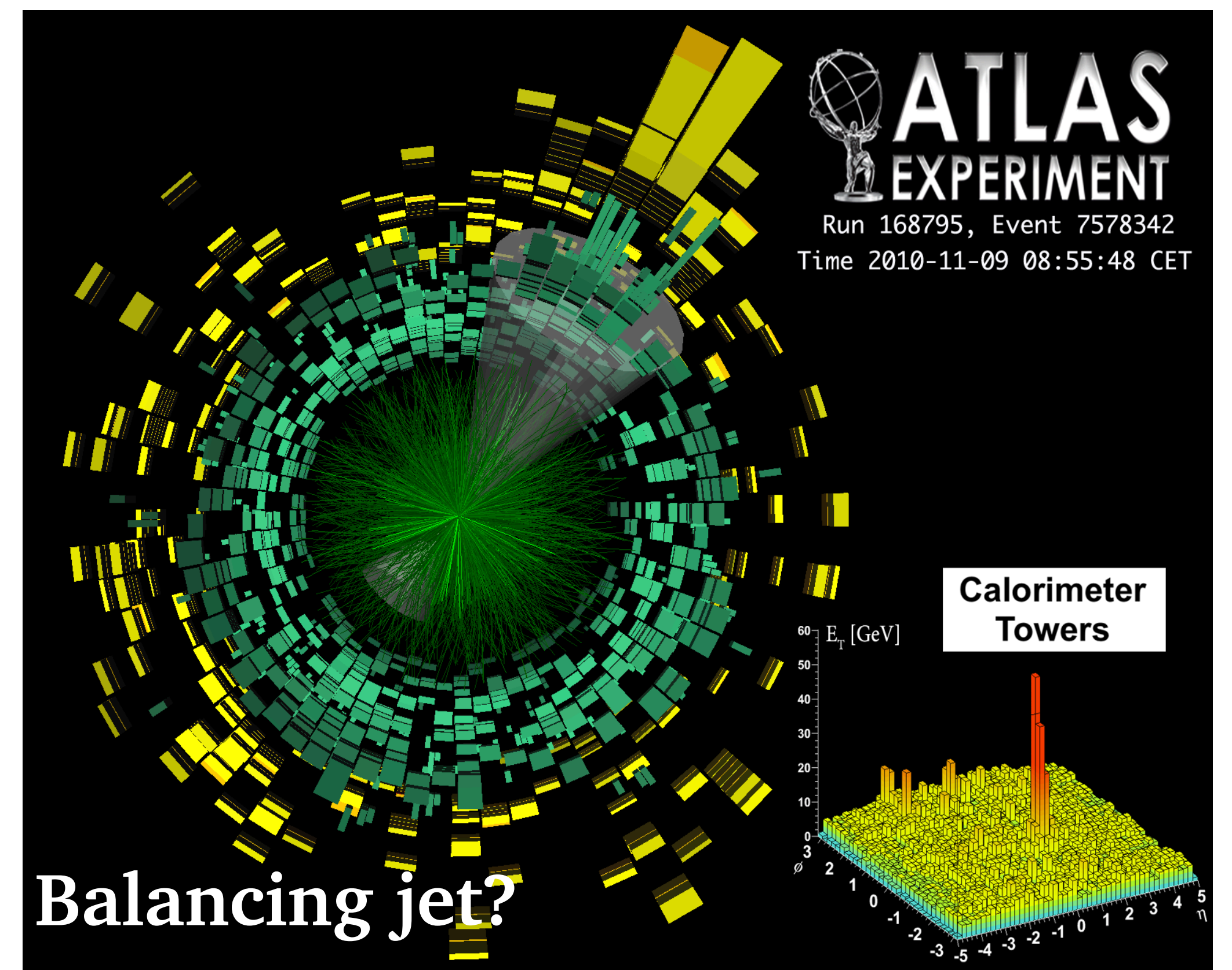
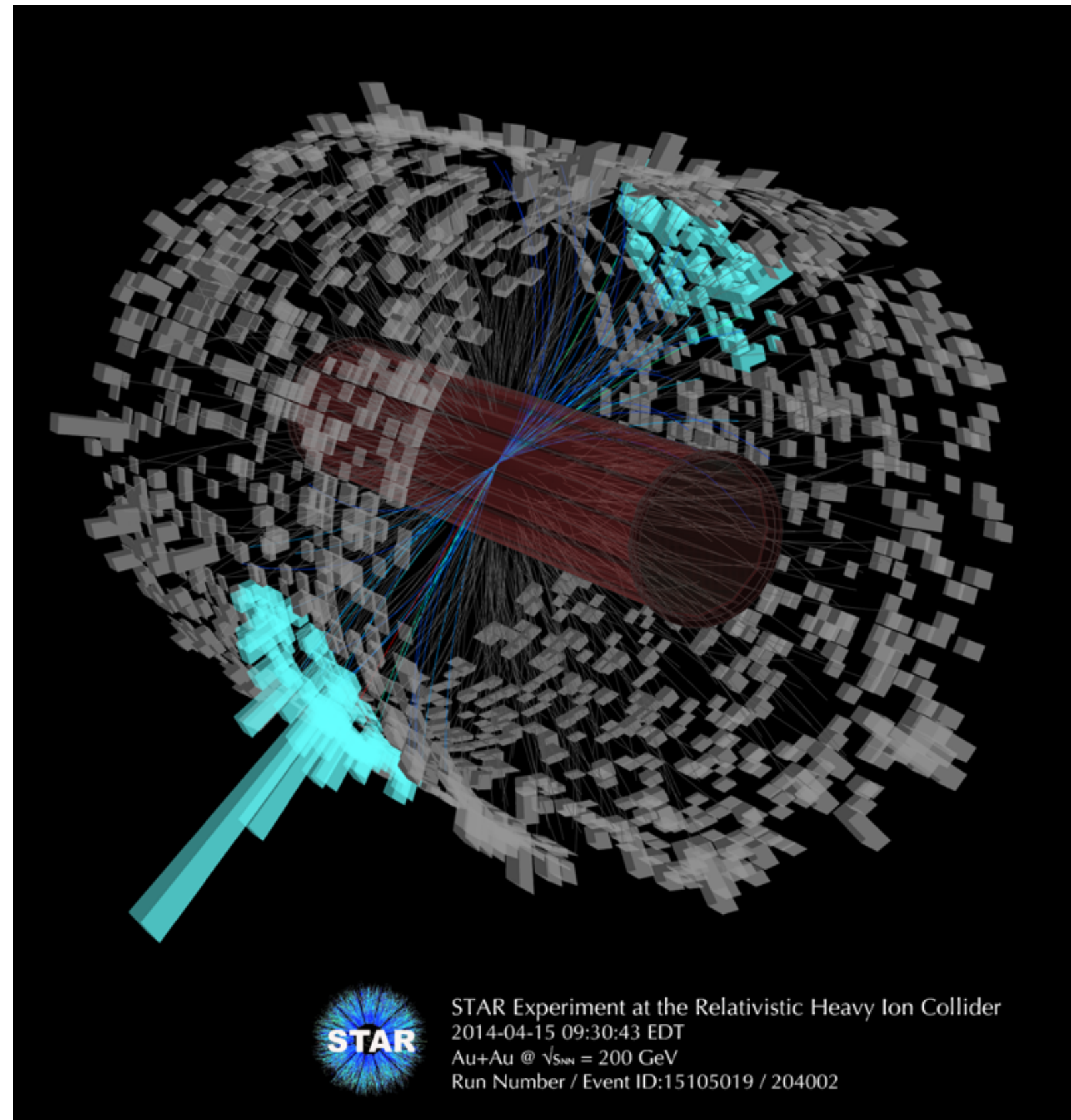
OPAL Phys. Lett, B 265 462-474 (1991)



QCD jets are fundamental tools in collider physics

Jets in heavy ion collisions

Jet quenching

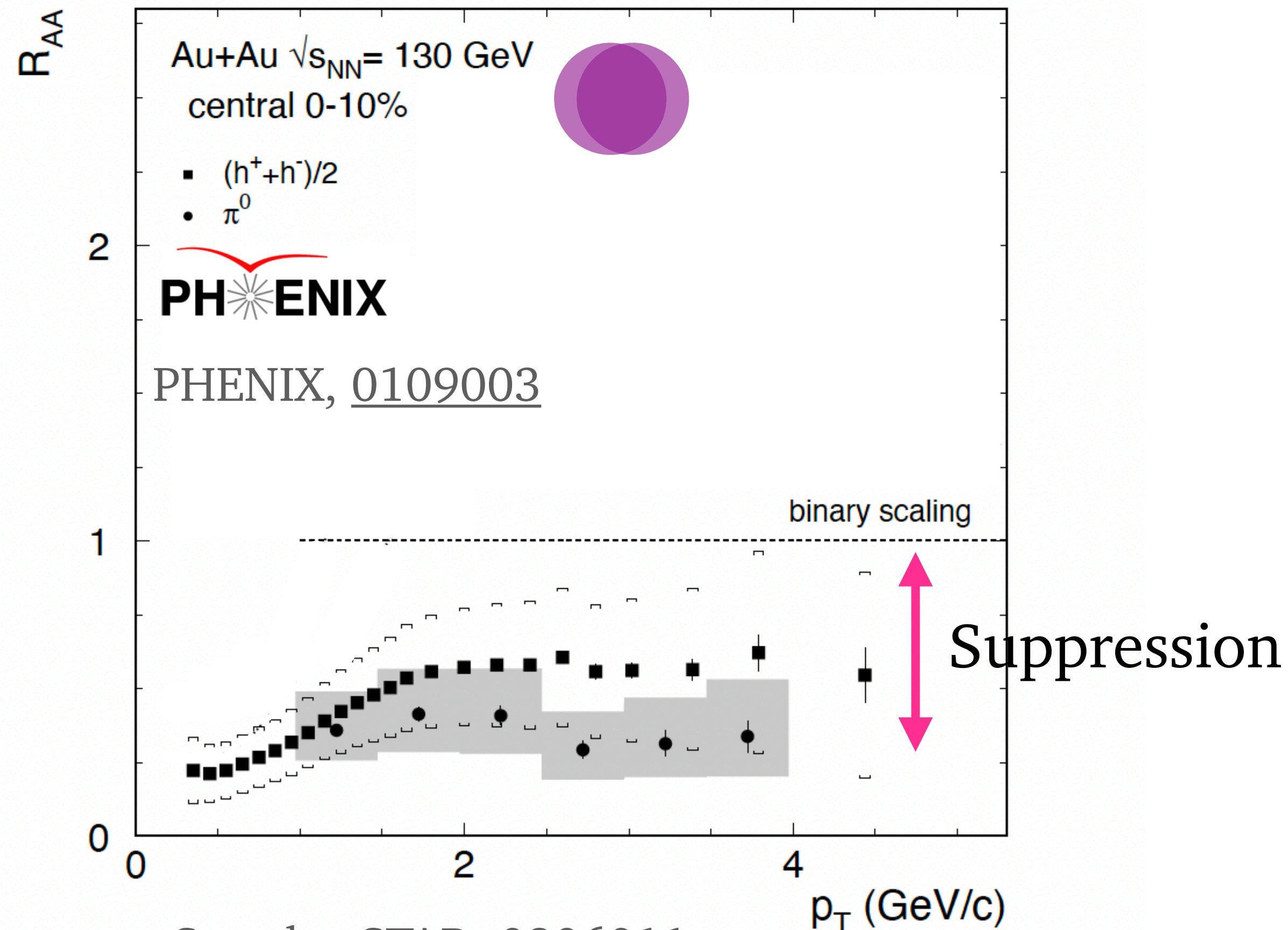


Jets in heavy ion collisions: quenching

$$R_{AA} = \frac{\text{Pb-Pb } \bigcirc}{\text{scaled pp } \bullet \leftrightarrow \bullet}$$

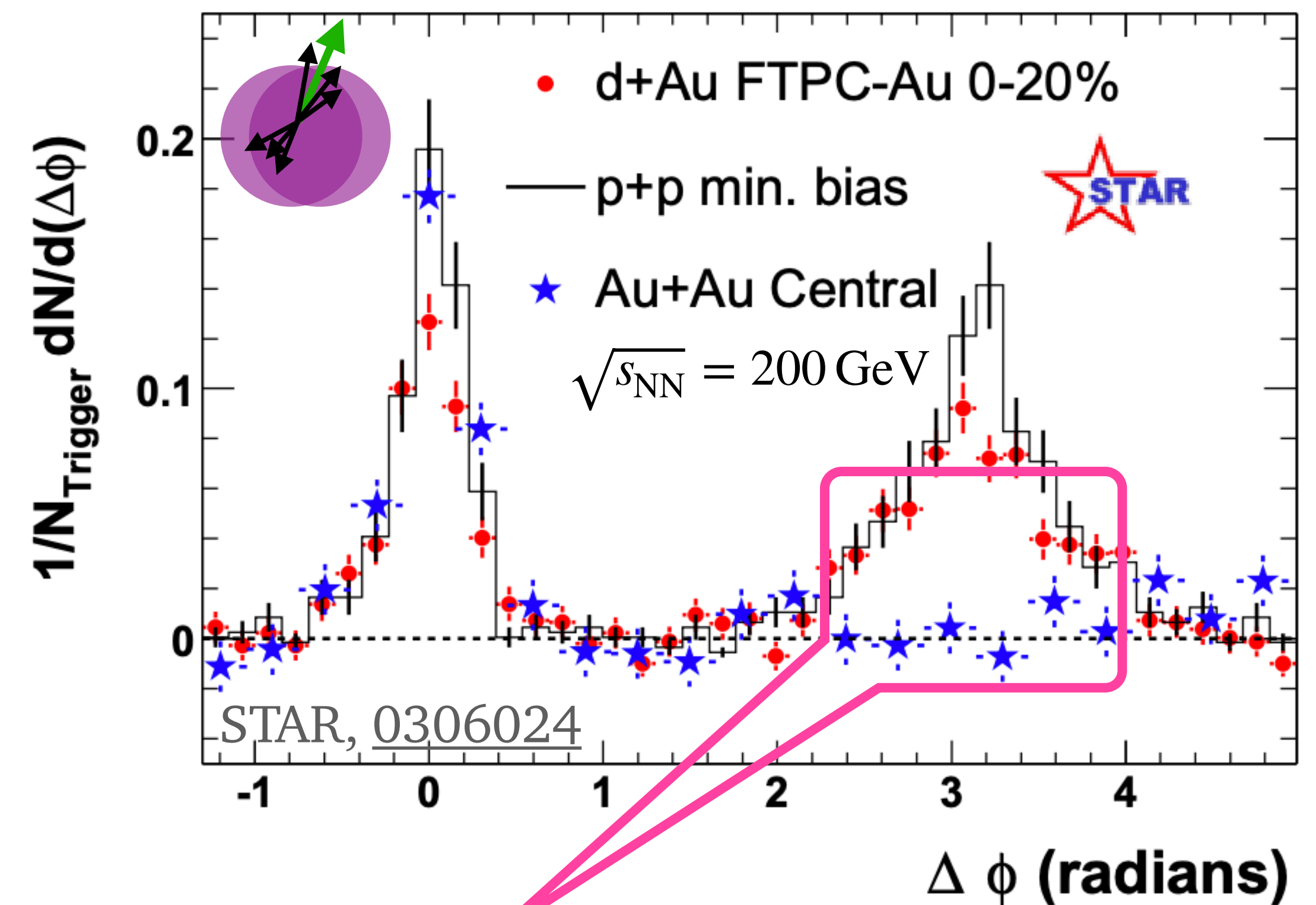
First observations of **jet quenching** at RHIC!

Inclusive hadron suppression



See also STAR, 0206011

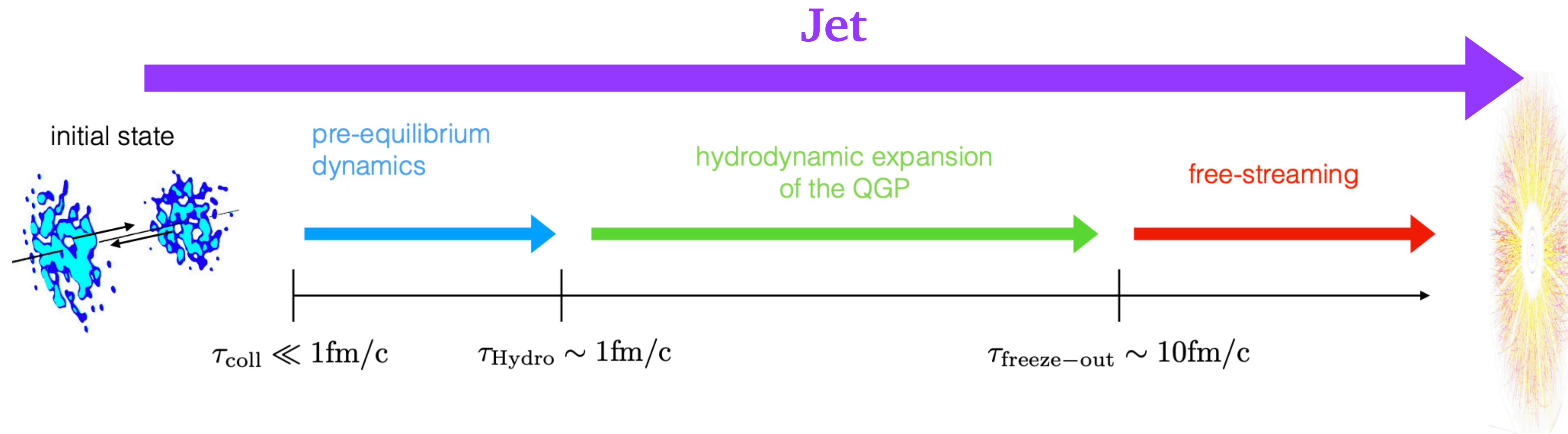
Di-hadron correlations



Back-to-back peak disappears in **Au-Au**

Why jets?

- Jets ($Q \sim p_T$) are **produced** in the **earliest phase of the collision** $\tau_p \sim \frac{1}{Q} \ll \frac{1}{Q_s} \ll \tau_{\text{hydro}}$



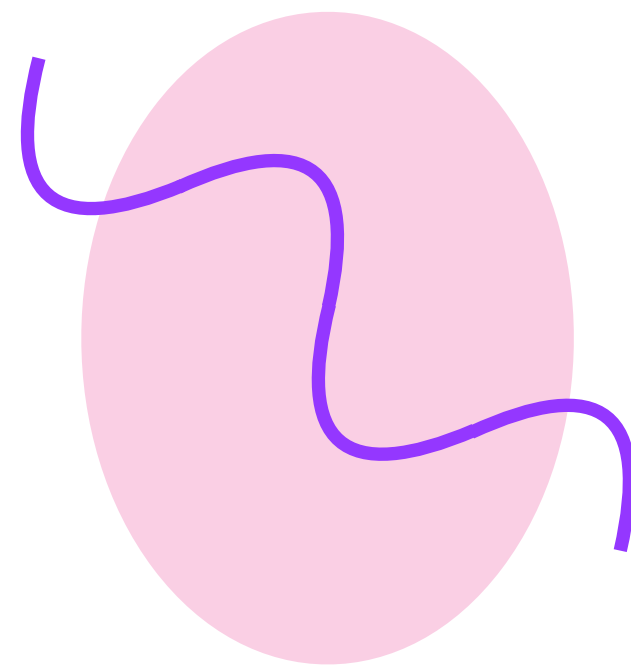
- They **interact with the medium** through the strong interaction **getting modified**

Jets are extended objects: ideal to **probe the medium at different times and resolution scales**

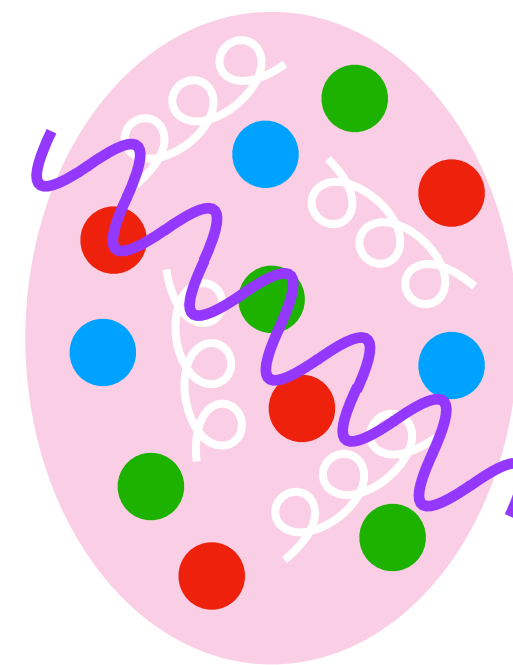
Jets are extended objects: ideal to **probe the medium at different times and resolution scales**

Jets are extended objects: ideal to **probe the medium at different times** and resolution scales

Fluid-like QGP



Particle-like QGP

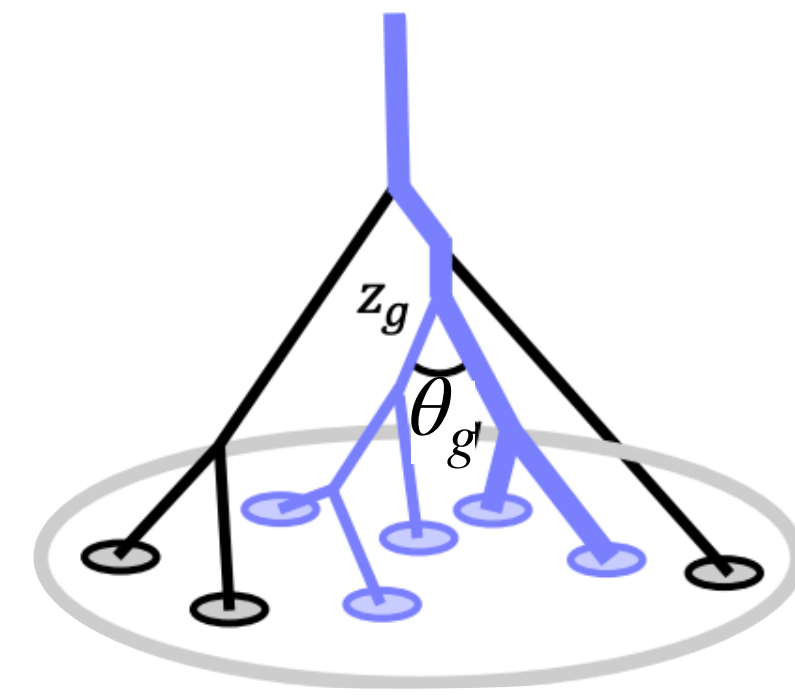


Increasing the resolution scale

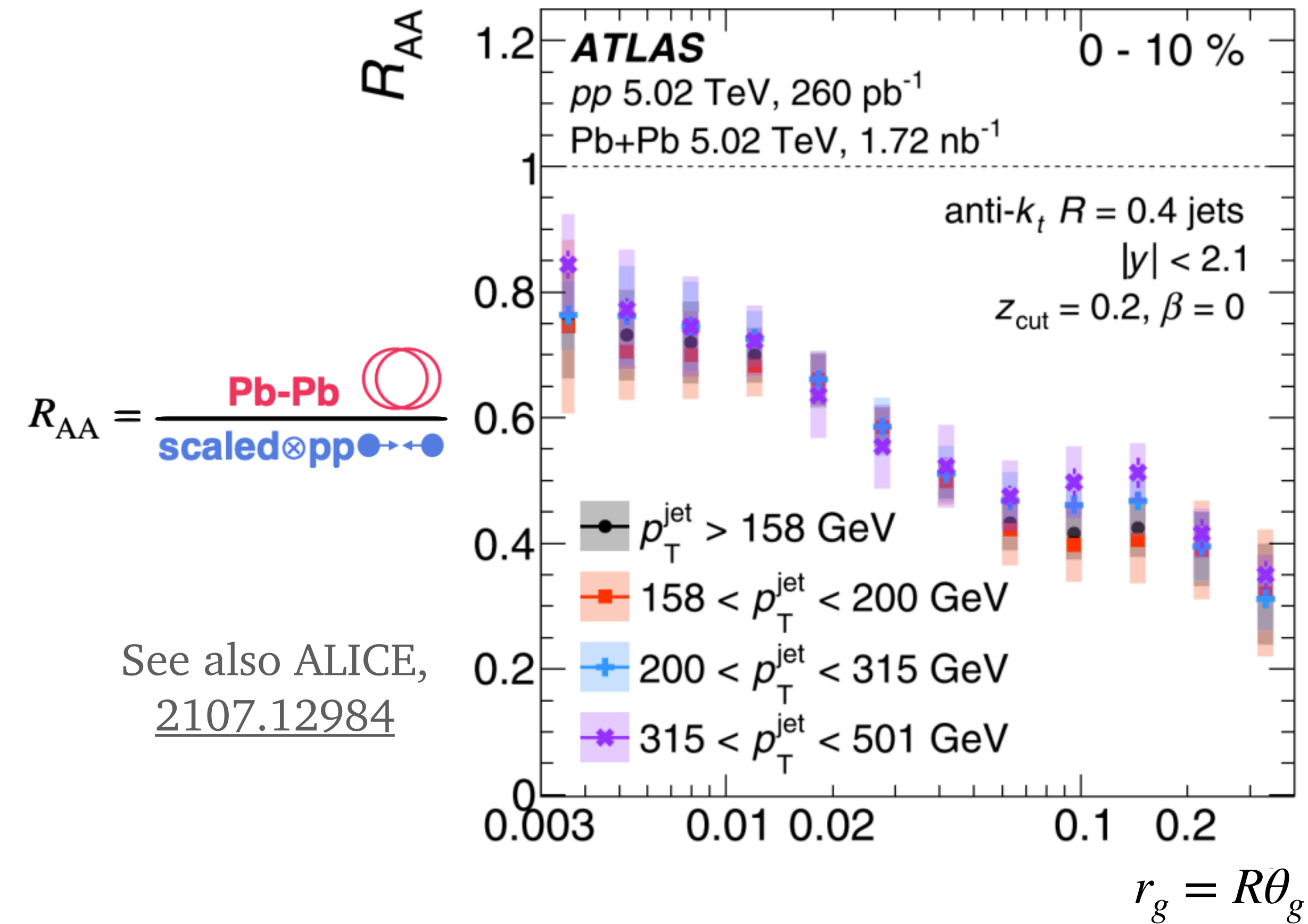


Groomed jet radius

[Soft Drop grooming]

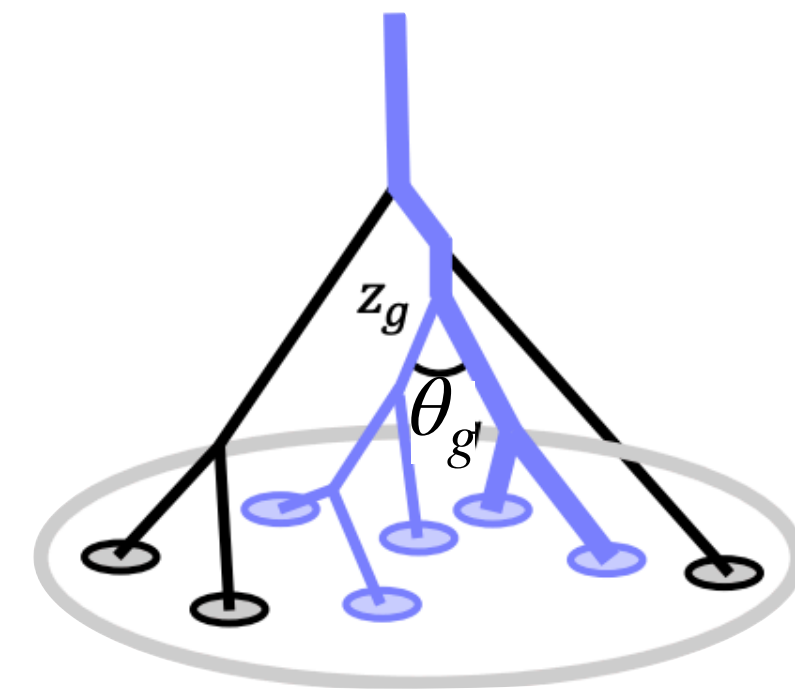


ATLAS, [2211.11470](#)

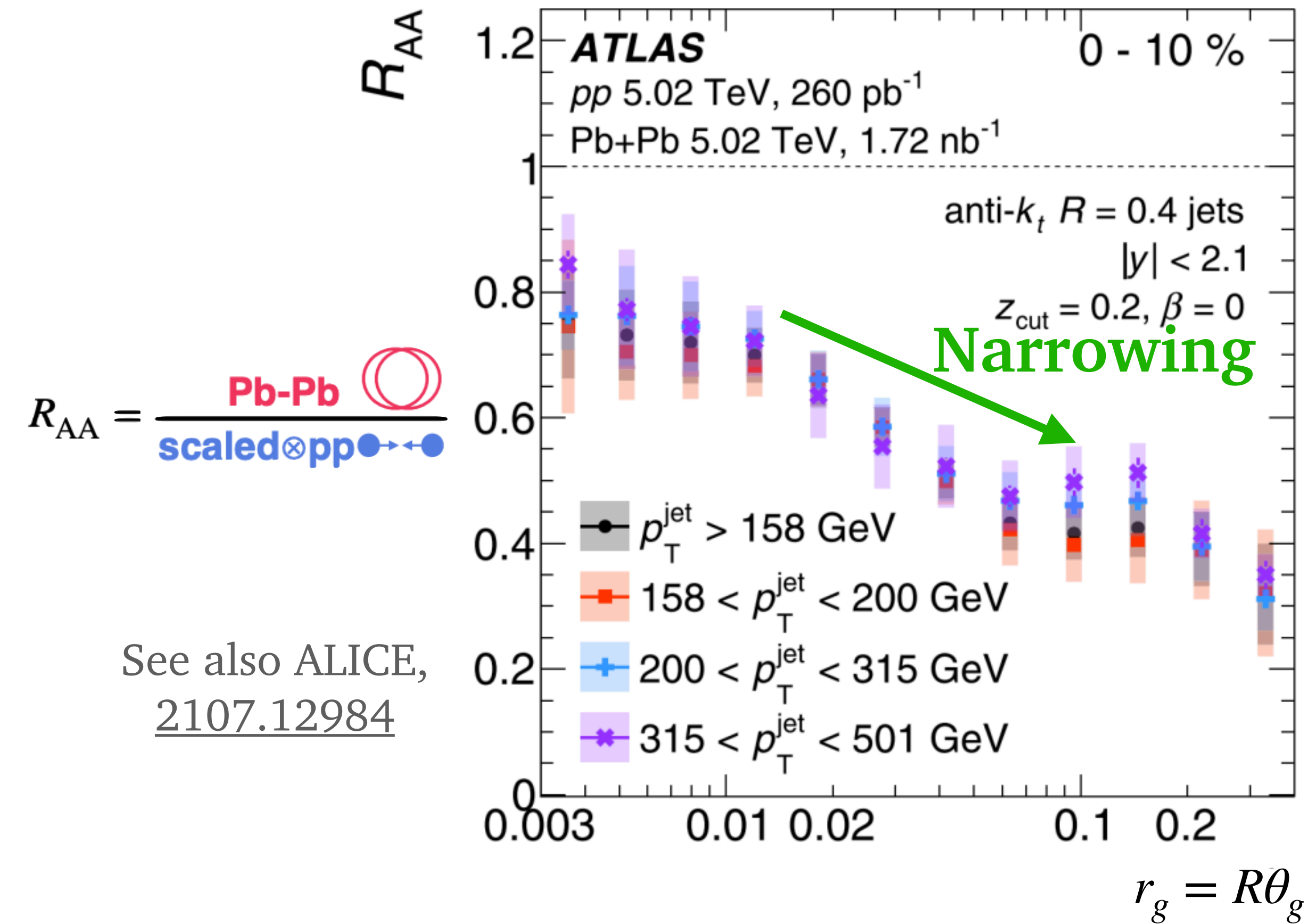


Groomed jet radius

[Soft Drop grooming]

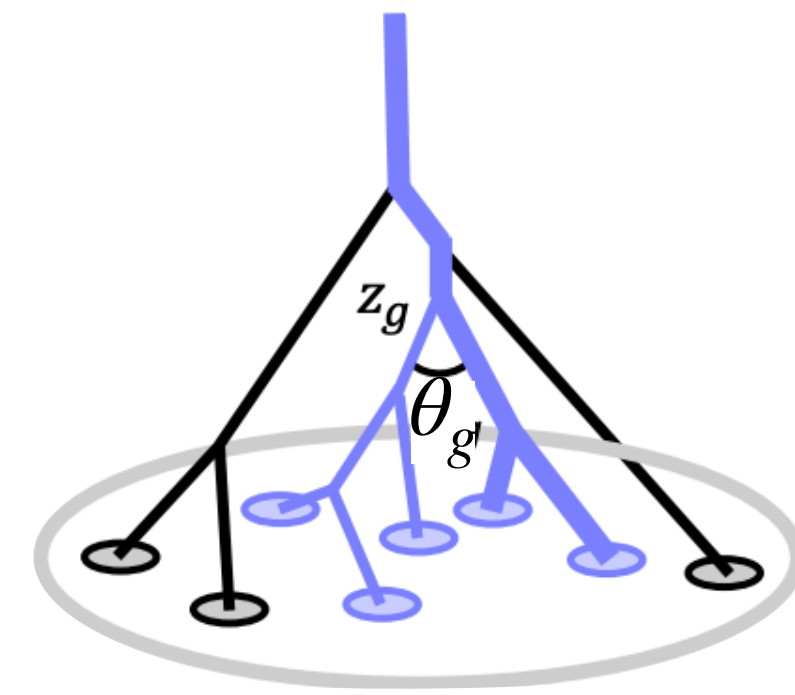


ATLAS, [2211.11470](#)

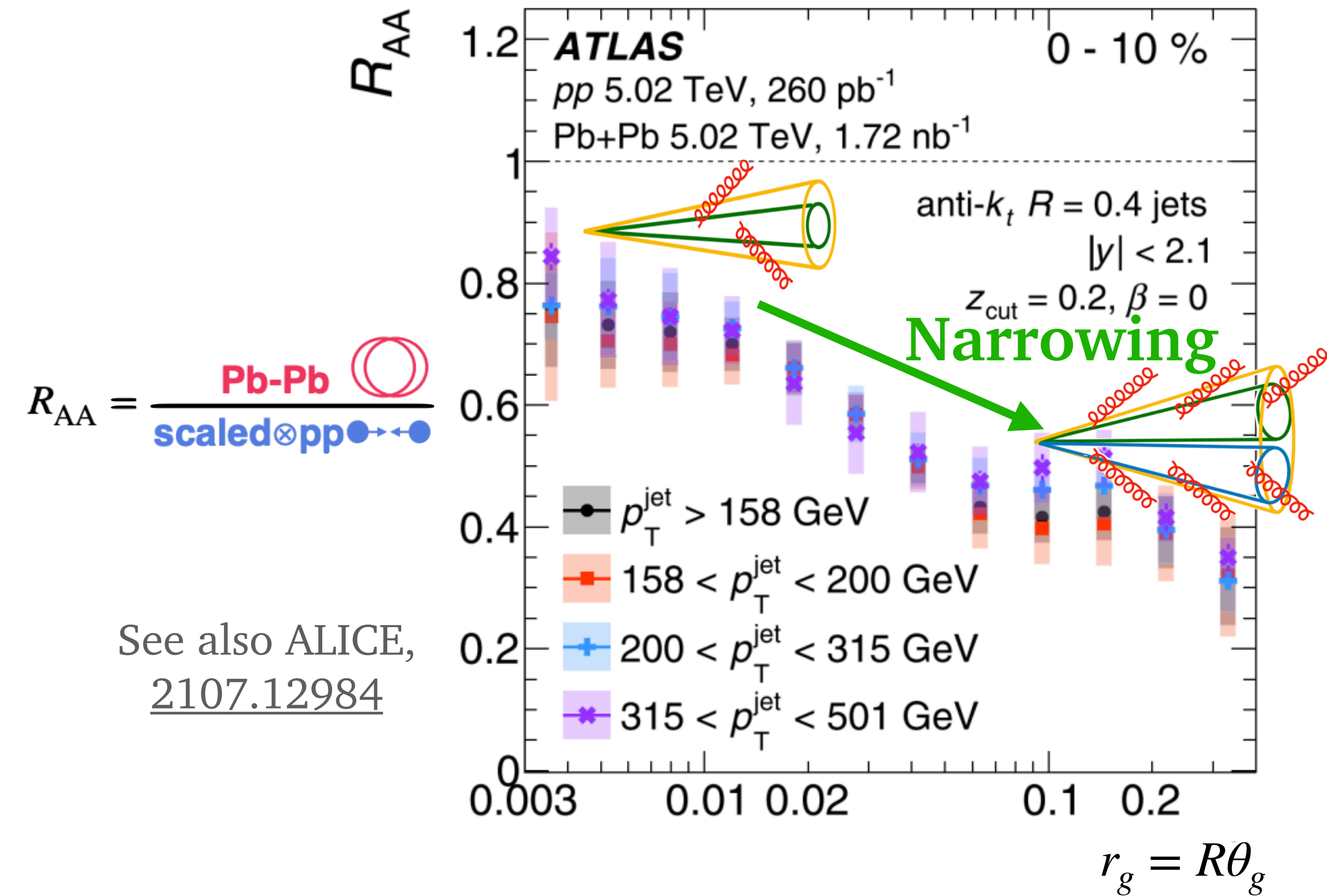


Groomed jet radius

[Soft Drop grooming]

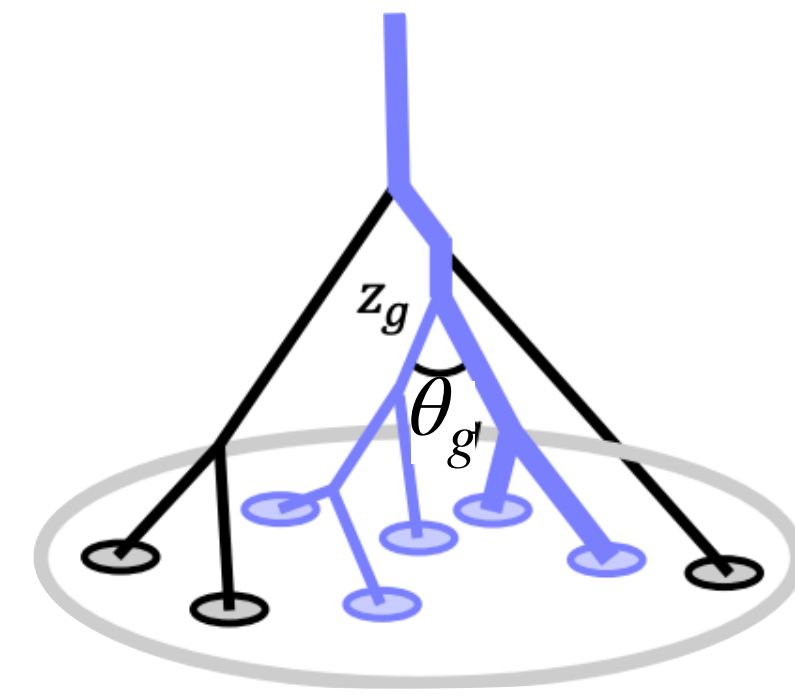


ATLAS, [2211.11470](#)

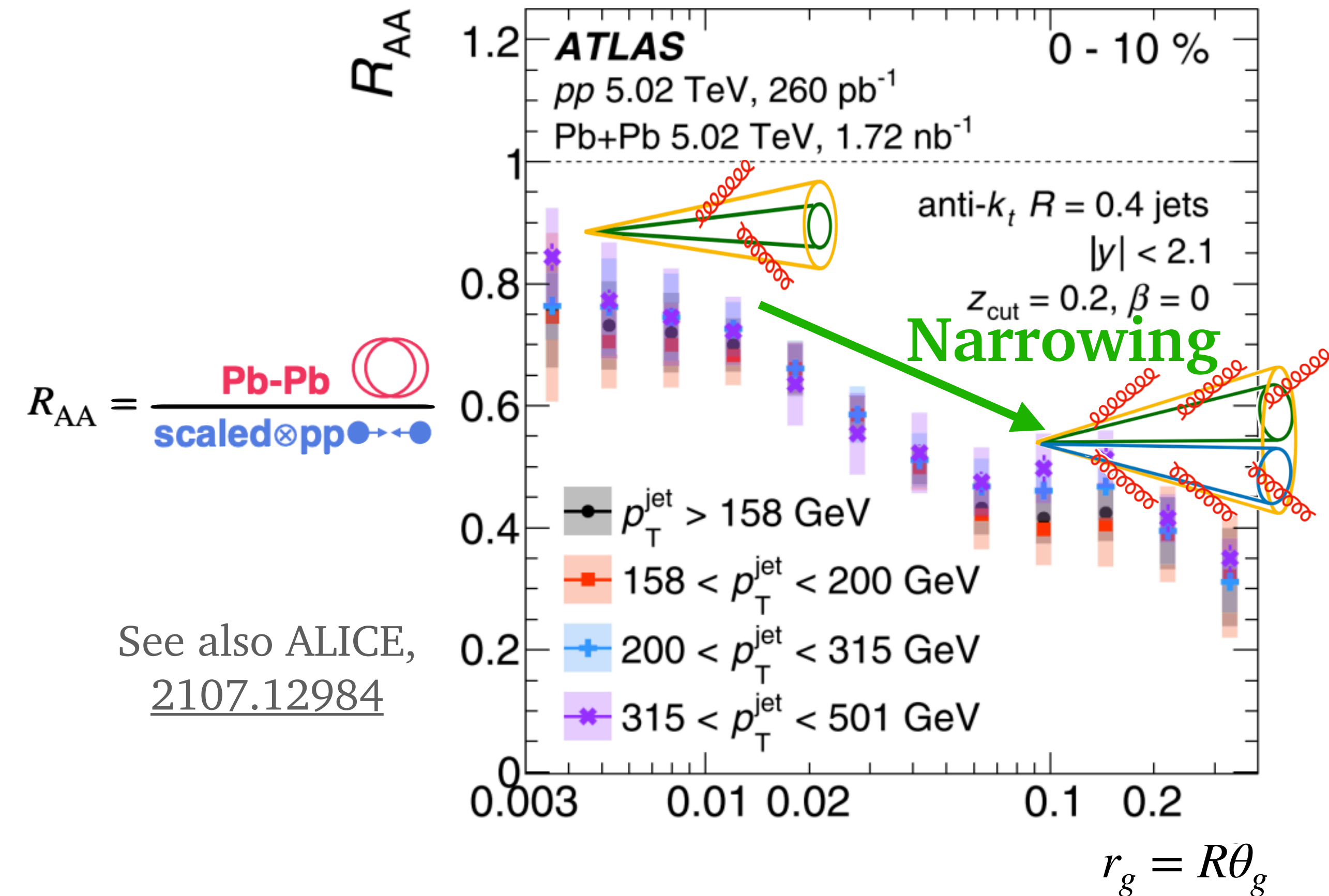


Groomed jet radius

[Soft Drop grooming]

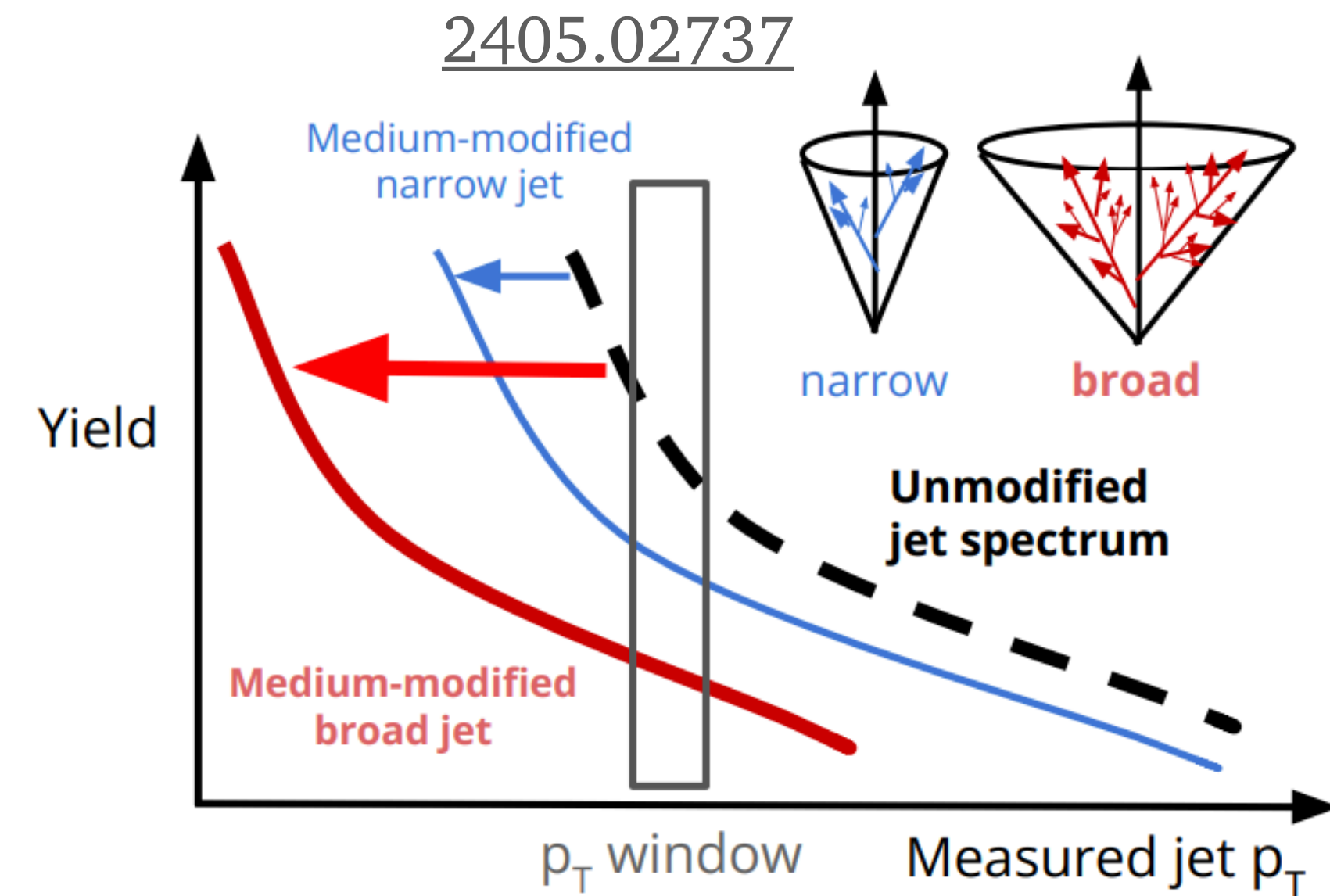


ATLAS, [2211.11470](#)



See also ALICE, [2107.12984](#)

Selection bias

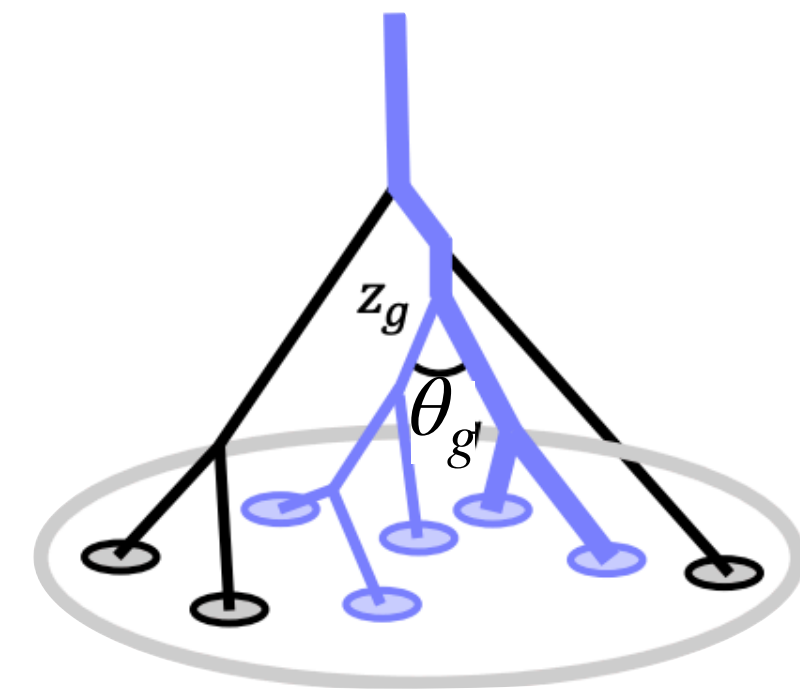


See also CMS, θ_g in γ -tagged jets [2405.02737](#)

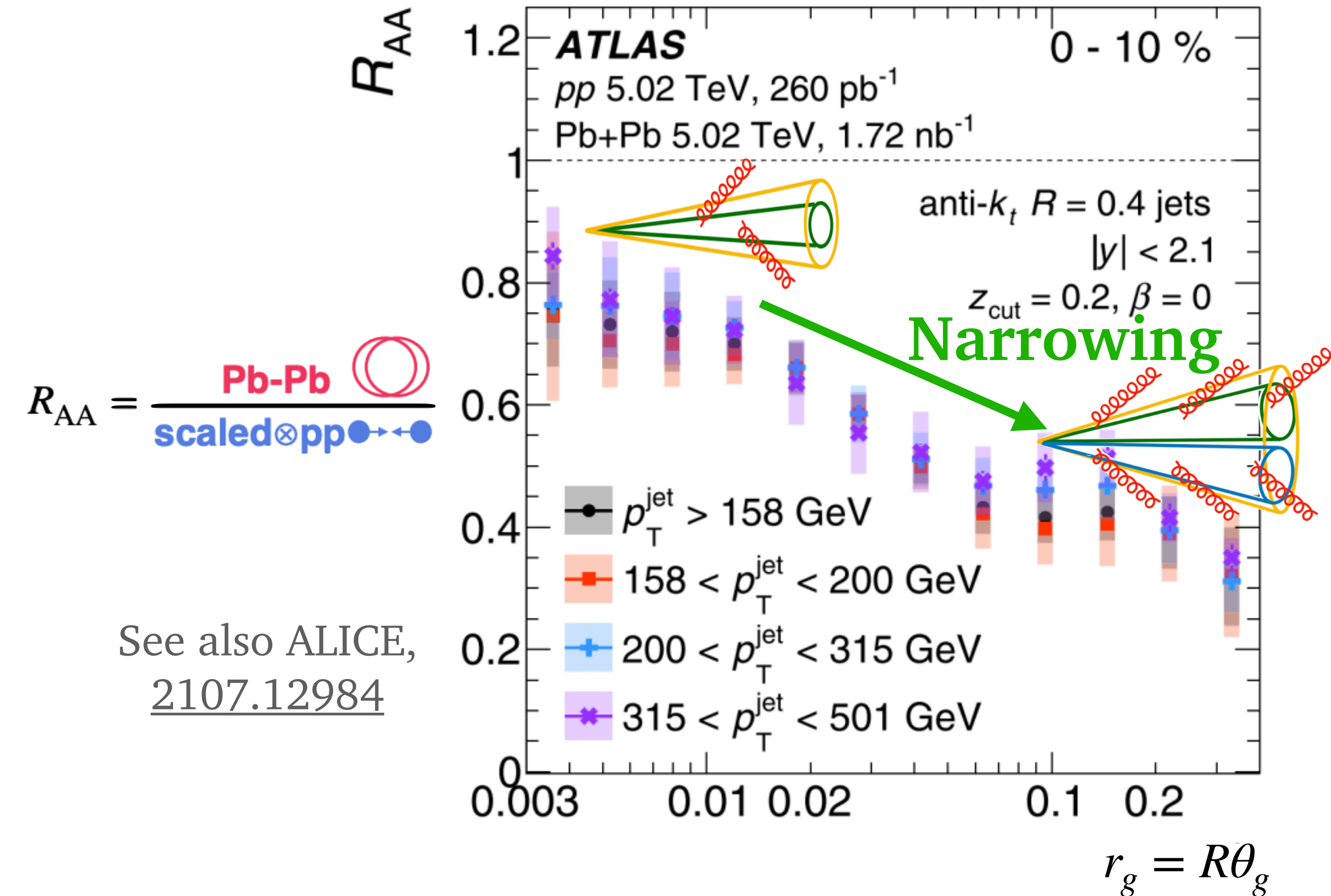
ALICE, θ_g balanced vs. unbalanced in [HP2024](#)

Groomed jet radius

[Soft Drop grooming]

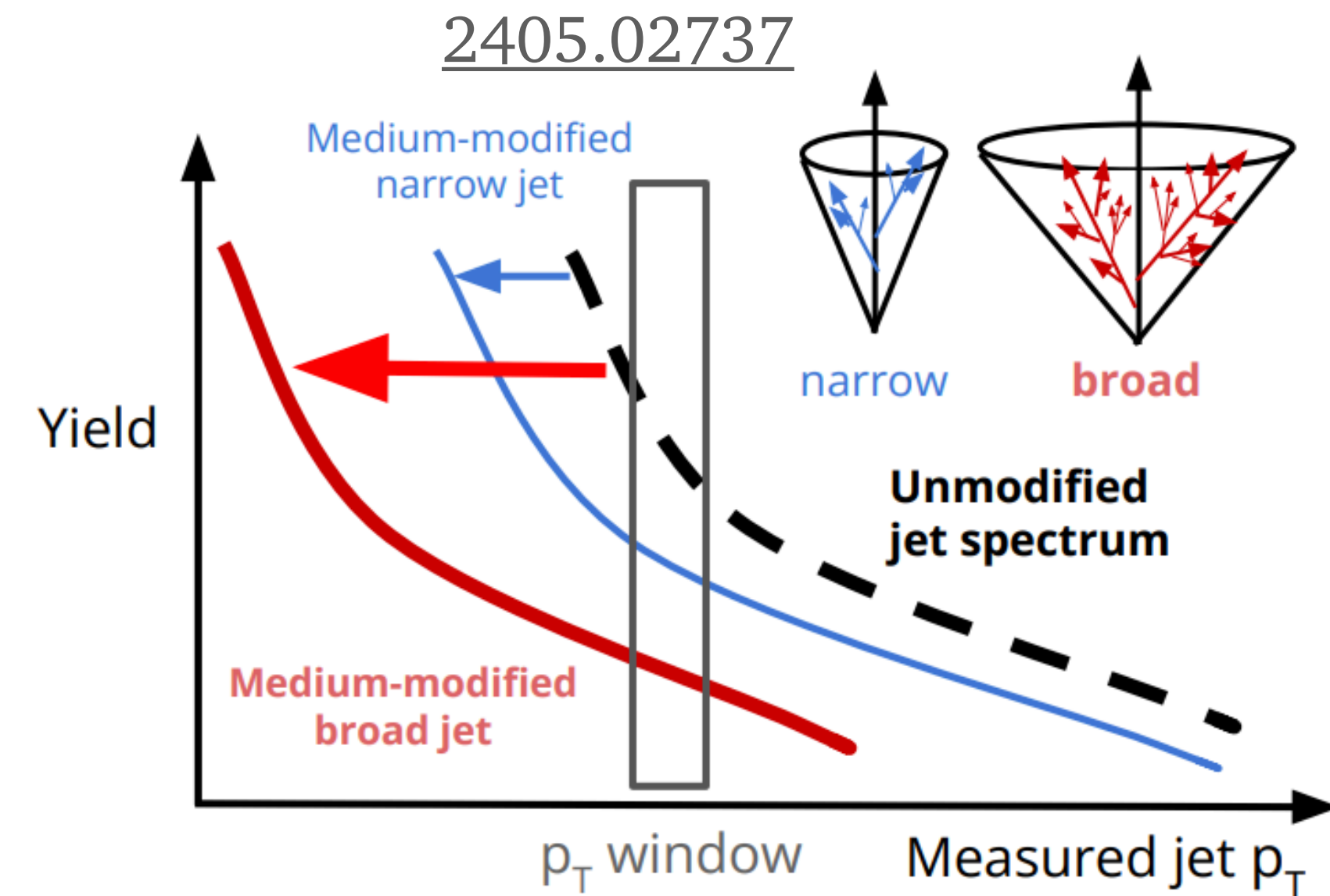


ATLAS, [2211.11470](#)



See also ALICE, [2107.12984](#)

Selection bias



See also CMS, θ_g in γ -tagged jets [2405.02737](#)

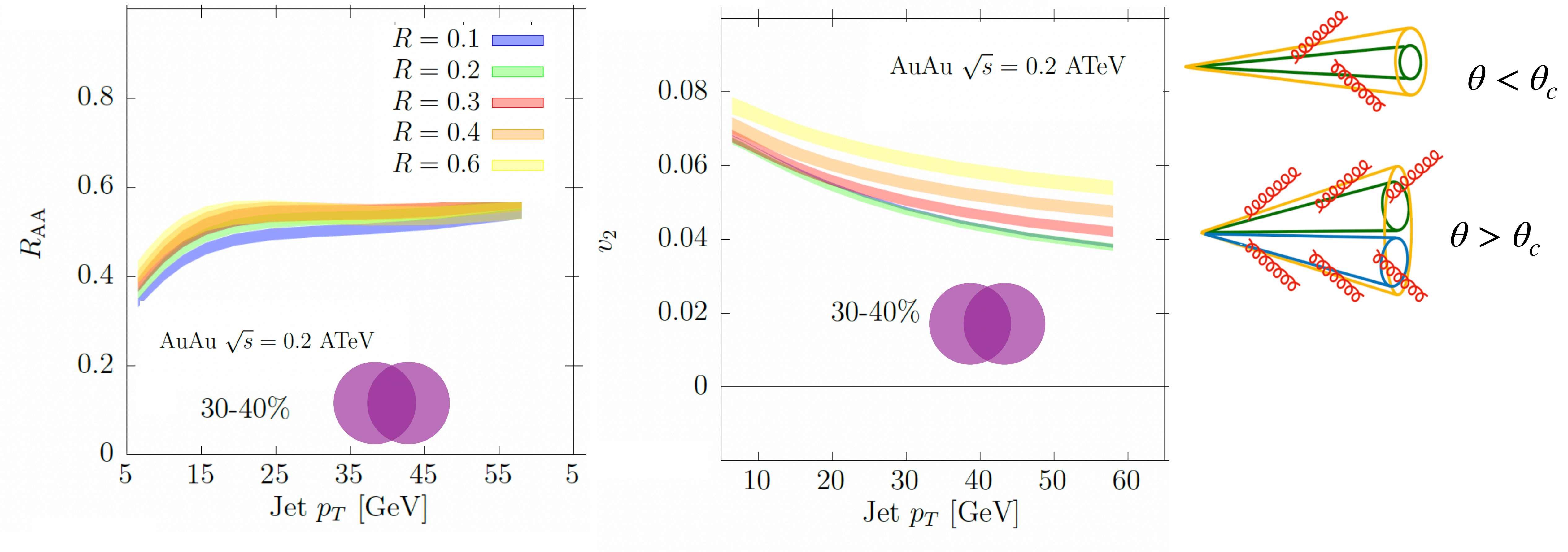
ALICE, θ_g balanced vs. unbalanced in [HP2024](#)

Jets narrowed by the QGP or wider jets less likely to survive?

Inclusive jets and v_2

Mehtar-Tani, Pablos, Tywoniuk, [2402.07869](#)
[2101.01742](#)

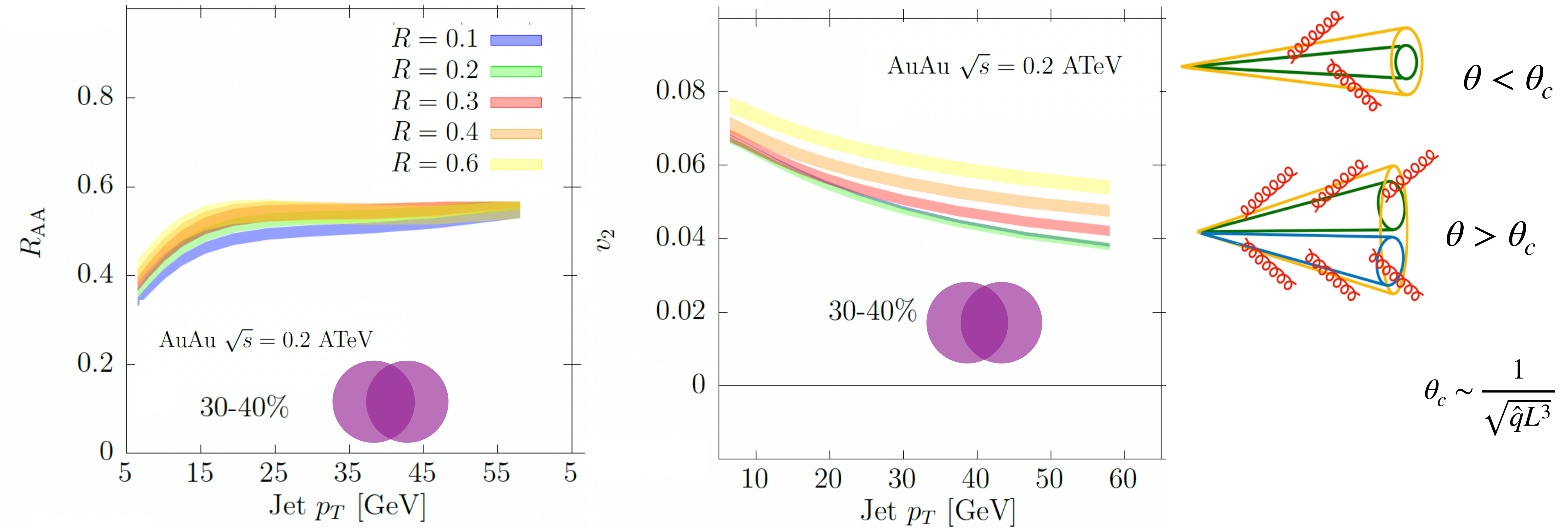
Jet v_2 : stronger dependence on the dynamics of color coherence



Inclusive jets and v_2

Mehtar-Tani, Pablos, Tywoniuk, [2402.07869](#)
[2101.01742](#)

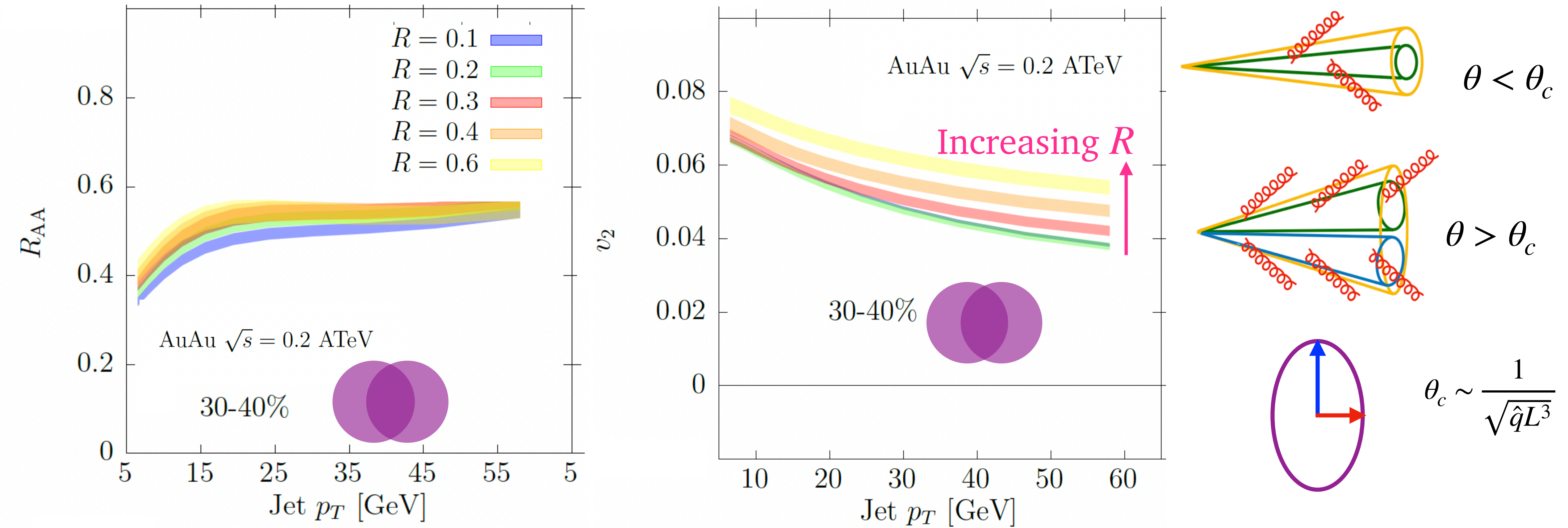
Jet v_2 : stronger dependence on the dynamics of color coherence



Inclusive jets and v_2

Mehtar-Tani, Pablos, Tywoniuk, [2402.07869](#)
[2101.01742](#)

Jet v_2 : stronger dependence on the dynamics of color coherence

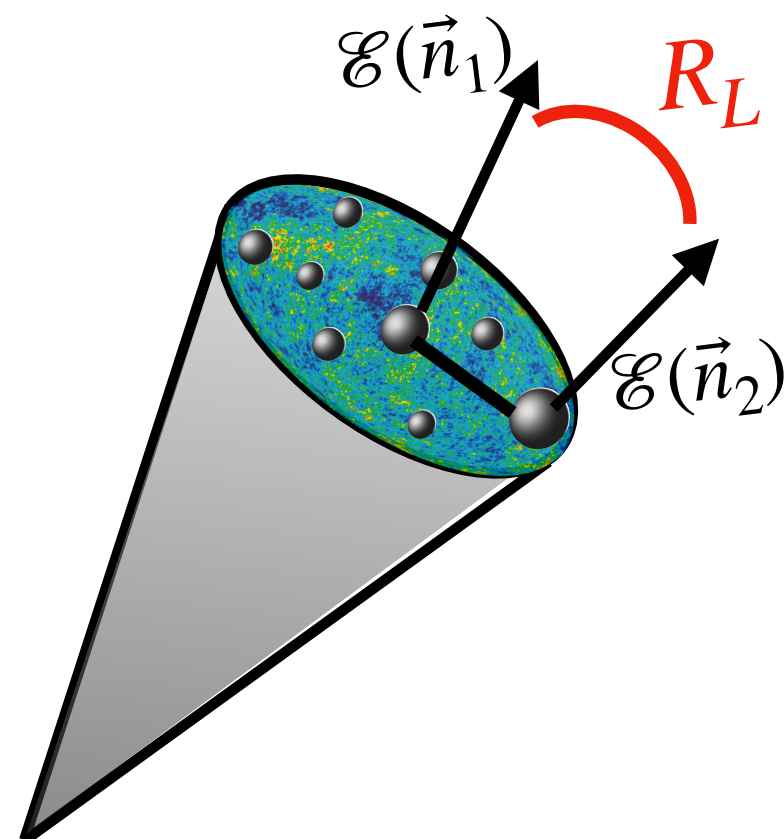


Energy correlators

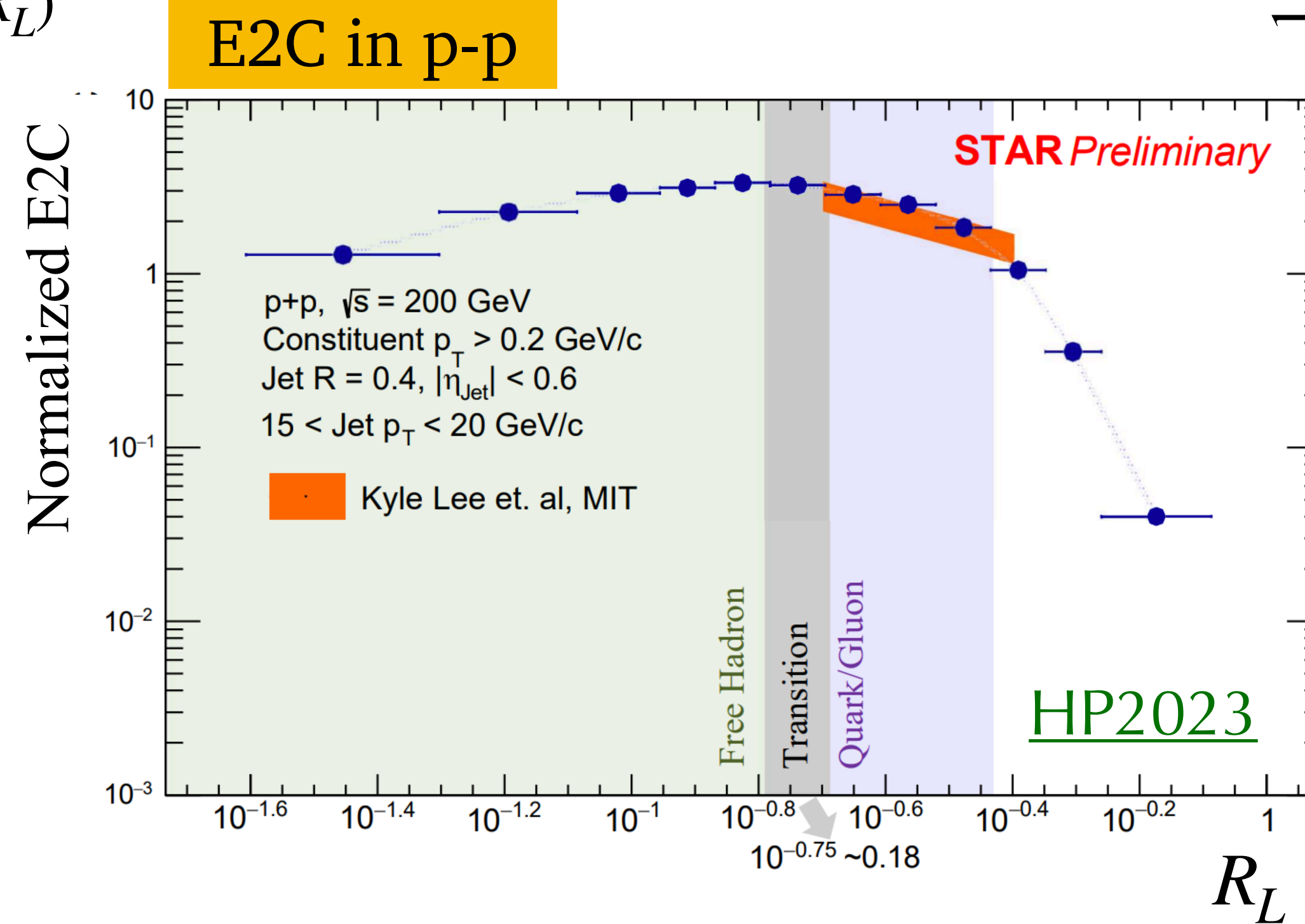
Energy correlators

- Correlators of the **energy flux** $\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_k) \rangle$

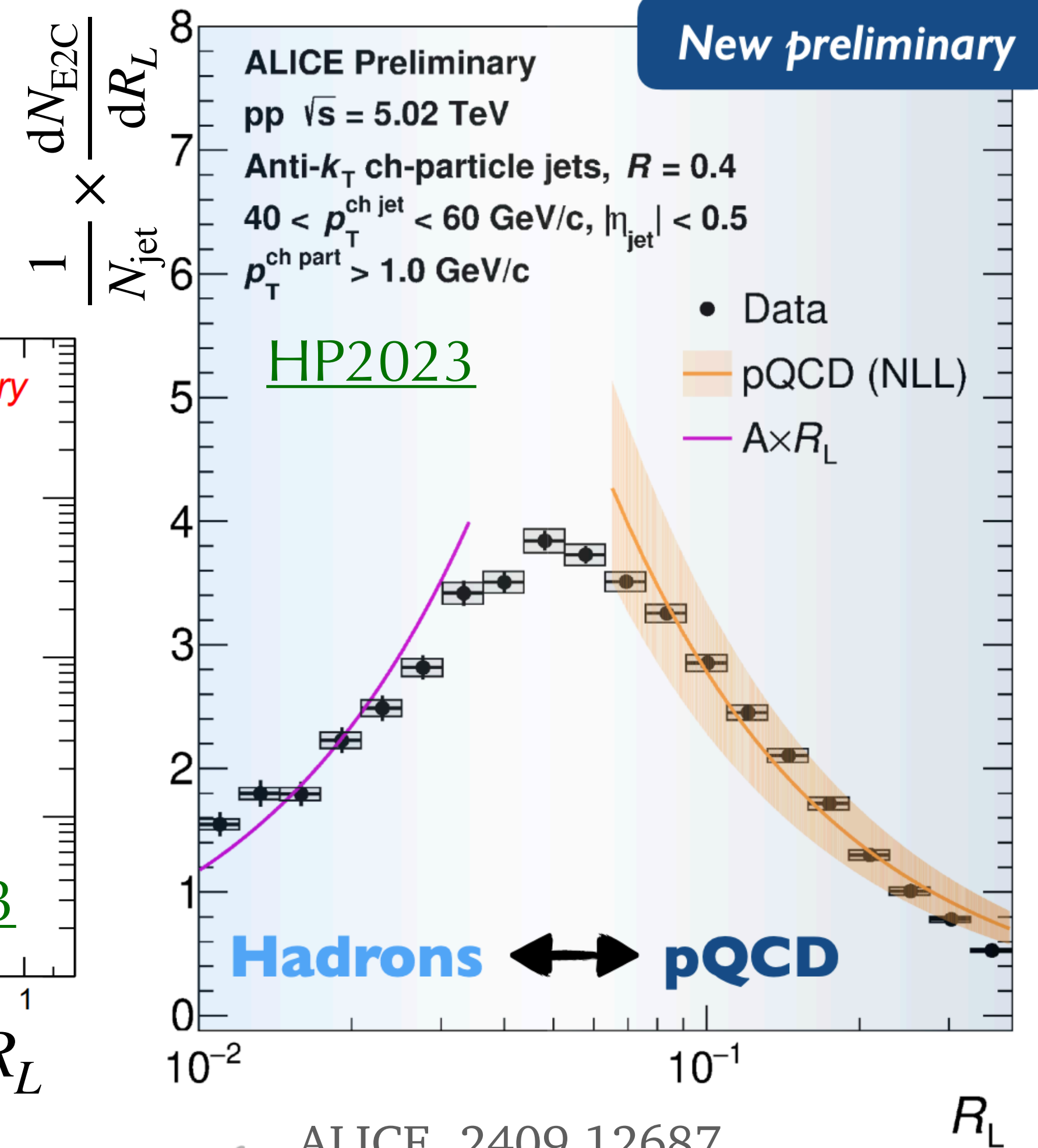
$$\text{E2C} \propto \sum_{\text{jets}} \sum_{i,j} \frac{P_{T,i} P_{T,j}}{P_{T,\text{jet}}^2} \delta(R_{ij} - R_L)$$



$$R_{ij} = \sqrt{\Delta\phi_{ij}^2 + \Delta\eta_{ij}^2}$$



STAR, 2502.15925

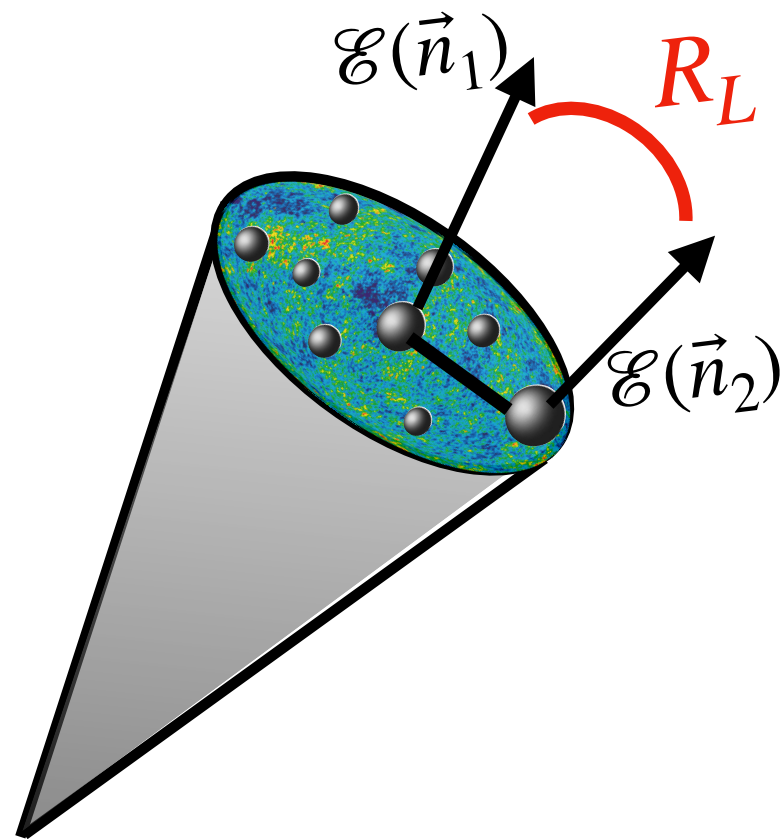


ALICE, 2409.12687

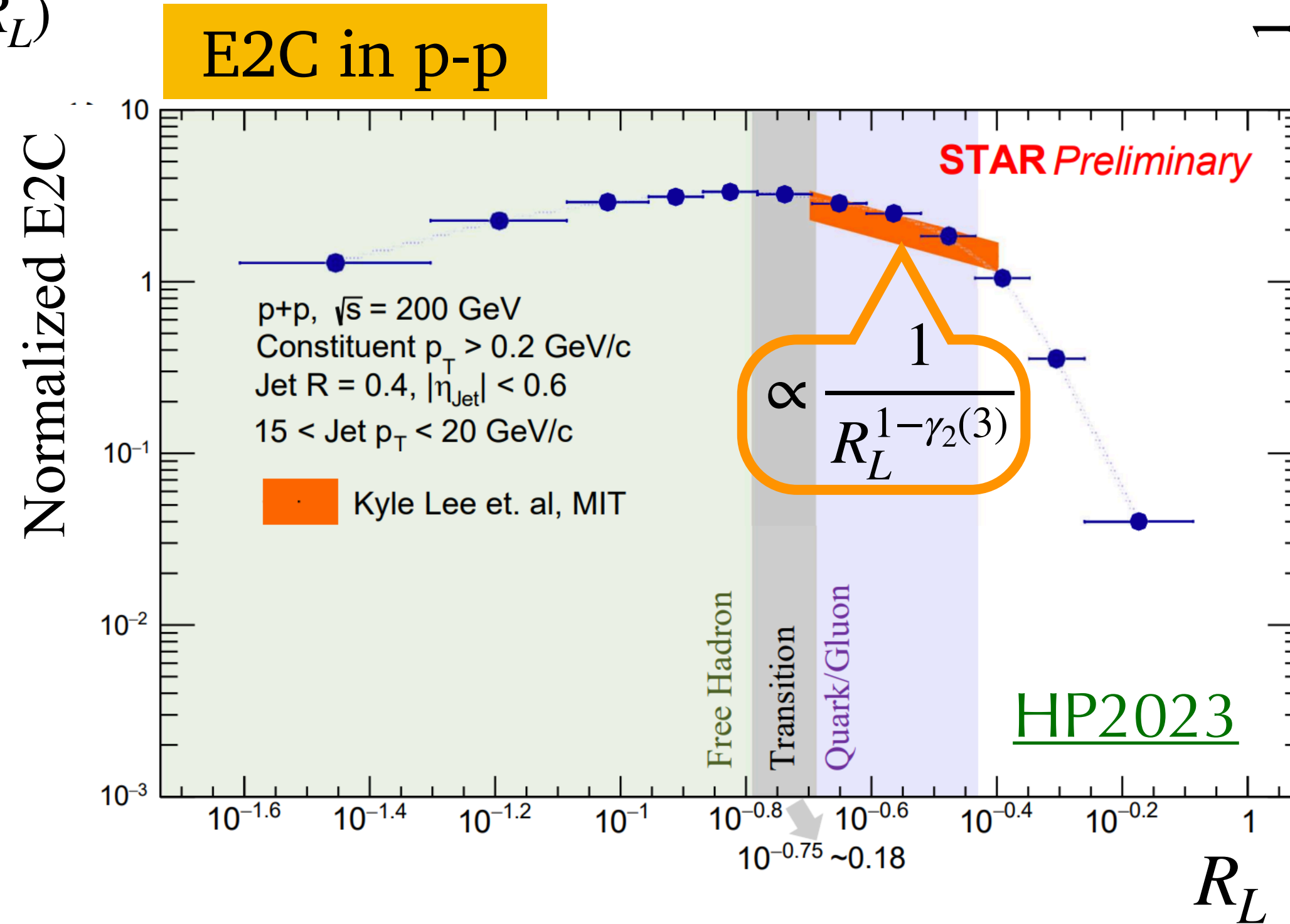
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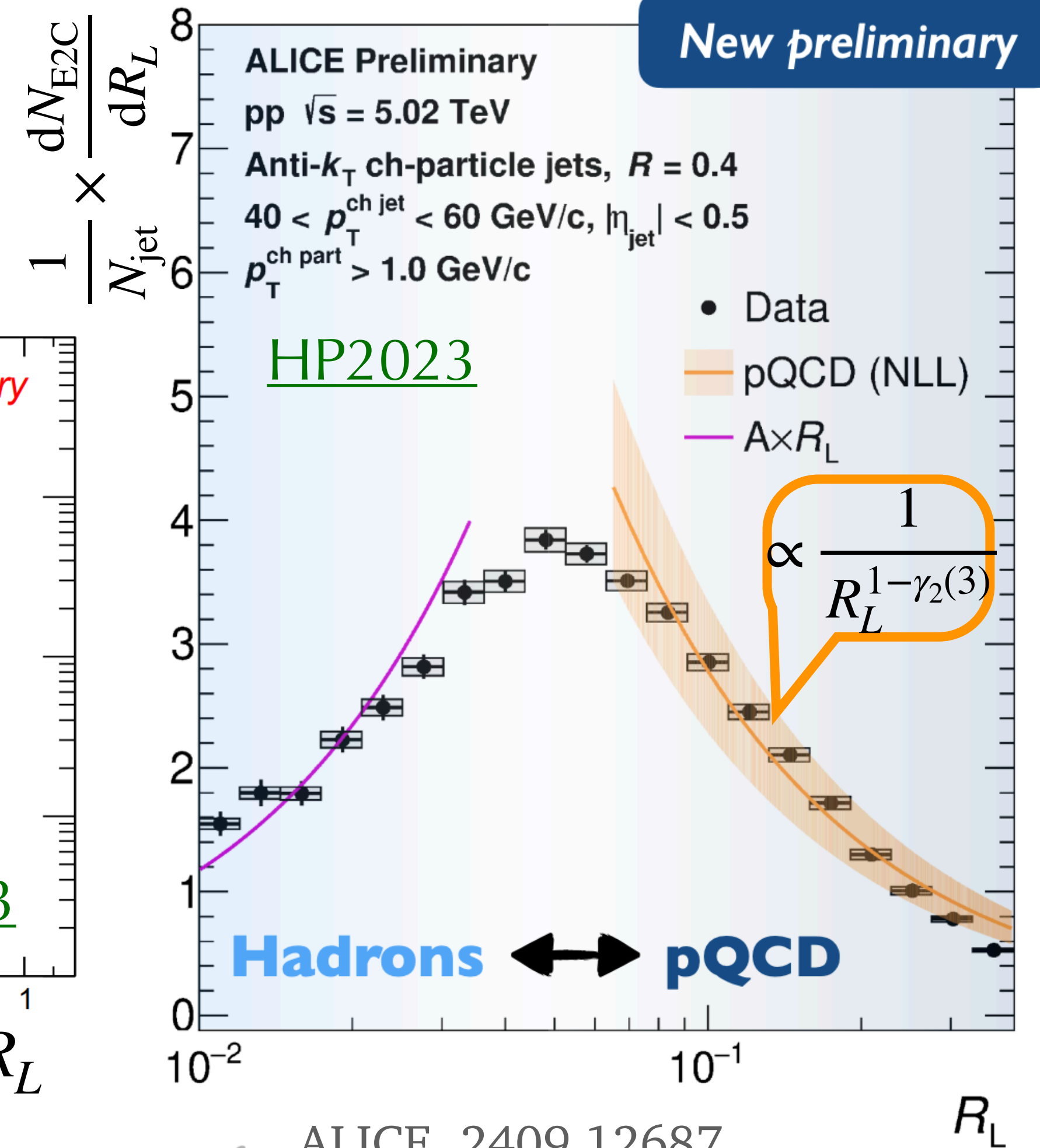
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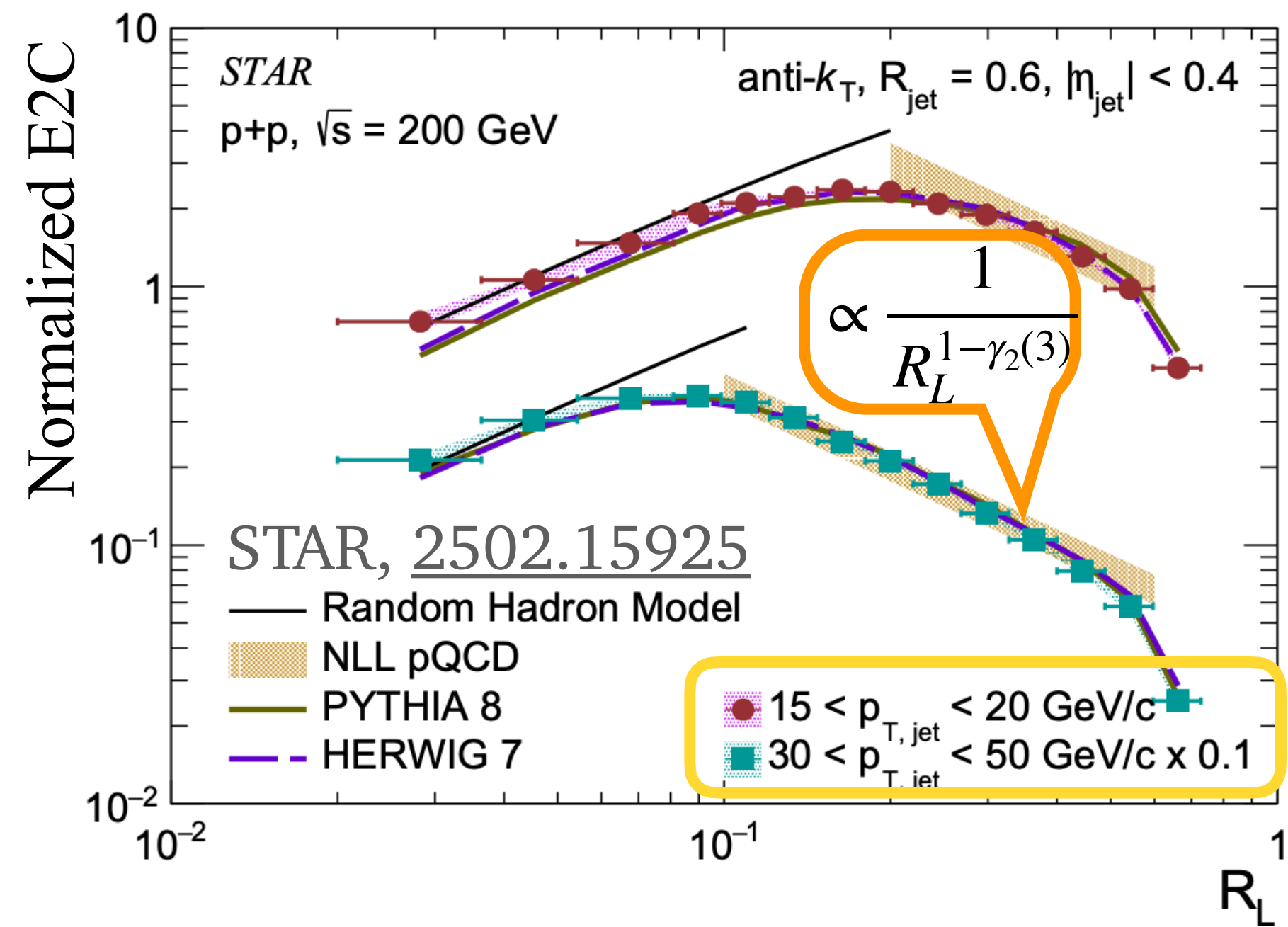


STAR, 2502.15925

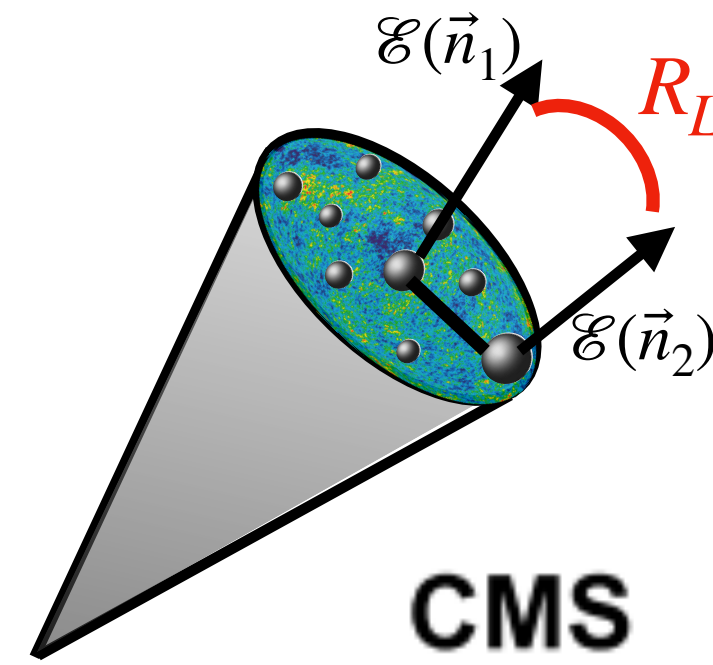
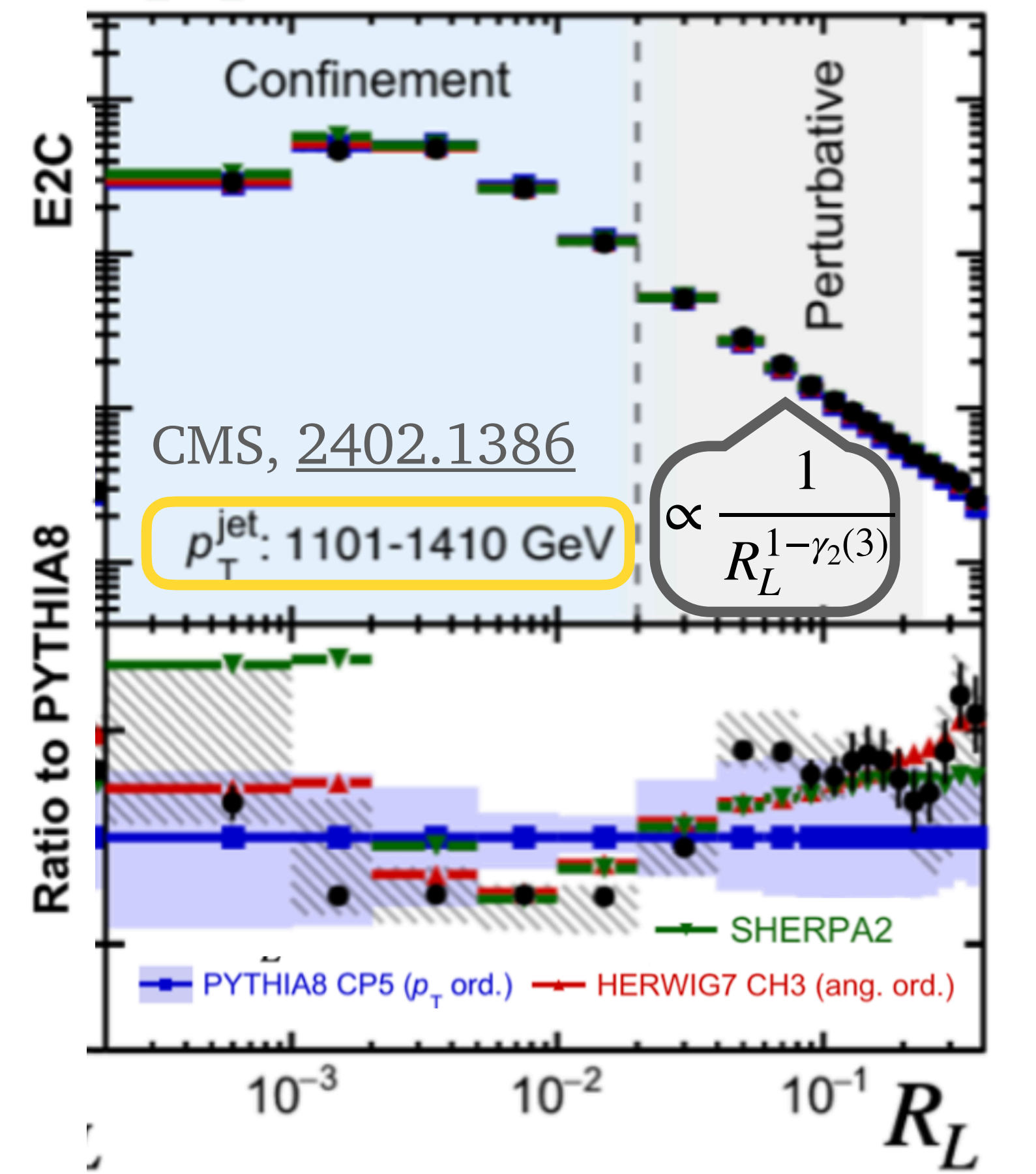


Universal scaling in p-p

E2C in p-p



E2C in p-p

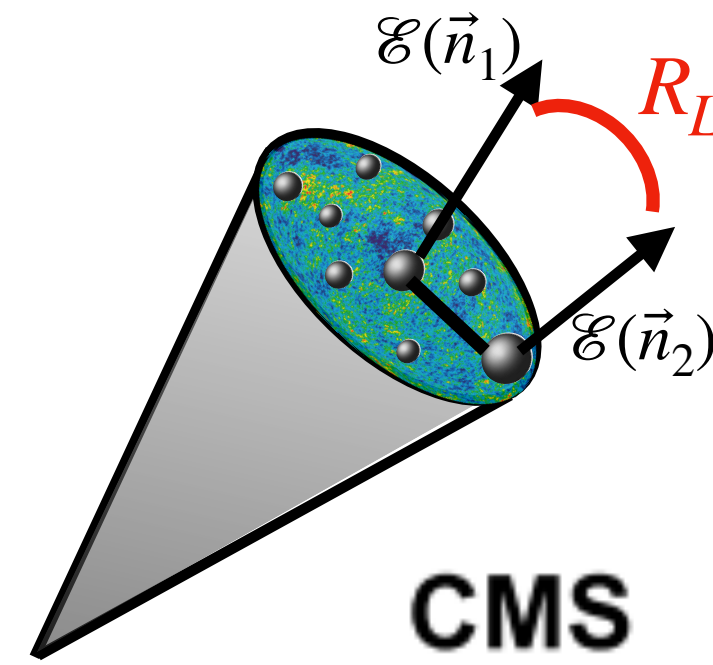


Universal scaling in p-p

Hoffman, Maldacena, [0803.1467](#)

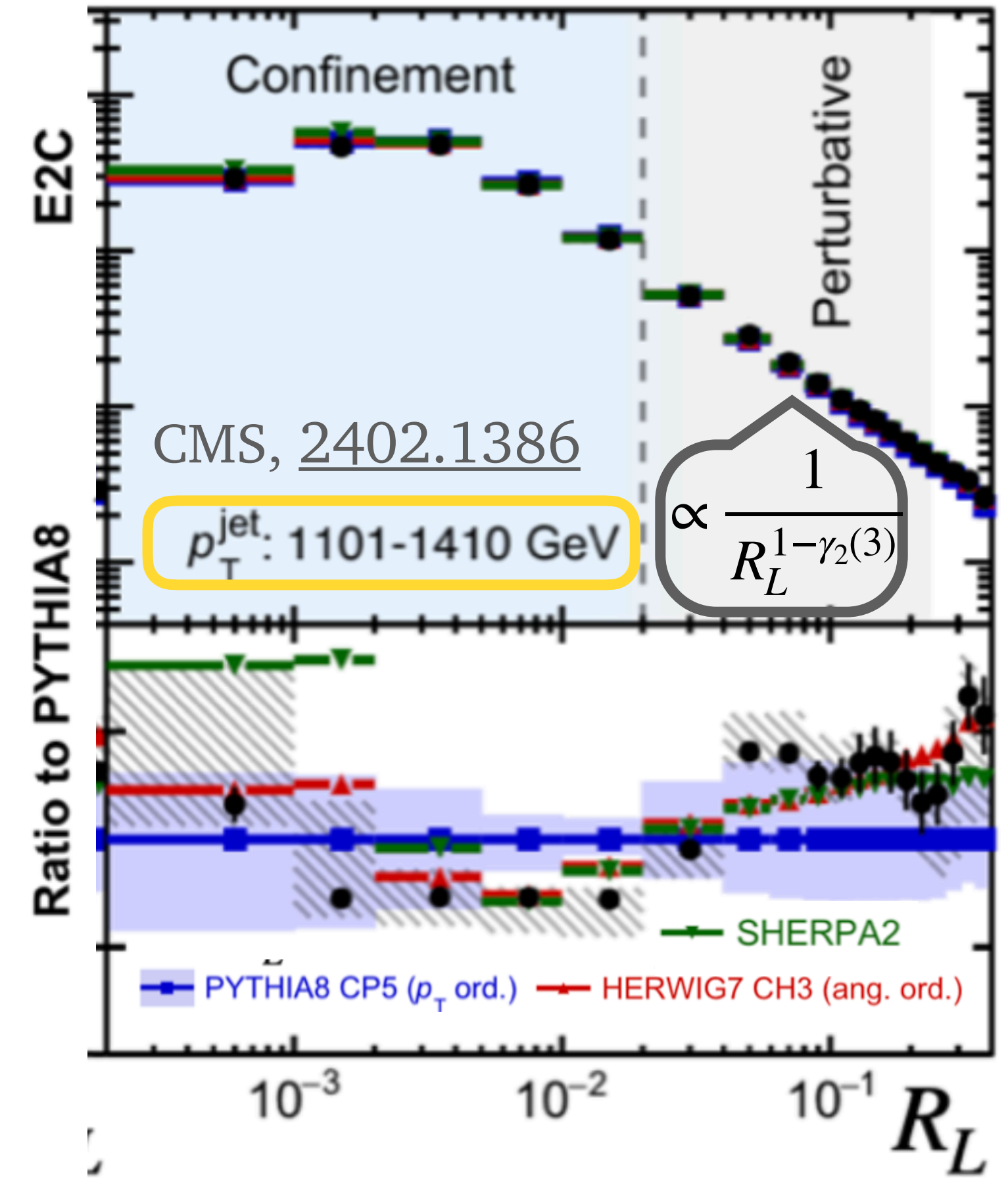
Light-Ray OPE

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i - 4 + \hat{\gamma}_i(3)} \mathbb{O}_i^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

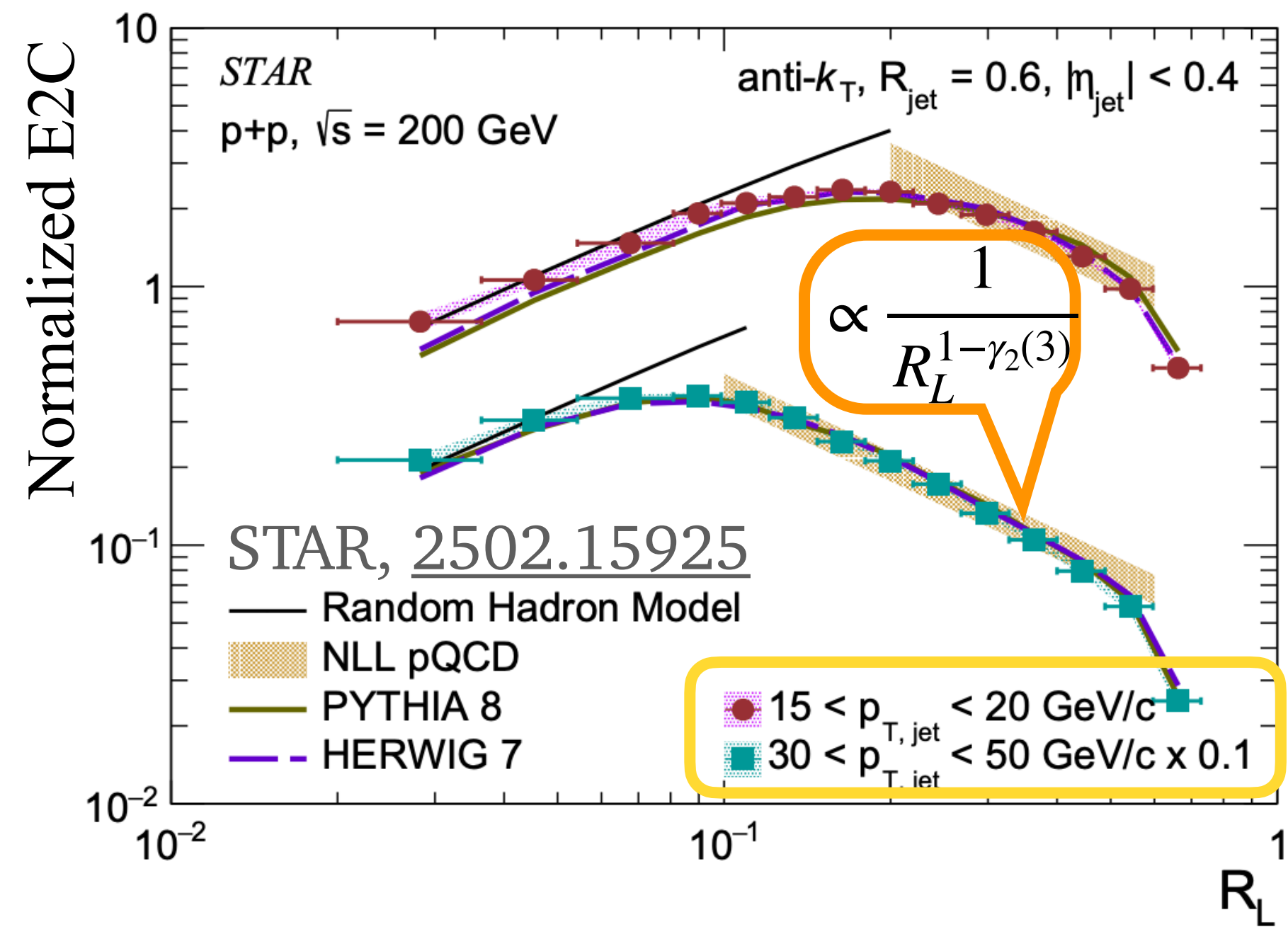


E2C in p-p

CMS



E2C in p-p

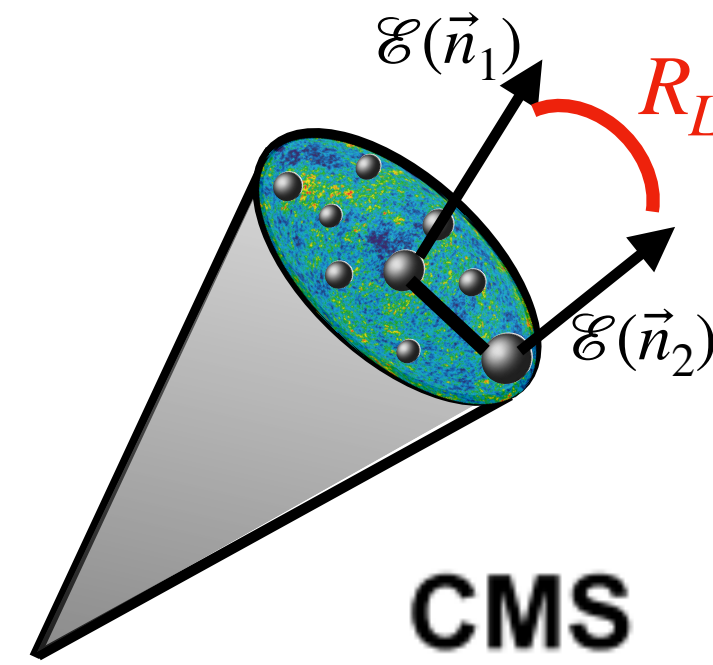


Universal scaling in p-p

Hoffman, Maldacena, [0803.1467](#)

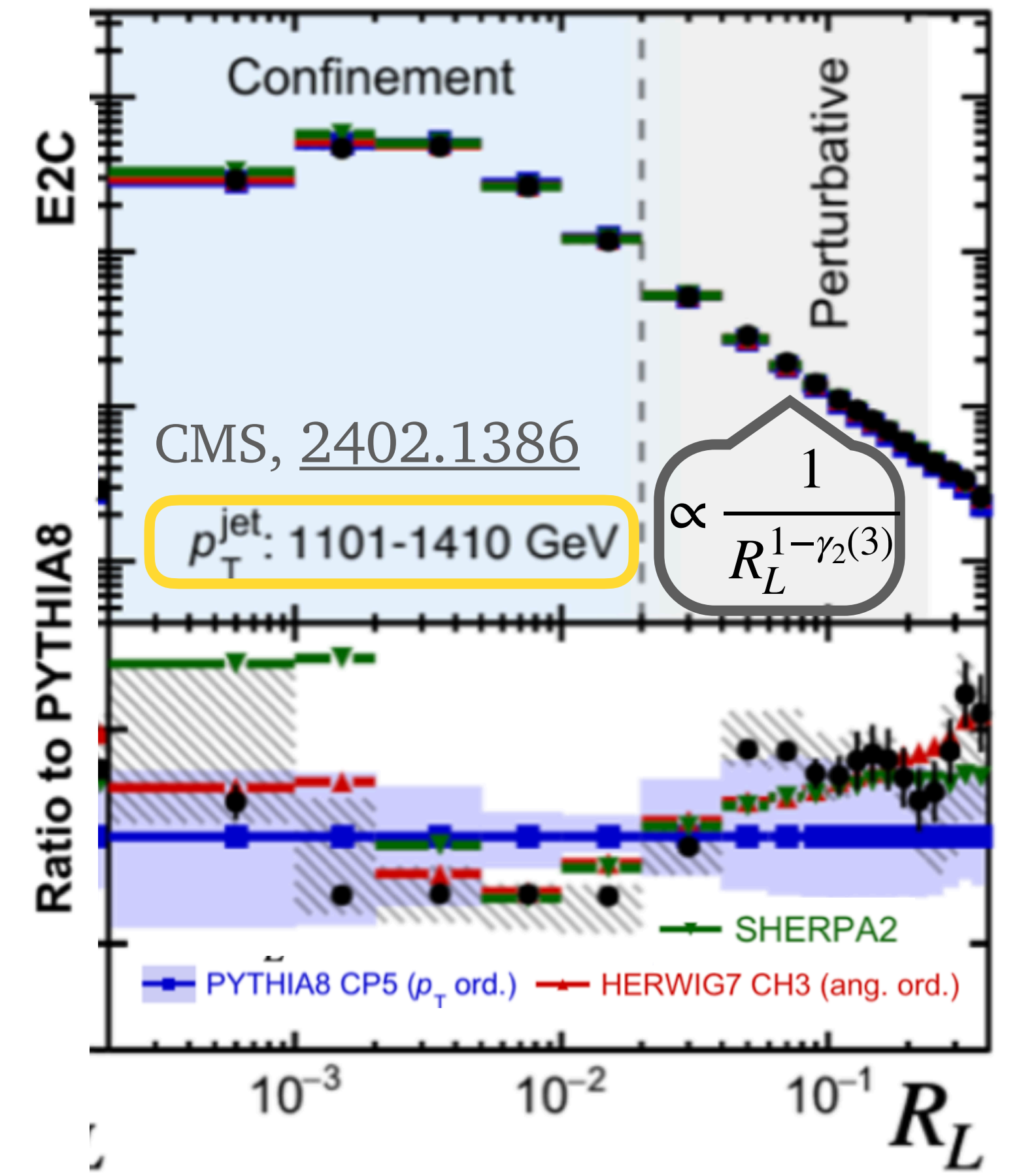
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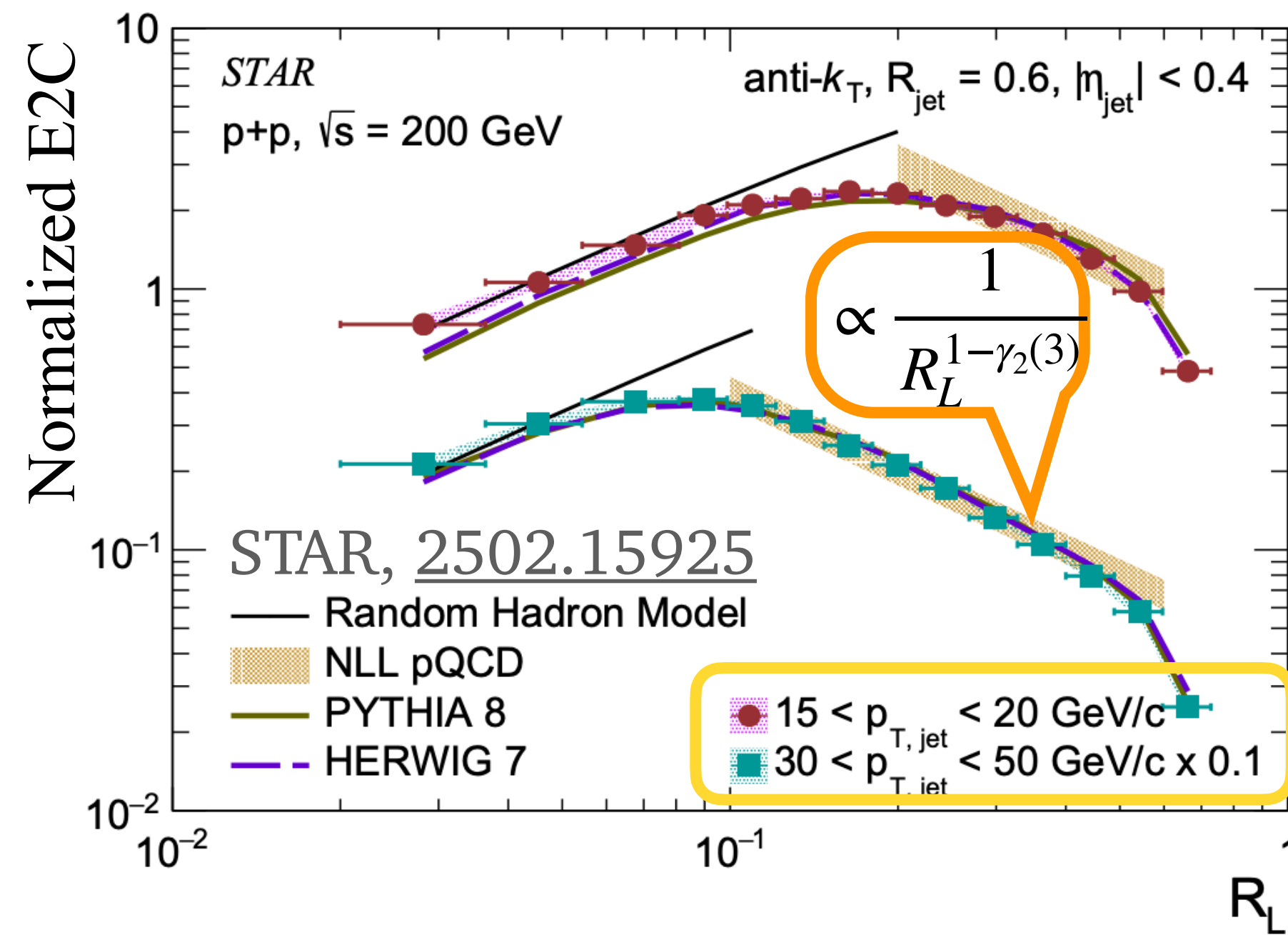


E2C in p-p

CMS



E2C in p-p



Leading term dominates!

$$\frac{d\Sigma_{\text{E2C}}}{dR_L} \propto \frac{1}{R_L^{1-\gamma_2(3)}}$$

Universal scaling in p-p

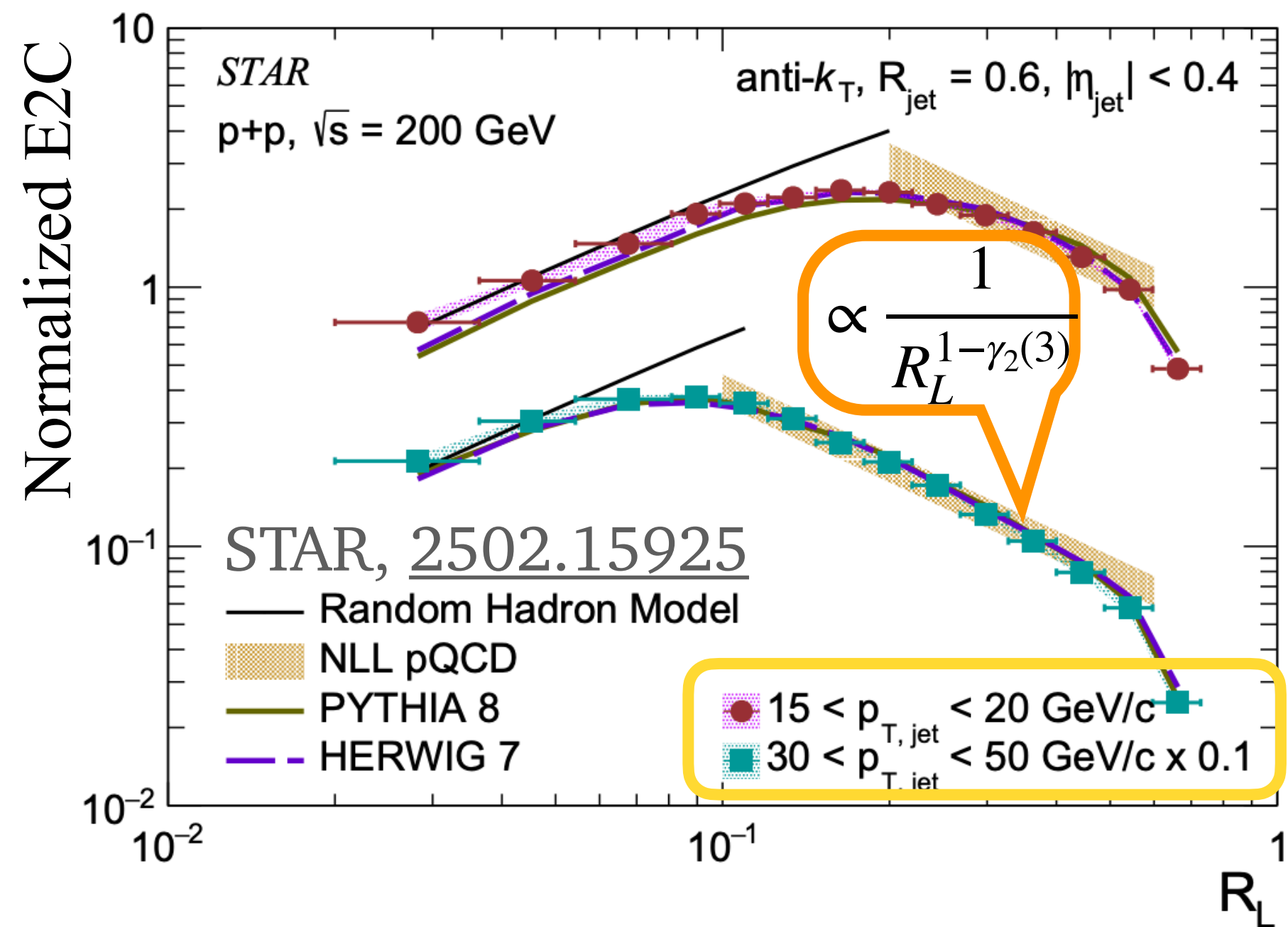
Hoffman, Maldacena, [0803.1467](#)

Light-Ray OPE

Chen, Moult, Sandor, Zhu, [2202.04085](#)

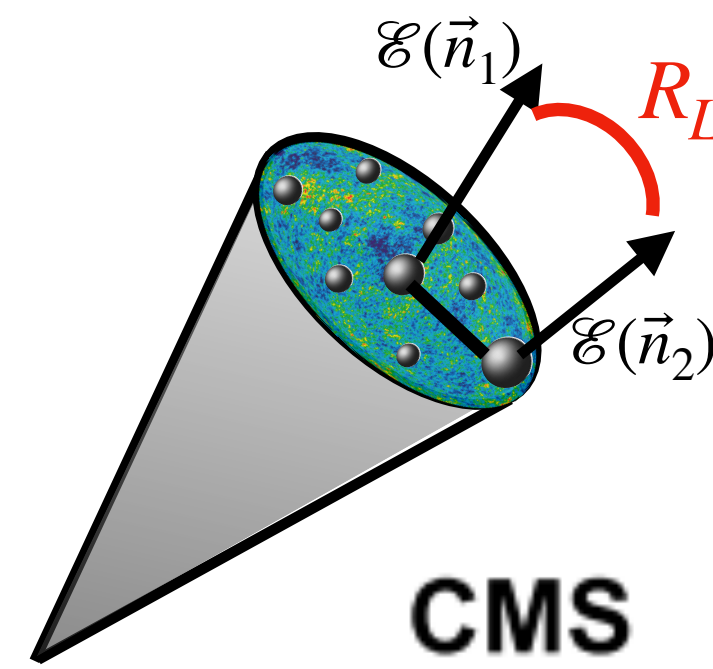
$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i - 4 + \hat{\gamma}_i(3)} \mathbb{O}_i^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

E2C in p-p

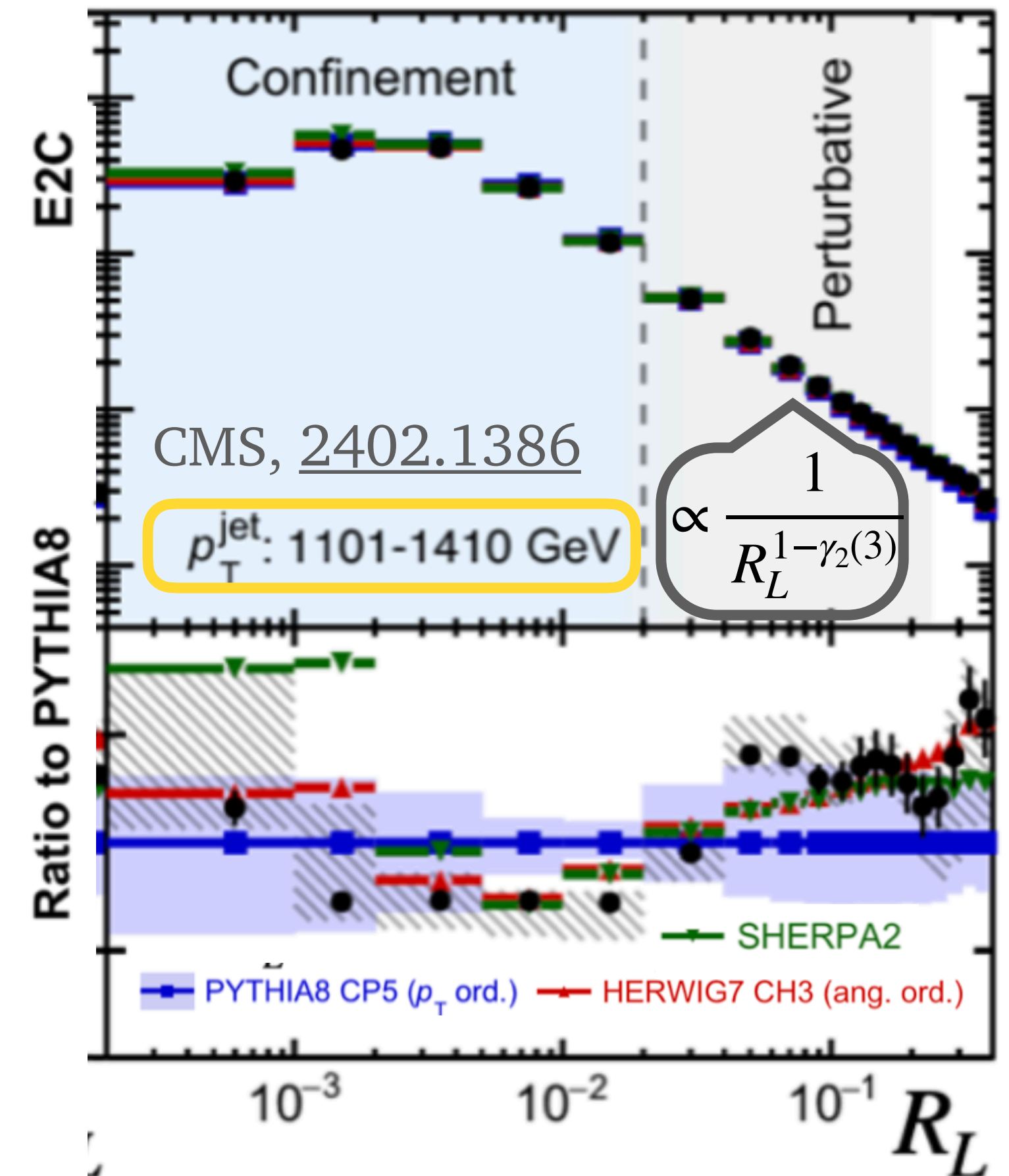


Leading term dominates!

$$\frac{d\Sigma_{\text{E2C}}}{dR_L} \propto \frac{1}{R_L^{1-\gamma_2(3)}}$$



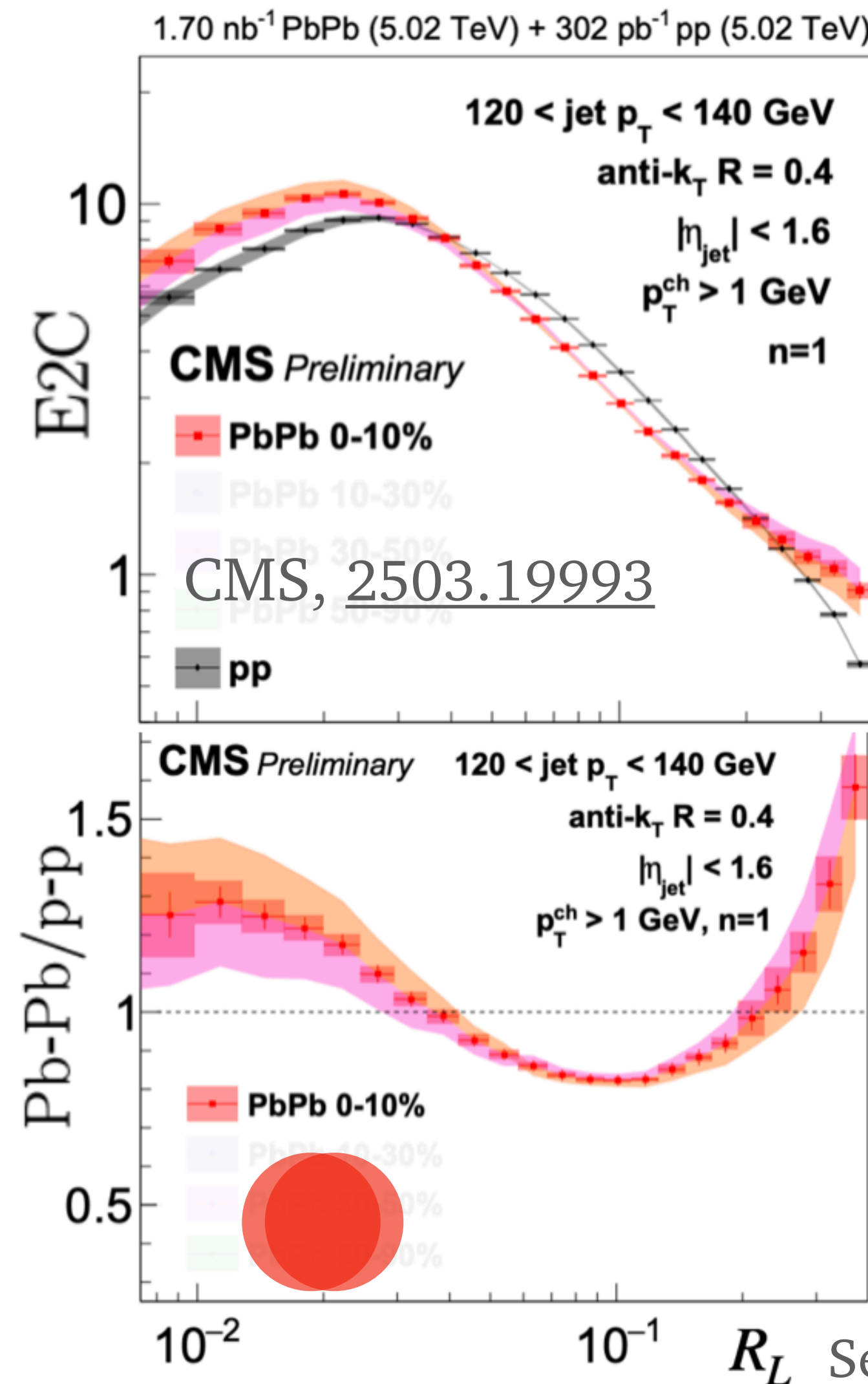
E2C in p-p



Light-ray OPE scaling observed by STAR, ALICE, and CMS in jets from 15 GeV to ~ 2 TeV!

E2C in PbPb

E2C in inclusive jets

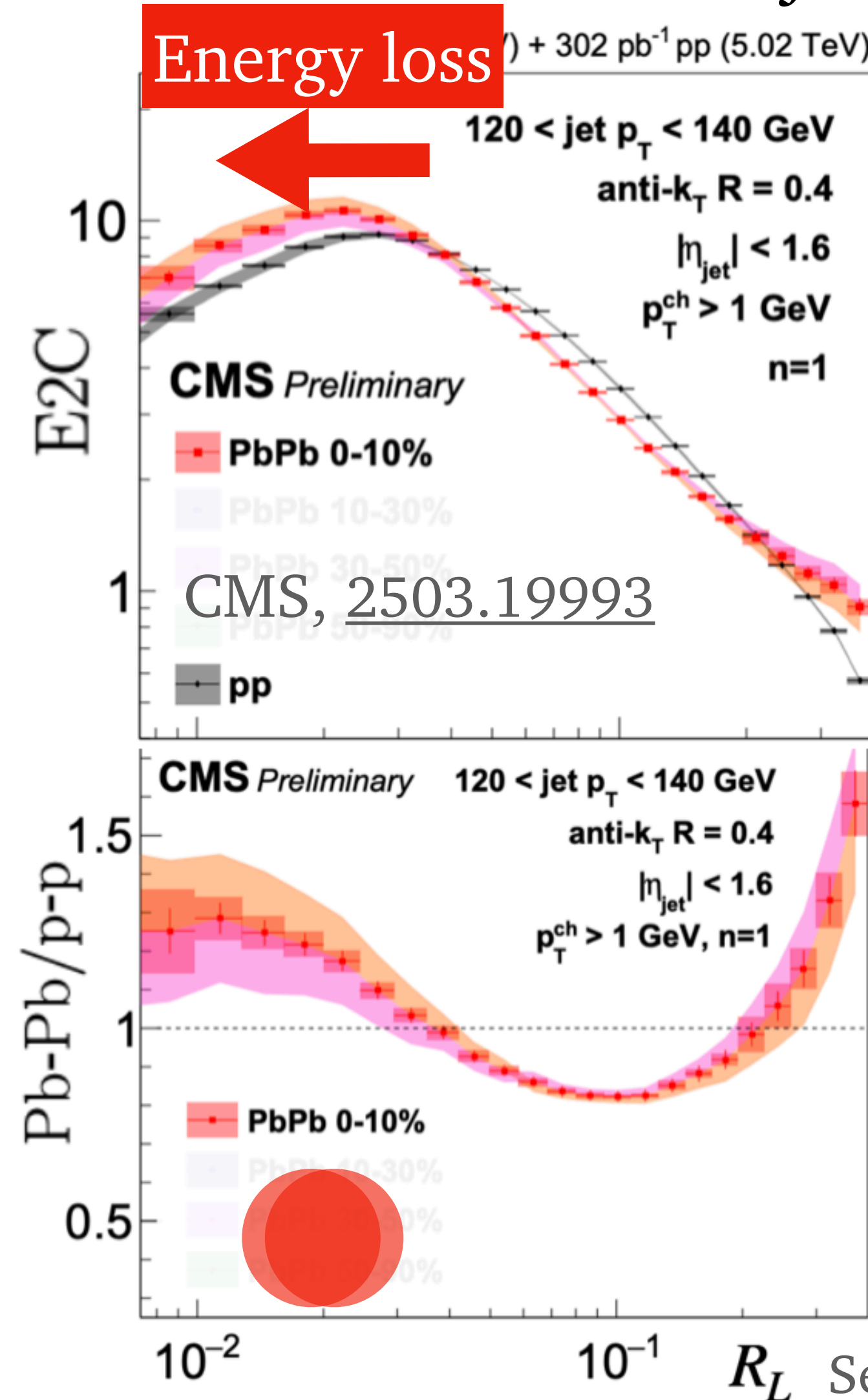


See also [ALICE PbPb QM2025](#)

E2C in PbPb

E2C in inclusive jets

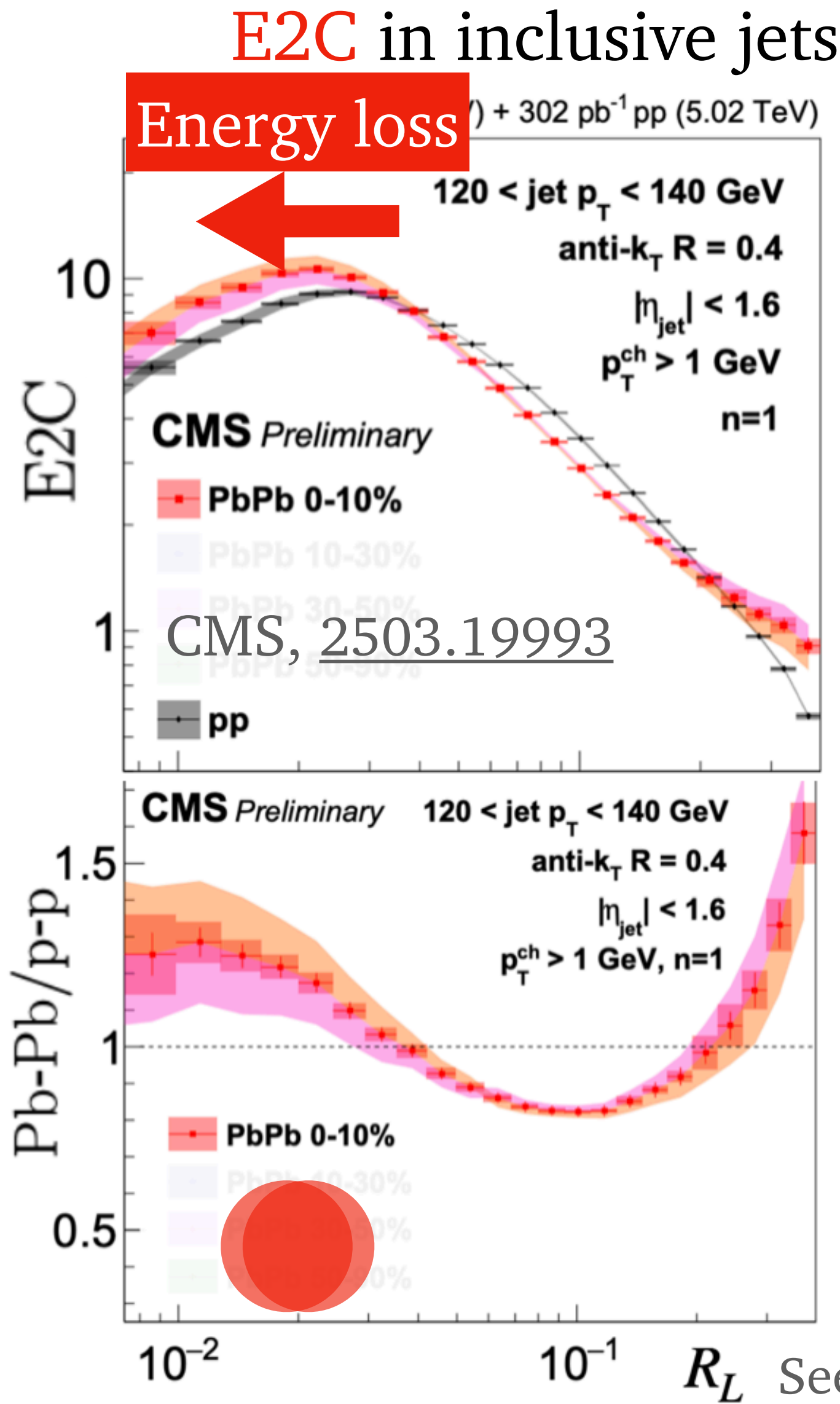
Energy loss



See also [ALICE PbPb QM2025](#)

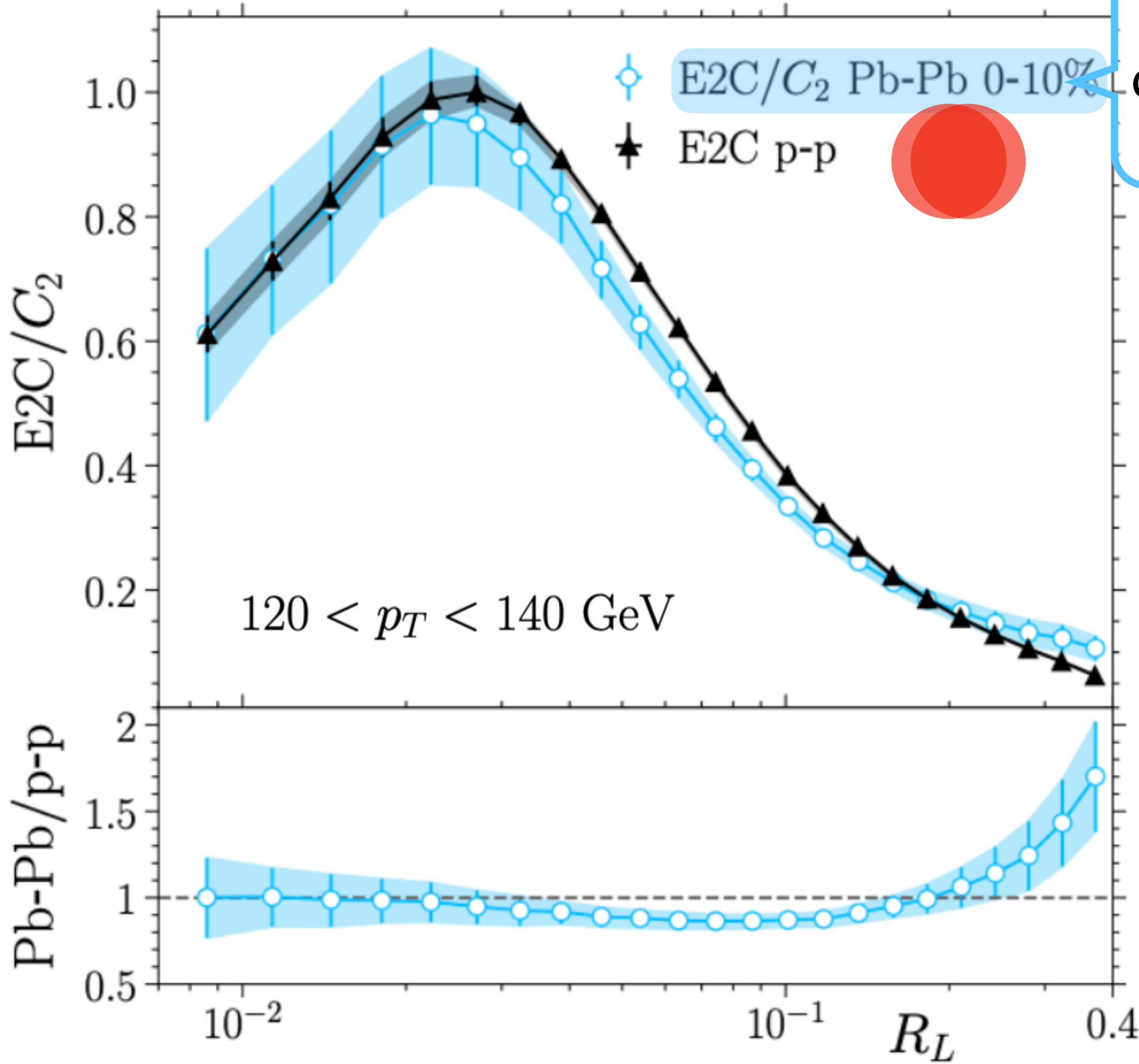
E2C in PbPb

CA, Holguin, Kunnawalkam Elayavalli,
Viinikainen, [2409.07514](#), [2409.07526](#)



See also [ALICE PbPb QM2025](#)

Unbiased E2C in inclusive jets

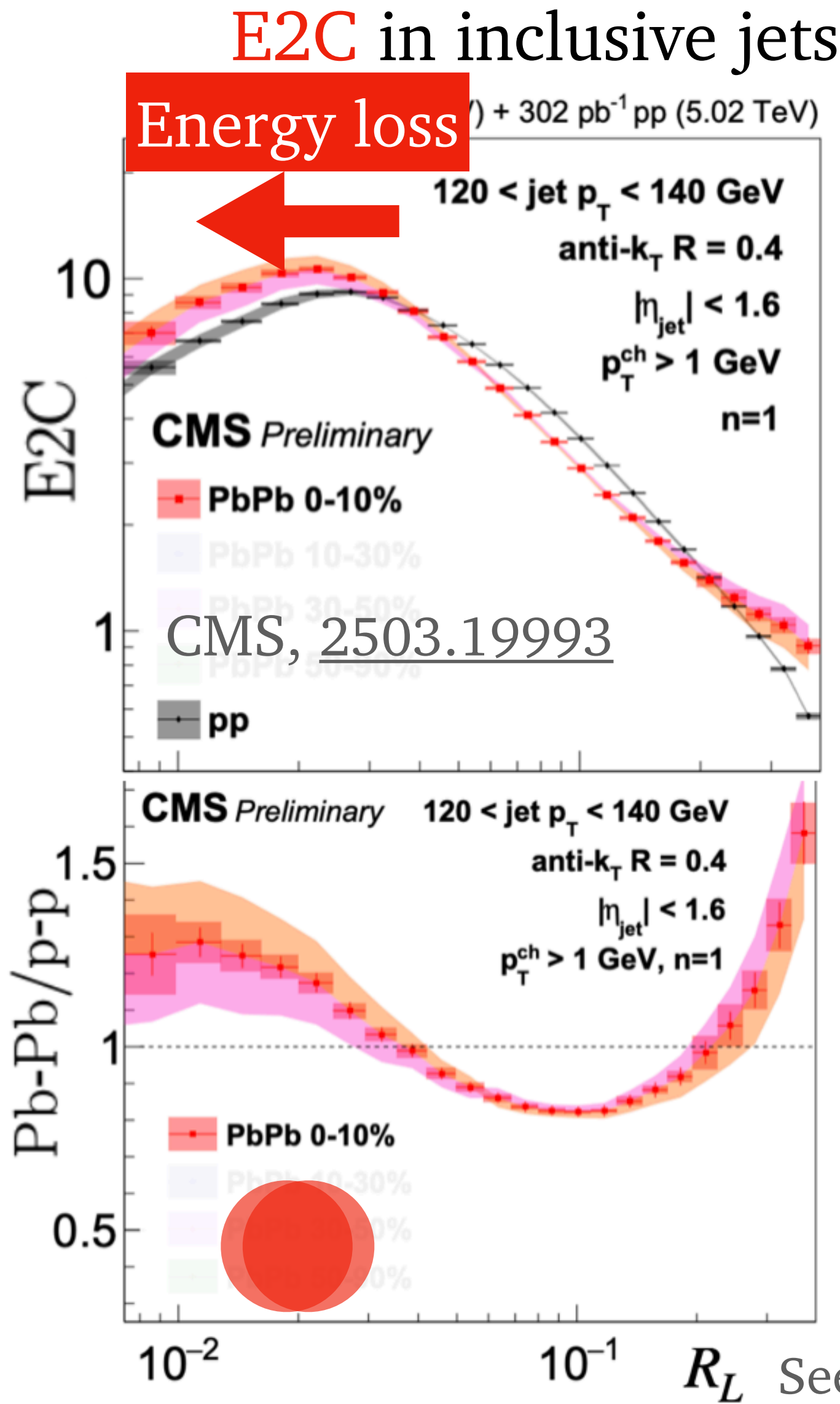


C_2 can be directly obtained from the E2C!

C_2 corrects for the shift in the hard scale

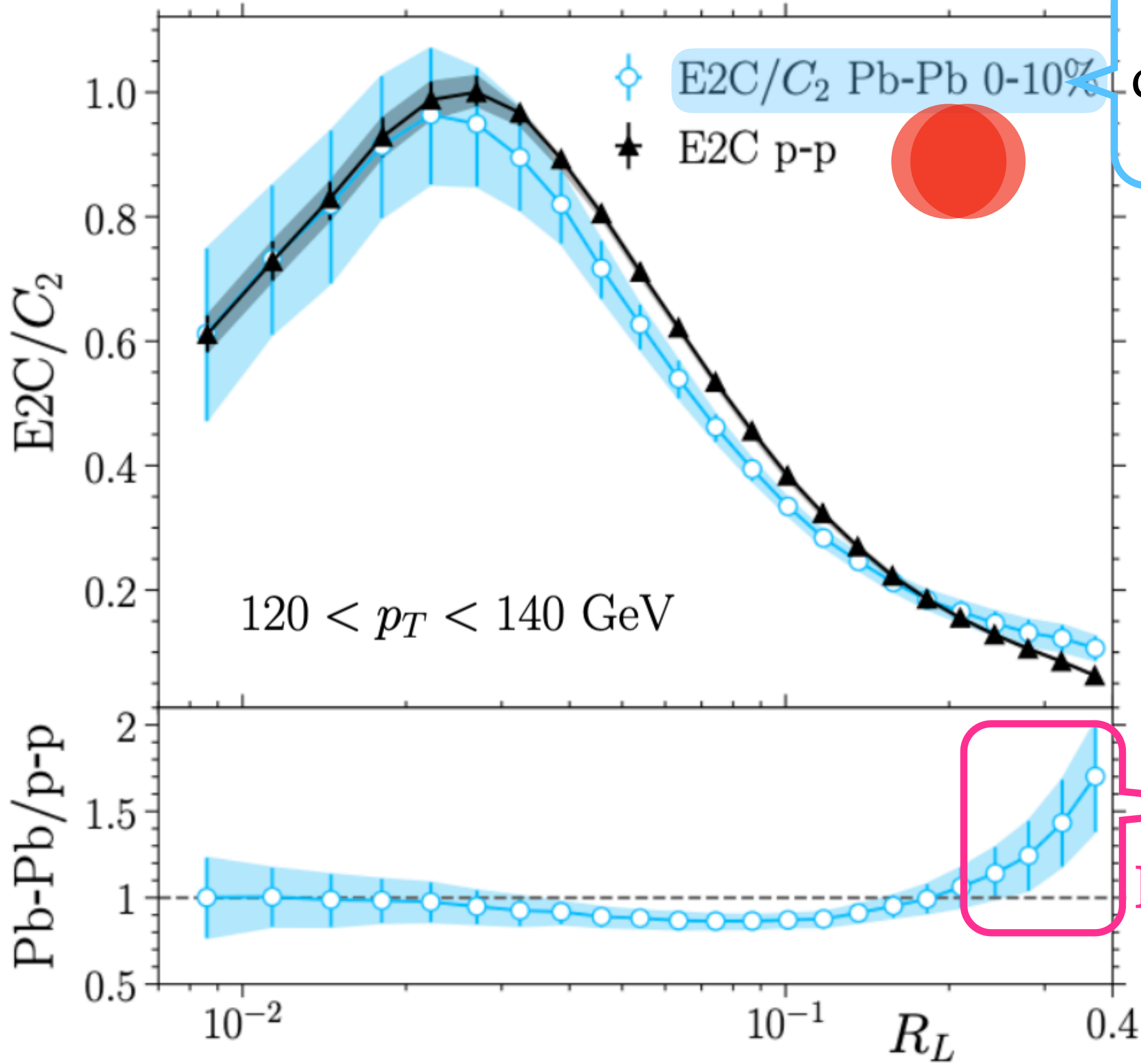
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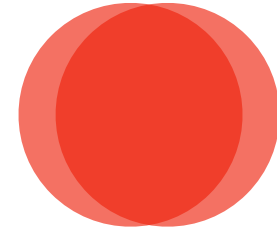
C_2 corrects for the shift in the hard scale

?
Not energy loss!!

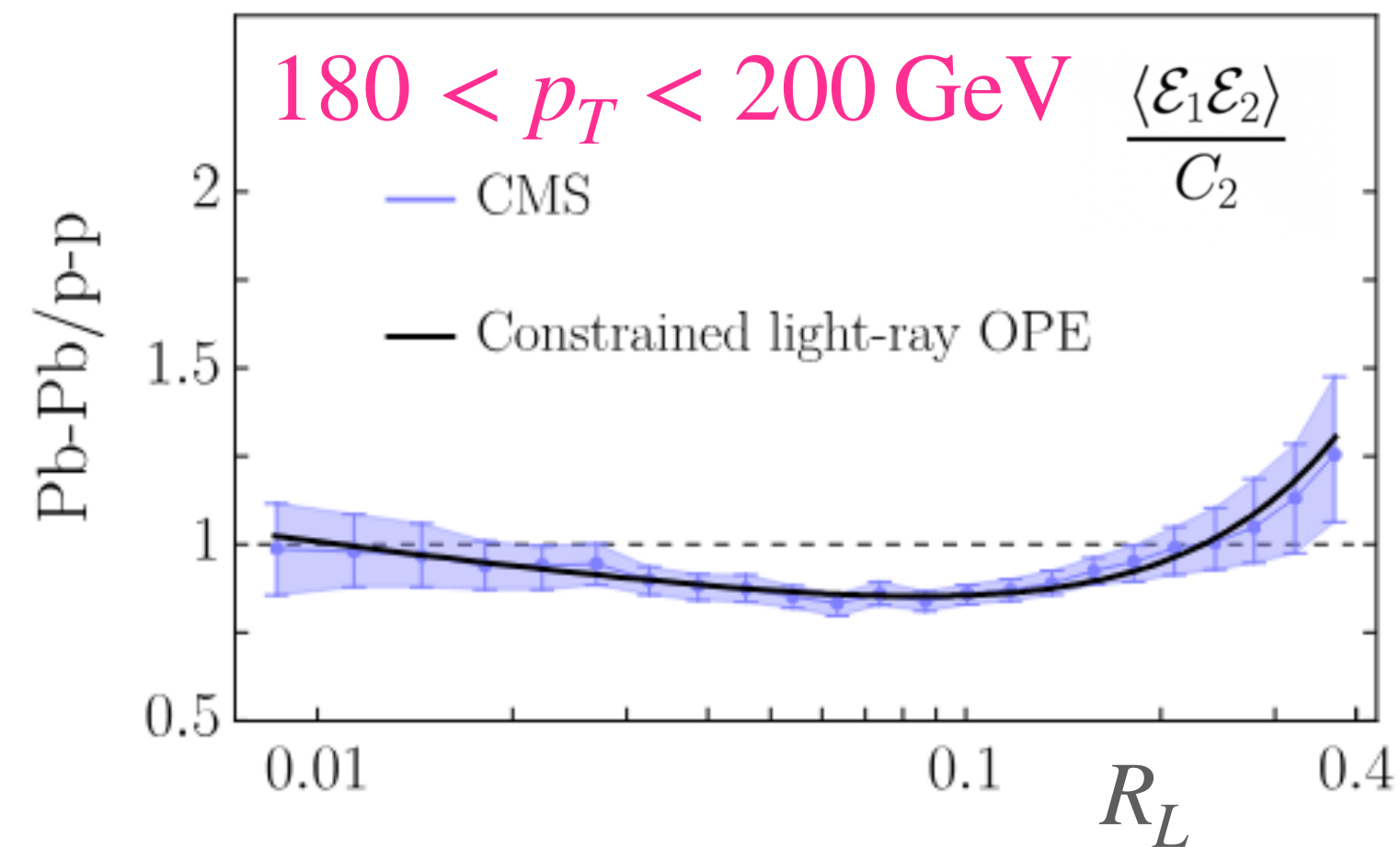
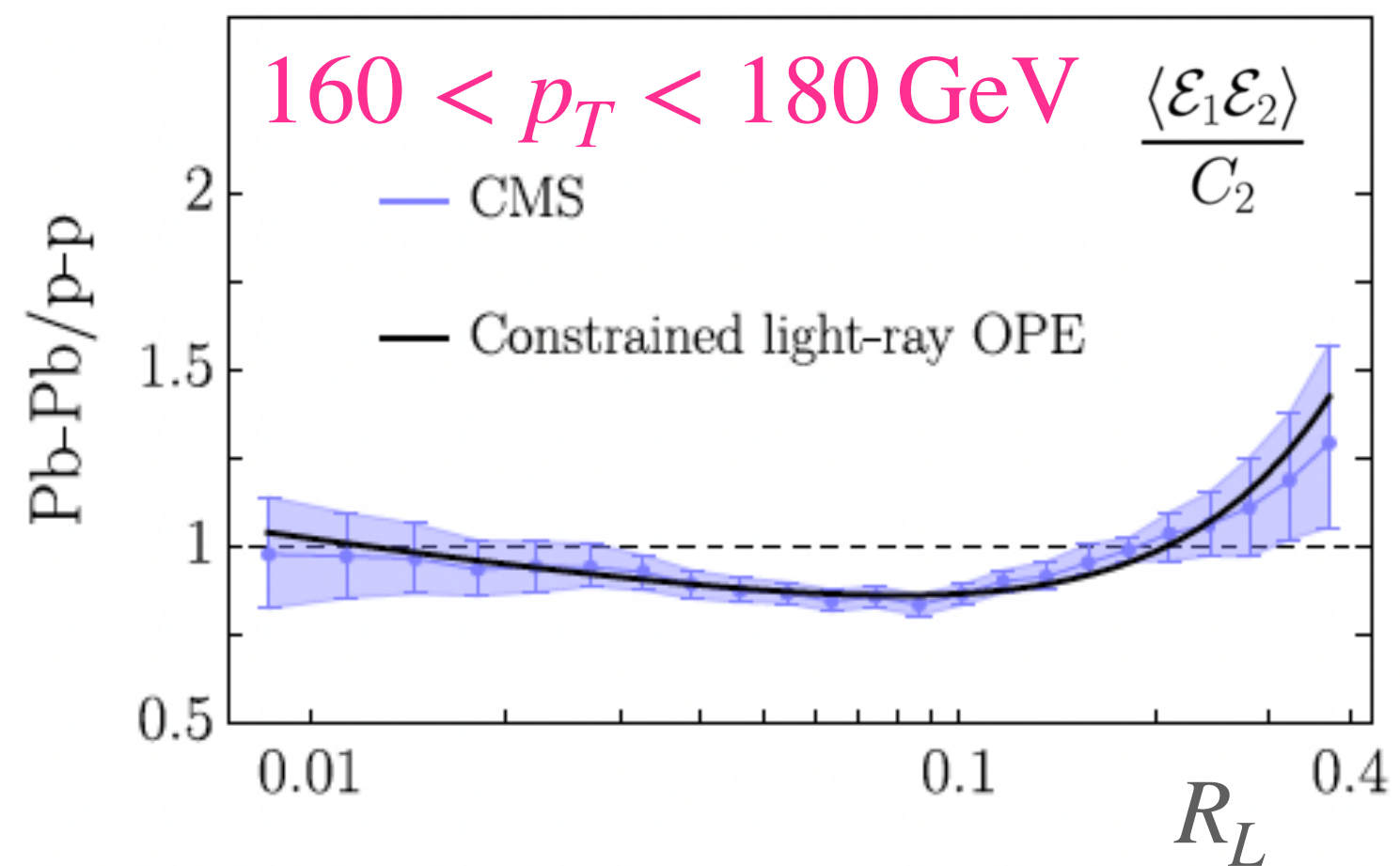
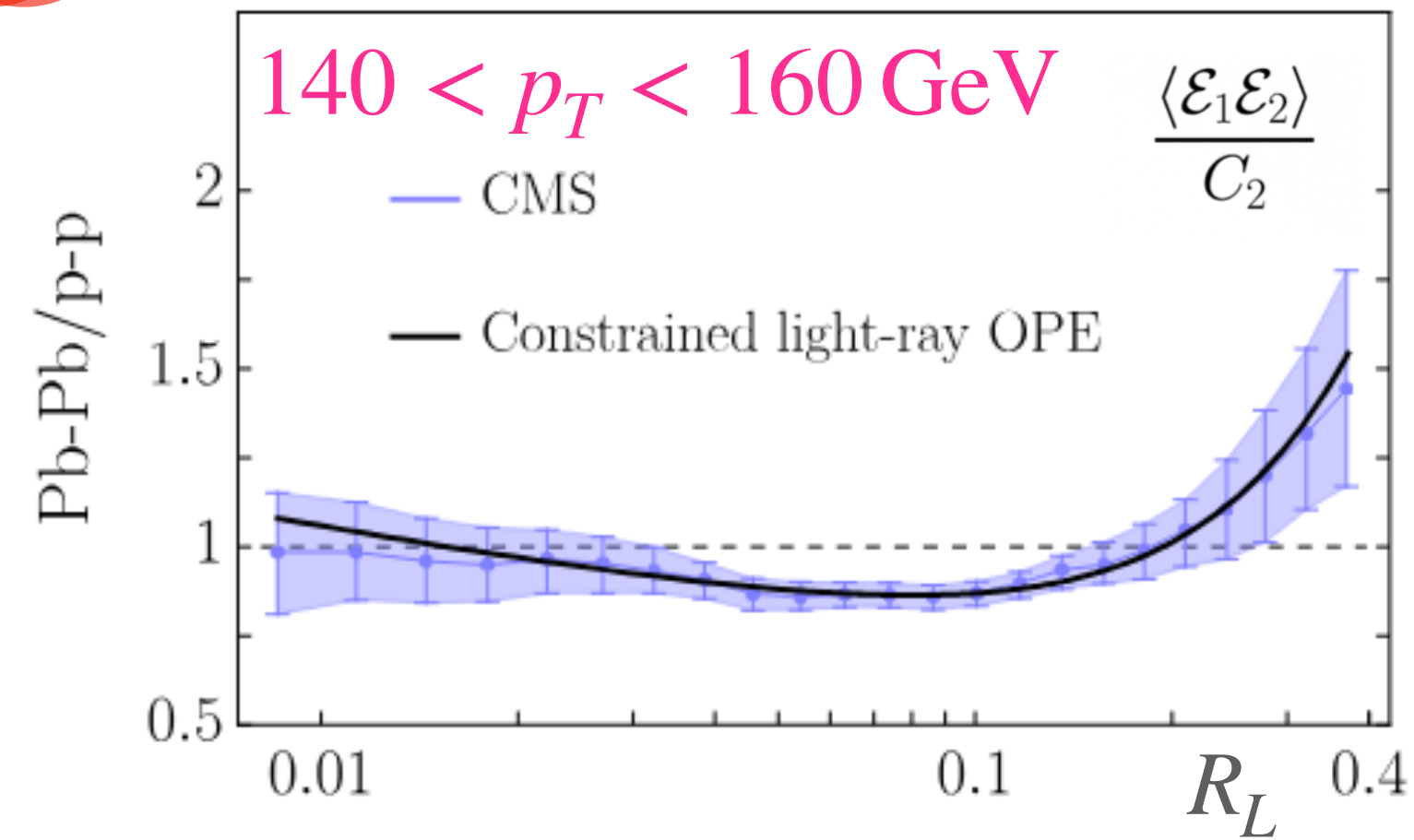
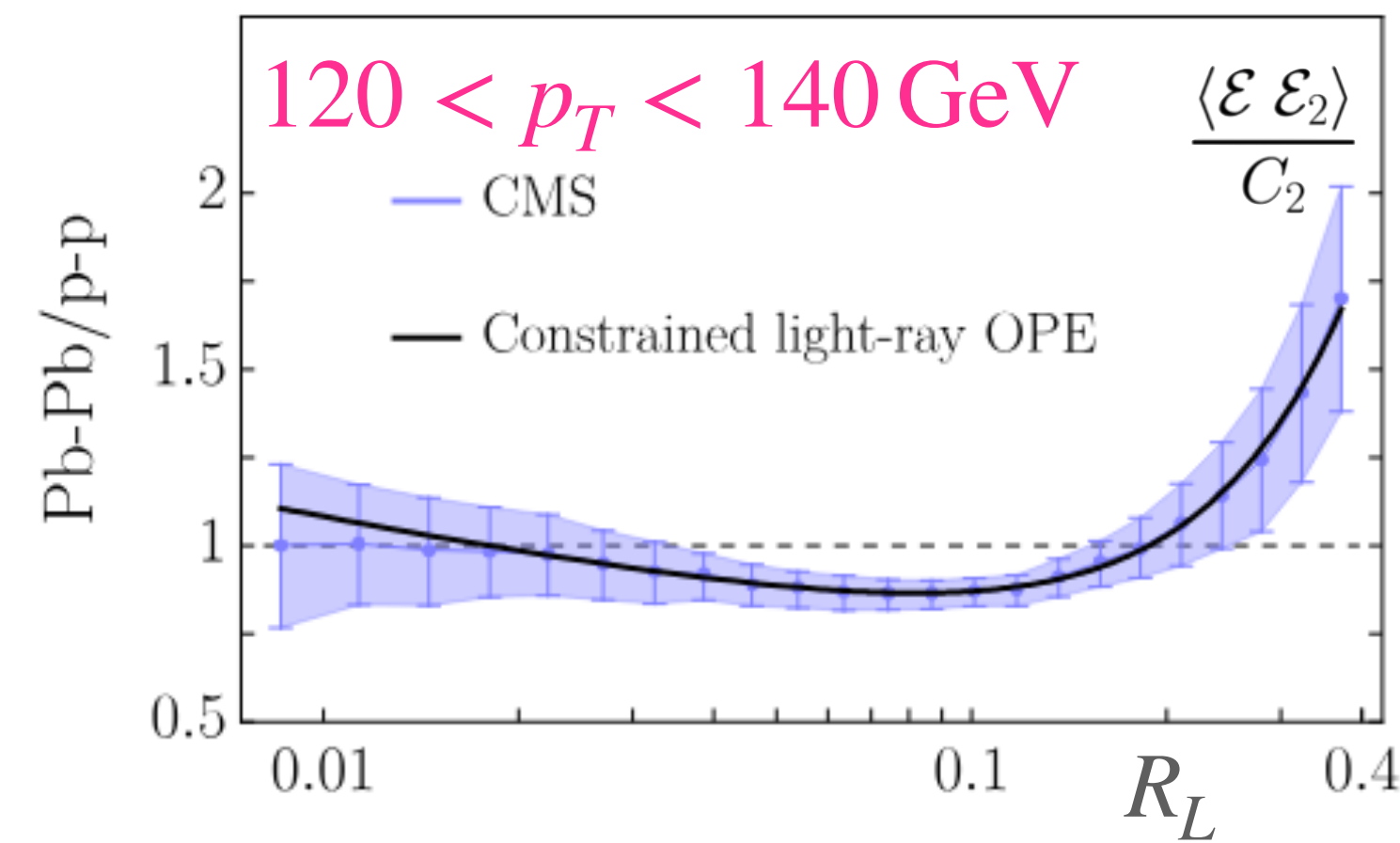
Light-ray OPE in AA

CA, Dominguez, Holguin, Marquet, and
Moult, [2411.15298](#)

Unbiased E2C



Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02$ TeV 0-10 %

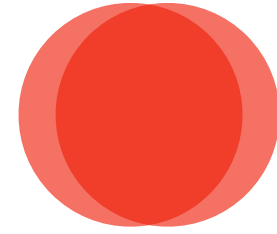


$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i - 4} \mathbb{O}_i^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

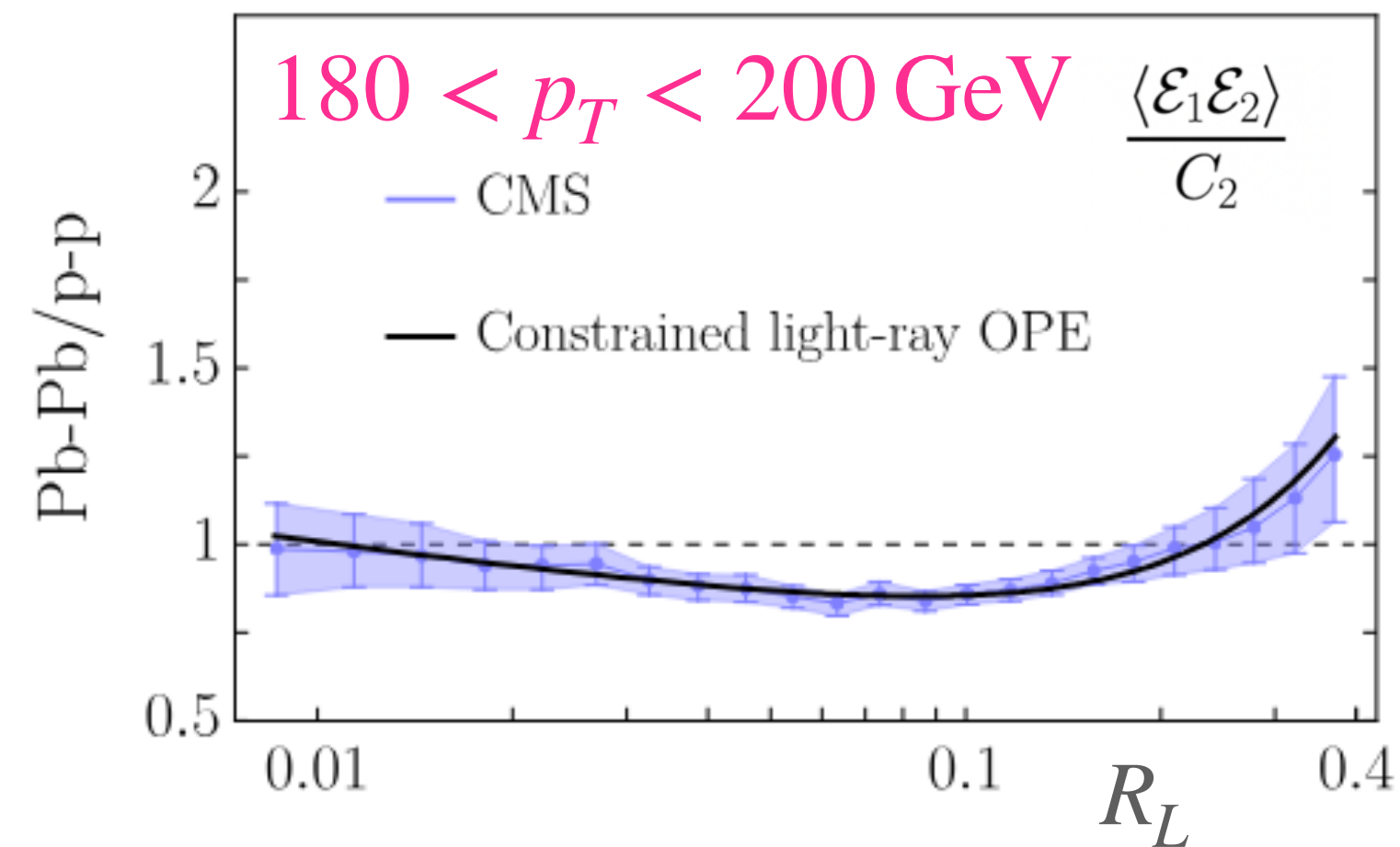
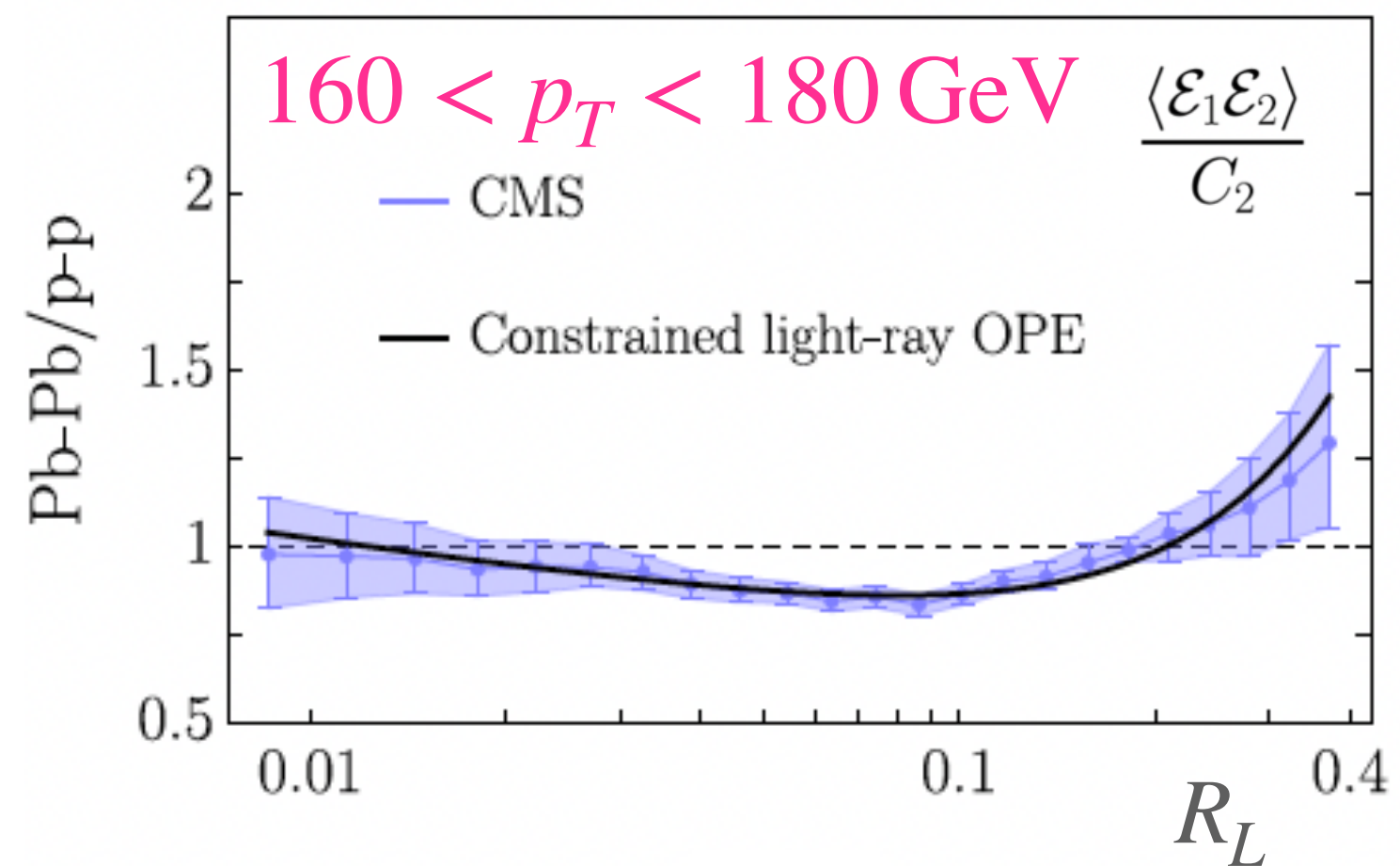
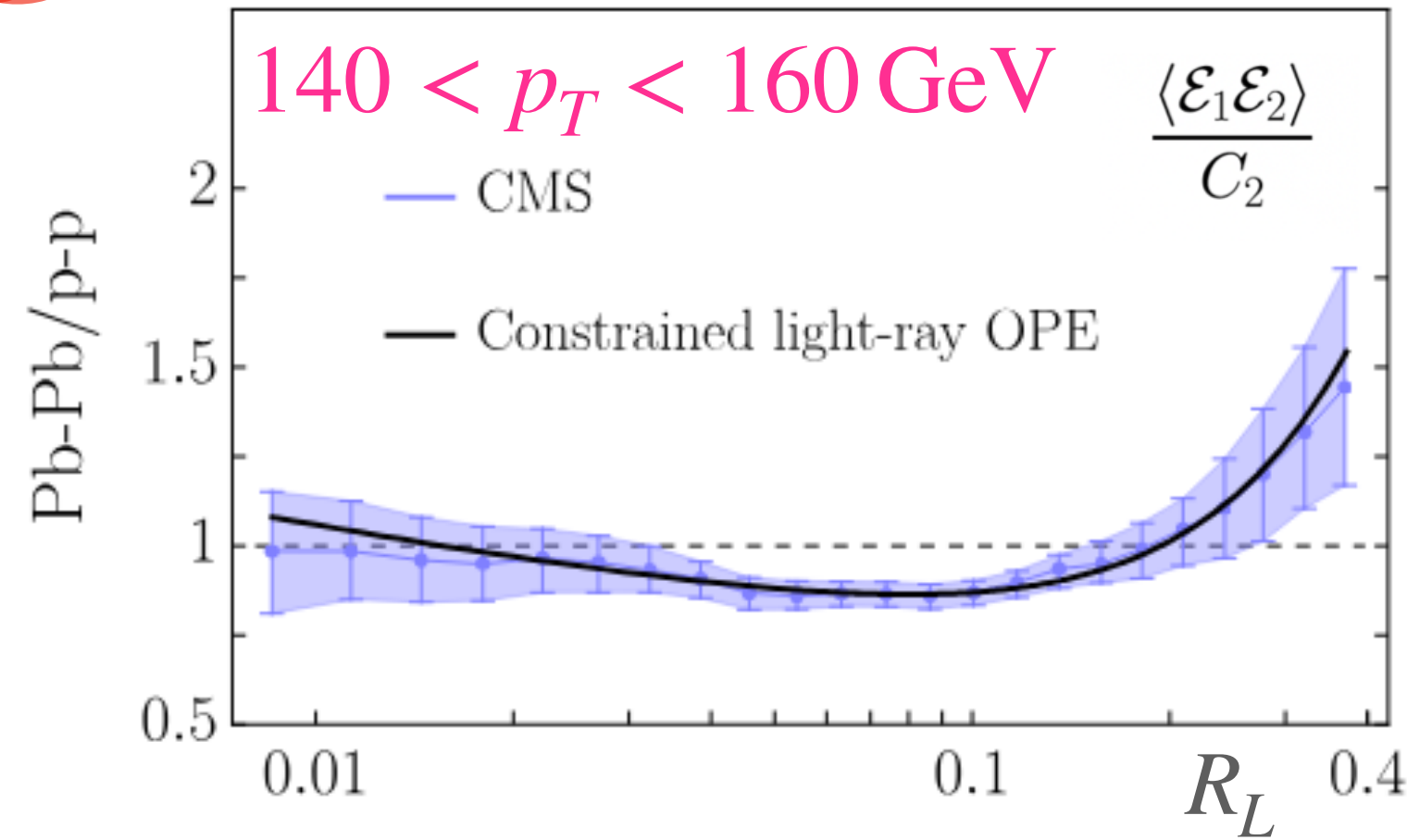
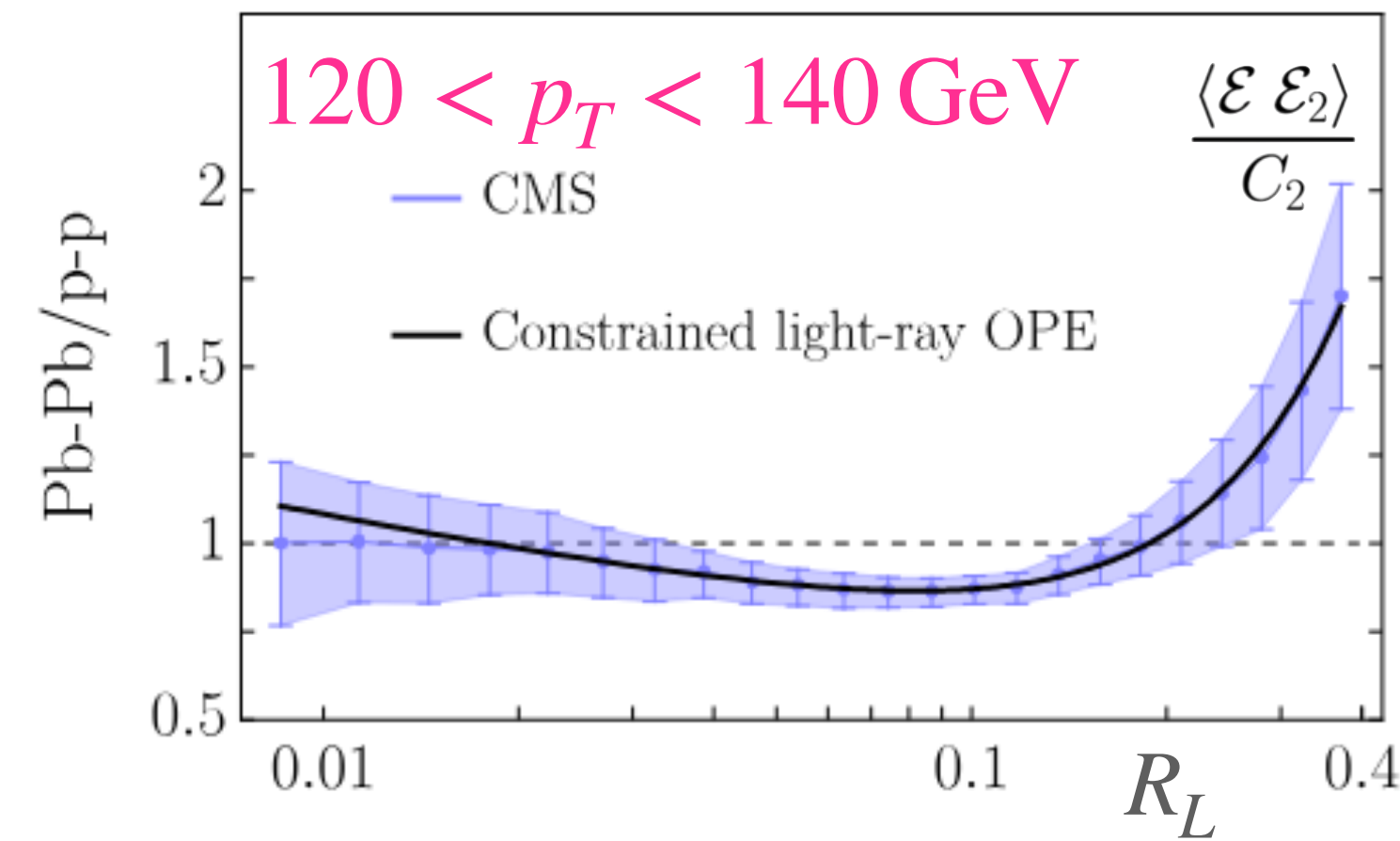
Light-ray OPE in AA

CA, Dominguez, Holguin, Marquet, and
Moult, [2411.15298](#)

Unbiased E2C



Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02$ TeV 0-10 %



$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i - 4} \mathbb{O}_i^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

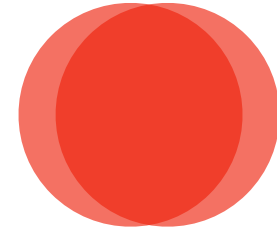
$$\text{E2C}^{\text{Pb-Pb}} \sim 1/R_L^2 + a \quad \text{E2C}^{\text{p-p}} \sim 1/R_L^2$$

$$\frac{\text{E2C}^{\text{Pb-Pb}}}{\text{E2C}^{\text{p-p}}} \sim 1 + a R_L^2$$

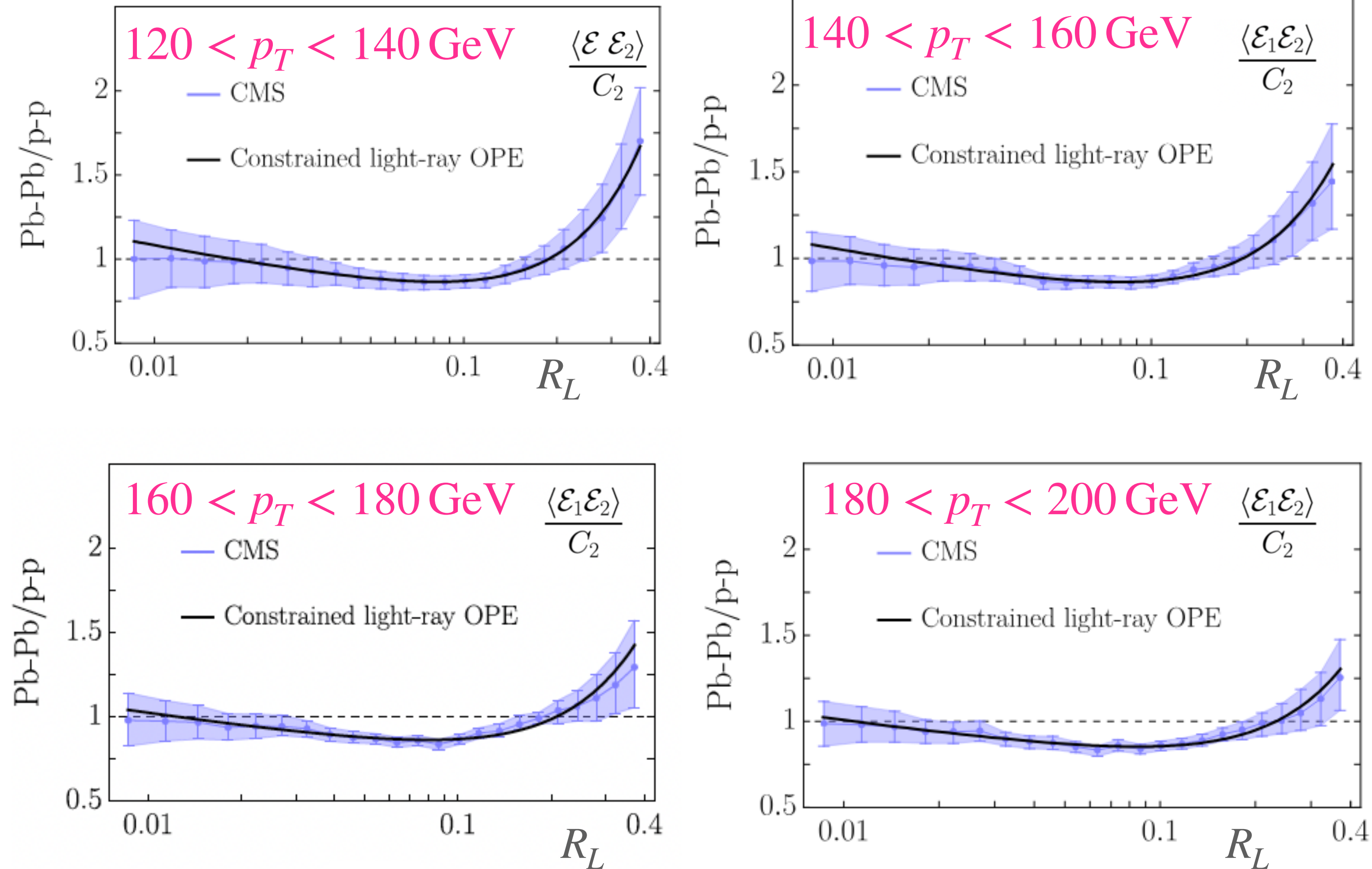
Light-ray OPE in AA

CA, Dominguez, Holguin, Marquet, and
Moult, [2411.15298](#)

Unbiased E2C



Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.02$ TeV 0-10 %



$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i - 4} \mathbb{O}_i^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

$$\text{E2C}^{\text{Pb-Pb}} \sim 1/R_L^2 + a \quad \text{E2C}^{\text{p-p}} \sim 1/R_L^2$$

$$\frac{\text{E2C}^{\text{Pb-Pb}}}{\text{E2C}^{\text{p-p}}} \sim 1 + a R_L^2$$

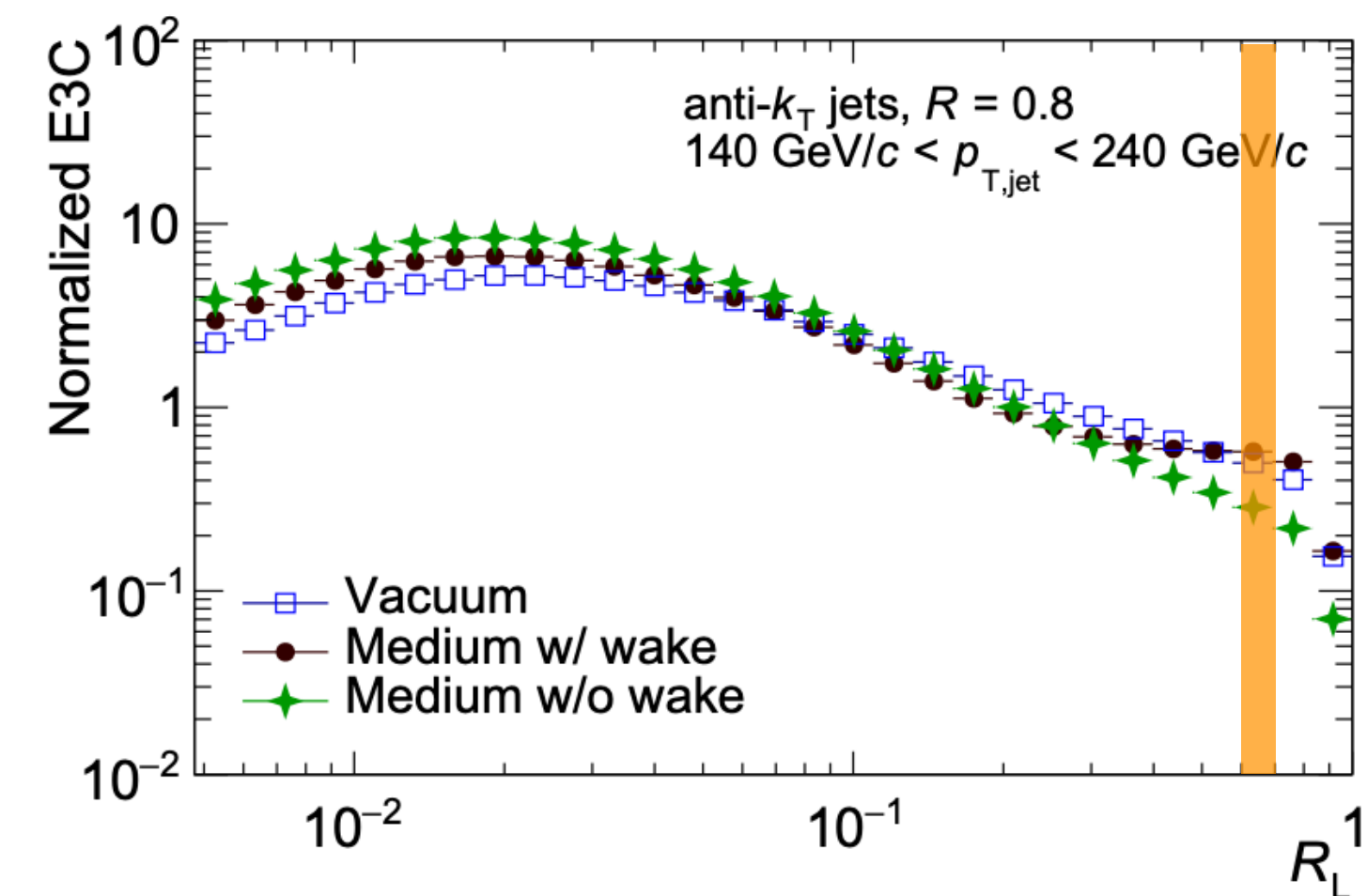
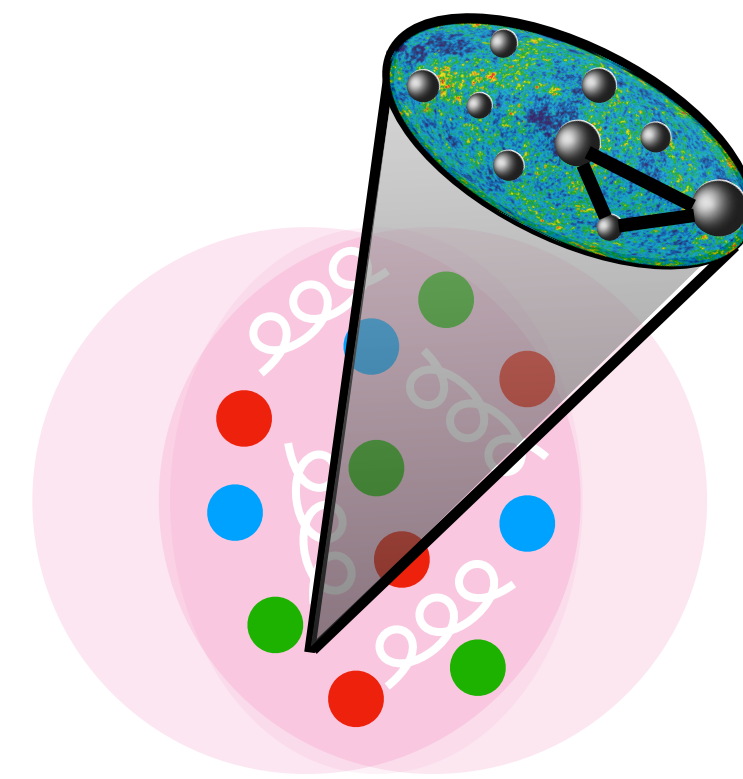
$$\text{Pb-Pb/p-p} = \frac{M_2 R_L^{\gamma_N} + \left(\frac{p_{T,0}}{p_T} \right)^2 M_4(p_{T,0}) R_L^2}{R_L^{\gamma}}$$

Behavior of the
enhancement with the **jet**
 p_T predicted by the light-
ray **OPE**

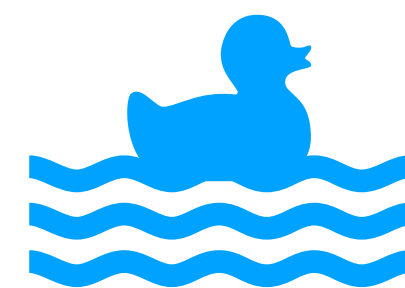
E3C in heavy-ions

- First studies of the shape of the E3C

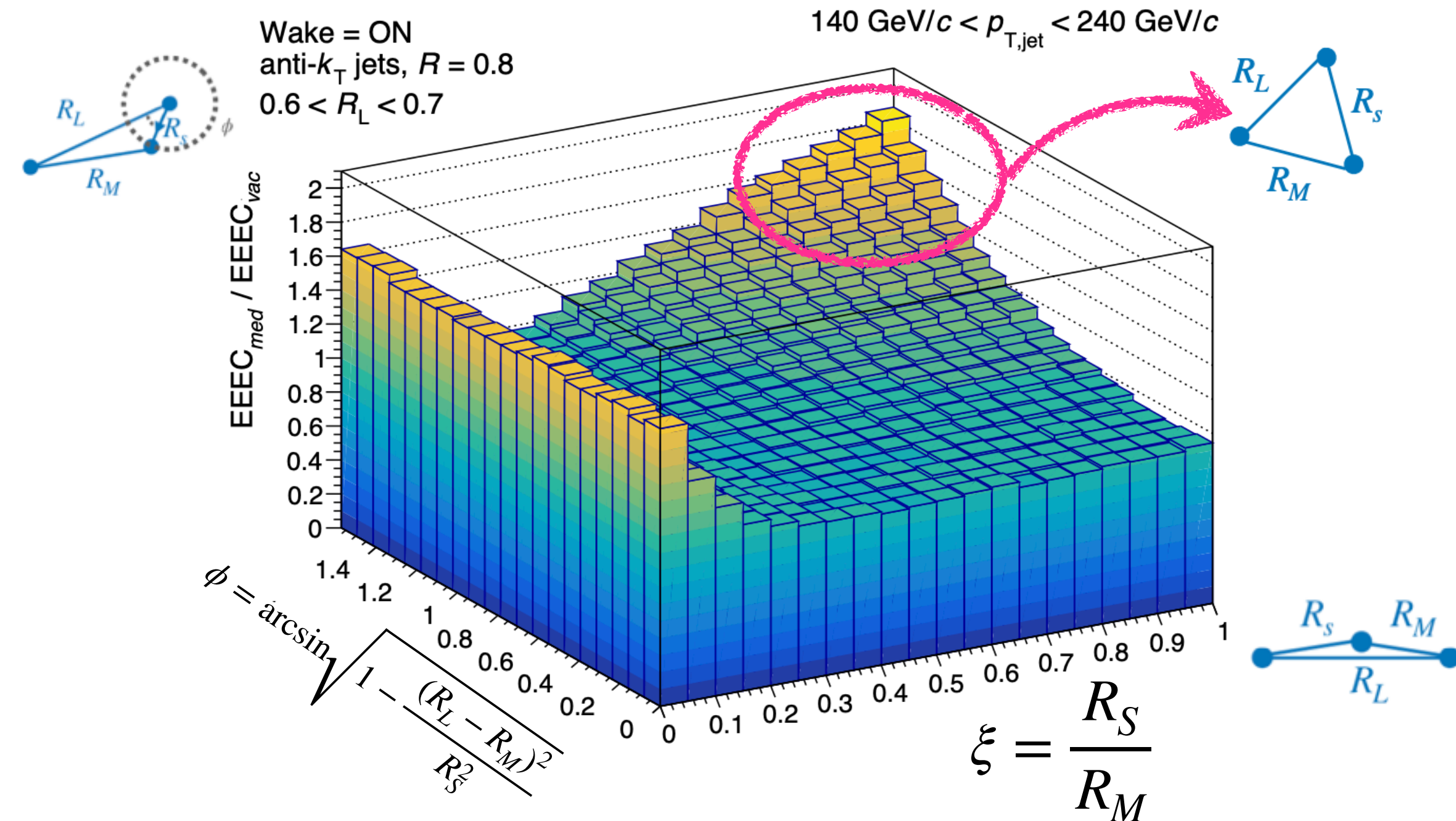
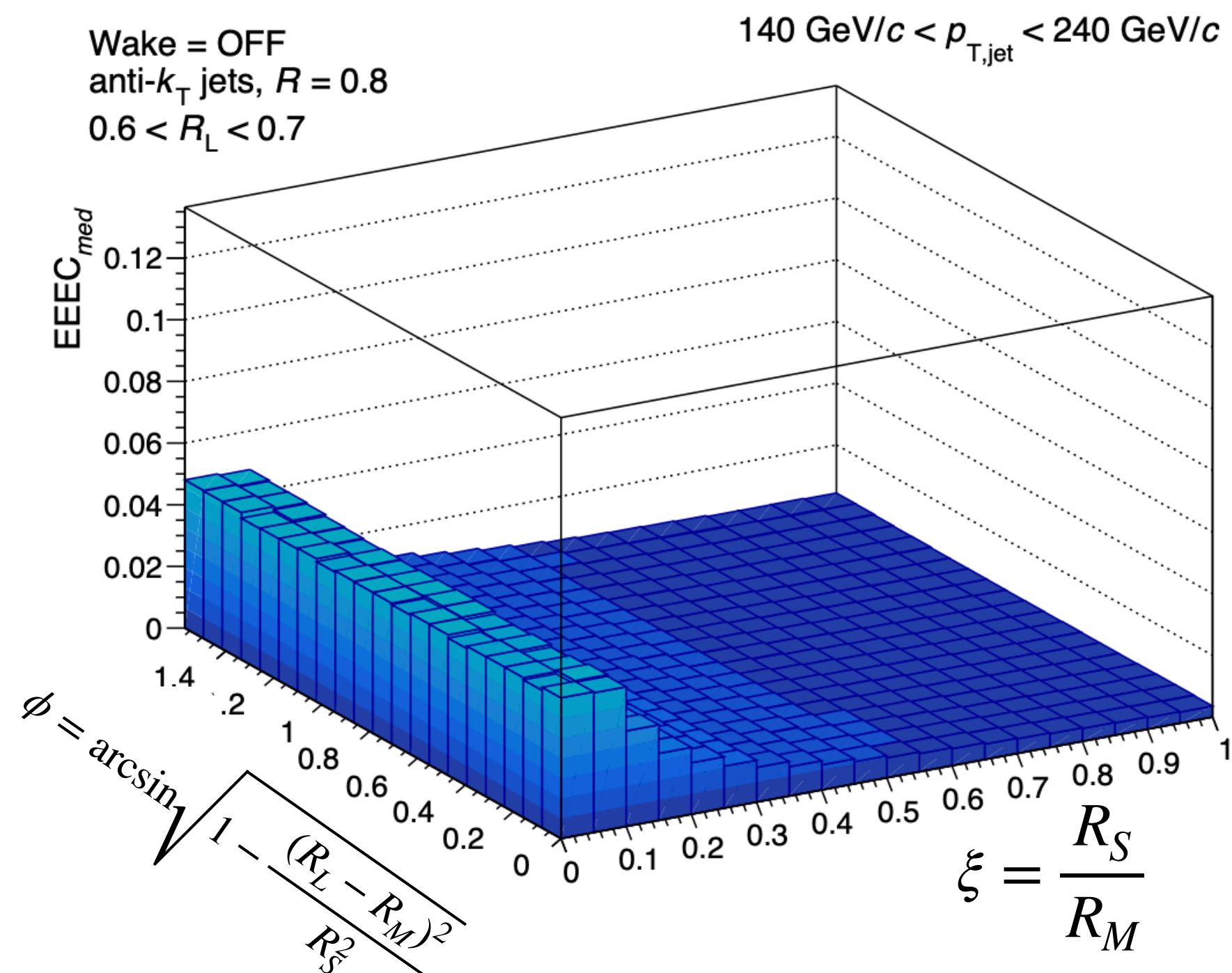
Bossi, Kudinoor, Moul, Pablos, Rai, Rajagopal, [2407.13818](#)



No wake/p-p



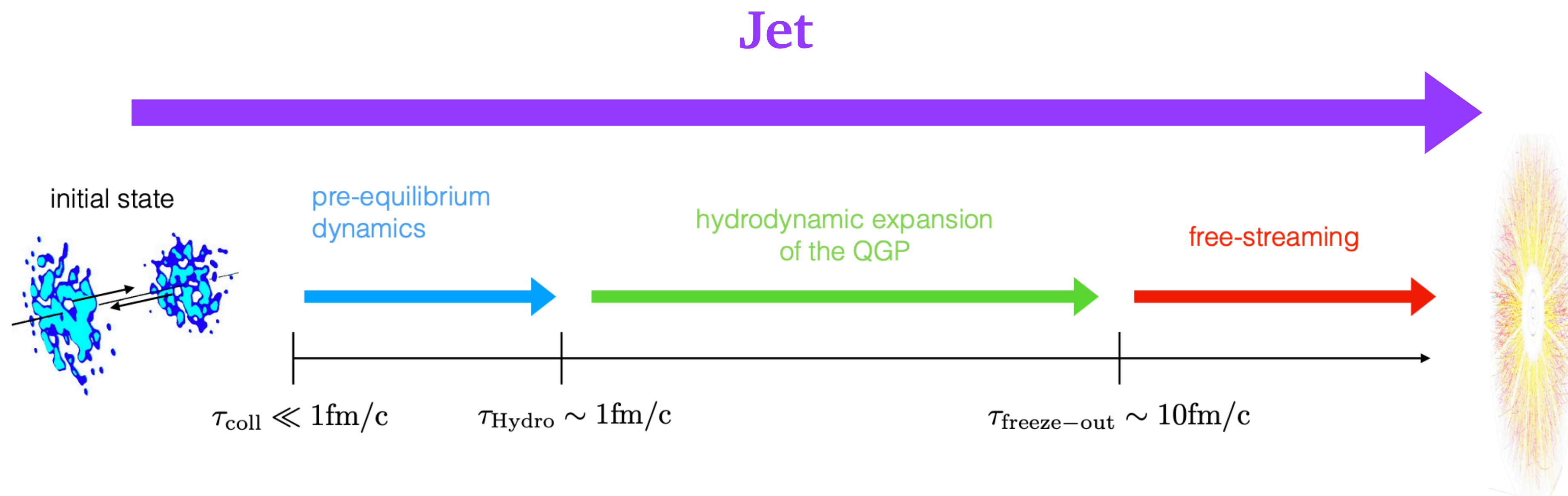
With wake/p-p



See also Barata, Moul, Sadofyev and Silva [2503.13603](#)

Jets are extended objects: ideal to **probe the medium at different times and resolution scales**

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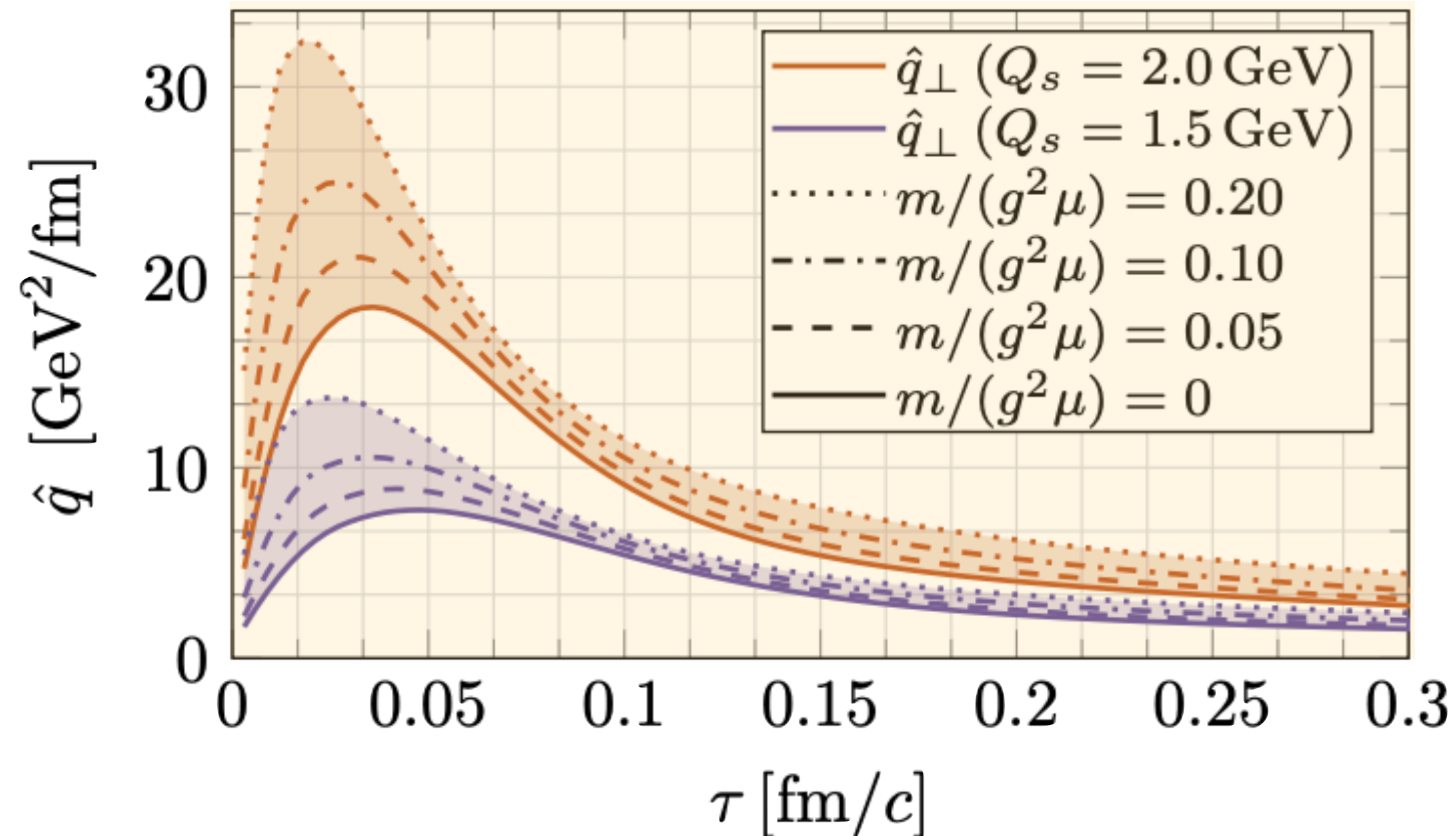


Broadening in the pre-hydro stages

First computations of **broadening in the pre-hydrodynamic stages**

Ipp, Müller, Schuh
[2001.10001](#) [2009.14206](#)

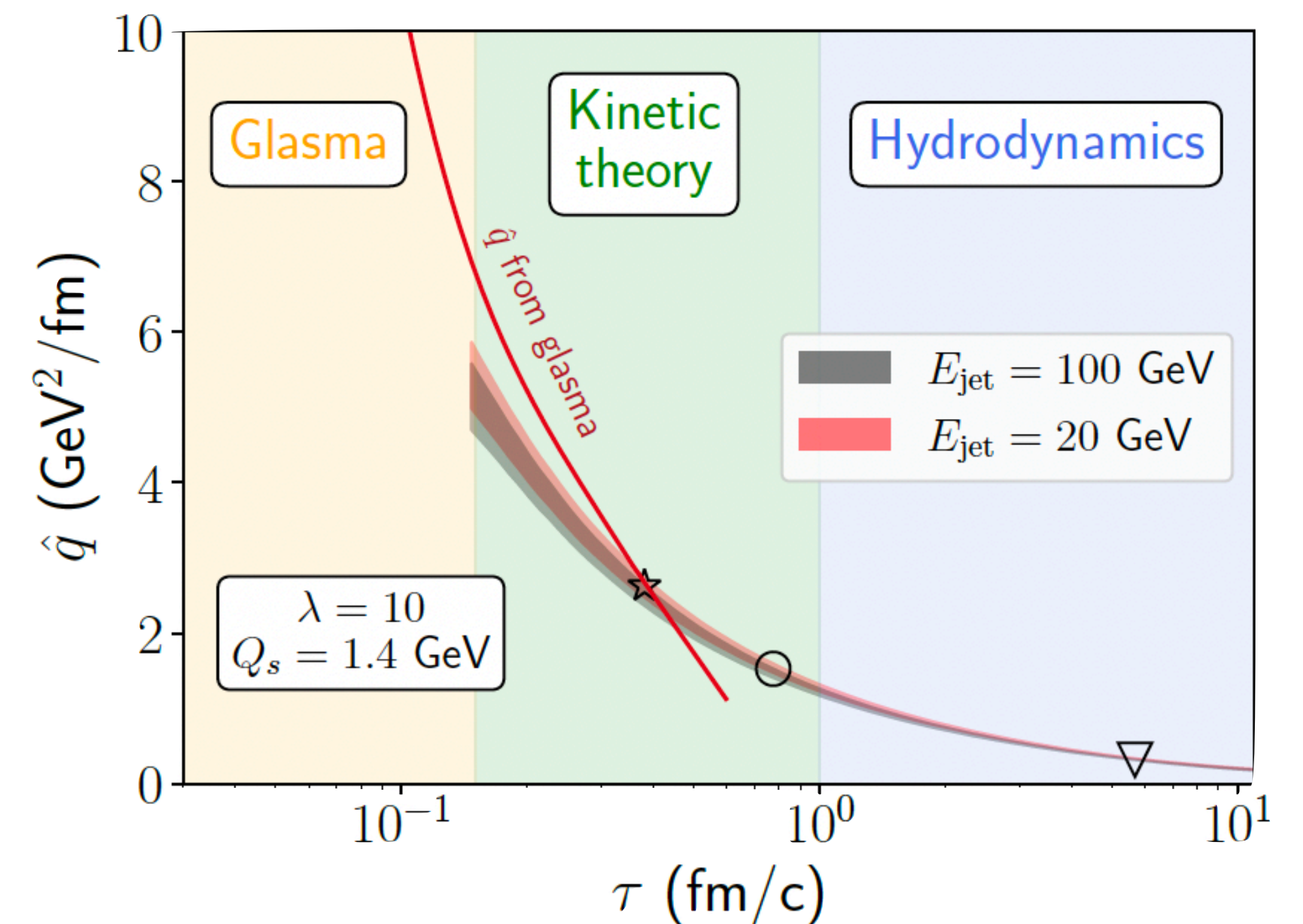
Glasma



See also:

Carrington, Czajka, Mrówczyński, [2112.06812](#) [2202.00357](#)
 Avramescu, Baran, Greco, Ipp, Müller, Ruggieri, [2303.05599](#)

Kinetic theory

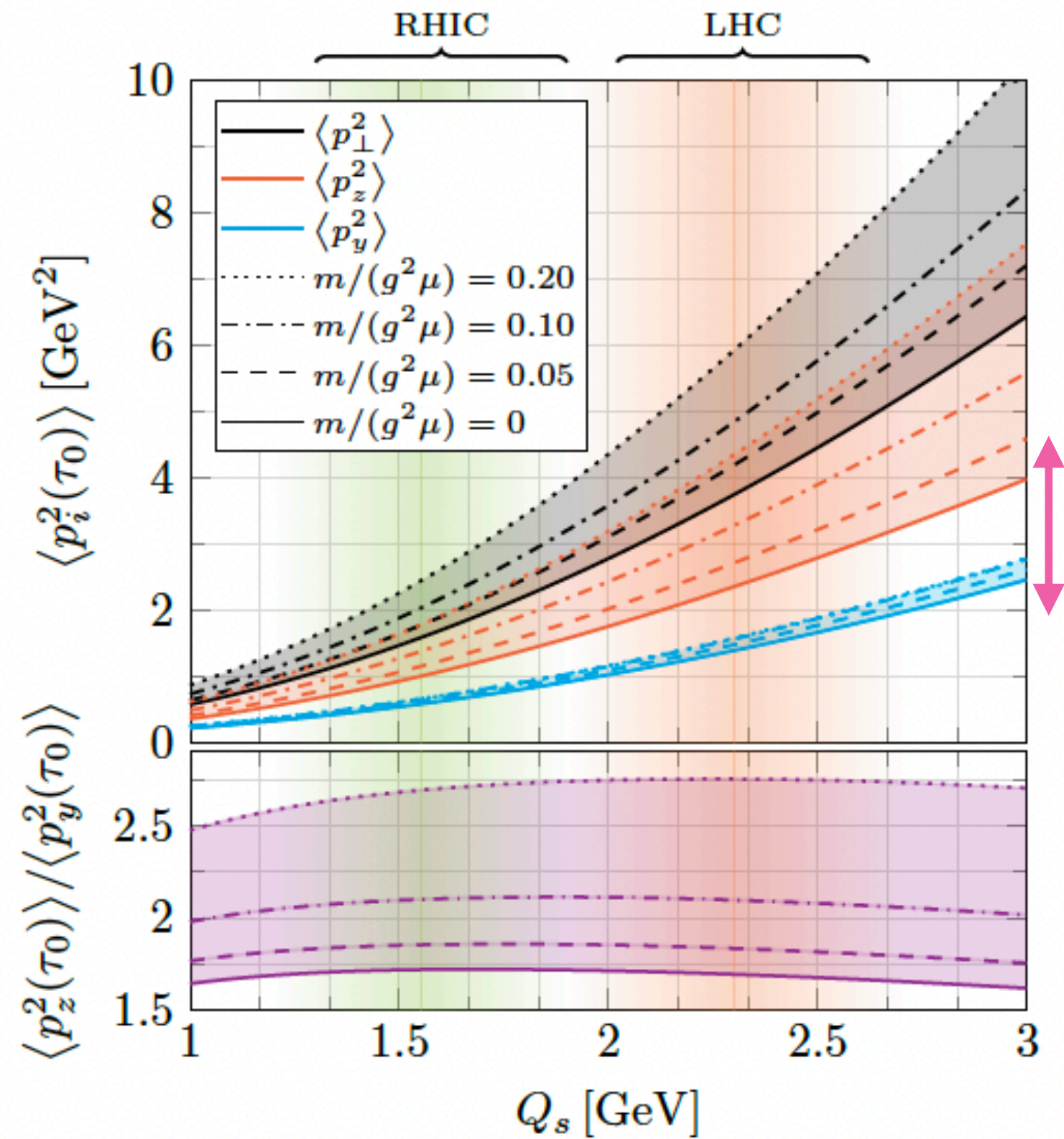


Boguslavski, Kurkela, Lappi,
 Lindenbauer, Peuron, [2303.12595](#)

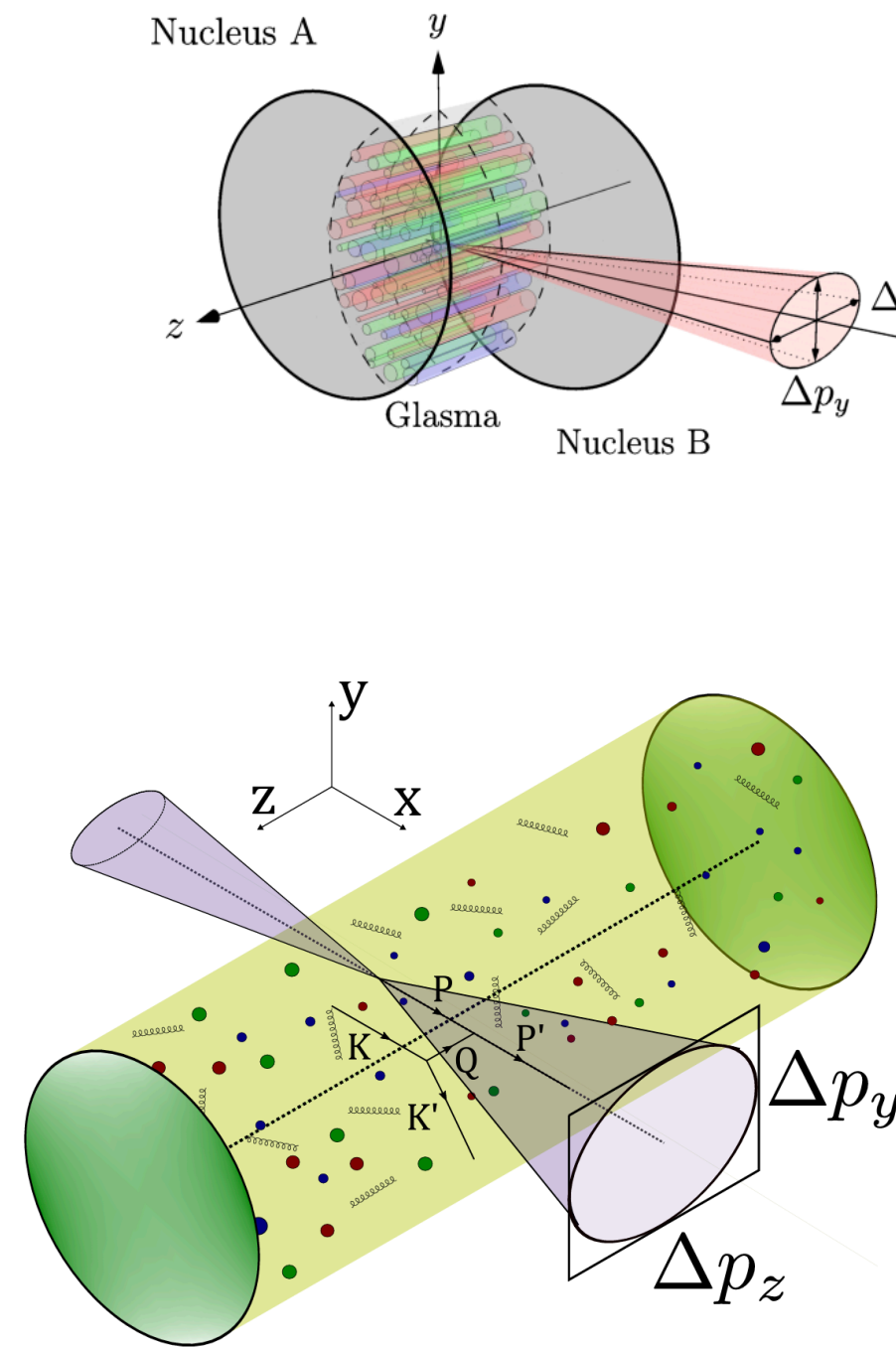
Broadening in the pre-hydro stages

Glasma

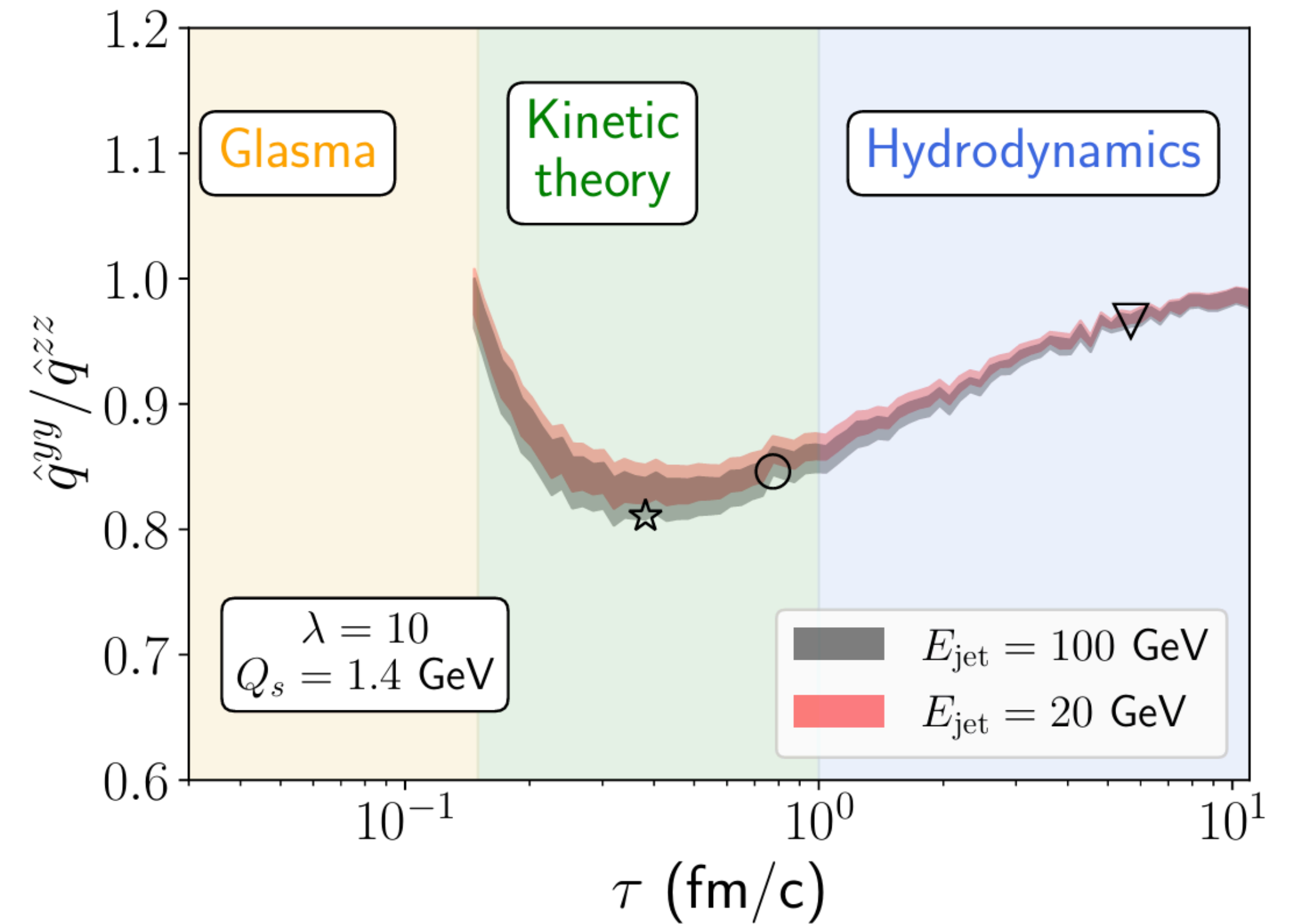
Accumulated broadening at $\tau_0 = 0.6$ fm



Ipp, Müller, Schuh [2009.14206](#)



Kinetic theory



Boguslavski, Kurkela, Lappi,
Lindenbauer, Peuron, [2303.12595](#)

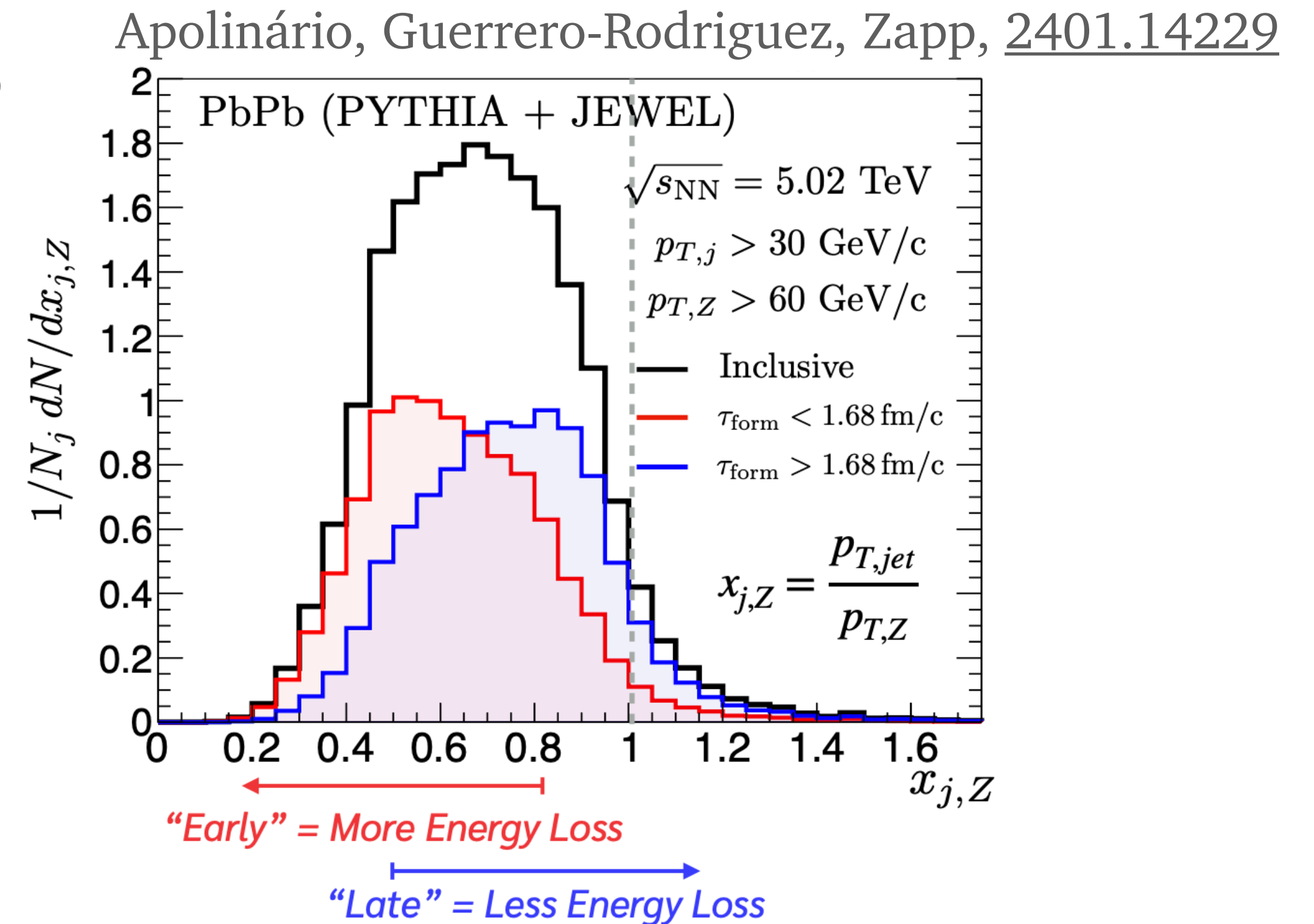
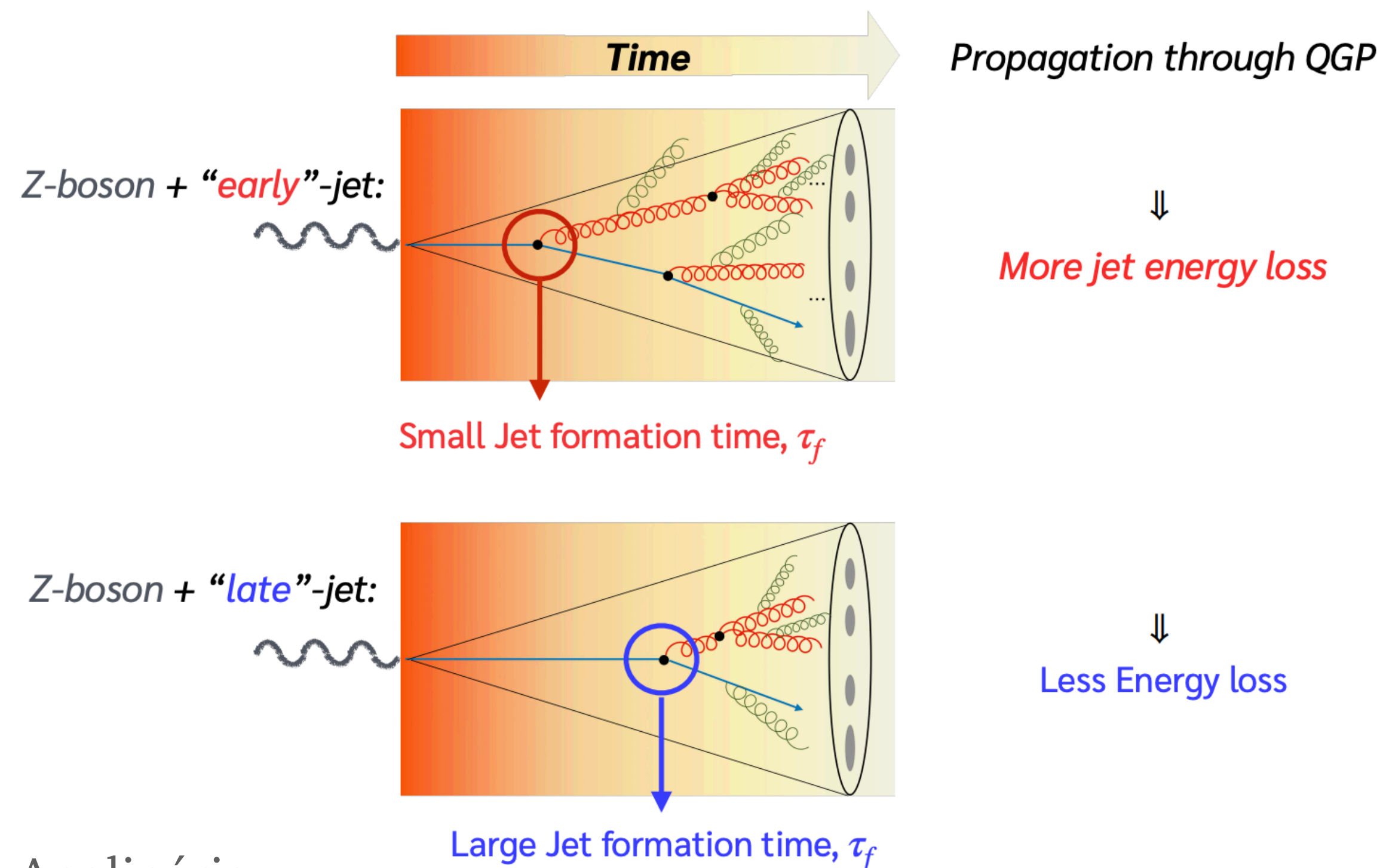
Anisotropic broadening: **larger along the beam axis** than transverse to it

Early jets vs. Late jets

- τ algorithm: select jets based on **formation times**

Apolinário, Cordeiro, Zapp, [2012.02199](#)

$$d_{ij} = \min(p_{t,i}^{2p}, p_{t,j}^{2p}) \frac{\Delta R_{ij}^2}{R^2} \quad p = 0.5 \rightarrow d_{ij} \sim \frac{1}{\tau_f}$$



Courtesy of [L. Apolinário](#)

Allows us to select populations of strong energy loss

Conclusions

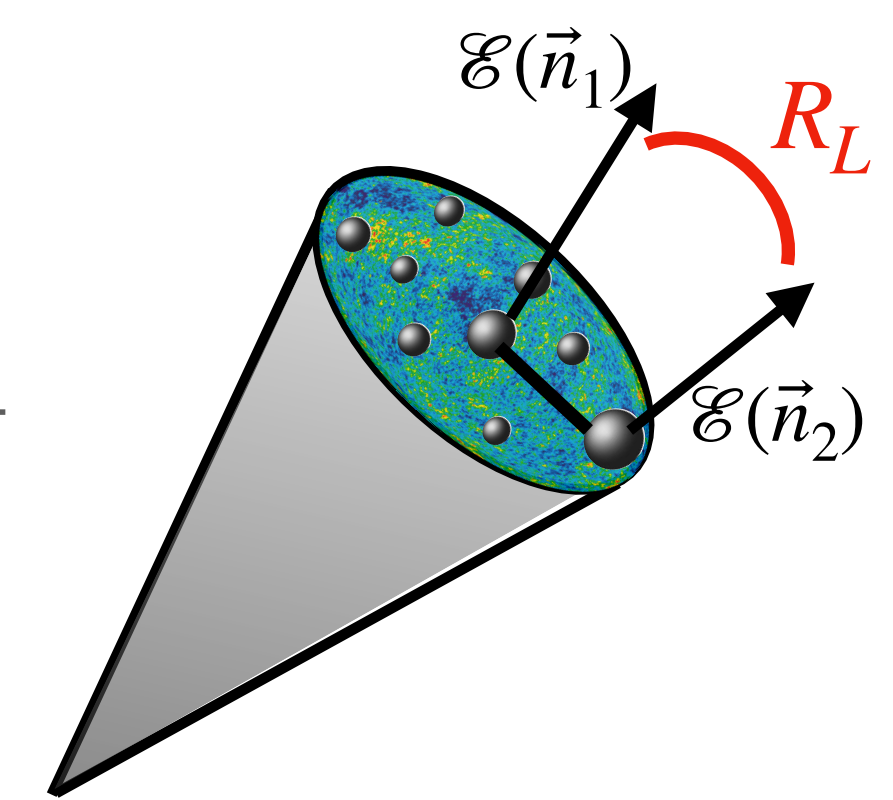
- Since the 1970s, **jets** have played a **central role** in **collider physics**
- Almost 25 years of **jet quenching at RHIC**
- **Jet substructure:** probe the QGP at **different resolution scales**
 - Recent focus on **Energy Correlators**
 - Access to **transverse scales** + good theoretical control thanks to the **light-ray OPE**
 - **Enhancement** of the E2C in PbPb **cannot be** due to **selection bias**
- Many open questions, including: how can we use jets to probe the pre-QGP stages?

Thank you!

E2C within p-p jets

Hoffman, Maldacena, [0803.1467](#)

Chen, Moult, Sandor, Zhu, [2202.04085](#)



- Within jets: **Light-ray OPE expansion**

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \xrightarrow{\vec{n}_1 \rightarrow \vec{n}_2} \sum_i \mathcal{C}_i R_L^{\tau_i-4+\hat{\gamma}_i(3)+\hat{\gamma}_i(3)} \mathcal{O}_i(\vec{n}_1)$$

Twist = mass dimension - spin

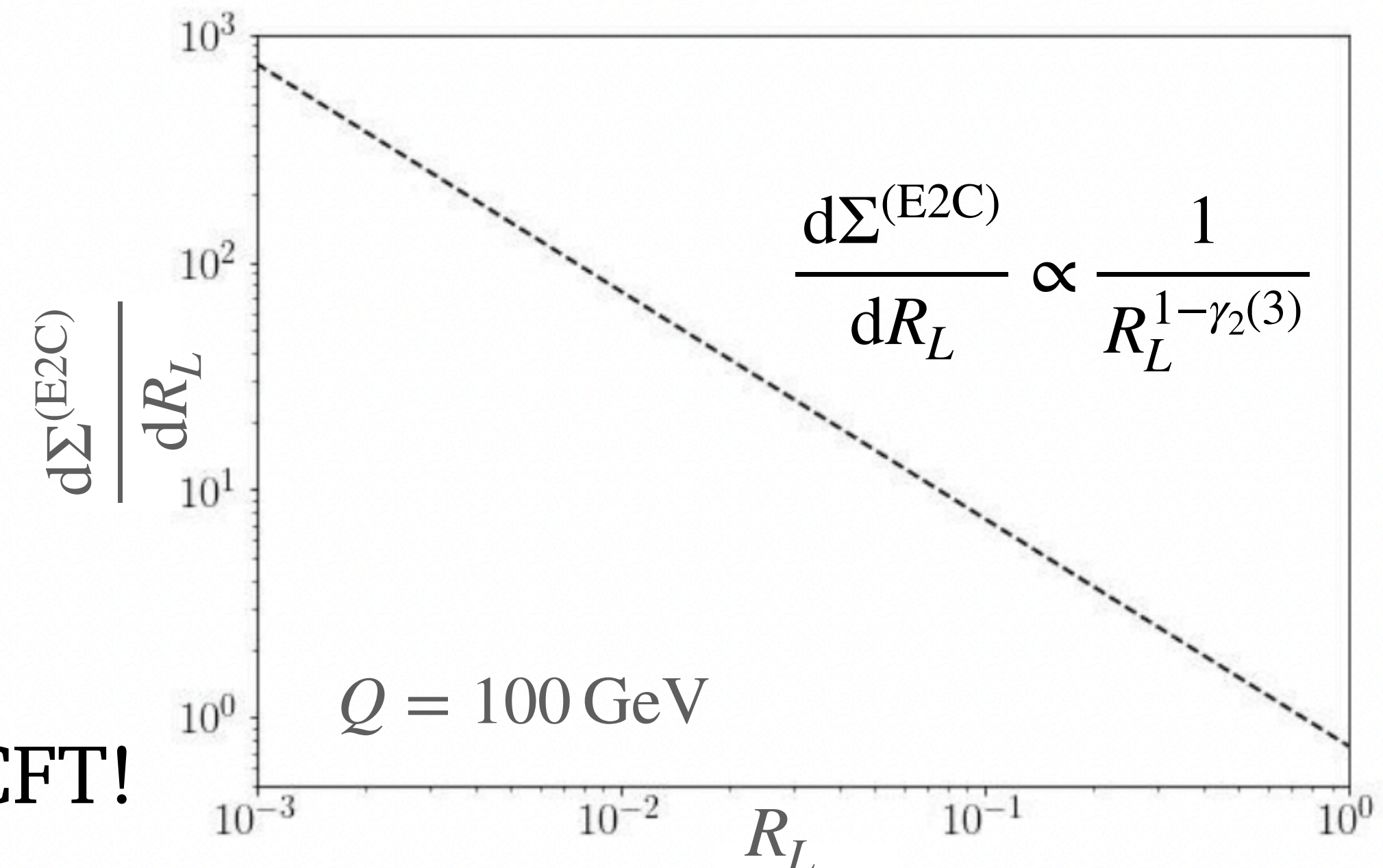
- Renormalization introduces the **anomalous dimension matrix**

$$\langle X | \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) | X \rangle \equiv \frac{d\Sigma^{(\text{E2C})}}{dR_L^2}$$

- **Leading twist** dominates:

$$\frac{d\Sigma_{\text{E2C}}}{dR_L} \propto \frac{1}{R_L^{1-\gamma_2(3)}}$$

Power-law scaling according to CFT!



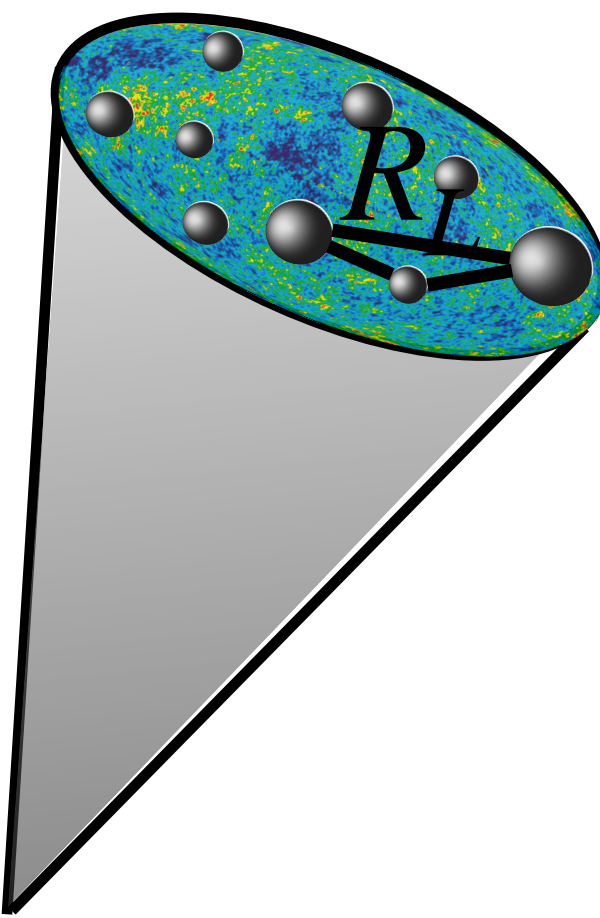
Projected ENCs

Hoffman, Maldacena, JHEP 05 012 (2008)

Chen, Moult, Sandor, Zhu, JHEP 09 199 (2022)

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \sim R_L^{-2+\gamma_2(3)} \vec{\mathcal{C}}_2 \cdot \vec{\mathcal{O}}_{\tau=2}^{[J=3]}(\vec{n}_1)$$

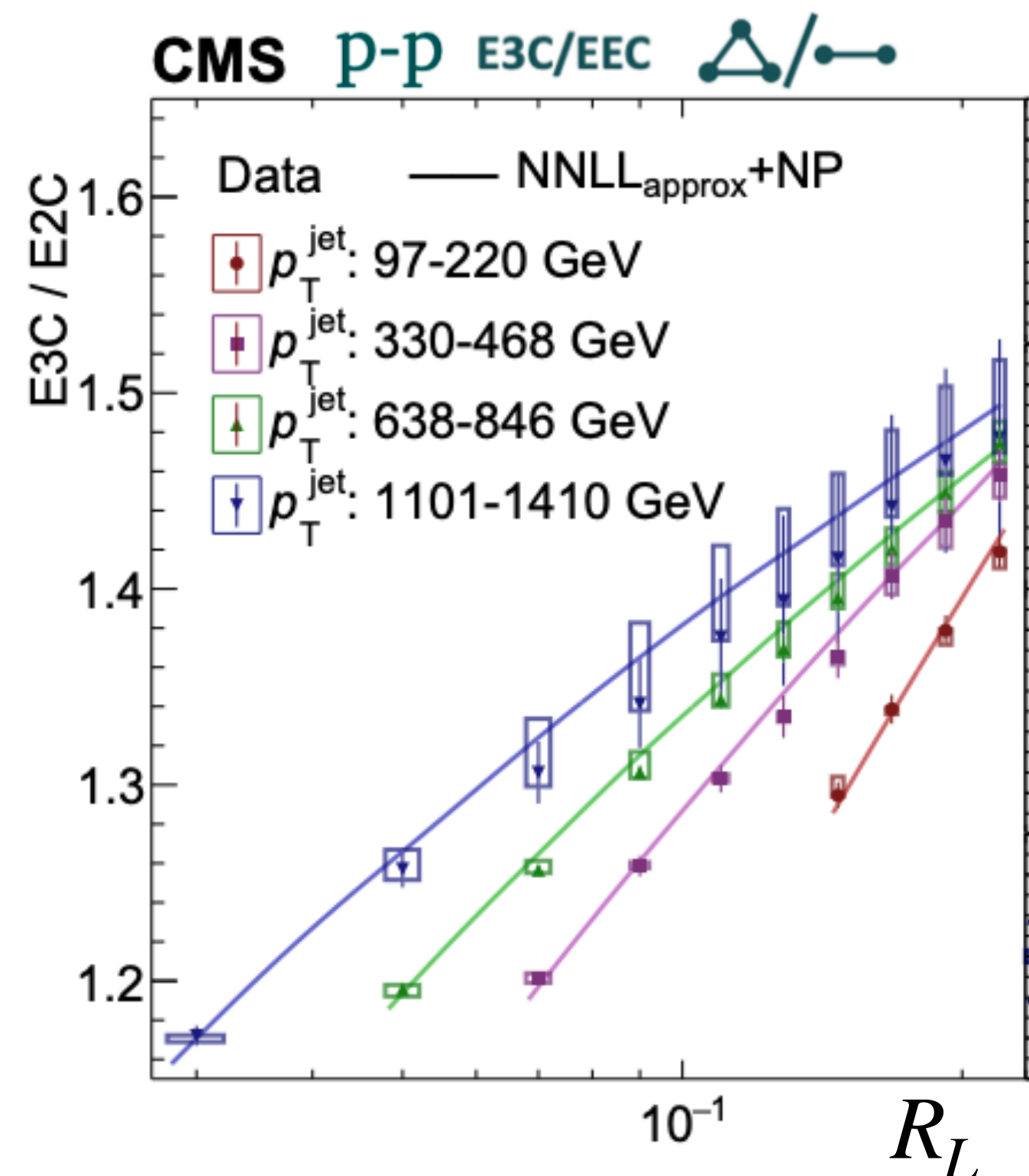
$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\dots\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_N) \sim R_L^{-2+\gamma_2(N+1)} \vec{\mathcal{C}}_2 \cdot \vec{\mathcal{O}}_{\tau=2}^{[J=N+1]}(\vec{n}_1)$$



PRL 133 (2024) 071903

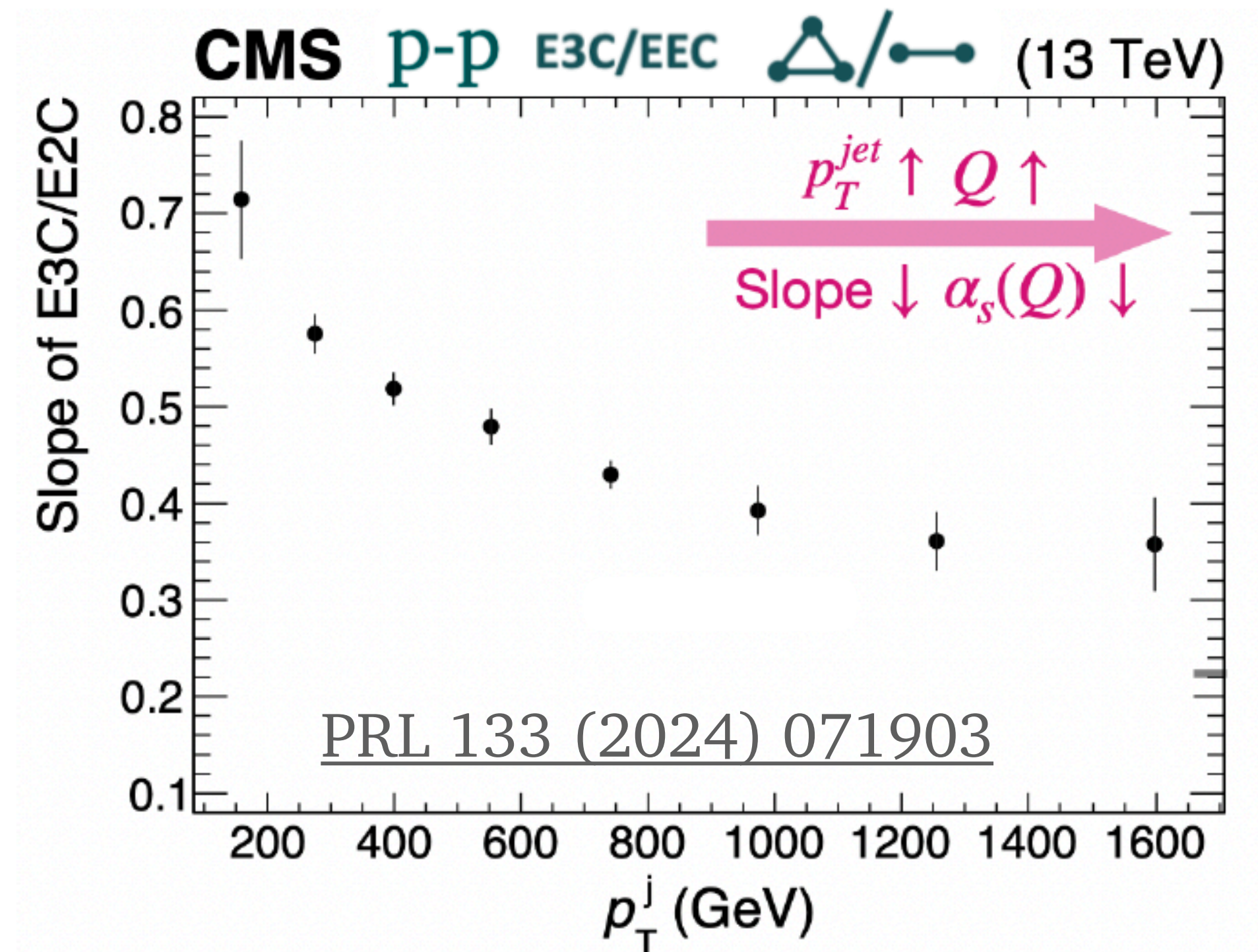
$$\frac{\text{E3C}}{\text{E2C}} \sim R_L^{\gamma_2(4)-\gamma_2(3)}$$

$$(\gamma_2(4) - \gamma_2(3)) \propto \alpha_s(p_T)$$



Most precise
determination of α_s
from jet substructure
(4% accuracy)

$$\alpha_s(m_Z) = 0.1229^{+0.0040}_{-0.0050}$$

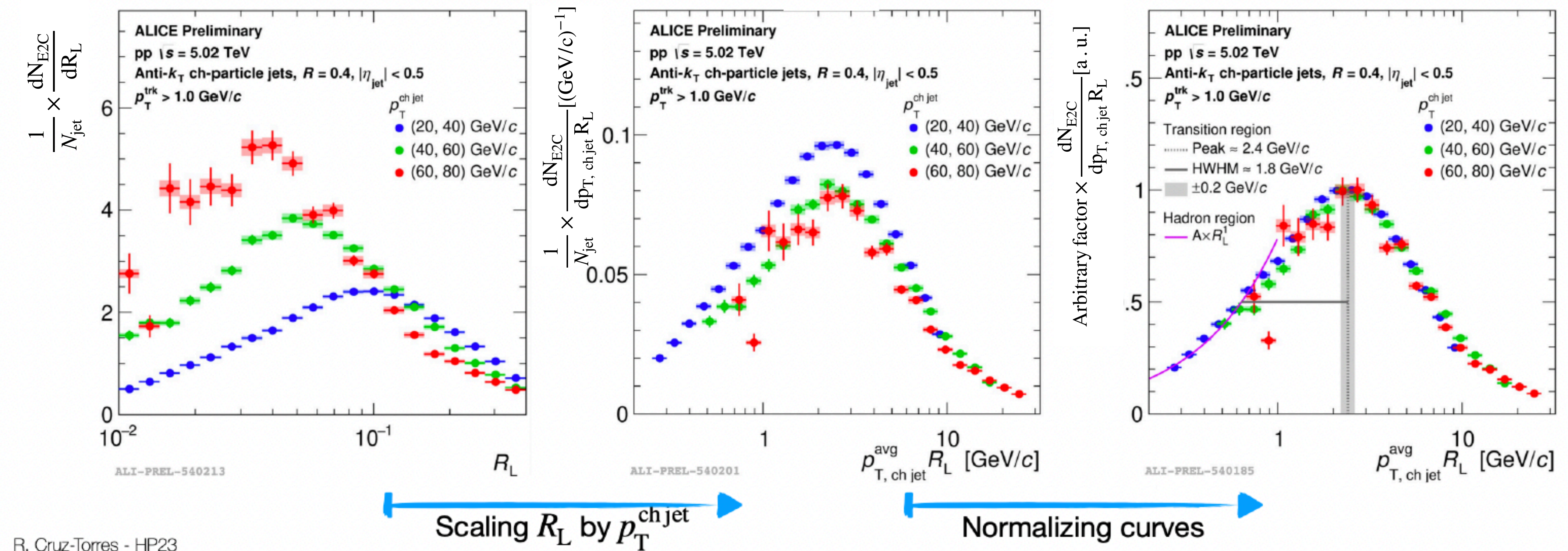


We can see **asymptotic freedom** by eye in data!

Selection bias due to energy loss

- Features in the E2C appear at scales related to the (initial) **hard scale**

E2C within p-p jets

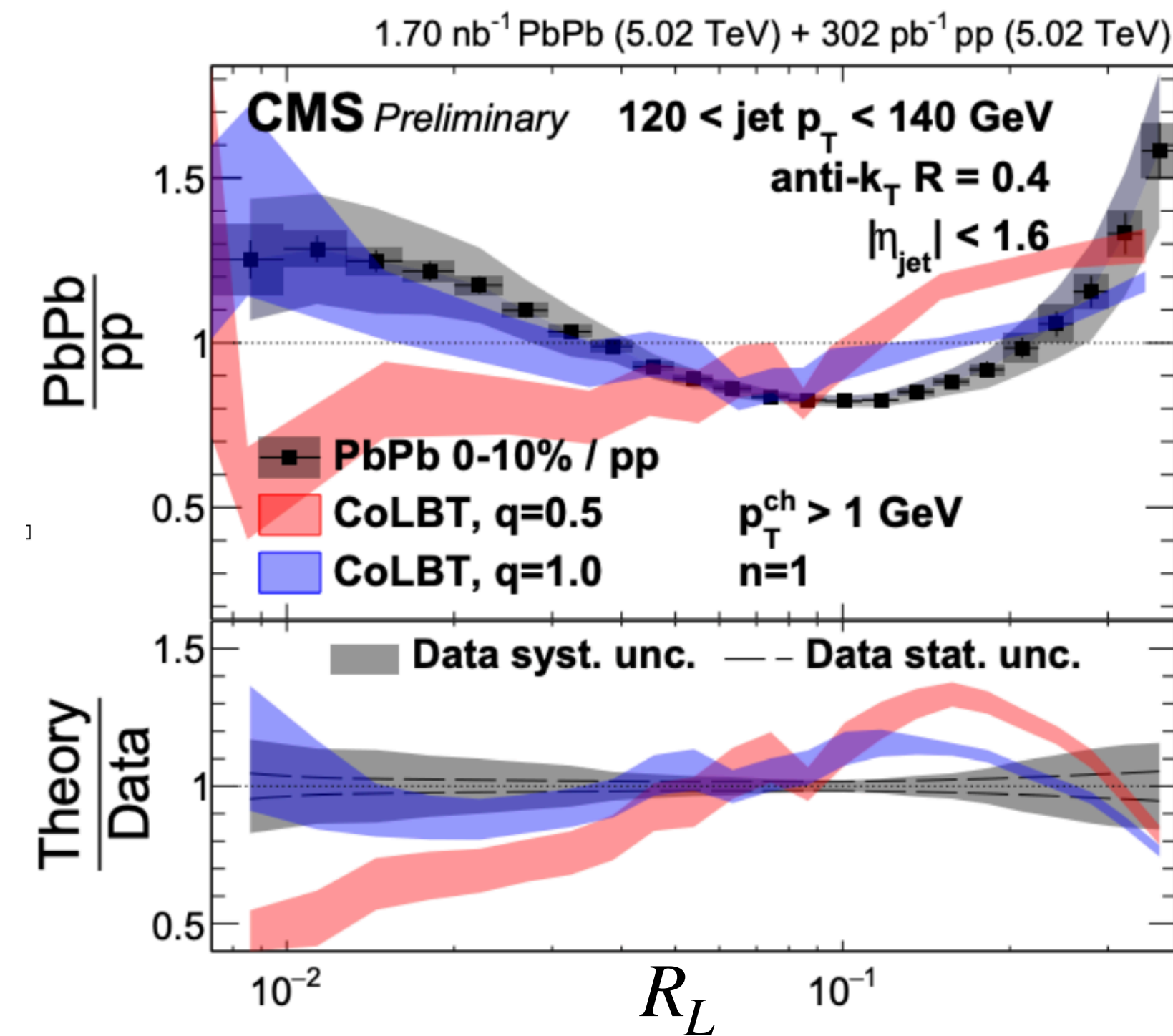
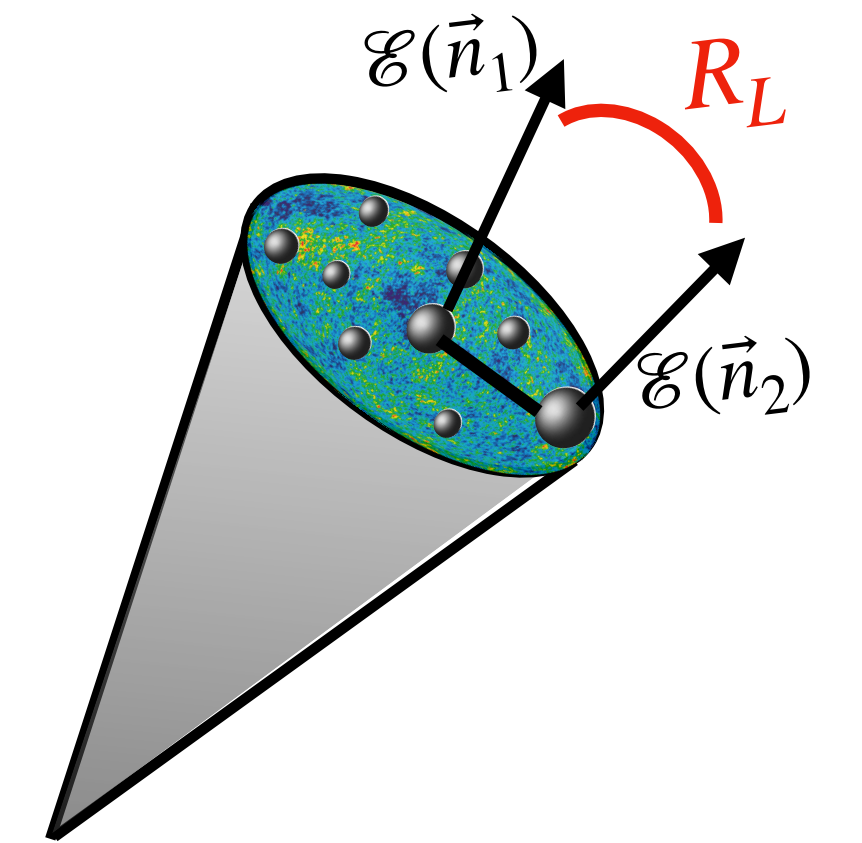


- Heavy ions: Shift in the hard scale due to energy loss. **Selection bias**

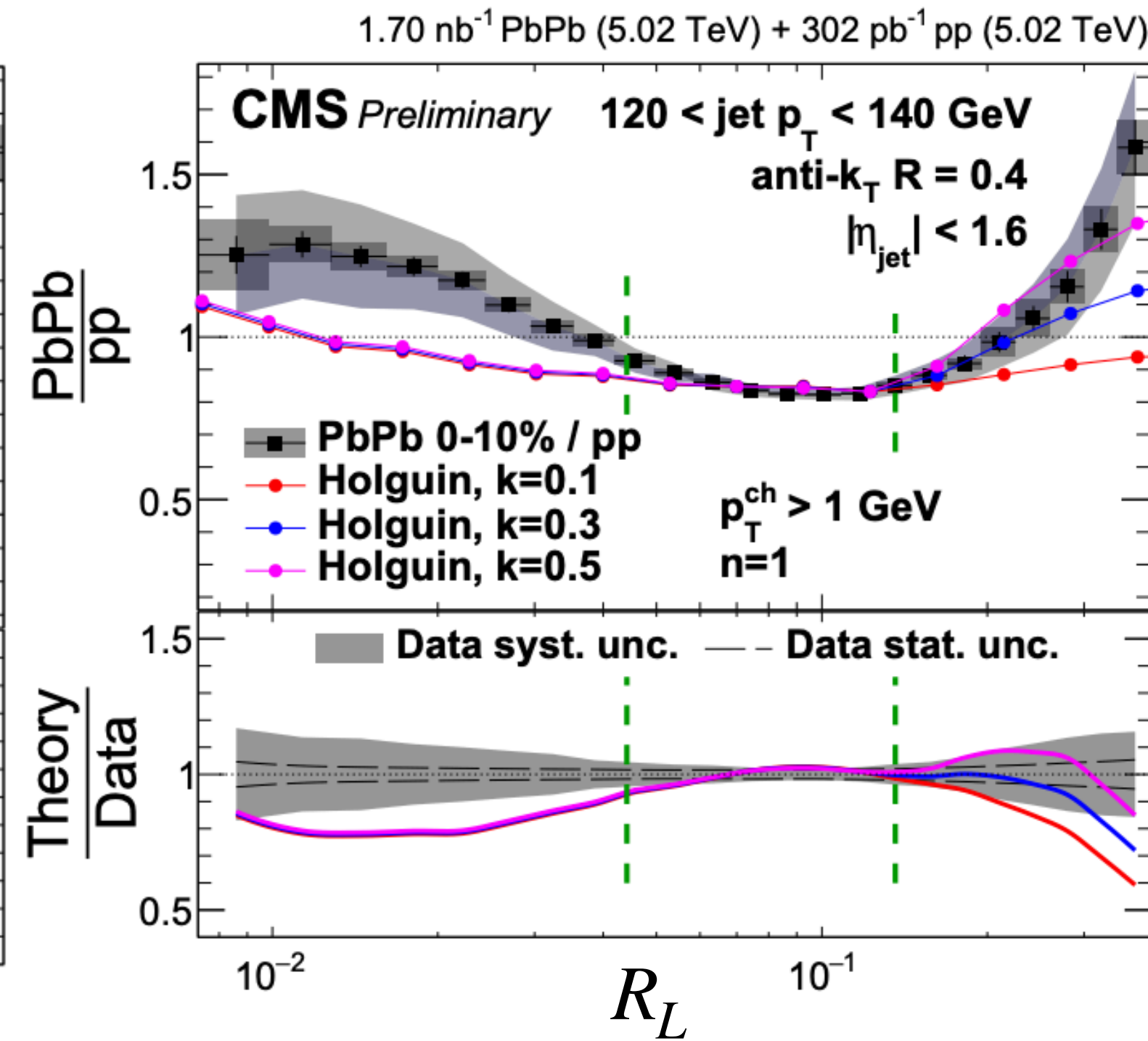
CA, Dominguez, Elayavalli, Holguin, Marquet, Moul, [2407.07936](#)

E2C in AA

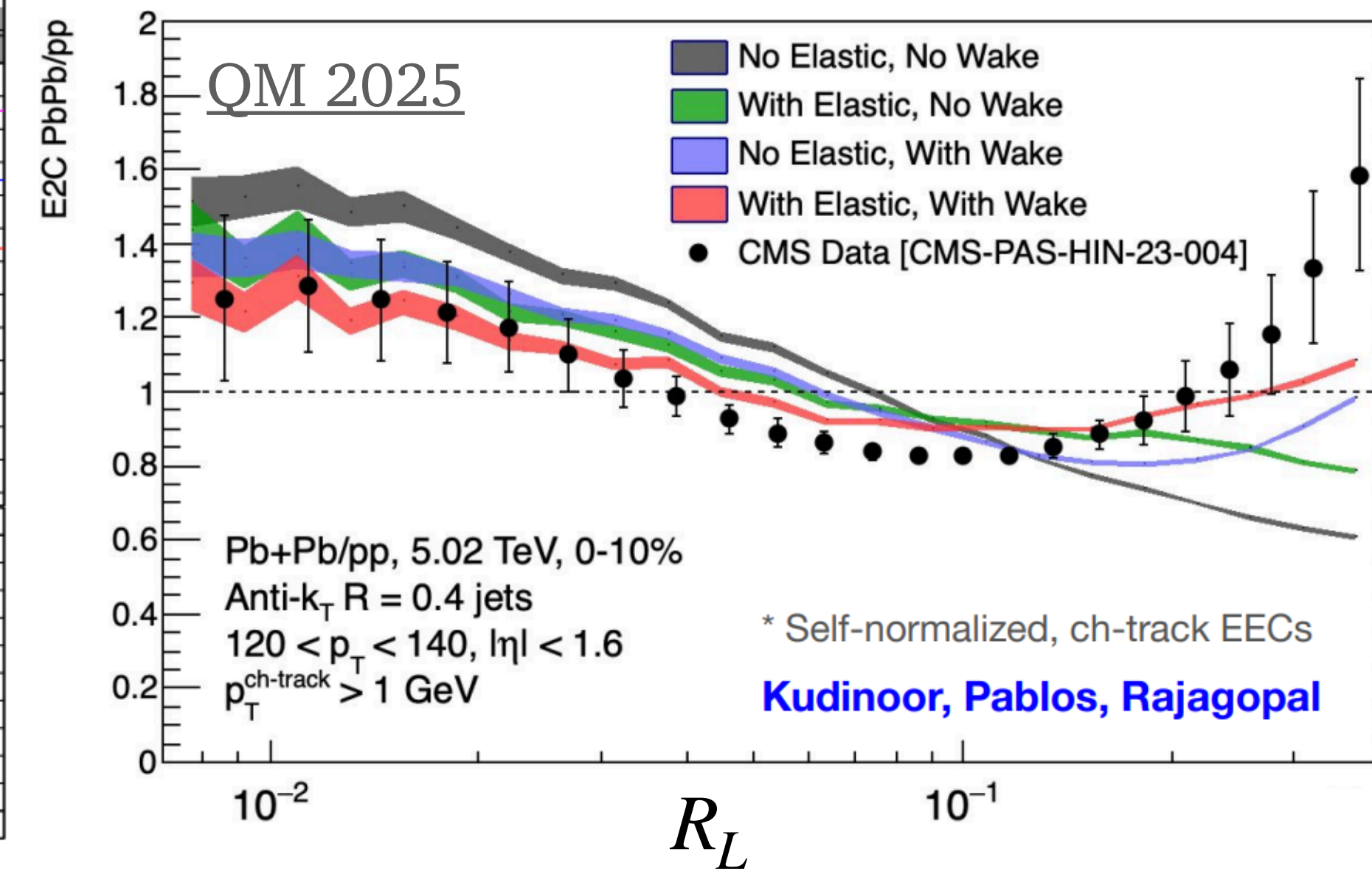
CMS, [2503.19993](#)



See also:
Yang, He, Moul, Wang, [2310.01500](#)



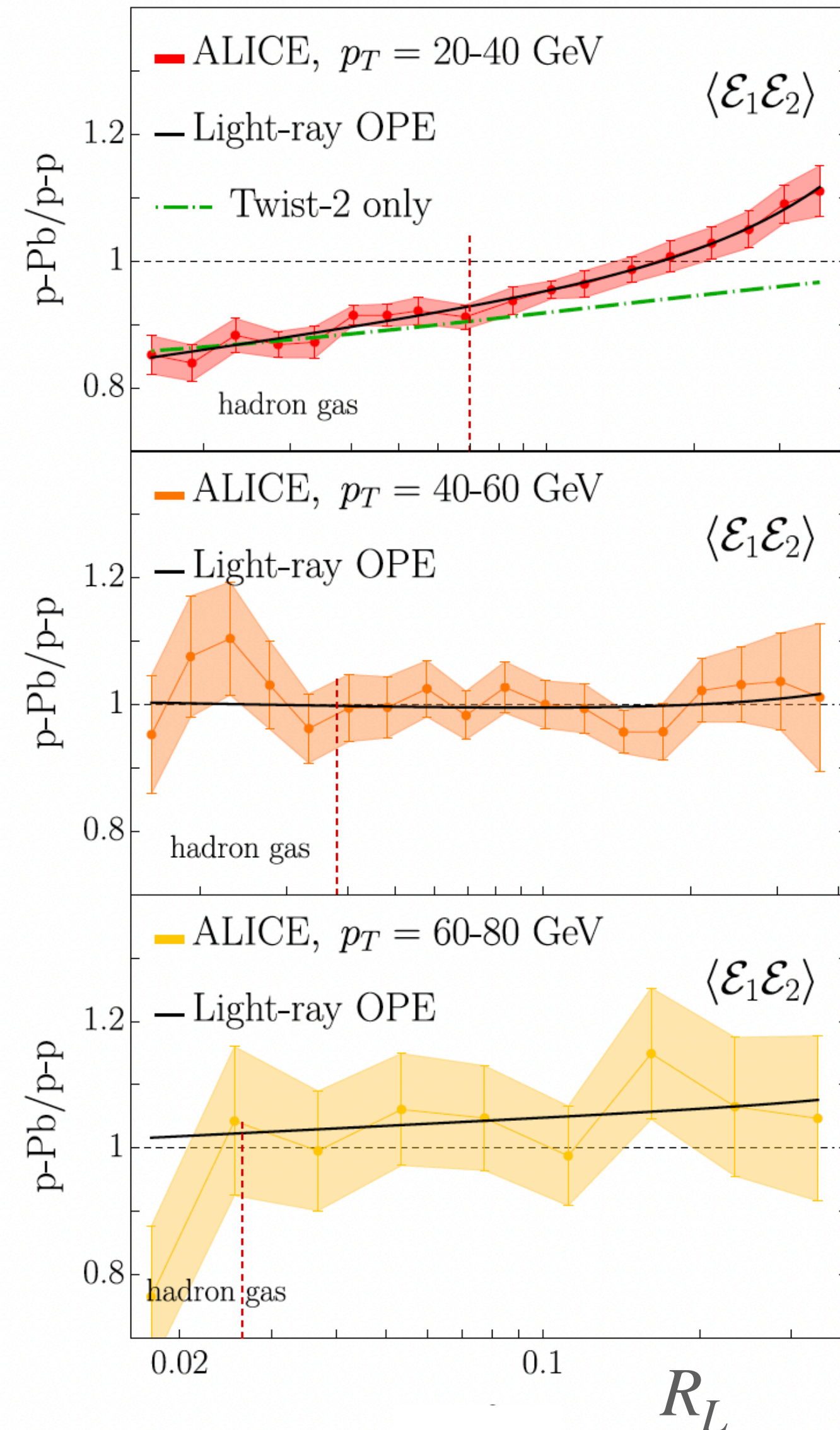
CA, Dominguez, Elayavalli,
Holguin, Marquet, Moul, [2407.07936](#)



See also:
Bossi, Kudinoor, Moul, Pablos, Rai,
Rajagopal, [2407.13818](#)

Light-ray OPE: pPb

CA, Dominguez, Holguin, Marquet,
and Moult, [2411.15298](#)



$$\frac{E2C^{p\text{-Pb}}}{E2C^{p\text{-p}}} \sim 1 + aR_L^2$$

$$p\text{-Pb}/p\text{-p} = \frac{M_2 R_L^{\gamma_N} + \left(\frac{p_{T,0}}{p_T} \right)^2 M_4(p_{T,0}) R_L^2}{R_L^{\gamma}}$$

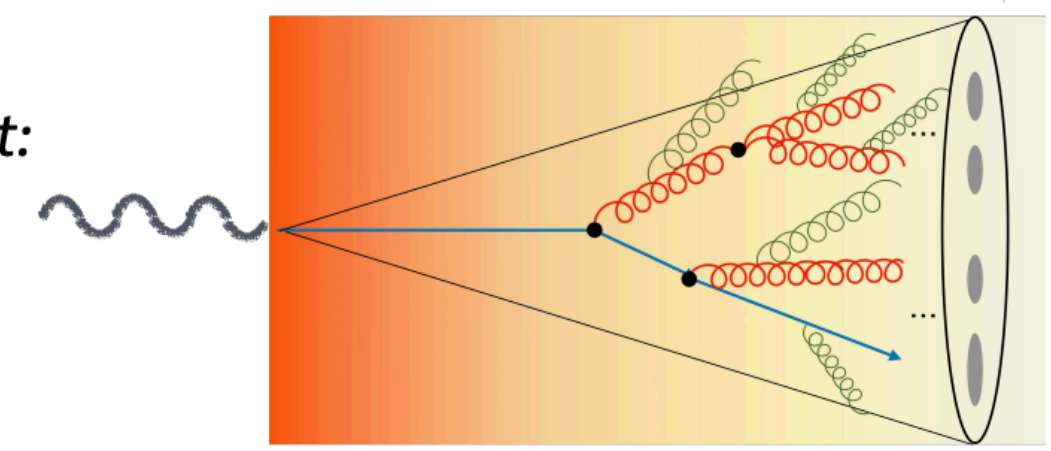
Behavior of the **enhancement**
with the **jet** p_T predicted by the
OPE

See also Fu, Müller, and, Sirimanna, [2411.04866](#)

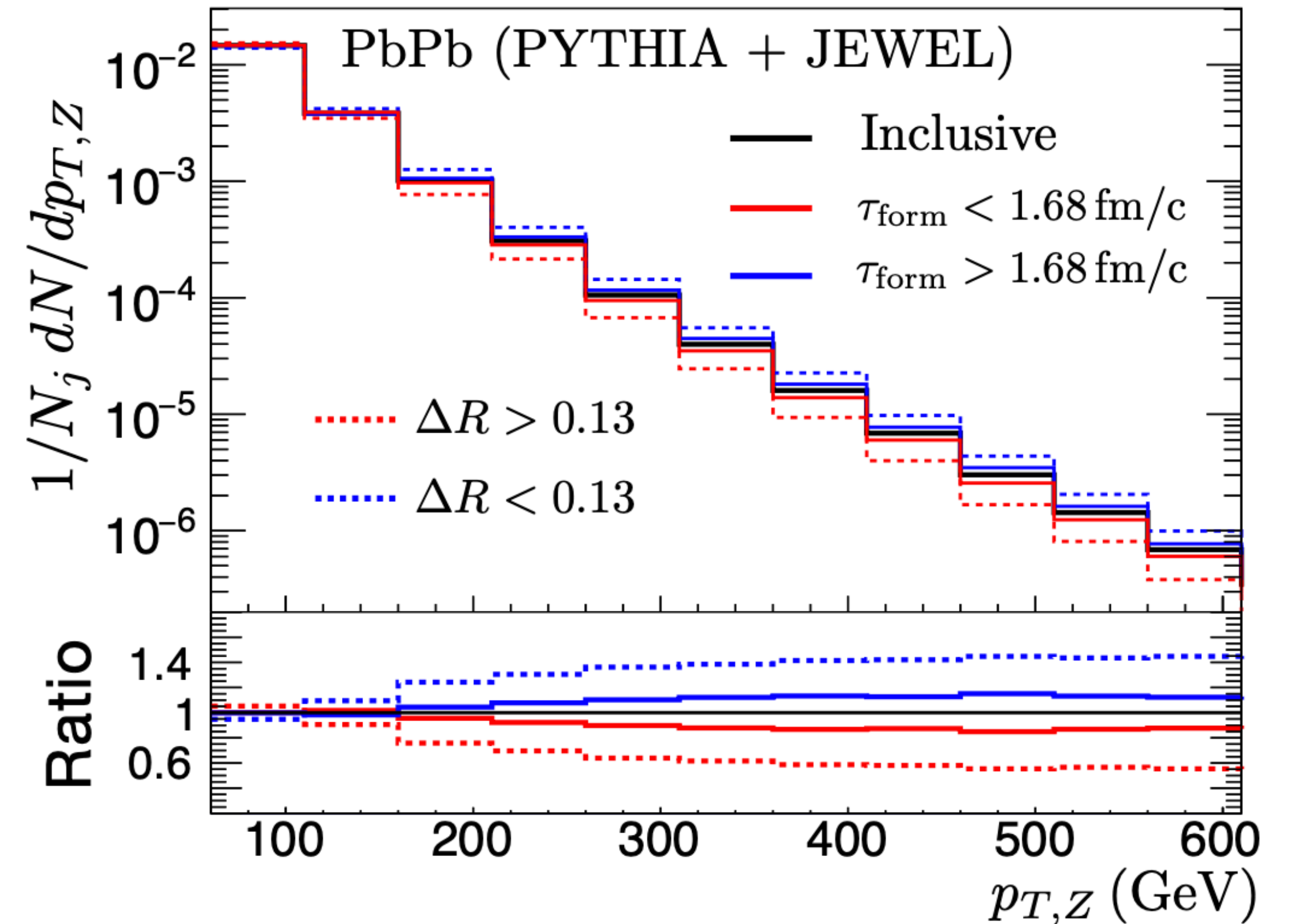
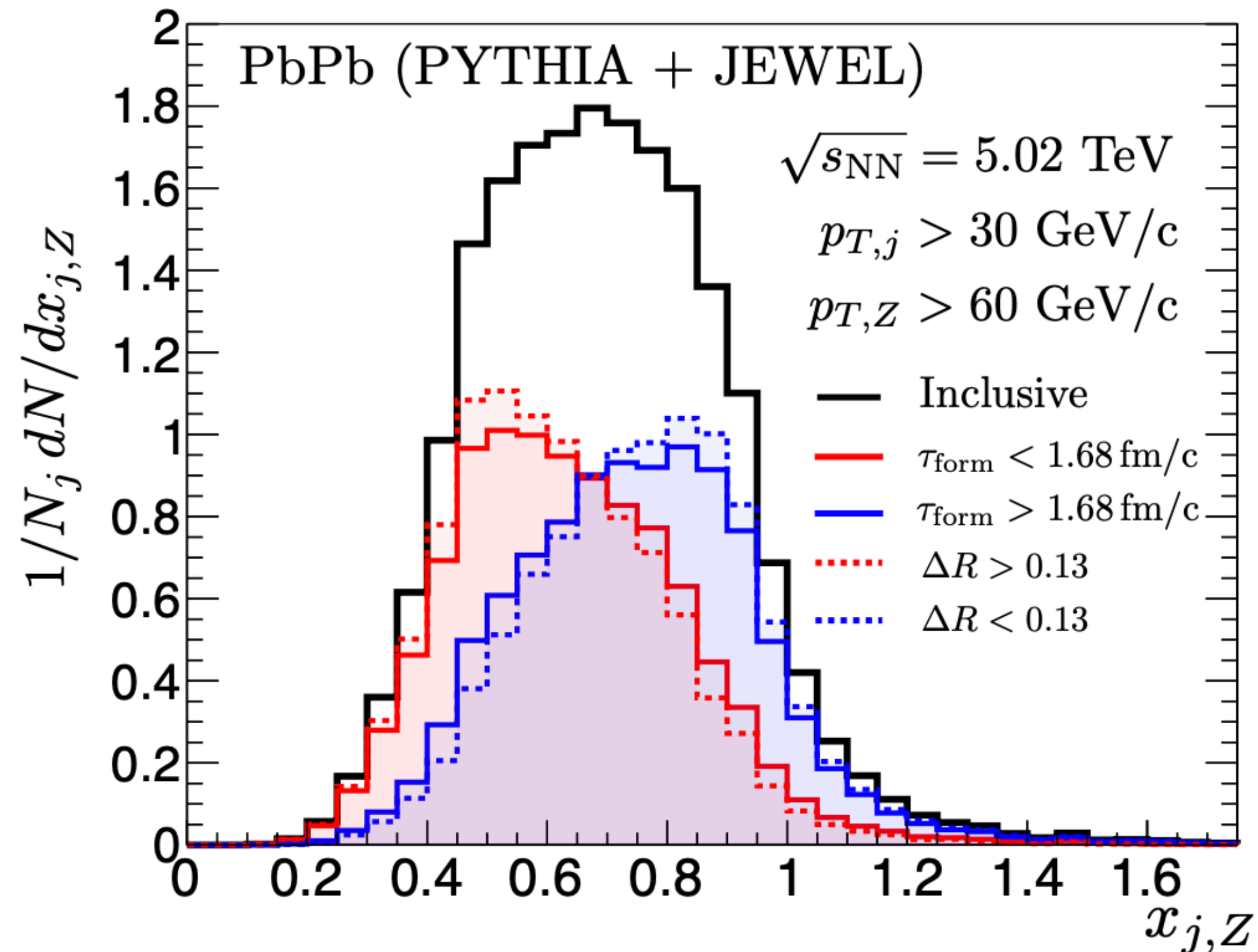
Selection bias

Apolinário, Guerrero-Rodriguez, Zapp, [2401.14229](#)

Z-boson + jet:



Z-boson spectrum



Selecting on τ_{form} significantly **reduces the bias** on the initial hard parton p_T