

Measurements of azimuthal anisotropy of jets in heavy ion collisions

Virginia Bailey

GSU post-HP Workshop

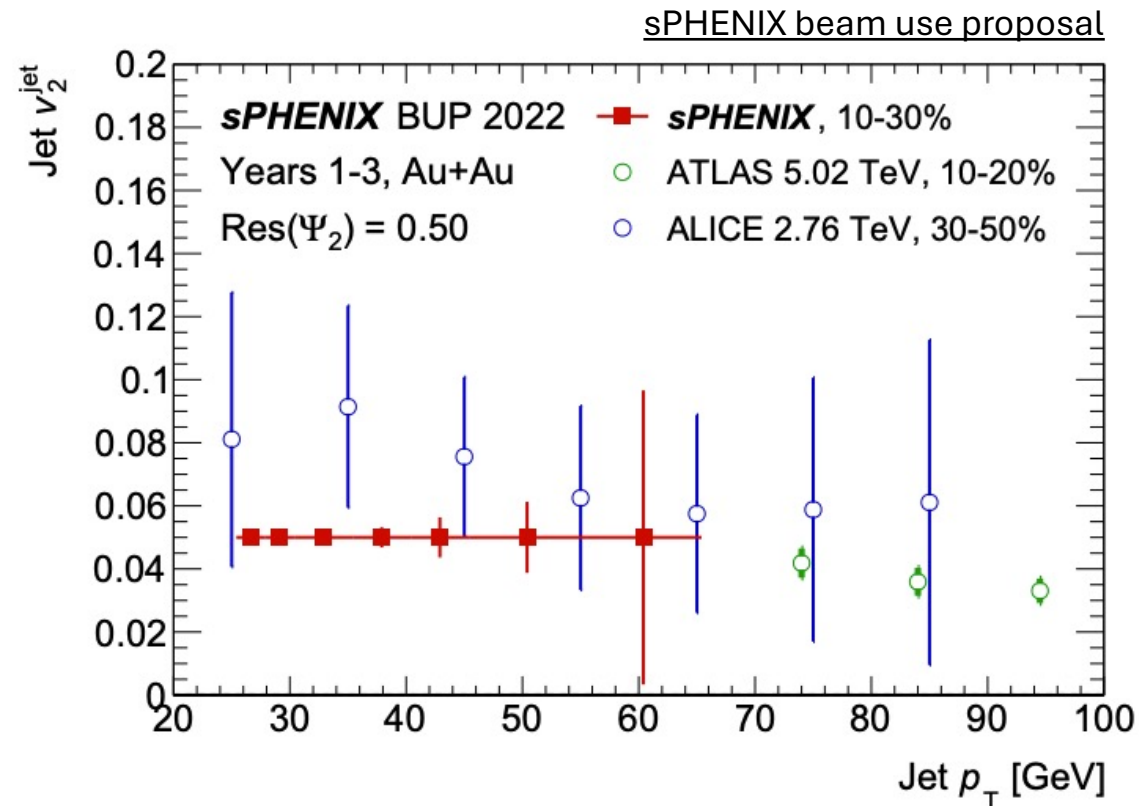
Jun 27, 2026

Goals of this presentation

- Introduce jet v_n measurements in heavy ion collisions
- Describe various technical methods used in these analyses
- Describe some experimental challenges in doing such measurements
- Ask questions to our theory friends about what are the most useful measurements for constraining energy loss

Why am I interested?

- We want to measure jet v_n in sPHENIX



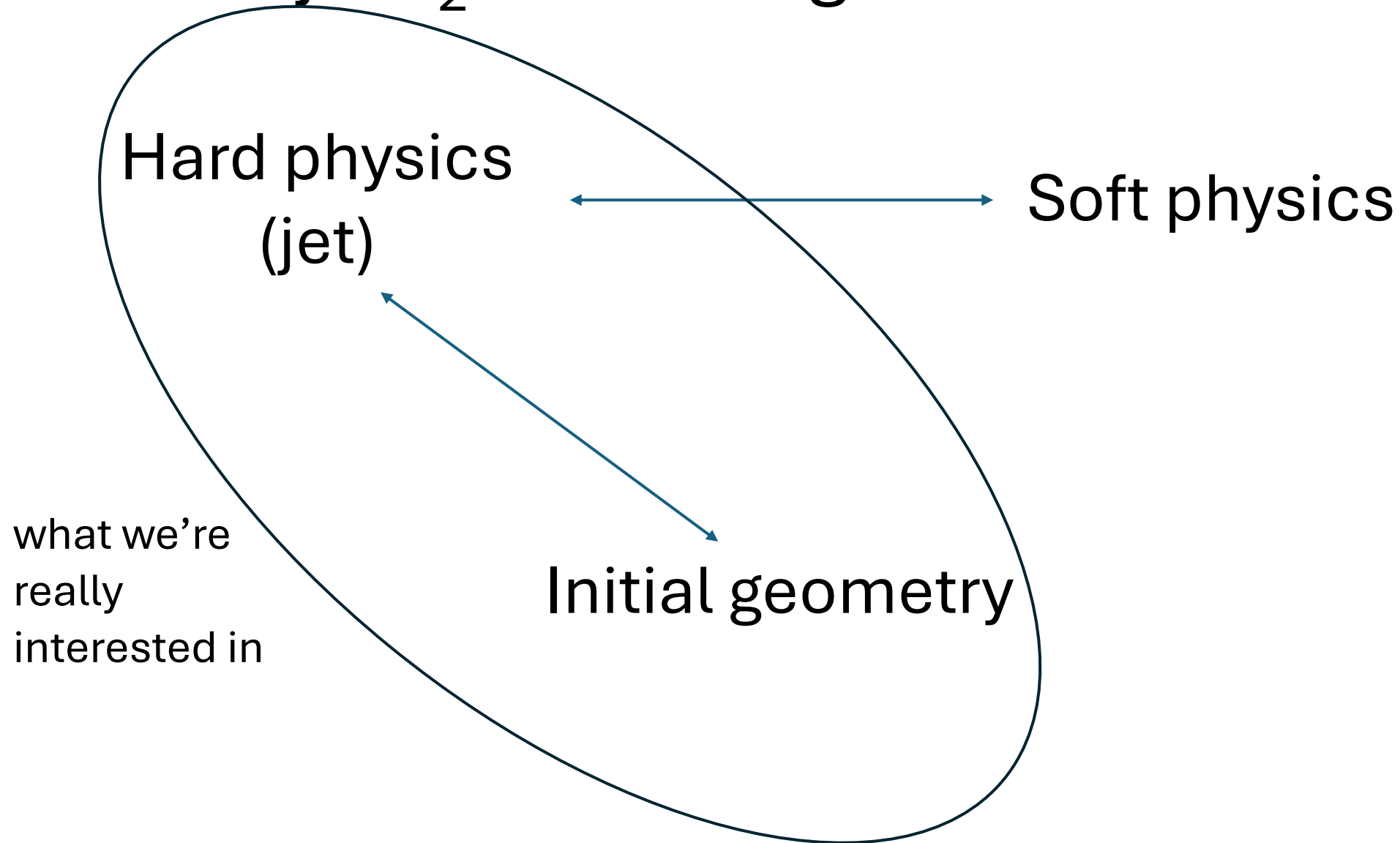
What is jet v_2 measuring?

Hard physics
(jet)



Soft physics

What is jet v_2 measuring?



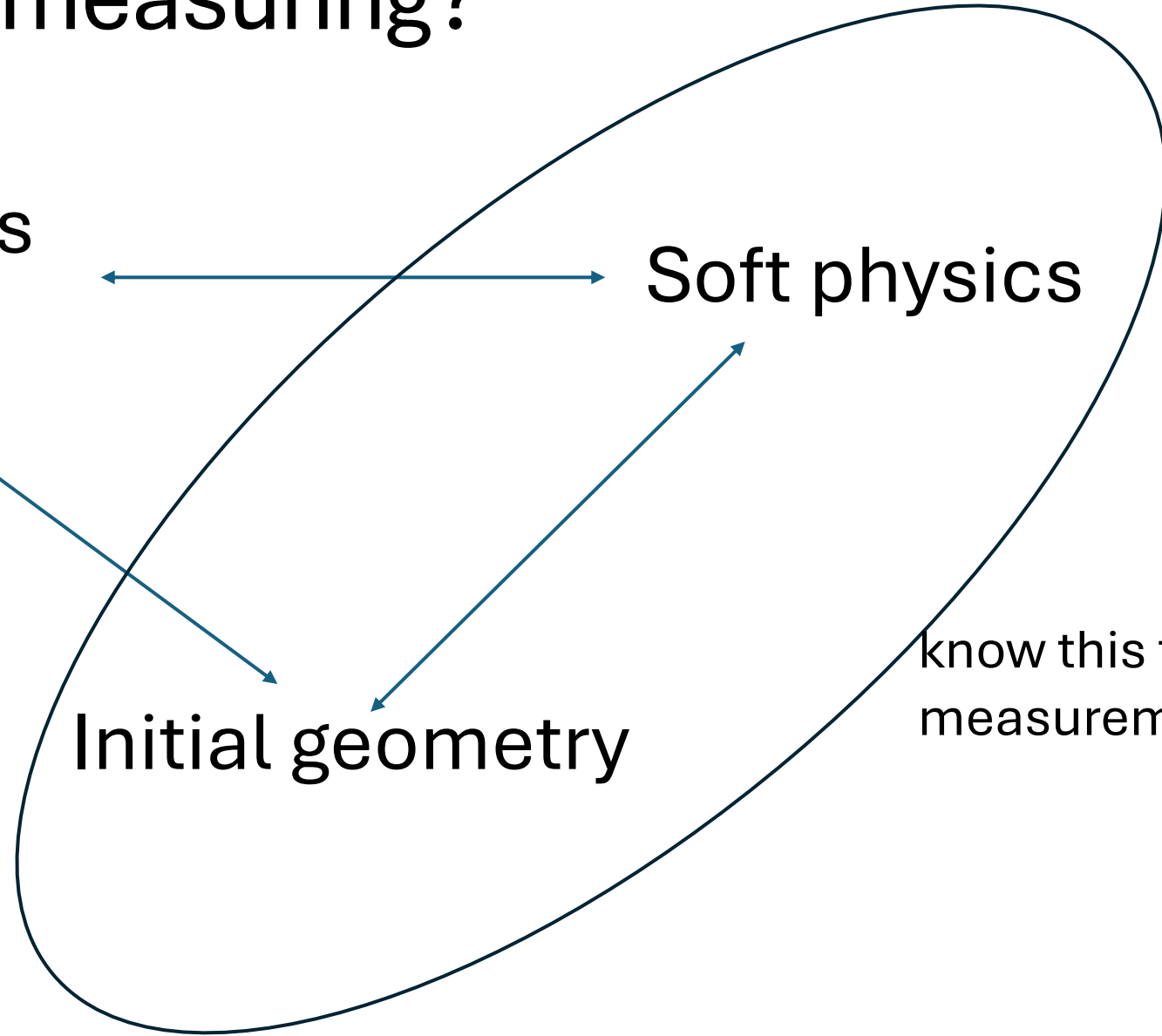
What is jet v_2 measuring?

Hard physics
(jet)

Soft physics

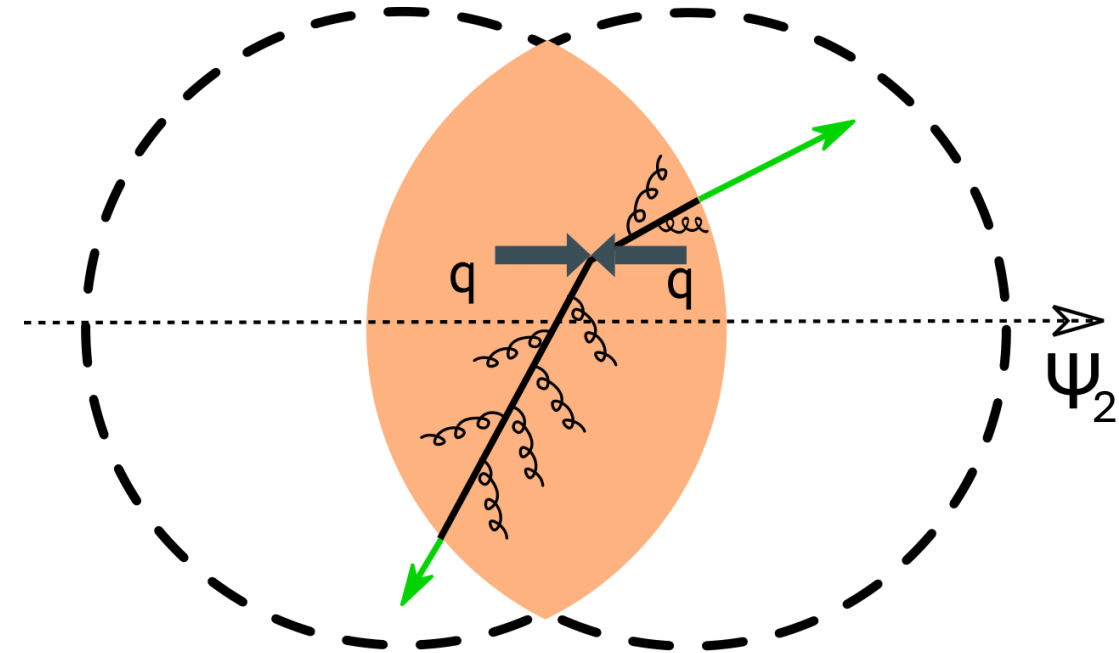
Initial geometry

know this from flow
measurements

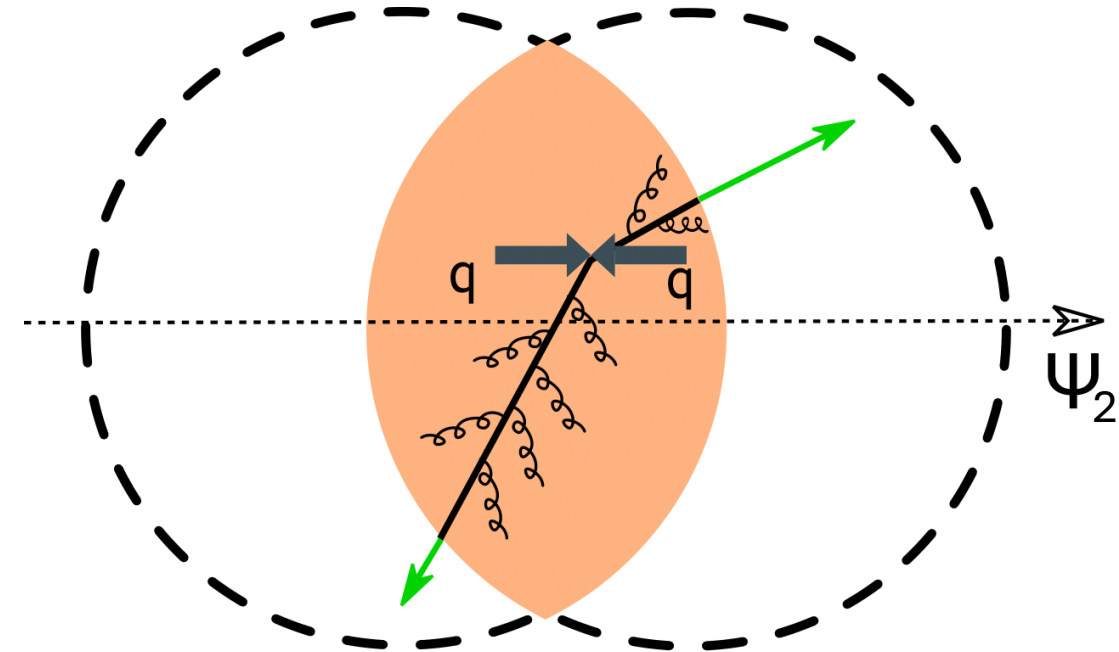


Azimuthal variation of energy loss

- Partons from hard scatterings lose energy as they traverse the QGP
 - What is the path-length dependence of this energy loss?

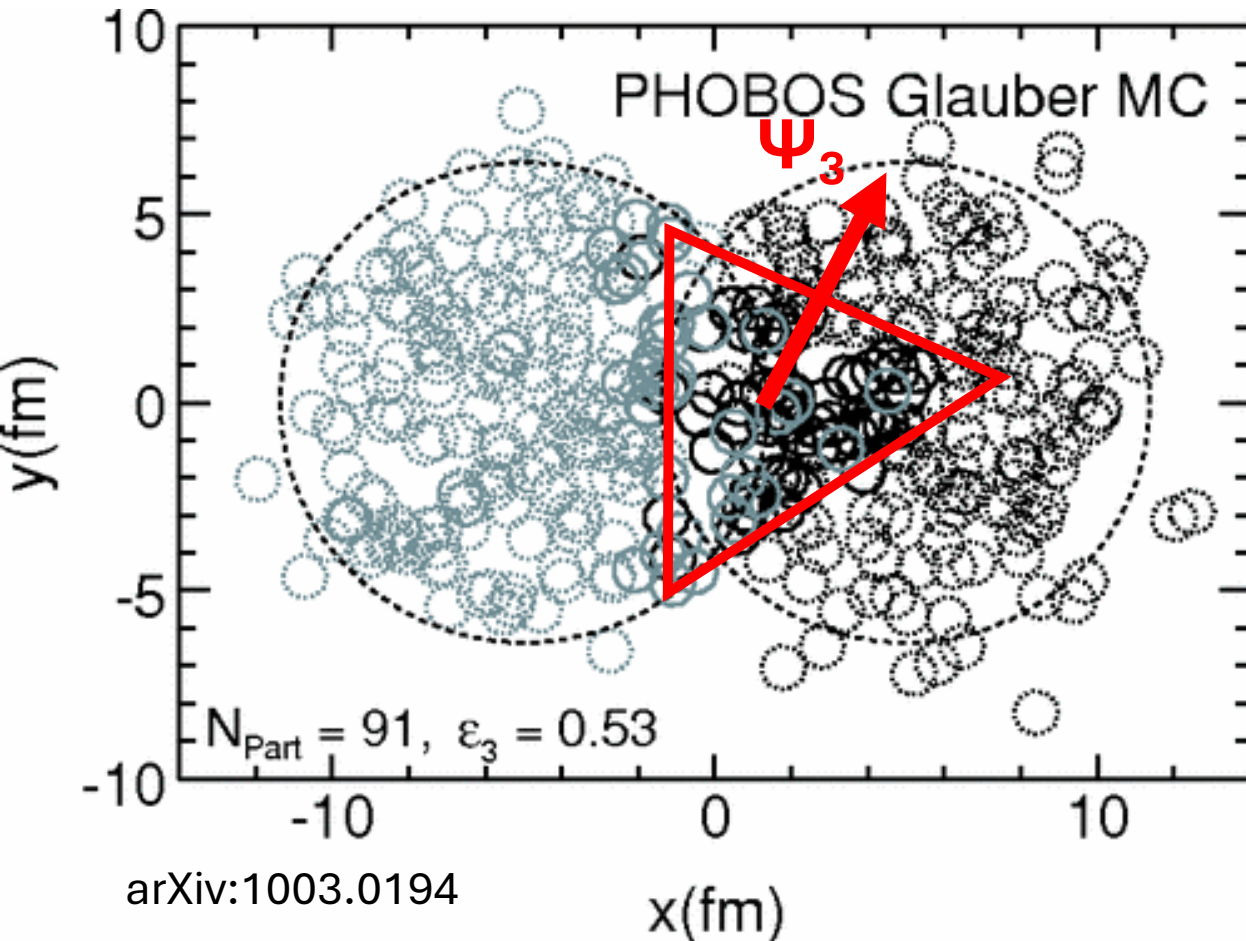


Azimuthal variation of energy loss



- Partons from hard scatterings lose energy as they traverse the QGP
 - What is the path-length dependence of this energy loss?
- Geometry of collision produces elliptical QGP $\rightarrow$ overall circular shape of nuclei
 - Geometry characterized by event plane angles Ψ_n
 - Jets produced in-plane traverse on average less QGP than those produced out-of-plane
 - This leads to an azimuthal modulation of jet yields in Pb+Pb collisions

Azimuthal variation of energy loss

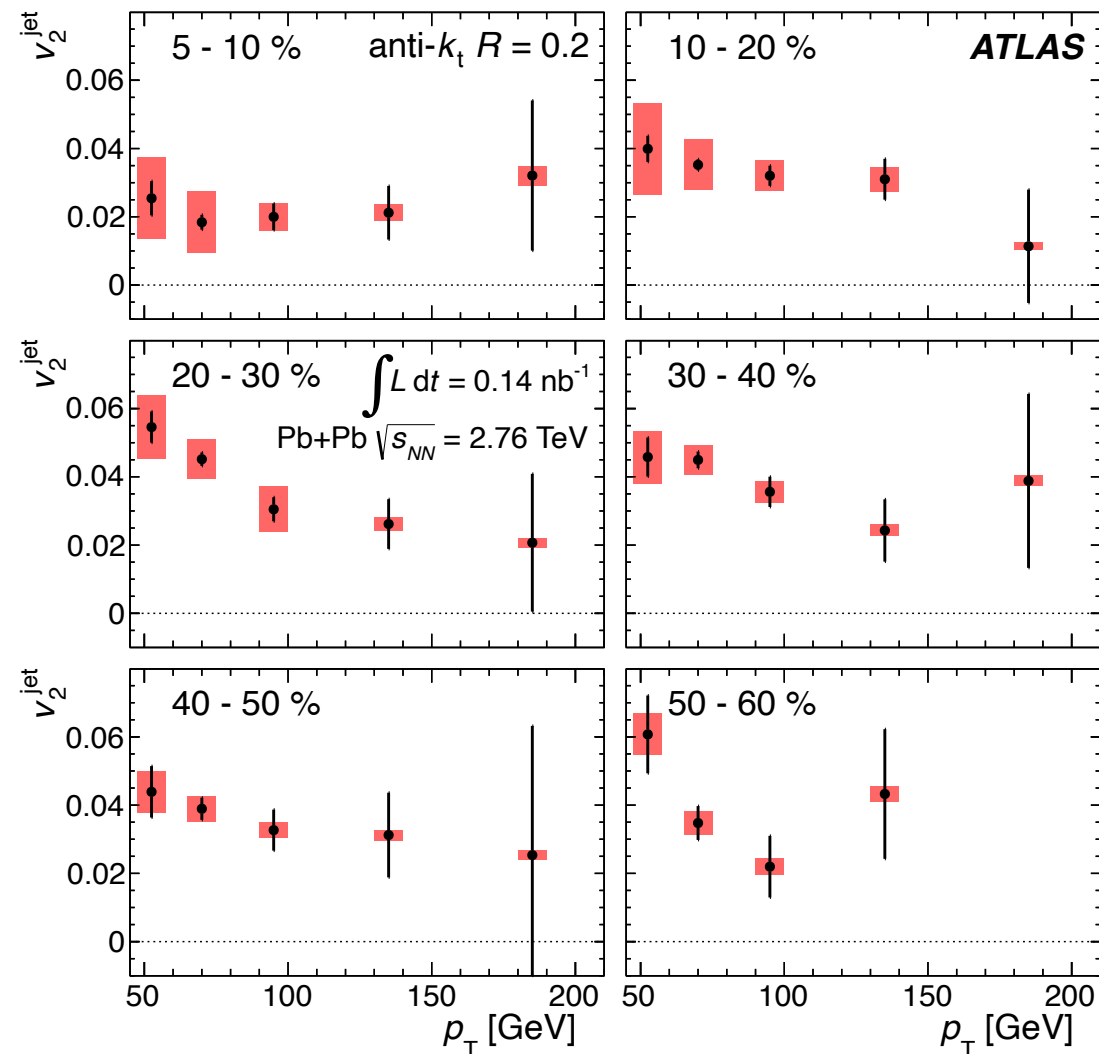
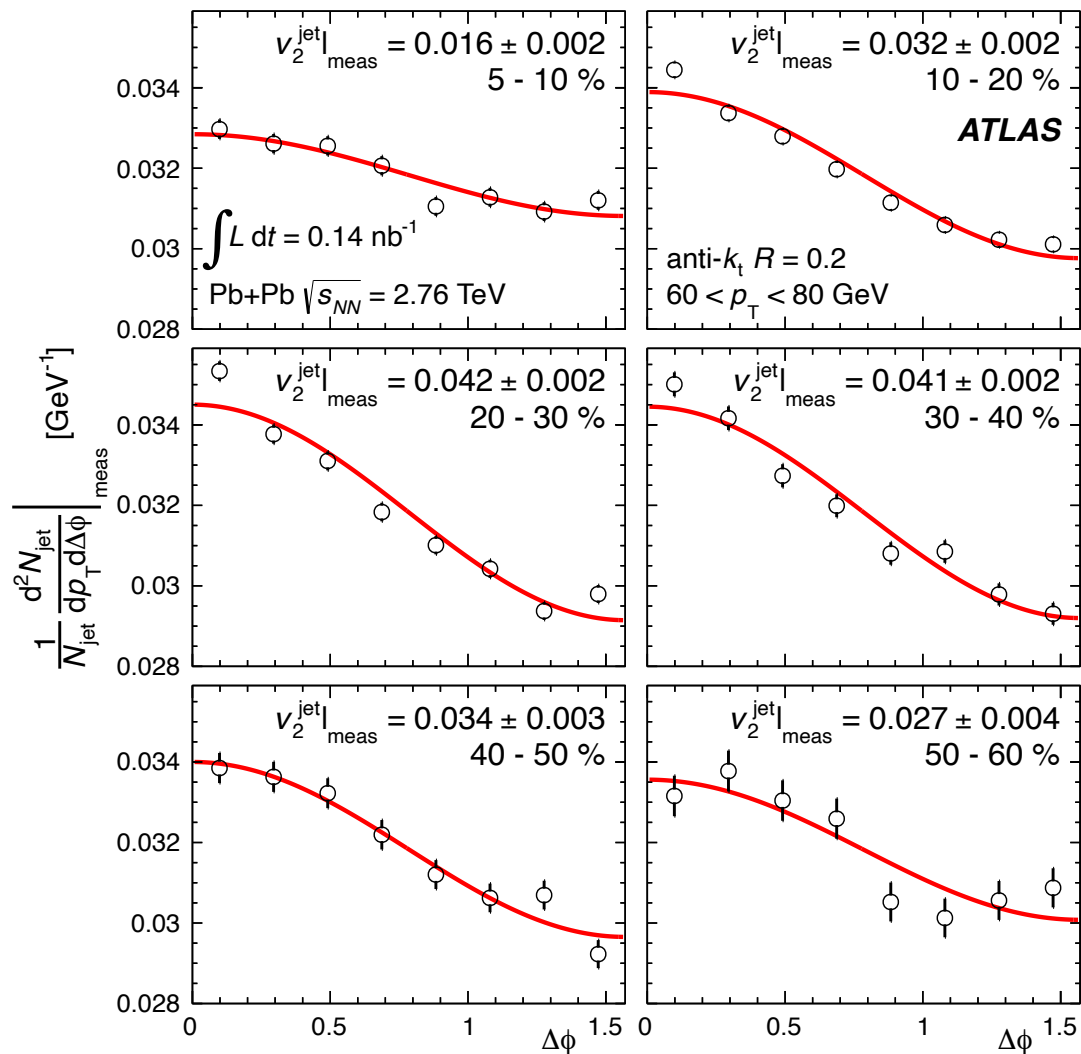


arXiv:1003.0194

- Fluctuations in initial state due to the positions of protons and neutrons in nuclei can potentially produce higher order modulations of the jet yields

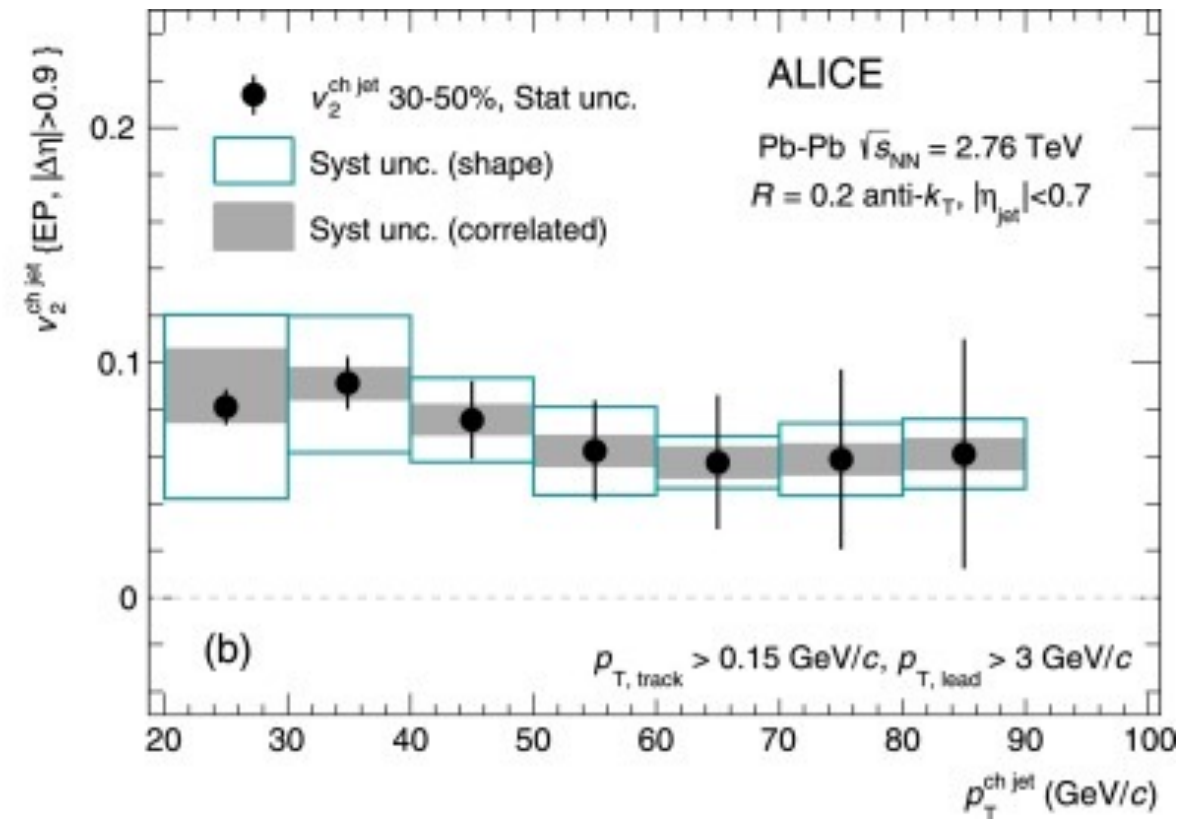
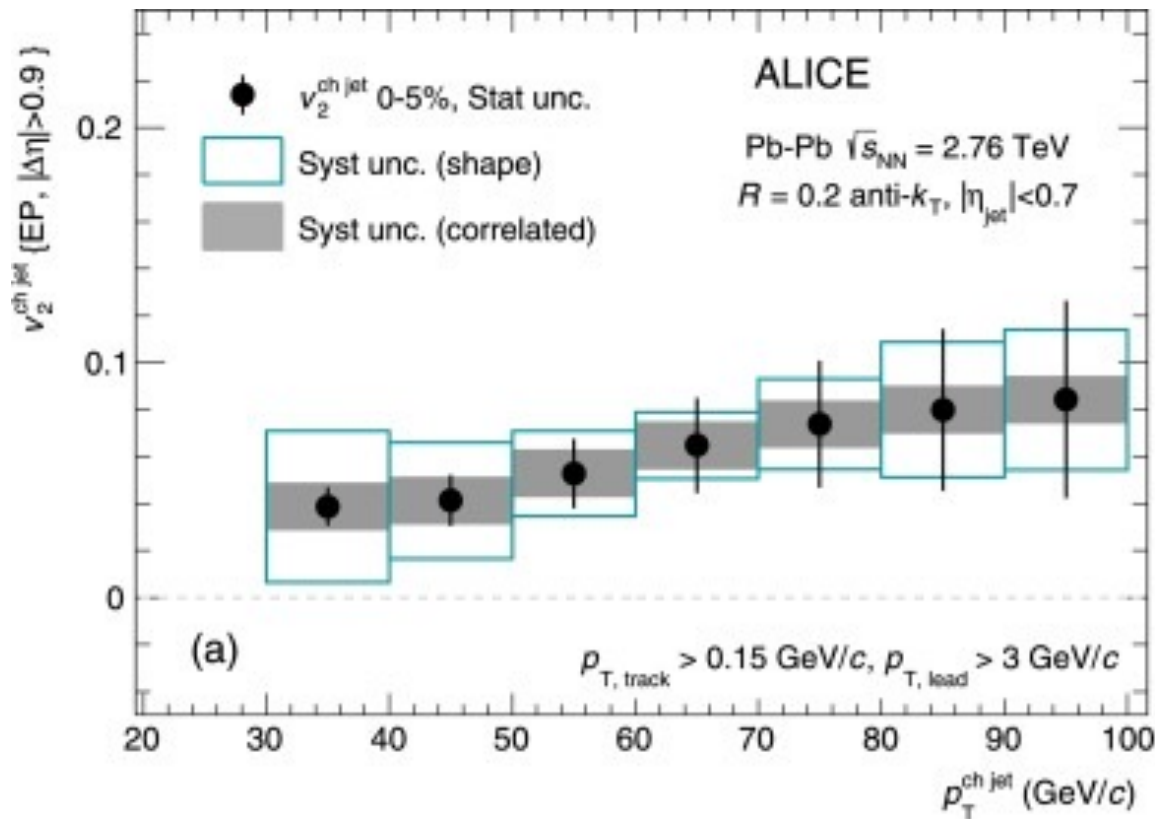
Measurements of jet v_n

- ATLAS measurement at 2.76 TeV
- Event plane method – fit $\Delta\phi$
- Calorimeter jets



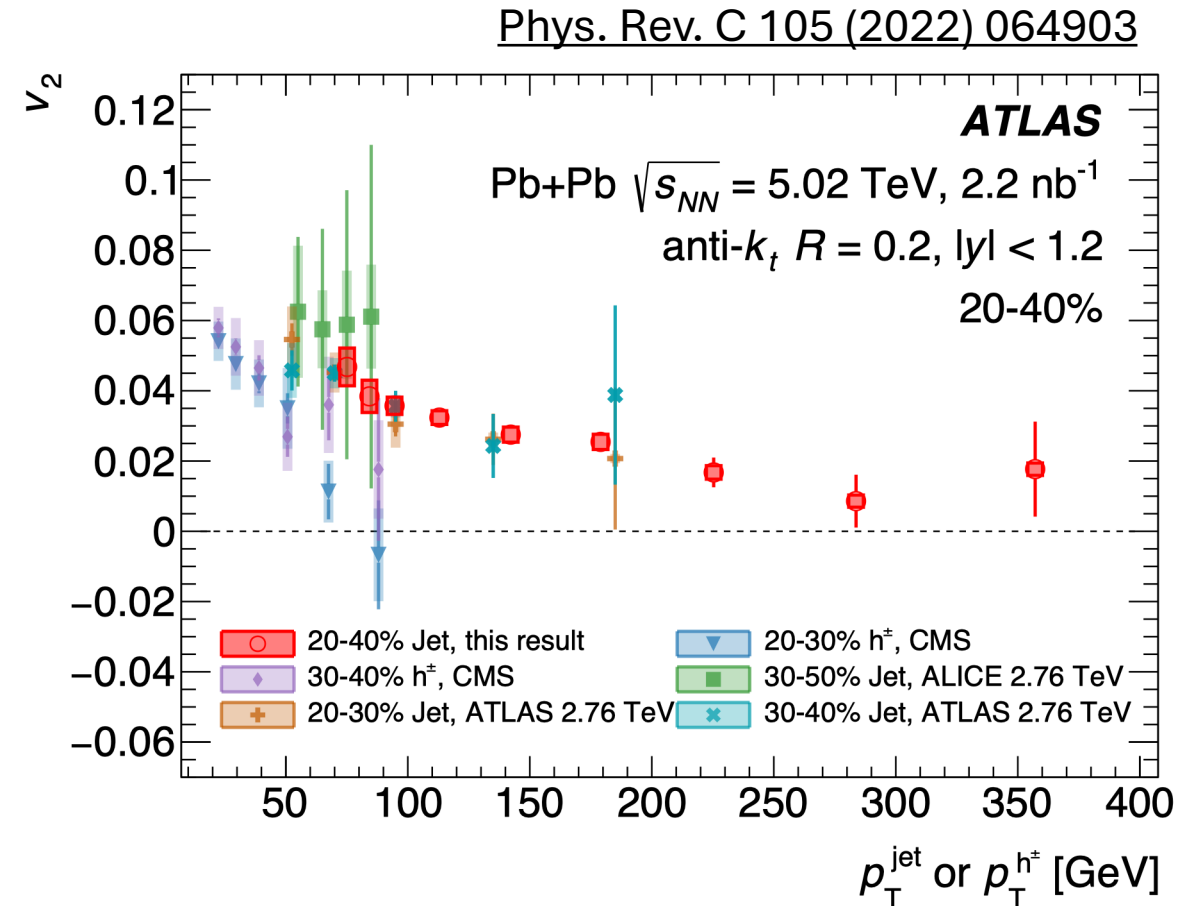
Measurements of jet v_n

- ALICE measurement at 2.76 TeV
- In-plane to out-of-plane ratio
- Charged particle jets



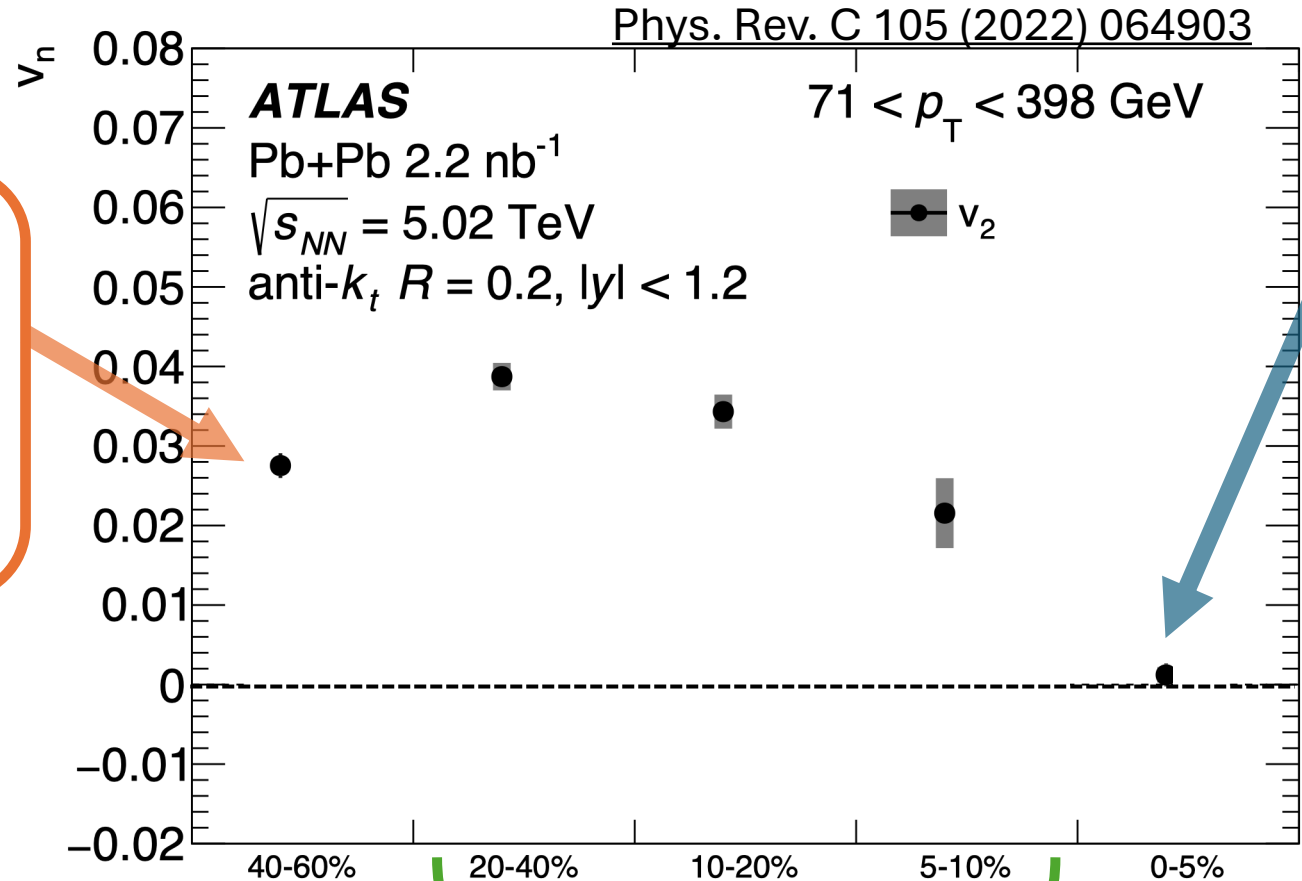
Measurements of jet v_n

- ATLAS measurement at 5.02 TeV
- Event plane method – fit $\Delta\phi$
- Calorimeter jets

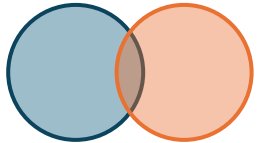


Measurements of jet v_n

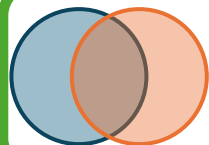
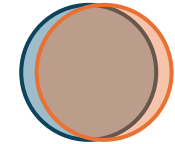
- ATLAS measurement at 5.02 TeV
- Event plane method – fit $\Delta\phi$
- Calorimeter jets



Smaller overlap → less QGP
overall less energy loss



More azimuthally symmetric →
less variation in energy loss



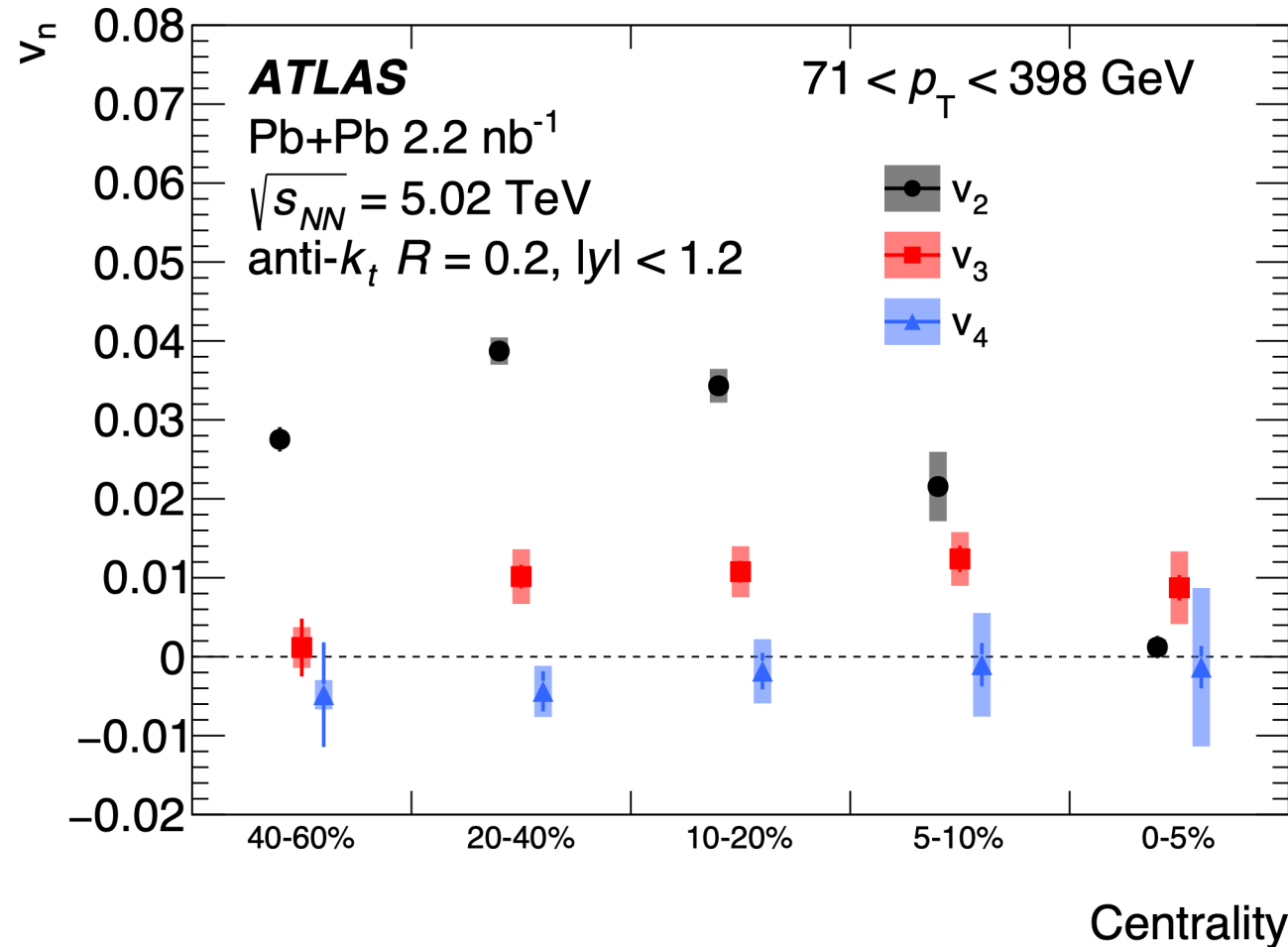
Large eccentricity in initial state →
large v_2 measured in final state

Centrality

Measurements of jet v_n

- ATLAS measurement at 5.02 TeV
- Event plane method – fit $\Delta\phi$
- Calorimeter jets

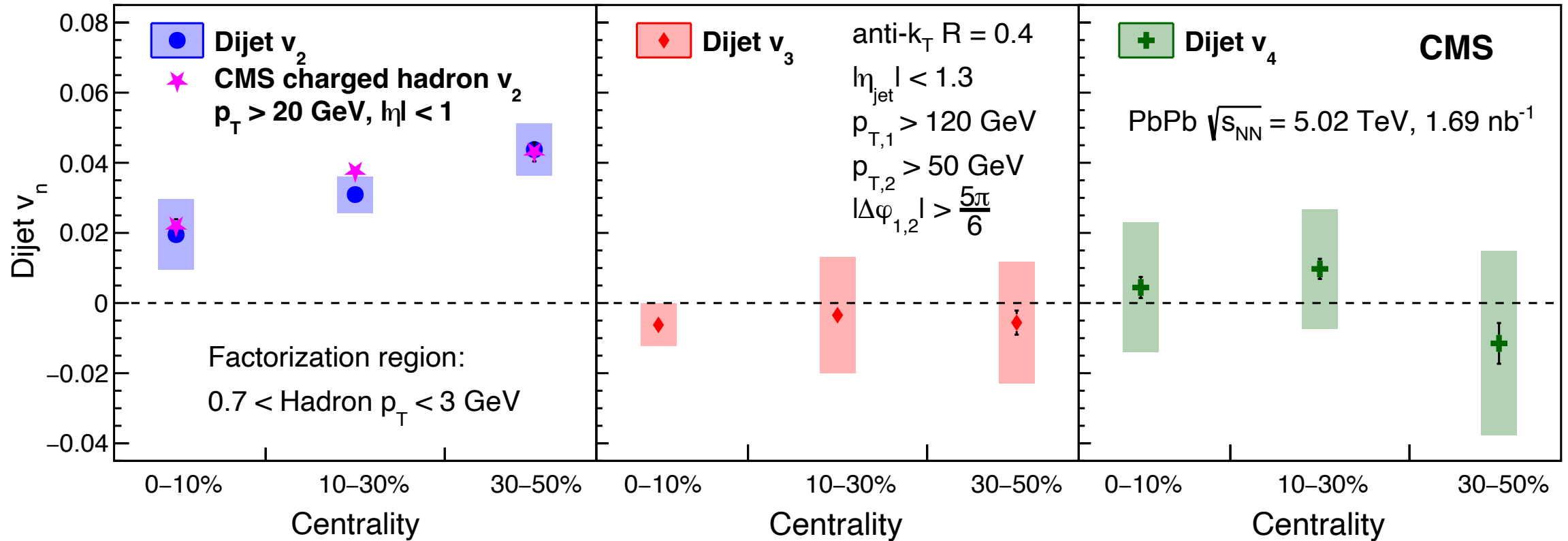
Phys. Rev. C 105 (2022) 064903



- First measurement of jet $v_{n>2}$
- Jet v_3 shows small non-zero value

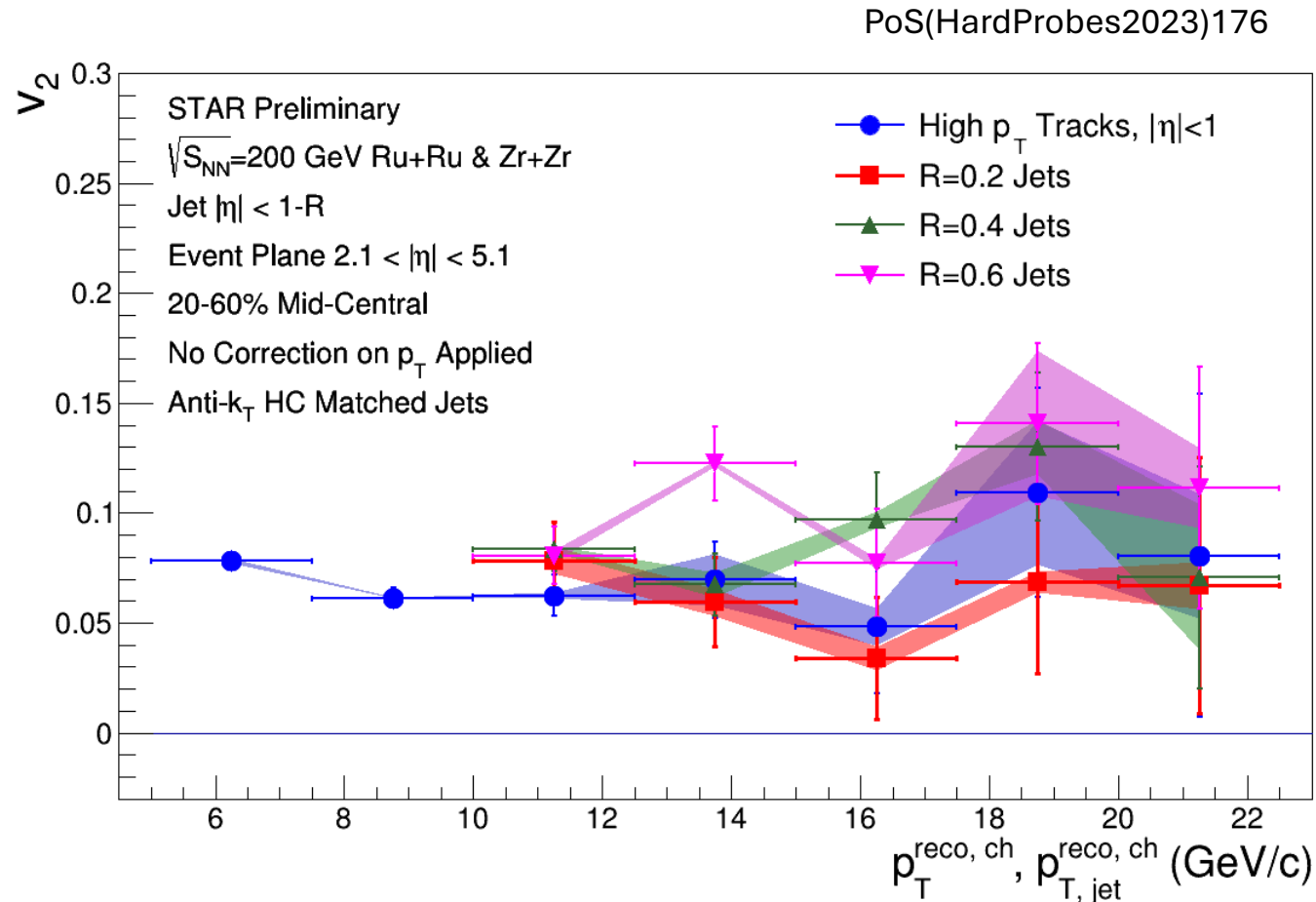
Measurements of jet v_n

- CMS measurement at 5.02 TeV
- Jet-hadron correlations
- Calorimeter *dijets*



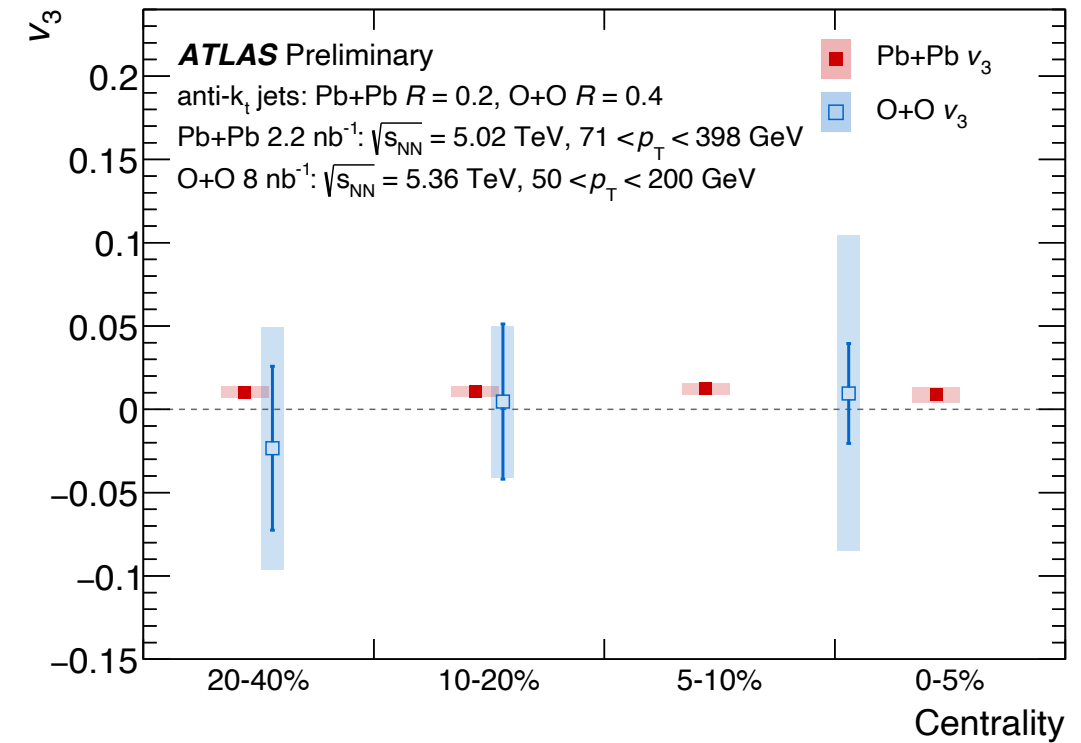
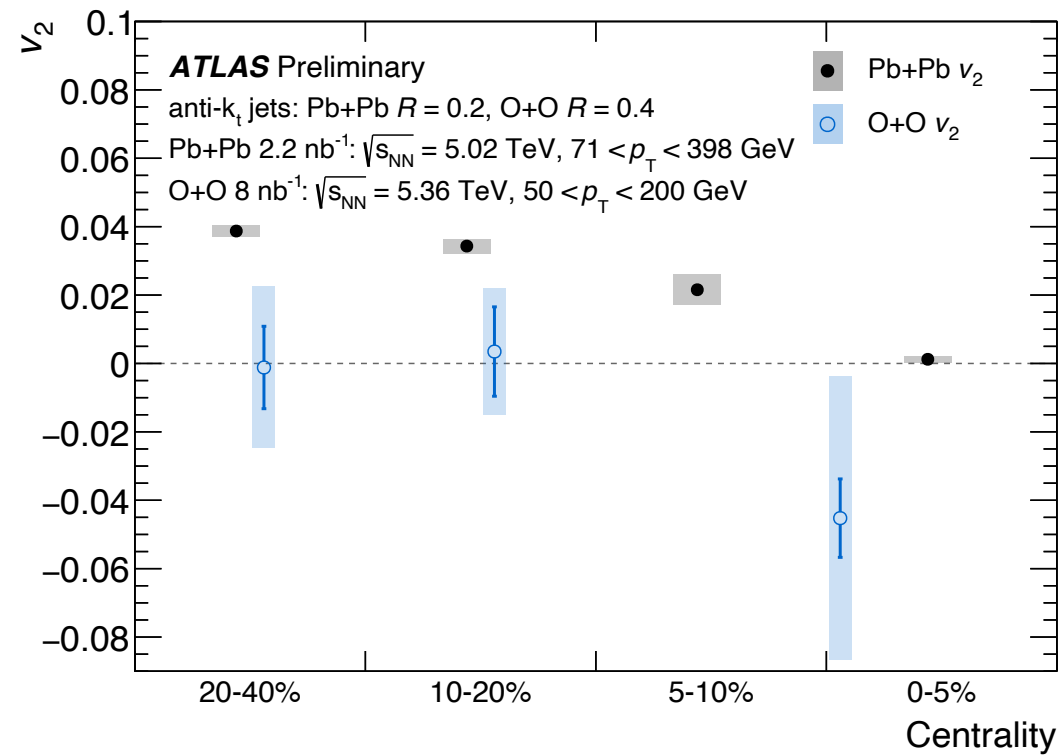
Measurements of jet v_n

- STAR measurement at 200 GeV isobars
- Event plane method – fit $\Delta\phi$
- Charged particle jets



Measurements of jet v_n

- ATLAS measurement at 5.36 TeV O+O
- Scalar product method w/ nonflow subtraction
- Calorimeter jets



Experimental challenges- UE

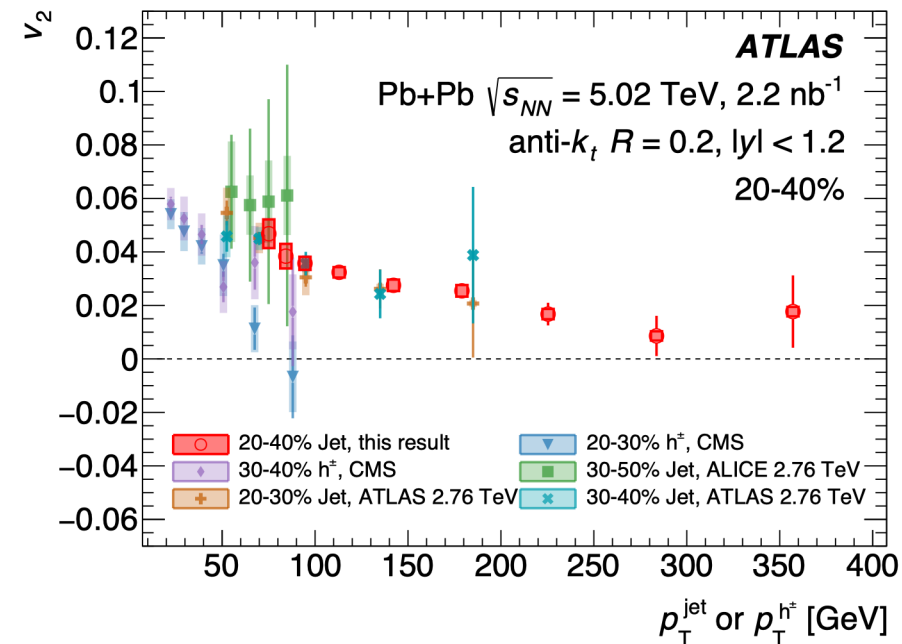
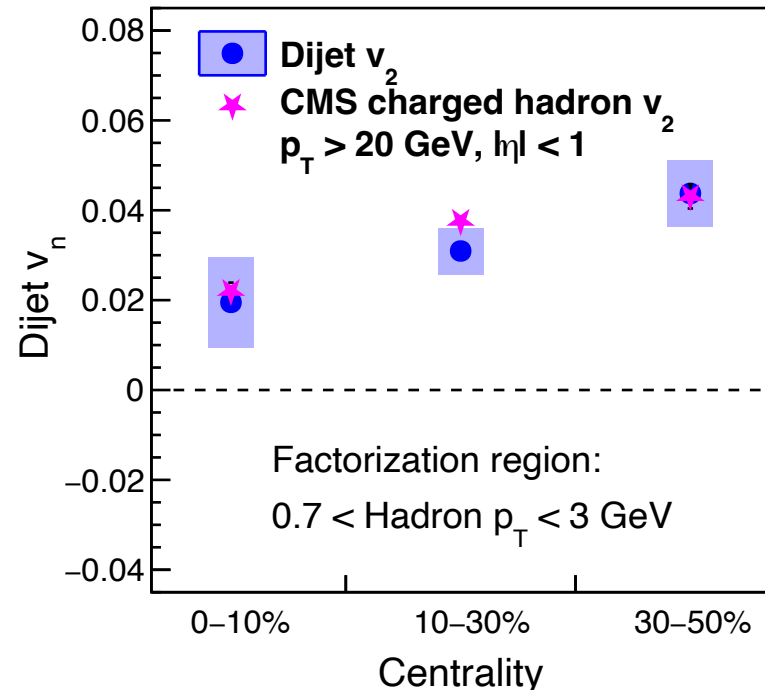
- Large underlying event has same azimuthal anisotropy as signal we are looking for in jets- need to be very careful in subtracting
 - Residual UE can lead to in-plane vs. out-of-plane differences in jet energy scale & resolution, leading to false jet v_n signal
- Large fluctuations in UE can be reconstructed as “fake jets” which again will be preferentially in-plane. Need to either measure at high pt to avoid “fake jet” region or apply some filtering
 - STAR tags with “hard core” cut, but this introduces fragmentation biases

Experimental challenges- non-flow

- Correlations in particles from “non-flow” effects can bias v_n measurements, especially in small systems
- Experimentally need to either 1) reduce this effect or 2) explicitly subtract it

Question- full jet vs high p_T hadron

- What do we gain from measuring a fully reconstructed jet v_n vs. high p_T charged particles + fragmentation functions?



Question- method comparison

- What are the sensitivities for measuring the jet v_n using different methods (i.e. event plane vs scalar product)? Is one method preferred from the theoretical side?

Question- non-flow subtraction

- How important is the non-flow subtraction in large system measurements?

Question

- Do we gain anything from measuring both jet and dijet systems? Is it possible to measure a dijet v_3 ?

