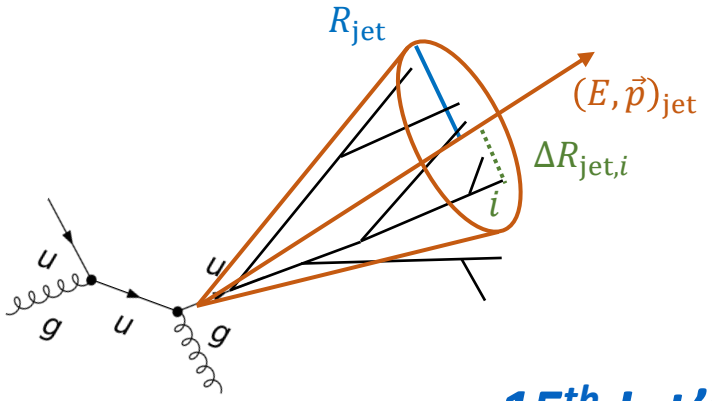
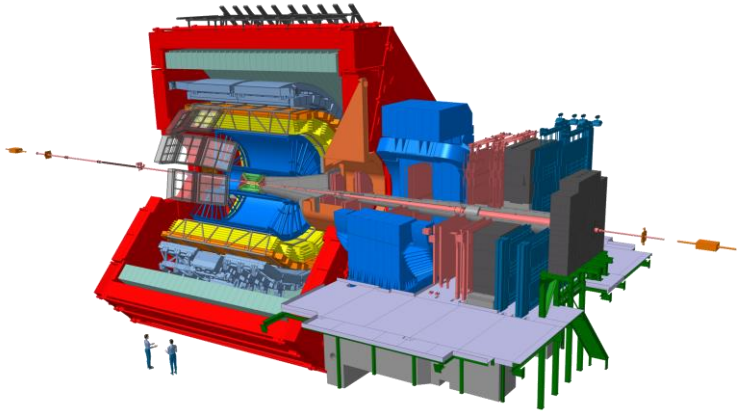
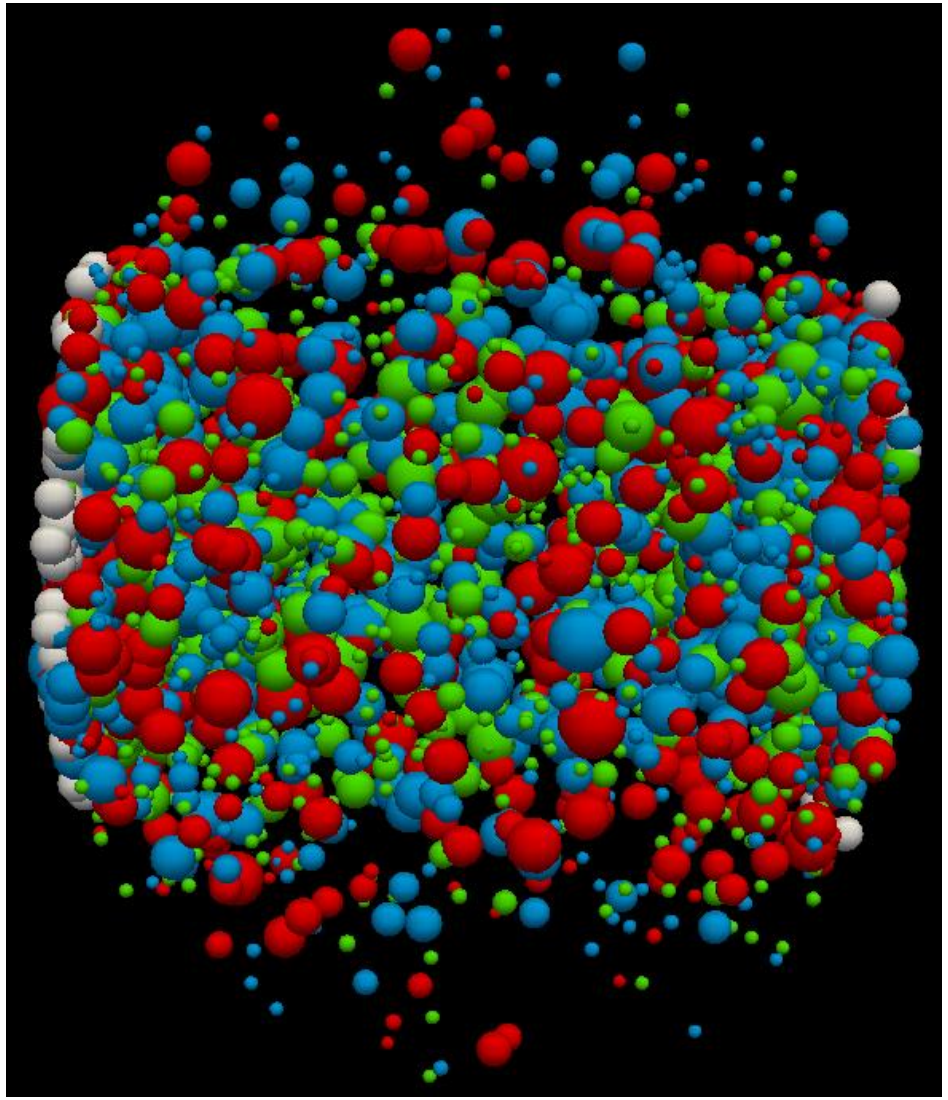
Recent studies of jet-medium interactions with ALICE

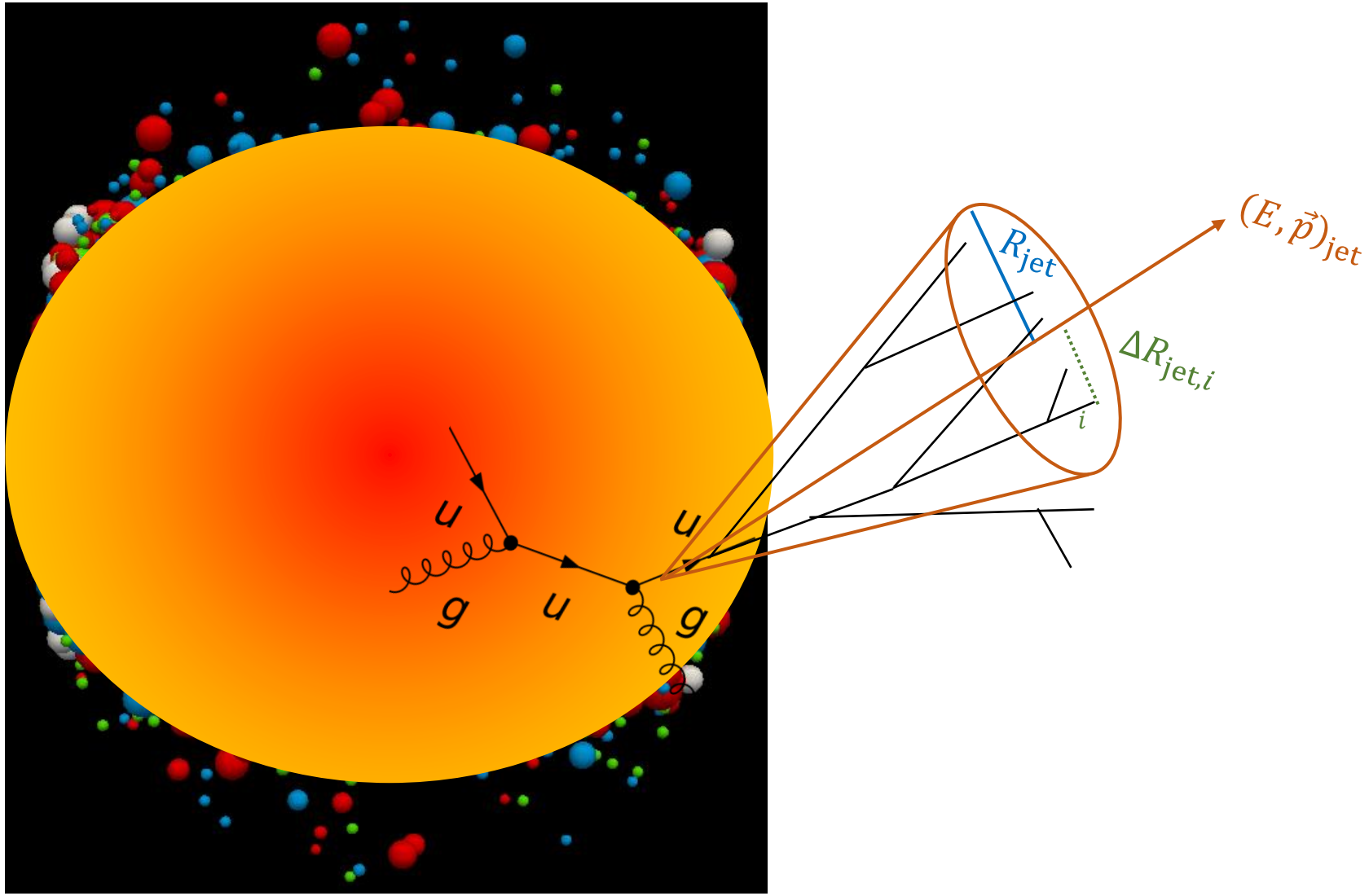


Ezra D. Lesser (UC Berkeley)
on behalf of the ALICE collaboration

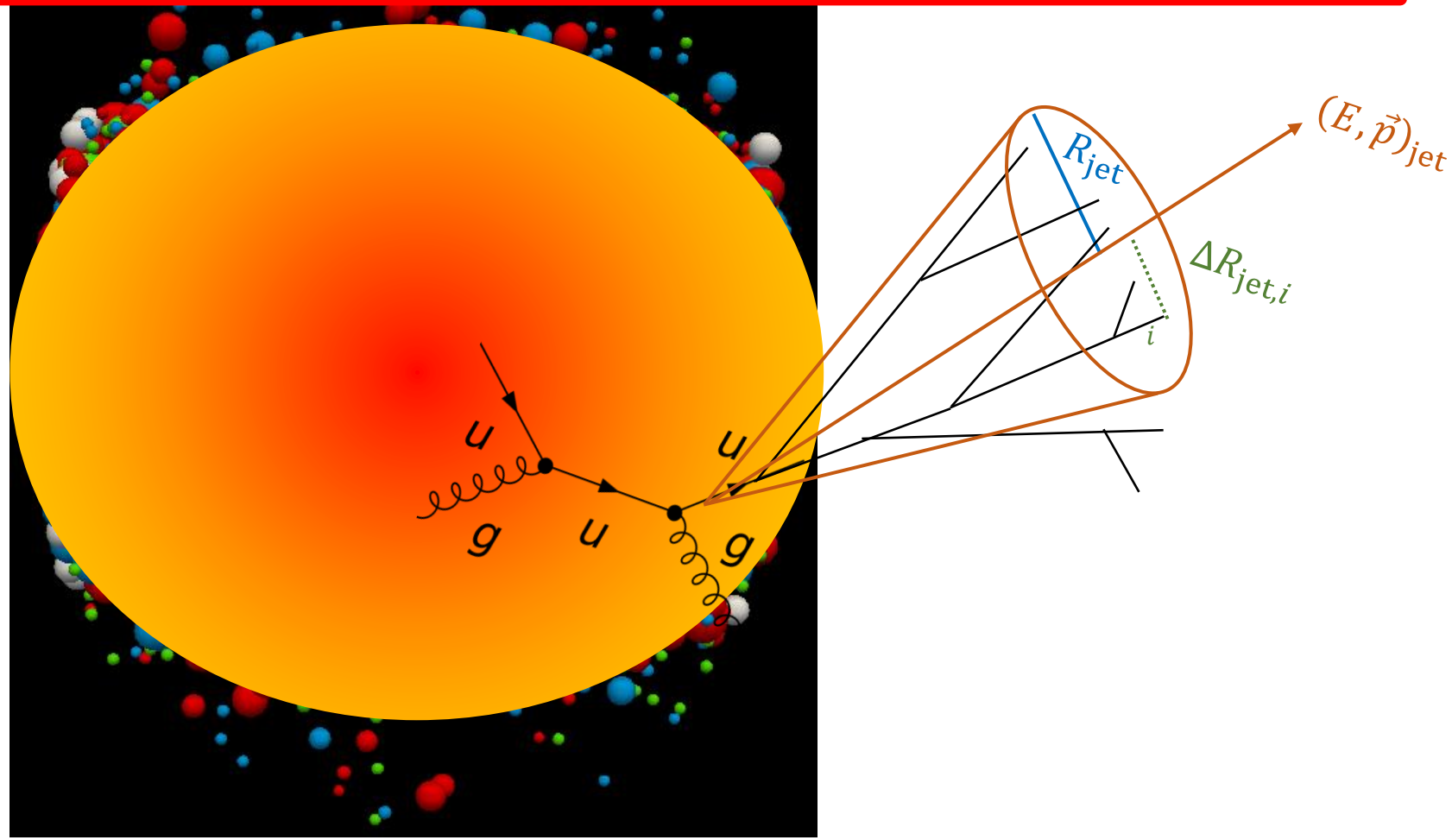
15th Int'l Workshop on Boosted Obj. Pheno. (BOOST 2023)
3 August 2023





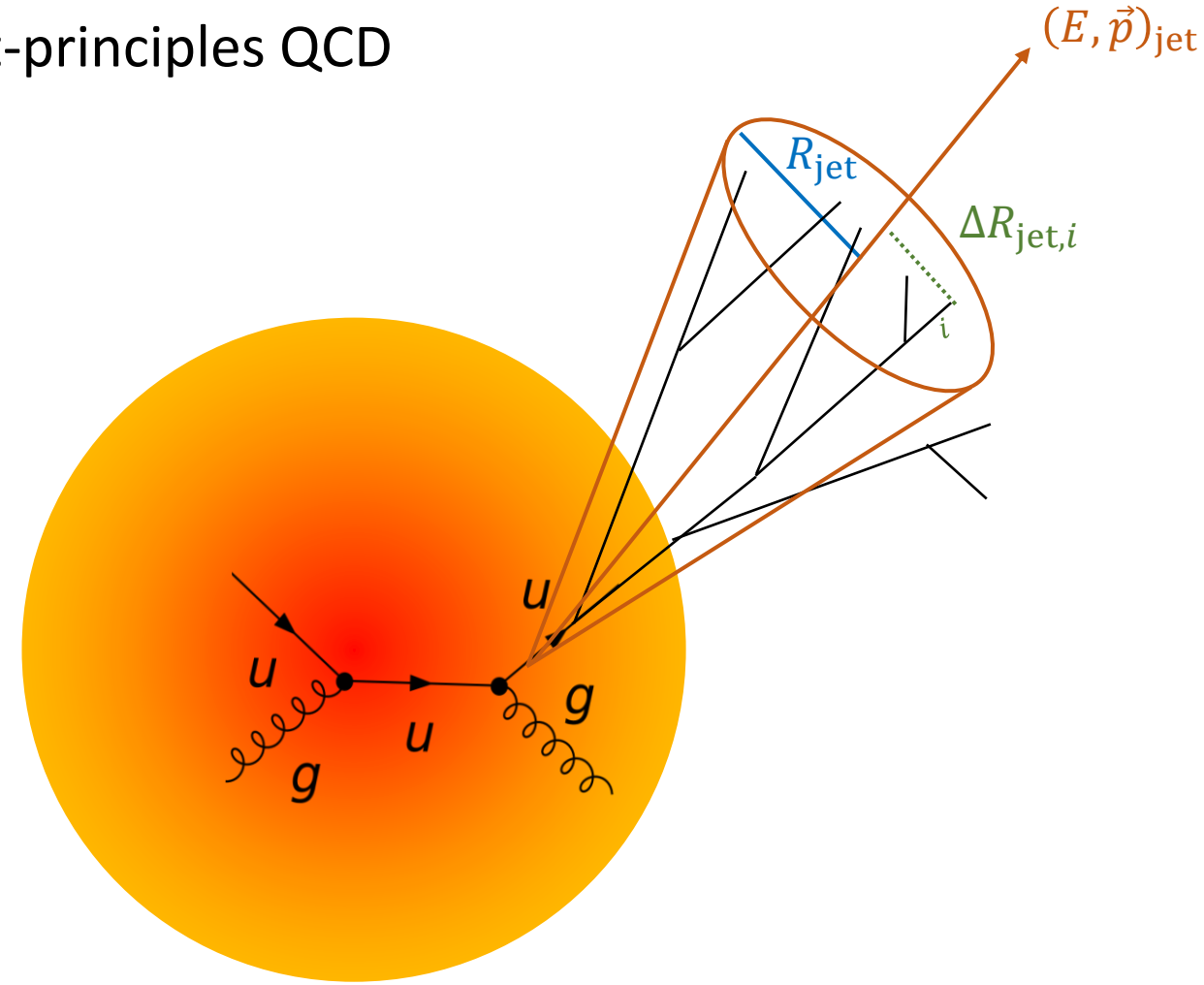

u
g
u
u
g
R_{jet}
$(E, \vec{p})_{\mathrm{jet}}$
$\Delta R_{\mathrm{jet},i}$
i

What can we learn about QCD from the jets produced in heavy-ion collisions?



Many-body QCD with jet-medium interactions

- **Very challenging to study!**
  - Dynamics never (yet) derived from first-principles QCD
  - Competing phenomenological effects



Many-body QCD with jet-medium interactions

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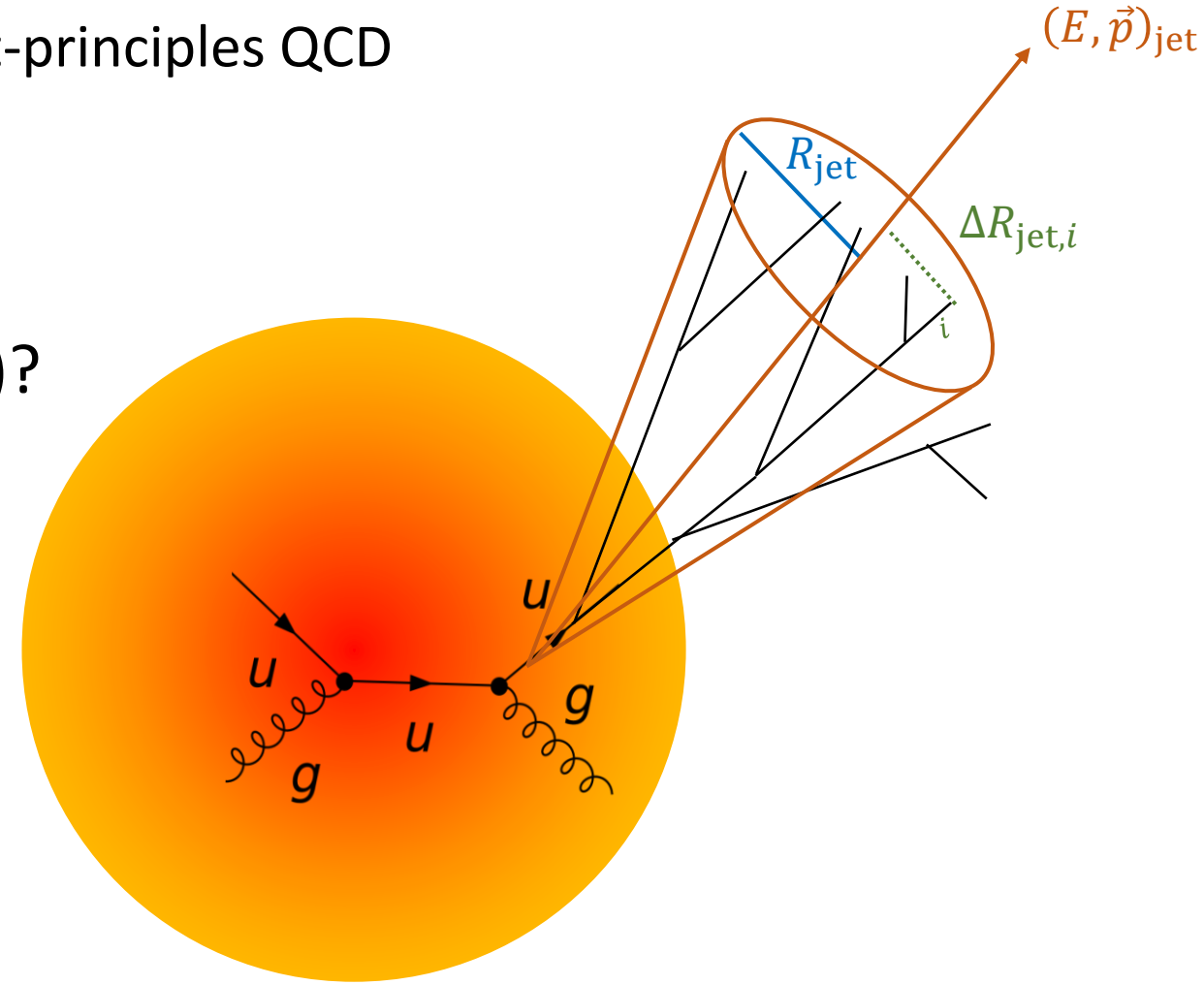
- ***Broadening*** (multiple scattering) vs. ***narrowing*** (absorption & quenching)?
- ***Coherent*** vs. ***incoherent*** scattering?
- Resolution scale of boosted probes?
- Wide-angle Rutherford scattering?
- Medium's degrees of freedom?
- … ?



In-medium jet modification

- **How does the QCD medium affect jet formation?**

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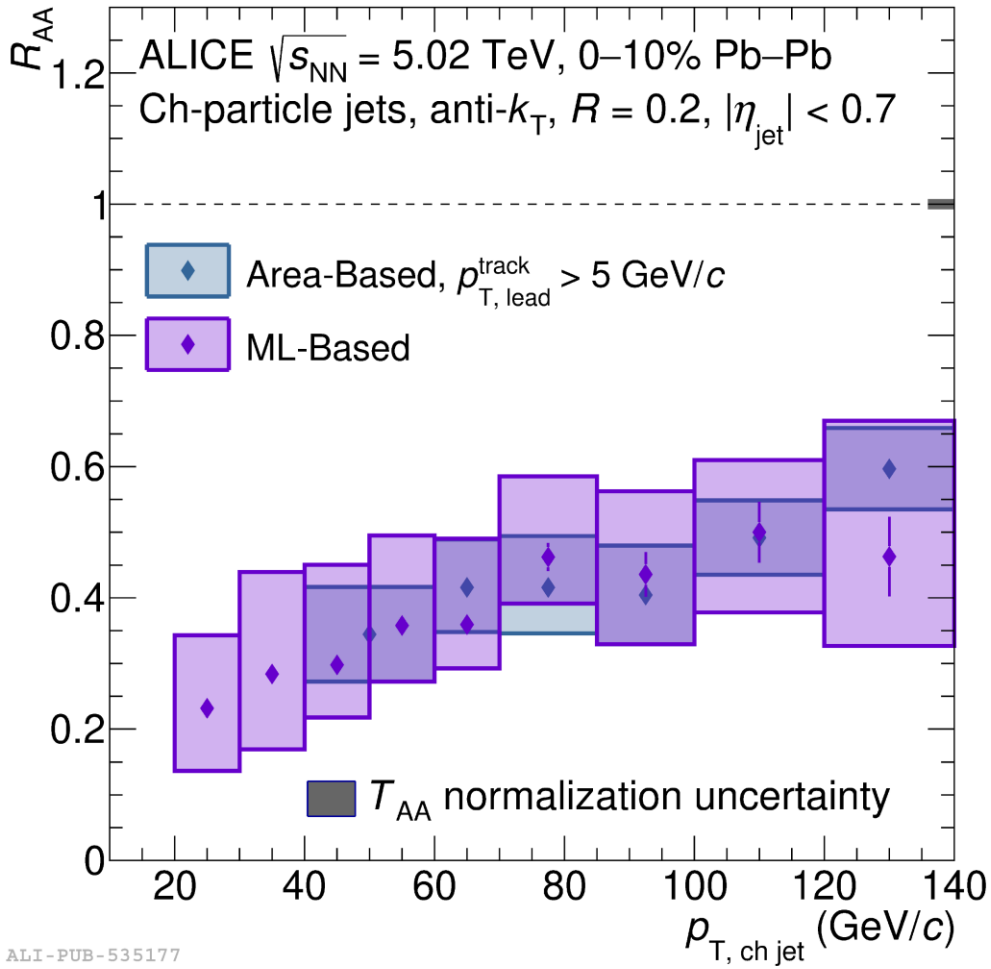

ALICE Collaboration

arXiv:2303.00592 [nucl-ex]

$$R_{AA} \sim \frac{\text{jet yield in AA}}{\text{jet yield in pp}}$$

- $R_{AA} < 1 \quad \rightarrow$ **jets are "quenched"**

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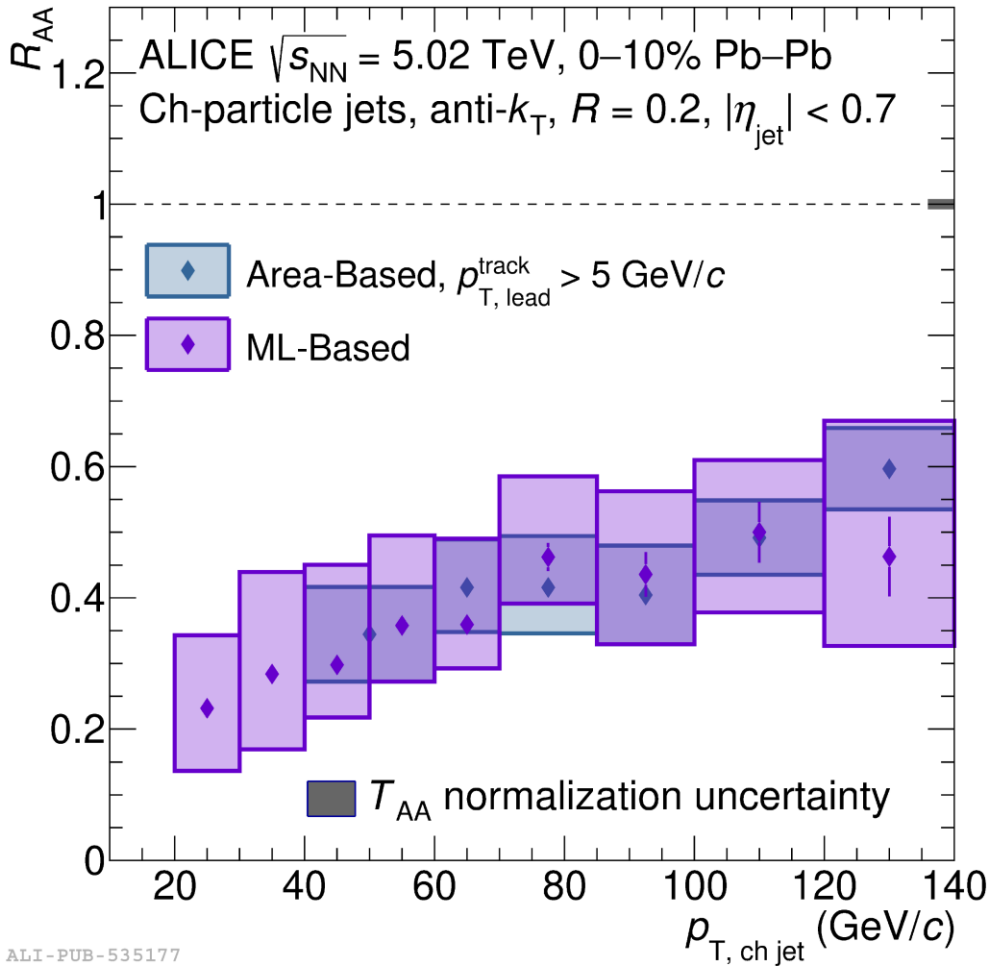

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- How does jet quenching affect **jet fragmentation** inside the plasma?

In-medium jet modification

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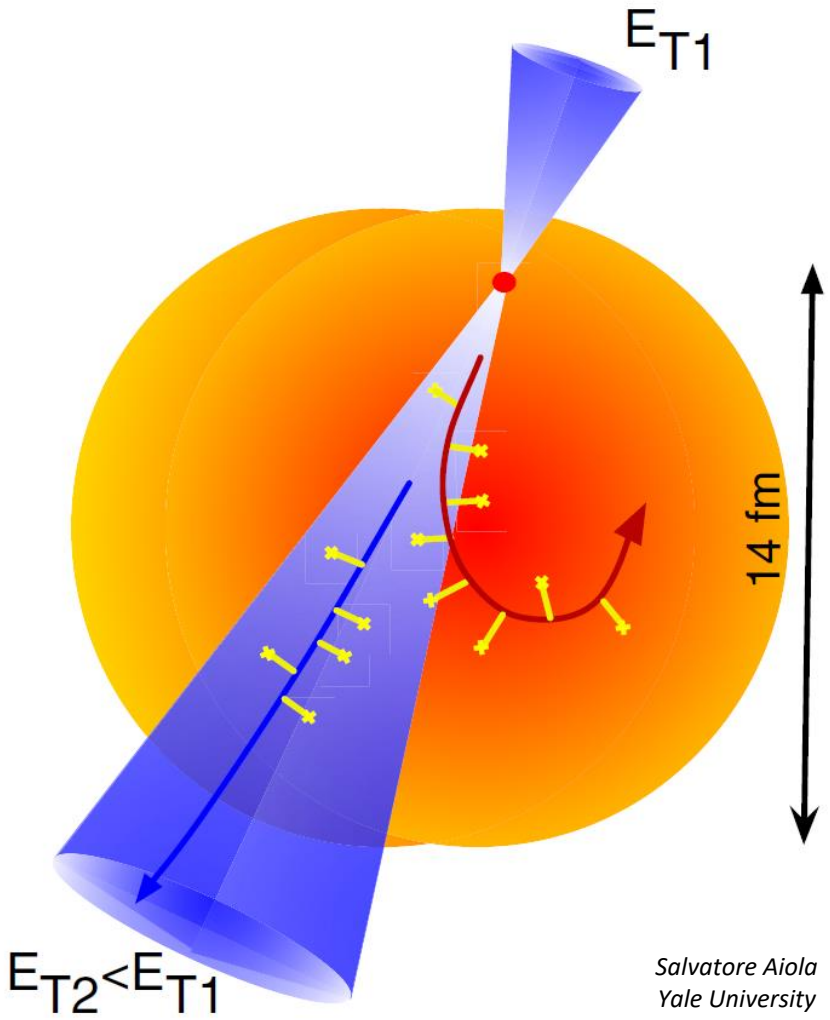

Salvatore Aiola
Yale University

- **Jet substructure** gives insight into the microscopic modification

In-medium jet modification

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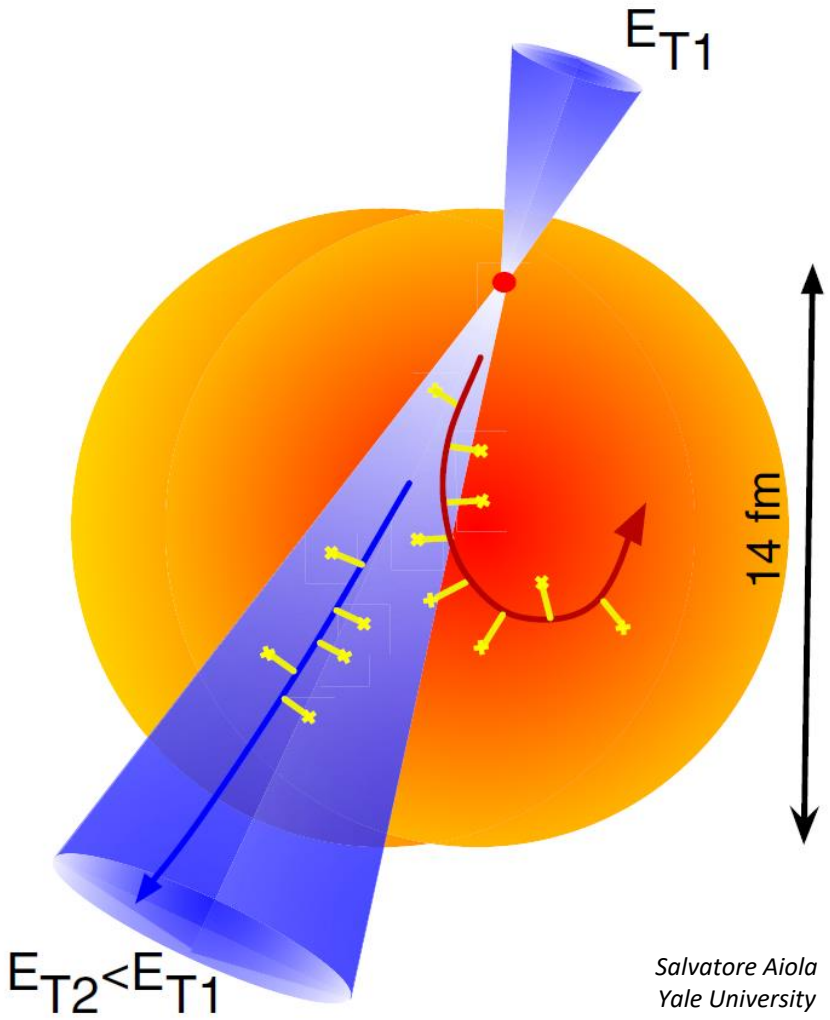

Salvatore Aiola
Yale University

- **Jet substructure** gives insight into the microscopic modification

- Choose observables based on desired probe

*See **Raymond Ehlers**' talk, today 09:40, link*

Generalized jet angularities (λ_α^κ)

A. Larkoski, J. Thaler, W. Waalewijn
JHEP 11 (2014) 129

- **Class of substructure observables** dependent on $\boldsymbol{p_{\mathrm{T}}}$ and **angular** distributions of jet constituents

$$\lambda_\alpha^\kappa \equiv \sum_{i \in \mathrm{jet}} \left(\frac{p_{\mathrm{T},i}}{p_{\mathrm{T,jet}}}\right)^\kappa \left(\frac{\Delta R_{i,\mathrm{jet}}}{R}\right)^\alpha$$

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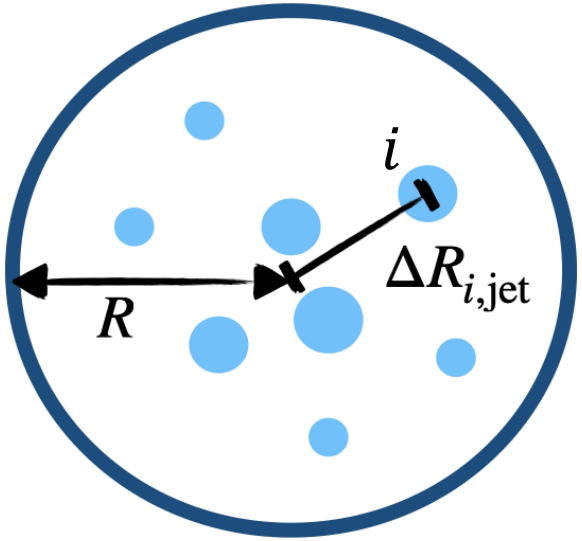
Constituent angle in (η, ϕ) space

Constituent p_T



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Tunable, continuous parameters for relative weighting

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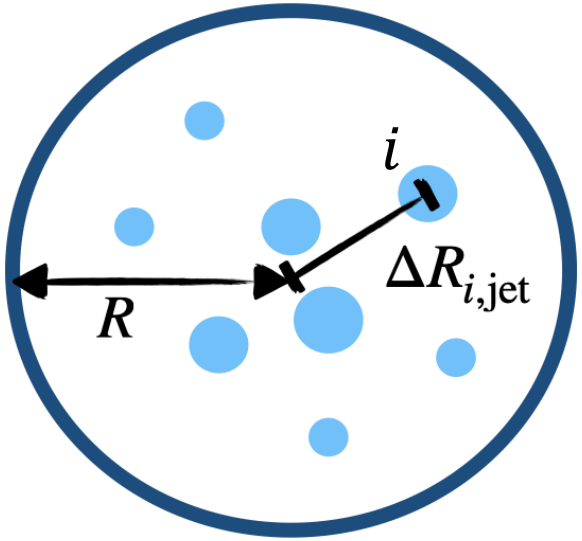

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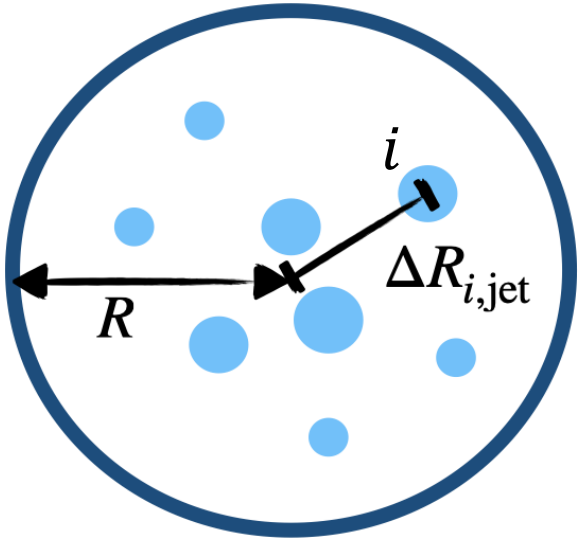


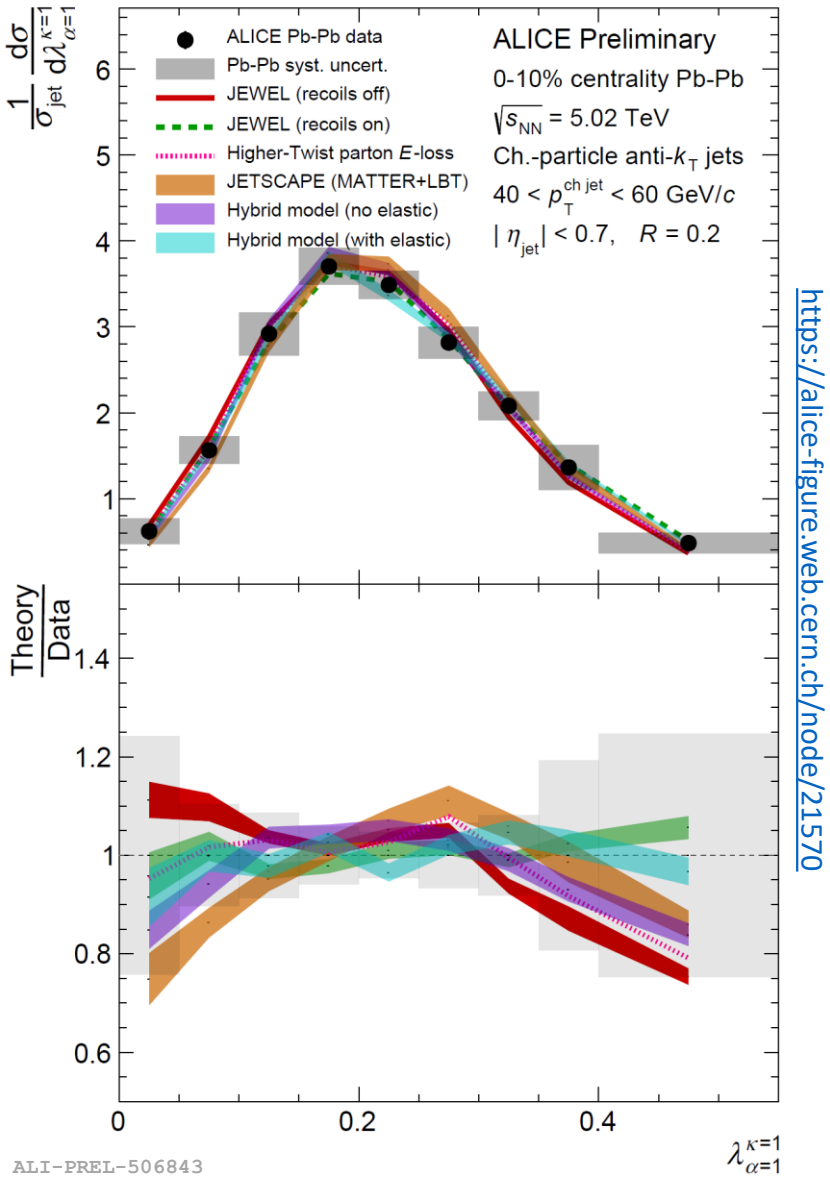
- IRC-safe* observable for $\kappa = 1, \alpha > 0$ → vacuum is calculable from pQCD
- Each (κ, α), R defines a different observable capable of probing jet structure and providing systematic constraints on theory
- Generalizes other observables: **jet girth** $g = \lambda_1^1$; **jet thrust** $= \lambda_2^1$; …

** track-based observables IRC-unsafe (see backup)*

*See **Preeti Dhankher**'s talk, today 11:40, link*

Pb-Pb angularities compared with models

$$\lambda_\alpha \equiv \sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i \theta_i^\alpha$$



https://alice-figure.web.cern.ch/node/21570

- **JEWEL** with recoils off / on
  - "Recoils on" uses negative energy recombiner scheme

  K. Zapp, JHEP 1804 (2018) 110

- **JETSCAPE (MATTER + LBT)**

  arXiv:2204.01163 [hep-ph]

- **Higher-Twist partonic energy loss**

  S.-Y. Chen, B.-W. Zhang, et al., CPC 45 (2021) 2, 024102

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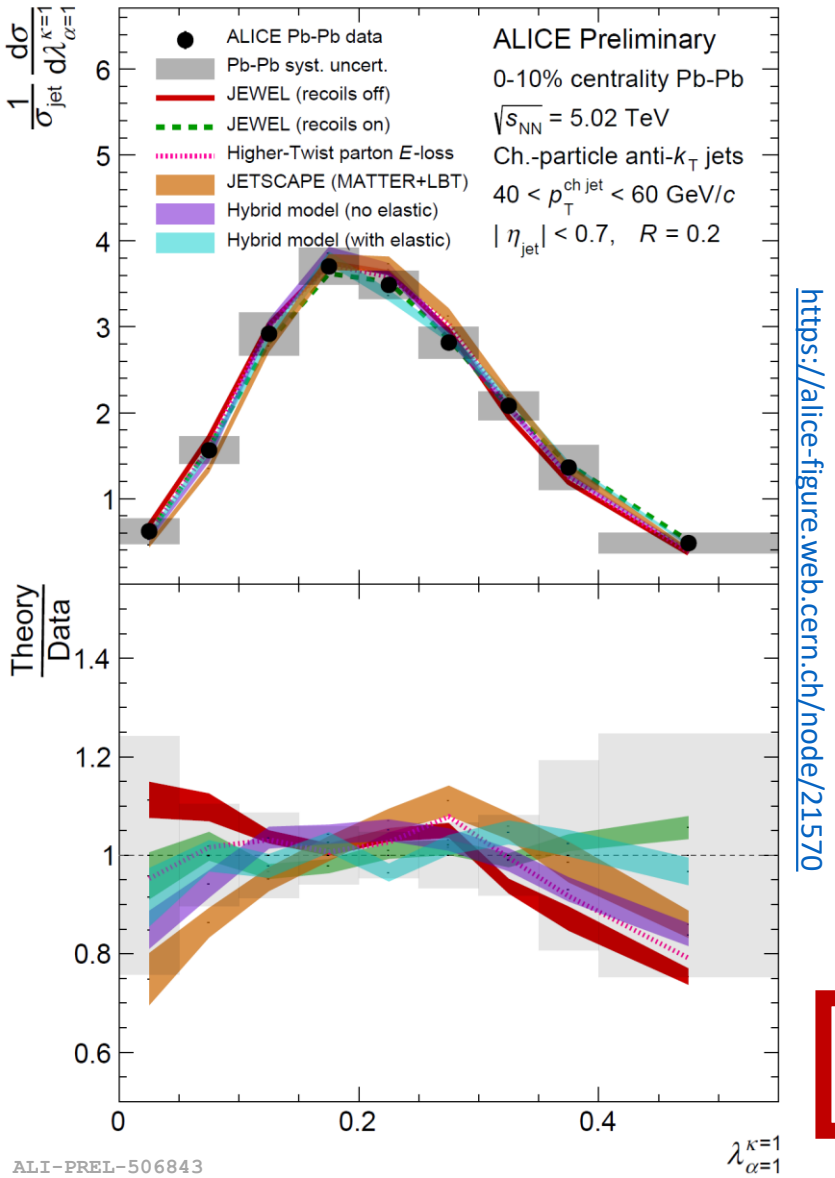

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- **Models are within uncertainties on Pb-Pb data…**

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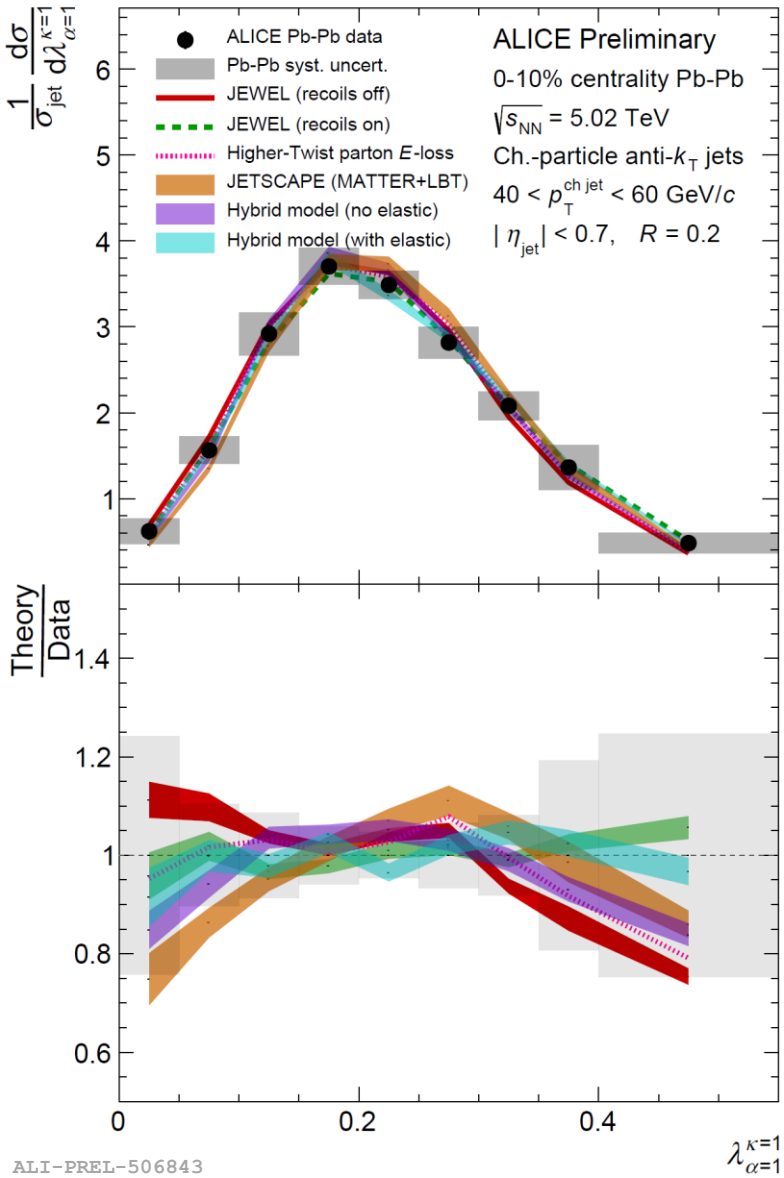

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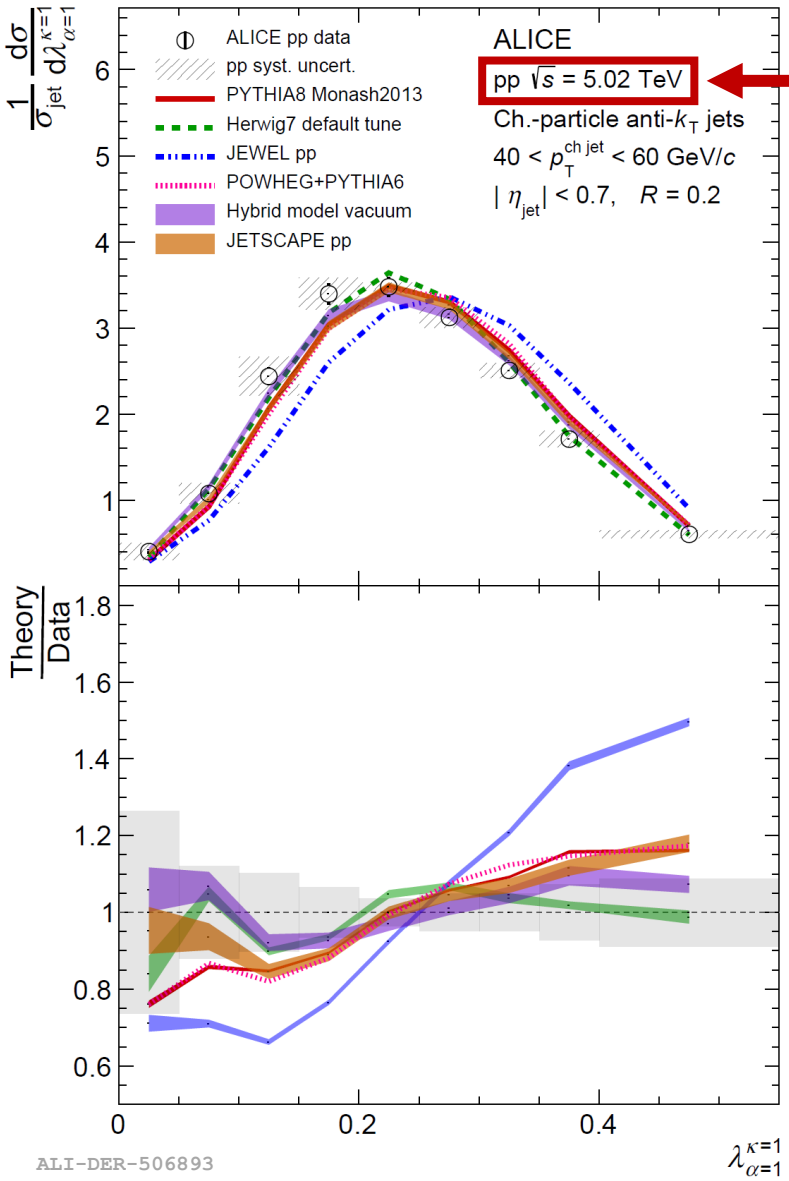

Run 2 pp baseline for AA quenching

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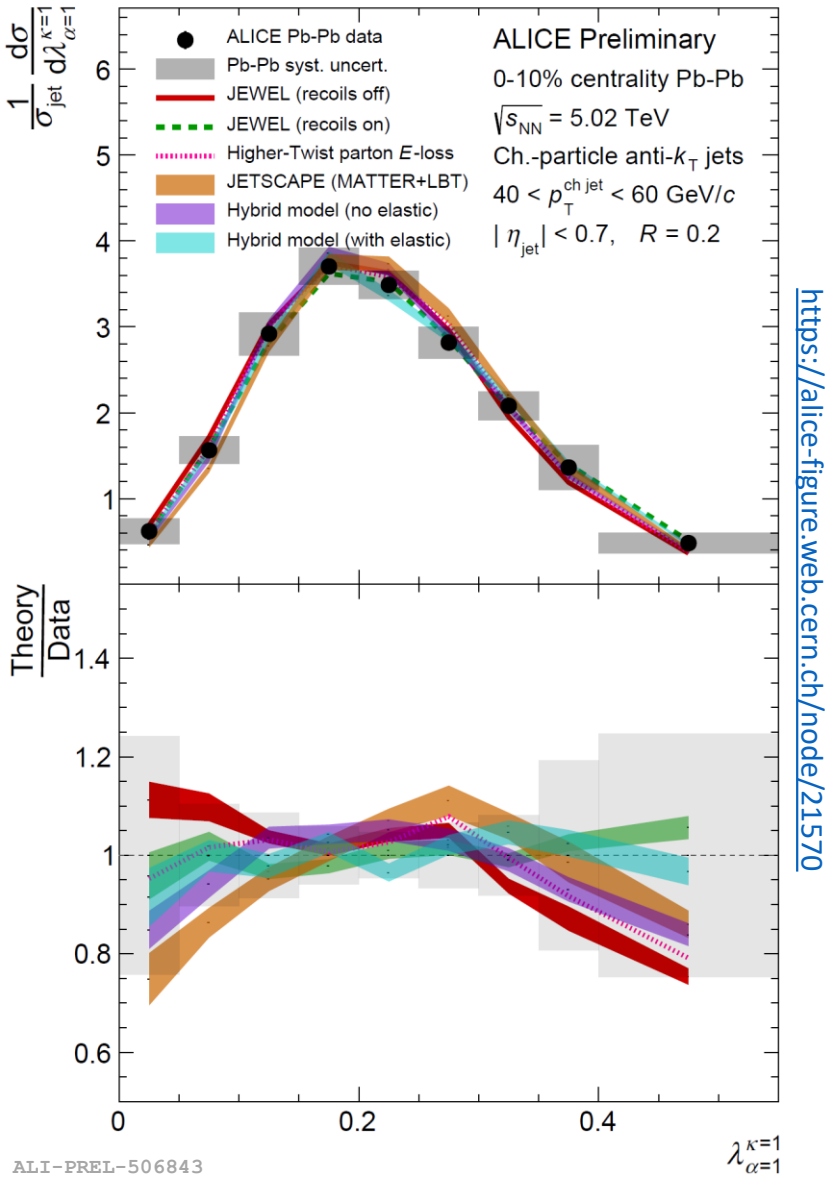

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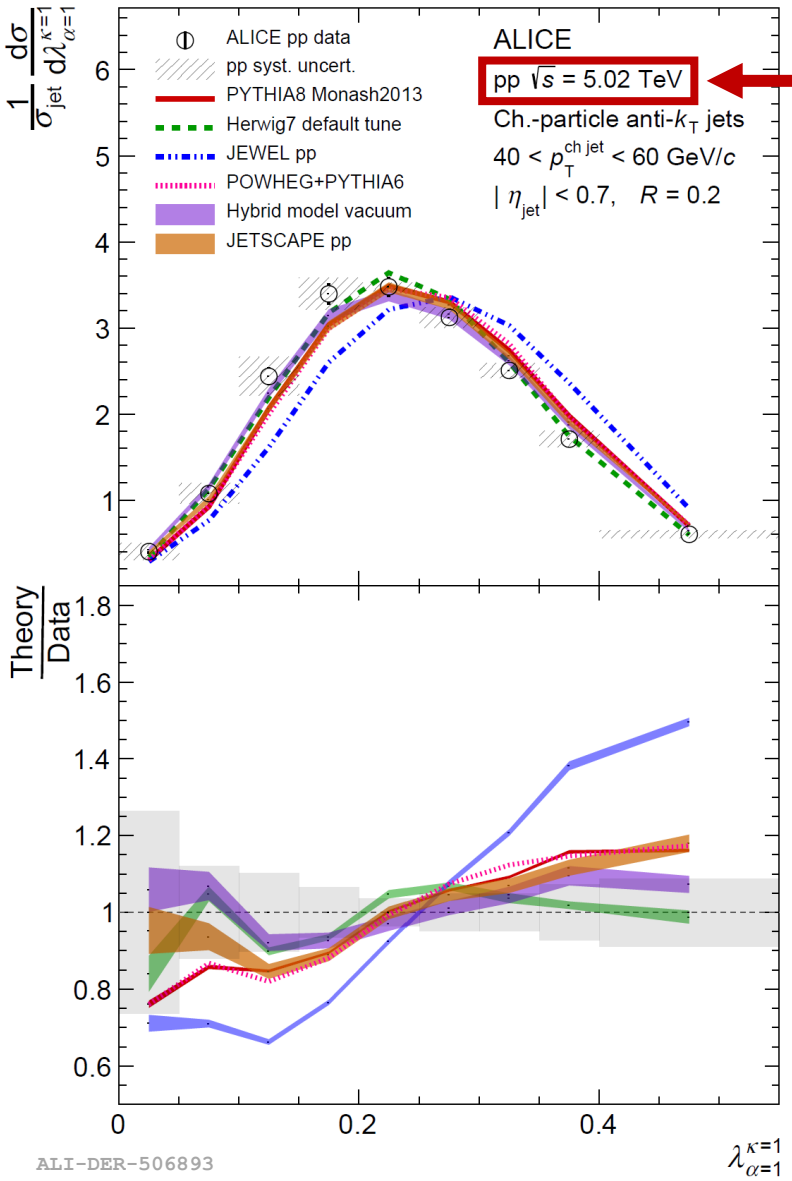

Run 2 pp baseline for AA quenching

Some models exhibit more tension in pp baseline than in AA

Pb-Pb angularities compared with models

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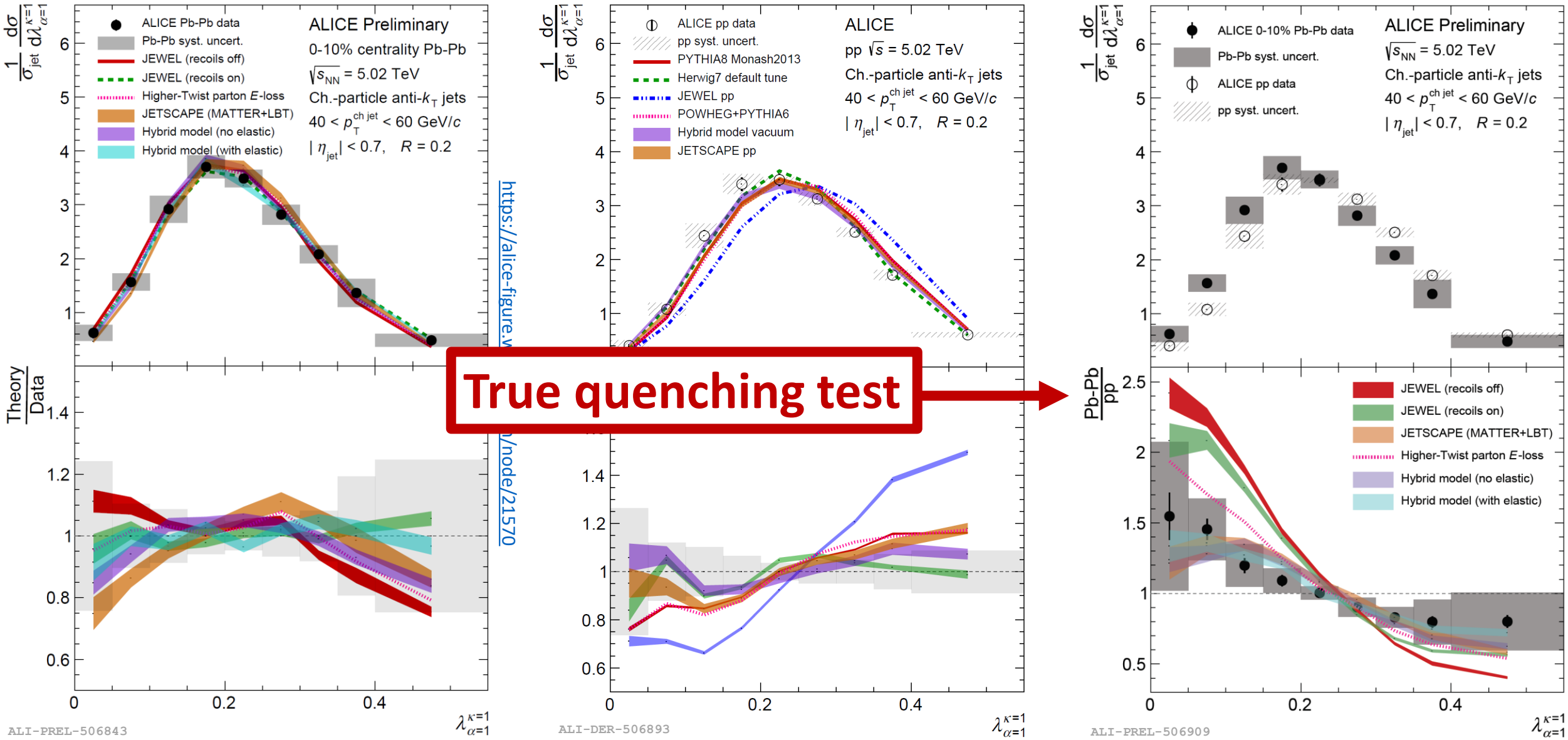

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True quenching test

Pb-Pb angularities compared with models

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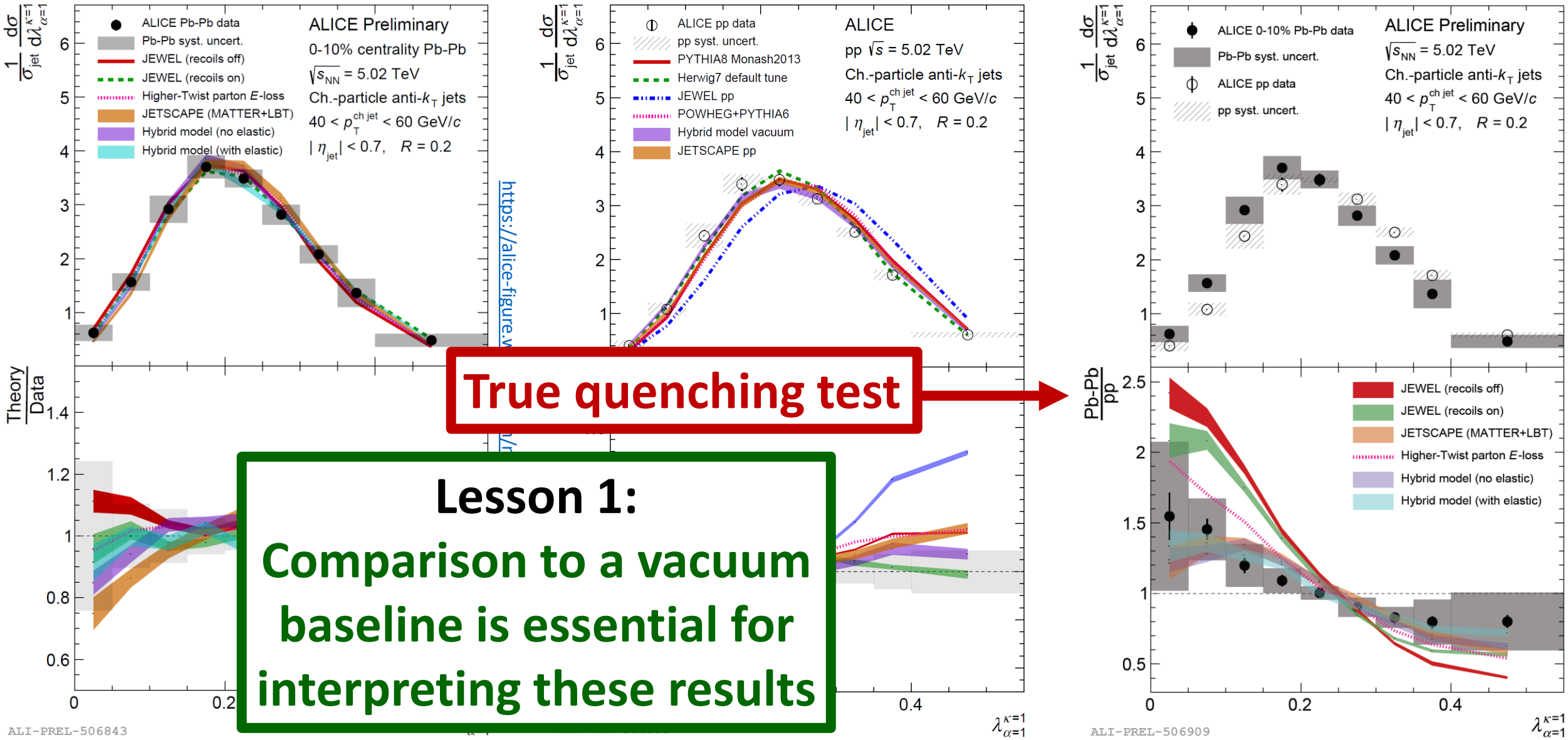

https://alice-figure.w

True quenching test

Lesson 1:

Comparison to a vacuum baseline is essential for interpreting these results

Pb-Pb thrust ($\alpha = 2$)

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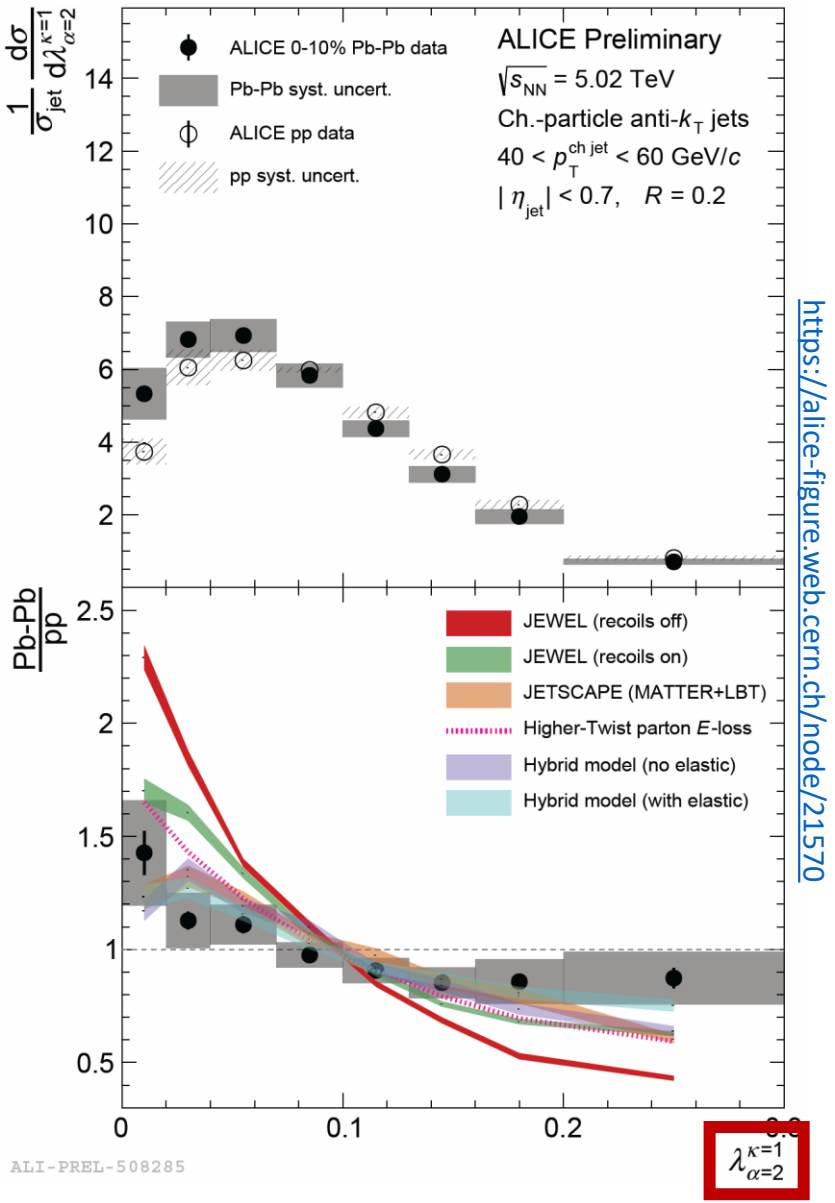

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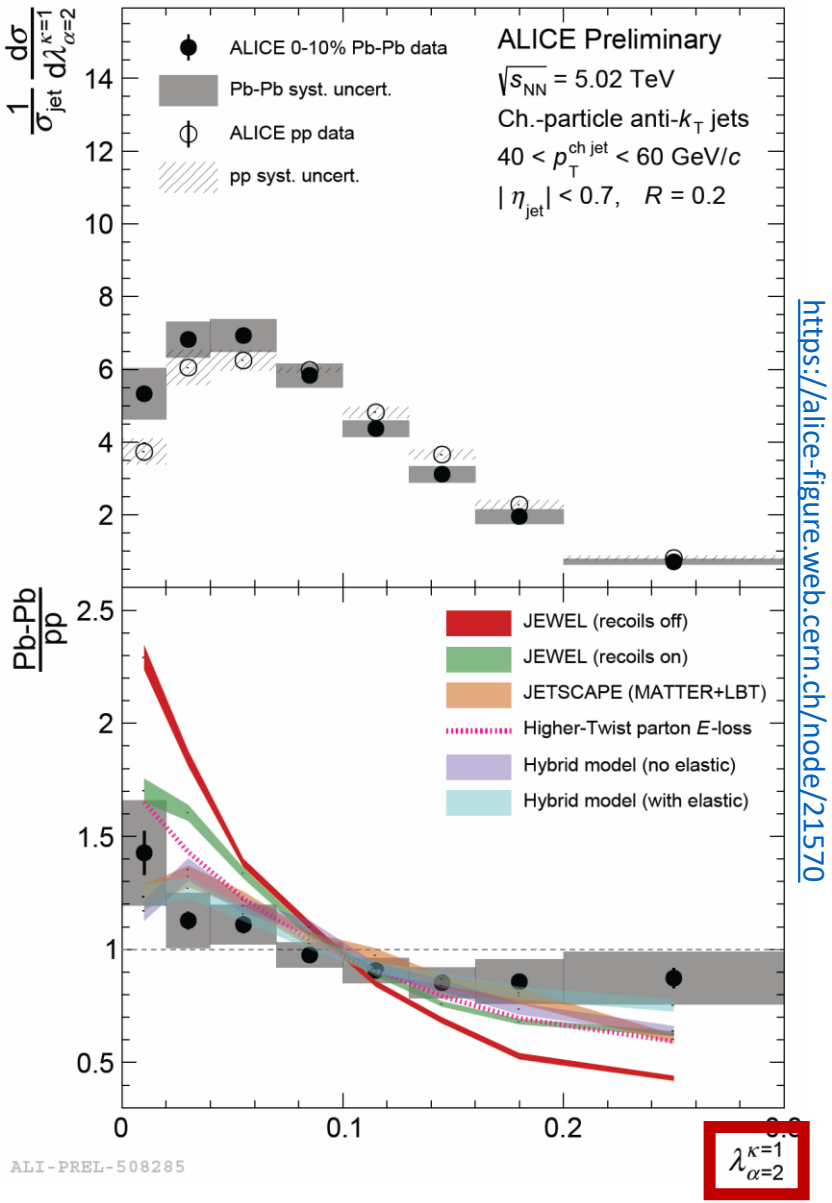
Pb-Pb thrust ($\alpha = 2$) vs. jet mass

$$\lambda_\alpha \equiv \sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i \theta_i^\alpha$$

$$\lambda_2 = \left(\frac{m}{R p_T}\right)^2 + O[(\lambda_2)^2]$$

JHEP 1804 (2018) 110



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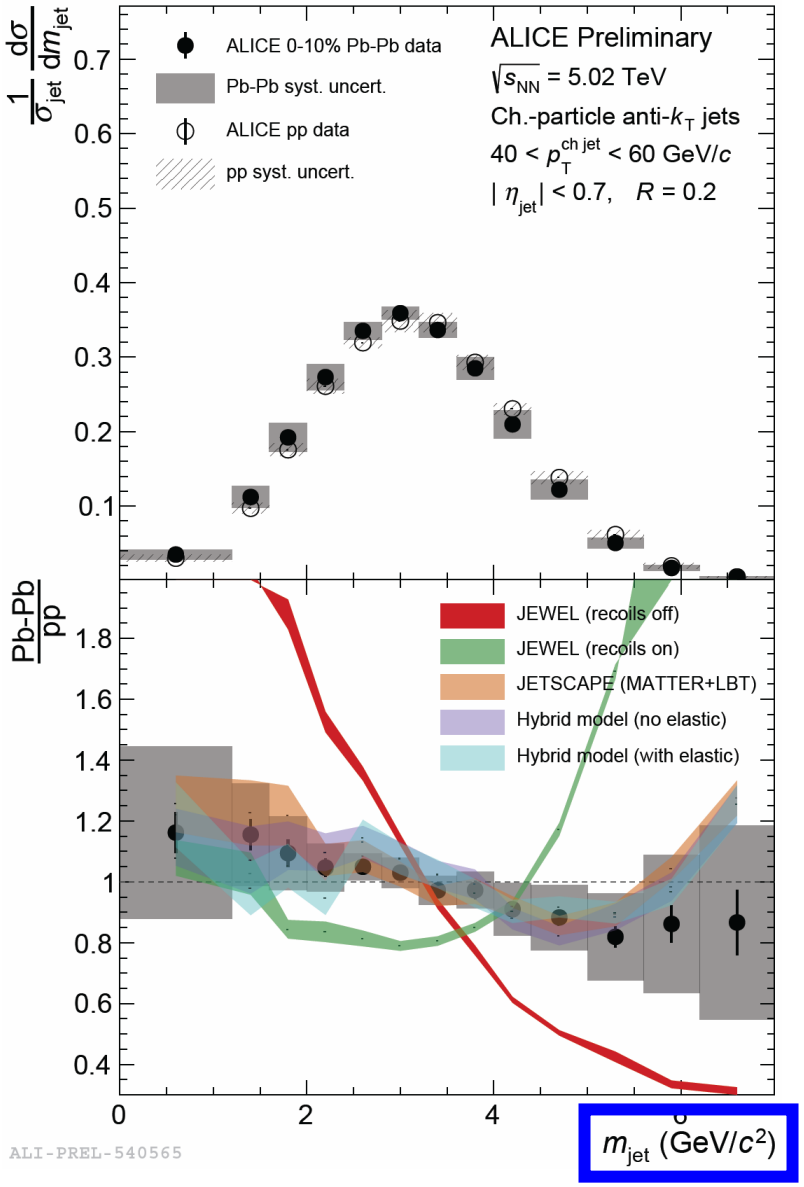

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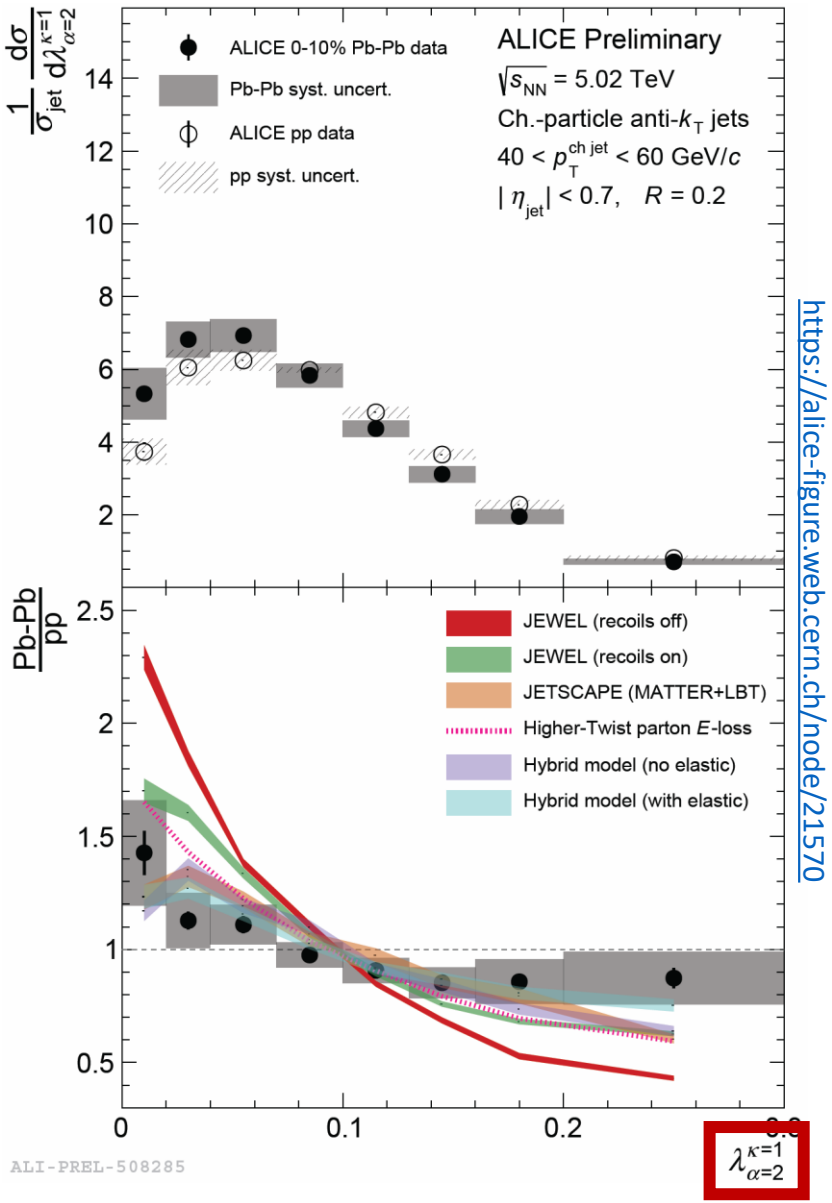

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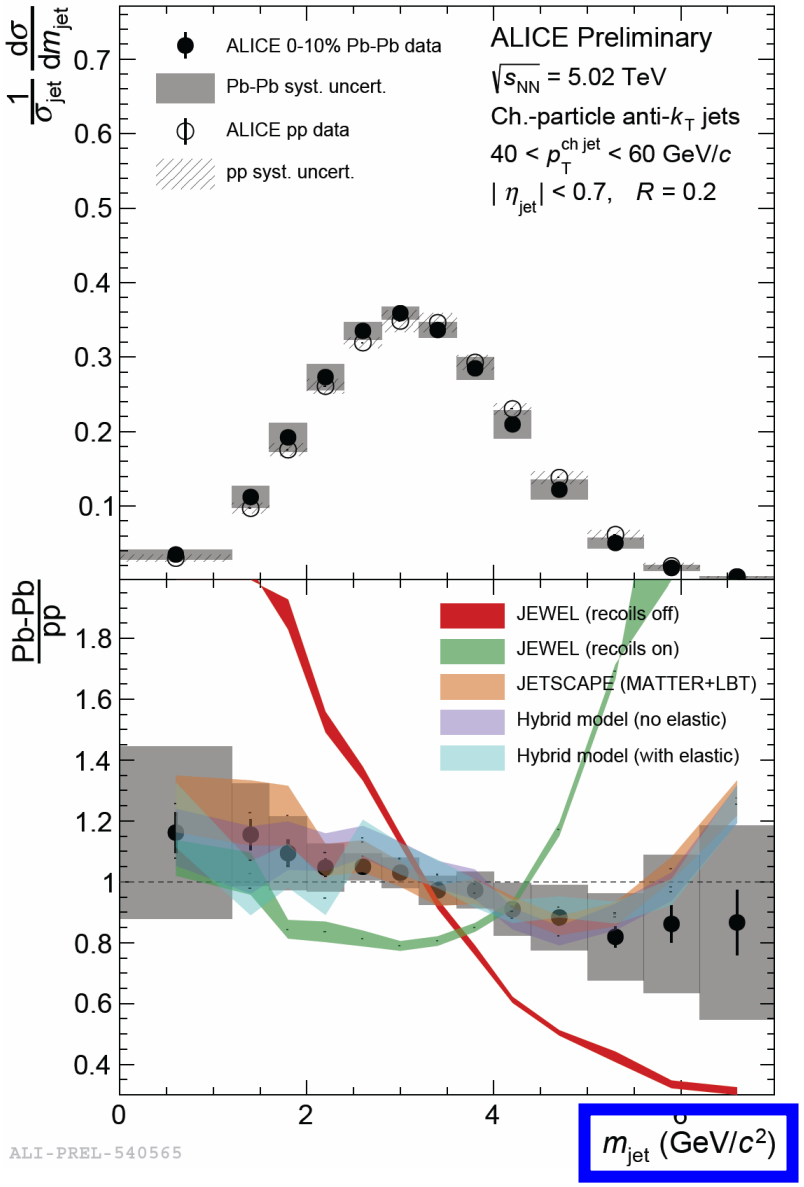
JHEP 1804 (2018) 110

- **Differing behavior**: some models show **enhancement in $\overline{m}_{\text{jet}}$** despite **suppression in λ_2**



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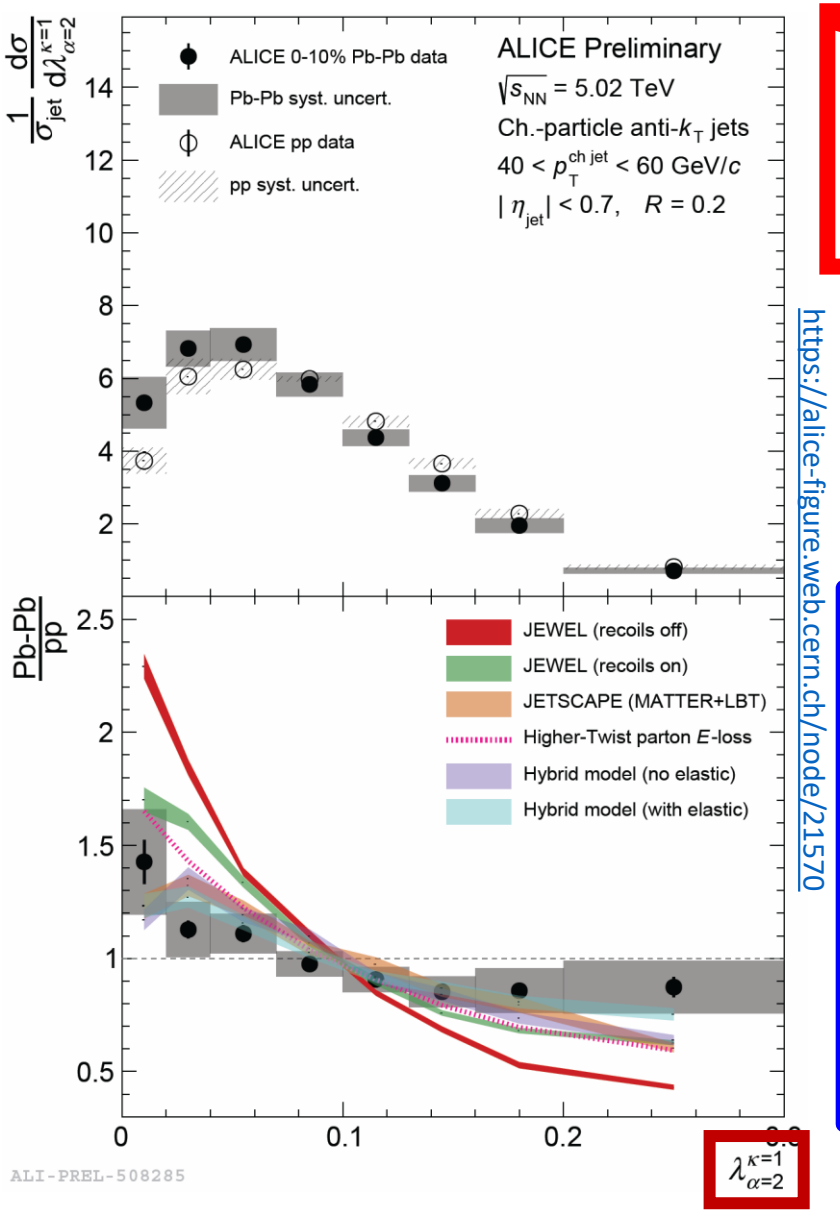
JHEP 1804 (2018) 110

Not useful for low-p_T jets

- **Resolves the girth-mass difference found in Run 1**



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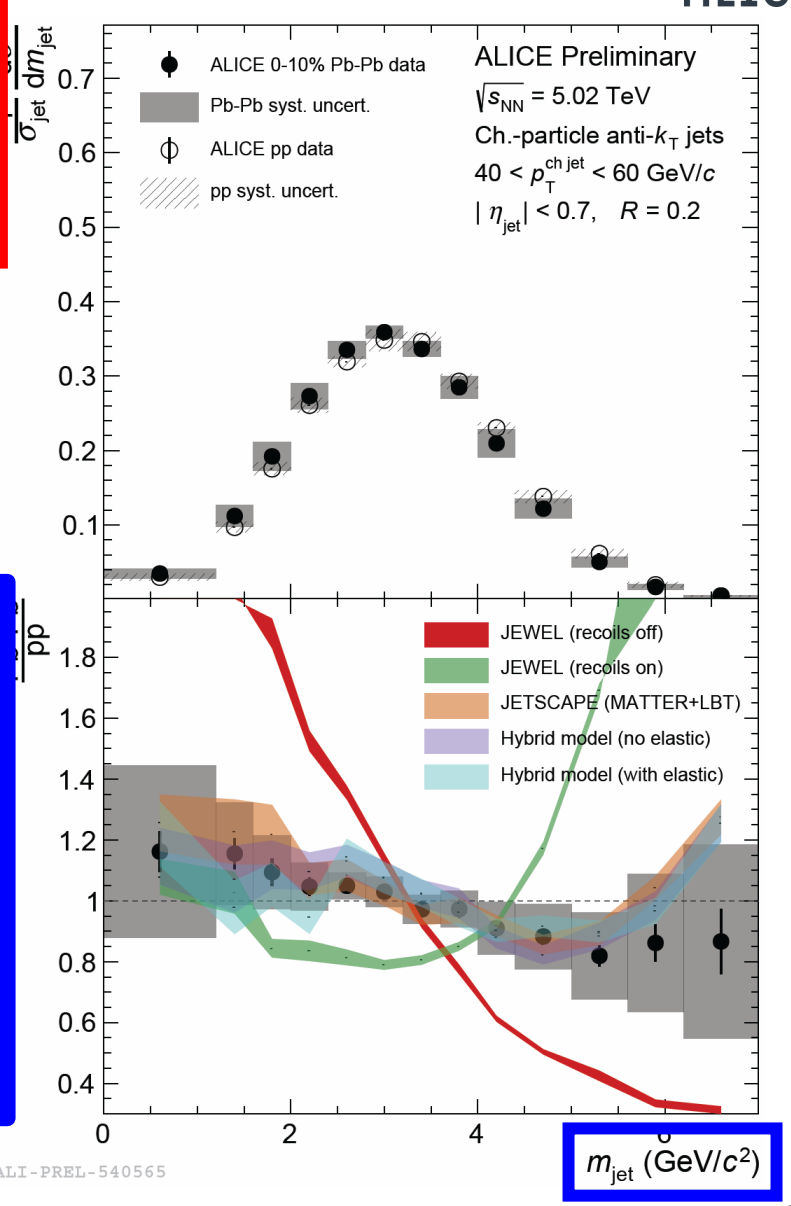
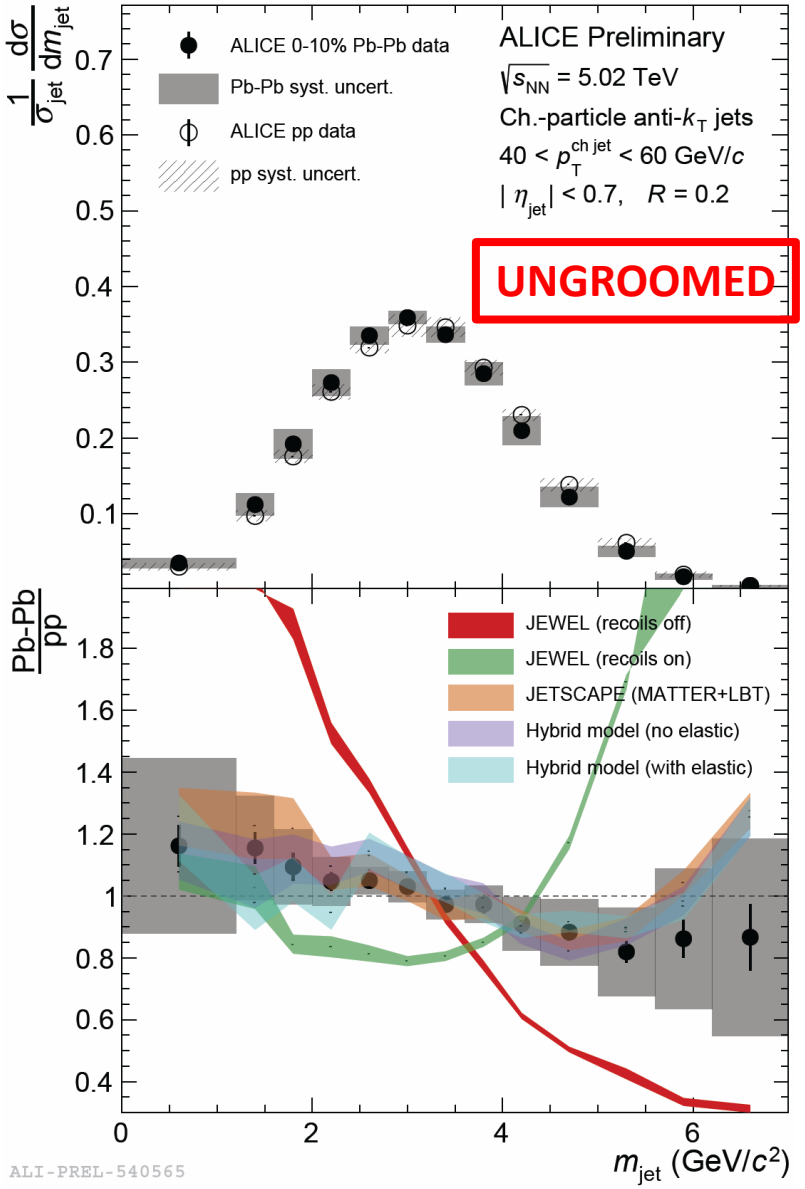


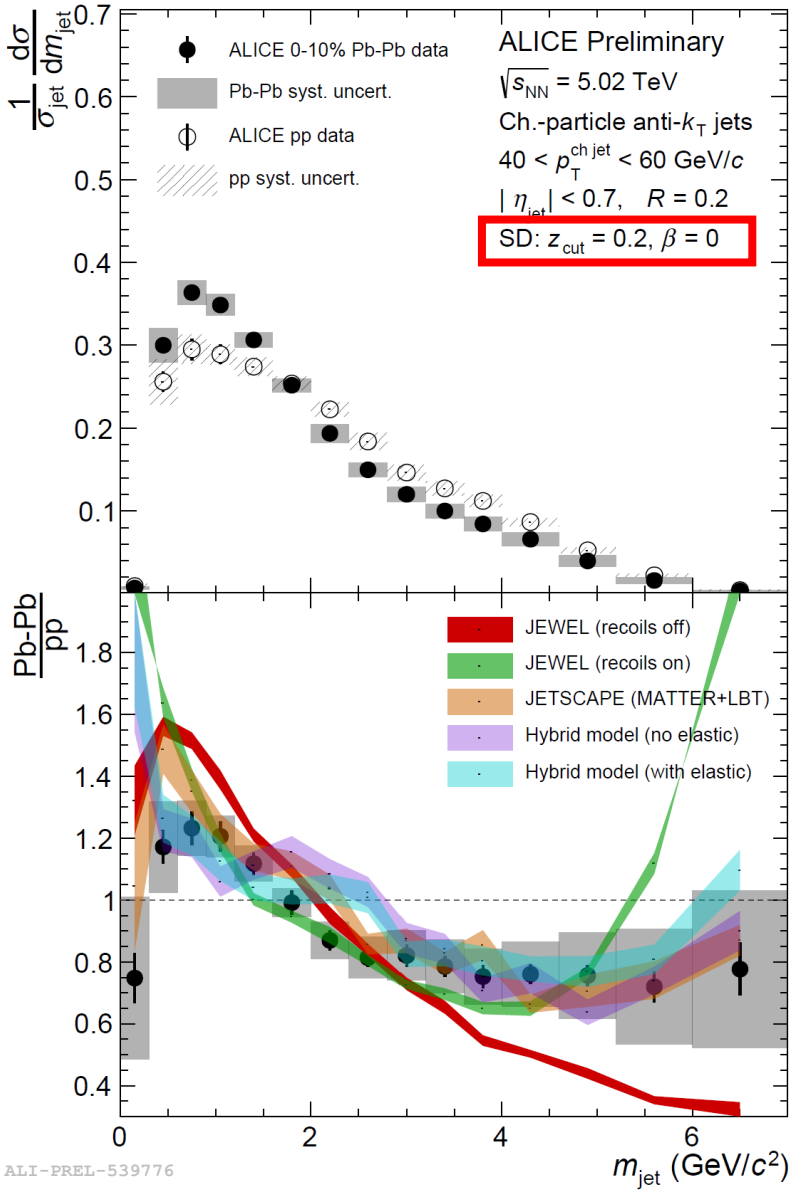
Lesson 2:
Closely related observables can have very different physics sensitivities

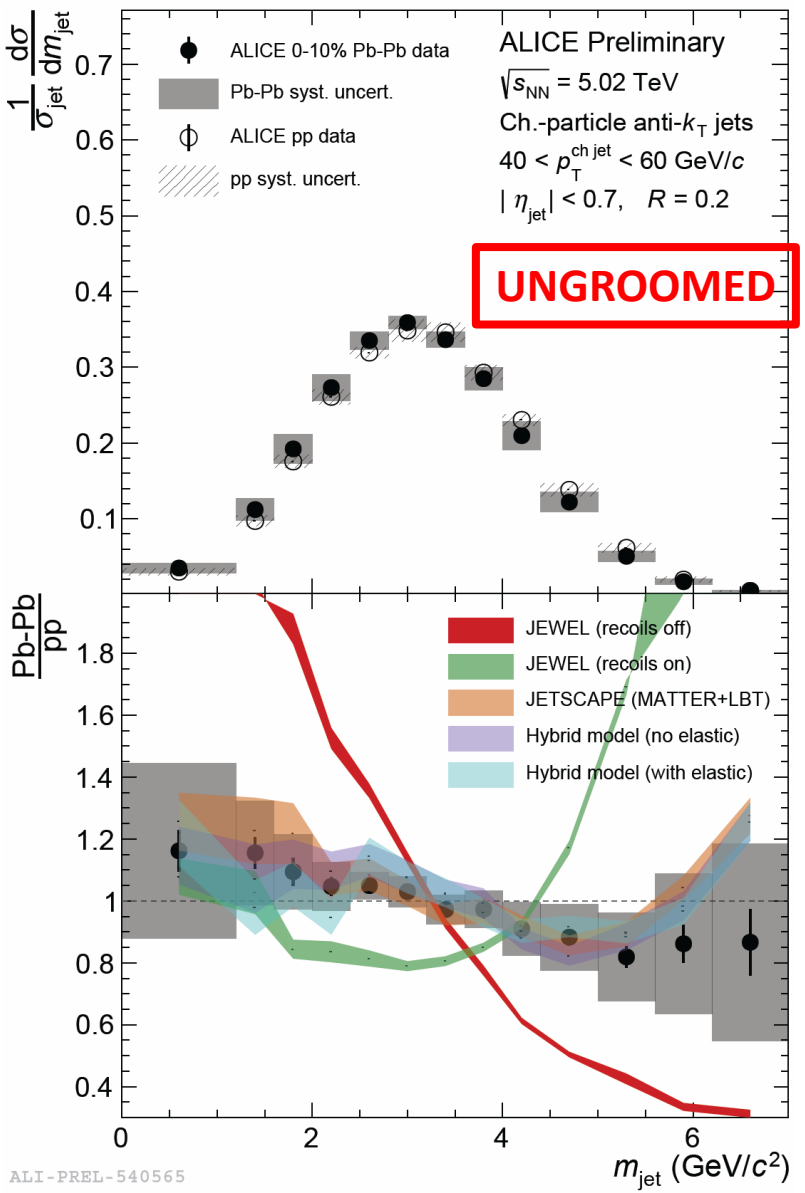
Quenched jet mass



- **What about the effects of jet grooming?**
  - Employ Soft Drop to remove soft, wide-angle radiation
  - Calculate mass using remaining constituents

Quenched jet mass





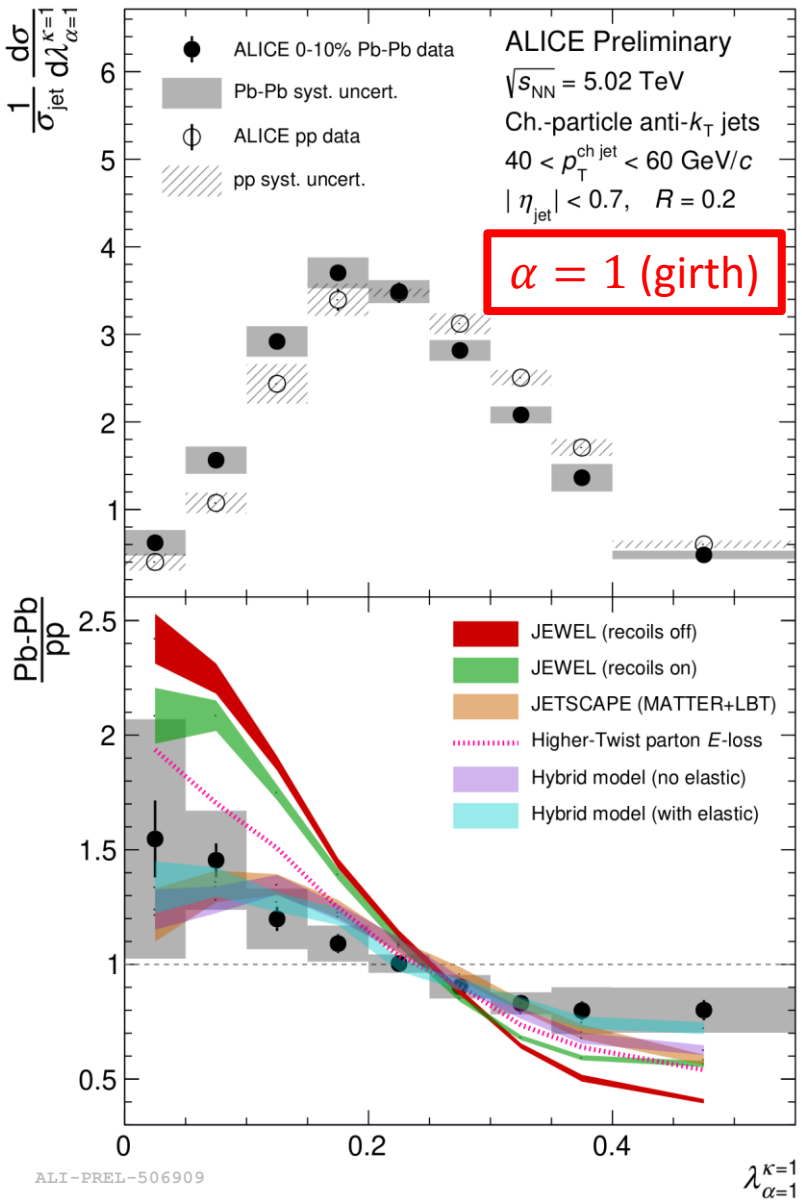
Lesson 3:

- **Hard jet core is strongly quenched**

- Possible interpretations:
  - Quark vs. gluon jets
  - SD removes soft background from jet

Angular dependence of jet quenching

$$\lambda_\alpha \equiv \sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i \theta_i^\alpha$$



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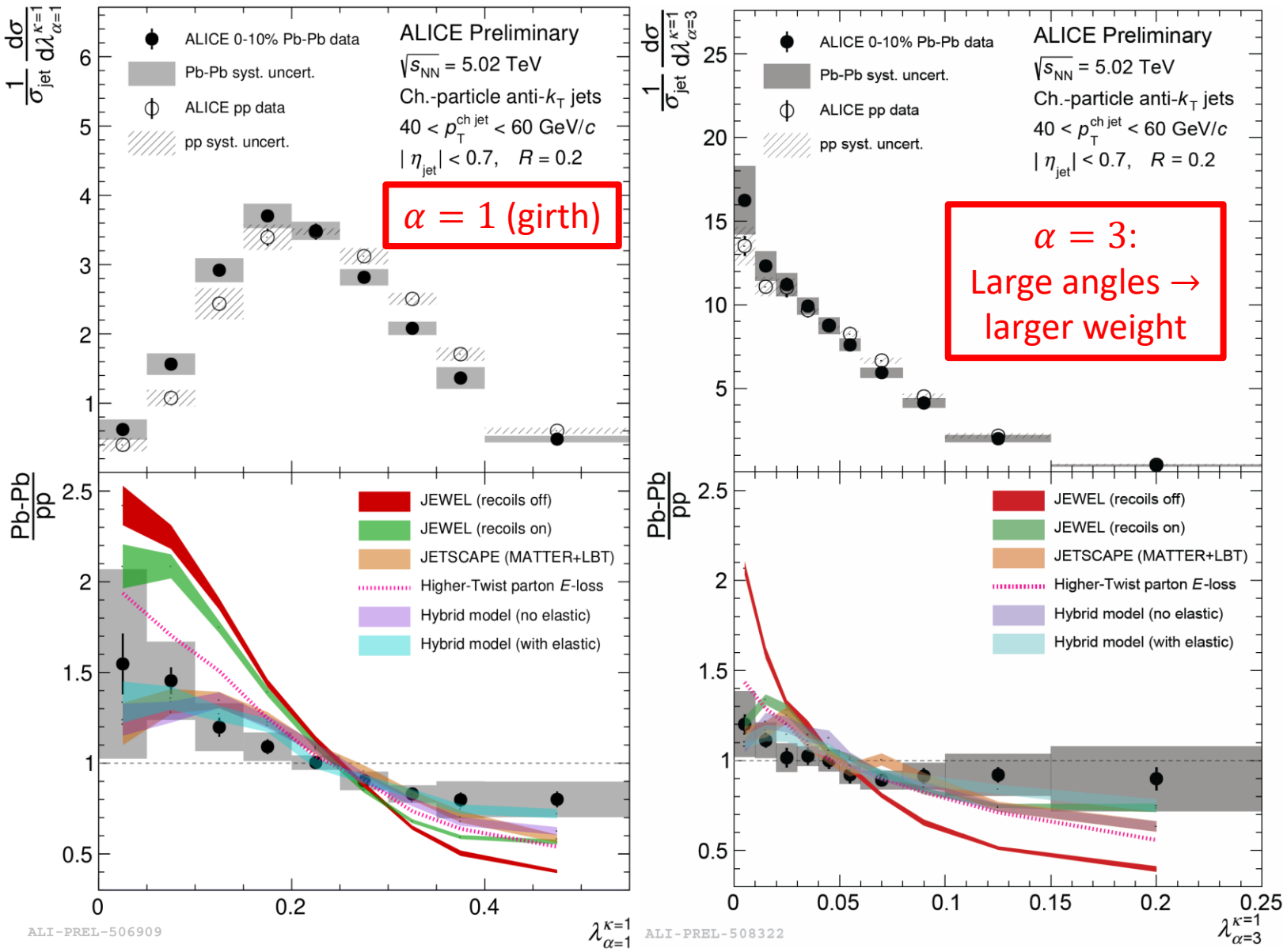


- Higher α → higher sensitivity to recoil effects

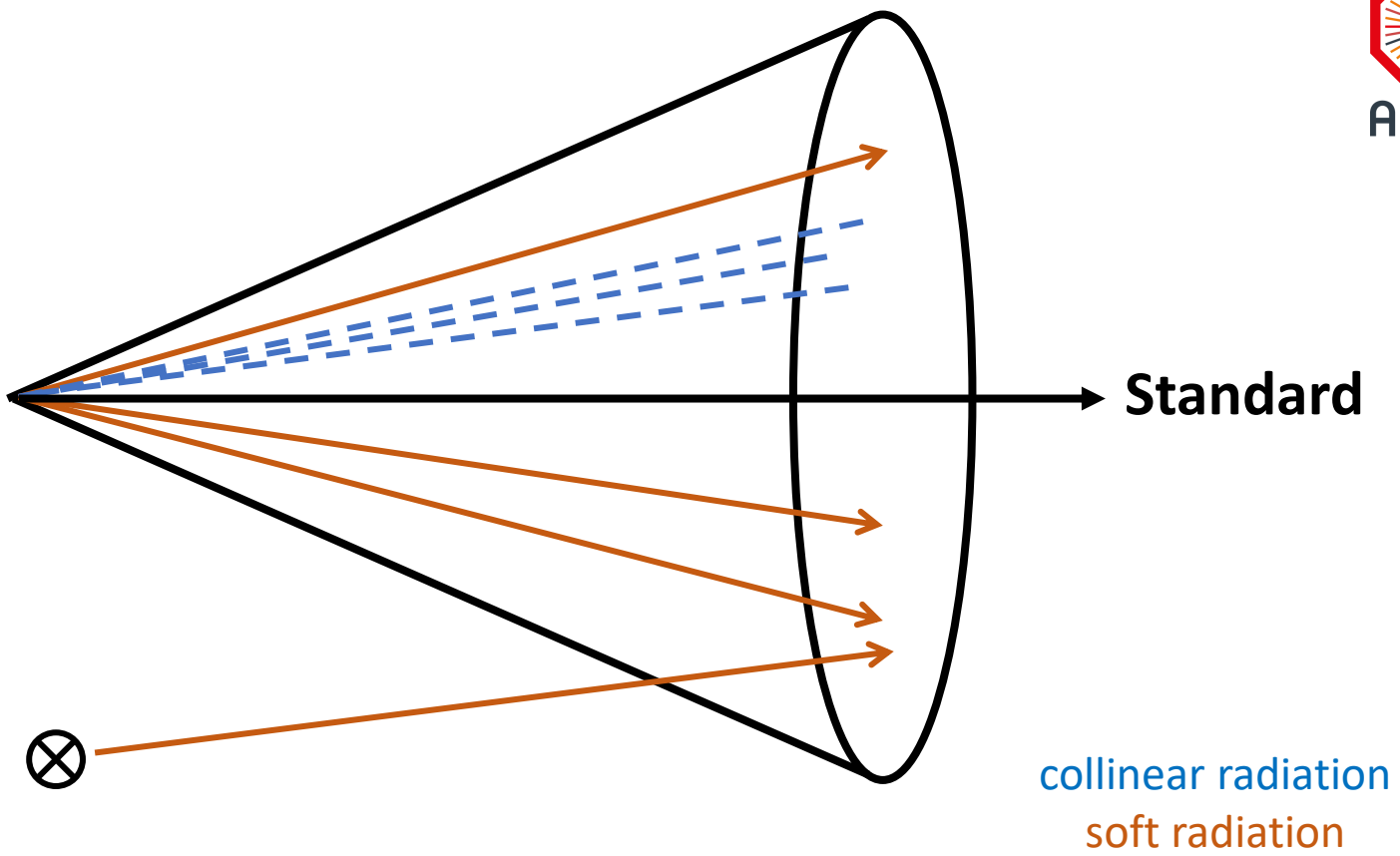
Larkoski, Salam, Thaler
JHEP 06 (2013) 108

- **Jet core is more significantly modified than wide-angle radiations**

- Models mostly overestimate large-angle quenching effects

Jet-axis differences

- **Standard**: anti-k_{T} jet with E-scheme recombination



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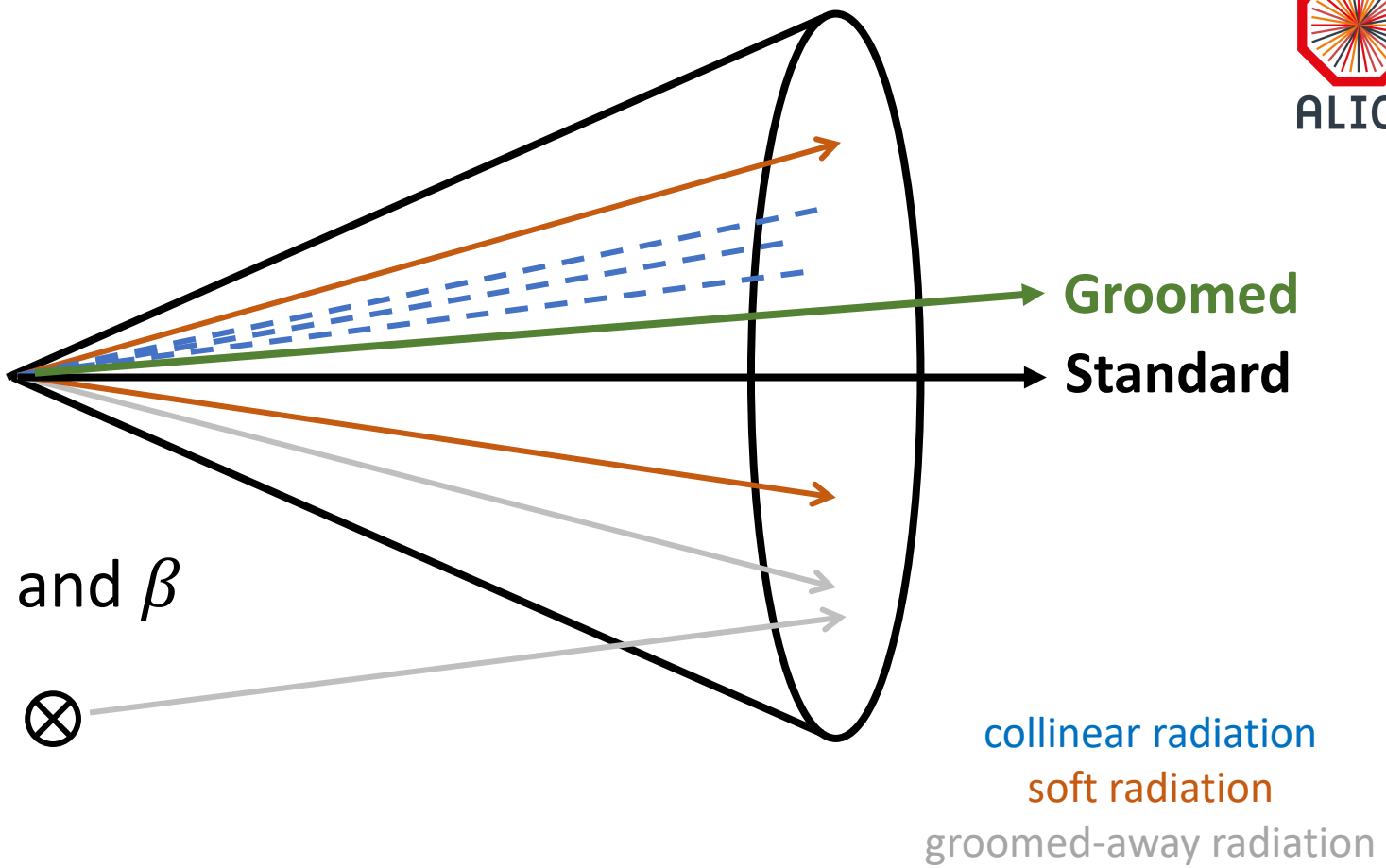
- **Groomed**: apply Soft Drop with different values of z_{cut} and β



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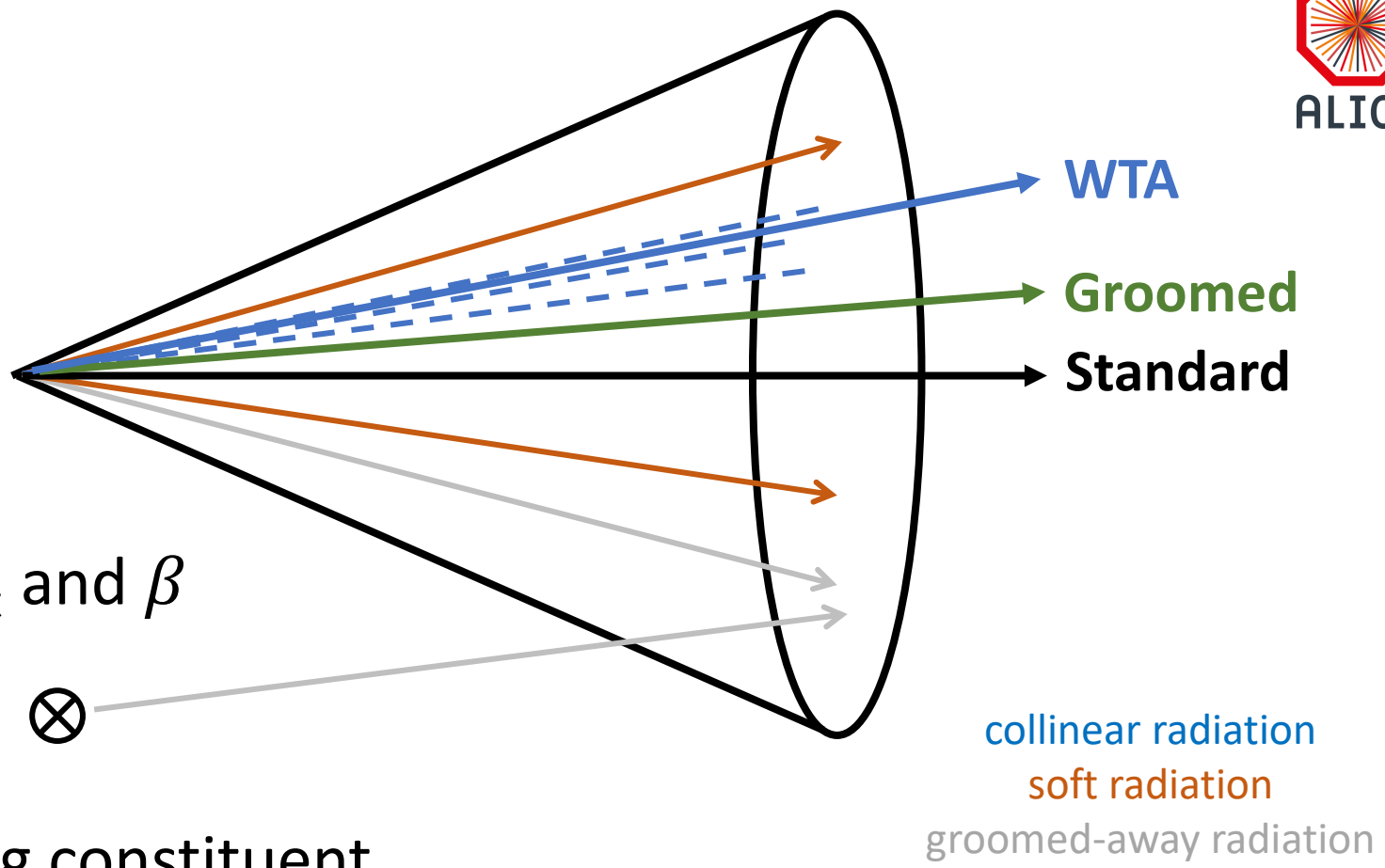

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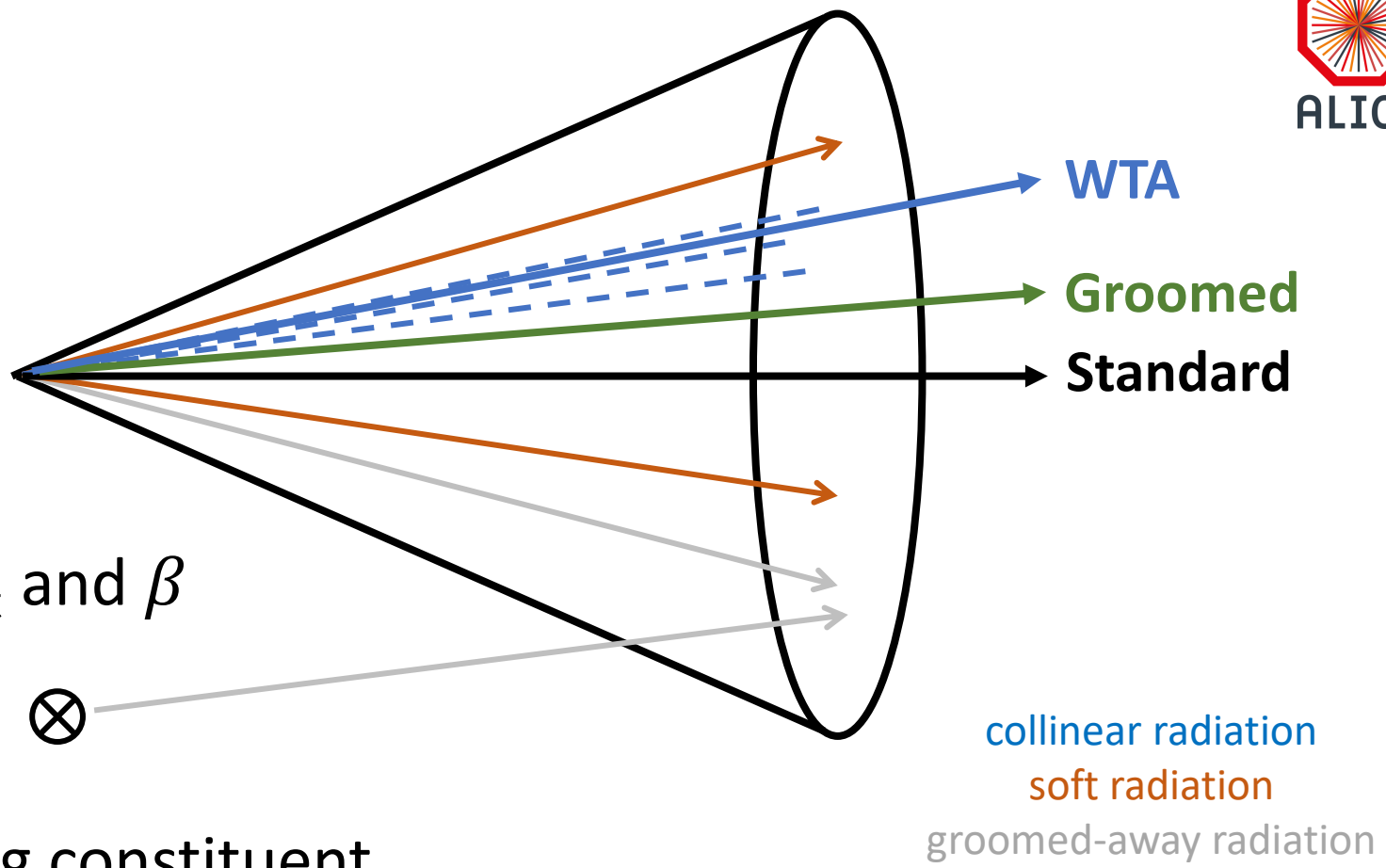
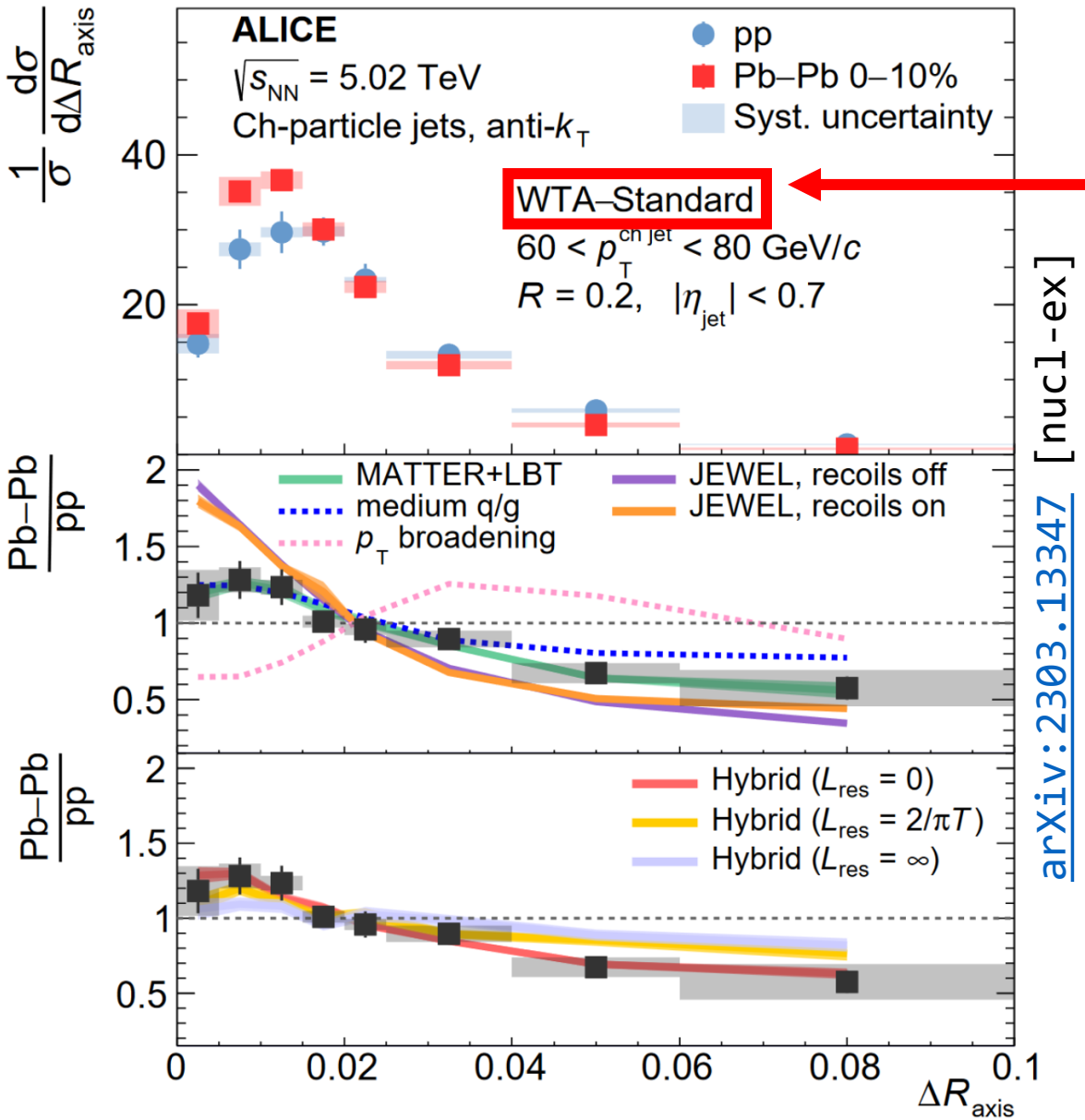


- Calculate the angular separation: $\Delta R_{\mathrm{axis}} = \sqrt{\Delta y^2 + \Delta\phi^2}$
- IRC-safe observable sensitive to **soft radiation, TMDs, and PDFs**

Cal, Neill, Ringer, Waalewijn JHEP 04 (2020) 211

Jet axis differences in Pb-Pb vs. pp



[nucl-ex]

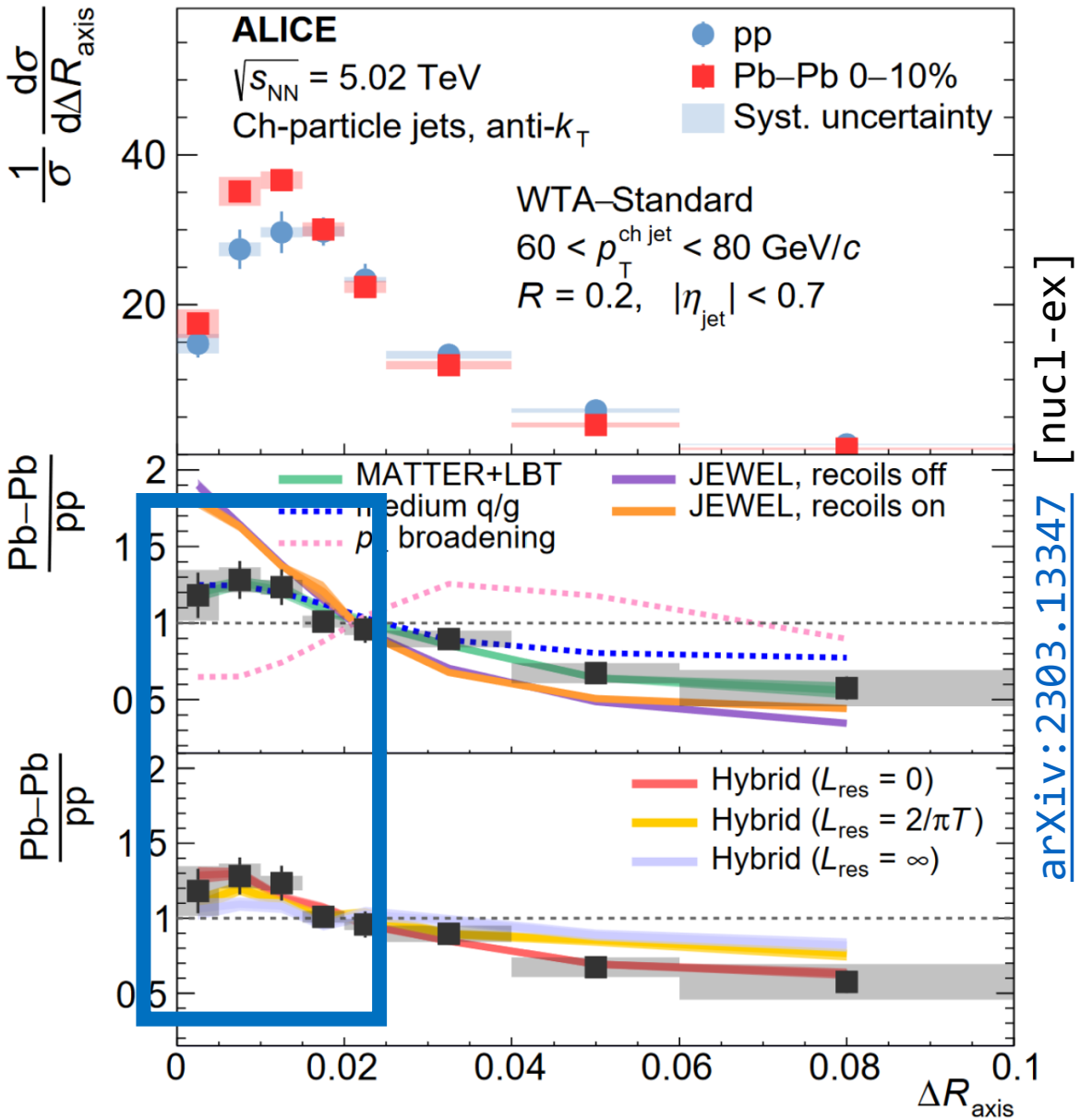
arXiv:2303.13347

Standard (E-scheme)

vs.

Winner-Take-All

Jet axis differences in Pb-Pb vs. pp

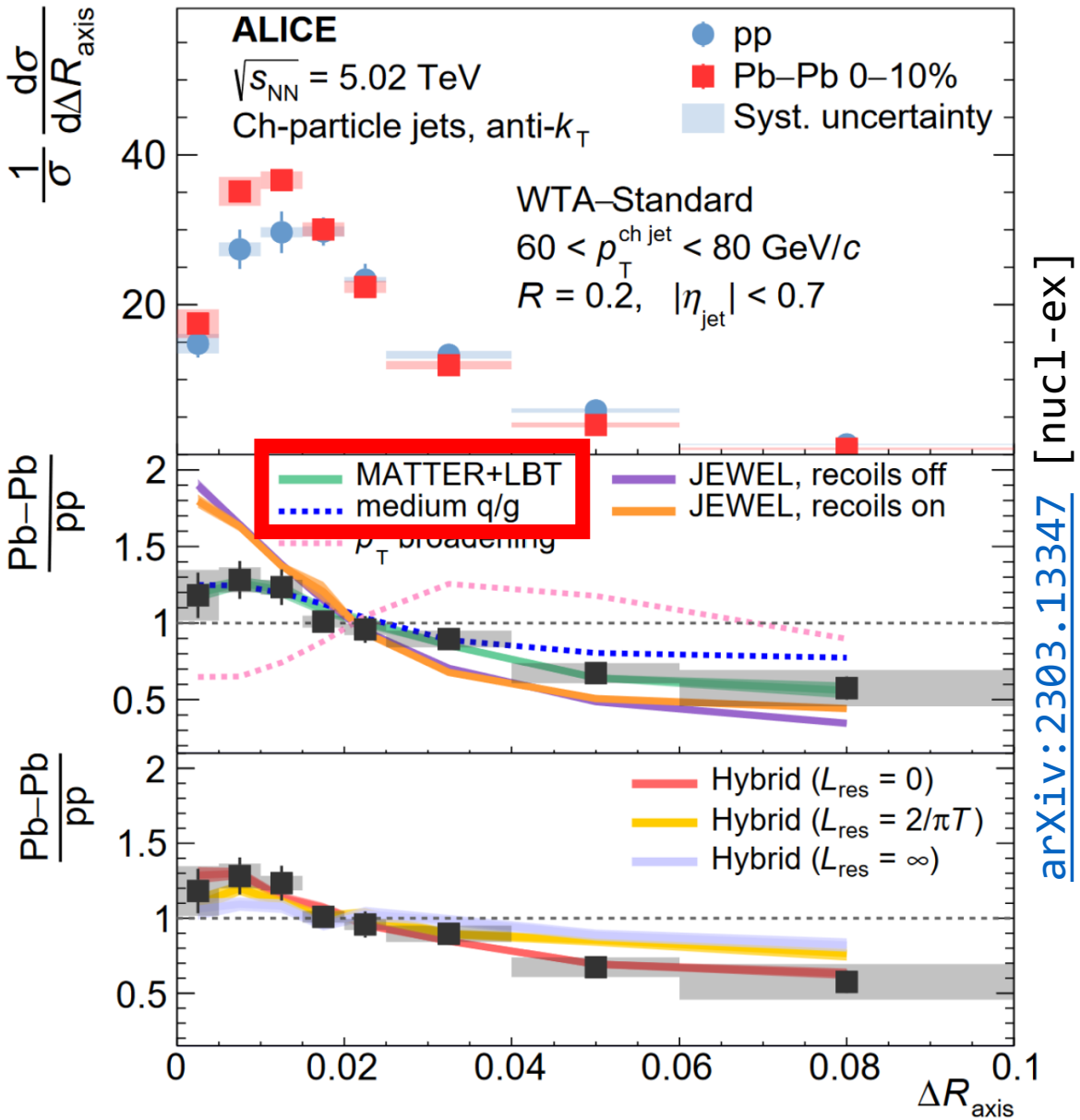


[nucl-ex]

arXiv:2303.13347

- **Quenched jet axes are more similar** than vacuum jets
  - *Consistent with "narrowing"*

Jet axis differences in Pb-Pb vs. pp



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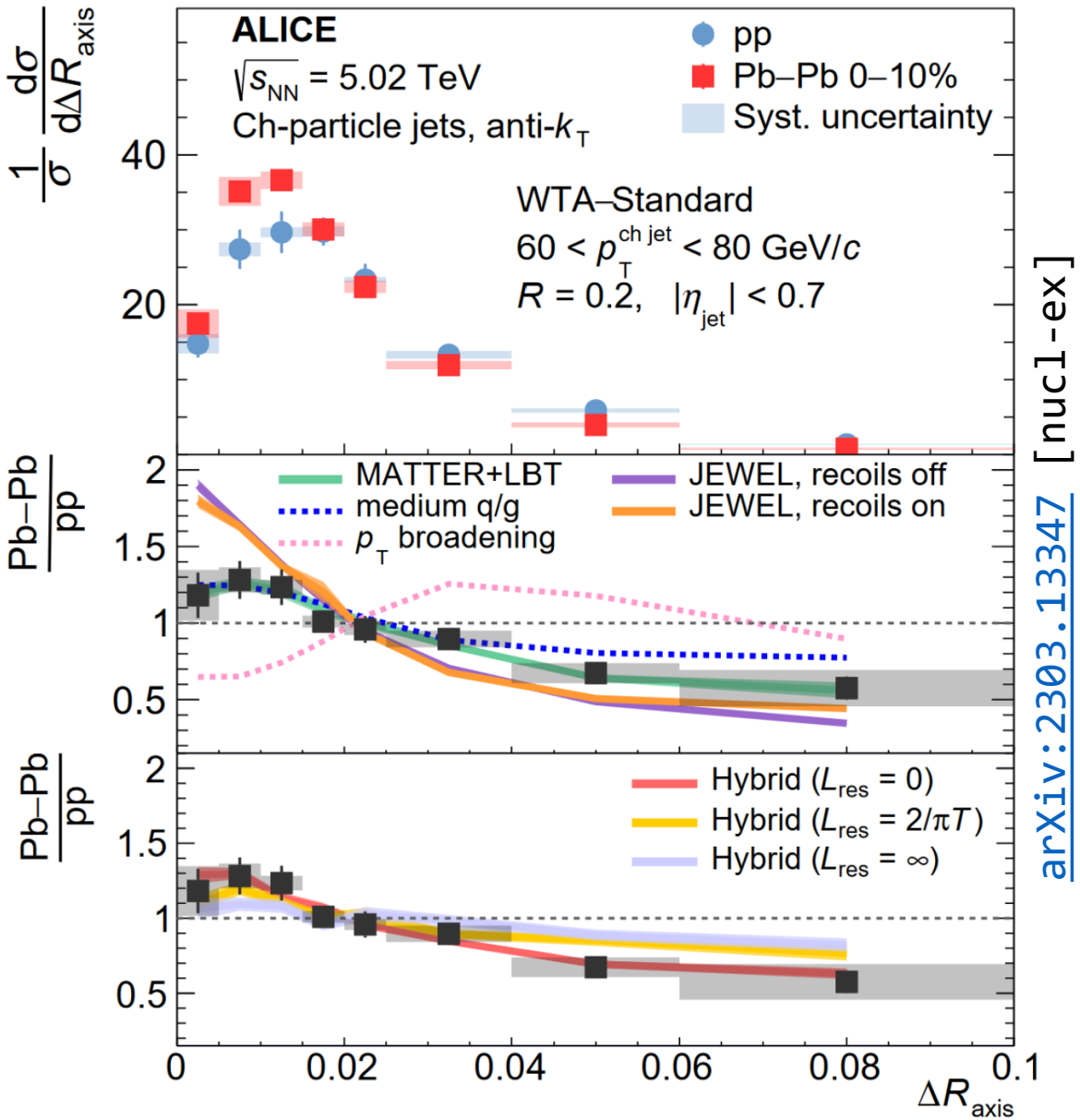

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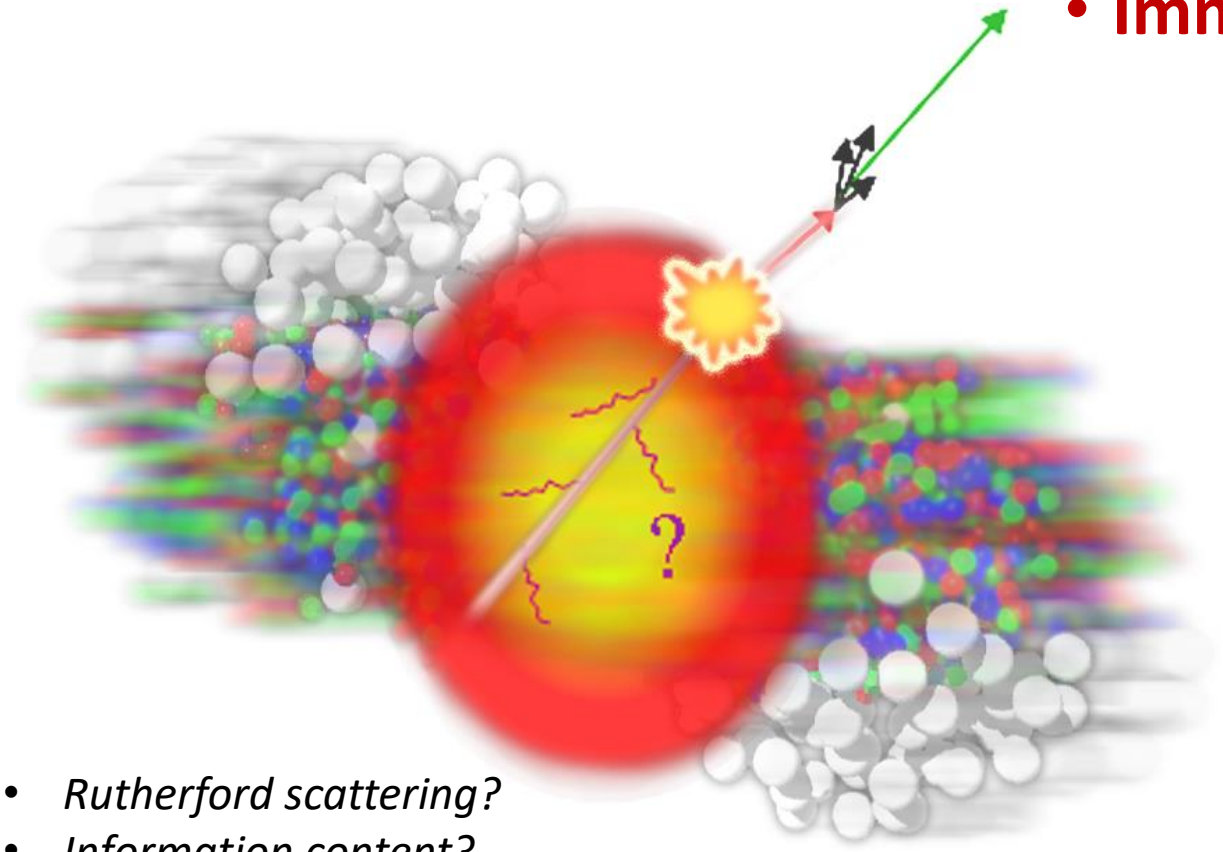
- **Quenched jet axes are more similar** than vacuum jets
  - *Consistent with "narrowing"*
- Agreement with JETSCAPE (MATTER+LBT) and medium q/g modification calculations
- Preference towards **zero resolution length of the medium** in Hybrid model

→ **fully incoherent energy loss**

Probing the QGP with low-momentum jets

- Low-p_{T} jets (< 40 GeV/c) **challenging in QGP**
  - **Immense uncorrelated background**



- *Rutherford scattering?*
- *Information content?*

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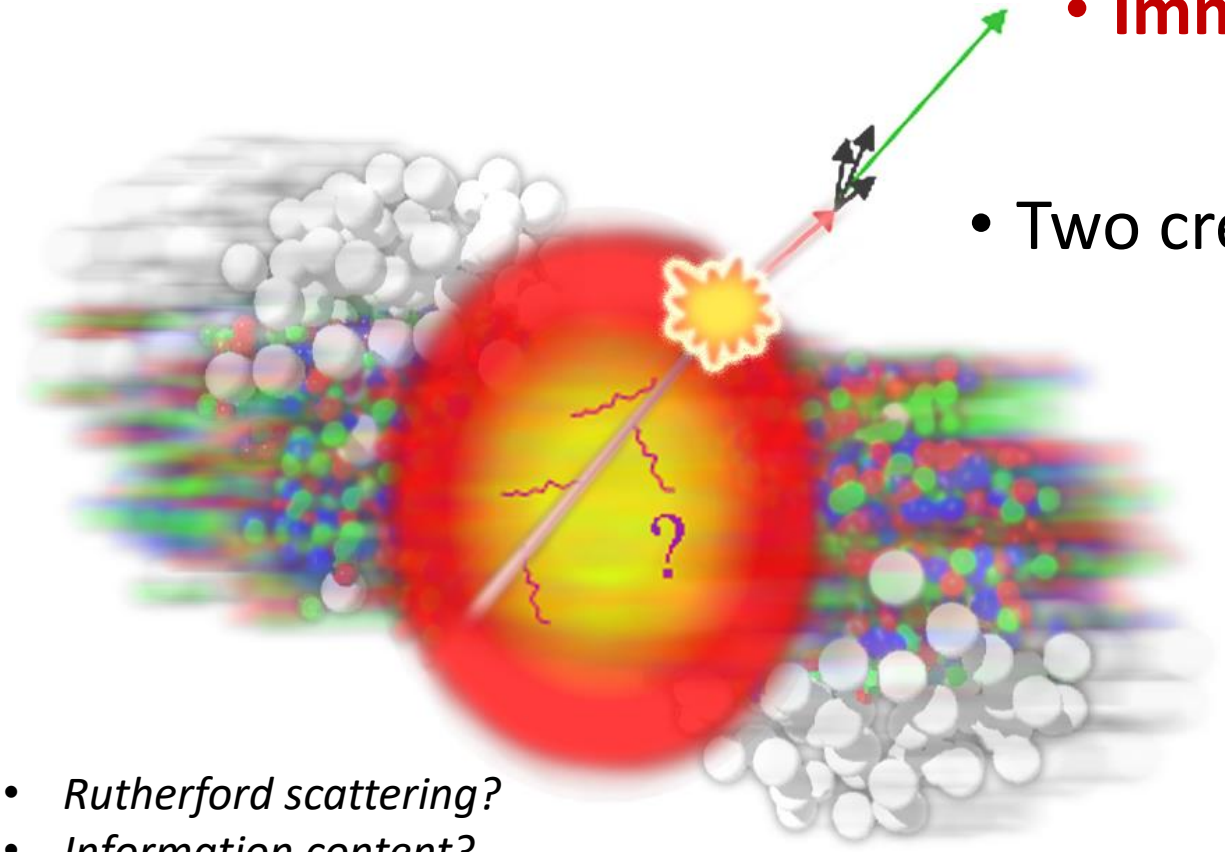
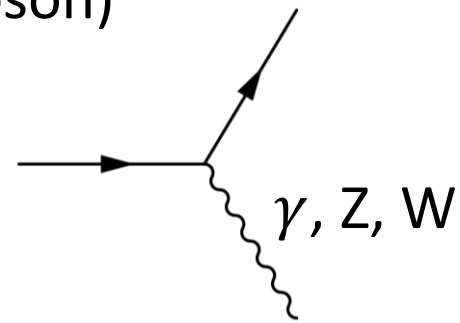


- *Rutherford scattering?*
- *Information content?*

- Two creative solutions:
  1. Tagging jets using a transverse probe (e.g. EW boson)

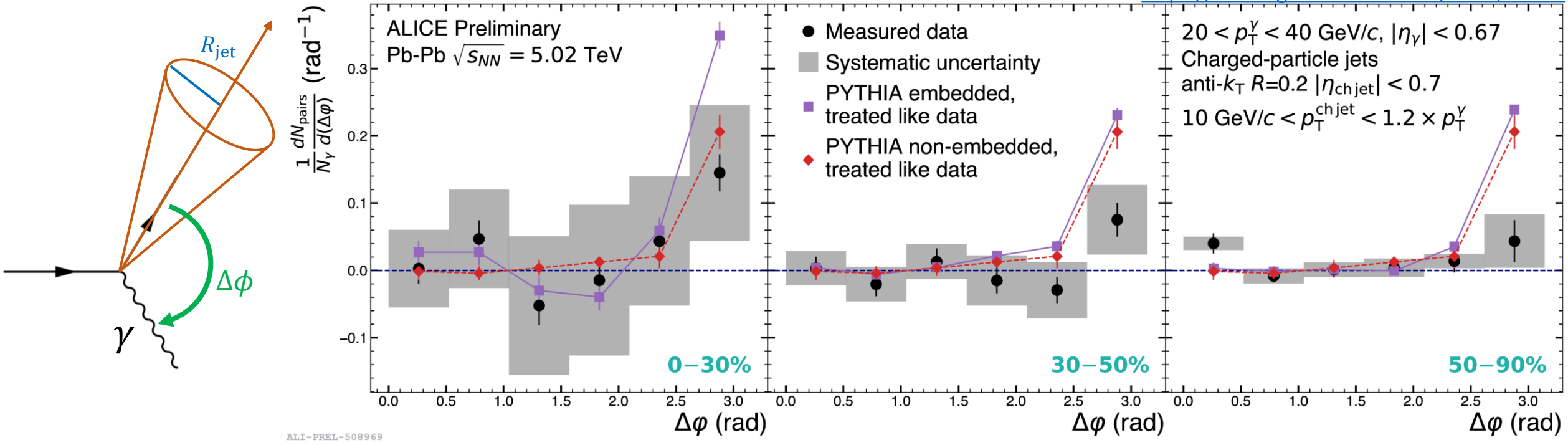


  2. Requiring semi-hard probe inside jet

- *adds some bias to jet substructure*

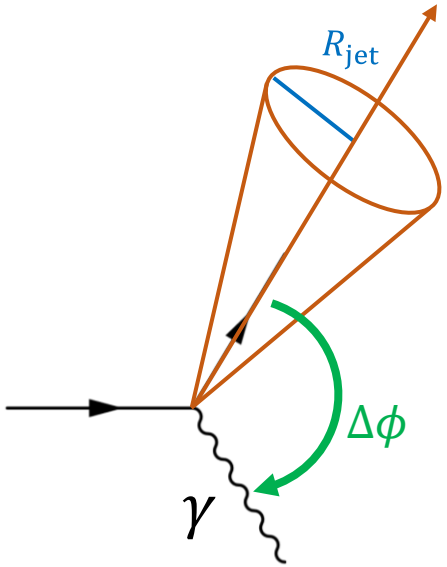
Photon-tagged jet correlations

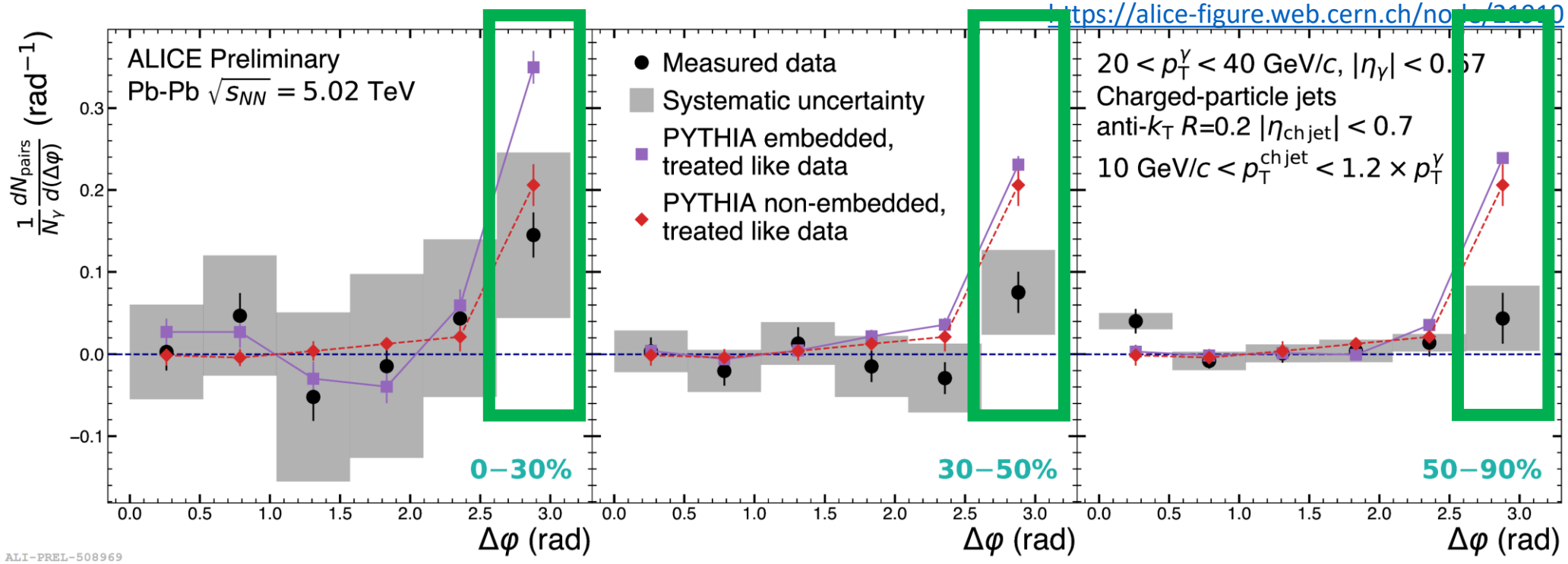
https://alice-figure.web.cern.ch/node/21910



- Measurement of $R = 0.2$ jets in Pb-Pb collisions down to $p_T = 10$ GeV/c

Photon-tagged jet correlations



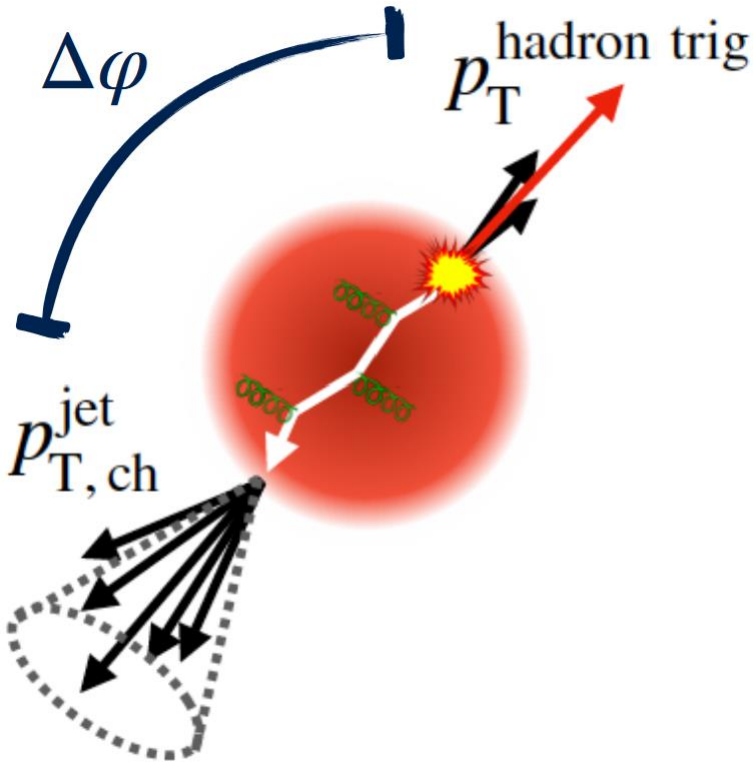


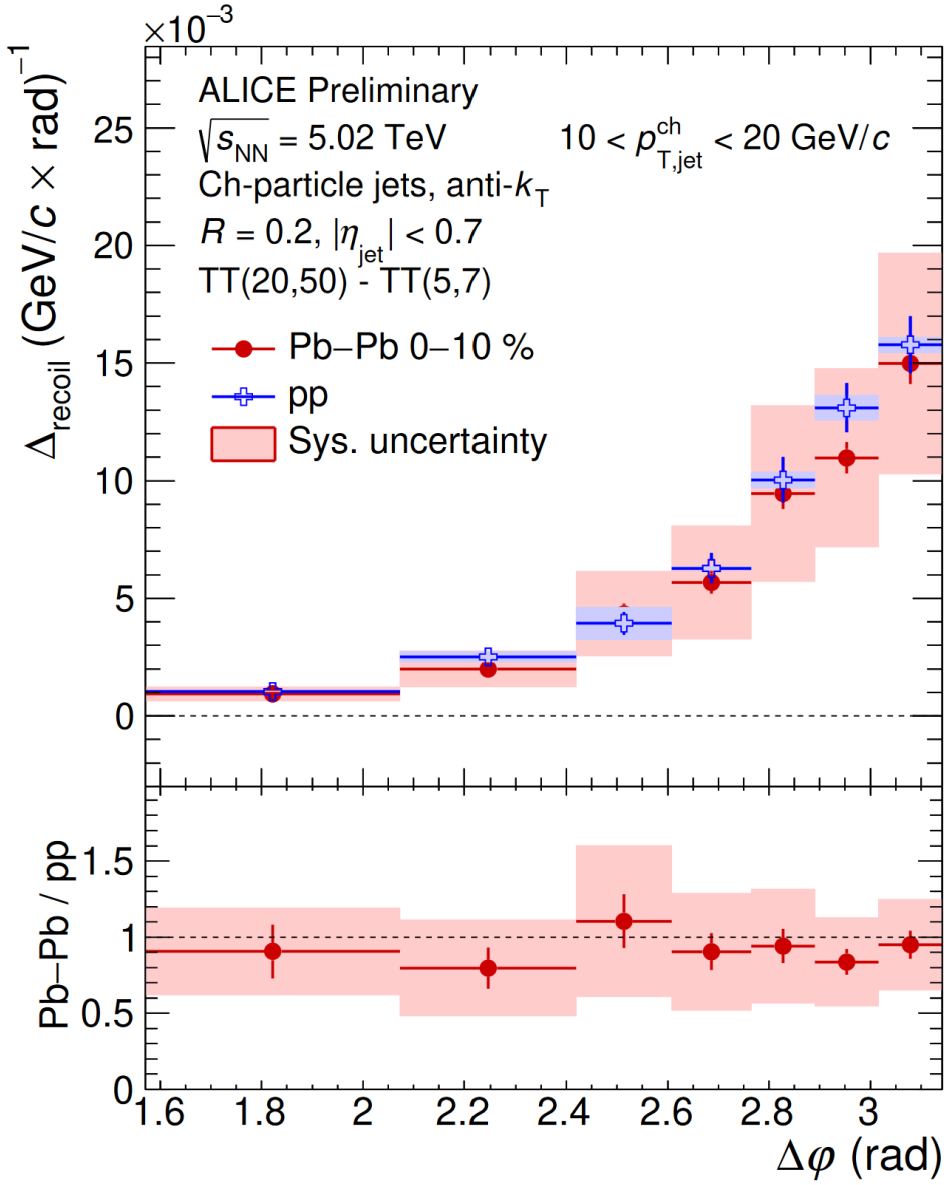
https://alice-figure.web.cern.ch/node/31010

- Measurement of $R = 0.2$ jets in Pb-Pb collisions down to $p_T = 10$ GeV/c
- **Jets back-to-back with photon = no observed Rutherford effect?**
- Tension with PYTHIA vacuum jets → quenching effect?

see also: **CMS Collab.** PLB 785 (2018) 14-39

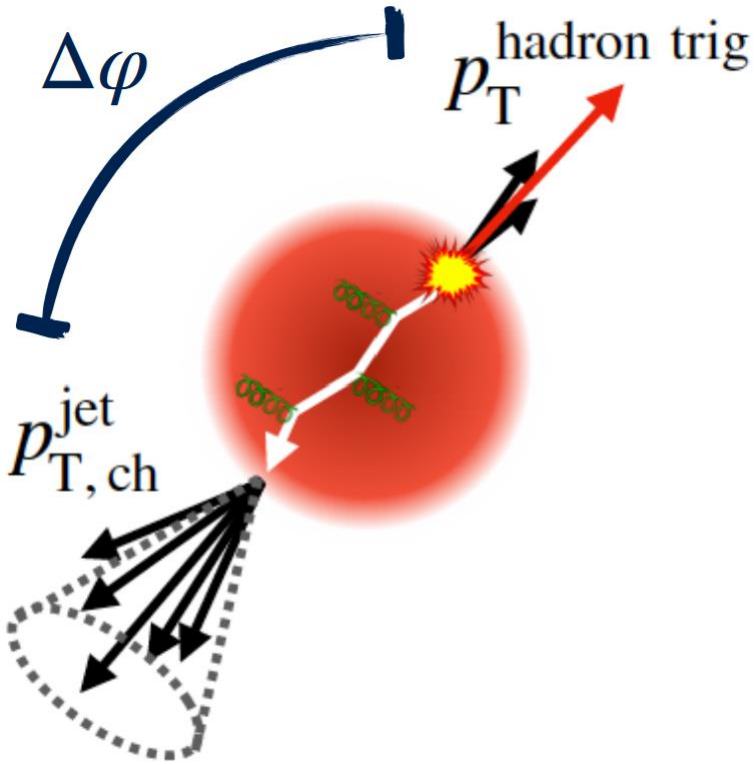
Hadron-jet acoplanarity

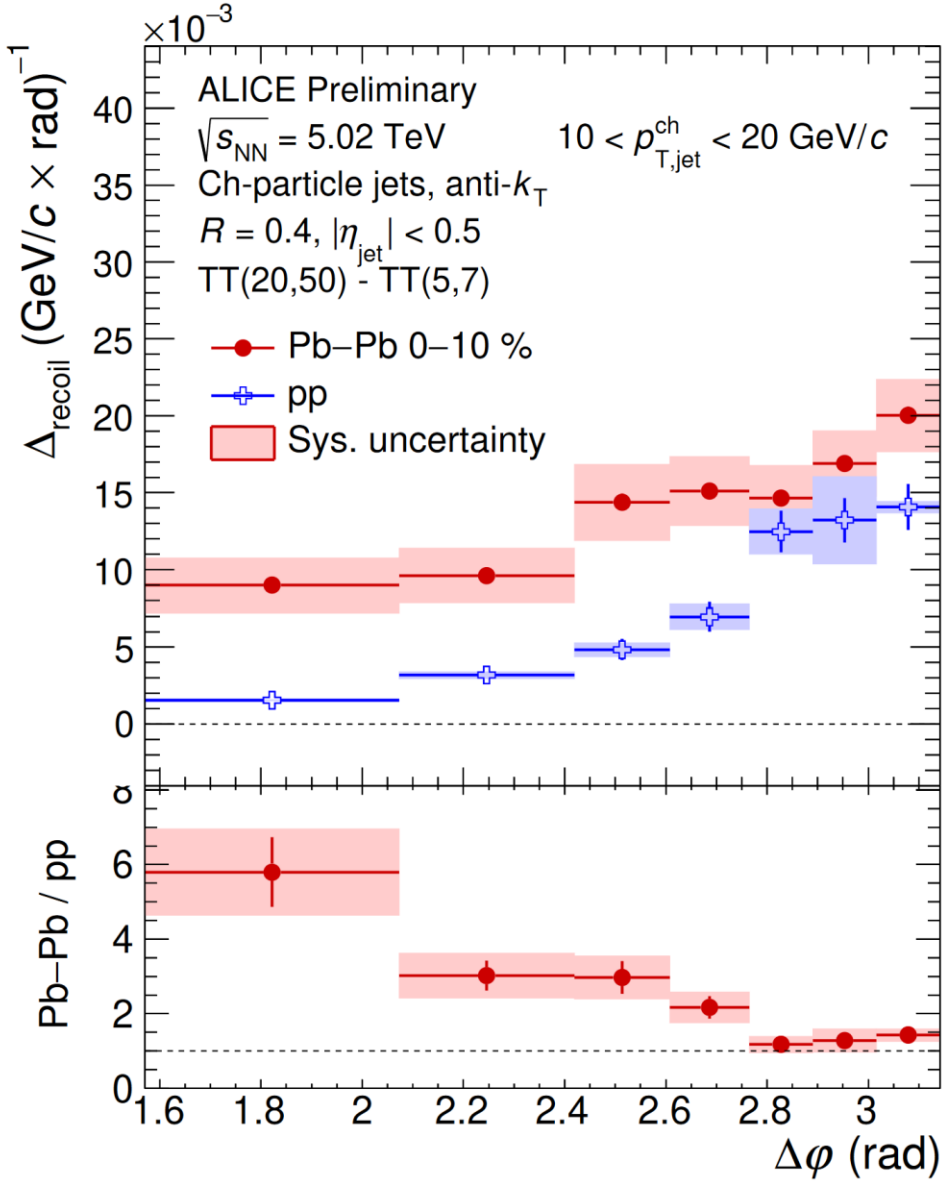




- No broadening for small R…

Hadron-jet acoplanarity





- No broadening for small R…
- **Rutherford effects observed with larger R?**
- Further study needed

There's much to learn from Pb-Pb substructure…

- Jet angularity & mass measurements:
  1. **Comparison to a vacuum baseline is essential for interpreting these results**
  2. **Closely related observables can have very different physics sensitivities**
  3. **Hard jet core is more strongly-quenched than wide-angle radiations**

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- Evidence for **fully incoherent ($L_{\mathrm{res}} = 0$) energy loss in the QGP**

- **Consistent observations of jet narrowing in AA**

- ALICE presents several substructure observables to constrain models
  - **Improving models' pp baselines will improve AA predictive power**

See also:

- **Backup slides:** photon-tagged jet correlations, hadron-jet acoplanarity, and mixed-event technique for jet measurements in heavy-ion collisions

- **Raymond Ehlers'** talk: *Novel jet substructure observables and techniques with ALICE,* https://indico.physics.lbl.gov/event/975/contributions/8299/

- **Preeti Dhankher's** talk: *Elucidating QCD using charm-tagged jet substructure with ALICE,* https://indico.physics.lbl.gov/event/975/contributions/8294/

- Other recent preliminary measurements from ALICE: https://alice-figure.web.cern.ch/grp_prel_fig_pub

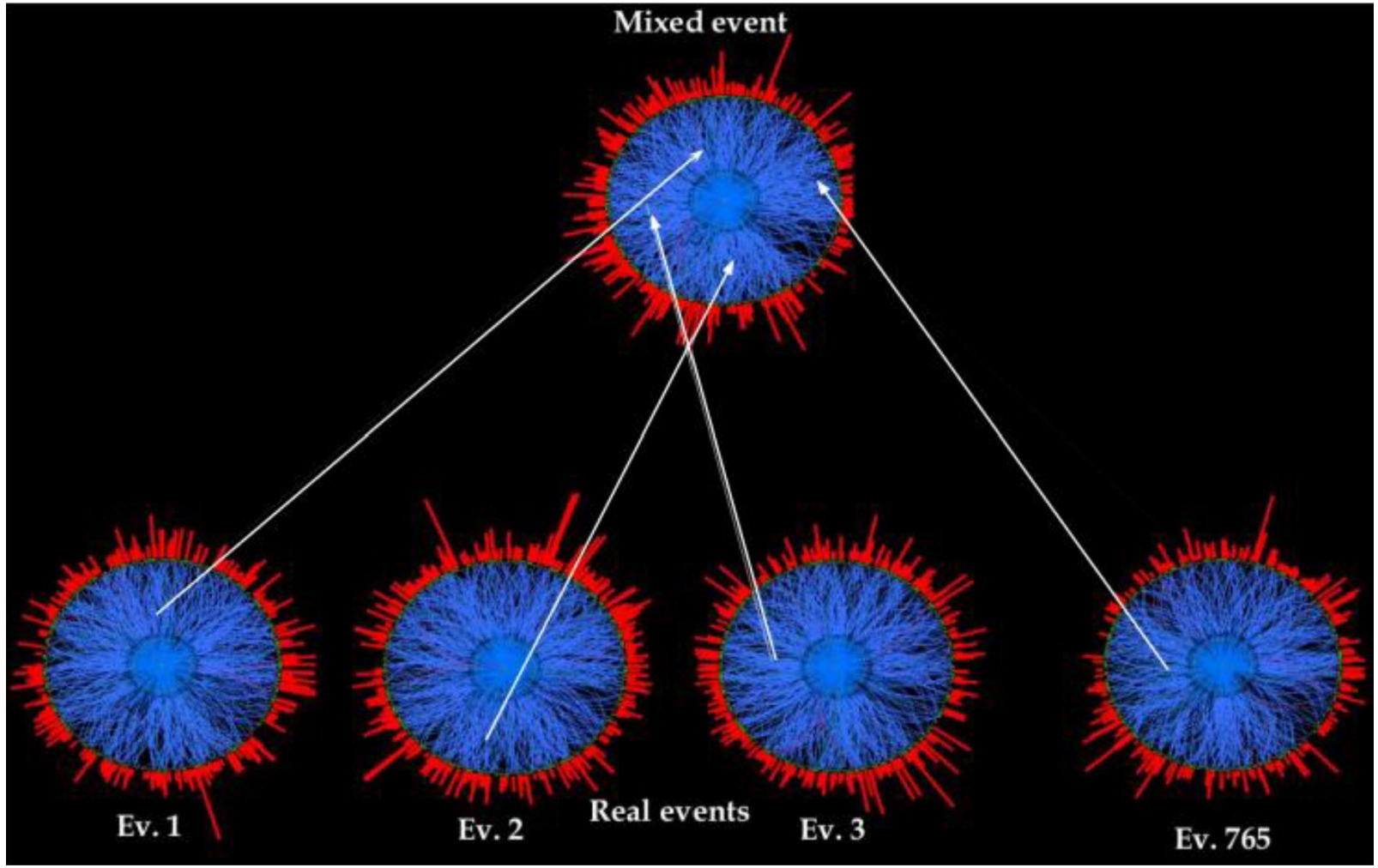
Backup

Mixed-event (ME) technique

- Randomly mix tracks from similar events together to create **uncorrelated fake ("mixed") events**

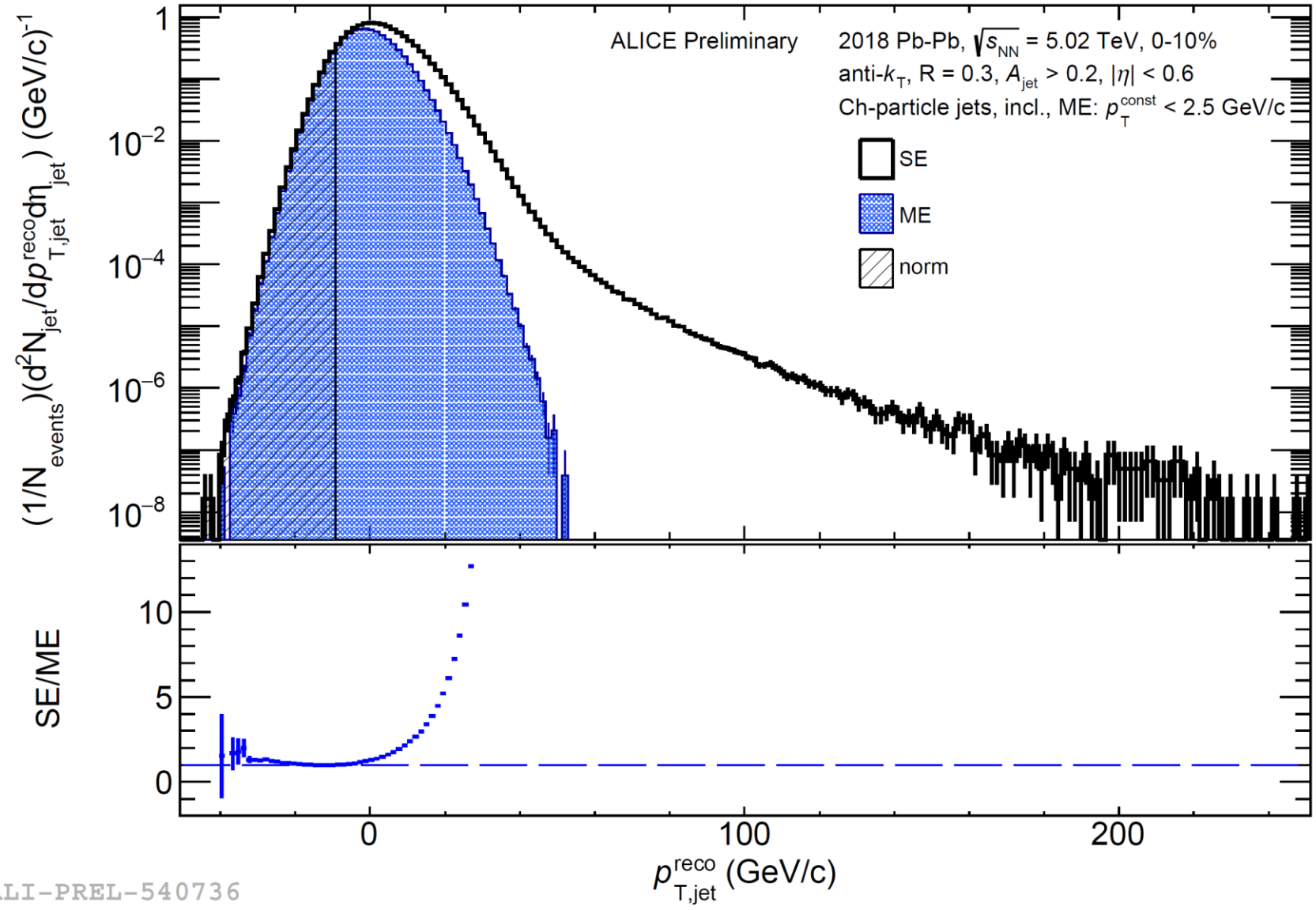
- Classified into one of into 9600 categories based on multiplicity, z-vertex, event plane ϕ

- Require jets to have one track with $p_{\mathrm{T}} > 5$ GeV/c
  - ***Specific jet population***



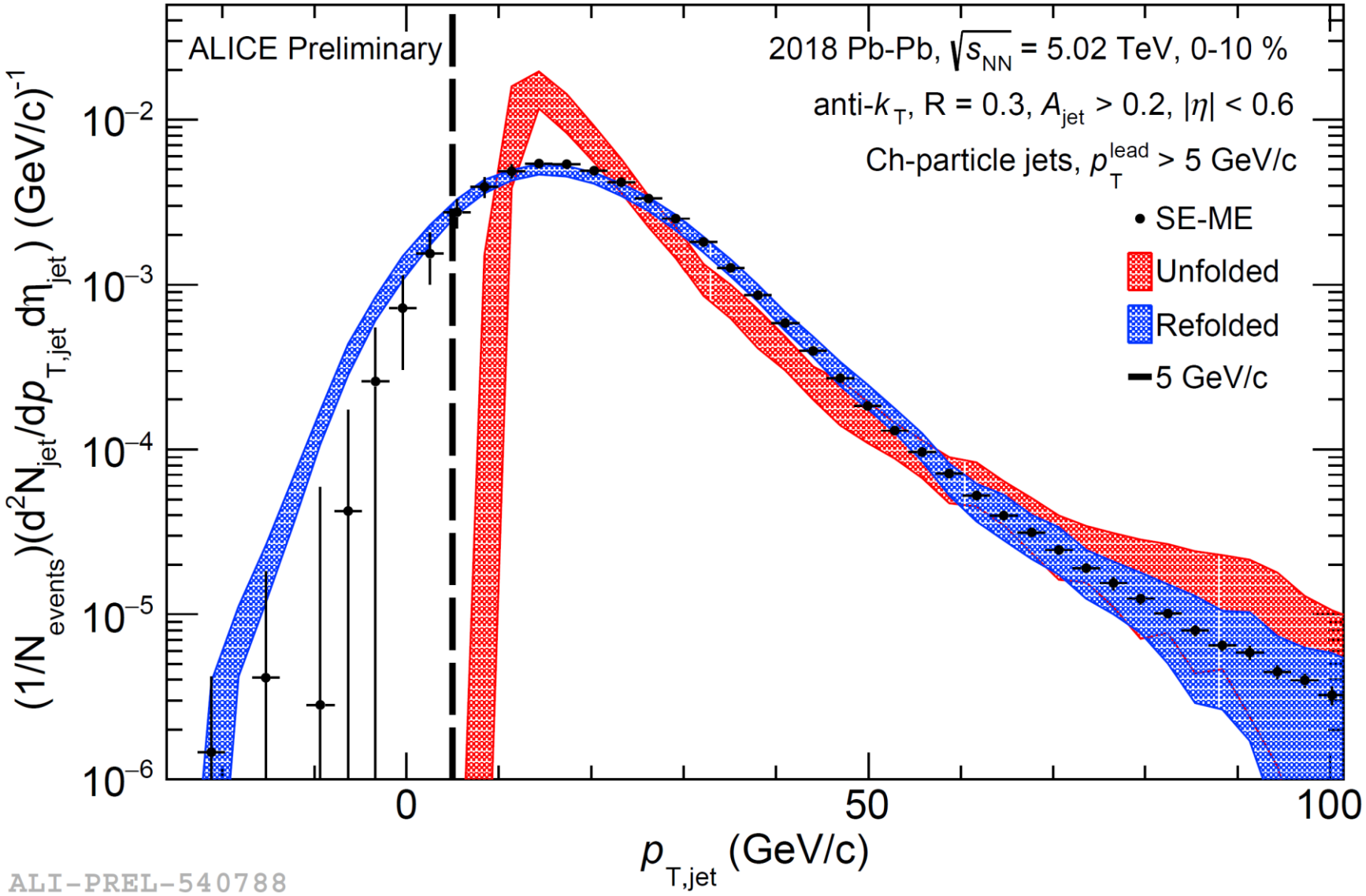
Using ME technique to correct for fake jets

- Area-based correction (subtraction) for jet p_{T}
- Normalize ME to "same event" (SE) in the uncorrelated region
- **Subtract ME from SE**



Fully unfolded result – jets down to 5 GeV/*c*

- **Uncorrelated background fully removed!**
- Need to explore selection bias based on leading track selection



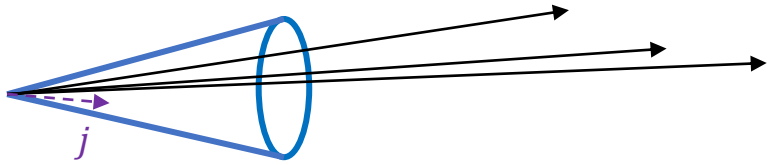
What is IRC safety?

$$\lambda_\alpha^\kappa \equiv \sum_{i\in\text{jet}} \left(\frac{p_{\text{T},i}}{p_{\text{T,jet}}}\right)^\kappa \left(\frac{\Delta R_{\text{jet},i}}{R}\right)^\alpha \equiv \sum_{i\in\text{jet}} z_i^\kappa \theta_i^\alpha$$

- Stands for Infra-Red and Collinear (IRC) safety

- Class of reconstruction algorithms & observables which satisfy certain conditions in order to avoid singularities from appearing in a well-defined path towards theoretical calculation

Infra-Red safety: the observable should not change if an infinitely-low-momentum particle is added to the event/jet



$$\lambda_{\alpha,\text{new}}^\kappa = \sum_{i\in\text{jet}} z_i^\kappa \theta_i^\alpha + z_j^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha$$

$$z_j = 0 \rightarrow z_j^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha = 0 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$

$$\lambda_{\alpha,\text{new}}^\kappa = \lambda_{\alpha,\text{old}}^\kappa$$

Collinear safety: the observable should not change if one particle splits into two collinear particles

$$\lambda_{\alpha,\text{new}}^\kappa = \sum_{(i\neq j)\in\text{jet}} z_i^\kappa \theta_i^\alpha + (\lambda z_j)^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha + [(1-\lambda) z_j]^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha$$

Need $\lambda^\kappa + (1-\lambda)^\kappa = 1 \quad \forall\{\lambda \in [0,1]\} \rightarrow \kappa = 1$

Consider 1-particle jet: $\lambda_{\alpha,\text{new}}^\kappa = (\lambda z_j)^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha + [(1-\lambda) z_j]^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha$

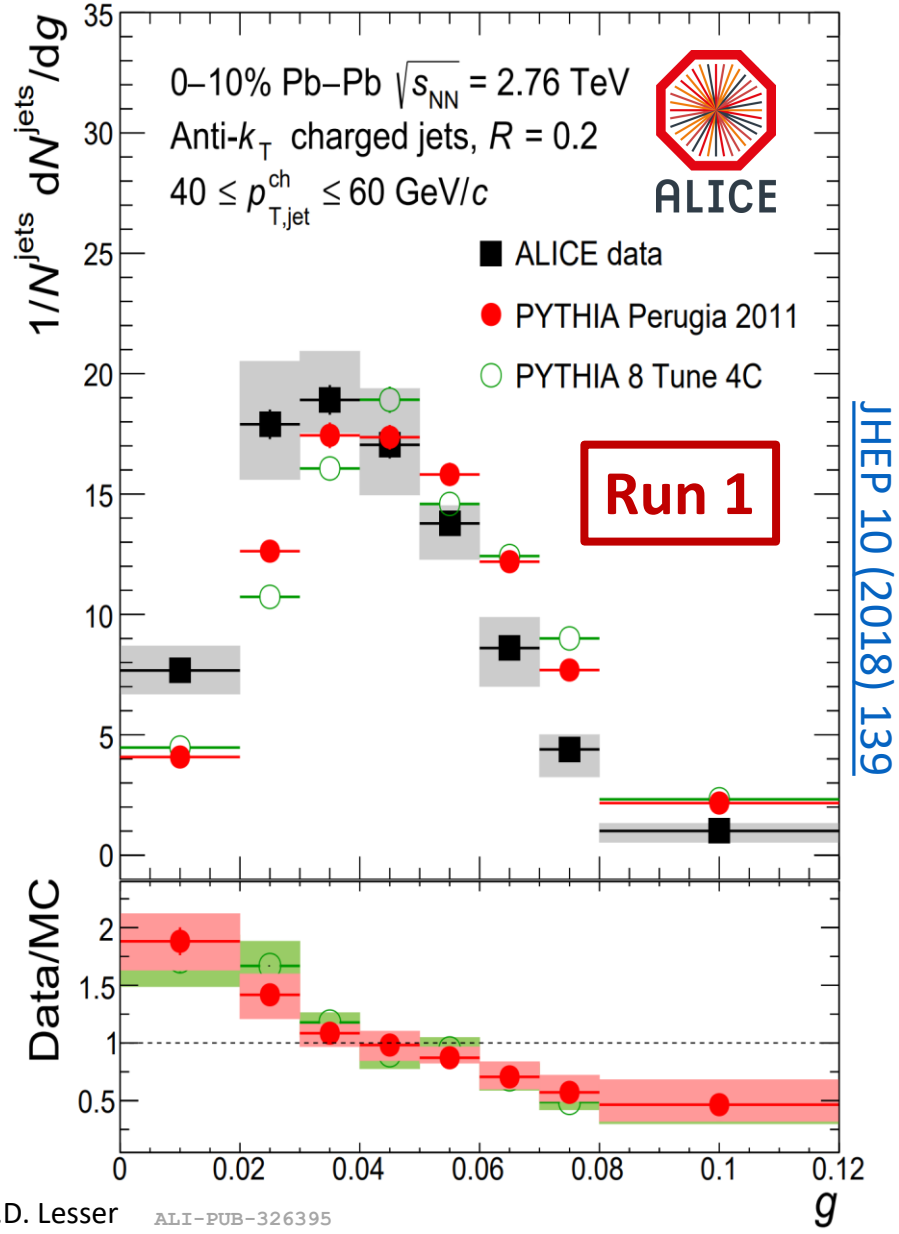
$$\theta_j = 0 \rightarrow z_j^\kappa \theta_j^\alpha = 0 \quad (\alpha > 0)$$

Charged-particle jet observables

- Charged-particle jets are useful for substructure observables since tracking detectors give **enhanced spatial precision**
- However, track-based observables are IRC-unsafe
- Formalism to calculate these observables using **track functions**†
- Currently we use the IRC-safe observables to motivate our measurements, and then apply nonperturbative corrections using different methods

† *H. Chang, M. Procura, J. Thaler, W. Waalewijn*
Phys. Rev. Lett. 111 (2013) 102002

Run 2 improved girth study



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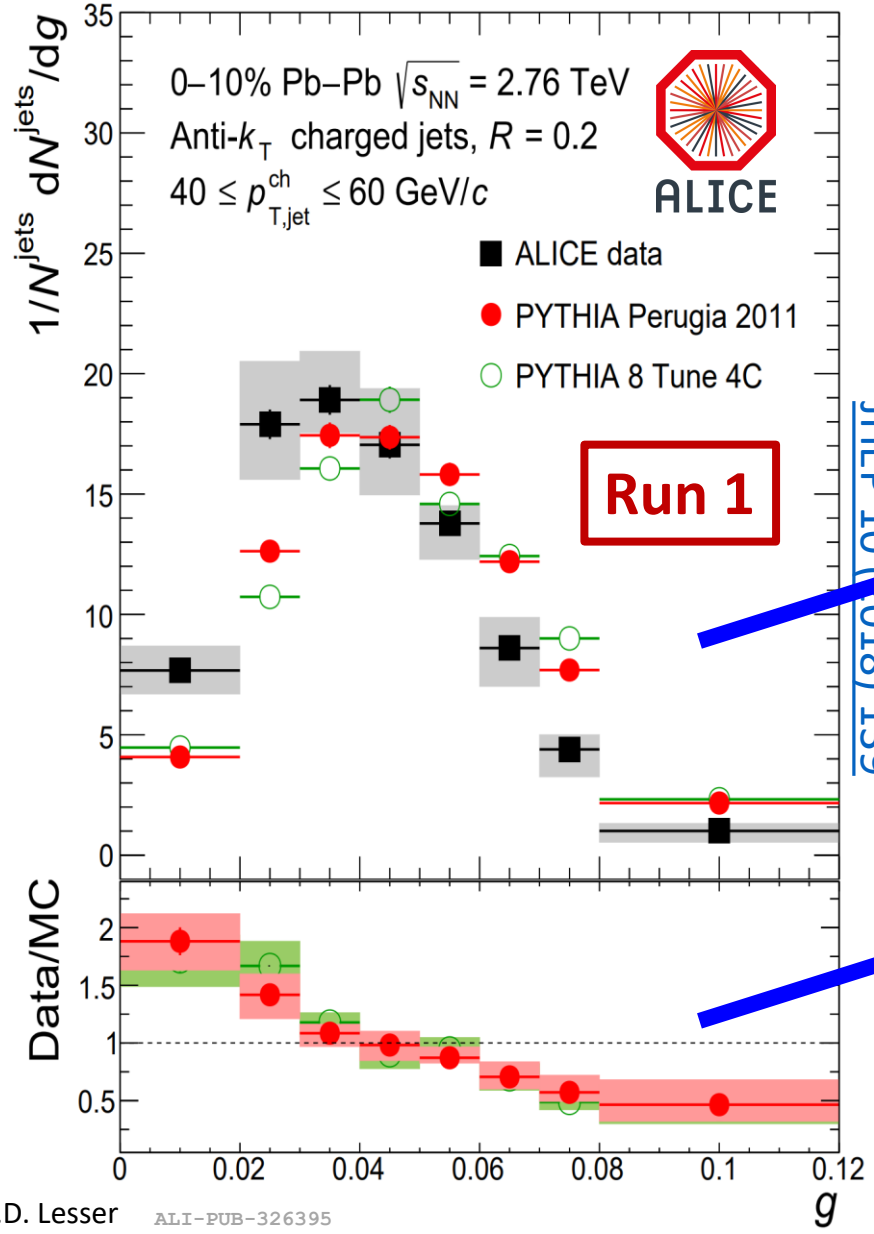

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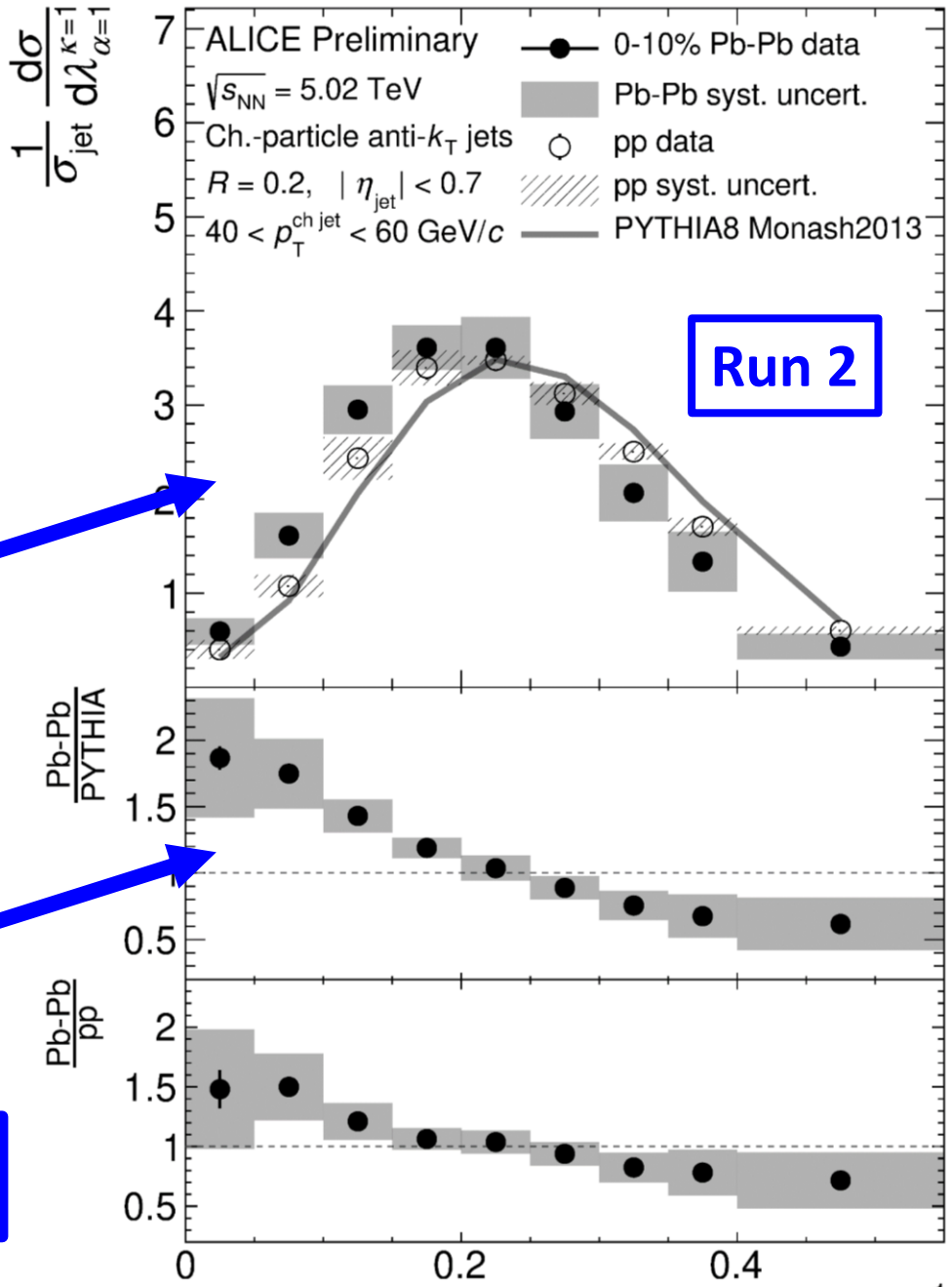
$$\lambda_\alpha \equiv \sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i \theta_i^\alpha$$

$$g = \lambda_1 * R$$



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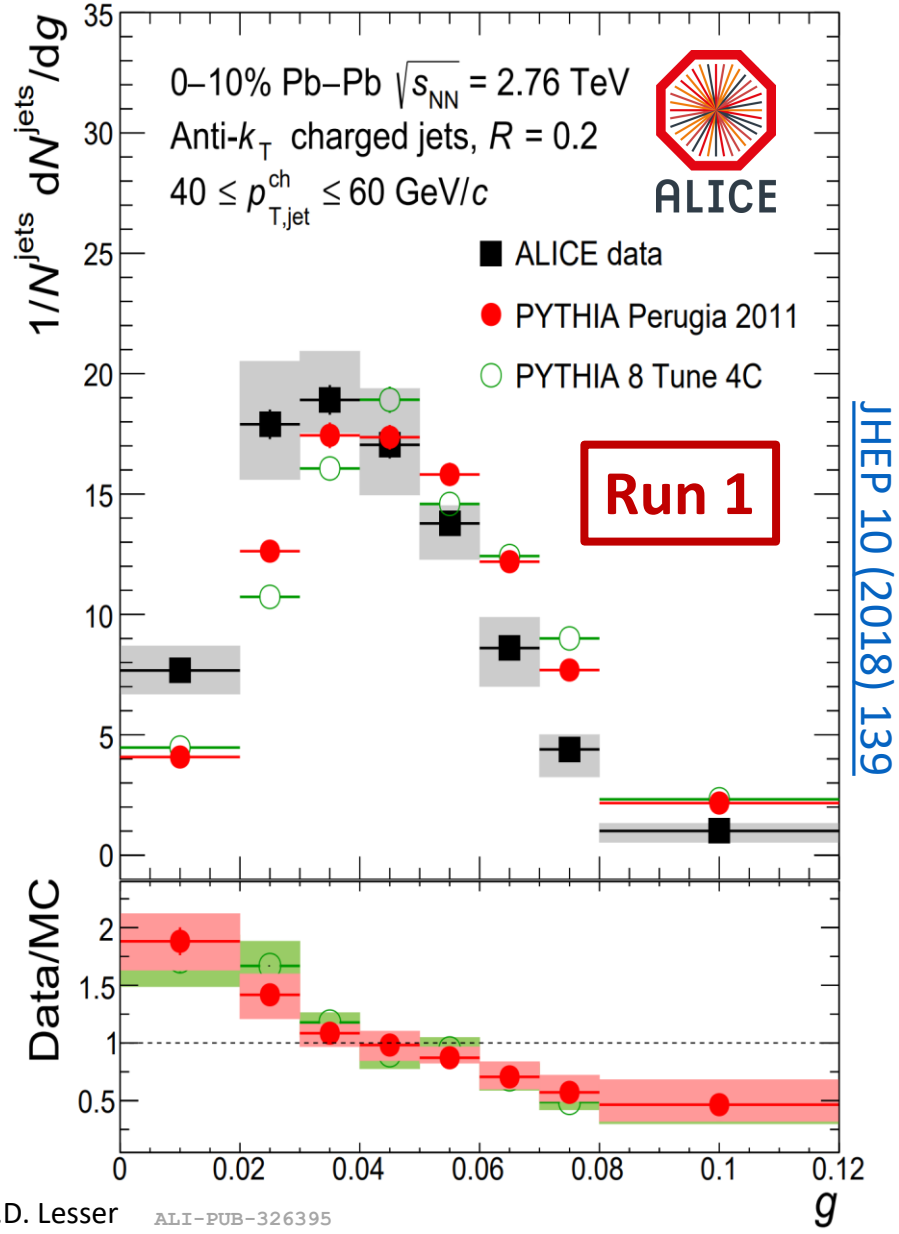

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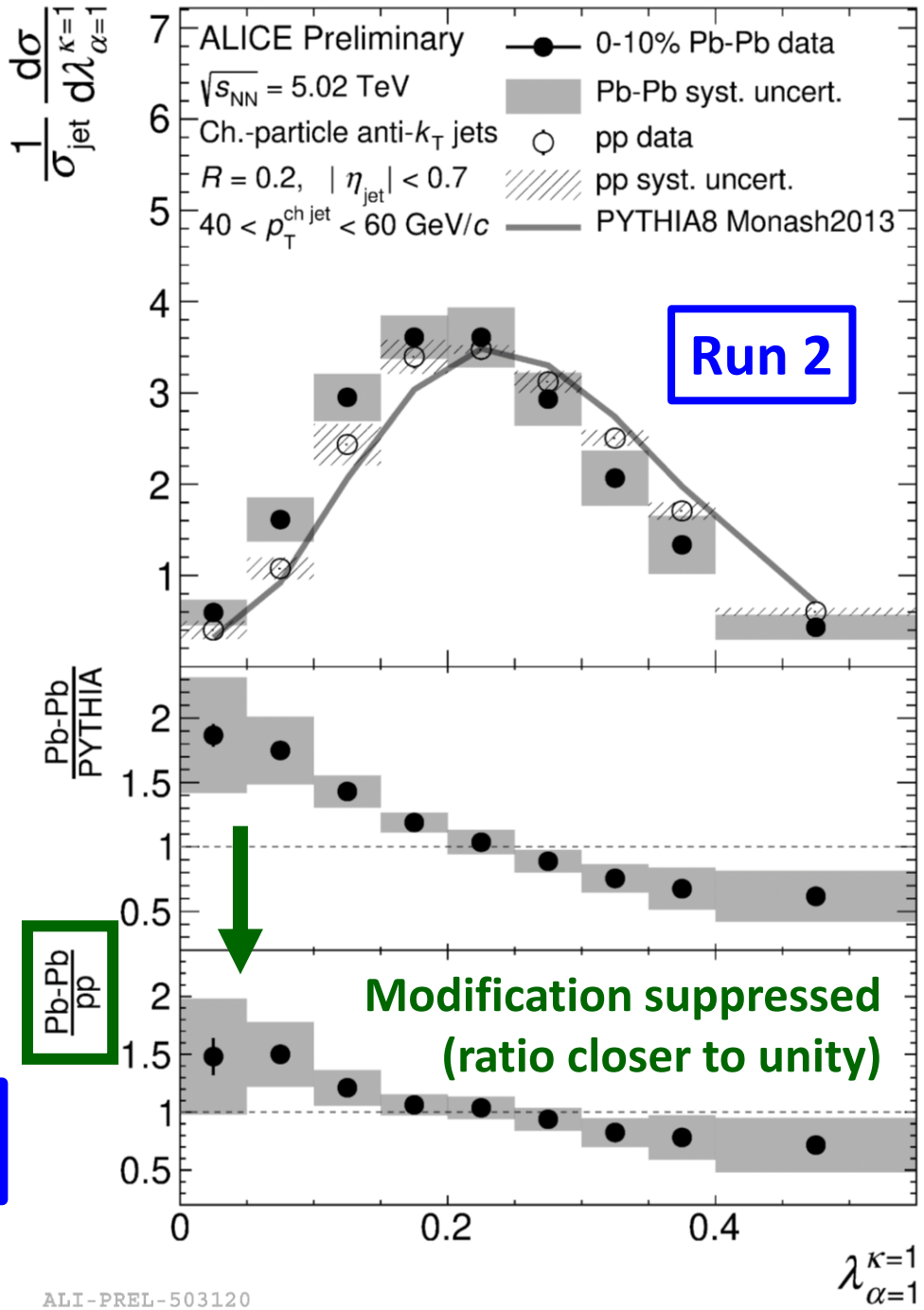

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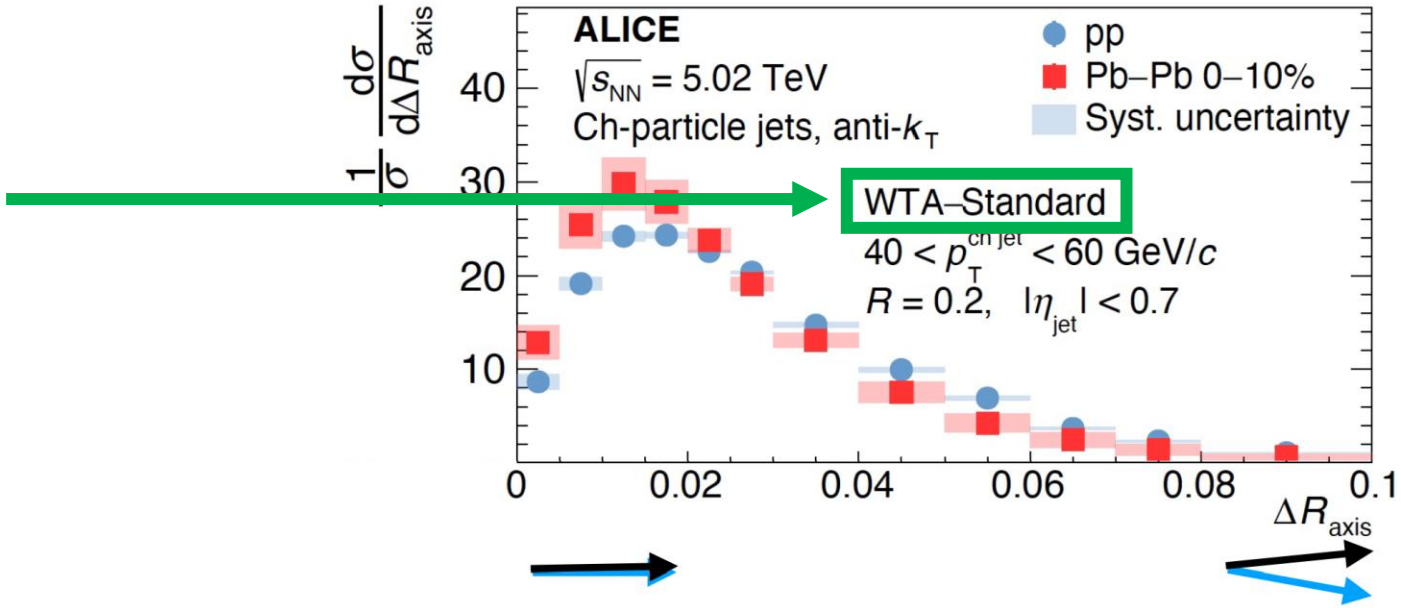
Jet axis differences in Pb-Pb vs. pp



Jet axis differences in Pb-Pb vs. pp

Standard and Soft Drop (SD) axes are strongly correlated